

**Defining Supply and Demand Equations – Private Goods<sup>1</sup>**  
**In-Class Problem<sup>2</sup>**

Suppose the US market for Grits is represented by the follow schedule with quantities presented in millions:

<i>Price</i>	<i>Quantity<sub>S</sub><sup>US</sup></i>	<i>Quantity<sub>D</sub><sup>US</sup></i>
\$2	5	12
\$3	10	10

- a) Provide a completed Supply and Demand Schedules extended to the point where  $Quantity_D^{US} = 0$  and  $Quantity_S^{US} = 0$ .

<i>Price</i>	<i>Quantity<sub>S</sub><sup>US</sup></i>	<i>Quantity<sub>D</sub><sup>US</sup></i>
\$1	0	14
\$2	5	12
\$3	10	10
\$4	15	8
\$5	20	6
\$6	25	4
\$7	30	2
\$8	35	0

- b) Identify the Inverse Demand and Inverse Supply Equations for this market.

Inverse Supply:  $P = 1 + \frac{1}{5} Q_S^{US}$

Inverse Demand:  $P = 8 - \frac{1}{2} Q_D^{US}$

- c) What are the Demand and Supply Equations for this market?

From Inverse Supply:  $P = 1 + \frac{1}{5} Q_S^{US}$  we rearrange the equation normalized to  $Q_S^{US}$  such that

$$\frac{1}{5} Q_S^{US} = P - 1 \longrightarrow Q_S^{US} = 5P - 5 = \text{Supply Equation}$$

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<sup>1</sup> This primer is intended to present an abbreviated discussion of the included economic concepts and is not intended to be a full or complete representation of them or the underlying economic foundations from which they are built.

<sup>2</sup> This In-Class Problem was developed by Rick Haskell, Ph.D. Student, Department of Economics, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, The University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah (2014).

From Inverse Demand:  $P = 8 - \frac{1}{2} Q_D^{US}$  we rearrange the equation normalized to  $Q_D^{US}$  such that  
 $\frac{1}{2} Q_D^{US} = 8 - P \longrightarrow Q_D^{US} = 16 - 2P$

**d) Based on the Supply and Demand Equations, what are the equilibrating values for price and quantity for this market?**

$$Q_D^{US} = Q_S^{US}$$

$$5P - 5 = 16 - 2P \qquad Q_D^{US} = Q^* = 5(3) - 5 = 10$$

$$7P = 21$$

$$P^* = 3$$

Now suppose that there is also a demand market for Grits in Canada represented by the following schedule:

<i>Price</i>	<i>Quantity<sub>D</sub><sup>C</sup></i>
\$4	12
\$5	9

**e) What is the Demand Equation for the Canadian market for Grits?**

<i>Price</i>	<i>Quantity<sub>D</sub><sup>C</sup></i>
\$4	12
\$5	9
\$6	6
\$7	3
\$8	0

$$P = 8 - \frac{1}{3} Q_D^C \text{ Inverse Demand}$$

$$\frac{1}{3} Q_D^C = 8 - P$$

$$Q_D^C = 24 - 3P \text{ Demand Equation}$$

- f) Provide an Aggregate Demand Equation for the North American market for Grits by summing the Canadian and US Demand Equations.

$$Q_D^C = 24 - 3P$$

$$Q_D^{US} = 16 - 2P$$

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$$Q_D^{US} + Q_D^C = 16 - 2P + 24 - 3P$$

$$Q_D = 40 - 5P$$

- g) Show how you would confirm that this equation is accurate by forming an Aggregate Demand Schedule then forming an Aggregate Demand Equation based on that schedule.

Price	Quantity <sub>S</sub> <sup>US</sup>	Quantity <sub>D</sub> <sup>US</sup>	Quantity <sub>D</sub> <sup>C</sup>	Quantity <sub>D</sub>
\$1	0	14	21	35
\$2	5	12	18	30
\$3	10	10	15	25
\$4	15	8	12	20
\$5	20	6	9	15
\$6	25	4	6	10
\$7	30	2	3	5
\$8	35	0	0	0

$$P = 8 - \frac{1}{5}Q_D$$

$$\frac{1}{5}Q_D = 8 - P$$

$Q_D = 40 - 5P$  which is the Demand Equation and is the same found above

- h) What are the equalibrating values for price and quantity for the North American Market?

$$Q_D = Q_S$$

$$40 - 5P = 5P - 5$$

$$10P = 45$$

$$P^* = 4\frac{1}{2}$$

$$Q_S = Q^* = 5P - 5$$

$$Q^* = 5 \left( 4\frac{1}{2} \right) - 5$$

$Q^* = 22\frac{1}{2} - 5 = 17\frac{1}{2}$  which matches up with a visual observation of the equilibrating values from the schedule above

- i) **What are the quantities demanded by the US and Canadian markets and how do these relate to the aggregate demand quantity?**

At a price for the North American market of  $\$4\frac{1}{2}$  we can determine the quantities the US and Canada will each demand by plugging that price into each market's demand equation:

$$Q_D^C = 24 - 3P$$

$$Q_D^C = 24 - 3 \left( 4\frac{1}{2} \right) = 10\frac{1}{2}$$

$$Q_D^{US} = 16 - 2P$$

$$Q_D^{US} = 16 - 2 \left( 4\frac{1}{2} \right) = 7$$

$$Q_D^C + Q_D^{US} = 17\frac{1}{2}$$

This reconciles nicely with the  $Q^*$  for the North American market since

$$Q_D^C + Q_D^{US} = Q_D^{NA} = Q^* = 17\frac{1}{2}$$