

# Rational Inattention Lecture 2

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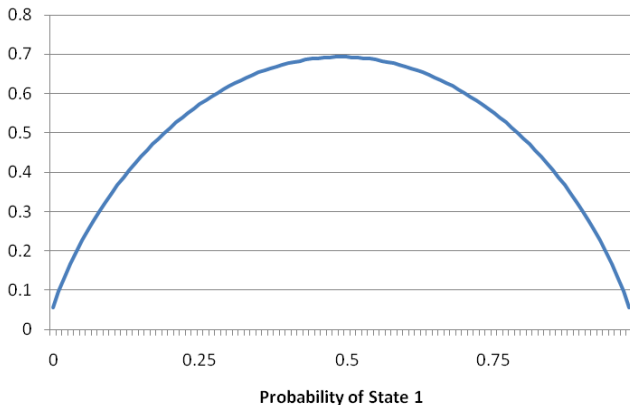
Behavioral Economics G6943  
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# Rational Inattention and Shannon Information Costs

- We have so far considered what we can say when we are agnostic about information costs
- We now move consider behavior under a specific assumed cost for information
- Based on the concept of Shannon Entropy
  - Extremely popular in the applied literature
  - Consider this the 'Cobb Douglas' case to last week's 'revealed preference' treatment
- Long history of research in information theory
  - Quite a lot is known about how these costs behave
  - Cover and Thomas is a great resource

- Shannon Entropy is a measure of how much 'missing information' there is in a probability distribution
- In other words - how much we do not know, or how much we would learn from resolving the uncertainty
- For a random variable  $X$  that takes the value  $x_i$  with probability  $p(x_i)$  for  $i = 1 \dots n$ , defined as

$$\begin{aligned} H(X) &= E(-\ln(p(x_i))) \\ &= -\sum_i p(x_i) \ln(p_i) \end{aligned}$$



- Can think of it as how much we learn from result of experiment

# Justification for Shannon Entropy

- Say we want our measure of entropy to have the following features
- Depends only on the probability distribution
  - $H(X) = H(p)$

# Justification for Shannon Entropy

- Say we want our measure of entropy to have the following features
- Depends only on the probability distribution
- Maximized at a uniform probability distribution
  - $\max_{p \in \Delta^M} H(p) = H\left(\left\{\frac{1}{M}, \frac{1}{M}, \dots, \frac{1}{M}\right\}\right)$

# Justification for Shannon Entropy

- Say we want our measure of entropy to have the following features
- Depends only on the probability distribution
- Maximized at a uniform probability distribution
- Unaffected by adding zero probability state
  - $H(\{p_1 \dots p_M\}) = H(\{p_1 \dots p_M, 0\})$

# Justification for Shannon Entropy

- Say we want our measure of entropy to have the following features
- Depends only on the probability distribution
- Maximized at a uniform probability distribution
- Unaffected by adding zero probability state
- Additive
  - $H(X, Y) = H(X) + \sum_x p(x)H(Y|x)$
  - How much you learn from observing  $X$ , plus how much you additionally learn from observing  $Y$
  - Implies that the entropy of two independent variables is just  $H(X) + H(Y)$
  - 'Constant returns to scale' assumption



# Justification for Shannon Entropy

- Say we want our measure of entropy to have the following features
- Depends only on the probability distribution
- Maximized at a uniform probability distribution
- Unaffected by adding zero probability state
- Additive
- Then Entropy must be of the form (Khinchin 1957)

$$H(X) = - \sum_i p(x_i) \ln(p_i)$$

- Note, other entropies are available! e.g. Tsallis

$$\frac{k}{q-1} \left( 1 - \sum_i p(x_i)^q \right)$$

- Related to the notion of entropy is the notion of Mutual Information

$$I(X, Y) = \sum_x \sum_y p(x, y) \log \frac{p(x, y)}{p(x)p(y)}$$

- Measure of how much information one variable tells you about another
- Note that  $I(X, Y) = 0$  if  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent

- Note also that mutual information can be rewritten in the following way

$$\begin{aligned} I(X, Y) &= \sum_x \sum_y p(x, y) \log \frac{p(x, y)}{p(x)p(y)} \\ &= \sum_x \sum_y p(x, y) \log \frac{p(x|y)}{p(x)} \\ &= \sum_y \sum_x p(x, y) \ln P(x|y) - \sum_x \sum_y p(x, y) \ln p(x) \\ &= \sum_y p(y) \sum_x p(x|y) \ln P(x|y) - \sum_y p(x) \ln p(x) \\ &= H(X) - E(H(X|Y)) \end{aligned}$$

- Difference between entropy of  $X$  and the expected entropy of  $X$  once  $Y$  is known

