

Course:

Microeconomics (11062/5024)

Term:

Winterterm 2009

Examiner:

Dr. Sönke Hoffmann, VWL3

Date:

08.02.2010

Final Exam

Version B

First name:			********				
Last name:							
MatrNo.:							
		*					
• Available ti	me: 120 n	ninutes					
• Achievable points (max.): 120 points							
• Permitted aid: Pocket calculator (non-programmable)							
• General info	ormation	n:					
1. You have 30 correct.	question	ns all together. Ansv	ver all questions. In	n all questions <i>one out of three</i> answe	rs is		
2. In each que	stion poi	nts are given as foll	ows:				
	You mark(only) correct(only) wrongcorrect and wrong/nothing						
		(only) correct	(only) wrong	correct and wrong/nothing			
-	points	+4	-2	0			

- 3. Feel free to use the empty space on the present exam for your personal calculations or notes. But note that **whatever you write on these pages will be ignored during correction!** Only the answer sheet will be evaluated.
- 4. Return all the paper you received (without exception).

GOOD LUCK!

1. Consumer Theroy

- 1. Terry buys 10 pounds of cheese and 12 boxes of crackers each month. A pound of cheese costs €5 and a box of crackers costs €3. If she is maximizing her utility, what is her monthly income?
 - (a) €86
 - (b) €90
 - (c) There is not enough information to determine her monthly income.
- 2. Consider the utility-function $u(x_1, x_2) = x_1^a x_2^b$, prices p_1 and p_2 and income m, where $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$ and $p_1, p_2, m > 0$. What is the corresponding Marshall demand?

(a)
$$x_1^* = \frac{m}{p_2(1+\frac{a}{b})}, x_2^* = \frac{m}{p_1(1+\frac{b}{a})}$$

(b)
$$x_1^* = \frac{m}{p_2(1+\frac{b}{a})}, x_2^* = \frac{m}{p_1(1+\frac{a}{b})}$$

(c)
$$x_1^* = \frac{m}{p_1(1+\frac{b}{a})}, x_2^* = \frac{m}{p_2(1+\frac{a}{b})}$$

3. What is the indifference curve given the utility function in Problem 2 at a utility level of 1?

(a)
$$x_2(x_1) = \sqrt[a]{x_1^{-b}}$$

(b)
$$x_2(x_1) = \sqrt[b]{1 + x_1^{-a}}$$

(c)
$$x_2(x_1) = \sqrt[b]{x_1^{-a}}$$

- 4. Assume that, for the consumer in Problem 2, good 2 is inferior. Is this compatible with given informations?
 - (a) Yes, if $\frac{a}{b} \in (-\infty, -1)$.
 - (b) No, this contradicts given informations.
 - (c) Yes, if $\frac{b}{a} = 0$.
- 5. Based on his preferences, Bill is willing to trade 4 movie tickets for 1 ticket to a basketball game. If movie tickets cost €8 each and a ticket to the basketball game costs €40, what should Bill do?
 - (a) Bill should make the trade.
 - (b) Bill should not make the trade.
 - (c) Cannot be answered without further information.
- 6. If, at current levels of consumption, the marginal utility of an apple is 10 and the price of an apple is €5, and the marginal utility of diet coke is 20 and the price of a diet coke is €2.5, then ...
 - (a) ... the individual should consume more diet coke and fewer apples.
 - (b) ... the individual should consume more apples and less diet coke.
 - (c) ... the individual should not increase consumption of any of the goods.
- 7. Let a consumers utility function be $u(x_1, x_2) = x_1 + 2x_2$ and her budget "line" $4x_1^2 + 2x_2 = 6$. Then the Marshall demand will be ...

(a)
$$x^* = (0.1, 2.37)$$

(b)
$$x^* = (0.125, 2.97)$$

(c)
$$x^* = (0.13, 2.72)$$

- 8. Jessica mainly derives utility from two activities, going on a holiday (x₁) to a warmer climate and going out for Italian dinners (x₂). Jessica's utility function can be stated as u(x₁,x₂) = x₁²x₂. The price of holidays was €400 last year and meals cost €20. This year the price of meals has risen to €30, while the price of holidays is constant. Jessica's income in both years was €2100. How many meals are demanded in both years?
 - (a) 35 in the first year and 23.33 in the second.
 - (b) 35.56 in the first year and 23 in the second.
 - (c) 36.65 in the first year and 23.23 in the second.
- 9. Reconsider Problem 8. What is the change in consumer surplus due to the price change?
 - (a) -238.38
 - (b) -283.83
 - (c) -328.28
- 10. How should Jessica in Problem 8 be compensated in order to restore her original utility level (Hicks)?
 - (a) $\Delta m = 303.90 \, \text{Euro}$
 - (b) $\Delta m = 964.80 \, \text{Euro}$
 - (c) $\Delta m = 350 \text{ Euro}$

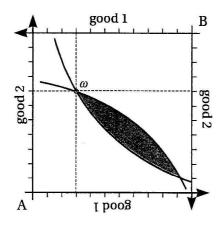
2. Production and profit maximization

- 11. Let a producer's production function be $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$, then it is ...
 - (a) ... homogeneous of degree -1
 - (b) ... homogeneous of degree 1
 - (c) ... not homogeneous at all.
- 12. A producer's production function is $f(x_1, x_2) = \min\{3x_1, 2x_2\}$. The factor prices are $w_1 = 3$ and $w_2 = 4$ in situation 1 and $w_1' = 6$ and $w_2' = 8$ in situation 2. What is the cost-minimizing factor demand in both situations if 20 units should be produced?
 - (a) Cannot be quantified without cost function but in situation 1 they are twice as high as in situation 2.
 - (b) $x_1^* = 0.15$, $x_2^* = 0.1$ in situation 1 and $x_1^* = 0.3$, $x_2^* = 0.2$ in situation 2.
 - (c) $x_1^* = 6.67$, $x_2^* = 10$ in both situations.
- 13. Let the marginal revenue of a monopolist be r'(y) = 200 y. Then the market price at supplied quantity y = 30 would be...

