

Total Costs (TC),
Total fixed cost (TFC or FC)
Total variable costs (TVC or VC)

$$TC' = TFC' + TVC'$$

or $TC' = FC' + VC'$

FC' = costs that do not vary w/ outputs you produce.

VC' = costs that do vary w/ outputs you produce.

Average total cost (Atc or AC)

Average fixed cost (AFC)

Average variable cost (AVC)

From $TC = FC + VC$ — (1)

Dividing (1) throughout by Q gives

$$\frac{TC}{Q} = \frac{FC}{Q} + \frac{VC}{Q}$$

$$AC = AFC + AVC$$
 — (2)

variable cost per unit of output

Fixed cost per unit of output

average cost

or cost per unit of output

or unit cost

in business term

20

$AC, AFC, AVC \rightarrow$ unit is Baht/piece

Baht/unit

Baht/☺

Marginal cost (MC)

MC = extra cost we incur when we produce an extra unit of output.

$$MC = \frac{\Delta TC'}{\Delta Q} = \frac{TC'_{NEW} - TC'_{OLD}}{Q_{NEW} - Q_{OLD}} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$MC = \frac{\Delta TC'}{\Delta Q} = \frac{\Delta (FC' + VC')}{\Delta Q} = \frac{\Delta FC' + \Delta VC'}{\Delta Q} = \frac{\Delta FC'}{\Delta Q} + \frac{\Delta VC'}{\Delta Q}$$

$$MC = \frac{\Delta VC'}{\Delta Q} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

21

Variation of Short-Run Cost with Output

$FC/Q + VC/Q = TC/Q$

Output, q	Fixed Cost, FC	Variable Cost, VC	Total Cost, TC	Marginal Cost, MC	Average Fixed Cost, $AFC = FC/q$	Average Variable Cost, $AVC = VC/q$	Average Cost, $AC = TC/q$
0	48	0	48				
1	48	25	73	25	48	25	73
2	48	46	94	21	24	23	47
3	48	66	114	20	16	22	38
4	48	82	130	16	12	20.5	32.5
5	48	100	148	18	9.6	20	29.6
6	48	120	168	20	8	20	28
7	48	141	189	21	6.9	20.1	27
8	48	168	216	27	6	21	27
9	48	198	246	30	5.3	22	27.3
10	48	230	278	32	4.8	23	27.8
11	48	272	320	42	4.4	24.7	29.1
12	48	321	369	49	4.0	26.8	30.8

Fact#1 • $FC = 48$. It does not change when Q changes.

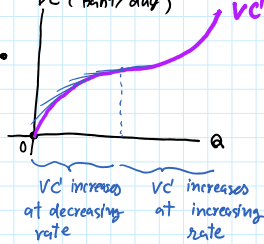
(on FC) • Notice that even when $Q = 0$, $FC = 48$.



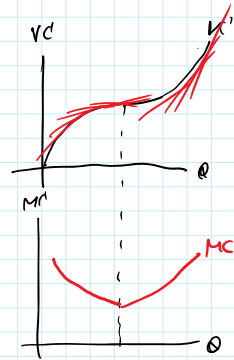
Fact#2 • When the firm produces more Q , the firm pays more VC !

(on VC) i.e., $Q \uparrow \rightarrow VC \uparrow$

• Notice that when $Q = 0$, $VC = 0$.

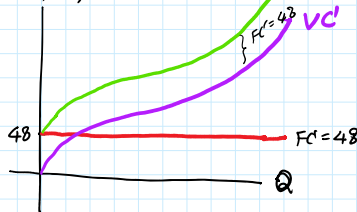


• slope of $VC = \frac{\Delta VC}{\Delta Q} = MC$



Fact#3 • When $Q \uparrow$, $TC \uparrow$

(on TC) • As $TC = FC + VC$, TC increases at decreasing rate first and then increases at increasing rate.



Notice that slope of $TC = \frac{\Delta TC}{\Delta Q}$

which is equal to

MC

So slope of TC is MC as well.

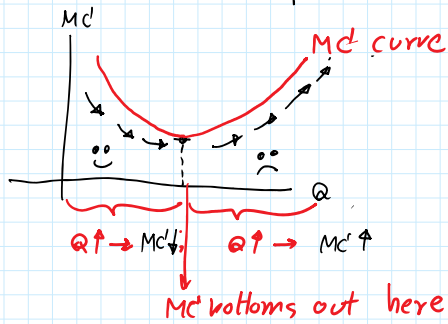
Grand conclusion: slope of $VC = \text{slope of } TC = MC$

Fact#4 • $MC = \frac{\Delta TC}{\Delta Q}$ or $MC = \frac{\Delta VC}{\Delta Q}$

↑ slope of TC curve ↑ slope of MC curve.

• MC is U-shaped: as $Q \uparrow$, MC falls first, then rises.

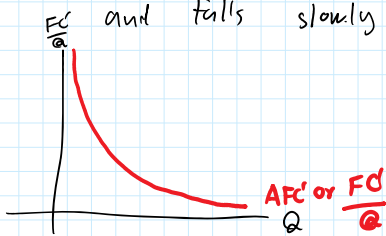
- MC is U-shaped: as $Q \uparrow$, MC falls first, bottoms out, and then rises.



Fact#5
(ON AFC)

- $AFC = \frac{FC}{Q}$ [Fixed cost per unit of cookie]

- As $Q \uparrow$, $\frac{FC}{Q}$ falls sharply at the beginning and falls slowly at large amount of Q .



(EX)

$$FC = 1,000,000 \text{ USD}$$

$$\text{IF } Q=1, \quad \frac{FC}{Q} = \frac{1,000,000}{1} = 1,000,000 \text{ USD/CD}$$

$$\text{IF } Q=2, \quad \frac{FC}{Q} = \frac{1,000,000}{2} = 500,000 \text{ USD/CD}$$

$$\text{IF } Q=10, \quad \frac{FC}{Q} = \frac{1,000,000}{10} = 100,000 \text{ USD/CD}$$

$$\text{IF } Q=1,000,000, \quad \frac{FC}{Q} = \frac{1,000,000}{1,000,000} = 1 \text{ USD/CD}$$

$$\text{IF } Q=100,000,000, \quad \frac{FC}{Q} = \frac{1,000,000}{100,000,000} = 1 \text{ CENT/CD}$$

Notice that As the firm produces more CDs, Fixed cost is shared by each unit of CDs.

Each unit of CDs helps sharing the fixed cost!

