



2014

Economics of Food and Agriculture

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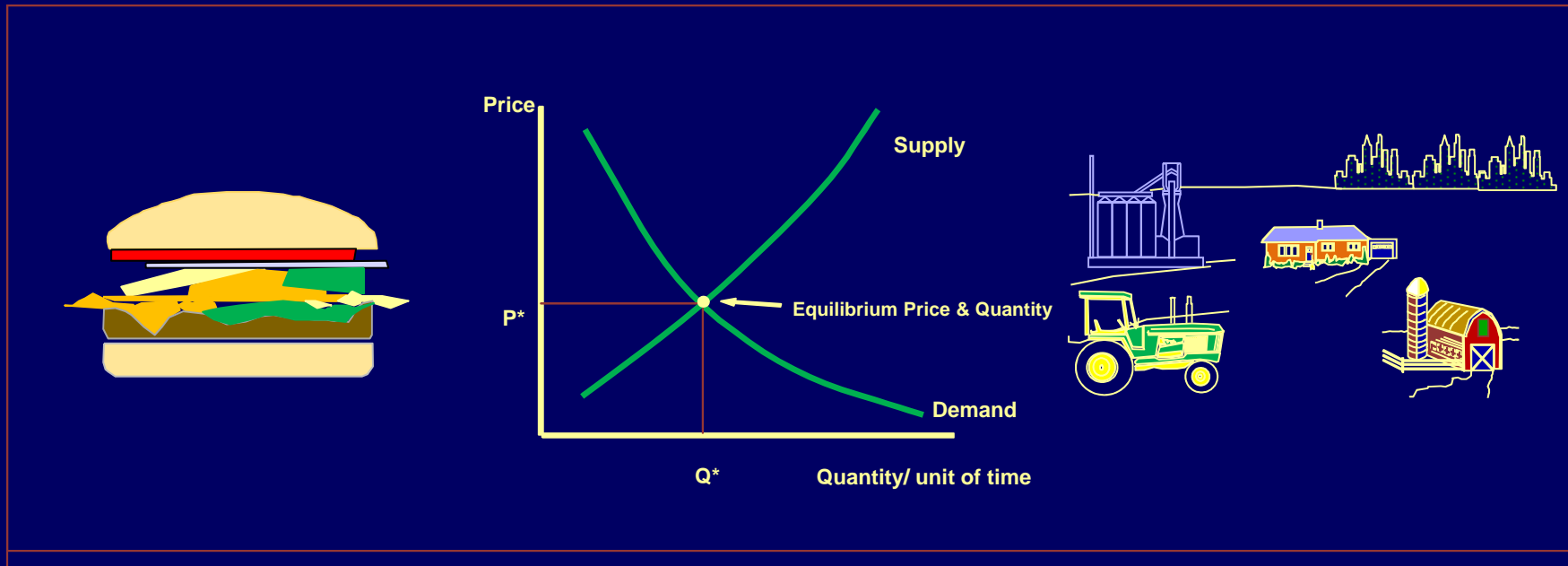
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ECONOMICS OF FOOD and AGRICULTURE

THIRD EDITION



DAVID L. DEBERTIN

Preface

Economics of Food and Agriculture (Third edition, 2014)

This is a heavily-revised version of an introductory agricultural economics text book “Economics of Food and Agriculture” that was originally published by Kendall Hunt, in 1990. The information on the original edition is as follows:

- **Economics of Food and Agriculture**
- **David L. Debertin**
- **Paperback**
- **Publisher:** Kendall Hunt Pub Co (June 1990)
- **Language:** English
- **ISBN-10:** 0840359691
- **ISBN-13:** 978-0840359698

The material is intended for use as a series of classroom presentations for an introductory agricultural economics course. No mathematics prerequisites other than basic algebra are required.

The 1990 versions of this book relied heavily on graphs that I constructed myself using secondary data. Now there are many other detailed sources, most notably the graphs contained in the USDA ERS chart gallery. In updating this version to the present, I retained a few of the graphs that were in the original version, but then located graphs created by the USDA ERS in their Chart gallery in order to add to and supplement the original information.

These slides were originally constructed employing Harvard Graphics routines. At that point in computing history, clip art as opposed to photographs was being used extensively. By retaining some of the quirky clip art from the original version, I have also retained some of the look and feel of the original edition.

This is the introductory-level version of a series of books I have written with microeconomics and production economics. The other available books are:

Applied Microeconomics: Consumption, Production and Markets

This is a microeconomic theory book designed for upper-division undergraduate students in economics and agricultural economics. This book is available as a free download at <http://purl.umn.edu/158321>

Amazon markets bound print copies of the book at amazon.com at a nominal price for classroom use. The book can also be ordered through college bookstores using the following ISBN numbers:

ISBN-13: 978-1475244342

ISBN-10: 1475244347

Basic introductory college courses in microeconomics and differential calculus are the assumed prerequisites.

. **Agricultural Production Economics** (Second Edition, Amazon Createspace 2012) is a revised edition of the Textbook Agricultural Production Economics published by Macmillan in 1986 (ISBN 0-02-328060-3). As the author, I own the copyright. This is intended primarily for adoption at the beginning graduate level. Amazon markets bound print copies of the book at amazon.com at a nominal price for classroom use. The book can also be ordered through college bookstores using the following ISBN numbers:

ISBN-13 978-1469960647

ISBN-10 1469960648

Agricultural Production Economics is available as a free e-download at <http://purl.umn.edu/158319>

A companion 100-page color book Agricultural Production Economics (The Art of Production Theory) is also a free download. A bound print copy is also available on amazon.com at a nominal cost under the following ISBN numbers:

ISBN- 13: 978-1470129262

ISBN- 10: 1470129264

This book is also available as a free e-download at <http://purl.umn.edu/158320>

List of Chapters

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Chapter 1: Introduction

An Introduction to Agricultural Economics

Problems in Agriculture of an Economic Nature:

1. Historic low returns to labor and other resources
2. Historic low family farm income
3. Government involvement in agriculture
4. Conflicts among taxpayers, consumers, farmers:

Consumers--want a clean, high-quality food supply and cheap food (or food stamps!).

Taxpayers--want low government outlays.

Farmers--want high incomes.

Environmentalists--want food free of chemicals produced in a manner which does not pollute the environment or increase global temperatures.

**The interests of all of these groups
may be in conflict.**

**Farmers cannot have high incomes
unless consumers and taxpayers are willing
to pay.**

**Food free of insect damage may have
pesticide residues.**

Low-cost food may be genetically modified



Choice

Human beings have unlimited wants.

Human beings have limited resources for fulfilling these wants (income is limited).

Economics is concerned with how to best fulfill *unlimited* wants given *limited* resources.

Unlimited Wants

Limited Resources

**How to *Best Fulfill*
These Wants?**

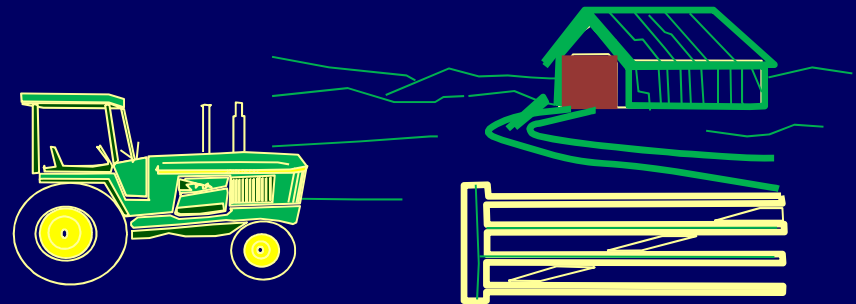
Optimization under Scarcity

Agricultural Economics

Agriculture is a declining industry,
with low returns to resources invested
in agriculture. This leads to

problems and opportunities

for agricultural economists.

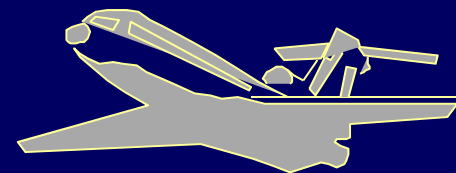
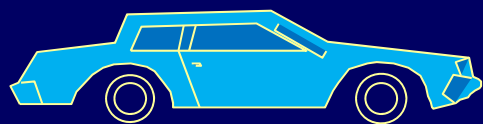


Model Building

In order to build a model of the real world, you must first understand the real world.

For an agricultural economist, this usually means understanding agriculture.

Agricultural economists abstract from reality when models are built. This means "leaving out" unimportant elements of the problem in order to more fully understand the important elements.



An economic model can be used to

simulate

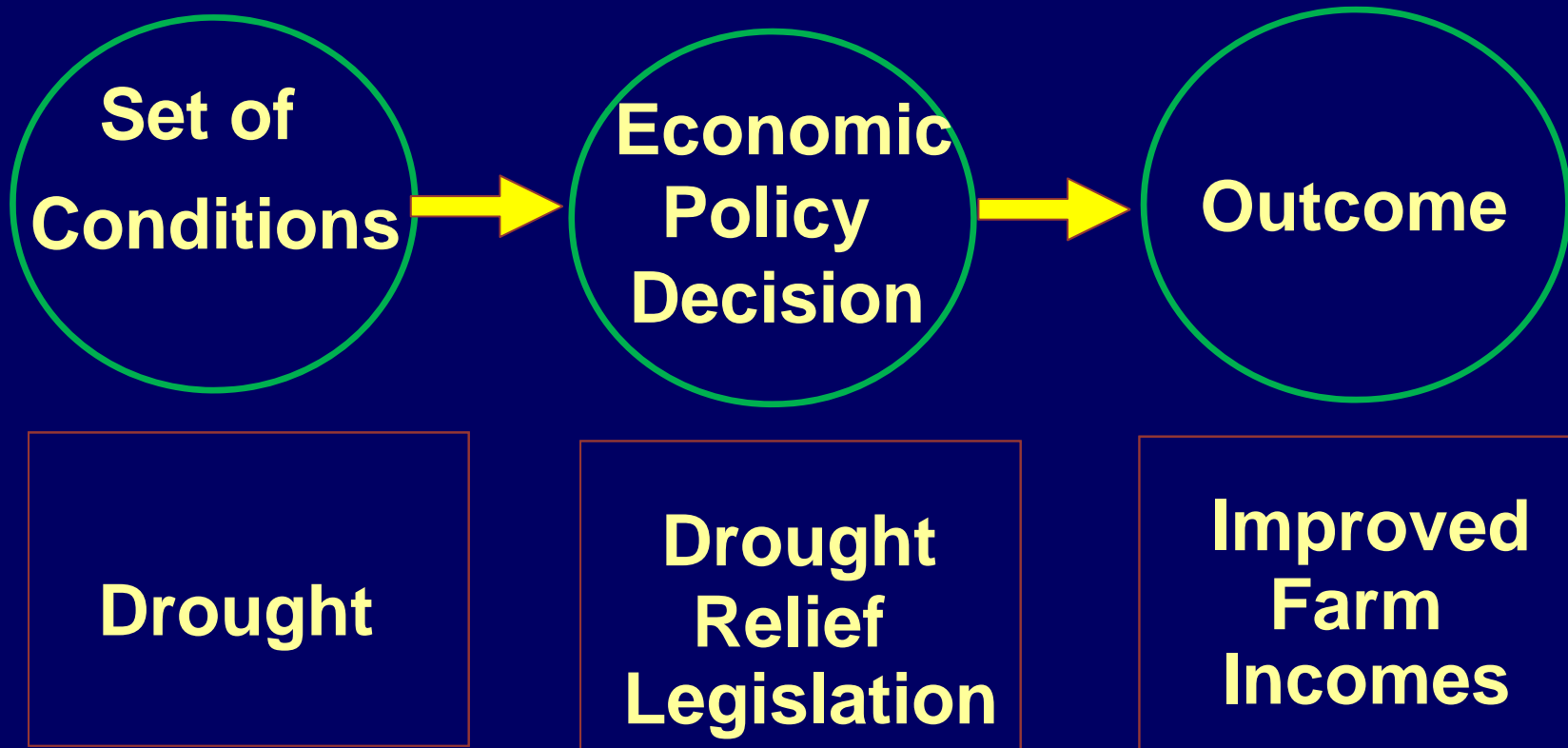
what might happen if particular economic policies are put in place.



An economic model can be used to

simulate

what might happen if particular economic policies are put in place.



Micro- versus Macroeconomics:

Micro prefix

"small"

"individual"

"single decisionmaker"

Consumer as the decisionmaker

Producer as the decisionmaker

Macro Prefix

"large"

"whole"

"entire"

Aggregate issues

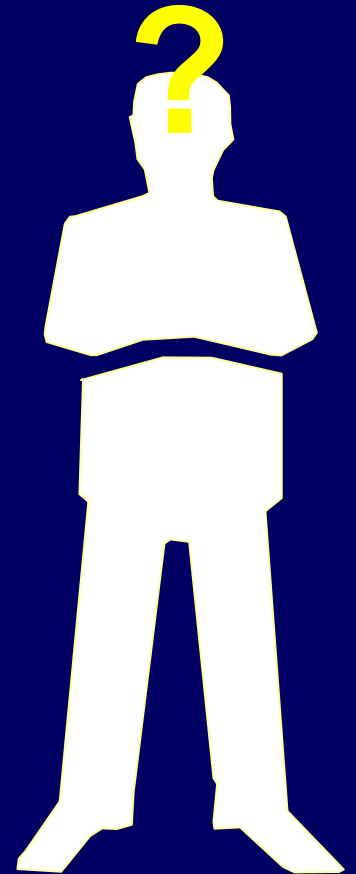
**many producers
many consumers**

**The U.S. Economy
The Farm Economy**

Opportunity Cost

If I choose this option,
then I forgo the opportunity
to do something else.

*What is the cost
in terms of
forgone opportunities?*



What is my "next best" Alternative?

Assume that \$500,000 is invested in a farm.

As an alternative, this money could have earned 2% when invested in a bank certificate of deposit (CD).

Opportunity cost is the return from the next best risk-free investment.

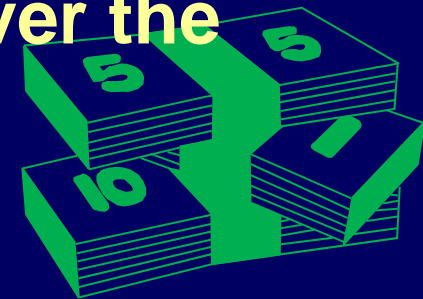
\$10,000 is the opportunity cost of my \$500,000 investment.

This is an expense, whether we realize it or not.

As an alternative, invest the \$500,000 in the stock market.

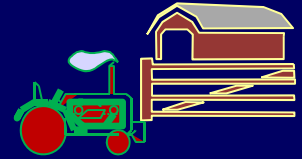
Here the return has averaged 22% over the last 3 years.

\$110,000 is the opportunity cost.



BUT-- THE INVESTMENT IS NOT RISK FREE!

Agricultural Economics



Economic problems applied to agriculture.

**Some are microeconomic problems
concerned with agricultural producers
and consumers of agricultural commodities.**

**Some are macroeconomic problems
concerned with how the national economy
affects agriculture.**

All involve the concepts of:

- 1. *Scarcity* (limited resources)**
- 2. *Unlimited wants***

**Within an agricultural setting
what is the best, or optimal
way to satisfy unlimited wants
given limits and scarcity?**

What is a Farm?

Old definition (before 1974)

Sells \$250 worth of agricultural products

OR

10 or more acres.

New definition (after 1974)

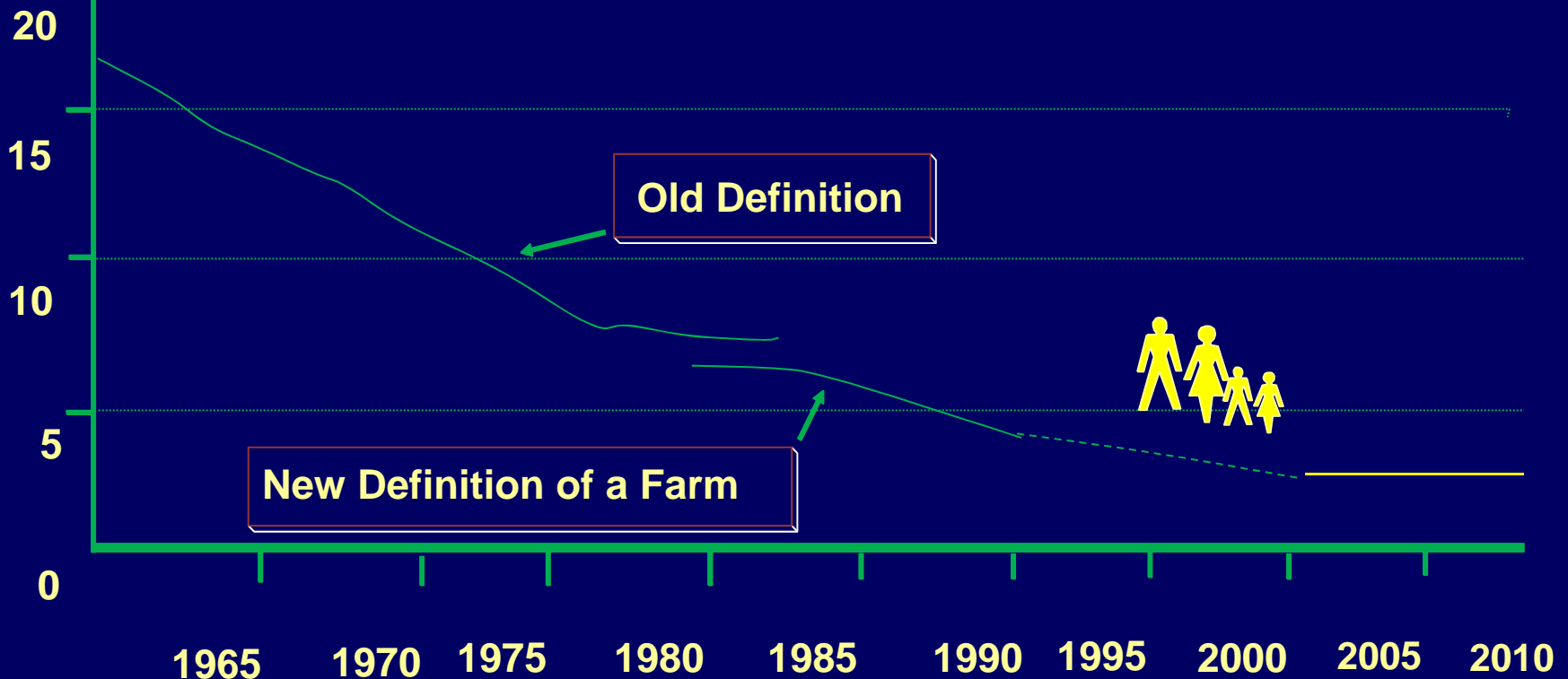
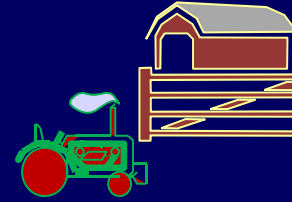
Sells or "could sell"

\$1000 worth of agricultural products.

Lots of small farms!

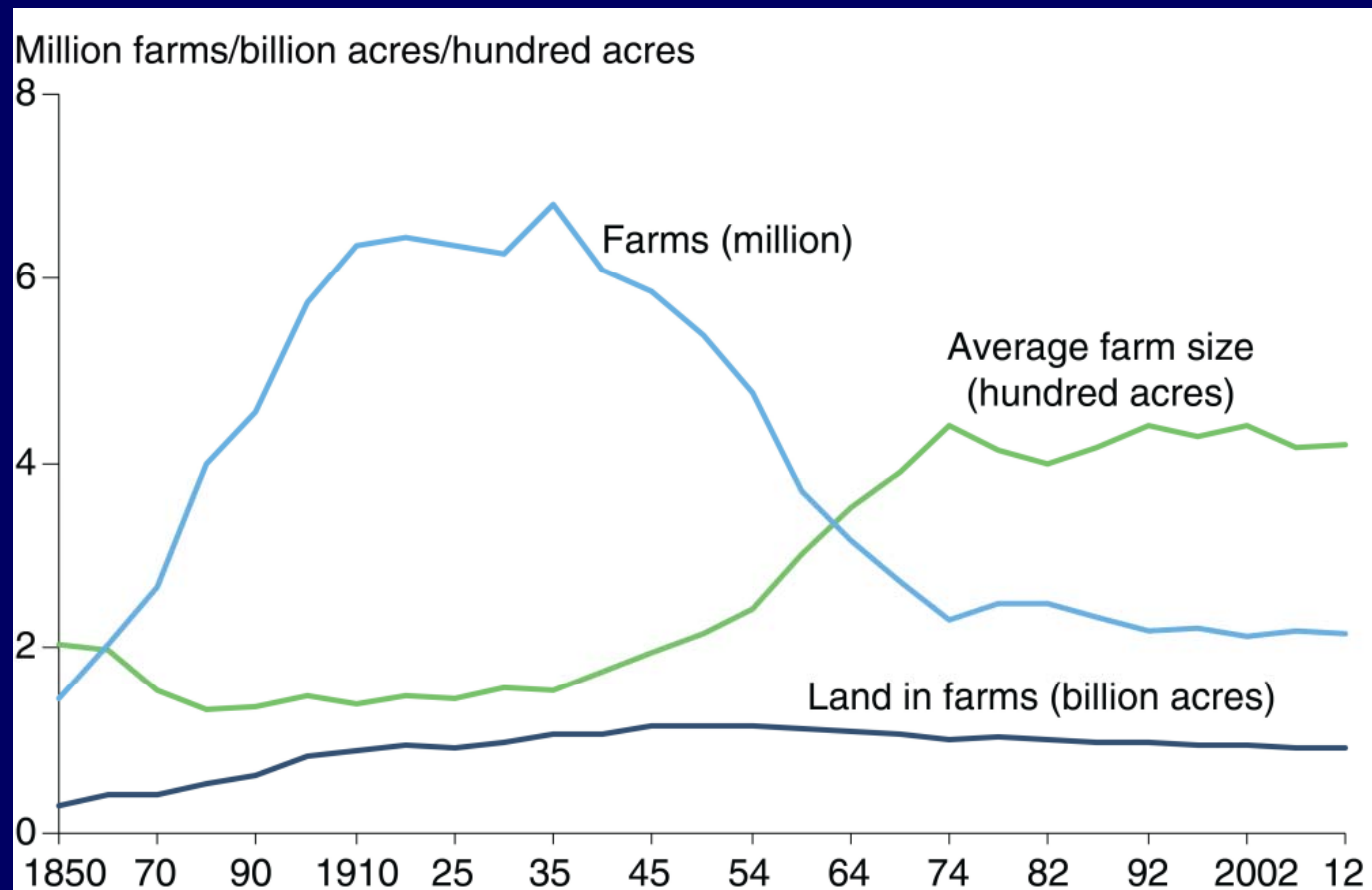
Total Farm Population

Total People
Living on Farms



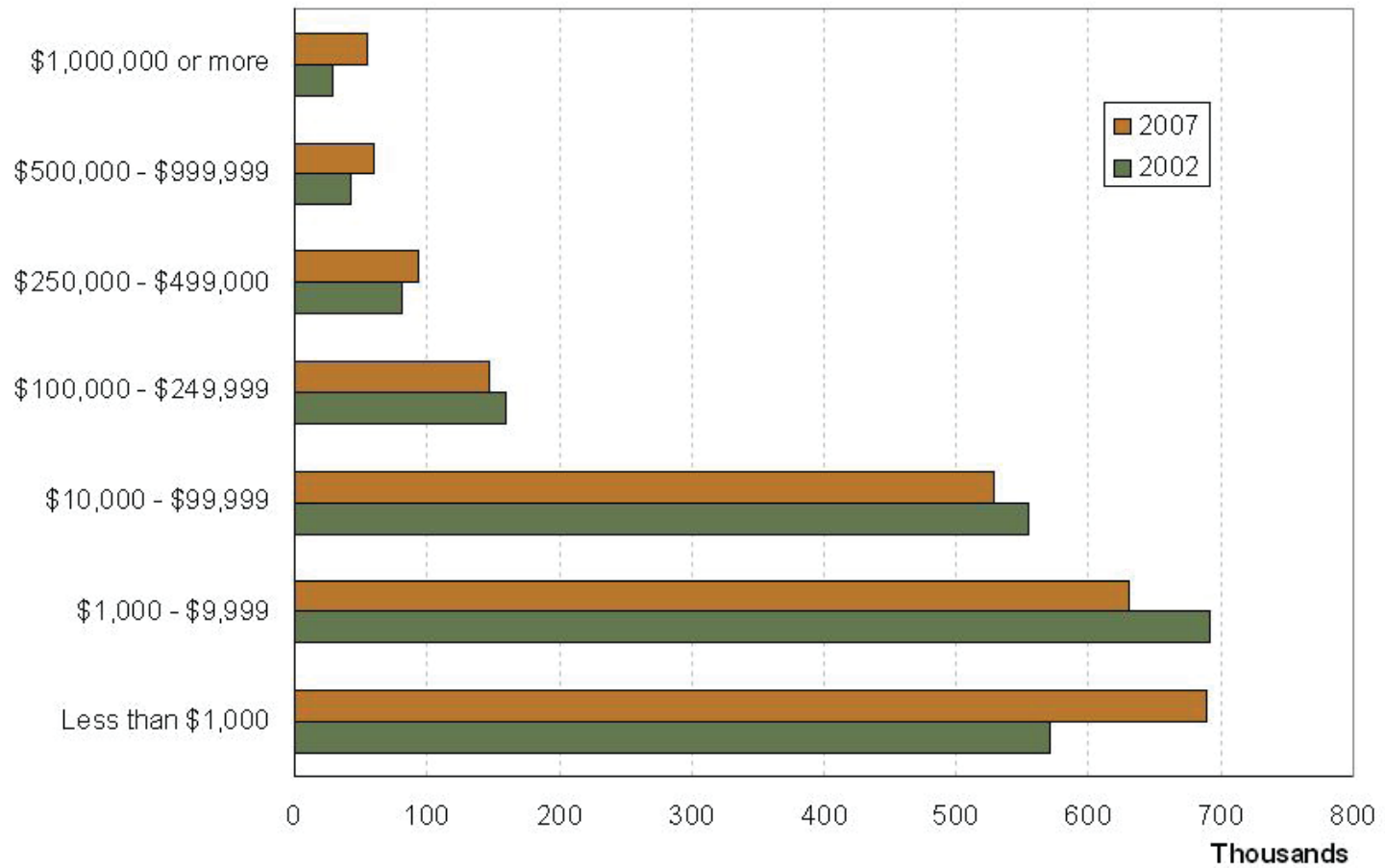
Approximately 4,700,000 people were living on farms in 2000
This has changed little if at all from 2000-2010

Farms, Land in Farms and Average Acres Per Farm, 1850-2012



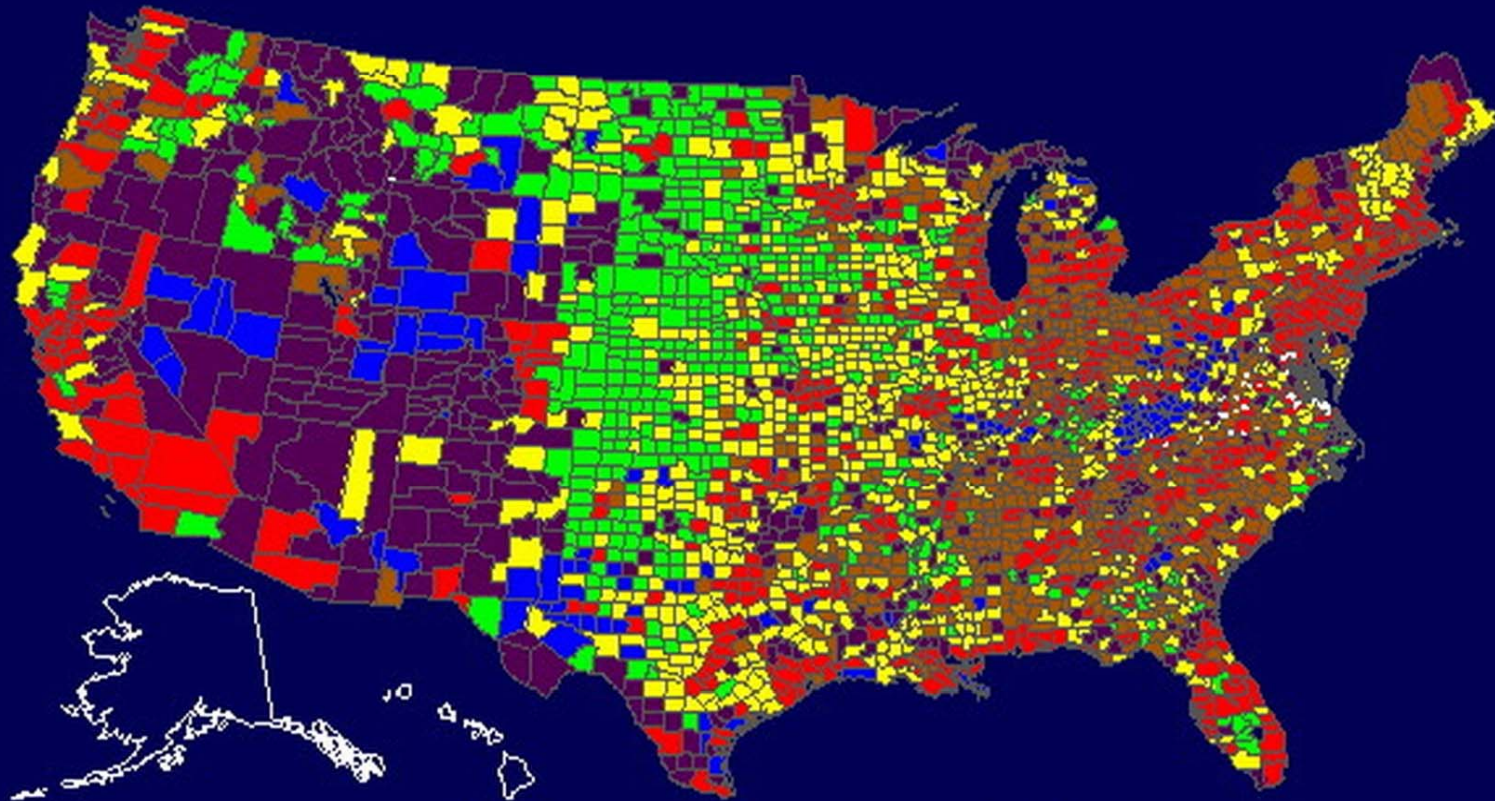
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Census of Agriculture and "Farms, Land in Farms, and Livestock Operations: 2012 Summary," for 2012 data.

Number of Farms by Sales Class, 2002 and 2007



Source: USDA Census of Agriculture,
2002 and 2007

USDA County Dependence

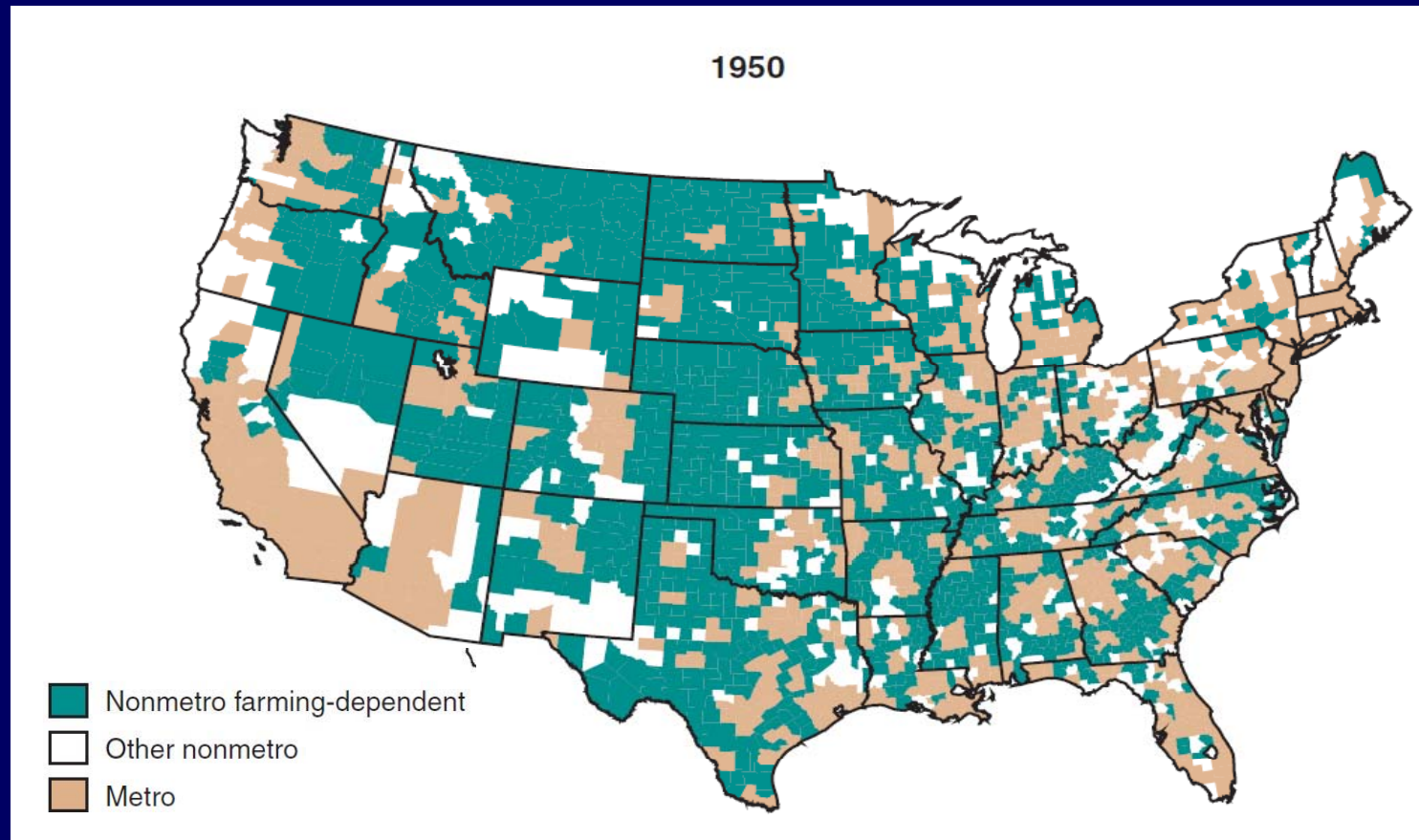


LAB AGRICULTURE MANUFACTURING
 MINING/ENERGY GOVT/FED LAND
 METRO UNCLASSIFIED

Legend values are midpoints within the range

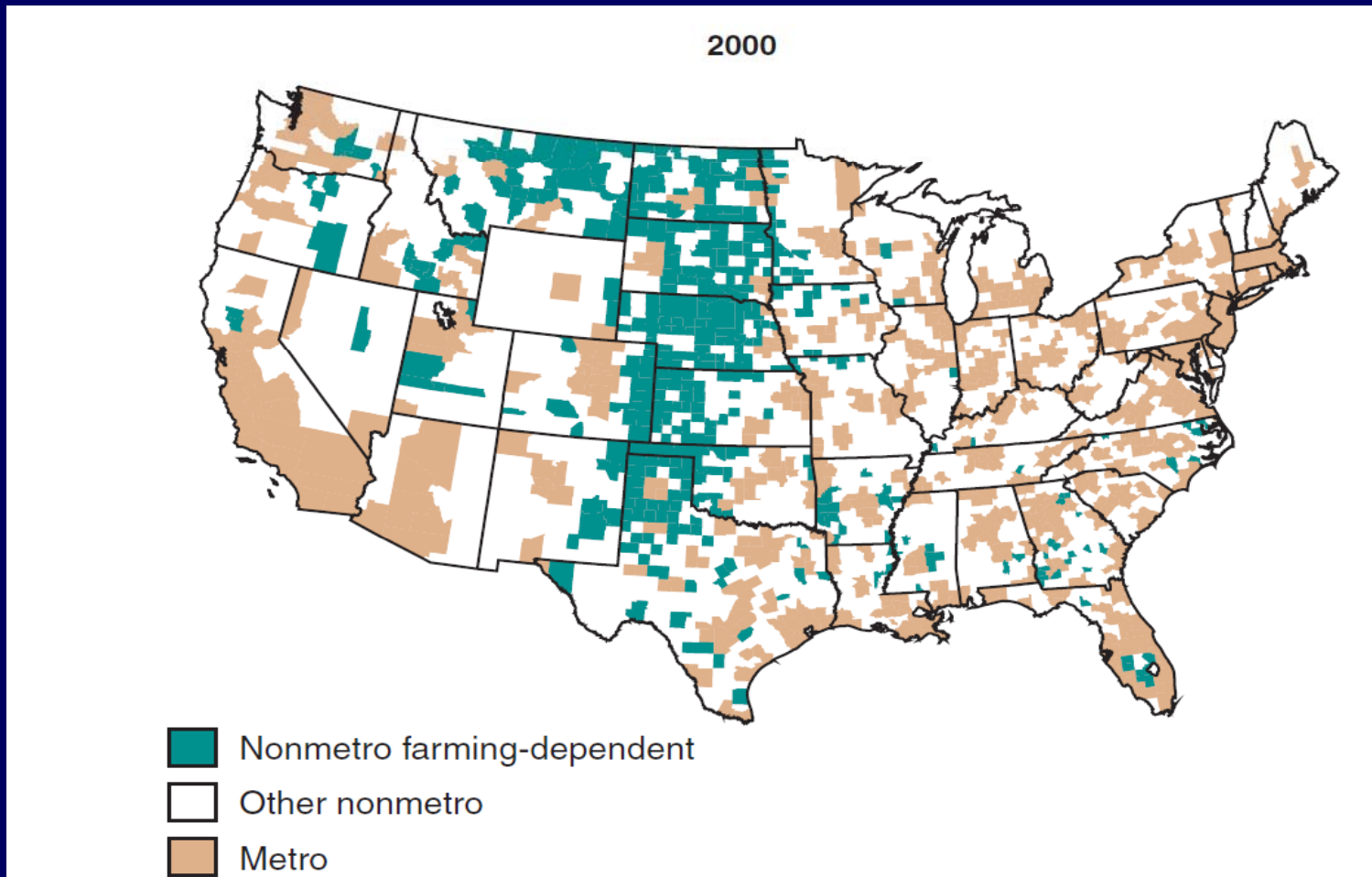
Source: USDA. Data are for 1989.

Non-metro Farming-Dependent Counties, 1950



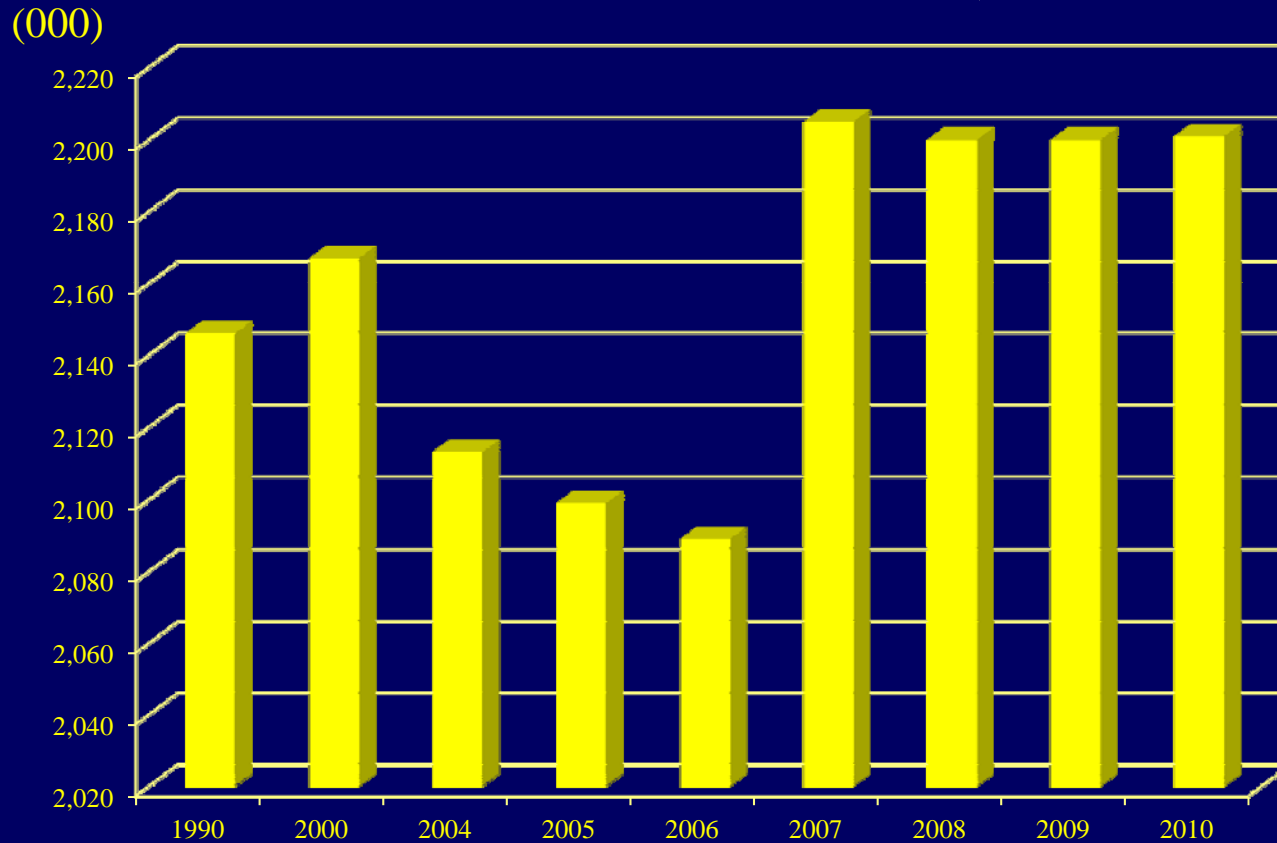
Source: USDA ERS

Non-metro Farming-Dependent Counties, 2000



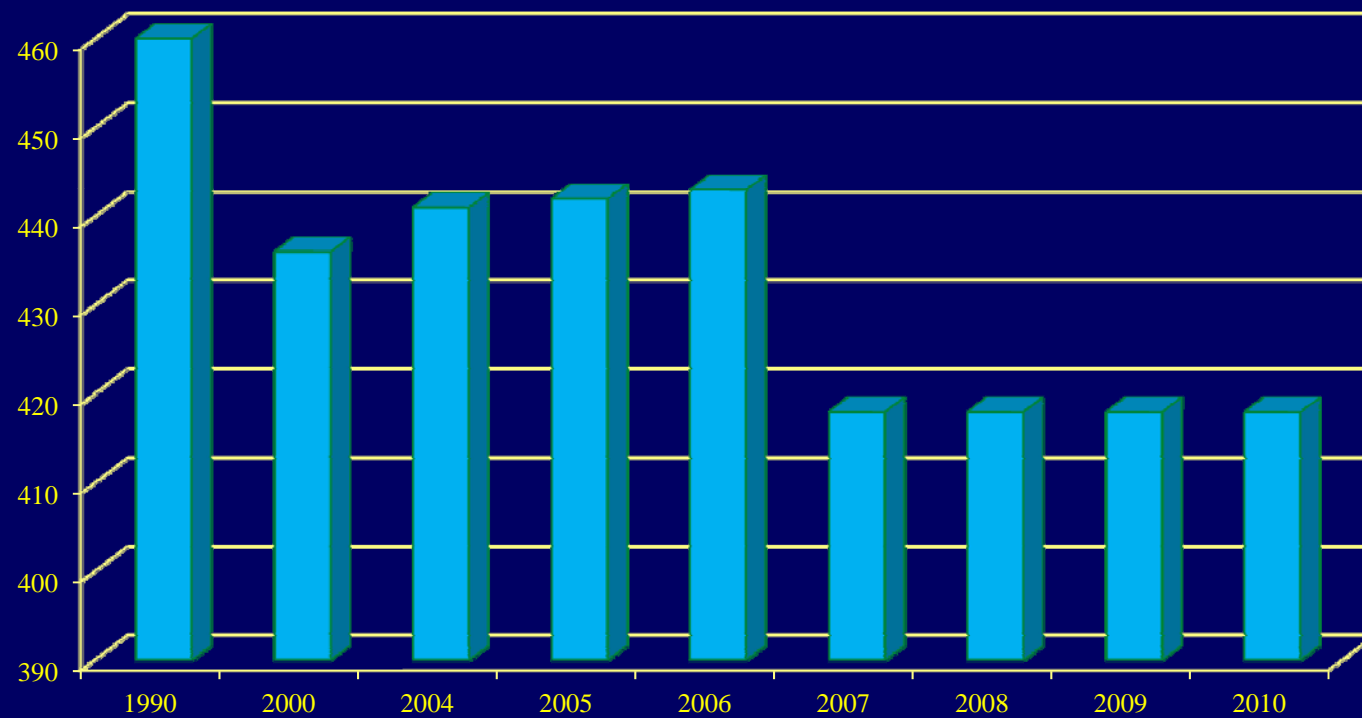
Source: USDA ERS

Number of farms, US



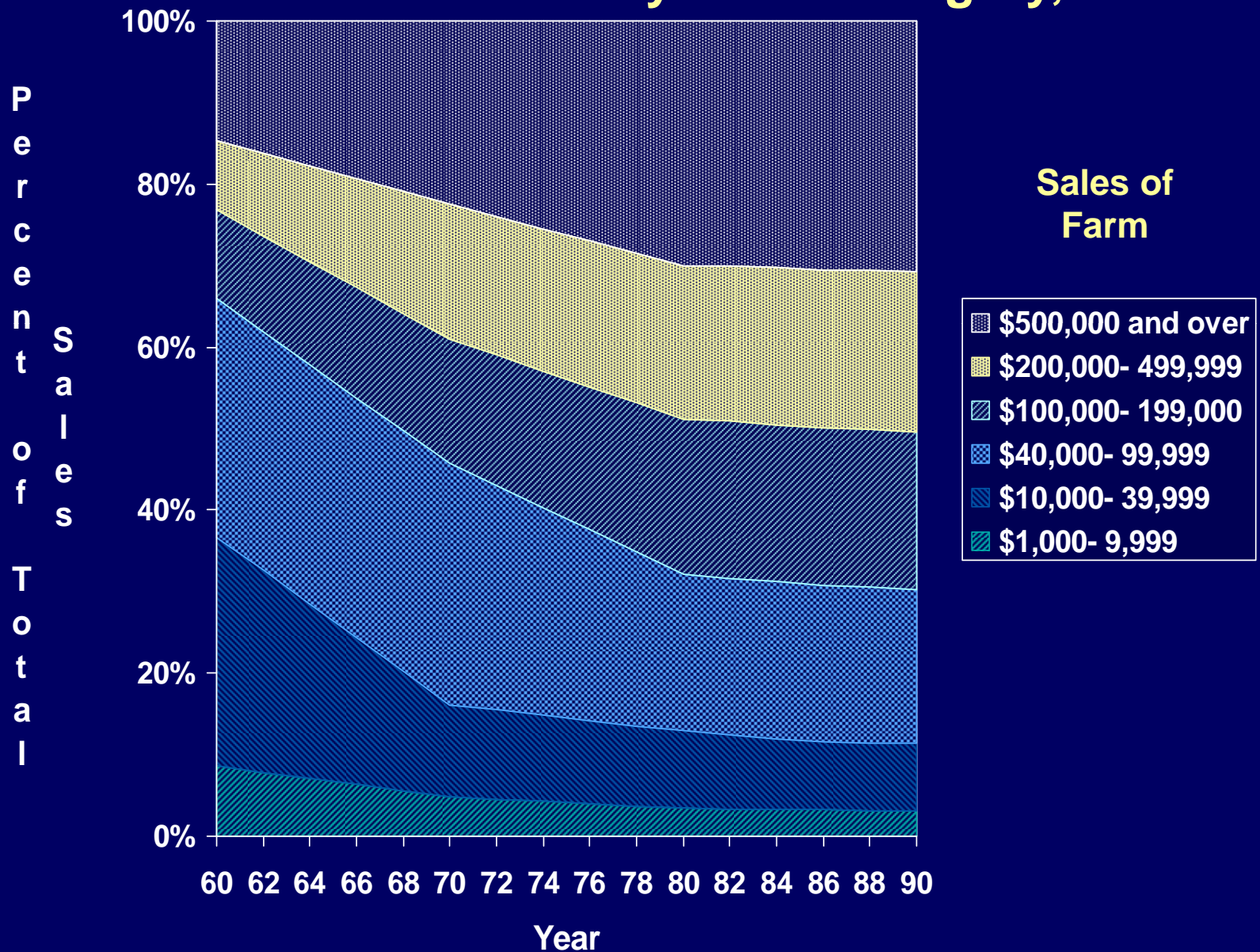
Source: Compiled from USDA Census of Agriculture Data

Average Acres of All US Farms

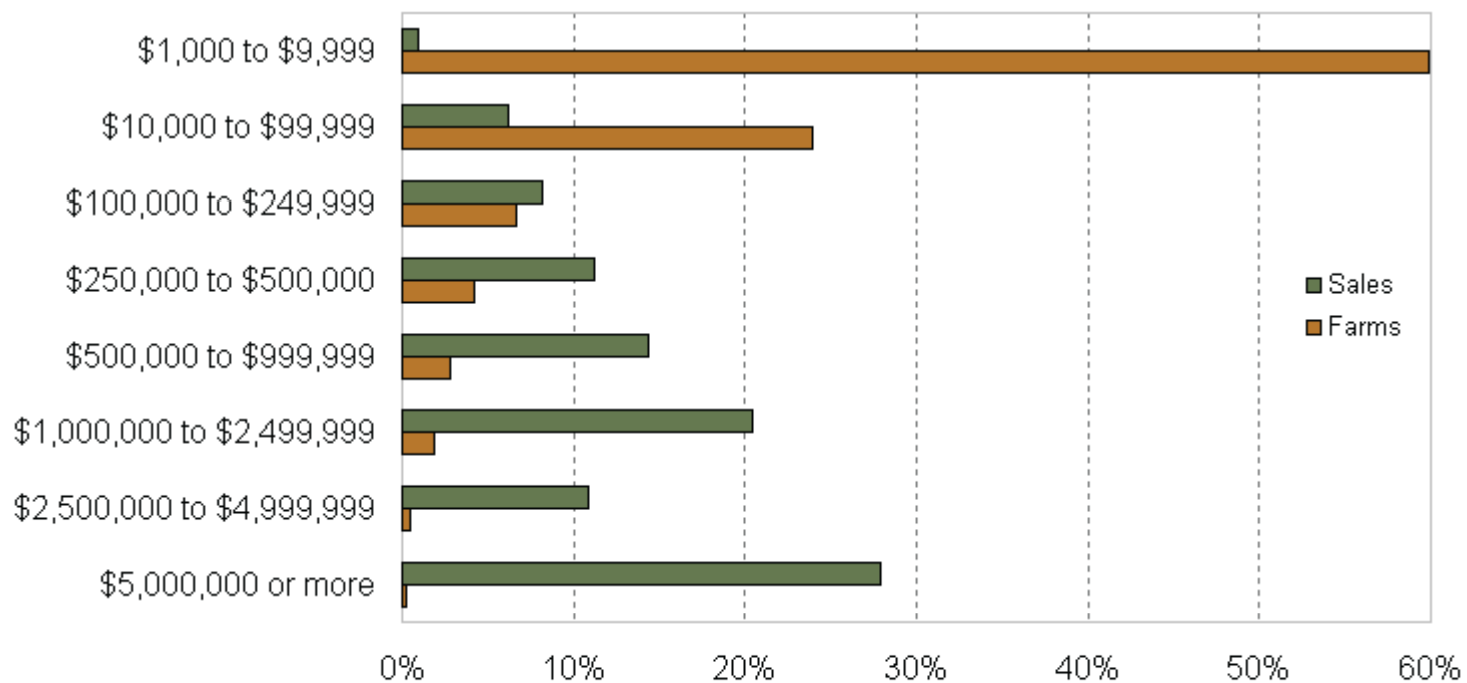


Source: Compiled from USDA Census of Agriculture Data

Approximate Percent of Total Sales of Agricultural Commodities by Sales Category, 1960-90



Number of Farms and Sales 2007 Percent of Total



Source: USDA Census of Agriculture, 2007

The U.S. Farm Economy

Declining number of workers in production, output per worker continues to increase, and production of agricultural commodities exceeds demand by those who can afford.

This leads to low prices for agricultural commodities and low returns to many of the resources invested in agriculture.

An Historical Perspective

**1960s were characterized by
low prices and oversupply.**

Early 1970s were a boom time:

High Prices

Huge Export Market

Rapid Increases in Land Values

**Many farmers thought that the
good times would last forever, and that
land prices would increase, forever.**

What Happened in the 1980s ?

Real interest rates increased

Export markets dried up

Commodity prices plummeted

**Land values a fraction of their
previous level**

By the early 1980s, farming was in a major crisis.
**Lots of parallels between the farmland value crisis
of the 1980s and the home price crisis of 2007-2013**

What Happened in the 1990s ?

There was a slow recovery as the federal government put big dollars into farm program payments, real interest rates have declined, and agricultural commodity exports increase as the value of the dollar declined.

Most importantly, farmland values began to stabilize, and increased in a few regions

The farming sector continued to face major problems:

**Major droughts affected the production of crops and livestock in 1988 and 1989
Debt/equity ratios returning to "normal."**

Federal farm program payments reduced from pre 1988 levels, but still at high levels.

Prices of crops increased from 1987 levels, but beef and dairy producers worse off because of higher grain prices.

What is Happening in the 2000s ?

There has been a rapid appreciation in farmland prices (again).

Generally, farmers have done ok, with usually adequate prices and crop yields

Crop producers have probably done better than livestock producers, overall.

Rural areas were generally less adversely affected by the 2007-2008 recession, high unemployment, and declining prices for residences than were urban areas.

The first decade of the 21st century was something of an economic rebirth for many rural areas.

There are new opportunities for young farmers.

Long run problems remain:

1. Oversupply--too much capacity to produce

**2. Countries that need the food
often don't have the money to buy**

**3. Still low returns to resources used in
agricultural production:**

-labor

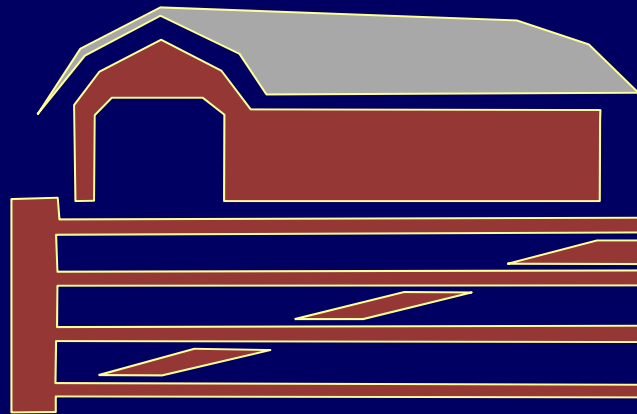
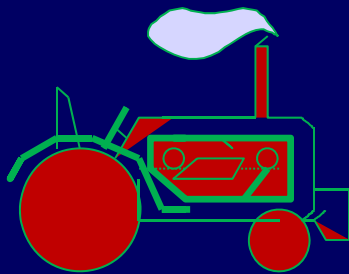
-management

**Many farmers still would be better off
doing something else!**

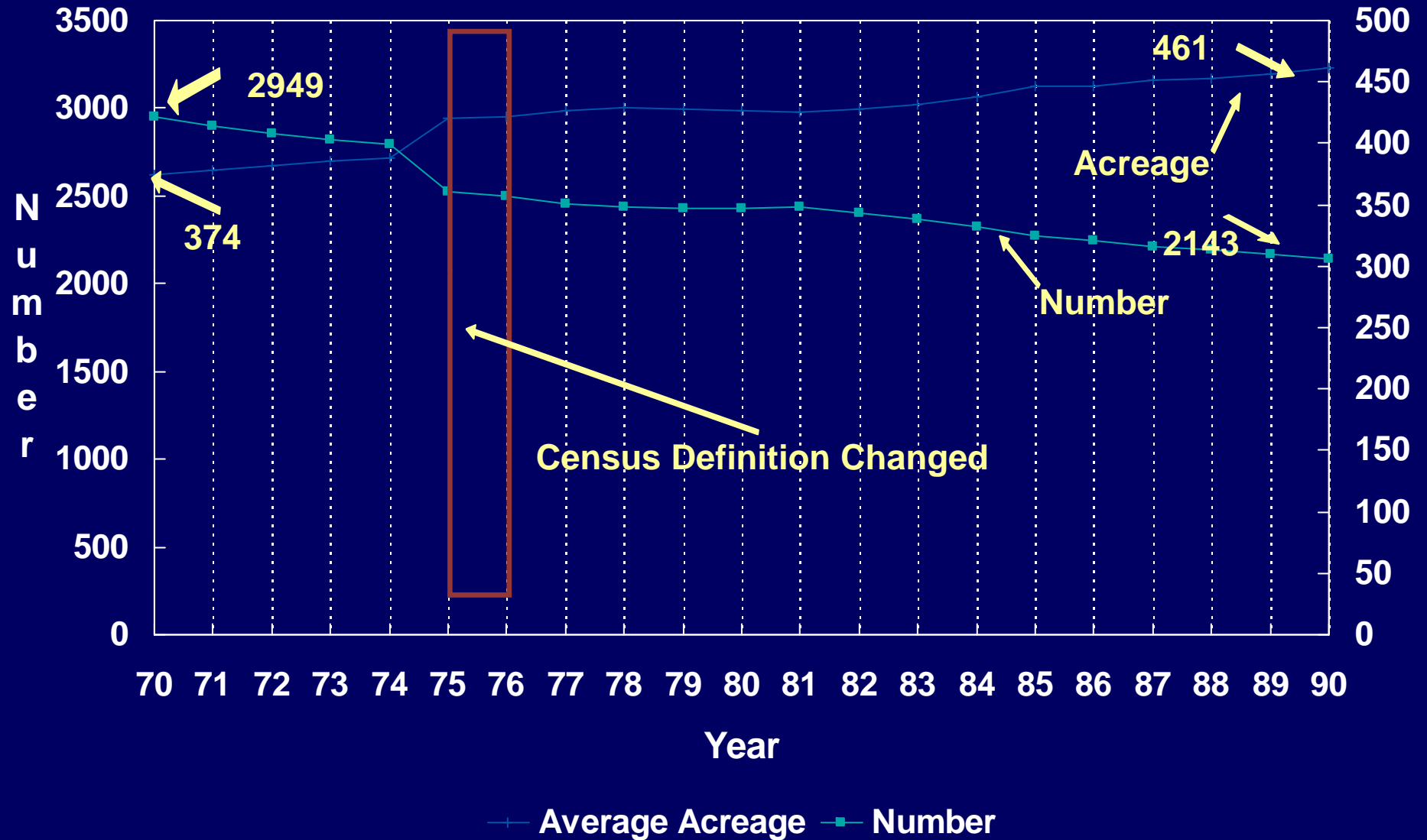
Chapter 2: The Structure of Agriculture

The Changing Structure of U.S. Agriculture

**Number of farms declines nationwide
as average acreages increase**

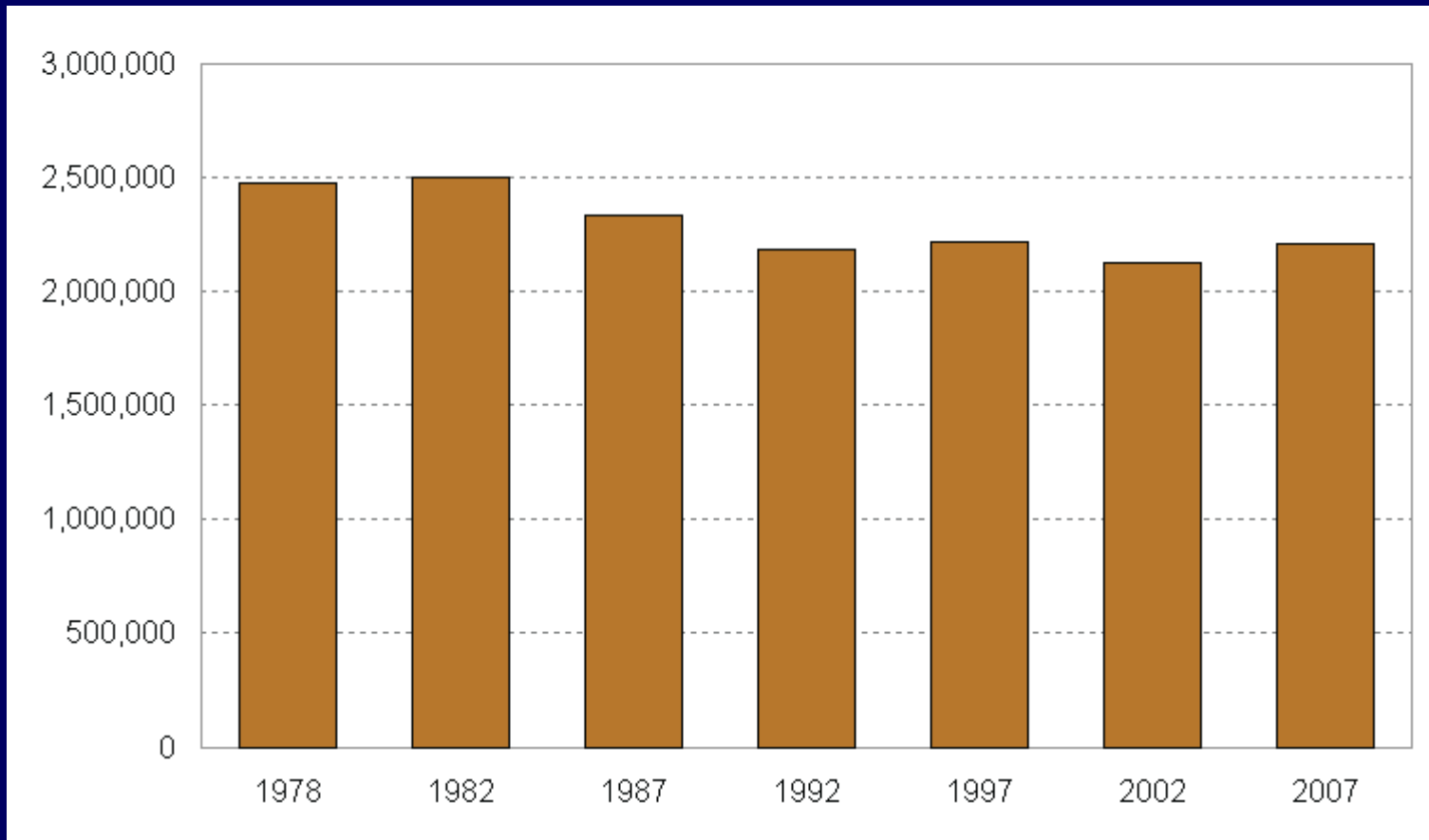


Number and Average Acreage of Farms, U.S., 1970-90



Number in thousands

Number of Farms, U.S., 1978-2007

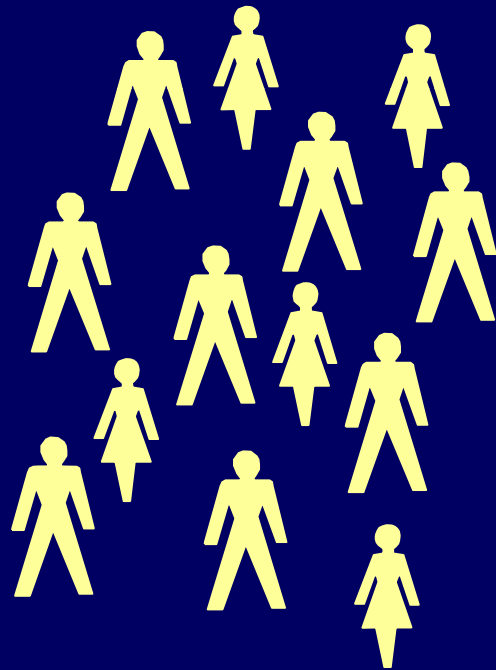


Source: USDA Census of
Agriculture, Various Years

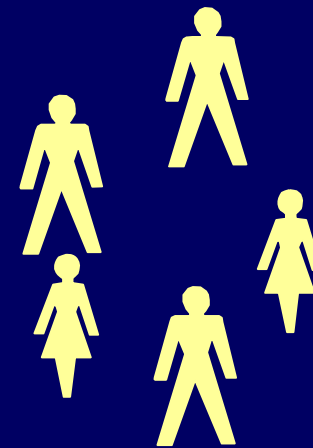
Since 1990, the total number of farms in the US has changed very little, remaining at just over 2,000,000 farms. There continues to be a decline in numbers of smaller, full-time commercial farms, but this is approximately offset by increases in numbers of part-time and hobby farms.

Living on small acreage is an increasingly popular lifestyle!

Total Farm Population:



1960 15 million

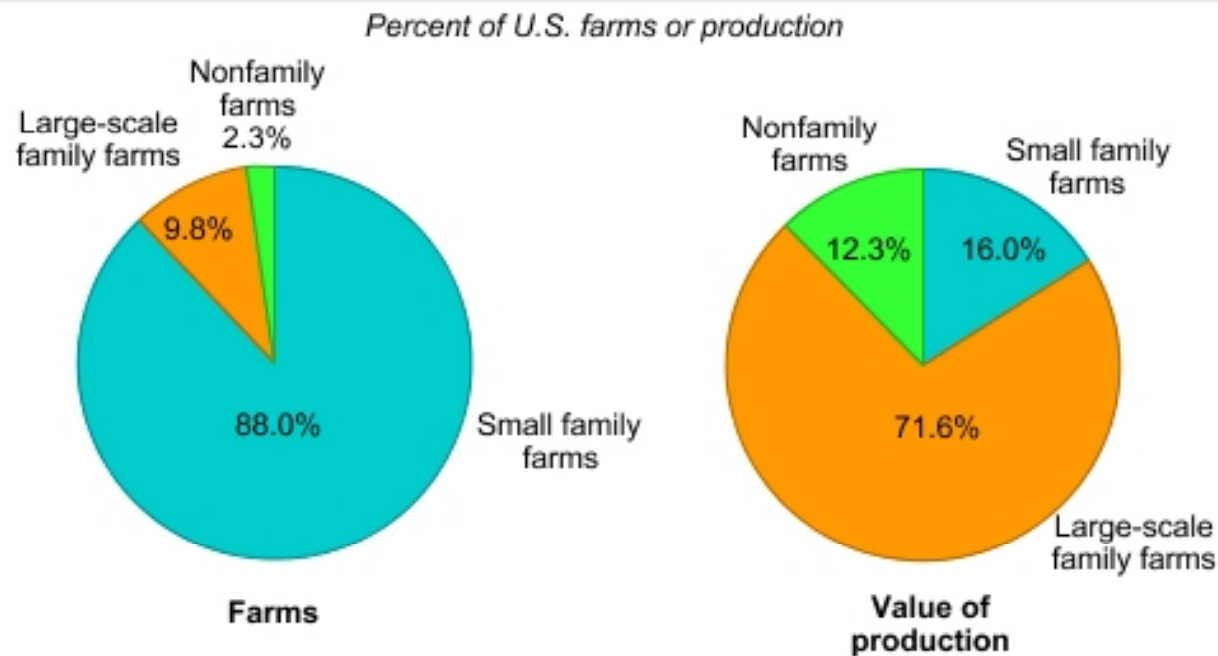


2010 4.7 Million

From 1990 to 2010, the total number of people living on farms in the US has also changed very little, remaining at about 4,700,000 people. However, the US total population continues to increase, so the *percentage of the total US population living on farms continues to decline over time.*

Small family farms are 88% of US farm numbers but only 16 % of the Output

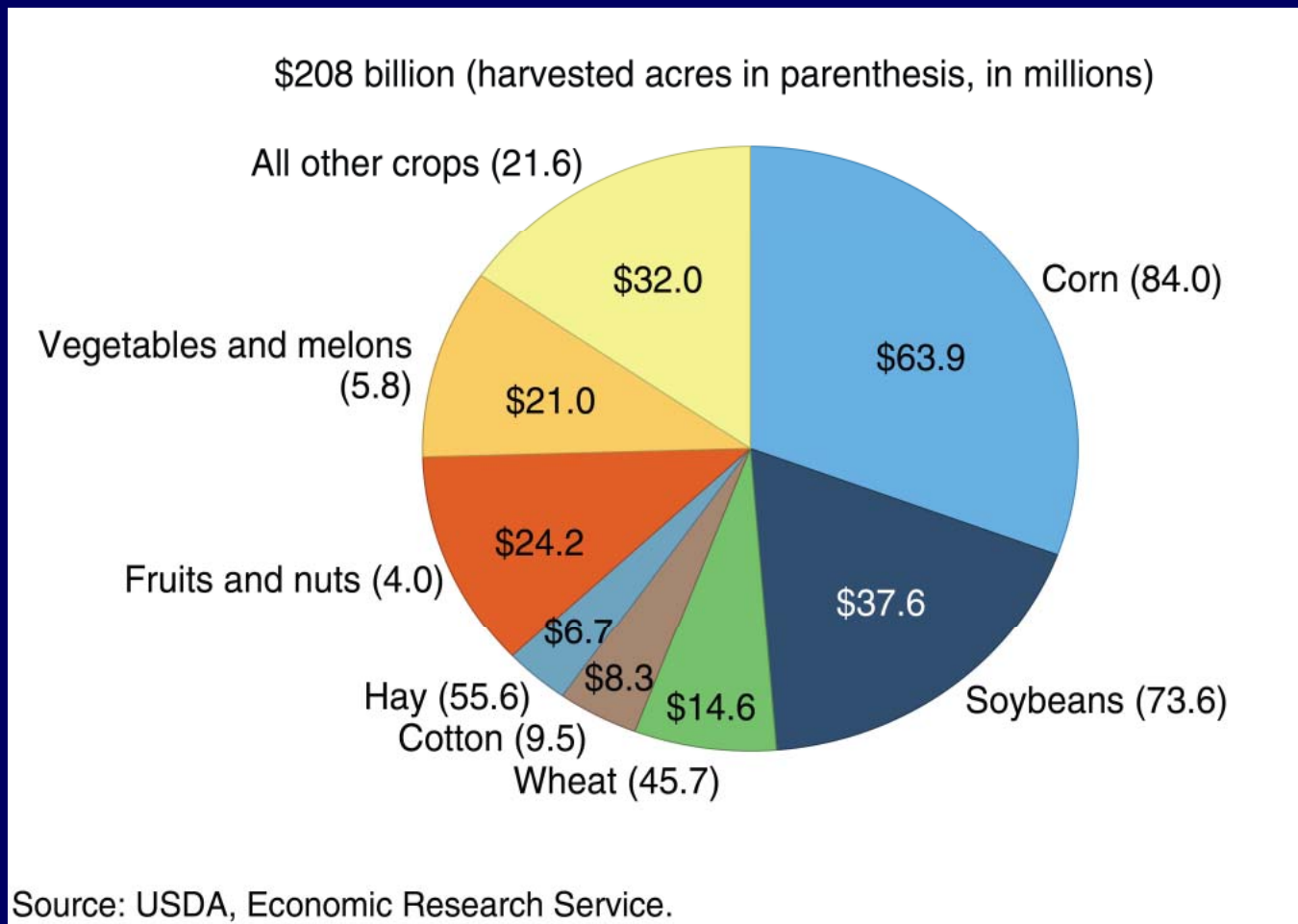
Share of total farms and share of value of production, by farm type, 2010



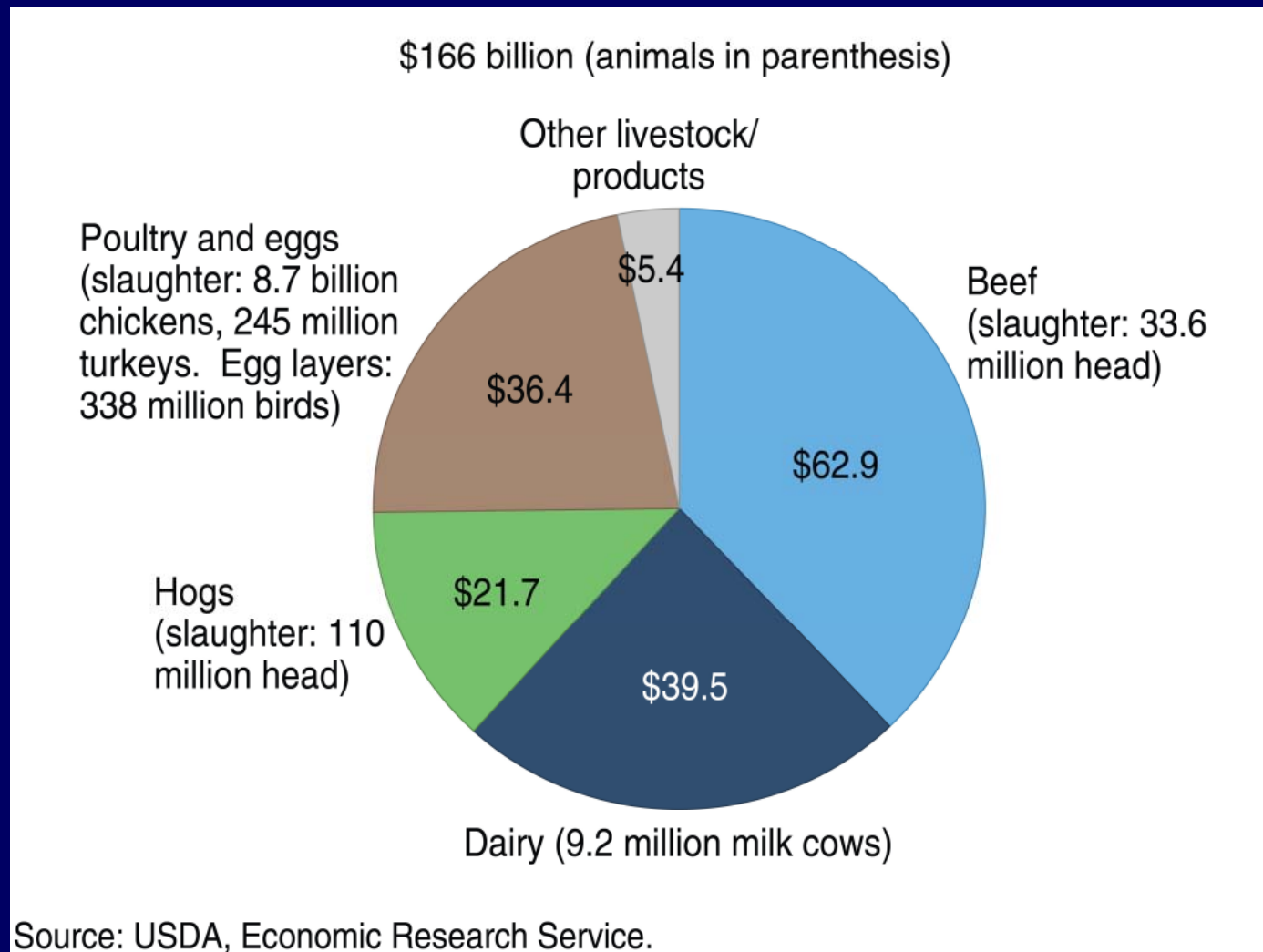
1/ The value of production measures the value of commodities produced in a given year, without the effects of inventory change. It is calculated by multiplying the quantity of each commodity produced by the price of the commodity.

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service and Economic Research Service, 2010 Agricultural Resource Management Survey, Phase III.

US Cash Receipts from Crop Sales, 2011



US Cash Receipts from Livestock Sales, 2011



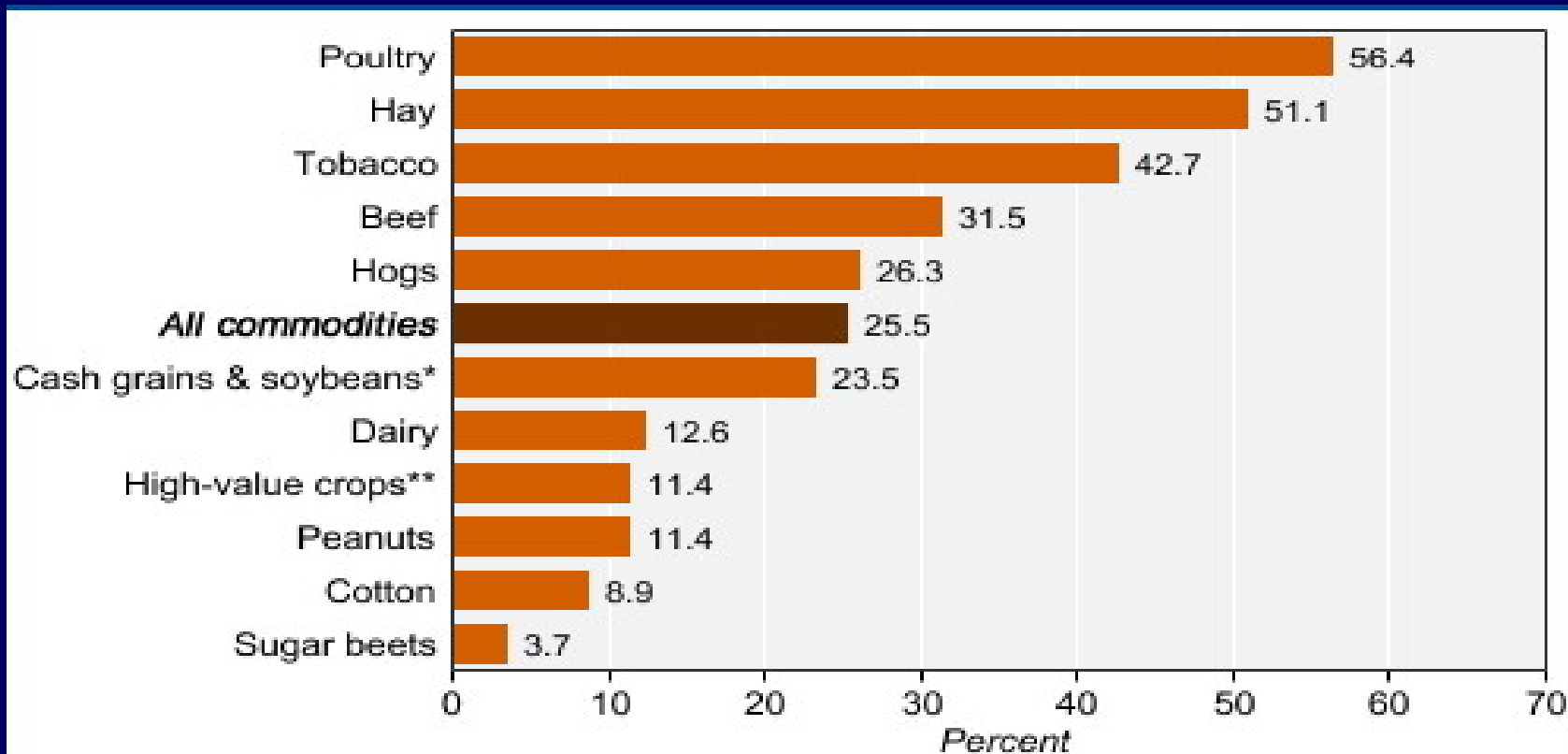
Number and Size of Farms Varies From State to State



Number of Farms and Average Acreage, Selected States, 2002 and 2007

	Numbers (000)		Average Acreage	
	2002	2007	2002	2007
United States	2,167	2,201	436	418
Arizona	11	16	2,514	1,684
California	83	82	337	311
Indiana	63	62	240	239
Iowa	94	92	346	333
Kansas	65	66	736	705
Kentucky	90	86	152	163
Montana	28	29	2,133	2,068
North Carolina	56	52	166	164
North Dakota	31	32	1,279	1,241
Rhode Island	1	1	75	57
Texas	228	248	573	527
Wisconsin	78	78	206	195
Wyoming	9	11	3,750	2,745

Share of US Agricultural Production from Small Family Farms by Commodity, 2011



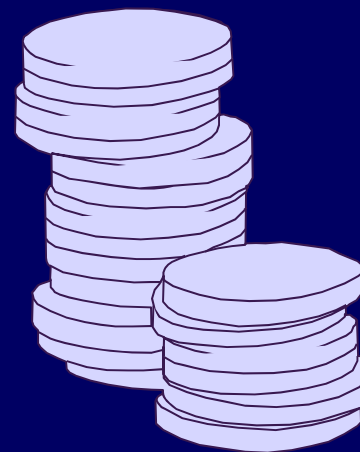
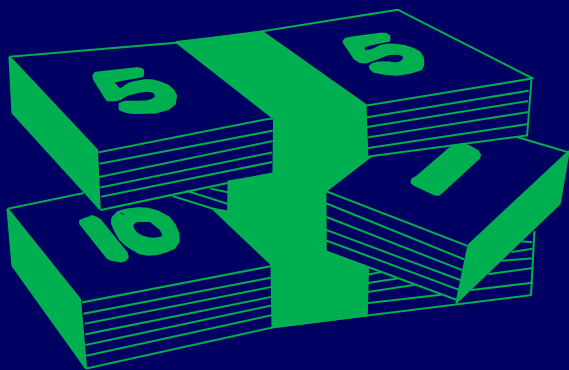
*Includes barley, corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, wheat, and oats.

**Includes vegetables, fruits/tree nuts, and nursery/reenhouse products.

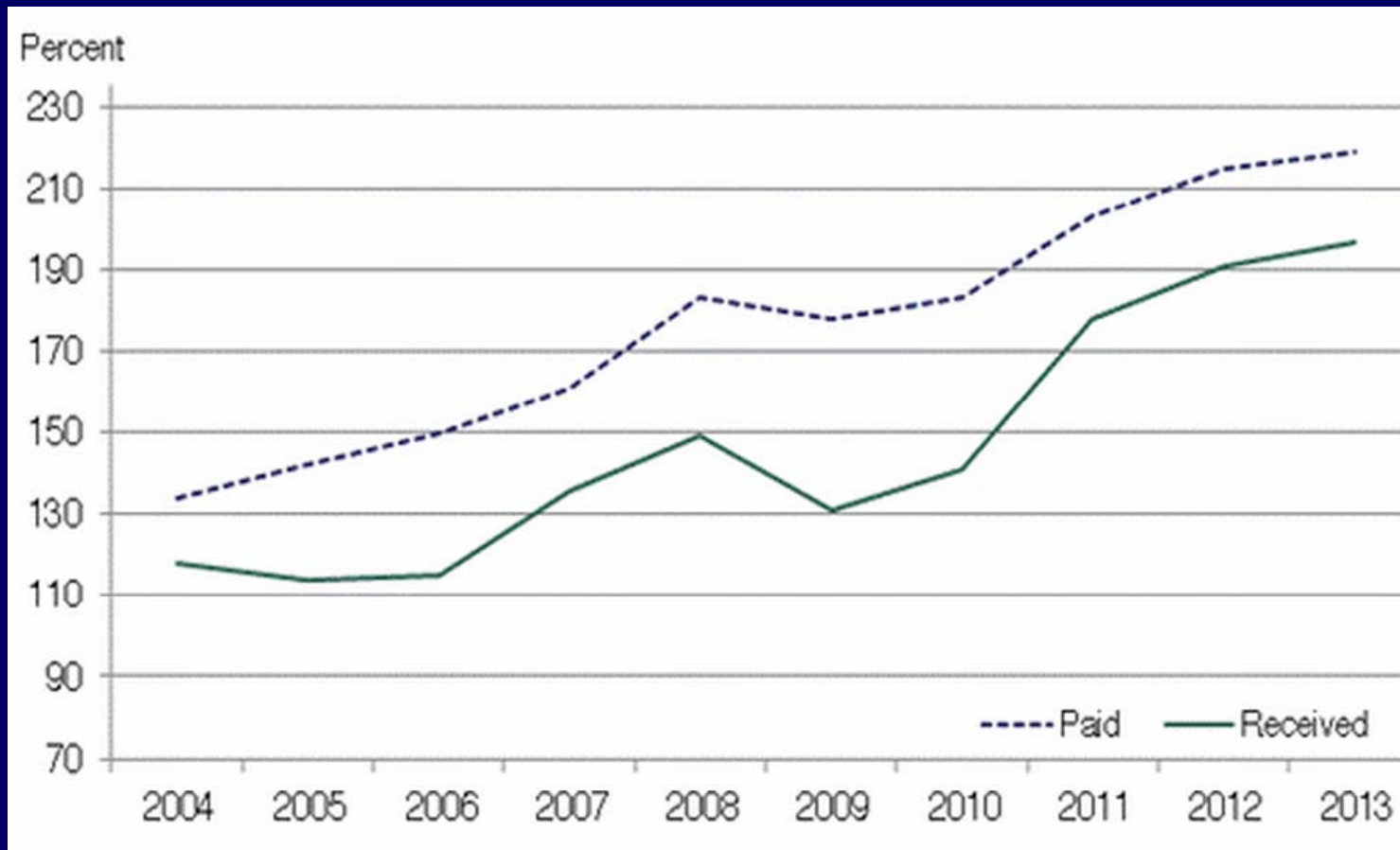
Note: Small family farms have gross cash farm income (GCFI) < \$350,000.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service and USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2011 Agricultural Resource Management Survey.

Farm prices have been approximately keeping up with input prices



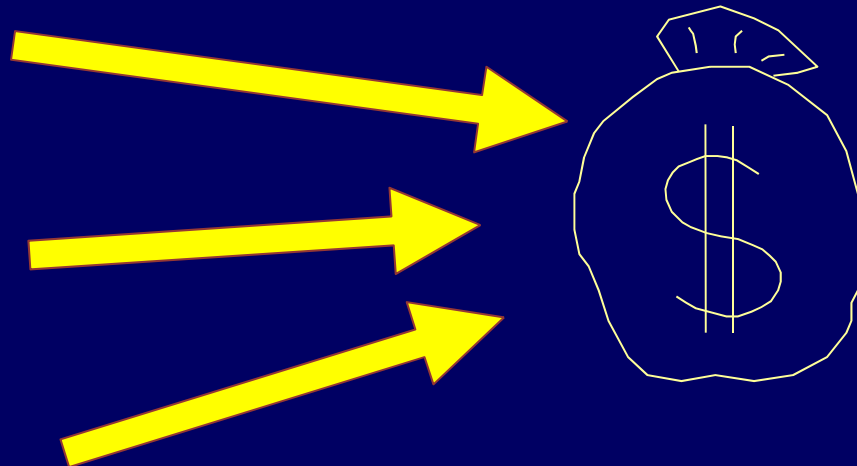
Prices Received and Prices Paid, US Annual average, 1990-92=100



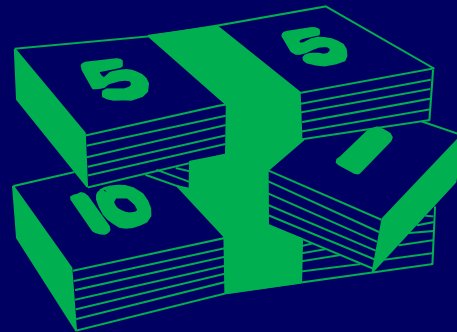
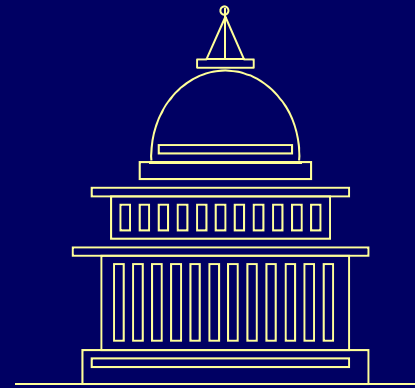
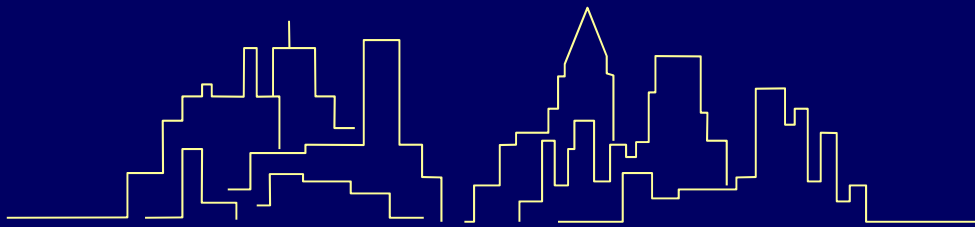
Source: USDA NASS

Gross Farm income has been increasing in most recent years

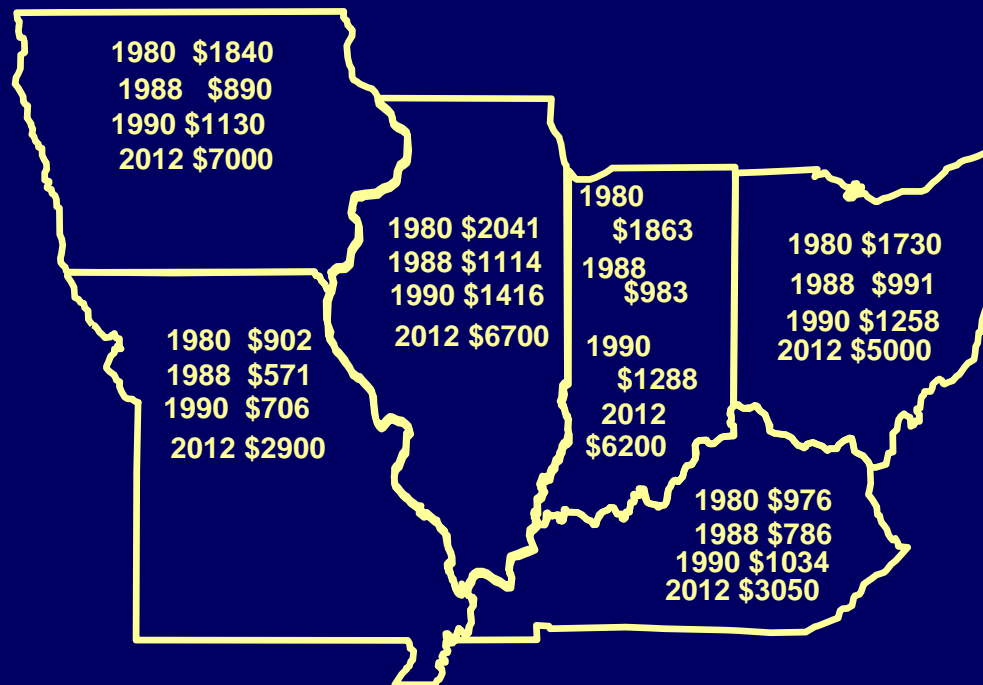
Net Farm Income is propped up by government payments



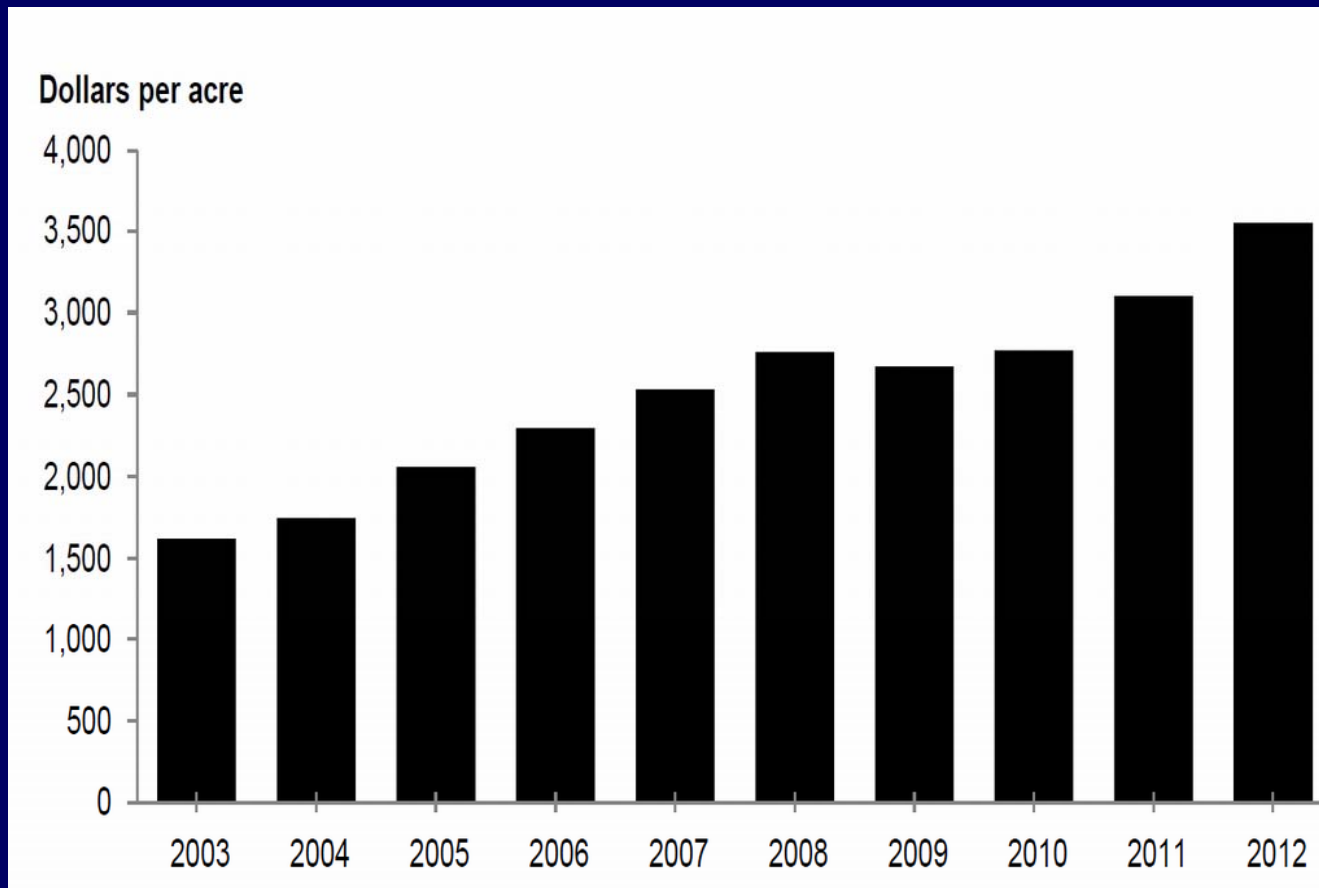
Off-Farm income and government payments make up an increasing share of the farmer's Income for many farms



Land and building values declined in many states From 1980-1990, but have rebounded spectacularly through 2012



Average Cropland Value, United States

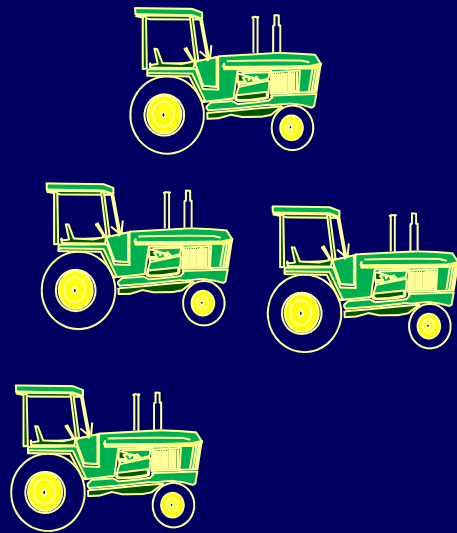


Source: USDA NASS

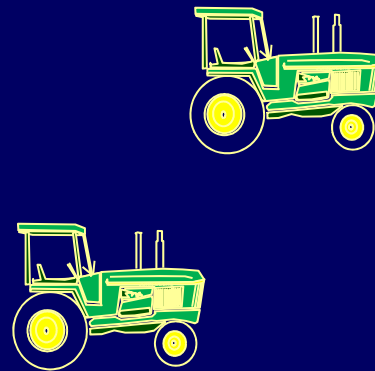
Land prices have gotten so expensive that fewer and fewer active commercial farmers own significant amounts of their own land, but instead rent land from retired farmers (or their widows).

This often works well for both the active and the retired farmer. The active farmer does not need to tie up cash that could be more profitably used elsewhere in land payments. The retired farmer gets the appreciation (far better than a bank CD) as well as a steady income stream from the rent paid.

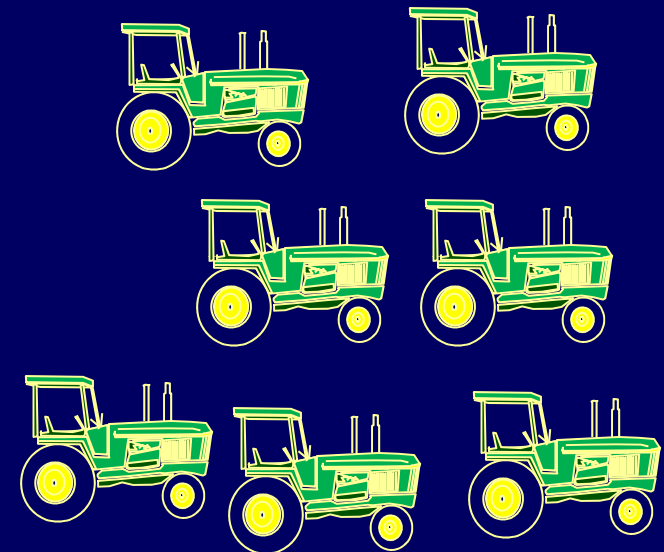
The Demand for Farm Machinery tends to move with crop prices (and income tax considerations)



1970

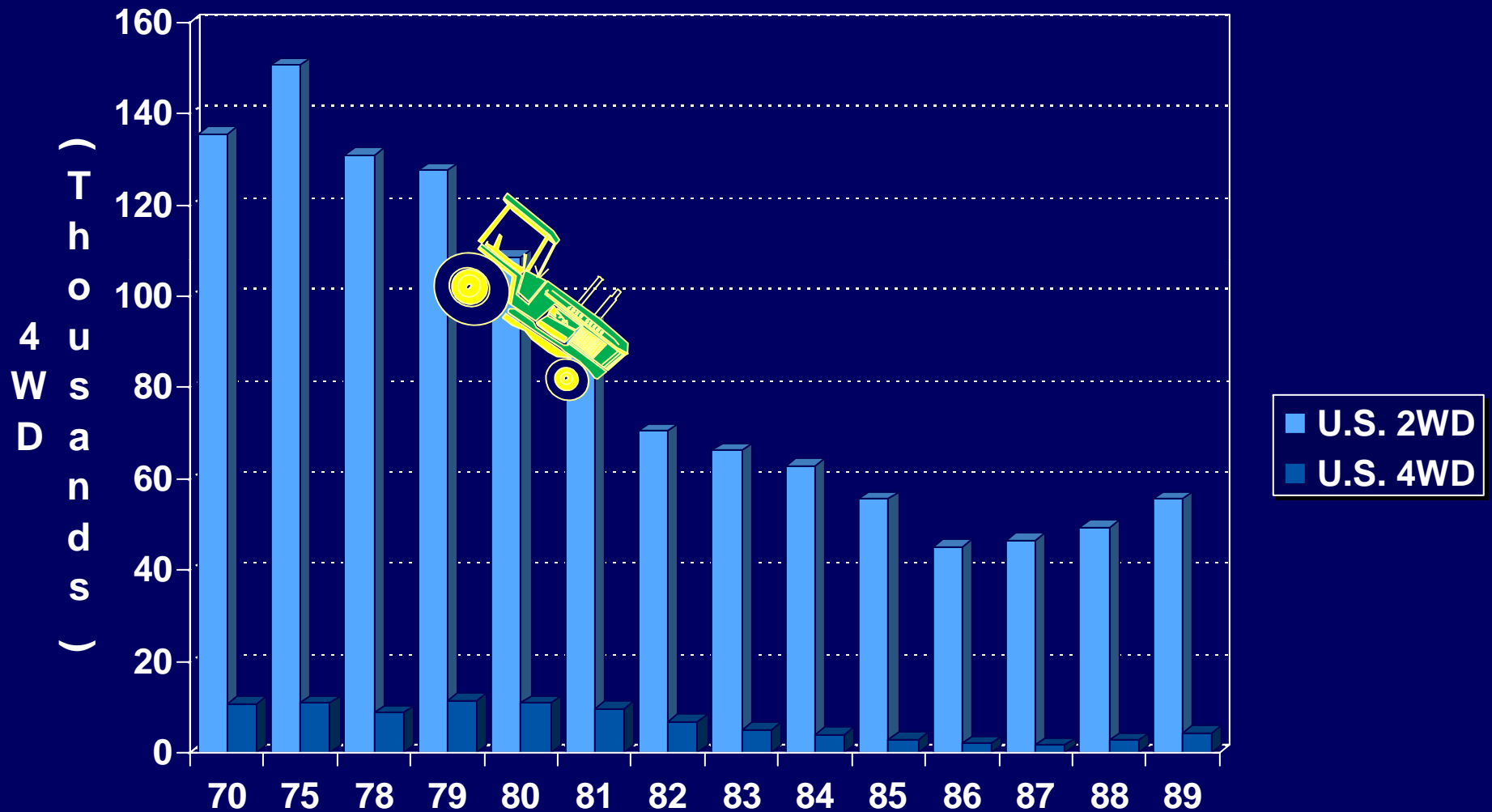


1990

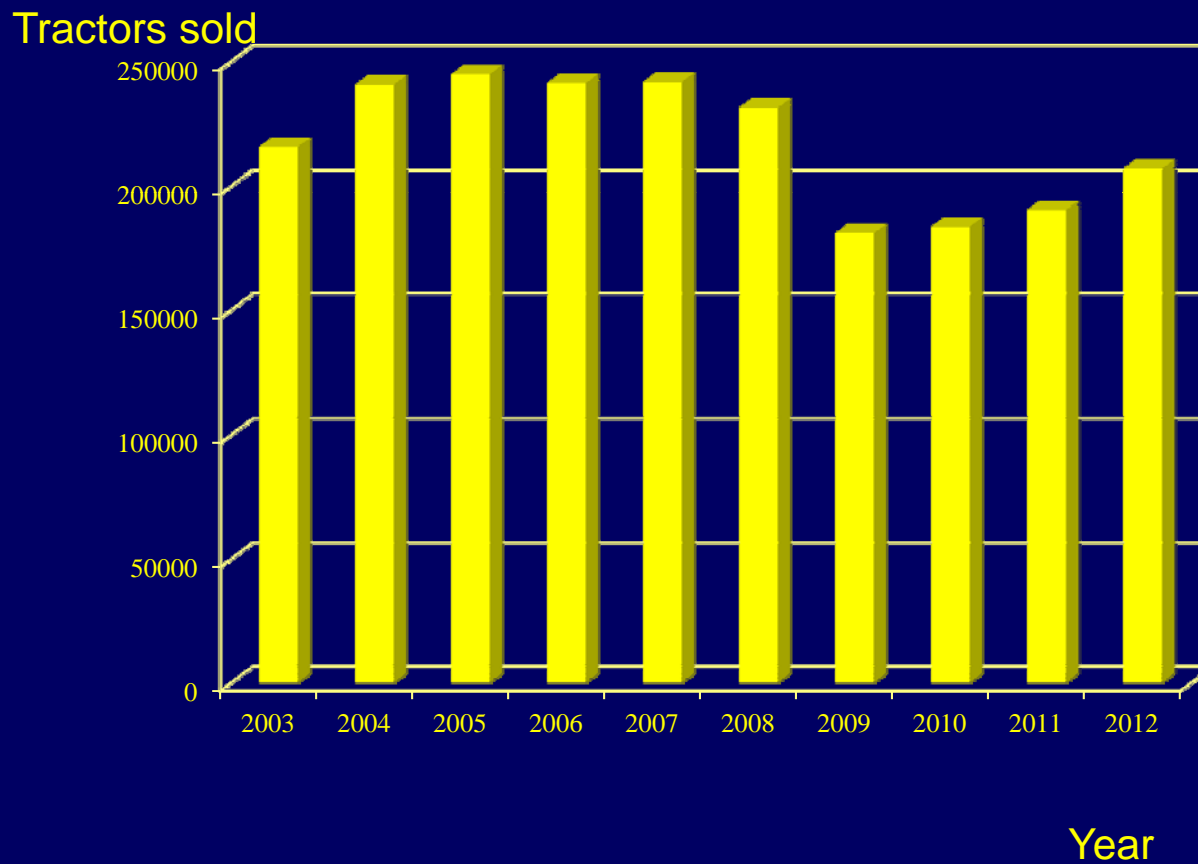


2010

Retail Sales of Two- and Four-Wheel Drive Tractors, 1970-89

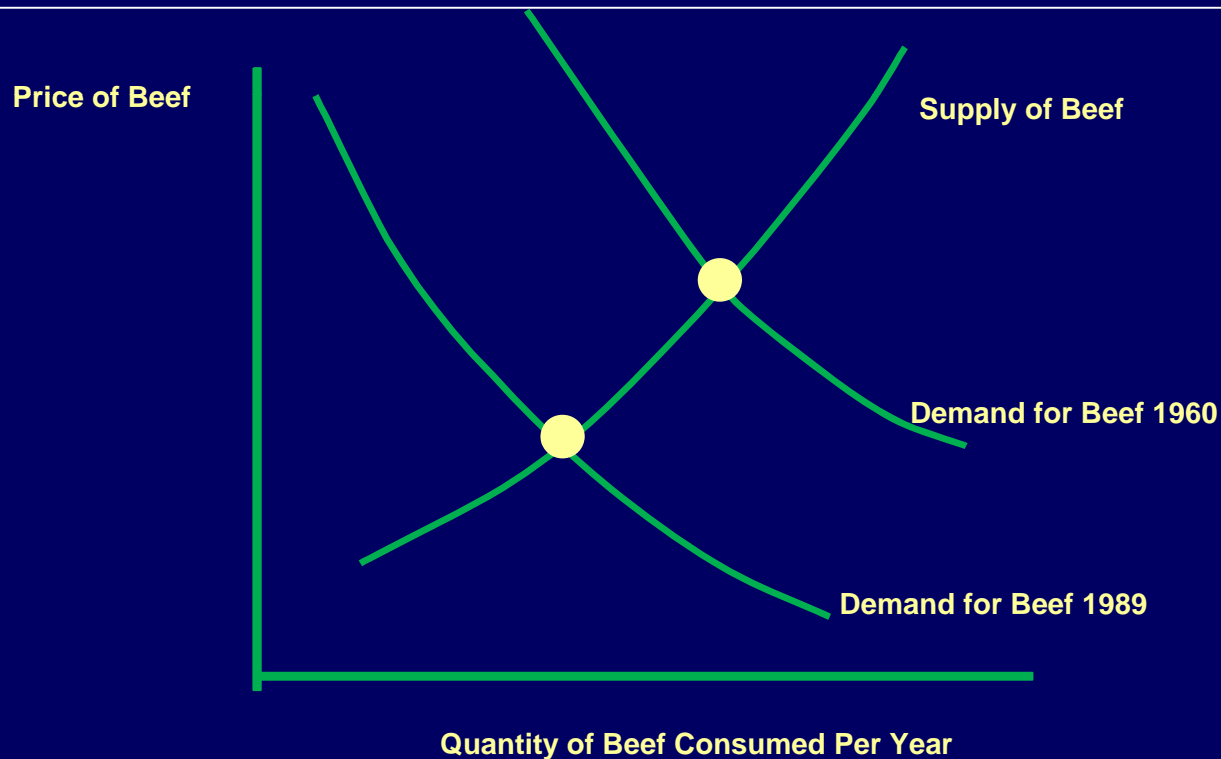


Total Wheeled Tractor Sales, US and Canada. 2003-2012

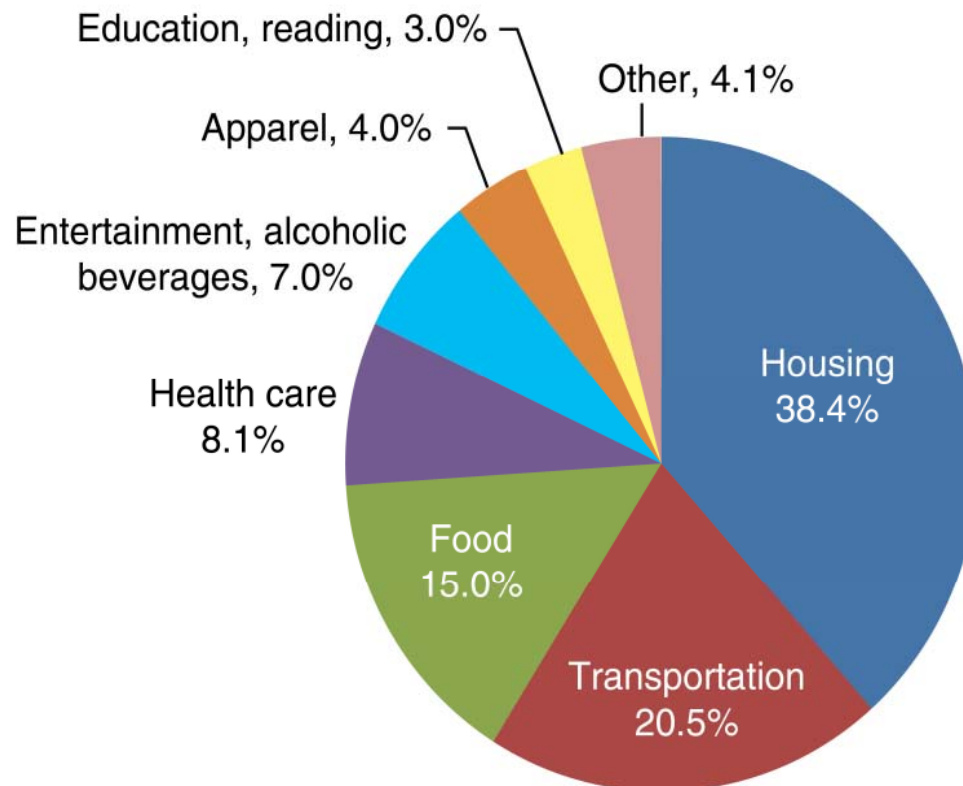


Source: Deere publication

Consumption patterns for agricultural commodities are changing



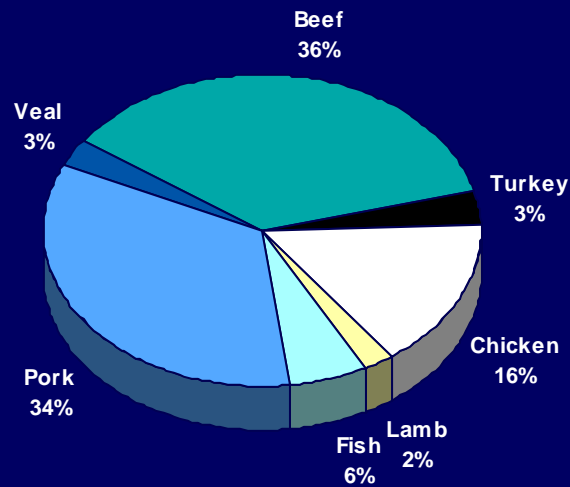
Food Accounted for 15% of Household Expenditures in 2011



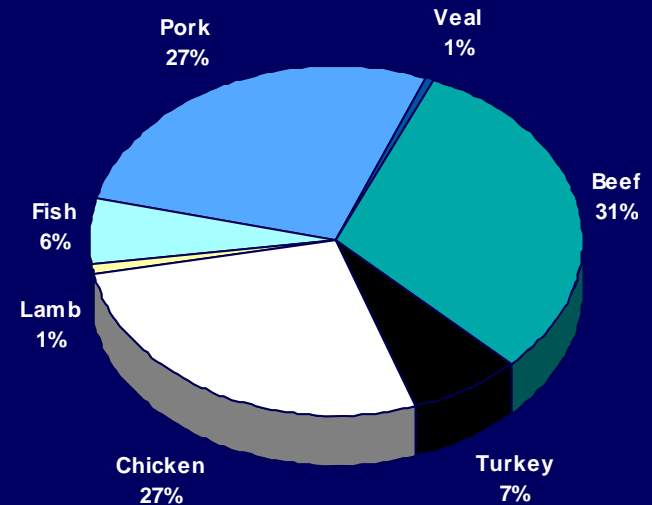
Note: Other includes personal care products, tobacco, and miscellaneous expenditures.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2012.

