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# Walrasian Equilibrium Theory

The foundation of modern mathematical microeconomics

Marcus Pivato

Department of Mathematics, Trent University  
Peterborough, Ontario, Canada  
[marcuspivato@trentu.ca](mailto:marcuspivato@trentu.ca)

November 8, 2006

Introduction

Walrasian Equilibria in Pure Exchange Economies

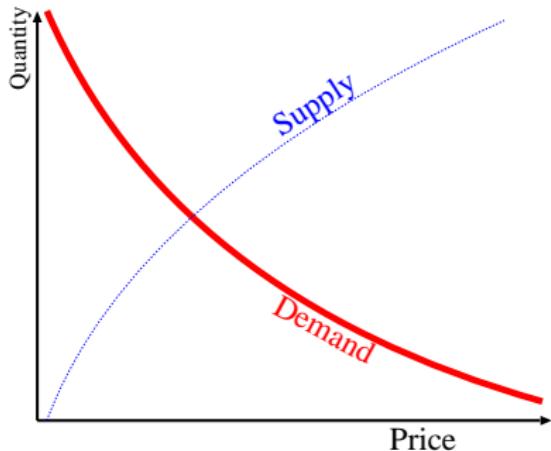
Walrasian Equilibria in Production Economies

Price Adjustment Dynamics

Proof of Sonnenschein-Mantel-Debreu Theorem

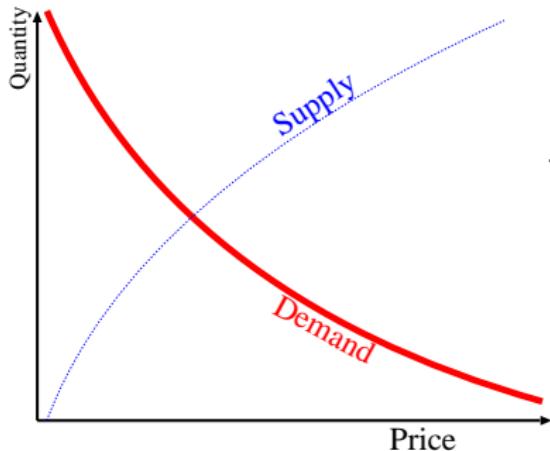
Conclusion

# Supply and Demand



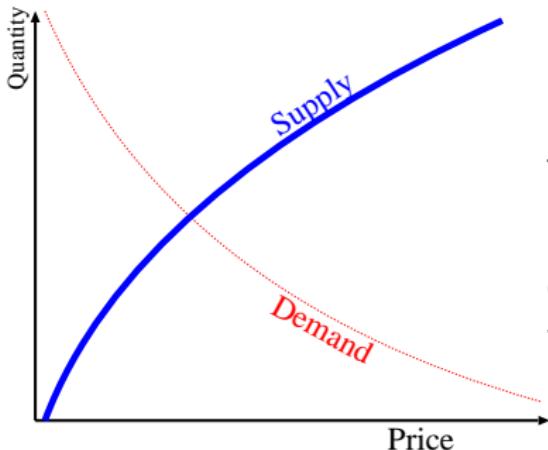
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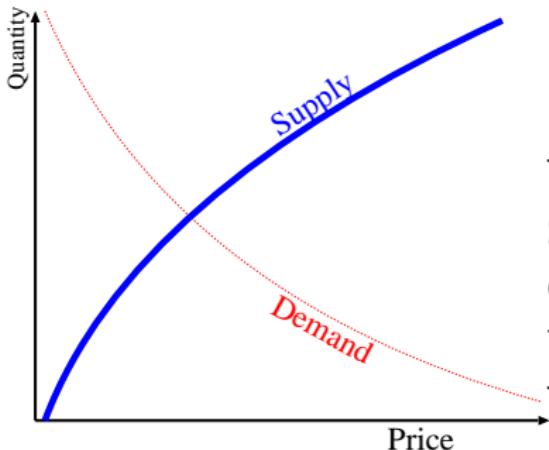
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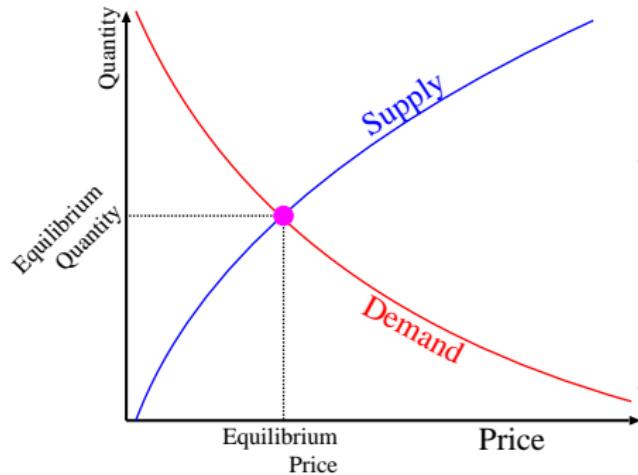
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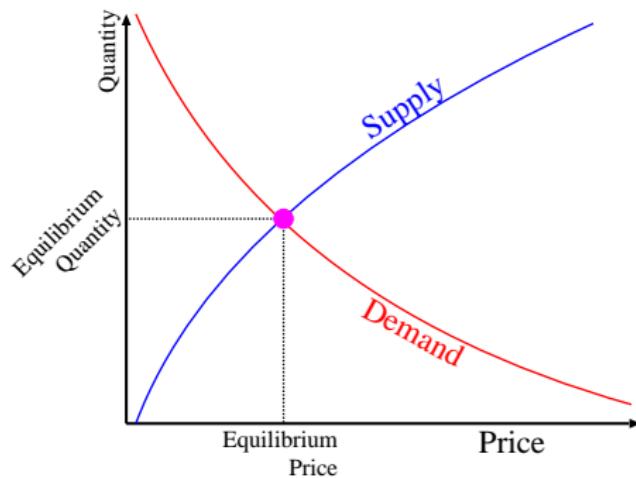
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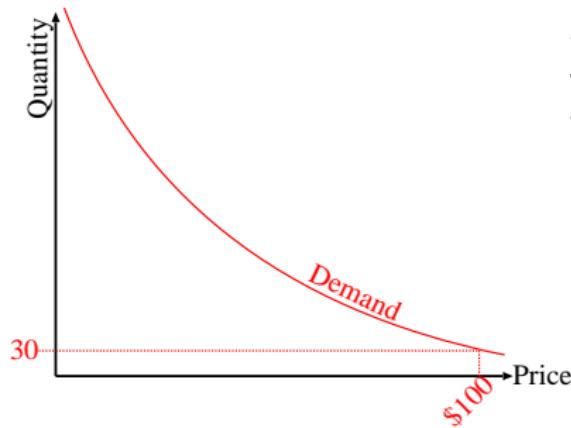
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Fundamental assumption of microeconomics:

*Markets rapidly converge to equilibrium, and stay there.*

# Demand curve

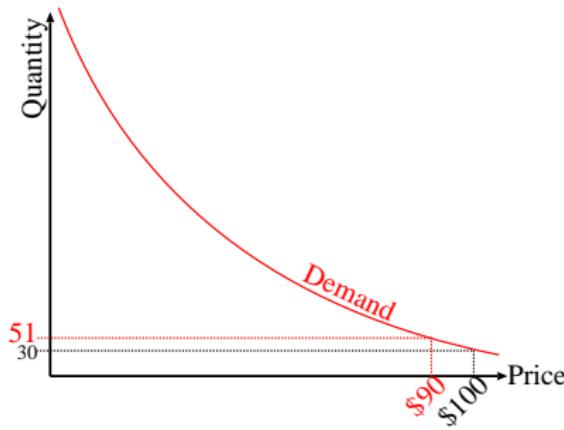
Why is demand a *decreasing* function of price?



30 consumers want the product very much.  
They are willing to pay \$100 for it.

# Demand curve

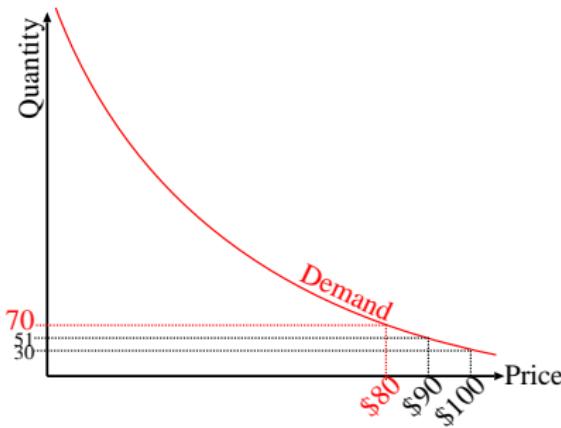
Why is demand a *decreasing* function of price?



21 more consumers want the product slightly less.  
They would buy it for \$90

# Demand curve

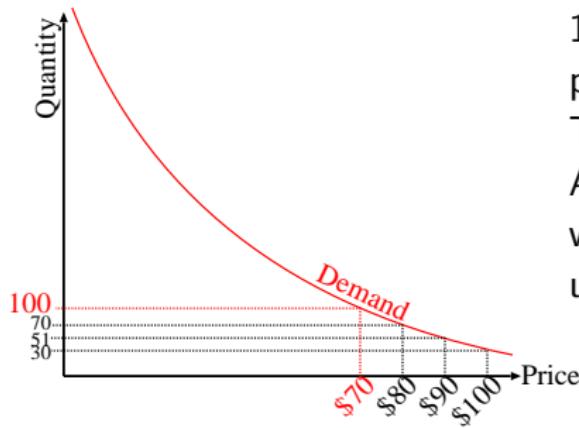
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19 more consumers want the product slightly less  
They would buy it for \$80

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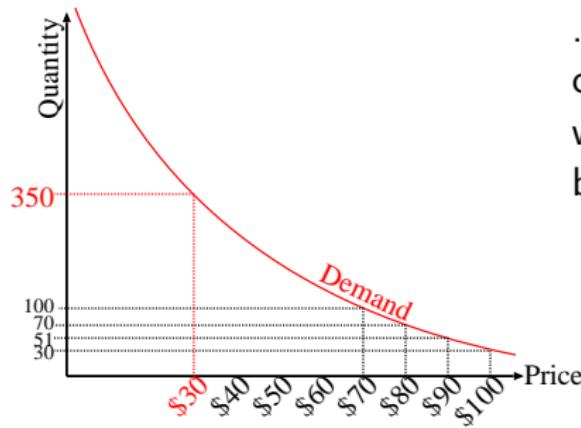
Why is demand a *decreasing* function of price?



18 more consumers want the product slightly less  
They would buy it for \$70.  
Also, 12 out of the first 70 would be willing to buy two units at this price...

# Demand curve

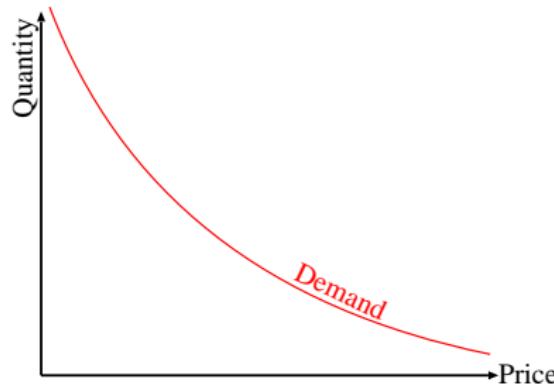
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....If the price was \$30, then 200 consumers would buy one, 60 would buy two, and 10 would buy three.