We call this "Spreading Effect"

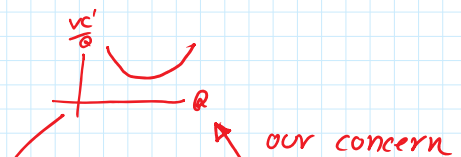
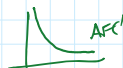
Recall this

$$\pi = TR - TC$$

profit per unit ...

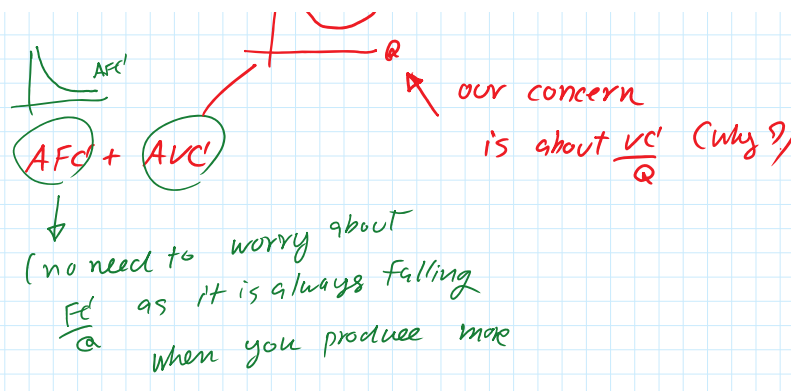
$$\frac{\pi}{Q} = \frac{TR}{Q} - \frac{TC}{Q}$$

$$\pi = P \cdot Q - TC$$

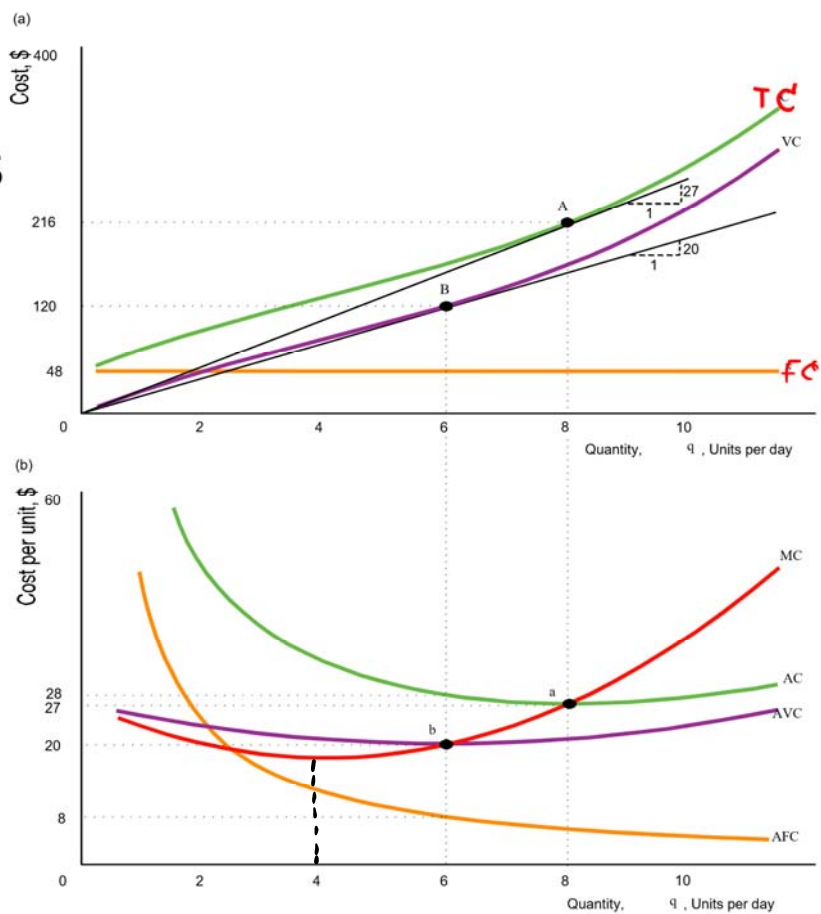


profit
per unit
or
profit margin

$$\frac{\pi}{Q} = \frac{P \cdot Q}{Q} - \frac{TC}{Q}$$
$$\uparrow \frac{\pi}{Q} = P - AC$$



Short-Run Cost Curves



7-23

Facts about TC, FC, VC



Facts about AFC
Why AFC has rectangular hyperbola shape?
(Spreading effect)



Fact #6

Facts about AVC:

Why AVC is U-shaped?
(Diminishing return effect)

$$AVC = \frac{VC'}{Q} \quad [\text{variable cost per unit of output}]$$

(cookies)

unit: baht paid to owners of variable inputs

$$AVC = \frac{VC'}{Q} = \frac{w \cdot L}{Q} = w \cdot \frac{L}{Q} = w \cdot \frac{1}{\frac{Q}{L}} = w \cdot \frac{1}{AP_L}$$

So $AVC = \frac{w}{AP_L}$

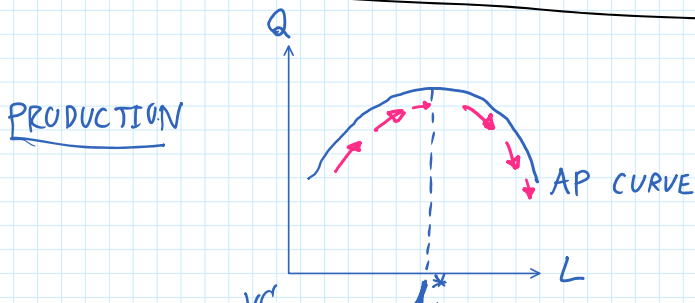
Given w is fixed (supposed), if $AP_L \uparrow$, AVC is falling
and if $AP_L \downarrow$, AVC is rising

IF labor becomes **more** productive (i.e., $AP_L \uparrow$), $\frac{VC'}{Q} \downarrow$ 😊
IF $\leftarrow \leftarrow \leftarrow$ **less** productive (i.e., $AP_L \downarrow$), $\frac{VC'}{Q} \uparrow$ ☹️

