

# **Part II: Demand Side Analysis**

## **Chapter 2**

### **DEMAND THEORY**

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# Outline

- Market demand function
- Elasticity:
  - Midpoint elasticity
  - Point elasticity
- Own-price elasticity of demand
- Cross-price elasticity of demand
- Income elasticity of demand
- Advertising elasticity of demand

# Market Demand Function

- The market demand function for a product is derived from the **horizontal summation of individual direct demand functions.**
- For example, there are 3 individual (or consumer) direct demand functions in the market:
  - Consumer 1:  $q_1 = f(P)$ .
  - Consumer 2:  $q_2 = f(P)$ .
  - Consumer 3:  $q_3 = f(P)$ .
- A direct market demand function,  $Q_D$ :

$$Q_D = q_1 + q_2 + q_3.$$

(1)

# Example 1

- Suppose that the total market demand for a product consists of the demands from consumer 1 and consumer 2.
- The demand equations of the two consumers are given as follows:

$$q_1 = f(P) = 20 - 2P$$

$$q_2 = f(P) = 40 - 5P$$

**What is the market demand equation for this product?**

- **The direct market demand equation is**

$$Q_D = q_1 + q_2 = (20+40) - (2+5)P = 60 - 7P.$$

## Example 2

- Suppose that the total market demand for a product consists of three consumer demands.
- The inverse demand equations of three consumers are given by the following equations:
  - **Consumer 1:  $P = 10 - 4q_1$ .**
  - **Consumer 2:  $P = 5 - 2q_2$ .**
  - **Consumer 3:  $P = 2 - q_3$ .**

**Question: What is the market demand equation for this product?**

**Answer:  $Q_D = 7 - 1.75P$ .**

# Market Demand Function

The relationship between the quantity demanded ( $Q_X$ ) and all variables that determine demand.  $Q_X = f(\text{Price of good X, Non-price determinants})$

The estimated direct market demand function:

$$Q_X = b_0 + b_1 P_X^\alpha + b_2 I^\beta + b_3 P_Y^\gamma + b_4 P_E^\delta + b_5 A^\theta + b_6 \text{Pop}^\kappa \quad (2)$$

where  $b_0, b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4, b_5$  and  $b_6$  are coefficient parameters;  $Q_X$  = quantity demanded for good X;  $P_X$  = price of good X;  $I$  = consumers' income;  $P_Y$  = price of good Y;  $P_E$  = future expected price;  $A$  = Advertising; and  $\text{Pop}$  = population.

$(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \theta, \kappa)$  = Exponents of determinants of market demand.

$(P_X, I, P_Y, P_E, A, \text{Pop})$  = Independent variables = Determinants of  $Q_X$ .

Coefficient Parameters

$b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4,$   
 $b_5, b_5, b_6$

=

Estimated of the change in  $Q_X$  with respect to a one-unit change in determinant of demand.

Marginal value of  $Q_X$  with respect to determinant of demand (see Math Review).

# Coefficient Parameters and Calculus

A direct market demand function:

$$Q_X = b_0 + b_1 P_X^\alpha + b_2 I^\beta + b_3 P_Y^\gamma + b_4 P_E^\delta + b_5 A^\theta + b_6 \text{Pop}^\kappa$$

Coefficient Parameter	Marginal value of $Q_X$ with respect to	Partial derivative of $Q_X$ with respect to the Determinant	
$b_1$	$P_X$ (holding the other factors constant)	$b_1 = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial P_X} < 0$	
$b_2$	$I$ (holding the other factors constant)	$b_2 = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial I} > 0$ $b_2 = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial I} < 0$	
$b_3$	$P_Y$ (holding the other factors constant)	$b_3 = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial P_Y} > 0$ $b_3 = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial P_Y} < 0$	
$b_4$	$P_E$ (holding the other factors constant)	$b_4 = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial P_E} > 0$	
$b_5$	$A$ (holding the other factors constant)	$b_5 = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial A} > 0$	
$b_6$	$\text{POP}$ (holding the other factors constant)	$b_6 = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial \text{POP}} > 0$	

# Example 3

The market demand for gasoline ( $Q_G^D$ ), measured in millions of gallons, is given by

$$Q_G^D = 10 - 2P_G + 0.1I + 4P_E,$$

where  $P_G$  is the current price of gasoline per gallon (measured in dollars),  $I$  is average consumer income (measured in thousands of dollars),  $P_E$  is tomorrow's price of gasoline per gallon (measured in dollars).

a) Determine marginal value of  $Q_G^D$  with respect to each variable.

**Solution:**

Marginal value of  $Q_G^D$  with respect to  $P_G = \frac{\partial Q_G^D}{\partial P_G} = -2$ . (holding other variables constant)

- It indicates that a \$1 increase in the current price of gasoline ( $P_G$ ) will cause a 2-million gallon decrease in the market demand for gasoline.

Marginal value of  $Q_G^D$  with respect to  $I = \frac{\partial Q_G^D}{\partial I} = +0.1$ . (holding other variables constant)

- It indicates that a \$1-thousand increase in average consumer income ( $I$ ) will cause a 0.1-million gallon increase in the market demand of gasoline.

Marginal value of  $Q_G^D$  with respect to  $P_E = \frac{\partial Q_G^D}{\partial P_E} = +4$ . (holding other variables constant)

- It indicates that a \$1 increase in the future price of gasoline ( $P_E$ ) will cause a 4-million gallon increase in the market demand of gasoline.



b) Derive the market demand equation, holding non-price determinants constant.

Assume that  $I = 60$  and  $P_E = 1$ .

**Solution:** “*Holding non-price determinants constant*” means substituting  $I$  and  $P_E$  into the market demand function.

$$Q_G^D = 10 - 2P_G + 0.1(60) + 4(1) = 10 - 2P_G + 6 + 4.$$

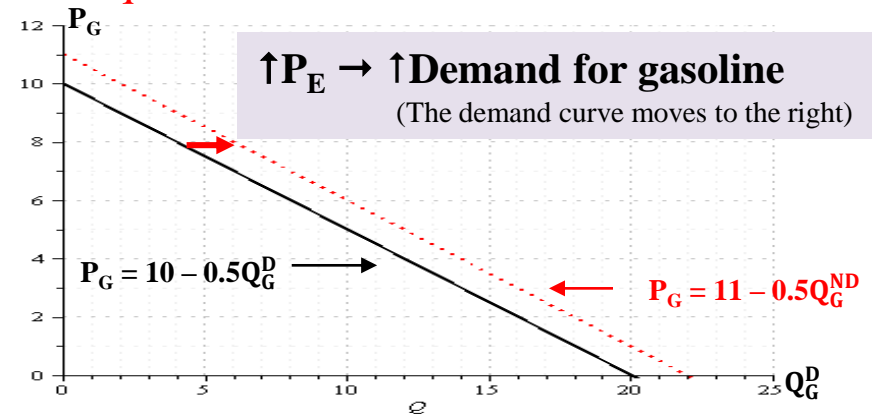
$$Q_G^D = 20 - 2P_G \longrightarrow \text{The direct market demand equation}$$

c) Draw the demand curve of gasoline.

