# HECKSCHER-OHLIN MODEL

# **Fixed Proportions Model**

Production technology:

$$y_1 = \min[k_1, \ell_1/2] = k_1 = \ell_1/2$$
  
$$y_2 = \min[k_2/2, \ell_2] = k_2/2 = \ell_2.$$

Endowments:

 $\overline{k} = 16, \ \overline{\ell} = 14.$ 

Utility of the representative consumer/worker:

$$u(c_1, c_2) = \log c_1 + \log c_2$$
.

## **Production Possibility Set**

$k_1 + k_2 \le k$	$\ell_1 + \ell_2 \leq \ell$
$y_1 + 2y_2 \le 16$	$2y_1 + y_2 \le 14$



An **autarky equilibrium** is a set of goods prices  $\hat{p}_1$ ,  $\hat{p}_2$ , factor prices  $\hat{r}, \hat{w}$ , a consumption plan  $\hat{c}_1, \hat{c}_2$ , and production plans  $\hat{y}_1, \hat{y}_2, \hat{k}_1, \hat{k}_2, \hat{\ell}_1, \hat{\ell}_2$  such that

• Given  $\hat{p}_1$ ,  $\hat{p}_2$ ,  $\hat{r}$ ,  $\hat{w}$ , the consumer chooses  $\hat{c}_1$ ,  $\hat{c}_2$  to solve

max log 
$$c_1 + \log c_2$$
  
s. t.  $\hat{p}_1 c_1 + \hat{p}_2 c_2 = \hat{r} \overline{k} + \hat{w} \overline{\ell}$ 

- $\hat{p}_1 \hat{r} 2\hat{w} \le 0$ , = 0 if  $\hat{y}_1 > 0$ ,  $\hat{p}_2 - 2\hat{r} - \hat{w} \le 0$ , = 0 if  $\hat{y}_2 > 0$ .
- $\hat{c}_1 = \hat{y}_1,$  $\hat{c}_2 = \hat{y}_2.$
- $\hat{y}_1 = \min[\hat{k}_1, \hat{\ell}_1/2],$  $\hat{y}_2 = \min[\hat{k}_2/2, \hat{\ell}_2].$
- $\hat{k}_1 + \hat{k}_2 \leq \overline{k}$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_1 + \hat{\ell}_2 \leq \overline{\ell}$ .

Solving the consumer's problem, we obtain

$$\hat{c}_1 = \frac{\hat{r}\overline{k} + \hat{w}\overline{\ell}}{2\hat{p}_1}, \ \hat{c}_2 = \frac{\hat{r}\overline{k} + \hat{w}\overline{\ell}}{2\hat{p}_2},$$

which imply

$$\frac{\hat{c}_2}{\hat{c}_1} = \frac{\hat{p}_1}{\hat{p}_2}$$

Guess that  $\hat{c}_1 = \hat{y}_1 = 4$  ,  $\hat{c}_2 = \hat{y}_2 = 6$ . This implies that

$$\frac{\hat{p}_1}{\hat{p}_2} = \frac{6}{4} = \frac{3}{2}.$$

Set  $\hat{w} = 1$  (numeraire). We can use the zero profit conditions to solve for  $\hat{p}_2$ ,  $\hat{w}$ ,  $\hat{r}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{p}_1 - \hat{r} - 2 &= 0, \\ \hat{p}_2 - 2\hat{r} - 1 &= 0 \iff \frac{2}{3}\hat{p}_1 - 2r - 1 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

We can solve to obtain  $\hat{p}_1 = 9/4 = 2.2500$ ,  $\hat{p}_2 = 6/4 = 1.5000$ ,  $\hat{r} = 1/4 = 0.2500$ .

