Advances in the Development of Non-Utility-Maximizing Models of Choice Behavior in Transportation Research

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Limitations

- Rational utility-maximising choice models may not sufficiently nor adequately represent real *decision processes* in that they assume
 - Evaluating utilities for each alternative
 - Trading off utilities of all factors
 - Choosing the alternative with the highest utility



Background

- Principles of bounded rationality could be more appropriate.
 - Limits in cognitive and computational ability
 - Satisficing behavior
 - Incomplete information
 - Simplifying (heuristic) decision rules
 - Non-cognitively driven choices



Aim presentation

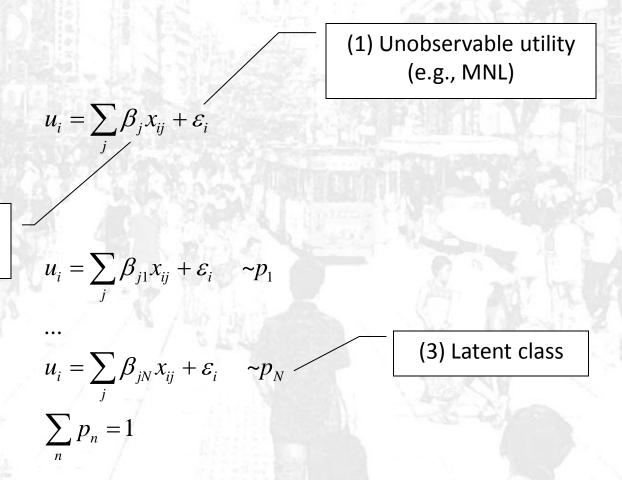
- Discuss some examples of recent work in our group to formulate, estimate and apply models of bounded rationality, metal representation and hybrid choice drivers.
 - Heterogeneous heuristic model (HHR model)
 - Mental representation
 - Hybrid affective-cognitive model



HETEROGENEOUS HEURISTIC MODEL

Behavioral Heterogeneity

Is usually captured in discrete choice models in terms of



(2) Parameter distribution (mixed logit)

Specification Problems

Choose the alternative with the highest utility

$$i \mid \sum_{j} \beta_{j} x_{ij} + \varepsilon_{i} \ge \sum_{j} \beta_{j} x_{kj} + \varepsilon_{k}, \ \forall k \ne i$$

(1) Infinitely small decision criterion (utility difference) is used, little is considered about criterion variability.

(2) Comparisons are directly based on parametric utilities. However, preference was originally defined on rank orders.

Heterogeneous Heuristic Model

1 BR model

 To develop and test a model of travel behavior, based on principles of Bounded Rationality, using real-world behavioral data.

2 Heterogeneity

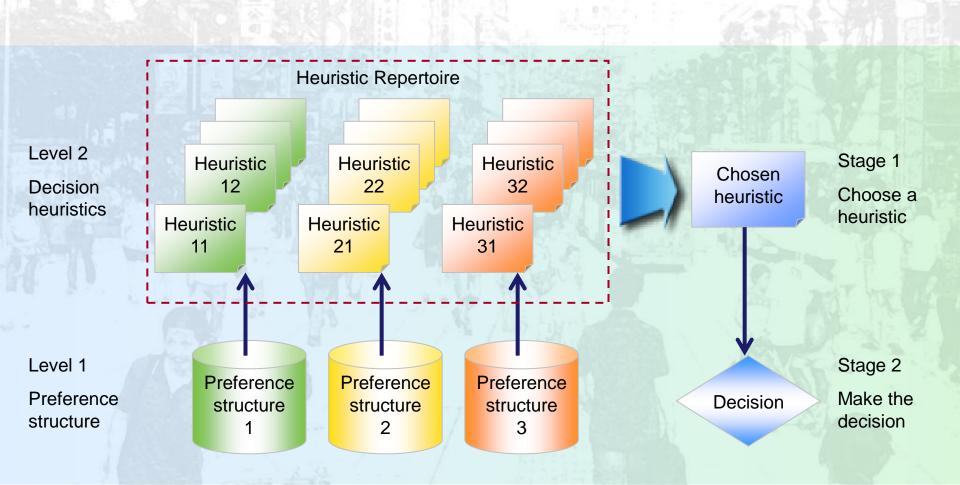
• To develop a modeling approach that allows for decision heterogeneity in terms of individual decision *strategies*.

Time

To examine time-dependent aspects of travel behavior.

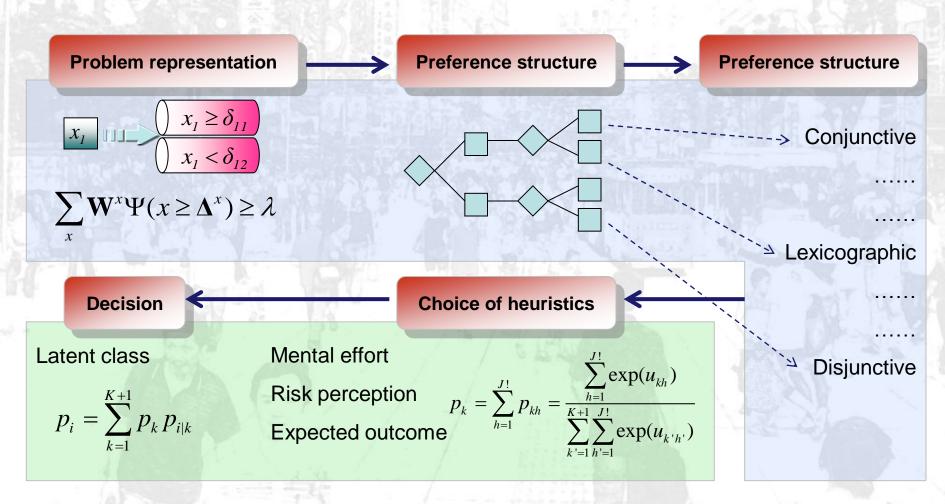
Conceptual Framework

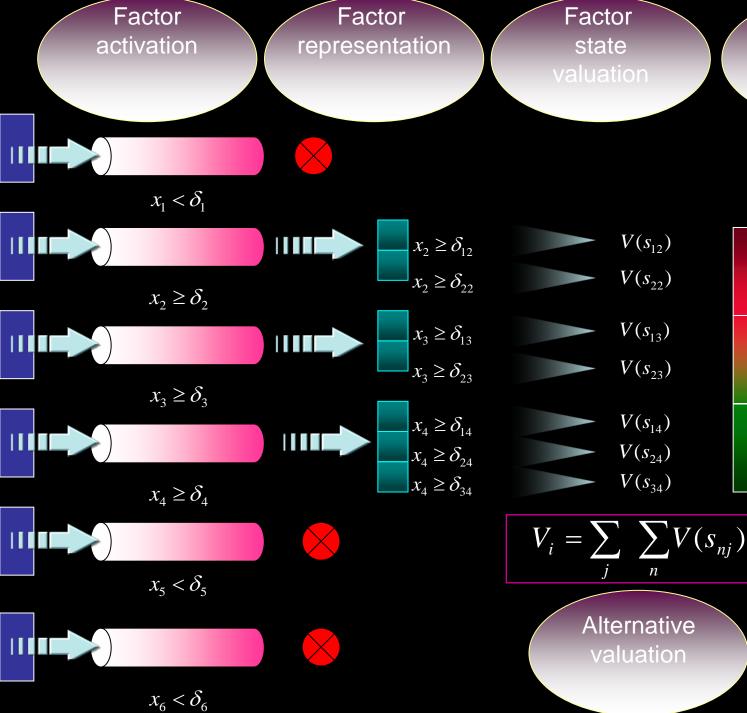
HHM is based on a two-level two-stage theoretical construct.



