

V E R N O N
R E S E A R C H G R O U P

Conjoint Capabilities

Conjoint Analysis

What is a “conjoint” and what can it do?

- Conjoint methodology models human selection behavior and mirrors how individuals **consider jointly**-grouped attributes of a product or a service – the process they go through when they purchase
- With a conjoint, we can determine how much value individuals place on each attribute or element inside of a theoretical bundle
- Better/nearly-perfect products or services can be built by combining the most highly-valued attributes
- Conjoint exercises also show what features consumers might be willing to trade away in order to get the features they really want
- Study data can be used to create market simulations that predict the impact of a new product offering or price changes on existing market share

Conjoint Analysis

Excellent for:

- Determining the best combinations of product or service features
- Setting the best pricing for products or services
- Gauging brand equity
- Understanding a new product's impact on the current market, including potential cannibalization issues
- Finding utility values for all features tested, even those which may be hypothetical or merely being planned
- Forecasting sales in future markets

Conjoint Analysis

Setup for conjoint:

- “Factors” and “Levels” are determined
 - Factors are general areas for examination
 - Levels add detail to the factors and should reflect the range of possibilities for the product or service
- Different brands and price levels are often included
- Factors should reflect the most important parts of the product or service

Factor/Level Example

| Factors | Levels | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|-----------|---------------------|---------|----------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Manufacturer</i> | None- Generic | Whirlpool | Frigidaire | Kenmore | GE | Kitchen Aid | | |
| <i>Style</i> | Freezer on top | | Freezer on bottom | | Side-by-side | | French doors | |
| <i>Available Colors</i> | White | | White and off-white | | White, off-white and black | | White, off-white, black and stainless | |
| <i>Additional Features</i> | None | | Icemaker in door | | Filtered water dispenser | | TV monitor in door | |
| <i>Warranty</i> | None | | 1 year | | 3 years | | 5 years | |
| <i>Price</i> | \$750 | \$1000 | \$1250 | \$1500 | \$1750 | \$2000 | \$2250 | |

Choice-based Conjoint (CBC)

- Respondents choose which bundle of random features they would purchase, all else being equal.
- Respondents typically complete 8-12 sets of choices, with 3-4 product bundles per choice.
- The maximum number of factors is generally 6.
- The maximum number of levels per factor is determined by how large the sample will be and the number of interactions necessary between levels.

*If these were your only options, which would you choose?
Choose by clicking one of the buttons below:*

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Manufacturer | Kitchen Aid | Frigidaire | None-Generic |
| Style | Freezer on top | Freezer on bottom | Side-by-side |
| Available Colors | White, off-white, black, or stainless | White or off-white | White, off-white, or black |
| Additional Features | TV monitor in door | None | Icemaker in door |
| Warranty | None | 3 years | 1 year |
| Price | \$2250 | \$1250 | \$1500 |
| | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Adaptive Conjoint Analysis (ACA)

- Instead of choice between product bundles, Adaptive Conjoint measures respondent ratings between individual levels and groups of levels.
- This method is good for exercises with a large number of attributes/features.
- This method is also good for examining new product categories.
- This method is not suited to examine price sensitivity.

Please rate the following Manufacturers in terms of how desirable they are.

