

Managerial Economics
Prof. Trupti Mishra
S.J.M School of Management
Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

Lecture - 34
Oligopoly (Contd...)

We will continue our discussion on collusive Oligopoly model in this session also. So, if you remember, in the last session, we talked about the different kinds of collusion and primarily there are two types of collusion; one is explicit collusion and other is tacit collusion. And one of the most common form of explicit collusion is cartel, and cartel is generally a joint agreement among the Oligopoly's firms to maximize the profit, and here generally the central agency decides the price and output.

There are two major types of cartel; one is cartel maximizing maximizing at joint profit, centralized cartel and second type of cartel is market sharing cartel. And again market sharing cartel here comes in two forms; one is on the basis of market sharing on the basis of non price competition, and secondly the market share on the basis of quota. If you look at, the cartel is sustainable and there are some prerequisite to form the cartel also and this is this will this is going to be sustainable if all the firms, they are producing homogeneous product. And if you look at all the firms, they are producing homogeneous products and that gives the scope at least to follow a uniform price, whatever is whatever is followed by the a cartel or whatever is the cartel price, that becomes easy to follow by all the firms.

So, today, we will discuss on the other form of collusive model that is other form of collusive model that is price leadership. Here, we will discuss the price leadership model in three contexts; one is when the price leadership is price is decided by low cost firm, when price is decided by a dominant firm and when the price is decided by the by the barometric firm.

(Refer Slide Time: 02:18)

The slide is titled "Managerial Economics" in a blue header. Below the title, the text "Price leadership" is written in bold. There are three bullet points: 1. "In this form one firm sets price and other firms follow it because it is advantageous to them or because they prefer to avoid uncertainty." 2. "If the product is homogenous and if there are no transport costs, the same price will be charged by all firms." 3. "However if the product is differentiated, prices will differ but the direction of their change will be the same and the same price differential will be more or less maintained." At the bottom left is the NPTEL logo, and at the bottom right is the text "Prof. Trupti Mishra, School of Management, IIT Bombay".

Managerial Economics

Price leadership

- In this form one firm sets price and other firms follow it because it is advantageous to them or because they prefer to avoid uncertainty.
- If the product is homogenous and if there are no transport costs, the same price will be charged by all firms.
- However if the product is differentiated, prices will differ but the direction of their change will be the same and the same price differential will be more or less maintained.

NPTEL Prof. Trupti Mishra, School of Management, IIT Bombay

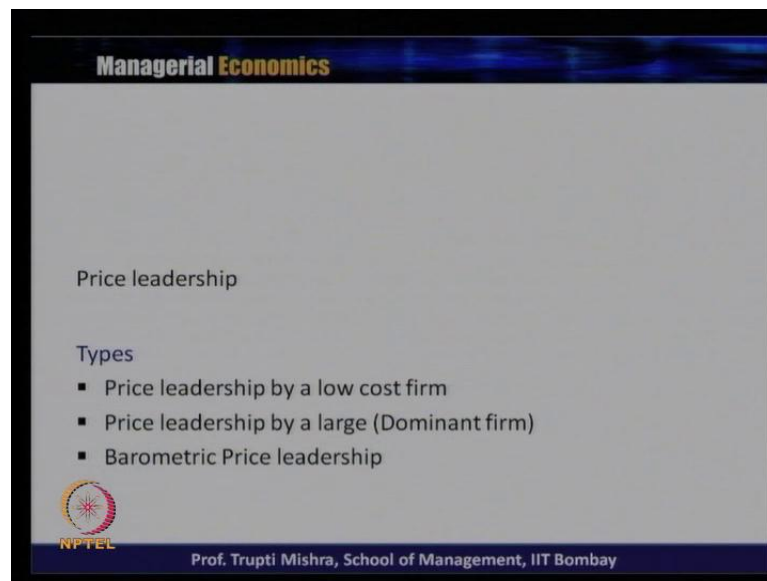
So, to start with, we will know what is price leadership first. So, it is a firm where one firm sets price, other firms follow it because it is advantageous to them or because they prefer to avoid uncertainty. So, if you look at the collusion, the major objective is to avoid the uncertainty; uncertainty in terms of getting the profit, uncertainty in terms of being in the market or sustain in the market.

So, in case of price leadership, one firm sets the price and other firms just follow it because they feel that, by following this price they are getting some amount of profit and there is no uncertainty associated with what kind of profit they are going to get. If the product is homogeneous and if there are no transport costs, the same price will be charged by all the firms because the product is homogeneous, no transport cost to assume that all the cost of production comes within an identical frame, and whatever the price follows the price decided by the one firm, generally that is acceptable to all. But if there is a transport cost or if the products are not homogeneous, maybe that time whatever the price decided by the one firm, that may not be followed by the others; however, if the product is differentiated, prices will differ, but the direction of their change will be the same and the same price difference will be more or less maintained.

So, how do they tackle with the price if the product is differentiated? Initially, they will initially they will fix up the price of all the products, but they will control their direction of change. If it is going to increase, if it is going to decrease, they will give a range and

in that range only the price is to increase or the price is to decrease. if it is homogeneous product they have to charge a cost and price same price for all the products, but if it is a differential product or if it is a heterogeneous heterogeneous product, in this case, they will fix up the price at once and the direction of the change of the price has to be controlled by the firm which decides the price. So, in this case, the same price differential is going to maintain more or less for all this category of the product, when it is a heterogeneous product in the market.

(Refer Slide Time: 04:32)




Managerial Economics

Price leadership

Types

- Price leadership by a low cost firm
- Price leadership by a large (Dominant firm)
- Barometric Price leadership

 NPTEL

Prof. Trupti Mishra, School of Management, IIT Bombay

So, we will discuss three types of price leadership leadership: one is price leadership by low cost firm, second one is the price leadership by a large dominant firm, and third one is the barometric price leadership. To start with, when we talk about the price leadership of a low cost firm, let us know what can be a low cost firm and why we call it low cost firm.

