

$$v(q) > u(q)$$

What if there is **asymmetric information**: only the owner knows the quality  $q$ ?

Publicly available information:

Quality $q$	best: $A$	$B$	$C$	$D$	$E$	worst: $F$	
Number of cars	120	200	100	240	320	140	Total: 1,120
Proportion	$\frac{120}{1120}$	$\frac{200}{1120}$	$\frac{100}{1120}$	$\frac{240}{1120}$	$\frac{320}{1120}$	$\frac{140}{1120}$	
$v(q)$ (seller)	720	630	540	450	360	270	
$u(q)$ (buyer)	800	700	600	500	400	300	

Buyer: if a car is offered to me at price  $p$  should I buy it?

Buying a car at price  $p$  is playing the lottery

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} \frac{\$(800 - p)}{120} = \frac{3}{28} \\ \frac{\$(700 - p)}{200} = \frac{5}{28} \\ \frac{\$(600 - p)}{100} = \frac{5}{56} \\ \frac{\$(500 - p)}{240} = \frac{3}{14} \\ \frac{\$(400 - p)}{320} = \frac{2}{7} \\ \frac{\$(300 - p)}{140} = \frac{1}{8} \end{array} \right)$$

Suppose  $p = 460$

Quality $q$	best: $A$	$B$	$C$	$D$	$E$	worst: $F$
$v(q)$ (seller)	720	630	540	450	360	270

Back to previous example. Suppose that  $p = 460$ . Then only qualities D, E, F offered

**Step 1:** convert probabilities to a common denominator:

Quality $q$	best: $A$	$B$	$C$	$D$	$E$	worst: $F$
Proportion	$p_A = \frac{3}{28}$	$p_B = \frac{5}{28}$	$p_C = \frac{5}{56}$	$p_D = \frac{3}{14}$	$p_E = \frac{2}{7}$	$p_F = \frac{1}{8}$

**Step 2:** condition on  $\{D, E, F\}$

Quality $q$	best: $A$	$B$	$C$	$D$	$E$	worst: $F$
Proportion						

Suppose  $p = 380$

Quality $q$	best: $A$	$B$	$C$	$D$	$E$	worst: $F$
$v(q)$ (seller)	720	630	540	450	360	270

Quality	$L$	$M$	$H$
probability	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{1}{6}$
seller's value	900	1,200	1,400
buyer's value	1,020	1,320	1,500

For every price  $p$  determine if there is a second-hand market.

All-you-can eat buffet in Davis. Hire a market research firm to find out about demand. Customers of different types. A type of a customer is a pair  $(r, c)$  where

- $r$  is the maximum price the customer is willing to pay
- $c$  is the number of dishes that the customer would consume

Customer type	$(\$8, 2)$	$(\$8, 2.5)$	$(\$8.50, 2.5)$	$(\$8.50, 3)$	$(\$9, 3)$	$(\$9, 3.5)$
Proportion	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{24}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{7}{24}$

**Risk neutral. Cost per dish is \$2.40.**

- If you charge \$8 then average consumption

Average cost per customer

Profit per customer

What if you charge \$8.50?	Customer type	(\$8, 2)	(\$8, 2.5)	(\$8.50, 2.5)	(\$8.50, 3)	(\$9, 3)	(\$9, 3.5)
	Proportion	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{24}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{7}{24}$

Step 1: convert to same denominator	Customer type	(\$8, 2)	(\$8, 2.5)	(\$8.50, 2.5)	(\$8.50, 3)	(\$9, 3)	(\$9, 3.5)
	Proportion						

• If you charge \$8.50 then	Customer type	(\$8.50, 2.5)	(\$8.50, 3)	(\$9, 3)	(\$9, 3.5)
	Proportion				

Average consumption:

Average cost per customer

Profit per customer

• If you charge \$9 then	Customer type	(\$9, 3)	(\$9, 3.5)
	Proportion		

Average consumption:

Average cost per customer

Profit per customer