



## Recitations 8

### [Definitions used today]

- Correspondences: nonempty valued, single valued, closed valued, compact valued, convex valued, closed graph, convex graph, upper hemi-continuity, lower hemi-continuity, continuity.
- Sequential characterization of uhc and lhc, Berge (1963) maximum theorem

This section comes from [math appendix chapter 5 - Correspondences](#) Let  $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n, X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Definition 0.1.** A correspondence  $\Gamma : \Theta \rightrightarrows X$  is a map s.t.  $\Gamma(\Theta) \subseteq X$ . ( $\Gamma : \Theta \rightarrow 2^X$ )

**Definition 0.2. (Graph of correspondence).**  $Gr(\Gamma) = \{(\theta, x) : \theta \in \Theta, x \in \Gamma(\theta)\}$

**Definition 0.3. (Properties of correspondences).**

1. **not empty valued** if  $\Gamma(\theta) \neq \emptyset \quad \forall \theta$
2. **single valued** if  $|\Gamma(\theta)| = 1 \quad \forall \theta$
3. **closed valued** if  $\Gamma(\theta)$  is closed set  $\forall \theta$
4. **compact valued** if  $\Gamma(\theta)$  is compact set  $\forall \theta$
5. **convex valued** if  $\Gamma(\theta)$  is convex set  $\forall \theta$
6. **closed (graph)** if  $Gr(\Gamma)$  is closed subset of  $\mathbb{E} \times X$
7. **convex (graph)** if  $Gr(\Gamma)$  is convex on  $\Theta \times X$

**Lemma 0.4.**  $Gr(\Gamma)$  is closed graph  $\iff \forall \theta: \theta_n \rightarrow \theta \forall x_n \rightarrow x : x_n \in \Gamma(\theta_n) \Rightarrow x \in \Gamma(\theta)$

**Lemma 0.5.**  $Gr(\Gamma)$  is convex graph  $\iff \forall \theta, \theta', x \in \Gamma(\theta), x' \in \Gamma(\theta')$  it holds that  $\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)x' \in \Gamma(\theta\lambda + (1 - \lambda)\theta') \quad \forall x \in [0, 1]$

**Lemma 0.6.**  $\Gamma : \Theta \rightrightarrows X$  has closed graph  $\Rightarrow$  it is closed valued. If  $X$  is compact, then  $\Gamma$  is also compact valued.

**Definition 0.7. (Upper Hemi-Continuity)** Let  $\Gamma : \Theta \rightrightarrows X$  be a correspondence.

- $\Gamma$  is said to be **upper hemi-continuous (uhc)** at a point  $\theta \in \Theta$  if and only if for all open sets  $V \subseteq X$  such that  $\Gamma(\theta) \subseteq V$ , there exists an open set  $U \subseteq \Theta$  such that  $\theta \in U$  and for all  $\theta' \in U$  it holds that  $\Gamma(\theta') \subseteq V$
- A compact valued correspondence  $\Gamma : \Theta \rightrightarrows X$  is u.h.c. at  $\theta \in \Theta$  if and only if for every  $\{\theta_n\} \subset \Theta$  such that  $\theta_n \rightarrow \theta$  and every sequence  $\{x_n\} \subset X$  such that  $x_n \in \Gamma(\theta_n)$  there exists a convergent subsequence  $\{x_{n_k}\}$  such that  $x_{n_k} \rightarrow x \in \Gamma(\theta)$

$$\forall \theta_n \rightarrow \theta \forall x_n \in \Gamma(\theta_n) \exists \{x_{n_k}\} x_{n_k} \rightarrow x \in \Gamma(\theta)$$