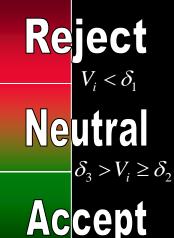
Conceptual Framework

For satisficing decision and comparative choice



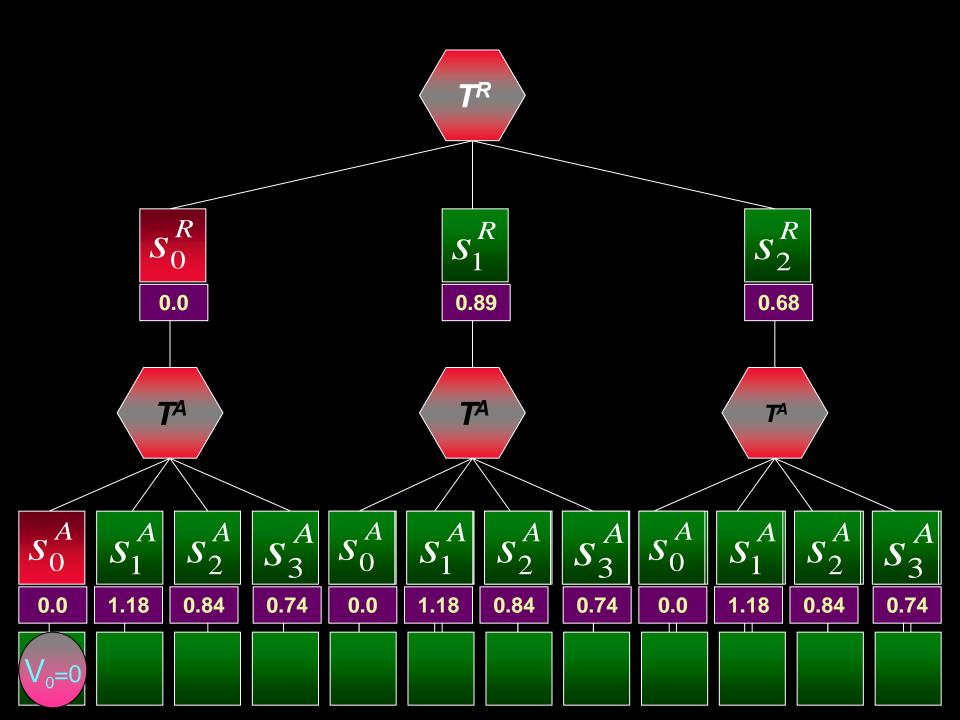


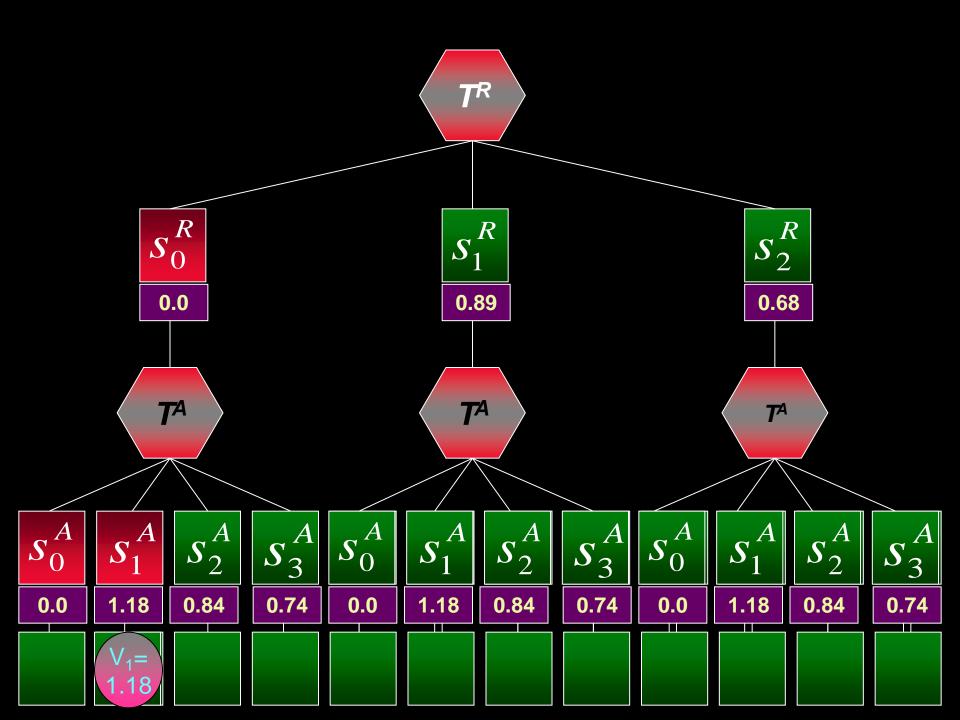
Ordered preference

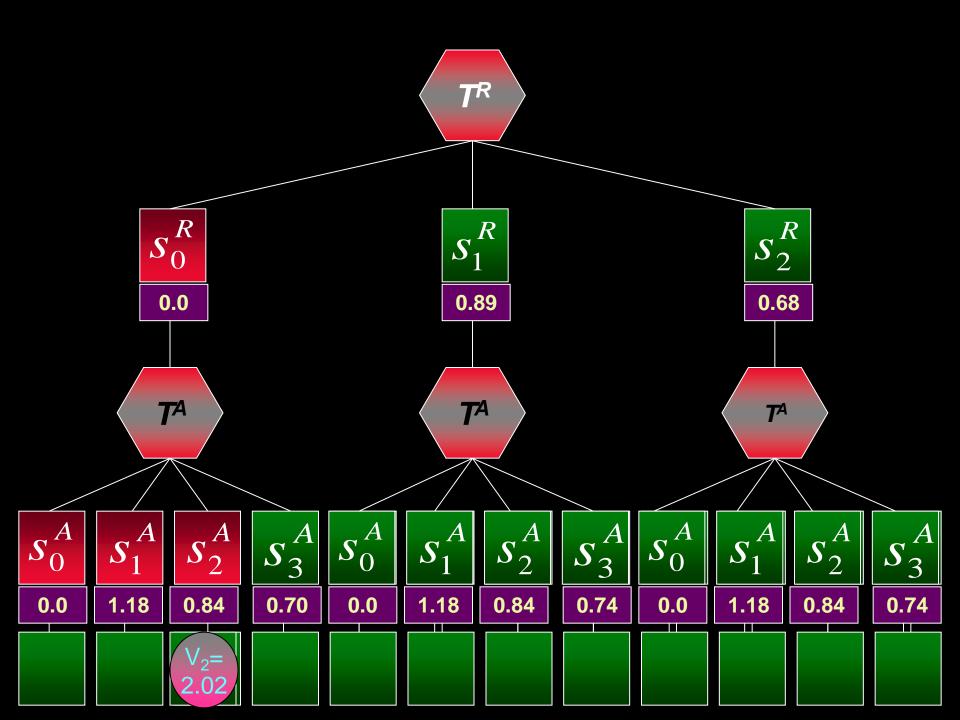


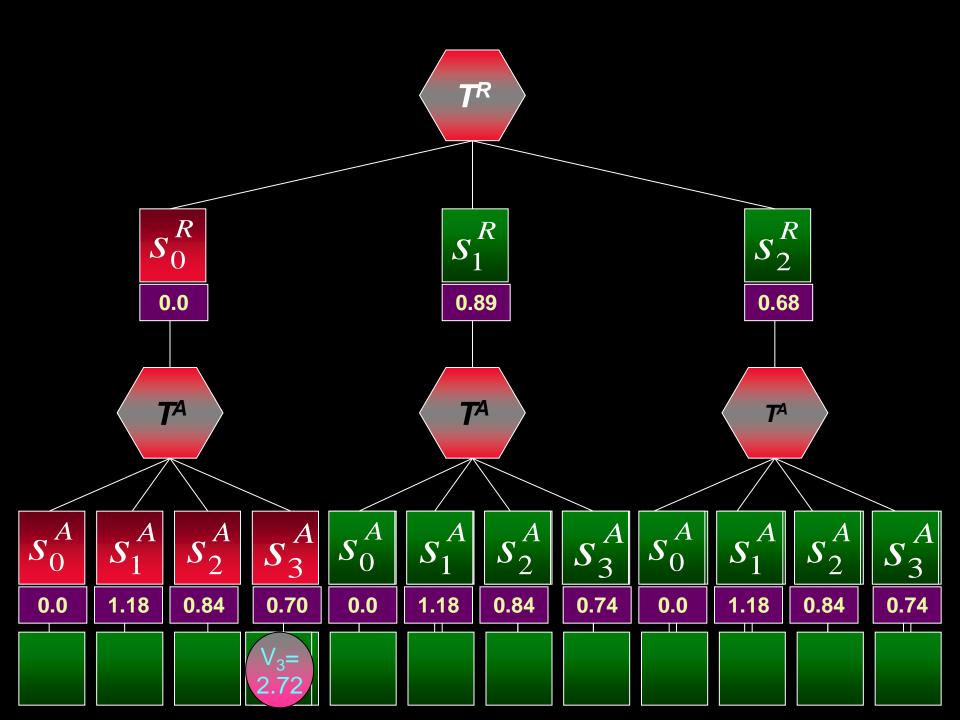
 $V_i \geq \delta_2$

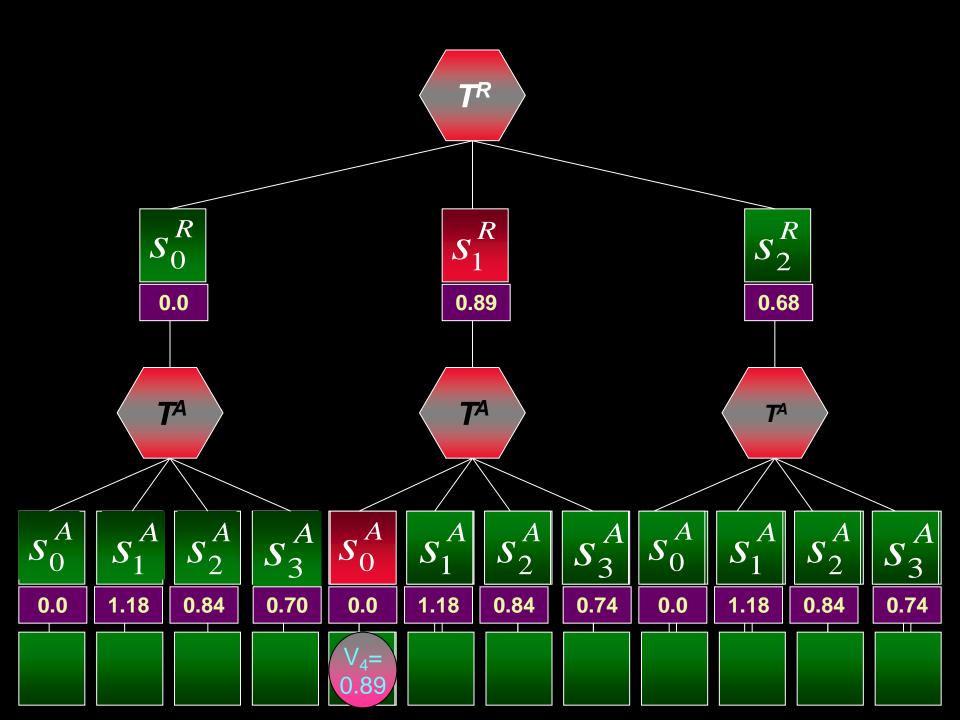
Alternative valuation

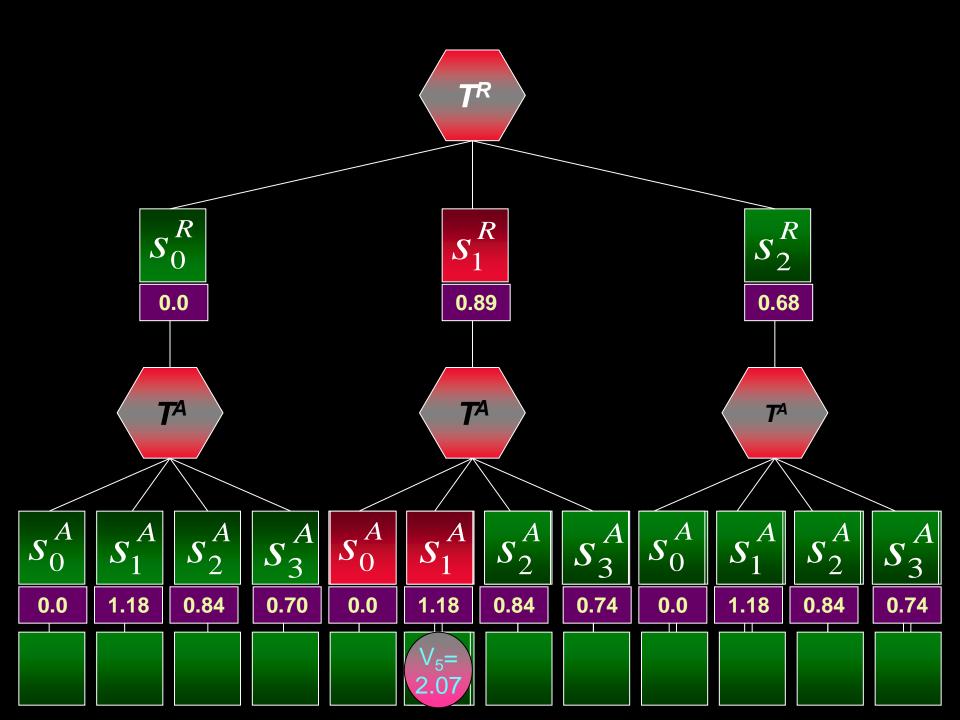


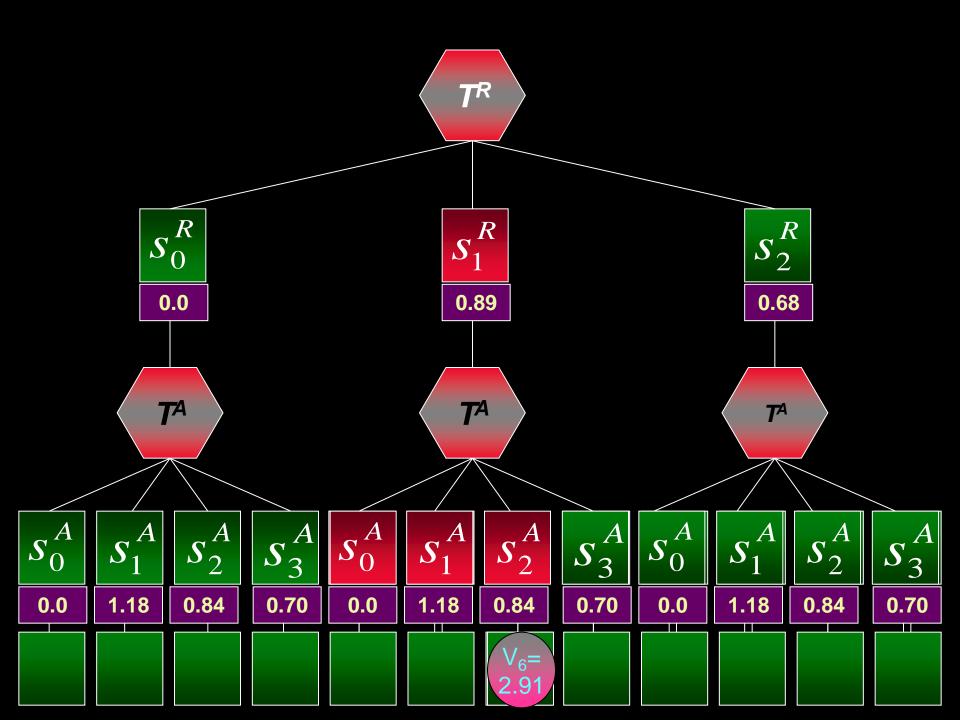


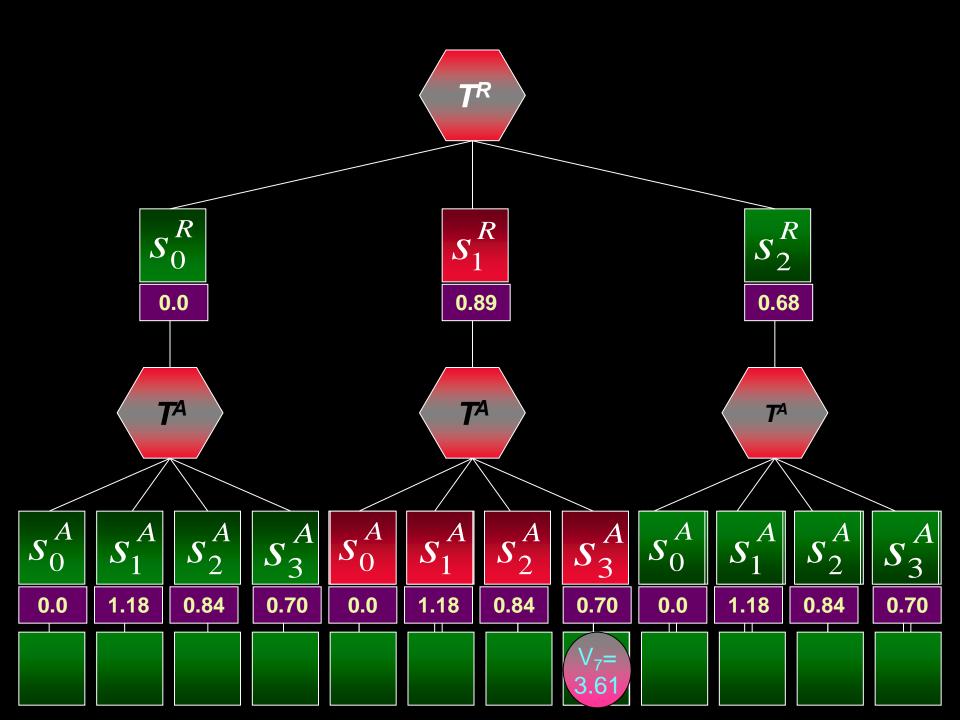


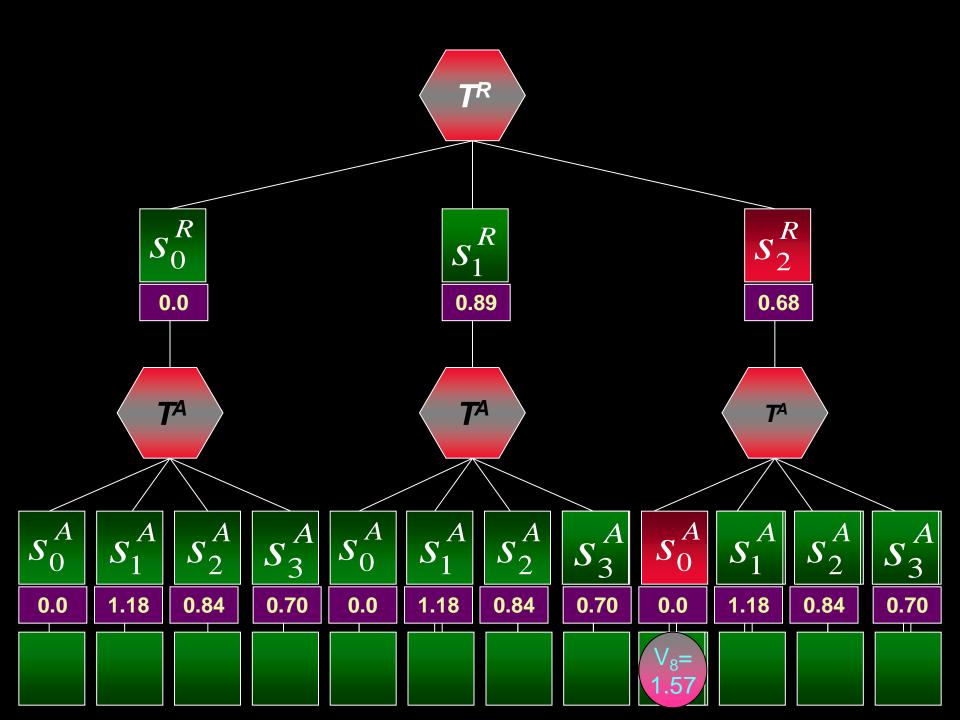


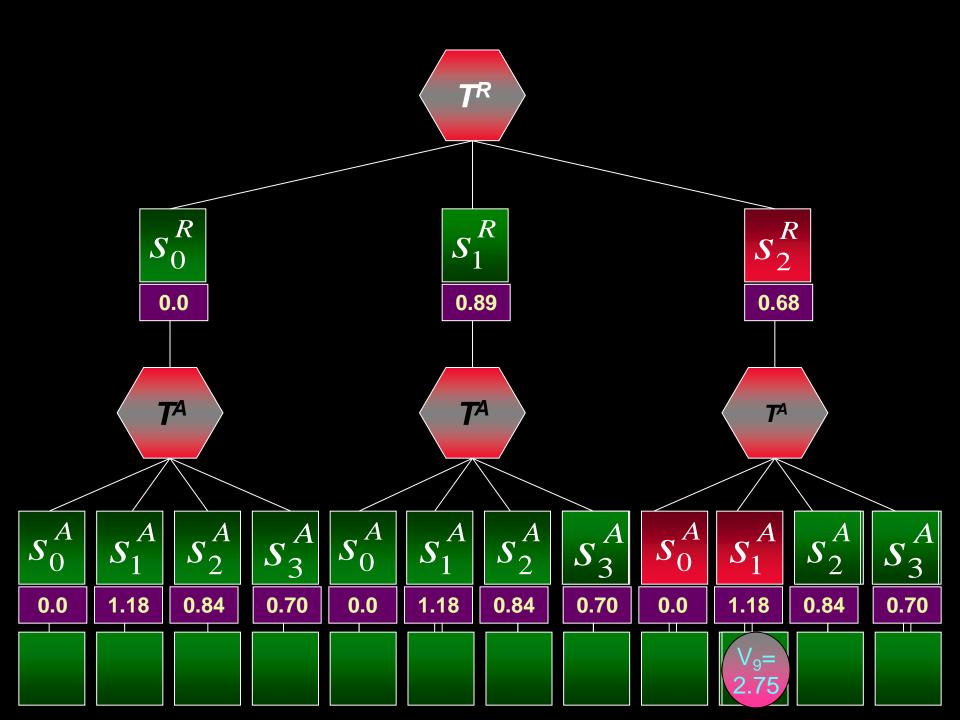


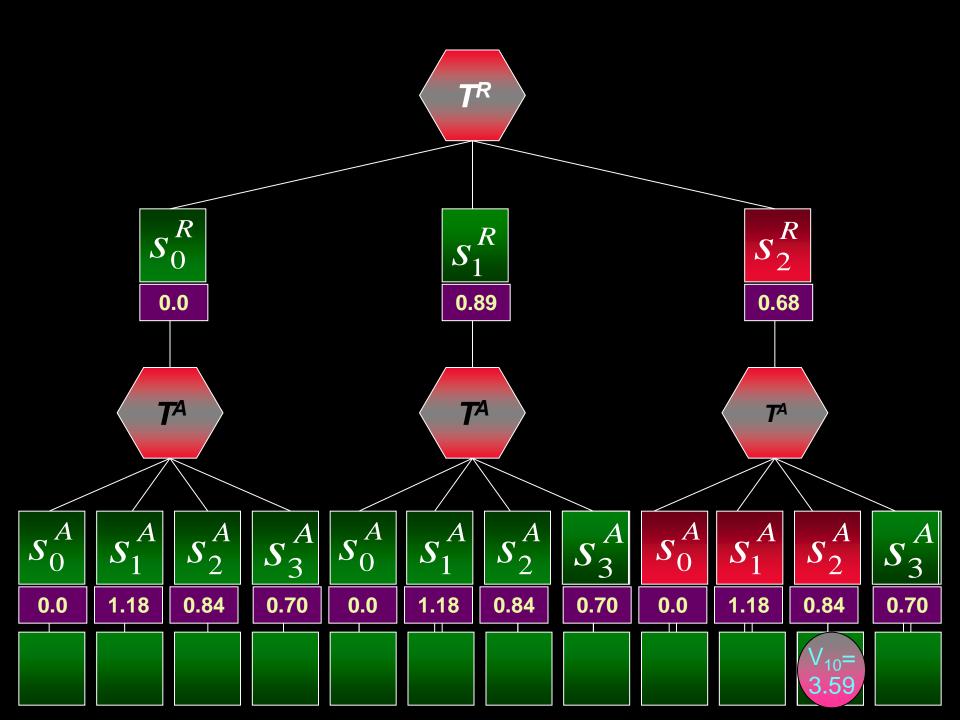


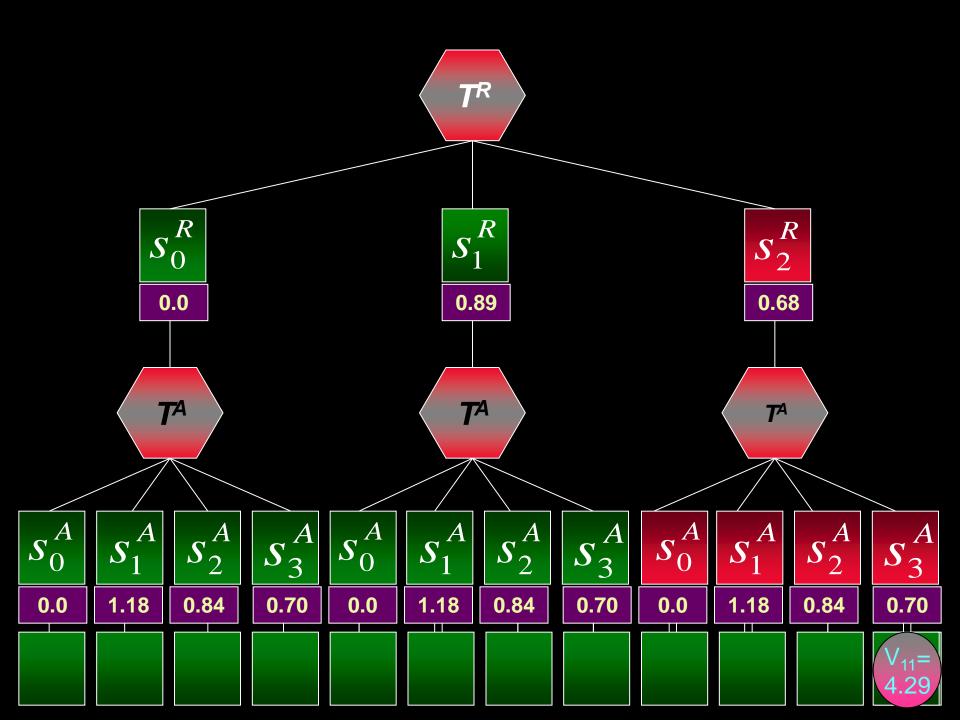


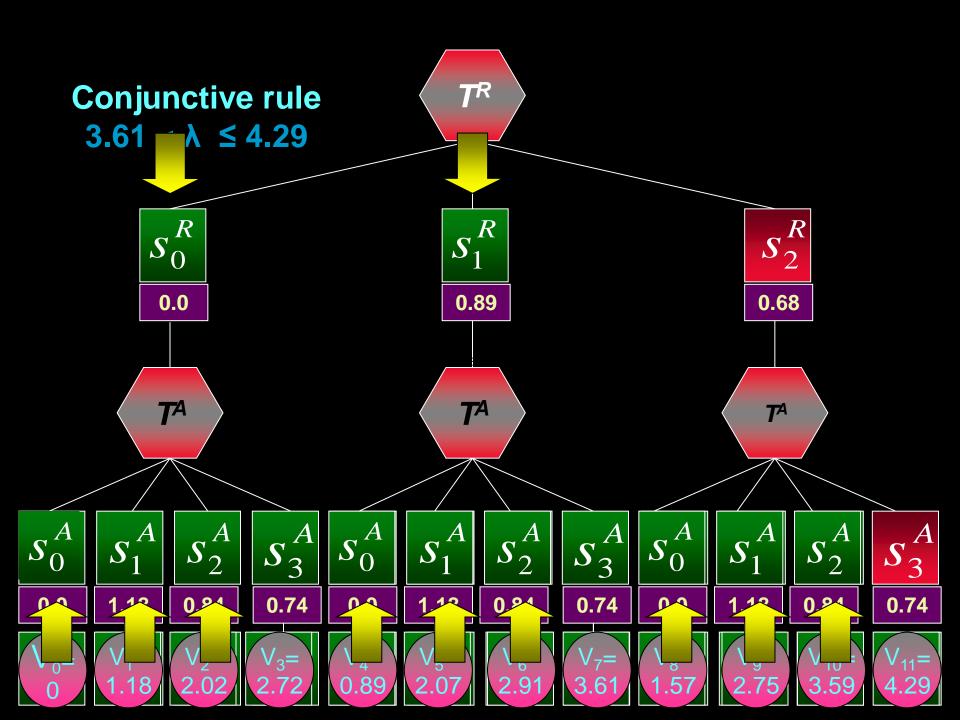


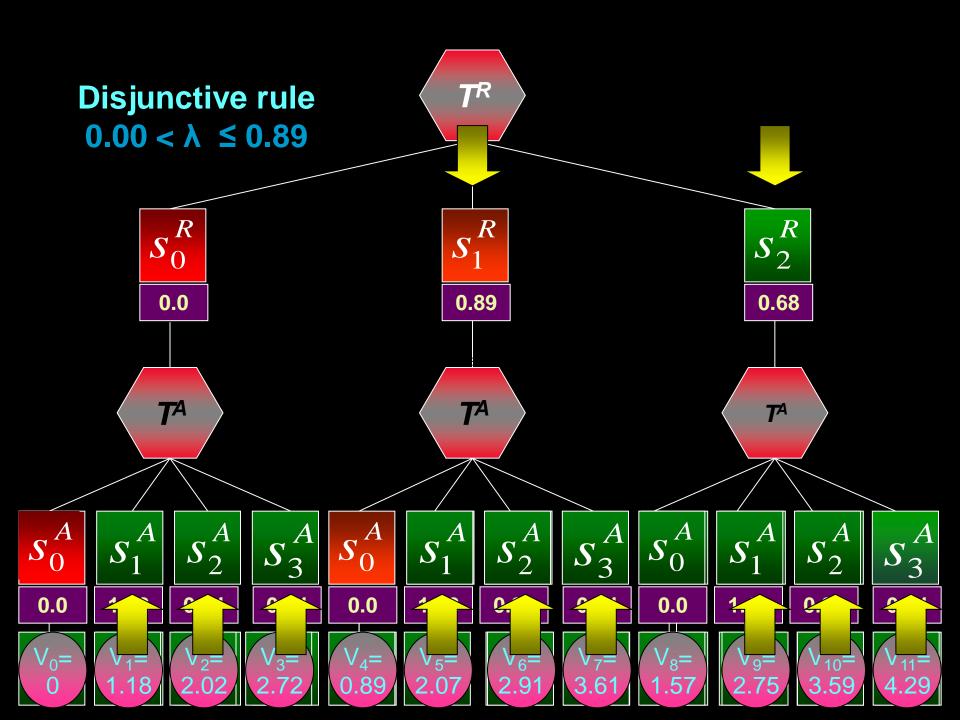


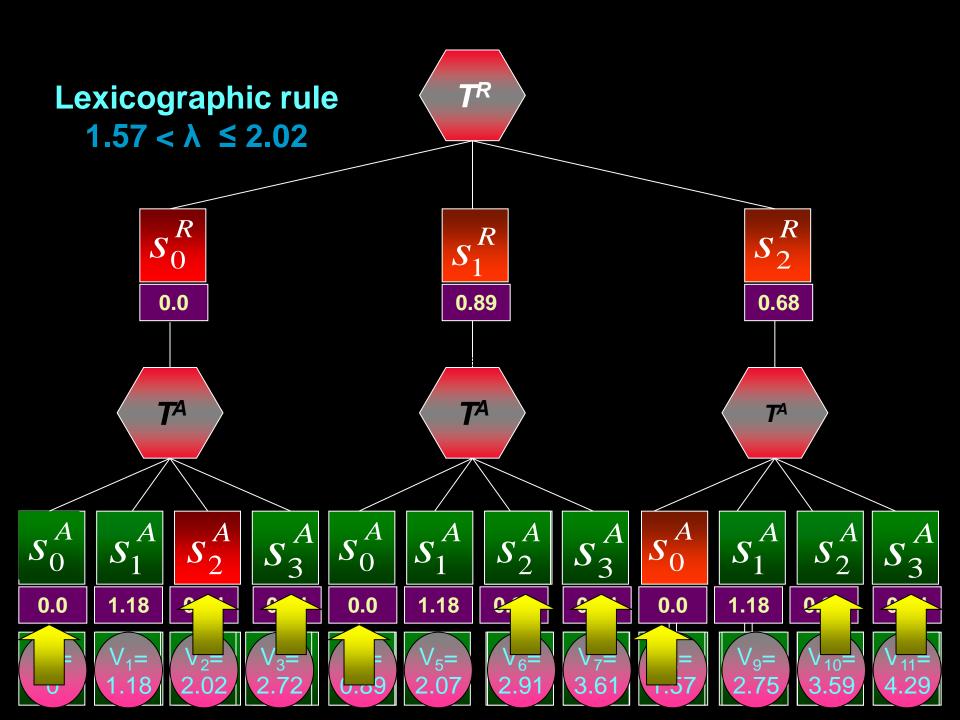


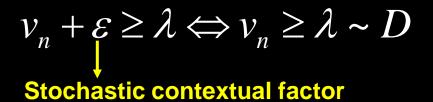


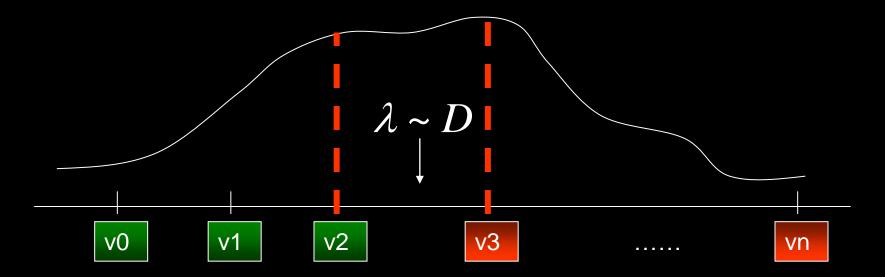












The probability of a preference is equivalent to the probability of λ being in the invariant range.

$$p_{k+1} = \int_{v_k}^{v_{k+1}} D \times dt$$

.89

2= .02 /₅= 2.07

10⁷

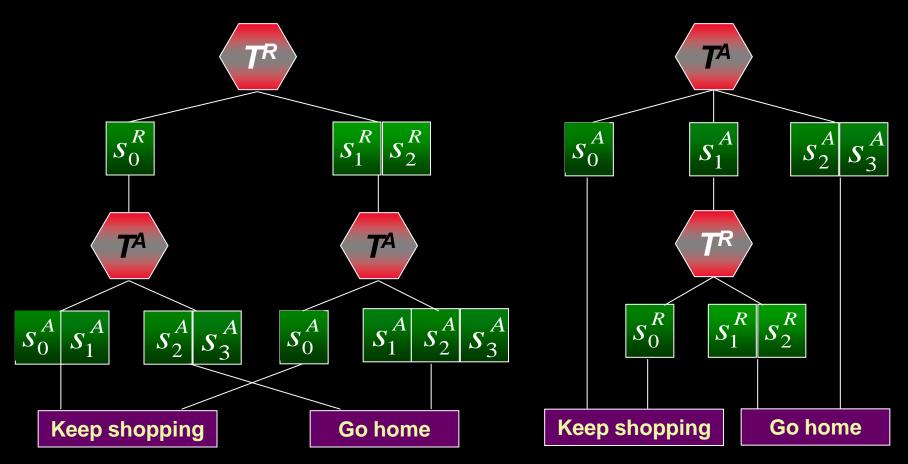
S_0^R	s_1^R	s_2^R	s_0^A	S_1^A	S_2^A	s_3^A
S_0^R	S_1^R	S_2^R	s_0^A	S_1^A	S_2^A	s_3^A
S_0^R	S_1^R	S_2^R	s_0^A	S_1^A	S_2^A	s_3^A
S_0^R	S_1^R	S_2^R	s_0^A	S_1^A	S_2^A	s_3^A
S_0^R	S_1^R	S_2^R	s_0^A	S_1^A	S_2^A	s_3^A
S_0^R	S_1^R	S_2^R	s_0^A	s_1^A	S_2^A	s_3^A
S_0^R	s_1^R	S_2^R	s_0^A	s_1^A	s_2^A	s_3^A
S_0^R	S_1^R	S_2^R	s_0^A	s_1^A	S_2^A	S_3^A
S_0^R	S_1^R	S_2^R	s_0^A	S_1^A	S_2^A	s_3^A
S_0^R	S_1^R	S_2^R	s_0^A	s_1^A	S_2^A	s_3^A
S_0^R	s_1^R	s_2^R	s_0^A	s_1^A	s_2^A	S_3^A
s_0^R	S_1^R	S_2^R	S_0^A	$\overline{S_1^A}$	s_2^A	s_3^A



Mental effort

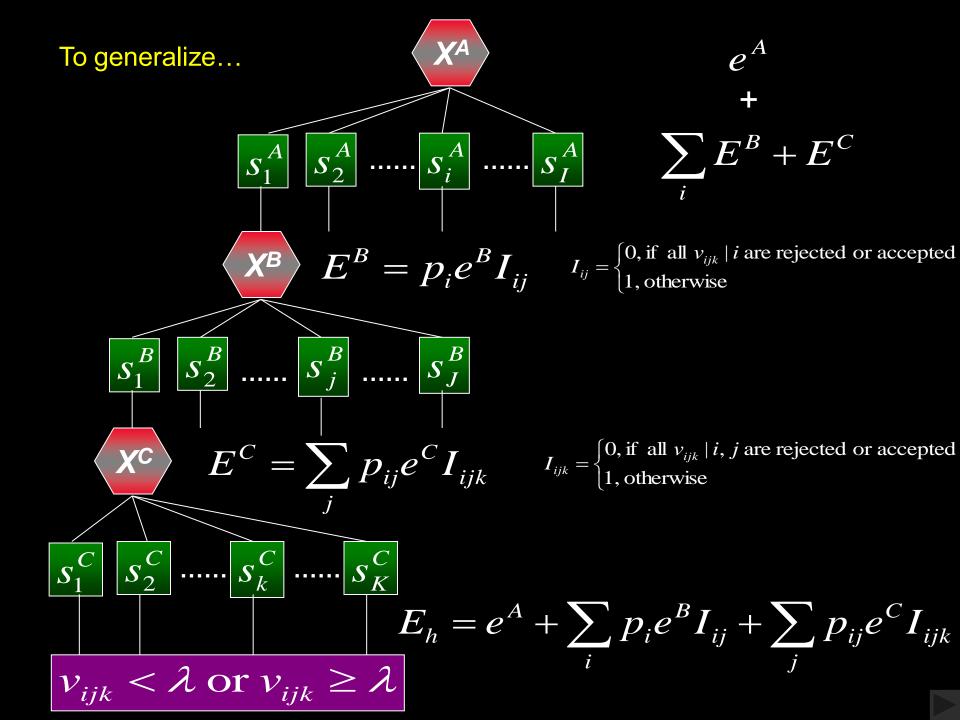
Lexicographic rule $1.57 < \lambda \le 2.02$

Homogeneous responses do not necessitate further search



$$E_h^{RA} = e^R + (p_0^R + p_1^R + p_2^R) \times e^A = e^R + e^A$$

$$E_h^{AR} = e^A + p_1^A \times e^R$$



s_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
s_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
s_0^A	s_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	S_1^C
s_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_1^A	s_0^C	S_1^C