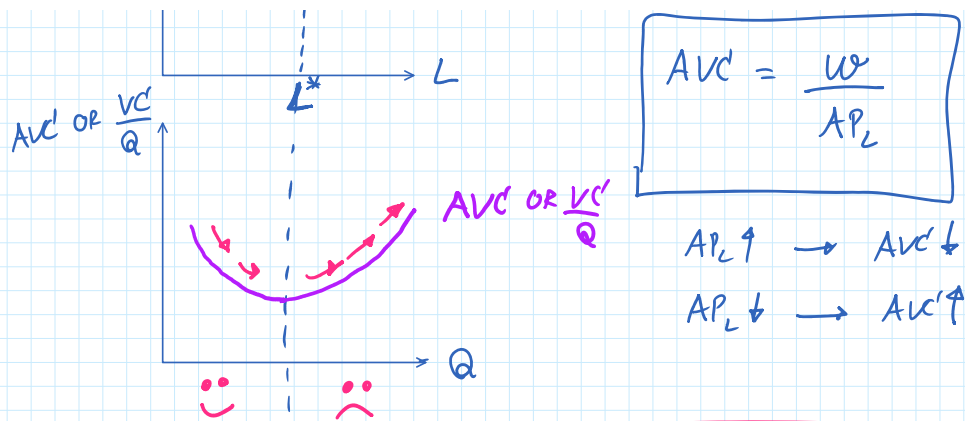
Ex: suppose $w = 300$ baht/♀/day

IF $Q_1 = 1000$ COOKIES
 $L_1 = 10$ workers
 $AP_{L_1} = \frac{Q_1}{L_1} = \frac{1000 \text{ ♀/day}}{10 \text{ ♀/day}} = 100 \text{ ♀}$
 $VC_1 = w \cdot L_1 = 300 \cdot 10 = 3000$ baht/day
 $AVC_1 = \frac{VC_1}{Q_1} = \frac{3000 \text{ baht}}{1000 \text{ ♀}} = 3$ baht/♀

IF $Q_2 = 1200$ COOKIES
 $L_2 = 11$ workers
 $AP_{L_2} = \frac{Q_2}{L_2} = \frac{1200 \text{ ♀}}{11 \text{ ♀}} = 109.09 \text{ ♀/♀}$
 $VC_2 = w \cdot L_2 = 300 \cdot 11 = 3,300$ baht/day
 $AVC_2 = \frac{VC_2}{Q_2} = \frac{3,300}{1200} = 2.75$ baht/♀ !!!



$AVC = \frac{w}{AP_L}$



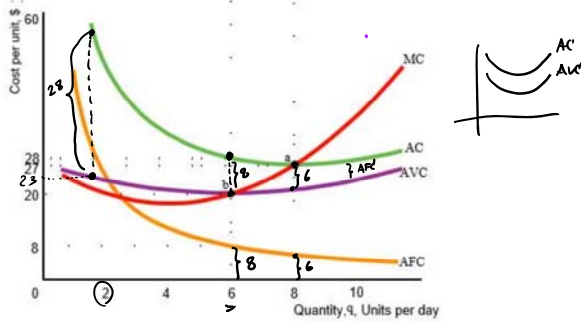
AVC curve is "a mirror image" of AP curve.

- IF $MP > AP \rightarrow AP \uparrow \rightarrow AVC \downarrow$
 (Specializations and division of labor)

- IF $MP < AP \rightarrow AP \downarrow \rightarrow AVC \uparrow$ (Diminishing Return effect causes this to happen!)
 ↓
 due to the fact that
 Law of Diminishing MP
 (Mismatch between the use more of workers and the fixed amount of machines (k) arises)

Facts about AC: Why AC is U-shaped?

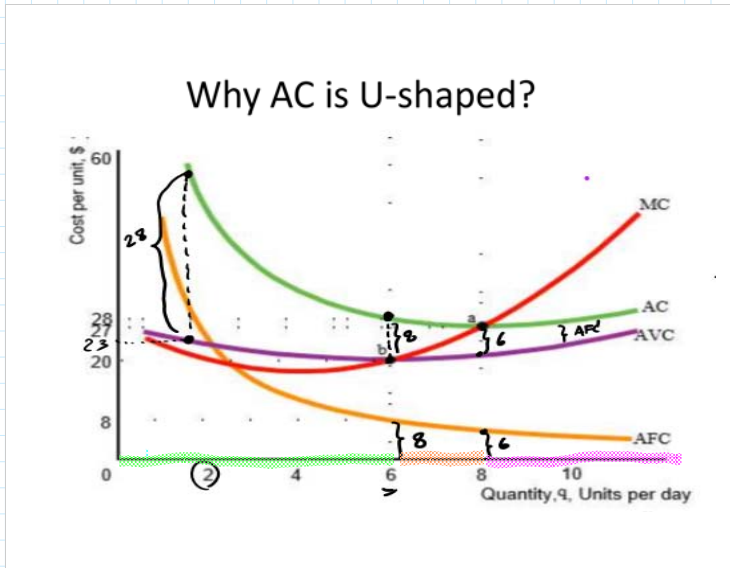
#7



① AC can be constructed by "vertical sum" of AVC and AFC.
curve

② Vertical gap or vertical distance of AC and AVC is equal to...
AFC. That's why the gap we are talking about
gets narrower as we produce more output.

③ Notice that AVC "bottoms out" first (at $Q=6$),
AC "bottoms out" second (at $Q=8$),
MC "cuts" at the bottom of AVC valley and
then at the bottom of AC valley.



From $0 < Q < 6$: $AFC + AVC = AC$

- Thanks to benefit of "spreading effect" ($AFC \downarrow$)
- Thanks to benefit of "specialization" ($AVC \downarrow$)

* $MP_L > AP_L \rightarrow AP \uparrow \rightarrow AVC \downarrow$ [$AVC = \frac{w}{AP_L}$]

From $6 < Q < 8$: $AFC' + AVC' = AC'$

It must be that $\Downarrow AFC'$ is stronger than $\Uparrow AVC'$

- Thanks to "spreading effect" ($AFC' \Downarrow$) $++$
- Diminishing Return effect starts to operate. \Downarrow $MP_L < AP_L \rightarrow AP \downarrow \rightarrow AVC \Uparrow$ $-$

However, spreading effect still dominates Diminishing Return effect. As a result, we still observe that AC is still falling $\ddot{\text{smiley}}$

From $Q > 8$, $AFC + AVC = AC$

Since DMR effect ($\Uparrow AVC$) > SPREADING EFFECT ($\Downarrow AFC$), then $AC \uparrow \ddot{\text{frowny}}$

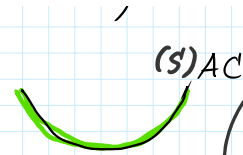
That's why AC has U-shape!

(S)AC in the short run production

That's why AC has U-shape!

