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A comparison of generalized multinomial logit, random parameters logit, wtp-space and latent class models to studying consumers preferences for animal welfare

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- □ ANIMAL WELFARE is becoming a relevant FACTOR affecting CONSUMER PREFERENCES.
- □ Consumers are DEMANDING animals being reared AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE as they would be in their NATURAL CONDITIONS.
- ☐ Is becoming a prominent POLITICALLY SENSITIVE issue in EU
- □ Resulting in CONTINUOUS CHANGES in REGULATIONS.
- EU regulations BAN a number of INTENSIVE farming methods.







- □ PIG WELFARE is receiving SPECIAL ATTENTION.
- **BANNED** the use of **SOW STALLS** by January 2012.









- BAN PIG CASTRATION (2018), which may affect CONSUMER PREFERENCES as an ANIMAL WELFARE measure.
- However CASTRATION:
 - To AVOID the RISK of obtaining meat with BOAR TAINT
- OFF-ODOUR and FLAVOUR in meat
- Can NEGATIVELY affect CONSUMERS' ACCEPTABILITY
- NOT ALL consumers are SENSITIVE to boar taint

There is an associated **MEAT** (sensory) **QUALITY** problem















- □ ≈ 40% of total EU pigs are CASTRATED WITHOUT ANESTHESIA
- □ LEGALLY performed during the first SEVEN days after birth
- ☐ After that should only be performed under ANESTHESIA and must

include a prolonged ANALGESIA by a VETERINARIAN









- **☐** Alternatives to CASTRATION:
 - Genetic SELECTION for 'low-taint' breeds
 - Different MANAGEMENT strategies
 - Slaughter at a YOUNGER age and LOWER weight
 - MASKING boar taint with different STRATEGIES such as spices, marinades or heat treatment.
- □ We developed a MASKING STRATEGY (herbs + spices + smoking)
- **☐** FRANKFURTER SAUSAGES









1. INTRODUCTION: Objectives

- 1. CONSUMERS' EXPECTED PREFERENCE → Masking strategy.
- 2. CONSUMERS ACCEPTANCE → Eating test (Sensory evaluation)
- 3. How EXPECTATIONS are AFFECTED are affected.
- 4. To COMPARE results between different MODELLING approaches (RPL, GMNL, WTP-Space & LC).







2. METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

☐ TWO NON-HYPOTHETICAL DISCRETE CHOICE EXPERIMENTS.

☐ REAL SHOPPING SCENARIO

Consumers REWARDED by €15 to participate.







■ We attempted to MIMIC CONSUMER REACTION when facing a NEW PRODUCT in a purchase point

1. Questionnaire

2. Choice Experiment

3. Sensory test

4. Information

5. Repeat choice experiment

6. Shopping scenario

Expectation

(Shelves)

Eating

(at home)

Agreement or disagreement (repurchase)







2. METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK: Steps

- 1. First, SHORT QUESTIONNAIRE
 - ATTITUDES
 - OPINIONS
 - CONSUMPTION
 - SOCIOECONOMIC
 - LIFE-STYLE







2. METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK: Steps

- 2. Second, the first DCE exercise was applied
- Participants UNEXPECTEDLY REWARDED by an extra €5
- Select THEIR PREFERRED products from different choice sets.
- REAL MARKET is created at the END of the experiment to EXCHANGE REAL MONEY and REAL PRODUCTS.
- Consumers who agreed to participate were asked to PURCHASE one RANDOMLY selected product and to PAY its posted price







1. EXPECTATIONS ARE OBTAINED







2. METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK: Steps

- 3. Third, a HEDONIC EVALUATION test: Nine-point scale (1 'dislike extremely'; 2 'dislike very much'; 3 'dislike moderately'; 4 'dislike slightly'; 5 'neither like nor dislike'; 6 'like slightly'; 7 'like moderately'; 8 'like very much'; and 9 'like extremely').
 - CREATE EATING EXPERIENCE
 - 4 FRANKFURTER SAUSAGES
 - i. CASTRATED + ORIGINAL FLAVOUR
 - ii. CASTRATED + MASKING FLAVOUR
 - iii. NON-CASTRATED + ORIGINAL FLAVOUR
 - iv. NON-CASTRATED + MASKING FLAVOUR







2. METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK: Steps

- 4. Fourth, participants were INFORMED what they TASTED
 - Given 5 minutes to check their LIKING SCORES
 - Asked to ASSOCIATE their sensory EXPERIENCE with the SPECIFIC products and characteristics.