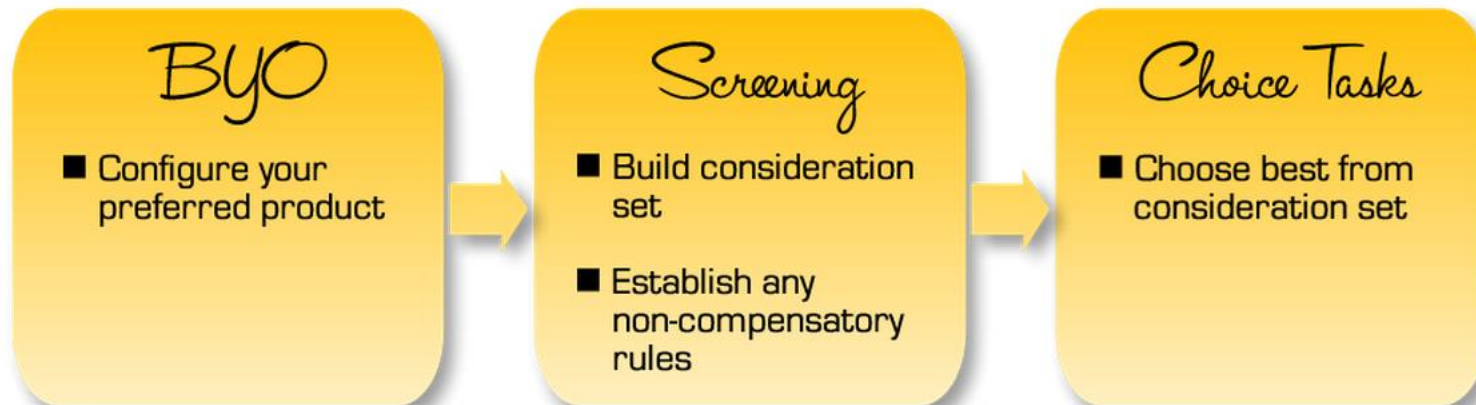
| | Not Desirable | Somewhat Desirable | Very Desirable | Extremely Desirable |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| None-Generic | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Whirlpool | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Frigidaire | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Kenmore | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| GE | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Kitchen Aid | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

If these refrigerators were identical in all other ways, which would you prefer?

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Freezer on top White or off-white \$1000 | or | French door White, off-white, or black \$1750 | | | | | | |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Strongly Prefer Left | Somewhat Prefer Left | Indifferent | Somewhat Prefer Right | Strongly Prefer Right | | | | |

Adaptive CBC (ACBC)

- ACBC leverages the best aspects of CBC and ACA.
- ACBC is an interactive experience, customized to the preferences and opinions of each individual.
- This method is based on solid behavioral theory (first consider, then choose) which directly incorporates non-compensatory decision-making to obtain strong individual-level estimates and can even work with small sample sizes.
- This method also provides more accurate market simulation data than CBC.



Menu-based Conjoint (MBC)

- MBC is an advanced modeling methodology.
- MBC mimics the real-world experience of choosing among a variety of options when configuring a preferred product.
- Studies with MBCs are useful in situations where end-users may select pre-designed bundles **as well as** items *a la carte*.
- Respondents generally enjoy these exercises due to the freedom provided them during the customization process.
- Examples of products and services when MBC might be preferred:
 - choosing options to put on an automobile
 - selections from a restaurant menu
 - banking options
 - configuring an insurance policy
 - mobile phone plans
 - home phone, Internet and/or cable bundles with options

Output

Importance (of factors)

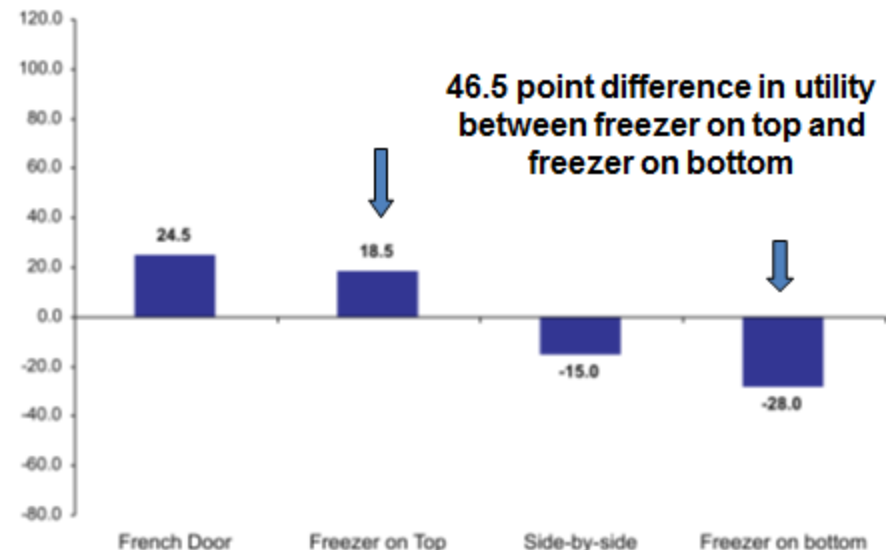
- The relative weight respondents give each factor when making purchasing decisions.
- Importance is not consciously assigned; instead, weights are calculated based on how each choice decision was made.
- Importance is also additive, so the sum total of two factors of lesser importance may exceed a factor of higher importance.