(Refer Slide Time: 04:54)

The slide is titled "Managerial Economics" in a blue header. Below the title, the text "Price leadership" is displayed. A bulleted list follows, with the first item "Price leadership by a low cost firm" highlighted in red. The second item is "Price is set by the low cost firm." In the bottom left corner, there is a circular logo with a sunburst pattern and the text "NPTEL" below it. In the bottom right corner, the text "Prof. Trupti Mishra, School of Management, IIT Bombay" is visible.

Low cost firm is one where the cost of production is less to produce the product. There may be number of possibilities that why firms get into or how come firms reach to a situation where they become the low cost firm. The basic argument for this goes that, if it is large firm and the scale of operation is more, then in the long run the per unit cost decreases and they emerge as a low cost firm.

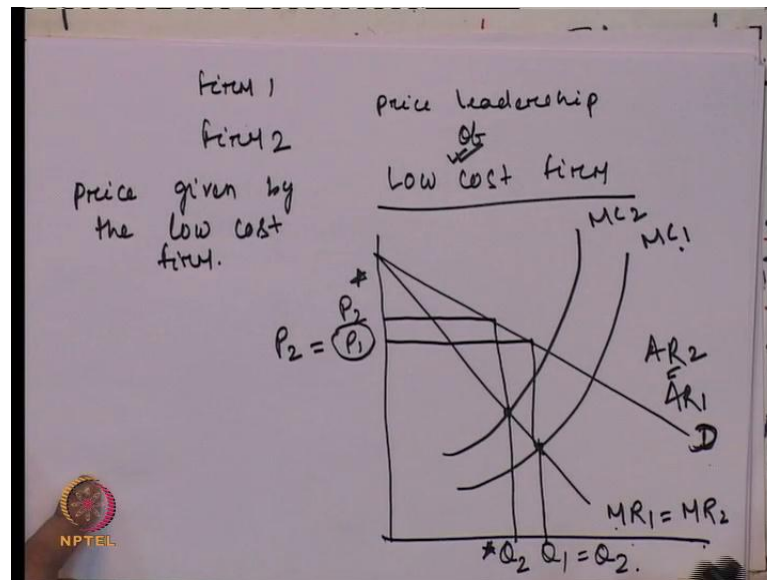
Second, again if it is a mass production, again the same reason. If it is a mass production, large scale, in the long run generally they get into a situation where the per unit cost decreases, goes on decreases; they reached the minimum and then it increases. So, low cost firm is one firm which generally lies in the decreasing portion of the long run average cost curve till the time it is reaching to the minimum cost.

So, to produce the same product, if there are number of firms in the market if one firm is producing that at a lower cost of production as compared to other, as compared to the other firm, generally they are known as the low cost firm and they are low cost firm may be because of economy of scale. And again, if you want to specifically find out a reason, may be efficiency of raw material, efficiency of inputs, efficiency of technology, efficiency of the man power involved in the production process, they become they make the firm become the low cost firm.

Now, if the low cost firm generally decides the price in a market in one kind kind of price leadership model, we find that the low cost firm decides the price. If the low cost

firm decides the price, let us find out graphically and also numerically that how the outcome is on the other firms in the market or why the low cost firm is being chosen as the price leader, particularly in this type of market or in this type of arrangement of collusive model; collusive model of Oligopoly.

(Refer Slide Time: 07:02)



So, we will see the price leadership of low cost firm. So, we will take the demand curve; we assume there are mainly two firms: one is firm 1; another is firm 2. So, we will, we will take the demand curve as average revenue 1 and also average revenue 2, and this is in the this is shown in the form of the demand curve. We will take the marginal revenue curve that is MR 1 equal to MR 2. We will take cost function; we will take separate cost function for both the firms. So, one, we have is marginal cost 1, and second we have the marginal cost 2.

So, we have taken the demand curve where this is the average revenue curve of firm 1 and also equal to the average revenue curve of firm 2. We have taken the marginal revenue curve in the form of MR where MR 1 is equal to MR 2. We have taken two separate cost functions because here the leadership comes in the form of the low cost firm. So, MC 1 is the cost function for firm 1 and MC 2 is the cost function for firm 2.

Now, to find out what is the price to be followed, we get one point here where marginal revenue 1 and marginal revenue marginal revenue 1 intersect the marginal cost of firm 1 and we get a price which is equal to... Maybe we can this is marginal revenue 1, so here

we will get a price which is equal to P_1 and correspondingly, also we will get a price level taking the point where MR_2 is equal to MC_2 ; we get one more price that is P_2 . Let us call it P_2^* .

Now, what is the thumb rule here? Since the price leadership is by the low cost firm, both the firms, they have to accept the price which is given by the low cost firm price given by the low cost firm. And what is the price given by the low cost firm? That is P_1 ; so ideally, this P_1 should be equal to also P_2 . So, this is the price since firm 1 is the low cost firm and according to the low cost firm cost function, we take the MC_1 is equal to MR_1 . Corresponding to that, we get the price which is equal to P_1 and also we get the quantity which is equal to Q_1 and this is the price; firm 2, they have to also follow it because they have accepted low cost firm as the price leader, and they are going to produce Q_2^* . Ideally, they should produce Q_2^* when the price is P_2 , but since they are following this price given by firm 1, they are also producing the output that is Q_1 is equal to Q_2 .

Now, if you look at the price is given by the low cost firm; that is why this is lower. corresponding to firm 1, we have firm 2 which is having a higher cost function and if higher cost function, if their price is being charged on the basis of higher cost function ideally the price should be P_2^* , but since they have accepted this firm 1 as the low cost firm and they have to be the price taker, in this case they will take a price which is equal to P_1 and they will produce; that is Q_1 . But ideally what is their profit maximizing model? Profit maximizing model is they will produce less, but they will charge a higher price in order to produce it.

So, when the price is given by the low cost firm, the high cost firm, they have to accept it, but in the long run, if the price is going to be continuously lowest as compared to their profit maximizing price, they may not accept the firm as the leader and they will they will not into be the collusion; they will go out of the collusion and they will independently independently charge their price on the basis their profit maximizing level of output. Because they will feel that continuously in the long run also, if they are charging a price price which is much lower to their cost function or much lower to their market price, what it would have been on their profit maximizing level, then in that case they will go out of the collusion and they will charge independently their price.

