

12. Applications of Derivatives to Economics

A. Activities

Carry out the following activities.

- 1) If the average revenue is 45 and elasticity of demand is 5. Find the marginal revenue by completing the following activity.

Given $R_A = 45$ and $\eta = 5$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Now, } R_m &= R_A \left(1 - \frac{1}{\eta} \right) \\ &= 45 \left(1 - \frac{1}{5} \right) \\ &= 45 \left(\frac{4}{5} \right) = 36\end{aligned}$$

- 2) Find the price by completing the following activity, if the marginal revenue is 28 and elasticity of demand is 3.

Given $R_m = 28$ and $\eta = 3$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Since } R_m &= R_A \left(1 - \frac{1}{\eta} \right) \\ \therefore 28 &= R_A \left(1 - \frac{1}{3} \right) = \frac{2}{3} \cdot R_A \\ \therefore R_A &= \frac{28 \times 3}{2} = 42\end{aligned}$$

Hence, the price = 42

- 3) If $D = 50 - 3p - p^2$. Find the elasticity of demand at $p = 5$ by completing the following activity.

$D = 50 - 3p - p^2$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore \frac{dD}{dP} &= \frac{d}{dP} (50 - 3p - p^2) \\ &= 0 - 1 \times 3 - 2p \\ &= -3 - 2p \\ \therefore \eta &= -\frac{p}{D} \times \frac{dD}{dP} = \frac{-p}{50 - 3p - p^2} \times (-3 - 2p) \\ \therefore \eta &= -\frac{p(3 + 2p)}{50 - 3p - p^2}\end{aligned}$$

If $p = 5$, then

$$\eta = + \frac{5(3 + 2 \times 5)}{50 - 3 \times 5 - 5^2} = \frac{5 \times 13}{50 - 15 - 25}$$

$$\therefore \eta = + \frac{65}{10} = 6.5$$

- 4) Comment on elasticity of demand of a commodity for $p = 200$, when demand function is $p = 400 - \frac{q^2}{2}$ using following activity.

The demand function is $p = 400 - \frac{q^2}{2}$

$$\therefore \frac{q^2}{2} = 400 - p$$

$$\therefore q^2 = 800 - 2p$$

$$\therefore q = \sqrt{800 - 2p}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dq}{dp} = \frac{d}{dp} (\sqrt{800 - 2p})$$

$$\therefore \frac{dq}{dp} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{800 - 2p}} \frac{d}{dp} (800 - 2p)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{800 - 2p}} (0 - 2 \times 1)$$

$$= \frac{-1}{\sqrt{800 - 2p}}$$

$$\text{Now } \eta = \frac{-p}{q} \cdot \frac{dq}{dp}$$

$$\eta = \frac{-p}{\sqrt{800 - 2p}} \times \frac{-1}{\sqrt{800 - 2p}}$$

$$\eta = \frac{p}{800 - 2p}$$

$$\text{If } p = 200, \eta = \frac{200}{800 - 200 \times 2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Since $0 < \eta < 1$, the demand is Relatively Inelastic

B. Solve the Following

Q.1. If the demand function is $D = 150 - p^2 - 3p$, find marginal revenue, average revenue and elasticity of demand for price $p = 3$.

Sol. $\therefore D = 150 - p^2 - 3p$
 Revenue $R = P \cdot D = P(150 - p^2 - 3p)$
 $= 150P - p^3 - 3p^2$

Now, marginal Revenue

$$\frac{dR}{dp} = 150 - 3p^2 - 6p$$

$$\left(\frac{dR}{dp}\right)_{\text{at } p=3} = 150 - 3(3)^2 - 6(3)$$

$$= 150 - 27 - 18$$

$$= 105$$

Thus, the marginal revenue is 105 at $p = 3$

Now, $R_A = (D)_{p=3} = 150 - 3^2 - 3(3)$
 $= 150 - 9 - 9 = 132$

Thus, the average revenue is 132 at $p = 3$

Now, elasticity of demand

$$\eta = -\frac{p}{D} \frac{dD}{dp}$$

$$= -\frac{3}{132} \frac{d}{dp} (150 - p^2 - 3p)$$

$$= -\frac{3}{132} (-2p - 3)$$

$$= -\frac{3}{132} \times (-2 \times 3 - 3)$$

$$= -\frac{3}{132} \times -9$$

$$= \frac{27}{132}$$

Q.2. Comment on elasticity of demand of a commodity for $p = 600$ when demand function is $p = \left(1200 - \frac{q^2}{2}\right)$.