s_0^A	s_1^A	s_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
s_0^A	$ s_1^A $	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
s_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	S_1^C
s_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
s_0^A	s_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
s_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
s_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^A	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
s_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	s_1^A	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C

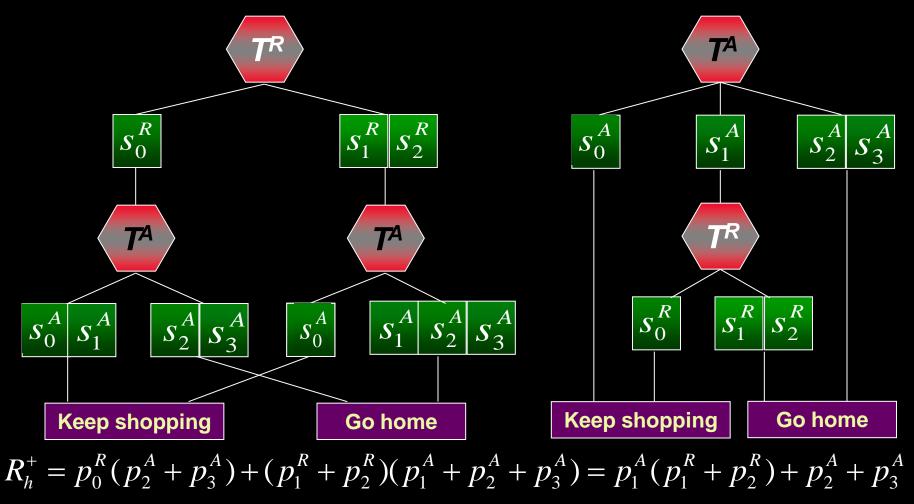
Mental effort							
e	p	e	i	p	e	i	
e	p	e	i	p	e	i	
e	p	e	i	p	e	i	
e	p	e	i	p	e	i	
e	p	e	i	p	e	i	
e	p	e	i	p	e	i	
e	p	e	i	p	e	i	
e	p	е	i	p	е	i	
e	p	e	i	p	e	i	
e	p	е	i	p	е	i	
e	p	e	i	p	e	i	
е	p	e	i	p	e	i	



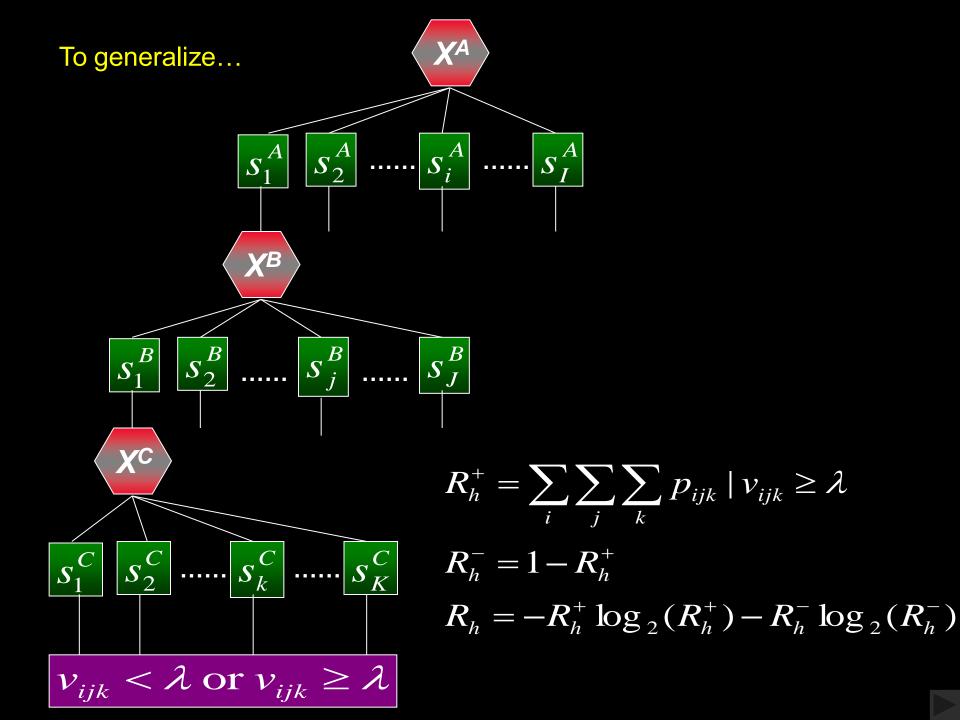
Risk attitude

$$R_h = -R_h^+ \log_2(R_h^+) - R_h^- \log_2(R_h^-)$$

Shannon's Information Entropy as a measure of heuristic uncertainty



$$R_h^- = 1 - R_h^+$$



S_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
S_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
S_0^A	s_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
S_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_1^A	s_0^C	s_1^C
S_0^A	s_1^A	s_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
S_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
S_0^A	s_1^A	s_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
S_0^A	S_1^A	s_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
S_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
S_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	S_1^B	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
S_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	$ s_1^A $	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C
S_0^A	S_1^A	S_0^B	s_1^A	S_2^B	s_0^C	s_1^C

Risk								
e	p	e	i	p	e	i		
е	p	e	i	p	e	i		
e	p	e	i	p	e	i		
е	p	е	i	p	е	i		
e	p	e	i	p	e	i		
е	p	е	i	p	е	i		
e	p	e	i	p	e	i		
e	p	e	i	p	e	i		
e	p	e	i	p	e	i		
е	p	е	i	p	е	i		
e	p	e	i	p	e	i		
е	p	e	i	p	е	i		

