

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. In this survey, our aim is to understand how your belief of a statement has changed after learning new information. 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: The first page of the survey is this consent form. Please take 5 to 10 minutes to read the consent form. You can expect to agree to the terms and conditions in the consent form and confirm that you satisfy the survey inclusion criteria. Next, you will be presented with a list of key words. Please take 5 to 10 minutes to read these carefully. You may always navigate back to the key words during the survey. In the main part of this survey, we provide you with statements about the world and ask you to think about them. Your main task is to indicate the degree to which you believe each statement on a scale from 1 = implausible to 10 = extremely plausible. The main part of the survey should take 10 to 20 minutes at a leisurely pace. At the end of the 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 survey. This survey has a reward of USD 3,75 and payment will be approved within 3 days of completion. Although you will be given 60 minutes to complete the survey, after which the HIT will expire, it is expected that you might complete it within 20 to 40 minutes. There is no bonus reward for this survey. This is the second part of a two-part 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. By taking this survey, you confirm that you do not have a history of any psychiatric or neurological disorder including, but not limited to, depressive disorders, anxiety disorders, attention disorders or concussion. Note that the researcher may also withdraw you from the study at any time. Please do not attempt to take this 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. It is optional to provide your age and gender as demographic information about yourself.

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

7 June 2021
Date