Title: Experimental outline and questions for Facility selection experiment II

Date of experiment:	February 19, 2009
Location of experiment:	TC303 and TC304, Studios 3rd Floor, Takatsuki Campus, Kansai University
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Subjects:	84 Students of the Faculty of Informatics, Kansai University

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Experimental Outline

Subjects select one of three hospitals. Upon selection, subjects receive reward. If the hospital is crowded, the subject receives less reward than if it is not crowded. Before selecting a hospital, subjects are provided with information about the capacity of each hospital. This information allows subjects to get a feel for how crowded each hospital is. Using this information and information on the number of people at each hospital, the subjects make their selections. The experiment is split into four sessions. In each session, the information given to subjects and the capacity of each hospital varies. In each session, the same 25 questions are asked.

After receiving guidance regarding the experiment and the reward system, subjects individually answer the questions on a computer. After each experiment, the subjects are interviewed.

Figure 1: Screenshot of the screen on which subjects make their selections

Experimental conditions in each session:

Session 1

Capacity of hospital: A＝14, B＝28, C＝42,

Information provided: answer to the previous question and the number of people who chose the same hospital as the subject in the previous question

Session 2

Capacity of hospital: A＝28, B＝28, C＝28

Information provided: answer to the previous question and the number of people who chose the same hospital as the subject in the previous question

Session 3

Capacity of hospital: A＝14, B＝28, C＝42,

Information provided: answer to the previous question and the number of people who chose each hospital in the previous question

Session 4

Capacity of hospital: A＝28, B＝28, C＝28,

Information provided: answer to the previous question and the number of people who chose each hospital in the previous question

Handout 1: February 2009

Today's Experiment

Thank you for participating in the PG Laboratory experiment today. The aim of this experiment is to investigate how people's behavior changes when they are presented with different information. Before starting the experiment, please read the following passage.

Experimental Outline

In a certain town, there are three hospitals. Each hospital can reasonably treat a certain number of patients at any given time. In other words, each hospital has a certain 'capacity'. The medical facilities at each hospital are the same. When the capacity of a given hospital is exceeded, waiting times increase and consultation times decrease. Conversely, when the hospital is below capacity, waiting times are shorter, and consultation times are longer. In short, if the hospital the patient visits is under capacity, the patient benefits greatly. If it is over capacity, the patient benefits less.

In this experiment, a situation is hypothesized in which all people living in a certain town concerned fall ill at the same time. You then have to decide which hospital you should go to. You repeatedly select a hospital on the basis of certain information. If your selection is an un-crowded hospital, your remuneration increases. If the hospital is crowded, your remuneration decreases. Note that repeatedly choosing the same hospital will not speed up the patients' recovery. Furthermore, in this experiment, patients equally trust and like all doctors at all three hospitals, and all hospitals are equally distant from patients' homes. Thus, the only factor determining benefit (recovery from illness) for the patients is the degree to which the hospital is crowded.

Experimental Procedure

- ✧ In this experiment, you have to repeatedly choose one hospital from a selection of three.
- ✧ If you choose a hospital that is not chosen by other participants, waiting time for the patient will decrease, and you will receive more reward.
- ✧ In other words, your remuneration depends on the degree to which the hospital you choose is crowded.
- ✧ The reward you are due to receive will be shown at the end of the experiment.
- ✧ The experiment will be conducted 25 times for each of 4 patterns.
- ✧ The four patterns are made up of combinations of the following pieces of information: Size of the hospital (either all the same or all different) and Degree of crowdedness (known only by the hospital you choose or known by all hospitals)
- ✧ The maximum amount of reward you can receive is 4,700 yen. The minimum is -1,176 yen.
- ✧ After each session please enter the amount of reward you received on the prescribed form as per the guidance given by the instructors.
- ✧ Apart from the reward you receive during the experiment, you will also receive 4,500 yen for your participation.

Notes

1. All guidance for the experiment will appear on screen. If you do not understand something, please raise your hand up and ask an instructor directly.
2. Speaking to other participants during the sessions is strictly prohibited.
3. Looking at the computer screen of other participants during the sessions is strictly prohibited.
4. When the experiment has begun, it is not possible to take a break for any reason. Please make sure to use the toilet before the experiment begins, if necessary.

We wish you the best of luck in the experiment.

Handout 2: February 19

Interview with Subjects

Subject Name _____ User ID_____

Do you think that most people are basically honest?

Please select one appropriate response. Please check the appropriate box (□→☑).

□ Disagree strongly □ Disagree somewhat □ Difficult to say
□ Agree somewhat □ Agree completely

Are you the sort of person who tends to trust people?

Please select one appropriate response. Please check the appropriate box (□→☑).

□ Disagree strongly □ Disagree somewhat □ Difficult to say
□ Agree somewhat □ Agree completely

Do you think that most people are basically good and kind?

Please select one appropriate response. Please check the appropriate box (□→☑).

□ Disagree strongly □ Disagree somewhat □ Difficult to say
□ Agree somewhat □ Agree completely

Do you think that most people trust others?

Please select one appropriate response. Please check the appropriate box (□→☑).

□ Disagree strongly □ Disagree somewhat □ Difficult to say
□ Agree somewhat □ Agree completely

Do you think that most people can be trusted?

Please select one appropriate response. Please check the appropriate box (□→☑).

□ Disagree strongly □ Disagree somewhat □ Difficult to say
□ Agree somewhat □ Agree completely