

# Estimation of Risk Aversion Parameters: Analyzing Ultimatum Game Data

## 估計風險偏好: 分析最後通牒談判實驗結果

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EE-BGT, Lecture 3b (Experimetrics Module 3b)

# Ultimatum Game Data

- ▶ 200 subjects splitting a pie of \$100
  - ▶ Play ultimatum game twice with different opponents
  - ▶ Be Proposer and Respondent each once
- ▶ Simulated Experiment Data: `ug_sim.dta`
  - ▶ Proposer  $i$  Offer:  $y$
  - ▶ Respondent  $j$  Reaction:  $d$  (=1 if Accept; =0 if Reject)
  - ▶ `male_i`: Gender dummy for Proposer  $i$  to be male
  - ▶ `male_j`: Gender dummy for Respondent  $j$  to be male

# Respondents Accept or Reje

▶ **STATA:** `tab d`

d	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
0	51	25.50	25.50
1	149	74.50	100.00
Total	200	100.00	

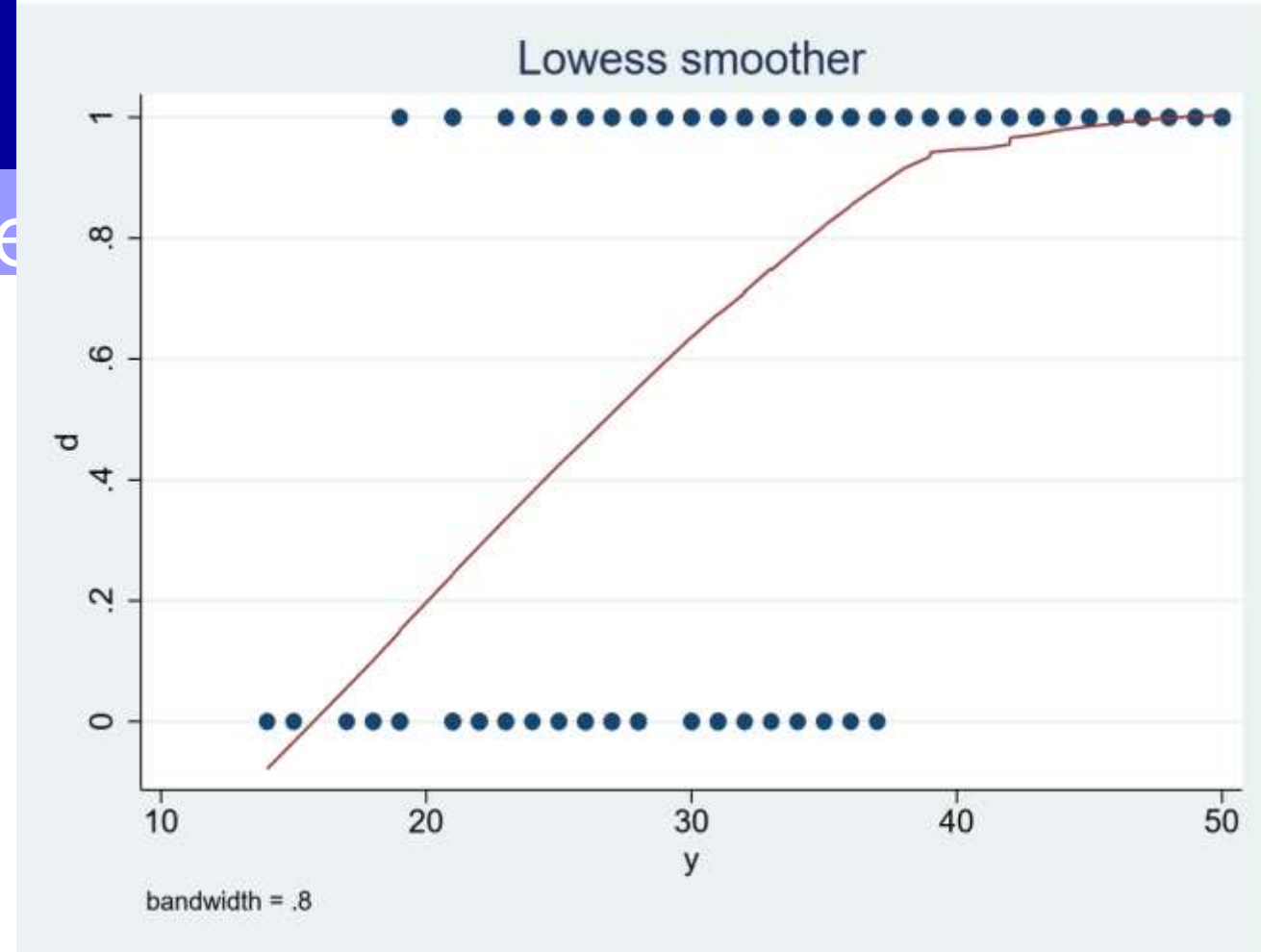
▶ Plot acceptance function:

▶ **STATA:** `lowess d y`

▶ Locally Weighted Scatter-plot Smoother (non-parametric)

▶ Mean value of  $d$  conditional on different values of  $y$

▶ Want to jitter? Try: `lowess d y jitter(5) msize(3)`



# Probit Model for Choosing Accept

- ▶ Model this as **Probit**:  $\Pr(d = 1|y) = \Phi(\beta_0 + \beta_1 y)$

where  $\Phi(z) = \Pr(Z < z) = \int_{-\infty}^z \phi(z) dz$  is standard Normal cdf

- ▶ This is because:

- ▶ **Propensity to accept**:  $d^* = \beta_0 + \beta_1 y + \epsilon$ ,  $\epsilon \sim N(0, 1)$

- ▶ Accept if great than 0:  $d = 1 \Leftrightarrow d^* = \beta_0 + \beta_1 y + \epsilon > 0$   
 $\Leftrightarrow \epsilon > -\beta_0 - \beta_1 y$

- ▶ So,  $\Pr(d = 1) = \Pr(\epsilon > -\beta_0 - \beta_1 y) = \Phi(\beta_0 + \beta_1 y)$

# Probit Model for Choosing Accept

▶ STATA

probit d y

Results:

```
Iteration 0: log likelihood = -113.55237
Iteration 1: log likelihood = -70.230335
Iteration 2: log likelihood = -66.806698
Iteration 3: log likelihood = -66.738058
Iteration 4: log likelihood = -66.738049
Iteration 5: log likelihood = -66.738049
```

Predicted  
Probability

$$\Pr(d = 1 | y) = \Phi(-3.855 + 0.144y)$$

Probit regression

```
Number of obs   =      200
LR chi2(1)      =      93.63
Prob > chi2     =      0.0000
Pseudo R2      =      0.4123
```

d	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
y	.1439157	.0212804	6.76	0.000	.1022069	.1856244
_cons	-3.855266	.631443	-6.11	0.000	-5.092872	-2.617661

# Predict Minimum Acceptable Offer (MAO)

- ▶ With Propensity to Accept  $d^* = \beta_0 + \beta_1 y + \epsilon$
- ▶ Can Calculate **Minimum Acceptable Offer (MAO)**:
- ▶ Indifferent Between Accept/Reject if  $\hat{d}^* = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 y = 0$
- ▶ So,  $y^{MAO} = -\frac{\hat{\beta}_1}{\hat{\beta}_0} = -\frac{3.855}{0.144} = \underline{\underline{26.79}}$
- ▶ STATA: `nlcom MAO: -_b[_cons]/_b[y]`

Accept if > 26.8!

