Endterm (Set C)

SIAS, Krea University (AY 2025-26)

Mathematical Methods for Economics (Course Code: ECON211) 25 September 2025

Short Answer Questions-I

1. (1 point) Let $f(x) = \sqrt{x} + 4$ and $g(x) = f^{-1}(x)$. Find g'(6).

Solution: We know that:
$$g'(a) = \frac{1}{f'(g(a))}$$

$$\therefore g'(6) = \frac{1}{f'(g(6))}$$
Let $g(6) = k \implies f(k) = 6$.
$$\sqrt{k} + 4 = 6$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{k} = 6 - 4$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{k} = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow k = 4$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(4) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(4) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow g'(6) = 4$$
Answer:
$$g'(6) = 4$$

2. (1 point) Suppose that f and g are continuous on [0,4] and that $\int_0^4 (f(x)-g(x))dx=2$ and $\int_0^4 (3f(x)-4g(x))dx=3$. Find $\int_0^4 (f(x)+g(x))dx$.

Solution: Let
$$\int_0^4 f(x)dx = a$$
 and $\int_0^4 g(x)dx = b$. Then,
$$a - b = 2$$

$$3a - 4b = 3$$

$$3a - 3b = 6$$
 (multiplying the first equation by 3)
$$\Rightarrow b = 3$$
 (differencing the previous two equations to eliminate a)
$$\Rightarrow a = 5$$

$$\int_0^4 (f(x) + g(x))dx = \int_0^4 f(x)dx + \int_0^4 g(x)dx$$
 (applying the sum rule)
$$\Rightarrow \int_0^4 (f(x) + g(x))dx = 8$$
 Answer:
$$\int_0^4 (f(x) + g(x))dx = 8$$

3. (1 point) Compute: $\int (9x^2 + \frac{5}{x} + e^{6x})dx$

Solution:

$$\int (9x^2 + \frac{5}{x} + e^{6x})dx = \int 9x^2 dx + \int \frac{5}{x} dx + \int e^{6x} dx$$
 (applying the sum rule)
$$\Rightarrow \int (9x^2 + \frac{5}{x} + e^{6x})dx = 3x^3 + 5\ln|x| + \frac{e^{6x}}{6} + C$$

Answer:
$$\boxed{ \int (9x^2 + \frac{5}{x} + e^{6x}) dx = 3x^3 + 5 \ln|x| + \frac{e^{6x}}{6} + C }$$

4. (1 point) Is $\lim_{x\to 0} |x-1| = \lim_{x\to 0} |x| - 1$? Explain briefly.

Solution: Consider
$$f(x) = |x - 1|$$
.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - x & x < 1 \\ x - 1 & x > 1 \end{cases}$$

LHL:
$$\lim_{x \to 0^-} |x - 1| = 1$$

RHL:
$$\lim_{x \to 0^+} |x - 1| = 1$$
$$\therefore \lim_{x \to 0} |x - 1| = 1$$

$$\lim_{x \to 0} |x - 1| = 1$$

(since
$$|x - 1| = 1 - x$$
 when $x < 1$)

(since
$$|x - 1| = 1 - x$$
 when $x < 1$)

Let q(x) = |x| - 1.

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} -x - 1 & x < 0 \\ x - 1 & x > 0 \end{cases}$$

LHL:
$$\lim_{x \to 0^{-}} |x| - 1 = -1$$

$$\begin{split} \text{LHL: } & \lim_{x \to 0^{-}} |x| - 1 = -1 \\ \text{RHL: } & \lim_{x \to 0^{+}} |x| - 1 = -1 \\ & \therefore \lim_{x \to 0} |x| - 1 = -1 \end{split}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \to 0} |x| - 1 = -1$$

(since
$$|x| = -x$$
 when $x < 0$)

(since
$$|x| = x$$
 when $x > 0$)

Answer:
$$\lim_{x \to 0} |x - 1| \neq \lim_{x \to 0} |x| - 1$$

5. (1 point) Let
$$f(x) = \frac{12}{4+x}$$
. Find $f^{-1}(x)$.

Solution: Let
$$y = f(x)$$
.

$$y = \frac{12}{x+4}$$

$$\Rightarrow y(x+4) = 12$$

$$\Rightarrow xy + 4y = 12$$

$$\Rightarrow xy = 12 - 4y$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{12 - 4y}{y}$$

$$\Rightarrow f^{-1}(x) = \frac{12 - 4x}{x}$$

Answer:
$$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{12 - 4x}{x}$$

6. (1 point) Let $f(x) = x^{x+2}$. Find f'(x).

