

Preface

Crowdsourcing has emerged as an important paradigm in human problem solving techniques on the Web. More often than noticed, programs outsource tasks to humans which are difficult to implement in software. Service-oriented crowdsourcing enhances these outsourcing techniques by applying the principles of service-oriented architecture (SOA) to the discovery, composition, and selection of a scalable human workforce. This book provides both an analysis of contemporary crowdsourcing systems such as Amazon Mechanical Turk and a statistical description of task-based marketplaces. In the following, a novel mixed service-oriented computing paradigm is introduced by providing an architectural description of the Human-Provided Services (HPS) framework and the application of social principles to human coordination and delegation actions. Then, the previously investigated concepts are extended to business process management integration including the extension of XML-based industry standards such as WS-HumanTask and BPEL4People and the instantiation of flexible processes in crowdsourcing environments.

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