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# **A CONSUMER DEMAND APPROACH TO ESTIMATING THE EDUCATION QUALITY COMPONENT OF HOUSING COST**

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# A Consumer Demand Approach to Estimating the Education Quality Component of Housing Cost

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## **Abstract**

A consumer demand-based approach is proposed for estimating the shadow price of education relative to housing for households with children in state schools. This approach can be used together with or in place of a hedonic approach in countries where the location of households is not disclosed in publicly available data. An empirical illustration is provided using UK data from the family expenditure surveys.

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**Keywords:** *Consumer demand, hedonic analysis, school quality*

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# 1. Introduction

Applying hedonic analysis to estimate the capitalisation of the education quality of the local state school into house prices has been an object of a large body of literature in the US (Black, 1999; Bogart and Cromwell, 2000; Downes and Zabel, 2002; Haurin and Brasington, 2006); but not in most other countries, where the location of households is not disclosed in publicly available data.

In this paper, we propose a model developed in the context of consumer behaviour where the household's willingness to pay for education through housing can be used to estimate the relative 'shadow' price of these two commodities. This approach is motivated by the argument that families may locate in areas where spending on education and property taxes (hence, housing costs) are high enough to match their educational desires; or they may choose to pay out-of-pocket to secure high quality education for their children by enrolling them to private schools (Fack and Grenet, 2010). We exploit this argument in empirical analysis by treating the housing cost reported in family expenditure surveys by households with children in state schools as a composite commodity, which also incorporates the cost of obtaining state education above minimum quality; whereas for households with children in private schools the costs of housing and better quality education are considered separate, as reported in the data.

The proposed model does not require knowledge of household location and can be estimated from cross section data. An illustration is provided using UK family expenditure data.

## 2. Theoretical Model

We assume households derive utility from consuming  $n$  commodities according to the function

$$U = u[q_0(q_{01}, q_{02}), q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n] \quad (1)$$

where  $q_0, q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n$  are the quantities of the  $n$  commodities and  $\partial U / \partial q_i > 0$ ,  $\partial^2 U / \partial q_i^2 \leq 0$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

While all commodities in the vector  $q = (q_0, q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n)$  can be considered to be composite (food consists of meat, vegetables, milk etc), in the analysis below we assume (without loss of generality) that this holds for one commodity,  $q_0$ , consisting of two items education and housing, denoted by  $q_{01}$  and  $q_{02}$ , respectively. Furthermore, we assume separability of items in the sub-function  $q_0(q_{01}, q_{02})$ , i.e. demand for  $q_{01}$  and  $q_{02}$  is not directly affected by changes in the relative prices of  $\{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n\}$ ; there can be an indirect effect only - through a change in the consumption allocated to  $q_0$ .

By duality, maximisation of (1) subject to the budget constraint  $X = r_0 q_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n p_i q_i$  (where  $r_0$  and  $p_i$  are the prices of  $q_0$  and  $q_i$  all  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , respectively) is equivalent to minimising the cost function

$$C(p, U) = c[c_0(p_{01}, p_{02}, U), p_1, \dots, p_n, U] \quad (2)$$

where  $c_0(\cdot)$  is a homogeneous and increasing function in prices, representing the price (index) of items  $q_{01}$  and  $q_{02}$ .<sup>2</sup>

The Hicksian demand for the  $j$  item in  $q_0$  is given by

$$q_{0j} = h_j(p, U) = \left( \frac{\partial c(p, U)}{\partial p_{0j}} \right) = \left( \frac{\partial C}{\partial c_0} \right) \left( \frac{\partial c_0}{\partial p_{0j}} \right) \quad j = 1, 2 \quad (3)$$

where  $\partial C / \partial c_0 = q_0$ ; replacing  $\partial c_0 / \partial p_{0j}$  with  $(\partial \ln c_0 / \partial \ln p_{0j})(c_0 / p_{0j})$  in (3) we obtain  $\partial \ln c_0 / \partial \ln p_{0j} = \omega_{0j}$ , where  $\omega_{0j} = q_{0j} p_{0j} / q_0 r_0$  is the (Hicksian) share of item  $j$ .