**Definition 0.8. (Lower Hemi-Continuity).** Let  $\Gamma : \Theta \rightrightarrows X$  be a correspondence.

- $\Gamma$  is said to be **lower hemi-continuous (lhc)** at a point  $\theta \in \Theta$  if and only if for all open sets  $V \subseteq X$  such that  $\Gamma(\theta) \cap V \neq \emptyset$ , there exists an open set  $U \subseteq \Theta$  such that  $\theta \in U$  and for all  $\theta' \in U$  it holds that  $\Gamma(\theta') \cap V \neq \emptyset$
- A correspondence  $\Gamma : \Theta \rightrightarrows X$  is l.h.c. at  $\theta \in \Theta$  if for all  $x \in \Gamma(\theta)$  and all sequences  $\{\theta_n\} \subset \Theta$  such that  $\theta_n \rightarrow \theta$  there exists a sequence  $\{x_n\} \subset X$  such that  $x_n \in \Gamma(\theta_n)$  and  $x_n \rightarrow x$

$$\forall \theta_n \rightarrow \theta \forall x \in \Gamma(\theta) \exists x_n \in \Gamma(\theta_n) x_n \rightarrow x$$

**Definition 0.9. (Continuity)**  $\Gamma$  is said to be continuous at a point  $\theta \in \Theta$  if it is both UHC and LHC.

**Lemma 0.10. (u.h.c and Closed graph)** Let  $\Gamma : \Theta \rightrightarrows X$ . If  $\Gamma$  is u.h.c, then  $\Gamma$  is closed (has a closed graph).

**Lemma 0.11. (Closed graph and u.h.c.)** Let  $\Gamma : \Theta \rightrightarrows X$ . If  $X$  is compact and  $\Gamma$  is closed (has a closed graph), then  $\Gamma$  is u.h.c.

**Theorem 0.12. (Berge (1961) of Maximum)** Let  $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$  and  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , let  $f : \Theta \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function and  $\Gamma : \Theta \rightrightarrows X$  a nonempty, compact valued, continuous correspondence. Define:

$$v(\theta) = \max_{x \in \Gamma(\theta)} f(x, \theta) \quad G(\theta) = \{x \in \Gamma(\theta) \mid f(x, \theta) = v(\theta)\}$$

Then

- $v : \Theta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous
- $G : \Theta \rightrightarrows X$  is nonempty and compact valued, and UHC

*Proof.* The proof is divided in three parts. First it is proven that  $G$  is nonempty and compact valued, then that it is u.h.c. and finally that  $v$  is continuous.

1.  $G$  is nonempty valued and compact valued.

- Let  $\theta \in \Theta$ , by hypothesis  $\Gamma(\theta)$  is compact and nonempty. since  $f(\cdot, \theta)$  is continuous a maximum is attained on  $\Gamma(\theta)$  by the extreme value theorem (Weierstrass). This proves that  $G(\theta)$  is nonempty for arbitrary  $\theta$ .
- Let  $\theta \in \Theta$ , by hypothesis  $\Gamma(\theta)$  is compact and nonempty. since  $G(\theta) \subseteq \Gamma(\theta)$  it follows that  $G(\theta)$  is bounded, it is left to show closedness to establish compactness. Let  $x_n \rightarrow x$  and  $x_n \in G(\theta)$  for all  $n$ . Clearly  $x_n \in \Gamma(\theta)$  for all  $n$ , since  $\Gamma$  is closed valued it follows that  $x \in \Gamma(\theta)$ , so its feasible. By definition of  $G$  we have  $v(\theta) = f(x_n, \theta)$  for all  $n$ , since  $f$  is continuous we get  $v(\theta) = \lim f(x_n, \theta) = f(x, \theta)$ , then by definition  $x \in G(\theta)$ , which proves closedness.

2.  $G$  is u.h.c. Consider  $\theta \in \Theta$ , a sequence in  $\Theta$  such that  $\theta_n \rightarrow \theta$  and a sequence in  $X$  such that  $x_n \in G(\theta_n)$  for all  $n$ . Note that  $x_n \in \Gamma(\theta_n)$ . since  $\Gamma$  is u.h.c. there exists a subsequence  $x_{n_k} \rightarrow x \in \Gamma(\theta)$ . Now consider  $z \in \Gamma(\theta)$ . since  $\Gamma$  is l.h.c. there exists a sequence in  $X$  such that  $z_n \in \Gamma(\theta_n)$  and  $z_n \rightarrow z$ . In particular the subsequence  $\{z_{n_k}\}$  also converges to  $z$  since  $x_n \in G(\theta_n)$  and  $z_n \in \Gamma(\theta_n)$  it follows that  $f(x_n, \theta_n) \geq f(z_n, \theta_n)$ . since  $f$  is continuous in both arguments we get by taking limits:  $f(x, \theta) \geq f(z, \theta)$ . since the inequality holds for arbitrary  $z \in \Gamma(\theta)$  we get the result:  $x \in G(\theta)$ . This proves u.h.c.