# Mutual Information and Information Costs

- Mutual Information between states and signals often used to model information constraints
- Sims [2003] focused on a hard constraint on the amount of entropy a DM can use
- We will start by focussing on the case of **costs that are linear in mutual information**

$$\begin{aligned} K(\mu, \pi) &= \lambda(H(\mu) - E(H(\gamma))) \\ &= \lambda \left( \begin{array}{c} \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma(\pi)} \pi(\gamma) \sum_{\Omega} \gamma(\omega) \ln \gamma(\omega) \\ - \sum_{\Omega} \mu(\omega) \ln \mu(\omega) \end{array} \right) \end{aligned}$$

- For convenience use  $\gamma$  to refer to the posterior beliefs generated by signal  $\gamma$

# Mutual Information and Information Costs

- Can be justified by information theory
  - Mutual information is related to the rate of information flow
- Say you are going to observe  $n$  repetitions of the state  $\Omega$  (let  $\omega^n$  be a typical element)
- You are allowed to send a message consisting of  $nR$  bits ( $R$  is the rate)
- Decoded in order to generate  $n$  repetitions of the signal space  $\Gamma$  (let  $\gamma^n$  be a typical element)
- Define  $d(\omega, \gamma)$  be the loss associated with receiving signal  $\gamma$  in state  $\omega$ , and  $\hat{d}(\omega^n, \gamma^n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum d(\omega_i^n, \gamma_i^n)$

# Mutual Information and Information Costs

- Rate Distortion Theorem: Let  $R(D)$  be the minimal rate needed to generate loss  $D$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , then

$$R(D) = \min_{\pi \in \Pi} I(\Omega, \Gamma) \text{ s.t. } \sum_{(\gamma, \omega)} \mu(x) \pi(\gamma|x) d(\omega, \gamma) \leq D$$

- Implies (assuming strict monotonicity)

$$\min_{(\gamma, \omega)} \sum \mu(x) \pi(\gamma|x) d(\omega, \gamma) \text{ s.t. } I(\Omega, \Gamma) \leq R(D)$$

- is equivalent to

$$\min_{(\gamma, \omega)} \sum \mu(x) \pi(\gamma|x) d(\omega, \gamma) \text{ s.t. } R \leq R(D)$$

- See Cover and Thomas Chapter 10.

- Key feature: Entropy is strictly *concave*
- So negative of entropy is strictly convex
- Say we choose a signal structure with two posteriors  $\gamma$  and  $\gamma'$
- It must be that

$$P(\gamma)\gamma + P(\gamma')\gamma' = \mu$$

- so

$$\begin{aligned} P(\gamma)H(\gamma) + P(\gamma')H(\gamma') &< H(P(\gamma)\gamma + p(\gamma')\gamma') \\ &= H(\mu) \end{aligned}$$

- So the cost of 'learning something' is always positive

# Solving Rational Inattention Models

- Solving the Shannon model can be difficult analytically
  - Though easier than many other models
- General approach - ignore choice of information structure, instead focus on joint distribution of choice variable and state
  - i.e. choose state dependent stochastic choice directly
  - Can do this because optimal strategy will always be 'well behaved'
  - Each action taken in at most one state
- Example (Matejka and McKay 2015) - continuous state space, finite action space
- We will talk about analytical approaches
  - Alternative, algorithmic approaches
  - e.g. Blahut-Arimotio algorithm
  - See Cover and Thomas (page 191)



# Solving Rational Inattention Models

- $\mathcal{P}$  set of all state contingent stochastic choice functions for some state space  $\Omega$  and set of acts  $A$
- Remember  $P(a|\omega)$  is the probability of choosing  $a$  in state  $\omega$
- Remember that, for  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ , the mutual information between choices  $a$  and objective state  $\omega$  is given by

$$I(A, \Omega) = H(A) - H(A|\Omega)$$

# Solving Rational Inattention Models

- Decision problem of agent is to choose  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  to maximize

$$\sum_{a \in A} \int_{\omega} u(a(\omega)) P(a|\omega) \mu(d\omega) - \lambda \left[ \sum_{a \in A} \int_{\omega} P(a|\omega) \ln P(a|\omega) \mu(d\omega) + \sum_{a \in A} P(a) \ln P(a) \right]$$

- Subject to

$$\sum_{a \in A} P(a|\omega) = 1 \text{ Almost surely}$$

- Where  $P(a)$  is the unconditional probability of choosing  $a$
- Note another constraint which we will ignore for now

$$P(a|\omega) \geq 0 \quad \forall a, \omega$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{a \in A} \int_{\omega} u(a(\omega)) P(a|\omega) \mu(d\omega) \\ & - \lambda \left[ \sum_{a \in A} \int_{\omega} P(a|\omega) \ln P(a|\omega) \mu(d\omega) + \sum_{a \in A} P(a) \ln P(a) \right] \\ & - \int_{\omega} \rho(\omega) \left[ \sum_{a \in A} P(a|\omega) - 1 \right] \mu(d\omega) \end{aligned}$$