We assume  $\ln c_0(\cdot)$  to have the Quadratic Logarithmic form, the most general cost function that is integrable (i.e. allows recovery of its parameters from empirical demand analysis - Lewbel, 1990),

$$\ln c_0(p_0, U) = a(p_0) + \frac{b(p_0)U}{1 - \lambda(p_0)U} \quad (4)$$

where  $a(p_0) = a_0 + \sum_{j=1}^2 a_j \ln p_{0j} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^2 \gamma_{jk} \ln p_{0k} \ln p_{0j}$ ;  $b(p_0) = \prod_{j=1}^2 p_{0j}^{\beta_j}$  and  $\lambda(p_0) = \sum_{j=1}^2 \lambda_j \ln p_{0j}$ . Moreover, the parameters  $a_j, \gamma_{jk}, \beta_{jk}$  and  $\lambda_j$  for all  $j, k = 1, 2$  obey the restrictions: (i)  $\sum_{j=1}^2 a_j = 1$ ,  $\sum_{j=1}^2 \gamma_{jk} = 0$ , and  $\sum_{j=1}^2 \beta_j = \sum_{j=1}^2 \lambda_j = 0$  for adding up,

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<sup>2</sup> The dependence of  $c_0(\cdot)$  on  $U$  implies that consumer demand for  $q_{0j}, j=1, 2$ , is non-homothetic. Also, the fact that  $c_0(\cdot)$  depends on utility defined on aggregate consumption  $q_0, q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n$  (and not on the sub-vector  $(q_{01}, q_{02})$ ) implies that this function is implicitly (and not weakly) separable. The different concepts of separability in consumer demand are discussed in Blackorby and Shorrocks (1996).

(ii)  $\sum_{k=1}^2 \gamma_{jk} = 0$  for homogeneity and (iii)  $\gamma_{ik} = \gamma_{kj}$  for symmetry. Then, the Hicksian share of item  $q_{0j}$  in the cost of the composite commodity  $q_0$  is given by

$$\omega_{0j} = a_j + \sum_{k=1}^2 \gamma_{jk} \ln p_{0k} + \beta_j V + \frac{\lambda_j}{b(p_0)} V^2 \quad (5)$$

where  $V = b(p_0)U / 1 - \lambda(p_0)U$ . Multiplying both sides of (5) by  $\sum_{j=1}^2 \ln p_{0j}$ , and using the specific functional forms of  $a(p_0)$ ,  $b(p_0)$  and  $\lambda(p_0)$  as defined above, the price index for the composite commodity can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^2 \omega_{0j} \ln p_{0j} = & \left[ .5 \sum_{j=1}^2 \sum_{k=1}^2 \gamma_{jk} \ln p_{0k} \ln p_{0j} - a_0 \right] + [a(p_0) + V] \\ & + [\ln b(p_0) - 1]V + [\lambda(p_0)/b(p_0)]V^2 \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where the RHS is obtained by adding and subtracting the terms  $(V + \alpha_0)$ . Noting that  $\ln c_0(p_0, U) = a(p_0) + V$ , (6) can be solved with respect to cost

$$\ln c_0(p_0, U) = \varepsilon + \sum_{j=1}^2 \omega_{0j} \ln p_{0j} + B(p_0)V + \Lambda(p_0)V^2 \quad (7)$$

where  $\varepsilon = a_0 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^2 \sum_{k=1}^2 \gamma_{jk} \ln p_{0k} \ln p_{0j}$ ;  $B(p_0) = 1 - \ln b(p_0)$  and  $\Lambda(p_0) = -\lambda(p_0)/b(p_0)$ .

