Budget Constrained Choice with Two Commodities

Joseph Tao-yi Wang 2019/9/25

(Lecture 5, Micro Theory I)

The Consumer Problem

- We have some powerful tools:
 - Constrained Maximization (Shadow Prices)
 - Envelope Theorem (Changing Environment)
- Can help us understand consumer behavior?
 Such as:
 - Maximizing utility, facing a budget constraint
 - Minimizing cost, maintaining certain welfare level

Key Problems to Consider

- Total Price Effect =
- Substitution Effect + Income Effect
- Consumer Problem: How can consumer's Utility Maximization result in demand?
 - Income Effect: How does an increase/decrease in income (budget) affect demand?
- Dual Problem: How is Minimizing Expenditure related to Maximizing Utility?
 - Substitution Effect: How does an increase in commodity price affect compensated demand?

Why do we care about this? Public Policy!

- Taiwan's ministry of defense has to decide whether to buy more fighter jets, or more submarines given a tight budget
- How does the military rank each combination?
- How do they choose which combination to buy?
- How would a price change affect their decision?
- How would a boycott in defense budget affect their decision?

Continuous Demand Function

Consumer with income I faces prices $\vec{p} = (p_1, p_2)$ $\max_{\vec{x}} \{ U(\vec{x}) | \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} \leq I, \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2_+ \}$

- Assume: LNS (local non-satiation)
 - Then, consumer spends all his/her income!
- $U(\vec{x})$ is continuous, strictly quasi-concave on \mathbb{R}^2_+
 - There is a unique solution $\vec{x}^0 = \vec{x}(\vec{p}, I)$
- Then, by Prop. 2.2-1, $\vec{x}(\vec{p}, I)$ must be continuous.
 - aka Theory of Maximum I (Prop. C.4-1 on p. 581)

Appendix C:

Prop.C.4-1 Theory of Maximum I

For f continuous, define

$$F(\vec{\alpha}) = \max_{\vec{x}} \{ f(\vec{x}, \vec{\alpha}) | \vec{x} \ge 0, \quad \vec{x} \in X(\vec{\alpha}) \subset \mathbb{R}^n,$$

$$\vec{\alpha} \in A \subset \mathbb{R}^m$$

• If (i) for each $\vec{\alpha}$ there is a unique

$$\vec{x}^*(\vec{\alpha}) = \arg\max_{\vec{x}} \left\{ f(\vec{x}, \vec{\alpha}) \middle| \vec{x} \ge 0, \vec{x} \in X(\vec{\alpha}), \vec{\alpha} \in A \right\}$$

- and (ii) $X(\vec{\alpha})$ is a compact-valued correspondence that is continuous at $\vec{\alpha}^0$
- Then, $\vec{x}^*(\vec{\alpha})$ is continuous at $\vec{\alpha}^0$

Continuous Demand of Prices and Income

• $U(\vec{x})$ is continuous, strictly quasi-concave on \mathbb{R}^2_+

$$F(\vec{\alpha}) = \max_{\vec{x}} \left\{ U(\vec{x}) | \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} \le I, \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \right\}$$

• If (i) for each $\vec{\alpha}$ there is a unique

$$\vec{x}^0 = \vec{x}(\vec{p}, I)$$

Consumer with income I faces prices $\vec{p} = (p_1, p_2)$

• Then, $\vec{x}(\vec{p}, I)$ must be continuous.

Some Stronger Convenience Assumptions

- Assume:
- $U(\vec{x})$ is continuously differentiable on \mathbb{R}^2_+
 - FOC is gradient vector of utility (& constraints)
- LNS-plus:

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial \vec{x}}(\vec{x}) = \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial U}{\partial x_2}\right) \gg \vec{0} \text{ for all } \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2_+$$

- MU > 0: Preferences are strictly increasing
- No corners: $\lim_{x_j \to 0} \frac{\partial U}{\partial x_j} = \infty, j = 1, 2$
 - Always wants to consume some of everything

Indifference Curve Analysis (Lagrangian Ver.)

A Consumer with income I, facing prices p_1, p_2

$$\max_{\vec{x}} \left\{ U(\vec{x}) | \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} \le I, \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \right\}$$

Lagrangian is $\mathfrak{L} = U + \lambda (I - \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x})$

$$(FOC) \qquad \frac{\partial \mathfrak{L}}{\partial x_j} = \frac{\partial U}{\partial x_j} (\vec{x}^*) - \lambda p_j = 0, j = 1, 2$$

$$\frac{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_1}(\vec{x}^*)}{p_1} = \frac{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_2}(\vec{x}^*)}{p_2} = \lambda$$

Meaning of FOC

1. Same marginal value for last dollar spent on

each commodity
$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_1}(\vec{x}^*) = \frac{\partial U}{\partial x_2}(\vec{x}^*) = \lambda$$
 p_1

- Does Taiwan get the same defense MU on fighter jets and submarines?
- 2. Indifference Curve tangent to Budget Line

$$MRS(\vec{x}^*) = \frac{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_1}(\vec{x}^*)}{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_2}(\vec{x}^*)} = \frac{p_1}{p_2}$$

