

# Consumer's choices and a willingness to pay for Auvergne cheeses under PDO label. An empirical analysis.

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## context

- In 2011, 970 products registered under PDO or PGI (465 PGI and 505 PDO) by the European Commission
- 45 PDO cheeses, with 5 in the former region of Auvergne
- Since 2000, Tonnage of French PDO cheeses is stable (190,000 tons, with a turnover of about 1.4 billion euros)
- Unfortunately, Auvergne PDO cheeses do not have the same stability at the French national level (Baisse des volumes commercialisés de 46 075 à 40 555 tonnes (-12%))
- Regional strategy (3 levers) [code of practise, Marketing Effort, Compulsory voluntary contribution]
- But...



## context

- Auvergne PDO cheeses face many difficulties in terms of price and volumes sold compared to PDO and no-PDO
- These difficulties, which can be qualified as the “curse of the Auvergne PDO cheeses”
- Despite these efforts the Auvergne PDO cheeses still has mitigate results
- It seems that a consumer forsakes these Auvergne PDO cheeses for other PDO or no-PDO cheeses from other regions
- What are the determinants of choice of consumption and what is the willingness to pay of consumers ?

- **Krystallis and Ness (2005)** "olive oil from Greece". Age, the education and the income
- **Scarpa and Del Giudice (2004)** "extra virgin olive oil from Italy". Appearance, price, geographical origin
- **Van der Lans, Van Ittersum et al. (2001)** "extra virgin olive oil". Price, the color and the appearance"

- Bonnet and Simioni (2001) "Camembert cheeses from France"
- Cavicchi, Bailetti et al. (2010) "Cheese Pecorino di Fossa from Italy"
- Hassan, Monier-Dilhan et al. (2011) "21 cheeses from France"
- Gracia and de-Magistris (2016). "cheese from Spain". Female, older, a university-level education

- Kantar Worldpanel (2008-2010), about 20 000 French households
- We merge data
- 58 199 acts of purchases of Auvergne PDO cheeses
- Following [Bonnet and Simioni \(2001\)](#)

## Descriptive statistics

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
price	58199	10.25	2.51	6.59	23.08
CDI	58199	0.37	0.48	0	1
CDD	58199	0.07	0.26	0	1
Without Activity	58199	0.55	0.49	0	1
Primary_Education	58199	0.09	0.29	0	1
Secondary_Education	58199	0.56	0.49	0	1
Superior_Education	58199	0.31	0.46	0	1
NoEducation	58199	0.01	0.13	0	1
Single	58199	0.21	0.40	0	1
Married	58199	0.47	0.49	0	1
Couple	58199	0.30	0.46	0	1
age	58199	56.10	14.56	15	93
income	58199	2741.75	1326.33	300	7000
gender	58199	0.91	0.28	0	1
nberind	58199	2.42	1.19	1	9
Auvergne	58199	0.09	0.29	0	1
MDD	58199	0.28	0.45	0	1
Supermarket	58199	0.31	0.46	0	1
Hypermarket	58199	0.38	0.48	0	1
Creamer	58199	0.10	0.30	0	1
Hard_discount	58199	0.19	0.39	0	1
OtherMarket	58199	0.01	0.02	0	1
Mat_Grasse	58199	56.78	7.69	45	80
sale_promo	58199	0.09	0.28	0	1

## ■ random utility model (RUM)

## ■ Mixed logit Model (MXL)

- 1 Does not take into account the Independence of Irrelevant Alternatives (IIA) assumption
- 2 Authorize a distribution of preferences among the population rather than identifying only the average preference

## ■ Nested logit Model(NL)

- 1 Does not take into account the Independence of Irrelevant Alternatives (IIA) assumption
- 2 It allow us to group the modalities into several nests



- Model 1 : Mixed logit equation

$$Choice_{Mixed} = \alpha_i + \beta_{price} Price + \beta_{nit} X + \beta_{nit} Z + \varepsilon_{nit}$$

- We deduce WTP

$$WTP^k = -\frac{\beta^k}{\beta_{price}}$$

- Model 2 : Nested logit equation

$$Choice_{Nested} = \alpha_i + \beta_{price} Price + \beta_{nit} X + \beta_{nit} Z + \varepsilon_{nit}$$