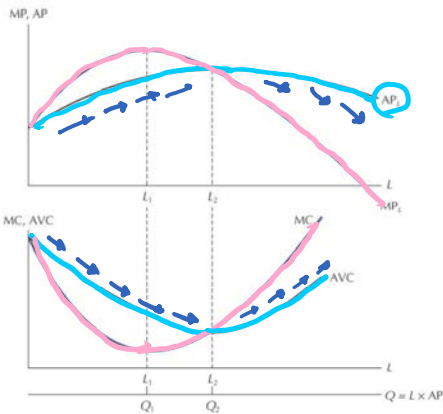
(↑AVC)

(↓AFC)



in the short run production

The Relationship Between MP, AP, MC, and AVC



Recall that...
 On Production On Cost of production

TP	TC	FC	VC
AP _L	AC	AFc	AVC
MP _L	MC		

$$AVC = \frac{w}{AP_L}$$

#1 → when AP ↑, AVC ↓ ☺
 when AP ↓, AVC ↑ ☹

$$MC = \frac{w}{MP_L}$$

#2 → when MP ↑, MC ↓ ☺
 when MP ↓, MC ↑ ☹

- AVC curve is a mirror image of AP curve.
- MC curve is a mirror image of MP curve.
- Looking at how AP & MP are related: when MP > AP, AP ↑
 when MP < AP, AP ↓
- Looking at how MC & AVC are related: when MC < AVC, AVC ↓
 when MC > AVC, AVC ↑

Note

Proof on

$$MC = \frac{w}{MP_L}$$

$$MC = \frac{\Delta VC}{\Delta Q} = \frac{\Delta w \cdot L}{\Delta Q} = w \cdot \frac{\Delta L}{\Delta Q} = w \cdot \frac{1}{\frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta L}} = w \cdot \frac{1}{MP_L}$$

$$MC = \frac{w}{MP_L}$$

end of the proof.

Swans Reflecting Elephants (1937) is a painting by the Spanish surrealist Salvador Dalí.



AP, MP
AVC' MC'

**Average-Marginal Relationship holds
when we consider MC and AC.**

Term	Definition	Mathematical Description
Explicit costs	Costs that require an outlay of money by the firm	
Implicit costs	Costs that do not require an outlay of money by the firm	
Fixed costs	Costs that do not vary with the quantity of output produced	FC
Variable costs	Costs that vary with the quantity of output produced	VC
Total cost	The market value of all the inputs that a firm uses in production	$TC = FC + VC$
Average fixed cost	Fixed cost divided by the quantity of output	$AFC = FC / Q$
Average variable cost	Variable cost divided by the quantity of output	$AVC = VC / Q$
Average total cost	Total cost divided by the quantity of output	$ATC \text{ or } AC = TC / Q$
Marginal cost	The increase in total cost that arises from an extra unit of production	$MC = \Delta TC / \Delta Q$

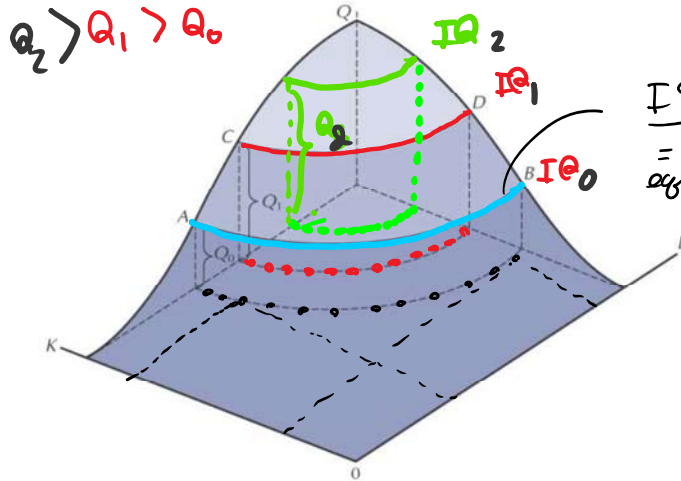
Production and Costs in the Long Run

- output
inputs
- $Q=f(L,K) \rightarrow$ Production Function in the long run
 - Where Q = output, L = amount of labor, and K = amount of capital
 - Let w = wage (price of labor) and r = rental rate (price of capital)
 - Isocost: $wL+rK=TC$
 - ↓ labor cost
 - ↓ capital cost

• All inputs can be varied (= No Fixed input)

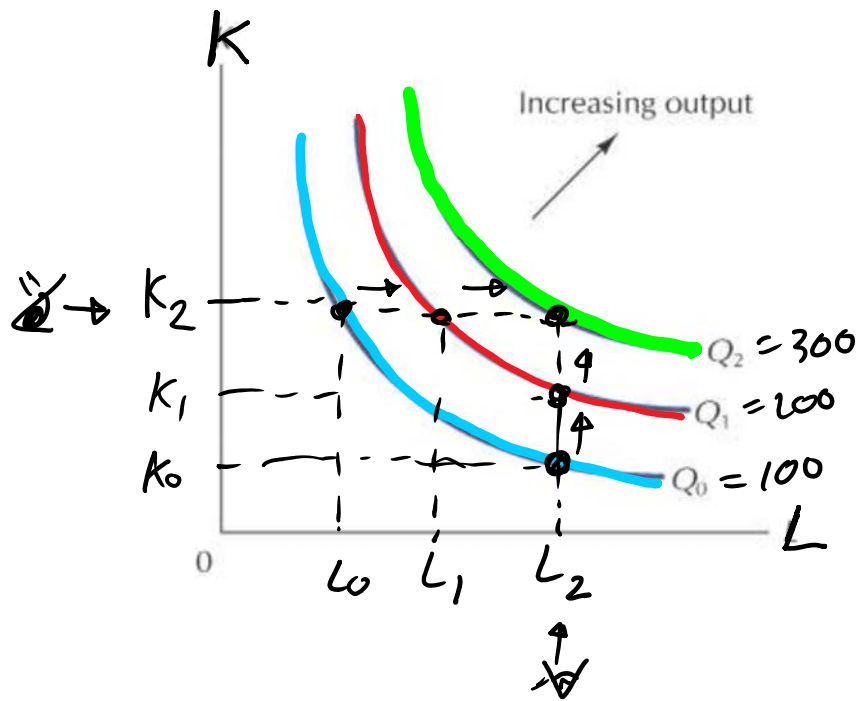
[w/ consumer choice chapter
 $P_x \cdot X + P_y \cdot Y = M$]