Solution: Let
$$y = x^{x+2}$$
.

$$\ln y = (x+2) \ln x \qquad \text{(using the property of log } a = b^c \implies \ln a = c \ln b)$$

$$\implies \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} ((x+2) \ln x) \qquad \text{(differentiating both sides w.r.t. } x)$$

$$\implies \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} = \ln x \frac{d}{dx} (x+2) + (x+2) \frac{d}{dx} (\ln x) \qquad \text{(applying the product rule to the RHS)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} = \ln x + \frac{x+2}{x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = y \left(\ln x + \frac{x+2}{x} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = x^{x+2} \left(\ln x + \frac{x+2}{x} \right)$$

Answer:
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = x^{x+2} \left(\ln x + \frac{x+2}{x} \right)$$

7. (1 point) Determine if the function $f(x) = x^2 - 6x + 5$ is increasing or decreasing in [1, 5].

Solution: First derivative tells us whether (or where) a function is increasing or decreasing.

$$f'(x) = 2x - 6$$

Condition for increasing function : $2x - 6 \ge 0$

: the function is increasing when $x \ge 3$

Condition for decreasing function : $2x - 6 \le 0$

 \therefore the function is increasing when $x \leq 3$

Answer: f(x) is decreasing in [1, 3] and increasing in [3, 5].

8. (1 point) Let
$$x^2y^3 + x^3y^2 = 9$$
. Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

Solution: Let $u = x^2y^3$, $v = x^3y^2$, and c = 9.

Applying the product rule, we get:

$$u' = 2xy^3 + 3x^2y^2 \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$v' = 2x^3y \frac{dy}{dx} + 3x^2y^2$$

$$c' = 0$$

$$u' + v' = c'$$

$$\therefore \left[2xy^3 + 3x^2y^2 \frac{dy}{dx}\right] + \left[2x^3y \frac{dy}{dx} + 3x^2y^2\right] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (2xy^3 + 3x^2y^2) + (3x^2y^2 + 2x^3y) \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (3x^2y^2 + 2x^3y) \frac{dy}{dx} = -(2xy^3 + 3x^2y^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{(2xy^3 + 3x^2y^2)}{(3x^2y^2 + 2x^3y)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{y}{x} \frac{(3x + 2y)}{(2x + 3y)}$$

Answer:
$$\frac{d}{d}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{y}{x} \frac{(3x+2y)}{(2x+3y)}$$

Short Answer Questions-II

9. (2+1 points) The total cost of producing *Phantom cigarettes* is $C(q) = 3q^2 + 10q + 48$. Find the value of q which minimizes the average cost. Show that the marginal cost is equal to the average cost at this point (where the average cost is being minimized).

Solution: We know that the average cost is:

$$AC(q) = \frac{C(q)}{q}$$

The average cost of producing *Phantom cigarettes* is:

$$AC(q) = 3q + 10 + \frac{48}{q}$$

We need to find the first derivative and set it to zero.

$$\frac{d(AC(q))}{dq} = \frac{d}{dq} \left(3q + 10 + \frac{48}{q} \right)$$

$$= 3 - \frac{48}{q^2}$$
FOC:
$$\frac{d(AC(q))}{dq} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 - \frac{48}{q^2} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3q^2 = 48$$

$$\Rightarrow q^2 = 16$$

$$\Rightarrow q^* = 4$$
SOC:
$$\frac{d^2(AC(q))}{dq^2} > 0$$

$$\frac{d^2(AC(q))}{dq^2} = \frac{96}{q^3}$$

$$\frac{96}{q^3} > 0 \text{ when } q = 4$$

We also need to compute the marginal cost.

$$MC(q) = 6q + 10$$

When q = 4,

Average cost:
$$AC(q=4) = 3(4) + 10 + \frac{48}{4}$$

= $12 + 10 + 12$
= 34
Marginal cost: $MC(q=4) = 6(4) + 10$
= 34

Answer: The quantity that minimizes the average cost is $q^* = 4$. When q = 4, AC = MC = 34.

- 10. (3 points) $f(x,y) = 9x^{1/3}y^{2/3}$
 - (a) (1 point) Determine the degree of homogeneity.