- X : income, age, nberind, CDI, CDD, gender, Single, Couple, Primary-Educ, Secondary-Educ, Superior-Educ
- Z : Supermarket, Hypermarket, Hard-Discount, Creamer, MDD, sale-promo, Mat-Grasse, Auvergne

## Mixed logit results

VARIABLES	MXL	MXL	MXL	MXL	MXL
	Cantal [1]	St Nectaire [2]	Bleu Auvergne [3]	Fourme Ambert [4]	Salers [5]
<b>Product Variables</b>					
Price	<b>-0.774***</b> (0.005)	<b>-0.909***</b> (0.008)	<b>-0.790***</b> (0.006)	<b>-0.778***</b> (0.005)	<b>-0.806***</b> (0.005)
MDD (mean)	<b>0.370***</b> (0.136)	<b>-0.380*</b> (0.199)	<b>0.750***</b> (0.126)	0.063 (0.127)	-16.601 (763.854)
MDD (SD)	0.002 (0.128)	0.058 (0.228)	0.001 (0.123)	0.001 (0.109)	0.635 (663.137)
Supermarket (mean)	-0.014 (0.207)	<b>-2.623***</b> (0.234)	<b>0.565**</b> (0.235)	<b>0.589**</b> (0.238)	<b>-2.741***</b> (0.461)
Supermarket (SD)	0.191 (0.107)	0.160 (0.188)	0.001 (0.094)	0.138 (0.089)	0.031 (0.269)
Hypermarket (mean)	0.015 (0.204)	<b>-2.116***</b> (0.228)	0.245 (0.235)	<b>0.409*</b> (0.237)	<b>-1.965***</b> (0.458)
Hypermarket (SD)	0.056 (0.114)	<b>0.647***</b> (0.158)	0.005 (0.133)	0.001 (0.130)	0.014 (0.252)
Creamer (mean)	-0.132 (0.214)	<b>-1.227***</b> (0.227)	0.092 (0.244)	0.151 (0.248)	-0.113 (0.452)
Creamer (SD)	<b>0.779***</b> (0.129)	<b>1.109***</b> (0.212)	0.228 (0.214)	0.304 (0.265)	<b>0.644**</b> (0.268)
Mat_Grasse (mean)	<b>-0.146***</b> (0.006)	<b>0.065***</b> (0.006)	<b>0.106***</b> (0.004)	<b>0.123***</b> (0.006)	<b>-0.459***</b> (0.028)
Mat_Grasse (SD)	0.001 (0.001)	0.012*** (0.001)	0.001 (0.001)	0.001 (0.001)	0.008*** (0.002)
sale_promo (mean)	<b>1.851***</b> (0.222)	-16.841 (425.036)	<b>0.396**</b> (0.187)	<b>-0.964***</b> (0.188)	-15.084 (1027.795)
sale_promo (SD)	0.060 (0.175)	0.032 (523.169)	0.034 (0.185)	0.014 (0.146)	0.465 (989.951)
Auvergne (mean)	<b>-0.686***</b> (0.124)	<b>1.544***</b> (0.165)	-0.123 (0.131)	<b>-0.537***</b> (0.130)	0.202 (0.342)
Auvergne (SD)	0.061	<b>0.425***</b>	0.045	0.167	0.041

Mixed logit results (*continued*)

