

1 AN INTEGRATED MODELLING APPROACH EXAMINING THE INFLUENCE OF
2 GOALS, HABIT AND LEARNING ON CHOICE USING VISUAL ATTENTION DATA

3
4 *ABSTRACT*

5 Previous economics literature has explored the role of visual attention on choice in isolation
6 without accounting for other influences such as habits and goals or learning effects, nor their
7 interrelationship. In this paper, we: (i) develop a novel joint framework to explore the
8 relationship between visual attention, observed heterogeneity from stated habits and goals, and
9 choice outcomes while accounting for shorter- and longer-term learning effects; and (ii)
10 investigate whether accounting for these relationships improves model predictive power and
11 behavioral insights. The empirical analysis used an eye-tracked discrete choice experiment on
12 sugar-sweetened beverage purchasing (n=152 adults with 20 choice tasks). Results suggest that
13 habits, goals, and shorter-term learning are key drivers of information acquisition whereas
14 cumulative choices (longer-term learning) affect subsequent choice outcome. Importantly,
15 ignoring the joint relationship between habits, visual attention and choice may exaggerate the
16 role of visual attention, leading to incorrect behavioral insights and reduced prediction
17 accuracy.

18 *KEYWORDS:* Eye-tracking; Habit; Sugar-sweetened beverage; Choice; Preference; Joint-
19 modelling

20 *JEL CODES:* D830 Search; Learning; Information and Knowledge; Communication; Belief;
21 Unawareness; C35 Discrete Regression and Qualitative Choice Models; Discrete
22 Regressors; Proportions; C33 Panel Data Models; Spatio-temporal Models; L66 Food,
23 Beverages, Cosmetics, Tobacco, Wine and Spirits; I120 Health Behavior

24 *ABBREVIATIONS:* AOI, area of interest; AR, auto-regressive; DCE, discrete choice
25 experiment; MNP, multinomial probit; SSB, sugar-sweetened beverages;

27 **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

28 A better understanding of human decision-making behavior is fundamental to
29 successful prediction and understanding the drivers of economic choices. Cognitive process
30 tracing methods, such as eye-tracking, are well-established methods of seeking insight into the
31 complex processes occurring within the ‘black box’ of consumer decision-making (Schulte-
32 Mecklenbeck et al. 2019). In the last decade, eye-tracking data have been used increasingly in
33 the fields of psychology, neuroscience, marketing, health economics and food and agricultural
34 economics to penetrate this ‘black box’ to explore (i) how ‘bottom-up’ influences in the visual
35 environment (e.g., Orquin et al. 2019) and experimental constraints (e.g., Fenko et al. 2018;
36 Ryan et al. 2018) affect visual attention and thereby affect choices; (ii) how ‘top-down’ habits
37 and goals guide visual attention and thereby affect choices (e.g., Reutskaja et al. 2011; Büttner
38 et al. 2014; Balcombe et al. 2015; Meißner et al. 2016; van der Laan et al. 2016); and (iii) the
39 potential improvement in the predictive power of choice models using visual attention data
40 (Orquin & Loose 2013; Towal et al. 2013; Balcombe, Fraser & McSorley 2015; Spinks &
41 Mortimer 2015; van der Laan et al. 2015; Mullett & Stewart 2016; Krucien et al. 2017;
42 Meyerding 2018; Van Loo et al. 2018b; Vass et al. 2018; Yegoryan et al. 2019).

43 The first of the three sets of above studies focus on how choice experiments should be
44 designed to minimize the influence of lexicographical biases. The second set of studies focus
45 on explaining the underlying decision-making process through the use of visual attention data.
46 The third set of studies focus on improving predictions by utilizing information about attribute
47 attendance through eye-tracking data. In the latter studies, few explicit assumptions are made
48 about the relationships between visual attention, information acquisition and decision
49 processes. However, the implicit assumption is that visual attention has a down-stream effect
50 on choice. For a detailed review of eye-tracking measurement and factors affecting visual

51 attention in choice experiments see Orquin & Loose (2013) and Yegoryan, Guhl & Klapper
52 (2019), and in the food preferences literature, see Van Loo et al. (2018a).

53 The literature to date has therefore mainly explored the role of eye-tracking data for
54 different decision-making strategies in isolation without accounting for top-down influences
55 such as habit. Failure to control for unobserved heterogeneity across different model
56 components (e.g., habit and goals, visual attention and choice), and the feedback effect due to
57 learning in repeated choices over time, may lead to a spurious effect of visual attention on
58 choice; it may also worsen model predictive power. For example, Camerer et al. (2004) and
59 Gabaix et al. (2006) have reported that accounting for the effect of previous choices on
60 subsequent choices improves model prediction. Our proposed model extends the previous
61 literature which has mainly considered the influences of ‘top-down’ and ‘bottom-up’ process
62 pathways, heuristic processing, and the influence of previous choice on subsequent choice in
63 isolation, and allows us to account for the interactions between these processes.

64 The potential interaction of ‘top-down’ and ‘bottom-up’ processing pathways in
65 consumer decision-making has significant implications for business, including in the design of
66 product packaging (Orquin, Bagger, Lahm, Grunert & Scholderer 2019) and store layout and
67 product positioning (Valenzuela et al. 2013; Orquin, Bagger, Lahm, Grunert & Scholderer
68 2019). For example, there is emerging literature to suggest that weight-consciousness is
69 associated with both increased visual attention to nutritional information on food products and
70 increased willingness to pay for nutritional information (Ran et al. 2015). Further
71 understanding of these interactions may help guide retail practices. For example, in order to
72 promote sales for products that promote healthy weight, but are often not perceived as such by
73 consumers, like nuts, manufacturers could consider displaying nutrition information more
74 prominently to engage weight-conscious customers while keeping prices the same so as not to
75 discourage purchases by customers who are not weight conscious.

76 In the current study, we address this gap and add to the health economics and business
77 literature by developing a joint model to account for the influence of top-down factors on visual
78 attention pathways. This paper advances the previous literature by accounting for the effects of
79 ‘top-down’ influences on choice, as well as the interrelationships and feedback loops between
80 these ‘top-down’ influences, visual attention and choice. We focus on improving predictions
81 and quantifying the effect of visual attention on choices, after controlling for potential
82 confounds. We assume top-down goal-driven control of visual attention (also referred to as the
83 “endogenous effect”) (Corbetta & Shulman 2002; Theeuwes 2010). The current study is
84 motivated by the apparent paucity of consideration of the endogenous effect in previous
85 prediction studies on the effects of goal, habits, visual attention and choice (i.e., goals and
86 habits may direct visual attention, which subsequently has a down-stream effect on choice)
87 (Van Loo, Grebitus, Nayga Jr, Verbeke & Roosen 2018a). This endogenous effect is our
88 principal focus. We formulate a comprehensive econometric framework and provide a
89 computationally feasible estimation process. Although controlling for unobserved factors in a
90 multilevel model is not difficult, the estimation of such models becomes near impossible using
91 the usual full information likelihood or Bayesian approaches (see Bhat & Dubey 2014 for a
92 detailed discussion on issues related to estimation of multilevel models) for a detailed
93 discussion on issues related to estimation of multilevel models). Our proposed estimation
94 method circumvents these difficulties.

95 In this study, we use eye-tracking data from a discrete choice experiment (DCE) on the
96 effect of changing volume and price on non-alcoholic beverage purchases (n=152) to
97 investigate the effect of factors influencing inherent preferences (including habits and health
98 goals) on choice and examine the mediating effect of visual attention using an integrated
99 modelling approach. This is the largest eye-tracking sample size we are aware of to date in the
100 health economics and food marketing literature. We address the above-highlighted research

101 gaps and develop a comprehensive framework for analysing multilevel choice data with
102 supplementary eye-tracking information to answer the following questions: Does accounting
103 for the endogenous relationship between goals and habits, visual attention, and choice improve
104 the predictive power of and insights drawn from choice models? To what extent is modifying
105 visual stimuli of beverage alternatives predicted to change preferences and behaviour?

106 More generally, we add to the advancement of multilevel choice data analysis by
107 developing a comprehensive framework that connects various components (visual attention,
108 habits and goals, and choice) of models using a fully-specified covariance structure. We
109 incorporate feedback loops in both visual attention and choice components in a parsimonious
110 fashion through the use of a first-order lag structure.

111 The rest of the paper is organized as follows: in the next section we summarise the
112 existing literature on visual attention, and existing models of the effects of habit and learning
113 on choice, as well as highlight relevant literature gaps; we then outline our empirical example,
114 followed by a detailed description of the methodology. We report and compare the model
115 results and out-of-sample prediction statistics followed by discussion and concluding remarks.

116

117 **2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW**

118 **2.1 The Relationship Between Visual Attention And Choice**

119 There are two main ways in which visual attention is posited to affect choice: the ‘top-
120 down’ goal-driven pathway, and the ‘bottom-up’ stimulus-driven pathway. In the former
121 cognitive process, individuals focus their attention on relevant cues based on goals and pre-
122 defined preferences (Land et al. 1999; Hayhoe 2000; Hayhoe et al. 2003). Previous research
123 by van der Laan et al. (2016) and Orquin and Scholderer (2011) found increased attention on
124 food options that correspond to respondents’ intended health goals. It is plausible that pre-
125 defined goals and habits direct visual attention towards relevant products, for inclusion or

126 exclusion from the choice consideration set (Souza 2015), according to ‘Choice Set Formation’
127 theory (Swait 1984; Ben-Akiva & Boccara 1995).

128 The second, or ‘bottom-up’ process considers choice as stimulus-driven. The bottom-
129 up process assumes that by making an alternative more salient, one can affect the choice. The
130 stimulus-driven process presents an opportunity to change health behaviours through
131 modifying the stimulus. Recent research has demonstrated the importance of salience of
132 product packaging elements (Chandon et al. 2009; Orquin, Bagger, Lahm, Grunert &
133 Scholderer 2019) on consumer attention, independent of consumer health goals (Orquin,
134 Bagger, Lahm, Grunert & Scholderer 2019). Eye-tracking provides a useful opportunity to
135 examine the influence of goals and habits on choice, mediated through visual attention.

136 Further, decision-making heuristics may drive visual attention and thereby choice. For
137 example, sequential visual attention movement across the ‘row’ in a traditional tabular choice
138 task layout may suggest an ‘elimination by aspects’ strategy whereby a given attribute is
139 compared to a threshold or compared across alternatives (Tversky 1972). Alternatively, visual
140 attention that moves sequentially down a column may suggest an ‘additive compensatory-
141 model’ approach in which all attributes for a given alternative are considered before moving
142 on to the next alternative (Keeney & Raiffa 1993). For example, Ares et al. (2014) found in an
143 eye-tracked choice experiment that consumers who reported more ‘analytical’ thinking styles
144 had longer attention on nutritional information in order to differentiate between yoghurt
145 alternatives. Those who reported more ‘intuitive’ thinking styles spent relatively more time
146 looking at the label background. It is possible that there is a causal relationship between
147 consumer health goals and the use of heuristics, but this needs to be established by future
148 research. Nonetheless, the conjecture that goals may cause heuristics adoption is a plausible
149 one.

150 Improved understanding of the cognitive processes that lead to choice decisions may
151 enhance the real-world applicability of data from experimental studies, and potentially identify
152 levers for intervention when the goal is to change choices through altering preferences. This
153 paper examines the effects of neglecting the endogenous relationship between goals and habits,
154 visual attention and choice may introduce bias in the parameter estimates and exaggerate the
155 effect of habits, goals and visual attention on choices.

156

157 **2.2 The Effect Of Learning On Visual Attention And Choice**

158 Over time, individuals learn to separate relevant and irrelevant cues through practise
159 and experience (Haider & Frensch 1999). Previous studies have established that decision-
160 makers become more efficient over time when making repeated or similar choices, potentially
161 due to learning (Payne et al. 1988; Meißner & Decker 2010; Meißner, Musalem & Huber 2016).
162 The availability of eye-tracking along with choice data opens an avenue to disentangle the
163 effect of shorter-term choices (choices made in the last one or two choice occasions) and
164 longer-term choices (cumulative count of various choices made until the last choice occasion
165 in a stated preference (SP) study).

166 In this study, we refer to the effect of past choices on subsequent choices as “learning”.
167 However, we acknowledge that there are several potential explanations for this effect. The
168 ‘drift diffusion model’ in psychology (Krajbich & Rangel 2011) describes the accumulation of
169 information over time in favour of a particular alternative, until evidence in favour of that
170 alternative exceeds a threshold. Similarly, the ‘choice perseveration model’ (Senftleben et al.
171 2019) posits that previous choices of an alternative cumulatively bias a respondent towards that
172 alternative.

173 One way to capture the learning effect is to regress the exogenous variables of the
174 previous time periods (e.g., experimental constraints such as previous price levels) on the

175 current choice (see Erdem et al. 1999 for further discussion). Although this approach is easy to
176 incorporate, it may cause explosion of parameters for a moderate to high number of alternatives
177 and attributes. An alternative could be regression of the past utility value on the current utility
178 in order to reduce the number of parameters. However, a simple utility regression approach
179 may induce bias in parameter estimation due to the need to regress both observed and
180 unobserved utility portions (Bhat 2015).

181 In order to obtain unbiased estimates, a ‘lag structure’ on utility (both observed and
182 unobserved) is used widely in spatial econometrics and time series analysis (LeSage & Pace
183 2009). The use of a lag structure is elegant but challenging due to estimation of high
184 dimensional integrals (see Anselin 2001 for a detailed discussion of pertinent issues). Instead,
185 eye-tracking researchers outside of health (this issue has been ignored to date in the health
186 literature) have used simple regression by either incorporating previous choices (e.g., Meißner,
187 Musalem & Huber 2016) or previous attribute values as explanatory variables (e.g., Ben-Elia
188 & Shiftan 2010). These approaches may cause bias in parameter estimates if an auto-regressive
189 component is present in the data generation process.

190 On the other hand, incorporating learning effects requires capturing the effect of past
191 choices and contexts on present choices. Abstracting the potential availability of data, the
192 econometric challenge in representing learning models lies in accounting for unobserved
193 factors across choice occasions, which imply that choices (utilities) are not independent over
194 time. In this paper, we incorporate a first-order autocorrelation process in our econometric
195 framework to quantify the impact of full (systematic and stochastic) prior preferences. To our
196 knowledge, this is the first such specification in the eye-tracking literature. We develop a
197 parsimonious model with improved predictive power compared to extant practice. Below, we
198 apply our model to decision-making in a beverage choice task with health policy and retail
199 practice implications.

200

201 **3.0 MATERIAL AND METHODS**

202 **3.1 Empirical application**

203 There is increasing consumer and government interest in reducing the consumption of
204 sugar-sweetened beverages (SSBs), which are a major cause of excess energy consumption and
205 contribute significantly to the global burden of chronic disease, including obesity (Singh et al.
206 2015). Understanding the mechanisms for consumer beverage choices may help guide retail
207 changes or policy development to decrease the purchase and consumption of less healthy
208 beverages and to increase the consumption of healthier beverages.

209 The relationship between visual attendance and participant demographics, beverage
210 preference and choice characteristics was explored using an eye-tracked DCE. Details of the
211 DCE without the addition of eye-tracking data have been published (Blake et al. 2018;
212 2019) which report on the DCE applied to different, larger samples than used in the eye tracking
213 dataset used in this current study. Briefly, the primary purpose of the DCE was to explore
214 heterogeneity in consumer beverage preferences and price responsiveness over key
215 socioeconomics characteristics including income levels and usual SSB consumption frequency.
216 This eye-tracked dataset provides the opportunity to investigate the effect of factors influencing
217 inherent preferences (self-reported habits, goals and experimental constraints) on choice, and
218 to then examine the mediating effect of visual attention and to do so accounting for learning
219 effects.

220

221 ***3.1.1 Participants***

222 Participants completed the DCE while being monitored at an eye-tracking laboratory in
223 Melbourne, Australia. Participants were Australian residents 18 years or older. Recruitment
224 targets were set for this sample so as to reflect the Australian adult population in age and

225 gender. A minimum of 70% of participants who had consumed a SSB purchased from a
226 convenience store at least “a few times” in the past month was set. Participants were recruited
227 from a database of past participants at the research center, through the university staff
228 newsletter, social media, local newspaper advertising, and direct recruitment through local
229 community organisations. Participants provided written informed consent and were given an
230 AU\$30 supermarket gift card for their time. Ethical approval was received from Monash
231 University Human Research Ethics Committee (approval number CF15/4153 - 2015001760).

232

233 ***3.1.2 Experimental Design***

234 In the labelled DCE, participants selected a beverage within a hypothetical convenience
235 store setting. Each participant completed 20 choice tasks involving three SSB alternatives
236 (energy drink, flavored milk, regular soft drink (i.e., “soda”)), four non-sugar-sweetened
237 alternatives (non-SSBs: plain low-fat milk, fruit juice, diet soft drink, bottled water), and a “no
238 drink” alternative (meaning that they would “consume no drink on this occasion”). Each
239 beverage was described by alternative-specific prices and generic volume attributes which each
240 varied over four levels. An orthogonal design was generated using Ngene software (Rose et al.
241 2009). Prior to completing the choice tasks, half of participants were randomly exposed to a
242 real-world educational message designed to discourage selection of SSBs. See Web Appendix
243 A for further detail on experimental design and an example choice task and list of attribute
244 levels for each alternative.

245 Following the DCE, participants completed questions on stated attendance to attributes
246 and alternatives as well as strength of SSB consumption habit. This included an 11-point scale
247 of readiness to consider reducing SSB intake based on a validated tool to assess readiness to
248 quit smoking (Biener & Abrams 1991) and the Self-Report Behavioral Automaticity Index, a

249 4-item measure of habit strength measured on a 5-point Likert scale with higher scores
 250 signifying a stronger habit (Gardner et al. 2012).

251

252 **3.1.3 Eye-Tracking Data**

253 A discrete, web-cam like device tracked eye movements (Tobii Pro, 2011, Tobii
 254 TX300; Stockholm, Sweden). Participant visual attention to Areas of Interest (AOIs) was
 255 defined using a continuous measure (fixation duration) (Krucien, Ryan & Hermens 2017).
 256 AOIs were defined for each attribute ‘row’, each alternative ‘column’ and for each individual
 257 choice task table cell. For each participant, choice tasks with less than two fixations were
 258 excluded from the analysis to reduce data noise from random eye-movements.

259

260 **3.2 Model Overview**

261 We describe the model here with further detail including relevant estimation approach
 262 provided in Web Appendix B.

263 **3.2.1 Econometric Details**

264 Let $j=1, \dots, 8$ be labelled alternatives, where $j=8$ represents the “no drink” option. Each
 265 respondent completes T tasks, each task t having a choice set $C_t = \{1, 2, \dots, 8\}$ of all beverages.
 266 A beverage is presented as a constant label (e.g., fruit juice, flavored milk, see Web Appendix
 267 A- Fig. A.1), a generic size for all beverage types S_j (varying across four levels) in milliliters,
 268 and a varying alternative specific price (p_{jt}) in Australian dollars (see Web Appendix A- Table
 269 A.1 for price levels). With this preamble, the model specified in Fig. 1 can be defined
 270 econometrically.

271 *--Insert Fig. 1 about here---*

272 Let the utility U_{jt} (subscript for person n is omitted for clarity, but should be assumed
 273 throughout) be given as

274 (1) $U_{jt} = \alpha_j + \beta_j(S_j/p_{jt}) + \gamma_j d_{j,t-1} + \delta_j D_{j,t} + \varphi_j \ln(Y_{jt}) + \varepsilon_{jt}, j=1, \dots, 8, t=1, \dots, T,$

275 where

276 α_j is the alternative-specific constant for beverage j ;

277 β_j is the marginal impact of the volume to price ratio for beverage j , expected to be
278 positive;

279 $d_{j,t-1}$ =1 if beverage j chosen in the prior task ($t-1$), =0 otherwise, used to proxy for shorter-
280 term learning within the task;

281 γ_j is the utility impact of $d_{j,t-1}$;

282 $D_{j,t} = \sum_{s=1, \dots, t} d_{j,s}$ is the cumulative choice of beverage j in all prior tasks to t , which proxies
283 for longer-term learning within the task;

284 δ_j is the utility impact of $D_{j,t}$;

285 Y_{jt} is the visual attention the respondent gave to beverage j during task t , which is defined
286 as the total time (msec) spent on the label, volume and price, used in the model with a
287 natural log transform to reflect the assumption of diminishing marginal impact of visual
288 attention on utility (see Orquin & Loose 2013);

289 φ_j is the utility impact of $\ln(Y_{jt})$;

290 ε_{jt} is the additive stochastic utility for j at task t .

291

292 As we noted earlier, we assume that ε_{jt} is auto-regressive AR(1). An AR(1) process
293 allows for the possibility that time previously spent on an alternative partly determines how
294 much time will be spent on it currently, combining the possibility that both present and past
295 conditions help to establish present behaviour.:

296 (2) $\varepsilon_{jt} = \lambda_j \varepsilon_{j,t-1} + \eta_{jt}, j=1, \dots, 8, t=1, \dots, T,$

297 λ_j is the one-period autoregression coefficient, with a range from -1 to +1;

298 η_{jt} is a contemporaneous stochastic utility that has no time dependence to it.

299 This assumption allows stochastic sources of utility for a beverage to be correlated over trials.

300 The link between utilities U_{jt} , for all j , and observed choice d_{jt} is given through the relationship

$$301 \quad (3) \quad d_{jt}=1 \text{ if } U_{jt} \geq \max(U_{kt}, k \neq j), =0 \text{ otherwise, for } j=1, \dots, 8, t=1, \dots, T,$$

302 implying that choice is made on the basis of utility maximization. Since the utilities are

303 stochastic, it is necessary that we specify the distributional law followed by errors η_{jt} to specify

304 the link between utilities and observed choices. We assume that

$$305 \quad (4) \quad \eta_t \sim MVN(0_\eta | \Omega_\eta), t = 1, \dots, T,$$

306 where $MVN(a|B)$ is the multivariate normal distribution with mean a and covariance matrix B ;

307 η_t is a 8×1 vector of stochastic utilities;

308 0_η is a 8×1 vector of zeroes;

309 Ω_η is the contemporaneous covariance matrix for the stochastic utilities (note that there is

310 no temporal component to this matrix).

311 We estimate the visual attention (continuous) model which is later integrated into the

312 choice model. The visual attention model is given by the following equation:

$$313 \quad (5) \quad Y_{jt} = a_j + \rho_j Y_{j,t-1} + \sum_{l=1..3} \kappa_{jl} H_l + \sum_{k=1..6} \pi_{jk} \Psi_k + \theta_j d_{j,t-1} + \xi_{jt}, j=1, \dots, 8, t=1, \dots, T,$$

314 where

315 a_j is the intercept of visual attention time for beverage j ;

316 ρ_j is the AR(1) coefficient for the previous time spent on beverage j , ranging in the interval

317 $[-1, +1]$;

318 H_l is the individual's habit, a count of $l = \{\text{strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree and}$

319 $\text{strongly agree}\}$ across four scale items (see definition in note for Table 1);

320 κ_{jl} is the marginal time impact of scale value H_l on visual attention given to j ;

321 Ψ_k is equal to 1 if the individual's score or response on an item measuring the intention to
 322 drink less SSBs on a 10-point scale (1=no thought of drinking less to 10=taking action
 323 to drink less) is equal to k , $k=1, \dots, 6$, and $\Psi_k = 0$ if $k=7, \dots, 10$;
 324 π_{jk} is the marginal time impact of the k -th dummy variable Ψ_k on beverage j ;
 325 θ_j is the time impact of $d_{j,t-1}$;
 326 ξ_{jt} is a stochastic source of visual attention time arising from other sources than those
 327 enumerated in (5).
 328

329 To complete the specification of model (5), we need to stipulate the density for

$$330 \quad (6) \quad \xi_t \sim MVN(0_\xi | \Omega_\xi), t=1, \dots, T,$$

331 which has an analogous interpretation to the terms defined for expression (4). Finally, we
 332 specify that error terms (η_t, ξ_t) may covary across beverages in the same task. Since both
 333 stochastic vectors are MVN, we can specify this as follows:

$$334 \quad (7) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \eta_t \\ \xi_t \end{pmatrix} \sim MVN \left(\begin{matrix} 0_\eta & \Omega_\eta \\ 0_\xi & \Omega_{\eta\xi} \end{matrix} \mid \begin{matrix} \Omega_\eta & \\ & \Omega_\xi \end{matrix} \right), t=1, \dots, T,$$

335 where $\Omega_{\eta\xi}$ is the covariance matrix for stochastic covariation between (η_t, ξ_t) ; other quantities
 336 as previously defined.
 337

338 To summarize, the model system depicted in Fig.1 has the following characteristics
 339 which together significantly advance the current approach to visual attention data and choice
 340 model analysis:

341 a) The choice component is a Multinomial Probit (MNP) model with contemporaneous
 342 covariation given through the covariance matrix Ω_η , which is 8×8 , thus allowing
 343 beverage utilities to be correlated positively or negatively for the same task, and for

344 utility variances to differ across beverages. In addition, the MNP model allows for an
 345 AR(1) error at the beverage level.

346 b) The visual attention time, Y_{jt} , is a nonlinear predictor (through the natural logarithm
 347 transformation) of the attractiveness/utility of a beverage. The natural logarithm reflects
 348 the *a priori* conjecture that the marginal impact of visual attention on utility of beverage
 349 j diminishes with increasing time.

350 c) Y_{jt} is influenced by past visual attention to beverage j through an AR(1) specification,
 351 in addition to which habit, health goal and learning can impact the attention given to a
 352 beverage during any task.

353 d) Visual attention is correlated across beverages, through the covariance matrix Ω_{ξ} ,
 354 which is 8×8 , making it possible that consistent patterns of time allocations to beverage
 355 pairs (whether increasing or decreasing) be captured within a task.

356 e) Finally, contemporaneous stochastic utilities η_{jt} and stochastic visual attentions ξ_{jt} for
 357 a given beverage j during task t can covary, through covariance matrix $\Omega_{\eta\xi}$, also 8×8 .

358 We tested the following models where attention/AOI time is modelled as a driver of
 359 preference, where V represents the observed part of utility and E is the unobserved part of
 360 utility. A ‘Joint’ model refers to models where the habit, visual attention and choice outcomes
 361 are linked by the covariance structure and has the properties a) to e) as described above. An
 362 ‘Independent’ model refers to a model which does not assume a correlation between visual
 363 attention time and choice through an error structure:

- 364 • Joint-AR(1)VE: Joint model with AR(1) structure on both observed and unobserved
 365 parts of utility
- 366 • Joint-AR(1)V: Joint model with AR(1) structure on observed part of utility
- 367 • Joint-AR(1)E: Joint model with AR(1) structure on unobserved part of utility

- 368 • Independent-AR(1)E: Independent model with AR(1) structure on unobserved part of
369 utility

370 We also tested the following models where time is used to capture screening behavior through
371 a penalty function (P), to be detailed later:

- 372 • Joint-AR(1)VEP: Joint model with AR(1) structure on both observed and unobserved
373 parts of utility and penalty function
- 374 • Joint-AR(1)EP: Joint model with AR(1) structure on unobserved part of utility and
375 penalty function

376 Please note that for all the models, the continuous (visual attention) component has AR(1)
377 structure on both observed and unobserved portions of propensity.

378 Identification of this model system requires that a number of restrictions be imposed.
379 With respect to the choice model, it is necessary that one of the Alternative Specific Constants
380 (ASCs) be normalized, so we set $\alpha_1=0$ (for $j=1$, bottled water). Additionally, it is necessary to
381 restrict elements of covariance matrix Ω_η since at most $7*8/2=28$ of its $8*9/2=36$ elements can
382 be identified (Bunch 1991), with at least one of the 28 elements being normalized to unity (in
383 this case, the variances of the differences of stochastic utility of energy drink and bottled water,
384 $j=1,2$); accordingly, the cell (1,1) is set to 1.

