

$x$  - Bundles or “Choice Objects”

(in mathematics, uppercase letters are generally sets of things)

$X$  - Feasible Set or “Universe of Choice Objects”

*Example. Ice Cream:*

$X$  =Set of all possible bowls of ice cream consisting of some amount of chocolate ice cream and some amount of vanilla ice cream.

Some bundles:

$x$  =one scoop of vanilla

$(1, 0)$

$y$  =one scoop of vanilla and one scoop of chocolate

$z$  =three scoops of vanilla

If a bundle  $x$  is in the feasible set we write  $x \in X$ .

$x \in X, y \in X, z \in X$ .

If we had a feasible set that was all bowls of ice cream with some amount of vanilla, chocolate, or strawberry ice cream.

$(1, 0, 0)$

We can have strange bundles:

$(1.2873, \pi)$

If we restrict our feasible set to have integer scoops then  $(1.2873, \pi) \notin X$

$(1, 0) \in X$

For most of the course, we will allow any real amount of any of the things so bundles like  $(1.2873, \pi)$  are allowed.

Feasible set: bundles of oranges and apples.

$(1, 0)$  bundle with one orange and zero apples

$(2, 1)$  bundle with two oranges and one apple

The “goods” in this model are oranges and apples.

A bundle is an “amount” of each “good” in your model.

$(1, 1)$  is a bundle with 1 unit of good 1 and 1 unit of good 2.

**Feasible set:**  $X$  (every imaginable bundle)

**Budget set:**  $B$  (every bundle a particular consumer can have. The bundles a particular consumer is being asked to choose among.)

The budget set has to be a subset of the feasible set.

$$B \subseteq X$$

$X$  is the set of all bowls of chocolate and vanilla ice cream.

$$X = \mathbb{R}_+^2$$

$$(1, 1) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2$$

$$(2, 1) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2$$

$$(1.2837, \pi) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2$$

$X$  is the set of all bowls of chocolate and vanilla ice cream.

What are some budget sets in this feasible set.

**Finn's Budget.** You can have any bowl of ice cream with no more than one total scoop.

$$B = \{(x_1, x_2) \mid (x_1, x_2) \in X \& x_1 + x_2 \leq 1\}$$

$$(-1, 2) \notin X$$

$$(-1, 2) \notin B$$

$$(1, 0) \in B$$

$$(2, 0) \notin B$$

**Dad's Budget set.** Dad has \$15 to spend on ice cream and ice cream costs \$5 scoop.

$$B = \{(x_1, x_2) \mid (x_1, x_2) \in X \& 5x_1 + 5x_2 \leq 15\}$$

This kind of budget is called a "Competitive Budget"

**Another Budget set.** Chris has  $m$  to spend on good 1 and 2 and the price of  $x_1$  is  $p_1$  and the price of  $x_2$  is  $p_2$ .

$$B = \{(x_1, x_2) \mid (x_1, x_2) \in X \& p_1x_1 + p_2x_2 \leq m\}$$

This a "generic" competitive budget set.

$p_1, p_2$  are "prices"

$m$  is "income"

The only non-trivial thing here is the condition. We call this the "budget set".

$$p_1x_1 + p_2x_2 \leq m$$

Budget line is "boundary" of this set.

$$p_1x_1 + p_2x_2 = m$$

The slope of the budget line represents "trade-offs"