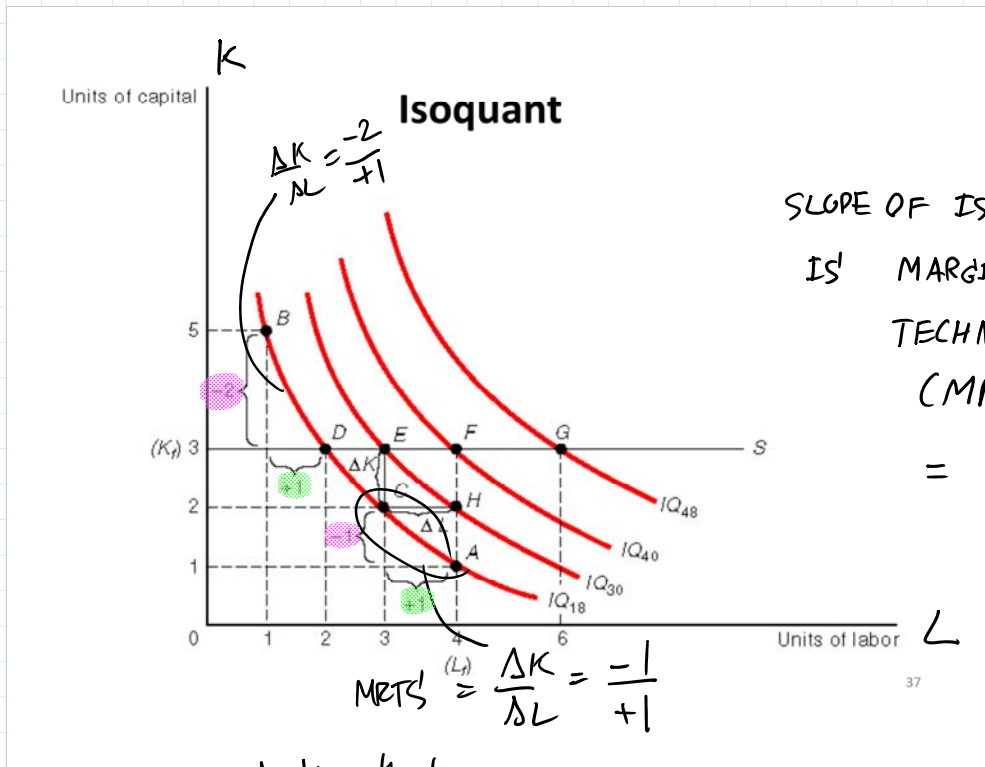
The Production Mountain



ISOQUANT : a collection of (L, K)
= equal = quantity that gives a
manager the same
quantity of output (Q)

The Isoquant Map Derived from the Production Mountain

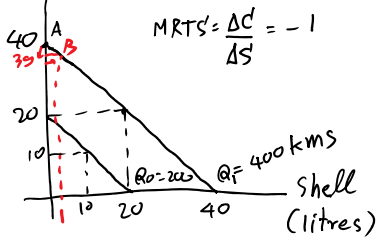




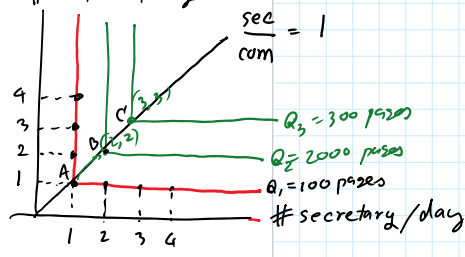
Notice that on an Isoquant, MRTS is **diminishing**.

MRTS tells us about ability of manager to substitute L and K so that he still gets the same output

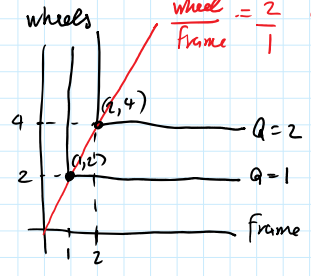
Isoquant for perfect substitutes
 (a) tex (litres)



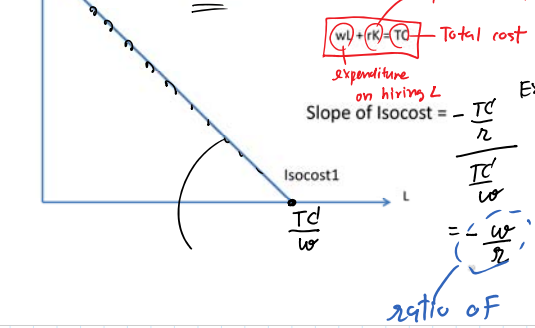
Isoquant for perfect complements
 # computers/day



Fixed proportion 1:1



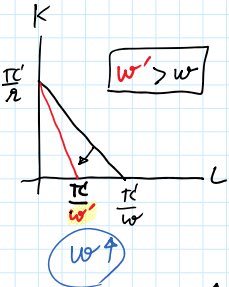
Isocost line: Graph showing all possible combinations of labor and capital that can be purchased for a given total cost.



Ex: $TC = 10000 \text{ baht/day}$
 $w = 200 \text{ baht/hr/day}$
 $r = 500 \text{ baht/mtr/day}$
 $\frac{TC}{w} = \frac{10000}{200} = 50 \text{ hr/day}$
 $\frac{TC}{r} = \frac{10000}{500} = 20 \text{ machines/day}$

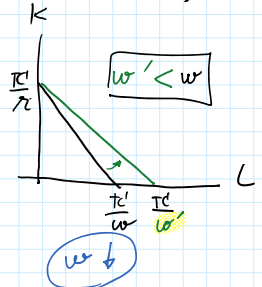
= ratio of
 = input prices
 = relative price of inputs.

What if w or r changes?



