Online Appendix for "Selection on Welfare Gains: Experimental Evidence from Electricity Plan Choice"

Authors: Koichiro Ito, Takanori Ida, and Makoto Tanaka

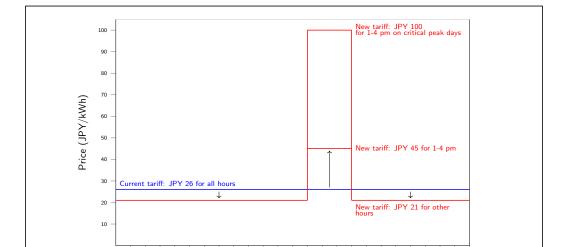


Figure A.1: Information Provided to All Consumers

Below is the estimated difference in your payment based on your past consumption data:

You are expected to pay JPY 5,500 less if you switch to the new tariff

Hour of day

Note: This figure shows the information that provided to all consumers in our experiment. Customers were notified about the dynamic pricing structure and their expected savings.

Table A.1: Elicitation of Risk Preference

Panel A: First set of questions to obtain q

| \overline{q} | Option A | Option B |
|----------------|----------|--|
| 0.1 | \$100 | 10% chance of \$300, 90% chance of \$0 |
| 0.2 | \$100 | 20% chance of \$300, 80% chance of \$0 |
| 0.3 | \$100 | 30% chance of \$300, 70% chance of \$0 |
| 0.4 | \$100 | 40% chance of \$300, $60%$ chance of \$0 |
| 0.5 | \$100 | 50% chance of \$300, $50%$ chance of \$0 |
| 0.6 | \$100 | 60% chance of \$300, $40%$ chance of \$0 |
| 0.7 | \$100 | 70% chance of \$300, 30% chance of \$0 |
| 0.8 | \$100 | 80% chance of \$300, $20%$ chance of \$0 |
| 0.9 | \$100 | 90% chance of \$300, $10%$ chance of \$0 |
| 1 | \$100 | 100% chance of \$300, $0%$ chance of \$0 |

Panel B: Second set of questions to obtain q'

| q' | Option A | Option B |
|-----|--|--|
| 0.1 | 50% chance of \$300, $50%$ chance of \$0 | 10% chance of \$300, 90% chance of \$0 |
| 0.2 | 50% chance of \$300, $50%$ chance of \$0 | 20% chance of \$300, $80%$ chance of \$0 |
| 0.3 | 50% chance of \$300, $50%$ chance of \$0 | 30% chance of \$300, $70%$ chance of \$0 |
| 0.4 | 50% chance of \$300, $50%$ chance of \$0 | 40% chance of \$300, $60%$ chance of \$0 |
| 0.5 | 50% chance of \$300, $50%$ chance of \$0 | 50% chance of \$300, $50%$ chance of \$0 |
| 0.6 | 50% chance of \$300, $50%$ chance of \$0 | 60% chance of \$300, $40%$ chance of \$0 |
| 0.7 | 50% chance of \$300, $50%$ chance of \$0 | 70% chance of \$300, $30%$ chance of \$0 |
| 0.8 | 50% chance of \$300, $50%$ chance of \$0 | 80% chance of \$300, $20%$ chance of \$0 |
| 0.9 | 50% chance of \$300, $50%$ chance of \$0 | 90% chance of \$300, $10%$ chance of \$0 |
| 1 | 50% chance of \$300, $50%$ chance of \$0 | 100% chance of \$300, $0%$ chance of \$0 |

Notes: We asked customers to choose option A or B for each question. A customer's q and q' were obtained at which the choice between A and B was altered.

Table A.2: Experimental Sample and a Random Sample of Population in the Experimental Area

| | Baseline group | Incentivized group | Random sample of population |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| Household income (JPY10,000) | 742.31 (296.29) | 749.80 (311.25) | 731.49 (435.46) |
| Square meters | 99.82 (33.20) | 100.91 (33.43) | $ \begin{array}{c} 110.73 \\ (45.95) \end{array} $ |
| Age of building | $ \begin{array}{c} 12.71 \\ (12.29) \end{array} $ | 11.63 (11.15) | 16.44 (9.08) |
| Number of room AC | 3.18 (1.25) | 3.13 (1.25) | 3.33 (1.48) |
| Electricity usage (kWh/day) | 13.17 (5.82) | 13.18 (6.13) | 12.28 (6.31) |

Notes: This table shows summary statistics for the two groups in the experiment: the baseline group (N=468), the incentivized group (N=502), and a random sample of population in the experimental area (N=3000). Standard deviations are in parentheses.