(Refer Slide Time: 12:16)

Handwritten notes on a whiteboard:

Firm 1
 $Q_1 = 50 - 0.5 P_1$
 $P_1 = 100 - 2Q_1$

Firm 2
 $Q_2 = 50 - 0.5 P_2$
 $P_2 = 100 - 2Q_2$

✓ Firm - 1 - Low cost firm
Firm - 2 - High cost firm.

Cost functions:
 $TC_1 = 150 + 20Q_1 + 2Q_1^2$
 $TC_2 = 48 + 36Q_2 + 2Q_2^2$

Logo: NIPITEL

Now, we will just take a numerical to understand this price leadership by the low cost firm. So, we will get two demand functions that is Q_1 is equal to 50 minus 0.5 P_1 ; P_1 is equal to 100 minus 2 Q_1 . This is for firm 1. Then we look for firm 2. So, for firm 2 Q_2 is equal to 50 minus 0.5 P_2 and from here we can find out this P_2 ; P_2 is equal to 100 minus 2 Q_2 .

Then we will take the cost function TC_1 is equal to 100 plus 20 Q_1 plus 2 Q_1^2 and total cost TC_2 is equal to 48 plus 36 Q_2 plus 2 Q_2^2 square. So, Q_2 is equal to 50 minus 0.5 P_2 . P_2 is equal to 100 minus 2 Q_2 ; this is for firm 2; this is for firm 1. So, here firm 1 is the low cost firm and firm 2 is high cost firm. So, ideally the price has to set by the low cost firm and that has to be followed by the high cost firm in order to operate in the market.

To find out the price on the basis of low cost firm what we have to do? We need to find out the marginal revenue 1 with respect to firm 1. We need to find out the marginal cost for firm one and we will equalize the marginal revenue marginal cost in order to get the profit maximizing level of output and profit maximizing level of price, and that price has to be accepted by firm two. Then we will find out the price with respect to firm two and we will find that whether that is the same amount of profit that they are getting if they are charging the price on their own.

(Refer Slide Time: 14:38)

$$\begin{aligned}TR_1 &= P_1 Q_1 \\ &= (100 - 2Q_1) Q_1 \\ &= 100 Q_1 - 2Q_1^2 \\ MR &= \frac{dTR_1}{dQ_1} \\ \pi &= TR_1 - TC_1 \\ &= 100 Q_1 - 2Q_1^2 \\ &\quad - (100 + 20Q_1^2 + 2Q_1^2)\end{aligned}$$

So, to find this marginal revenue and marginal cost, we will find out the total revenue 1 total revenue one is $P_1 Q_1$. So, P_1 is equal to 100 minus $2Q_1$ multiplied by Q_1 . So, that comes to $100Q_1$ minus $2Q_1$ square; marginal revenue we will take as dTR_1 with respect to Q_1 . So, that will continue or maybe we can find out the profit. Profit is total revenue 1 minus total cost 1; so $100Q_1$ minus $2Q_1$ square, which is our total revenue 1 minus 100 plus $20Q_1$ square plus $2Q_1$ square. So, this is our total cost. So, this is total cost 1.

(Refer Slide Time: 15:40)

$$\begin{aligned}TR_1 - TC_1 &= \pi \\ &= 80 Q_1 - 4Q_1^2 - 100 \\ \frac{\partial \pi}{\partial Q_1} &= 80 - 8Q_1 = 0. \\ Q_1 &= 10. \\ P_1 &= 100 - 2Q_1 \\ &= 100 - (2 \times 10) \\ &= 80.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}P_1 &= 80 \\ Q_1 &= 10.\end{aligned}$$

Now, we will if we simplify this. We will get total revenue minus total cost 1 in order to get profit. So, this will be, if you multiply this, if you deduct this total revenue 1 from total cost 1, then we get $80Q_1$ minus $4Q_1$ square minus 100. And we will take the first order derivative in order to find out the profit and in order to find out the profit price and output. So, that will become 80 minus $8Q_1$ equal to 0 and Q_1 is equal to 10. So, if Q_1 is equal to 10, P_1 is equal to 100 minus $2Q_1$; so 100 minus 2 multiplied by 10 ; that will come to 80 . So, P_1 is equal to 80 ; Q_1 is equal to 10 ; that is, if the price is decided on the basis of the low cost firm, P_1 has to be equal to 80 .

Now, we will find out for firm two and we will see whether if they are following their profit maximizing formula, whether they are also getting the same amount of price or they are getting a different price.

(Refer Slide Time: 17:12)

$Q_2 = 8$
 $P_2 = 84$
 $P_1 = 80$

Reduction in the π by firm(2) 26 to 22

$TR_2 - TC_2 = \pi_2$
 $TR_2 = 100Q_2 - 2Q_2^2$
 $\pi_2 = 100Q_2 - 2Q_2^2 - (48 + 36Q_2 + 2Q_2^2)$
 $= 64Q_2 - 4Q_2^2 - 48$
 $\frac{\partial \pi_2}{\partial Q_2} = 0$
 $64 - 8Q_2 = 0$
 $8Q_2 = 64$
 $Q_2 = 8$

NPTEL

So, to find this, we need to get the total revenue 2 and total cost 2 because that will give us the profit. So, total revenue 2 is equal to $100Q_2$ minus $2Q_2$ square and π_2 will be equal to $100Q_2$ minus $2Q_2$ square minus the total cost 2. So, that is 48 plus $36Q_2$ plus $2Q_2$ square. So, if we simplify this, we get $64Q_2$ minus $4Q_2$ square minus 48 , and we will take the derivative in order to get the price and output; so that has to be equal to 0. To maximize π , we need to take this first order derivative equal to 0.