In cross section data, while  $\omega_{0j}$  and  $\ln c_0$  vary across households,  $\ln p_{0j}$  is fixed and can be treated as a parameter. Also,  $V$  is observationally equivalent to  $U$  and can be measured by (log) total household expenditure, denoted by  $\ln x$ . Thus, using the superscript  $h$  to denote the household (7) can be estimated as

$$\ln c_0^h = \varepsilon_0 + \varepsilon_1 \omega_{01}^h + \delta_1 \ln x^h + \delta_2 (\ln x^h)^2 + e^h \quad (8)$$

where the parameters  $\varepsilon_1$  is the log price of education relative to the housing component  $(\ln p_{01} - \ln p_{02})$  of housing-and-education cost, and can be interpreted as the shadow price of education quality;  $e^h$  is a random error.

The parameters in (8), including  $\varepsilon_1$ , are conditional on all household decisions other than allocating expenditure to the composite housing-and-education commodity. So (8) can include not only good-specific but also household-specific variables determined at a previous budgeting stage, such as the quantities of commodities and variables affecting the minimum cost ( $\alpha_0$ ). To accommodate these variables in the empirical analysis we

replace  $\varepsilon_0$  in (8) with  $\zeta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^r \zeta_i z_i^h$ , where the vector  $(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_r)$  includes all the conditioning variables mentioned above.

A hedonic version of (8) can result from replacing the dependent variable  $\text{Inc}_0^h$  with the log house price and the share of education in housing-and-education cost ( $\omega_{01}^h$ ) with the notional education expenditure. The latter can be standardised and treated as an indicator of education quality, as are test score achievements, expenditure per pupil, pupil/teacher ratio and other measures treated elsewhere in the hedonic analysis literature (Downes and Zabel, 2002; Brasington, 1999).<sup>3</sup>

### 3 Empirical results

The data used in the empirical analysis are drawn from the 1994-1997 UK Family Expenditure Survey (FES)<sup>4</sup>, where information about house prices is reported. Although one does not need house prices to estimate (8), we have selected to use data containing this information to also estimate the hedonic version of the model defined in the last paragraph of the previous section. The sample consists of two-adult households with children up to 15 years of age either in state or private schools.

Estimation of (8) requires knowledge of the unobserved education component of the housing-and-education expenditure of households with children in state schools. In static demand analysis the appropriate expenditure figure for the composite housing-and-education commodity is the (observed or imputed) rental value of the property where the household lives.<sup>5</sup> The education component of the rental value of the property for households with children in state schools is computed from their notional education expenditure. The latter is estimated from the observed education expenditure of households with children in private schools using a Heckman procedure. House type, sources of income, characteristics of head (age, occupation) and number of children are

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<sup>3</sup> The notional education expenditure of households in state schools used in this paper is a household-specific indicator of education quality, unlike school and local authority specific indicators used in other studies.

<sup>4</sup> Time variation is removed using dummies, so as to maintain the interpretation of  $\varepsilon_1$  in (8) as the shadow price of education.

<sup>5</sup> For owner occupiers the imputed rent is normally available in family expenditure surveys, but not in the UK 1994-1997 data used here. We estimate the rental value of accommodation by a Heckman-type procedure using households renting their accommodation. Details are given in an Appendix (Section A1.1).

used as instruments to identify the state vs private schooling selection equation from the equation determining the level of education expenditure.<sup>6</sup>

Table 1 reports parameters of interest from the OLS estimation of the consumer demand model (8) and its hedonic version.<sup>7</sup> Both the shadow price of education in the consumer demand model and the coefficient of education expenditure (standardized for comparison with results published elsewhere in the literature) in the hedonic model are positive and significant.

- The consumer demand approach results suggest that an increase of the share of education in the housing-and-education expenditure by one percentage point is associated with 0.47 increase in the (imputed) rental value of the household's property. For example, to move from a house with the average education content of 8.3% to a house with the top decile of 17.7% a household will have to pay an extra 4.4% rental cost.
- The hedonic results show that an increase in notional education expenditure by 1 standard deviation is associated with 6.9% increase in house prices, a finding which is in line with Gibbons and Machin (2003) and Brasington and Haurin, (2006).

