

Plain Language Statement

Department of Economics
Faculty of Business and Economics



Project: Experiments in Individual Decision Making

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in participating in this research project. The following few pages will provide you with further information about the project, so that you can decide if you would like to take part in this research.

Please take the time to read this information carefully.

Your participation is voluntary. If you do not wish to take part, you do not have to. If you begin participating, you can also stop at any time.

What is this research about?

This research is about individual decision making under experimental conditions.

What will I be asked to do?

During the experiment, you will be asked to perform a series of simple tasks on a computer. Should you agree to participate, you will be given a set of instructions explaining the experiment and what you have to do in detail. This experiment will last approximately 30 minutes.

What are the possible benefits?

You will be paid for your participation via the Prolific platform within 21 days after the experiment. The amount of money you will be paid depends on the decisions that you make. The results from this project are expected to expand our knowledge on individual decision making under experimental conditions.

What are the possible risks?

There are minimal potential risks (if at all) to participants in this research project. The tasks are simple and do not require prior knowledge of economics. We expect no physical or mental discomfort associated with participation in tasks.

Do I have to take part?

No. Participation is completely voluntary. You are able to withdraw at any time. If a participant withdraws, all existing data associated with that participant will be promptly deleted.

Will I hear about the results of this project?

Once the research project is completed, the results may be presented at academic conferences and published in academic journals. If you wish to receive a copy of the published report, you can contact any of the researchers.

What will happen to information about me?

The data from the experiment will be collected using randomly assigned identification numbers, so your choices will always remain anonymous, within the limits of the law. Once the research project is completed, the data from this experiment will be made public without any identifying information to protect your privacy. All data will be stored indefinitely and securely. They will be accessible only by those involved in the research project.

Is there any potential conflict of interest?

Participants for this experiment have been chosen from a random pool. In the unlikely event that you are a student of any of the researchers, please be advised that the experiment is completely voluntary and that your decision to participate, as well as the outcome of this experiment, will have no impact on your grades or the student-lecturer relationship.

Where can I get further information?

If you would like more information about the project, please contact the researchers:

Prof Nisvan Erkal (Responsible Researcher)
Tel: +61 3 8344 3307. Email: n.erkal@unimelb.edu.au

Dr Boon Han Koh (Co Researcher)
Email: b.koh@uea.ac.uk

Mr Lingguo Xu (PhD student)
Email: lingguo@student.unimelb.edu.au

Who can I contact if I have any concerns about the project?

This research project has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee of The University of Melbourne. If you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of this research project, which you do not wish to discuss with the research team, you should contact the Manager, Human Research Ethics, Research Ethics and

Integrity, University of Melbourne, VIC 3010. Tel: +61 3 8344 2073 or Email: HumanEthics-complaints@unimelb.edu.au. All complaints will be treated confidentially. In any correspondence please provide the name of the research team or the name or ethics ID number of the research project.