

Questions on Calculus

Rob Hayward

January 6, 2015

1. What are the derivatives of

- $y = 2 + 6x$

$$\frac{d(y)}{d(x)} = 6$$

- $y = 5 - 4x + 2x^3$

$$\frac{d(y)}{d(x)} = 4 + 6x$$

- $y = 25 + 6x^2 - 3x^3 + 25x^4$

$$\frac{d(y)}{d(x)} = 12x - 9x^2 + 100x^3$$

- $y - 3 = 2x$

$$\frac{d(y)}{d(x)} = 2$$

- $TPP = 24 + 5L + 2L^2 - L^3$

$$\frac{d(TPP)}{d(L)} = 5 + 4L - 3L^2$$

- What does your answer to the previous question tell you about the shape of the Total Physical Product Curve?

It goes up initially but starts rise at a slower pace. There are diminishing returns.

Find the second derivative of the following

- $TU = 25 + X_1 - X_1^2$

$$\frac{d^2(U)}{d(X_1)} = -2$$

- $TU = 25 + 25X_1 - 2X_1^2$

$$\frac{d^2(U)}{d(X_1)} = -4$$

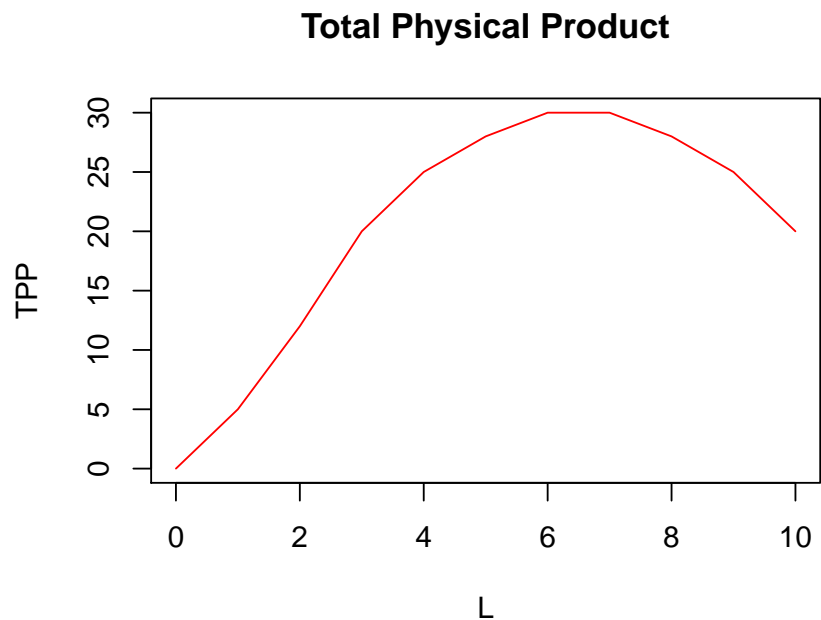
- $TPP = 15 + 15Q + Q^2 - Q^3$

$$\frac{d^2(TPP)}{d(L)} = 2 - 6Q$$

- What does your answer to the previous question tell you about the shape of the Total Physical Product Curve?

It shows that the rate of change is falling.

- Here is the total physical product curve. Show the *average physical product*? for a particular point on the graph.



- How would you calculate the *marginal physical product*?

2. What is the gradient of the TPP at its peak?
3. What is the value of the MPP when TPP is at its peak?
4. Given the $TPP = 100 + 32Q + 23Q^2 - Q^3$,

- What is the TPP' or MPP?

$$32 + 46Q - 3Q^2$$

- How would you find the maximum TPP?

$$3Q^2 - 46Q - 32 = 0$$

$$(3Q + 2)(Q - 16) = 0$$

$$\text{Therefore } 3Q = -2 \quad \text{or} \quad Q = 16$$

5. Given the $TPP = 500 + 180Q + 15Q^2 - 2Q^3$,

- What is the TPP' or MPP?

$$MPP = 180 + 30Q - 6Q^2$$

- How would you find the maximum TPP?

$$6Q^2 - 30Q - 180 = 0$$

$$(6Q + 90)(Q - 20) = 0$$

$$\text{So } Q = -15 \quad \text{or} \quad Q = 20.$$

6. Given the $TU = 25X - 0.5X^2$

- What is the derivative of TU?

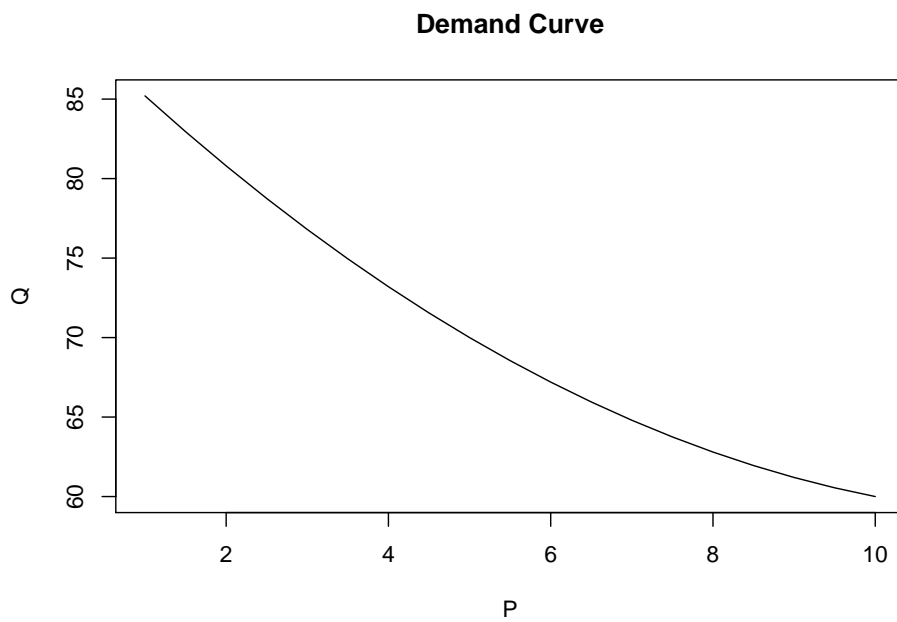
$$TU = 25 - X$$

- What can we say about the utility of X?

There are diminishing returns.

Given a demand curve

$$Q_d = 90 - 5P + 0.2P^2$$



What is the elasticity of demand at the point $P = 5, Q = 70$?

The equation for elasticity is

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon_d &= \frac{d(Q)}{d(P)} \times \frac{P}{Q} \\ &= \frac{-5 - 0.4 \times 5}{\times} \frac{5}{70} \\ &= -5 - 2 \times \frac{5}{70} \\ &= -0.21428\end{aligned}$$

Therefore the demand is inelastic