

Name:

E-mail: @uiuc.edu

All questions must be answered on this test form!

For each question you must show your work and (or) provide a clear argument.

Question 1 Suppose that a person's utility function is $u(x_1, x_2) = x_1^2 x_2$ and that prices are $p_1 = 2$, $p_2 = 4$. Then the equation of the income offer curve is

8 points

$x_2 =$

Suppose you know that the person's Hicksian demand for good 1 is $h_1(2, 4, u) = 20$.

6 points

Then $h_2(2, 4, u) =$, $u =$

Question 2 Suppose that person's utility function is $u(x_1, x_2) = 2\sqrt{x_1} + x_2$. Prices are p_1, p_2 and income is I . Then the demand function for goods 1 and 2 are given by *6 points*

$x_1(p_1, p_2, I) =$	$, x_2(p_1, p_2, I) =$
----------------------	------------------------

Thus, the indirect utility function is

$v(p_1, p_2, I) =$

6 points

Question 3 A utility function is given by $u(x_1, x_2) = -(1/4)x_1 + x_2$. Then Hicksian demand is

6 points

$$h_1(p_1, p_2, u) =$$

$$, h_2(p_1, p_2, u) =$$

.

The expenditure function is

$$e(p_1, p_2, u) =$$

6 points

Question 4 A person's utility function is $u(x_1, x_2) = (1/4)x_1^2x_2$. Recall that the demand functions are $x_1 = 2I/(3p_1)$, $x_2 = I/(3p_2)$. Suppose that originally prices are $p_1 = 1$, $p_2 = 1$, and income is $I = 180$. Suppose that the government introduces a tax of 7 Dollars on good 2 that raises the prices to $p_2 = 8$. At the same time, the government wants to provide a lump-sum subsidy, s , to the person such that his/her utility is the same at the original prices and income.

8 points

The lump sum subsidy is $s =$

The government's tax revenue from the tax on good 2 after s is added to the person's income is .

3 points

Why is the lump-sum subsidy not equal to the amount of money raised by the tax? (Your answer must fit into the box below).

3 points

Question 5 Suppose that all income offer curves are straight lines starting at (0, 0). At prices $p_1 = 2$, $p_2 = 2$ the person's optimal consumption is (20, 20). When the price of good 1 decreases to $p_1 = 1$ (income stays the same) demand for good 1 increases to 60. Then the Slutsky substitution effects for goods 1 and 2 are

10 points

$$\Delta_1^s = \quad , \Delta_2^s = \quad .$$

The Slutsky income effects are

$$\Delta_1^I = \quad , \Delta_2^I = \quad .$$

Question 6 Suppose that there is a riskless asset that has a return of 10%, and a risky asset that has a return of 60% in state g and -50% in state b . State g occurs with probability 0.6, and state b with the remaining probability. The person has 2,000 Dollars to invest, and preferences are described by a Bernoulli utility function $u(x) = \ln(x)$. Suppose the person puts m Dollars into the risky asset and the remainder into the riskless asset. Determine the amount of money the person will have in states g or b , respectively (you answer is of course a function of m).

6 points

State g : \$ _____, state b : \$ _____ .

Using calculus, determine the optimal m :

8 points

The person invests \$ _____ into the risky asset.

Question 7 A person's Bernoulli utility function is given by $u(x) = \sqrt{x}$. Consider the following lottery: With probability 0.4 the payoff is 1, with probability 0.3 the payoff is 4, with probability 0.2 the payoff is 16 and with probability 0.1 the payoff is 100. The person's current wealth is zero. Then

The expected payoff of the lottery is

4 points

The person's expected utility from the lottery is

4 points

The lottery's certainty equivalent is

4 points

Note: Recall that the certainty equivalent is a payment y that the person receives with certainty such that expected utility of y is the same as that of the lottery.

Question 8 Suppose there are two risky assets, A , and B and riskless asset. The riskless asset has a return of 2%. The returns of assets A and B are 10% and 30% respectively. Denote by x_r , x_A , and x_B the fraction of your money invested in the three assets. Then $x_r + x_A + x_B = 1$. The return of the portfolio is $0.02x_r + 0.1x_A + 0.3x_B$ (Note that this is the return rather than the gross return). Suppose that the variance of the portfolio is $0.01x_A^2 - 0.02x_Ax_B + 0.04x_B^2$. The person has mean variance preferences of the form $u(\mu, \sigma) = \mu - 40\sigma^2$, where μ is the expected return and σ the standard deviation of the portfolio.

The optimal portfolio is

12 points

$x_r =$, $x_A =$, $x_B =$.
