

## Chapter 4

Representative Consumer with pa... given by Utility Function  $U(c, l)$  with properties

- 1)  $U_c > 0, U_l > 0$  (more preferred to less)
- 2) if  $U(c_1, l_1) = U(c_2, l_2)$  then  $U(\alpha c_1 + (1 - \alpha)c_2, \alpha l_1 + (1 - \alpha)l_2) > U(c_1, l_1)$
- 3)  $(c, l)$  are “normal goods”  $\frac{\partial c(I, w)}{\partial I}|_w > 0$

Consider ISO-Utility curve,

$$U(c(l), l) = \text{const}$$

$$\begin{aligned} dU &= 0 \\ &= U(c + \Delta c, l + \Delta l)dl \\ -\frac{\partial c}{\partial l}|_u &= \frac{U_l}{U_c} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{nd} \dots : U(c, l) &= U(c + \Delta c, l + \Delta l), \text{ with } \Delta c \equiv c(l + \Delta l) - c(l) \approx \Delta l c_l + \frac{1}{2} \Delta l^2 c_{ll} \\ 0 &= \Delta c U_c + \Delta l U_l + \frac{1}{2} \Delta c^2 U_{cc} + \frac{1}{2} \Delta l^2 U_{ll} + \Delta c \Delta l U_{cl} \\ &= (\Delta l c_l + \frac{1}{2} \Delta l^2 c_{ll}) U_c + \Delta l U_l + \frac{1}{2} U_{cc} [\Delta l^2 c_{ll}^2] + \frac{1}{2} \Delta l^2 U_{ll} + \Delta l^2 c_l U_{ll} \\ \Delta l^1 : 0 &= c_l U_c + U_l \\ -C_l &= U_l / U_c \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta l^2 : 0 &= \frac{1}{2} c_{ll} U_c + \frac{1}{2} c_l^2 U_{ll} + \frac{1}{2} U_{ll} + c_l U_{cl} \\ -\frac{1}{2} U_c C_{ll} &= \frac{1}{2} U_{cc} \left[ \frac{U_l}{U_c} \right]^2 + \frac{1}{2} U_{ll} - \frac{U_l U_{cl}}{U_c} \\ C_{ll} &= - \left( \frac{U_l^2}{U_c} \right) \left\{ \frac{U_{cc}}{U_c^2} + \frac{U_{ll}}{U_c^2} - 2 \frac{U_{cl}}{U_c U_l} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Note that (2) above implies for those cases where

$$\begin{aligned} U[c + \Delta c, l + \Delta l] &= U[c - \Delta c, l - \Delta l] \\ \Delta C U_c + \Delta l U_l &= 0 \\ -\frac{\Delta C}{\Delta l}|_U &= \frac{U_l}{U_c} \end{aligned}$$

We have,

$$\begin{aligned} U(c, l) &> \frac{1}{2} \{U(c + \Delta c, l + \Delta l) + U(c - \Delta c, l - \Delta l)\} \\ 0 &> (\Delta c U_c + \Delta l U_l + \frac{1}{2} \Delta c^2 U_{cc} + \frac{1}{2} \Delta l^2 U_{ll} + \Delta c \Delta l U_{cl}) + \\ &\quad (-\Delta c U_c - \Delta l U_l + \frac{1}{2} (-\Delta c)^2 U_{cc} + \frac{1}{2} (-\Delta l)^2 U_{ll} + \dots) \\ &> \Delta c^2 U_{cc} + \Delta l^2 U_{ll} + 2 \Delta c \Delta l U_{cl} \\ &> \Delta l^2 \left[ \left( \frac{U_l}{U_c} \right)^2 U_{cc} + U_{ll} + 2 \left( -\frac{U_l}{U_c} \right) U_{cl} \right] \\ 0 &> \frac{U_{cc}}{U_c^2} + \frac{U_{ll}}{U_l^2} - 2 \frac{U_{cl}}{U_c U_l} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

$$\text{and thus } C_{ll} \equiv \frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial l^2}|_u > 0 \quad (4)$$

Indifference ... have two properties :

