

Lecture 4: Equilibrium

September 17, 2024

Overview

1. Administrative Notes
2. Ripped from headlines
3. Chapter 4: Equilibrium
 - 3.1 Understanding markets
 - 3.2 Equilibrium
 - 3.3 Predicting market changes
 - Demand shift
 - Supply shift
 - Both shift
 - Deducing shifts from observed behavior

Course Administration

1. Ripped from Headlines sign-up
 - You are responsible for being on the schedule
2. Lecture 6 will be a set of pre-recorded videos, posted by class time
3. Next class I'll give handout and instructions for Lecture 7, 10/8
4. Lecture 8 is the midterm
5. This week we'll have grades up in Blackboard – I'll send email
6. Ch. 4 End-of-Chapter problems posted as an assignment with no due date
7. Problem Set 4 posted as an assignment

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7. Problem Set 4 posted as an assignment
8. Any other questions or outstanding issues?

Demand Movements vs Shift from PS 2

Clear and popular examples

- The price for a large Cold Brew at For Five Coffee Roasters increased from \$5.50 to \$6.50 which reduced the number of cold brews I buy each week from 4 to 2. → movement along the demand curve

Demand Movements vs Shift from PS 2

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A more ambiguous example

- “One recent change I have made is buy getting rid of my car and deciding to take public transportation instead; this represents movement along the demand curve because I am choosing between two options. ...

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A more ambiguous example

- “One recent change I have made is buy getting rid of my car and deciding to take public transportation instead; this represents movement along the demand curve because I am choosing between two options. ... Lastly, I have recently stopped buying textbooks for my classes as I have found you can find free PDFs often available online; this represents a shift in demand because I have found a substitute.”

How What You're Learning is Policy-Relevant

Ripped from Headlines presentation(s)

As a reminder, next week
Send the article by Wednesday midnight for approval

Afternoon, joint presentation

| Finder | Presenter |
|-----------|-----------|
| Matt W. | Riddhi P. |
| Raquel L. | Tosha S. |
| Sarah C. | |

Evening, **joint** presentation

| Finder | Presenter |
|-----------|-----------|
| Saumya M. | Sydney M. |
| | Jackie G. |

Today's Ripped from the Headlines

Afternoon, joint presentation

| Finder | Presenter |
|-----------|-----------|
| Riddhi P. | Matt W. |
| Emma D. | Laiba |

Evening, individual presentations

| Finder | Presenter |
|-----------|--------------|
| Sydney M. | Elizabeth A. |
| Baylee W. | Joseph F. |

Today

1. Understanding markets
2. Equilibrium
3. Predicting market changes
 - Demand shift
 - Supply shift
 - Both shift
 - Deducing shifts from observed behavior

Ch. 4: 1. Understanding Markets

Planned Economics vs Market Economies

Planned economies

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Planned economies

- government decides how much of what to produce
- who produces it
- and who gets it

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Planned economies

- government decides how much of what to produce
- who produces it
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Market economies

- individuals make decisions about what to produce and what to buy
- government enforces contracts
- may limit various individual and firm behaviors
- price is the primary mechanism for actors

What is a Market?

“... any setting that brings together potential buyers (demanders) and sellers (suppliers).”

A formal market: NYSE



Thank you, [Investopedia](https://www.investopedia.com)

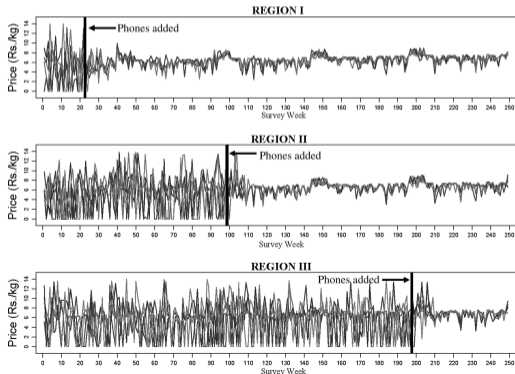
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A formal market: NYSE



Making one market from many in Kerala, India



How Markets are Organized

- posted prices
- auctions
- online with prices not posted
- and others I am sure you'll tell me

Ch. 4: 2. Equilibrium

Equilibrium

- Equilibrium \equiv “the point at which there is no tendency to change”
- Give me an example of an equilibrium in the natural world

