linguistics subject pool
what is the subject pool?

- Increasing experimental work requires subjects, but this is often quite costly.

- Subject pool to provide participants for 1x experiments drawn from undergrad ling courses.

- For course credit, students will have to participate in two experiments or attend two video showings (or a combination).
experiment management

- In order to keep track of student participation, the department will be using a management software developed by Sona Systems Ltd.

- Software is web-based and can be accessed any time from any computer

- This demo is to familiarize you with the system so that you can begin to use it
experiment management

- System will be used by (1) instructors, (2) experimenters/researchers, (3) students

- The main users, of course, will be the experimenters
  - Announce experiments and get participants
  - Track participation and set up time slots
  - Grant credit to participants

- Student participants remain anonymous to experimenters—no identifying info collected
timeline

- Student enrolls in a class and gets assigned an ID code to log in to the system.
- Student views available studies and selects one with an open timeslot.
- After participation, the researcher *immediately* grants the student course credit.
- Debrief student participants!!
guidelines for experimenters

- Prepare and submit your IRB proposal
- Once you have approval, contact the subject pool coordinator: ling-spcoordinator@lists.stanford.edu
- Provide the following to the subject pool coordinator:
  - A copy of the IRB consent form
  - A copy of your debriefing form
  - A copy of the IRB training certificate
guidelines for experimenters

- If you do not already possess an account, an e-mail will be sent to with you a temporary password and login name (your SUNet ID)

- Post your experiment on the Sona Systems site: http://stanfordlinguistics.sona-systems.com
Post your study and make it visible to students—include a brief description so that students have some idea of the task.
guidelines for experimenters

Edit information about your study, specify timeslot information, grant participation credit.
working with timeslots

- Timeslots allow you to specify time, date, location, and maximum number of participants.

- Timeslots can be added in one at a time, in specified amounts (e.g. 6 sessions in a row), or in a repeating fashion (every weekday at 11 am).

- System also tracks location usage (e.g. phonetics lab) and prevents booking conflicts.
working with timeslots

Schedule of experiments for a given location
working with timeslots

Timeslot usage:
- already used hours
- remaining scheduled hours
granting credit

- You should promptly deal with participants to ensure proper credit grants
- Log in and find the relevant study and timeslot (My Studies < Edit < Modify)
- If the participant showed up, click “Credit Granted”; otherwise “Participant No-Show”
granting credit

- In general, one study = one credit, unless the study is 90 minutes or more.

- If a student is more than 10 minutes late or fails to show up, the experimenter must assign a negative credit to the student on the system.

- Students who repeatedly fail to show up will be flagged by the system.

- If experimenter is late, student gets credit.
guidelines for instructors

- Instructor involvement is minimal
- Primary use will be to check on credit status of students and (if necessary) granting credit to students
- Instructors can also review what studies are available
guidelines for instructors

Lists courses that you instruct and allows you to immediately generate reports for each of those (who has participated and who has not)
guidelines for instructors

If you have arranged to provide credit via an alternative method, notify the system by generating a report, then click on the link next to the student’s name.
faq

- Can I pay participants as well as granting credit?
  - No. You can’t pay subjects at all. We may set up a pool for paid participants in the future.

- How many hours/sessions will I get?
  - It depends. We’ll operate on a first-come-first-served basis for now. If demand is high enough, we may have to limit hours.
Can I limit my study to certain populations?
   At this point, selection of participants is not allowed by the system. EXCEPT, you can specify eligibility based on previous participation records.

Can my study be web-based?
   Yes. Web-based studies are set up with one time-slot and the maximum number of participants. The system has a built-in facility for linking students’ ID with your on-line study.