

## Problem set 5

1. Solve the following problem

$$\max x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad x + y + z = 10$$

Say if the stationary point(s) is (are) global max/min

2. A consumer is characterized by an utility function  $U(x, y) = x + \ln y$ . He faces prices  $p_x = 1$  and  $p_y > 1$ . Moreover he faces a budget constraints of  $B > 0$ . Note the function is defined for all  $x \geq 0$  and  $y > 0$ .
- Find the values of  $x$  and  $y$  that maximize the consumer's utility
  - Compute the value of relaxing constrain  $B$
  - Compute the effect on the consumer of an increases of  $p_y$

3. Consider the following problem

$$\max_{\{K,L\}} aK + \ln L$$

$$\text{subject to } K + bL = M$$

$$\text{where } a > 0, b > 0, M > 0$$

- Write the Lagrangian
  - Write the first order conditions
  - Find the quantities of  $K$  and  $L$  that satisfy the first order conditions
  - Write the bordered Hessian matrix
  - Prove that this result is a local maximum (second order condition)
  - Prove that this result is a global maximum
  - Find the marginal effect of a change of parameter  $b$  on the maximized value
  - Find the marginal effect of a change of parameter  $a$  on the maximized value
  - Find the marginal effect of a change of parameter  $M$  on the maximized value
4. Define the function  $f$  by  $f(x, r) = x^{1/2} - rx$ , where  $x \geq 0$ . On a graph with  $r$  on the horizontal axis, sketch the function for several values of  $x$  (for example  $x=0.5$ ,  $x=1$ ,  $x=2$ ). Sketch, in addition, the value function  $f^*$ , where  $f^*(r)$  is the maximal value of  $f(x, r)$  for each given value of  $r$ .