Lecture 5:
CS 5306 / INFO 5306: Crowdsourcing and Human Computation
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Ten Thousand Cents:

The Sheep Market:
See Also:

Star Wars Uncut
Course Blog

- CrowdsourcingandHumanComputation.wordpress.com

- Latest post:
  - IRANIAN YOUTH GET APP TO DODGE MORALITY POLICE
  - CAN CROWDSOURCING BE ETHICAL?
  - FIVE WAYS TECH IS CROWDSOURCING WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT

- Send me news stories relevant to course content
Assignment 1

• Sign up to be a worker on Amazon Mechanical Turk
• Do at least 50 tasks
• Answer some questions about what you did
Human Computation

Chapter 2 of *Human Computation*
Human Computation

• Approach human computation algorithms from the same perspective as computer algorithms:
Human Computation

• Approach human computation algorithms from the same perspective as computer algorithms:
  – Control structures
Killer whales are beautiful animals. I remember seeing these huge smooth black and white creatures jumping high into the air at Sea World as a kid.

Human Computation

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  – Programming paradigms / Design patterns
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  – Algorithmic properties (correctness, reliability, efficiency, cost, etc.)
Human Computation

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  – Algorithmic properties (correctness, reliability, efficiency, cost, etc.)
  – Software engineering
ideas = []
for (var i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
    idea = mturk.prompt(
        "What’s fun to see in New York City?
        Ideas so far: " + ideas.join("", ")
    )
    ideas.push(idea)
}

ideas.sort(function (a, b) {
    v = mturk.vote("Which is better?", [a, b])
    return v == a ? -1 : 1
})
Human Computation

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  – Software engineering
  – Evaluation (worst-case, empirical, mathematical)
What is an Algorithm?

• “a finite set of rules which gives a sequence of operations for solving a specific type of problem” (Knuth) with the following properties:
  – Has one or more inputs
  – Has one or more outputs
  – Finiteness – must terminate
  – Effectiveness – must bottom out at simple base-level steps that a person could do with pencil and paper
  – Definiteness – each step must be precisely definable and unambiguous
Readings for Next Time

• Thursday, February 18:

  *Human Computation*, Chapter 3