Three Examples

Quasi-Linear Convex Preference

$$U(\vec{x}) = v(x_1) + \alpha x_2$$

Cobb-Douglas Preferences

$$U(\vec{x}) = x_1^{\alpha_1} x_2^{\alpha_2}, \alpha_1, \alpha_2 > 0$$

CES Utility Function

$$U(\vec{x}) = \left(\alpha_1 x_1^{1 - \frac{1}{\theta}} + \alpha_2 x_2^{1 - \frac{1}{\theta}}\right)^{\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{\theta}}}$$

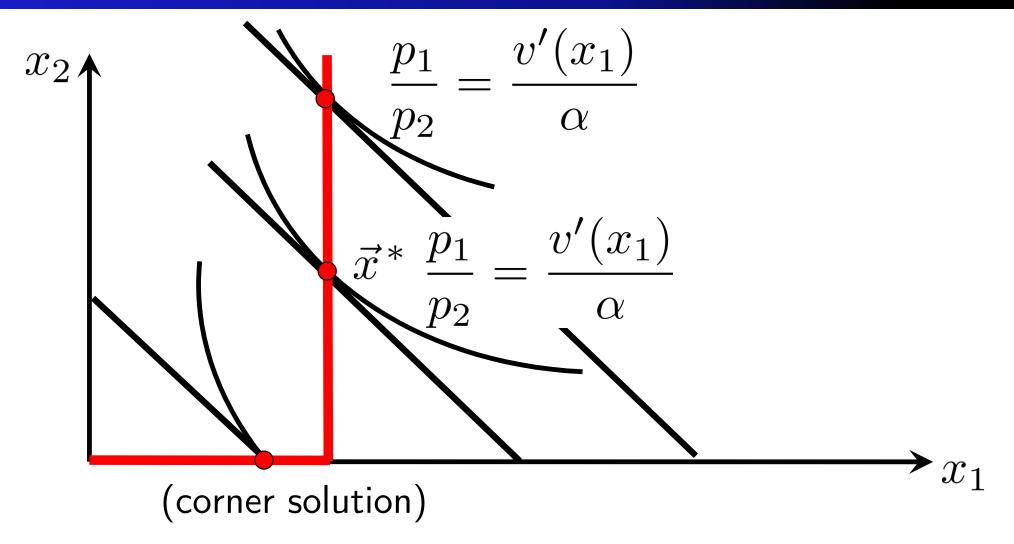
Quasi-Linear Convex Utility

$$\max_{\vec{x}} \left\{ U(\vec{x}) = v(x_1) + \alpha x_2 | p_1 x_1 + p_2 x_2 \le I, x \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \right\}$$

• FOC:
$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_1} = \frac{\partial U}{\partial x_2} = \frac{v'(x_1)}{p_1} = \frac{\alpha}{p_2} (= \lambda)$$

- Implication: $\frac{p_1}{} = \frac{v'(x_1)}{}$ (MRS=price)
- Note that x_2 is irrelevant...
- What does this mean?

Income Effect



Vertical Income Expansion Path (at interior)

Cobb-Douglas Preferences

$$\max_{x_1, x_2} U(x_1, x_2) = x_1^{\alpha_1} x_2^{\alpha_2}, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = 1$$
s.t. $P_{x_1} \cdot x_1 + P_{x_2} \cdot x_2 \le I = P_{x_1} \cdot \omega_{x_1} + P_{x_2} \cdot \omega_{x_2}$

$$\mathcal{L} = x_1^{\alpha_1} x_2^{\alpha_2} + \lambda \cdot [I - P_{x_1} \cdot x_1 - P_{x_2} \cdot x_2]$$

FOC: (for interior solutions)

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x_1} = \alpha_1 \cdot \frac{x_2^{\alpha_2}}{x_1^{\alpha_2}} - \lambda \cdot P_{x_1} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x_2} = \alpha_2 \cdot \frac{x_1^{\alpha_1}}{x_2^{\alpha_1}} - \lambda \cdot P_{x_2} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \lambda} = I - P_{x_1} \cdot x_1 - P_{x_2} \cdot x_2 = 0$$

Cobb-Douglas Preferences

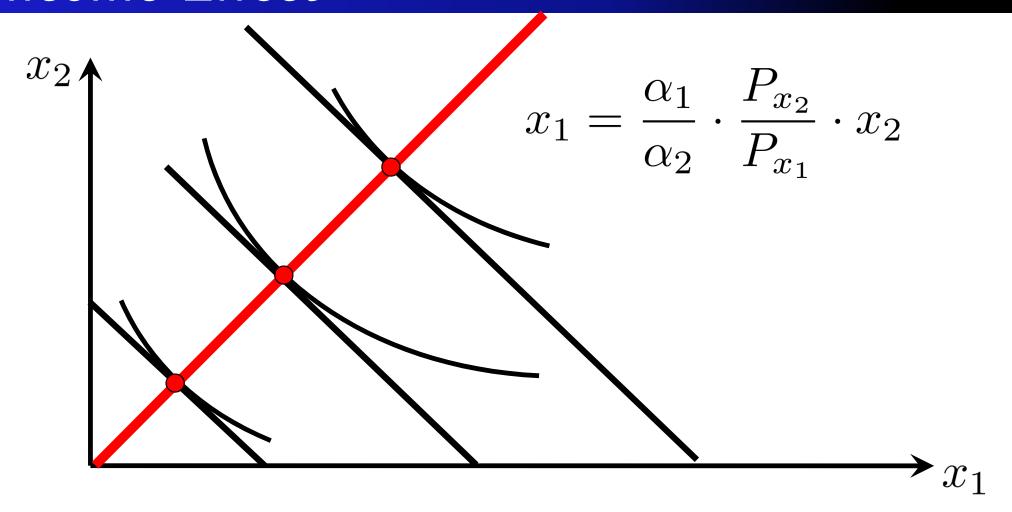
• Meaning of FOC: $MRS = \frac{P_{x_1}}{P_{x_2}}$

