

Eliciting complex information needs

Beijing lunch group 1

- Complex tasks
 - Ask Nick
- Focussed on entertain me tasks
 - As opposed to complex needs
- What can we infer and not have to ask
 - Such as mood (remote control tension)
 - 3 levels of context
 - Location – where am I?
 - Personal – who am I?
 - State – what am I doing or about to do?
 - Action context as source of input to understand task
 - Question regarding priors over these
 - Some queries/need more likely than others

- Entertain me needs a dialogue
 - Engagement and selection
 - Not question based
 - Need clear benefit to user
 - Nice discussions on
 - serendipity
 - starting points – mood at start
 - “entertain me” = “I’m bored”
 - e.g. celebrity name searches
 - surfacing facets of a domain vs. use of more personal information

- We don't have a nice model
 - but clear that lots of possibilities
 - question of types of complex needs and how should be supported v. relevant