3.  $v$  is continuous. Let  $\theta \in \Theta$  and  $\theta_n \rightarrow \theta$  an arbitrary sequence converging to  $\theta$ . Consider an arbitrary sequence in  $X$  such that  $x_n \in G(\theta_n)$  for all  $n$ . Let  $\bar{v} = \limsup v(\theta_n)$ . By proposition 2.9 there is a subsequence  $\{\theta_{n_k}\}$  such that  $v(\theta_{n_k}) \rightarrow \bar{v}$ . since  $G$  is u.h.c. there exists a subsequence of  $\{x_{n_k}\}$  (call it  $\{x_{n_{kl}}\}$ ) converging to a point  $x \in G(\theta)$ . Then

$$\bar{v} = \lim v(\theta_{n_{kl}}) = \lim f(x_{n_{kl}}, \theta_{n_{kl}}) = f(x, \theta) = v(\theta)$$

where the second equality follows from  $x_{n_{kl}} \in G(\theta_{n_{kl}})$ , the third one from  $f$  being continuous and the final one from  $x \in G(\theta)$ . Let  $\underline{v} = \liminf v(\theta_n)$  and by a similar argument we get  $v(\theta) = \underline{v}$  since  $v(\theta) = \liminf v(\theta_n) = \limsup v(\theta_n)$  we get  $v(\theta) = \lim v(\theta_n)$  for arbitrary  $\{\theta_n\}$  converging to  $\theta$ . This proves continuity.

**Theorem 0.13. (ToM under convexity)** Let  $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$  and  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , let  $f : \Theta \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function and  $\Gamma : \Theta \rightrightarrows X$  a nonempty, compact valued, continuous correspondence. Define:

$$v(\theta) = \max_{x \in \Gamma(\theta)} f(x, \theta) \quad G(\theta) = \{x \in \Gamma(\theta) \mid f(x, \theta) = v(\theta)\}$$

- a If  $f(\cdot, \theta)$  is concave in  $x$  for all  $\theta$  and  $\Gamma$  is convex valued then  $G$  is convex valued.
- b If  $f(\cdot, \theta)$  is strictly concave in  $x$  for all  $\theta$  and  $\Gamma$  is convex valued then  $G$  is single valued, hence a continuous function.
- c If  $f$  is concave on  $\Theta \times X$  and  $\Gamma$  has a convex graph then  $v$  is concave and  $G$  is convex valued.
- d If  $f$  is strictly concave on  $\Theta \times X$  and  $\Gamma$  has a convex graph then  $v$  is strictly concave and  $G$  is single valued, hence a continuous function.

**Theorem 0.14. (ToM under quasi-convexity).** Let  $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$  and  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , let  $f : \Theta \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function and  $\Gamma : \Theta \rightrightarrows X$  a nonempty, compact valued, continuous correspondence. Define:

$$v(\theta) = \max_{x \in \Gamma(\theta)} f(x, \theta) \quad G(\theta) = \{x \in \Gamma(\theta) \mid f(x, \theta) = v(\theta)\}$$

- a If  $f(\cdot, \theta)$  is quasi-concave in  $x$  for all  $\theta$  and  $\Gamma$  is convex valued then  $G$  is convex valued.
- b If  $f(\cdot, \theta)$  is strictly quasi-concave in  $x$  for all  $\theta$  and  $\Gamma$  is convex valued then  $G$  is single valued, hence a continuous function.
- c If  $f$  is quasi-concave on  $\Theta \times X$  and  $\Gamma$  has a convex graph then  $v$  is quasi-concave and  $G$  is quasi-convex valued.
- d If  $f$  is strictly quasi-concave on  $\Theta \times X$  and  $\Gamma$  has a convex graph then  $v$  is strictly quasi-concave and  $G$  is single valued, hence a continuous function.