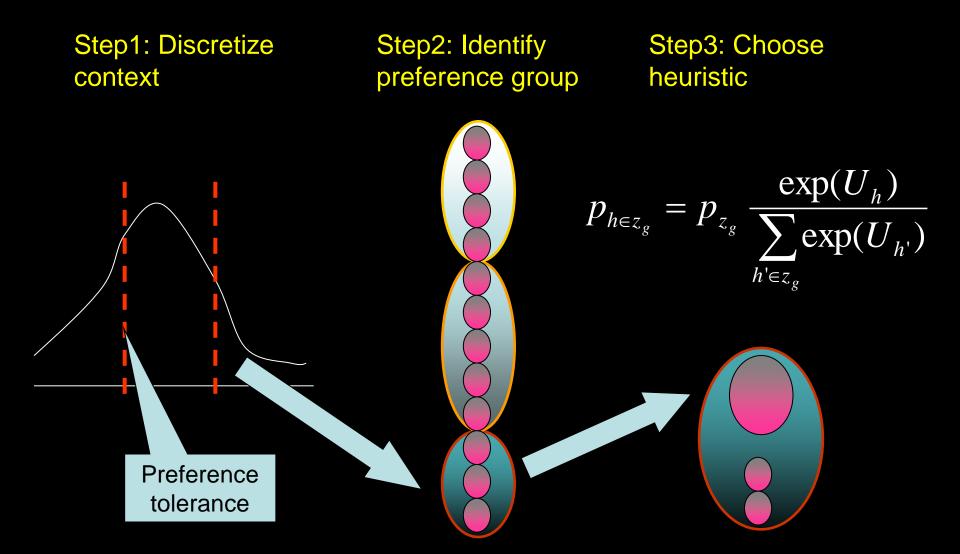


Utility of heuristic



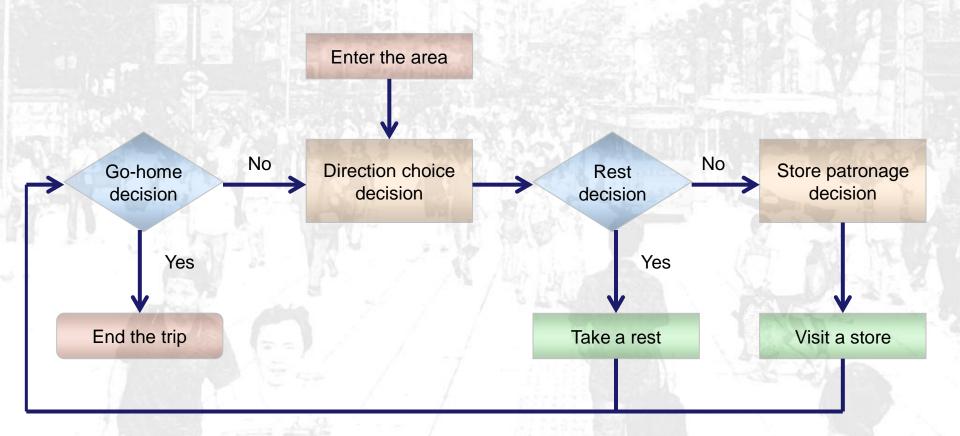
$$U_h = \beta_E E_h + \beta_R R_h$$

Choice of heuristic



Conceptual Framework

- Decisions to model
 - Go home, direction choice, rest, store patronage



Conceptual Framework

Three model prototypes for comparison

MNL

 As the representative of rational choice models and a benchmark

PH

Heuristic models with probabilistic threshold specifications

HHM

• The Heterogeneous Heuristic Model, which is the major methodological contribution of the thesis



Problem Representation

Concepts

- Attribute
- Attribute threshold
- Attribute state
- State utility
- Overall utility

$$X = \{x_j \mid j = 1, ..., J\}$$

$$\Delta_{j} = \{\delta_{j1} < \delta_{jn} < \delta_{jN}\}$$

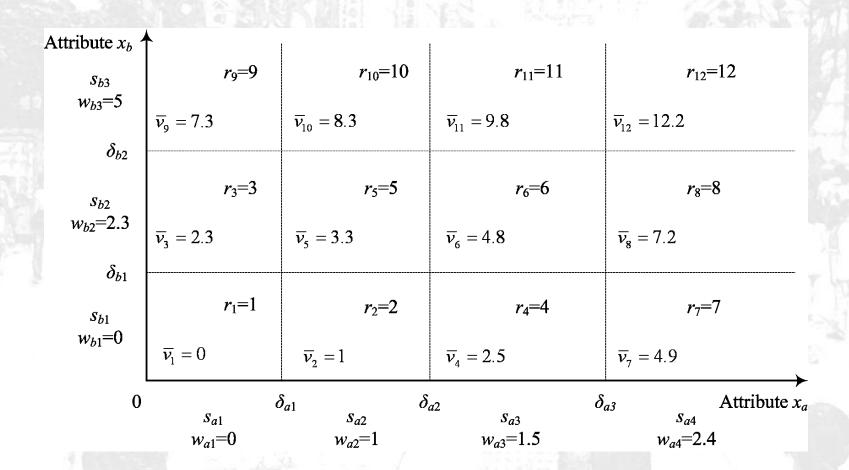
$$s_{jn} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x_j < \delta_{jn} \\ 1 & \text{if } x_j \ge \delta_{jn} \end{cases}$$

$$u_{jn} = w_{jn} s_{jn}$$

$$v_i = \sum_{j} \sum_{n} u_{ijn}$$

An Example

• Two-attribute representation



Satisficing Decision

• A preference is a function of

- Alternative rank
- Reference rank
- Decision criterion (discriminant threshold)

$$r_{c}$$

$$\lambda_k$$

$$d_{i} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } r_{i} - r_{\varepsilon} \geq \lambda_{k} & \lambda_{k} \in [1, K] \\ 0 & \text{if } r_{i} - r_{\varepsilon} \leq -\lambda_{k} \\ 0.5 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Behavioral Heterogeneity

- We focus on the variation of decision criteria, because it is more common and easier to change criteria than representation.
- Using a latent class structure
- A decision criterion is selected based on its value $d_i = \sum_{k=1}^{K} p_k d_{i|k}$

$$p_k = \frac{\exp(u_k)}{\sum_{k'=1}^K \exp(u_{k'})}$$

Factors of Criterion Value

Consistency

- Preference based on the criterion
- Preferences based on other criteria
- To what extent they are consistent?
- So that current choice is also robust in the future

Value of having consistent preferences $\psi_{l|k} = \sum_{k'=1}^K \eta_{k'} \mathrm{I}(d_{l|k'} = d_{l|k})$ $\eta_{k'|k} = \exp(\beta_{\psi} \mid k' - k \mid)$

Positive: expecting different future preferences Negative: expecting similar future preferences Probability belief of attribute state

$$p_l = \prod_j p_{jn}$$
Probability of overall state

$$\psi_k = \sum_l p_l \psi_{l|k}$$

Factors of Criterion Value

Definiteness

 The probability of getting a definite result (clear discrimination between alternatives)

$$\gamma_k = \sum_{l} p_l \gamma_{l|k}$$

$$\gamma_{l|k} = I(d_{l|k} \neq 0.5)$$

In total

$$u_k = \psi_k + \beta_{\gamma} \gamma_k$$

What to Estimate?

Attribute thresholds

$$\Delta_j = \{\delta_{j1}, ... \delta_{jN}\}$$

Attribute utilities

$$W_j = \{w_{j1} = 0, w_{j2}, ..., w_{jN+1}\}$$

Reference rank

 r_{ε}

• Parameters in criterion choice

$$\beta_{\!\scriptscriptstyle \psi}, \beta_{\!\scriptscriptstyle \gamma}$$

Technical problems in estimation

- (1)Thresholds are non-continuous; numbers are estimated
- (2)Attribute utilities are non-unique
- (3)Conventional significance tests do not apply; using CAIC instead

Illustration

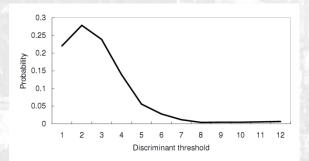
- Go-home decision: pedestrians' decision to end a shopping trip
- Three datasets of pedestrian shopping diary
 - East Nanjing Road, Shanghai (2003, 2007)
 - Wang Fujing Street, Beijing (2004)
- Attributes
 - Relative time (t^R) , absolute time (t^A)

Parameter Estimates

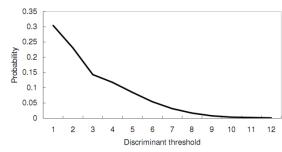
	ENR-03	WFS-04	ENR-07
Parameter	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
$\delta_{\scriptscriptstyle 1}{}^{\scriptscriptstyle R}$	180 minutes	90 minutes	70 minutes
$\delta_2{}^R$	480 minutes	180 minutes	240 minutes
$[w_1^R]$	1	1	1
W_2^R	0.720	0.561	0.104
$\delta_1{}^{\scriptscriptstyle A}$	14:30	14:00	14:30
$\delta_2{}^{\!\scriptscriptstyle A}$	17:00	16:00	19:30
$\delta_3^{\mathcal{A}}$	20:00	19:00	-
w_1^A	5.860	7.143	0.504
W_2^A	0.274	0.664	1.019
W_3^A	0.734	0.337	-
$r_{arepsilon}$	8	10	7
$oldsymbol{eta}_{\psi}$	0.023	-0.253	0.188
$oldsymbol{eta}_{oldsymbol{\gamma}}$	9.610	6.822	6.410
δ_2^A δ_3^A w_1^A w_2^A w_3^A r_{ε} δ_{ψ}	17:00 20:00 5.860 0.274 0.734 8 0.023	16:00 19:00 7.143 0.664 0.337 10 -0.253	19:30 - 0.504 1.019 - 7 0.188

Use of Criteria

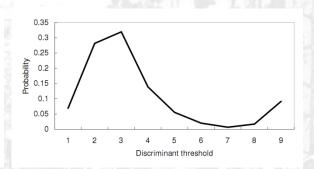


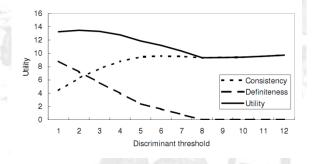


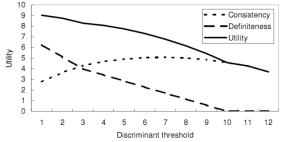
WFS-04

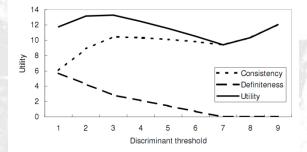


ENR-07









Goodness-of-fits

	ENR-03			WFS-04			ENR-07		
Parameter	Proposed	MNL	Mixed	Proposed	MNL	Mixed	Proposed	MNL	Mixed
ш	-730	-789	-788	-1037	-1085	-1079	-402	-410	-409
N _C	1926	1926	1926	2741	2741	2741	808	808	808
N _P	12	3	6	12	3	6	10	3	6
CAIC	1562	1603	1628	2181	2197	2211	880	843	866

LL: log-likelihood

N_c: number of cases

N_P: number of parameters

CAIC: Consistent Akaike Information Criterion

Conclusion

Theoretical

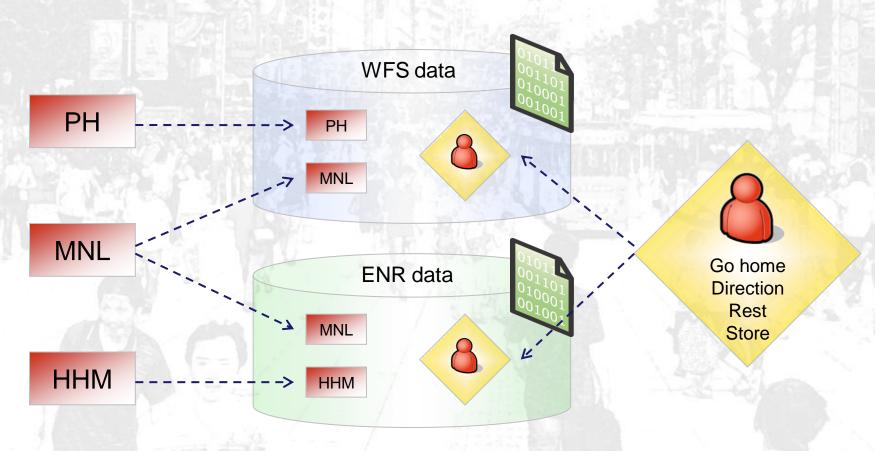
- Model behavioral heterogeneity by explicitly taking into account the variation of decision criteria
- Choice of criteria explained by consistency and definiteness

Empirical

- Definiteness is the dominant factor; pedestrians prefer using relaxed criteria
- Consistency is less influential; pedestrians' expectations on future preferences are diverse
- Better capture heterogeneity for large samples

Model Estimation

• Each of the three prototype models is specified for each of the four decisions and estimated against data.



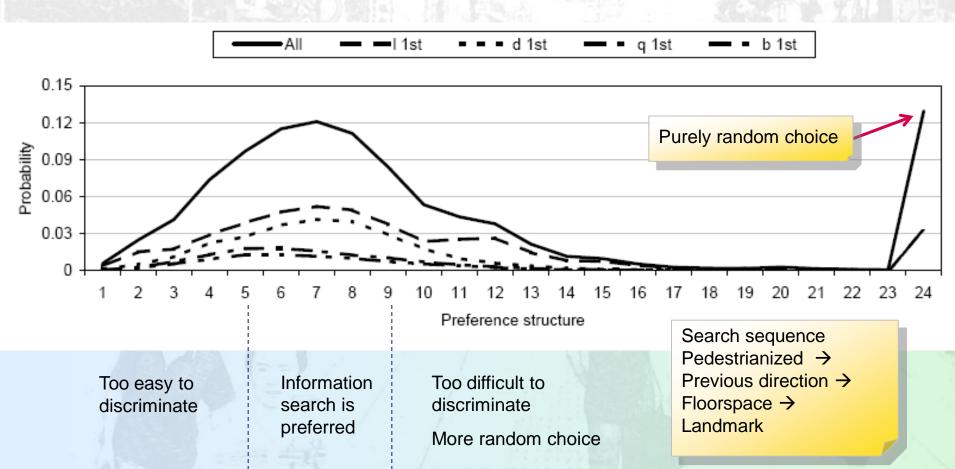
Model Estimation

- Models are compared in terms of Log-likelihood statistics and Consistent Akaike Information Criterion.
- In general, heuristic models are better than MNL models, suggesting pedestrians using simplifying decision strategies.

Decision	WFS		ENR		
	Best LL	Best CAIC	Best LL	Best CAIC	
Go-home	LEX	CONJ	ННМ	MNL logged	
Direction choice	LEX	LEX	ННМ	ННМ	
Rest	CONJ	LEX	ННМ	MNL logged	
Store patronage	LEX	LEX	ННМ	ННМ	

Model Estimation

• The major advantage of HHM is to estimate the probabilistic use of heuristics.



Conclusion

1

BR model

 The advantage of using BR models to modeling pedestrian decision processes is partially justified, suggesting a promising new line of behavior / decision modeling.

2

Heterogeneity

 HHM provides a potential framework for modeling the formation and choice of heuristics, which may contribute to decision research at large.

3 Time

 Including temporal factors is valuable for capturing dynamic pedestrian behavior. However, temporal change in behavior was not estimated.

