

THE UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS
ECN 2115: I MICROECONOMIC THEORY
TUTORIAL SHEET 1-2022

Answer the questions below, and verify the answers during tutorials.

1. Given a utility function $U(X,Y)=X*Y$ with a given budget constraint : $M= P_xX+P_yY$
 - a. Using the Lagrange method, derive the demand function of X and Y.
 - b. What happens to the demands for X and Y if M, P_x and P_y increase by 10%
 - c. Calculate the Income Elasticity of Demand for Good X and comment on the results.
2. Consider the utility function $U(X,Y)=3x^2+5y$ with $MU_x = 6x$ and $MU_y = 5$.
 - a. Is the assumption that “more is better” satisfied for both goods?
 - b. What is the $MRS_{x,y}$ for this utility function?
 - c. Is the $MRS_{x,y}$ diminishing, constant, or increasing as the consumer substitutes x for y along an indifference curve
3. Suppose the market demand curve for a product is given by $Q^d=1000-10P$ and the market supply curve is given by $Q^s= -50P+25P$
 - a. What are the equilibrium price and quantity?
 - b. What is the Inverse Form of the demand curve?
 - c. At the market equilibrium, what is the price elasticity of demand?
 - d. Suppose the price in this market is \$25. What is the amount of excess demand?
4. Find the optimum commodity Purchase for a consumer whose utility function and budget constraint are $U=Q_1^{1.5}Q_2$ and $3Q_1 + 4Q_2=100$
5. Show that the two utility functions given below generate an identical demand functions for goods X and Y.
 - a. $U(X,Y)\log(X) + \log(Y)$
 - b. $U(X,Y)= (XY)^{0.5}$
7. Given the following utility functions:
 - a. $U(X,Y)=\min(x,4y)$ and the budget constraint : $M= P_xX+P_yY$, find the demand function for X and Y that would maximize utility.
 - b. $U(X,Y)=\min(2X,Y)$ and $M=12$, $P_x=1$ $P_y=1$, what is the optimal bundle of X and Y?
8. A firm faces the production function $Q = 12K^{0.4} L^{0.6}$ and can buy the inputs K and L at prices per unit of K20 and K5 respectively. If it has a budget of K800 what combination of K and L should it use in order to produce the maximum possible output?