

## PS1 Solutions

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### Solution 1 (Gains from Trade).

Assuming the consumption bundle of Australia(A) before trading with China is  $\mathbf{c}_1$  and after is  $\mathbf{c}_2$ .

Before China's involvement, according to the Weak Axiom of Revealed Preference, we have  $\mathbf{p}_1\mathbf{c}_1 \leq \mathbf{p}_1\mathbf{c}_2$ .

After China's entering, we have  $\mathbf{p}_2\mathbf{c}_2 \leq \mathbf{p}_2\mathbf{c}_1$ .

### Solution 2 (Ricardian Trade and Technological Progress).

1. For absolute advantage, we compare unit labor productivity directly:

- Clothing
  - Home: produces  $z$  unit per hour.
  - Foreign: produces 1 unit per hour.

Home has an absolute advantage in clothing if  $z > 1$ ; otherwise, Foreign does.

- Food
  - Home: produces  $z$  unit per hour.
  - Foreign: produces 4 unit per hour.

Home has an absolute advantage in food if  $z > 4$ ; otherwise, Foreign does.

Thus, comparing the absolute advantage, we have the following table:

	Clothing	Food
$z > 4$	Home	Home
$1 < z < 4$	Home	Foreign
$z < 1$	Foreign	Foreign

2. For comparative advantage, we compare the opportunity cost of producing one unit of one good in terms of the other good:

- Home: The opportunity cost of 1 unit of Clothing over 1 unit of Food is:  
 $\frac{a_C}{a_F} = 1$ .

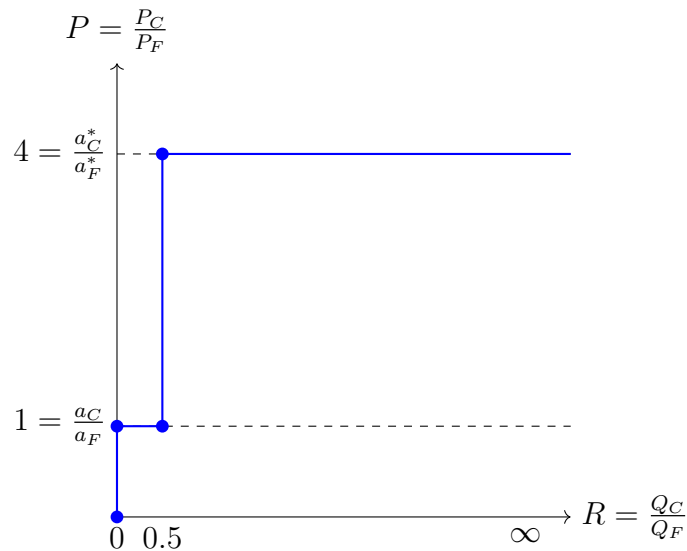
- Foreign: The opportunity cost of 1 unit of Clothing over 1 unit of Food is:  $\frac{a_C^*}{a_F^*} = 4$ .

Thus, Home has a comparative advantage in Clothing, and Foreign has a comparative advantage in Food, regardless of  $z$ .

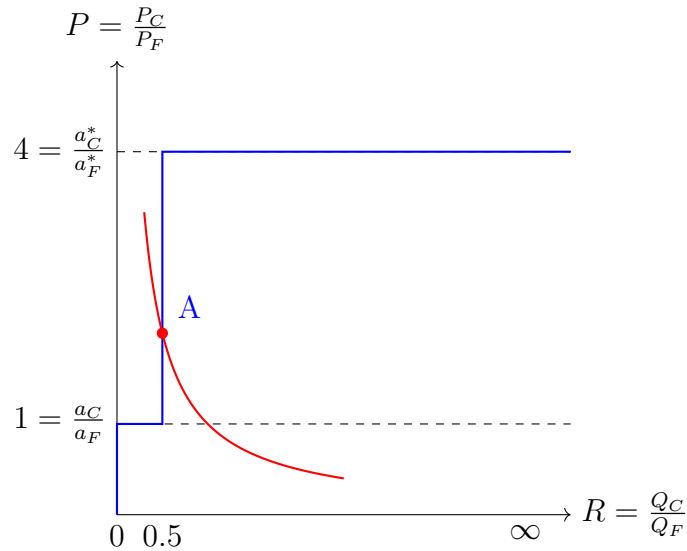
3. If  $z = 2$ , the relative price of Clothing is  $P = \frac{P_C}{P_F} = \frac{a_C}{a_F} = 1$ ,  $P^* = \frac{a_C^*}{a_F^*} = 4$ .  
 $Q_C = \frac{L}{a_C} = 2000 = Q_F$ ,  $Q_C^* = \frac{L^*}{a_C^*} = 1000$ ,  $Q_F^* = \frac{L^*}{a_F^*} = 4000$ .

