

Getting Started with Market Equilibrium Models

Thomas F. Rutherford

Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics
University of Wisconsin, Madison

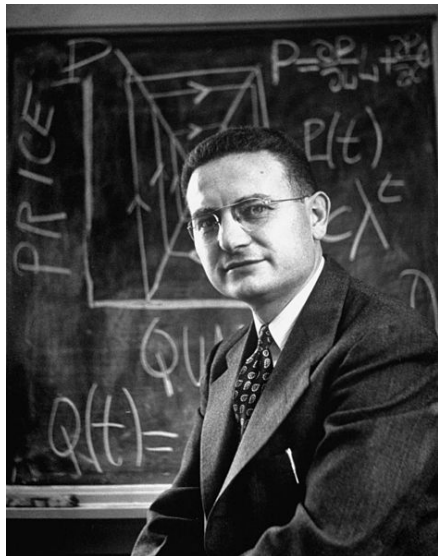
WiNDC Short Course – 20 July 2021





- Paul Samuelson
- Activity Analysis and Market Equilibrium
- Application: Electricity Investment and Dispatch
- Spatial Price Equilibrium

Samuelson in 1950





- University of Chicago (B.A.) – Harvard University (Ph.D.),
- Enrolled college at age 16
- Full professor at age 32
- First American to win the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences: “[Samuelson] has done more than any other contemporary economist to raise the level of scientific analysis in economic theory.”
- Recruited numerous Nobel laureates at MIT: Robert M. Solow, Paul Krugman, Franco Modigliani, Robert C. Merton and Joseph E. Stiglitz.

A Theory which is both True and Nontrivial



Stanislaw Ulam once challenged Samuelson to name one theory in all of the social sciences which is both true and nontrivial.



Stanislaw Ulam once challenged Samuelson to name one theory in all of the social sciences which is both true and nontrivial.

Several years later, Samuelson responded with David Ricardo's theory of comparative advantage:

That it is logically true need not be argued before a mathematician; that is not trivial is attested by the thousands of important and intelligent men who have never been able to grasp the doctrine for themselves or to believe it after it was explained to them.



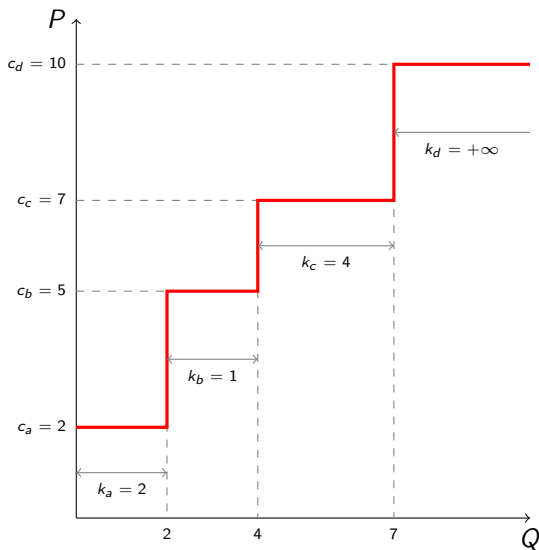
- Paul Samuelson
- **Activity Analysis and Market Equilibrium**
- Application: Electricity Investment and Dispatch
- Spatial Price Equilibrium

When there are a discrete set of production technologies, each characterized by a marginal cost and a capacity, the supply curve becomes a step function corresponding to the sorted sequence of plant capacities.

Consider a market in which the commodity is supply by the following four technologies:

	c_j	k_j
a	2	2
b	5	2
c	7	4
d	10	∞

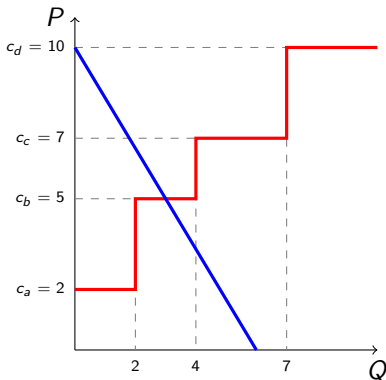
Activity Analysis Supply Curve



Market Equilibrium with Activity Analysis



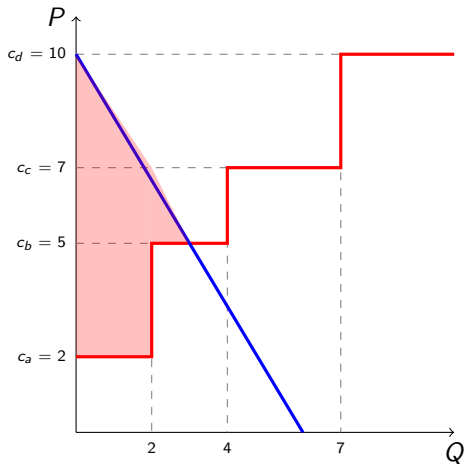
Consider a market equilibrium when there are multiple discrete supply technologies. As in the conventional continuous Marshallian model, the equilibrium price and quantity is defined by the intersection of the supply and demand schedules:



Market Equilibrium and Social Surplus



A convenient property of the competitive market allocation is that it *maximizes* social surplus, as illustrated in this figure:



Constrained Optimization Approach



Let $Q_t \geq 0$ denote output from technology t , P denote the equilibrium price, PS and CS denote producer and consumer surplus. The market equilibrium then solves:

$$\max PS + CS$$

subject to:

- Market supply equals technology output:

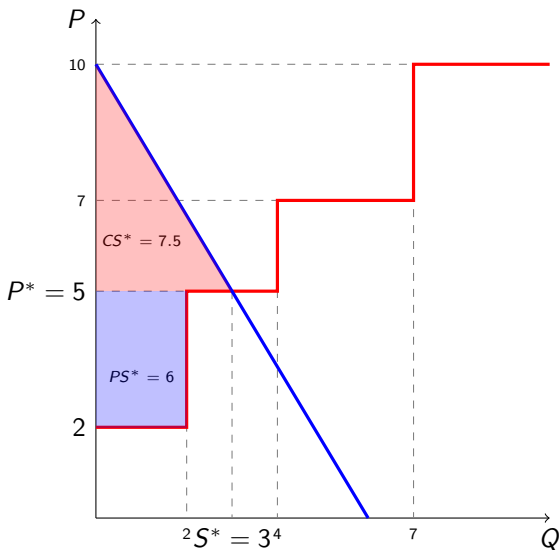
$$S = \sum_t Q_t$$

- Market equilibrium price is on the demand curve:

$$P = 10 - \frac{5}{6}S$$

- Producer surplus is the area below the market price and above the cost of production: $PS = \sum_t (P - c_t)Q_t$
- Consumer surplus is the area under the demand curve: $CS = \frac{(10-P)}{2}S$

Geometric Interpretation of the Equilibrium





```
$title surplus maximization and market equilibrium

set      t /a,b,c,d/;

table    tech      Technology
         cost      cap
a        2         2
b        5         2
c        7         4
d        10        inf;

parameter      c(t)      Cost by technology;
c(t) = tech(t,"cost");
```



```
nonnegative variables   P,PS,CS,s,Q(t);
free variable          obj;
equations              price, supply, psurplus, csurplus, objective;

price..               P =e= 10 - S*10/6;

supply..             S =e= sum(t, Q(t));

psurplus..          PS =e= sum(t, (P-c(t))* Q(t));

csurplus..          CS =e= (10 - P)*S/2;

objective..         OBJ =e= CS + PS;

Q.UP(t) = tech(t,"cap");

model equil /all/;
solve equil using nlp maximizing OBJ;
```

	LOWER	LEVEL	UPPER	MARGINAL
---- VAR P	.	5.0000	+INF	.
---- VAR PS	.	6.0000	+INF	.
---- VAR CS	.	7.5000	+INF	.
---- VAR Q				
a	.	2.0000	2.0000	3.0000
b	.	1.0000	2.0000	EPS
c	.	.	4.0000	-2.0000
d	.	.	+INF	-5.0000
---- VAR obj	-INF	13.5000	+INF	.