## **Autarky Equilibrium**

	${\hat p}_j$	$\hat{c}_{j}$	$\hat{y}_{j}$	$\hat{k}_{j}$	$\hat{\ell}_{j}$	ŕ	ŵ
good 1	9/4	4	4	4	8	1/4	1
good 2	6/4	6	6	12	6		

$$u(\hat{c}_1, \hat{c}_2) = \log 4 + \log 6 = 3.1781$$

Real income index  $e^{1/2(u(\hat{c}_1,\hat{c}_2))} = \hat{c}_1^{1/2}\hat{c}_2^{1/2} = 4^{1/2}6^{1/2} = 4.8990$ .

## **Trade Equilibrium for a Small Open Economy**

Terms of trade  $\frac{\hat{p}_1}{\hat{p}_2}$  are determined in the rest of the world.

## A trade equilibrium is a set of

goods prices  $\hat{p}_1$ ,  $\hat{p}_2$ , factor prices  $\hat{r}, \hat{w}$ , a consumption plan  $\hat{c}_1, \hat{c}_2$ , and production plans  $\hat{y}_1, \hat{y}_2, \hat{k}_1, \hat{k}_2, \hat{\ell}_1, \hat{\ell}_2$ such that

• Given  $\hat{p}_1$ ,  $\hat{p}_2$ ,  $\hat{r}$ ,  $\hat{w}$ , the consumer chooses  $\hat{c}_1$ ,  $\hat{c}_2$  to solve

$$\begin{array}{l} \max \ \log \ c_1 + \log \ c_2 \\ \text{s. t.} \ \ \hat{p}_1 c_1 + \hat{p}_2 c_2 = \hat{r} \overline{k} + \hat{w} \overline{\ell}. \end{array}$$

- $\hat{p}_1 \hat{r} 2\hat{w} \le 0$ , = 0 if  $\hat{y}_1 > 0$ ,  $\hat{p}_2 - 2\hat{r} - \hat{w} \le 0$ , = 0 if  $\hat{y}_2 > 0$ .
- $\hat{y}_1 = \min[\hat{k}_1, \hat{\ell}_1/2],$

$$\hat{y}_2 = \min[\hat{k}_2 / 2, \hat{\ell}_2].$$

- $\begin{aligned} \bullet \quad \hat{k}_1 + \hat{k}_2 &\leq \overline{k} \ , \\ \hat{\ell}_1 + \hat{\ell}_2 &\leq \overline{\ell} \ . \end{aligned}$
- $\frac{\hat{p}_1}{\hat{p}_2} = \frac{\overline{p}_1}{\overline{p}_2}$  exogenously given.

(There are no longer conditions that  $\hat{c}_1 = \hat{y}_1$ ,  $\hat{c}_2 = \hat{y}_2$ . Now the international terms of trade  $\hat{p}_1 / \hat{p}_2$  are exogenously given. In a two country trade model,  $\hat{p}_1 / \hat{p}_2$  would be determined by the conditions for equilibrium in the market for goods,  $\hat{c}_1^1 + \hat{c}_1^2 = \hat{y}_1^1 + \hat{y}_1^2$  and  $\hat{c}_2^1 + \hat{c}_2^2 = \hat{y}_2^1 + \hat{y}_2^2$ . Here we are assuming that the country is too small to affect  $\hat{p}_1 / \hat{p}_2$ .)

Suppose that, in the rest of the world

$$\frac{\hat{p}_1}{\hat{p}_2} = 1$$

Set  $\hat{w} = 1$  (numeraire). We can use the zero profit conditions to solve for  $\hat{p}_2$ ,  $\hat{w}$ ,  $\hat{r}$ :

$$\hat{p}_1 - 2\hat{r} - 1 = 0,$$
 
$$\hat{p}_2 - \hat{r} - 2 = 0 \iff \hat{p}_1 - \hat{r} - 2 = 0$$

We can solve to obtain  $\hat{p}_1 = 3$ ,  $\hat{p}_2 = 3$ ,  $\hat{r} = 1$ .