$$\frac{P_{x_1}}{P_{x_2}} = \frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_2} \cdot \frac{x_2}{x_1} \qquad \Rightarrow x_1 = \frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_2} \cdot \frac{P_{x_2}}{P_{x_1}} \cdot x_2$$

$$\Rightarrow I = P_{x_1} \cdot x_1 + P_{x_2} \cdot x_2 = \frac{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2}{\alpha_2} \cdot P_{x_2} \cdot x_2$$

$$\Rightarrow x_2^* = \frac{\alpha_2}{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2} \cdot \frac{I}{P_{x_2}}, \ x_1^* = \frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2} \cdot \frac{I}{P_{x_1}}$$

Income Effect



Linear Income Expansion Path...

CES Utility Function

$$U(\vec{x}) = \left(\alpha_1 x_1^{1 - \frac{1}{\theta}} + \alpha_2 x_2^{1 - \frac{1}{\theta}}\right)^{\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{\theta}}}$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \left(\alpha_1 x_1^{1 - \frac{1}{\theta}} + \alpha_2 x_2^{1 - \frac{1}{\theta}}\right)^{\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{\theta}}} + \lambda \cdot \left[I^A - P_x \cdot x - P_y \cdot y\right]$$

• FOC: (for interior solutions)

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x_1} = \alpha_1 x_1^{-\frac{1}{\theta}} \cdot \left(\alpha_1 x_1^{1-\frac{1}{\theta}} + \alpha_2 x_2^{1-\frac{1}{\theta}}\right)^{\frac{1}{\theta-1}} - \lambda \cdot P_{x_1} = 0$$

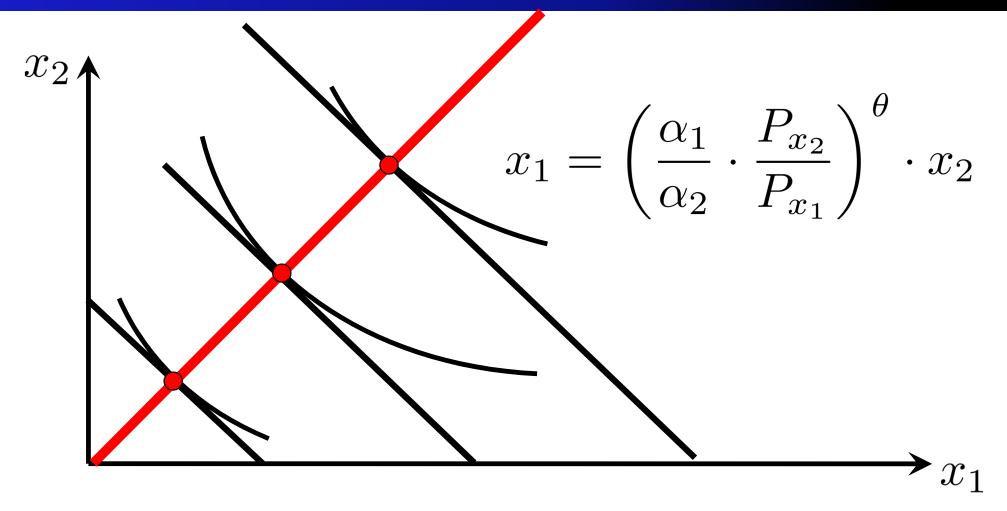
$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x_2} = \alpha_2 x_2^{-\frac{1}{\theta}} \cdot \left(\alpha_1 x_1^{1-\frac{1}{\theta}} + \alpha_2 x_2^{1-\frac{1}{\theta}}\right)^{\frac{1}{\theta-1}} - \lambda \cdot P_{x_2} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \lambda} = I - P_{x_1} \cdot x_1 - P_{x_2} \cdot x_2 = 0$$

