Ag Bus 313
Midterm 1
2/14/18
Section 1
Dr. Hurley

General Instructions: This exam is worth **200 points**. You must provide your own paper. You are allowed one 3x5 note card written on one side for the exam. This note card can have anything on it but if it is larger than 3x5 you will get a zero on the exam. You are allowed to use a calculator. You must show all your work when appropriate to get credit. <u>This includes showing all applicable formulas you use</u>. No cell phones, music players (ipods), or tablets are allowed to be in your possession during the exam. If you are caught with any of these devices, you will receive a zero on the exam.

1. If your average physical product (APP) is equal to 50 using 2 inputs, what do you expect to happen to your current APP when your marginal physical product (MPP) is -13 when you move to 7 inputs? What is your new APP given this new MPP? Please show how you found your answer. **(15 points)**

2. Please explain how you decide what level of inputs you use to produce an output. Show this on a graph. **(5 points)**

3. Suppose your goal this year is to produce 784 bushels of organic corn. Suppose your production technology has the following relationship for producing bushels of corn Q = f(L,T) = LT where Q is the number of bushels of corn you produce, L is the number of labor hours you utilize, and T is the number of tractor hours you utilize. You know that the cost per hour of labor is $32 and the cost per hour of tractor time is $128. Assume that you are a cost minimizing producer.

   a) Suppose after reviewing your business plan, your banker tells you she is only willing to give you $1,792. What is the maximum amount you can produce? (Note: when given a particular expenditure E and you are trying to maximize output, the optimal amount of input formulas are $L = \frac{E}{2p_L}$ and $T = \frac{E}{2p_T}$, where p_L is the cost of labor and p_T is the cost of tractor time.) **(5 points)**

   b) Please sketch a graph of this solution. Include the isoquant and iso-cost line. **(10 points)**

4. Solve x_2 as a function of x_1: **(5 Points)**

   a) $x_2^{3/5} = 225x_1^6x_2^{-7/5}$

5. Solve the following for Y_2 as a function of Y_1: **(5 Points)**

   a) $\frac{Y_1^{10}}{2} + \frac{Y_2^5}{64} = 1{,}600{,}000$

6. Using the three equations, get Y_2 as a function of Y_1 (Please do not represent your answer in decimals.): **(10 Points)**

   a) $Y_1 = 2x_1^{1/3}$
   $Y_2 = 6x_2^{1/3}$
   $x_1 + x_2 = 6{,}000$

7. Solve for Y_1: **(10 Points)**

   a) $\frac{4Y_1^{\frac{1}{3}}}{(6750-21Y_1^2)^{\frac{1}{6}}} = \frac{8}{6}$

8. Find the intersection point(s) of the two functions: **(5 Points)**

   a) $y = f(x) = 4x^2$ and $y = g(x) = -8x + 192$

9. Using limits, find the general slope of the following: **(10 Points)**

   a) $y = f(x_1, x_2) = 16x_1^{1/4} + 45x_1^3x_2 + 88x_2 + 45{,}388$ (For this problem, you need to apply the limit formula for **$\underline{x_2}$**) [1]

10. Please find the derivative of the following functions: **(6 Points)**

    a) $y = f(x) = 10x^4 + 16x^{1/8} + 9x^{-2/3} - 403{,}218{,}623$

    b) $y = f(x) = (125x^3 + 75x^{1/3} - 75{,}523)^{-1/5}$ (Use either Generalized Power Rule or the Chain Rule)

11. Find the first order and second order (this includes the cross partial derivatives) partial derivatives of the following functions with respect to **$\underline{x_1}$**: **(9 Points)**[2]

    a) $y = f(x_1, x_2) = 16x_1^{1/4} + 45x_1^3x_2 + 88x_2 + 45{,}388$

12. Use the first order conditions to find the critical points of the function. Use the second order conditions to show whether the critical points are maximum, minimum, or saddle points (point of inflection). **(20 Points)**

    a) $y = f(x) = -(x^3 - 125)^2$

---

[1] You are being asked to find: $\frac{\partial y}{\partial x_2}$.

[2] You are being asked to find: $\frac{\partial y}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_1^2}, and\ \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2}$.

13. Minimize $f(x_1,x_2) = 24x_1 + 1875x_2$ subject to the constraint $20 = g(x_1,x_2) = x_1^{1/4}x_2^{1/2}$. Solve this problem using the Lagrange Method or by changing it into an unconstrained minimization problem. **(20 Points)**

14. Answer the following questions based on the following production function: $y = f(x) = -6x^3+1080x^2$. Please show how you found your answer.

    a) What is the marginal physical product (MPP) function for this production function? **(5 Points)**

    b) In terms of inputs, show where the MPP function is at a maximum. Demonstrate that MPP is at a maximum by using derivatives. **(5 Points)**

15. Answer the following questions based on the following production function: $y = f(x_1,x_2) = -4x_1^2 + 40x_1 - x_2^2 + 10x_2$. Please show how you found your answer.

    a) What is the marginal physical product (MPP_{x1}) function for this production function with respect to input 1? What is the marginal physical product (MPP_{x2}) function for this production function with respect to input 2? **(5 Points)**

    b) What is the extrema point to this production function? **(5 Points)**

    c) What is the maximum you can achieve for output? **(5 Points)**

    d) Find the isoquant for any given output level? (Note: make sure you find the one that makes economic sense.) **(5 Points)**

    e) If output is equal to 120 and input 1 is equal to 4, how much input 2 do you need? **(5 Points)**

16. Answer the following questions based on the following production function: $y = f(x_1,x_2) = 120x_1^{1/3}x_2^{1/2}$. Please show how you found your answer.

    a) Find the isoquant for any given output level. **(5 Points)**

    b) If output is equal to 4,320 and input 1 is equal to 8, how much input 2 do you need? **(5 Points)**

    c) Calculate the marginal rate of technical substitution (MRTS) in terms of inputs by taking the derivative of the isoquant you found in part a. **(10 Points)**

    d) Given the information in parts b and c, what is the MRTS? Please explain what this means in an economic sense? **(10 Points)**

Last revised: 2/9/18