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Interrelated Visits and Sales in an Omni-Channel System: An Empirical Dynamic Modelling Approach.

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Motivation

Research shopping

- Lack of offline tracking
- 'research shopper' phenomenon."
 (Verhoef et al., 2007)
- crossdevice path to purchase data is necessary to get an accurate picture of the device attributions"
- The more pressing of an issue is attributing the offline conversions." (Kannan et al., 2016)
- GDPR?

Omni-channel paradigm Compared to the multichannel phase, omnichannel thus involves **more channels**. An important additional change is that the different channels become blurred as the **natural borders** between channels begin to **disappear**." (Verhoef et al., 2015) Visits in one channel, purchases in another channel

Integrate brick-andmortar store with web and mobile



Higher complexity interrelated systems changing correlations

Lancaster University Management School





From Channel Addition Challenges...









...to Omni-Channel Challenges

Challenges for Omni-Channel Studies:

Visits and sales, online and offline

Interrelated channels, same-day effects

State-dependent effects

Channel system embedded in larger system

Aggregate time-series data from all channels

Endogeneous, co-varying effects

Dynamic model

Unobserved variables







A Short History of Empirical Dynamic Models (EDM)



EDM Basics: Time Series as Attractor Manifolds

2D-example from our data:



3D-example with Lorenz system (Sugihara et al 2012):









EDM Basics: Embeddings / Shadow Manifolds

2D-example from our data:



3D-example with Lorenz system (Sugihara et al 2012):



Prediction and Cross-Prediction in EDM

A: Univariate prediction embedding (e.g. simplex projection of point P)

B: Cross-prediction embedding X (driving variable: App Visits)

C: Cross-prediction embedding Y (forced variable: Store Visits)









Study with a Three-Channel System (B&M, Web, Mobile)



- Visit and sales time series from large European fashion retailer that operated three channels: brick-and-mortar stores as the dominant channel, an online store, and an app store
- Period 39 weeks of daily data







Results: Embeddings and Omnichannel Consumer Flow Network









Results: Marginal Effects as Contributions to System Revenues



Results: Marginal Effects as Contributions to System Revenues – Higher Variance in Mobile Channel Effects



Results: Marginal Effect Interactions – Channel Conversion Tradeoffs









Results: State-dependencies – From Increasingly Saturating to Strangely Nonlinear Webrooming









Speculation: Consumer Flows in Omnichannel Systems as Hub-and-Spoke System?



Questions, please

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About:

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