385 The joint model described above is used to test whether visual attention is a driver of
386 choice. To test whether habits, goals, and constraints work as *screening mechanisms*, we still
387 use visual attention Y as an explanatory variable in expression (1), but with a different
388 functional form that lets it serve as a penalty to utility. Specifically, we rewrite the utility
389 function of beverage j as follows. Note that the penalty function of each alternative differs:

390 (8) $U_{jt}=\alpha_j + \beta_j(S_j/p_{jt}) + \gamma_j d_{j,t-1} + \delta_j D_{j,t} + \ln \tau_{jt} + \varepsilon_{jt}, j=1, \dots, 8, t=1, \dots, T,$

391 where

392 $\tau_{jt} = (1 + \exp(Y_{jt}))^{-1}$ is the penalty term associated with beverage j in task t .

393 The logistic parameterization of the penalty τ ensures that its value is bounded between 0 and
 394 1, so in expression (8) the penalty is bounded between $-\infty$ (Y_{jt} small, near zero) and 0 (Y_{jt} large).
 395 Thus, an alternative is *screened* out (i.e., becomes unavailable) because its utility grows very
 396 negative as visual attention decreases. Note that there is no further stochastic component in the
 397 penalty function other than that implied through the logistic functional form.

398 While we assume the direction of causality to be from goals and habits to visual
 399 attention, which subsequently informs preferences through choice, it is plausible that other
 400 causal relationships may co-exist. For a model with three dependent variables, a total of six
 401 different causality directions may co-exist. For example, goals and habits may affect choices
 402 which can then direct visual attention. In this paper, we do not model all possible causality
 403 directions. Researchers can simultaneously model multiple causality directions by embedding
 404 the proposed multilevel framework in a latent class framework where each class represent a
 405 causality direction.

406

407 ***3.2.2 Parameter Estimation by Composite Maximum Likelihood***

408 The full vector of parameters to be estimated is quite extensive due to the
 409 dimensionality of the three covariance matrices, even after accounting for identification
 410 restrictions that must be imposed:

$$411 \quad \Gamma_C = \{(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_8)', (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_8)', (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_8)', (\delta_1, \dots, \delta_8)', (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_8)', (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_8)'\}$$

$$412 \quad (9) \quad \Gamma_Y = \{(a_1, \dots, a_8)', (\rho_1, \dots, \rho_8)', (\kappa_{11}, \dots, \kappa_{83})', (\pi_{11}, \dots, \pi_{86})', (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_8)'\}$$

$$413 \quad \Gamma_\Omega = \{\Omega_\eta, \Omega_\xi, \Omega_{\eta\xi}\},$$

414 This dimensionality imposes a significant computational burden in using traditional likelihood-
 415 based estimation methods, reflecting the complication of a first-order auto-regressive MNP
 416 choice model, plus the lagged, linear visual attention models. This causes difficulties both
 417 theoretical and computational in nature (e.g., choice probabilities near zero). By itself, the MNP

418 choice probability is a well-known challenge in the literature (Connors et al. 2014). Simulated
419 maximum likelihood methods (e.g., Geweke- Hajivassiliou-Keane (GHK) simulator,
420 Hajivassiliou et al. 1996) can calculate MNP probabilities accurately only up to a limited
421 number of dimensions (Sándor & András 2004) and suffer from long computational times
422 (Train 2000; Craig 2008). Therefore, it is challenging to estimate the full set of parameters
423 using maximum likelihood.

424 A competing method is to use a Bayesian approach to evaluate the complex likelihood
425 function, which would involve sampling from a complex series of conditional distributions. A
426 review of literature involving the MNP kernel shows that the Bayesian approach has often not
427 performed as expected in terms of recovering parameters and their standard errors (Franzese et
428 al. 2010; Patil et al. 2017), though some studies have found the performance of Bayesian
429 approach to be quite good (Daziano 2015). Faced with these polarized results, we opted not to
430 pursue this path.

431 Instead, we use the composite marginal likelihood (CML) approach. This has been
432 established in the last decade as a powerful approach for parameter estimation involving
433 likelihood functions with high dimensional integrals. A comprehensive discussion on the CML
434 approach is outside the scope of this paper and readers are referred to the literature for
435 background (Varin & Vidoni 2005; Varin 2008; Varin et al. 2011), and to Bhat and colleagues
436 (Bhat & Dubey 2014; Bhat et al. 2016) for its application in the context of discrete choice
437 models. Bhat and colleagues have performed extensive simulation testing using the CML
438 approach for complex econometric models and have observed highly accurate results.

439 One of the practical advantages of the CML method for our problem is that it reduces
440 the dimensionality of integration of likelihood function terms to calculations based on pairs of
441 random variables. To our knowledge, this is the first time CML has been applied in the eye-

442 tracking literature. The details of the CML likelihood function and our estimation method are
443 provided in Web Appendix B.

444

445 **4.0 RESULTS**

446 **4.1 Sample Description**

447 Between November 2015 and March 2016, 160 eligible adults completed the eye-
448 tracked DCE (see Web Appendix C Fig. C.1 for participant flow diagram). Eye movements
449 were recorded on every choice task for 139 participants (used for main analysis) and during at
450 least one choice task for 13 participants. These 13 individuals were excluded from the main
451 analysis but used to test out-of-sample prediction. Mean duration of the study (DCE and post-
452 DCE questions) was 24.6 mins (SD 7.8), and the DCE alone 4.4 mins (SD 2.2).

453 Participant demographics are summarized in Web Appendix D, Table D.1. The
454 convenience sample by design approximately reflected the Australian population based on age
455 and gender. There was a higher proportion of those in the lowest income quintile compared to
456 the Australian population income distribution. Sixteen percent reported that they never drink
457 SSBs. Participants scored a mean 9.6/20 (SD 4.3) on the Self-Report Behavioral Automaticity
458 Index habit measure, meaning that on average participants had a moderately strong SSB
459 consumption habit (Gardner, Abraham, Lally & de Bruijn 2012). Forty-eight percent of
460 participants reported currently taking action or considering how to drink fewer SSBs.

461

462 **4.2 Description of Visual Attendance**

463 While total fixation duration per choice task nearly halved from mean 18.2 secs (SD
464 10.0) in the first choice task to 10.3 secs (SD 8.0) in the final choice task, the proportion of
465 time spent looking at *relevant information* (choice set task), increased from mean 71% fixation
466 duration (SD 16%) to 82% fixation duration (SD 17%) in the final choice task.

467 Visual non-attendance of beverage types was highest for energy drink, and lowest for
468 bottled water. Non-attendance on all beverage types increased through subsequent choice tasks,
469 although non-attendance was temporarily decreased after the 10th choice scenario when
470 participants were presented with a message reminding them to “consider their options
471 carefully”. Most people attended to volume and price in every choice task. Further descriptive
472 results of visual attendance data are found in Web Appendix E.

473

474 **4.3 Model Estimation Results**

475 In this section, we first present fixation duration results (Table 1), followed by choice
476 component results (Table 2). As noted in Web Appendix A, we tested the effects of the
477 educational message using the model of best fit (Joint-AR(1)E, fully compensatory AR-1 Error
478 model, described later) and found no significant effect on beverage choice, hence sub-samples
479 were pooled and we used the full sample (n=139) in the estimation (n=13 used in out-of-sample
480 predictions below).

481

482 -----Insert Table 1 about here-----

483 -----Insert Table 2 about here-----

484

485 We found evidence for the AR(1) structure on both observed and unobserved
486 components of the fixation duration (continuous) model, combined with AR(1) structure on
487 the unobserved portion of the choice component, as in the Joint-AR(1)E model. This implies
488 that respondents do exercise their experience from previous tasks when acquiring information
489 on alternatives and thus past fixation behavior guides current information acquisition strategy.
490 Therefore, the results described below correspond to the Joint-AR(1)E model.

491 As shown in Table 1 and as anticipated, stronger SSB habits (H_i) are generally
492 associated with positive (increased) visual attendance time on SSBs and negative (decreased)
493 visual attendance time on non-SSB alternatives. For example, people with a moderate to strong
494 habit of drinking SSBs are likely to spend less time looking at the attributes of bottled water as
495 compared to attributes of regular soft drink. Some parameter estimates for visual attention are
496 the same for different health goal categories (Ψ_k). For example, mild to moderate health goals
497 with scores in the range of 1 to 6 out of 11 had the same association with visual attention to
498 bottled water. Participants who reported a high intention to drink less SSBs spent more time
499 looking at the attributes of SSBs compared to people who have a lower intention to change
500 SSB consumption. Intuitively, it may suggest that a conscious decision to reduce consumption
501 of SSBs leads to careful evaluation of various aspects of such beverages prior to choice. This
502 could be a demonstration of ‘regret regulation’ (Pieters & Zeelenberg 2007), which posits that
503 choices are made to minimize future regret, leading to a careful examination of products which
504 they are trying to avoid.

505 We also observed that shorter-term learning results ($d_{j,t-1}$) suggested that respondents
506 tended to spend more time on an alternative if it was chosen in the previous task occasion.
507 Finally, the positive autoregressive coefficients (ρ_j) for all beverages (last row of Table 1)
508 suggest that respondents do exercise their experience (reinforcing or discouraging from
509 previous tasks) when acquiring information on alternatives, and thus past fixation behavior
510 guides current information acquisition strategy. The AR structure parsimoniously captures the
511 effect of past information (represented through habit, goal, past choices and other unobserved
512 characteristics) on current information acquisition (visual attention time spent on attributes),
513 and therefore operates as a feedback link between past and current tasks.

514 In Table 2 (MNP choice model results), the volume and price attributes are included in
515 the model as a volume/price ratio to accommodate the trade-off between them. As per *a priori*

516 expectations, the volume/price ratio (β_j) was significant and positive for all beverages,
517 suggesting participants preferred beverages with higher volume per dollar ratios. We observed
518 non-significant coefficients for the direct effect of shorter-term choices ($d_{j,t-1}$) indicated by last
519 chosen beverage on the subsequent beverage selection, suggesting that shorter-term choices
520 are an indirect driver of information acquisition through visual attention time to attribute and
521 alternative information. However, we found a significant and positive effect of longer-term
522 preference on the choice of all beverages including the “no drink” option (indicated by the
523 cumulative sum of chosen alternatives until the last choice occasion, $D_{j,t}$).

524 In addition to these findings from the Joint-AR(1)E model, both shorter and longer-
525 term learning effects were found to be significant in both visual attention and choice
526 components in the independent model (Independent-AR(1)E, the model which does not assume
527 a correlation between visual attention time and choice through error structure).¹ The AR
528 coefficient is positive and statistically significant, suggesting the presence of feedback loops
529 between past and current choice occasions. Finally, time spent on beverage information has a
530 positive effect on the likelihood of choice of a beverage. Thus, importantly, with the help of
531 the joint model, we are able to disentangle the effect of shorter- and longer-term preferences
532 on information acquisition and alternative selection (choice). Results for habit and goal
533 parameters (direct effect of habit and goals on utility) were not significant.

534 Although this broad directional effect finding is in line with Balcombe, Fraser &
535 McSorley (2015), in Table 3 we estimate the joint covariance matrix (Ω), along with inclusion
536 of the autoregressive structure, which allows us to obtain the ‘true effect’ of structural
537 endogenous factors such as fixation duration, short and longer-term choices, while allowing
538 for better model fit. Estimates greater than zero indicate positive correlation between visual
539 attention and choice, while estimates less than zero indicate negative correlation. For example,

¹ The detailed estimation result for the independent model is available from the authors on request.

540 utility of healthier alternatives like bottled water, plain low fat milk, diet soft drink and fruit
541 juice are positively correlated with visual attention to bottled water. Our assumption that there
542 exists a significant correlation between information gathering as observed through fixation
543 duration (continuous model), habit and final decision-making (choice model) is reinforced by
544 the covariance matrix. In addition, characterization of unobserved sources of dependence in
545 information gathering across SSBs implies that we control for the bias in the model that would
546 otherwise be created in the observed sources of dependence, and is generally ignored in the
547 prior literature.

548

549 *---Insert Table 3 about here---*550 *---Insert Table 4 about here---*

551

552 **4.4 Data-fit Statistics**

553 Table 4 displays the model fit statistics. We explored two decision-making mechanisms
554 using eye-tracking data: (1) fully compensatory, and (2) two-step decision-making process
555 where screening precedes the fully compensatory decision step. The fully compensatory
556 behavior is captured by the model where fixation duration is used as an explanatory variable in
557 the choice model. The second decision-making behavior is captured by introducing a penalty
558 function in the choice model as a function of fixation time (as discussed in the Methodology
559 section 3.1.3). The estimation results for the penalty models are similar to the fully
560 compensatory models, including direction of signs of parameter coefficients, together with
561 positive fixation duration parameters. The penalty value for a beverage alternative approaches
562 a large negative number as the fixation duration increases. This suggests that participants may
563 spend more time analyzing an option before eliminating it from the final consideration set in
564 order to minimize choice regret (Pieters & Zeelenberg 2007).

565 Table 4 also provides the model fit measures for these two competing models and other
566 tested models. Since the models were estimated using a CML approach, the non-nested models
567 can be compared by the Composite Likelihood Information Criterion (CLIC), which is similar
568 to the familiar AIC and BIC criteria (Varin & Vidoni 2005). The model with *higher* CLIC is
569 preferred. Based on CLIC statistics, the current dataset is best represented by the fully
570 compensatory model (Joint-AR(1)E) with CLIC of -4942922.25, compared to a CLIC of -
571 4958377.42 for the screening model Joint-AR(1)EP, and CLIC of -4961982.10 for screening
572 model Joint-AR(1)VEP. This suggests that the fully compensatory decision behavior is
573 preferred in the current dataset, an eminently reasonable result given the low complexity of the
574 choice task (eight alternatives with two varying attributes).

575 We then tested the performance of Joint-AR(1)E against the nested models using
576 adjusted composite likelihood ratio test (ADCLRT) (equivalent to the likelihood ratio test in
577 the CML approach; see Varin, Reid & Firth 2011). The Joint-AR(1)E model is superior to its
578 competitors with the same compensatory behavior mechanism but with AR structure on
579 observed utility (Joint-AR(1)VE and Joint-AR(1)V), and to the Independent-AR(1)E, in which
580 the correlation in the unobserved part of utility between fixation duration and choice is zero (p -
581 value .010).

582 Differences in model fit may be exaggerated due to the difference in log-likelihood
583 values while in fact performing equally well in terms of in-sample or out-of-sample prediction.
584 Table 5 demonstrates that the fully compensatory behavior model Joint-AR(1)E has better
585 prediction accuracy for both in-sample (mean absolute error (MAE) of .031) and out-of-sample
586 (MAE of .013) data compared to all other models. Interestingly, while there is a large
587 discrepancy in data fit statistics, predictions are very similar for the fully compensatory
588 behavior model Joint-AR(1)VE (.039 and .029 for in- and out-of-sample predictions,
589 respectively) and Joint-AR(1)V (.038 and .031 for in- and out-of-sample predictions,

590 respectively). Among all tested models, the Independent-AR(1)E model has the worst in- and
591 out-of-sample prediction accuracy. These results support the need to capture screening
592 processes to enhance the predictive power of eye-tracking models.

593

594 *--Insert Table 5 about here--*

595 *--Insert Table 6 about here--*

596

597 **4.5 Elasticity Effects**

598 To quantify the true magnitude of difference in discrete choice model estimations
599 accounting for the possibility of screening during the decision-making process with those
600 models that do not, we calculate the elasticity effects for fixation time with respect to beverage
601 choice. For brevity, we only calculate and compare the elasticity effect of fixation for the fully
602 compensatory model Joint-AR(1)E (preferred model) and its corresponding independent
603 version (Independent-AR(1)E).

604 For the elasticity calculation, we increase the fixation time by 10% and calculate the
605 implied change in share for each beverage. Since the model is based on a Probit kernel, the
606 expression for elasticity effects does not take a closed form. Table 6 shows that elasticity values
607 obtained from the two models are indeed statistically different (for all beverages, the p -
608 value $< .05$). As expected, the implied shares are higher for the independent model than the joint
609 model. Finally, the true effect of visual attention on choice (share from the joint model divided
610 by share from the independent model) is around 56% to 65% for all beverages. This implies
611 that if an analyst fails to consider the interrelationship between information gathering (visual
612 attention) and information processing (decision-making), the result may be an overestimation
613 of the impact of visual attention on actual choice.

614

615 **5.0 DISCUSSION**

616

617 In this study, we developed a model to analyze the relationship between habits and
618 goals, visual attention and choice outcomes in a joint framework. We found habit, goal and
619 longer-term learning effects to be significant drivers of decision-making processes independent
620 of the effects of visual attention. We also found unobserved factors to be significant drivers of
621 choice. Most importantly, we found that ignoring potential unobserved heterogeneity between
622 habits, visual attention and choice outcomes may exaggerate the role of visual attention as a
623 driver of choice leading to low prediction accuracy.

624 Taking account of each variable separately, we found that time spent on beverage
625 alternative information was positively correlated with the likelihood of choice of that
626 alternative, similar to findings of Balcombe et al. (2015) and others (e.g., Henderson et al.
627 2003), who did not simultaneously account for multiple drivers of choice, potentially masking
628 unobserved heterogeneity.

629 Other authors outside of the eye-tracking literature (Camerer, Ho & Chong 2004;
630 Gabaix, Laibson, Moloche & Weinberg 2006) have reported that Markov-like decision models,
631 which consider the influence of previous information acquired on respondent information
632 acquisition behaviours in subsequent choices, provide better data-fit than models which ignore
633 such information acquisition behaviours. This improved predictive power is possibly due to
634 accounting for the endogeneity inherent in such decision-making behaviours. Unlike prior
635 modelling approaches, our more comprehensive approach allows both prior preferences and
636 goal and constraint-based screening to co-exist simultaneously as drivers of choice within a
637 probabilistic approach. While we did not find a significant direct effect of habit and goals on
638 utility, our model allows for this mechanism to be explored in future studies. These advances
639 could be used to identify the mechanism of effect of different cognitive and environmental

640 influences on health or non-health behaviour and purchasing decisions, and thus identify targets
641 for effective intervention. The high predictive power demonstrated by out-of-sample
642 predictions further highlights the need for joint modelling of influences on decision-making, to
643 better identify the potential effect of interventions and the influence of different goals and
644 influences for targeting.

645 The superior fit of the joint model with AR(1) structure on the unobserved part of utility
646 using time as a preference driver suggests that a significant portion of utility explanatory power
647 is in the unobserved factors affecting choice. Of course, there are a number of decision-making
648 heuristics that our model could be adapted to account for, while harnessing the strength of our
649 model of also accounting for other competing influences on choice rather than considering eye
650 tracking data in isolation. These include the influence of ‘row-based’ visual attention or
651 ‘elimination by aspects’ strategy whereby a given attribute is compared to a threshold or
652 between alternatives (Tversky 1972), and ‘column-based’ visual attention strategies suggesting
653 an ‘additive compensatory-model’ approach in which all attributes for a given alternative are
654 considered before moving on to the next alternative (Keeney & Raiffa 1993). Visual attention
655 data could be used following our suggested approach to provide evidence for ‘row’ and
656 ‘column’ behavioral processes jointly, while accounting for other influences on choice as we
657 have done, aiding decision-making in health and non-health DCEs.

658 Our model provides evidence of several pathways whereby previous choices and
659 attention may influence subsequent choice and attention. We observed that respondents tended
660 to spend more time on an alternative if it was chosen in the previous task occasion. This may
661 suggest that the previously chosen alternative works as an anchor in the shorter-term, and other
662 options are then evaluated in comparison to the anchor in a binary fashion. This is similar to
663 the ‘drift diffusion model’ in psychology (Krajbich & Rangel 2011). Independently, we found
664 that the cumulative sum of choice of an alternative in previous choice tasks increased the

665 probability of choice in subsequent tasks ($D_{j,t}$). This is consistent with the choice perseveration
666 model (Senftleben, Schoemann, Schwenke, Richter, Dshemuchadse & Scherbaum 2019)
667 whereby previous choices cumulatively bias a respondent such that the likelihood of choosing
668 an alternative increases with subsequent choices.

669 As discussed in our review of the literature, choice set formation theory proposes that
670 such heuristics may be preceded by an initial screening step in which the set of alternatives to
671 be further considered is narrowed (e.g., Swait 1984; Ben-Akiva & Boccara 1995). Pre-
672 determined or ‘inherent’ preferences, habits and goals (Tversky & Thaler 1990; Simonson
673 2008) may drive this screening behavior. Variation in choice set formation behavior could be
674 further explored using visual attention data by parameterizing the constraints as a function of
675 visual attention as done in our penalty approach. Future comprehensive models should ideally
676 extend our framework to accommodate multiple decision-making strategies simultaneously.
677 Similarly, interactions with non-health goals could be explored, for example cost-saving.
678 Further work should test the causal relationships between decision-making variables we have
679 proposed using exogenous source of variation.

680 Finally, our findings suggest that visual attention time does influence choice in complex
681 ways and our model provides a means of exploring the effect of intentionally varying visual
682 attention duration on choice. Marketers or policy makers who wish to influence choice should
683 consider the potential influence that shortening or lengthening consideration time may have on
684 choice, or the influence of factors that may affect visual attention on choice, which in our case
685 study might affect the healthiness of beverage purchases. For example, the removal of SSBs
686 from display has been found to reduce sales of these beverages and increase sales of healthier
687 alternatives in a real-world café setting (Huse et al. 2016).

688 The interaction of ‘top-down’ and ‘bottom-up’ processing pathways in consumer
689 decision-making has significant implications for business, including in the design of product

690 packaging (Orquin, Bagger, Lahm, Grunert & Scholderer 2019) and store layout and product
691 positioning (Valenzuela, Raghurir & Mitakakis 2013). For example, observed retail practice
692 of product positioning and consumers perceptions of product positioning strategies have been
693 shown to interact to influence purchasing behaviour (Valenzuela, Raghurir & Mitakakis 2013).
694 Not accounting for these interactions may cause poor predictions of consumer behaviour and
695 sub-optimal category management. On the other hand, product positioning strategies could be
696 optimised by better understanding this interaction. For example, Valenzuela et al. (2013)
697 suggest initial positioning of products during an introductory period could be aligned with
698 consumer expectations about the position of popular or cheaper products, which may later
699 persist in future purchases due to learning effects, even after products have been moved to less
700 salient (expensive) positions.

701

702 **6.0 CONCLUSIONS**

703 In this study, we developed an integrated model to analyze the relationship between
704 information acquisition, inferred from visual attention and choice outcome while accounting
705 for stated participant goals and habits. We observed that the frequent practice in previous
706 literature of ignoring the effect of these top-down influences on both visual attention and choice
707 may exaggerate the role of visual attention as a driver of choice. Most notably, we have added
708 to the literature by developing a model that incorporates both observed characteristics (goals
709 and habits) and unobserved characteristics and observed choice history. The model developed
710 here enables researchers to test the guiding effect of observed and unobserved characteristics
711 on visual attention thus providing insight into decision-making strategies and interventions to
712 modify visual stimuli in health, business, and beyond. We hope that the current study will
713 provide a framework to help health and non-health researchers establish the practical validity

714 of eye-tracking data in the context of choice modelling while accounting for other competing
715 influences on choice.

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899

900 **Table 1: Parameter estimates for visual attention (total fixation duration on) beverage j, task t, j=1,...,8, t=1,...,T**

Theoretical construct ^a	Explanatory variables	Visual attention (fixation duration) on beverage j during task t (Y_{jt}) (t-statistic)						
		Bottled water	Energy drink	Plain low-fat milk	Flavored milk	Soft drink (regular)	Soft drink (diet)	Fruit juice
Alternative Specific Constant (ASC) (α_j)	Alternative Specific Constant (ASC)	.024 (4.5)	-.170 (-7.7)	-.117 (-9.8)	-.113 (-10.5)	-.198 (-11.3)	-.298 (-16.9)	-.319 (-11.66)
Habit (H_t)^b (measured by automaticity, base=strongly disagree)	Disagree	-.022 (-2.2)	.084 (2.6)	.090 (3.6)	.084 (6.9)	.123 (2.3)	.096 (3.0)	.068 (2.6)
	Neutral	-.211 (-2.1)	.070 (4.1)	.013 (2.3)	-.021 (-3.0)	.070 (3.4)	-.046 (-2.1)	-.098 (-4.2)
	Agree and strongly agree	-.150 (-5.9)	-.036 (-5.5)	.013 (2.3)	.050 (2.7)	.070 (3.4)	-.046 (-2.1)	-.098 (-4.2)
Health goals (Ψ_k) (Intention to drink less SSBs; 1-10 ordinal scale, 1=no thought of drinking less, 10=taking action to drink less (base: score 7-10))	Score 1	.114 (3.9)	.012 (2.0)	-.026 (-4.4)	-.037 (-5.5)	-.049 (-6.5)	NS	-.034 (-4.8)
	Score 2	.114 (3.9)	.012 (2.0)	-.026 (-4.4)	-.037 (-5.5)	-.049 (-6.5)	NS	-.034 (-4.8)
	Score 3	.114 (3.9)	.012 (2.0)	-.026 (-4.4)	-.037 (-5.5)	-.049 (-6.5)	NS	-.034 (-4.8)
	Score 4	.114 (3.9)	.012 (2.0)	-.026 (-4.4)	-.037 (-5.5)	-.049 (-6.5)	NS	-.034 (-4.8)
	Score 5	.114 (3.9)	.012 (2.0)	.098 (7.2)	.055 (4.8)	-.049 (-6.5)	.097 (7.9)	.118 (8.9)
	Score 6	.114 (3.9)	.012 (2.0)	.098 (7.2)	.055 (4.8)	-.049 (-6.5)	.097 (7.9)	NS
Learning^c	Shorter-term ($d_{j,t-1}$): Same alternative chosen in the last choice task (Yes=1, No=0)	.309 (14.7)	.384 (6.4)	.453 (7.9)	.510 (9.4)	.364 (7.9)	.505 (9.5)	.552 (9.8)
Learning autoregressive parameter (ρ_j)	Time spent on beverage j in previous task (t-1)	.586 (9.5)	.569 (8.0)	.686 (9.8)	.725 (7.3)	.679 (8.7)	.597 (10.8)	.642 (5.1)

901 NS, not significant. ^a Results for cognitive analysis time (visual attention time on choice experiment, excluding visual attention to alternative and attribute information) were
902 not significant were therefore omitted from the final model and are not reported here. ^b Habit (automaticity): This variable was constructed to measure the automaticity in habit
903 towards drinking SSBs (sugar-sweetened beverages) by taking the average of scores reported for following statements: I consume non-diet cordial, non-diet soft drinks, sports
904 drinks, energy drinks, flavoured milk and fruit drink... (i) Automatically, (ii) Without having to consciously remember, (iii) Without thinking, and (iv) Before I realise I'm
905 drinking it. Four questions on five-point Likert scales from strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5). Means were constructed from responses to each of the four items for
906 analysis. ^c Longer-term learning ($D_{j,t}$) results not displayed as all findings non-significant.