- ▶ Get s.e./CI via Delta Method

MAO: <code>-_b[_cons]/_b[y]</code>						
d	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
MAO	26.78837	.9268278	28.90	0.000	24.97182	28.60492

# Strategy Method vs. Direct Response

- ▶ In addition to ask Proposer to make offer  $y$
- ▶ Solnick (2001) and others ask responders to state
  - ▶ MAO (Minimum Acceptable Offer)  $y^{MAO}$
- ▶ Then play out the decision:
  - ▶ Accept if  $y \geq y^{MAO}$
  - ▶ Reject if  $y < y^{MAO}$
- ▶ Is stating your true MAO **incentive compatible**? Yes!
  - ▶ MAO = entire **strategy** (more informative than “Accept 50”)

# Ultimatum Game Data: Strategy Method

- ▶ 200 subjects splitting a pie of 100
  - ▶ Play ultimatum game twice with different opponents
  - ▶ Be Proposer and Respondent each once
- ▶ Simulated **Strategy Method** Data: `ug_sm_sim.dta`
  - ▶ Proposer  $i$  Offer:  $y$
  - ▶ Respondent  $j$  **MAO**:  $y^{MAO}$
  - ▶ `male_i`: Gender dummy for Proposer  $i$  to be male
  - ▶ `male_j`: Gender dummy for Respondent  $j$  to be male
  - ▶ **Outcome**:  $d$  ( $=1$  if  $y \geq y^{MAO}$ ;  $= 0$  if  $y < y^{MAO}$ )



# Confidence Interval of MAO

- ▶ 95% Confidence Interval in STATA: `ci means MAO (ci MAO)`

▶ STATA  
Results:

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Err.	[95% Conf. Interval]
MAO	200	31.375	.6666664	30.06036 32.68964

- ▶ Narrower than direct response: (24.97, 28.60)

▶ But 5 units higher (31.4 vs. 26.8), to:

- ▶ Signal Toughness (Eckel and Grossman, 2001)
- ▶ Hypothetical (Cold)

▶ So more rejections: `tab d`

d	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
0	87	43.50	43.50
1	113	56.50	100.00
Total	200	100.00	

# Test of Gender Effects

- ▶ Gender as a treatment in Ultimatum game: `ug_sim.dta`
- ▶ Conduct regression analysis

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{male}_i + \beta_2 \text{male}_j + \beta_3 \text{m\_to\_f} + \epsilon_i$$

- ▶ **STATA:** `regress y male_i male_j m_to_f`

- ▶ With dummies:

- ▶ `male_i`: Gender dummy for Proposer  $i$  to be male

- ▶ `male_j`: Gender dummy for Respondent  $j$  to be male

- ▶ `m_to_f`: Dummy for male proposing to female responder

- `gen m_to_f=male_i*(1-male_j)`

# Test of Gender Effects

▶ STATA `regress y male_i male_j m_to_f`

Results:

Source	SS	df	MS			
Model	976.185392	3	325.395131	Number of obs = 200		
Residual	18901.4946	196	96.436197	F( 3, 196) = 3.37		
Total	19877.68	199	99.8878392	Prob > F = 0.0195		
				R-squared = 0.0491		
				Adj R-squared = 0.0346		
				Root MSE = 9.8202		
r	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
male_i	-4.519608	1.885099	-2.40	0.017	-8.23729	-.8019261
male_j	3.744608	2.074081	1.81	0.073	-.3457722	7.834988
m_to_f	2.381863	2.80275	0.85	0.396	-3.145557	7.909282
_cons	35.275	1.552709	22.72	0.000	32.21284	38.33716

Male offer \$4.52 less ( $z = -2.40$ )

Offer male \$3.74 more ( $z = -1.81$ )

Male offer female \$2.38 more ( $z = 0.85$ )

▶ Chivalry Effect: Eckel and Grossman (2001)

# Do Male Responders Reject Offers More Often?

▶ STATA

Results:

Male reject same offer more than female ( $z = -2.24$ )

```
probit d y male_j
```

```
Iteration 0: log likelihood = -113.55237
Iteration 1: log likelihood = -68.373743
Iteration 2: log likelihood = -64.187937
Iteration 3: log likelihood = -64.116934
Iteration 4: log likelihood = -64.116904
Iteration 5: log likelihood = -64.116904
```