Per Capita Meat Consumption 1960 and 1988

1960

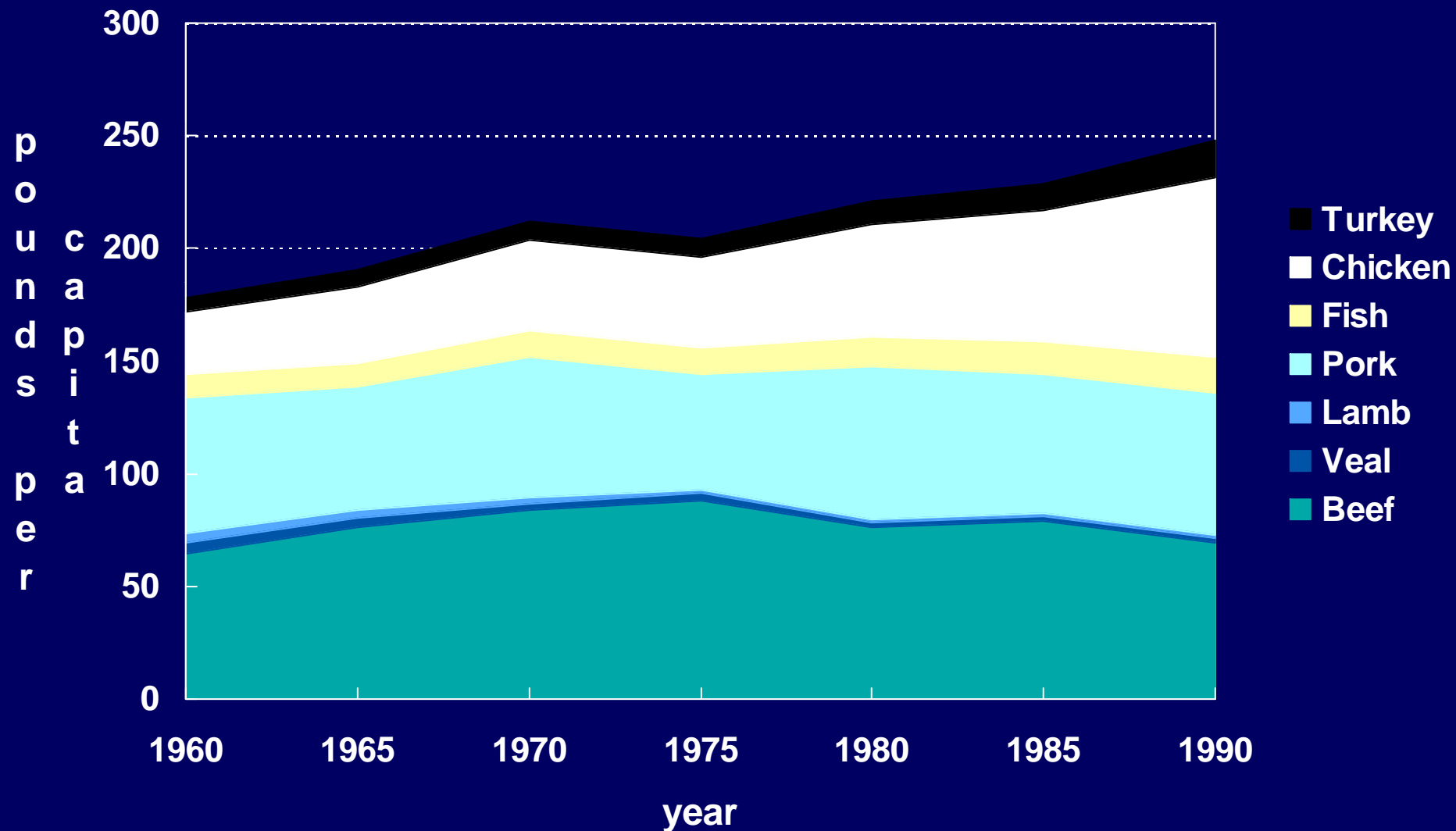


1988



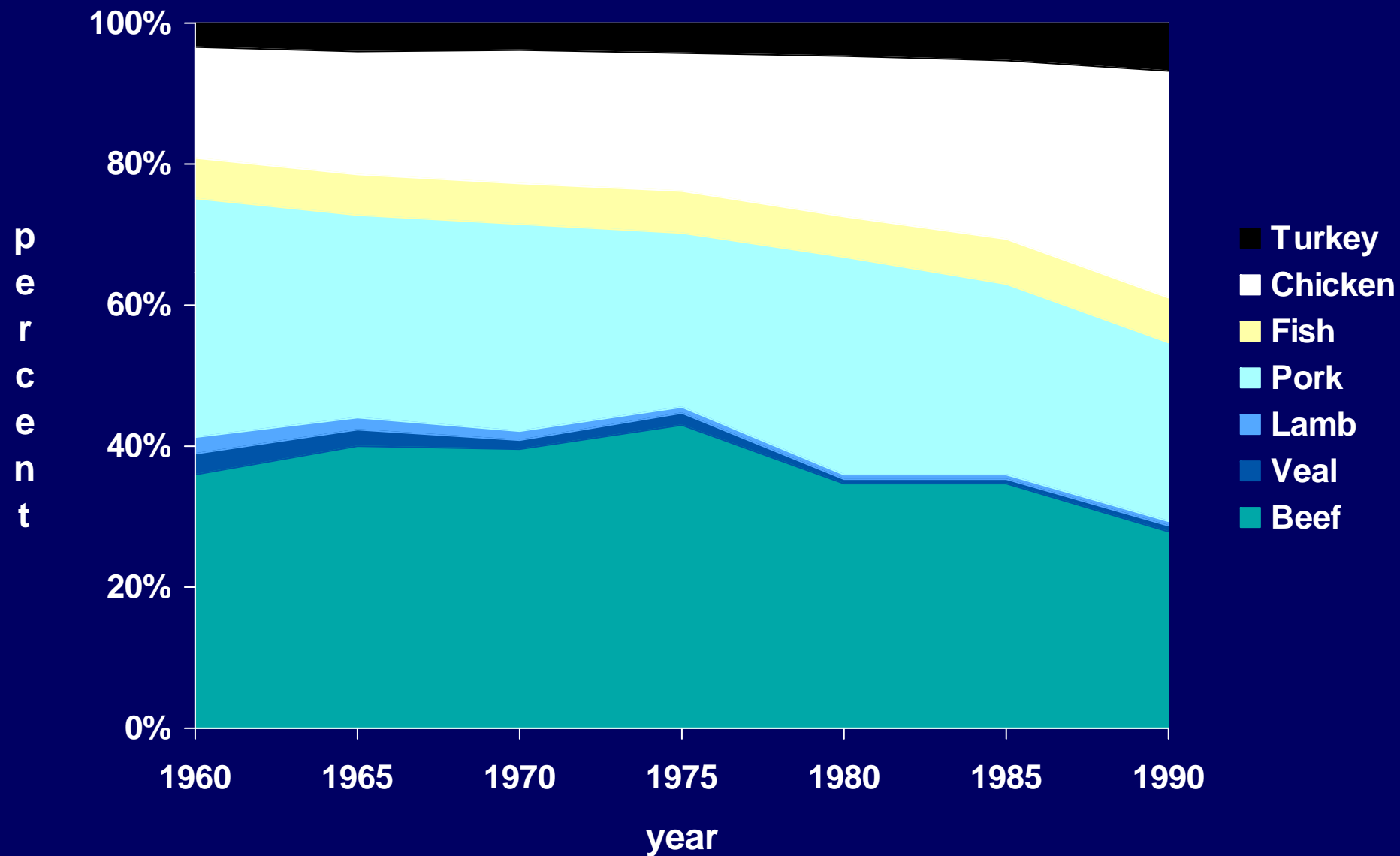
Pounds per capita

Per Capita Consumption of Meat 1960-90 (lbs.)

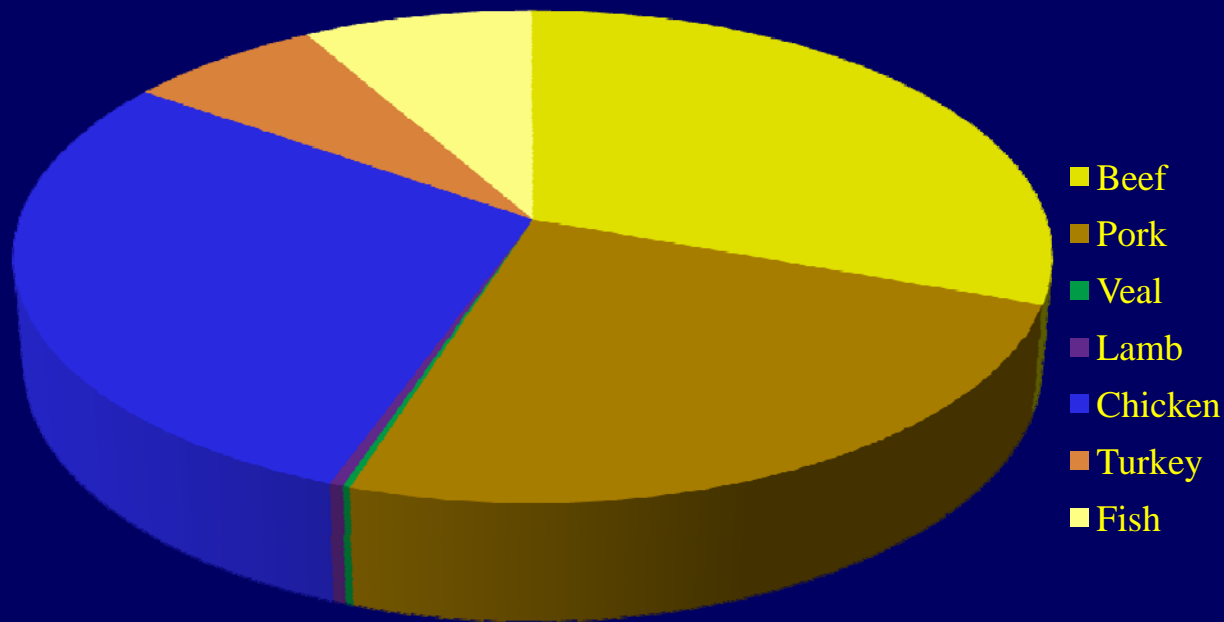


carcass weight basis

Per Capita Consumption of Meat 1960-90 (Percent of Total)



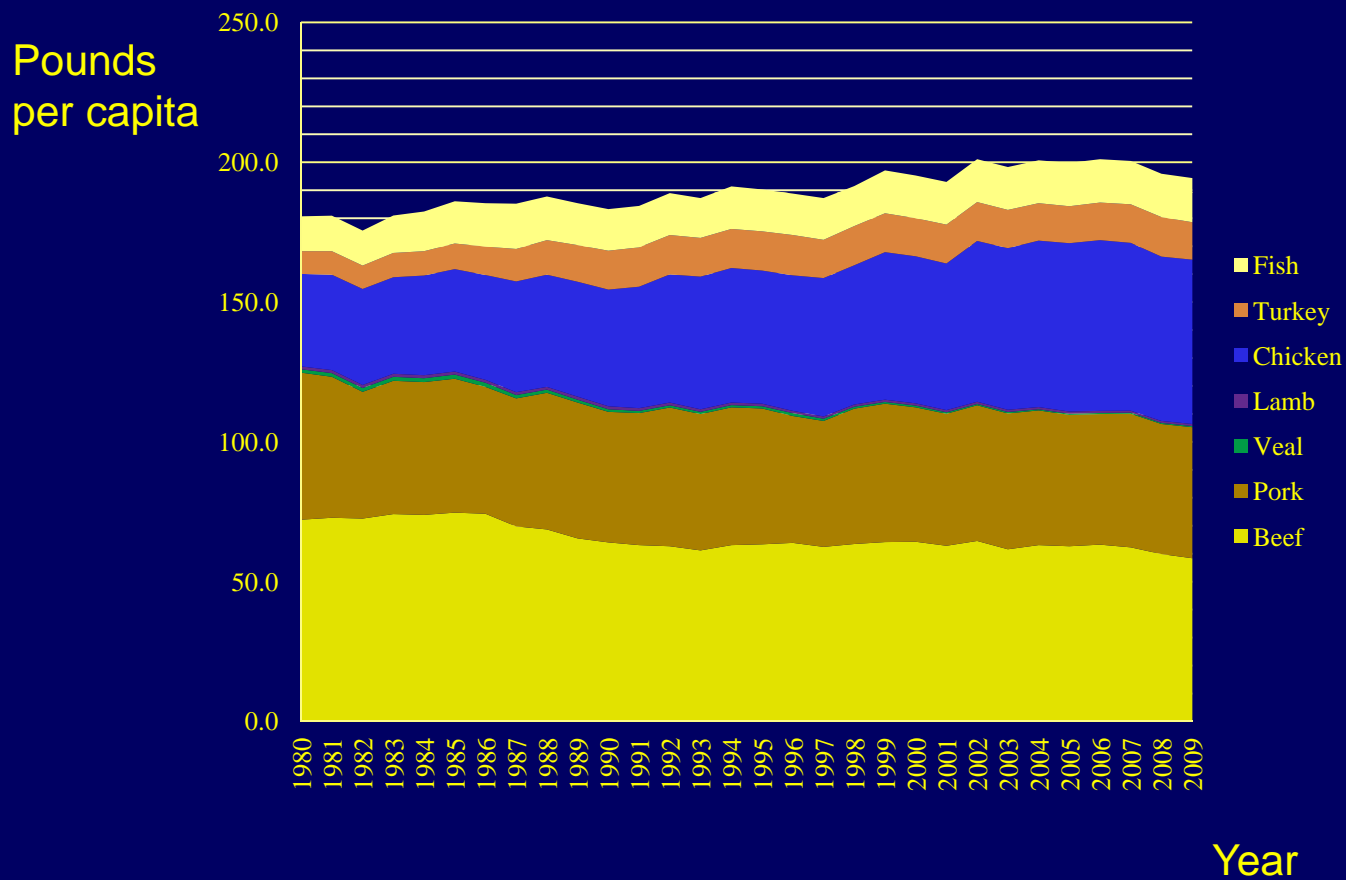
Per Capita Meat Consumption, 2009



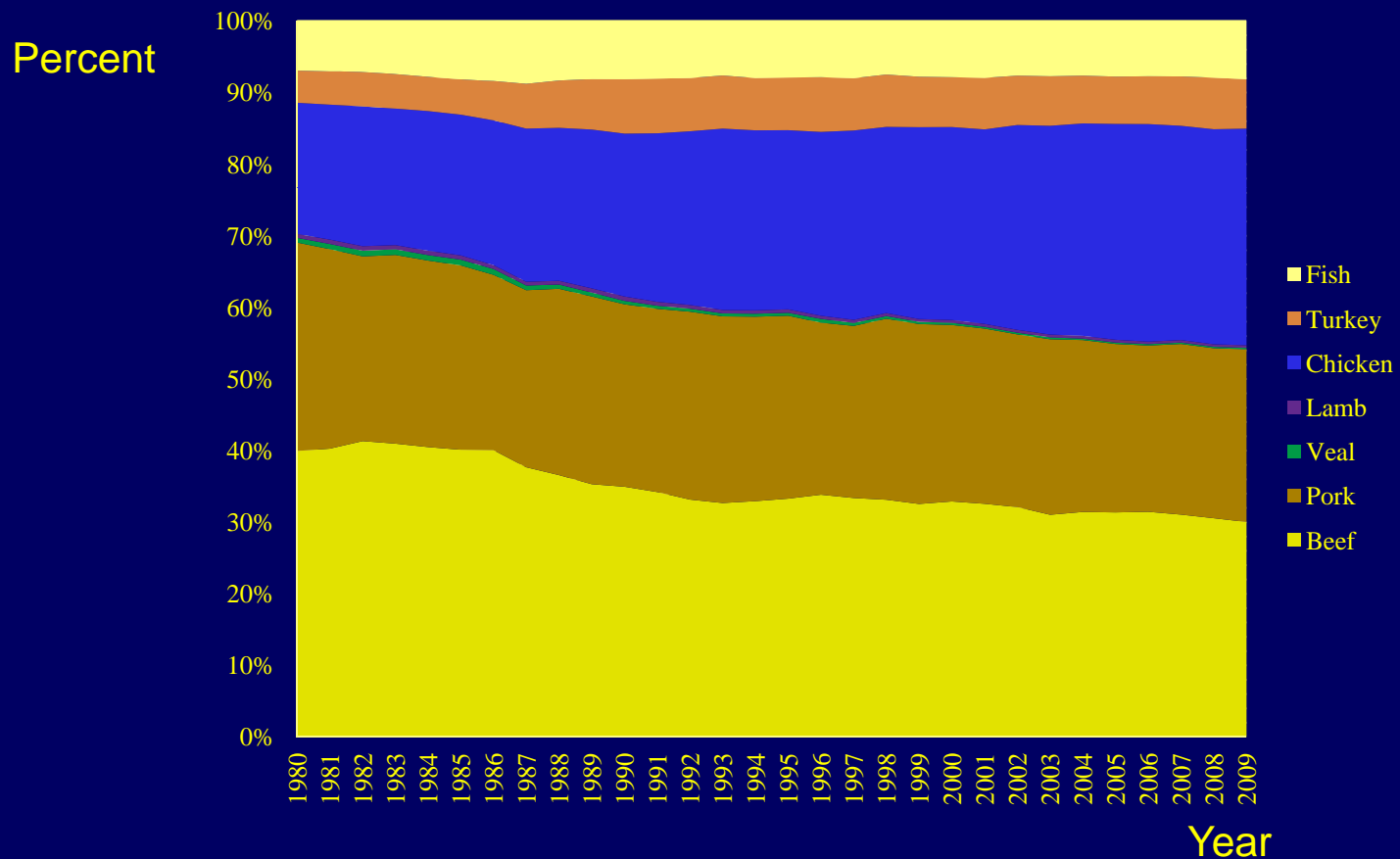
	2009	Percent
Beef	58.4	30.5%
Pork	46.9	24.5%
Veal	0.4	0.2%
Lamb	0.7	0.4%
Chicken	56.1	29.3%
Turkey	13.4	7.0%
Fish	15.8	8.2%
Total	191.7	lbs.

Source:
Compiled from
USDA data

Per Capita Consumption of Meat, Pounds per Capita, 1980-2009



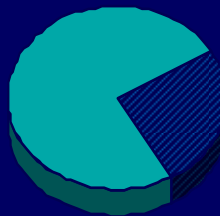
Per Capita Consumption of Meat, as a Percent of the Total, 1980-2009



Food Eaten At Home And Away From Home

1960

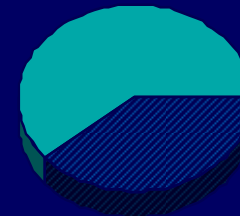
Eaten at
Home
75%



Away From
Home
25%

1990

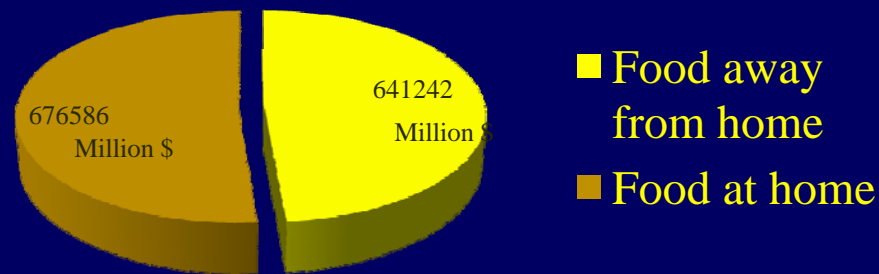
Eaten at
Home
61%



Away from
Home
39%

(billions of current dollars)

Expenditures on Food Eaten at Home vs Away-From-Home, 2011



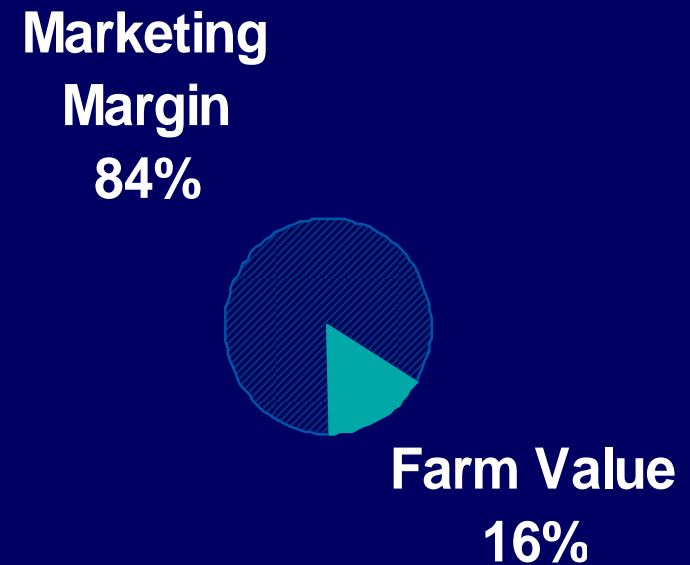
By 2011, expenditures on food eaten at home was 51 % of the total, and expenditures on food eaten away from home was 49 % of total expenditures!

Farmers Share of Food Dollar At Home and Away From Home

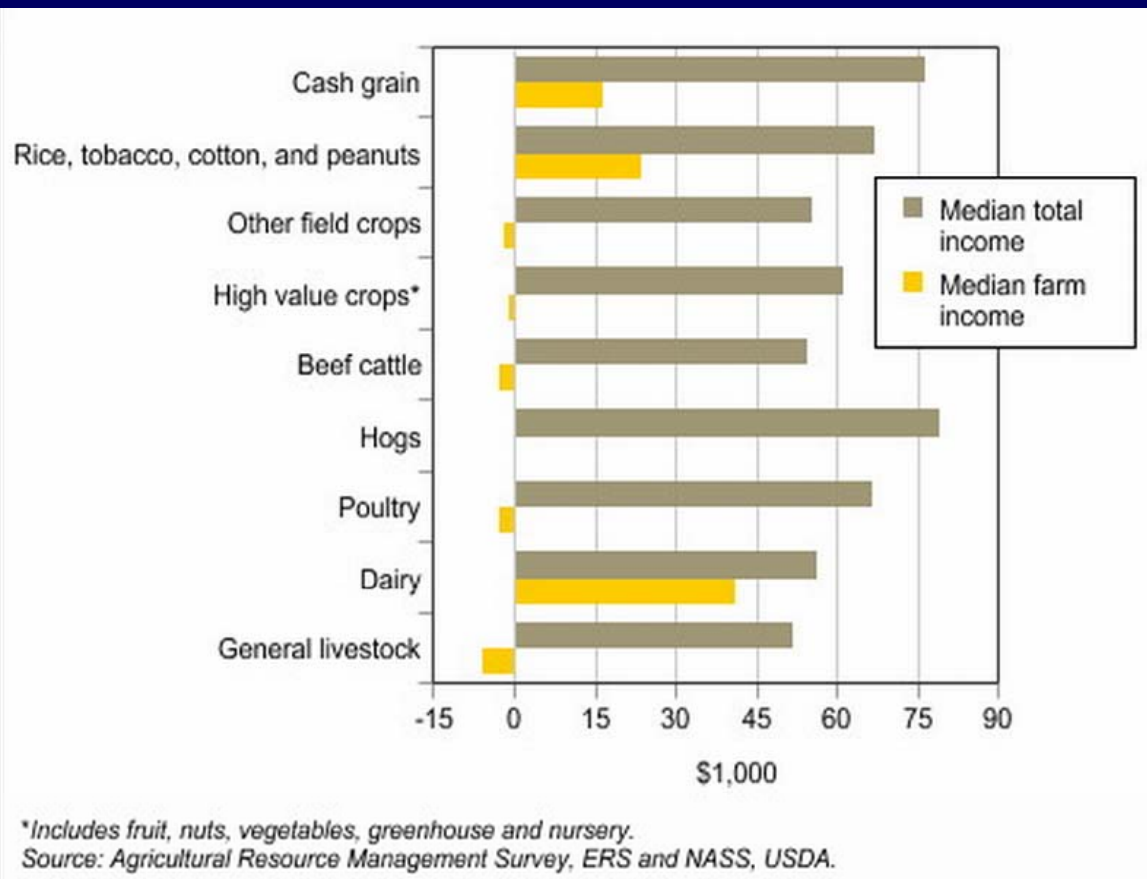
At Home



Away From Home



Household income varies by commodity specialization, 2011



Dairy farmers get most of their household income from the cows:
Not true for beef producers!

90 years of Structural Change in U.S. Agriculture

Year	1920	1950	1980	2000	2010
Number of farms (thousands)	6,518	5,648	2,440	2,167	2,192
Average farm size (acres)	147	213	426	436	419
Rural share of population (percent)	48.8	36.0	26.3	21.0	19.3
Farm share of workforce (percent)	25.4	12.1	3.4	1.8	1.6
Farm share of GDP (percent)	7.7	6.8	2.2	1.0	0.9

Note: 1920 data for farm share of GDP not available. Value reported is for 1930, as calculated by the Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service.

Source: Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Farms, Land in Farms, and Livestock Operations; Bureau of Economic Analysis, GDP by Industry; Sobek (2006); CEA calculations.

Source: 2013 Economic Report of the President

Chapter 3: Demand and Supply

Demand

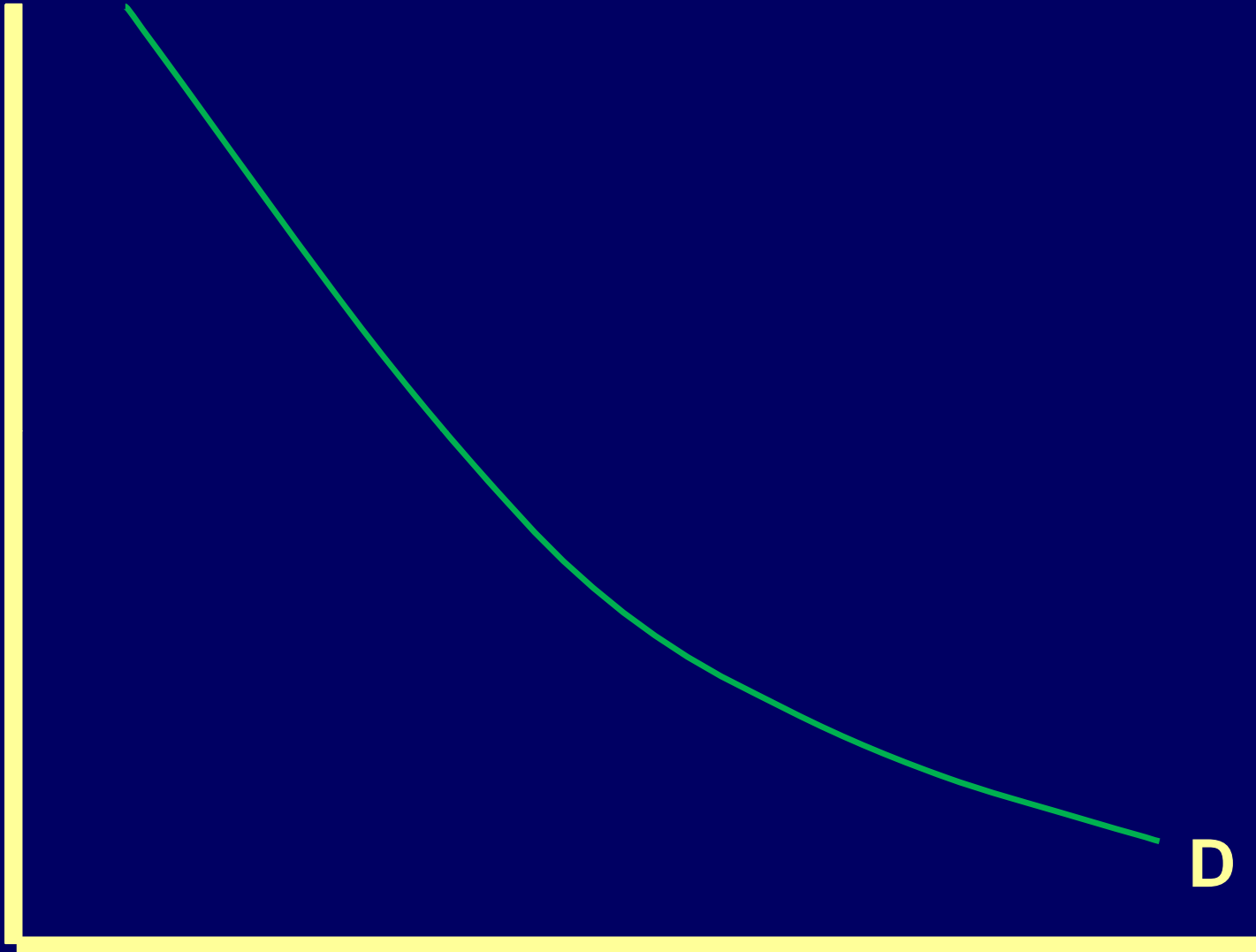
***A Schedule Showing the
Amounts of a Good
Consumers are***

Willing and Able to Purchase

At a Specified Set of Prices

During A Specified Period of Time

Price



D

Quantity/ unit of time

A Demand Schedule

Price
\$

Quantity Demanded
Per Unit of Time

10

0

8

1

7

2

6

3

4

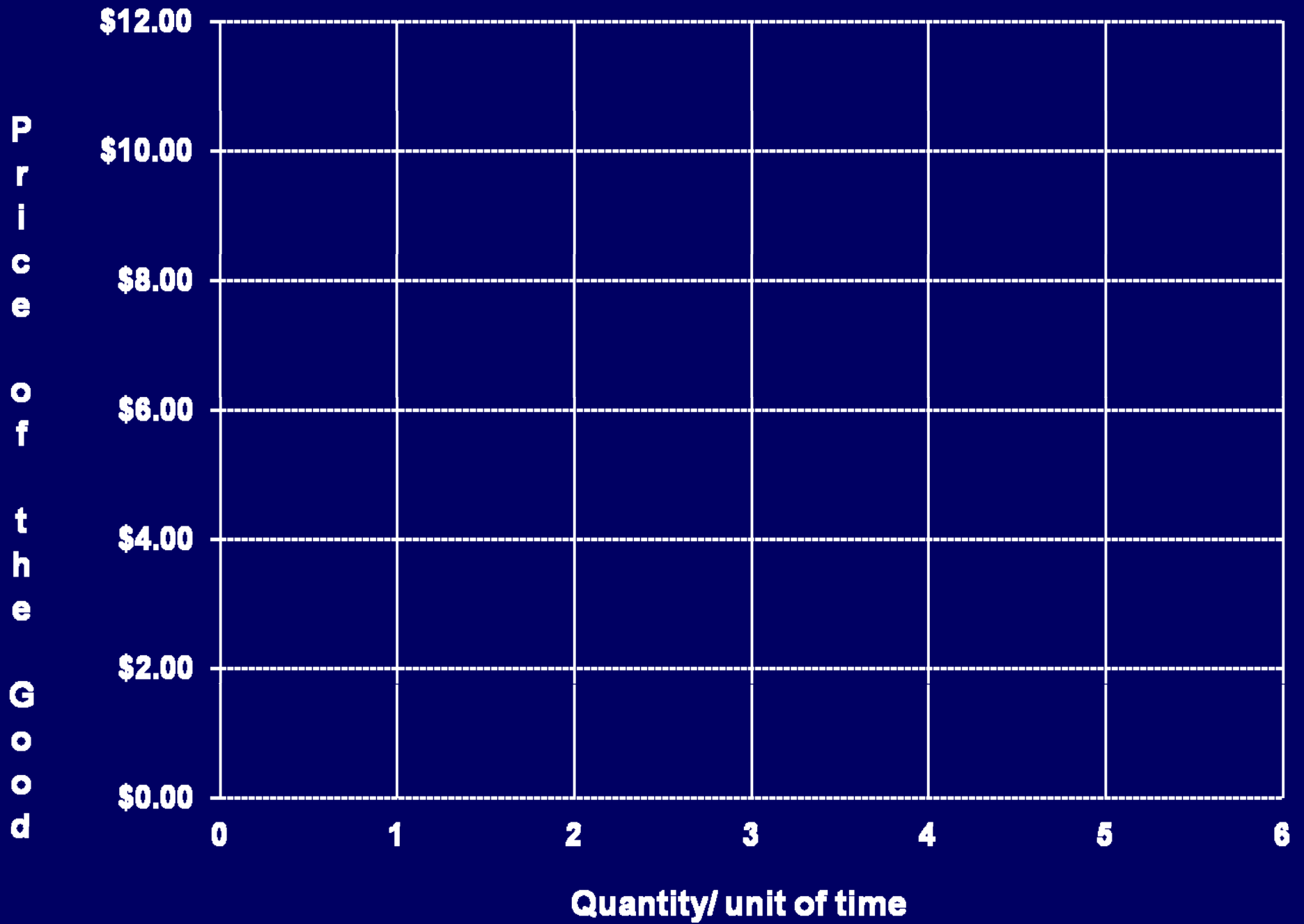
4

3

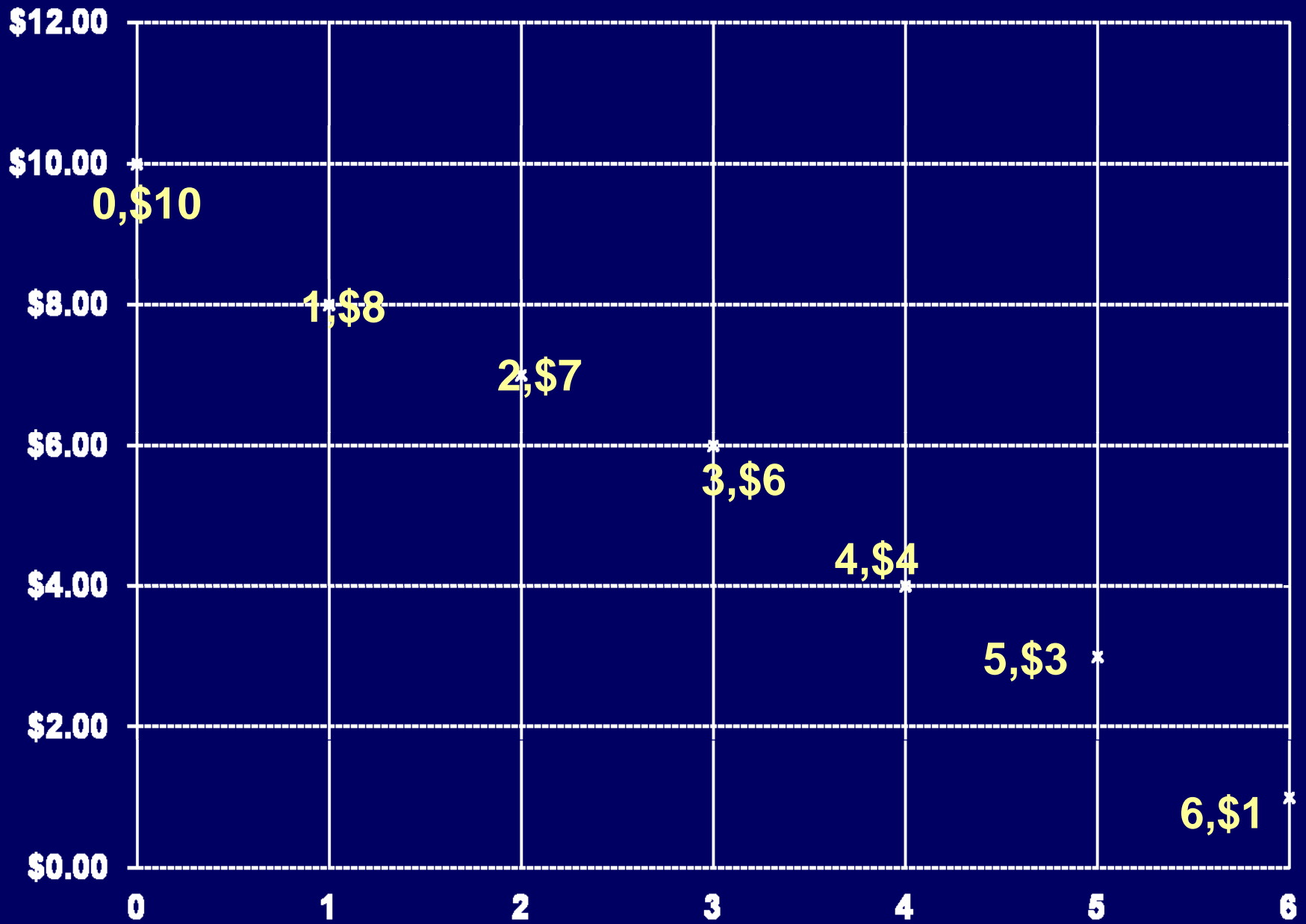
5

1

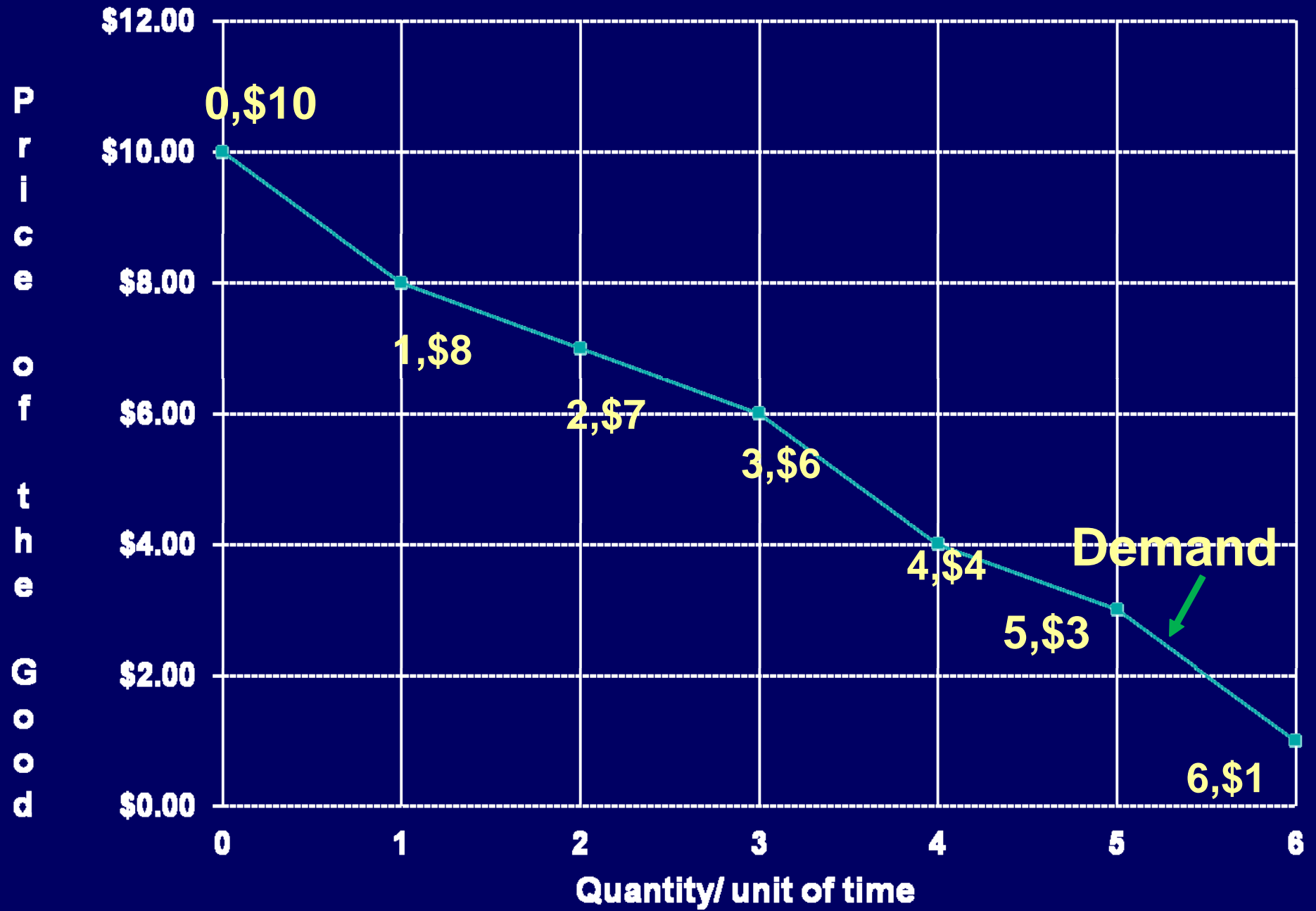
6



P
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o
f
t
h
e
G
o
o
d



Quantity/ unit of time



Supply

A Schedule Showing the

*Amounts of a Good
Producers Are*

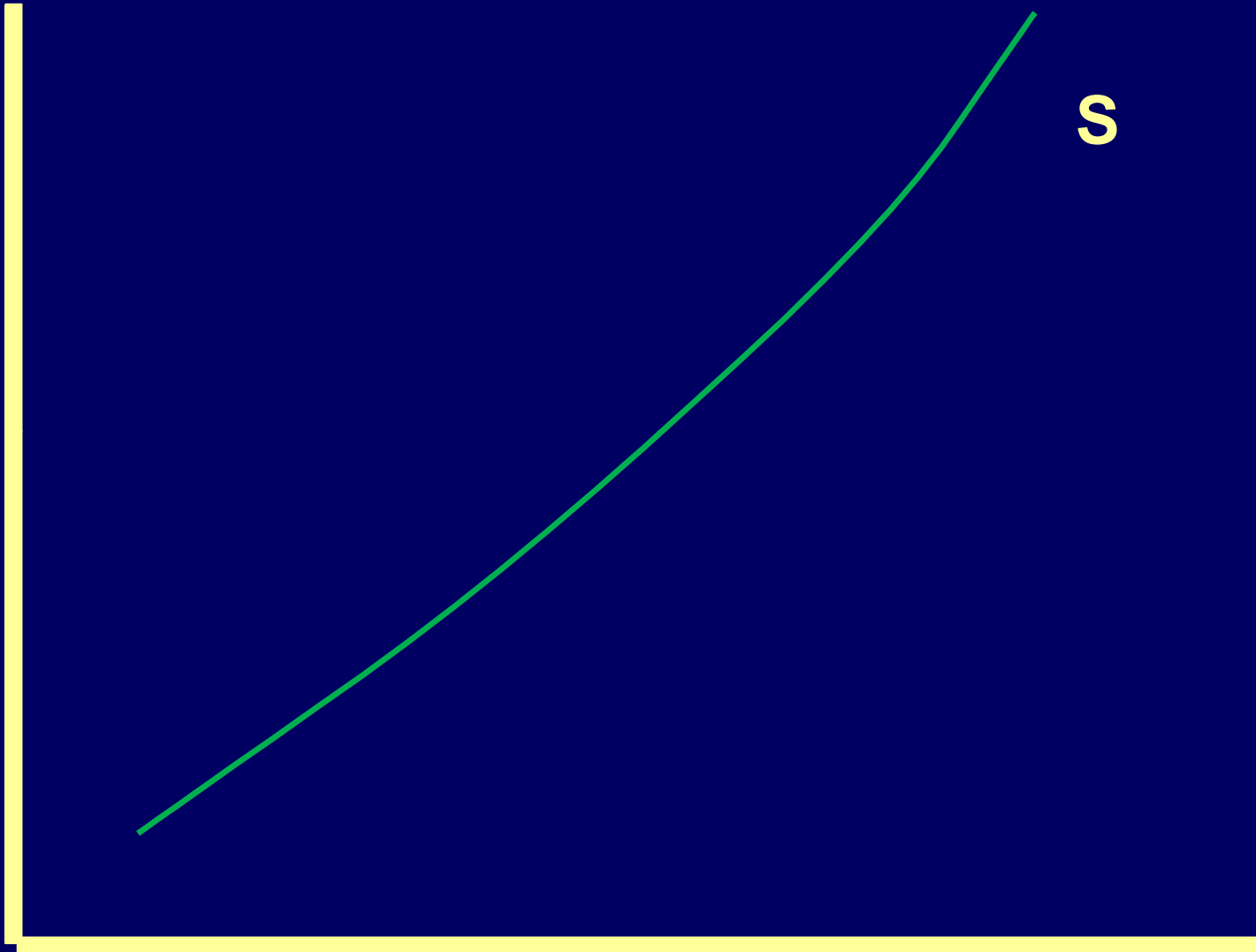
Willing and Able to

Place on the Market

At a Specified Set of Prices

During A Specified Period of Time

Price

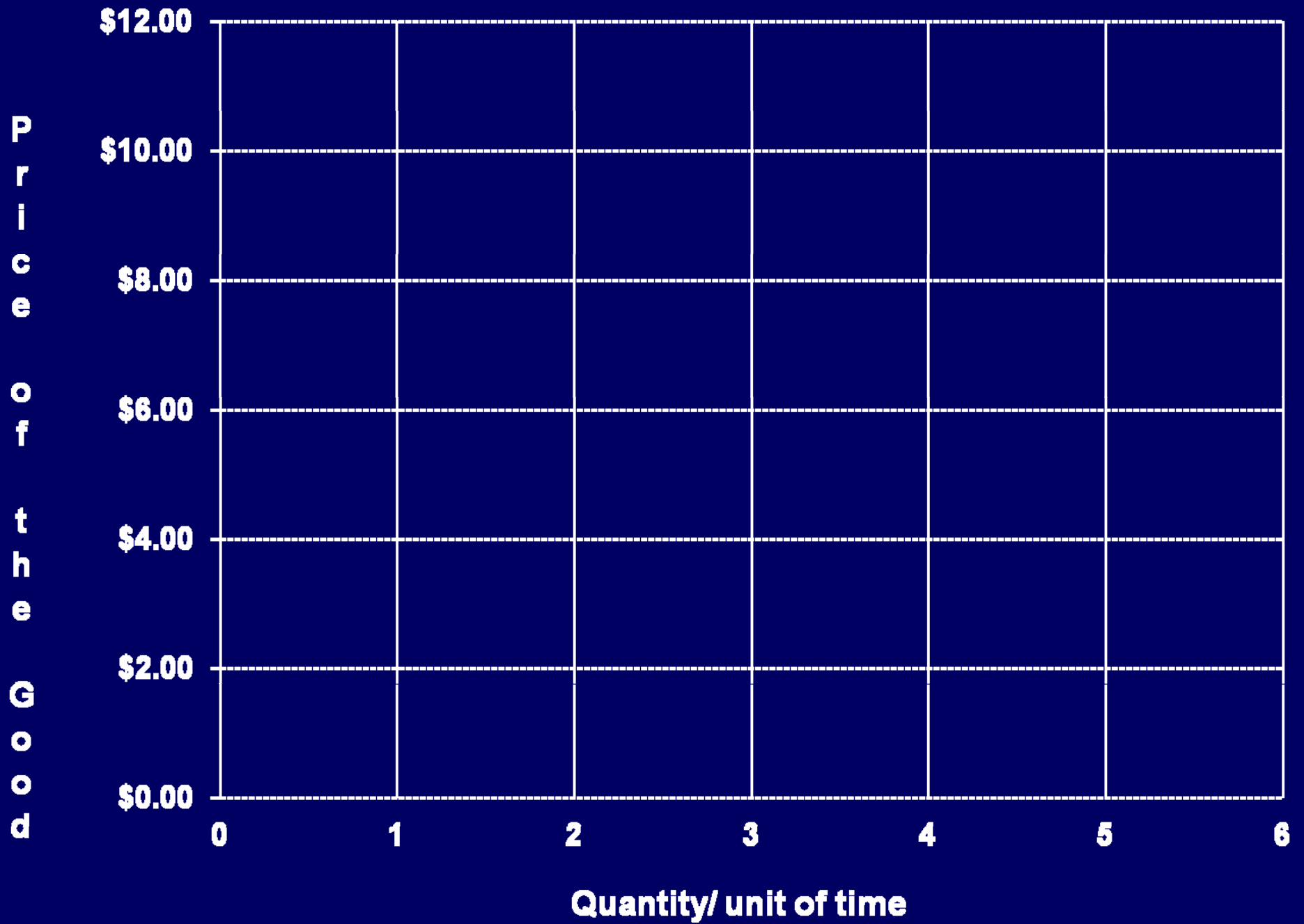


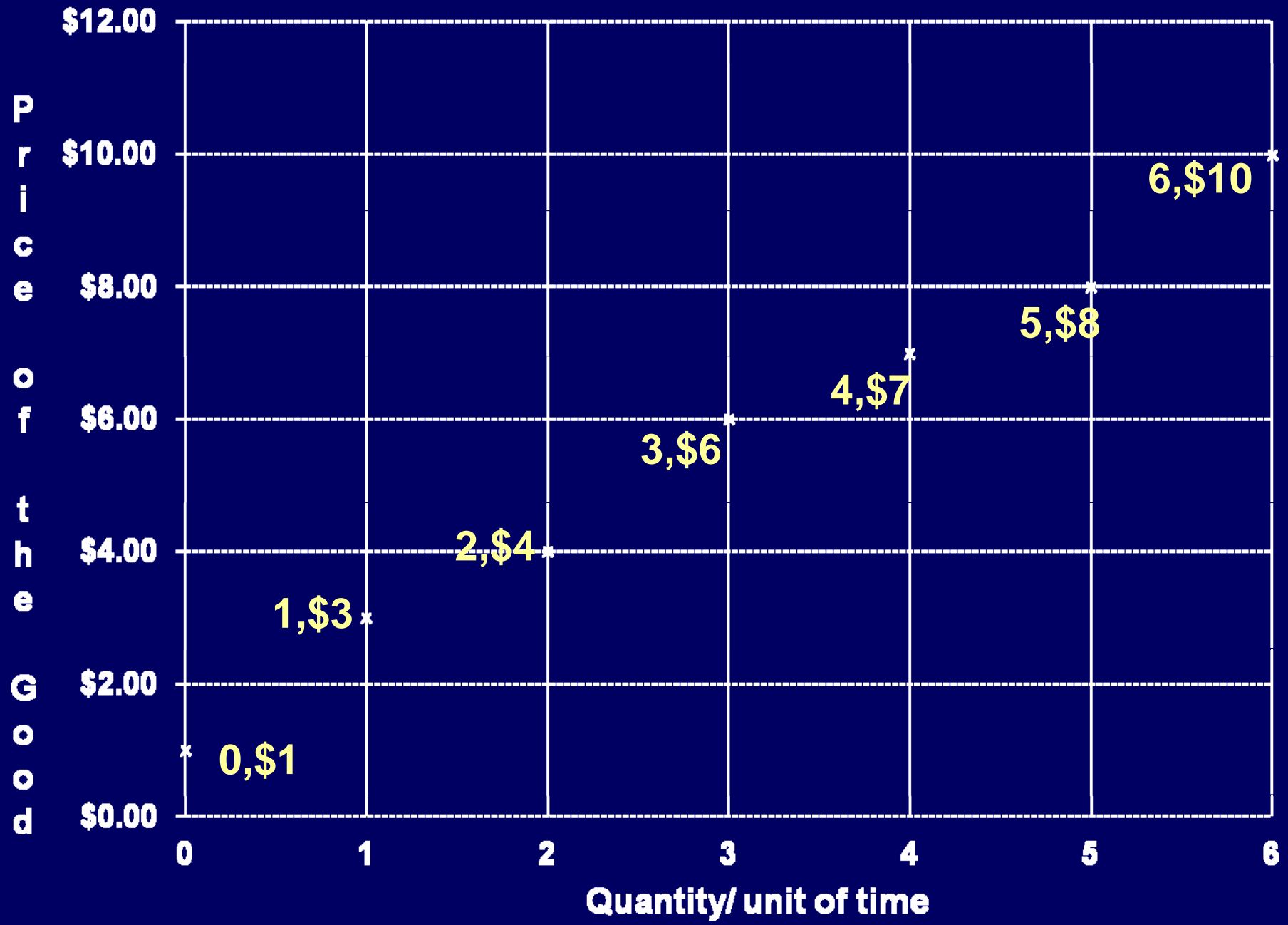
S

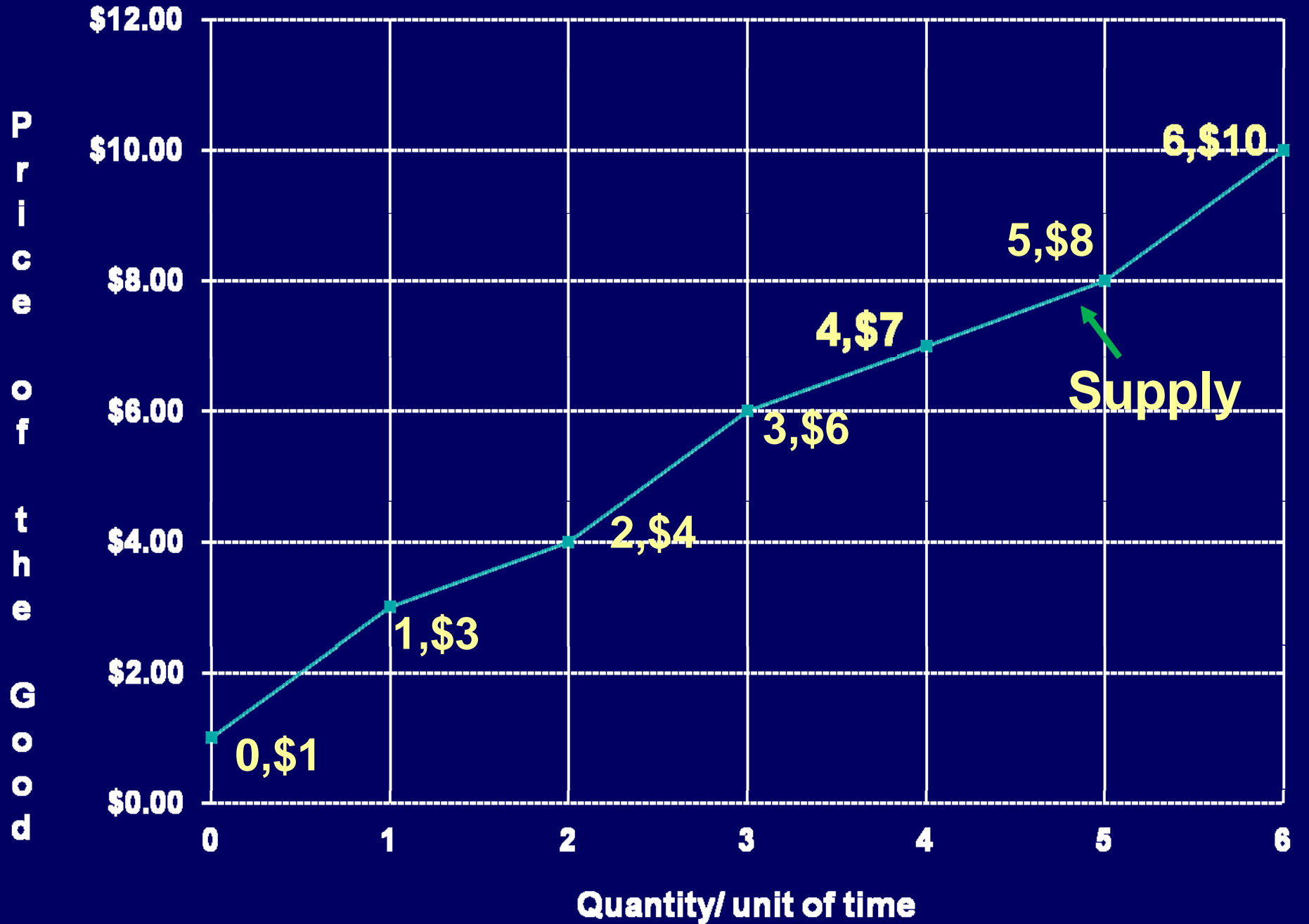
Quantity/ unit of time

A Supply Schedule

Price \$	Quantity Supplied Per Unit of Time
10	6
8	5
7	4
6	3
4	2
3	1
1	0







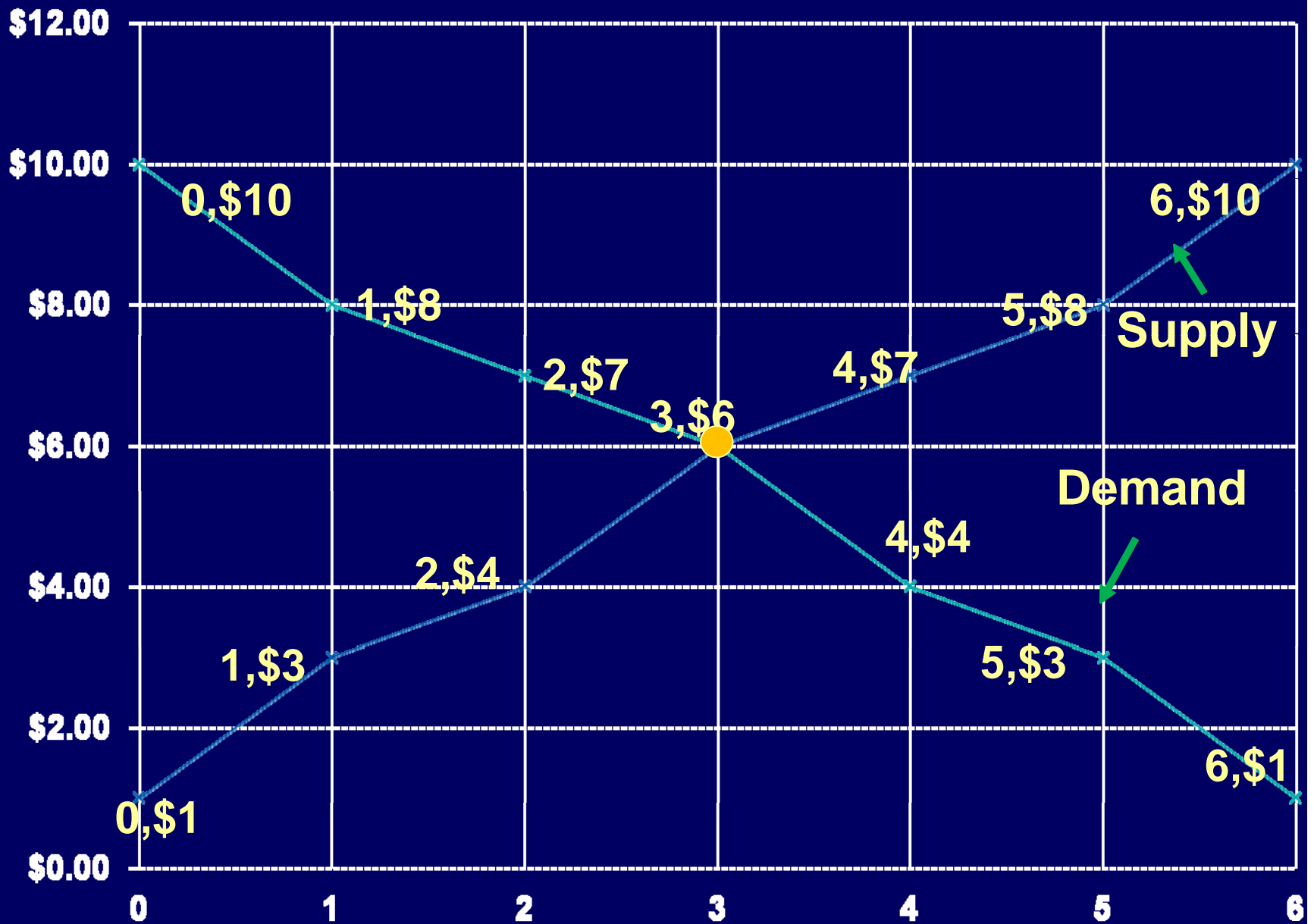
Equilibrium Demand and Supply Conditions

Equilibrium Conditions

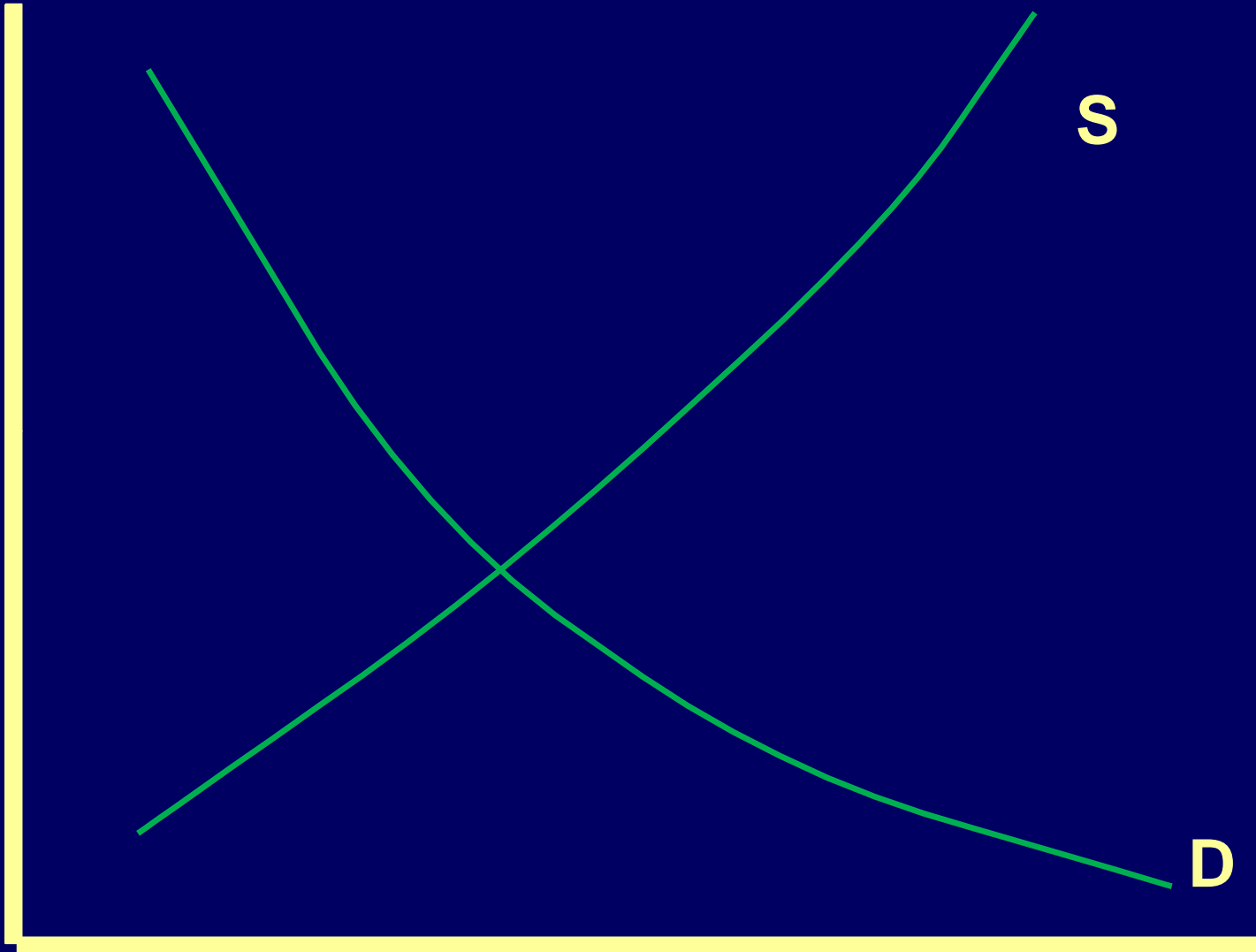
Price \$	Quantity Demanded	Quantity Supplied	
10	0	6	
8	1	5	
7	2	4	
<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Equilibrium</u>
4	4	2	
3	5	1	
1	6	0	



P
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Price



S

D

Quantity/ unit of time

Price

S

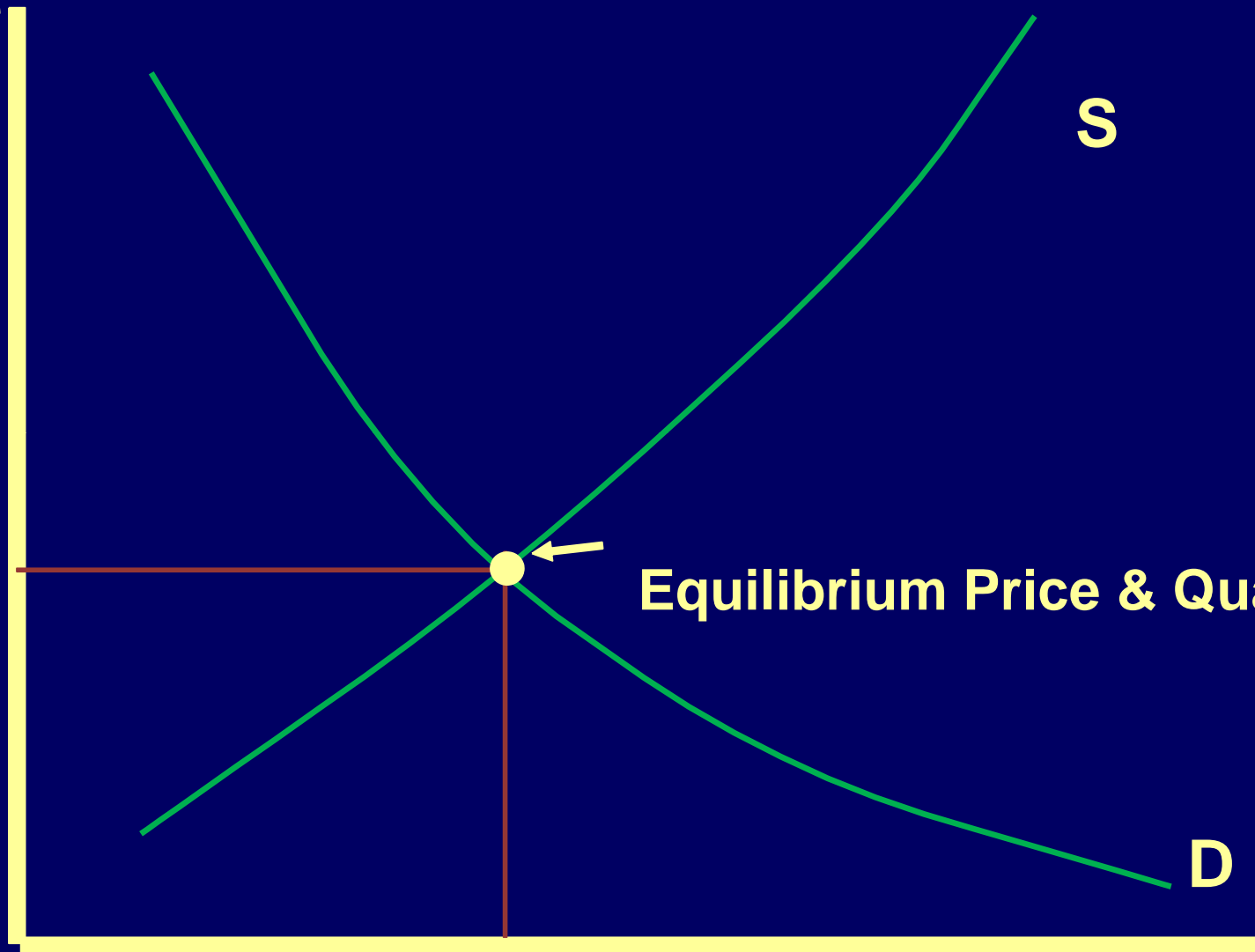
P^*

Equilibrium Price & Quantity

D

Q^*

Quantity/ unit of time



Price

P_n

P_o^*

Q_o^*

Q_n

Quantity/ unit of time

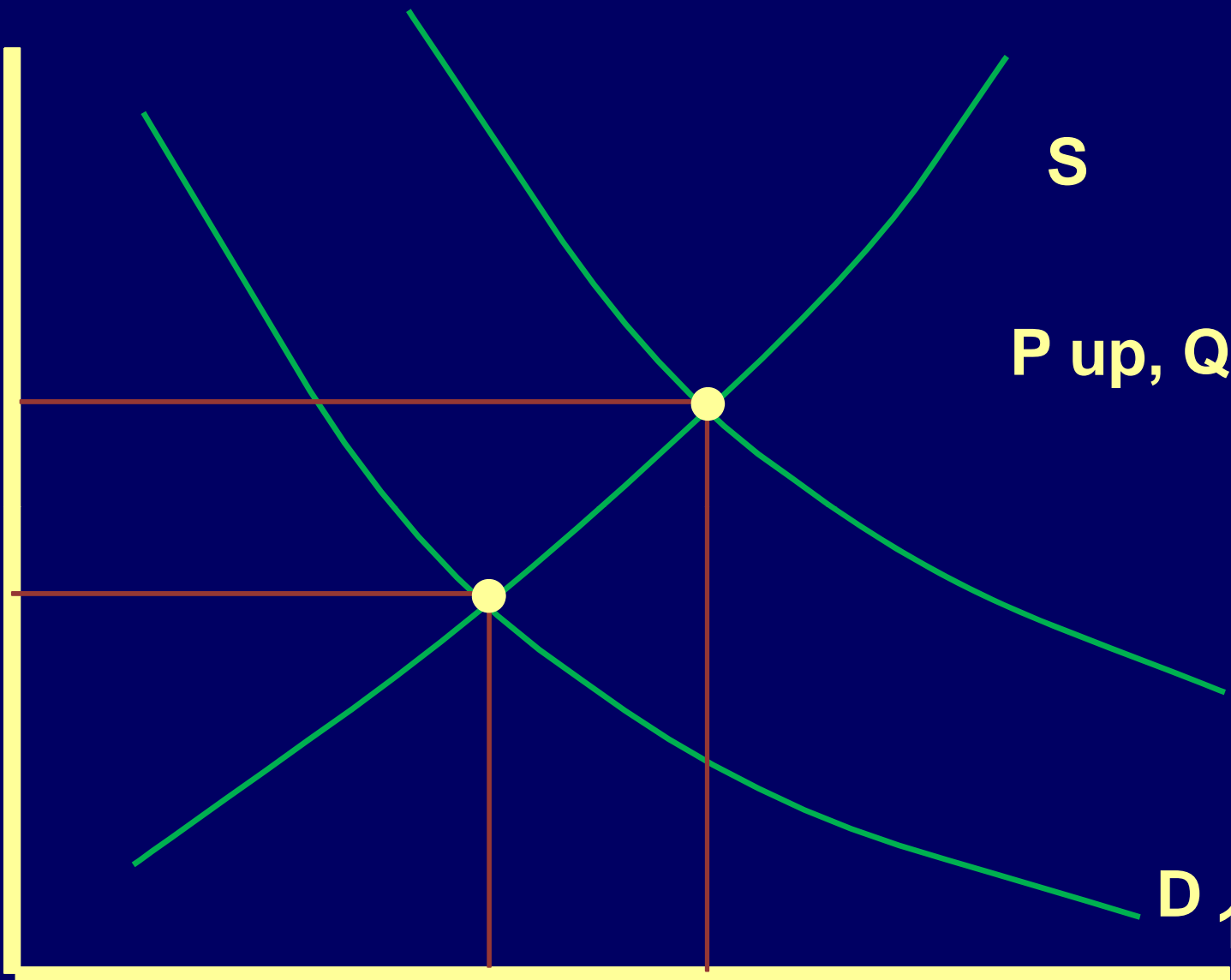
S

P up, Q up

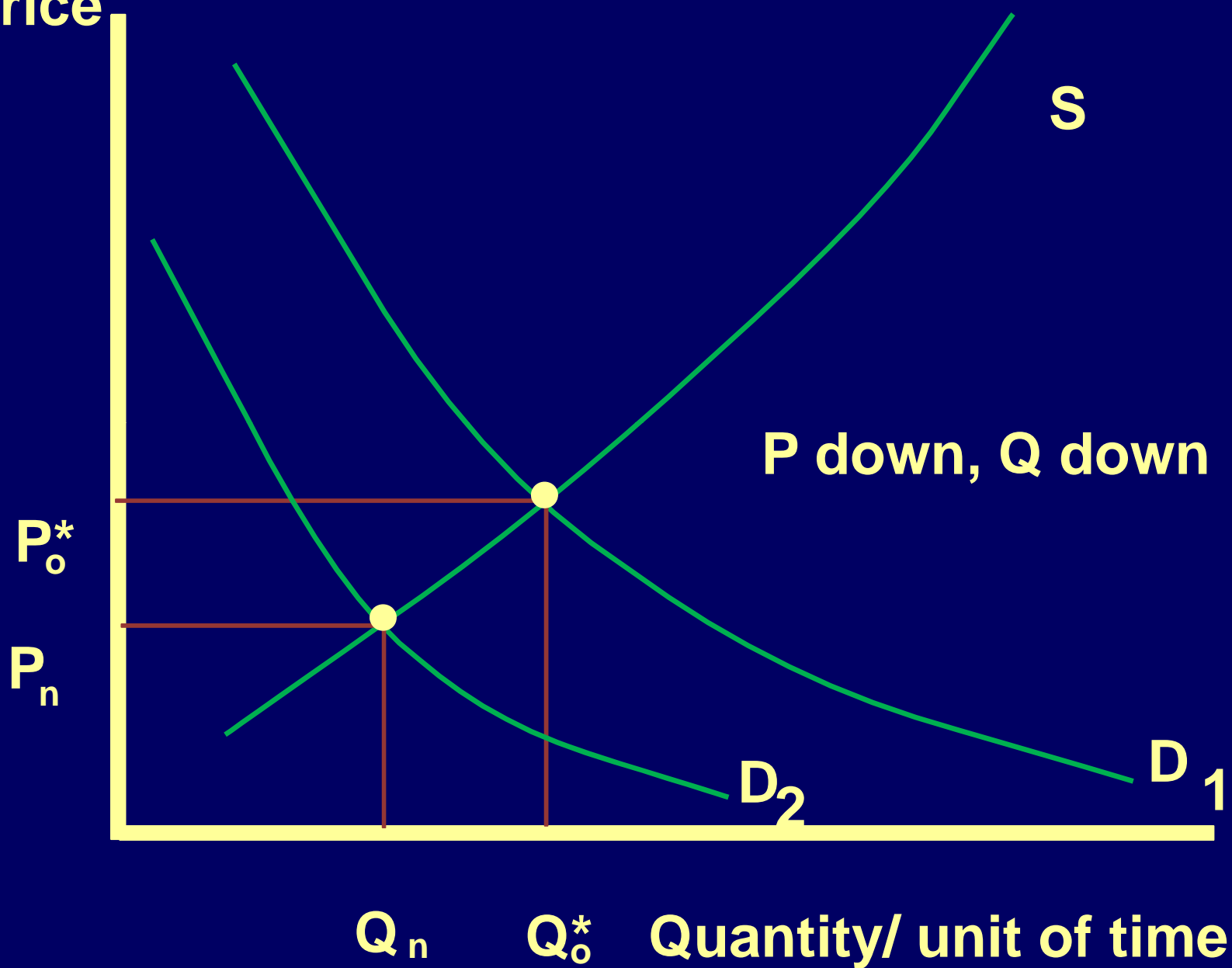
D_2

D_1

Shift in Demand



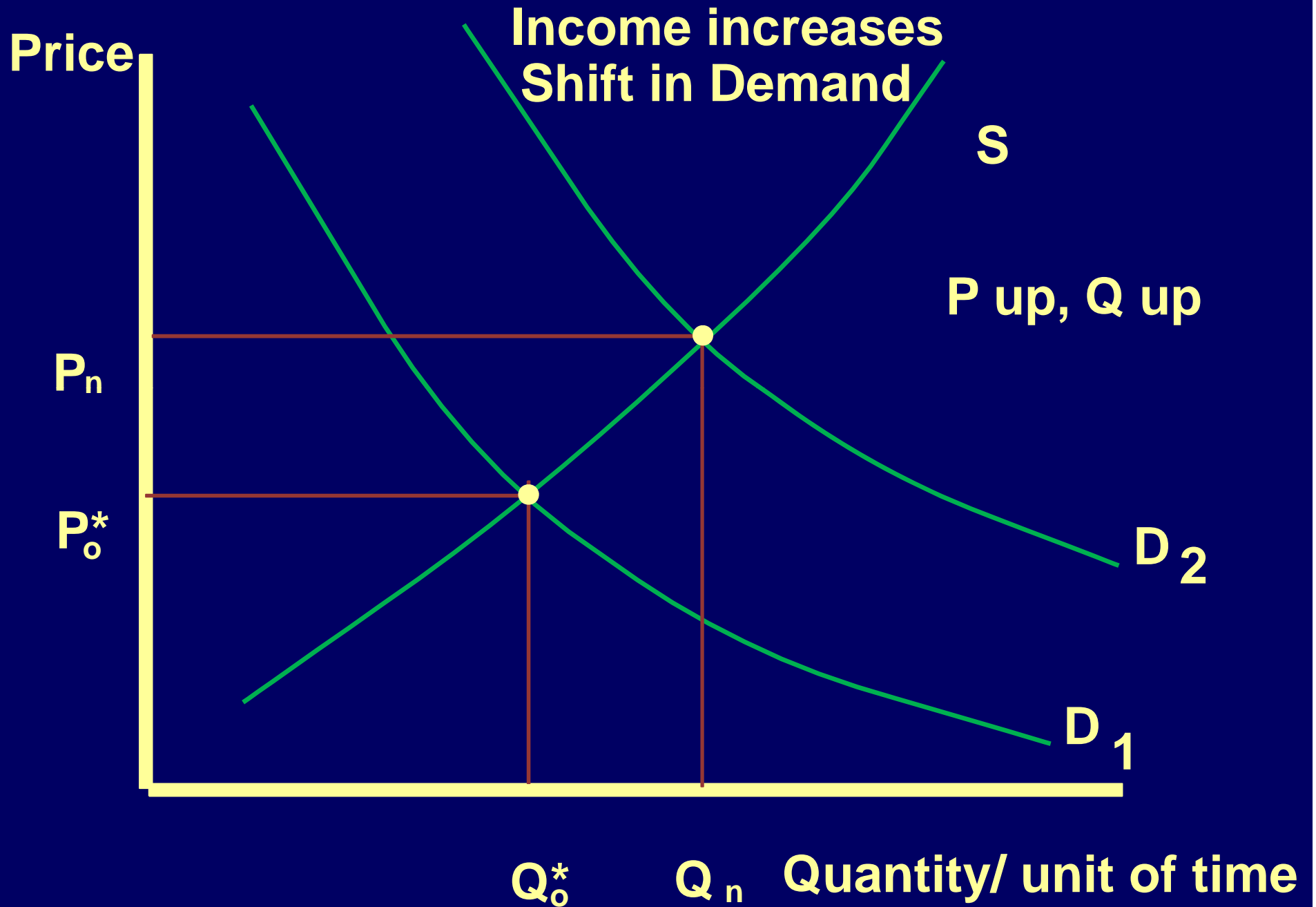
Price



Shift in Demand

Shifters of the Demand Curve

- 1. Number of Consumers**
- 2. Consumer Income**
- 3. Consumer Tastes and Preferences**
- 4. Consumer Expectations**
- 5. Prices of Substitute
And Complementary Goods**



Price

**Income Decreases
Shift in Demand**

S

P down Q down

P_o^*

P_n

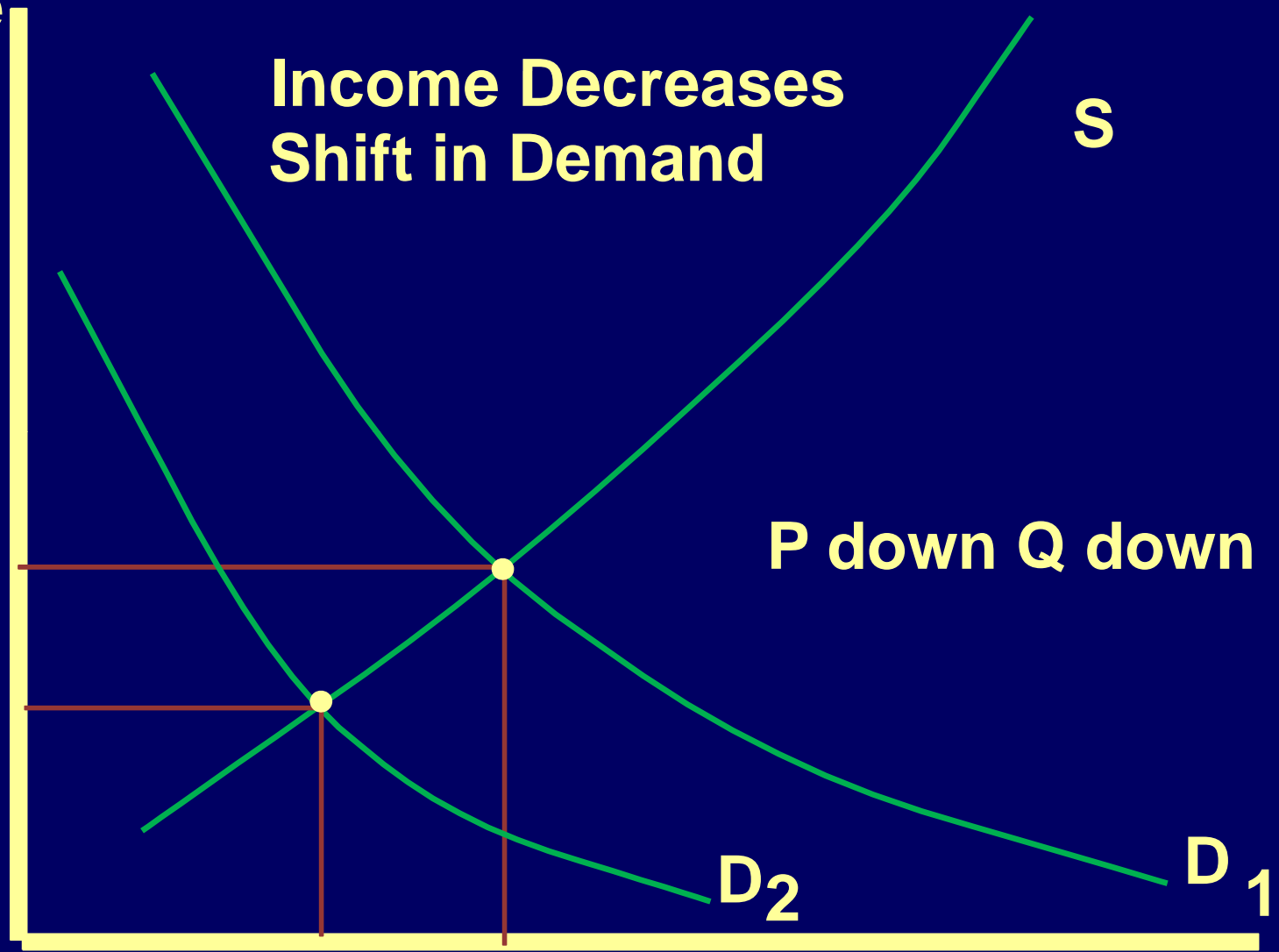
D_2

D_1

Q_n

Q_o^*

Quantity/ unit of time



Shifters of the Supply Curve

- 1. Number of Producers**
- 2. Costs of Production**
- 3. Producer Expectations**
- 4. Prices of Related Goods**
- 5. Technology**

Price

New Technology Shifts
Supply Curve to
the Right

Price Down,
Quantity Up

S^o

S^n

P_o^*

P_n

D

Q_o

Q_n

Quantity/ unit of time



Chapter 4: Introduction to Elasticities

Elasticities

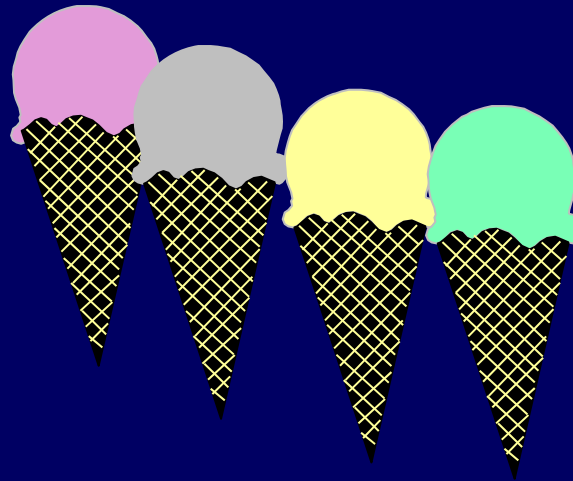
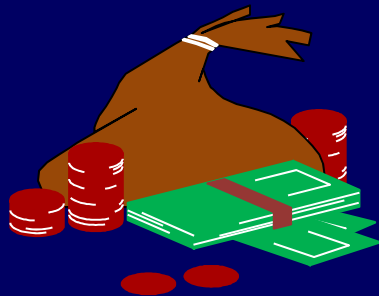
**An Elasticity measures
the responsiveness
of one economic variable
to changes in another
economic variable**



For example,

How responsive is quantity supplied to changes in the price of a good?

How responsive is quantity demanded to changes in the price of a good?



Any Elasticity is a Pure number...

That is,

Elasticities have no units
such as \$, lbs. or bushels

3

0.05 -1.2 4.6 -0.06

Any elasticity is a

ratio of two
percentage changes
in two different
economic variables

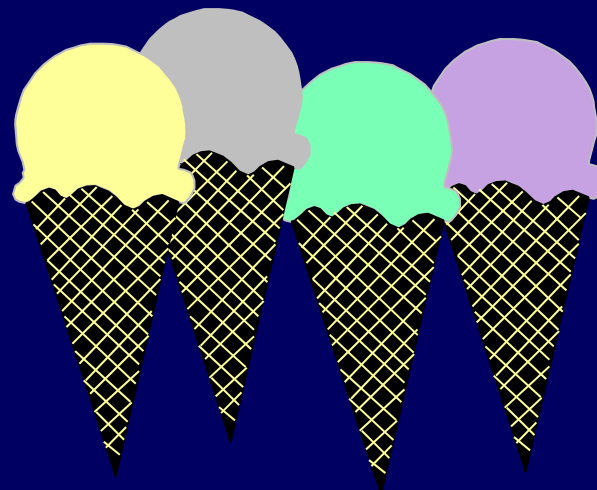
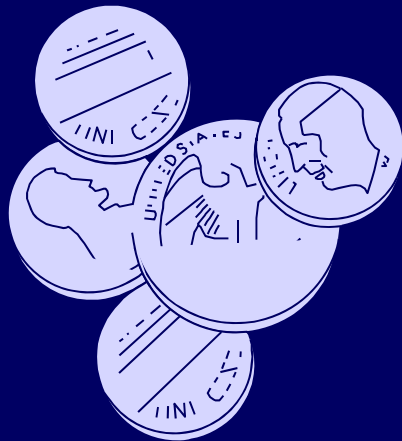
Percent change in quantity demanded

Percent change in price

For example,

Suppose the two economic variables are

Quantity Demanded (Q_d)
and Price (P)



*The Elasticity of Demand
is defined as*

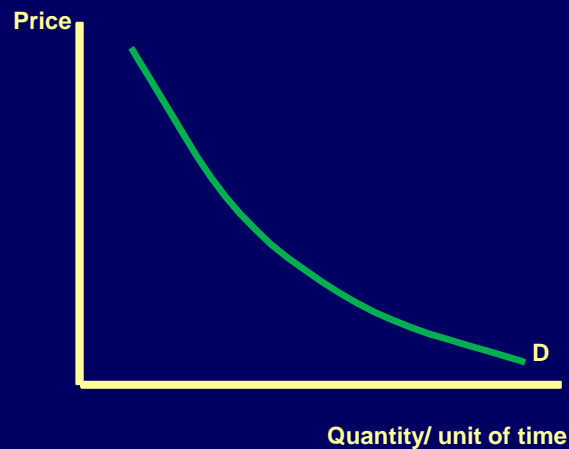
**The percentage
change in
Quantity Demanded
divided by
the percentage
change in Price**

or as

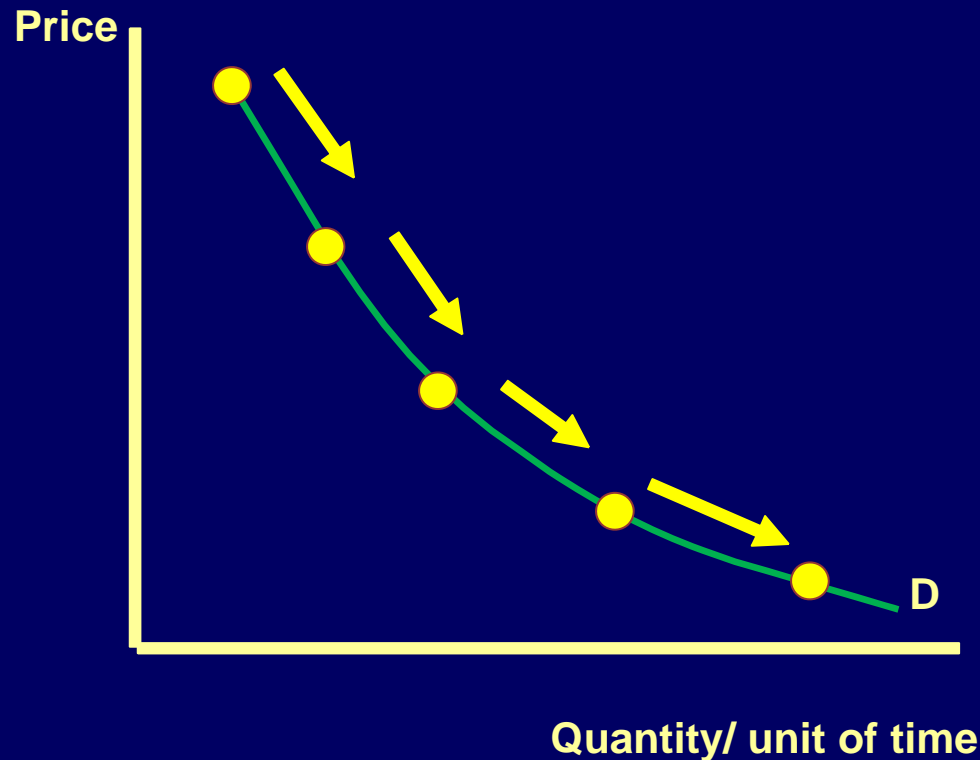
$$\frac{\% \Delta Q_d}{\% \Delta P}$$

where Δ denotes change
Greek Delta

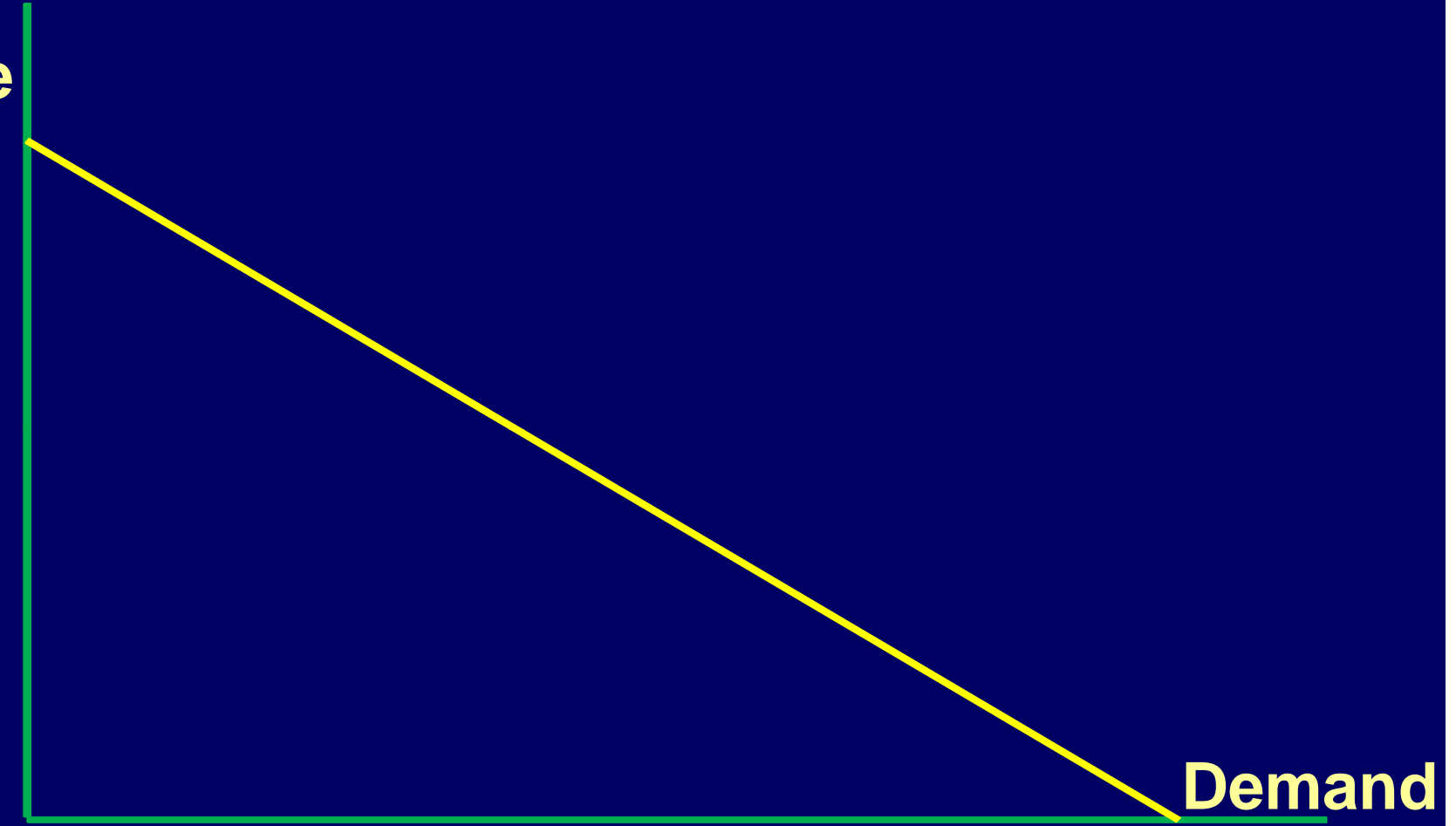
**An elasticity of demand
is not the slope
of the demand curve
but is linked to the slope**



**For most (but not all!)
demand curves
the elasticity of demand
varies as you move along
the demand curve**



Price



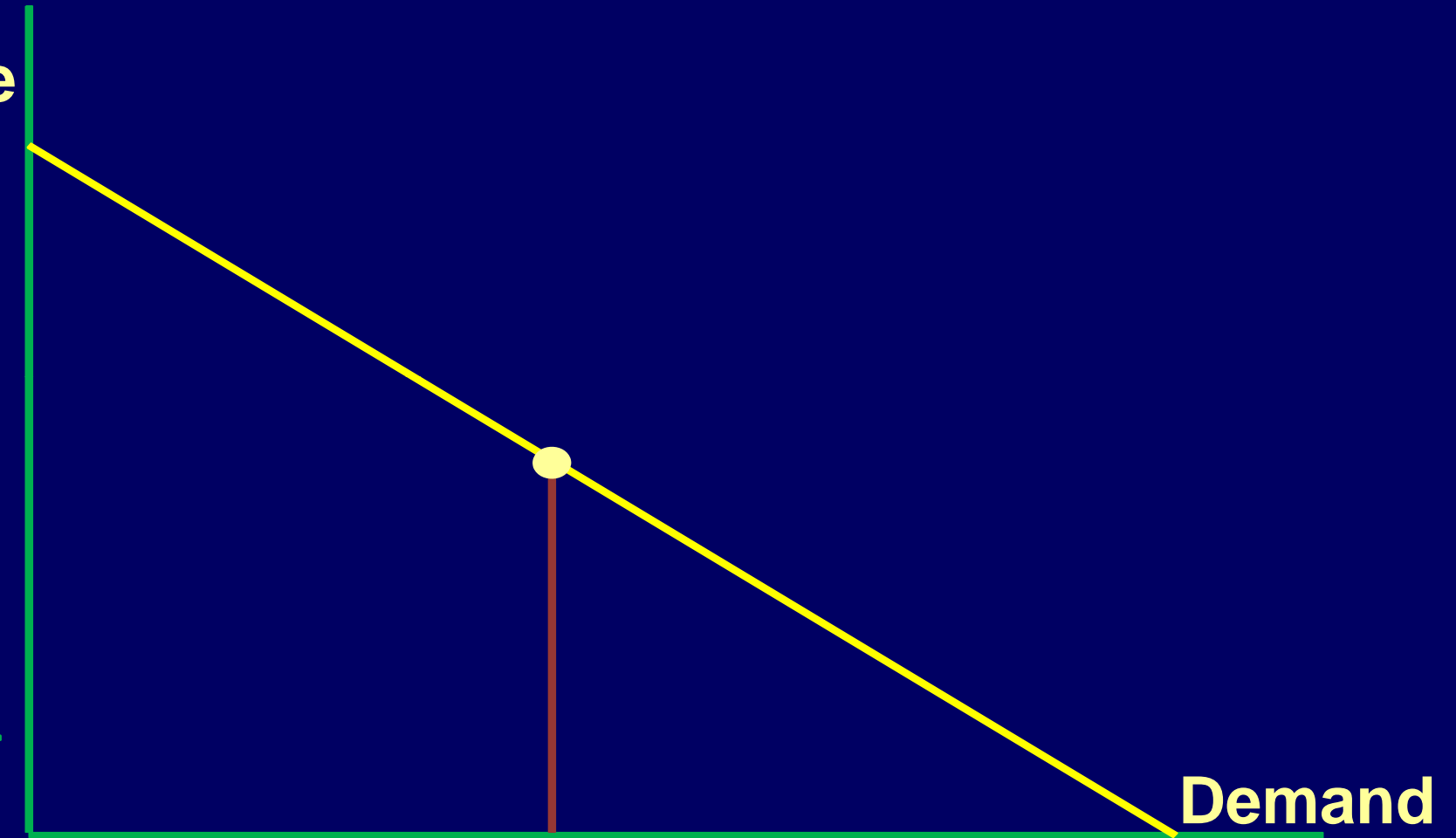
O

Demand

C

Quantity Demanded/ unit of time

Price

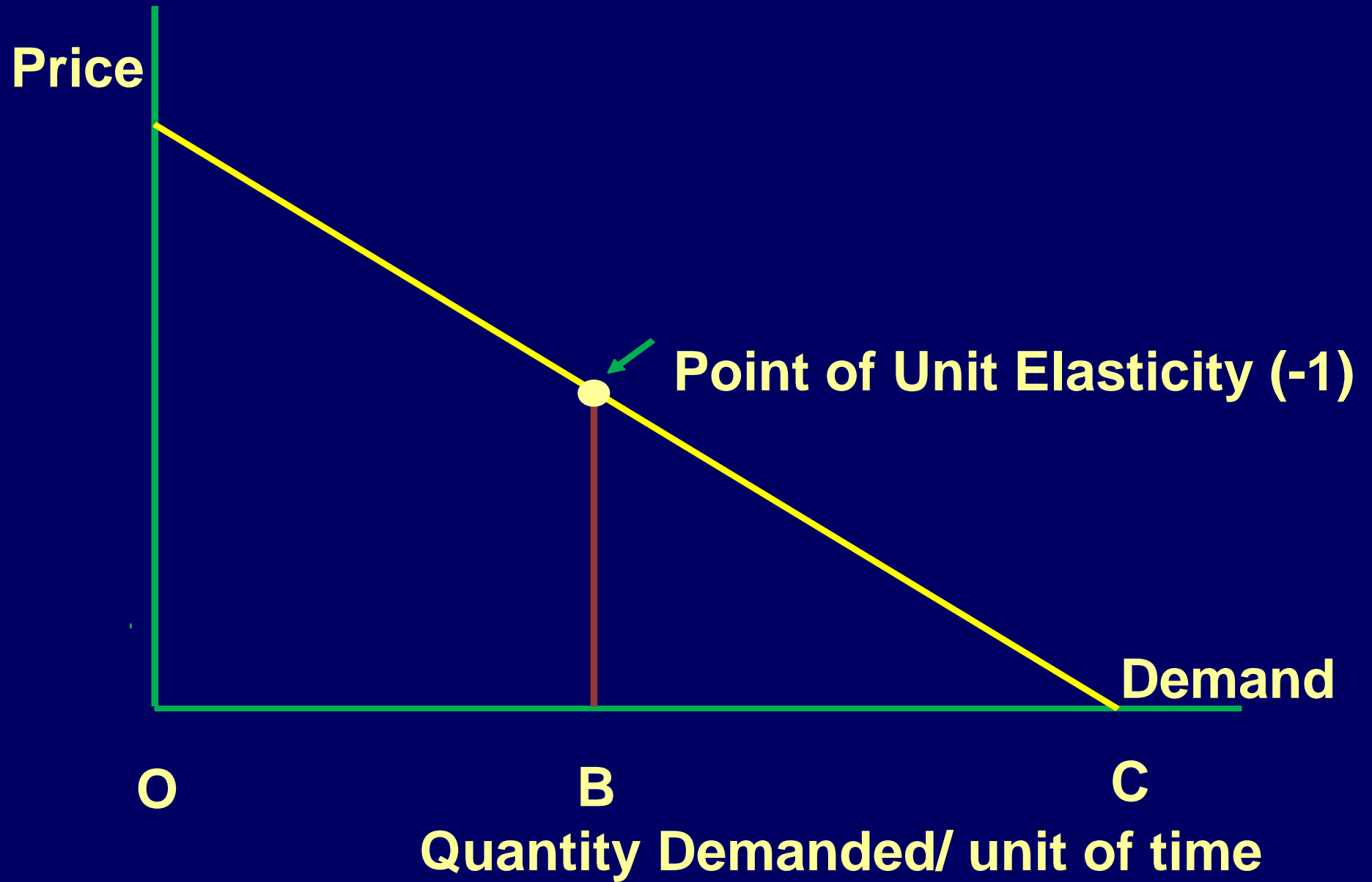


O

B

C

Quantity Demanded/ unit of time



Price

$OB=BC$ the $E_d = -1$

Elastic Portion

Point of Unit Elasticity (-1)

Inelastic Portion

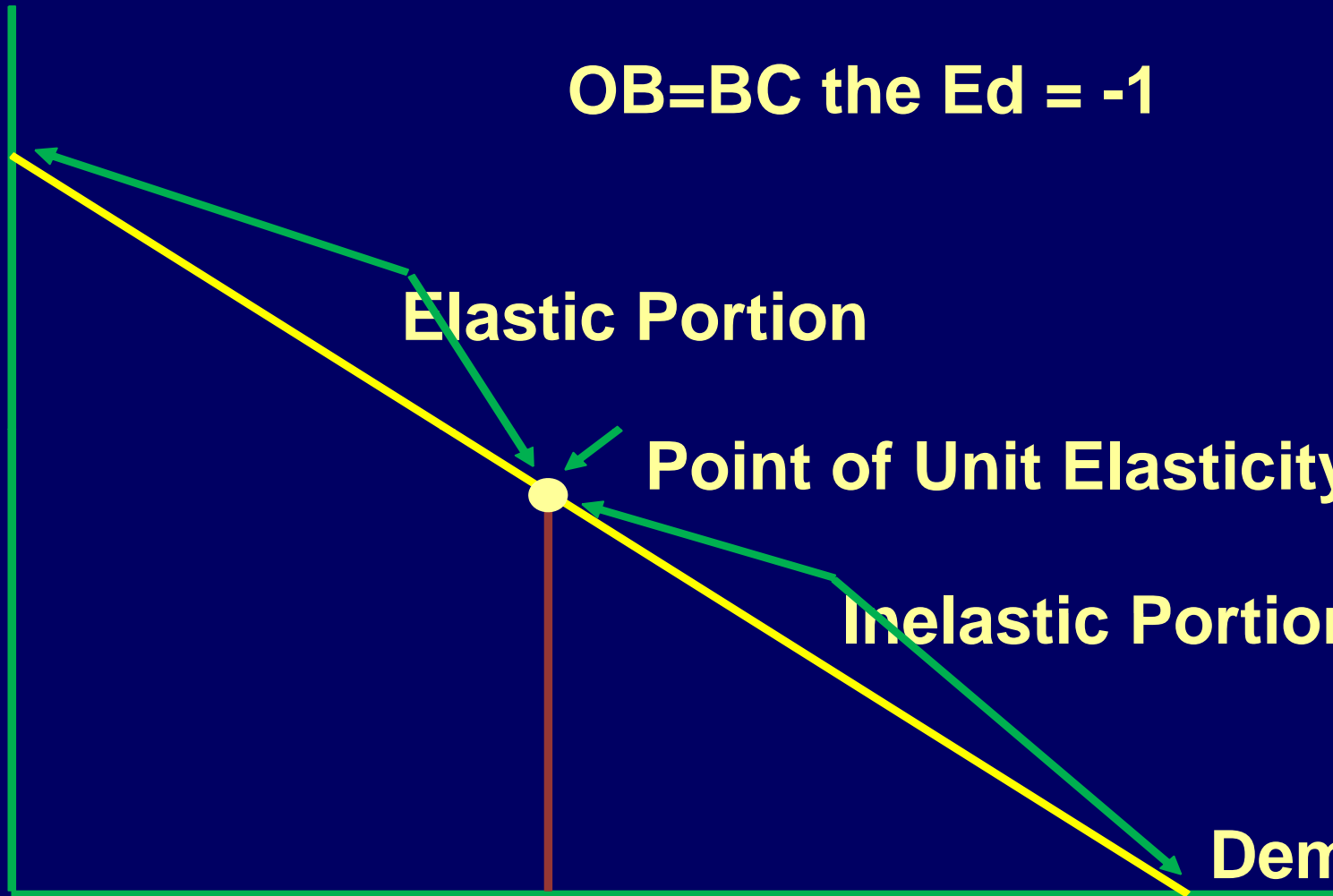
Demand

O

B

C

Quantity Demanded/ unit of time



Price

$OB=BC$ the $E_d = -1$
 $BC < OB$ then demand is inelastic

Elastic Portion

Point of Unit Elasticity (-1)

Inelastic Portion

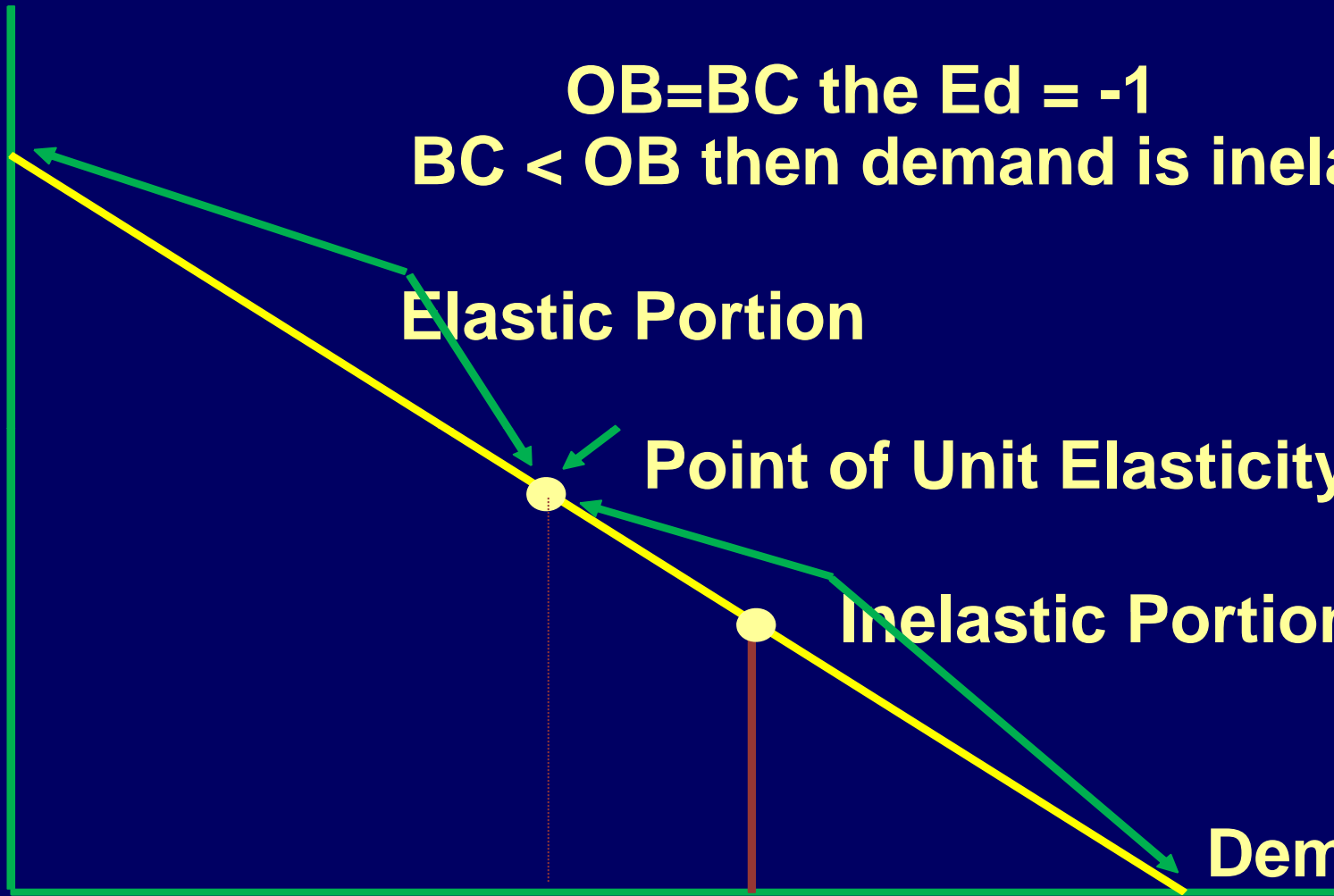
Demand

O

B

C

Quantity Demanded/ unit of time



Price

$OB=BC$ the $E_d = -1$

$BC < OB$ then demand is inelastic

$BC > OB$ then demand is elastic

Elastic Portion

Point of Unit Elasticity (-1)

Inelastic Portion

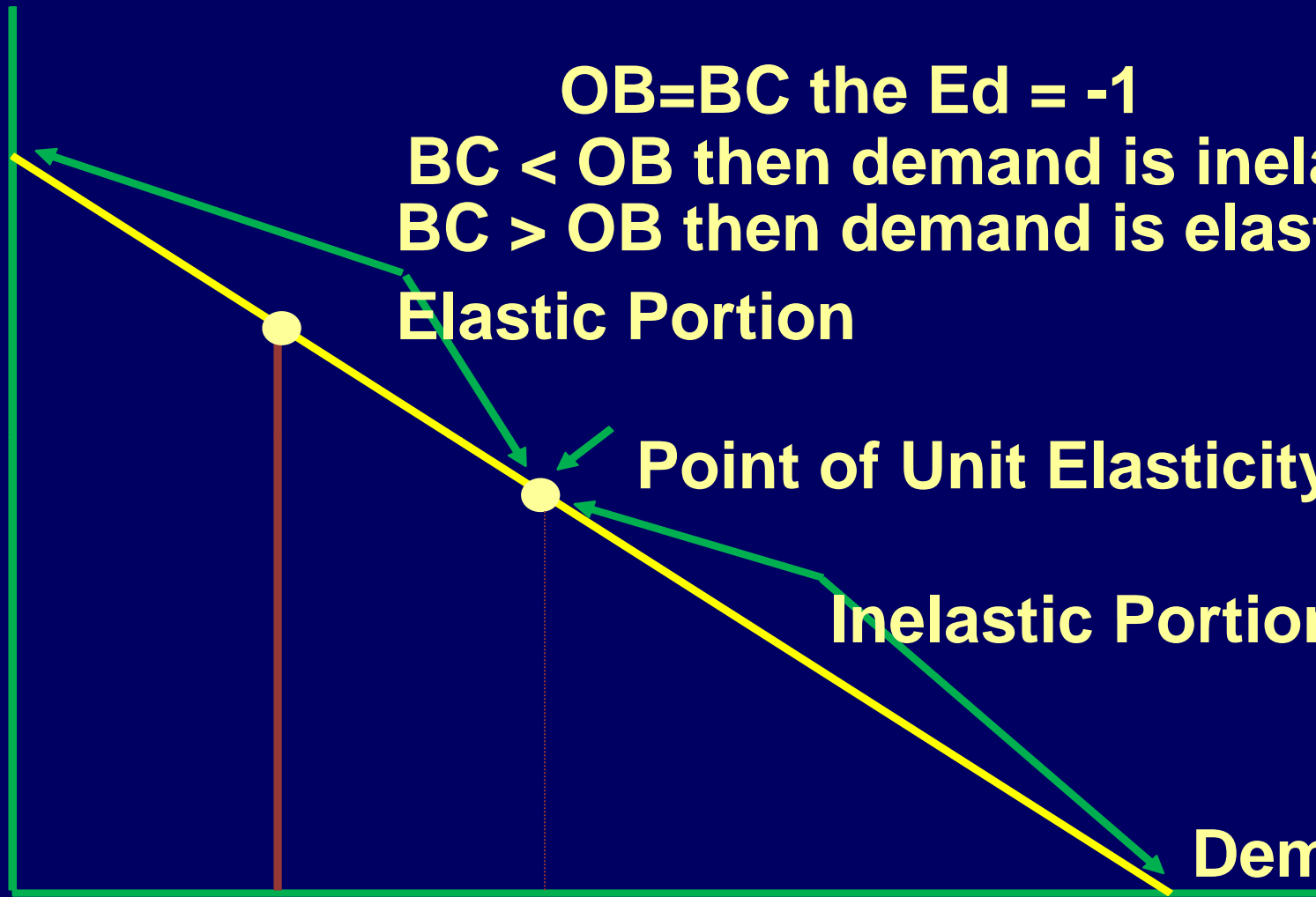
Demand

O

B

C

Quantity Demanded/ unit of time



Demand elasticities are negative because price and quantity demanded move in opposite directions.

