
FORECASTING THE DEMAND FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES

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Introduction & motivation

Data collection

Methodology

Model

- SP model
- Choice model for forecasting

Forecasting analysis

Conclusion

Aim

- Develop a **comprehensive methodology** to forecast demand for a new technology: **electric vehicles**

Context

- **Current situation:**
 - Alternative fuel vehicles (LPG, CNG, etc.) on the car market
 - Electric vehicles (EV) being released
- **Collaborative project** EPFL-Renault Suisse:
 - Renault has launched Zero Emission (Z.E.) product line in 2011-2013
 - **Aim:** analyze demand for two EV models for **private use**



Zoé



Fluence Z.E.

Literature

- **SP survey design:**
 - Personalized choice situations (Bunch et al., 1993, Achtnicht et al., 2008, etc.)
 - Fractional factorial designs (Brownstone et al., 1996, Ewing and Sarigöllü, 2000, Horne et al., 2005)
- **Choice models for demand for EVs or alternative-fuel vehicles:**
 - Widely applied (Brownstone and Train, 1999, Dagsvik et al., 2002, Mueller and de Haan, 2009, etc.)
 - Integrated choice and latent variable (ICLV) models for environmental concern (Alvarez-Daziano and Bolduc, 2009)
- **Model application:**
 - Models developed on SP data need adjustments before application (Brownstone et al., 1996)
 - Joint RP-SP estimations (e.g. Brownstone et al., 2000)
 - Lack of examples of applications of models designed to evaluate demand for new alternatives (Daly and Rohr, 1998)

Main features of this research

- Customized choice situations using iterative proportional fitting (IPF)
- Include attitudinal dimensions
- Specify model for the whole market, from a model based on SP data

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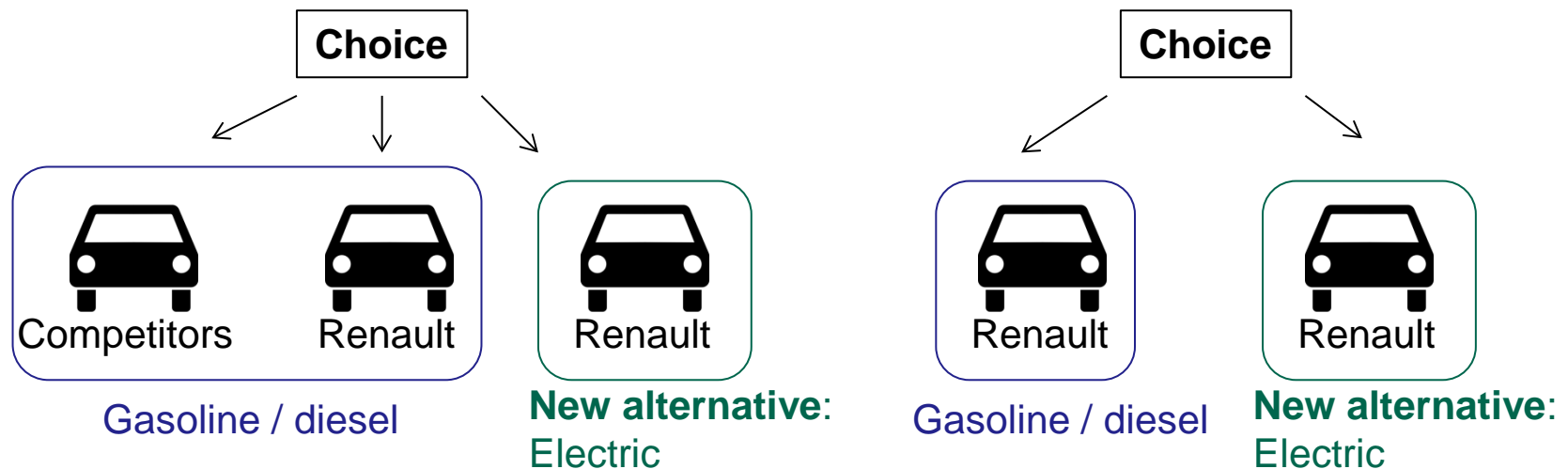


**COMPREHENSIVE
FRAMEWORK**

Type of survey: **stated preference (SP)** survey

Within same car segment: **hypothetical** choices between

- Own car
- Renault – gasoline (if own car is not Renault)
- Renault – electric



STRUCTURE OF THE SURVEY

2 phases:

Phase I:

- Characteristics of respondent's car(s)
- Socio-economic information
- Mobility habits

Phase II:

- Choice situations
- Opinions on topics related to EV
- Perceptions of four categories of vehicles

STRUCTURE OF THE SURVEY

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Phase I:

Characteristics of respondent's car(s)

Socio-economic information

Mobility habits



Phase II:

Choice situations

Opinions on topics related to EV

Perceptions of four categories of vehicles

...used to design...



STRUCTURE OF THE SURVEY

Opinions on themes related to electric vehicles

- **Environmental concern** (5 statements)
Example: An electric car is a 100% ecological solution.
- **Attitude towards new technologies** (5 statements)
Example: A control screen is essential in my use of a car.
- **Perception of the reliability of an electric vehicle** (5 statements)
Example: Electric cars are not as secure as gasoline cars.
- **Perception of leasing** (5 statements)
Example: Leasing is an optimal contract which allows me to change car frequently.
- **Attitude towards design** (5 statements)
Example: Design is a secondary element when purchasing a car, which is above all a practical transport mode.

Ratings

- Total disagreement (1)
- Disagreement (2)
- Neutral opinion (3)
- Agreement (4)
- Total agreement (5)
- I don't know (6)

5 types of respondents sampled in Switzerland:

- Recent buyers
- Prospective buyers
- Renault customers
- Pre-orders
- Newsletter

5 types of respondents sampled in Switzerland:

- Recent buyers
 - Prospective buyers
 - Renault customers
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 - Newsletter
- } Sampling protocol
- } All available

Sampling protocol → representativity from:

- 3 language regions of Switzerland (German, French, Italian)
- Gender
- Age category (18-35 years, 36-55 years, 56-74 years)

GfK

Ask GfK

0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

Situation de choix 4 de 5

Vous avez ici la description de votre véhicule actuel ainsi que celle de véhicules similaires, thermique et électrique, de la marque Renault. Compte tenu des caractéristiques de chacun de ceux-ci, laquelle des trois solutions choisiriez-vous, si vous deviez changer de voiture aujourd'hui ?

