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2003-2007 Ph.D. (Business) Indiana University – Bloomington. 1987-1991 BS.Sc. (Economics) Chinese University of Hong Kong – Hong Kong.

Research paper: Chung, Barick, "Two Level Price Discrimination and Vertical Relationship" (March 05, 2012). Available at SSRN: http://ssrn.com/abstract=1997070.

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ECO 2011 (Sections L07-10) **Basic Microeconomics**

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Elasticity

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Pindyck and Rubinfeld, 2013, p.33:

Elasticity is the percentage change that will occur in one variable [Y] resulting from a 1-percent increase in another [X].





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Pindyck and Rubinfeld, 2013, p.33:

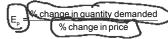
Price elasticity of demand is the percentage change in quantity demanded (Q) of a good resulting from a 1-percent increase in its price (P).

$$E_{p} = \frac{\% \Delta Q}{\% \Delta P} = \frac{\frac{\Delta Q}{Q}}{\frac{\Delta P}{P}} = \frac{P}{Q} \times \frac{1}{\frac{\Delta P}{\Delta Q}}$$

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Example #1:



Suppose that the price of benana increases by 1% and the quantity demanded falls by 3.5%





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Example #1:

 $E_p = \frac{\% \text{ change in quantity demanded}}{\% \text{ change in quantity demanded}}$ % change in price

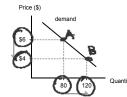
Suppose that the price of beer increases by 10% and the quantity demanded falls by 20%



$$E_p = \frac{-20 \%}{10 \%}$$



Example #3:

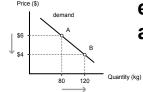




$$E_p = \frac{\% \Delta Q}{\% \Delta P} = \frac{\frac{120kg - 80kg}{80kg}}{\frac{\$4 - \$6}{\$6}} = \frac{0.5}{-0.33} = 1.5$$

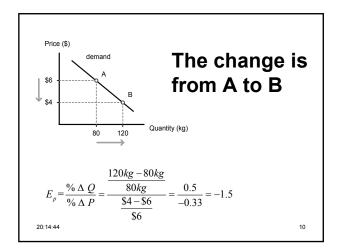
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Example #5:



Price elasticity over a portion

 $\underline{120kg-80kg}$ $\frac{0.5}{0.33} = -1.5$ 80kg \$4-\$6 $\frac{}{\% \Delta P}$



Mid-point method $E_p = \frac{\frac{Q^B - Q^A}{Q^B + Q^A}}{\frac{Q^B + Q^A}{2}} = \frac{\frac{Q^B - Q^A}{\overline{Q}}}{\frac{\overline{Q}^B}{P^B - P^A}}$ A (80, \$6) mid-point (100, \$5) $\frac{P^B + P^A}{\overline{Q}}$ B (120, \$4) quantity