Price up; Quantity Demanded down.

**Elastic demand: a number more negative than -1
-2, -3, -6.5**

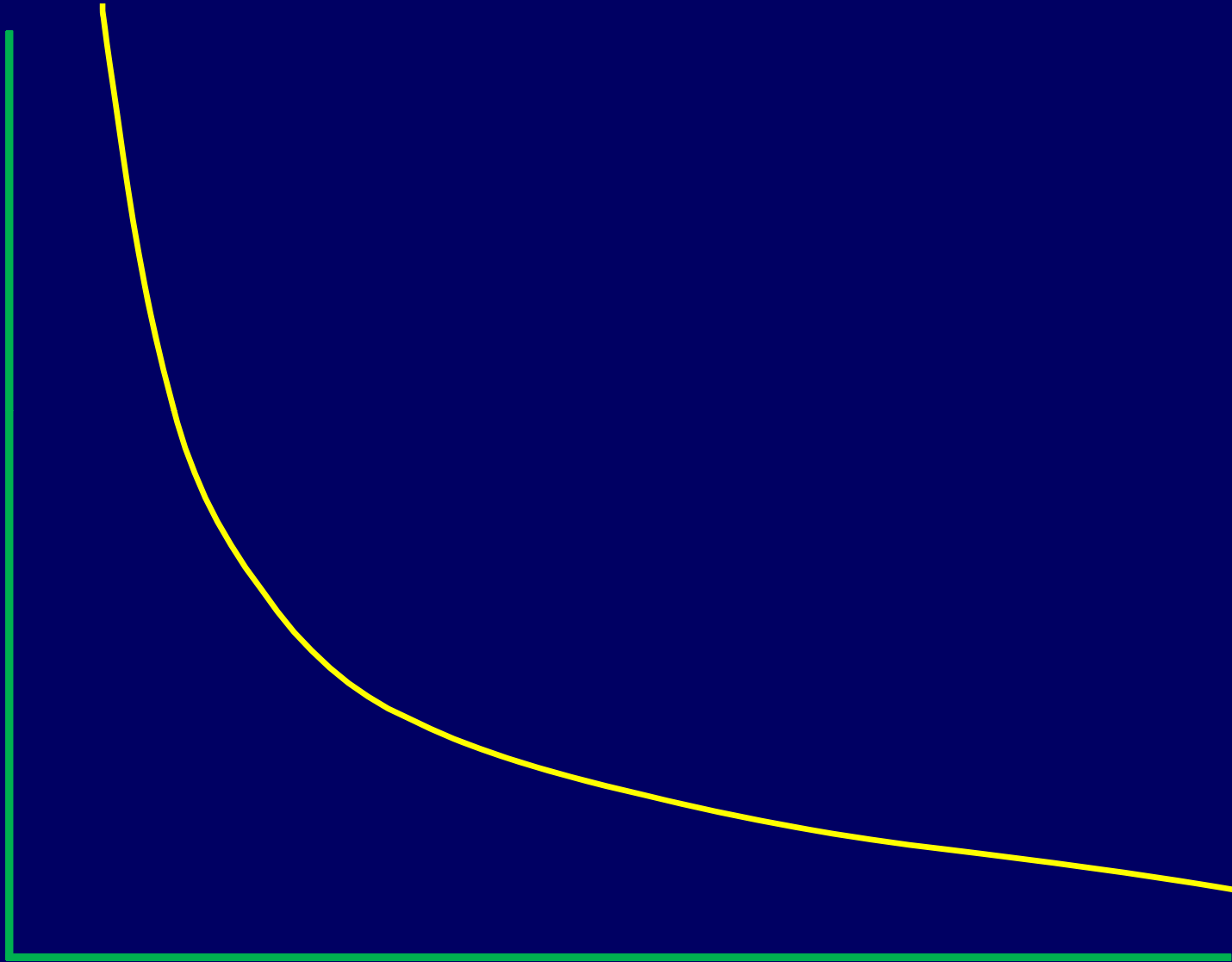
**Inelastic demand: A number between 0 and -1
-0.2, -0.3, -0.73**

Unitary elasticity of demand: exactly -1

A Curve with Unitary Elasticity Everywhere

-1 elasticity of demand everywhere

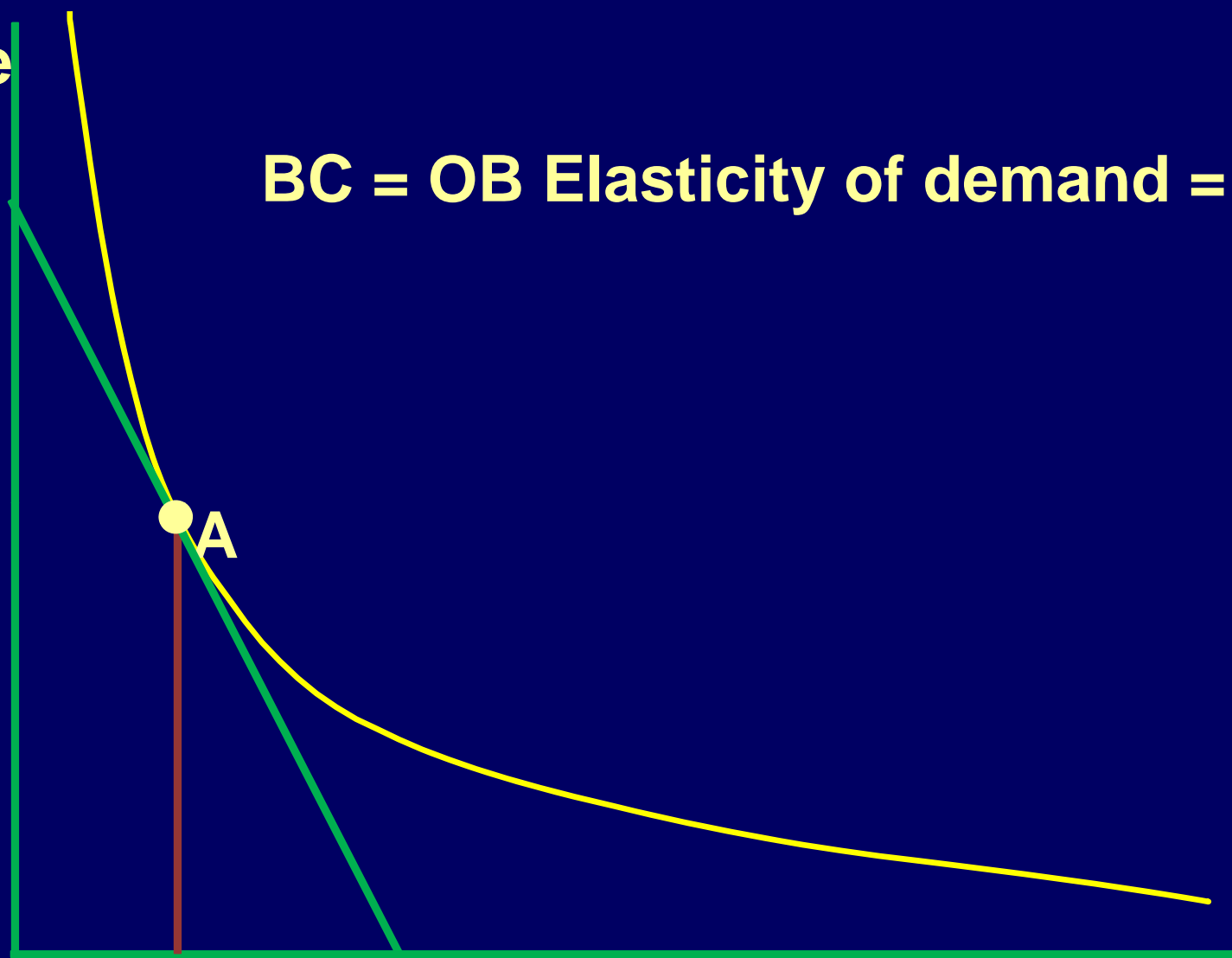
Price



Quantity demanded per unit of time

Price

$BC = OB$ Elasticity of demand = -1



O

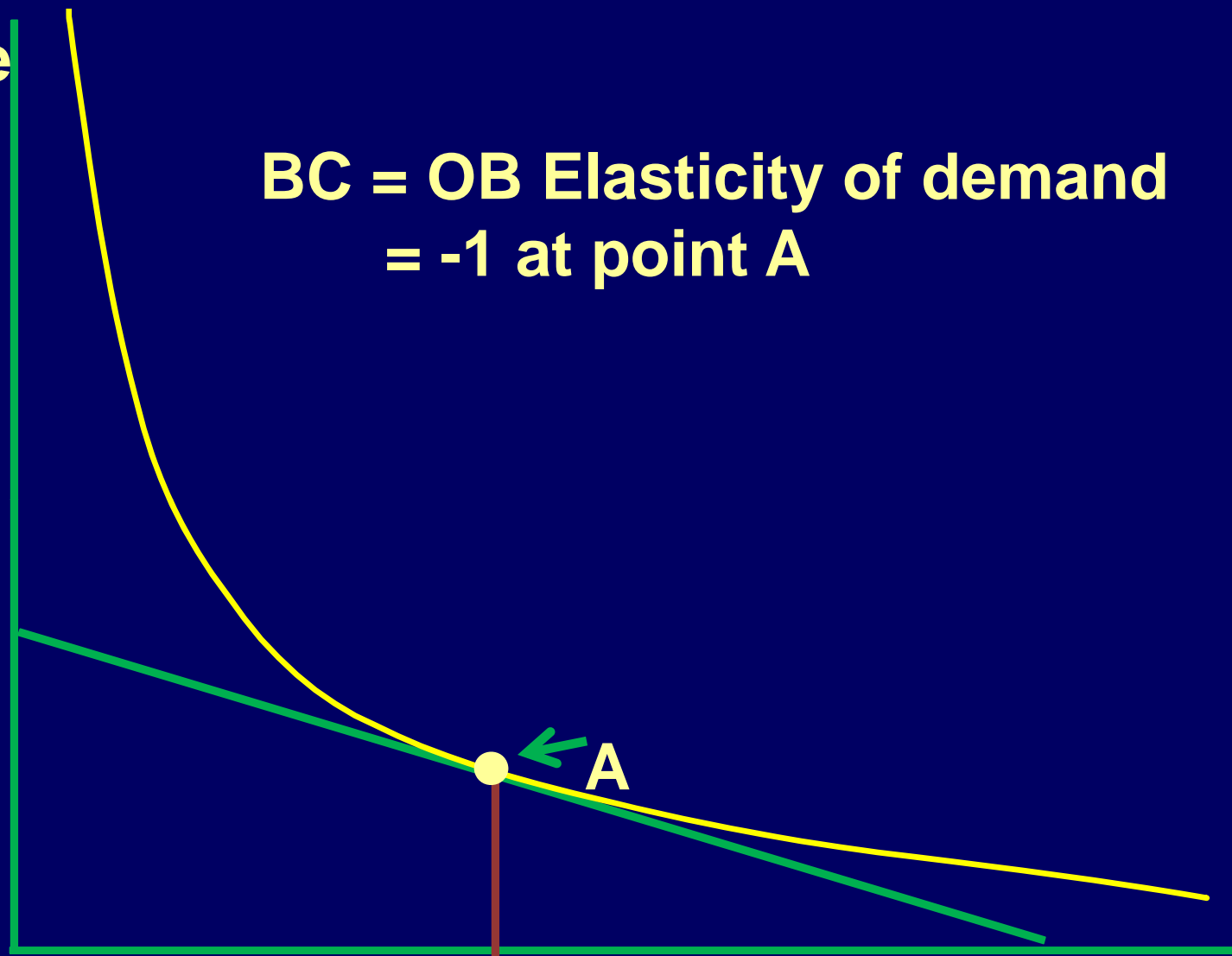
B

C

Quantity demanded per unit of time

Price

$BC = OB$ Elasticity of demand
= -1 at point A



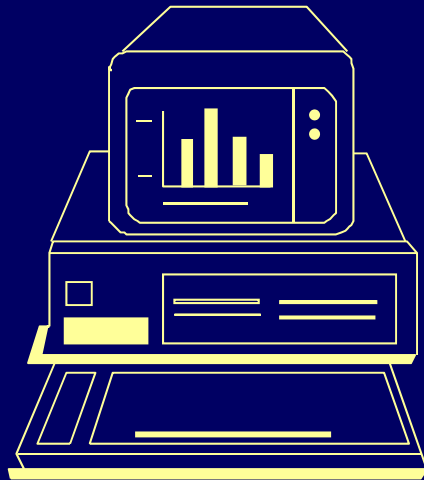
O

B

C

Quantity demanded per unit of time

Calculating Demand Elasticities



Suppose that

Price **INCREASES**
from \$6 to \$8
and Quantity Demanded
DECREASES
from 12 units to 8 units

$$\frac{\% \Delta \text{ in Qd}}{\% \Delta \text{ in Price}} = \frac{\frac{8 - 12}{10}}{\frac{\$8 - \$6}{\$7}} = \frac{7 \times -4}{10 \times 2}$$

$$= -28/20 = -1.4 = E_d \quad \text{Elastic!}$$

Two Demand Curves



D2 is more ELASTIC than D1
Qd is *more responsive* to Price change
for D2 than D1

But, certain points on D2
are *less elastic* than
certain points on D1

This is because
elasticities change
as you move along
the demand curve

Other Elasticities

Price Elasticity of Supply

$$E_s = \frac{\% \Delta \text{ in } Q_s}{\% \Delta \text{ in } P}$$

Usually Positive

Income Elasticity of Demand

$$E_i = \frac{\% \Delta \text{ in } Q_d}{\% \Delta \text{ in Income}}$$

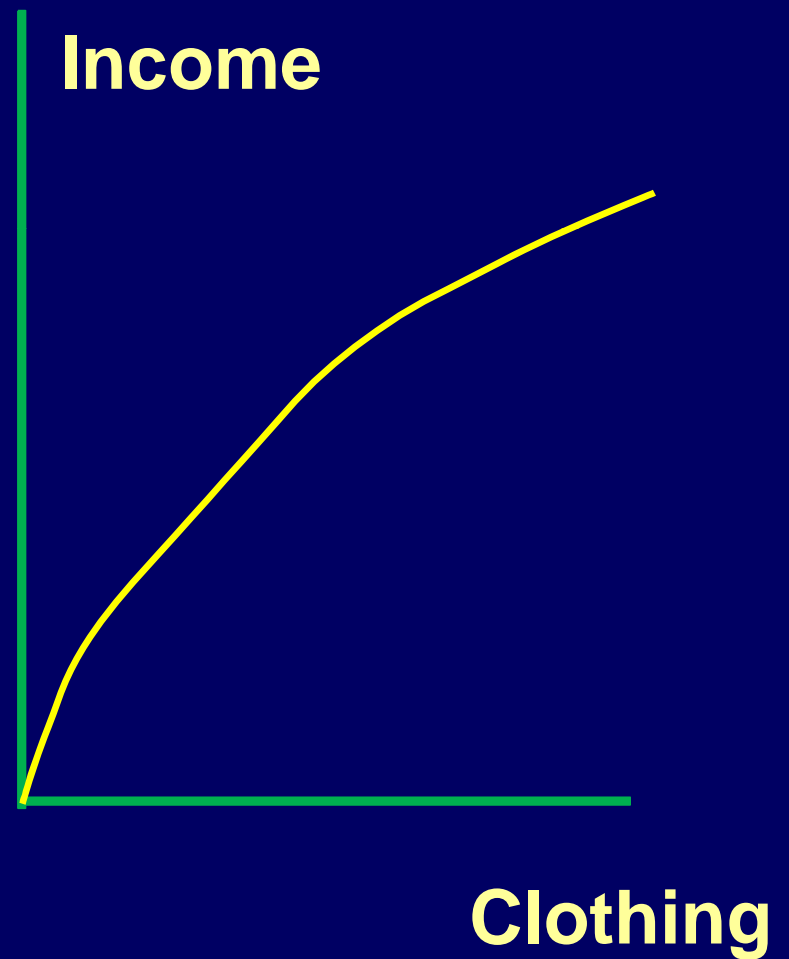
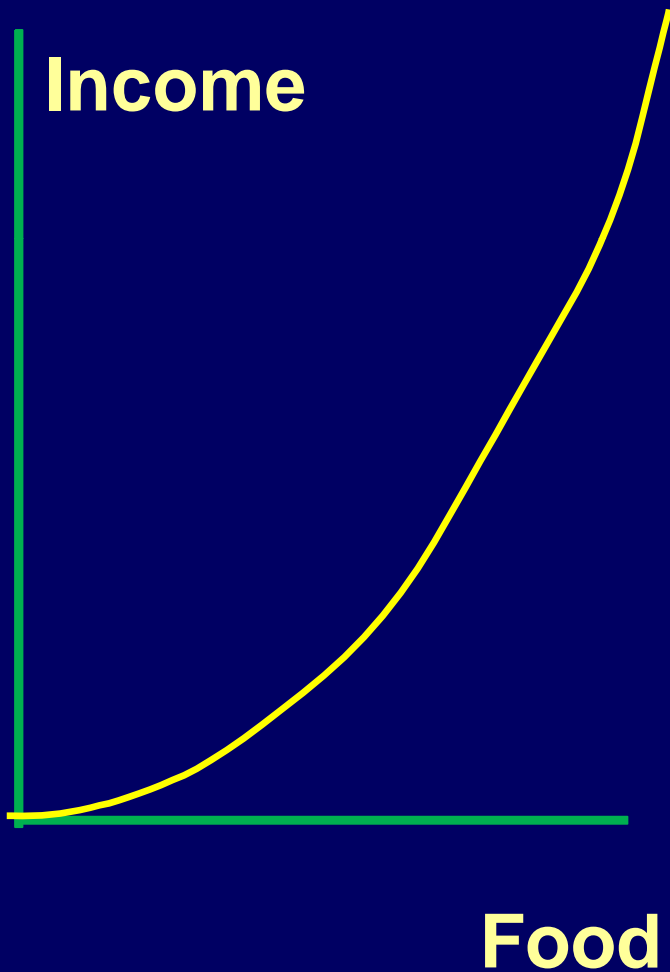
Usually Positive

Occasionally negative

Income Elasticity of Demand for hamburger

Engel Curve

Links Income and Quantity Demanded



Chapter 5: Utility Analysis

Utility:

A Measure of the Amount of

SATISFACTION

A Consumer Derives from
Units of a Good

Utility as a basis for Demand

David's Utility Schedule for Hamburgers

<u>Number</u>	<u>Total Utility</u>
---------------	----------------------

0	0
---	---

1	6
---	---

2	11
---	----

3	15
---	----

4	18
---	----

5	20
---	----

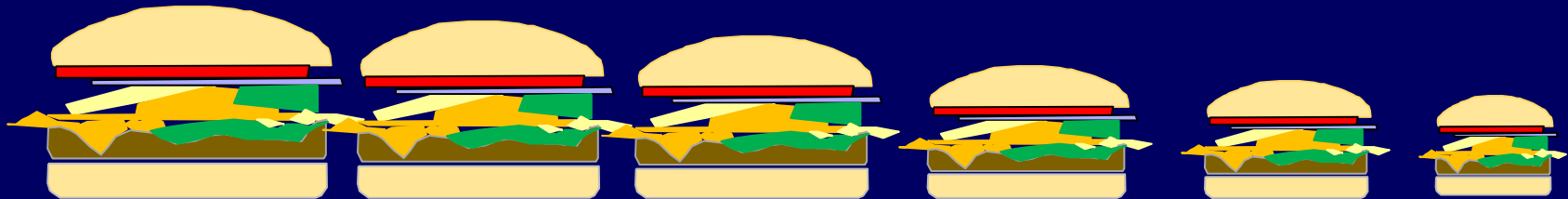
6	21
---	----

7	21.1
---	------

Diminishing Marginal Utility:

Each *ADDITIONAL* hamburger
Produces *Less and Less*

ADDITIONAL SATISFACTION



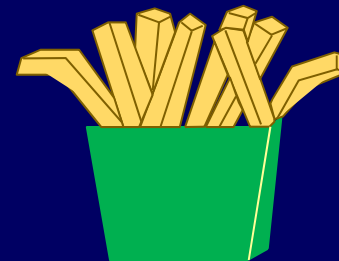
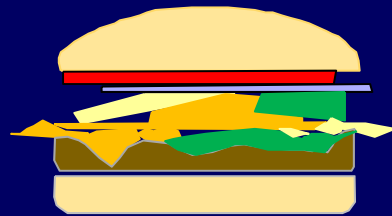
David's Utility Schedule for Hamburgers

Number	Total Utility	Marginal Utility
0	0	$(6-0)/1 = 6$
1	6	$(11-6)/1 = 5$
2	11	$(15-11)/1 = 4$
3	15	$(18-15)/1 = 3$
4	18	$(20-18)/1 = 2$
5	20	$(21-20)/1 = 1$
6	21	$(21.1-21)/1 = 0.1$
7	21.1	

Each additional hamburger produces less and less additional utility

Indifference Curve:

All Possible Combinations
of Two Goods that Produce
the Same Amount of Total Utility

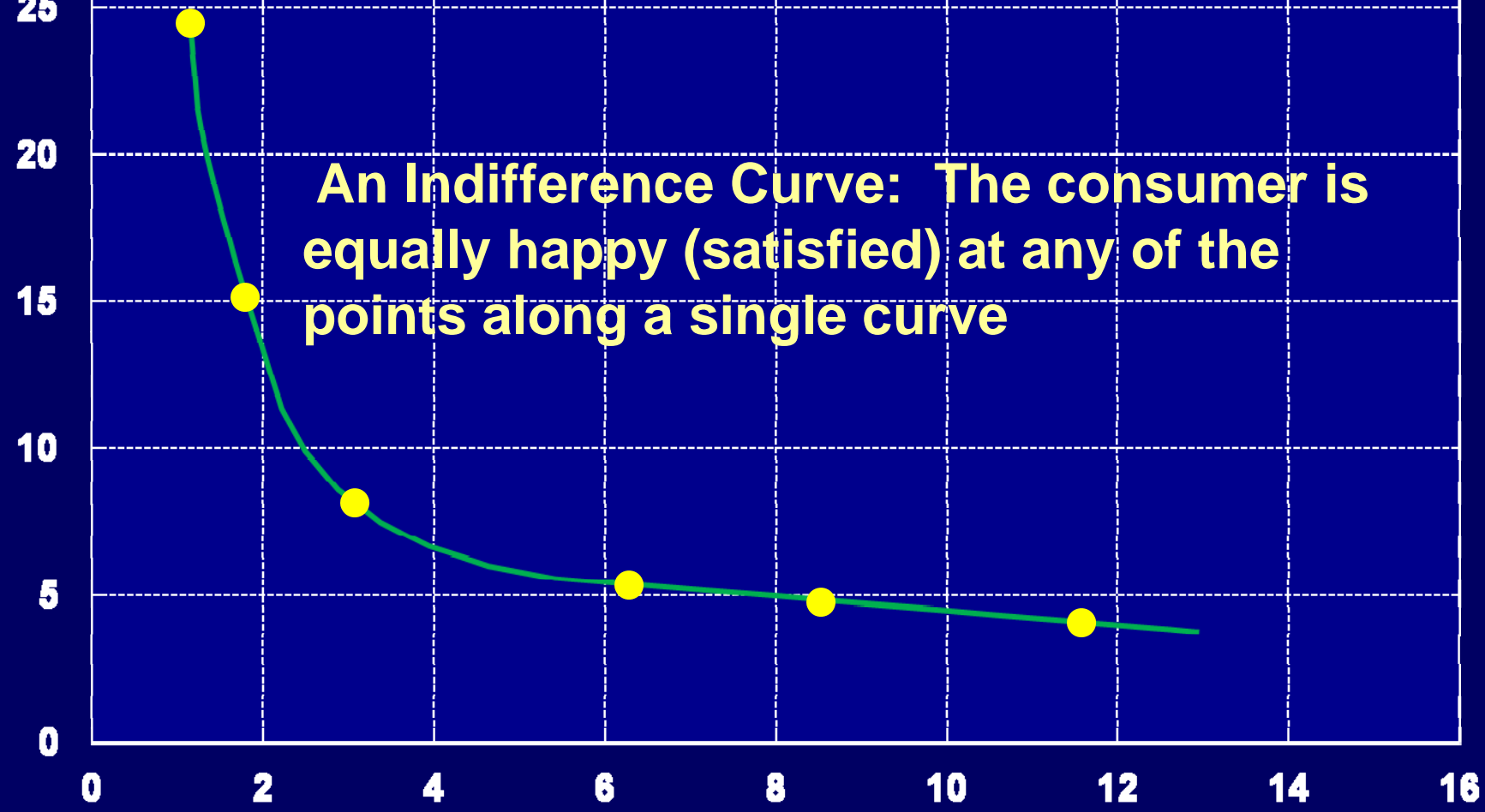
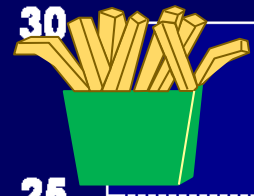


F
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W
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F
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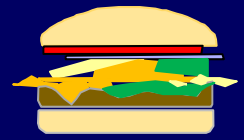
P
e
r



An Indifference Curve: The consumer is equally happy (satisfied) at any of the points along a single curve

Hamburgers Per Week

● Point on Curve

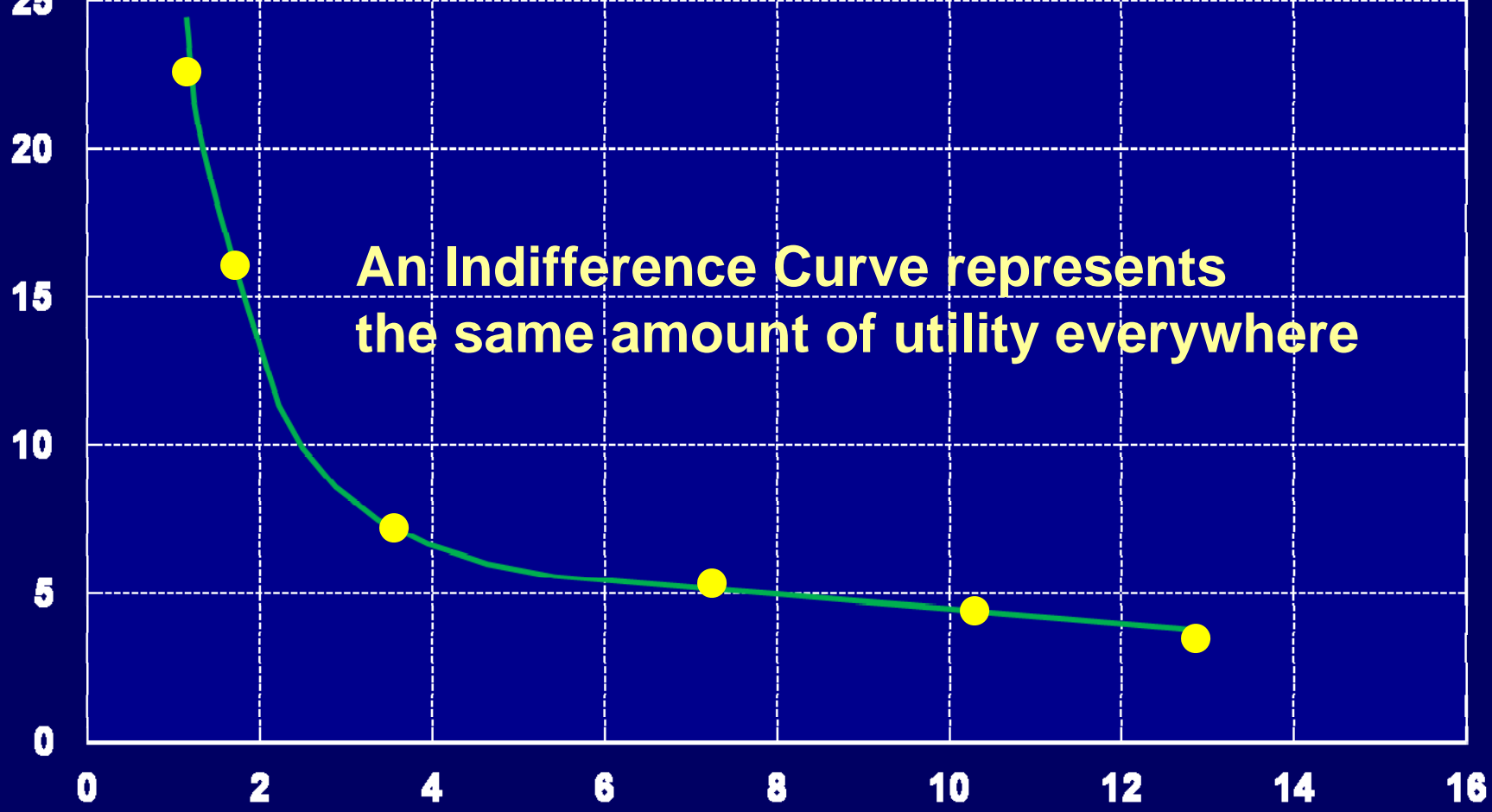


F
r
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n
c
h

W
e
e
k

F
r
i
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s

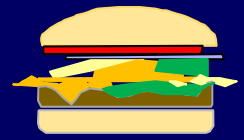
P
e
r



An Indifference Curve represents the same amount of utility everywhere

Hamburgers Per Week

● Point on Curve





F
r
e
n
c
h

W
e
e
k

F
r
i
e
s

P
e
r

25
20
15
10
5
0

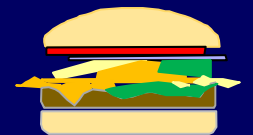
**"Convex to the Origin"
Preference For some of both
Hamburgers and French Fries**

**Indifference Curve
for One
Utility Level**

0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16

Hamburgers Per Week

● **Point on Curve**





F
r
e
n
c
h

W
e
e
k

F
r
i
e
s

P
e
r

25
20
15
10
5
0

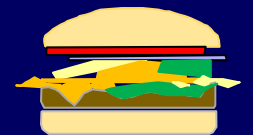
Indifference curves never touch or intersect each other

Indifference Curves for each Utility Level

0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16

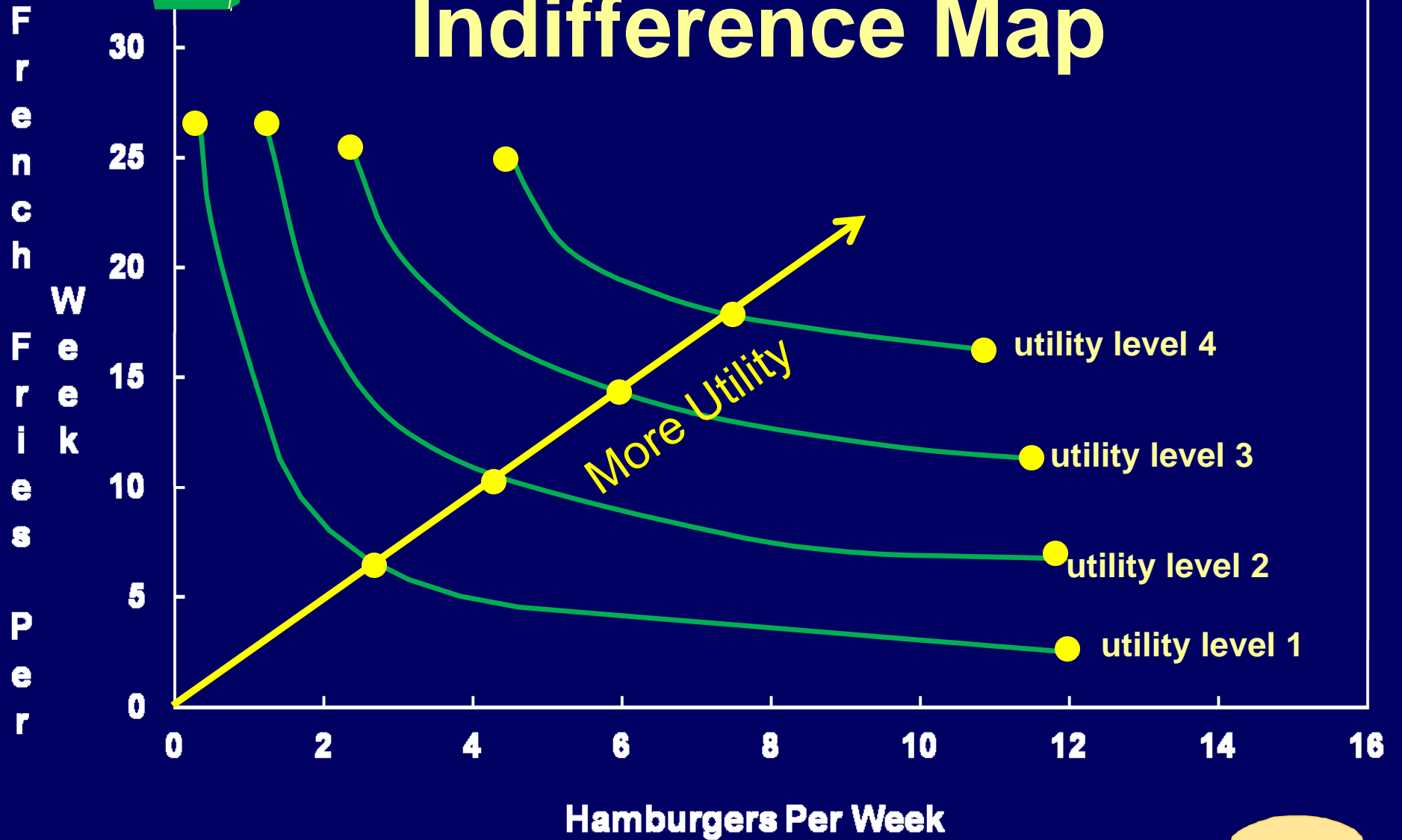
Hamburgers Per Week

● Point on Curve

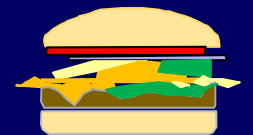




Indifference Map



● Point on Curve



Budget Line

Assume:

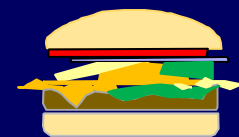
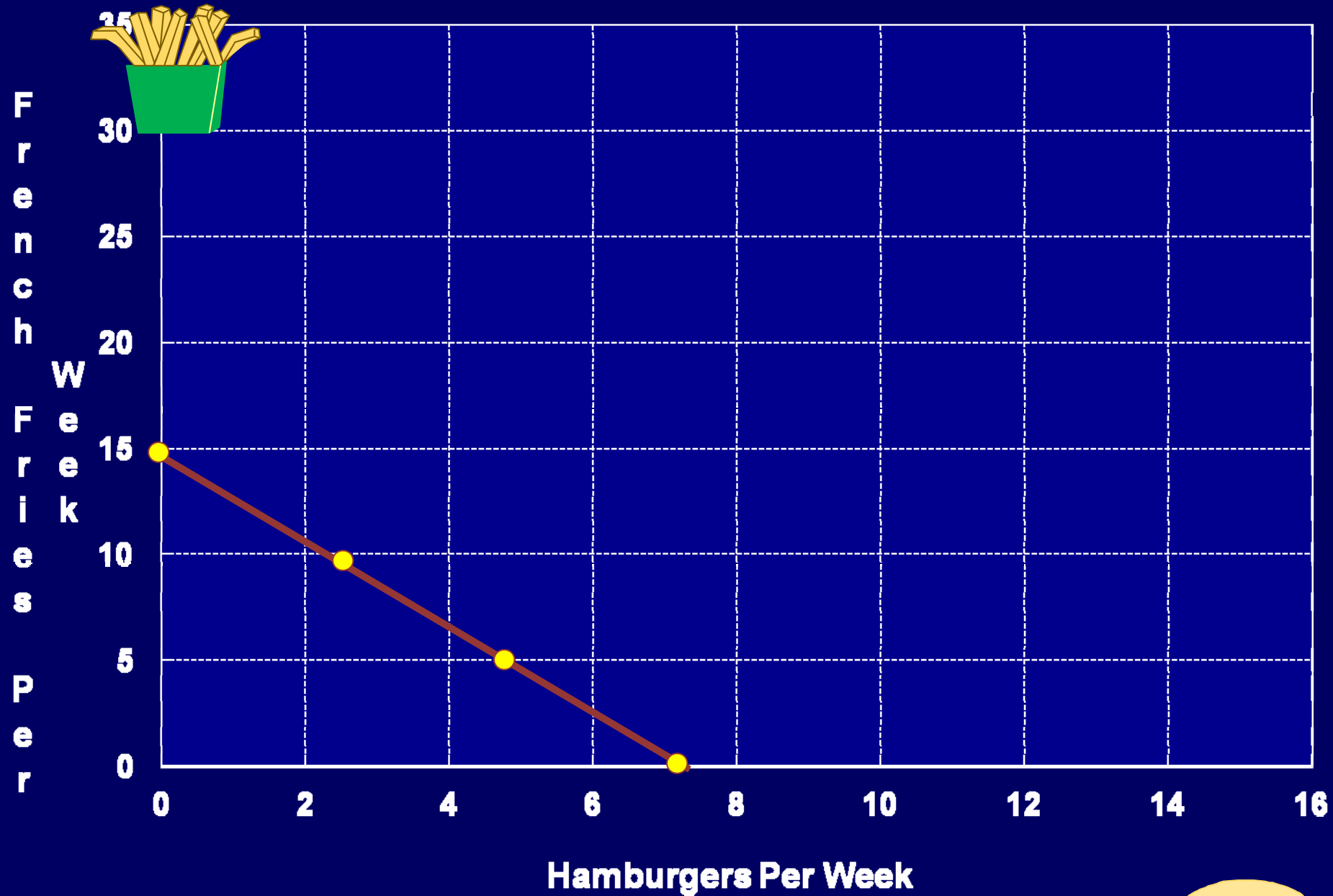
Price of Hamburger is \$1.00

Price of French Fries is \$.50

Income is 7.50

**Could Purchase 7.5 Hamburgers
0 French Fries
or 15 French Fries, 0 Hamburgers
or 9 French Fries, 3 Hamburgers**

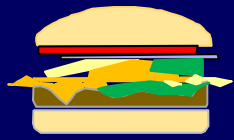
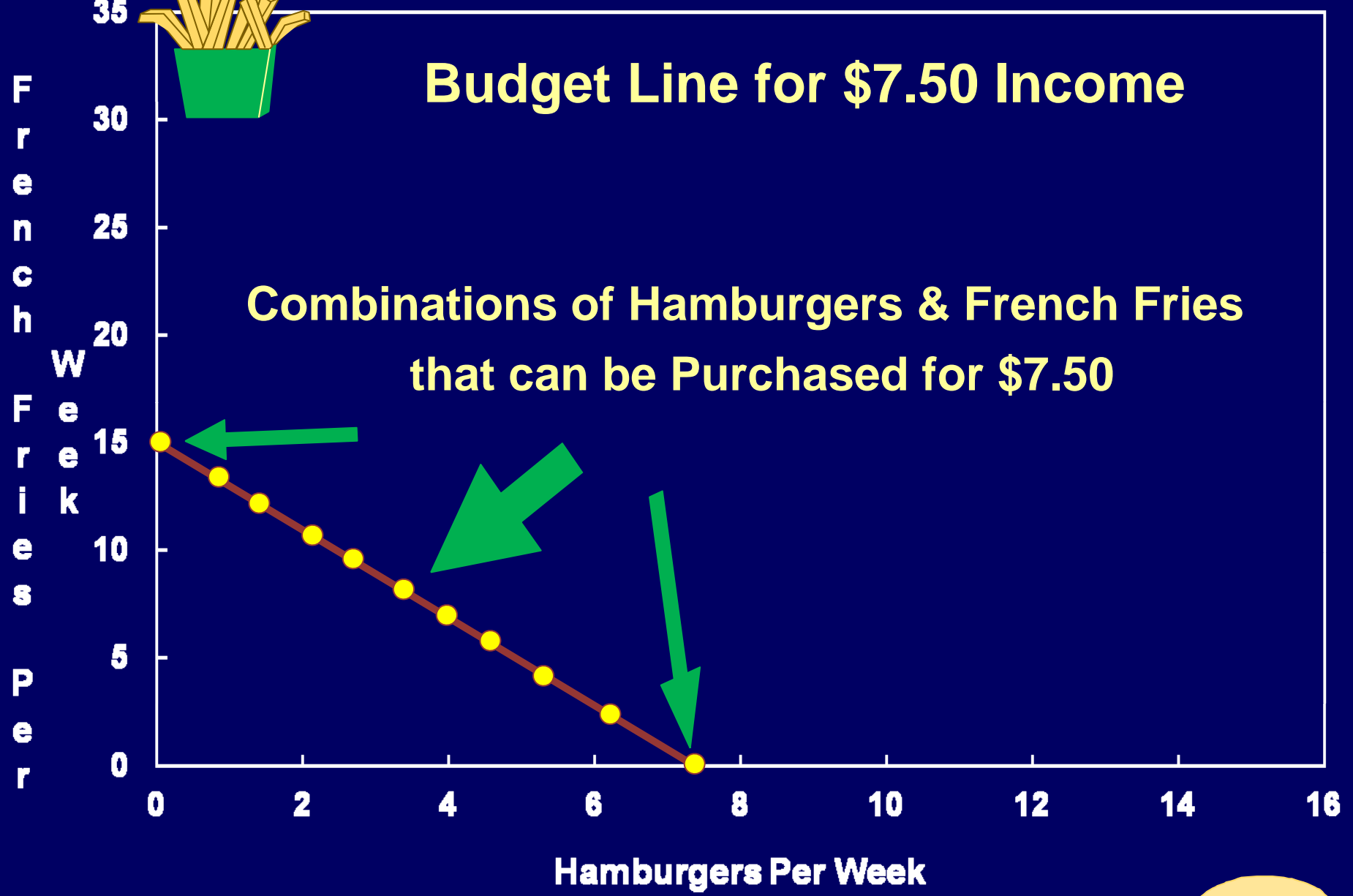
**Many other feasible combinations
with the \$7.50 of income**





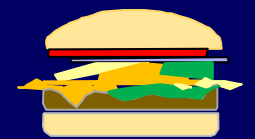
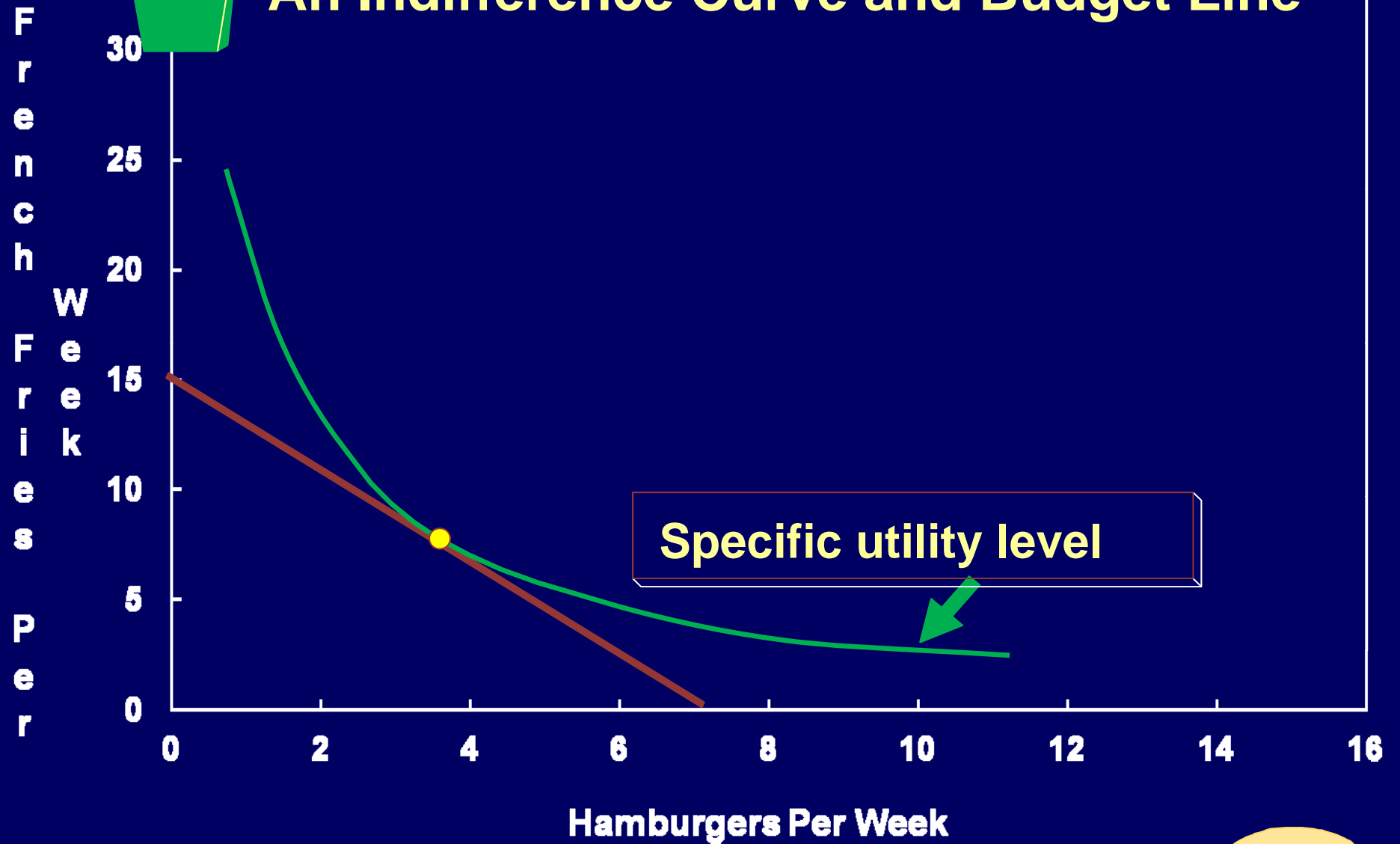
Budget Line for \$7.50 Income

Combinations of Hamburgers & French Fries that can be Purchased for \$7.50





An Indifference Curve and Budget Line



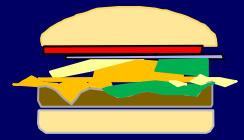
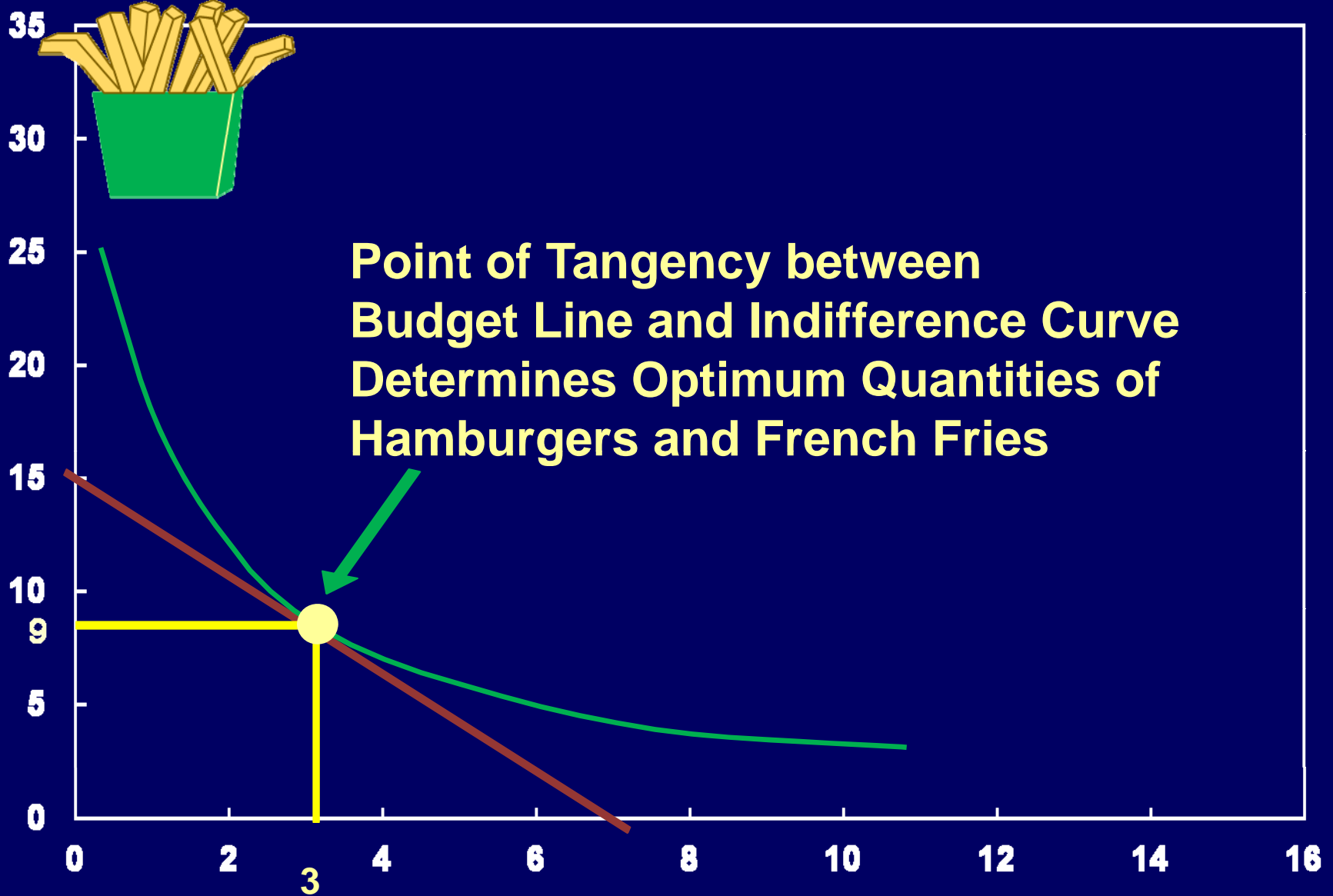
3

F
r
e
n
c
h

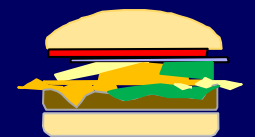
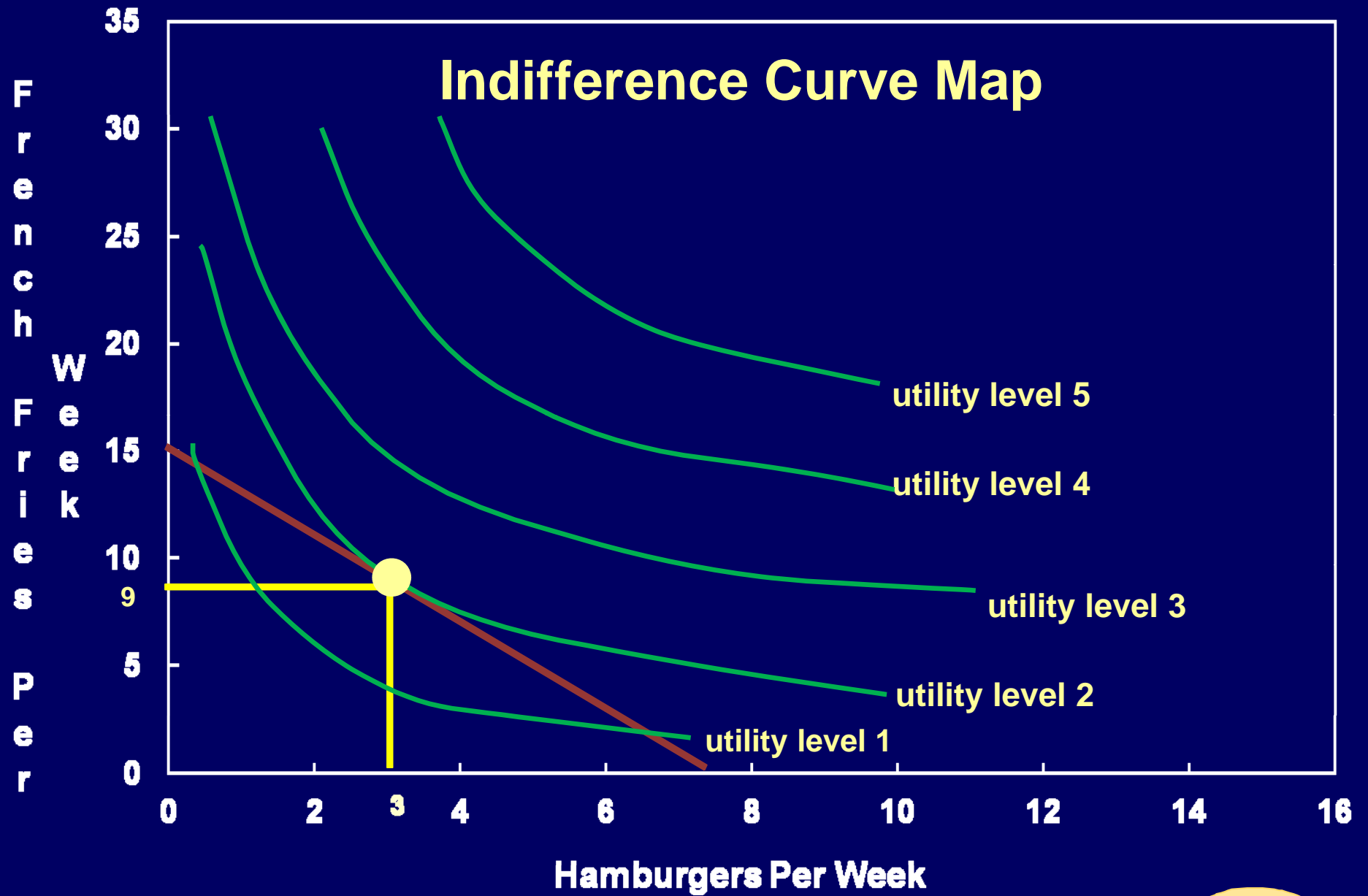
W
e
e
k

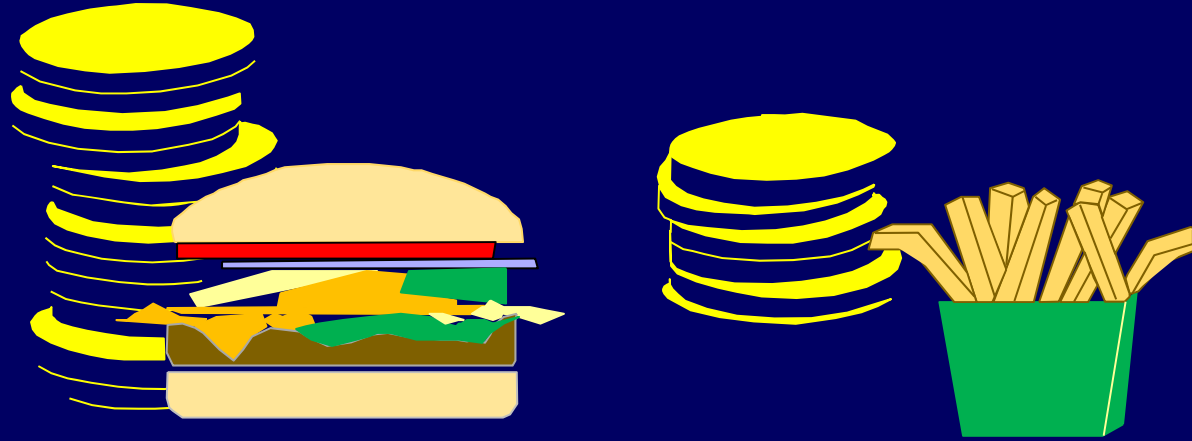
F
r
i
e
s

P
e
r



Indifference Curve Map





**Price of Hamburgers / Price of French Fries
= Slope of Budget Line**

**Marginal Rate of Substitution
of Hamburgers for French Fries
= Slope of Indifference Curve**

Optimum Combination:

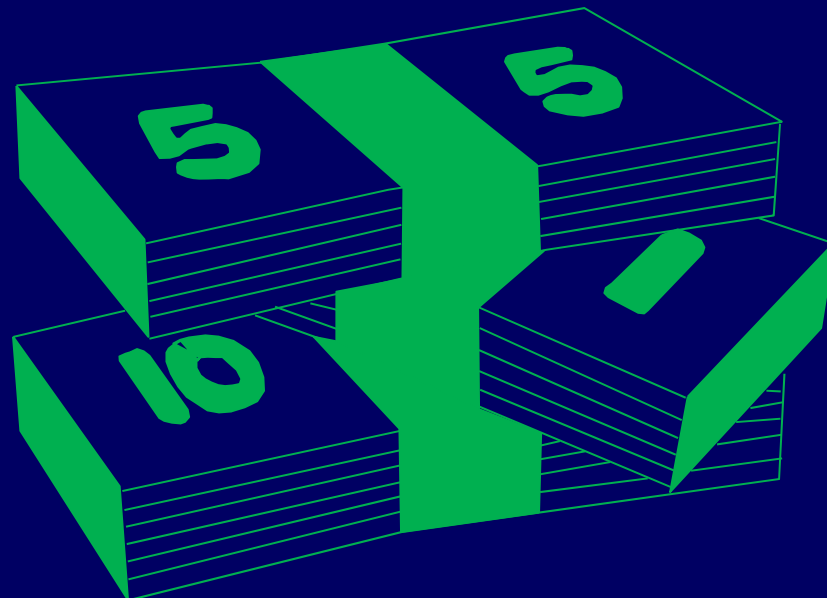
3 Hamburgers, 9 French Fries

where

**Price of Hamburgers/Price of French Fries =
Marginal Rate of Substitution
of Hamburgers for French Fries**

Impact of More Income

**A new, higher budget line
with the same slope
but reaches a higher indifference curve**



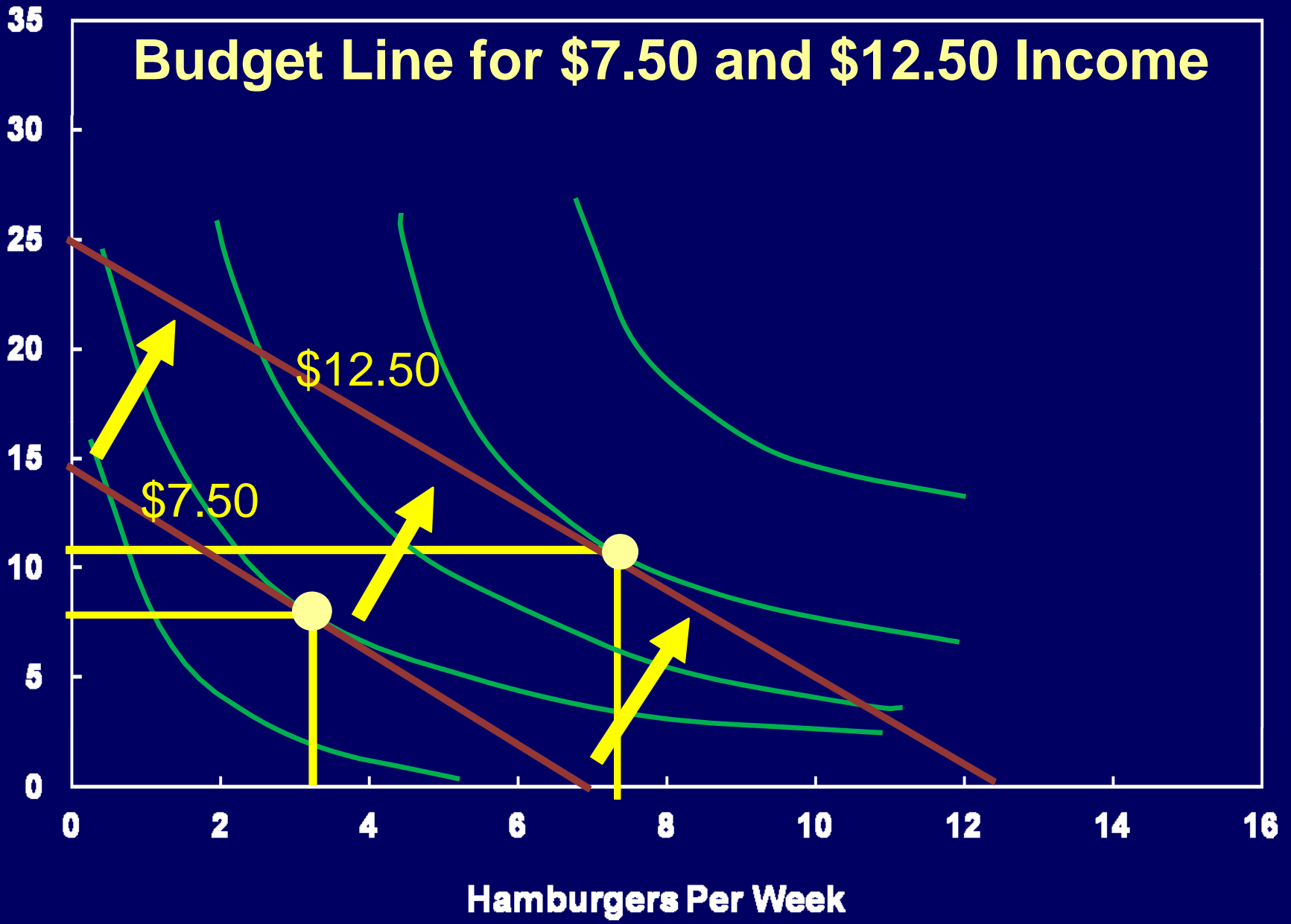
Budget Line for \$7.50 and \$12.50 Income

F
r
e
n
c
h

W
e
e
k

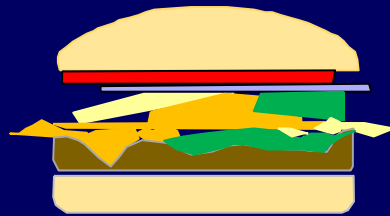
F
r
i
e
s

P
e
r



Hamburgers Per Week

Impact of Price Change for Hamburgers



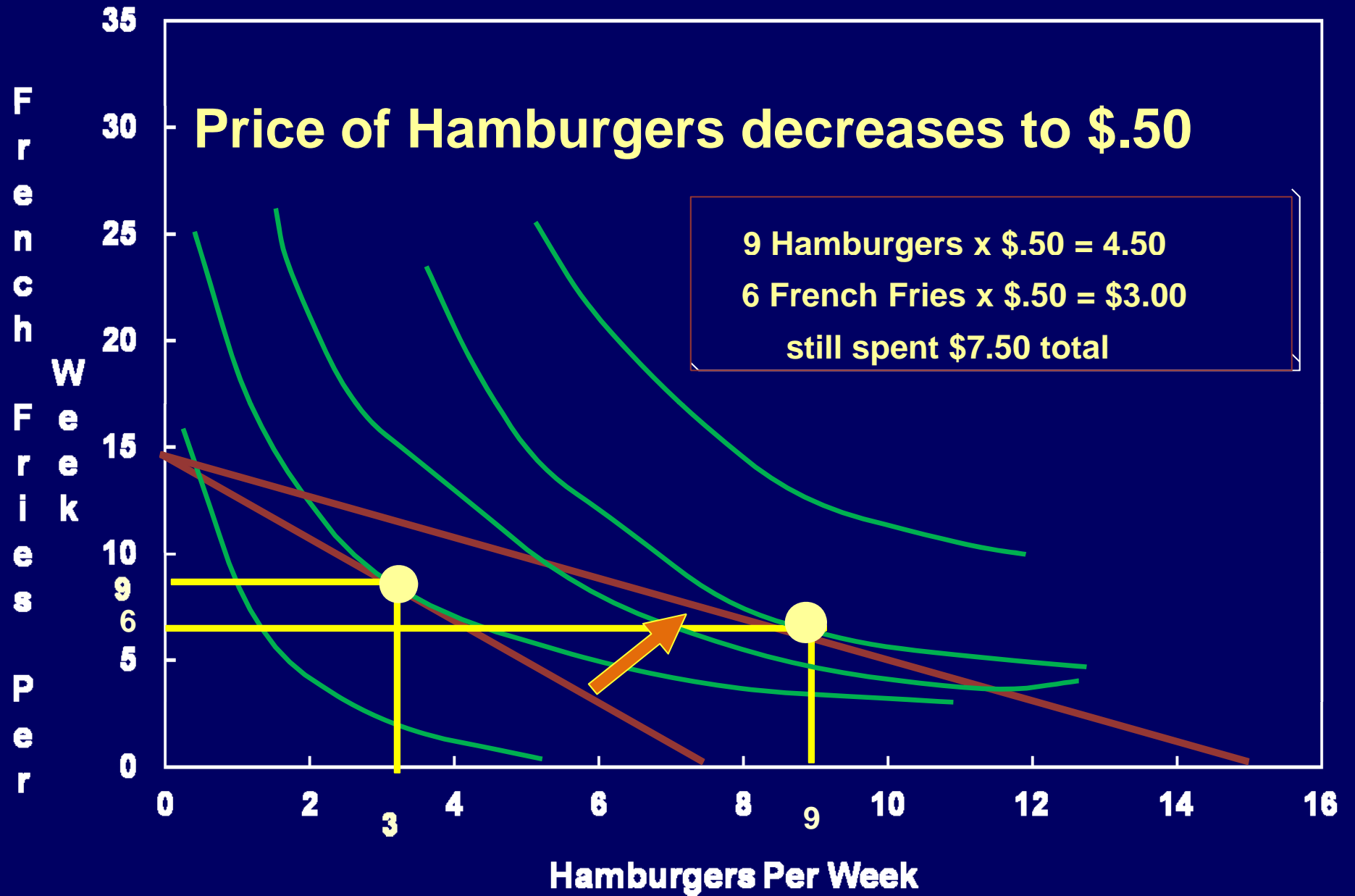
Hamburgers
Special Today
All you can eat
50 cents each



Hamburgers
\$3.75 each

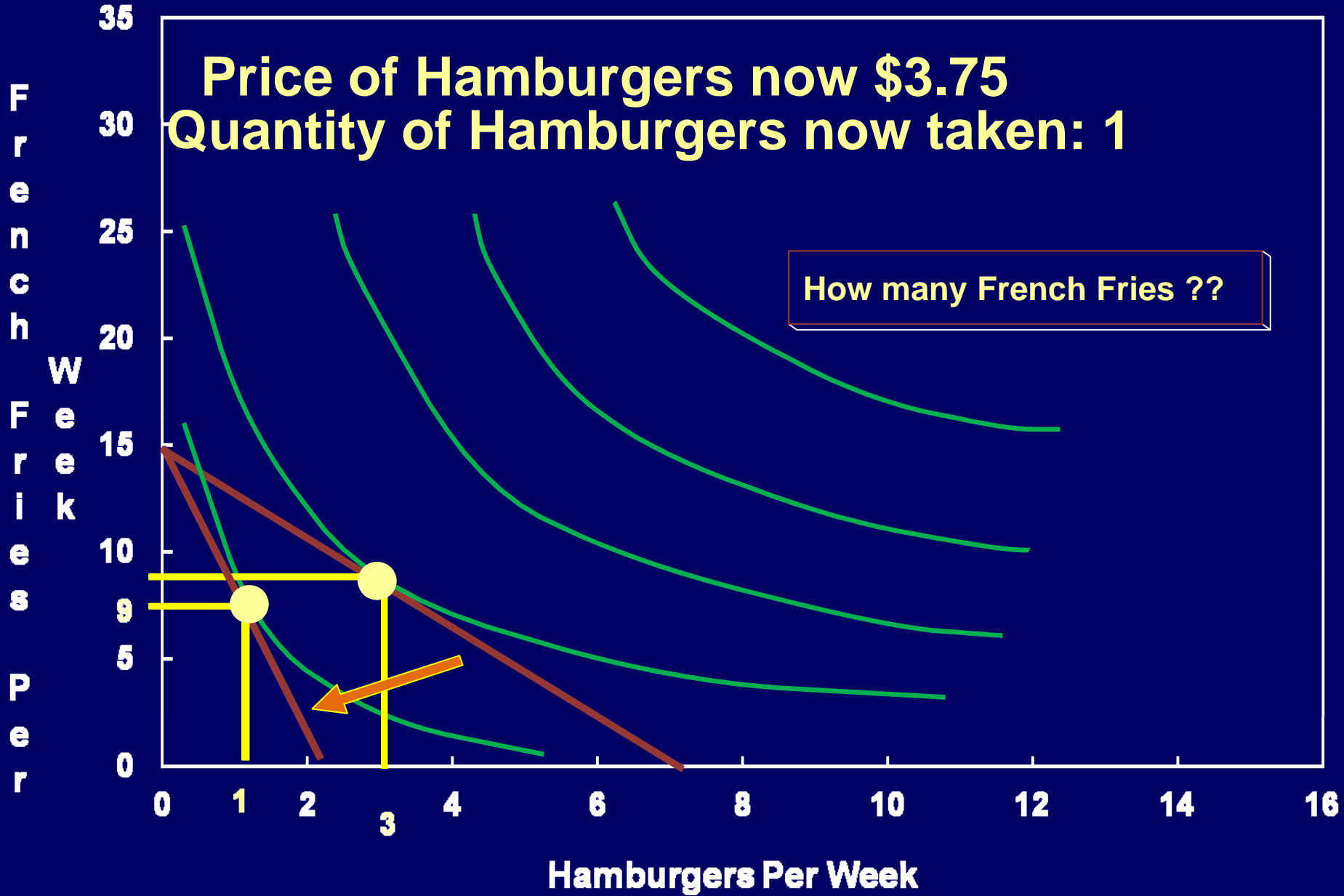
Price of Hamburgers decreases to \$.50

9 Hamburgers x \$.50 = 4.50
6 French Fries x \$.50 = \$3.00
still spent \$7.50 total



Price of Hamburgers now \$3.75
Quantity of Hamburgers now taken: 1

How many French Fries ??



Tracing the Demand Curve for Hamburgers

A Demand Schedule for Hamburgers

Price	Quantity Demanded
3.75	1
1.00	3
0.50	9

Price of
Hamburgers

3.75

1.00

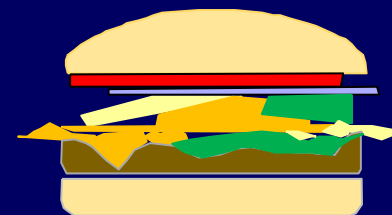
.5

1

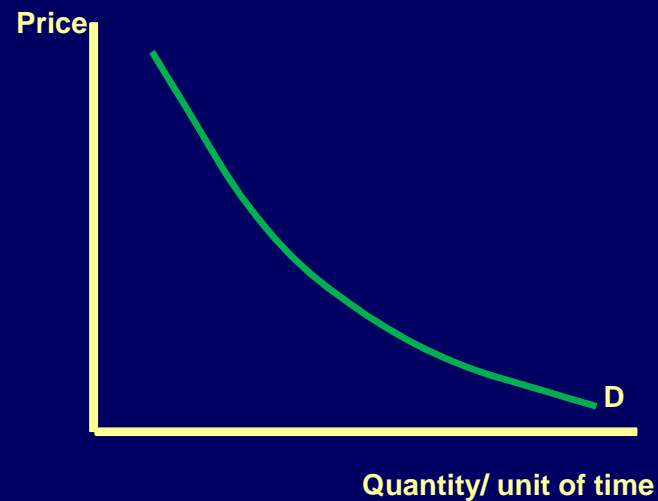
3

9

Demand



Consumer demand has its roots in consumer utility theory



Chapter 6: Agricultural Production Economics

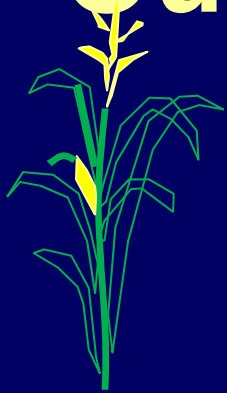
Production with One Input and One Output

A Production Function:

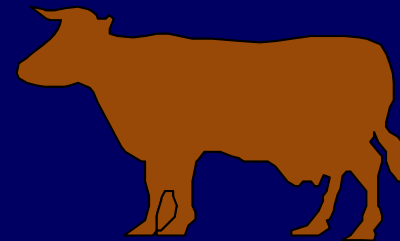
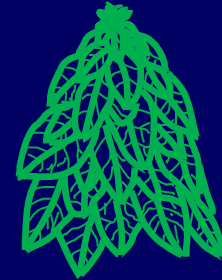
Transformation of
input into output

A technical relationship
(not behavioral)

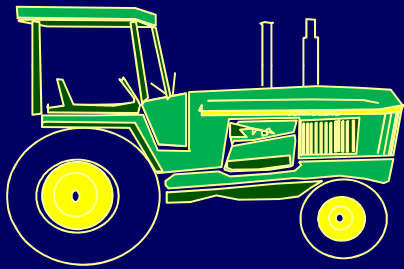
Output:



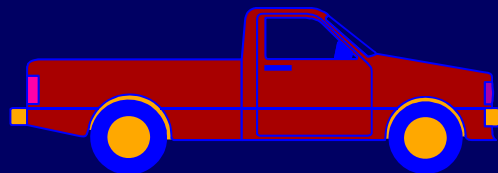
Corn
Tobacco
Wheat
Beef
Milk



Input:



**Seed
Fertilizer
Feed
Machinery**



Fixed versus Variable Inputs

Fixed--

Farmer does not expect
to vary
Over the planning horizon

Variable--

Farmer expects to vary
Over the planning horizon



Length of Planning Horizon:

in the mind of the farmer

6 months?

The Growing Season?

2 years?

10 years (for Christmas trees)?

Only the farmer knows for sure



Old idea--

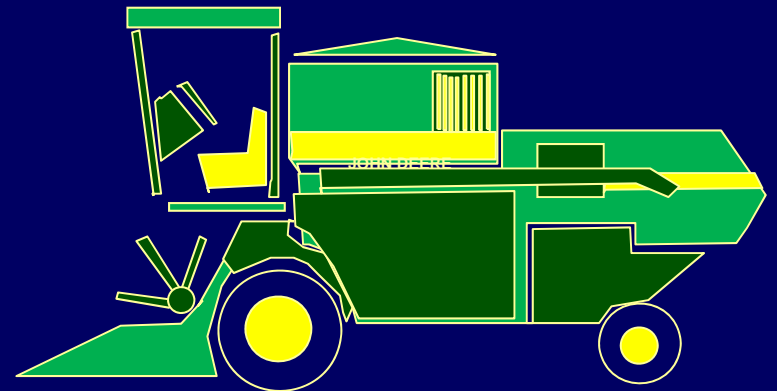
Inputs could be categorized

Land--fixed

Labor--variable

Machinery--fixed (sort of!)

Not a correct idea



Correct idea:

Planning horizon determines whether inputs
are fixed or variable

Short Run--All inputs fixed

**Intermediate Run--Some fixed,
some variable**

Long Run--All inputs variable

Inputs:

Traditional list

Land

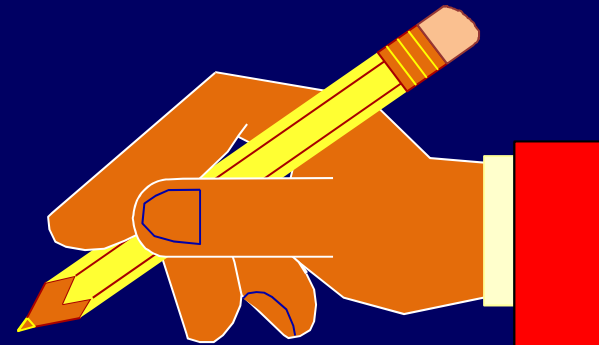
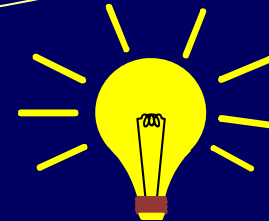
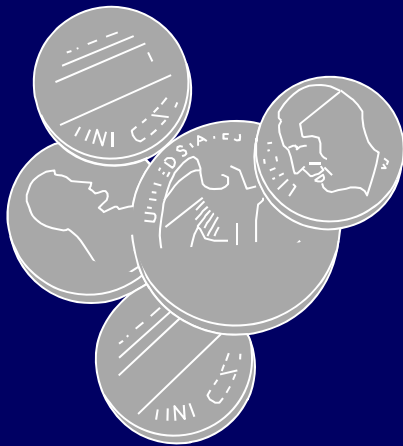
Labor

Capital

Management



**With capital you can purchase
land and labor
Is management an input??**



A Production Function:

$$Y = f(X)$$

Y = output such as bu. of corn

X = input such as fertilizer

$f(x)$ = rule for transforming X into Y

such as:

$$Y = 3X$$

$$Y = X^{0.5}$$

$$Y = .3X + .05X^2 - .002X^3$$

Each of these

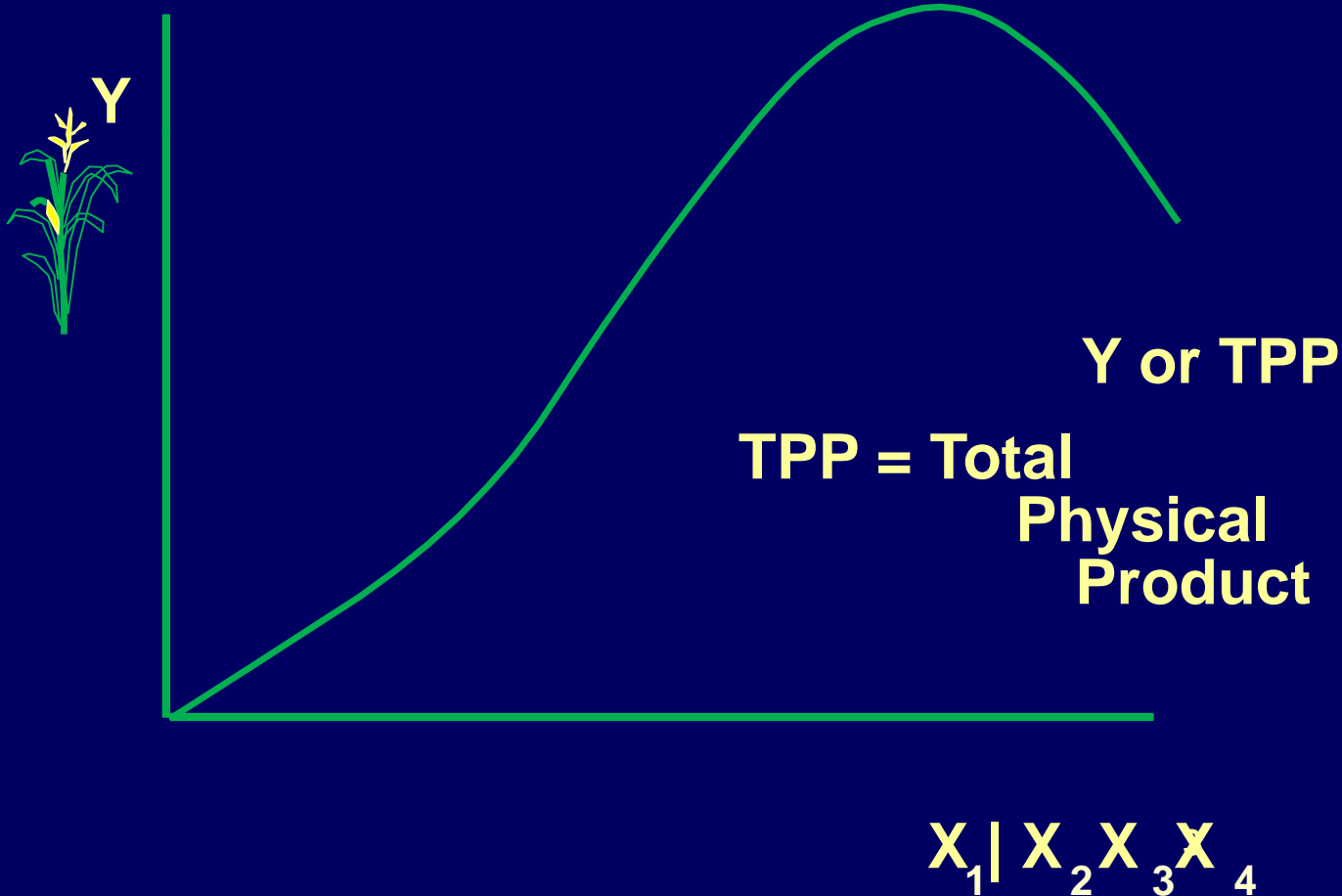
are production functions

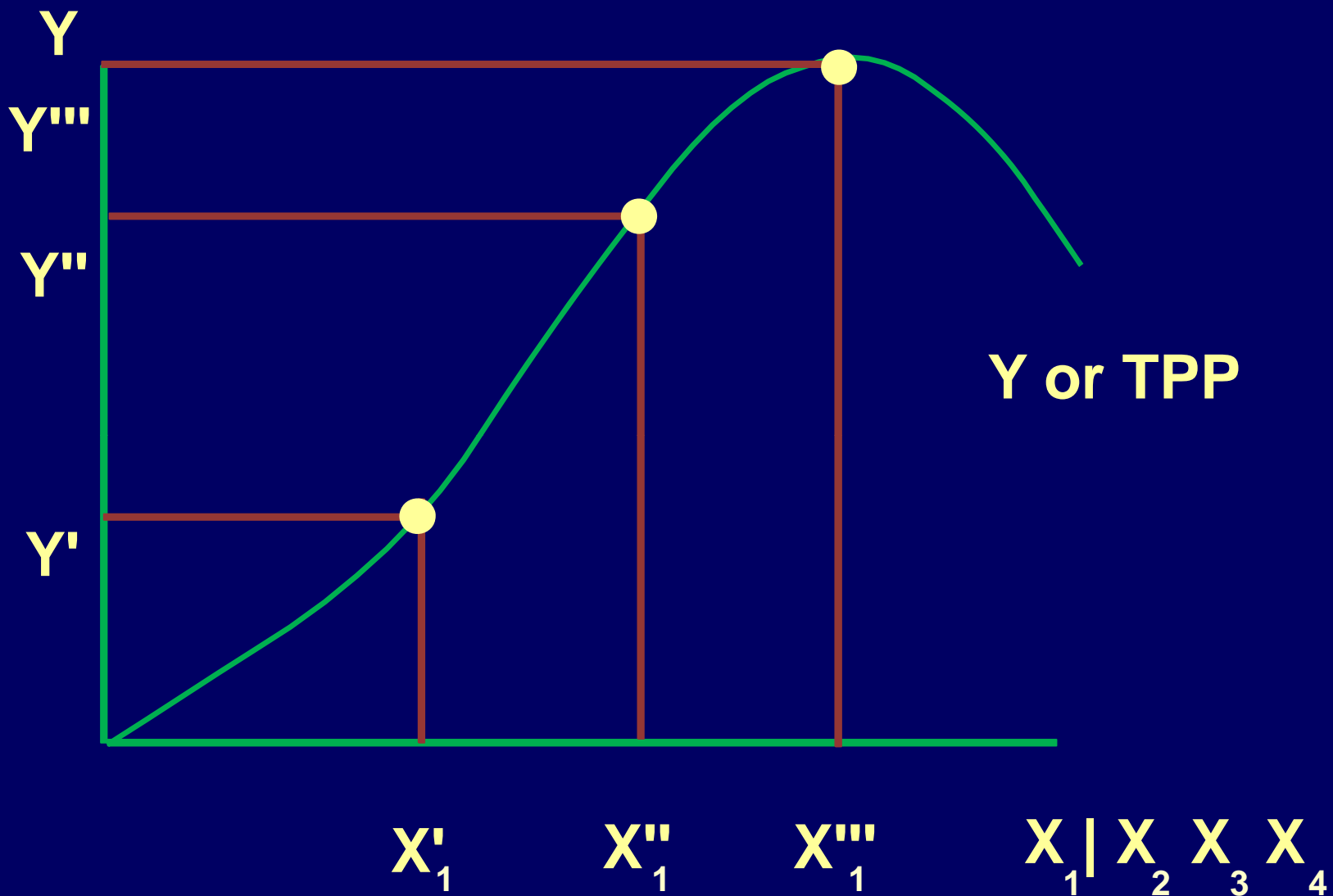
$$Y = f(X_1 | X_2 X_3 X_4)$$

The output

The Variable input

Inputs treated as fixed





**Specific amount of output from
a specific amount of input**

Marginal Product

*The incremental change in output
associated with a
1 unit change
in the use of the input*

Marginal Product of input x:

$\Delta y = \text{change in } y$

$\Delta x = \text{change in } x$

$\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \text{change in } y$

$\Delta x = \text{change in } x$

= Marginal Product

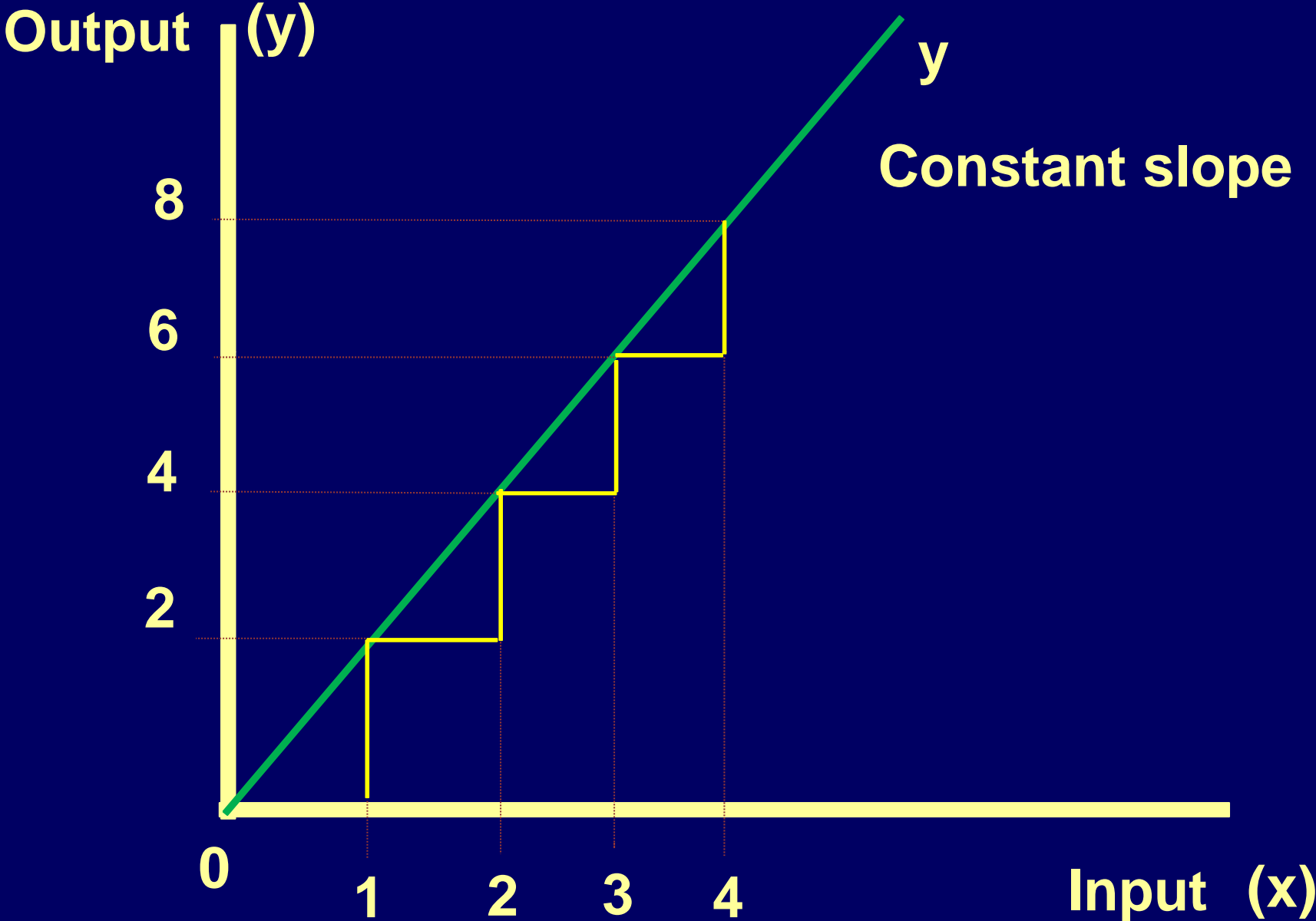
Also called Marginal Physical Product
or MPP for short

**Diminishing,
Constant
and Increasing
Marginal Product**

Case 1:

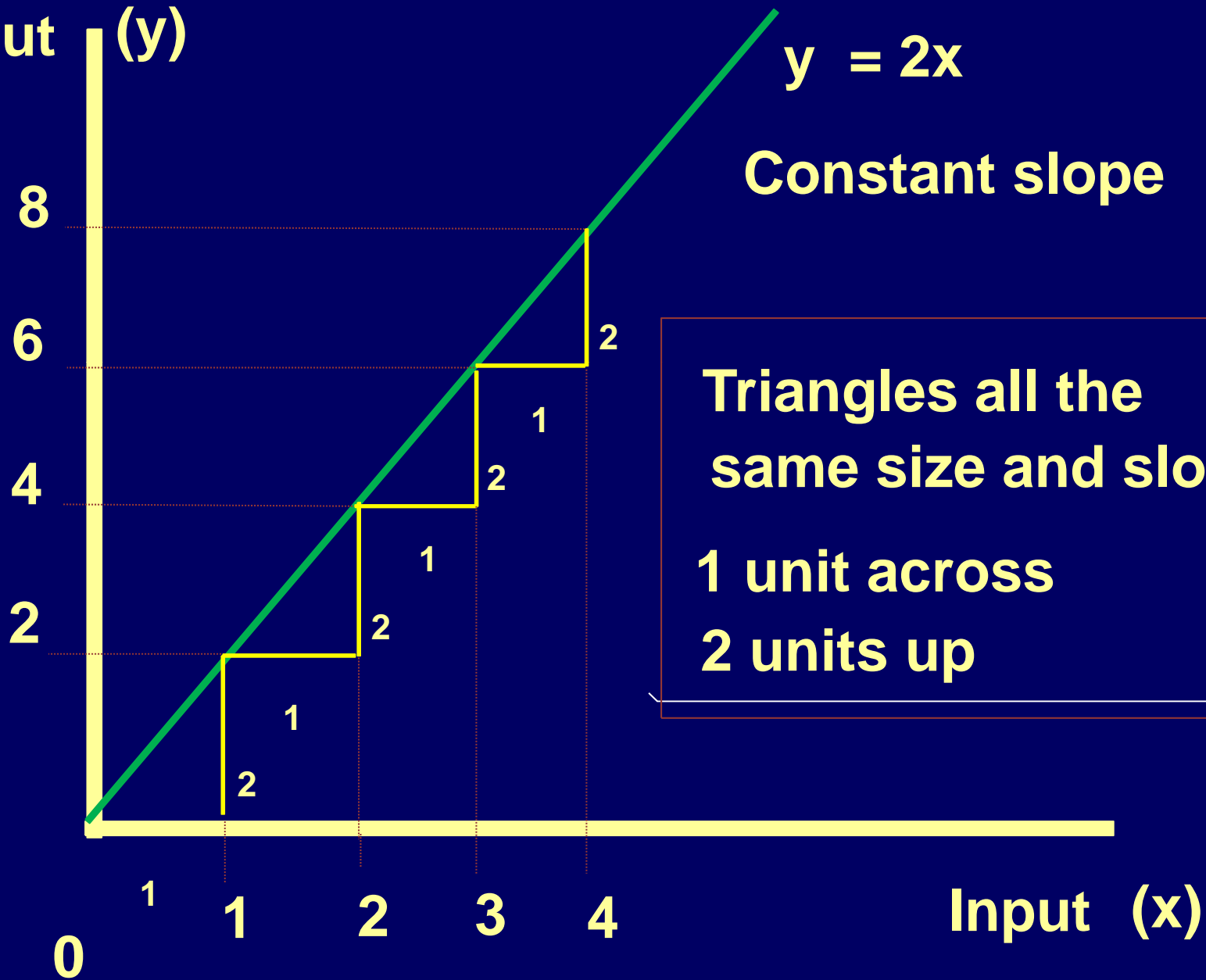
**Constant
Marginal Product**

Constant Marginal Product



Constant Marginal Product

Output (y)

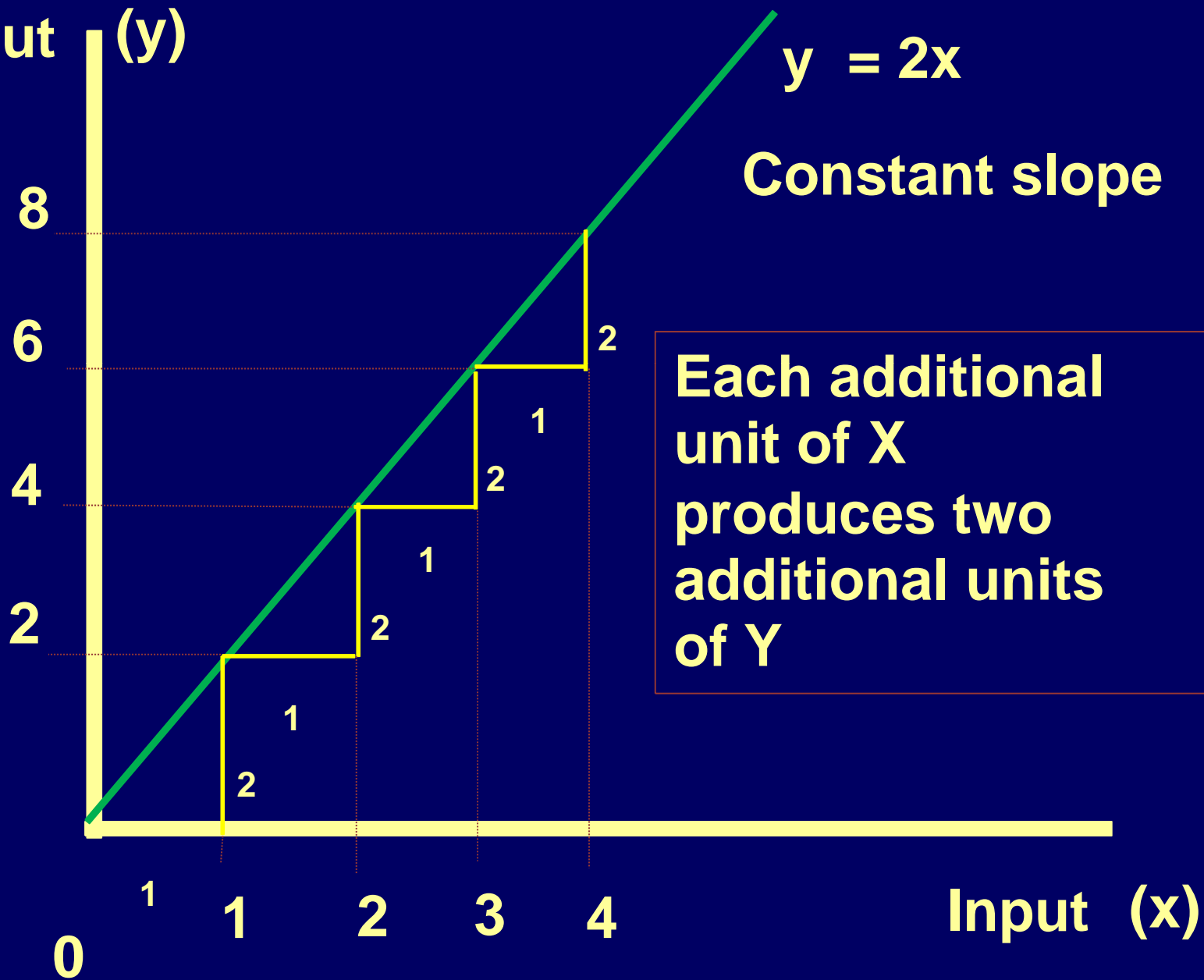


Triangles all the same size and slope

1 unit across
2 units up

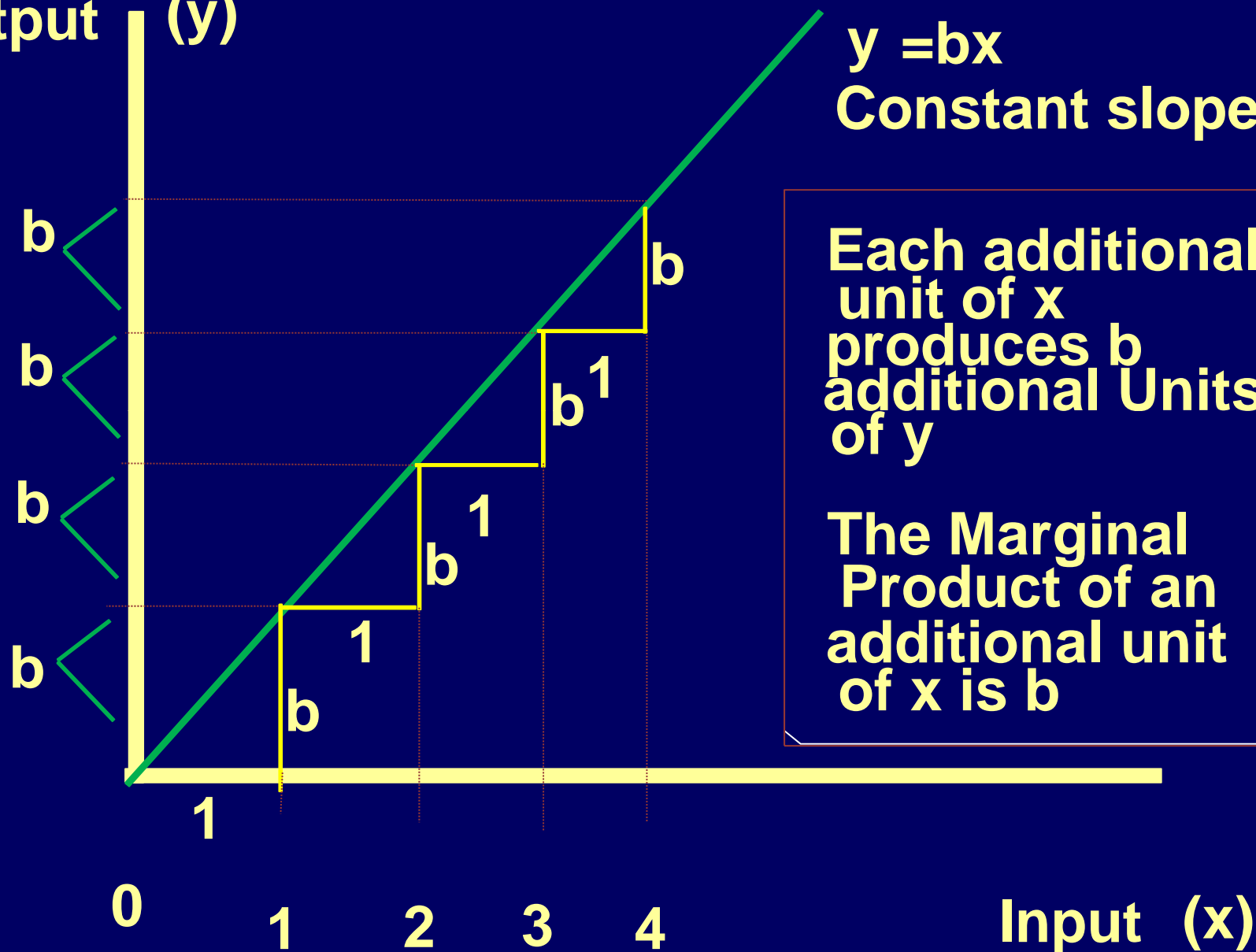
Constant Marginal Product

Output (y)



Input (x)

Output (y)



Constant Marginal Product of b

Constant Marginal Product

x Δx

y Δy

MPP
 $\Delta y / \Delta x$

Constant Marginal Product

x	Δx	y	Δy	MPP $\Delta y / \Delta x$
0		0		
1		2		
2		4		
3		6		
4		8		
5		10		

Constant Marginal Product

MPP

x	Δx	y	Δy	$\Delta y / \Delta x$
-----	------------	-----	------------	-----------------------

0	1	0		
---	---	---	--	--

1	1	2		
---	---	---	--	--

2	1	4		
---	---	---	--	--

3	1	6		
---	---	---	--	--

4	1	8		
---	---	---	--	--

5	1	10		
---	---	----	--	--

Constant Marginal Product

MPP

x	Δx	y	Δy	$\Delta Y / \Delta x$
0	1	0	2	
1	1	2	2	
2	1	4	2	
3	1	6	2	
4	1	8	2	
5		10		

Constant Marginal Product

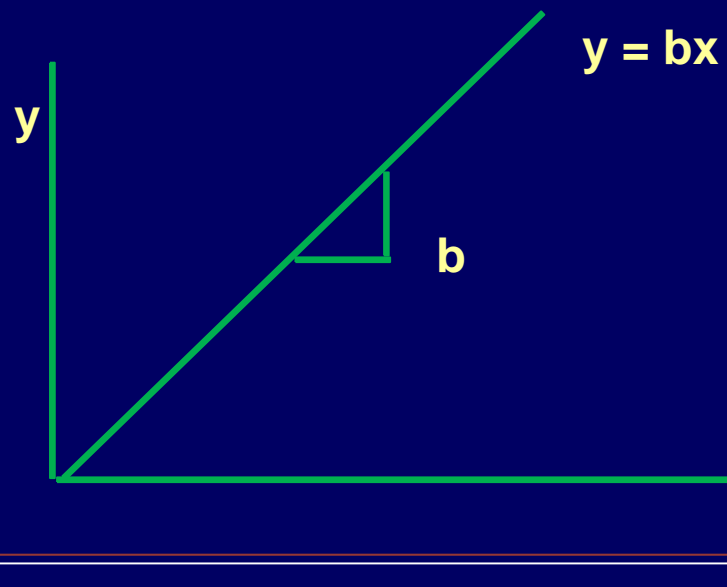
x	Δx	y	Δy	MPP $\Delta Y / \Delta x$
0	1	0	2	2/1
1	1	2	2	2/1
2	1	4	2	2/1
3	1	6	2	2/1
4	1	8	2	2/1
5		10		

MPP = 2 everywhere

**b = Marginal
Product of an
Additional
Unit of x**

Constant MPP

$$\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = b$$

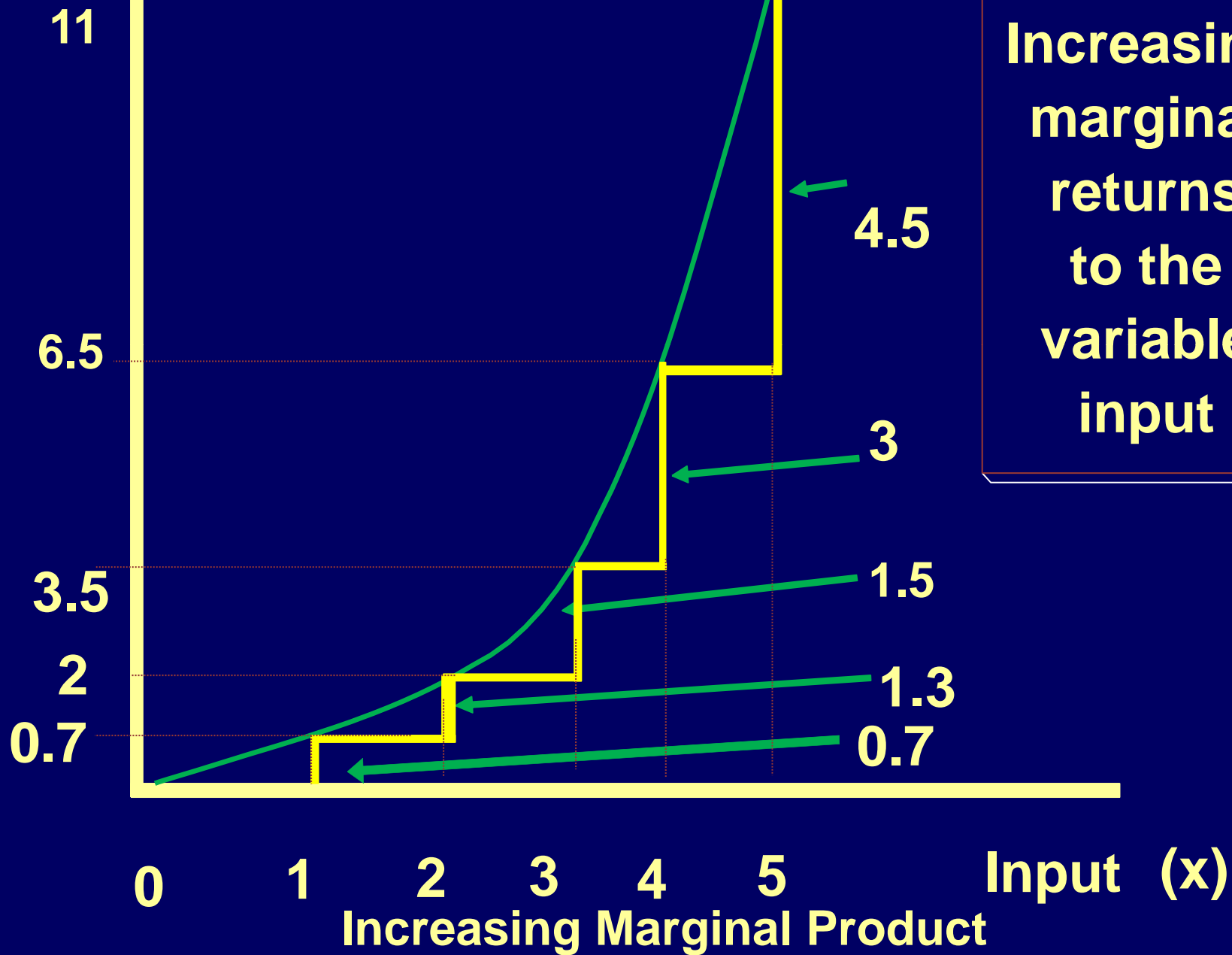


Case 2:

Increasing

Marginal Product

Output (y)



Increasing Marginal Product

x	Δx	y	Δy	MPP $\Delta Y / \Delta x$
0		0		
1		0.7		
2		2.0		
3		3.5		
4		6.5		
5		11.0		

Increasing Marginal Product

x	Δx	y	Δy	MPP $\Delta Y / \Delta x$
0		0		
1	1	0.7	0.7	0.7
2	1	2.0	1.3	1.3
3	1	3.5	1.5	1.5
4	1	6.5	3.0	3.0
5	1	11.0	4.5	4.5

Increasing Marginal Product

MPP increases as x increases

MPP

x	Δx	y	Δy	$\Delta Y / \Delta x$
0	1	0	.7	
1	1	0.7	1.3	
2	1	2.0	1.5	
3	1	3.5	3.	
4	1	6.5	4.5	
5		11.0		

Increasing Marginal Product

MPP increases as x increases

MPP

x	Δx	y	Δy	$\Delta Y / \Delta x$
0	1	0	.7	.7/1
1	1	0.7	1.3	1.3/1
2	1	2.0	1.5	1.5/1
3	1	3.5	3.	3.0/1
4	1	6.5	4.5	4.5/1
5		11.0		

Case 3:

**Decreasing
(Diminishing)
Marginal
Product**

Decreasing (Diminishing) Marginal Product

Output (y)

8.8

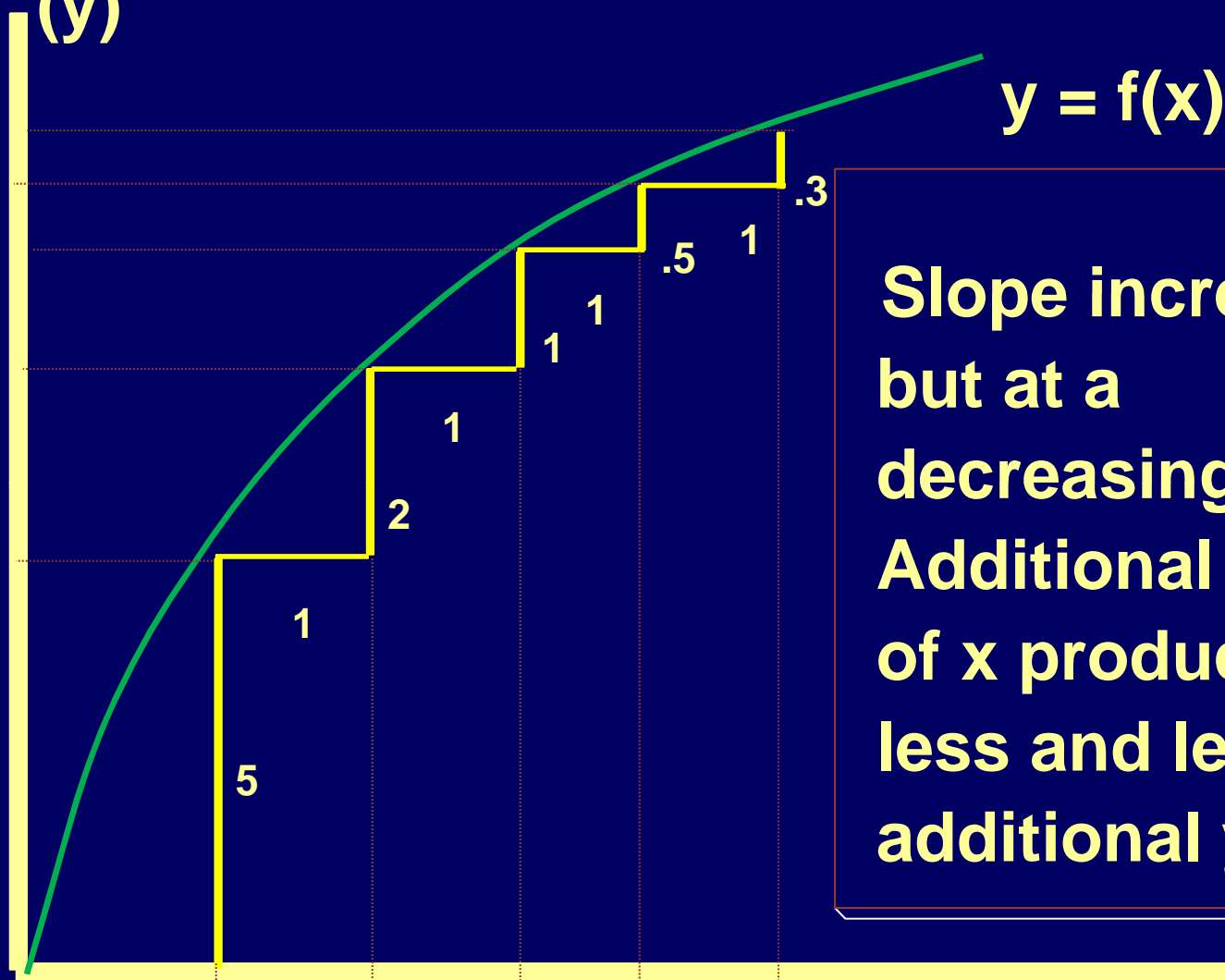
8.5

8

7

5

$$y = f(x)$$



**Slope increases
but at a
decreasing rate
Additional units
of x produce
less and less
additional y**

1

0

1

2

3

4

5

Input (x)

Decreasing Marginal Product

x	Δx	y	Δy	MPP
				$\Delta y / \Delta x$

Decreasing Marginal Product

x	Δx	y	Δy	MPP $\Delta y / \Delta x$
0		0		
1		5		
2		7		
3		8		
4		8.5		
5		8.8		

Decreasing Marginal Product

x	Δx	y	Δy	MPP $\Delta y / \Delta x$
0		0		
	1			
1		5		
	1			
2		7		
	1			
3		8		
	1			
4		8.5		
	1			
5		8.8		

Decreasing Marginal Product

x	Δx	y	Δy	MPP $\Delta y / \Delta x$
0	1	0	5	
1	1	5	2	
2	1	7	1	
3	1	8	0.5	
4	1	8.5	0.3	
5		8.8		

Decreasing Marginal Product

As the use of x increases, MPP decreases **MPP**

x	Δx	y	Δy	$\Delta y / \Delta x$
0	1	0	5	5/1
1	1	5	2	2/1
2	1	7	1	1/1
3	1	8	0.5	.5/1
4	1	8.5	0.3	.3/1
5		8.8		