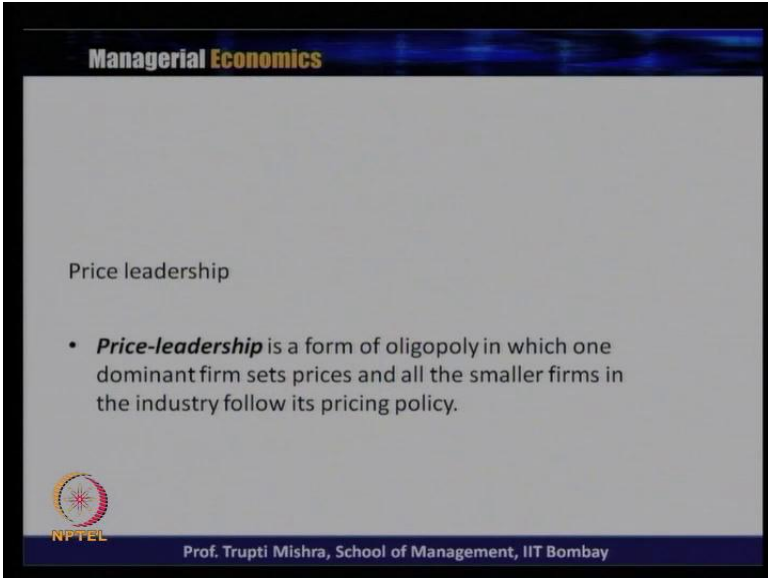
So, what is the first order derivative? That is 64 minus $8Q_2$ has to be equal to 0. So, $8Q_2$ is equal to 64 ; Q_2 is equal to 8 . This is the output for the firm 2. If

you put the value of Q_2 is equal to 8, we will get P_2 is equal to 84. So, this is if the profit maximizing level on the basis of the firm 1. So, firm 2. So, this is the price and quantity if firm 2 decides what should be the price and quantity.

Since this is a low cost firm, we will take price is equal to 80 because this is the collusion that the low cost firm will decide the price and the outcome for this is that the P_1 is equal to 80 is going to be followed in the market. If P_1 is going to be 80 followed in the market, what is the outcome? Outcome is there is a reduction in the profit by reduction in the profit by firm 2. And what will be the reduction? If you calculate the profit by taking the price 80 and 84, the profit will reduce from 26 to 22. So, this is the outcome; the reduction in the profit is the outcome for the firm 2, if they are following a low cost firm.

But here if you look at, what is the arrangement? The arrangement is that low cost firm has to follow the the high cost firm has to follow that, whatever the price decided by the low cost firm. Because when they are getting into an agreement, they are colluding to get may be the market share or to maximize the joint profit, the agreement is that the low cost firm has to decide the price.


(Refer Slide Time: 20:32)



Managerial Economics

Price leadership

- **Price-leadership** is a form of oligopoly in which one dominant firm sets prices and all the smaller firms in the industry follow its pricing policy.

 NPTEL

Prof. Trupti Mishra, School of Management, IIT Bombay

Then, we will go to the next kind of price leadership model, and the next kind of price leadership leader leadership model is where the price is set by the dominant firm. So, in this case, the price leadership typically, in this form of Oligopoly, here one dominant firm sets price and all the smaller firm in the industry follow its pricing policy. So, one

one firm is going to typically the dominant firm; they are going to decide the price and other firms they are going to follow it.

(Refer Slide Time: 21:10)

The slide is titled "Managerial Economics" and discusses "Price leadership". It lists the following points:

- Price leadership
 - Price leadership by a dominant firm
 - Oligopoly market is dominated by few firms among which one may be the largest player.
 - Example : Google, Intel, Nokia, IBM, Maruti, Godrej etc.
 - The other firms acknowledge the leadership of the largest firm for price determination.

The slide also features the NPTEL logo and the text "Prof. Trupti Mishra, School of Management, IIT Bombay" at the bottom.

Now, before going into the detail that what is the outcome or how the price output of the other firms get affected, we will understand what is the meaning of a dominant firm, how the firm become emerge as a dominant leader, and what is that rate when they become the dominant firm in the market. So, if you look at the first feature of Oligopoly, we say that even if there are large number of firms in the Oligopoly, at least few of them have to lead the market or few of them have to dominate the market; like at least two of them should have the having the market largest largest market share in the typical market.

So, Oligopoly market is dominated by few firms among the one way; one may be the larger player; at least one or two have to be the larger player. So, if you take the example, when you talk about a search search engine Google has the largest market share; when you talk about a chip, Intel has the largest market share; when you talk about a mobile phone, Nokia has the largest market share; when you talk about the PC segment, IBM has the IBM has the largest market player; when you talk about, at least before the liberalization, when you talk about the car industry, Maruti was having the highest market share; when you talk about a steel furniture, Godrej is having the larger player.

So, in all these segments, if you look at there are many firms, but when it comes to the larger player, they are the larger player in their own segment and that is why they emerge

as a dominant firm because they are having a largest market share as compared to the other firms those who are having a smaller market share.

The other firms here, what is the basic or what is the success of this dominant firm depends on how the other firms acknowledge the leadership of the largest firm for the price determination. So, when it comes to dominant firm, even if they are the large, they have the largest market share, they are the large firm in the market, the other firms should accept them as the large firm or the other firms should acknowledge. When they are when they are giving the or when they are fixing up the price, the other firms should follow it and in other way we can say that the other firms have to accept this firm as the large market share. Then only they will follow the price whatever decided by the dominant firm.

(Refer Slide Time: 23:14)

Managerial Economics

Price leadership

- **Price leadership by a dominant firm**
 - A dominant firm is a leader in term of market share or presence in all segments, or just being the pioneer in particular product category.
 - Leader is very large in size and earns economies of scale, produces optimum output at which it is able to maximize returns.

