

Advanced Microeconomics - Problem set 1

Due date: classes on October 16, 2018

**Problem 1** Compute supply and profit as functions of the price vector  $(p_a, p_b)$  for the following production set:

$$Y = \{(a, b, c) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid a \leq 0, b \leq 0, c \leq \min\{-\alpha a, -\beta b\}^\gamma\}, \quad \text{where } \alpha, \beta, \gamma > 0.$$

**Problem 2** In a three-commodity economy, we consider a producer whose cost function is

$$C(p_a, p_b, c) = 2c^2 p_a^{\frac{2}{3}} p_b^{\frac{1}{3}}.$$

Compute supply and profit of this producer as functions of the price vector  $(p_a, p_b, p_c)$ .

**Problem 3** In a two-commodity economy, we consider a producer with the following production set:

$$Y_\alpha = \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid a \leq 0, b \leq \sqrt{-a + \alpha} - \sqrt{\alpha}\}, \quad \text{where } \alpha \geq 0.$$

- a) Determine profit and supply of this producer as functions of the price vector  $(p_a, p_b)$ .
- b) Assume that there is a second producer whose production set is  $Y_\beta$  with  $\beta \geq \alpha$ . What is the aggregate supply of this economy as a function of the price vector  $(p_a, p_b)$ ?

**Problem 4** In a three-good economy, a firm has two production units. The first one produces commodity  $C$  using commodity  $A$  as an input. The production set of this unit is:

$$\{(a, b, c) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid a \leq 0, b \leq 0, c \leq |a|\}.$$

The second unit produces commodity  $C$  using commodity  $B$  as an input. The production set of this unit is:

$$\{(a, b, c) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid a \leq 0, b \leq 0, c \leq b^2\}.$$

- a) Determine the iso-output set, i.e. the set of input baskets for which the output is at least  $c$ , where  $c \geq 0$  is some given value.
- b) Compute the cost function and the demand of inputs as functions of the vector  $(c, p_a, p_b)$ .
- c) Compute the supply of this firm as a function of the price vector  $(p_a, p_b, p_c)$ .