Price elasticities of demand

1. Definition of price elasticity of demand

: Price elasticity of demand(PED) measures the responsiveness of quantity demanded to changes in price.

PED = % change in quantity of demand % change in price

| | Price elastic demand | Price inelastic demand | | | | |
|--------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Definition | The percentage change in quantity of demand is greater than the percentage change in price | The percentage change in quantity of demand is lesser than the percentage change in price | | | | |
| Value of PED | PED > 1 | 0 < PED < 1 | | | | |
| Curve | Price Demand Quantity | Price Demand Quantity | | | | |

2. Determinants of price elasticity of demand

2.1) The number of substitute product

: The large number of substitute product ⇒ Elastic PED

: The lack of substitute product ⇒ Inelastic PED

2.2) The period of time

: In the short run and peak time ⇒ Inelastic PED

: In the long run and off peak time ⇒ Elastic PED

2.3) The proportion of income spent on the product

: The large proportion of income spent on the product \Rightarrow Elastic PED

: The small proportion of income spent on the product ⇒ Inelastic PED

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2.4) Type of products

: Luxury goods ⇒ Elastic PED

: Necessity, Brand loyalty, Addictive products \Rightarrow Inelastic PED

2.5) Durability of products

: Durable product ⇒ Inelastic PED

3. Special demand curve

| Perfectly price elastic | Perfectly price inelastic | Unitary price elastic | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| when a change in price | when a change in price | when a change in price | |
| causes a complete | has no effect on the | causes an equal change | |
| change in the quantity | quantity demand. | in the quantity demanded, | |
| demand. | | leaving total revenue | |
| | | unchanged. | |
| Price Demand Quantity | Price Demand Quantity | Price Demand Quantity | |
| PED = ∞ | PED = 0 | PED = 1 | |

4. PED and total revenue

| | Type of PED | Price | | | Quantity | Total Revenue |
|----|---------------|-------------|---|--------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. | PED elastic | 仓 | | | and decreases by a arger proportion. | TR decreased |
| 2. | PED elastic | Î | | Demand | d increases by a larger proportion. | TR increased |
| 3. | PED inelastic | 仓 | | | and decreases by a naller proportion. | TR increased |
| 4. | PED inelastic | \$ | | | and increases by a naller proportion. | TR decreased |
| 5. | PED unitary | Price 企 10% | % | Quanti | ty decreases by 10% | TR unchanged |
| 6. | PED unitary | Price ↓ 10% | % | Quan | tity increases by10% | TR unchanged |

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5. Limitation of PED

- 1. It is difficult to calculate PED.
- 2. It has time consuming.
- 3. The value of PED changes over time.

