

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY
HANKAMER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE

Risk Management
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Problem Set 5

Name: _____ SOLUTIONS _____

Assume that interest rates are zero and there is only one period. You have initial wealth of \$50,000, $U(W) = \sqrt{W}$, and your terminal wealth is subject to the following loss distribution:

Loss Amount	Probability
\$0	0.60
\$5000	0.25
\$50,000	0.15

A. Determine the actuarially fair price for full insurance coverage.

SOLUTION: The actuarially fair price for full insurance coverage corresponds in this case to the expected value of loss:

$$E(L) = .6(0) + .25(5000) + .15(50,000) = \$8,750.$$

B. Determine the actuarially fair price for a policy with a deductible of \$10,000.

SOLUTION: In this case, since the state-contingent value of the insurance indemnity is $I_s = \max(0, L_s - d)$, the actuarially fair price corresponds to the expected value of the insurance indemnity, which is $E(I) = E(\max(0, L_s - d)) = .15(\$40,000) = \$6,000$.

C. Suppose the premium loading on a full insurance coverage contract is 30%, and that the deductible policy has a premium loading of 40%. Which contract do you prefer?

SOLUTION: With a 30% loading, the full insurance coverage contract costs $\$8,750(1.3) = \$11,375$, and the deductible policy costs $\$6,000(1.4) = \$8,400$. With full insurance, state contingent wealth is the same regardless of which state of the world occurs; consequently, $W_s = \$50,000 - \$11,375 = \$38,625$ for all states, and expected utility is $E(U(W)) = \sqrt{38,625} = 196.53$.

For the deductible policy, we must compute state contingent wealth W_s for all three states of the world. Here, $W_s = W_s - P_i - (L_s - \max(0, L_s - d))$; i.e., state contingent wealth equals initial wealth less the insurance premium on the deductible policy less the uninsured loss. The following table shows the details behind these calculations:

p_s	L_s	$\max(L_s - d, 0)$	$L_s - \max(L_s - d, 0)$	W_s	$U(W_s)$
60%	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$41,600	203.96
25%	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$36,600	191.31
15%	\$50,000	\$40,000	\$10,000	\$31,600	177.76
Expected Value	\$8,750	\$6,000	\$2,750	\$38,850	196.87

Since $E(U(W)) = 196.53$ for full insurance and 196.87 for deductible insurance, I prefer deductible insurance.

D. If full insurance was the only option available, what is the maximum insurance premium that you would be willing to pay for such a policy?

SOLUTION: To determine this, we must find the certainty equivalent of wealth. To find the certainty equivalent of wealth, we need to calculate the expected utility of wealth associated with being uninsured.

- $E(U(W)) = .6(50,000^{-5}) + .25(45,000^{-5}) = .6(223.6068) + .25(212.1320) = 187.20$.
- $W_{CE} = 187.20^2 = \$35,042.75$

Therefore, the maximum amount that this consumer would be willing to pay in order to fully insure this risk is equal to $W_0 - W_{CE} = \$50,000 - \$35,042.75 = \$14,957.25$.