A Neoclassical Production Function

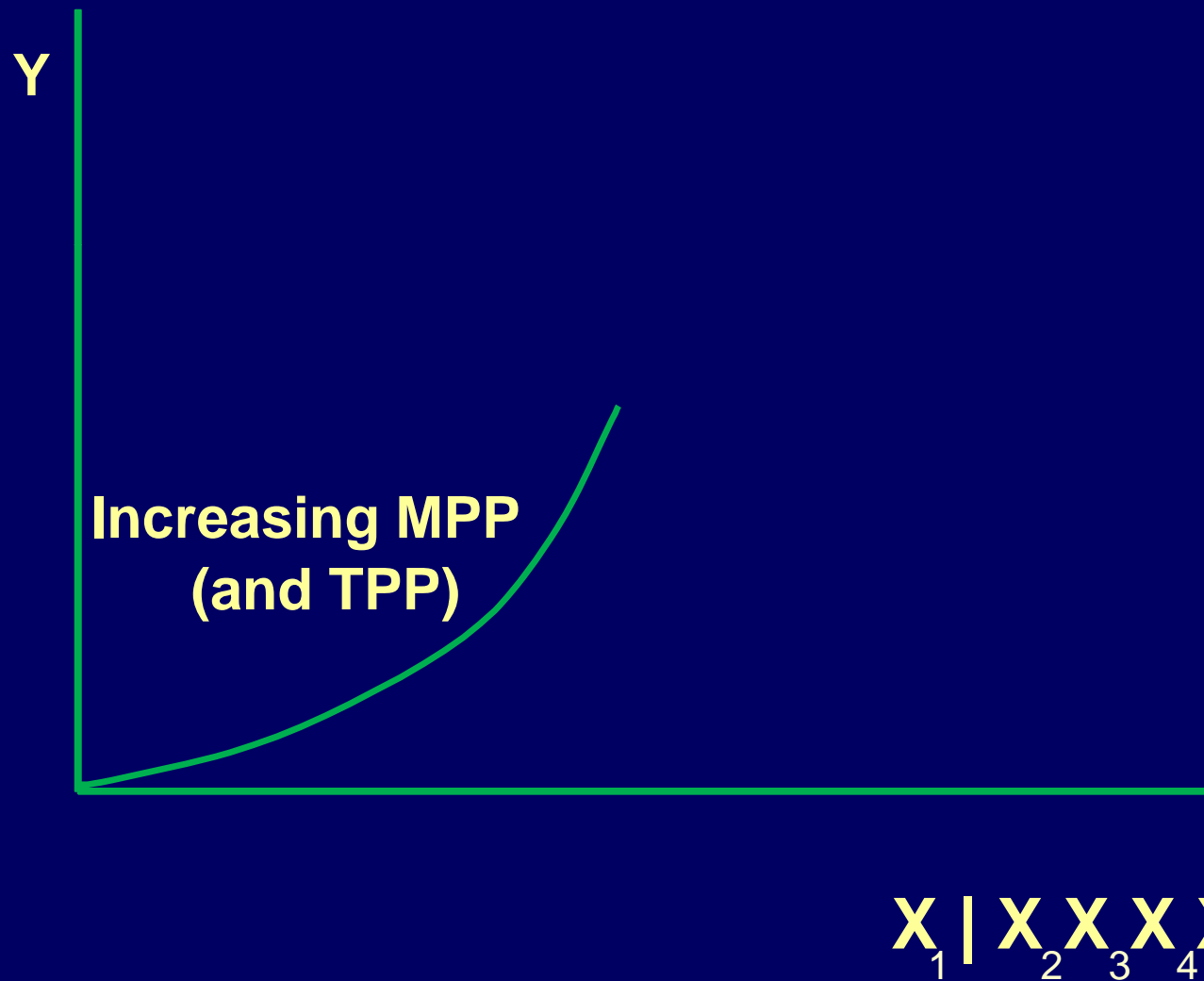
X | X X X X
1 2 3 4 5

A Neoclassical Production Function

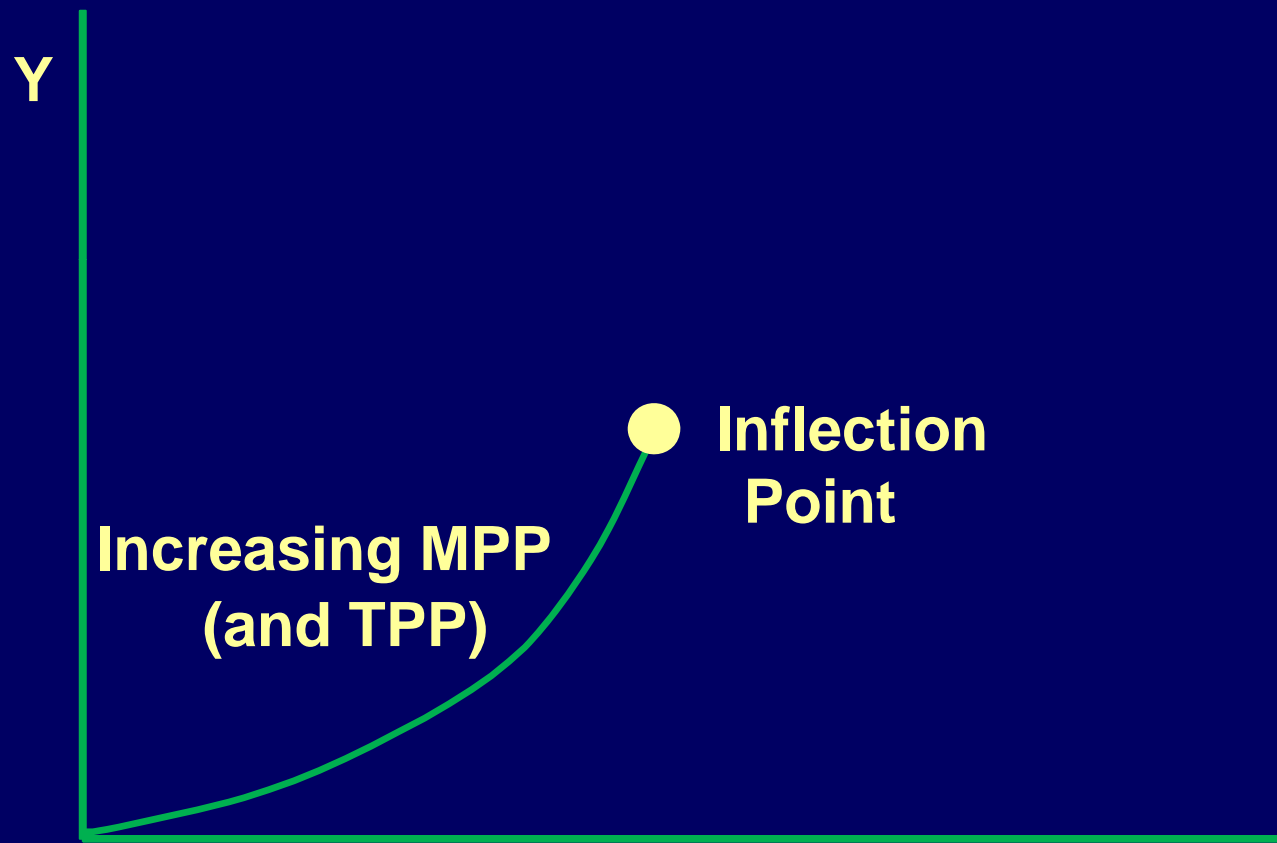


X₁ X₂ X₃ X₄ X₅

A Neoclassical Production Function

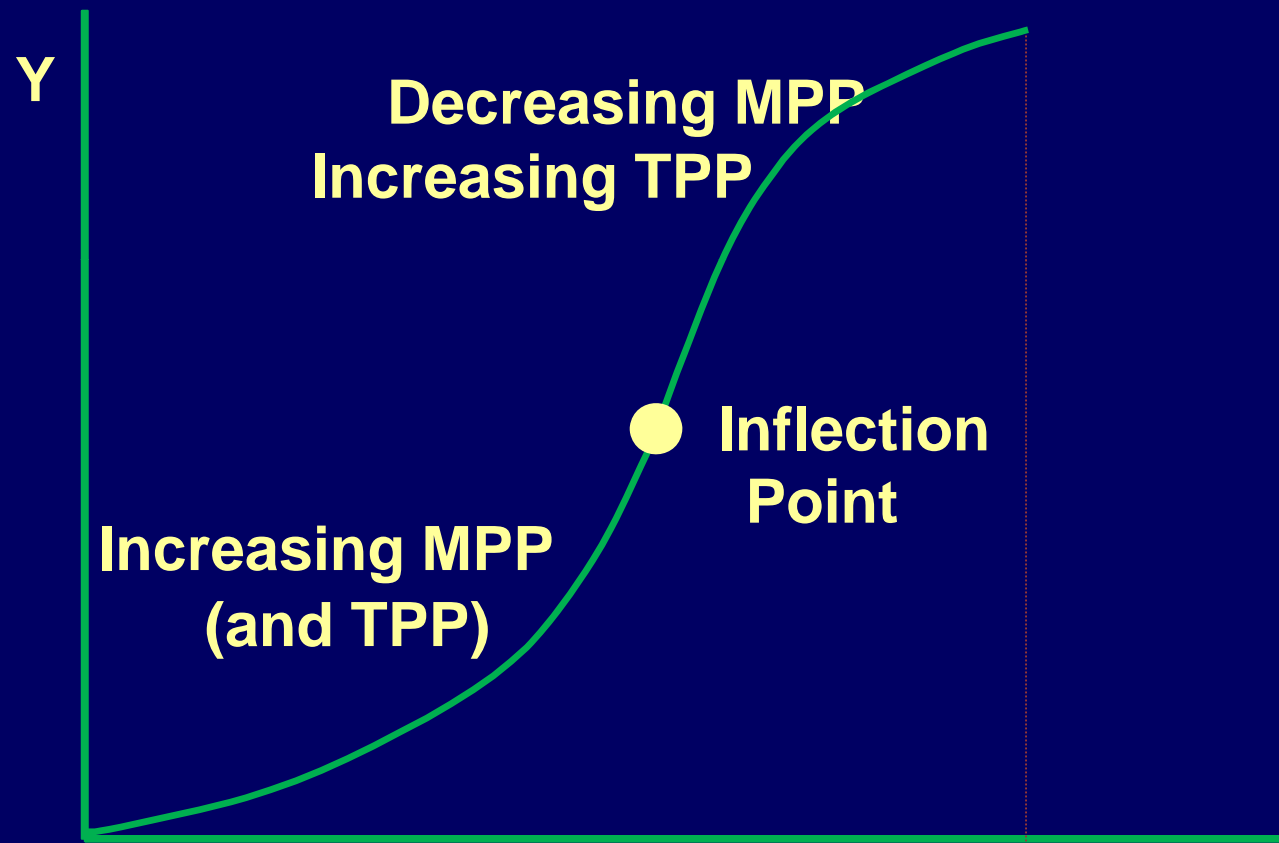


A Neoclassical Production Function



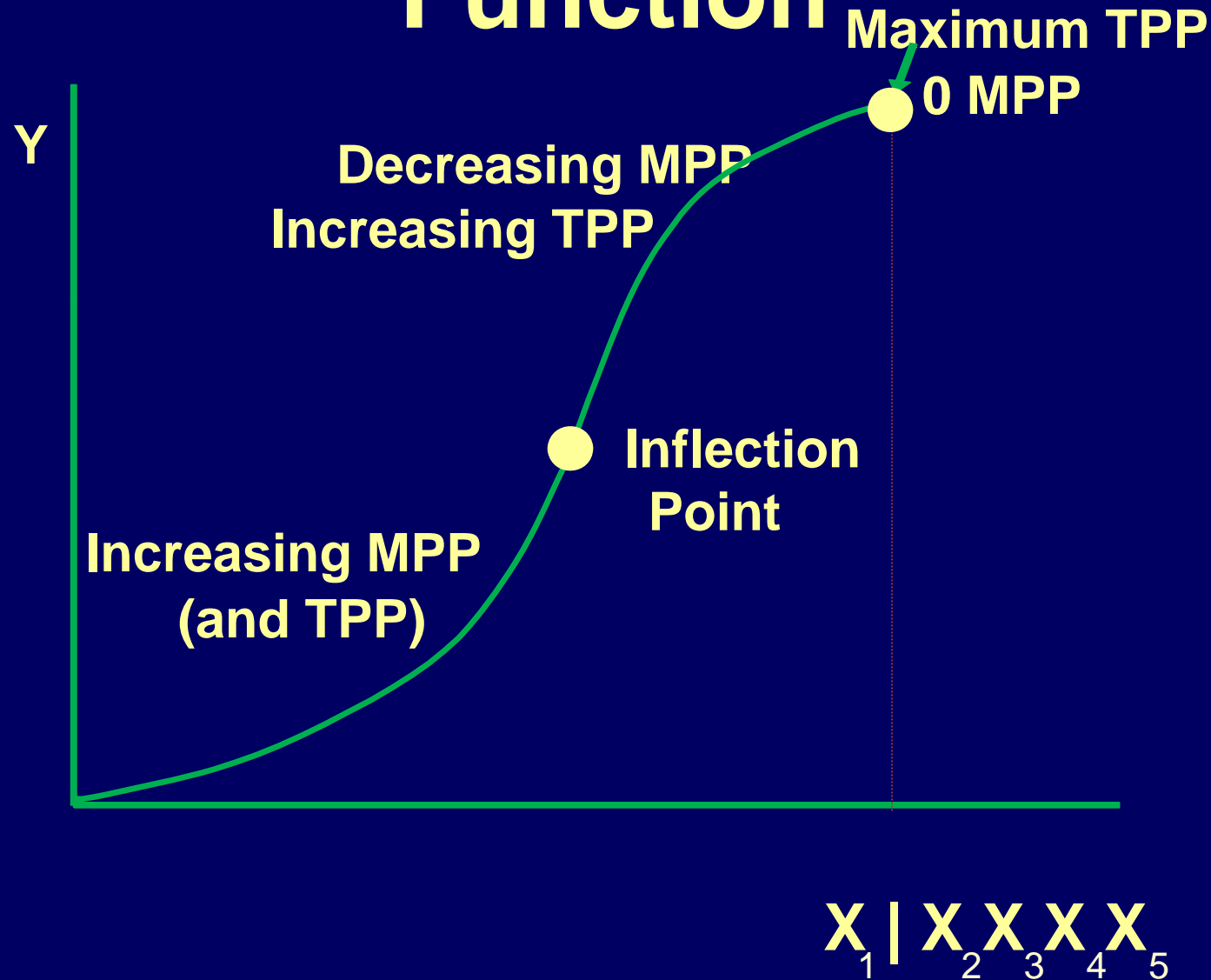
X | X X X X
1 2 3 4 5

A Neoclassical Production Function

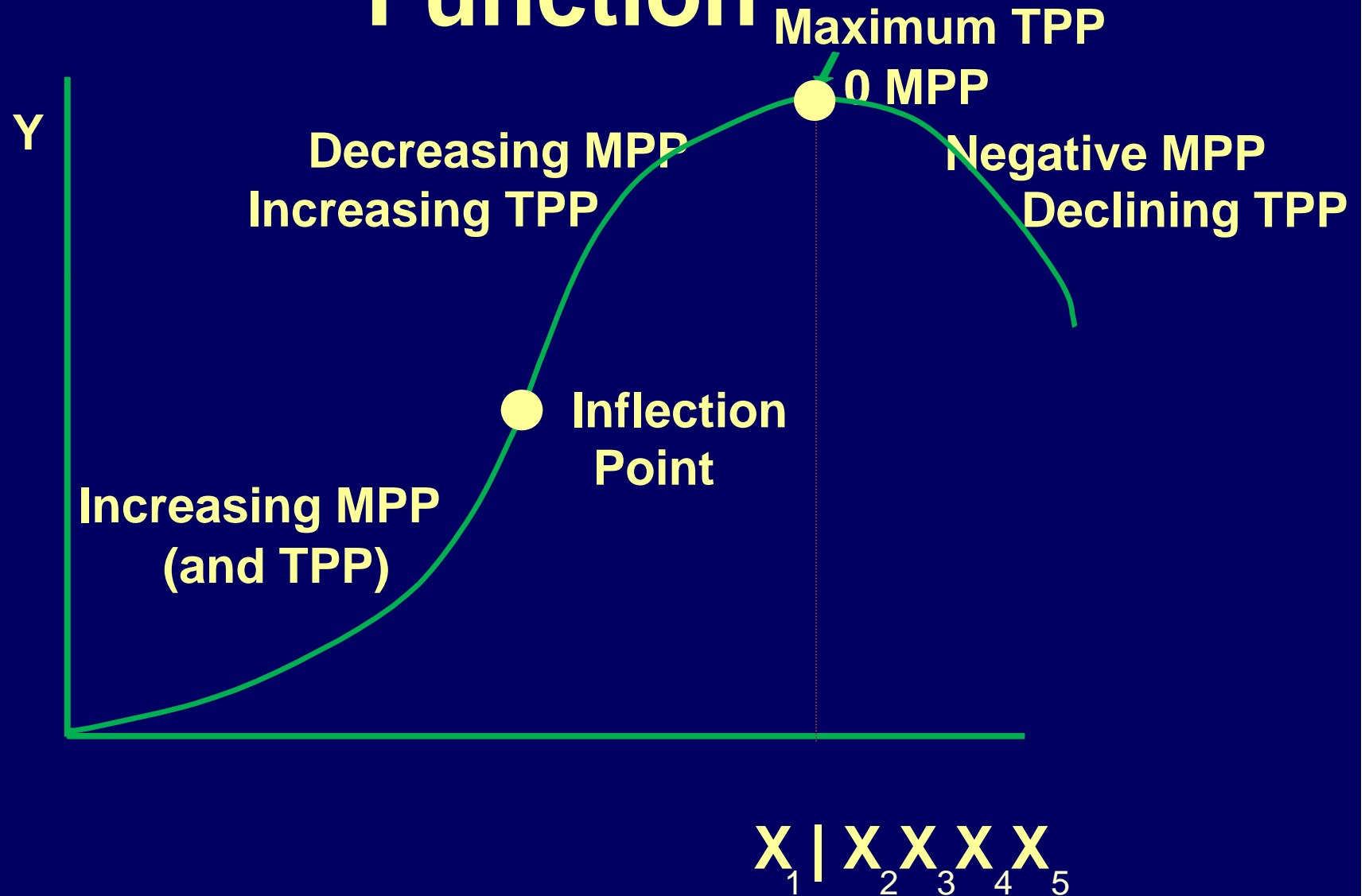


X | X X X X
1 2 3 4 5

A Neoclassical Production Function

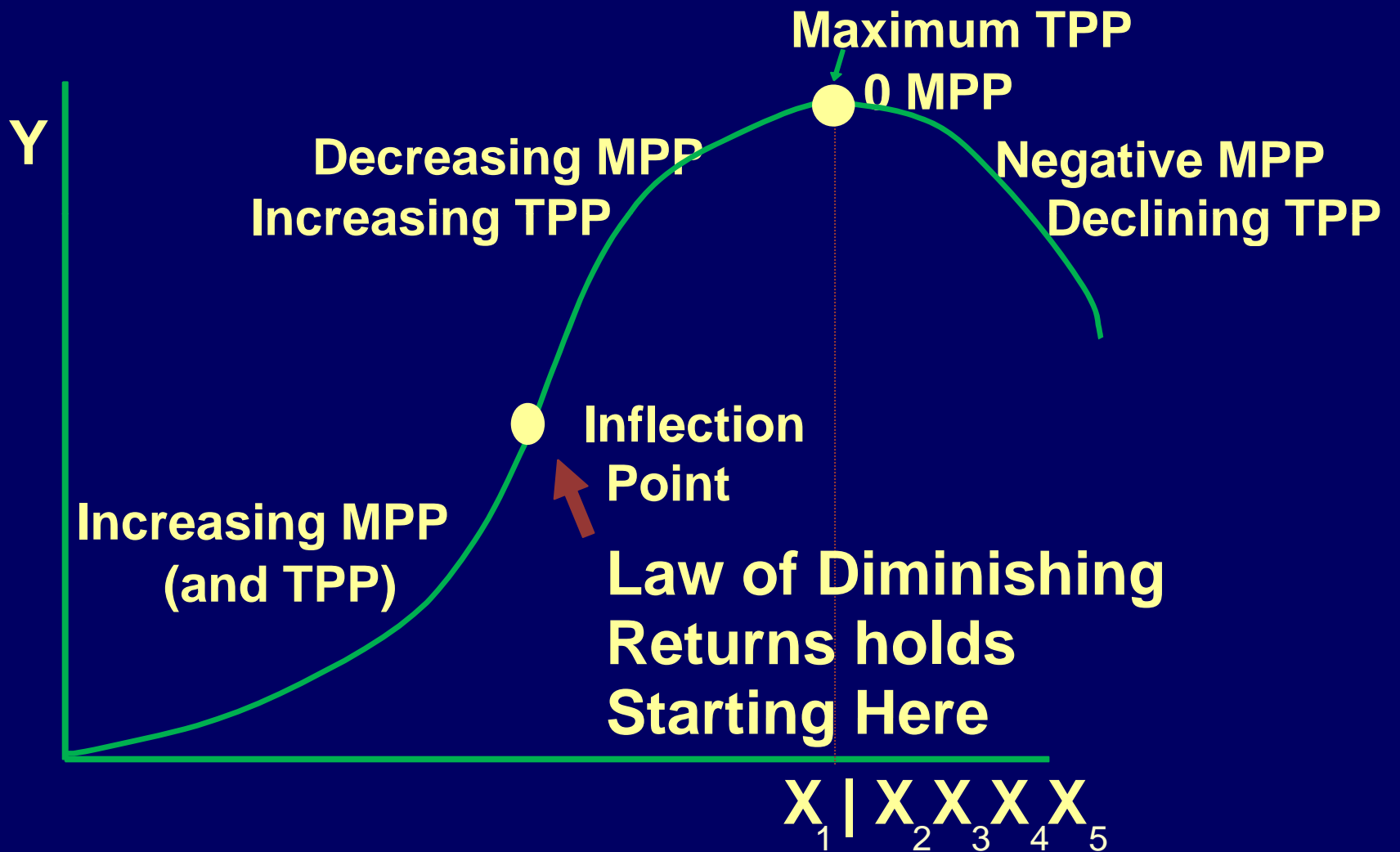


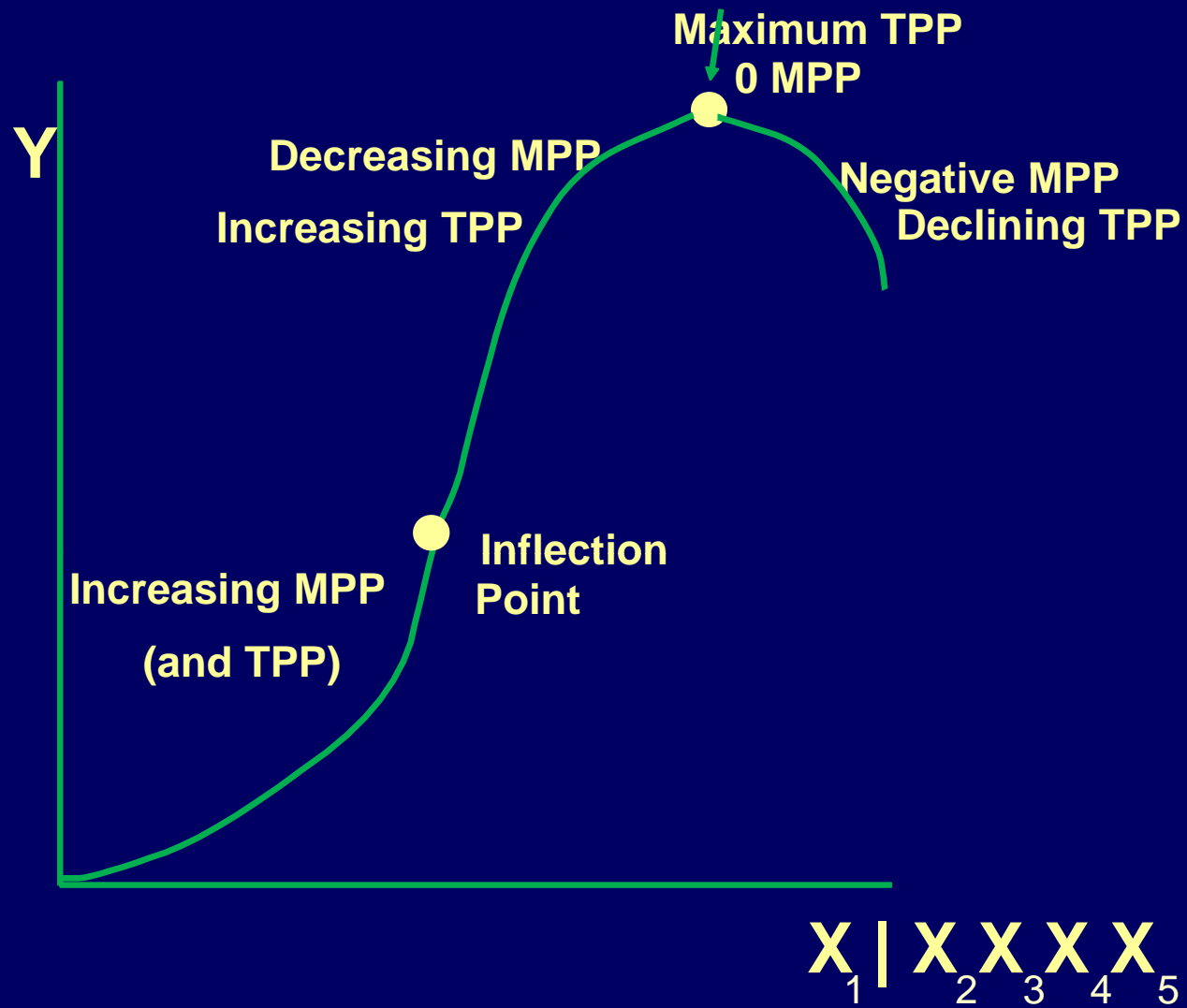
A Neoclassical Production Function

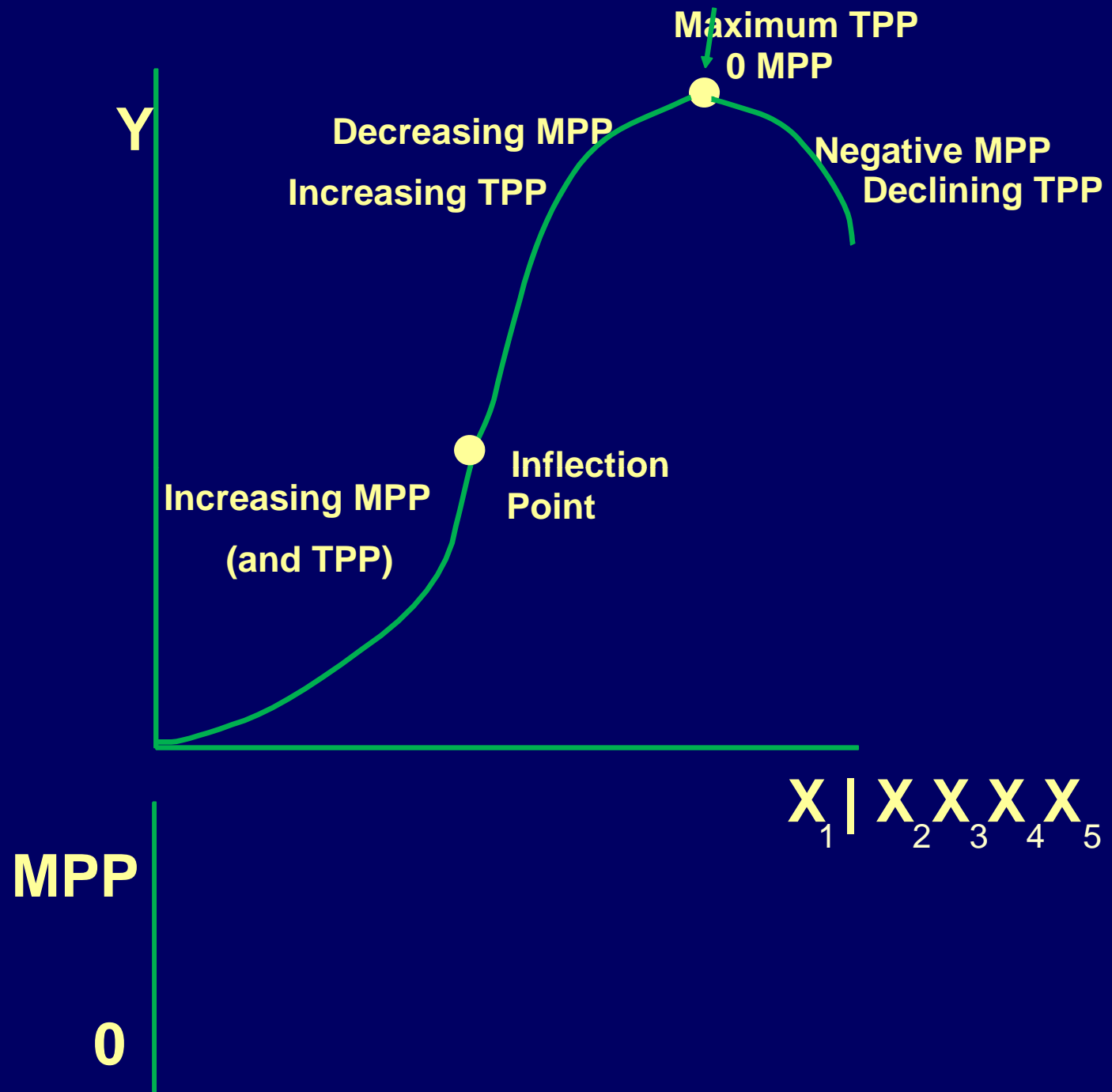


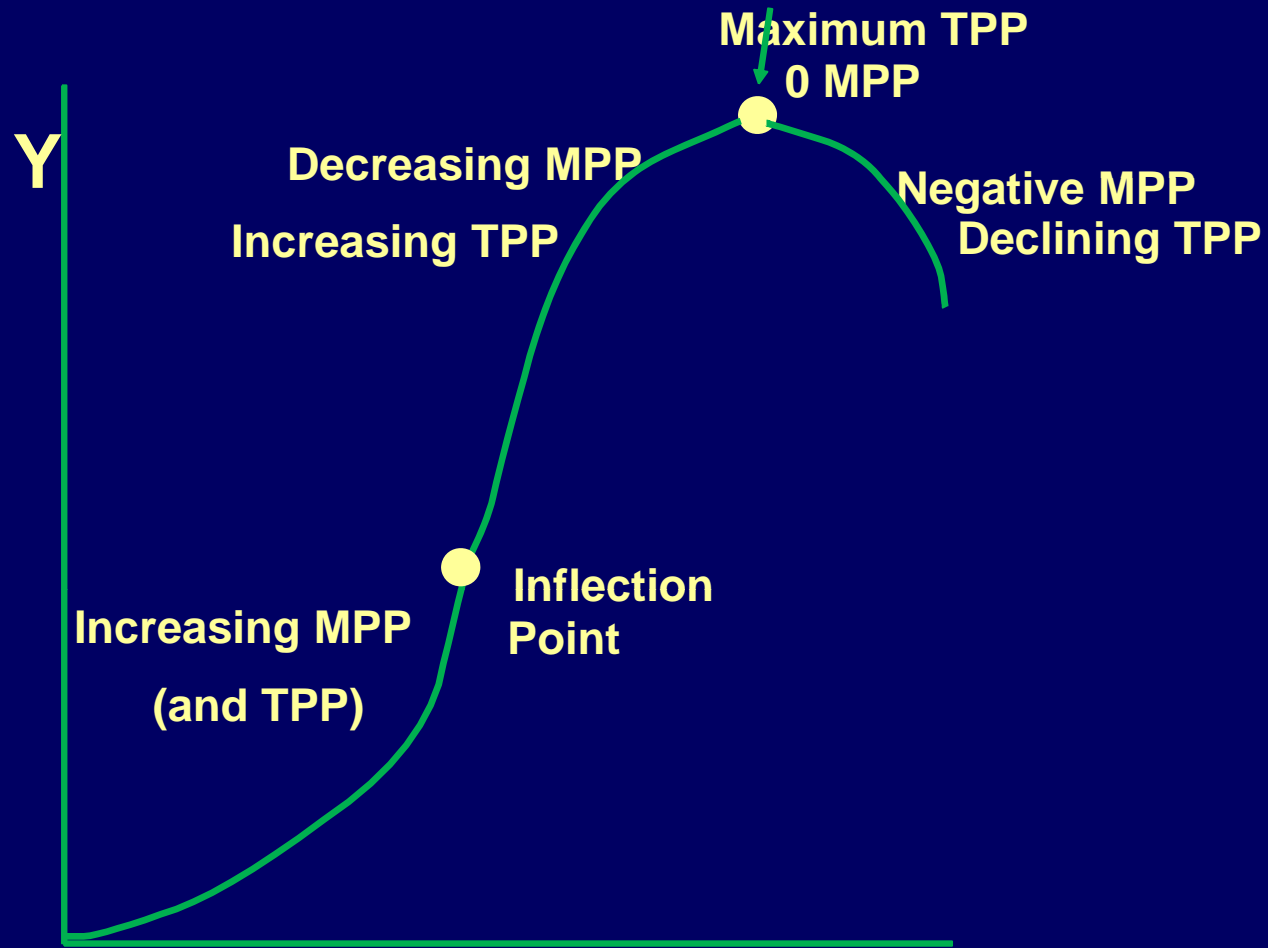
Law of Diminishing (Marginal) Returns

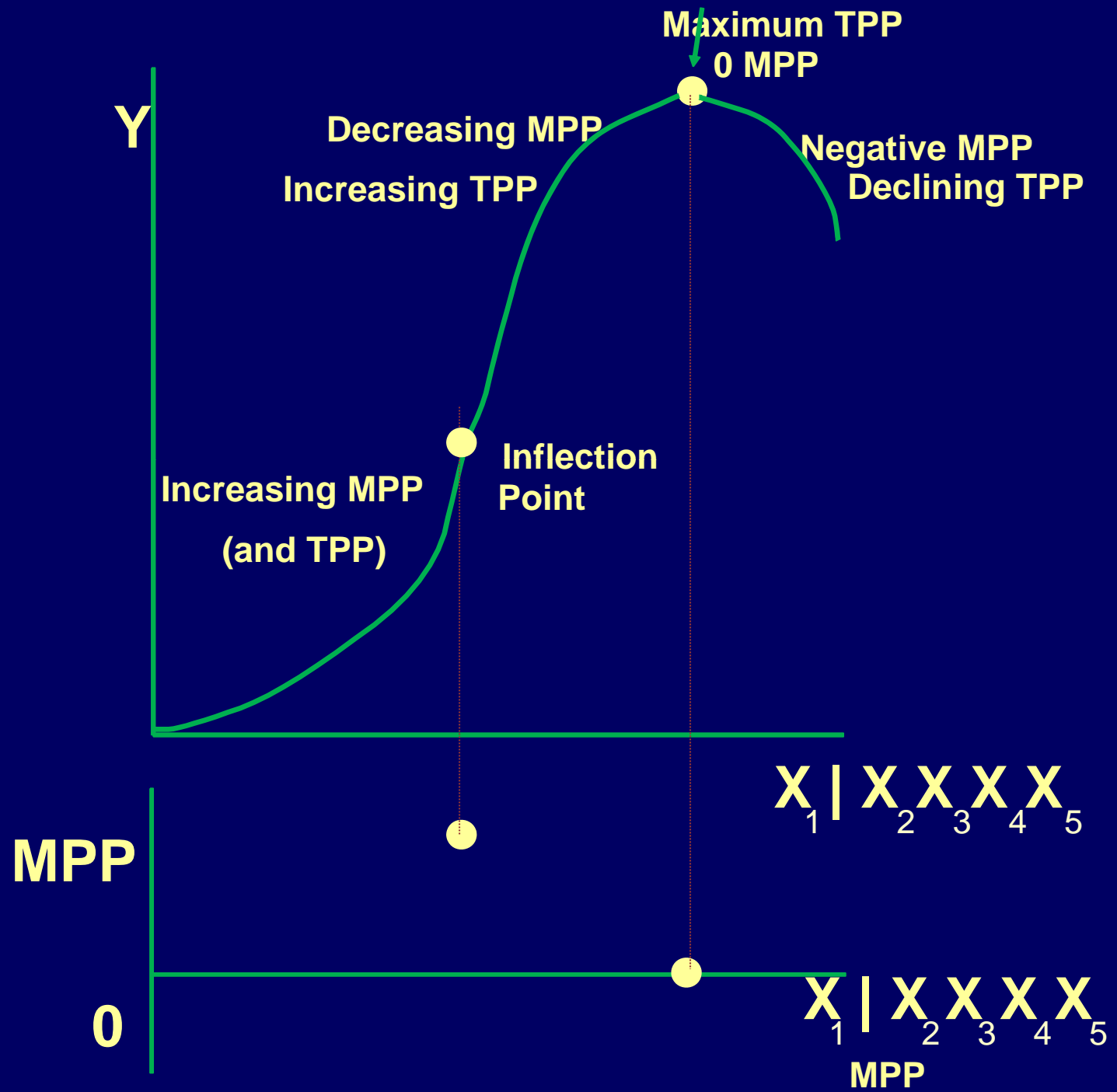
As units of the variable input (X_1)
are added to units
of the fixed inputs (X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5)
we eventually reach a point
where each ADDITIONAL unit
of the variable input (X_1)
produces Less and Less ADDITIONAL output!

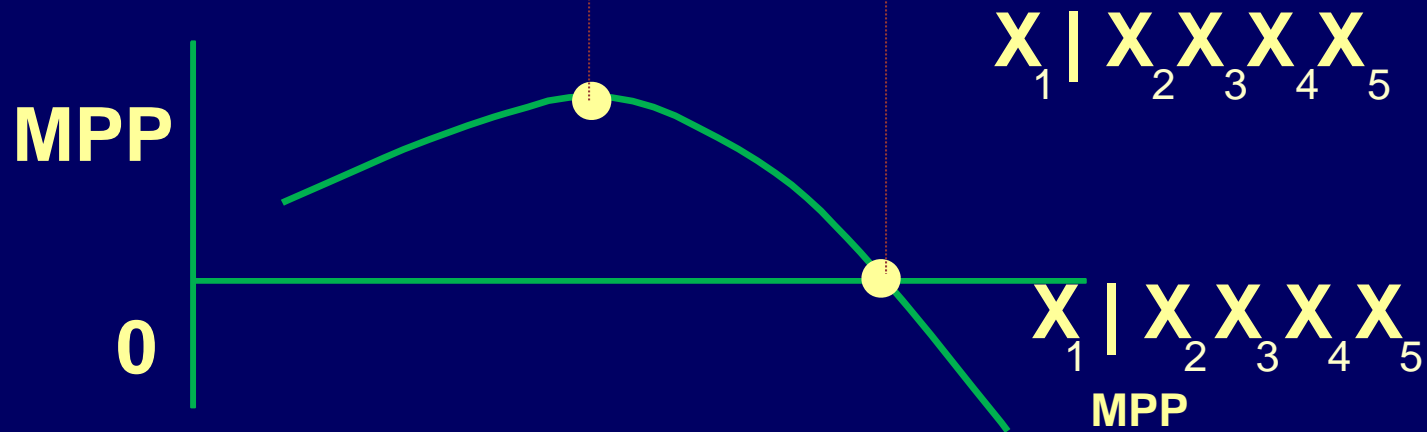
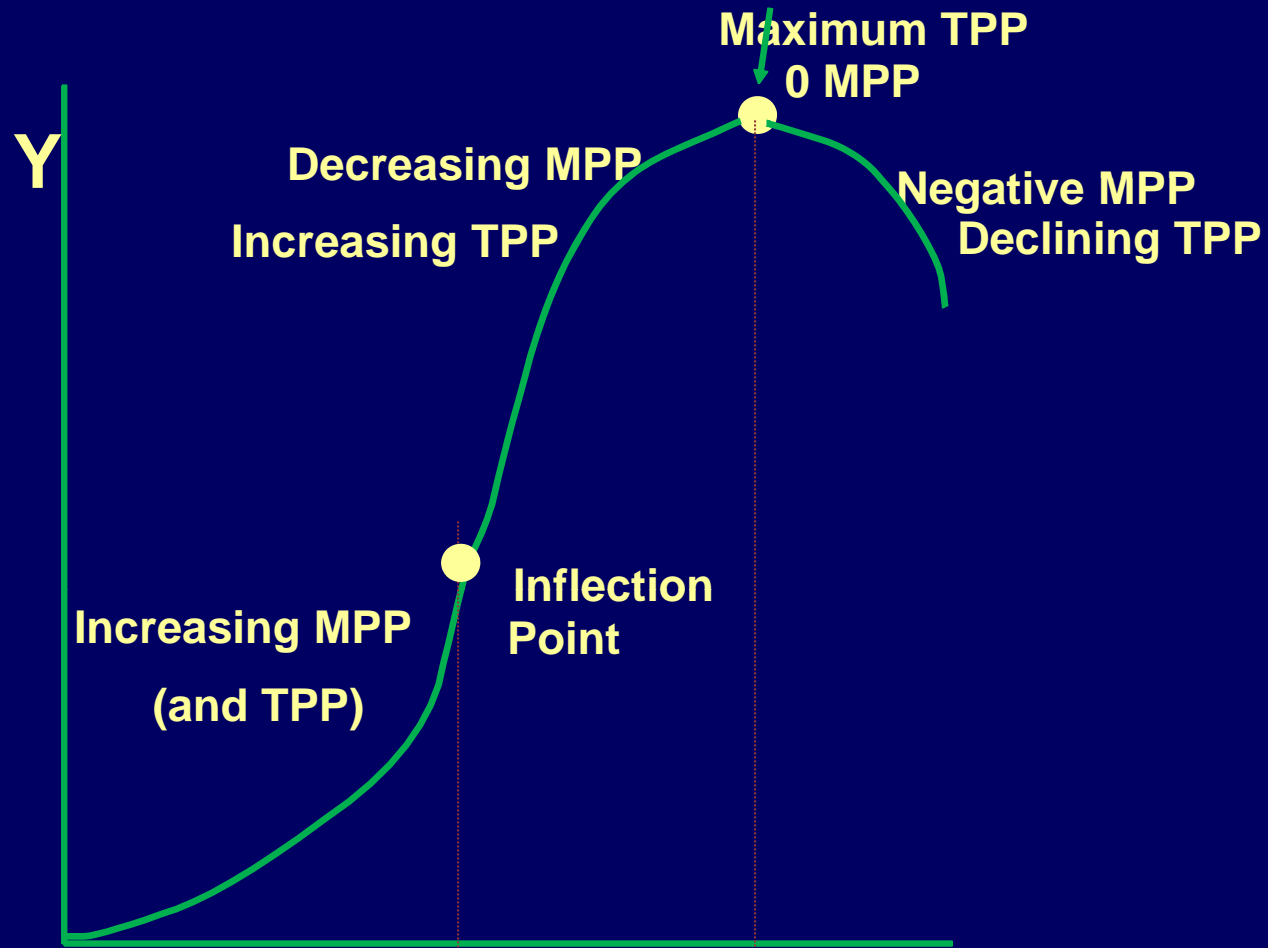












Average Physical Product

The ratio of output to variable input

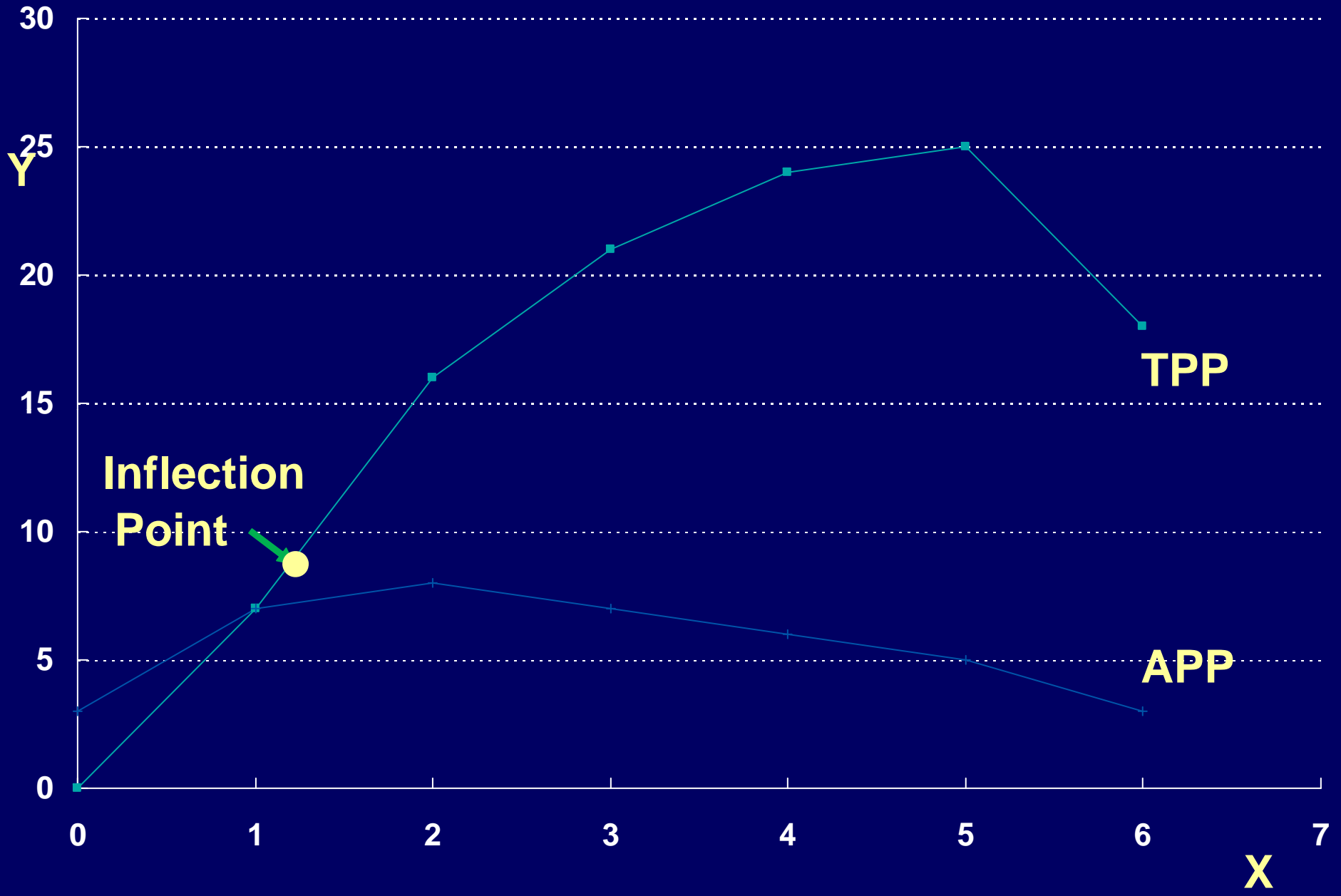
Y/X

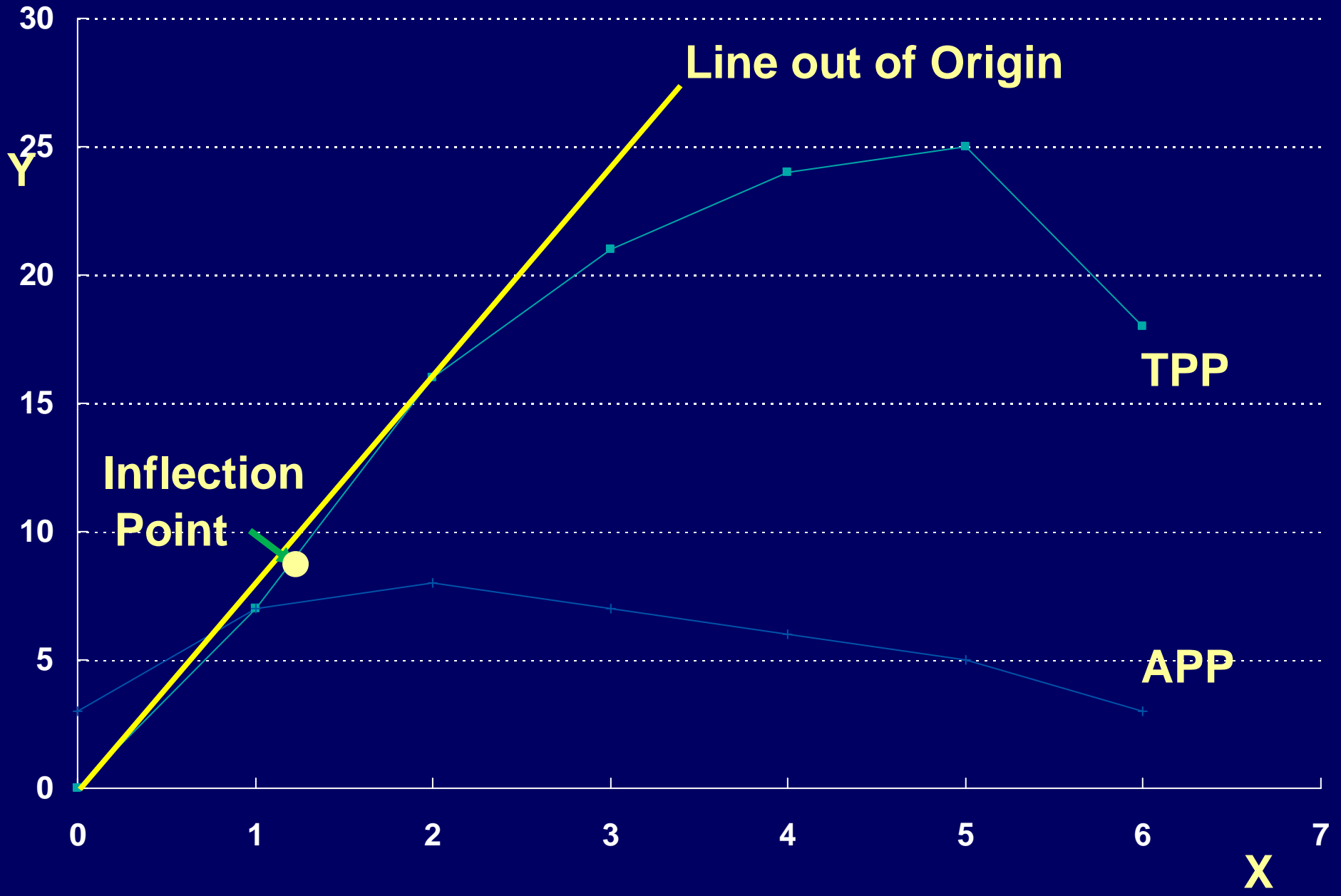
Y/X₁ | X₂ X₃ X₄ X₅

**Average product
of ALL units of X used
(not the incremental unit)**

TPP and APP

Input	Output (TPP)	APP
X	Y	Y/X
0	0	undefined
1	7	7
2	16	8
3	21	7
4	24	6
5	25	5
6	18	3



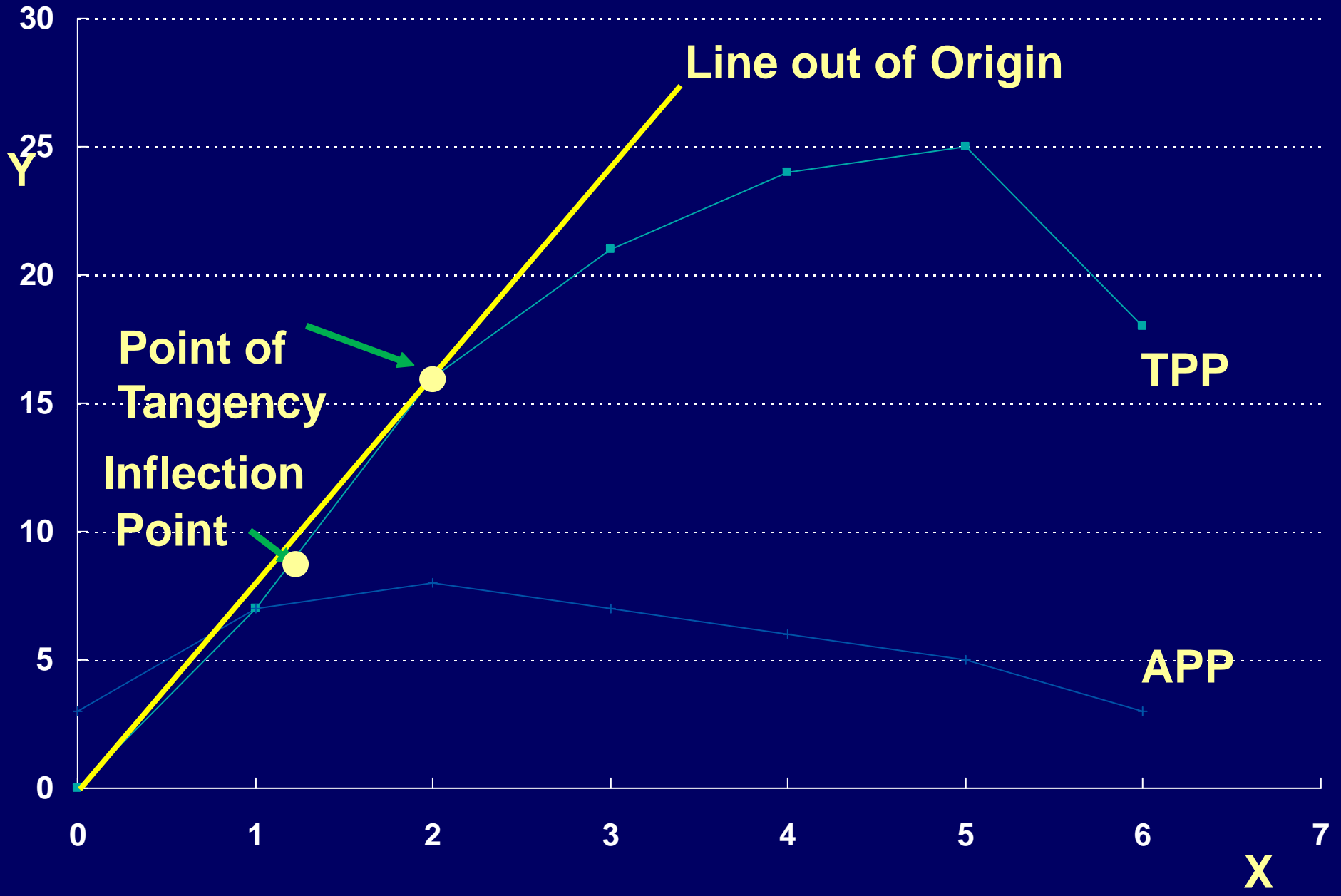


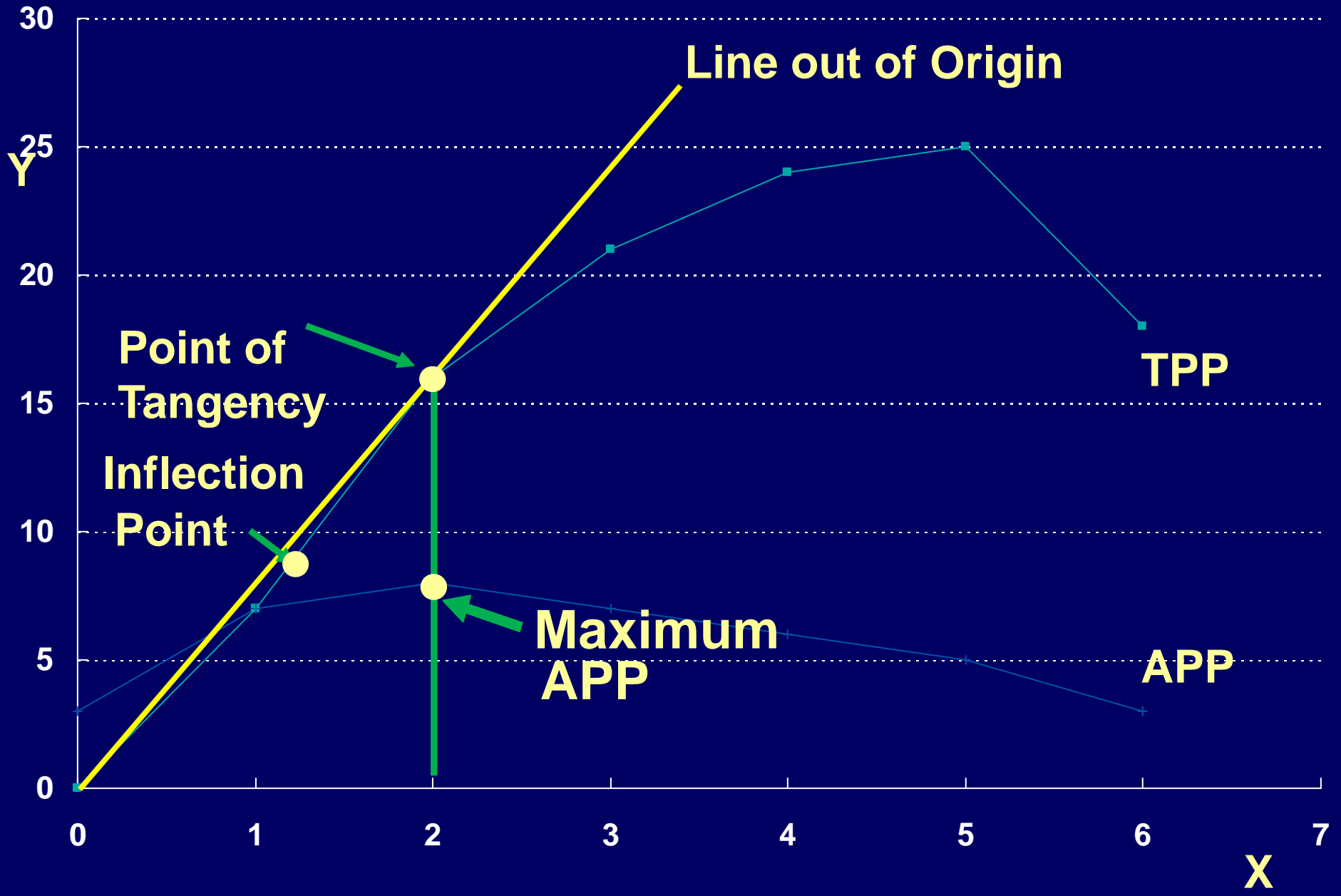
Line out of Origin

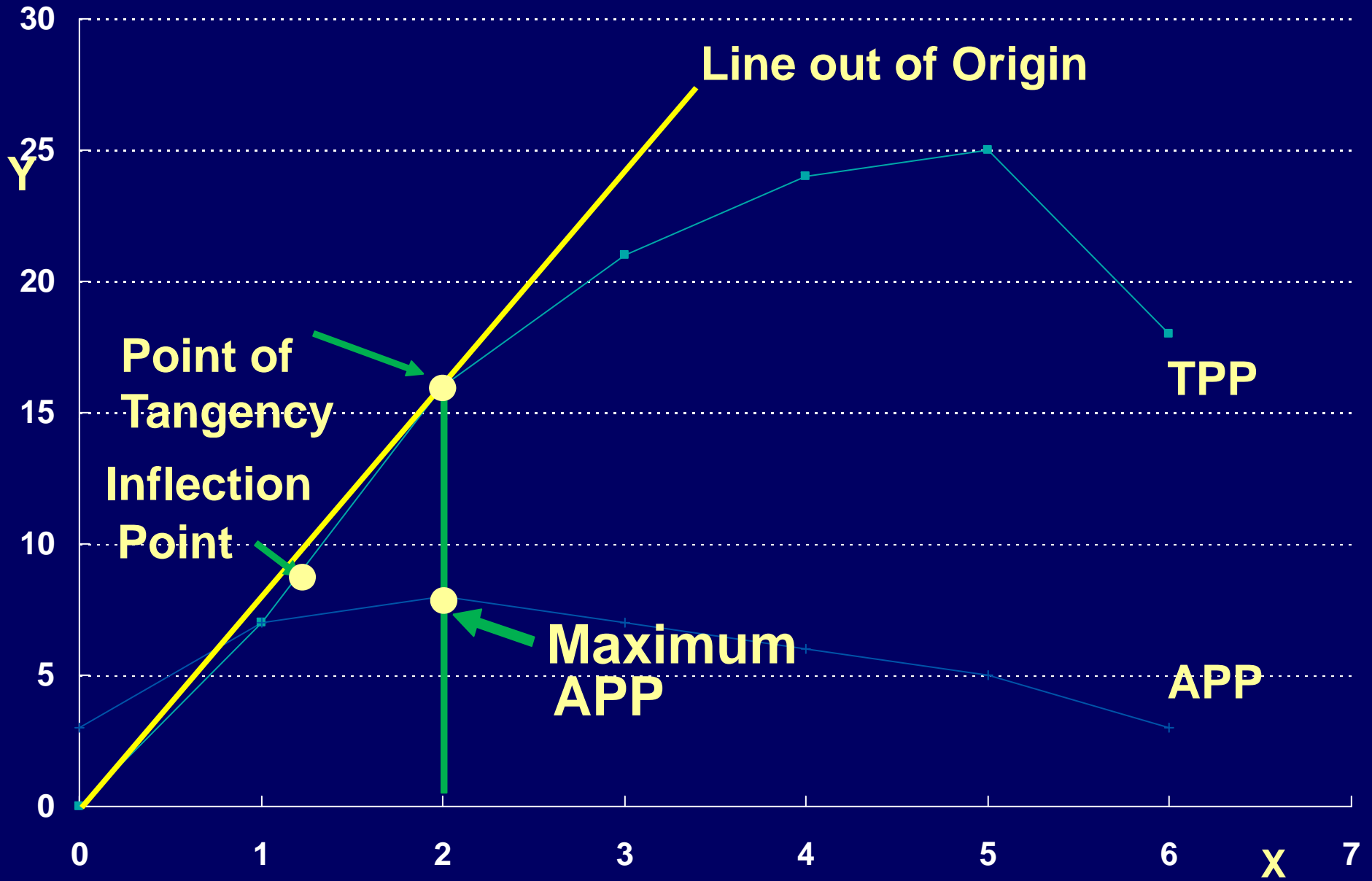
Inflection Point

TPP

APP







Point of Tangency

Inflection Point

Maximum APP

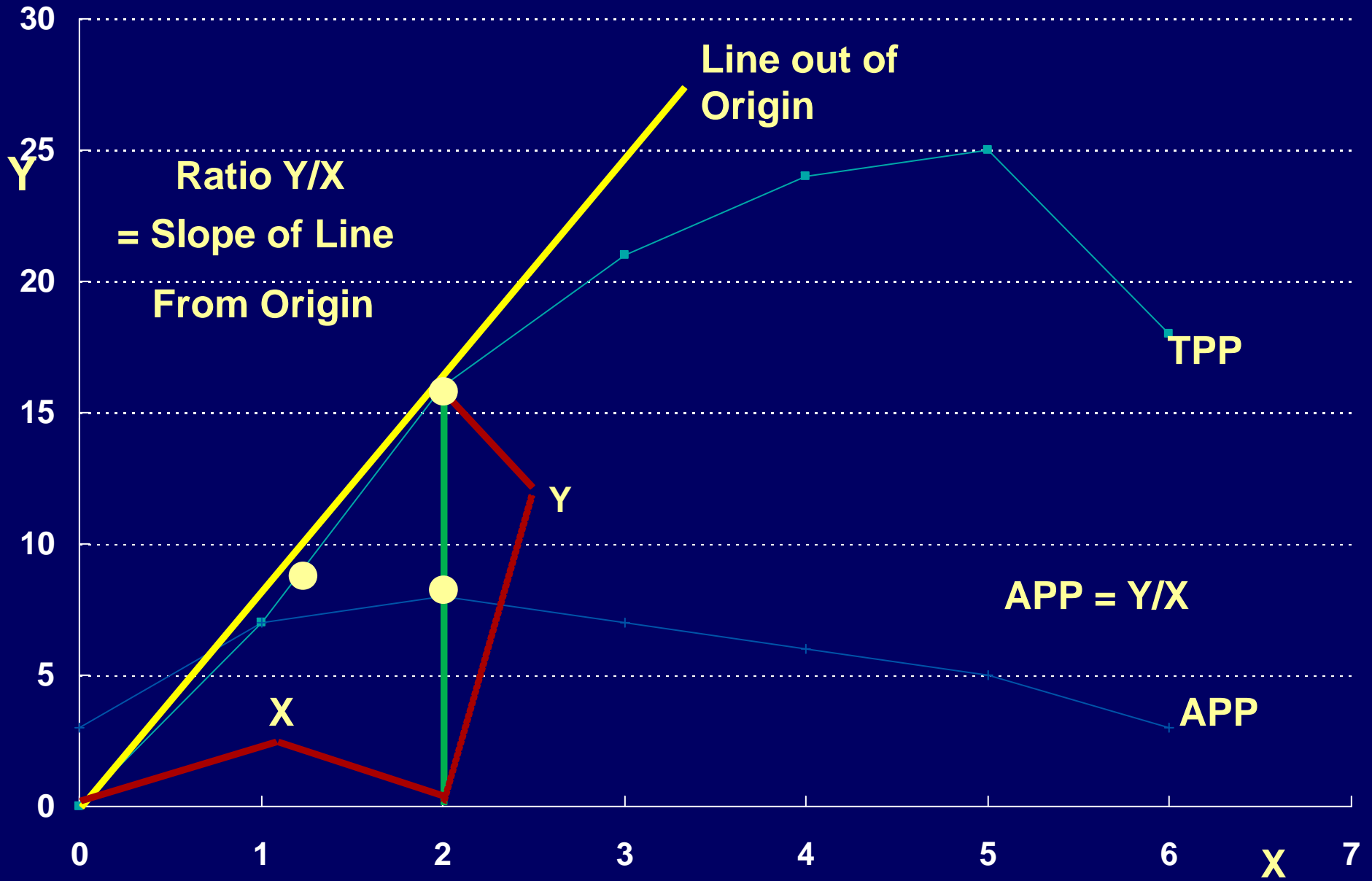
TPP

APP

Line out of Origin

Y

X



Y

APP MAXIMUM

Inflection Point

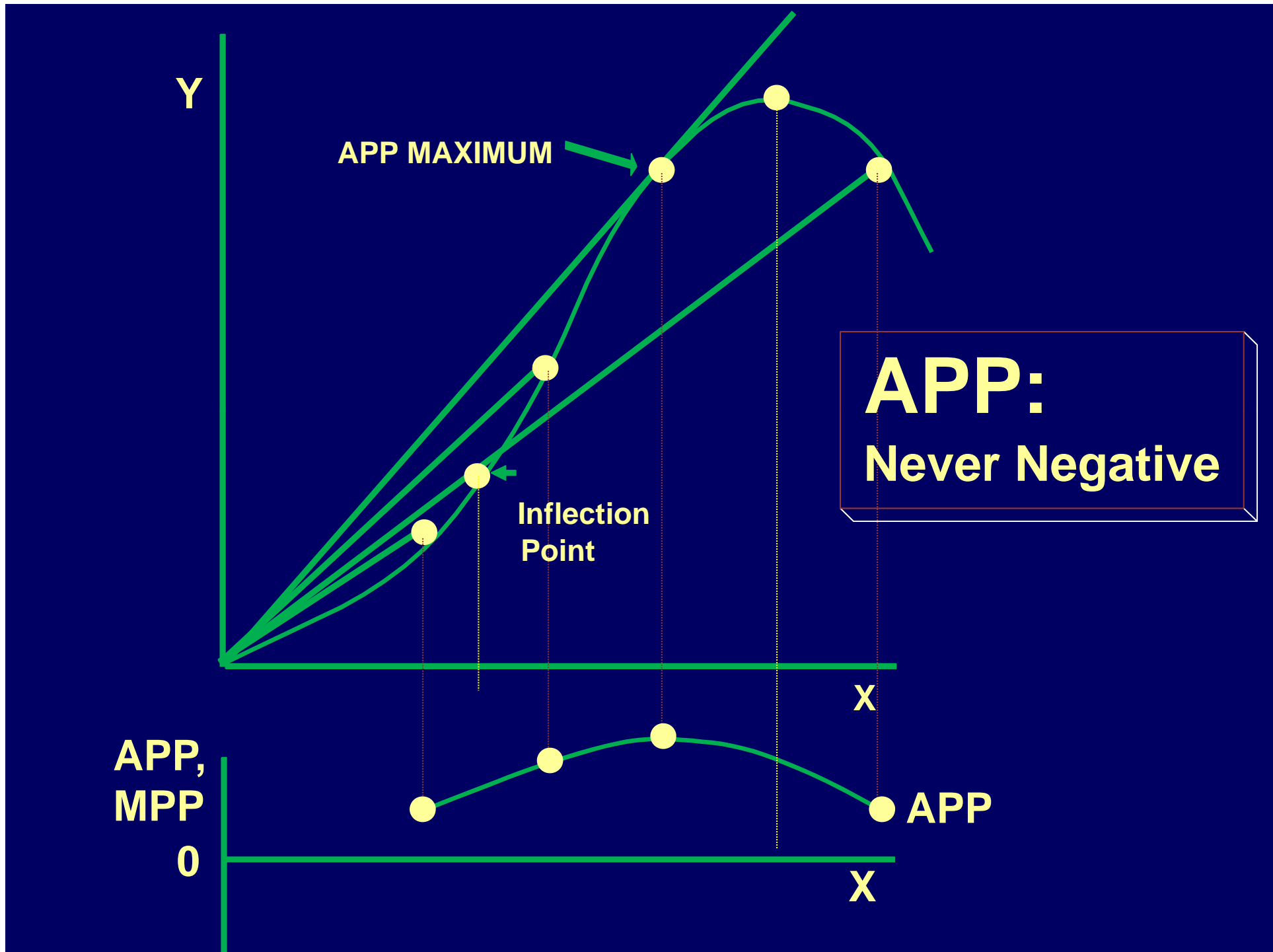
APP:
Never Negative

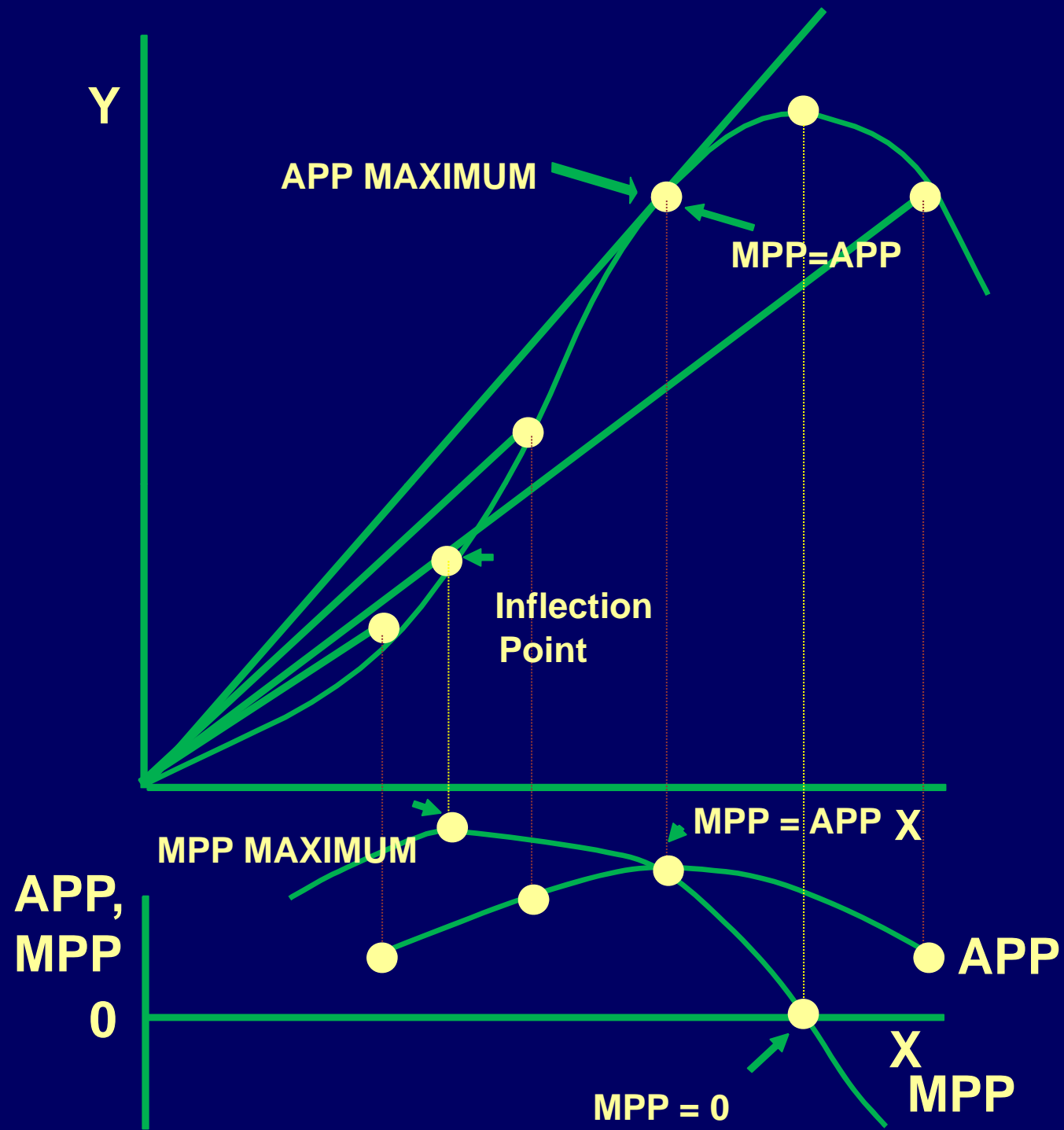
APP,
MPP
0

X

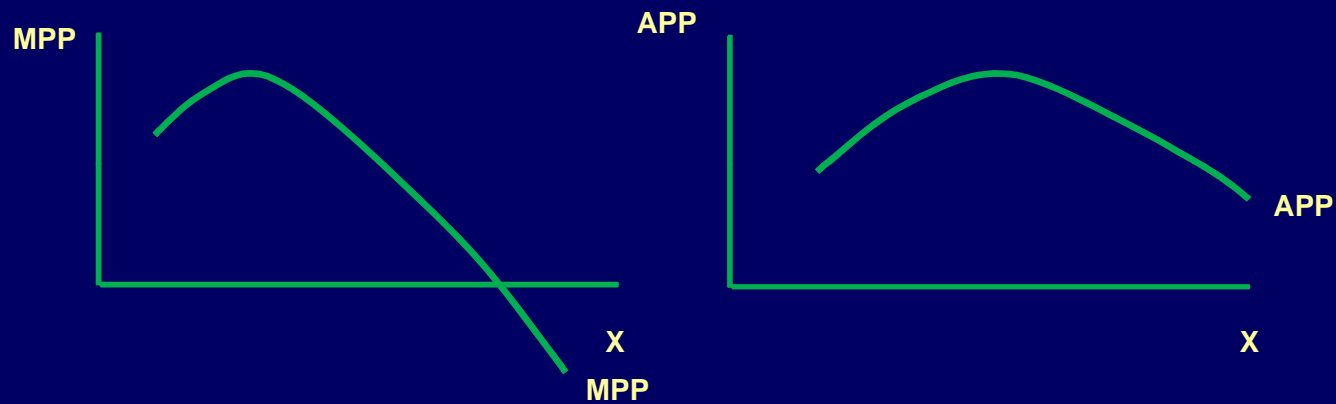
X

APP





Marginal Physical Product Average Physical Product



Do They have a Relationship???

MPP,
APP

0

APP

X | X X X X
1 2 3 4 5

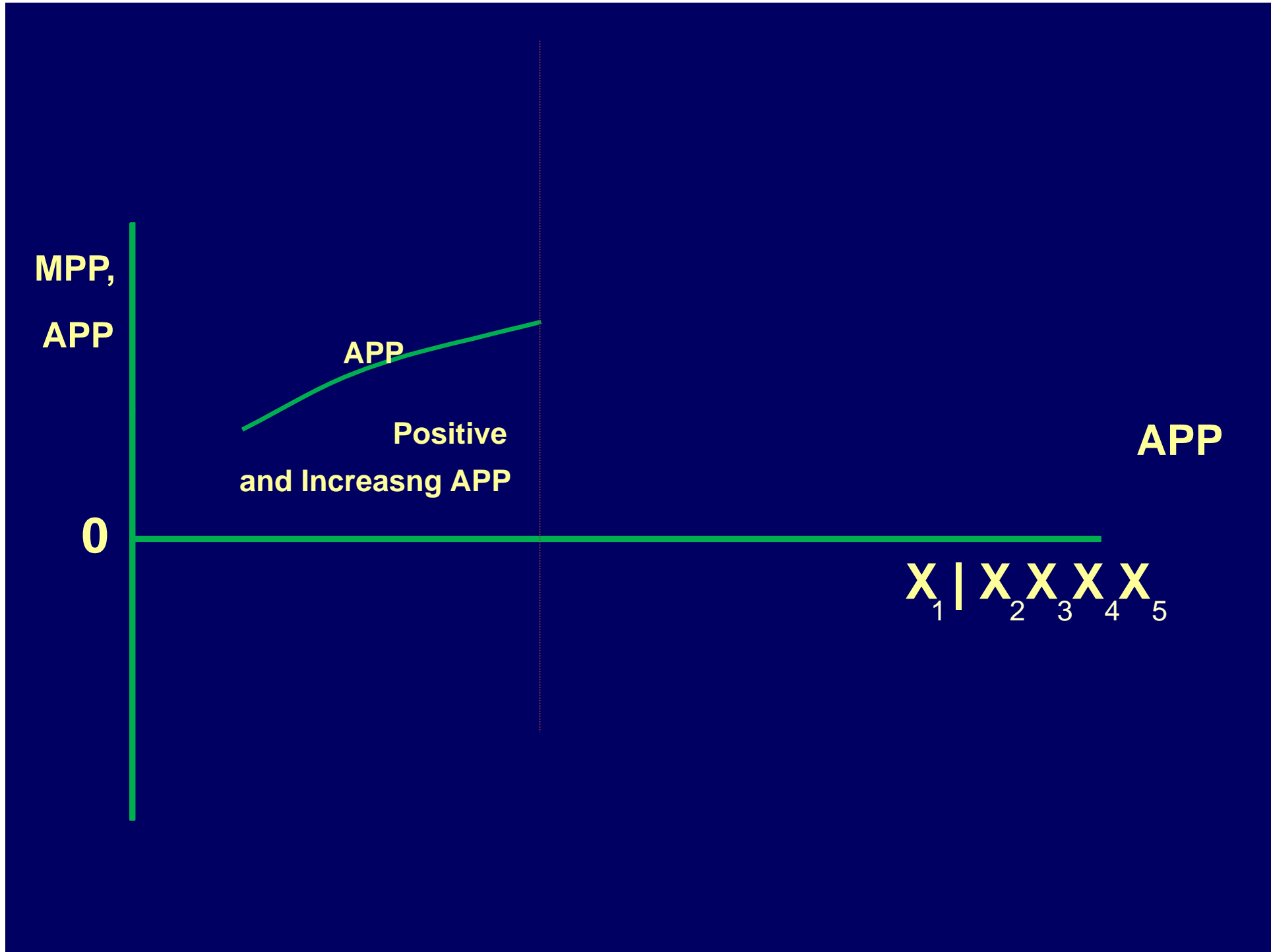
MPP,
APP

0

APP
Positive
and Increasing APP

APP

X | X X X X
1 2 3 4 5



MPP,
APP

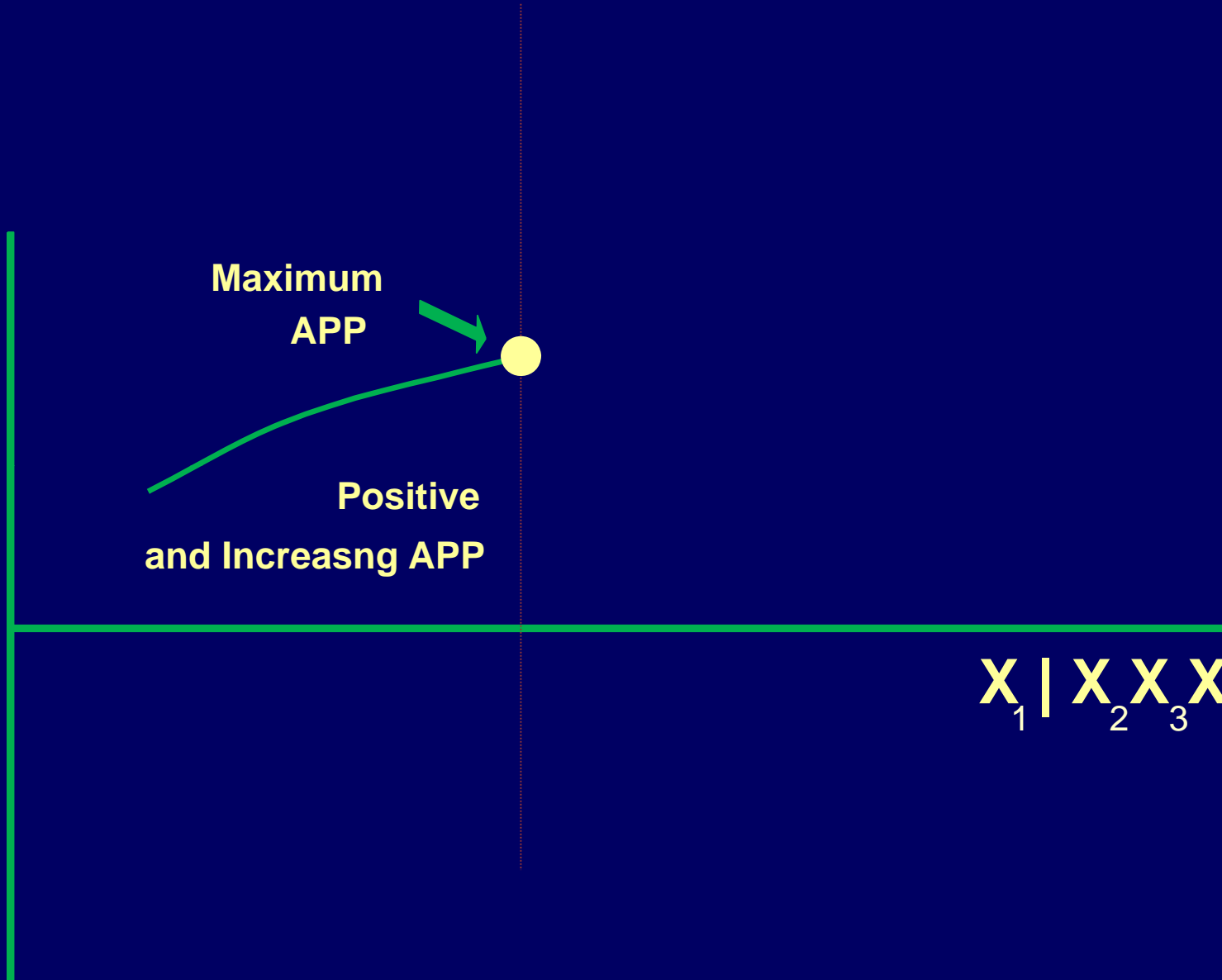
Maximum
APP

Positive
and Increasing APP

APP

0

X | X X X X
1 2 3 4 5



MPP,
APP

Maximum
APP

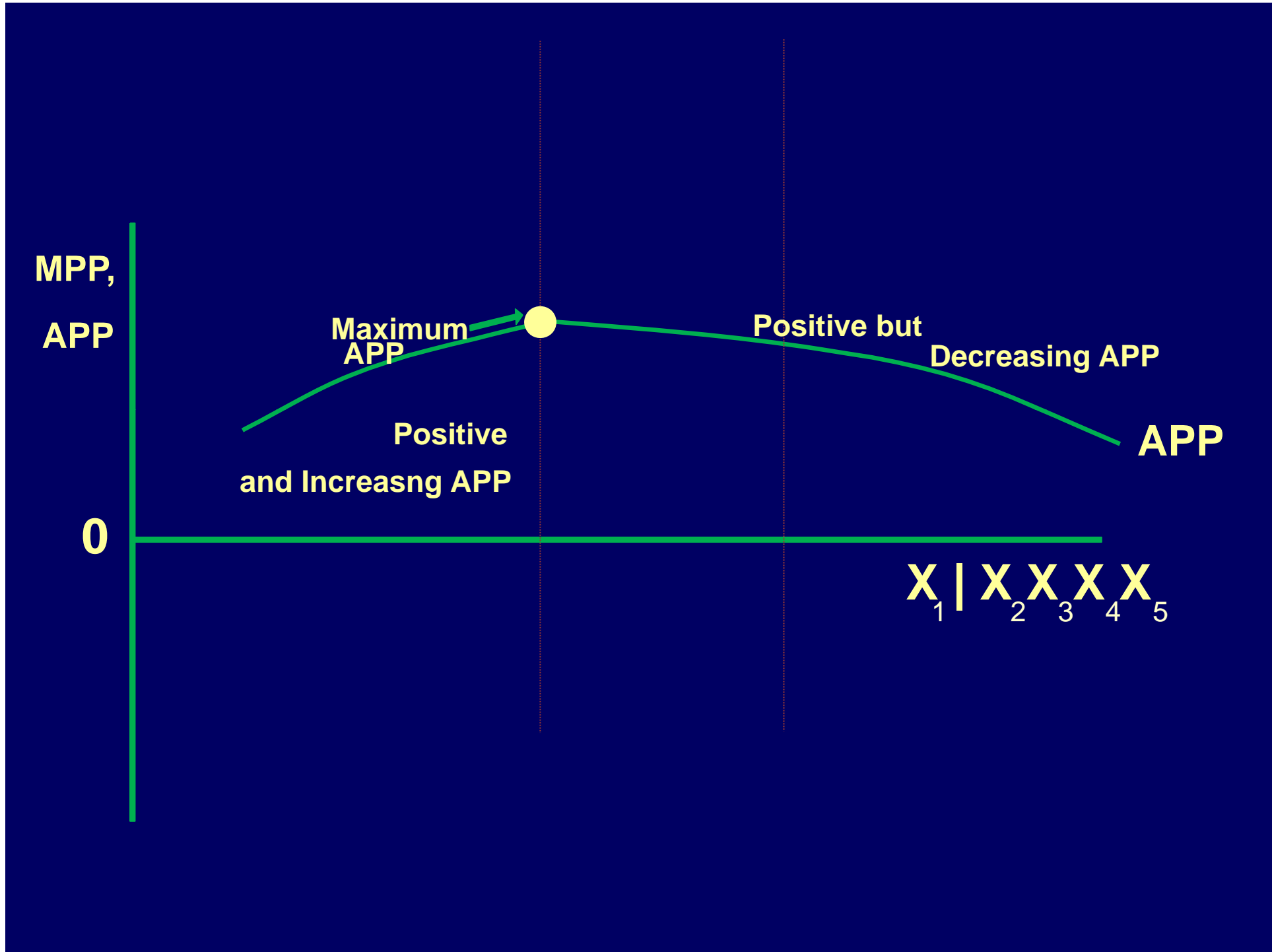
Positive
and Increasing APP

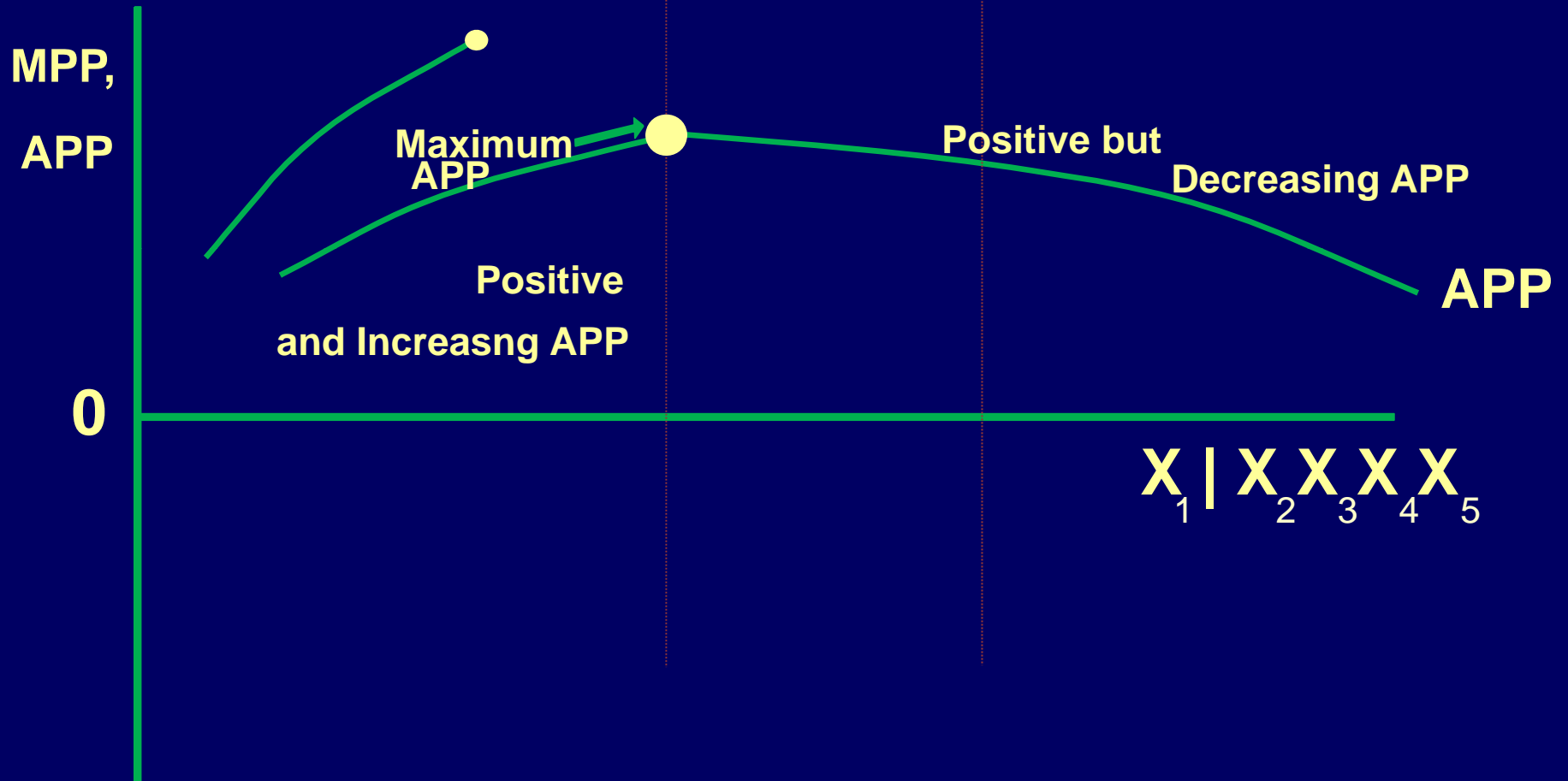
Positive but
Decreasing APP

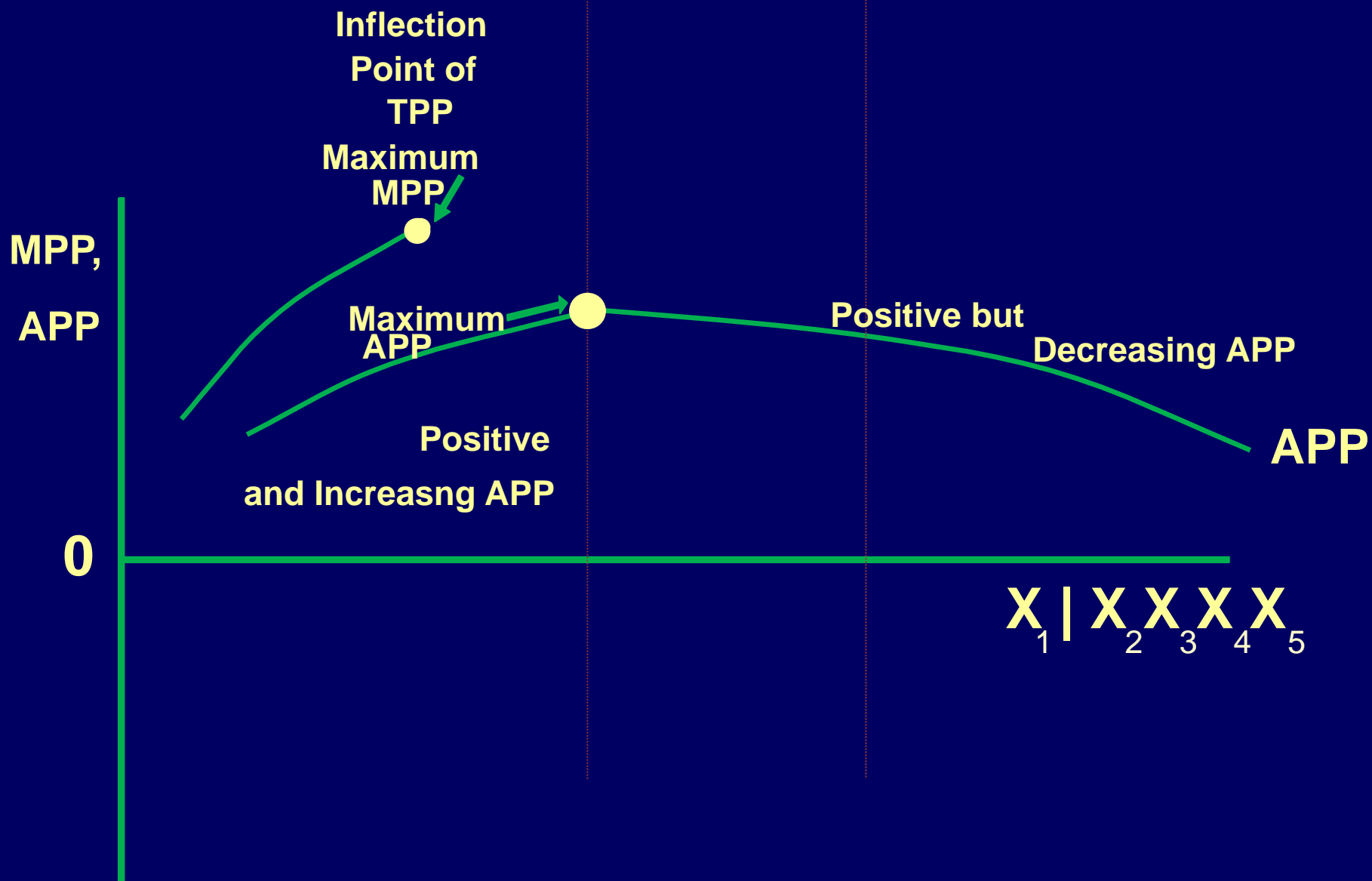
APP

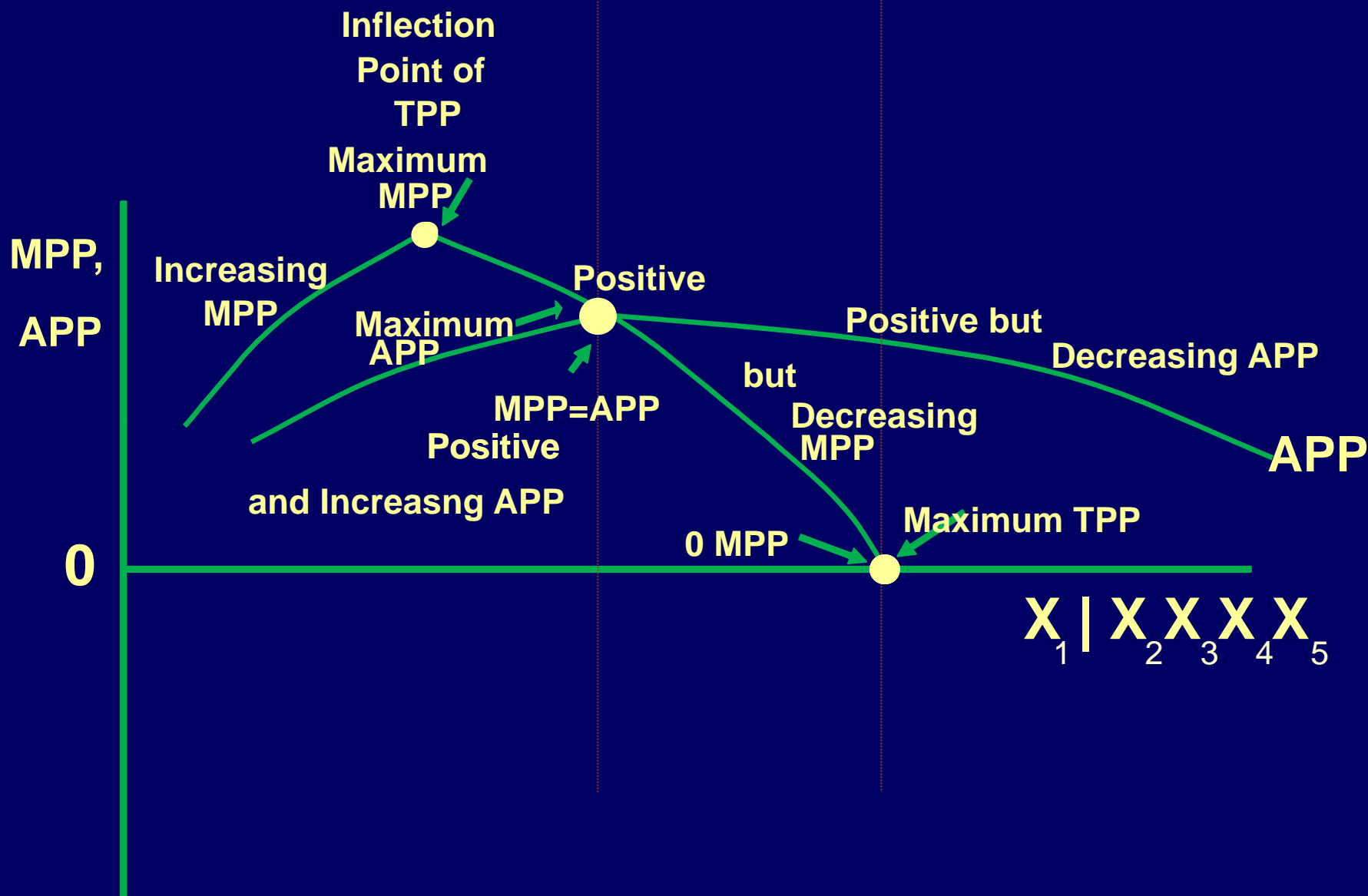
0

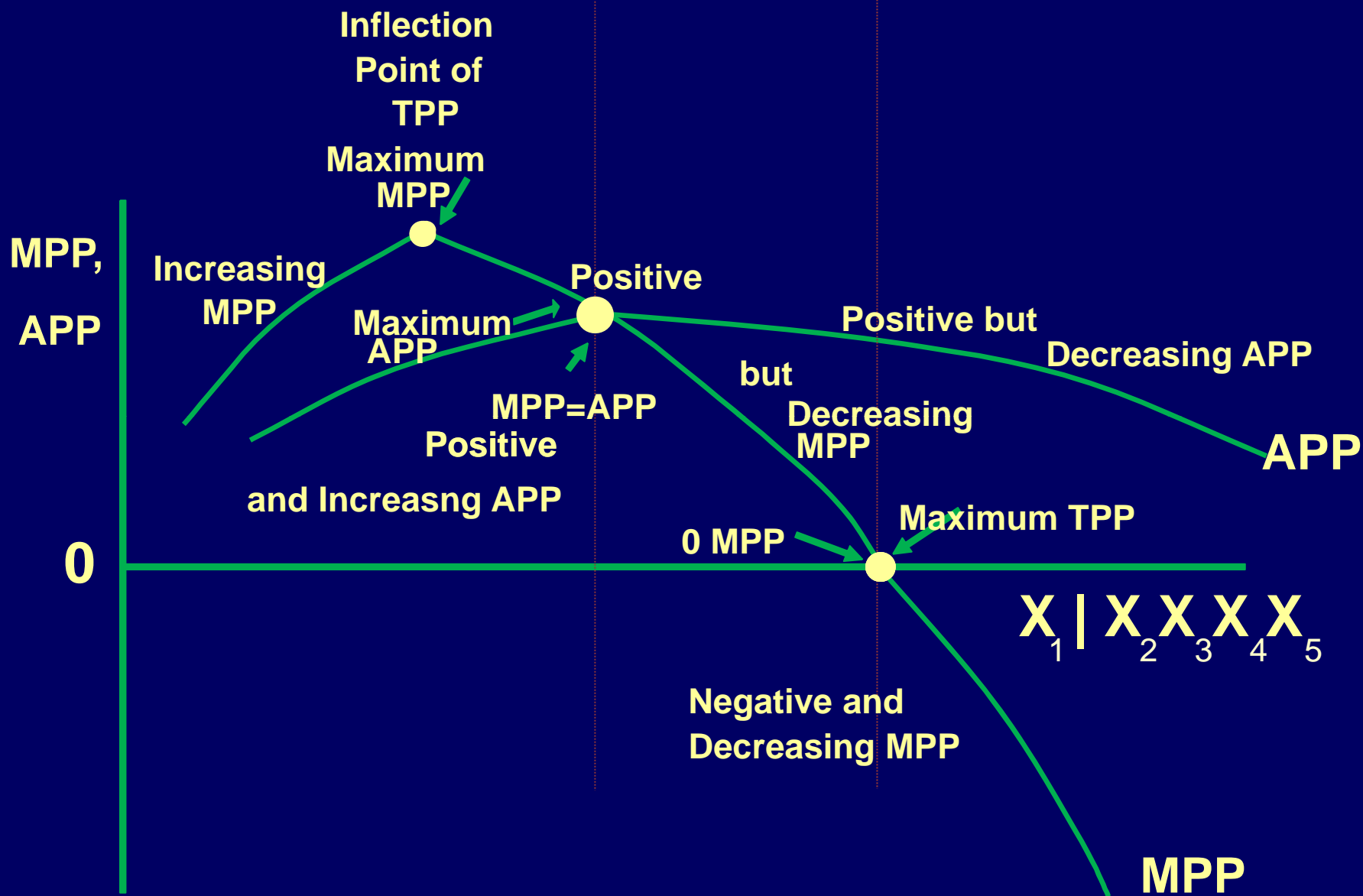
X | X X X X
1 2 3 4 5











Elasticity of Production

measures:

**responsiveness of output
to changes in the use
of Inputs**

**A pure number
(has no units)**

Elasticity of Production

=

**% Change in output (Y)
divided by
% Change in input (X)**

$$\frac{\% \triangle \text{ in output } Y}{\% \triangle \text{ in input } X}$$

Elasticity of Production

% Δ in output Y

% Δ in input X

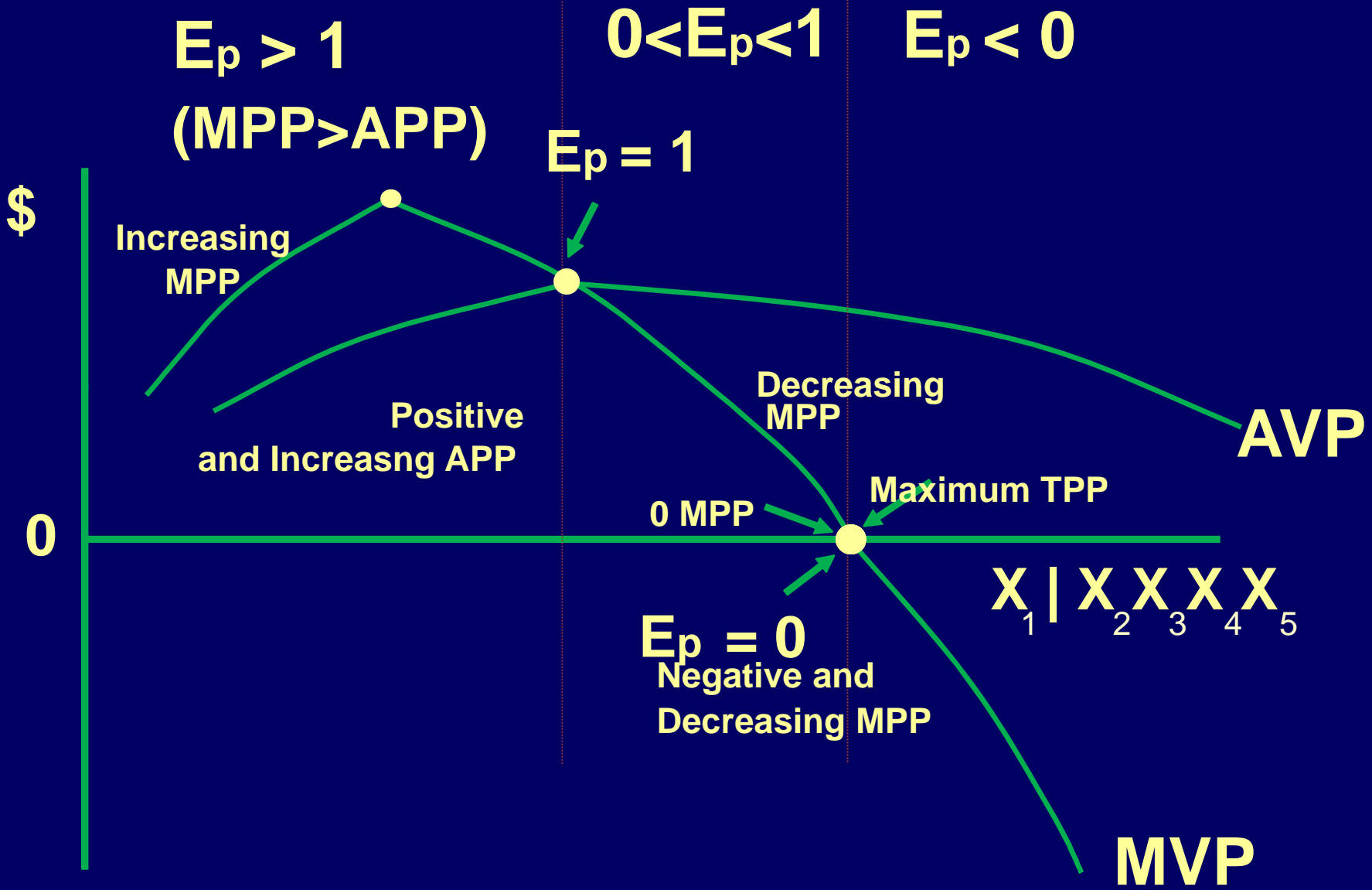
$$= \frac{\Delta Y/Y}{\Delta X/X}$$

$$= \frac{\Delta Y}{\Delta X} \cdot \frac{X}{Y} = \text{MPP/APP}$$

MPP 1/APP

$$\frac{\% \Delta \text{ in output } Y}{\% \Delta \text{ in input } X} = \text{MPP/APP}$$

**The Elasticity of Production (E_p)
is the Ratio
of MPP to APP**

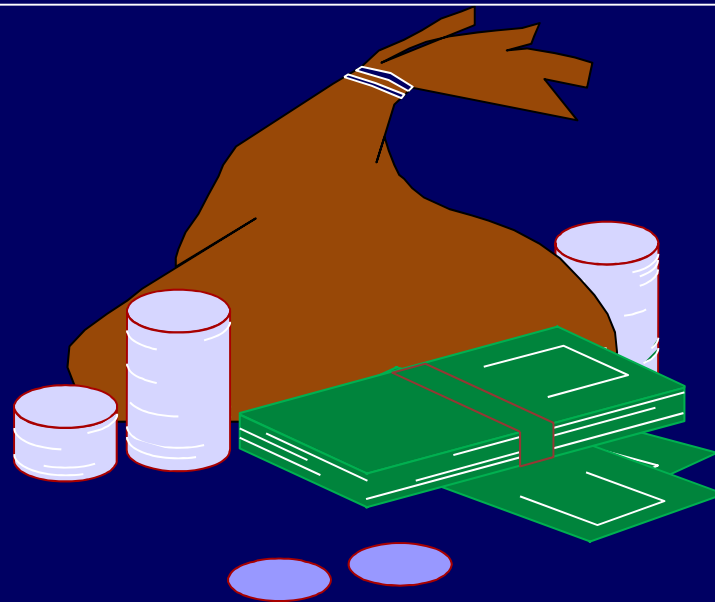


When the elasticity of production is greater than one, MPP lies above APP, APP is increasing, but MPP may be either increasing or decreasing.

When the elasticity of production is between zero and 1, both MPP and APP are decreasing. However, MPP is positive here.

When the elasticity of production is negative, MPP is negative, and TPP is falling. However, APP still remains positive.

Profit Maximization: 1 input (X) and 1 output (Y)



Assumptions:

1. Constant Input Price

The producer can purchase
as much or as little
of the needed input
at the going market price.

No producer can
affect input prices
by the amount of the purchase.

2. Constant Output Price

**No producer can affect
the price of the output (Y)
because of the
individual production decision.**

**The price of the input is V.
The price of the output is P.**

3. Production Function Known with Certainty

This is an unrealistic assumption for agriculture!