Les valeurs indicatives de leasing sont calculées sur la base d'un apport initial de 20%, d'un kilométrage annuel de 10'000 km et d'une durée de financement de 48 mois.

Caractéristiques	Votre véhicule	Véhicule thermique Renault	Véhicule électrique Renault
Marque	SEAT	RENAULT	RENAULT
Modèle	LEON	MEGANE	FLUENCE
Carburant	Diesel	Diesel	Electricité
Prix d'achat (en CHF)	37510	42739	34008
Prime du gouvernement (en CHF)	0	0	0
Prix total à l'achat (en CHF)	37510	42739	34008
OU : Prix mensuel du leasing (en CHF)	402	435	404
Coûts d'entretien (en CHF par 30'000 km)	850	850	425
Coût en carburant/électricité par 100 km (en CHF)	9.65	10.8	3.55
Leasing de la batterie (en CHF par mois)	0	0	105

précédent

suivant

An example of choice experiment

Characteristics	Your vehicle	Renault vehicle with combustion engine	Renault electric vehicle
Make	Audi	Renault	Renault
Model	A4	Laguna	Fluence
Fuel	Petrol	Petrol	Electricity
Purchase price (in CHF)	42'400	37'200	56'880
Incentive (in CHF)	0	0	-1'000
Total purchase price (in CHF)	42'400	37'200	55'880
OR: Monthly leasing price (in CHF)	477	399	693
Maintenance costs (in CHF for 30'000 km)	850	850	425
Cost in fuel/electricity for 100 km (in CHF)	11.70	13.55	3.55
Battery lease (in CHF per month)	0	0	125

An example of choice experiment

Reported by
respondent

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Deduced from segment of owned car

An example of choice experiment

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Obtained from data base of cars currently sold on market

An example of choice experiment

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Fixed attributes

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Design variables

⇒ Design variables

EV variable	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Purchase price	$(P_{\text{own}} + 5'000) * 0.8$	$(P_{\text{own}} + 5'000) * 1$	$(P_{\text{own}} + 5'000) * 1.2$	-
Governmental incentive	- 0 CHF	- 500 CHF	- 1'000 CHF	- 5'000 CHF
Cost of fuel/electricity for 100 km	1.70 CHF	3.55 CHF	5.40 CHF	-
Battery lease	85 CHF	105 CHF	125 CHF	-

EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

Fractional factorial design with sampling weights

Fractional factorial design

- Orthogonal
- Size = 64 (full factorial design has size 108)

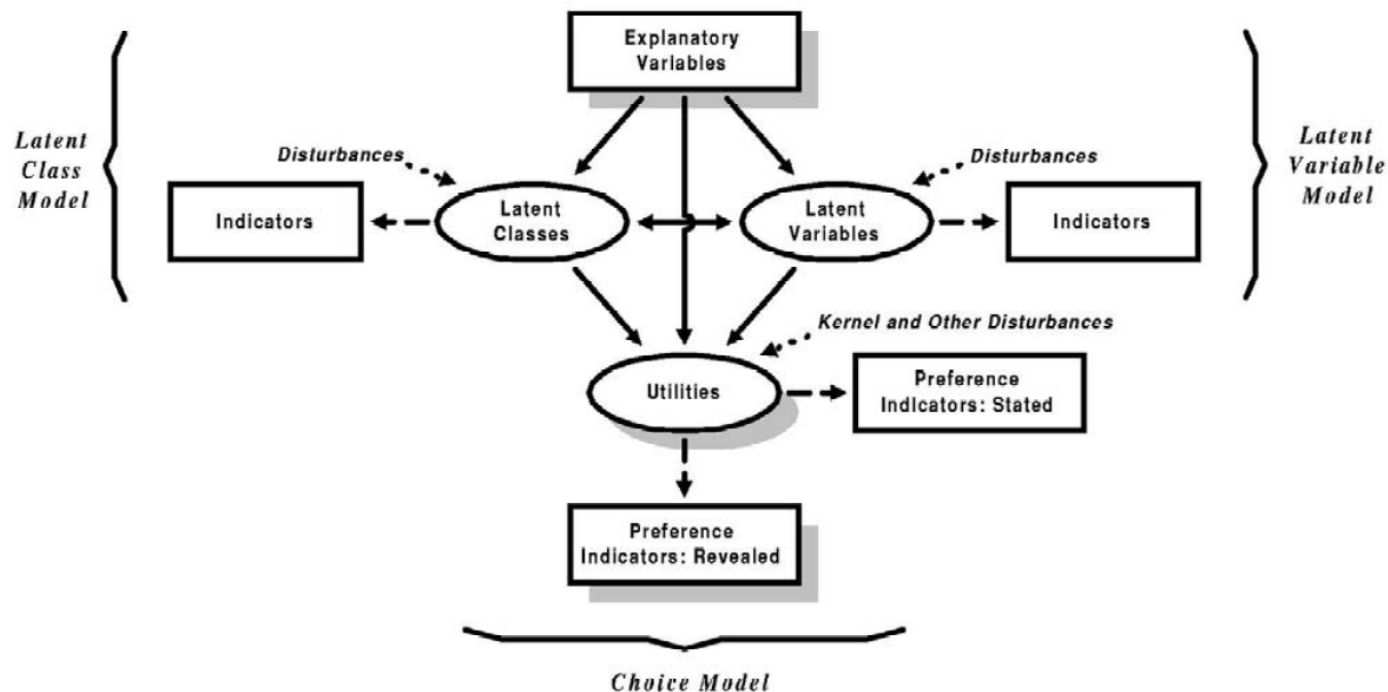
Sampling weights:

- Correct for **oversampling** of some levels
- Weights computed with **iterative proportional fitting (IPF)**

	Incentive	Price	Fuel cost of 100 km	Battery lease
1	0	0.80	1.70	85
2	0	1.00	3.55	125
3	0	1.00	5.40	105
4	0	1.20	3.55	105
5	-500	0.80	1.70	125
6	-500	1.00	3.55	85
7	-500	1.00	5.40	105
8	-500	1.20	3.55	105
9	-1000	0.80	3.55	105
10	-1000	1.00	5.40	105
11	-1000	1.00	3.55	85
12	-1000	1.20	1.70	125
13	-5000	0.80	3.55	105
14	-5000	1.00	5.40	105
15	-5000	1.00	3.55	125
16	-5000	1.20	1.70	85

