



Bidding Strategy in Power Markets

S.N. Singh, *Professor*

**Department of Electrical Engineering
Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur
Email: snsingh@iitk.ac.in**



Electricity market has the following features:

- Limited suppliers (power producers)
- Transmission constraints
 - isolate consumers from effective reach of many generators
 - economically isolate submarkets from the competition of suppliers located elsewhere in the network
 - strategic behavior by the bidders (power suppliers)
- Transmission losses
 - limit consumers to purchase power from some plants which are far from the consumers (because they need to pay the involved losses)
- ??????
- The electricity market may not be a perfectly competitive market, and is likely an oligopoly market, and there is some potential market power in any form of proposed deregulation structures.



There are the following three main oligopoly market models:

- **Cournot Model**

- Each supplier bids production quantity, and the market price is a function of the total supply quantity.
- A perfect market is an extreme case of Cournot model where the number of suppliers are infinite and the price of the market is constant (not a function of the supply quantity).

- **Bertrand Model:**

- Each supplier bids price rather than quantity at which it is willing to produce.
- Lower price will capture the market share and all will have equal shares at equal price.



- Let for two players, $x(p)$ is the demand function, the profit or payoff of one will be

$$\lambda_1(p_1, p_2) = \begin{cases} p_1 x(p_1) & \text{if } p_1 < p_2 \\ p_1 x(p_1) / 2 & \text{if } p_1 = p_2 \\ 0 & \text{if } p_1 > p_2 \end{cases}$$

- It is similar to prisoner's dilemma. If both players cooperate, they can both change the monopoly price. By reducing the price one can capture the market.



Game Theory is a discipline that is used to analyze the problems of conflicts among interacting decisions.

- Cooperative
- Non-cooperative
 - zero sum game (*gain of one player is equal to the loss of other player*)
 - non-zero sum game (*gain of one player do not equal to the loss of other player*). First formulated by Nash.
- Non cooperative games can be described using two formats



- Extensive form allows explicit representation of a number of important aspects, like the sequencing of players' possible moves, their choices at every decision point; the information each player has about the other player's moves when he makes a decision, and his payoffs for all possible game outcomes.
- normal or strategic forms (*deals with a set of players, a set of choices or strategies available with the players and a set of payoff corresponding to these strategies*).
- Payoff for a player depends not only on chosen strategies by that player but also on the strategies by the others.
- Rule of game, strategies available to players and payoff are common knowledge.
- Each player must act rationally to maximize its profit.



• **Example-1**

- Let generator-1 has capacity of 100 MW with production cost \$75/MW per unit time. Demand is 100 MW. Bid of other gen at the same bus is

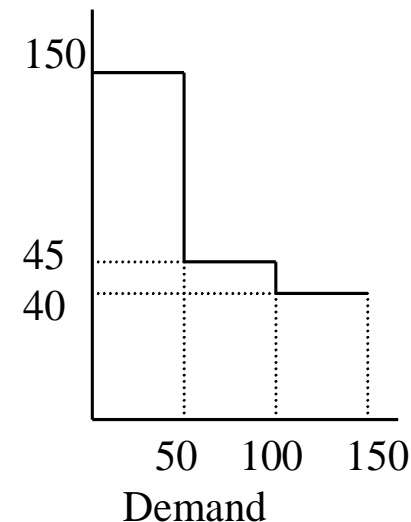
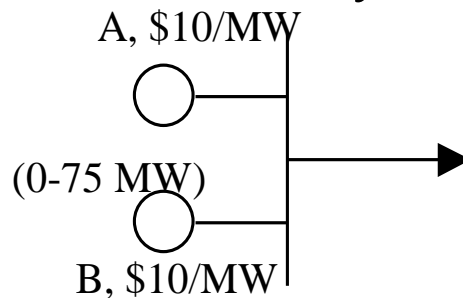
50 MW	101 \$/MW
50 MW	121 \$/MW

- *What should be bid of gen-1?*
- Option-1: bid at 100 \$/MW
 - win all demand of 100 MW. The profit will be $100(100-75)= 2500$
- Option-2: bid at 120 \$/MW
 - win 50 MW capacity. The profit will be $50(120-75)= 2250$
- This shows the option-1 is preferred.
- If second block of other gen. is 131 \$/MW. Profit at bid price of 130 will be $50(130-75) = 2750$.
 - Now this is preferred.



