



Programming with People

Emery Berger

University of Massachusetts Amherst





(science)



A full-body photograph of a giraffe standing on a grassy hill. The giraffe is facing right, with its long neck extended. It has a brown and white patterned coat. The background is a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. A semi-transparent blue rectangular box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the text "is this a giraffe?".

“is this a giraffe?”

A full-body photograph of a giraffe standing on a grassy hill. The giraffe is facing right, with its long neck extended. The background is a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. A semi-transparent blue rectangular box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the text 'isGiraffe(image)' in white. The text is in a serif font, with 'image' in italics.

isGiraffe(*image*)

isGiraffe()

isGiraffe()



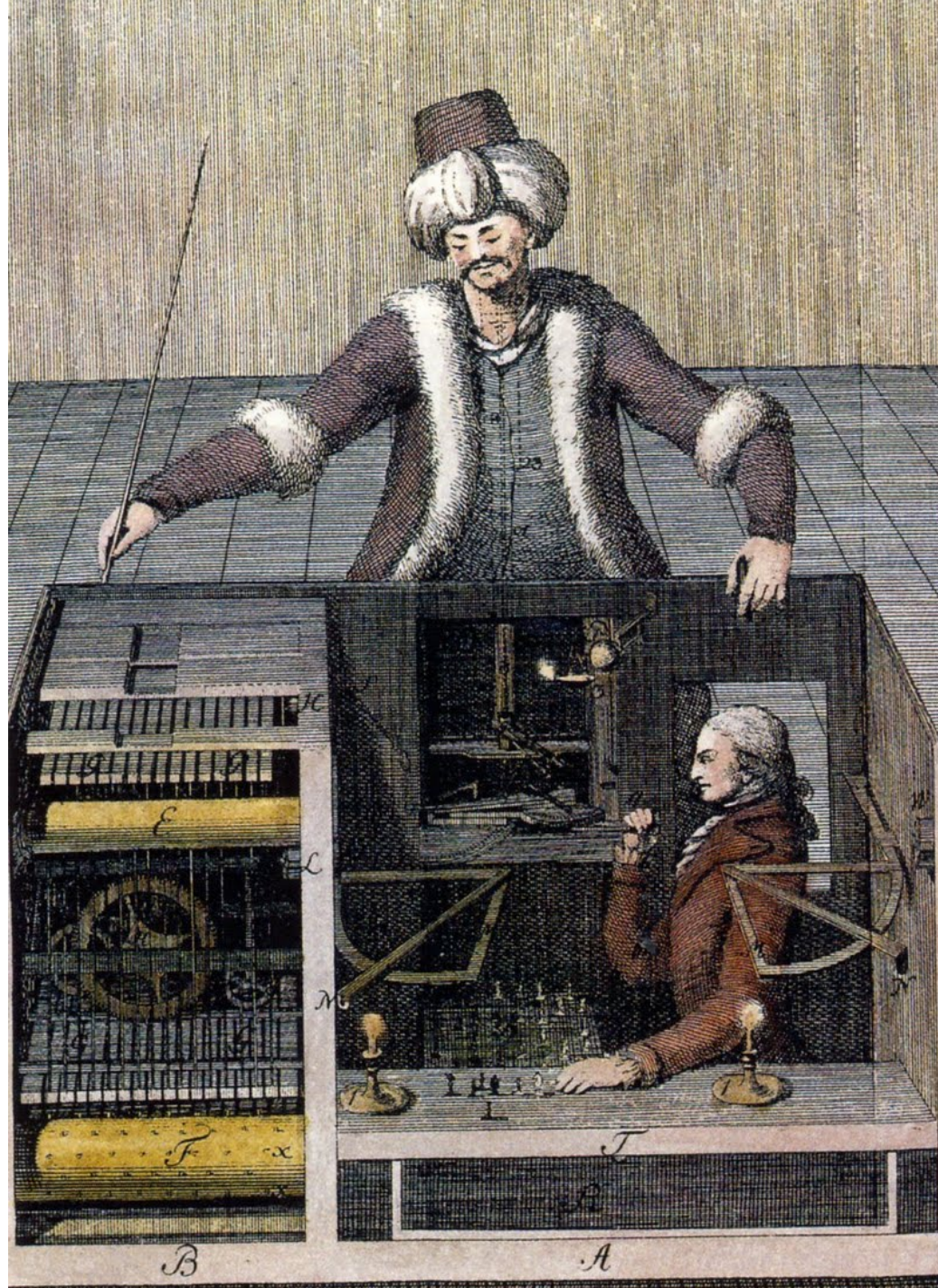
isGiraffe()



isGiraffe()







isGiraffe()



True

Timer: 00:00:00 of 10 minutes

Want to work on this HIT?

Accept HIT

Want to see other HITs?

Skip HIT

Total Earned: \$0.12
Total HITs Submitted: 2

Find the Product Name (US-EN)

Requester: Classify AdImages

Qualifications Required: Tax Matters -8589092352025960714 is not less than 100, Product Name (US - EN) - Basic -85890924173307025

Reward: \$0.06 per HIT

Please enter the name of the product being advertised

Complete These Steps

Please enter the name of the **product** being advertised



- ☐ This is not an ad
- ☐ The image failed to load
- ☐ The Product or Company Name is not known
- ☐ Contains adult content



isGiraffe()



True

isGiraffe()



True

isGiraffe()



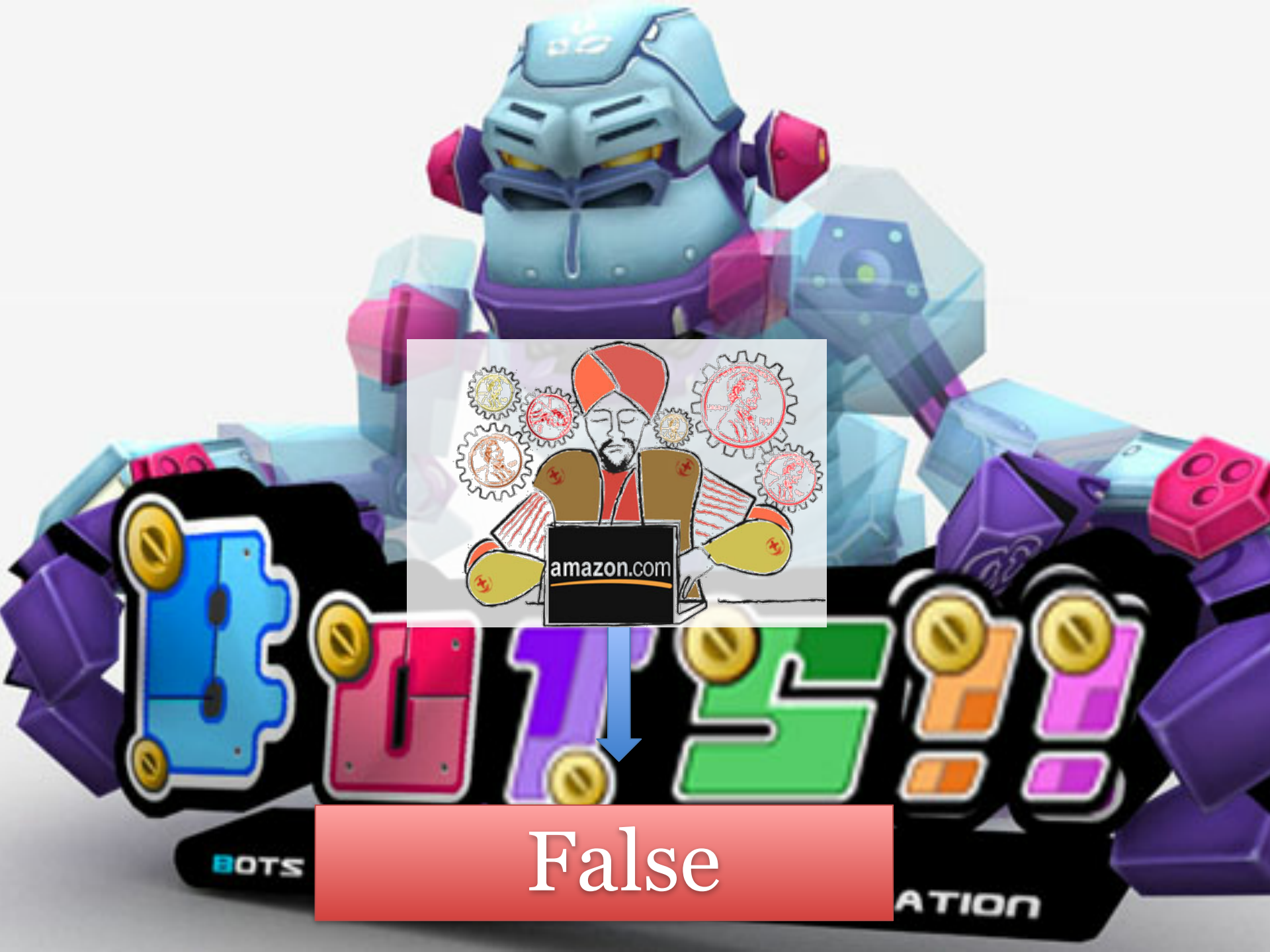
False



False



False



False



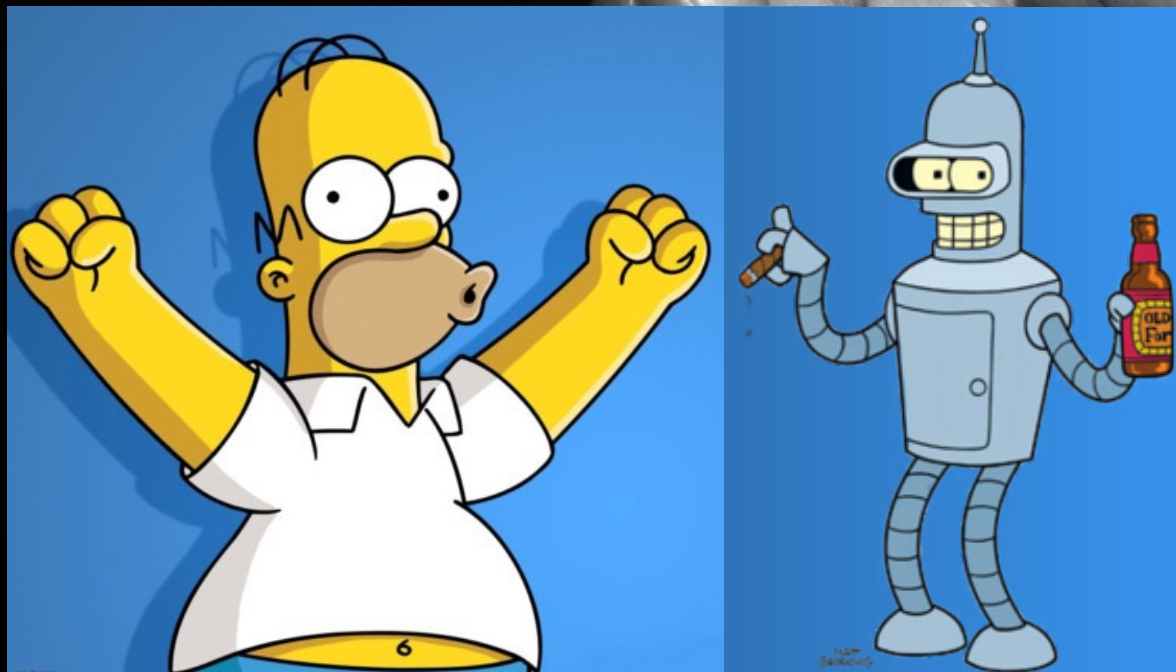


False

A black and white photograph of a human hand, palm facing up, with fingers slightly curled. In the top left corner, a US quarter coin is visible. The background is dark. A semi-transparent horizontal band across the middle of the image contains the text "random adversary model" in white serif font.