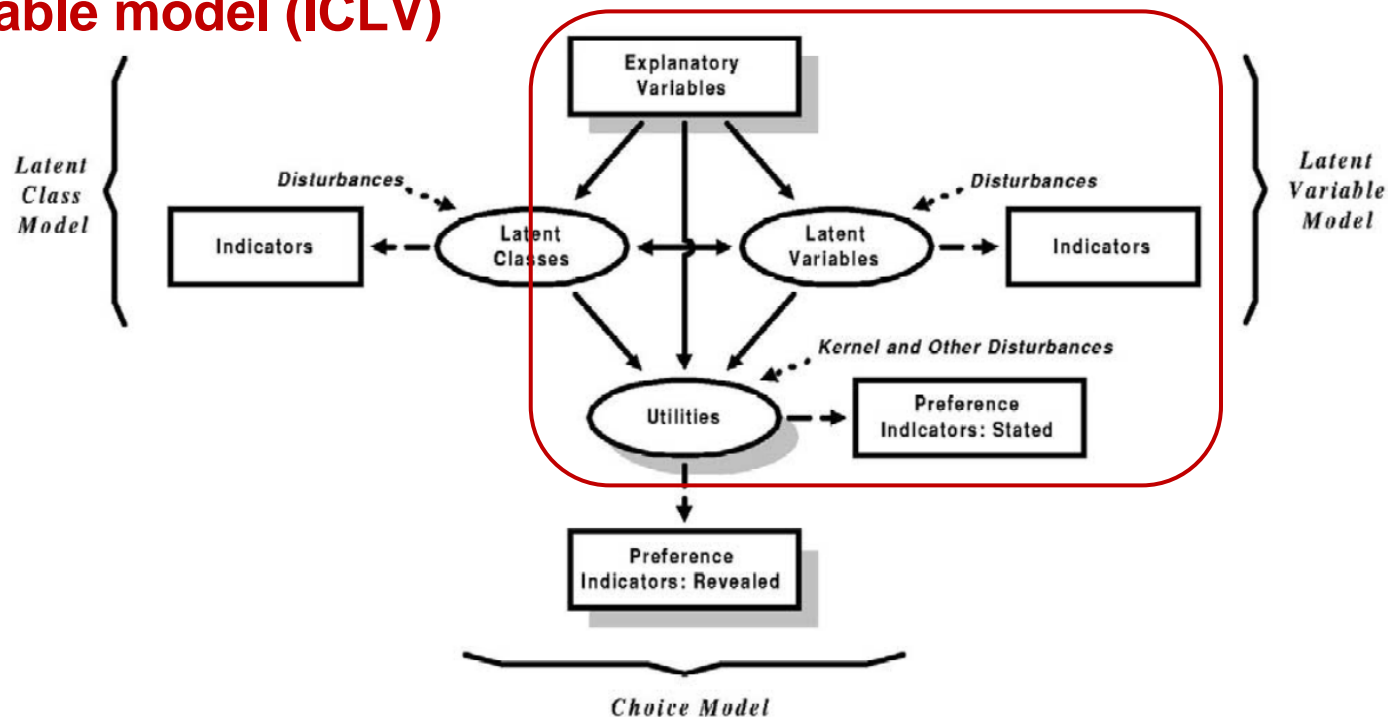
Hybrid choice model (HCM): DCM with latent constructs.

Allows to capture e.g. **attitudes et perceptions**



Hybrid choice model (HCM): DCM with latent constructs.

In this research: focus on the **integration of choice model and latent variable model (ICLV)**



Hybrid choice model specification

Structural equations:

Choice model:

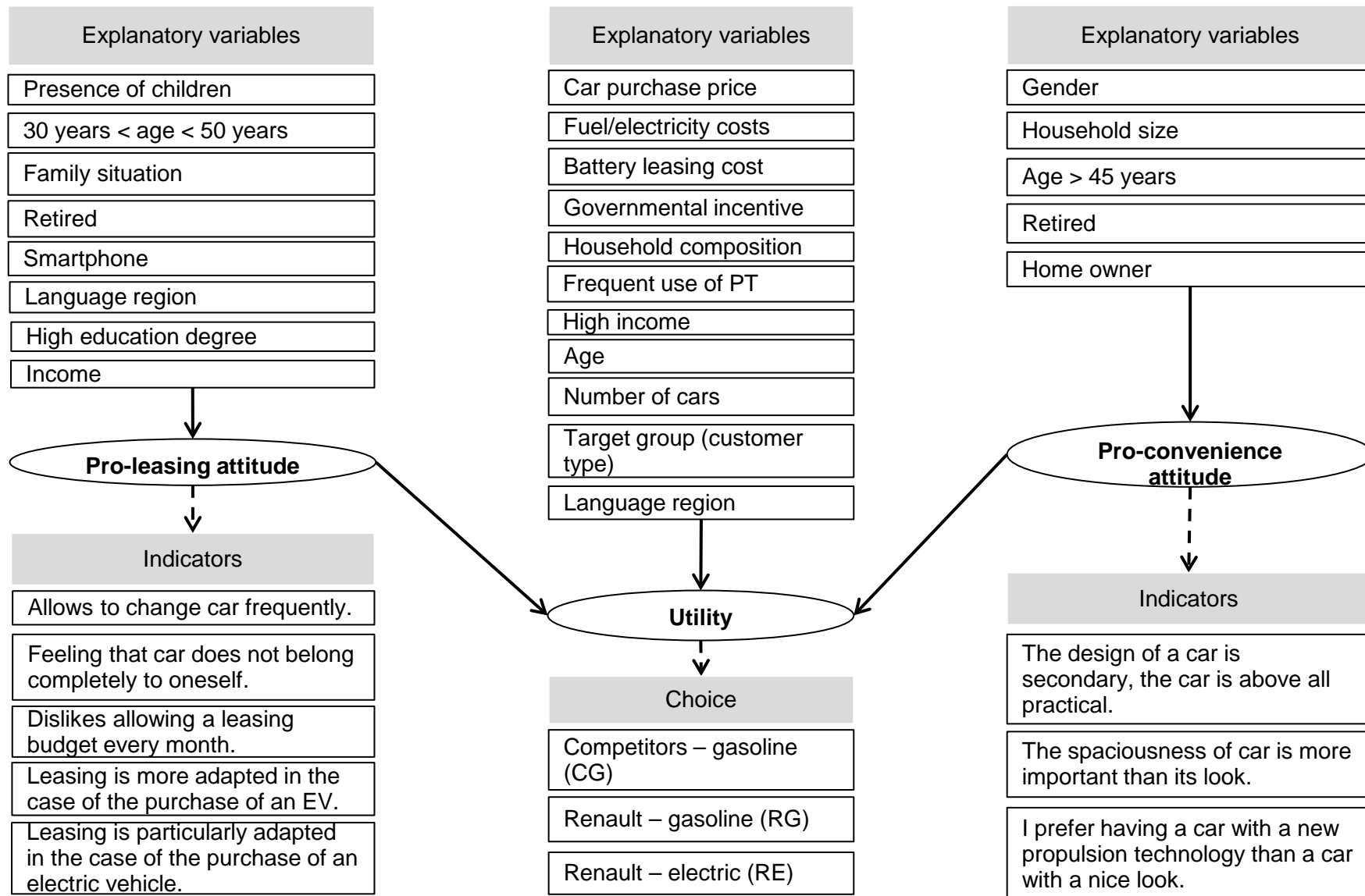
$$U_{in} = V(X_{in}, X_n^*; \beta) + \varepsilon_{in} \text{ with } \varepsilon_{in} \sim EV(0,1)$$

