Hello!

Thank you for agreeing to pilot my study. There are few bold enough to try and run response-time studies on Mturk, so welcome to what will hopefully be a pioneering venture for all of cognitive psychology. I’m just kidding—I’m just hoping to be able to collect dissertation data very quickly.

I’m hoping this pilot shouldn’t take you longer than **20 minutes** at most. The better you understand the instructions of the task, the faster you should be able to finish it.

I’m testing this experiment in the Mturk “sandbox” (ie, development platform), and because of that you’ll have to sign up for a worker account (if you don’t already have one) before you can pilot this experiment (ie, human intelligence task or “HIT”, in mturk lingo).

To get to the experiment:

1. First make an account (or sign in) by going here: [https://workersandbox.mturk.com](https://workersandbox.mturk.com/)
2. Then find the experiment in the list of existing HITs
   * I *think* this link should take you right to the experiment: <https://workersandbox.mturk.com/projects/3CL9ACF21L822GOHUPVPUJIJEU7W6F/tasks?ref=w_pl_prvw>
   * But if not, just search for “braun” or “multitasking” and it should be the only HIT that appears.

Once you get to the end of the experiment, it’ll ask you to fill out some demographic info and there will be a box for comments. It would be super helpful if in that comment box you could put:

* Your name
  + (I know, I technically can’t ask this of you, but if I go back and see something weird in your data it would be helpful for me to ask you a question about it directly. But if you don’t want to put your name by all means don’t)
* Did you encounter any bugs / programming errors?
* Whether the instructions were clear / was there anything you didn’t understand.
* About how long the whole thing took you from start to finish.
* Any other comments or things you think I should change.

I’ve tested this experiment myself pretty thoroughly, but if for some reason the experiment crashes so badly that you can’t even reach the end, then obviously I’ll want to know about that. So I guess shoot me an email if that happens, because I’ll be curious about your experience.

It’s true that money is a powerful motivator. However, perhaps the strongest source of motivation comes from something that transcends money. Some people come together to pursue deeper and more abstract goals: influencing society to value reason, or the pursuit of the truth. Being a member of the scientific coalition requires personal sacrifice but yields collective rewards too great to enumerate. Volunteering your time to pilot this experiment reveals that your membership to the scientific coalition is not to be questioned. I have no money to give you in return for your time. But the Universe, my friends, will repay you in full.

Truly yours,

Dave