

Income & Substitution Effects: Slutsky versus Hicks

Suppose $U=xy$, $B=\$6$, and $P_x=P_y=\$1$. Then, The price of y increases to $\$2$.
The Marshallian (Walrasian) demands are

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$$x = \frac{B}{2P_x} \quad y = \frac{B}{2P_y}$$

a) Determine the Hicks income/substitution effect.

b) Determine the Slutsky income/substitution effect.

c) Determine the Compensating and Equivalent Variation

- 1) Solve original utility maximization problem, determine x, y, U . $P_x=\$1, P_y=\1

- 2) Solve final utility maximization problem, determine x, y, U . $P_x=\$1, P_y=\2 .

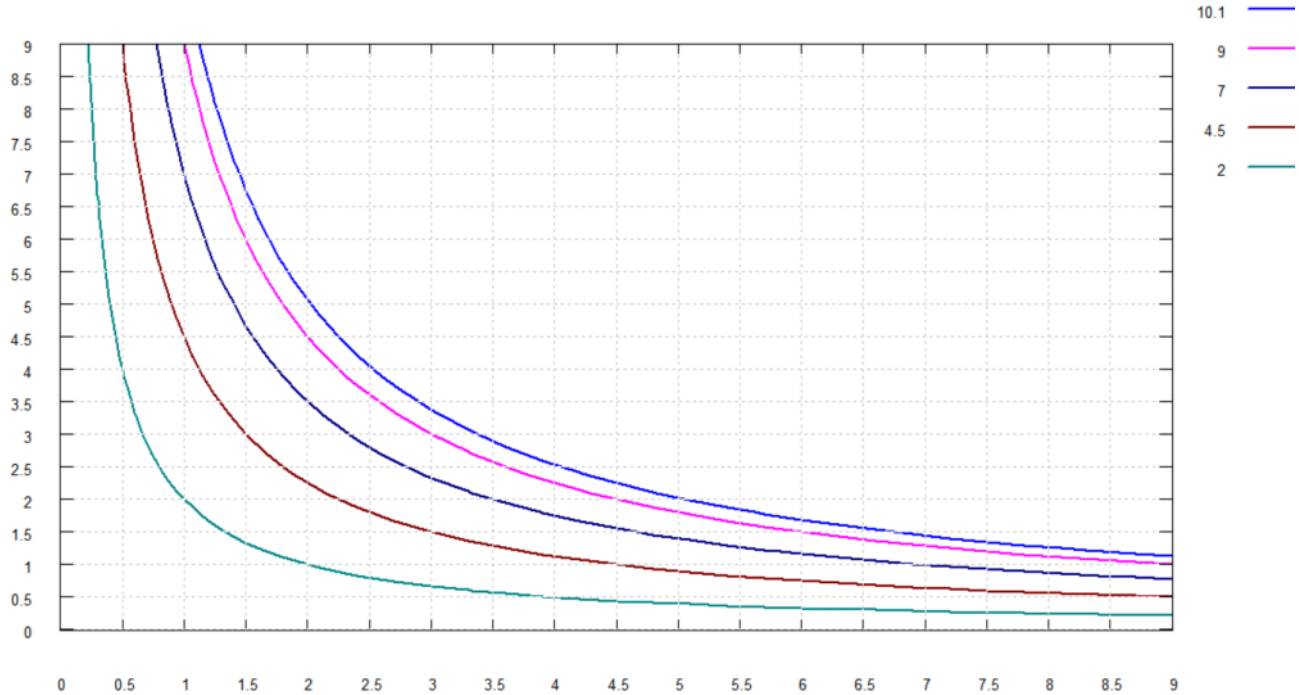
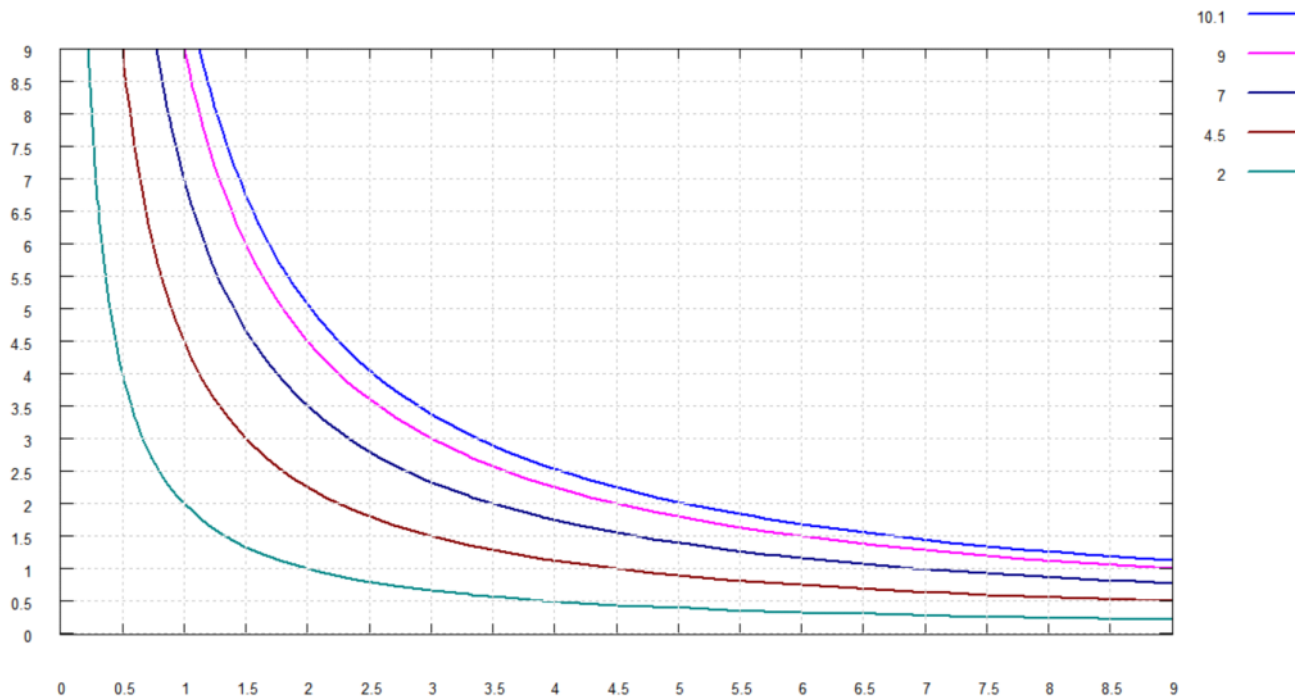
- 3) For Slutsky Decomposition: Find Budget: How much would it cost to buy OLD BASKET at NEW PRICES?
 - a. Simply calculate budget, then optimize utility given budget, new prices.
 - b. What would this person buy with new budget that **literally** removes the income effect?

