

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

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Informed Voluntary Consent to Participate in Research Study

Project Title: An Empirical Investigation for Patterns of Belief Change in Human Reasoning

Invitation to participate, and benefits: You are invited to participate in a research study conducted with native English speakers on Amazon's Mechanical Turk platform. We refer to this study as a mini survey as it is the first part of a 5-part survey. In this mini survey, our aim is to understand the extent of your belief of general claims about the world. The end goal of this research project is to test how and why human reasoners change their beliefs when presented with new information. I believe that your experience would be a valuable source of information and hope that by participating you may gain useful knowledge.

Procedures: From Mechanical Turk, you will be asked to complete a survey on Google Forms. The first page of the survey is the consent form. You can expect to agree to the terms and conditions in the consent form before proceeding with the survey. Next, you can expect to pass a captcha authentication question and you can expect to pass a simple English language proficiency question. In the main part of this survey, we provide 6 general if...then... statements about the world pertaining to the behaviours and traits of people in various professions. Your main task is to indicate the degree to which you believe each statement on a scale from 1 = strongly disagree to 5 = strongly agree, and provide an explanation for your answer. As a guide, we suggest possible explanations which you may choose to endorse. You are also given the option to provide your own explanation should you choose not to endorse any of the suggested explanations. At the end of the mini survey, you will be provided with a unique survey code which you will need to enter on Mechanical Turk to receive your payment. You will also need to provide your Amazon Mechanical Turk WorkerID before submitting the mini survey. This mini survey has a reward of \$2,5 and payment will be approved within 3 days of completion. Although you will be given 1 hour to complete this mini survey, it is expected that you might complete it within 20 minutes. There is no bonus reward for this mini survey.

Recording: We will not take photographs nor record audio/video as part of the study. You will only be required to provide typed responses using a laptop, smartphone or other computing device.

Risks: There are no potentially harmful risks related to your participation in this study, other than those which you may encounter in everyday life.

Feedback: You may choose to receive a copy of your survey responses once completed on Google Forms. You may choose to receive feedback about the results of this research by contacting the researcher using the contact information provided in this consent form. The results of this survey will also be published as part of a Master's (MSc) thesis in computer science by the University of Cape Town, South Africa.

Disclaimer/Withdrawal: Your participation is completely voluntary; you may refuse to participate, and you may withdraw at any time without having to state a reason and without any prejudice or penalty against you. Should you choose to withdraw, the researcher commits not to use any of the information you have provided without your signed consent. Note that the researcher may also withdraw you from the study at any time. Please do not attempt to take this mini survey more than once. You will only be paid for your first response and additional submissions will be disregarded.

Confidentiality: All information collected in this study will be kept private in that you will not be identified by name or by affiliation to an institution. Confidentiality and anonymity will be maintained as pseudonyms will be used. We will only collect your Mechanical Turk WorkerID as personal data to identify duplicate responses and verify your identity as a Worker on Mechanical Turk.

What signing this form means: By signing this consent form, you agree to participate in this research study. The aim, procedures to be used, as well as the potential risks and benefits of your participation have been explained verbally to you in detail, using this form. Refusal to participate in or withdrawal from this study at any time will have no effect on you in any way. You are free to contact me, to ask questions or request further information, at any time during this research.

I agree to participate in this research (place an "X" in between the square brackets corresponding to your choice):

☐ Yes ☐ No

____ Clayton K. Baker ____
Name of Researcher

____ C. K. Baker ____
Signature of Researcher

24 October 2020
Date