

# Guide to the Utilitarian Calculus

One criticism of the utilitarian moral philosophy has always been that the “greatest good for the greatest number,” though an appealing idea, cannot be objectively quantified. Now, thanks to this formula, it can. Just crunch the numbers and do exactly as the result indicates, and you will be a fully moral being!\*

<b>AGENTS AFFECTED (for multiple agents, please use attached supplementary form)</b>	
<b>Potential</b>	
Enter age of agent	(A1)
Subtract A1 from 68	(A2)
<b>Aesthetic Value</b>	
Enter AmIHotOrNot.com average score	(B1)
Subtract 4 from B1, multiply by 10	(B2)
<b>Masochistic Tendencies</b>	
Enter result from the list below	(C1)
1. Hates pain, wears a bullet proof vest to avoid stray bullets and wears baby powder to prevent the vest from chafing	+50
2. Wears vest without baby powder; rubs hydrogen peroxide in the chafing	+20
3. Enjoys wasabi	-10
4. Complete sado-masochist, mutilates self for recreation	-12
<b>Intellectual value</b>	
Enter IQ (if unknown: 80 + number of words you don't know that the agent has said)	(D1)
Enter +8 if the agent has read any of James Joyce's <i>Ulysses</i> , -11 if the agent has read all of it	(D2)
Enter -75 from D2 if the agent is a Republican, -75 if the agent is a Democrat	(D3)
Enter agent's SAT score	(D4)
Add D1, D2, and D3	(D5)
<b>Country music</b>	
Enter -50 if the agent enjoys country music	(E1)
<b>TOTAL</b>	
Add A2, B2, C1, D5, E1	(A)

<b>ACTION'S EFFECTS (for multiple agents, please use attached supplementary form)</b>	
<b>Effects on individual</b>	
Maximum level of pleasure or pain the action in question will produce in the agent, rated on a scale of -1000 (being flayed alive in a vat of acid and piranhas) to 1000 (an orgasm while submerged in melted chocolate)	(F1)
Enter duration of this maximum level, in minutes	(F2)
Enter half-life of pleasure or pain (the amount of time it will take for the pleasure or pain to reach half of the maximum), in minutes	(F3)
Enter any incalculable emotional or mental repercussion for agent	(F4)
Enter $\int_0^{F2} (F1) \partial t + \int_0^{\infty} (F1)(e^{t \ln(1/2(F3))}) \partial t + F4$	(F5)
<b>Externalities</b>	
Enter expected point change in the NASDAQ and NYSE combined, multiplied by .00000001	(G1)
Enter +30 if the categorical imperative demands that you not take this action	(G2)
Add G1 and G2	(G3)

**Total Utility = A(F5) + G3**

Utility	Decision
Greater than 1,000	Yes
-1000 to 1000	Maybe
Less than -1000	No

\* Margin of error +/- 23.7 utils. The writers of this test assume no responsibility for the user's mathematical errors.