

---

## Consent for Research Participation

**Research Study Title:** *Understanding planner biases using the newsvendor game*

**Researcher(s):** *Lance Saunders, Stephanie Eckerd, Anne Dohmen*  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

---

### Why am I being asked to be in this research study?

We are asking you to be in this research study because you hold the position of planner for your firm.

### What is this research study about?

The purpose of the research study is to see how planners in different demand contexts make ordering decisions.

### How long will I be in the research study?

This project is estimated to take around 25 minutes, but not more than 35 minutes

### What will happen if I say “Yes, I want to be in this research study”?

If you agree to be in this study, you will participate in an online game that will track inventory ordering decisions. This will be performed on an online, open sourced platform named otree. At the end of the session, you will be able to see how you performed verses the mathematically generated ‘optimal’ solutions. There will be other scenarios presented to additional participants so we can compare responses in different contexts. The only identifying information collected from you will be the name of the company you work for and how long you have been working there. This information will not be released to the public.

Your answers will be stored in a secure location, with all identifying information stripped.

### What happens if I say “No, I do not want to be in this research study”?

Being in this study is up to you. You can say no now or leave the study later. *Participation is not required* and your decision won’t affect your relationship with the researchers or the University of Tennessee.

### What happens if I say “Yes” but change my mind later?

Even if you decide to be in the study now, you can change your mind and stop at any time.

If you decide to stop before the study is completed, *contact Lance Saunders at [lsaunders@utk.edu](mailto:lsaunders@utk.edu) an all information will be destroyed and not included in the study*

### **Are there any possible risks to me?**

By participating in this interview, there is no more risk than experienced in everyday life. Performance during the game will be aggregated and identifiers scrubbed to prevent someone from identifying you as a participant.

### **Are there any benefits to being in this research study?**

There is a possibility that you may benefit from being in the study, but there is no guarantee that will happen. Possible benefits include *a better understanding of potential ordering biases present within different contexts*. Even if you don't benefit from being in the study, your participation may help us to learn more about *how planners can exhibit biases in different contexts*. We hope the knowledge gained from this study will benefit others in the future.

### **Who can see or use the information collected for this research study?**

We will protect the confidentiality of your information by *protecting data obtained by not sharing this information beyond anyone in the research team. Results from this study will be masked to ensure participants cannot be identified*.

If information from this study is published or presented at scientific meetings, your name and other personal information will not be used.

We will make every effort to prevent anyone who is not on the research team from knowing that you gave us information or what information came from you. Although it is unlikely, there are times when others may need to see the information we collect about you. These include:

- People at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville who oversee research to make sure it is conducted properly.
- Government agencies (such as the Office for Human Research Protections in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services), and others responsible for watching over the safety, effectiveness, and conduct of the research.
- If a law or court requires us to share the information, we would have to follow that law or final court ruling.
- Others who will conduct data analysis or entry

### **What will happen to my information after this study is over?**

We may share your research data with other researchers without asking for your consent again, but it will not contain information that could directly identify you.

### **What else do I need to know?**

*No other information is required to participate in this study.*

### **Who can answer my questions about this research study?**

If you have questions or concerns about this study, or have experienced a research related problem or injury, contact the researchers, Lance Saunders at **lsaunders@utk.edu** or 865-974-3780.

For questions or concerns about your rights or to speak with someone other than the research team about the study, please contact:

Institutional Review Board  
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
1534 White Avenue  
Blount Hall, Room 408  
Knoxville, TN 37996-1529  
Phone: 865-974-7697  
Email: [utkirb@utk.edu](mailto:utkirb@utk.edu)

### **STATEMENT OF CONSENT**

I have read this form and the research study has been explained to me. I have been given the chance to ask questions and my questions have been answered. If I have more questions, I have been told who to contact. By checking the box on the webpage, I am agreeing to be in this study.