

Lecture 7 and 8

Income and Substitution Effect

(continue from previous content)

- X not affected by price of y bc Cobb-Douglas function
- Explain why demand curve slope downward
- **Substitution Effect Δx^S** : change in x due to relative price change (P_x/P_y) only
 - o Ex. From 9/16 to 16/16 – new budget line steeper

- o Always in opposite (non-positive) direction of change in P_x

$$\frac{\Delta x^S}{\Delta p_x} \leq 0$$

- When X becomes more expensive relative to other good, consumer substitute out the expensive X into cheaper Y

- **Income Effect Δx^M** : change in x due to change in real income (M/P_x) only
 - o Ex. real income in terms of x decreases when price of x increases (less x can buy using all M)

- Original budget line (blue) no longer affordable

- o Real income changes in opposite direction of price change

$$\frac{\Delta \text{Real } M}{\Delta p_x} < 0$$

- o **Income effect (Normal good)**

- Normal good: $\frac{\Delta x^M}{\Delta \text{Real } M} > 0$ Qd moves in same direction as income
- Normal good: Qd moves in *opposite direction* as price (P_x)

$$\frac{\Delta x^M}{\Delta p_x} < 0$$

$$\frac{\Delta x}{\Delta p_x} = \frac{\Delta x^S}{\Delta p_x} + \frac{\Delta x^M}{\Delta p_x} < 0$$

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- o **Income effect (Inferior good)**

- Inferior good: $\frac{\Delta x^M}{\Delta \text{Real } M} < 0$ Qd moves in opposite direction as income
- Inferior good: Qd moves in *ambiguous direction* as price (P_x)

$$\frac{\Delta x^M}{\Delta p_x} > 0$$

$$\frac{\Delta x}{\Delta p_x} = \frac{\Delta x^S}{\Delta p_x} + \frac{\Delta x^M}{\Delta p_x} \geq 0$$

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Giffen Good

- Qd increases as price increases

$$\frac{\Delta x}{\Delta p_x} > 0$$

- So Giffen good must be an inferior good *and* positive income effect outweigh sub effect
 - $\Delta x = \Delta x^S + \Delta x^M$
 - $|\Delta x^M| > |\Delta x^S|$
- Giffen good is very rare:
 - The larger the consumption of this good is = larger income effect
 - Larger part of budget: they are mostly normal good (ex. house, food)
 - So person has to be poor to have an inferior good occupying large budget
 - Ex. although price of bread increases, still cheaper than meat, poor ppl still consume though increased price

Application of Sub and Income Effect

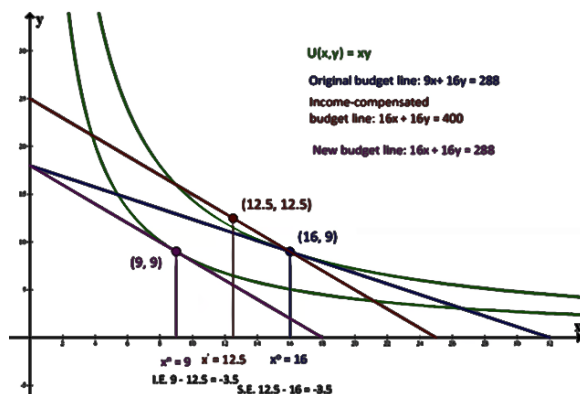
- For all good: normal and inferior with higher sub effect has *not upward* demand curve
 - Qd decrease as P increase
 - Inferior with higher sub effect: sub move Qd positively and income move Qd negatively
- Application: tax petrol to reduce carbon:
 - must know income effect to rebate people to hold real income constant
 - must know sub effect to know how much carbon will change
- Other situations need income effect
 - Change in pension/welfare/unemployment benefits due to *uneven inflation*

Separating 2 Effects

- To know sub effect: hold real income constant
 - Compensate income M to keep real income constant at new prices
 - orange line
 - Then parallel shift (orange) that to intercepts with actual M (pink)
 - Distance (negative) from blue to orange in Δx = sub effect
 - Distance (negative) from orange to pink in Δx = income effect

