

CS 5306 / INFO 5306: Crowdsourcing and Human Computation

Spring 2016

Assignment 1

Due: Tuesday, 12 April 2016

The goal of this assignment is to make you familiar with the experience of a worker on Amazon Mechanical Turk (MTurk) or Zooniverse. If you were able to create an account (or borrow someone's account) on MTurk please do Part I: Amazon Mechanical Turk. If you were not, please do Part II: Zooniverse.

Part I: Amazon Mechanical Turk

As you do this assignment please make a mental note of which tasks were fun or interesting and/or which were the opposite, as well as how much pay you received for each task, how long it took, and whether you felt fairly compensated. This will help you answer the questions at the end of this assignment.

1. Sign up to be a worker on MTurk by going to www.mturk.com. It may take 1-2 days for your account to be approved. Please contact the instructor if you are unable to create an account.
2. Work through at least 50 tasks. You can simply pick tasks that sound interesting, or pose this as a challenge to yourself to make as much money as you can or get the highest hourly pay rate that you can.
3. Please submit (short) write-up with answers to the following questions:
 1. Did you have trouble signing up? If so, explain.
 2. How many assignments did you complete?
 3. On what basis did you select tasks (remember, you only need to give a *short* answer)?
 4. How much money did you make?
 5. How much time did you spend working?
 6. What task gave you the most money?
 7. Did any of your HITs get rejected? If so, what reason was given?
 8. What was your reaction to being an MTurk worker?

Part II: Zooniverse

As you do this assignment please keep track of how much time it took.

1. Sign up to be a worker on Galaxy Zoo by going to www.galaxyzoo.org. You should be able to begin work immediately.
2. Work through at least 25 images. When done please take a screen shot of <https://www.galaxyzoo.org/#/profile/recent/3>.
3. Go to www.chimpandsee.org. Click on "Sign In" in the upper right of the screen to login using the same login information as for Galaxy Zoo. Work through at least 25 videos. When done please take a screen shot of <https://www.chimpandsee.org/#/profile>.
4. Please submit (short) write-up with answers to the following questions:
 9. How many tasks did you complete for each of the two sites?
 10. How much time did you spend on each of the two sites?
 11. Did you enjoy Galaxy Zoo? Why or why not? Did that change over time?
 12. Did you enjoy Chimp and See? Why or why not? Did that change over time?
 13. Did you find one better than the other? Explain?
 14. What was your reaction to each system?