Profit =

Total Revenue - Total Cost

$$\Pi = TR - TC$$

$$\Pi = P \cdot Y - V \cdot X \quad \text{but } Y = f(X)$$

SO

$$\Pi = P \cdot f(X) - V \cdot X$$

Total Value of Product

Total Factor Cost

Maximizing Profit:

Maximize the difference
between

TVP and TFC

$$\Pi \quad P \cdot f(X) - V \cdot X$$

Total Value of Product

TVP

Total Factor Cost

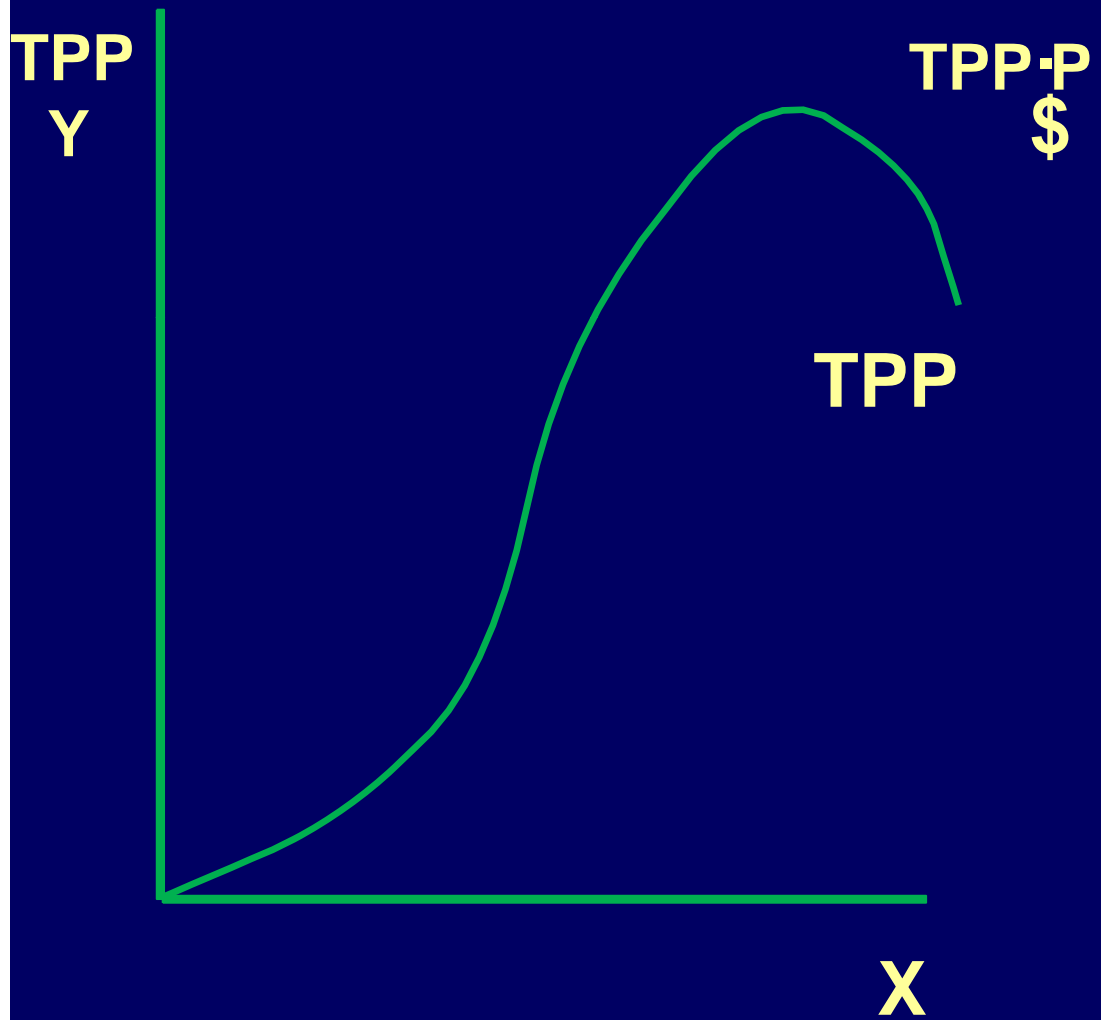
TFC

**What is the appearance of a
TVP CURVE?**

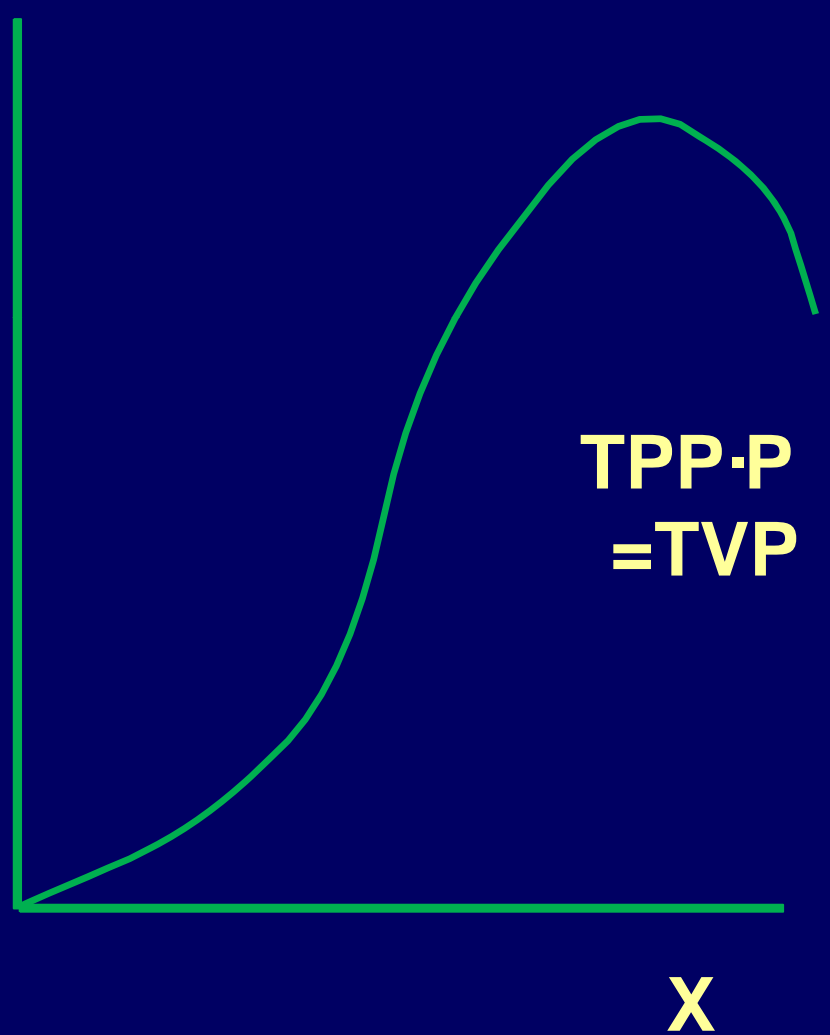
The TVP curve is a production function with the vertical axis measured in dollar value of output, not physical units such as bushels or pounds.

$$\mathbf{TVP = P \cdot TPP}$$

Production Function

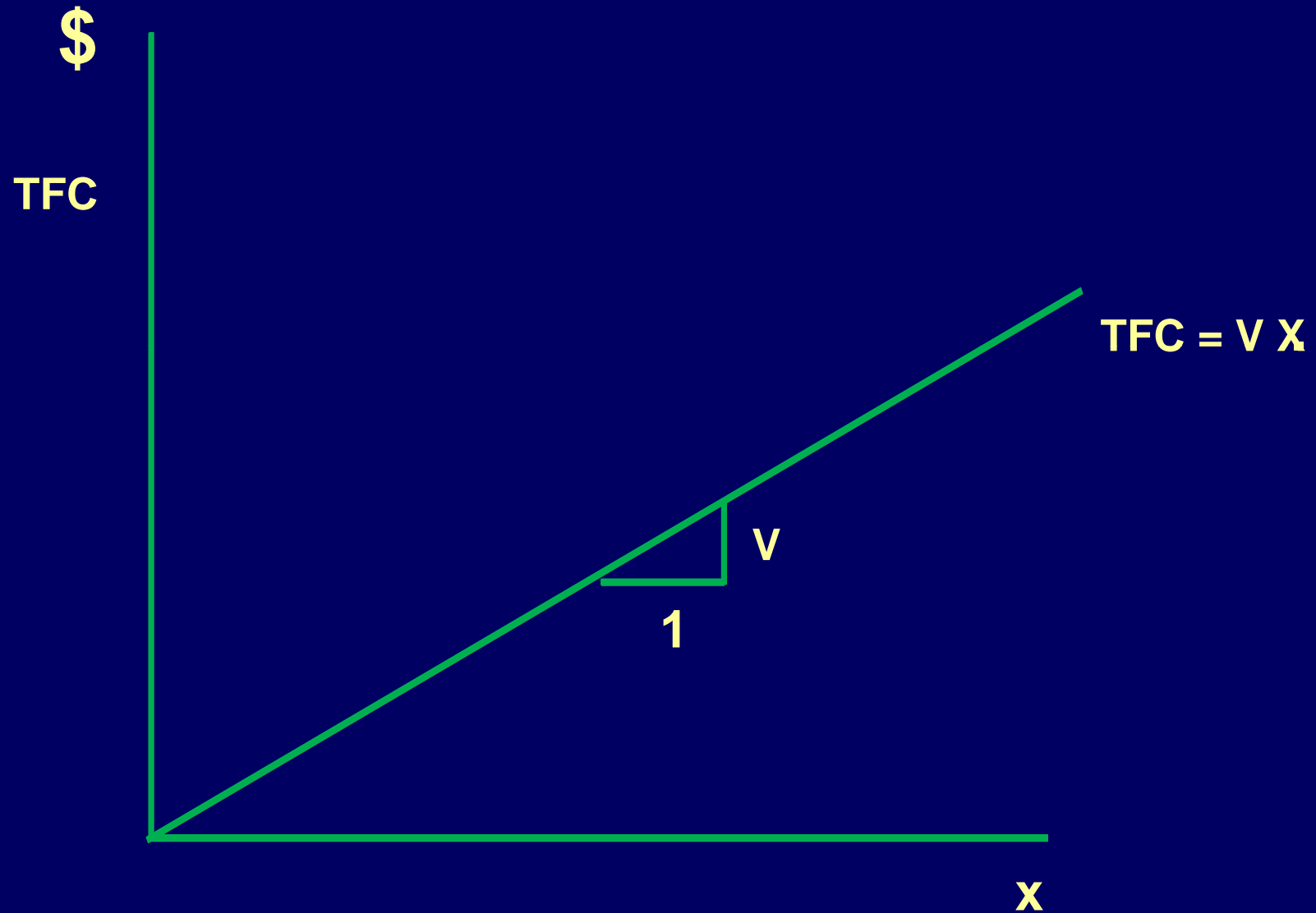


TVP Curve

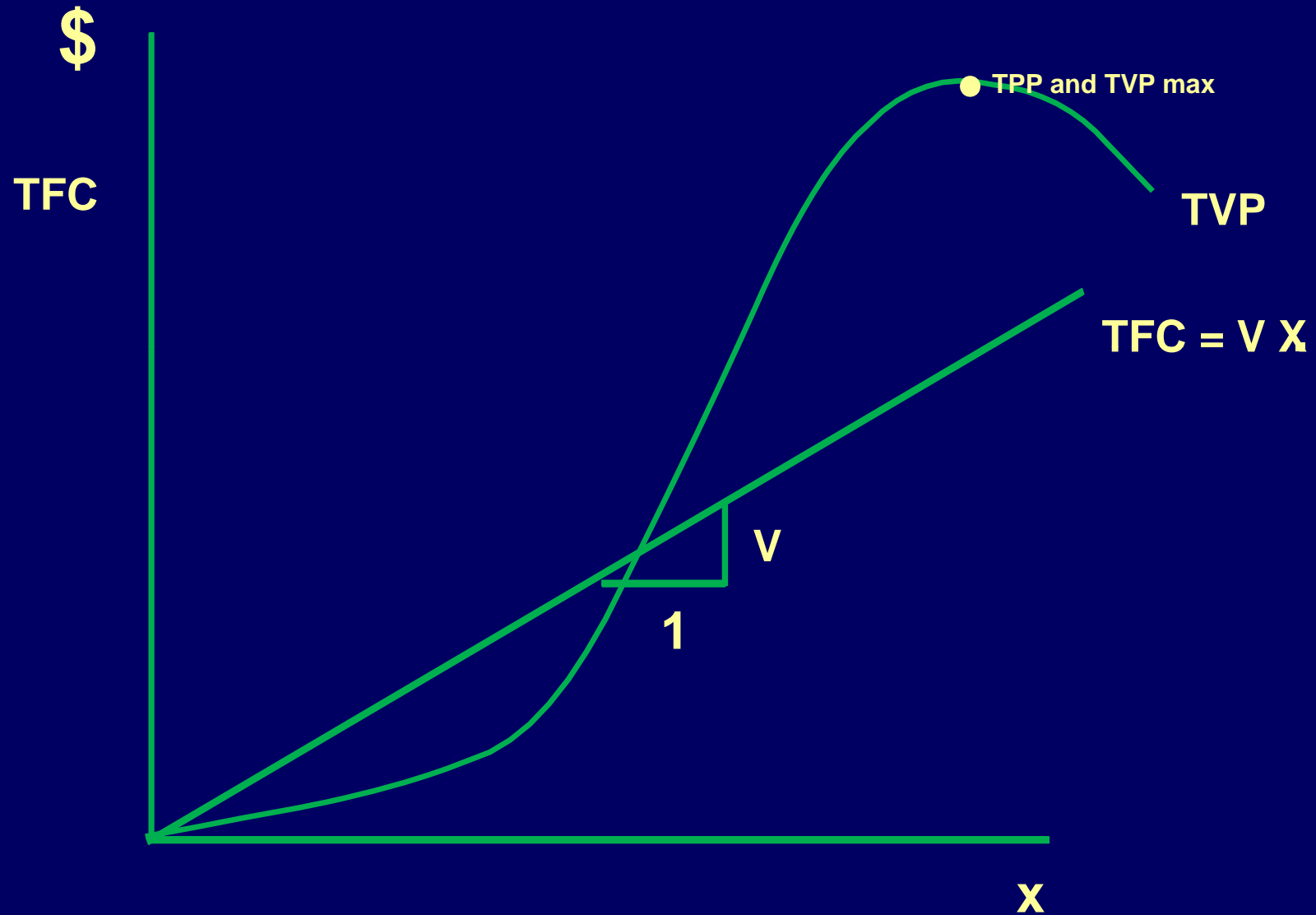


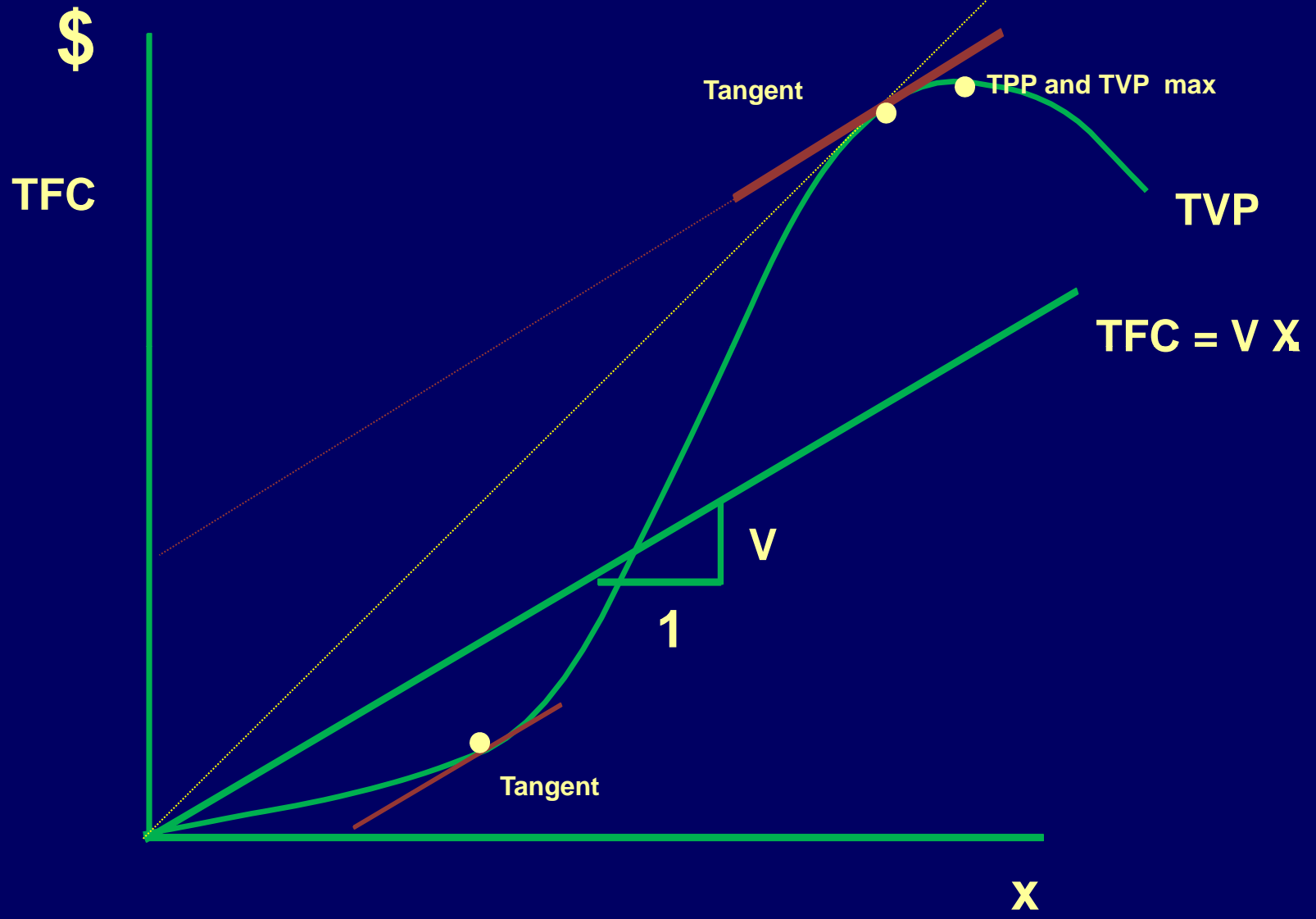
**What is the appearance of a
Total Factor Cost (TFC)
Curve?**

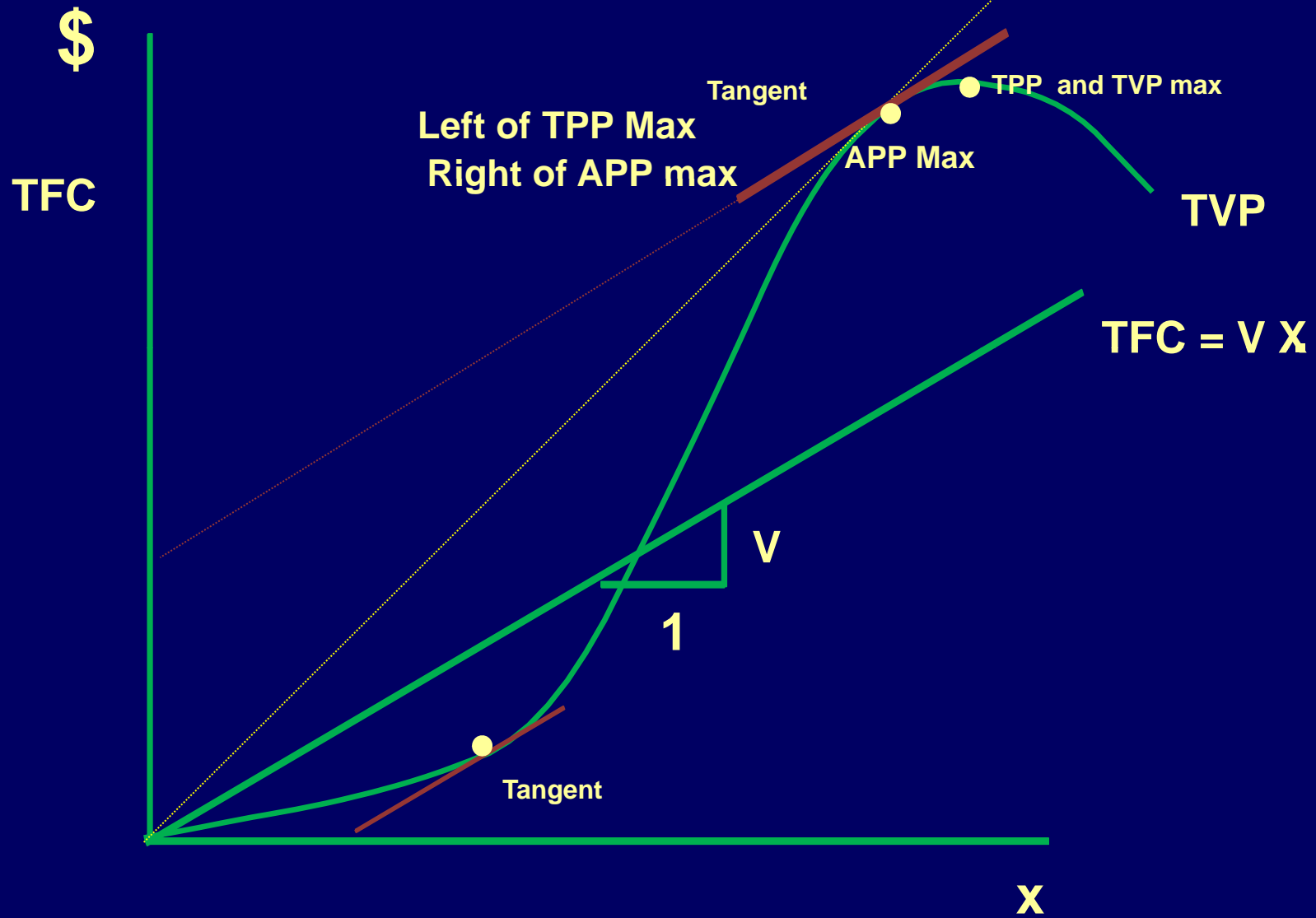
Total Factor Cost (TFC) Curve

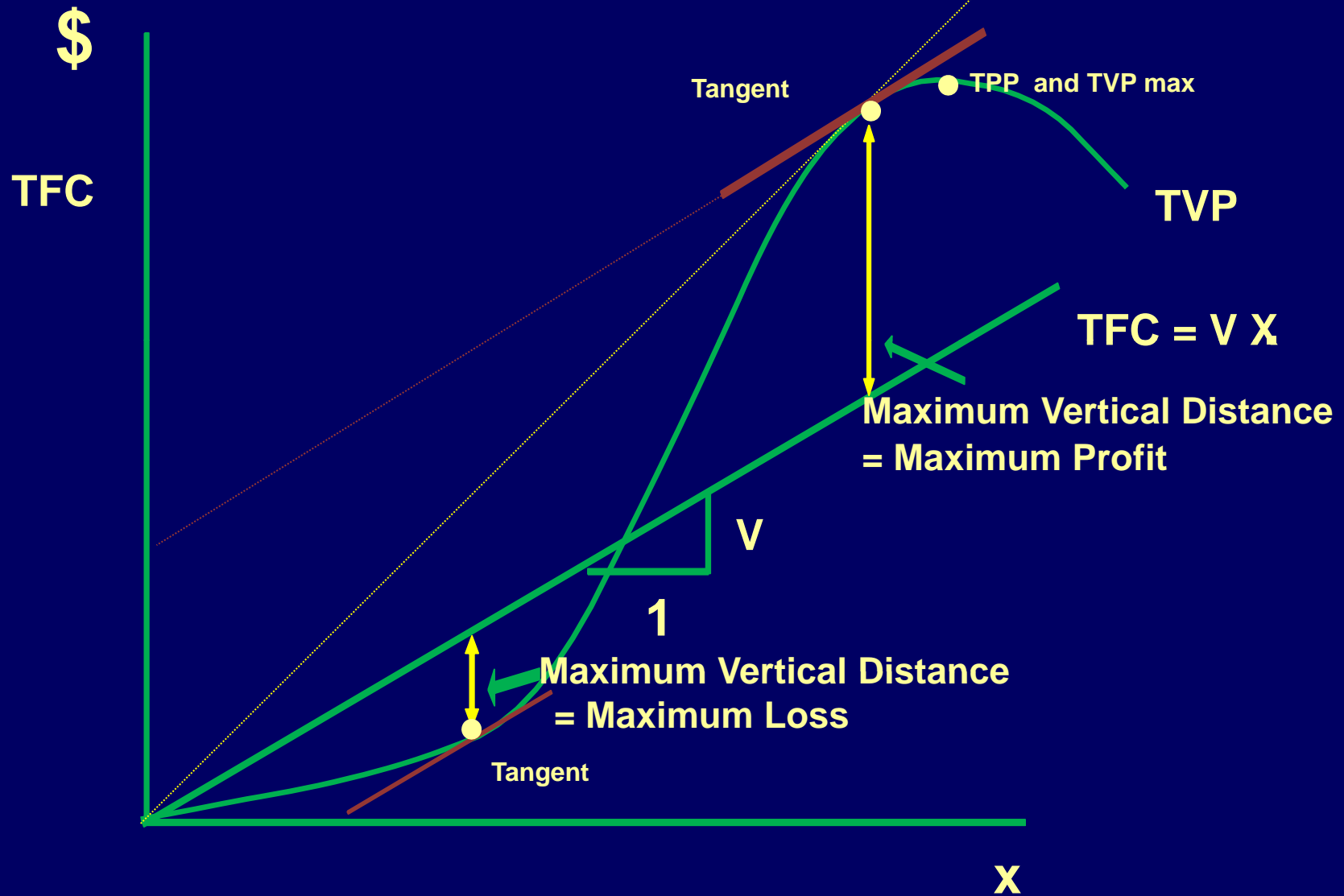


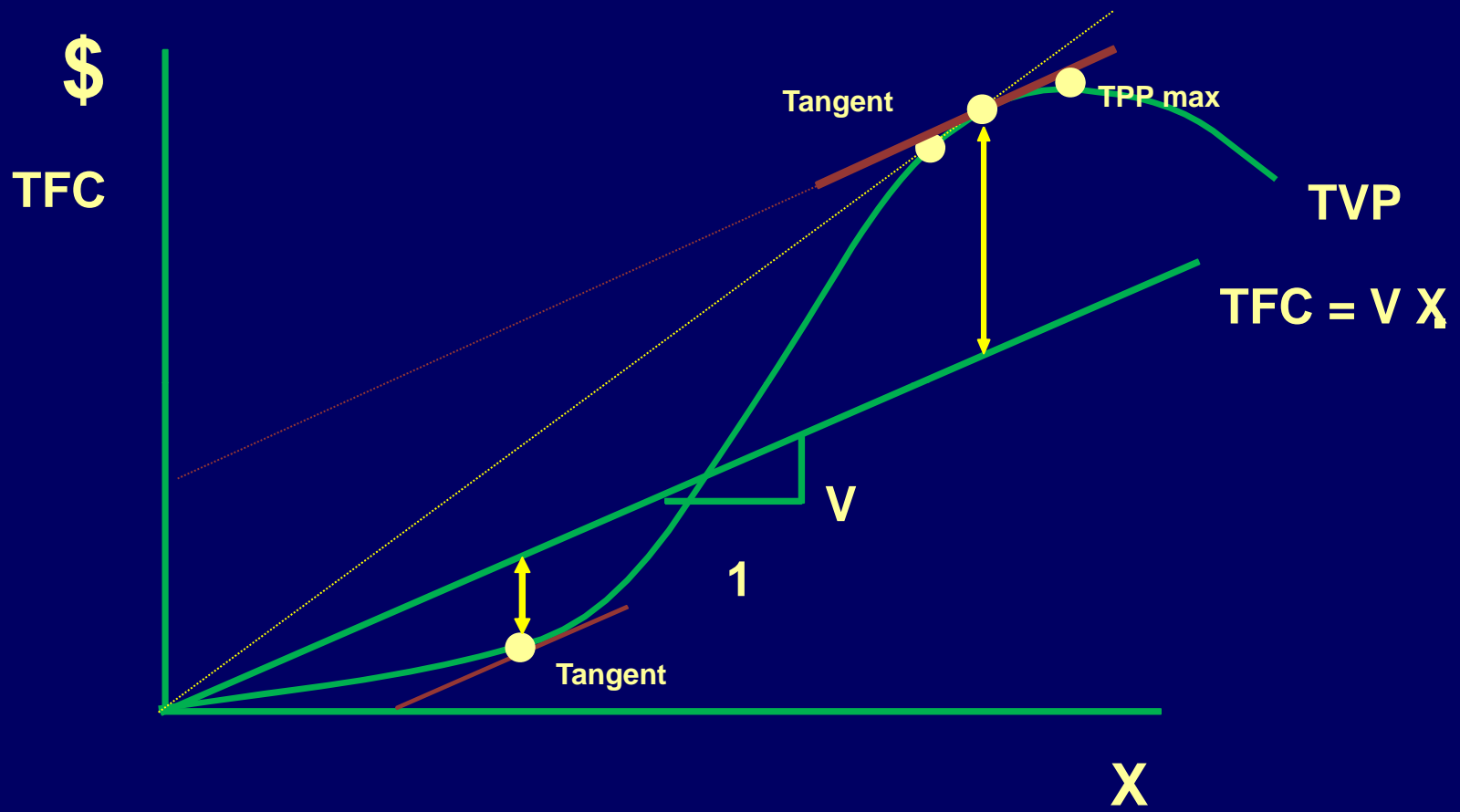
Now Superimpose TVP Curve







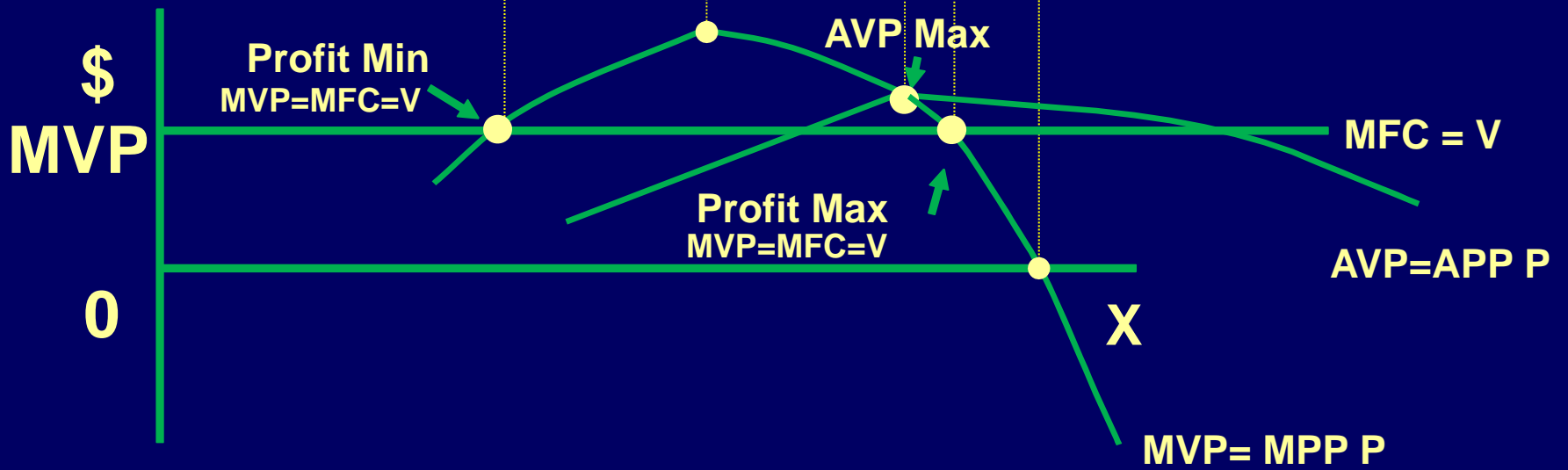
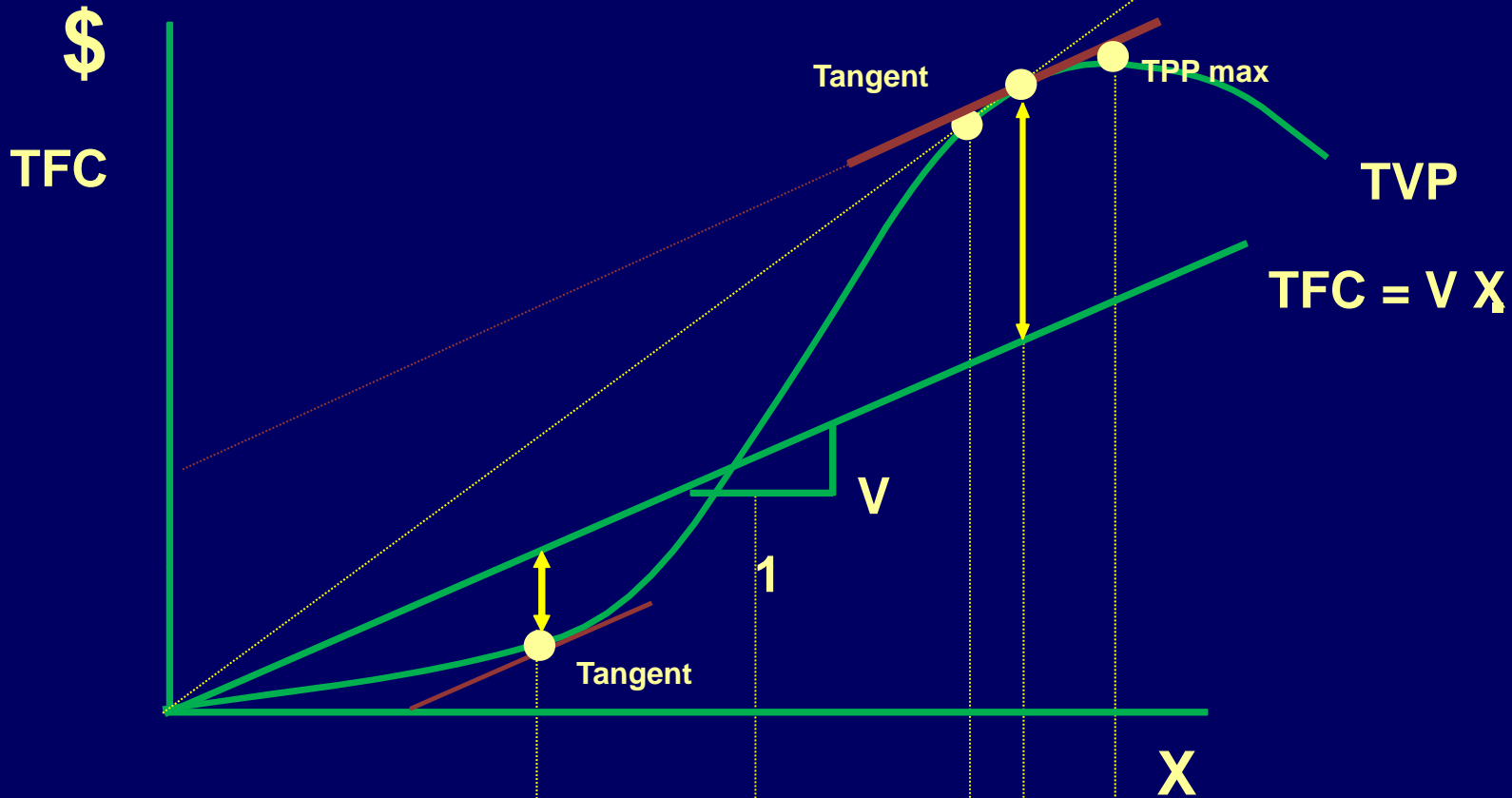




**Profit is maximum
where slope of TVP
= Slope of TFC**

Slope of TVP = Slope of TPP $P \cdot$
= MPP $\cdot P$
= MVP
= Marginal Value of the Product

So profits are maximum where:
Slope of TVP = Slope of TFC
MVP = MFC
MVP = V
MVP = the input price,
assuming constant input and output prices



Stages of Production

Stage I

**0 units of X
to level of X which
Maximizes AVP**

Stage II

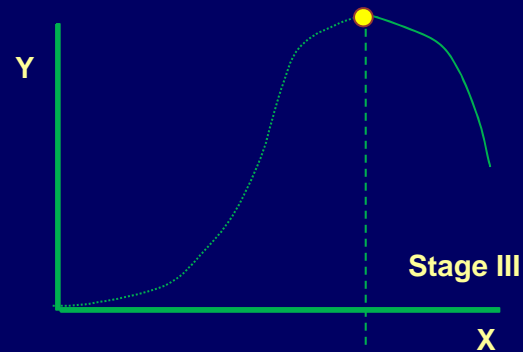
Level of X that Maximizes AVP

to

**Level of X that Maximizes TPP
(0 MVP and 0 MPP)**

Stage III

Level of X that
Maximizes TPP (0 MPP)



and Beyond

The Rational Producer...

1. Never produces beyond the point of maximum TPP (input prices are never negative)
2. Produces at the point of maximum TPP only if the input is free!
3. Does not normally produce in stage I of Production

**Stage II is the
Rational Stage of Production
Where the profit maximizing point
is found**

Why not stage I?

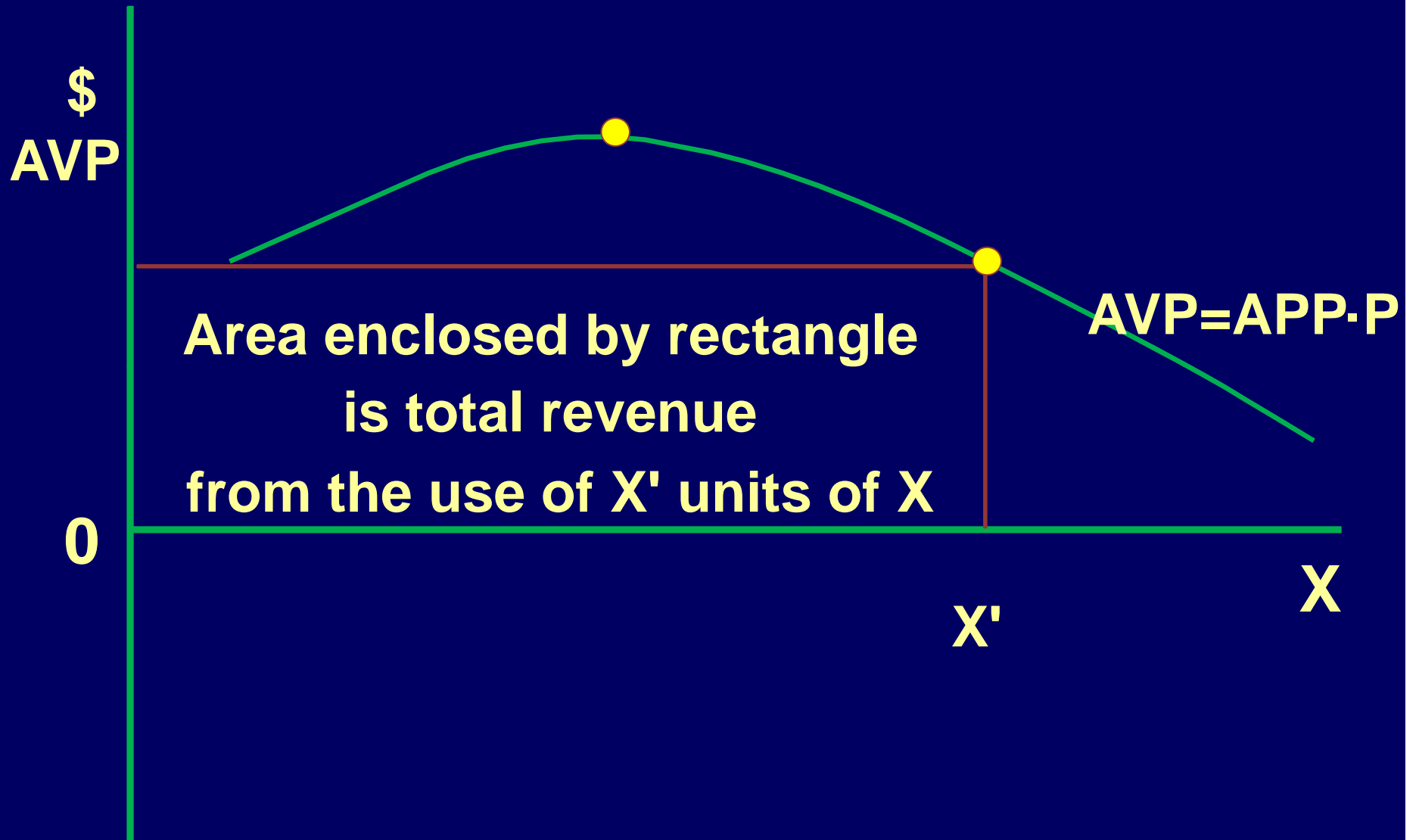
\$
AVP

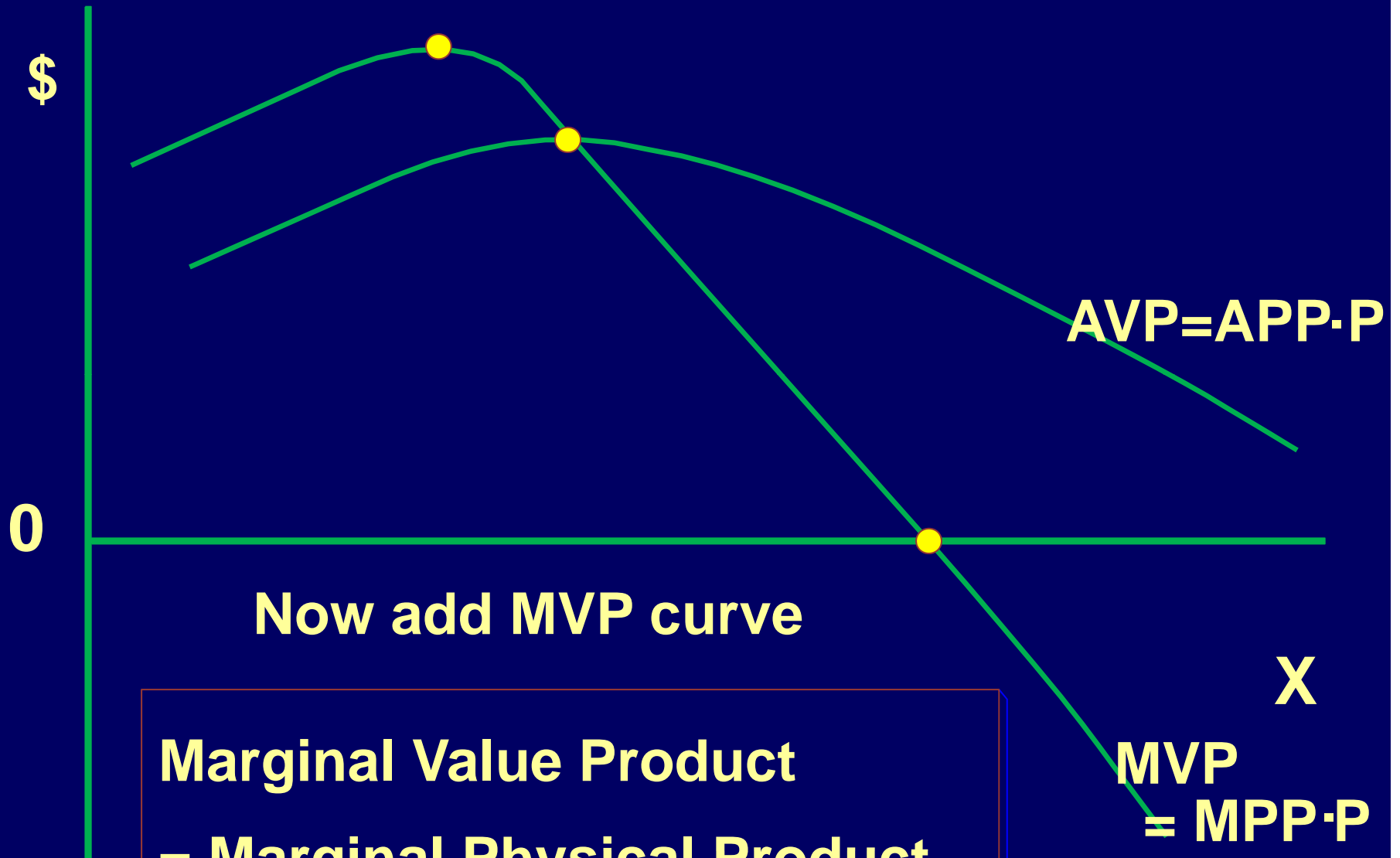
0

AVP=APP·P

X

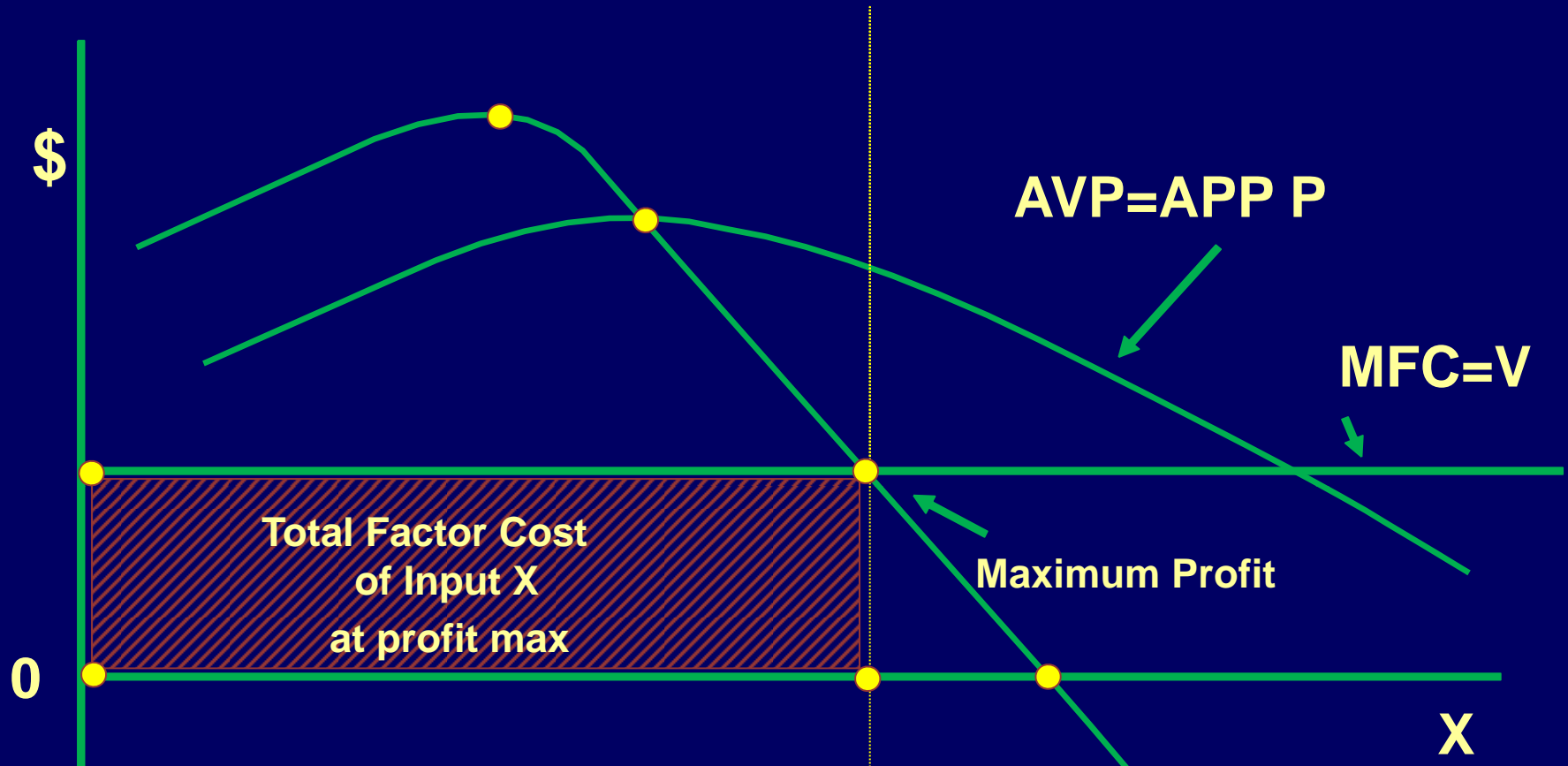
Draw an AVP curve.
Pick any point on the AVP curve.
Average Value of the Product
= Average Physical Product
times the product price



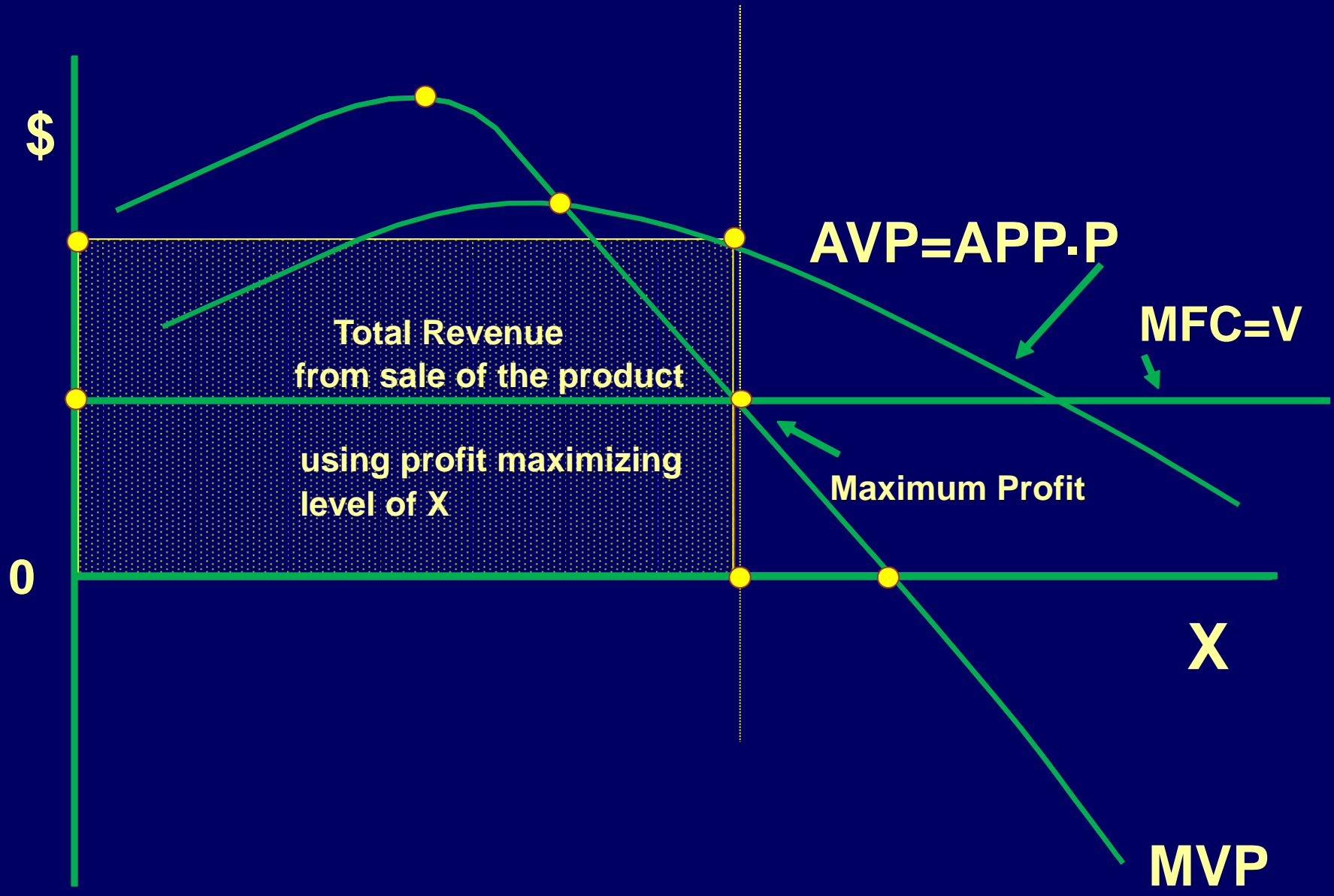


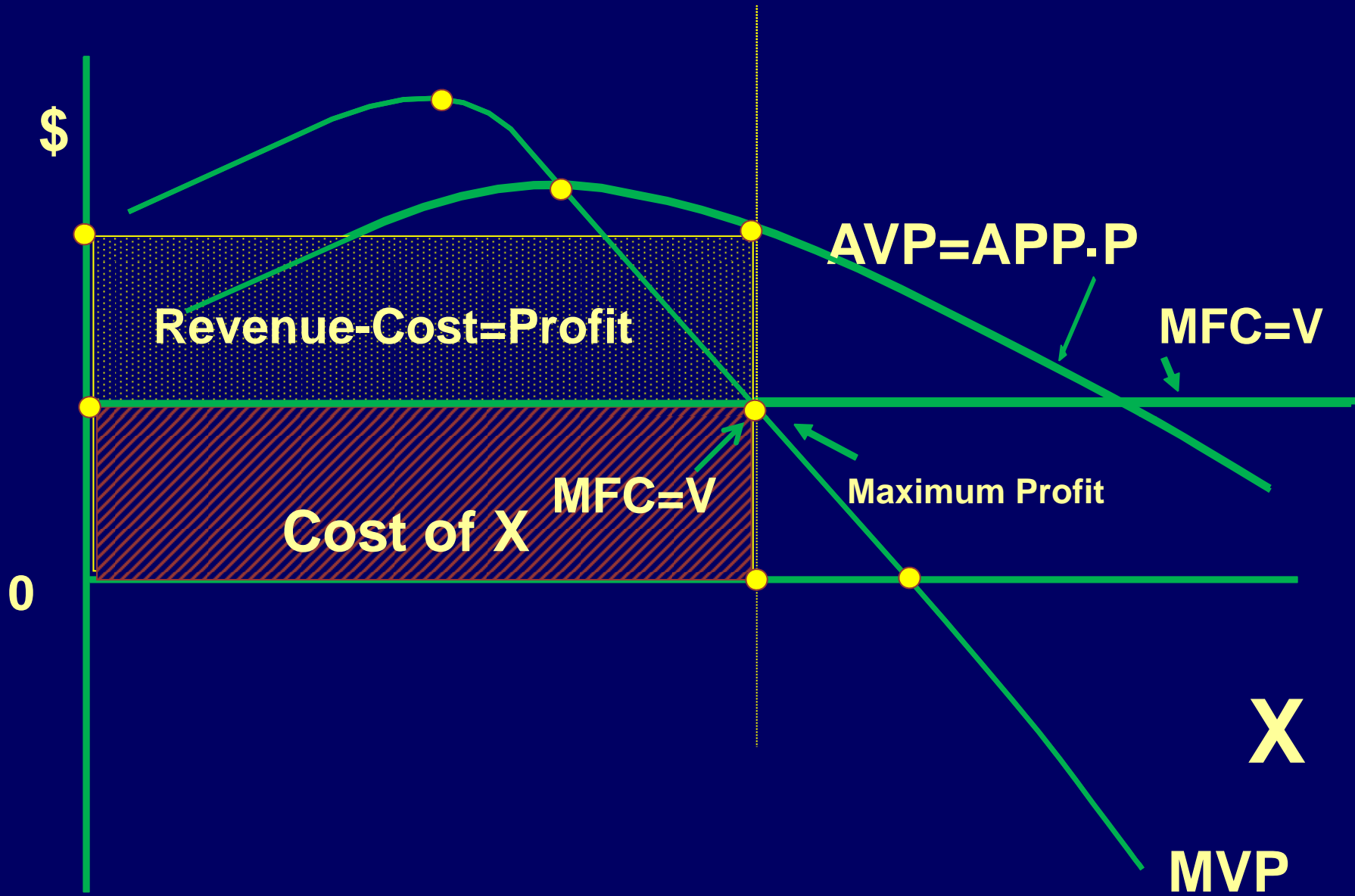
Now add MVP curve

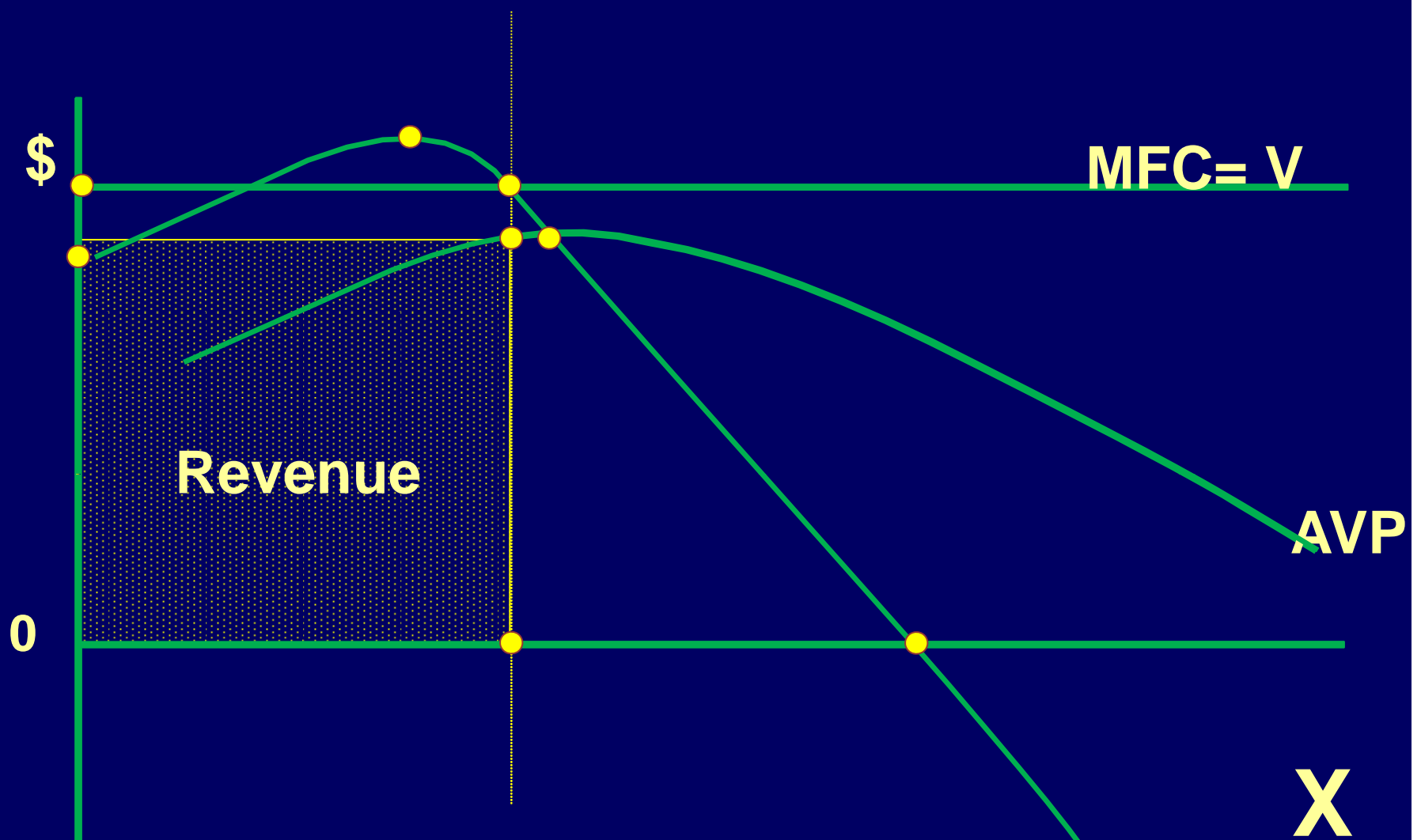
Marginal Value Product
= Marginal Physical Product
times the product price



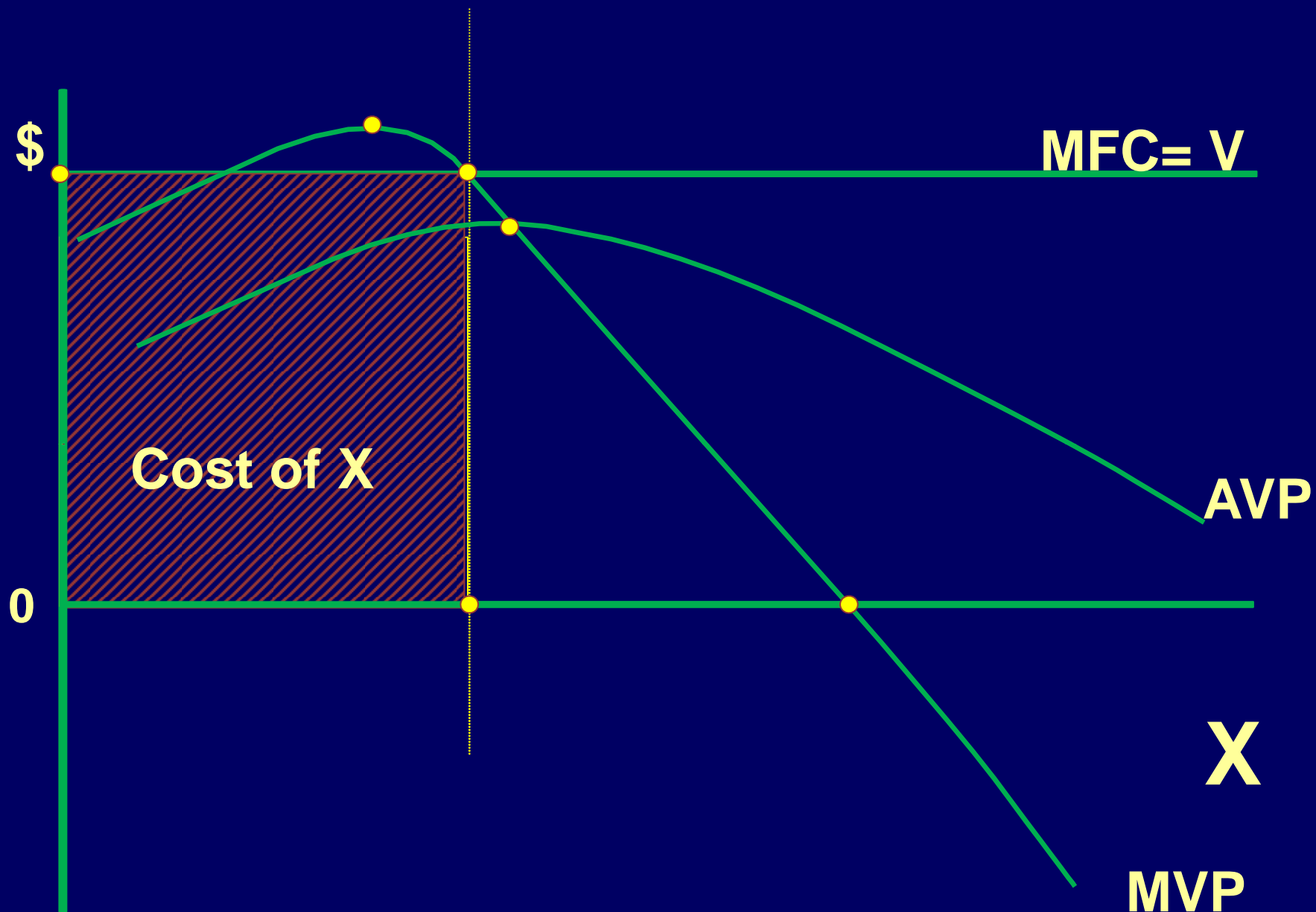
Now add MFC curve ($MFC = V$)
 Marginal Factor Cost
 = the price (V) of the input (X)

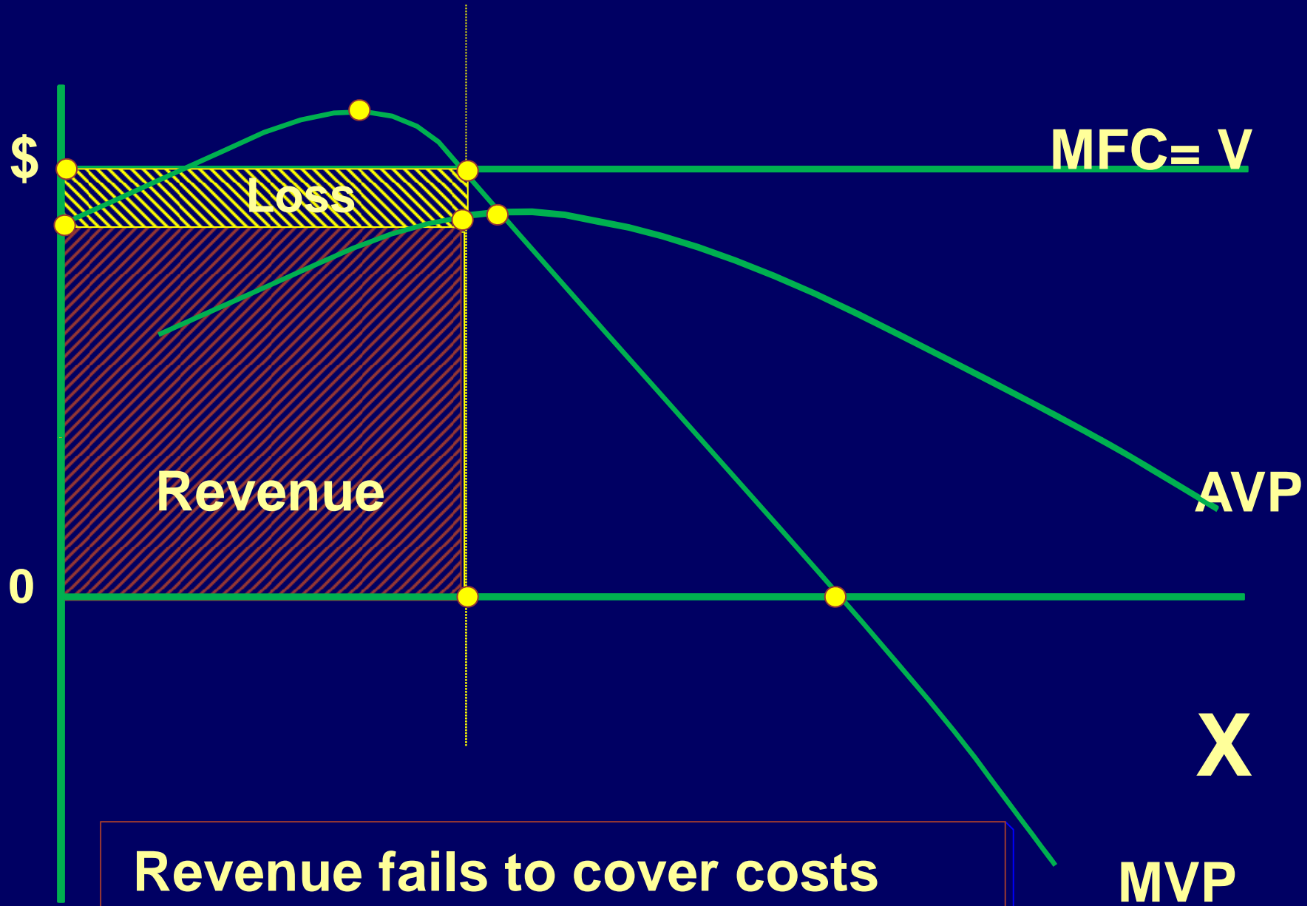






But if $MFC > \text{Maximum AVP}$
Costs > Revenue
Lose money where $MVP = MFC$, and
shut down instead!





Revenue fails to cover costs resulting in a loss as indicated

Stages of Production and Elasticities of Production

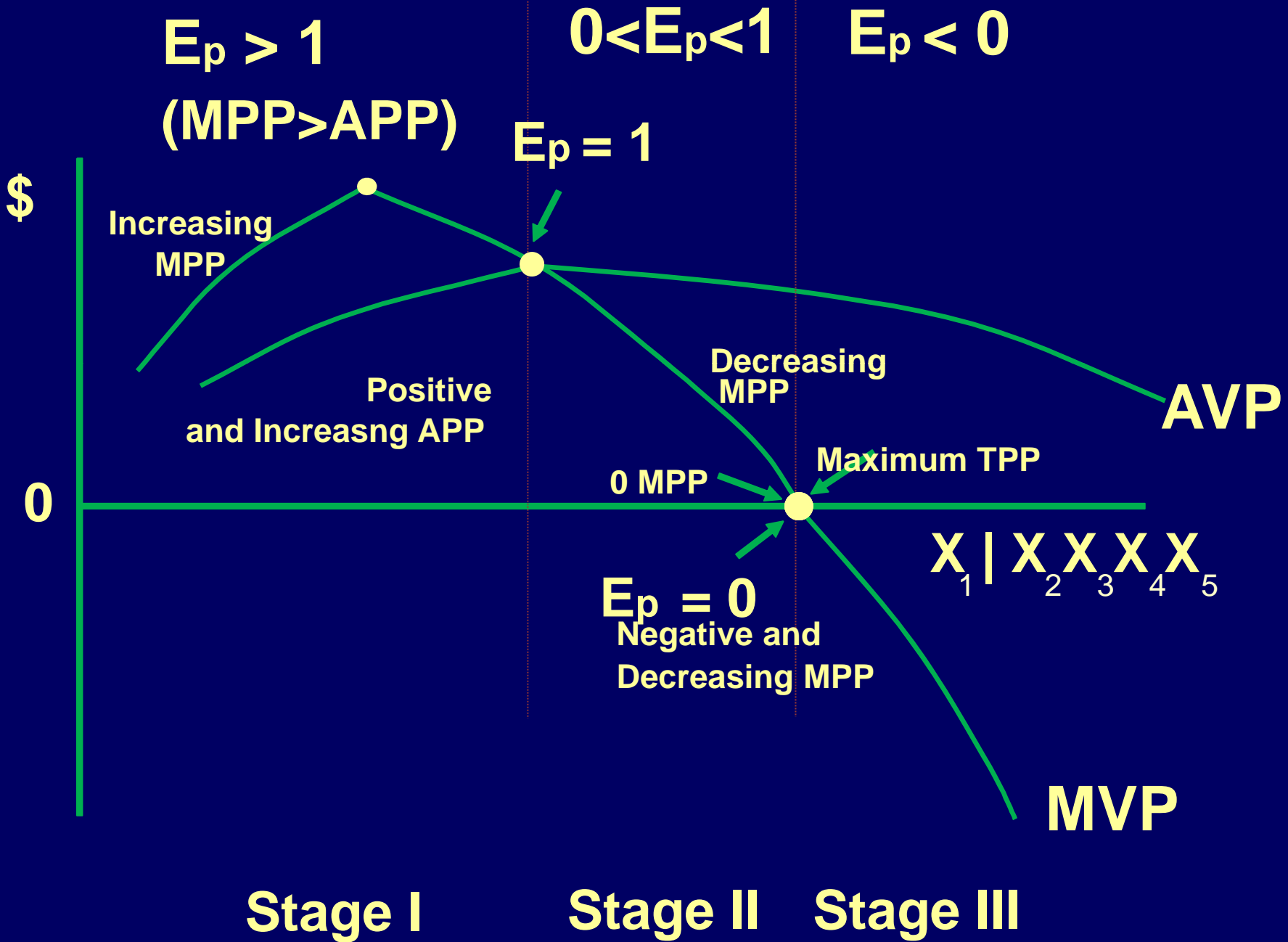
Stage I $E_p > 1$

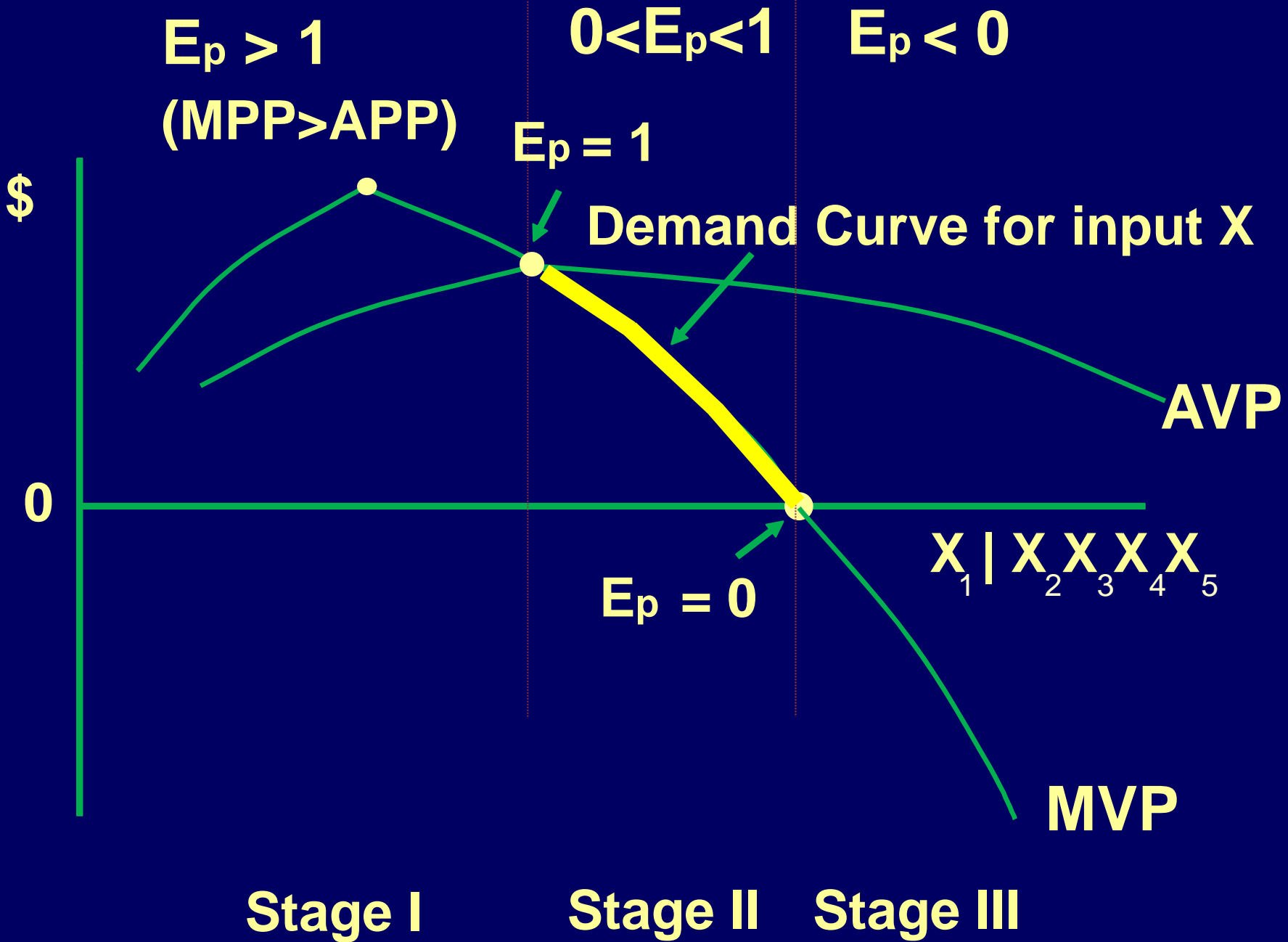
Stage II $0 < E_p < 1$

Stage III $E_p < 0$

Rational Stage where

$0 < E_p < 1$





The Demand Curve for a Single Input

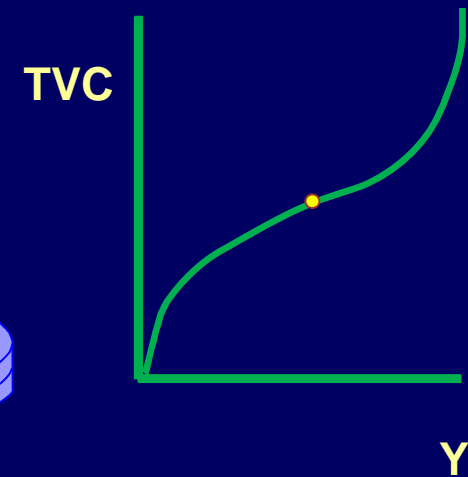
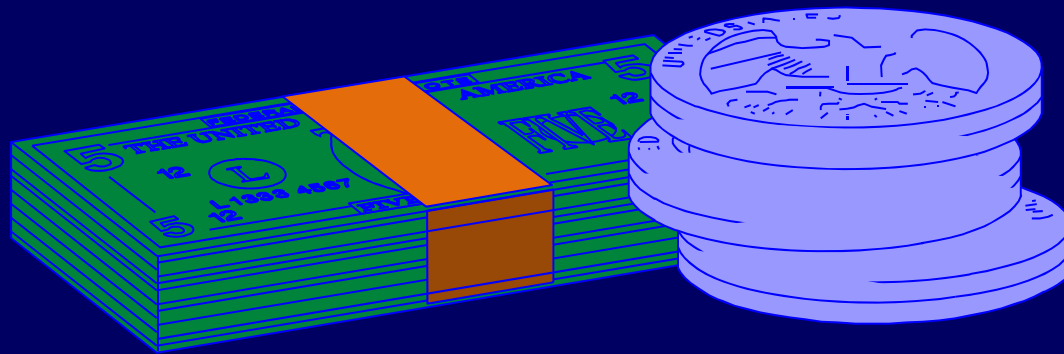
**All Points of Intersection Between
MFC and MVP that lie
in Stage II of Production**

**The Quantity of Input the Producer
Would Use to Maximize Profits
at Each Possible Input Price**

Chapter 7: Producer Cost

Costs of Production

The Total Variable Cost Curve

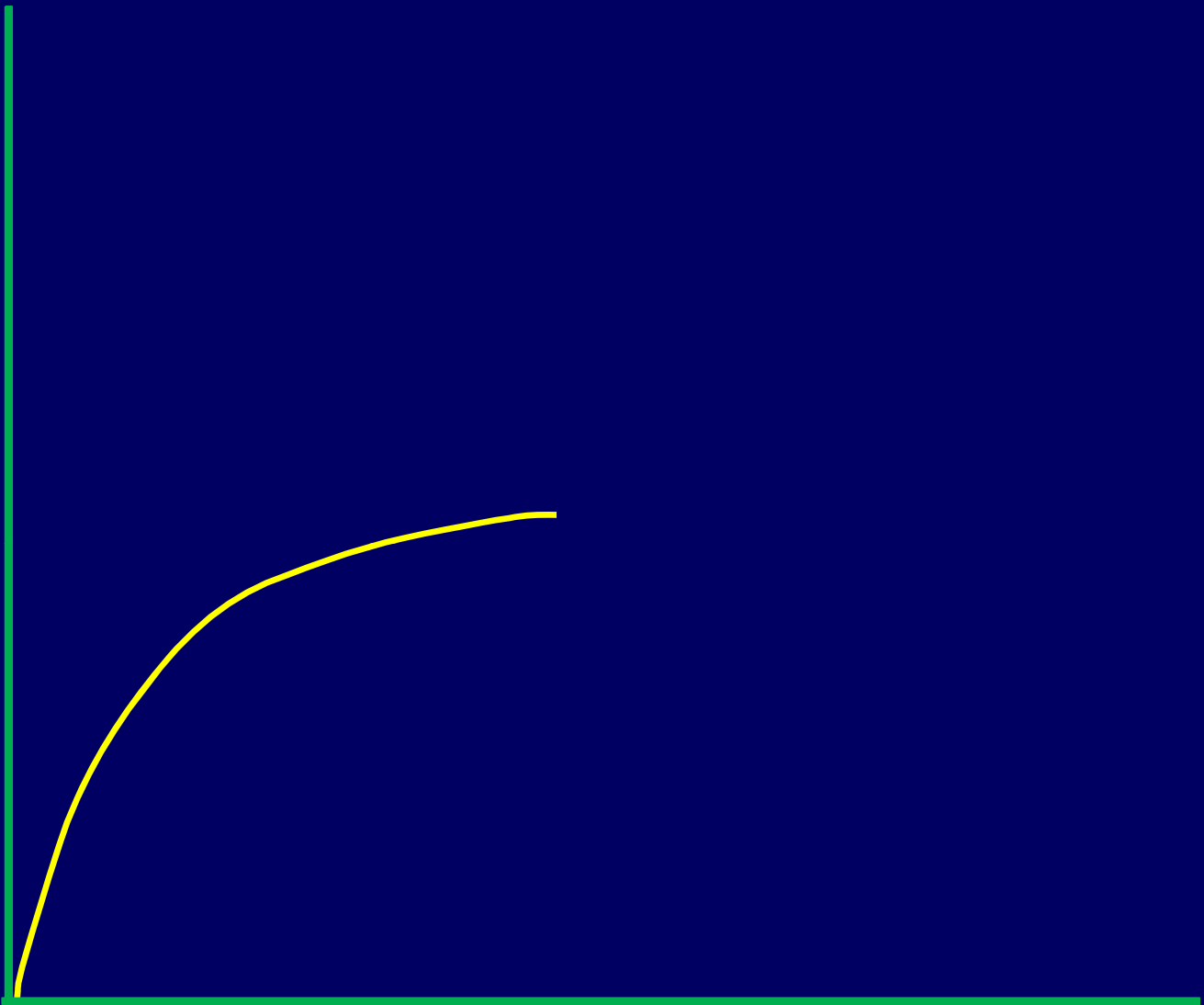




\$

Output (Y)

\$



Output (Y)

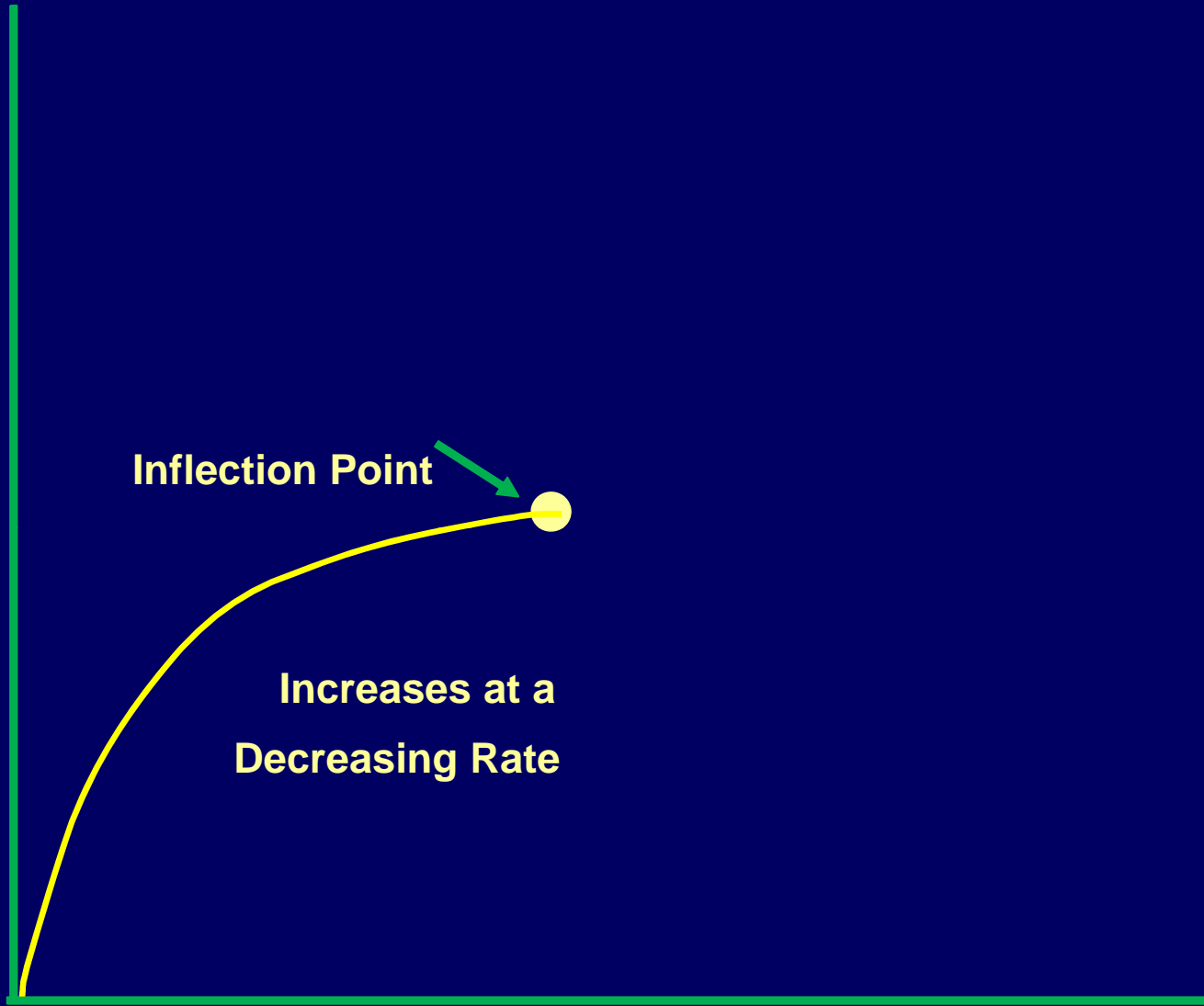
\$

Inflection Point



Increases at a
Decreasing Rate

Output (Y)



\$

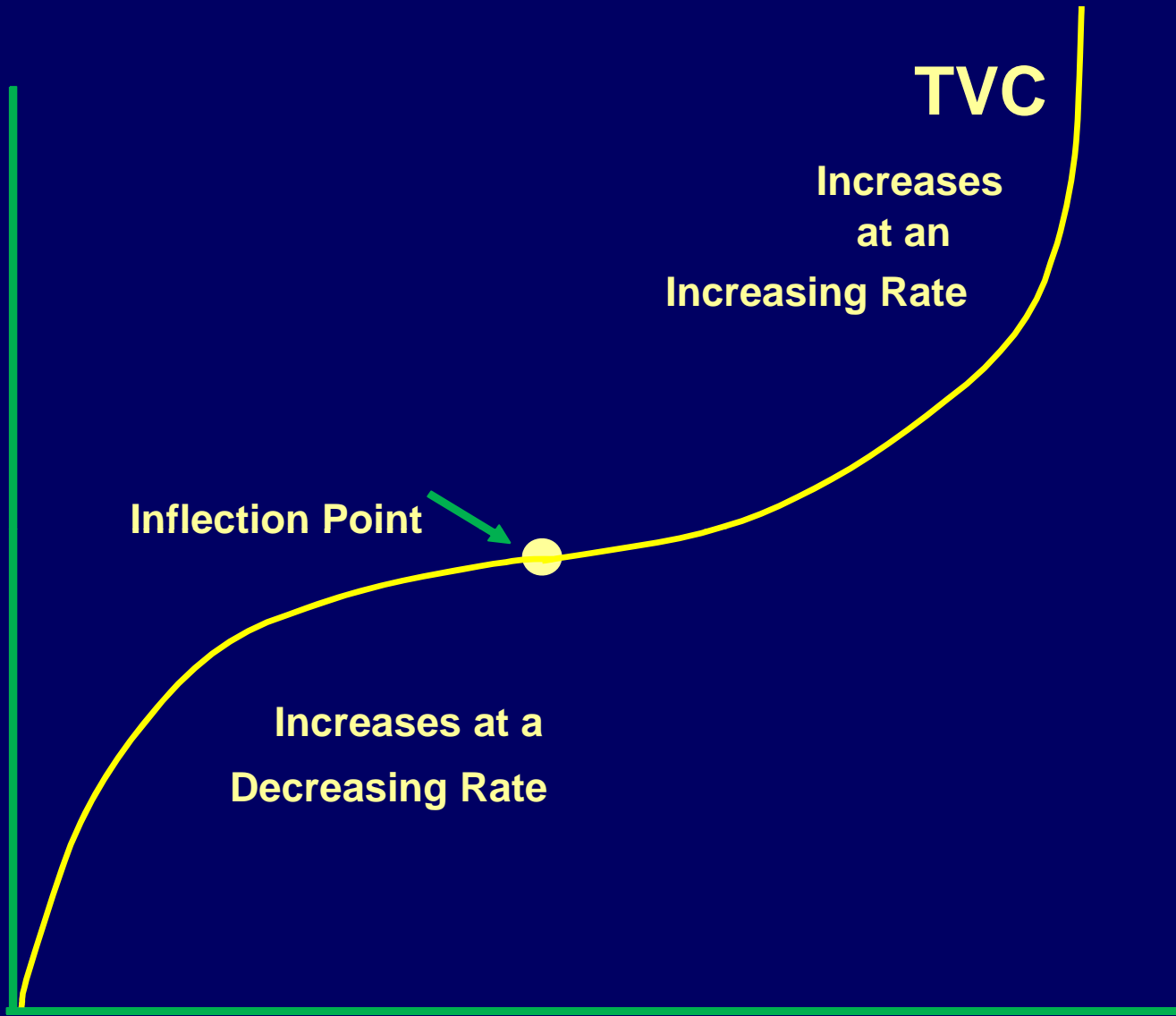
TVC

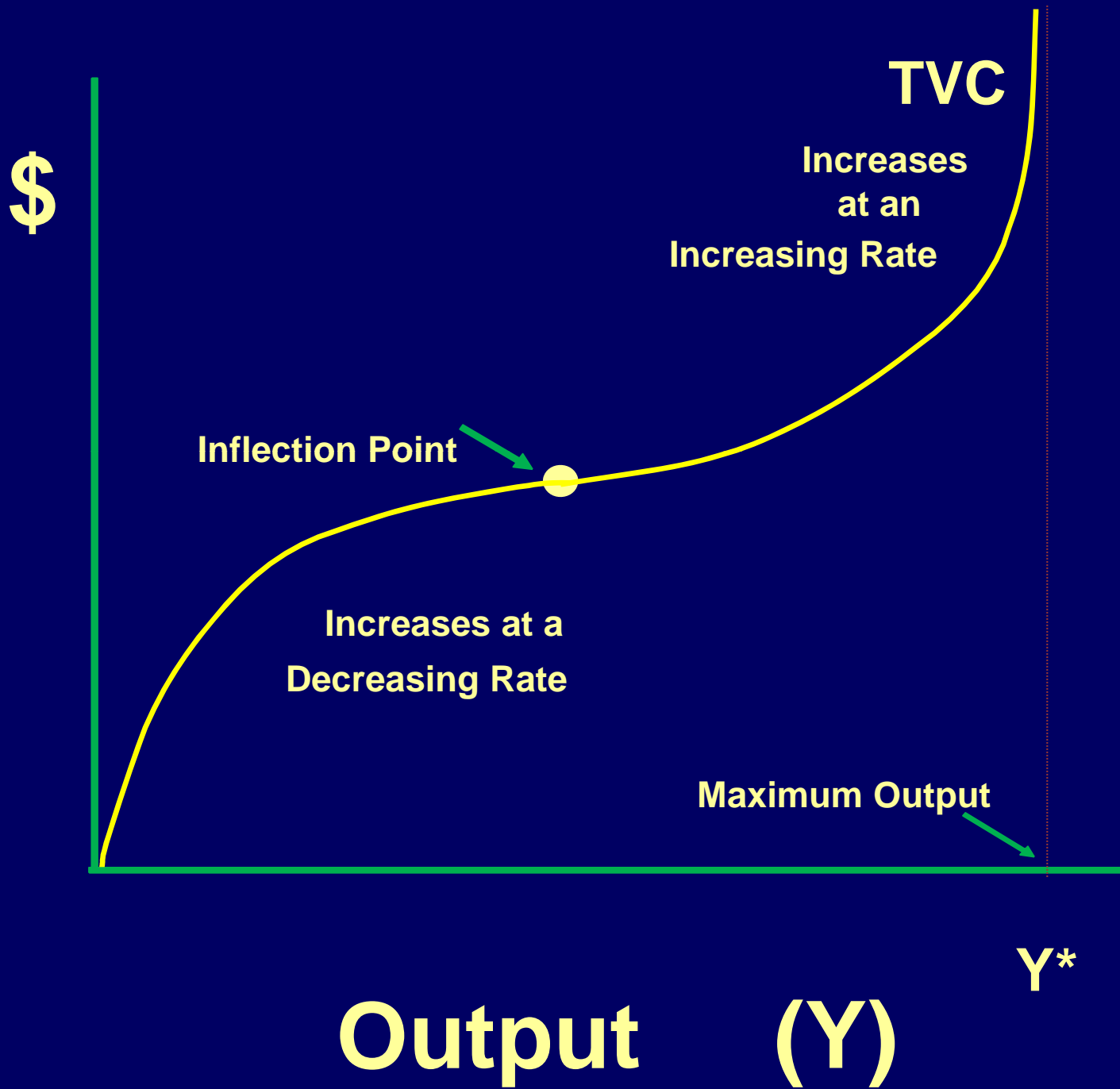
Increases
at an
Increasing Rate

Inflection Point

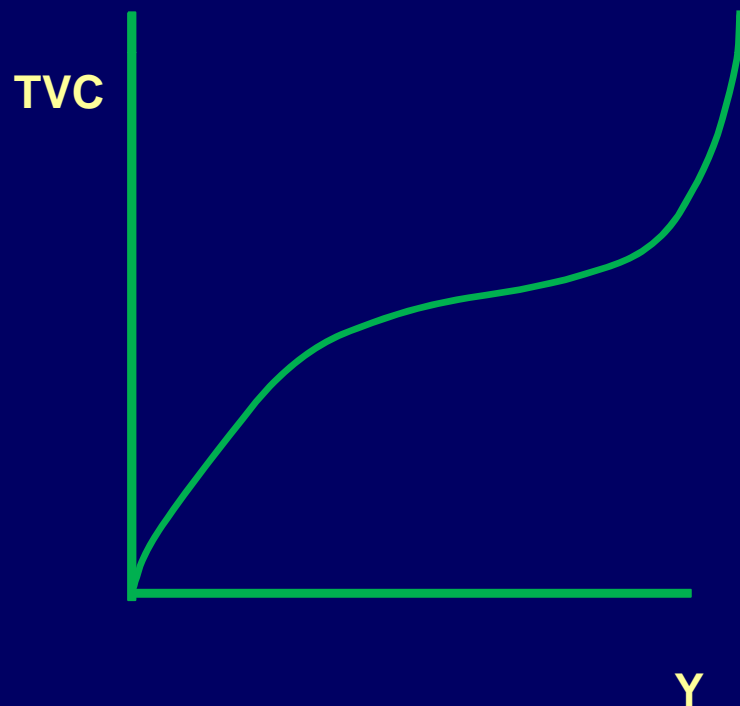
Increases at a
Decreasing Rate

Output (Y)

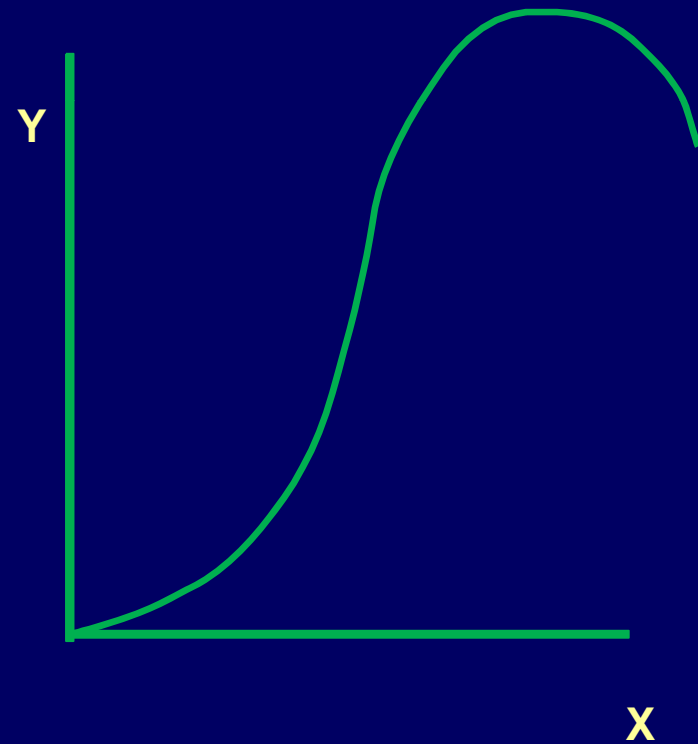




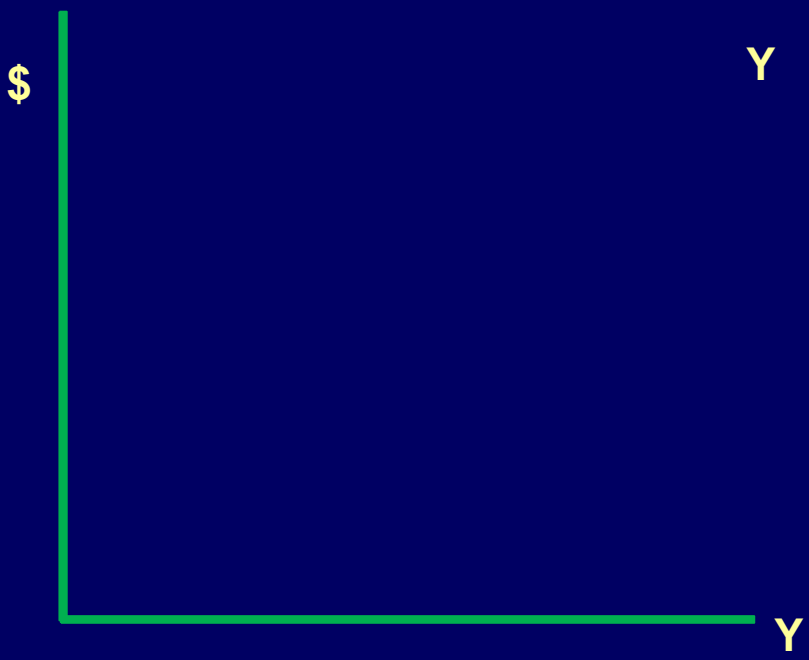
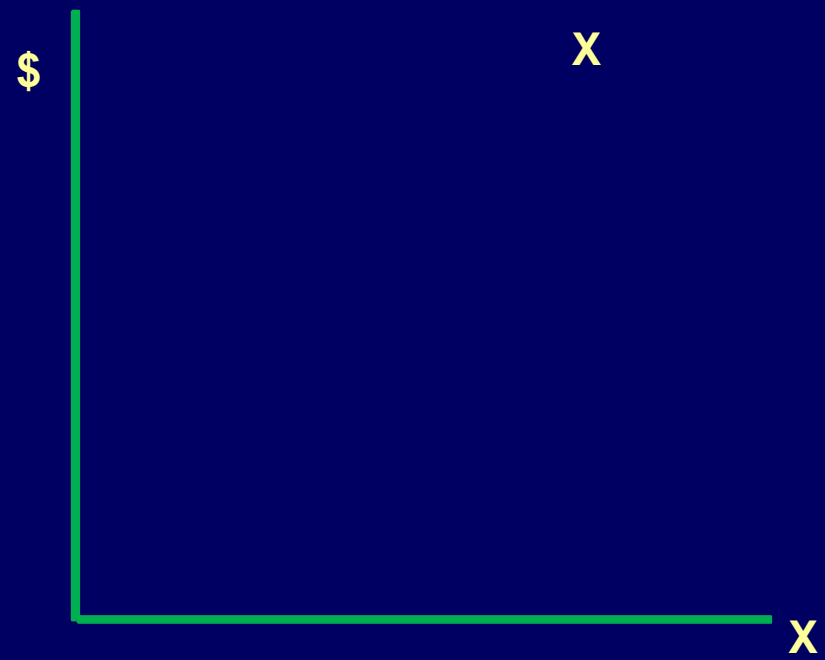
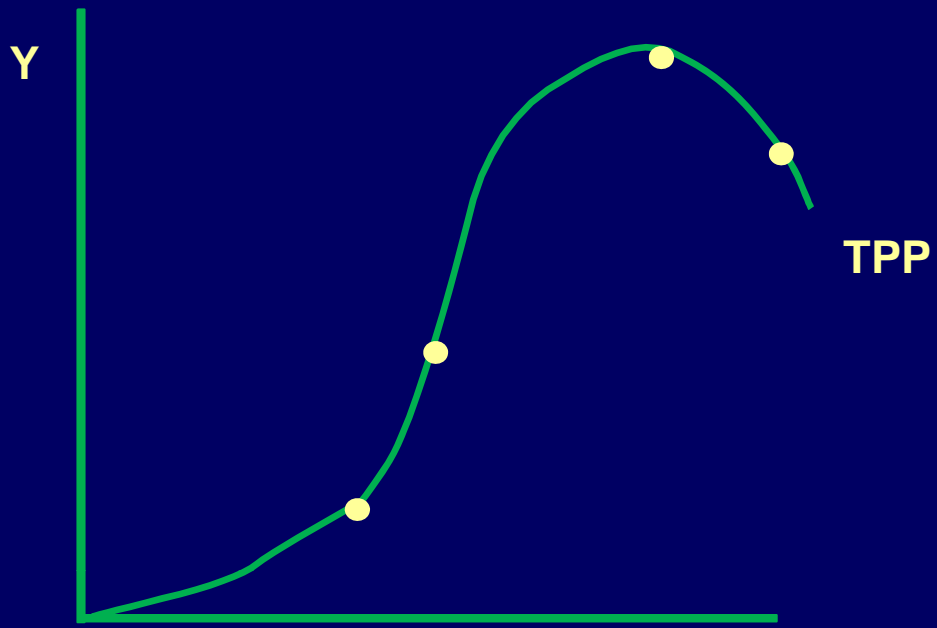
Links between TVC and the Production Function

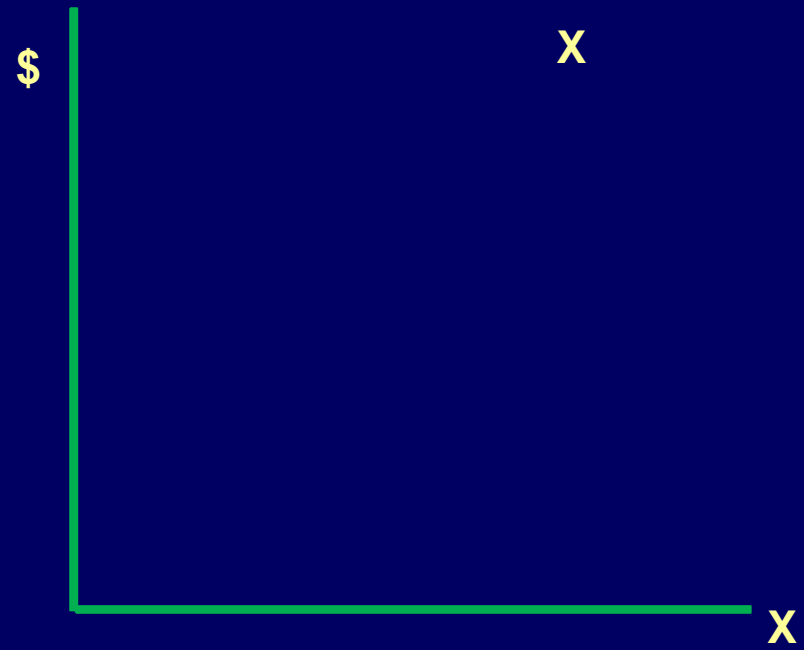
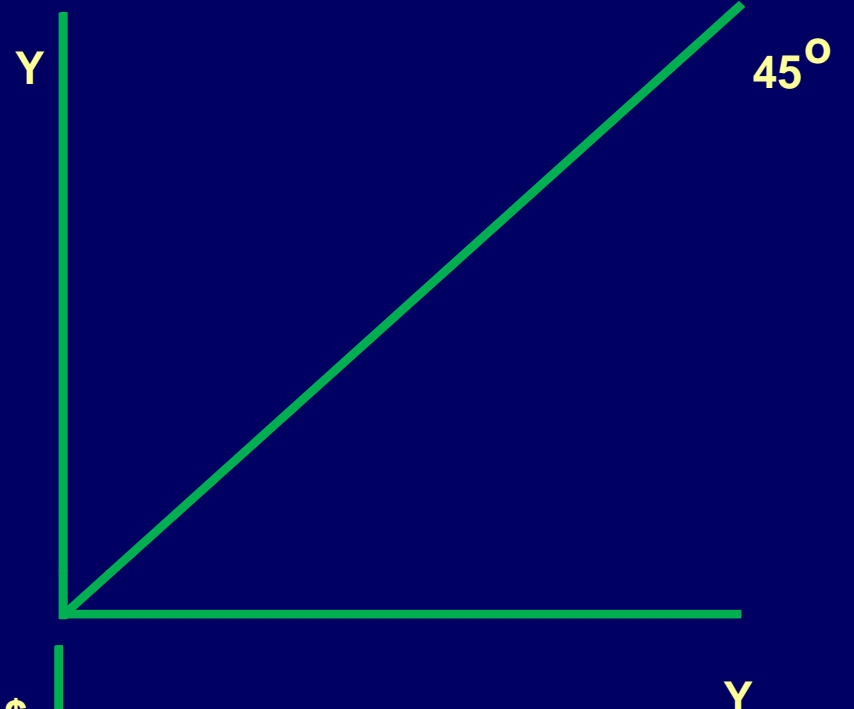
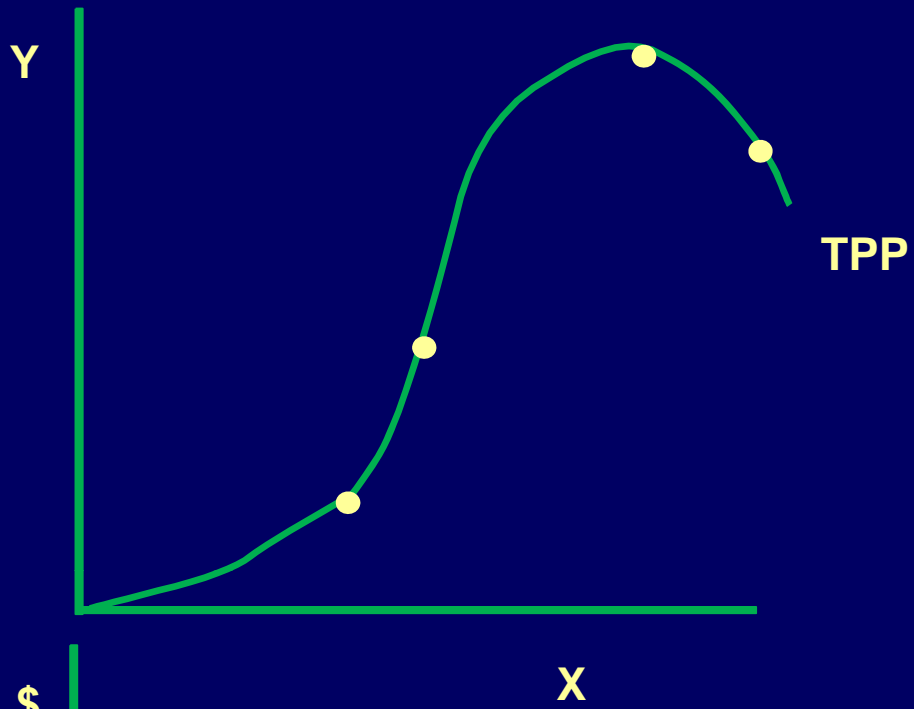


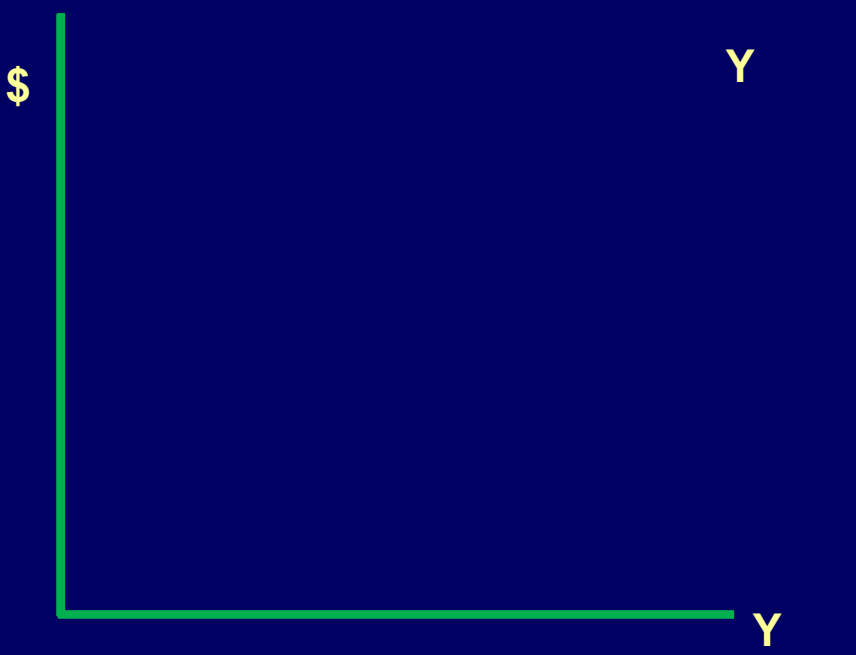
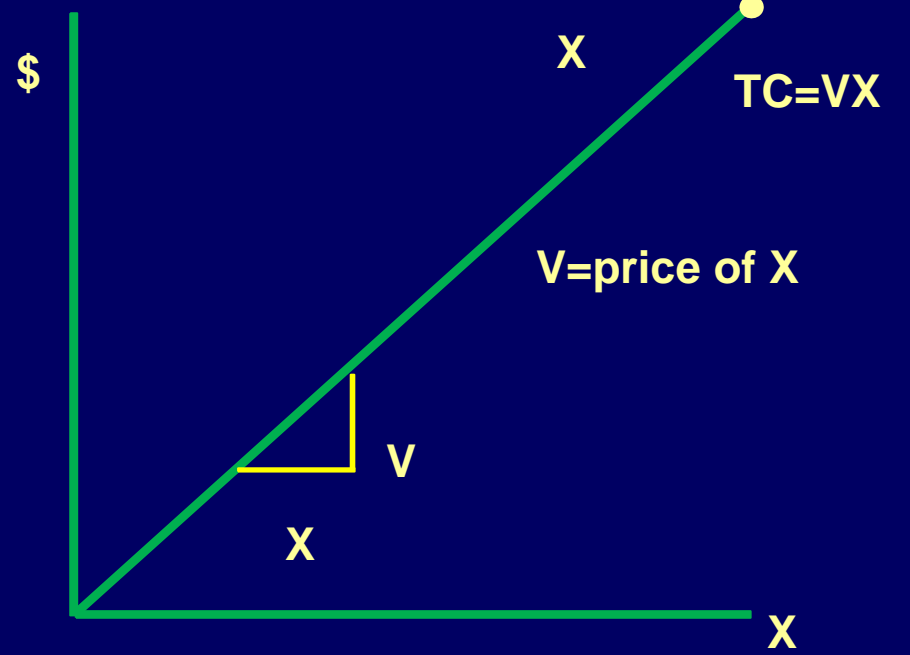
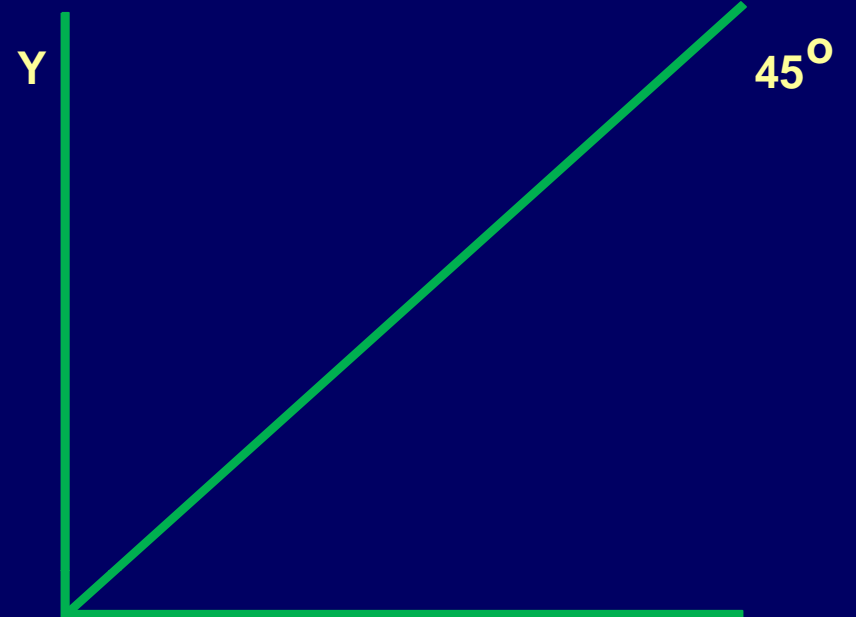
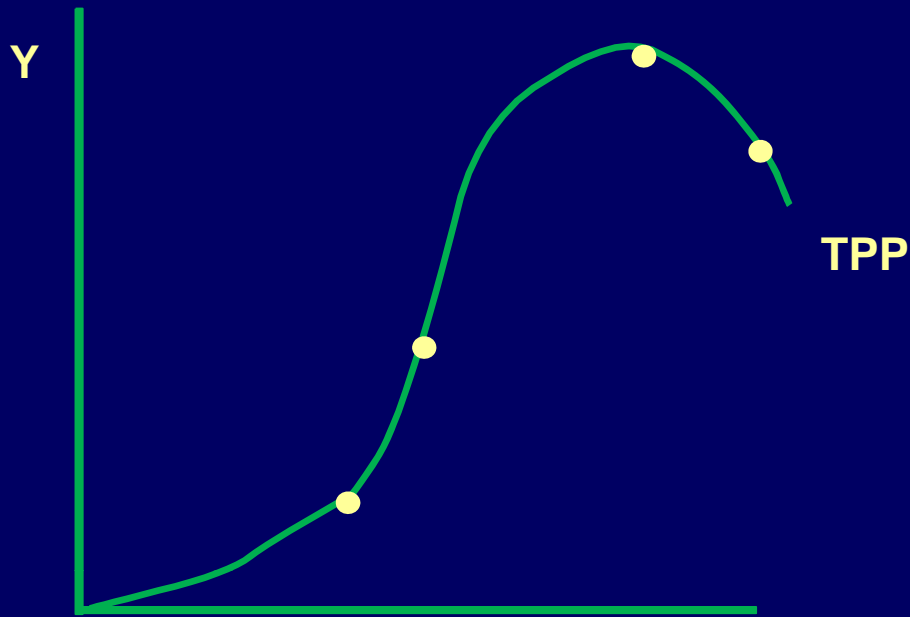
TVC Function