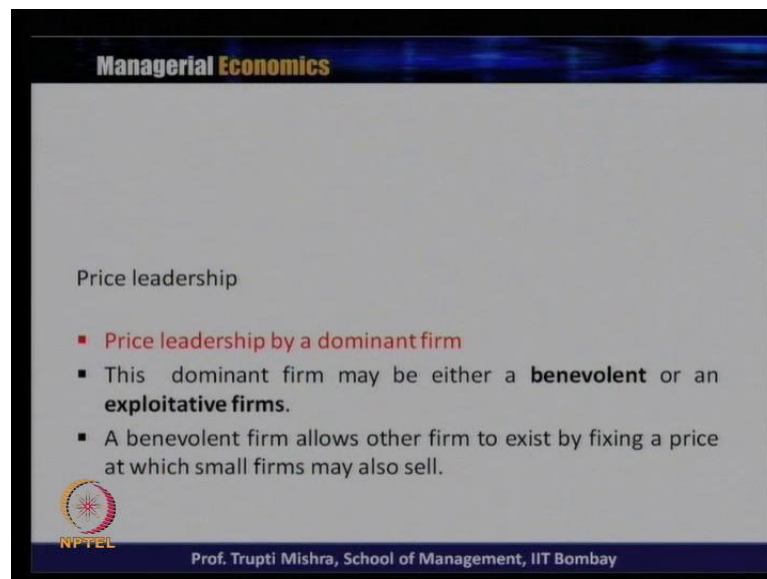
NPTEL
Prof. Trupti Mishra, School of Management, IIT Bombay

So, dominant firm is a leader in term of market share or presence in all segments, or just being the pioneer in the particular product agency, product category. So, dominant firm may be the leader in term of the market share; either they are having a maximum market share or their presence in all the segments, or just being a pioneer in the particular product category. In all these three, when they are having all these three characteristics or one of these three characteristics, they can be the dominant firm.

So, this dominant firm is very or if they are getting into leader, they has to be very large in size size on economy of scale, produce optimum output at which he is able to

maximize the return. So, this price leaders or the dominant firm has to be very large in size and they have to earn economy of scale. Then only they can consider as the dominant firm because they are having a large market share and they are getting the profit and they should produce at the optimum output. They should not produce at a output level where which leave some excess capacity for the firm.

(Refer Slide Time: 24:26)



The slide is titled "Managerial Economics" and discusses "Price leadership". It lists two types of price leadership by a dominant firm: benevolent and exploitative. The benevolent firm allows other firms to exist by fixing a price at which small firms may also sell.

Managerial Economics

Price leadership

- Price leadership by a dominant firm
 - This dominant firm may be either a **benevolent** or an **exploitative firms**.
 - A benevolent firm allows other firm to exist by fixing a price at which small firms may also sell.

NPTEL

Prof. Trupti Mishra, School of Management, IIT Bombay

When it comes to a trade of the dominant firm, the dominant firm can be either benevolent or they can be the exploitive firm; either they can be benevolent for the other firms in the market or they can be the exploitive in firm in the market. Now, who are the, who is a benevolent firm or who are benevolent firm?

The benevolent firm allows other firms to exist by fixing up a price at which small firm may also sell. So, when it if the dominant or the market leader is the benevolent firm, their trade says that if they are fixing up a price, they fix at that level where even the small firm can also survive. So, they generally fix up the price which is above the marginal cost of the small firms. Then only that will, that will actually lead the small firm to survive in the market or that price leads the firms to get some amount of the profit; specifically, the small firms in the market to get some amount of the profit.

Now, how the firms, they become a benevolent firm? Because all the dominant firms, they are not the benevolent firm; some firms, they are they some benevolent, some

dominant firms are there. They generally exploit other firms taking the q from there; the dominant firm is taking the q that they are the large firm in the market.

(Refer Slide Time: 25:48)

Managerial Economics

Price leadership

- Price leadership by a dominant firm
- Creation of Benevolent Firm:
 - It lets others exist so that it does not have to face allegation of monopoly creation.
 - It earns sufficient margin at this price and still retains market leadership.

Success of this type of leadership depends on the assumptions that others will follow the leader.

NPTEL

Prof. Trupti Mishra, School of Management, IIT Bombay

Now, what situation leads to this creation of this benevolent firm? It lets others exist. So, it does not have to face allegation of the monopoly creation. So, if someone is having a 90 percent share, rather than getting into the allegation that they are trying to monopolize, they become nice to the other small firms and they allow them to survive. In that way, they also avoid the allegation of the monopoly creation and they become emerge as a benevolent leader because they allow the small firm to stay in the market.

So, one way, to get away from the allegation of the monopolization or the monopoly creation, they become the benevolent firm. Second, it earns sufficient margin at the price and still remains market leadership. So, whatever the price they are charging, they earn maximum or the sufficient margin at this price and still retain the market leadership. And success of this type of leadership depends on the assumption that the other will follow the leader.

So, when it comes to this price leadership by a dominant firm, obviously, if you look at from the angle of small firm also, they cannot compete directly with the large firm. So, in that case, the only option is available to them that they are following the leader and if they are following the leader, maybe out of good will, if the dominant firm is a benevolent firm, they will at least think about the small firm and they will fix up a which

which is lower than the which is lower than their standard and with that price at least the small firms getting some amount of the profit.

(Refer Slide Time: 27:28)

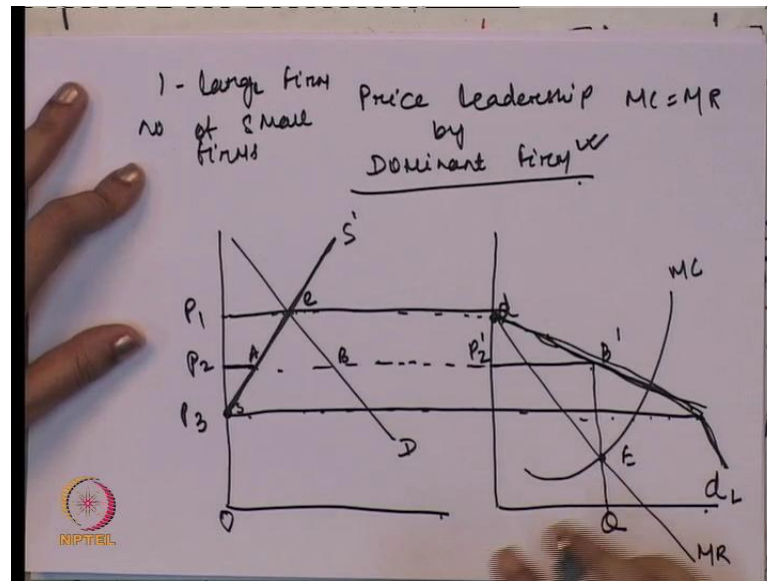
The slide is titled "Managerial Economics" in a blue header. The main content is on a light gray background. It lists "Price leadership" and then "Price leadership by a dominant firm" in red. Below that, a bullet point states: "An exploitative leader fixes a price at which small inefficient players may not survive and thus it gains a large share of the market." In the bottom left corner, there is a circular logo with a sunburst pattern and the text "NPTEL". In the bottom right corner, it says "Prof. Trupti Mishra, School of Management, IIT Bombay".