# Demand curve

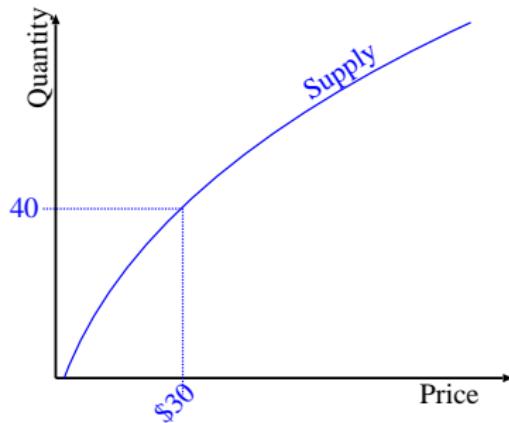
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In this way, the 'demand curve' emerges from the aggregate purchasing behaviour of millions of consumers.

# Supply curve

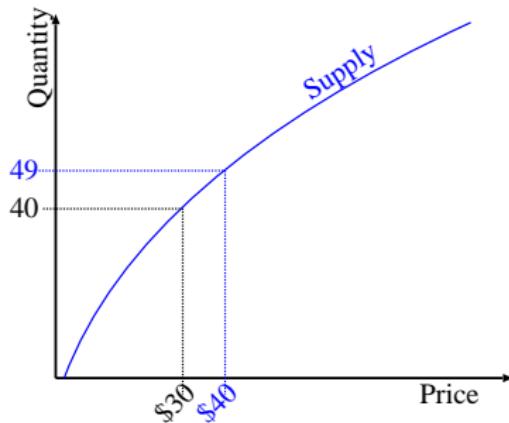
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40 producers are very efficient.  
They can make the commodity  
for \$30/unit.

# Supply curve

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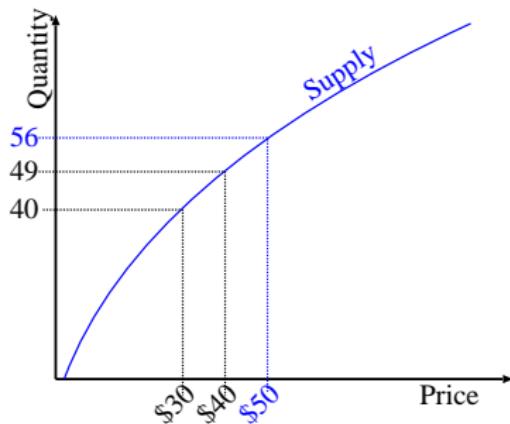
9 more producers are slightly less efficient.

They can make it for \$40/unit.

(They produce nothing if price is lower, because they would lose money)

# Supply curve

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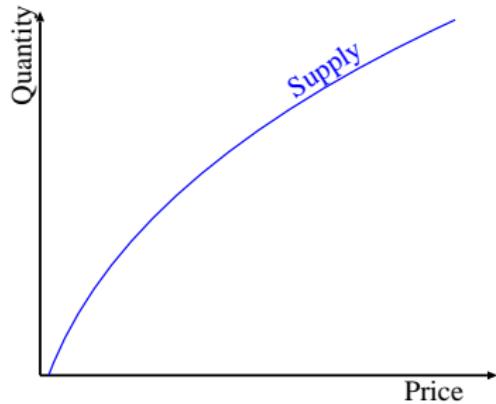


7 more producers are even less efficient.

They will make the commodity if the price is at least \$50/unit.

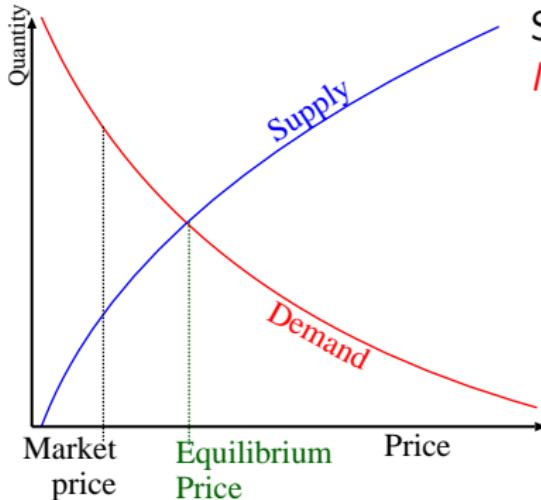
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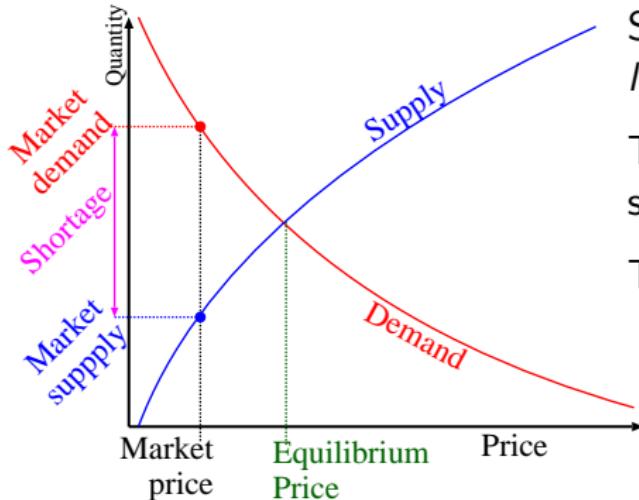
In this way, the 'supply curve' emerges from the aggregate production behaviour of hundreds or thousands of producers.

# Why does market converge to equilibrium?



Suppose the market price was  
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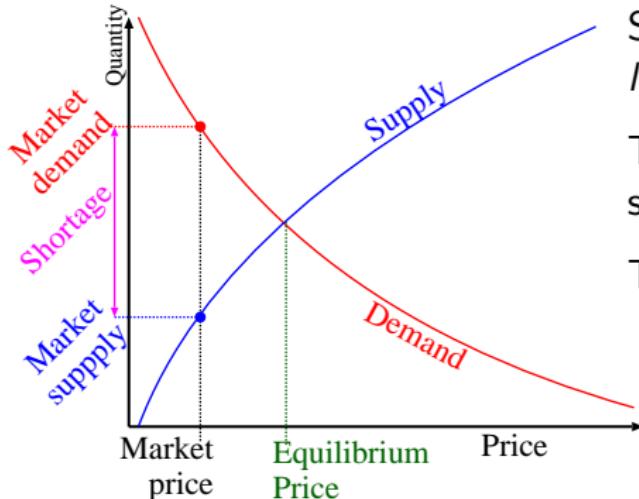


Suppose the market price was less than the equilibrium price...

Then demand would exceed supply...

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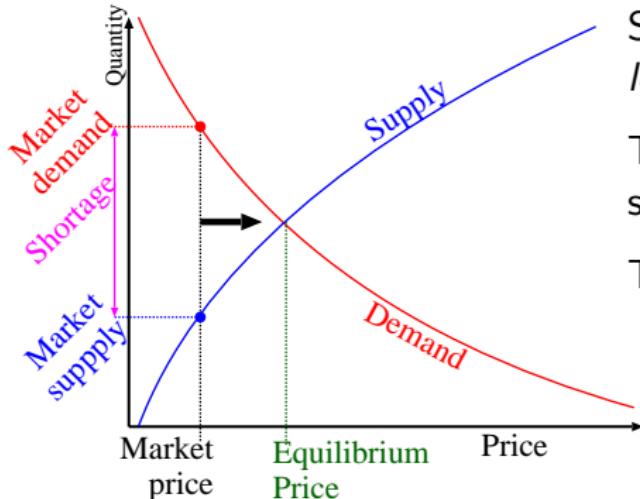
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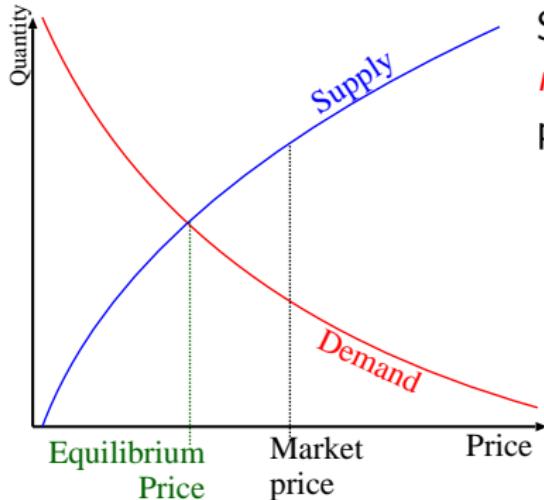
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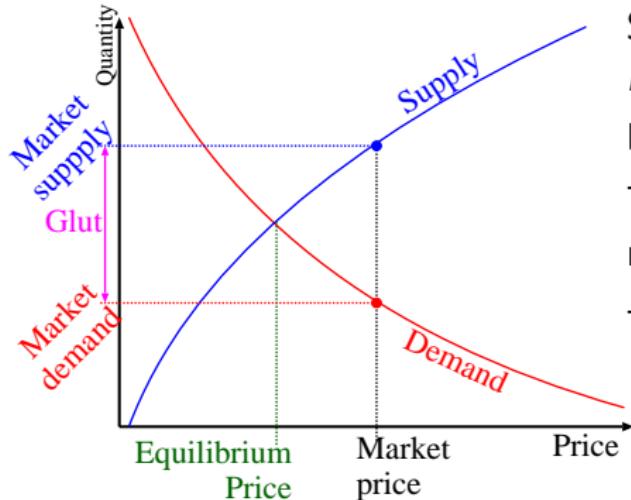
They would 'bid up' the price until it was at equilibrium.

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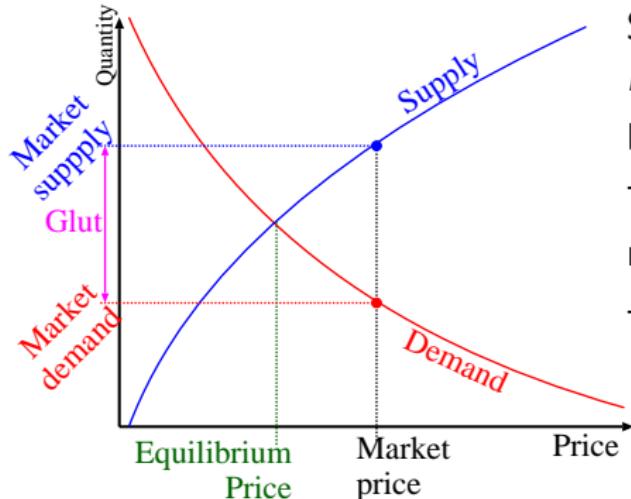


Suppose the market price was *more* than the equilibrium price...

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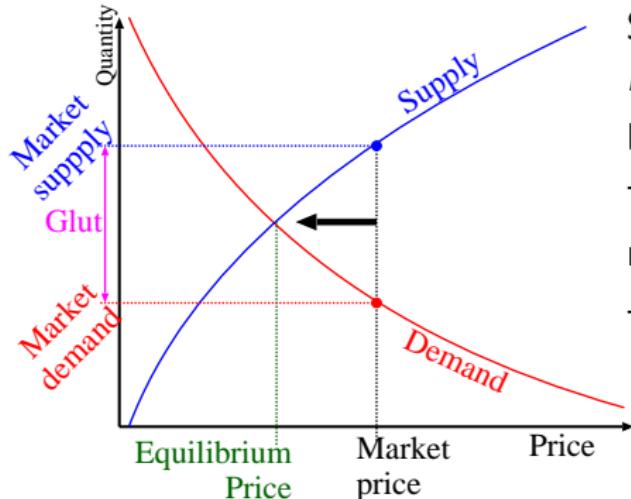
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Some retailers will sell at **lower price** to clear excess stock.