## Where are we heading?

**Theorem 0.15. Brouwer's Fixed Point Theorem – continuous function**

Let  $S \subset \mathbb{R}$  be nonempty, compact, and convex, and  $f : S \rightarrow S$  be a continuous function. Then  $f$  has (at least) a fixed point in  $S$ , i.e.  $\exists x^* \in S : x^* = f(x^*)$

**Theorem 0.16. Tarsky's Fixed Point Theorem – weakly increasing functions**

Let  $f : [0, 1]^n \rightarrow [0, 1]^n$ , where  $[0, 1]^n = [0, 1] \times \dots \times [0, 1]$ , an  $n$ -dimensional cube. If  $f$  is nondecreasing, then  $f$  has a fixed point in  $[0, 1]^n$ .

**Theorem 0.17. Kakutani's Fixed Point Theorem – u.h.c. correspondence**

Let  $S \subset \mathbb{R}$  be nonempty, compact, and convex, and  $\Gamma : S \rightrightarrows S$  be a nonempty, convex-valued, and u.h.c. correspondence. Then  $\Gamma$  has a fixed point in  $S$ , i.e.  $\exists x^* \in S : x^* \in \Gamma(x^*)$

Since  $S$  is compact, u.h.c. is equivalent to  $\Gamma$  having a closed graph.

**Theorem 0.18. Fixed Point Theorem – l.h.c. correspondence**

Let  $S \subset \mathbb{R}$  be nonempty, compact, and convex, and  $\Gamma : S \rightrightarrows S$  be a nonempty, convex-valued, closed-valued, and l.h.c. correspondence. Then  $\Gamma$  has a fixed point in  $S$ .

**Definition 0.19. Aggregate excess demand**  $Z : \bar{\Delta} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\ell$  is defined as

$$Z(p) = \sum_{i \in I} x_i(p, e_i) - \sum_{i \in I} e_i.$$

**Theorem 0.20. Easy Existence Theorem**

Let  $Z : \Delta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\ell$  be a continuous function that is bounded from below, satisfying Walras' Law and the boundary condition:  $p_n \rightarrow p \in \partial\Delta \Rightarrow \|Z(p_n)\| \rightarrow \infty$ . Then  $\exists p^* \in \Delta$  such that  $Z(p^*) = 0$ .

Outline:

- $Z$  is defined on  $\Delta$  not  $\bar{\Delta}$
- Define  $\mu : \bar{\Delta} \rightrightarrows \bar{\Delta}$  that is nonempty, convex-valued, u.h.c. Use Kakutani's to find a fixed point in  $\bar{\Delta}$
- Argue that the fixed point is in  $\Delta$  and it is CE.

Define  $\mu : \bar{\Delta} \rightrightarrows \bar{\Delta}$  by

$$\mu(p) = \begin{cases} \{\bar{q} \in \bar{\Delta} | \bar{q} \in \operatorname{argmax}_{q \in \bar{\Delta}} q \cdot Z(p)\}, & \text{if } p \in \Delta \\ \{\bar{q} \in \bar{\Delta} | \bar{q} \cdot p = 0\}, & \text{if } p \in \partial\Delta \end{cases}$$

**Question 1**

Let  $\Gamma : \Theta \rightrightarrows X$  be a correspondence.

1. Show that if a correspondence  $\Gamma$  has a closed graph then it is closed valued.
2. If  $\Gamma$  is compact valued and u.h.c then  $\Gamma$  has a closed graph.
3. If  $X$  is compact and  $\Gamma$  has a closed graph then  $\Gamma$  is u.h.c.

**Solution 1**

i) Suppose  $\Gamma$  has closed graph let  $\theta_n \in \Theta$  be such that  $\theta_n \rightarrow \theta$ . Let  $x_n$  be s.t.  $x_n \in \Gamma(\theta_n)$  and  $x_n \rightarrow x$ . WTS:  $x \in \Gamma(\theta)$ .