- $\rho(\omega)$  Lagrangian multiplier on the condition that  $\sum_{a \in A} P(a|\omega) = 1$
- FOC WRT  $P(a|\omega)$  (assuming  $>0$ )

$$u(a(\omega)) - \rho(\omega) + \lambda[\ln P(a) + 1 - \ln P(a|\omega) - 1] = 0$$

- Note that this is a convex problem

- FOC WRT  $P(a|\omega)$  (assuming  $>0$ )

$$u(a(\omega)) - \rho(\omega) + \lambda[\ln P(a) + 1 - \ln P(a|\omega) - 1] = 0$$

- Which gives

$$P(a|\omega) = P(a) \exp \frac{u(a(\omega)) - \rho(\omega)}{\lambda}$$

- Plug this into

$$\sum_{a' \in A} P(a'|\omega) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \exp \frac{\rho(\omega)}{\lambda} = \sum_{a' \in A} P(a') \exp \frac{u(a'(\omega))}{\lambda}$$

- Which in turn gives...

$$P(a|\omega) = \frac{P(a) \exp \frac{u(a(\omega))}{\lambda}}{\sum_{c \in A} P(c) \exp \frac{u(c(\omega))}{\lambda}}$$

- Similar in form to logistic random choice
- If alternatives are ex ante identical, this *is* logistic choice
- Otherwise choice probabilities are 'warped' by  $P(a)$  - which contains information on the prior value of each option
  - Important: note that  $P(a)$  is endogenous, **not** a parameter
- As costs go to zero, deterministically pick best option in that state
- As costs go to infinity, deterministically pick the best option ex ante

$$P(a|\omega) = \frac{P(a) \exp \frac{u(a(\omega))}{\lambda}}{\sum_{c \in A} P(c) \exp \frac{u(c(\omega))}{\lambda}}$$

- Importantly, not the same as logistic RUM
  - This has to be true - we know this model violates monotonicity
- There are papers that play up this link
  - It *is* true that there is an equivalence result for the two models **if we look at a single choice problem**
  - But the models make very different predictions across choice problems

- The MM conditions ignore the constraint

$$P(a|\omega) \geq 0 \quad \forall a, \omega$$

- Need to know which acts will be chosen with positive probability
- Typically there will be many acts not chosen at the optimum (Jung et al. 2019)
- There will be many solutions to the necessary conditions
- Ideally, would like necessary and sufficient conditions

# Necessary and Sufficient Conditions

- Let  $z(a, \omega)$  be 'normalized utilities'

$$z(a, \omega) = \exp \left\{ \frac{u(a, \omega)}{\lambda} \right\}$$

- Note that the MM conditions are

$$P(a|\omega) = \frac{P(a)z(a, \omega)}{\sum_{c \in A} P(c)z(c, \omega)}$$



# Necessary and Sufficient Conditions

## Theorem

$P$  is consistent with rational inattention with mutual information costs **if and only if**

$$\sum_{\omega} \left[ \frac{\mu(\omega)z(a, \omega)}{\sum_{c \in A} P(c)z(c, \omega)} \right] \leq 1 \text{ all } a \in A$$

$$\sum_{\omega} \left[ \frac{\mu(\omega)z(a, \omega)}{\sum_{c \in A} P(c)z(c, \omega)} \right] = 1 \text{ all } a \text{ s.t. } P(a) > 0$$

and

$$P(a|\omega) = \frac{P(a)z(a, \omega)}{\sum_{c \in A} P(c)z(c, \omega)}$$

- 1 Identify correct **unconditional** choice probabilities
  - Equality condition for chosen actions
  - Check inequality condition for unchosen actions
- 2 Read off **conditional** choice probabilities using MM conditions

## Example: Finding the Good Act

- Choose from a set of goods  $A = \{a_1, \dots, a_N\}$
- Only one of these goods is of high quality
  - $u_h$  utility of the high quality good
  - $u_l$  utility of the low quality good
  - $\mu_i$  prior probability that good  $i$  is the high quality good
  - WLOG assume  $\mu_1 \geq \mu_2 \dots \geq \mu_N$
- Common set up in many psychology experiments

- Cutoff strategy in prior probabilities: Exists  $c$  such that
  - $\mu_i > c \Rightarrow i$  chosen with positive probability
  - $\mu_i < c \Rightarrow i$  never chosen and nothing is learned about their quality
- Endogenously form a 'consideration set'
- Let  $\delta = \frac{\exp(\frac{u_h}{\lambda})}{\exp(\frac{u_l}{\lambda})} - 1$ : 'additional' utility from high act
- Search the best  $K$  alternatives, where  $K$  solves

$$\mu_K > \frac{\sum_{k=1}^K \mu_k}{K + \delta} \geq \mu_{K+1}.$$

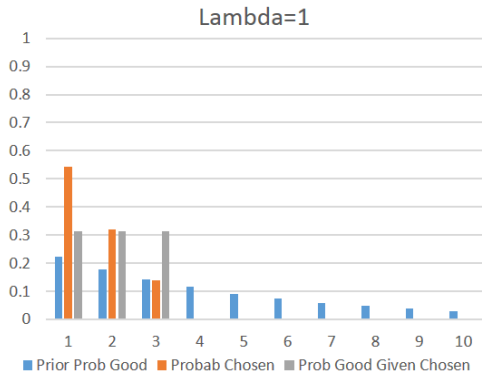
- Can use equality constraints to solve for unconditional choice probabilities

$$P(a_i) = \frac{\mu(\omega_i)(K + \delta) - \sum_{k=1}^K \mu(\omega_k)}{\delta \sum_{k=1}^K \mu(\omega_k)}$$