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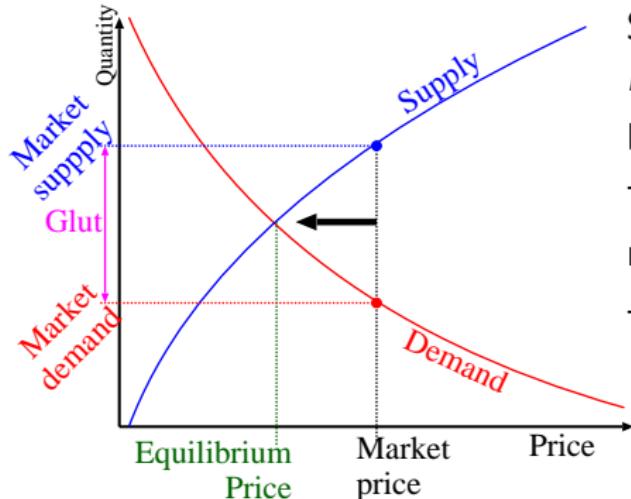
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This would '**drive down**' the price until it was at equilibrium.

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Thus, the price (and hence, consumption) of bread and margarine can affect the demand (and hence, the price) of butter.

A full economic model must account for this.

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This *decreases supply* (equivalently, raises price) of **bread**.

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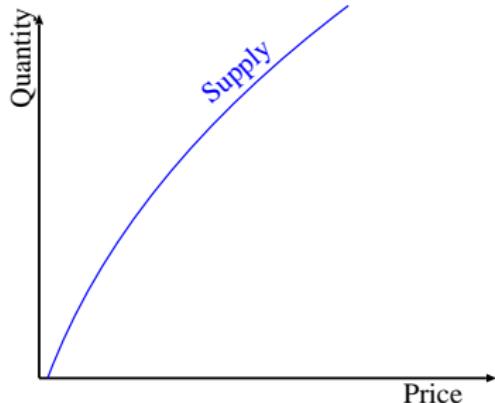
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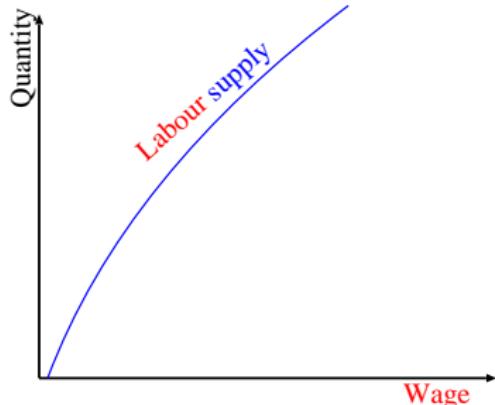
## Wealth effects: Perverse supply curves



Supply should be increasing function of price.

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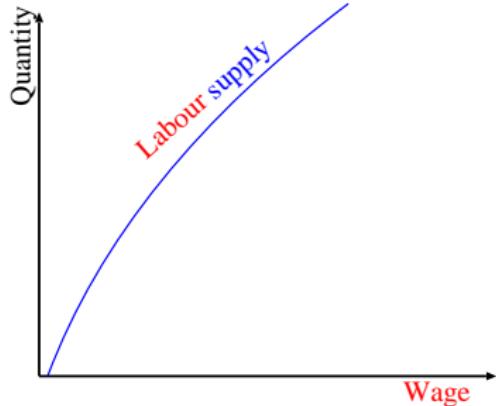
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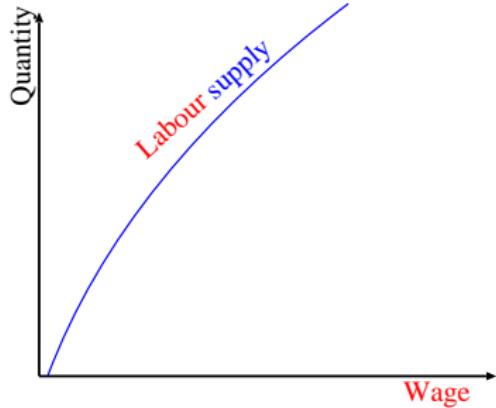


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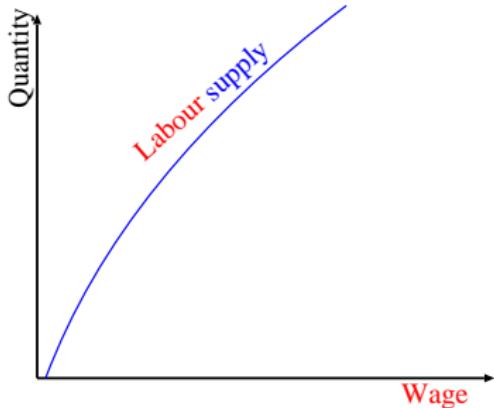
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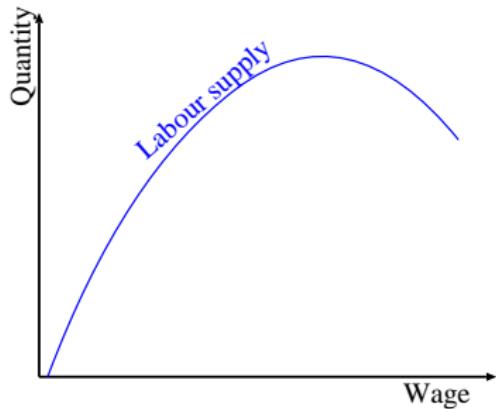
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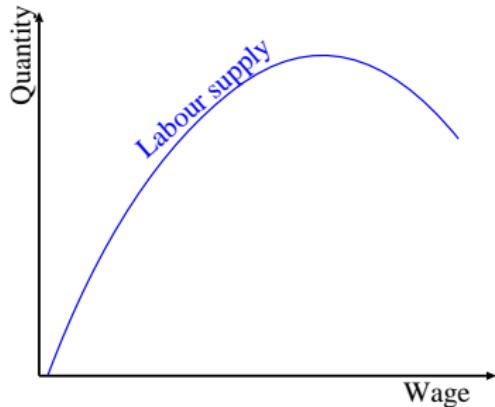
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# The Law of One Price

Why should there be a single 'global' price for commodity  $X$ ?

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Thus, (Law of One Price)  $\iff$  (Assumption of Zero Arbitrage).

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A proper economic model must represent such **product differentiation**.

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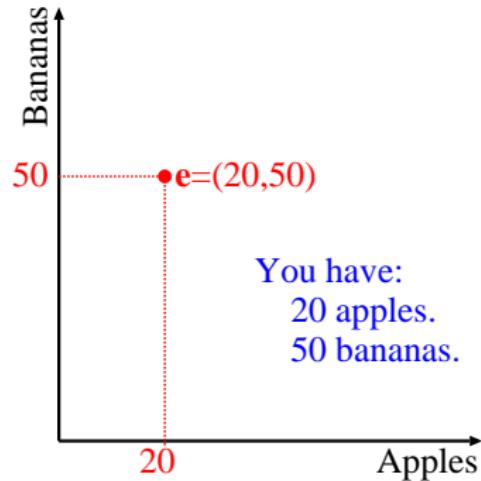
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# Commodities: endowments, prices, and trade

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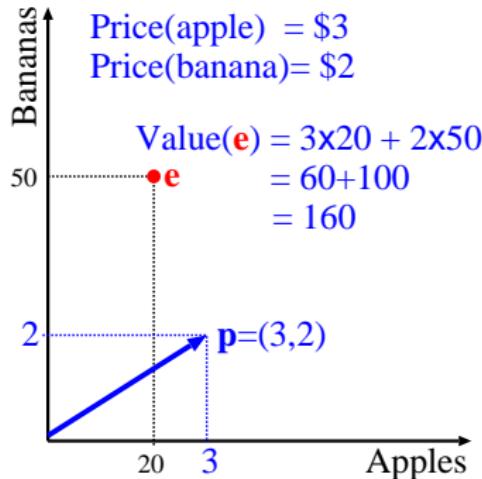
**Endowment:** a point  $e \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{C}}$ .

$e = (e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{\mathcal{C}})$  means

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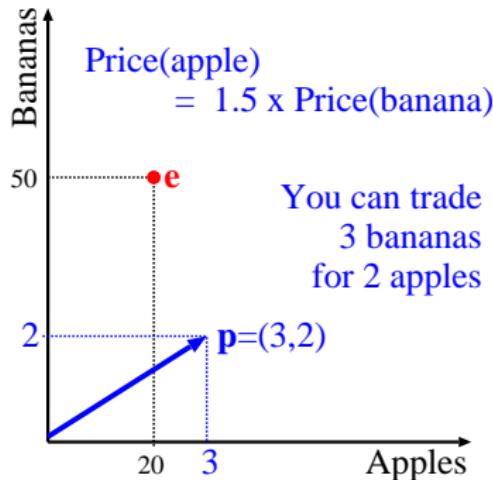
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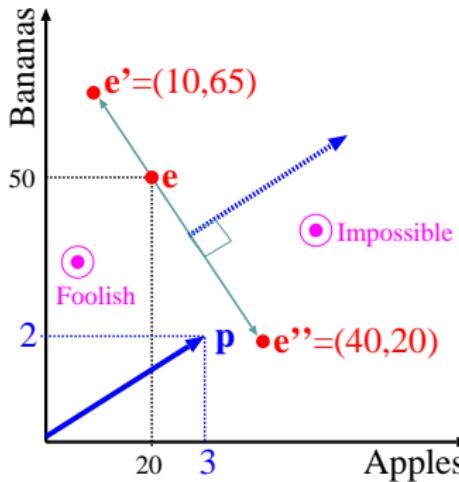
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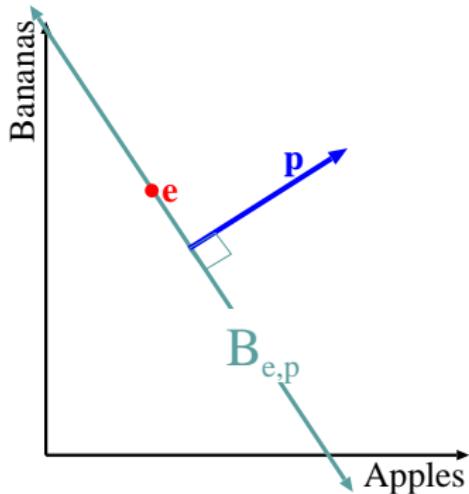
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The set  $\mathcal{B}_{e,p} := \{e' \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{C}} ; p \bullet e' = p \bullet e\}$  is **budget hyperplane** through  $e$  (orthogonal to  $p$ ). All trades must occur along  $\mathcal{B}_{e,p}$ .

## The Consumer: Utility functions and indifference curves

Each consumer  $i$  has a (continuous, concave) utility function  $u_i : \mathbb{R}^C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , such that

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For all  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ , we define the indifference set:

$$\mathcal{S}_r := \{ \mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{R}^C ; u_i(\mathbf{e}) = r \}.$$

(usually a smooth hypersurface).

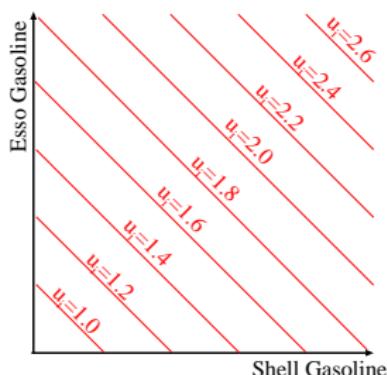
The geometry of the indifference sets encodes substitute/complement relationships between commodities.

