Rapid Implementation of Test Design Using Python

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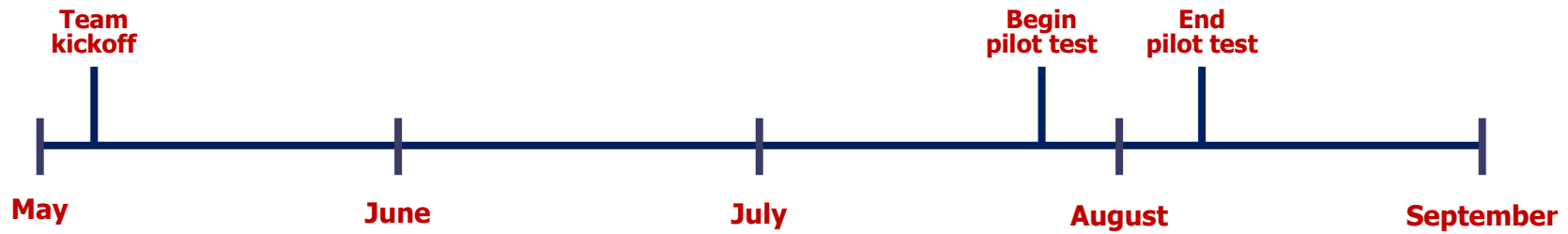
Background

- Machine learning (ML) prototype
  - Developed in early 2019
  - Used Occupational Requirements Survey (ORS) and other supplemental datasets to train the model
  - Predicts the top-five most likely Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) codes

Pilot Test

- Computer-Assisted Review (CAR) Pilot
  - A small team formed in May, 2019
  - Test the feasibility of implementing the ML algorithm into the production cycle, specifically in the review process
  - Three weeks of testing in the actual ORS production environment
    - From late July to early August