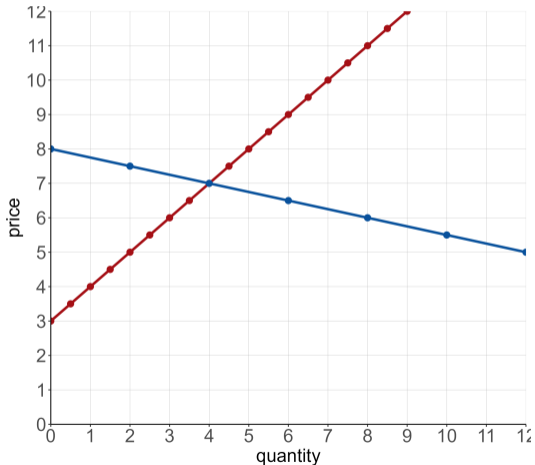
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 - equilibrium price
 - equilibrium quantity

Equilibrium

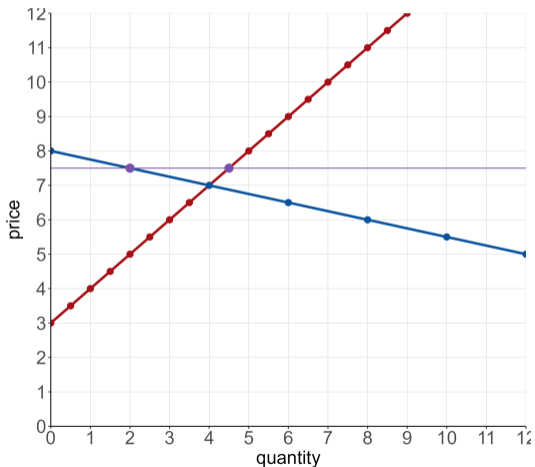
- Equilibrium \equiv “the point at which there is no tendency to change”
- Give me an example of an equilibrium in the natural world
- When we find equilibrium in markets, we have an
 - equilibrium price
 - equilibrium quantity
- At Q^* and P^*
 - all sellers who want to sell at P^* can
 - all buyers who want to buy at P^* can
 - buyers buy and sellers sell an amount Q^*

Getting Supply to Equal Demand



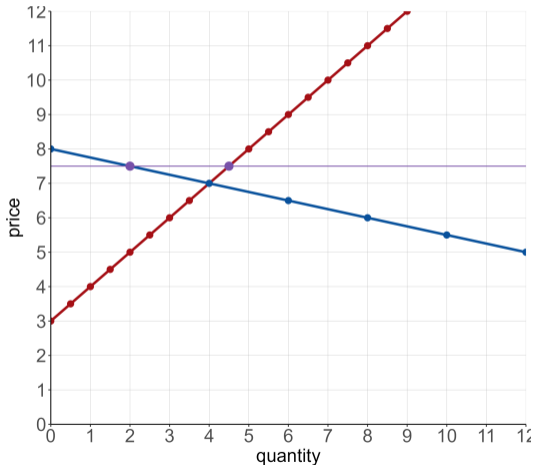
- demand or marginal benefit curve
- supply or marginal cost curve

Getting Supply to Equal Demand



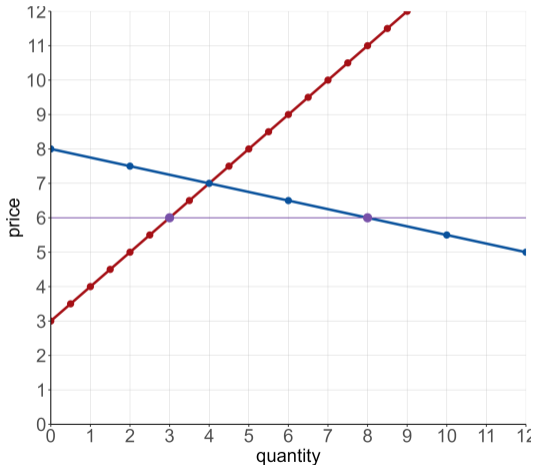
- Suppose a there is a very high price in the market
- What do suppliers want to do?
- What do consumers want to do?
- What do we call this?

Getting Supply to Equal Demand



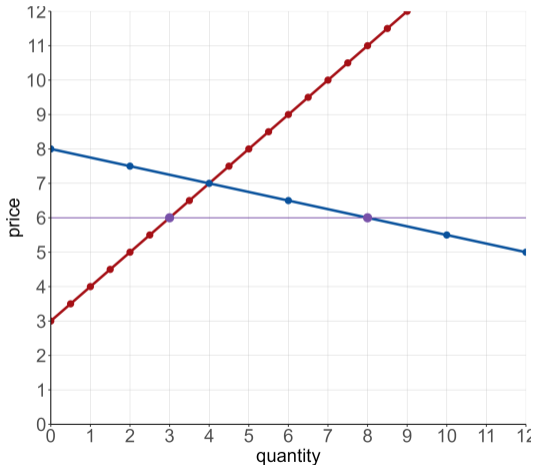
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- What do suppliers want to do?
- What do consumers want to do?
- What do we call this? surplus
- What is likely to change?