CES Utility Function

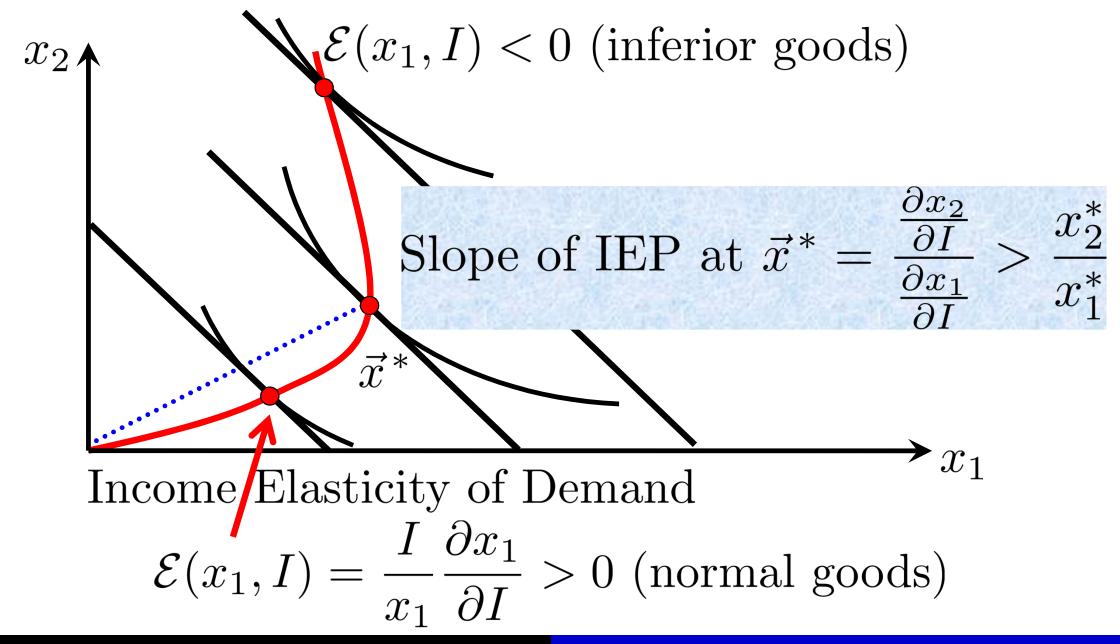
$$\begin{split} \frac{P_{x_1}}{P_{x_2}} &= \frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_2} \cdot \left(\frac{x_2}{x_1}\right)^{\frac{1}{\theta}} \Rightarrow x_1 = \left(\frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_2} \cdot \frac{P_{x_2}}{P_{x_1}}\right)^{\theta} \cdot x_2 \\ \Rightarrow I &= P_{x_1} \cdot x_1 + P_{x_2} \cdot x_2 \\ &= \left[\left(\frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_2}\right)^{\theta} \cdot \left(\frac{P_{x_2}}{P_{x_1}}\right)^{\theta - 1} + 1\right] \cdot P_{x_2} \cdot x_2 \\ \Rightarrow x_2^* &= \frac{\alpha_2^{\theta} P_{x_1}^{\theta - 1}}{\alpha_1^{\theta} P_{x_2}^{\theta - 1} + \alpha_2^{\theta} P_{x_1}^{\theta - 1}} \cdot \frac{I}{P_{x_2}}, \\ x_1^* &= \frac{\alpha_1^{\theta} P_{x_2}^{\theta - 1}}{\alpha_1^{\theta} P_{x_2}^{\theta - 1} + \alpha_2^{\theta} P_{x_1}^{\theta - 1}} \cdot \frac{I}{P_{x_1}} \end{split}$$

Income Effect



- Linear Income Expansion Path...
- Cobb-Douglas is a special case of CES! $(\theta = 1)$

Income Effects



Income Effects

- If IEP is steeper than the line joining 0 & x^*
- Then, Slope of IEP at $\vec{x}^* = \frac{\frac{\partial x_2}{\partial I}}{\frac{\partial x_1}{\partial I}} > \frac{x_2^*}{x_1^*}$
- Or, $\mathcal{E}(x_2, I) = \frac{I}{x_2} \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial I} > \mathcal{E}(x_1, I) = \frac{I}{x_1} \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial I}$
- Lemma 2.2-2: Expenditure share weighted average income elasticity = 1
- So, $\mathcal{E}(x_2, I) > 1 > \mathcal{E}(x_1, I)$

Lemma 2.2-2:

Weighted Average Income Elasticity

- (Expenditure-Share Weighted) Average IE = 1

$$k_1 \mathcal{E}(x_1^*, I) + k_2 \mathcal{E}(x_2^*, I) = 1$$

• Where $k_j = \frac{p_j x_j^*}{I}$ is the expenditure share of x_j Proof:

$$p_{1}x_{1}^{*}(\vec{p},I) + p_{2}x_{2}^{*}(\vec{p},I) = I \Rightarrow p_{1}\frac{\partial x_{1}^{*}}{\partial I} + p_{2}\frac{\partial x_{2}^{*}}{\partial I} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{p_{1}x_{1}^{*}}{I}\right)\frac{I}{x_{1}^{*}}\frac{\partial x_{1}^{*}}{\partial I} + \left(\frac{p_{2}x_{2}^{*}}{I}\right)\frac{I}{x_{2}^{*}}\frac{\partial x_{2}^{*}}{\partial I} = 1$$

$$k_{1} \quad \overline{\mathcal{E}(x_{1}^{*},I)} \quad \overline{\mathcal{E}(x_{1}^{*},I)}$$

- From $p_1x_1^*(\vec{p},I) + p_2x_2^*(\vec{p},I) = I$, we have:
- 1. Average Income Effect = 1

$$k_1 \mathcal{E}(x_1^*, I) + k_2 \mathcal{E}(x_2^*, I) = 1$$

- By differentiating with respect to I
- Differentiating with respect to p_i , we have:
- 2. Demand for all goods has negative average response to a price increase of one good

