

3.D.3 (a) We shall prove that for every  $p \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^L$ ,  $w \geq 0$ ,  $\alpha \geq 0$ , and  $x \in \mathbb{R}_+^L$ , if

$x = x(p, w)$ , then  $\alpha x = x(p, \alpha w)$ . Note first that  $p \cdot (\alpha x) \leq \alpha w$ , that is,  $\alpha x$  is affordable at  $(p, \alpha w)$ . Let  $y \in \mathbb{R}_+^L$  and  $p \cdot y \leq \alpha w$ . Then  $p \cdot (\alpha^{-1} y) \leq w$ . Hence  $u(\alpha^{-1} y) \leq u(x)$ . Thus, by the homogeneity,  $u(y) \leq u(\alpha x)$ . Hence  $\alpha x = x(p, \alpha w)$ .

By this result,

$$v(p, \alpha w) = u(x(p, \alpha w)) = u(\alpha x(p, w)) = \alpha u(x(p, w)) = \alpha v(p, w).$$

Thus the indirect utility function is homogeneous of degree one in  $w$ .

Given the above results, we can write  $x(p, w) = wx(p, 1) = w\tilde{x}(p)$  and  $v(p, w) = wv(p, 1) = w\tilde{v}(p)$ . Exercise 2.E.4 showed that the wealth expansion path  $\{x(p, w) : w > 0\}$  is a ray going through  $\tilde{x}(p)$ . The wealth elasticity of demand  $\epsilon_{\ell w}$  is equal to 1.

(b) We first prove that for every  $p \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^L$ ,  $w \geq 0$ , and  $\alpha \geq 0$ , we have  $x(p, \alpha w) = \alpha x(p, w)$ . In fact, since  $v(\cdot, \cdot)$  is homogeneous of degree one in  $w$ ,  $\nabla_p v(p, \alpha w) = \alpha \nabla_p v(p, w)$  and  $\nabla_w v(p, \alpha w) = \nabla_w v(p, w)$ . Thus, by Roy's identity,  $x(p, \alpha w) = \alpha x(p, w)$ .

Now let  $x \in \mathbb{R}_+^L$ ,  $x' \in \mathbb{R}_+^L$ ,  $u(x) = u(x')$ , and  $\alpha \geq 0$ . Since  $u(\cdot)$  is strictly quasiconcave, by the supporting hyperplane theorem (Theorem M.G.3), there exist  $p \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^L$ ,  $p' \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^L$ ,  $w \geq 0$ , and  $w' \geq 0$  such that  $x = x(p, w)$  and  $x' = x(p', w')$ . Then  $u(x) = v(p, w)$  and  $u(x') = v(p', w')$ . Hence  $v(p, w) = v(p', w')$ . Thus, by the homogeneity,  $v(p, \alpha w) = v(p', \alpha w')$ . But as we saw above,  $x(p, \alpha w) = \alpha x$  and  $x(p', \alpha w') = \alpha x'$ . Hence  $v(p, \alpha w) = u(\alpha x)$  and  $v(p', \alpha w') = u(\alpha x')$ . Thus  $u(\alpha x) = u(\alpha x')$ . Therefore  $u(x)$  is homogeneous of degree one.

3.D.6 (a) Define  $\tilde{u}(x) = u(x)^{1/(\alpha+\beta+\gamma)} = (x_1 - b_1)^{\alpha'} (x_2 - b_2)^{\beta'} (x_3 - b_3)^{\gamma'}$ ,

with  $\alpha' = \alpha/(\alpha + \beta + \gamma)$ ,  $\beta' = \beta/(\alpha + \beta + \gamma)$ ,  $\gamma' = \gamma/(\alpha + \beta + \gamma)$ . Then  $\alpha' + \beta' + \gamma' = 1$  and  $\tilde{u}(\cdot)$  represents the same preferences as  $u(\cdot)$ , because the function  $u \rightarrow u^{1/(\alpha+\beta+\gamma)}$  is a monotone transformation. Thus we can assume without loss of generality that  $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 1$ .

(b) Use another monotone transformation of the given utility function,

$$\ln u(x) = \alpha \ln(x_1 - b_1) + \beta \ln(x_2 - b_2) + \gamma \ln(x_3 - b_3).$$

The first-order condition of the UMP yields the demand function

$$x(p, w) = (b_1, b_2, b_3) + (w - p \cdot b)(\alpha/p_1, \beta/p_2, \gamma/p_3),$$

where  $p \cdot b = p_1 b_1 + p_2 b_2 + p_3 b_3$ . Plug this demand function to  $u(\cdot)$ , then we obtain the indirect utility function

$$v(p, w) = (w - p \cdot b)(\alpha/p_1)^{\alpha} (\beta/p_2)^{\beta} (\gamma/p_3)^{\gamma}.$$

(c) To check the homogeneity of the demand function,

$$\begin{aligned}x(\lambda p, \lambda w) &= (b_1, b_2, b_3) + (\lambda w - \lambda p \cdot b)(\alpha/\lambda p_1, \beta/\lambda p_2, \gamma/\lambda p_3) \\&= (b_1, b_2, b_3) + (w - p \cdot b)(\alpha/p_1, \beta/p_2, \gamma/p_3) = x(p, w).\end{aligned}$$

To check Walras law,

$$\begin{aligned}p \cdot x(p, w) &= p \cdot b + (w - p \cdot b)(p_1 \alpha/p_1 + p_2 \beta/p_2 + p_3 \gamma/p_3) \\&= p \cdot b + (w - p \cdot b)(\alpha + \beta + \gamma) = w.\end{aligned}$$

The uniqueness is obvious.

