

Testable Implications of Models of Intertemporal Choice

Exponential Discounting and Its Generalizations

Federico Echenique Taisuke Imai Kota Saito

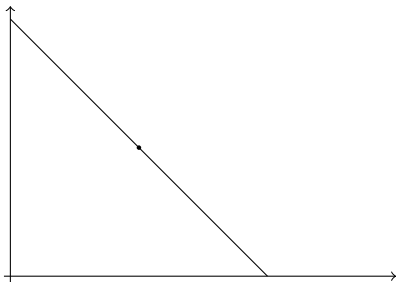
Cowles F. conference, June 9 2015

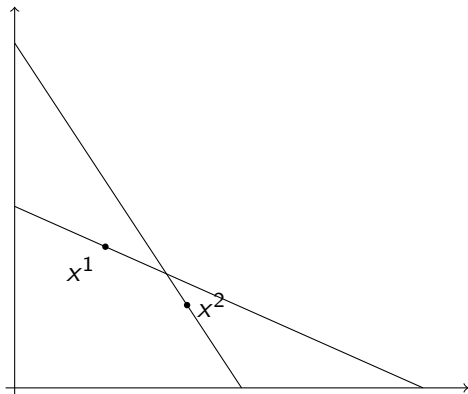
Model:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{x \in \mathbf{R}_+^T} \quad & U(x) \\ \text{s.t} \quad & p \cdot x \leq I \end{aligned}$$

Utility and behavior

(Market) behavior:





- ▶ Q: When is observable behavior consistent with utility max.?
- ▶ A: When SARP is satisfied.

This paper: $\max_{x \in \mathbf{R}_+^T} U(x)$ s.t $p \cdot x \leq I$

- ▶ *Exponential discounting:*

$$U(x_0, \dots, x_T) = \sum_{t \in T} \delta^t u(x_t)$$

Importantly: u assumed to be st. increasing & concave.

This paper: $\max_{x \in \mathbf{R}_+^T} U(x)$ s.t $p \cdot x \leq I$

- ▶ *Exponential discounting:*

$$U(x_0, \dots, x_T) = \sum_{t \in T} \delta^t u(x_t)$$

- ▶ *Quasi-hyperbolic discounting:*

$$U(x_0, \dots, x_T) = u(x_0) + \beta \sum_{t=1}^T \delta^t u(x_t)$$

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This paper: $\max_{x \in \mathbf{R}_+^T} U(x)$ s.t $p \cdot x \leq I$

- ▶ *Exponential discounting:*

$$U(x_0, \dots, x_T) = \sum_{t \in T} \delta^t u(x_t)$$

- ▶ *Quasi-hyperbolic discounting:*

$$U(x_0, \dots, x_T) = u(x_0) + \beta \sum_{t=1}^T \delta^t u(x_t)$$

- ▶ *Time-separable utility:*

$$U(x_0, \dots, x_T) = \sum_{t \in T} u_t(x_t)$$

Importantly: u assumed to be st. increasing & concave.

This paper.

- ▶ Q: When is observable behavior consistent with model M.?
- ▶ A: When SA-M is satisfied.

$$M \in \{\text{TSU}, \text{QHD}, \text{EDU}\}$$

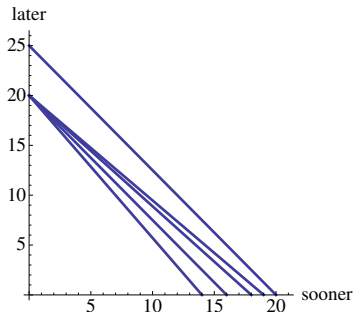
Application to experimental data.

This paper.

Application to experimental data from Andreoni and Sprenger
“Estimating Time Preferences from Convex Budgets” (AER 2012).

Fits our framework:

- ▶ “Economic” budget sets;
- ▶ Planned (not realized) consumption.



Warmup



Warmup

The 2×2 case.

- ▶ 2 dates
- ▶ 2 observations
- ▶ Exp. discounting.

What is the **meaning** of this:

$$\begin{aligned} \max u(x_0) + \delta u(x_1) \\ p_0 x_0 + p_1 x_1 \leq I \end{aligned}$$

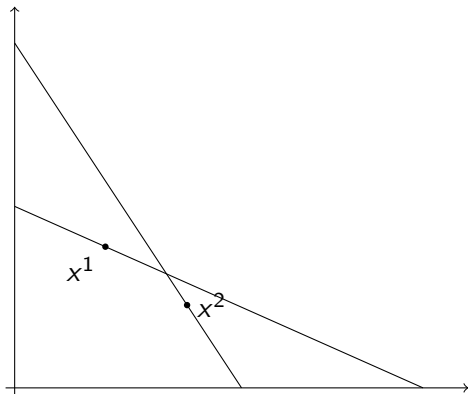
model for market behavior ?