2. INFORMED EATING EXPERIENCE IS OBTAINED







2. METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK: Steps

- 4. Fifth, the SAME CHOICE EXPERIMENT was REPEATED
- Participants turned to RESELECT their PREFERRED PRODUCTS
 from the same choice sets.
- REVIEW the FIRST DCE→ to CONTROL for RANDOM CHANGES.
- Take into CONSIDERATION their SENSORY EXPERIENCE and considering the product the LIKE the MOST and the product the LIKE the LEAST and the products BETWEEN.







2. METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK: Steps

- 5. SIXTH, a REAL SHOPPING SCENARIO was created to exchange real product and money.
- RANDOMLY selected Choice set and product
- Consumers who accepted to participate SHOULD PURCHASE their CHOSEN product.
- PAY its posted price
- TAKE a real product
- If the "NO-PURCHASE" was selected, then NO REAL exchange was realized







3. AGREEMENT OR DESAGREEMENT WITH EXPECTATIONS IS OBTAINED







2. METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK: Sample

- 150 consumers selected from Madrid
- □ RECRUITMENT criteria
 - Regularly PURCHASE food
 - Having PURCHASED AND CONSUMED FRANKFURTER
 sausage at least ONE TIME in the last MONTH
 - Stratified by gender, age and postal code







3. EMPIRICAL APPLICATION: The DCE: Attributes and levels

- Literature and discussion groups
 - FLAVOUR: original, masking strategy
 - CASTRATION: meat from castrated or non-castrated
 - BRAND TYPE: manufacturer and private brands.
 - PRICE: €1.79, €1.39, €0.99, €0.59
- ☐ One relevant LIMITATION in NON-HYPOTHETICAL Choice

experiment is to avoid "consumers' **DECEPTION**"







3. EMPIRICAL APPLICATION: The DCE: Attributes and levels

- □ "Deception is defined as an act or statement INTENDED to make PEOPLE BELIEVE something that is NOT TRUE".
 - Were FORCED to DELIVER consumers the "EXACT" product presented in the CHOICE SETS.
 - □ Select only the ATTRIBUTES that we were able to "CONTROL" and "PRODUCE".
 - BEHAVIORAL ECONOMIC is in general STRICT about using DECEPTION in economic experiments, while other disciplines (e.g. psychology) ALLOW IT.







3. EMPIRICAL APPLICATION: The DCE: Design

- ☐ Orthogonal fractional factorial design with only 8 CHOICE SETS.
 - D-efficient 100%.
- □ Participants were also asked to perform:
 - **□ WARMING-UP** choice set
 - ☐ Final additional task: HOLD-OUT TASK.







3. EMPIRICAL APPLICATION: The DCE: Design

CHOICE SET 4



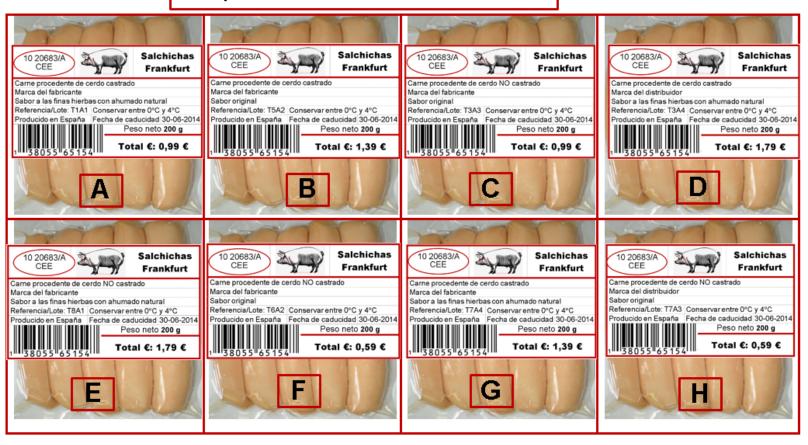






3. EMPIRICAL APPLICATION: The DCE: Design

Special choice set - The hold out task



Which product would you prefer if there were only these 8 products in their usual place of purchase?

Would you buy the product you have chosen above?

