

#1 If the price  $P_x$  and  $P_y$  increase 10% at the same time, with income remaining unchanged, show that this is equivalent to a reduction in income.

#2 Demonstrate how PCC with varying price  $P_y$ , ( $P_x$  and Income are fixed) can give us the price elasticity of  $Y$  to be equal to, less than, or greater than 1 in absolute value

7. A college student has two options for meals: eating at the dining hall for \$6 per meal, or eating a Cup O' Soup for \$1.50 per meal. Her weekly food budget is \$60.
- Draw the budget constraint showing the trade-off between dining-hall meals and Cups O' Soup. Assuming that she spends equal amounts on both goods, draw an indifference curve showing the optimum choice. Label the optimum as point A.
  - Suppose the price of a Cup O' Soup now rises to \$2. Using your diagram from [part \(a\)](#), show the consequences of this change in price. Assume that our student now spends only 30 percent of her income on dining-hall meals. Label the new optimum as point B.
  - What happened to the quantity of Cups O' Soup consumed as a result of this price change? What does this result say about the income and substitution effects? Explain.
  - Use points A and B to draw a demand curve for Cup O' Soup. What is this type of good called?

#1 If the price  $P_x$  and  $P_y$  increase 10% at the same time, with income remaining unchanged, show that this is equivalent to a reduction in income.

Normally, budget line equation is  $\Rightarrow P_x X + P_y Y = I$

Then  $P_x$  and  $P_y$  increase 10%  $\Rightarrow 1.1P_x X + 1.1P_y Y = I$

$$1.1(P_x X + P_y Y) = I$$

$$P_x X + P_y Y = \frac{I}{1.1}$$

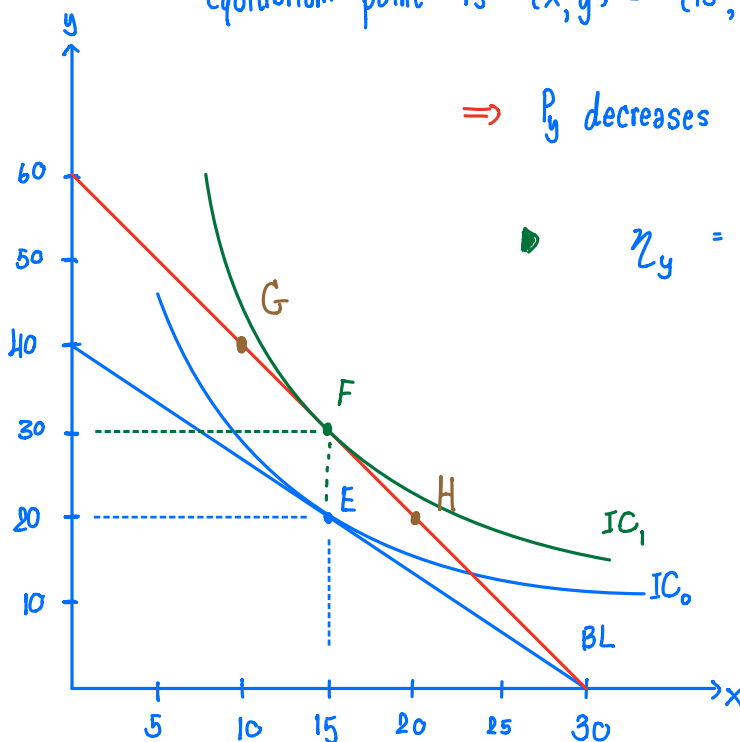
$\therefore$  It's observable that when  $P_x$  and  $P_y$  increase 10% at the same time [when income is fixed], it is equivalent to when we have less income [ $P_x$  and  $P_y$  are fixed]

■ Note 10% Increase in  $P_x$  and  $P_y \neq$  10% Decrease in income.

$$P_x X + P_y Y = \frac{I}{1.1} \neq 0.9I$$

#2 Demonstrate how PCC with varying price  $P_y$  ( $P_x$  and Income are fixed) can give us the price elasticity of  $Y$  to be equal to, less than, or greater than 1 in absolute value