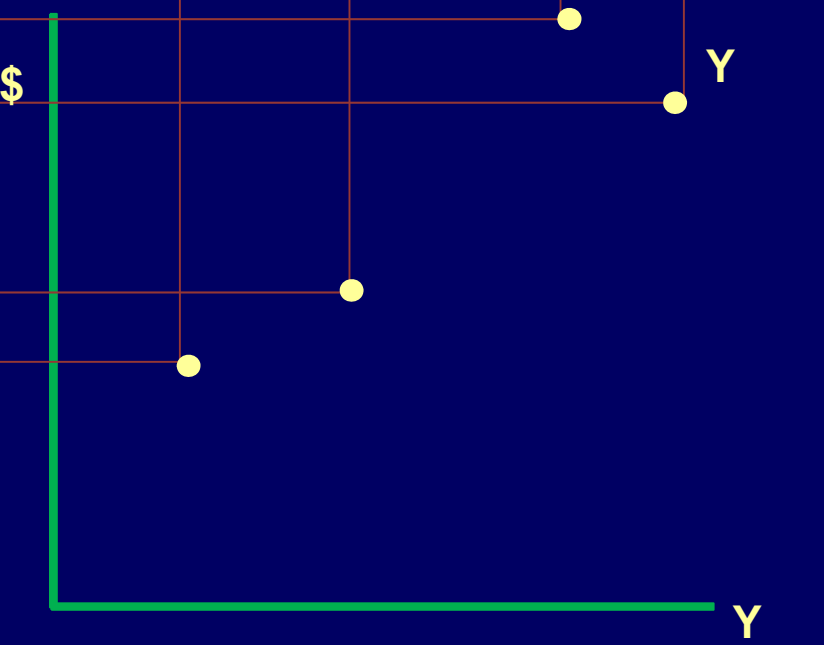
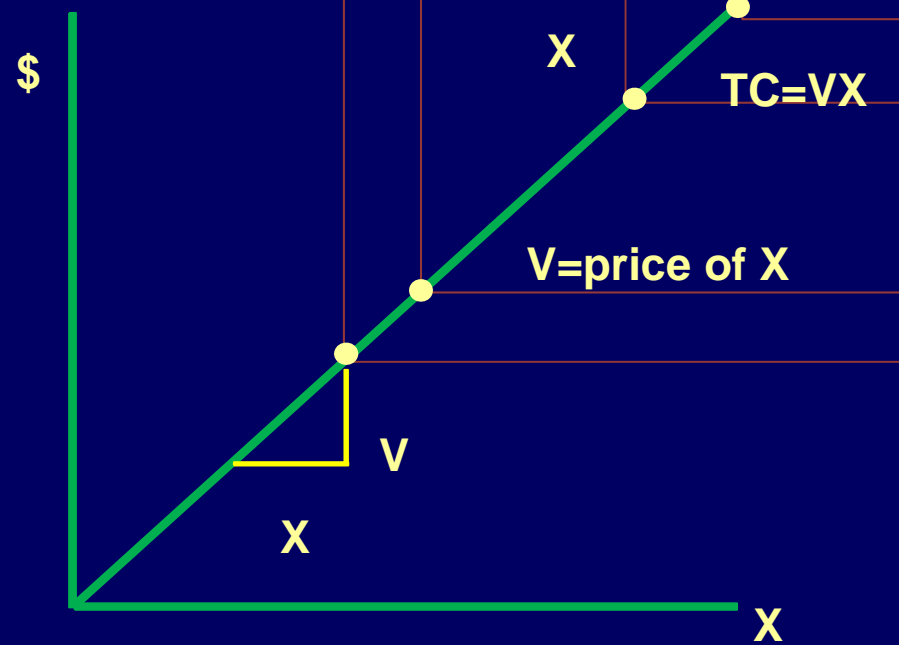
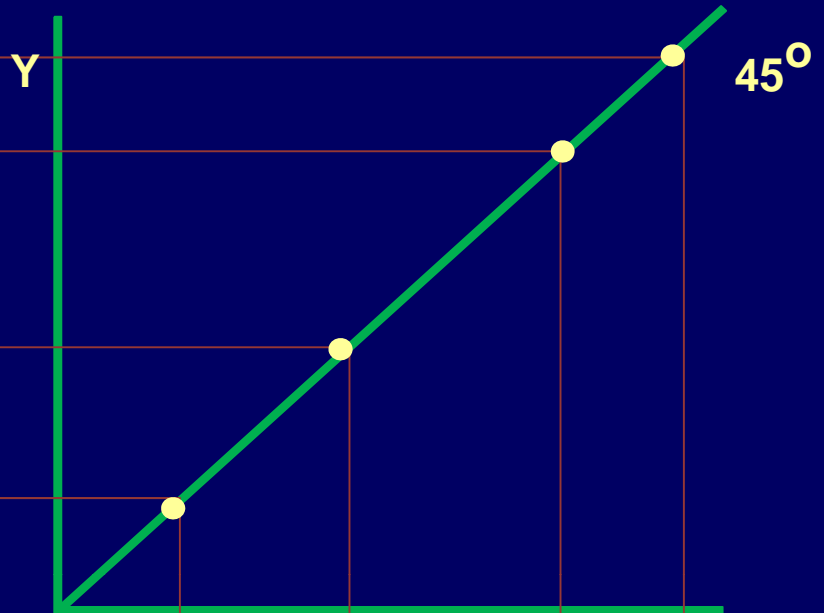
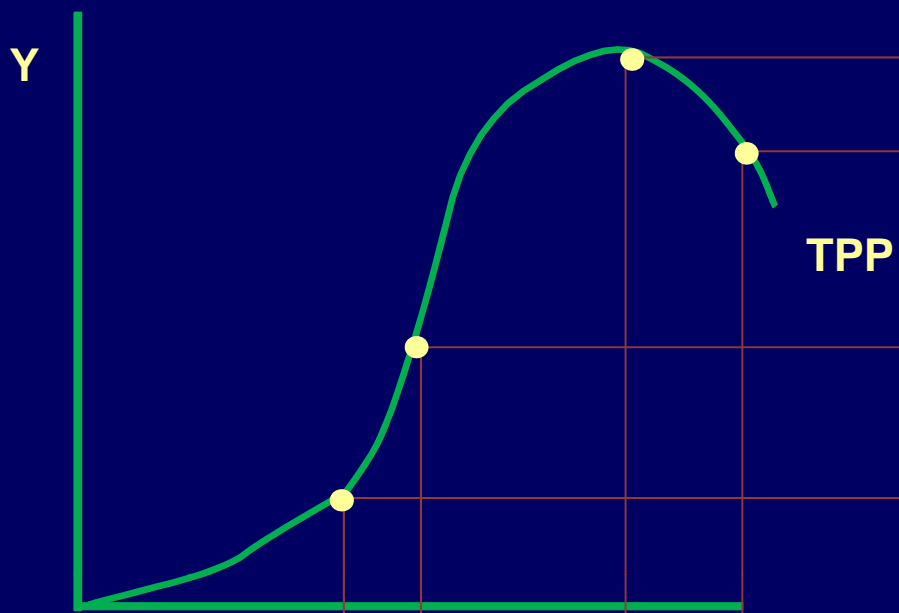


Production Function









TPP

45°

X

TC=VX

V=price of X

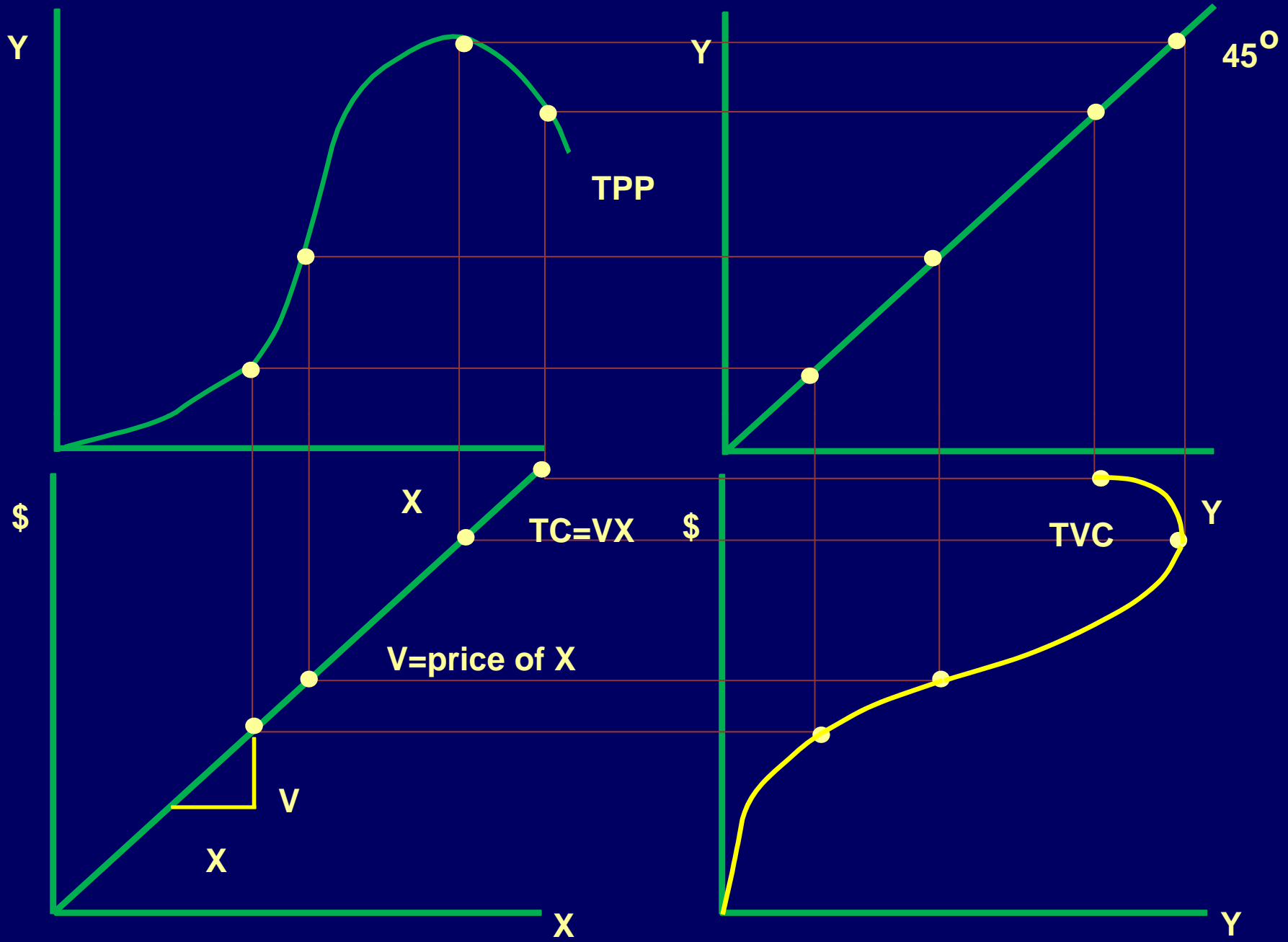
X

V

Y

Y

X



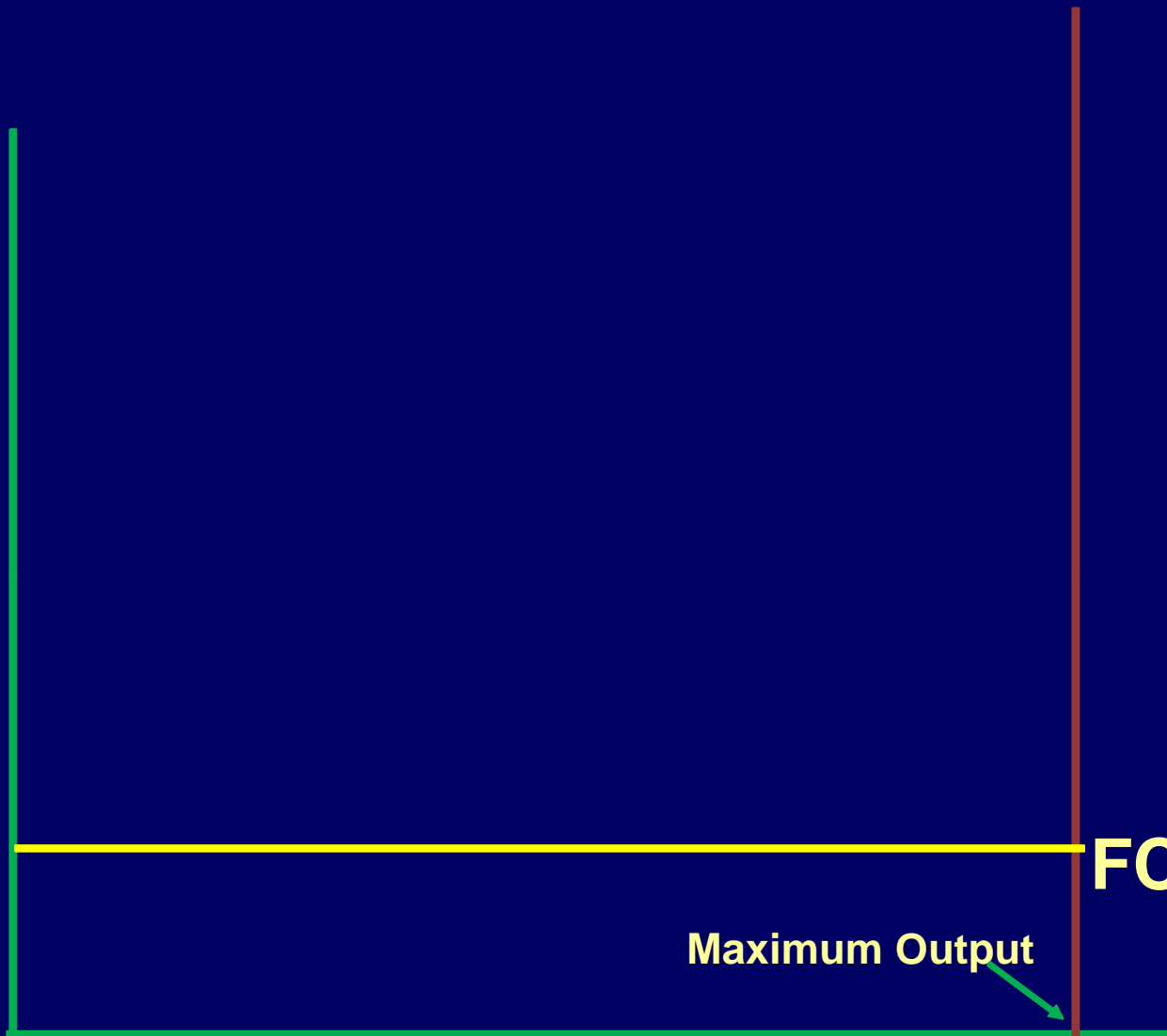
**TVC is the Mirror Image
of the Production Function**

**Now introduce
Total Fixed Cost**

Fixed Costs

***Do Not Vary
with output***

\$

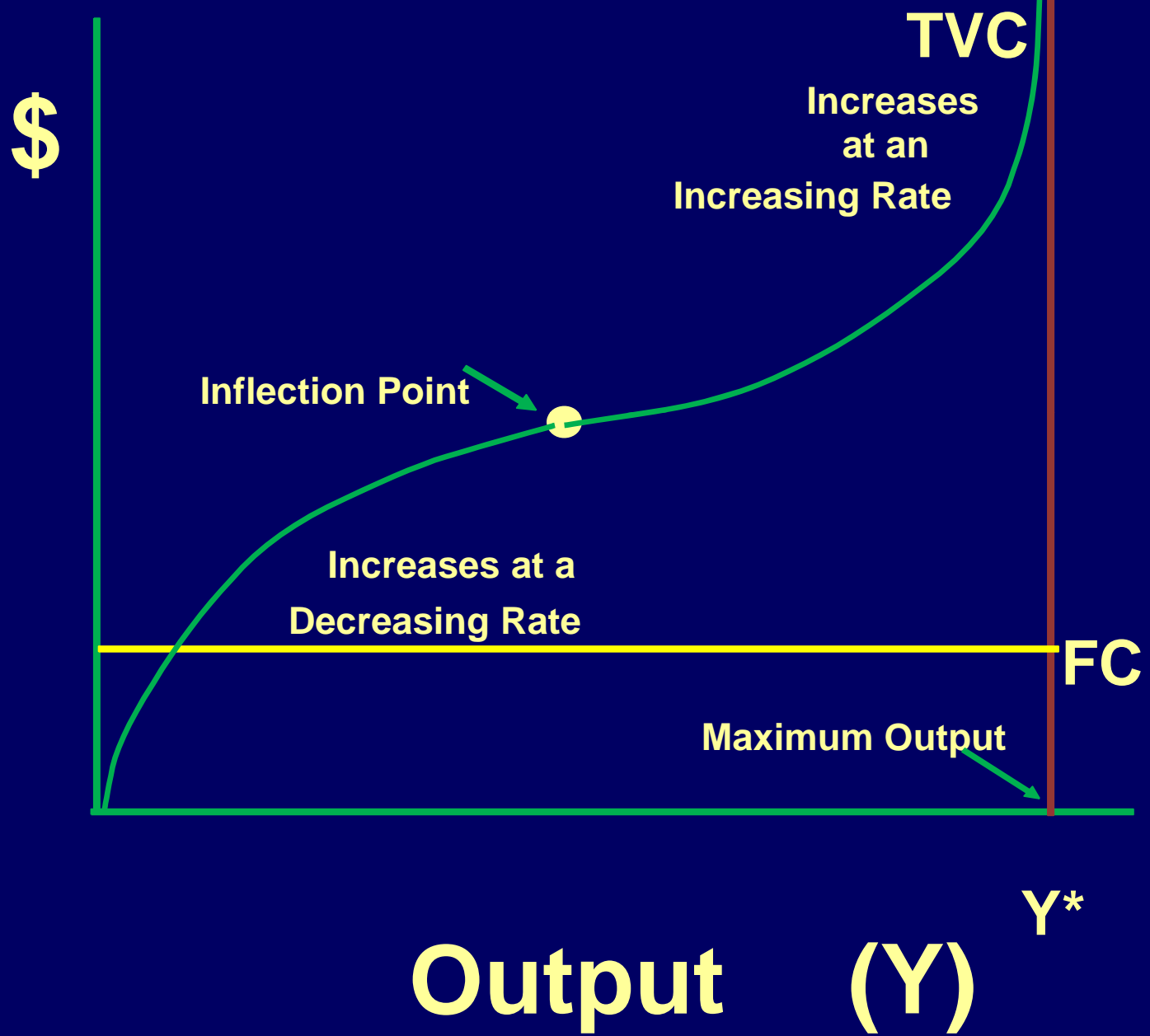


FC

Maximum Output

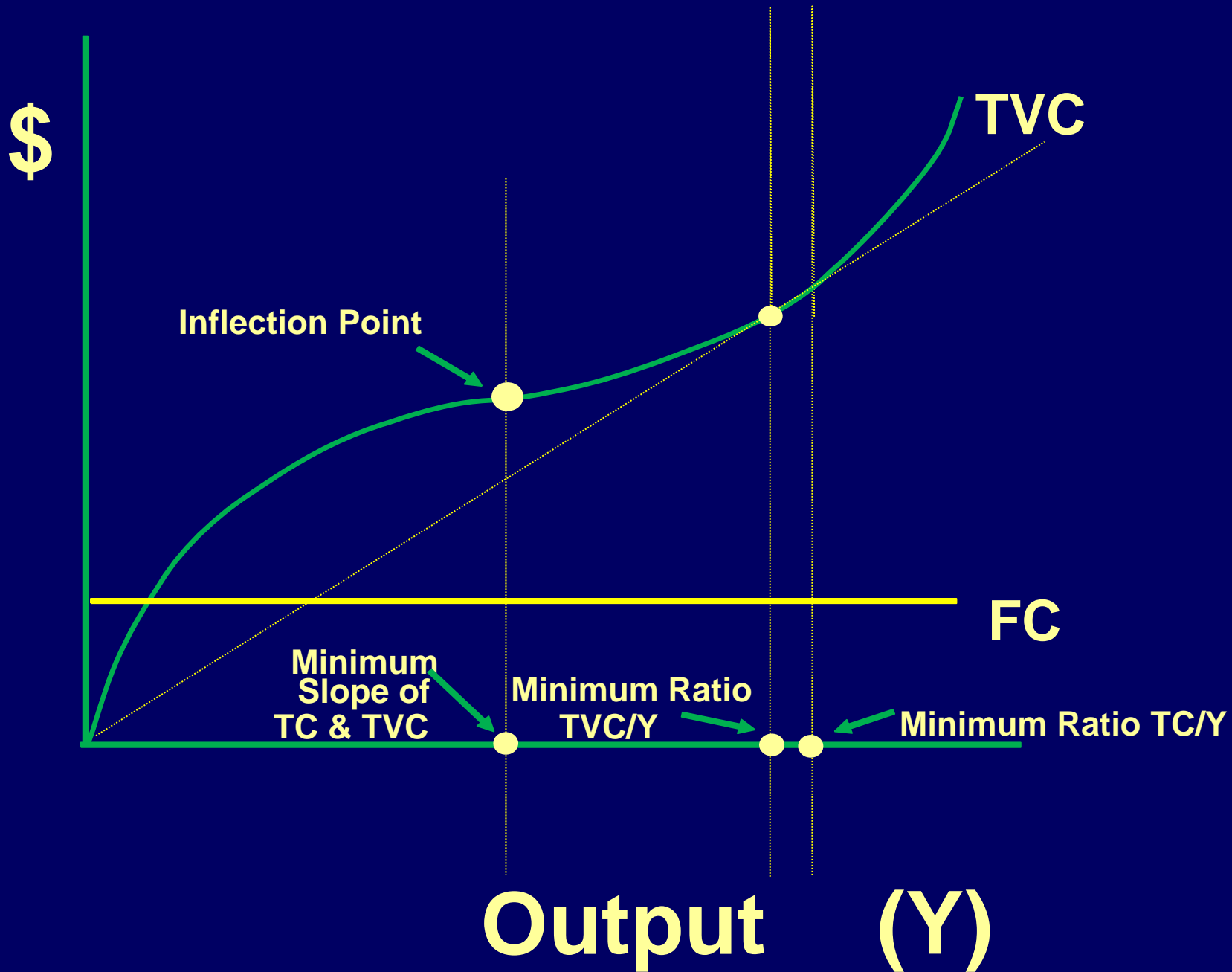
Y^*

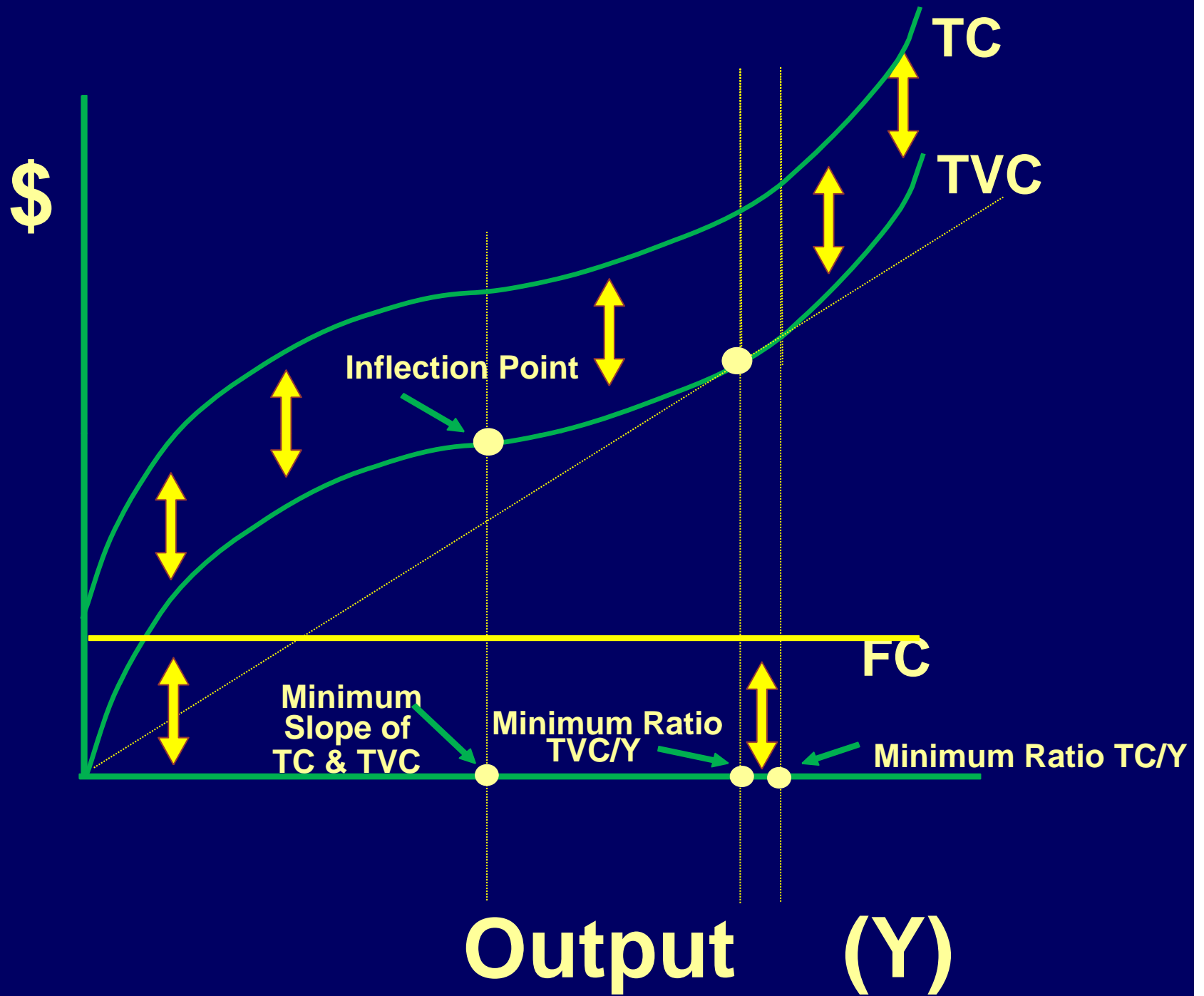
Output (Y)

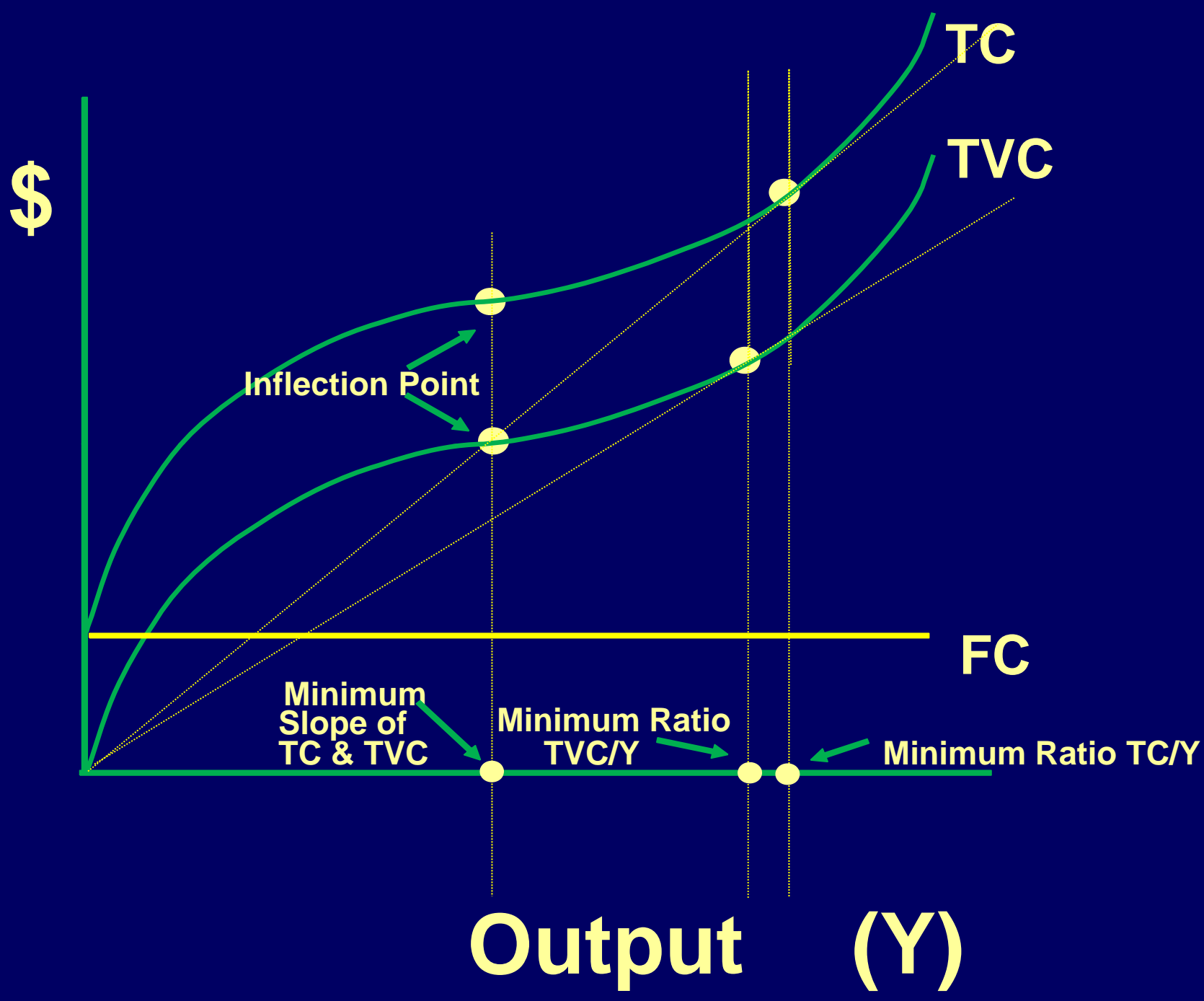


$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Total Cost} = \\ &\text{Total Variable Cost} \\ &+ \text{(Total) Fixed Cost} \\ &\text{TC} = \text{TVC} + \text{(T)FC}^* \end{aligned}$$

*leave off the T to avoid confusion with
Total FACTOR Cost







$TC/Y = \text{Average Cost} = AC$

$TVC/Y = \text{Average Variable Cost} = AVC$

**Slope of TC or Slope of TVC
= Marginal Cost = MC**

**Marginal Cost (MC) =
Change in TC (or TVC)
divided by
Change in Output**

$$\frac{\Delta TC}{\Delta Y}$$

**This is the cost of the Incremental
unit of output**

**Total Revenue (TR) =
Price (P) of output
times the quantity
of output (Y) produced**

$$\mathbf{TR = P \cdot Y}$$

Marginal Revenue (MR) =
Change in Total Revenue (Δ TR)
divided by
Change in Output (Δ Y)

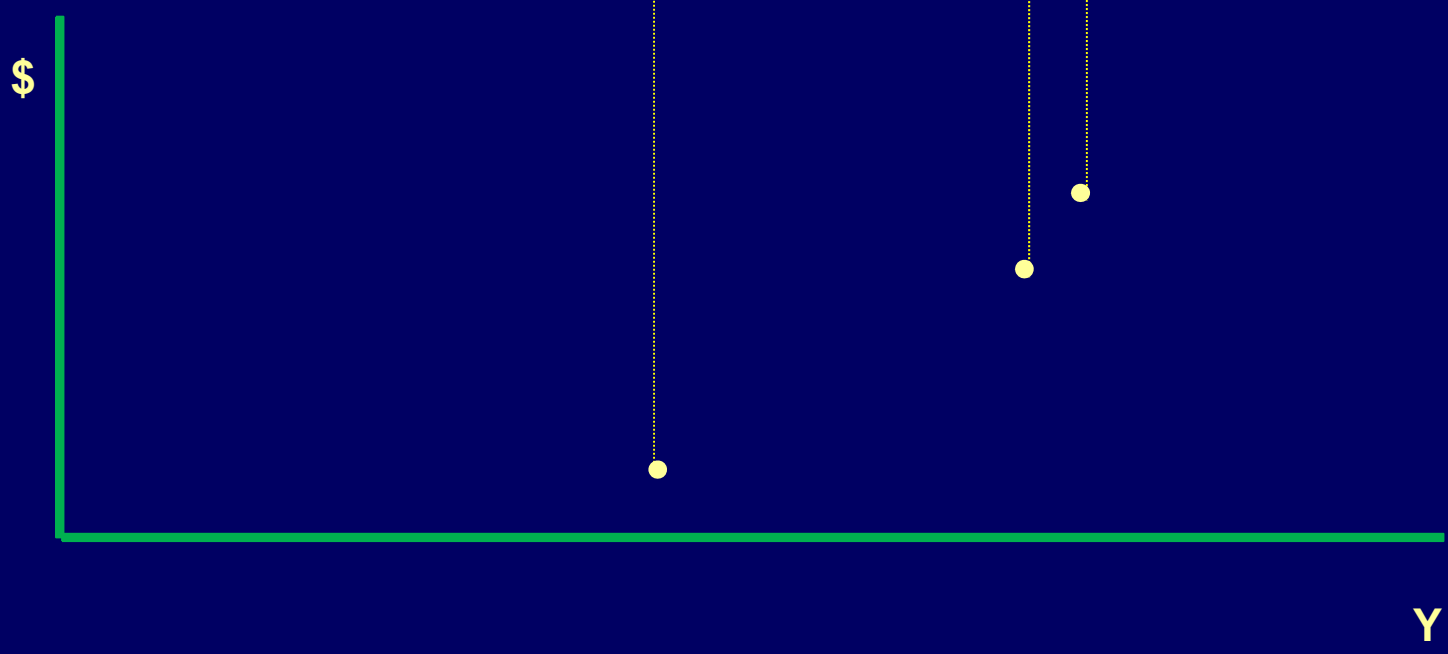
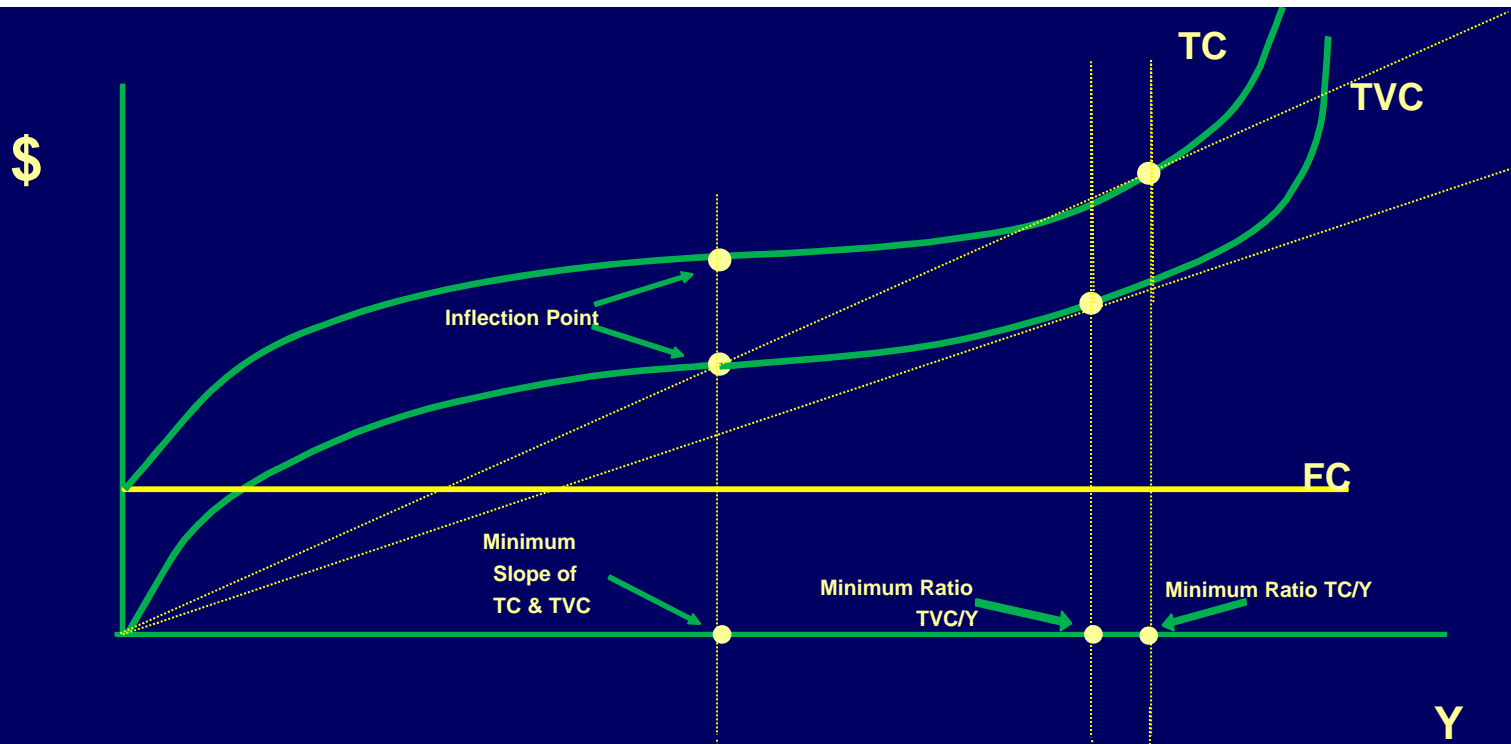
$$\Delta TR / \Delta Y$$

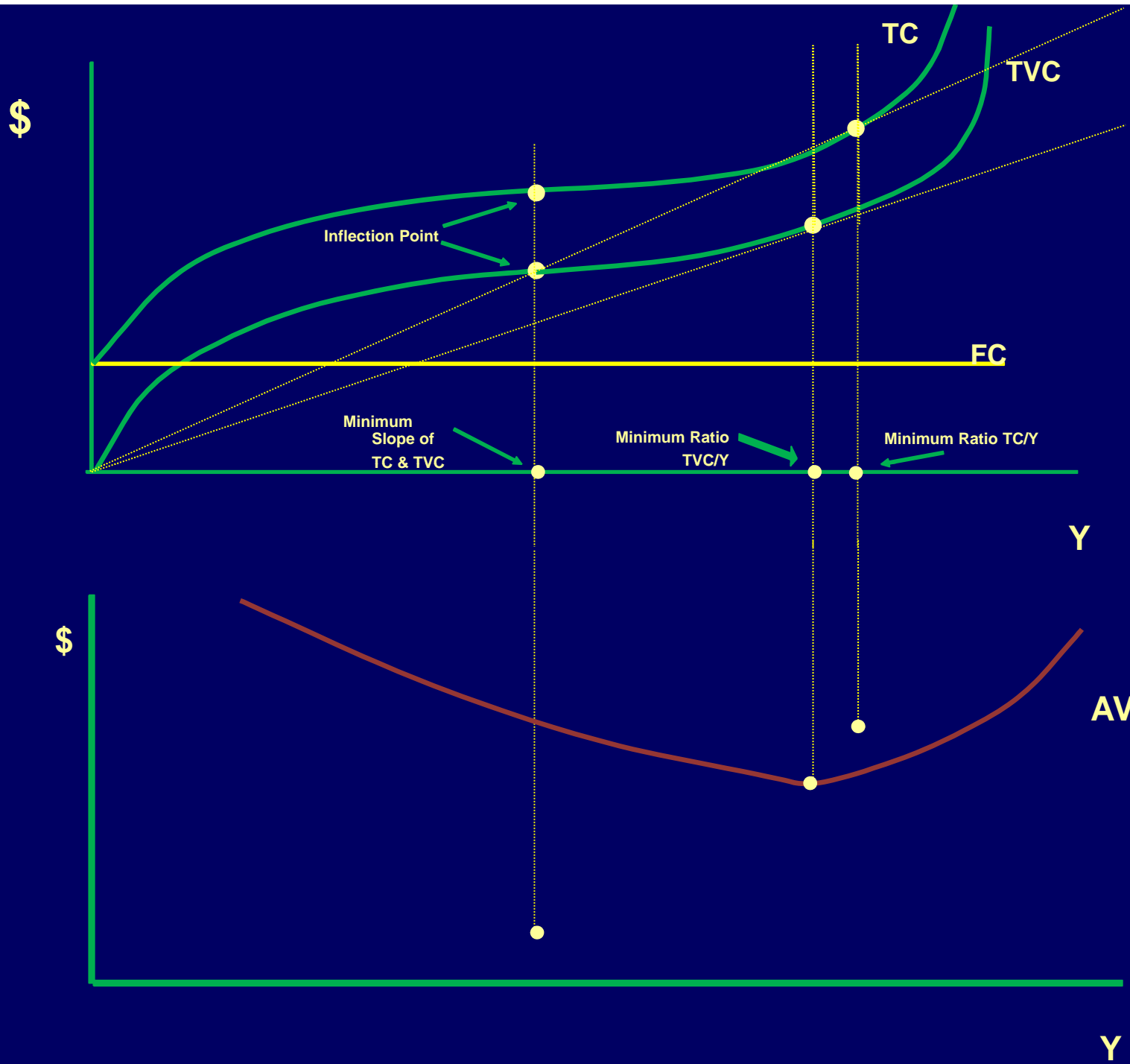
**This is the return from the incremental
unit of output**

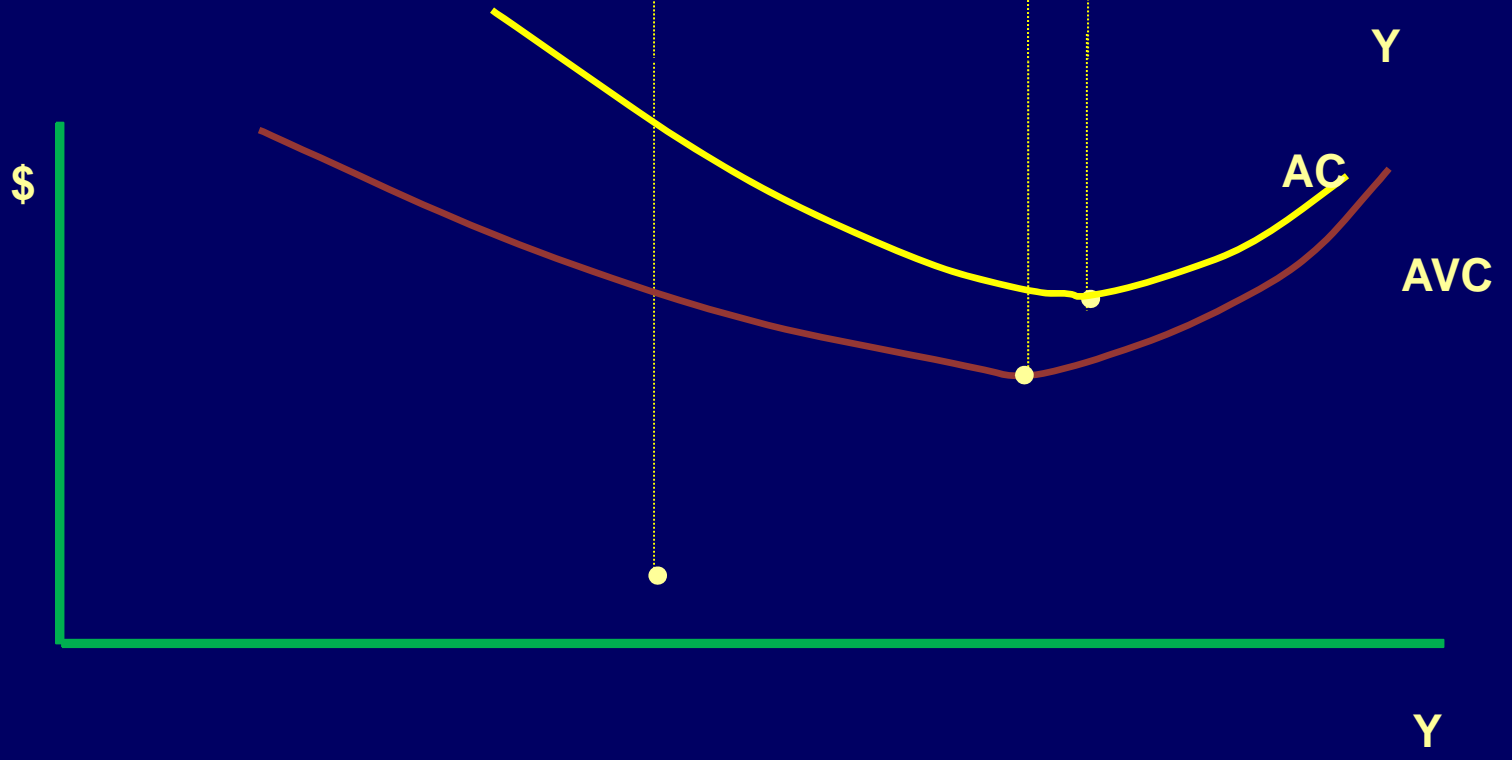
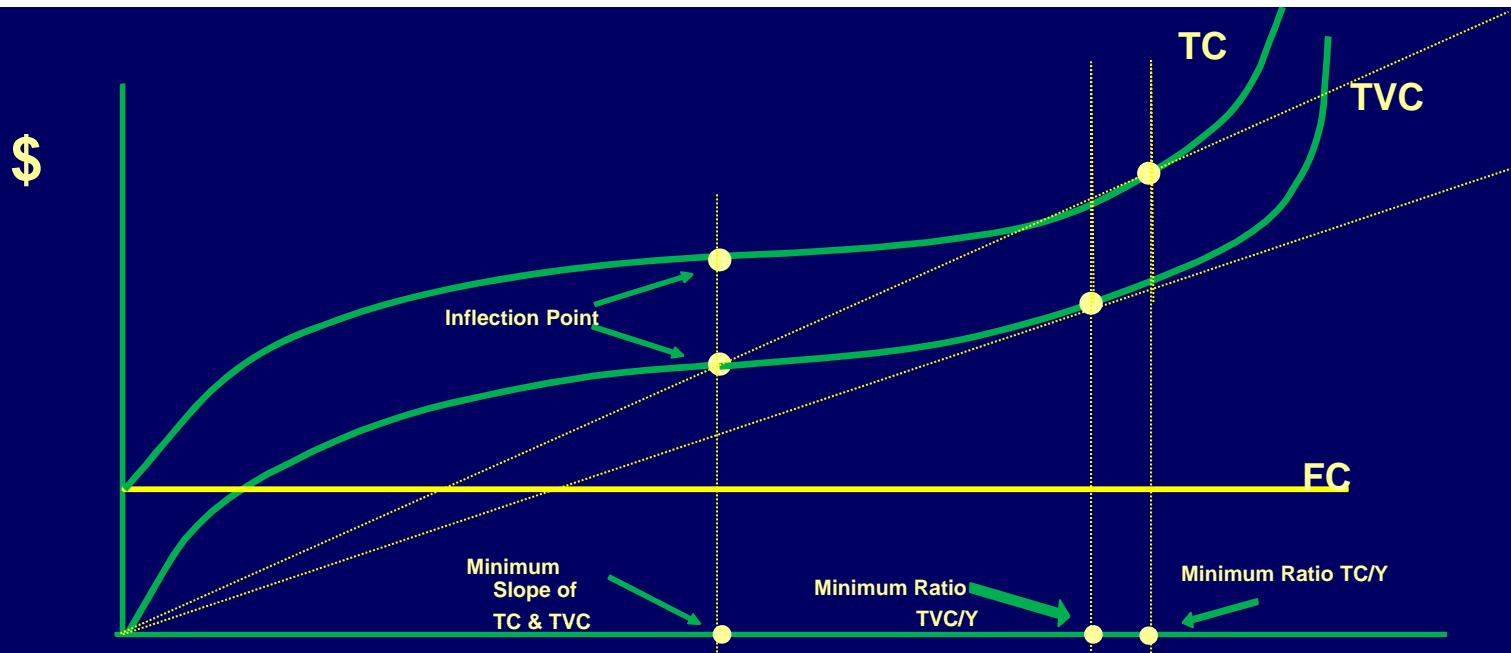
**If the Product Price is Constant
then Marginal Revenue is Constant**

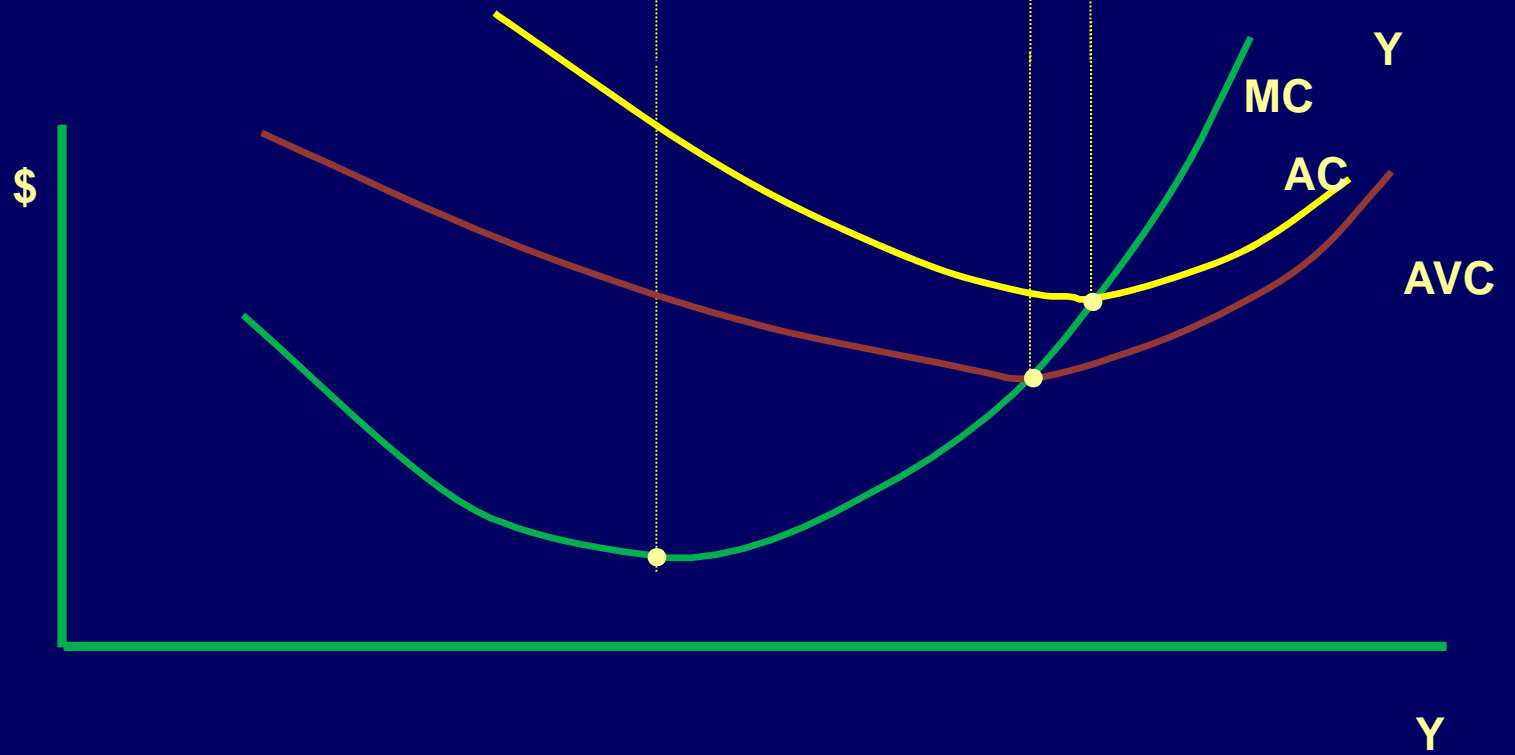
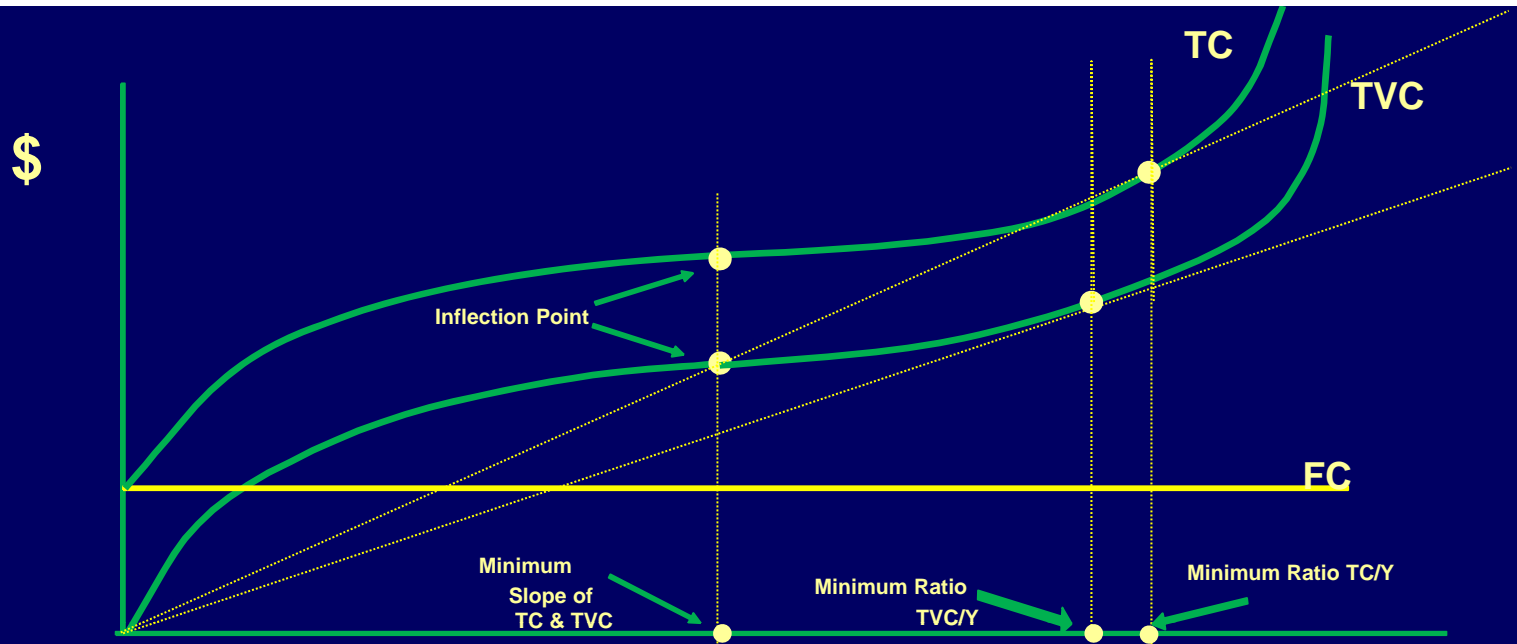
**The producer can sell
as much or as little as he wants
at the going market price!**

**Farmers are
Price-Takers**









**Average Fixed Cost (AFC) =
Total Fixed Cost (FC)
divided by Output (Y)**

$$\text{AFC} = \text{FC}/\text{Y}$$

FC is constant

As output increases:

**Y becomes larger and larger, and
AFC becomes smaller and smaller**

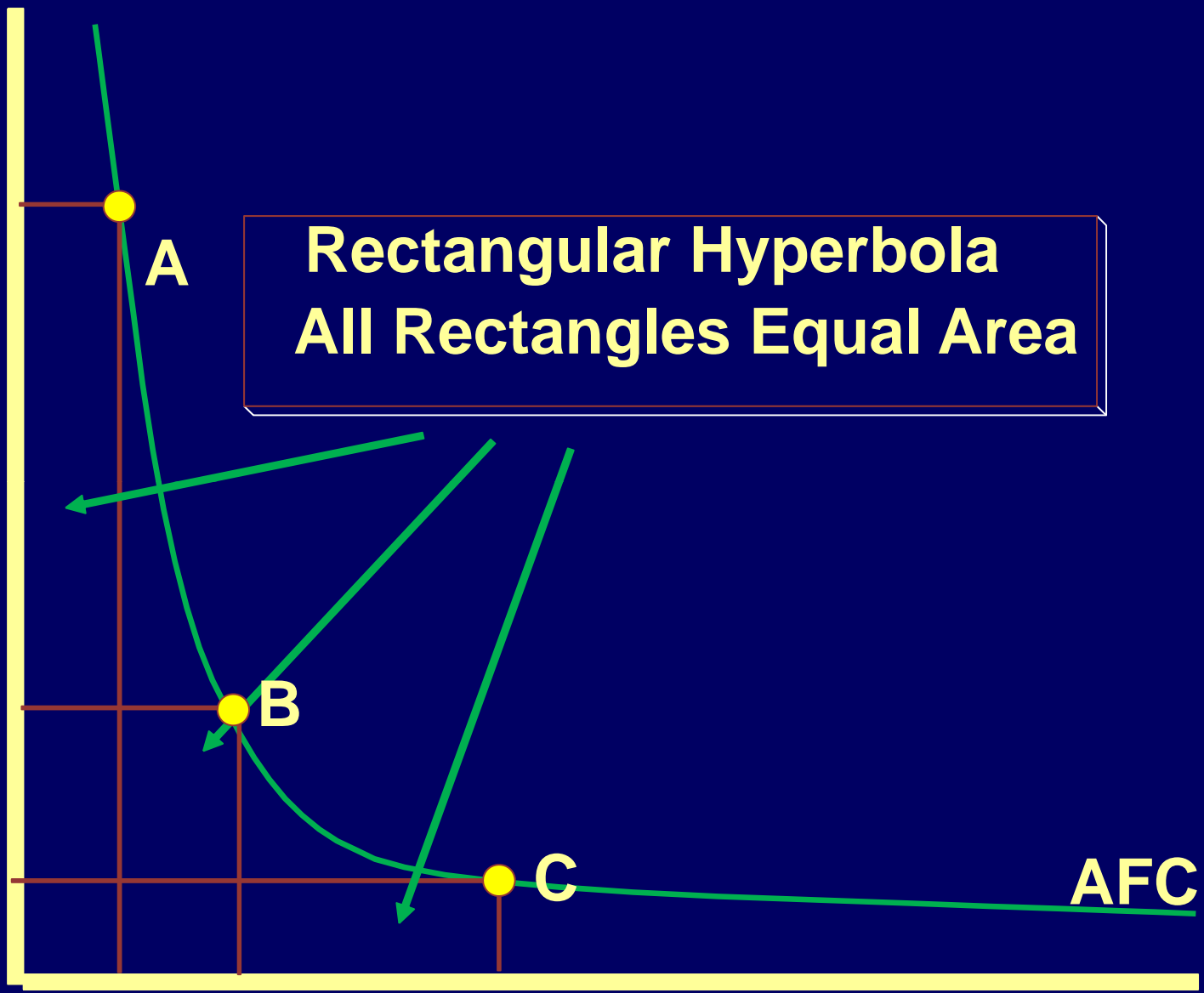
Form a rectangle, beginning with any point on the Average Fixed Cost curve.

Points A, B, and C are examples.

The areas of each of the three rectangles shown are equal.

The area of each of these rectangles is equal to total Fixed Cost (FC).

$\$/Y$

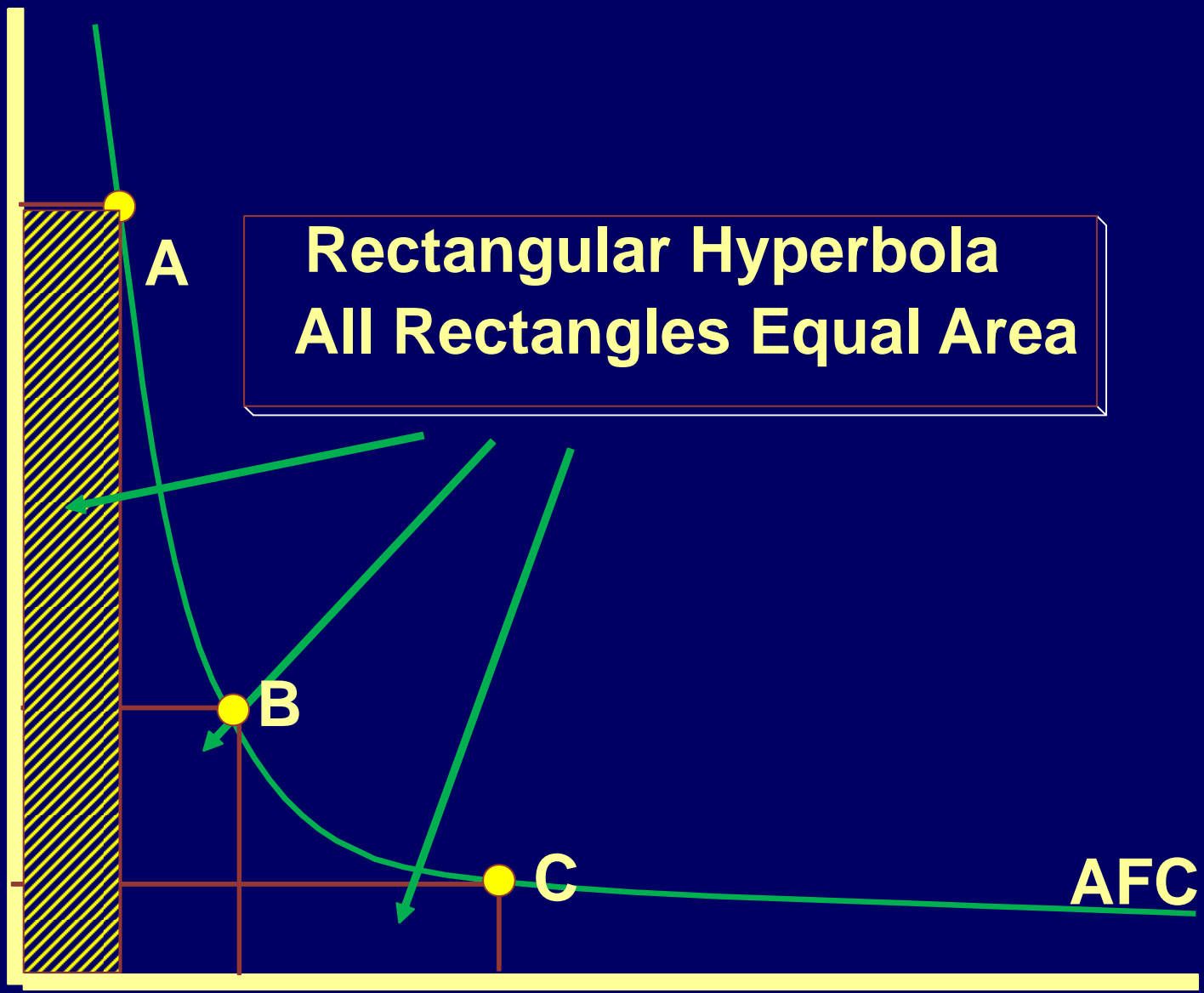


Rectangular Hyperbola
All Rectangles Equal Area

AFC

Output (Y)

$\$/Y$



**Rectangular Hyperbola
All Rectangles Equal Area**

A

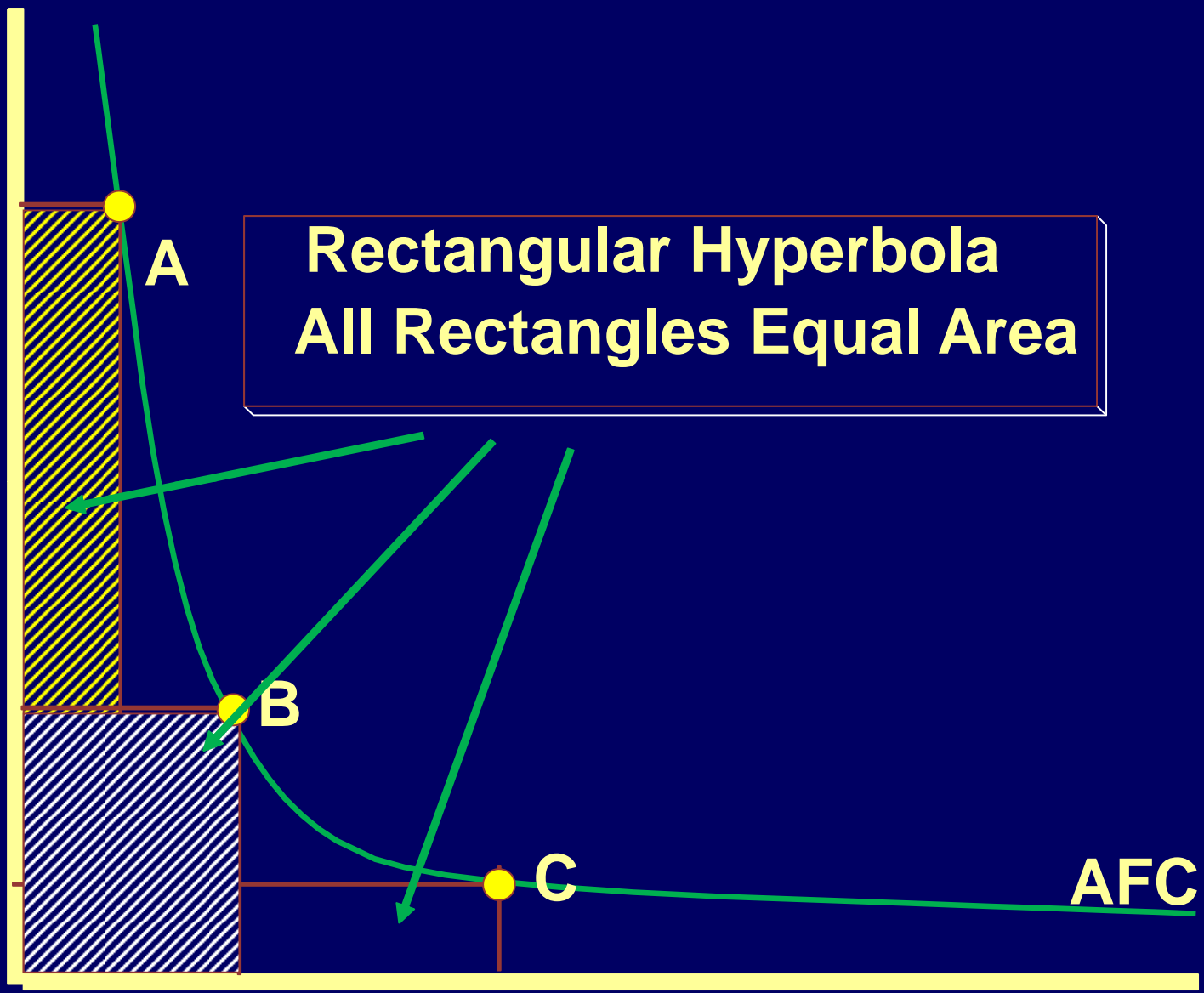
B

C

AFC

Output (Y)

$\$/Y$

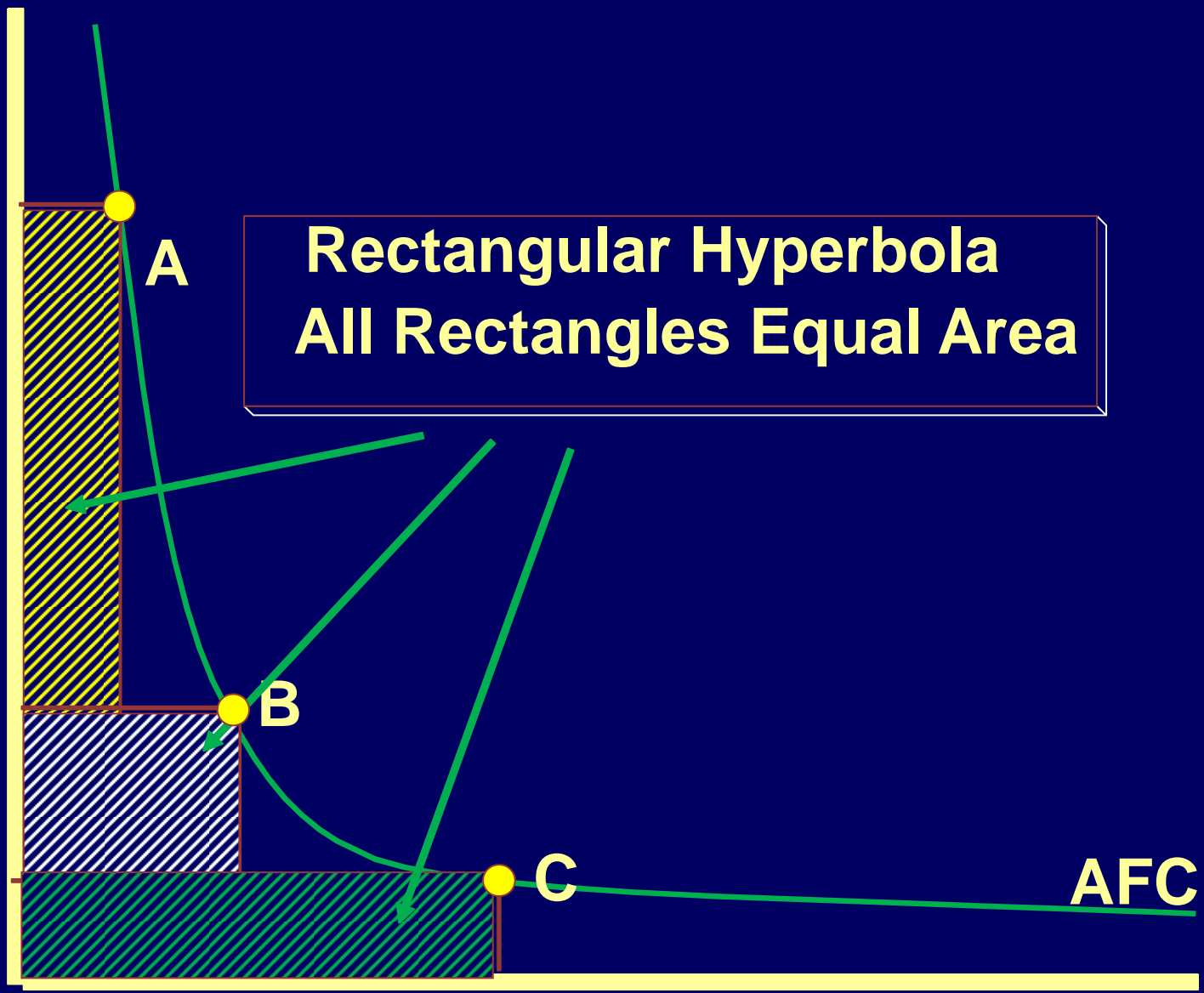


Rectangular Hyperbola
All Rectangles Equal Area

AFC

Output (Y)

$\$/Y$

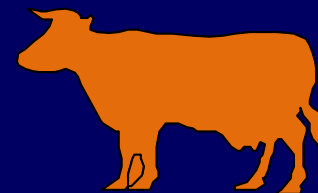
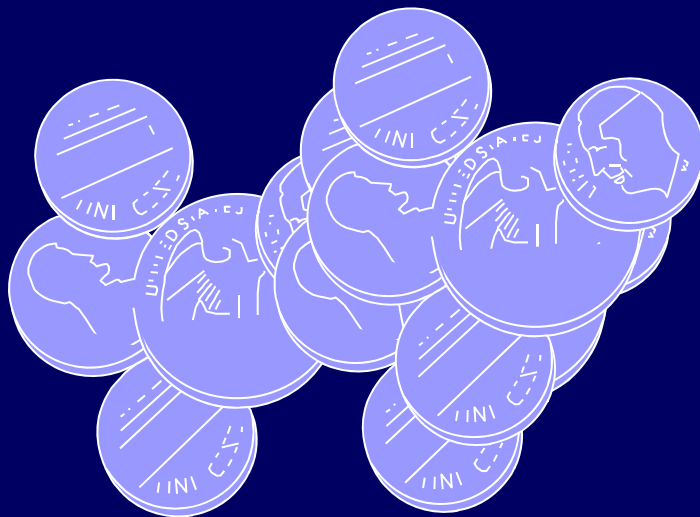


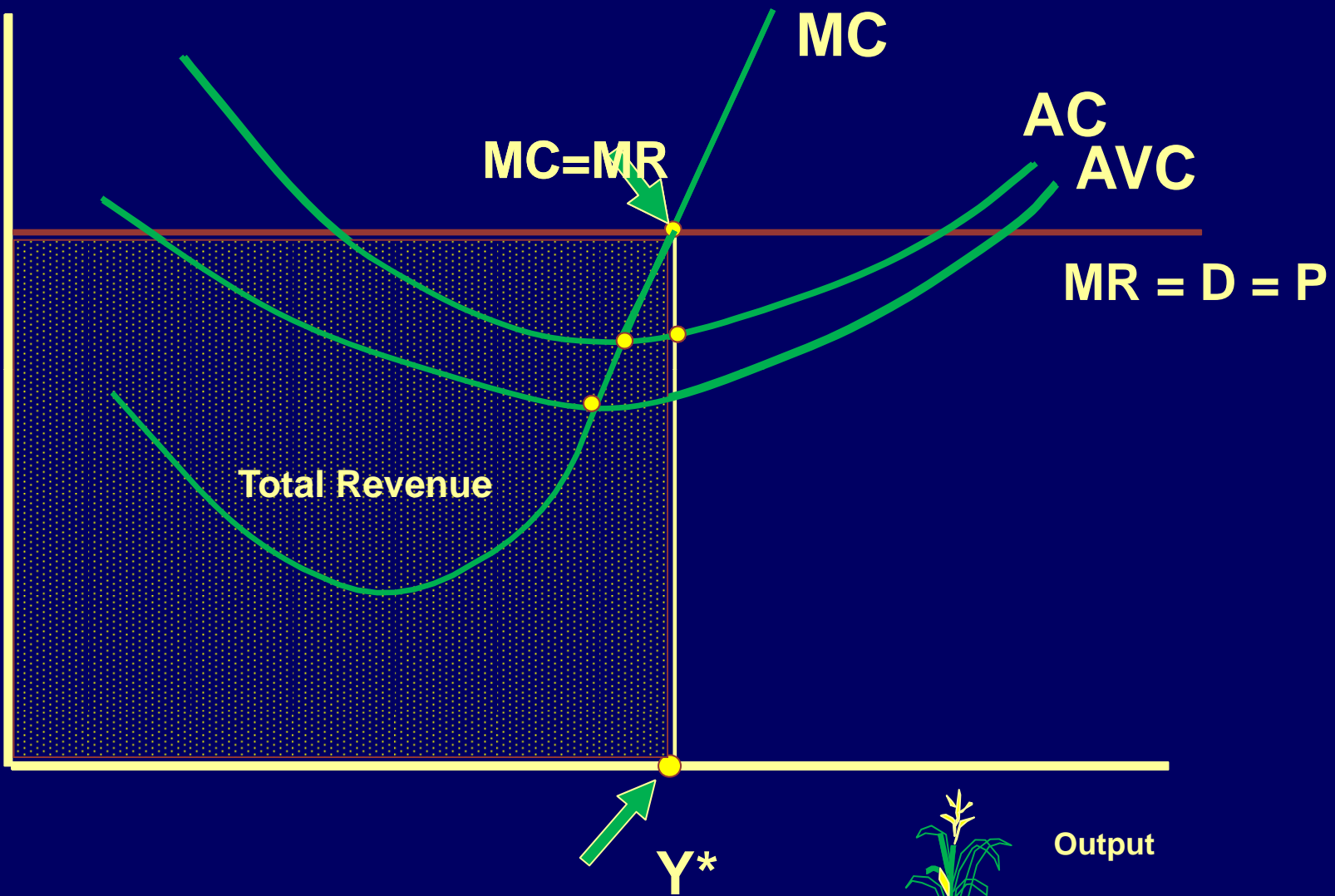
Rectangular Hyperbola
All Rectangles Equal Area

AFC

Output (Y)

Profit Maximization: the Output Side

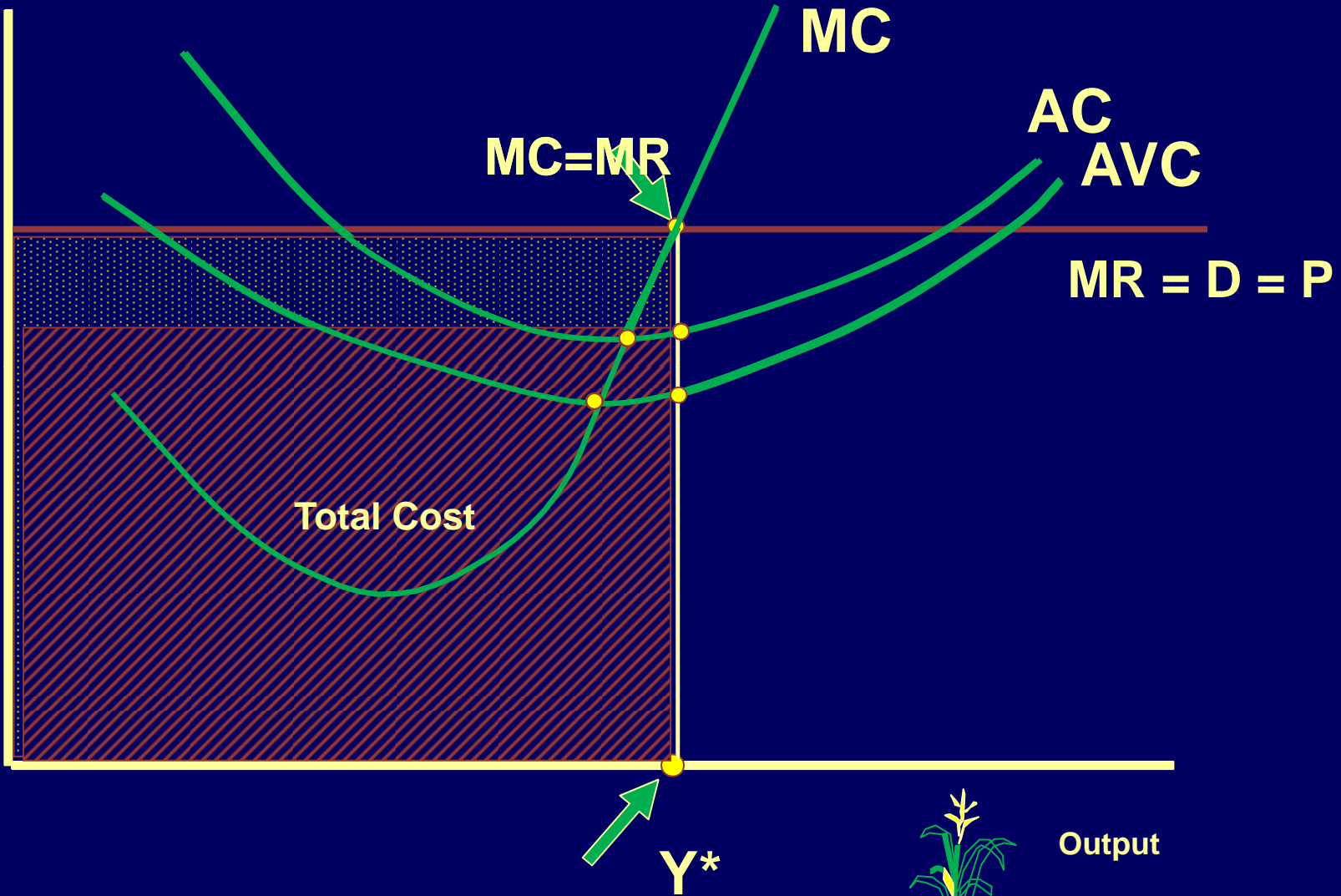




Profit Maximizing Output Level



Output

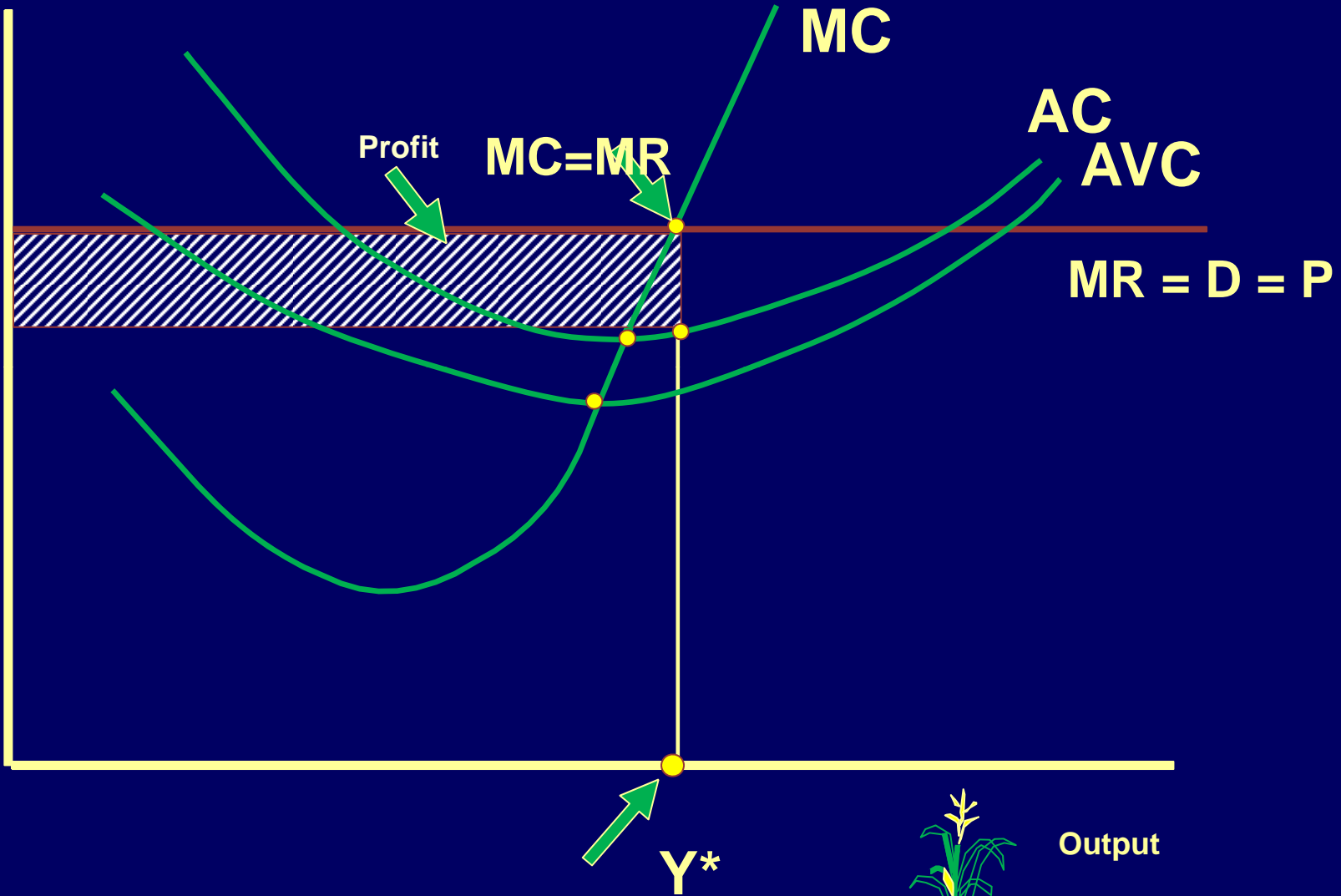


Profit Maximizing Output Level

Y^*



Output



Profit Maximizing Output Level



Output

Classic Rule:

Profits are *Maximum*

when

Marginal Cost = Marginal Revenue

MC=MR

Profit Maximizing

**Level of
Output Y
where**

Marginal Cost = Marginal Revenue

MC=MR

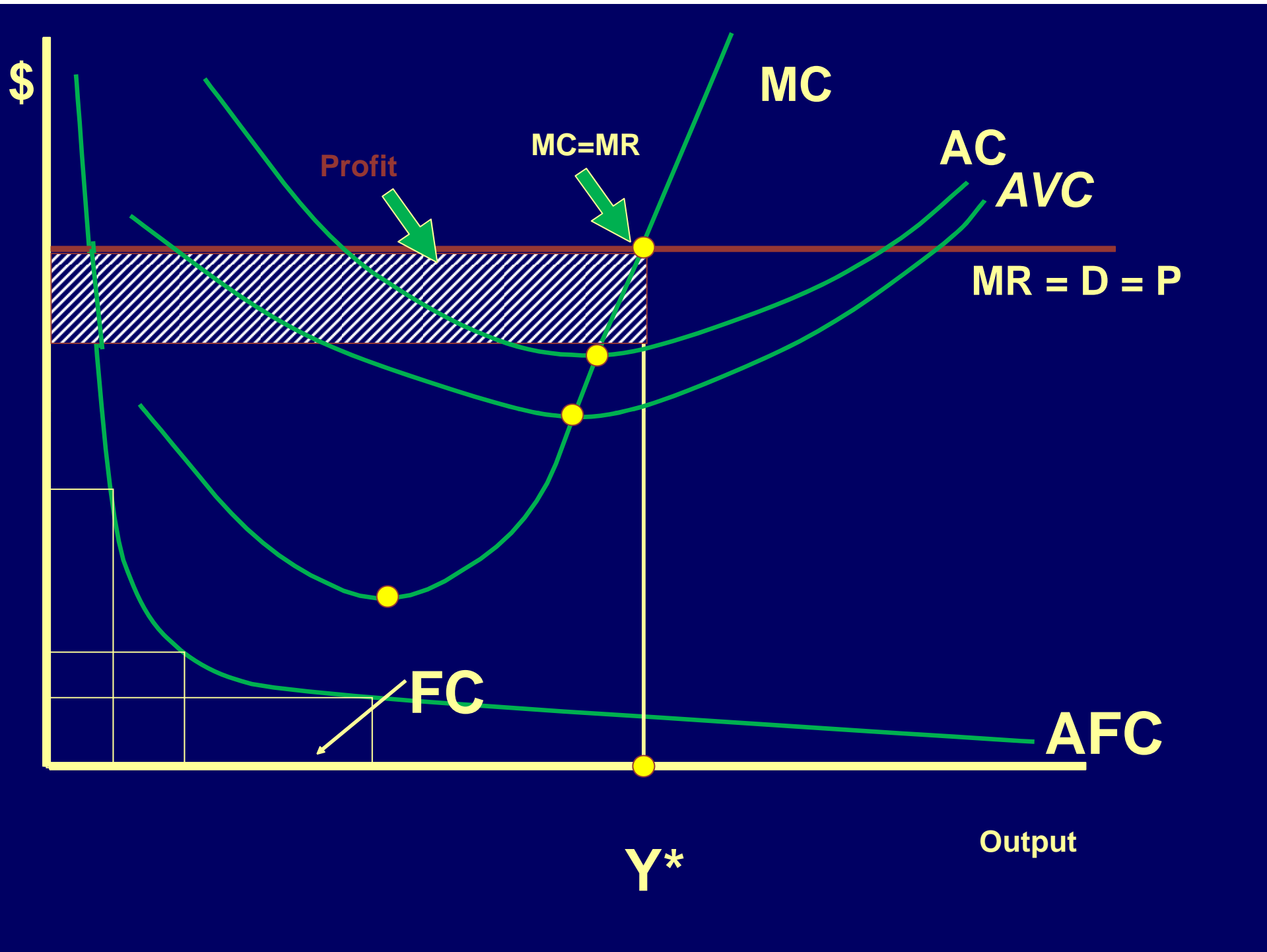
Impacts of Changing Product Prices

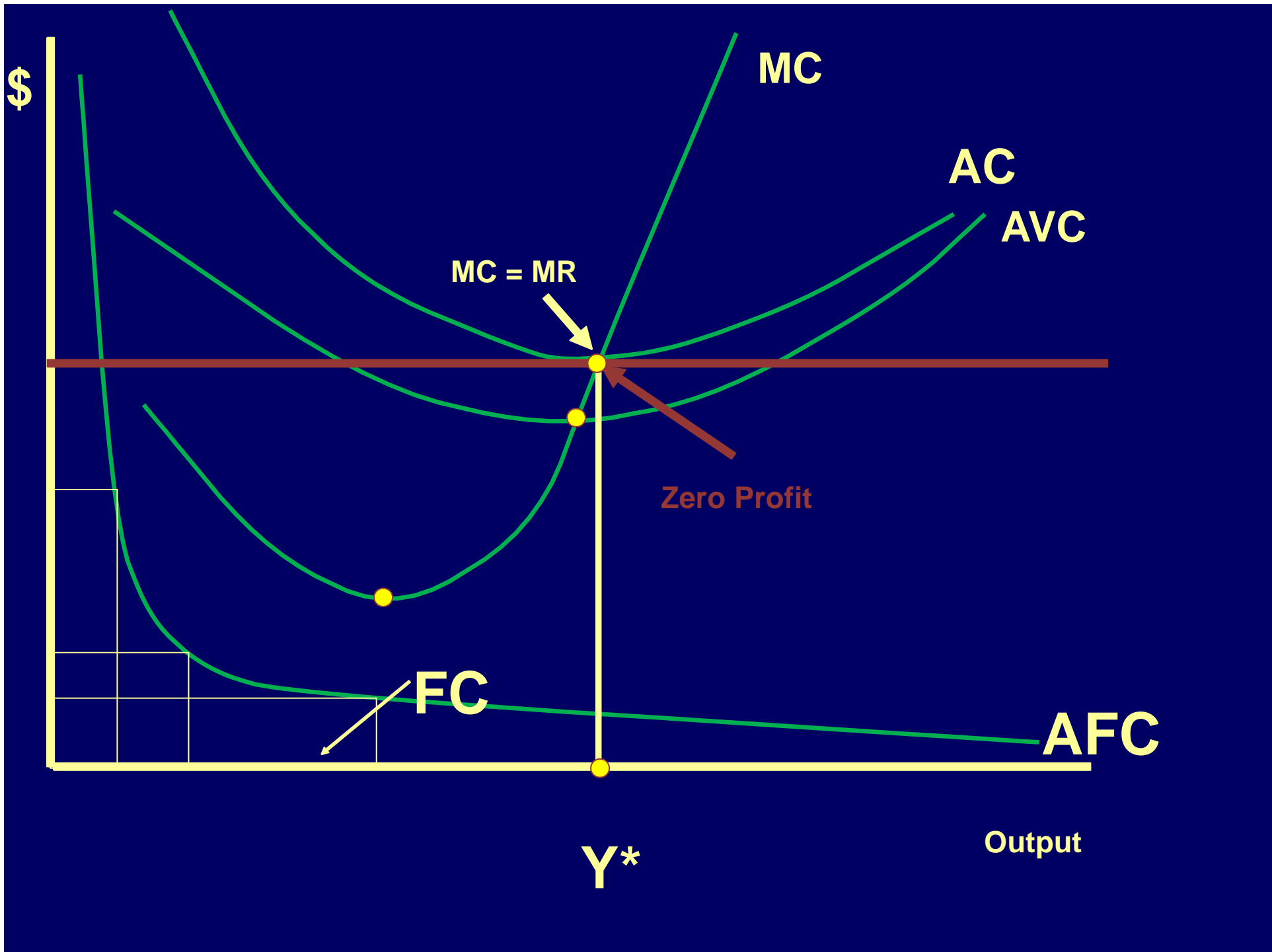
Assumption:

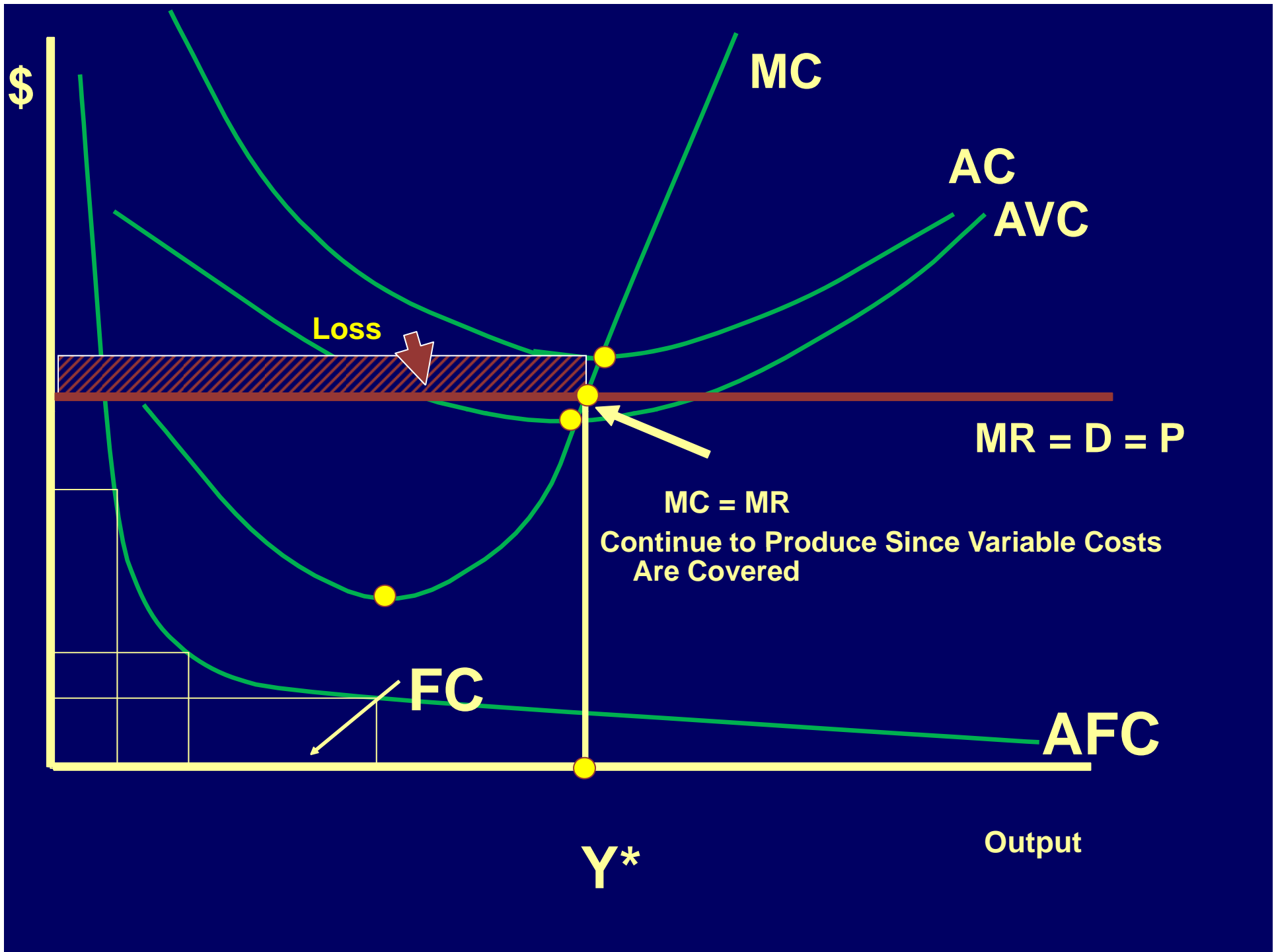
**The Demand Curve
Faced by the Firm
is Horizontal**

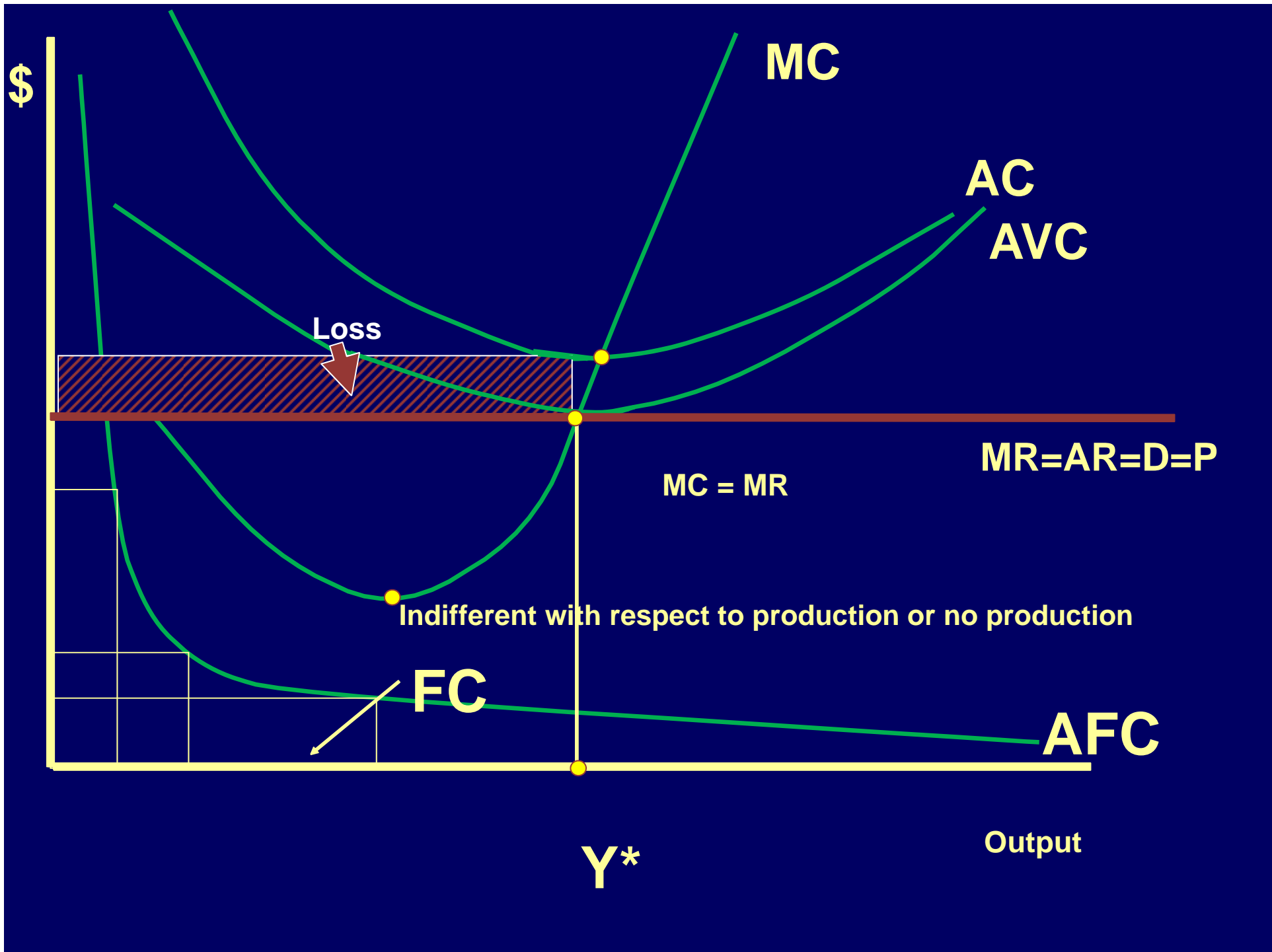
*The firm can sell as much
or as little as it wants
at the going market price*

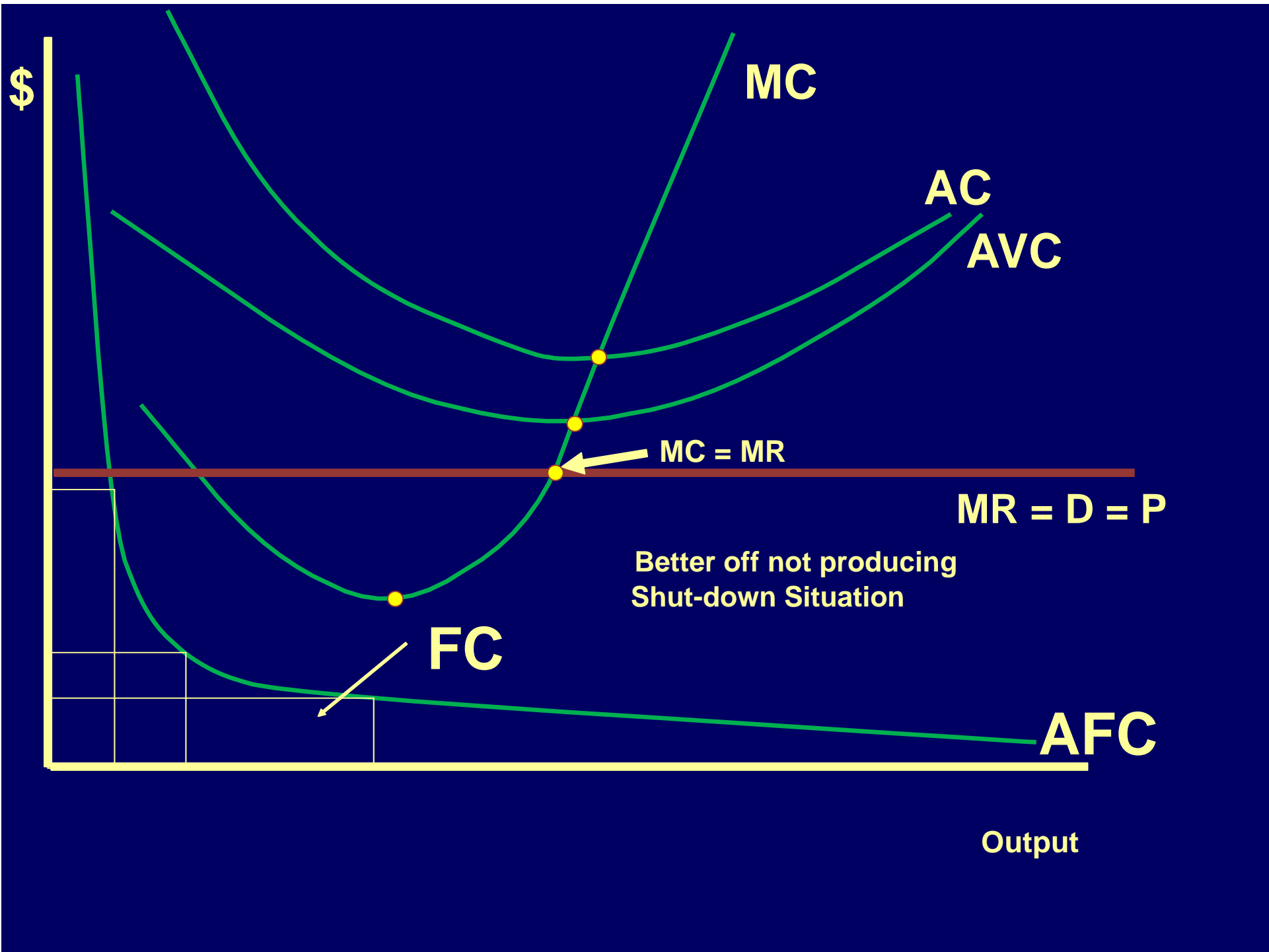
Demand is **PERFECTLY ELASTIC**









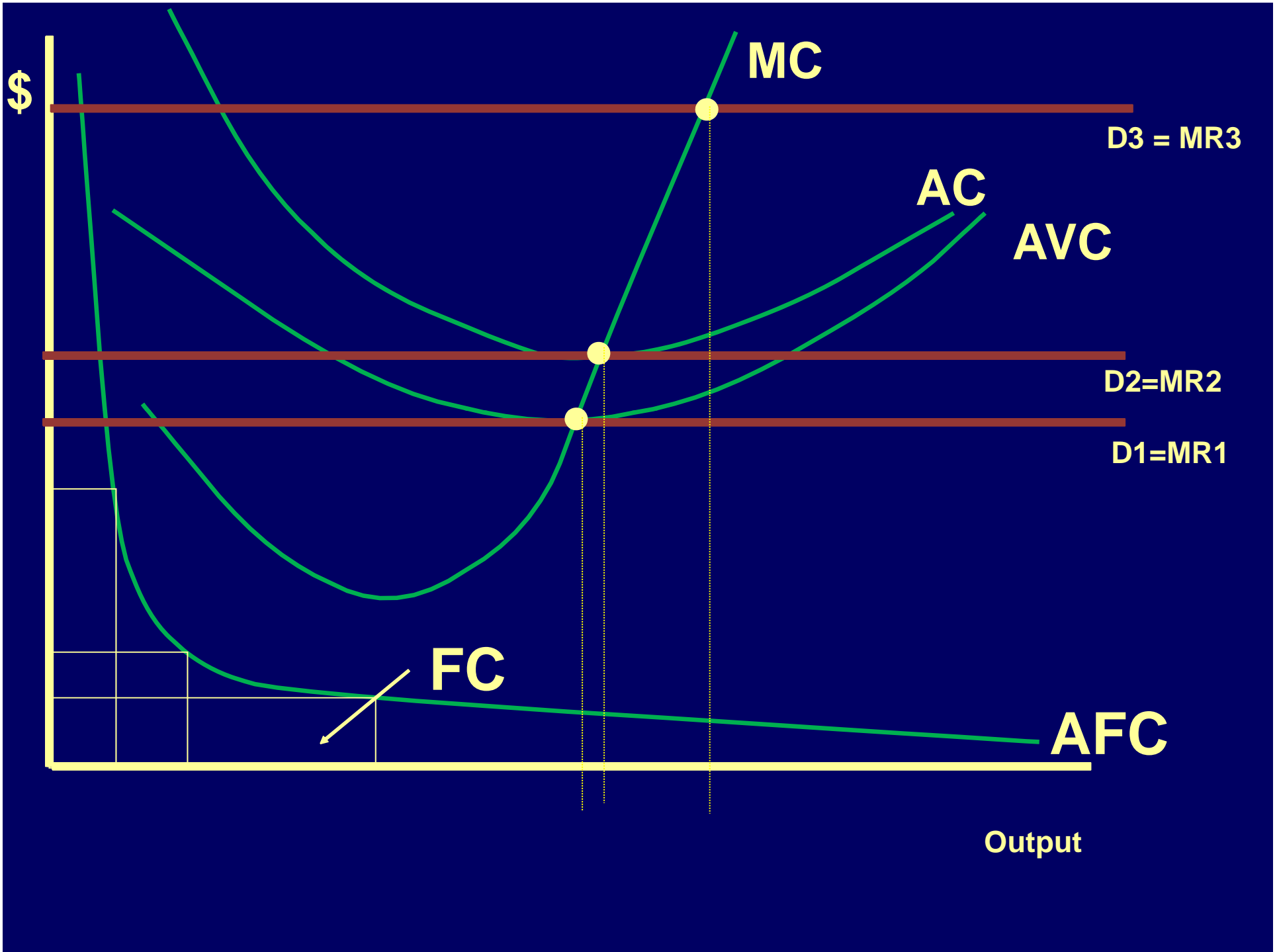


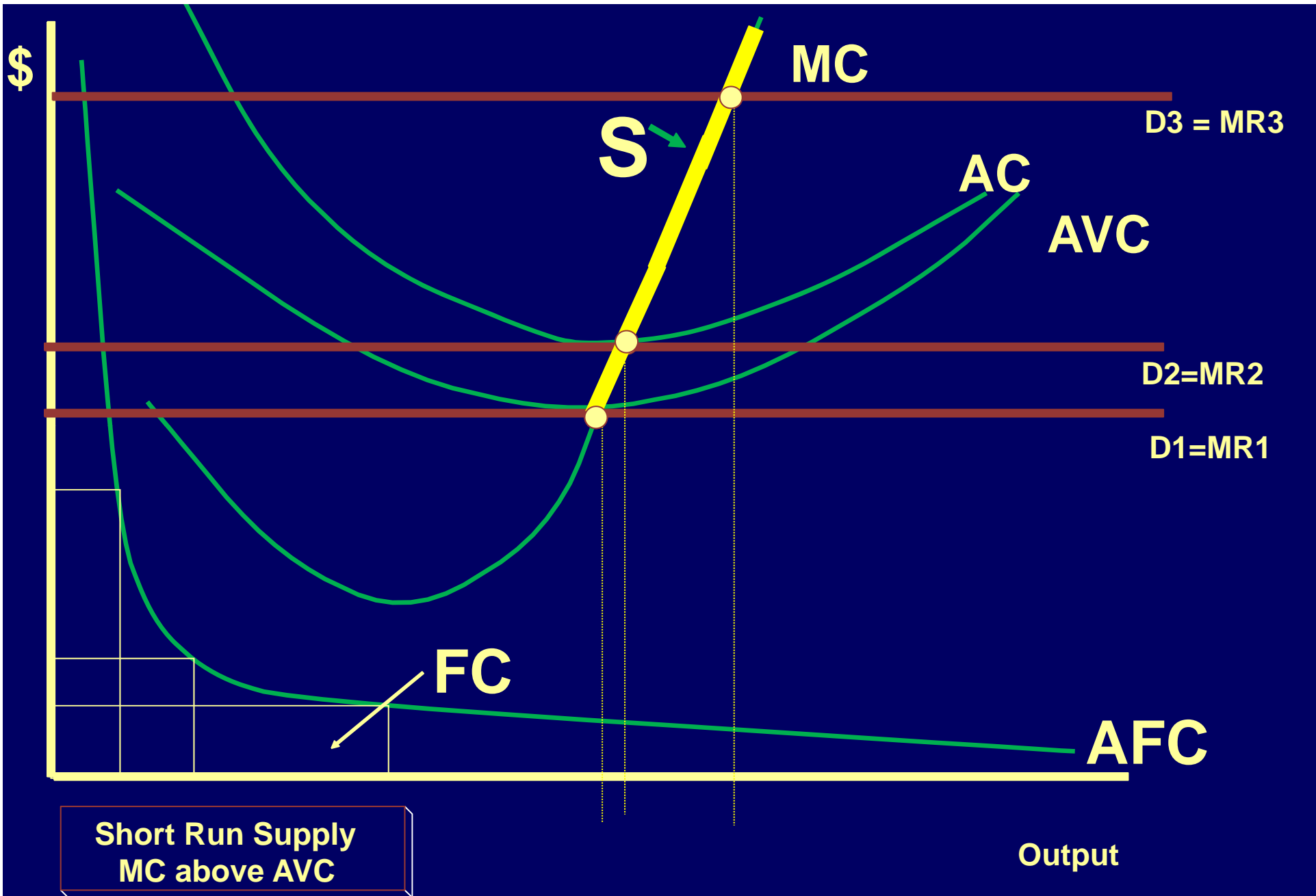
**These conditions
apply in the
Short Run**

**In the long run
all costs are variable, and all costs
must be covered**

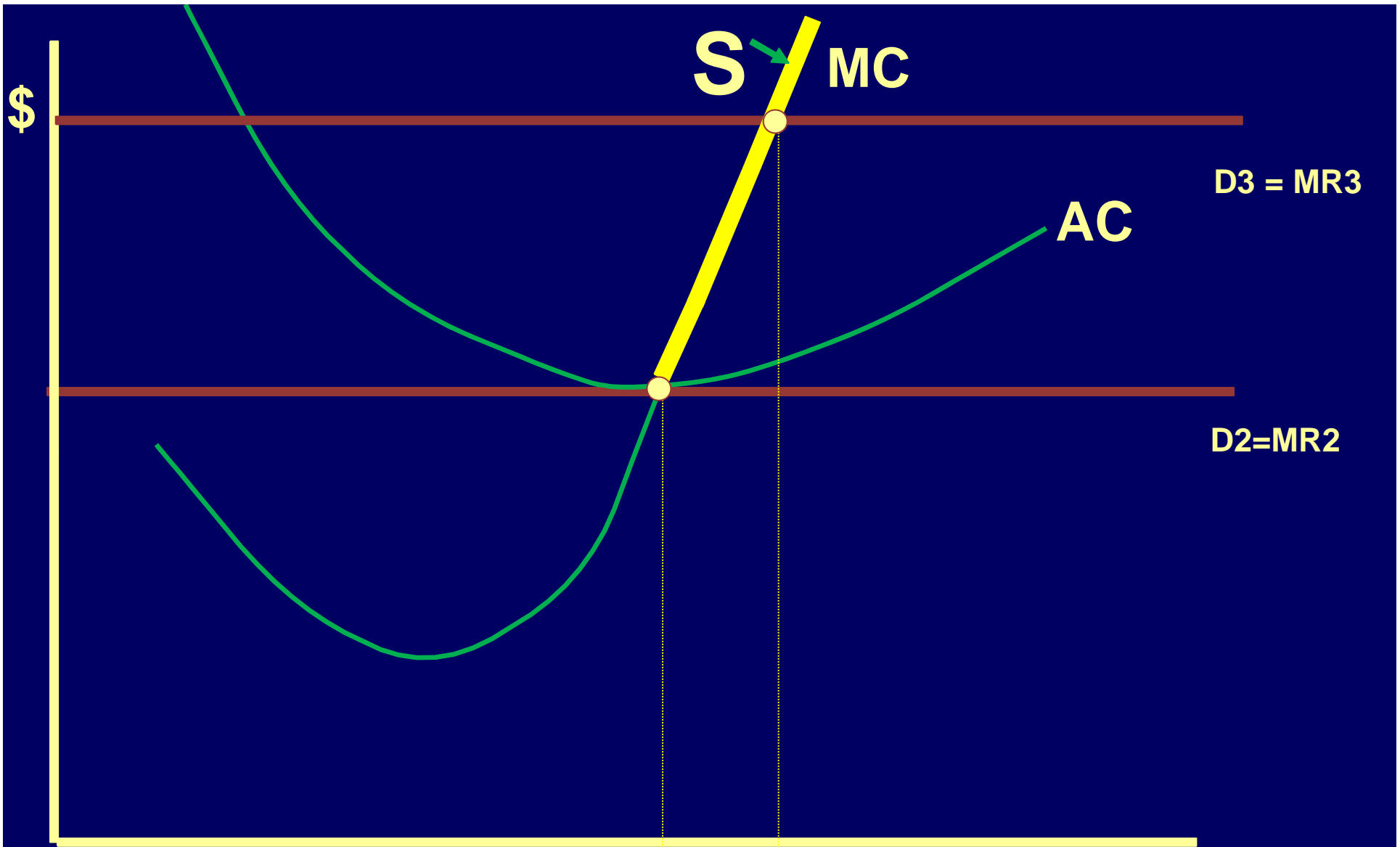
Short Run Supply Curve for the Firm:

**That portion of MC
above AVC**





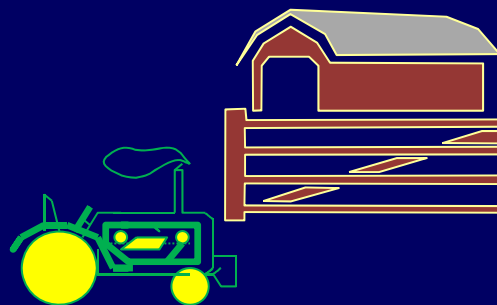
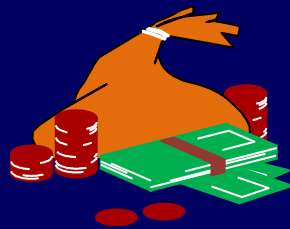
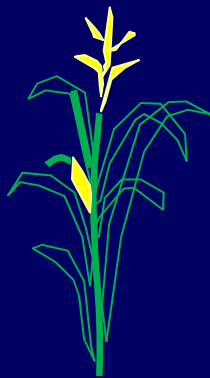
(Producer's willingness to Supply at Possible Prices)



Long Run Supply: Supply is MC above AC
 AC= AVC since all costs variable
 No FC or AFC

Output

Length of Run, Costs, and Supply for the Firm



Very Long Run:

All Costs Variable

Supply Curve is

MC above AVC

AVC = AC

since FC = 0

Long Run:

Most Costs Variable

A Few Fixed Costs

**Supply is MC Curve
above AVC**

AC not equal to AVC

Short Run:

Most Costs Fixed

A Few Variable Costs

AC not equal to AVC

Supply is MC

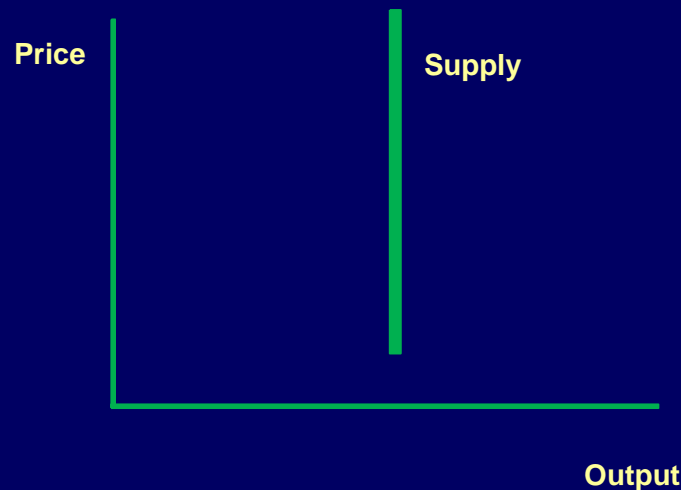
above AVC

Very Short Run:

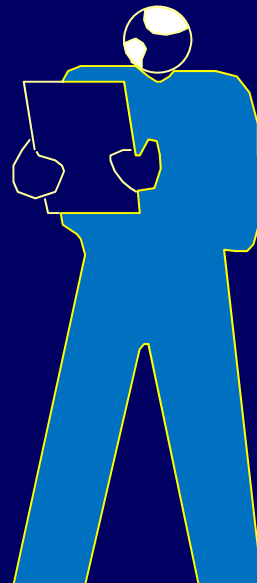
All Costs Fixed

$AC = AFC$

Perfectly Inelastic Supply



**Fixed/Variable cost distinction
exists
*in the mind of the decisionmaker***



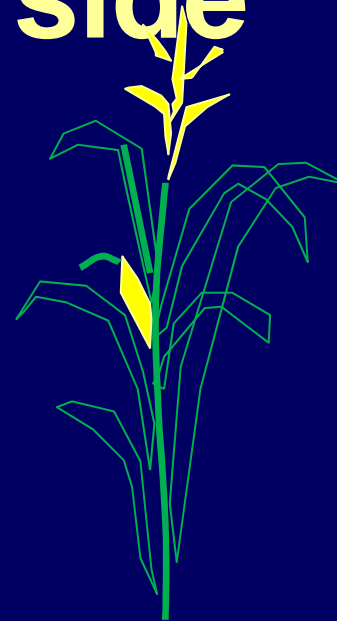
Sunk Cost

a cost which cannot be recovered

Seed in the ground
can't be taken out again



Links between profit maximization on the input and on the output side



- 1. The input level where $MVP=MFC$ produces the output level where $MR=MC$.**
- 2. The input level on the inflection point of the TPP (TVP) curve produces the output level on the inflection point of the TVC curve.**

3. The input level that maximizes APP (AVP) produces the output level that minimizes AVC.

4. The input level that maximizes MPP (MVP) produces the output level that minimizes MC.

Chapter 8: Production with Two Inputs or Outputs

Agricultural Production Economics: Two Inputs or Two Outputs

Factor-Factor Relationships

Two Inputs,

One Output

Production Function:

$$Y = f(X_1, X_2 | X_3, X_4, X_5)$$

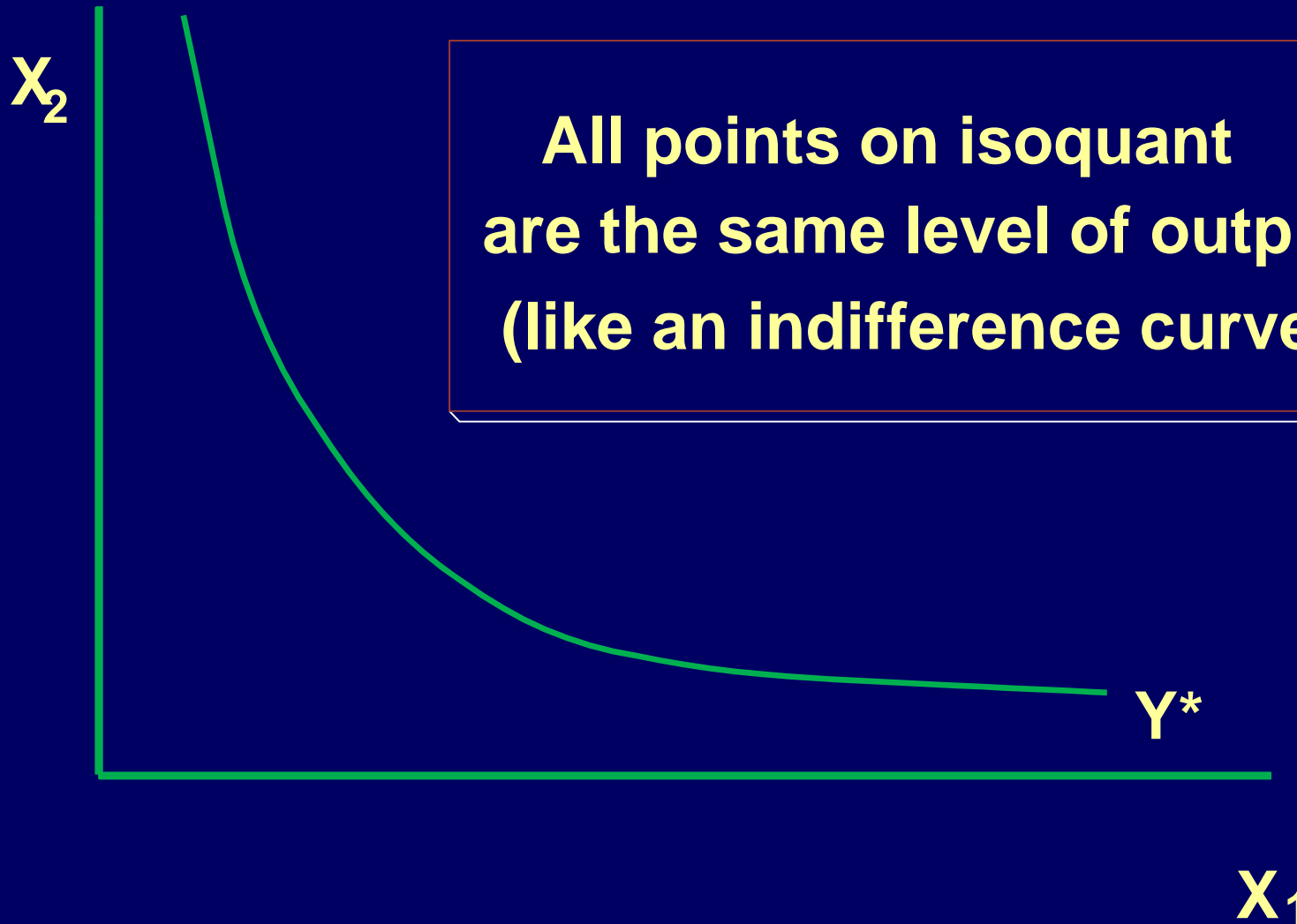
Variable inputs

Fixed inputs

Output (TPP) *

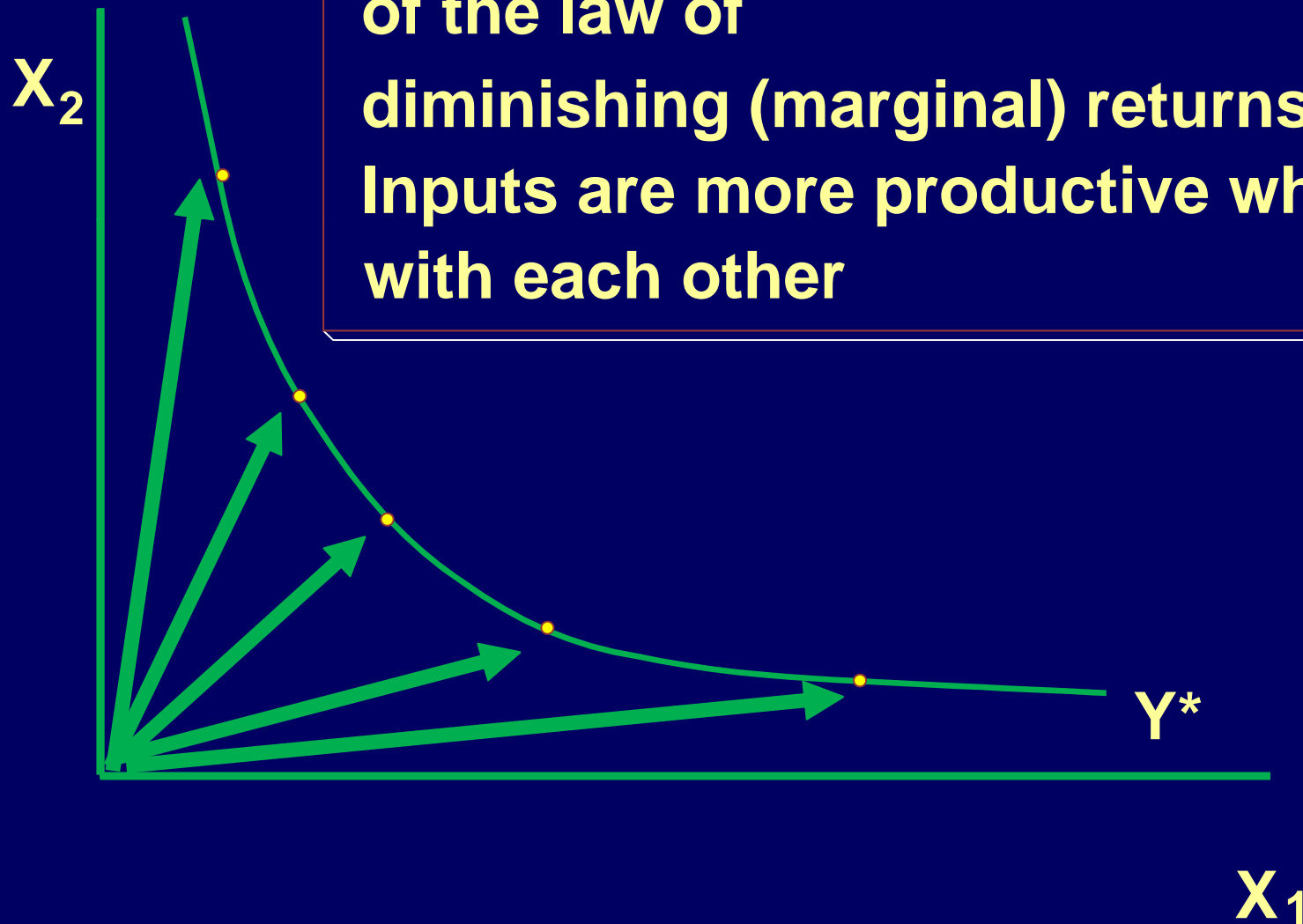
*Total Physical Product

Isoquant (equal quantity)



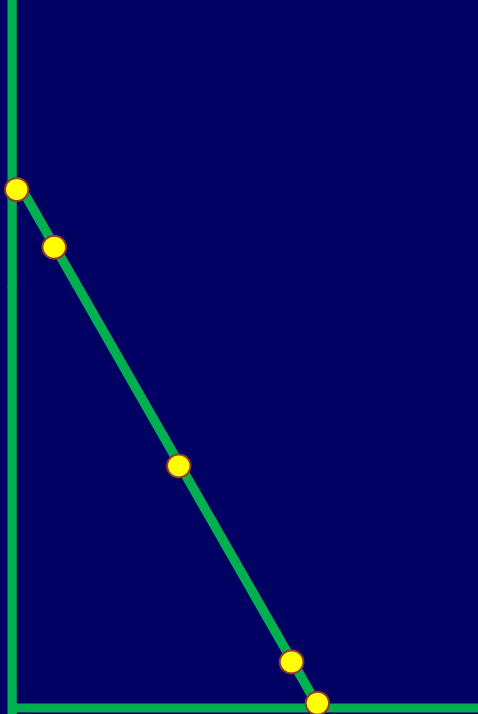
All points on isoquant
are the same level of output
(like an indifference curve)

Isoquants are bowed inward because of the law of diminishing (marginal) returns. Inputs are more productive when used with each other.