(a) Draw the world relative supply of clothing.

- When  $P < 1$ , both Home and Foreign produce only Food, giving  $R = \frac{Q_C + Q_C^*}{Q_F + Q_F^*} = 0$ ;
- When  $P = 1$ , Home can vary production between (Clothing, Food) =  $[(2000, 0), (0, 2000)]$  and Foreign produces only Food, giving  $R \in [0, 0.5]$ ;
- When  $1 < P < 4$ , Home produces only Clothing and Foreign produces only Food, giving  $R = 0.5$ ;
- When  $P = 4$ , Home produces only Clothing and Foreign can vary production between (Clothing, Food) =  $[(0, 4000), (1000, 0)]$ , giving  $R \in [0.5, \infty)$ ;
- When  $P > 4$ , both Home and Foreign produce only Clothing, giving  $R = \infty$ .



- (b) Under the Cobb-Douglas utility function  $U(C, F) = CF$ , we can tell that consumers will spend the same expenditure on both goods. So, worldwide,  $P_C Q_C = P_F Q_F$ , which gives  $\frac{P_C}{P_F} = \frac{Q_F}{Q_C} = \frac{1}{R} = 2$ .



- (c) In Home, a worker produces  $z = 2$  units of Clothing per hour, hence the value of one hour's output is:  $w = 2P_C$ ; While in foreign, a worker produces 4 units of Food per hour, having a value of  $p^* = 4P_F$ . Given that  $\frac{P_C}{P_F} = 2$ , we know it that  $\frac{w}{w^*} = 1$ .
4. As analyzed before, the change of  $z$  won't affect the world relative price. We assume that after the change both countries remain completely specialized in their comparative-advantage goods.

- (a) Home produces  $1000z$  units of Clothing, and Foreign produces 4000 units of food. The world relative supply of Clothing is  $R = \frac{1000z}{4000} = \frac{z}{4}$ .

For Home, a worker's nominal income is  $w = zP_C$ , and for Foreign,  $w^* = 4P_F$ .

Our Cobb-Douglas utility with equal share tells us that  $P = \frac{P_C}{P_F} = \frac{Q_F}{Q_C} = \frac{1}{R}$ , thus  $P = \frac{4}{z}$ .

Thus the free-trade relative price is  $\frac{P_C}{P_F} = \frac{4}{z}$ , the wage ratio is:

$$\frac{w}{w^*} = \frac{zP_C}{4P_F} = 1.$$

- (b) If  $z$  increases, the relative price  $P = \frac{4}{z}$  decreases, since the

**Solution 3** (Two-by-Two-by-Two with Fixed Coefficients).

1. • **Relative Factor Abundance:**  $RFA_A = \frac{K_A}{L_A} = \frac{420}{460} \approx 1.095$ ,  $RFA_G = \frac{K_G}{L_G} = \frac{900}{600} = 1.5$ . Thus Germany is relatively capital abundant and Austria is relatively labor abundant.
- **Relative Factor Intensity of Goods:**  $RFIG_B = \frac{a_{KB}}{a_{LB}} = 3$ ,  $RFIG_S = \frac{a_{KS}}{a_{LS}} = 0.5$ . Thus Buns are capital intensive, while Sausages are labor intensive.

