Expectation Formation and Risk-Taking under Uncertainty: Evidence from Car Race Experiments

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The BIG picture.

Optimal Expectation Theory - ARC Project

- How are expectations formed when there is money at stake?
- Are expectations on average right?
- Do individuals overestimate small probabilities and underestimate large ones?
- Is the expected future the same as the past?
- How do individuals update?
- The goal is to look at all of this.

This study

- Explore the process of expectation formation
- ... and how this relates to behaviour.
- How do economic and psychological characteristics affect both expectations and risk taking behaviour?

Outline

- Experimental design
- Analysis and regressions
- Robustness
- Conclusions

- Confront participants with a noisy random outcome that evolves over a time frame.
- Make participants care about the "monetary" outcome. and establish emotional ownership on the outcome.
- Obtain expectations AND behavioural evidence at several points during the unfolding of the event.
- Obtain a number of psychological and socio-economic covariates.

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Stages of the experiment

- Introductory questionnaire
- Relaxation: 5 min of beach sounds (voiceover introduction)
- Real effort task (cross-sum calculations) leading to income earning
- Test race: 3 laps with voiceover, 1 full race
- 6 real races with three pitstops each
- 6 rounds of 'Guess the Winner'
- Demographics questionnaire

Generate the outcome

- Six animated car races for 10 laps with 5 cars.
- Cars race all with the same AR(1)-like random process.
- Cars are prone to engine failures which will set them back (2 failures in 5 laps on average).
- The race is designed to be interesting and to feel "real".

$$s_{t} = \theta * s_{base} + (1 - \theta) * (s_{t-1} * (1 + U(-\gamma, \gamma)))$$
(1)

How to make participant care about the outcome?

- Income from real effort task.
- Choose the colour of the car (blue, magenta, red, yellow).
- Tradeoff between the wagered amount and the failure rate of their car.
- Mechanics:
 - Betting 100% of earnings reduces the chances of winning close to 0%
 - Betting 50% of earnings will give a chance of 1 in 5 of winning the race.
 - Betting 0% of earnings will increase the chances of winning to almost 100%.
- Amount to be won: 5 or 15 times the wagered amount (depending on the treatment). Losing pays off nothing.

 Very steep payoff function.

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Pre race investment screen

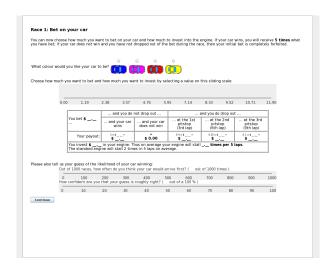


Figure: Screenshot of the pre-race investment screen.

Pre race investment screen

What colour would you like your car to be?



Choose how much you want to bet and how much you want to invest by selecting a value on this sliding scale:

0.00	1.19	2.38	3.57	4.76	5.95	7.14	8.33	9.52	10.71	11.90

		and you do I	not drop out	and you do drop out						
You be	et \$ _	and your car wins	and your car does not win	at the 1st pitstop (3rd lap)	at the 2nd pitstop (6th lap)	at the 3rd pitstop (9th lap)				
Yo	our payout:	5 x \$ = \$	= \$ 0.00	0.4 x \$ = \$•_	0.25 x \$ = \$•_	0.1 × \$ = \$				

You invest \$ _ _ in your engine. Thus on average your engine will stall _ _ times per 5 laps. The standard engine will stall 2 times in 5 laps on average.

Please also tell us your guess of the likelihood of your car winning:

Out of 1000 races, how often do you think your car would arrive first? (out of 1000 times)

0	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	1000
How co	onfident are y	ou that you	ır guess is ı	oughly righ	t? (out o	fa 100 %)				
		20	30	40	50	60		80	90	100

Continue

Measuring expectations

- Before each race on the investment screen.
- At each pitstop after laps 3, 6 and 9.
- Two questions:
 - "Out of 1000 races, how often do you think your car would arrive first?"
 - "How confident are you that your guess is roughly right?"

Capturing behaviour

 At the pitstops, participants can drop out for 40%, 25%, 10% of the wagered amount.

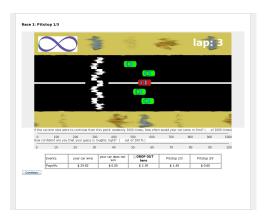
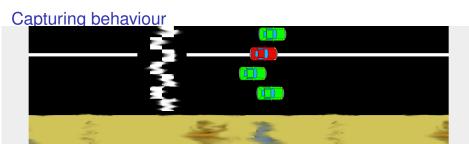


Figure: Screenshot of the car race at the first pitstop showing the positions of the cars and the payoffs for the respective events.



If the current race were to continue from this point randomly 1000 times, how often would your car come in first? (of 1000 times)

0 How con	100 fident are yo	200 ou that your g	300 uess is rough	400 lly right? (500 out of 100 %	600	700	800	900	1000
0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

Events:	your car wins	your car does not win	□ DROP OUT here	Pitstop 2/3	Pitstop 3/3
Payoffs:	\$ 29.82	\$ 0.00	\$ 2.39	\$ 1.49	\$ 0.60

Continue

Psychological scales and socio-economic variables

- Question sets on: Self esteem, Optimism, Savouring, Locus of Control, and Risk Aversion at the beginning of the experiment.
- Additional demographics questionnaire at the end of the experiment.

