

Multiple Choice

→ Costs

1. What is the slope of **an isocost line** for a firm that faces $w = 28$ and $r = 7$, and has the production function $F(L, K) = L + \frac{K}{10}$

~~A. -4~~

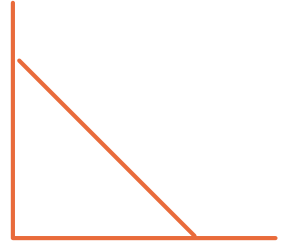
B. 4

C. 1/4

D. -1/10

Price Ratio: $\frac{w}{r}$

$$\text{Slope} = -\frac{w}{r} = -\frac{28}{7} = -4$$

Does not matter
 $wL + rK = \text{Costs}$ 

2. What type of return to scales does the function $F(L, K) = L^{0.8} \cdot K^{0.3}$ feature?

A. Decreasing

B. Constant

~~C. Increasing~~

D. Impossible to tell without a cost function

$$L^a K^b \rightarrow a + b ? 1$$

$$0.8 + 0.3 > 1$$

> 1 : Increasing
 < 1 : Decreasing
 $= 1$: Constant

3. Currently, a firm with a cost function $C(Q) = \frac{1}{3}Q^2$ is producing 60 units. If the price they sell their good for is \$30, how would you describe their situation?

~~A. They are producing too much~~

B. They are profit maximizing

C. They are not producing enough

D. Impossible to tell

$$MC = MR$$

$$MC = \frac{2}{3}Q \rightarrow \frac{2}{3} \cdot 60 = 40$$

$$MC ? MR$$

$$40 > 30$$

$$MR = 30$$

4. What are the average fixed costs for a firm with the cost function $C(Q) = \frac{1}{2}Q^3 + Q^2 + 3Q + 24$ that produces $Q = 8$?

A. 13

B. 46

C. -3

~~D. 3~~

$$\text{Total Costs} = VC + FC$$

$$AFC = \frac{FC}{Q} = \frac{24}{Q} = \frac{24}{8} = 3$$

Short-Answer

5. For the production function $F(L, K) = \ln(L) + K$, what are the cost minimizing L^* and K^* for the production of $Q = 375$ when $w = 1$ and $r = 1$? Hint: $\ln(1) = 0$

$$MRTS = \frac{MP_L}{MP_K} = \frac{1/L}{1} = \frac{1}{L} = 1 = \frac{1}{1} = \frac{w}{r} = \text{Price Ratio}$$

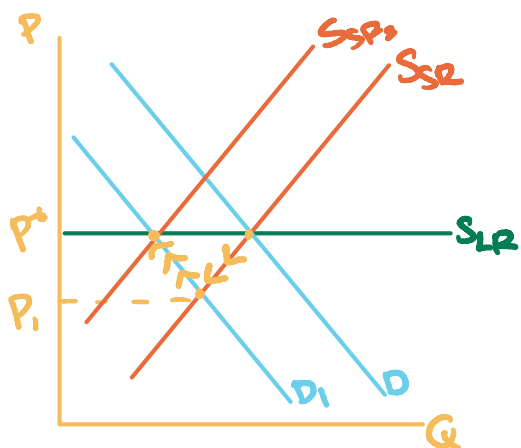
$$L^* = 1$$

Quantity Const.

$$375 = F(L, K) = \ln(L^*) + K$$

$$375 = \ln(1) + K \Rightarrow 375 = K^*$$

6. Imagine that a market that was in long-run equilibrium experiences a decrease in demand. What happens to the number of firms in the industry as it converges to its new long-run equilibrium and why? (2 sentences max.)



$$D \rightarrow D_1 : P^* \rightarrow P_1 ; P^* > P_1$$

$$: \pi^* \rightarrow \pi_1 \text{ decreased}$$

Some firms experience
neg. π

In the L-R, some firms
leave.

The # of firms

decreases b/c

the decrease in demand led to
losses $\hat{=}$ some firms leave.

Long-Answer

7. Consider a firm with the cost function $C(Q) = \frac{1}{2}Q^2 + 3Q + 18$. This firm operates in a perfectly competitive market.
- What are marginal costs, average costs, average variable costs and average fixed costs of this firm?
 - At what price will this firm make exactly zero profits?
 - If the price is \$13, how much does the firm produce? What are their revenue, cost and profit?
 - In the (Q, P) plane graph this firm's MC, AVC, AFC, and AC. Using a price of \$13, label the firm's quantity choice. Shade in the rectangle on the graph that corresponds to the firm's profits.
 - Imagine there are 20 identical firms in this market. What is the short-run market supply curve? What is the market supply when the price is \$13?
 - In the long-run, will firms enter or exit the industry? Why?