1) Slopes downward :  $\frac{\partial c}{\partial l}|_U < 0$

2) Convex :  $\frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial l^2}|_U > 0$

Def:  $MRS_{L,C}$  of leisure for consumption = - slope of indifference curve =  $-\frac{\Delta c}{\Delta l}$   
Convex indifference curves imply diminishing MRS = 0

## Budget Constraint

- Assume agent is a price taker
- Assume no money. i.e., we have a “barter economy”
- Agent endowed with  $h$  units of labor  
 $l + N^s = h = \dots$  plus labor supplied

Def :  $w \equiv wage = \frac{\#Consumption\dots}{\dots labor}$

- Use consumption good as “...”
- Wage income =  $wN^s$
- Dividends minus Tax =  $D - T$   
here  $T$  = lumpsum tax = tax independent of actions of agent

“Taxes that are not mump sum have important effects on prices, which in turn affects the demand of that good” - “Distorting Effect”

Recall Disposable income =  $(D - T) + wN^s$  equals consumption  $C$  since one period, no savings motive.

$C = w(h - l) + D - T =$  “budget constraint”

In slope intercept form,  $C = (w(h + D - T)) - wl$  since  $C$  is num... rates why we put it on y-axis  $-\frac{\partial c}{\partial l}$

Optimal consumption bundle =  $(C^*, l^*)$  on highest indifference curve consistent with budget constraint.

- Indifference curver tangent to budget is constant
- Thus, at optimal  $MRS = -\frac{\partial c}{\partial l} = \frac{U_l}{U_c} = wage$

Recall  $wage \equiv$  “Price of one unit of leisure, measured in consumption units”

Assumption of constrained optimality provides predictions about one consumer corresponds to changes in

- (i) Budget Constraint
- (ii) Wage Plans
- (iii) Performance

### (i) Pure Income Effect:

Change  $(D - T)$ , holding  $w = constant$

Budget constraint ... parallel fashion ... slope = wage = constant

Due to assumption that  $(c, l)$  are normal ..., both increase with an increase in dividends/... in taxes.

**(ii) Change in wages holding  $D - T$  constant:** Although typically supply of a good increases in its prices, not obvious for the labor, due to counter-acting income + substitution effects.

**Substitution Effect:** At new wage (i.e., wage) ... divided to find target or original indifference curver. New optimal point will be lower leisure/high consumption to effect the higher cost of leisure.

**Income Effect:** Add ... dividend  $\implies$  will incese both (consumption and leisure) ... consumption increases, leisure not sure. Assumes substitution effect dominates income effect.

When plotted (wage vs labor), should understand that more fundamental is the constrained utility ... for a given wage and then consider multiple wage possibiliites. Some with changes in  $(D - T)$ .

## Representative Firm

Assume firm owns its capital (instead of costing it)

Production Function:  $Y = ZF(K, N^d)$

$Z$  = Total factor productivity

$Y$  = Output

$K$  = Quantity of Capital

$N^D$  = Quantity of labor

Here, we consider only a 1- period modeling with  $K$  exogin... and  $N^D$  a “control”

Defn: Marginal Product of Labor (MPL) =  $\frac{\partial Y}{\partial N^D}|_K$

Marginal Product Captial (MPK) =  $\frac{\partial Y}{\partial K}|_{N^D}$

Five Key Properties of Prodcution Function:

(1) Constant Returns to Scale :  $F(\lambda K, \lambda N^d) = \lambda F(K, N^d)$

(2)  $\frac{\partial Y}{\partial K}|_{N^d} > 0, \frac{\partial Y}{\partial N^d}|_K > 0$

(3)  $\frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial K^2} < 0$

(4)  $\frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial N^2} < 0$

(5)  $\frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial N \partial K} > 0$

