

Random Utility Models 2

- Given a set of n options A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n
 - Each option A_i is assigned a fixed utility, $u(A_i)$
 - $v(A_i) = \exp(u(A_i))$ is the strength of option i
- The probability of choosing A_i equals
 - $\Pr[A_i | \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}] = \frac{v(A_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^n v(A_j)}$
 - same holds true for some arbitrary subset
 - $\Pr[A_{j_i} | \{A_{j_1}, \dots, A_{j_m}\}] = \frac{v(A_{j_i})}{\sum_{k=1}^m v(A_{j_k})}$ for $m < n$

Relation between Luce and Logistic binary choice models

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr [A | \{A, B\}] &= \frac{v(A)}{v(A) + v(B)} \\ &= \frac{e^{u(A)}}{e^{u(A)} + e^{u(B)}} \\ &= \frac{e^{-u(A)}}{e^{-u(A)}} \cdot \frac{e^{u(A)}}{e^{u(A)} + e^{u(B)}} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-[u(A) - u(B)]}}\end{aligned}$$

Logistic Choice model

$$\frac{\Pr[A|\{A, B\}]}{\Pr[B|\{A, B\}]} = \frac{v(A)}{v(B)} = \exp(u(A) - u(B))$$
$$\log \frac{\Pr[A|\{A, B\}]}{\Pr[B|\{A, B\}]} = u(A) - u(B)$$
$$u(A) = \sum_{j=1}^p w_j \cdot s_{Aj}$$
$$u(B) = \sum_{j=1}^p w_j \cdot s_{Bj}$$

Properties of Luce Choice model

Regularity property

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr[A_i | \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}] &= \frac{v(A_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^n v(A_j)} \geq \frac{v(A_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^n v(A_j) + \sum_{j=n+1}^{n+m} v(A_j)} \\ &= \Pr[A_i | \{A_1, \dots, A_n, \dots, A_{n+m}\}]\end{aligned}$$

$$\Pr[A|\{A, B\}] \geq .50 \rightarrow v(A) \geq v(B)$$

$$\Pr[B|\{B, C\}] \geq .50 \rightarrow v(B) \geq v(C)$$

$$v(A) \geq v(B) \geq v(C)$$

$$\Pr[A|\{B, C\}] \geq \max[\Pr[A|\{A, B\}], \Pr[B|\{B, C\}]]$$

Luce's choice axiom: Strong form of IIA

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr [A_i | \{A_1, \dots, A_n, \dots, A_{n+m}\}] \\ &= \frac{v(A_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^{n+m} v(A_j)} = \frac{v(A_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^n v(A_j)} \cdot \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n v(A_j)}{\sum_{j=1}^{n+m} v(A_j)} \\ &= \Pr [A_i | \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}] \\ & \quad \times \Pr [\{A_1, \dots, A_n\} | \{A_1, \dots, A_n, \dots, A_{n+m}\}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\Pr[A|\{A, B\}]}{\Pr[B|\{A, B\}]} \cdot \frac{\Pr[B|\{B, C\}]}{\Pr[C|\{C, B\}]} \\ = & \frac{v(A)}{v(B)} \cdot \frac{v(B)}{v(C)} = \frac{v(A)}{v(C)} \\ = & \frac{\Pr[A|\{A, C\}]}{\Pr[C|\{A, C\}]} \end{aligned}$$

Similarity Effects violate Luce Choice axiom

- Paris Plus a dollar (Debreu)
 - Choose between trip to Rome versus Trip to Paris (.50)
 - Choose between trip to Paris versus Paris plus one dollar (1.0)
 - Choose between trip to Rome versus Paris plus one dollar (.50)
- Red bus, blue bus (McFadden)
 - Choose between Red bus and car to go to work (.50)
 - Choose between the Blue bus and car to go to work (.50)
 - Choose between the Red bus or Blue bus or car to go to work (.25, .25, .50)

Extreme value random utility

- Suppose the random utility of option A_i has the following probability density function for non-positive values

$$f_i(u) = v_i \cdot e^{v_i \cdot u}, \quad u \leq 0$$

- The cumulative distribution equals

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[U \leq u] &= \int_{-\infty}^u v_i \cdot e^{v_i \cdot x} dx \\ &= e^{v_i \cdot x} \Big|_{-\infty}^u = (e^{v_i \cdot u} - e^{-\infty}) \\ &= e^{v_i \cdot u}. \end{aligned}$$

Deriving Luce model from Extreme values (Yellot, 1977)