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Commodities  $c$  and  $d$  are perfect substitutes  
 $\iff$   
( $c, d$ ) indifference curves are straight lines.

**Example:** Esso gasoline vs. Shell gasoline.

**Formal model:**  $u$  is linear function

$$u(e_c, e_d) = k_c e_c + k_d e_d.$$

for some constants  $k_c, k_d > 0$ .

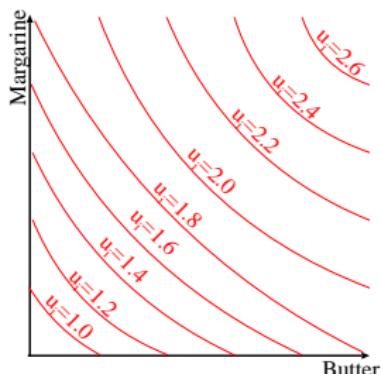
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Commodities  $c$  and  $d$  are good substitutes  
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( $c, d$ ) indifference curves are almost linear.



**Example:** Butter vs. margarine.

**Formal model:**  $u$  is CES function:

$$u(e_c, e_d) = (e_c^\alpha + e_d^\alpha)^{1/\alpha}.$$

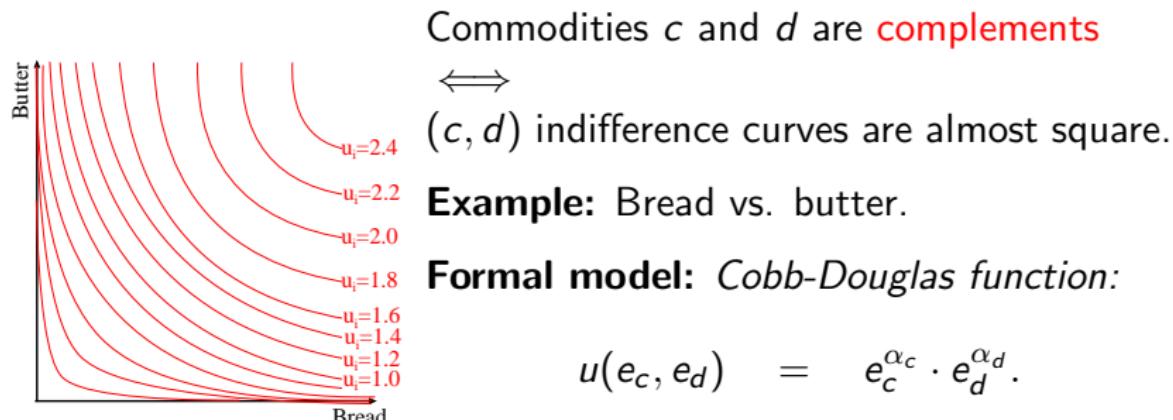
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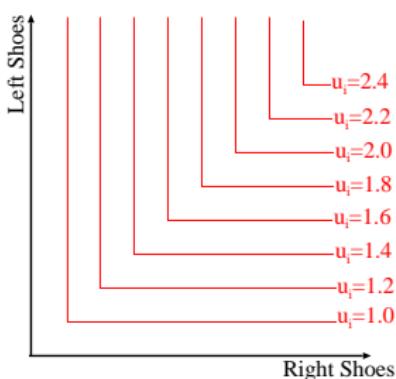
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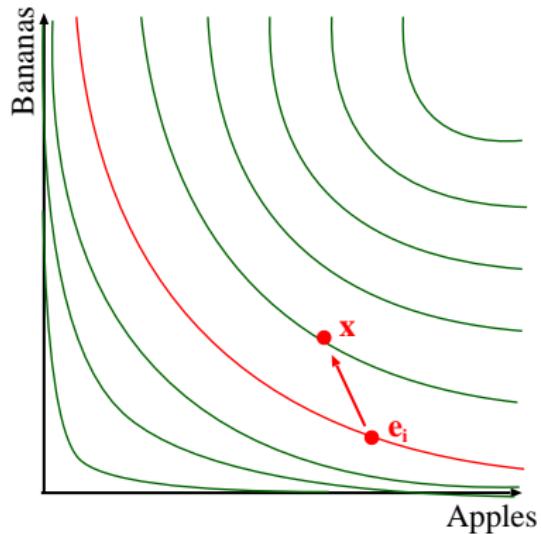
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 $(c, d)$  indifference curves are square.

**Example:** Left shoes vs. right shoes.

**Formal model:**  $u(e_c, e_d) = \min\{e_c, e_d\}$ .

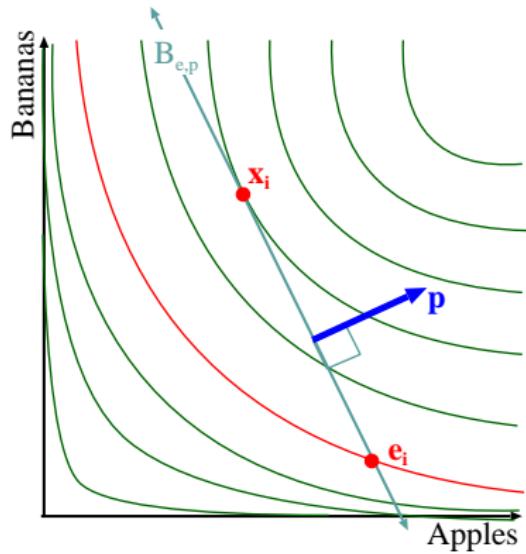


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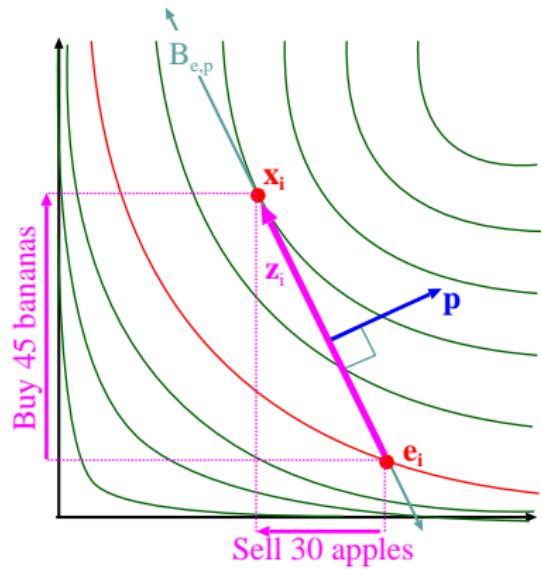


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$\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{x}_i(\mathbf{p})$  is  $i$ 's **consumption plan**.

$\mathbf{z}_i(\mathbf{p}) := \mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{e}_i$  is  $i$ 's **excess demand**. It encodes how much of each commodity  $i$  must buy or sell to maximize her utility at the market price  $\mathbf{p}$ .

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$$\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p}) := \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} (\mathbf{x}_i(\mathbf{p}) - \mathbf{e}_i).$$

$\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p})$  encodes the *net quantity* of every commodity which the entire market demands (or supplies) at price  $\mathbf{p}$ .

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**Definition:** The price vector  $\mathbf{p}$  is a **Walrasian equilibrium** if  $\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{0}$ .

If  $\mathbf{p}$  is a Walrasian equilibrium, then supply exactly matches demand (i.e. 'the market clears') for every commodity, simultaneously.

# Existence of Walrasian Equilibria

**Theorem:** (Arrow and Debreu, 1954)

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Then a Walrasian equilibrium exists in this economy.

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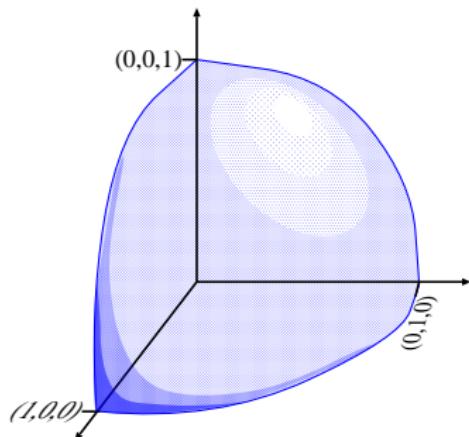
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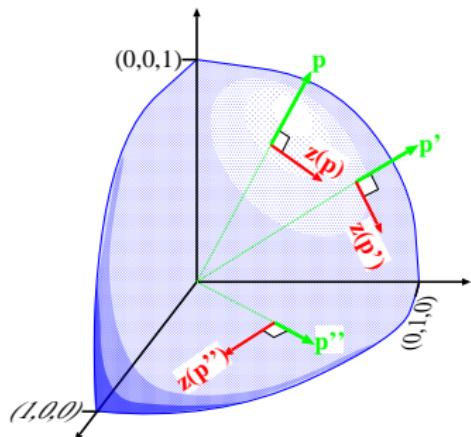
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**Consequence:** We can always normalize  $\mathbf{p}$  to lie on the *price semisphere*

$$\mathbb{S}_+ := \left\{ \mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}_+^{\mathcal{C}} ; \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} p_c^2 = 1 \right\}.$$

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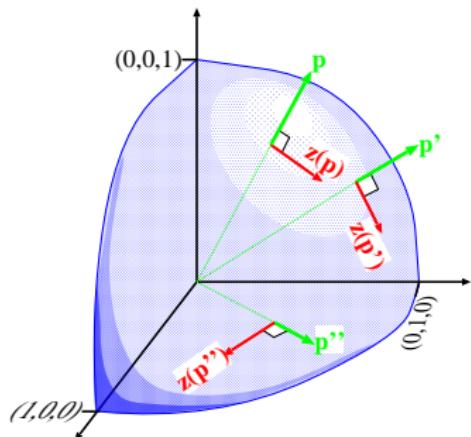
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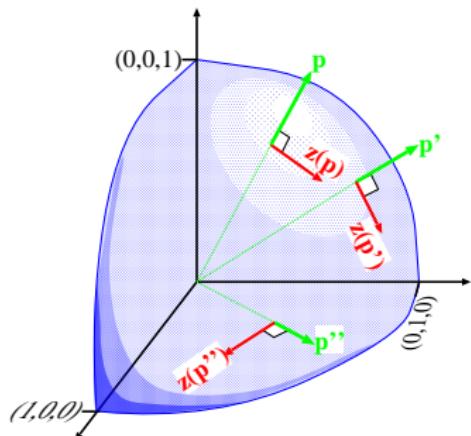


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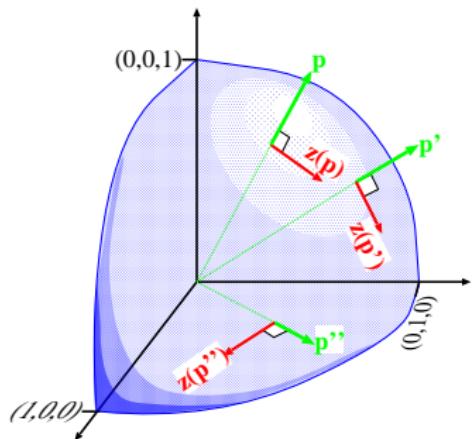
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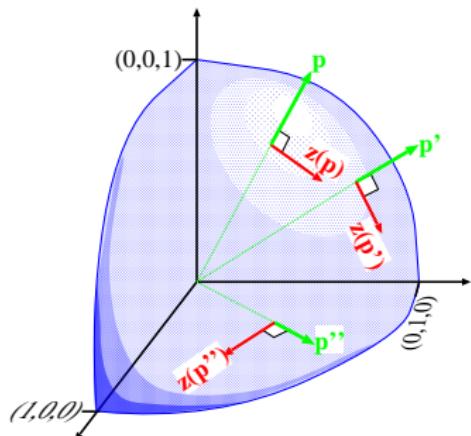
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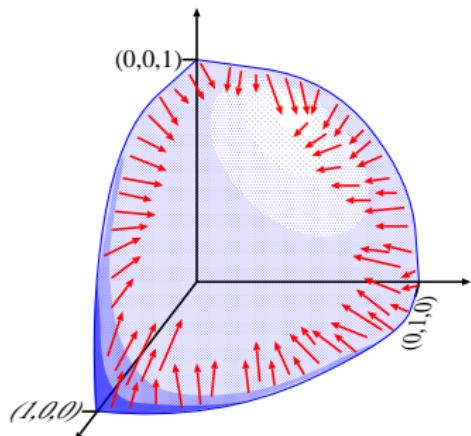


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**Reason:** Every good is desirable to everyone ( $u_i$  is monotone and convex). If a good is 'cheap enough', people will buy arbitrarily large quantities.