Solving the consumer's problem, we obtain

$$\hat{c}_1 = \frac{\hat{r}\bar{k} + \hat{w}\bar{\ell}}{2\hat{p}_1} = \frac{16 + 14}{2\cdot 3} = 5,$$
$$\hat{c}_2 = \frac{\hat{r}\bar{k} + \hat{w}\bar{\ell}}{2\hat{p}_2} = \frac{16 + 14}{2\cdot 3} = 5.$$

#### **Small Open Economy Trade Equilibrium**

	$\hat{p}_{j}$	$\hat{c}_{j}$	$\hat{y}_{j}$	$\hat{k_j}$	$\hat{\ell}_{j}$	ŕ	ŵ
good 1	3	5	4	4	8	1	1
good 2	3	5	6	12	6		

 $u(\hat{c}_1, \hat{c}_2) = \log 5 + \log 5 = \log 25$ 

Real income index  $e^{1/2(u(\hat{c}_1, \hat{c}_2))} = \hat{c}_1^{1/2} \hat{c}_2^{1/2} = 5^{1/2} 5^{1/2} = 5$ . Real income increases by a factor of 5.0000/4.8990 = 1.0206, a little more than 2 percent.

## Who would be opposed to this?

Let us suppose that capitalists and workers are separate people. In autarky, the consumption of capitalists is

$$\hat{c}_{1}^{K} = \frac{\hat{r}\bar{k}}{2\hat{p}_{1}} = \frac{4}{2\cdot 9/4} = 0.8889$$
$$\hat{c}_{2}^{K} = \frac{\hat{r}\bar{k}}{2\hat{p}_{2}} = \frac{4}{2\cdot 6/4} = 1.3333.$$

The consumption of workers is  $\hat{c}_1^L = \frac{\hat{w}\overline{\ell}}{2\hat{p}_1} = \frac{14}{2\cdot 9/4} = 3.1111, \ \hat{c}_2^L = \frac{\hat{w}\overline{\ell}}{2\hat{p}_2} = \frac{14}{2\cdot 6/4} = 4.6667.$ 

In trade,

$$\hat{c}_{1}^{K} = \hat{c}_{2}^{K} = \frac{16}{2 \cdot 3} = 2.6667$$
  
 $\hat{c}_{1}^{L} = \hat{c}_{2}^{L} = \frac{14}{2 \cdot 3} = 2.3333.$ 

The real income of capitalists goes from  $(0.8889)^{1/2}(1.3333)^{1/2} = 1.0887$  to  $(2.6667)^{1/2}(2.6667)^{1/2} = 2.6667$ , an increase of 145 percent.

The real income of workers goes from  $(3.1111)^{1/2}(4.6667)^{1/2} = 3.8103$  to  $(2.6667)^{1/2}(2.6667)^{1/2} = 2.6667$ , a decrease of 39 percent.

## **Specific Factors Model**

Production technology:

$$y_1 = \ell_1^{1/2} k_1^{1/2} y_2 = \ell_2^{1/2} t_2^{1/2}.$$

Endowments:

$$\overline{k} = 1, \ \overline{t} = 4, \ \overline{\ell} = 32$$

Utility of the representative consumer/worker:

$$u(c_1, c_2) = \log c_1 + \log c_2.$$

# **Production Possibility Set**

$$\begin{array}{c} \ell_1 + \ell_2 \leq 32 \\ k_1 &\leq 1 \\ t_2 &\leq 4 \end{array} \right\} \quad y_1^2 + y_2^2 / 4 \leq 32 \, .$$



# An **autarky equilibrium** is a set of

goods prices  $\hat{p}_1$ ,  $\hat{p}_2$ , factor prices  $\hat{r}$ ,  $\hat{q}$ ,  $\hat{w}$ , a consumption plan  $\hat{c}_1$ ,  $\hat{c}_2$ , and production plans  $\hat{y}_1$ ,  $\hat{y}_2$ ,  $\hat{k}_1$ ,  $\hat{t}_2$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_1$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_2$ such that • Given  $\hat{p}_1$ ,  $\hat{p}_2$ ,  $\hat{r}$ ,  $\hat{q}$ ,  $\hat{w}$ , the consumer chooses  $\hat{c}_1$ ,  $\hat{c}_2$  to solve