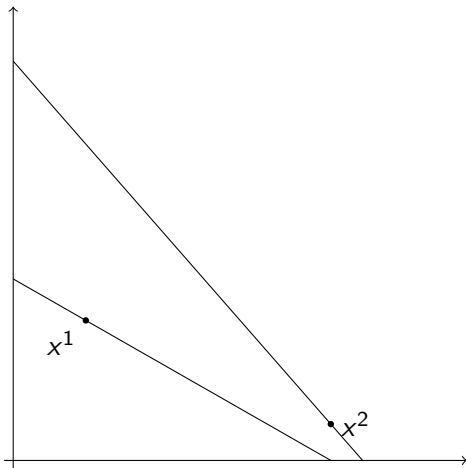
Unobservables:

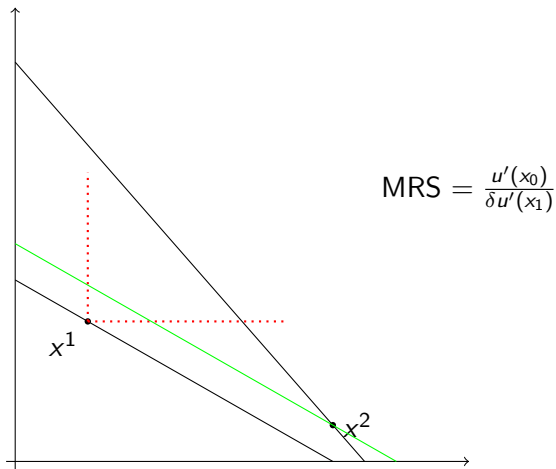
- ▶ Utility $u : \mathbf{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ st. inc.
& conc.
- ▶ $\delta \in (0, 1]$

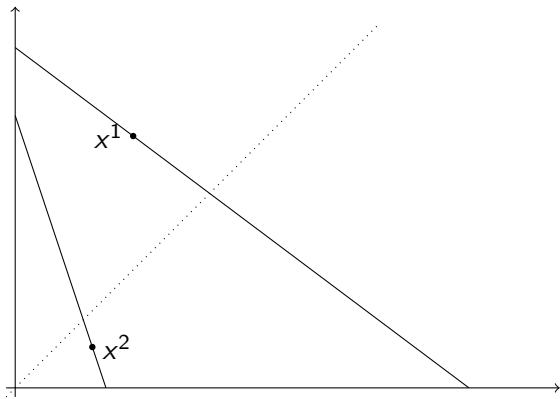
Observable:

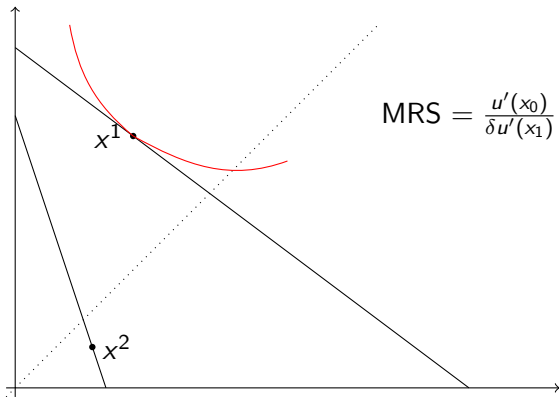
- ▶ choices at different budgets

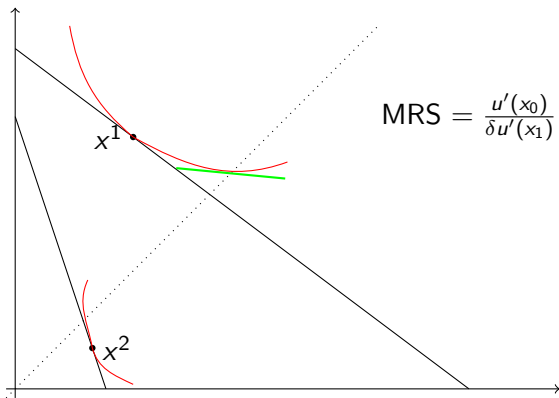








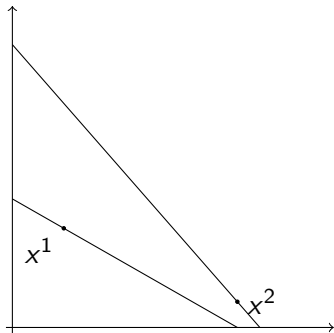




$$MRS = \frac{u'(x_0)}{\delta u'(x_1)}$$

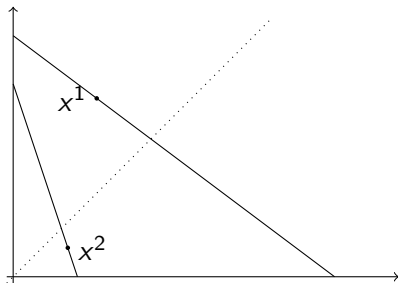
Axiom 1

Not:



Axiom 2

Not:



END of Warmup



Main theorem(s):

A dataset is M-rationalizable iff it satisfies the “Strong Axiom of M” (SA-M).

M =

- ▶ TSU
- ▶ Q-Hyperbolic discounting (QHD)
- ▶ Exp. discounting (EDU)

“Savage in the market” Echenique - Saito (2014)

Subjective Expected Utility

$$U(x) = \sum_{s \in S} \mu_s U(x_s)$$

- ▶ Time: $\mathcal{T} = \{0, 1, \dots, T\}$; so $T + 1$ periods.
- ▶ Consumption path $x \in \mathbf{R}_+^{\mathcal{T}}$.
- ▶ Prices (interest rates): $p \in \mathbf{R}_{++}^{\mathcal{T}}$.

A *dataset* is a collection $\{(x^k, p^k)\}_{k=1}^K$, where $x^k \in \mathbf{R}_+^{\mathcal{T}}$ is a consumption path and $p^k \in \mathbf{R}_{++}^{\mathcal{T}}$ a price vector.

- ▶ Let M be a set of functions $U : \mathbf{R}_+^{\mathcal{T}} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$.