	MXL	MXL	MXL	MXL	MXL
VARIABLES	Cantal	St Nectaire	Bleu Auvergne	Fourme Ambert	Salers
	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
<b>Household Variables</b>					
CDI (mean)	0.060 (0.108)	-0.305 (0.195)	0.113 (0.126)	-0.174 (0.128)	-0.110 (0.284)
CDI (SD)	0.052 (0.100)	0.075 (0.208)	0.050 (0.151)	0.114 (0.133)	0.034 (0.241)
CDD (mean)	-0.090 (0.179)	-0.491 (0.286)	0.250 (0.205)	-0.031 (0.207)	0.484 (0.446)
CDD (SD)	0.052 (0.222)	0.127 (0.769)	0.331 (0.206)	0.036 (0.253)	0.143 (0.550)
Primary_Educ (mean)	0.122 (0.271)	<b>-1.061**</b> (0.532)	0.531 (0.339)	<b>-0.087</b> (0.322)	1.383 (0.984)
Primary_Educ (SD)	0.030 (0.193)	0.343 (0.307)	0.438*** (0.162)	0.096 (0.217)	0.448 (0.470)
Secondary_Educ (mean)	0.101 (0.242)	<b>-1.231***</b> (0.518)	0.354 (0.307)	0.129 (0.291)	0.190 (0.629)
Secondary_Educ (SD)	0.050 (0.093)	0.148 (0.191)	0.018 (0.145)	0.005 (0.102)	0.079 (0.195)
Superior_Educ (mean)	-0.114 (0.255)	<b>-1.014**</b> (0.490)	-0.401 (0.320)	-0.051 (0.306)	-0.377 (0.651)
Superior_Educ (SD)	0.039 (0.120)	0.214 (0.248)	0.111 (0.131)	0.007 (0.135)	0.170 (0.280)
Couple (mean)	0.080 (0.169)	-0.142 (0.261)	0.133 (0.189)	-0.082 (0.189)	-0.067 (0.444)
Couple (SD)	0.010 (0.114)	0.049 (0.156)	0.045 (0.120)	0.032 (0.120)	0.050 (0.271)
Single (mean)	-0.087 (0.268)	-0.365 (0.517)	0.201 (0.279)	-0.153 (0.298)	0.414 (0.644)
Single (SD)	0.024 (0.157)	0.124 (0.241)	0.022 (0.144)	0.009 (0.153)	0.111 (0.333)

Mixed logit results (*continued*)

	MXL	MXL	MXL	MXL	MXL
VARIABLES	Cantal	St Nectaire	Bleu Auvergne	Fourme Ambert	Salers
	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
<b>Household Variables</b>					
Gender (mean)	0.023 (0.191)	-0.166 (0.173)	0.114 (0.211)	-0.047 (0.217)	1.53 (0.366)
Gender (SD)	0.208 (0.087)	0.133 (0.126)	0.025 (0.103)	0.075 (0.095)	0.027 (0.207)
Lincome (mean)	<b>-0.260**</b> <b>(0.101)</b>	0.048 (0.154)	-0.049 (0.112)	-0.018 (0.111)	<b>0.484*</b> <b>(0.278)</b>
Lincome (SD)	0.001 (0.009)	0.097*** (0.015)	0.007 (0.010)	0.010 (0.009)	0.016 (0.021)
Age (mean)	-0.001 (0.004)	-0.008 (0.006)	-0.004 (0.004)	<b>-0.008*</b> <b>(0.004)</b>	<b>0.019*</b> <b>(0.117)</b>
Age (SD)	0.002* (0.001)	0.008*** (0.002)	0.001 (0.001)	0.001 (0.001)	0.003 (0.003)
Nberind (mean)	<b>0.154**</b> <b>(0.071)</b>	<b>-0.206**</b> <b>(0.105)</b>	0.049 (0.075)	-0.050 (0.084)	0.202 (0.342)
Nberind (SD)	0.020 (0.038)	0.045 (0.046)	0.013 (0.032)	0.003 (0.033)	0.041 (0.215)
Constant	11.425*** (1.050)	2.305*** (1.862)	8.277*** (2.795)	6.634*** (2.260)	22.222*** (2.775)
Observations	324035	324035	324035	324035	324035
Log likelihood	-7250.26***	-5373.46***	-5887.80**	-7666.15**	-8090.19**
Robust standard errors in parentheses					
*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1					

