

Consumer surplus

Let $\Phi_i = \max_{j \in \mathcal{J}} u_{ij}$ be the optimal utility of individual i by choosing option j from the set of options \mathcal{J} . For simplicity we let $\mathcal{J} = \{0, 1\}$, for binary outcomes. We assume individuals have utility $u_{ij} = \delta_j + \varepsilon_{ij}$ where ε_{ij} are unobserved individual-specific tastes for good j with standard Gumbel distribution (mean zero and “scale” one). Further, we assume that observations (y_i, x_i) are iid copies of a random vector and drop the subscript i from now on.

Since the $\max_j u_j \leq \phi$ if and only if $u_j \leq \phi$ for all $j \in \mathcal{J}$ we get

$$F_{\Phi}(\phi) = P(\Phi \leq \phi) = P(\{\delta_0 + \varepsilon_0 \leq \phi\} \cap \{\delta_1 + \varepsilon_1 \leq \phi\}) \quad (1)$$

$$= P(\{\delta_0 + \varepsilon_0 \leq \phi\})P(\{\delta_1 + \varepsilon_1 \leq \phi\}) \quad (2)$$

$$= P(\{\varepsilon_0 \leq \phi - \delta_0\})P(\{\varepsilon_1 \leq \phi - \delta_1\}) \quad (3)$$

$$= F_{\varepsilon}(\phi - \delta_0)F_{\varepsilon}(\phi - \delta_1) \quad (4)$$

where the second row follows from independence of ε and the last row from the identical distributions of ε_i . Plugging in the cdf of the Gumbel distribution F_{ε} we get

$$F_{\Phi}(\phi) = e^{-e^{-(\phi-\delta_0)}} e^{-e^{-(\phi-\delta_1)}} \quad (5)$$

$$= e^{-e^{-\phi}(e^{\delta_0}+e^{\delta_1})} \quad (6)$$

$$= e^{-e^{-\phi}L} \quad (7)$$

where $L = e^{e^{\delta_0}+e^{\delta_1}}$. To get the density we differentiate with respect to ϕ using the chain rule:

$$f_{\Phi}(\phi) = F'_{\Phi}(\phi) = e^{-e^{-\phi}L}(-e^{-\phi}L)(-1) = F_{\Phi}(\phi)L e^{-\phi}.$$

Finally, we have an expression for the expected consumer surplus

$$\mathbb{E}[\Phi] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi f_{\Phi}(\phi) d\phi \quad (8)$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi e^{-e^{-\phi}L} e^{-\phi} L d\phi \quad (9)$$

Now, we change variables to $t = e^{-\phi}$ such that $-\log(t) = \phi$ and get:

$$\mathbb{E}[\Phi] = \int_{e^{-(\infty)}}^{e^{-\infty}} -\log(t) e^{-tL} L t \frac{d\phi}{dt} dt \quad (10)$$

$$= \int_{+\infty}^0 -\log(t) e^{-tL} L t \left(-\frac{1}{t}\right) dt \quad (11)$$

$$= L \int_0^{\infty} \log(t) e^{-tL} dt = \log L + \gamma \quad (12)$$

where the last integral is well known and evaluates to $\frac{-\log L - \gamma}{L}$ where $\gamma \approx 0.577$ is the Euler-Mascheroni constant.