**Solution:** to draw the demand curve, we use the inverse demand equation,  $P = f(Q)$ .

The inverse demand equation for gasoline

is  $P_G = 10 - 0.5Q_G^D$ .



d) Suppose that a new report shows that the price of gasoline is going up to \$1.50 at midnight. What is the new market demand equation after increase in the gas price?

**Solution:**

New direct market demand equation:  $Q_G^{ND} = 10 - 2P_G + 0.1(60) + 4(1.5) = 10 - 2P_G + 6 + 6.$

$$Q_G^{ND} = 22 - 2P_G.$$

New inverse market demand equation:

$$P_G = 11 - 0.5Q_G^{ND}$$

# Managerial Question

- From the time Apple launched iTunes in mid-2003 through early 2009, it charged 99 cents for each song.
- Music producers/singers wanted Apple to charge more.

Question: **Should iTunes increase or decrease the price?**

- **The question is quite important in the business world.**

$$\Delta P \rightarrow \Delta TR \rightarrow \Delta \pi,$$

where  $TR = PQ$ , and  $\pi = TR - TC$ .

- It can be answered the question by the measurement of *elasticity*.
- ***Elasticity* is the most common measure of the sensitivity of the demand function to changes in any of its determinants.**

# Measurement of Elasticity

**Definition: Elasticity** (denoted by  $\eta$ , the Greek letter “eta”) is a measure of the sensitivity of one variable ( $Y$ ) to changes in another variable ( $X$ ). To calculate elasticity ( $\eta$ ), there are 3 formulas as follows:

1. The specific equation is **not given**. The units of  $Y$  and  $X$  are given as a percentage.

$$\eta = \frac{\% \text{ Change in } Y}{\% \text{ Change in } X} = \frac{\% \Delta Y}{\% \Delta X}. \quad (3)$$

2. The specific equation is **not given**. Two different points of  $Y$  and  $X$  are given,  $Y^1, Y^2, X^1, X^2$ .

$$\eta = \frac{\% \Delta Y}{\% \Delta X} = \frac{\frac{\Delta Y}{(Y^1 + Y^2)/2}}{\frac{\Delta X}{(X^1 + X^2)/2}} = \frac{\Delta Y (X^1 + X^2)}{\Delta X (Y^1 + Y^2)} = \frac{(Y^2 - Y^1) (X^1 + X^2)}{(X^2 - X^1) (Y^1 + Y^2)}. \quad (4)$$

- Equation (4) is called as **midpoint elasticity or arc elasticity**.

3. The specific equation **is given**,  $Y = f(X)$ . One points of  $Y$  and  $X$  are given.

$$\eta = \frac{\text{Percentage change in the dependent variable}}{\text{Percentage change in the independent variable}} = \frac{\% \Delta Y}{\% \Delta X} = \frac{\frac{\Delta Y}{Y}}{\frac{\Delta X}{X}} = \frac{\Delta Y X}{\Delta X Y} = \frac{dY X}{dX Y}. \quad (5)$$

- Equation (5) is called as **point elasticity**.
- As the change in  $X$  becomes very small,  $\Delta X \rightarrow 0$ ; the ratio  $\Delta Y / \Delta X$  converges to the derivative of  $Y$  with respect to  $X$  ( $dY/dX$ ).

The elasticity for  $Y = f(X)$  is defined as:

$$\eta = \frac{\% \text{ Change in } Y}{\% \text{ Change in } X} = \frac{\% \Delta Y}{\% \Delta X}$$

The demand elasticities for  $Q_X = f(P_X, P_Y, I, A)$  is defined as:

Elasticities of Demand	Y		Formula
1. Own-price elasticity of demand ( $\eta_X$ )	$Q_X$	$P_X$	$\eta_X = \frac{\% \Delta Q_X}{\% \Delta P_X}$
2. Cross-price elasticity of demand ( $\eta_{XY}$ )	$Q_X$	$P_Y$	$\eta_{XY} = \frac{\% \Delta Q_X}{\% \Delta P_Y}$
3. Income elasticity of demand ( $\eta_I$ )	$Q_X$	I	$\eta_I = \frac{\% \Delta Q_X}{\% \Delta I}$
4. Advertising elasticity of demand ( $\eta_A$ )	$Q_X$	A	$\eta_A = \frac{\% \Delta Q_X}{\% \Delta A}$

# 1. Own-Price Elasticity of Demand ( $\eta_X$ ) (or Price Elasticity of Demand)

- The price elasticity of demand,  $\eta_X$ , measures the sensitivity of demand of good X to changes in the price of good X.
- By definition,  $\eta_X$  is defined to be the percent change in quantity demanded of good X ( $Q_X$ ) divided to the percent change in price of good X ( $P_X$ ).

$$\eta_X = \frac{\% \Delta Q_X}{\% \Delta P_X}. \quad (6)$$

- **The midpoint price elasticity of demand**, given  $Q_X^1, Q_X^2, P_X^1, P_X^2$ .

$$\eta_X = \frac{\% \Delta Q_X}{\% \Delta P_X} = \frac{\frac{\Delta Q_X}{(Q_X^1 + Q_X^2)/2}}{\frac{\Delta P_X}{(P_X^1 + P_X^2)/2}} = \frac{\Delta Q_X (P_X^1 + P_X^2)}{\Delta P_X (Q_X^1 + Q_X^2)} = \frac{(Q_X^2 - Q_X^1) (P_X^1 + P_X^2)}{(P_X^2 - P_X^1) (Q_X^1 + Q_X^2)} \quad (7)$$

- **The point price elasticity of demand**, given  $Q_X = f(P_X)$ .