MODEL OF MENTAL REPRESENTATION AND ACTIVATION

Assumptions

Individuals construct and activite a mental model

This representation involves causal mechanisms, linking decision problem and situational variables to outcomes

It involve a subjective representation of the environment and beliefs

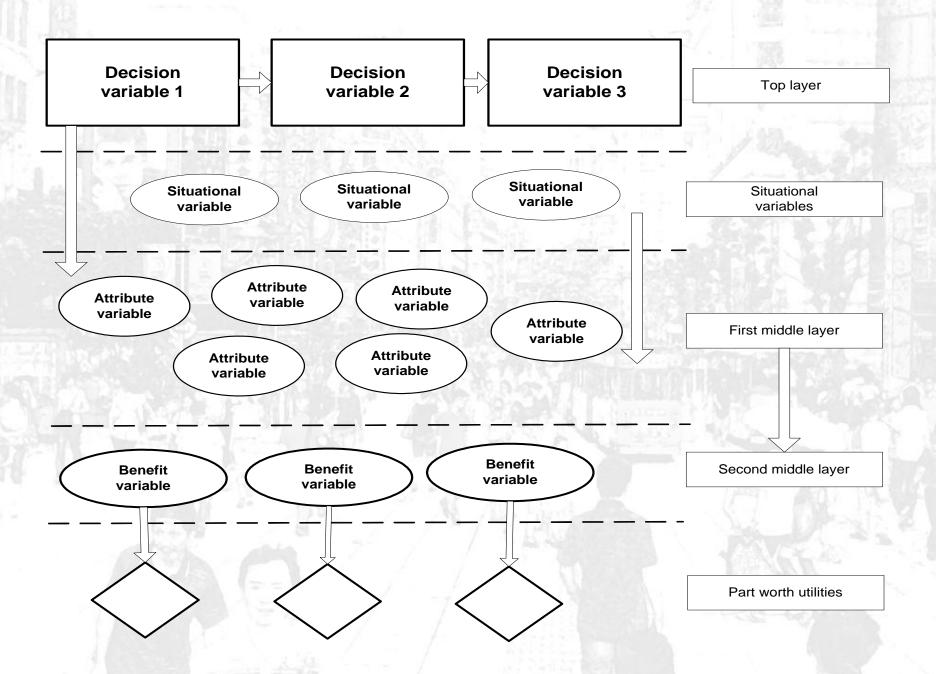
It involves an assessment of size of benefits

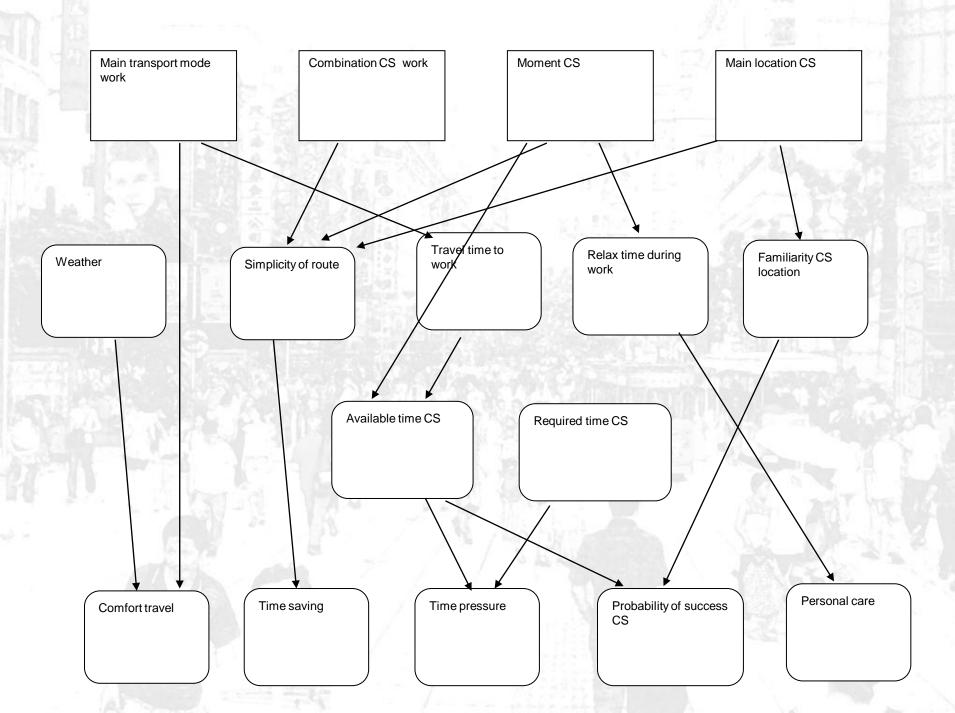
Theory

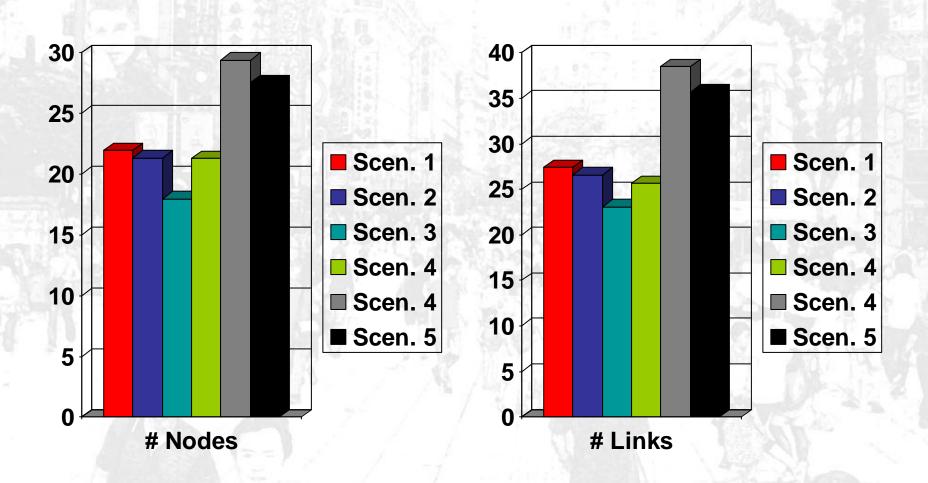
Mental model is a temporary and active cognitive structure, tailored to the specific settings of the task

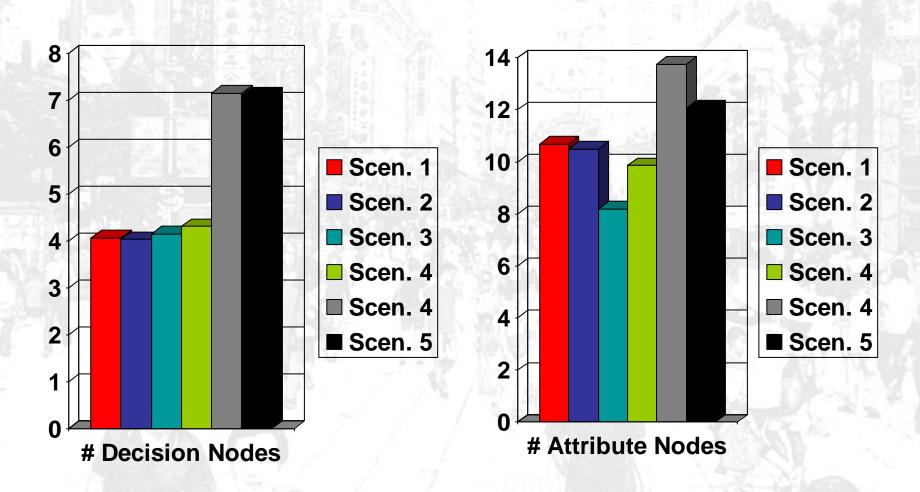
It serves to reduce the complexity of the decision task

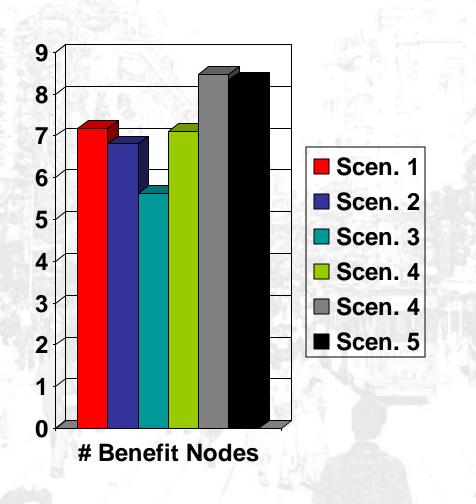
It allows individual to solve the problem within the boundaries of his rationality











Dependent variable	Grouping variable	F	Sig,	
Number of nodes (total)	Scenario	37,263	0,000	
	Interviewer	7,371	0,001	
	Scenario x interviewer	0,883	0,883	
Number of links	Scenario	35,572	0,000	
	Interviewer	5,613	0,004	
	Scenario x interviewer	0,452	0,918	
Decision nodes	Scenario	322,904	0,000	
	Interviewer	0,586	0,558	
	Scenario x interviewer	0,846	0,585	
Number of attribute nodes	Scenario	15,431	0,000	
	Interviewer	2,189	0,115	
	Scenario x interviewer	0,825	0,606	
Number of benefit nodes	Scenario	11,319	0,000	
	Interviewer	15,596	0,000	
	Scenario x interviewer	0,653	0,766	

$$r_{ij}(x_{jkg}) = \beta_{kg}^{ij}$$

where

 x_{jkg} is an (expected) outcome of alternative g of decision variable k on attribute j.

is an evaluation of the extent to which this outcome matches the most desired outcome given the need associated with benefit i.

 β_{kg}^{ij} is a corresponding systematic utility value.

A perceived gain of a DAB chain evaluation is defined as the size of utility difference it reveals compared to the case where the chain is not inspected

$$Z_{ijk} = SD(\beta_{k\bullet}^{ij})$$

Utility values are based on expectations that the individual derives from broader knowledge about the world and his or her own needs. A key distinction in this knowledge structure must be made between knowledge about relevant attributes and benefit components and the causal network connecting these components and how they relate to alternatives and the individual's own needs

$$\alpha_{i} \cdot s_{ij}^{1} \cdot s_{jk}^{2} \cdot r_{ij}(x_{jkg}) = \beta_{kg}^{ij}$$

$$SD[r_{ij}(x_{jk\bullet})] \equiv 1$$

$$Z_{ijk} = SD[\alpha_i \cdot s_{ij}^1 \cdot s_{jk}^2 \cdot r_{ij}(x_{jkg})]$$

$$= \alpha_i \cdot s_{ij}^1 \cdot s_{jk}^2 \cdot SD[r_{ij}(x_{jkg})]$$

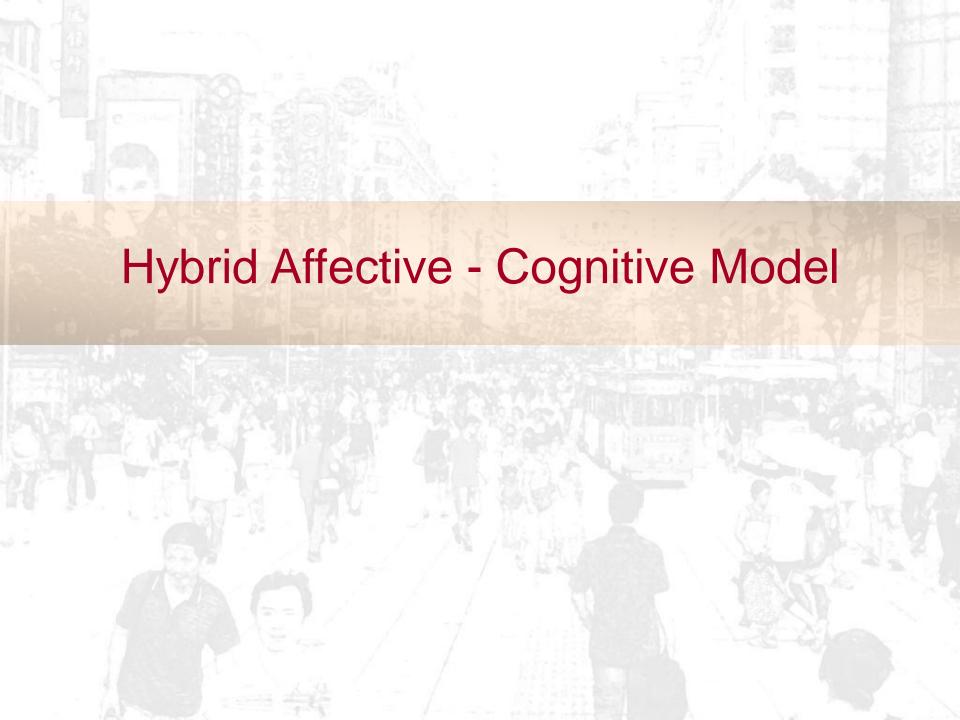
$$=\alpha_i\cdot s_{ij}^1\cdot s_{jk}^2$$

Mental Costs

$$C_{ijk} = c_{ij} + c_{jk}$$

$$U_{ijk} = Z_{ijk} - C_{ijk}$$

$$P[(i,j,k) \in MR] = P(U_{ijk} > 0)$$



ENVIRONMENT

Physical	Stationary attributes
Transportation system	Semi-stationary attributes
Institutional context	Non-stationary attributes (endogenous)

Uncertainty

COGNITIVE ENVIRONMENT

Context-dependent, time-varying

Beliefs, based on incomplete, imperfect perception

Aspiration level, mental effort and expected utility

Differential awareness

JUDGMENT and CHOICE

Context-dependent, time-varying

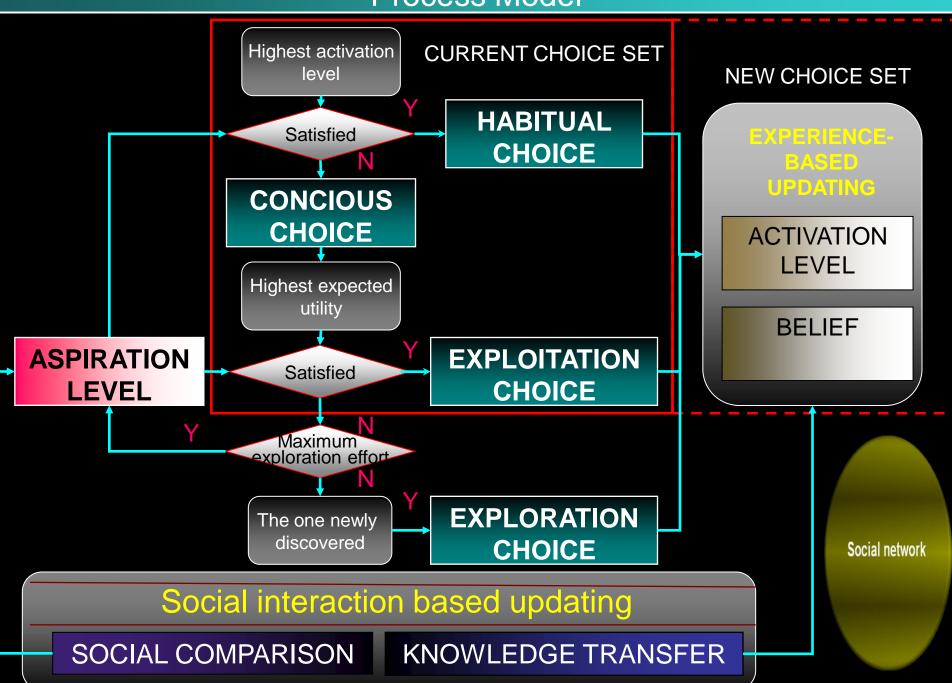
Constraints and resources

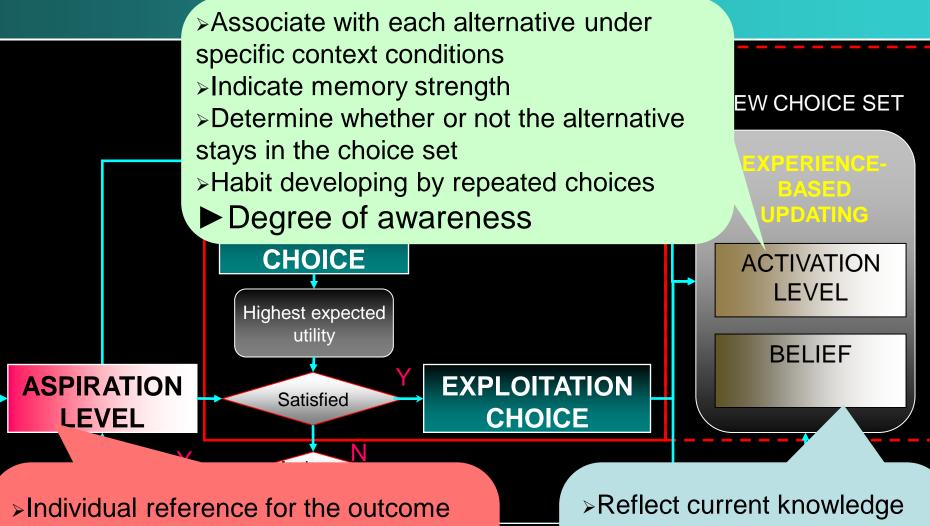
Information



Scripts, routines and heuristics

Process Model





ORA

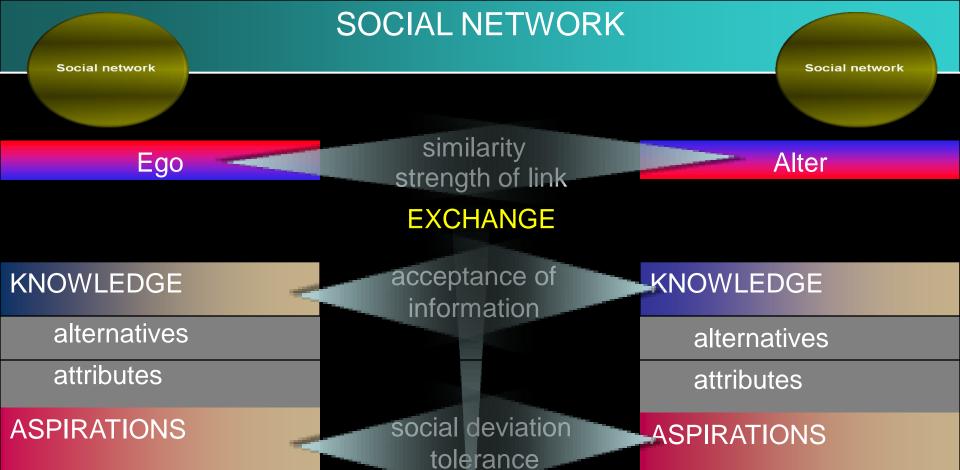
HOI

upa

EDGE

- > Defined at attribute levels
- >Context dependent
- >Having predefined tolerance range
- >Link with social network
- ➤ Willingness to change