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & \log \ c_1 + \log \ c_2 \\ \text{s. t.} & \hat{p}_1 c_1 + \hat{p}_2 c_2 = \hat{r} \overline{k} + \hat{q} \overline{t} + \hat{w} \overline{\ell}. \end{array}$$

- $\hat{r} = \hat{p}_1(1/2)\hat{\ell}_1^{1/2}\hat{k}_1^{-1/2}, \ \hat{w} = \hat{p}_1(1/2)\hat{\ell}_1^{-1/2}\hat{k}_1^{1/2},$  $\hat{q} = \hat{p}_2(1/2)\hat{\ell}_2^{1/2}\hat{t}_2^{-1/2}, \ \hat{w} = \hat{p}_2(1/2)\hat{\ell}_2^{-1/2}\hat{t}_2^{1/2}.$
- $\hat{c}_1 = \hat{y}_1$ ,  $\hat{c}_2 = \hat{y}_2$ .
- $\hat{y}_1 = \hat{\ell}_1^{1/2} \hat{k}_1^{1/2}$ ,  $\hat{y}_2 = \hat{\ell}_2^{1/2} \hat{t}_2^{1/2}$ .
- $\hat{\ell}_1 + \hat{\ell}_2 \leq \overline{\ell}$ ,  $\hat{k}_1 \leq \overline{k}$ ,  $\hat{t}_2 \leq \overline{t}$ .

Solving the consumer's problem, we obtain

$$\hat{c}_1 = \frac{\hat{r}\overline{k} + \hat{q}\overline{t} + \hat{w}\overline{\ell}}{2\hat{p}_1}, \ \hat{c}_2 = \frac{\hat{r}\overline{k} + \hat{q}\overline{t} + \hat{w}\overline{\ell}}{2\hat{p}_2}$$

which imply

$$\frac{\hat{c}_2}{\hat{c}_1} = \frac{\hat{p}_1}{\hat{p}_2}.$$

From the profit maximization conditions (factor prices equal marginal revenue product), we know that

$$w = p_1(1/2)\ell_1^{-1/2}k_1^{1/2} = p_2(1/2)\ell_2^{-1/2}t_2^{1/2}$$
$$\frac{p_1}{p_2} = \frac{\ell_2^{-1/2}t_2^{1/2}}{\ell_1^{-1/2}k_1^{1/2}} = \left(\frac{\ell_1^{1/2}k_1^{1/2}}{\ell_2^{1/2}t_2^{1/2}}\right)\left(\frac{t_2}{k_1}\right) = \left(\frac{y_1}{y_2}\right)\left(\frac{t_2}{k_1}\right) = \left(\frac{y_1}{y_2}\right)\left(\frac{4}{1}\right).$$

Setting  $c_1 = y_1$ ,  $c_2 = y_2$ , we obtain

$$\frac{y_2}{y_1} = \frac{p_1}{p_2} = \left(\frac{y_1}{y_2}\right) \left(\frac{4}{1}\right)$$
  
MRS = price ratio = MRT  
$$\left(\frac{y_2}{y_1}\right)^2 = 4 \implies y_2 = 2y_1.$$

Plugging this into the production possibility frontier, we obtain

$$y_1^2 + y_2^2 / 4 = 32$$
  

$$y_1^2 + (2y_1)^2 / 4 = 32$$
  

$$2y_1^2 = 32$$
  

$$y_1 = 4, \quad y_1 = 8.$$

**Autarky Equilibrium** 

	$\hat{p}_{j}$	$\hat{c}_{j}$	$\hat{y}_{j}$	$\hat{k}_{j}$	$\hat{t}_{j}$	$\hat{\ell}_{j}$	r	$\hat{q}$	ŵ
good 1	8	4	4	1	0	16	16	4	1
good 2	4	8	8	0	4	16			

 $u(\hat{c}_1, \hat{c}_2) = \log 4 + \log 8 = 3.4657$ 

Real income index  $e^{1/2(u(\hat{c}_1,\hat{c}_2))} = \hat{c}_1^{1/2}\hat{c}_2^{1/2} = 4^{1/2}8^{1/2} = 5.6569$ .