- ▶ Let M be a set of functions $U : \mathbf{R}_+^T \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$.
- ▶ $B(p, I) = \{y \in \mathbf{R}_+^T \mid p \cdot y \leq I\}$

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Definition

Dataset $\{(x^k, p^k)\}_{k=1}^K$ is *M-rational* if $\exists U$ in the class M s.t.

$$y \in B(p^k, p^k \cdot x^k) \Rightarrow U(y) \leq U(x^k),$$

Notation

Let

$$\blacktriangleright \mathcal{C} = \{u : \mathbf{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbf{R} \mid u \text{ is st. increasing and concave}\}$$

Models: $M \in \{\text{EDU}, \text{QHD}, \text{TSU}\}$

1. EDU: set of U s.t

$$U(x_0, \dots, x_T) = \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} \delta^t u(x_t),$$

for some $u \in \mathcal{C}$, and $\delta \in (0, 1]$.

2. QHD: set of U s.t

$$U(x_0, \dots, x_T) = u(x_0) + \beta \sum_{t=1}^T \delta^t u(x_t),$$

for some $u \in \mathcal{C}$, $\beta > 0$ and $\delta \in (0, 1]$

3. TSU: set of U s.t

$$U(x_0, \dots, x_T) = \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} u_t(x_t),$$

for some $u_t \in \mathcal{C}$, $t \in \mathcal{T}$.

Main result: EDU

Derivation of SA-EDU.

$K = 1$ and $\delta = 1$.

Derivation of SA-EDU

- ▶ $K = 1$
- ▶ $\delta = 1$ (fixed and known)
- ▶ u differentiable.

$K = 1$ and $\delta = 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{x \in \mathbf{R}_+^T} \quad & \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} u(x_t) \\ & \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} p_t x_t \leq I \end{aligned}$$

FOC:

$$u'(x_t) = \lambda p_t$$

$K = 1$ and $\delta = 1$.

$$u'(x_t) = \lambda p_t$$

So,

$$\frac{u'(x_t)}{u'(x_{t'})} = \frac{p_t}{p_{t'}}$$

$K = 1$ and $\delta = 1$.

$$u'(x_t) = \lambda p_t$$

So,

$$\frac{u'(x_t)}{u'(x_{t'})} = \frac{p_t}{p_{t'}}$$

Axiom (Downward sloping demand):

$$x_t > x_{t'} \Rightarrow \frac{p_t}{p_{t'}} \leq 1$$

$$K = 1 \text{ and } \delta = 1.$$

Consider two pairs of observations:

$$x_{t_1} > x_{t_2} \Rightarrow \frac{p_{t_1}}{p_{t_2}} \leq 1$$

and

$$x_{t_3} > x_{t_4} \Rightarrow \frac{p_{t_3}}{p_{t_4}} \leq 1$$

Or, when $x_{t_1} > x_{t_2}$ and $x_{t_3} > x_{t_4}$ then

$$\frac{p_{t_1}}{p_{t_2}} \frac{p_{t_3}}{p_{t_4}} \leq 1.$$

$K = 1$ and $\delta = 1$.

A sequence $(x_{t_i}^{k_i}, x_{t'_i}^{k'_i})_{i=1}^n$ has the *downward sloping demand property* if

$$x_{t_i}^{k_i} > x_{t'_i}^{k'_i}, i = 1, \dots, n \Rightarrow \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{p_{t_i}^{k_i}}{p_{t'_i}^{k'_i}} \leq 1.$$

Derive SA-EDU; $K > 1$ and $\delta = 1$.

Now: $K > 1$.

$$u'(x_t^k) = \lambda^k p_t^k$$

So,

$$\frac{u'(x_t^k)}{u'(x_{t'}^{k'})} = \frac{\lambda^k p_t^k}{\lambda^{k'} p_{t'}^{k'}}$$

Derive SA-EDU; $K > 1$ and $\delta = 1$.

Now: $K > 1$.

$$u'(x_t^k) = \lambda^k p_t^k$$

So,

$$\frac{u'(x_t^k)}{u'(x_{t'}^{k'})} = \frac{\cancel{\lambda^k} p_t^k}{\cancel{\lambda^{k'}} p_{t'}^{k'}}$$

Axiom (Downward sloping demand):

$$x_t^k > x_{t'}^{k'} \text{ and } k = k' \Rightarrow \frac{p_t^k}{p_{t'}^{k'}} \leq 1$$

$$\frac{u'(x_{t_1}^k) u'(x_{t_3}^{k'})}{u'(x_{t_2}^{k'}) u'(x_{t_4}^k)} = \frac{\lambda^k \lambda^{k'} p_{t_1}^k p_{t_3}^{k'}}{\lambda^{k'} \lambda^k p_{t_2}^{k'} p_{t_4}^k}$$

$$\frac{u'(x_{t_1}^k) u'(x_{t_3}^{k'})}{u'(x_{t_2}^{k'}) u'(x_{t_4}^k)} = \frac{\cancel{x_{t_1}^k} \cancel{x_{t_3}^{k'}}}{\cancel{x_{t_2}^{k'}} \cancel{x_{t_4}^k}} \frac{p_{t_1}^k p_{t_3}^{k'}}{p_{t_2}^{k'} p_{t_4}^{k'}}$$

Hence

$$x_{t_1}^k > x_{t_2}^{k'} \text{ and } x_{t_3}^{k'} > x_{t_4}^k \Rightarrow \frac{p_{t_1}^k p_{t_3}^{k'}}{p_{t_2}^{k'} p_{t_4}^{k'}} \leq 1$$

A sequence $(x_{t_i}^{k_i}, x_{t'_i}^{k'_i})_{i=1}^n$ is *balanced* if each k appears as k_i (on the left of the pair) the same number of times it appears as k'_i (on the right).

Axiom (for $\delta = 1$ and $K \geq 1$): Any balanced sequence has the downward sloping demand property.

