

Problem 1: Preferences over lotteries

a) [8 Points]

$$P = (1, 200)$$

$$Q = (0.5, 0.3, 0.1, 0.1; 0, 200, 400, 1000)$$

$$\rightarrow E(P) = 200$$

$$\rightarrow E(Q) = 200$$

\rightarrow But $P \succ^{SD} Q$



A = B, but due to risk aversion, A carries more weight than B.

b) + c) [8 Points]

4 + 8

$$P = (1, 200)$$

$$Q' = (0.5, 0.3, 0.1, 0.1; 0, 200, 450, 1000)$$

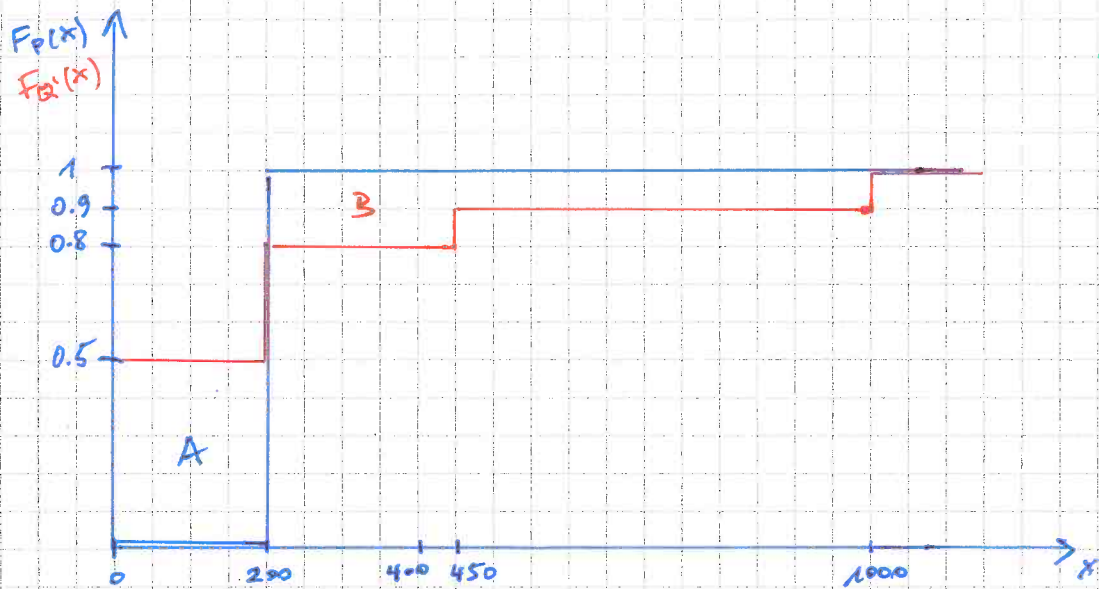
$$\rightarrow E(P) = 200$$

$$\rightarrow E(Q') = 205$$

\rightarrow So Q' has higher expected payout but carries more risk

\rightarrow SD no longer works to sort P and Q'

b) 4P



A < B ⇒ No SSD!

• However, we know the following!

① $G = (0.5, 0.5; 450, 1000)$ with $E u(G) = u(650)$

② $Q' \sim Q'' = (0.5, 0.3, 0.2; 0, 200, G)$

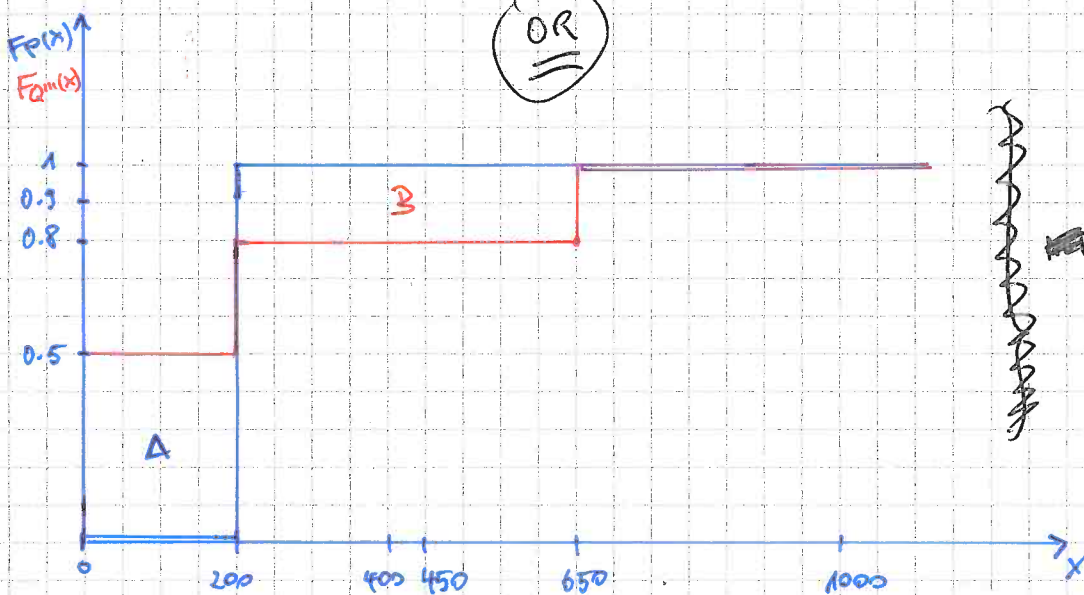
⇒ Combine ① and ②:

$Q' \sim Q'' \sim Q''' = (0.5, 0.3, 0.2; 0, 200, 650)$

• $E(Q''') = 190 < E(P) = 200$

↳ SSD works again: $P \succ_{SSD} Q''' \sim Q' \Rightarrow P \succ_{SSD} Q'$

c) BP



A > B ⇒ SSD ✓

Problem 2: Flexibility option and signal system

a) ~~10~~ points] **8P**

→ Payoff matrix

	z_1	z_2
a_1	1,000	10,000
a_2	7,000	7,000

→ $P(s_i \cap z_j)$

	s_1	s_2	
z_1	0.2	0.1	$P(z_1) = 0.3$
z_2	0.2	0.5	$P(z_2) = 0.7$
	$P(s_1) = 0.4$	$P(s_2) = 0.6$	

→ $P(s_i | z_j)$

	s_1	s_2	
z_1	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\Sigma = 1$
z_2	$\frac{2}{7}$	$\frac{5}{7}$	$\Sigma = 1$

Not necessary to show

→ $P(z_j | s_i)$ = $\frac{P(s_i \cap z_j)}{P(s_i)}$

	s_1	s_2
z_1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{6}$
z_2	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{5}{6}$
	$\Sigma = 1$	$\Sigma = 1$

8P

a) ~~10~~ points] **8P**

$E[X | a_1] = 0.3 \cdot 1,000 + 0.7 \cdot 10,000 = 7,300 \text{ €}$

$E[X | a_2] = 7,000 \text{ €}$

↳ Choose a_1 : Make A favorite

c)

100 points

• Cost of signal: 500 €• If s_1 : bad performance on day 3

$$E[X | a_1 \wedge s_1] = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 1,000 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 10,000 = 5,500 \text{ €}$$

$$E[X | a_2 \wedge s_1] = 7,000 \text{ €}$$

↳ Choose a_2 : Make B favorite (Strategy change!)

• If s_2 : good performance on day 3

$$E[X | a_1 \wedge s_2] = \frac{1}{6} \cdot 1,000 + \frac{5}{6} \cdot 10,000 = 8,500 \text{ €}$$

$$E[X | a_2 \wedge s_2] = 7,000 \text{ €}$$

↳ Choose a_1 : Make A favorite

• Value of waiting:

$$E[X | \text{Waiting}] - E[X | \text{Not Waiting}] \Leftrightarrow \text{OR in here w/ negative sign!}$$

$$[0.4 \cdot 7,000 + 0.6 \cdot 8,500] - 7,300 = 600 \neq 7,500 \text{ €}$$

↓
R(s_1)

↓
Make B favorite

↓
R(s_2)

↓
Make A favorite

↑
Sec b)

↓
Make A favorite

↳ Team manager will wait!

• The maximum cost of waiting that still makes the manager wait is 600.

Alternative:

$$V = 0.4 \left[\underbrace{\left[\frac{1}{2} \cdot 7,000 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 7,000 \right]}_{= 7,000} - \left(\frac{1}{2} \cdot 1,000 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 10,000 \right) \right] + 0.6 \left[\underbrace{\left[\frac{1}{6} \cdot 1,000 + \frac{5}{6} \cdot 10,000 \right]}_{= 8,500} - \left(\frac{1}{6} \cdot 1,000 + \frac{5}{6} \cdot 10,000 \right) \right] - \left(\frac{1}{6} \cdot 1,000 + \frac{5}{6} \cdot 10,000 \right) = 0$$

$$= 0.4 (7,000 - 5,500) = 600$$

5

d)

80 points

• Compare Payouts with and without waiting

→ Payout if waiting

$$E[X | \text{Waiting}] = 0.4 \cdot 7,000 + 0.6 \cdot 8,500 - 500 = \underline{\underline{7,400 \text{ €}}}$$

→ Payout if no waiting and 450 if a_2

$$E[X | a_1] = \underline{\underline{7,300 \text{ €}}} \text{ (See b.)}$$

$$E[X | a_2] = 7,000 + 450 = \underline{\underline{7,450 \text{ €}}} \leftarrow \text{Don't wait and make B favorite}$$

e) [6 points]

• Mistake in Problem description!

• It should have said: How does your answer in d) change...

• Since this was my mistake, every student gets full marks for e): 6/6!

• Here is the correct solution, though:

→ Solution in d) was to choose the safe option of selecting B (No risk)

→ If team manager now becomes risk-averse, he/she will be even more inclined to avoid risk than before. So the team-manager's decision will NOT change, compared to d).