## **Trade Equilibrium for a Small Open Economy**

Terms of trade  $\frac{\hat{p}_1}{\hat{p}_2}$  are determined by the rest of the world.

# An **trade equilibrium** is a set of goods prices $\hat{p}_1$ , $\hat{p}_2$ ,

factor prices  $\hat{r}$ ,  $\hat{q}$ ,  $\hat{w}$ , a consumption plan  $\hat{c}_1$ ,  $\hat{c}_2$ , and production plans  $\hat{y}_1$ ,  $\hat{y}_2$ ,  $\hat{k}_1$ ,  $\hat{t}_2$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_1$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_2$ such that • Given  $\hat{p}_1$ ,  $\hat{p}_2$ ,  $\hat{r}$ ,  $\hat{q}$ ,  $\hat{w}$ , the consumer chooses  $\hat{c}_1$ ,  $\hat{c}_2$  to solve

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & \log \ c_1 + \log \ c_2 \\ \text{s. t.} & \hat{p}_1 c_1 + \hat{p}_2 c_2 = \hat{r} \overline{k} + \hat{q} \overline{t} + \hat{w} \overline{\ell}. \end{array}$$

- $\hat{r} = \hat{p}_1(1/2)\hat{\ell}_1^{1/2}\hat{k}_1^{-1/2}, \ \hat{w} = \hat{p}_1(1/2)\hat{\ell}_1^{-1/2}\hat{k}_1^{1/2},$  $\hat{q} = \hat{p}_2(1/2)\hat{\ell}_2^{1/2}\hat{t}_2^{-1/2}, \ \hat{w} = \hat{p}_2(1/2)\hat{\ell}_2^{-1/2}\hat{t}_2^{1/2}.$
- $\hat{y}_1 = \hat{\ell}_1^{1/2} \hat{k}_1^{1/2}$ ,  $\hat{y}_2 = \hat{\ell}_2^{1/2} \hat{t}_2^{1/2}$ .
- $\begin{aligned} \bullet \quad \hat{\ell}_1 + \hat{\ell}_2 &\leq \overline{\ell} \;, \\ \hat{k}_1 &\leq \overline{k} \;, \\ \hat{\ell}_2 &\leq \overline{\ell} \;. \end{aligned}$
- $\frac{\hat{p}_1}{\hat{p}_2} = \frac{\overline{p}_1}{\overline{p}_2}$  exogenously given.

(There are no longer conditions that  $\hat{c}_1 = \hat{y}_1$ ,  $\hat{c}_2 = \hat{y}_2$ .)

Suppose that, in the rest of the world

$$\frac{\hat{p}_1}{\hat{p}_2} = 1.$$

It is still the case that profit maximization implies

$$w = p_1(1/2)\ell_1^{-1/2}k_1^{1/2} = p_2(1/2)\ell_2^{-1/2}t_2^{1/2}$$
$$\frac{p_1}{p_2} = \frac{\ell_2^{-1/2}t_2^{1/2}}{\ell_1^{-1/2}k_1^{1/2}} = \left(\frac{\ell_1^{1/2}k_1^{1/2}}{\ell_2^{1/2}t_2^{1/2}}\right)\left(\frac{t_2}{k_1}\right) = \left(\frac{y_1}{y_2}\right)\left(\frac{t_2}{k_1}\right) = \left(\frac{y_1}{y_2}\right)\left(\frac{4}{1}\right).$$

Since  $p_1 / p_2 = 1$ , this implies that

$$y_2 = 4y_1$$
.