- **Comparative Advantage:** By the Heckscher-Ohlin theorem, the relatively capital-abundant country, Germany, will have a comparative advantage in the capital-intensive good, Buns, and the relatively labor-abundant country, Austria, in the labor-intensive good, Sausages.
- **Autarkic Relative Price:** In autarky, each country's relative price reflects its "shadow" cost. Because factor prices adjust differently in each country (with the excess factor receiving a zero "price"), we expect:
  - Austria: As labor is in excess, the wage is set to 0, hence  $P_A = \frac{P_{BA}}{P_{SA}} = \frac{a_{KB}}{a_{KS}} = 3$ ;
  - Germany: As capital is in excess, the rental rate is set to 0, hence  $P_G = \frac{P_{BG}}{P_{SG}} = \frac{a_{LB}}{a_{LS}} = \frac{1}{2}$ .

Thus, the autarkic price of Buns is higher in Austria than in Germany. Under trade we expect Germany to export Buns and Austria to export Sausages.

- **Free Trade:** Under trade we expect Germany to export Buns and Austria to export Sausages.

2. We separate the two countries' production functions and factor endowments:  $B = Q_{BA} + Q_{BG}$ ,  $S = Q_{SA} + Q_{SG}$ .

(a) For Austria, the full employment conditions are:

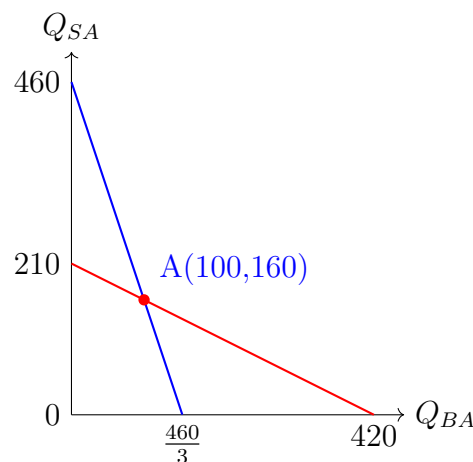
- **Labor:**

$$L_A = a_{LB}Q_{BA} + a_{LS}Q_{SA} \Rightarrow Q_{BA} + 2Q_{SA} = 420$$

- **Capital:**

$$K_A = a_{KB}Q_{BA} + a_{KS}Q_{SA} \Rightarrow 3Q_{BA} + Q_{SA} = 460$$

Both constraints hold with equality, we can have:  $(Q_{BA}, Q_{SA}) = (100, 160)$ .



(b) For Germany, the full employment conditions are:

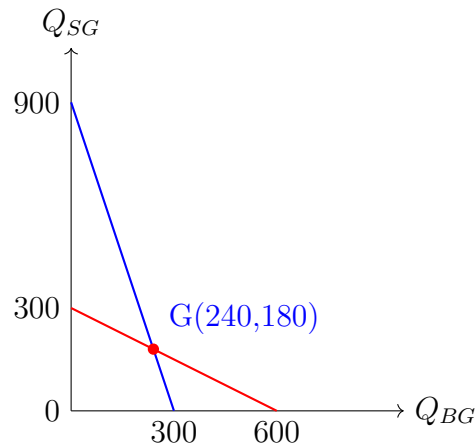
- **Labor:**

$$L_G = a_{LB}Q_{BG} + a_{LS}Q_{SG} \Rightarrow Q_{BG} + 2Q_{SG} = 600$$

- **Capital:**

$$K_G = a_{KB}Q_{BG} + a_{KS}Q_{SG} \Rightarrow 3Q_{BG} + Q_{SG} = 900$$

Solve the equations, we have:  $(Q_{BG}, Q_{SG}) = (240, 180)$ .



3. Consumers have Leontief preferences (they want to consume 1 Bun and 1 Sausage per hotdog). Because the consumption ratio is fixed at 1, autarkic equilibrium production must satisfy  $B = S$ .

(a) We first find the ebalanced production point in both countries:

- Austria:

$$\text{Labor: } B + 2B \leq 420$$

$$\text{Capital: } 3B + B \leq 460$$

The binding constraint is capital, so the maximum balanced production in Austria is  $B = S = 115$ .

- Germany:

$$\text{Labor: } B + 2B \leq 600$$

$$\text{Capital: } 3B + B \leq 900$$

The binding constraint is labor, so the maximum balanced production in Germany is  $B = S = 200$ .

The autarkic relative price is set by the zero-profit conditions.

For Austria, as balanced production  $(115, 115)$  lies in the interior of the production possibilities frontier, labor is in excess. (Thus  $W = 0$ , and prices are determined solely by the rental rate  $R$ .)