Derive SA-EDU - general K and δ

Agent solves

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{x \in \mathbf{R}_+^T} \quad & \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} \delta^t u(x_t) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} p_t x_t \leq I, \end{aligned}$$

$$\delta^t u'(x_t) = \lambda p_t,$$

So we need to find δ , u and λ^k s.t

$$\delta^t u'(x_t^k) = \lambda^k p_t^k,$$

for all k

$$\frac{u'(x_{t'}^{k'})}{u'(x_t^k)} = \frac{\delta^t \lambda^{k'} p_{t'}^{k'}}{\delta^{t'} \lambda^k p_t^k}.$$

Suppose that $x_t^k > x_{t'}^{k'}$. Then:

$$\frac{\delta^t \lambda^{k'} p_{t'}^{k'}}{\delta^{t'} \lambda^k p_t^k} \leq 1,$$

But δ , $\lambda^{k'}$ and λ^k are **unobservable**.

$$x_{t_1}^{k_1} > x_{t_2}^{k_2} \text{ and } x_{t_3}^{k_2} > x_{t_4}^{k_1}.$$

such that

$$t_1 + t_3 \geq t_2 + t_4.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{u'(x_{t_1}^{k_1})}{u'(x_{t_2}^{k_2})} \cdot \frac{u'(x_{t_3}^{k_2})}{u'(x_{t_4}^{k_1})} &= \left(\frac{\delta^{t_2} \lambda^{k_1} p_{t_1}^{k_1}}{\delta^{t_1} \lambda^{k_2} p_{t_2}^{k_2}} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{\delta^{t_4} \lambda^{k_2} p_{t_3}^{k_2}}{\delta^{t_3} \lambda^{k_1} p_{t_4}^{k_1}} \right) \\ &= \delta^{(t_2+t_4)-(t_1+t_3)} \frac{p_{t_1}^{k_1} p_{t_3}^{k_2}}{p_{t_2}^{k_2} p_{t_4}^{k_1}} \end{aligned}$$

$$x_{t_1}^{k_1} > x_{t_2}^{k_2} \text{ and } x_{t_3}^{k_2} > x_{t_4}^{k_1}.$$

such that

$$t_1 + t_3 \geq t_2 + t_4.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{u'(x_{t_1}^{k_1})}{u'(x_{t_2}^{k_2})} \cdot \frac{u'(x_{t_3}^{k_2})}{u'(x_{t_4}^{k_1})} &= \left(\frac{\delta^{t_2} \cancel{\lambda^{k_1}} p_{t_1}^{k_1}}{\delta^{t_1} \lambda^{k_2} p_{t_2}^{k_2}} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{\delta^{t_4} \lambda^{k_2} p_{t_3}^{k_2}}{\delta^{t_3} \cancel{\lambda^{k_1}} p_{t_4}^{k_1}} \right) \\ &= \delta^{(t_2+t_4)-(t_1+t_3)} \frac{p_{t_1}^{k_1} p_{t_3}^{k_2}}{p_{t_2}^{k_2} p_{t_4}^{k_1}} \end{aligned}$$

$$x_{t_1}^{k_1} > x_{t_2}^{k_2} \text{ and } x_{t_3}^{k_2} > x_{t_4}^{k_1}.$$

such that

$$t_1 + t_3 \geq t_2 + t_4.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{u'(x_{t_1}^{k_1})}{u'(x_{t_2}^{k_2})} \cdot \frac{u'(x_{t_3}^{k_2})}{u'(x_{t_4}^{k_1})} &= \left(\frac{\delta^{t_2} \cancel{x_{t_1}^{k_1}} p_{t_1}^{k_1}}{\delta^{t_1} \cancel{x_{t_2}^{k_2}} p_{t_2}^{k_2}} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{\delta^{t_4} \cancel{x_{t_3}^{k_2}} p_{t_3}^{k_2}}{\delta^{t_3} \cancel{x_{t_4}^{k_1}} p_{t_4}^{k_1}} \right) \\ &= \delta^{(t_2+t_4)-(t_1+t_3)} \frac{p_{t_1}^{k_1}}{p_{t_2}^{k_2}} \frac{p_{t_3}^{k_2}}{p_{t_4}^{k_1}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{u'(x_{t_1}^{k_1})}{u'(x_{t_2}^{k_2})} \cdot \frac{u'(x_{t_3}^{k_2})}{u'(x_{t_4}^{k_1})} = \left(\delta^{(t_2+t_4)-(t_1+t_3)} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{p_{t_1}^{k_1}}{p_{t_2}^{k_2}} \cdot \frac{p_{t_3}^{k_2}}{p_{t_4}^{k_1}} \right)$$

$$\frac{u'(x_{t_1}^{k_1})}{u'(x_{t_2}^{k_2})} \cdot \frac{u'(x_{t_3}^{k_2})}{u'(x_{t_4}^{k_1})} = \left(\delta^{(t_2+t_4)-(t_1+t_3)} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{p_{t_1}^{k_1}}{p_{t_2}^{k_2}} \cdot \frac{p_{t_3}^{k_2}}{p_{t_4}^{k_1}} \right)$$

► ≤ 1 by concavity

$$\frac{u'(x_{t_1}^{k_1})}{u'(x_{t_2}^{k_2})} \cdot \frac{u'(x_{t_3}^{k_2})}{u'(x_{t_4}^{k_1})} = \left(\delta^{(t_2+t_4)-(t_1+t_3)} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{p_{t_1}^{k_1}}{p_{t_2}^{k_2}} \cdot \frac{p_{t_3}^{k_2}}{p_{t_4}^{k_1}} \right)$$

- ▶ ≤ 1 by concavity
- ▶ ≥ 1 as $\delta \in (0, 1]$ and $t_1 + t_3 \geq t_2 + t_4$.