Participants

- Recruited from the UNSW ASBlab subject pool with ORSEE.
- Well-maintained student population.
- Registered 280, 239 showed up and completed the experiment.
- Demographics: 22 years old, 45.25% female, 17% Australian, 41% native English speakers, 85% experience with experiments.

Treatments

- 4 treatments (so far) in 8 sessions.
- Average payoff \$23.60 (\$5 \$105.20)

Treatment	Win-Value	Show-Up Fee	No. participants
Baseline	5 times the bet	\$ 5	58
Low Stakes	2 times the bet, but payoff for 2nd and 3rd place	\$ 5	61
High Stakes Wealth	15 times the bet 5 times the bet	\$ 5 \$ 20	61 59

Outline

- Experimental design
- Analysis and regressions
- Robustness
- 4 Conclusions

Analysis I: Stated expectations vs. real winning percentage

- Examine relationship between:
- Subjective winning percentage as stated by the participant at the pitstop. (EXPECTATION)
- Real winning percentage as obtained by running simulations of the races from the pitstop position. (WINPC)

Scatterplot

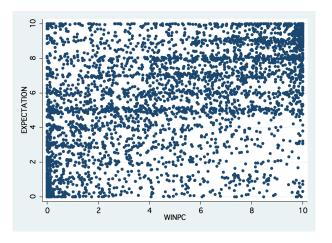


Figure: Scatterplot of expected vs. real winning chance at the pitstop.

Kernel plot

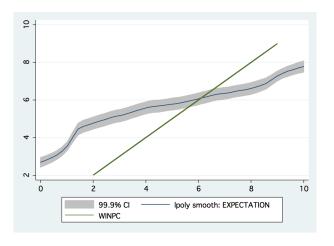
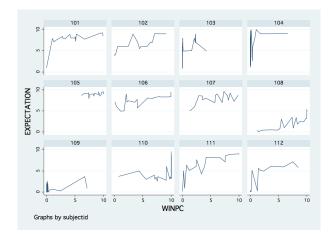


Figure: Kernel plot, with 45 degree line for reference

Selected individuals



OLS regression with robust standard errors, standardised beta coefficients

Table: Expectation formation

	EVE	(1)		EVE	(2)		EVE	(3) PECTATIO	
		PECTATIO			PECTATIO				
	b	t	beta	b	t	beta	b	t	beta
WINPC	0.488***	(43.07)	0.545	0.420***	(30.41)	0.469	0.422***	(30.61)	0.472
Rate of failure				-0.400***	(-7.41)	-0.128	-0.387***	(-7.25)	-0.123
Income earned in real effort task				-0.040***	(-6.50)	-0.079	-0.039***	(-6.45)	-0.078
High Stakes Treatment				-0.088	(-0.75)	-0.012	-0.087	(-0.74)	-0.012
Low Stakes Treatment				-0.513***	(-4.50)	-0.071	-0.515***	(-4.54)	-0.072
Wealth Treatment				-0.433***	(-3.77)	-0.060	-0.434***	(-3.81)	-0.060
Constant	3.091***	(45.66)		5.137***	(25.23)		5.572***	(24.78)	
Race dummies	No			No			Yes		
Pitstop dummies	No			No			Yes		
AdjR-sq	0.297			0.318			0.322		
Obs	4299			4299			4299		

^{*} p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Discussion

- WINPC alone explains about 30% of the variance.
- Participants are overconfident on average.
- Treatment type and progression do not significantly change this.

Analysis II: Determinants of expectation formation

OLS regression with robust standard errors, standardised beta coefficients

Table: Expectation formation

	=	(1)		=	(2)			(3) PECTATIO	
	b EXI	PECTATIOI +	N beta	b EXI	PECTATIOI t	N beta	b EXI	N beta	
WINPC	0.362***	(26.27)	0.403	0.365***	(26.64)	0.406	0.388***	(33.65)	0.433
Rate of failure	-0.590***	(-10.20)	-0.187	-0.601***	(-10.70)	-0.190	-0.665***	(-11.84)	-0.212
Income earned in real effort task	-0.026***	(-4.06)	-0.049	-0.029***	(-4.65)	-0.056			
Locus of Control (LoC)	0.052	(1.93)	0.029	0.028	(0.96)	0.016			
Savouring Anticipate Index	-0.159***	(-4.26)	-0.067	-0.164***	(-4.29)	-0.070			
Savouring Moment Index	-0.187***	(-4.27)	-0.080	-0.202***	(-4.61)	-0.087			
Savouring Reminisce Index	0.116**	(3.09)	0.051	0.154***	(3.95)	0.068			
Age	-0.002	(-0.16)	-0.002	-0.006	(-0.45)	-0.007			
Gender	-0.085	(-1.12)	-0.013	-0.101	(-1.25)	-0.016			
Australian	-0.638***	(-6.00)	-0.076	-0.627***	(-5.86)	-0.075			
Constant	2.978***	(6.22)		3.548***	(5.78)		5.388***	(14.91)	
Treatment, Race, & Pitstop dummies	Yes			Yes			Yes		
Individual dummies	No			No			Yes		
Socio-economics	No			Yes			No		
AdjR-sq	0.456			0.468			0.717		
Obs	4193			4193			4298		