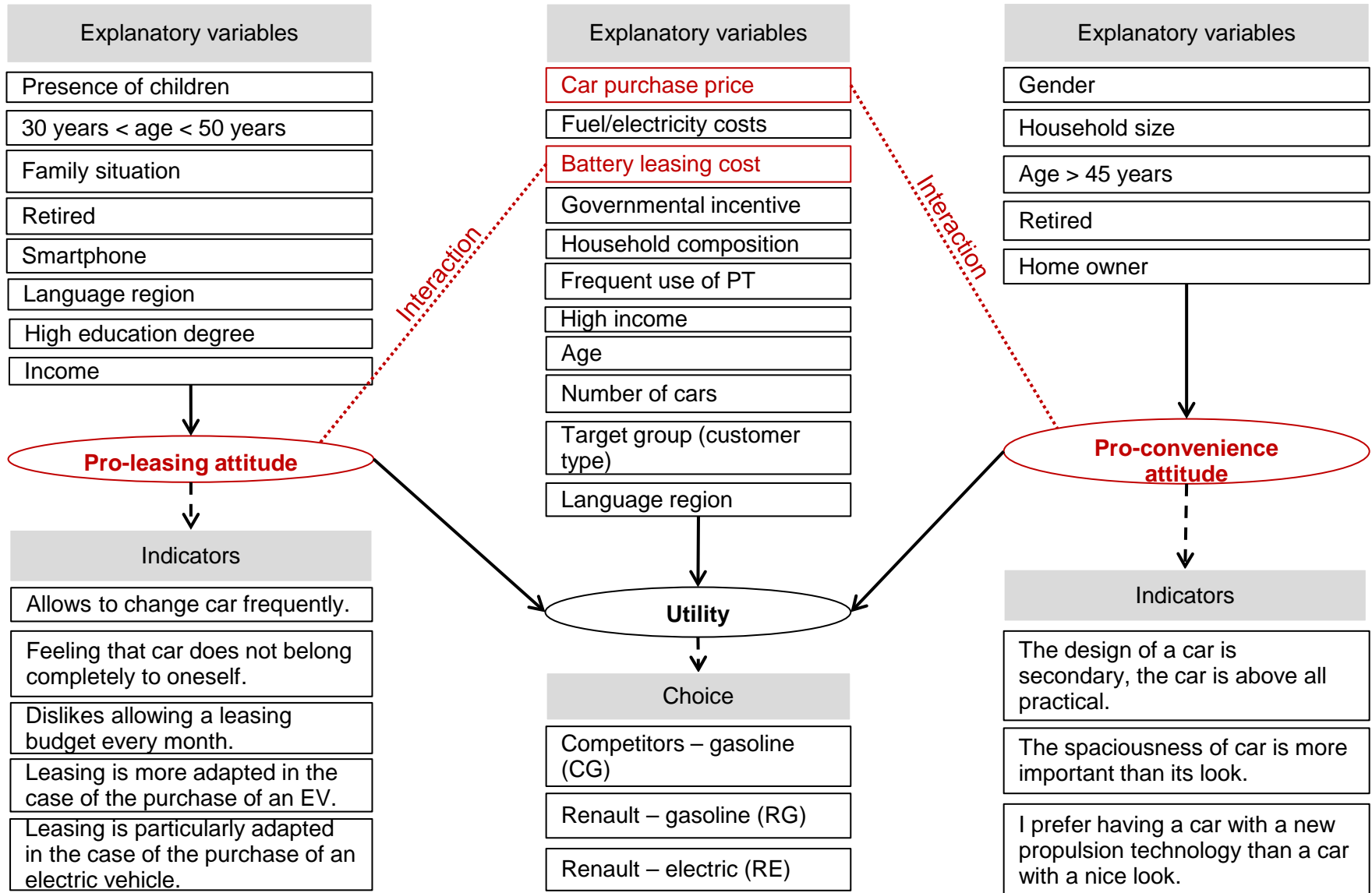
Latent variable model:

$$X_n^* = h(X_{in}; \lambda) + \omega_n \text{ with } \omega_n \sim N(0, \sigma_\omega)$$

Measurement equations (continuous):

$$I_n^* = m(X_n^*; \alpha) + v_n \text{ with } v_n \sim N(0, \sigma_v)$$





Structural equations:

Choice model:

$$U_{CG} = -\exp(\beta_{price_{CG}} + \beta_{AttC} AttC) price_{CG} + \sum_k \beta_k X_k + \varepsilon_{CG,n}$$

$$U_{RG} = -\exp(\beta_{price_{RG,TG1245}} TG1245 + \beta_{price_{RG,TG3}} TG3 + \beta_{AttC} AttC) price_{RG} + \sum_i \beta_i X_i + \varepsilon_{RG,n}$$

$$U_{RE} = -\exp(\beta_{price_{RE,TG12}} TG12 + \beta_{price_{RE,TG3}} TG3 + \beta_{price_{RE,TG45}} TG45 + \beta_{AttC} AttC) price_{RE} - \exp(\beta_{Battery} + \beta_{AttL} AttL) Battery + \sum_m \beta_m X_m + \varepsilon_{RE,n} \text{ with } \varepsilon_{in} \sim EV(0,1)$$

Latent variable model:

$$AttL = \beta_{Mean1} + \sum_i \beta_{1,i} \cdot X_{1,i} + \exp(v_1) \cdot \Omega_1 \text{ with } \Omega_1 \sim N(0,1)$$

$$AttC = \beta_{Mean2} + \sum_i \beta_{2,i} \cdot X_{2,i} + \exp(v_2) \cdot \Omega_2 \text{ with } \Omega_2 \sim N(0,1)$$

Measurement equations (continuous):

$$I_{1,k} = \alpha_{1,k} + \lambda_{1,k} \cdot AttL + \exp(\sigma_{1,k}) \Omega_{1,k} \text{ with } \Omega_{1,k} \sim N(0,1), \text{ for } k = 1, \dots, 5$$

$$I_{2,k} = \alpha_{2,k} + \lambda_{2,k} \cdot AttC + \exp(\sigma_{2,k}) \Omega_{2,k} \text{ with } \Omega_{2,k} \sim N(0,1), \text{ for } k = 1, 2, 3$$

ESTIMATION RESULTS

Name	Value	t-test	Name	Value	t-test
<i>Parameters in linear terms</i>			<i>Parameters in linear terms (ctd)</i>		
ASC_{CG}	-2.71	-4.77	$\beta_{Income_{CG}}$	-0.223*	-1.92
ASC_{RG}	-2.17	-3.63	$\beta_{Income_{RG}}$	-0.259	-2.25
$\beta_{UseCostGasoline}$	-0.0469**	-1.41	$\beta_{French_{CG}}$	0.373	2.94
$\beta_{UseCostElecHighFluence}$	-0.264	-2.20	$\beta_{French_{RG}}$	0.0254**	0.19
$\beta_{UseCostElecHighZoé}$	-0.802	-4.82	$\beta_{Age_{CG}}$	0.0172	3.65
$\beta_{UseCostElecMedZoé}$	-0.514	-3.21	$\beta_{Age_{RG}}$	-0.00210**	-0.43
$\beta_{IncentiveHigh}$	0.799	6.21	$\beta_{TG12_{CG}}$	1.60	4.57
$\beta_{IncentiveMed}$	0.0538**	0.40	$\beta_{TG12_{RG}}$	0.664*	1.89
$\beta_{IncentiveLow}$	0.0164**	0.12	$\beta_{TG3_{CG}}$	0.104**	0.11
$\beta_{PT_{CG,TG1245}}$	-0.259	-1.96	$\beta_{TG3_{RG}}$	2.63	5.18
$\beta_{PT_{RG,TG1245}}$	-0.577	-3.67	<i>Parameters in non-linear terms</i>		
$\beta_{PT_{CG,TG3}}$	-2.64	-3.85	$\beta_{price_{CG}}$	-3.60	-4.77
$\beta_{PT_{RG,TG3}}$	-1.17	-4.40	$\beta_{price_{RG,TG1245}}$	-1.39	-4.33
$\beta_{FamSit_{CG}}$	-0.157**	-1.37	$\beta_{price_{RG,TG3}}$	-0.290**	-1.06
$\beta_{FamSit_{RG}}$	0.183**	1.56	$\beta_{price_{RE,TG12}}$	-0.365	-2.57
$\beta_{NbCars_{CG,TG1245}}$	-0.207	-2.75	$\beta_{price_{RE,TG3}}$	0.342	2.10
$\beta_{NbCars_{RG,TG1245}}$	-0.193	-2.32	$\beta_{price_{RE,TG45}}$	-0.152**	-1.33
$\beta_{NbCars_{CG,TG3}}$	-0.664*	-1.88	β_{AttC}	-0.142	-4.93
$\beta_{NbCars_{RG,TG3}}$	-0.945	-6.24	$\beta_{Battery}$	2.17	5.87
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- $\beta_{AttC} < 0$ and significant:
pro-convenience individuals
less price-sensitive

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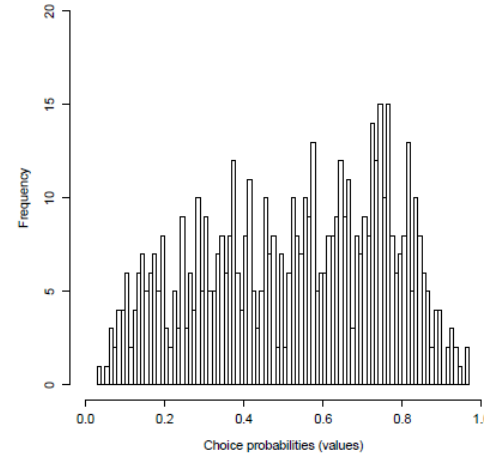
ESTIMATION RESULTS

- $\beta_{AttC} < 0$ and significant:
pro-convenience individuals
less price-sensitive
- $\beta_{AttL} < 0$ and significant:
pro-leasing individuals less
affected by changes in battery
leasing price

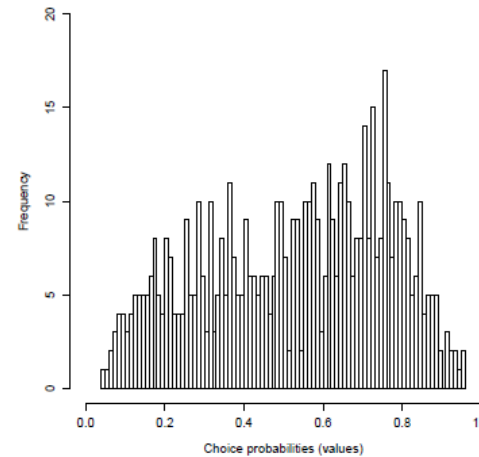
VALIDATION

Histogram of **choice probabilities** predicted by MNL and ICLV (80%/20%)