$$\eta_X = \frac{dQ_X}{dP_X} \frac{P_X}{Q_X}. \quad (8)$$

## Example 4

The quantity of new cars increases by 10 percent. If the price elasticity of demand for new cars is -1.25, **the price of new cars will fall by**

**Answer: 8 percent**

## Example 5

In the first week after Apple's iTunes raised the price on its most popular songs from 99 cents to \$1.29, the quantity demanded of Doja Cat's "Say So" fell to 58,000 units from the 60,000 units sold in the previous week. **What is the price elasticity of demand for "Say So"?**

$$\eta_X = \frac{\% \Delta Q_X}{\% \Delta P_X} = \frac{(Q_X^2 - Q_X^1) (P_X^1 + P_X^2)}{(P_X^2 - P_X^1) (Q_X^1 + Q_X^2)}$$

$$\eta_X = \frac{(58,000 - 60,000)}{(1.29 - 0.99)} \frac{(0.99 + 1.29)}{(60,000 + 58,000)} = \frac{-2000}{0.3} \frac{2.28}{118,000} = -0.13.$$

## Example 6

The demand for a product is  $Q = 9 - 0.7P + 2I$ .

Assume that per capita income  $I$  is \$13. When the price of a product is  $P = \$30$ , **the price elasticity of demand is**

**Answer: -1.5**



# Properties of Own-Price Elasticity of Demand

1. Own-price elasticity of demand is a negative number;  $-\infty \leq \eta_X \leq 0$ .

- $-\infty < \eta_X < -1$  indicates that the demand is price elastic, possibly because a good has many close substitutes.
  - A change in price causes a larger percentage change in quantity demanded.
  - The elastic demand is highly responsive, or sensitive, to changes in the price.
- $-1 < \eta_X < 0$  indicates that the demand is price inelastic because a good has few close substitutes.
  - A change in price causes a smaller percentage change in quantity demanded.
  - Gasoline is a good example because most people need it. When the prices of gasoline go up, consumers still buy it. The demand for gasoline does not change greatly.

## Two extreme cases:

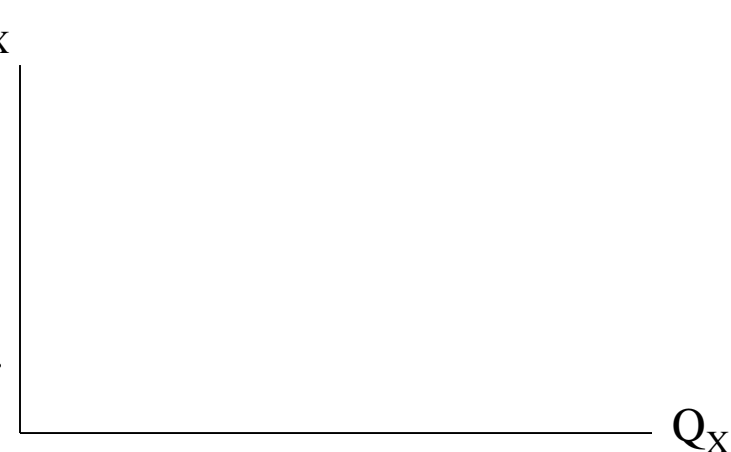
### 1. $\eta_X = 0$ indicates that a good is perfectly inelastic demand.

- A change in its price (P) will cause no change in the quantity demanded (Q).
- The quantity demanded is independent of price.
- Example: Lifesaving drugs.



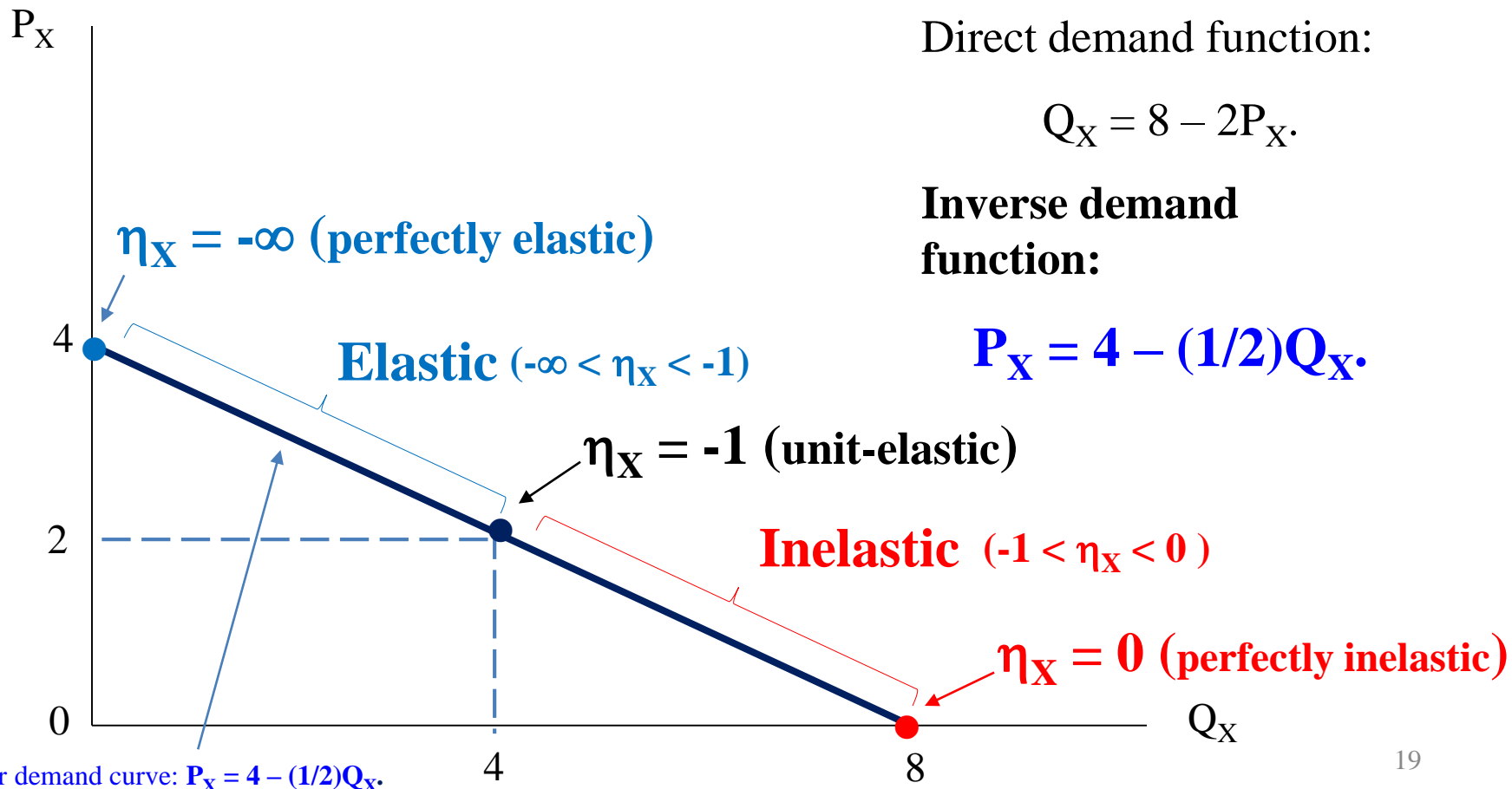
### 2. $\eta_X = -\infty$ indicates that a good is perfectly elastic demand.

