

HW#7 Due Feb 15, 2022

Mankiw Page 107

3. Suppose the price elasticity of demand for heating oil is 0.2 in the short run and 0.7 in the long run.
- a. If the price of heating oil rises from \$1.80 to \$2.20 per gallon, what happens to the quantity of heating oil demanded in the short run? In the long run? (Use the midpoint method in your calculations.)
 - b. Why might this elasticity depend on the time horizon?

7. Suppose that your demand schedule for pizza is as follows:

Price	Quantity Demanded (income = \$20,000)	Quantity Demanded (income = \$24,000)
\$8	40 pizzas	50 pizzas
10	32	45
12	24	30
14	16	20
16	8	12

- a. Use the midpoint method to calculate your price elasticity of demand as the price of pizza increases from \$8 to \$10 if (i) your income is \$20,000 and (ii) your income is \$24,000.
- b. Calculate your income elasticity of demand as your income increases from \$20,000 to \$24,000 if (i) the price is \$12 and (ii) the price is \$16.

3) In short run : $m = 0.2$

In long run : $m = 0.7$

(a) Quantity demanded changes

(Midpoint method)

$$\text{Short run } \eta_D = \frac{\% \Delta Q}{\% \Delta P}$$

$$0.2 = \frac{\% \Delta Q}{\frac{P_1 + P_2}{2}}$$

$$0.2 = \frac{\% \Delta Q}{\frac{1.8 + 2.2}{2}}$$

$$0.2(2) = \% \Delta Q$$

$$\% \Delta Q = 0.4$$

$$\text{Long run } \eta_D = \frac{\% \Delta Q}{\% \Delta P}$$

$$0.7 = \frac{\% \Delta Q}{\frac{P_1 + P_2}{2}}$$

$$0.7 = \frac{\% \Delta Q}{\frac{1.8 + 2.2}{2}}$$

$$\% \Delta Q = 1.4$$

Heating oil price rises from

1.80 \$ to 2.20 \$

(b) Elasticity depends on time horizon

The elasticity depends on time horizon

because in the short run when price ↑

people don't have many substitute to

choose which is inelastic in price, but

when time has passed or in the long run

there will be more substitutes for people

to choose and price will be more elastic.

7(d)

Midpoint method → $\frac{1}{\text{slope}} \cdot \frac{P_1 + P_2}{Q_1 + Q_2}$

$$(i) \text{ slope} = \frac{8-10}{40-32} = \frac{-2}{8} = -\frac{1}{4} \quad (\text{as income } 20,000 \$)$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{1}{\text{slope}} \cdot \frac{8+10}{40+32}$$

$$\rightarrow -4 \cdot \frac{18}{72}$$

$$\boxed{\eta_D = -1}$$

$$(ii) \text{ slope} = \frac{8-10}{50-45} = \frac{-2}{5} \quad (\text{as income } 24,000 \$)$$

$$\text{Midpoint} = -\frac{5}{2} \cdot \frac{8+10}{50+45}$$

$$= -\frac{5}{2} \cdot \frac{18}{95}$$

$$\boxed{\eta_D = \frac{-9}{19}}$$

7(b)

$$(i) \eta_I = \frac{\% \Delta Q_D}{\% \Delta I}$$

$$\eta_I = \frac{\frac{30-24}{24}}{\frac{24000-20000}{20000}} = \frac{\frac{1}{4}}{\frac{1}{5}} = \frac{5}{4} = 1.25$$

$$\eta_I = \frac{5}{4} \approx 25\%$$

$$(ii) \eta_I = \frac{\% \Delta Q}{\% \Delta I}$$

$$= \frac{12-8}{8} = \frac{5}{2} \approx 25\%$$

$$\frac{24000-20000}{20000}$$

$$\eta_I = \frac{5}{2} = 250\%$$