- From $p_1 x_1^*(\vec{p}, I) + p_2 x_2^*(\vec{p}, I) = I$,
 - Differentiating with respect to p_i , we have:

$$\Rightarrow x_i^*(\vec{p}, I) + p_1 \frac{\partial x_1^*}{\partial p_1} + p_2 \frac{\partial x_2^*}{\partial p_1} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \left[\frac{p_i x_i^*}{I} \right] + \left[\frac{p_1 x_1^*}{I} \right] \frac{p_i}{x_1^*} \frac{\partial x_1^*}{\partial p_i} + \left[\frac{p_2 x_2^*}{I} \right] \frac{p_i}{x_2^*} \frac{\partial x_2^*}{\partial p_i} = 0$$

$$k_i \quad k_1 \quad \mathcal{E}(x_1^*, p_i) \quad k_2 \quad \mathcal{E}(x_2^*, p_i)$$

$$\Rightarrow k_1 \mathcal{E}(x_1^*, p_i) + k_2 \mathcal{E}(x_2^*, p_i) = -k_i < 0$$

- From $p_1x_1^*(\vec{p},I) + p_2x_2^*(\vec{p},I) = I$, we have:
- 1. Average $\mathsf{IE} = 1 \ k_1 \mathcal{E}(x_1^*, I) + k_2 \mathcal{E}(x_2^*, I) = 1$
- 2. Average demand response is negative to price increase of one good

$$k_1 \mathcal{E}(x_1^*, p_i) + k_2 \mathcal{E}(x_2^*, p_i) = -k_i < 0$$

- Using $x_i^*(r\vec{p},rI)=x_i^*(\vec{p},I)$, r>0,
- Can obtain $\mathcal{E}(x_1^*, p_i) + \mathcal{E}(x_2^*, p_i) + \mathcal{E}(x_i^*, I) = 0$
- 3. Substitute/Complement if other is price elastic/inelastic & has income elasticity = 1

- Why $x_i^*(r\vec{p}, rI) = x_i^*(\vec{p}, I), r > 0$?
- Money illusion! Same budget constraint...
- Differentiate with respect to r

$$\Rightarrow p_1 \frac{\partial x_i^*}{\partial p_1} + p_2 \frac{\partial x_i^*}{\partial p_2} + I \frac{\partial x_i^*}{\partial I} = 0$$

- Why $x_i^*(r\vec{p}, rI) = x_i^*(\vec{p}, I), r > 0$?
- Money illusion! Same budget constraint...
- Differentiate with respect to $r \& \text{divide by } x_i^*$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{p_1}{x_i^*} \frac{\partial x_i^*}{\partial p_1} + \frac{p_2}{x_i^*} \frac{\partial x_i^*}{\partial p_2} + \frac{I}{x_i^*} \frac{\partial x_i^*}{\partial I} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{E}(x_1^*, p_i) + \mathcal{E}(x_2^*, p_i) + \mathcal{E}(x_i^*, I) = 0$$

3. Substitute/Complement if other is price elastic/inelastic & has income elasticity = 1

- From $p_1x_1^*(\vec{p},I) + p_2x_2^*(\vec{p},I) = I$, we have:
- 1. Average IE = 1 $k_1 \mathcal{E}(x_1^*, I) + k_2 \mathcal{E}(x_2^*, I) = 1$
- 2. Average demand response is negative to price increase of one good $k_1\mathcal{E}(x_1^*, p_i) + k_2\mathcal{E}(x_2^*, p_i) = -k_i < 0$

- Using
$$x_i^*(r\vec{p}, rI) = x_i^*(\vec{p}, I)$$
, $r > 0$,

3. Substitute/Complement if other is price elastic/inelastic & has income elasticity = 1 $\mathcal{E}(x^*, y^*, y^*) + \mathcal{E}(x^*, y^*, y^*) + \mathcal{E}(x^*, y^*, y^*) = 0$

$$\mathcal{E}(x_1^*, p_i) + \mathcal{E}(x_2^*, p_i) + \mathcal{E}(x_i^*, I) = 0$$

Dual Problem: Minimizing Expenditure

• Consider the least costly way to achieve $\overline{\cal U}$

$$M(\vec{p}, \overline{U}) = \min_{\vec{x}} \left\{ \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} | U(\vec{x}) \ge \overline{U} \right\}$$

How can you solve this?

$$\begin{split} \mathfrak{L} &= -\vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} + \lambda (U(\vec{x}) - \overline{U}) \\ (FOC) \quad \frac{\partial \mathfrak{L}}{\partial x_j} &= -p_j + \lambda \frac{\partial U}{\partial x_j} (\vec{x}^*) = 0, j = 1, 2 \\ \frac{p_1}{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_1}} &= \frac{p_2}{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_2}} = \lambda \ \Rightarrow \text{Solve for } \underline{\vec{x}^c(\vec{p}, \overline{U})} \\ \quad \text{Compensated Demand} \end{split}$$

Dual Problem: Minimizing Expenditure

Can view it as the "sister" (dual) problem of:

$$\max_{\vec{x}} \left\{ U(\vec{x}) \middle| \vec{x} \ge \vec{0}, \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} \le I \right\}$$

