

Attachment H
Pretest Report

Summary

Pre-tests were conducted with 9 individuals over the period 12-15 April 2016. The goals of conducting these pre-tests were to test the experimental procedures, instructions, and interface; and to observe a distribution of payments and completion times. Specifically, the pre-tests were intended to:

1. Discover any bugs that might occur in the experimental software. **Result: Minor software bugs identified and corrected with layout of menus in the Cumulative Prospect Theory (CPT) elicitation task.**
2. Collect subject feedback on aspects of instructions that were unclear during the pretest. **Result: Feedback received and instructions updated accordingly.**
3. Test the total running time of the experiment, including completing informed consent, reading instructions, completing all experimental rounds, completing demographic questionnaire, and paying subjects. **Result: Session lengths ranged from 47-74 minutes, with median run time of 62 minutes.**
4. Test the distribution of subject payments. **Result: Payments ranged from \$10 - \$29.80, with median payment \$23.33.**

Pre-Test Procedures

Three pre-tests were conducted at the Department of Environmental and Natural Resource Economics' Policy Simulation Laboratory (SimLab) at the University of Rhode Island. Pre-tests were conducted over the period 12-15 April 2016 and involved 2-5 individuals per session. Participants were undergraduate and graduate students from the University of Rhode Island. Over all three sessions, 9 individuals participated in the pre-tests.

Pre-test procedures included completing informed consent, reading instructions, completing all experimental rounds, completing demographic questionnaire, and paying subjects. All pre-test subjects completed the full set of pre-test procedures. Additionally, subjects were invited to provide feedback on the experimental procedures and instructions after the pre-test was completed.

Detailed Results of Pre-Testing

The table below displays the session length and payment received for all 9 pre-test participants:

Subject ID	Session Length (minutes)	Total Payout Earned	Equivalent Hourly Payment Rate
1	62	\$18.00	\$17.42
2	73	\$29.80	\$24.49
3	55	\$10.00	\$10.91
4	74	\$26.23	\$21.27
5	63	\$13.00	\$12.38
6	58	\$24.28	\$25.12
7	47	\$14.00	\$17.87
8	59	\$23.33	\$23.72
9	65	\$27.11	\$25.02
Mean	61.78	\$20.64	\$19.80
Median	62	\$23.33	\$21.27

Feedback Received

All subjects were requested to provide feedback about the experimental procedures and instructions once the pre-test was completed.

Multiple subjects reported that menus were not consistently aligned across rounds in the CPT elicitation task. In a few rows in some of the menus, the boxes were split over two rows instead of being aligned in a single row. This bug has since been identified and corrected.

Three subjects requested opportunities to practice using the interface before starting each new task. We have since added a place to do this on the instruction page for each task.

Two subjects requested additional description in the instructions about how to interpret Option A and Option B in the CPT elicitation task. We have since provided additional text in the instructions for this task to illustrate how payments and probabilities are linked in the visual display.