907 **Table 2: Parameter estimates for Multinomial Probit (MNP) choice model**

Theoretical Construct	Explanatory Variables	Utility of beverage j, task t (U_{jt}) (t-statistic)							
		Bottled water	Energy drink	Plain low-fat milk	Flavored milk	Soft drink (regular)	Soft drink (diet)	Fruit juice	No drink
Alternative Specific Constant (ASC) α_j	Alternative Specific Constant (ASC)	NS	-.170 (-1.88)	-.169 (-2.66)	-.198 (-1.89)	.068 (2.34)	-.048 (-2.42)	.718 (4.51)	.696 (6.46)
Design variable (β_j)	Volume/Price Ratio (ml/AU\$)	.523 (20.52)	.403 (12.75)	.220 (6.99)	.782 (8.14)	.598 (10.63)	.680 (12.02)	.713 (14.83)	NS
Shorter-term choice effect ($d_{j,t-1}$)	Same alternative chosen in the last choice task (Yes=1, No=0)	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	.513 (8.88)
Longer-term choice effect ($D_{j,t}$)	Cumulative sum of choice of the same alternative until last choice task	.080 (13.20)	.221 (14.20)	.193 (12.75)	.121 (3.50)	.118 (4.98)	.159 (8.34)	.043 (2.10)	.243 (15.15)
Visual attention (Y_{jt})	Natural logarithm of time spent on beverage j, task t	1.374 (15.37)	1.482 (9.83)	1.435 (10.99)	1.199 (11.80)	1.288 (13.85)	1.298 (11.05)	1.155 (13.01)	NS
	Autoregressive parameter value (on unobserved utility) ^a					.573 (7.01)			

908 NS, not significant. ^a Bottled water has the highest choice share, therefore we take this as the reference alternative.909 Results for habit and goal parameters (direct effect of habit and goals on utility) were not statistically significant and were therefore omitted from
910 the final model and are not reported here.

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914 **Table 3: Covariance matrix (Ω) parameter estimates**

Utility of beverage j, task t (U_{jt})	Correlation of visual attention across beverage alternatives (Ω_6)							Correlation of stochastic utilities across beverage alternatives Ω_7						
	Bottled water	Energy drink	Plain low-fat milk	Flavored milk	Soft drink (regular)	Soft drink (diet)	Fruit juice	Energy drink	Plain low-fat milk	Flavored milk	Soft drink (regular)	Soft drink (diet)	Fruit juice	No drink
Bottled water	.597 (8.51)													
Energy drink	NS	.560 (8.33)												
Plain low-fat milk	.277 (2.11)	.294 (2.95)	.471 (6.96)											
Flavored milk	NS	NS	.174 (7.16)	.477 (8.53)										
Soft drink (regular)	NS	.321 (10.99)	.169	NS	.650 (8.59)									
Soft drink (diet)	.352 (11.47)	NS	.034	-.121	0.353 (4.58)	.721 (6.94)								
Fruit juice	.253 (9.78)	NS	.205 (9.43)	.158 (4.40)	NS	.209 (6.41)	.762 (3.92)							
Energy drink	NS	NS	.025	.016 (1.85)	NS	.014	.222 (4.30)	1.000						
Plain low-fat milk	NS	NS	NS	-.020	NS	.031	.0242 (4.53)	.580	.775 (8.22)					
Flavored milk	NS	NS	.070 (2.35)	.128 (2.96)	-.040 (-2.25)	-.021 (-1.15)	.409	.760 (3.32)	.634 (11.83)	1.087 (11.62)				
Soft drink (regular)	.029 (2.54)	NS	-.001	-.047 (-4.77)	.036 (2.13)	.071 (2.10)	.103 (3.56)	.547	.486	.570 (9.49)	.839 (9.28)			
Soft drink (diet)	NS	NS	NS	NS	.052 (2.89)	.040 (2.42)	.006	.504	.219 (2.15)	.425	.391	.805 (8.28)		
Fruit juice	-.008	NS	.013	.018	NS	.023	.228 (6.41)	.723 (8.52)	.597	.727	.588	.332 (5.86)	1.084 (11.33)	
No drink	.398 (13.38)	.135 (6.26)	.308 (7.64)	.112 (9.03)	.248 (10.61)	.418 (12.08)	.527 (12.22)	.619	.589	.641	.572	.441	.526	1.563

915 NS, not significant.

916 **Table 4: Model fit statistics**

Role of Visual Attention (Y_{jt})	Model	Number of parameters	Composite Marginal Likelihood Value	AR(1) parameter value (t-statistic)	Adjusted composite likelihood ratio (p-value comparison with AR(1)EJ model)^a	Composite likelihood information criteria (CLIC)
	Joint-AR(1)VE	139	-4943689.19	.016 (2.25)	.446	N/A
Used as a preference driver (fully compensatory model)	Joint-AR(1)V	139	-4943351.02	-.052 (-2.13)	.475	N/A
	Joint-AR(1)E	137	-4942782.99	.573 (7.01)	N/A	-4942922.25
	Independent-AR(1)VE	135	-4945495.05	.112 (1.84)	.010	N/A
Used to capture screening behavior through penalty function ^b (two step approach)	Joint-AR(1)VEP	138	-4961851.03	.431 (5.42)	N/A	-4961982.10
	Joint-AR(1)EP	138	-4958239.42	.594 (13.13)	N/A	-4958377.42

917 ^a p -value calculation is based on 100 bootstrap samples. ^b Beta values for all penalty function times were positive- results available on request from
918 authors.
919

920 **Table 5: Model fit for in- and out-of- sample prediction**

921

Model	Predicted Share								Mean absolute error (MAE)
	Bottled water	Energy drink	Plain low-fat milk	Flavored milk	Soft drink (regular)	Soft drink (diet)	Fruit juice	No drink	
In-Sample ^a									
Observed share	.27	.07	.06	.10	.11	.09	.20	.09	
Joint-AR(1)VE	.18	.12	.16	.11	.11	.07	.18	.07	.039
Joint-AR(1)V	.27	.10	.15	.08	.10	.13	.15	.03	.038
Joint-AR(1)E	.24	.09	.12	.15	.10	.09	.16	.05	.031
Independent-AR(1)E	.58	.06	.06	.05	.05	.07	.10	.04	.075
Joint-AR(1)VEP	.15	.04	.23	.18	.13	.10	.16	.01	.069
Joint-AR(1)EP	.21	.05	.11	.17	.11	.12	.21	.03	.038
Out-of-sample ^b									
Observed share	.20	.08	.13	.13	.11	.12	.20	.04	
Joint-AR(1)VE	.19	.12	.17	.11	.11	.07	.17	.08	.029
Joint-AR(1)V	.28	.09	.16	.08	.10	.12	.14	.03	.031
Joint-AR(1)E	.20	.05	.12	.16	.10	.12	.21	.03	.013
Independent-AR(1)E	.59	.06	.06	.05	.05	.07	.09	.04	.098
Joint-AR(1)VEP	.14	.04	.24	.18	.14	.10	.16	.01	.048
Joint-AR(1)EP	.25	.09	.13	.15	.10	.09	.14	.05	.024

922 ^a Sample size=2780 (139 individuals with 20 choice tasks)923 ^b Sample size=206 (13 individuals with varying number of choice tasks)

924 **Table 6: Average treatment effect (ATE) on probability of choosing a particular option due to 10% increase in total time spent looking at**
 925 **that option including attribute values (standard errors): comparison of independent and joint model performance**

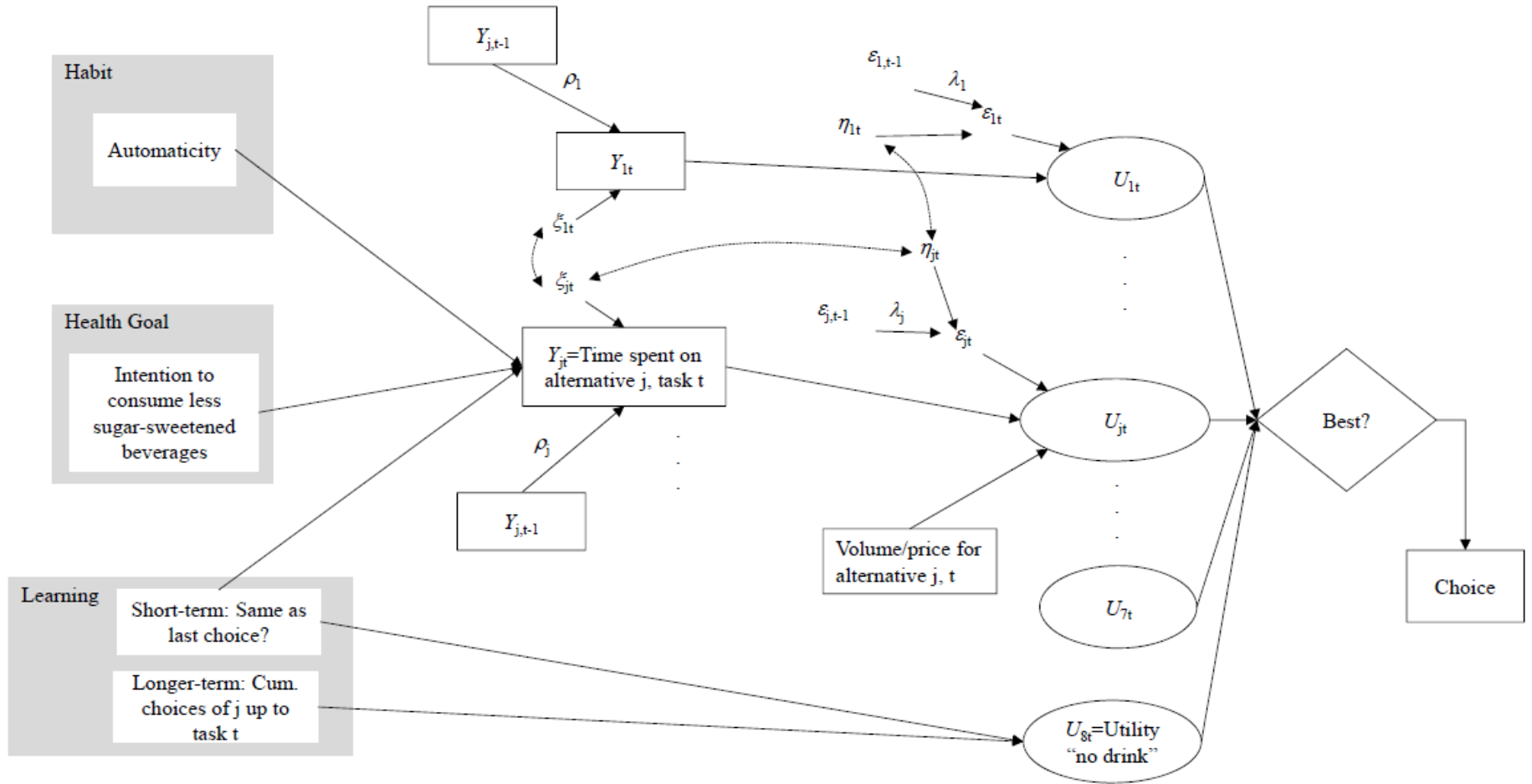
Alternative	Baseline observed choice share	ATE for 10% increase in fixation time Independent-AR(1)E	ATE for 10% increase in fixation time Joint-AR(1)E model ^a	<i>p</i> -value	True effect ^b	Spurious effect ^c
Bottled water	.27	.031 (.003)	.020 (.003)	.005	65%	35%
Energy drink	.07	.018 (.002)	.010 (.002)	.002	56%	44%
Plain low-fat milk	.06	.019 (.002)	.010 (.002)	.001	53%	47%
Flavored milk	.10	.018 (.002)	.011 (.002)	.007	61%	39%
Soft drink (regular)	.11	.018 (.002)	.011 (.002)	.007	61%	39%
Soft drink (diet)	.09	.016 (.002)	.010 (.002)	.017	63%	37%
Fruit juice	.20	.023 (.003)	.015 (.002)	.013	65%	35%
None	.09					

926 ^a ATE values are based on 500 model estimation repetitions.

927 ^b The true effect is the ratio of share estimations from the joint model/ independent model estimations.

928 ^c Additional percentage of share not accounted for by true effect.

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Fig. 1: Econometric model schematic

WEB APPENDIX A: DISCRETE CHOICE EXPERIMENT DETAILS

Experimental Design

In the labelled DCE, participants selected a beverage within a hypothetical convenience store setting. Each participant completed 20 choice tasks involving three SSB alternatives (energy drink, flavored milk, regular soft drink (soda)), four non-sugar-sweetened alternatives (non-SSBs: plain low-fat milk, fruit juice, diet soft drink, bottled water), and a “no drink” alternative (meaning that they would “consume no drink on this occasion”). Each beverage was described by alternative-specific prices and generic volume attributes which varied over four levels each. An orthogonal design was generated using Ngene software (Rose, Collins, Bliemer & Hensher 2009). An example choice task (**Figure A.1**) and list of attribute levels for each alternative (**Table A.1**) are given below. Prior to completing the choice tasks, half of participants were randomly exposed to a real-world educational message designed to discourage selection of SSBs. The other half did not see any message. After the 10th choice task all participants were presented with a message reminding them to “consider their options carefully”, to ameliorate potential fatigue effects. As described later, we tested for the impact of the education message in the analysis and found no significant effect on beverage choice, hence sub-samples were pooled and we used the full sample in the estimation results we present later.

Following the DCE, participants completed questions on stated attendance to attributes and alternatives as well as strength of SSB consumption habit. This included an 11-point scale of readiness to consider reducing SSB intake based on a validated tool to assess readiness to quit smoking (Biener & Abrams 1991) and the Self-Report Behavioral Automaticity Index, a 4-item measure of habit strength measured on a 5-point Likert scale with higher scores signifying a stronger habit (Gardner, Abraham, Lally & de Bruijn 2012).

Please read the information below carefully:

For this survey, imagine that you are now going into your local convenience store (e.g. newsagent, 7-Eleven, independent milk bar) with the intention to buy a pre-packaged drink (in a bottle, can or carton) for yourself to drink immediately. Please note that this does not include supermarkets or petrol stations, hospital, sports and recreation facilities etc. where you may have entered the store for another main purpose.

You will be presented with a number of individual shopping scenarios. In each scenario, you will be presented with 7 drink options, each drink will be described by its price and size (volume). The information describing price and volume will change between each task. Assume the displayed products are the only available options.

Please note that 'energy drink' refers to a drink specifically designed to give a short term 'energy' boost such as those with added taurine, guarana or caffeine. It does not include 'sports drinks'.

In each scenario, please indicate which **one option** you would choose. Either select the drink that you would buy OR select 'no beverage' if you would exit the convenience store without having purchased a drink in this situation, after already having entered the convenience store with the intention to buy a pre-packaged drink. This would mean you would not consume a drink on this occasion.

Please also treat each scenario as separate (i.e. as if you had not just made the previous choice).

Please note: there are no right or wrong answers, the researchers are interested in your individual preference among the options presented.

On the next page will be a practice scenario.

Fig. A.1 (part 1): Discrete Choice Experiment scenario explanation and sample choice scenario

You have gone into your local convenience store now (e.g. newsagent, 7-Eleven, independent milk bar) with the intention to buy a pre-packaged drink (in a bottle, can or carton) to drink immediately yourself. Select the option below that you would choose.

	Energy drink	Plain low-fat milk	Flavoured milk	Bottled water	Soft drink (regular)	Soft drink (diet)	Fruit juice	No drink
Price	\$5.90	\$5.00	\$6.50	\$1.00	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$5.90	N/A
Volume (size)	200mL	200mL	200mL	600mL	200mL	200mL	200mL	N/A
Which would you choose?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Fig. A.1 (part 2): Discrete Choice Experiment scenario explanation and sample choice scenario

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Table A.1: Alternative attribute levels

Alternative	Experimental volumes tested	Experimental prices tested (AUD)
Energy drink	200mL, 330mL, 460mL, 600mL	\$2.00, \$3.30, \$4.60, \$5.90
Soft drink (regular)		\$2.00, \$3.50, \$5.00, \$6.50
Soft drink (diet)		\$2.00, \$3.50, \$5.00, \$6.50
Plain low-fat milk		\$1.00, \$2.30, \$3.70, \$5.00
Flavoured milk		\$2.00, \$3.50, \$5.00, \$6.50
Bottled water		\$1.00, \$2.30, \$3.70, \$5.00
Fruit juice		\$2.00, \$3.30, \$4.60, \$5.90

Implementation of Eye-Tracking Measurements

All participants completed the DCE in an eye-tracking laboratory at the study university. The task involved sitting and completing the DCE on a computer-screen. A discrete, web-cam like device tracked eye movements (Tobii Pro, 2011, Tobii TX300; Stockholm, Sweden). The choice tasks were presented through a web-browser using Tobii Studio version 3.2 (Tobii Pro, 2012, Stockholm, Sweden). Eye movements were recorded at 300 Hz on a screen resolution of 1920 x 1080 pixels. Minimum fixation duration was 60ms.

Participants were positioned with their head 64cm from the screen as per recommended Tobii T-series validity requirements. Participants' eye-movements were calibrated before the experiment using nine static calibration locations on the screen. Participants were eye-tracked during the entire survey, however only visual attention data corresponding to the DCE are analyzed here.

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WEB APPENDIX B: DETAILED METHODOLOGY

Our model has three components: continuous (visual attention duration), ordered (habit measures), and nominal (choice outcome) variables. We first describe the construction of each component separately and then bring them together using a covariance approach.

Visual Attention Model

Let \tilde{t} be the index for task instance ($\tilde{t} = 1, 2, \dots, \tilde{T}$) and \tilde{h} be the index for the continuous outcome ($\tilde{h} = 1, 2, \dots, \tilde{H}$). Then, we can write in the usual linear regression form:

$$(1) \quad \tilde{y}_{\tilde{h}, \tilde{t}} = \tilde{\rho}_{\tilde{h}} \tilde{y}_{\tilde{h}, \tilde{t}-1} + \gamma'_{\tilde{h}} x_{\tilde{h}, \tilde{t}} + \xi_{\tilde{h}}$$

Where $\tilde{\rho}_{\tilde{h}}$ is the autoregressive (AR-1) coefficient which ranges between -1 to 1, $x_{\tilde{h}, \tilde{t}}$ is a $(k_{\tilde{h}} \times 1)$ vector of exogenous variables (including a constant), $\gamma_{\tilde{h}}$ is the corresponding $(k_{\tilde{h}} \times 1)$ vector of coefficients, and $\xi_{\tilde{h}}$ is a normally distributed error term. The autoregressive coefficient helps us capture the time-multiplier effect (i.e., the effect of previous time period on the current time period for both observed and unobserved variables). Now, stack all the \tilde{H} continuous outcomes for all task instances \tilde{T} in a vector $\tilde{y} = (\tilde{y}_{1,1}, \tilde{y}_{2,1}, \dots, \tilde{y}_{\tilde{H},1}, \dots, \tilde{y}_{\tilde{H},\tilde{T}})$ ($\tilde{H}\tilde{T} \times 1$), autoregressive coefficient $\tilde{\rho}_{\tilde{h}}$ for all the \tilde{H} continuous outcomes in a vector $\tilde{\rho} = (\tilde{\rho}_1, \tilde{\rho}_2, \dots, \tilde{\rho}_{\tilde{H}})$ of size $(\tilde{H} \times 1)$, exogenous variable's coefficients in a matrix $\gamma = (\gamma'_1, \gamma'_2, \dots, \gamma'_{\tilde{H}})$ of size $(\tilde{H} \times k_{\tilde{h}})$, exogenous variables in a matrix $x_{\tilde{H}, \tilde{T}} = (x'_{1,1}, x'_{2,1}, \dots, x'_{\tilde{H},1}, \dots, x'_{\tilde{H},\tilde{T}})$ of size $(\tilde{H}\tilde{T} \times k_{\tilde{h}})$ and all the error terms in $(\xi = \xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_{\tilde{H}})$ of size $(\tilde{H} \times 1)$. Where $(, \dots)$ inside the bracket refers to placement of next variable in the next row. Also, let Ξ be the covariance matrix of ξ .

Now, to write the equation (1) in the matrix form, define the following matrices:

construct a matrix $\mathbf{F}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}$ of size $(\tilde{H}\tilde{T} \times \tilde{H}\tilde{T})$ with all the cells filled with zeros. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of matrix $\mathbf{F}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}$.

```

for j = 2 to  $\tilde{T}$ 
    for i = 1 to  $\tilde{H}$ 
         $\mathbf{F}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}[(j-1) * \tilde{H} + i, (j-1) * \tilde{H} + i] = \tilde{\rho}[i, 1]$ 
    end
end
end

```

For example: a $\mathbf{F}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}$ matrix with $\tilde{H} = 2$ and $\tilde{T} = 3$ will take the following form:

$$\mathbf{F}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \tilde{\rho}_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \tilde{\rho}_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \tilde{\rho}_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \tilde{\rho}_2 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Also, construct a matrix $\mathbf{I}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}$ of size $(\tilde{H}\tilde{T} \times \tilde{H}\tilde{T})$ with all the cells filled with zeros.

Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix $\mathbf{I}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}$

```

for j = 2 to  $\tilde{T}$ 
    for i = 1 to  $\tilde{H}$ 
         $\mathbf{I}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}[(j-1) * \tilde{H} + i, (j-2) * \tilde{H} + i] = 1$ 
    end
end
end

```

With this, equation (1) may be written in the matrix form as follows:

$$(2) \quad \tilde{\gamma} = \mathbf{S} * [\text{sumc}[(\tilde{\gamma} * \mathbf{x}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}})'] + \tilde{\xi}]$$

where $\tilde{\gamma} = \text{ones}(\tilde{T}, 1) .* \gamma$, $\tilde{\xi} = \text{ones}(\tilde{T}, 1) .* \xi$, ".*" refers to Kronecker product, "." refers to element by element multiplication, the operator sumc(.) returns the sum of columns of matrix in a column vector, ones(\tilde{T} , 1) indicates a vector of size \tilde{T} whose all the elements are

filled with a value of “1”, $\mathbf{1}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}$ refers to an identity matrix of size $\tilde{H}\tilde{T}$ and $\mathbf{S} = [\mathbf{1}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} - (\mathbf{F}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} * \mathbf{I}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}})]^{-1}$ of size $(\tilde{H}\tilde{T} \times \tilde{H}\tilde{T})$.

From equation (2), it can be observed that \tilde{y} is distributed normally with mean $\mathbf{S} * [\text{sumc}[(\tilde{\gamma} * \mathbf{x}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}})]]$ and covariance $\mathbf{S} * [\mathbf{1}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} * \mathbf{\Xi}] * \mathbf{S}'^2$. Also, to maintain the bound on the autoregressive parameter vector $\tilde{\rho}$, we parametrize the parameter as $\tilde{\rho} = \tilde{\rho}_p / [\mathbf{1} + (\tilde{\rho}_p)^2]^{0.5}$. Where $\tilde{\rho}_p$ is the value passed to the optimization module.

Habit and Goal Variable Model

Strength of habit and goals were considered on an ordinal scale. Let \ddot{t} be the index for task instance ($\ddot{t} = 1, 2, \dots, \ddot{T}$) and \ddot{n} be the index for the ordinal outcome ($\ddot{n} = 1, 2, \dots, \ddot{N}$). Also, let $J_{\ddot{n}}$ (>1) be the number of categories for the \ddot{n}^{th} ordinal outcome and the corresponding index be $j_{\ddot{n}} = (1, 2, \dots, J_{\ddot{n}})$.³ Let $\ddot{y}_{\ddot{n}\ddot{t}}^*$ be the underlying latent variable. Then in the usual ordered-response formulation, we may write:

² In a time-series based regression such as the one described here, the dependence between a particular continuous variable's task instances or time periods is generated through the autoregressive parameter and the dependence across continuous variables is captured through the covariance matrix $\mathbf{\Xi}$. This allows the analyst to exclude random taste heterogeneity in the model. Our experience with the model suggests that recovery of random parameters in such a highly non-linear model is relatively difficult. Therefore, we suggest the inclusion of either autoregressive parameters or random taste parameters in the model depending upon the analyst's requirement. Random taste parameters can be included in a straightforward manner as follows: let $\mathbf{\Omega}$ be a $(k_{\tilde{h}} \times k_{\tilde{h}})$ covariance matrix of exogenous variables. Then, stack the exogenous variables in a matrix of size $(\tilde{H}\tilde{T} \times k_{\tilde{h}} \tilde{T})$ as follows:

$$X_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} = \begin{bmatrix} x'_{1,1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x'_{2,1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x'_{\tilde{H},1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \vdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \vdots & 0 & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & x'_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} \end{bmatrix}$$

With this $\tilde{y} \sim N[\mathbf{S} * [\text{sumc}[(\tilde{\gamma} * \mathbf{x}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}})']], \mathbf{S} * [\mathbf{1}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} * \mathbf{\Xi} + X_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} * (\mathbf{1}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} * \mathbf{\Omega}) * X'_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}] * \mathbf{S}']$

³ The requirement of number of categories to be greater than 1 instead of 2 enables us to model binary outcomes as ordinal outcomes with no additional thresholds being estimated.

$$(3) \quad \ddot{y}_{\ddot{n},\ddot{t}}^* = \delta_{\ddot{n}}' \mathbf{x}_{\ddot{n},\ddot{t}} + \zeta_{\ddot{n}}, \text{ and } \Psi_{\ddot{n},a_{\ddot{n},\ddot{t}}-1} < \ddot{y}_{\ddot{n},\ddot{t}}^* < \Psi_{\ddot{n},a_{\ddot{n},\ddot{t}}}, \text{ if } \ddot{y}_{\ddot{n},\ddot{t}} = a_{\ddot{n},\ddot{t}}$$

where $\mathbf{x}_{\ddot{n},\ddot{t}}$ is a $(k_{\ddot{n}} \times 1)$ vector of exogenous variables (including constant)⁴, $\delta_{\ddot{n}}$ is the corresponding $(k_{\ddot{n}} \times 1)$ vector of parameters, $a_{\ddot{n},\ddot{t}}$ is the observed outcome category at time period \ddot{t} for the \ddot{n}^{th} ordinal variable, and $\zeta_{\ddot{n}}$ is a standard normal error term⁵. Further, the thresholds for the ordinal outcome should be in ascending order (i.e.,

$$\Psi_{\ddot{n},0} < \Psi_{\ddot{n},1} < \dots < \Psi_{\ddot{n},J_{\ddot{n}}-1} < \Psi_{\ddot{n},J_{\ddot{n}}}; \Psi_{\ddot{n},0} = -\infty, \Psi_{\ddot{n},1}=0, \text{ and } \Psi_{\ddot{n},J_{\ddot{n}}} = \infty).$$

Now, stack the threshold elements as follows:

$$\Psi_{\ddot{n}} = (\Psi_{\ddot{n},0}, \Psi_{\ddot{n},1}, \dots, \Psi_{\ddot{n},J_{\ddot{n}}}) [(J_{\ddot{n}} + 1) \times 1] \text{ vector,}$$

$$\Psi_{\ddot{t}} = (\Psi'_{1,1}, \Psi'_{2,1}, \dots, \Psi'_{\ddot{N},1})' [\ddot{N}(J_{\ddot{n}} + 1) \times 1] \text{ vector,}$$

$$\Psi_{low} = (\Psi_{1,a_{1,1}-1}, \Psi_{1,a_{2,1}-1}, \dots, \Psi_{1,a_{\ddot{N},1}-1}, \dots, \Psi_{1,a_{\ddot{N},\ddot{T}}-1}) [\ddot{N}\ddot{T} \times 1] \text{ vector, and}$$

$$\Psi_{up} = (\Psi_{1,a_{1,1}}, \Psi_{1,a_{2,1}}, \dots, \Psi_{1,a_{\ddot{N},1}}, \dots, \Psi_{1,a_{\ddot{N},\ddot{T}}}) [\ddot{N}\ddot{T} \times 1] \text{ vector } ^6.$$

Further, stack the $\ddot{N}\ddot{T}$ underlying latent variables in a $(\ddot{N}\ddot{T} \times 1)$ vector $\ddot{\mathbf{y}}^* = (\ddot{y}_{1,1}^*, \ddot{y}_{2,1}^*, \dots, \ddot{y}_{\ddot{N},1}^*, \dots, \ddot{y}_{\ddot{N},\ddot{T}}^*)$, exogenous variables in a matrix $\mathbf{x}_{\ddot{N},\ddot{T}} = (\mathbf{x}'_{1,1}, \mathbf{x}'_{2,1}, \dots, \mathbf{x}'_{\ddot{N},1}, \dots, \mathbf{x}'_{\ddot{N},\ddot{T}})$ of size $(\ddot{N}\ddot{T} \times k_{\ddot{n}})$, exogenous variables' coefficients in a matrix $\boldsymbol{\delta} = (\boldsymbol{\delta}'_1, \boldsymbol{\delta}'_2, \dots, \boldsymbol{\delta}'_{\ddot{N}})$ of size $(\ddot{N} \times k_{\ddot{n}})$, and all the error terms in $\boldsymbol{\zeta} = (\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \dots, \zeta_{\ddot{N}})$ of size $(\ddot{N} \times 1)$. Also, let Γ be the correlation matrix of $\boldsymbol{\zeta}$. Then, we may write, equation (3) in the matrix form as follows:

$$(4) \quad \ddot{\mathbf{y}}^* = \text{sumc} \left[(\boldsymbol{\delta} \cdot \mathbf{x}_{\ddot{N},\ddot{T}})' \right] + \boldsymbol{\zeta}, \Psi_{low} < \ddot{\mathbf{y}}^* < \Psi_{up} ^7$$

$$\text{where } \boldsymbol{\delta} = \text{ones}(\ddot{T}, 1) \cdot \boldsymbol{\delta} \text{ and } \boldsymbol{\zeta} = \text{ones}(\ddot{T}, 1) \cdot \boldsymbol{\zeta}.$$

⁴ We fix the second threshold to a value of zero and thus estimate the constant for every ordinal outcome.

