

Advanced Microeconomics (QEM) - Problem set 2

Due date: Monday, October 19th (end of day) by email or Msteams

**Problem 1 (5p)** Let  $p \gg 0$  and demand be given by  $d(p, w) \in \mathbf{R}_{++}^L$ . Assume  $d$  is differentiable and satisfy budget balance (Walras's law).

- A commodity  $l$  is called inferior if its demand is strictly decreasing in wealth. Show that  $L$  commodities cannot be all inferior.
- A commodity  $l$  is called luxury if  $D_w d_l(p, w) > \frac{d_l(p, w)}{w}$ . Show that  $L$  commodities cannot be all luxury.
- Show, that if  $d(p, w)$  is homogenous of degree 1 in  $w$  then  $D_w d_l(p, w) = \frac{d_l(p, w)}{w}$  for all  $l$ .
- Recall  $d$  is homogenous of degree 0 in  $(p, w)$ . Additionally assume  $d(p, w)$  is homogenous of degree 1 in  $w$  and that  $d_j$  does not depend on  $p_k$  with  $k \neq j$ . Show that  $d_j(p, w) = \alpha_j \frac{w}{p_j}$  where  $\alpha$  is a constant that does not depend on  $(p, w)$ . [2p]

**Problem 2 (2p)** Let for all  $t$ :  $x^t = d(p^t, x^t \cdot p^t)$  from some utility maximization problem with  $U$  LNS and strictly quasi-concave. Prove that  $\{x^t, p^t\}_{t=1}^T$  satisfy WARP.

**Problem 3 (5p)** For  $L = 2$  consider demand defined for  $p_2 > p_1 > 0$  and  $w > 0$  as:  $d_1(p, w) = \frac{w}{p_2}$  and  $d_2(p, w) = \frac{w(p_2 - p_1)}{p_2^2}$

- Show that this demand is homogeneous of degree zero.
- Show that this demand satisfies Walras's Law.
- State the Weak Axiom of Revealed Preferences (WARP) in the framework of the demand.
- Without loss of generality, normalize to 1 the price of commodity 2, and prove that this demand does not satisfy WARP. [2p]