

HW2: Heuristic Evaluation – BioMate

I discussed this assignment with nobody

1. Anticipation
 - a. Main logo

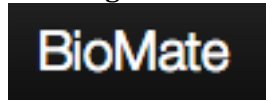


Figure 1 - Logo

- i. (-) **Minor** - Since clickable, would expect it to link to the home page
 - b. Use a script

Use a Script

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Use a Script". At the top, there is a "Select Script" dropdown menu with "Monte Carlo" selected. Below the dropdown are three buttons: "My Notes on Monte Carlo", "Instructions", and "Load Parameters". Underneath is a "Caveats" section with the text "The output of Monte Carlo is displayed in the terminal". The "Required Fields" section contains a radio button for "Input File" and a text input field with the placeholder "Enter input file name" and a note "File path must be absolute". The "Optional Fields" section contains a radio button for "Number of Iterations" with a text input field containing "100" and a note "Must be less than 10,000", and another radio button for "Detailed Output" which is currently unchecked. At the bottom of the form are two buttons: "Generate Command" (highlighted in blue) and "Save Parameters".

Figure 2 - Use a script

- i. (-) **Minor** - Anticipated that the script would be actually used rather than created for use for later.

2. Autonomy
 - a. Edit Script

Script1

Add Static Text Add Parameter/Flag More Information

Caveats
Eg: Output of this command appears in terminal

General instructions
Eg: If you have more questions, email xyz@gmail.com

Last saved at: Never

Cancel Save As Save Save & Share

Figure 3 - Edit Script

- i. (+) User has the ability to edit a variety of aspects of the script
3. Color Blindness
 - a. All Figures
 - i. (+) No issues with color blindness
4. Consistency
 - a. Edit Script (Figure 3) and Use a script (Figure 2)
 - i. (-) **Moderate** - Information is located in different places. I think it would be best to put these two features together in one page. At the very least, navigation from create a way to navigate immediate from the edit script page to the use script page and back.
5. Defaults
 - a. All pages
 - i. (-) **Major** - No clarity with defaults. (This is understandable for a prototype but could be improved for the implementation. There are a few libraries for first time users (they walk through use cases with the users and are especially helpful for sites where use cases are not immediately obvious)
6. Efficiency
 - a. Create a script/use a script
 - i. (-) **Major** - Uses multiple pages to handle a lot of the same actions which could be achieved with one. Results in having to know which features/actions can be used on each page.

11. Learnability

a. Adding a parameter flag

The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Add Parameter/Flag" with a close button in the top right corner. The dialog is organized into two columns of form fields. The left column includes: "Alias" (text input with example "Eg: num_of_iterations"), "User-Friendly Name" (text input with example "Eg: 'Detailed Output?'"), "Required?" (checkbox), and "Tooltip" (text input with example "Eg: 'Enter the path to th"). The right column includes: "Prefix/Flag" (text input with example "Eg: -v or --verbosity"), "Input Type" (dropdown menu with "Select..." and a downward arrow), and "Warnings" (text input with example "Eg: 'File paths must be"). At the bottom right of the dialog are two buttons: "Cancel" and "Add Parameter/Flag".

Figure 5 - Adding parameter to a script

- i. (-) **Minor** - It's not clear what these form items affect.
- ii. (-) **Minor** - It would be helpful if this was a vertical form instead or at the very least it (I noticed this was just a bootstrap issue with small screens)

12. Metaphors

a. All pages

- i. (-) **Minor** - Did not see any metaphors.

13. Protect users' work

a. All pages

- i. (+) Everything seems to be saved! This is awesome!

14. Readability

a. Create/Edit pages

- i. (-) **Moderate** - The information is not immediately obvious. Should be immediately helpful. Maybe add it on the page?

15. Track state

a. Figure 5

- i. (+/-) **Minor** - Upon closing the form, previously inputted data is not cleared

16. Visible navigation

a. All pages

- i. (+/-) **Moderate** - A lot of the navigation is visible, but key features are missing (changing to edit, create, etc.)