

Problem 1: There are two games (lotteries) available:

L_1 : With probability 40% you win 110\$ and with probability 60% you win 115\$

L_2 : With probability 40% you win 50\$ and with probability 60% you win 160\$

What is the expected value of these two lotteries?

Problem 2: A consumer has the following utility function $u(c) = \sqrt{c}$. Calculate the expected utility of the lotteries from problem 1. Which one will the consumer choose? If his default lottery is L_2 how much would he be willing to pay to be able to switch to L_1 ?

Problem 3: Pat's utility function is $U(c) = \sqrt{c}$, where c is monetary value of his property. Pat owns only a computer, which is worth 1000\$. There is a 20% probability, that it will be stolen and 80%, that it will not.

- (a) calculate the expected value of having a computer
- (b) calculate the expected utility of this consumer (without insurance)

Suppose now, that Pat can purchase insurance, that will cover the full value of computer in case of theft.

- (c) calculate the maximum insurance he is willing to pay. Explain!
- (d) depict this on a graph: depict expected utility function and relevant maximum insurance he is willing to pay
- (e) what is Pat's attitude towards risk - is he risk averse, risk neutral or risk loving?

Problem 4: Do the previous problem for Mat with utility function $U(x) = x^2$. Explain any difference between your answers (if any).

Problem 5: Jane has utility function over her net income $U(I) = \sqrt{I}$

- (a) What are Jane's preferences towards risk? Is she risk averse, risk neutral or risk loving? [Briefly explain your answer]

- (b) Jane drives to work every day and she spends a lot of money on parking meters. Often the thought of cheating and not paying for parking crosses her mind. However, she knows that there is a $1/4$ probability of being caught on a given day if she cheats, and that the cost of the ticket is \$36. Her daily income is \$100. What is the maximum amount of she will be willing to pay for one day parking?
- (c) Paul also faces the same dilemma every single day. But he has a utility function $U(I) = I$. His daily income is also \$100. What are Pauls preferences towards risk? Is he risk averse, risk neutral or risk loving?
- (d) If the price of one day parking is \$9.25, will Paul cheat or pay the parking meter? Will Jane cheat or pay the parking meter?