^{*} p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Analysis II: Determinants of expectation formation

- Socio-economic factors and psychological scales explain additional 10% of variation.
- Traditional economic factors (education, income, parents) seem to be less influential.
- Key variables
 - Savouring anticipate index, higher = more savouring for the future
 - ► Savouring moment index, higher = more savouring of the moment
 - Locus of control index, higher = more control
 - Australian
- Added individual fixed effects explain up to 70% of variance.

Analysis III: Behavioural Evidence

OLS regression with robust standard errors, standardised beta coefficients

Table: Behavioural evidence

		(1)			(2)			(3)			(4)	
		Drop out			Drop out			Drop out			Drop out	
	b	t	beta									
EXPECTATION	-0.025***	(-14.81)	-0.295				-0.016***	(-11.30)	-0.188	-0.021***	(-9.83)	-0.248
WINPC				-0.023***	(-17.25)	-0.313	-0.002	(-1.31)	-0.023	-0.000	(-0.25)	-0.005
Rate of failure							0.128***	(14.55)	0.423	0.131***	(13.61)	0.429
Income earned in real effort task							-0.000	(-0.48)	-0.007	-0.001	(-0.80)	-0.014
Locus of Control (LoC)										-0.001	(-0.31)	-0.005
Savouring Anticipate Index										0.001	(0.18)	0.004
Savouring Moment Index										-0.009*	(-2.19)	-0.050
Savouring Reminisce Index										0.010*	(2.25)	0.054
Age										0.001	(0.48)	0.008
Gender										-0.009	(-1.11)	-0.018
Australian										0.002	(0.16)	0.002
Riskaversion										0.006**	(2.81)	0.043
Constant	0.204***	(16.48)		0.175***	(17.82)		0.028	(1.08)		0.039	(0.57)	
Treatment, Race, & Pitstop dummies	No			No			Yes			Yes		
Socio-economics	No			No			No			Yes		
AdjR-sq	0.087			0.098			0.259			0.281		
Obs	3935			3935			3935			3547		

 $^{^{*}\;}p<0.05,\,^{**}\;p<0.01,\,^{***}\;p<0.001$

Analysis III: Behavioural Evidence

Discussion

- Drop out is affected by stated expectation on top of WINPC. Effect is small, but robust.
- Socio-demographics and psychological scales do not explain much.
- Stated risk-aversion has a small positive effect.

Outline

- Experimental design
- 2 Analysis and regressions
- 3 Robustness
- Conclusions

Robustness I: Learnings, updating

- Do we see evidence of learning and/or confusion?
- Findings remain relatively stable over the six races.
- Expectation remains stable over the three pitstops.

Robustness I: ACCURACY

- Variable that captures the accuracy of the prediction.
- Calculated as the difference between EXPECTATION and WINPC, divided by the standard deviation of WINPC.

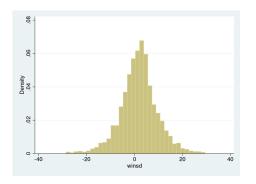
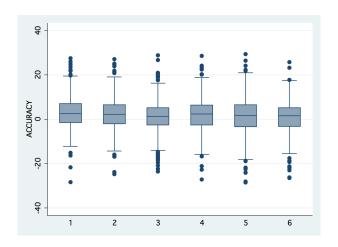
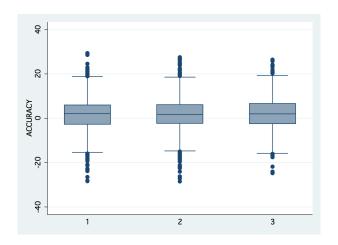


Figure: Histogram of ACCURACY

ACCURACY over the six races



ACCURACY over the three pitstops



Robustness: Evidence for emotional involvement

Do participants switch car color after bad outcomes?

```
. probit colswitch Lwin if pitstopnum == 1
Probit regression
                                     Number of obs =
                                                     1194
                                     LR chi2(1) = 88.89
                                     Prob > chi2 = 0.0000
Log likelihood = -713.45416
                                     Pseudo R2
                                             = 0.0586
  colswitch L
           Coef. Std. Err.
                                z P>|z|
                                           [95% Conf. Interval]
______
     Lwin | -.8733255 .0945348 -9.24 0.000 -1.05861 -.6880407
     cons | -.0862557 .0528079 -1.63 0.102 -.1897573
. mfx
Marginal effects after probit
    v = Pr(colswitch) (predict)
      = .31943427
                Std. Err. z P>|z| [ 95% C.T.
variable L
           dv/dx
  Lwin I -.3120793
                   .03347 -9.32 0.000 -.377689 -.24647
```

Outline

- Experimental design
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- 4 Conclusions

Conclusion

- Experimental design to observe expectation formation.
- Large variance in the process ⇒ larger variance in responses.
- Evidence of rational and emotional responses.
- Psychological determinants explain a substantial portion of the variance of expectations.
- We find behavioural evidence for the relevance of expectations.