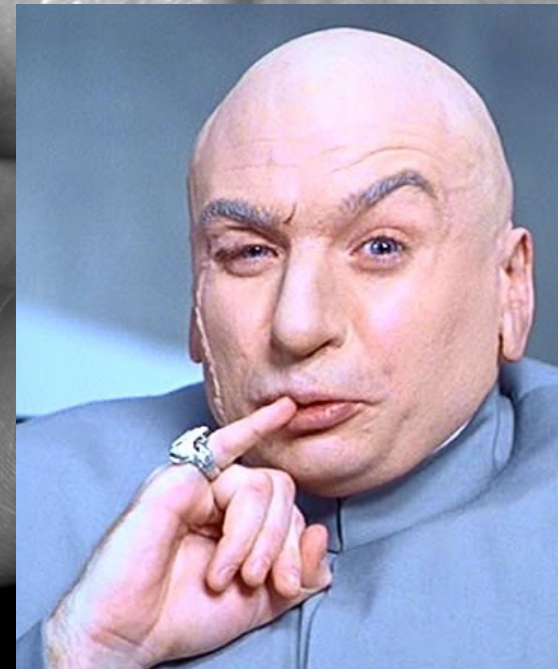
random adversary model

random adversary model



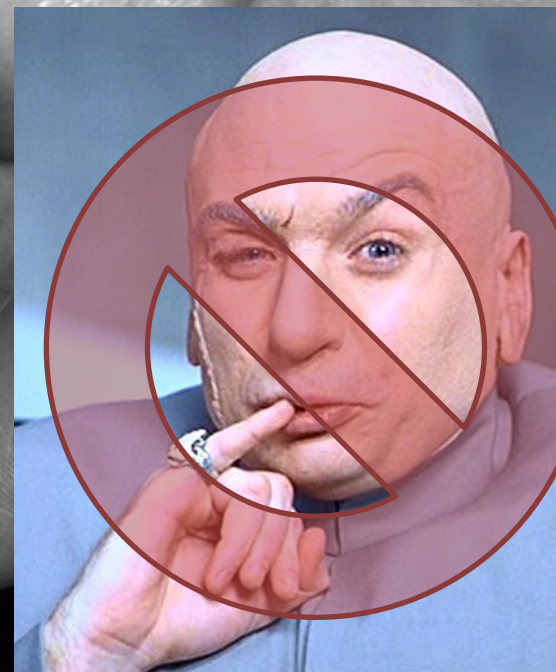
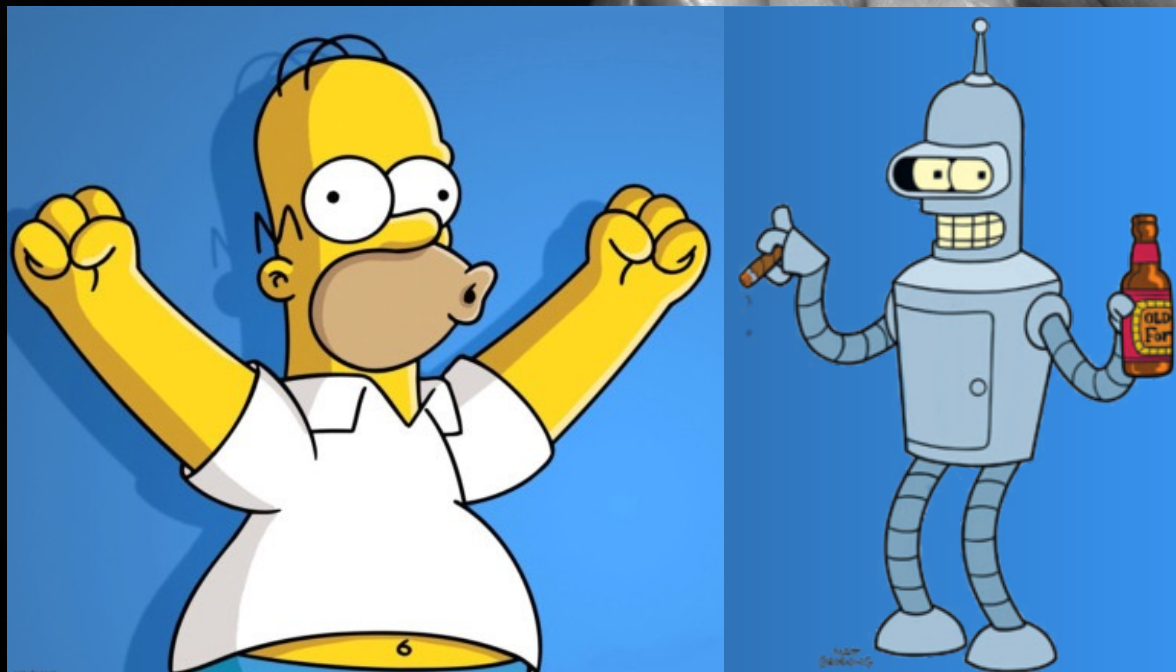
A grayscale background image showing a hand with a coin (likely a quarter) in the upper left corner.

random adversary model



A grayscale image of a hand with a coin (likely a quarter) in the upper left corner, serving as a background for the title.

random adversary model



Qualifications Required:

HIT abandonment rate (%) is less than 20

HIT approval rate (%) is greater than 95

Qualifications Required:

Total approved HITs is greater than 1000

Categorization

HIT approval

Qualifications Required:

Total approved HITs is greater than 1000

HIT approval rate (%) is not less than 95

long-term financial incentive

Qualifications Required:

Total approved HITs is greater than 2500

HIT approval rate (%) is greater than 95

Location is US



Qualifications Required:

HIT abandonment rate (%) is less than 20

HIT approval rate (%) is greater than 95

Qualifications Required:

Total approved HITs is greater than 1000

Categorization

HIT approval

Qualifications Required:

Total approved HITs is greater than 1000

HIT approval rate (%) is not less than 95

Qualifications Required:

Total approved HITs is greater than 2500

HIT approval rate (%) is greater than 95

Location is US



credentials limit *Sybil* attacks

Step 3: Get paid for your work



After the requester approves your work, money is deposited into your Amazon Payments account.



isGiraffe()



?

isGiraffe()



isGiraffe()

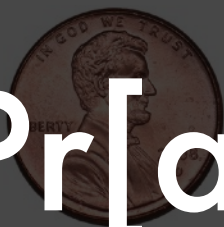


$\text{Pr}[\text{agree}] = 1/2$





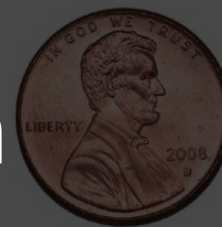
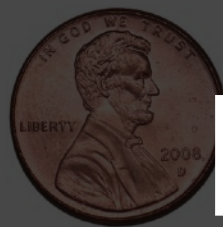
$$\text{Pr}[\text{agree}] = 1/32$$
$$< 5\%$$

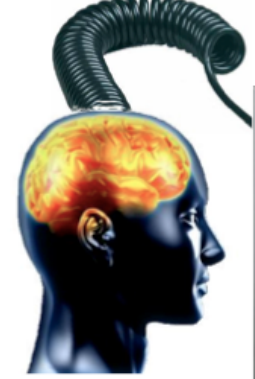




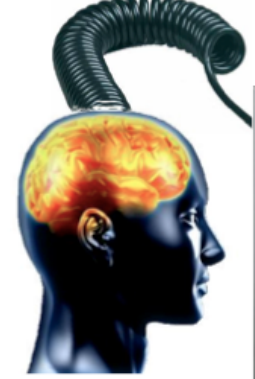
$$\Pr[\text{agree}] = k(1/k)^n$$

(*unanimous agreement*)



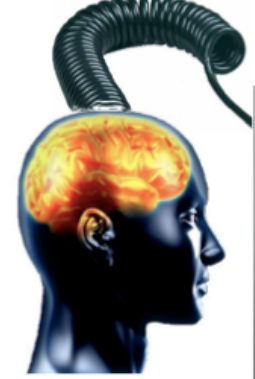


isGiraffe()



( **Scala**)

isGiraffe()



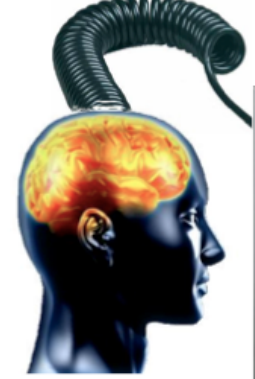
( **Scala**)

isGiraffe()

AutoMan programmer-specified



Total \$ for computation



( **Scala**)

isGiraffe()

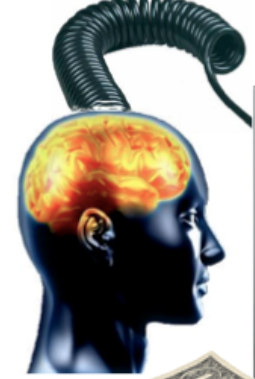
AutoMan programmer-specified



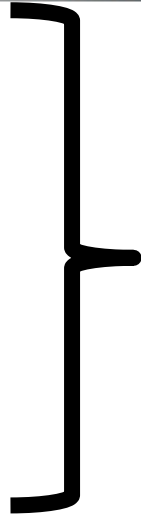
Total \$ for computation

95%
($p < 0.05$)

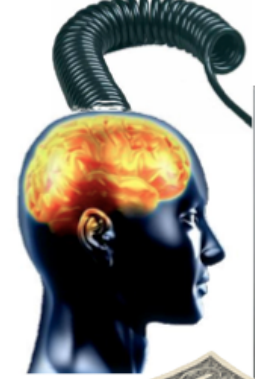
Confidence level
(per function)



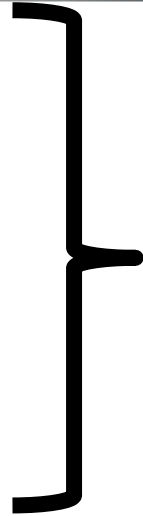
isGiraffe()



US minimum wage,
Adaptive doubling



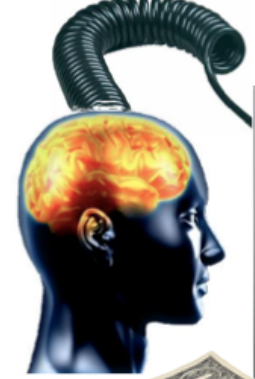
isGiraffe()



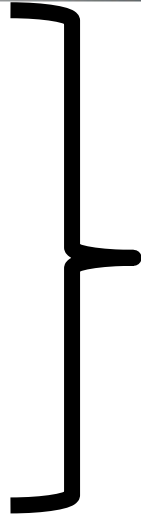
US minimum wage,
Adaptive doubling



30s, \$0.06 ($\$7.25 / 120$)



isGiraffe()



US minimum wage,
Adaptive doubling
prevents gaming



~~30s, \$0.06 (\$7.25 / 120)~~

60s, \$0.12















$$E[\text{gain}] = \text{base} (P_{\text{avail}})^{\text{round}} \\ * \text{multiplier}^{\text{round}}$$





$$E[\text{gain}] = \text{base} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\text{round}} * \text{multiplier}^{\text{round}}$$





$$E[\text{gain}] = \text{base} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\text{round}} * 2^{\text{round}}$$





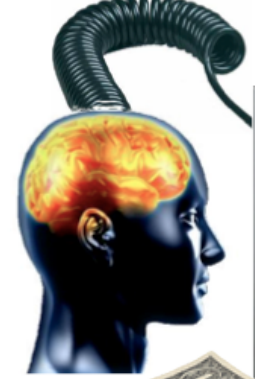
$$E[\text{gain}] = \text{base}$$





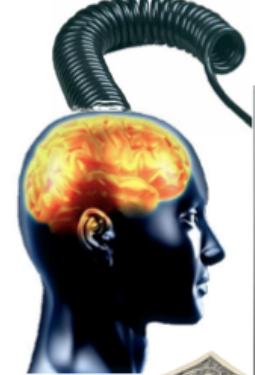
$E[\text{gain}] = \text{base}$
no incentive to wait



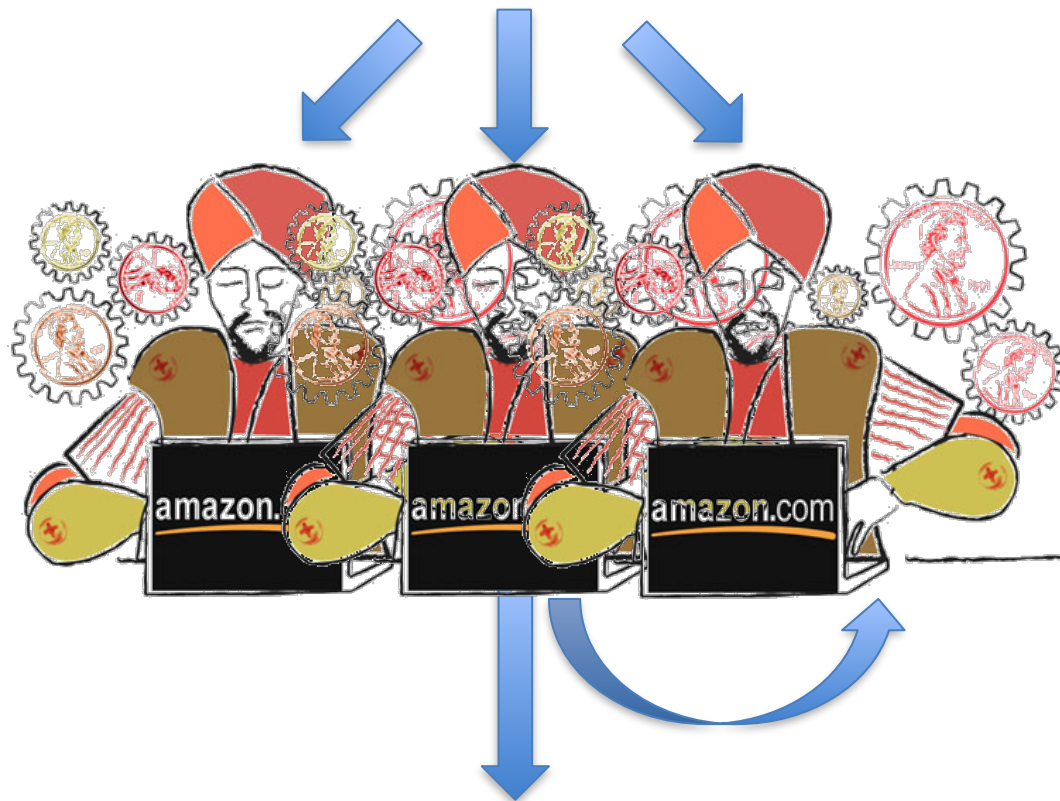


isGiraffe()





isGiraffe()



True *95% confidence*

How many giraffes are in this picture?