Types of Isoquants:

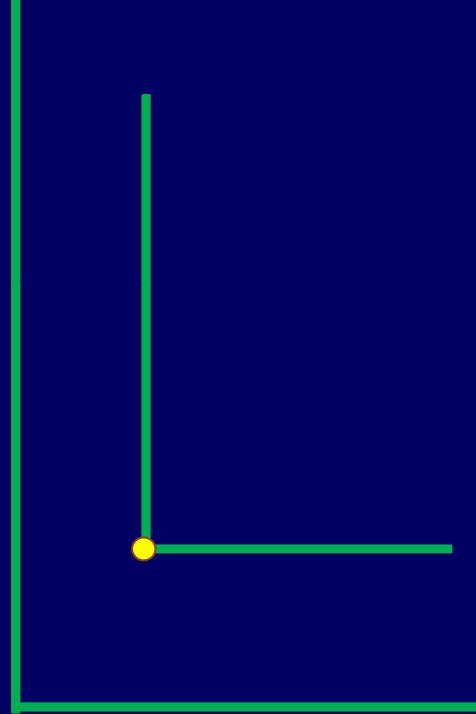
Ammonium Nitrate 33% N



Ammonia
82 % N

Perfect Substitutes

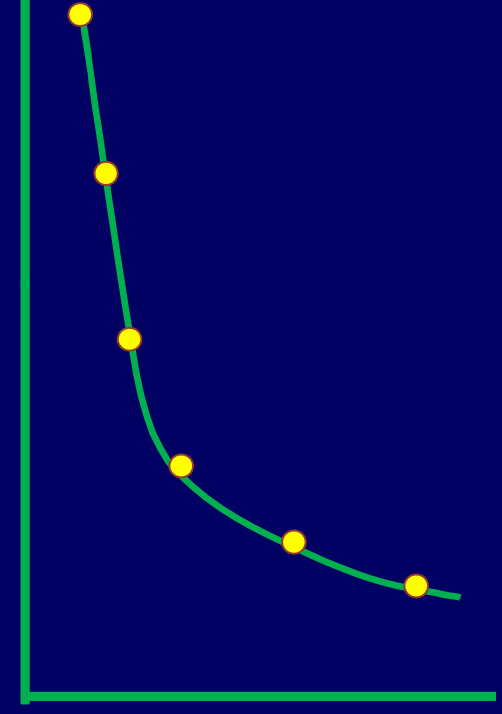
Tractors



Tractor Drivers

Fixed Proportion

Phosphate



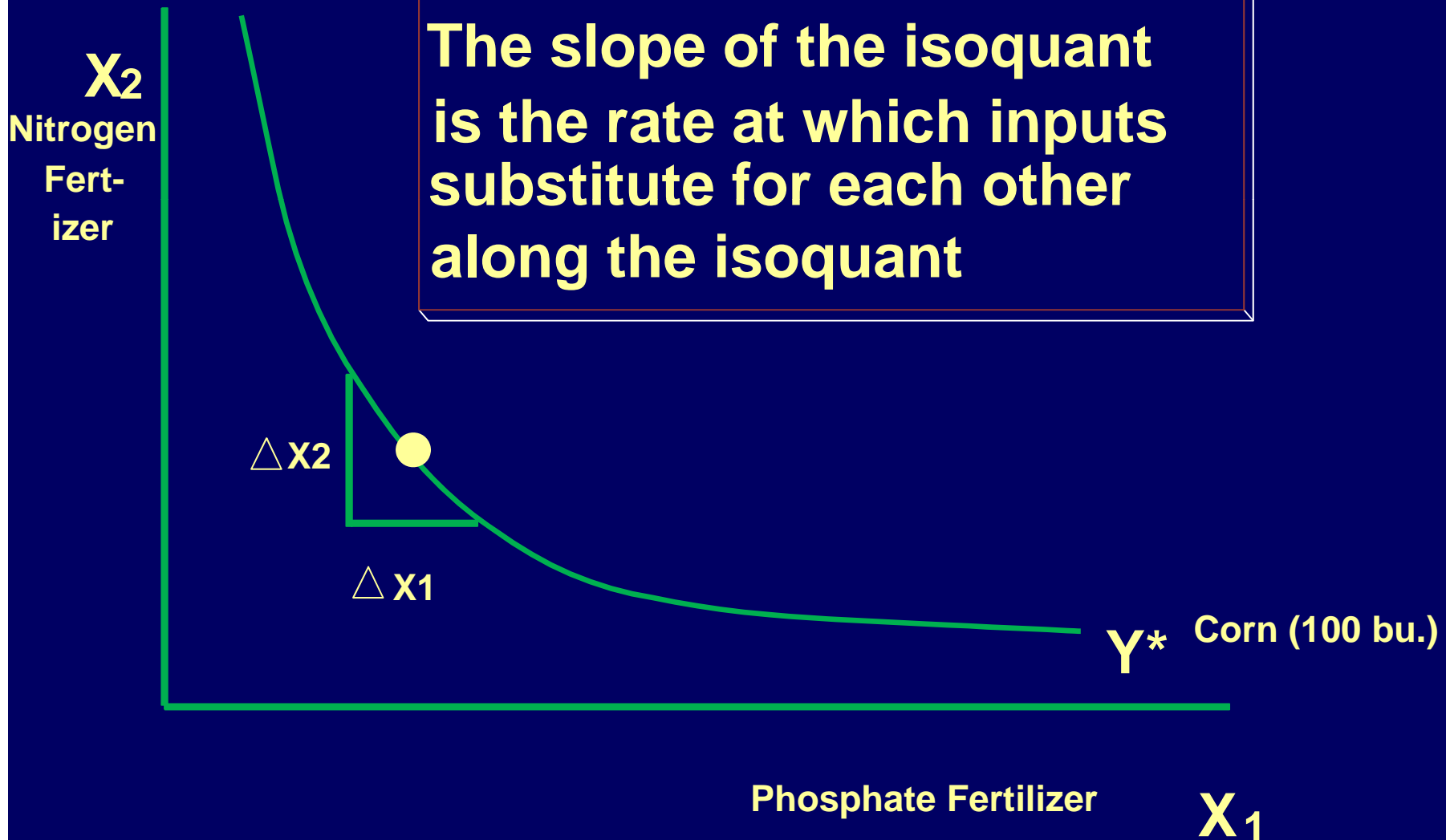
Nitrogen

Imperfect Substitutes
(the normal case)

Marginal Rate of Substitution

$$MRS_{X_1 X_2} = \frac{\Delta X_2}{\Delta X_1}$$

The slope of the isoquant is the rate at which inputs substitute for each other along the isoquant

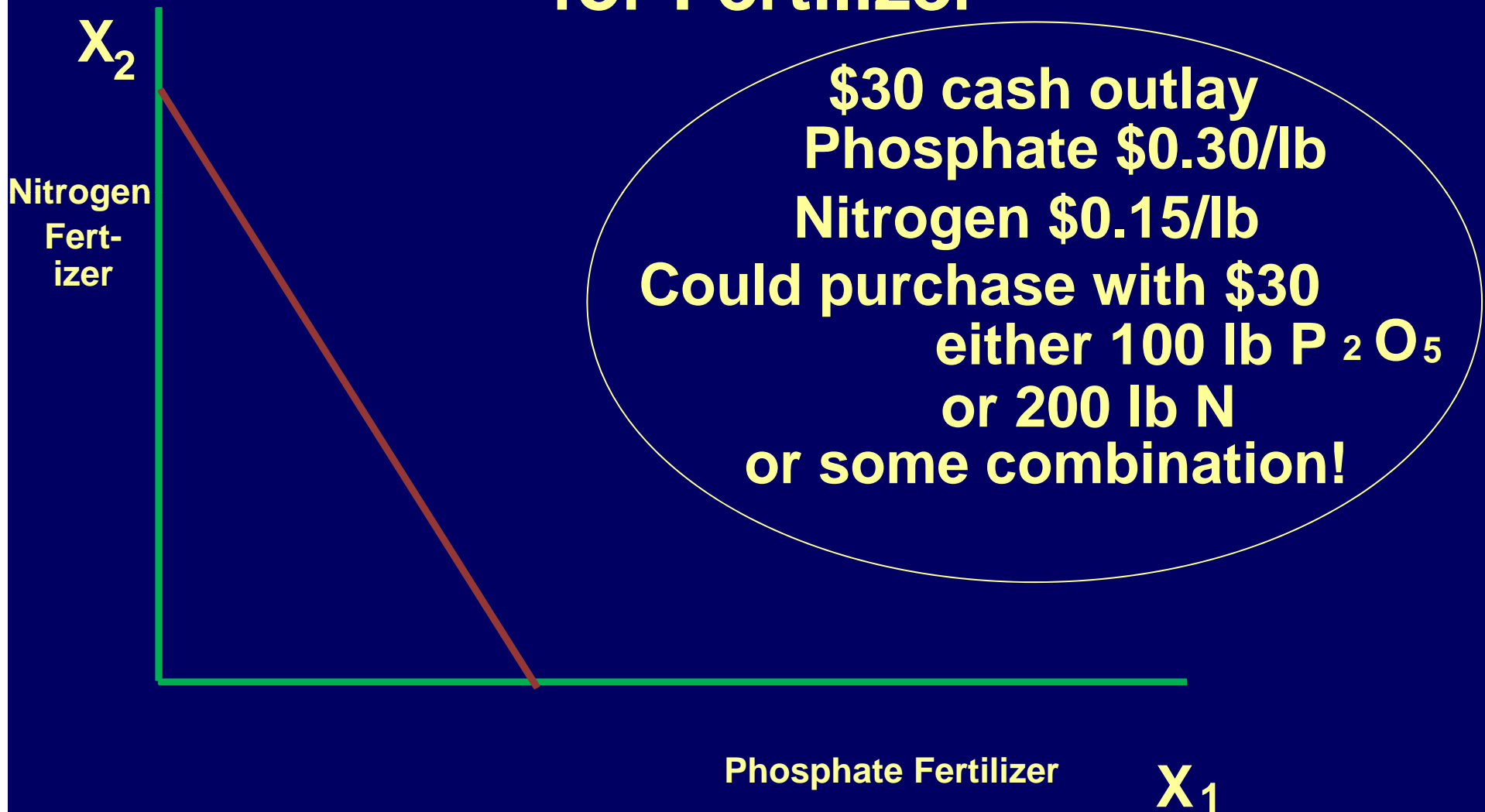


Marginal Rate of Substitution

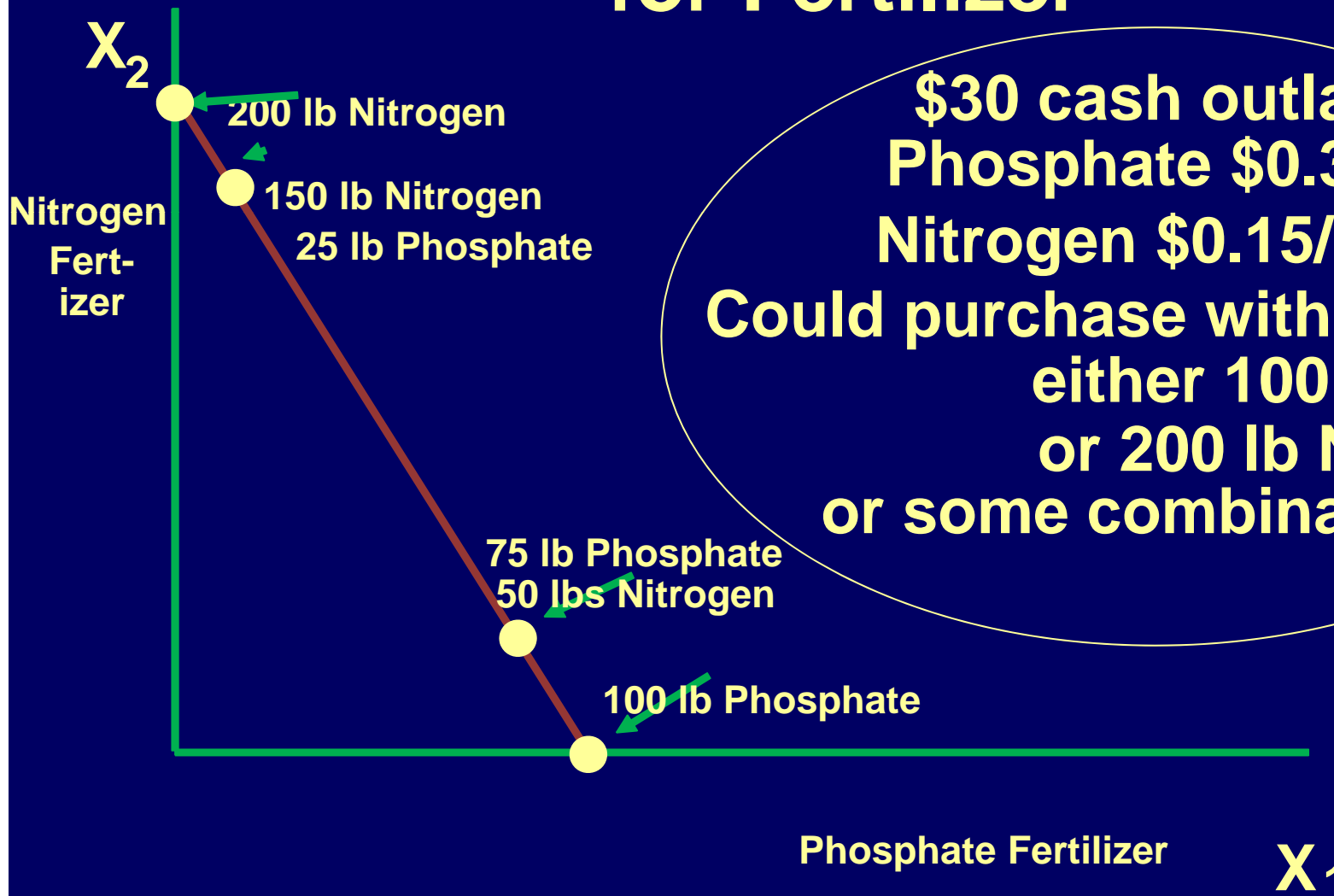
$$\text{MRS}_{x_1x_2} = \Delta x_2 / \Delta x_1$$

Not constant, but the
slope varies along the isoquant:
nitrogen and phosphate
fertilizers are not perfect
substitutes!

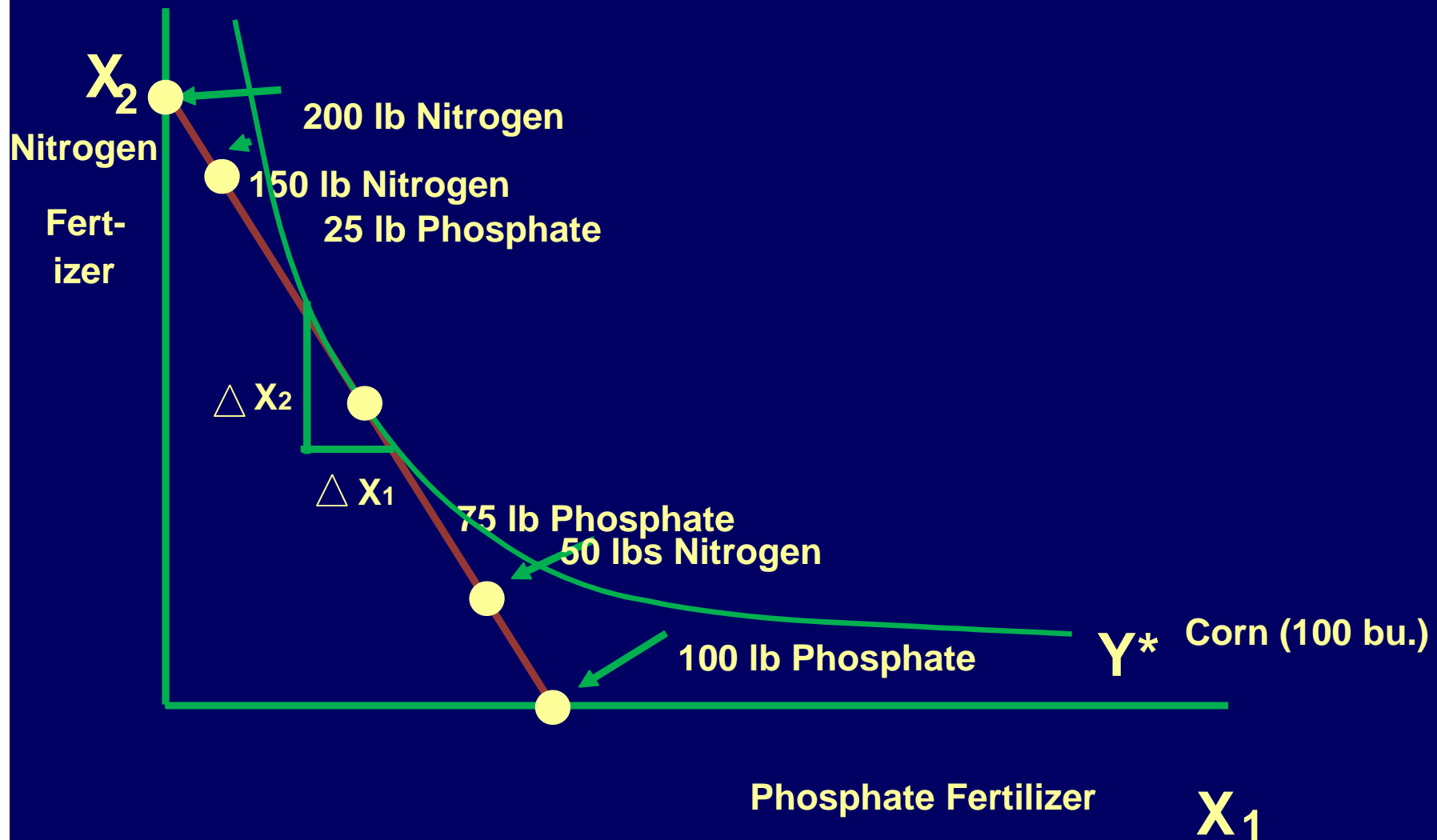
Isocost (Budget Line) for Fertilizer



Isocost (Budget Line) for Fertilizer



Superimposing the Isoquant on the Budget Line:



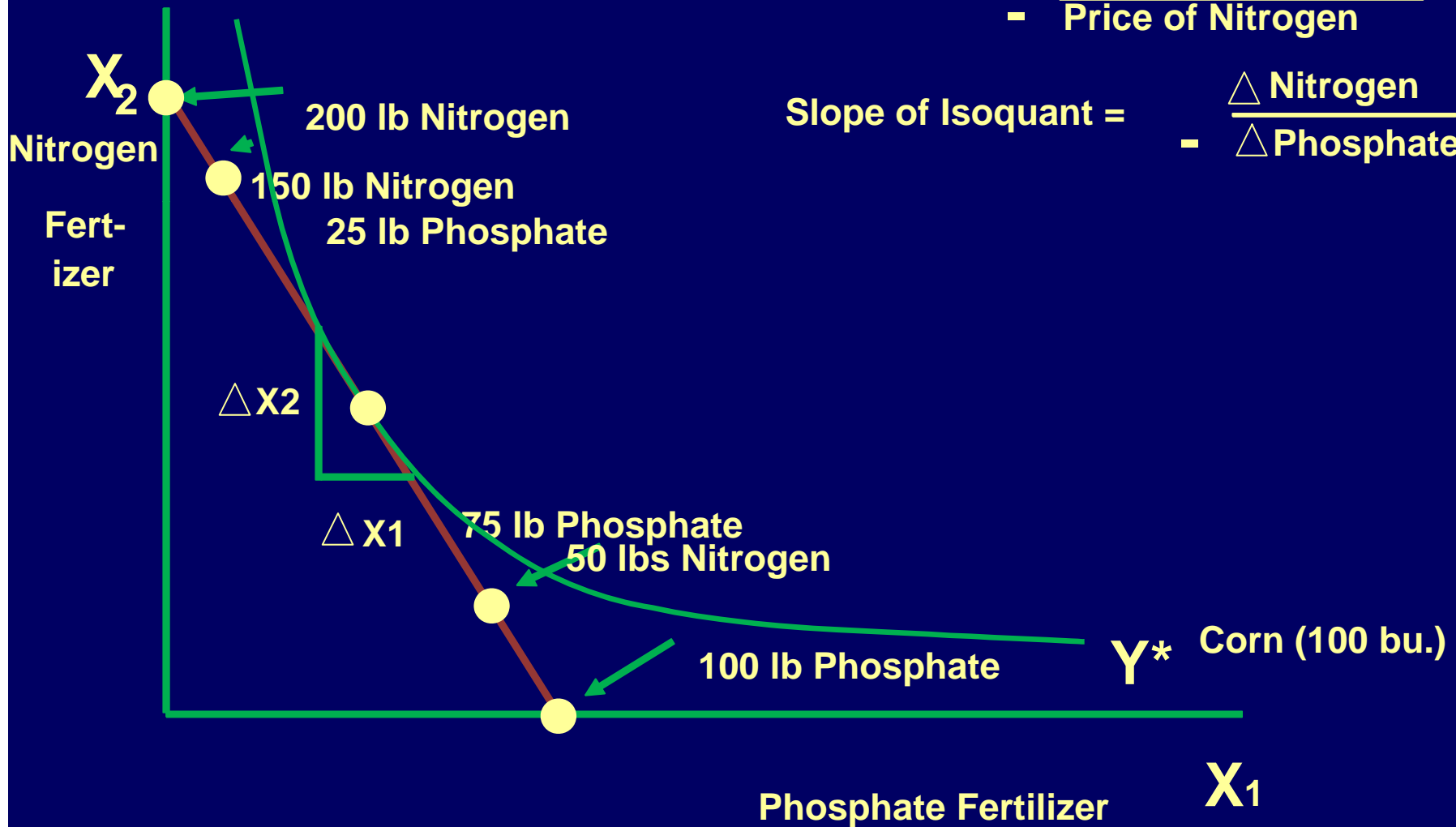
Superimposing the Isoquant on the Budget Line:

Slope of Isocost =

$$= \frac{\text{Price of Phosphate}}{\text{Price of Nitrogen}}$$

Slope of Isoquant =

$$= \frac{\Delta \text{ Nitrogen}}{\Delta \text{ Phosphate}}$$

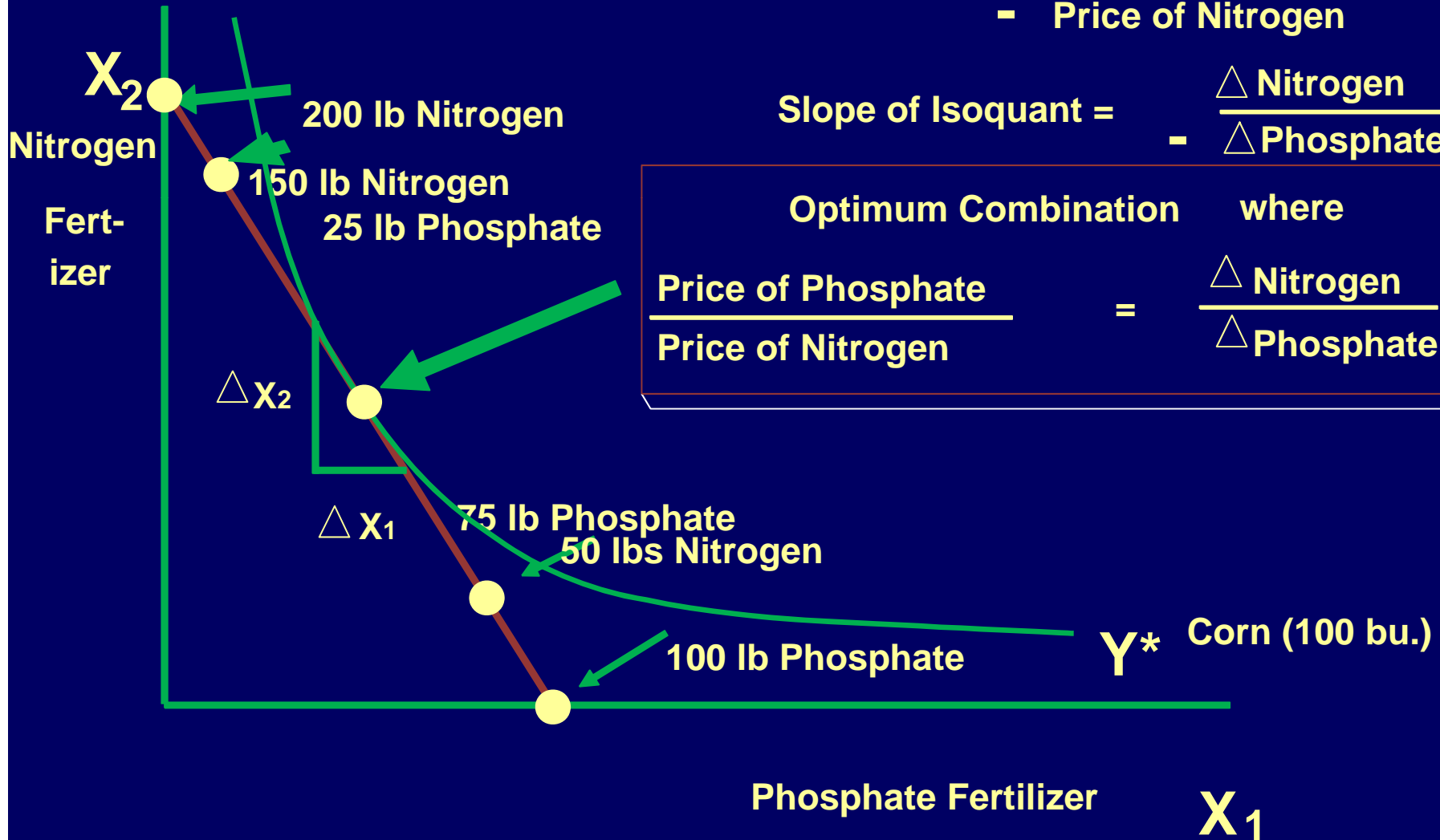


Superimposing the Isoquant on the Budget Line:

Slope of Isocost =

$$= \frac{\text{Price of Phosphate}}{\text{Price of Nitrogen}}$$

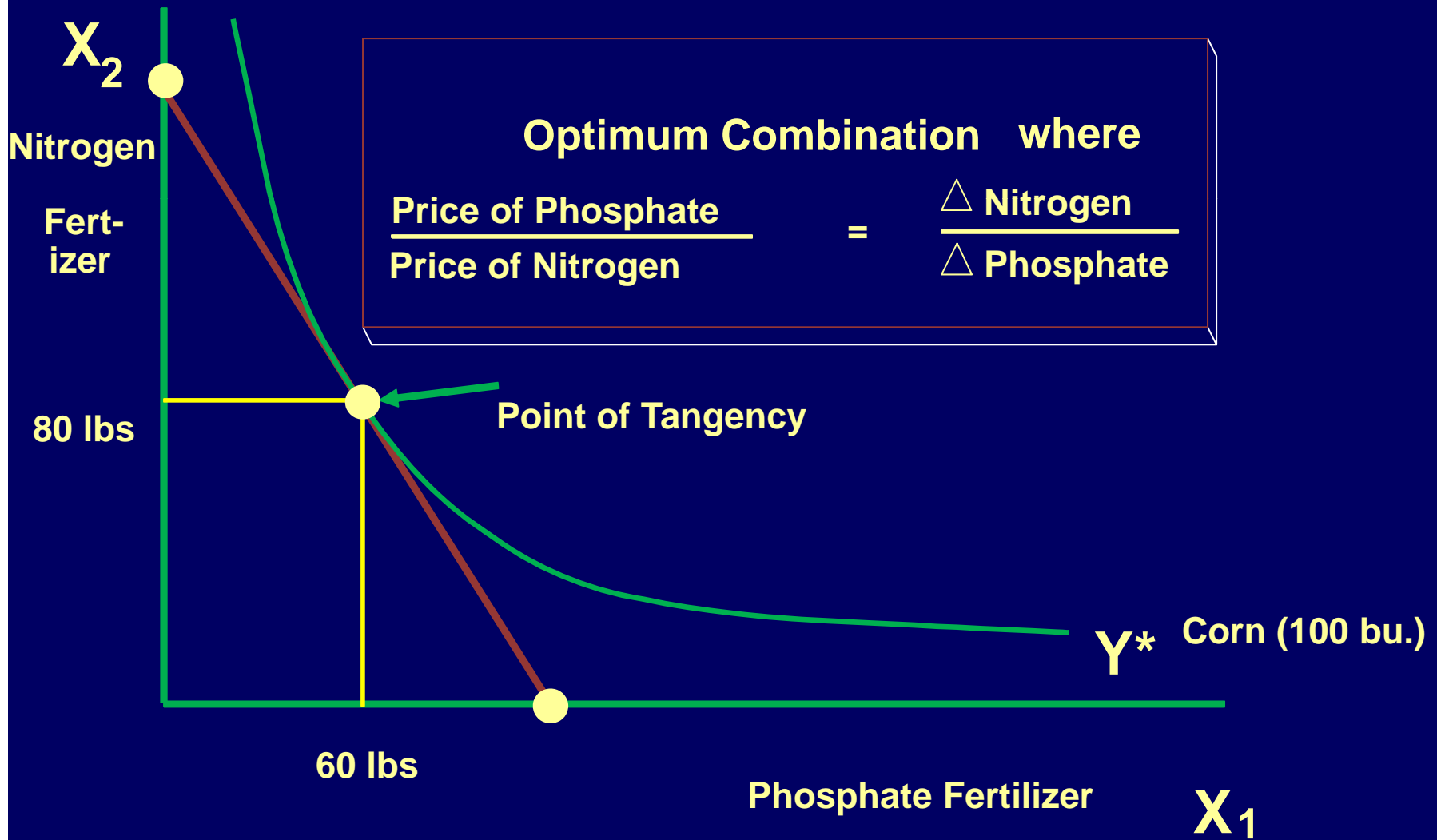
Slope of Isoquant = $-\frac{\Delta \text{ Nitrogen}}{\Delta \text{ Phosphate}}$



X_2
Nitrogen
Fert-
izer

Phosphate Fertilizer X_1

Y^* Corn (100 bu.)



Isoquant Map For various corn yields

X_2
Nitrogen
Fert-
izer

80 lbs

60 lbs

Phosphate Fertilizer

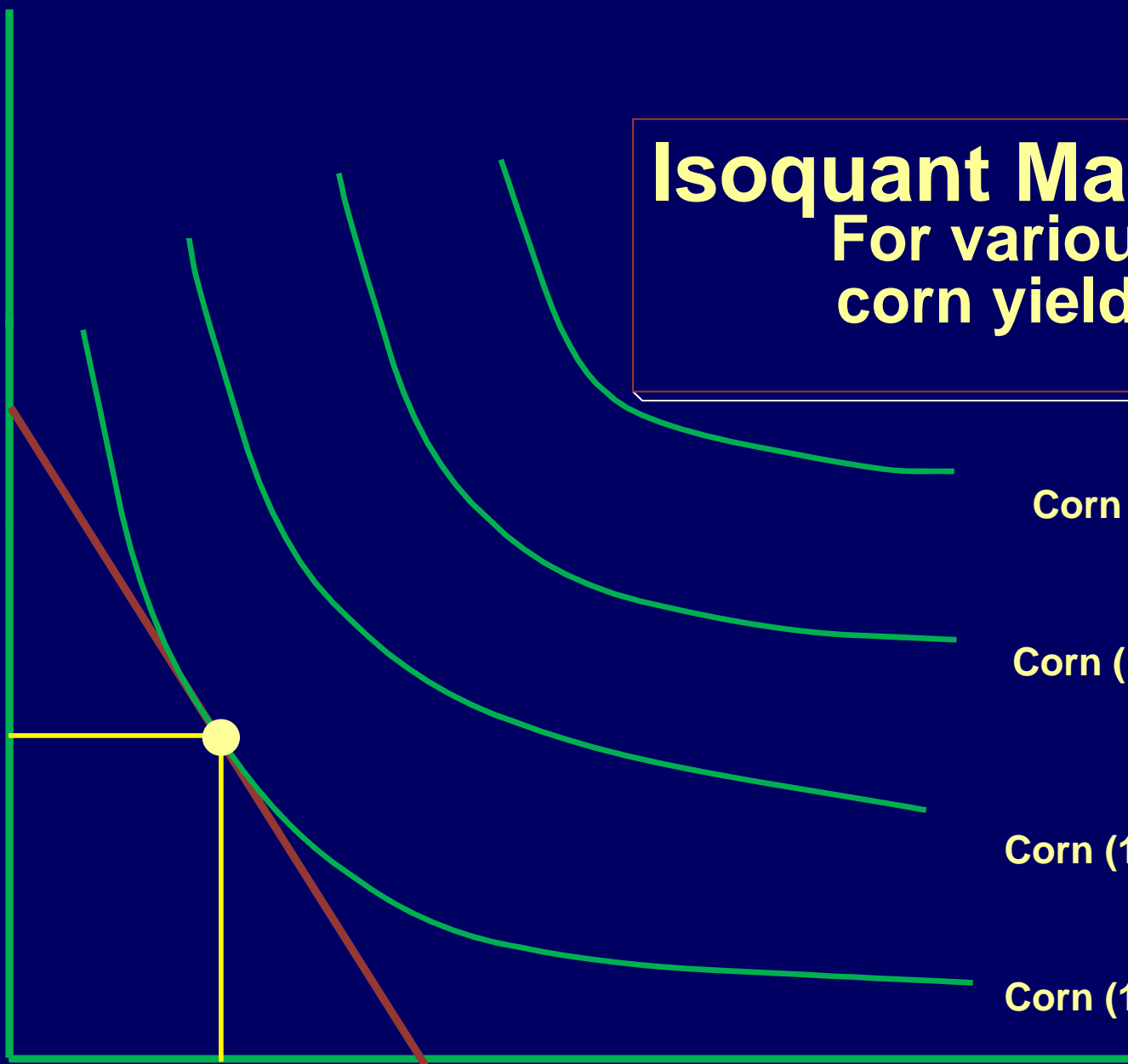
X_1

Corn (160 bu.)

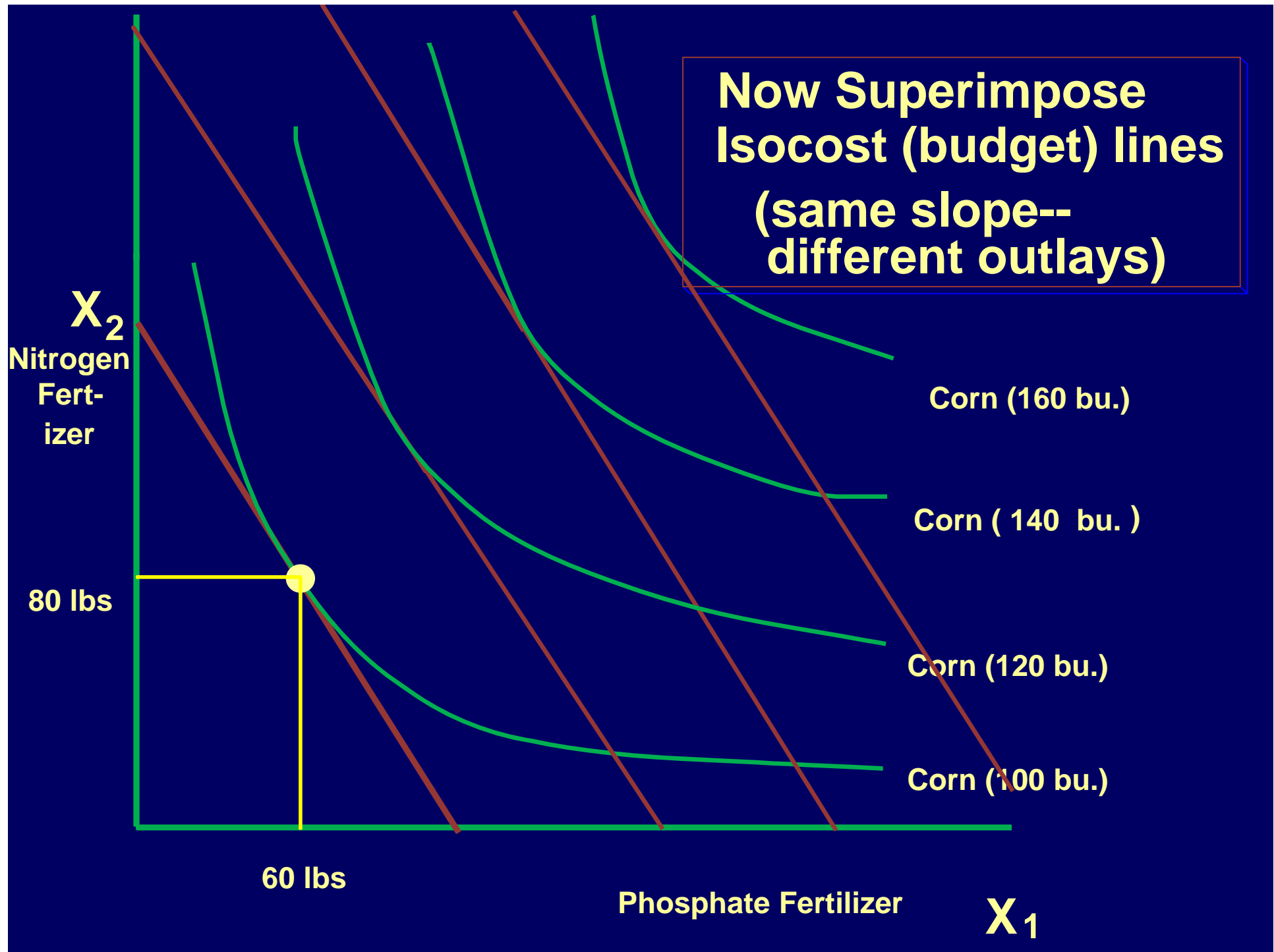
Corn (140 bu.)

Corn (120 bu.)

Corn (100 bu.)



**Now Superimpose
Isocost (budget) lines
(same slope--
different outlays)**



Points of Tangency

X_2
Nitrogen
Fert-
izer

80 lbs

60 lbs

Phosphate Fertilizer

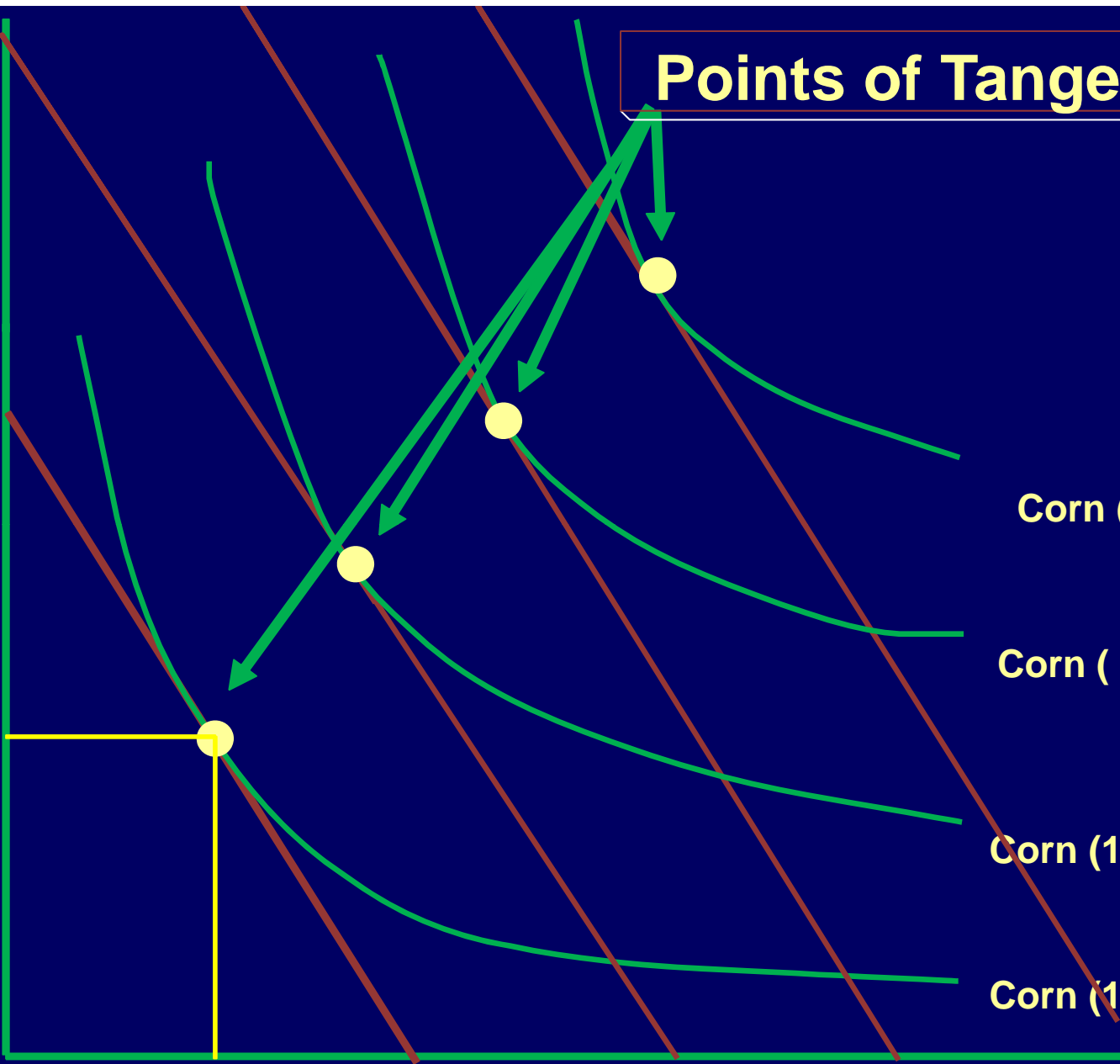
X_1

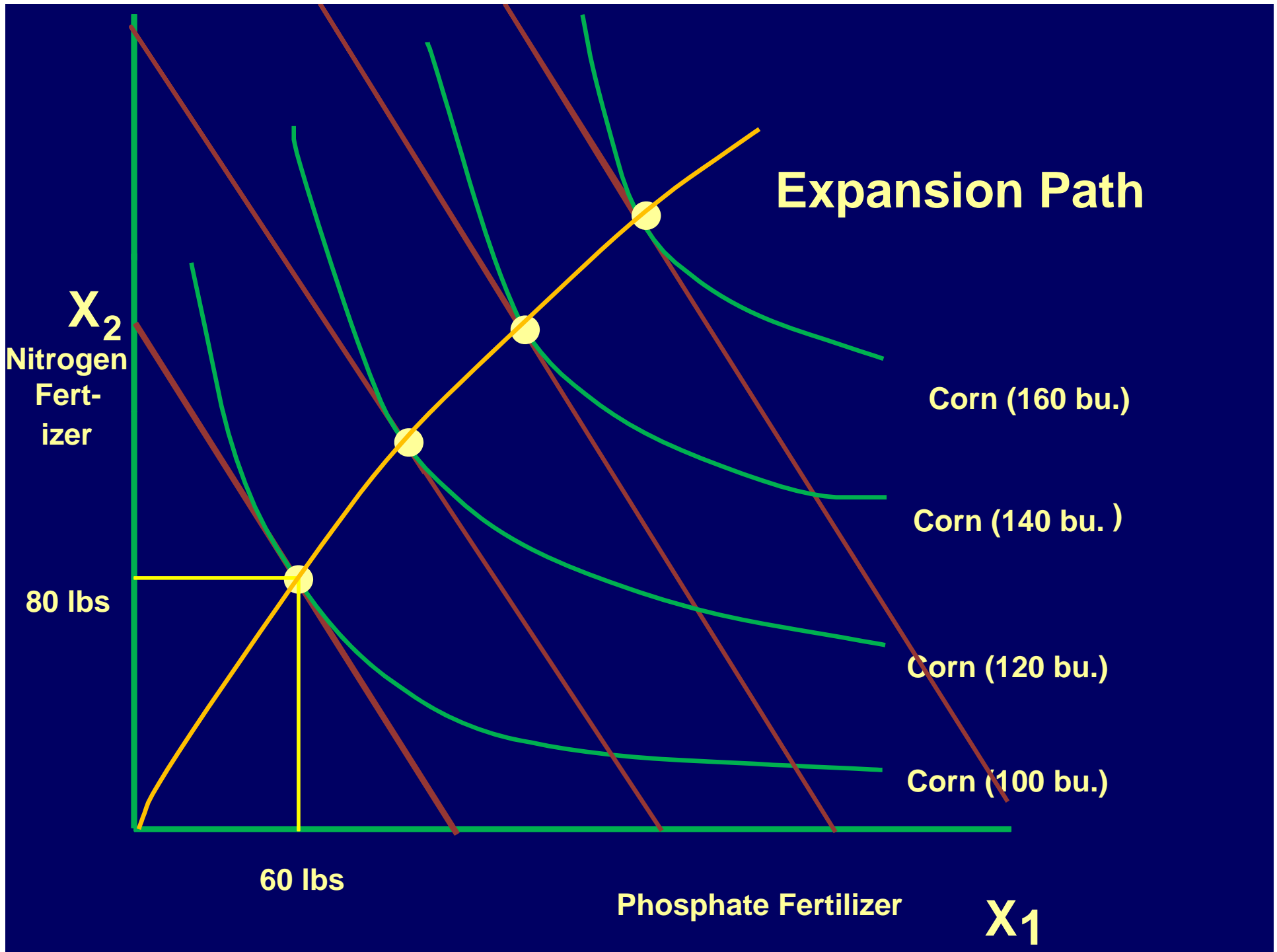
Corn (160 bu.)

Corn (140 bu.)

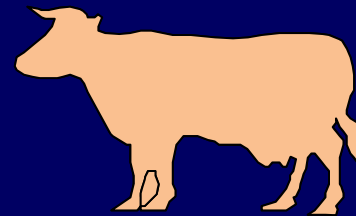
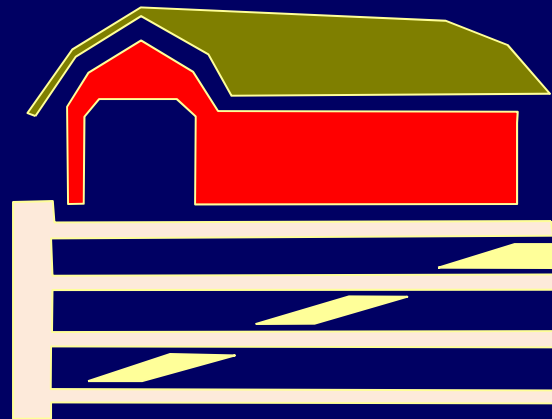
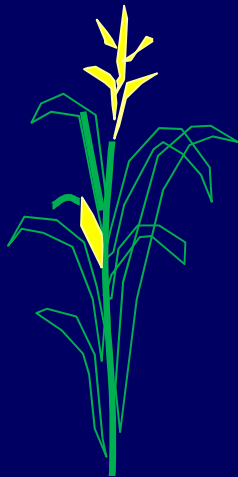
Corn (120 bu.)

Corn (100 bu.)





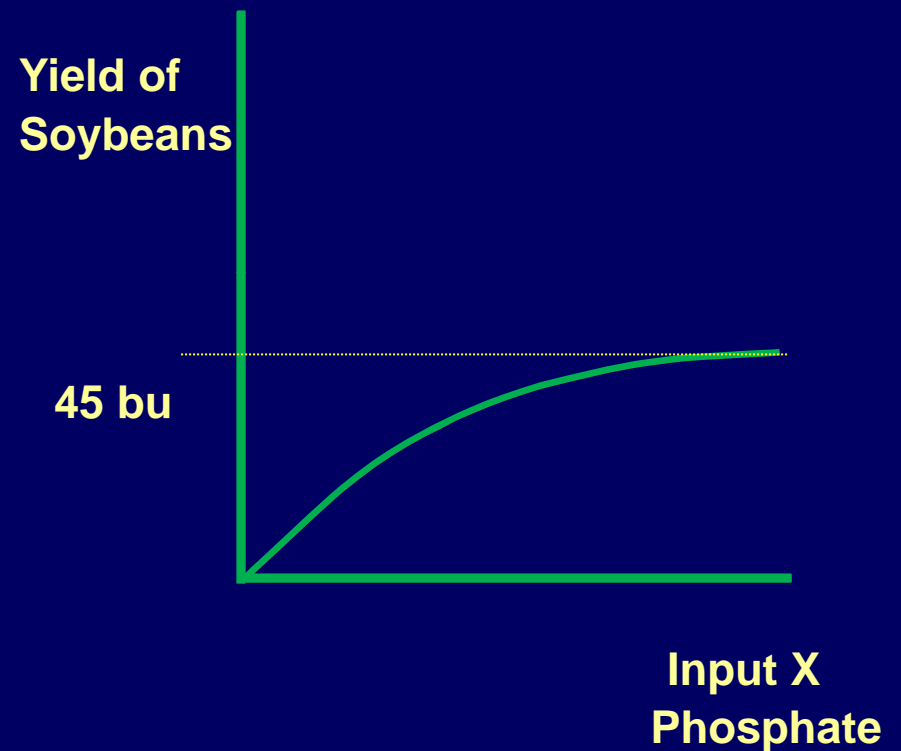
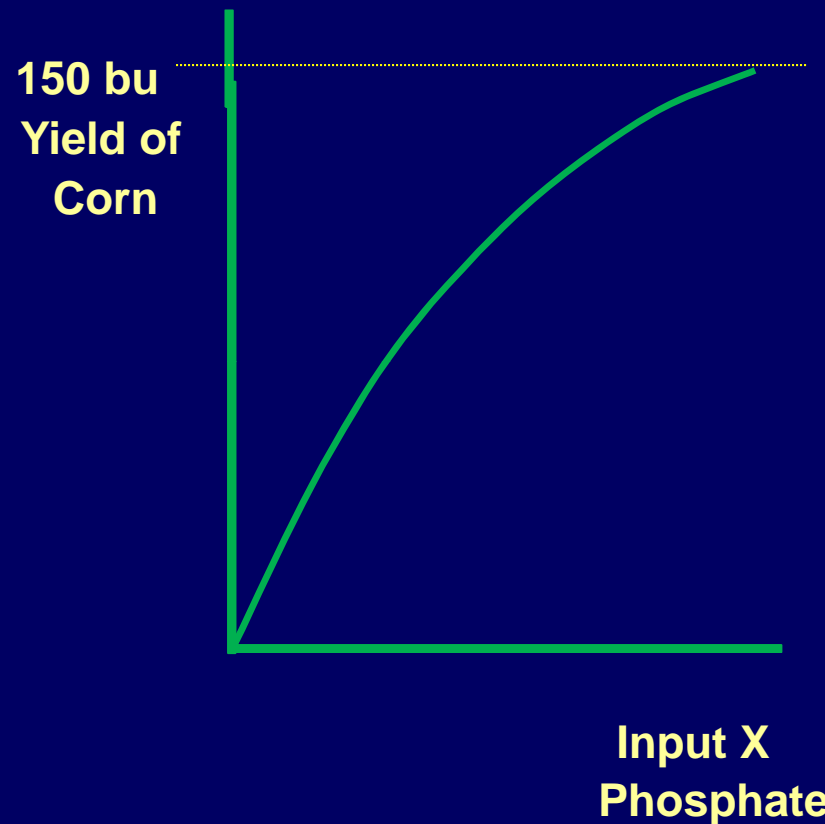
Selection of Combinations of Farm Enterprises



Product-Product Relationships

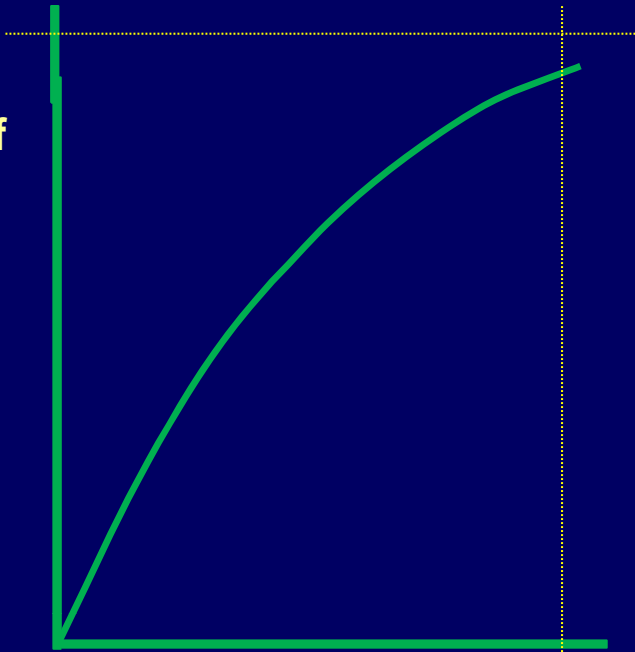
Two Products
One Variable Input

Production Function for Corn and Soybeans



**Corn Yields Higher than
Soybean Yields**

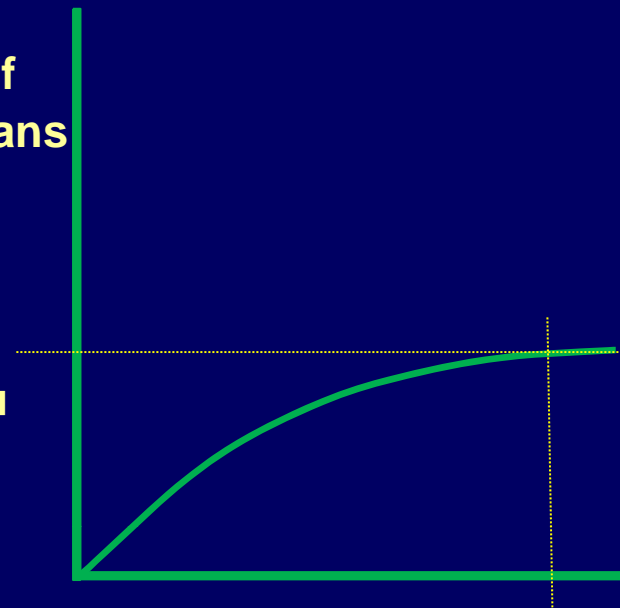
150 bu
Yield of
Corn



100 lbs
Input X
Phosphate

Yield of
Soybeans

45 bu



100 lbs
Input X
Phosphate

Assume:

Farmer has 100 lbs Phosphate total

How should it be allocated

between corn and soybean production?

Depends on prices of corn & soybeans

Data from Production Functions

**Total
Phosphate
Used**

**Phosphate
on
Corn**

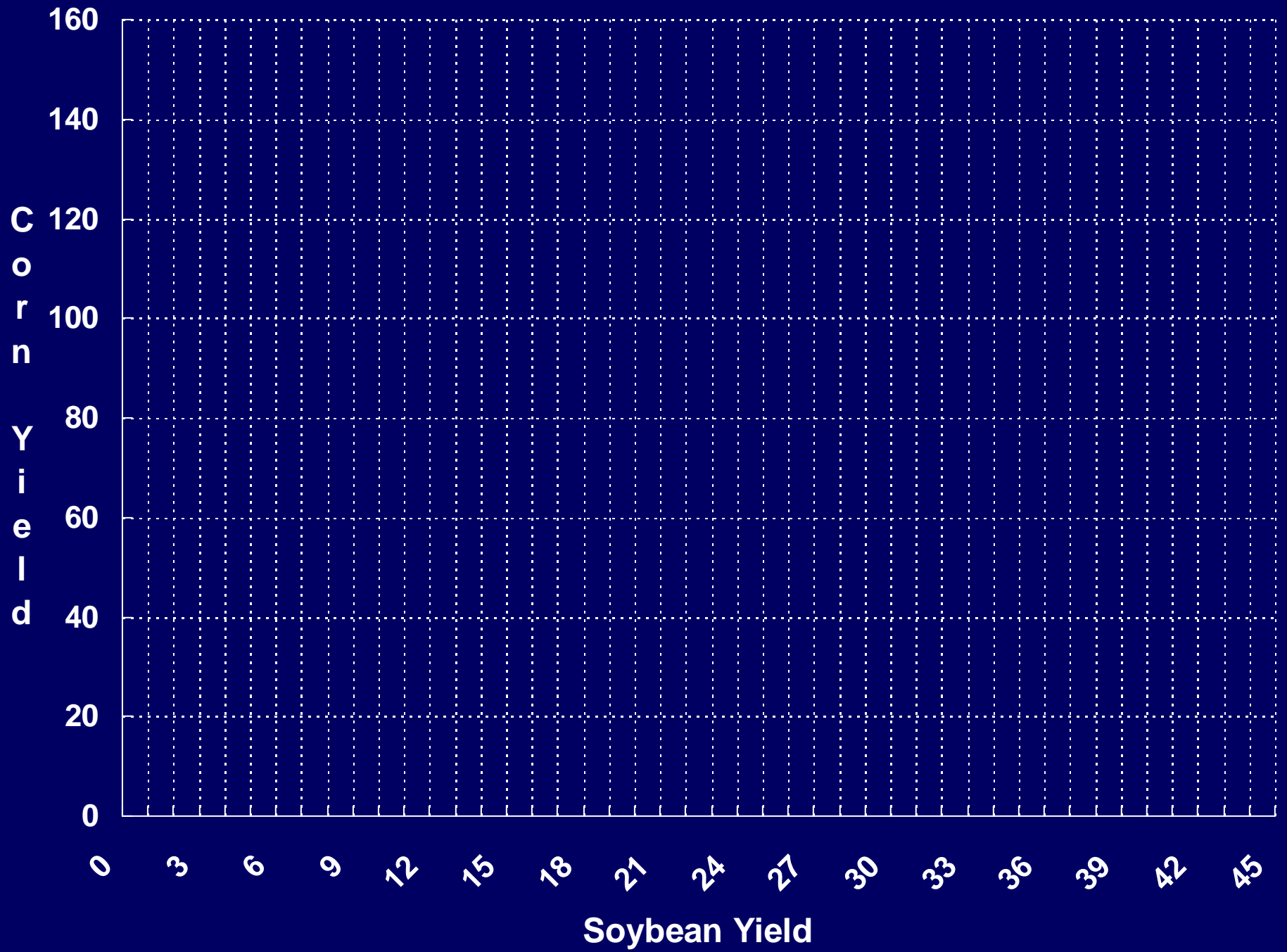
**Phosphate
on
Soybeans**

**Corn
Yield
bu/Acre**

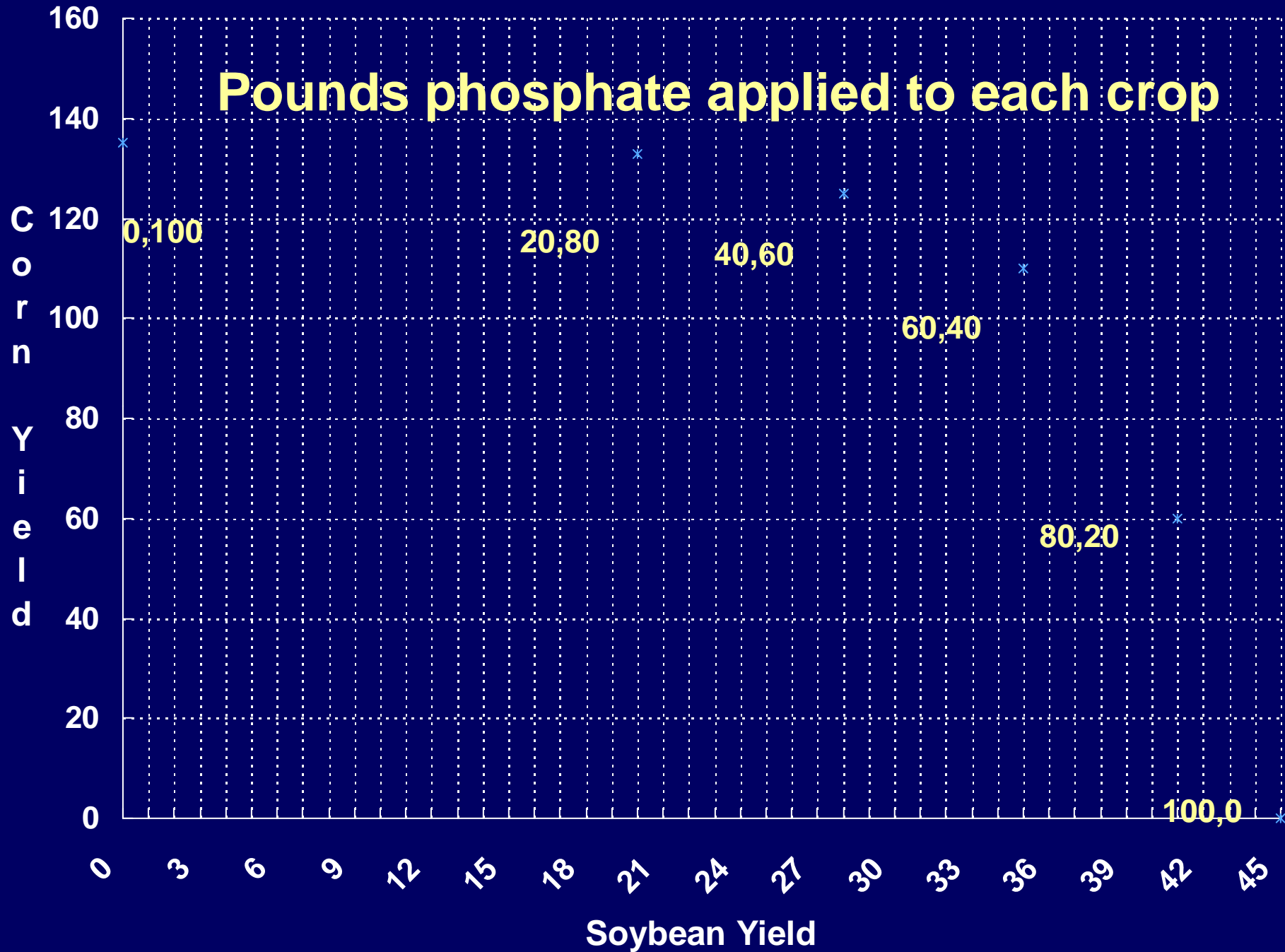
**Soybean
Yield
bu/Acre**

Data from Production Functions

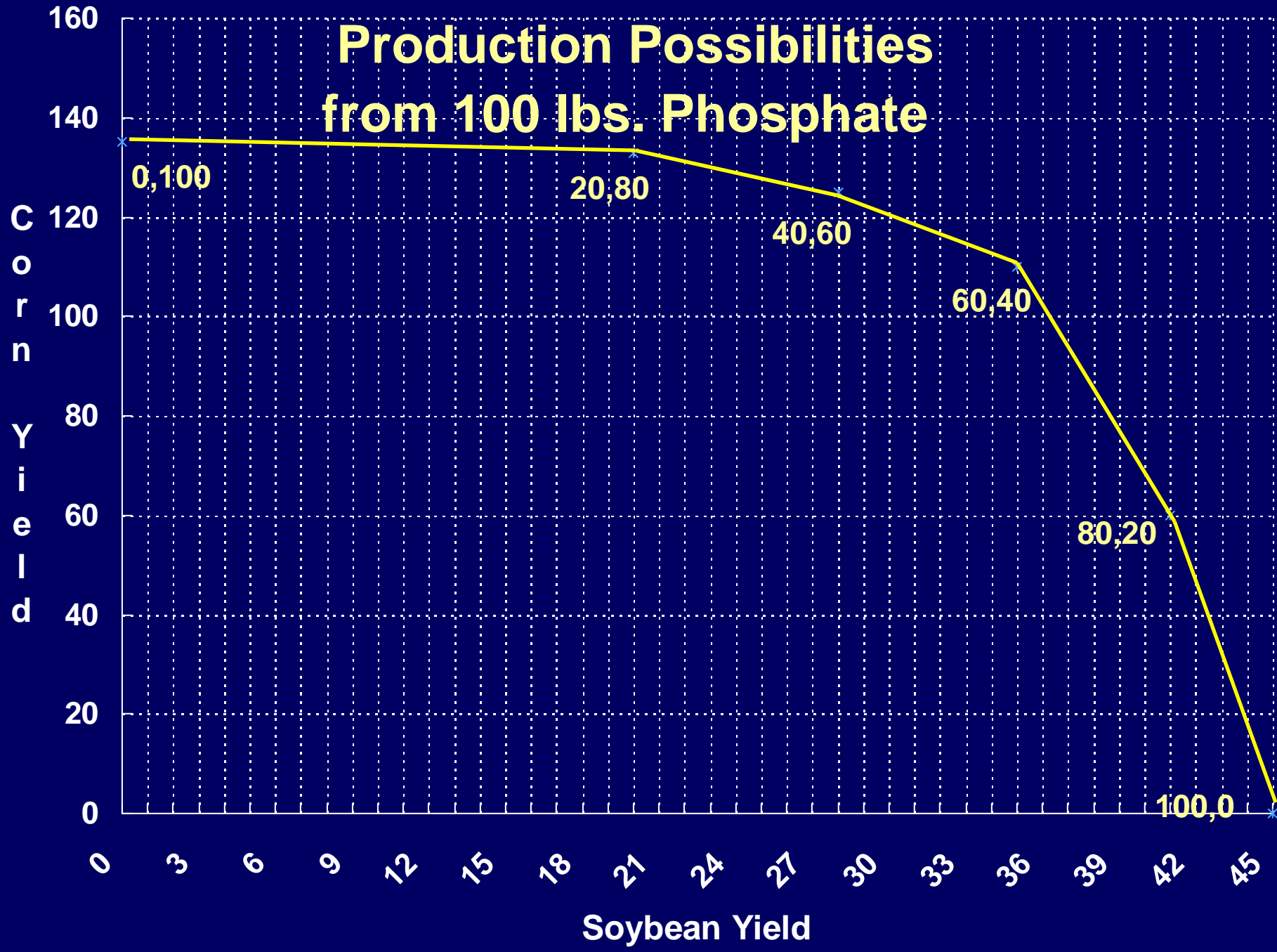
Total Phosphate Used	Phosphate on Corn	Phosphate on Soybeans	Corn Yield bu/Acre	Soybean Yield bu/Acre
100	100	0	135	0
100	80	20	133	20
100	60	40	125	28
100	40	60	110	35
100	20	80	60	41
100	0	100	0	45



Pounds phosphate applied to each crop



Production Possibilities from 100 lbs. Phosphate



Assume:

Price of Corn \$3.00/bu

**Price of Soybeans
\$8.00/bu**

Isorevenue Line

**All combinations of Corn and Soybeans
that Produce the Same Total Revenue**

for example, \$1000

could be produced from 125 bushels soybeans

or 333 1/3 bushels corn

Other possibilities????

Corn

● 333 1/3 bu.

**Isorevenue for
\$1000 total revenue**

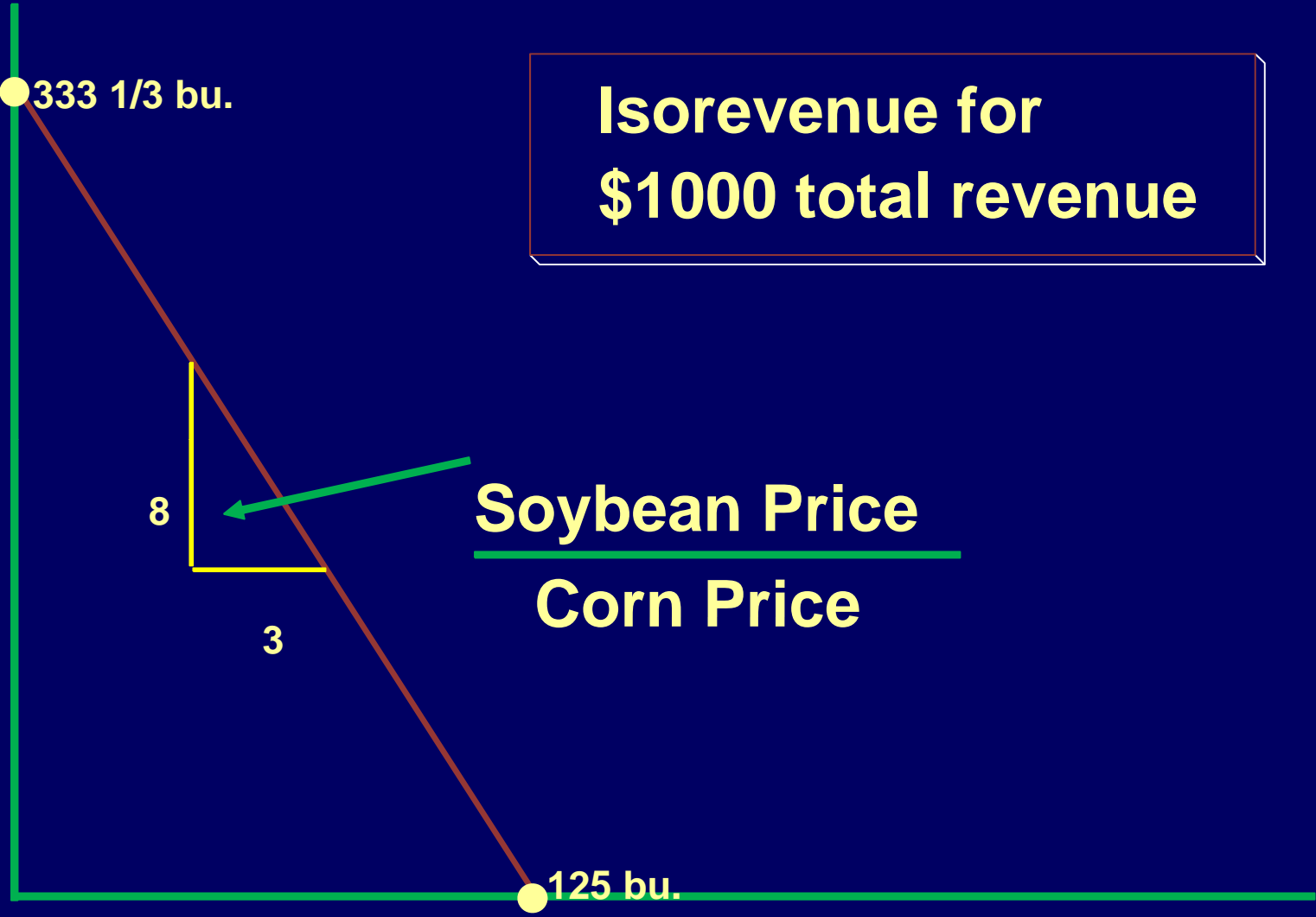
8

**Soybean Price
Corn Price**

3

● 125 bu.

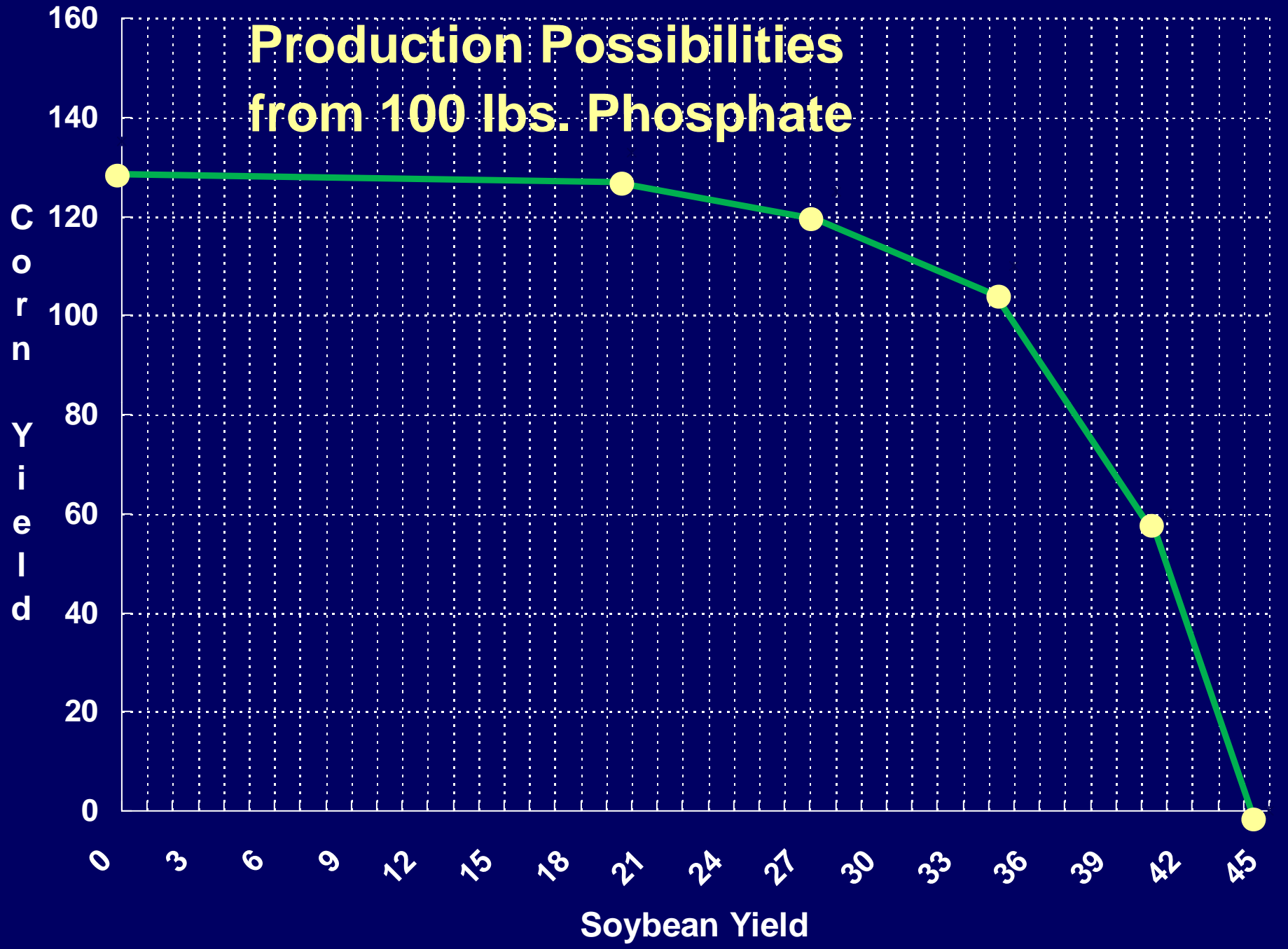
Soybeans

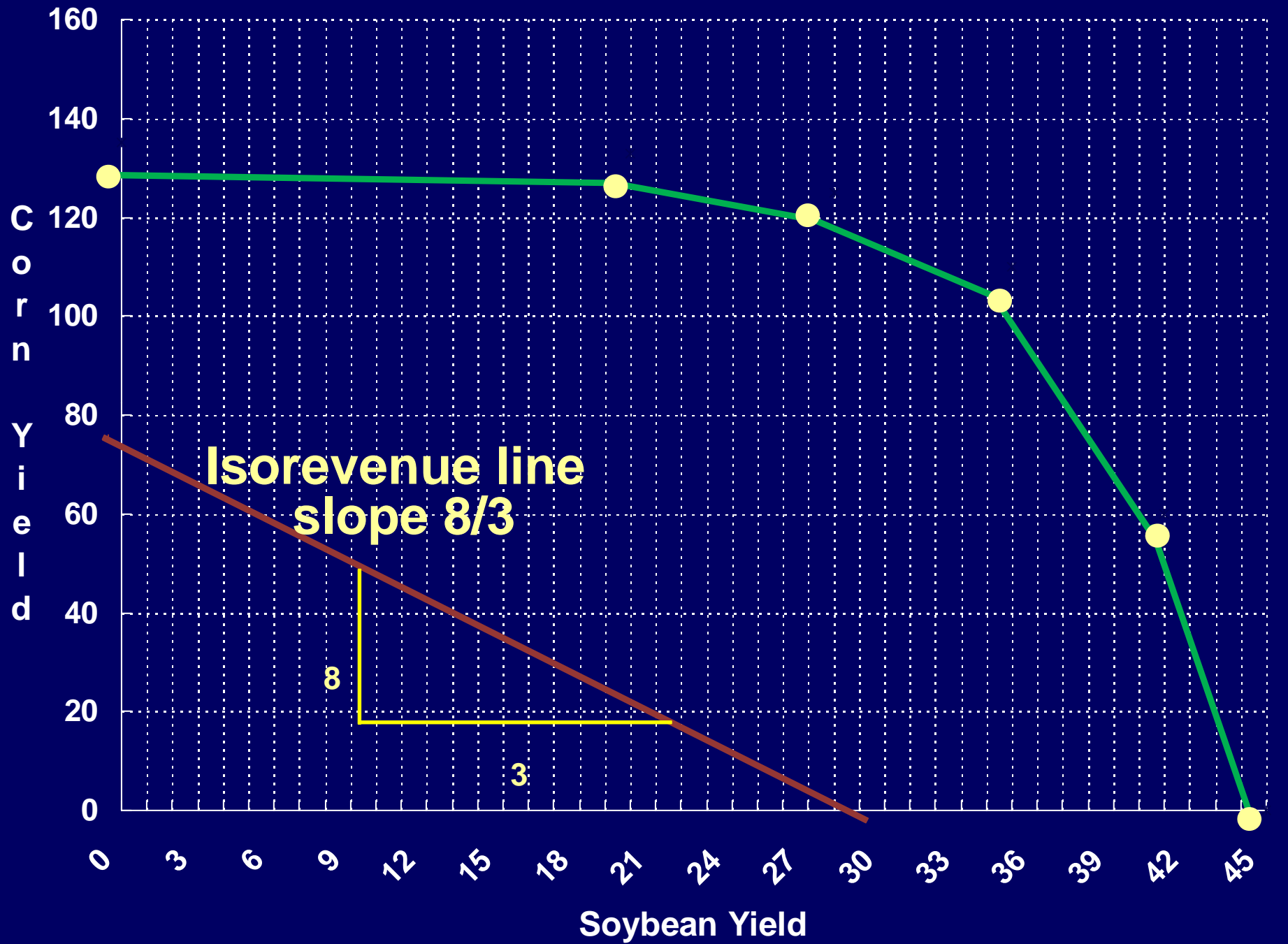


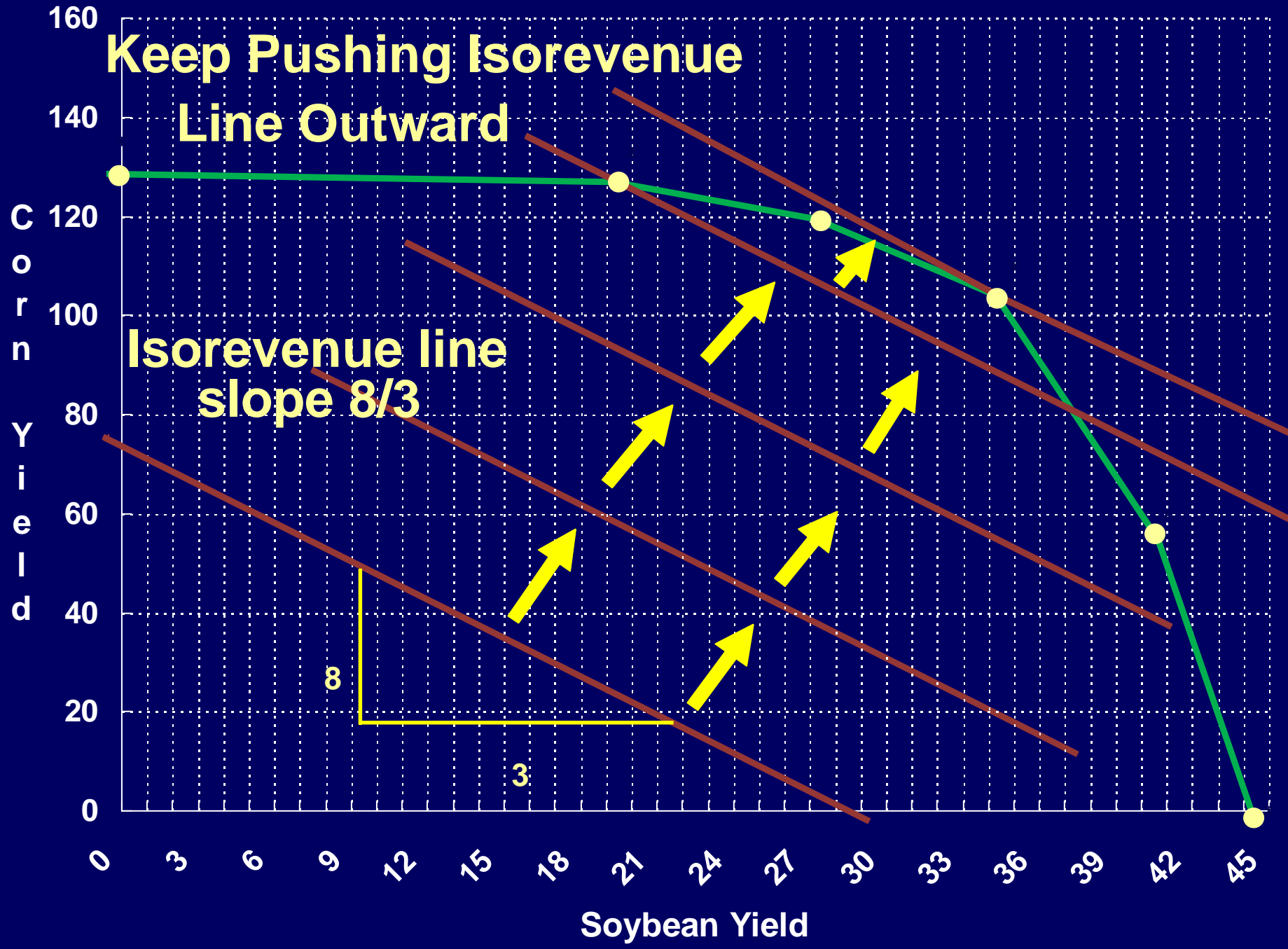
Now Bring Back

**Production
Possibilities
Curve**

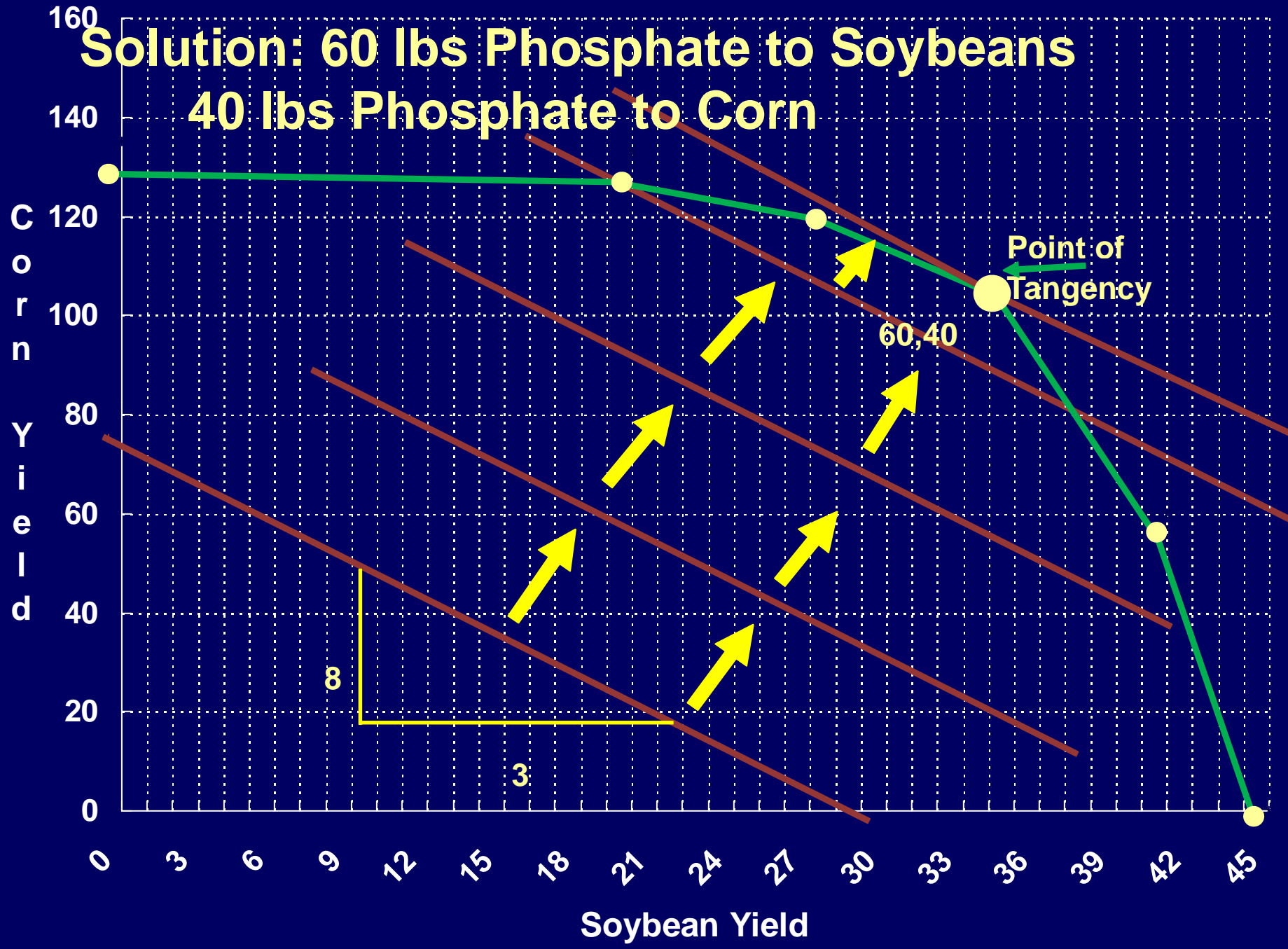
Production Possibilities from 100 lbs. Phosphate

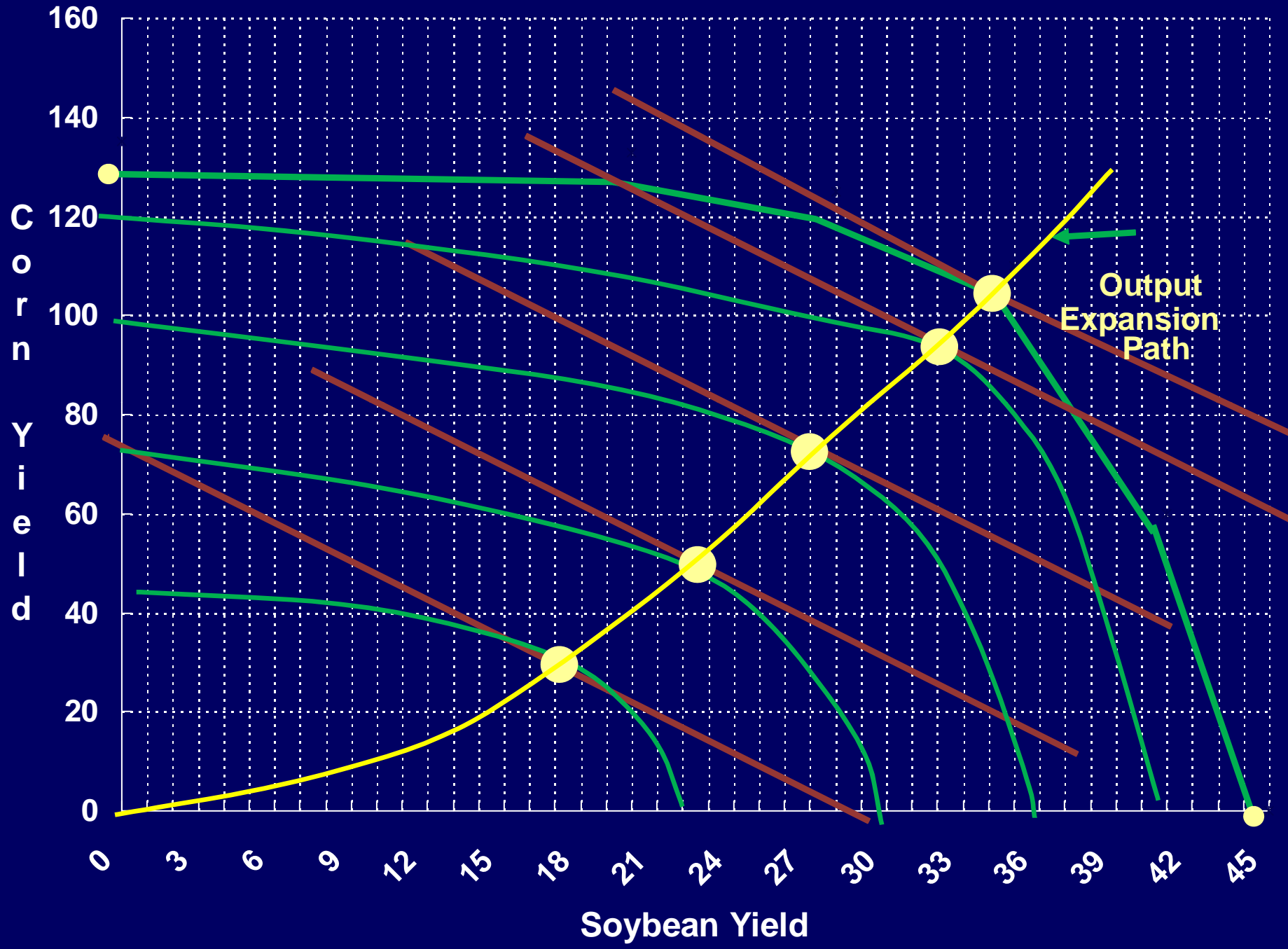






**Solution: 60 lbs Phosphate to Soybeans
40 lbs Phosphate to Corn**





Output Expansion Path:

Connects points of tangency between the Product Transformation Curve and the isorevenue lines

This is a path along which the firm would expand as production of the two outputs is increased.

The slope of Product Transformation Curve equals the negative of the Rate of Product Transformation.

The slope of the Isorevenue Line equals the negative ratio of the output prices.

At the point of tangency between the Product Transformation Curve and the Isorevenue Line, the slope of the Product Transformation Curve and the slope of the Isorevenue Line are equal.

The Output Expansion Path connects all of these points.

The Rate of Product Transformation (RPT) is the negative of the slope of the Product Transformation Curve.

Hence, the Rate of Product Transformation is

$$\frac{\triangle \text{Corn}}{\triangle \text{Soybeans}}$$

At the point of tangency between the Product Transformation Curve and the Isorevenue Line

$$\frac{\triangle \text{Corn}}{\triangle \text{Soybeans}} = \frac{\text{Price of Soybeans}}{\text{Price of Corn}}$$

For a specific input, or resource level, this is the optimum amount of corn and soybeans to be produced.

Chapter 9: Alternative models of Competition

Perfect and Imperfect Competition

Models of Competition

Perfect (Pure) Competition

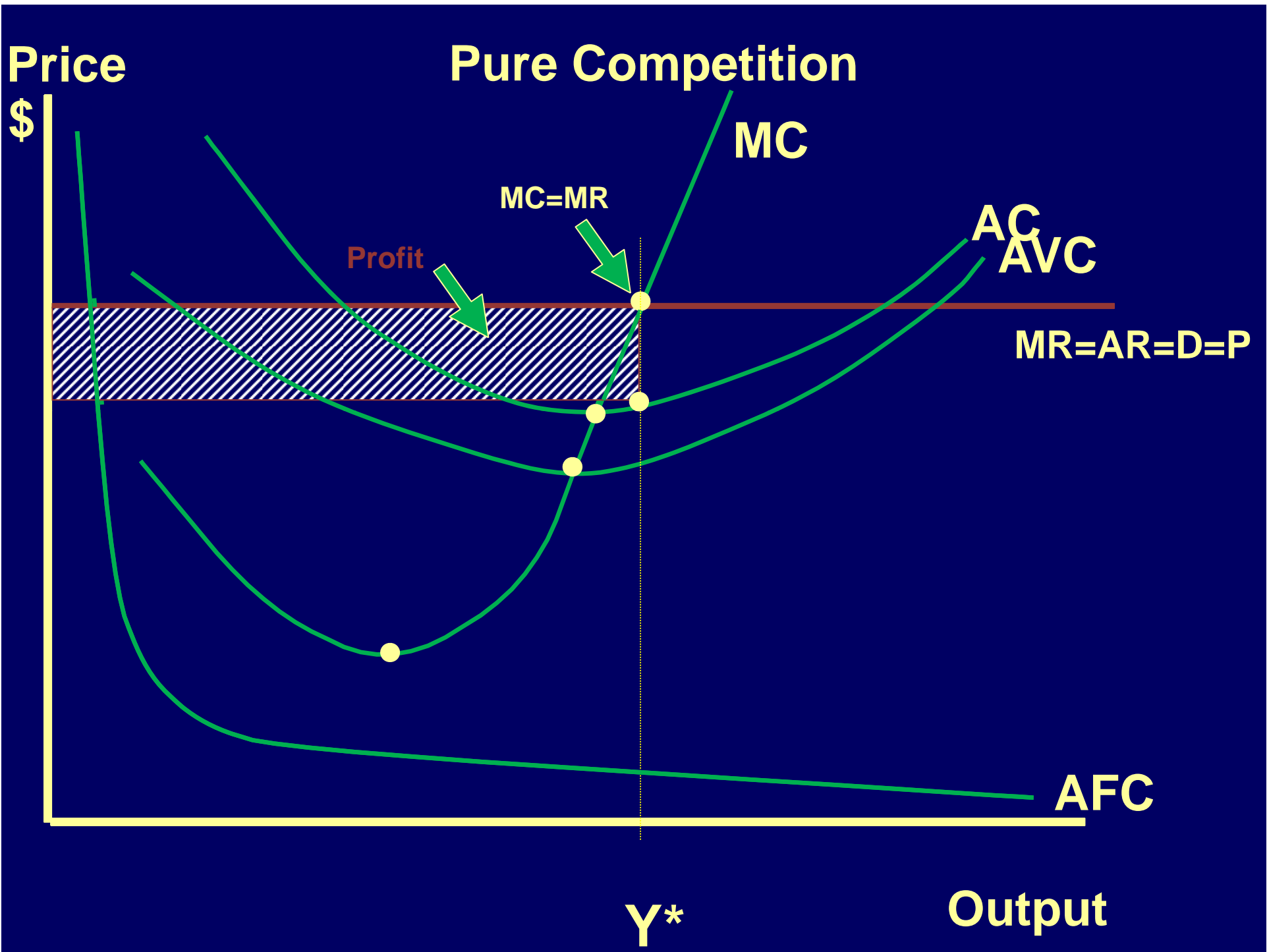
Horizontal demand curve

$P = MR = AR$

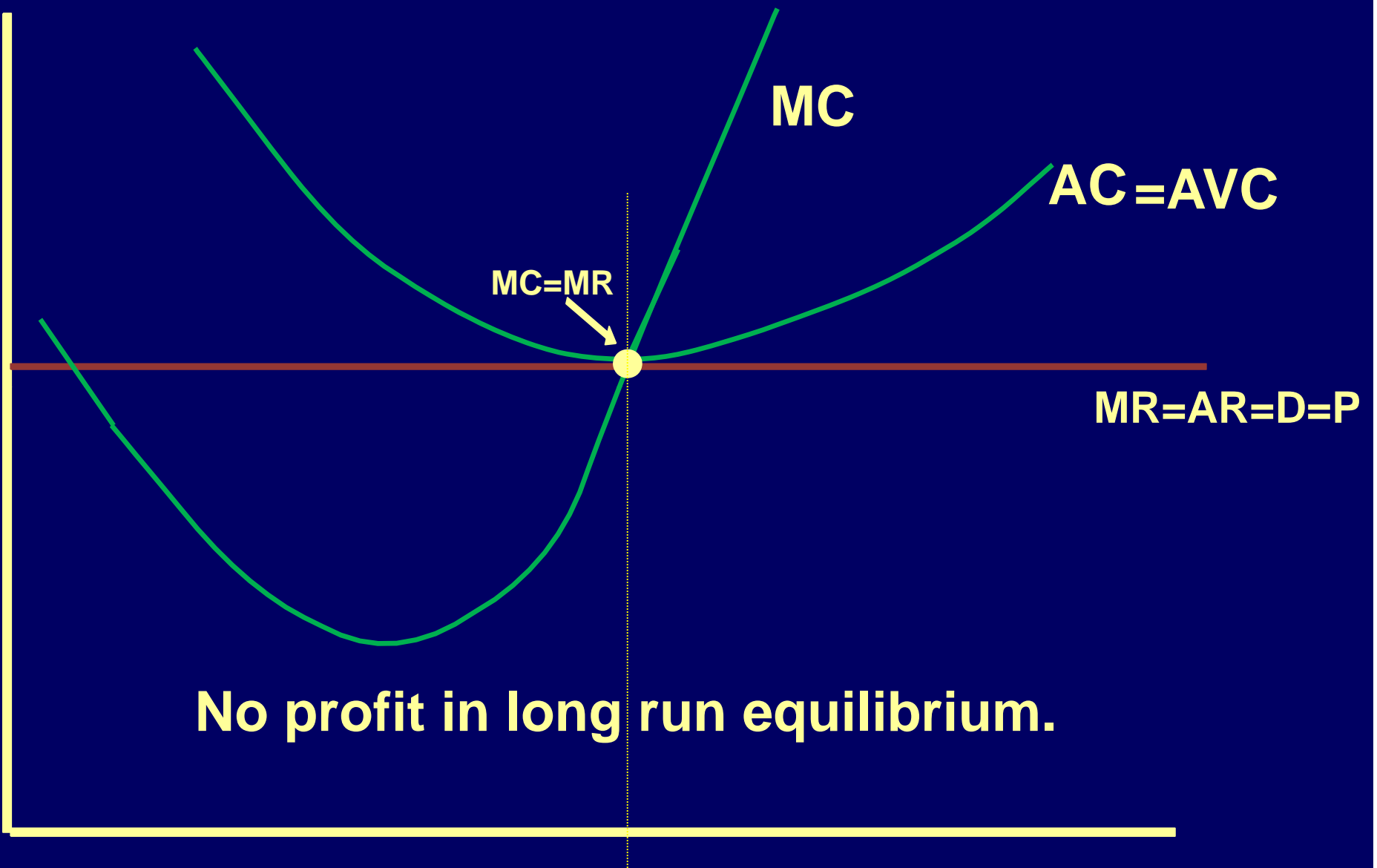
**No individual firm large enough
to influence price**

**Demand "perfectly elastic"
(infinite elasticity)**

**Profit maximum where $MC=MR$
Homogeneous product
(your corn and mine!)**



Price
\$



No profit in long run equilibrium.

Y^*

Output

Models of Competition

Monopolistic Competition

D not equal to MR

**Demand curve not horizontal
(slight downward slope)**

Demand elastic but not perfectly so

Some product differentiation

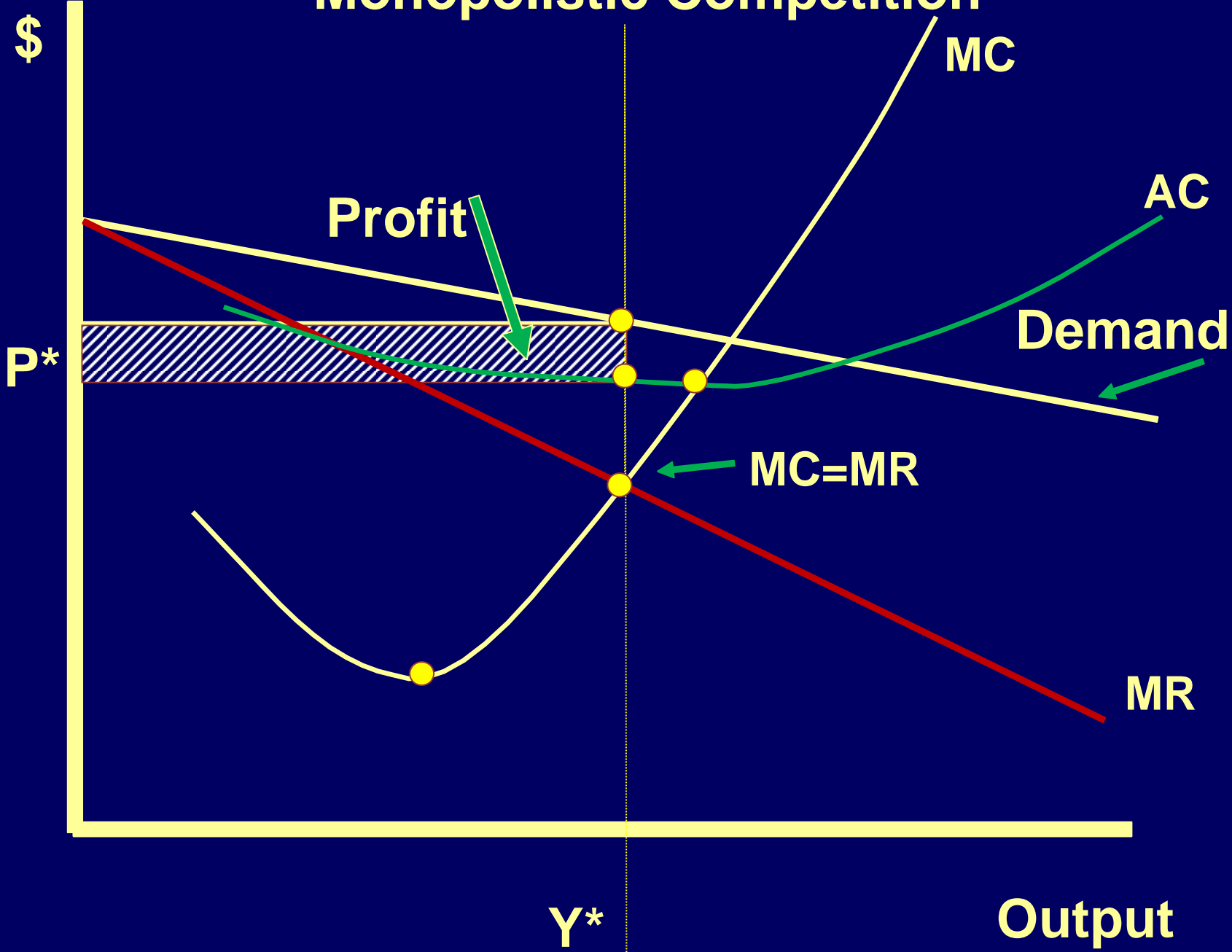
Elasticities more negative than -1

Examples: -3, or -25

Canned peas!!!