- Because we have:
- Lemma 2.2-3 Duality Lemma
- LNS holds, $\vec{x}^* \in \arg\max_{\vec{x}} \left\{ U(\vec{x}) \middle| \vec{x} \ge \vec{0}, \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} \le I \right\}$
- Then,

$$U(\vec{x}) \ge U(\vec{x}^*) \Rightarrow \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} \ge \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x}^*$$

• So, $\vec{x}^* \in \arg\min_{\vec{x}} \{ \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} | \vec{x} \ge \vec{0}, U(\vec{x}) \ge U(\vec{x}^*) \}$

Lemma 2.2-3 Duality Lemma

- LNS holds, $\vec{x}^* \in \arg\max_{\vec{x}} \left\{ U(\vec{x}) \middle| \vec{x} \geq \vec{0}, \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} \leq I \right\}$ Max U
- Then, $U(\vec{x}) \geq U(\vec{x}^*) \Rightarrow \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} \geq \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x}^*$

• So,
$$\vec{x}^* \in \arg\min_{\vec{x}} \{ \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} | \vec{x} \ge \vec{0}, U(\vec{x}) \ge U(\vec{x}^*) \}$$

Proof: Consider bundle \vec{x}' such that $\vec{p} \cdot \vec{x}' < I$.

- $\bullet N(\vec{x}', \vec{\delta}) \subset \left\{ \vec{x} \middle| \vec{x} \geq \vec{0}, \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} \leq I \right\} \text{for some small } \vec{\delta}$
- LNS $\Rightarrow \exists \vec{x}'' \in N(\vec{x}', \vec{\delta})$ such that $\vec{x}'' \succ \vec{x}'$
- $ightharpoonup \operatorname{So} \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x}' < I \Rightarrow U(\vec{x}') < U(\vec{x}^*) \text{ (Equivalent!)}$

Expenditure Function and Value Function

- For utility \overline{U} and price vector \vec{p} , Expenditure Function is $M(\vec{p},\overline{U})=\min_{\vec{x}}\{\vec{p}\cdot\vec{x}|U(\vec{p})\geq\overline{U}\}$
- Claim: The Value Function (maximized utility)

$$V(\vec{p}, I) = \max_{\vec{x}} \left\{ U(\vec{x}) \middle| \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} \le I \right\}$$

- is strictly increasing over *I* (by LNS).
- Then, for any \overline{U} , there is a <u>unique</u> income M such that $\overline{U}=V(\vec{p},M)$
- Inverting this, we can solve for $M(\vec{p}, \overline{U})$

Claim: Value Function is Strictly Increasing

- Claim: The Value Function is strictly increasing $V(\vec{p},I) = \max_{\vec{r}} \left\{ U(\vec{x}) \middle| \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} \leq I \right\}$
- Proof: If not, there exists $I_1 < I_2$ and \vec{x}_1^*, \vec{x}_2^* such that $U(\vec{x}^*) V(\vec{x}, I_1) > V(\vec{x}, I_2) U(\vec{x}^*)$
 - such that $U(\vec{x}_1^*) = V(\vec{p}, I_1) \ge V(\vec{p}, I_2) = U(\vec{x}_2^*)$
- LNS yields $\vec{p}\cdot\vec{x}_1^*=I_1 < I_2$, and there exists \vec{x}'
 - such that $U(\vec{x}') > U(\vec{x}_1^*) \ge U(\vec{x}_2^*)$
- In neighborhood $N(\vec{x}_1^*, \vec{\delta}) \subset \{\vec{x} | \vec{x} \geq \vec{0}, \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} \leq I_2\}$
- But this means \vec{x}' solves $V(\vec{p}, I_2)$ not \vec{x}_2^* . $(\rightarrow \leftarrow)$

Dual Problem: Minimizing Expenditure

• In fact, minimizing expenditure yields:

$$\frac{p_1}{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_1}} = \frac{p_2}{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_2}} = \lambda$$

Maximize Utility's FOC yields:

$$\frac{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_1}}{p_1} = \frac{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_2}}{p_2} = \lambda$$

• This close relationship between $\vec{x}^c(\vec{p}, \overline{U})$ and $\vec{x}(\vec{p}, I)$ indicates why they are "sisters"...

Compensated Demand

$$\vec{x}^c(\vec{p}, \overline{U}) \text{ solves } M(\vec{p}, \overline{U}) = \min_{\vec{x}} \{ \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x} | U(\vec{x}) \leq \overline{U} \}$$

- By Envelope Theorem:
- Effect of "Compensated" Price Change is
 - aka Substitution Effect...

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial p_j} = \vec{x}_j^c(\vec{p}, \overline{U})$$

– How much more does Taiwan have to pay if the price of submarines increase (to maintain the same level of defense)?