$$\frac{u'(x_{t_1}^{k_1})}{u'(x_{t_2}^{k_2})} \cdot \frac{u'(x_{t_3}^{k_2})}{u'(x_{t_4}^{k_1})} = \left(\delta^{(t_2+t_4)-(t_1+t_3)} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{p_{t_1}^{k_1}}{p_{t_2}^{k_2}} \cdot \frac{p_{t_3}^{k_2}}{p_{t_4}^{k_1}} \right)$$

- ▶ ≤ 1 by concavity
- ▶ ≥ 1 as $\delta \in (0, 1]$ and $t_1 + t_3 \geq t_2 + t_4$.
- ▶ $\Rightarrow \leq 1$

Recall

$(x_{t_i}^{k_i}, x_{t_i}^{k'_i})_{i=1}^n$ is *balanced* if each k appears as k_i (on the left of the pair) the same number of times it appears as k'_i (on the right).

$(x_{t_i}^{k_i}, x_{t_i}^{k'_i})_{i=1}^n$ has the *downward sloping demand property* if:

$$x_{t_i}^{k_i} > x_{t_i}^{k'_i}, i = 1, \dots, n$$

$$\Rightarrow \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{p_{t_i}^{k_i}}{p_{t_i}^{k'_i}} \leq 1.$$

St. Axiom of Revealed Exp. Discounted Utility (SA-EDU)

Any balanced sequence $(x_{t_i}^{k_i}, x_{t'_i}^{k'_i})_{i=1}^n$ s.t. $\sum_{i=1}^n t_i \geq \sum_{i=1}^n t'_i$; has the downward sloping demand property.

Theorem

A dataset is EDU rational iff it satisfies SA-EDU.

More general models.

- ▶ TSU
- ▶ QHD

Recall the 2×2 case

Two possibilities:

$$\frac{u'(x_{t_1}^{k_1})}{u'(x_{t_1}^{k_2})} \frac{u'(x_{t_2}^{k_2})}{u'(x_{t_2}^{k_1})} \leq 1$$

$$\frac{u'(x_{t_1}^{k_1})}{u'(x_{t_2}^{k_1})} \frac{u'(x_{t_2}^{k_2})}{u'(x_{t_1}^{k_2})} \leq 1$$

Recall the 2×2 case

$$\frac{u'(x_{t_1}^{k_1})}{u'(x_{t_1}^{k_2})} \cdot \frac{u'(x_{t_2}^{k_2})}{u'(x_{t_2}^{k_1})} \leq 1$$

Then,

$$\frac{p_{t_1}^{k_1} p_{t_3}^{k_2}}{p_{t_2}^{k_2} p_{t_4}^{k_1}} \leq 1$$

Recall the 2×2 case

$$\frac{u'_{t_1}(x_{t_1}^{k_1})}{u'_{t_1}(x_{t_1}^{k_2})} \cdot \frac{u'_{t_2}(x_{t_2}^{k_2})}{u'_{t_2}(x_{t_2}^{k_1})} \leq 1$$

Then,

$$\frac{p_{t_1}^{k_1} p_{t_3}^{k_2}}{p_{t_2}^{k_2} p_{t_4}^{k_1}} \leq 1$$

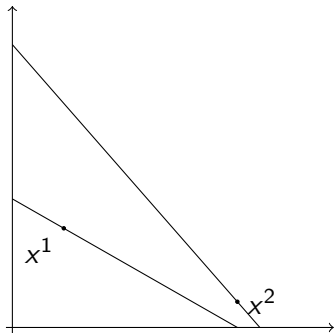
SA-TSU

Any balanced sequence $(x_{t_i}^{k_i}, x_{t'_i}^{k'_i})_{i=1}^n$ in which each $t_i = t'_i$ for all i has the downward sloping demand property.

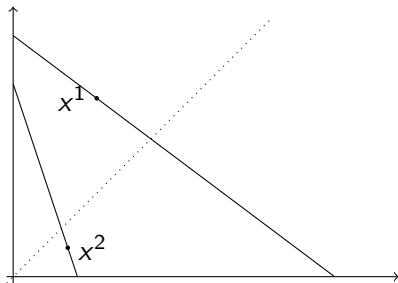
Theorem

A dataset is TSU rational iff it satisfies SA-TSU.

Axiom 1
TSU



Axiom 2



SA-TSU

Any balanced sequence $(x_{t_i}^{k_i}, x_{t'_i}^{k'_i})_{i=1}^n$ in which each $t_i = t'_i$ for all i has the downward sloping demand property.

SA-EDU

Any balanced sequence $(x_{t_i}^{k_i}, x_{t'_i}^{k'_i})_{i=1}^n$ in which $\sum_{i=1}^n t_i \geq \sum_{i=1}^n t'_i$ has the downward sloping demand property.

SA-TSU

Any balanced sequence $(x_{t_i}^{k_i}, x_{t'_i}^{k'_i})_{i=1}^n$ in which each $t_i = t'_i$ for all i has the downward sloping demand property.

SA-EDU

Any balanced sequence $(x_{t_i}^{k_i}, x_{t'_i}^{k'_i})_{i=1}^n$ in which $\sum_{i=1}^n t_i \geq \sum_{i=1}^n t'_i$ has the downward sloping demand property.

SA-QHD

Any balanced sequence $(x_{t_i}^{k_i}, x_{t'_i}^{k'_i})_{i=1}^n$ in which

1. $\sum_{i=1}^n t_i \geq \sum_{i=1}^n t'_i$;
- 2.

has the downward sloping demand property.