Probit regression

Log likelihood = -64.116904

Offer how much more for same acceptance rate? 0.598/0.157!!

```
Number of obs   =      200
LR chi2(2)      =      98.87
Prob > chi2     =      0.0000
Pseudo R2      =      0.4354
```

r	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
y	.1567836	.0231961	6.76	0.000	.11132 .2022472
male_j	-.5976406	.2668131	-2.24	0.025	-1.120585 -.0746966
_cons	-3.933341	.6589175	-5.97	0.000	-5.224796 -2.641886

# Offer How Much More For Same Acceptance Rate?

▶ STATA `nlcom more_to_male: -_b[male_j]/_b[y]`

Results:

more_to_male: -_b[male_j]/_b[y]						
r	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
+						
more_to_male	3.811882	1.612015	2.36	0.018	.6523915	6.971373

- ▶ 95% Confidence Interval is very wide
- ▶  $0.598/0.157 = \$3.81$  is very close to  $\hat{\beta}_2 = \$3.74$
- ▶ Estimated coefficient of `male_j`
- ▶ Proposers rationally react to tough male responders
- ▶ By proposing \$3.74 more (compared to female responders)

# Recall: Probit Model for Choosing Accept

▶ STATA

```
probit d y
```

Results:

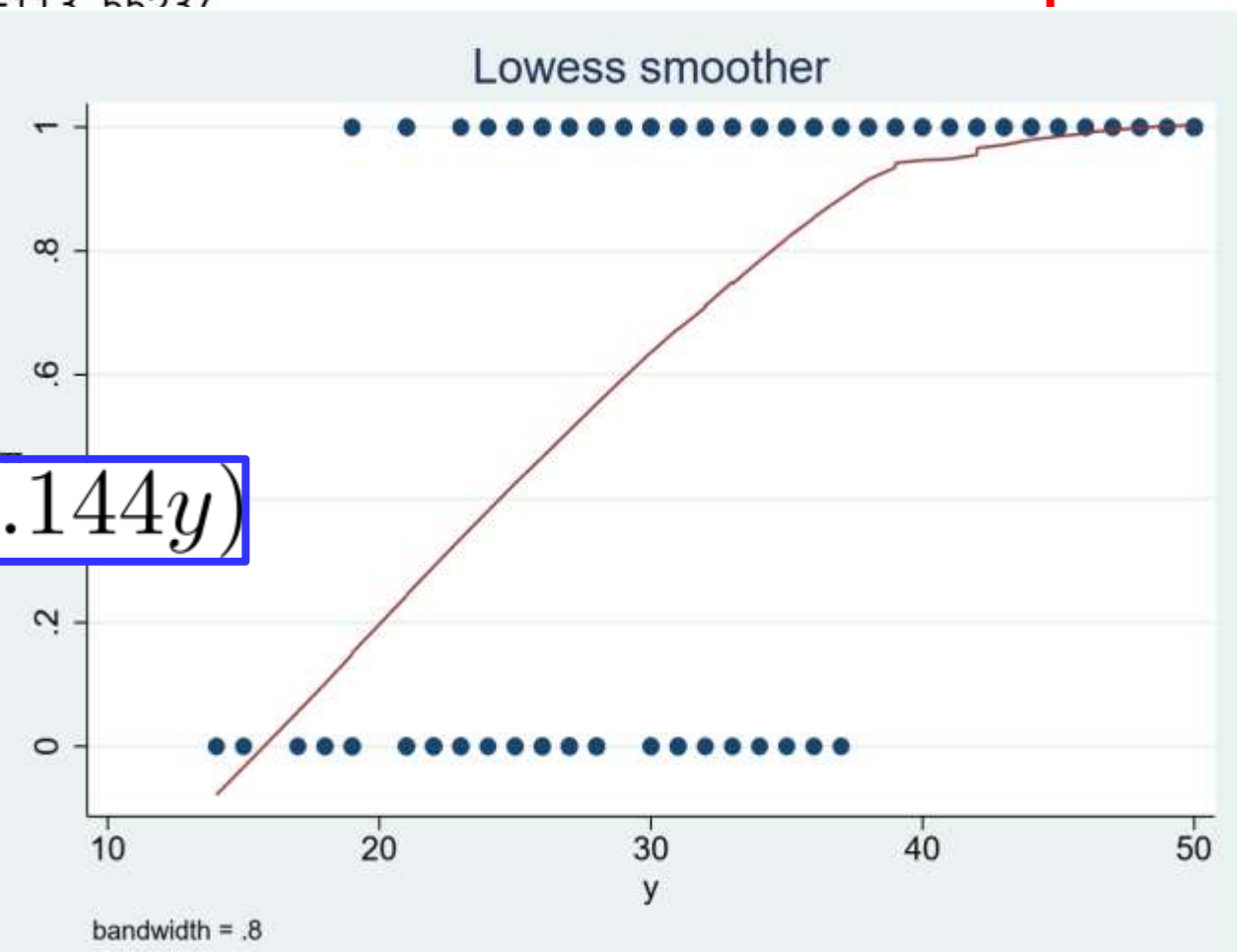
```
Iteration 0: log likelihood = -112.55237
Iteration 1: log likelihood =
Iteration 2: log likelihood =
Iteration 3: log likelihood =
Iteration 4: log likelihood =
Iteration 5: log likelihood =
```