Output

Utility (of levels)

- This is a measure of each level's usefulness on an integer scale.
- Utility values are created through effects coding, where the sum of all values equals zero.
- Negative scores do not necessarily translate into an unattractive evaluation.
- Another way of thinking about utility is as *level preference* within the same factor.



Output

Market simulations

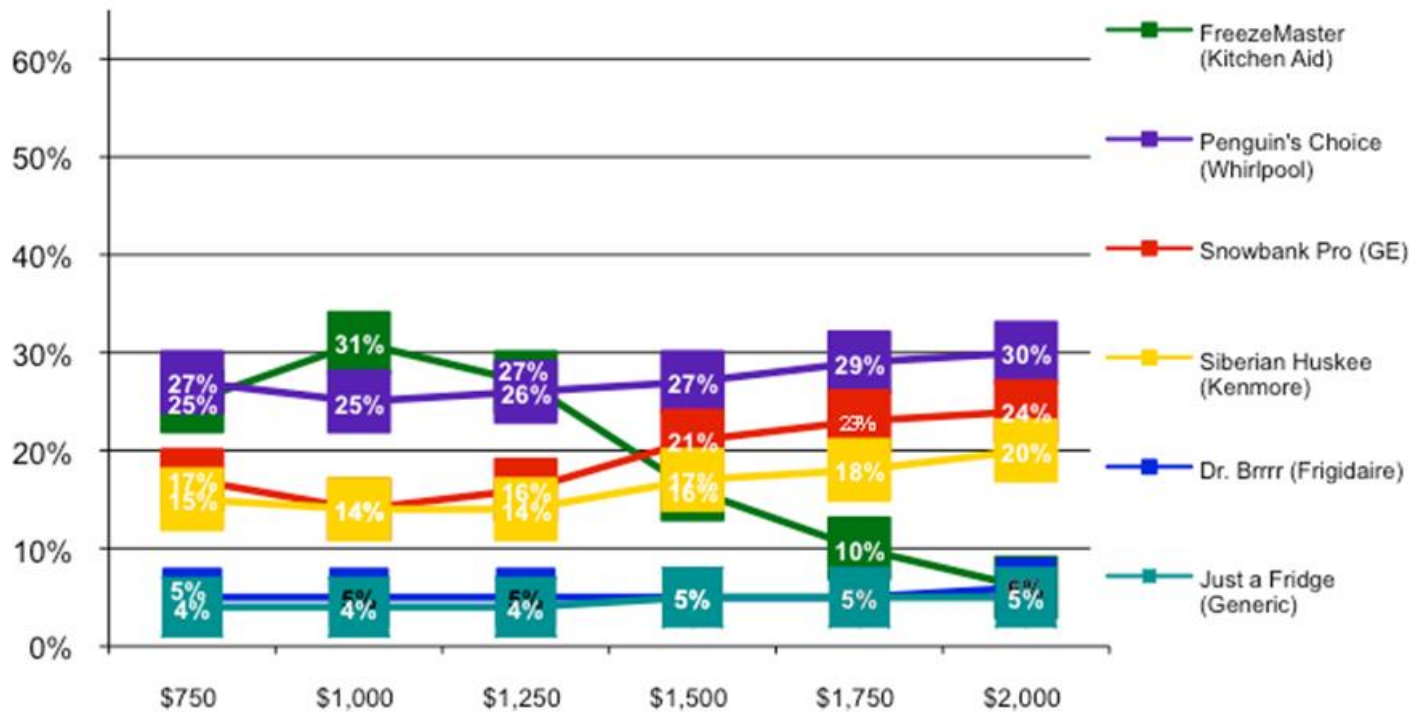
- This is the most powerful tool derived from conjoint data.
- Market simulations can predict the impact on market share of new products or new level combinations of current products.
- By changing one level of a single factor, market share gains and losses can be measured.
- The reliability of simulations depends on how accurate the exercise mirrored reality.

