

**Homework 4 due date June 14**

**Student's Name:**

**Total Points: 100**

**Problem 1 (20 points):**

Suppose  $f(L, K) = K^2 + LK + L^{1/2}K^{1/2}$ . Does this production function exhibit increasing, decreasing or constant returns to scale? Show your work.

**Problem 2 (20 points):**

Suppose  $f(L, K) = KL^9$   $w = 1, r = 2$ .  $MPL = 9L^8K, MPK = L^9$ . How much labor and capital should the firm hire if it wants to produce 10 units of output while minimizing its cost of production? Show your work.

**Problem 3 (20 points):**

Suppose  $f(L, K) = \min\{2K, 5L\}$ .  $w = 1, r = 2500$ . Derive the cost function. Show your work

**Problem 4 (25 points):**

Suppose we have a perfectly competitive market with price  $p$ . A typical firm has  $VC(q) = q + aq^2$  and  $F$  (fixed cost).  $MC(q) = 1 + 2aq$ .  $a$  is a constant such that  $a > 0$ .

- a) (5 points) Derive expressions for  $AVC$  and  $AC$
- b) (5 points) What is the range of prices for which the firm would shut down? Explain.
- c) (5 points) What is the supply function for the firm?
- d) (8 points) Suppose  $p = 3$ . Calculate firm's profits as a function of  $a$ . Show your work.
- e) (2 points) How do profits calculated in part d change with  $a$ ? Explain.

**Problem 5 (15 points):**

Suppose there are  $n$  identical firms each having a supply function  $p = aq^2$ . What is the market supply function? Show your work.