

Mathematical Economics (2017/2018)

Exercises 2

1. The utility function is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{A) } u(x_1, x_2) &= x_1^2 + x_2^2; & \text{B) } u(x_1, x_2) &= x_1^{\frac{1}{3}} + x_2^{\frac{1}{3}}; & \text{C) } u(x_1, x_2) &= x_1^n + x_2^n; \\ \text{D) } u(x_1, x_2) &= \frac{1}{2} \ln x_1 + \frac{1}{4} \ln x_2; & \text{E) } u(x_1, x_2) &= x_1^{\frac{1}{n}} + x_2^{\frac{1}{n}}, \quad n \neq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Check the following relationships

- a) $\varphi(p, I) = f(p, v(p, I))$ – the Marshallian demand at income I is the same as the Hicksian demand at utility $v = v(p, I)$
- b) $f(p, u) = \varphi(p, e(p, u))$ – the Hicksian demand at utility u is the same as the Marshallian demand at income $e(p, u)$
- c) $e(p, v(p, I)) = I$ – the minimum expenditure to reach utility $u = v(p, I)$ is I
- d) $v(p, e(p, u)) = u$ – the maximum utility from income $e(p, u)$ is u
- e) $\frac{\partial \varphi_i(p, I)}{\partial p_j} = \frac{\partial f_i(p, u)}{\partial p_j} - \frac{\partial \varphi_i(p, I)}{\partial I} \cdot \varphi_j(p, I), \quad i, j = 1, 2 \quad i \neq j$ – the Slutsky equation

(1.25 p)