

## **Principles of Economics (Double Degree) (Fall 2022)**

### **Homework #1**

**(Chapter 1-6, Due on Oct 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022)**

**Note: All textbook problem numbers refer to “Problems and Application” part in corresponding chapter, the 8<sup>th</sup> Chinese/US edition of the textbook.**

#### **For Chapter 1**

1. Textbook, Chapter 1, #5
2. 1838 年, 美国陆军被指派将印第安人从美国东部转移到俄克拉荷马州(位于美国中部)。这一任务的承包人事先得到了每个印第安人 65 美元的付款(相当于今天的 1270 美元), 以便在 1000 英里的漫长旅途中为印第安人提供食物和药品。许多承包人提供的粮食分量不足, 肉类腐烂变质, 药品则根本没有。结果, 大约四分之一的印第安人死于途中。
  - (1) 政府向承包人提供每个印第安人 65 美元的付款目的是什么? 这一目的是否很好地达到了?
  - (2) 经济学家认为, 65 美元的付款应该按照达到目的地之后的印第安人的数量来给付。这一新的政策是否会使情况有所不同?
  - (3) 利用人对激励做出反应的基本原理, 分析从事先给付到事后给付的激励变化, 由此说明(2)的结论。

#### **For Chapter 2**

3. Textbook, Chapter 2, #1
4. Textbook, Chapter 2, # 4  
(Hint: The PPF may not be smooth curve.)
5. In the early 19th century, the Russian government sent doctors to southern Russian villages to provide assistance during a cholera epidemic. The villagers noticed that wherever doctors appeared, people died. Therefore, many doctors were chased away from villages, and some were even killed. This reaction to the correlation between doctors and deaths is most likely a problem of
  - A. omitted variables.
  - B. reverse causality.
  - C. government propaganda.
  - D. medical incompetence.

#### **For Chapter 3**

6. Textbook, Chapter 3, # 9
7. Trade and Technological Progress

Suppose that in a year an American worker can produce 100 shirts or 20 computers, while a Chinese worker can produce 100 shirts or 10 computers.

- Graph the production possibilities curve for the two countries *separately*.
- If these countries were open to trade, which country would export shirts? Explain at what price of shirt (in term of computer) the two countries might trade. What would be the most favorable price for China?
- Graph the consumption possibilities curve for China, given that China receives the most favorable price from trade, and trade can happen at that price in any possible amount.
- Suppose that China catches up with American productivity so that a Chinese worker can produce 100 shirts or 20 computers. What patterns of trade would you predict now? (2 points)
- Graph the new consumption possibilities curve for China. How does this advance in Chinese productivity affect the economic well-being of the citizen of China? Explain your answers by using the graph.
- How does this advance in Chinese productivity affect the economic well-being of the citizen of American? Explain.
- Now suppose instead of improving its productivity of producing computers, China improves its productivity of producing shirts so that a Chinese worker can produce 120 shirts or 10 computers. Explain why Chinese citizens might be *hurt* by this productivity improvement. Use graph when necessary.

#### For Chapter 4

- Textbook, Chapter 4, #4.
- 水泊梁山有两条好汉：张顺和李逵。他们每天均从事砍柴和打鱼两项工作，每天固定工作 8 小时，产量如下表第 1-2 行所示：

	一天 8 小时产量		打 1 斤鱼的机会成本
	鱼（斤）	柴（斤）	
张顺	10	30	
李逵	5	50	
张横	7.5	30	
李忠	3	18	

- 张顺和李逵每打 1 斤鱼的机会成本是多少？将答案填入表中。

现在，水泊梁山决定建立一个市场。每天开市时，张顺和李逵将鱼或柴带到市场上进行交换。不过，由于对鱼的运输条件有限，每个卖者只能带到市场上 1 斤鱼，每个买者也只能带走 1 斤鱼。

- 将鱼作为市场交换的产品，柴作为鱼的价格单位，画出水泊梁山市场的供求图形。市场最终的交易价格是怎样的？交易数量是多少？谁是鱼的卖者？谁是买者？

现在水泊梁山又有一位好汉入伙：张横。张横每天 8 小时的产量如上表第 3 行所示。这样，在每天的市场上就出现了三位潜在的参与者，假定每个人买入或卖出的鱼数量仍为 1 斤。

