COMMUNISENSE: Crowdsourcing Road Hazards in Nairobi

Renato lida Le Wang

Electrical and Computer Engineering Dept.

Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI)



Outline



- Introduction
 - Potholes (PT) & Speed-bumps (SB)
- Methodology
- Results
- Novelty and Challenges
- Critiques

Introduction



- Motivation
 - Nairobi currently lacks monitoring technologies to obtain data on road conditions.
 - Such as Potholes and/or Speed-bump.





Road hazard: Potholes (PT)





(a) Potholes



Road hazard: Speed-bump (SB)

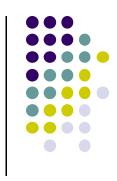




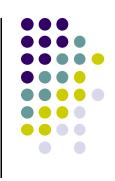
(b) Speed Bumps

Outline

- Introduction
- Methodology
 - Survey
 - The App: CommuniSense
 - Image Verification: MTurk
- Results
- Novelty and Challenges
- Critiques



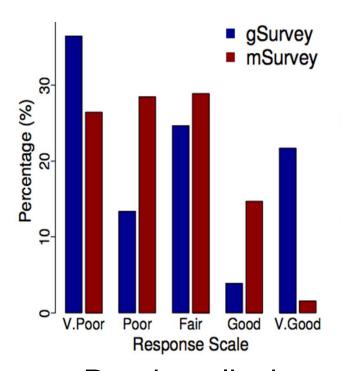
Methodology



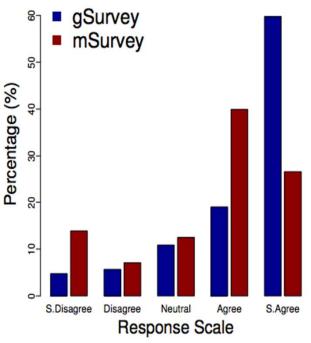
- Two types of survey
 - SMS (mSurvey)
 - Web-based (gSurvey)
- On the opinions of road situation
 - Road quality around home/work
 - Impact of road hazards

Survey

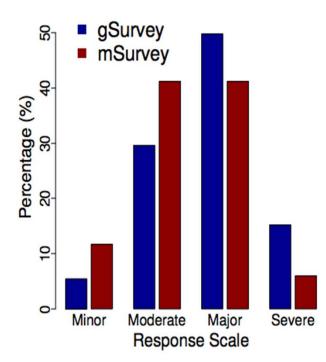
Status quo on road quality



Road quality in residential neighborhood



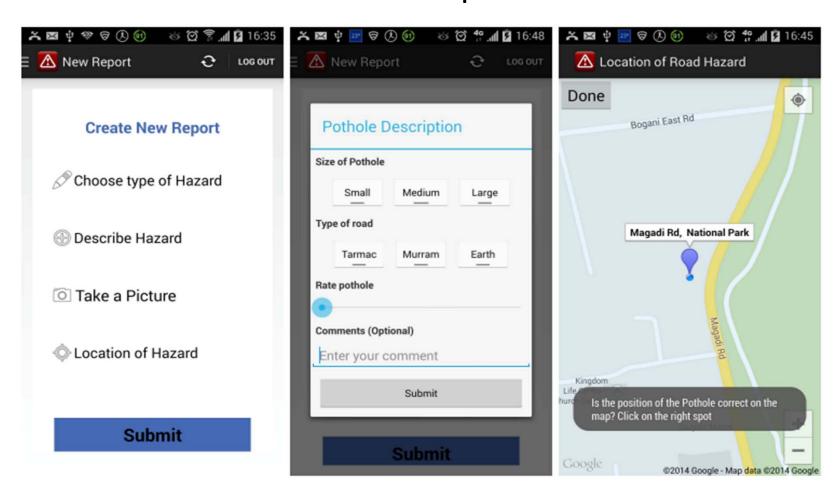
Potholes as a major road nuisance



Impact of road hazards on personal travel discomfort



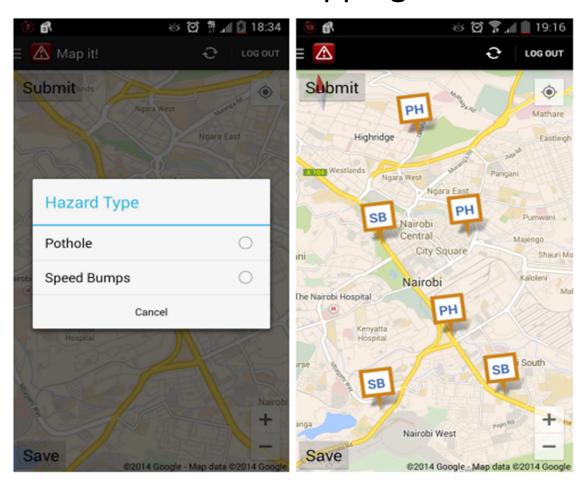
• CommuniSense: Hazard report submission



