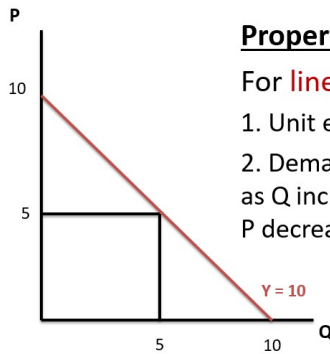


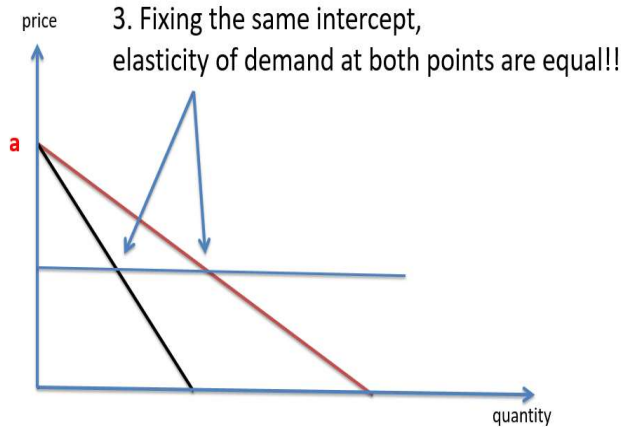
## Linear function: slope v.s. elasticity



### Property:

For **linear** demand curve:

1. Unit elasticity at the mid point.
2. Demand becomes more **inelastic** as Q increases, (correspondingly to P decreases)



### Exercise 2.A:

2.A.1) Given a demand function by  $p = a - bQ$ , derive the formula for the elasticity of demand, and show that the third property holds

2.A.2) Given the market supply  $p = c + dQ$  where  $d \geq 0$ , show that

- (i) elasticity of supply is always greater than 1 if  $c > 0$ ,
- (ii) elasticity of supply is always equal to 1 if  $c = 0$ ,
- (iii) elasticity of supply is always less than 1 if  $c < 0$ .

## 2.A.1) derive the formula elasticity of demand

### • Elasticity of demand (price elasticity)

$$E_d = E_{Q_d, P} = \frac{\frac{\Delta Q_d}{Q_d}}{\frac{\Delta P}{P}} = \frac{\Delta Q_d}{\Delta P} \cdot \frac{P}{Q_d}$$

EX  $Q_d = a - bP$ ,  $\frac{\Delta Q_d}{\Delta P} = ? = \frac{Q_d - Q_{d1}}{P_2 - P_1} = \frac{(a - bP_2) - (a - bP_1)}{P_2 - P_1} = \frac{-bP_2 + bP_1}{P_2 - P_1} = \frac{-b(P_2 - P_1)}{P_2 - P_1} = -b$

Graph: A linear demand curve on a coordinate system with price (P) on the vertical axis and quantity (Q) on the horizontal axis. The curve starts at P=a/b, Q=0 and ends at P=0, Q=a. The slope is labeled as -b. The elasticity at the top is  $E_d \rightarrow \infty$ , at the midpoint is  $E_d = 1$ , and at the bottom is  $E_d$  is small ( $\approx 0$ ).

Graph explain point that • • • has different values of  $E_d \rightarrow$  not constant #

Graph notes: ① slope, ② pull out b (distributive law), ③ then  $P_2$  &  $P_1$  and  $P_2 - P_1$  will be out and leave output shortcut with b

Summary:

- $|E_d| < 1$  inelastic
- $|E_d| = 1$  unit elastic
- $|E_d| > 1$  elastic

