

Recitation #3 (09/19/2025)

1. Show that the compensating and the equivalent variation coincide when the utility function is quasilinear with respect to the first good (and we fix $p_1 = 1$). [*Hint*: Use the definitions of the compensating and equivalent variations in terms of the expenditure function (not the hicksian demand). In addition, recall that if $u(x)$ is quasilinear with respect to good 1, then we can express it as

$$u(x) = x_1 + \phi(x_{-1}),$$

where x_{-1} represents all the remaining goods, $l = 2, 3, \dots, L$.]

2. Consider the following profit function that has been obtained from a technology that uses a single input, z :

$$\pi(p, w) = p^2 w^\alpha$$

where p is the output price, w is the input price and α is a parameter value.

- (a) Check if the profit function satisfies homogeneity of degree one jointly in both p and w . In particular, determine for which values of α this property is satisfied.
- (b) Assuming the value of α for which the profit function satisfies homogeneity of degree one, check if the profit function $\pi(p, w)$ satisfies the following properties: (1) non-decreasing in output price p , (2) non-increasing in input prices w , and (3) convex in prices p and w .
- (c) Calculate the supply function of the firm, $q(p, w)$, and its demand for inputs, $z(p, w)$.