

### 3. INDIRECT UTILITY & EXPENDITURE

1. Indirect utility
2. Properties of indirect utility
3. Hicksian demand
4. Expenditure function
5. Properties of expenditure function
6. Duality: relation between indirect utility and expenditure

# INDIRECT UTILITY

Utility evaluated at the maximum

$$v(p, m) = u(x^*) \text{ for any } x^* \in x(p, m)$$

Marshallian demand maximizes utility subject to consumer's budget. It is a function of prices and income.

Substituting Marshallian demand in the utility function we obtain indirect utility as a function of prices and income.

# PROPERTIES OF INDIRECT UTILITY

1. Homogeneity of degree zero
2. Strictly increasing in  $m$  and decreasing in  $p_i \forall i$
3.  $v(p, m)$  is quasi-convex
4. Continuous in  $p$  and  $m$
5. Roy's identity

$$x_i(p, m) = - \frac{\partial v(p, m) / \partial p_i}{\partial v(p, m) / \partial m}$$

# HICKSIAN DEMAND

Consider the dual to the consumer's problem

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min_{x \geq 0} & p \cdot x \\ \text{s. t.} & u(x) \geq u \end{array}$$

**Hicksian demand** (also called **compensated demand**) is the solution to this cost-minimization problem,  $x^h(p, u)$ .

Notice the parameters of the cost-minimization problem are prices  $p$  and *target utility*  $u$ .

# EXPENDITURE FUNCTION

Expenditure evaluated at its minimum

$$e(p, u) = p \cdot \tilde{x} \text{ for any } \tilde{x} \in x^h(p, u)$$

Hicksian demand solves the cost-minimization problem. It is a function of prices  $p$  and target utility  $u$ .

Substituting Hicksian demand in the expenditure objective we obtain expenditure as a function of  $p$  and  $u$ .

# PROPERTIES OF EXPENDITURE

1. Homogeneous of degree one in  $p$
2. Strictly increasing in  $u$  and increasing in  $p_i \forall i$
3. Concave in  $p$
4. Continuous in  $p$  and  $u$
5. If  $u(\cdot)$  is strictly quasi-concave and  $e(p, u)$  is differentiable we have Shephard's lemma

$$\frac{\partial e(p^0, u^0)}{\partial p_i} = x_i^h(p^0, u^0) \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

# DUALITY

Let  $p \gg 0$ ,  $m > 0$   $u > u(0)$

1.  $e(p, v(p, m)) = m$

2.  $v(p, e(p, u)) = u$

Duality between Marshallian and Hicksian demand

1.  $x(p, m) = x^h(p, v(p, m))$

2.  $x^h(p, u) = x(p, e(p, u))$