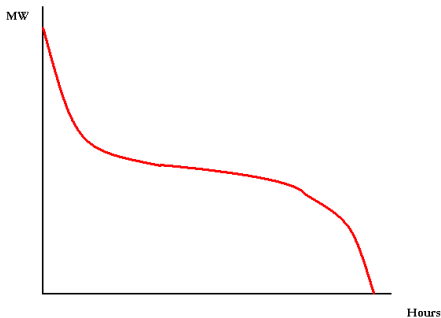


- Paul Samuelson
- Activity Analysis and Market Equilibrium
- **Application: Electricity Investment and Dispatch**
- Spatial Price Equilibrium

A Load-Duration Curve

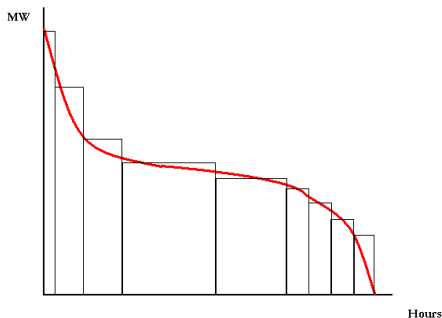


A load-duration curve portrays electricity demand over a year in terms of sorted decreasing quantity. Typically constructed on an hourly basis (8760 hours per year):



Load Segment Approximation of a Load-Duration Curve

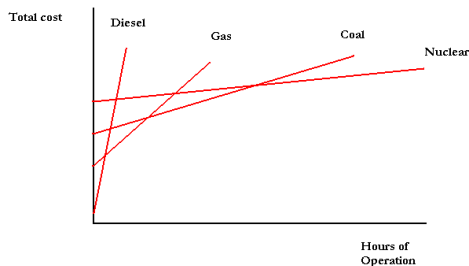
If we want to model electricity sector investment decisions, we need to work with an approximation to the load-duration curve. It does not take too many *load segments* to produce a coherent representation:



Units Characteristics Depend on Load Factors



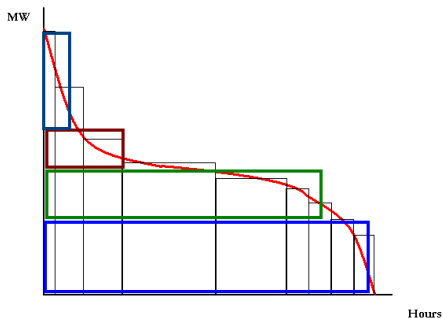
- *Peak* generating units typically operate a small number of hours per year and tend to have low capital costs and high variable costs.
- *Base load* generating units typically operate a large number of hours per year and tend to have high capital costs and low variable costs.



Load Dispatch Curve



Investment and dispatch decisions are made jointly: when a utility invests in new generating capacity, it must take into account overall load duration curve and characteristics of existing capacity:





- Sets

- s* Load segments as illustrated above.

- j* Generating units, e.g. existing capacity, new investment options

- i* Demand categories, e.g. residential, commercial, industrial

- f* Fuel types, e.g. hard coal, soft coal, natural gas, uranium



h_s Segment durations, hours

$\bar{p}_s, \bar{D}_{is}, \epsilon_{is}$ Demand characteristics as might be represented by representative price-quantity pairs and elasticities of demand (price expressed in € per KW, demand in KW and elasticity is dimensionless)

- ϕ_{fj} Heat rates describing input fuel requirements per unit generation (PJ per KWH)
- \bar{K}_j Capacities of existing generating units, TW
- c_f Fuel costs (€ per PJ)
- α_{js} Average availability factor for generating units, reflecting need for repair and intermittency of renewable energy sources (dimensionless)
- r_j^K Rental price of *new* generating capacity, (€ per KW per year), typically computed on the basis of capital cost, depreciation rate, capital cost and fixed maintenance and operating costs:

$$r_j^K = \begin{cases} p_j^K (r + \delta) + c_j^M & \text{New plants} \\ c_j^M & \text{Extant plants} \end{cases}$$

