

ECON 4002.01 Problem Set 3

Hui-Jun Chen

Question 1

Consider a model that is **similar to** (not exactly!) the Lecture 14 Consumer Problem, but there are three differences:

1. Consumers' utility function is given by $U(C, C', N_S, N'_S) = \log C - bN_S + \log C' - bN'_S$
2. Consumers do **not** own the whole firm; instead, they buy shares of the firm s in date 0 to achieve intertemporal saving at per-unit price q . At date 1, consumers redeem their share to the firm and get s of reward.
3. Consumers are **not** subject to the lump-sum tax.

Firstly, let's follow the slide and think about the consumer's budget constraint, you can refer to Lecture 14, slide 4.

① there are A choice variables,

- (A) 5 (B) 3 (C) 2 (D) 4

② and they are $\{C, C', N_S, N'_S, \underline{C}\}$

- (A) S (B) S' (C) s (D) s'

③ consumers own **part** of the firm and get B of reward

- (A) π (B) s (C) π' (D) S

④ and they are taken the equilibrium price $\{w, w', \underline{D}\}$ as given.

- (A) r (B) r' (C) q' (D) q

After defining all of the variables, consumer's budget constraints in each period are

⑤ date 0 budget constraints is A

(A) $C + qs = wN_S$

(B) $C + S = wN_S + \pi - T$

(C) $C = wN_S + qs$

(D) $C = wN_S + \frac{s}{q} + \pi - T$

⑥ date 1 budget constraints is C

(A) $C' = wN_S + \pi' - T' + (1+r)S$

(B) $C' = w'N'_S + qs$

(C) $C' = w'N'_S + s$

(D) $C' = w'N'_S + \frac{s'}{q'} + \pi' - T'$

⑦ The lifetime budget constraint by combining date 0 and date 1 budget constraints is D

(A) $C + \frac{C'}{1+r} = wN_S + \frac{w'N'_S}{1+r}$

(B) $C + \frac{C'}{1+r} = wN_S + \pi - T + \frac{w'N'_S + \pi' - T'}{1+r}$

(C) $C - qC' = wN_S - qw'N'_S$

(D) $C + qC' = wN_S + qw'N'_S$

Some calculation details:

$$s = C' - w'N'_S \Rightarrow C + q(C' - w'N'_S) = wN_S$$

$$\Rightarrow C + qC' = wN_S + qw'N'_S$$

After finishing consumer's budget constraint, let's turn to the analysis preference:

⑧