Solution: The degree of homogeneity can be calculated using:

$$f(tx, ty) = 9(tx)^{1/3}(ty)^{2/3}$$

$$= 9t^{1/3}x^{1/3}t^{2/3}y^{2/3}$$

$$= (t^{1/3+2/3})9(x^{1/3}y^{2/3})$$

$$= t^{1}f(x, y)$$

$$\Rightarrow k = 1$$

 $f(tx, ty) = t^k f(x, y)$

Answer: f(x, y) is homogeneous of degree 1.

(b) (2 points) Compute all first and second order partial derivatives.

Solution:	
f_x	$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(9x^{1/3} y^{2/3} \right)$
	$=9\cdot\frac{1}{3}x^{-2/3}y^{2/3}$
	$= 3x^{-2/3}y^{2/3} = 3\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)^{2/3}$
	$\frac{-3\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)}{\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(9x^{1/3}y^{2/3}\right)}$
f_y	$\frac{\partial y}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial y}{\partial y} \left(9x + y + y\right)$ $= 9x^{1/3} \cdot \frac{2}{3}y^{-1/3}$
	$= 9x^{7/3} \cdot \frac{3}{3}y^{7/3}$ $= 6x^{1/3}y^{-1/3}$
	$= 6\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^{1/3}$
	$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(3x^{-2/3} y^{2/3} \right)$
f_{xx}	$=3y^{2/3}\cdot\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)x^{-5/3}$
$\int xx$	$= -2x^{-5/3}y^{2/3}$
	$=-2\left(\frac{y^2}{x^5}\right)^{1/3}$
	$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(6x^{1/3} y^{-1/3} \right)$
f_{yy}	$=6x^{1/3} \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right) y^{-4/3}$
	$= -2x^{1/3}y^{-4/3}$
	$=-2\left(\frac{x}{y^4}\right)^{1/3}$
	$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(3x^{-2/3} y^{2/3} \right)$
f_{xy}	$=3x^{-2/3} \cdot \frac{2}{3}y^{-1/3}$
	$= 2x^{-2/3}y^{-1/3}$ $= 2\left(\frac{1}{x^2y}\right)^{1/3}$
	$= 2\left(\frac{1}{x^2y}\right)^{1/3}$ $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(6x^{1/3}y^{-1/3}\right)$
f	$= 6y^{-1/3} \cdot \frac{1}{3}x^{-2/3}$
f_{yx}	$=2x^{-2/3}y^{-1/3}$
	$=2\left(\frac{1}{x^2y}\right)^{1/3}$

11. (1+1+1 points) Let $Y=2K+2\sqrt{L}$. Compute the marginal products and the marginal rate of technical substitution.

Solution:

$$MP_K = 2$$

$$MP_L = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}}$$

$$MRTS_{K,L} = \frac{MP_K}{MP_L}$$

$$MRTS_{K,L} = 2\sqrt{L}$$

$$MRTS_{L,K} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{L}}$$

- 12. (3 points) Given the demand function for comedy shows on *Ruinmyshow*: $p = \frac{36}{q+5} 5$,
 - (a) $(\frac{1}{2} \text{ points})$ Compute the total revenue.

Solution: Total revenue, $TR = p \cdot q$.

$$p = \frac{36}{q+5} - 5$$

$$\implies TR = \frac{36q}{q+5} - 5q$$

(b) $(\frac{1}{2} \text{ points})$ Compute the marginal revenue.

Solution: We know that $MR = \frac{d}{dq}(TR)$.

$$TR = \frac{36q}{q+5} - 5q$$
Let $u = 36q$, $v = q+5$

$$\Rightarrow u' = 36$$
, $v' = 1$

$$MR = \frac{vu' - uv'}{v^2} - 5$$

$$\Rightarrow MR = \frac{36(q+5) - 36q}{(q+5)^2} - 5$$

$$\Rightarrow MR = \frac{180}{(q+5)^2} - 5$$

$$\Rightarrow MR = \frac{180 - 5(q+5)^2}{(q+5)^2}$$

Answer: $MR = \frac{180 - 5(q+5)^2}{(q+5)^2}$

(c) (2 points) Compute the revenue-maximizing price and quantity.

Solution: We know that the revenue is maximized when MR = 0.

$$180 - 5(q+5)^2 = 0$$
 (note that the denominator can't be zero.)
$$\Rightarrow 5(q+5)^2 = 180$$

$$\Rightarrow (q+5)^2 = 36$$

$$\Rightarrow (q+5) = \pm 6$$

$$\Rightarrow q+5=6$$
 (discarding the negative value.)
$$\Rightarrow q=1$$

Plugging the value into the demand equation, we get $p = \frac{36}{1+5} - 5$

$$\implies p = \frac{36}{6} - 5$$

$$\implies p = 6 - 5$$

 $\implies p = 1$

Answer: The revenue-maximizing price is p = 1 and the quantity is q = 1.