Outlook

- Refine analysis, do more robustness tests.
- Run additional treatments to explore findings.

Thank you for your attention

Expected vs. real winning chance

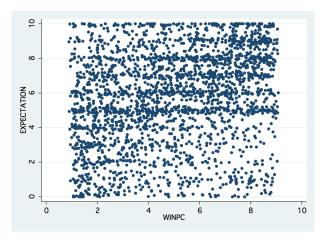


Figure: Scatterplot of expected vs. real winning chance per pitstop with restricted sample

Expected vs. real

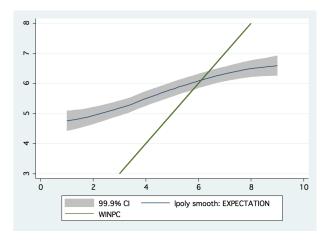


Figure: Kernel plot, with 45 degree line for reference with restricted sample

SD win I

New variable to explain, SD difference of psexpectation and actual winpc.

```
. gen winsd = ((psexpectation_r - winpc_r)/10)/sdwin;
(474 missing values generated)
```

. sum winsd;

Variable		Obs	Mean	Std.	Dev.	Min	Max
	+						
winsd		3825	5.888271	38.4	1411 -50	5.9136	536.5856

. sum winsd if 'ifs';

Variable	1	Obs	Mean	Std.	Dev.	Min	Max
	+						
winsd	1	2523 1	.861312	7.69	9123 -28.	5526	29.42124

Full Table 1

Regression table

Table: Expectation formation

		(4)			(0)			(0)	
	FXF	(1) PECTATIO	N	FXF	(2) PECTATIO	N	FXF	(3) PECTATIO	N
	b	t	beta	b	t	beta	b	t	beta
WINPC	0.488***	(43.07)	0.545	0.420***	(30.41)	0.469	0.422***	(30.61)	0.472
Rate of failure				-0.400***	(-7.41)	-0.128	-0.387***	(-7.25)	-0.123
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High Stakes Treatment				-0.088	(-0.75)	-0.012	-0.087	(-0.74)	-0.012
Low Stakes Treatment				-0.513***	(-4.50)	-0.071	-0.515***	(-4.54)	-0.072
Wealth Treatment				-0.433***	(-3.77)	-0.060	-0.434***	(-3.81)	-0.060
racenum==2							-0.198	(-1.50)	-0.024
racenum==3							-0.533***	(-4.06)	-0.063
racenum==4							-0.422**	(-3.20)	-0.050
racenum==5							-0.384**	(-2.78)	-0.046
racenum==6							-0.691***	(-5.15)	-0.082
pitstopnum==2							-0.122	(-1.25)	-0.018
pitstopnum==3							-0.173	(-1.80)	-0.026
Constant	3.091***	(45.66)		5.137***	(25.23)		5.572***	(24.78)	
AdjR-sq	0.297			0.318			0.322		
Obs	4299			4299			4299		