Yes

No

and







3. EMPIRICAL APPLICATION: The DCE: Real market









3. EMPIRICAL APPLICATION: The DCE: Real market

□ F(OLLOW	-UP q	_l uesti	ions								
	CERT	AINT	Y									
	COM	PLEX	ITY									
□ NON-ATTENDANCEES (yes/no)												
	RELA	PLEXITY ATTENDANCEES (yes/no) ATIVE IMPORTANCE of attributes (0-10)										
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	







The Mixed Logit Model (MIXL)

$$U_{njt} = \beta_n x_{njt} + \varepsilon_{njt} / \sigma_n$$
 $n = 1, ..., N \ j = 1, ..., J \ t = 1, ..., T$

- Extend the MNL introducing for unobserved heterogeneity
- □ Recent studies argued that much of the PREFERENCE

 HETEROGENEITY captured by random parameters in MIXL can be better captured by the scale term (SCALE HETEROGENEITY).
- ☐ The MIXL turns to be likely a POOR APPROXIMATION if scale heterogeneity is not accounted for







The Generalized Multinomial Logit Model (GMNL)

$$U_{njt} = [\sigma_n \beta + \gamma \eta_n + (1 - \gamma) \sigma_n \eta_n] X_{njt} + \varepsilon_{njt}$$

- $\ \Box\ \sigma_n$ is a SCALING FACTOR that proportionately scales the β UP or DOWN.
- lacksquare δ is a MIXING PARAMETER that determines the level of MIXING between the SCALE heterogeneity and the PARAMETER heterogeneity.







The GMNL-WTP space specification

$$U_{njt} = \sigma_n \beta_{p,n} \left(-p + \left(\frac{\beta_n'}{\beta_{p,n}}\right) X_{njt}\right) + \left[\gamma \eta_n + (1 - \gamma)\sigma_n \eta_n\right] X_{njt} + \varepsilon_{njt}$$

- ☐ GMNL model can be REPARAMETRIZED.
- ☐ Directly GIVES the individual-specific WTP ESTIMATES.
- □ BYPASSES the NECESSITY of specifying the distribution of the

RATIO of two **RANDOM** parameters.







Latent Class model (LC)

□ The LC DETERMINE the PROBABILITY of an individual to belong to the CLASSES and the class PROBABILITIES of CHOOSING one alternative CONDITIONAL on the preferences within each CLASS.

$$\Pr(\mathbf{y}_{i,j,t} = 1 | i \in C) = \frac{\exp(\beta_c'.X_{i,j,t})}{\sum_{j=1}^{J} \exp(\beta_c'.X_{i,j,t})}$$







Willingness to pay (price continuous coding

$$IP_{ ext{Product_attribute}} = -\left(rac{oldsymbol{eta}_{ ext{Product_attribute}}}{oldsymbol{eta}_{ ext{monetary_attribute}}}
ight)$$

The relative importance (Price as effect coding)

$$I_{k} = \frac{\left(\max \beta_{k} - \min \beta_{k}\right)}{\sum_{k=1}^{K} \left(\max \beta_{k} - \min \beta_{k}\right)} \Longrightarrow$$

☐ To compare with the relative importance of attributes obtained from linear scale from 0 to 10.







- **☐ HALTON** Sequence estimation in Nlogit 5
 - Authors differ in the appropriate value.
 - Train recommends SEVERAL HUNDRED
 - Bhat suggests 1,000 as an appropriate value
 - We used 500 DRAWS
- NORMAL DISTRIBUTION