- p_j^M Variable maintenance and operating costs, (€ per KWH)



- Primal Variables : quantities
 - X_{js} Generation and dispatch
 - K_j Generating utilization (extant and new vintage)
- Dual Variables : prices
 - p_s Wholesale prices by load segment
 - π_{js} Profit margins
 - μ_j Shadow price on installed (extant) capacity



- Aggregate demand:

$$D_s = \sum_i \bar{D}_{is} (1 - |\epsilon_{is}| (p_s / \bar{p}_s - 1))$$

- Aggregate demand:

$$D_s = \sum_i \bar{D}_{is} (1 - |\epsilon_{is}| (p_s / \bar{p}_s - 1))$$

- Market clearance:

$$D_s = \sum_j X_{js} \quad \perp \quad p_s$$

- Aggregate demand:

$$D_s = \sum_i \bar{D}_{is} (1 - |\epsilon_{is}| (p_s / \bar{p}_s - 1))$$

- Market clearance:

$$D_s = \sum_j X_{js} \quad \perp \quad p_s$$

- Feasibility of generation:

$$\alpha_{js} K_j \geq X_{js} \geq 0 \quad \perp \quad \pi_{js} \geq 0$$

- Aggregate demand:

$$D_s = \sum_i \bar{D}_{is} (1 - |\epsilon_{is}| (p_s / \bar{p}_s - 1))$$

- Market clearance:

$$D_s = \sum_j X_{js} \quad \perp \quad p_s$$

- Feasibility of generation:

$$\alpha_{js} K_j \geq X_{js} \geq 0 \quad \perp \quad \pi_{js} \geq 0$$

- Capacity:

$$\bar{K}_j \geq K_j \quad \perp \quad \mu_j \geq 0$$



- Profitability – arbitrage in dispatch:

$$\pi_{js} + p_j^M + \sum_f c_f \phi_{fj} \geq p_s \quad \perp \quad X_{js} \geq 0$$

- Profitability – arbitrage in dispatch:

$$\pi_{js} + p_j^M + \sum_f c_f \phi_{fj} \geq p_s \quad \perp \quad X_{js} \geq 0$$

- Profitability – arbitrage in investment:

$$r_j^K + \mu_j \geq \sum_s h_s \alpha_{js} \pi_{js} \quad \perp \quad K_j \geq 0$$

Integrability: Equilibrium Allocation = Optimal Allocation

$$\max \sum_{i,s} \bar{p}_s D_{is} \left(1 + 1/|\epsilon_{is}| \left(1 - \frac{D_{is}}{2D_{is}} \right) \right) \\ - \sum_{sj} X_{js} h_s \left(\sum_f c_f \phi_{jf} + p_j^M \right) - \sum_j K_j r_j^K$$

subject to:

$$\sum_{is} D_{is} = \sum_j X_{js}$$

$$\alpha_{js} K_j \geq X_{js} \geq 0$$

$$\bar{K}_j \geq K_j$$

$$K_j \geq 0$$



- Paul Samuelson
- Activity Analysis and Market Equilibrium
- Application: Electricity Investment and Dispatch
- Spatial Price Equilibrium



- i Supply nodes
- j Demand nodes
- c_{ij} Unit shipment costs
- μ_i Unit (marginal) production cost
- \bar{S}_i Supply limit (upper bound)
- \bar{D}_j Demand quantity



$$\min \sum_i \mu_i S_i + \sum_{i,j} c_{ij} X_{ij}$$

subject to:

$$S_i \geq \sum_j X_{ij}$$
$$\sum_i X_{ij} \geq D_j$$

$$D_j = \bar{D}_j, \quad S_i \leq \bar{S}_i$$

```
$title A Calibrated Spatial Price Equilibrium Model
```

```
$ontext
```