Getting Supply to Equal Demand



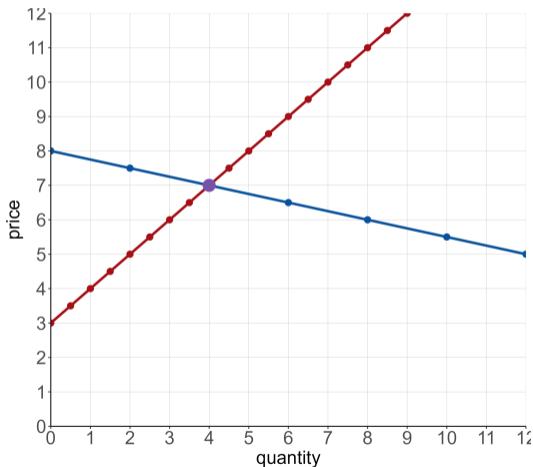
- Suppose a there is a very low price in the market
- What do suppliers want to do?
- What do consumers want to do?
- What do we call this?

Getting Supply to Equal Demand



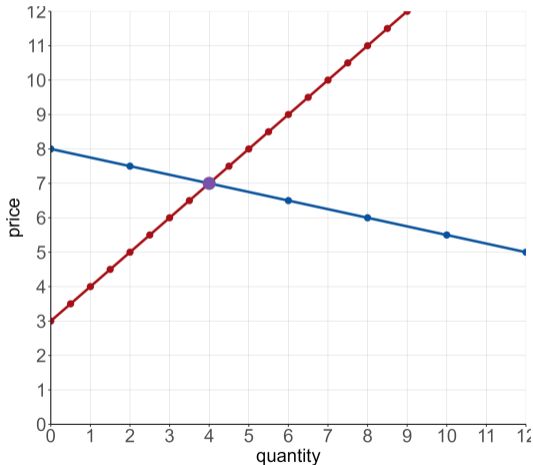
- Suppose a there is a very low price in the market
- What do suppliers want to do?
- What do consumers want to do?
- What do we call this? shortage
- What is likely to change?

Getting Supply to Equal Demand



- Suppose producers charge where supply = demand
- What do suppliers want to do?
- What do consumers want to do?
- What do we call this?

Getting Supply to Equal Demand



- Suppose producers charge where supply = demand
- What do suppliers want to do?
- What do consumers want to do?
- What do we call this? Equilibrium

Two Key Features of Price Determination

1. Both supply and demand determine price

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 - water is strongly demanded
 - but it is also widely supplied

Two Key Features of Price Determination

1. Both supply and demand determine price
 - water is strongly demanded
 - but it is also widely supplied
2. We determine prices at the margin
 - why is water cheap and diamonds expensive when water is essential and diamonds are not?
 - what is the marginal value of diamonds? of water?
 - the marginal value drives pricing

Identifying Markets Not in Equilibrium

These markets have three main identifying features

1. queuing
2. bundling of extras
3. secondary market

Ch. 4: 3. Predicting Market Changes

Supply-Demand Equilibrium

1. As a way to predict outcomes
2. As a way to interpret motivation behind behavior

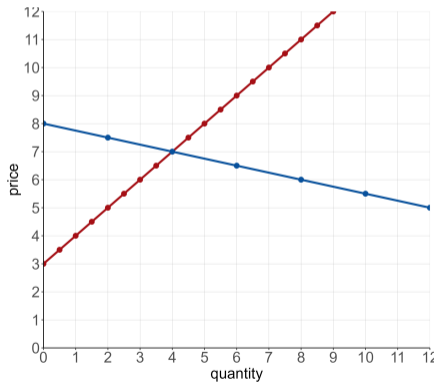
Predicting Outcomes: Demand Shift

- demand increases
- supply is unchanged
- give an example!

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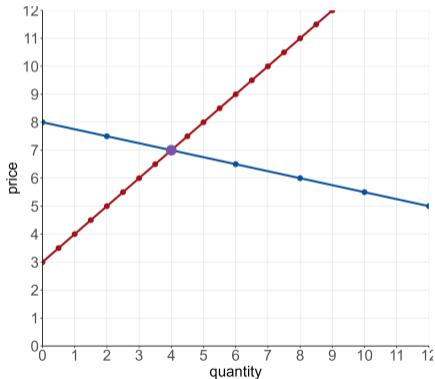
Where is original equilibrium price and quantity?