SA-TSU

Any balanced sequence $(x_{t_i}^{k_i}, x_{t'_i}^{k'_i})_{i=1}^n$ in which each $t_i = t'_i$ for all i has the downward sloping demand property.

SA-EDU

Any balanced sequence $(x_{t_i}^{k_i}, x_{t'_i}^{k'_i})_{i=1}^n$ in which $\sum_{i=1}^n t_i \geq \sum_{i=1}^n t'_i$ has the downward sloping demand property.

SA-QHD

Any balanced sequence $(x_{t_i}^{k_i}, x_{t'_i}^{k'_i})_{i=1}^n$ in which

1. $\sum_{i=1}^n t_i \geq \sum_{i=1}^n t'_i$;
2. $\#\{i : t_i > 0\} = \#\{i : t'_i > 0\}$;

has the downward sloping demand property.

Proposition

Suppose that a dataset $(x^k, p^k)_{k=1}^K$ satisfies that $x_0^k = 0$ for all $k \in K$. Then $(x^k, p^k)_{k=1}^K$ is QHD rational iff it is EDU rational.

Strategy in the proof: need to find δ , u and λ^k s.t

$$\delta^t u'(x_t^k) = \lambda^k p_t^k,$$

linearized:

$$t \log \delta + v_t^k = \log \lambda^k + \log p_t^k,$$

but need $\log p_t^k \in \mathbf{Q}$;

so... approximation result (complicated by lack of compactness).

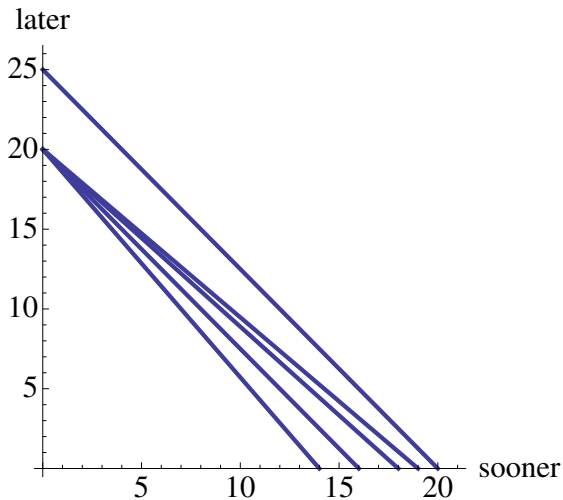
- ▶ Contrast Koopmans' axioms and other axiomatizations.
- ▶ Previous revealed preference results.
- ▶ Experimental literature : Andreoni & Sprenger

Andreoni and Sprenger “Estimating Time Preferences from Convex Budgets” (AER 2012).

Fits our framework:

- ▶ “Economic” budget sets;
- ▶ Planned (not realized) consumption.
- ▶ A-S minimize role of uncertainty.

Experimental design



Echenique-Imai-Saito

Exp. Discounting

- ▶ Parametric estimation of CRRA demand functions.
- ▶ Find no “hyperbolic” discounting.

$$u(x_0) + \beta \sum_{t=1}^T \delta^t u(x_t)$$

A-S find $\beta \sim 1$.

CTB Experiment

- ▶ Details:
 - ▶ 97 participants
 - ▶ Time (payment dates)
 - ▶ “Sooner” $\in \{0, 7, 35\}$ days
 - ▶ Delay $\in \{35, 70, 98\}$ days
 - ▶ 45 choices (9 pairs of “sooner” and “later” \times 5 budgets)
- ▶ Took great care of uncertainty in future payments
 - ▶ E.g., participants received authors’ business card and are told to call or email if check does not arrive
 - ▶ 97% of participants believed that they would get paid

▶ More details

Sample: 97 subjects

Sample: 97 subjects



← EDU: 29.9% →

Sample: 97 subjects



← EDU: 29.9% →

← QHD: 29.9% →

Sample: 97 subjects



← EDU: 29.9% →

← QHD: 29.9% →

← TSU: 51.6% →

Sample: 97 subjects

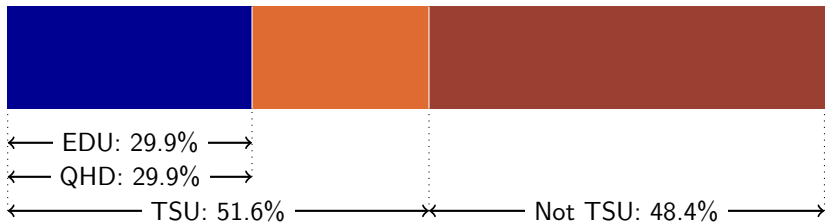
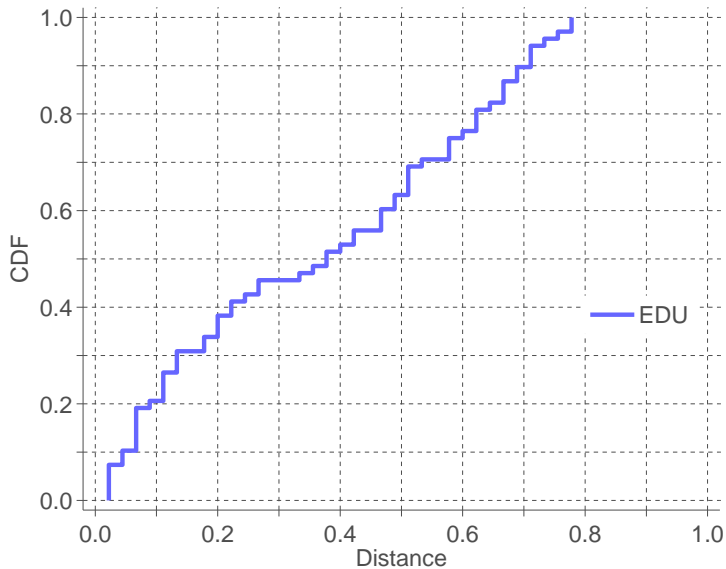


Table : Pass rates.

