

Slutsky Equation

$$h_i(p, \bar{u}) = x_i(p, e(p, \bar{u})) \text{ by duality.}$$

Differentiate wrt  $p_k$

$$\frac{\partial h_i(p, \bar{u})}{\partial p_k} = \frac{\partial x_i(p, e(p, \bar{u}))}{\partial p_k} + \frac{\partial x_i(p, e(p, \bar{u}))}{\partial m} \cdot \frac{\partial e(p, \bar{u})}{\partial p_k}$$

At  $\bar{u} = v(p, m)$ , duality applies, and we know

$$\left( \frac{\partial e(p, \bar{u})}{\partial p_k} = \frac{\partial e(p, v(p, m))}{\partial p_k} = h_k(p, v(p, m)) = x_k(p, m) \right)$$

↑  
Shephard's  
lemma

↑  
duality

$$\text{Thus, } \frac{\partial h_i(p, v(p, m))}{\partial p_k} = \frac{\partial x_i(p, m)}{\partial p_k} + \frac{\partial x_i(p, m)}{\partial m} \cdot x_k(p, m)$$

Slutsky equation

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{\partial x_i(p, m)}{\partial p_k} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial h_i(p, v(p, m))}{\partial p_k}}_{\text{substitution effect}} - \underbrace{\frac{\partial x_i(p, m)}{\partial m} \cdot x_k(p, m)}_{\text{income effect}}}$$

\* Hicksian demand is usually unobservable since we don't observe  $\bar{u}$ , but it is well-behaving:  $Dh(p)$  is symmetric, NSD, and  $\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial p_i} \leq 0$ .

$$Dh(p) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial p_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial p_n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial h_n}{\partial p_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial h_n}{\partial p_n} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 e(p, \bar{u})}{\partial p_1^2} & \dots & \frac{\partial^2 e(p, \bar{u})}{\partial p_1 \partial p_n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 e(p, \bar{u})}{\partial p_n \partial p_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial^2 e(p, \bar{u})}{\partial p_n^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

With the Slutsky equation, we can construct  $Dh(p)$  as

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} s_{11} & s_{12} & \dots & s_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ s_{n1} & \dots & \dots & s_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{where } s_{jk} = \frac{\partial x_j}{\partial p_k} + \frac{\partial x_j}{\partial m} \cdot x_k$$

Slutsky matrix.



### Exercise #1

A consumer lives for two periods and has total wealth  $w$ . She consumes  $c_1$  in period 1 and  $c_2$  in period 2. Her BC is  $p_1 c_1 + p_2 c_2 \leq w$ .

Assume an econometrician has given you the following observed demand functions for  $c_2$  (and  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\beta > 0$  are given)

$$c_2(p, w) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } w < \alpha(p_1 + p_2) \\ \alpha + \beta/p_2 (w - \alpha p_1 - \alpha p_2) & \text{if } w \geq \alpha(p_1 + p_2) \end{cases}$$

- (a) Assume local nonsatiation. What is her implied demand for  $c_1$ ?
- (b) What's the most natural interpretation of  $\bar{w} = \alpha(p_1 + p_2)$ ?
- (c) Assume the consumer always has the wealth level  $w < \bar{w}$ .

Are these restricted demand functions consistent with utility maximization for some utility function  $u(c_1, c_2)$ ?

If so, provide a utility function that rationalizes her behavior.

- (d) Now assume the consumer always has  $w > \bar{w}$ .

Use the Slutsky substitution matrix to determine any additional restrictions on parameters  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  that are necessary for her behavior to be consistent with the demand



Sol)

(a) LNS  $\rightarrow$  Walras' Law!  $p \cdot c = w \rightarrow c_1 = \frac{w - p_2 c_2}{p_1}$

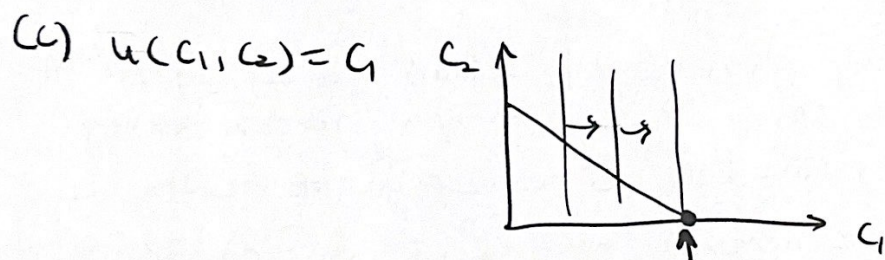
$$\therefore c_1(p, w) = \begin{cases} w/p_1 & \text{if } w < \alpha(p_1 + p_2) \\ \frac{w - \alpha p_2 - \beta w + \alpha \beta (p_1 + p_2)}{p_1} & \text{if } w \geq \alpha(p_1 + p_2) \end{cases}$$

$$= \alpha + \frac{1-\beta}{p_1} (w - \alpha p_1 - \alpha p_2) \quad \text{if } w \geq \alpha(p_1 + p_2)$$

(b) A minimal level of wealth required to survive both periods.