Plugging this into the production possibility frontier, we obtain

$$y_1^2 + y_2^2 / 4 = 32$$

$$y_1^2 + (4y_1)^2 / 4 = 32$$
  
 $5y_1^2 = 32$   
 $y_1 = (32/5)^{1/2} = 2.5298, \quad y_2 = 4(32/5)^{1/2} = 10.1193.$ 

To obtain factor inputs, we plug into the production function

$$y_1 = \ell_1^{1/2} k_1^{1/2}$$
  
2.5298 =  $\ell_1^{1/2} (1)^{1/2}$   
 $\ell_1 = 32/5 = 6.4000$   
 $\ell_2 = 32 - 6.4000 = 25.6000$ .

To obtain goods prices and factor prices, we set  $\hat{w} = 1$  (numeraire) and then plug into the profit maximization conditions,

$$1 = p_1(1/2) (6.4)^{1/2} (1)^{1/2} \implies p_1 = 5.0596, p_2 = 5.0596$$
  

$$r = p_1(1/2) (6.4)^{1/2} (1)^{-1/2} = 5.0596(1/2) (6.4)^{1/2} = 6.4000$$
  

$$q = p_2(1/2) (25.6)^{1/2} (4)^{-1/2} = 5.0596(1/2) (25.6)^{1/2} (4)^{-1/2} = 6.4000.$$

To obtain consumption levels, we plug into the demand functions,

$$\begin{split} \hat{c}_1 &= \frac{\hat{r}\overline{k} + \hat{q}\overline{t} + \hat{w}\overline{\ell}}{2\hat{p}_1} = 6.3246\\ \hat{c}_2 &= \frac{\hat{r}\overline{k} + \hat{q}\overline{t} + \hat{w}\overline{\ell}}{2\hat{p}_2} = 6.3246 \,. \end{split}$$

## **Small Open Economy Trade Equilibrium**

	$\hat{p}_{j}$	$\hat{c}_{j}$	$\hat{y}_{j}$	$\hat{k}_{j}$	$\hat{t}_{j}$	$\hat{\ell}_{j}$	r	$\hat{q}$	ŵ
good 1	5.0596	6.3246	2.5298	1	0	6.4	6.4	6.4	1
good 2	5.0596	6.3246	10.1193	0	4	25.6			

 $u(\hat{c}_1, \hat{c}_2) = \log 6.3246 + \log 6.3246 = 3.6889$ 

Real income index  $e^{1/2(u(\hat{c}_1,\hat{c}_2))} = \hat{c}_1^{1/2}\hat{c}_2^{1/2} = 6.3246^{1/2}6.3246^{1/2} = 6.3246$ . Real income increases by a factor of 6.3246/5.6569 = 1.1180, almost 12 percent.

### Who would be opposed to this?

Let us suppose that capitalists, landowners, and workers are separate people. In autarky, the consumption of capitalists is  $\hat{c}_1^K = \frac{\hat{r}\overline{k}}{2\hat{p}_1} = \frac{16\cdot 1}{2\cdot 8} = 1$ ,  $\hat{c}_2^K = \frac{\hat{r}\overline{k}}{2\hat{p}_2} = \frac{16\cdot 1}{2\cdot 4} = 2$ . The consumption of landowners is  $\hat{c}_1^T = \frac{\hat{q}\overline{t}}{2\hat{p}_1} = \frac{4\cdot 4}{2\cdot 8} = 1$ ,  $\hat{c}_2^T = \frac{\hat{q}\overline{t}}{2\hat{p}_2} = \frac{4\cdot 4}{2\cdot 4} = 2$ . The consumption of workers is  $\hat{c}_1^L = \frac{\hat{w}\overline{\ell}}{2\hat{p}_1} = \frac{1\cdot 32}{2\cdot 8} = 2$ ,  $\hat{c}_2^L = \frac{\hat{w}\overline{\ell}}{2\hat{p}_2} = \frac{1\cdot 32}{2\cdot 4} = 4$ .

