

HSS646 - Quiz 2.

Q1 $U(x_1, x_2) = 2 \log(x_1) + 3 \log(x_2)$
 $= \log x_1^2 x_2^3$

Since \log is monotonic transformation,
 $U'(x_1, x_2) = x_1^2 x_2^3$ is also a valid U .

$$20x_1 + 30x_2 = 200$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = 10 - \frac{3}{2}x_2$$

$$\Rightarrow U = \left(100 + \frac{9}{4}x_2^2 - 30x_2\right)(x_2^3)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial U}{\partial x_2} = x_2^3 \left(\frac{9}{2}x_2 - 30 \right) + 3x_2^2 \left(100 + \frac{9}{4}x_2^2 - 30x_2 \right)$$

$$= x_2^2 \left(\frac{9}{2}x_2^2 - 30x_2 + 300 + \frac{27}{4}x_2^2 - 90x_2 \right)$$

$$= x_2^2 \left(\frac{45}{4}x_2^2 - 120x_2 + 300 \right)$$

$$= \frac{15}{4}x_2^2 (3x_2^2 - 32x_2 + 80)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_2 = 6.67 \quad \text{or} \quad x_2 = 4$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x_1 = 4$$

Clearly, $U(x_1^*, x_2^*)$ is highest for

$$x_1^* = 4, \quad x_2^* = 4$$

Q2. $f(L, K) = L^2 K = q = 32.$
 $C = 2(L + K).$

Therefore,

$$\min C = 2(L + K).$$

over constraint $L^2 K = q.$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L} = 2(L + K) + \lambda(L^2 K - q)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial L} = 2 + 2\lambda L K = 0 \Rightarrow -1 = \lambda L K \quad - (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial K} = 2 + \lambda L^2 = 0 \Rightarrow -L^2 = \frac{\lambda}{2} \quad - (2)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \lambda} = L^2 K - q = 0 \Rightarrow L^2 K = q. \quad - (3)$$

From (1) and (2),

$$2L^3 K = 1 \quad - (4)$$

From (4) and (3)

$$2L^3 K = 2q L = 1 \Rightarrow L = 1/64$$

$$\Rightarrow K = \frac{64^3}{2} = 131072 \quad \rightarrow \text{from (4)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = 2 \times L^2 = 2 \times \frac{1}{64^2} = \frac{1}{2048} \rightarrow \text{from (2)}$$

$$\Rightarrow L^* = \frac{1}{64}, K^* = 131072 \Rightarrow C^* = 262144.03125.$$

Q3. $f = L^\alpha K^\beta$

a) $C = wL + rK$.

min f on constraint C .

$\Rightarrow L = L^\alpha K^\beta - \lambda (wL + rK)$

$\frac{\partial L}{\partial L} = \alpha L^{\alpha-1} K^\beta - \lambda w = 0 = MP_L / w = \lambda$ - ①

$\frac{\partial L}{\partial K} = \beta L^\alpha K^{\beta-1} - \lambda r = 0 = \frac{MP_K}{K} = \lambda$ - ②

$\Rightarrow \frac{MP_L}{MP_K} = \frac{w}{r} = MRTS.$

b) $f = L^{1/3} K^{2/3}$.

on solving ① and ②,

$\frac{\alpha L^{\alpha-1} K^\beta}{w} = \frac{\beta L^\alpha K^{\beta-1}}{r}$

$\Rightarrow L^{-1} K^1 = \frac{\beta w}{\alpha r}$

$\Rightarrow K = \frac{\beta w}{\alpha r} L = \frac{2/3 w}{1/3 r} L = \frac{2wL}{r}$

$\Rightarrow K = \frac{2wL}{r}$