ICLV



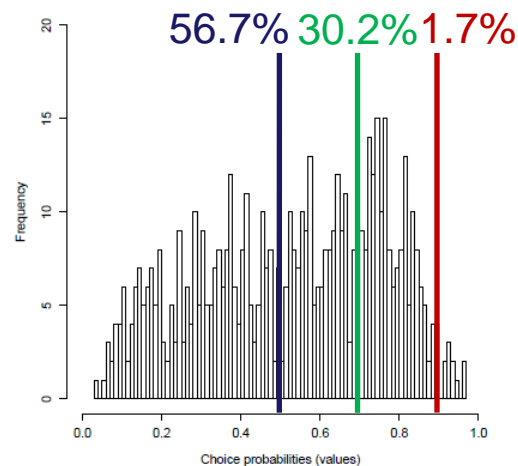
MNL



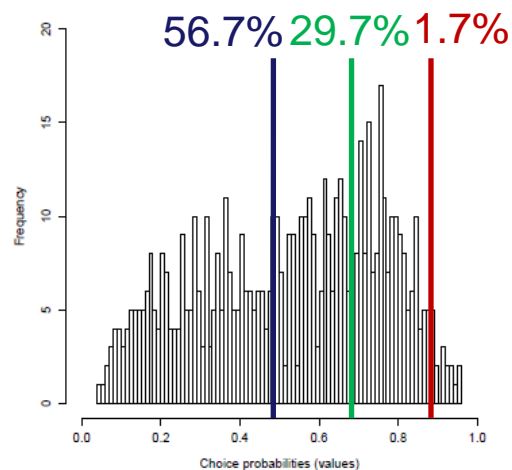
Value

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ICLV



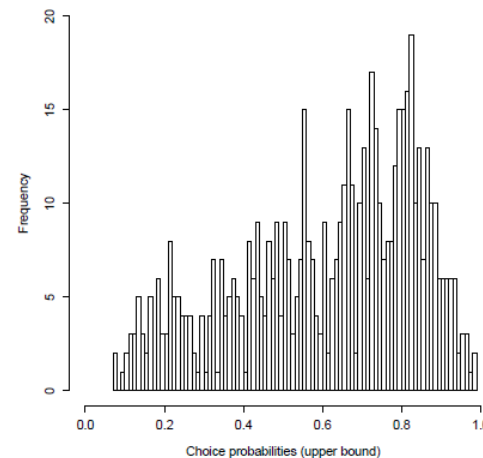
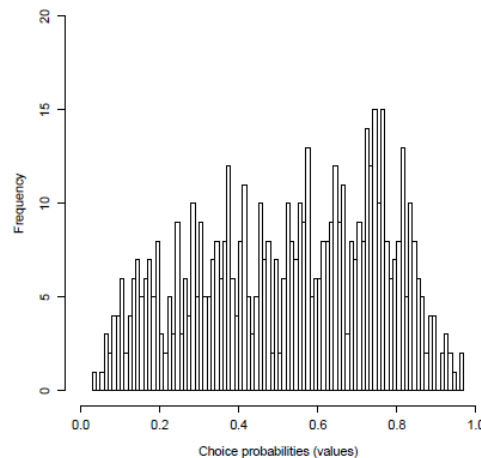
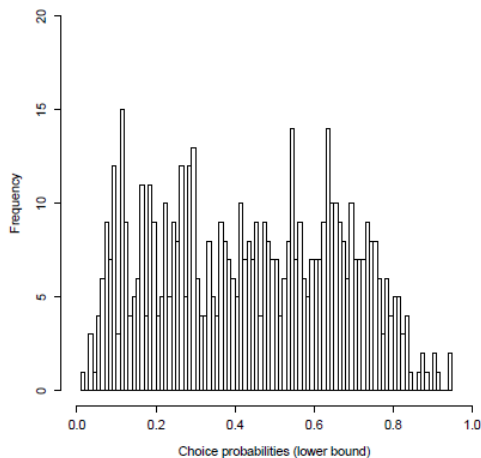
MNL



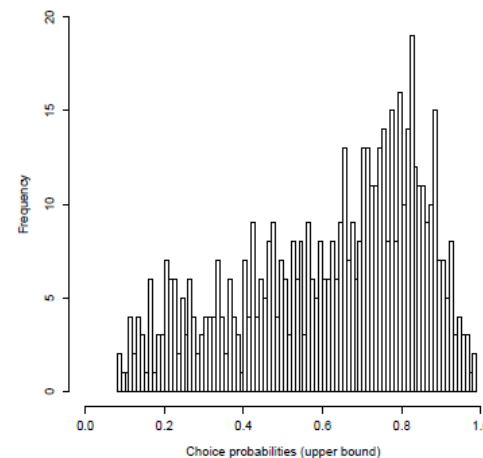
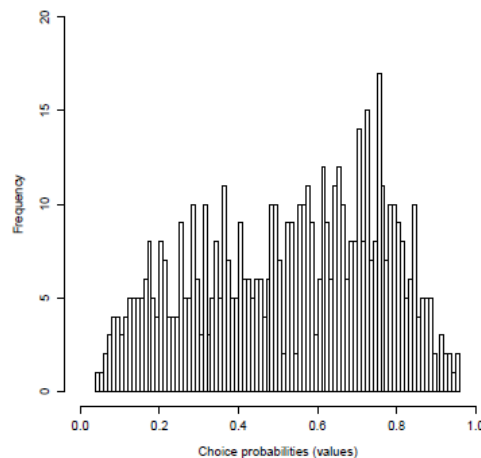
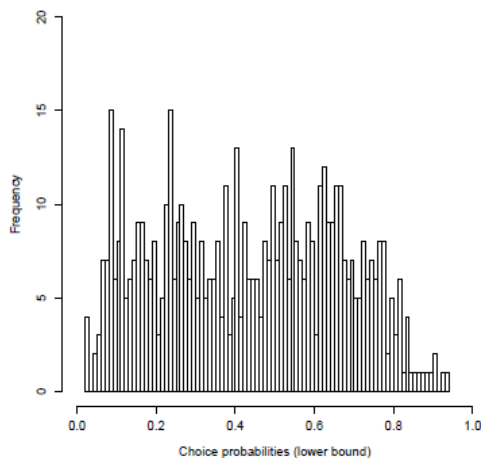
Value