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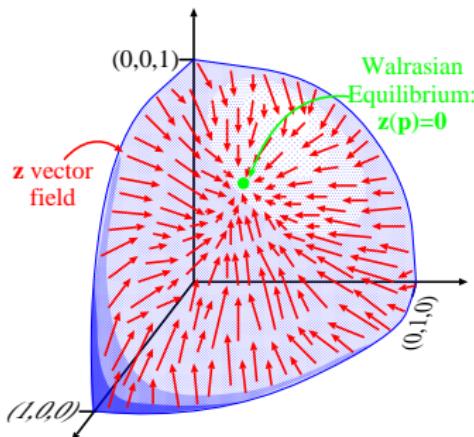
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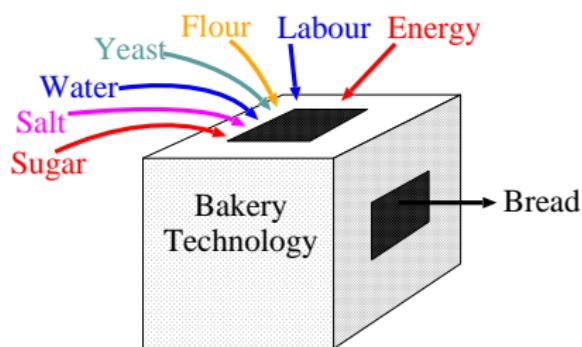


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These properties, combined with *Brouwer's Fixed Point Theorem*, imply that  $\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p}^*) = 0$  for some  $\mathbf{p}^* \in \mathbb{S}_+$ .

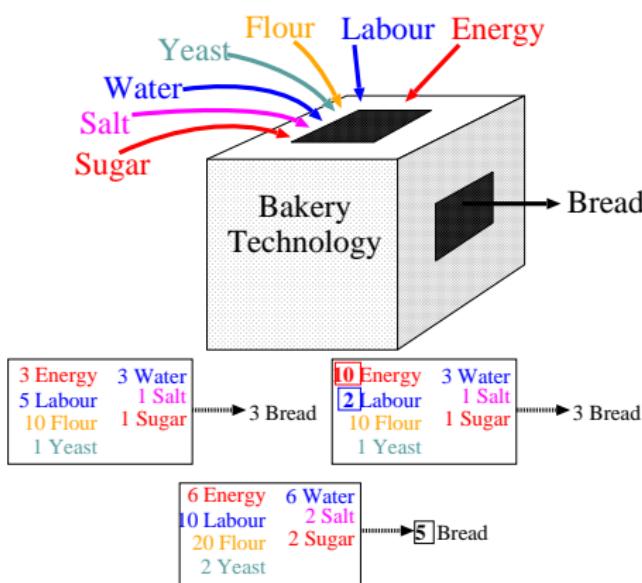
This  $\mathbf{p}^*$  is a Walrasian equilibrium. □.

# The Firm: Technology



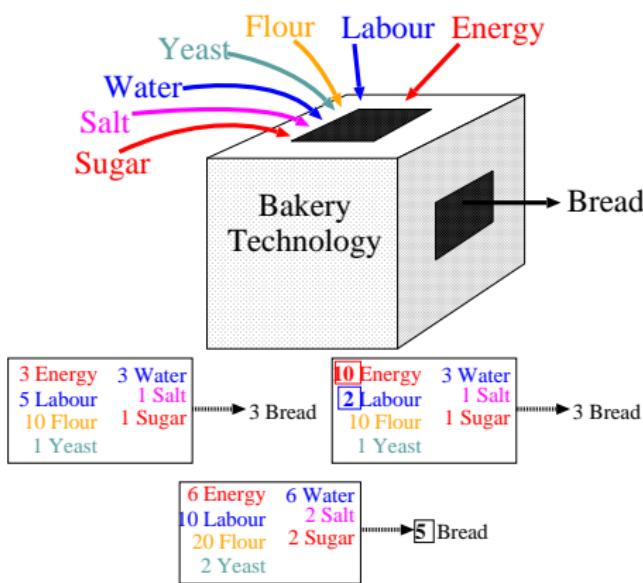
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- ▶ Different combinations of factors yield different output quantities of merchandise.
- ▶ We describe this with (nonlinear) function  $f : \mathbb{R}_+^C \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}_+^C$ .

Suppose  $\mathbf{i} = (i_1, \dots, i_C) \in \mathbb{R}_+^C$ , and  $f(-\mathbf{i}) = \mathbf{o} = (o_1, \dots, o_C) \in \mathbb{R}_+^C$ .

This means: if the *input* is  $i_1$  units of factor 1,  $i_2$  units of factor 2, etc.... then *output* is  $o_1$  units of merchandise 1,  $o_2$  units of merchandise 2, etc.  
(**Note:** Factor inputs are measured in *negative* units.)

## The Firm: Single-factor, single-output technology

$f : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . If  $f(-i) = o$ , then  $i$  units of input yield  $o$  units of output.

Assume  $f(0) \leq 0$  ('No Free Lunch'). Define **production possibility set**:

$$\mathcal{Y} := \{(-i, o) \in \mathbb{R}^2 ; o \leq f(-i)\}$$

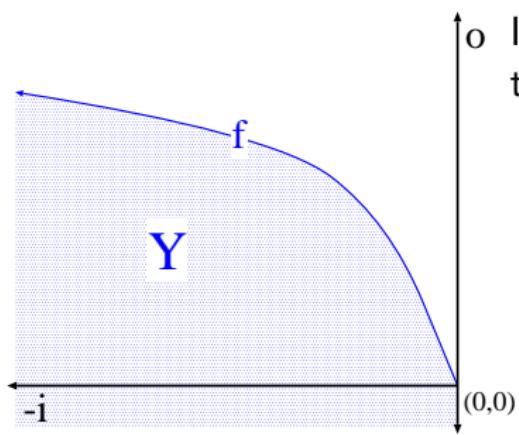
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If  $\mathcal{Y}$  is convex (e.g.  $f'$  is decreasing), then get diminishing returns to scale.

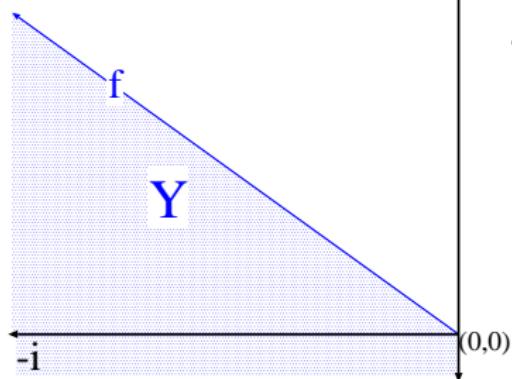
- ▶ Ubiquitous assumption in most economic models.
- ▶ Reasonable model of a single factory.
- ▶ Perhaps applies to long-term global economy? ('Fundamental resource constraints').

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- ↑ If  $\mathcal{Y}$  is a **cone** (e.g.  $f$  is *linear*), then get **constant returns to scale**.
  - ▶ Reasonable assumption for model of an entire industry, due to 'replication' argument.

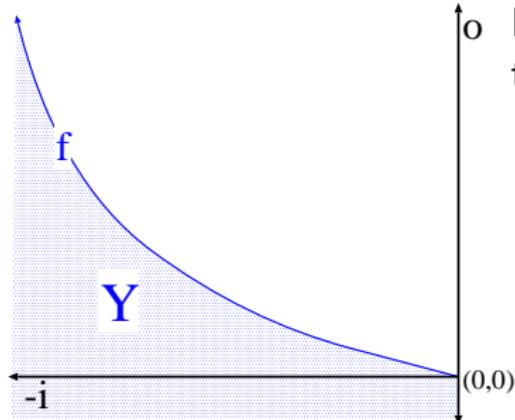
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If  $\mathcal{Y}$  is **concave** (e.g.  $f'$  is *increasing*) then get **increasing returns to scale**.

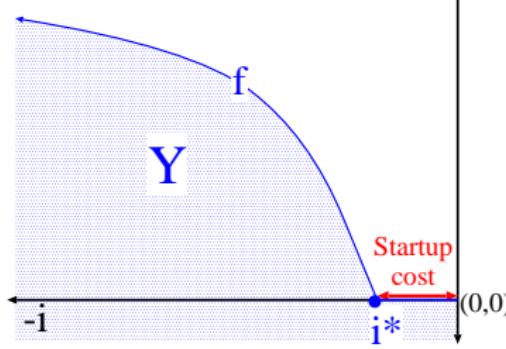
- ▶ 'Intellectual property' industries (zero marginal cost of production).
- ▶ 'Network effects' (e.g. transport/communication networks, software standards).
- ▶ Leads to 'natural monopolies' (e.g. telephone, electricity).

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↑o Suppose  $\exists i^* < 0$  such that  $f(i) = 0$  for all  $i > i_*$ . Then get **startup costs**.

- ▶ Firm must invest minimal amount to produce anything.
- ▶ Increasing returns on small scale.
- ▶ Complete shutdown is possible.

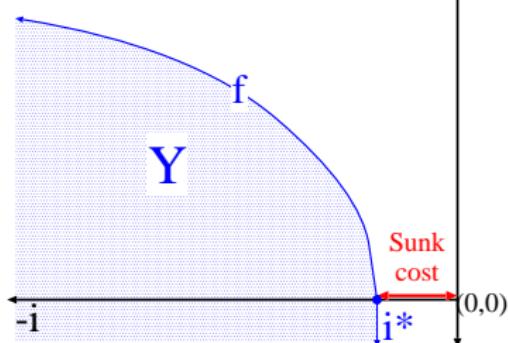
**Example:** Electricity for factory lighting.

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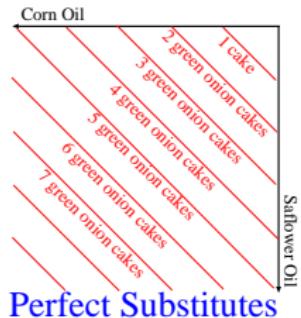
Suppose exists  $i^* < 0$  such that  $f(i) = -\infty$  for all  $i > i_*$ . Then get **sunk costs**.

- ▶ Firm must invest minimal amount just to exist.
- ▶ Increasing returns on small scale.
- ▶ Complete shutdown is impossible.