Table A.3: Robustness Check of Selection Equation

Marginal effects on $Pr[D_i = 1(\text{household } i \text{ selected into dynamic pricing})]$

| | | | - 0/1 | |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| Take-up incentive (USD) | 0.0029 | 0.0030 | 0.0031 | 0.0032 |
| | (0.0005) | (0.0005) | (0.0006) | (0.0006) |
| Expected savings (USD) | 0.0019 | 0.0020 | 0.0026 | |
| | (0.0005) | (0.0005) | (0.0005) | |
| Risk aversion | | -0.2060 | -0.2361 | -0.2536 |
| | | (0.0800) | (0.0842) | (0.0849) |
| Certainty premium | | -0.3116 | -0.3261 | -0.3322 |
| V - | | (0.0952) | (0.0990) | (0.1002) |
| Years of schooling | | 0.0205 | 0.0152 | 0.0110 |
| Ţ | | (0.0073) | (0.0077) | (0.0078) |
| Employed | | -0.1292 | -0.0535 | -0.0849 |
| | | (0.0486) | (0.0624) | (0.0628) |
| Income (100,000 USD) | | 0.0525 | 0.0516 | 0.0660 |
| , | | (0.0581) | (0.0626) | (0.0629) |
| Covariates interacted with each other | No | No | Yes | Yes |
| Non-parametric controls for expected savings | No | No | No | Yes |
| Log likelihood | -628.6 | -613.1 | -592.6 | -579.7 |

Notes: This table shows the estimation results of the selection equation. Table 3 in the paper uses logit, and this table shows results with probit. We show the marginal effects at the means of the covariates. The sample size is 970. We use the delta method to obtain standard errors and report them in parentheses. The results are nearly identical to the logit results in Table 3 in the paper. We also find that a semi-parametric method developed by Gallant and Nychka (1987) produces a nearly identical result to the probit result in our data. With the set of flexible controls included in our estimation, the p-value for the likelihood ratio test of probit model against the semi-parametric method is 0.62, and the two models produce nearly identical results.

Table A.4: Testing for the Validity of the Separability Assumption

| | Summer | | Winter | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | $e_{1,t}$ | $e_{0,t}$ | $e_{1,t}$ | $e_{0,t}$ |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| $\hat{p} \times \text{Risk aversion}$ | 0.31 | 0.19 | 0.45 | -0.09 |
| | (0.25) | (0.18) | (0.35) | (0.34) |
| $\hat{p} \times \text{Certainty premium}$ | 0.50 | 0.12 | 1.04 | -0.07 |
| | (0.29) | (0.22) | (0.39) | (0.36) |
| $\hat{p} \times \text{Employed}$ | 0.13 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.10 |
| | (0.16) | (0.10) | (0.23) | (0.18) |
| $\hat{p} \times \text{Years of schooling}$ | -0.07 | 0.01 | -0.08 | -0.03 |
| | (0.02) | (0.02) | (0.03) | (0.03) |
| $\hat{p} \times \text{Expected saving}$ | 0.00 | -0.00 | 0.00 | -0.00 |
| | (0.00) | (0.00) | (0.00) | (0.00) |
| $\hat{p} \times \text{Income}$ | 0.18 | 0.01 | 0.42 | -0.12 |
| | (0.19) | (0.14) | (0.27) | (0.25) |

Notes: This table shows the estimation results described in Section 4.3.3. The dependent variable $(e_{j,t})$ is the residuals from the local quadratic regression for $m_{j,t}$ presented in Section 4.3.3. We compute bootstrapped standard errors clustered at the customer level by bootstrapping the entire estimation process, including the propensity score estimation and MTE estimation. This table tests the validity of the separability assumption with our data.