Example Cobb Douglass :  $Y = ZK^\alpha N^{1-\alpha}$

$$Profit : D = Y = ZK^\alpha N^{1-\alpha} - wN - RK$$

$$FOC : \frac{\partial}{\partial N} = 0 = (1 - \alpha)ZK^\alpha N^{-\alpha} - w$$

$$(1 - \alpha) \frac{Y}{N} = w$$

$$FOC : \frac{\partial}{\partial K} = 0 = \alpha ZK^{\alpha-1} N^{1-\alpha} - R$$

$$\alpha \frac{Y}{K} = R$$

Note that these two FOC's imply that  $RK + wN = Y$ , which further implies that profit  $D = 0$ . If this were not the case, then profits could be scaled up arbitrarily high due to constant returns to scale.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Factor } (1 - \alpha)Y \equiv (w, N) \text{ goes to labor,} \\ \text{Factor } \alpha Y = (R, K) \text{ goes to capital.} \end{array} \right\} \text{Empirically } \alpha \approx 0.36$$

Note,  $(Y, K, N)$  can be measure, but not  $Z$ .

This leads to concept of "Slow Residual"

$$Z_* = \frac{Y_*}{K_*^{0.36} N_*^{0.64}}$$

**Profit Maximization :** Assume  $f \dots$  is wage taking and owns capital

$$\begin{aligned} D &= ZF(K, N) - wN \\ \text{FOC : } 0 &= Z \frac{\partial F}{\partial N} \Big|_K - w \\ \text{wage} &= \text{Marginal Product of labor} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the downward sloping convex relation before MPL and Labor demanded matches the downward sloping convex relation between wage and labor demanded.

Same curves, but different interpretations:

In the first curves, we just have an exogenous specification of MPL

In the second curve, we have an optimal decision of labor defined as a function of exogenous wage.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial Y(N)}{\partial N} &= w \\ \text{Define } \gamma(N) &\equiv \frac{\partial Y(N)}{\partial N} \\ \gamma(N^*(w)) &= w \\ \frac{\partial \gamma}{\partial N} \cdot \frac{\partial N^*}{\partial w} &= 1 \\ \frac{\partial N^*}{\partial w} &= \frac{1}{\frac{\partial \gamma}{\partial N}} = \frac{1}{\frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial N^2}} \end{aligned}$$

More generally FOC :  $Y' [N^*(w)] = w$

Define  $Y'(\cdot) \equiv \gamma(\cdot)$

$$\gamma [N^*(w)] = w$$

$$\gamma [N^*(w + \Delta w)] = w + \Delta w$$

$$\begin{aligned} w + \Delta w &= \gamma \left[ N(w) + \Delta w N'(w) + \frac{\Delta w^2}{2} N''(w) \right] \\ &= \gamma [N(w)] + \left[ \Delta w N' + \frac{\Delta w^2}{2} N'' \right] \gamma'(\cdot) + \frac{1}{2} [\Delta w N']^2 \gamma''(\cdot) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta w = \Delta w N' \gamma' + \left( \frac{\Delta w^2}{2} \right) \{ N'' \gamma' + (N')^2 \gamma'' \}$$

$$\Delta w^1 : 1 = N' \gamma' \implies N' = \frac{1}{\gamma'} \quad (5)$$

$$\Delta w^2 : 0 = N'' \gamma' + (N')^2 \gamma'' \implies N'' = \frac{-1}{\gamma'} (N') \gamma''$$

$$N'' = \frac{-\gamma''}{(\gamma')^3} \quad (6)$$

$$\text{Example : } Y = N^\alpha$$

$$Y' = \gamma = \alpha N^{\alpha-1}$$

$$\gamma' = \alpha(\alpha-1)N^{\alpha-2}$$

$$\gamma'' = \alpha(\alpha-1)(\alpha-2)N^{\alpha-3}$$

$$\text{Optimization : } \alpha N^{\alpha-1} = w$$

$$N(w) = \left(\frac{w}{\alpha}\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha-1}}$$

$$N'(w) = \left(\frac{1}{\alpha-1}\right) \left(\frac{w}{\alpha}\right)^{\frac{2-\alpha}{\alpha-1}} \left(\frac{1}{\alpha}\right)$$

$$N''(w) = \left(\frac{1}{\alpha(\alpha-1)}\right)^2 (2-\alpha) \left(\frac{w}{\alpha}\right)^{\frac{3-2\alpha}{\alpha-1}}$$