The insignificant interaction of households with children in private schools with the estimated share of education in the housing-and-education expenditure adds to the validity of our approach, in the sense that it verifies the principle that only households with children in state schools buy better quality education through housing.

**Table 1- Parameter estimates of the consumer demand and hedonic models**

Model	Consumer demand		Hedonic	
	Coefficient	St. error <sup>a</sup>	Coefficient	St. error <sup>a</sup>
Education component: $w_{01}^h$	0.469***	0.053	-	-
Standardised education expenditure: $y_h^*$	-	-	0.069***	0.012
Log total expenditure	0.419***	0.140	0.300***	0.024
Log total expenditure square	-0.007	0.012	-	-
Hholds with children in private schools	0.019	0.014	0.248***	0.031
$(w_{01}^h)^*$ (hholds in private schools)	0.084	0.094	-	-
$(y_h^*)^*$ (hholds in private schools)	-	-	-0.015	0.019

Notes: <sup>a</sup> Standard errors are robust to heteroskedasticity. The symbols\*\*\* denote statistical significance at 1%.

<sup>6</sup> The joint chi-squared for the extra variables is 57.93 (p=0.000).

<sup>7</sup> All the parameter estimates are given in the Appendix (Section A2).

## 4 Conclusion

Applying a Heckman estimation technique one can estimate notional demand for education by households with children in state schools, from the data of households with children in private education. This notional demand can be used in the context of consumer demand analysis to estimate the shadow price of state education relative to housing; or in the context of hedonic analysis to estimate the capitalisation of state education quality into house prices. The proposed approach can be applied to data drawn from family expenditure surveys that are publicly available in most countries and the analysis can be performed at national level, as in this paper; or at sub-national level to perform comparisons across states or regional/local authorities.

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# Appendix

## A1. Estimation of Imputed Rent and its Education Component

This section of the Appendix describes the Heckman estimation procedure applied to compute:

- (i) the imputed rent of the house of owner-occupiers from the information available in the UK Family Expenditure Surveys (FES) for households renting the property in which they live; and
- (ii) the education component of this value for households with children in state education from the information available in the FES data for households with children in private education.

### A1.1 Imputed rent

The Heckman procedure used to estimate the imputed rent for owner-occupiers consists of a house tenure selection (rent or own the occupied property) and an expenditure equation. The estimated parameters of equations are reported in Table A.1

- The equation determining the house tenure selection is defined as a function of characteristics of the house (total rooms, heating, region expenditure on council, water and sewerage tax etc), and the household (number of adults, number of children, etc) - see complete list in Table A.1.
- The equation determining the (imputed) rent expenditure of the household is specified as a function of a subset of the characteristics used in the selection equation, and a term correcting for the bias due to sample selection.<sup>8</sup>

The additional variables excluded from the rent expenditure equation and included in the house tenure selection equation for identification purposes are the income sources of the household and the age of household head.<sup>9</sup> As shown in the second last row of Table A.1, the additional variables are all significant in the tenure selection equation (joint chi-squared statistic for identification variables=538, p-value=0.000). Applying a Hausman test, using the residuals from rent expenditure equation, we find the same variables to have an F-statistic for their joint significance of 2.7 (p-value=0.03).

The imputed rent values are extrapolated from the estimated equation determining the observed rent paid by tenants, i.e. multiplying this by the probability of being a tenant. The distribution of the imputed rent is reported in Table A.2.

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<sup>8</sup> That is, the error terms from the selection and rental value equation are allowed to be correlated because the rent is only observed for households that do not own their house and, therefore, likely are to be at the lower end of rental value distribution.

<sup>9</sup> The rationale of using income source variables for identification is that these can be significant for the decision to rent or buy a house but may not be so for the rental value of the house, e.g. people with income from a permanent job are more likely to own the house in which they live but their imputed rent may not differ from that of tenants.

