CMPSC 580
Junior Seminar
Spring 2021

Assignment 4:
What to Create?

Objectives

To contemplate the deliverable of your research project. This assignment will invite the student to consider the end-product to set goals of a senior thesis research project.

Figure 1: Your project will create something before it is complete.

Research in Computer Science

Academic research in Computer Science may be categorized as any endeavor that works towards building knowledge and a foundation of understanding for an area in Computer Science.

In all research, there is some *thing* created as a result of the researcher's investigation, as noted by Figure 1. In your project, what do you envision that your main deliverable will be form your work? For example, would the product of your research project be a tool for analysis, a contribution to theory, a piece of analysis investigate some real-world concept, or a data set for your colleagues to continue a study? Perhaps your deliverable fits into an all-together different category? In some research projects, for example, the deliverable may be a body of text such as a book, or an article, to explain some in-depth aspect of technology in Computer Science.

Whatever you plan to produce during the course of your work ought to be decided well before you begin so that you have an idea of how to plan your time and to set your goals. This assignment asks you to consider the product that you will deliver as a result of your project.

Part 1, This Class: What To Do

In the Google form (link: `https://forms.gle/b91jSYBP1Th2U6Rr6`), you are invited to address some questions concerning the product of your work. While the questions are few, they are still enough to get you thinking early-on about what your proposal is aimed to achieve.

The survey questions, that you are asked to address concerning of your deliverable, are the following.

- Describe the type of deliverable: Is the main goal of your work to produce a tool, a theory, an analysis, a user study, or something else? Why is this aim important?

- Describe who would use the type of deliverable from your project and how would it be used. Please describe your target audience in your response.

- Give a general description of your idea, in terms of its deliverable. For instance, if the product is a tool, then how is your idea connected to this tool?

- What would the future direction of the deliverable be after your project is complete. For instance, if you have developed a database with a set of data, would the database be updated in anyway after the project? If the product is a tool, then would you consider releasing it to the community for further development?

Part 2, Next LAB: What To Do

For our next lab session, you are to prepare a three minute lightning talk to describe the product of your proposed research. Please be sure to give a very general idea project itself, and then discuss its intended deliverable. You should use no more than three slides.

Summary of deliverables

- **For This class** : Complete the survey form for a check-mark grade about your own research idea and its literature review. (link: `https://forms.gle/b91jSYBP1Th2U6Rr6`)

- **For Next LAB**: Come prepared to give a three minute lightning talk concerning the project aims and the deliverable. Please keep your slides to three slides.

Grading

The two check-mark grades are given for this assignment (i.e., Part 1 and Part 2).

Help?

Please let the instructor or technical leaders know of any questions that you may have. Please use email or make office-hour appointment slots if you would like to discuss an issue.