If  $w < \bar{w}$ , the consumer cannot afford  $\alpha$  in both periods

So will "die".



(d)  $(c_1(p, w), c_2(p, w)) = \left( \alpha + \frac{1-\beta}{p_1} (w - \alpha p_1 - \alpha p_2), \alpha + \frac{\beta}{p_2} (w - \alpha p_1 - \alpha p_2) \right)$

$[S_{ij}] = \left[ \frac{\partial c_i(p, w)}{\partial p_j} + \frac{\partial c_i(p, w)}{\partial w} c_j(p, w) \right] \Rightarrow \textcircled{1} \text{ symmetric}$   
 $\textcircled{2} \text{ NSD}$

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{(1-\beta)\beta(w - \alpha p_1 - \alpha p_2)}{p_1^2} & \frac{(1-\beta)\beta(w - \alpha p_1 - \alpha p_2)}{p_1 p_2} \\ \frac{(1-\beta)\beta(w - \alpha p_1 - \alpha p_2)}{p_1 p_2} & -\frac{(1-\beta)\beta(w - \alpha p_1 - \alpha p_2)}{p_2^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\rightarrow$  symmetric  
 $\rightarrow S_{11} \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow \beta \in (0, 1)$   
 $\rightarrow D = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow \beta \in (0, 1)$



## Exercise #2

Consider an indirect utility function

$$v(p, m) = \frac{m - \gamma p_x}{p_x^\alpha p_y^{1-\alpha}}$$

where  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  and  $m > p_x \gamma$ .

- (a) Marshallian demand  $x(p, m)$  and  $y(p, m)$ ?
- (b) What is the expenditure function  $e(p, \bar{u})$ ?
- (c) What are the Hicksian demand  $h_x(p, \bar{u})$  and  $h_y(p, \bar{u})$ ?
- (d) Consider a change in the price of good  $x$ .  
Among two possible measures of change in consumer welfare  $\Delta CS$  and  $EV$ , which measure will result in a larger change of welfare?
- (e) Consider an economy populated by  $I$  individual consumers with different wealth levels  $(m_1, \dots, m_I)$ , each with indirect utility  $v_i(p, m_i) = v(p, m_i)$ . Let  $\bar{m} = \sum_i m_i$  denote the aggregate wealth.  
What are the aggregate demand functions  $\bar{x}(p, \bar{m})$  and  $\bar{y}(p, \bar{m})$ ?  
Does a representative consumer exist in this economy?  
If so, what is the representative consumer's indirect utility function  $\bar{v}(p, \bar{m})$ ?

Sol.)

(a) Roy's Identity!

$$\begin{aligned} (V &= m p_x^{-\alpha} p_y^{\alpha-1} - \gamma p_x^{1-\alpha} p_y^{\alpha-1}) \\ \begin{cases} x(p, m) = -\frac{\partial V / \partial p_x}{\partial V / \partial m} = -\frac{-\alpha p_x^{-\alpha-1} p_y^{\alpha-1} - \gamma(1-\alpha) p_x^{-\alpha} p_y^{\alpha-1}}{p_x^{-\alpha} p_y^{\alpha-1}} = \frac{\alpha m}{p_x} + \gamma(1-\alpha) \\ y(p, m) = -\frac{\partial V / \partial p_y}{\partial V / \partial m} = -\frac{(\alpha-1) m p_x^{-\alpha} p_y^{\alpha-2} - \gamma(\alpha-1) p_x^{1-\alpha} p_y^{\alpha-2}}{p_x^{-\alpha} p_y^{\alpha-1}} = \frac{(1-\alpha)m}{p_y} + (1-\alpha)\gamma \cdot \frac{p_x}{p_y} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

(b)  $e(p, u)$ ? Use duality!

$$V(p, e(p, u)) = u \Rightarrow \frac{e(p, u) - \gamma p_x}{p_x^{\alpha} p_y^{1-\alpha}} = u \Rightarrow \underline{e(p, u) = p_x^{\alpha} p_y^{1-\alpha} \cdot u + \gamma p_x}$$

(c) Use Shephard's lemma!

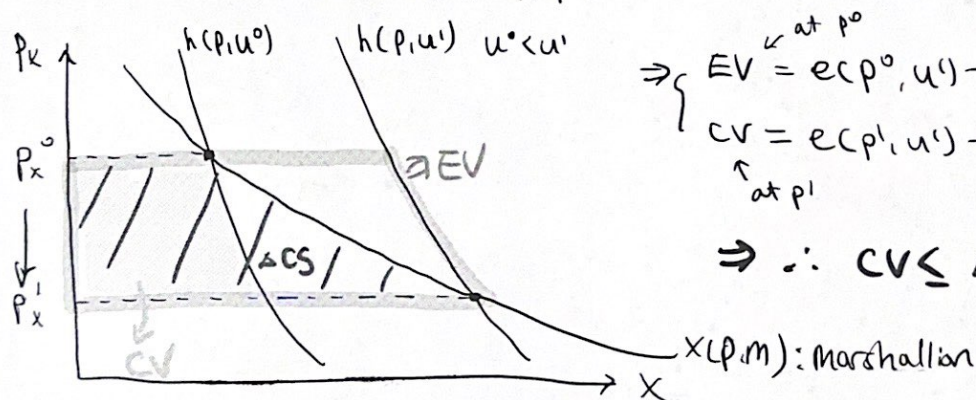
$$\begin{cases} h_x(p, u) = \frac{\partial e(p, u)}{\partial p_x} = \alpha p_x^{\alpha-1} p_y^{1-\alpha} \cdot u + \gamma \\ h_y(p, u) = \frac{\partial e(p, u)}{\partial p_y} = (1-\alpha) p_x^{\alpha} p_y^{-\alpha} \cdot u \end{cases}$$