In Germany, capital is in excess, so  $R = 0$ .

The zero-profit conditions then are:

$$P_{BA} = W + 3R = 3R$$

$$P_{SA} = 2W + R = R$$

$$P_{BG} = W$$

$$P_{SG} = 2W$$

These relative prices are in line with our prediction from part (1).

- (b) In Austria, labor is in excess, hence  $W = 0$ . Total national income is  $R \cdot K_A = 460R$ . Each hotdog costs  $P_{BA} + P_{SA} = 4R$ , so each owner of a unit of capital can buy  $\frac{R}{4R} = \frac{1}{4}$  hotdogs.

In Germany, capital is in excess, so  $R = 0$ . Total income is  $W \cdot L_G = 600W$ . Each hotdog costs  $P_{BG} + P_{SG} = 3W$ , so each worker can buy  $\frac{W}{3W} = \frac{1}{3}$  hotdogs.

4. (a)

**Solution 4** (Two-by-Two-by-Two).

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

**Solution 5** (Gravity with Multilateral Resistance).

Let the income of country  $j$  denoted by  $Y_j$ , and the price of a good from country  $i$  in country  $j$  be  $p_{ij}$ . For consumers, their UMP is:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{x_{kj}} & \left[ \sum_k \alpha_{kj}^{\frac{1}{\sigma}} x_{kj}^{\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma}} \right]^{\frac{\sigma}{\sigma-1}} \\ \text{s.t.} & \sum_k x_{kj} p_{kj} \leq Y_j \end{aligned}$$

Define the Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L} = \left[ \sum_k \alpha_{kj}^{\frac{1}{\sigma}} x_{kj}^{\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma}} \right]^{\frac{\sigma}{\sigma-1}} - \lambda \left( \sum_k x_{kj} p_{kj} - Y_j \right)$$

The FOCs are:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x_{kj}} = \left[ \sum_k \alpha_{kj}^{\frac{1}{\sigma}} x_{kj}^{\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma}} \right]^{\frac{1}{\sigma-1}} \alpha_{kj}^{\frac{1}{\sigma}} x_{kj}^{-\frac{1}{\sigma}} - \lambda p_{kj} = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \lambda} = \sum_k x_{kj} p_{kj} - Y_j = 0 \quad (2)$$

From (1), we know that for two countries  $k$  and  $k'$ , we have:

$$\frac{p_{kj}}{p_{k'j}} = \frac{\alpha_{kj}^{\frac{1}{\sigma}} x_{kj}^{-\frac{1}{\sigma}}}{\alpha_{k'j}^{\frac{1}{\sigma}} x_{k'j}^{-\frac{1}{\sigma}}} \Leftrightarrow \frac{\alpha_{kj}}{\alpha_{k'j}} = \frac{p_{kj}^{\sigma}}{p_{k'j}^{\sigma}} \frac{x_{kj}}{x_{k'j}}$$

Rearranging and multiplying both sides by  $p_{k'j}$  yields:

$$x_{k'j} p_{k'j} = \frac{1}{\alpha_{kj}} x_{kj} p_{kj}^{\sigma} \alpha_{k'j} p_{k'j}^{1-\sigma}$$

Summing for all countries gives:

$$\sum_{k'} x_{k'j} p_{k'j} = \frac{1}{\alpha_{kj}} x_{kj} p_{kj}^{\sigma} \sum_{k'} \alpha_{k'j} p_{k'j}^{1-\sigma} \Leftrightarrow Y_j = \frac{1}{\alpha_{kj}} x_{kj} p_{kj}^{\sigma} P_j^{1-\sigma} \quad (3)$$

where  $P_j = \left[ \sum_k \alpha_{kj} p_{kj}^{1-\sigma} \right]^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}}$  is the Dixit-Stiglitz price index.

Rearrange (3) gives the CES demand function:

$$x_{kj} = \alpha_{kj} p_{kj}^{-\sigma} Y_j P_j^{\sigma-1} \quad (4)$$

Noting that the value of total trade is simply equal to the price times quantity, which gives  $X_{kj} = p_{kj} x_{kj}$ , we have:

$$X_{kj} = \alpha_{kj} p_{kj}^{1-\sigma} Y_j P_j^{\sigma-1} \quad (5)$$

As we suppose that the market for each country/good is perfectly competitive, the price of a good is simply the marginal cost. Let  $w_i$  be the wage of a worker in country  $i$ .