Example-2:

- Two generators A and B have same production cost of \$10 /MW and same ratings of 75 MW. They have to supply to a load of following nature.



Let both bid in two levels: High (75 MW) and low (20 MW). The output decision can be

Output (MW)		Generator B		
		High	Low	
Gen. A	High	75	75	A's output
	Low	75	20	B's output
Gen. B	High	20	20	A's output
	Low	75	20	B's output



Price corresponding to the output decisions

Price (\$/MWh)		Generator B	
		High	Low
Gen. A	High	40	45
	Low	45	150

Profits

Profit (\$)		Generator B		
		High	Low	
Gen. A	High	2250	2625	A's profit
	Low	700	2800	A's profit
		2250	700	B's profit
		2625	2800	B's profit



Demand elasticity

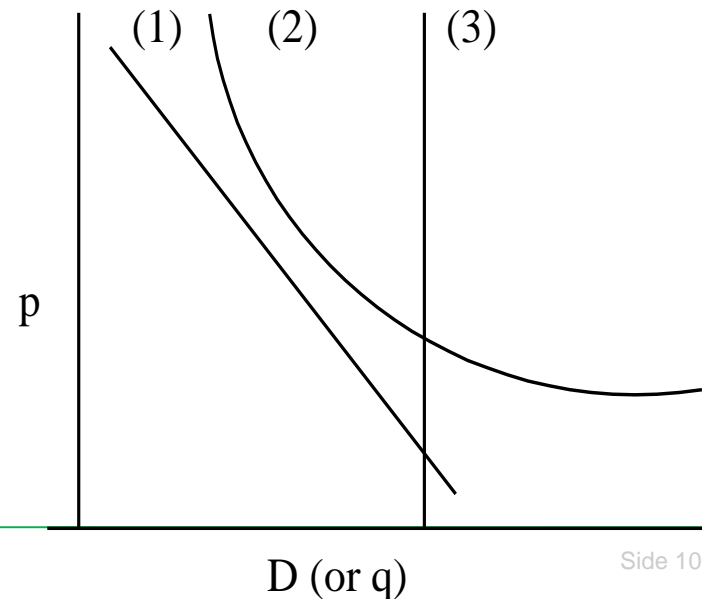
- It is defined as ratio of percentage change in the demand to the % change in price that causes it.

$$e = -\frac{\Delta D\%}{\Delta p\%} = -\frac{\Delta D / D}{\Delta p / p} = -\frac{p}{D} \frac{\Delta D}{\Delta p} = -\frac{p}{D} \frac{dD}{dp}$$

- Negative sign is used to show the elasticity is positive.
- Examples
- e for curve-1 where $p = -a.D+p_0$

$$e = \left[1 - \left(\frac{p_0}{p - p_0} \right) \right] = \text{not constant}$$

- $e = 0$ for curve-3
- $e=1$ for curve-2 where $D=a/p$





Bidding Strategies

- Deterministic formulation
 - Assumptions
 - uncertainty are not included
 - No temporalities
 - All rivals are clubbed together
 - Rival:
 - Block: $\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_J$ MW
 - Price : $\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_J$ \$/MW ($\rho_{j+1} > \rho_j ; \forall j$)
 - Seller:
 - Block: H_1, H_2, \dots, H_I MW
 - Cost : c_1, c_2, \dots, c_I \$/MW ($c_{i+1} > c_i ; \forall i$)
 - Bids : p_1, p_2, \dots, p_I \$/MW
 - Seller will maximize it profit



