ECON 3070 Midterm 2

Good luck y'all!

1. A firm with cobb-douglas technology is producing the required amount of output, \bar{Q} units with $MP_k/r=1$ and $MP_L/w=2$. Is this firm producing at the lowest-possible cost? If not, explain how the firm could shift between inputs and lower costs.

- 2. Consider the production function Q(K, L) = 4K + 2L
 - (a) In the short-run, capital is fixed at $\bar{K} = 4$ units. A firm is going to produce Q = 40 units, what is the optimal input of labor L^* used?
 - (b) What is the short-run total cost function to produce Q units in terms of Q, w, and r?
 - (c) In the long-run, what are the optimal conditional input demands for labor and capital when w = 4 and r = 6, i.e. $K^*(Q, w, r)$ and $L^*(Q, w, r)$?
- 3. Consider the long-run total cost function $TC(Q) = 2.5Q^2 + 4Q + 40$.
 - (a) Find the marginal cost function, MC(Q), and the average cost function ATC(Q).
 - (b) What is the marginal cost when Q = 10? Interpret this number in words.
 - (c) When is this firm experiencing economies of scale?
- 4. Consider the production function $Q(K, L) = K^{1/2}L^{1/2}$.
 - (a) What is the marignal product of labor when K=5 and L=10? Interpret this in words.
 - (b) What is the marginal rate of technical substitution $MRTS_{K,L}$ when K=5 and L=10? Interpret this in words.
 - (c) Is this firm a constant, increasing, or decreasing returns to scale function?
- 5. A firm's cost function is given by TC(Q) = 8Q + 40. Show if this firm experiences economy of scale.