$$a. MC = Q + 3 ; AC = \frac{1}{2}Q + 3 + \frac{18}{Q} ; AVC = \frac{1}{2}Q + 3$$

$$AFC = \frac{18}{Q}$$

$$b. \pi = 0 \text{ when } P = \min(AC)$$

$$\frac{\partial AC}{\partial Q} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{18}{Q^2} = 0 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} = \frac{18}{Q^2} \rightarrow Q^2 = 36 \rightarrow Q^* = 6$$

$$P^* = MC(Q^*) = MC(6) = 6 + 3 = 9$$

$$P^* = 9, Q^* = 6$$

$$c. P = MC \rightarrow 13 = Q + 3 \rightarrow Q^* = 10$$

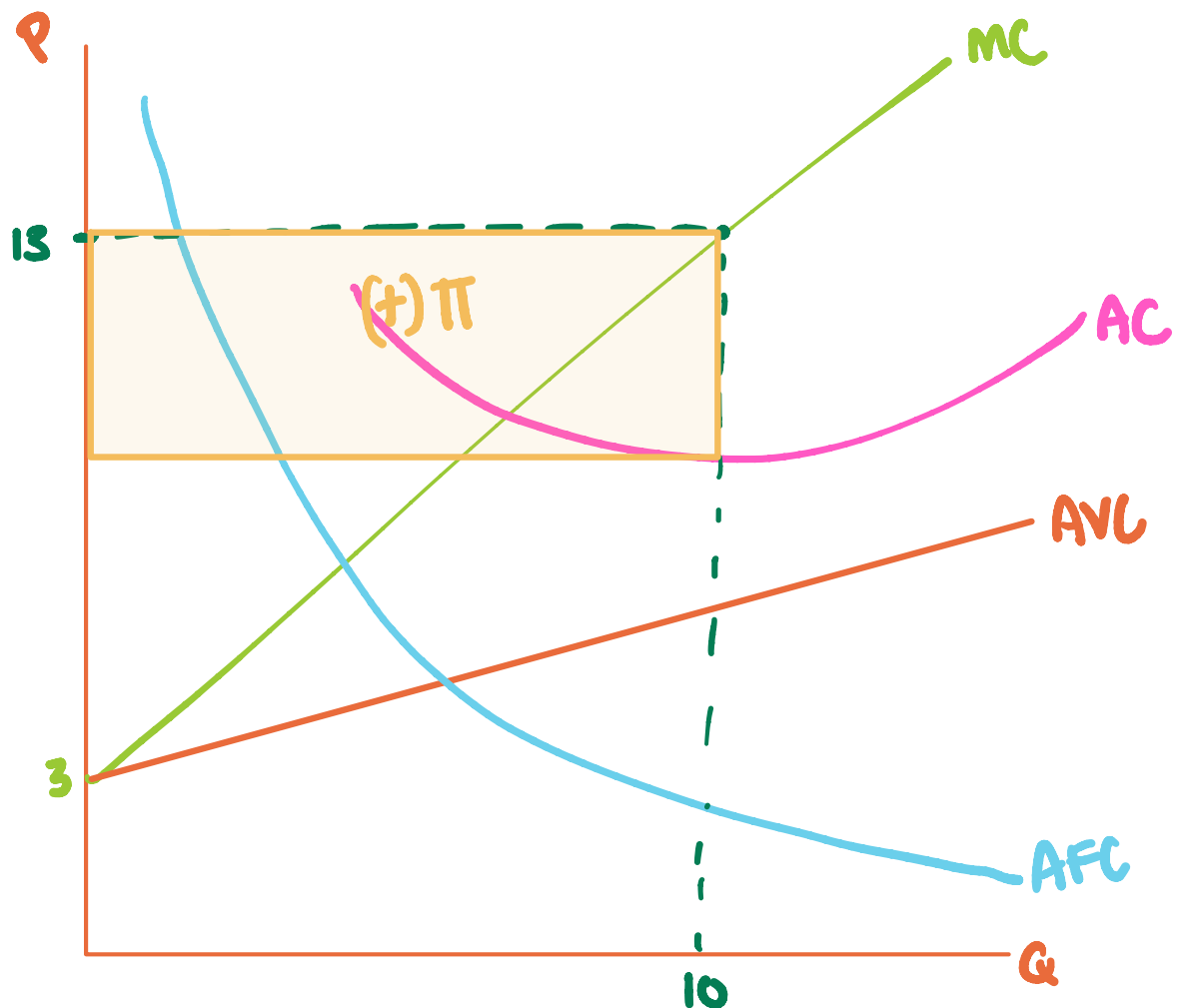
$$R(Q) = P \cdot Q = 13 \cdot 10 = 130$$

$$C(Q) = \frac{1}{2}(10)^2 + 3(10) + 18 = 50 + 30 + 18 = 98$$

$$\pi(Q) = R(Q) - C(Q) = 130 - 98 = 32$$

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e.

$$Q^* = P - 3 \rightarrow P = Q + 3 \rightarrow P = MC$$

$$Q_s = N \cdot Q^* \quad \text{market} \quad \text{ind. firm}$$

$$Q^* = 13 - 3 = 10$$

$$Q_s = 20 \cdot 10 = 200$$

$$Q_s = N \cdot Q^*$$

$$200 = N \cdot 10$$

$$\frac{200}{10} = N = 20$$

f. $\pi > 0 \rightarrow$ Firms enter $\rightarrow Q_s \uparrow \rightarrow \downarrow P = \min(AC)$

Firms will enter b/c firms are earning $\pi > 0$ in the short-run.