学位論文の要旨（論文の内容の要旨）
Summary of the Dissertation (Summary of Dissertation Contents)

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学 位 論 文
Dissertation
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Dissertation Title

Mitigating Social Desirability Bias: Application of List Experiment
in Education and Agriculture Sectors

This dissertation investigates the utility of list experiments as a methodological tool in social sciences, focusing on their ability to elicit truthful responses on sensitive topics while mitigating social desirability bias. Through a comprehensive literature review and the implementation of multiple list experiments, this research demonstrates the efficacy of indirect questioning techniques in exploring sensitive issues within the domains of education and agriculture.

This dissertation addresses aims to attain three research objectives: (i) exploring heterogeneous effects among sub-samples from list experiment's outcomes, (ii) applying list experiments to investigate academic integrity issues in the education sector, and (iii) assessing pesticide practices and trust in agricultural extension services within the agriculture sector. These objectives are pursued across three main chapters (chapter 2, chapter 3, and chapter 4), each presenting empirical data and policy implications derived from list experiment findings.

Chapter 2 addresses the first research objective by uncovering academic cheating behaviors among 1,386 Vietnamese undergraduates. Using list experiments, the study reveals a significant discrepancy between reported academic cheating prevalence obtained via indirect questioning versus direct questioning methods. Notably, female students exhibit higher incidences of academic cheating in later academic years, while male students engage in cheating across all grades. This chapter underscores the utility of list experiments in revealing nuanced patterns of behavior that direct questioning often fails to capture, highlighting the role of gender and academic progression in academic integrity violations.

Chapter 3 focuses on the second research objective, exploring issues of pesticide practice noncompliance among 876 green tea farmers in Vietnam. The findings indicate substantial underreporting of noncompliance with pesticide practice regulations when using direct questioning methods, compared to the higher prevalence revealed through list experiments. This disparity underscores the sensitivity of regulatory

compliance issues in agricultural practices and emphasizes the potential legal and reputational risks farmers face in disclosing noncompliance.

Chapter 4 addresses the third objective by extending the analysis of farmers' trust in local extension services, using cross-randomization techniques within the same sample of chapter 3. The results reveal the overestimation of trust levels reported via direct questioning, highlighting the efficacy of list experiments in minimizing biases related to social desirability and political apprehension. Specifically, there are age-related variations in perceptions of credibility and influence among extension services.

The implications of these findings are discussed in the final chapter. Policy recommendations emphasize the need for tailored interventions that account for gender and age disparities in educational and agricultural contexts. Addressing these disparities can enhance equity and effectiveness in policy-making, ensuring fair access to resources and opportunities across diverse demographic groups. Moreover, the dissertation advocates for the broader adoption of indirect questioning techniques in sensitive topic research, emphasizing their role in producing more reliable data compared to traditional survey methods.

In conclusion, this dissertation contributes to advancing methodological practices in social science research by demonstrating the utility of list experiments in uncovering hidden behaviors and perceptions. By addressing gaps in understanding and offering practical insights for policy and practice, this research underscores the transformative potential of indirect questioning techniques in navigating complex societal issues with sensitivity.