

6.3. The first task is to show that if  $\partial q_i^h / \partial x^h$  is independent of (i.e. not a function of)  $x^h$ , then  $\partial q_i^h / \partial u^h$  is independent of  $u$ . Note that in the first derivative,  $q_i^h$  is a Marshallian demand function, while in the second derivative it is a Hicksian demand function. Intuitively, this is quite reasonable. If  $\partial q_i^h / \partial x^h$  is independent of  $x^h$  then it is a function of prices only, not of prices and  $x^h$ . But if the change in demand as  $x^h$  changes is not a function of  $x^h$ , then it is also not a function of  $u$ , since an increase in  $x^h$  implies an increase in  $u$ . More formally, this can be shown by noting that the Hicksian and Marshallian demand functions must be equal to each other:

$$q_i(x^h, \mathbf{p}) = q_i(u^h, \mathbf{p}) = q_i(v(x^h, \mathbf{p}), \mathbf{p})$$

where  $v(x^h, \mathbf{p})$  is the indirect utility function. Differentiate both sides by  $x^h$ :

$$\frac{\partial q_i(x^h, \mathbf{p})}{\partial x^h} = f(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{\partial q_i(u^h, \mathbf{p})}{\partial u^h} \times \frac{\partial v(x^h, \mathbf{p})}{\partial x^h}$$

where  $f(\mathbf{p})$  indicates that  $\partial q_i^h / \partial x^h$  is independent of (i.e. not a function of)  $x^h$ , so it is a function only of  $\mathbf{p}$ . Note that any monotonic transformation of the utility function with respect to  $x$ , conditional on  $\mathbf{p}$ , does not affect demand. It is convenient to select a transformation that gives  $\partial v(x^h, \mathbf{p}) / \partial x^h = 1$ , so that that term drops out of the above equation. Then, differentiation of the middle term,  $f(\mathbf{p})$ , and of the third term in the above equation, with respect to  $u$  gives:

$$0 = \frac{\partial^2 q_i(u^h, \mathbf{p})}{\partial (u^h)^2}$$

which implies that  $\partial q_i^h / \partial u^h$  is independent of  $u$ . [**There may be another way to show this that is more rigorous.**]

Next, show that  $\partial[\partial c^h / \partial u^h] / \partial p_i$  is independent of  $u^h$ . First, recall that for any function with continuous derivatives the order of differentiation does not matter. Thus  $\partial[\partial c^h / \partial u^h] / \partial p_i = \partial[\partial c^h / \partial p_i] / \partial u^h$ . Recall also from Shephard's lemma that  $\partial c^h / \partial p_i = q_i(u^h, \mathbf{p})$ . Thus  $\partial[\partial c^h / \partial p_i] / \partial u^h = \partial q_i(u^h, \mathbf{p}) / \partial u^h$ . We showed above that  $\partial q_i(u^h, \mathbf{p}) / \partial u^h$  is independent of  $u^h$ , thus  $\partial[\partial c^h / \partial p_i] / \partial u^h$ , which also equals  $\partial[\partial c^h / \partial u^h] / \partial p_i$ , is independent of  $u^h$ .

Finally, show that equation (1.6) in Chapter 6 can be derived from equation (1.4), where  $\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{p})$  in (1.6) equals  $\partial c^h / \partial u^h$  (and explain why  $\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{p}) = \partial c^h / \partial u^h$  must be independent of  $h$ ).

To answer the question in parentheses, note that:

$$\frac{\partial q_i(u^h, \mathbf{p})}{\partial u^h} = \frac{\partial q_i(C(u^h, \mathbf{p}), \mathbf{p})}{\partial u^h} = \frac{\partial q_i(x^h, \mathbf{p})}{\partial x^h} \frac{\partial C(u^h, \mathbf{p})}{\partial u^h}$$

which implies that  $\frac{\partial C(u^h, \mathbf{p})}{\partial u^h} = \frac{\partial q_i(u^h, \mathbf{p}) / \partial u^h}{\partial q_i(x^h, \mathbf{p}) / \partial x^h}$

we saw above that  $\partial q_i / \partial u^h$  and  $\partial q_i / \partial x^h$  are both functions of prices only, and so their ratio must also be a function of prices only, and so  $\partial c(u^h, \mathbf{p}) / \partial u^h$  must also be a function of prices only, and so not of a function of  $u^h$ .

To derive the cost function, that is equation (1.6), take the functional form for the demand function,  $q_i^h = \alpha_i^h(\mathbf{p}) + \beta_i(\mathbf{p})x^h$  and note that we can replace  $x^h$  with  $c(u^h, \mathbf{p})$ . Rearranging this gives:

$$c(u^h, \mathbf{p}) = [q_i^h(u^h, \mathbf{p}) - \alpha_i^h(\mathbf{p})] / \beta_i(\mathbf{p})$$

We know from the first part of this problem that  $\partial q_i^h(u^h, \mathbf{p}) / \partial u^h = f(\mathbf{p})$ , that is, it is not a function of  $u$  but only a function of  $\mathbf{p}$ . This implies that  $q_i^h(u^h, \mathbf{p})$  must take the form:

$$q_i^h(u, \mathbf{p}) = \gamma_i^h(\mathbf{p}) + \delta_i(\mathbf{p})u^h$$

for some functions  $\gamma_i^h(\mathbf{p})$  and  $\delta_i(\mathbf{p})$ . (This can also be seen by integrating  $\partial q_i^h(u^h, \mathbf{p}) / \partial u^h$ , which conditional on  $\mathbf{p}$  is a constant, with respect to  $u^h$ , which will lead to that constant multiplied by  $u^h$ , plus an undetermined constant which could vary over households.) Substituting this into the above expression implies:

$$\begin{aligned} c(u^h, \mathbf{p}) &= [\gamma_i^h(\mathbf{p}) + \delta_i(\mathbf{p})u^h - \alpha_i^h(\mathbf{p})] / \beta_i(\mathbf{p}) \\ &= \{[\gamma_i^h(\mathbf{p}) - \alpha_i^h(\mathbf{p})] / \beta_i(\mathbf{p})\} + [\delta_i(\mathbf{p}) / \beta_i(\mathbf{p})]u^h \end{aligned}$$

Thus we can define  $a^h(\mathbf{p})$  in (1.6) as  $[\gamma_i^h(\mathbf{p}) - \alpha_i^h(\mathbf{p})] / \beta_i(\mathbf{p})$  and  $b(\mathbf{p})$  in (1.6) as  $\delta_i(\mathbf{p}) / \beta_i(\mathbf{p})$ . This proves that (1.4) implies (1.6).