

Please answer all questions. Omitting calculations is OK. Recall that the set of efficient allocations depends only on preferences, technologies, and aggregate endowments

## QUESTION 1

### THE ECONOMY

- Two goods,  $A$  and  $X$ , written in this order.
- Two consumers, 1 and 2.
- One firm.

#### Consumer 1

- Consumption set  $R_+^2$
- Endowment vector  $\omega_1 = [0, 4]$
- Profit share  $\theta_1 = 0$
- Utility function  $u_1 = \log A_1 + \log X_1$

#### Consumer 2

- Consumption set  $R_+^2$
- Endowment vector  $\omega_2 = [0, 0]$
- Profit share  $\theta_2 = 1$
- Utility function  $u_2 = X_2$

**The firm** produces good  $A$  out of good  $X$  with technology described by the production function

$$A = \sqrt{2X}$$

**Policy:** The firm's profit  $\Pi$  is taxed at a rate  $t$ , i.e. after-tax profit is  $(1-t)\Pi$ . Consumer 1 receives a lump-sum transfer  $T$

**Parameters:**  $t, T$ . **Conditions on parameters:**  $0 \leq t < 1, T \geq 0$

### QUESTIONS

TAKEHOME EXAM: ANSWERS

Answer the following questions for all allowed parameter values

- Compute all efficient allocations  $P$ . Compute and draw the Pareto frontier and the utility possibility set.
- Compute all competitive equilibria. For which values of the parameters  $t, T$  do equilibria exist? Denote the equilibrium allocation at  $t$  by  $E(t) = \left[ \left[ A_i(t), X_i(t) \right]_{i=1}^2, A(t), X(t) \right]$ .
- First welfare theorem: For which values of the tax rate  $t$ , if any, is it true that  $E(t) \subseteq P$ ?
- Is  $P \subseteq \bigcup_{0 \leq t < 1} E(t)$ ?

ANSWERS

*EFFICIENT ALLOCATIONS*

The set of feasible allocations

$$FA = \left\{ (A_1, X_1, A_2, X_2, A, X) \in \mathbb{R}_+^6 : A \leq \sqrt{2X}, A_1 + A_2 \leq A, X_1 + X_2 + X \leq 4 \right\} \quad (1)$$

is convex, and the objective functions  $u_1, u_2$  are concave, hence the utility possibility set is convex, and we can compute efficient points by solving, for all values of the parameter  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ , the following max problem

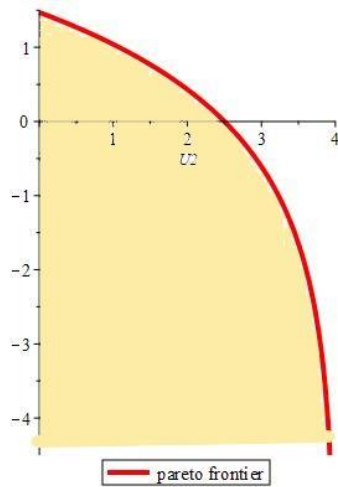
$$\begin{aligned} \max W &= \alpha u_1 + (1 - \alpha) u_2 \\ \text{subject to } &A \leq \sqrt{2X}, A_1 + A_2 \leq A, X_1 + X_2 + X \leq 4, \text{ all variables} \geq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

The solutions are, after eliminating  $\alpha$

Efficient allocations P	(3)
$A = A_1 = \sqrt{2}\sqrt{X}, A_2 = 0, X_1 = 2X, X_2 = 4 - 3X, 0 \leq X \leq \frac{4}{3}$	

pareto frontier	(4)
$u_1 = -\ln(3) + \frac{\ln(-3u_2 + 12)}{2} + \frac{\ln(2)}{2} + \ln\left(-\frac{2u_2}{3} + \frac{8}{3}\right), 0 \leq u_2 \leq 4$	

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*EQUILIBRIA*

1. NAME THE PRICE OF EACH GOOD

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$p$  = price of good A,  $w$  = price of good X. Normalize  $w = 1$

2. DEFINE CONSUMER INCOMES

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$$M_1 = 4 + T, M_2 = (1 - t)\Pi \quad (5)$$

3. SOLVE THE OPTIMIZATION PROBLEMS OF CONSUMERS

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$$\max u_1 = \log A_1 + \log X_1, \text{ subject to } pA_1 + X_1 \leq M_1$$

$$\max u_2 = X_2, \text{ subject to } X_2 \leq M_2$$

The solutions are

$$(A_1, X_1) = \left( \frac{4 + T}{2p}, \frac{4 + T}{2} \right) \quad (6)$$

$$(A_2, X_2) = (0, (1 - t)\Pi) \quad (7)$$

4. SOLVE THE OPTIMIZATION PROBLEMS OF FIRMS

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$$\max (1 - t)\Pi = (1 - t)(p\sqrt{2X} - X), X \geq 0$$

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The solution is

$$(X, A, \Pi) = \left( \frac{p^2}{2}, p, \frac{p^2}{2} \right) \quad (8)$$

5. SOLVE THE EQUILIBRIUM CONDITIONS

$$A = A_1 + A_2, 4 = X_1 + X_2 + X \quad (9)$$

equilibrium with profit taxation $p = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{4-t}}, T = \frac{4t}{4-t}, \Pi = \frac{4}{4-t}$	(10)
Equilibrium allocation $E(t), 0 \leq t < 1$ $A = A_1 = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{4-t}}, A_2 = 0, X_1 = \frac{8}{4-t}, X_2 = \frac{4(1-t)}{4-t}, X = \frac{4}{4-t}$	

Comparing (10) to (3) we conclude that  $E(t) \subseteq P, \forall t \in [0, 1]$ , and that  $P \not\subseteq \bigcup_{0 \leq t < 1} E(t)$ , because  $P - \bigcup_{0 \leq t < 1} E(t) =$  efficient points with  $0 \leq X < 1$

QUESTION 2

*THE ECONOMY*

- Two goods,  $A$  and  $X$ , written in this order.
- One consumer
- One firm.

**The Consumer**

- Consumption set  $R_+^2$
- Endowment vector  $\omega = [0, 4]$
- Profit share  $\theta = 1$
- Utility function  $u = 2\sqrt{A} + 2\sqrt{X}$

**The firm** produces good  $A$  out of good  $X$  with technology described by the production function

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$$\hat{A} = \sqrt{2\hat{X}}$$

**Policy:** The firm receives a subsidy  $s$  per unit of output. The consumer pays a lump-sum tax  $T$

**Parameters:**  $s, T$ . **Conditions on parameters:**  $s \geq 0, T \geq 0$

*QUESTIONS*

Answer the following questions for all allowed parameter values

- Compute all efficient allocations  $P$
- Compute all competitive equilibria. For which values of the parameters  $s, T$  do equilibria exist? Let  $p$  be the price of good A and  $w$  the price of good X. Denote the equilibrium allocation at  $s$  by  $E(s) = [A(s), X(s), \hat{A}(s), \hat{X}(s)]$ , the equilibrium price vector by  $[p(s), w(s)]$ , and the equilibrium value of profit by  $\Pi(s)$ .
- First welfare theorem: For which values of the subsidy  $s$ , if any, is  $E(s) \subseteq P$  ?
- Second welfare theorem: For which values of the subsidy  $s$ , if any, are all efficient allocations decentralizable, i.e.  $P \subseteq E(s)$  ?
- Draw the equilibrium value of utility  $v(s) = u(A(s), X(s))$  against  $s$ .
- Draw the equilibrium value of the real wage  $w(s)/p(s)$  against  $s$ . Is it a good measure of welfare?
- Draw the equilibrium value of total employment  $\hat{X}(s)$  against  $s$ . Is it a good measure of welfare?
- Draw the equilibrium value of total output  $\hat{A}(s)$  against  $s$ . Is it a good measure of welfare?
- Draw the equilibrium value of total real income  $\frac{w(s)\hat{X}(s) + \Pi(s)}{p(s)}$  against  $s$ . Is it a good measure of welfare?

ANSWERS

*EFFICIENT ALLOCATIONS*

There is just one consumer, hence efficient allocations are the solutions of the following max problem

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$$\begin{aligned} \max u &= 2\sqrt{A} + 2\sqrt{X} \\ \text{subject to } A &\leq \hat{A} \leq \sqrt{2\hat{X}}, X + \hat{X} \leq 4, \text{all variables} \geq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

There is a unique solution, given by

<p>Efficient allocation</p> $P = \left\{ (\hat{X}, \hat{A}, X, A) \right\}$ $\hat{X} = \frac{A^2}{2}, \hat{A} = A, X = A^3, A^3 + \frac{A^2}{2} = 4, A \approx 1.437$	(12)
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The equation  $A^3 + \frac{A^2}{2} = 4$  has exactly one positive real root, hence the set P of efficient allocations contains exactly one element, given by (12).

*EQUILIBRIA*

1. NAME THE PRICE OF EACH GOOD

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$p$  = price of good A,  $w$  = price of good X. Normalize  $p = 1$

2. DEFINE CONSUMER INCOMES

---

$$M = 4w - T + \Pi \quad (13)$$

3. SOLVE THE OPTIMIZATION PROBLEMS OF CONSUMERS

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$$\max u = 2\sqrt{A} + 2\sqrt{X}, \text{subject to } A + wX \leq 4w - T + \Pi$$

The solutions are

$$(A, X) = \left( \frac{wM}{(1+w)}, \frac{M}{w(1+w)} \right) \quad (14)$$

4. SOLVE THE OPTIMIZATION PROBLEMS OF FIRMS

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$$\max \Pi = (1+s)\sqrt{2\hat{X}} - w\hat{X}, \hat{X} \geq 0$$

The solution is

$$(\hat{X}, \hat{A}, \Pi) = \left( \frac{(1+s)^2}{2w^2}, \frac{1+s}{w}, \frac{(1+s)^2}{2w} \right) \quad (15)$$

### 5. SOLVE THE EQUILIBRIUM CONDITIONS

$$\hat{A} = A, \hat{X} + X = 4 \quad (16)$$

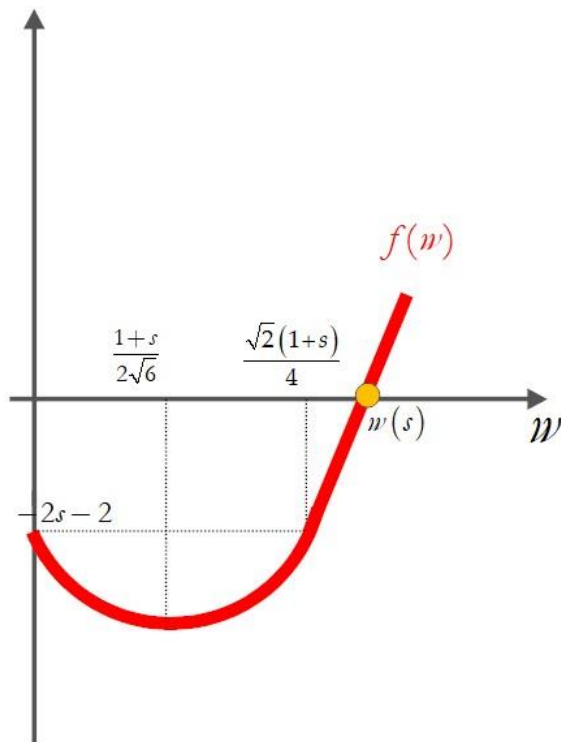
By (16),(15),(14),(13) we obtain

$$T = \frac{s^2w + 8w^3 - 2s - w - 2}{2w^2} \quad (17)$$

$$0 = 4 - \hat{X} - X = \frac{f(w)}{2w^3}, f(w) \triangleq 8w^3 - (1+s)^2 w - 2s - 2 \quad (18)$$

Equation (18) has a unique positive solution  $w = w(s)$ , the equilibrium real wage,

because  $f(0) = f\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}(1+s)}{4}\right) = -2s - 2 < 0$ ,  $f(1+s) > 0$ ,  $f'(w) = 24w^2 - (1+s)^2$



By (17),(18) we obtain  $T(s) = \frac{s(s+1)}{w(s)}$ , and that the set  $E(s)$  of equilibrium allocations contains exactly one element for each  $s \geq 0$ , and therefore  $E(s) \subseteq P$  iff  $E(s) = P$  iff  $P \subseteq E(s)$ .

<p>unique equilibrium allocation</p> <p><math>w = w(s)</math> is the unique positive solution of <math>8w^3 - (1+s)^2 w - 2s - 2 = 0</math></p> <p><math>E(s) = \left\{ \left( \hat{X}(s), \hat{A}(s), X(s), A(s) \right) \right\}</math></p> <p><math>\hat{X}(s) = \frac{(1+s)^2}{2w(s)^2}, A(s) = \hat{A}(s) = \frac{1+s}{w(s)}, X(s) = 4 - \frac{(1+s)^2}{2w(s)^2}</math></p>	(19)
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By (19),(12) we obtain that  $P = E(s)$  only if  $X(s) = (A(s))^3$ . From (19) we obtain

$$X(s) - (A(s))^3 = -\frac{s^3 + 3s^2 + 2s}{w(s)^3} < 0, \text{ unless } s=0. \text{ Hence}$$

<p><math>s &gt; 0 \Leftrightarrow P \cap E(s) = \emptyset, E(s) \not\subseteq P, P \not\subseteq E(s)</math></p> <p><math>s = 0 \Leftrightarrow P = E(s)</math></p>	(20)
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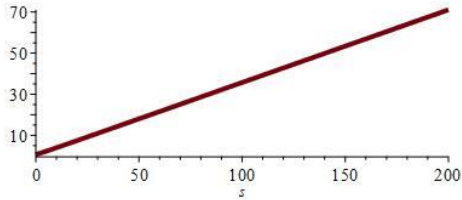
The effect of the subsidy  $s$  on the real wage  $w(s)$  is obtained by differentiating (18)

w.r.t.  $s$ ;  $f(w(s), s) = 0 \forall s \geq 0$  implies  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial w} \frac{\partial w}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial s} = 0$ , i.e.

$$\frac{\partial(\text{real wage})}{\partial s} = -\frac{\partial f / \partial s}{\partial f / \partial w} = 2 \frac{(1+s)w + 1}{24w^2 - (1+s)^2} > 0 \quad (21)$$



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 w(s)

The effect of the subsidy  $s$  on the output  $A(s)$  is obtained by differentiating

$$A(s) = \frac{1+s}{w(s)} \text{ w.r.t. } s; \frac{dA}{ds} = \frac{\partial A}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial A}{\partial w} \frac{\partial w}{\partial s} \text{ yields}$$

$$\frac{d(\text{output})}{ds} = \frac{4(s+1)}{w^2(24w^2 - (s+1)^2)} > 0 \quad (22)$$

The effect of the subsidy  $s$  on employment  $\hat{X}(s)$  is obtained by differentiating

$$\hat{X}(s) = \frac{(A(s))^2}{2} \text{ w.r.t. } s;$$

$$\frac{d(\text{employment})}{ds} = \frac{4(1+s)^2}{(24w^2 - (1+s)^2)w^3} > 0 \quad (23)$$

The effect of the subsidy  $s$  on total real income  $w(s)\hat{X}(s) + \Pi(s) = (1+s)A(s) = \frac{(1+s)^2}{w(s)}$

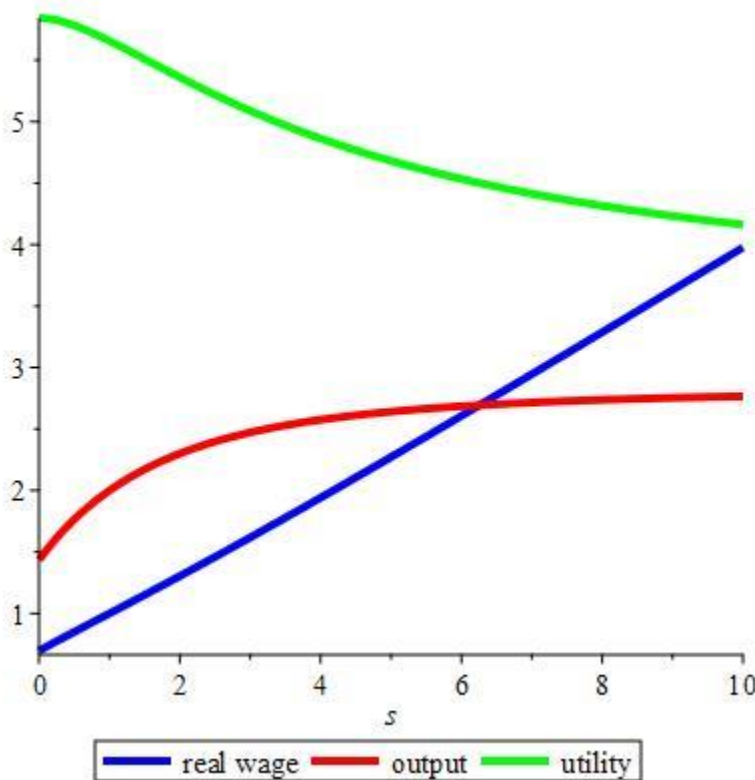
is obtained by differentiating it w.r.t.  $s$ ;

$$\frac{d(\text{real income})}{ds} = \frac{2(1+s)^2(sw + w + 5)}{w^2(24w^2 - (1+s)^2)} > 0 \quad (24)$$

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The effect of the subsidy  $s$  on equilibrium utility  $v(s) = u(A(s), X(s)) = \frac{2\sqrt{\frac{1+s}{w}}(1+w)}{w}$  is obtained by differentiating it w.r.t.  $s$ ;

$$\frac{d(\text{utility})}{ds} = -\frac{4s(1+s)}{\sqrt{\frac{1+s}{w}}w^2(24w^2 - (1+s)^2)} < 0 \quad (25)$$



QUESTION 3

THE ECONOMY

- Two goods,  $A$  and  $X$ , written in this order.
- One consumer
- One firm.

TAKEHOME EXAM: ANSWERS

**The Consumer**

- Consumption set  $R_+^2$
- Endowment vector  $\omega = [0, \bar{X}]$
- Profit share  $\theta = 1$
- Utility function  $u = \alpha \log A + (1 - \alpha) \log X$

The firm produces good  $A$  out of good  $X$  with technology described by the production function

$$\hat{A} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \hat{X} \leq F \\ \sqrt{2(\hat{X} - F)} & \text{if } \hat{X} \geq F \end{cases}, \hat{X} \geq 0$$

**Parameters:**  $\alpha, F, \bar{X}$ . **Conditions on parameters:**  $0 < \alpha < 1, 0 \leq F < \bar{X}$

*QUESTIONS*

Answer the following questions for all allowed parameter values

- Compute all competitive equilibrium allocations  $E$
- Compute all efficient allocations  $P$
- First welfare theorem: For which parameter values, if any, is it true that  $E \subset P$ ?
- Compute the set of decentralizable efficient allocations  $P \cap E$
- Second welfare theorem: For which parameter values, if any, is it true that all efficient allocations are decentralizable, i.e. that  $P = E$ ?

ANSWERS

*EQUILIBRIA*

$$\begin{array}{l} \alpha \bar{X} < 2F \Rightarrow E = \emptyset \\ \alpha \bar{X} \geq 2F \Rightarrow \frac{p}{w} = \sqrt{\frac{2\alpha}{2-\alpha}} \sqrt{\bar{X} - F}, E = \left\{ (A, \hat{A}, X, \hat{X}) \right\}, \\ A = \hat{A} = \sqrt{\frac{2\alpha}{2-\alpha}} \sqrt{\bar{X} - F}, \hat{X} = \frac{\bar{X}\alpha + 2F(1-\alpha)}{2-\alpha}, X = \frac{2(1-\alpha)(\bar{X} - F)}{2-\alpha} \end{array} \quad (26)$$

*EFFICIENT ALLOCATIONS*

Efficient allocations are the solutions of the following max problem

TAKEHOME EXAM: ANSWERS

$$\begin{aligned} \max u &= \alpha \log A + (1-\alpha) \log X \\ \text{subject to } &A \leq \hat{A}, X + \hat{X} \leq \bar{X}, \text{ all variables } \geq 0, \text{ and} \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

$$\hat{X} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \hat{A} = 0 \\ F + \frac{\hat{A}^2}{2} & \text{if } \hat{A} > 0 \end{cases}$$

The unique solution is

$$P = \left\{ (A, \hat{A}, X, \hat{X}) \right\}, A = \hat{A} = \sqrt{\frac{2\alpha}{2-\alpha}} \sqrt{\bar{X} - F}, \hat{X} = \frac{\bar{X}\alpha + 2F(1-\alpha)}{2-\alpha}, X = \frac{2(1-\alpha)(\bar{X} - F)}{2-\alpha} \quad (28)$$

By (28),(26) we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha\bar{X} < 2F &\Rightarrow E = \emptyset \subset P \neq \emptyset, P \not\subset E \\ \alpha\bar{X} \geq 2F &\Rightarrow P = E \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

## QUESTION 4

### THE ECONOMY

- Two goods, 1 and 2, written in this order.
- Two consumers, A and B

#### Consumer A

- Consumption set  $R_+^2$
- Endowment vector  $\omega_A = [\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$
- Utility function  $u_A = A_1$

#### Consumer B

- Consumption set  $R_+^2$
- Endowment vector  $\omega_B = [1 - \alpha_1, 1 - \alpha_2]$
- Utility function  $u_B = B_1 + B_2$

**Parameters:**  $\omega_A = [\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$ . **Conditions on parameters:**  $0 < \alpha_i < 1, i = 1, 2$

### QUESTIONS

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Answer the following questions for all allowed parameter values

- Compute all efficient allocations  $P$ . Compute and draw the Pareto frontier and the utility possibility set.
- Compute all competitive equilibrium allocations  $E(\omega_A)$
- First welfare theorem: For which values of  $\omega_A$ , if any, is it true that  $E(\omega_A) \subseteq P$ ?
- Compute the set of decentralizable efficient allocations  $P \cap \left( \bigcup_{\omega_A} E(\omega_A) \right)$ . The union is taken over all allowed values of  $\omega_A$
- Second welfare theorem: are all efficient allocations decentralizable, i.e. is  $P \subseteq \bigcup_{\omega_A} E(\omega_A)$ ?

ANSWERS

*EFFICIENT ALLOCATIONS*

The set of feasible allocations

$$FA = \left\{ (A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2) \in \mathbb{R}_+^4 : A_1 + A_2 \leq 1, B_1 + B_2 \leq 1 \right\} \quad (30)$$

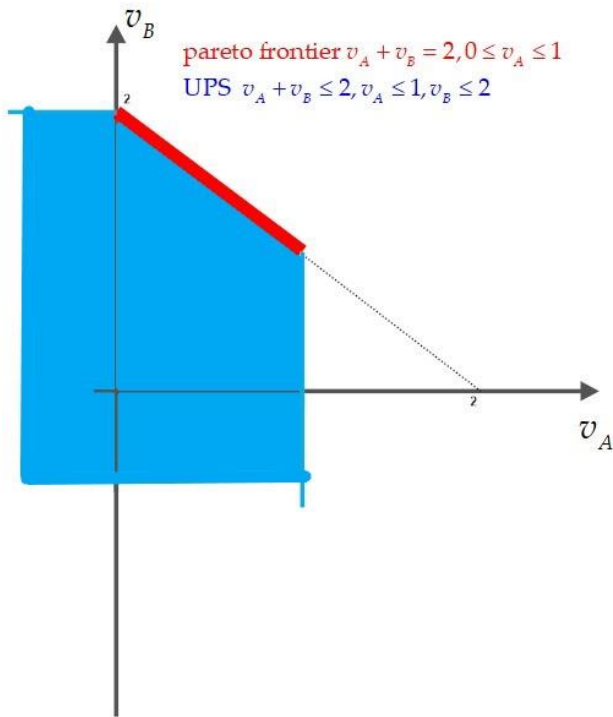
is convex, and the objective functions  $u_A, u_B$  are concave, hence the utility possibility set is convex, and we can compute efficient points by solving, for all values of the parameter  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ , the following max problem

$$\begin{aligned} \max W &= \alpha u_A + (1 - \alpha) u_B \\ \text{subject to } & A_1 + A_2 \leq 1, B_1 + B_2 \leq 1, \text{ all variables} \geq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

The solutions are, after eliminating  $\alpha$

Efficient allocations	(32)
$P = \left\{ (A_1, A_2, A_1, B_2) \in \mathbb{R}_+^4 : A_1 + B_1 = 1, A_2 = 0, B_2 = 1 \right\}$	
Pareto frontier	
$PF = \left\{ (v_A, v_B) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : v_A + v_B = 2, 0 \leq v_A \leq 1 \right\}$	
Utility possibility set	
$UPS = \left\{ (v_A, v_B) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : v_A + v_B \leq 2, v_B \leq 2, v_A \leq 1 \right\}$	

TAKEHOME EXAM: ANSWERS



*EQUILIBRIA*

1. NAME THE PRICE OF EACH GOOD

---

$p_i$  = price of good  $i, i = 1, 2$

2. DEFINE CONSUMER INCOMES

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$$M_A = p_1\alpha_1 + p_2\alpha_2, M_B = p_1(1-\alpha_1) + p_2(1-\alpha_2) \quad (33)$$

3. SOLVE THE OPTIMIZATION PROBLEMS OF CONSUMERS

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$\max u_A = A_1$ , subject to  $p_1A_1 + p_2A_2 \leq M_A$

$\max u_B = B_1 + B_2$ , subject to  $p_1B_1 + p_2B_2 \leq M_B$

The solutions are

$$(A_1, A_2) = \left( \frac{M_A}{p_1}, 0 \right) \quad (34)$$

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$$(B_1, B_2) = \begin{cases} \left(0, \frac{M_B}{p_2}\right) & \text{if } \frac{p_2}{p_1} < 1 \\ \left(\beta, \frac{M_B}{p_2} - \beta\right), 0 \leq \beta \leq \frac{M_B}{p_2} & \text{if } \frac{p_2}{p_1} = 1 \\ \left(\frac{M_B}{p_1}, 0\right) & \text{if } \frac{p_2}{p_1} > 1 \end{cases} \quad (35)$$

4. SOLVE THE EQUILIBRIUM CONDITIONS

$$1 = A_1 + B_1, 1 = A_2 + B_2 \quad (36)$$

<p>equilibria</p> $\boxed{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 > 1} \Rightarrow \frac{p_2}{p_1} = \frac{1 - \alpha_1}{\alpha_2}$ $E(\omega_A) = \{(A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2) \in R_+^4 : A_1 = 1, A_2 = 0, B_1 = 0, B_2 = 1\}$ $\boxed{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \leq 1} \Rightarrow \frac{p_2}{p_1} = 1$ $E(\omega_A) = \{(A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2) \in R_+^4 : A_1 = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2, A_2 = 0, B_1 = 1 - \alpha_1 - \alpha_2, B_2 = 1\}$	(37)
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By (37),(32)  $E(\omega_A) \subseteq P, \forall \omega_A$

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} E(\omega_A) &\subseteq P, \forall \omega_A \\ \bigcup_{\omega_A} E(\omega_A) &= P \end{aligned}} \quad (38)$$

QUESTION 5

*THE ECONOMY*

- Three goods, A, B, X, written in this order.
- Two consumers, 1 and 2
- Two firms,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$

**Consumer 1**

- Consumption set  $R_+^3$
- Endowment vector  $\omega_1 = [0, 0, \gamma]$

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- Profit shares  $\theta_1 = [\theta_{1,\alpha}, \theta_{1,\beta}]$
- Utility function  $U_1 = B_1$

**Consumer 2**

- Consumption set  $R_+^3$
- Endowment vector  $\omega_2 = [0, 0, \bar{X} - \gamma]$
- Profit shares  $\theta_2 = [1 - \theta_{1,\alpha}, 1 - \theta_{1,\beta}]$
- Utility function  $U_2 = A_2$

**Firm  $\alpha$**  produces good A out of good X with technology described by the production function

$$A = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } X_\alpha \leq F \\ \sqrt{2(X_\alpha - F)} & \text{if } X_\alpha \geq F \end{cases}, X_\alpha \geq 0$$

**Firm  $\beta$**  produces good B out of good X with technology described by the production function  $B = X_\beta, X_\beta \geq 0$

**Parameters:**  $\bar{X}, F, \gamma, \theta_1 = [\theta_{1,\alpha}, \theta_{1,\beta}]$ .

**Conditions on parameters:**  $0 \leq \theta_{1,\alpha} \leq 1, 0 \leq \theta_{1,\beta} \leq 1, 0 \leq \gamma \leq \bar{X}, 0 \leq F < \bar{X}$

**QUESTIONS**

Answer the following questions for all allowed parameter values, keeping  $\bar{X}, F$  fixed.

- Compute all efficient allocations  $P$ . Compute and draw the Pareto frontier and the utility possibility set.
- Compute all competitive equilibrium allocations  $E(\gamma, \theta_1)$
- First welfare theorem: for which values of the parameters, if any, is it true that  $E(\gamma, \theta_1) \subseteq P$ ?
- Compute the set of decentralizable efficient allocations  $P \cap \left( \bigcup_{\gamma, \theta_1} E(\gamma, \theta_1) \right)$ . The union is taken over all allowed values of  $\gamma, \theta_1$
- second welfare theorem: for which values of the parameters  $\bar{X}, F$ , if any, is it true that all efficient allocations are decentralizable, i.e. that  $P \subseteq \bigcup_{\gamma, \theta_1} E(\gamma, \theta_1)$ ?



TAKEHOME EXAM: ANSWERS

ANSWERS

*EFFICIENT ALLOCATIONS*

The set of feasible allocations

$$\begin{aligned}
 FA &= FA_0 \cup FA_+, x = (B_1, A_2, A, X_\alpha, B, X_\beta), \\
 FA_0 &= \left\{ x \in R_+^6 : A = 0, A_2 \leq A, B_1 \leq B, X_\alpha + X_\beta \leq \bar{X}, X_\beta \geq B, X_\alpha \leq F \right\} \\
 FA_+ &= \left\{ x \in R_+^6 : A > 0, A_2 \leq A, B_1 \leq B, X_\alpha + X_\beta \leq \bar{X}, X_\beta \geq B, X_\alpha \geq F + \frac{A^2}{2} \right\}
 \end{aligned} \tag{39}$$

is not convex, hence we can only use the general method for computing efficient allocations, i.e. we solve for all values of the parameter  $\theta_2$ , the following max problem

$$\begin{aligned}
 \max U_1 &= B_1 \\
 \text{subject to } x &\in FA, U_2 = A_2 \geq \theta_2
 \end{aligned} \tag{40}$$

The solutions are

candidate efficient allocations

$$x = (B_1, A_2, A, X_\alpha, B, X_\beta)$$

$$\theta_2 \leq 0 \Rightarrow x = (\bar{X}, 0, 0, 0, \bar{X}, \bar{X})$$

$$\theta_2 > \sqrt{2(\bar{X} - F)} \Rightarrow \text{no max exists} \tag{41}$$

$$\theta_2 = \sqrt{2(\bar{X} - F)} \Rightarrow x = (0, \sqrt{2(\bar{X} - F)}, \sqrt{2(\bar{X} - F)}, \bar{X}, 0, 0)$$

$$0 < \theta_2 < \sqrt{2(\bar{X} - F)} \Rightarrow x = \left( \bar{X} - F - \frac{\theta_2^2}{2}, \theta_2, \theta_2, F + \frac{\theta_2^2}{2}, \bar{X} - F - \frac{\theta_2^2}{2}, \bar{X} - F - \frac{\theta_2^2}{2} \right)$$

Since the solutions are essentially unique for each value of  $\theta_2$ , we obtain from (41), after eliminating  $\theta_2$ ,

efficient allocations

$$P = P_0 \cup P_+$$

$$P_0 = \left\{ (\bar{X}, 0, 0, 0, \bar{X}, \bar{X}) \right\}, x = (B_1, A_2, A, X_\alpha, B, X_\beta)$$

$$P_+ = \left\{ x \in R_+^6 : 0 < A \leq \sqrt{2(\bar{X} - F)}, A_2 = A, B_1 = B = X_\beta = \bar{X} - F - \frac{A^2}{2}, X_\alpha = F + \frac{A^2}{2} \right\}$$

(42)

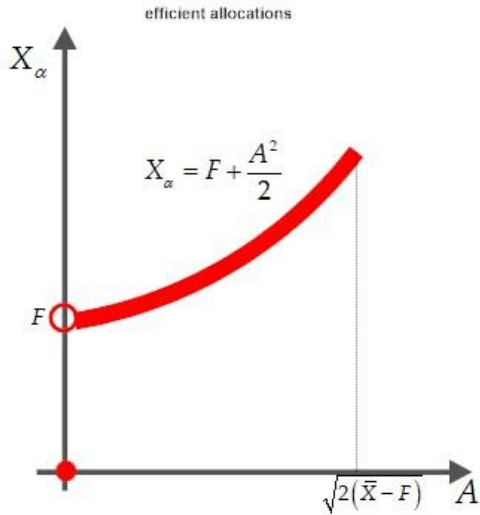
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By (42) we obtain that the set of efficient allocations is isomorphic to a simpler set

$$\boxed{P \approx PP_0 \cup PP_+}$$

$$PP_0 = \{(0,0)\}, y = (A, X_\alpha)$$

$$PP_+ = \{y \in R_+^2 : 0 < A \leq \sqrt{2(\bar{X} - F)}, X_\alpha = F + \frac{A^2}{2}\}$$
(43)

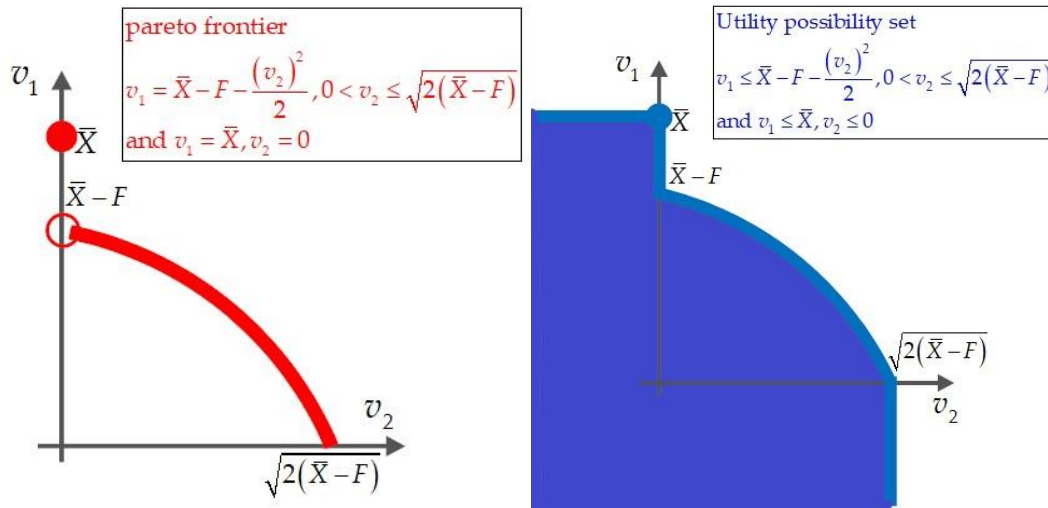


We obtain the pareto frontier by eliminating  $A$  from the system

$$v_1 = \bar{X} - F - \frac{A^2}{2}, v_2 = A, 0 \leq A \leq \sqrt{2(\bar{X} - F)}$$

<p><u>Pareto frontier</u></p> $PF = \{(v_1, v_2)\} \in R^2 : v_1 = \bar{X} - F - \frac{(v_2)^2}{2}, 0 < v_2 \leq \sqrt{2(\bar{X} - F)}\} \cup \{(\bar{X}, 0)\}$ <p><u>Utility possibility set</u></p> $UPS = UPS_0 \cup UPS_+$ $UPS_0 = \{(v_1, v_2)\} \in R^2 : v_1 \leq \bar{X} - F - \frac{(v_2)^2}{2}, 0 < v_2 \leq \sqrt{2(\bar{X} - F)}\}$ $UPS_+ = \{(v_1, v_2)\} \in R^2 : v_1 \leq \bar{X}, v_2 \leq 0\}$	(44)
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EQUILIBRIA

1. NAME THE PRICE OF EACH GOOD

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$p_A$  = price of good A,  $p_B$  = price of good B,  $w$  = price of good X. Normalize  $w = 1$

2. DEFINE CONSUMER INCOMES

---

$$M_1 = \gamma + \theta_{1,\alpha} \Pi_\alpha + \theta_{1,\beta} \Pi_\beta, M_2 = (\bar{X} - \gamma) + (1 - \theta_{1,\alpha}) \Pi_\alpha + (1 - \theta_{1,\beta}) \Pi_\beta \quad (45)$$

3. SOLVE THE OPTIMIZATION PROBLEMS OF CONSUMERS

---

$\max U_1 = B_1$ , subject to  $p_B B_1 \leq M_1$ ,  $\max U_2 = A_2$ , subject to  $p_A A_2 \leq M_2$

The solutions are

$$B_1 = \frac{M_1}{p_B}, A_2 = \frac{M_2}{p_A} \quad (46)$$

4. SOLVE THE OPTIMIZATION PROBLEMS OF FIRMS

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$$\max \Pi_\alpha = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } A = 0 \\ p_A A - \left( F + \frac{A^2}{2} \right) & \text{if } A > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\max \Pi_\beta = (p_B - 1)B$$

The solutions are

$$(B, X_\beta, \Pi_\beta) = \begin{cases} (0, 0, 0) & \text{if } p_B < 1 \\ \{(\beta, \beta, 0) : \beta \geq 0\} & \text{if } p_B = 1 \\ (\infty, \infty, \infty) & \text{if } p_B > 1 \end{cases} \quad (47)$$

$$(A, X_\alpha, \Pi_\alpha) = \begin{cases} (0, 0, 0) & \text{if } p_A < \sqrt{2F} \\ \{(0, 0, 0), (\sqrt{2F}, 2F, 0)\} & \text{if } p_A = \sqrt{2F} \\ \left( p_A, F + \frac{1}{2} p_A^2, \frac{p_A^2}{2} - F \right) & \text{if } p_A > \sqrt{2F} \end{cases} \quad (48)$$

## 5. SOLVE THE EQUILIBRIUM CONDITIONS

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$$A_2 = A, B_1 = B, X_\alpha + X_\beta = \bar{X} \quad (49)$$

We start the search for equilibrium prices

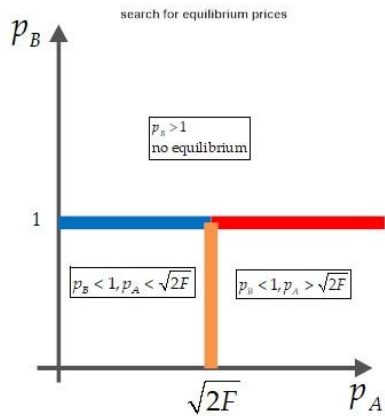
Hypothesis (to be accepted or rejected): there is an equilibrium with  $p_B > 1$

Consequences of the hypothesis

$$X_\alpha + X_\beta = \bar{X} \text{ becomes } X_\alpha + \infty = \bar{X}$$

Consistency check: The hypothesis is rejected

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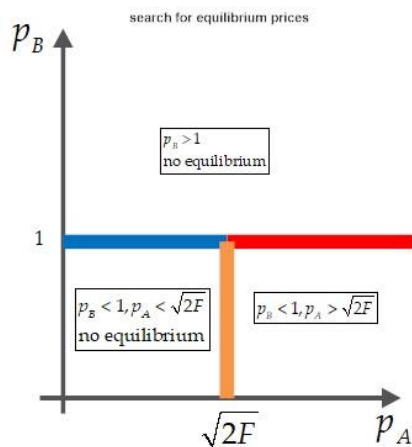


Hypothesis (to be accepted or rejected): there is an equilibrium with  $p_B < 1, p_A < \sqrt{2F}$

Consequences of the hypothesis

$$X_\alpha + X_\beta = \bar{X} \text{ becomes } 0 + 0 = \bar{X}$$

Consistency check: The hypothesis is rejected



Hypothesis (to be accepted or rejected): there is an equilibrium with  $p_B < 1, p_A \geq \sqrt{2F}$

Consequences of the hypothesis

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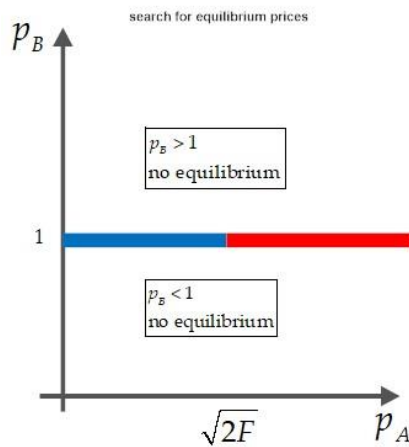
$$A_2 = A, B_1 = B, X_\alpha + X_\beta = \bar{X} \text{ become}$$

$$\frac{M_2}{p_A} = p_A, \frac{M_1}{p_B} = 0, F + \frac{1}{2} p_A^2 + 0 = \bar{X},$$

$$\Pi_\alpha = \frac{p_A^2}{2} - F, \Pi_\beta = 0$$

$$M_1 = \gamma + \theta_{1,\alpha} \Pi_\alpha, M_2 = (\bar{X} - \gamma) + (1 - \theta_{1,\alpha}) \Pi_\alpha$$

Consistency check: The hypothesis is rejected



Hypothesis (to be accepted or rejected): there is an equilibrium with  $p_B = 1, p_A < \sqrt{2F}$

Consequences of the hypothesis

$$A_2 = A, B_1 = B, X_\alpha + X_\beta = \bar{X} \text{ become}$$

$$\frac{M_2}{p_A} = 0, \frac{M_1}{p_B} = B = X_\beta = \bar{X},$$

$$\Pi_\alpha = 0, \Pi_\beta = 0$$

$$M_1 = \gamma, M_2 = (\bar{X} - \gamma)$$

Consistency check: The hypothesis is accepted iff  $\gamma = \bar{X}$

equilibria

$$\boxed{\gamma = \bar{X}} \Rightarrow 0 < p_A < \sqrt{2F}, p_B = 1, A = A_2 = X_\beta = 0, B_1 = B = X_\beta = \bar{X} \quad (50)$$

$$\boxed{\gamma \neq \bar{X}} \Rightarrow ?$$

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Hypothesis (to be accepted or rejected): there is an equilibrium with  $p_B = 1, p_A \geq \sqrt{2F}$

Consequences of the hypothesis

$A_2 = A, B_1 = B, X_\alpha + X_\beta = \bar{X}$  become

$$\frac{M_2}{p_A} = p_A, \frac{M_1}{p_B} = B = X_\beta, F + \frac{1}{2}p_A^2 + X_\beta = \bar{X},$$

$$\Pi_\alpha = \frac{p_A^2}{2} - F, \Pi_\beta = 0$$

$$M_1 = \gamma + \theta_{1,\alpha} \left( \frac{p_A^2}{2} - F \right), M_2 = (\bar{X} - \gamma) + (1 - \theta_{1,\alpha}) \left( \frac{p_A^2}{2} - F \right)$$

The solution is

$$\begin{aligned} p_A &= \sqrt{2} \sqrt{\frac{\bar{X} - \gamma - F(1 - \theta_{1,\alpha})}{1 + \theta_{1,\alpha}}}, p_B = 1, \Pi_\alpha = \frac{\bar{X} - \gamma - 2F}{1 + \theta_{1,\alpha}} \\ B_1 = B = X_\beta &= \frac{\gamma + (\bar{X} - 2F)\theta_{1,\alpha}}{1 + \theta_{1,\alpha}}, \Pi_\beta = 0 \\ A &= \sqrt{2} \sqrt{\frac{\bar{X} - \gamma - F(1 - \theta_{1,\alpha})}{1 + \theta_{1,\alpha}}}, X_\alpha = \frac{\bar{X} - \gamma + 2\theta_{1,\alpha}F}{1 + \theta_{1,\alpha}} \\ M_1 &= \frac{\gamma + \theta_{1,\alpha}(\bar{X} - 2F)}{1 + \theta_{1,\alpha}}, M_2 = \frac{2(\bar{X} - \gamma - F(1 - \theta_{1,\alpha}))}{1 + \theta_{1,\alpha}} \end{aligned} \quad (51)$$

Consistency check: we substitute (51) into the system of inequalities

$$\left\{ B \geq 0, \Pi_\alpha \geq 0, p_A \geq \sqrt{2F} \right\} \text{ yields } 0 \leq \gamma \leq \bar{X} - 2F, 0 \leq F \leq \frac{\bar{X}}{2}$$

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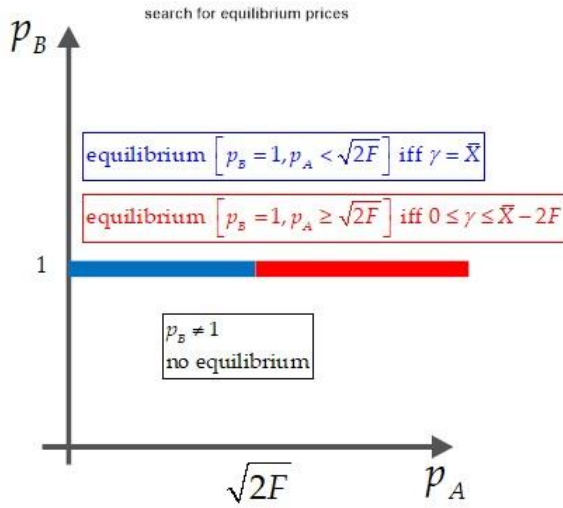
equilibria

$$\boxed{\gamma = \bar{X}} \Rightarrow 0 < p_A < \sqrt{2F}, p_B = 1, A = A_2 = X_\beta = 0, B_1 = B = X_\beta = \bar{X}$$

$$\boxed{0 \leq \gamma \leq \bar{X} - 2F, 0 \leq F \leq \frac{\bar{X}}{2}} \Rightarrow p_A = \sqrt{2} \sqrt{\frac{\bar{X} - \gamma - F(1 - \theta_{1,\alpha})}{1 + \theta_{1,\alpha}}}, p_B = 1, \Pi_\alpha = \frac{\bar{X} - \gamma - 2F}{1 + \theta_{1,\alpha}} \quad (52)$$

$$B_1 = B = X_\beta = \frac{\gamma + (\bar{X} - 2F)\theta_{1,\alpha}}{1 + \theta_{1,\alpha}}, A = \sqrt{2} \sqrt{\frac{\bar{X} - \gamma - F(1 - \theta_{1,\alpha})}{1 + \theta_{1,\alpha}}}, X_\alpha = \frac{\bar{X} - \gamma + 2\theta_{1,\alpha}F}{1 + \theta_{1,\alpha}}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\bar{X}}{2} < F < \bar{X}} \text{ or } \boxed{0 \leq F \leq \frac{\bar{X}}{2} \text{ and } \bar{X} - 2F < \gamma < \bar{X}} \Rightarrow ?$$



Having exhausted the  $(p_A, p_B)$  search space, we conclude from (52) that

equilibria

$$\boxed{\gamma = \bar{X}} \Rightarrow 0 < p_A < \sqrt{2F}, p_B = 1, x = (B_1, A_2, A, X_\alpha, B, X_\beta)$$

$$E(\gamma, \theta_1) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^6 : A_2 = A = X_\beta = 0, B_1 = B = X_\beta = \bar{X}\}$$

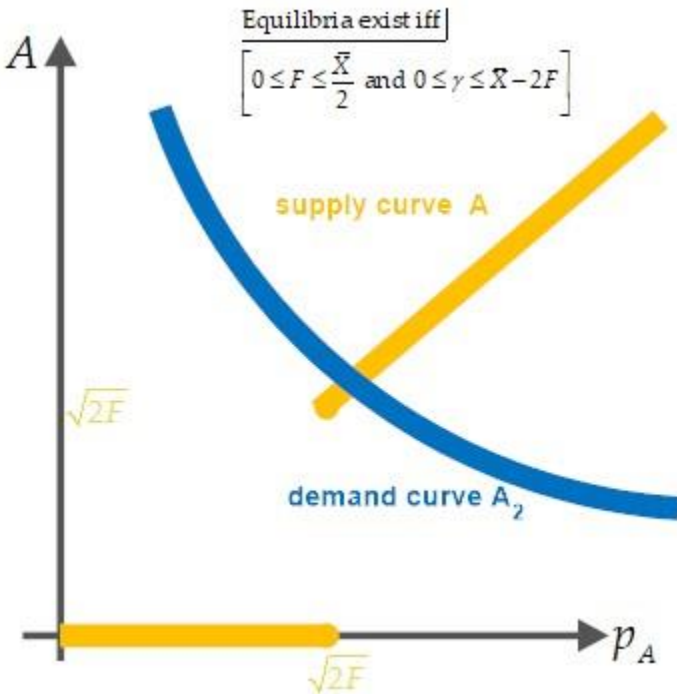
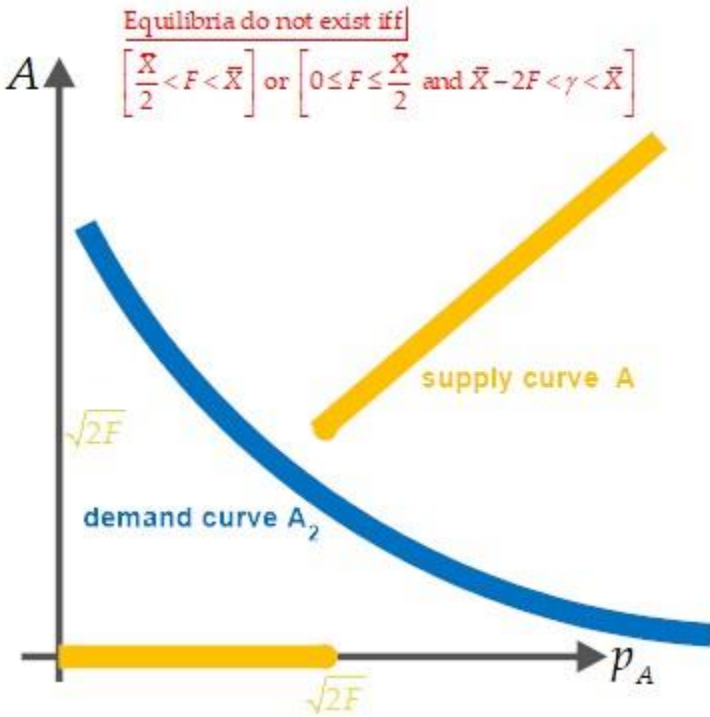
$$\boxed{0 \leq \gamma \leq \bar{X} - 2F, 0 \leq F \leq \frac{\bar{X}}{2}} \Rightarrow p_A = \sqrt{2} \sqrt{\frac{\bar{X} - \gamma - F(1 - \theta_{1,\alpha})}{1 + \theta_{1,\alpha}}}, p_B = 1, \Pi_\alpha = \frac{\bar{X} - \gamma - 2F}{1 + \theta_{1,\alpha}} \quad (53)$$

$$E(\gamma, \theta_1) = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}_+^6 : B_1 = B = X_\beta = \bar{X} - F - \frac{A^2}{2}, A_2 = A = p_A, X_\alpha = F + \frac{A^2}{2} \right\}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\bar{X}}{2} < F < \bar{X}, 0 \leq \gamma < \bar{X}} \text{ or } \boxed{0 \leq F \leq \frac{\bar{X}}{2} \text{ and } \bar{X} - 2F < \gamma < \bar{X}} \Rightarrow E(\gamma, \theta_1) = \emptyset$$



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Let  $E = \bigcup_{\gamma} \bigcup_{\theta_1} E(\gamma, \theta_1)$ . By (53),(42)  $E(\gamma, \theta_1) \subseteq P, \forall \gamma, \forall \theta_1$ , hence

$$\boxed{E \subseteq P}$$

(54)

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and therefore

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{l} \text{Decentralizable efficient allocations} \\ P \cap E = E \end{array}} \quad (55)$$

By (53)

$$\boxed{\frac{\bar{X}}{2} < F < \bar{X} \Rightarrow E \approx \{(0,0)\}} \quad (56)$$

$$0 \leq F \leq \frac{\bar{X}}{2} \Rightarrow$$

$$E = \bigcup_{0 \leq \gamma \leq \bar{X} - 2F} \bigcup_{\theta_1} \left\{ x \in R_+^6 : B_1 = B = X_\beta = \bar{X} - F - \frac{A^2}{2}, A_2 = A = \sqrt{2} \sqrt{\frac{\bar{X} - \gamma - F(1 - \theta_{1,\alpha})}{1 + \theta_{1,\alpha}}}, X_\alpha = F + \frac{A^2}{2} \right\} \quad (57)$$

By (57)  $\partial A / \partial \theta_{1,\alpha} < 0, \partial A / \partial \gamma < 0$ , hence the equilibrium values of  $A$  are

$\sqrt{2F} \leq A \leq \sqrt{2(\bar{X} - F)}$ . Finally, for  $y = (X_\alpha, A)$  we obtain

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{l} \text{equilibrium allocations } E \\ E \approx \begin{cases} PP_0 & \text{if } \frac{\bar{X}}{2} < F < \bar{X} \\ PP_0 \cup EE_+ & \text{if } 0 \leq F \leq \frac{\bar{X}}{2} \end{cases} \\ PP_0 = \{(0,0)\} \\ EE_+ = \{y \in R_+^2 : \sqrt{2F} \leq A \leq \sqrt{2(\bar{X} - F)}, X_\alpha = F + \frac{A^2}{2}\} \end{array}} \quad (58)$$

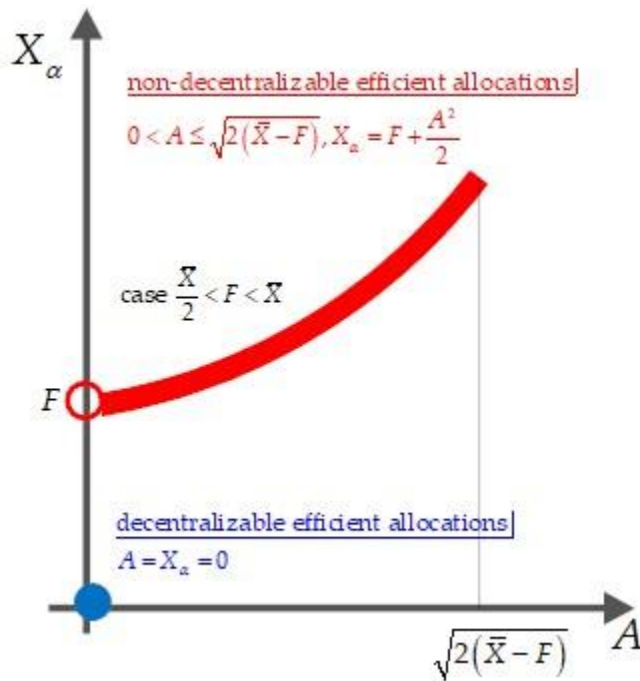
By (58),(43) we have, for  $y = (X_\alpha, A)$

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$$\boxed{\text{non-decentralizable efficient allocations}} \\
 P - E = \begin{cases} \{y \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 : 0 < A \leq \sqrt{2(\bar{X} - F)}, X_\alpha = F + \frac{A^2}{2}\} & \text{if } \frac{\bar{X}}{2} < F < \bar{X} \\ \{y \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 : 0 < A < \sqrt{2F}, X_\alpha = F + \frac{A^2}{2}\} & \text{if } 0 \leq F \leq \frac{\bar{X}}{2} \end{cases} \quad (59)$$

$P - E$  measures the extent of the tradeoff between equity and efficiency. Since  $P \subseteq E$  iff  $P - E = \emptyset$ , we obtain by (59) that the extent of the tradeoff increases in  $F$ , and that it disappears iff  $F = 0$

$$\boxed{P \subseteq E \text{ iff } P - E = \emptyset \text{ iff } F = 0} \quad (60)$$



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