(a) Hazard Report Submission

CommuniSense Frontend

CommuniSense: Mapping hazards





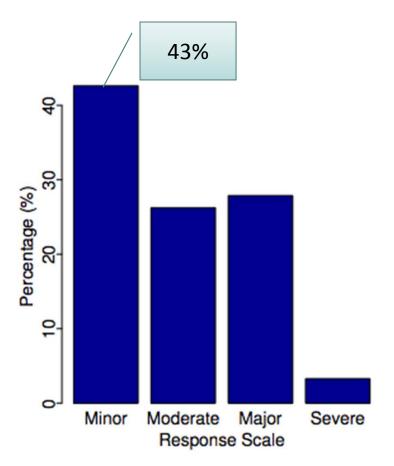
PH: Potholes

SB: speed-bumps

(b) Mapping Hazards

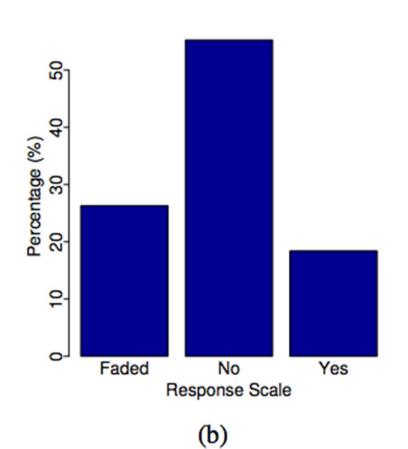
CommuniSense Backend OpenStreetMaps, OpenData External External Nairobi City Council API Visualization Platform Backup Server Data Pre-Processing **PHP Server** Data Collection Sensor Cloudant Data CouchDB =Hazard Images Other Mobile Apps Bluemix Mysql DB Hazard Reports CommuniSense **Data Post Processing Internal System**

Data Statistic



Severity of potholes (61 reports)

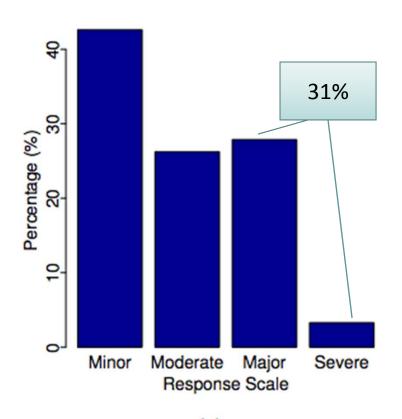
(a)



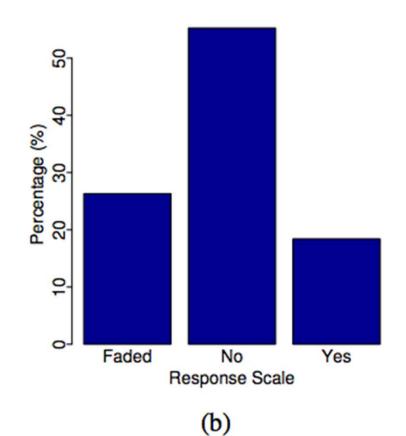
Labeling of speed-bumps (38 reports)

Data Statistic



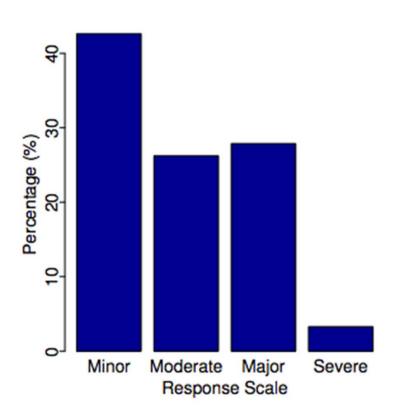


(a)
Severity of potholes
(61 reports)



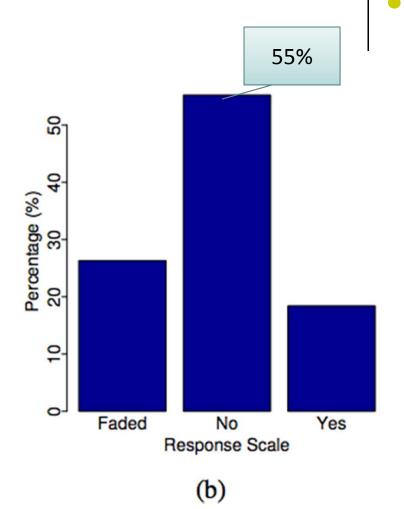
Labeling of speed-bumps (38 reports)

Data Statistic



Severity of potholes (61 reports)

(a)



Labeling of speed-bumps (38 reports)





Mechanical Turk is a marketplace for work.