$(\theta_n, x_n) \rightarrow (\theta, x)$   $\theta_n$  by construction  $x_n$  by assumption. Moreover  $(\theta_n, x_n) \in \operatorname{Gr}(\Gamma)$ . Therefore since graph is close then  $(\theta, x) \in \operatorname{Gr}(\Gamma)$ . It means that  $x \in \Gamma(\theta)$  so  $\Gamma(\theta)$  is a closed set. ii) Let  $x \in X$ . Consider any  $\{x_n\} \in X$  s.t.  $x_n \rightarrow x$  and  $\{y_n\} \in Y$  s.t.  $y_n \in \Gamma(x_n)$  and  $y_n \rightarrow y$ . Since  $\Gamma$  is u.h.c., there exists a convergent subsequence  $\{y_{n_k}\}$  such that  $\lim_{n_k \rightarrow \infty} y_{n_k} \in \Gamma(x)$ . Then  $y = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = \lim_{n_k \rightarrow \infty} y_{n_k} \in \Gamma(x)$ . Thus,  $\Gamma$  is closed.

iii)

Let  $Y$  be compact and  $\Gamma$  be closed. Since closed graph implies closed-valued,  $\Gamma$  is compact-valued. Let  $x \in X, x_n \rightarrow x$  and  $\{y_n\} \subset Y$  such that  $\forall n, y_n \in \Gamma(x_n)$ . Since  $Y$  is compact, there exists convergent subsequence  $y_{n_k} \rightarrow y$ . Since  $\Gamma$  is closed,  $y \in \Gamma(x)$ . Thus  $\Gamma$  is u.h.c.

### Question 2

Let consumer budget set at a price  $p \in \Delta^\ell (p \gg 0)$  and endowment  $e_i$  be

$$B(p, e_i) = \{x \in X_i : p \cdot x \leq p \cdot e_i\}$$

- i) Show that  $B(p, e_i)$  is homogenous of degree zero in prices, non-empty valued and compact valued.
- ii) Show that  $B(p, e_i)$  is continuous.

### Solution 2

One, useful, application of the material covered above is to determine properties of the budget correspondence, that indicates the feasible consumption bundles for a consumer given a price vector  $p$  and an endowment vector  $e$ . Suppose there are  $l$  goods, and that the agent has a fixed endowment of each good given by the vector  $e \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^l$ , the price of the goods is a vector  $p \in \Delta$ , where  $\Delta$  is the  $n$ -dimensional open simplex. Define the budget set correspondence  $B(\cdot, e) : \Delta \rightrightarrows \mathbb{R}_+^l$  by

$$B(p, e) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^l \mid p \cdot x \leq p \cdot e\}$$

**Theorem 0.21.**  $B(\cdot, e)$  is continuous on prices.

Proof. The claim is proved establishing u.h.c. and l.h.c. of  $B$ .

1.  $B(\cdot, e)$  is upper hemi-continuous on prices. Let  $p \in \Delta, \{p_n\} \subset \Delta$  with  $p_n \rightarrow p$  and  $\{x_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}_+^l$  a sequence such that  $x_n \in B(p_n, e)$  since  $p_n \rightarrow p \in \Delta$  there exists a closed ball,  $C$ , around  $p$  such that  $C \subset \Delta$  and for  $n$  large enough  $p_n \in C$ . Let  $\xi_i = \max_{p \in C} \frac{p \cdot e}{p_i}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, l$ .  $\xi_i$  is the maximum amount of  $x_i$  that can be bought in the neighborhood of  $p$ . Define  $\xi = \max \{\xi_i\} + 1$ , it is clear that for  $n$  large enough  $x_n \in B_\xi(0)$ , then  $\{x_n\}$  is a bounded sequence, hence it admits a convergent subsequence  $x_{n_k} \rightarrow x$ . since  $x_{n_k} \in B(p_{n_k}, e)$  we have:  $p_{n_k} \cdot x_{n_k} \leq p_{n_k} \cdot e$ , since dot product is a continuous function taking limits we have  $p \cdot x \leq p \cdot e$ , which is  $x \in B(p, e)$ , proving u.h.c. of  $B$ .

Other proof: Suppose, by contradiction, that  $\bar{x} \notin B(\bar{p}, e_i)$ . Then  $\bar{p} \cdot \bar{x} > \bar{p} \cdot e_i$ .

Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then by continuity of dot product,  $\forall x'$  such that  $\|x' - \bar{x}\| < \epsilon, \bar{p} \cdot x' > \bar{p} \cdot e_i$ .

We know that  $x_{n_k} \in B(p_{n_k}, e_i), \forall n_k$ . Then  $x_{n_k} \rightarrow \bar{x}$  implies that  $\exists \bar{k}$  such that  $\forall k > \bar{k}, \|x_{n_k} - \bar{x}\| < \epsilon$  and  $p_{n_k} \cdot x_{n_k} \leq p_{n_k} \cdot e_i, \forall n_k$ . By continuity of the dot product,  $\bar{p} \cdot \bar{x} \leq \bar{p} \cdot e_i$ . Then  $\bar{x} \in B(\bar{p}, e_i)$ . Therefore  $B(\cdot, e_i)$  is u.h.c

2.  $B(\cdot, e)$  is lower hemi-continuous on prices. Let  $p \in \Delta, \{p_n\} \subset \Delta$  with  $p_n \rightarrow p$  and  $x \in B(p, e)$ . Define  $\eta_n^i = \max \left\{ 0, \frac{p_n \cdot x - p_n \cdot e}{lp_n^i} \right\}$  and let  $x_n = x - \eta_n$  Clearly  $x_n \in B(p_n, e)$  since either  $x \in B(p_n, e)$  or

$$p_n \cdot x_n = p_n \cdot x - \sum_i \max \left\{ 0, p_n^i \left( \frac{p_n \cdot x - p_n \cdot e}{lp_n^i} \right) \right\} \leq p_n \cdot x - \sum_i p_n^i \left( \frac{p_n \cdot x - p_n \cdot e}{lp_n^i} \right) = p_n \cdot x - (p_n \cdot x - p_n \cdot e) = p_n \cdot e$$

then  $p_n \cdot x_n \leq p_n \cdot e$  Moreover  $x_n \rightarrow x$ , since  $x \in B(p, e)$  and  $p_n \rightarrow p$  it follows that  $p_n \cdot x - p_n \cdot e \rightarrow p \cdot x - p \cdot e \leq 0$ , then  $\eta_n = \max \{0, p_n \cdot x - p_n \cdot e\} \rightarrow 0$  which is  $x_n \rightarrow x$ . Then  $B$  is l.h.c.

3. Note that it wasn't checked if  $x_n \geq 0$  for all  $n$ . This is not guaranteed by the construction above. With extra notation it can be guaranteed that  $x_n^i \geq 0$ .

### Question 3

Let consumer  $i$  demand correspondence at a price  $p$  and endowment  $e_i$  be

$$x_i(p, e_i) = \{x \in B(p, e_i) : x_i \succeq_i y \quad \forall y \in B(p, e_i)\}$$

- i) Show that if  $B(p, e_i)$  is compact and  $\succeq_i$  is complete and transitive preorder with upper contour sets  $U_i(x) = \{y \in X_i : y \succeq_i x\}$  that are closed for all  $x \in X_i$  then the demand is non-empty.  
 ii) Give an example illustrating that compactness is indeed a necessary condition.

### Solution 3

*Proof.* Since  $B(p, e_i)$  is compact and  $U_i(x)$  are closed for all  $x \in X_i$ ,  $U_i(x) \cap B(p, e_i)$  is also compact for all  $x \in X_i$ . By completeness and transitivity of  $\succeq_i$ , given any subset  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subset B(p, e_i)$ , we can rearrange the elements so that  $x_1 \preceq_i x_2 \preceq_i \dots \preceq_i x_n$ . Then the upper contour sets of these allocations satisfy  $U_i(x_1) \supseteq U_i(x_2) \supseteq \dots \supseteq U_i(x_n)$ . Thus

$$U_i(x_1) \cap B(p, e_i) \supseteq U_i(x_2) \cap B(p, e_i) \supseteq \dots \supseteq U_i(x_n) \cap B(p, e_i).$$

