

# Microeconomic Analyses of Old Indian Texts

## Summer 2015

You have to accomplish this test within **60 minutes**.

**PRÜFUNGS-NR.:**

STUDIENGANG:

NAME, VORNAME:

UNTERSCHRIFT DES STUDENTEN:

**ANFORDERUNGEN/REQUIREMENTS:**

**Lösen Sie die folgenden Aufgaben!/Solve all the exercises!**  
**Schreiben Sie, bitte, leserlich!/Write legibly, please!**  
**Sie können auf Deutsch schreiben!/You can write in English!**  
**Begründen Sie Ihre Antworten!/Give reasons for your answers!**

1	2	3	4	5	6	$\Sigma$

**Problem 1 (10 points)**

Comment on this matrix:

		state of the world	
		good luck	bad luck
Arjuna	fighting	prevail and enjoy the earth	be killed and attain heaven
	not fighting	shameful loss of reputation	shameful loss of reputation

**Problem 2 (10 points)**

A *Cārvāka* king challenges the future Buddha:

“If the next world is not a bogey man for children,  
and if you think I should believe in it,  
then give me five hundred nishkas  
and I’ll return you a thousand in another life!”

Let  $p_{asti}$  be the probability that the next world exists.

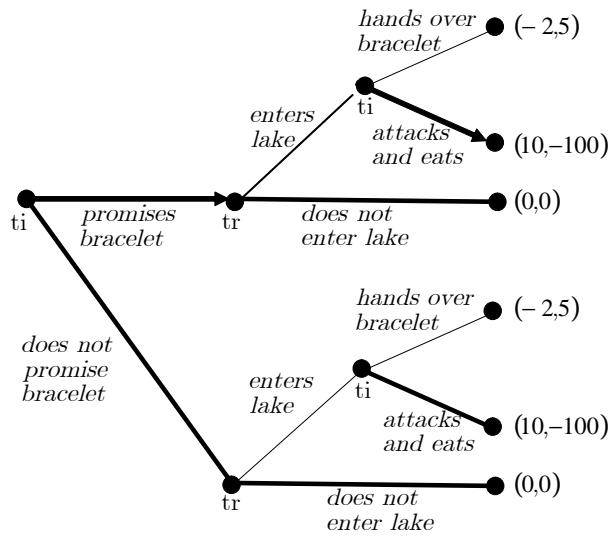
a) Describe the lottery  $L_{loan}$  offered to the Buddha!

b) Determine the lottery’s expected value!

c) If the Buddha tried to maximize his expected value, would he accept the lottery?

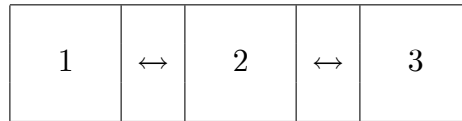
### Problem 3 (5 points)

Comment on the following game:



**Problem 4 (15 points)**

Consider the neighbourhood structure  $\{1 \leftrightarrow 2, 2 \leftrightarrow 3\}$  that is also depicted below:



- a) Find all the possible fighting structures!
- b) Is country 1 a friend of country 3 against 2 at  $\{2 \leftrightarrow 3\}$ ?
- c) Are the following strategy combinations equilibria?
- each country attacks every other country with a common border
  - country 1 attacks country 2, countries 2 and 3 do not attack
  - countries 1 and 3 attack country 2, country 2 does not attack

**Problem 5 (10 points)**

In the model of Kautilya's market tax, we have a trader who

1. incurs production cost  $C$  for one unit of a good,
2. pays the cost of market entry  $F$
3. declares the value  $V$  of the good to the market authorities and
4. auctions off the good for the highest bid  $p$  where  $p$ 's density function is given by  $f$  (which is constant at  $\frac{1}{m-n}$  between  $n$  and  $m$ ).

Two questions:

- What is the market tax  $T$ ?
- Explain the profit function

$$\Pi = -F + \delta\Pi \int_n^V f(p) dp + \int_V^m (p - C - T) f(p) dp$$

**Problem 6 (10 points)**

From the ordeal model, explain the equation

$$\sigma = \gamma [(1 - \rho) \alpha] + (1 - \gamma) [\rho + (1 - \rho) \alpha]$$

with these parameters:

- $\sigma$  is the probands' historical success rate.
- $\gamma$  is the percentage of guilty ordeal takers.