Method 1: Slutsky Method

- Constant real income: give consumer just enough income to afford original bundle (x^0, y^0)
 - o But will not consume original bundle bc (x', y') above that IC of blue curve: more preferred $(x', y') > (x^0, y^0)$
- **Calculation:** (x', y') is demand for x, y at *new price* if given income M' with *same real income* so can afford original bundle
 - o $M' = p_x^n x^0 + p_y y^0$
 - Ex. $16(\text{new } P_x) * 16(\text{original } x) + 16(P_y) * 9(\text{original } y) = 400 (M')$
 - Income-compensated BL: $\text{new } P_x * x + P_y * Y = M'$
 - o How much to consume: sub to demand function with new M'
 - Get x' and y'
 - o Shift income-compensated BL (orange) to new BL (pink)
 - $\text{new } P_x * x + P_y * Y = M$
 - o Calculate **sub** and **income** effect
 - $x^n - x^0 = x' - x^0 + x^n - x'$
 - Income effect always between *parallel* lines (same relative P)



- **Analysis of Slutsky**
 - o **Advantage:** data necessary to calculate M' are observable
 - $x^0, y^0, \text{ new } P_x (p_x^n), P_y$
 - so more used in applied work: CPI calculation (measure inflation calculate diff in cost to buy same good)
 - o **Disadvantage:** Slutsky doesn't hold utility constant
 - Real income: ability to buy products bc gives utility
 - so it's better to hold utility constant
 - (x', y') better than (x^0, y^0)
 - Less useful in theory

Method 2: Hicks Method

- **Constant utility**
 - o Parallel shift in *new* Budget Line to tangent to *old* IC (so still with same utility)
 - o Give new M' so at new prices just as happy as at old bundle (x^0, y^0)
 - (x', y') to (x^0, y^0) : all **sub effect** bc real income constant (in this case real income = utility same)
 - (x^n, y^n) to (x', y') : all **income effect** bc relative price constant

- diff to Slutsky: (x', y') on same IC
- known (x^0, y^0) and (x^n, y^n)

- **Calculation:**

- Plug (x^0, y^0) into utility function to get $U(x^0, y^0)$
- (x', y') is Qd at new prices with new M' to maintain Utility same as $U(x^0, y^0)$
 - $U(x', y') = U(x^0, y^0)$
- Substitute x' and y' demand functions new demand functions at new price (new P_x/P_y) (and with M') to $U(x', y')$

$$\square U(x', y') = x'y' \text{ and } x' = \frac{M'}{2p_x^n} \text{ and } y' = \frac{M'}{2p_y}$$

$$\square U(x', y') = x'y' = \frac{M'}{2p_x^n} \cdot \frac{M'}{2p_y} = \frac{M'^2}{4p_x^n p_y}$$

▪ Ex.

- Equate $U(x', y')$ to value of $U(x^0, y^0)$

$$\square \text{At new prices } (p_x^n, p_y) = (16, 16), U(x', y') = \frac{M'^2}{1024}$$

$$\square \text{Set } U(x', y') = U(x^0, y^0): \frac{M'^2}{1024} = 144$$

▪ Ex. \square Solve for M : $M' = 384$

- Plug in M' into x' and y' demand functions get (x', y')

$$\square x' = \frac{M'}{2p_x^n} = \frac{384}{32} = 12 \text{ and } y' = \frac{M'}{2p_y} = \frac{384}{32} = 12$$

▪ Ex.

- Calculate sub $(x' - x^0)$ and income effect $(x^n - x')$

▪ Diff to Slutsky

- **Analysis of Hicks**

- Disadvantage: utility function not observable so only useful in theory
- Advantage: correct bias of Slutsky
 - Bc keep utility constant: M needed is less
 - CPI overcompensate ppl by overestimate inflation: if ppl actually have 400 budget: will buy at (12.5, 12.5) and has higher utility
 - At (12, 12) ppl will be truly same as before

Method 3: Kaldor Method

- Constant utility: but constant utility to *new* Budget Line with *old* prices
- Give new M' so at old prices just as happy as at new bundle (x^n, y^n)
 - (x', y') to (x^0, y^0) : all **income effect** bc prices same (relative price constant)
 - (x^n, y^n) to (x', y') : all **sub effect** bc real income constant (utility constant)
- Calculation: set $U(x', y') = U(x^n, y^n)$