

EC315 TOPICS IN MICROECONOMICS WITH  
CROSS-SECTION ECONOMETRICS  
COURSEWORK SUMMARY

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# 1 Exam Summary

## 1.1 Cost-Benefit Analysis Summary

1. Purpose
2. Alternatives
3. Who
4. C/B Impacts
5. Lifetime Impacts
6. Monetize:
  - *Social Cost*: harm done to living organisms
  - *Revealed/Stated Preference*: willingness to pay or willingness to accept
    - Revealed: shown in behaviour
    - Stated: questionnaires etc.
  - *Time*:
    - Work vs leisure using wage rate
    - Travel time; how much people are willing to trade-off
  - *Lives*: life expectancy, pay, age, risks taken
  - *Natural Resources*: AONBs, surveys, investment, regulation
7. PV Discounts
  - Social discount rate
  - Intergenerational (more than 50 years)
8. NPV of Alternatives
9. Sensitivity Analysis
10. Recommend

## 1.2 Program & Policy Evaluation Summary

Cause  $\longrightarrow$  Intermediaries  $\longrightarrow$  Effect

### 1. Omitted Variable Bias

- Selection Bias: e.g. grades, income, area of origin
- Selection Bias 2: e.g. effort, determination, stamina

### 2. Randomized Control Trial

- Unbiased Estimator:  $\bar{x} \longrightarrow \bar{\mu}$  (LLN)
- Unbiased Estimator: randomization
- $\sigma^2$ : “how much of the result is due to chance?”
- t-tests: causal effect;  $(\bar{Y}^T - \bar{Y}^C)$

### 3. Regression

- Dummy Variables: causal variable / group
- Instrumental Variables: omitted variables ( $\alpha$  corr. w/  $\varepsilon$ )

## 1.3 Crime & Punishment Summary

1. Supply:  $\pi_t = \pi_i - c_i - w_i - p_i(f_i)$

- $i$  = Individual
- $\pi_t$  = Net Total Payoff of Crime
- $\pi_i$  = Expected Payoff Per Offense (Minus Costs)
- $c_i$  = Cost Incurred if Caught
- $w_i$  = Wage Rate From Non-Criminal Work
- $p_i$  = Probability of Apprehension & Conviction
- $f_i$  = Punishment in Convicted

2. Normal Distribution

- Req.  $\uparrow \pi$ ,  $\uparrow \delta$ ,  $[\bar{x} \rightarrow (\text{Right of Mean})]$
- Req.  $\downarrow \pi$ ,  $\downarrow \delta$ ,  $[\leftarrow \bar{x} (\text{Left of Mean})]$
- Morals, enjoyment, risk, some demand for significantly higher payoffs etc. effect decision

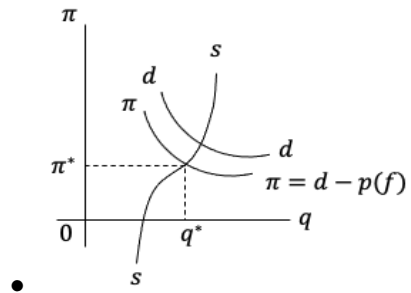
3. Demand:  $e_i f(v_r, v_l); q$

- $e_i$  = Expenditure on Protection
- $v_r$  = Risk of Victimization
- $v_l$  = Loss of Victim
- $q$  = Total Crime

4. Derivatives

- $\frac{\partial e_i}{\partial v_i} > 0$ : Risk  $\uparrow$ , Expenditure  $\uparrow$
- $\frac{\partial c_i}{\partial e_i} < 0$ : Expenditure  $\uparrow$ , Cost  $\uparrow$
- $\frac{\partial \pi_i}{\partial c_i} < 0$ : Cost  $\uparrow$ , Payoff  $\downarrow$

5. Supply / Demand



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- $ss$  = Supply of Crime
- $dd$  = Initial Demand
- $\pi\pi$  = Demand After Government Intervention ( $T$ )
- $MC$  of Catching Last Criminal  $> MB$  [ $\leftarrow \pi^*, q^*$ ]
- $MC$  of Catching Last Criminal  $< MB$  [ $\pi^*, q^* \rightarrow$ ]

## 1.4 Exam Arithmetic Summary

1.  $\pi_A = x_A p_A(x_A + x_B) - x_A$
2.  $J = \pi_A + \pi_B$ ;  $\frac{\partial J}{\partial x_A} = \frac{\partial \pi_A}{\partial x_A} + \frac{\partial \pi_B}{\partial x_B}$
3. Externalities:  $\frac{\partial \pi_A}{\partial x_B}$ 
  - $> 0$ : Positive: “you do  $\uparrow$ , my  $\pi \uparrow$ ”
  - $< 0$ : Negative: “you do  $\uparrow$ , my  $\pi \downarrow$ ”
4. Strategic Nature:  $\frac{\partial \pi_A}{\partial x_B}$ 
  - $> 0$ : Complements: “you do  $\uparrow$ , I do  $\uparrow$ ”
  - $< 0$ : Substitutes: “you do  $\uparrow$ , I do  $\downarrow$ ”
5. Grim Trigger Strategy
  - 40, 50, 30
  - $\frac{40}{(1-\delta)} \geq 50 + \frac{30\delta}{(1-\delta)}$
  - $40 \geq 50 - 50\delta + 30\delta$
  - $\delta \geq \frac{1}{2}$ : cooperation possible

Tit-for-Tat Strategy

- 40, 50, 20
- $\frac{40}{(1-\delta)} \geq \frac{50}{(1-\delta^2)} + \frac{30\delta}{(1-\delta^2)}$
- $40 + 40\delta \geq 50 + 20\delta$
- $\delta \geq \frac{1}{2}$ : cooperation easy