- Suppose the random utilities are independent

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr [U_i = \max \{U_1, U_2, \dots, U_n\}] \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^0 f_i(u) \prod_{j \neq i} \Pr [U_j \leq u] \cdot du \\ &= v_i \cdot \int_{-\infty}^0 e^{v_i \cdot u} \cdot \prod_{j \neq i} e^{v_j \cdot u} \cdot du \\ &= v_i \cdot \int_{-\infty}^0 \exp \left(\sum_{j=1}^n v_j \cdot u \right) \cdot du \\ &= \frac{v_i}{\sum_{j=1}^n v_j} \cdot \exp \left(\sum_{j=1}^n v_j \cdot u \right) \Big|_{-\infty}^0 \\ &= \frac{v_i}{\sum_{j=1}^n v_j} \cdot \end{aligned}$$

McFadden Generalized extreme value model

- Assume that the complete choice set of n options can be divided into m groups, each is a group of similar options.
- C_k represents a subset of similar options that belong to group k .
- For example with a complete set $X = \{\text{Red Bus}, \text{Blue Bus}, \text{Car}\}$ we could posit $C_1 = \{\text{Red Bus}, \text{Blue Bus}\}$, and $C_2 = \{\text{Car}\}$. In this example $m = 2$.

$$\Pr [A_i | \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}] = \sum_{k=1}^m \Pr [C_k] \cdot \Pr [A_i | C_k]$$

$$\Pr[A_i|C_k] = \frac{e^{u(A_i)/\theta_k}}{\sum_{j \in C_k} e^{u(A_j)/\theta_k}}, \text{ for } A_i \in C_k$$

$$h_l = \ln \left(\sum_{j \in C_l} e^{u(A_j)/\theta_l} \right)$$

$$\Pr[C_k] = \frac{a_k \cdot e^{\theta_k \cdot h_k}}{\sum_{l=1}^m a_l \cdot e^{\theta_l \cdot h_l}}, \quad a_l \geq 0$$

Application to $X = \{\text{red bus, blue bus, car}\}$ problem

$$\Pr[\text{Car} | \{\text{Car, Rbus}\}] = \frac{\exp\left(\frac{u(\text{Car})}{\theta_{C,R}}\right)}{\exp\left(\frac{u(\text{Car})}{\theta_{C,Bus}}\right) + \exp\left(\frac{u(\text{Rbus})}{\theta_{C,Bus}}\right)}$$

$$\Pr[\text{Car} | \{\text{Car, Bbus}\}] = \frac{\exp\left(\frac{u(\text{Car})}{\theta_{C,B}}\right)}{\exp\left(\frac{u(\text{Car})}{\theta_{C,Bus}}\right) + \exp\left(\frac{u(\text{Bbus})}{\theta_{C,Bus}}\right)}$$

$$\Pr[\text{Rbus} | \text{Bus}] = \frac{\exp\left(\frac{u(\text{Rbus})}{\theta_{Bus}}\right)}{\exp\left(\frac{u(\text{Rbus})}{\theta_{Bus}}\right) + \exp\left(\frac{U(\text{Bbus})}{\theta_{Bus}}\right)}$$

Application to $X = \{\text{red bus, blue bus, car}\}$ problem

$$h_{Car} = \ln \left(\exp \left(\frac{u(Car)}{\theta_{Car}} \right) \right)$$

$$h_{Bus} = \ln \left(\exp \left(\frac{u(Rbus)}{\theta_{Bus}} \right) + \exp \left(\frac{u(Bbus)}{\theta_{Bus}} \right) \right)$$

$$\Pr[C|X] = Q_C = \frac{a_C \cdot \exp(h_{Car} \cdot \theta_{Car})}{a_C \cdot \exp(h_{Car} \cdot \theta_{Car}) + a_B \cdot \exp(h_{Bus} \cdot \theta_{Bus})}$$

$$Q_B = \frac{a_B \cdot \exp(h_{Bus} \cdot \theta_B)}{a_C \cdot \exp(h_{Car} \cdot \theta_{Car}) + a_B \cdot \exp(h_{Bus} \cdot \theta_{Bus})}$$

$$\Pr[Rbus|X] = Q_B \cdot \Pr[Rbus|Bus]$$

McFadden Generalized extreme value utility model

- satisfies regularity
- can violate SST
- can violate IIR
- satisfied triangular inequality

- Define $L(A_i|w)$ as the probability that option A_i is chosen from a set given a fixed set of weight coefficients w . In particular, L can be defined by the Logistic model.

$$L(A_i|w) = \frac{e^{u(A_i)}}{\sum e^{u(A_i)}},$$
$$u(A_i) = \sum w_j \cdot s_{ij}$$

- Now suppose that $\Pr(A_i)$ is given by a probability mixture of $L(A_i|w)$ as defined by the integral over the density

$$\Pr[A_i] = \int f(w) \cdot L(A_i|w) \cdot dw$$

Mixed Logit Model

- Can violate WST
- Can violate IIR
- satisfies regularity