⁵ The normalization on the error term is needed for identification, as in the usual ordered-response model; see McKelvey, R. D., & Zavoina, W. (1975). A statistical model for the analysis of ordinal level dependent variables. *Journal of Mathematical Sociology*, 4(1), 103-120..

⁶ Here for ease in notation, we assume that all the ordinal outcomes have same number of categories. However, this may not be the case. In situations with different number of categories, one can fill the remaining/extra cells with zeros.

⁷ If the ordinal outcomes are observed for more than one time period, then one would be tempted to include random-taste parameters in order to capture the dependence across time-periods. Similar to the

Choice Model

Let t be the index for choice occasion ($t = 1, 2, \dots, T$), i be the index for nominal outcome ($i = 1, 2, \dots, I$), and k be the index for number of alternatives per nominal outcome ($k = 1, 2, \dots, K$)⁸. Then, we can write the utility of alternative k from the i^{th} nominal variable in the time period t as:

$$(5) \quad U_{i_k t} = \beta'_i x_{i_k t} + \varepsilon_{i_k}$$

where $x_{i_k t}$ is a ($g_i \times 1$) vector of exogenous variables at choice occasion t , β_i is the corresponding ($g_i \times 1$) vector of coefficients, and ε_{i_k} is a normally distributed error term (all the notations correspond to the nominal outcome i). Now, define the following notations:

$$I_k \text{ (total number of alternatives)} = \sum_{t=1}^T i_k,$$

$$U_{it} = (U_{1t}, U_{2t}, \dots, U_{i_k t}) [(i_k \times 1)] \text{ vector, } U_t = (U_{1t}, U_{2t}, \dots, U_{I_t}) [(I_K \times 1)] \text{ vector,}$$

$$\mathbf{U} = (\mathbf{U}_1, \mathbf{U}_2, \dots, \mathbf{U}_T) [(I_K \times 1)] \text{ vector, } \boldsymbol{\beta} = (\boldsymbol{\beta}'_{11}, \boldsymbol{\beta}'_{12}, \dots, \boldsymbol{\beta}'_{1K}, \dots, \boldsymbol{\beta}'_{I1}, \dots, \boldsymbol{\beta}'_{IK}) [(I_K \times g_i)]$$

vector,

$$x = (x'_{11t}, x'_{12t}, \dots, x'_{1Kt}, \dots, x'_{I_K t}) [(I_K \times g_i)] \text{ matrix, } x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_T) [(TI_K \times g_i)] \text{ matrix,}$$

$$\varepsilon_i = (\varepsilon_{i_1}, \varepsilon_{i_2}, \dots, \varepsilon_{i_k}) [(i_k \times 1)] \text{ vector, } \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_t = (\varepsilon_{1t}, \varepsilon_{2t}, \dots, \varepsilon_{1k}, \dots, \varepsilon_{I_k t}) [(I_K \times 1)] \text{ vector,}$$

$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\beta}} = [\text{ones}(T, 1) \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}] [(TI_K \times g_i)] \text{ matrix, and } \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = [\text{ones}(T, 1) \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_t] [(TI_K \times 1)] \text{ vector.}$$

Also, let $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_i$ be the covariance matrix of ε_i . Then, we may write, equation (5) in the matrix form as follows:

continuous variable model, the incorporation of random-taste parameter is straightforward. Let $\boldsymbol{\Psi}$ be a ($k_{\ddot{n}} \times k_{\ddot{n}}$), covariance matrix of exogenous variables. Then, stack the exogenous variables in a matrix

$$\text{of size } (\ddot{N}\ddot{T} \times k_{\ddot{n}}\ddot{T}) \text{ as follows: } X_{\ddot{N}\ddot{T}} = \begin{bmatrix} x'_{1,1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x'_{2,1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x'_{\ddot{N},1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \vdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \vdots & 0 & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & x'_{\ddot{N},\ddot{T}} \end{bmatrix}$$

With this the covariance matrix for \boldsymbol{y}^* becomes $[\mathbf{1}_{\ddot{T}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Gamma} + X_{\ddot{N}\ddot{T}} \cdot (\mathbf{1}_{\ddot{T}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Psi}) \cdot X'_{\ddot{N}\ddot{T}}]$

⁸ We suppress the index for the individual participant (i) for ease in presentation as it is a non-spatial model.

$$(6) \quad \mathbf{U} = \text{sumc}[(\tilde{\beta}.*\mathbf{x})'] + \varepsilon$$

With this, we may write the distribution of \mathbf{U} as

$$\mathbf{U} \sim N_{(I_K \times I_K)} \left[\text{sumc}[(\tilde{\beta}.*\mathbf{x})'], \mathbf{1}_{T.*}.\mathbf{\Lambda} \right]. \text{Where,}$$

$$\mathbf{\Lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{\Lambda}_1 & \mathbf{\Lambda}_{12} & \mathbf{\Lambda}_{1,I-1} & \mathbf{\Lambda}_{1,I} \\ \mathbf{\Lambda}'_{12} & \mathbf{\Lambda}_2 & \mathbf{\Lambda}_{2,I-1} & \mathbf{\Lambda}_{2,I} \\ \mathbf{\Lambda}'_{1,I-1} & \mathbf{\Lambda}'_{2,I-1} & \ddots & \mathbf{\Lambda}_{I-1,I} \\ \mathbf{\Lambda}'_{1,I} & \mathbf{\Lambda}'_{2,I} & \mathbf{\Lambda}'_{I-1,I} & \mathbf{\Lambda}_I \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and}$$

In the $\mathbf{\Lambda}$ matrix, the off-diagonal elements capture dependencies across nominal variables through correlation in unobserved variables⁹.

Since only the differences in utility matter, only the difference of error-terms are identifiable and not the actual error terms after performing the normalization to fix the scale of

⁹ This is not to say that this is the only way to capture dependencies across nominal variables. Another way to capture dependency may be achieved by random-taste parameter. However, this would require the analyst to have a common exogenous variable in all the nominal variables and in all the alternatives. This could be rather difficult given the differential impact of the same exogenous variable on different choice dimensions. On the other hand, one is free to incorporate random-taste parameters at the nominal variable level (with full or no correlation) with no cross-correlation across nominal variables. It could be incorporated as follows: Let Σ_i be the ($i_G \times i_G$) covariance matrix of exogenous variables for the i^{th} nominal variable. Where $G = \sum_{r=1}^K i_r$ is the total number of exogenous variables in the i^{th} nominal variable. Then, stack the exogenous variables for all the nominal variables in a matrix of size ($I_K T \times TG$) and all the random-taste parameter matrices into a Σ matrix as follows:

$$X_{I_K T} = \begin{bmatrix} x'_{1,1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x'_{2,1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x'_{1_{k,1}} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x'_{I,1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x'_{I,1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x'_{I_{k,1}} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x'_{I-1_{k,T-1}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & x'_{I_{k,T}} \end{bmatrix}, \Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \Sigma_I \end{bmatrix}$$

With this, we may write the distribution of \mathbf{U} as

$$\mathbf{U} \sim N_{I_K \times I_K} \left[\text{sumc}[(\tilde{\beta}.*\mathbf{x})'], [\mathbf{1}_{T.*}.\mathbf{\Lambda} + X_{I_K T} * (\mathbf{1}_{T.*}.\Sigma * X'_{I_K T})] \right].$$

utility. Therefore, we normalize the top diagonal element to 1 for estimation purposes (Keane 1992). However, all the differenced error matrices must originate from the same un-differenced error matrix. To do so, append the matrices Λ_i by adding a row and column of zeros on the top (Sidharthan & Bhat 2012) i.e., $\Lambda_i = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0_{1,i_K-1} \\ 0_{i_K-1,1} & \Lambda_i \end{bmatrix}$ or multiply the matrix Λ with a matrix

\mathbf{D} (i.e., expanded differenced matrix $\mathbf{D}\Lambda$ for all the nominal variables) constructed as follows:

Define a matrix \mathbf{D} of size $[(I_K) \times (I_K - I)]$ with all the elements being equal to zero.

Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix \mathbf{D} .

for m=1 to I

 if(m==1)

 st_row =2

 end_row= m_K

 st_col =1

 end_col= $m_K - 1$

 else

 st_row = $[\sum_{n=1}^{m-1} n_K] + 2$

 end_row= $[\sum_{n=1}^m n_K]$

 st_col = $[\sum_{n=1}^{m-1} (n_K - 1)] + 1$

 end_col= $[\sum_{n=1}^m (n_K - 1)]$

 end

$\mathbf{D}[\text{st_row: end_row, st_col:end_col}] = 1_{m_K-1}$

end

Now, similar to the continuous variable model, we introduce the AR-1 structure in the unobserved part of the utility as follows:

$$\varepsilon_{i_k t} = \lambda_i \varepsilon_{i_k t-1} + \eta_{i_k}$$

where λ_i is the autoregressive coefficient for the i^{th} nominal variable and η_{i_k} is the time-independent component of the error-term. That is, η'_{i_k} can be correlated for a nominal variable in a given time period, but are independent across time-periods. With this, we may re-write the equation (5) as follows with all the notations as above:

$$(7) \quad U_{i_{kt}} = \beta'_i x_{i_{kt}} + \varepsilon_{i_{kt}}$$

Now, stack the time-independent error terms and the nominal variable specific AR coefficients as follows:

$$\boldsymbol{\eta}_i = (\eta_{i_1}, \eta_{i_2}, \dots, \eta_{i_K})[(i_K \times 1)] \text{ vector,} \quad \boldsymbol{\eta}_t = (\eta_{1_1}, \eta_{1_2}, \dots, \eta_{1_K}, \dots, \eta_{I_K})[(I_K \times 1)] \text{ vector,}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\eta} = [\text{ones}(T, 1) * \boldsymbol{\eta}_t][(TI_K \times 1)] \text{ vector, and } \boldsymbol{\lambda} = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_I)[(I \times 1)] \text{ vector.}$$

With this, we assume that Λ_i is the covariance matrix of $\boldsymbol{\eta}_i$ ¹⁰. Now, define the additional matrices in order to write equation (7) in the matrix form:

Define a matrix \mathbf{R} of size $[(TI_K) \times (TI_K)]$ with all the elements being equal to zero.

Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix \mathbf{R} .

for $m=2$ to T

 for $n=1$ to I

 if($n==1$)

 for $j=1$ to n_K

 row = $(m-1) * I_K + j$

 col = $(m-2) * I_K + j$

$\mathbf{R}[\text{row}, \text{col}] = 1$

¹⁰ Here we use the same notation for the covariance matrix of $\boldsymbol{\eta}_i$ as ε_i to avoid redundancy. To be precise, one can motivate the model directly by incorporating AR-1 structure, avoiding the need for redundancy.

```

        end
    else
        for  $j=1$  to  $n_K$ 
            row =  $(m-1) * I_K + [\sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K] + j$ 
            col =  $(m-2) * I_K + [\sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K] + j$ 
            R[row,col]=1
        end
    end
end
end
end

```

Next, construct a matrix $\mathbf{F}_{I_K T}$ of size $(T I_K \times T I_K)$ with all the cells filled with zeros.

Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of matrix $\mathbf{F}_{I_K T}$.

```

for  $m=2$  to  $T$ 
    for  $n=1$  to  $I$ 
        if( $n==1$ )
            for  $j=1$  to  $n_K$ 
                row =  $(m-1) * I_K + j$ 
                col =  $(m-2) * I_K + j$ 
                FIKT[row,col]=λ[n, 1]
            end
        else
            for  $j=1$  to  $n_K$ 
                row =  $(m-1) * I_K + [\sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K] + j$ 
                col =  $(m-2) * I_K + [\sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K] + j$ 
            end
        end
    end
end

```

```

                                 $F_{IKT}[\text{row,col}] = \lambda[n, 1]$ 
                                end
                                end
                                end
                                end
                                end

```

With this, equation (7) can be written in the matrix form as follows:

$$(8) \quad \mathbf{U} = \text{sumc}[(\tilde{\beta}.*x)'] + \mathbf{C}\eta$$

where $\mathbf{C} = [\mathbf{1}_{IKT} - (\mathbf{F}_{IKT}.*|\mathbf{R}_{IKT})]^{-1}$ of size $(TI_K \times TI_K)$.

From equation (8), it is easy to observe that U is distributed normally with mean $\text{sumc}[(\tilde{\beta}.*x)']$ and covariance $\mathbf{C} * [\mathbf{1}_T.*\mathbf{D}\Lambda] * \mathbf{C}'$. Also, to maintain the bound on autoregressive parameter vector λ , we parametrize the parameter as $\lambda = \lambda_\rho / [\mathbf{1} + (\lambda_\rho)^2]^{0.5}$, where λ_ρ is the value passed to the optimization module.

Joint Model Estimation

Now, we bring the individual components of the model together to form a joint model followed by model estimation approach. To write the joint model in a matrix form, define the following vector and matrices:

$$\mathbf{Y}_t \mathbf{U}_t = (\tilde{y}_{1,t}, \tilde{y}_{2,t}, \dots, \tilde{y}_{\tilde{H},t}, \ddot{y}_{1,t}^*, \ddot{y}_{2,t}^*, \dots, \ddot{y}_{\ddot{N},t}^*, U_t) [(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) \times 1] \text{ vector, } 1$$

$$\mathbf{YU} = [(\mathbf{Y}_1 \mathbf{U}_1), (\mathbf{Y}_2 \mathbf{U}_2), \dots, (\mathbf{Y}_T \mathbf{U}_T)]' [T * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) \times 1] \text{ vector, }^{11}$$

¹¹ The assumption here is that $\tilde{T} = \ddot{T} = T$. However, this need not be the case. If $\tilde{T} \neq \ddot{T} \neq T$, we assume that $T \geq \tilde{T} \& T \geq \ddot{T}$ given the focus of discrete choice models to model the choice outcome. Later we provide a design matrix which can be multiplied with the vector \mathbf{YU} to extract the relevant components. In the meantime, all the missing values can be replaced by zero. Thus, from now on we assume $T \geq \tilde{T} \& T \geq \ddot{T}$ and thus all the matrices/vector will be created to accommodate the highest dimension T .

$$X_t = (x'_{1,t}, x'_{2,t}, \dots, x'_{\tilde{H},t}, x'_{1,t}, x'_{2,t}, \dots, x'_{\ddot{N},t}, x'_t) [(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) \times \max(k_{\tilde{h}}, k_{\ddot{n}}, g_i)]$$

matrix,

$$\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{X}_1 \mathbf{X}_2, \dots, \mathbf{X}_T) [T * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) \times \max(k_{\tilde{h}}, k_{\ddot{n}}, g_i)] \text{ matrix,}$$

$$\vec{\beta} = (\boldsymbol{\gamma}', \boldsymbol{\delta}', \boldsymbol{\beta}') [(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) \times \max(k_{\tilde{h}}, k_{\ddot{n}}, g_i)] \text{ matrix,}$$

$$\vec{\beta} = \text{ones}(T, 1) .* \vec{\beta} [T * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) \times \max(k_{\tilde{h}}, k_{\ddot{n}}, g_i)] \text{ matrix.}$$

Define a matrix **D_Mat** of size $[(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) \times (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I)]$ with all the elements being equal to zero. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix **D_Mat**.

$$\mathbf{D_Mat} [1: \tilde{H} + \ddot{N}, 1: \tilde{H} + \ddot{N}] = \mathbf{1}_{\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}}$$

for $m=1$ to I

 if($m==1$)

$$\text{st_row} = \tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + 2$$

$$\text{end_row} = \tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + m_K$$

$$\text{st_col} = \tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + 1$$

$$\text{end_col} = \tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + m_K - 1$$

 else

$$\text{st_row} = \tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + [\sum_{n=1}^{m-1} n_K] + 2$$

$$\text{end_row} = \tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + [\sum_{n=1}^m n_K]$$

$$\text{st_col} = \tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + [\sum_{n=1}^{m-1} (n_K - 1)] + 1$$

$$\text{end_col} = \tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + [\sum_{n=1}^m (n_K - 1)]$$

 end

$$\mathbf{D_Mat}[\text{st_row}: \text{end_row}, \text{st_col}: \text{end_col}] = \mathbf{1}_{m_K - 1}$$

end

Construct a matrix **Cap_RI** of size $[T(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) \times T(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K)]$ with all the elements being equal to zero. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix **Cap_RI**.

for $m=2$ to T

for $n=1$ to \tilde{H}

$$\text{row} = (m - 1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) + n$$

$$\text{col} = (m - 2) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) + n$$

Cap_RI[row,col]=1

end

end

for $m=2$ to T

for $n=1$ to I

if($n==1$)

for $j = 1$ to n_K

$$\text{row} = (m - 1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) + (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + j$$

$$\text{col} = (m - 2) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) + (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + j$$

Cap_RI[row,col]=1

end

else

for $j = 1$ to n_K

$$\text{row} = (m - 1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) + (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + [\sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K] + j$$

$$\text{col} = (m - 2) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) + (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + [\sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K] + j$$

Cap_RI[row,col]=1

end

end

```

end
end

```

Finally, construct two matrices **I_Mean** and **I_Error** of size $[T(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) \times T(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K)]$ with all the cells filled with zeros. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix **I_Mean** and **I_Error**.

```

for m =2 to T
    for n =1 to  $\tilde{H}$ 
        if(m==1)
            row = (m - 1) * ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K$ ) + n
            col = (m - 2) * ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K$ ) + n
            I_Mean[row,col]=  $\tilde{\rho}[i, 1]$ 
            I_Error[row,col]=  $\tilde{\rho}[i, 1]$ 
        end
    end
end

for m =2 to T
    for n =1 to I
        if(n==1)
            for j = 1 to  $n_K$ 
                row = (m - 1) * ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K$ ) + ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}$ ) + j
                col = (m - 2) * ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K$ ) + ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}$ ) + j
                I_Error[row,col]=  $\lambda[n, 1]$ 
            end
        else
            for j = 1 to  $n_K$ 

```

```

row = (m - 1) * (H_tilde + N_tilde + I_K) + (H_tilde + N_tilde) + [sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K] + j
col = (m - 2) * (H_tilde + N_tilde + I_K) + (H_tilde + N_tilde) + [sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K] + j

I_Error[row,col]=  $\lambda$ [n, 1]

end

end

end

end

end

```

Also, collect all the error-covariance matrices as follows:

$$\vec{\Sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} \Xi & \text{Cov}(\Xi; \Gamma)' & \text{Cov}(\Xi; \Lambda)' \\ \text{Cov}(\Xi; \Gamma) & \Gamma & \text{Cov}(\Gamma; \Lambda)' \\ \text{Cov}(\Xi; \Lambda) & \text{Cov}(\Gamma; \Lambda) & \Lambda \end{bmatrix} [(\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K) \times (\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K)]$$

where off-diagonal elements capture the dependence across different type of variables (continuous, ordered, and nominal variables).

With this, we can write the distribution of joint model as follows:

$$YU \sim MVN(B_{T \times (\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K)}, \Theta_{T \times (\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K) \times T \times (\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K)}),$$

$$\text{where } B = \mathbf{F_Mean} * \text{sumc} \left[(\vec{\beta} * X)' \right],$$

$$\Theta = \mathbf{F_Error} * [\mathbf{1}_{T \times *}. (D_{MAT} * \vec{\Sigma})] * \mathbf{F_Error}',$$

$$\mathbf{F_Mean} = [\mathbf{1}_{T(\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K)} - \mathbf{I_Mean} * \mathbf{Cap_RI}]^{-1}, \text{ and}$$

$$\mathbf{F_Error} = [\mathbf{1}_{T(\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K)} - \mathbf{I_Error} * \mathbf{Cap_RI}]^{-1}$$

Next, to estimate the model, we take the utility difference between the chosen alternative (i_{m_k}) and non-chosen alternatives for all the nominal variables. To perform utility difference, construct a matrix $\mathbf{M_mat}$ of size $[T(\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K - 1) \times T(\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K)]$ with all

the cells filled with zeros. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix **M_mat**.

For m=1 to T

$$\mathbf{M} = \text{zeros}((\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I), (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K))$$

$$\mathbf{M} [1:\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}], 1:(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N})] = \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N})}$$

for n=1 to I

$$\text{Iden_mat} = \mathbf{1}_{n_K - 1}$$

$$\text{O_neg} = -1 * \text{ones}(n_K - 1, 1)$$

$$\text{if}(n_{m_K} == 1)$$

$$\text{temp_mat} = \text{O_neg} \sim \text{Iden_mat}$$

$$\text{else if}(n_{m_K} == n_K)$$

$$\text{temp_mat} = \text{Iden_mat}[:, 1:n_{m_K}] \sim \text{O_neg} \sim \text{Iden_mat}[:, n_{m_K}:n_K - 1]$$

end

if(n==1)

$$\text{row1} = (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + 1$$

$$\text{row2} = (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + n_K - 1$$

$$\text{col1} = (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + 1$$

$$\text{col2} = (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + n_K$$

else

$$\text{row1} = (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + (\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (j_K - 1)) + 1$$

$$\text{row2} = (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + (\sum_{j=1}^n (j_K - 1)) + 1$$

$$\text{col1} = (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + (\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (j_K)) + 1$$

```

col2 = ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}$ ) + ( $\sum_{j=1}^{n-1}(j_K)$ )+ $n_K$ 

end

M[row1:row2,col1:col2]=temp_mat

end

s_row1 = (m - 1) * ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I$ ) + 1

s_row2 = (m) * ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I$ )

s_col1 = (m - 1) * ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K$ ) + 1

s_col2 = (m) * ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K$ )

M_mat[s_row1:s_row2,s_col1:s_col2]=M

end

```

where “~” refers to horizontal concatenation.

With this we may write the distribution of \bar{YU} (same as YU but with utility difference w.r.t the chosen alternative for all the nominal variables) as $\bar{YU} \sim MVN_{T * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I)}(\tilde{B}, \tilde{\Theta})$ where $\tilde{B} = \mathbf{M_mat} * \mathbf{B}$, and $\tilde{\Theta} = \mathbf{M_mat} * \tilde{\Theta} * \mathbf{M_mat}'$.

Next, we define a matrix to re-arrange the elements of mean and covariance matrix of \bar{YU} in the following order: continuous, ordered, and nominal. This makes it easy to find the conditional distribution of non-continuous variables in a matrix format. To do so, define a matrix $\mathbf{R_mat}$ of size $[T(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I) \times T(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I)]$ with all the cells filled with zeros. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix $\mathbf{R_mat}$.

-----For continuous variables-----

For $m = 1$ to T

$$\text{row1} = (m-1) * \tilde{H} + 1$$

$$\text{row2} = (m) * \tilde{H}$$

$$\text{col1} = (m-1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I) + 1$$

$$\text{col2}=(m-1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I) + \tilde{H}$$

$$\mathbf{R_mat}[\text{row1: row2, col1:col2}] = \mathbf{1}_{\tilde{H}}$$

end

-----For ordered variables-----

For $m = 1$ to T

$$\text{row1}=\tilde{H}T + (m-1) * \ddot{N}+1$$

$$\text{row2}=\tilde{H}T + (m) * \ddot{N}+1$$

$$\text{col1}=(m-1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I) + \tilde{H} + 1$$

$$\text{col2}=(m-1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I) + \tilde{H} + \ddot{N}$$

$$\mathbf{R_mat}[\text{row1: row2, col1:col2}] = \mathbf{1}_{\ddot{N}}$$

end

-----For nominal variables-----

For $m = 1$ to T

$$\text{row1}=(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N})T + (m-1) * (I_K - I) + 1$$

$$\text{row2}=(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N})T + (m) * (I_K - I) + 1$$

$$\text{col1}=(m-1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I) + (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + 1$$

$$\text{col2}=(m-1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I) + (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + (I_K - I)$$

$$\mathbf{R_mat}[\text{row1: row2, col1:col2}] = \mathbf{1}_{(I_K - I)}$$

end

With this, we may write:

$$\bar{\mathbf{Y}}\bar{\mathbf{U}} \sim MVN_{T * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I)}(\bar{\mathbf{B}}, \bar{\mathbf{\Theta}})$$

where $\tilde{\mathbf{B}} = \mathbf{R_mat} * \bar{\mathbf{B}}$, and $\vec{\mathbf{\Theta}} = \mathbf{R_mat} * \bar{\mathbf{\Theta}} * \mathbf{R_mat}'$.

Next, to account for un-balanced panel data structure, we define a matrix **RM_mat** of size $[\tilde{T}\tilde{H} + \ddot{T}\ddot{N} + T(I_K - I) \times T(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I)]$ with all the cells filled with zeros. It will allow us to collect the relevant elements from the vector \vec{B} and matrix $\vec{\Theta}$. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix **RM_mat**.

-----For continuous variables-----

For $m = 1$ to \tilde{T}

$$\text{row1} = (m-1) * \tilde{H} + 1$$

$$\text{row2} = (m) * \tilde{H}$$

$$\text{col1} = (m-1) * \tilde{H} + 1$$

$$\text{col2} = (m) * \tilde{H}$$

$$\mathbf{R_mat}[\text{row1} : \text{row2}, \text{col1} : \text{col2}] = \mathbf{1}_{\tilde{H}}$$

end

-----For ordered variables-----

For $m = 1$ to \ddot{T}

$$\text{row1} = \tilde{H}\tilde{T} + (m-1) * \ddot{N} + 1$$

$$\text{row2} = \tilde{H}\tilde{T} + (m) * \ddot{N}$$

$$\text{col1} = \tilde{H}\tilde{T} + (m-1) * \ddot{N} + 1$$

$$\text{col2} = \tilde{H}\tilde{T} + (m) * \ddot{N}$$

$$\mathbf{R_mat}[\text{row1} : \text{row2}, \text{col1} : \text{col2}] = \mathbf{1}_{\ddot{N}}$$

end

-----For nominal variables-----

For $m = 1$ to T

$$\text{row1} = \tilde{H}\tilde{T} + \ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (m-1) * (I_K - I) + 1$$

$$\text{row2} = \tilde{H}\tilde{T} + \ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (m) * (I_K - I) + 1$$

$$\text{col1} = (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N})T + (m - 1) * (I_K - I) + 1$$

$$\text{col2} = (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N})T + (m) * (I_K - I)$$

$$\mathbf{R_mat}[\text{row1: row2, col1:col2}] = \mathbf{1}_{(I_K - I)}$$

end

Now we may write:

$$\bar{Y}\bar{U} \sim MVN_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T} + \ddot{N}\tilde{T} + T(I_K - I)}(\vec{\bar{B}}, \vec{\bar{\Theta}})$$

where $\vec{\bar{B}} = \mathbf{RM_mat} * \vec{\bar{B}}$, and $\vec{\bar{\Theta}} = \mathbf{RM_mat} * \vec{\bar{\Theta}} * \mathbf{RM_mat}'$.

