Sawtooth Software The survey software of choice

An Introduction to Max Diff

Agenda

- Why choose MaxDiff?
- Designing a MaxDiff experiment
- SSI Web Demo
- Analyzing MaxDiff Data
- Additional Analyses
- Conclusions

SECTION 1

Why Choose Max Diff?

The Ubiquitous Monadic Rating Scale

How important are each of these factors when considering a vehicle for purchase?

	Not important 1	2	3	4	Extremely Important 5
It is luxurious		\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
It offers a smooth ride	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc		\bigcirc
I get good value for the money	\bigcirc		\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
It features the latest high-tech gadgets	\bigcirc	\bigcirc		\bigcirc	\bigcirc

Possible Solutions

- Ranking exercises
 - Becomes impractical with >7 items
 - Ordinal scale results
- Constant-Sum Allocation
 - Becomes impractical with >7 items
 - Allocation may not be independent
 - Making answers to sum to a particular value is difficult



Quick Overview

- Roughly comparable to a One-Attribute, multilevel CBC
- Respondents typically shown between 2-6 items at a time, asked to indicate which is best and/or which is worst
- Task is repeated many times, showing a different set of items in each task
- Resulting model provides ratio-scaled scores, or utilities, for each item



Jordan J. Louviere, PhD Inventor of the MaxDiff technique

1944—

Dr. Louviere is currently the Executive Director of the *Centre for the Study of Choice* at the University of Technology in Sydney, Australia

MaxDiff Tutorial Example

Imagine you were making the decision to reenlist in the Navy today. Which of the following four factors would make you most and least likely to want to reenlist?

(1 of 20)

Makes me Most want to reenlist		Makes me Least want to reenlist
\bigcirc	\$50 per month pay increase when out at sea	۲
\bigcirc	3-year reenlistment obligation	\bigcirc
۲	Increased reenlistment bonus (\$5,000)	\bigcirc
\bigcirc	Live in 2-person barracks when in port	\bigcirc
04	%	0%

Webinar



Makes me Most want to reenlist		Makes me Least want to reenlist
\bigcirc	\$50 per month pay increase when out at sea	۲
\bigcirc	3-year reenlistment obligation	\bigcirc
۲	Increased reenlistment bonus (\$5,000)	\bigcirc
\bigcirc	Live in 2-person barracks when in port	\bigcirc

- We then know:
 - Reenlistment Bonus>\$50/month increase
 - Reenlistment Bonus>3-yr reenlistment obligation
 - Reenlistment Bonus>2-person barracks
- And...
 - 3-yr reenlistment obligation>\$50/month increase
 - 2-person barracks>\$50/month increase
- From two "clicks" we learn about 5 of the 6 possible paired comparisons!
 - 3-yr reenlistment obligation ?? 2-person barracks

SECTION 2

Designing MaxDiff Experiments



STEP 1 Develop attribute list and possible prohibitions

STEP 2 Choose the number of items, sets, and versions





STEP 3 Generate design

MaxDiff

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Develop attribute list and prohibitions

- Clean eating areas (floors, tables, and chairs)
- Clean bathrooms
- Has health food items on the menu
- Typical wait time is about 5 minutes in line
- Typical wait time is about 15 minutes in line
- Prices are a good value
- Your order is always completed correctly
- Has a play area for children
- Food tastes wonderful
- Restaurant gives generously to charities



Choose items, sets, and versions

Number of items: Number of sets: Number of versions:



Number of Items Per Set



- 4 to 5 items per set
- Don't show more than half of the total items in a set
- More than 5 items is detrimental

Number of Sets per Respondent

tasks X # items per task
Total # items > 3



Number of Versions/Blocks

	Disease Survey		
onsidering only these four disease	es, which is the <u>Most Preferred</u> and w	hich is the <u>Least Preferred</u> ?	
L OF 15)		Most Preferm	Least Preferred
	Influenza	0	0
	Leprosy	0	0
	Tetanus	0	0
	Syphilis	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Click the 'Next' button to continue			
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	Sawtooth Software		
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Choose items, sets, and versions