Assume that  $P_x = 4$   $P_y = 3$   $I = 120$ . So, BL:  $4X + 3Y = 120$  and the equilibrium point is  $(X, Y) = (15, 20)$



$$\Rightarrow P_y \text{ decreases to } 2 \Rightarrow \% \Delta P_y = \frac{2-3}{\frac{(2+3)}{2}} \times 100 = -40\%$$

$$\eta_y = -1 = \frac{\% \Delta Q_y}{\% \Delta P_y} \Leftrightarrow \% \Delta Q_y = 40\%$$

$$\frac{y_1 - y_0}{\frac{(y_1 + y_0)}{2}} \times 100 = 40$$

$$\frac{y_1 - 20}{(y_1 + 20)/2} = 0.4$$

$$y_1 - 20 = \frac{(y_1 + 20)}{2} \times 0.4$$

$$0.8y_1 = 24$$

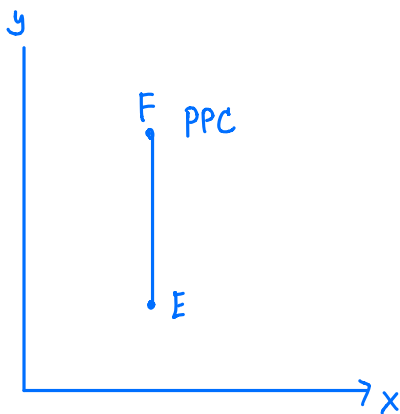
$$y_1 = 30$$

- If the new equilibrium is at F, then  $|\eta_y| = 1$ .

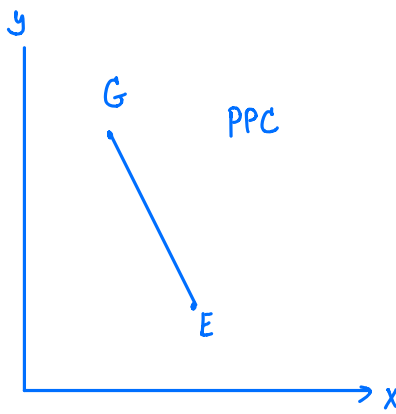
- If the new equilibrium is at G,  $\% \Delta Q_y$  will be greater than 40%,  
then  $|\eta_y| = \left| \frac{\% \Delta Q_y}{\% \Delta P_y} \right|$  will be greater than 1. ( $|\eta_y| > 1 \Leftrightarrow y$  is elastic)

- If the new equilibrium is at H,  $\% \Delta Q_y$  will be less than 40%,  
then  $|\eta_y| = \left| \frac{\% \Delta Q_y}{\% \Delta P_y} \right|$  will be less than 1. ( $|\eta_y| < 1 \Leftrightarrow y$  is inelastic)

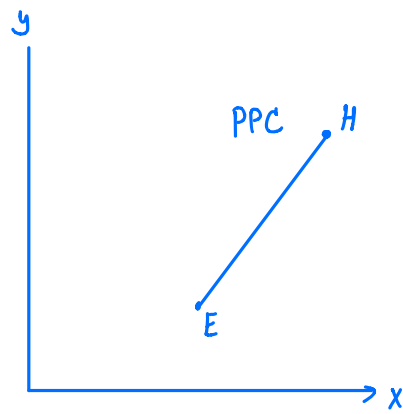
If E to F



$|\eta_y| = 1$   
(Unit elastic)



$|\eta_y| > 1$   
(Elastic)



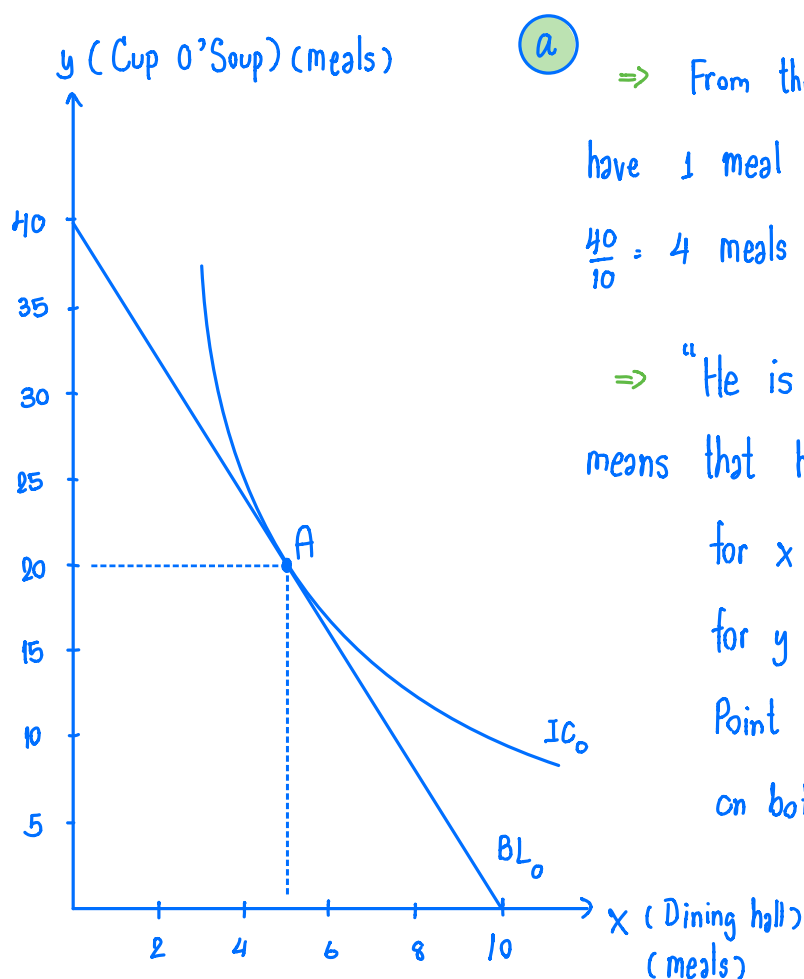
$|\eta_y| < 1$   
(Inelastic)