Elasticity of

Substitution (Compensated Demand)

$$\sigma = \mathcal{E}\left(\frac{x_2^c}{x_1^c}, \frac{p_1}{p_2}\right)$$

Consumption ratio change

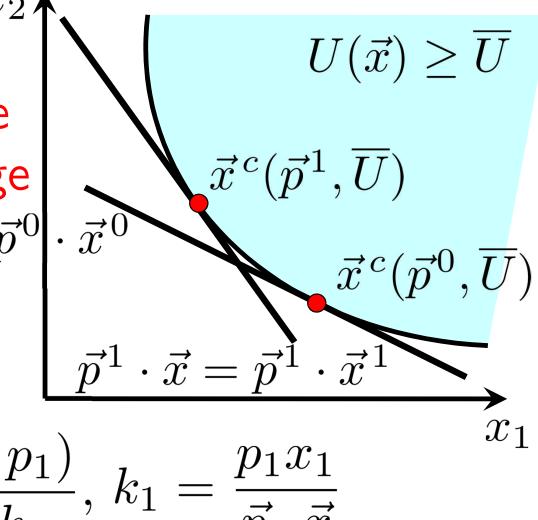
in response to price change

Claim:

$$|\vec{p}^0 \cdot \vec{x} = \vec{p}^0| \cdot$$

$$\sigma = \mathcal{E}\left(\frac{x_2^c}{x_1^c}, p_1\right)$$

$$= \frac{\mathcal{E}(x_2^c, p_1)}{k_1} = -\frac{\mathcal{E}(x_1^c, p_1)}{1 - k_1}, \ k_1 = \frac{p_1 x_1}{\vec{p} \cdot \vec{x}}$$



Lemma 2.2-4 $\sigma = \mathcal{E}\left(x_2^c, p_1\right) - \mathcal{E}\left(x_1^c, p_1\right)$

p.502:
$$\mathcal{E}(y,x) = \frac{x}{y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = x \frac{d}{dx} \ln y = \mathcal{E}(\alpha y, \beta x)$$

$$\sigma = \mathcal{E}\left(\frac{x_2^c}{x_1^c}, \frac{p_1}{p_2}\right) = \mathcal{E}\left(\frac{x_2^c}{x_1^c}, p_1\right)$$

$$= p_1 \frac{d}{dp_1} \ln\left(\frac{x_2^c}{x_1^c}\right) = p_1 \frac{d}{dp_1} \left(\ln x_2^c - \ln x_1^c\right)$$

$$= p_1 \frac{d}{dp_1} \left(\ln x_2^c\right) - p_1 \frac{d}{dp_1} \left(\ln x_1^c\right)$$

$$= \mathcal{E}\left(x_2^c, p_1\right) - \mathcal{E}\left(x_1^c, p_1\right)$$

ES & Compensated Price Elasticity

 Relation between Elasticity of Substitution and Compensated Own Price Elasticity

1)
$$\sigma = \mathcal{E}\left(\frac{x_2^c}{x_1^c}, p_1\right) = \frac{\mathcal{E}(x_2^c, p_1)}{k_1}, \quad k_1 = \frac{p_1 x_1}{\vec{p} \cdot \vec{x}}$$

$$\left(\frac{\text{compensated cross price elasticity}}{\text{expenditure share}}\right)$$

2)
$$\mathcal{E}(x_1^c, p_1) = -(1 - k_1)\sigma$$

ES & Compensated Price Elasticity

- On indifference curve, $U\left(x_1^c(p,\overline{U}),x_2^c(p,\overline{U})\right)=\overline{U}$
- Hence, $\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_1} \frac{\partial x_1^c}{\partial p_1} + \frac{\partial U}{\partial x_2} \frac{\partial x_2^c}{\partial p_1} = 0$
- By FOC, $\frac{p_1}{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_1}} = \frac{p_2}{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_2}} \Rightarrow p_1 \frac{\partial x_1^c}{\partial p_1} + p_2 \frac{\partial x_2^c}{\partial p_1} = 0$

$$\mathcal{E}(x_1^c, p_1) = \frac{p_1}{x_1^c} \frac{\partial x_1^c}{\partial p_1} = -\frac{p_2}{x_1^c} \frac{\partial x_2^c}{\partial p_1}$$

$$= -\left(\frac{p_2 x_2^c}{p_1 x_1^c}\right) \frac{p_1}{x_2^c} \frac{\partial x_2^c}{\partial p_1} = -\frac{k_2}{k_1} \mathcal{E}(x_2^c, p_1)$$

ES & Compensated Price Elasticity

• Since
$$\mathcal{E}(x_1^c, p_1) = -\frac{k_2}{k_1} \mathcal{E}(x_2^c, p_1)$$

• Lemma 2.2-4 becomes:

$$\sigma = \mathcal{E}(x_2^c, p_1) - \mathcal{E}(x_1^c, p_1)$$

$$= \mathcal{E}(x_2^c, p_1) \cdot \left(1 + \frac{k_2}{k_1}\right) = \frac{\mathcal{E}(x_2^c, p_1)}{k_1} \dots (1)$$

$$= \mathcal{E}(x_1^c, p_1) \cdot \left(-\frac{k_1}{k_2}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{k_1} = -\frac{\mathcal{E}(x_1^c, p_1)}{k_2}$$

• Hence, $\mathcal{E}(x_1^c, p_1) = -k_2\sigma = -(1 - k_1)\sigma$...(2)

Compensated own price elasticity bounded/approx. by ES!