By construction,  $x_k \in U_i(x_k) \cap B(p, e_i)$  for all  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . So  $U_i(x_k) \cap B(p, e_i)$  is nonempty and compact for all  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . Since the intersections are nested, this implies that  $\bigcap_{k=1}^n [U_i(x_k) \cap B(p, e_i)] \neq \emptyset$  for every finite subset  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq B(p, e_i)$ . By the finite intersection property of compact sets,

$$x_i(p, e_i) = \bigcap_{x \in B(p, e_i)} [U_i(x) \cap B(p, e_i)] \neq \emptyset.$$

□

If the budget set is not compact, demand is often not well-defined. Let  $\ell = 2$ , let  $e_i = (1, 1)$  and let consumer  $i$ 's preferences be represented by the strictly increasing utility function

$$u_i(x, y) = \log x + \log y.$$

Let  $p = (0, 1)$ . Then  $B(p, e_i) = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^\ell : x \in [0, \infty), y \leq 1\}$ . This set is obviously not bounded so  $B(p, e_i)$  is not compact.

Suppose that  $x_i(p, e_i) \neq \emptyset$ , i.e.,  $\exists (x, y) \in x_i(p, e_i)$ . Then  $u_i(x, y) \geq u_i(x', y')$  for all  $(x', y') \in B(p, e_i)$ . But  $(x + 1, y) \in B(p, e_i)$  and  $u_i(x + 1, y) > u_i(x, y)$ . This is a contradiction, so  $(x, y) \notin x_i(p, e_i)$ .

Therefore  $x_i(p, e_i) = \emptyset$ .

### Question 4

The consumer problem is often laid out without explicit endowments of the goods, instead the parameters are prices  $p \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^\ell$  and a nominal income level  $e \in \mathbb{R}_+$ . The set of parameters is  $\Theta = \mathbb{R}_{++}^\ell \times \mathbb{R}$ . The **indirect utility function** and the **Marshallian demand correspondence** are:

$$v(p, e) = \max_{x \in B(p, e)} u(x) \quad x(p, e) = \{x \in B(p, e) \mid u(x) = v(p, e)\}$$

I take as given that  $B$  is a nonempty, convex valued and continuous correspondence, and that  $u$  is a continuous function. Show for  $v$  and  $x$  the following properties on  $\Theta$ .

- a  $v$  is a continuous function on  $\Theta$  and  $x$  is a nonempty, compact valued, u.h.c. correspondence.
- b  $v$  is nondecreasing in  $r$  for fixed  $p$  and non-increasing in  $p$  for fixed  $xe$ .
- c  $v$  is jointly quasi-convex on  $(p, e)$ .
- d If  $u$  is (quasi) concave then  $v$  is (quasi) concave in  $e$  for fixed  $p$ .
- e If  $u$  is (quasi) concave then  $x$  is a convex valued correspondence.
- f If  $u$  is strictly (quasi) concave then  $x$  is a continuous function.

### Solution 4

- a Thm of Max
- b For  $v(\cdot, e)$  non-increasing for fixed  $e$ :

$$\forall p > p' \quad B(p, e) \subseteq B(p', e)$$

Hence  $v(p', e) \geq v(p, e)$

Similar for  $v(p, \cdot)$  non-decreasing for fix  $p$

- c If  $u$  concave, take any  $p, p' \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^l$ ,  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$

$$v(\lambda p + (1-\lambda)p', e) = \max\{u(x) \text{ s.t. } [\lambda p + (1-\lambda)p'] \cdot x \leq e$$

The budget constraint can be rewritten as

$$\lambda(e - px) + (1-\lambda)p'(e - p'x) \geq 0$$

Hence either  $p \cdot x \leq e$  or  $p' \cdot x \leq e$  is true (or both). This means every affordable package when facing  $\lambda p + (1-\lambda)p'$  is affordable either when facing  $p$  or  $p'$ , i.e.

$$B(\lambda p + (1-\lambda)p', e) \subset B(p, e) \cap B(p', e)$$

$$v(\lambda p + (1-\lambda)p') \leq \max\{v(p, e), v(p', e)\}$$

which means  $v$  is quasi-convex in  $p$  holding  $e$  fixed. Similar for  $v$  when fixed  $p$ .  $x(\cdot)$  part comes from Thm of Max under Convexity.

- d Thm of Max under Convexity