

Examination: Energy Economics (Master Renewable Energy)

Examiner: Schäfer

February 24, 2023

WS 2022/23

student No.:

full name:

signature:

With my signature I confirm that

- I completed the exam on my own and only with the help of the admitted tools listed below,
- I feel healthy and able to take the exam,
- I am aware that the exam is considered to have been taken and will be evaluated once the examination assignments have been received.

- The examination assignments consist of three pages and have to be returned together with the solution!
- Dictionaries and non-programmable calculators are admitted tools.
- The maximum points achievable are 90.
- The examination time amounts to 90 minutes.
- Please write down all steps of calculation! Pure numbers without transparent calculation yield 0 points!

1. Optimal consumption decision and demand

Kristina likes to attend theatre performances and football games. Her annual budget for theatre performances and football games exactly equals 72 €. The price for one theatre performance p_T is 8 €. The local football club only asks for $p_F=2$ € per game. Kristina's preferences can be described by the following utility function

$$u(x_T, x_F) = x_T^{\frac{2}{3}} \cdot x_F^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

- Derive Kristina's budget constraint, illustrate it in an appropriate and labeled coordinate system and specify the axis intercepts. (5 points)
- Calculate the marginal utility MU_T and MU_F and the marginal rate of substitution MRS . (5 points)
- Calculate the optimal consumption bundle x_T^*, x_F^* and illustrate it together with an indifference curve in your illustration from subtask a). (10 points)
- Calculate Kristina's demand curve for football games. (10 points)

hint: The demand curve describes the relation between quantity and price of a good. Thus, we search for a relation between x_F and p_F . Moreover, the demand curve considers the optimal consumption decision.

Please turn the page

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Continuation of the examination questions

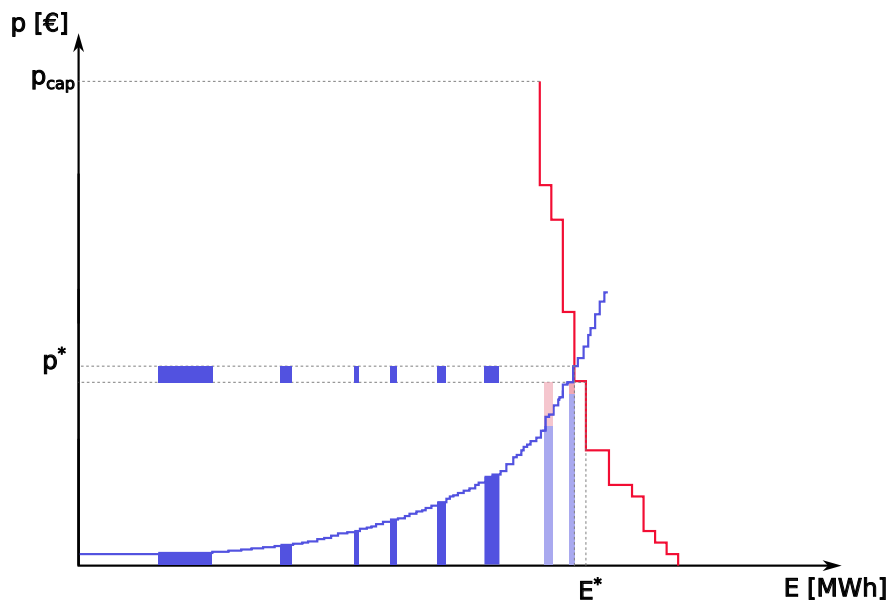
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2. Gas price cap and elasticity

- Show that the equation $y = A \cdot p^{-\epsilon}$ describes a constant price elasticity of demand. *(5 points)*
- Assume that demand for natural gas is 950 TWh at a price of 50 €/MWh while it is 750 TWh at a price of 300 €/MWh. Calculate the price elasticity of demand assuming that it is constant. *(7 points)*
- Interpret the value you calculated in subtask b). Does it seem appropriate to you in the context of gas demand? Give a short explanation also considering different time horizons. *(8 points)*

hint: If you could not solve subtask b), assume $\epsilon=0.2$.

3. Pricing at the spot market for electricity



Use the the illustration above to explain

- how pricing takes place at the spot market for electricity, *(10 points)*
- what are multi unit bidders, how they can try to increase profits by withholding generation capacity and how the regulator can react. *(10 points)*

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4. Capacity markets and renewable energy sources

Assume the following situation for an existing representative base-load and an existing representative peak-load power plant in year t :

capital costs peak-load	$k_{t,peak}$	24,375 €/MW
failure rate peak-load	$X_{PER,t,peak}^e$	0.025
capital costs base-load	$k_{t,base}$	72,500 €/MW
failure rate base-load	$X_{IR,t,base}^e$	0.035
	$X_{PER,t,base}^e$	0.03
$IR_{t,base}^e$	$(p_{strike} - C_{G,t,base} - C_{E,t,base})d_{t,base}$	50,000 €/MW
PER_t^e	$(p_{cap} - p_{strike})d_{spike,t}^e$	20,000 €/MW

Since $p_{strike} = C_{G,t,peak} + C_{E,t,peak}$, there is no inframarginal rent for the peak-load power plant.

- a) Calculate price bids $p_{t,peak}, p_{t,base}$ for the two representative power plants at the capacity market. (15 points)

hint: Recall that the calculation of the penalty follows

$$Q_{t,i}^e = X_{PER,t,i}^e MM_t^e \Rightarrow \xi_t := \frac{p_t^*}{PER_t^e}$$

- b) Is the capacity market in its equilibrium? What is the resulting market price p_t^* at the capacity market? (5 points)

hint: If you could not solve subtask a), assume $p_{t,peak} = p_{t,base} = 25,000$ €.

Good luck!