- (a) 185
- (b) 140
- (c) 115
- 14. Assume the monopolist's cost function $c(y) = y^3 + 3$ in Problem 13. What would be the difference between the actual market price and the efficient market price?
 - (a) 4
 - (b) 0.4
 - (c) 0.04
- 15. Should the monopoly in Problem 14 be regulated to the efficient market price?
 - (a) Yes, because this would increase welfare and monopolist would stay in the market.
 - (b) No, because it is a natural monopoly and a regulation would make the market break down.
 - (c) No, because efficiency is usually a bad thing.
- 16. Is there a condition under which the monopolist supplies the efficient quantity without regulation?
 - (a) No.
 - (b) Yes. If demand is perfectly elastic.
 - (c) Yes. If demand is perfectly inelastic.

3. General Equilibrium Theory

17. In the following *Edgeworth Box* let ω be the initial endowment of two economic actors



Which statement is correct?

- (a) All allocations outside the greyed "lens" are blocked by both economic actors.
- (b) All allocations outside the greyed "lens" are blocked by at least one economic actor.
- (c) All allocations inside the greyed "lens" are blocked by both economic actors.
- 18. Which statement is correct?

- (a) All allocations on the contract curve are individually rational.
- (b) All allocations on the contract curve are pareto-efficient.
- (c) In all allocations on the contract curve both actors have incentives to trade.

4. Game Theory

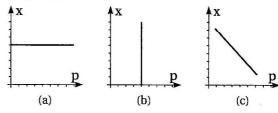
19. Find all Nash-Equilibria in the following game:

			ì	В	
	Strat.	I	31	I	32
	A_1	3	1	2	4
Α	A_2	2	1	1	2

- (a) (A_1, B_2)
- (b) $(A_1, B_2), (A_2, B_2)$
- (c) There are no Nash-Equilibria.
- 20. What is true?
 - (a) A Nash-Equilibrium is always an equilibrium in dominant strategies.
 - (b) In every normal form game with two players there is at least one Nash–Equilibrium.
 - (c) It can happen that there is no Nash–Equilibrium in pure strategies but, assuming risk–neutrality, there is one in mixed strategies.

5. Market and Endowment Economies

- 21. Consider the inverse market demand p(x) = 8 2x. What is the sum of the elasticities at x = 2 and x = 3?
 - (a) $-\frac{4}{3}$
 - (b) $-\frac{5}{4}$
 - (c) -
- 22. Let there be perfect competition in the market. How will the market demand look like from the viewpoint of a single supplier?



- 23. Let the market demand be D(p) = ap + b and the market supply S(p) = cp + d, then the equilibrium is at ...
 - (a) $p^* = \frac{d-c}{a-c}, x^* = \frac{bd-ac}{a-c}$
 - (b) $p^* = \frac{c-b}{c-a}, x^* = \frac{ac-bd}{c-a}$
 - (c) $p^* = \frac{d-b}{a-c}, x^* = \frac{ad-bc}{a-c}$
- 24. Consider the previous Problem 23. What are reasonable parameter restrictions?

- (a) a < 0, b = 0, c > 0, d = 0
- (b) a > 0, b > 0, c < 0, d > 0
- (c) a < 0, b > 0, c > 0, d = 0
- 25. Assume that a price floor at $\check{p} = -\frac{b}{a}$ in Problem 23. What is the total welfare in this market? (Hint: Draw the inverse functions)
 - (a) $\frac{(b-d)(ad-bc)}{(a-c)^2}$
 - (b) $\frac{(b-d)(a-c)}{2}$
 - (c) There is no welfare.
- 26. Which statement is true?
 - (a) If the supply is perfectly inelastic, then a quantity tax will be entirely paid by the producer.
 - (b) The more elastic the supply the less of a quantity tax is paid by the consumer.
 - (c) A quantity tax is always paid by both in equally large shares, no matter what the elasticity is.
- 27. Consider the inverse demand function $p(x) = \frac{a}{b} \frac{1}{b}x$. What is the price at which a 1% price increase causes a 1% decrease in demand?
 - (a) $p = \frac{a}{2}$
 - (b) $p = \frac{a}{2b}$
 - (c) $p = \frac{2a}{b}$

6. Preferences

28. Let the following bundles be given:

	good 1	good 2		
A	100	80		
\boldsymbol{B}	110	75		
C	120	70		

A rational consumer having well–behaved preferences is in different between bundle A and C. Which bundle will he choose?

- (a) Either A or C
- (b) B
- (c) Cannot be determined without a utility function.
- 29. At prices p = (2,3) a consumer chooses bundle x = (3,4) and at prices q = (5,2) bundle y = (2,4). These choices
 - (a) ... satisfy WARP.
 - (b) ... violate WARP.
 - (c) ... violate WARP but satisfy SARP.
- 30. Let $A = \{coke, fries, sausage\}$ be a set and $R = \{(coke, fries), (coke, coke), (fries, sausage)\}$ be a binary relation on A. What is correct?

- (a) R is not complete and R is transitive.
- (b) R is reflexive but not transitive.
- (c) R is neither symmetric nor is it transitive.