In trade,

$$\hat{c}_{1}^{K} = \hat{c}_{2}^{K} = \frac{6.4 \cdot 1}{2 \cdot 5.0596} = 0.6325$$
$$\hat{c}_{1}^{T} = \hat{c}_{2}^{T} = \frac{6.4 \cdot 4}{2 \cdot 5.0596} = 2.5298$$
$$\hat{c}_{1}^{L} = \hat{c}_{2}^{L} = \frac{1 \cdot 32}{2 \cdot 5.0596} = 3.1623.$$

The real income of capitalists goes from  $(1)^{1/2}(2)^{1/2} = 1.4142$  to  $(0.6325)^{1/2}(0.6325)^{1/2} = 0.6325$ , an decrease of 55 percent.

The real income of landowners goes from  $(1)^{1/2}(2)^{1/2} = 1.4142$  to  $(2.5298)^{1/2}(2.5298)^{1/2} = 2.5298$ , an increase of 79 percent.

The real income of workers goes from  $(2)^{1/2}(4)^{1/2} = 2.8284$  to  $(3.1623)^{1/2}(3.1623)^{1/2} = 3.1623$ , an increase of 12 percent.

#### **Equilibrium in a World Trade Model**

We define an equilibrium for a world economy with m countries. We consider only the case of a world with identical, fixed proportions production functions in each country. The definition for a world with identical, specific factors production technologies should be obvious.

Production technology:

$$y_1 = \min[k_1, \ell_1/2] = k_1 = \ell_1/2$$
  
$$y_2 = \min[k_2/2, \ell_2] = k_2/2 = \ell_2.$$

Endowments:

$$\overline{k}^i$$
,  $\overline{\ell}^i$  in each country,  $i = 1, 2, ..., m$ .

Utility of the representative consumer/worker in country i, i = 1, 2, ..., m:

$$u(c_1^i, c_2^i) = \log c_1^i + \log c_2^i$$

A **trade equilibrium** is a set of goods prices  $\hat{p}_1$ ,  $\hat{p}_2$ , factor prices  $\hat{r}^i$ ,  $\hat{w}^i$ , i = 1, 2, ..., m, consumption plans  $\hat{c}_1^i$ ,  $\hat{c}_2^i$ , i = 1, 2, ..., m, and production plans  $\hat{y}_1^i$ ,  $\hat{y}_2^i$ ,  $\hat{k}_1^i$ ,  $\hat{k}_2^i$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_1^i$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_2^i$ , i = 1, 2, ..., m, such that

• Given  $\hat{p}_1$ ,  $\hat{p}_2$ ,  $\hat{r}^i$ ,  $\hat{w}^i$ , the consumer in country *i* chooses  $\hat{c}_1^i$ ,  $\hat{c}_2^i$  to solve

max log 
$$c_1^i + \log c_2^i$$
  
s. t.  $\hat{p}_1 c_1^i + \hat{p}_2 c_2^i = \hat{r}^i \overline{k}^i + \hat{w}^i \overline{\ell}^i$ .

- $$\begin{split} \bullet \quad \hat{p}_1 \hat{r}^i 2\hat{w}^i \leq 0 \,, \ &= 0 \text{ if } \hat{y}_1^i > 0 \,, \\ \hat{p}_2 2\hat{r}^i \hat{w}^i \leq 0 \,, \ &= 0 \text{ if } \hat{y}_2^i > 0 \,. \end{split}$$
- $\hat{y}_1^i = \min[\hat{k}_1^i, \hat{\ell}_1^i/2],$  $\hat{y}_2^i = \min[\hat{k}_2^i/2, \hat{\ell}_2^i].$
- $\hat{c}_1^1 + \hat{c}_1^2 + \ldots + \hat{c}_1^m = \hat{y}_1^1 + \hat{y}_1^2 + \ldots + \hat{y}_1^m$ ,  $\hat{c}_2^1 + \hat{c}_2^2 + \ldots + \hat{c}_2^m = \hat{y}_2^1 + \hat{y}_2^2 + \ldots + \hat{y}_2^m$ .
- $\hat{k}_1^i + \hat{k}_2^i \le \overline{k}^i$ , i = 1, 2, ..., m,  $\hat{\ell}_1^i + \hat{\ell}_2^i \le \overline{\ell}^i$ , i = 1, 2, ..., m.

