

TD – Wednesday, October 24, 2018

Producer Theory

The following exercises must be submitted on Wednesday, October 24. A particular attention will be given to your presentation.

Exercise 1. $L = 3$ is the number of commodities. The firm produces commodity 3 using commodities 1 and 2 as inputs. The cost function is given by

$$C(p^1, p^2, \bar{y}^3) = 2 (\bar{y}^3)^2 (p^1)^{\frac{2}{3}} (p^2)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

- Show that the cost function is homogeneous of degree one in (p^1, p^2) .
- Verify that this cost function is a convex function of the output level.
- Compute the supply and the profit function of the firm.

Exercise 2. Let L be the number of commodities. A firm produces commodity L using the other $L - 1$ commodities as inputs. $z := (z_1, \dots, z_L, \dots, z_{L-1}) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{L-1}$ denotes a generic bundle of inputs. Show that if the production function $f : \mathbb{R}_+^{L-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ is concave, then the cost function C is a convex function of the output level.