TIE4203 Decision Analysis in Industrial & Operations Management Solutions to Tutorial #2

Question 1 (P3.1)



- (*a*) I would choose Deal A c/o *Choice Rule*.
- (b) The outcomes are bad, but we have made a good decision c/o good decision vs. good outcomes.
- (c) Assuming the next roll and flip are independent of the previous rolls and flips, I would still choose Deal A.

Question 2 (P3.2)

• Using the substitution rule to replace the \$50 and \$35 outcomes with their respective equivalent deals:



• This can be simplified (decomposition rule) to



• Hence Certainty Equivalent =\$35.



- Answer: Since all John cares about is getting a ticket or not, and he prefers getting a ticket to not getting, he should choose Deal *Y* which has the highest probability of getting the preferred outcome. This is direct application of the Choice Rule.
- Alternatively, using Chapter 4 method: let *u*(Ticket=yes) = 1 and *u*(Ticket=no) = 0, and compute the expected utilities of Deals *X*, *Y* and *Z*.
- Note that maximizing the expected dollar value would be wrong because John is only concerned with getting or not getting a ticket.

Question 4 (P3.4)

(*a*) By continuity rule:

Harmonica \prec Book \prec Guitar Harmonica \prec Sweater \prec Guitar Harmonica \prec Ball \prec Guitar

By choice rule: Sweater \prec Book \prec Ball.

Hence preference ordering: Harmonica \prec Sweater \prec Book \prec Ball \prec Guitar.

(b) Using substitution and decomposition rules:



• Preference probability of deal w.r.t. G-H deal = 0.5485

- (c)
- The Book deal is:



• Applying the substitution and decomposition rules to the given Deal:



• By the Choice rule, Chris prefers Book to the given Deal since 0.7 > 0.679.

(*d*)

- No, we can't infer anything about Chris's preference for four sweaters vs. one book.
- This is because we do not enough information about Chris's preference for four sweaters as a bundle. It would be wrong to assume that the preference probability for four sweaters (w.r.t. G-H Deal) is four times that of the preference probability for one sweater (w.r.t. G-H Deal).

Question 5 (P4.2)

Value ($\$x$)	u(x)
0	0.00
10	0.17
20	0.32
40	0.57
50	0.67
80	0.89
90	0.95
100	1.00

• If we let u(\$100) = 1, and u(\$0) = 0, then the preference probabilities are the same as the utilities.

• Rolling back the decision tree and computing the expected utilities:



- The optimal decision is to take the first alternative which has the maximum expected utility of 0.817.
- The certainty equivalent is obtained by converting the expected utility back to its equivalent dollar value.
- Hence Kim's CE for the opportunity = $u^{-1}(0.817) \approx \$70$ by interpolation on the table.

Question 7 (P4.3)

- If we let u(\$100) = 1, and u(\$0) = 0, then the preference probabilities are the same as the utilities.
- We want to find the value of probability *q* such that Connie's personal indifferent selling price or certainty equivalent for the deal is equal to \$40.

