

Registration, Pre-Analysis Plans and Reporting Guidelines

Introduction, Hands-on with the Open Science Framework (OSF) and AEA Registry

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Slides at <https://goo.gl/aBQ3LR>

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Little experiment [10mins]

Explanation to participants

Read and complete the sheet: DO NOT LOOK AT OTHERS SHEETS

Go to the website bellow and complete with your answers.

<https://goo.gl/aj8W61>

Explanation to researchers

You just participated in (highly simplified) version of **The Ultimatum Game**

The goal of the UG is to measure attitudes about fairness and/or expectations about (econ) rational behavior.

Our little experiment was trying to measure if the responses to the UG can be anchored by a completely irrelevant number:

The ID number at the beginning of your sheet!

Explanation to researchers

Treatment was receiving an ID number between 960 and 999.

Control receive an ID number between 10 and 49.

Outcome: Offer made in the UG

For the hands-on exercise, you can use this experiment, or work with your own paper/project.

Registration: [40 mins]

Why Register? Publication Bias

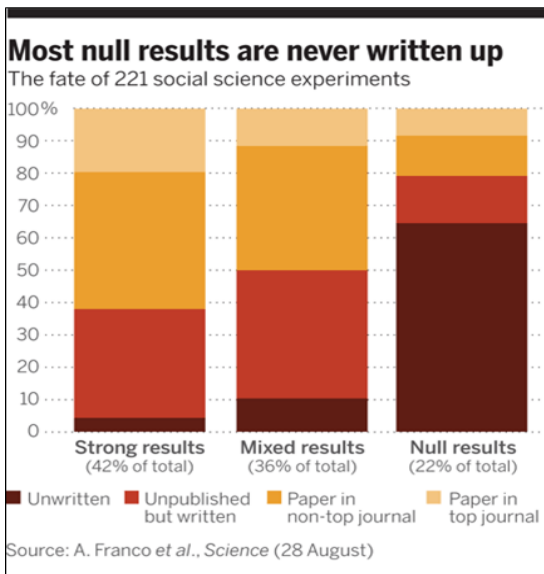


Figure 1:

Hands-on Registration.

Based on a project of your own, or on our little experiment:

- ▶ Create a draft of using Open Science Framework at osf.io:
 - ▶ Open format
 - ▶ AsPredicted (will work with this one)
- ▶ Explore AEA Registry at www.socialscienceregistry.org

Registration of our Little Experiment

Using Aspredicted format:

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- **Analyses:** OLS regression of amount offer as dependant variable and treatment as regressor.

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- **Sample size:** We will define our sample by the number of participants in the workshop.

Pre-analysis Plan. [20mins]

Why Do We Need PAPs?

Outcome variable	(1) Mean for controls	(2) Treatment effect
Panel A: GoBifo “weakened” institutions		
Attended meeting to decide what to do with the tarp	0.81	-0.04 ⁺
Everybody had equal say in deciding how to use the tarp	0.51	-0.11 ⁺
Community used the tarp (verified by physical assessment)	0.90	-0.08 ⁺
Community can show research team the tarp	0.84	-0.12 [*]
Respondent would like to be a member of the VDC	0.36	-0.04 [*]
Respondent voted in the local government election (2008)	0.85	-0.04 [*]
Panel B: GoBifo “strengthened” institutions		
Community teachers have been trained	0.47	0.12 ⁺
Respondent is a member of a women’s group	0.24	0.06 ^{**}
Someone took minutes at the most recent community meeting	0.30	0.14 [*]
Building materials stored in a public place when not in use	0.13	0.25 [*]
Chieftdom official did not have the most influence over tarp use	0.54	0.06 [*]
Respondent agrees with “Responsible young people can be good leaders” and not “Only older people are mature enough to be leaders”	0.76	0.04 [*]
Correctly able to name the year of the next general elections	0.19	0.04 [*]

Figure 2:

Why Do We Need PAPs? (cont)

- ▶ Increases replicability
- ▶ Distinguishes exploratory from confirmatory analysis
- ▶ You can win \$1000!

How to do a PAP? McKenzie Suggestions

World Bank Development Impact Blog

- ▶ Description of the sample to be used in the study
- ▶ Key data sources
- ▶ Hypotheses to be tested throughout the causal chain
- ▶ Specify how variables will be constructed
- ▶ Specify the treatment effect equation to be estimated
- ▶ What is the plan for how to deal with multiple outcomes and multiple hypothesis testing?
- ▶ Procedures to be used for addressing survey attrition
- ▶ How will the study deal with outcomes with limited variation?
- ▶ If you are going to be testing a model, include the model
- ▶ Remember to archive it

How to do a PAP? Specific Resources

- ▶ Pre-reg Challenge (emph IRB)
- ▶ RR at JDE

Reporting Guidelines [20mins]

Why Do We Need Reporting Guidelines?

Defines minimal set of elements required in a scientific paper. Helps with:

- Structured PAPs
- Replicability
- Meta-analysis

How to follow Reporting Guidelines

- ▶ CONSORT Guidelines & EQUATOR network.
- ▶ Recent APA guidelines.
- ▶ JDE suggested guidelines for register reports.