Where Do Cultural Omnivores Come From? The Implications of Educational Mobility For Cultural Consumption (Online supplement)

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A   Cohort-specific analyses

The educational system of the UK has expanded a great deal but at an uneven pace after the Second World War. Because our respondents span a wide age range (they were between the ages of 20 and 64 at the time of the interview), their experience of educational mobility is very variable. To check whether this has any bearing on the mobility effects on cultural consumption, we have repeated our analysis on three birth cohorts separately. The three cohorts are defined as respondents aged 50–64, 36–49 and 20–35 in 2010–11.

Table 1 corresponds to Table 4 in the main text. It reports the distribution of the respondents by their own educational level and that of their parent. Starting with the marginal distributions of the respondents (i.e. the destination marginals), we see that the share of graduates increases progressively from 22% through 30% and then to 32% across the three cohorts. Correspondingly, the share of those without qualifications drops from 30% to 16%, and then 7%. This, of course, speaks to the educational expansion of British society. However, in terms of educational mobility, it was the oldest cohort who experienced the most dramatic change, with the share of graduates tripling from origin (7%) to destination (22%) in Panel A. Indeed, the cells on the main diagonal account for 48%, 53% and 58% of the respondents in Panels A, B and C respectively. That is to say, educational immobility (in the absolute sense) has increased across cohorts. Furthermore, upward mobility rate has declined, with the cells below the main diagonal accounting for 40%, 35% and 29% of the respondents in the three panels. Finally,

Table 1: Distribution of respondents by parents' education and own education for three cohorts (cell percentages)

parents	respondent			overall
	degree	immediate	no qual	
Panel A (aged 50–64)				
degree	4.1	2.6	0.3	7.0
intermediate	12.3	23.2	8.7	44.2
no qual	5.5	22.4	20.9	48.8
overall	21.9	48.2	29.9	100.0
Panel B (aged 36–49)				
degree	8.2	4.7	0.4	13.3
intermediate	17.2	35.9	7.1	60.2
no qual	4.2	13.9	8.5	26.5
overall	29.5	54.5	16.0	100.0
Panel C (aged 20–35)				
degree	12.7	9.6	0.4	22.6
intermediate	17.8	42.1	3.8	63.7
no qual	1.8	9.0	2.8	13.6
overall	32.3	60.7	7.0	100.0

the rate of downward mobility (cells above the main diagonal) has remained relatively stable at 12%, 12% and 14% respectively.

Table 2 reports the goodness of fit statistics of the three diagonal reference models (without covariates) applied to data from the three cohorts separately. Essentially, they give the same results as Table 5 in the main text. For all three cohorts, model 1 fits the data very well. This suggests that we should reject Hypothesis 2 or the diverse exposure argument. Model 2 (which requires $w^V = 1$) fits the data poorly. So we should also reject Hypothesis 1 or the composition effects argument. Finally, model 3 (which allows w^V to differ between upward and downward mobility) improves on model 1 for the youngest cohort only, thus lending, at best, weak support to the asymmetry effect argument or Hypothesis 3.

Table 2: Goodness of fit statistics of diagonal reference models for three cohorts

model	G^2	df	p	model comparison	ΔG^2	Δdf	p
Panel A: respondents age 50–64							
1	10.120	10	0.43				
2	1144.031	12	0.00	2–1	1133.912	2	0.00
3	8.331	8	0.40	1–3	1.788	2	0.41
Panel B: respondents age 36–49							
1	11.095	10	0.35				
2	911.406	12	0.00	2–1	900.311	2	0.00
3	10.182	8	0.25	1–3	0.913	2	0.63
Panel C: respondents age 20–35							
1	15.937	10	0.10				
2	608.425	12	0.00	2–1	592.488	2	0.00
3	8.125	8	0.42	1–3	7.811	2	0.02

Note: G^2 is the deviance of the model, df refers to its degree of freedom, and p is the probability of Type I error.

