

Learning App for Classrooms Employs Automated Adaptable Timing to Motivate Students

JogNog Upgrades Algorithm to Automatically Calibrate Time Limits for Each Quiz

Press release: Wakefield, MA, July 30, 2016

The biggest problem in the classroom today is student motivation. No other challenge even comes close. If the student is motivated they will learn. If the student isn't motivated then even the best teacher with the best educational technology will not be able to make them learn.

Interestingly, students can lose motivation in two ways:

1. If the learning task is not challenging enough and they get bored or 2. If the learning task is too challenging and the student gives up since they don't feel that they can be successful. For a teacher it is difficult to maintain the right amount of challenge to keep all students motivated since each student is at a slightly different level. But that which is difficult for a teacher to accomplish is much easier for a computer. JogNog now optimizes the amount of time for each of its review quizzes based on the knowledge base that has been collected over the many years and hundreds of millions of plays of the questions in the system.

JogNog, the leading competitive learning solution, has implemented a system that automatically adjusts the countdown timer so that students receive the optimal amount of time to complete a quiz that keeps them motivated. "We developed a proprietary algorithm so that kids get enough time but not too much time to answer each question. It keeps the students on-track and focused." explained, Rick Myers, JogNog's Co-Founder and Chief Technical Officer.

One of the promises of educational technologies is that the systems should be able to learn how to teach better and faster over time. Effectively these systems should be able to collect data on how students use them and learn and then modify themselves to become better and more useful to the student. In the field of Artificial Intelligence these types of system are known as 'Self-Modifying Adaptable' systems. The JogNog learning solution is such a self-modifying system and a major breakthrough

has just occurred that will improve speed and outcomes of learning for students.

With the new release of JogNog, students will now be presented with the appropriate amount of challenge that they personally are capable of. Each child will remain self-motivated as the JogNog app provides the perfect balance between too much and not enough challenge.

Steve Smith, Co-Founder and CEO of the company that makes JogNog commented on the breakthrough improvements: "We've been waiting several years to make sure that we had enough anonymous usage data to be able to better match the timing to the students. It was hard to design the right algorithm that balances the timer so that it is short enough to engender excitement but not to cause frustration and not too long that it elicits boredom. It is a classic problem that video game designers have been working on and solving for decades. It is exciting to see this research now applied to learning in the classroom!"

About JogNog

JogNog is an easy way for teachers to review the standards and topics that their students need to know for their state tests in Science, Technology and Engineering, Math, ELA and Social Studies. When used regularly, JogNog has been shown to have significant positive impact on state test scores. JogNog is available on the web for Google Classroom and Microsoft Office 365 users and as an app for iPad, iPhone, Android, Chromebook, Kindle Fire, and Windows Phone. For more information about JogNog, visit www.JogNog.com.

