



CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH

Crowdclass: Designing classification-based citizen science learning modules

University of California at Berkeley

Purpose

The purpose of this research is to evaluate new methods for combining citizen science crowdsourcing platforms and educational interfaces. We aim to create new methods of formulating the crowdsourcing microtask so that educational content can be more effectively integrated into citizen science platforms. In this study, we are interested in gaining your feedback on the efficacy and usability of our citizen science interface.

Participants must be older than 18 years old and be computer literate.

Procedures

If you agree to be in this study, you will be asked to do the following:

Complete a 5 minute survey about your demographic information and prior experience with citizen science for prescreening purposes. You will be compensated \$0.01 per 5 minute. If you are chosen for the experiment, you will participate in an approximately 25 min - 30 min remote session for evaluating a citizen science software interface. You will be given a set of 10 questions to answer before the experiment begins. Then, you will be asked to spend approximately 25 minutes on a citizen science software interfaces, where you will first read a passage then answer some related questions. After the time is up, you will also be given a set of 10 questions to answer. After the study, you will be asked to record your experience with the software through a Google Forms survey. The link to the survey is provided at the end of the experiment and also in the set of instructions emailed to you.

If you chose to participate in an optional extended interview for the study, you will be compensated for \$1 per 30 minute for a Skype or phone interview. With your permission, I will audiotape and take notes during the interview. The recording is to accurately record the information you provide, and will be used for transcription purposes only. If you choose not to be audiotaped, I will take notes instead. If you agree to being audiotaped but feel uncomfortable at any time during the interview, I can turn off the recorder at your request. Or if you don't wish to continue, you can stop the interview at any time.

Study location

The study will be conducted remotely in any location chosen by the participant.

Benefits

We hope that the information gathered from this study will go to benefit future designs of citizen science crowdsourcing platforms, which will allow a greater population to participate in citizen science.

There is no direct benefit to you from taking part in this study.

Risks/Discomforts

You are free to decline to answer any questions you don't wish to, or to stop the interview at any time. You will be interacting with a standard desktop computer. Some stress and fatigue might occur, but none that would not be experienced working in normal desktop environments.

In case of unanticipated problems, you will be asked to stop the study.

Confidentiality:

As with all research, there is a chance that confidentiality could be compromised; however, we are taking precautions to minimize this risk.

Your study data will be handled as confidentially as possible. If results of this study are published or presented, individual names and other personally identifiable information will not be used.

To minimize the risks to confidentiality, we will do the following:

- The data will be collected with a key-value system. A single physical document (key) will link the research data to your identifiable information.
- Personal identifiers (email addresses and the key) will be destroyed a month after the end of this study.
- All additional research records, such as computer-based data will be stored in an encrypted, password-protected computer.
- Audio recordings will be transcribed within a month of the conclusion of the study and destroyed immediately thereafter. Audio recordings will be encrypted in the storage and recording device.
- Your Google Forms survey results will be downloaded to an encrypted, password-protected computer. Once the data is removed from the Google Drive folder that stores the Google forms record, no identifiable information will be uploaded to the internet or transferred to a removable medium and will be stored in the encrypted, password-protected computer before they are destroyed a month after the user study.
- The research data will be maintained for possible use in future research by us for up to five years after the study is over. The same measures described above will be taken to protect confidentiality of this study data.
- The personal information and your recorded actions in the software experiment will be as confidentially as possible and will be made only available to the researchers in this study. If at any

time during or after the study you decide to revert your information collected in the study, contact dorislee@berkeley.edu for a complete deletion of all the information associated with your record.

Compensation/Payment

Participants will receive \$0.01 if they complete the prescreen survey. If you are chosen for the experiment, you will additionally receive \$1 for participating in the experiment. If you decide to participate in the optional interview, you will receive \$1 for participating in this optional portion of the research study. We will accept your Human Intelligence Task (HIT) soon after the conclusion of the main study and the transfer for the compensation will accord to the guidelines provided on the Amazon Mechanical Turk website:

U.S. Workers:

You can transfer your earnings to your Amazon Payments account or into an Amazon.com gift card. You can disburse to your bank account as soon as your earnings are transferred to your Amazon Payments account.

India Workers:

You have the option to receive a direct deposit denominated in Indian Rupees into your bank account or you can transfer your earnings into an Amazon.com gift card.

Other International Workers:

You can only transfer your earnings into an Amazon.com gift card.

You can disburse your earnings by visiting the Earnings page. Regardless of your location, you are limited to one transfer per calendar day.

Rights

Participation in research is completely voluntary. You are free to decline to take part in the project. You can decline to answer any questions and are free to stop taking part in the project at any time. Whether or not you choose to participate in the research and whether or not you choose to answer a question or continue participating in the project, there will be no penalty to you or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

Questions

If you have any questions or concerns about your rights and treatment as a research subject, you may contact the office of UC Berkeley's Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects, at 510-642-7461 or subjects@berkeley.edu.

If you have any questions about this research, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at jlo@berkeley.edu or (925)667-7388 or you can contact the principal investigator Eric Paulos at epaulos@berkeley.edu.

Consent

You have been given an electronic copy of this consent form to keep. If you wish to participate in this study, then please print a copy of the consent form. If you agree to the terms listed in this consent, please click the “Submit” Button on the HIT to indicate your consent to participate in the study.