

14.271: PROBLEM SET 3

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1 Assume that consumer utilities are $u_i = V_j + \epsilon_{ij}$, where ϵ_{ij} is distributed T1EV. We can write the probability that the consumer chooses product j as

$$P_j = \int_{s=-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\prod_{k \neq j} e^{-e^{-(s+V_j-V_k)}} \right) e^{-s} e^{-e^{-s}} ds$$

where s is ϵ_{ij} . Derive the closed form logit choice probabilities discussed in class, starting from the above expression.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} P_j &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\prod_{k \neq j} e^{-e^{-(s+V_j-V_k)}} \right) e^{-s} e^{-e^{-s}} ds \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\prod_k e^{-e^{-(s+V_j-V_k)}} \right) e^{-s} ds \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\sum_k e^{-(s+V_j-V_k)}} e^{-s} ds \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-e^{-s} \sum_k e^{-(V_j-V_k)}} e^{-s} ds \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} \left(e^{-\sum_k e^{-u} e^{-(V_j-V_k)}} \right)^u du \\ &= \left. \frac{\left(e^{-\sum_k e^{-u} e^{-(V_j-V_k)}} \right)^u}{-\sum_k e^{-u} e^{-(V_j-V_k)}} \right|_0^{\infty} \\ &= \frac{-1}{-\sum_k e^{-(V_j-V_k)}} \\ &= \frac{e^{V_j}}{\sum_k e^{V_k}} \end{aligned}$$

2 **a** OLS: Each code is different, but you should get the same results for OLS and minimizing least squares as this is the definition of OLS. The coefficients are given by

¹based on solutions by Adam Harris, Anton Popov, Vivek Bhattacharya, and Sam Grondahl

β_0 -1.267
 β_1 -0.003
 β_2 1.017
 β_3 0.844
 β_4 -0.075
 β_5 1.013
 β_6 0.509
 β_7 -0.873
 β_8 -0.697

b MLE:

Again all answers are different, but a reminder as to what the correct maximum is:

$$\hat{\beta} \in \arg \max_{\beta} \sum_i y_i \log(p(y_i = 1|X_i, \beta)) + (1 - y_i) \log(p(y_i = 0|X_i, \beta))$$

The results are β_0 -2.613
 β_1 -0.000
 β_2 0.129

3 Open ended

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