



個體經濟學二

Microeconomics (II)

Ch9. Cost

* Short Run Cost Functions:

L: variable — price: w (wage)

K: fixed (= K_0) — price: r (capital using cost per unit)= depreciation + interest

固定成本：

Total fixed cost (TFC) = rK_0 — from “output” point of view

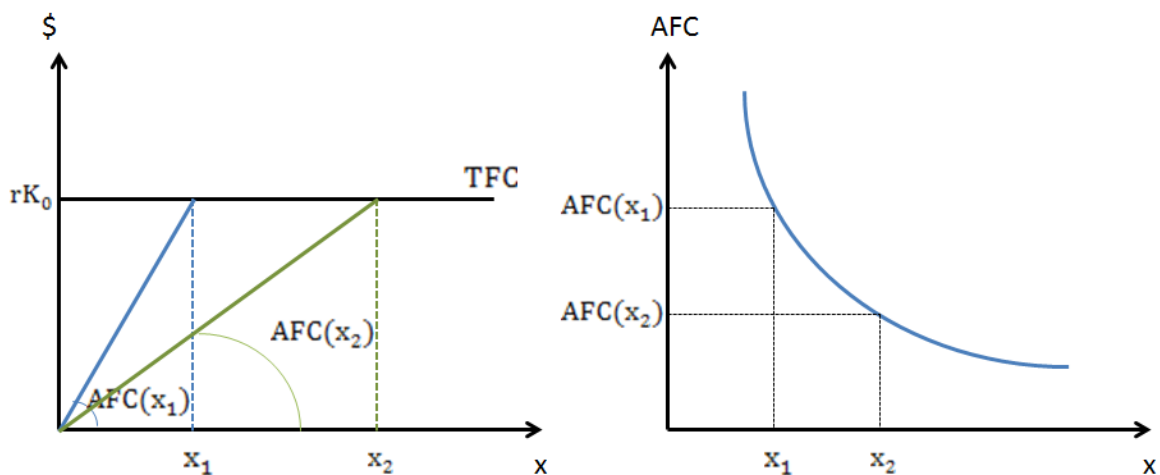
Marginal fixed cost (MFC) = $\frac{d TFC}{dx} = 0$

Average fixed cost (AFC) = $\frac{TFC}{x} = \frac{rK_0}{x}$ ↓ with x ↑

AFC is linear? Convex? Or concave?

$$\frac{dAFC}{dx} = (-1) \frac{TFC}{x^2} = (-1) \frac{rK_0}{x^2} < 0 \quad \therefore \text{AFC is decreasing with } x$$

$$\frac{d^2AFC}{dx^2} = (-1)(-2) \frac{TFC}{x^3} = (-1)(-2) \frac{rK_0}{x^3} > 0 \quad \therefore \text{AFC is convex}$$



變動成本:

$$\text{TVC}(x) (\text{Total variable cost}) = wL(x)$$

$L(x)$: Labor requirement (to produce x units of output)

Short run production function:

$$x = f(L; K_0) \text{ simply } x = f(L) \leftarrow \text{given } K \text{ is fixed}$$

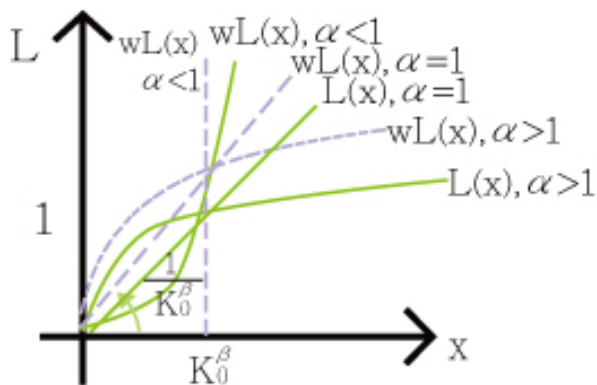
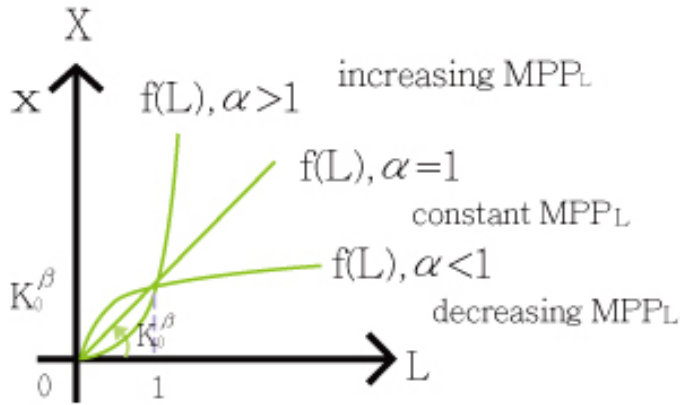
$$\therefore f^{-1}(x) = L$$

*** Example : C-D production function**

$$x = L^\alpha K_0^\beta = f(L)$$

$$L = f^{-1}(x)$$

$$L^\alpha = \frac{x}{K_0^\beta} \Rightarrow L = \left(\frac{x}{K_0^\beta}\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} = L(x), = K_0^{\frac{-\beta}{\alpha}} x^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}, \quad \text{TVC} = wL(x) = wK_0^{\frac{-\beta}{\alpha}} X^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$$



* Example : L & K are perfect substitutes

$$x = (aL + bK)^2$$

$K = K_0$ in the SR

$$x = (bK_0 + aL)^2$$

$$L = 0, \quad x = f(0) = (bK_0)^2 \leftarrow \text{intercept}$$

$$MPP_L = f'(L) = 2(aL + bK_0) \cdot a > 0$$

$$\frac{dMPP_L}{dL} = f''(L) = 2a^2 > 0 \text{ convex}$$

* Example : L & K are perfect complement

$$x = f(L, K) = \min\left\{\frac{L}{a}, \frac{K}{b}\right\}, \quad K = K_0$$

$$x = f(L) = \frac{L}{a} \quad \text{if } \frac{L}{a} \leq \frac{K_0}{b} \text{ or } L \leq \frac{a}{b}K_0$$

$$= \frac{K_0}{b} \quad \text{if } \frac{L}{a} > \frac{K_0}{b} \text{ or } L > \frac{a}{b}K_0$$

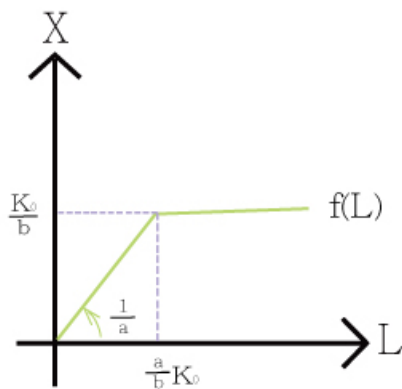


Figure 59:

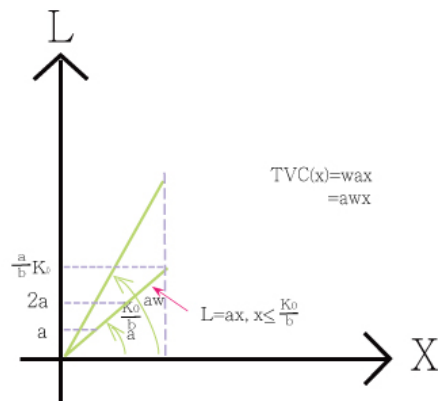
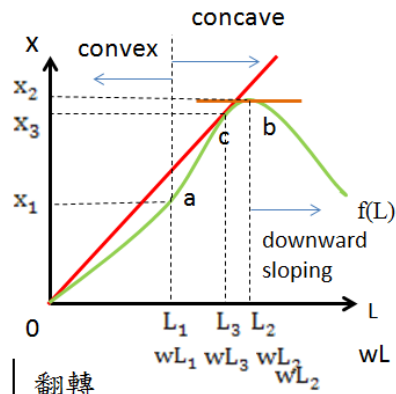


Figure 60:

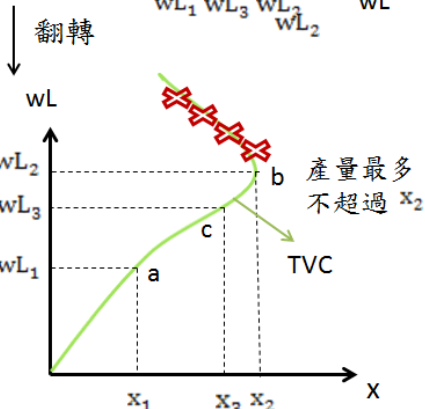


Short Run Total Cost : $SRTC(x) = TFC + TVC = rK_0 + wL(x)$

Short Run Marginal Cost :

$$SRMC(x) = \frac{\Delta SRTC(x)}{\Delta x} = \frac{\Delta(TFC + TVC(x))}{\Delta x} = \frac{\Delta TVC(x)}{\Delta x} \text{ (slope of the TVC)}$$

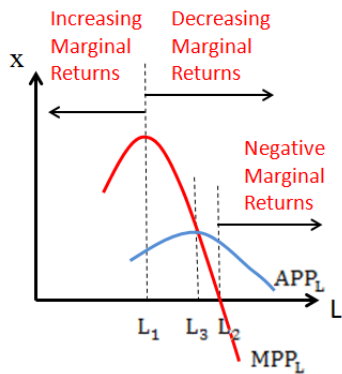
$$SRAC(x) \text{ (Short Run Average Cost)} = \frac{SRTC(x)}{x} = \frac{TFC + TVC(x)}{x} = AFC + AVC(x)$$



$0 - L_1$: $f(L)$ convex MPP_L (slope of $f(L)$) \uparrow (increasing marginal return)

\Downarrow 對應

$0 - x_1$: TVC concave $SRMC$ (slope of TVC) \downarrow (diminishing marginal cost)



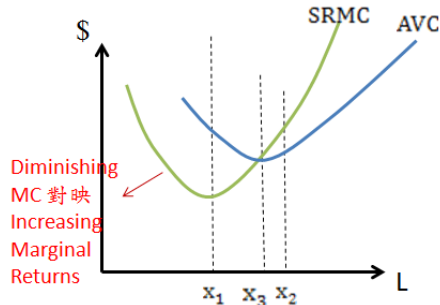
$L_1 - L_2$: $f(L)$ concave $MPP_L \downarrow$

\Downarrow

$x_1 - x_2$: TVC convex $SRMC \uparrow$

$0 - L_3$: $APP_L \uparrow$, at L_3 $MPP_L = APP_L$ (max)

$0 - x_3$: $AVC \downarrow$, at x_3 $SRMC = AVC$ (min)



AVC ↑↓? AVC vs SRMC

$$AVC(x) = \frac{TVC(x)}{x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dAVC(x)}{dx} &= \frac{d\left(\frac{TVC(x)}{x}\right)}{dx} = \frac{x \cdot \frac{dTVC(x)}{dx} - TVC(x) \frac{dx}{dx}}{x^2} = \frac{x \cdot SRMC(x) - TVC(x)}{x^2} \\ &= \frac{SRMC(x) - AVC(x)}{x} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{dAVC(x)}{dx} < 0 \text{ if } SRMC < AVC$$

$$\frac{dAVC(x)}{dx} = 0 \text{ if } SRMC = AVC$$

$$\frac{dAVC(x)}{dx} > 0 \text{ if } SRMC > AVC$$

∴ $AVC(x) \text{ min} \Leftrightarrow SRMC = AVC$

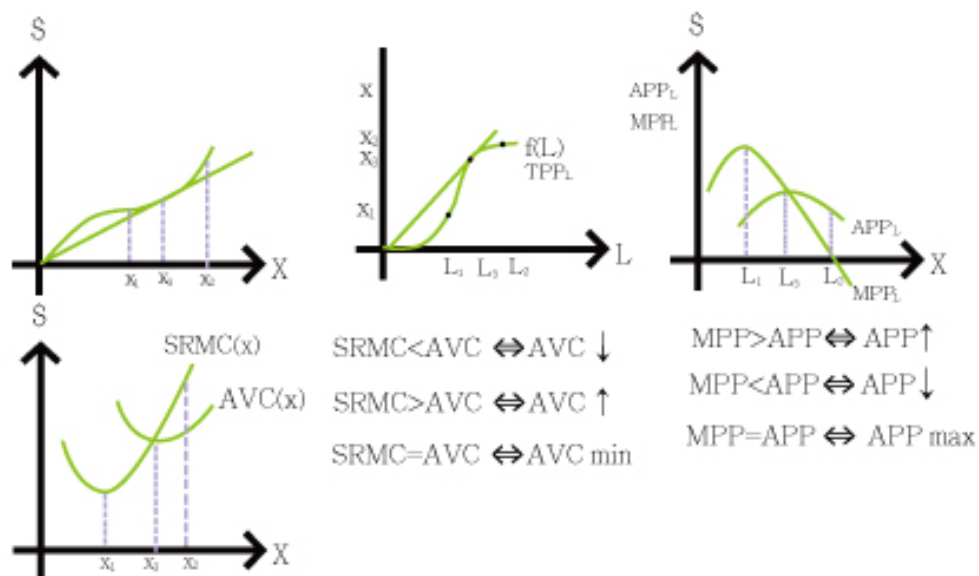


Figure 63:

$$SRMC < AVC \Leftrightarrow AVC \downarrow$$

$$SRMC > AVC \Leftrightarrow AVC \uparrow$$

$$SRMC = AVC \Leftrightarrow AVC \text{ min}$$

$$MPP > APP \Leftrightarrow APP \uparrow$$

$$MPP < APP \Leftrightarrow APP \downarrow$$

$$MPP = APP \Leftrightarrow APP \text{ max}$$

$$AVC(x) = \frac{TVC(x)}{x} = \frac{wL(x)}{x} = \frac{w}{\frac{x}{L}} = \frac{w}{APP_L}$$

$$\begin{cases} APP_L \uparrow \Leftrightarrow AVC(x) \downarrow \\ APP_L \downarrow \Leftrightarrow AVC(x) \uparrow \\ APP_L \text{ max} \Leftrightarrow AVC \text{ min} \end{cases}$$

$$SRMC(x) = \frac{\Delta TVC(x)}{\Delta x} = \frac{\Delta wL(x)}{\Delta x} = w \frac{\Delta L(x)}{\Delta x} = \frac{w}{\frac{\Delta x}{\Delta L}} = \frac{w}{MPP_L}$$

$$\begin{cases} MPP_L \uparrow \Leftrightarrow SRMC(x) \downarrow \\ MPP_L \downarrow \Leftrightarrow SRMC(x) \uparrow \\ MPP_L \text{ max} \Leftrightarrow SRMC(x) \text{ min} \end{cases}$$

* Example : C-D production function

$$x = f(L, K) = L^\alpha K^\beta, K = K_0$$

$$f(L) = L^\alpha K_0^\beta \text{ (short run)}$$

$$\text{TFC} = rK_0$$

$$L = \left(\frac{x}{K_0^\beta}\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$$

$$\text{TVC} = wL = w\left(\frac{x}{K_0^\beta}\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$$

$$\text{SRMC} = \frac{d\text{TVC}}{dx} = \frac{w}{\alpha} \left(\frac{x}{K_0^\beta}\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} \frac{1}{K_0^\beta} = \frac{w}{\alpha} \left(\frac{1}{K_0^\beta}\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} x^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}$$

$$\frac{d\text{SRMC}}{dx} = \frac{w}{\alpha} \left(\frac{1}{K_0^\beta}\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \left(\frac{1}{\alpha} - 1\right) x^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-2}$$

$$\frac{w}{\alpha} \left(\frac{1}{K_0^\beta}\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} > 0, x^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-2} > 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{d\text{SRMC}}{dx} = \frac{w}{\alpha} \left(\frac{1}{K_0^\beta}\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \left(\frac{1}{\alpha} - 1\right) x^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-2} \begin{array}{l} > 0 \text{ if } \alpha < 1 \\ = 0 \text{ if } \alpha = 1 \\ < 0 \text{ if } \alpha > 1 \end{array}$$

