

Instructions for running the computer programs written for Matlab (VSLMETA_Matlab.m) and Octave (VSLMETA_Octave.m).

This file contains instructions for running the computer programs written for Matlab (VSLMETA_Matlab.m) and Octave (VSLMETA_Octave.m). Both scripts can reproduce all results presented in the EPA report "Valuing mortality risk reductions for policy: a meta-analytic approach," which was written for review by the Environmental Economics Advisory Committee of EPA's Science Advisory Board (SAB-EEAC) scheduled for March 7 and 8, 2016.

Both files are text files that can be opened in any text editor. The Matlab script was used by the EPA for all calculations presented in the companion report. The Octave script has been modified slightly from the Matlab version to run in Octave, which is available for free download from <https://www.gnu.org/software/octave>. The Octave version was developed to allow those users without access to Matlab to reproduce the results shown in the companion report.

For code readability, recommended fold points include lines beginning with "function" and "%%."

This code has not necessarily been optimized for speed and we are aware of several code redundancies that could be further reduced by additional functions. Nevertheless, to our knowledge the code contains no bugs. If users find a bug, please notify newbold.steve@epa.gov or moore.chris@epa.gov.

Running the program with all user input settings at their default values will reproduce all results presented in the companion report. To reproduce all results shown in Table 8 of the companion report, the script should be run multiple times with the "alt" (alternative) variable in the "USER SETTINGS" section taking integer values from 1 to 5. Default values for other user settings are indicated by square brackets [] in the "USER SETTINGS" section.

Model results will be saved to a file named VSLMETA_Matlab_{dateandtime}.out or VSLMETA_Octave_{dateandtime}.out.