Probit regression

Predicted Probability

$$\Pr(d = 1 | y) = \Phi(-3.855 + 0.144y)$$

d	Coef.	Std
y	.1439157	.02
_cons	-3.855266	.6



# Proposer Decision as Risky Choice

- ▶ Rational Expectations: Know Acceptance probability is

$$\Pr(d = 1|y) = \Phi(-3.855 + 0.144y)$$

- ▶ What should proposers do? Roth et al. (AER 1991) propose:
- ▶ Offer 50: Get \$50 for sure (50-50 are 100% accepted) or
- ▶ Offer  $y = \$40$ : Get  $\$(100-y) = \$60$  with uncertainty

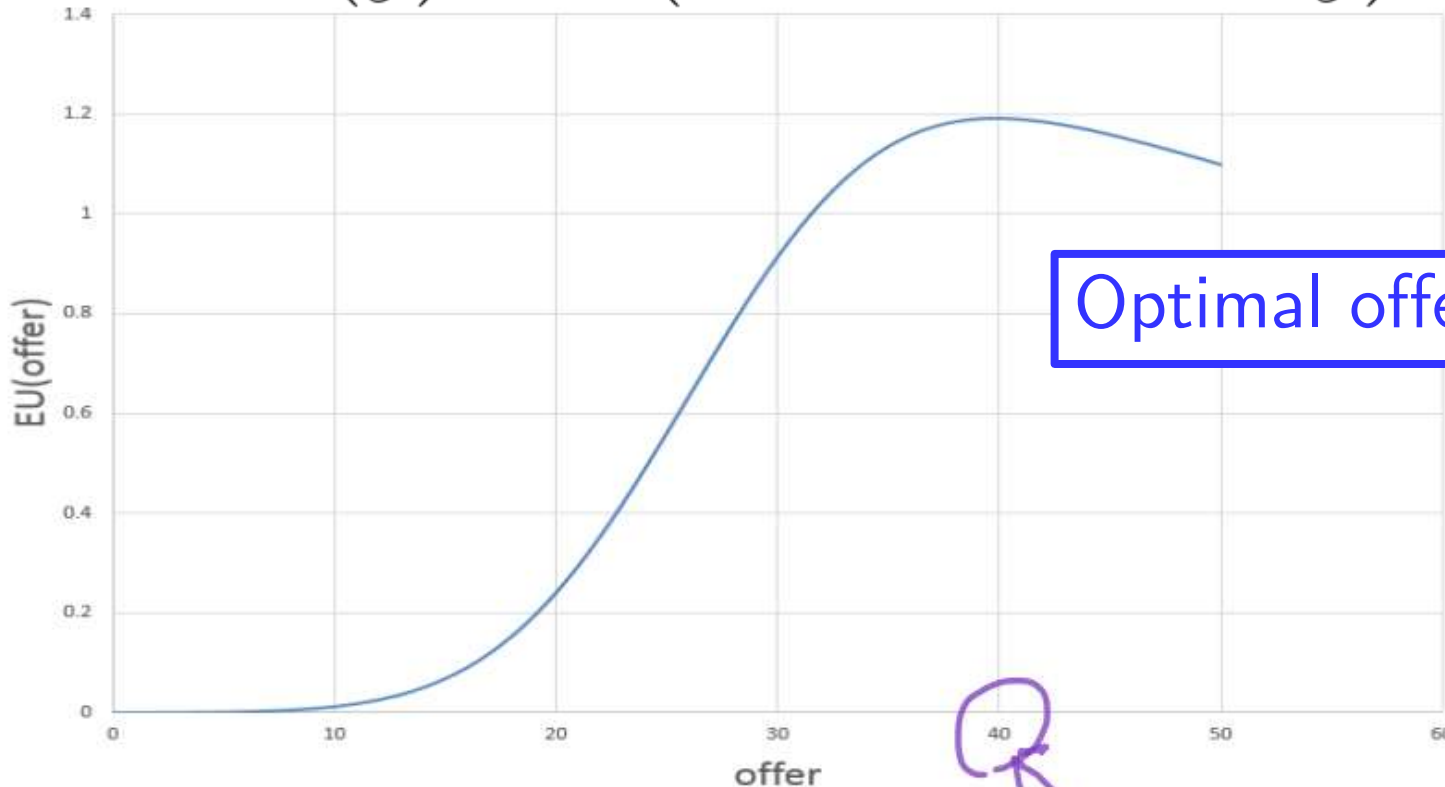
- ▶ Normalize pie size \$100 to 1: proposer decision.xlsx

- ▶  $r = 0.4$  yield:  $EU(y) = \Phi(-3.855 + 0.144y) \times \frac{\left(\frac{100-y}{100}\right)^{1-0.4}}{1-0.4}$

# Proposer Decision as Risky Choice

- ▶ Plot  $EU = EU(y)$ :

$$EU(y) = \Phi(-3.855 + 0.144y) \times \frac{\left(\frac{100-y}{100}\right)^{1-0.4}}{1-0.4}$$