^{*} p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Full Table 2

Regression table

and blane are seemed in and offer task in the control of the contr	0.362*** -0.590*** -0.026*** -0.026*** -0.155 -0.191 -0.159 -0.001*** -0.590*** -0.475*** -0.826*** -0.423*** -0.464*** -0.002	(1) **ECTATATION* 1 (26.27) (-10.20) (-4.05) (-0.07) (-1.38) (-1.34) (-5.07) (-4.31) (-3.86) (-6.72) (-6.72) (-5.31) (25.70) (3.29)	0.403 -0.187 -0.049 -0.001 -0.022 -0.025 -0.019	6 0.385*** -0.601*** -0.029*** -0.112 -0.300** -0.159** -0.159** -0.504*** -0.450*** -0.211** -0.453***	(2) PECTATION (-10.70) (-4.65) (-1.03) (-2.61) (-2.66) (-1.34) (-5.09) (-4.31) (-3.84) (-6.71) (-2.71)	0.436 -0.190 -0.056 -0.042 -0.044 -0.019 -0.000 -0.097 -0.097 -0.097	6.005*** -0.665*** -6.005*** -4.066*** -4.066*** -0.142 -0.151*** -0.410*** -0.733***	(-6.83) (-12.83) (-1.53) (-6.21) (-6.27) (-4.56) (-7.83)	0.433 -0.212 -0.842 -0.566 -0.017 -0.066 -0.065 -0.065
and blane are seemed in and offer task in the control of the contr	0.90°*** 0.025*** 0.025*** 0.007 -0.155 -0.191 -0.159 -0.601*** 0.509*** 0.475*** 0.826*** 0.464*** 0.043*** 0.116***	(-10.20) (-4.06) (0.07) (-1.38) (-1.34) (-5.07) (-4.31) (-3.86) (-6.72) (-2.73) (-5.31)	0.403 -0.187 -0.049 0.001 -0.022 -0.026 -0.019 -0.071 -0.060 -0.056 -0.098 -0.098 -0.005	0.365*** -0.601*** -0.029*** -0.112* -0.300** -0.319** -0.159 -0.597*** -0.504*** -0.470*** -0.818*** -0.231** -0.453***	(25.54) (-10.70) (-4.65) (-1.03) (-2.61) (-2.66) (-1.34) (-5.09) (-4.31) (-3.64) (-6.71) (-2.71)	0.496 -0.190 -0.096 -0.042 -0.044 -0.019 -0.071 -0.060 -0.097 -0.097 -0.093	-0.565*** -0.565*** -0.565*** -0.562*** -0.142 -0.551*** -0.461*** -0.410*** -0.723***	(-11.84) (-13.95) (-6.83) (-1.53) (-1.53) (-6.21) (-5.27) (-4.56) (-7.83)	0.433 -0.212 -0.842 -0.566 -0.017 -0.066 -0.065 -0.065
and blane are seemed in and offer task in the control of the contr	0.590*** 0.025*** 0.007 -0.155 -0.191 -0.159 -0.601*** 0.592*** 0.475*** 0.235*** 0.464*** 0.043*** 0.116***	(-10.20) (-4.06) (0.07) (-1.38) (-1.34) (-5.07) (-4.31) (-3.86) (-6.72) (-2.73) (-5.31)	-0.187 -0.049 -0.001 -0.022 -0.025 -0.019 -0.071 -0.050 -0.055 -0.098 -0.005 -0.005	-0.601*** -0.029*** -0.112 -0.309** -0.319** -0.159 -0.507*** -0.504*** -0.470*** -0.818*** -0.221** -0.453***	(-10.70) (-4.65) (-1.03) (-2.61) (-2.66) (-1.34) (-5.09) (-4.31) (-3.84) (-6.71) (-2.71)	-0.190 -0.056 -0.016 -0.042 -0.044 -0.019 -0.071 -0.060 -0.097 -0.035	-0.665*** -6.055*** -4.066*** -4.662*** -0.142 -0.551*** -0.461*** -0.410***	(-11.84) (-13.95) (-6.83) (-1.53) (-1.53) (-6.21) (-5.27) (-4.56) (-7.83)	-0.212 -0.842 -0.566 -0.642 -0.066 -0.065 -0.065
me control for and refer took 1 dates Trainmen	0.026*** 0.007 -0.155 -0.191 -0.159 -0.601*** 0.509*** -0.475*** -0.235** -0.464*** 0.016***	(-4.06) (0.07) (-1.38) (-1.80) (-1.34) (-5.07) (-4.31) (-3.86) (-6.72) (-2.73) (-5.31) (25.70)	-0.049 0.001 -0.022 -0.025 -0.019 -0.071 -0.056 -0.098 -0.035 -0.037	-0.029*** -0.112 -0.300** -0.319** -0.159 -0.507*** -0.504*** -0.470*** -0.818*** -0.453***	(-4.65) (-1.03) (-2.61) (-2.86) (-1.34) (-5.09) (-4.31) (-3.84) (-6.71) (-2.71)	-0.056 -0.016 -0.042 -0.019 -0.071 -0.060 -0.097 -0.097	-6.005**** -4.066*** -4.662*** -0.142 -0.551*** -0.461*** -0.410***	(-13.95) (-6.83) (-12.83) (-1.53) (-6.21) (-6.27) (-4.56) (-7.83)	-0.840 -0.566 -0.640 -0.000 -0.000 -0.000
h false harmer film harmer fil	0.007 -0.155 -0.191 -0.159 -0.601*** -0.475*** -0.425*** -0.235*** -0.464*** -0.043***	(0.07) (-1.38) (-1.50) (-1.54) (-5.07) (-4.31) (-3.86) (-6.72) (-2.73) (-5.31) (25.70)	0.001 -0.022 -0.026 -0.019 -0.071 -0.056 -0.098 -0.035 -0.070	-0.112 -0.300" -0.319" -0.159 -0.507" -0.504" -0.470" -0.018" -0.231"	(-1.03) (-2.61) (-2.66) (-1.34) (-5.09) (-4.31) (-3.84) (-6.71) (-2.71)	-0.016 -0.042 -0.044 -0.019 -0.071 -0.060 -0.056 -0.097 -0.035	4.066*** 4.662*** -0.142 -0.551*** -0.461*** -0.410*** -0.730***	(-6.83) (-12.83) (-1.53) (-6.21) (-6.27) (-4.56) (-7.83)	-0.566 -0.646 -0.017 -0.066 -0.066 -0.066
of Dates Transveries With Transveries Wi	-0.155 -0.191 -0.159 -0.601*** -0.509*** -0.475*** -0.826*** -0.235** -0.454*** 0.043***	(-1.38) (-1.80) (-1.34) (-5.07) (-4.31) (-3.86) (-6.72) (-2.73) (-5.31)	-0.022 -0.026 -0.019 -0.071 -0.060 -0.096 -0.098 -0.035 -0.070	-0.300** -0.319** -0.159 -0.597*** -0.504*** -0.470*** -0.818*** -0.221** -0.453***	(-2.61) (-2.66) (-1.34) (-5.09) (-4.31) (-3.84) (-6.71) (-2.71)	-0.042 -0.019 -0.071 -0.050 -0.056 -0.097 -0.035	4.066*** 4.662*** -0.142 -0.551*** -0.461*** -0.410*** -0.730***	(-6.83) (-12.83) (-1.53) (-6.21) (-6.27) (-4.56) (-7.83)	-0.566 -0.646 -0.017 -0.066 -0.066 -0.066
