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Economic Valuation Based on Surrogate Market

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What is a Surrogate Market?



- In the absence of a market, information can be drawn from related marketed goods to determine the use value of the non-marketed goods.
- Consumptive decision of marketed goods may revealed consumer's preferences for environmental non-marketed goods. Hence a surrogate market is created.



Valuation Methods based on Surrogate Market

- They are also referred to as *revealed preference methods*.
- They can assess value of a resource as well as a change in environmental quality.
- Two main approaches are: *Travel Cost Method (TCM)* and *Hedonic Price Method (HPM)*.



Travel Cost Method

Key Concepts

- TCM assesses recreational use value of resources and the environment.
- Participation in recreation activity and site visits uncover a consumer's preference over the resource.





- There are two broad approaches: *a single site model* and a *multiple site* model
- In a single site model, *total monetary value spent on each visit* and *the number of visits* can be used to construct a travel cost demand function for the recreational site.
- Theoretically, the demand function can be derived from a utility maximization problem of an individual who consume recreational activity



$$\underset{n}{Max} u(x,n,q)$$

subject to
$$M + (w \cdot T) = x + (p_n \cdot n)$$

where u() - utility function x - consumption of all other goods n - number of visits q - site quality M - non labor income w - wage rateT - total discretionary time pn - total cost of a visit

Solving the above problem yields the demand function:

$$n^*(p_n, M, q)$$



- Practically, we may estimate demand function directly as a function of trip costs and other variables that may affect the number of visits to the site.
- When linear model is employed.

$$n = \beta_0 p_n + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \dots + \beta_m x_m$$





Access Value in a Linear Single Site Model (Parsons, 2003)



- Define the site to be value
- Define the recreational use and season
- Develop a sampling strategy
- Specify the Model
- Decide on the treatment of multiple purpose trips
- Design and implement the survey
- Measure trip cost
- Estimate the model
- Calculate access value



Data Requirement

- Primary/ survey data (current situation, periodical database)
- The needed typical data are: number of trips, trip expenses, travel distance, trip duration, substitute site(s), socioeconomic data, site characteristics, etc.



Data Requirement (cont.)

Obs.	# of trips this season	Total trip costs (\$)	Annual Income (\$000)	# of children
1	3	40	5	0
2	8	89	12	3
	•	•	•	•
	•	•	•	•
	•	•	•	•
Ν	1	100	34	0



Limitation

- Only use value
- Complicated statistics
- Measurement of trip costs
- Multiple destination trips

Some Applications of the Travel Cost Method

- Land use alternatives
- Change in environmental amenities and natural resource damage assessment
- Introduction of user fees or regulation of number of visitors
- New site development





Hedonic Price Method

Key Concepts

- utilizes the property sale or rental values to determine the implicit price of the environmental amenities and disamenities.
- When an individual chooses a property, she takes into account the various characteristic of the property including the embedded environmental attributes.





• In equilibrium, the hedonic price function of property is given by:

$$p_{\rm h} = h(S, N, Q)$$

whereS – a vector of structural characteristicsN – a vector of neighborhood characteristicsQ – a vector of environmental amenities

$$\frac{\partial p_h}{\partial q_i}$$
 is the *marginal implicit price* of amenity \mathbf{q}_i





Change in property value with increasing environmental quality (Garrod and Willis, 1999)



Methodological Steps (Taylor, 2003)

- Define the value to be estimated
- Collect data on Property Value
- Choose functional form
- Address spatial dependence and correlation
- Compute Welfare Measure



Data Requirement

- Primary and Secondary data
- Specific information of the property
- Local information on neighborhood and amenities



Limitation

- Information/ awareness of consumers
- Suitable only for *ex post* policy evaluation
- Only use value
- Data complication
- Statistical difficulty

Some Applications of the Hedonic Price Method

- Role of proximity of resources
- Effects of natural disaster threats
- Introduction of property tax



Travel Cost or Hedonic Price ?

- Environmental resource to be valued
- Affected party
- Can we employ both methods or do we have to pick just one?



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Thank You!