- The quantity demanded is very sensitive to price.
- Any increase in the price will cause demand to fall to zero.
- Example: any homogenous product with many close substitutes, e.g., coffee beans, potatoes.



## Properties of Price Elasticity (cont.)

2. Given a linear demand curve,  $\eta_X$  is not constant along the curve.  $\eta_X$  increases in absolute value as price rises, approaching negative infinity as quantity approaches zero.



# Example 7: Point elasticity

Given 
$$Q_X = 1000 - 5P_X + 0.1I + 10P_A - 2P_B$$

where  $Q_X$  = Quantity demanded for inkjet printers; Price of a printer ( $P_X$ ) = \$80, Income ( $I$ ) = \$20,000; Price of good A ( $P_A$ ) = \$50; Price of good B ( $P_B$ ) = \$150.

**1. Derive the direct demand equation  $Q_X = f(P_X)$ , holding the non-price determinants constant.**

$$Q_X = 1000 - 5P_X + 0.1(\$20,000) + 10(\$50) - 2(\$150)$$

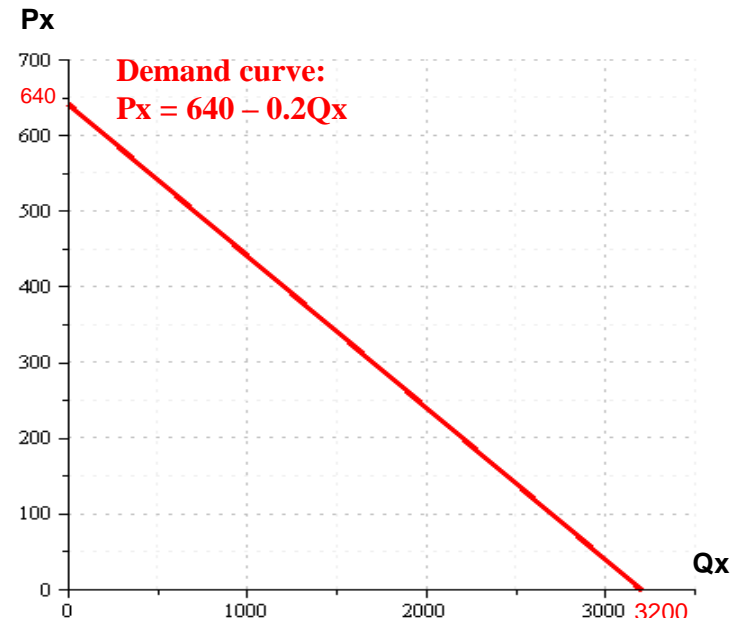
$$Q_X = 1000 - 5P_X + 2200$$

$$Q_X = 3200 - 5P_X.$$

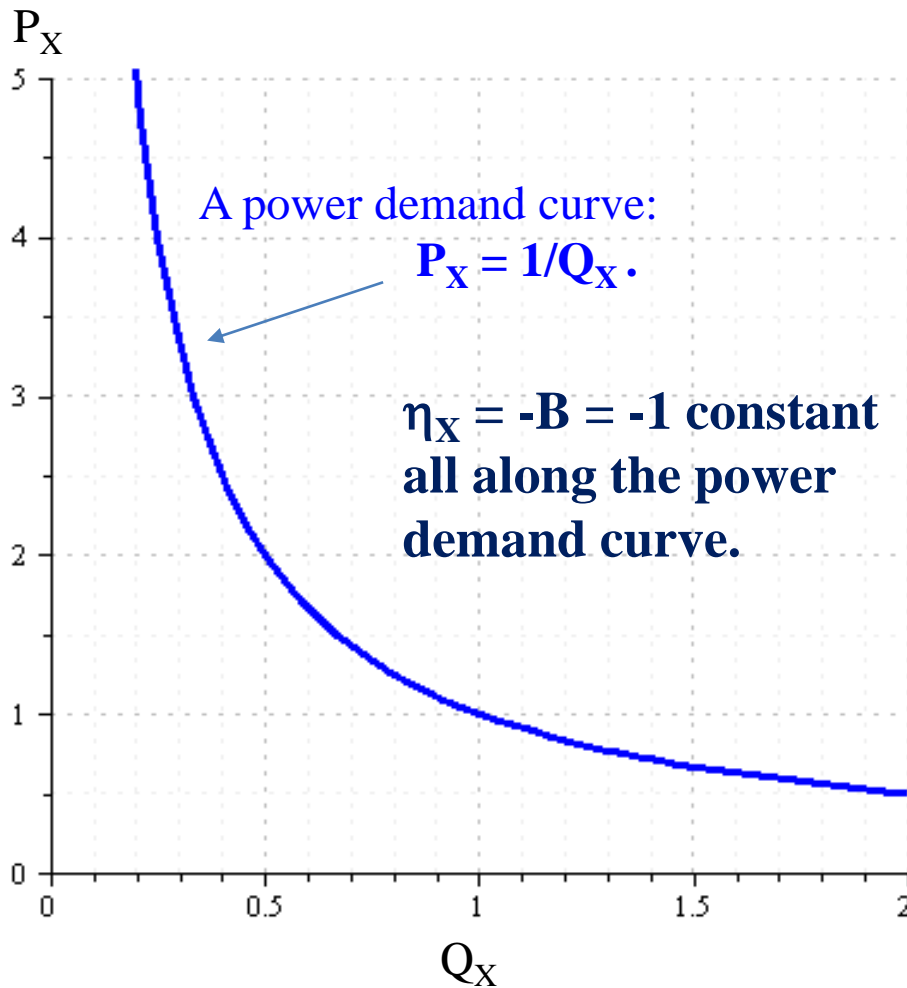
**2. At what prices, if any, will the demand for computers be of unitary elasticity (i.e.,  $\eta_X = -1$ )? ( $P_X = \$320$ )**