- MM conditions to solve for conditional choice probabilities

$$P(b|b = u_h) = \frac{P(b)\delta}{\sum_{c \in A} P(c)}$$

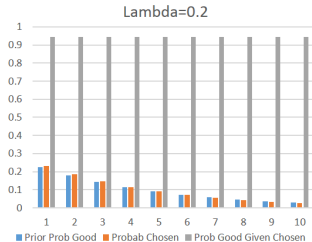
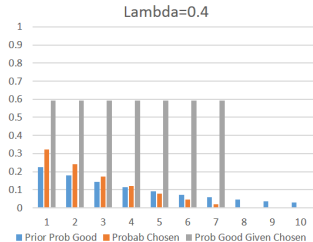
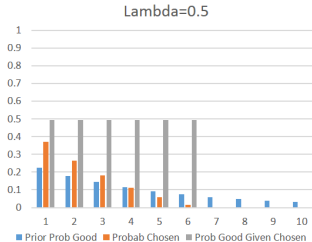
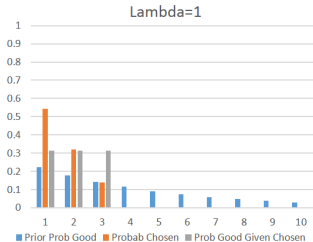
# Choice Probabilities - Example



- Exponential priors
- $u_h = 1, u_l = 0$

- 'Consideration set' of alternatives chosen with positive probability
- Mistakes even amongst alternatives in the consideration sets
- Ex ante probability of alternative being good conditional on being chosen is same for all alternatives

# Choice Probabilities - Example



# Importance of Sufficient Conditions

- The MM necessary conditions could be solved for many possible 'consideration sets'
  - Choosing any option with probability 1 will solve the necessary conditions
  - For any set  $C$  with worst alternative  $\mu_{\bar{C}}$  there is a solution to the necessary conditions if

$$\frac{\mu_{\bar{C}}}{\sum_{k \in C} \mu_k} > \frac{1}{|C| + \delta}.$$

- Do no reference unchosen actions
- Do not determine whether higher utility could be obtained with a different consideration sets
- This is the advantage of the sufficient conditions



# The Linear Quadratic Gaussian Case

- One case in which this problem becomes more tractable is if the input and output signal are both normal
- The entropy of a normal variable  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma_x^2)$  is given by

$$H(X) = \frac{1}{2} \ln(2\pi e\sigma_x^2)$$

- If  $Y$  and  $X$  are both normal, then

$$E(H(Y|X)) = \int_x f(x) \int_y f(y|x) \ln f(y|x) d(y) d(x)$$

- As  $y|x$  is distributed normally with variance  $(1 - \rho^2)\sigma_y^2$ , this becomes

$$\begin{aligned} E(H(Y|X)) &= \int_x f(x) \frac{1}{2} \ln(2\pi e\sigma_{y|x}^2) d(x) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \ln(2\pi e(1 - \rho^2)\sigma_y^2) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\rho$  is the correlation coefficient between  $X$  and  $Y$

# The Linear Quadratic Gaussian Case

- As mutual information is given by

$$\begin{aligned} & H(Y) - E(H(Y|X)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \ln(2\pi e\sigma_y^2) - \frac{1}{2} \ln(2\pi e(1 - \rho^2)\sigma_y^2) \end{aligned}$$

- In this case, the mutual information is given by

$$-\frac{1}{2} \ln(1 - \rho^2)$$

- So information costs depend only on the covariance of the two signals!
- It turns out that joint normality is optimal if the utility function is quadratic in the relationship between the objective and subjective state
  - Choice of variance on some normally distributed error term
- However, note that some papers *assume* normality (this is bad)

# The Linear Quadratic Gaussian Case

- In fact, the LQG case may be our best hope of a workhorse rational inattention model that can be applied to a wide range of problems
  - Because it is so simple to solve
- If there are a vector of states and a vector of actions this framework can be used to approximate a number of situations
  - Tracking problems (e.g. Sims [2003], Fulton [2018])
  - Pricing (e.g. Maćkowiak and Wiederholt [2009], Paciello and Wiederholt [2014])
  - Consumption with many sources of income and many goods (e.g. Koszegi and Matejka 2020)
  - Portfolio selection (e.g. Van Nieuwerburg and Veldkamp [2009], Mondria [2010])
- Some of these paper assume that information has to be gathered on each shock separately
  - Either for analytical tractability or realism