We first formulate a linear programming model which minimizes the cost of production and distribution on a transportation network with supply nodes and demand nodes. Using the primal and dual values from the LP model we calibrate an economic equilibrium model with price elastic demand and supply for which the reference equilibrium corresponds precisely to the LP optimum.

```
$offtext
```

```
*      Generate a random instance of the problem:
```

```
set    i      Supply nodes /1*5/  
       j      Demand nodes /1*5/;
```

```
parameter      d0(j)  Demands  
              s0(i)  Supply  
              mu(i)  Marginal cost of production,  
              c(i,j) Transport cost;
```

```
c(i,j) = uniform(0,1);  
d0(j) = round(uniform(1,100));  
s0(i) = round(uniform(1,200));  
mu(i) = uniform(0.5,1.5);
```



```
* Here I illustrate the lazy way to declare variables. When
* a variable is declared with no arguments, the dimensionality
* is inferred at the first use and the domains are assumed
* to be the universe, e.g. X(*,*).
```

```
* The disadvantage of this approach is that domain errors
* may be undetected and difficult to trace. It is a good idea
* to use explicit domain wherever possible:
```

```
nonnegative variables X,S,D;
```

```
free variable TOTCOST Objective function;
```

```
equations objdef, supply, demand;
```

```
objdef.. TOTCOST =e= sum((i,j), c(i,j) * X(i,j)) + sum(i, mu(i)*S(i));
```

```
* Orient both equations as >= so that the Lagrange multipliers
* are non-negative:
```

```
supply(i).. S(i) =g= sum(j, X(i,j));
```

```
demand(j).. sum(i, X(i,j)) =g= D(j);
```

```
model transport /all/;
```

```
* Fix demand and place an upper bound on supply in order
* that the marginal cost of supply is included in the
* shadow prices at the equilibrium point:
```

```
S.UP(i) = s0(i); D.FX(j) = d0(j);
```

```
solve transport using LP MINIMIZING TOTCOST;
```

Formulated as a capacity-constrained supply with constant marginal cost, the shadow prices at supply and demand nodes reflect both the production and transportation costs:

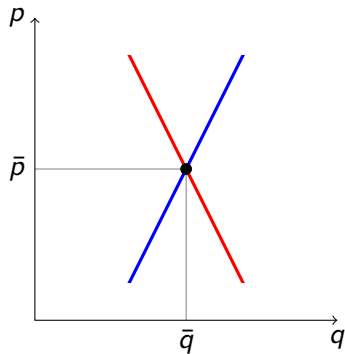
---- EQU supply

	LOWER	LEVEL	UPPER	MARGINAL
1	.	.	+INF	1.3821
2	.	.	+INF	1.3298
3	.	.	+INF	1.2227
4	.	.	+INF	1.1282
5	.	.	+INF	1.2468

---- EQU demand

	LOWER	LEVEL	UPPER	MARGINAL
1	.	.	+INF	1.5539
2	.	.	+INF	1.2878
3	.	.	+INF	1.3783
4	.	.	+INF	1.3969
5	.	.	+INF	1.3534

Calibrated Supply and Demand Functions



Given the following *data*:

\bar{q} Reference quantity supplied (and demanded)

\bar{p} Reference demand price

$\bar{\mu}$ Reference supply price

ϵ Magnitude of the price elasticity of demand

η Magnitude of the price elasticity of supply

We can write the demand and supply functions as:

$$d(p) = \bar{d} \left(1 - \epsilon \left(\frac{p}{\bar{p}} - 1 \right) \right)$$

and

$$s(\mu) = \bar{s} \left(1 + \eta \left(\frac{\mu}{\bar{\mu}} - 1 \right) \right)$$

①

$$\frac{d}{dQ} \int_{q=0}^Q p(q) dq = p(Q)$$

② The first order conditions for

$$\max \sum_i f_i(S_i) + \sum_j g_j(D_j)$$

s.t.