None



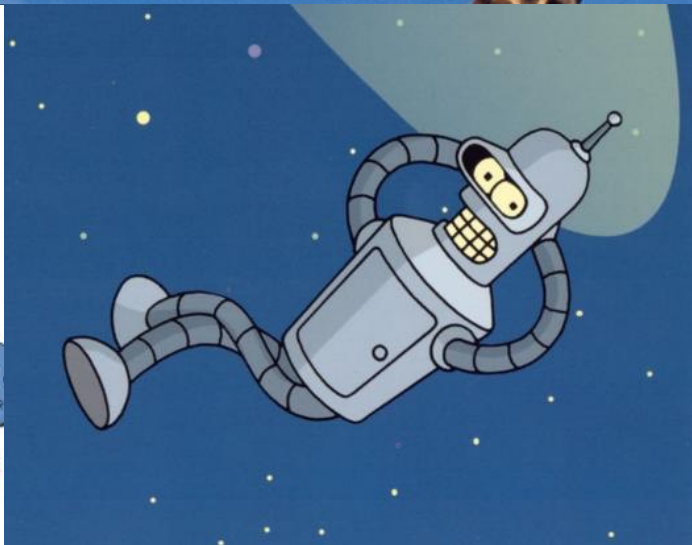
More than one



One

k choices

How many giraffes are in this picture?



None



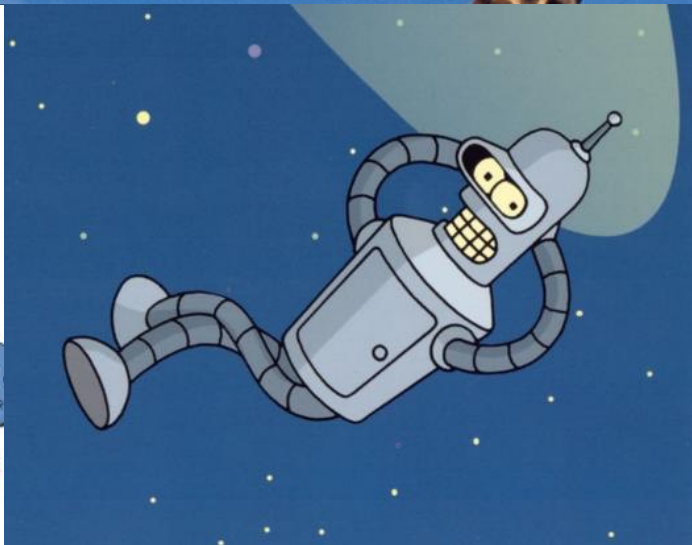
More than one



One

k choices

How many giraffes are in this picture?



None



More than one



One

k choices

How many giraffes are in this picture?



None



More than one



One

k choices

How many giraffes are in this picture?



More than one



None



One

k choices

Which are from Sesame Street?



- ☐ Oscar the Grouch
- ☐ Kermit the Frog
- ☐ Spongebob Squarepants
- ☐ Cookie Monster
- ☐ The Count

2^k choices

Which are from Sesame Street?



- ☒ | Oscar the Grouch
- ☒ | Kermit the Frog
- ☒ | Spongebob Squarepants
- ☒ | Cookie Monster
- ☒ | The Count

2^k choices

Which are from Sesame Street?



- ☒ Oscar the Grouch
- ☐ Kermit the Frog
- ☒ Spongebob Squarepants
- ☒ Cookie Monster
- ☐ The Count

2^k choices

What does this license plate say?

What characters are printed on this license plate?

XXXXXX

[A-Z0-9]{6}

36^6 choices = 2176782336

Which one of these doesn't belong?

[95% conf.]



AUTOMAN: spawns 3 tasks @ \$0.06; 30s work

t_1

t_2

t_3

Which one of these doesn't belong?

[95% conf.]



AUTOMAN: spawns 3 tasks @ \$0.06; 30s work

t_1

t_2

t_3



1m 50s

Which one of these doesn't belong?

[95% conf.]



AUTOMAN: spawns 3 tasks @ \$0.06; 30s work

t_1

t_2

t_3



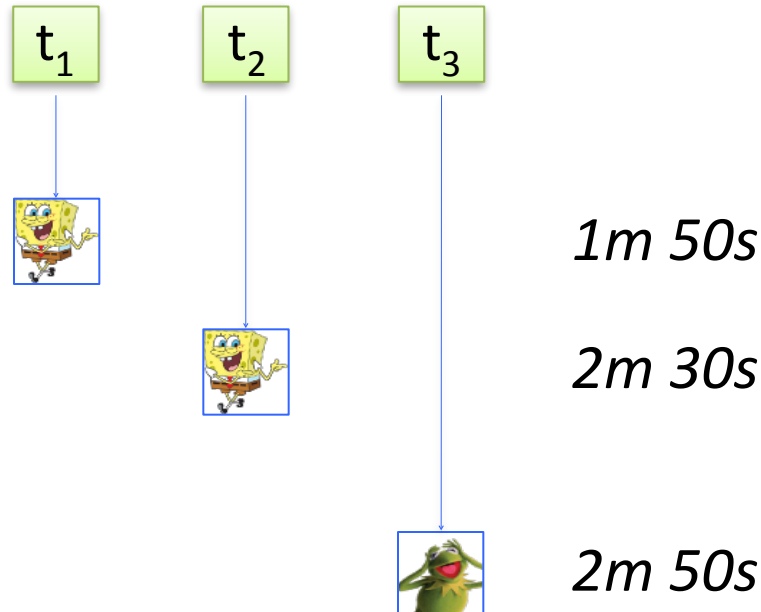
1m 50s

2m 30s

Which one of these doesn't belong? [95% conf.]



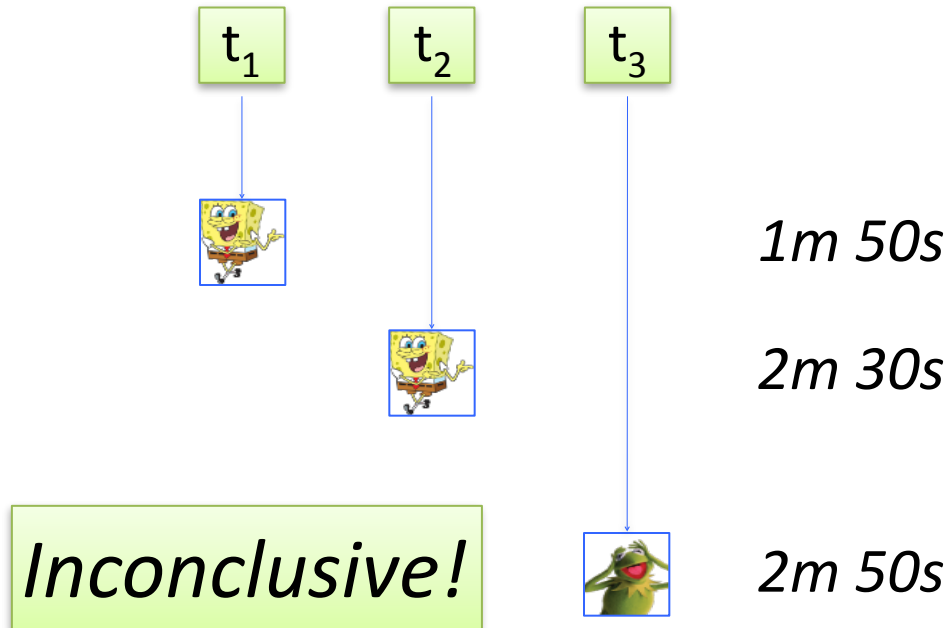
AUTOMAN: spawns 3 tasks @ \$0.06; 30s work



Which one of these doesn't belong? [95% conf.]



AUTOMAN: spawns 3 tasks @ \$0.06; 30s work

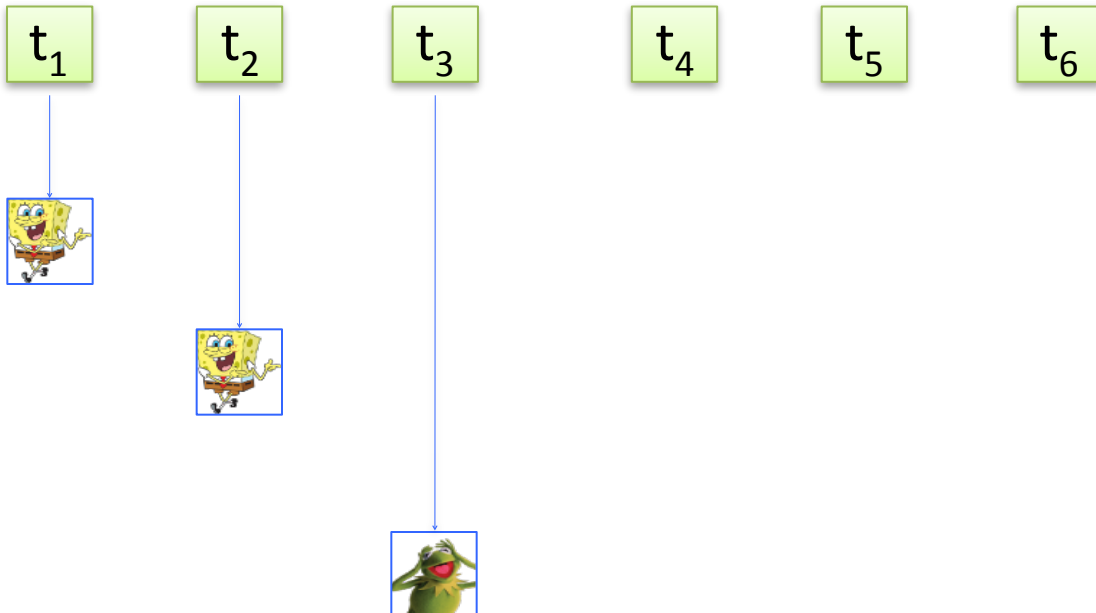


Which one of these doesn't belong?

[95% conf.]



AUTOMAN: spawns 3 more tasks

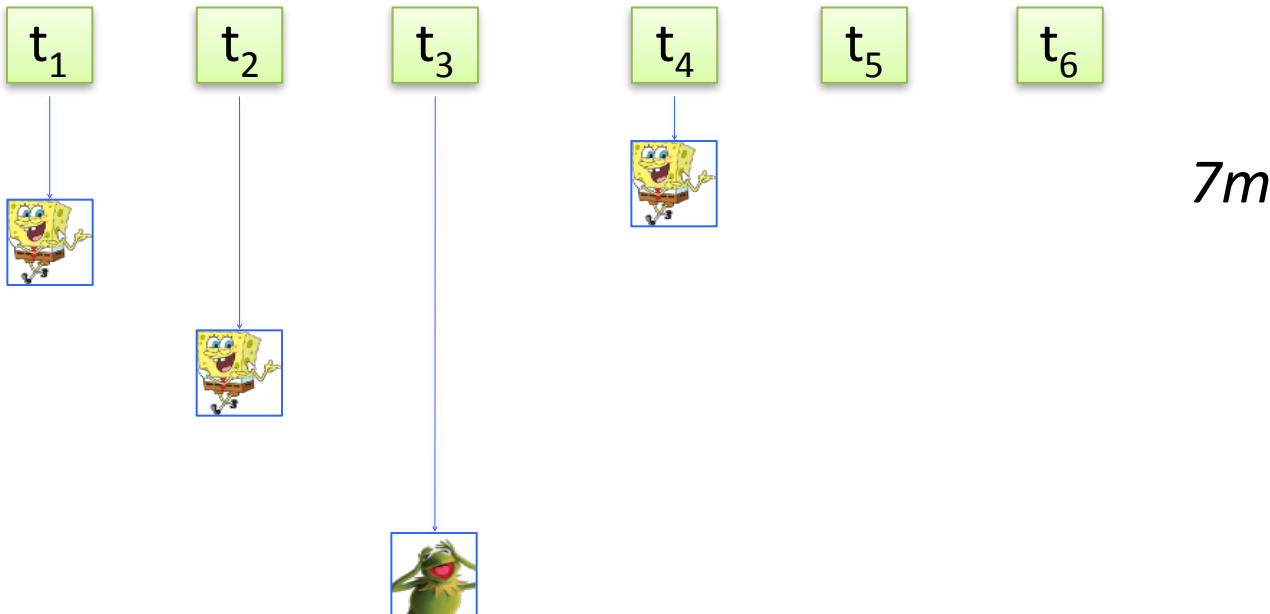


Which one of these doesn't belong?

[95% conf.]



AUTOMAN: spawns 3 more tasks

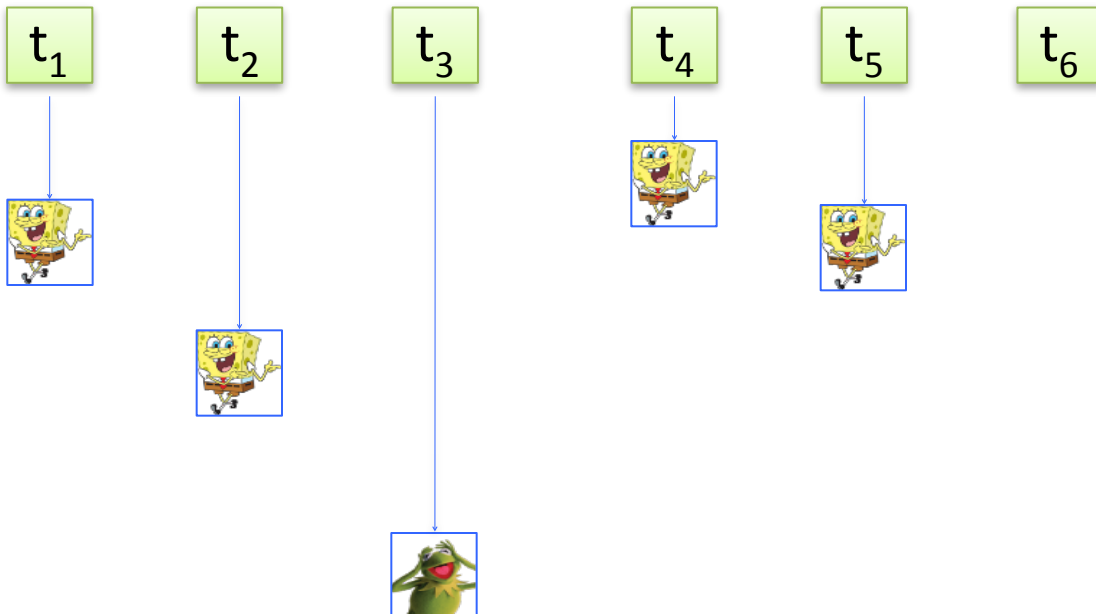


Which one of these doesn't belong?