Number of items per set: 4 Number of sets: 10 Number of versions: 300



Generate design

Design Settings	Design Settings Help
Number of Items (Attributes)	
Number of Items per Set (Question) 4	
Number of Sets (Questions) per Respondent 10	
Hide Advanced Settings	
Number of Versions 300	Import / Export Design
Number of Iterations 1000	Import Design
Design Seed 1	First row contains column headers (these will be ignored)
Allew Individual Designs Landring Consectivity.	generated by the MaxDiff designer.
	Export Design
Prohibitions There is 1 prohibition.	Press F1 on the keyboard for information about the import / export file layout.
Generate Design Test Design	

How the Design Program Works

- Design algorithm similar to CBC. Algorithm "builds up" the tasks, seeking one- and two-way frequency balance. Then, it "swaps" item positions on cards for positional balance.
- The design process is repeated 1000 separate times, and the replication that demonstrates the best one-way balance is selected.
 - If multiple designs have the same degree of one-way balance, then we select among those designs based on the best twoway balance.
 - If multiple designs have the same degree of one-way and twoway balance, then we select among those designs based on the best positional balance.

SECTION 3

SSI Web Demo

1. Enter question text

MaxDiff Exercise - fastfood	
Question Text Label Text Items Format Design Skip Logic	
Header 1 Please consider how important different features are when selecting a restaurant to visit.	 The second second
Header 2 Considering only these four features, which is the <u>Most Important</u> and which is the <u>Least Important</u> ?	
Footer Click the 'Next' button to continue	
<u>Advanced</u> Note: All MaxDiff questions in this exercise use this format. <u>Preview</u> OK	Cancel

2. Paste items from document

Ust	Click this
 6. Prices are very reasonable 7. Your order is always completed correctly 8. Has a play area for children 9. Food tastes wonderful 10. Restaurant gives generously to charities Add Edit Delete Settings for Selected List Member(s) © Respondent Specify ("Other Specify") 	button to paste items
Exclusive ("None of the Above")	

3. Type in your design numbers

MaxDiff Exercise - fastfood	
Question Text Label Text Items Format Design Skip Logic	
Design Settings	Design Settings Help
Number of Items (Attributes) 10 Number of Items per Set (Question) 4 Number of Sets (Questions) per Respondent 10 Show Advanced Settings 10	
	Import / Export Design Import Design First row contains column headers (these will be ignored) Note: Most users will not import a design, but will use those generated by the MaxDiff designer. Export Design Press F1 on the keyboard for information about the import / export file layout.
Generate Design Test Design	
<u>Rename</u> <u>Advanced</u> Note: All MaxDiff questions in this exercise use	e this format. Preview OK Cancel

4. Specify the prohibitions

uestion Text Label Text Items Format Design Skip Lo		
Juestion Text Label Text Items Format Design Skip Lo Design Settings 10 10 10 Number of Items (Attributes) 10 4 Number of Items per Set (Question) 4 10 Number of Sets (Questions) per Respondent 10 Hide Advanced Settings 10	MaxDiff Prohibitions Prohibit item 1. Clean eating areas (floors, tables, and chairs) 2. Clean bathrooms 3. Has health food items on the menu 4. Typical wait time is about 5 minutes in line 5. Typical wait time is about 15 minutes in line 6. Prices are very reasonable 7. Your order is always completed correctly 8. Has a play area for children 9. Fact bit one whether	from appearing with item(s) Clean eating areas (floors, tables, and chairs) Clean bathrooms Has health food items on the menu Typical wait time is about 15 minutes in line Prices are very reasonable Your order is always completed correctly Has a play area for children Food tastes wonderful Restaurant gives generously to charities
Number of Versions 300 Number of Iterations 1000 Design Seed 1 Favor Two-Vay Balance Allow Individual Designs Lacking Connectivity Prohibitions	9. Food tastes wonderful 10. Restaurant gives generously to charities	
Generate Design Test Design Rename Advanced		