Market Simulation Example

| PRODUCTS | Brand | Style | Colors | Features | Warranty | Price |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| #1 – FreezeMaster | Kitchen Aid | French Door | All | Filtered water dispenser | VARIABLE | VARIABLE |
| #2 – Penguin's Choice | Whirlpool | French Door | White, off-white or black | Icemaker in door | 1 year | \$1,449 |
| #3 – Snowbank Pro | GE | Freezer on top | All | TV monitor in door | 3 years | \$1,699 |
| #4 – Siberian Huskee | Kenmore | Side by side | White or off-white | Icemaker in door | 1 year | \$1,599 |
| #5 – Dr. Brrrr | Frigidaire | Freezer on top | White, off-white or black | None | 1 year | \$1,149 |
| #6 – Just a Fridge | None-Generic | Freezer on bottom | White | None | None | \$999 |

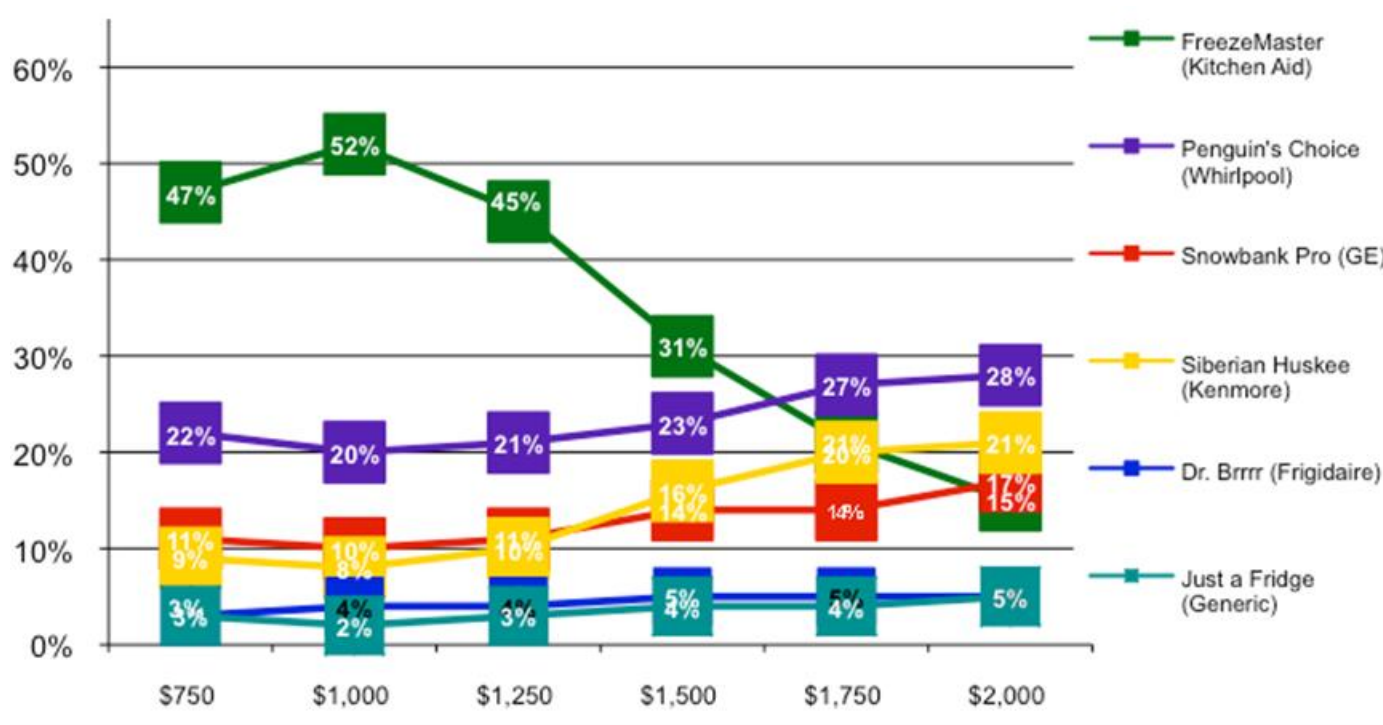
Market Simulation Example

FreezeMaster with No Warranty



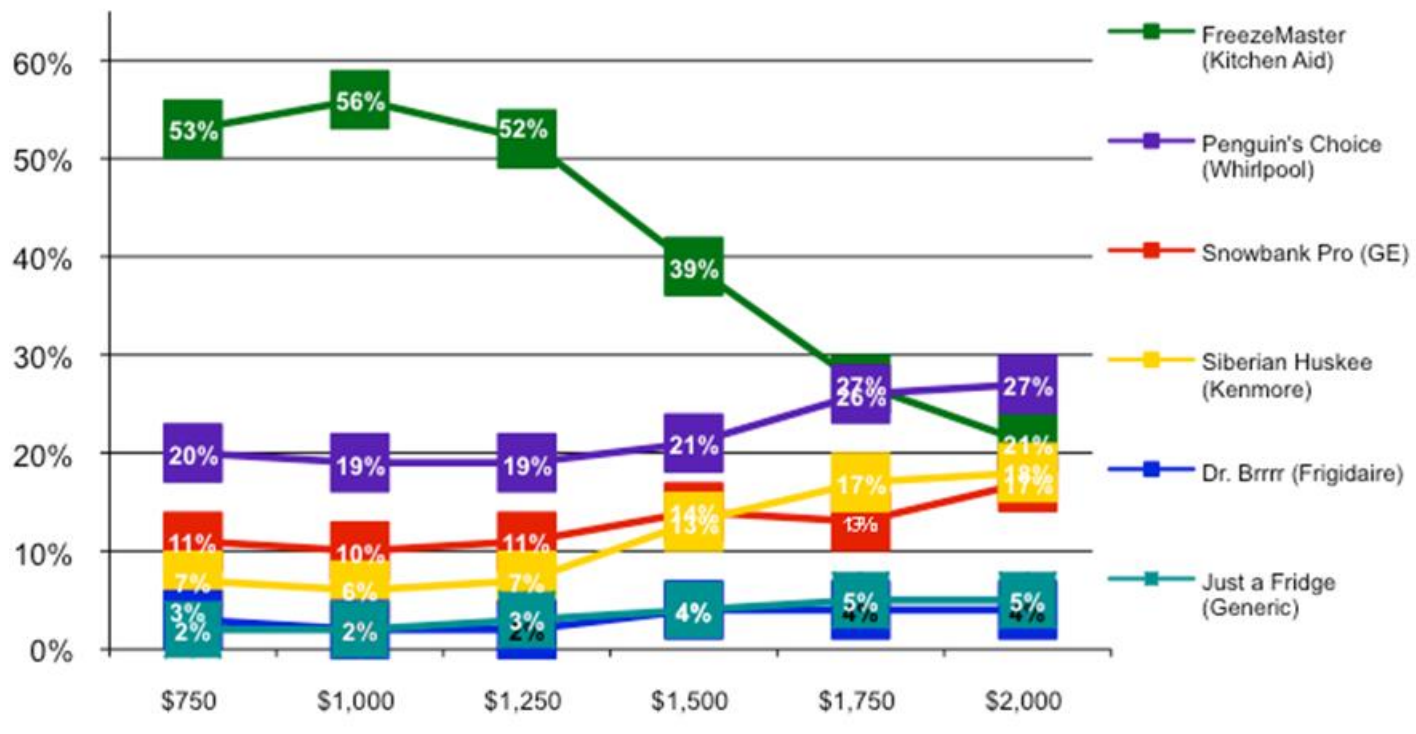
Market Simulation Example

FreezeMaster with 1-Year Warranty