Predicting Outcomes: Demand Shift

- demand increases
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- give an example!

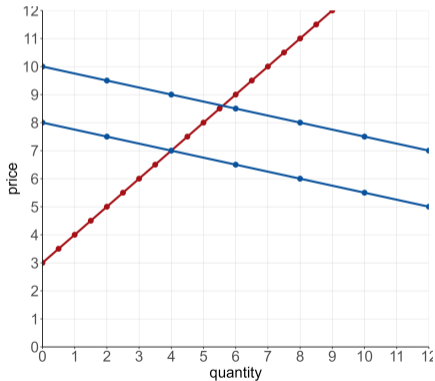
Where does demand shift?



Predicting Outcomes: Demand Shift

- demand increases
- supply is unchanged
- give an example!

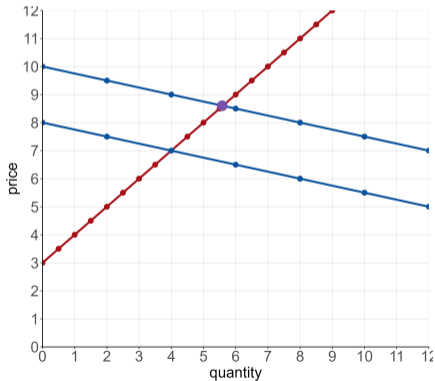
What are new equilibrium price and quantity?



Predicting Outcomes: Demand Shift

- demand increases
- supply is unchanged
- give an example!

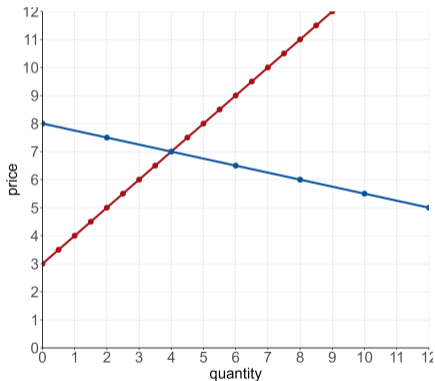
What are new equilibrium price and quantity?



Predicting Outcomes: Supply Shift

- supply decreases
- demand is unchanged
- give an example!

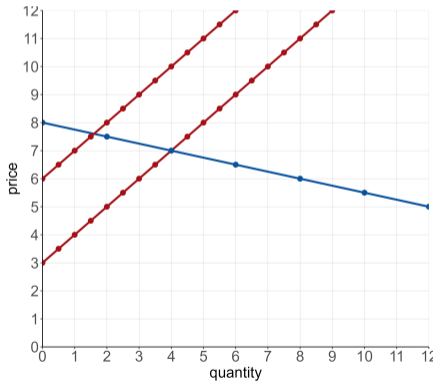
Where does new supply curve go?



Predicting Outcomes: Supply Shift

- supply decreases
- demand is unchanged
- give an example!

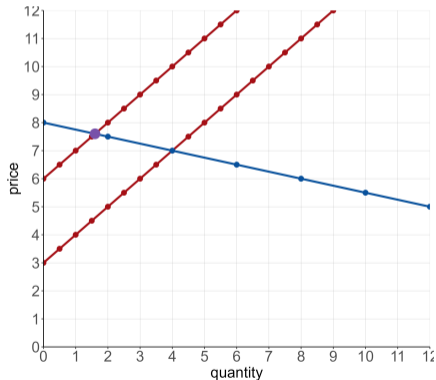
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Predicting Outcomes: Supply Shift

- supply decreases
- demand is unchanged
- give an example!

What are new equilibrium price and quantity?



Two Remaining Cases

- Split into groups of two
 1. supply increases, demand unchanged
 2. demand decreases, supply unchanged
- Draw a graph with these curves
- Report back on changes in equilibrium price and quantity

Supply-Demand Eqbm: Interpreting Motivation Behind Behavior

Firms change behavior – what motivates?

- US garment manufacturers move south in late 1950s and 1960s

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More changed behavior

- Rise of self-checkout
- Amazon opposes and then supports state taxation on online sales

What if Both Change?

- Final equilibrium is
 - first change
 - response
- Let's work through a few on the whiteboard

For Next Class

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- Work with classmates, me or TA on problems
- Check Ripped from Headlines assignments
- Article finders email me by Wednesday midnight
- Read Chapter 5

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I will

- post these lecture notes on my webpage
- post link to lecture recording on Blackboard
- anything else?