[95% conf.]



AUTOMAN: spawns 3 more tasks



7m

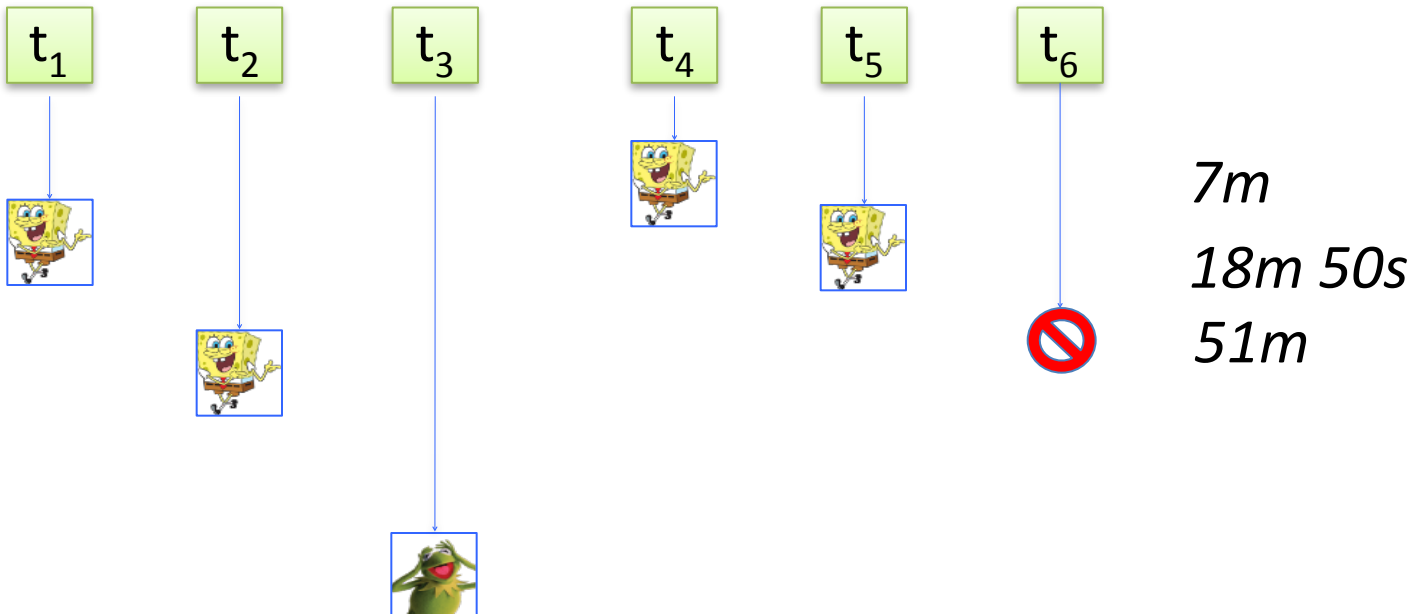
18m 50s

Which one of these doesn't belong?

[95% conf.]



AUTOMAN: spawns 3 more tasks

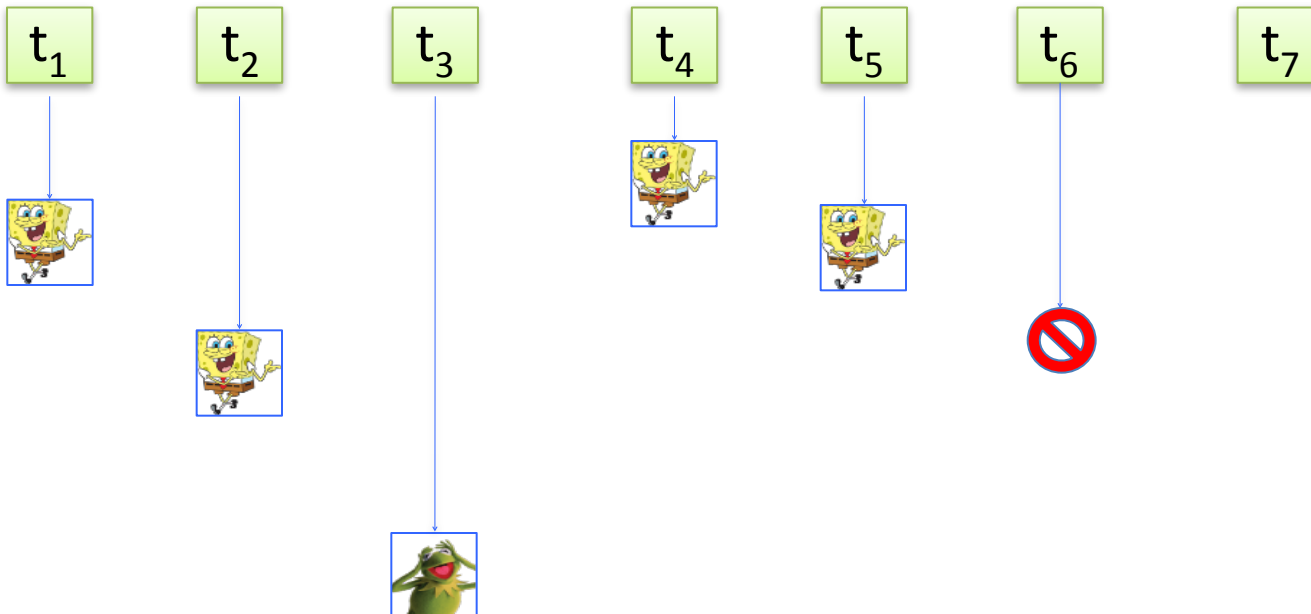


Which one of these doesn't belong?

[95% conf.]



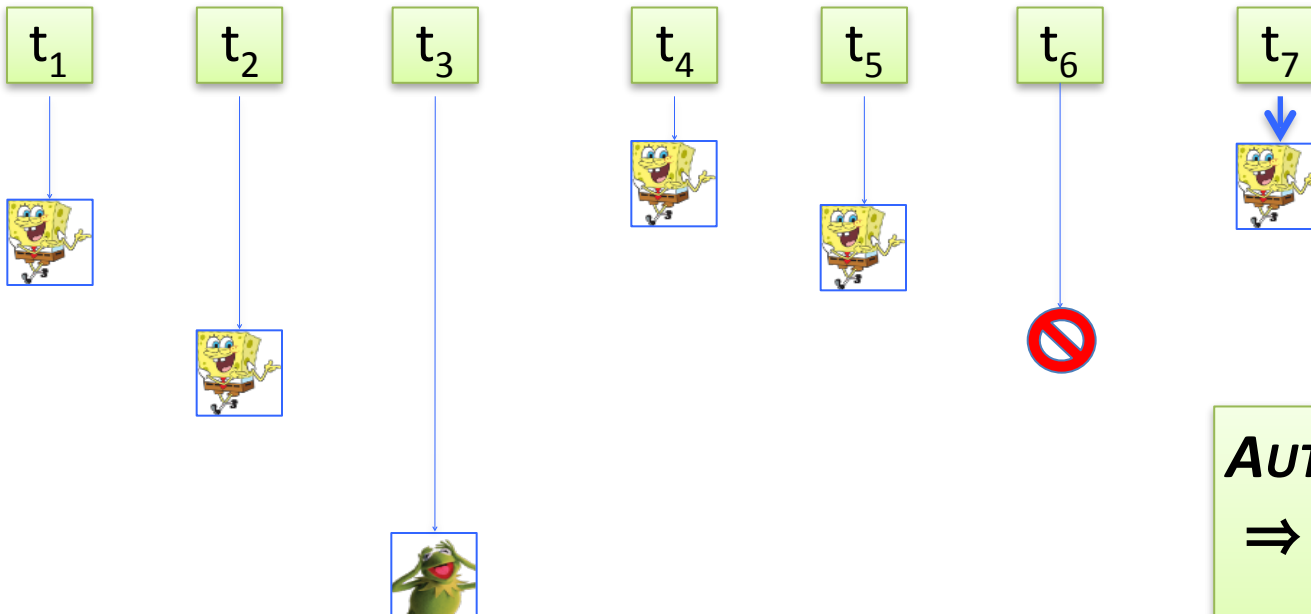
AUTOMAN: spawn 1 more task @ \$0.12, 60s work



Which one of these doesn't belong? [95% conf.]



AUTOMAN: spawn 1 more task @ \$0.12, 60s work



*1h 9m 50s;
cost = \$0.36*

**AUTOMAN: 5 out of 6
⇒ 95% confidence;
return** 

read_plate (

A close-up photograph of the front of an orange Dodge truck. The truck features a prominent chrome grille with horizontal slats and a central Dodge logo. The hood is painted orange and has five chrome "DODGE" lettering. The front bumper is chrome. A Washington state license plate is visible, reading "767-JKF". The text "read_plate (" is overlaid on the left side of the image.





165M575

WXH 979

40L 190

ZPP 626

[All HITS](#) | [HITS Available To You](#) | [HITS Assigned To You](#)

Find **HITS**

containing

that pay at least \$ **0.00**

☐ for which you are qualified

☐ require Master Qualification **GO**

Timer: 00:00:05 of 30 seconds

Finished with this HIT?

Submit HIT

Let someone else do it?

Return HIT

☐ Automatically accept the next HIT

Total Earned: \$0.77
Total HITS Submitted: 17

Recognize this license plate.

Requester: Dan Barowy

Qualifications Required: None

Reward: \$0.06 per HIT

HITS Available: 5

Duration: 30 seconds



What are the characters printed on this license plate? (CAPS ONLY, NO DASHES, DOTS OR SPACES please!)

```
def is_car(img_url: String) =  
  a.RadioButtonQuestion { q =>  
    q.budget = 1.00  
    q.confidence = 0.95  
    q.text = "Is this a car?"  
    q.image_url = img_url  
    q.options = List(  
      a.Option('yes, "Yes"),  
      a.Option('no, "No")  
    )  
  }
```

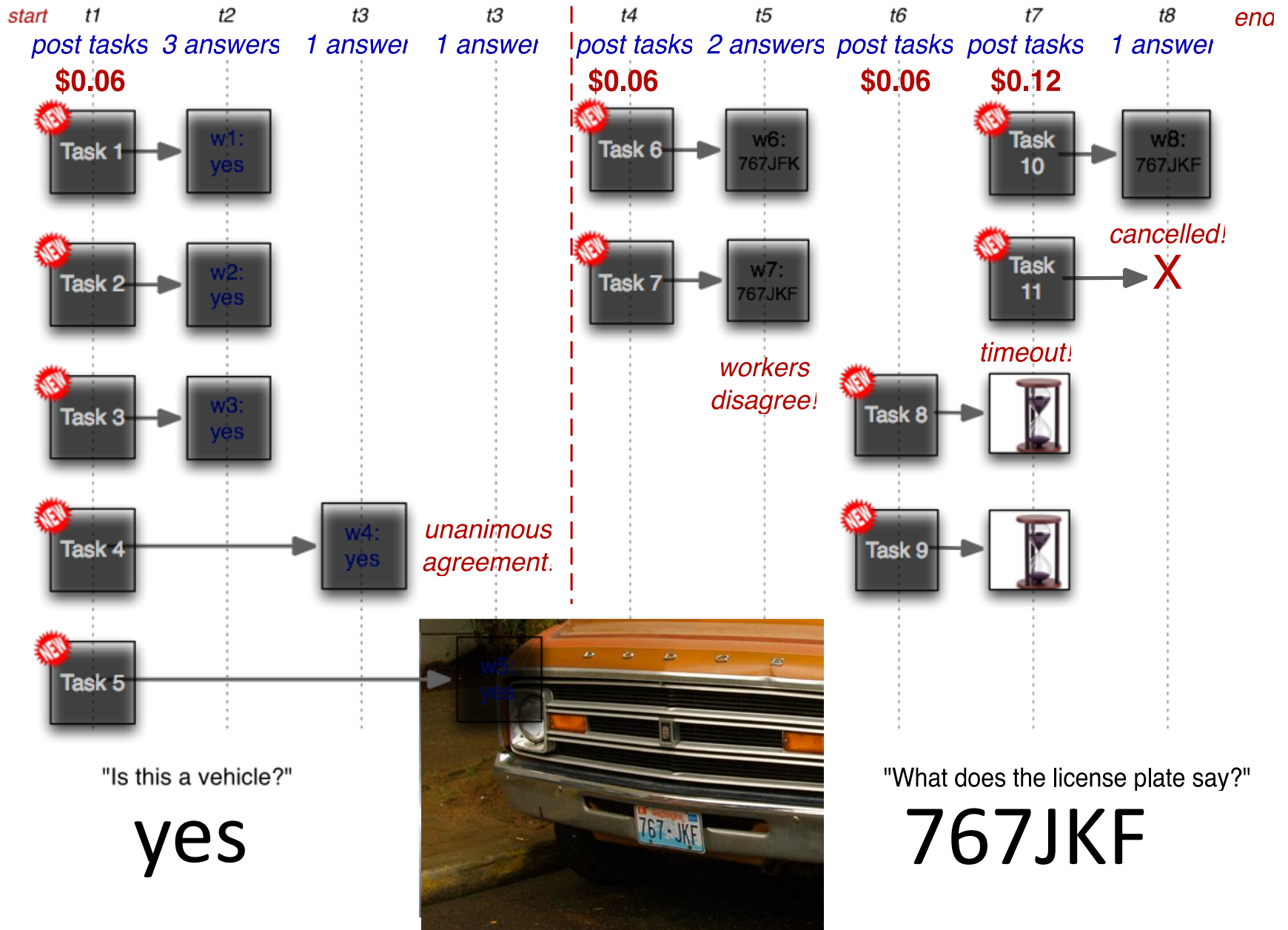
```
def get_plate_text(img_url: String) =  
  a.FreeTextQuestion { q =>  
    q.text = "What does this plate  
              say?"  
    q.image_url = img_url  
    q.pattern = "XXXXXXYYY"  
  }
```



```
def get_plate_text(img_url: String) =  
  a.FreeTextQuestion { q =>  
    q.text = "What does this plate  
              say?"  
    q.image_url = img_url  
    q.pattern = "XXXXXXYYY"  
  }
```

```
val plate_texts = s3_urls.par.map  
{ url => get_plate_text(url) }
```

```
plate_texts.foreach { text =>  
  println(text) }
```





MediaLab LPR database

“extremely difficult” dataset

144 plates

Accuracy: 91.6% **>12.2%!**

Average cost: 12.08 cents

Latency: < 2 minutes per image

How many giraffes are
in this picture?