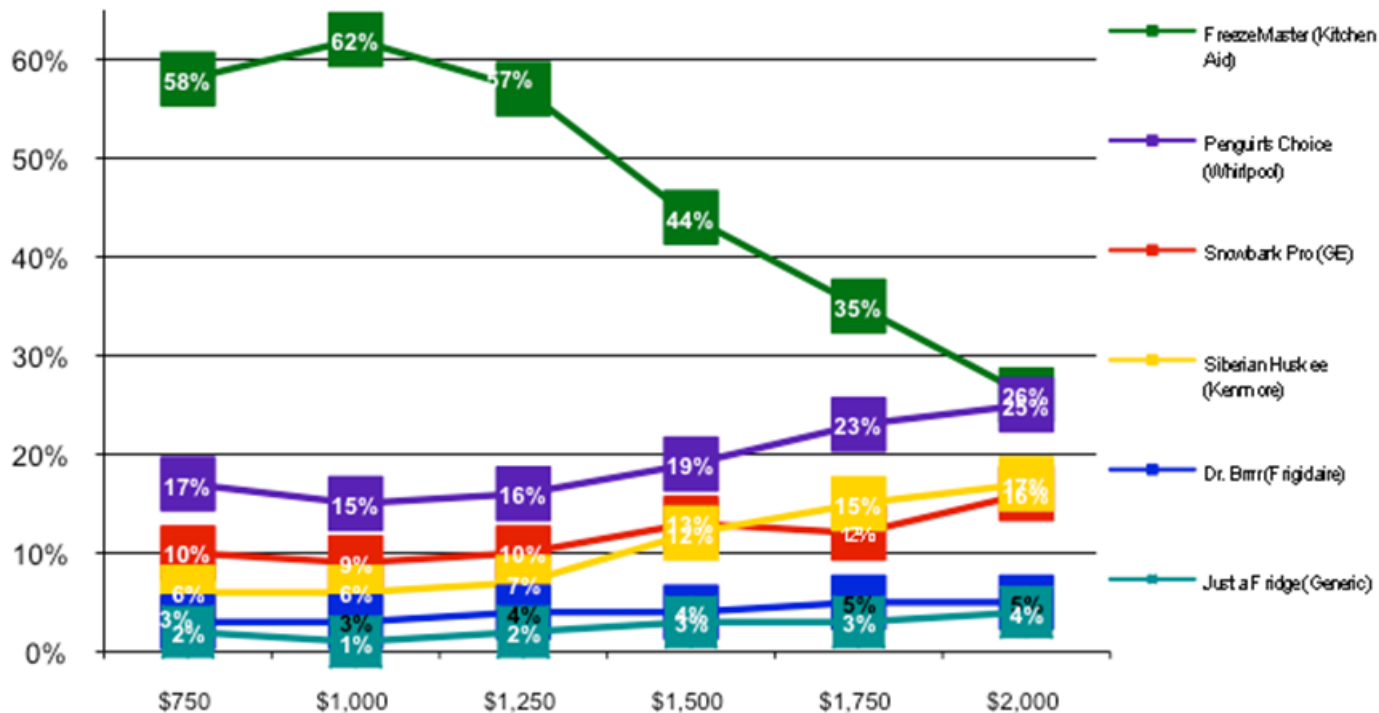
Market Simulation Example

FreezeMaster with 3-Year Warranty



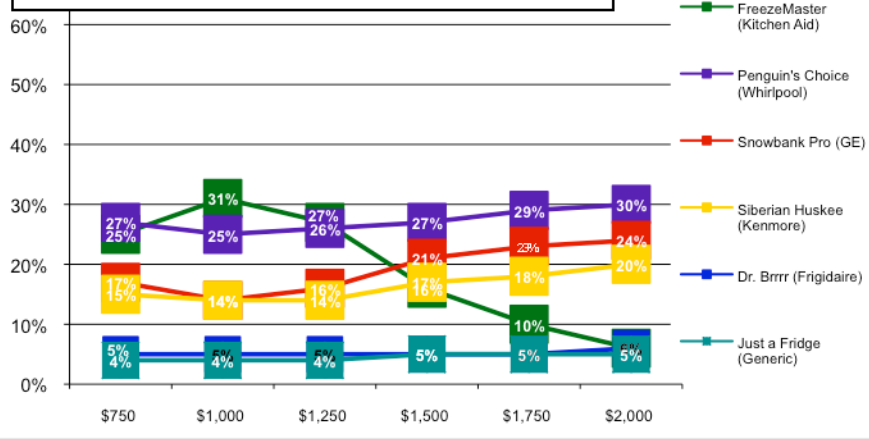
Market Simulation Example

FreezeMaster with 5-Year Warranty

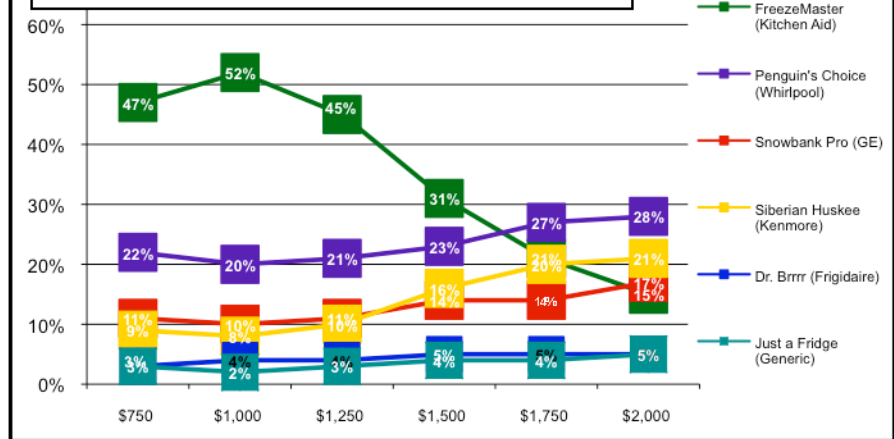


Market Simulation Example

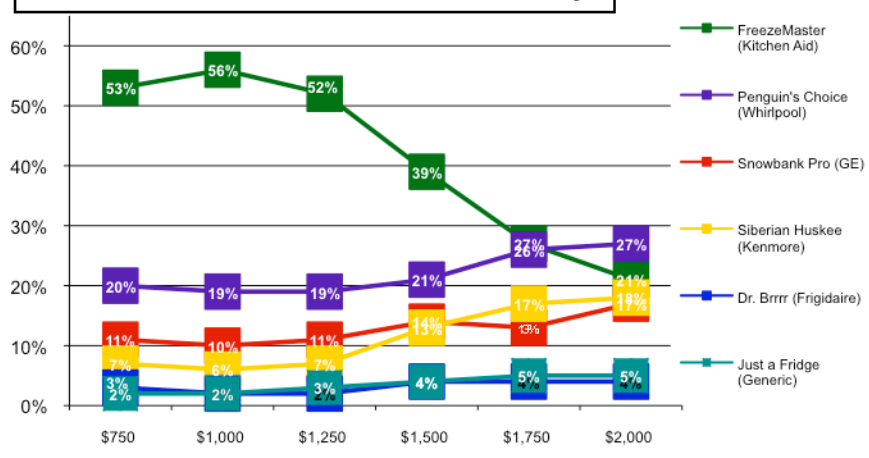
FreezeMaster with No Warranty



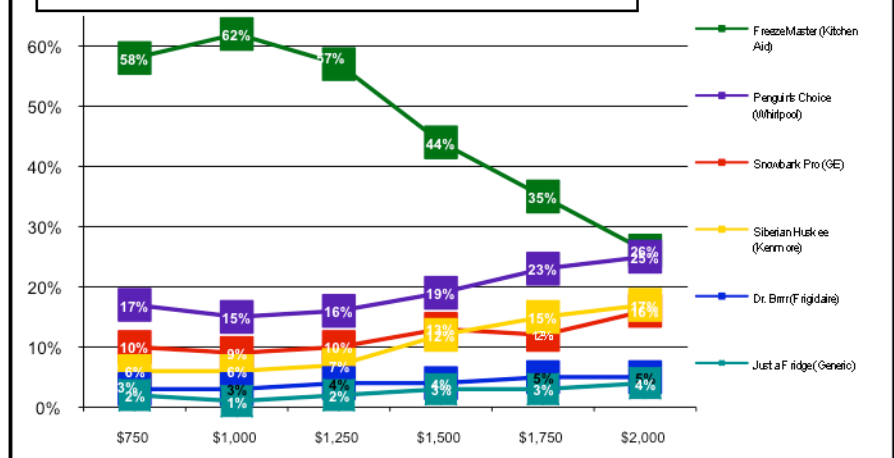
FreezeMaster with 1-Year Warranty



FreezeMaster with 3-Year Warranty



FreezeMaster with 5-Year Warranty



Conjoint Analysis Summary

Conjoint analysis is...

- a great way to determine which bundles of attributes will make the best products or services.
- the most reliable means of determining the best price of a product or a service.
- extremely powerful and accurate in predicting how markets will react to modified or new products/services.
- useful in helping understand the relative importance and usefulness of various attributes during product development.