**3. What is the price elasticity of demand if price equals \$520? (At  $P_X = \$520$ ,  $\eta_X = -4.3$ )**

**4. What is the price elasticity of demand if price equals \$80? (At  $P_X = \$80$ ,  $\eta_X = -0.14$ )**



**3. Given a power demand function:  $Q_X = AP_X^{-B}$ , (9)  
 where  $A$  and  $B > 0$ .  $\eta_X = -B$  everywhere on the demand curve.**



**So, the power demand function is called iso-elastic (constant elasticity).**

For example, suppose that  $A = B = 1$ ,

$$Q_X = \frac{1}{P_X} = P_X^{-1}. \quad (10)$$

$$\eta_X = \frac{dQ_X}{dP_X} \frac{P_X}{Q_X} = (-1)P_X^{-2} \frac{P_X}{P_X^{-1}}.$$

$$\eta_X = -1.$$

Note that: A power demand function is also called a Cobb-Douglas demand function.

A Cobb-Douglas function (for 2 independent variables) takes the form of

$$Y = AX_1^a X_2^b, \text{ where } A, a, \text{ and } b \text{ are constant.}$$

# Example 8

## Power & Linear Demand Functions

1. Power demand equation:  $Q_X = 2P_X^{-4}$ .

$$\eta_X = \frac{dQ_X}{dP_X} \frac{P_X}{Q_X} = (-4)2P_X^{-5} \frac{P_X}{2P_X^{-4}} = -4.$$

- So,  $\eta_X$  of the power demand equation is constant.

2. Linear demand equation:  $Q_X = 2 - 4P_X$ .

$$\eta_X = \frac{dQ_X}{dP_X} \frac{P_X}{Q_X} = (-4) \frac{P_X}{Q_X}.$$

- So,  $\eta_X$  of the linear demand equation depends on  $\frac{P_X}{Q_X}$ .
- The different values of  $P_X$  and  $Q_X$  will have the different values of  $\eta_X$ .

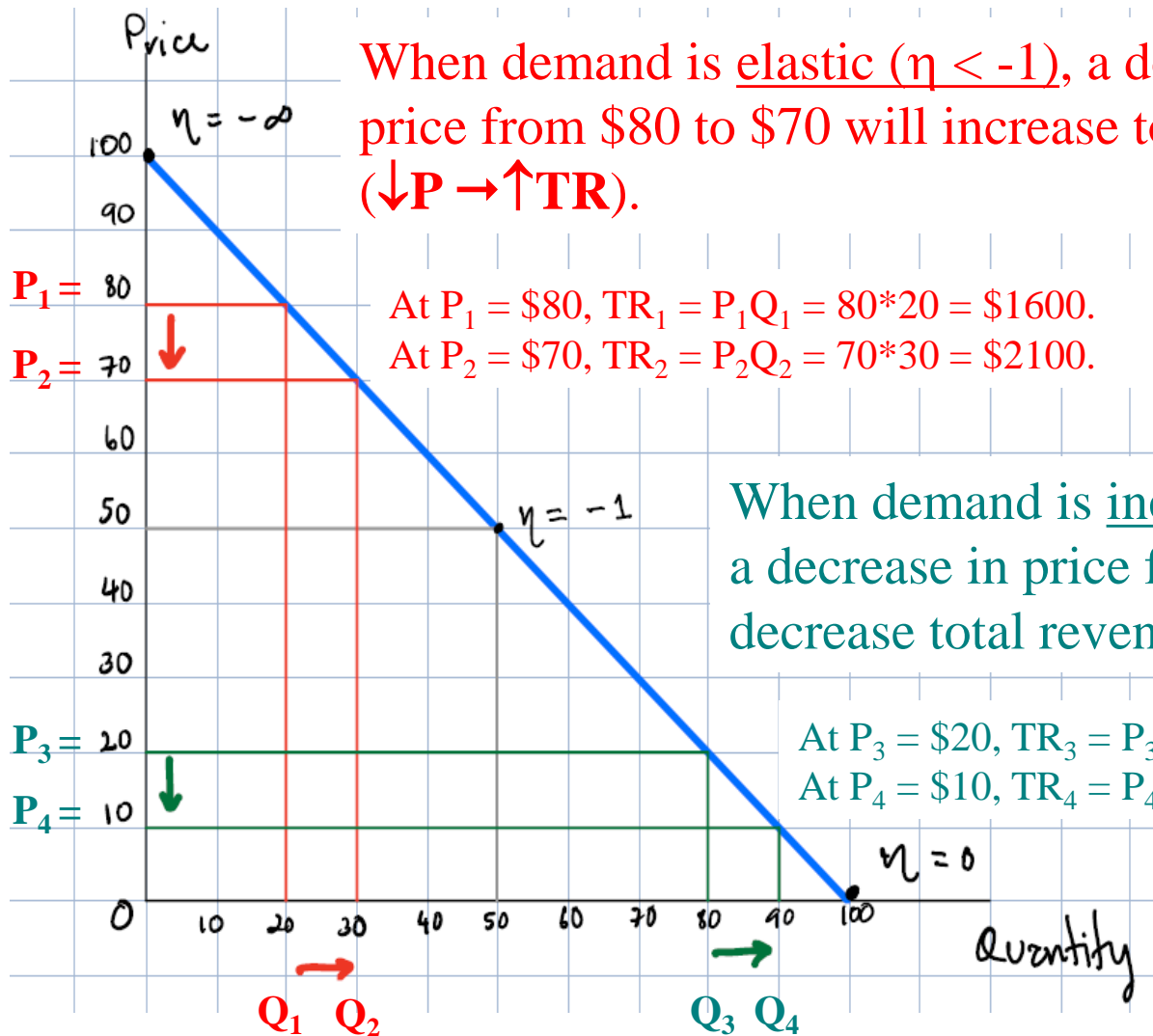
# **Effect of Price Elasticity on the Firm's Total Revenue**

# Total Revenue and Price Elasticity

- Total Revenue:  $TR = P_X \times Q_X$ . (11)
- When managers change the price of a product, TR also changes.
- Managers need to decide whether a price change will increase the firm's total revenue. The decision depends on the price elasticity of demand.