Optimal offer  $y^* = \$40$  for  $r = 0.4$

- ▶ Try other  $r$
- ▶ Find  $y^*(r)$



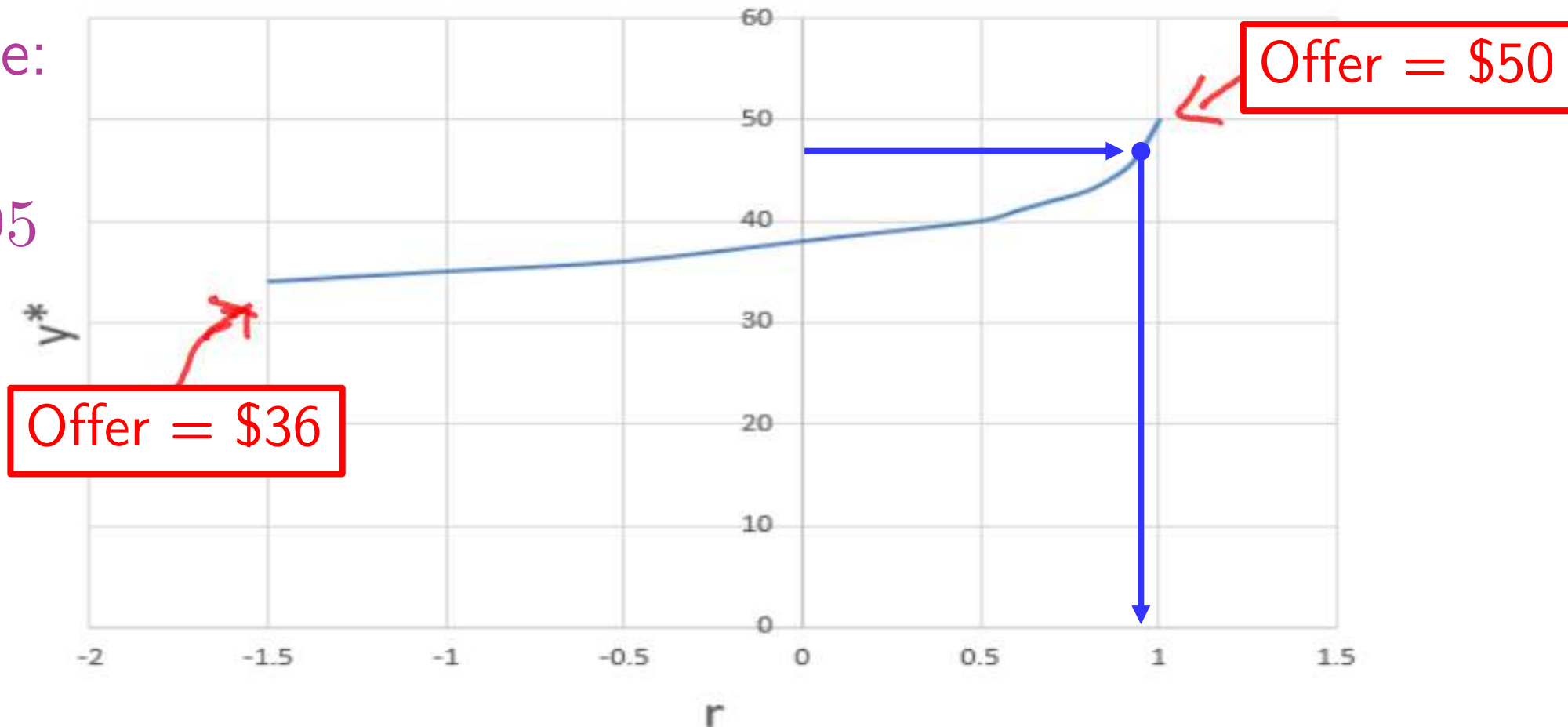
# Proposer Decision as Risky Choice

► Plot  $y^*(r)$ :

► Example:

$$y = 47$$

►  $r = 0.95$



# Toward a Mixture Model of Social Preference

- ▶ 18% (36 out of 200) of the proposer offer  $y = 50$ 
  - ▶ Are all of them extremely risk averse?
- ▶ No! People can offer 50-50 because they think it is fair
  - ▶ Need a mixture model to analyze this (see next lecture):
    - ▶ 18% of the population motivated by fairness offer 50-50
    - ▶ 82% of the population motivated by self-interest
      - ▶ make risky choices according to their risk preferences
- ▶ Who are these equal-splitters/**egalitarians**?

# Who Are These Equal-Splitters/Egalitarian?

▶ STATA `gen egal=y==50`

Command: `tab egal`

▶ STATA Results:

egal	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
0	164	82.00	82.00
1	36	18.00	100.00
Total	200	100.00	

▶ Is Egalitarianism is Related to Gender? Use  $\chi^2$  test!

▶ STATA Command: `tab male_i egal , chi2`

▶ STATA Results:

male_i	egal		Total
	0	1	
0	66	25	91
1	98	11	109
Total	164	36	200

Pearson chi2(1) = 10.1506 Pr = 0.001

25 of 91 female  
are egalitarian

11 of 109 male  
are egalitarian

Female more  
likely to be  
egalitarian  
( $p = 0.001$ )

# Acknowledgment

- ▶ This presentation is based on
  - ▶ Section 3.2 and 3.11 of the lecture notes of *Experimetrics*,
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