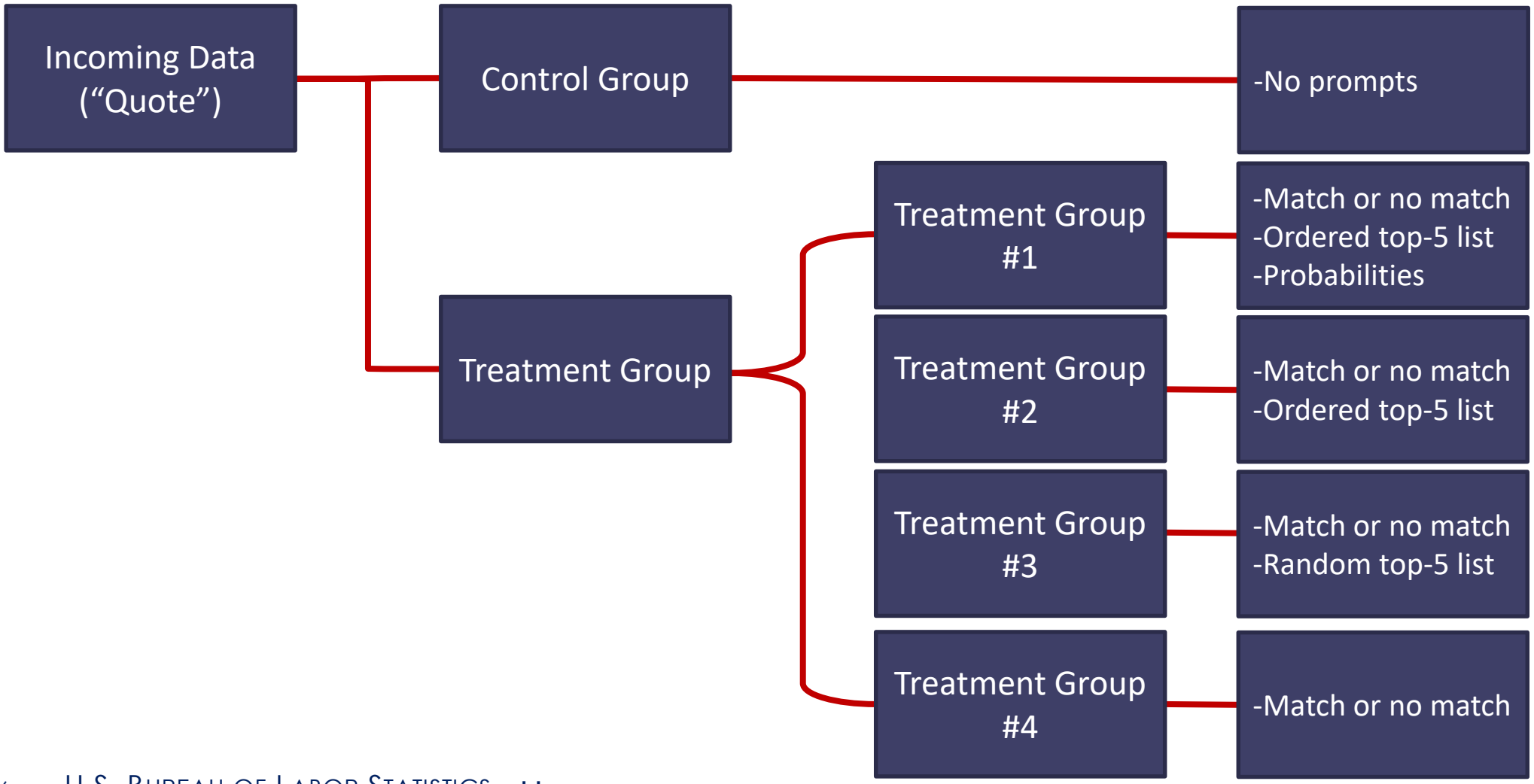
Questions to Answer

- The effects of CAR on SOC code review
  - Its effects on the time spent reviewing the SOC code
  - Its effects on the number of questions being sent out
  - Its effects on the review resulting in a positive change
- The effects of CAR on reviewer bias
  - Do exposures to ML algorithm's outputs result in reviewers favoring (or not favoring) specific SOC codes?

Test Design

- Randomized, controlled crossover trial
  - Eight participants from the microdata review staff
  - Each participant expected to review approximately 150 incoming data
  - Every incoming data reviewed by a participant gets randomly assigned to a control/treatment group

Test Design

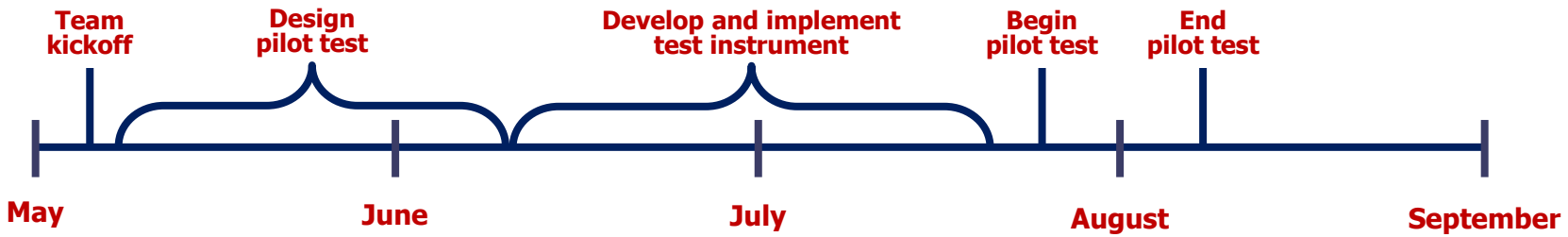

Incoming Data ("Quote")
Control Group
-No prompts
Treatment Group
Treatment Group #1
-Match or no match
-Ordered top-5 list
-Probabilities
Treatment Group #2
-Match or no match
-Ordered top-5 list
Treatment Group #3
-Match or no match
-Random top-5 list
Treatment Group #4
-Match or no match

Challenges and Constraints

- Some information are readily captured by the existing production/review system
  - SOC codes
  - Questions sent
- Other information are not available
  - Time spent on reviewing a SOC code
  - Reviewer's expected SOC code