↑ 對應

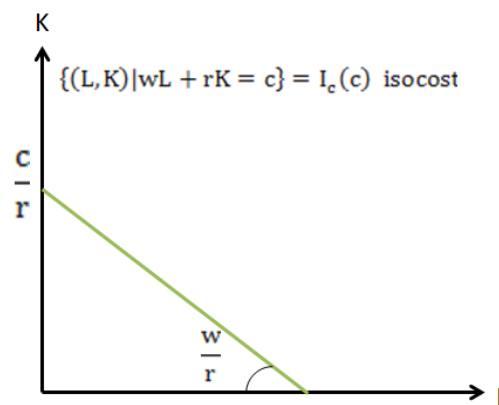
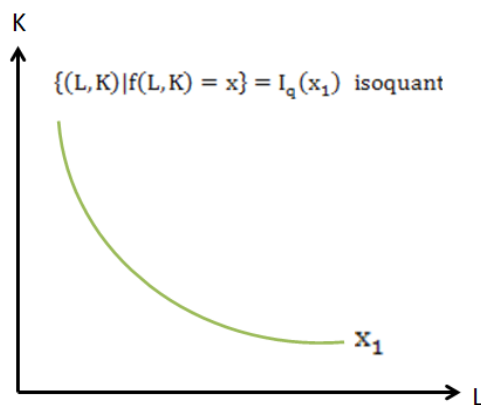
Note that $\alpha < 1$ if $\text{MPP}_L \downarrow$ (diminishing MPP_L)
 $\alpha = 1$ if MPP_L is constant
 $\alpha > 1$ if $\text{MPP}_L \uparrow$ (increasing MPP_L)

***Long Run Cost Function(L, K are variable)**

(L^0, K^0) is economically efficient if it minimizes cost of producing output x

that is (L^0, K^0) solves

$$\begin{cases} \min wL + rK \\ \text{s. t. } f(L, K) = x \end{cases}$$

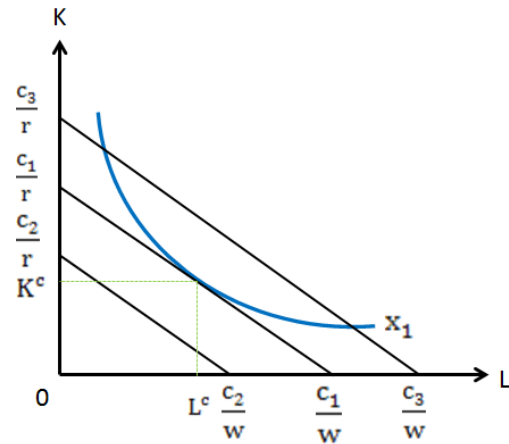


找離原點最近又能滿足 output (isoquant) 的 costline (isocost)

(L^0, K^0) is economically efficient

\Rightarrow $MRTS_{LK}$ (slope of an isoquant)

$= \frac{w}{r}$ (slope of isocost) at (L^0, K^0)



Diminishing $MRTS_{LK}$ S. O. C.

(L^0, K^0) solves

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \min wL + rK \\ \text{s. t. } f(L, K) = x \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \text{F. O. C. } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} MRTS_{LK} = \frac{w}{r} \\ f(L, K) = x \end{array} \right.$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} L^0 = L(w, r, x) \\ K^0 = K(w, r, x) \end{array} \right\} \text{ conditional input demand function}$$

** In equilibrium, Isocost and Isoquant touch(tangent) to each other.

Slope of an isocost = slope of an isoquant

$$\frac{w}{r} = MRTS_{LK}$$

another necessary condition: $f(L, K) = x$

* Corresponding Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}(L, K, \lambda) = (wL + rK) + \lambda(x - f(L, K))$$

$$\text{Foc: } \mathcal{L}_L = w - \lambda \frac{\partial f(L, K)}{\partial L} = 0 \quad \text{①} \quad \Rightarrow w = \lambda \frac{\partial f(L, K)}{\partial L} \quad \text{①}'$$

$$\mathcal{L}_K = r - \lambda \frac{\partial f(L, K)}{\partial K} = 0 \quad \text{②} \quad \Rightarrow r = \lambda \frac{\partial f(L, K)}{\partial K} \quad \text{②}'$$

$$\mathcal{L}_\lambda = x - f(L, K) = 0$$

$$\frac{\textcircled{1}'}{\textcircled{2}'} = \frac{w}{r} = \frac{\frac{\partial f(L, K)}{\partial L}}{\frac{\partial f(L, K)}{\partial K}} = \frac{MPP_L}{MPP_K} = MRTS_{LK}$$

F. O. C. $\Rightarrow \left. \begin{matrix} L^0 = L(w, r, x) \\ K^0 = K(w, r, x) \end{matrix} \right\}$ conditional (on x) input demand functions

* Comparative Static Analysis

x, (w, r) change

x, $\frac{w}{r}$ change

x changes

at e_2 cost = $wL_2 + rK_2 = C_2$

\Rightarrow LRTC(x_2)

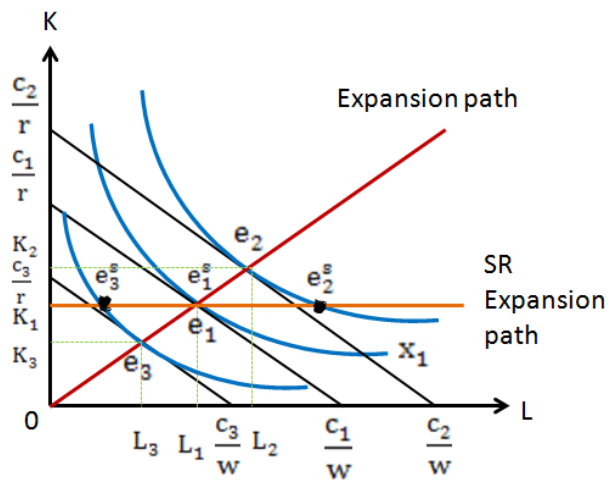
at e_1 cost = $wL_1 + rK_1 = C_1$

\Rightarrow LRTC(x_1)

at e_3 cost = $wL_3 + rK_3 = C_3$

\Rightarrow LRTC(x_3)

除了 e_1^s 外, 其他點的 SR 成本高於 LR



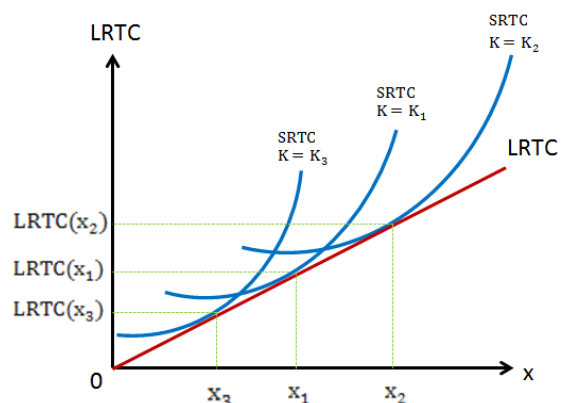
* Compare LRTC & SRTC

same x, compare LRTC(x) and SRTC(x)

suppose $K = K_1$ fixed in the SR

LRTC(x) \leq SRTC(x) for every given K
(只有一條) (每一個 K 對映一條 SRTC)