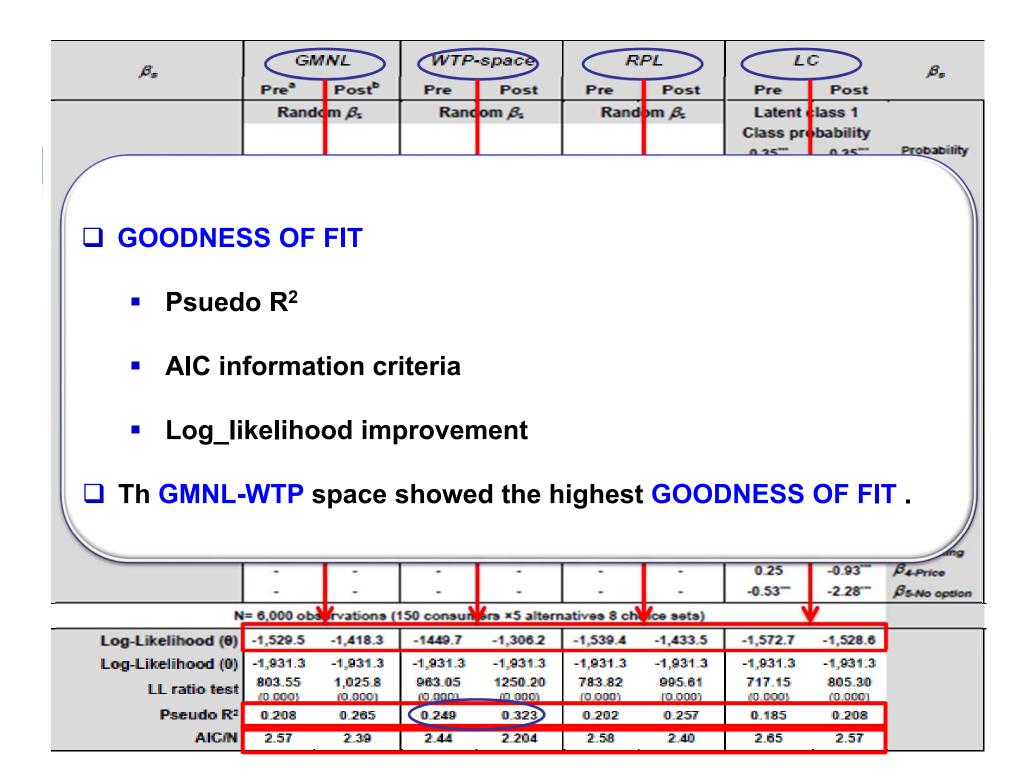


4. RESULTS: Sensory results

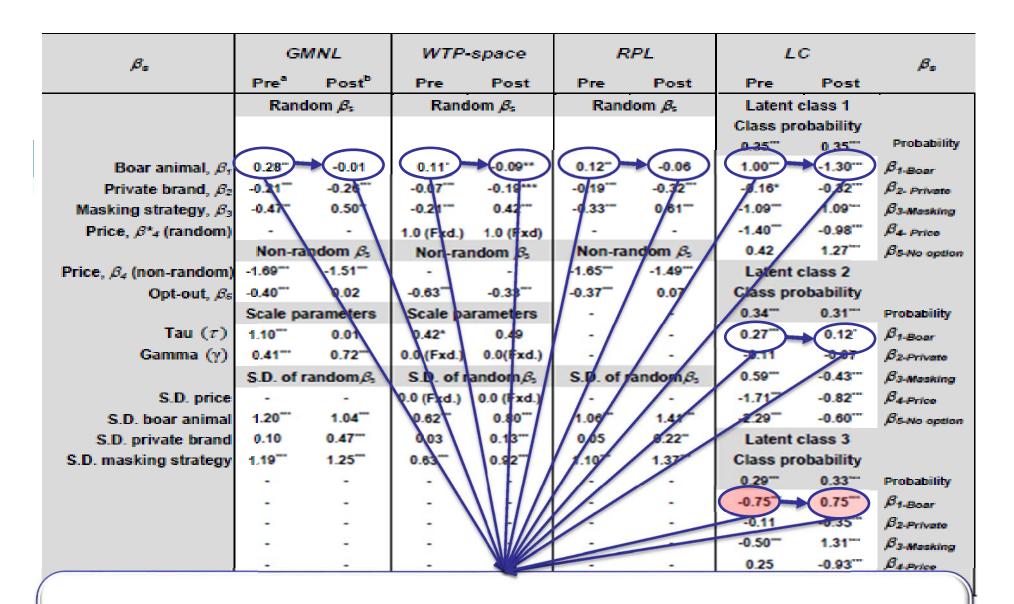
☐ Creating the Sensory Experience

Type of pork meat	Overall liking
Original sausage from non-castrated	5.46 ^c (1.61)
Sausage from non- castrated WITH MASKING STRATEGY	6.42 ^a (1.18)
Original sausage from castrated pig	5.91 ^b (1.30)
Sausage from castrated pig WITH MASKING STRATEGY	6.62a (1.29)

- ☐ The APPLIED MASKING STRATEGY had a POSITIVE EFFECT on frankfurter sausage ACCEPTANCE.
- No difference between CASTRATED or NON-CASTRATED



