

The following log-linear demand curve for a price-setting firm is estimated using the ordinary least squares method:

$$Q = aP^b M^c P_R^d$$

where Q and P are the quantity and price respectively for good X , M is consumer income, and P_R is the price of good R .
The estimation results are presented below:

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|---------|
| DEPENDENT VARIABLE: | LNQ | R-SQUARE | F-RATIO | P-VALUE ON F | |
| OBSERVATIONS: | 64 | 0.8464 | 110.25 | 0.0001 | |
| | VARIABLE | PARAMETER ESTIMATE | STANDARD ERROR | T-RATIO | P-VALUE |
| | INTERCEPT | 5.65 | 3.20 | 1.77 | 0.0825 |
| | LNP | -1.02 | 0.59 | -1.73 | 0.0890 |
| | LN M | 0.45 | 0.22 | 2.05 | 0.0452 |
| | LNPR | -2.0 | 0.75 | -2.67 | 0.0098 |

a. Express the estimated demand equation in logarithms.

Ans.

Taking log on both sides of the eq $Q = aP^b M^c P_R^d$ we get

$$\ln Q = \ln a + b \ln P + c \ln M + d \ln P_R$$

Substituting the estimates of coefficients obtained by ordinary least squares method our regression becomes

$$\ln Q = 5.65 - 1.02 \ln P + 0.45 \ln M - 2 \ln P_R$$

b. Is X a normal or an inferior good? And how are goods X and R related? Explain.

Ans. X is a normal good because as income increases demand also increases.

As price of goods R increases the Quantity of goods X decreases showing that quantity of X and price of goods R are negatively correlated.

Which of the parameter estimates are statistically significant at the 5 percent level?

Ans. parameter estimates of variables $\ln M + \ln P_R$ are statistically significant at the 5 percent level as their p values are < 0.05 .

c. Estimate the own-price elasticity for good X , the cross-price elasticity for goods X and R , and the income elasticity for good X .

Ans.

own-price elasticity refers to changes in quantities due to changes in the price of that good.

$$\text{Ans. Quantity demanded} = Q = aP^b M^c P_R^d \quad (1)$$

When price were to increase by 1% $P = 1.01P$

$$Q' = a(1.01P)^b M^c P_R^d \quad (2)$$

Dividing (2) by (1) we get

$$\frac{Q'}{Q} = 1.01^b = 1.01^{-1.02} = 0.9899$$

Thus When price were to increase by 1% , quantity demanded decreases by 1.01%.So own-price elasticity for good X = $-1.01/1 = -1.01$

The cross-price elasticity for goods X and R

$$\text{Quantity demanded} = Q = aP^b M^c P_R^d \quad (1)$$

When price of R were to increase by 1% $P_R' = 1.01P_R$

$$Q' = aP^b M^c (1.01P_R)^d \quad (2)$$

Dividing (2) by (1) we get

$$\frac{Q'}{Q} = 1.01^d = 1.01^{-2} = 0.9803$$

Thus When price were to increase by 1% , quantity demanded decreases by 1.97%.So own-price elasticity for good X = $-1.97/1 = -1.97$

Income elasticity for good X

$$\text{Quantity demanded} = Q = aP^b M^c P_R^d \quad (1)$$

When INCOME increase by 1% $M' = 1.01M$

$$Q' = aP^b (1.01M)^c P_R^d \quad (2)$$

Dividing (2) by (1) we get

$$\frac{Q'}{Q} = 1.01^c = 1.01^{0.45} = 1.0045$$

Thus When price were to increase by 1% , quantity demanded increases by 0.45%.Thus Income elasticity for good X = 0.45

- d. Holding all other things constant, if household income were to fall by 22%, what would we expect to happen to quantity demanded? Explain.

Ans. Quantity demanded = $Q = aP^b M^c P_R^d$ (1)

When household income were to fall by 22% $M' = 0.78M$

$$Q' = aP^b (0.78M)^c P_R^d \quad (2)$$

Dividing (2) by (1) we get

$$\frac{Q'}{Q} = 0.78^c = 0.78^{0.45} = 0.8942$$

Thus quantity demanded is reduced by 10.58%.

- e. Holding all other things constant, if own price were to increase by 22%, what would we expect to happen to quantity demanded? Explain.

Ans.

Proceeding in the same way as in (e) we get

$$\frac{Q'}{Q} = 1.22^b = 1.22^{-1.02} = 0.8164$$

Thus quantity demanded is reduced by 18.36%.

- f. Holding all other things constant, if the price of R were to fall by 8%, what would we expect to happen to quantity demanded? Explain.

Ans.

Proceeding in the same way as in (e) we get

$$\frac{Q'}{Q} = 0.92^d = 0.92^{-2} = 1.1815$$

Thus quantity demanded is increased by 18.15%.