- ☐ None
- ☐ More than one
- ☐ One

Etsy

Which are from *Sesame Street*?



- ☒ Oscar the Grouch
- ☐ Kermit the Frog
- ☒ Spongebob Squarepants
- ☒ Cookie Monster
- ☐ The Count



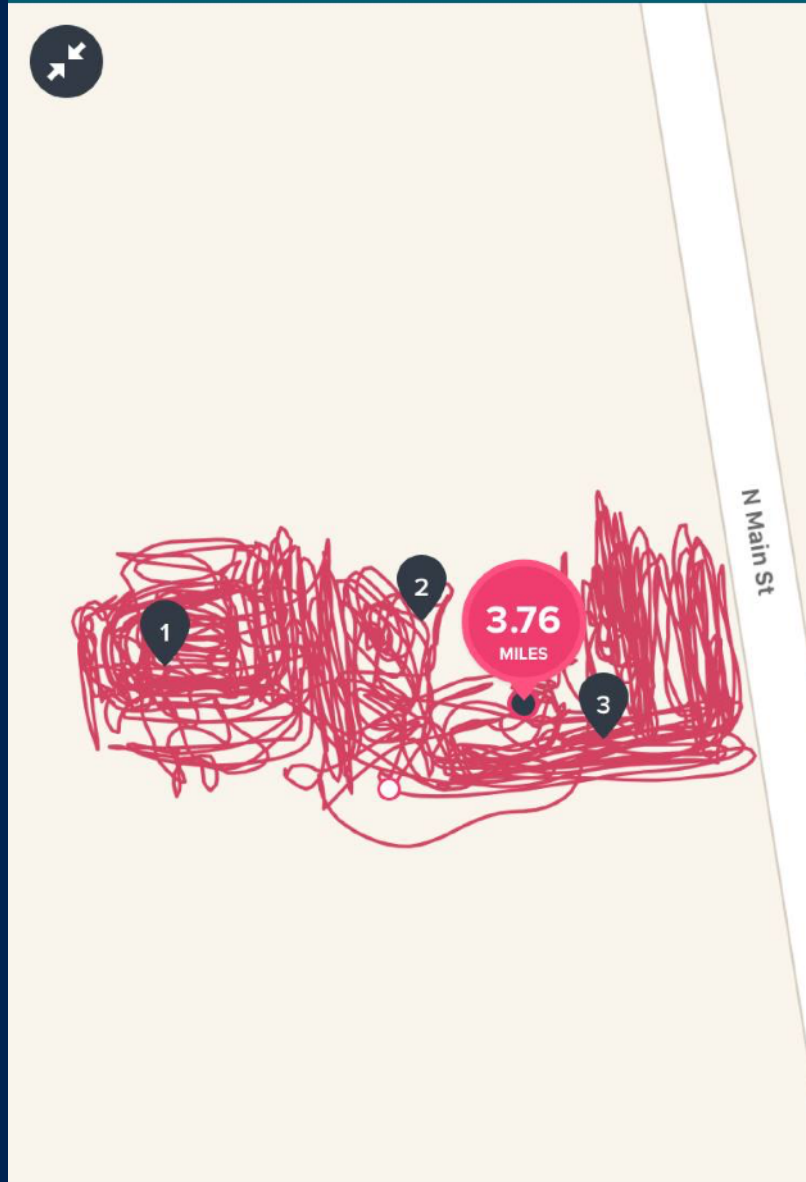
`read_plate(767-JKF)`



3.76_{mi}

1:46:40_{min}

28'20"_{pace}



Dashboard



Challenges



Friends

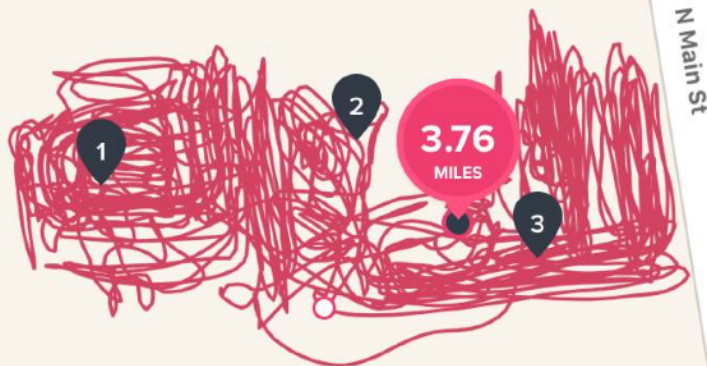


Account

3.76 mi

1:46:40 min

28'20" pace



Exercise

Hike

10/4/16, 8:42 AM



3.76 mi

1:46:40 min

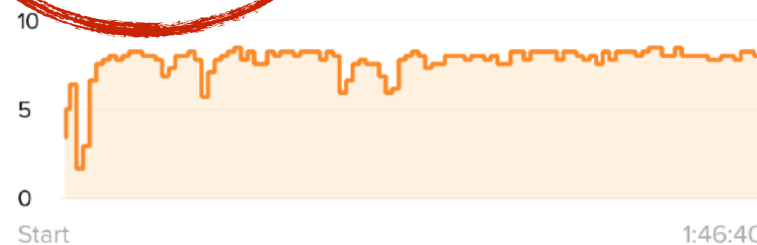
28'20" pace



CALORIES BURNED

8 cals/min

835 cals



IMPACT ON YOUR DAY



+11,599

of 14,529 steps taken



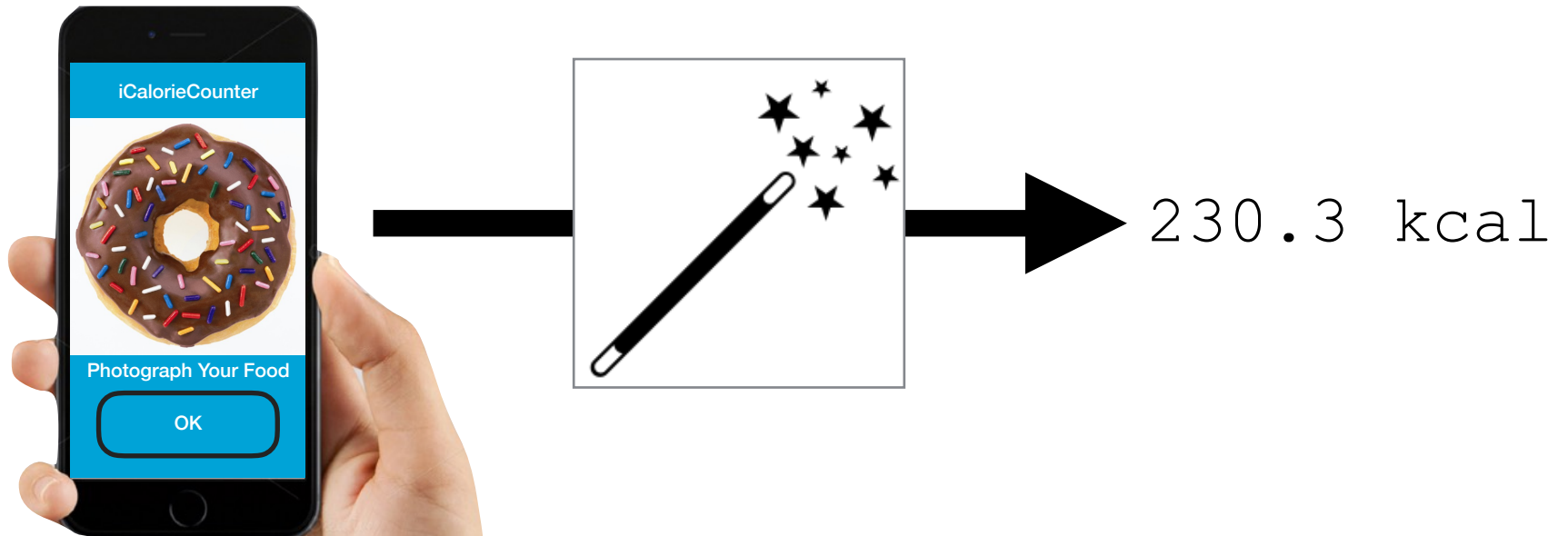
+835

of 2,717 calories burned







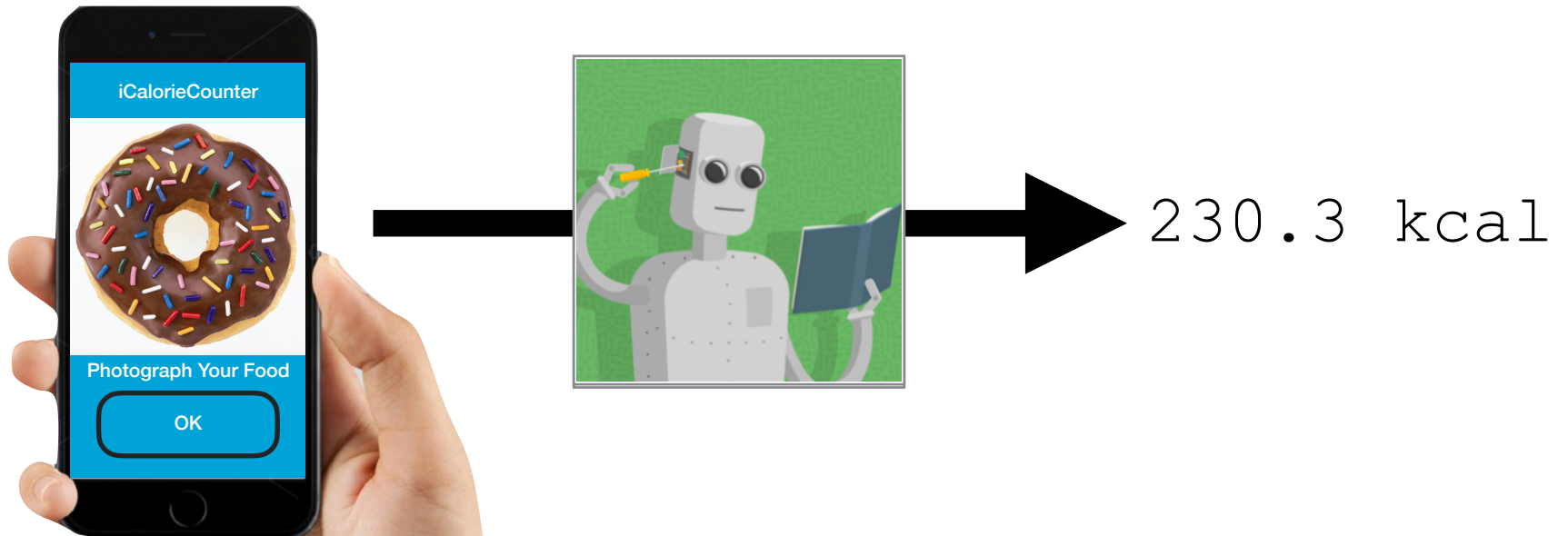


1. take a photo
2. algorithms (???)
3. return estimate



INTRODUCTION TO
ALGORITHMS

3rd edition



1. take a photo
2. algorithm (robot)
3. return estimate

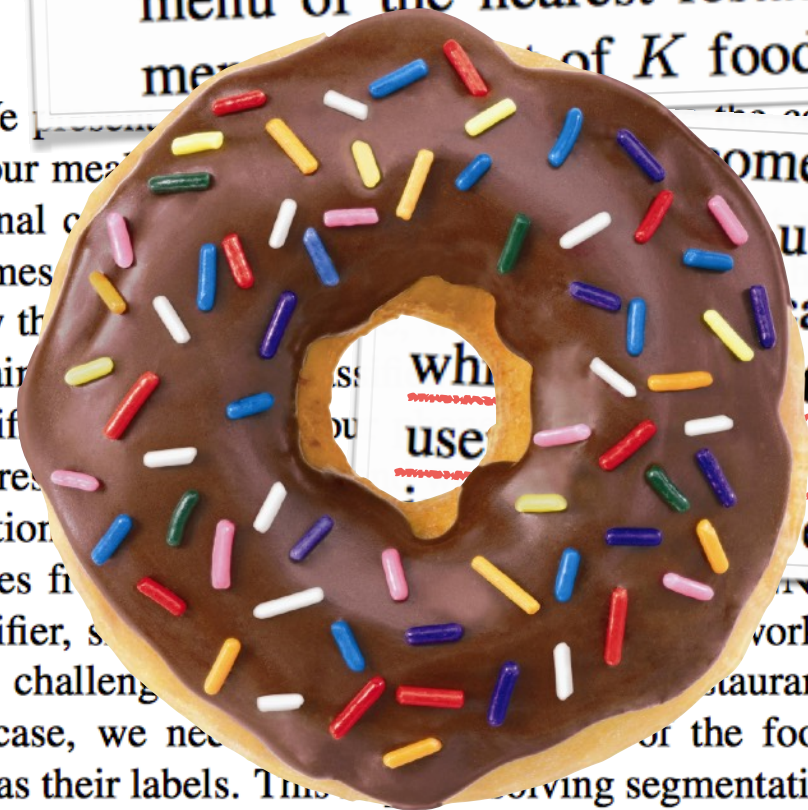
Im2Calories: towards an automated mobile vision food diary