5. Click "generate design"

Question Text Label Text Items Format Design Skip Logic	
Design Settings	Design Settings Help
Number of Items (Attributes) 10 Number of Items per Set (Question) 4 Number of Sets (Questions) per Respondent 10	
Hide Advanced Settings	
Number of Versions 300 Number of Iterations 1000 Design Seed 1 Favor Two-Way Balance Image: Connectivity Allow Individual Designs Lacking Connectivity Image: Connectivity Prohibitions There is 1 prohibition.	Import / Export Design Import Design First row contains column headers (these will be ignored) Note: Most users will not import a design, but will use those generated by the MaxDiff designer. Export Design Press F1 on the keyboard for information about the import / export file layout.
Generate Design Test Design	

6. Review the design report



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Two	o Way	Frequenc	ies:									
I	tem	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
	11	1200	386	385	450	451	385	385	386	386	386	
	21	386	1200	386	450	449	385	386	386	387	385	
	31	385	386	1200	450	449	386	386	386	386	386	
	4	100	450	450	1200	0	450	449	450	451	450	
	51	451	449	449	0	1199	150	449	449	450	450	
	61	385	385	386	450		. V	387	386	385	386	
	71	385	386	386	449		36	1200	386	386	386	
	81	386	386	386	450	4.	36	386	1200	386	385	
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fastfood - Max	Diff Desig	n Report											
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7. Click "Preview"

viaxDiff Exercise - fastrood	
Question Text Label Text Items Format Design Skip Logic	
Design Settings	Design Settings Help
Number of Items (Attributes) 10	
Number of Items per Set (Question) 4	
Number of Sets (Questions) per Respondent 10	
Hide Advanced Settings	
Number of Versions 300	Import / Export Design
Number of Iterations 1000	Import Design
Design Seed 1	Note: Most users will not import a design, but will use those
Favor Two-Way Balance	generated by the Maxbin designer.
Allow Individual Designs Lacking Connectivity	Export Design
Prohibitions	
There is 1 prohibition.	Press F1 on the keyboard for information about the import / export file layout.
Generate Design Test Design	
Rename Advanced Note: All MaxDiff questions in this exercise us	e this format. Preview OK Cancel

Preview

Please consider how important different features are when selecting a restaurant to visit. Considering only these four features, which is the <u>Most Important</u> and which is the <u>Least Important</u>?

	Most Important	Least Important
Has health food items on the menu	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Food tastes wonderful	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Typical wait time is about 15 minutes in line	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Clean eating areas (floors, tables, and chairs)	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Click the 'Next' button to continue		

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SECTION 4

Analyzing MaxDiff Data

Methods of Analysis

- Counting
- Aggregate Logit
- Latent Class
- Hierarchical Bayes

Counting



Aggregate Logit

espondent Filter		Place a check in	the box next to any	set to include it in a	analysis	
xDiff/Logit Scores Report						
Zero-Centered Interval Scores						
Label	Item Number	Score				
Clean eating areas (floors, tables, and chairs)	1	-0.89821				
Clean bathrooms	2	58.48833				
Has health food items on the menu	3	-30.64842				
Typical wait time is about 5 minutes in line	4	-15.30723				
Typical wait time is about 15 minutes in line	5	-41.51167				
Prices are very reasonable	6	9.79344				
Your order is always completed correctly	7	-31.73571				
Has a play area for children	8	33.52618				
Food tastes wonderful	9	32.28355				
Restaurant gives generously to charities	10	-13.99024				
Rescaled Scores (0 to 100 scaling)						
Label	Item Number	Score	_			
Clean eating areas (floors, tables, and chairs)	1	9.97882	_			
Clean bathrooms	2	10.90823	_			
Has health food items on the menu	3	9.53357	_			
Typical wait time is about 5 minutes in line	4	9.76145	_			
Typical wait time is about 15 minutes in line	5	9.37443				
Prices are very reasonable	6	10.14218	_			
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Latent Class