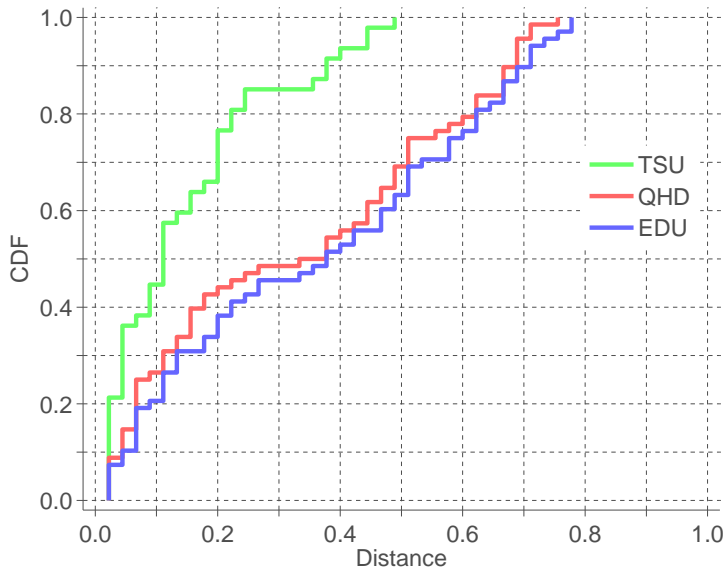
	EDU	QHD	PQHD	MTD	GTD	TSU
Pass rates	29.9%	29.9%	29.9%	39.2%	42.3%	51.6%

Distance to rationalizability.

Distance



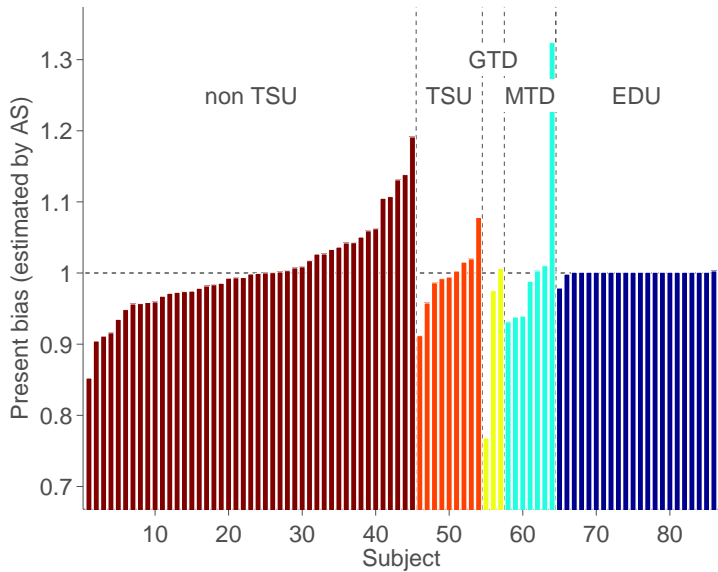
Distance



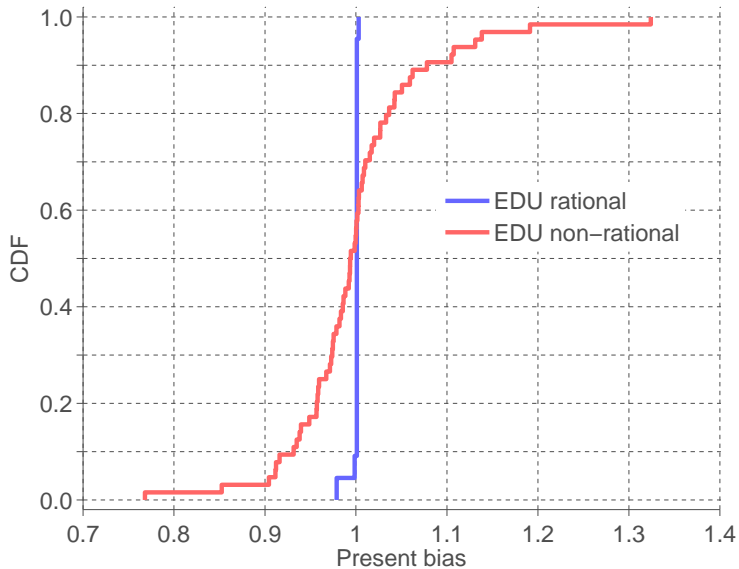
Comparison with A-S

$$u(x_0) + \beta \sum_{t=1}^T \delta^t u(x_t)$$

Recall that $\beta \sim 1$.

