

Definitions

1. Strategy: A strategy is an information-contingent plan of action: that is, it defines what a player would do under any possible circumstances, even for decisions that won't be reached.
2. Best Response: the strategy that gives you the highest utility (payoff).
3. Best Response Function
 - a. The best response function maps the state of the world to your best response.

Choose a Project

Assume the role of the manager of a research division of an organization in the biomedical/health sector. Below is data on ratings from a third-party scientific panel regarding potential research projects you could fund. Each proposal has received a rating on a scale from 1 to 5 (with 5 being the top rating) by seven scientific experts unaffiliated with the projects under consideration. All have the same cost.

- The only information you have on the project is the expert rating
- Assume at least one of the experts is correct with an equal probability on each.
- The higher the project is rated, the higher your utility as a manager.
U = project rating
- The strategies in this example are the possible projects to fund
- The best response, in this case, is funding the project with the highest expected utility

Reviewer	Project A	Project B
1	2	3
2	2	3
3	2	2
4	2	2
5	2	2
6	5	5
7	4	5

$$E(A) = 1/7*2 + 1/7*2 + 1/7*2 + 1/7*2 + 1/7*2 + 1/7*5 + 1/7*4 = 2.71$$

$$E(B) = 1/7*3 + 1/7*3 + 1/7*2 + 1/7*2 + 1/7*2 + 1/7*5 + 1/7*5 = 3.14$$

The best response is project B.

Choose a Bundle

You have w dollars to spend on two things that make you happy. The quantity of the first thing is represented by x , and the quantity of the second thing is represented by y .

Given prices p_x and p_y and an allowance w , set up the maximization problem.

$$\text{Max}_{\{x,y\}} U(x,y) \quad \text{st} \quad p_x * x + p_y * y \leq w$$

Example: you substitute between two goods x and y . A single unit of x provides five times the utility as y .

$$u(x,y) = 5x + y$$

Rank preference over the following bundles $\{x,y\}$

$$A = \{7,1\} \quad B = \{1,7\} \quad C = \{8,1\} \quad D = \{4,6\} \quad E = \{6,3\}$$

Find the best response given $p_x = 5$, $p_y = 10$, and $w = 50$.

$$\{10,0\}$$