### **Points to notice:**

- 1. We usually consider the case where there are two countries, m = 2, in examples.
- 2. If there are two countries, i and j, that both produce both of the two goods,

$$\hat{y}_1^i > 0$$
,  $\hat{y}_2^i > 0$  and  $\hat{y}_1^j > 0$ ,  $\hat{y}_2^j > 0$ ,

then the profit maximization conditions imply that the factor prices in the two countries are equal, prices  $\hat{r}^i = \hat{r}^j$ ,  $\hat{w}^i = \hat{w}^j$ .

3. If  $\hat{y}_j^i - \hat{c}_j^i$  is positive, then  $\hat{y}_j^i - \hat{c}_j^i$  is the amount of good *j* exported by country *i*. If  $\hat{y}_j^i - \hat{c}_j^i$  is negative, then  $\hat{c}_j^i - \hat{y}_j^i$  is the amount of good *j* imported by country *i*.

#### A Note on Real Income

We calculate real income using a monotonic transformation of the utility function that is homogenous of degree one:

$$r(c_1, c_2) = e^{(1/2)(\log c_1 + \log c_2)} = c_1^{1/2} c_2^{1/2}$$

The monotonic transformation  $v(u) = e^{(1/2)u}$  ensures that  $c_1^{1/2}c_2^{1/2}$  represents the same consumer preferences (that is, has the same indifference curves) as  $\log c_1 + \log c_2$ . It is easy to verify that  $r(c_1, c_2) = c_1^{1/2}c_2^{1/2}$  is homogenous of degree one:

$$r(\theta c_1, \theta c_2) = (\theta c_1)^{1/2} (\theta c_2)^{1/2} = \theta c_1^{1/2} c_2^{1/2} = \theta r(c_1, c_2).$$

This means that we can meaningfully talk about percent changes in real income.

Our concept of changes in real income is what is traditionally known as the equivalent variation: In measuring the change in real income between situation 1 and situation 2, we ask by how much would we need to change income in situation 1, keeping prices fixed at situation 1 prices, to make a consumer indifferent between his or her consumption bundle in situation 1 and his or her consumption bundle in situation 2.

In the autarky equilibrium of our economy in the fixed proportions model real income is

$$r(4,6) = 4^{1/2}6^{1/2} = 4.8990$$
.

In the trade equilibrium, real income rises to

$$r(5,5) = 5^{1/2} 5^{1/2} = 5.0000$$
.

The increase in real income is 2.06 percent.

Let us verify that this is indeed the equivalent variation: In autarky, prices are  $\hat{p}_1 = 9/4$ ,  $\hat{p}_1 = 6/4$ , and income is  $\hat{rk} + \hat{w}\overline{\ell} = (1/4)16 + (1)14 = 18$ . Suppose instead, income were 2.06 percent higher,

$$(1.0206)18 = 18.3711.$$

Then consumer demands would be

$$\hat{c}_1 = \frac{18.3711}{2\hat{p}_1} = \frac{18.3711}{2(9/4)} = 4.0825$$
$$\hat{c}_2 = \frac{18.3711}{2\hat{p}_2} = \frac{18.3711}{2(6/4)} = 6.1237.$$

Notice that, as we claimed, r(5,5) = r(4.0825, 6.1237) = 5.0000 (and that, of course,  $\log 5 + \log 5 = \log 4.0825 + \log 6.1237 = 3.2189$ ).