

Microeconomics II

Brief Solutions

Final Exam

9 June 2017

- (a) If we normalize so there is one consumer of each type, total demand is $D(p)=(42-2p)+(38-2p)=80-4p$. Profit is $(p-2)(80-4p)$ which is maximized at $p=11$. The normal type buys 16 gadgets at $p=11$ and gets **consumer surplus $(19-11)16/2=64$** . (b) In general, under optimal 2nd degree price discrimination, the “low” type gets 0 consumer surplus while the “high” type gets the efficient consumption. Hence, the normal consumer gets zero surplus. The rich get the efficient consumption level, as if $p=MC$, where demand equals $42-2(2)=38$. So **each rich type purchases 38 gadgets**.
- (a) ACME maximizes $(p-5)(44-4p)$, which implies $p=8$. The quantity produced is $44-(4)8=12$. The efficient quantity (with $p=MC$) would be $44-(4)5=24$. The deadweight loss is then **$DWL=(1/2)(8-5)(24-12)=18$** . (b) If the consumers receive a subsidy s per widget, demand becomes $44-4(p-s)$ and ACME will maximize $(p-5)(44-4p+4s)$ by setting $p=8-s/2$. Efficiency requires that consumption is 24, which requires $p-s=5$. Thus, $5+s=8-s/2$, **so the optimal subsidy is $s=6$** .
- (a) We can find the efficient public goods level by maximizing individual 1's utility, holding individual 2 fixed at fixed utility u : $\max x_1 y$ subject to $x_2 y = u$ and $y = 300 + 300 - x_1 - x_2$. The solution yields the **efficient public good level $y=300$** . (b) Let z_n denote individual n 's contribution. Individual 1 will choose z_1 to maximize his utility $(300-z_1)(z_1+z_2)$ taking z_2 as given. The solution (his best-response) is $z_1=(300-z_2)/2$. By symmetry, we will have $z_1=z_2=300/3=100$, so **the total public goods level is $y=z_1+z_2=200$** . This is **less than the efficient amount** (due to the free-rider problem).
- (a) Adam has two pure strategies: Enter or Stay Out. Bruno has four pure strategies: BB, BD, DB, DD. For example, BD denotes the strategy “Buy a machine if there is no entry, Don't buy if there is entry”. The payoff matrix reveals **three Nash equilibria: (Stay Out, DB) and (Enter, BD) and (Enter, DD)**. (b) **Only (Enter, DD) is subgame perfect**, because in the second stage, it is never rational for Bruno to buy a machine.

	BB	BD	DB	DD
Stay Out	0 , 200	0 , 200	0 , 250	0 , 250
Enter	-50, -50	100, 0	-50, -50	100, 0

- (a) Each fisherman will catch $100 \cdot n^{1/2}/n$ fishes. Thus, the gain from fishing is $100/n^{1/2}$ which will equal 5 (the disutility) in equilibrium. Thus, **the equilibrium number of fishermen is $n=400$** . (b) In an efficient outcome, n maximizes $100n^{1/2} - 5n$. **The efficient outcome is therefore $n=100$** . Hence, **the equilibrium from (a) is inefficient** (there is over-fishing).
- (a) **There is no Condorcet winner** because majority rule has a cycle: F beats S, S beats H, and H beats F. (b) **The first vote should be S versus F**. If S wins the first vote, it will go on to defeat H in the second vote; if F wins the first vote it will be defeated by H in the second vote. Thus, the sophisticated voters realize that the first vote is really S versus H; and since a majority prefers S, it will win.