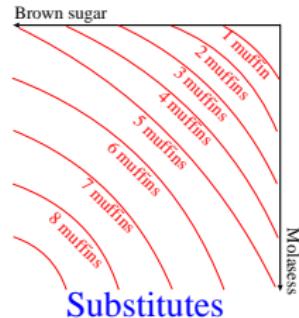
**Example:** Construction of factory.  
Rental of land and equipment.

# The Firm: Multi-factor, single-output technology

$f : \mathbb{R}^C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . If  $f(-\mathbf{i}) = o$ , then input vector  $\mathbf{i}$  yields  $o$  units of output.  
Geometry of  $f$  describes *substitution* or *complementarity* between factors:



Perfect Substitutes



Substitutes



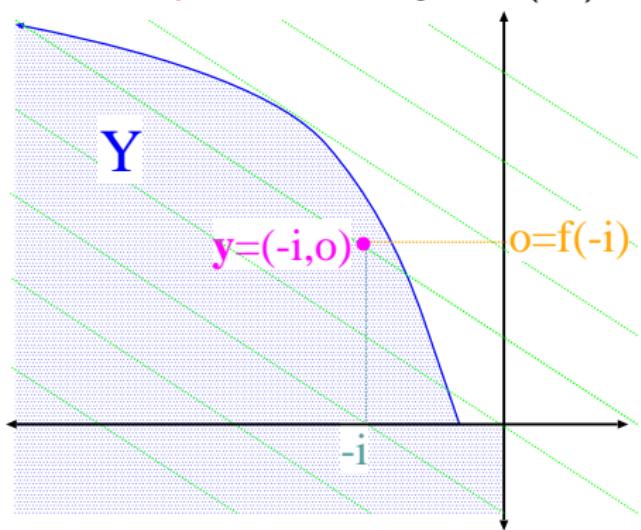
Complements



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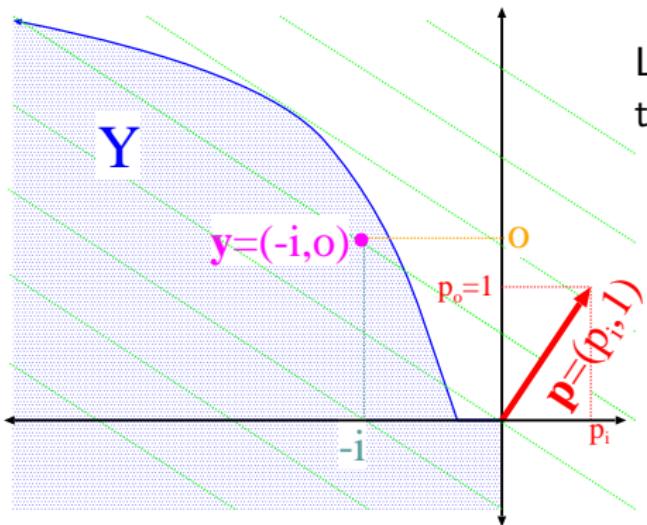
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A **production plan** is vector  $\mathbf{y} := f(-\mathbf{i}) - \mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{R}^C$  (for some  $-\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{R}_+^C$ ).



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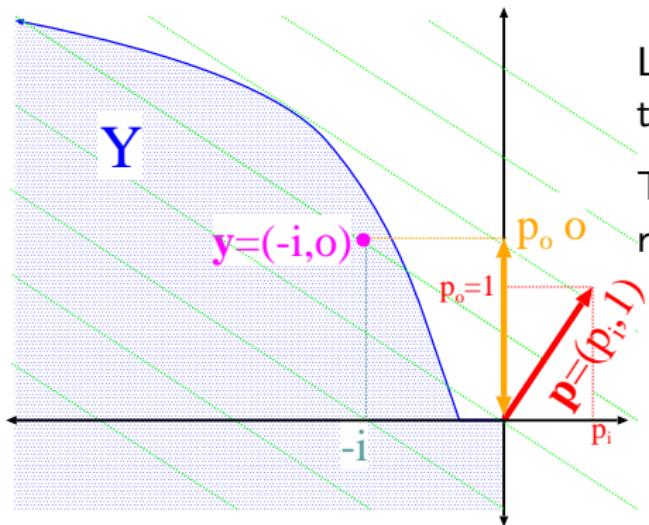
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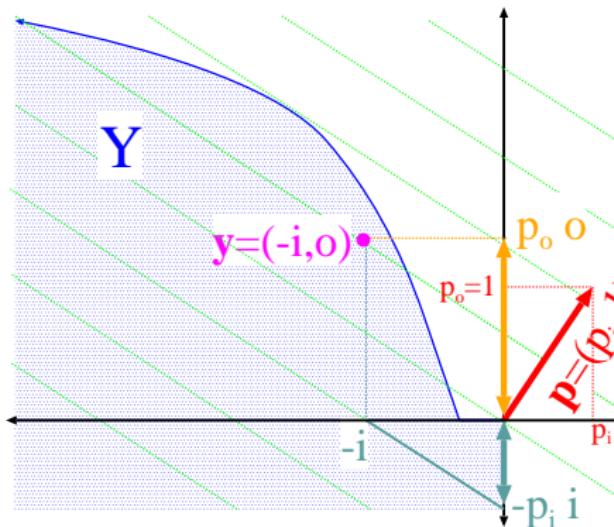


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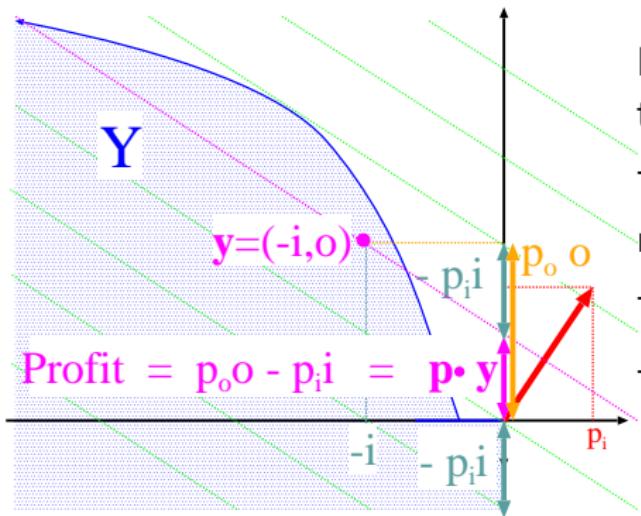
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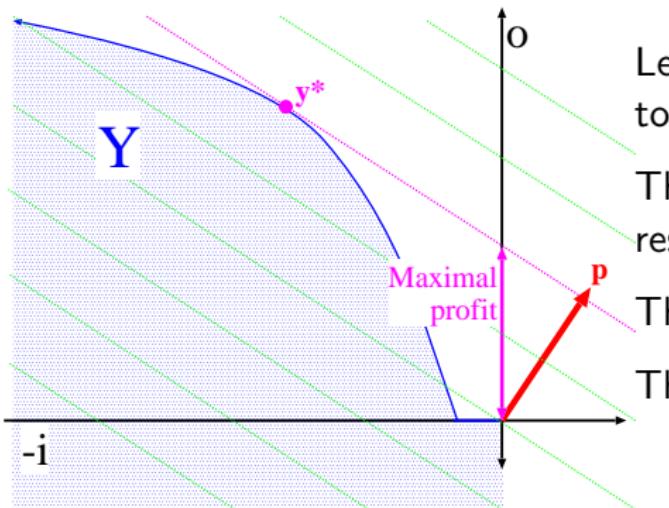
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- ▶ Assume firm chooses production plan  $\mathbf{y}^*$  which *maximizes profit*.
- ▶ At  $\mathbf{y}^*$ , boundary of production possibility set  $\mathcal{Y}$  is *orthogonal\** to  $\mathbf{p}$ .

# Shareholders & Dividends

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$$\mathcal{B}_i(\mathbf{p}) := \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{C}} ; \mathbf{p} \bullet \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{p} \bullet \mathbf{e}_i + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}} \theta_{ij} \mathbf{p} \bullet \mathbf{y}_j^* \right\}.$$

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**Definition:** The price vector  $\mathbf{p}$  is a **Walrasian equilibrium** if  $\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{0}$ .

If  $\mathbf{p}$  is a Walrasian equilibrium, then supply exactly matches demand (i.e. ‘the market clears’) for every commodity.

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Then a Walrasian equilibrium exists in this economy.

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**Remark:** The ‘tangent field’ strategy from ‘pure exchange economy’ is inapplicable, because *Walras’ Law* ( $\mathbf{p} \perp \mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p})$ ) is false.

In general  $\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p}) \bullet \mathbf{p} < 0$  because  $\mathbf{y}_j(\mathbf{p}) \bullet \mathbf{p} \geq 0$  for each  $j \in \mathcal{J}$

(i.e. the profit-maximizing production of firms ‘creates value’ in economy.)

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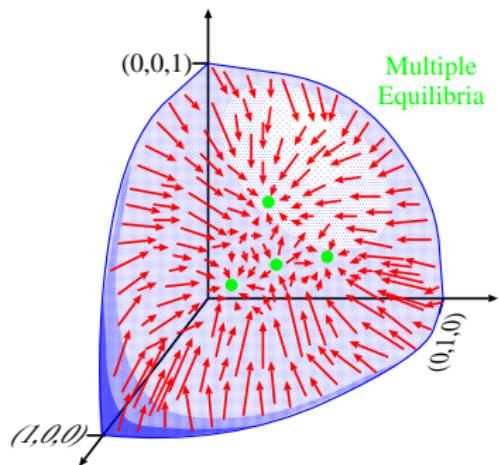
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This is called **comparative statics**.

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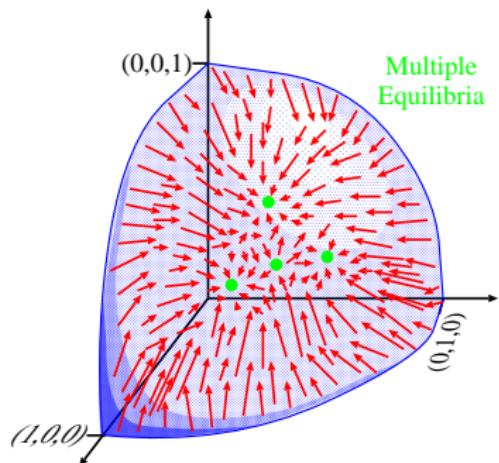


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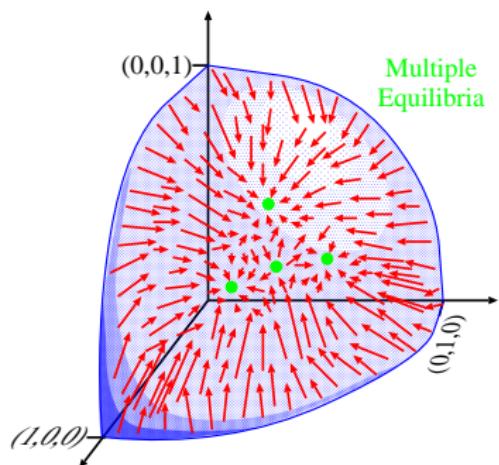
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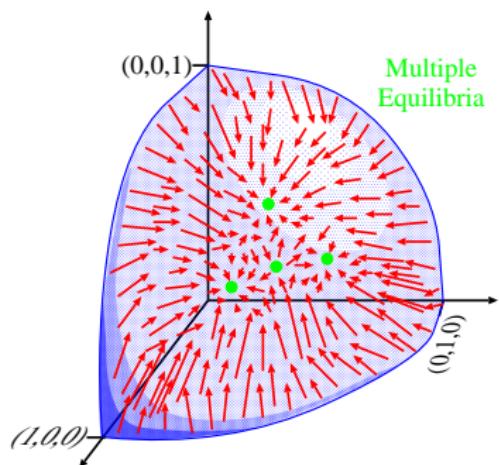
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Depending on initial conditions, market might choose different equilibria.

