

**Math 20 Fall 2003**  
**§11.9 Leontief Economic Models**  
**October 24, 2003**

*Problem 11.9.1 (Part 1):* The economy of a small developing nation consists of three groups of producers. Farmers produce food, builders produce shelter, and tailors produce clothing.

Of the food produced by the farmers,  $\frac{7}{16}$  is bought by the farmers themselves,  $\frac{5}{16}$  by the builders, and  $\frac{1}{4}$  by the tailors. Of the shelter produced by the builders,  $\frac{1}{2}$  is bought by the farmers,  $\frac{1}{6}$  by the builders themselves, and  $\frac{1}{3}$  by the tailors. Of the clothing produced by the tailors,  $\frac{3}{16}$  is bought by the farmers,  $\frac{5}{16}$  by the builders, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  by the tailors themselves.

Represent the above information in a matrix  $E$ , where the entry  $e_{ij}$  is the fraction of the total output of the  $j$ th industry purchased by the  $i$ th industry. (Label the farmers, builders, and tailors as industries 1, 2, and 3, respectively.)

*(Part 2:)* Let  $p_1$  be the total value (in units of local currency) of all food produced by the farmers in a given year. (Thus  $p_1$  is the total income received by the farmers from food sales, and, for example  $\frac{5}{16}p_1$  is the amount the builders spend on food.) Likewise, let  $p_2$  be the total value of all shelter produced by the builders and  $p_3$  be the total value of all clothing produced by the tailors.

Set up (but do not solve) a homogeneous system of linear equations that answers the following question: What should  $p_1$ ,  $p_2$ , and  $p_3$  be so that this simple economy is in equilibrium, that is, so that the income of each group of producers is equal to the value of their expenses?

*(Part 3:)* Represent the homogeneous system of linear equations you found in Part 2 as a single matrix equation using the matrix  $E$  you found in Part 1 and the matrix

$$\mathbf{p} = \begin{bmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \\ p_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$