Sol. \therefore elasticity of demand $\eta = -\frac{p}{D} \frac{dD}{dp}$ — (1)

Here, $p = 600$ & $p = 1200 - \frac{q^2}{2}$

$$\therefore 600 = 1200 - \frac{q^2}{2}$$

$$\frac{q^2}{2} = 1200 - 600$$

$$\frac{q^2}{2} = 600$$

$$q^2 = 1200$$

$$q = 20\sqrt{3}$$

also, $P = 1200 - \frac{q^2}{2}$

~~$q^2 = 1200$~~
 $\frac{q^2}{2} = 1200 - P$

diff. both side w.r. to 'P' -

$$\frac{x}{x} \frac{dq}{dP} = -1$$

$$\frac{dq}{dP} = -\frac{1}{q} = -\frac{1}{20\sqrt{3}}$$

Now, from (1) $\eta = -\frac{600}{20\sqrt{3}} \times -\frac{1}{20\sqrt{3}}$
 $= \frac{600}{1200} = \frac{1}{2}$

Since $0 < \eta < \frac{1}{2}$, the demand is inelastic

Q.3. Mr. Pritesh orders x mobiles at the price $p = 2x + \frac{32}{x^2} - \frac{5}{x}$

How many mobiles should he order for the most economical deal?

Soln: \therefore price of mobiles $p = 2x + \frac{32}{x^2} - \frac{5}{x}$

Total cost $C = p \cdot x$ ($\because x$ is the no. of mobiles to be ordered)

$$C = \left(2x + \frac{32}{x^2} - \frac{5}{x}\right)x$$

$$C = 2x^2 + \frac{32}{x} - 5$$

also, $\frac{dC}{dx} = 4x - \frac{32}{x^2}$

$\therefore C$ is minimum

$$\therefore \frac{dC}{dx} = 0 \Rightarrow 4x - \frac{32}{x^2} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x^3 = 32$$

$$\Rightarrow x^3 = 8$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 2$$

We have, $\frac{d^2C}{dx^2} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{dC}{dx} \right) = \frac{d}{dx} \left(4x - \frac{32}{x^2} \right)$
 $= 4 + \frac{64}{x^3}$

$$\therefore \left(\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \right)_{x=2} = 4 + \frac{64}{(2)^3} = \frac{32+64}{8} = \frac{96}{8} = 12 > 0$$

Thus C is minimum for $x=2$, by the second derivative test.
Hence 2 mobiles should be ordered for the most economical deal.

Q.4. In Shraddha's farm the cost function for output x is given by

$C = \frac{x^3}{3} - 20x^2 + 70x$ Find the output for which i) Marginal cost (C_m) is minimum, ii) Average cost (C_A) is minimum.

Solⁿ: $\because C = \frac{x^3}{3} - 20x^2 + 70x$

$$\therefore C_A = \frac{C}{x} = \frac{x^2}{3} - 20x + 70$$

we have marginal cost $C_m = \frac{dC}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{x^3}{3} - 20x^2 + 70x \right)$
 $= \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{x^3}{3} - 40x + 70 \right)$
 $= x^2 - 40x + 70$

Now, $\frac{dC_m}{dx} = 2x - 40$

$\therefore C_m$ is minimum

$$\frac{dC_m}{dx} = 0 \Rightarrow 2x - 40 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x = 40$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{x = 20}$$

Now, $\frac{d^2 C_m}{dx^2} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{dC_m}{dx} \right) = \frac{d}{dx} (2x - 40) = 2 > 0$

\therefore marginal cost is minimum for $x=20$ by the second derivative test.

Now, $\frac{dC_A}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{x^2}{3} - 20x + 70 \right) = \frac{2x}{3} - 20$

$\therefore C_A$ is minimum

$$\frac{dC_A}{dx} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{2x}{3} - 20 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x = 60$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{x = 30}$$

Now, $\frac{d^2 C_A}{dx^2} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{dC_A}{dx} \right) = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{2x}{3} - 20 \right) = \frac{2}{3} > 0$

$\therefore C_A$ is minimum for $x=30$ by the second derivative test.

Sign of Teacher :