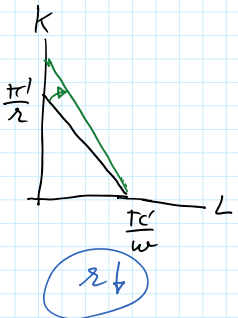
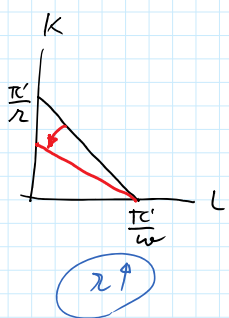
slope of isocost \uparrow
 $\frac{w'}{r} > \frac{w}{r}$

labor becomes more expensive relative to capital



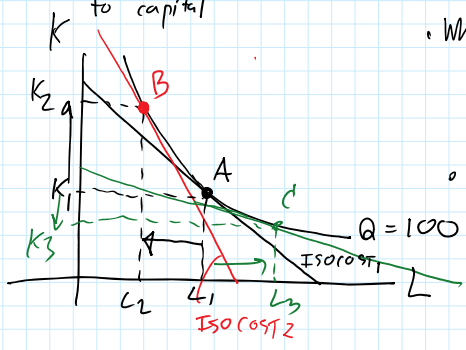
slope of isocost \downarrow
 $\frac{w'}{r} < \frac{w}{r}$

labor becomes cheaper relative to capital



D-I-Y

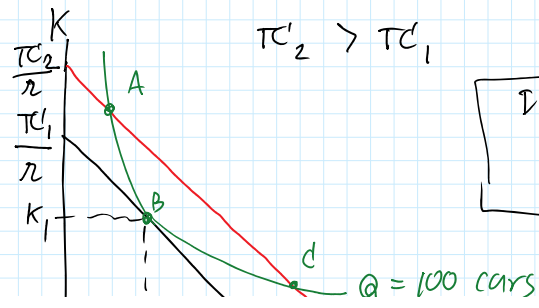
Application



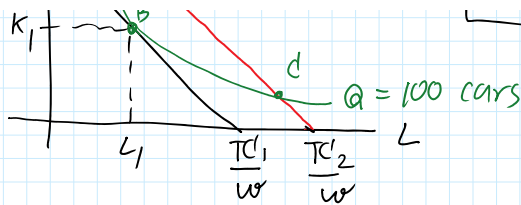
When $\frac{w}{r} \uparrow$, he moves from A \rightarrow B:
 use less L and use more K

When $\frac{w}{r} \downarrow$, he moves from A \rightarrow C:
 use more L and use less K.

By doing so, he could maintain $Q = 100$!



Input mix at B (L_1, K_1) minimizes Total cost of producing 100 cars.



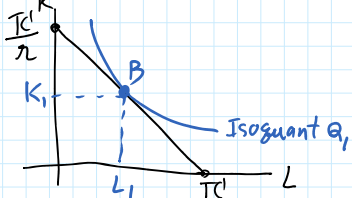
cost minimization problem

A producer

2 inputs: L & K
 $r = w$ $P_k = r$

objective → Minimize $TC = w \cdot L + r \cdot K$
 s.t. $Q = Q_0$

decision variables: choose L & K (amounts)



Slope of Isocost = $-\frac{w}{r} (= -\frac{P_L}{P_K})$

Slope of Isoquant = $MRTS_{LK} = \frac{\Delta K}{\Delta L} \Big|_{Q=Q_0}$

At B: B is cost-minimizing input choice

At B: slope of isoquant = slope of Isocost

$$MRTS_{LK} = -\frac{w}{r}$$

Cost minimizing Rule
 or
 Golden Rule of Cost Minimization

At B:

$$\frac{MP_L}{MP_K} = \frac{w}{r}$$

At B:

$$\frac{MP_L}{w} = \frac{MP_K}{r}$$

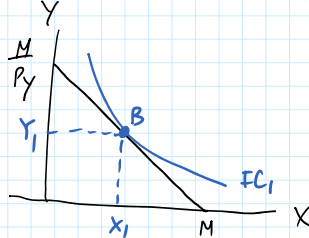
Recall this

A Consumer

2 goods: X & Y
 P_x P_y

objective → Maximize $U(x, Y)$
 s.t. $P_x \cdot X + P_y \cdot Y = M$

decision variables: choose x & y (amounts)



Slope of BL = $-\frac{P_x}{P_y}$

Slope of IC = $MRS_{xy} = \frac{\Delta Y}{\Delta X} \Big|_{U=U}$

At B: B is utility maximizing choice

At B: slope of IC = slope of BL

$$MRS_{xy} = -\frac{P_x}{P_y}$$

Rational spending rule of Golden Rule of Utility Maximization

At B:

$$\frac{MU_x}{MU_y} = \frac{P_x}{P_y}$$

OR

At B:

$$\frac{MU_x}{P_x} = \frac{MU_y}{P_y} \quad ***$$

$$\text{At B: } \left| \frac{MP}{w} = \frac{MP_K}{r} \right| \quad \text{At B: } \left| \frac{I^x}{P_x} = \frac{I^y}{P_y} \right| \quad ***$$

7.3

COST IN THE LONG RUN

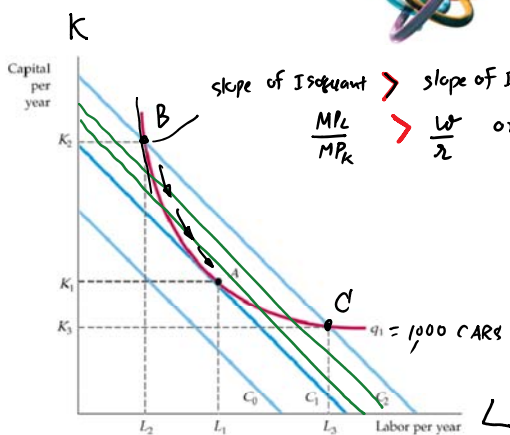


The Isocost Line

Figure 7.3

Producing a Given Output at Minimum Cost

Isocost curves describe the combination of inputs to production that cost the same amount to the firm. Isocost curve C_1 is tangent to isoquant q_1 at A and shows that output q_1 can be produced at minimum cost with labor input L_1 and capital input K_1 . Other input combinations— L_2, K_2 and L_3, K_3 —yield the same output but at higher cost.



$Q = F(L, K)$

slope of Isoquant $>$ slope of Isocost

$$\frac{MP_L}{MP_K} > \frac{w}{r} \text{ or } \frac{MP_L}{w} > \frac{MP_K}{r}$$

Fact #1 Given w, r , input combination $A(L_1, K_1)$ minimizes total cost of producing $q = q_1 = 1,000$

Your cost will be equal to C_1 baht.

Fact #2 At input combination $A(L_1, K_1)$, slope of Isoquant = slope of Isocost

$$MRTS_{LK} = -\frac{w}{r}$$

$$\frac{\Delta K}{\Delta L} = -\frac{w}{r}$$

or $-\frac{MP_L}{MP_K} = -\frac{w}{r}$

$$\frac{MP_L}{MP_K} = \frac{w}{r}$$

or $\frac{MP_L}{w} = \frac{MP_K}{r}$

this condition holds ONLY AT A!