	GMN	L.	WTP-s	pace	RE	P <u>L</u>	LC		0
eta_{s}	Pre ^a I	Post ^b	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	eta_{s}
	Random		Rando		Rando		Latent cl		•
		-,-,		,,			Class prol		
							0.35***	0.35	Probability
Boar animal, β_{τ}	0.28"	-0.01	0.11"	-0.09**	0.12"	-0.06	1.00**	-1.30***	β _{1-Boar}
Private brand, β ₂	-0.21	-0.26***	-0.07	-0.19***	0.19**	-0.32	-0.16*	-0.32***	β _{2- Private}
Masking strategy, β ₃	-0.47	0.50-	-0.71	0.42***	-0.33***	8.61	-1.09***	1.09***	β _{3-Masking}
Price, β*₄ (random)	- \	-	1.0(Fxd.)	1.0 (Exd)	/	-	-1.40***	-0.98***	\$4 Price
	Non-rande	om β ₅	Non-rand	dom β ₂	Non-ran	dom β₅	0.42	1.27***	β _{5-No option}
Price, β ₄ (non-random)	-1.69**	1.51**	1 - /	/ ·//	-1.65***	-1.49***	Latent cl	ass 2	
Opt-out, βε	-0.40	002	-0.63	0.33***	-0.37	0.07	Class prol	pability	
	Scale parar	meters	Scale para	ameters	-	-	0.34"	0.31***	Probability
Tau (t)	1.10	0.01	0.42	0.49			0.27"	0.12"	β _{1-Boar}
		-					-0.11	-0.07	β _{2-Private}
							0.59***	-0.43***	β _{3-Masking}
(-1.71***	-0.82***	β _{4-Price}
□ BEFORE	THE	EA'	TING	EXP	ERIEN	CE, 🏻	-2.29***	-0.60***	β _{5-No option}
						·	Latent cl		
consumers	exhibi	it a	prefer	ence	for m	reat	Class prol	pability	
	07(1110)		protot	01100	.0		0.20***	0.33***	Probability
obtained fr	rom Pla	28 E	EADE) INI	NATILE	олі ІІ	-0.75	0.75	β₁-Boar
Obtained ii	OIII FI	33 N	LAIL	J III	MAIUI	VAL	-0.11	-0.35	β₂-Private
CONDITION	/: - ···		4 4	۱۱		4:41	-0.50***	1.31***	β _{3-Masking}
CONDITION	(i.e. no	on-ca	strated	ı) as a	i poter	itiai	0.25	-0.93***	β _{4-Price}
_	_		_			II.	-0.53***	-2.28***	β5-No option
preference	for a po	sitive	e pig wo	elfare.		II.			
_	-						-1,572.7	-1,528.6	
📗 🔲 Class 3 (No	n-prefe	rence)).				-1,931.3	-1,931.3	
	12.2.0.		, , -				717.15	805.30	
							(0.000) 0.185	(0.000) 0.208	
AIC/N	2.57	2.39	2.44	2.204	2.58	2.40	2.65	2.57	
Alom	AC			E.E.	200	4.40	2.00	10 to 10	



□ However, AFTER TASTING The utility of CASTRATION decrease →

ANIMAL WELFARE turns to be NON-RELEVANT.