# The Linear Quadratic Gaussian Case

- Recent work has provided analytic solutions to the multi state/multi action problem
  - Even when there is prior correlation between states.
- One way to characterize solution [Fulton 2018]
  - DM recombines states  $\alpha$  into a set of 'canonical signals'

$$y_c = S\alpha + \varepsilon$$

Where  $S$  is a matrix derived from the prior covariance matrix and payoff matrix

- The optimal  $\varepsilon$  will be distributed normally with the covariance matrix being diagonal.
  - Transforms the original problem into  $n$  independent problems
- The variance of the noise on each canonical shock is decided by a 'water filling' algorithm
  - Some shocks will have no attention paid to them, the others will have attention paid to equalize cost and benefits

# The Linear Quadratic Gaussian Case

- For further information see
  - Fulton, Chad. "Choosing what to pay attention to." *Theoretical Economics* 17.1 (2022): 153-184.
  - Miao, Jianjun, Jieran Wu, and Eric R. Young. "Multivariate rational inattention." *Econometrica* 90.2 (2022): 907-945.
  - Dewan, A "Costly Multidimensional Information", Working paper [2019]
  - Kőszegi, Botond, and Filip Matějka. "Choice simplification: A theory of mental budgeting and naive diversification." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 135.2 (2020): 1153-1207.
- Or ask our very own Hassan Afrouzi!

- There is another way to approach this problem which possibly gives more insight
- Assume we are choosing  $Q$ , a (simple) distribution over posterior beliefs, with  $Q(\gamma)$  the probability of belief  $\gamma$
- We can also work with a generalized cost function

$$\sum_{\Gamma} Q(\gamma) T(\gamma) - T(\mu)$$

where  $T$  is some strictly convex function

- For example, we could replace Shannon entropy with other types of entropy.

- One way to gain insight into what is going on is to rewrite the objective function

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{\Gamma} Q(\gamma) \left[ \max_{a \in A} \sum_{\Omega} \gamma(\omega) u(a, \omega) \right] - \left[ \sum_{\Gamma} Q(\gamma) T(\gamma) - T(\mu) \right] \\
 &= \sum_{\Gamma} Q(\gamma) \left[ \max_{a \in A} \sum_{\Omega} \gamma(\omega) u(a, \omega) - T(\gamma) \right] + T(\mu) \\
 &= \sum_{\Gamma} Q(\gamma) \max_{a \in A} N_a(\gamma)
 \end{aligned}$$

- Each  $\gamma$  and  $a$  has a net utility associated with it

$$N_a(\gamma) = \sum_{\Omega} \gamma(\omega) u(a, \omega) - [T(\gamma) - T(\mu)]$$

- Aim is to pick distribution of posteriors which maximizes the expected value of net utilities subject to

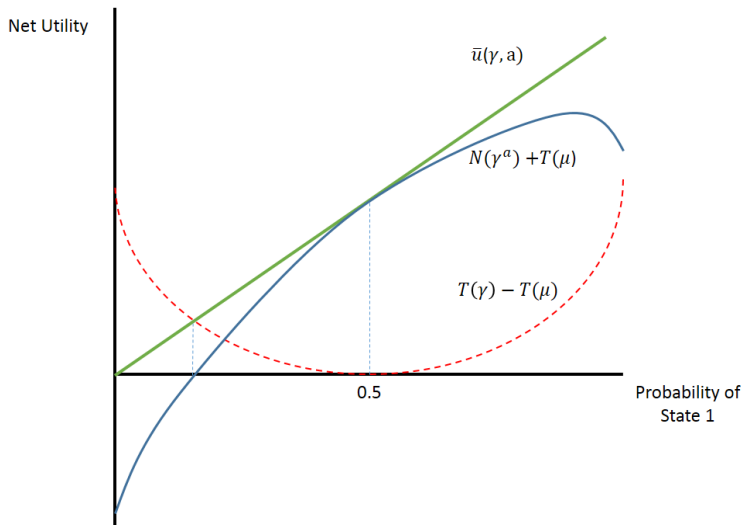
$$\sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma(\pi)} Q(\gamma) \gamma = \mu$$

- Consider a simple case with two states and two acts

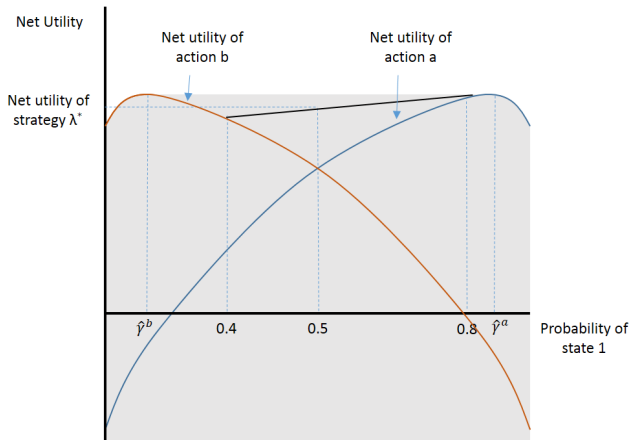
<b>Action</b>	<b>Payoff in state 1</b>	<b>Payoff in state 2</b>
<b>a</b>	10	0
<b>b</b>	0	10