$\frac{MP_L}{w}$ = additional output per baht when you spend on hiring a worker

Ex: $w = 300$ baht/worker/day

$MP_L = 600$ cookies

$$\frac{MP_L}{w} = \frac{600}{300} = 2 \text{ cookies/baht}$$

$\frac{MP_K}{r}$ = additional output per baht when you spend on renting a machine.

Ex: $r = 600$ baht/machine/day

$MP_k = 200$ cookies

$$\frac{MP_k}{r} = \frac{200}{600} = \frac{1}{3} = 0.33 \text{ cookies/baht spent.}$$

So IF $\frac{MP_L}{w} > \frac{MP_k}{r}$, a smart manager should use more L and less K.

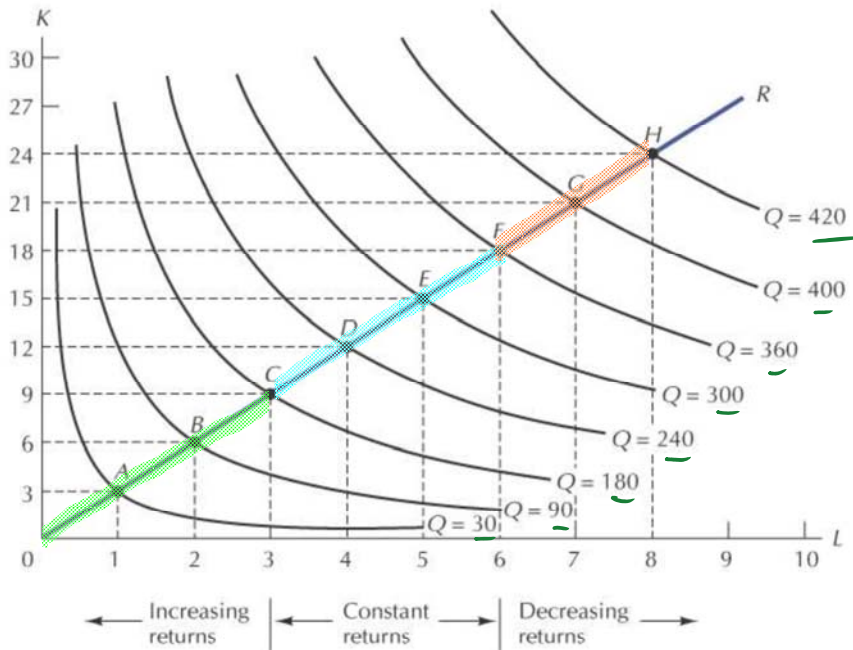
IF $\frac{MP_L}{w} < \frac{MP_k}{r}$, a smart manager should use more K and less L.

Cost Minimization Rule

$$\frac{MP_L}{w} = \frac{MP_K}{r}$$

occurs at input choice $A(L_1, K_1)$

Figure 9-11: Returns to Scale Shown on the Isoquant Map



43

doubling all inputs
 gives output more
 than double

$$\% \Delta Q = \% \Delta L = \% \Delta K$$

example: increase L and K by 10%.
 leads to, let's say, 10%
 increase in output.

Point	L	% change	K	% change	Q	% change	RTS
A	1	-	3	-	30	-	
B	2	100.0%	6	100.0%	90	200%	IRS
C	3	50.0%	9	50.0%	180	100%	IRS
D	4	33.3%	12	33.3%	240	33%	CRS
E	5	25.0%	15	25.0%	300	25%	CRS
F	6	20.0%	18	20.0%	360	20%	CRS
G	7	16.7%	21	16.7%	400	11%	DRS
H	8	14.3%	24	14.3%	420	5%	DRS

NOTICE THAT $\% \Delta L = \% \Delta K < \% \Delta Q$

$\% \Delta L = \% \Delta K = \% \Delta Q$

$\% \Delta L = \% \Delta K > \% \Delta Q$

Note: Calculated from Figure 9-11: Returns to Scale Shown on the Isoquant Map, Frank (2006).

Math Note on Return to Scale

$$F(cK, cL) > cF(L, K) \rightarrow \text{IRS}$$

$$F(cK, cL) = cF(L, K) \rightarrow \text{CRS}$$

$$F(cK, cL) < cF(L, K) \rightarrow \text{DRS}$$

Ex: consider $Q = F(K, L) = \underline{\underline{2KL}}$.

$$F(cK, cL) = 2(cK)(cL)$$

$$= c^2 2KL$$

$$= c^2 F(K, L)$$

$$\text{if } c=2, \text{ then } F(2K, 2L) = 2^2 F(K, L)$$

$$= 4 F(K, L)$$

Then $Q = 2KL$ follows IRS.

Ex: $Q = mL^\alpha K^\beta$ where $\alpha + \beta = 1$

$$F(cL, cK) = m(cL)^\alpha (cK)^\beta$$

$$= m c^\alpha L^\alpha \cdot c^\beta K^\beta$$

$$c^{\alpha+\beta} mL^\alpha K^\beta$$

$$= c^{\alpha+\beta} \cdot F(L, K)$$

Since $F(cL, cK) = c \cdot F(L, K)$, then $Q = mL^\alpha K^\beta$ exhibits constant return to scale. (CRS)

D-I-Y : check $Q = 4K^{\frac{1}{2}}L^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{--- (1)}$

$$Q = 4 \cdot K + 2 \cdot L \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$Q = K^{0.5} L^{0.5} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

Returns to Scale: The bigger, The better?

- There are **increasing returns to scale (economies of scale)** when long-run average total cost declines as output increases.
- There are **decreasing returns to scale (diseconomies of scale)** when long-run average total cost increases as output increases.
- There are **constant returns to scale** when long-run average total cost is constant as output increases.