**Table A.1: Estimated parameters of the rent expenditure and house tenure selection equations**

Explanatory variables	Rent expenditure		Tenure selection	
	Parameter <sup>a</sup>	St.error <sup>c</sup>	Parameter <sup>a</sup>	St.error <sup>c</sup>
Log total household Expenditure	0.251***	(0.021)	0.214***	(0.035)
Region (South West) <sup>b</sup> :				
Yorkshire and Humberside	-0.108***	(0.041)	-0.251***	(0.070)
North East	-0.208***	(0.049)	-0.321***	(0.079)
Greater London	0.290***	(0.035)	-0.161**	(0.063)
North West	0.043	(0.038)	-0.174***	(0.064)
East Midlands	-0.225***	(0.040)	-0.101	(0.071)
West Midlands	-0.158***	(0.041)	-0.267***	(0.069)
East Anglia	-0.168***	(0.048)	-0.000	(0.084)
South East	0.072**	(0.032)	-0.052	(0.056)
Wales	-0.201***	(0.048)	-0.137*	(0.081)
Scotland	-0.055	(0.053)	-0.636***	(0.088)
Northern Ireland	-0.336***	(0.089)	-0.940***	(0.134)
Other Characteristics:				
Number of rooms	0.049***	(0.008)	-0.076***	(0.014)
Number of vehicles	-0.014	(0.014)	-0.136***	(0.024)
Number of workers	-0.050**	(0.023)	-0.092**	(0.043)
Number of economically active persons	0.023	(0.022)	0.010	(0.041)
Professional head	0.102***	(0.035)	0.152**	(0.060)
Number of adults	0.096***	(0.015)	0.086***	(0.031)
Number of children	0.029***	(0.011)	-0.168***	(0.016)
Council tax	0.001**	(0.000)	-0.006***	(0.000)
Council water tax	-0.000	(0.000)	-0.001	(0.001)
Heating type (other) <sup>b</sup> :				
Electricity	0.161***	(0.029)	-0.257***	(0.053)
Gas	0.142***	(0.022)	-0.417***	(0.036)
Oil	0.112*	(0.062)	-0.192**	(0.093)
House Type (other) <sup>b</sup> :				
Detached	0.073*	(0.042)	-0.316***	(0.065)
Semi-detached	0.044	(0.032)	-0.464***	(0.049)
Terraced	-0.002	(0.026)	-0.356***	(0.043)
Source of Income (other) <sup>b</sup> :				
Investment	0.046	(0.118)	-0.854***	(0.198)
Social security benefits	0.305***	(0.030)	-0.856***	(0.087)
Wages	-	-	-0.773***	(0.089)
Self-employment	-	-	-0.568***	(0.101)
Annuities	-	-	-1.204***	(0.187)
Age of head	-	-	-0.029***	(0.001)
Survey Year (1994) <sup>b</sup> :				
1995	-0.010	(0.025)	0.085**	(0.042)
1996	0.009	(0.025)	0.065	(0.042)
1997	0.014	(0.024)	0.169***	(0.042)
Intercept	2.473***	(0.106)	0.994***	(0.191)
Correlation of equation errors		-0.319 (standard error=0.085)		
LR test for equation independence: p-value		0.237 (chi-squared statistic=1.40)		
Joint chi-squared for identification variables		537.59 (p-value=0.000)		
Number of observations		1695		19191

<sup>a</sup> The symbols \*, \*\* and \*\*\* denote statistical significance at 10%, 5% and 1% respectively.

<sup>b</sup> The variable in brackets is excluded from the regression.

<sup>c</sup> The reported standard errors are robust to heteroscedasticity.

## A1.2 The education component of imputed rent

We estimate the share of education in imputed rent, again using, a Heckman procedure. The estimation results obtained for the two equations by maximum likelihood methods are shown in Tables A3.