Challenges and Constraints

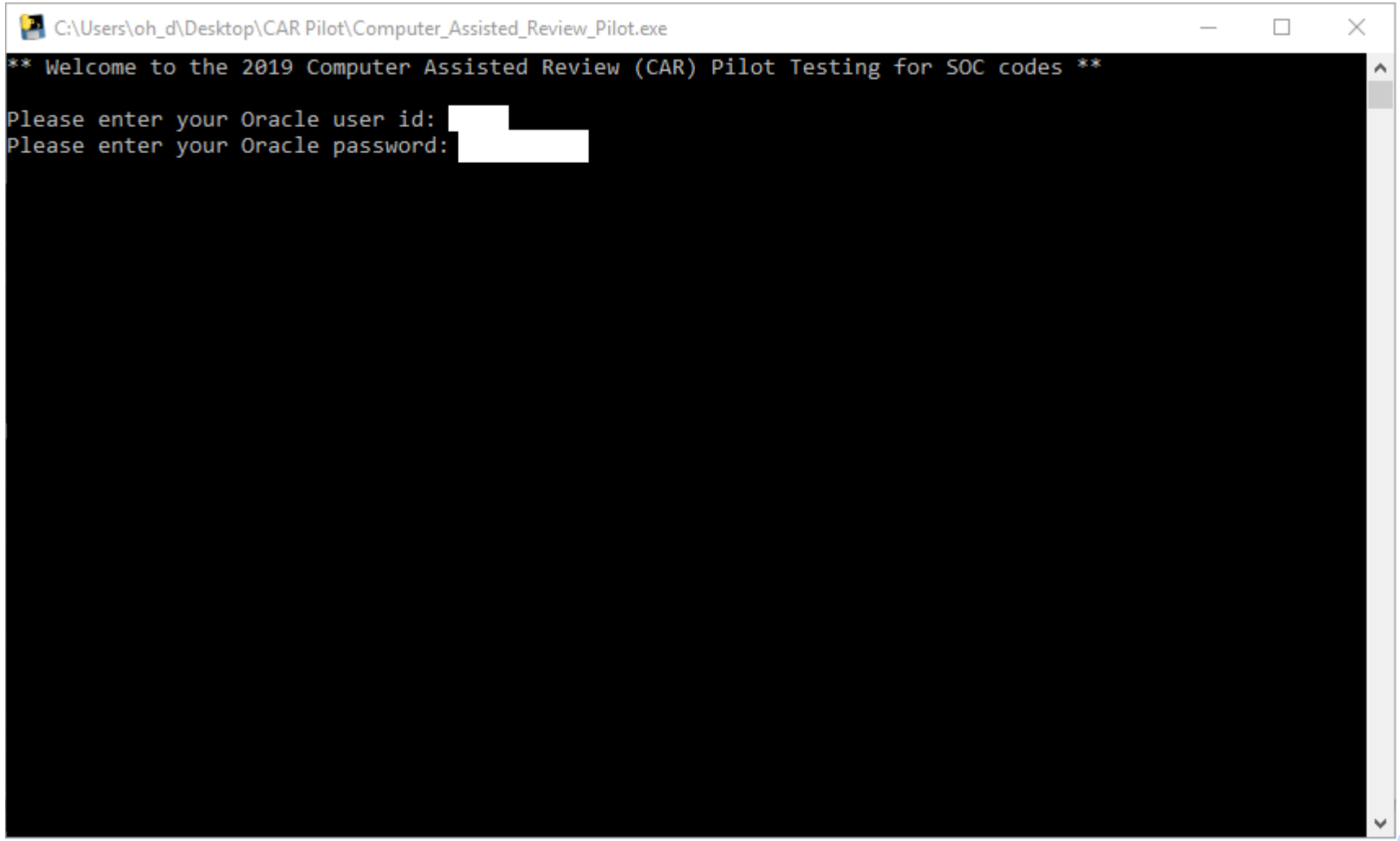
- Random assignment
  - Test instrument must be able to perform random assignments
- Resource constraint
  - Minimal disturbance on the actual production
- Time constraint
  - A little over a month to develop and implement the test instrument



Benefits of Using Python

- Same language as the one used to develop the ML algorithm
  - Can easily import the ML algorithm that has been *Pickle*-ed
- Can create a standalone application that is easily distributable
- Can take user inputs
- Can access database
- Can output varying prompts based on random assignments
- Can write to a centralized dataset