# Demand, Price Elasticity, and Total Revenue



When demand is elastic ( $\eta < -1$ ), a decrease in price from \$80 to \$70 will increase total revenue ( $\downarrow P \rightarrow \uparrow TR$ ).

At  $P_1 = \$80$ ,  $TR_1 = P_1 Q_1 = 80 \cdot 20 = \$1600$ .

At  $P_2 = \$70$ ,  $TR_2 = P_2 Q_2 = 70 \cdot 30 = \$2100$ .

When demand is inelastic ( $-1 < \eta < 0$ ), a decrease in price from \$20 to \$10 will decrease total revenue ( $\downarrow P \rightarrow \downarrow TR$ ).

At  $P_3 = \$20$ ,  $TR_3 = P_3 Q_3 = 20 \cdot 80 = \$1600$ .

At  $P_4 = \$10$ ,  $TR_4 = P_4 Q_4 = 10 \cdot 90 = \$900$ .

# Relationship between Price Elasticity ( $\eta_X$ ) and Total Revenue (TR)

- **When demand is elastic ( $\eta_X < -1$ ), price and total revenue move in opposite direction.**
  - $\uparrow P_X \rightarrow \downarrow TR.$   
*A negative relationship between  $P_X$  and TR.*
  - $\downarrow P_X \rightarrow \uparrow TR.$
- **When demand is inelastic ( $-1 < \eta_X < 0$ ), price and total revenue move in the same direction.**
  - $\uparrow P_X \rightarrow \uparrow TR.$   
*A positive relationship between  $P_X$  and TR.*
  - $\downarrow P_X \rightarrow \downarrow TR.$

Note that calculus proof of the relationship between TR and  $\eta_X$  is in Math Review, Slide#53, Appendix A.

# Price Elasticity, Total Revenue, and Marginal Revenue

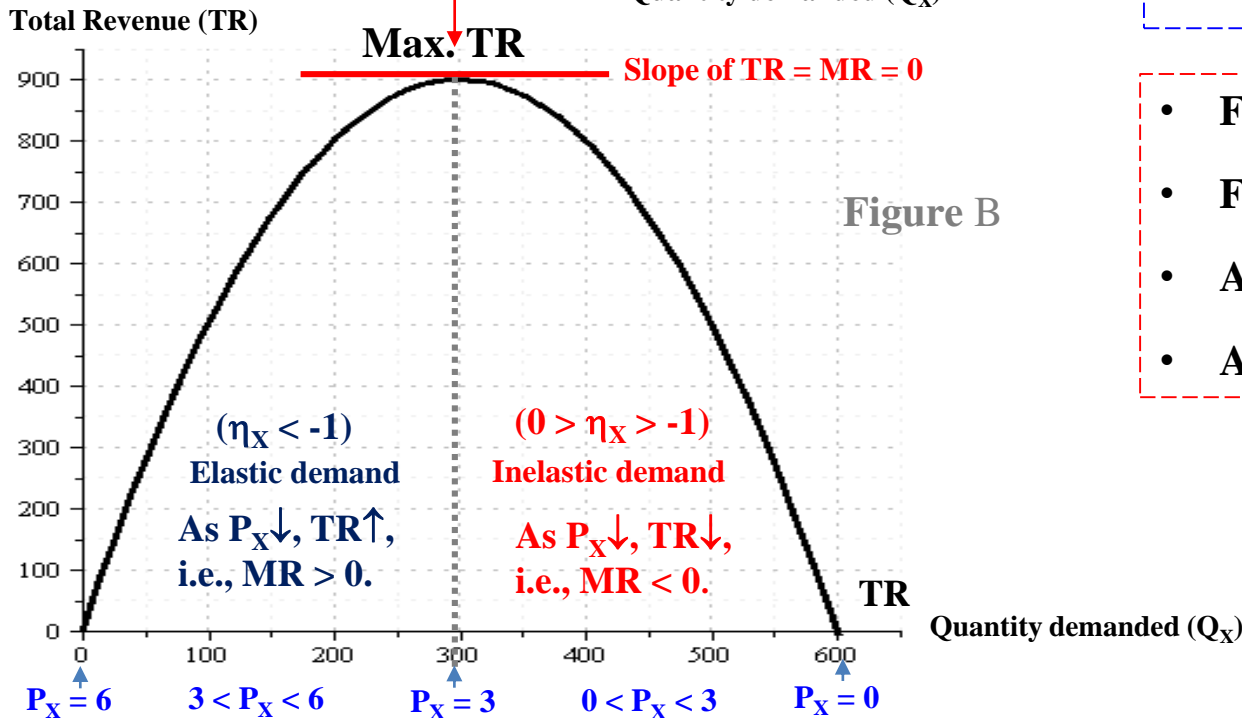
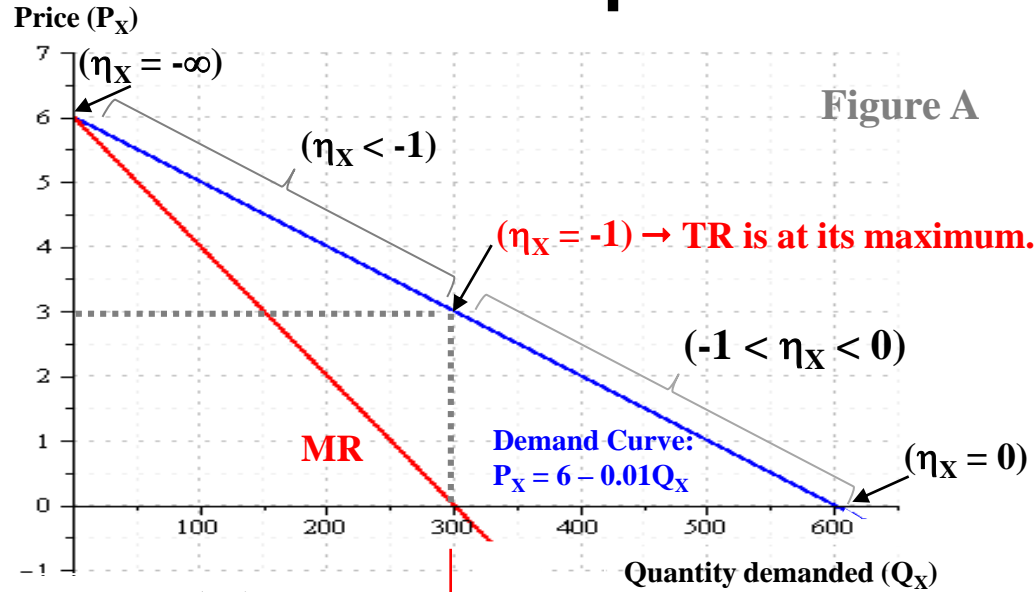
- TR = the total amount of money consumers spend on the product in a given time period.
- Marginal Revenue (MR): MR is the change in total revenue for a unit change in quantity demanded.
- **$MR = dTR/dQ_X$**  (derivative of TR with respect to  $Q_X$ ).
- MR = Slope of total revenue curve.