■ Note Use Midpoint Elasticity in calculation

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Let eating at dining hall =  $x$  and eating at Cup O' Soup =  $y$

$$BL_0 : 6x + 1.5y = 60$$



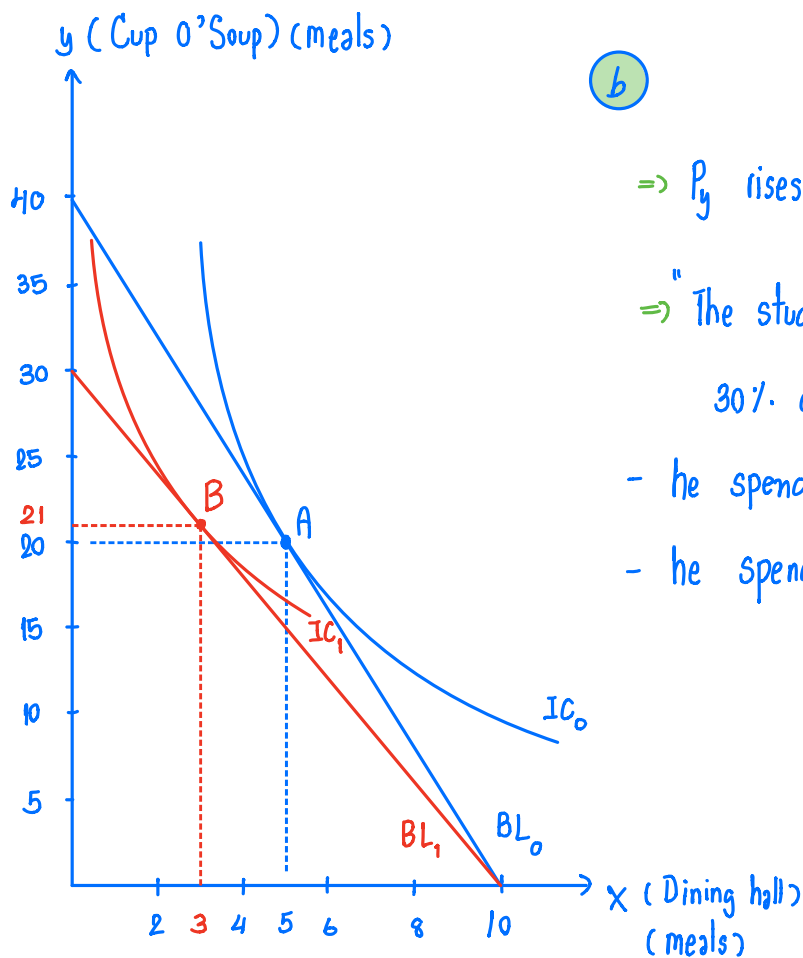
a)  $\Rightarrow$  From the budget line ( $BL_0$ ), if he chooses to have 1 meal at dining hall, he has to trade off  $\frac{40}{10} = 4$  meals of Cup O' Soup in exchange.

$\Rightarrow$  "He is spending equal amounts on both goods" means that he spends \$30 on both goods.