*LRTC 之圖形應如下圖, 在這為簡化



畫成直線

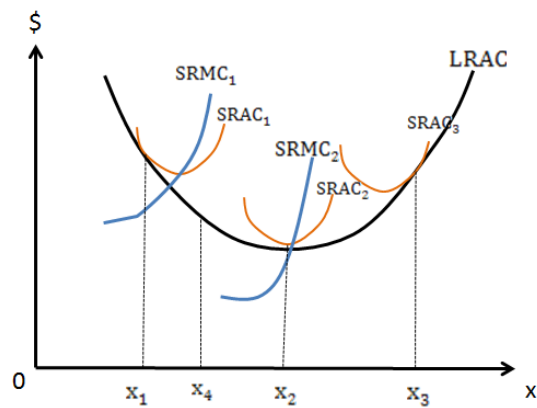
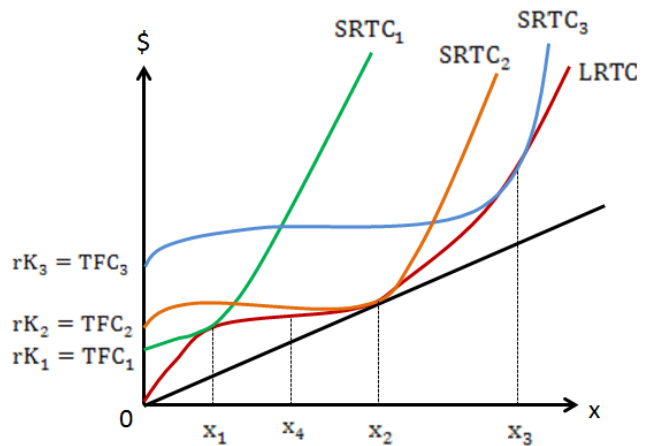
* Envelope curve

LRTC is the envelope of the SRTC curves

$$LRAC(x) = \frac{LRTC(x)}{x}$$

$$LRMC(x) = \frac{\Delta LRTC(x)}{\Delta x}$$

* LRAC is the envelope of SRAC



* Firm's problem

$$\begin{cases} \min_{L, K} wL + rK \\ \text{s. t. } f(L, K) = x \end{cases}$$

Static Analysis:

F. O. C. :

$$MRTS_{LK} (= \frac{MPP_L}{MPP_K}) = \frac{w}{r} \quad \text{isoquant 和 isocost 相切}$$

$$f(L, K) = x$$

$$\Rightarrow L^0 = L(w, r, x)$$

$$K^0 = K(w, r, x)$$

Comparative Analysis:

(1) x changes \Rightarrow **expansion path**

$LRTC(x) \leq SRTC(x)$ for every given K

$$\frac{LRTC(x)}{x} \text{ (割線斜率)} \leq \frac{SRTC(x)}{x}$$

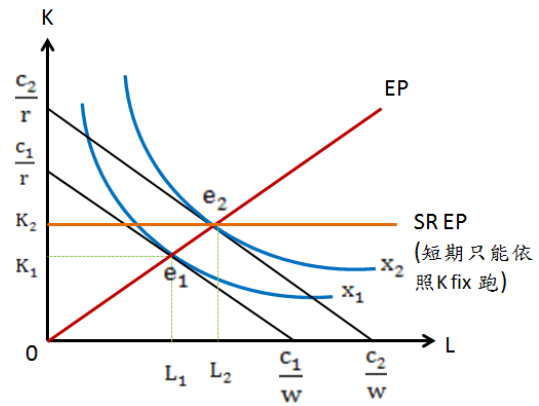
for every given K

$\Rightarrow LRAC(x) \leq SRAC(x)$ for every given K

\therefore **LRAC is the envelope of SRAC curves**

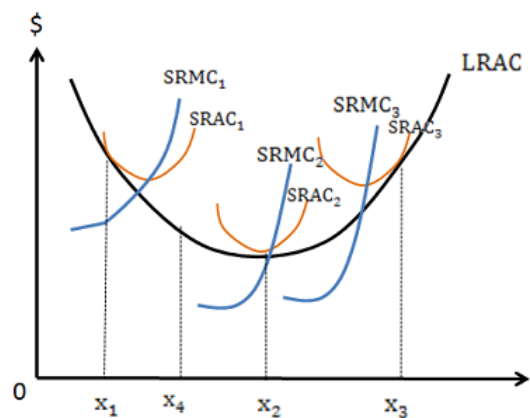
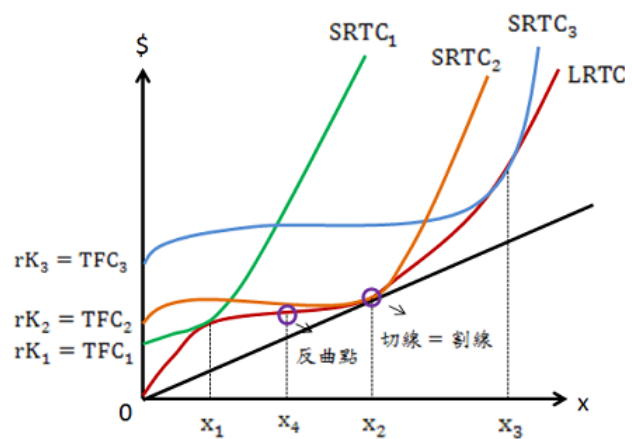
at x_1 $LRAC(x_1) = SRAC(x_1)$

at x_2 $LRAC(x_2) = SRAC(x_2)$



$$C_1 = wL_1 + rK_1$$

$$LRTC(x) = w \cdot L^c(x; w, r) + r \cdot K^c(x; w, r)$$



Example : Cobb-Douglas production function

$$f(L, K) = L^\alpha K^\beta$$

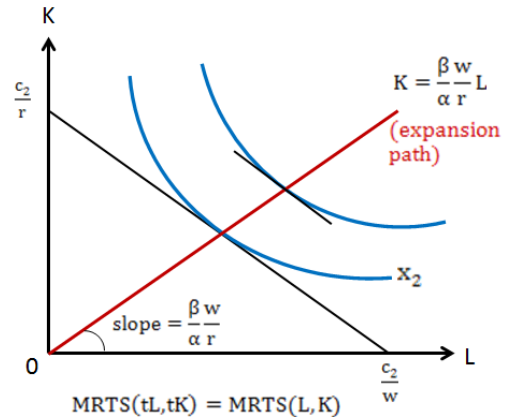
$$\min_{L, K} \{ wL + rK \}$$

$$\text{s.t. } L^\alpha K^\beta = x$$

$$\text{F.O.C.: } MRTS_{LK} = \frac{w}{r}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{MPP_L}{MPP_K} = \frac{\alpha L^{\alpha-1} K^\beta}{\beta L^\alpha K^{\beta-1}} = \frac{\alpha K}{\beta L} = \frac{w}{r}$$

$$\Rightarrow K = \frac{\beta w}{\alpha r} L \Rightarrow \text{expansion path} \quad ①$$



$$L^\alpha K^\beta = x \quad (\text{isoquant}) \quad ②$$

① 代入②

$$\Rightarrow L^\alpha \left(\frac{\beta w}{\alpha r} L \right)^\beta = x \quad , \quad \left(\frac{\beta w}{\alpha r} \right)^\beta L^{\alpha+\beta} = x$$

$$\Rightarrow L^{\alpha+\beta} = \left(\frac{\alpha r}{\beta w} \right)^\beta x$$

$$\Rightarrow L^c = \left(\frac{\alpha r}{\beta w} \right)^{\frac{\beta}{\alpha+\beta}} x^{\frac{1}{\alpha+\beta}}$$

$$\Rightarrow K^c = \left(\frac{\beta w}{\alpha r} \right)^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}} x^{\frac{1}{\alpha+\beta}}$$

$$LRTC(x) = wL^c + rK^c$$

$$= \left(\frac{\alpha}{\beta} \right)^{\frac{\beta}{\alpha+\beta}} r^{\frac{\beta}{\alpha+\beta}} w^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}} x^{\frac{1}{\alpha+\beta}} + \left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right)^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}} r^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}} w^{\frac{\beta}{\alpha+\beta}} x^{\frac{1}{\alpha+\beta}}$$

