Registration Survey

Thank you for your interest in this challenge. As part of the registration process we will be collecting participant information through this survey. The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

# Demographics

Age

Gender

Country of Origin

Country of Residence (the country in which you are planning to stay for the most part of the duration of the challenge)

Highest Academic Degree

Working or Student

# Risk aversion measure (List et al., 2014)

In this part of the survey, you will be making 10 choices between two options: OPTION A and OPTION B.

Imagine that each option is an hypothetical lottery, and every combination of the lotteries in Option A and B, are called Choice Pairs. On the following Table, the first column denotes the Choice Pairs, numbered from 1 to 10. The second column presents the details of the lottery of Option A, and the third presents the details of the lottery of Option B.

Please have a look at the hypothetical lottery of Option A in Choice Pair 1.

Imagine the computer randomly selects a number from the range 1,2,3,..,10.

If the random number drawn is equal to “1”, this lottery pays $20; if the random number drawn is “2”, “3”, “4”, “5”, “6”, “7”, “8”, “9” or “10”, the lottery pays $16.

Similarly, the lottery in Option B of Choice Pair 1 pays $38.5 if the randomly drawn number is equal to “1”, and it pays $1.0 if the number drawn is “2”, “3”, “4”, “5”, “6”, “7”, “8”, “9” or “10”.

In the fourth column you can indicate which of the two lotteries in Choice Pair 1 you would prefer to participate in; the lottery as specified in Option A, or the lottery in Option B. The amounts are hypothetical, you are not entitled to earn any money after your responses.

After you have indicated whether you prefer to participate in the lottery of Option A or in that of Option B in Choice Pair 1, move to the second Choice Pair, and indicate whether you prefer Option A or B in that second Choice Pair.

In Choice Pair 2, the lottery in Option A pays €2.00 if the random number drawn is either “1” or “2”, and it pays €1.60 in case the random number drawn is equal to 3, 4, 5, ..., or 10. Similarly, the lottery in Option B of Choice Pair 2 pays €3.85 if the random number drawn is either “1” or “2”, and it pays €0.10 in case the random number drawn is equal to 3, 4, 5, ..., or 10.

Again, you can indicate in the fourth column which of the two lotteries in Choice Pair 2 you would prefer to participate in.

Note that the further down the screen you go, the larger the chances are of receiving the higher payoff in each of the two Options (€2.00 in Option A, and €3.85 in Option B), increases. In fact, in Choice Pair 10 you can receive €2.00 for certain if you choose Option A in that Choice Pair, or receive €3.85 with certainty if you choose Option B.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Choice pair | Option A | Option B | Your Choice |
| 1 | Win $20 if rand =1  OR  win $16 if rand =3-10 | Win $38.5 if rand=1  OR  Win $1 if rand =2-10 | A or B |
| 2 | Win $20 if rand=1-2  OR  win $16 if rand =3-10 | Win $38.5 if rand=1-2  OR  Win $1 if rand =3-10 | A or B |
| 3 | … | … | … |

# Time Availability

How many hours do you expect to be able to work on the solution of the problem in the next days? (look ahead a week, forecast how much you will be able)

* The first day of the competition [from 0 to 24]
* The second day of the competition [from 0 to 24]
* The third day of the competition [from 0 to 24]
* The remaining days of the competition

# In a typical day when you compete on a Top Coder MM, how many hours do you usually spend on the following activities?

Working on the solutions for the MM [from 0 to 24]

Education [from 0 to 24]

Job/Work [from 0 to 24]

Leisure [from 0 to 24]

Family [from 0 to 24]

Sleep [from 0 to 24]

# Risk aversion measure 2 (Dohmen et al., JEEA 2011)

How willing are you to take risks, in general?

[scale from 0 to 10]

Final Survey

Thank you for your interest in this study. As part of the research associated with the challenge we will be collecting participant information through this survey. The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

# What is your best estimate of the hours worked on the problem?

* Day 1(exact date) [scale from 0 to 24]
* Day 2 (exact date) …
* Day 3…
* […]
* Day 10

# How hard was to achieve a score of at least S in this competition?

[from very easy 0 to very hard 10]

# If the prize award was 2x how would your number of hours spent solving the problem have changed?

[scale in %]

# If the prize award was 0.5x how would your number of hours spent solving the problem have changed?

[scale in %]

# Give us your thoughts on competing in a race as opposed to a regular marathon match. Consider elements [engagement, planning required ahead of time, perception of competition, amount of effort exerted, quality of submissions, fairness]

[open answer]

# Please select why you dropped out from the competition (for those with no submissions):

* 1. I did not have the appropriate knowledge or skills to solve the problem.
  2. There were lots of strong competitors in my room.
  3. In the [race/tournament-min-req.,] the target score S was too high for me.
  4. I did not have time to participate in the competition due to other obligations.
  5. [I did not want to participate in a [race/tournament/tournament-min-req.]]
  6. I was not interested in topic of the competition.
  7. The awarded cash prize was too small for the effort required in solving the problem.
  8. Other [open]

# Could you list one ore more machine learning approaches you have used to solve the problem?

[open answer]