Bidding Strategies

- Seller will maximize

$$\sum_{i \in I} H_i (p_i - c_i) v_i$$

- v_i is 1 if dispatched, otherwise zero.

$$v_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{iff } \left\{ (p_i > \rho_j) \text{ and } (p_i < \rho_{j+1}), \text{ and} \right. \\ & \left. \sum_{k=1}^j \phi_k + \sum_{k'=1}^{i-1} H_{k'} \leq D \right\} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Seller maximize

$$\sum_{i \in I} H_i \Omega_i (z_i) v_i$$

- where Ω_i is preference function and $z_i = p_i - c_i$



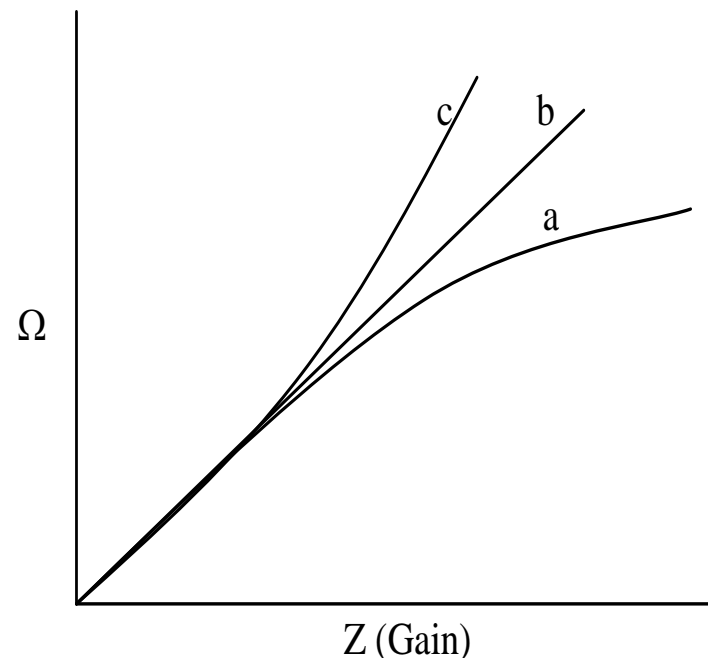
Preference function

- it depends on the operational and economic reasons
- $y = x^n$
- $n=1$ ---> Fig b, $n > 1$ ---> fig c and $n < 1$ ---. Fig a

- Fig c: greater desire to sell even at low gain
- Fig a: greater desire to sell even at high gain
- Fig b: constant sell

- **Uncertainty and Temporality**

- uncertainty of bid price of rivals
- uncertainty of demand
- $G_i(p_i)$ is a distribution function which denotes probability that block i will be sold if it was offered at price p_i



$$\sum_{i \in I} H_i \Omega_i(z_i) G_i(p_i)$$



- supplier must forecast the rivals bid price on previous data.
- Temporality is due to consumer response with price change.

Example: Supplier has two unit block as following cost

$$H_1 = 400 \text{ MW} \quad C_1 = \$50/\text{MWh}$$

$$H_2 = 200 \text{ MW} \quad C_2 = \$65/\text{MWh}$$

Let preference function be linear.

Rivals bids, If know

Block : 400, 400, 200, 200 MW

Price : 56, 66, 71, 76 \$/MWh

Demand is 1000 MW



Objective Function

$$400(p_1 - 50)v_1 + 200(p_2 - 50)v_2$$

$$v_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{iff } \left\{ (p_i > \rho_j) \text{ and } (p_i < \rho_{j+1}), \text{ and} \right. \\ & \left. \sum_{k=1}^j \phi_k + \sum_{k'=1}^{i-1} H_{k'} \leq D \right\} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

