

Ideas for MSc theses:

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1. CBA of / WTP to get rid of birch trees in Copenhagen
 - a. Municipality could introduce new plan that removes and replaces these trees with other less allergenic trees
 - b. Thousands of people in CPH allergic to pollen from these (and other trees). How large is the welfare loss
 - c. Compare to benefits of having these trees in the city
2. Reduced meat-package size in supermarkets (to disguise price increases)
 - a. Positive effect of buying less meat(health and CO₂)
 - b. But when does package size become so small that consumers instead will take two packages (and thus potentially increase their consumption of meat?)
 - c. GFK consumerscan data is available at the institute
3. Household preferences for different methods for waste disposal
 - a. Landfill (local environmental problems)
 - b. Recycling (requires sorting either centrally or in household)
 - c. Incineration (CO₂ emission, but provides heating)
4. Different tree species produce different amounts of groundwater
 - a. Relate the value of groundwater production to recreational, timber and CO₂ storage values per tree species to find total societal benefits per tree species
5. Unsustainable use of groundwater
 - a. WFD: Streams and creeks are not allowed to dry out (which they might do if ground water level sinks)
 - i. Cancel drinking water extraction from these areas
 - ii. Pumping water into rivers and creeks might be a cheaper solution
 - iii. Converting all coniferous forest to maple forests on Zealand has the potential to increase the groundwater production with an amount equal to that used for drinking water in Copenhagen!
6. Are there differences between experienced and inexperienced internet panelists?
7. Making a public good private – does it matter for WTP?
 - a. Removal of calcium from tap water could be done centrally (waterworks) or locally (at home)
 - b. Both will give same drinking water quality and reduction of calcium
 - c. Other attributes could be maintenance, lifetime, reduction method, price
8. The importance of colour
 - a. Repeat Aquamoney but with other colours

9. Discount rates assessment
 - a. WTP for an improvement now and in 5, 10,15,... years
10. Different ways of identifying protesters
 - a. Asking only zero bidders
 - b. Asking everyone
 - c. Using predefined answer options
 - i. Only choose one option
 - ii. Give a 5-point rating for each option
 - d. Using an open ended follow up question
11. Opt-out reminder effect
 - a. Internal and external test
12. Test impact of “slow-talk” script or “next-button availability delay” in internet panels
 - a. Impact on response time, preferences and unexplained variance
 - b. Time-to-think protocols
 - c. Incentive to spend more time answering
 - i. Potentially dependent on quality of answer
13. Test for learning effects in CE by giving respondents a CE setup example in the scenario description. Use goods varying in the level of familiarity
14. Response time effects on preferences, status quo bias, certainty, consistency etc. Do respondents actually read a page with a lot of information on it?
15. Testing the effect of allowing respondents the opportunity to reconsider their choices. Possibly present them with an overview of their choices or even give them each choice set again
16. Do respondents who impulse buy more often (and therefore may not fully consider their budget) have different preferences? Would it have an effect on preferences if you ask the impulse buyer identification question before or after the valuation questions?
17. Assessing the recreational value of a new beach in Copenhagen (Valby). The cost is 18 million DKK, but what are the benefits?
18. CBA of climate change adaptation projects (projects are currently being considered in virtually all larger Danish cities as well as in the rest of the world).
19. CBA of maintaining the water level in the dead sea. The dead sea will dry out in a foreseeable future. One of the reasons is intensified (and unsustainable) use of irrigation water from the Jordan River that would otherwise lead water into the dead sea. There are plans to construct a pipeline pumping in water all the way from the red sea. This is very expensive and no one knows the costs.