All at once or one after another? An experimental study on the order of moves within work teams

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Do team members work more, when they work sequentially? We address this question in an experimental team production setting in which each team member exerts effort to contribute to the team output. We vary the information the second mover receives before choosing his effort, and the strategic nature of the team members' actions. We observe that all team members work more when they work sequentially, independent of whether actions are strategic complements or substitutes. Moreover, in contrast to the theoretical prediction, behaviour differs significantly when second movers receive not only information on the first mover's contribution but also on his effort.