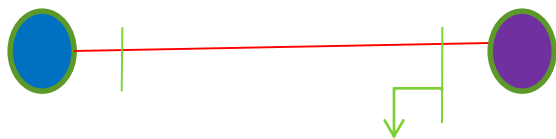
Options are

- **P1= 55, P2= 65**
- **P1= 65, P2= 65**
- **P1=70**

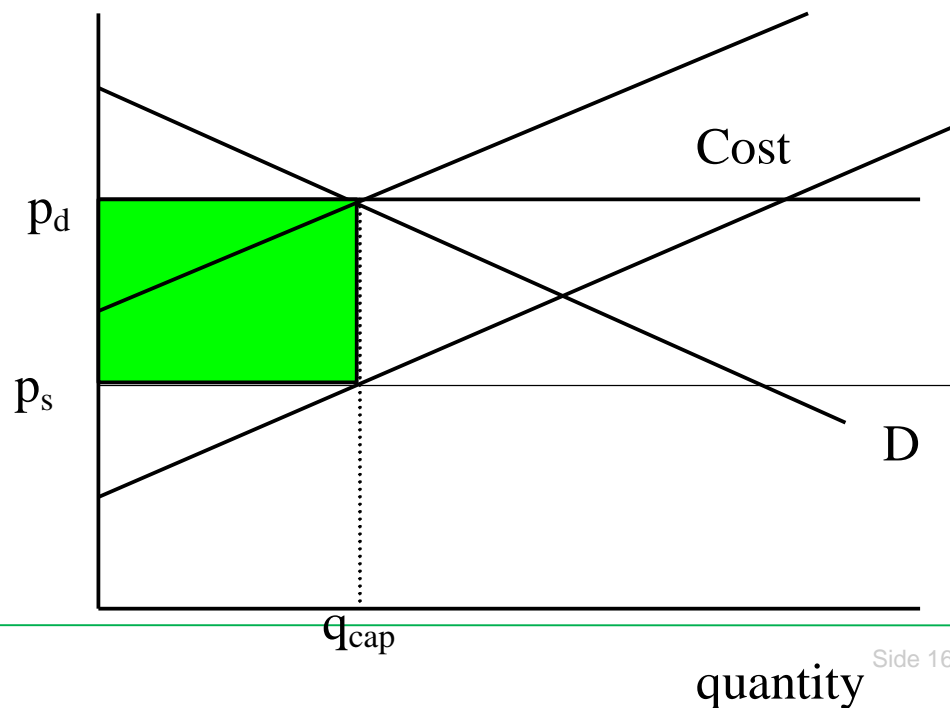


Bidding in a constrained network

- Transmission constraints restricts the flow of power from low cost node to high value nodes.
- Constraints on the system will cause different prices at different nodes.
- Revenue collected from the consumer will be more than the money paid to the generators.
- Unsubscribed revenue can be given to transmission right holders.



G1= 10 \$, G2=12 \$
P_{flowlimit} = 100 MW,
Load is 120 MW





- **Types of Generation Competition**
 - **Perfect Competition (max. welfare) solution:** bid curve provided by each producer is equal to its marginal cost function.
 - **Imperfect Competition solution:**
 - Each gen. chooses the supply function bid that maximize its profit given a fixed set of rivals bids.
 - A Nash equilibrium occurs at a point where no generator can increase profits by changing its bids.
 - **Monopoly solution:** there is a single owner of all generation.



Imperfect competition and strategic Bidding

- Strategic bidding by a generator is simply choosing a bid (a strategy) that maximizes its own profits.
- Under many circumstances, a producers best strategy will bid somewhat different than the marginal cost curve. Generator will make money at the expense of the consumers. This is imperfect competition.
- Considering the linear bid, the choice of producer to maximize the profit by choosing the slope and the intercept.
- Producer-I's profit