Next, partition the $\vec{\bar{B}}$ and $\vec{\bar{\Theta}}$ into the continuous and non-continuous variables as follows:

$$\vec{\bar{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{\bar{B}}_{\tilde{H}} \\ \vec{\bar{B}}_{\ddot{N}\bar{U}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{H}\tilde{T} \times 1 \\ \ddot{N}\tilde{T} + T(I_K - I) \times 1 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and } \vec{\bar{\Theta}} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{\bar{\Theta}}_{\tilde{H}} & \vec{\bar{\Theta}}_{\tilde{H}, \ddot{N}\bar{U}} \\ \vec{\bar{\Theta}}'_{\tilde{H}, \ddot{N}\bar{U}} & \vec{\bar{\Theta}}_{\ddot{N}\bar{U}} \end{bmatrix}.$$

With this, the conditional distribution of non-continuous variables can be written as:

$$\vec{\bar{B}}_{\ddot{N}\bar{U}} = \vec{\bar{B}}_{\ddot{N}\bar{U}} + \vec{\bar{\Theta}}'_{\tilde{H}, \ddot{N}\bar{U}} (\vec{\bar{\Theta}}_{\tilde{H}})^{-1} (\tilde{y} [1: \tilde{H}\tilde{T}] - \vec{\bar{B}}_{\tilde{H}}),$$

$$\vec{\bar{\Theta}}_{\ddot{N}\bar{U}} = \vec{\bar{\Theta}}_{\ddot{N}\bar{U}} - \vec{\bar{\Theta}}'_{\tilde{H}, \ddot{N}\bar{U}} (\vec{\bar{\Theta}}_{\tilde{H}})^{-1} \vec{\bar{\Theta}}_{\tilde{H}, \ddot{N}\bar{U}}.$$

Also, append the threshold vectors as follows:

$$\vec{\bar{\Psi}}_{low} = [(\Psi_{low} [1: \ddot{N}\tilde{T}])', (-\infty_{T(I_K - I)})'] \left[(\ddot{N}\tilde{T} + T(I_K - I)) \times 1 \right] \text{ vector, and,}$$

$$\vec{\bar{\Psi}}_{up} = [(\Psi_{up} [1: \ddot{N}\tilde{T}])', (0_{T(I_K - I)})'] \left[(\ddot{N}\tilde{T} + T(I_K - I)) \times 1 \right] \text{ vector. Where } -$$

$\infty_{T(I_K - I)}$ and $0_{T(I_K - I)}$ are column vectors of size $T(I_K - I)$ with all the cells filled with a value of “ $-\infty$ ” and “0” respectively.

Then the likelihood function may be written as:

$$L(\theta) = f_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}(\tilde{y} [1: \tilde{H}\tilde{T}] | \vec{\bar{B}}_{\tilde{H}}, \vec{\bar{\Theta}}_{\tilde{H}}) \times \int_{\vec{\bar{\Psi}}_{low}}^{\vec{\bar{\Psi}}_{up}} f_{\ddot{N}\tilde{T} + T(I_K - I)}(\mathbf{r} | \vec{\bar{B}}_{\ddot{N}\bar{U}}, \vec{\bar{\Theta}}_{\ddot{N}\bar{U}}) dr \quad (9)$$

where $\theta = [\gamma', \delta', \beta', \rho', \lambda', (\text{Vech}(\tilde{\Sigma}))']$ and $\text{Vech}(\cdot)$ operator vectorizes the unique element of a matrix.

The likelihood function involves computation of a $\tilde{H}\tilde{T}$ dimensional multi-variate normal probability density (MVNPD) function and $\tilde{N}\tilde{T} + T(I_K - I)$ dimensional multi-variate normal cumulative density (MVNCD) function. While the MVNPD function has a closed form expression, increase in dimensionality can lead to calculation of numerical value very close to zero and thus causing issues during estimation¹². On the other hand, the computation of a MVNCD function is a well-known challenge in the literature (Genz 1992; Heiss 2010; Connors et al. 2014). Even the powerful GHK simulator armed with sophisticated quasi-random sequences can calculate the value accurately only up to a limited number of dimensions (Sándor & András 2004)¹³. At the same time, it is well known and established that any simulation-based method loses its accuracy with increases in dimension due to simulation noise, not to mention the unreasonable computation time (Train 2000; Bhat 2003; Craig 2008). For example: the analysis section of the paper has 8 continuous variables with 20 time periods, 5 ordinal variables with 1 time period, and 1 nominal variable with 8 alternatives and 20 choice occasions. In the maximum likelihood (ML) approach, this translates to a computation of a 160 dimensional MVNPD function and a 145 dimensional MVNCD function. Therefore it may be quite challenging to solve equation (9) using ML approach.

While one can use Bayesian approach to solve such a complicated likelihood function involving a series of draws from conditional distribution, a review of literature involving Probit kernel shows that Bayesian approach has not performed as expected in terms of recovering

¹² Consider a situation where there are 20 continuous dependent variables. Now, estimate a uni-variate regression for each of the 20 continuous variables which may include parameters apart from a constant. Now, if one wish to estimate a joint model for all the 20 continuous variables, even with a good starting value (obtained from uni-variate regression), the MVNPD value may be very close to zero (numerically).

¹³ The assumption is that the number of draws are finite (less than 1000) to maintain reasonable estimation time.

parameters and their standard errors (Franzese et al. 2010; Patil et al. 2017). On the other hand, there have been few studies (Daziano 2015; Zhou et al. 2016) which have found the performance of Bayesian approach to be quite good. However, these studies did not compare the performance of Bayesian approach against ML or other approaches. This is not to say that the Bayesian approach may not work. A comprehensive evaluation of the present model using Bayesian approach is outside the scope of the paper and we leave this for future explorations. Therefore, we use a composite marginal likelihood (CML) approach which has been established in the last decade as one of the powerful approach for solving likelihood functions with high dimensional integrals. A comprehensive discussion on the CML approach is outside the scope of this paper and readers are refer to Varin & Vidoni 2005; Varin 2008; Varin, Reid & Firth 2011 for a detailed discussion on CML and see Bhat & Dubey (2014) for its application in the context of discrete choice models. Further Bhat and colleagues have performed extensive simulation using CML approach for complex econometric models and have observed highly accurate results (Paleti & Bhat 2013; Bhat & Dubey 2014; Bhat 2015; Bhat et al. 2016).

Composite Marginal Likelihood Approach

The likelihood function can be written as follows using the CML approach:

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_{CML}(\theta) &= \left(\prod_{h=1}^{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}-1} \prod_{h'=h+1}^{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} f_2(\tilde{y}_{hh'} | \vec{B}_{hh'}, \vec{\Theta}_{hh'}) \right) \times \\
 &\quad \left(\prod_{r=1}^{\tilde{N}\tilde{T}-1} \prod_{r'=r+1}^{\tilde{N}\tilde{T}} \Pr(\ddot{y}_n = a_n, \ddot{y}_{n'} = a_{n'}) \right) \times \\
 &\quad \left(\prod_{r=1}^{\tilde{N}\tilde{T}} \prod_{t=1}^T \prod_{r'=1}^I \Pr(\ddot{y}_n = a_n, i_{r't} = i_{r'm_k}) \right) \times \\
 &\quad \left(\prod_{r=1}^{TI-1} \prod_{r'=r+1}^{TI} \Pr(i_r = i_{r_{m_k}}, i_{r'} = i_{r'_{m_k}}) \right) \quad (10)
 \end{aligned}$$

In the above CML expression, the first expression corresponds to the pairing of two continuous variables at a time reducing the dimension of MVNPD function from $\tilde{H}\tilde{T}$ to a maximum of 2 avoiding any numerical issues in calculation of MVNPD function due to high dimensionality¹⁴. The second expression corresponds to the pairing of two ordinal variables reducing the dimensionality of integration to 2 from $\ddot{N}\ddot{T}$. The third expression corresponds to the pairing between an ordinal and nominal variable with a maximum dimensionality of integration equal to $\max(i_K \forall I)$. Finally the fourth expression corresponds to the pairing between nominal variables with a highest dimensionality of integration being equal to $2 * \max(i_K \forall I)$.

To explicitly write out the equation (10) in terms of MVNPD and MVNCD functions, we define a set of selection matrices: (1) construct a selection matrix $\mathbf{D_HH}$ of size $[2 \times \tilde{H}\tilde{T}]$ with all the cells filled with zeros. Now, place a value of '1' in 1st row and h^{th} column and in 2nd row and h'^{th} column. This matrix is designed to collect relevant elements for pairing between continuous variables within and across time-periods, (2) define a selection matrix $\mathbf{D_NI}$ of size $[i_K \times (\ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (I_K - I)T)]$ with all the cells filled with zeros. This matrix is designed to collect relevant elements for pairing between ordered and nominal variables. Now, place a value of '1' in the 1st row and r^{th} column. Next if $r' = 1$, then place an identity matrix of size $r'_K - 1$ in the rows 2 to r'_K and columns $\ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (t - 1)(I_K - I) + 1$ to $\ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (t - 1)(I_K - I) + r'_K - 1$, otherwise place an identity matrix of size $r'_K - 1$ in the rows 2 to r'_K and columns $\ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (t - 1)(I_K - I) + (\sum_{j=1}^{r'_K-1} (j_K - 1)) + 1$ to $\ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (t - 1)(I_K - I) + (\sum_{j=1}^{r'_K-1} (j_K - 1))$, and (3) define two variables as follows: $\text{alt}_1 = r - (\text{ceil}(r/1) - 1) * I$ and $\text{alt}_2 = r' - (\text{ceil}(r'/I) - 1) * I$. Where $\text{ceil}(\cdot)$ operator rounds the value in parenthesis to next

¹⁴ For all the pairings, different continuous variables in the same time-period and all continuous variables across time-periods are used. This also holds for all pairing between ordinal and ordinal, and nominal and nominal variables.

largest integer. Now, construct a selection matrix $\mathbf{D_II}$ of size $[(r_{alt_1} + r'_{alt_2} - 2) \times (\ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (I_K - I))T]$ with all the cells filled with zeros. This matrix is designed to collect relevant elements for pairing between nominal variables within and across time-periods. Now, use the pseudocode provided below to fill-up the cells of $\mathbf{D_II}$ matrix.

```

if (alt_1 == 1)
    row1=1
    row2= $r_{alt_1} - 1$ 
    col1 =  $\ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (\text{ceil}(r/1) - 1) * (I_K - I) + I$ 
    col2 =  $\ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (\text{ceil}(r/1) - 1) * (I_K - I) + r_{alt_1} - 1$ 
else
    row1=1
    row2= $r_{alt_1} - 1$ 
    col1 =  $\ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (\text{ceil}(r/1) - 1) * (I_K - I) + (\sum_{j=1}^{alt_1-1} (J_K - 1)) + 1$ 
    col2 =  $\ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (\text{ceil}(r/1) - 1) * (I_K - I) + (\sum_{j=1}^{alt_1} (J_K - 1))$ 
end

 $\mathbf{D\_II}[\text{row1}:\text{row2},\text{col1}:\text{col2}] = 1_{i_{alt_1-1}}$ 

if(alt_2==1)
    row1= $r_{alt_1}$ 
    row2= $r_{alt_1} + r'_{alt_2} - 2$ 
    col1 =  $\ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (\text{ceil}(r'/1) - 1) * (I_K - I) + 1$ 
    col2 =  $\ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (\text{ceil}(r'/1) - 1) * (I_K - I) + r'_{alt_2} - 1$ 
else
    row1= $r_{alt_1}$ 
    row2= $r_{alt_1} + r'_{alt_2} - 2$ 

```

$$\text{col1} = \ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (\text{ceil}(r'/1) - 1) * (I_K - I) + \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\text{alt}_2-1} (j_K - 1)\right) + 1$$

$$\text{col2} = \ddot{N}\ddot{T} + (\text{ceil}(r'/1) - 1) * (I_K - I) + \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\text{alt}_2} (j_K - 1)\right)$$

end

$$\mathbf{D_II}[\text{row1}:\text{row2}, \text{col1}:\text{col2}] \mathbf{1}_{i_{\text{alt}_2-1}}$$

With the selection matrices defined, now we define the appropriate mean vector and covariance matrix for pairing of dependent variables. Define the following vectors and matrices:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{B}}_{hh'} &= \mathbf{D_HH} * \vec{\mathbf{B}}_{hh'}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{hh'} = \mathbf{D_HH} * \vec{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{hh'} * \mathbf{D_HH}', \hat{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}_{hh'} = \mathbf{D_HH} * \vec{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}_{hh'}, \\ v_{r,\text{low}} &= \frac{[\Psi_{\text{low}}]_r - [\bar{\mathbf{B}}_{N\bar{U}}]_r}{\sqrt{[\bar{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{N\bar{U}}]_{rr}}}, v_{r,\text{up}} = \frac{[\Psi_{\text{up}}]_r - [\bar{\mathbf{B}}_{N\bar{U}}]_r}{\sqrt{[\bar{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{N\bar{U}}]_{rr}}}, v_{r',\text{low}} = \frac{[\Psi_{\text{low}}]_{r'} - [\bar{\mathbf{B}}_{N\bar{U}}]_{r'}}{\sqrt{[\bar{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{N\bar{U}}]_{r'r'}}}, \\ v_{r',\text{up}} &= \frac{[\Psi_{\text{up}}]_{r'} - [\bar{\mathbf{B}}_{N\bar{U}}]_{r'}}{\sqrt{[\bar{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{N\bar{U}}]_{r'r'}}}, \vartheta_{rr'} = \frac{[\bar{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{N\bar{U}}]_{rr'}}{\sqrt{[\bar{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{N\bar{U}}]_{rr}}\sqrt{[\bar{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{N\bar{U}}]_{r'r'}}}, \hat{B}_{rr'} = \mathbf{D_NI} * \bar{B}_{N\bar{U}}, \\ \hat{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{rr'} &= \mathbf{D_NI} * \bar{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{N\bar{U}} * \mathbf{D_NI}', \hat{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}_{rr',\text{low}} = \mathbf{D_NI} * \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{\text{low}}, \\ \hat{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}_{rr',\text{low}}[2:\text{rows}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}_{rr',\text{low}})] &= \text{zeros}(\text{rows}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}_{rr',\text{low}}), 1), \\ \hat{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}_{rr',\text{up}} &= \mathbf{D_NI} * \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{\text{up}}, \check{B}_{rr'} = \mathbf{D_II} * \bar{B}_{N\bar{U}}, \text{ and } \check{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{rr'} = \mathbf{D_II} * \bar{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{N\bar{U}} * \mathbf{D_II}' \end{aligned}$$

With the help of above defined notations, we may write the equation (10) in the explicit form as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} L_{CML}(\theta) &= \left(\prod_{h=1}^{\ddot{H}\ddot{T}-1} \prod_{h'=h+1}^{\ddot{H}\ddot{T}} \Phi_2(\hat{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}_{hh'} | \hat{B}_{hh'}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{hh'}) \right) \times \\ &\left(\prod_{r=1}^{\ddot{N}\ddot{T}-1} \prod_{r'=r+1}^{\ddot{N}\ddot{T}} \left[\begin{array}{l} \Phi_2(v_{r,\text{up}}, v_{r',\text{up}}, \vartheta_{rr'}) - \Phi_2(v_{r,\text{up}}, v_{r',\text{low}}, \vartheta_{rr'}) \\ -\Phi_2(v_{r,\text{low}}, v_{r',\text{up}}, \vartheta_{rr'}) + \Phi_2(v_{r,\text{low}}, v_{r',\text{low}}, \vartheta_{rr'}) \end{array} \right] \right) \times \\ &\left(\prod_{r=1}^{\ddot{N}\ddot{T}} \prod_{t=1}^T \prod_{r'=1}^r [\Phi_{r'_K}[(\hat{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}_{rr',\text{up}} - \hat{B}_{rr'}); \hat{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{rr'}] - \Phi_{r'_K}[(\hat{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}_{rr',\text{low}} - \hat{B}_{rr'}); \hat{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{rr'}]] \right) \times \\ &\left(\prod_{r=1}^{T\ddot{I}-1} \prod_{r'=r+1}^{T\ddot{I}} [\Phi_{r_K+r'_K-2}[\check{B}_{rr'}; \check{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{rr'}]] \right) \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where $\phi_r(\cdot)$ and $\Phi_r(\cdot)$ represents a MVNPD and MVNCD function of dimension r , respectively. The parameters θ are obtained by maximizing the $\log[L_{CML}(\theta)]$. Further, unlike the ML approach, in the CML approach, the equivalence between the inverse of Hessian matrix $H(\theta) \left[-\frac{\partial^2 L_{CML}(\theta)}{\partial \theta \partial \theta'} \right]^{-1}$ and the information matrix $I(\theta) \left[\left(\frac{\partial L_{CML}(\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right) \times \left(\frac{\partial L_{CML}(\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right)'\right]$ does not exist and therefore the standard errors are calculated using the inverse of sandwich matrix $G(\theta)^{-1} = H(\theta)^{-1} I(\theta) H(\theta)^{-1}$. Now that the dimension of MVNCD function has been reduced to a computationally acceptable range, one may use the Geweke- Hajivassiliou-Keane (GHK) simulator (Hajivassiliou et al. 1996) with quasi-random sequences or Bhat's Maximum Approximate Composite Marginal Likelihood (MACML) approach (Bhat 2011). While the GHK simulator is a simulation based estimator, the MACML is an analytic approximation and thus is computationally faster than the GHK. However, based on extensive testing of both methods, we have found that the MACML approach is a good method up to a dimension of 8-10. Its performance starts to degrade rather quickly beyond a dimension of 12 in comparison with the GHK simulator¹⁵. In our empirical analysis, the highest dimension of integral is 14 and thus based on equation (11) we use GHK simulator with 200 Halton-draws for the estimation of MVNCD function¹⁶. Finally, since the standard errors are calculated using sandwich estimator, one will need to calculate the Hessian matrix numerically or analytically. However, unlike logit kernel where the Hessian matrix can be computed numerically using central difference method, the same is not true for the Probit kernel due to relatively slow rate of change of MVNCD function in comparison to the exponential function¹⁷. To avoid any such

¹⁵ The simulation design corresponds to a multinomial Probit model estimation for both cross-section and panel data structure with 5 alternatives, 5 choice occasions, and 5 random parameters with full and no cross-correlation.

¹⁶ In our simulation experiments, we found that the 200 Halton draws are sufficient up to 20 dimensions.

¹⁷ Most software (except "R" software) fails to calculate the Hessian matrix for the models built on Probit kernel. The "R" software uses Richardson extrapolation method for calculating the Hessian matrix which ensures the computation of a positive definite Hessian matrix, but its accuracy is low in most of the cases.

issues, we analytically calculated the first and second order derivatives of the CML function involving MVNCD function.

Positive Definiteness of Covariance Matrices

To maintain the positive definiteness of the error covariance and random taste parameter covariance matrices, we work with the Cholesky decomposition of the matrices during estimation. i.e., if we are working with the full joint model, we pass the lower triangular Cholesky decomposition of the matrix $\vec{\Sigma}$. Also, since the error covariance matrix for ordered variables are restricted to be a correlation matrix along with the first row of each of the nominal variables, we need to ensure that during estimation, proper restrictions are maintained. Therefore, for all the rows of the matrix $\vec{\Sigma}$ where the diagonal element is constrained to be 1, parametrize such rows of the lower triangular Cholesky decomposition of matrix $\vec{\Sigma}$ as follows:

Let $LL' = \vec{\Sigma}$, where L is the lower triangular Cholesky matrix. Then, for each of the required rows do the following: Let $a_i = [1 + L[i, 1:i - 1].^2]^2$ where i refers to the row number and the operator “.” refers to element by element exponentiation. Then parametrize all non-diagonal elements of the i^{th} row as $L[i, r] = \frac{L[i, r]}{a_i} \forall r = 1 \text{ to } i - 1$ and the diagonal element as $L[i, i] = \frac{1}{a_i}$.

The same strategy can be used if one wishes to estimate the models independently. In this case just work with Cholesky decomposition of matrices $\Xi, \Omega, \psi, \Gamma, \Lambda$ and Σ .

The above described model treats the visual attention data as a means to drive the preferences. The continuous model component of the system models the visual attention in terms of time spent on various alternatives, including its labels, which is then used as an explanatory variable in the choice model component). On the other hand, to test the hypothesis that habits, goals, and constraints work as a screening mechanism, we use the visual attention

as an explanatory variable in the choice model but passed as a penalty. That is, we add a penalty term to the utility equation on each alternative which may be a function of individuals' habits and time-spent on alternatives.

$$U_{alt} = V_{alt} + \ln\left[\frac{1}{1 + \exp(\mu_{alt})}\right] + \xi_{alt}$$

Where U_{alt} is the utility of the alternative, V_{alt} is the deterministic component of the utility, ξ_{alt} is the normally distributed error term, and μ_{alt} is the penalty function. Further $\mu_{alt} = f(\text{individuals' habits, time spent on the alternative})$. The first parametrization $\left[\frac{1}{1 + \exp(\mu_{alt})}\right]$ ensures that the value in the square bracket is bounded between 0 and 1 so that the natural logarithm of the function is bounded between $-\infty$ and 0. This way, an alternative becomes unavailable or gets pushed out from the consideration set as soon as the expression $\ln\left[\frac{1}{1 + \exp(\mu_{alt})}\right]$ takes a value of $-\infty$. Please note that there is no stochastic component in the penalty function. Adding the stochastic component creates additional computational challenges in the realm of Probit kernel.

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WEB APPENDIX C: PARTICIPANT FLOW DIAGRAM

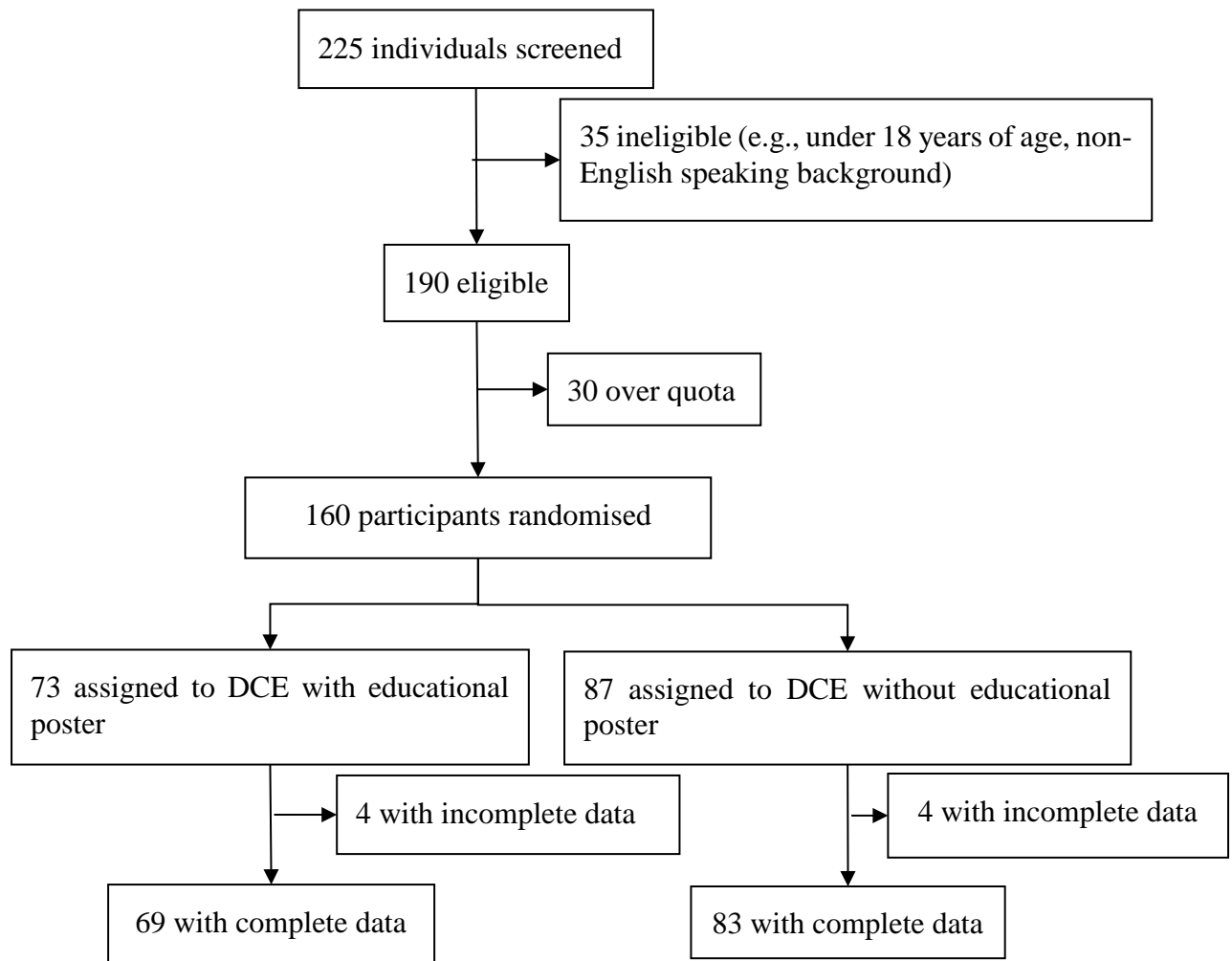


Fig. C.1. Flow chart of participants included/ excluded from eye-tracked discrete choice experiment (DCE)

Eye-tracking data were not captured for eight participants, due to technical errors, and therefore were excluded from this analysis. Of the remaining 152 participants, eye-tracking data were detected for some but not all of the 20 choice tasks for 13 individuals. These individuals were therefore excluded from the main analysis but used to test out-of-sample predictive power.

WEB APPENDIX D: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF EYE-TRACKING STUDY PARTICIPANTS

Table D.1: Demographic characteristics of eye-tracking study participants in main estimation (n=139)

Characteristic	n (%)	Australian population
Females ^a		
18-35 years	41 (51.3%)	32.2%
36-59 years	32 (40.0%)	40.4%
60 years and over	7 (8.8%)	27.4%
Males ^a		
18-35 years	28 (47.5%)	34.0%
36-59 years	21 (35.6%)	40.7%
60 years and over	10 (17.0%)	25.3%
Equivalised household income quintile ^b		
Q1 (lowest income)	39 (28.1%)	20%
Q2	31 (22.3%)	20%
Q3	23 (16.6%)	20%
Q4	29 (20.9%)	20%
Q5 (highest income)	17 (12.2%)	20%
Highest educational attainment ^c		
Year 11 or below	4 (2.9%)	26%
Year 12 or equivalent	21 (15.1%)	18%
TAFE or Certificate, diploma	18 (13.0%)	21%
Undergraduate university	54 (38.9%)	29%
Postgraduate university	42 (30.2%)	6%
Body Mass Index (BMI) ^d		
<25kg/m ² (normal or underweight)	78 (56.9%)	37.2%
25 to 30 kg/m ² (overweight)	42 (30.7%)	35.3%
>30 kg/m ² (obese)	17 (12.4%)	27.5%
SSB purchase frequency from convenience store in the past month ^e		
On about half of days or more	76 (34.7%)	-
A few times	56 (40.3%)	-
Never	7 (5.0%)	-

n=139 eye-tracking participants in main analysis (from total sample of 160). National statistics derived from: ^a Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) (2011), "Australian Demographic Statistics, Jun 2016, 'Table 1. Population Change, Summary - Australia ('000)', data cube: Excel spreadsheet, cat no. 3101.0," Available at: <http://www.abs.gov.au/>; ^b ABS (2013), "Household income and income distribution Australia." Available at: <http://www.abs.gov.au/>; ^c ABS (2016), "Education and Work, Australia, May 2016" Available at: <http://www.abs.gov.au/>; ^d BMI missing for 2 participants. ABS (2015)"National Health Survey: First Results, 2014-15, cat no. 4364.0.55.001," Available at <http://www.abs.gov.au/>. ^e 'Regular SSB (sugar-sweetened beverage) consumers' were defined as those who reported consumption of a SSB purchased from a convenience store at least a few times in the past month

WEB APPENDIX E: DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS OF VISUAL ATTENDANCE

There was a significant correlation between fixation duration examining relevant choice set information with fixation duration out of choice set ($R^2= 0.92$, p -value <0.001). Based on this, the analyses below used ratio of time spent in and out of consideration set rather than absolute duration, unless otherwise specified, to avoid results being unduly influenced by overall time to complete the task. Where sample summaries are presented (rather than per choice set), this ratio is further adjusted for number of choice sets for which eye-tracking data was captured.