Once we have determined that the image contains a meal, we try to analyze its contents. The first step is to determine which restaurant the user is in. In this paper, we use Google's Places API [27] for this. We then retrieve the menu of the nearest restaurant from the web,⁵ parse the menu of K food items, and retrieve images for

orban

evin Murphy

n

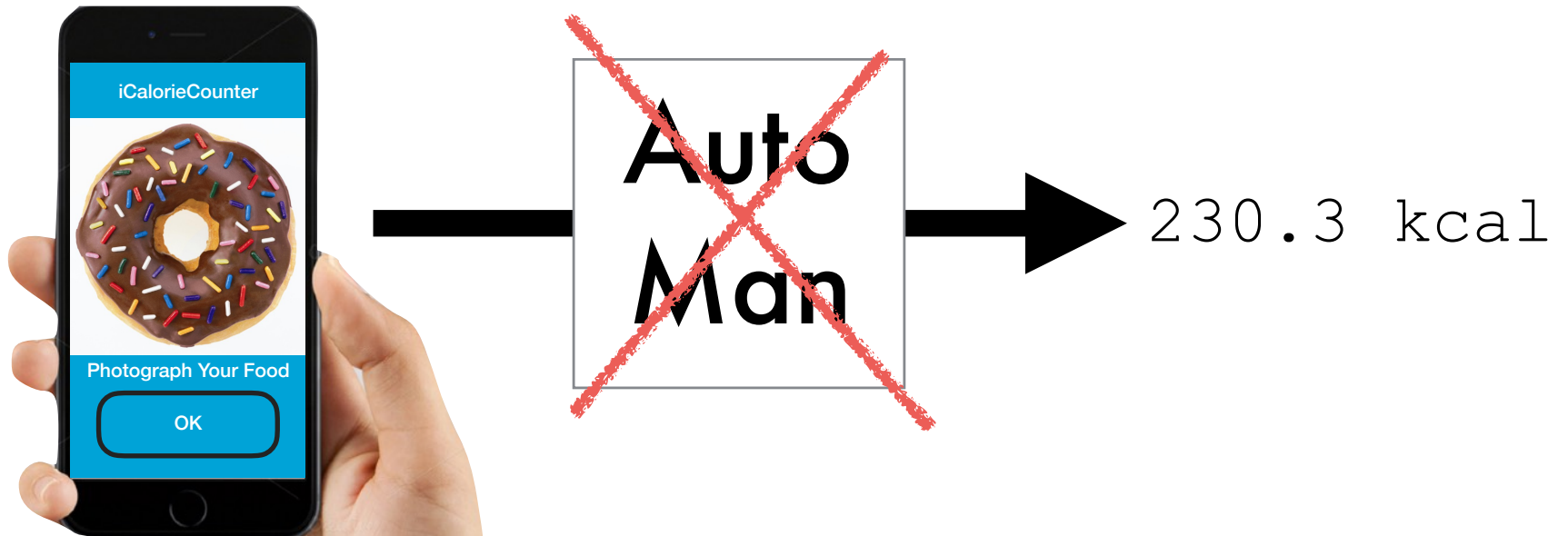


a system. Our approach utilizes several deep learn



230.3 kcal

1. take a photo
2. machine learning
3. return estimate



1. take a photo

2. ~~auto man~~ ^{convolutional}

3. return estimate

readPlate (



AutoMan

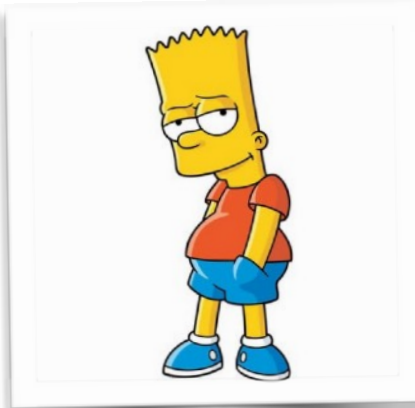


767-JKF

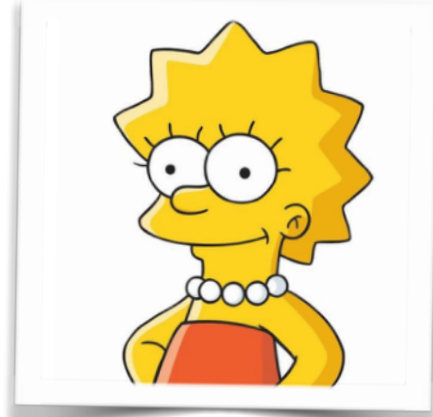
“How many calories are in this donut?”



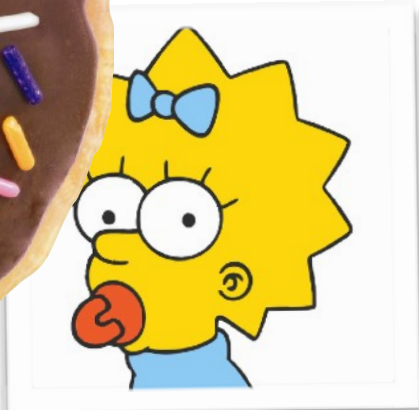
2



326



214



318

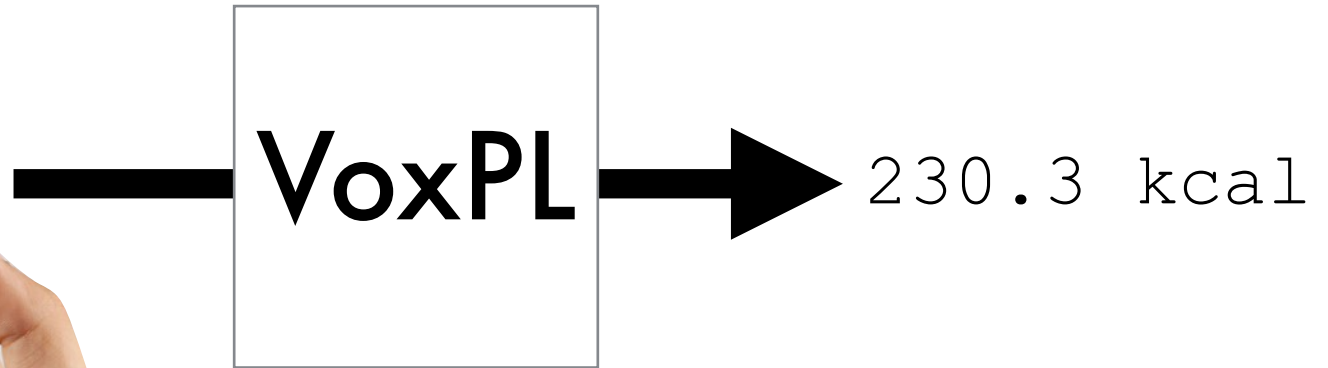


283



274

214 $\neq$ 318 $\neq$ 283 $\neq$ 274



1. take a photo

2. crowdsourcing

3. return estimate

VoxPL

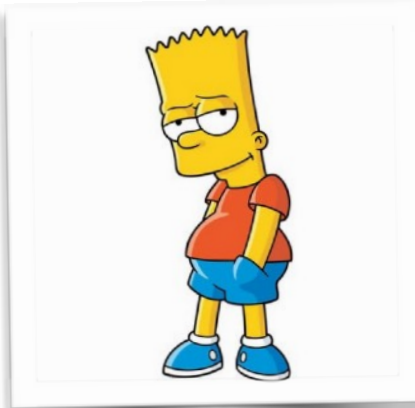
Extends AutoMan DSL with **estimates**

```
def numCalories(url: String) = Estimate (  
  confidenceInterval = SymmetricCI(50),  
  text = "How many calories are  
         in the food pictured?",  
  imageUrl = url  
)
```

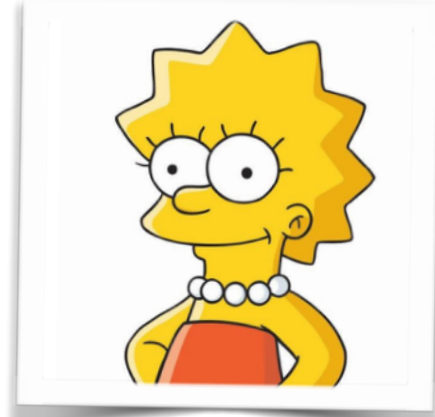

"How many calories are in this donut?"



2



326



214



318



283

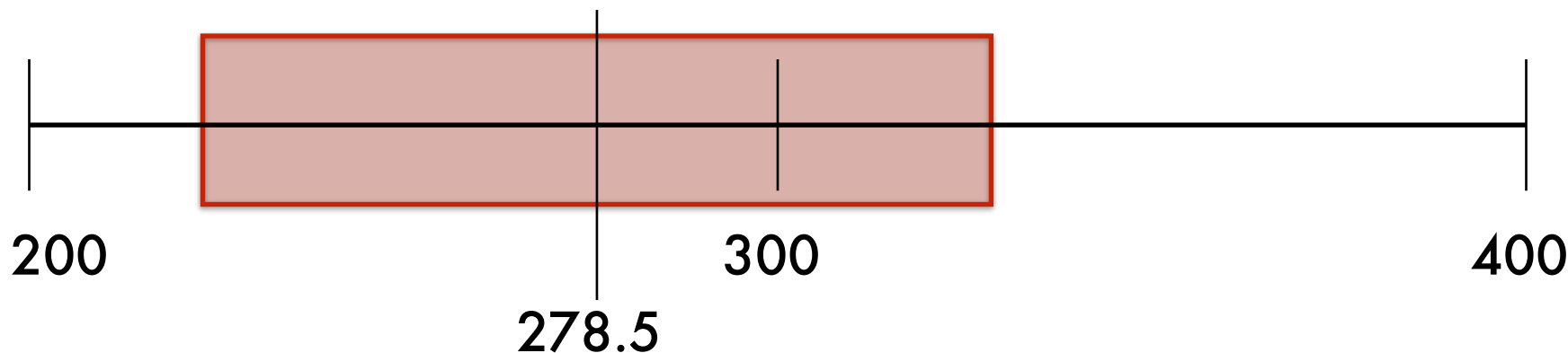


274

214 ~~med 318~~ ~~318~~ ~~283~~ ~~274~~ $\neq$ 288.5 274



What would it take
to trust that median value of
278.5 is a good estimate?



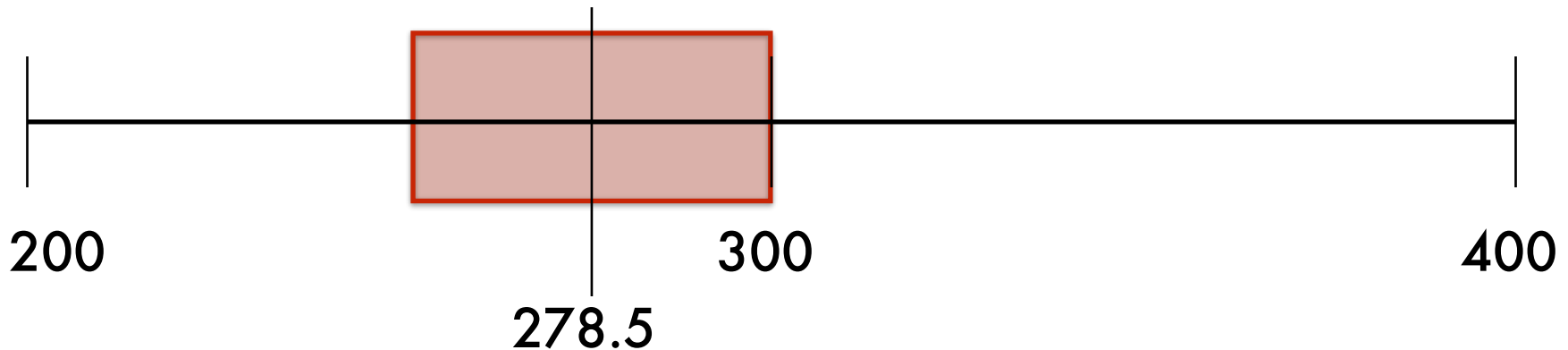
The set of estimates that can be distinguished is able due to sampling error.

Donut contains 278.5 ± 50 kcal.

Do you prefer words which opinions probably don't belong to Homer's?