uin Pealmeri mona-2 mona-2 mona-4 mona-4 mona-4 mona-4 mona-4 mona-6 mon	-0.191 -0.159 -0.601*** -0.509*** -0.475*** -0.826*** -0.235** -0.464*** -0.043***	(-1.80) (-1.34) (-5.07) (-4.31) (-2.86) (-6.72) (-2.73) (-5.31)	-0.026 -0.019 -0.071 -0.060 -0.056 -0.098 -0.005 -0.070	-0.319" -0.159 -0.597"" -0.504"" -0.470"" -0.818"" -0.231"	(-2.86) (-1.34) (-5.09) (-4.31) (-3.84) (-6.71) (-2.71)	-0.044 -0.019 -0.071 -0.060 -0.096 -0.097 -0.035	4.662*** -0.142 -0.551*** -0.461*** -0.410*** -0.730***	(-12.83) (-1.53) (-6.21) (-5.27) (-4.56) (-7.83)	-0.000 -0.000 -0.000 -0.000
mentu-3 4 mentu-3 4 mentu-4 4 depended 6 dep	-0.159 -0.601*** -0.509*** -0.475*** -0.826*** -0.235** -0.464*** -0.0116***	(-1.34) (-5.07) (-4.31) (-3.86) (-6.72) (-2.73) (-5.31) (25.70)	-0.019 -0.071 -0.060 -0.056 -0.098 -0.035 -0.070	-0.159 -0.597*** -0.504*** -0.470*** -0.818*** -0.231** -0.453***	(-1.34) (-5.09) (-4.31) (-3.84) (-6.71) (-2.71)	-0.019 -0.071 -0.060 -0.056 -0.097 -0.035	-0.142 -0.551*** -0.461*** -0.410*** -0.730***	(-1.53) (-6.21) (-5.27) (-4.56) (-7.83)	-0.017 -0.068 -0.050 -0.040 -0.080
2020m-3 4 2020m-4 4 2020m-4 4 2020m-6 4 2020m-2 4 6060ee	0.601*** 0.509*** 0.475*** 0.826*** 0.235** 0.464*** 0.043***	(-5.07) (-4.31) (-3.86) (-6.72) (-2.73) (-5.31) (25.70)	-0.071 -0.060 -0.056 -0.098 -0.035 -0.070	-0.597*** -0.504*** -0.470*** -0.818*** -0.231** -0.453***	(-5.09) (-4.31) (-3.84) (-6.71) (-2.71)	-0.071 -0.060 -0.056 -0.097 -0.035	-0.551*** -0.461*** -0.410*** -0.733***	(-6.21) (-5.27) (-4.56) (-7.83)	-0.060 -0.060 -0.040 -0.080
2010111-4 4 4010111-6 4 4010111-6 4 401011-6 4 401011-6 4 401011-6 4 601011-6 601011	0.509*** 0.475*** 0.826*** 0.235** 0.464*** 0.043*** 0.116***	(-4.31) (-3.86) (-6.72) (-2.73) (-5.31) (25.70)	-0.050 -0.056 -0.098 -0.035 -0.070	-0.504*** -0.470*** -0.818*** -0.231** -0.453***	(4.31) (-3.84) (-6.71) (-2.71)	-0.050 -0.056 -0.097 -0.035	-0.461*** -0.410*** -0.733***	(-5.27) (-4.56) (-7.83)	-0.05
	0.475*** 0.826*** -0.235** 0.464*** 0.043*** 0.116***	(-3.86) (-6.72) (-2.73) (-5.31) (25.70)	-0.056 -0.098 -0.035 -0.070	-0.470*** -0.818*** -0.231** -0.453***	(-3.84) (-6.71) (-2.71)	-0.056 -0.097 -0.035	-0.410*** -0.733***	(-4.56) (-7.83)	-0.04
orrum=6 -4 disprum=-2 -4 disprum=-3 -4 disprum=-6 -5	0.826*** -0.235** -0.464*** 0.043*** 0.116***	(-6.72) (-2.73) (-5.31) (25.70)	-0.098 -0.035 -0.070	-0.818*** -0.231** -0.453***	(-6.71) (-2.71)	-0.097	-0.733***	(-7.83)	-0.08
	-0.235** -0.464*** 0.043*** 0.116***	(-2.73) (-5.31) (25.70)	-0.035 -0.070	-0.231** -0.453***	(-2.71)	-0.035			
eloprum ==3 -4 elidence c	0.464***	(-5.31) (25.70)	-0.070	-0.453***			-0.184**		
ntidence 0	0.043***	(25.70)			(-5.24)			(-3.14)	-0.02
	0.116***		0.336			-0.068	-0.341***	(-5.34)	-0.05
od luck charms		(3.59)		0.042***	(24.35)	0.323	0.025***	(11.52)	0.20
	0.052		0.043	0.143***	(4.41)	0.053			
ous of Control (LoC)		(1.93)	0.029	0.028	(0.96)	0.016			
ting justified	0.073"	(2.05)	0.026	0.051	(1.42)	0.018			
vouring Anticipate Index	0.159***	(-4.25)	-0.067	-0.164***	(4.29)	-0.070			
vouring Moment Index	0.187***	(-4.27)	-0.080	-0.202***	(4.61)	-0.087			
vouring Reminisce Index	0.116**	(3.09)	0.051	0.154***	(3.95)	0.068			
•	-0.002	(-0.16)	-0.002	-0.006	(-0.45)	-0.007			
nder	-0.085	(-1.12)	-0.013	-0.101	(-1.25)	-0.016			
stralan -	0.638***	(-6.00)	-0.076	-0.627***	(-5.86)	-0.075			
glah	-0.062	(-0.72)	-0.010	0.012	(0.14)	0.002			
Thanded 0	0.732***	(4.08)	0.054	0.670***	(3.66)	0.049			
ekinc,1				-0.410***	(4.11)	-0.052			
ekinc,2				0.519***	(4.99)	0.061			
ekinc,3				-0.221	(-1.89)	-0.022			
ethal				-0.322	(-1.78)	-0.046			
en.2				-0.103	(-0.54)	-0.014			
erall, how would you rate your performance at university? 1-well above average				0.087	(2.00)	0.025			
nat was the highest year of school you completed? 1-None 2-Primary school only.				-0.065	(-1.04)	-0.012			
muchool				-0.131	(-1.06)	-0.020			
factori .				0.580***	(4.11)	0.078			
monal				-0.367***	(-0.36)	-0.058			
d _{epal}				0.212	(1.80)	0.032			
m,hqual				0.057	(0.76)	0.012			
n juqua Disaal				0.057	(-1.30)	-0.021			
	2.975	(6.22)		3.546***	(5.78)	-u.d21	5.300***	(14.91)	
		(0.22)			(5.78)			(14.91)	
Ividual dummies (R-sq	No 0.456			No 0.468			Yes 0.717		_

