

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?

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } \eta_D \text{ in the short run} &= 0.2 & P_2 &= 2.20 \\ \eta_D \text{ in the long run} &= 0.7 & P_1 &= 1.80 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta P = P_2 - P_1 = 2.20 - 1.80 = 0.40$$

$$\text{Midpoint for } \% \Delta P = \frac{P_2 - P_1}{\frac{(P_2 + P_1)}{2}} = \frac{0.4}{\frac{4}{2}} = 0.2 = 20\%$$

2.20 + 1.80 = 4

$$\text{From } \eta_D = \frac{\% \Delta Q_D}{\% \Delta P}$$

• In short run ; $\% \Delta Q_D = (\overset{\text{short run}}{\eta_D})(\% \Delta P)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (0.2)(20\%) \\ &= 4\% \end{aligned}$$

∴ The quantity demanded for heating oil in the short run will decrease by 4% ~~##~~

• In long run ; $\% \Delta Q_D = (\overset{\text{long run}}{\eta_D})(\% \Delta P)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (0.7)(20\%) \\ &= 14\% \end{aligned}$$

∴ The quantity demanded for heating oil in the long run will decrease by 14% ~~##~~

b) Ans : The elasticity of heating oil depends on the time horizon because of the availability of the substitutes that people might prefer at that time ~~##~~

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.

② (i) Income = 20,000 \$

$$P_1 = 8, Q_{01} = 40$$

$$P_2 = 10, Q_{02} = 32$$

$$\Delta P = P_2 - P_1 = 10 - 8 = 2$$

$$\Delta Q_0 = Q_{02} - Q_{01} = 32 - 40 = -8$$

$$\bullet \text{ Midpoint for } \therefore \Delta P = \frac{P_2 - P_1}{(P_2 + P_1)/2} = \frac{2}{\frac{18}{2}} = 0.22 = 22\%$$

$$\bullet \text{ Midpoint for } \therefore \Delta Q_0 = \frac{Q_{02} - Q_{01}}{(Q_{02} + Q_{01})/2} = \frac{-8}{\frac{36}{2}} = -0.22 = -22\%$$

By Midpoint Method ;
$$\eta_D = \frac{\therefore \Delta Q_0}{\therefore \Delta P}$$

$$= \frac{-22\%}{22\%} = -1$$

$$\eta_D = -1 \quad \text{✗}$$

\therefore If the income is \$ 20,000 , the price elasticity of demand is -1 ✗

(ii) Income = 40,000 \$

$$P_1 = 8, P_2 = 10 \rightarrow \Delta P = P_2 - P_1 = 2$$

$$Q_{01} = 50, Q_{02} = 45 \rightarrow \Delta Q_0 = Q_{02} - Q_{01} = 45 - 50 = -5$$

• Midpoint for $\% \Delta P = 0.22 = 22\%$

• Midpoint for $\% \Delta Q_D = \frac{Q_{D2} - Q_{D1}}{(Q_{D2} + Q_{D1})/2} = \frac{-5}{\frac{98 + 47.5}{2}} = -0.11 = -11\%$

By Midpoint Method ; $\eta_D = \frac{\% \Delta Q_D}{\% \Delta P}$

$= \frac{-11\%}{22\%} = -0.5$

$\eta_D = -0.5$

\therefore If the income = 40,000 \$, the price elasticity of demand = -0.5

(b) (i) At Price = 12 \$

I	Q _D
20,000	24
24,000	30

Income Elasticity ;

$\eta_I = \frac{\% \Delta Q_D}{\% \Delta I}$

$\% \Delta Q_D = \frac{30 - 24}{24} \times 100 = 25\%$

$\% \Delta I = \frac{24,000 - 20,000}{20,000} \times 100 = 20\%$

$\eta_I = \frac{\% \Delta Q_D}{\% \Delta I} = \frac{25\%}{20\%} = 1.25$

\therefore At 12 \$, the income elasticity of demand is 1.25

(ii) At Price = 16 \$

I	Q _D
20,000	8
24,000	12

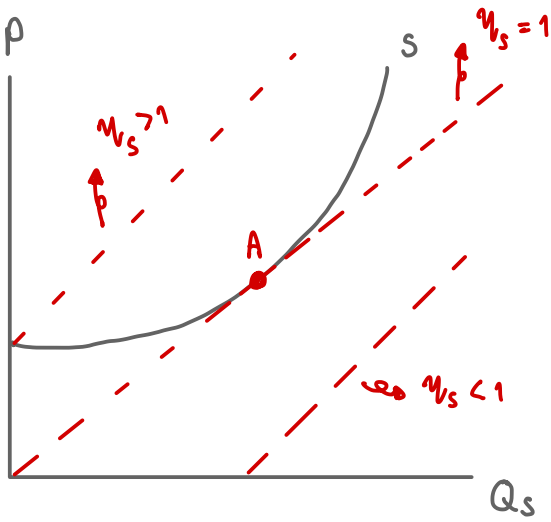
$\% \Delta Q_D = \frac{12 - 8}{8} \times 100 = 50\%$

$\% \Delta I = 20\%$

$\eta_I = \frac{\% \Delta Q_D}{\% \Delta I} = \frac{50\%}{20\%} = 2.5$

\therefore At 16 \$, the income elasticity of demand is 2.5

H.W.



Find the points on S that has

- a) $\eta_s > 1$ Ans no point on S that is satisfied ❌
- b) $\eta_s < 1$ Ans no point on S that is satisfied ❌
- c) $\eta_s = 1$ Ans According to graph, At point A, $\eta_s = 1$ ❌