Linear regressions found that the first four choice tasks had a longer mean duration than the last four tasks, even when adjusted for age and gender (p -value <0.01), suggesting learning or fatigue. Ratio of relevant to irrelevant visual attention duration increased in the last compared to the first 4 tasks (p -value <0.01)

Stated Attendance

One hundred percent of respondents stated they sometimes or always considered price, and 95% and 99% stated they sometimes or always considered volume and beverage type, respectively. All beverage types were sometimes or always considered by more than 30% of the sample.

Relationship Between Stated and Visual Attendance

No significant difference was found in fixation duration on beverage, price or volume labels by stated importance on a 5-point Likert scale as per participants using an ANOVA (all p -values ≥ 0.34). Attribute and alternative fixation duration were not predicted by relevant stated attribute or alternative non-attendance using linear regression (all p -values >0.05). A higher score on strength of habit questionnaire (stronger SSB consumption habit) was positively related to fixation duration on energy drinks (p -value=0.06) and flavored milk (p -

value=0.03), and negatively related to fixation duration on “no drink” alternative (p -value=0.01) using linear regression when adjusted for age and gender. This suggests that SSB consumption habit may be related to visual attention, but this unadjusted analysis was unable to distinguish the direction of effect. No significant relationships were seen between stage of readiness to drink fewer SSBs and fixation duration by beverage type or overall time on choice task.

Relationship between visual attention and choice

Respondents spent less visual fixation time on the chosen alternative across choice tasks compared to other alternatives. **Fig. E.1** shows a detailed breakdown of visual attention time spent on chosen alternatives. On more than 50% of occasions, the chosen alternative received the least amount of visual attention.

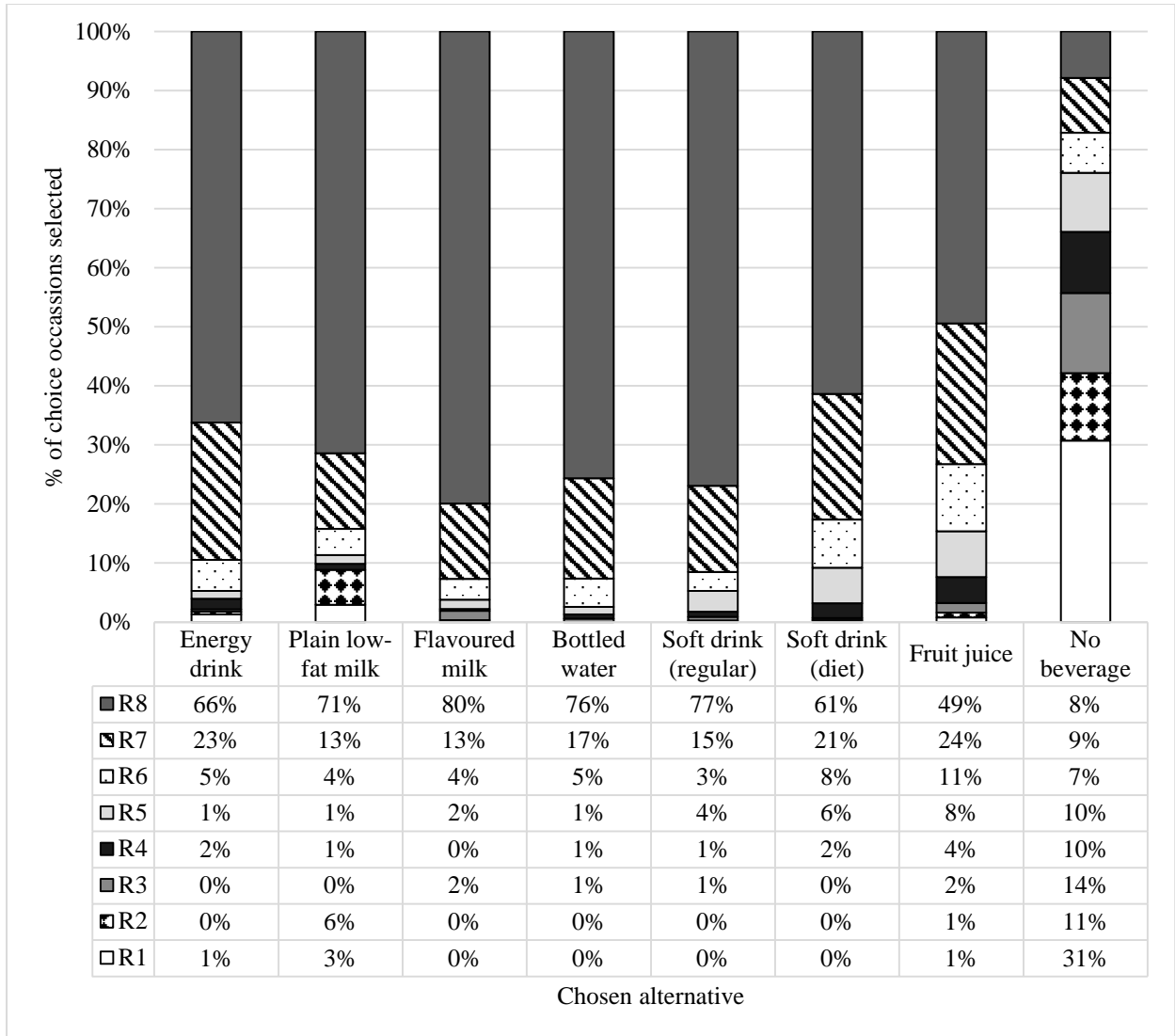


Fig. E.1: Distribution of chosen beverage alternative as a function of amount of time spent looking at that particular alternative. R1 to R8 indicate the ranking in ascending order of time spent looking at an alternative

WEB APPENDIX A: DISCRETE CHOICE EXPERIMENT DETAILS

Experimental Design

In the labelled DCE, participants selected a beverage within a hypothetical convenience store setting. Each participant completed 20 choice tasks involving three SSB alternatives (energy drink, flavored milk, regular soft drink (soda)), four non-sugar-sweetened alternatives (non-SSBs: plain low-fat milk, fruit juice, diet soft drink, bottled water), and a “no drink” alternative (meaning that they would “consume no drink on this occasion”). Each beverage was described by alternative-specific prices and generic volume attributes which varied over four levels each. An orthogonal design was generated using Ngene software (Rose, Collins, Bliemer & Hensher 2009). An example choice task (**Figure A.1**) and list of attribute levels for each alternative (**Table A.1**) are given below. Prior to completing the choice tasks, half of participants were randomly exposed to a real-world educational message designed to discourage selection of SSBs. The other half did not see any message. After the 10th choice task all participants were presented with a message reminding them to “consider their options carefully”, to ameliorate potential fatigue effects. As described later, we tested for the impact of the education message in the analysis and found no significant effect on beverage choice, hence sub-samples were pooled and we used the full sample in the estimation results we present later.

Following the DCE, participants completed questions on stated attendance to attributes and alternatives as well as strength of SSB consumption habit. This included an 11-point scale of readiness to consider reducing SSB intake based on a validated tool to assess readiness to quit smoking (Biener & Abrams 1991) and the Self-Report Behavioral Automaticity Index, a 4-item measure of habit strength measured on a 5-point Likert scale with higher scores signifying a stronger habit (Gardner, Abraham, Lally & de Bruijn 2012).

Please read the information below carefully:

For this survey, imagine that you are now going into your local convenience store (e.g. newsagent, 7-Eleven, independent milk bar) with the intention to buy a pre-packaged drink (in a bottle, can or carton) for yourself to drink immediately. Please note that this does not include supermarkets or petrol stations, hospital, sports and recreation facilities etc. where you may have entered the store for another main purpose.

You will be presented with a number of individual shopping scenarios. In each scenario, you will be presented with 7 drink options, each drink will be described by its price and size (volume). The information describing price and volume will change between each task. Assume the displayed products are the only available options.

Please note that 'energy drink' refers to a drink specifically designed to give a short term 'energy' boost such as those with added taurine, guarana or caffeine. It does not include 'sports drinks'.

In each scenario, please indicate which **one option** you would choose. Either select the drink that you would buy OR select 'no beverage' if you would exit the convenience store without having purchased a drink in this situation, after already having entered the convenience store with the intention to buy a pre-packaged drink. This would mean you would not consume a drink on this occasion.

Please also treat each scenario as separate (i.e. as if you had not just made the previous choice).

Please note: there are no right or wrong answers, the researchers are interested in your individual preference among the options presented.

On the next page will be a practice scenario.

Fig. A.1 (part 1): Discrete Choice Experiment scenario explanation and sample choice scenario

You have gone into your local convenience store now (e.g. newsagent, 7-Eleven, independent milk bar) with the intention to buy a pre-packaged drink (in a bottle, can or carton) to drink immediately yourself. Select the option below that you would choose.

	Energy drink	Plain low-fat milk	Flavoured milk	Bottled water	Soft drink (regular)	Soft drink (diet)	Fruit juice	No drink
Price	\$5.90	\$5.00	\$6.50	\$1.00	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$5.90	N/A
Volume (size)	200mL	200mL	200mL	600mL	200mL	200mL	200mL	N/A
Which would you choose?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Fig. A.1 (part 2): Discrete Choice Experiment scenario explanation and sample choice scenario

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Table A.1: Alternative attribute levels

Alternative	Experimental volumes tested	Experimental prices tested (AUD)
Energy drink	200mL, 330mL, 460mL, 600mL	\$2.00, \$3.30, \$4.60, \$5.90
Soft drink (regular)		\$2.00, \$3.50, \$5.00, \$6.50
Soft drink (diet)		\$2.00, \$3.50, \$5.00, \$6.50
Plain low-fat milk		\$1.00, \$2.30, \$3.70, \$5.00
Flavoured milk		\$2.00, \$3.50, \$5.00, \$6.50
Bottled water		\$1.00, \$2.30, \$3.70, \$5.00
Fruit juice		\$2.00, \$3.30, \$4.60, \$5.90

Implementation of Eye-Tracking Measurements

All participants completed the DCE in an eye-tracking laboratory at the study university. The task involved sitting and completing the DCE on a computer-screen. A discrete, web-cam like device tracked eye movements (Tobii Pro, 2011, Tobii TX300; Stockholm, Sweden). The choice tasks were presented through a web-browser using Tobii Studio version 3.2 (Tobii Pro, 2012, Stockholm, Sweden). Eye movements were recorded at 300 Hz on a screen resolution of 1920 x 1080 pixels. Minimum fixation duration was 60ms.

Participants were positioned with their head 64cm from the screen as per recommended Tobii T-series validity requirements. Participants' eye-movements were calibrated before the experiment using nine static calibration locations on the screen. Participants were eye-tracked during the entire survey, however only visual attention data corresponding to the DCE are analyzed here.

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WEB APPENDIX B: DETAILED METHODOLOGY

Our model has three components: continuous (visual attention duration), ordered (habit measures), and nominal (choice outcome) variables. We first describe the construction of each component separately and then bring them together using a covariance approach.

Visual Attention Model

Let \tilde{t} be the index for task instance ($\tilde{t} = 1, 2, \dots, \tilde{T}$) and \tilde{h} be the index for the continuous outcome ($\tilde{h} = 1, 2, \dots, \tilde{H}$). Then, we can write in the usual linear regression form:

$$(1) \quad \tilde{y}_{\tilde{h}, \tilde{t}} = \tilde{\rho}_{\tilde{h}} \tilde{y}_{\tilde{h}, \tilde{t}-1} + \gamma'_{\tilde{h}} x_{\tilde{h}, \tilde{t}} + \xi_{\tilde{h}}$$

Where $\tilde{\rho}_{\tilde{h}}$ is the autoregressive (AR-1) coefficient which ranges between -1 to 1, $x_{\tilde{h}, \tilde{t}}$ is a ($k_{\tilde{h}} \times 1$) vector of exogenous variables (including a constant), $\gamma_{\tilde{h}}$ is the corresponding ($k_{\tilde{h}} \times 1$) vector of coefficients, and $\xi_{\tilde{h}}$ is a normally distributed error term. The autoregressive coefficient helps us capture the time-multiplier effect (i.e., the effect of previous time period on the current time period for both observed and unobserved variables). Now, stack all the \tilde{H} continuous outcomes for all task instances \tilde{T} in a vector $\tilde{y} = (\tilde{y}_{1,1}, \tilde{y}_{2,1}, \dots, \tilde{y}_{\tilde{H},1}, \dots, \tilde{y}_{\tilde{H},\tilde{T}})$ ($\tilde{H}\tilde{T} \times 1$), autoregressive coefficient $\tilde{\rho}_{\tilde{h}}$ for all the \tilde{H} continuous outcomes in a vector $\tilde{\rho} = (\tilde{\rho}_1, \tilde{\rho}_2, \dots, \tilde{\rho}_{\tilde{H}})$ of size ($\tilde{H} \times 1$), exogenous variable's coefficients in a matrix $\gamma = (\gamma'_1, \gamma'_2, \dots, \gamma'_{\tilde{H}})$ of size ($\tilde{H} \times k_{\tilde{h}}$), exogenous variables in a matrix $x_{\tilde{H}, \tilde{T}} = (x'_{1,1}, x'_{2,1}, \dots, x'_{\tilde{H},1}, \dots, x'_{\tilde{H},\tilde{T}})$ of size ($\tilde{H}\tilde{T} \times k_{\tilde{h}}$) and all the error terms in ($\xi = \xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_{\tilde{H}}$) of size ($\tilde{H} \times 1$). Where (...) inside the bracket refers to placement of next variable in the next row. Also, let Ξ be the covariance matrix of ξ .

Now, to write the equation (1) in the matrix form, define the following matrices:

construct a matrix $\mathbf{F}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}$ of size ($\tilde{H}\tilde{T} \times \tilde{H}\tilde{T}$) with all the cells filled with zeros. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of matrix $\mathbf{F}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}$.

for $j = 2$ to \tilde{T}

 for $i = 1$ to \tilde{H}

$$\mathbf{F}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}[(j-1) * \tilde{H} + i, (j-1) * \tilde{H} + i] = \tilde{\rho}[i, 1]$$

 end

end

For example: a $\mathbf{F}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}$ matrix with $\tilde{H} = 2$ and $\tilde{T} = 3$ will take the following form:

$$\mathbf{F}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \tilde{\rho}_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \tilde{\rho}_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \tilde{\rho}_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \tilde{\rho}_2 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Also, construct a matrix $\mathbf{I}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}$ of size ($\tilde{H}\tilde{T} \times \tilde{H}\tilde{T}$) with all the cells filled with zeros. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix $\mathbf{I}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}$

for $j = 2$ to \tilde{T}

for $i = 1$ to \tilde{H}

$$I_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}[(j-1) * \tilde{H} + i, (j-2) * \tilde{H} + i] = 1$$

end

end

With this, equation (1) may be written in the matrix form as follows:

$$(2) \quad \tilde{\gamma} = \mathbf{S} * [\text{sumc}[(\tilde{\gamma} * x_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}})'] + \tilde{\xi}]$$

where $\tilde{\gamma} = \text{ones}(\tilde{T}, 1) * \gamma$, $\tilde{\xi} = \text{ones}(\tilde{T}, 1) * \xi$, "*" refers to Kronecker product, "." refers to element by element multiplication, the operator $\text{sumc}(\cdot)$ returns the sum of columns of matrix in a column vector, $\text{ones}(\tilde{T}, 1)$ indicates a vector of size \tilde{T} whose all the elements are filled with a value of "1", $\mathbf{1}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}$ refers to an identity matrix of size $\tilde{H}\tilde{T}$ and $\mathbf{S} = [\mathbf{1}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} - (\mathbf{F}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} * \mathbf{I}_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}})]^{-1}$ of size $(\tilde{H}\tilde{T} \times \tilde{H}\tilde{T})$.

From equation (2), it can be observed that $\tilde{\gamma}$ is distributed normally with mean $\mathbf{S} * [\text{sumc}[(\tilde{\gamma} * x_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}})'] + \tilde{\xi}]$ and covariance $\mathbf{S} * [\mathbf{1}_{\tilde{T}} * \Xi] * \mathbf{S}'^{-1}$. Also, to maintain the bound on the autoregressive parameter vector $\tilde{\rho}$, we parametrize the parameter as $\tilde{\rho} = \tilde{\rho}_p / [1 + (\tilde{\rho}_p)^2]^{0.5}$. Where $\tilde{\rho}_p$ is the value passed to the optimization module.

Habit and Goal Variable Model

Strength of habit and goals were considered on an ordinal scale. Let \tilde{t} be the index for task instance ($\tilde{t} = 1, 2, \dots, \tilde{T}$) and \tilde{n} be the index for the ordinal outcome ($\tilde{n} = 1, 2, \dots, \tilde{N}$). Also, let $J_{\tilde{n}} (>1)$ be the number of categories for the \tilde{n}^{th} ordinal outcome and the corresponding index be $j_{\tilde{n}}$ =

¹ In a time-series based regression such as the one described here, the dependence between a particular continuous variable's task instances or time periods is generated through the autoregressive parameter and the dependence across continuous variables is captured through the covariance matrix Ξ . This allows the analyst to exclude random taste heterogeneity in the model. Our experience with the model suggests that recovery of random parameters in such a highly non-linear model is relatively difficult. Therefore, we suggest the inclusion of either autoregressive parameters or random taste parameters in the model depending upon the analyst's requirement. Random taste parameters can be included in a straightforward manner as follows: let $\mathbf{\Omega}$ be a $(k_{\tilde{h}} \times k_{\tilde{h}})$ covariance matrix of exogenous variables. Then, stack the exogenous variables in a matrix of size $(\tilde{H}\tilde{T} \times k_{\tilde{h}} \tilde{T})$ as follows:

$$X_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} = \begin{bmatrix} x'_{1,1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x'_{2,1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x'_{\tilde{H},1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \vdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \vdots & 0 & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & x'_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} \end{bmatrix}$$

With this $\tilde{\gamma} \sim N[\mathbf{S} * [\text{sumc}[(\tilde{\gamma} * x_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}})'], \mathbf{S} * [\mathbf{1}_{\tilde{T}} * \Xi + X_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} * (\mathbf{1}_{\tilde{T}} * \mathbf{\Omega}) * X'_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}] * \mathbf{S}']$

(1,2, ..., J_{n̄}) . ²Let $\ddot{y}_{n̄,t}^*$ be the underlying latent variable. Then in the usual ordered-response formulation, we may write:

$$(3) \quad \ddot{y}_{n̄,t}^* = \delta'_{n̄} x_{n̄,t} + \zeta_{n̄}, \text{ and } \Psi_{n̄, a_{n̄,t}-1} < \ddot{y}_{n̄,t}^* < \Psi_{n̄, a_{n̄,t}}, \text{ if } \ddot{y}_{n̄,t} = a_{n̄,t}$$

where $x_{n̄,t}$ is a ($k_{n̄} \times 1$) vector of exogenous variables (including constant)³, $\delta_{n̄}$ is the corresponding ($k_{n̄} \times 1$) vector of parameters, $a_{n̄,t}$ is the observed outcome category at time period t for the n^{th} ordinal variable, and $\zeta_{n̄}$ is a standard normal error term⁴. Further, the thresholds for the ordinal outcome should be in ascending order (i.e.,

$$\Psi_{n̄,0} < \Psi_{n̄,1} < \dots < \Psi_{n̄, J_{n̄}-1} < \Psi_{n̄, J_{n̄}}; \Psi_{n̄,0} = -\infty, \Psi_{n̄,1} = 0, \text{ and } \Psi_{n̄, J_{n̄}} = \infty).$$

Now, stack the threshold elements as follows:

$$\Psi_{n̄} = (\Psi_{n̄,0}, \Psi_{n̄,1}, \dots, \Psi_{n̄, J_{n̄}}) [(J_{n̄} + 1) \times 1] \text{ vector,}$$

$$\Psi_{\ddot{t}} = (\Psi'_{1,1}, \Psi'_{2,1}, \dots, \Psi'_{N,1})' [\ddot{N}(J_{n̄} + 1) \times 1] \text{ vector,}$$

$$\Psi_{low} = (\Psi_{1, a_{1,1}-1}, \Psi_{1, a_{2,1}-1}, \dots, \Psi_{1, a_{N,1}-1}, \dots, \Psi_{1, a_{N, T}-1}) [\ddot{N} \ddot{T} \times 1] \text{ vector, and}$$

$$\Psi_{up} = (\Psi_{1, a_{1,1}}, \Psi_{1, a_{2,1}}, \dots, \Psi_{1, a_{N,1}}, \dots, \Psi_{1, a_{N, T}}) [\ddot{N} \ddot{T} \times 1] \text{ vector}^5.$$

Further, stack the $\ddot{N} \ddot{T}$ underlying latent variables in a ($\ddot{N} \ddot{T} \times 1$) vector $\ddot{y}^* =$

$(\ddot{y}_{1,1}^*, \ddot{y}_{2,1}^*, \dots, \ddot{y}_{N,1}^*, \dots, \ddot{y}_{N, \ddot{T}}^*)$, exogenous variables in a matrix $x_{N, \ddot{T}} = (x'_{1,1}, x'_{2,1}, \dots, x'_{N,1}, \dots, x'_{N, \ddot{T}})$ of size ($\ddot{N} \ddot{T} \times k_{n̄}$), exogenous variables' coefficients in a matrix $\delta = (\delta'_{1,1}, \delta'_{2,1}, \dots, \delta'_{N,1})$ of size ($\ddot{N} \times k_{n̄}$), and all the error terms in $\zeta = (\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \dots, \zeta_{N \ddot{T}})$ of size ($\ddot{N} \times 1$). Also, let Γ be the correlation matrix of ζ . Then, we may write, equation (3) in the matrix form as follows:

$$(4) \quad \ddot{y}^* = \text{sumc}[(\delta * x_{N, \ddot{T}})'] + \zeta, \Psi_{low} < \ddot{y}^* < \Psi_{up} \quad \text{where}$$

$$\delta = \text{ones}(\ddot{T}, 1) * \delta \text{ and } \zeta = \text{ones}(\ddot{T}, 1) * \zeta.$$

² The requirement of number of categories to be greater than 1 instead of 2 enables us to model binary outcomes as ordinal outcomes with no additional thresholds being estimated.

³ We fix the second threshold to a value of zero and thus estimate the constant for every ordinal outcome.

⁴ The normalization on the error term is needed for identification, as in the usual ordered-response model; see McKelvey, R. D., & Zavoina, W. (1975). A statistical model for the analysis of ordinal level dependent variables. *Journal of Mathematical Sociology*, 4(1), 103-120..

⁵ Here for ease in notation, we assume that all the ordinal outcomes have same number of categories. However, this may not be the case. In situations with different number of categories, one can fill the remaining/extra cells with zeros.

⁶ If the ordinal outcomes are observed for more than one time period, then one would be tempted to include random-taste parameters in order to capture the dependence across time-periods. Similar to the continuous variable model, the incorporation of random-taste parameter is straightforward. Let Ψ be a ($k_{n̄} \times k_{n̄}$), covariance matrix of exogenous variables. Then, stack the exogenous variables in a matrix of size ($\ddot{N} \ddot{T} \times k_{n̄} \ddot{T}$) as

$$\text{follows: } X_{N \ddot{T}} = \begin{bmatrix} x'_{1,1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x'_{2,1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x'_{N,1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \vdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \vdots & 0 & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & x'_{N, \ddot{T}} \end{bmatrix}$$

With this the covariance matrix for \ddot{y}^* becomes $[1_{\ddot{T}} * \Gamma + X_{N \ddot{T}} * (1_{\ddot{T}} * \Psi) * X'_{N \ddot{T}}]$

Choice Model

Let t be the index for choice occasion ($t = 1, 2, \dots, T$), i be the index for nominal outcome ($i = 1, 2, \dots, I$), and k be the index for number of alternatives per nominal outcome ($k = 1, 2, \dots, K$)⁷. Then, we can write the utility of alternative k from the i^{th} nominal variable in the time period t as:

$$(5) \quad U_{i_k t} = \beta'_i x_{i_k t} + \varepsilon_{i_k}$$

where $x_{i_k t}$ is a ($g_i \times 1$) vector of exogenous variables at choice occasion t , β_i is the corresponding ($g_i \times 1$) vector of coefficients, and ε_{i_k} is a normally distributed error term (all the notations correspond to the nominal outcome i). Now, define the following notations:

$$I_k \text{ (total number of alternatives)} = \sum_{t=1}^T i_k,$$

$$U_{it} = (U_{1t}, U_{2t}, \dots, U_{i_k t}) [(I_k \times 1)] \text{ vector, } U_t = (U_{1t}, U_{2t}, \dots, U_{i_k t}) [(I_k \times 1)] \text{ vector,}$$

$$\mathbf{U} = (\mathbf{U}_1, \mathbf{U}_2, \dots, \mathbf{U}_T) [(I_k \times 1)] \text{ vector, } \boldsymbol{\theta} = (\boldsymbol{\beta}'_{11}, \boldsymbol{\beta}'_{12}, \dots, \boldsymbol{\beta}'_{1K}, \dots, \boldsymbol{\beta}'_{I1}, \dots, \boldsymbol{\beta}'_{IK}) [(I_k \times g_i)] \text{ vector,}$$

$$x = (x'_{11t}, x'_{12t}, \dots, x'_{1Kt}, \dots, x'_{i_k t}) [(I_k \times g_i)] \text{ matrix, } x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_T) [(TI_k \times g_i)] \text{ matrix,}$$

$$\varepsilon_i = (\varepsilon_{i_1}, \varepsilon_{i_2}, \dots, \varepsilon_{i_k}) [(i_k \times 1)] \text{ vector, } \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_t = (\varepsilon_{1_1}, \varepsilon_{1_2}, \dots, \varepsilon_{1_k}, \dots, \varepsilon_{i_k}) [(I_k \times 1)] \text{ vector,}$$

$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\beta}} = [\text{ones}(T, 1) \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}] [(TI_k \times g_i)] \text{ matrix, and } \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = [\text{ones}(T, 1) \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_t] [(TI_k \times 1)] \text{ vector.}$$

Also, let $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_i$ be the covariance matrix of ε_i . Then, we may write, equation (5) in the matrix form as follows:

$$(6) \quad \mathbf{U} = \text{sumc}[\tilde{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \cdot \mathbf{x}] + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

With this, we may write the distribution of \mathbf{U} as

$$\mathbf{U} \sim N_{(TI_k \times TI_k)} \left[\text{sumc} \left[\tilde{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \cdot \mathbf{x} \right], \mathbf{1}_T \cdot \boldsymbol{\Lambda} \right]. \text{ Where,}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_1 & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{12} & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{1,I-1} & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{1,I} \\ \boldsymbol{\Lambda}'_{12} & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_2 & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{2,I-1} & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{2,I} \\ \boldsymbol{\Lambda}'_{1,I-1} & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}'_{2,I-1} & \ddots & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{I-1,I} \\ \boldsymbol{\Lambda}'_{1,I} & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}'_{2,I} & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}'_{I-1,I} & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_I \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and}$$

In the $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}$ matrix, the off-diagonal elements capture dependencies across nominal variables through correlation in unobserved variables⁸.

⁷ We suppress the index for the individual participant (i) for ease in presentation as it is a non-spatial model.