# Net Utility

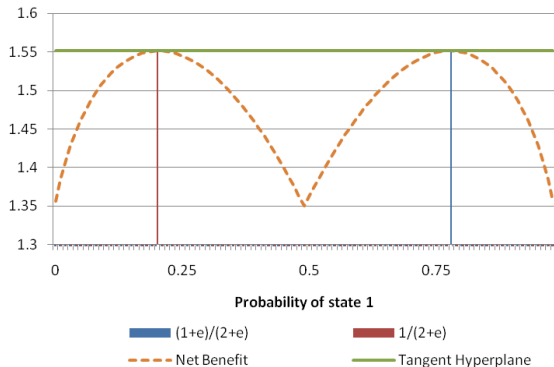


# Optimal Strategy



- What to find the posteriors which support the highest chord above the prior
- The solution for every possible prior defined by the lower epigraph of the concavified net utility function

# Finding the Optimal Strategy



- Optimal posteriors identified by hyperplane that supports the set of feasible net utilities.

## Theorem

Given decision problem  $(\mu, A) \in \Gamma \times \mathcal{F}$  a set of posteriors are rationally inattentive if and only if:

- 1 **Invariant Likelihood Ratio (ILR) Equations for Chosen Acts:** given  $a, b \in B$ , and  $\omega \in \Omega$ ,

$$\frac{\gamma^a(\omega)}{z(a(\omega))} = \frac{\gamma^b(\omega)}{z(b(\omega))}$$

- 2 **Likelihood Ratio Inequalities for Unchosen Acts:** given act  $a$  chosen with positive probability and  $b \in A$ ,

$$\sum_{\omega \in \Omega} \left[ \frac{\gamma^a(\omega)}{z(a(\omega))} \right] z(b(\omega)) \leq 1.$$

- We have necessary and sufficient conditions to characterize the Shannon model
- But these do not necessarily help us understand the behaviors that it predicts
- Also results apply only to the Shannon Model
- Might be helpful to have a more 'behavioral' characterization
  - See Caplin, Dean and Leahy [2022]
- Define two additional classes of model
  - Posterior Separable

$$\sum_{\Gamma} Q(\gamma) T_{\mu}(\gamma) - T_{\mu}(\mu)$$

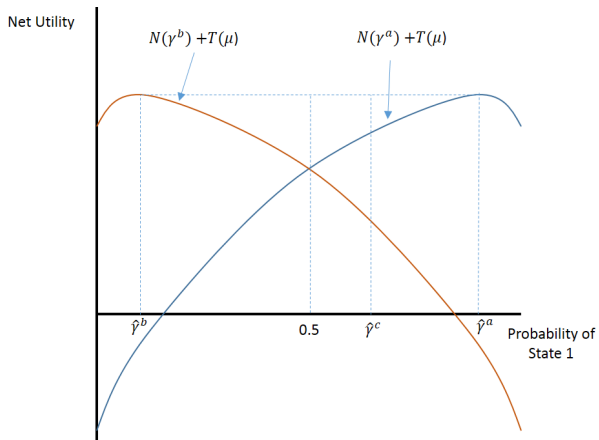
- Uniformly Posterior Separable

$$\sum_{\Gamma} Q(\gamma) T(\gamma) - T(\mu)$$

- UPS class (in particular) has proved popular in the literature
  - Can fix some of the behavioral problems of Shannon
  - Still maintains a lot of tractability
- Nice features
  - Plays well with Bayesian Persuasion (e.g. Matyskova [2018])
  - Consistent with optimal dynamic information acquisition (e.g. Morris and Strack [2017], Hebert and Woodford [2019])
  - Useful for dynamic programming (e.g. Miao and Xing [2020])

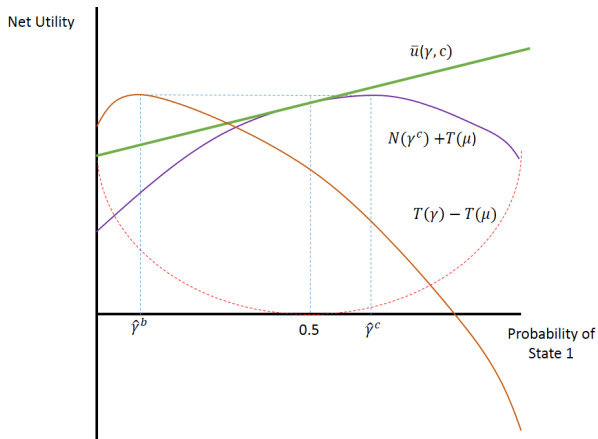
- Turns out that we can characterize using three behavioral axioms
    - Plus some technical ones that we won't bother with
- ① Separability
  - ② Locally Invariant Posteriors
  - ③ Invariance Under Compression