N	MaxDiff Latent Class Analysis														
Respondent Filter					Connella								~		
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	2	2	2	2		0.19104	0.33365	0.36166	0.1/1908	0.58844	0.00030	0.36327	0.00469	0.02350	
	1	1	2	1	2	0.13104	0.000000	0.20240	0.96467	0.00044	0.03730	0.00200	0.00403	0.00733	
	5	1	1	2	1	0.51605	0.48395	0.77846	0.21840	0.02715	0.12262	0.84541	0.00000	0.01119	
	6	2	1	2	4	0.00396	0.99604	0.96999	0.00147	0.02854	0.00048	0.95878	0.00008	0.04065	
	7	2	1	3	5	0.34672	0.65328	0.50645	0.33918	0 15437	0.03865	0.30289	0.55732	0 10114	
	8	- 1	2	1	2	0.92776	0.07224	0.06576	0.89936	0.03488	0.86372	0.05001	0.03848	0.04779	
	9	2	3	4	3	0.36019	0.63981	0.04359	0.07052	0.88589	0.21180	0.04464	0.00194	0.74163	
	10	1	2	1	1	0.74916	0.25084	0.13403	0.66375	0.20222	0.41431	0.20261	0.08031	0.30276	
	11	2	1	2	4	0.38452	0.61548	0.74956	0.21084	0.03960	0.09087	0.77944	0.04560	0.08409	
	12	2	1	2	4	0.49827	0.50173	0.41029	0.38542	0.20430	0.28943	0.46263	0.04271	0.20523	
	13	2	1	2	3	0.27210	0.72790	0.69573	0.20244	0.10183	0.10937	0.48025	0.02190	0.38848	
	14	2	1	4	3	0.06327	0.93673	0.50235	0.02062	0.47703	0.01675	0.28302	0.00046	0.69977	
	15	2	3	4	3	0.14591	0.85409	0.03176	0.02076	0.94748	0.04199	0.08746	0.00795	0.86260	
	16	2	1	4	3	0.02549	0.97451	0.50738	0.02225	0.47038	0.06110	0.37153	0.00005	0.56732	
	17	1	2	1	1	0.81089	0.18911	0.10861	0.75310	0.13830	0.77399	0.03334	0.00194	0.19073	
	18	2	3	4	3	0.04947	0.95053	0.11790	0.01296	0.86914	0.00275	0.02072	0.00019	0.97635	
	19	2	3	4	3	0.12291	0.87709	0.33102	0.07470	0.59428	0.01085	0.23415	0.10267	0.65232	
	20	1	2	1	1	0.93509	0.06491	0.02950	0.92801	0.04249	0.76964	0.01681	0.02540	0.18815	
	21	2	1	2	4	0.00764	0.99236	0.94469	0.00349	0.05182	0.00444	0.94341	0.00011	0.05204	
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Hierarchical Bayes

N	MaxDiff Scores / HE	Build Report								
٢	Respondent Id									
N	1axDiff/HB Scores Rep	port								
Γ										
	Internal Interview Num	nbers Fit Statistic	Clean eating area	Clean bathrooms	Has health food it	Typical wait time i	Typical waittime	Prices are very re	Your order is alwa	_
	2	0.26995	12.64862	5.23249	12.73702	11.13751	11.39126	9.58483	7.03753	-
	3	0.28137	6.38185	10.56479	5.79562	14.67672	7.50221	8.22321	12.95337	
	4	0.31953	6.86797	16.07149	6.82399	7.95975	9.29571	17.70905	6.30901	
	5	0.26808	10.82167	11.22106	9.78911	6.16876	8.24522	6.23141	8.96973	
	6	0.27735	16.09719	5.87491	12.31923	9.97480	7.40836	7.77116	11.36394	
	7	0.26551	7.63677	12.27139	9.88781	11.56801	7.73738	12.50306	6.33264	
	8	0.25729	7.90254	13.34314	10.48908	5.21051	9.93358	12.87702	9.41754	
	9	0.28433	5.87979	6.74149	12.23877	10.33814	8.89405	18.09812	8.94212	
	10	0.28290	11.22987	11.02869	7.64598	6.41274	6.09409	17.10635	12.20915	
	11	0.27267	11.32566	12.99967	8.08444	9.17302	16.30070	8.10967	7.40932	
	12	0.24397	10.00988	10.73996	10.10121	7.72523	11.57832	12.23414	9.44143	
	13	0.24939	9.50752	12.33291	10.57778	9.66461	11.31057	6.62999	11.26691	
	14	0.27375	11.67690	5.12367	11.59131	7.84569	10.98078	11.76261	11.46222	
	15	0.28737	6.25162	8.18505	11.71621	11.93912	9.56939	18.28897	9.35513	
	16	0.27576	13.84172	7.39733	8.33381	14.33868	6.90897	12.31617	10.12321	
	17	0.26228	9.20874	10.68736	7.61774	7.68283	7.74545	11.73401	11.82816	
	18	0.30480	7.82467	8.12813	5.42411	14.91028	10.46052	6.01260	17.28719	
	19	0.26017	9.12658	12.29885	6.21268	14.28560	11.67892	9.36767	10.05377	
	20	0.28464	9.33873	15.73420	5.31656	7.10886	7.61498	9.62163	14.52191	
	21	0.28397	13.69338	5.90557	14.94742	12.46275	7.26878	11.97951	5.71598	
	Summa	ry Rescaled Scores	Raw Scores	10 50000	10 00015	10 10004		10,00470	14 70001	× .
							🔯 Open	Output Folder	Close	
Restore defaults Quit								Cancel		