Histogram of **choice probabilities** predicted by MNL and ICLV (80%/20%)

ICLV



MNL



Lower
bound

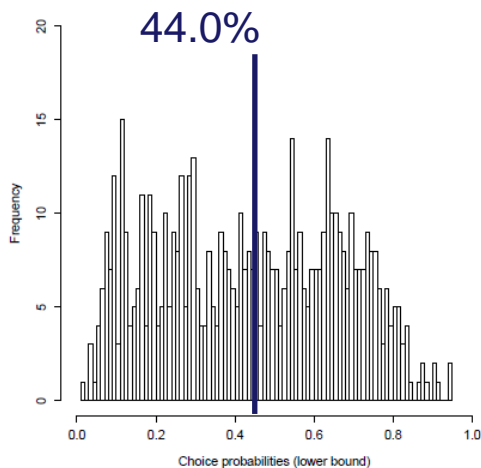
Value

Upper
bound

VALIDATION

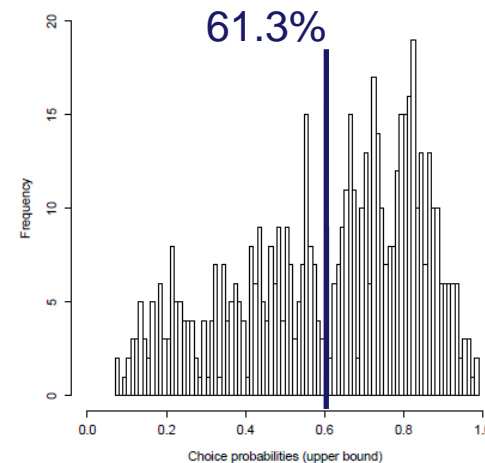
Histogram of **choice probabilities** predicted by MNL and ICLV (80%/20%)

ICLV

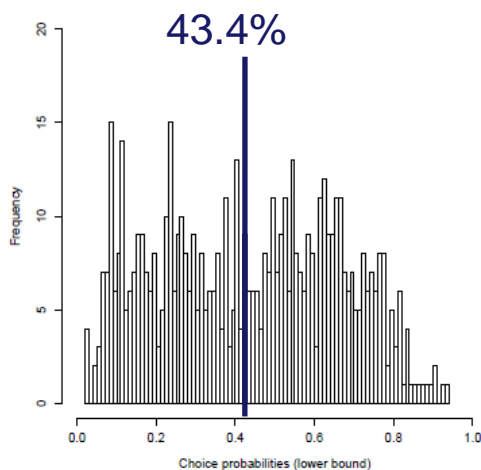


Difference between average confidence bounds

17.3%

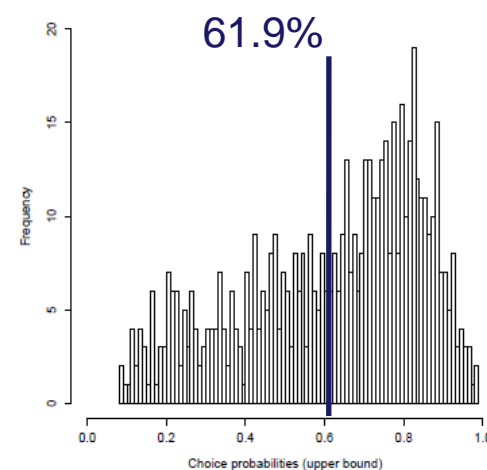


MNL



^

18.5%



Lower bound

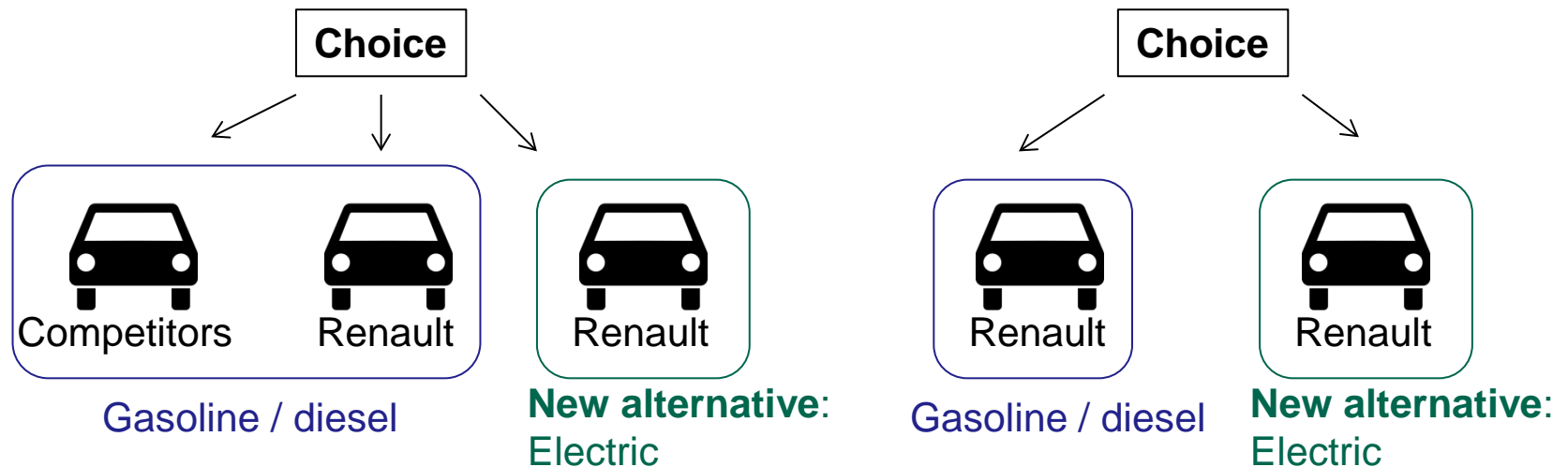
Upper bound

Several corrections to the SP model are needed before the model can be applied for scenario forecasting:

1. Introduction of an **aggregate alternative** for car models from competitors (using logsum)
2. Correction of constants:
 - Current **ratio of market shares** between Renault and competitors is **preserved**.
 - Estimate potential market share of EV using acceptance rate and Swiss market data.