Then, the other category of dominant firm is the firm who exploits the small firms in the market. And how they how do they exploit the small firm in the market? They fix a price at which small inefficient player may not survive and thus it gains large share of the market. So, in this case, the firm set up a price to exploit the small firm and what they do? They set a price in such a level where the small firm or the firm, those who are not doing well in the large period, they are going to get out of this market or they will get the they will get the exit out of this market.

So, in this case, the price whatever given by the firm, that will not suite the small inefficient player in the market; they will be out of the market and in this case the dominant firm become become more dominant because they also get the share of the small firm those who have already exit out of this market.

So, we will see the graphical explanation and algebraic explanation of this dominant firm; generally, graphically how we get the demand curve of the dominant firm, how the supply curve gets gets extracted from the supply curve for the rest of the firm and we will see how generally the small firms is; whether its suitable for them? Till how long the small firm will be there in the market, at what stage generally they go to, go out of this market.

(Refer Slide Time: 28:58)



So, we will get a demand curve. This is the market demand curve; then we will get a supply curve and correspondingly we will get the price, and this is the demand curve of the large firm; this is the price. Then, we will find out this is the marginal revenue curve. Then we will get the marginal cost. Corresponding to marginal revenue and marginal cost, we will get the price. That is why, the dominant firm that is P_2 ; this is P_3 ; this is P_1 ; this is e ; this we can call as P_2 ; this is our d , d_L , and here we can call it as B_1 ; here we can call it as e ; this is our q ; this is our o .

So, let us understand this graph now. This s is if you look at, suppose we understand that there is one large firm and number of small firms; so this supply curve. If you look at this s , you can call this s dash; this is the aggregate supply curve of the small firms. This is not the aggregate; this is here. The supply of the dominant firm is not added. This is the aggregate supply curve of only the number of small firms that is there in the market.

And how we get this s dash? This is the horizontal summation of the marginal cost curve of all the small firms. This demand curve is the market demand curve where we have also added the demand for the dominant firm product. The difference between the horizontal difference between the demand curve and supply curve, if you look at, that will give us the demand between that will give us the demand by the dominant firm.

So, if you look at that,; through that we get the demand function that is d_L ; that is the demand function for the large firm or the demand function of the dominant firm. So, the

horizontal distance between the supply curve and the supply curve of the small firms and the market demand curve, that gives us the demand curve of the dominant firm. So, then if you look at, the logic is very simple. Total demand is this much; this is the total supply of the small firms. So, whatever is the gap between the market demand and the supply of the small firms, from there generally emerge the demand curve for the large firm because the rest of the demand has to be given from the dominant firm.

Now, price falls below: At any point of time, if the price falls below P_1 which is the market price decided on the basis of the supply curve of small one and the market demand. If price falls below P_1 , generally the demand curve for the large firm increases because this this is the market demand. This is the demand curve for the large firm. If price falls below this, the demand curve for this dominant firm increases because once price decreases, demand is more than the supply and that leaves the scope for the more demand for the dominant firm.

Now, how we get the price P_2 ? We get the price P_2 following the marginal cost and marginal revenue rule. So, doing this, we get this price P_2 and at this price P_2 , the total demand is $P_2 B$ and small firms supply only the amount. Here if you look at, this is the $P_2 A$. So, here we can call it this is the B . So, at this price, if the price fixed by marginal cost marginal revenue rule that is by the dominant firm because price has to be set by dominant firm. This is the marginal revenue curve of the dominant firm; this is the marginal cost function of the dominant firm. Taking this, the price is decided by the dominant firm.

If the price is decided by the dominant firm, at this price small firm just supply this much because this is the supply curve for the small firm. And the large firm, they supply, what does the large firm supply? Large large firms, they supply AB . So, in this case, if you look at, this is the this has to be given for the demand for the dominant firm, and in this case, this is what they are going to supply. This is the demand for the dominant firm and this is what they are going to supply.

If the price is p_3 , up to this if you look at the supply given by the small firm is 0 and at this point, now this is entirely the demand for the large firm because the supply is not going to get by the small firm. So, the entire demand gets satisfied from the small firm the large firm because small firm is not supplying anything when price is p_3 . Any price

below this p_3 , supply curve for the small firm is not existing because this is the price beyond which the small firm is not going to supply in the market or small firm small firm is not going to sell in the market.

So, that is the reason if you look at, when the price is given by the dominant firm, when the price leadership is by the dominant firm, the amount what they supply, is getting supplied by the small firm, is less and the amount which is getting supplied by the large firm is more. So, that is how the dominant firm, if they are deciding the price, they are supplying more and the small firm is supplying less.

So, now, we will see numerically, whether the share gets more by the large firm when they set the price and less by the small firm because they are just following the price or its gets equal share or gets at least a proportionate share. So, to summarize this, how we can say, this is typically dominant firm? There is a market demand and the demand comes to all the firms in the market, and we get the supply curve for the small firms on where we do not consider the supply curve for the dominant firm. So, the gap between the supply given by the small firms and the market total market demand for the product, that is generally the demand curve for the dominant firm.

