

Introductory example: <sup>Today will</sup> We solve a simple version of a standard problem in economy. But first, a few definitions.

Def: The revenue is the amount of money ( $R$ ) that a company receives by selling  $q$  items at a set price  $p$ .

$$R = p \cdot q$$

$$\begin{cases} p = 20 \\ q = 10 \\ R = 200, R = 20q \end{cases}$$

The cost is the amount of money ( $C$ ) a company spends to make  $q$  items.

$$C(q) = F + V(q)$$

$$\begin{cases} F = 100 \\ V(q) = 1.5 \cdot q \\ C(q) = 100 + 1.5 \cdot q \end{cases}$$

$$F = C(0)$$

Fixed costs  
rent, commercials, salaries, etc.

Variable costs:  
materials etc.

The profit is the amount of money ( $P$ ) the company is left with once all products are sold and all costs are paid.

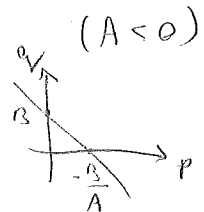
$$P = R - C$$

$$P = 20q - 100 - 1.5q$$

Demand is the relation between the price of an item and the number of items that will be sold at that price.

A basic principle of economy: increase in price leads to decrease in demand.

Today we assume linear demand, namely  $q = Ap + B$  ( $A < 0$ )



What is the main goal of a good business?

- ① Maximize revenue.
- ② Minimize cost.
- ③ Maximize profit.
- ④ Maximize demand.

How to price your merchandise?

VI - VI - W

We were hired by BChalk.

They are selling a chalk box for 2€ and sell 3,000 boxes a month.

Last April they had a chalk sale and after a discount of 10€ they sold a 100 more boxes.

• Demand: Write  $q = AP + B$ .

We have:

$$\begin{cases} 3,000 = A \cdot 2 + B \\ A \cdot 1.9 + B = (A \cdot 2 + B) + 100 \end{cases}$$

this implies



$$-0.1 \cdot A = 100 \Rightarrow \boxed{A = -1,000}$$

and  $3,000 = -1,000 \cdot 2 + B$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{B = 5,000} \leftarrow \begin{matrix} \text{(how many object we)} \\ \text{sell for free.} \end{matrix}$$

• Revenue:  $q = -1,000 \cdot P + 5,000 \Rightarrow q - 5,000 = -1,000 \cdot P$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{P = \frac{q - 5,000}{-1,000}}$$

$$\boxed{R(q) = \frac{(q - 5,000)q}{-1,000}}$$

quad. eq.  
(graph it)

The fixed cost of running BChalk is 3,250€ a month and it costs an extra 75€ to make a box.

So now their monthly profit 500€ and they wish to improve it.

• Cost:  $C(q) = F + \Delta \cdot q = 3,250 + 0.75q$ .

• Profit:  $P(q) = R(q) - C(q) = \frac{q^2 - 5,000q}{-1,000} - (3,250 + 0.75q)$

$$P(q) = \frac{q^2 - 5,000q + 3,250,000 + 750q}{-1,000} = \frac{q^2 - 4,250q + 3,250,000}{-1,000}$$

Def: The break-even points are the values of  $q$  for which  $R(q) = C(q)$ ; alternatively  $P(q) = 0$ .

Break-even points:  $2,125$

$$P(q) = 0 \Rightarrow q^2 - 4,250q + 3,250,000 = 0$$

completing the square  $\Rightarrow (q - 2,125)^2 - 4,515,625 + 3,250,000 = 0$

$$(a \pm b)^2 = a^2 \pm 2ab + b^2 \Rightarrow (q - 2,125)^2 = 1,265,625 = (1,125)^2$$

$$a^2 \pm 2ab = (a \pm b)^2 - b^2 \Rightarrow q_{1,2} = 2,125 \pm 1,125 = 3,250, 1,000$$

Max. Profit: This is the maximum of the parabola  $P(q)$  which is in the middle of  $q_1$  and  $q_2$ .

Namely, at  $q_0 = \frac{q_1 + q_2}{2} = 2,125$  boxes a month.

What is the right price?

$$p_0 = \frac{q_0 - 5,000}{-1,000} = 2.875 \text{ \$/}$$

for more complicated models of demand we need: **CALCULUS!**

$P(q) = 1,265.625$   
a month  
(more than double)