- 4) For Hicks Decomposition: How much would it cost to get the person back to the OLD utility at the NEW prices (in the cheapest way)
 - a. Optimization problem: Old utility, new prices
 - b. What would this person buy with budget that **removes the pain** of the price change?

- 5) Compensating Variation: Minimum Δ in income to get back to old U , new P .
Logic: Compensate person for change in utility, Willingness To Accept (WTA)

- 6) Equivalent Variation: Minimum Δ in income to get person to new U , old P .
Logic: What loss of income causes equivalent pain as price change, Willingness To Pay (WTP)

- 7) GROSS Substitutes/Complements: Look at income + substitution (total) effect
- 8) NET Substitutes/Complements: Look only at substitution effect (with only 2 goods, diminishing MRS implies must be net substitutes)



Price indices: Laspeyres vs. Paasche

Laspeyres: $\frac{\text{Cost to buy old } Q \text{ at new } P}{\text{Cost to buy old } Q \text{ at old } P}$

Paasche: $\frac{\text{Cost to buy new } Q \text{ at new } P}{\text{Cost to buy new } Q \text{ at old } P}$

Old Q: $x=3$ $y=3$
 Old P: $P_x=\$1$ $P_y=\$1$

New Q: $x=3$ $y=1.5$
 New P: $P_x=\$1$ $P_y=\$2$