

Homework 9 Solutions

ECON 501B Solutions

Prof. Friedenber

Spencer Cooper

November 2018

Note:

- For each $l = 1, 2$, preference is strong monotone, so $p_l^* > 0$, otherwise, each consumer has no maximum on $B_i(p^*)$
- Since $p_l^* > 0, l = 1, 2$, profit maximization entails $y_l^* = 0$. Thus $p_l^* \cdot y_l^* = 0$

1. (a) FOC: $x_{11} : \alpha_1 x_{11}^{\alpha_1-1} x_{21}^{\alpha_1} - \lambda p = 0$
 $x_{21} : \alpha_1 x_{11}^{\alpha_1} x_{21}^{\alpha_1-1} - \lambda = 0$

$$\frac{x_{21}}{x_{11}} = p$$

$$\frac{x_{22}}{x_{12}} = p$$

Applying budget constraints:

$$2px_{11} = 10p + 2 \text{ and}$$

$$2px_{12} = 2p + 10$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{11} = \frac{5p+1}{p}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{12} = \frac{p+5}{p}$$

By market clearing:

$$x_{11} + x_{12} = 12 \Rightarrow p = 1$$

Then CE allocation: $\{(6, 6), (6, 6)\}, p = 1\}$

- (b) Interior:

P.O. implies $MRS_1 = MRS_2$

$$\frac{x_{21}}{x_{11}} = \frac{x_{22}}{x_{12}} = k$$

Because $x_{l1} + x_{l2} = 12$, for $l = 1, 2$, then $k = 1$

Boundary:

Must be on origin corners.

Then P.O.: $\{(x_{11}, x_{11}), (12 - x_{11}, 12 - x_{11}) | x_{11} \in [0, 12]\}$

- (c) FWT gives CE \Rightarrow PO

For SWT, we need transfers to support P.O. as CE.

- (d) Consider the PO allocation $\{(5, 5), (7, 7)\} = (\omega_1, \omega_2)$ with market price $p = 1$

Start with $(w_1, w_2) = (12, 12)$

Transfer 2 from 1 to 2:

$$(w'_1, w'_2) = (10, 14)$$

2. Since $((x_1^*, x_2^*), y^*)$ is P.O., (x_1^*, x_2^*) is non-wasteful and $y^* = 0$

Interior Solution:

$$MRS_1 = MRS_2$$

$$\phi'_1(x_{21}) = \phi'_2(x_{22})$$

Market clearing gives $x_{22} = \bar{\omega}_2 - x_{21}$

Plugging in we get:

$$\phi'_1(x_{21}) - \phi'_2(\bar{\omega}_2 - x_{21}) = 0$$

Because of strict concavity, ϕ'_1 and ϕ'_2 are decreasing. That means we have a unique solution for (x_{21}, x_{22})

3. We can again assume $y^* = 0$ by above argument.

Let $\omega' = x^*$, check $((x^*, y^*), p^*)$ is a C.E. with respect to ω'

For consumer i :

$$x_i^* \in \operatorname{argmax}(u^i(x_i)) \text{ s.t. } p^* \cdot x_i \leq p^* \omega'_i = p^* x_i^*$$

Budget constraint is satisfied because in the C.E. , $p^* x_i^* = W_i$ by non-wasteful.

Now check feasibility:

$$\sum x_i^* - \bar{\omega}$$

This is from the C.E.

4. (a) Yes - proof by contradiction

Suppose a C.E. is not in the core. Then there is a coalition C such that for any $i \in C$, and an allocation $\{x_i | i \in C\}$ such that $\sum x_i \leq \sum w_i | i \in C$, then

$$x_i \succ_i x_i^*$$

Therefore $p^* x_i > p^* x_i^* = p^* \omega_i$ for any $i \in C$

Summing all $i \in C$:

$$p^* \sum x_i > p^* \sum \omega_i$$

$$\text{Then } \sum_{l=1}^L p_l \sum_{i \in C} x_{li} > \sum_{l=1}^L p_l \sum_{i \in C} \omega_{li}$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists l : p_l \sum x_{li} > p_l \sum \omega_{li}$$

Because $p_l > 0 : \sum x_{li} > \sum \omega_{li}$ which is a contradiction to feasibility.

- (b) False