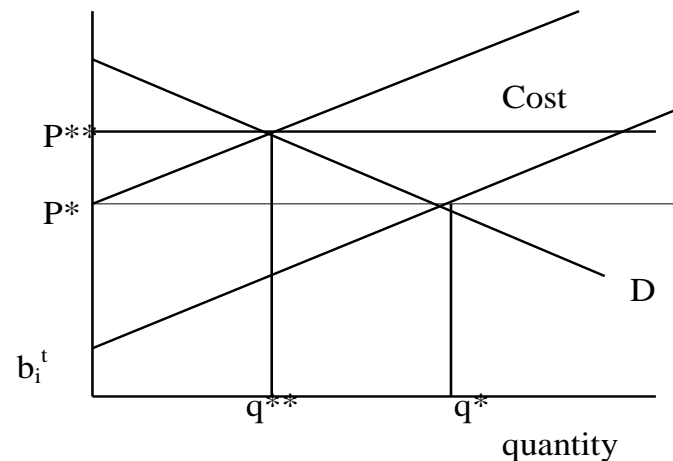
$$\Pi = \frac{1}{2} [(p^{**} - b_i^t) + (p^{**} - (b_i^t + m_i^t q_i^{**}))] q_i^{**}$$

$$p_{s1} = 10 + 0.35q_1$$

$$p_{s2} = 10 + 0.45q_2$$

$$p_{d1} = 100 - 0.52d_1$$

$$p_{d2} = 100 - 0.65d_2$$



- Example: Find the market clearing price. Given that
Hint: $q_1 + q_2 = d_1 + d_2$.
- Sol: $P^* = 46.4, q_1 = 104, q_2 = 81, d_2 = 82, d_1 = 103$



Example: Block Bidding-Double Sided

- DisCo1 bid

Price (\$/MWh)	Demand (MW)
0	70
40	70

- DisCo2 Bid

Price (\$/MWh)	Demand (MW)
0	80
22.5	80
30	65
35	65
37.5	60
40	60

- Aggregated Bid

Price (\$/MWh)	Demand Disco 1 (MW)	Demand Disco 2 (MW)	Aggregated Demand (MW)
0	70	80	150
22.5	70	80	150
30	70	65	135
35	70	65	135
37.5	70	60	130
40	70	60	130