1. AGGREGATE ALTERNATIVE

Two possible choice situations



Issue:

- Choice is supposed to represent all possible alternatives for decision maker
- Not the case for owners of Renault cars

Solution:

- Impute aggregate alternative of gasoline – competitors for these individuals

1. AGGREGATE ALTERNATIVE

Aggregate alternative imputed for Competitors – Gasoline (CG)

$$V_{CG} = \log \sum_{l \in L} \exp U_{ln}$$

$$U_{ln} = ASC_{CG} + \sum_{s \in S_n} \beta_s \cdot x_s - \exp(\beta_{price_{CG}} + \beta_{AttC} \cdot AttC_n) \cdot price_l \\ + \beta_{UseCostGasoline} \cdot Cost100_l \cdot (Cost100_l \leq 12) + \varepsilon_{ln}$$

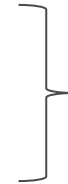
Generated from **prices** & **operating costs** of new cars on market
(matching segment of 2 other alternatives in choice situation)

2. CORRECTIONS OF CONSTANTS

Idea:

Use:

- Market data of current alternatives
- SP survey data



To estimate
possible share for
new alternative

2. CORRECTIONS OF CONSTANTS

Idea:

Use:

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To estimate possible share for new alternative

Evaluation of potential market share (MS) for EV

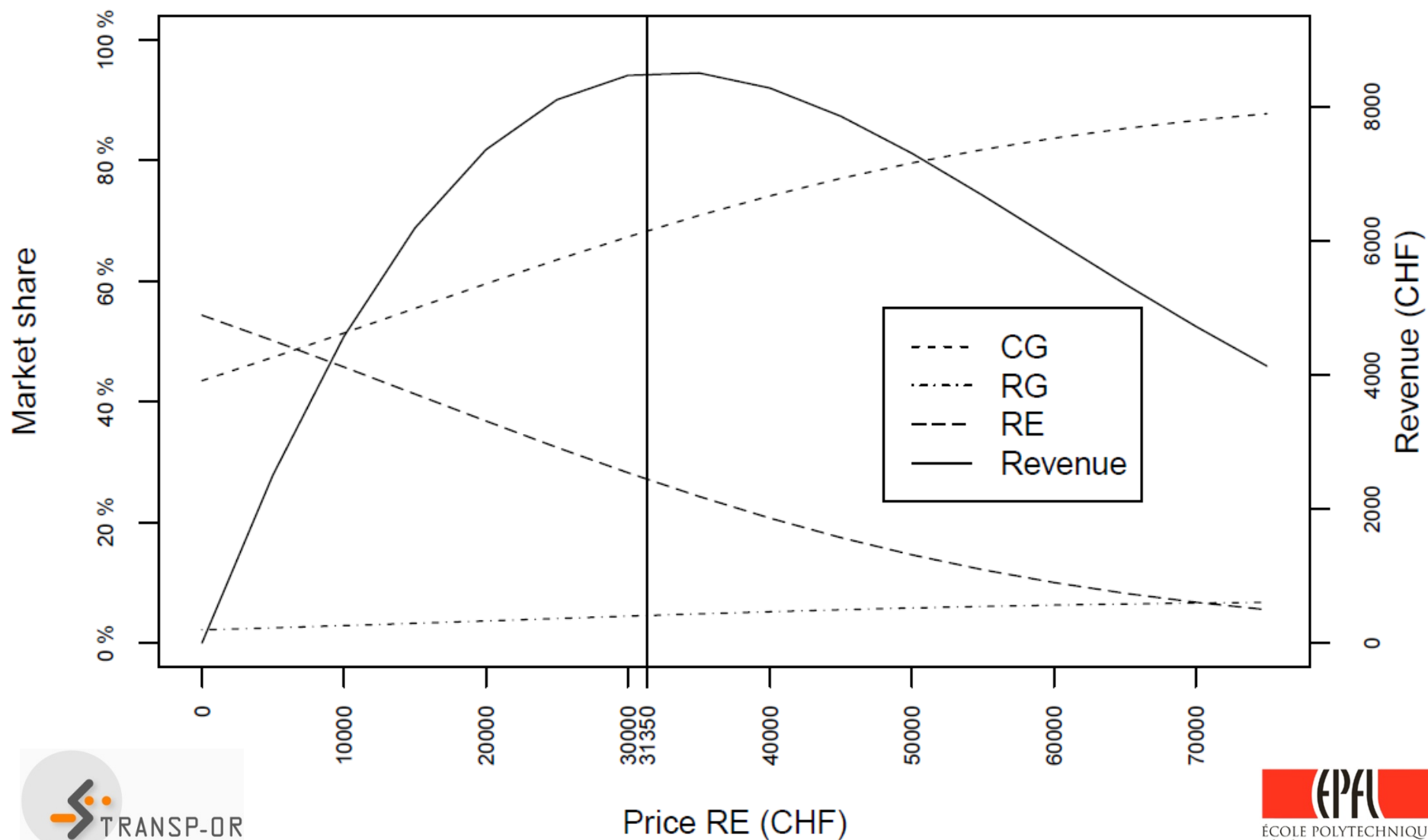
Acceptance rate EV in the questionnaire for CG owners (weighted)

Acceptance rate EV in the questionnaire for RG owners (weighted)

$$MS(RE) = \underbrace{\%(\text{Choice RE} \mid \text{Owns CG})}_{\text{Acceptance rate EV in the questionnaire for CG owners (weighted)}} \cdot \underbrace{94\%}_{\text{Market share of competitors}} + \underbrace{\%(\text{Choice RE} \mid \text{Owns RG})}_{\text{Acceptance rate EV in the questionnaire for RG owners (weighted)}} \cdot \underbrace{6\%}_{\text{Market share of Renault}}$$

$= 27\%$

Example of scenario



Conclusions

- Operational model obtained by the presented procedure: from data collection to model application
- Important to include market data when forecast for a new alternative

Future analyses

- Analyzed the demand for EV for private use, but alternative uses exist (e.g. car sharing)
- Now that EVs are more present on the market, revealed preferences (RP) data can be collected and the model can integrate both.

Thank you!