We give businesses and developers access to an on-demand, scalable workforce. Workers select from thousands of tasks and work whenever it's convenient.

395,733 HITs available. View them now.

- HIT: Human Intelligence Task
- 0.15 USD per Image, around \$12 per hour.
- Required to check the description and the pictures are corresponding to each other.

Outline

- Introduction
- Methodology
- Results
 - Two Aggregation Methods
 - Intraclass Correlation (ICC)
 - OpenStreetMap (OSM)
- Novelty and Challenges
- Critiques







- Aggregation methods:
 - Majority Vote
 - Calculate the <u>majority score</u> given the 10 annotations for each image
 - Median
 - Calculate the <u>median</u> across the 10 annotations for each image.
 - Among 50 images:

Method	Potholes	Speed Bumps
Majority Voting	34 (100%)	12 (75%)
Median	34 (100%)	12 (75%)

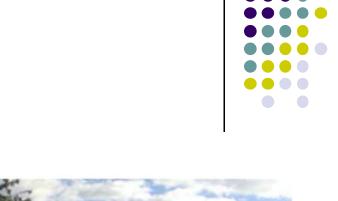
Results:

Misclassified Images





Contain both a pothole and a speed-bump





(b)

Ambiguous Image with unlabeled bump

Results: Image Label Quality



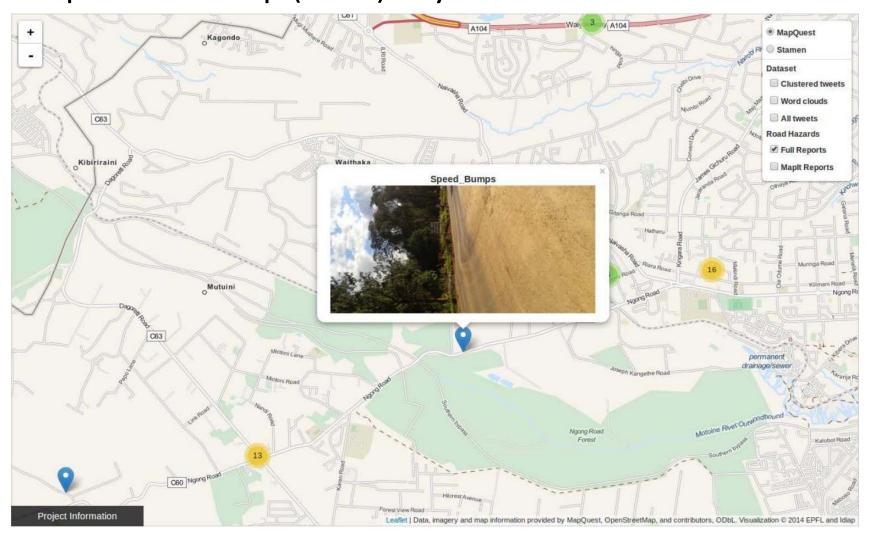
- Introclass Correlation (ICC)
 - Also implemented by Amazon Mturk worker pool.

	Min (Max)	Mean (Median)	ICC(1,k)
Size of potholes	1.0 (3.0)	2.16 (2.0)	0.90
Severity of potholes	1.0 (4.0)	2.26 (2.0)	0.91
Size of speed-bumps	1.0 (3.0)	1.92 (2.0)	0.73

Table 2: ICC(1, k) scores of hazard attributes (All values are statistically significant at p < 0.01.) Mean and median (in brackets) values of each hazard attribute is also shown.

Results: Visualization Framework

• OpenstreetMap (OSM): layered and interactive





Outline

- Introduction
- Methodology
- Results
- Novelty and Challenges
- Critiques







Novelty and Future Work

- Most similar systems are not available for Nairobi.
- May use Twitter as a data collection medium in the future.

Challenges:

- Certain devices didn't handle the mapping and location functionality well.
- CommuniSense is developed on Android 3.0, while many phones are still using Android 2.x.
- The base64 compression causes loss of image dependent on the orientation (landscape vs. portrait mode).

Outline

- Introduction
- Methodology
- Results
- Novelty and Challenges
- Critiques



Critiques

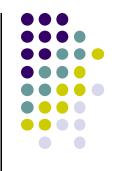


- Simple App
- Good solution for Kenya. No good alternative, only a Twitter account called ma3route.
- May be used in other areas.

Critiques



- Use Mturk (slave labors). Should find an automatic way.
- Exist systems which allow citizens to report civic issues
 - SeeClickFix
 - FixMyStreet
 - Citizens Connect



References

- Citizens connect: Making boston beautiful. http://bit.ly/1a4asN3, 2014. 5.
- Fixmystreet. https://www.fixmystreet.com, 2014.
- ma3route. https://twitter.com/ma3route, 2014.
- Seeclickfix. http://seeclickfix.com, 2014.



Thank You