Example: Block Bidding-Double Sided

- GenCo1 bid

Price (\$/MWh)	Supply (MW)
0	15
19.99	15
20	90
40	90

- GenCo2 Bid

Price (\$/MWh)	Supply (MW)
0	0
19.99	0
20	40
35	60
40	100

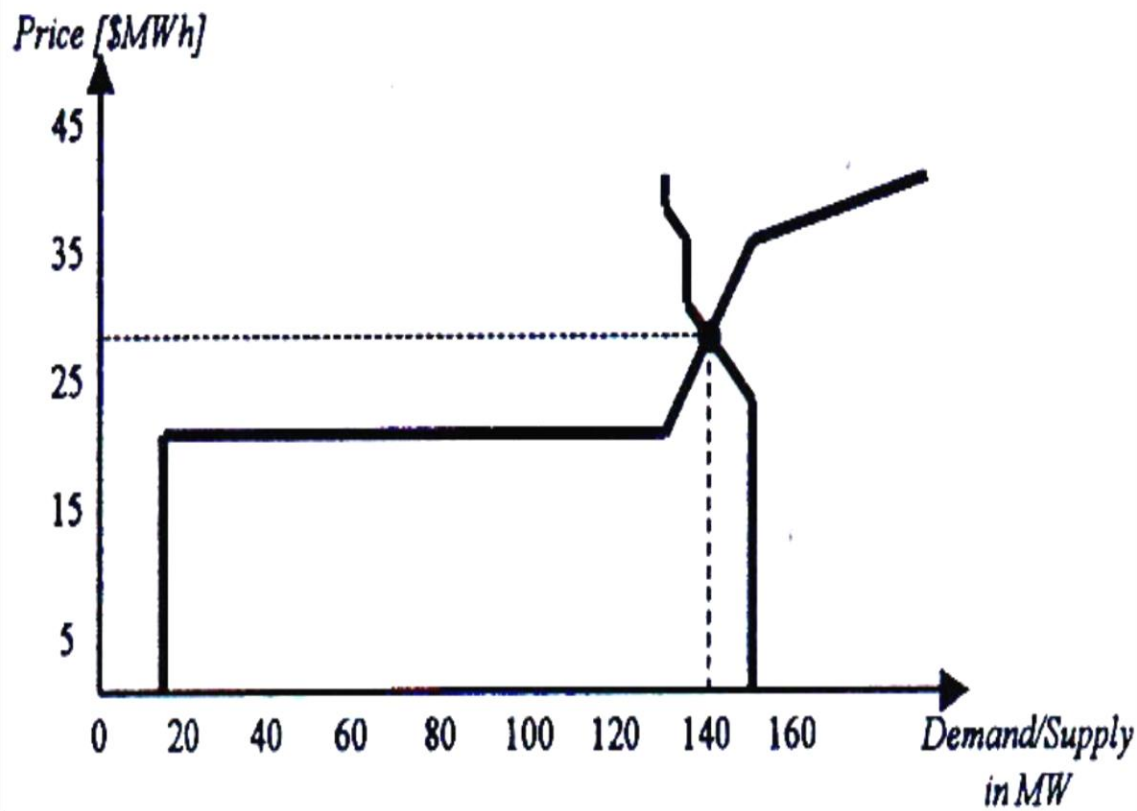
- Aggregated Bid

Price (\$/MWh)	Supply Genco 1 (MW)	Supply Genco 2 (MW)	Aggregated Supply (MW)
0	15	0	15
19.99	15	0	15
20	90	40	130
35	90	60	150
40	90	80	190



Market clearing price = 27.5 \$/MWh

- Total traded power = 140 MW
- G1 = 90 MW, G2=50 MW
- D1=70 MW, D2=70 MW





MARKET POWER

- Definitions:

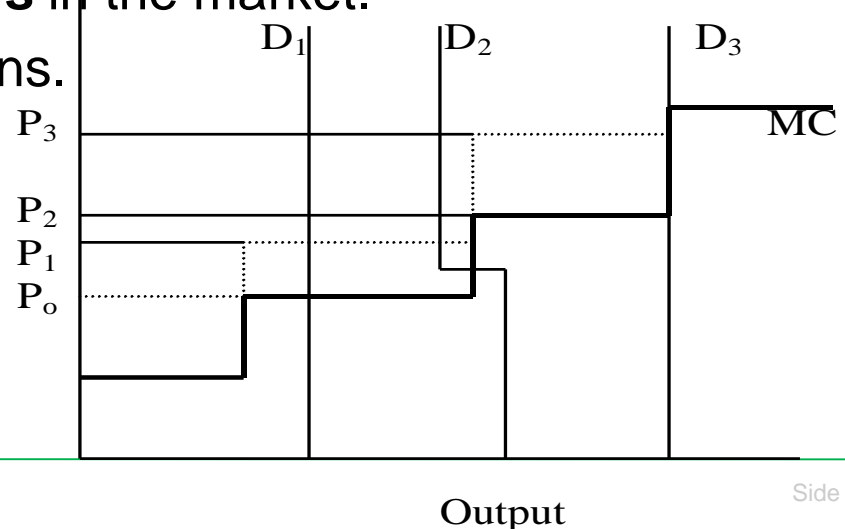
- Market power is the ability to profit by moving the market price away from the competitive level (economic)
- Market power to a seller is the ability profitably to maintain prices above competitive level for significant period of time (regulatory)
- Most of the firms have some market power and this causes no significant problems if the amount of small.

- Effects:

- Market power raises price and thereby transfers wealth from customers to **all the suppliers** in the market.
- Inefficiency of market (low cons.

- Types

- Normal Market Power
- Negative market Power
- Non-Market Power
- Vertical market power
- Horizontal market power





Marginal Generator can exercise the market power.