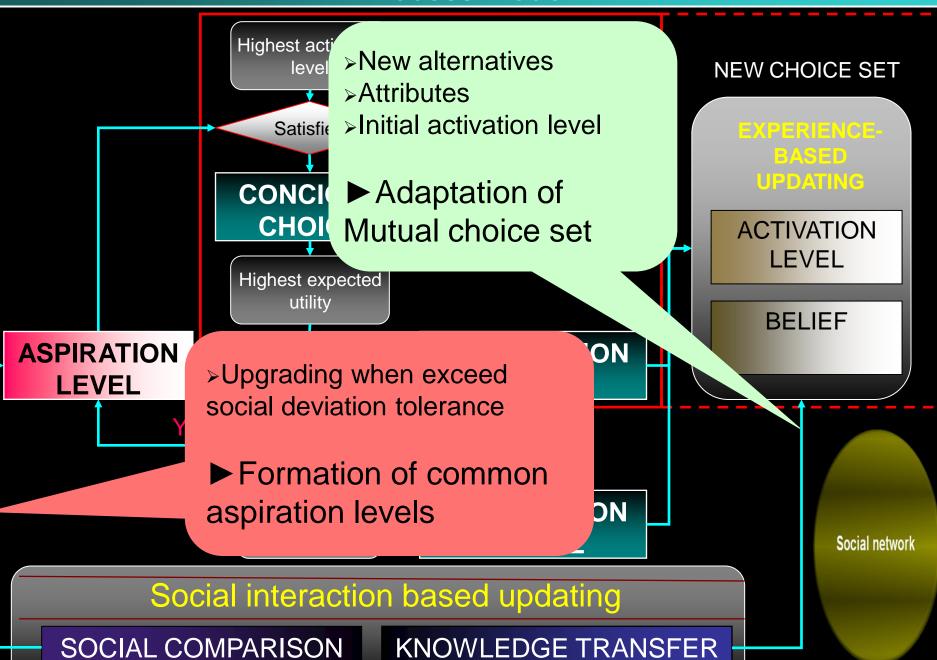
- of environment
- >Attributes of alternative (static & dynamic)
- ► Evaluation given current knowledge

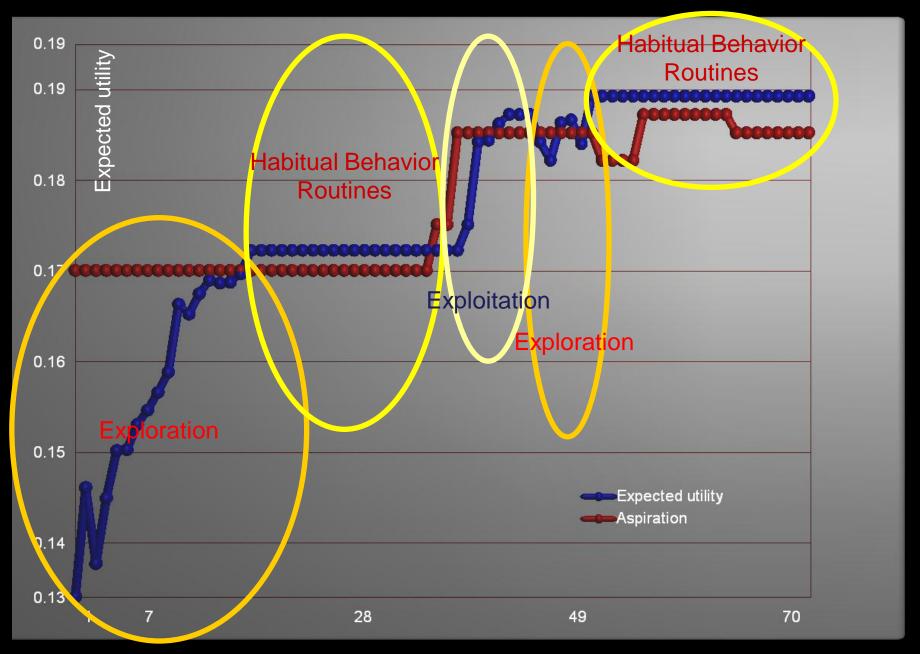


UPDATING PROCESS

Include in consideration set if expected utility after exchange + threshold resistance to change > current expected utility

Process Model





Simulation settings

- 100x100 cells with 100mx100m
- 6 agents, 72 days
- 1 activity a day a shopping trip
- 8 context condition profiles
 - Origin of the trip (work/home)
 - Day of the week (weekday/weekend)
 - Time of the day (rush hour/non-rush hour)
- 12 shopping locations
 - 6 small, 4 medium, 2 big
 - 6 static attributes (Yes/no)
 - 1 dynamic attribute (crowdedness with 4 levels)

Simulation settings

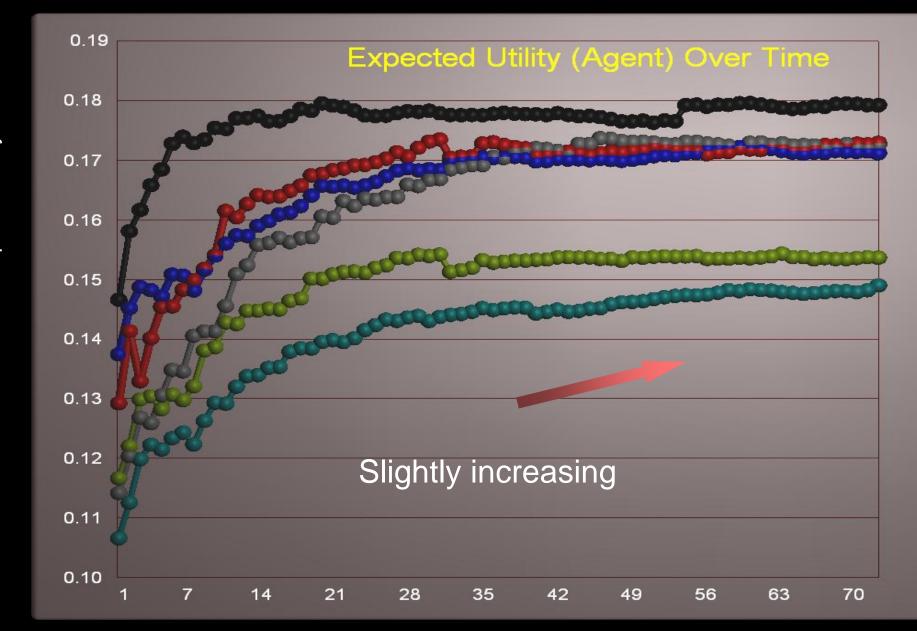
- Initial knowledge
 - Alternatives
 - Aspirations
- Cognitive learning
 - Conditional updating
 - Boltzmann model
- Social learning
 - One-way directed contact
 - 8-day interval contact
- Average 100 simulation run

Simulation settings

- Cognitive learning parameters
 - Minimum activation level
 - Maximum exploration effort
 - Aspiration dissatisfaction tolerance
- Social learning parameters
 - Social deviation tolerance
 - Information acceptance
- Social contact scenarios