So, we identify the demand curve; from there we find out the marginal revenue curve; we get the marginal cost curve; this is the marginal cost curve. On that basis, we set the price. When the price is set by the dominant firm, this is the amount of supply that comes from the dominant firm and this is the amount of supply that comes from the small firm. And correspondingly, at any point of time, if the dominant firm would like to, if the dominant firm is going to exploit this number of small firms, they will reduce the price. And if they are reducing the price from P_2 to P_3 , small firm is not supplying any more product in the market or they are not taking care of the demand, market demand. And what they will do? They will go out of this market and the large market or the dominant market, they will get all the share of the total market and they become the monopoly leader.

In this case, if you look at, if it is a benevolent firm, they will not go beyond P_2 . They will give at least small portion of the market to be shared by the small firms, but if they are, if the firm, if the dominant firm is not benevolent, rather they are exploit in nature, so they will prefer to charge the price p_3 which is much below P_2 because at this price,

the small firm will become inefficient; they will not be able to survive; they will go out of the market and the entire market share will go to the large firm. So, here the trait of this dominant leader comes; whether they are in a way to exploit the small firms or they are the benevolent leader because they can make the difference that, in this case this price leadership will lead to the monopoly situation or it will not lead to a monopoly situation.

Then, we will just take a numerical or algebraic solution to this dominant firm leader in order to understand that how the share gets divided between the dominant firm and the small firms.

(Refer Slide Time: 39:12)

Handwritten notes on a whiteboard:

- $100 - 2P = 10 + P$
- $3P = 90$
- $P = 30$ (boxed)
- $Q_s = 10 + P$
- $= 10 + 30$
- 40 (boxed)
- Total eq. without**
- SUPPLY**
- $Q_M = 100 - 2P$
- $Q_s = 10 + P$
- Supply Small firms** (boxed)
- Combined Supply function**
- $Q_M = Q_s$
- Six firms**
 - 1 - dominant firm
 - 5 - Small firms

So, we will assume that there are six firms in the market. So, one is dominant firm and rest five is small firms. So, this is the total market demand that is 100 minus 2P and Q_s is the supply of the small firms; supply function of the small firms excluding the large firm. So, Q_s is equal to 10 plus P. This is the combined supply function to find the equilibrium output or equilibrium without the dominant firm demand; that is Q has to be equal to Q has to be equal to the supply. And if you take Q_M is equal to Q_M is equal to 100 minus 2P and Q_s is equal to 10 plus P, we get 3P is equal to 90 and P is equal to 30. So, equilibrium price without the supply of the dominant firm, we get p is equal to 30.

And what will be the supply here? If you put the value of the P here, then it is 10 plus P. So, that comes to 10 plus 30 which is equal to 40. How do we interpret this 40 now? This

is this 40; it is the total supply, comes from this five small firms. So, once we know the market demand, once we know the total supply, we can find out what is the demand for the dominant firm; so total supply is 40 units.

(Refer Slide Time: 41:54)

Total Supply (S)
 = 40 units.
 $P = 30.$
 $Q_d = Q_M - Q_s$
 $100 - 2P - 40$
 $\Rightarrow 60 - 2P$
 $TC_d = 50 + 60Q_d + 0.25Q_d^2$
 $MC_d = 60 + 0.5Q_d.$

Now, we will find out what is the market demand and that difference will give us what is the demand for the dominant firm. So, total supply is by the small firm is equal to 40 units and price is equal to 30 units. Now, this is the demand function for the dominant firm. So, this is Q_M minus Q_s ; Q_M is the total market demand; Q_s is the supply of the small firm; So, Q_M minus Q_s ; so this is 100 minus $2P$ minus 40; so 60 minus $2P$; that is the demand function for the dominant firm. So, total cost for dominant firm is given; that is 50 plus 60 Q_d plus 0.25 Q_d square. This is the total cost function. From here, we can find out the marginal cost function for the dominant firm. So, that will come as 60 plus 0.5 Q_d .

From the demand function, we will try to find out the total revenue function. From total revenue function, we will find out the marginal revenue function. Just now we calculated the marginal cost function. So, we will follow the profit maximizing rule, the marginal cost marginal revenue rule in order to find out the price.

(Refer Slide Time: 43:26)

The image shows a whiteboard with handwritten mathematical derivations. At the top, it states $TR_d = P_d Q_d$. Below this, a demand function is given as $P_d = 30 - 0.5Q_d$, with a note in parentheses that $Q_d = 60 - 2P$. An arrow points from the demand function to the substitution into the total revenue equation: $(30 - 0.5Q_d)Q_d$. This is then expanded to $TR_d = 30Q_d - 0.5Q_d^2$. Finally, the marginal revenue is calculated as the derivative of total revenue with respect to quantity: $MR_d = \frac{dTR_d}{dQ_d} = 30 - Q_d$. The final result is boxed. In the bottom left corner of the whiteboard, there is a small circular logo with the text 'NPTEL' below it.

So, to find this, we will find now total revenue for demand function. For this we need we need the price price, this demand function for the dominated firm, and also the price for the dominated firm. So, how to find out this price of d? This is 30 minus 0.5 Q d and how we got this because our Q d is equal to 60 minus 2P. Then we will find this total revenue is equal to now 30 minus 0.5 Q d multiplied by Q d. So, that comes to 30 Q d minus 0.5 Q d square. This is the total revenue for dominated firm.

Then, we will find out the marginal revenue of dominated firm; that is derivative of total revenue with respect to d Q d and that comes to 30 minus Q d. This is the marginal revenue for d. So, we have marginal cost function; what we got previously. Now, we have the marginal revenue function. To find the price and quantity, we will take the marginal cost and marginal revenue rule.