$$\text{for } x \Rightarrow 6x = 30 \Rightarrow x = 5$$

$$\text{for } y \Rightarrow 1.5y = 30 \Rightarrow y = 20$$

Point A illustrates where he spends equal amounts on both  $x$  and  $y$



$\Rightarrow P_y$  rises from 1.5 to 2, so  $BL_1: 6x + 2y = 60$

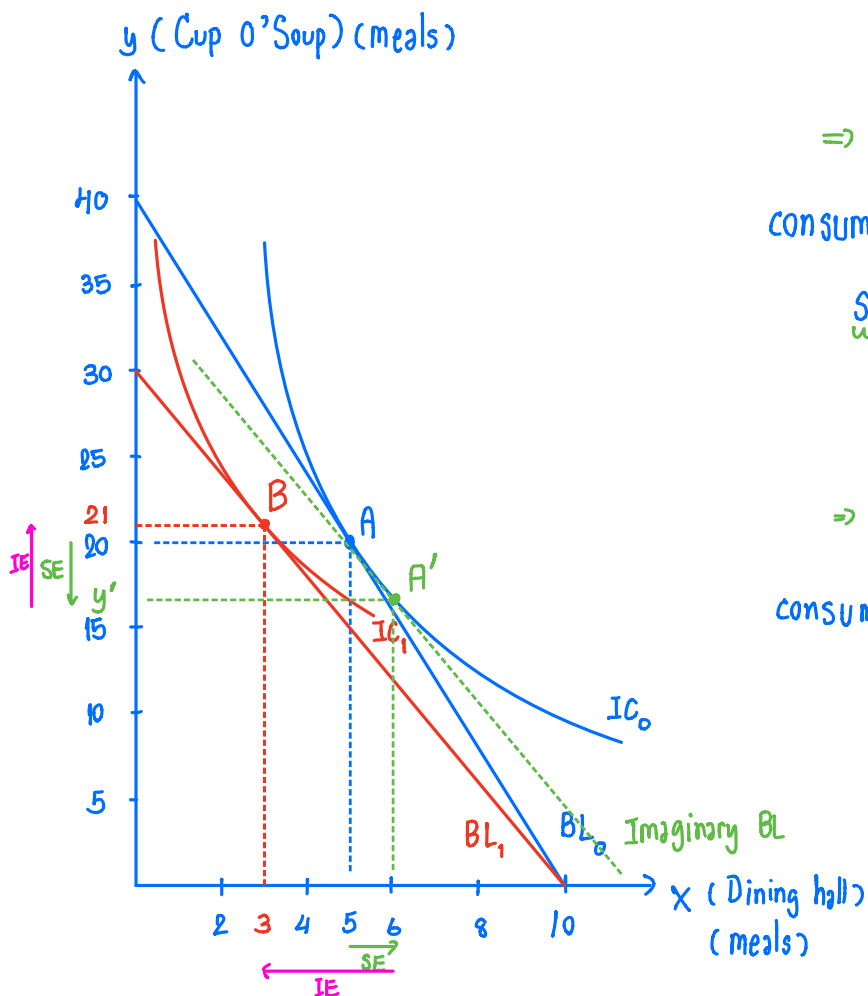
$\Rightarrow$  "The student spends only 30% of income on x"

$$30\% \text{ of Income} = (0.3)(60) = 18$$

- he spends \$18 on x  $\Rightarrow 6x = 18 \Rightarrow x = 3$

- he spends  $\$(60 - 18)$  on y  $\Rightarrow 2y = 42 \Rightarrow y = 21$ .

(c) When  $P_y$  rises to \$2, he now consumes 21 units of y.



$\Rightarrow$  When  $P_y$  increases, by substitution effect, consumer will buy less of y but more of x.

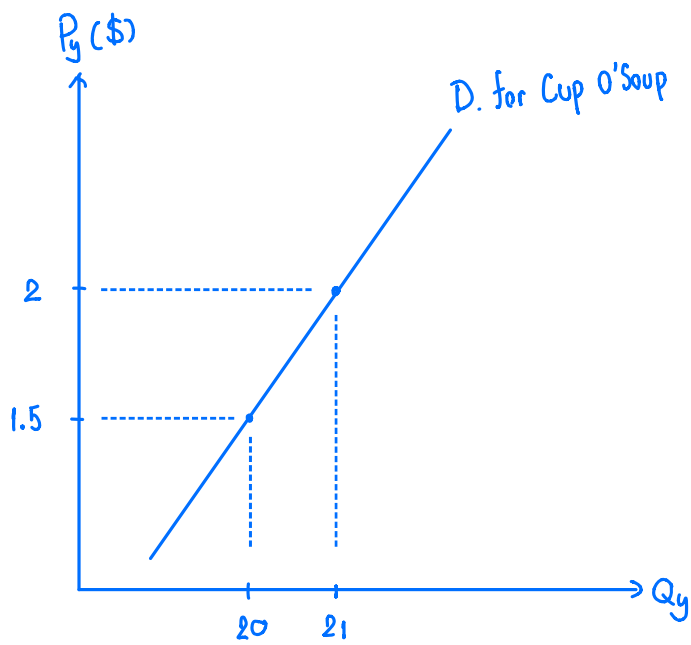
$$\text{SE for } x: 6 - 5 > 0$$

$$\text{for } y: y' - 20 < 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  When  $P_y$  increases, purchasing power of consumer drops as well. This is income effect.

$$\text{IE for } x: 3 - 6 < 0$$

$$\text{for } y: 21 - y' > 0$$



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This type of good is called "Giffen good". It violates law of demand.