To check the homogeneity of the indirect utility function,

$$\begin{aligned}v(\lambda p, \lambda w) &= (\lambda w - \lambda p \cdot b)(\alpha/\lambda p_1)^\alpha (\beta/\lambda p_2)^\beta (\gamma/\lambda p_3)^\gamma \\&= \lambda^{1-(\alpha+\beta+\gamma)} (w - p \cdot b)(\alpha/p_1)^\alpha (\beta/p_2)^\beta (\gamma/p_3)^\gamma \\&= (w - p \cdot b)(\alpha/p_1)^\alpha (\beta/p_2)^\beta (\gamma/p_3)^\gamma = v(p, w).\end{aligned}$$

To check the monotonicity,

$$\partial v(p, w)/\partial w = (\alpha/p_1)^\alpha (\beta/p_2)^\beta (\gamma/p_3)^\gamma > 0,$$

$$\partial v(p, w)/\partial p_1 = v(p, w) \cdot (-\alpha/p_1) < 0,$$

$$\partial v(p, w)/\partial p_2 = v(p, w) \cdot (-\beta/p_2) < 0,$$

$$\partial v(p, w)/\partial p_3 = v(p, w) \cdot (-\gamma/p_3) < 0.$$

The continuity follows directly from the given functional form. In order to prove the quasiconvexity, it is sufficient to prove that, for any  $v \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $w > 0$ , the set  $\{p \in \mathbb{R}^3: v(p, w) \leq v\}$  is convex. Consider

$$\ln v(p, w) = \alpha \ln \alpha + \beta \ln \beta + \gamma \ln \gamma + \ln(w - p \cdot b) - \alpha \ln p_1 - \beta \ln p_2 - \gamma \ln p_3.$$

Since the logarithmic function is concave, the set

3.E.4 Suppose first that  $\succsim$  is convex and that  $x \in h(p,u)$  and  $x' \in h(p,u)$ . Then  $p \cdot x = p \cdot x'$  and  $u(x) \geq u$ ,  $u(x') \geq u$ . Let  $\alpha \in [0,1]$  and define  $x'' = \alpha x + (1 - \alpha)x'$ . Then  $p \cdot x'' = \alpha p \cdot x + (1 - \alpha)p \cdot x' = p \cdot x = p \cdot x'$  and, by the convexity of  $\succsim$ ,  $u(x'') \geq u$ . Thus  $x'' \in h(p,u)$ .

Suppose next that  $\succsim$  is strictly convex and that  $x \in h(p,u)$ ,  $x' \in h(p,u)$ ,  $x \neq x'$ , and  $u(x) \geq u(x') \geq u$ . By the argument above,  $x'' = \alpha x + (1 - \alpha)x'$  with  $\alpha \in (0,1)$  satisfies  $p \cdot x'' = p \cdot x = p \cdot x'$  and, by the strict convexity of  $\succsim$ , we have  $x'' \succ x'$ . Since  $\succsim$  is continuous,  $\beta x'' \succ x'$  for any  $\beta \in (0,1)$  close enough to 1. But this implies that  $p \cdot (\beta x'') < p \cdot x$  and  $u(\beta x'') > u(x') \geq u$ , which contradicts the fact that  $x$  is a solution of the EMP. Hence  $h(p,u)$  must be a singleton.

3.E.9 First, we shall prove that Proposition 3.D.3 implies Proposition 3.E.2 via (3.E.1). Let  $p \gg 0$ ,  $p' \gg 0$ ,  $u \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $u' \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $\alpha \geq 0$ .

(i) Homogeneity of degree one in  $p$ : Let  $\alpha > 0$ . Define  $w = e(p,u)$ , then  $u = v(p,w)$  by the second relation of (3.E.1). Hence

$$e(\alpha p, u) = e(\alpha p, v(p, w)) = e(\alpha p, v(\alpha p, \alpha w)) = \alpha w = \alpha e(p, u),$$

where the second equality follows from the homogeneity of  $v(\cdot, \cdot)$  and the third from the first relation of (3.E.1).

(ii) Monotonicity: Let  $u' > u$ . Define  $w = e(p,u)$  and  $w' = e(p,u')$ , then  $u = v(p,w)$  and  $u' = v(p,w')$ . By the monotonicity of  $v(\cdot, \cdot)$  in  $w$ , we must have  $w' > w$ , that is,  $e(p', u) > e(p, u)$ .

Next let  $p' \geq p$ . Define  $w = e(p, u)$  and  $w' = e(p', u)$ , then, by the second relation of (3.E.1),  $u = v(p, w) = v(p', w')$ . By the monotonicity of  $v(\cdot, \cdot)$ , we must have  $w' \geq w$ , that is,  $e(p', u) \geq e(p, u)$ .

(iii) Concavity: Let  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ . Define  $w = e(p, u)$  and  $w' = e(p', u)$ , then  $u = v(p, w) = v(p', w')$ . Define  $p'' = \alpha p + (1 - \alpha)p'$  and  $w'' = \alpha w + (1 - \alpha)w'$ . Then, by the quasiconvexity of  $v(\cdot, \cdot)$ ,  $v(p'', w'') \leq u$ . Hence, by the monotonicity of  $v(\cdot, \cdot)$  in  $w$  and the second relation of (3.E.1),  $w'' \leq e(p'', u)$ . that is,

$$e(\alpha p + (1 - \alpha)p', u) \geq \alpha e(p, u) + (1 - \alpha)e(p', u).$$