Elasticity of

Substitution (Compensated Demand)

• Verify that $\sigma = \theta$ for CES:

• Since
$$x_1 = \left(\frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_2} \frac{p_2}{p_1}\right)^{\theta} \cdot x_2 \Rightarrow \frac{x_2}{x_1} = \left(\frac{\alpha_2}{\alpha_1} \cdot \frac{p_1}{p_2}\right)^{\theta}$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln\left(\frac{x_2^c}{x_1^c}\right) = \theta(\ln p_1 - \ln p_2 + \ln \alpha_2 - \ln \alpha_1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma = \mathcal{E}\left(\frac{x_2^c}{x_1^c}, p_1\right) = p_1 \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial p_1} \left[\ln\left(\frac{x_2^c}{x_1^c}\right)\right]$$

$$= p_1 \cdot \frac{\theta}{p_1} = \theta$$

Summary for Elasticity of Substitution

• 1.
$$\sigma = \mathcal{E}\left(\frac{x_2^c}{x_1^c}, p_1\right)$$
• 2. $= \frac{\mathcal{E}(x_2^c, p_1)}{k_1}$
 $= -\frac{\mathcal{E}(x_1^c, p_1)}{1 - k_1} \vec{p}^0 \cdot \vec{x}$
 $= \vec{p}^0 \cdot \vec{x}^0 \quad \vec{x}^c(\vec{p}^0, \vec{U})$
 $\vec{p}^1 \cdot \vec{x} = \vec{p}^1 \cdot \vec{x}^1$
 $\vec{p}^1 \cdot \vec{x} = \vec{p}^1 \cdot \vec{x}^1$

• 3. $\sigma = \theta$ for CES...

Total Price Effect

= Income Effect + Substitution Effect

• For $M(\vec{p}, \overline{U}) \& x_1(\vec{p}, I)$

Compensated Demand:

$$x_1^c(\vec{p}, \overline{U}) = x_1 \left(\vec{p}, M(\vec{p}, \overline{U}) \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial x_1^c}{\partial p_1} = \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial p_1} + \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial I} \cdot \frac{\partial M}{\partial p_1}$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial M}{\partial p_1} = x_1 \right)$$

• Slutsky Equation: ∂x_1

$$\frac{\partial x_1}{\partial p_1} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial x_1^c}{\partial p_1} - x_1 \cdot \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial I}}_{A \to B}$$

$$\xrightarrow{A \to B} \xrightarrow{A \to C} \xrightarrow{C \to B} \xrightarrow{x_1}$$

 $U(\vec{x}) \geq \overline{U}$

Decomposition of Own Price Elasticity

- Slutsky Equation: $\frac{\partial x_1}{\partial p_1} = \frac{\partial x_1^c}{\partial p_1} x_1 \cdot \frac{\partial \overline{x_1}}{\partial I}$
- Elasticity Version:

$$\frac{p_1}{x_1} \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial p_1} = \frac{p_1}{x_1} \frac{\partial x_1^c}{\partial p_1} - \frac{p_1 x_1}{I} \frac{I}{x_1} \cdot \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial I}$$

• Or,
$$\underline{\mathcal{E}(x_1, p_1)} = \underline{\mathcal{E}(x_1^c, p_1)} - \underline{k_1 \cdot \mathcal{E}(x_1, I)}$$

= $\underline{-(1 - k_1)\sigma} - \underline{k_1 \cdot \mathcal{E}(x_1, I)}$

Substitution Effect Income Effect

 Own price elasticity = weighted average of elasticity of substitution and income elasticity

Summary of 2.2

- Consumer Problem: Maximize Utility
- Income Effect
- Dual Problem: Minimize Expenditure
- Substitution Effect:
 - = Compensated Price Effect
 - Elasticity of Substitution
- Total Price Effect:
 - Compensated Price Effect + Income Effect
- Homework: Exercise 2.2-4 (Optional: 2.2-5)

In-Class Homework: Exercise 2.2-2

Show that the price effect on compensated

demand is

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial p_j}(\vec{p}, \overline{U}) = x_j^c(\vec{p}, \overline{U})$$

 Hint: Convert expenditure minimization into a maximization problem, write down the Lagrangian and use the Envelope Theorem...

In-Class Homework: Exercise 2.2-3

• [Elasticity of Substitution]

a) Show that
$$\mathcal{E}(y(x),z(x)) = \frac{\frac{d}{dx} \ln y}{\frac{d}{dx} \ln z}$$
.

- b) Use this to show that $\mathcal{E}\left(\frac{1}{y},\frac{1}{x}\right)=\mathcal{E}(y,x)$ and that $\mathcal{E}\left(\frac{y_2}{y_1},x\right)=\mathcal{E}(y_2,x)-\mathcal{E}(y_1,x)$
- c) Use these results to prove Lemma 2.2-4.

In-Class Homework: Exercise 2.2-6

- [Parallel Income Expansion Paths]
- A consumer faces price vector p, has income I and utility function $U(\vec{x}) = -\alpha_1 e^{-Ax_1} \alpha_2 e^{-Ax_2}$
- a) Show that her optimal consumption bundle satisfies the following: $x_2-x_1=a+b\ln\frac{p_1}{p_2}$
- b) Depict her Income Expansion Paths.