SECTION 5

Additional Analyses

Segmentation

Strategic business decisions rely on segmenting the market and reaching the target.

Analyzing MaxDiff scores with our Latent Class or Convergent Cluster Ensemble Analysis software results in:

- Greater between-item and between-respondent discrimination
- Greater predictive accuracy

Than either monadic ratings or paired comparisons differentiated solutions.



"On The Fly" Scores

Text Editor	
The Thurstone Crime Scale	
The Thurstone Crime Scale Thank you for completing the survey. Here are your individual results, ranked from the most serious to the lead I. Homicide 2. Kidnapping 3. Assault and battery 4. Rape 5. Abortion 6. Burglary 7. Counterfeiting 8. Larceny 9. Arson 10. Embezzlement 11. Bootlegging 12. Smuggling 13. Libel 14. Forgery 15. Perjury 16. Adultery 17. Seduction 18. Receiving stolen goods 19. Vagrancy	ast serious crime.
0% 100% Nathan K. Bryce	

MaxDiff Analyzer

- 1. Display average values for the sample, or by segment
- 2. Conduct simulations, projecting "market choices"
- 3. Optimize portfolios of items to "reach" respondents, via TURF analysis
- 4. Automatically rescale scores, like probability or 0-100 scales, with 95% confidence intervals

Simulator

- First Choice Rule. Each respondent "casts a vote" for the item that has the highest score within the items included in the simulation set.
- Share of Preference (Logit) Rule.
 Respondents are allowed to split their votes across the items included in the simulation set.

Total Unduplicated Reach and Frequency (TURF) Analysis



Finds the items that will reach the maximum number of people

Anchoring

Ask to identify acceptable items from entire list (Lattery's Direct Approach)



Ask to indicate whether all items in a set are all good, all bad, or some good and some bad (Louviere's Indirect Approach)

Direct Approach

This one is kind of long, but remember: For Science!

Please consider each pie below. If only that pie was available, would you take a slice?

	I would definitely take a slice	l probably would take a slice	Undecided	l probably would not take a slice	l would definitely not take a slice
Apple Crumb	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Banana Cream	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Berry Patch	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Blackberry Bavarian Bliss	\bigcirc	0	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Blueberry Sour Cream	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Caramel Pecan Silk Supreme	\bigcirc	0	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Cherry	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc



After you've collected the data, during score estimation, you simply indicate that you wish to use the **Direct Binary Anchoring** method.

the anchor

threshold.