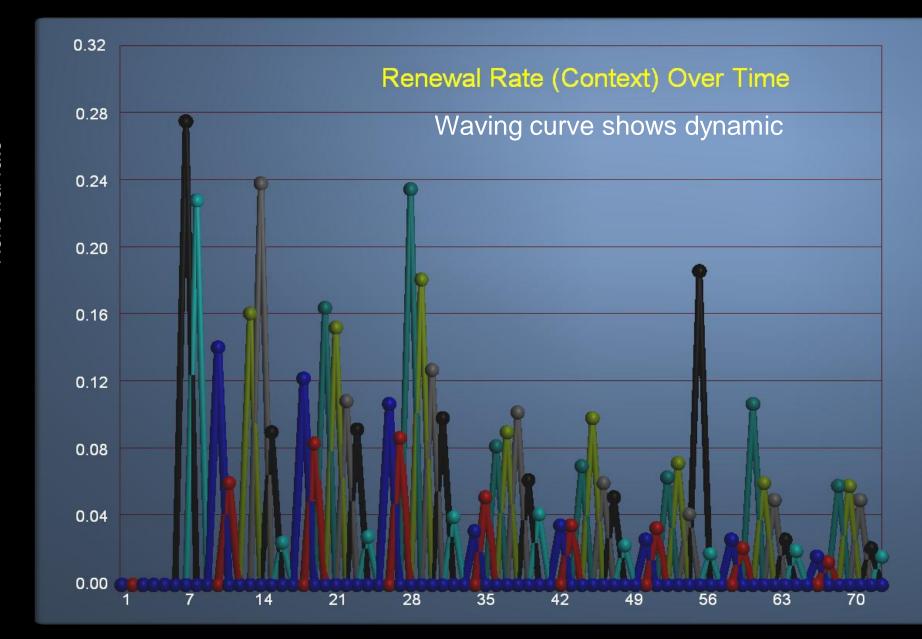
Dynamics

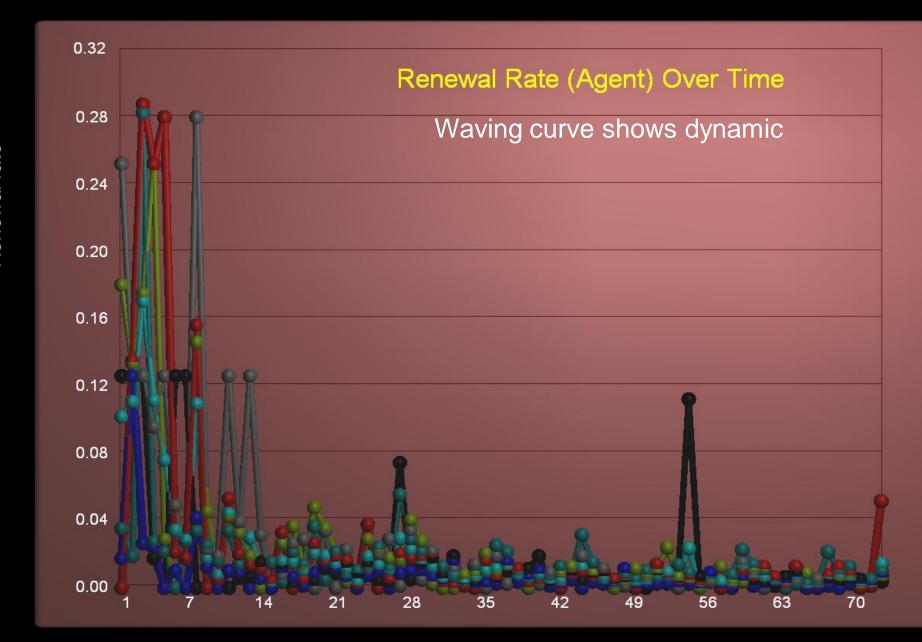




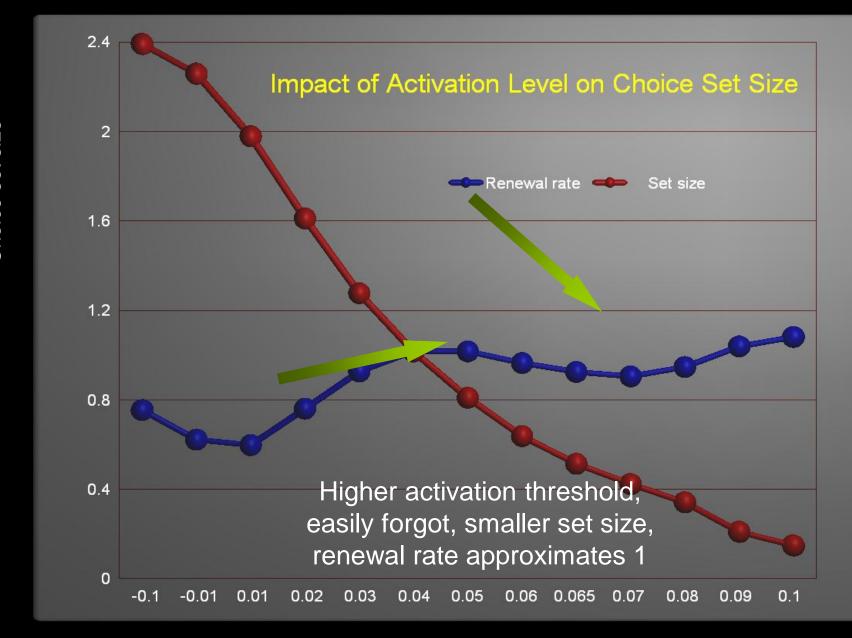


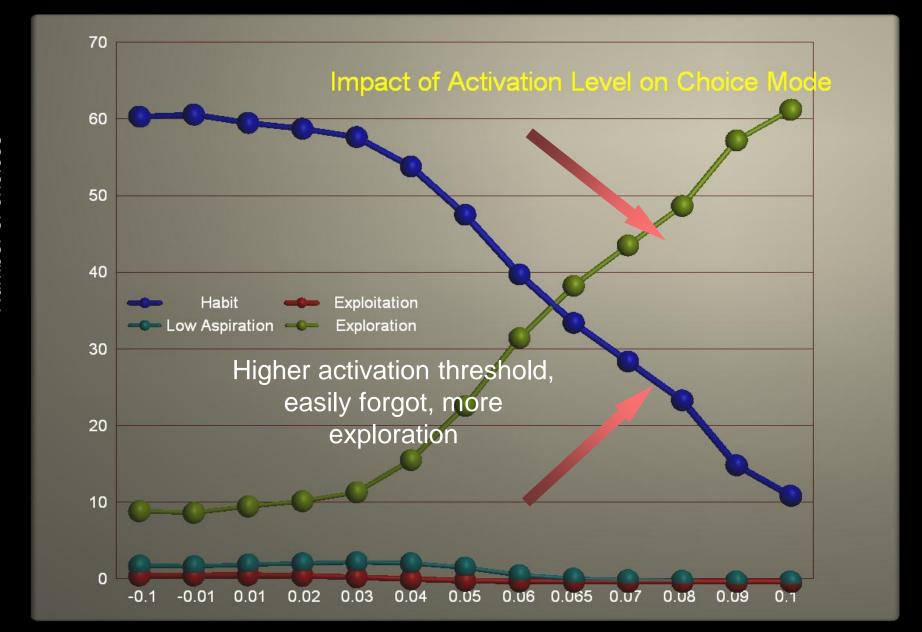




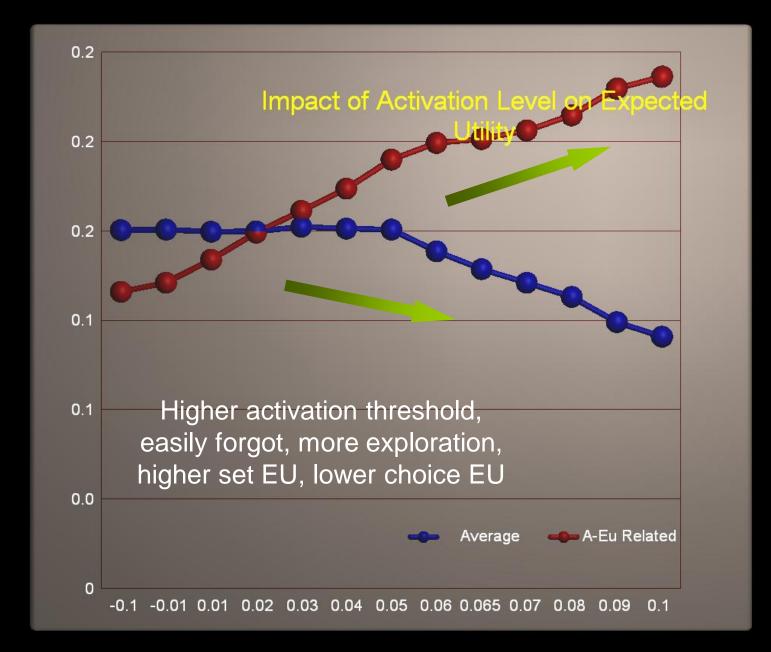


Impact of activation level

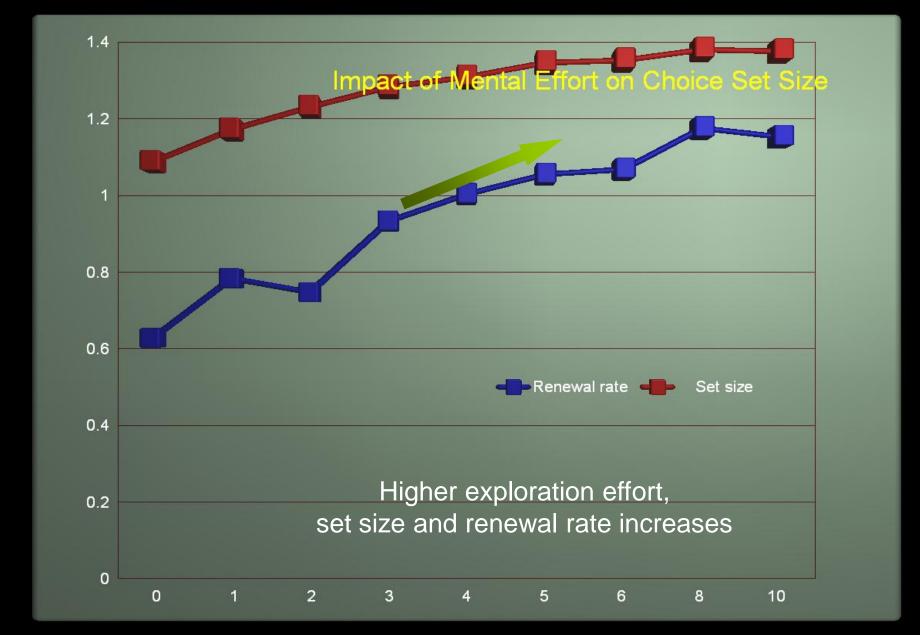


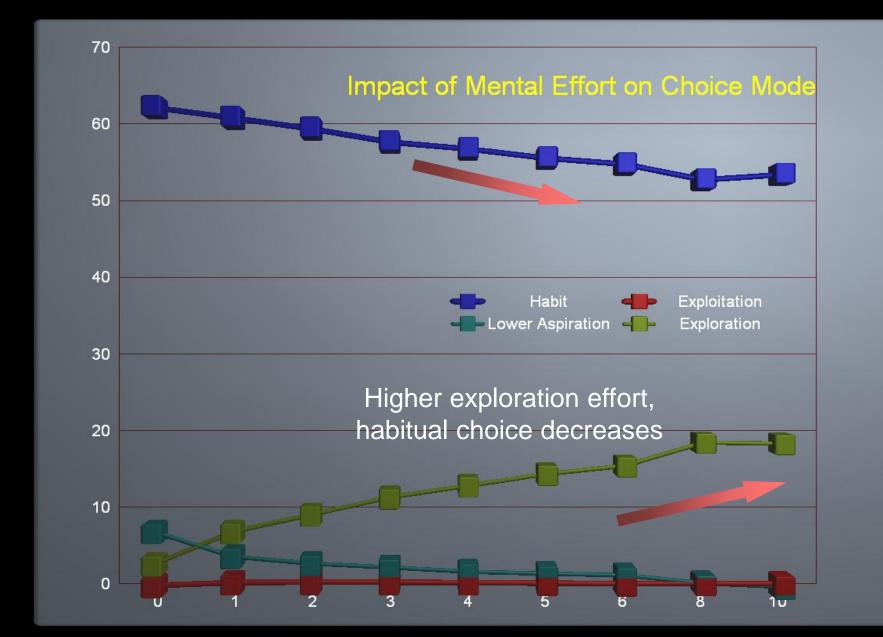


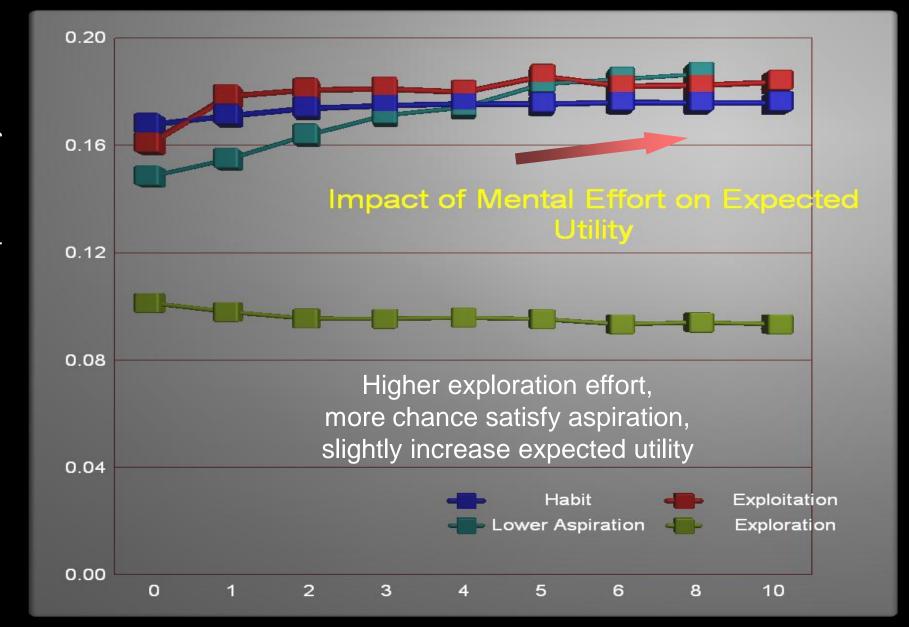


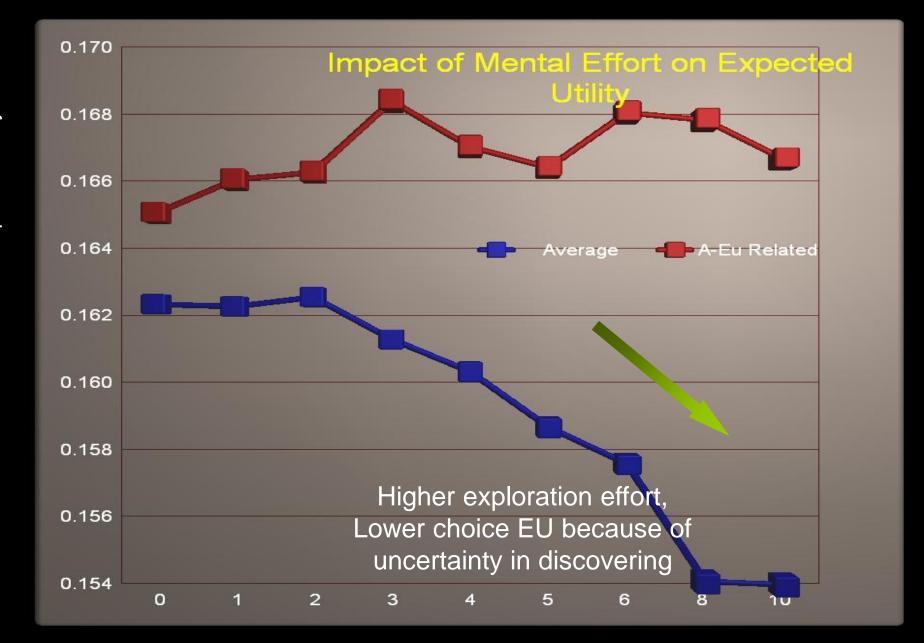


Impact of mental effort

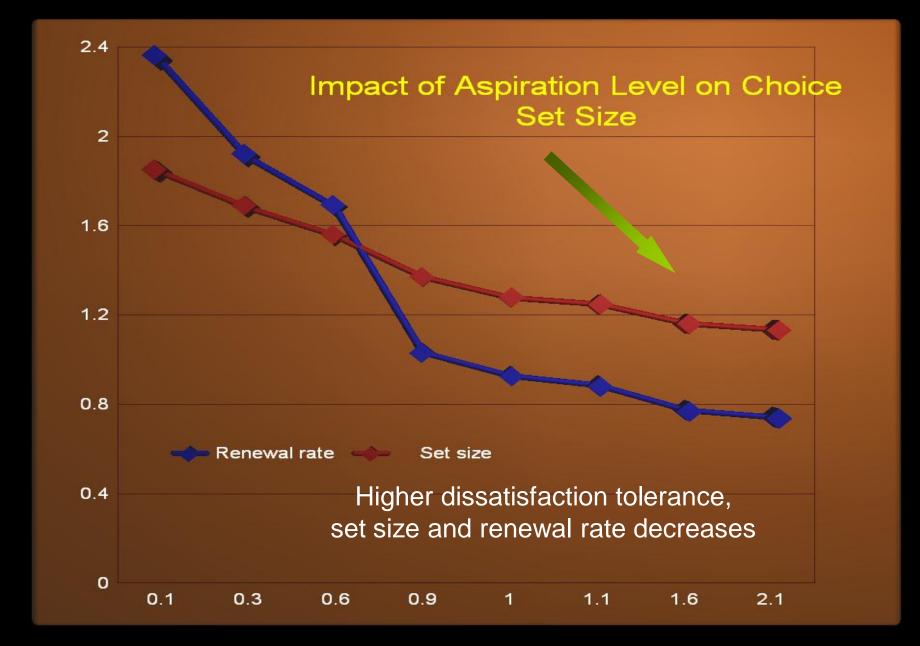


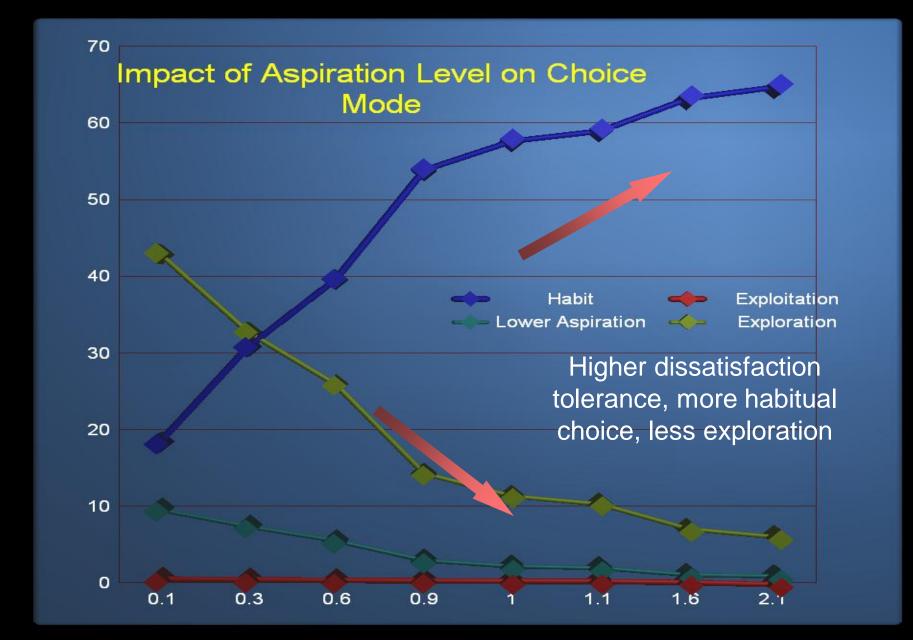


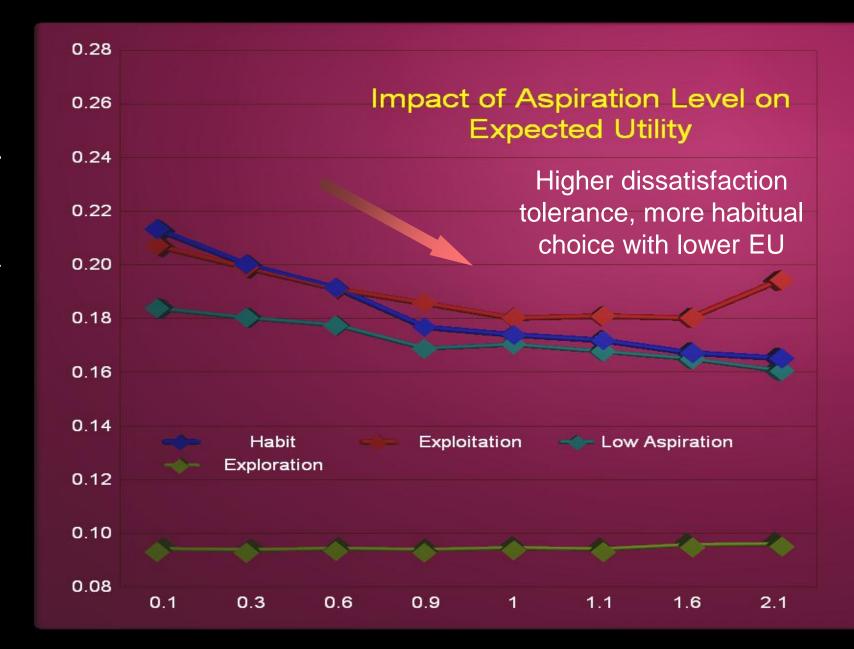


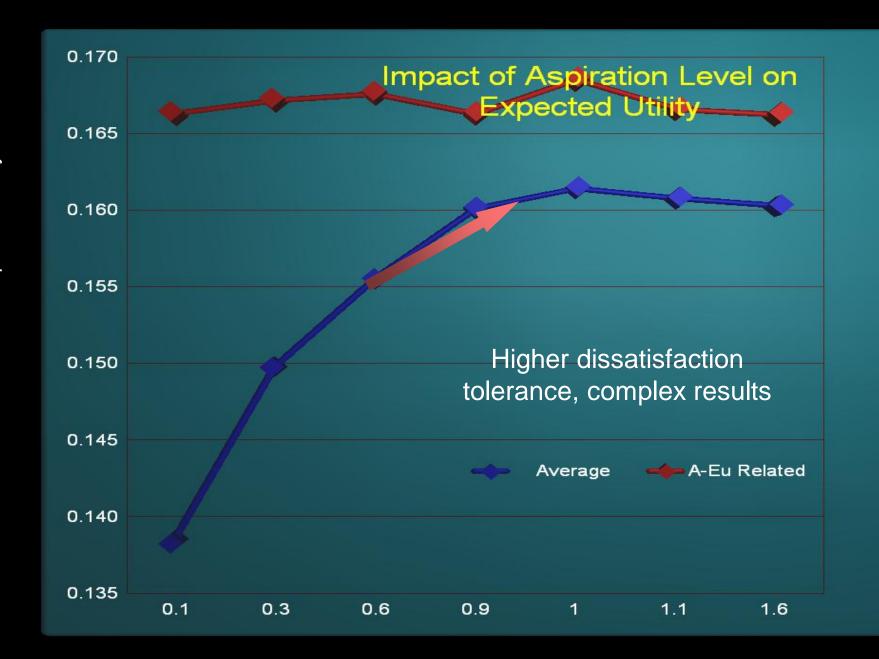


Impact of aspiration level

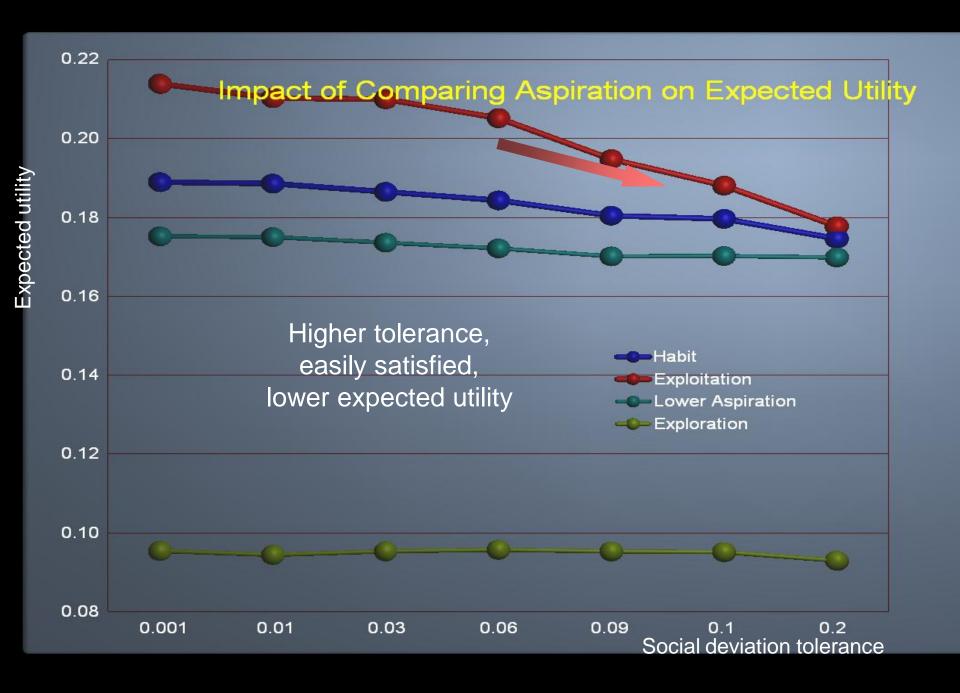


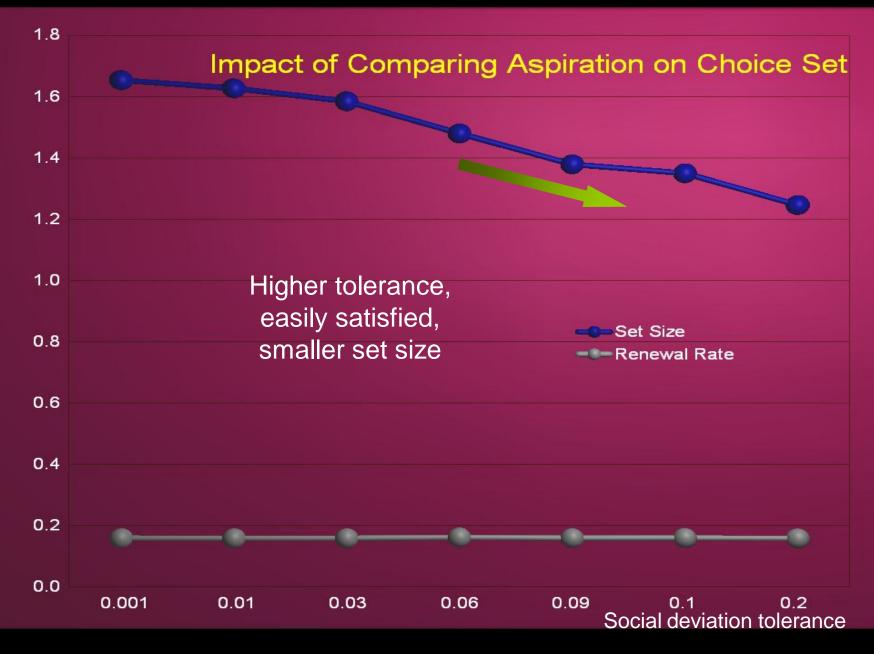


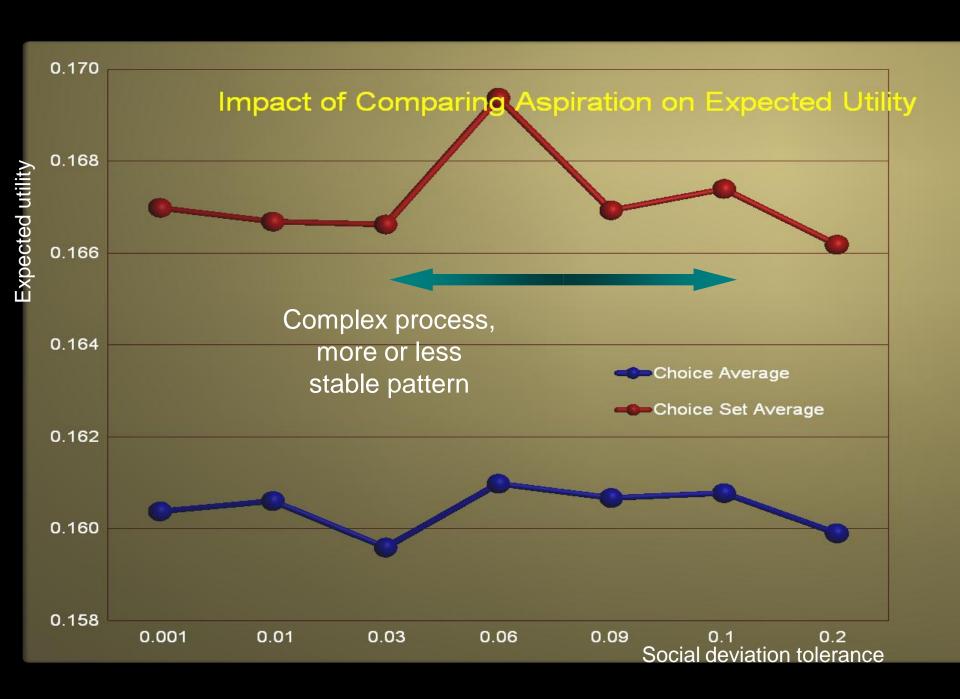




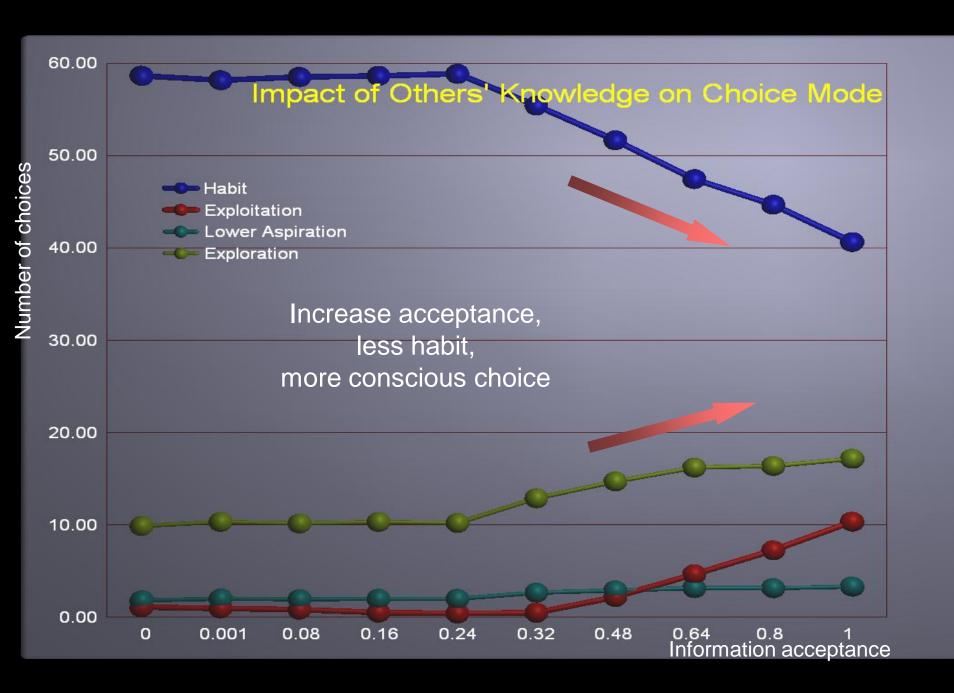
Impact of social deviation tolerance

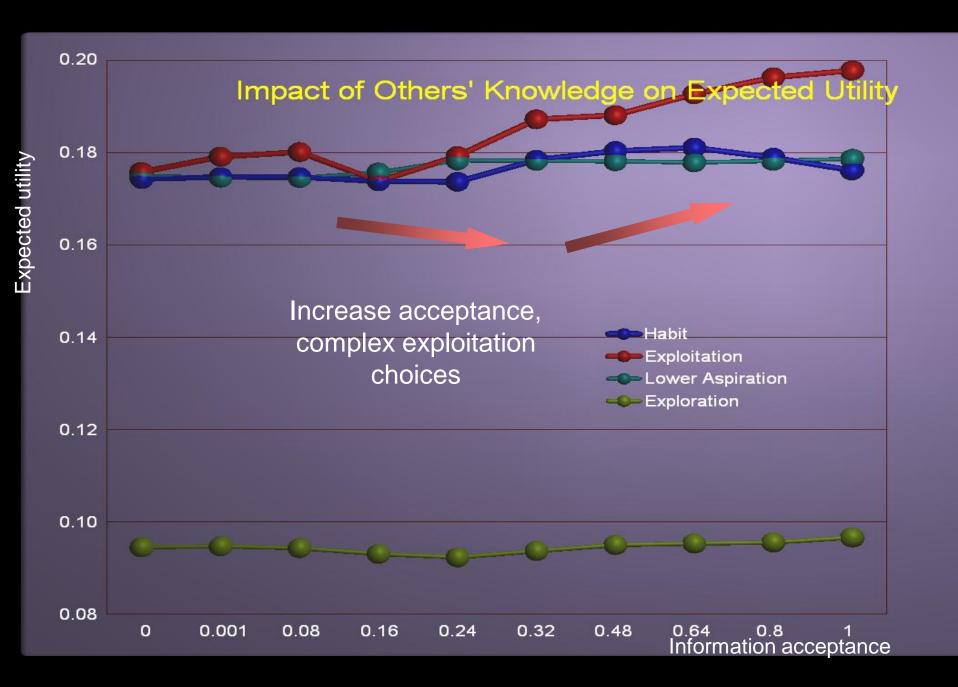


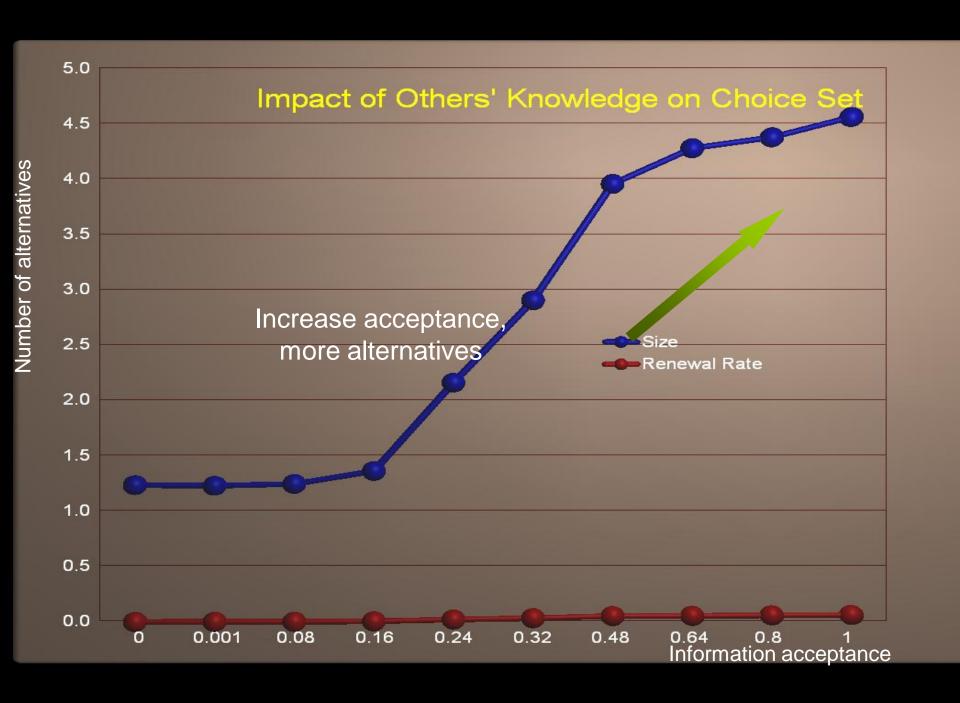


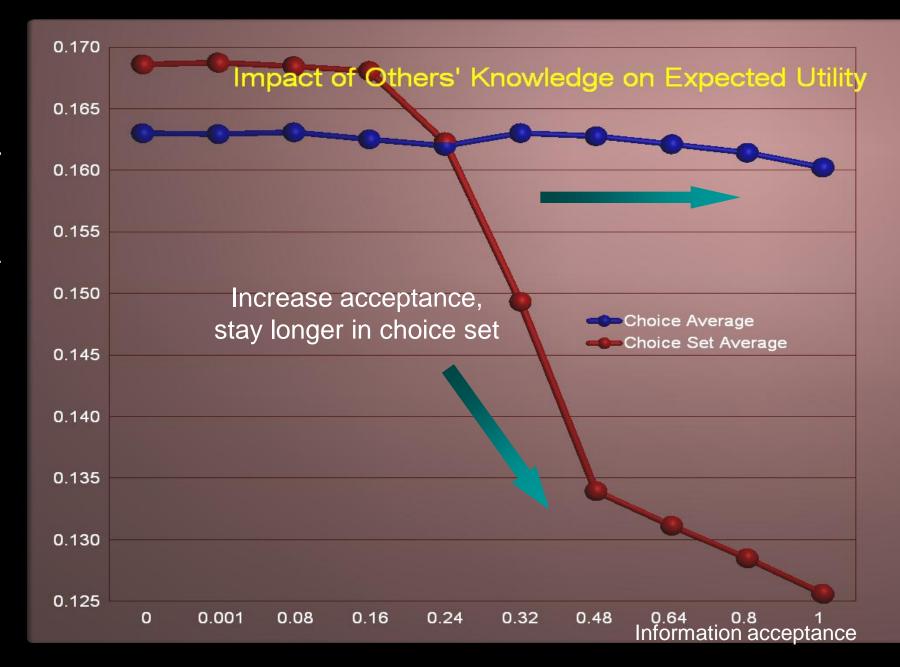


Impact of acceptance of others' information

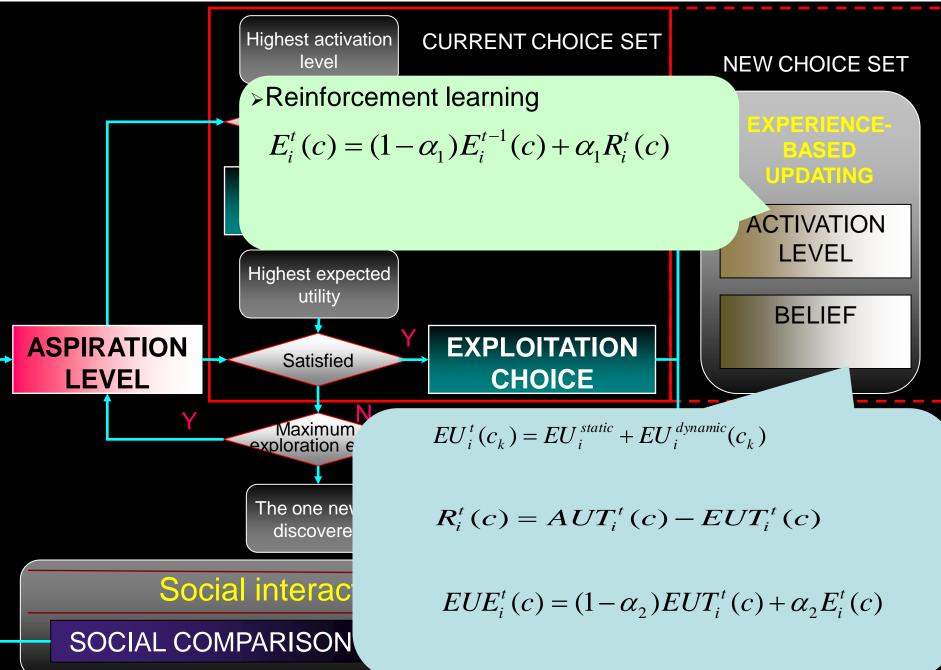


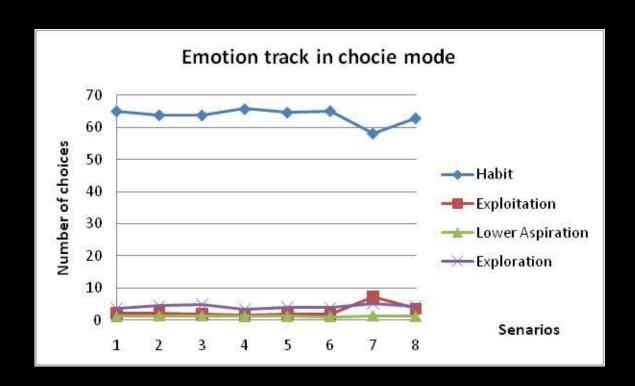




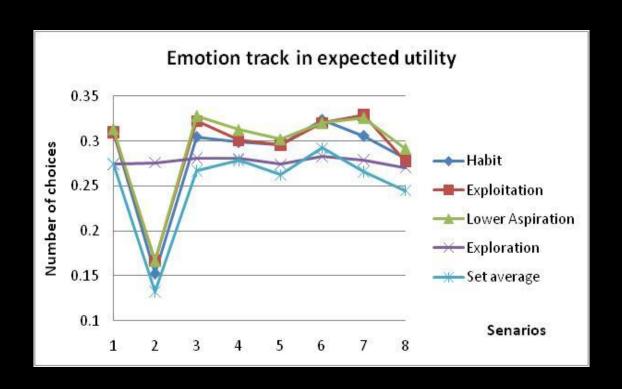


Process Model Affective Responses

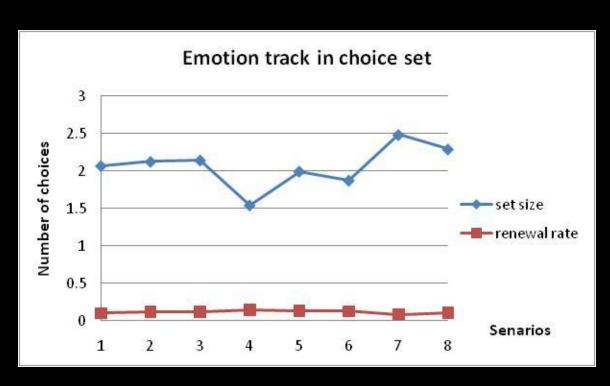