This is called **path-dependence** or **lock-in**.

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In such a **monopolistic competition**, each firm is a *price setter* for its product, not a *price taker*. This contradicts the 'price-taker' assumption of Walrasian model.

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**Price setting problem:** Walras model assumes each consumer and firm is a **price taker**, who treats market prices as exogenous and 'fixed', and simply chooses her own individual 'best response' to these prices. That is:

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*"In the long run, we are all dead."* —J.M. Keynes

Extreme 'long run' predictions are irrelevant for crafting economic policy.

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where **price adjustment** vector field  $\alpha : \mathbb{R}_+^{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{C}}$  is such that:

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Simplest choice:  $\alpha(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{z}$ .

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- ▶ Generalizing “ $\dot{\mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p})$ ” to “ $\dot{\mathbf{p}} = \alpha[\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p})]$ ” also doesn’t work, for ‘reasonable’ choices of  $\alpha$ .

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A proper disequilibrium model must describes how scarce goods are '**rationed**' in the market, and must describe how consumers and firms react when their consumption/production plans are **not feasible**.

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Like Walras, the tâtonnement model assumes the *Law of One Price* (LOP):

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A proper disequilibrium model must allow each market agent to assign her own 'price' to each good, and evolve these individual prices over time. (Presumably they eventually converge to a common value.)

# The Hahn-Negishi price-adjustment model

[Skip to SMD proof]

Hahn and Negishi's (1962) model somewhat obviates these problems.  
As before, assume *tâtonnement price adjustment*:

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for some sign-preserving **adjustment** rule  $\alpha : \mathbb{R}^C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^C$ .

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**Explanation:** " $c \sim_t d$ " means that *some* consumer owns nonzero amounts both of  $c$  and  $d$ . Economy doesn't 'decompose' into subeconomies with disjoint commodities held by disjoint populations. Thus, 'price comparisons' between commodities are meaningful, because they all trade in same market.

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**Consequence:** If  $\mathbf{p}$  is a Walrasian equilibrium, then not only is  $\mathbf{Z}(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{0}$ , but  $\mathbf{z}^i(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{0}$  for all  $i \in \mathcal{I}$ .

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## Assumptions:

- (a) *Law of One Price.*
- (b) *Tâtonnement price adjustment:*  $\dot{\mathbf{p}}(t) = \alpha[\mathbf{p}(t)]$ .
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This guarantees convergence to a *local minimum* of  $U(t)$ . This will be an equilibrium. □

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**Other disequilibrium models** include Uzawa's (1962) 'Edgeworth trading' model and Benassy's (1984, 2002) 'quantity-constrained rationing' model.

## Sonnenschein-Mantel-Debreu Theorem

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Then  $\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p})$  is *tangent* to  $\mathbb{S}_+$  (by Walras’ law).

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# Proof background for SMD Theorem

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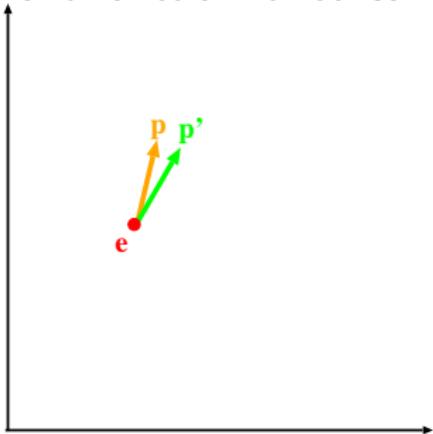
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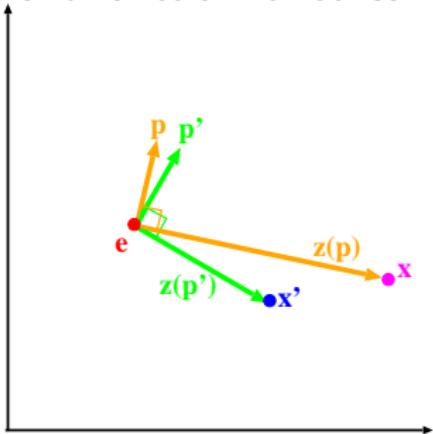
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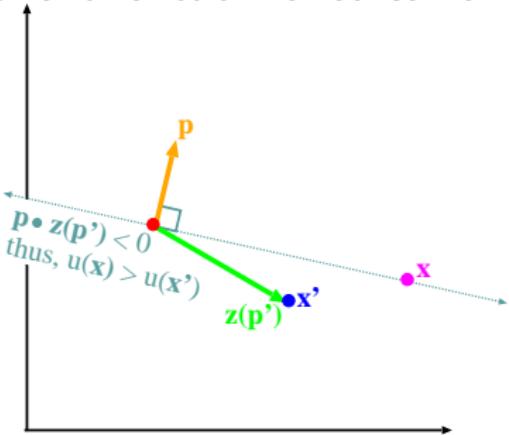
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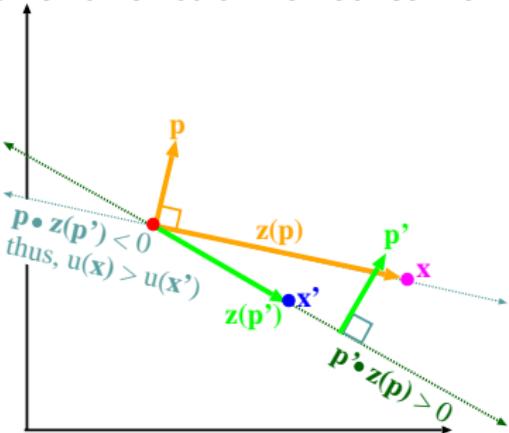
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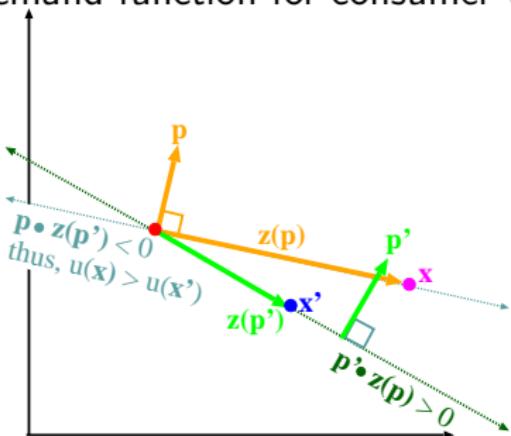
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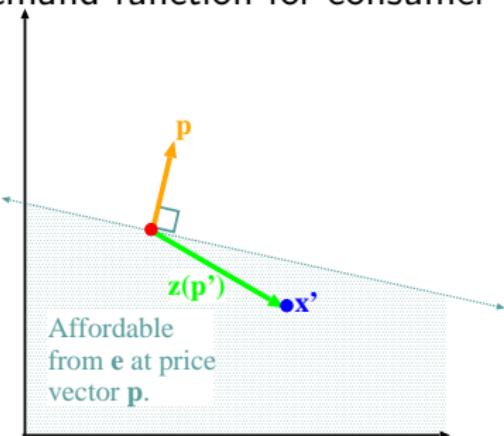
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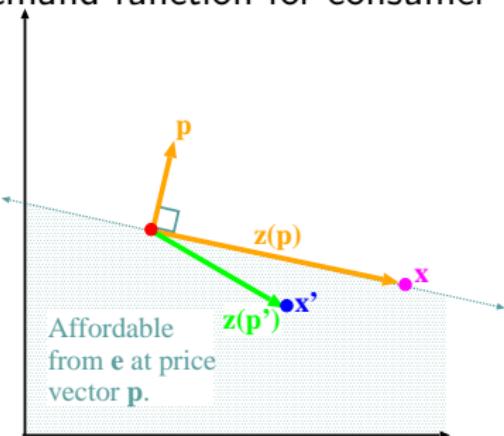
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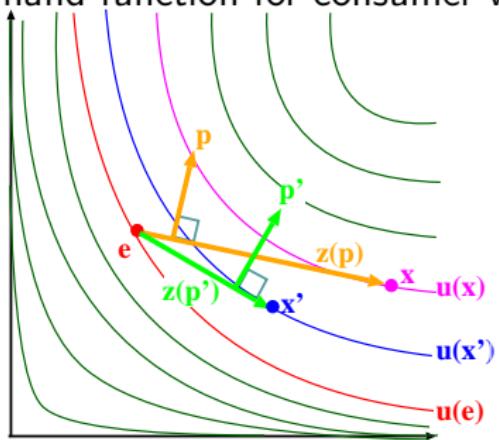
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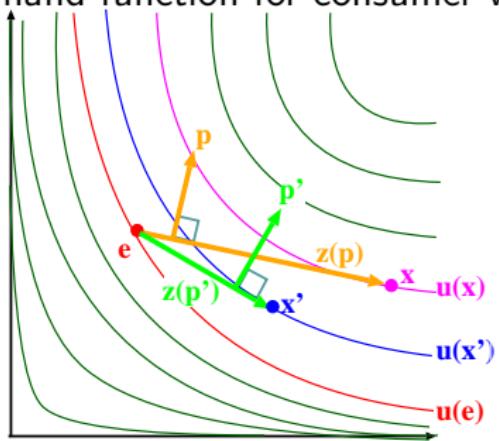
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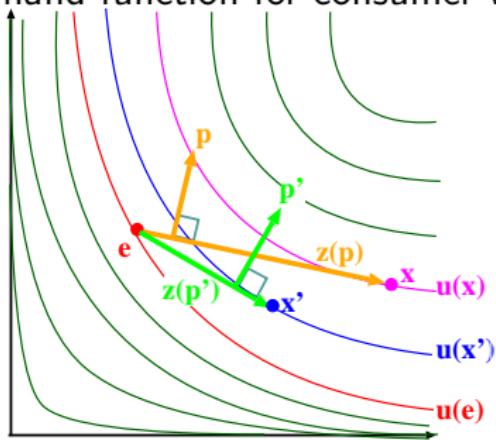
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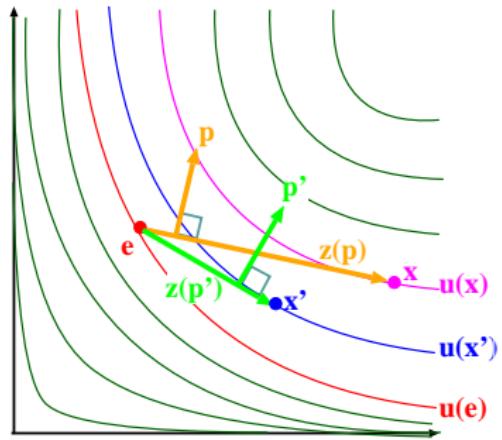
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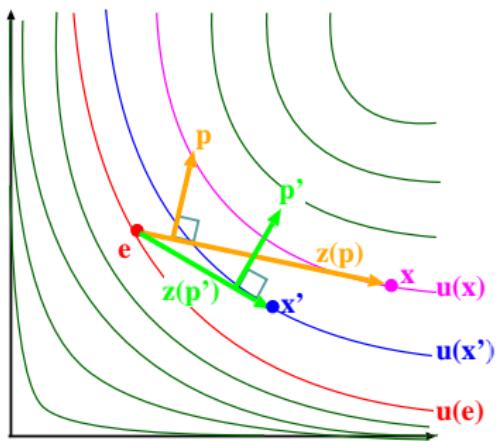
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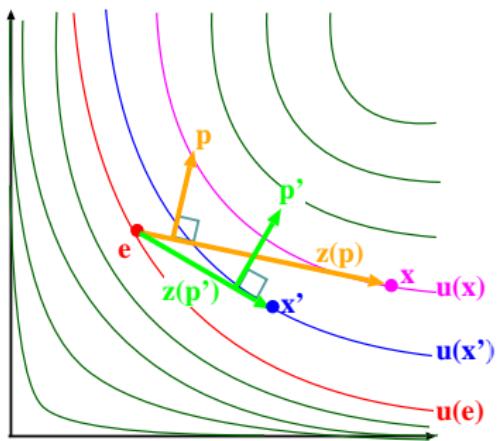
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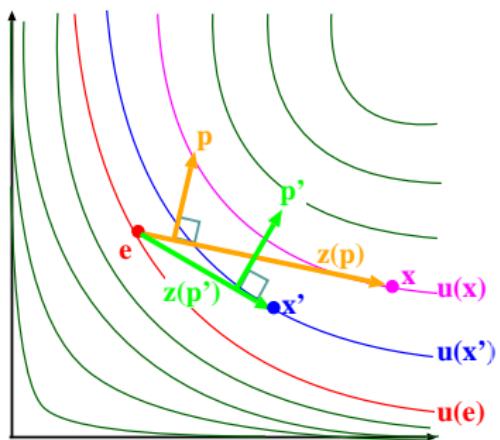
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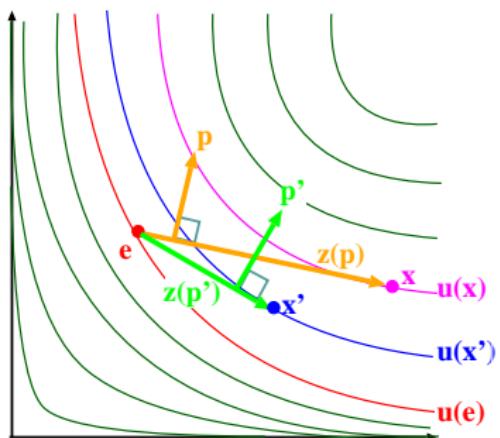
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In other words, if  $\mathbf{p} \succ \mathbf{p}'$ , then  $i$  has better optimal consumption plan at price  $\mathbf{p}$  than at  $\mathbf{p}'$ .