- The equation determining the school selection, i.e. private versus state school, is defined as a function of characteristics of the house (regional location, total rooms, heating, etc), and the household (number of children, etc) - see complete list in Table A3.
- The equation determining the household expenditure on education is specified as function of a subset of characteristics that are used in the selection equation and a term correcting for the bias due to sample selection.<sup>10</sup>

The additional variables excluded from the education expenditure equation and included in the school selection equation for identification purposes are house type (detached, semi-detached, terraced), sources of income (wages, self-employment) and other variables (number of bedrooms, number of children, age of head, profession of head).

As shown in the second last row of Table A.3, several of these variables are significant in the school selection equation (joint chi-squared for identification variables=57.98, p-value=0.000). Applying a Hausman test, using the residuals from education expenditure equation, we find the same variables to have an F-statistic for their joint significance of 1.40 (p=0.18).

After the estimation of the two models predictions about the education expenditure for all households are constructed by extrapolating the education expenditure for households with children in state schools from the estimated equation obtained for households with children in private schools, and multiplying it by the probability that the children in the household attend private school.

The distribution of the education expenditure as a share of the imputed rent is reported in Table A.2.

**Table A.2: Distribution of the imputed rent and the share of education**

	Quantiles								
	1%	5%	10%	25%	50%	75%	90%	95%	99%
Imputed rent <sup>a</sup>	65.6	74.1	79.7	91.3	107.3	126.3	145.9	160.6	185.3
Share of education	0.027	0.036	0.043	0.06	0.083	0.121	0.177	0.222	0.323

Note: <sup>a</sup> Weekly imputed rent (GBP).

<sup>10</sup> Here the error terms from the education expenditure and selection equations are allowed to be correlated, since expenditure on education is observed only for households with children in private schools. These households are likely to be at the top end of the education expenditure distribution, thereby introducing dependence between the school selection and education expenditure equations.

**Table A.3: Estimated parameters of the education expenditure and school selection equations**

Explanatory variables	Education Expenditure		School selection	
	Coefficient <sup>a</sup>	St.error <sup>c</sup>	Coefficient <sup>a</sup>	St.error <sup>c</sup>
Log total household Expenditure	0.477*	(0.263)	0.632***	(0.129)
Region (South West) <sup>b</sup> :				
Yorkshire and Humberside	-0.498	(0.540)	-0.168	(0.246)
North East	-0.520	(0.542)	0.285	(0.245)
Greater London	0.130	(0.475)	0.687***	(0.210)
North West	-0.630	(0.562)	-0.115	(0.232)
East Midlands	-1.257**	(0.490)	0.091	(0.232)
West Midlands	-0.750	(0.563)	0.031	(0.243)
East Anglia	-1.321*	(0.736)	-0.453	(0.330)
South East	-0.389	(0.427)	0.224	(0.188)
Wales	-1.185	(0.731)	-0.588*	(0.347)
Scotland	-0.472	(0.493)	0.204	(0.221)
Northern Ireland	-1.503	(1.005)	-0.129	(0.387)
Other Characteristics:				
Number of rooms	0.306***	(0.064)	0.160***	(0.042)
Number of vehicles	0.168	(0.161)	0.147*	(0.076)
Number of bedrooms	-	-	0.104	(0.087)
Number of children	-	-	-0.497***	(0.071)
Age of head	-	-	-0.021**	(0.008)
Professional head	-	-	0.225*	(0.121)
Heating type (other) <sup>b</sup> :				
Electricity	-0.111	(0.861)	0.297	(0.336)
Gas	-0.186	(0.665)	0.179	(0.221)
Oil	-0.290	(0.708)	0.523**	(0.258)
House Type (other) <sup>b</sup> :				
Detached	-	-	-0.224	(0.247)
Semi-detached	-	-	-0.307	(0.247)
Terraced	-	-	-0.202	(0.249)
Source of Income (other) <sup>b</sup> :				
Wages	-	-	-0.180	(0.294)
Self-employment	-	-	-0.049	(0.307)
Survey Year (1994) <sup>b</sup> :				
1995	-0.275	(0.291)	-0.025	(0.139)
1996	-0.212	(0.291)	0.227	(0.140)
1997	-0.249	(0.278)	0.150	(0.135)
Intercept	-1.752	(2.014)	-5.339***	(0.829)
Correlation of equation errors		0.591 (standard error=0.161)		
LR test for equation independence: p-value		0.019 (chi-squared=5.50)		
Joint chi-squared for identification variables		57.98 (p-value=0.000)		
Number of observations		145		2915