(d) By the Slutsky equation.  $\frac{\partial x(p, m)}{\partial p} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial h(p, u)}{\partial p}}_{\text{always } \ominus} - \underbrace{\frac{\partial x(p, m)}{\partial m} \cdot x(p, m)}_{\text{for normal goods } \ominus}$   
for  $x$  and similarly for  $y$ .

Let's first check if  $x$  &  $y$  are normal goods or inferior goods

$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial m} = \frac{\alpha}{p_x} > 0, \quad \frac{\partial y}{\partial m} = \frac{(1-\alpha)}{p_y} > 0 \quad : \text{normal goods.}$$

So, we know  $|\frac{\partial x}{\partial p}| > |\frac{\partial h_x}{\partial p}|$



$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} EV \stackrel{\text{at } p^0}{=} e(p^0, u^1) - e(p^0, u^0) = e(p^0, u^1) - m \\ CV \stackrel{\text{at } p^1}{=} e(p^1, u^1) - e(p^1, u^0) = m - e(p^1, u^0) \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \therefore CV \leq \Delta CS \leq EV$$



(e)

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \bar{x}(p, \bar{m}) = \frac{\sum_i \left( \frac{\alpha m_i + (1-\alpha) \gamma p_x}{p_x} \right)}{p_x} = \frac{\alpha \bar{m} + I(1-\alpha) \gamma p_x}{p_x} \\ \bar{y}(p, \bar{m}) = \frac{\sum_i \left( \frac{(1-\alpha)(m_i - \gamma p_x)}{p_y} \right)}{p_y} = \frac{(1-\alpha) \bar{m} - I(1-\alpha) \gamma p_x}{p_y} \end{cases}$$

$\Rightarrow$  A representative consumer exists if and only if all individual indirect utility functions have the Gorman form

$$v_i(p, m_i) = a_i(p) + b(p) m_i$$

$$\text{In this case, } a_i(p) = -\gamma p_x / p_x^\alpha p_y^{1-\alpha} \quad \& \quad b(p) = 1 / p_x^\alpha p_y^{1-\alpha}$$

Thus, the representative consumer's indirect utility function is

$$v(p, \bar{m}) = \sum_i a_i(p) + b(p) \bar{m} = -\frac{I \gamma p_x}{p_x^\alpha p_y^{1-\alpha}} + \frac{\bar{m}}{p_x^\alpha p_y^{1-\alpha}} //$$

### Exercise #3

Let  $u(x_1, x_2)$  be a consumer's utility, and consider a change in the price of good 1 ( $p_2$  is fixed).

(a) Hicksian compensation: the net number of dollars we must give the consumer to be able to afford the same utility as she achieved before the price change.

Slutsky compensation: the net number of dollars we must give the consumer to achieve the same bundle she purchased before the price change.

$\Rightarrow$  Prove  $HC \leq SC$ .

(b) Let  $u(x_1, x_2) = V(x_1) + x_2$  for some function  $V$ .

Prove  $EV = CV$  when there was a change in price 1.  
(ignore corner solutions)



(sol)

(a)  $p^{\text{old}}$  &  $p^{\text{new}}$  ;  $u^{\text{old}}$  &  $u^{\text{new}}$  ;  $x^{\text{old}}$  &  $x^{\text{new}}$

$$\begin{cases} HC = e(p^{\text{new}}, u^{\text{old}}) - e(p^{\text{new}}, u^{\text{new}}) \\ SC = p^{\text{new}} \cdot x^{\text{old}} - e(p^{\text{new}}, u^{\text{new}}) \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore HC - SC = e(p^{\text{new}}, u^{\text{old}}) - p^{\text{new}} \cdot x^{\text{old}} \leq 0 \quad \text{always}$$

since the expenditure function is the optimal value.

$$\therefore HC \leq SC.$$

(b)  $\Rightarrow EV$  is the area to the left of  $h_1(p, u^{\text{new}})$  and  
 $CV$  is the area to the left of  $h_1(p, u^{\text{old}})$ .

However, since the utility is quasilinear in good 2,

we know that  $h_1(p, u^{\text{new}}) = h_1(p, u^{\text{old}}) = h_1(p) = x_1(p)$ ,

since good 1 is not affected by wealth.

Thus, those two hicksian demand curves are the same,

$$CV = EV \quad \square$$