

Handout on contingent commodities in an exchange economy

Consumer choice

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Max} \quad & \sum_s \pi_s^h u^h(x_s^h) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_s p_s x_s^h = \sum_s p_s e_s^h \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

FOC

$$\pi_s^h u^h(x_s^h) = \lambda^h p_s \tag{2}$$

Market clearance

$$\sum_h x_s^h = \sum_h e_s^h \tag{3}$$

I. Everyone the same: $\pi_s^h = \pi_s$; $u^h(x) = u(x)$; $e_s^h = e_s$

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda p_s &= \pi_s u'(e_s) \\ \lambda p(s) &= \pi(s) u'(e(s))\end{aligned}\tag{4}$$

Logarithmic derivative

$$\frac{p'(s)}{p(s)} = \frac{\pi'(s)}{\pi(s)} + \frac{u''(e(s))}{u'(e(s))} e'(s)\tag{5}$$

II. Same probabilities, different utilities: $\pi_s^h = \pi_s$

$$\frac{u''^h(x_s^h)}{u'^h(x_s^h)} x'^h(s) = \frac{p'(s)}{p(s)} - \frac{\pi'(s)}{\pi(s)}\tag{6}$$

III. Same utility (logarithmic), different probabilities, no aggregate variation
FOC

$$\pi_s^h u'(x_s^h) = \lambda^h p_s \quad (7)$$

$$\pi_s^h / x_s^h = \lambda^h p_s \quad (8)$$

Market clearance

$$\sum_h x_s^h = \sum_h e_s^h = E \quad (9)$$

IV. General utility (Yaari) $u^h(x_1, \dots, x_S)$

$$\frac{\partial u^h / \partial x_s^h}{\partial u^h / \partial x_{s'}^h} = \frac{\partial u^{h'} / \partial x_s^{h'}}{\partial u^{h'} / \partial x_{s'}^{h'}} \quad (10)$$