# Separability





# Separability

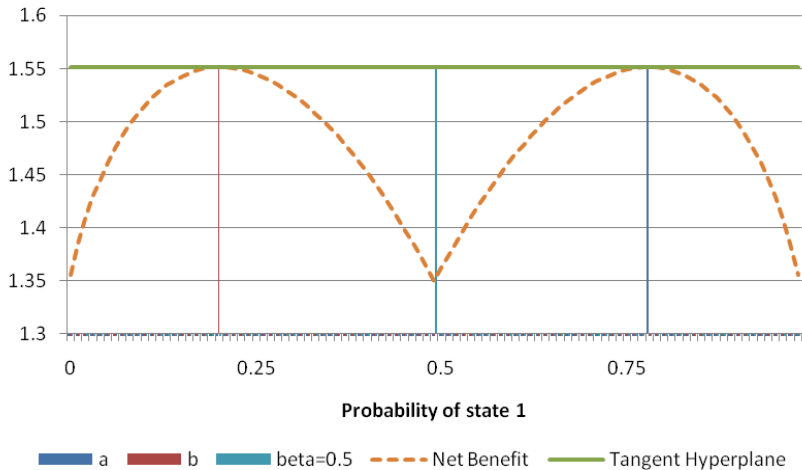


- Separability states you can always do this
  - For any set of chosen acts and associated posteriors
  - Can switch out one posterior and replace it with another posterior
  - Changing only the associated act.
- This is a property of the Posterior Separable model

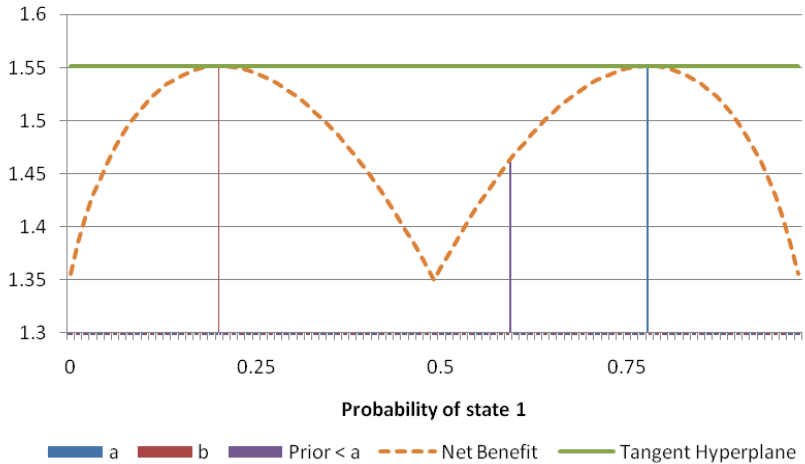
- Example: 2 states, 2 actions

<b>Action</b>	<b>Payoff in state 1</b>	<b>Payoff in state 2</b>
$\mathbf{f}^1$	$x$	$0$
$\mathbf{f}^2$	$0$	$x$