(Refer Slide Time: 45:06)

At. eq.
 $MC_d = MR_d$
 $6 + 0.5 Q_d = 30 - Q_d$
 $1.5 Q_d = 24$
 $Q_d = 16$
 $P = 30 - 0.5 Q_d$
 $= 30 - 0.5(16)$
 $= 22$
 units smaller firm

Small firm.
 Market demand
 $Q_m = 100 - 2P$
 $= 100 - 44$
 $= 56$

$Q_d = 16$
 dominant

$56 - 16 = 40$

$P = 22$

So, at profit maximizing equilibrium, marginal cost of d has to be equal to the marginal revenue of d. So, 6 plus 0.5 Q d has to be equal to marginal revenue for d; that is 30 minus Q d. Then simplifying simplifying this, we can get 1.5 Q d is equal to 24 Q d is equal to 60. So, this is the demand that is quantity that has to be produced by dominant firm. This is the price. Price is again 30 minus 0.5 Q d. So, this will gives 30 minus 0.5 16. So, this comes to 22. So, price is 22; quantity demanded is 16.

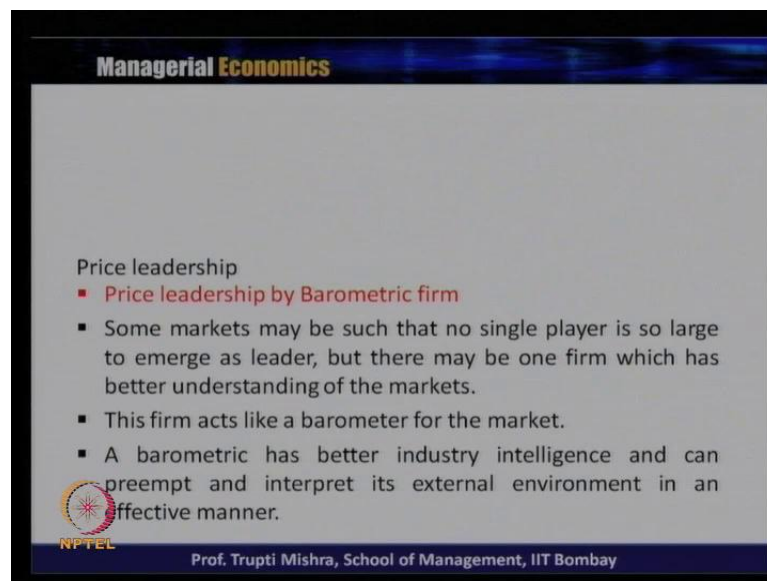
Now, this price, this price 22 has to be accepted by the small firm because this is the price leadership model where there is the dominant firm has to be has to set the price and small firms, simply they have to follow this. So, taking this price, now what will be the market demand? That is Q M; So, Q M is equal to 100 minus 2P. So, that comes to 100 minus 44; that comes to 56; this is our total market demand.

What is the market demand for the dominant firm? The market demand for the dominant firm is 16 and this is the total market market demand. So rest, this 56 minus 16; 40 unit has to be supplied by the smaller firm. So, if you try to analyze the [] from here, price is 22 that is followed by small firms and if the total market demand if you look at, it is 56; out of this, if not even less than one-third is supplied by the less than one-third is supplied by the dominant firm and rest is supplied by the smaller firm.

So, maybe we can say that this is a kind of price leadership or the dominant leader is such that at least it is benevolent in nature because the firm is setting a price such that, at

least more than two-third is getting supplied by the five smaller firm and the dominant firm itself its supplying only less than one-third of the total market demand. So, at least from the result if you want to analyze and if you want to read between the line, at least you can say that the price is set by the dominant firm which is benevolent in nature because it is just supplying less than one-third of the total market demand and rest all is supplied by the smaller firms.

(Refer Slide Time: 48:26)



The slide is titled "Managerial Economics" and contains the following text:

Price leadership

- Price leadership by Barometric firm
- Some markets may be such that no single player is so large to emerge as leader, but there may be one firm which has better understanding of the markets.
- This firm acts like a barometer for the market.
- A barometric has better industry intelligence and can preempt and interpret its external environment in an effective manner.

NPTEL Prof. Trupti Mishra, School of Management, IIT Bombay

So, in case of low cost firm, generally the low cost firm set the price; other firms follow it. In case of dominant firm, dominant firm set the price; others they will follow it. And the third category of the price leadership is if you look at it it is the kind of more subjective in nature, when we will find that there is no clear case of a low cost firm or no clear case of a dominant firm in that case what model to be followed and in this case the model follow is price leadership by the barometric firm. And here, why the need comes from the barometric firm because there is no clear cut clear cut emergence of a dominant firm or clear cut emergence of a low cost firm.

So, there is evidence in the some market that there is no single player is so large to emerge as a leader, but there may be one firm which has better understanding of the market. So, the firm may not be large in nature; they are not operating in the large scale of operation, but when it comes to making a leader whether to make that firm as the

leader, they are considered to be the leader because at least they have a better understanding of the market.

So, this firm acts like a barometer for the firms and why they are known as the barometer firm or the how why they are considered as the barometer of the market? Because they have the better industry intelligence and can promptly and they interpret the external environment in an effective manner. So, suppose there is a change in the Government policy, suppose there is a crisis, suppose there is an event which has some influence on the price and quantity combination or the demand of the market, so in this case, generally the barometric firm, they get into a situation where they are the best judge; they are the best firm to judge the event and lead the price output decision on that manner. So, they are considered as the barometric firm and the barometric firm should act as the leader.

They should decide the price and the other firms they have to simply follow this. So, either the so three kinds of models or three kind of arrangement in case of a price leadership model; either the price has to be set by the low cost firm or the price has to be set up by the dominant firm or the price has to be set up by the barometric firm.

So, in last couple of sessions, we discussed about Oligopoly market structure identifying two different kind of models: one is collusive model; another is the non-collusive model. Non-collusive model, where the Oligopoly's firm they compete with each other and in case of collusive model, they generally collude together to maximize the profit and also reduce uncertainty and in the way, if we look to look at that, at least get some amount of the profit from the collusion.

Next session, we will see that how game theory generally helps or game theory as a tool helps the firms to or game theory as a tool helps the analysis to analyze the firm's behavior or the group behavior in the Oligopoly market or typically how the economics of cooperation what comes from the group behavior of the Oligopoly firm; generally whether its competition or whether its collusion, both are considered as the group behavior. And next class, we will see game theory as a mathematical tool; how it helps to identify both the economy of cooperation, whether its competition or whether it is collusion.