Because we assume that one unit of labor produces one unit of the local output, the wage in country  $i$  is simply the price of the good produced in country  $i$ :  $p_i = w_i$ .

So, the price of  $j$  consuming 1 unit of country  $i$ 's good is:

$$p_{ij} = \tau_{ij} w_i \Rightarrow \tau_{ij} = \frac{p_{ij}}{p_i}. \quad (6)$$

1. Let  $\lambda_{ij}$  be the share of total spending in country  $j$  that is devoted to goods imported

from country  $i$ . Implementing (5), (6) and the price index, We have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lambda_{ij} &= \frac{X_{ij}}{Y_j} = \alpha_{ij} p_{ij}^{1-\sigma} P_j^{\sigma-1} \\
 &= \alpha_{ij} \left( \tau_{ij} w_i \right)^{1-\sigma} \left[ \sum_k \alpha_{kj} \left( \tau_{kj} w_k \right)^{1-\sigma} \right]^{\sigma-1} \\
 &= \frac{\alpha_{ij} \tau_{ij}^{1-\sigma} w_i^{1-\sigma}}{\sum_k \alpha_{kj} \left( \tau_{kj} w_k \right)^{1-\sigma}} \quad (*)
 \end{aligned}$$

2. As market clearing requires income is equal to payments to, the  $Y$  we previously defined is the same as the  $X_i$  (defined as GDP in country  $i$ ).

Income in a country is also equal to its total sales:

$$\begin{aligned}
 X_i &= \sum_j X_{ij} = \sum_j \alpha_{ij} \tau_{ij}^{1-\sigma} w_i^{1-\sigma} X_j P_j^{\sigma-1} \\
 \Rightarrow w_i^{1-\sigma} &= X_i / \sum_j \alpha_{ij} \tau_{ij}^{1-\sigma} X_j P_j^{\sigma-1}
 \end{aligned}$$

Replace this equation back into (5), we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 X_{ij} &= \alpha_{ij} \tau_{ij}^{1-\sigma} w_i^{1-\sigma} X_j P_j^{\sigma-1} \\
 &= \alpha_{ij} \tau_{ij}^{1-\sigma} \frac{X_i}{\sum_k \alpha_{ik} \tau_{ik}^{1-\sigma} X_k P_k^{\sigma-1}} X_j P_j^{\sigma-1} \\
 &= X_i X_j \left( \frac{\tau_{ij}}{P_j} \right)^{1-\sigma} \frac{\alpha_{ij}}{\sum_k \alpha_{ik} \left( \frac{\tau_{ik}}{P_k} \right)^{1-\sigma} X_k} \quad (**)
 \end{aligned}$$

3. Under CES preferences, utility of the representative agent is the real wage. Thus in our notation, we have:  $X_j = U_j P_j$ . The per capita welfare  $W_i$  can be written as:

$$W_j = \frac{U_j}{L_j} = \frac{X_j}{P_j L_j} = \frac{w_j L_j}{P_j L_j} = \frac{w_j}{P_j} \quad (7)$$

We assume that  $\tau_{jj} = 1$ , and by choosing  $i = j$ , (\*) implies:

$$\lambda_{jj} = \alpha_{jj} w_j^{1-\sigma} P_j^{\sigma-1} \Rightarrow P_j = \left( \lambda_{jj} \alpha_{jj}^{-1} w_j^{\sigma-1} \right)^{\frac{1}{\sigma-1}} = \lambda_{jj}^{\frac{1}{\sigma-1}} \alpha_{jj}^{-\frac{1}{\sigma-1}} w_j$$

Replacing this equation into (7), we have:

$$W_j = \frac{w_j}{\lambda_{jj}^{\frac{1}{\sigma-1}} \alpha_{jj}^{-\frac{1}{\sigma-1}} w_j} = \lambda_{jj}^{-\frac{1}{\sigma-1}} \alpha_{jj}^{\frac{1}{\sigma-1}} \quad (***)$$