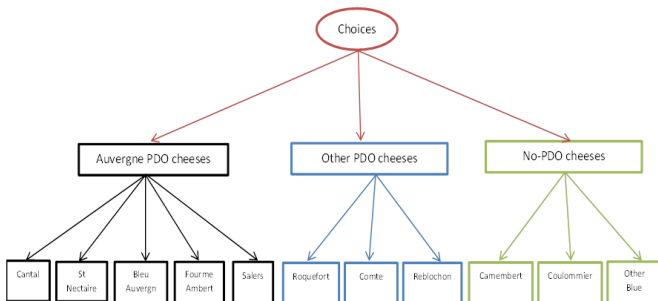
# Willingness to Pay

Variables	Cantal in €/kg	St Nectaire in €/kg	Bleu Auvergne in €/kg	Fourme Ambert in €/kg	Salers in €/kg
MDD	<b>-0.268*</b>	<b>0.993*</b>	<b>0.229*</b>	<b>0.525*</b>	-0.848
Supermarket	-0.112	<b>-1.561*</b>	<b>0.810*</b>	<b>0.741*</b>	<b>-3.261*</b>
Hypermarket	-0.041	<b>-1.442*</b>	<b>0.513*</b>	<b>0.588*</b>	<b>-1.904*</b>
Creamer	-0.119	<b>-0.574*</b>	0.110	-0.908	0.011
Mat_Grasse	<b>-0.175*</b>	<b>0.143*</b>	<b>0.127*</b>	<b>0.140*</b>	<b>-0.580*</b>
sale_promo	<b>2.341*</b>	1.971	<b>0.696*</b>	<b>0.879*</b>	-1.344
Auvergne	<b>0.783*</b>	<b>1.892*</b>	<b>0.642*</b>	<b>0.586*</b>	<b>0.914*</b>
Total	<b>+2.681 €/kg</b>	<b>-0.549 €/kg</b>	<b>+3.01 €/kg</b>	<b>+3.459 €/kg</b>	<b>-4.831 €/kg</b>

# Comparaison

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Average PRICE in €/kg</b>	<b>Average WTP in €/kg</b>	<b>Expected average PRICE in €/kg</b>
CANTAL	<b>9.627</b>	<b>+2.681</b>	<b>12.308</b>
SAINT NECTAIRE	<b>12.235</b>	<b>-0.549</b>	<b>11.686</b>
BLEU AUVERGNE	<b>9.009</b>	<b>+3.01</b>	<b>12.019</b>
FOURME AMBERT	<b>9.435</b>	<b>+3.459</b>	<b>12.894</b>
SALERS	<b>17.423</b>	<b>-4.831</b>	<b>12.592</b>

## Nesting structure for the choice of cheese (1 743 896 observations)



## Nested logit results

VARIABLES	NL	
	PDO Auvergne Cheese	Other PDO cheese
	[1]	[2]
<b>Product Variables</b>		
Price ( <i>fixed</i> )	-2.020*** (0.057)	-2.020*** (0.057)
Supermarket	-6.632*** (1.325)	4.548*** (1.544)
Hypermarket	-7.506*** (1.320)	4.832*** (1.548)
Creamer	-4.146*** (1.367)	4.595*** (1.621)
Hard_discount	-8.218*** (1.345)	2.660* (1.584)
MDD	-1.310*** (0.284)	0.727*** (0.184)
Sale_promo	-4.022*** (0.327)	-0.207*** (0.197)
Mat_Grasse	0.204*** (0.015)	-0.022 (0.010)
Auvergne	3.322*** (0.533)	0.651 (0.623)



Nested logit results (*continued*)

VARIABLES	NL	
	PDO Auvergne Cheese [1]	Other PDO cheese [2]
<b>Households Variables</b>		
CDI	-0.378 (0.290)	<b>0.543***</b> <b>(0.210)</b>
CDD	0.473 (0.467)	<b>-0.589*</b> <b>(0.349)</b>
Couple	0.175 (0.389)	-0.383 (0.282)
Single	0.140 (0.563)	0.028 (0.453)
Gender	0.302 (0.452)	<b>0.928**</b> <b>(0.387)</b>
Income	<b>-0.376**</b> <b>(0.194)</b>	0.277 (0.179)
age	-0.003 (0.010)	<b>-0.031***</b> <b>(0.008)</b>
Nberind	<b>-0.288**</b> <b>(0.145)</b>	-0.122 (0.107)
Observations	1,743,896	
Log likelihood	-3851.50***	
Likelihood Ratio Statistic	1458.02***	
Number of cases	158,536	
Number of Alternatives	11	
Wald test	1344.51***	
	rPDO_Auvergne	2.475
rOther_PDO		2.410
rNO_PDO		1.320
Utility (PDO Auvergne)		0.404
Utility (PDO Other PDO)		0.414
Utility (no-PDO)		0.757
Robust standard errors in parentheses		
*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1		