

Problem 1 (Exercise 5.2). Consider an individual with von Neumann-Morgenstern utility-of-money function $U(m) = \ln(m)$ who faces lotteries of form

$$\begin{bmatrix} \$x & \$y \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix}, \quad x \geq 0, y \geq 0.$$

- (a) Calculate the expected utility of lottery $A = \begin{bmatrix} \$10 & \$40 \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix}$.
- (b) Calculate the expected utility of lottery $B = \begin{bmatrix} \$10 & \$10 \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix}$.
- (c) Calculate the slope of the indifference curve at point $A = (10, 40)$.
- (d) Calculate the slope of the indifference curve at point $B = (10, 10)$.
- (e) In the (x, y) -plane, draw the indifference curve that goes through point $A = (10, 40)$ and the indifference curve that goes through point $B = (10, 10)$.

Problem 2 (Exercise 5.6). Adam's current wealth is \$80,000. With probability $1/20$, he faces a loss of \$30,000. His vNM utility-of-money function is $U(m) = \ln(m)$.

- (a) Calculate the slope of Adam's reservation indifference curve at the no-insurance point NI .
- (b) Calculate the slope of the iso-profit curve that goes through point NI .
- (c) Calculate the maximum premium that Adam is willing to pay for full insurance.
- (d) Calculate the increase in Adam's utility relative to no insurance if he obtains full insurance at the "fair" premium (that is, at a premium that yields zero profits to the insurer).
- (e) Consider contract $A = (80000 - h, 80000 - h)$. Calculate the slope at point A of Adam's indifference curve that goes through point A .

Problem 3 (Exercise 5.13). Your vNM utility-of-money function is $U(m) = \sqrt{m}$, your initial wealth is \$576, and you face a potential loss of \$176 with probability $1/7$. An insurance company offers you the following menu of choices: if you choose deductible $d \in [0, 176]$, then your premium is $h = (176 - d)/9$.

- (a) Translate the equation $h = (176 - d)/9$ into an equation in terms of wealth levels.
- (b) Compare the slope of the reservation indifference curve at the no-insurance point NI to the slope of the insurance budget line. Are there contracts that are better for you than no insurance?
- (c) Which contract will you choose from the menu?