<sup>a</sup> The symbols \*, \*\* and \*\*\* denote statistical significance at 10%, 5% and 1% respectively.

<sup>b</sup> The variable in the brackets is excluded from the regression.

<sup>c</sup> The reported standard errors are robust to heteroscedasticity.

## A.2 Complete results from the consumer demand and hedonic models

Explanatory variables	Consumer demand		Hedonic	
	Coefficient <sup>a</sup>	St.error <sup>c</sup>	Coefficient <sup>a</sup>	St.error <sup>c</sup>
$w_{01}^h$	0.469***	0.053	-	-
$(w_{01}^h) \times$ (hholds in priv sch.)	0.084	0.094	-	-
$y_h^*$	-	-	0.069***	0.012
$(y_h^*) \times$ (hholds in priv sch.)	-	-	-0.015	0.019
Children in private schools	0.019	0.014	0.248***	0.031
Ln total expenditure	0.419***	0.140	0.300***	0.024
Ln total expenditure sq	-0.007	0.012	-	-
Quantities of goods				
Food	-0.040***	0.008	-	-
Alcohol and tobacco	-0.073***	0.010	-	-
Clothing and footwear	-0.015***	0.005	-	-
Fuel and light	0.092**	0.036	-	-
Leisure goods	-0.007	0.013	-	-
Leisure services	-0.025***	0.007	-	-
Transport	-0.028***	0.007	-	-
Other goods	-0.019***	0.004	-	-
Other services	-0.051***	0.018	-	-
General Characteristics				
Age of head	0.005	0.003	0.041***	0.011
Age of head squared	-0.000	0.000	-0.000***	0.000
Number of children	0.025**	0.011	0.080*	0.044
Number of children squared	0.001	0.002	-0.026***	0.009
Number of vehicles	-0.016***	0.003	0.045***	0.013
Number of bedrooms	0.060***	0.004	0.154***	0.015
House Type (other) <sup>b</sup> :				
Detached	0.081***	0.012	0.422***	0.063
Semi-detached	0.040***	0.011	0.134**	0.061
Terraced	-0.015	0.011	-0.075	0.061
Region (South west) <sup>b</sup> :				
Yorkshire and Humberside	-0.081***	0.008	-0.232***	0.030
North East	-0.152***	0.009	-0.246***	0.040
Greater London	0.298***	0.008	0.390***	0.033
North West	0.083***	0.008	-0.177***	0.029
East Midlands	-0.152***	0.009	-0.116***	0.032
West Midlands	-0.112***	0.008	-0.070**	0.030
East Anglia	-0.086***	0.012	0.027	0.046
South East	0.117***	0.007	0.224***	0.024
Wales	-0.114***	0.011	-0.175***	0.050
Scotland	-0.029***	0.008	-0.207***	0.036
Northern Ireland	-0.339***	0.018	-0.447***	0.057
Survey Year (1994) <sup>b</sup> :				
1995	0.015***	0.005	-0.022	0.020
1996	0.093***	0.006	0.134***	0.020
1997	0.035***	0.005	0.088***	0.020
Intercept	2.045***	0.418	7.547***	0.243
Number of observations	2873	-	2873	-
R-Squared	0.865	-	0.609	-

<sup>a</sup>The symbols \*, \*\* and \*\*\* denote statistical significance at 10%, 5% and 1% respectively.

<sup>b</sup>The variable in the brackets is excluded from the regression.

<sup>c</sup>The reported standard errors are robust to heteroscedasticity.