You then specify the logic that references the scaling questions and identifies which values on the scale indicate that an item has exceeded

Respondent Id	Include Dual-Response Indirect answers in analysis	
Respondent Filter Include All Respondents	Use Direct Binary Approach	
Sets to Include All Sets Included Constraints	MaxDiff List Items: Item Exceeds Threshold if Logic Evaluates to "True":	
Ihere are no constraints.	1 3-year reenlistment obligation	
None	2 5-year reenlistment obligation	
Covariates	3 Location guarantee for next assignment	
Settings	Duty guarantee for next assignment Items_r1 > 1	=
Default	5 Both location and duty guarantees for next assignr	
	6 Get promoted 6-months sooner than expected	
	7 Live in 2-person barracks when in port	
	8 Live in 4-person barracks when in port	
	9 Choice between living in 2-person barracks or 4-p	
	10 \$50 per month pay increase when out at sea	
	11 \$75 per month pay increase when out at sea	
	12 Half of on-job time using your skills and training	
	13 Three-quarters of on-job time using your skills and	
	14 Time off each week allowed for on-line college cou	
	Warning: The symbol 'Items r1' does not exist.	
	You may leave a cell in this grid blank if there is no direct information regarding this item relat anchor. Press F1 for more details.	ive to the

Indirect Approach

		Anchored Scaling (Dual-Res	ponse Indirect) Settings		
MaxDiff Exercise - disease		Question Text	Considering only	the items above	
Question Text Label Text Items Format Design Question Style Image: Ask "Best" and "Worst" Image: Ask "Best" Only Image: Style 1	Skip Logic Which item is Best, an Item Item Item	Response Options Text	Field Text None None of these are Some Some of these are All All of these are imp Image: Some of these are Image: Some of these are	important to me important to me iortant to me	
Question Format Question Width (pixels) Task Width (pixels) Task Border (pixels) Task Border (pixels) Width of Items Column (%) Cell Padding (pixels) T - 1. Augument Anchored Scaling (Dual-Response Indirect Method) Image: Add Dual-Response Question Settings	Question Colors Wo Anchored Scaling To use the Direc infer the items' re your project (e.g the logic for Dire collecting the da More Info guestions in this exercise use this format.	Alternating Color #1 Alternating Color #2 Alternating Color #2 (Direct Binary Approach) t Binary Approach, add the questive for any Approach, add the questive for any Approach, add the questive for any Approach thresholds in the ta. Preview OK	ons (that allow you to mat you desire to , etc.). You define we analysis area after	ОК	Cancel

Considering only these four diseases, which is the <u>Most</u> <u>Preferred</u> and which is the <u>Least Preferred</u>?

(1 of 20)

Most Preferred		Least Preferred
	Gum disease	\bigcirc
\bigcirc	Broken leg	\bigcirc
\bigcirc	Heart attack	\bigcirc
\bigcirc	Brain aneurysm	\bigcirc

Considering only the items above...

None of these diseases are acceptable to me

Some of diseases are acceptable to me

All of these diseases are acceptable to me

Click the 'Next' button to continue...

In celebration of Pi Day, Sawtooth Software is going to pick up some pies. Hooray!

If Becky presented you with just the following 4 pie options, of which would you most like a slice?

Most Desirable		Least Desirable
\bigcirc	Triple Chocolate Cream	\bigcirc
\bigcirc	French Silk	\bigcirc
\bigcirc	Strawberry Rhubarb	\bigcirc
0	Chocolate Caramel Delight	0

If Becky went ahead and bought all 4 of these pies I would...

- Not take a slice of any of them
- Happily take a slice of any of them (or all of them!)
- Probably take a slice of at least one

Anchoring Issues

- Questionnaire is now longer
- Re-introduces scale bias
 - Still not using scale, but propensity to mark things as acceptable or not is different
 - Clustering may find similarities based primarily on use of cutoff rather than actual differences in which items are preferred

Express, Sparse and Constructed Lists

- Express Creates different subsets of the larger number of items and asks a given respondent only about that subset, using HB analysis to fill in the blanks for the missing items.
- Sparse Each respondent sees all items in the study, but fewer than the recommended number of times (<3, perhaps just once).</p>
- Constructed list Base the items on previous answers in a study, but all respondents must see the same number of items in total.

SECTION 6

Conclusions

Webinar



Sawtooth Software The survey software of choice

Megan Peitz – Ingenuity Ambassador

megan@sawtoothsoftware.com

Brian McEwan – Director of Client Services

brian@sawtoothsoftware.com

www.sawtoothsoftware.com +1 801 477 4700

SECTION 7

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