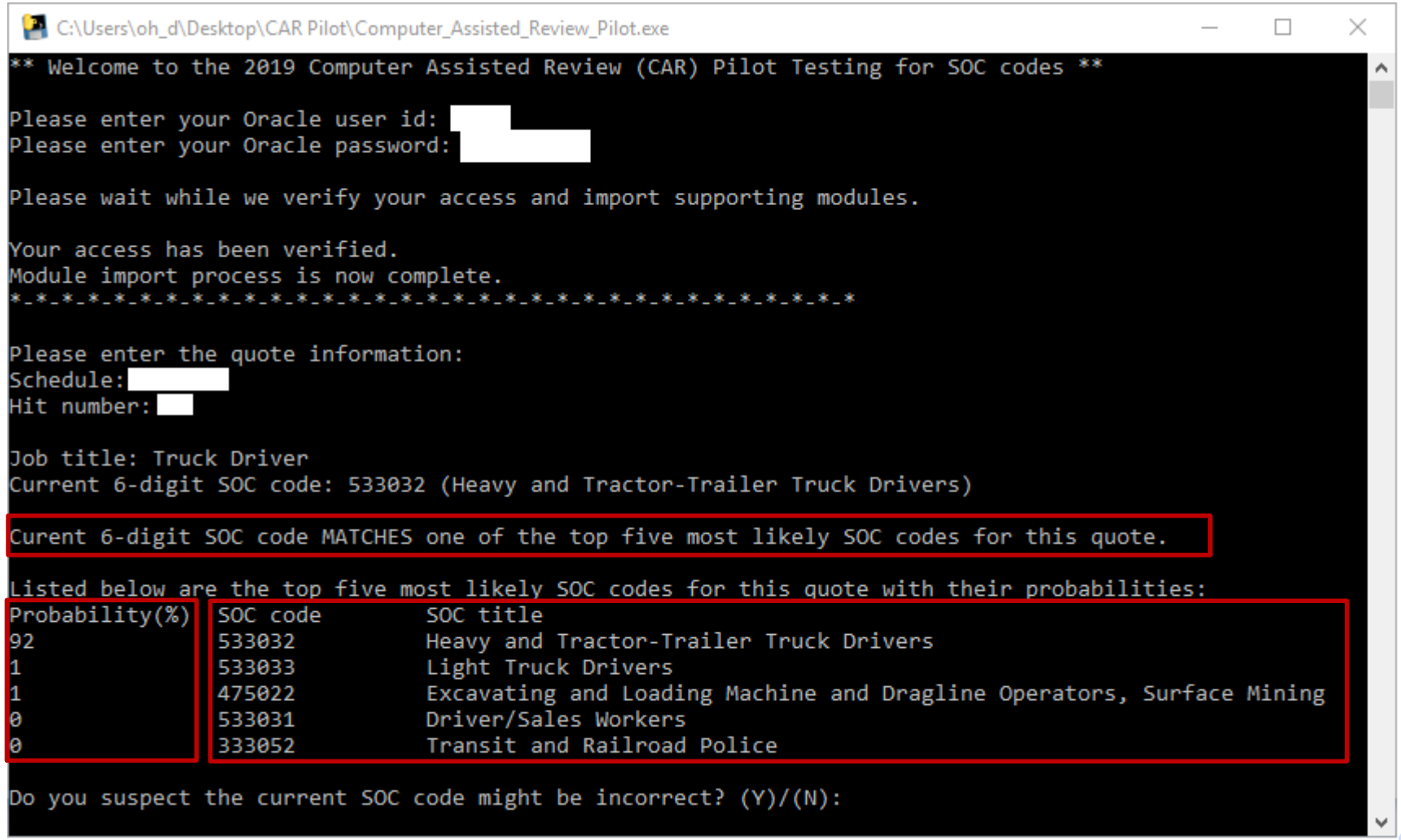
Test Instrument



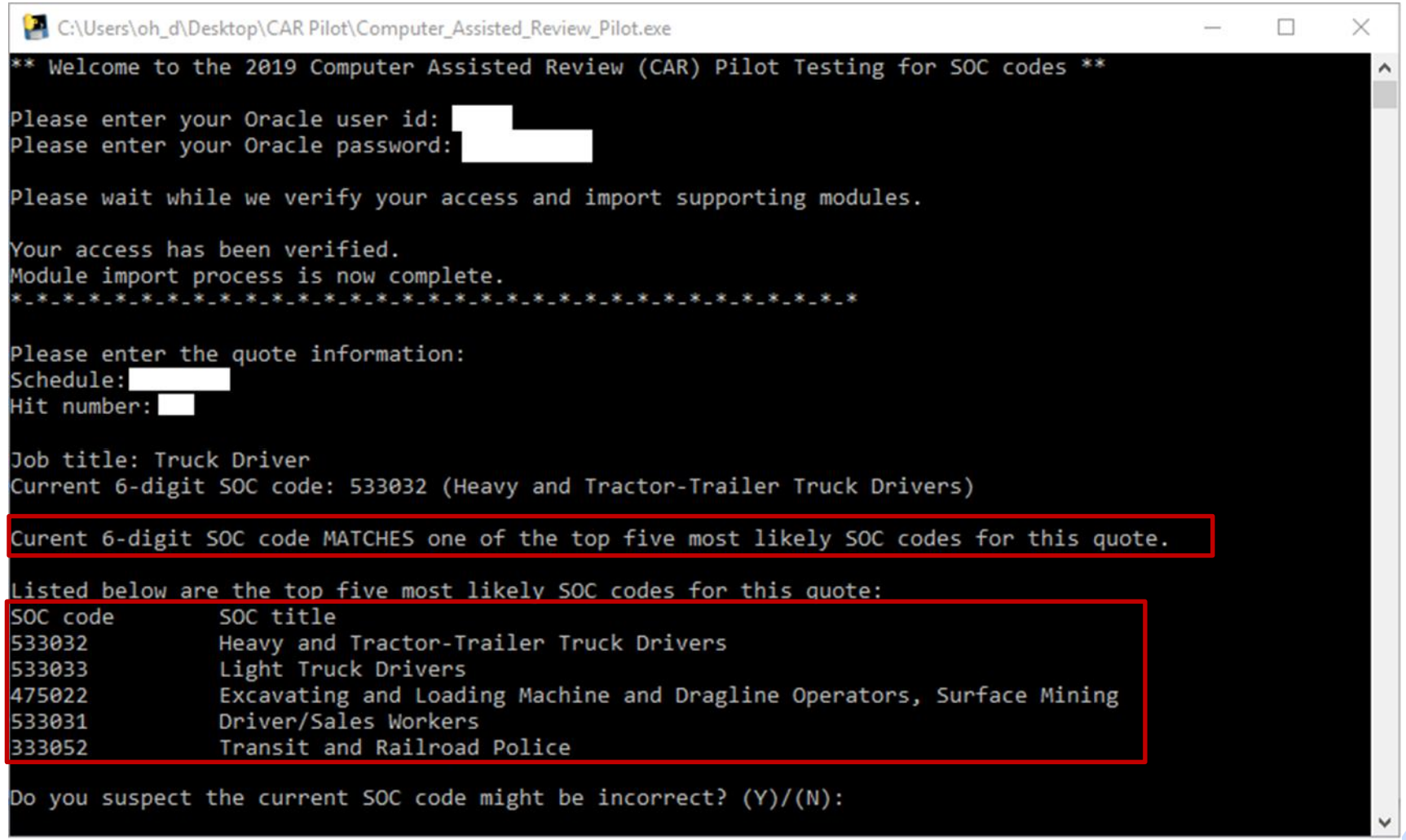
Retrieve information from the database

Show varying prompts based on random assignment

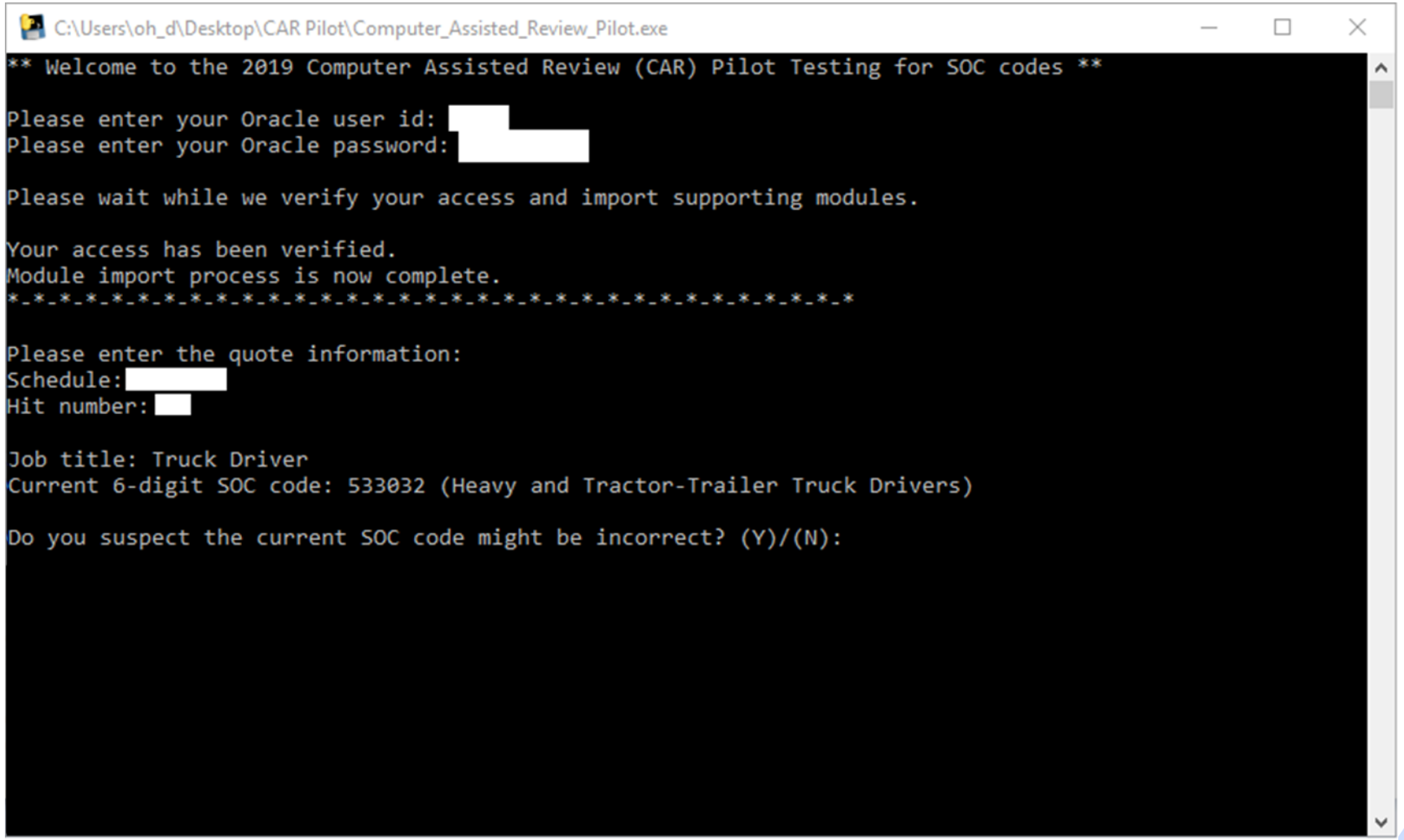
Test Instrument – Treatment #1 Prompt



Test Instrument – Treatment #2 Prompt



Test Instrument – Control Prompt



Test Instrument – Follow-up Questions

- Whether the participant suspects the entered SOC code to be incorrect
  - If yes, a follow-up question on what the correct SOC code would be
- Participant's familiarity with the entered SOC code
  - On a scale from 1 to 5
- Duration (in seconds) collected in the background
  - From the time the random assignment was made to the time participant moved on to the next quote

Lessons for Future Iterations

- Create a more robust centralized database structure for collecting information
  - Few instances of application crashing on the users due to multiple users writing to the central dataset at the same time
- Develop a web-based application to improve user experience

Conclusion

- Pilot test ended in early August with almost 1,500 quotes reviewed using the test instrument
- The flexibility of Python language and its various applicability enabled the rapid implementation of a randomized, controlled crossover trial
- Results from the pilot test?
  - Currently being analyzed

Contact Information

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