⁸ This is not to say that this is the only way to capture dependencies across nominal variables. Another way to capture dependency may be achieved by random-taste parameter. However, this would require the analyst to have a common exogenous variable in all the nominal variables and in all the alternatives. This could be rather difficult given the differential impact of the same exogenous variable on different choice dimensions. On the other hand, one is free to incorporate random-taste parameters at the nominal variable level (with full or no correlation) with no cross-correlation across nominal variables. It could be incorporated as follows: Let $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i$ be the ($i_G \times i_G$) covariance matrix of exogenous variables for the i^{th} nominal variable. Where $G = \sum_{r=1}^K i_r$ is the total number of exogenous variables in the i^{th} nominal variable. Then, stack the exogenous variables for all the nominal variables in a matrix of size ($I_K T \times TG$) and all the random-taste parameter matrices into a $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ matrix as follows:

Since only the differences in utility matter, only the difference of error-terms are identifiable and not the actual error terms after performing the normalization to fix the scale of utility. Therefore, we normalize the top diagonal element to 1 for estimation purposes (Keane 1992). However, all the differenced error matrices must originate from the same un-differenced error matrix. To do so, append the matrices Λ_i by adding a row and column of zeros on the top (Sidharthan & Bhat 2012)

i.e., $\Lambda_i = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0_{1, i_K-1} \\ 0_{i_K-1, 1} & \Lambda_i \end{bmatrix}$ or multiply the matrix Λ with a matrix \mathbf{D} (i.e., expanded differenced matrix $\mathbf{D}\Lambda$ for all the nominal variables) constructed as follows:

Define a matrix \mathbf{D} of size $[(I_K) \times (I_K - I)]$ with all the elements being equal to zero. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix \mathbf{D} .

for m=1 to I

 if(m==1)

 st_row =2

 end_row= m_K

 st_col =1

 end_col= $m_K - 1$

 else

 st_row = $[\sum_{n=1}^{m-1} n_K] + 2$

 end_row= $[\sum_{n=1}^m n_K]$

 st_col = $[\sum_{n=1}^{m-1} (n_K - 1)] + 1$

 end_col= $[\sum_{n=1}^m (n_K - 1)]$

 end

$\mathbf{D}[\text{st_row: end_row, st_col: end_col}] = 1_{m_K-1}$

end

$$X_{I_K T} = \begin{bmatrix} x'_{1,1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x'_{2,1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x'_{k,1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x'_{I,1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x'_{I,1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x'_{k,1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x'_{I-1, T-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & x'_{I, T} \end{bmatrix}, \Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \Sigma_I \end{bmatrix}$$

With this, we may write the distribution of \mathbf{U} as

$$\mathbf{U} \sim N_{I_K \times I_K} [\text{sumc}[(\hat{\beta} * x)'], [1_T * \Lambda + X_{I_K T} * (1_T * \Sigma * X'_{I_K T})]]$$

Now, similar to the continuous variable model, we introduce the AR-1 structure in the unobserved part of the utility as follows:

$$\varepsilon_{i_{kt}} = \lambda_i \varepsilon_{i_{k,t-1}} + \eta_{i_{kt}}$$

where λ_i is the autoregressive coefficient for the i^{th} nominal variable and $\eta_{i_{kt}}$ is the time-independent component of the error-term. That is, $\eta'_{i_{kt}}$ can be correlated for a nominal variable in a given time period, but are independent across time-periods. With this, we may re-write the equation (5) as follows with all the notations as above:

$$(7) \quad U_{i_{kt}} = \beta'_i x_{i_{kt}} + \varepsilon_{i_{kt}}$$

Now, stack the time-independent error terms and the nominal variable specific AR coefficients as follows:

$$\boldsymbol{\eta}_i = (\eta_{i_1}, \eta_{i_2}, \dots, \eta_{i_K})[(i_K \times 1)] \text{ vector, } \boldsymbol{\eta}_t = (\eta_{1_1}, \eta_{1_2}, \dots, \eta_{1_K}, \dots, \eta_{T_1}, \dots, \eta_{T_K})[(I_K \times 1)] \text{ vector,}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\eta} = [\text{ones}(T, 1) \cdot \boldsymbol{\eta}_t] [(TI_K \times 1)] \text{ vector, and } \boldsymbol{\lambda} = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_I) [(I \times 1)] \text{ vector.}$$

With this, we assume that Λ_i is the covariance matrix of $\boldsymbol{\eta}_i$ ⁹. Now, define the additional matrices in order to write equation (7) in the matrix form:

Define a matrix \mathbf{R} of size $[(TI_K) \times (TI_K)]$ with all the elements being equal to zero. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix \mathbf{R} .

for $m=2$ to T

 for $n=1$ to I

 if($n \neq 1$)

 for $j=1$ to n_K

 row = $(m-1) * I_K + j$

 col = $(m-2) * I_K + j$

R[row,col]=1

 end

 else

 for $j=1$ to n_K

 row = $(m-1) * I_K + [\sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K] + j$

 col = $(m-2) * I_K + [\sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K] + j$

R[row,col]=1

 end

⁹ Here we use the same notation for the covariance matrix of $\boldsymbol{\eta}_i$ as $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_i$ to avoid redundancy. To be precise, one can motivate the model directly by incorporating AR-1 structure, avoiding the need for redundancy.


```

end
end
end

```

Next, construct a matrix $\mathbf{F}_{I_K T}$ of size $(T I_K \times T I_K)$ with all the cells filled with zeros. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of matrix $\mathbf{F}_{I_K T}$.

```

for m=2 to T
  for n=1 to l
    if(n==1)
      for j=1 to n_K
        row = (m-1) * I_K + j
        col = (m-2) * I_K + j
         $\mathbf{F}_{I_K T}[\text{row}, \text{col}] = \lambda[n, 1]$ 
      end
    else
      for j=1 to n_K
        row = (m-1) * I_K +  $[\sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K] + j$ 
        col = (m-2) * I_K +  $[\sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K] + j$ 
         $\mathbf{F}_{I_K T}[\text{row}, \text{col}] = \lambda[n, 1]$ 
      end
    end
  end
end
end

```

With this, equation (7) can be written in the matrix form as follows:

$$(8) \quad \mathbf{U} = \text{sumc}[(\tilde{\beta} * x)'] + \mathbf{C}_\eta$$

where $\mathbf{C} = [\mathbf{1}_{I_K T} - (\mathbf{F}_{I_K T} * | \cdot \mathbf{R}_{I_K T})]^{-1}$ of size $(T I_K \times T I_K)$.

From equation (8), it is easy to observe that U is distributed normally with mean $\text{sumc}[(\tilde{\beta} * x)']$ and covariance $\mathbf{C} * [\mathbf{1}_T * \mathbf{D}\Lambda] * \mathbf{C}'$. Also, to maintain the bound on autoregressive parameter vector λ , we parametrize the parameter as $\lambda = \lambda_\rho / [1 + (\lambda_\rho)^2]^{0.5}$, where λ_ρ is the value passed to the optimization module.

Joint Model Estimation

Now, we bring the individual components of the model together to form a joint model followed by model estimation approach. To write the joint model in a matrix form, define the following vector and matrices:

$$Y_t U_t = (\tilde{y}_{1,t}, \tilde{y}_{2,t}, \dots, \tilde{y}_{\tilde{H},t}, \tilde{y}_{1,t}^*, \tilde{y}_{2,t}^*, \dots, \tilde{y}_{\tilde{N},t}^*, U_t) [(\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K) \times 1] \text{ vector, } 1$$

$$YU = [(Y_1 U_1), (Y_2 U_2), \dots, (Y_T U_T)]' [T * (\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K) \times 1] \text{ vector, }^{10}$$

$$X_t = (x'_{1,t}, x'_{2,t}, \dots, x'_{\tilde{H},t}, x'_{1,t}, x'_{2,t}, \dots, x'_{\tilde{N},t}, x'_t) [(\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K) \times \max(k_{\tilde{h}}, k_{\tilde{n}}, g_i)] \text{ matrix,}$$

$$X = (X_1 X_2, \dots, X_T) [T * (\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K) \times \max(k_{\tilde{h}}, k_{\tilde{n}}, g_i)] \text{ matrix,}$$

$$\vec{\beta} = (\gamma', \delta', \beta') [(\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K) \times \max(k_{\tilde{h}}, k_{\tilde{n}}, g_i)] \text{ matrix,}$$

$$\vec{\beta} = \text{ones}(T, 1) .* \vec{\beta} [T * (\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K) \times \max(k_{\tilde{h}}, k_{\tilde{n}}, g_i)] \text{ matrix.}$$

Define a matrix **D_Mat** of size $[(\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K) \times (\tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + I_K - I)]$ with all the elements being equal to zero. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix **D_Mat**.

$$\mathbf{D_Mat} [1: \tilde{H} + \tilde{N}, 1: \tilde{H} + \tilde{N}] = \mathbf{1}_{\tilde{H} + \tilde{N}}$$

for $m = 1$ to l

 if($m=1$)

$$\text{st_row} = \tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + 2$$

$$\text{end_row} = \tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + m_K$$

$$\text{st_col} = \tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + 1$$

$$\text{end_col} = \tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + m_K - 1$$

 else

$$\text{st_row} = \tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + [\sum_{n=1}^{m-1} n_K] + 2$$

$$\text{end_row} = \tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + [\sum_{n=1}^m n_K]$$

$$\text{st_col} = \tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + [\sum_{n=1}^{m-1} (n_K - 1)] + 1$$

$$\text{end_col} = \tilde{H} + \tilde{N} + [\sum_{n=1}^m (n_K - 1)]$$

 end

$$\mathbf{D_Mat}[\text{st_row}: \text{end_row}, \text{st_col}: \text{end_col}] = \mathbf{1}_{m_K - 1}$$

end

¹⁰ The assumption here is that $\tilde{T} = \tilde{T} = T$. However, this need not be the case. If $\tilde{T} \neq \tilde{T} \neq T$, we assume that $T \geq \tilde{T} \& T \geq \tilde{T}$ given the focus of discrete choice models to model the choice outcome. Later we provide a design matrix which can be multiplied with the vector **YU** to extract the relevant components. In the meantime, all the missing values can be replaced by zero. Thus, from now on we assume $T \geq \tilde{T} \& T \geq \tilde{T}$ and thus all the matrices/vector will be created to accommodate the highest dimension T .

Construct a matrix **Cap_RI** of size $[T(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) \times T(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K)]$ with all the elements being equal to zero. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix **Cap_RI**.

for $m=2$ to T

 for $n=1$ to \tilde{H}

 row = $(m - 1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) + n$

 col = $(m - 2) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) + n$

Cap_RI[row,col]=1

 end

end

for $m=2$ to T

 for $n=1$ to l

 if($n==1$)

 for $j = 1$ to n_K

 row = $(m - 1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) + (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + j$

 col = $(m - 2) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) + (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + j$

Cap_RI[row,col]=1

 end

 else

 for $j = 1$ to n_K

 row = $(m - 1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) + (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + [\sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K] + j$

 col = $(m - 2) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) + (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + [\sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K] + j$

Cap_RI[row,col]=1

 end

 end

 end

end

Finally, construct two matrices **I_Mean** and **I_Error** of size $[T(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) \times T(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K)]$ with all the cells filled with zeros. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix **I_Mean** and **I_Error**.

```

for m =2 to T
  for n =1 to  $\tilde{H}$ 
    if(m==1)
      row = (m - 1) * ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K$ ) + n
      col = (m - 2) * ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K$ ) + n
      I_Mean[row,col]=  $\tilde{\rho}[i, 1]$ 
      I_Error[row,col]=  $\tilde{\rho}[i, 1]$ 
    end
  end
end
for m =2 to T
  for n =1 to l
    if(n==1)
      for j = 1 to  $n_K$ 
        row = (m - 1) * ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K$ ) + ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}$ ) + j
        col = (m - 2) * ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K$ ) + ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}$ ) + j
        I_Error[row,col]=  $\lambda[n, 1]$ 
      end
    else
      for j = 1 to  $n_K$ 
        row = (m - 1) * ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K$ ) + ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}$ ) + [ $\sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K$ ] + j
        col = (m - 2) * ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K$ ) + ( $\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}$ ) + [ $\sum_{r=1}^{n-1} r_K$ ] + j
        I_Error[row,col]=  $\lambda[n, 1]$ 
      end
    end
  end
end
end

```

Also, collect all the error-covariance matrices as follows:

$$\tilde{\Sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} \Xi & \text{Cov}(\Xi; \Gamma)' & \text{Cov}(\Xi; \Lambda)' \\ \text{Cov}(\Xi; \Gamma) & \Gamma & \text{Cov}(\Gamma; \Lambda)' \\ \text{Cov}(\Xi; \Lambda) & \text{Cov}(\Gamma; \Lambda) & \Lambda \end{bmatrix} [(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) \times (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K)]$$

where off-diagonal elements capture the dependence across different type of variables (continuous, ordered, and nominal variables).

With this, we can write the distribution of joint model as follows:

$$YU \sim MVN(B_{T*(\tilde{H}+\ddot{N}+I_K)}, \Theta_{T*(\tilde{H}+\ddot{N}+I_K) \times T*(\tilde{H}+\ddot{N}+I_K)}),$$

where $B = \mathbf{F_Mean} * \text{sumc}[(\vec{\beta} * X)']$,

$$\Theta = \mathbf{F_Error} * [\mathbf{1}_{T*} * (\mathbf{D}_{MAT} * \vec{\Sigma})] * \mathbf{F_Error}',$$

$$\mathbf{F_Mean} = [\mathbf{1}_{T(\tilde{H}+\ddot{N}+I_K)} - \mathbf{I_Mean} * \mathbf{Cap_RI}]^{-1}, \text{ and}$$

$$\mathbf{F_Error} = [\mathbf{1}_{T(\tilde{H}+\ddot{N}+I_K)} - \mathbf{I_Error} * \mathbf{Cap_RI}]^{-1}$$

Next, to estimate the model, we take the utility difference between the chosen alternative (i_{m_k}) and non-chosen alternatives for all the nominal variables. To perform utility difference, construct a matrix $\mathbf{M_mat}$ of size $[T(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I) \times T(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K)]$ with all the cells filled with zeros. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix $\mathbf{M_mat}$.

For m=1 to T

$$\mathbf{M} = \text{zeros}((\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I), (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K))$$

$$\mathbf{M} [1: \tilde{H} + \ddot{N}], 1: (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N})] = \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{H}+\ddot{N})}$$

for n=1 to I

$$\text{Iden_mat} = \mathbf{1}_{n_K-1}$$

$$\text{O_neg} = -1 * \text{ones}(n_K-1, 1)$$

$$\text{if}(n_{m_K} == 1)$$

$$\text{temp_mat} = \text{O_neg} \sim \text{Iden_mat}$$

$$\text{else if}(n_{m_K} == n_K)$$

$$\text{temp_mat} = \text{Iden_mat}[:, 1: n_{m_K} 1] \sim \text{O_neg} \sim \text{Iden_mat}[:, n_{m_K}: n_K - 1]$$

end

if(n==1)

$$\text{row1} = (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + 1$$

$$\text{row2} = (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + n_K - 1$$

$$\text{col1} = (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + 1$$

$$\text{col2} = (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + n_K$$

```

else
    row1 =  $(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + (\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (j_K - 1)) + 1$ 
    row2 =  $(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + (\sum_{j=1}^n (j_K - 1)) + 1$ 
    col1 =  $(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + (\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (j_K)) + 1$ 
    col2 =  $(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N}) + (\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (j_K)) + n_K$ 
end
M[row1:row2,col1:col2]=temp_mat
end
s_row1 =  $(m - 1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I) + 1$ 
s_row2 =  $(m) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I)$ 
s_col1 =  $(m - 1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K) + 1$ 
s_col2 =  $(m) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K)$ 
M_mat[s_row1:s_row2,s_col1:s_col2]=M
end

```

where “~” refers to horizontal concatenation.

With this we may write the distribution of $\bar{Y}\bar{U}$ (same as YU but with utility difference w.r.t the chosen alternative for all the nominal variables) as $\bar{Y}\bar{U} \sim MVN_{T * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I)}(\tilde{B}, \tilde{\Theta})$ where $\tilde{B} = \mathbf{M_mat} * \mathbf{B}$, and $\tilde{\Theta} = \mathbf{M_mat} * \tilde{\Theta} * \mathbf{M_mat}'$.

Next, we define a matrix to re-arrange the elements of mean and covariance matrix of $\bar{Y}\bar{U}$ in the following order: continuous, ordered, and nominal. This makes it easy to find the conditional distribution of non-continuous variables in a matrix format. To do so, define a matrix $\mathbf{R_mat}$ of size $[T(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I) \times T(\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I)]$ with all the cells filled with zeros. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix $\mathbf{R_mat}$.

-----For continuous variables-----

For $m = 1$ to T

```

    row1 =  $(m-1) * \tilde{H} + 1$ 
    row2 =  $(m) * \tilde{H}$ 
    col1 =  $(m-1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I) + 1$ 
    col2 =  $(m-1) * (\tilde{H} + \ddot{N} + I_K - I) + \tilde{H}$ 
    R_mat[row1: row2, col1:col2] =  $1_{\tilde{H}}$ 

```

end

-----For ordered variables-----

For $m=1$ to T

$$\text{row1}=\tilde{H}T+(m-1)*\tilde{N}+1$$

$$\text{row2}=\tilde{H}T+(m)*\tilde{N}+1$$

$$\text{col1}=(m-1)*(\tilde{H}+\tilde{N}+I_K-I)+\tilde{H}+1$$

$$\text{col2}=(m-1)*(\tilde{H}+\tilde{N}+I_K-I)+\tilde{H}+\tilde{N}$$

$$\mathbf{R_mat}[\text{row1}:\text{row2}, \text{col1}:\text{col2}]=\mathbf{1}_{\tilde{N}}$$

end

-----For nominal variables-----

For $m=1$ to T

$$\text{row1}=(\tilde{H}+\tilde{N})T+(m-1)*(I_K-I)+1$$

$$\text{row2}=(\tilde{H}+\tilde{N})T+(m)*(I_K-I)+1$$

$$\text{col1}=(m-1)*(\tilde{H}+\tilde{N}+I_K-I)+(\tilde{H}+\tilde{N})+1$$

$$\text{col2}=(m-1)*(\tilde{H}+\tilde{N}+I_K-I)+(\tilde{H}+\tilde{N})+(I_K-I)$$

$$\mathbf{R_mat}[\text{row1}:\text{row2}, \text{col1}:\text{col2}]=\mathbf{1}_{(I_K-I)}$$

end

With this, we may write:

$$\bar{\mathbf{Y}}\bar{\mathbf{U}}\sim MVN_{T*(\tilde{H}+\tilde{N}+I_K-I)}(\bar{\mathbf{B}}, \bar{\mathbf{\Theta}})$$

where $\bar{\mathbf{B}}=\mathbf{R_mat}*\tilde{\mathbf{B}}$, and $\bar{\mathbf{\Theta}}=\mathbf{R_mat}*\tilde{\mathbf{\Theta}}*\mathbf{R_mat}'$.

Next, to account for un-balanced panel data structure, we define a matrix $\mathbf{RM_mat}$ of size $[\tilde{T}\tilde{H}+\tilde{T}\tilde{N}+T(I_K-I)\times T(\tilde{H}+\tilde{N}+I_K-I)]$ with all the cells filled with zeros. It will allow us to collect the relevant elements from the vector $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}$ and matrix $\tilde{\mathbf{\Theta}}$. Now, follow the pseudo-code provided below to fill-up the cells of the matrix $\mathbf{RM_mat}$.

-----For continuous variables-----

For $m=1$ to \tilde{T}

$$\text{row1}=(m-1)*\tilde{H}+1$$

$$\text{row2}=(m)*\tilde{H}$$

$$\text{col1}=(m-1)*\tilde{H}+1$$

$$\text{col2}=(m)*\tilde{H}$$

$$\mathbf{R_mat}[\text{row1}:\text{row2}, \text{col1}:\text{col2}]=\mathbf{1}_{\tilde{H}}$$

end

-----For ordered variables-----

For $m=1$ to \tilde{T}

$$\text{row1}=\tilde{H}\tilde{T}+(m-1)*\tilde{N}+1$$

$$\text{row2}=\tilde{H}\tilde{T}+(m)*\tilde{N}$$

$$\text{col1}=\tilde{H}T+(m-1)*\tilde{N}+1$$

$$\text{col2}=\tilde{H}T+(m)*\tilde{N}$$

$$\mathbf{R_mat}[\text{row1}:\text{row2}, \text{col1}:\text{col2}]=\mathbf{1}_{\tilde{N}}$$

end

-----For nominal variables-----

For $m=1$ to T

$$\text{row1}=\tilde{H}\tilde{T}+\tilde{N}\tilde{T}+(m-1)*(I_K-I)+1$$

$$\text{row2}=\tilde{H}\tilde{T}+\tilde{N}\tilde{T}+(m)*(I_K-I)+1$$

$$\text{col1}=(\tilde{H}+\tilde{N})T+(m-1)*(I_K-I)+1$$

$$\text{col2}=(\tilde{H}+\tilde{N})T+(m)*(I_K-I)$$

$$\mathbf{R_mat}[\text{row1}:\text{row2}, \text{col1}:\text{col2}]=\mathbf{1}_{(I_K-I)}$$

end

Now we may write:

$$\bar{\mathbf{Y}}\bar{\mathbf{U}}\sim MVN_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}+\tilde{N}\tilde{T}+T(I_K-I)}(\bar{\mathbf{B}}, \bar{\mathbf{\Theta}})$$

where $\bar{\mathbf{B}} = \mathbf{RM_mat} * \bar{\mathbf{B}}$, and $\bar{\mathbf{\Theta}} = \mathbf{RM_mat} * \bar{\mathbf{\Theta}} * \mathbf{RM_mat}'$.

Next, partition the $\bar{\mathbf{B}}$ and $\bar{\mathbf{\Theta}}$ into the continuous and non-continuous variables as follows:

$$\bar{\mathbf{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{B}}_{\tilde{H}} \\ \bar{\mathbf{B}}_{\tilde{H},\tilde{N}\tilde{U}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{H}\tilde{T} \times 1 \\ \tilde{N}\tilde{T} + T(I_K - I) \times 1 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and } \bar{\mathbf{\Theta}} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{\Theta}}_{\tilde{H}} & \bar{\mathbf{\Theta}}_{\tilde{H},\tilde{N}\tilde{U}} \\ \bar{\mathbf{\Theta}}'_{\tilde{H},\tilde{N}\tilde{U}} & \bar{\mathbf{\Theta}}_{\tilde{N}\tilde{U}} \end{bmatrix}.$$

With this, the conditional distribution of non-continuous variables can be written as:

$$\bar{\mathbf{B}}_{\tilde{N}\tilde{U}} = \bar{\mathbf{B}}_{\tilde{N}\tilde{U}} + \bar{\mathbf{\Theta}}'_{\tilde{H},\tilde{N}\tilde{U}} (\bar{\mathbf{\Theta}}_{\tilde{H}})^{-1} (\bar{\mathbf{y}} [1: \tilde{H}\tilde{T}] - \bar{\mathbf{B}}_{\tilde{H}}),$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{\Theta}}_{\tilde{N}\tilde{U}} = \bar{\mathbf{\Theta}}_{\tilde{N}\tilde{U}} - \bar{\mathbf{\Theta}}'_{\tilde{H},\tilde{N}\tilde{U}} (\bar{\mathbf{\Theta}}_{\tilde{H}})^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{\Theta}}_{\tilde{H},\tilde{N}\tilde{U}}.$$

Also, append the threshold vectors as follows:

$$\bar{\Psi}_{low} = [(\Psi_{low} [1: \tilde{N}\tilde{T}])', (-\infty_{T(I_K-I)})'] \left[(\tilde{N}\tilde{T} + T(I_K - I)) \times 1 \right] \text{ vector, and,}$$

$\bar{\Psi}_{up} = [(\Psi_{up} [1: \tilde{N}\tilde{T}])', (0_{T(I_K - I)})']' [(\tilde{N}\tilde{T} + T(I_K - I)) \times 1]$ vector. Where $-\infty_{T(I_K - I)}$ and $0_{T(I_K - I)}$ are column vectors of size $T(I_K - I)$ with all the cells filled with a value of “ $-\infty$ ” and “0” respectively.

Then the likelihood function may be written as:

$$L(\theta) = f_{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}}(\tilde{y} [1: \tilde{H}\tilde{T}] | \vec{\beta}_{\tilde{H}}, \vec{\theta}_{\tilde{H}}) \times \int_{\bar{\Psi}_{low}}^{\bar{\Psi}_{up}} f_{\tilde{N}\tilde{T} + T(I_K - I)}(\mathbf{r} | \vec{\beta}_{\tilde{N}\tilde{U}}, \vec{\theta}_{\tilde{N}\tilde{U}}) dr \quad (9)$$

where $\theta = [\gamma', \delta', \beta', \rho', \lambda', (\text{Vech}(\tilde{\Sigma}))']$ and Vech (.) operator vectorizes the unique element of a matrix.

The likelihood function involves computation of a $\tilde{H}\tilde{T}$ dimensional multi-variate normal probability density (MVNPD) function and $\tilde{N}\tilde{T} + T(I_K - I)$ dimensional multi-variate normal cumulative density (MVNCD) function. While the MVNPD function has a closed form expression, increase in dimensionality can lead to calculation of numerical value very close to zero and thus causing issues during estimation¹¹. On the other hand, the computation of a MVNCD function is a well-known challenge in the literature (Genz 1992; Heiss 2010; Connors et al. 2014). Even the powerful GHK simulator armed with sophisticated quasi-random sequences can calculate the value accurately only up to a limited number of dimensions (Sándor & András 2004)¹². At the same time, it is well known and established that any simulation-based method loses its accuracy with increases in dimension due to simulation noise, not to mention the unreasonable computation time (Train 2000; Bhat 2003; Craig 2008). For example: the analysis section of the paper has 8 continuous variables with 20 time periods, 5 ordinal variables with 1 time period, and 1 nominal variable with 8 alternatives and 20 choice occasions. In the maximum likelihood (ML) approach, this translates to a computation of a 160 dimensional MVNPD function and a 145 dimensional MVNCD function. Therefore it may be quite challenging to solve equation (9) using ML approach.

While one can use Bayesian approach to solve such a complicated likelihood function involving a series of draws from conditional distribution, a review of literature involving Probit kernel shows that Bayesian approach has not performed as expected in terms of recovering parameters and their standard errors (Franzese et al. 2010; Patil et al. 2017). On the other hand, there have been few studies (Daziano 2015; Zhou et al. 2016) which have found the performance of Bayesian approach to be quite good. However, these studies did not compare the performance of Bayesian approach against ML or other approaches. This is not to say that the Bayesian approach may not work. A comprehensive evaluation of the present model using Bayesian approach is outside the scope of the paper and we leave this for future explorations. Therefore, we use a composite marginal likelihood (CML) approach which has been established in the last decade as one of the powerful approach for solving likelihood functions with high dimensional integrals. A comprehensive discussion on the CML approach is outside the scope of this paper and readers are refer to Varin & Vidoni 2005; Varin 2008; Varin, Reid & Firth 2011 for a detailed discussion on CML and see Bhat & Dubey (2014) for its application in the context of discrete choice models. Further Bhat and colleagues have performed

¹¹ Consider a situation where there are 20 continuous dependent variables. Now, estimate a uni-variate regression for each of the 20 continuous variables which may include parameters apart from a constant. Now, if one wish to estimate a joint model for all the 20 continuous variables, even with a good starting value (obtained from uni-variate regression), the MVNPD value may be very close to zero (numerically).

¹² The assumption is that the number of draws are finite (less than 1000) to maintain reasonable estimation time.

extensive simulation using CML approach for complex econometric models and have observed highly accurate results (Paleti & Bhat 2013; Bhat & Dubey 2014; Bhat 2015; Bhat et al. 2016).