LAC (Long Run Average Cost) \Rightarrow baht/unit

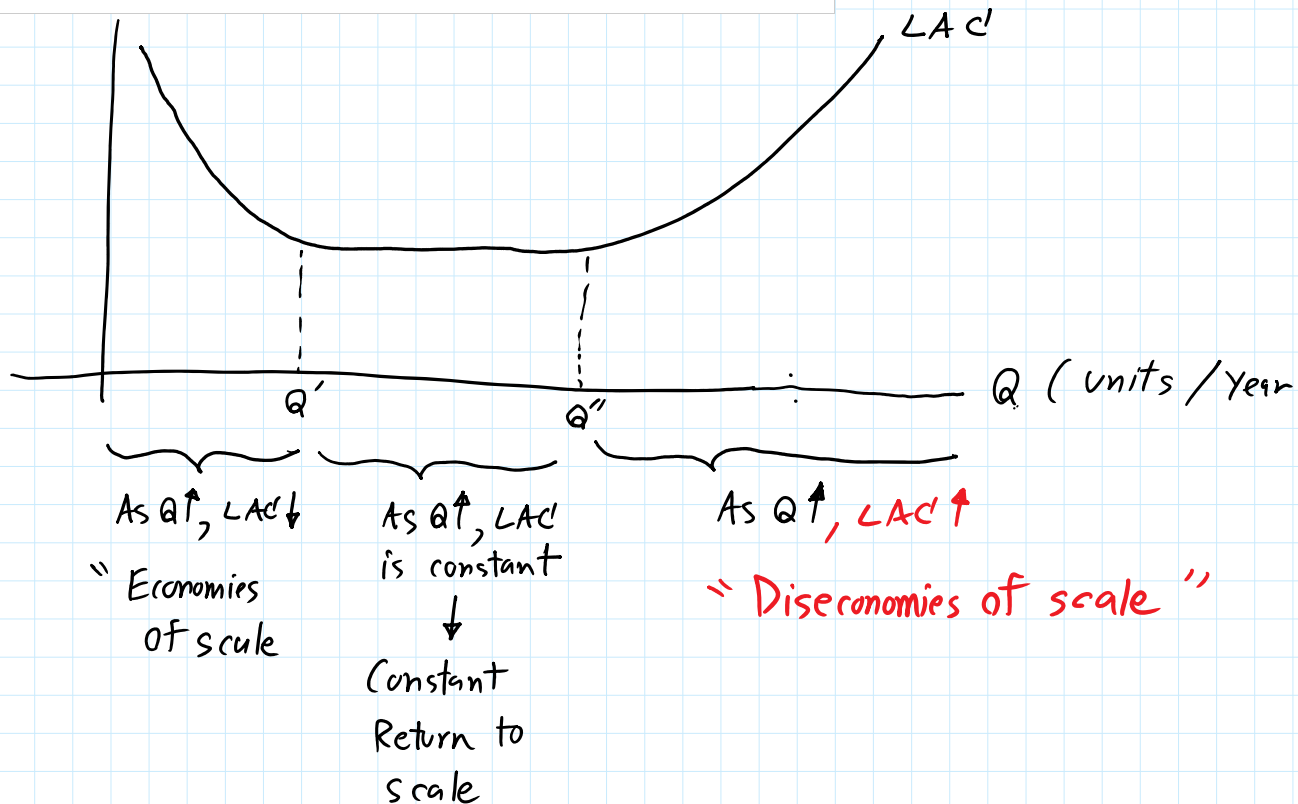
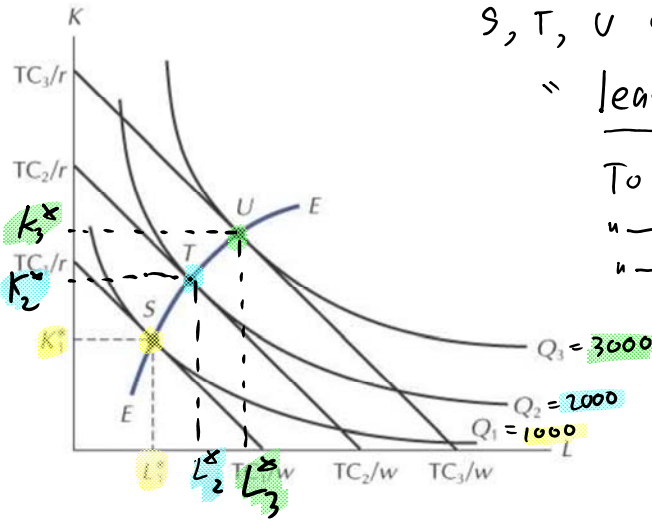


Figure 10.15: The Long-Run Expansion Path: A collection of least combinations

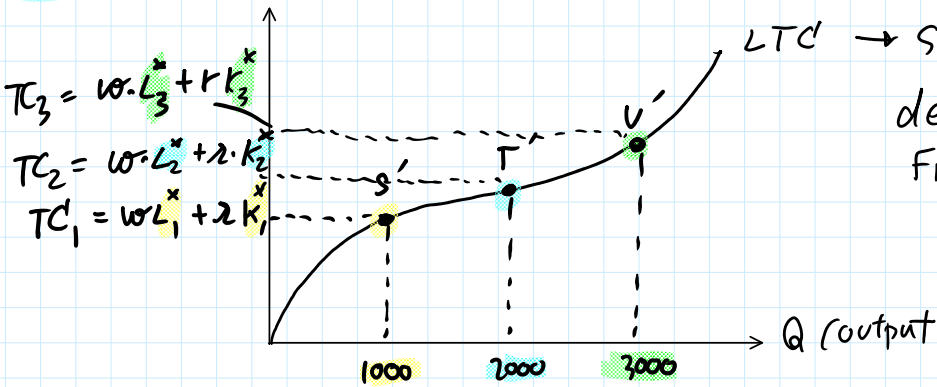


S, T, U are so called

"least cost combinations"

To produce $Q_1 = 1000$, you use S
 " " " " $Q_2 = 2000$, " " " T
 " " " " $Q_3 = 3000$, " " " U

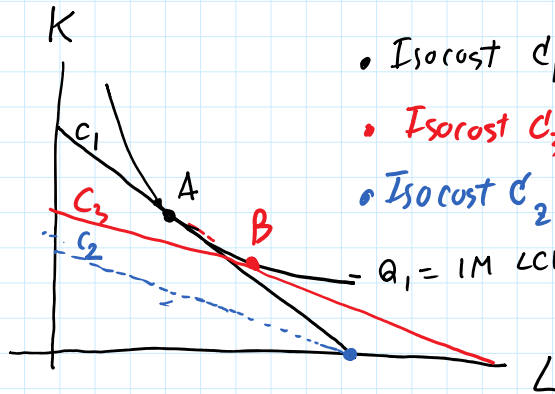
Minimized Total cost (baht/year)



LTC → shows relationship between desired amount of output Firm want to produce AND its minimized total cost.

Note $TC_3 > TC_2 > TC_1$

Application



- Isocost $C_1 \Rightarrow$ 50 million baht
- Isocost $C_3 \Rightarrow$ 60 million baht
- Isocost $C_2 \Rightarrow$ 50 million baht (why?)

Now, suppose price of capital (r) increases . . .