B Diagonal reference models using number of visual arts/music items consumed as the dependent variable

In the main text, we use the threefold latent class distinction (i.e. univores, paucivores, and omnivores) as the dependent variable of the diagonal reference models. An alternative approach is to use as the dependent variable the number of visual arts and music items consumed.

Table 3 reports the goodness of fit statistics of the diagonal reference models under this alternative approach. It can be seen that all three models fit the data extremely well. Comparing models 1 and 2, we see that although model 2 gains 1 degree of freedom, G^2 increases by 4.2 which is a significant deterioration in model fit. When we next compare model 1 against model 3, we see that model 3 uses one more parameter, and G^2 is reduced by 0.006, which is very far from a statistically significant improvement in model fit. In fact, given that the deviance of model 1 is as low as 0.011, there really is very little room for further improvement. Overall, these results are in line with those of the main text.

Table 4 shows the predicted number of visual arts and music items consumed under model 1 by parent's and respondent's education. Consistent with the results reported in the main text, second-generation graduates consume *more* cultural items (2.83) than upwardly mobile, i.e. first-generation, graduates (2.41 or 2.14).

Overall, the results that we obtain under this alternative approach are substantively the same as those reported in the main text. Why do we prefer using the latent classes as the dependent variable? One reason is that the three latent classes are actually very well-differentiated by the number of cultural items consumed (see Figure 1). In other words, the three latent classes are *not* arbitrary groupings drawn from one underlying distribution.

Table 3: Goodness of fit statistics of diagonal reference models which use number of cultural items consumed as the dependent variable

model	G^2	df	p	model comparison	ΔG^2	Δdf	p
1	0.011	5	1.00				
2	4.178	6	0.65	2–1	4.167	1	0.04
3	0.006	4	1.00	1–3	0.006	1	0.94

Table 4: Predicted number of visual art/music items consumed by parent's and respondent's education under model 1 of Table 3

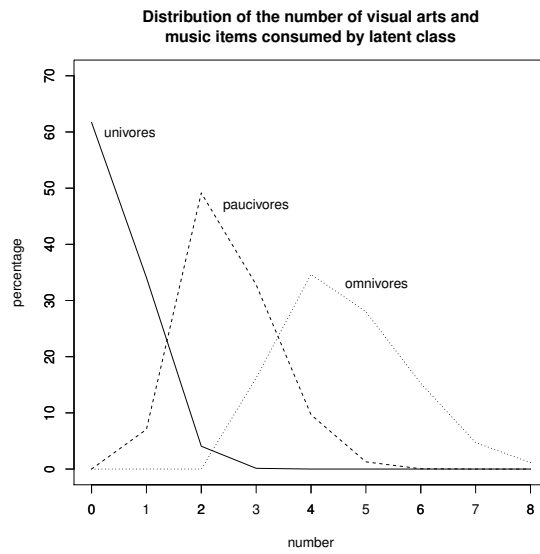| | respondent's edu | | |
parent's edu	degree	intermediate	no qual
degree	2.83	1.81	1.18
intermediate	2.41	1.38	0.75
no quals	2.14	1.12	0.49

Figure 1: Distribution of the number of visual arts and music items consumed by latent class

C   Descriptive statistics

Table 5: Descriptive statistics

	%	mean	s.d.
degree	26.6		
intermediate	54.7		
no qual	18.7		
degree (parents)	14.5		
inter (parents)	56.3		
no qual (parents)	29.3		
female	54.6		
couple	68.4		
single	21.8		
div/sep/wid	9.8		
child 0–4	17.7		
child 5–11	20.0		
child 12–15	13.8		
white	89.9		
black	5.3		
asian	2.3		
others	2.5		
London	13.3		
North East	4.2		
North West	11.1		
Yorkshire	8.4		
East Midlands	7.1		
West Midlands	8.9		
East of England	9.3		
South East	13.6		
South West	8.3		
Wales	4.6		
Scotland	8.5		
N.Ireland	2.8		
age		42.0	(12.6)
log monthly household income		8.0	(0.9)
social status		0.0	(0.4)