

Homework Day 7 - ECON 186

Problem 1. Chiang and Wainwright 9.2 #1

#1

Find the stationary values of the following (check whether they are relative maxima or minima or inflection points), assuming the domain to be the set of all real numbers:

(a) $y = -2x^2 + 8x + 7$ (b) $y = 5x^2 + x$ (c) $y = 3x^2 + 3$ (d) $y = 3x^2 - 6x + 2$

Problem 2. For problem 1, parts (a) and (b), determine whether each function is concave or convex (strictly?)

Problem 3. Chiang and Wainwright 9.3 #1, 6

#1

Find the second and third derivatives of the following functions:

(a) $ax^2 + bx + c$ (c) $\frac{3x}{1-x} (x \neq 1)$

(b) $7x^4 - 3x - 4$ (d) $\frac{1+x}{1-x}$

#6

A person who is neither risk-averse nor risk-loving (indifferent toward a fair game) is said to be "risk-neutral".

(a) What kind of utility function would you use to characterize such a person?

(b) Using the die-throwing game detailed in the text, describe the relationship between $U(\$15)$ and EU for the risk-neutral person.

Problem 4. Chiang and Wainwright 9.4 #1, 3(b, c, d, e), 6

#1

Find the relative maxima and minima of y by the second-derivative test:

(a) $y = -2x^2 + 8x + 25$ (c) $y = \frac{1}{3}x^3 - 3x^2 + 5x + 3$

(b) $y = x^3 + 6x^2 + 9$ (d) $y = \frac{2x}{1-2x} (x \neq \frac{1}{2})$

#3

A firm has the following total-cost and demand functions:

$$C = \frac{1}{3}Q^3 - 7Q^2 + 111Q + 50$$

$$Q = 100 - P$$

(b) Write out the total-revenue function R in terms of Q .

(c) Formulate the total-profit function π in terms of Q .

(d) Find the profit-maximizing level of output Q^* .

(e) What is the maximum profit?

#6

A purely competitive firm has a single variable input L (labor), with the wage rate W_0 per period. Its fixed inputs cost the firm a total of F dollars per period. The price of the product is P_0 .

(a) Write the production function, revenue function, cost function, and profit function of the firm.

(b) What is the first-order condition for profit maximization? Give this condition an economic interpretation.

(c) What economic circumstances would ensure that profit is maximized rather than minimized?

Problem 5. Chiang and Wainwright 11.2 #1, 4, 5

#1

Table 11.1

Condition	Maximum	Minimum
First-order necessary condition	$f_x = f_y = 0$	$f_x = f_y = 0$
Second-order sufficient condition	$f_{xx}, f_{yy} < 0$ and $f_{xx}f_{yy} > f_{xy}^2$	$f_{xx}, f_{yy} > 0$ and $f_{xx}f_{yy} > f_{xy}^2$

Use Table 11.1 to find the extreme value(s) of each of the following four functions, and determine whether they are maxima or minima:

1. $z = x^2 + xy + 2y^2 + 3$

4. $z = e^{2x} - 2x + 2y^2 + 3$

5. Consider the function $z = (x - 2)^4 + (y - 3)^4$

(a) Establish by intuitive reasoning that z attains a minimum ($z^* = 0$) at $x^* = 2$ and $y^* = 3$.

(b) Is the first-order necessary condition in Table 11.1 satisfied?

(c) Is the second-order sufficient condition in Table 11.1 satisfied?

(d) Find the value of d^2z . Does it satisfy the second-order necessary condition for a minimum in (11.9)?

Problem 6. Chiang and Wainwright 11.3 #4(a, d), 5(a, d)

#4

Express each of the following quadratic forms as a matrix product involving a symmetric coefficient matrix:

(a) $q = 3u^2 - 4uv + 7v^2$

(d) $q = 6xy - 5y^2 - 2x^2$

#5

From the discriminants obtained from the symmetric coefficient matrices of Prob.4, ascertain by the determinantal test which of the quadratic forms are positive definite and which are negative definite.