....Hence  $i$  *prefers* price vector  $\mathbf{p}$  to  $\mathbf{p}'$ .

If  $\mathbf{p} \bullet \mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p}') \leq 0$ , then say  $\mathbf{p}$  is *revealed preferred* to  $\mathbf{p}'$ , and write  $\mathbf{p} \succ \mathbf{p}'$ .

Why ‘revealed preferred’? In this notation, Lemma can be rewritten:



**Lemma 1:** Suppose  $\mathbf{z}$  is the excess demand function for  $u$  and  $\mathbf{e}$ .  
 Let  $\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}' \in \mathbb{S}_+$  be two price vectors.  
 Let  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p}) + \mathbf{e}$  and  $\mathbf{x}' := \mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p}') + \mathbf{e}$ .

- (a) If  $\mathbf{p} \succ \mathbf{p}'$ , then  $u(\mathbf{x}) > u(\mathbf{x}')$ .
- (b) If  $\mathbf{p}' \succ \mathbf{p}$ , then  $u(\mathbf{x}') > u(\mathbf{x})$ .
- (c)  $\mathbf{p} \succ \mathbf{p}', \mathbf{p}' \succ \mathbf{p}$  can't both occur.

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**Note:** Part (c) says that the relation “ $\succ$ ” is *asymmetric*.

## Proof background for SMD Theorem

Let  $\mathbf{z} : \mathbb{S}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^C$  be tangent field on  $\mathbb{S}_+$ . Let  $\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}' \in \mathbb{S}_+$  be price vectors.  
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We say  $\mathbf{p}$  is *indirectly revealed preferred* to  $\mathbf{p}'$  if

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**Lemma 2:** If  $\mathbf{z}$  is PI and satisfies SARP, and  $r : \mathbb{S}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is any continuous positive function, then  $\mathbf{z}' := r \cdot \mathbf{z}$  also satisfies SARP.

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**Corollary:**  $\mathbf{z}'$  is also the excess demand field for some  $\mathbf{u}'$  and  $\mathbf{e}'$ .

(because of SARP Theorem.)

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**Claim 1:**  $\forall c \in [1\dots C]$ , let  $\mathbf{e}_c := (0, 0, \dots, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$  be  $c$ th *unit vector*.

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The  $u_c$ -maximizing element  $\mathbf{z}_c(\mathbf{p})$  of  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{p}}$  is the element of *minimal distance* from  $\mathbf{e}_c$  —namely the *orthogonal projection* of  $\mathbf{e}_c$  onto  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{p}}$ .

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The  $u_c$ -maximizing element  $\mathbf{z}_c(\mathbf{p})$  of  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{p}}$  is the element of *minimal distance* from  $\mathbf{e}_c$  —namely the *orthogonal projection* of  $\mathbf{e}_c$  onto  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{p}}$ .

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# Proof of SMD Theorem

## Proof of Claim 1

**Claim 1:**  $\forall c \in [1\dots C]$ , let  $\mathbf{e}_c := (0, 0, \dots, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$  be  $c$ th unit vector.

For every  $\mathbf{p} = (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_C) \in \mathbb{S}_\epsilon$ , define  $\mathbf{z}_c(\mathbf{p}) := \mathbf{e}_c - p_c \mathbf{p}$ .

This yields a tangent vector field  $\mathbf{z}_c : \mathbb{S}_\epsilon \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^C$  which is **proportionally injective** and satisfies **SARP**.

**Proof of Claim 1:** For all  $c \in \mathcal{C}$ , let 'consumer  $c$ ' have utility function  $u_c : \mathbb{R}^C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined

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Let  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{S}_\epsilon$ . Let  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{p}} := \{\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^C ; \mathbf{z} \perp \mathbf{p}\}$  be the **budget plane** orthogonal to  $\mathbf{p}$  through endowment  $\mathbf{0}$ .

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Thus, if  $\mathbf{p} = (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_C)$ , then  $\mathbf{z}_c(\mathbf{p}) := \mathbf{e}_c - p_c \mathbf{p}$ .

Lemma 1 says  $\mathbf{z}_c$  satisfies **SARP** ( $\mathbf{z}_c(\mathbf{p})$  is  $u_c$ -maximizing choice for all  $\mathbf{p}$ ).

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Lemma 1 says  $\mathbf{z}_c$  satisfies SARP ( $\mathbf{z}_c(\mathbf{p})$  is  $u_c$ -maximizing choice for all  $\mathbf{p}$ ).

Also,  $\mathbf{z}_c$  is **proportionally injective** (exercise).  $\diamondsuit$  Claim 1.

# Proof of SMD Theorem

## Proof of Claim 2

**Claim 2:** *There exist continuous, scalar functions  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_C : \mathbb{S}_\epsilon \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  such that, for all  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{S}_\epsilon$ ,  $\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p}) = r_1(\mathbf{p})\mathbf{z}_1(\mathbf{p}) + \dots + r_C(\mathbf{p})\mathbf{z}_C(\mathbf{p})$ .*

# Proof of SMD Theorem

## Proof of Claim 2

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$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} r_c z_c(\mathbf{p}) &= \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} (z_c(\mathbf{p}) + Rp_c)(\mathbf{e}_c - p_c \mathbf{p}) \\&= \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} z_c(\mathbf{p}) \mathbf{e}_c + \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} Rp_c \mathbf{e}_c - \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} z_c(\mathbf{p}) p_c \mathbf{p} - \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} Rp_c p_c \mathbf{p} \\&= \mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p}) + R\mathbf{p} - \underbrace{\underbrace{(\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p}) \bullet \mathbf{p})}_{=0 \text{ (Walras)}} \mathbf{p}}_{=1 \text{ (\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{S})}} - R \underbrace{\|\mathbf{p}\|_2^2}_{=1} \mathbf{p} \\&= \mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p}) + R\mathbf{p} - R\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p}).\end{aligned}$$

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For all  $c \in \mathcal{C}$ , define  $r_c : \mathbb{S}_\epsilon \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  by  $r_c(\mathbf{p}) := z_c(\mathbf{p}) + Rp_c > 0$ . Then:

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as desired.

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This completes the proof of the Sonnenschein-Mantel-Debreu Theorem. □.

# Conclusion

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Thus, 'real' economies are *often* (*usually?* *always?*) in disequilibrium.

**Needed:** A mathematically rigorous, all-encompassing model of *disequilibrium dynamics* in microeconomics.

# Further reading

These slides: <http://xaravve.trentu.ca/pivato/Teaching/walras.pdf>

## Microeconomics (Walrasian Equilibria, etc.)

- ▶ Andreu Mas-Colell, Michael D. Whinston, and Jerry R. Green, *Microeconomic Theory*. (1995, Oxford UP).
- ▶ Hal Varian, *Microeconomic Analysis*, 3rd edition. (1992, W.H.Norton).

## Tâtonnement and Sonnenschein-Mantel-Debreu Theorem

- ▶ §17.F of Mas-Colell, Whinston & Green.
- ▶ Donald Saari, "Mathematical complexity of simple economics", *Notices of the American Mathematical Society* 42(#2) (February, 1995).

## Disequilibrium dynamics (price-adjustment models, Hahn-Negishi, etc.)

- ▶ Jean-Pascal Benassy, *The economics of market disequilibrium*. (1982, Academic Press).
- ▶ Franklin M. Fisher, *Disequilibrium foundations of equilibrium economics*. (1983, Cambridge UP).
- ▶ Jean-Pascal Benassy, *The macroeconomics of imperfect competition and nonclearing markets*. (2002, MIT Press).

## Introduction

Supply and Demand

Demand Curves

Supply Curves

Why equilibrium?

Problems

Complementarities and substitution

Factor price interactions

Wealth effects: Perverse supply curves

The Law of One Price

## Walrasian Equilibria in Pure Exchange Economies

Goal

Commodities

Consumers

Utility functions

Trade and optimal consumption

Aggregate excess demand

Walrasian Equilibrium

Definition

Existence Theorem

Proof idea

## Walrasian Equilibria in Production Economies

### The Firm

Technology

Profit Maximization

Shareholders & Dividends

### Aggregate excess demand

### Walrasian Equilibrium

Definition

Existence Theorem

Proof idea

Significance

### Problems with Walrasian equilibria

Nonuniqueness

LOP & Monopolistic Competition

Price Setting?

# Price Adjustment Dynamics

## Tâtonnement

Definition

Problem: The Sonnenschein-Mantel-Debreu Theorem

Problem: Nonfeasibility & Rationing

Problem: One price or many?

## The Hahn-Negishi model

Description

Hahn-Negishi Stability Theorem

Proof idea for Hahn-Negishi theorem

## The Fisher model

Description

Problems

## Proof of Sonnenschein-Mantel-Debreu Theorem

### Background

Revealed Preference

Strong Axiom of Revealed Preference

SARP and proportional injectivity

### The proof

Main proof

Proof of Claim 2

Proof of Claim 2

## Conclusion