**Benefit Valuation and Gratitude**

Gratitude is an emotion that promotes cooperative relationships and serves important social functions, and it typically is evoked when an act of benefit-giving reveals that the giver values the welfare of the recipient of the benefit.

One of the main components of gratitude is the concept of benefit valuation. If we receive benefits that far exceed our expectations then we would be more grateful compared to the scenarios where we received the exact amount of benefits that we expected (McCullough et al., 2008; Tesser, Gatewood, & Driver, 1968). In addition, it is also important to consider whether the benefit-giving act is voluntary and intentional or not (Tesser et al., 1968; Tsang, 2006).

However, in Forster et al. 2017, gratitude was related to only the magnitude of the benefit, but not how much benefit was expected from the benefactor. We believe this counter-intuitive result stems from the measurement tools that were used.

The goal of our study is to attempt to improve the questionnaire used in Forster et al. 2017 paper, and ultimately check once the measurement tool is improved, whether the result would still remain counterintuitive.

We revised the given scale of gratitude on a 6-point Likert-type scale (1 = Not at all; 6 = Extremely) that was intended to measure the magnitude of gratitude to include more interpretations of gratitude so that we can make sure that participants would interpret “gratitude” in a more reliability manner.

We replicated the relevant parts of Forster et al.’s study, adding two more questions that would help the participants interpret the original question regarding the degree of gratefulness. Preliminary Result agrees with our hypothesis. That is, the magnitude of the benefit is not the sole predictor of how grateful one feels upon receiving the benefit. More sophisticated statistical analysis (multilevel modeling) is planned to be performed by the end of November.