

Abstract

Meta-analysis is a statistical method that allows us to combine results of empirical research. A theoretical summary helped to select appropriate model for the empirical part of this thesis - a meta-analysis focused on the price elasticity of residential water demand. A mixed-effects multilevel model, which corrects for selection bias, heteroskedasticity and within-study correlation, was employed. Publication bias was found only for subsample excluding data from the western part of the United States. Heckman meta-regression shows that the true price elasticity of water demand is -0,246. Finally variation in results across studies is explained. Using average price instead of marginal, the discrete-continuous choice model and data from the western part of the United States for water demand modelling will result in higher values of estimated elasticity.