Long Answer Questions

13. (5 points) Consider $f(x,y) = \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{y^3}{3} + x^2 + \frac{y^2}{2} - 3x - 6y + 2$. Find and classify all stationary points.

Solution: To find the stationary points, we first compute the first-order partial derivatives and set them equal to zero.

$$f_x = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = (x^2 + 2x - 3) = 0$$
$$f_y = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = (y^2 + y - 6) = 0$$

We have two quadratic equations to be solved.

$$(x+3)(x-1) = 0$$
$$(y+3)(y-2) = 0$$
$$x = 1, -3$$
$$y = 2, -3$$

The stationary points are the combinations of these x and y values:

$$(-3, -3)$$
 $(-3, 2)$ $(1, -3)$ $(1, 2)$

To classify the stationary points, we use the second derivative test, which requires the second-order partial derivatives.

$$f_{xx} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = 2x + 2$$
$$f_{yy} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = 2y + 1$$
$$f_{xy} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = 0$$

The determinant of the Hessian matrix is $D = f_{xx}f_{yy} - (f_{xy})^2 = (2x+2)(2y+1)$.

We evaluate the Hessian determinant $D = f_{xx}f_{yy} - (f_{xy})^2$ at each stationary point:

- If D > 0 and $f_{xx} > 0$: Local Minimum
- If D > 0 and $f_{xx} < 0$: Local Maximum
- If D < 0: Saddle Point
- If D = 0: Test Inconclusive

Stationary Point	f_{xx}	f_{yy}	D	Classification
(-3, -3)	-4	-5	20 (> 0)	Local Maximum
(-3, 2)	-4	5	-20 (<0)	Saddle Point
(1, -3)	4	-5	-20 (<0)	Saddle Point
(1,2)	4	5	20 (> 0)	Local Minimum

- 14. (5 points) The demand for robots in *Tatooine* is given by p = 19 2q and the supply of robots is given by p = 3 + 2q.
 - (a) (1 point) Compute the equilibrium price and quantity.

Solution: The equilibrium can be found out by setting demand = supply.

$$19 - 2q = 3 + 2q$$

$$\Rightarrow 4q = 16$$

$$\Rightarrow q^* = 4$$

$$\Rightarrow p^* = 11$$

Answer: The equilibrium quantity is $q^* = 4$ and the equilibrium price is $p^* = 11$.

(b) (1+1 points) Compute the consumer surplus and producer surplus.

Solution: Given inverse demand (D(q)) and inverse supply (S(q)), we know that:

$$CS = \int_{q=0}^{q=q^*} D(q) dq - p^* q *$$

$$PS = p^* q * - \int_{q=0}^{q=q^*} (S(q)) dq$$

We also know from the previous calculation that $p^* = 11$ and $q^* = 4$.

$$CS = \int_0^4 (19 - 2q)dq - 44$$

$$= \Big|_0^4 (19q - q^2) - 44$$

$$= 76 - 16 - 44$$

$$= 16$$

$$PS = 44 - \int_0^4 (3 + 2q)dq$$

$$= 44 - \Big|_0^4 (3q + q^2)$$

$$= 44 - (12 + 16)$$

$$= 16$$

Answer: CS = 16, PS = 16

(c) (1+1 points) Now, suppose that the Damiyo (the ruler of Tatooine), sensing that the robots are valuable, announces a price floor of 13. Compute the new consumer surplus and producer surplus.

Solution: When p = 13, we should compute the quantity demanded and the quantity supplied.

$$19 - 2q = 13$$

$$2q = 6$$
Demand: $q = 3$

$$3 + 2q = 13$$

$$2q = 10$$
Supply: $q = 5$

At this price, three robots will be sold in *Tatooine*.

$$CS = \int_0^3 (19 - 2q) - 13 \times 3$$

$$= \Big|_0^3 (19q - q^2) - 39$$

$$= (57 - 9) - 39$$

$$= 9$$

$$PS = 39 - \int_0^3 (3 + 2q) dq$$

$$= 39 - \Big|_0^3 (3q + q^2)$$

$$= 39 - (9 + 9)$$

$$= 21$$

Answer: CS = 9, PS = 21