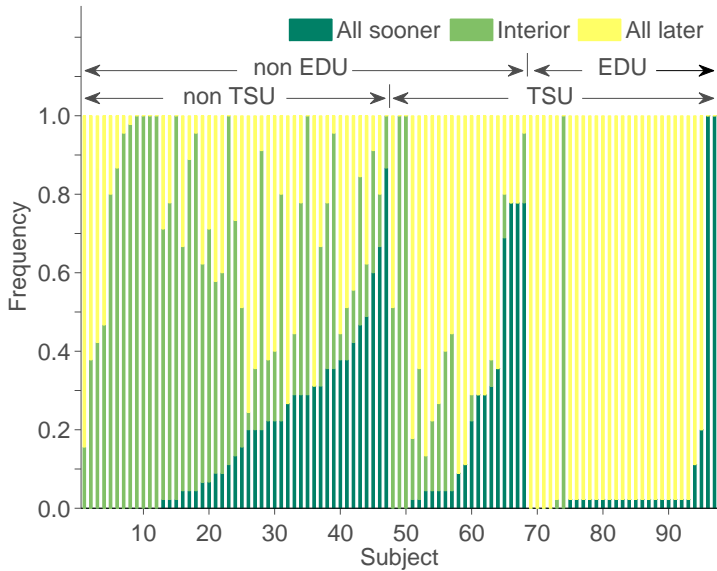


Estimated β

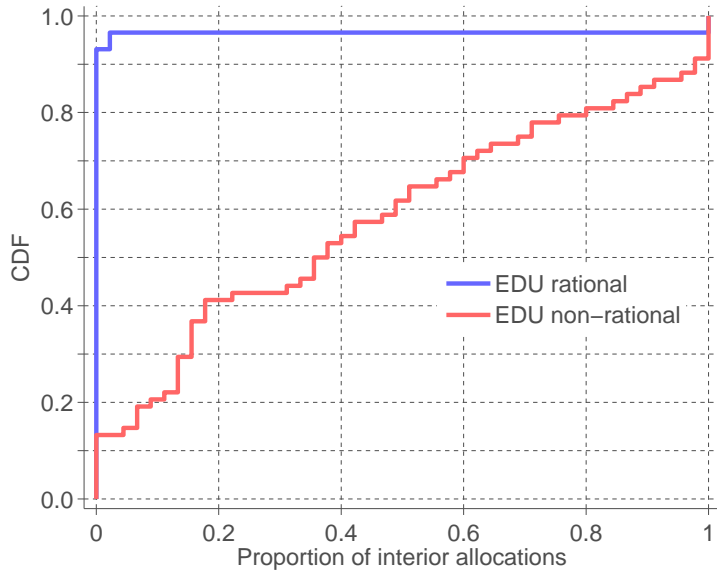


Interior/corner solutions

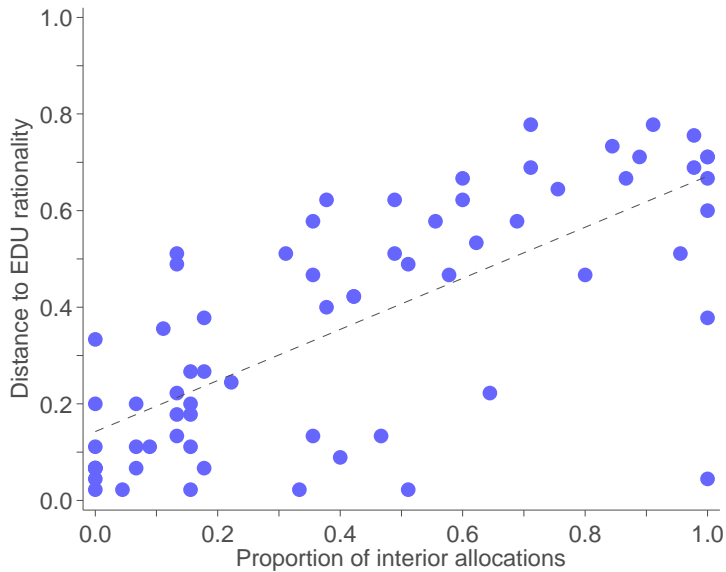
- ▶ All but two of EDU-rational subjects make only corner choices.
- ▶ Typically “all later.”
- ▶ Proposition applies to over 80% of EDU rational subjects.



Interior choices



Interior choices



Echenique-Imai-Saito

Exp. Discounting

We generated choices from a fictitious QHD agent.

- ▶ with linear utility u ;
- ▶ either small or large β (severely present or future biased).

Almost all agents always pass the EDU test (only very large or small β trigger a violation of EDU).

TSU \Rightarrow Normal Demand

- ▶ 43 out of 47 non-TSU subjects violate normality of demand.

Sampling	EDU	QHD	TSU
Uniform random	0.00	0.00	0.00
Simple Bootstrap	0.00	0.00	0.00

Starting from AS estimated

$$U(x_0, \dots, x_T) = \frac{1}{\alpha} x_0^\alpha + \beta \sum_{t=1}^T \delta^t \frac{1}{\alpha} x_t^\alpha \quad (1)$$

with $(\alpha, \delta, \beta) = (0.897, 0.999, 1.007)$,
and estimated std. devs. we:

- ▶ simulate 1,000 “jittered” versions of parameters;
- ▶ perform our QHD test;
- ▶ observe 100% pass rate.

Conclusions

- ▶ First “revealed preference axiomatization” of
 - ▶ EDU
 - ▶ QHD
 - ▶ TSU
- ▶ Application to A-S data:
 - ▶ 30% of subjects are EDU
 - ▶ scope of QHD is not more than EDU

Putting AS Data into Our Framework

- ▶ In AS, every choice is about “sooner” and “later”
- ▶ $T = 133 = 35$ (latest “sooner”) + 98 (largest delay)
- ▶ $K = 45$
- ▶ For each k , we observe
 - ▶ (p_τ, x_τ) : price and consumption for “sooner”
 - ▶ $(p_{\tau+d}, x_{\tau+d})$: price and consumption for “later”
- ▶ For each k ,

$$(p(k, t), x(k, t)) = \begin{cases} (p_\tau, x_\tau) & \text{if } t = \tau \\ (p_{\tau+d}, x_{\tau+d}) & \text{if } t = \tau + d \\ (\bar{p}, 0) & \text{if } \textit{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where \bar{p} is high enough that consumption is 0