

Preface to the Japanese Edition

During the five years since the publication of the English edition of Experimental Methods: A Primer for Economists, economists' interest in experimental methods has continued to grow. This growth in U.S. and internationally is evident from the number of journal articles based on experimental data, attendance at the meetings of Economic Science Association, and the interest in the subject in other professional meetings of economists. The Summer, 1998 meetings of Economic Science Association were held outside U.S. in Mannheim, Germany for the first time.

Our (almost certainly incomplete) list of departments that included economists interested in experimental methods included eighty institutions. Five years later, that number has undoubtedly risen above hundred. During this period we also learned about the interesting experimental research programs in Japanese universities by Professors Tatsuyoshi Saijo and many others.

It was therefore with great delight that we learned from Professor Toshiji Kawagoe that he would like to prepare an updated Japanese edition of Experimental Methods using the English edition for its core. For a fast growing field like experimental economics, five years is a long time. It is only appropriate that the translation includes changes. While the main text of the nine chapters has been retained in the translation with some clarifications, some of the application examples at the end of chapters and appendix material at the end of the book has been revised, expanded or replaced as considered appropriate for the Japanese audience. These changes have been described in the translators' introduction to the Japanese volume.

Although neither of us is able to read Japanese, we believe that Professor Kawagoe and his colleagues Professors Toru Mori and Tetsuya Uchiki have prepared an excellent volume. Their revisions, replacements, and additions make it more than a translation of the English edition, and we hope that their efforts will help further development of experimental economics in Japan. We are delighted that Professors Mori, Uchiki and Kawagoe have prepared this work, and grateful for them for bringing it to the attention of Japanese scholars.

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