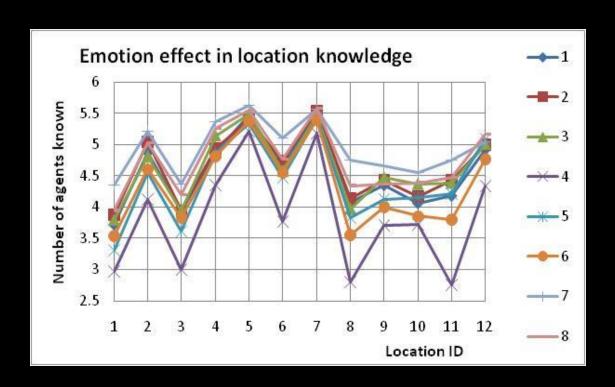
- 1. Baseline case
- 2. Emotional decision
- 3. Recent emotions
- 4. Short memory
- 5. Negative surprises
- **6.** Positive surprises
- 7. Higher fluctuate surprises
- 8. Negative mean surprises



- 1. Baseline case
- 2. Emotional decision
- 3. Recent emotions
- 4. Short memory
- 5. Negative surprises
- **6. Positive surprises**
- 7. Higher fluctuate surprises
- 8. Negative mean surprises



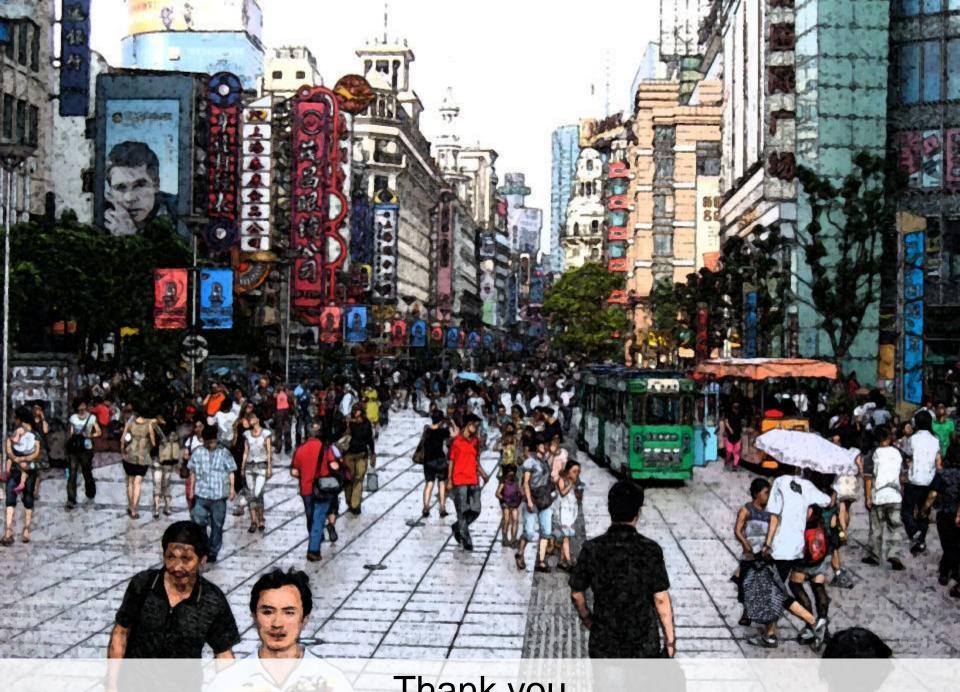
- 1. Baseline case
- 2. Emotional decision
- 3. Recent emotions
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- 5. Negative surprises
- **6. Positive surprises**
- 7. Higher fluctuate surprises
- 8. Negative mean surprises



- 1. Baseline case
- 2. Emotional decision
- 3. Recent emotions
- 4. Short memory
- 5. Negative surprises
- **6. Positive surprises**
- 7. Higher fluctuate surprises
- 8. Negative mean surprises

Conclusion and discussion

- System indicators respond in unique ways to proposed parameters
- Capable of distinguishing habitual, exploitation and exploration choices
- Competent in simulating habit formation and adaptation under uncertain environment (cognitive and affective response)



Thank you