- Left hand and right hand marginal costs.
- Causes
 - Large generator capacity
 - Network constraints
 - Additional opportunity to create intentional congestion
- Factors determine the Market power
 - Market concentration
 - demand elasticity
 - style of competition
 - forward contract
 - geographical extent of market



Different approaches to study the market power

- Ex-post analysis of recently restructured market
- Market concentration analysis
- Market simulation | ex-ante studies
- Equilibrium modeling
- Market concentration index
 - Lerner index or price-cost margin (L)
 - Herfindahl-Hirschman Index (HHI)
 - Generalized HHI (GHI)
 - Basic Market Power Index (BPI)
- Lerner Index
 - Measures the markup price above the marginal cost.
 - $1 \geq L \geq 0$
 - Defined as

$$L = \frac{p - MC}{p}$$



Lerner Index for Monopoly

- $L = 1/e$
- Proof:

Let demand curve $p_d = a - m \cdot d$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Profit will be } A &= (p_d - MC) \cdot q \\ &= (a - m \cdot q - MC)q \end{aligned}$$

For max. profit at q , $dA/dq = 0$

$$q = (a - MC) / 2m$$

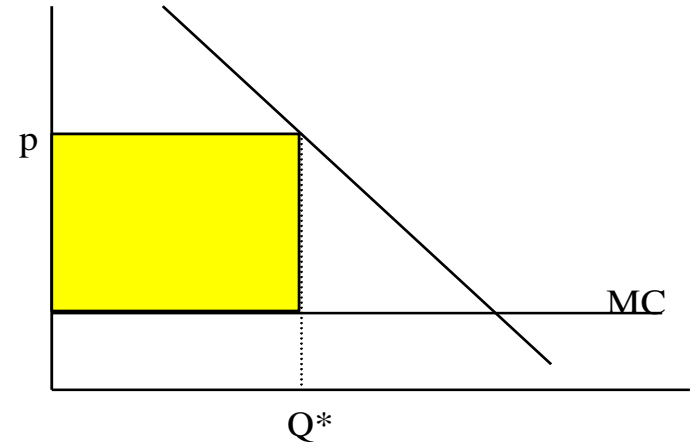
or $a = 2m \cdot q + MC$ and

$$a = p - MC$$

Hence $m \cdot q = p - MC$

By definition, $e = -(p/q) \cdot (dq/dp) = p / m \cdot q = 1/L$

Hence $L = 1/e$





• Lerner Index for a Cournot Oligopoly

- Supplier choose their quantity output. Price is determined by total supply and consumers demand curve. Suppliers max. profits under the assumption that all other supplier will keep their output fixed.
- There are several suppliers and market share is important. If $s = q/Q$
- $L = s/e$ ($s = 1$ for monopoly).
- **Proof ?**

• HHI

- If s_i is the market share of i th supplier, then $HHI = \sum_i (s_i)^2$ over all suppliers.
- HHI can be any value between 0 and 1, but in legal documents it is multiplied by 10000.
- HHI account for only one factor (concentration).
- GHI can be used



GHI is the share-weighted average Lerner index of a group of suppliers, assuming all suppliers in the market are Cournot competitors and demand elasticity is 1.

- $GHI = \sum s_i L_i$

- **BPI**

- The BPI is the basic markup, $(p-p^*)/p$, of a group of suppliers, assuming all suppliers in the market are Cournot competitors and the market demand elasticity is 1. p^* is the competitive price.

- With constant marginal costs, $BPI = HHI$

- **Market Power mitigation techniques**

- Generation Divestiture
- Internal re-organization
- Bidding contracts
- Demand side bidding



- Price caps
- Bid caps
- Revenue caps and floors
- Contract for differences
 - one way
 - two way
- Market power on demand side
 - Monopsony power is the market power exercised on the demand side with the intention of lowering the market price.
 - AN ISI can exercise by interrupting loads or by curtailments
 - Monopsony power can be effective and beneficial method for combating market power but is can also be abused.

THANK YOU