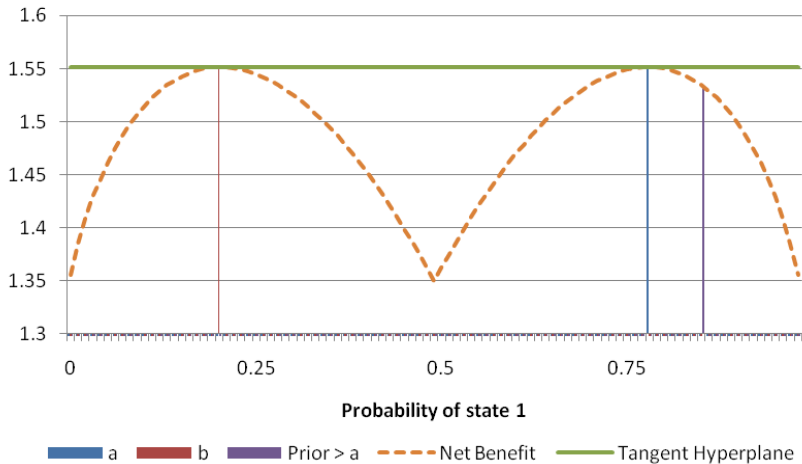
# Behavior at 0.5 Prior



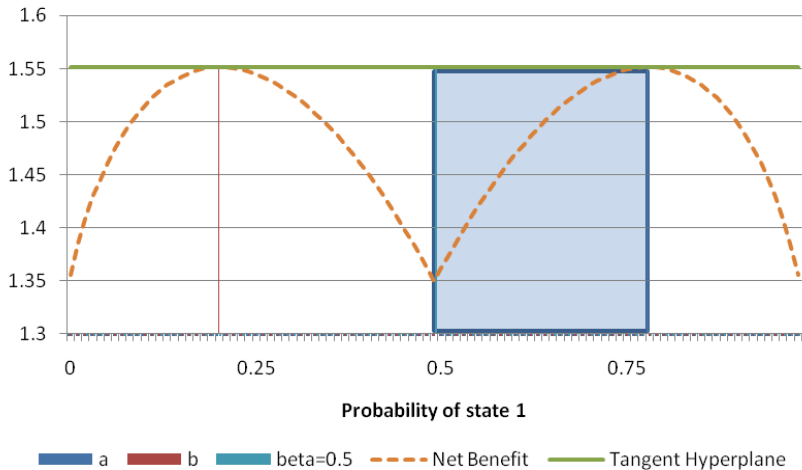
# Behavior for prior $< a$



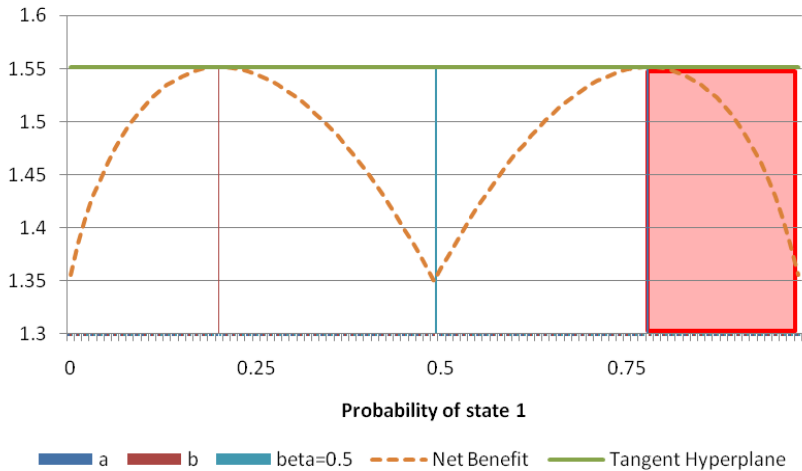
# Behavior for prior $> a$



# Same Posteriors as for 0.5 prior



# No Information Gathered





- Locally Invariant posteriors: If a set of posteriors  $\{\gamma^a\}_{a \in A}$  are optimal for decision problem  $\{\mu, A\}$  and are also feasible for  $\{\mu', A\}$  then they are also optimal for that decision problem
- Choice probabilities move 'mechanically' with prior to maintain posteriors
- Useful in, for example, models in which consumers are rationally inattentive to quality
  - As the prior distribution of quality changes, posterior beliefs do not
  - See Martin [2014]
- This is a property of the Uniformly Posterior Separable Model
  - See Denti [2022] for an alternative characterization of the UPS model

- The Shannon model is clearly 'special' in many ways in the class of UPS model
- The literature has noted many properties
  - Symmetry
  - Separability of Orthogonal Decisions
  - Lack of Complementarities
- All of these properties can be captured in a single axiom
  - Invariance Under Compression

# Invariance Under Compression - An Example

- Consider decision problem (i)

<b>State</b>	$\omega_1$	$\omega_2$
Prior Prob	0.5	0.5
Payoff Action A	10	0
Payoff Action B	0	10

- And now decision problem (ii) which splits  $\omega_2$

<b>State</b>	$\omega_1$	$\omega_2$	$\omega_3$
Prior Prob	0.5	0.2	0.3
Payoff Action A	10	0	0
Payoff Action B	0	10	10

# Invariance Under Compression - An Example

- How should behavior change between the two decision problems?
- In principal, many things could happen
  - Could be harder to learn about two states that one, so less accurate in  $(ii)$  than  $(i)$
  - Could be easier to learn about two states that one, so more accurate in  $(ii)$  than  $(i)$
- Shannon model says that behavior should not change
  - $P_i(a|\omega_2) = P_{ii}(a|\omega_2) = P_{ii}(a|\omega_3)$

- Invariance under Compression formalizes this
- Defines the concept of a 'basic' decision problem
  - No two states have the same payoff for all acts
- Every decision problem has associated basic forms
- Choice behavior the same when moving between decision problems and their basic forms
- Corollaries
  - Behavior the same in every state which is payoff equivalent
  - Moving prior probabilities between payoff equivalent states does not change behavior

- Introduced Shannon Mutual Information as a potential cost function
  - Popular in the literature
  - 'Cobb Douglas' vs 'Revealed Preference'
- Introduced some analytical tools to help solve the Shannon model
  - MM - necessary conditions
  - Necessary + Sufficient Conditions
  - Posterior-based approach
  - Behavioral characterization
- Shown that the Shannon model can give rise to endogenous consideration set formation