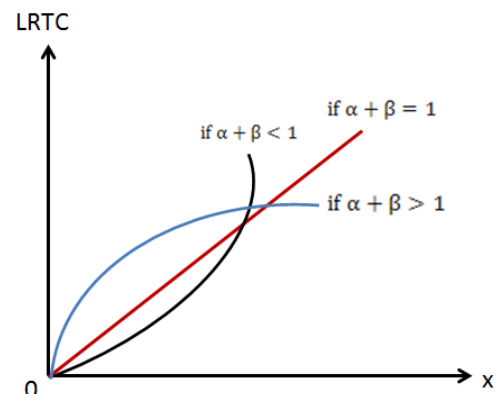
$$= \left[\left(\frac{\alpha}{\beta} \right)^{\frac{\beta}{\alpha+\beta}} + \left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right)^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}} \right] r^{\frac{\beta}{\alpha+\beta}} w^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}} x^{\frac{1}{\alpha+\beta}}$$

$$= c(w, r, \alpha, \beta) \cdot x^{\frac{1}{\alpha+\beta}}$$

$\alpha + \beta > 1$ $LRTC(x)$ concave

$\alpha + \beta < 1$ $LRTC(x)$ convex

$\alpha + \beta = 1$ $LRTC(x)$ linear



* Example : $f(L, K) = \min \left\{ \frac{L}{a}, \frac{K}{b} \right\}$

Most efficient: $\frac{L}{a} = \frac{K}{b} \Rightarrow K = \frac{b}{a}L$ (not only most efficient, but also EP)

$$x = \frac{L}{a} = \frac{K}{b} \Rightarrow L^0 = ax \text{ (no } w), \quad K^0 = bx \text{ (no } r)$$

$$\text{LRTC}(x) = wL^0 + rK^0 = w ax + r bx = (aw + br)x$$

$$\text{LRAC} = aw + br$$

$$\text{LRMC} = aw + br$$

SR cost:

$$K = K_0$$

$$\text{TFC} = rK_0$$

$$\text{TVC} = wL(x)$$

$$x = f(L, K) = \min \left\{ \frac{L}{a}, \frac{K_0}{b} \right\}$$

$$\frac{L}{a} \geq \frac{K_0}{b}, \quad x = \frac{K_0}{b} \text{ (fixed)}$$

$$x \leq \frac{K_0}{b} \text{ (capacity constraint)}$$

$$x > \frac{K_0}{b} \text{ (infeasible)} \Rightarrow \text{SRTC} \rightarrow \infty \text{ if } x > \frac{K_0}{b}$$

$$\frac{L}{a} < \frac{K_0}{b}, \quad x = \frac{L}{a} (= f(L))$$

$$x \leq \frac{K_0}{b} \text{ (capacity constraint)}$$

$$x = \frac{L}{a} \Rightarrow L = ax$$

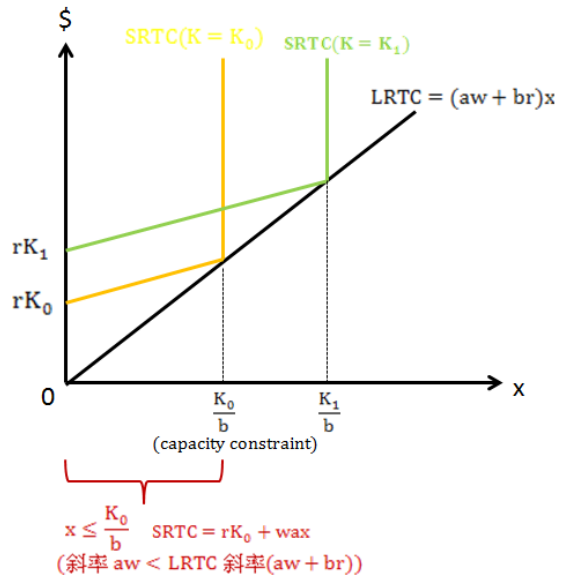
$$\text{TVC} = wL = wax \text{ (note that TFC} = rK_0)$$

$$\text{SRTC} = \text{TFC} + \text{TVC} = rK_0 + awx$$

when $x = \frac{K_0}{b}$

$\Rightarrow \text{SRTC} = rK_0 + awx = rK_0 + aw\frac{K_0}{b}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LRTC}\left(x = \frac{K_0}{b}\right) &= (aw + br)x \\ &= (aw + br)\frac{K_0}{b} \\ &= rK_0 + aw\frac{K_0}{b} \\ &= \text{SRTC}\left(x = \frac{K_0}{b}\right) \end{aligned}$$



Another comparative statics analysis:

(2) w (or r) changes (change in price of input)

the firm's problem is:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \min_{L,K} wL + rK \\ \text{s. t } f(L, K) = x \end{aligned} \right\}$$

\Rightarrow F.O.C.: $\text{MRTS}_{LK} = \frac{w}{r}, f(L, K) = x$

$\Rightarrow L^0, K^0$

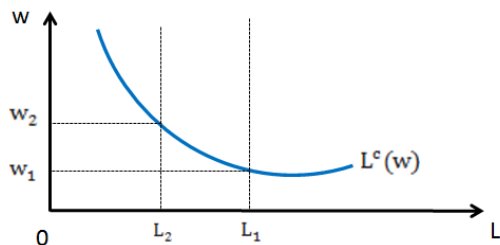
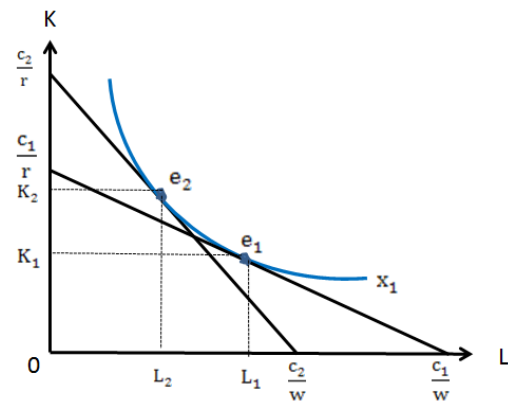
$\Rightarrow \text{LRTC} = wL^0 + rK^0$

x fixed (x_1)

r fixed

$w \uparrow \Rightarrow w_1 \rightarrow w_2, w_2 > w_1$

$\therefore e_1 \rightarrow e_2$ (both e_1 and e_2 are on isoquant x_1)



Locus of equilibrium with respect to change in w = isoquant x_1

w, r change in the same proportion

* Example : problem : $\min_{L,K} \omega L + rK$ s.t. $f(L,K) = x$

$$(\omega, r) \rightarrow (t\omega, tr)$$

$$\text{Foc } MRTS_{LK} = \omega/r \rightarrow MRTS_{LK} = t\omega/tr = \omega/r, \text{ unchanged}$$

$$f(L, K) = x \leftarrow \text{no } (\omega, r) \Rightarrow L^0, K^0 \text{ don't change}$$

$$\text{i.e. } L^0 = L(\omega, r, x) = L(t\omega, tr, x)$$

$$K^0 = K(\omega, r, x) = K(t\omega, tr, x)$$

→ $L(\omega, r, x)$ and $K(\omega, r, x)$ are homogeneous of degree 0 in ω and r

Conditional input demand functions are homogeneous of degree 0 in ω and r

$$\text{LRTC}(x; \omega, r) = \omega L^0 + rK^0$$

$$\text{LRTC}(x; t\omega, tr) = t\omega L^0 + trK^0 = t \text{LRTC}(x; \omega, r)$$

→ **LRTC is homogeneous of degree 1 in ω and r**

*Comparative Statics Analysis

w, r change ⇒

$$L^0, K^0 \text{ change, } L^0 = L(w, r, x)$$

$$K^0 = K(w, r, x)$$

$$\text{LRTC}(x; w, r) = wL^0 + rK^0 = wL(w, r, x) + rK(w, r, x)$$

L^0, K^0 are homogeneous of degree 0 in w and r

$$L(tw, tr, x) = t^0 L(w, r, x)$$

$$K(tw, tr, x) = t^0 K(w, r, x)$$

$$\text{LRTC}(x; tw, tr) = t^1 \text{LRTC}(x; w, r)$$

LRTC is homogeneous of degree 1 in w and r

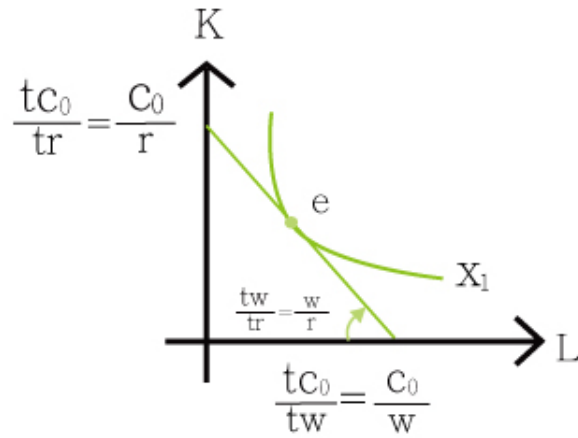


Figure 70:

L^0, K^0 depend on $\frac{w}{r}$, i.e. L^0, K^0 are functions of $\frac{w}{r}$ and x

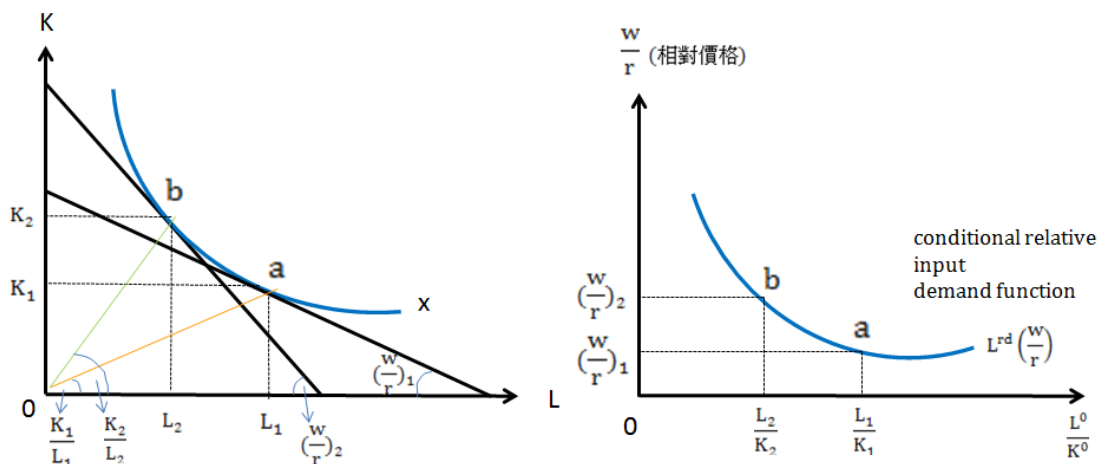
$$L^0 = L(w, r, x) = L\left(\frac{w}{r}, 1, x\right)$$

$$K^0 = K(w, r, x) = K\left(\frac{w}{r}, 1, x\right)$$

* Conditional relative input demand function

$\frac{L^0}{K^0}\left(\frac{w}{r}\right)$: conditional relative labor demand function (conditional 是指 conditional on x (fixed))

$$\frac{L^0}{K^0} = \frac{L(w, r, x)}{K(w, r, x)} = \frac{L\left(\frac{w}{r}, x\right)}{K\left(\frac{w}{r}, x\right)} = L^{rd}\left(\frac{w}{r}\right)$$



* ϵ^{rd} , price elasticity of conditional relative input demand

$$\epsilon^{rd} = \frac{\left| \frac{\Delta\left(\frac{L^0}{K^0}\right)}{\frac{L^0}{K^0}} \right|}{\left| \frac{\Delta\left(\frac{w}{r}\right)}{\frac{w}{r}} \right|} = \frac{\left| \frac{d\left(\frac{L^0}{K^0}\right)}{\frac{L^0}{K^0}} \right|}{\left| \frac{d\left(\frac{w}{r}\right)}{\frac{w}{r}} \right|} = \frac{\left| \frac{d \ln\left(\frac{L^0}{K^0}\right)}{d \ln\left(\frac{w}{r}\right)} \right|}{1} = - \frac{d \ln\left(\frac{L^0}{K^0}\right)}{d \ln\left(\frac{w}{r}\right)}$$

note that in equilibrium $MRTS_{LK} = \frac{w}{r}$

$$\epsilon^{rd} = - \frac{d \ln \frac{L}{K}}{d \ln(MRTS_{LK})} = - \left(- \frac{d \ln \frac{K}{L}}{d \ln(MRTS_{LK})} \right) = \frac{d \ln \frac{K}{L}}{d \ln(MRTS_{LK})}$$

= σ (Elasticity of substitution)

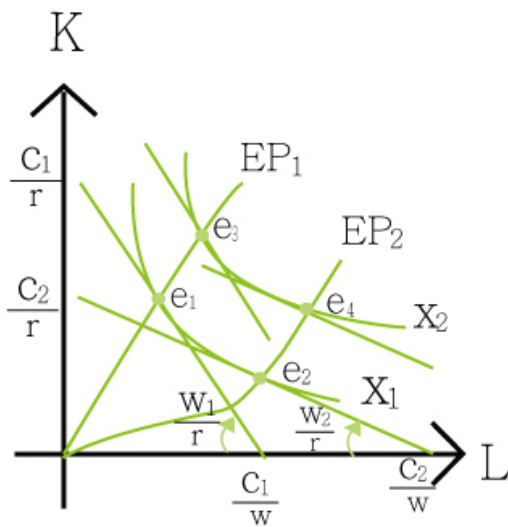


Figure73:

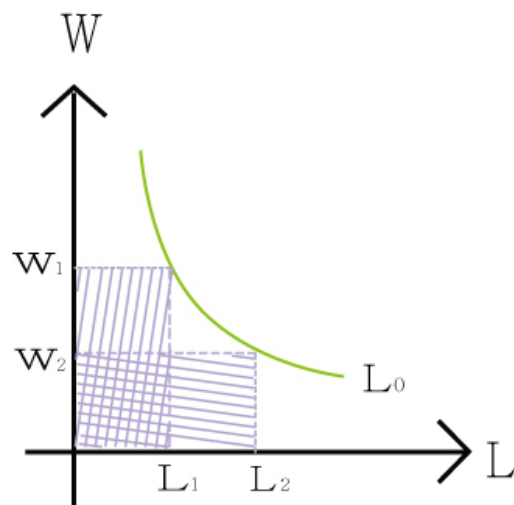


Figure74:

w changes (r is given)

w ↓, $w_1 \rightarrow w_2$, $w_2 < w_1$

① $e_1 \rightarrow e_2$, given $x = e_1$

② $EP_1 \rightarrow EP_2$

In each EP, w, r are given, and x is free to change

Ling Run Cost Curves

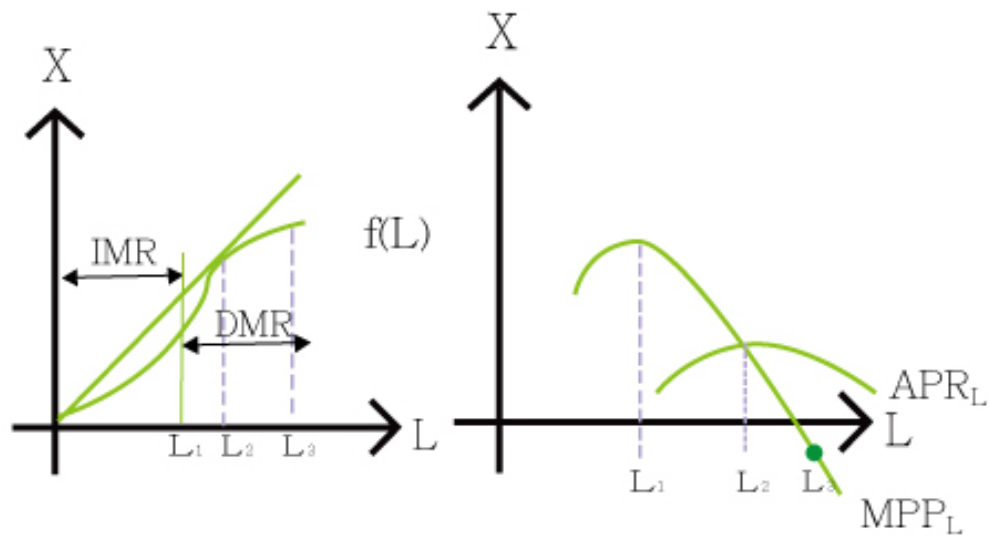


Figure 76:

In the SR, K fixed

IMR \Rightarrow Diminishing marginal cost

DMR \Rightarrow Increasing marginal cost

In the LR L&K are variable

L^0, K^0 is economically efficient, if L^0, K^0 solves
$$\begin{aligned} \min_{L, K} & wL + rK \\ \text{s. t. } & f(L, K) = x \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow L^0 = L(w, r, x), K^0 = K(w, r, x)$

$LRTC(x) = wL^0 + rK^0 = wL(w, r, x) + rK(w, r, x)$

***Returns to scale** (指的是生產技術 $f(x)$): $x = f(L, K)$

$f(tL, tK) > tf(L, K), t > 1 \Rightarrow$ Increasing returns to scale

$f(tL, tK) = tf(L, K), t > 0 \Rightarrow$ Constant returns to scale

$f(tL, tK) < tf(L, K), t > 1 \Rightarrow$ Decreasing returns to scale

* **Economy of scale**(指的是 cost): LRAC(x) is decreasing with output

* **Diseconomy of scale**: LRAC is increasing with output

Suppose $f(L,K)$ is homogenous of degree k in L and K

$$f(tL, tK) = t^k f(L,K)$$

$k > 1$, $f(L,K)$ is increasing returns to scale

$$(t^k > t \text{ for } k > 1 \Rightarrow f(tL, tK) > tf(L,K))$$

$k < 1$, $f(L,K)$ is decreasing returns to scale

$$(t^k < t \text{ for } k < 1 \Rightarrow f(tL, tK) < tf(L,K))$$

$k = 1$, $f(tL, tK) = tf(L,K)$ constant returns to scale

note that: $f(L,K)$ is constant returns to scale

$\Rightarrow f(L,K)$ must be homogeneous of degree 1 in L & K

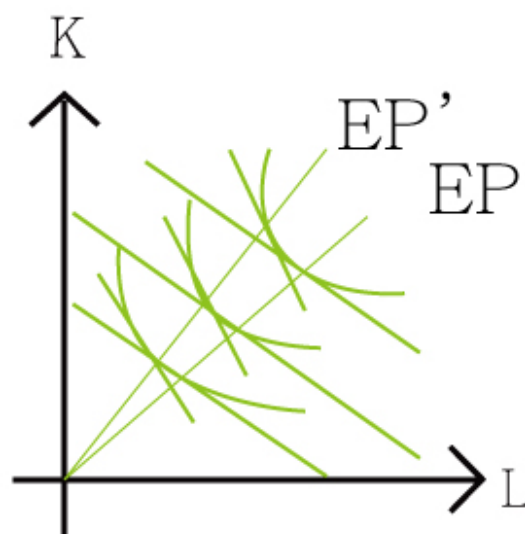


Figure 77:

* **Expansion path at a homogeneous production function is a straight line through the origin**

i.e. $MRTS_{LK}$ is a function of $\frac{K}{L}$

Suppose (L^0, K^0) is the cost minimum input combination to produce x unit of output

$$L^0, K^0 \text{ solves } \begin{aligned} & \min_{L, K} wL + rK \\ & \text{s. t. } f(L, K) = x \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{LRTC} = wL^0 + rK^0$$

Suppose we would like to produce an output of tx , $t > 1$ ($tx > x$)

$f(L, K)$ is homogenous of degree k

$$f(tL, tK) = t^k f(L, K)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & = \text{constant} \\ K > 1 & \quad f(L, K) \text{ is increasing return to scale} \\ < & \quad \text{decreasing} \end{aligned}$$

$$f(tL, tK) = t^k f(L, K) \begin{cases} > \\ < \end{cases} tf(L, K) = tx$$

$$\Rightarrow f(t'L, t'K) = tf(L, K) = tx$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} t' = t \\ t' < t \\ t' > t \end{cases} \text{ and } L^0, K^0 \text{ is optimal to produce output } x^0$$

$$(t'L, t'K) \text{ solves } \begin{aligned} & \min_{L, K} wL + rK \\ & \text{s. t. } f(L, K) = tx \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{LRTC}(tx) = w \times t'L^0 + r \times t'K^0 = t'(wL^0 + rK^0) = t\text{LRTC}(x)$$

$$\text{LRAC}(x) = \frac{wL^0 + rK^0}{x}$$

$$\text{LRAC}(tx) = \frac{w \times t'L^0 + r \times t'K^0}{tx} = \frac{t'(wL^0 + rK^0)}{tx} \begin{cases} = \\ < \\ > \end{cases} \frac{wL^0 + rK^0}{x}$$

LRAC(x)

Since $tx > x \Rightarrow$ $\text{LRAC}(x)$ is $\begin{matrix} \text{fixed} \\ \text{decreasing} \\ \text{increasing} \end{matrix}$ with $x \Rightarrow$ $\begin{matrix} \text{Economy of scale} \\ \text{Diseconomy of scale} \end{matrix}$

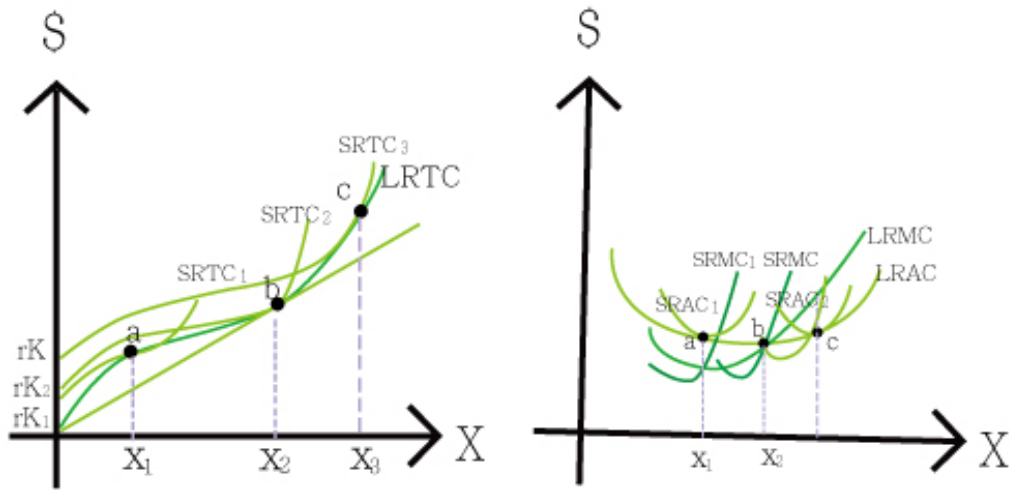


Figure 78:

$f(L, K)$ is a homogeneous function

$f(L, K)$ is increasing \Leftrightarrow decreasing
 $f(L, K)$ is constant returns to scale \Leftrightarrow the LRAC(x) is constant in x
 $f(L, K)$ is decreasing \Leftrightarrow increasing

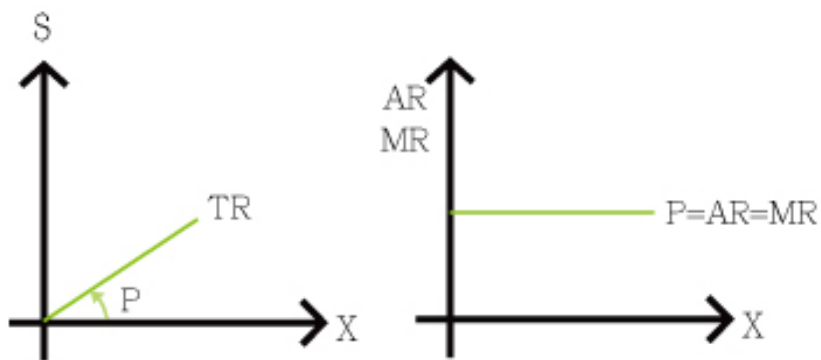


Figure 79:

$$(L^0, K^0) \text{ solves } \begin{cases} \min_{L, K} wL + rK \\ \text{s. t. } f(L, K) = x \end{cases} \quad (*)$$

$$\text{LRTC}(x) = wL^0 + rK^0$$

$$\text{F. O. C. } \begin{cases} \text{MRTS}_{LK}(L^0, K^0) = \frac{w}{r} \\ f(L^0, K^0) = x \end{cases}$$

$$\text{LRAC}(x) = \frac{\text{LRTC}(x)}{x}$$

$$x \rightarrow tx, t > 1 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \min_{L, K} wL + rK \\ \text{s. t. } f(L, K) = x \end{cases} \quad (**)$$

note that: $f(tL, tK) = t^k f(L, K)$

$$t = \left(\frac{1}{t^k}\right)^k$$

$$\Rightarrow f\left(\frac{1}{t^k}L, \frac{1}{t^k}K\right) = tf(L, K) = tx$$

$(L^0, K^0) \rightarrow x$

$\left(\frac{1}{t^k}L^0, \frac{1}{t^k}K^0\right) \rightarrow tx$ 符合 $f(L^0, K^0) = x$

$$\left(\frac{1}{t^k}L^0, \frac{1}{t^k}K^0\right) = tx$$

e_2 satisfies 2nd FOC for (**)