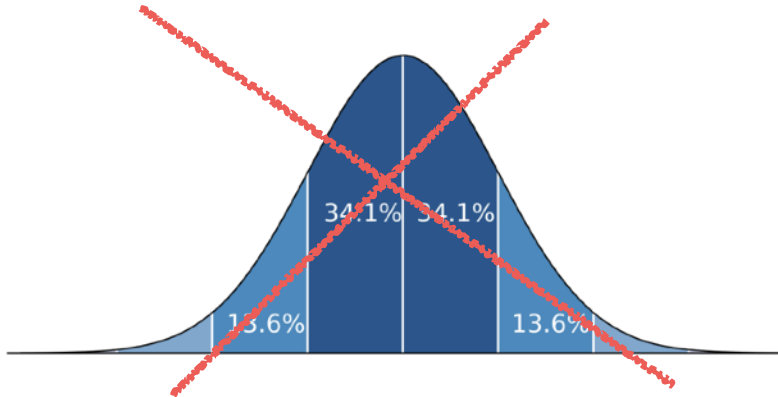
What would it take
to trust that median value of
278.5 is a good estimate?



"Donut contains 278.5 ± 50 kcal."



Confidence interval is **an unknown**
function of the distribution, statistic,
and sample size.



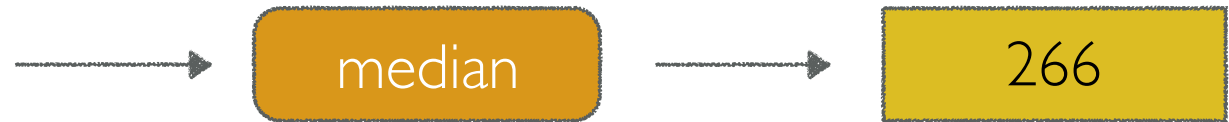
CI for $\bar{x} = \bar{x} \pm z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$

2
326
214
318
283
274



The “basic bootstrap” (Efron, 1979)

2
318
214
318
2
326



The “basic bootstrap” (Efron, 1979)

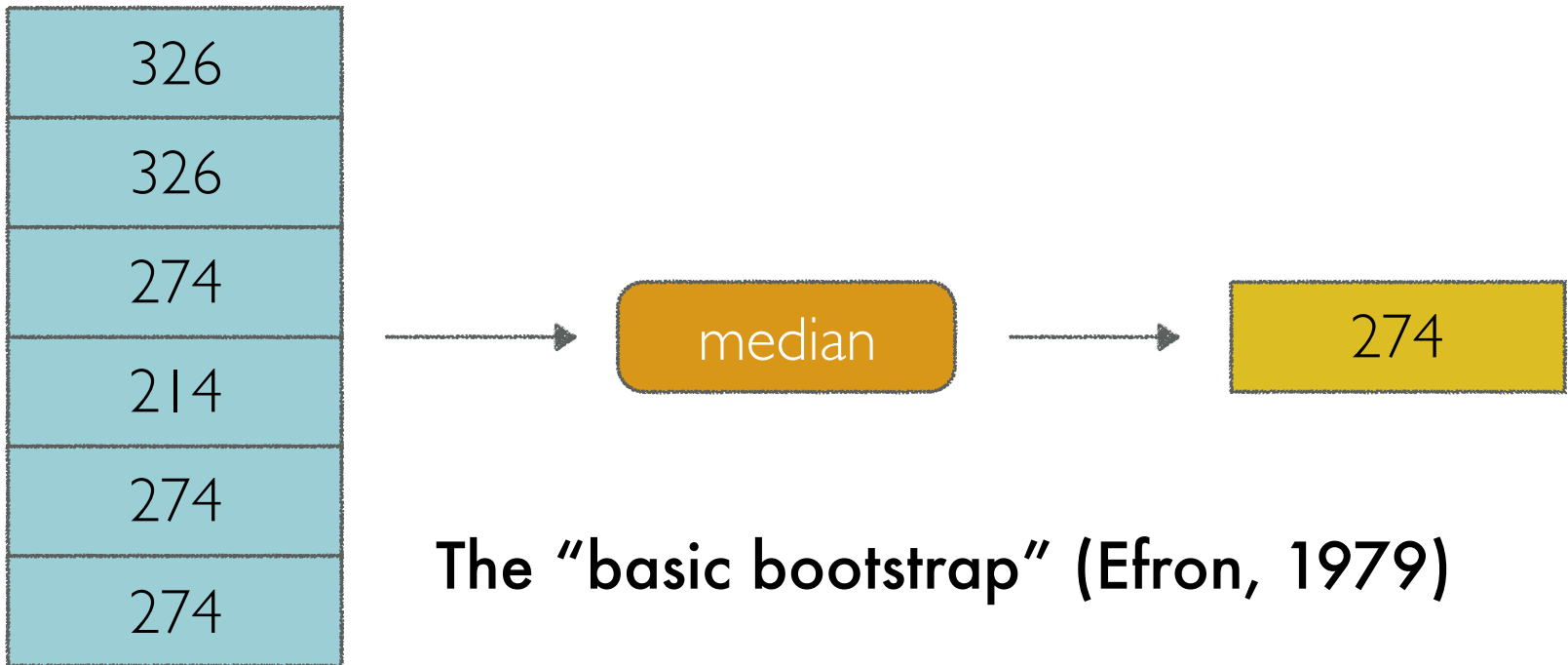
278.5

326
283
2
214
283
274



The “basic bootstrap” (Efron, 1979)

278.5	266
-------	-----



The “basic bootstrap” (Efron, 1979)



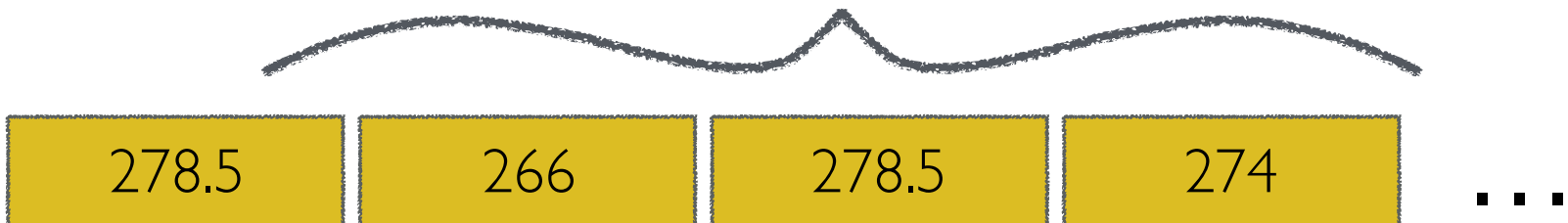
...

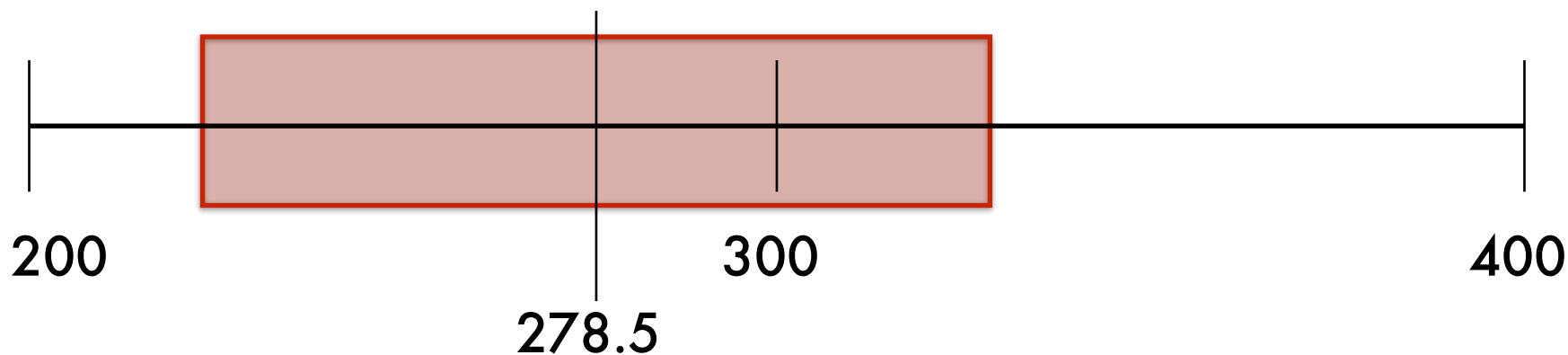
326
326
274
214
274
274

Values of median corresponding
to 2.5th and 97.5th percentiles
=> 95% confidence interval



The “basic bootstrap” (Efron, 1979)





"Donut contains 278.5 ± 50 kcal."

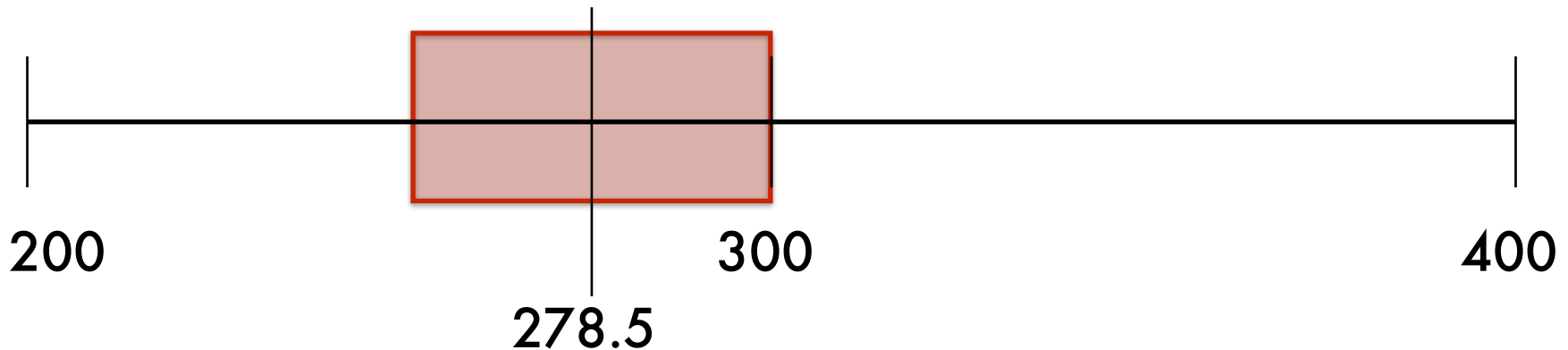


If confidence interval not precise enough, how do we make it tighter?



Confidence interval = function of sample size...

For tighter intervals, ask more people!



"Donut contains 278.5 ± 50 kcal."

VoxPL Algorithm

Increase sample size until either

- 1) interval meets user-defined “tightness” constraint
- 2) or budget exhausted

```
def numCalories(url: String) = Estimate (  
    confidenceInterval = SymmetricCI(50),  
    confidence = 0.95,  
    budget = 5.00,  
    text = "How many calories are  
           in the food pictured?",  
    imageUrl = url,  
    statistic = L1Median  
)
```

(mandatory parameters are in red)


```
val cals = numCalories(breakfast) +  
           numCalories(lunch)
```



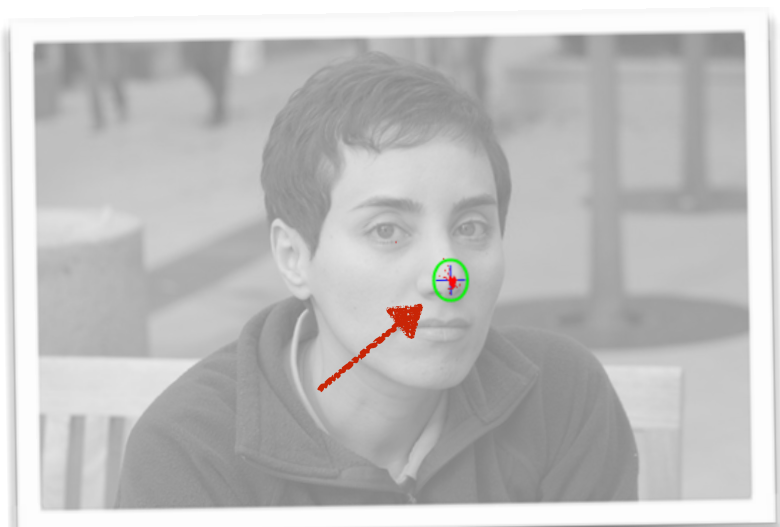
Computing confidence intervals for composed functions: same procedure (because: bootstrap)

All functions expressible in VoxPL produce valid estimates & empirical confidence intervals

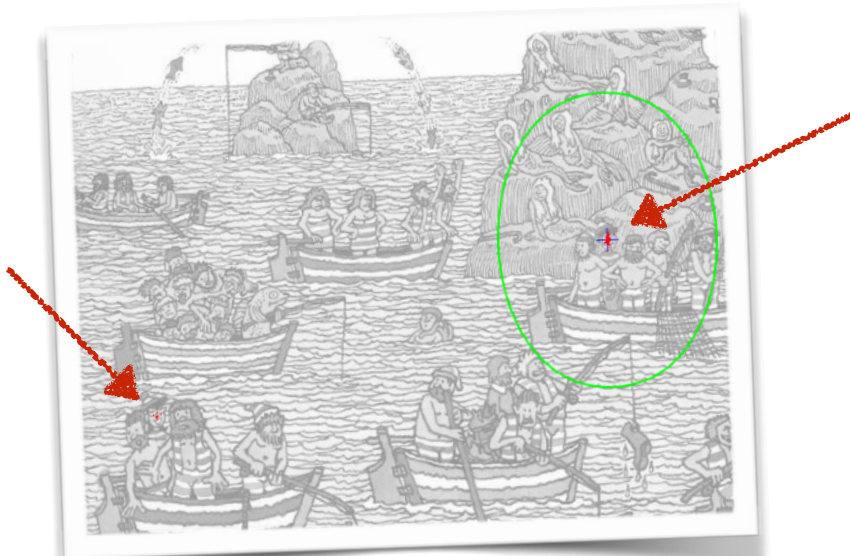
Also ensures that dynamic sample size calculation does not bias results (Bonferroni)