Full Table 3

Regression table

		(1) Drop out			(2) Drop-out			(2) Drop-out			(4) Drop out	
	ь	1	beta	ь	t t	bets	b	1	bets	b	1	bi
EXPECTATION	-0.025***	(-14.01)	-0.295				-0.016****	(-11.30)	-0.188	-0.021***	(-9.83)	-0.
WINPC				-0.023****	(-17.25)	-0.313	-0.002	(-1.31)	-0.023	-0.000	(-0.25)	
Rate of failure							0.128***	(14.55)	0.423	0.131***	(13.61)	0.4
income earned in real effort task							-0.000	(-0.48)	-0.007	-0.001	(-0.80)	-0.
High Stakes Treatment							0.027**	(2.79)	0.047	0.033"	(3.23)	Q.
Low Stakes Treatment							-0.084***	(-0.23)	-0.146	-0.086****	(-7.65)	-0.
Wealth Treatment							0.006	(0.57)	0.010	0.013	(1.06)	Q.
mcenum2							0.004	(0.36)	0.006	0.007	(0.65)	a
moenum3							0.030"	(2.50)	0.044	0.024	(1.92)	a
scenum4							0.050***	(4.12)	0.074	0.051***	(4.01)	a
acenum5							0.022"	(2.02)	0.033	0.026"	(2.30)	a
scenum6							0.039***	(3.32)	0.058	0.041***	(3.30)	a
pletoprum2							-0.030***	(-3.62)	-0.055	-0.026**	(-0.16)	-0
pistoprum3							-0.023	(-2.78)	-0.042	-0.023"	(-2.72)	-6
Confidence										0.001***	(3.71)	0
Good luck charms										0.010**	(2.81)	0
Locus of Control (LoC)										-0.001	(-0.31)	4
Setting justified										-0.008"	(-2.10)	4
Resouring Anticipate Index										0.001	(0.18)	,
Saxouring Moment Index										-0.009"	(-2.19)	
lavouring Reminisce Index										0.010"	(2.25)	
seekinc_0										-0.011	(-0.82)	
seeking_1										0.000		
mekinc,2										0.000		
seekinc,3										0.000		,
lge .										0.001	(0.48)	,
lender										-0.009	(4.11)	
Australian										0.002	(0.16)	
Inglish										0.000		
effranced										0.000		
Distriction .										0.006**	(2.81)	
wath.										0.006	(0.22)	
math 2										0.009	(0.42)	
Overall, how would you rate your performance at university? 1—well above average										-0.012**	(2.84)	
What was the highest year of school you completed? 1-None,2-Primary school on										-0.016**	(2.71)	
num achool										0.002	(0.22)	
ad achool										-0.001	(0.04)	
										0.013	(1.26)	
num.qual lad.cual										0.029*	(2.21)	ľ
mum_hiqual										-0.003	(-0.31)	
fad Jriqual										-0.005	(-0.69)	4
Constant AdjR-sq	0.204***	(16.40)		0.175***	(17.82)		0.028	(1.00)		0.029	(0.57)	_