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{MRTS}_{LK}\left(\frac{1}{t^k}L^0, \frac{1}{t^k}K^0\right) \\ &= \text{MRTS}_{LK}(L^0, K^0) \\ &= \frac{w}{r} \rightarrow \text{EP is a straight line through the origin} \end{aligned}$$

First FOC is also satisfied

e_2 solves (**)

$$(t^{\frac{1}{k}}L^0, t^{\frac{1}{k}}K^0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{LRTC}(tx) = w \left(t^{\frac{1}{k}}L^0 \right) + r \left(t^{\frac{1}{k}}K^0 \right)$$

$$= t^{\frac{1}{k}} (wL^0 + rK^0)$$

$$= t^{\frac{1}{k}} \text{LRTC}(x)$$

$$\text{LRAC}(tx) = \frac{\text{LRTC}(tx)}{tx} = \frac{t^{\frac{1}{k}} \text{LRTC}(x)}{tx} = t^{\frac{1}{k}-1} \text{LRAC}(x)$$

1. $K=1$ (constant returns to scale)

$\Rightarrow \text{LRAC}(tx) = \text{LRAC}(x)$, for all $t > 0$ constant LRAC

2. $K > 1$ (increasing returns to scale) $\rightarrow \frac{1}{k} - 1 < 0$

$$\Rightarrow t^{\frac{1}{k}-1} = \frac{1}{t^{1-\frac{1}{k}}} < 1, \text{ for all } t > 1$$

$\Rightarrow \text{LRAC}(tx) < \text{LRAC}(x)$, for all $t > 1$ ($tx > x$)

LRAC is decreasing in x (**economy of scale**)

3. $K < 1$ (decreasing returns to scale) $\rightarrow \frac{1}{k} - 1 > 0$

$$\Rightarrow t^{\frac{1}{k}-1} > 1, \text{ for all } t > 1$$

$\Rightarrow \text{LRAC}(tx) > \text{LRAC}(x)$, for all $t > 1$ ($tx > x$)

LRAC is increasing in x (**diseconomy of scale**)

Suppose $f(L, K)$ is not a homogeneous function

increasing returns to scale \leftrightarrow economy of scale ?

decreasing returns to scale \leftrightarrow diseconomy of scale ?

sure,

$f(L, K)$ is constant returns to scale

$f(tL, tK) = tf(L, K) \leftrightarrow f(L, K)$ is homogeneous of degree one in L and K

*** increasing returns to scale**

$$f(tL, tK) > t f(L, K) = tx$$

(L^0, K^0) solves

$$\min_{L, K} wL + rK$$

$$\text{s.t. } f(L, K) = x$$

$$\text{LRTC}(x) = wL^0 + rK^0$$

$$(tL^0, tK^0) \text{ costs } t\text{LRTC}(x)$$

$$(tL^0, tK^0) \rightarrow tx$$

$$f(tL^0, tK^0) > t f(L^0, K^0) = tx$$

$$\text{LRTC}(x') \neq \frac{w(tL^0) + r(tk^0)}{x'} < \frac{w(tL^0) + r(tk^0)}{tx} = \text{LRAC}(x)$$

Since $f(L, K)$ is not a homogeneous function

$$\text{MRTS}_{LK}(tL^0, tK^0) \neq \text{MRTS}_{LK}(L^0, K^0)$$

$$(tL^0, tK^0) \text{ doesn't solve } \begin{cases} \min_{L, K} wL + rK \quad (**) \\ \text{s.t. } f(L, K) = x' \end{cases}$$

There is another (L', K') solves $(**)$ and costs less,

$$\text{LRTC}(x') = wL' + rK' < w(tL^0) + r(tK^0)$$

\Rightarrow increasing returns to scale \rightarrow decreasing LRAC(x) (economy scale)

increasing LRAC(x) (diseconomy of scale) \rightarrow decreasing returns to scale

* Example : CES production

$$f(L, K) = (L^\rho + K^\rho)^{\frac{\varepsilon}{\rho}} \quad \rho < 1, \varepsilon > 0, \rho \neq 0$$

$$f(tL, tK) = ((tL)^\rho + (tK)^\rho)^{\frac{\varepsilon}{\rho}} = t^\varepsilon (L^\rho + K^\rho)^{\frac{\varepsilon}{\rho}}$$

FOC:

$$MRTS_{LK} = \frac{w}{r}$$

$$MRTS_{LK} = \frac{\frac{\varepsilon}{\rho} (L^\rho + K^\rho)^{\frac{\varepsilon}{\rho}-1} \rho L^{\rho-1}}{\frac{\varepsilon}{\rho} (L^\rho + K^\rho)^{\frac{\varepsilon}{\rho}-1} \rho K^{\rho-1}} = \left(\frac{L}{K}\right)^{\rho-1} = \frac{w}{r}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{L}{K} = \left(\frac{w}{r}\right)^{\frac{1}{\rho-1}} \quad \therefore L = \left(\frac{w}{r}\right)^{\frac{1}{\rho-1}} K$$

another FOC: $(L^\rho + K^\rho)^{\frac{\varepsilon}{\rho}} = x$

$$\left[\left(\left(\frac{w}{r}\right)^{\frac{1}{\rho-1}} K \right)^\rho + K^\rho \right]^{\frac{\varepsilon}{\rho}} = x$$

$$\left[\left(1 + \left(\frac{w}{r}\right)^{\frac{\rho}{\rho-1}} \right) K^\rho \right]^{\frac{\varepsilon}{\rho}} = x$$

$$\left(1 + \left(\frac{w}{r}\right)^{\frac{\rho}{\rho-1}} \right)^{\frac{\varepsilon}{\rho}} \cdot K^\varepsilon = x$$

$$K^\varepsilon = \left(1 + \left(\frac{w}{r}\right)^{\frac{\rho}{\rho-1}} \right)^{-\frac{\varepsilon}{\rho}} x$$

$$K^0 = \left(1 + \left(\frac{w}{r}\right)^{\frac{\rho}{\rho-1}} \right)^{-\frac{1}{\rho}} \frac{1}{x^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}}} = c_K \cdot x^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}}$$

$$L^0 = \left(\frac{w}{r}\right)^{\frac{1}{\rho-1}} \left(1 + \left(\frac{w}{r}\right)^{\frac{\rho}{\rho-1}} \right)^{-\frac{1}{\rho}} \frac{1}{x^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}}} = c_L \cdot x^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} LRTC(x) &= wL^0 + rK^0 = wc_L x^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} + rc_K x^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} \\ &= (wc_L + rc_K) x^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} = A(w, r) x^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{LRAC} = \frac{\text{LRTC}}{x} = A(w, r)x^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}-1}$$

$\varepsilon > 1$ increasing returns to scale

$\frac{1}{\varepsilon} < 1, \frac{1}{\varepsilon} - 1 < 0$ LRAC \downarrow with x (**economy of scale**)

$\varepsilon < 1$ decreasing returns to scale

$\frac{1}{\varepsilon} > 1, \frac{1}{\varepsilon} - 1 > 0$ LRAC \uparrow with x (**diseconomy of scale**)

$\varepsilon = 1$ constant returns to scale

$$\text{LRAC}(x) = A(w, r)x^{\frac{1}{1}-1} = A(w, r)$$