Calorie counting



Facial feature recognition



Difficult visual search



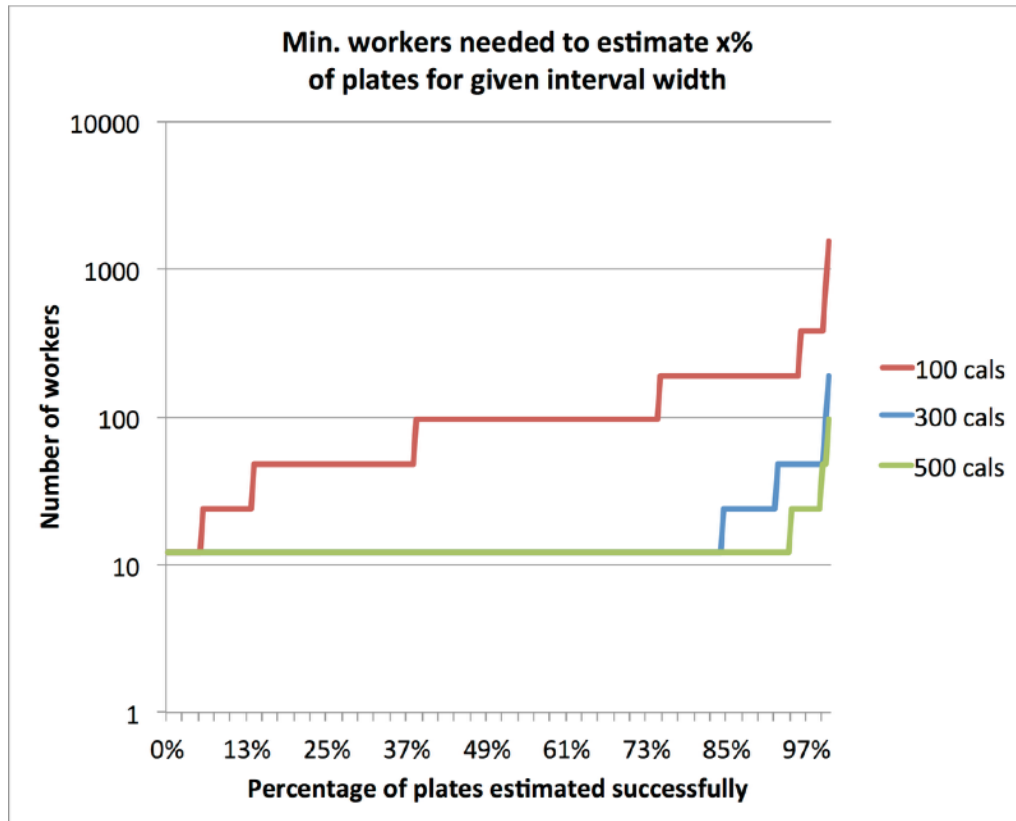
Vox Populi reproduction
(NPR Planet Money)

Calorie Counter



- 208 images of school lunches w/ground truth kcal (thanks to Joe Price @ Brigham Young U.)
- IM2Calories MAE: 152.95, SE: 15.61
- VoxPL MAE: 103.08, SE: 6.00

Calorie Counter



Fixed $n=200$,
confidence interval
 ± 41 kcal

Cost: \$12 per plate!

VoxPL savings?
Depends on constraint

- VoxPL dynamically finds right sample size - can be much cheaper!
 ± 250 , median cost: \$0.32; ± 50 cost: \$1.28

AutoMan/VoxPL



Automatic budgeting, scheduling, and quality control

<http://github.com/plasma-umass/AutoMan>

DANIEL BAROWY

CHARLIE CURTSINGER

EMERY BERGER

ANDREW MCGREGOR

UMass**Amherst**

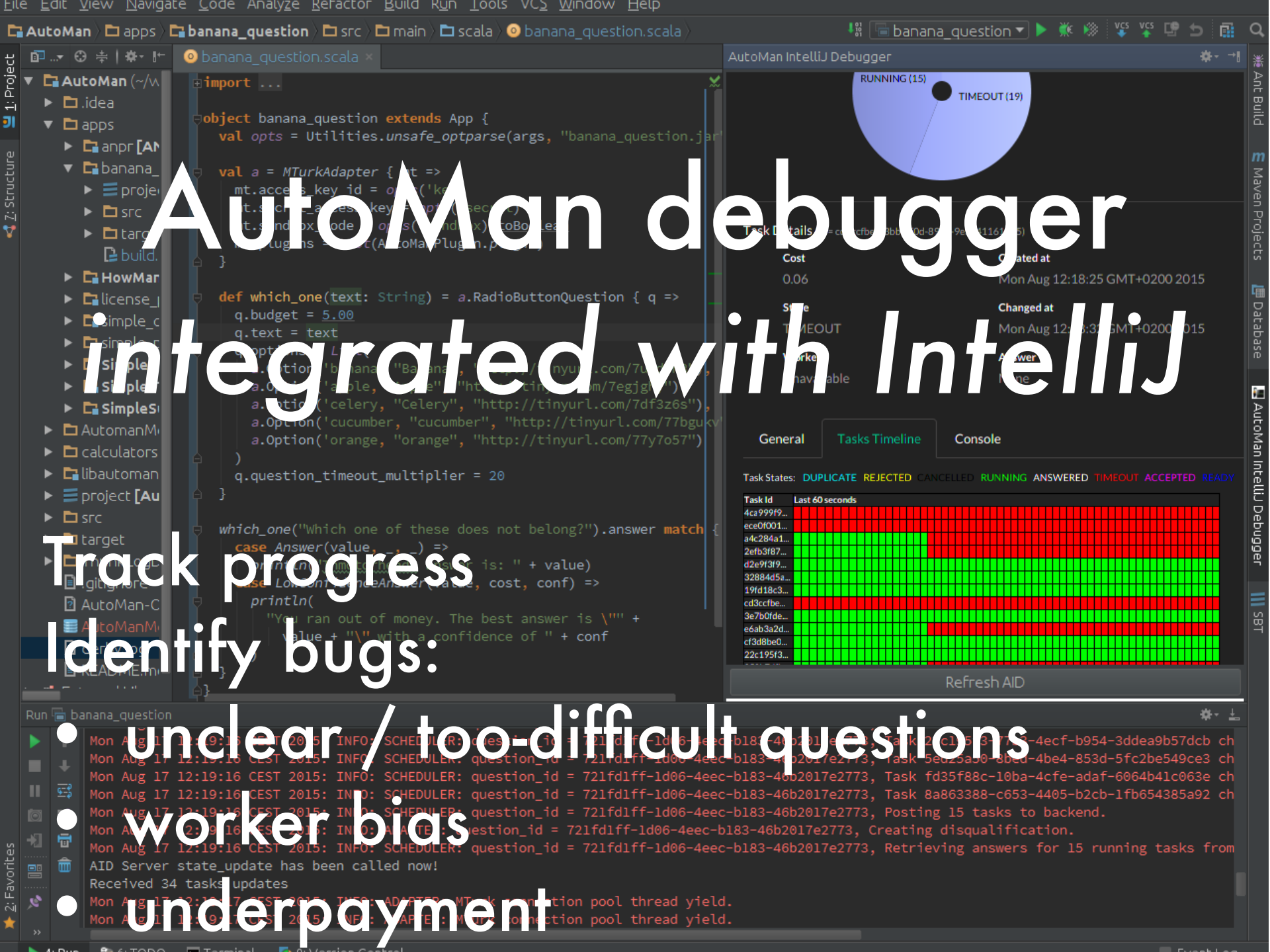


DANIEL GOLDSTEIN

SIDDHARTH SURI

(VoxPL)





File Edit View Navigate Code Analysis Build Run Tools VCS Window Help

AutoMan> apps> banana_question> src> main> scala> banana_question.scala

1: Project
2: Structure

AutoMan (~/.w...)
└─ .idea
└─ apps
└─ anpr [AN...]
└─ banana_
└─ proje...
└─ src
└─ targe...
└─ build...
└─ HowMar...
└─ license_...
└─ simple_c...
└─ simple_f...
└─ SimpleC...
└─ SimpleF...
└─ SimpleS...
└─ AutomanM...
└─ calculators
└─ libautoman
└─ project [Au...]
└─ src
└─ target
└─ ThunkLogC...
└─ .gitignore
└─ AutoMan-C...
└─ AutoManM...
└─ derby.log
└─ README.m...

banana_question.scala

```
import ...  
  
object banana_question extends App {  
  val opts = Utilities.unsafe_optparse(args, "banana_question.jar"  
  
  val a = MTurkAdapter { mt =>  
    mt.access_key_id = opts('key)  
    mt.secret_access_key = opts('secret)  
    mt.sandbox_mode = opts('sandbox).toBoolean  
    mt.plugins = List(AutoManPlugin.plugin)  
  }  
  
  def which_one(text: String) = a.RadioButtonQuestion { q =>  
    q.budget = 5.00  
    q.text = text  
    q.options = List(  
      a.Option('banana, "Banana", "http://tinyurl.com/7u5d4n8"),  
      a.Option('apple, "Apple", "http://tinyur.com/7egjghy"),  
      a.Option('celery, "Celery", "http://tinyurl.com/7df3z6s"),  
      a.Option('cucumber, "cucumber", "http://tinyurl.com/77bgukv"),  
      a.Option('orange, "orange", "http://tinyurl.com/77y7o57")  
    )  
    q.question_timeout_multiplier = 20  
  }  
  
  which_one("Which one of these does not belong?").answer match {  
    case Answer(value, _, _) =>  
      println("Thmotorheade answer is: " + value)  
    case LowConfidenceAnswer(value, cost, conf) =>  
      println(  
        "You ran out of money. The best answer is \" +  
        value + "\" with a confidence of \" + conf  
      )  
  }  
}
```

AutoMan IntelliJ Debugger

RUNNING (15)

TIMEOUT (19)

Task Details (id = cd3ccfbe-93bb-4f0d-890e-9ea841161915)

Cost	0.06	Created at	Mon Aug 12:18:25 GMT+0200 2015
State	TIMEOUT	Changed at	Mon Aug 12:18:32 GMT+0200 2015
Worker	Unavailable	Answer	None

General

Tasks Timeline

Console

Task States: DUPLICATE REJECTED CANCELLED RUNNING ANSWERED TIMEOUT ACCEPTED READY

Task Id	Last 60 seconds
4ca999f9...	[Red]
ece0f001...	[Red]
a4c284a1...	[Green]
2efb3f87...	[Green]
d2e9f3f9...	[Green]
32884d5a...	[Green]
19fd18c3...	[Green]
cd3ccfbe...	[Green]
3e7b0fde...	[Green]
e6ab3a2d...	[Green]
cf3d8be0...	[Green]
22c195f3...	[Green]

Refresh AID

Run banana_question

```
Mon Aug 17 12:19:16 CEST 2015: INFO: SCHEDULER: question_id = 721fd1ff-1d06-4eec-b183-46b2017e2773, Task 22c195f3-77b3-4ecf-b954-3ddea9b57dcb ch  
Mon Aug 17 12:19:16 CEST 2015: INFO: SCHEDULER: question_id = 721fd1ff-1d06-4eec-b183-46b2017e2773, Task 22c195f3-77b3-4ecf-b954-3ddea9b57dcb ch  
Mon Aug 17 12:19:16 CEST 2015: INFO: SCHEDULER: question_id = 721fd1ff-1d06-4eec-b183-46b2017e2773, Task 22c195f3-77b3-4ecf-b954-3ddea9b57dcb ch  
Mon Aug 17 12:19:16 CEST 2015: INFO: SCHEDULER: question_id = 721fd1ff-1d06-4eec-b183-46b2017e2773, Task 22c195f3-77b3-4ecf-b954-3ddea9b57dcb ch  
Mon Aug 17 12:19:16 CEST 2015: INFO: SCHEDULER: question_id = 721fd1ff-1d06-4eec-b183-46b2017e2773, Posting tasks to backend.  
Mon Aug 17 12:19:16 CEST 2015: INFO: ADAPTER: question_id = 721fd1ff-1d06-4eec-b183-46b2017e2773, Creating disqualification.  
Mon Aug 17 12:19:16 CEST 2015: INFO: SCHEDULER: question_id = 721fd1ff-1d06-4eec-b183-46b2017e2773, Retrieving answers for 15 running tasks from  
AID Server state_update has been called now!  
Received 34 tasks updates  
Mon Aug 17 12:19:17 CEST 2015: INFO: ADAPTER: MTurk connection pool thread yield.  
Mon Aug 17 12:19:17 CEST 2015: INFO: ADAPTER: MTurk connection pool thread yield.
```

Track overall progress

extra slides

Timer: 00:00:00 of 30 seconds

Want to work on this HIT?

Want to see other HITs?

Total Earned: \$54.88

Accept HIT

Skip HIT

Total HITs Submitted: 1043

Which one of these does not belong?

Requester: Dan Barowy

Reward: \$0.06 per HIT

HITs Available: 3

Duration: 30 seconds

Qualifications Required: None

Which one of these does not belong?

☐



apple

☐



celery

☐



cucumber

☐



orange

☐



banana

Is this a picture of a cowboy?



How many goats?