βs	GN	INL	WTP	-space	R	PL	L	С	βs
	Pre	Post ^b	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	
	Rand	lom β₅	Ran	dom β.	Rand	lom β.	Latent	class 1	
							Class pr	obability	
							0.35***	0.35	Probability
Boar animal, β_{τ}	0.28"	-0.01	0.11	-0.09**	0.12"	-0.06	1.00***	-1.30***	β₁-Boar
Private brand, β_2	-0.21	▶ (-0.26 ^{···})	-0.07***	0.19***	-0.19**	-0.32	-0.16*	→ (-0.32 ^{····}	β _{2- Private}
Masking strategy, β_3	-0.47-	0.50	-0.21***	0.42	-0/33***	0.6/1	-1/09***	1.09***	β _{3-Masking}
Price, β*₄ (random)	-	- \	1.0 (Fxd.)	1.0 (Fxd)	-	/-	-1.40	0.98"	\$4 Price
		ndom β₂	Non-ra	ndom /3,	Non-ra	ndom β₅	0.42	1.27***	β _{5-No option}
Price, β₄ (non-random)	-1.69	-1.51	- \	-	1.65	/-1.49 /	Laterit	class 2	
Opt-out, β _s	-0.40	0.02	-0.63	-0.33***	-0.37	0.07	Class pr	obability	
	Scale pa	rameters	Scale p	arameters	- /	-/	0.34***	0.31***	Probability
Tau (t)	1.10	0.01	0.42*	0.49	/ - /	-	0.27***	0.12	β _{1-Boar}
Gamma (γ)	0.41**	0.72	0.0 (Fxd.)	0.0(Fxd.)	-/	/-/	-0.11	-0.07	β _{2-Private}
	S.D. of r	andom β₂	S.D. of	andomβ₃	S.D. of r	ndom/8	0.58	-0.43	β _{3-Masking}
S.D. price	-	-	0.0 (Fxd.)	0.0 (Fxd.)	-	-	-1.71	-0.82	\$4-Price
S.D. boar animal	1.20	1.04	0.62	0.80	1.067	1.41"	-2.29	-0.60	βs-No option
S.D. private brand	0.10	0.47***	6.03	0.13**/	0.95	0.22	Latent	class 3	
S.D. masking strategy	1.19	1.25***	0.68-	0.92**/	1/107	1.37	Class pr	obability	
	-	-	- \	\ 	1//		0.29***	0.33***	Probability
	-	-	- \	MHI	///		0.75	0.75	β _{1-Boar}
	-	-	-	\\\\\//		-	-0.11	-0.35***	β _{2-Private}
	-	-	-		-		-0.50***	1.31	β _{3-Masking}
	-	-	-			-	0.25	-0.93	B4-Price

- ☐ For the BRAND, consumers do not prefer PRIVATE brands.
- **□ NON-SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES BEFORE and AFTER eating.**

eta_{s}	GN	INL	WTP	-space	R	PL	L	С	βs
	Pre ^a	Post ^b	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	
	Rand	om β₅	Rand	lom β₅	Rand	lom β₅	Latent	class 1	
							Class pro	obability	
							0.35***	0.35***	Probability
Boar animal, β_{τ}	0.28"	-0.01	0.11"	-0.09**	0.12"	-0.06	1.00***	-1.30***	β _{1-Boar}
Private brand, β_2	-0.21	-0.26***	-0.07***	-0.19***	-0.19**	-0.32***	-0.16*	-0.32***	β _{2- Private}
Masking strategy, β_3	-0.47	0.50	(-0.21")	0.42***	-0.33***	0.61	-1.09***	1.09***	β _{3-Masking}
Price, β*₄ (random)	T	7	1.0 (Fxd.)	1.0 (Fxd)	T	\mathcal{T}	-1/40	-0.98	β _{4-Price}
	Non-rar		Non-ra	ndom /3₅		n don iβ₅	0.42	1.27***	βs-No option
Price, β ₄ (non-random)	-1.69***	-1.51**	-\	-	-1.65	-1.49***	Latent		
Opt-out, β _s		0.02	-0.63	-0.33	0.37	0.07	Class pro	_	
	Scale par	rameters	1	arameters		/ -/	0.34**	0.31***	Probability
Tau (τ)	1.10	0,01	0.42*	0.49		-	0.27	0.12	β _{1-Boar}
Gamma (γ)	0.41**	0.72	0\0 (Fxd.)	0.0(Fxd.)	- /	- /-	-0.11	-0.07	β _{2-Private}
	S.D. of ra	andom A		andorn β_2	S.D. of r	apidom 8	0.59**	-0.43***	β _{3-Masking}
S.D. price	-	- \	0.0 (Fxd.)	0.0 (Fxd.)	//		1.71	-0.82	$\beta_{4\text{-Price}}$
S.D. boar animal	1.20	1.04***	0.62	0.80	1/06"/	1.41"	-2.29	-0.60"	β _{5-No option}
S.D. private brand	0.10	0.47***	0.03	0.13***	0.08	0.22	Latent		
S.D. masking strategy	1.19***	1.25***	0.03	0.92***	1/10-/	1/37	Class pro	-	
	-	-	-//	11/	///		0.29***	0.33***	Probability
	-	-	- \	1111/	1//	-	-0.75	0.75	β _{1-Boar}
	-	-	- '	\\\ <i>\\\</i>		-	011	-0.35	β _{2-Private}
	-	-	-		-	-	-0.50	1.31***	β _{3-Masking}
	-	•	-				0.25	-0.93	B4.Price

- ☐ FLAVOUR, BEFORE eating → NEGATIVE EXPECTED PREFERENCE.
- □ However, AFTER eating their utility become POSITIVE