$$\begin{aligned} S_i &\geq \sum_j X_{ij} && \perp \mu_i \\ \sum_i X_{ij} &\geq D_j && \perp p_j \end{aligned}$$

are

$$\frac{df_i(S_i)}{dS_i} = -\mu_i$$

and

$$\frac{dg_j(D_j)}{dD_j} = p_j$$

The calibrated inverse demand function corresponding to $D_j(p_j)$ is

$$p_j(q) = \bar{p}_j \left(1 + (1 - q/\bar{D}_j) / \epsilon_j \right)$$

and the calibrated inverse supply function corresponding to $S_i(\mu_i)$ is

$$\mu_i(q) = \bar{\mu}_i \left(1 + (q/\bar{S}_i - 1) / \eta_i \right)$$

Integrating, we have consumer surplus

$$CS_j(D_j) = \int^{D_j} p_j(q) dq = \bar{p}_j D_j \left(1 + \left(1 - \frac{D_j}{2\bar{D}_j} \right) / \epsilon_j \right)$$

and total cost

$$TC_i(S_i) = \int^{S_i} \mu_i(q) dq = \bar{\mu}_i S_i \left(1 + \left(\frac{S_i}{2\bar{S}_i} - 1 \right) / \eta_i \right)$$

$$\max \sum_j \underbrace{\int^{D_j} p_j(q) dq}_{CS_j(D_j)} - \sum_i \underbrace{\int^{S_i} \mu_i(q) dq}_{TC_i(S_i)} - \sum_{ij} c_{ij} X_{ij}$$

s.t.

$$S_i \geq \sum_j X_{ij} \quad \perp \mu_i$$

$$\sum_i X_{ij} \geq D_j \quad \perp p_j$$

$$X_{ij} \geq 0$$

Price-Responsive Demand (QCP Formulation)



```
*      Extract the solution with fixed demand as a reference equilibrium:

parameter      muref(i)      Reference marginal cost
               pref(j)      Reference demand price
               sref(i)      Reference supply
               dref(j)      Reference demand
               epsilon(j)   Demand elasticity at the reference point;

muref(i) = supply.m(i); pref(j) = demand.m(j); sref(i) = S.L(i); dref(j) = D.L(j);

epsilon(j) = uniform(0.5, 2);

free variable  SURPLUS      Social surplus;

equation      csurplus      Social surplus with horizontal supply curves (Cs);

csurplus..    SURPLUS =e= -sum((i,j), c(i,j) * X(i,j)) - sum(i, mu(i)*S(i))
              + sum(j, pref(j) * D(j) * (1 + (1-0.5*D(j)/dref(j)) / epsilon(j)));

model elasticdemand /supply, demand, csurplus/;

*      Remove upper and lower bounds on demand:

D.LO(j) = 0; D.UP(j) = +inf;

solve elasticdemand using QCP maximizing SURPLUS;
```

Formulated as a maximization problem, Lagrange multipliers on the supply and demand markets change sign, but they have identical magnitude as compared with the LP solution. This implies that we have “replicated the benchmark equilibrium”, having removed upper and lower bounds on demand but introduced the consumer surplus measure which results in no change in prices or quantities.

---- EQU supply

	LOWER	LEVEL	UPPER	MARGINAL
1	.	.	+INF	-1.3821
2	.	.	+INF	-1.3298
3	.	.	+INF	-1.2227
4	.	.	+INF	-1.1282
5	.	.	+INF	-1.2468

---- EQU demand

	LOWER	LEVEL	UPPER	MARGINAL
1	.	.	+INF	-1.5539
2	.	.	+INF	-1.2878
3	.	.	+INF	-1.3783
4	.	.	+INF	-1.3969
5	.	.	+INF	-1.3534

Price-Responsive Supply and Demand (QCP Formulation)

```
parameter      eta(i)  Price elasticity of supply from node i;
eta(i) = uniform(0.5, 2);

equation      ssurplus      Social surplus with price elastic supply;

ssurplus..    SURPLUS =e= -sum((i,j), c(i,j) * X(i,j))
              + sum(j,  pref(j) * D(j) * (1 + (1-0.5*D(j)/dref(j)) / epsilon(j)))
              - sum(i,  muref(i) * S(i) * (1 + (0.5*S(i)/sref(i)-1)/eta(i)));

model equilibrium /supply, demand, ssurplus/;

*      Remove the upper bound so as to accommodate price-elasticity:
S.UP(i) = +inf;

solve equilibrium using QCP maximizing SURPLUS;
```