**Example 9:** A direct demand equation:  $Q_X = 600 - 100P_X$

**An inverse demand equation:  $P_X = 6 - 0.01Q_X$**

- **$TR = P_X Q_X = (6 - 0.01Q_X)Q_X = 6Q_X - 0.01Q_X^2$ .**
- **$MR = dTR/dQ_X = 6 - 0.02Q_X$ .**

# Relationship between $P_X$ , $\eta_X$ , MR, and TR



The direct demand equation:

$$Q_X = 600 - 100P_X$$

The inverse demand equation:

$$P_X = 6 - 0.01Q_X$$

The total revenue equation:

$$TR = 6Q_X - 0.01Q_X^2$$

The marginal revenue equation:

$$MR = 6 - 0.02Q_X$$

- For  $3 < P_X < 6$ ,  $\eta_X < -1$ .
- For  $0 < P_X < 3$ ,  $-1 < \eta_X < 0$ .
- At  $P_X = 6$ ,  $\eta_X = -\infty$ .
- At  $P_X = 0$ ,  $\eta_X = 0$ .

# Marginal Revenue and Price Elasticity

- MR varies along a demand curve for different quantities and prices.
- Since MR depends on the slope of the demand curve and so does elasticity, it turns out that one can write MR for any point on the demand curve as a function of the price and the price elasticity at that point on the demand curve.

$$\mathbf{MR = P_x \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\eta_x} \right)} \quad (12)$$

- **Example 10:** If price is \$25 when the price elasticity of demand is  $-0.5$ , then marginal revenue must be:

$$\text{MR} = \$25 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{(-0.5)} \right) = -25.$$

**Note that calculus proof of the relationship between MR and  $\eta_x$  is in Math Review, Slide#54, Appendix A.**

# Profit-maximizing Price and Price Elasticity

- The profit maximization condition (see marginal analysis in Math Review):

$$\mathbf{MR = MC.}$$

- Using Equation (12), the profit-maximizing condition is

$$\mathbf{P_X^* \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\eta_X} \right) = MC.}$$

- The profit-maximizing price is

$$\mathbf{P_X^* = \frac{MC}{\left( 1 + \frac{1}{\eta_X} \right)}.} \quad (13)$$

- **Example 11:** A monopoly incurs a marginal cost of \$1 for each unit produced. If the price elasticity of demand equals -2.0, calculate the profit-maximizing price ( $P_X^*$ ).

$$P_X^* = \frac{1}{\left( 1 + \frac{1}{(-2)} \right)} = \$2.$$

## 2. Cross-price Elasticity of Demand ( $\eta_{XY}$ )

- The cross-price elasticity of demand,  $\eta_{XY}$ , measures the sensitivity of demand to changes in the prices of the other product.
- By definition,  $\eta_{XY}$  is defined to be the percent change in quantity demanded of good X ( $Q_X$ ) divided to the percent change in a price of good Y ( $P_Y$ ).

$$\eta_{XY} = \frac{\% \Delta Q_X}{\% \Delta P_Y}. \quad (14)$$

- **The midpoint cross-price elasticity of demand**, given  $Q_X^1, Q_X^2, P_Y^1, P_Y^2$ .

$$\eta_{XY} = \frac{\frac{\Delta Q_X}{(Q_X^1 + Q_X^2)/2}}{\frac{\Delta P_Y}{(P_Y^1 + P_Y^2)/2}} = \frac{(Q_X^2 - Q_X^1) (P_Y^1 + P_Y^2)}{(P_Y^2 - P_Y^1) (Q_X^1 + Q_X^2)}. \quad (15)$$

- **The point cross-price elasticity of demand**, given  $Q_X = f(P_X, P_Y)$ .

$$\eta_{XY} = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial P_Y} \frac{P_Y}{Q_X}. \quad (16)$$

# Cross-price elasticity of demand

$$\eta_{XY} = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial P_Y} \frac{P_Y}{Q_X} \quad (16)$$

Sign of  $\eta_{XY}$  depends on  $\frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial P_Y}$ .

- **If  $\frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial P_Y} > 0$ ,  $\eta_{XY} > 0$ .** That means the two products are substitutes.

Example: Wheat and corn, tea and coffee, Xbox and Nintendo Switch

- **If  $\frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial P_Y} < 0$ ,  $\eta_{XY} < 0$ .** That means the two products are complements.

Example: Computers and computer software, tablets and applications

- **If  $\frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial P_Y} = 0$ ,  $\eta_{XY} = 0$ .** That means the two products are independent.

Example: Butter and airline ticket.



## Example 12: Cross-price point elasticity of demand

- Given:  $Q_X = 1000 - 0.2P_X + 0.5P_Y + 0.04I$ ,
- Let  $Q_X = 100$  units and  $P_Y = \$20$ .
- Calculate cross-price elasticity ( $\eta_{XY}$ )

$$\eta_{XY} = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial P_Y} \frac{P_Y}{Q_X} = 0.5 \frac{20}{100} = 0.1.$$

- Since  $\eta_{XY}$  is positive, Goods X and Y are substitutes.