βs	GN	INL	WTP-	space	R	PL	L	С	βs
	Pre	Post ^b	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	
	Rand	om β₅	Rande	om βs	Rand	om β₅	Latent o	class 1	
							Class pro	obability	
							0.35***	0.35	Probability
Boar animal, β_{τ}	0.28"	-0.01	0.11"	-0.09**	0.12"	-0.06	1.00***	-1.30***	β₁-Boar
Private brand, β_2	-0.21	-0.26***	-0.07***	-0.19***	-0.19***	-0.32***	-0.16*	-0.32***	β _{2- Private}
Masking strategy, β_3	-0.47"	0.50"	-0.21***	0.42***	-0.33***	0.61***	-1.09***	1.09***	β _{3-Masking}
Price, β*₄ (random)	-	-	1.0 (Fxd.)	1.0 (Fxd)	-	-	-1.40***	-0.98***	β _{4-Price}
	Non-ra	ndom β₃	Non-ran	ıdom β₃	Non-rar	ndom <i>β</i> ₅	0.42	1.27***	β _{5-No option}
Price, β ₄ (non-random)	-1.69***	-1.51 ^{***}	-	-	-1.65	-1.49***	Latent of	class 2	
Opt-out, β _s	-0.40	0.02	-0.63	-0.33	-0.37	0.07	Class pro	bability	
	Scale pa	rameters	Scale par	rameters	-	-	0.34***	0.31***	Probability
Tau (τ)	1.10	0.01	0.42*	0.49	-	_	0.27***	0.12"	β₁-Boar
Gamma (γ)	0.41	0.72	0.0 (Fxd.)	0.0(Fxd.)	-	-	-0.11	-0.07	β _{2-Private}
	S.D. of r	andomβ₂	S.D. Ol 6	indom B	S.D. of ra	andom,β₅	0.59***	-0.43***	β _{3-Masking}

- ☐ TAU PARAMETER that captures the SCALE HETEROGENEITY
 - High and significant scale before tasting
 - Non-significant scale after tasting
- □ After the sensory experience the VARIATION OF THE DEGREE of UNCERTAINTY DECREASED significantly.

β_z	GI	MNL	WTP	-space	R	PL	L	С	βs
	Pre ^a	Post ^b	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	
	Rand	lom β₅	Rano	lom β₅	Rand	lom βs	Latent	class 1	•
							Class pr	obability	
							0.35***	0.35***	Probability

■ NEXT STEPS

- WTP comparisons
- RELATIVE IMPORTANCE comparisons with the Likert Scale
- Include NON-ATTENDANCE
- HOLD-OUT task

0.25 -0.93 β _{4-Price}	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.50***	1.31	β _{3-Masking}
	-	-	-	-	_	-	0.25	-0.93***	\$4-Price
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.53***	-2.28***	β _{5-No option}

N= 6,000 observations (150 consumers ×5 alternatives 8 choice sets)

Log-Likelihood (θ)	-1,529.5	-1,418.3	-1449.7	-1,306.2	-1,539.4	-1,433.5	-1,572.7	-1,528.6
Log-Likelihood (0)	-1,931.3	-1,931.3	-1,931.3	-1,931.3	-1,931.3	-1,931.3	-1,931.3	-1,931.3
LL ratio test	803.55 (0.000)	1,025.8 (0.000)	963.05 (0.000)	1250.20 (0.000)	783.82 (0.000)	995.61 (0.000)	717.15 (0.000)	805.30 (0.000)
Pseudo R ²	0.208	0.265	0.249	0.323	0.202	0.257	0.185	0.208
AIC/N	2.57	2.39	2.44	2.204	2.58	2.40	2.65	2.57







5. CONCLUSIONS

- ☐ The SENSORY EXPERIENCE may had impact on:
 - 1. PREFERENCE
 - Consumers would prefer MEAT QUALITY than ANIMAL WELFARE.
 - 2. SCALE PARAMETER.
 - The SENSORY EXPERIENCE DECREASED the degree of UNCERTAINTY.
 - WTP-SPACE model seems to best fit the data.







5. CONCLUSIONS

□ These results HIGHLIGHT the IMPORTANCE of the DIRECT PROMOTION and the *in situ* MARKETING TECHNIQUES of these types of product in the retail point by GIVING POTENTIAL CONSUMERS THE OPPORTUNITY to test the product.







Thank you for your attention