Composite Marginal Likelihood Approach

The likelihood function can be written as follows using the CML approach:

$$L_{CML}(\theta) = \left(\prod_{h=1}^{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}-1} \prod_{h'=h+1}^{\tilde{H}\tilde{T}} f_2(\tilde{y}_{hh'} | \vec{B}_{hh'}, \vec{\Theta}_{hh'}) \right) \times \left(\prod_{r=1}^{\tilde{N}\tilde{T}-1} \prod_{r'=r+1}^{\tilde{N}\tilde{T}} \Pr(\ddot{y}_n = a_n, \ddot{y}_{n'} = a_{n'}) \right) \times \left(\prod_{r=1}^{\tilde{N}\tilde{T}} \prod_{t=1}^T \prod_{r'=1}^I \Pr(\ddot{y}_n = a_n, i_{r't} = i_{r'mk't}) \right) \times \left(\prod_{r=1}^{T-1} \prod_{r'=r+1}^T \Pr(i_r = i_{r_{m_k}}, i_{r'} = i_{r'_{m_k}}) \right) \quad (10)$$

In the above CML expression, the first expression corresponds to the pairing of two continuous variables at a time reducing the dimension of MVNPD function from $\tilde{H}\tilde{T}$ to a maximum of 2 avoiding any numerical issues in calculation of MVNPD function due to high dimensionality¹³. The second expression corresponds to the pairing of two ordinal variables reducing the dimensionality of integration to 2 from $\tilde{N}\tilde{T}$. The third expression corresponds to the pairing between an ordinal and nominal variable with a maximum dimensionality of integration equal to $\max(i_K \forall I)$. Finally the fourth expression corresponds to the pairing between nominal variables with a highest dimensionality of integration being equal to $2 * \max(i_K \forall I)$.

To explicitly write out the equation (10) in terms of MVNPD and MVNCD functions, we define a set of selection matrices: (1) construct a selection matrix $\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{HH}}$ of size $[2 \times \tilde{H}\tilde{T}]$ with all the cells filled with zeros. Now, place a value of '1' in 1st row and h^{th} column and in 2nd row and h'^{th} column. This matrix is designed to collect relevant elements for pairing between continuous variables within and across time-periods, (2) define a selection matrix $\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{NI}}$ of size $[i_K \times (\tilde{N}\tilde{T} + (I_K - I)T)]$ with all the cells filled with zeros. This matrix is designed to collect relevant elements for pairing between ordered and nominal variables. Now, place a value of '1' in the 1st row and r^{th} column. Next if $r' = 1$, then place an identity matrix of size $r'_K - 1$ in the rows 2 to r'_K and columns $\tilde{N}\tilde{T} + (t - 1)(I_K - I) + 1$ to $\tilde{N}\tilde{T} + (t - 1)(I_K - I) + r'_K - 1$, otherwise place an identity matrix of size $r'_K - 1$ in the rows 2 to r'_K and columns $\tilde{N}\tilde{T} + (t - 1)(I_K - I) + \left(\sum_{j=1}^{r'-1} (j_K - 1)\right) + 1$ to $\tilde{N}\tilde{T} + (t - 1)(I_K - I) + \left(\sum_{j=1}^{r'-1} (j_K - 1)\right)$, and (3) define two variables as follows: $\text{alt}_1 = r - (\text{ceil}(r/1) - 1) * I$ and $\text{alt}_2 = r' - (\text{ceil}(r'/I) - 1) * I$. Where $\text{ceil}(\cdot)$ operator rounds the value in parenthesis to next largest integer. Now, construct a selection matrix $\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{II}}$ of size $[(r_{\text{alt}_1} + r'_{\text{alt}_2} - 2) \times (\tilde{N}\tilde{T} + (I_K - I)T)]$ with all the cells filled with zeros. This matrix is designed to collect relevant

¹³ For all the pairings, different continuous variables in the same time-period and all continuous variables across time-periods are used. This also holds for all pairing between ordinal and ordinal, and nominal and nominal variables.

elements for pairing between nominal variables within and across time-periods. Now, use the pseudocode provided below to fill-up the cells of **D_II** matrix.

```

if (alt_1 == 1)
    row1=1
    row2=ralt1 - 1
    col1 =  $\ddot{N}\ddot{T}$  + (ceil(r/1) - 1) * (IK - I) + I
    col2 =  $\ddot{N}\ddot{T}$  + (ceil(r/1) - 1) * (IK - I) + ralt1 - 1
else
    row1=1
    row2=ralt1 - 1
    col1 =  $\ddot{N}\ddot{T}$  + (ceil(r/1) - 1) * (IK - I) + ( $\sum_{j=1}^{alt_1-1} (j_K - 1)$ ) + 1
    col2 =  $\ddot{N}\ddot{T}$  + (ceil(r/1) - 1) * (IK - I) + ( $\sum_{j=1}^{alt_1} (j_K - 1)$ )
end
D_II[row1:row2,col1:col2]=1ialt1-1
if(alt_2==1)
    row1=ralt1
    row2=ralt1 + r'alt2 - 2
    col1 =  $\ddot{N}\ddot{T}$  + (ceil(r'/1) - 1) * (IK - I) + 1
    col2 =  $\ddot{N}\ddot{T}$  + (ceil(r'/1) - 1) * (IK - I) + r'alt2 - 1
else
    row1=ralt1
    row2=ralt1 + r'alt2 - 2
    col1 =  $\ddot{N}\ddot{T}$  + (ceil(r'/1) - 1) * (IK - I) + ( $\sum_{j=1}^{alt_2-1} (j_K - 1)$ ) + 1
    col2 =  $\ddot{N}\ddot{T}$  + (ceil(r'/1) - 1) * (IK - I) + ( $\sum_{j=1}^{alt_2} (j_K - 1)$ )
end
D_II[row1:row2,col1:col2] 1ialt2-1

```

With the selection matrices defined, now we define the appropriate mean vector and covariance matrix for pairing of dependent variables. Define the following vectors and matrices:

$$\hat{B}_{hh'} = \mathbf{D}_{HH} * \vec{B}_{hh'}, \hat{\Theta}_{hh'} = \mathbf{D}_{HH} * \vec{\Theta}_{hh'}, * \mathbf{D}_{HH}', \hat{y}_{hh'} = \mathbf{D}_{HH} * \tilde{y}_{hh'},$$

$$\begin{aligned}
v_{r,low} &= \frac{[\Psi_{low}]_r - [\bar{B}_{\bar{N}\bar{U}}]_r}{\sqrt{[\bar{\Theta}_{\bar{N}\bar{U}}]_{rr}}}, v_{r,up} = \frac{[\Psi_{up}]_r - [\bar{B}_{\bar{N}\bar{U}}]_r}{\sqrt{[\bar{\Theta}_{\bar{N}\bar{U}}]_{rr}}}, v_{r',low} = \frac{[\Psi_{low}]_{r'} - [\bar{B}_{\bar{N}\bar{U}}]_{r'}}{\sqrt{[\bar{\Theta}_{\bar{N}\bar{U}}]_{r'r'}}}, \\
v_{r',up} &= \frac{[\Psi_{up}]_{r'} - [\bar{B}_{\bar{N}\bar{U}}]_{r'}}{\sqrt{[\bar{\Theta}_{\bar{N}\bar{U}}]_{r'r'}}}, \vartheta_{rr} = \frac{[\bar{\Theta}_{\bar{N}\bar{U}}]_{rr'}}{\sqrt{[\bar{\Theta}_{\bar{N}\bar{U}}]_{rr}}\sqrt{[\bar{\Theta}_{\bar{N}\bar{U}}]_{r'r'}}}, \hat{B}_{rr'} = D_NI * \bar{B}_{\bar{N}\bar{U}}, \\
\hat{\Theta}_{rr'} &= D_NI * \bar{\Theta}_{\bar{N}\bar{U}} * D_NI', \hat{\Psi}_{rr',low} = D_NI * \Psi_{low}, \\
\hat{\Psi}_{rr',low}[2:rows(\hat{\Psi}_{rr',low})] &= zeros(rows(\hat{\Psi}_{rr',low}), 1), \\
\hat{\Psi}_{rr',up} &= D_NI * \Psi_{up}, \check{B}_{rr'} = D_II * \bar{B}_{\bar{N}\bar{U}}, \text{ and } \check{\Theta}_{rr'} = D_II * \bar{\Theta}_{\bar{N}\bar{U}} * D_II'
\end{aligned}$$

With the help of above defined notations, we may write the equation (10) in the explicit form as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
L_{CML}(\theta) &= \left(\prod_{h=1}^{\bar{H}\bar{T}-1} \prod_{h'=h+1}^{\bar{H}\bar{T}} \phi_2(\hat{y}_{hh'} | \hat{B}_{hh'}, \hat{\Theta}_{hh'}) \right) \times \\
&\left(\prod_{r=1}^{\bar{N}\bar{T}-1} \prod_{r'=r+1}^{\bar{N}\bar{T}} \left[\begin{array}{l} \Phi_2(v_{r,up}, v_{r',up}, \vartheta_{rr'}) - \Phi_2(v_{r,up}, v_{r',low}, \vartheta_{rr'}) \\ -\Phi_2(v_{r,low}, v_{r',up}, \vartheta_{rr'}) + \Phi_2(v_{r,low}, v_{r',low}, \vartheta_{rr'}) \end{array} \right] \right) \times \\
&\left(\prod_{r=1}^{\bar{N}\bar{T}} \prod_{t=1}^T \prod_{r'=1}^I [\Phi_{r'_K}[(\hat{\psi}_{rr',up} - \hat{B}_{rr'}); \hat{\Theta}_{rr'}] - \Phi_{r'_K}[(\hat{\psi}_{rr',low} - \hat{B}_{rr'}); \hat{\Theta}_{rr'}]] \right) \times \\
&\left(\prod_{r=1}^{T\bar{I}-1} \prod_{r'=r+1}^{T\bar{I}} [\Phi_{r'_K+r'_K-2}[\check{B}_{rr'}; \check{\Theta}_{rr'}]] \right) \tag{11}
\end{aligned}$$

where $\phi_r(\cdot)$ and $\Phi_r(\cdot)$ represents a MVNPD and MVNCD function of dimension r , respectively. The parameters θ are obtained by maximizing the $\log[L_{CML}(\theta)]$. Further, unlike the ML approach, in the CML approach, the equivalence between the inverse of Hessian matrix $H(\theta) \left[-\frac{\partial^2 L_{CML}(\theta)}{\partial \theta * \partial \theta'} \right]^{-1}$ and the information matrix $I(\theta) \left[\left(\frac{\partial L_{CML}(\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right) \times \left(\frac{\partial L_{CML}(\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right)' \right]$ does not exist and therefore the standard errors are calculated using the inverse of sandwich matrix $G(\theta)^{-1} = H(\theta)^{-1} I(\theta) H(\theta)^{-1}$. Now that the dimension of MVNCD function has been reduced to a computationally acceptable range, one may use the Geweke- Hajivassiliou-Keane (GHK) simulator (Hajivassiliou et al. 1996) with quasi-random sequences or Bhat's Maximum Approximate Composite Marginal Likelihood (MACML) approach (Bhat 2011). While the GHK simulator is a simulation based estimator, the MACML is an analytic approximation and thus is computationally faster than the GHK. However, based on extensive testing of both methods, we have found that the MACML approach is a good method up to a dimension of 8-10. Its performance starts to degrade rather quickly beyond a dimension of 12 in comparison with the GHK simulator¹⁴. In our empirical analysis, the highest dimension of integral is 14 and thus based on equation (11) we use GHK simulator with 200 Halton-draws for the estimation of MVNCD function¹⁵. Finally, since the standard errors are calculated using sandwich estimator, one will need to calculate the Hessian matrix numerically or analytically. However, unlike logit kernel where the Hessian matrix can be computed numerically using central difference method, the same is not true for the Probit kernel due to relatively slow rate of change of MVNCD function in comparison

¹⁴ The simulation design corresponds to a multinomial Probit model estimation for both cross-section and panel data structure with 5 alternatives, 5 choice occasions, and 5 random parameters with full and no cross-correlation.

¹⁵ In our simulation experiments, we found that the 200 Halton draws are sufficient up to 20 dimensions.

to the exponential function¹⁶. To avoid any such issues, we analytically calculated the first and second order derivatives of the CML function involving MVNCD function.

Positive Definiteness of Covariance Matrices

To maintain the positive definiteness of the error covariance and random taste parameter covariance matrices, we work with the Cholesky decomposition of the matrices during estimation. i.e., if we are working with the full joint model, we pass the lower triangular Cholesky decomposition of the matrix $\bar{\Sigma}$. Also, since the error covariance matrix for ordered variables are restricted to be a correlation matrix along with the first row of each of the nominal variables, we need to ensure that during estimation, proper restrictions are maintained. Therefore, for all the rows of the matrix $\bar{\Sigma}$ where the diagonal element is constrained to be 1, parametrize such rows of the lower triangular Cholesky decomposition of matrix $\bar{\Sigma}$ as follows:

Let $LL' = \bar{\Sigma}$, where L is the lower triangular Cholesky matrix. Then, for each of the required rows do the following: Let $a_i = [1 + L[i, 1:i - 1].^2]^2$ where i refers to the row number and the operator “.” refers to element by element exponentiation. Then parametrize all non-diagonal elements of the i^{th} row as $L[i, r] = \frac{L[i, r]}{a_i} \forall r = 1 \text{ to } i - 1$ and the diagonal element as $L[i, i] = \frac{1}{a_i}$.

The same strategy can be used if one wishes to estimate the models independently. In this case just work with Cholesky decomposition of matrices $\Xi, \Omega, \Psi, \Gamma, \Lambda$ and Σ .

The above described model treats the visual attention data as a means to drive the preferences. The continuous model component of the system models the visual attention in terms of time spent on various alternatives, including its labels, which is then used as an explanatory variable in the choice model component). On the other hand, to test the hypothesis that habits, goals, and constraints work as a screening mechanism, we use the visual attention as an explanatory variable in the choice model but passed as a penalty. That is, we add a penalty term to the utility equation on each alternative which may be a function of individuals’ habits and time-spent on alternatives.

$$U_{alt} = V_{alt} + \ln\left[\frac{1}{1 + \exp(\mu_{alt})}\right] + \xi_{alt}$$

Where U_{alt} is the utility of the alternative, V_{alt} is the deterministic component of the utility, ξ_{alt} is the normally distributed error term, and μ_{alt} is the penalty function. Further $\mu_{alt} = \mu_{alt} = f(\text{individuals' habits, time spent on the alternative})$. The first parametrization $\left[\frac{1}{1 + \exp(\mu_{alt})}\right]$ ensures that the value in the square bracket is bounded between 0 and 1 so that the natural logarithm of the function is bounded between $-\infty$ and 0. This way, an alternative becomes unavailable or gets pushed out from the consideration set as soon as the expression $\ln\left[\frac{1}{1 + \exp(\mu_{alt})}\right]$ takes a value of $-\infty$. Please note that there is no stochastic component in the penalty function. Adding the stochastic component creates additional computational challenges in the realm of Probit kernel.

¹⁶ Most software (except “R” software) fails to calculate the Hessian matrix for the models built on Probit kernel. The “R” software uses Richardson extrapolation method for calculating the Hessian matrix which ensures the computation of a positive definite Hessian matrix, but its accuracy is low in most of the cases.

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WEB APPENDIX C: PARTICIPANT FLOW DIAGRAM

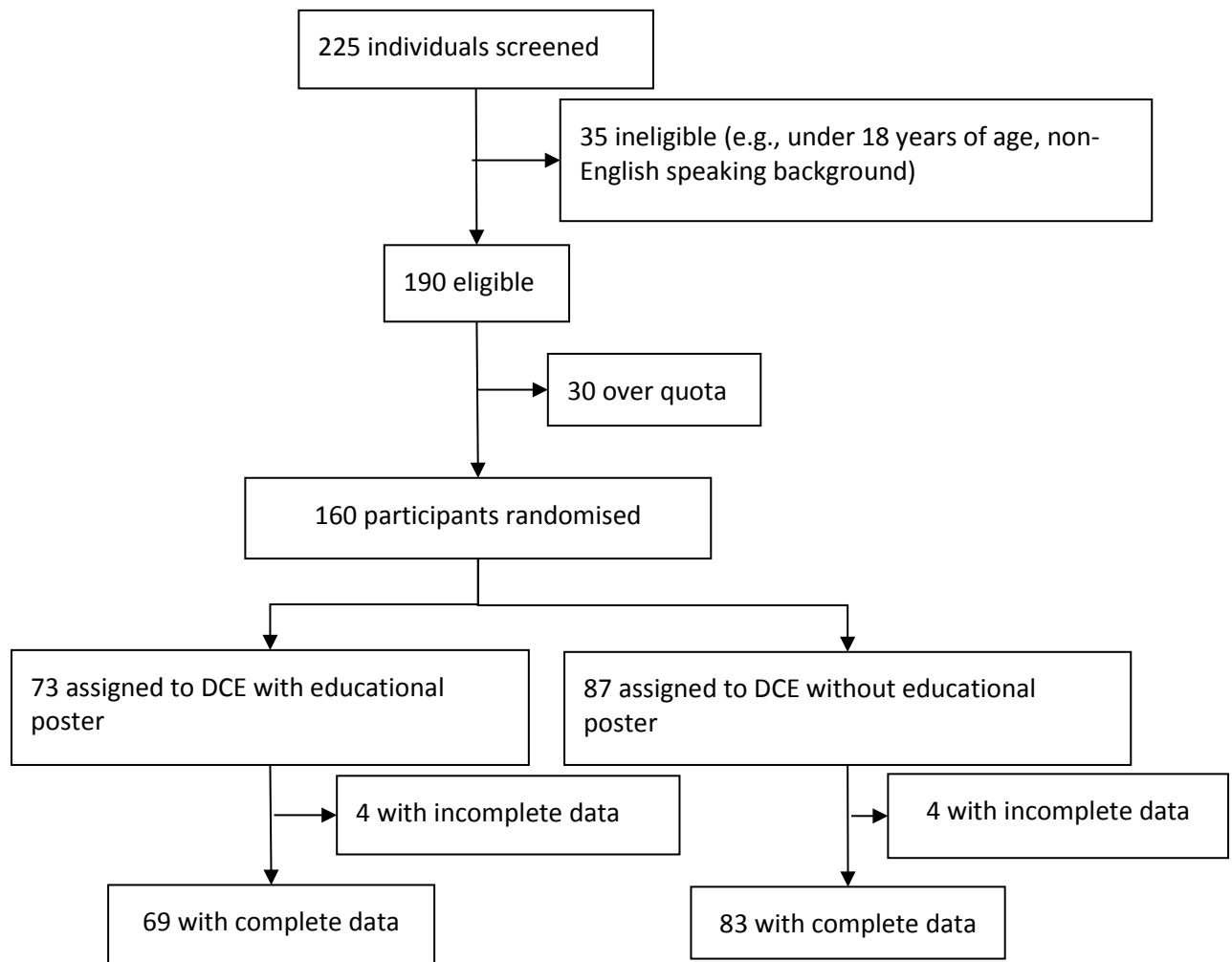


Fig. C.1. Flow chart of participants included/ excluded from eye-tracked discrete choice experiment (DCE)

Eye-tracking data were not captured for eight participants, due to technical errors, and therefore were excluded from this analysis. Of the remaining 152 participants, eye-tracking data were detected for some but not all of the 20 choice tasks for 13 individuals. These individuals were therefore excluded from the main analysis but used to test out-of-sample predictive power.

WEB APPENDIX D: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF EYE-TRACKING STUDY PARTICIPANTS

Table D.1: Demographic characteristics of eye-tracking study participants in main estimation (n=139)

Characteristic	n (%)	Australian population
Females ^a		
18-35 years	41 (51.3%)	32.2%
36-59 years	32 (40.0%)	40.4%
60 years and over	7 (8.8%)	27.4%
Males ^a		
18-35 years	28 (47.5%)	34.0%
36-59 years	21 (35.6%)	40.7%
60 years and over	10 (17.0%)	25.3%
Equivalent household income quintile ^b		
Q1 (lowest income)	39 (28.1%)	20%
Q2	31 (22.3%)	20%
Q3	23 (16.6%)	20%
Q4	29 (20.9%)	20%
Q5 (highest income)	17 (12.2%)	20%
Highest educational attainment ^c		
Year 11 or below	4 (2.9%)	26%
Year 12 or equivalent	21 (15.1%)	18%
TAFE or Certificate, diploma	18 (13.0%)	21%
Undergraduate university	54 (38.9%)	29%
Postgraduate university	42 (30.2%)	6%
Body Mass Index (BMI) ^d		
<25kg/m ² (normal or underweight)	78 (56.9%)	37.2%
25 to 30 kg/m ² (overweight)	42 (30.7%)	35.3%
>30 kg/m ² (obese)	17 (12.4%)	27.5%
SSB purchase frequency from convenience store in the past month ^e		
On about half of days or more	76 (34.7%)	-
A few times	56 (40.3%)	-
Never	7 (5.0%)	-

n=139 eye-tracking participants in main analysis (from total sample of 160). National statistics derived from: ^a Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) (2011), "Australian Demographic Statistics, Jun 2016, 'Table 1. Population Change, Summary - Australia ('000)', data cube: Excel spreadsheet, cat no. 3101.0," Available at: <http://www.abs.gov.au/>; ^b ABS (2013), "Household income and income distribution Australia." Available at: <http://www.abs.gov.au/>; ^c ABS (2016), "Education and Work, Australia, May 2016" Available at: <http://www.abs.gov.au/>; ^d BMI missing for 2 participants. ABS (2015) "National Health Survey: First Results, 2014-15, cat no. 4364.0.55.001," Available at <http://www.abs.gov.au/>. ^e 'Regular SSB (sugar-sweetened beverage) consumers' were defined as those who reported consumption of a SSB purchased from a convenience store at least a few times in the past month

WEB APPENDIX E: DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS OF VISUAL ATTENDANCE

There was a significant correlation between fixation duration examining relevant choice set information with fixation duration out of choice set ($R^2= 0.92$, p -value <0.001). Based on this, the analyses below used ratio of time spent in and out of consideration set rather than absolute duration, unless otherwise specified, to avoid results being unduly influenced by overall time to complete the task. Where sample summaries are presented (rather than per choice set), this ratio is further adjusted for number of choice sets for which eye-tracking data was captured.

Linear regressions found that the first four choice tasks had a longer mean duration than the last four tasks, even when adjusted for age and gender (p -value <0.01), suggesting learning or fatigue. Ratio of relevant to irrelevant visual attention duration increased in the last compared to the first 4 tasks (p -value <0.01)

Stated Attendance

One hundred percent of respondents stated they sometimes or always considered price, and 95% and 99% stated they sometimes or always considered volume and beverage type, respectively. All beverage types were sometimes or always considered by more than 30% of the sample.

Relationship Between Stated and Visual Attendance

No significant difference was found in fixation duration on beverage, price or volume labels by stated importance on a 5-point Likert scale as per participants using an ANOVA (all p -values ≥ 0.34). Attribute and alternative fixation duration were not predicted by relevant stated attribute or alternative non-attendance using linear regression (all p -values >0.05). A higher score on strength of habit questionnaire (stronger SSB consumption habit) was positively related to fixation duration on energy drinks (p -value=0.06) and flavored milk (p -value=0.03), and negatively related to fixation duration on “no drink” alternative (p -value=0.01) using linear regression when adjusted for age and gender. This suggests that SSB consumption habit may be related to visual attention, but this unadjusted analysis was unable to distinguish the direction of effect. No significant relationships were seen between stage of readiness to drink fewer SSBs and fixation duration by beverage type or overall time on choice task.

Relationship between visual attention and choice

Respondents spent less visual fixation time on the chosen alternative across choice tasks compared to other alternatives. **Fig. E.1** shows a detailed breakdown of visual attention time spent on chosen alternatives. On more than 50% of occasions, the chosen alternative received the least amount of visual attention.

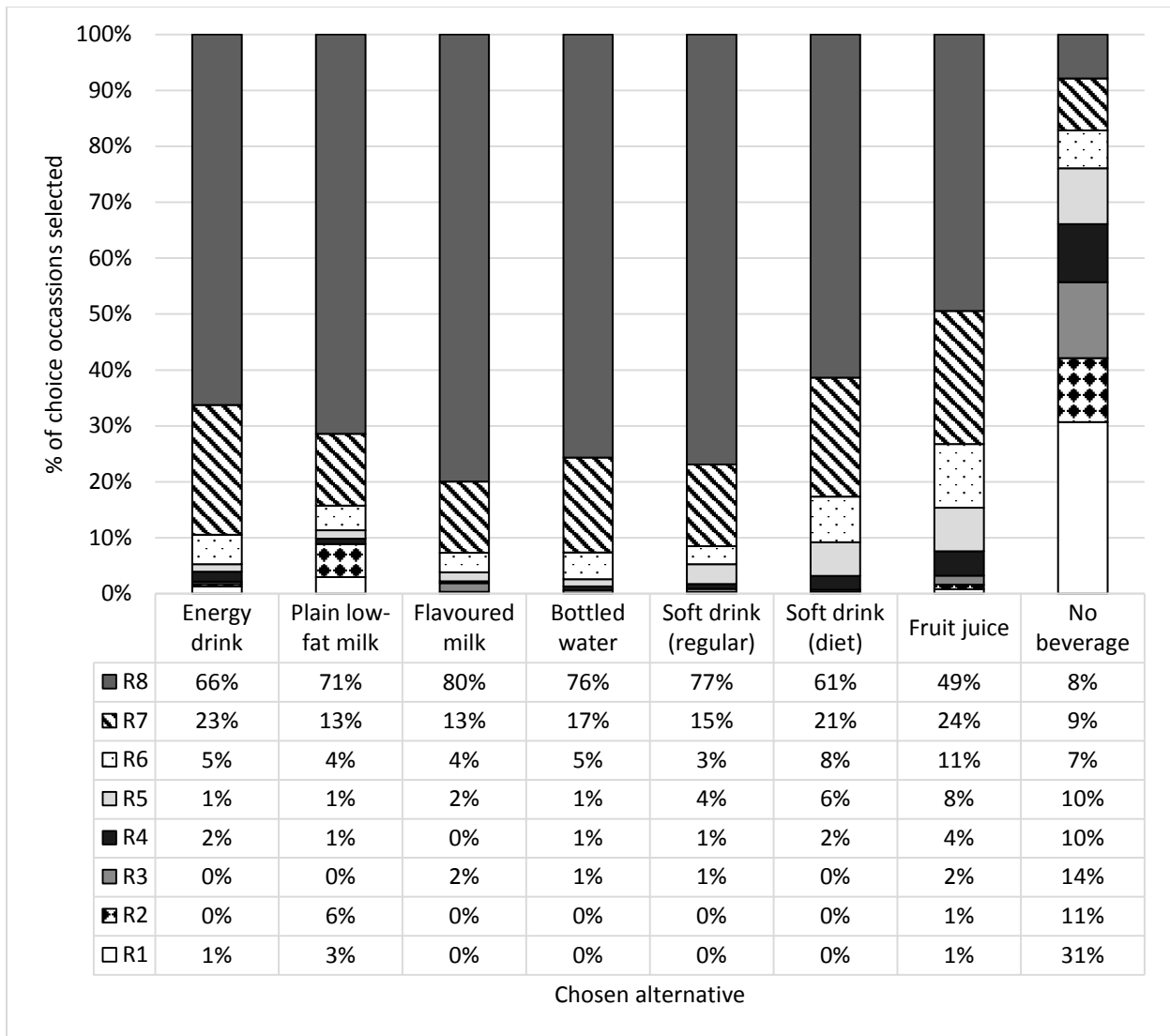


Fig. E.1: Distribution of chosen beverage alternative as a function of amount of time spent looking at that particular alternative. R1 to R8 indicate the ranking in ascending order of time spent looking at an alternative