Characterizing Range Anxiety in Electric Vehicle Users

Maiia Tolia-Shah  
*Chapman University*, toliashah@chapman.edu

Brenda Gutierrez  
*Chapman University*, bgutierrez@chapman.edu

Sook Mun (Alice) Wong  
*Chapman University*, sowong@chapman.edu

Uri Maoz  
*Chapman University*, maoz@chapman.edu

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Recommended Citation

Tolia-Shah, Maiia; Gutierrez, Brenda; Wong, Sook Mun (Alice); and Maoz, Uri, "Characterizing Range Anxiety in Electric Vehicle Users" (2019). *Student Scholar Symposium Abstracts and Posters*. 424. https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/cusrd_abstracts/424

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Characterizing Range Anxiety in Electric Vehicle Users
Maiia Tolia-Shah 2, Brenda Gutierrez 2, Alice Wong 1, Uri Maoz 1, 2
1: Schmid College of Science and Technology 2: Crean College of Health and Behavioral Sciences

Introduction:
• Fear of running out of battery/gas before arriving at a charging/gas station or final destination.
• Fewer charging stations than gas stations might help explain low adoption of electric vehicle (EV)
• Previous research has found more experience in driving EVs results in less range anxiety
• Participants will drive around. Heart rate and galvanic skin response (GSR) used as a proxy for anxiety.
• Participants will complete surveys evaluating habits and their daily use of their vehicle.
• We anticipate seeing an increase in heart rate and GSR as car battery depletes.

Methods:
1. Participant arrive with car battery at 20% charge.
2. Completes background survey, “The Big 5 Personality Test”, “Driver’s Style Survey” and “Tolerance of Ambiguity Survey”.
3. Attach heart rate and GSR monitors (sweating & increased heart rate common symptoms of anxiety), Drive around (close by) until 5% battery and come back.
4. Participant may now charge car battery.
5. Complete follow-up survey about range anxiety on a day-to-day basis.

Hypothesis:
If the range anxiety is low it is because the driver has more experience and knowledge about the electrical vehicle.

Contact: sowong@chapman.edu

Acknowledgements: