

MATH227 MATHEMATICAL METHODS FOR NON-PHYSICAL SYSTEMS  
 JANUARY 2007

**1.**

$$U(x, y) = xy + 7x + 3y = U_0 \Rightarrow y = \frac{U_0 - 7x}{x + 3} = -7 + \frac{U_0 + 21}{x + 3}.$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{U_0 + 21}{(x + 3)^2} < 0,$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 2 \frac{U_0 + 21}{(x + 3)^3} > 0,$$

**2.** Budget constraint touches indifference curve where

$$\frac{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x}}{\frac{\partial U}{\partial y}} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\frac{3(x + 3)^2(y + 2)^5}{5(x + 3)^3(y + 2)^4} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$9(y + 2) = 10(x + 3) \Rightarrow 10x - 9y = -12.$$

Solving with  $2x + 3y = 36$ , we have  $x = 6, y = 8$ .

**3.**  $c(x, y)$  is minimised where

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\frac{\partial q}{\partial x}}{\frac{\partial q}{\partial y}} &= \frac{\frac{\partial c}{\partial x}}{\frac{\partial c}{\partial y}} \\ \frac{\partial q}{\partial x} &= \frac{(y + 4)(x + y + 9) - (x + 5)(y + 4)}{(x + y + 9)^2} \\ &= \frac{(y + 4)^2}{(x + y + 9)^2} \\ \frac{\partial q}{\partial y} &= \frac{(x + 5)^2}{(x + y + 9)^2} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{(y + 4)^2}{(x + 5)^2} &= \frac{16}{9} \Rightarrow \frac{y + 4}{x + 5} = \frac{4}{3}. \\ \Rightarrow 3 &= \frac{\frac{4}{3}}{1 + \frac{4}{3}}(x + 5) = \frac{4}{7}(x + 5) \\ \Rightarrow x &= \frac{1}{4}, \quad y = 3 \\ \Rightarrow c &= 16\frac{1}{4} + 9.3 + 4 = 35. \end{aligned}$$

Minimum cost for production level of 3 units is 35 units.

4.

$$C(q) = q^3 - 6q^2 + 14q + 10.$$

- (i) Fixed cost  $C(0) = 10.$       (ii)  $MC(q) = C'(q) = 3q^2 - 12q + 14.$   
 (iii)  $AVC(q) = \frac{C(q)-C(0)}{q} = q^2 - 6q + 14.$

Cease production when  $p = \min(AVC).$

$$AVC'(q) = 2q - 6 = 0 \quad \text{when} \quad q = 3 \Rightarrow p = AVC(3) = 5.$$

5.

$$S(p) = 4 \frac{5p+2}{5p+8} \Rightarrow \frac{dS}{dp} = 4 \frac{5(5p+8) - 5(5p+2)}{(5p+8)^2} = \frac{120}{(5p+8)^2} > 0.$$

For a tax-rate of  $t$ , equilibrium is where

$$\begin{aligned} S((1-t)p) &= D(p) \Rightarrow 4 \frac{\frac{4}{5}p + 2}{\frac{4}{5}p + 8} = \sqrt{21 - 3p} \\ &\Rightarrow 2 \frac{2p + 1}{p + 2} = \sqrt{21 - 3p}. \end{aligned}$$

$p = 4$  is a solution by inspection. Since  $S(p)$  is increasing,  $D(p)$  is decreasing, it is the only solution. Then amount sold in a week  $= D(4) = 3.$

6.

$$C(q) = q^3 - 8q^2 + 24q + 3, \quad D(p) = 48 - p = q \Rightarrow p = 48 - q.$$

Profit given by

$$\begin{aligned} P(q) &= pq - C(q) = (48 - q)q - (q^3 - 8q^2 + 24q + 3) = -q^3 + 7q^2 + 24q - 3 \\ &\Rightarrow P'(q) = -3q^2 + 14q + 24 = -(3q + 4)(q - 6) = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad q = -\frac{4}{3}, \quad 6. \end{aligned}$$

Take the +ve solution  $q = 6.$  Then  $p = 48 - q = 42.$

$$P''(q) = -6q + 14 < 0 \quad \text{for} \quad q = 6.$$

So we have a local maximum. Also

$$P(6) = -6^3 + 7.6^2 + 24.6 - 3 = 177 > P(0) = -3.$$

So  $q = 6$  is a global maximum.

**7.** Have

$$\begin{aligned}
 y &= p(1 - x) \Rightarrow px + y = p \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x}}{\frac{\partial U}{\partial y}} &= p \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{y+9}{x+2} &= p \Rightarrow p(x+2) = y+9 \\
 \Rightarrow x &= \frac{9}{2p} - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{9-p}{2p}. \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{dx}{dp} &= -\frac{9}{2p^2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

so  $x$  decreases with  $p$  for  $p < 9$ .

**8.**

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = -21n + 10n^2 - n^3 = -n(n-3)(n-7) = f(n).$$

Equilibrium densities  $n = 0, n = 3, n = 7$ .

$f'(0) < 0, f(n) \rightarrow -\infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . So graph looks like this:

Equilibria at  $n = 0, n = 7$  stable; equilibrium at  $n = 3$  unstable.

**9.**

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x(4 - 2x + 3y), \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = y(3 + x - 4y),$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 4 - 2x + 3y &= 3 + x - 4y = 0 \Rightarrow x = 5, \quad y = 2, \\
 \text{or } y &= 4 - 2x + 3y = 0 \Rightarrow x = 2, \\
 \text{or } x &= 3 + x - 4y = 0 \Rightarrow y = \frac{3}{4}, \\
 \text{or } x &= y = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

So the equilibria are  $(5, 2), (2, 0), (0, \frac{3}{4}), (0, 0)$ .

**10.**

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^e + c_1 \mathbf{x}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + c_2 \mathbf{x}_2 e^{\lambda_2 t},$$

where  $\lambda_{1,2}$  are the e-values,  $\mathbf{x}_{1,2}$  are the e-vectors. If  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are complex, then we have an spiral point; stable if the real parts of the e-values are -ve, unstable if they are +ve.

**11.** Budget constraint touches indifference curve where

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x}}{\frac{\partial U}{\partial y}} &= \frac{p}{q} \\ \frac{\frac{1}{3}(x+9)^{-\frac{2}{3}}(y+5)^{\frac{2}{3}}}{\frac{2}{3}(x+9)^{\frac{1}{3}}(y+5)^{-\frac{2}{3}}} &= \frac{p}{q} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \frac{y+5}{x+9} = \frac{p}{q} \\ \Rightarrow 2p(x+9) &= q(y+5) \end{aligned}$$

Adding to budget constraint  $px + qy = 15$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} 3px = 5q + 15 - 18p \Rightarrow x &= \frac{15 + 5q - 18p}{3p} = \frac{15 + 5q}{3p} - 6 \\ \Rightarrow y &= \frac{30 + 18p - 5q}{3q} = \frac{10 + 6p}{q} - \frac{5}{3}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_x &= p \frac{3p}{15 - 18p + 5q} \left( -\frac{15 + 5q}{3p^2} \right) = \frac{15 + 5q}{18p - 5q - 15} \\ \Rightarrow \epsilon_x + 1 &= \frac{18p}{18p - 15 - 5q} < 0 \quad \text{if} \quad 18p - 5q < 15. \end{aligned}$$

12.

$$C(q) = q^3 - 2q^2 + 5q + 36 \Rightarrow AVC(q) = q^2 - 2q + 5.$$

$$AVC'(q) = 2q - 2 = 0 \quad \text{when } q = 1 \Rightarrow \min(AVC) = 4.$$

So cease production when  $p = \min(AVC) = 4$ . For  $p \geq 4$ ,

$$p = C'(q) = 3q^2 - 4q + 5 \Rightarrow 3q^2 - 4q + 5 - p = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow q = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 12(5-p)}}{6} = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{3p-11}}{3}.$$

Take +ve sign for maximum profit. So

$$S(p) = \begin{cases} \frac{2+\sqrt{3p-11}}{3} & \text{if } p \geq 4 \\ 0 & \text{if } p < 4. \end{cases}$$

Equilibrium is when  $NS(p) = D(p)$  ( $N$  firms) so

$$\frac{2 + \sqrt{3p-11}}{3} = 11 - p.$$

$p = 9$  is a solution by inspection, and since  $D(p)$  is decreasing and  $S(p)$  is increasing, it is unique.

$$p = 9 \Rightarrow q = \frac{1}{N}D(p) = 2 \Rightarrow P(q) = pq - C(q)$$

$$= 18 - (8 - 8 + 10 + 36) = -28.$$

So each firm makes a loss of 28 units.

Production not viable in the long-run for  $p < \min(ATC)$ .

$$ATC = q^2 - 2q + 5 + \frac{36}{q} \Rightarrow ATC'(q) = 2q - 2 - \frac{36}{q^2}$$

$$= 0 \quad \text{when } q = 3,$$

by inspection. It is a minimum, since

$$ATC''(q) = 2 + \frac{72}{q^3} > 0.$$

$$\min(ATC) = 9 - 6 + 5 + 12 = 20.$$

So minimum price in the long-run is 20 units.

**13.**

$$\begin{aligned}C_1(q_1) &= 7 + 6q_1 + q_1^2, \\C_2(q_2) &= 5 + 9q_2 + q_2^2,\end{aligned}$$

Profits:

$$\begin{aligned}P_1(q_1, q_2) &= pq_1 - (7 + 6q_1 + q_1^2) = [15 - (q_1 + q_2)]q_1 - (7 + 6q_1 + q_1^2) \\&= -2q_1^2 - q_1q_2 + 9q_1 - 7, \\P_2(q_1, q_2) &= pq_2 - (5 + 9q_2 + q_2^2) = [15 - (q_1 + q_2)]q_2 - (5 + 9q_2 + q_2^2) \\&= -q_1q_2 - 2q_2^2 + 6q_2 - 5.\end{aligned}$$

Cournot duopoly  $\Rightarrow$  maximise  $P_1, P_2$  wrt  $q_1, q_2$  respectively. So

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial P_1}{\partial q_1} &= -4q_1 - q_2 + 9 = 0, \\ \frac{\partial P_2}{\partial q_2} &= -q_1 - 4q_2 + 6 = 0,\end{aligned}$$

Then  $q_1 = 2, q_2 = 1$ . So  $p = 15 - 2 - 1 = 12$  and  $P_1(2, 1) = 1, P_2(2, 1) = -3$ .

If co-operate, maximise

$$\begin{aligned}P(q_1, q_2) &= P_1(q_1, q_2) + P_2(q_1, q_2) \\&= -2q_1^2 - 2q_1q_2 + 9q_1 - 2q_2^2 + 6q_2 - 12 \\ \frac{\partial P}{\partial q_1} &= -4q_1 - 2q_2 + 9 = 0, \\ \frac{\partial P}{\partial q_2} &= -2q_1 - 4q_2 + 6 = 0,\end{aligned}$$

giving  $q_1 = 2, q_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ . Then  $P_1(2, \frac{1}{2}) = 2, P_2(3, 1) = -\frac{7}{2}$ .

**14.** Have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{N_0}^{N_1^{(j)}} \frac{dn_1}{n_1 - N} = \int_0^{jT} \frac{dt}{T} \\
 \Rightarrow & [\ln(n_1 - N)]_{N_0}^{N_1^{(j)}} = j \\
 \Rightarrow & \frac{N_1^{(j)} - N}{N_0 - N} = e^j \\
 \Rightarrow & N_1^{(j)} = N + (N_0 - N)e^j
 \end{aligned}$$

For the second population, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{N_2^{(j-1)}}^{2N_2^{(j)}} \frac{dn_2}{n_2} = \int_{(j-1)T}^{jT} \frac{dt}{T} \\
 \Rightarrow & [\ln n_2]_{N_2^{(j-1)}}^{2N_2^{(j)}} = 1 \\
 \Rightarrow & N_2^{(j)} = \frac{e}{2} N_2^{(j-1)} \\
 \Rightarrow & N_2^{(j)} = \left(\frac{e}{2}\right)^j N_0
 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $N_0 > N$  and  $e > 2$  it is clear that both populations increase indefinitely. But if the second harvesting strategy is changed so that the population density is reduced by  $\frac{2}{3}$  at each step, then

$$N_2^{(j)} = \left(\frac{e}{3}\right)^j N_0$$

and the population dies away since  $e < 3$ .

**15.**

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x(7 - 2x) - 3xy, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = y(10 - 2y) - 4xy,$$

Terms (1), (3) are logistic growth functions, implying each population could survive on its own in a limited resource environment.

Terms (2), (4) with negative signs imply the two species are competing.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Either } 7 - 2x - 3y &= 10 - 4x - 2y = 0 \Rightarrow x = 2, \quad y = 1 \\ \text{or } x &= 10 - 4x - 2y = 0 \Rightarrow y = 5, \\ \text{or } y &= 7 - 2x - 3y = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{7}{2}, \\ \text{or } x &= y = 0. \end{aligned}$$

So the equilibria are  $(0, 0)$ ,  $(0, 5)$ ,  $(\frac{7}{2}, 0)$ ,  $(2, 1)$ .

Community matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} (7 - 2x - 3y) - 2x & -3x \\ -4y & (10 - 4x - 2y) - 2y \end{pmatrix}.$$

For  $(0, 0)$ ,  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 0 \\ 0 & 10 \end{pmatrix}$ . E-values 7, 10 both positive  $\Rightarrow$  improper node, unstable.

For  $(0, 5)$ ,  $A = \begin{pmatrix} -8 & 0 \\ -20 & -10 \end{pmatrix}$ . E-values  $-8, -10$  both negative  $\Rightarrow$  improper node, stable.

For  $(\frac{7}{2}, 0)$ ,  $A = \begin{pmatrix} -7 & -\frac{21}{2} \\ 0 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$ . E-values  $-7, -4$  both negative  $\Rightarrow$  improper node, stable.

$$\text{For } (2, 1), A = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & -6 \\ -4 & -2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Linearised equations

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\epsilon_x}{dt} &= -4\epsilon_x - 6\epsilon_y \\ \frac{d\epsilon_y}{dt} &= -4\epsilon_x - 2\epsilon_y. \\ -4\epsilon_x - 6\epsilon_y &= -4\delta[3e^{-8t} - 2e^{2t}] - 12\delta[e^{-8t} + e^{2t}] \\ &= \delta[-24e^{-8t} - 4e^{2t}] = \frac{d\epsilon_x}{dt} \\ -4\epsilon_x - 2\epsilon_y &= -4\delta[3e^{-8t} - 2e^{2t}] - 4\delta[e^{-8t} + e^{2t}] \\ &= \delta[-16e^{-8t} + 4e^{2t}] = \frac{d\epsilon_x}{dt} \end{aligned}$$

Also  $\epsilon_x(0) = \delta$ ,  $\epsilon_y(0) = 4\delta$ .