Selfesteem

Questions 1/5

Please select how strongly you agree or disagree with each statement below, from 'Strongly Agree' to 'Strongly Disagree'.

	stro									strongly disagree
On the whole, I am satisfied with myself.										
At times I think I am no good at all.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
I feel that I have a number of good qualities.										
I am able to do things as well as most people.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
I feel I do not have much to be proud of.										
I certainly feel useless at times.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
I feel that I am a person of worth, or at least on an equal plane with others.										
I wish I could have more respect for myself.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All in all, I am inclined to feel that I am a failure.										
I take a positive attitude toward myself.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



Optimism

Questions 2/5

Please select how strongly you agree or disagree with each statement below, from 'Strongly Agree' to 'Strongly Disagree'.

	strong agree	ly								strongly disagree
When I'm in a new and unfamiliar situation, I am always optimistic that things will work out for me (in other words, I feel and think that things will be OK).										
I often find myself doing things that I know, at the time I choose to do them, I will regret later.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
When I expect that good things are going to happen to me in the future, I feel better about myself.										
When I get disappointed about something, it makes me feel that I'm to blame, because I should have known better in the first place and not expected as much.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
I always try to be cautious when I approach new and unfamiliar situations, in case something goes wrong.										
I prefer to have low expectations of the future since that way I might be pleasantly surprised, and I'm protected from being disappointed.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

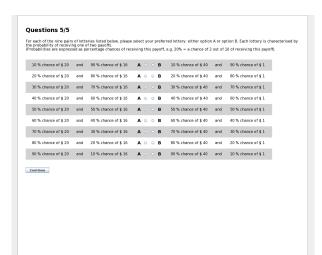


LoC

Questions 4/5

Next

Riskaversion



Analysis I: EXPECTATION vs. WINPC

Regression table clustered standard errors

Table: Expectation formation

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	EXPEC ²	TATION	EXPEC	TATION	EXPEC	TATION
	b	t	b	t	b	t
WINPC	0.488***	(18.79)	0.420***	(18.59)	0.422***	(18.76)
Rate of failure			-0.400**	(-3.14)	-0.387**	(-3.09)
Income earned in real effort task			-0.040*	(-2.01)	-0.039*	(-1.99)
High Stakes Treatment			-0.088	(-0.23)	-0.087	(-0.22)
Low Stakes Treatment			-0.513	(-1.45)	-0.515	(-1.46)
Wealth Treatment			-0.433	(-1.16)	-0.434	(-1.16)
Constant	3.091***	(17.72)	5.137***	(9.37)	5.572***	(10.00)
Race dummies	No		No		Yes	
Pitstop dummies	No		No		Yes	
AdjR-sq	0.297		0.318		0.322	
Obs	4299		4299		4299	

^{*} p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Analysis II: Determinants of expectation formation

Regression table clustered standard errors

	(1 EXPECT		(2 EXPECT		EXPECT	
	b	t	b	t	b	t
WINPC	0.362***	(15.14)	0.365***	(15.32)	0.388***	(17.68)
Rate of failure	-0.590***	(-4.66)	-0.601***	(-5.15)	-0.665***	(-6.67)
Income earned in real effort task	-0.026	(-1.33)	-0.029	(-1.55)		
Confidence	0.043***	(9.13)	0.042***	(8.76)	0.026***	(5.73)
Locus of Control (LoC)	0.052	(0.64)	0.028	(0.31)		
Savouring Anticipate Index	-0.159	(-1.43)	-0.164	(-1.45)		
Savouring Moment Index	-0.187	(-1.41)	-0.202	(-1.55)		
Savouring Reminisce Index	0.116	(1.09)	0.154	(1.37)		
Age	-0.002	(-0.06)	-0.006	(-0.17)		
Gender	-0.085	(-0.37)	-0.101	(-0.42)		
Australian	-0.638*	(-2.04)	-0.627*	(-2.01)		
English	-0.062	(-0.25)	0.012	(0.05)		
Constant	2.978*	(2.23)	3.548*	(2.19)	5.388***	(15.82)
treatment dummies	Yes		Yes		Yes	
race dummies	Yes		Yes		Yes	
pitstop dummies	Yes		Yes		Yes	
individual dummies	No		No		Yes	
Socio-economics	No		Yes		No	
AdjR-sq	0.456		0.468		0.717	

 $^{^{*}}$ p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001