- 在表中填入张横生产 1 斤鱼的机会成本。在新的市场上最终的交易价格是怎样的？交易数量是多少？谁是鱼的买者？谁是鱼的卖者？谁无法参与市场交易（如果有的

话)？

现在水泊梁上的好汉增加到四位：张顺、李逵、张横和李忠。新增的李忠每 8 小时的产量如上表第 4 行所示。仍然假定在所有潜在的市场参与者中，每个买者和卖者交易的鱼数量限定为 1 斤。

- (4) 在表中填入李忠生产 1 斤鱼的机会成本。在这四个人形成的市场中，最终的交易价格是怎样的？交易数量是多少？谁是鱼的买者？谁是鱼的卖者？谁无法参与市场交易（如果有的话）？

现在考虑水泊梁山有 108 条好汉，他们生产鱼的机会成本满足公式： $C=R$ ，单位为柴的数量（斤），其中  $R=1,2,\dots,108$ ，是所有好汉按照生产鱼的机会成本由低到高排的“座次”， $R$  越大则生产鱼的机会成本越高。

- (5) 根据上述对于简单情况的分析，你能猜测在所有 108 位好汉参与的市场上，鱼的交易价格（以柴为单位）和数量是多少吗？仍然维持每个好汉只能买入或者卖出 1 斤鱼的假设。
- (6) 竞争市场的一个关键假设是买者和卖者都是价格接受的，这一假设基于如下的判断，即：在一个有众多买者和卖者的市场上，市场价格会被压缩到一个窄小的范围。上述所有的分析是否支持了这一判断？并进行直观的解释。

## **For Chapter 5**

10. Textbook, Chapter 5, #12.

11. 在现代社会，人们无论是上班、购物或者去郊区旅游，通常会选择驾车出行。考虑人们对驾车出行的需求。需求量以驾车出行的里程数（公里）来衡量，价格以单位里程的耗油量（升）来衡量（忽略汽车本身的损耗）。

- (1) 画出驾车出行的需求曲线。给定汽油的价格不变，为什么单位里程耗油量的增加会减少人们的出行里程？用人对激励做出反应的基本原理加以解释。

现在，一位发明家发明了一种节能技术，能够降低耗油量。政府为了提倡节能，免费为每一辆汽车安装了这个节能技术。

- (2) 这个事件会对驾车出行的需求造成怎样的影响？用图形解释之。
- (3) 节能技术的使用一定能够导致汽油需求量的下降吗？仔细解释之。你的答案在短期和长期会有所不同吗？
- (4) 假定网络与通讯技术的发展减少了人们出行的必要性。这会导致出行需求怎样的变动？是否一定会导致汽油需求量的下降？

## **For Chapter 6**

12. Textbook, Chapter 6, #8.

13. 在医疗市场上，当政府决定增加对人们看病的补贴时，政府补贴的金额最终会\_\_\_\_\_，人们看病时自我支付的金额最终会\_\_\_\_\_，社会总体上花在看病上的金额最终会\_\_\_\_\_。

- A. 上升，下降，上升
- B. 上升，可能上升或下降，可能上升或下降
- C. 上升，可能上升或下降，上升

D. 可能上升或下降, 可能上升或下降, 可能上升或下降  
(提示: 参考教材第 6 章习题 10。)

14. Market research has revealed the following information about the market for chocolate bars:  
The demand schedule can be represented by the equation  $Q^D=1,600-300P$ , where  $Q^D$  is the quantity demanded and  $P$  is the price. The supply schedule can be represented by the equation  $Q^S=1,400+700P$ , where  $Q^S$  is the quantity supplied.
- Calculate the equilibrium price and quantity in the market for chocolate bars.
  - Chocolate producers persuade the government that chocolate bars are important for people's health. The government decides to impose a price floor \$0.50. How many Chocolates are sold? Do you think this policy indeed help to improve people's health?
  - Now suppose the government instead believes that chocolate is harmful to health, and decides to place a \$0.20 tax on it. How many Chocolates are sold now? What is the price paid by chocolate buyers? The price received by producers?
  - Calculate the price elasticity of demand and the price elasticity of supply when the \$0.20 tax is imposed. Do NOT use the mid-point formula. Use the result to explain the relative tax burden shared by buyers and producers.