School of Psychology



DEBRIEF STATEMENT

Amazon Mechanical Turk
Sampling Frames in Inductive Reasoning

Thank you for participating in our study, **Sampling Frames in Inductive Reasoning**. We would just like to take a brief moment to tell you a bit about the study you just participated in. This is for your interest only, and you can now close the browser window to exit the study if you wish.

In our everyday lives, we often use past experience to create predictions about unfamiliar objects and novel situations. This process, known as inductive reasoning, acts as an essential tool in our ability to navigate new environments by drawing upon a small sample to inform appropriate actions and decisions about unknown matters (Hayes & Heit, 2018). Research has found that knowledge of *how* a sample was selected influences this process (Hayes et al., 2019). People are more specific when generalising to novel instances when the sample was selected because it shared a common property (e.g., sampled by a robot that collected animals with plaxium blood), than when they were selected because they belonged to the same category (e.g., sampled by a robot that collected only small birds).

This study extends previous research on sampling frames by investigating how retracting information about how a sample was selected could influence generalisation patterns. The "continued influence effect" suggests that people tend to rely on misinformation despite later retraction of that information (Ecker et al., 2011; Guillory & Geraci, 2010; Wilkes & Leatherbarrow, 1988), however, if a "causal" retraction is made – that is, one that explains the reason for the misunderstanding – this tendency can be overcome.

The findings of our study can help us to understand how humans generalise in instances where retractions occur and/or information changes, while illuminating the extent to which initial information about a sampling process can continue to affect the generalisation process.

If you have any questions or concerns about the task you just completed, or encountered any difficulties while completing the task, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us: Jaimie Lee at jaimie.lee@unsw.edu.au, Prof Brett Hayes at b.hayes@unsw.edu.au, or Joshua Pham at z5260148@ad.unsw.edu.au. Our contact details can also be found on the informed consent form you had viewed and agreed to prior to commencing this task.