### 3. Income Elasticity of Demand ( $\eta_I$ )

- The income elasticity of demand,  $\eta_I$ , measures the sensitivity of demand to changes in buyers' incomes.
- By definition,  $\eta_I$  is defined to be the percent change in quantity demanded of good X ( $Q_X$ ) divided to the percent change in income ( $I$ ).

$$\eta_I = \frac{\% \Delta Q_X}{\% \Delta I}. \quad (17)$$

- **The midpoint income elasticity of demand**, given  $Q_X^1, Q_X^2, I^1, I^2$ .

$$\eta_I = \frac{\frac{\Delta Q_X}{(Q_X^1 + Q_X^2)/2}}{\frac{\Delta I}{(I^1 + I^2)/2}} = \frac{(Q_X^2 - Q_X^1)}{(I^2 - I^1)} \frac{(I^1 + I^2)}{(Q_X^1 + Q_X^2)}. \quad (18)$$

- **The point income elasticity of demand**, given  $Q_X = f(P_X, I)$ .

$$\eta_I = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial I} \frac{I}{Q_X}. \quad (19)$$

- Note that income can be defined as aggregate consumer income or as per capita income.

# Income Elasticity of Demand

$$\eta_I = \frac{\% \Delta Q_X}{\% \Delta I} = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial I} \frac{I}{Q_X} \quad (19)$$

- Income elasticity of demand depends on **the sign of  $\frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial I}$** .
  - **If  $\frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial I} > 0$ ,  $\eta_I > 0$ .**
    - **A normal good** is one for which an increase in income leads to an increase in demand.
  - **If  $\frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial I} < 0$ ,  $\eta_I < 0$ .**
    - **An inferior good** is one for which an increase in income leads to a decrease in demand.

# Example 13:

## Income elasticity of demand

- Given:  $Q_X = 1000 - 0.2P_X + 0.5P_Y + 0.04I$ ,
- Let  $Q_X = 2000$ ,  $P_Y = 500$ , and  $I = 10000$ .
- Calculate income elasticity

$$\eta_I = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial I} \frac{I}{Q_X} = 0.04 \frac{10000}{2000} = 0.2.$$

- The income elasticity for good X is 0.2, which means that a 1% increase in income cause demand for Good X to increase by 0.2%.
- Since  $\eta_I$  is positive, Good X is normal.

## 4. Advertising Elasticity of Demand ( $\eta_A$ )

- The advertising elasticity of demand,  $\eta_A$ , measures the sensitivity of demand to change in the sellers' advertising expenditure.
- By definition,  $\eta_A$  is defined to be the percent change in quantity demanded of good X ( $Q_X$ ) divided to the percent change in advertising expenditure ( $A$ ).

$$\eta_A = \frac{\% \Delta Q_X}{\% \Delta A}. \quad (20)$$

- **The midpoint advertising elasticity of demand, given  $Q_X^1, Q_X^2, A^1, A^2$ .**

$$\eta_A = \frac{\frac{\Delta Q_X}{(Q_X^1 + Q_X^2)/2}}{\frac{\Delta A}{(A^1 + A^2)/2}} = \frac{(Q_X^2 - Q_X^1) (A^1 + A^2)}{(A^2 - A^1) (Q_X^1 + Q_X^2)} \quad (21)$$

- **The point advertising elasticity of demand,  $Q_X = f(P_X, A)$ .**

$$\eta_A = \frac{\% \Delta Q_X}{\% \Delta A} = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial A} \frac{A}{Q_X}. \quad (22)$$

## Example 14: Advertising Elasticity of Demand

Given:  $Q_X = 500 - 0.5P_X + 0.01I + 0.02A$   
and advertising-to-sales ratio  $(A/Q_X) = 2$ .  
Calculate advertising elasticity of demand.

$$\eta_A = \frac{\partial Q_X}{\partial A} \frac{A}{Q_X} = 0.02(2) = 0.04.$$

- The advertising elasticity for good X is 0.04, which means that a 1% increase in advertising expenditure will increase the demand for good X by 0.04%.

# Recap

- Market demand function
- Elasticities:  $\eta_X$ ,  $\eta_{XY}$ ,  $\eta_I$ , and  $\eta_A$ 
  - Midpoint and point elasticities
- The own-price elasticity:
  - Linear demand function
  - Power demand function
  - The relationship between TR, MR, and  $\eta_X$ .
  - $\eta_X$  and optimal pricing policy

$$MC = P_X \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\eta_X} \right) \longrightarrow P_X^* = \frac{MC}{\left( 1 + \frac{1}{\eta_X} \right)}$$

# Extra Questions

1. Suppose the market demand curve for pizza can be expressed as  $Q_D = 100 - 2P + 3P_b$ , where  $Q_D$  is the quantity of pizza demanded,  $P$  is the price of pizza, and  $P_b$  is the price of a burrito. **What is the relationship between burritos and pizza, from the point of view of consumers?**

- A. They are independent.
- B. They are complements.
- C. They are substitutes.
- D. They are inferior goods.
- E. Not enough information to answer the question.



2. When the price of bananas is 50 cents a pound, the total demand is 100 pounds. If the price increases to 60 cents, the total demand drops to 60 pounds. **What is the price elasticity of demand?**

**Answer: -2.75**

3. When the price of bananas increases from 50 cents to 60 cents, the total demand drops 50%. **What is the price elasticity of demand?**

**Answer: -2.75**

4. A fall in the price of X from \$12 to \$8 causes an increase in the quantity of Y demanded from 900 to 1100 units. **What is the cross-price elasticity of demand?**

**Answer:  $\eta_{YX} = -0.5$**

5. If the demand for coffee is  $Q = 25000 - 0.5P$ , where  $Q$  is the number of tons produced and  $P$  is the price per ton, total revenue is maximized when the output level ( $Q^*$ ) is

**Answer:  $Q^* = 12500$  tons.**

6. The demand for tickets to a concert is given by  $Q = 1000P^{-1.5}I^2$  where  $P$  is the price of a ticket. Assume that per capita income,  $I$ , is \$2000. At a price,  $P$ , of \$70 the price elasticity of demand is

**Answer:  $\eta = -1.5$ .**

7. Demand for Post Malone CDs is equal to  $Q_M = P_M^{-2} I^{1.5} P_E^4$  where  $Q_M$  is the quantity of Post Malone CDs,  $P_M$  is the price of a Malone CD,  $I$  is per capital income, and  $P_E$  is the price of a Billie Eilish CD.

- a. Calculate the cross-price elasticity ( $\eta_{ME}$ ).
- b. What is the relationship between Malone and Eilish CDs?

Answer: a)  $\eta_{ME} = 4$  b) substitutes