Price

Monopolistic Competition



**In monopolistic competition,
pure (economic) profit
is possible, but not assured
in long run equilibrium.**

Models of Competition

Oligopoly

"Few" sellers

Pricing and output decisions

by firm linked to

pricing and output decisions

of other firms

in the industry

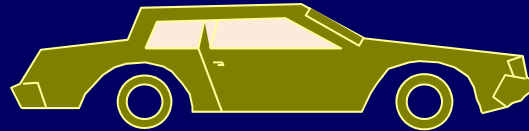
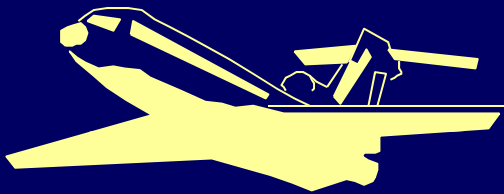
"Kinked" demand curve

Competition ignores price increases

but follows price decreases

Prices tend to be sticky

**For an Oligopoly, there are
possible pure profits
in the Long Run**



Airlines,

Automobiles

**and Computers
(perhaps)**

**Product differentiation
is a key
characteristic**

Price

Oligopoly

\$

MC

The "Kink"

P^*

discontinuous
MR

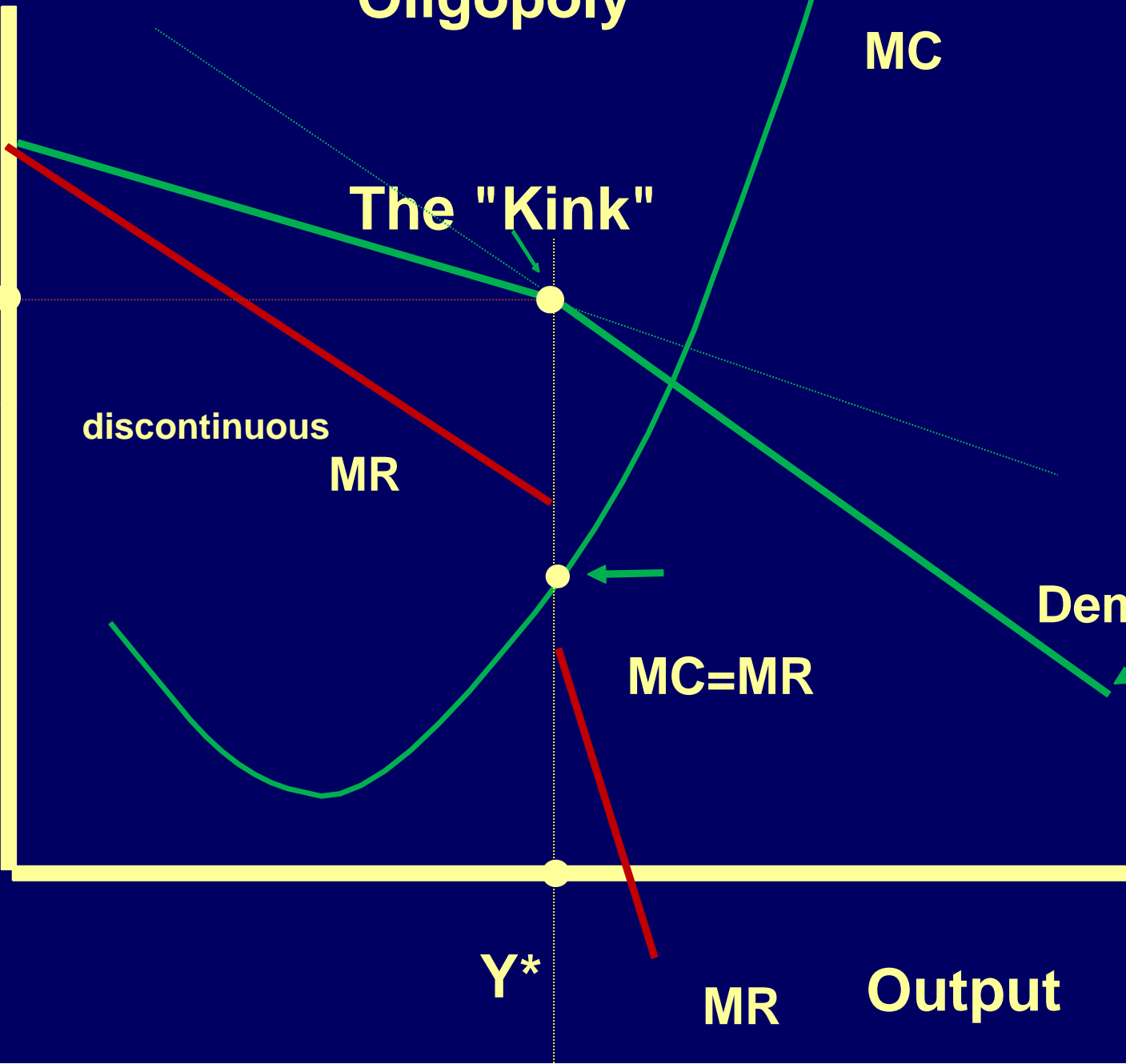
Demand

MC=MR

Y^*

MR

Output



Impact of Changing Marginal Costs on Oligopoly Pricing

Price

\$

P^*

The "Kink"

discontinuous
MR

MC=MR

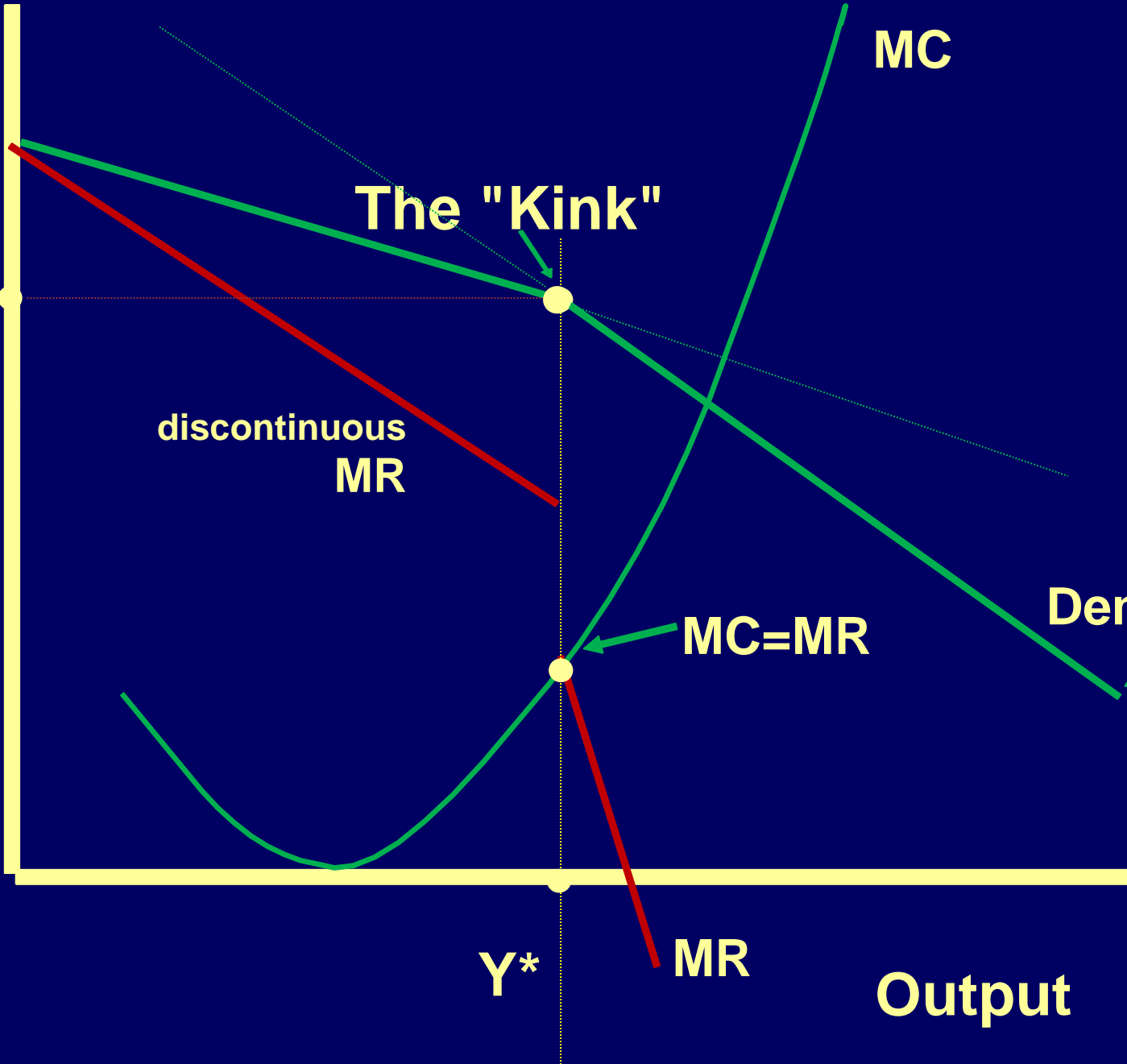
Demand

Y^*

MR

Output

MC



Price

\$

MC

The "Kink"

P^*

discontinuous
MR

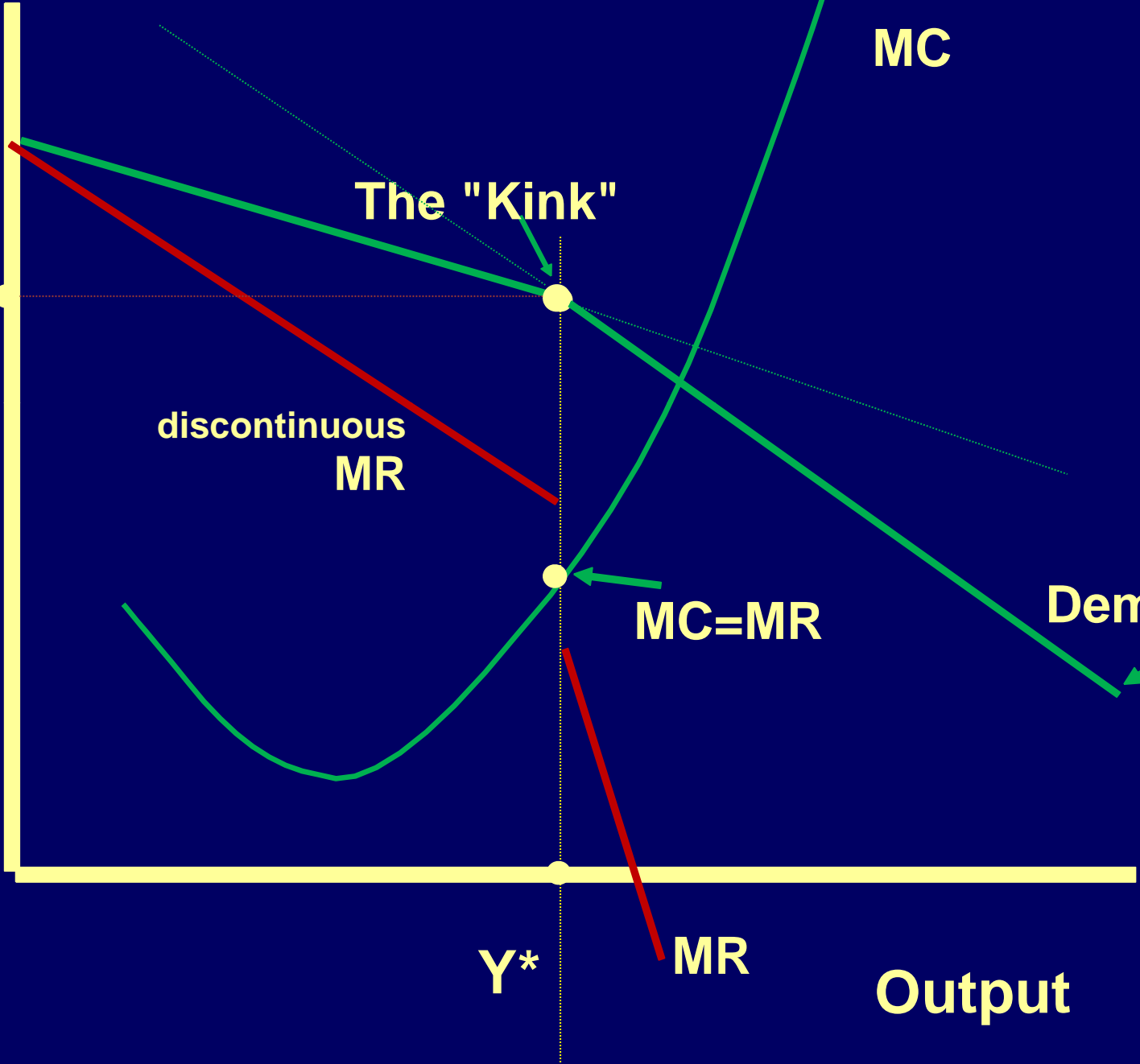
MC=MR

Demand

Y^*

MR

Output



Price

\$

MC

The "Kink"

P^*

discontinuous

MR

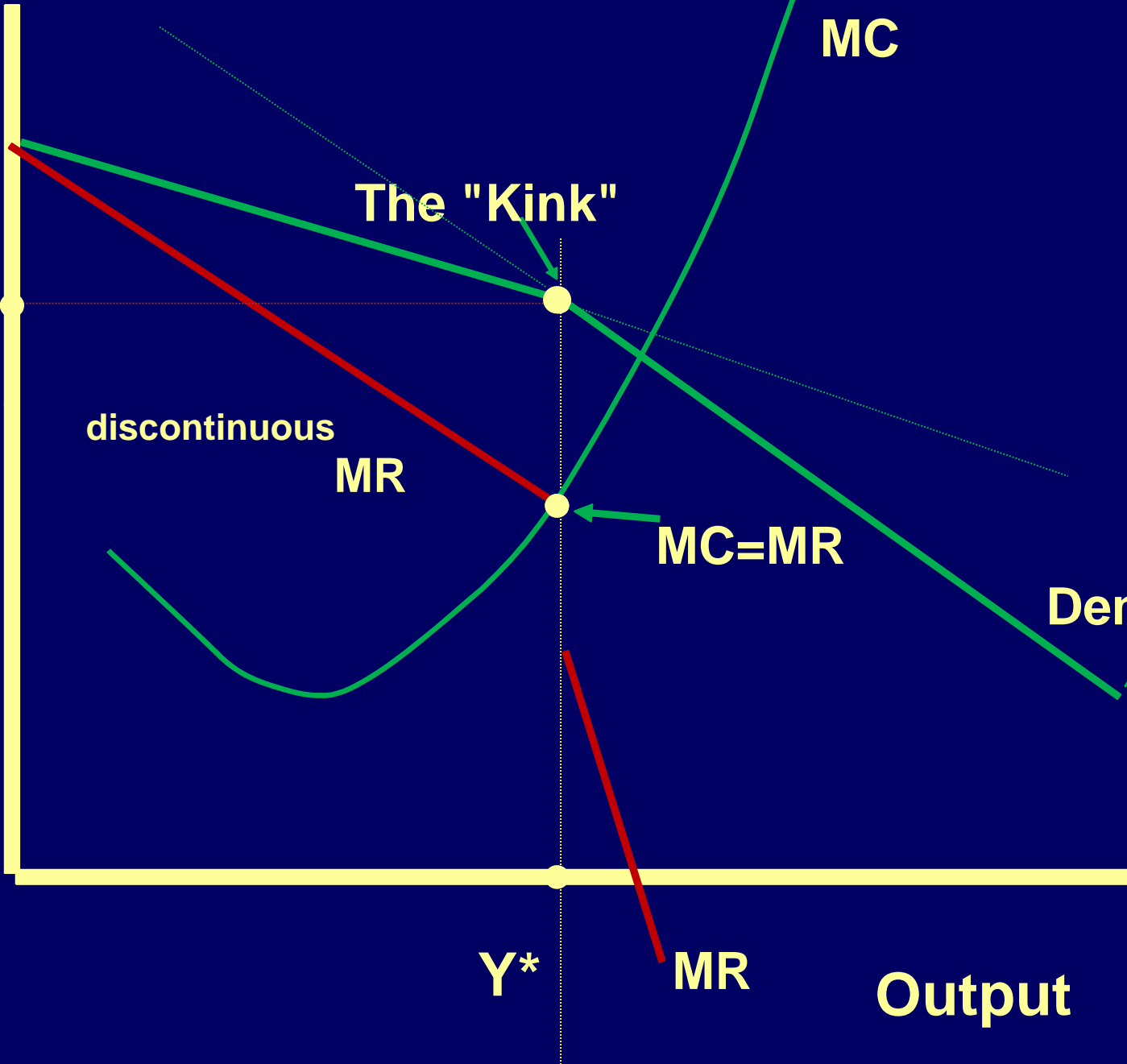
MC=MR

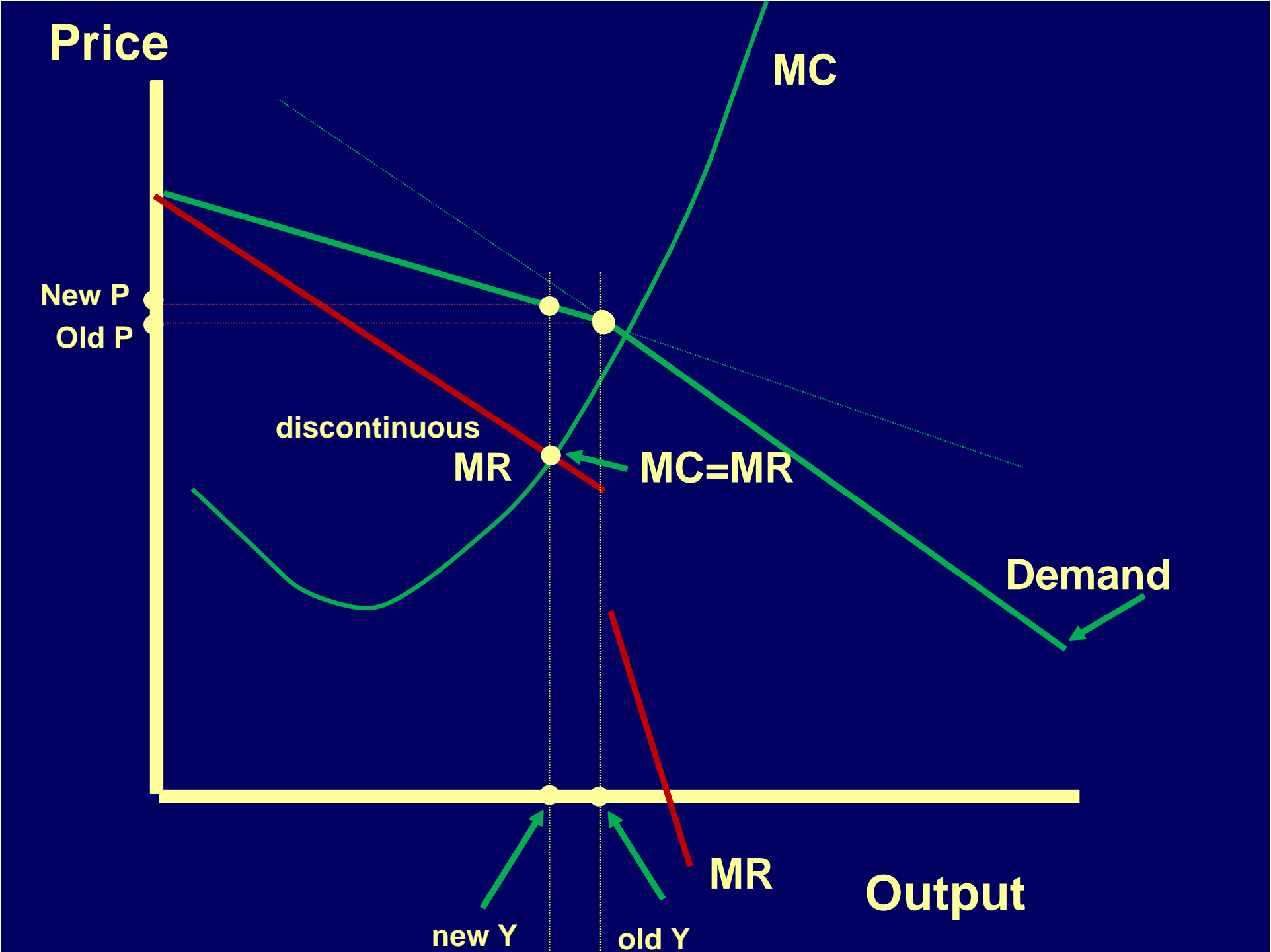
Demand

Y^*

MR

Output





Models of Competition

Monopoly

1 Firm

Firm is the industry

There can be long run profits

Not always profitable

(Monopoly in hula hoops!)

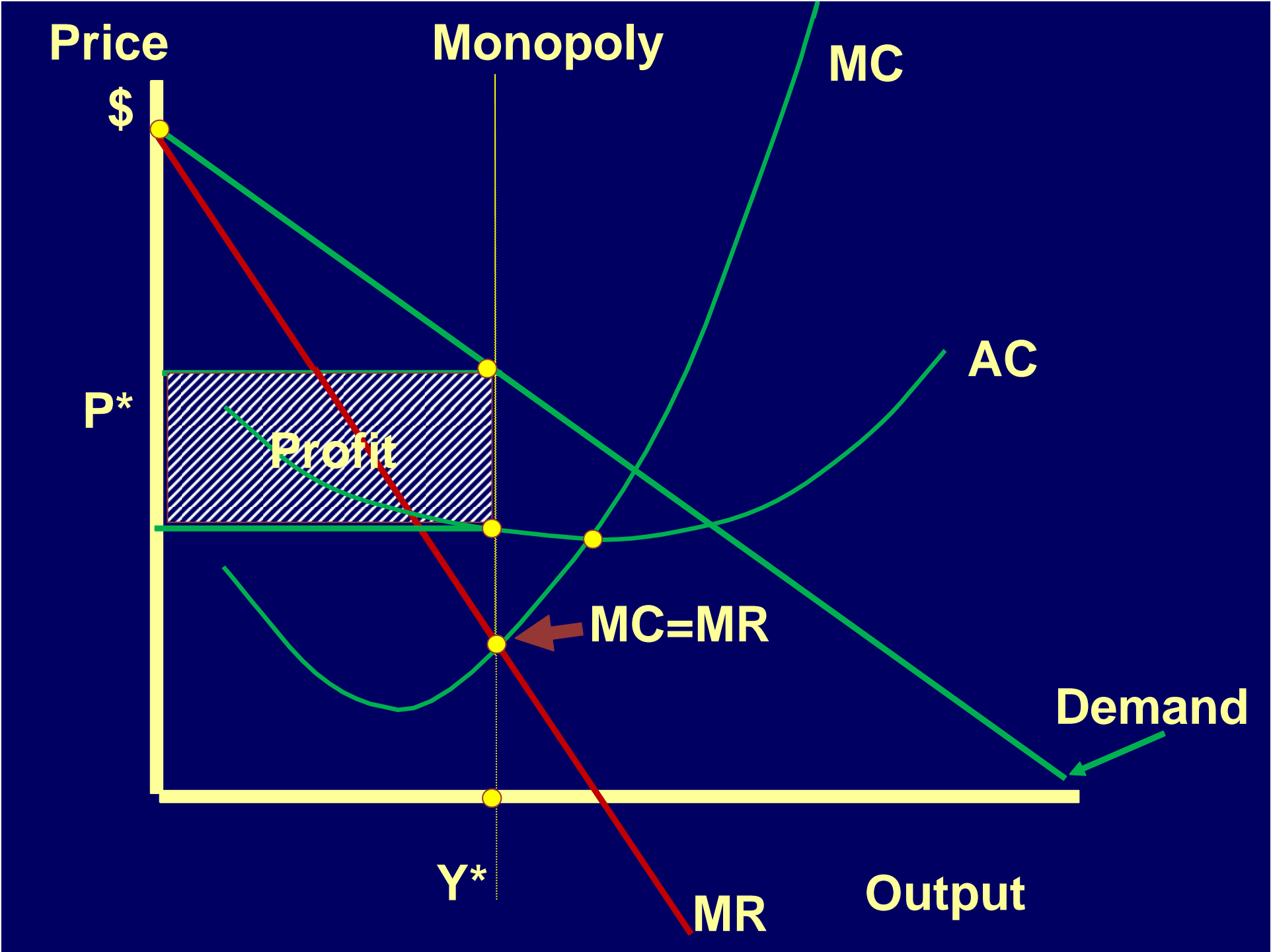
Patents, licenses

D not equal to MR

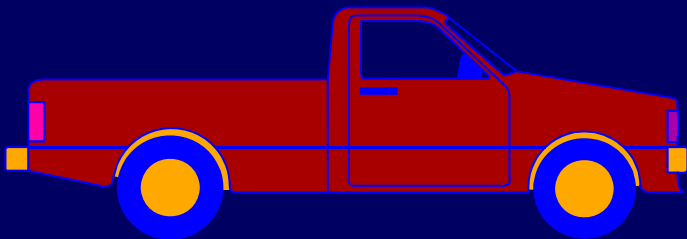
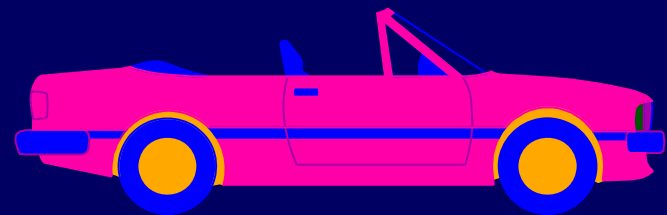
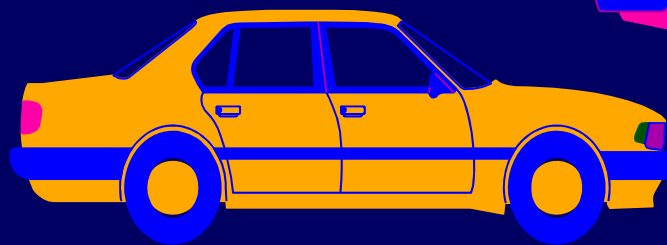
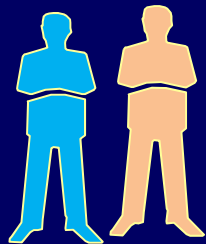
**Elasticity depends on
how badly consumers need (want)
the good**

Are there good substitutes ?

Polaroid???



Contemporary views of Imperfect Competition



Bain Model (due to Joe Bain)



**Economic
Structure**

**Conduct
of
Firms**

**Industry
Performance**

S

**Number of
firms in
Industry**

**Percentage of
output by
Top 5, top 10
etc.**

**Concentration
ratio**

C

4 P's

Price

Product

Promotion

Predatory

practices

P

Industry

Profitability

Price vs. AC

Firm Growth options:

- 1. Horizontal mergers**
- 2. Conglomerates**
- 3. Vertical integration**
- 4. Internal growth through
reinvestment of profits**

Limits to Growth:

- 1. Competition in industry**
- 2. Access to capital markets**
- 3. Demand for goods produced**
- 4. Antitrust laws**
- 5. Overall profitability**
- 6. Patents, licenses
held by others**

Agricultural Bargaining

Farmers are (usually) price-takers

Cooperatives formed:

inputs--Southern States, Cenex

outputs--dairy coops

attempt to cooperate to

get lower input prices

higher output prices

works (sometimes!)

dairy and oranges

but not wheat and beef

Chapter 10: Agricultural Marketing

Marketing of Agricultural Commodities

Marketing Creates

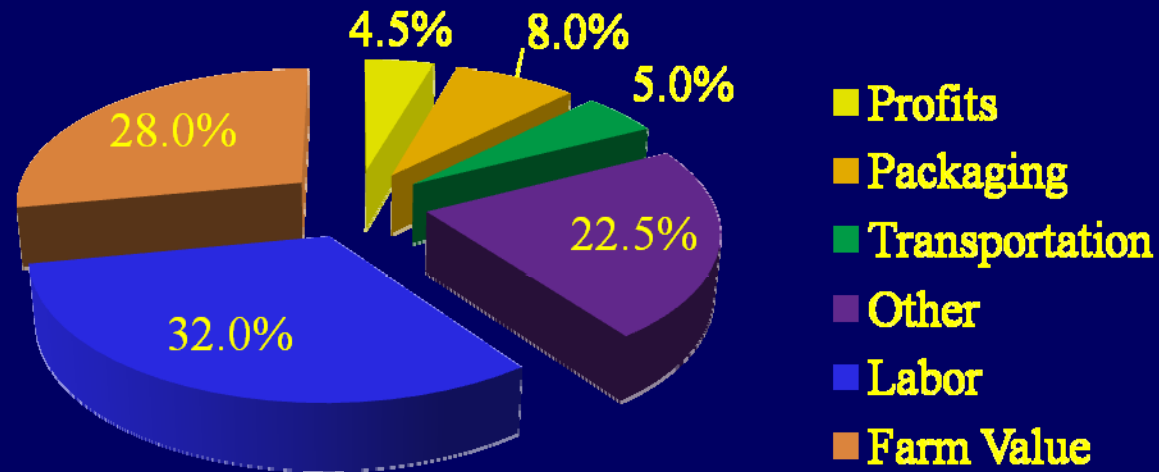
Form Utility

Time Utility

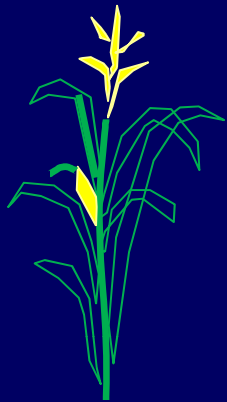
Place Utility

The farm value represents only slightly more than a fourth of the price of food at the grocery store. The remainder consists of labor in processing and distribution, transportation, advertising, and other wholesaling and retailing costs.

Estimated Components of Retail Food Prices (%)



Law of Comparative Advantage



	Corn
IN	130 bu/Acre
ND	70 bu/Acre



Wheat
50 bu/Acre
40 bu/Acre

**Indiana has Absolute Advantage
in both corn and wheat production**

**North Dakota has a Comparative Advantage
in wheat production**

**Indiana produces corn; North Dakota wheat
then trade!**

Need for Marketing

Approaches to the Study of Marketing

1. Functional approach

What functions is the market to perform???

- a. Bring buyers & sellers together
- b. Processing, storage, transportation
- c. Grading
- d. Information, risk-bearing

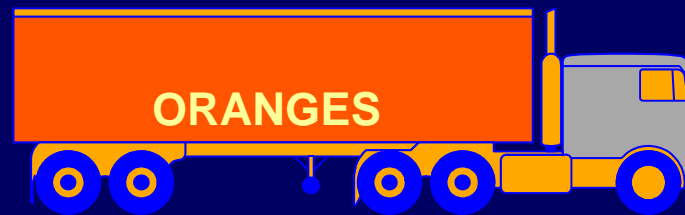
Exchange functions:

**where goods are traded
packaging, labeling,
advertising, promotion
locating supplies of the good
assembly**

Physical Functions:

Form utility
Time utility
Place utility

Storage and transportation
(oranges grown in California
eaten in Kentucky)



Facilitating functions:

Increasing operational efficiency

Increasing pricing efficiency

$P=MC$????

Financing

Risk-bearing

Market information

collection, dissemination, analysis



Approaches to the Study of Marketing

2. Institutional approach

Activities of organizations & people

Merchant-middlemen

take title to goods

buy from wholesalers

Example: shopping mall merchants

What functions does a shopping mall perform?

A shopping mall is a MARKETING INSTITUTION

Comprised of MERCHANT MIDDLEMEN

Agent Middlemen

Do not take title to goods

Livestock auction

**Compare a livestock auction with
a shopping mall**

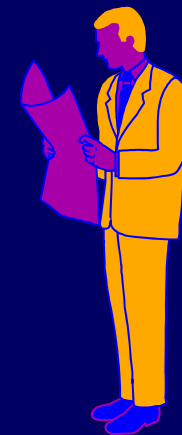
Commissionmen & brokers

often work on a percentage basis

Speculative Middlemen

Assume risk
Seek gain

Hold title to goods or contracts
Gains from assuming risk



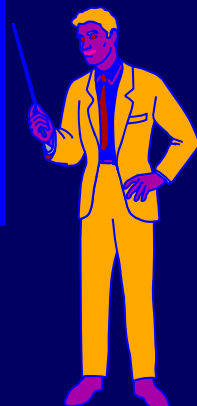
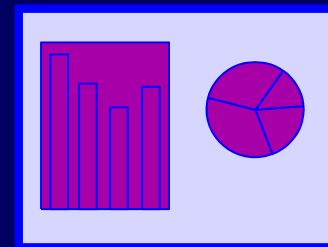
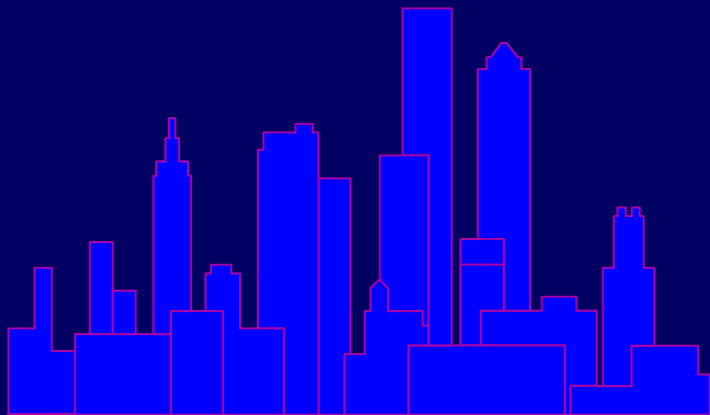
Facilitative organizations

Chicago Board of Trade

Minneapolis Grain Exchange

Commodity Futures Trading Commission

Rules of the Game!



Approaches to the Study of Marketing

3. Structural approach

Bain Model

Structure

Conduct

Performance



Marketing Margins

**Difference between retail
and wholesale price**

Gross returns to retailer

Not net returns!

Not a measure of farmer's well being

**Retail groceries 2% profit on
gross sales**

Markups surely higher than 2%

**Farmer's share of the food dollar is
an interesting statistic (under 16%), but
not a measure of the well-being
of farmers**

**An indication of how much processing is involved
Fresh beef vs TV dinner**

**Would farmers be better off if
consumers did not eat so many TV dinners?
(Alternately, does anyone still know what a TV
dinner is??? Maybe substitute fast food!)**

Futures Markets

**Buy or sell contract
for future delivery of a good**

Corn, soybeans, beef

Farmer: interested in locking in a price

Processor has similar interest

Farmer sells contract to deliver in future

Processor buys contract

**Contract sets price, grade, delivery location
#2 corn at Mpls**

**A trader need not produce or want grain
in order to buy or sell contracts**

Speculators

Assume risk due to price fluctuations

**Bet that price will move upward if they buy
a contract**

downward if they sell a contract

Sell purchased contract later for higher price

Buy back sold contract later for lower price

Profit if speculator guesses the correct movement

Losses otherwise

That's the risk involved

Contracts purchased and sold on margin

Contract for 5000 bu. wheat

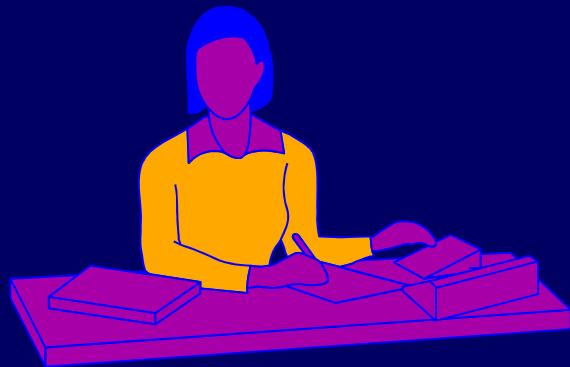
Speculator puts up only

a small percentage of value

of the 5000 bushels of wheat

Big gains

Big losses



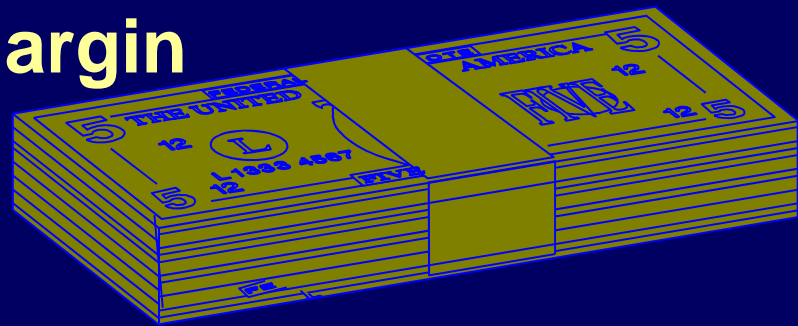
Losses can exceed money put up
Limits to how far prices move each day
(the market closes when the limit is reached)

Market moves rapidly
in "wrong" direction

Speculator can't get out

Liable for all losses due to price movement,
not just the margin

Not for amateurs



Hedging

Objectives:

Reduce price uncertainty
Ensure a profit, if possible



Need to know:

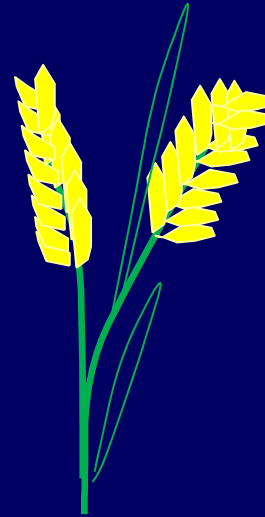
Production potential
(how much do you intend to produce?)

Costs of production

Acceptable profit level

Hedging Dangers:

Crop failure
Death of livestock
Price increases
(margin calls)
Financing



**Farmers therefore usually
hedge only a portion
of estimated production**

Hedging Procedure:

Sell a contract for future delivery

If price stable or declines

Cost is margin plus brokerage fees

Buy back contract when crop is harvested

Purchased contract cheaper than contract sold earlier

Futures contract price for commodity is ensured

Sell crop produced on cash market

"Losses" offset by gains on futures contract

In effect, the producer obtains

the contract price less the brokerage costs of the transaction

**If price increases,
margin calls from brokers during
the production season**

Purchase contract when crop is harvested

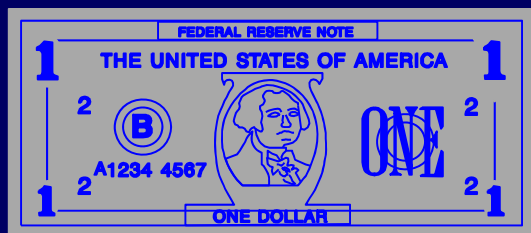
Loss on the hedge

but crop is sold on cash market

Gains on cash market

offset losses on futures transaction

Farmer locked in contract price



Hedging Example:

As of April 1 Soybeans for Dec. delivery are \$6.00/bu.

Profitable for farmer

Sells contract for 5000 bu.

Contract for \$30,000 December delivery

Now Assume that on

Dec. 1, Soybeans are selling for \$9.00/bu.

The Farmer repurchases the contract for \$45,000, and

loses \$15,000 on futures transaction

The farmer then sells 5000 bu. beans for \$9.00/bu.

and makes \$45,000 on cash market

Net gain--\$45,000-\$15,000=\$30,000,

the same as if Soybeans were \$6.00/bu.

Again suppose that as of

April 1 Soybeans for Dec. delivery are \$6.00/bu

**This price is again profitable for the farmer, who
sells a Dec. contract for 5000 bu.**

Contract for \$30,000 December delivery

Now assume that on

Dec. 1, Soybeans are selling for only \$5.00/bu.

The farmer repurchases the contract for \$25,000

Gain of \$5,000 on futures contract transactions

The farmer then sells 5000 bu. on cash market

and gets \$5.00/ bu. or \$25,000 for the soybeans

**Gain = \$25,000 from cash sales + \$5,000
from futures transactions**

Total gain of \$30,000--as if beans were \$6.00/bu.

Brokerage commissions on all of this

May need a friendly banker

Not for all farmers

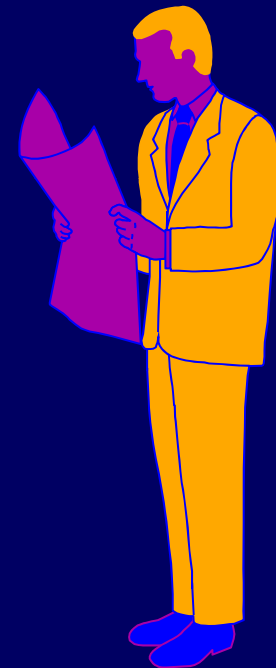
**Simple contracts that specify
price at data of delivery
may do as well or better**



Puts & Calls

**RIGHTS TO PURCHASE
or PLACE ON THE MARKET**

**a contract for
future delivery
of a good**



**Put = right to place on the
market a contract for
future delivery
of a good**

**Call = right to purchase
from the market a contract
for future delivery
of a good**

**Specified price and date
These "rights" cost something
Rights may be but need not be
exercised**

**Cost of the "right" varies
depending on expectations regarding prices**

**If people expect prices to rise
there is little value to the right to place
on the market at the current price**

**If people expect prices to fall
the right to place on the market at the
current price is valuable**

**How valuable depends on how far prices
are expected to fall
and the variability of prices**

How sound are expectations???

Buy put=buy right to sell contract
Buy call=buy right to purchase contract

Sell put = sell right to sell contract
Sell call=sell right to purchase contract

Contracts are ordinary futures contracts
Puts & Calls also used in stock market
rights to buy & sell stock at a specified price
at some future point in time

Highly dependent on expectations!

Chapter 11: Credit in Agriculture

Agricultural Credit

Farmers as a whole are in an

excellent net worth situation

**Owner's equity would be the envy of any small
businessperson**

Owner's equity is typically nearly 90% of liabilities

**Aggregate data masks problems of
individual farmers**

Shopping mall merchant vs. farmer

merchant usually has much greater debt load

Even real estate debt is low, in aggregate

**Agriculture not going broke--
at least not in the aggregate**

Sources of funds that finance farming activities have changed dramatically in the past 25 years

1970s and earlier:

Four main sources of funds:

- 1. Federal Land Bank and
Production Credit Associations**
- 2. Commercial banks in located in rural areas**
- 3. Farmers Home Administration
(a federal agency)**
- 4. Insurance companies (in certain regions)**

Farm Credit Institutions in the 1970s and today

Industry recognizes the unique
characteristics of farming

Built to serve short and long-run credit needs



Federal Land Bank

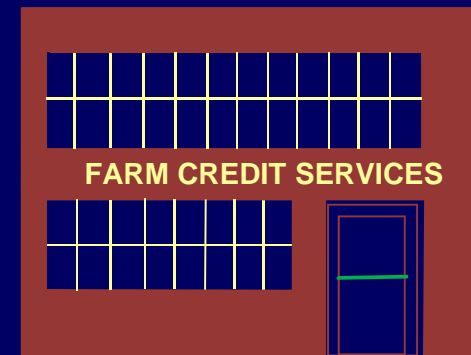
Historically, lends money for farmland purchases

**Occasionally made loans for other purposes
but lending always made based
on equity in farmland**

**Chartered by the federal government the
Federal Farm Loan Act of 1916**

Owned by member-borrowers

NOT a federal agency



**Federal Land Bank merged in 1987 with
Production Credit Associations to form
Farm Credit Services**

Production Credit Associations

Established under laws enacted 1923-33

Short & intermediate credit to farmers

Commercial banks not meeting critical needs

Did not like risks involved

Sell bonds to raise money

Owned by member-borrowers (farmers)



Also merged with the Federal Land Bank

In 1987 to form Farm Credit Services

Farm Credit Services

Still operating under laws enacted 1923-33

Short & intermediate credit to farmers

Commercial banks not meeting critical needs

Did not like risks involved

Sell bonds to raise money

Owned by member-borrowers (farmers)

Chartered by the federal government



The farm financial crisis in the early 1980s dramatically reshaped agricultural credit. It became apparent that intermediate-term (for farm inputs and machinery) and long-term (farmland purchases) lending were intertwined and there was no longer a need for the two to be separate.

For example, farmers borrowed money for machinery purchases using land as collateral.

The outcome of this was Farm Credit Services which exists currently. Farm Credit Services is owned by member borrowers, but chartered by the federal government.

Commercial banks

Vary a lot in interest in ag lending

Portfolio balance: farm vs nonfarm

Rural banks--heavily invested in farming

**Lots of variation in banker's willingness
to lend money to farmers**

Equity in farmland issues

Some farmers love commercial bankers

Other farmers-the last place to look for a loan!



Commercial banks love loans where the collateral is excellent and the probability of loan default is low.

This was true for much of farming in the 1970s, when land values were appreciating rapidly, and crop and livestock prices were strong.

By 1980s, farmland values and crop prices were plummeting.

The result was large numbers of loan defaults.



The load defaults scared the socks off of rural bank lenders.

Bankers are very unhappy when the value of collateral is plummeting

Today, commercial banks, particularly small banks in rural areas, remain as a source of credit for some farmers, but loans get a lot more scrutiny with respect to the probability of default



Farmer's Home Administration FmHA (NOT FHA)

Former Federal agency

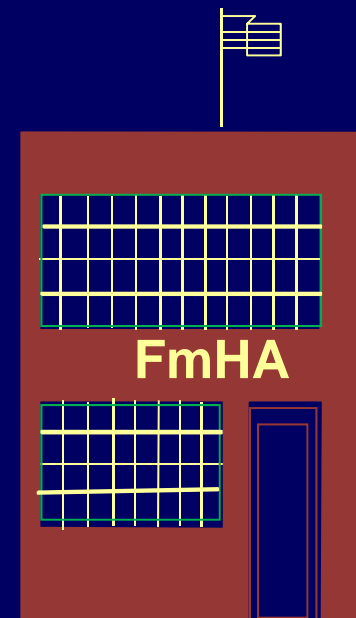
**Lender of last resort for those who
could not get loans elsewhere**

Management assistance came along

FmHA ran the farm with farmer as hired worker!

**Sent farmers into strange enterprises that
built cash flow but need high management**

**Became part of the Farm
Service Agency
Terminated in 2006**



Life Insurance Companies

Prefer manageable risk

No drought, disease

**No random events you can't put in
a mortality table**

**Select certain areas to lend
Iowa, historically**

**Were they in for a surprise when
land values fell!**

Increasingly scared off!

**Better (less risky, higher return)
nonfarm investments**



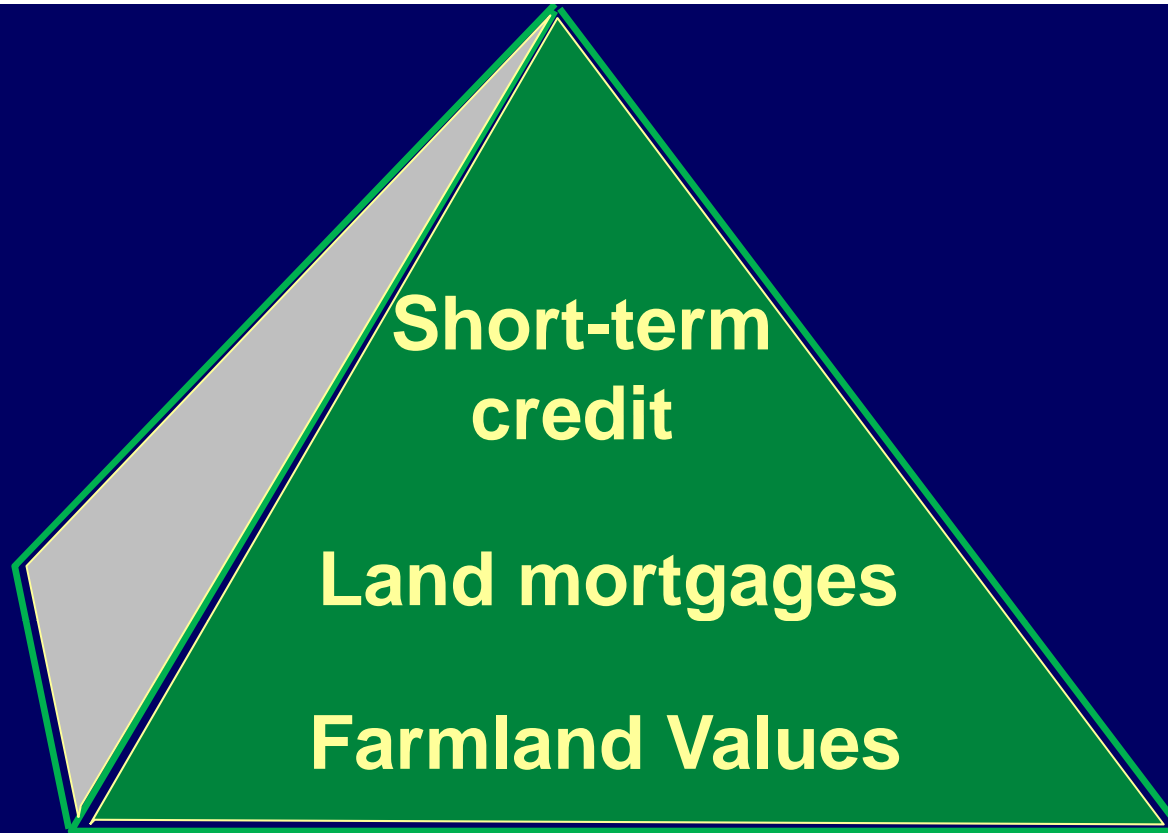
Life Insurance Companies

**Were a source of credit in major commercial farming areas
such as in the Corn Belt**

**The decline in farmland values in the 80s
chased them out of the business**

No longer a major credit source

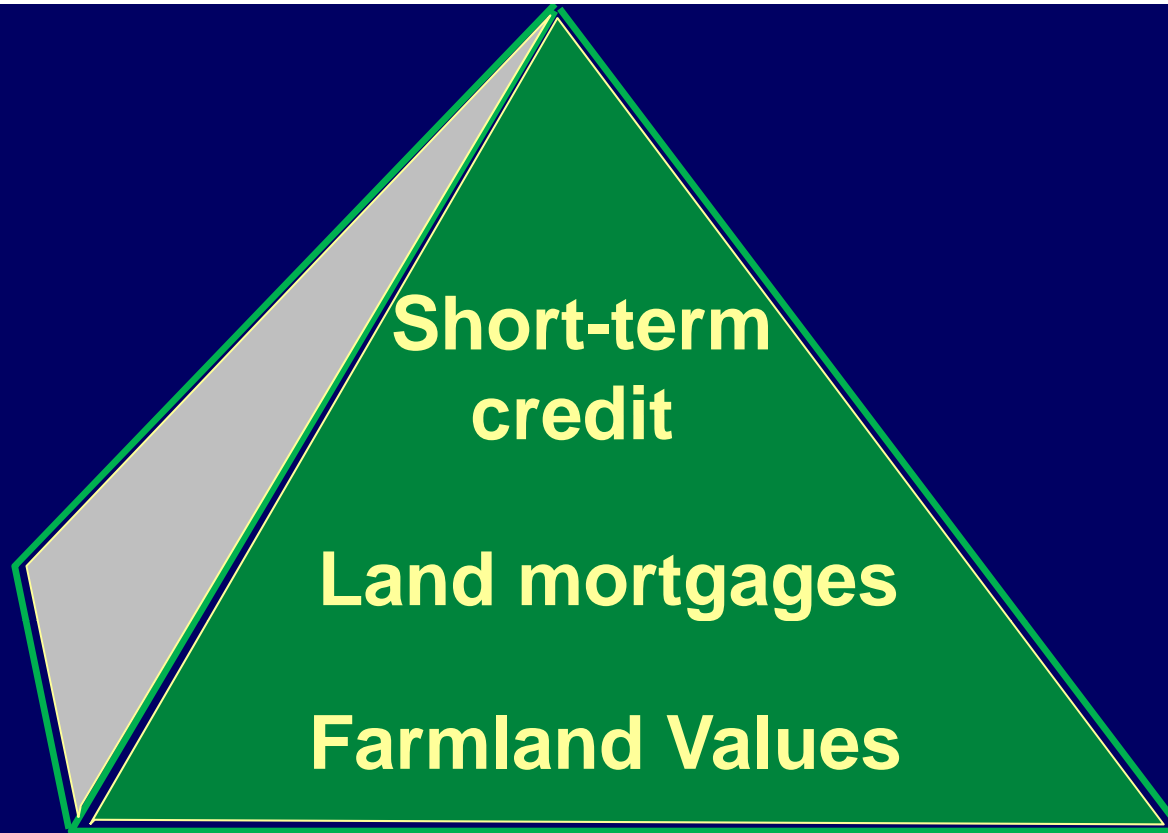




Traditional Credit Pyramid

Credit based on farmland values

**Money for farm inputs and Machinery
depended on stable and rising land values**



**The credit pyramid collapsed when
farmland values collapsed in the 1980s**

The foundation crumbled

Problems:

- 1. Importance of farmland
(sensitivity to changes in farmland values)**
- 2. Sometimes little cash on hand
(need for continued short-term borrowing
to cover expenses)**

**Cannot plant a crop with equity in land--
need a source of credit
(perhaps several sources)**

**Wealth does not necessarily
mean good cash flow**

Events of the 1980s

Federal Land Bank merged with PCAs

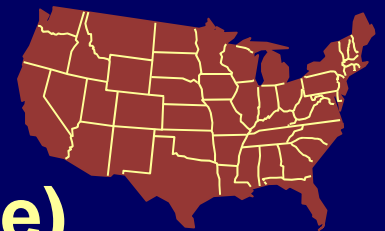
Linkages between short and long run

Both using same collateral (farmland)

12 farm credit districts

Loan portfolio all in one industry

(agriculture)



A commercial banker would gasp at risks involved

Need for government assistance

Without govt. backing bonds sold to raise money

would have higher & higher interest rates

to account for risk of portfolio

Farm Credit-- Past, Present, Future

**Throughout recent times, risk in ag lending
if not low, at least could be managed**

**Lower interest rates to farmers than
urban dwellers**

Importance of increasing farmland values

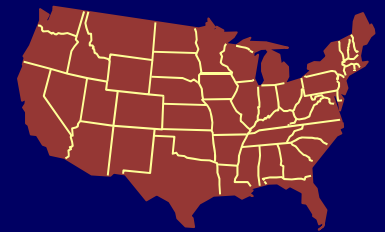
**Lender little concerned with
repayment capacity so long as
land values continued to increase**

**If farmer could not repay, land could
be resold and lender paid off**

Farm Credit in the 21st Century

A modern commercial farm is a multimillion dollar enterprise, if you add the cost of land, machinery, buildings, equipment and inputs

Where does the money to finance such large enterprise come from?



21st century farm finance is very different from farm finance in much of the 20th century where farmers relied heavily on banks and other lending agencies for funds

Farmers are no longer as fixated on borrowing money to purchase farmland

Instead, they look to rent farmland from retired farmers and their spouses who own farmland

Retired farmers are happy to cash rent land as they get a better return than keeping the money in a bank plus the land appreciation which is not taxed unless they sell

This works well for many commercial farmers, as they can expand the operation without loan money and use the cash they have to buy inputs

Note that much of the capital is being supplied by the retired farmer, not the person doing the farming!

Machinery purchases no longer require a bank or credit agency loan. Instead, farmers can *LEASE* farm machinery for an annual “rent” in much the way a person leases a car without getting a regular car loan for purchase

Farm machinery dealers will even lease *used* equipment!

So two major expense items, the cost of the land and the cost of the machinery, are being financed by the retired farmer and the equipment dealer. So far, the farmer has not needed a bank loan or a loan from Farm Credit Services

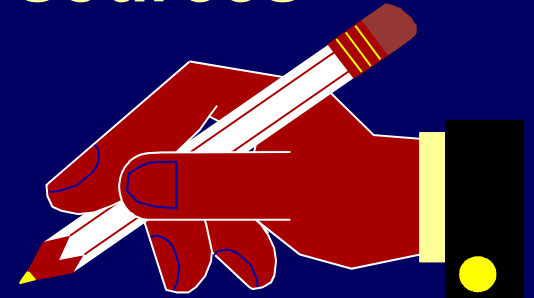
Short-term loans for input purchases MIGHT be financed by the input supplier.

Alternately, the farmer MIGHT even have cash on hand from accumulated profits from previous year to self-finance these.

Each farmer will be in a different situation

Implications:

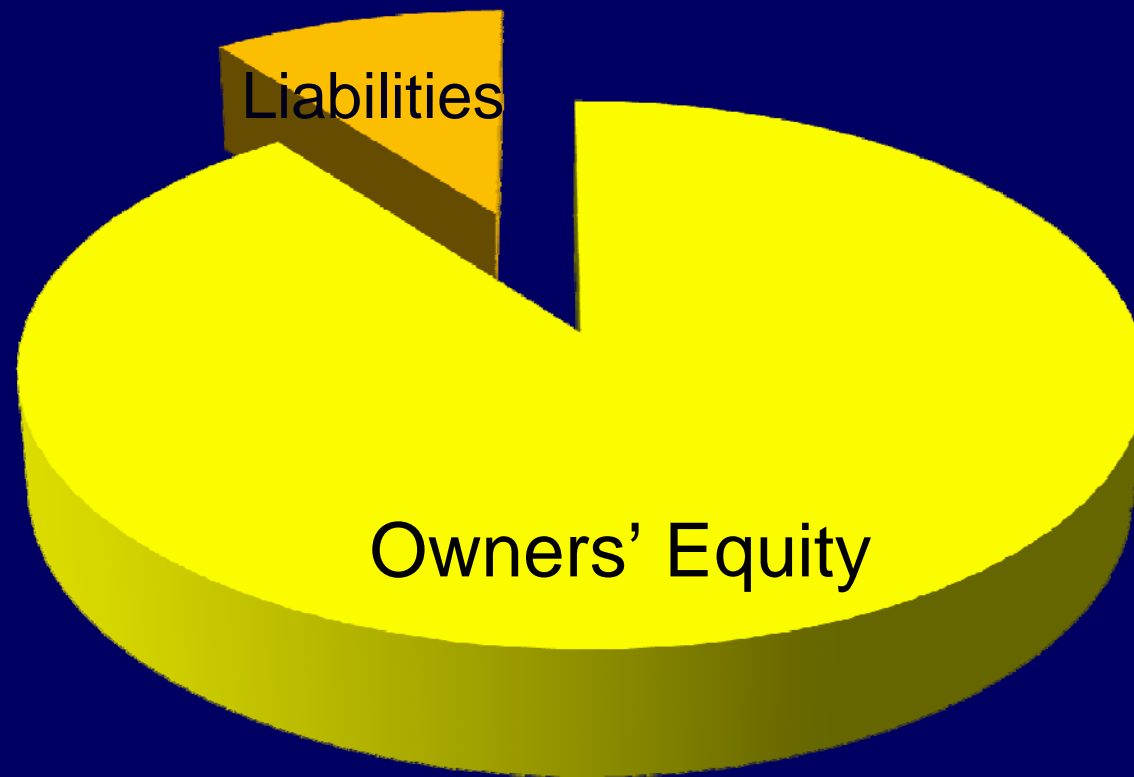
Commercial farmers may have little need for funds from traditional credit sources such as commercial banks and Farm Credit Services



Not all commercial farmers are relying on these non-traditional sources of financial capital, but increasing numbers are.

Note that young farmers can get started in farming using these methods without incurring a huge amount of debt!

U.S. Farm Assets and Liabilities, 2012



Owners' Equity is 90 % of Total Assets invested in Agriculture

Source: USDA NASS

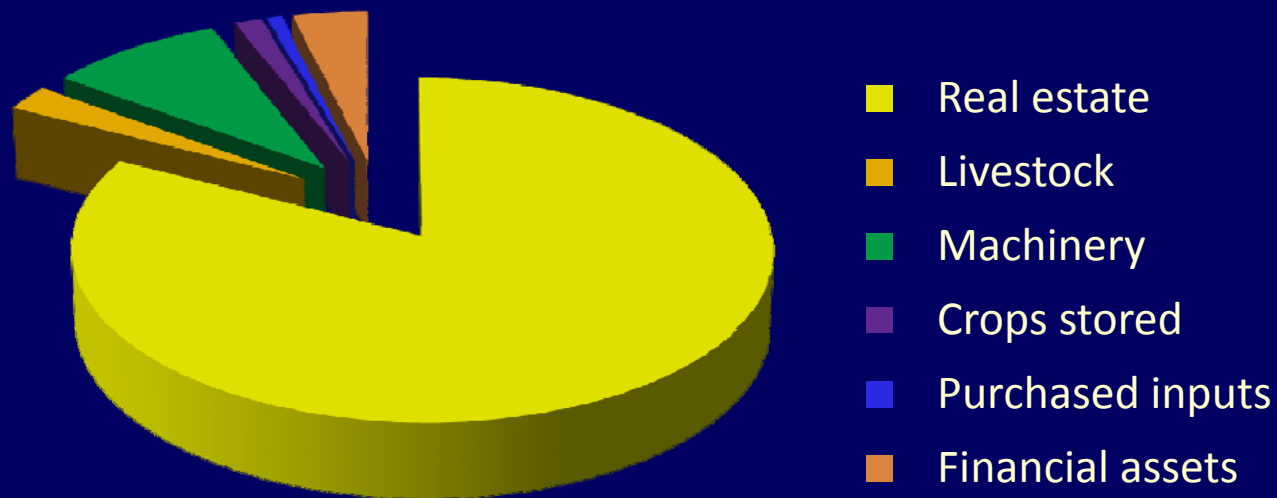
Total Farm Assets, 2012, and their Components

**Over 3 TRILLION dollars invested in U.S. Farming
82% of that is farm Real estate**

	billion \$
Total Farm assets	3,010.3
Real estate	2,483.9
Livestock	73.2
Machinery	272.9
Crops stored	42.0
Purchased inputs	23.7
Financial assets	114.6

Source: USDA NASS

Components of U.S. Farm Assets, 2012



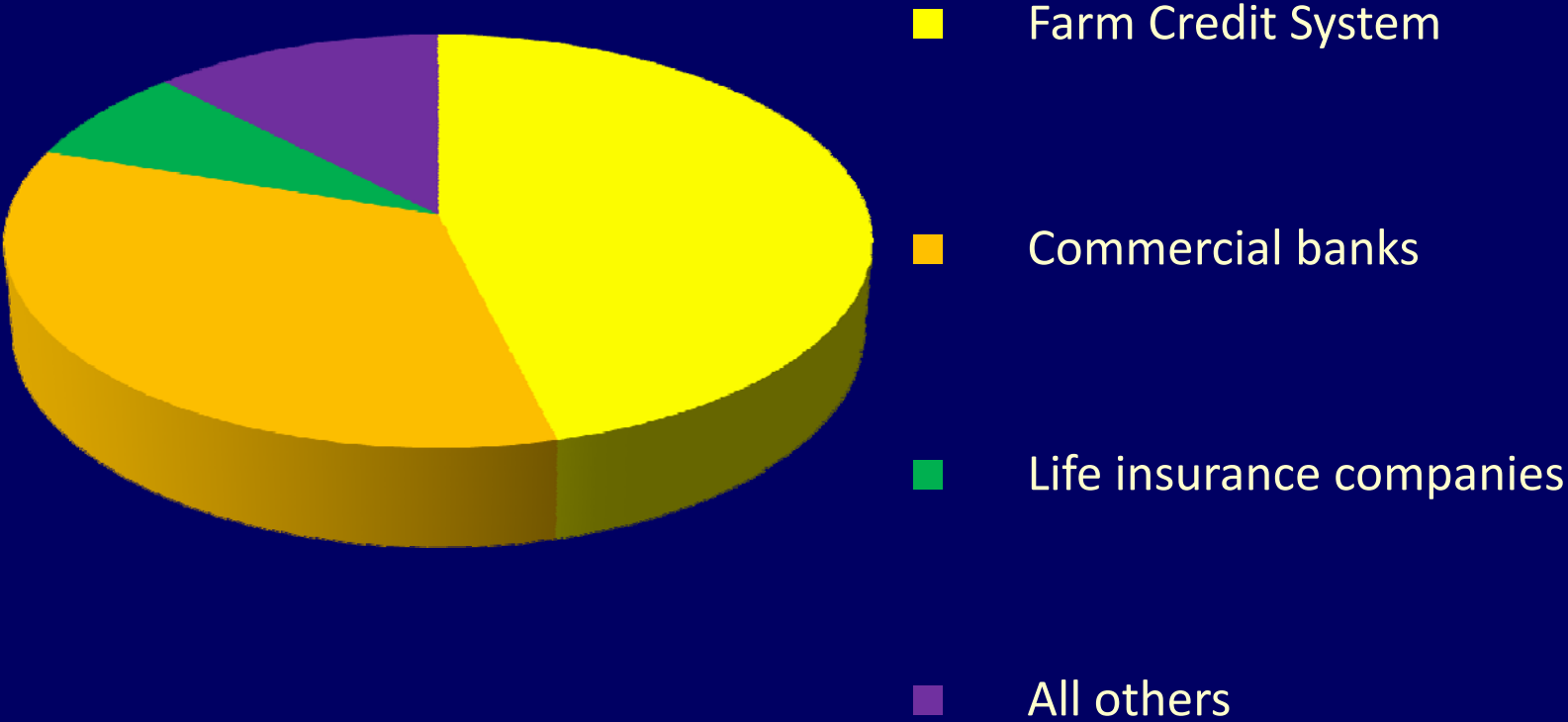
Source: USDA NASS

Sources of Farm Debt, 2012

	billion \$
Total farm debt	300.3
Real estate	173.0
Farm Credit System	79.8
Farm Service Agency	3.8
Farmer Mac	3.8
Commercial banks	59.0
Life insurance companies	13.0
Individuals and others	12.9
Storage facility loans	0.7
Nonreal estate	127.3
Farm Credit System	42.5
Farm Service Agency	3.5
Commercial banks	59.9
Individuals and others	21.4

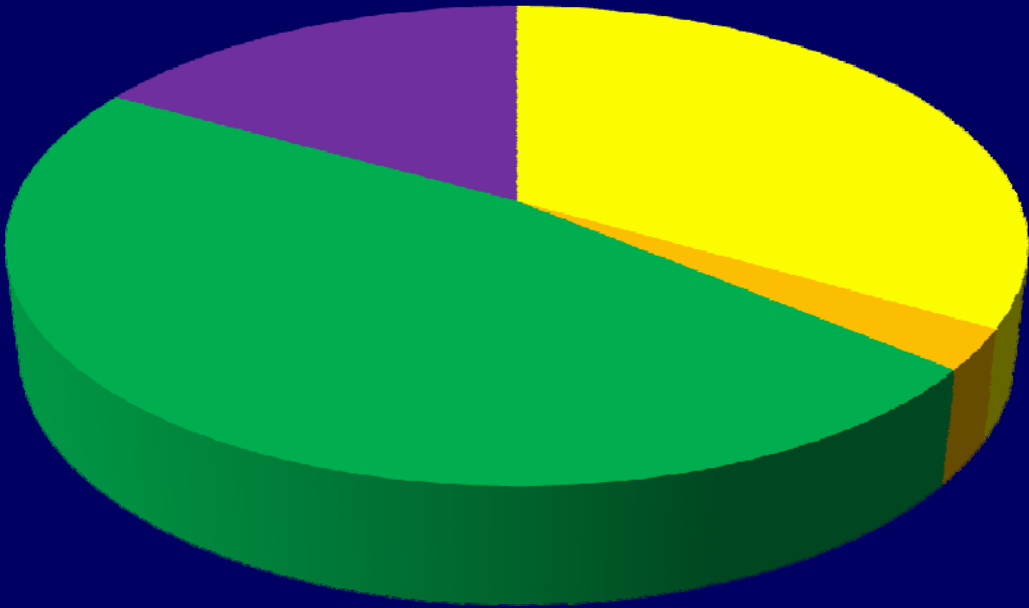
Source: USDA NASS

Components of Farm Real Estate Debt, 2012



Source: USDA NASS

Components of Farm Non-Real Estate Debt, 2012



- Farm Credit System
- Farm Service Agency
- Commercial banks
- Individuals and others

Source: USDA NASS

The Average Farm (2012)

Real Estate		\$1,129,024
Livestock		\$33,274
Machinery		\$124,060
Crops Stored		\$19,079
Farm Inputs		\$10,751
Financial Assets		\$52,113

Total Assets  **\$1, 368, 302**

Debt of all sorts  **\$136,500**

Net Worth  **\$1,231,802**

Source: Compiled from USDA data assuming 2.2 million farms

**Over 80 percent of farm assets are in real estate
(live poor, die wealthy)**

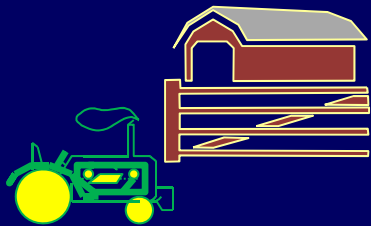
**Farmers have relatively little money in
checking accounts, savings accounts
or other financial assets**

Wealth tied up in instead in real estate

**Machinery unimportant when compared
with real estate**

Urban dweller:

wealth in houses, stocks, bonds, & bank deposits



JOHN DOE 123 MAIN STREET ANYWHERE, U.S.A. 00000	000
PAY TO THE ORDER OF	19 00
	1\$
FIRST NATIONAL BANK ANYWHERE, U.S.A. ①	DOLLARS



Chapter 12: Public Policy

**Agricultural
and
Public Policy**

Agricultural and Public Policy

**Public policy requires
group decisionmaking**

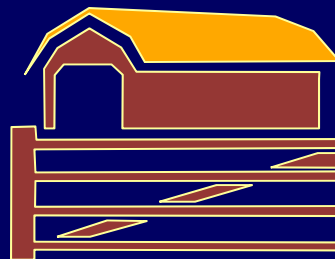
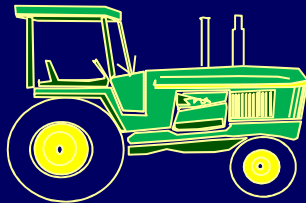
Facts versus Values

**Things people think are facts
may actually be closely held values**



Agricultural Creed (Don Paarlberg)

1. Farmers are good citizens
a high % of the population should be on farms
2. Farming is a business and a way of life
3. Farms should be family owned & operated
4. The land should be owned by the person who tills it
5. It is good to make two blades of grass grow where one grew before
6. Anyone who wants to farm should be free to do so
7. A farmer should be his own boss



**These are values, not facts
Nothing wrong with them, but...
not necessarily supportable based on
scientific evidence**



The earth
is round!



Clearly a
fact, not a
value judgement!



**Much of the US industrial productivity (wealth) is due to the fact that we need only a small proportion of our people to produce food
We could put a large share of our population back on the farm, but then who would run the factories?**



**Would there be sufficient income for former urban dwellers, or would they need to reduce their standard of living?
(Spreads net farm income ever thinner)**



How much would it cost to provide additional needed public services in rural areas?



**Farming might be considered a way of life
for some people**

**In particular, for those who are
independently wealthy or have part-time
off-farm employment**

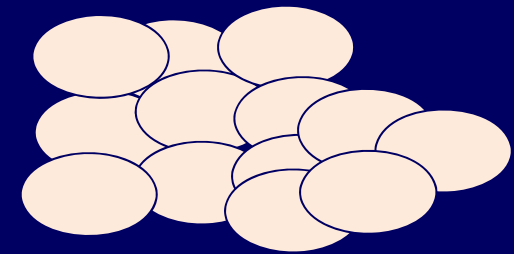
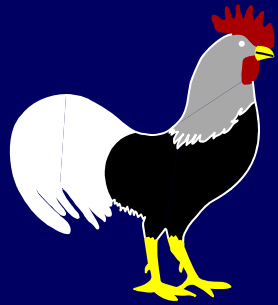
**Others must run as a business
in order to feed and clothe the family**

**One cannot survive for long
subsisting only on pleasant surroundings!**

Policy Questions to think about:

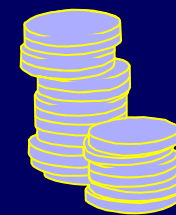
Is the family-sized farm the low-cost producer?

How much more would the urban dweller pay for chicken produced on a family farm?



Eggs laid by free-ranging hens--
are they worth more???

Will consumers be willing
to preserve the family farm if
it means significantly
higher food prices???



How many laborers

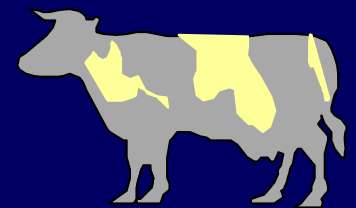
**can be hired before a farm ceases
to be a family enterprise?**

This is a value-laden issue!

What about custom harvesting?

**Most farmers hire as they please
without worrying about
philosophical questions such as these!**

What difference does it make???



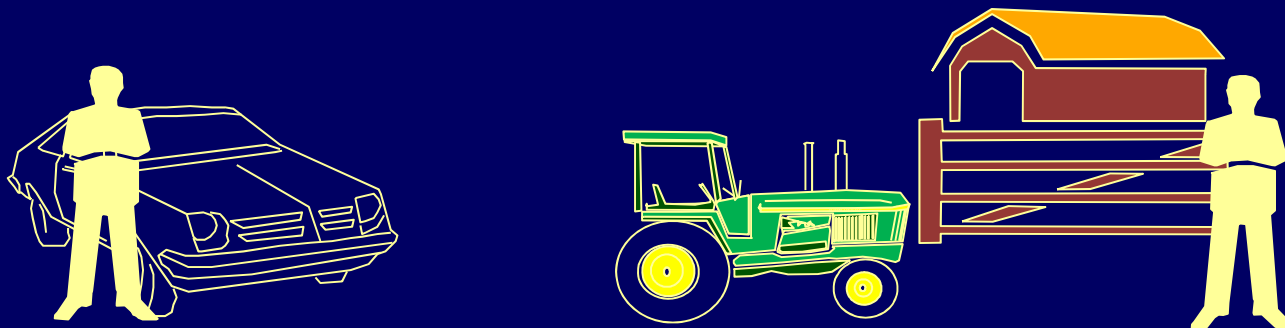
Should a farmer know all cows by name?

**Renting land may be the only
way some young farmers can get started**

What is wrong with that?

**What is inherently "good"
about farm ownership?**

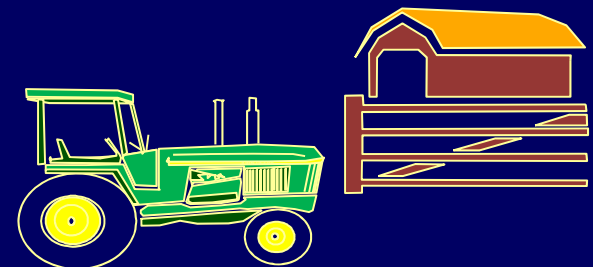
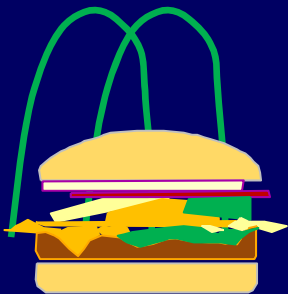
While farmers might rank higher than used car salesmen on the social ladder, there is nothing inherently better about being a farmer than being engaged in any of dozens of other occupations.



**Given the capital required to start,
there is no way that everyone can be
free to enter agriculture.**

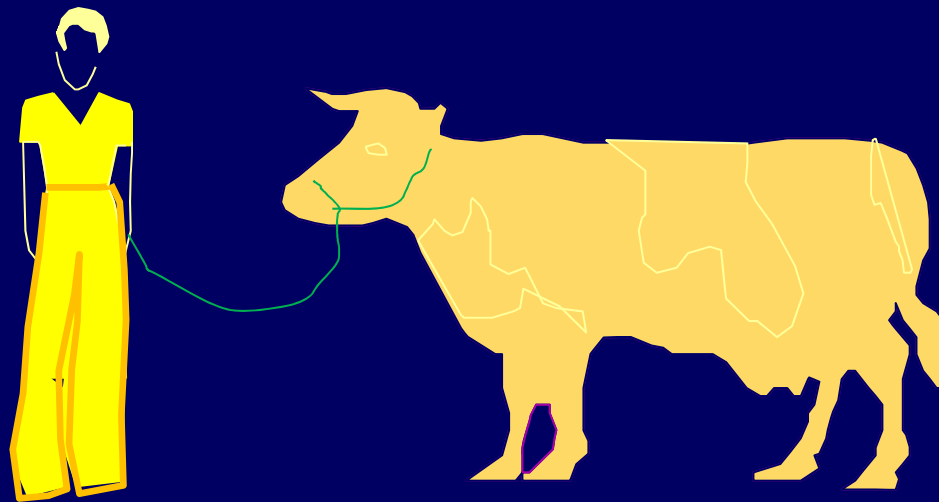
**Historically, this may have been in part true
during the period of time when the federal
government gave away land to beginning farmers.**

**Investment in hamburger franchise
versus investment in a farm.
Neither have easy entry.**



**Being ones own boss does not mean that
one is free to do as he or she pleases
(ask any dairy producer!!!!)**

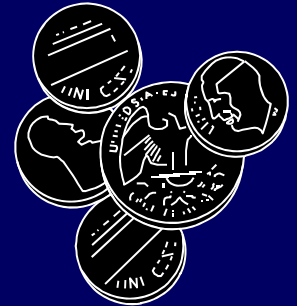
**Safe haven of *salaried employment*
versus *income variability***



Parity pricing of farm commodities:

Farmers are price-takers

**Government should set price high enough
so farmers get a "reasonable" income**



Parity level:

**Adjust prices such that
purchasing power is equivalent to
what it would have been 1909-1914*
(adjusted for effects of inflation)**

***1909-1914 was a period of good farm prices**

Problems with parity pricing:

1. All benefits of new technology

go to farmers in the form of higher prices. Is this fair to consumers?

Much of the new technology was produced by researchers using public support

(tax dollars)

2. Parity price capitalized into land values

Renter may not benefit

3. Overproduction & surpluses at parity price

Bargaining Power

Attempts to make farmers price setters,
not price takers

Ability to restrict supply from market
is essential

Varying degrees of success

Grower coops such as oranges--good success

Milk--federal govt. backs producers with
milk marketing orders

Good discipline among growers essential

Does not appear to work for major
commodities such as wheat, beef

corn or soybeans



Bargaining Power

Input side

Farmer owned coops

Southern States

CHS (Cenex)

Lower prices than business run for profit

Profits returned to farmers as dividends

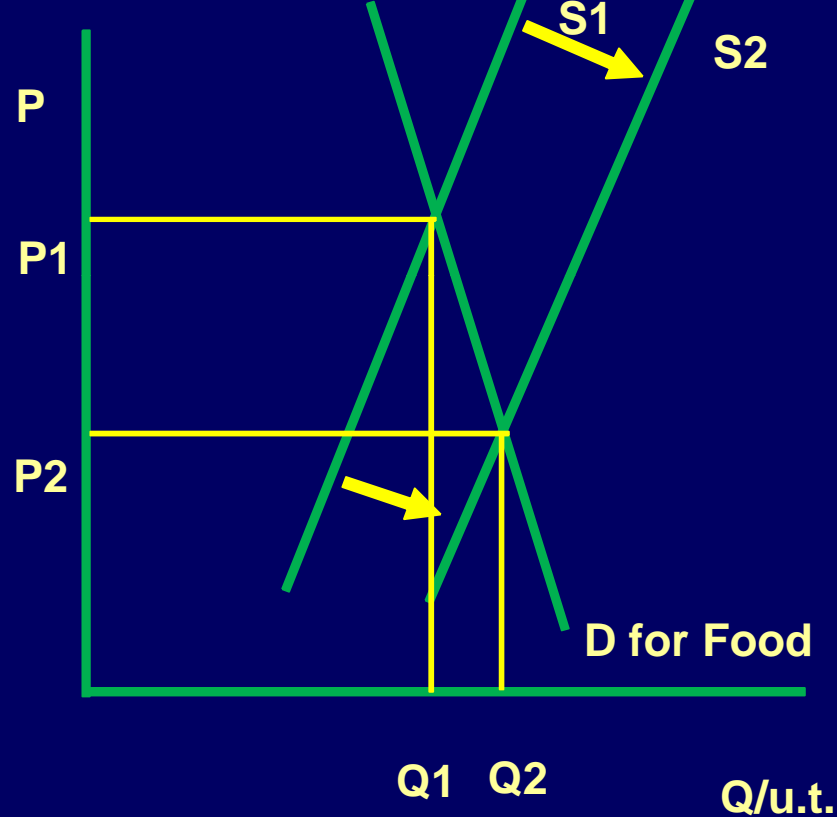
No guarantee of efficiency & low prices

Coops can be poorly run

Basic Problems in Farm Policy:

1. Overcapacity

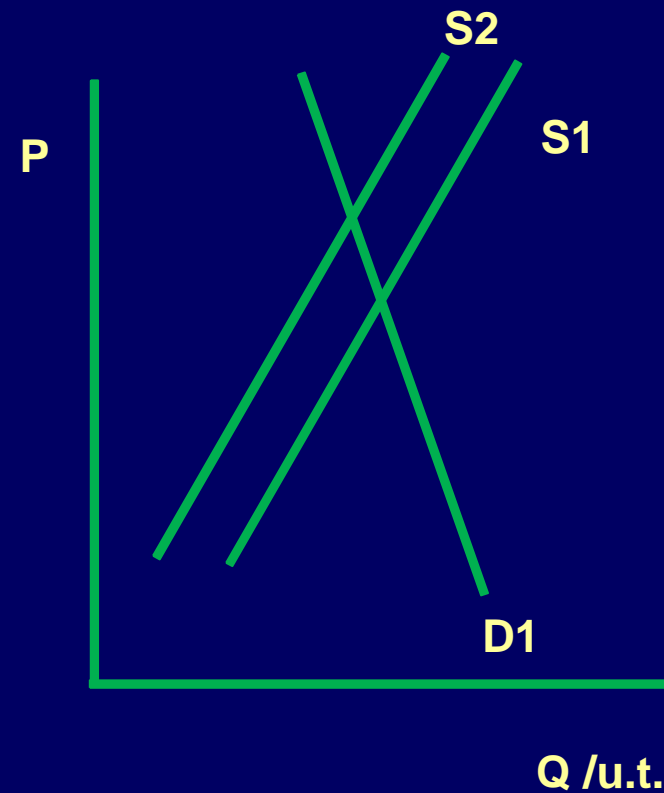
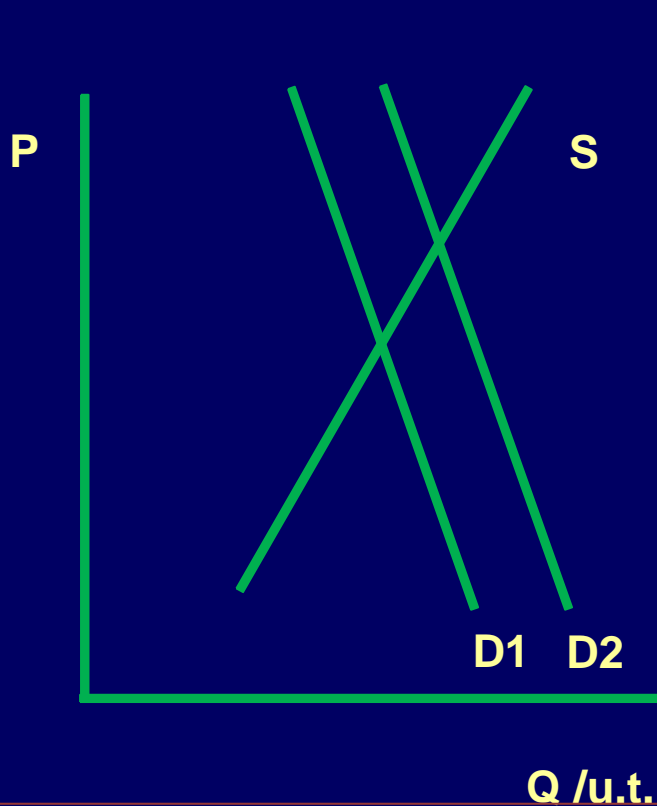
can produce more than is needed



**Small shift in S
causes big decrease in P
Inelastic D & S**

2. Price Instability

Domestic demand fairly stable
Small shifts in export demand
or crop failures
cause big changes in price



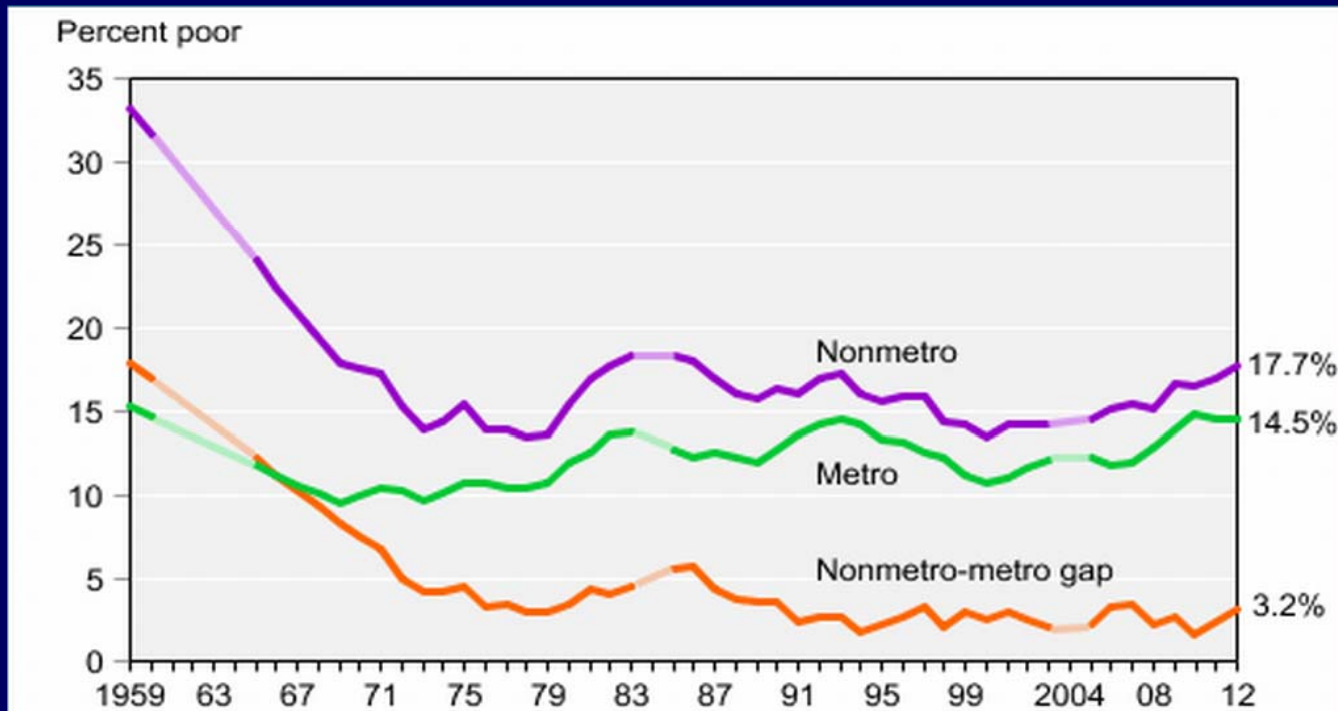
3. Rural Poor

**2012 : 8.5 million poor lived
in nonmetropolitan areas**

**Poverty rates in nonmetropolitan
areas are currently only slightly
higher than in metropolitan areas**

Non-metro	17 percent
Metro	14.5 percent

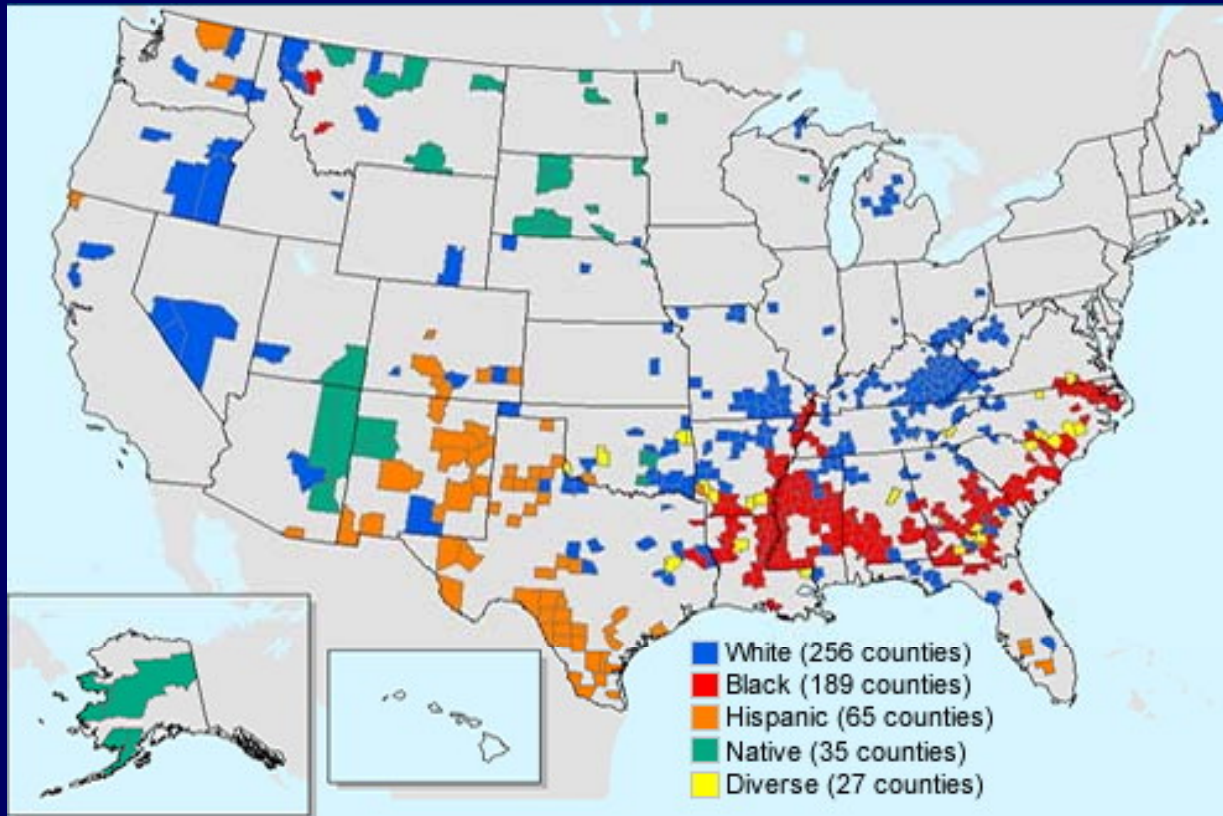
Poverty Rates by Metro/Non-Metro Residence, 1959-2012



Note: Metro status of some counties changed in 1984, 1994, and 2004. Metro and nonmetro rates are imputed for 1960-66, 1984, and 2004.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey (March Supplements and 2013 Annual Social and Economic Supplements).

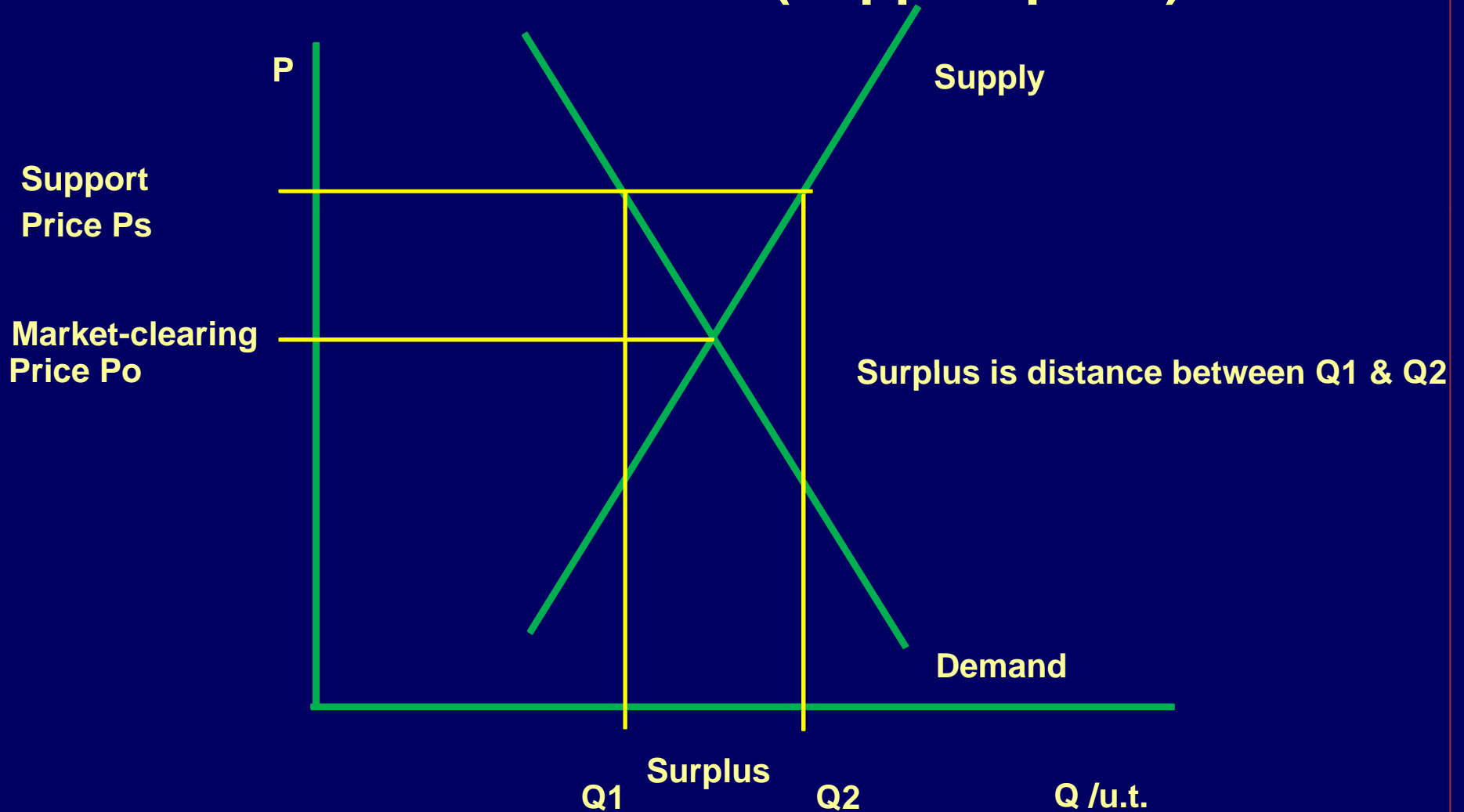
Nonmetro Counties with High Poverty by Race/Ethnicity, 2007-2011



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from the American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2007-11.

Government Involvement in Agriculture

Raise price of ag commodity
(support price)



Federal government faces choices if prices are to be supported

1. Buy up surplus

Sell when prices are high

“Ever normal granary”

2. Acreage allotments, poundage restrictions

Farmers may be better off,

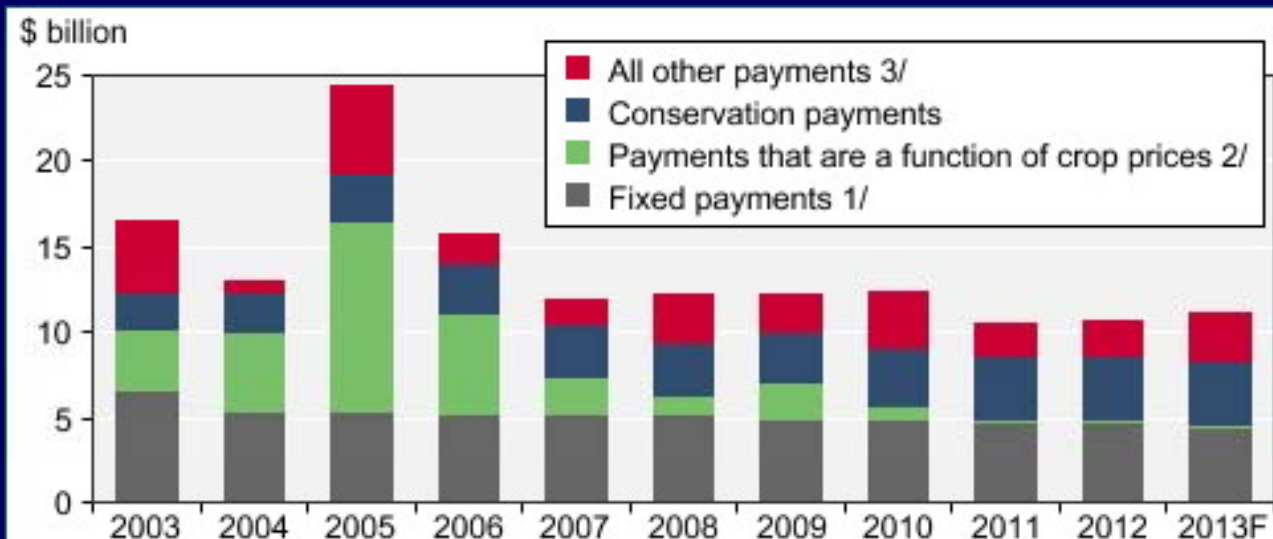
revenue-wise, with small Q and large P

3. Land retirement

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Supply Restriction

Government Payments to Farmers, 2003-2013



F = Forecast.

1/ Production flexibility contract payments and direct payments whereby payment rates are fixed by legislation.

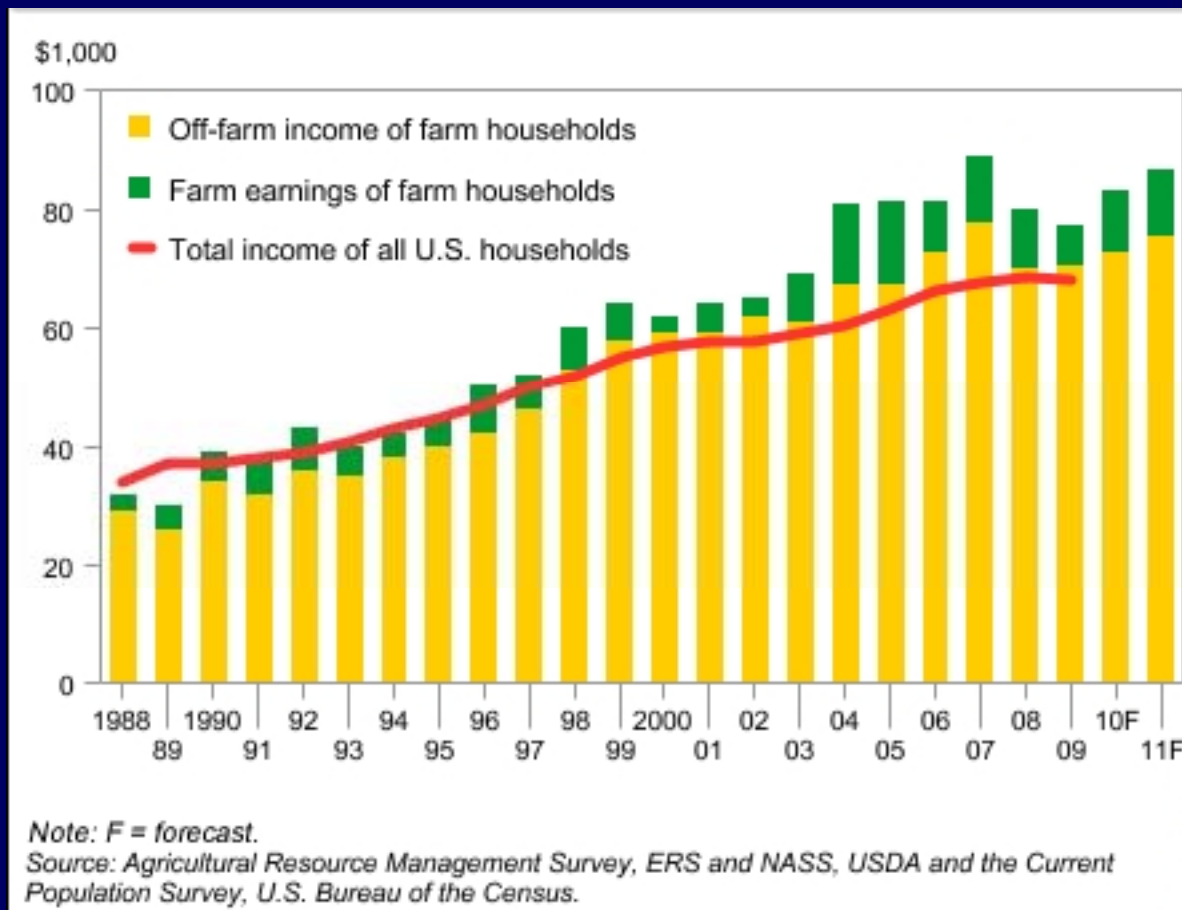
2/ Counter-cyclical payments, average crop revenue election (ACRE) payments, loan deficiency payments, marketing loan gains, and certificate exchange gains in which commodity payment rates vary with market prices. The certificate exchange program ended after making payments for the 2009 crop year.

3/ All other payments include disaster relief payments, tobacco transition payments, and dairy program payments.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service, Farm Income and Wealth Statistics.

Data as of August 27, 2013.

Average farm household income continues to exceed average U.S. household income



The average farm household has a higher total income than the average non-farm household, if income from off-farm employment is counted!

Programs for Assisting Farmers

Commodity Credit Corporation loans (CCC loans)

Nonrecourse loans made to farmers based on some specified price (loan price or rate)

If price drops below, farmers need not (DO not) pay the difference

If price above the loan rate, farmers get the additional amount

Also a source of short term credit as you get a loan on crop well before it is sold

Two-price plans

**Farmers get one price for part of production,
another price for the remainder**

**Milk--manufacturing (cheese, butter)
milk priced lower than milk
entering fluid market**

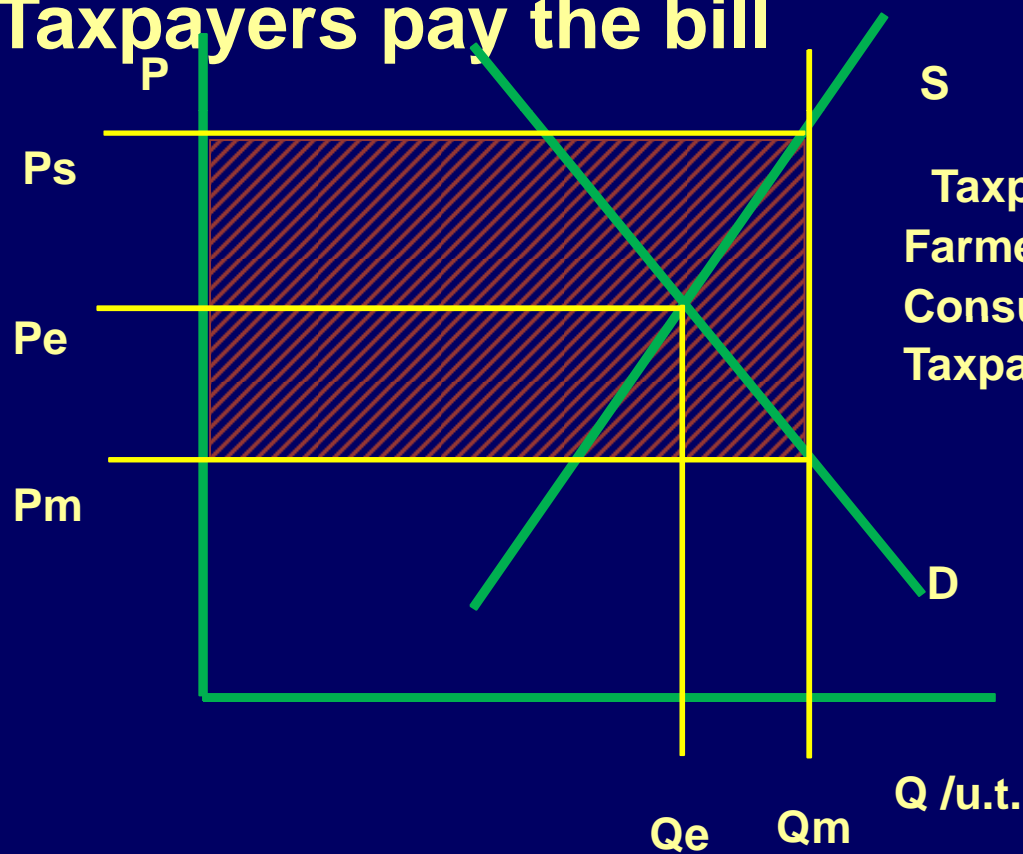
This may be the same milk

**Higher price for wheat for domestic market
than for foreign market**

Foreign demand more price elastic

Direct Payments to Farmers

Consumers benefit from lower price
but Taxpayers pay the bill



Taxpayers bill is shaded area
Farmers produce Q_m at price P_s
Consumers get Q_m at price P_m
Taxpayers pay $(P_s - P_m) \times Q_m$

Have farm programs increased farm income?

Yes & No!

They have clearly helped stabilize farm incomes

**Much of their value has been
capitalized into higher land values**

**Farmers have perhaps become wealthier
but do not necessarily have higher net incomes**

Have farm programs preserved a structure of American agriculture consisting largely of family farms?

**A good question
We wish we knew the answer!**

**Arguments on both sides of the issue
Not clear that they have
Not clear that they have not**

A Question for Discussion.....

Farm families, an average, have the same or better incomes than their urban counterparts. Further, they are normally wealthier than urban dwellers.

Given this, should the Federal government continue to subsidize farm incomes through price supports and other mechanisms using tax dollars?



Farm Organizations-- what do they advocate?

American Farm Bureau Federation

Free market

No acreage allotments

Farmer should produce as much as he wants

Farm bureau and the ag. extension service

Buy lots of insurance

For "big" commercial farmers

Not for programs that smell like welfare assistance

Often supports Republicans

Largest Farm Organization, 50 states +Puerto Rico

National Farmers' Union

Pro price and income supports

Acreage allotments

Supply restriction

For the "little" guy

Generally supports liberal Democrats

Links to CENEX or CHS

Supports rigid govt. programs

Not enthusiastic about land retirement

Pro family farm & rural life

Second largest , after the Farm Bureau

National Farmers Organization

Organize farmers to restrict supply and gain bargaining and pricing power

Farmers can limit production if they get together

Not excited about having the federal government limit production

Battles between farmers who restrict supply versus those that sell

Not as active as they once were

National Grange

More of a rural social than a political organization
Broadly Supports improved lives for rural people
Not of great importance in federal farm policy
Political strategy left to other farm organizations

Farm Bureau	AAM
Farmers Union	Others
NFO	
Grange	



American Agricultural Movement

**Efforts aimed at generating
public attention about the plight
of the farmer**

More extremist than NFO

Militant efforts aimed at supply control

Uncomfortable with much of basic ag. economics

Supports parity pricing for farm commodities

**Not as active as they were 20-40 years ago
when they organized strikes and tractor
caravans to Washington DC.**

Tactics were certainly colorful!!!

Chapter 13: Economics of Resources

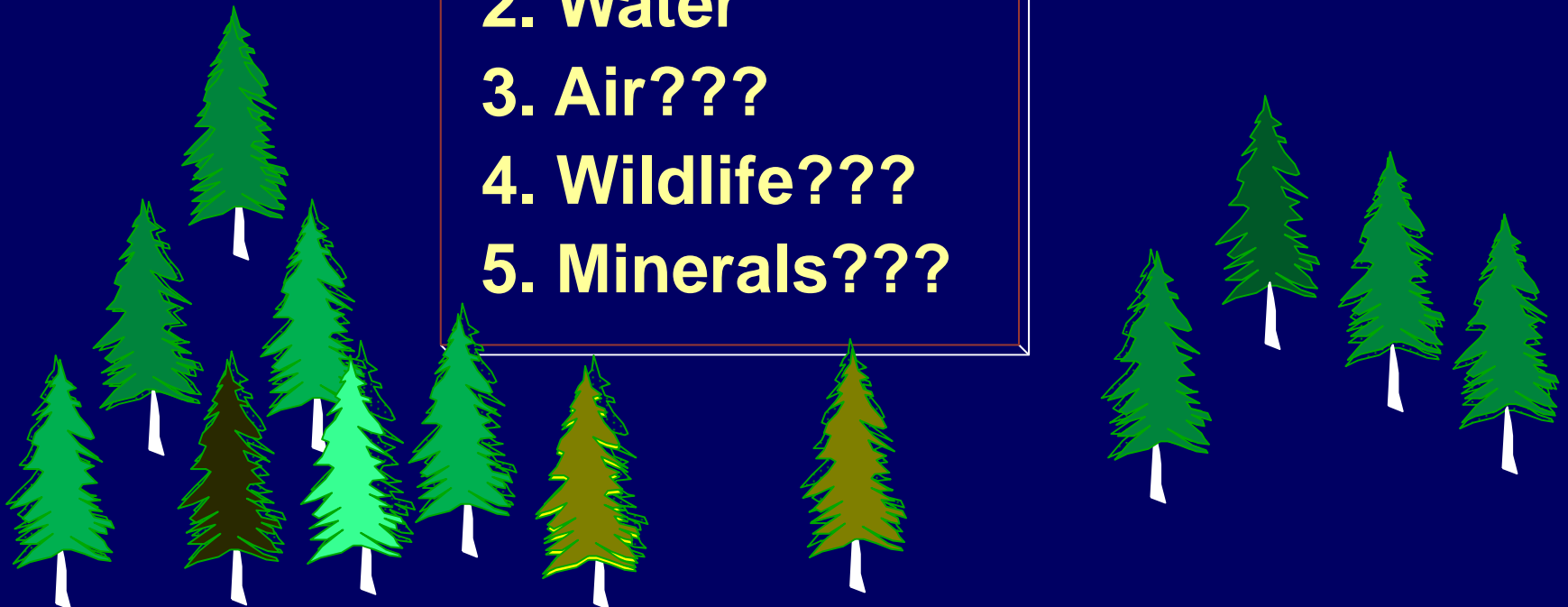
Natural Resource Economics

Natural resource--

A resource provided by nature

Natural resources important to agriculture

1. Land
2. Water
3. Air???
4. Wildlife???
5. Minerals???



Types of natural resources:

Fund or Stock

Use "uses up" the resource

Nonrenewable or renewable only over
a very long period of time

Oil, coal, gas,

Topsoil??

Soil productivity??



Flow Resource

Not "used up"

Renewable

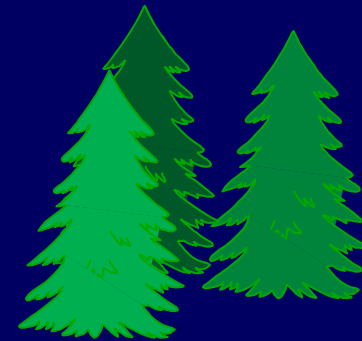
Cover crop as a source of nutrients

Water maybe

but....

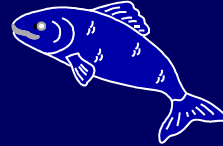
irrigation water table???

Trees

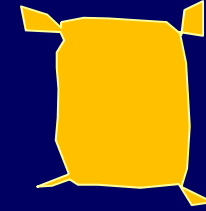


Issues in agriculture involving natural resources

1. Soil Conservation



2. Water quality



3. Chemical fertilizer runoff

4. Pesticides & the Environment

5. Air pollution near livestock facilities

6. Agriculture near industrial areas

7. Acid rain

8. Wildlife & agricultural production

coyotes vs sheep
hunters



9. Others

Pricing of Stock (nonrenewable) resources

How should a stock resource be priced?

1. Cost of recovery

Over time, the easily recovered resource
will be removed first

increasing marginal cost of recovery

The first oil wells were but a few hundred feet deep

Stock resources ultimately become more expensive
to recover as easily recovered supplies
are exhausted

New recovery technology needed to obtain supplies

Examples:

**An ounce of gold from many tons of ore
Large-scale off-shore drilling platforms**

**New technology can, in some
instances, dramatically lower recovery costs
In other instances, new technology can keep
recovery costs from increasing**

**2. Cost of recovery plus
money for investment in
new technology for recovery**



**3. Use renewable resources instead
grain alcohol as a fuel**



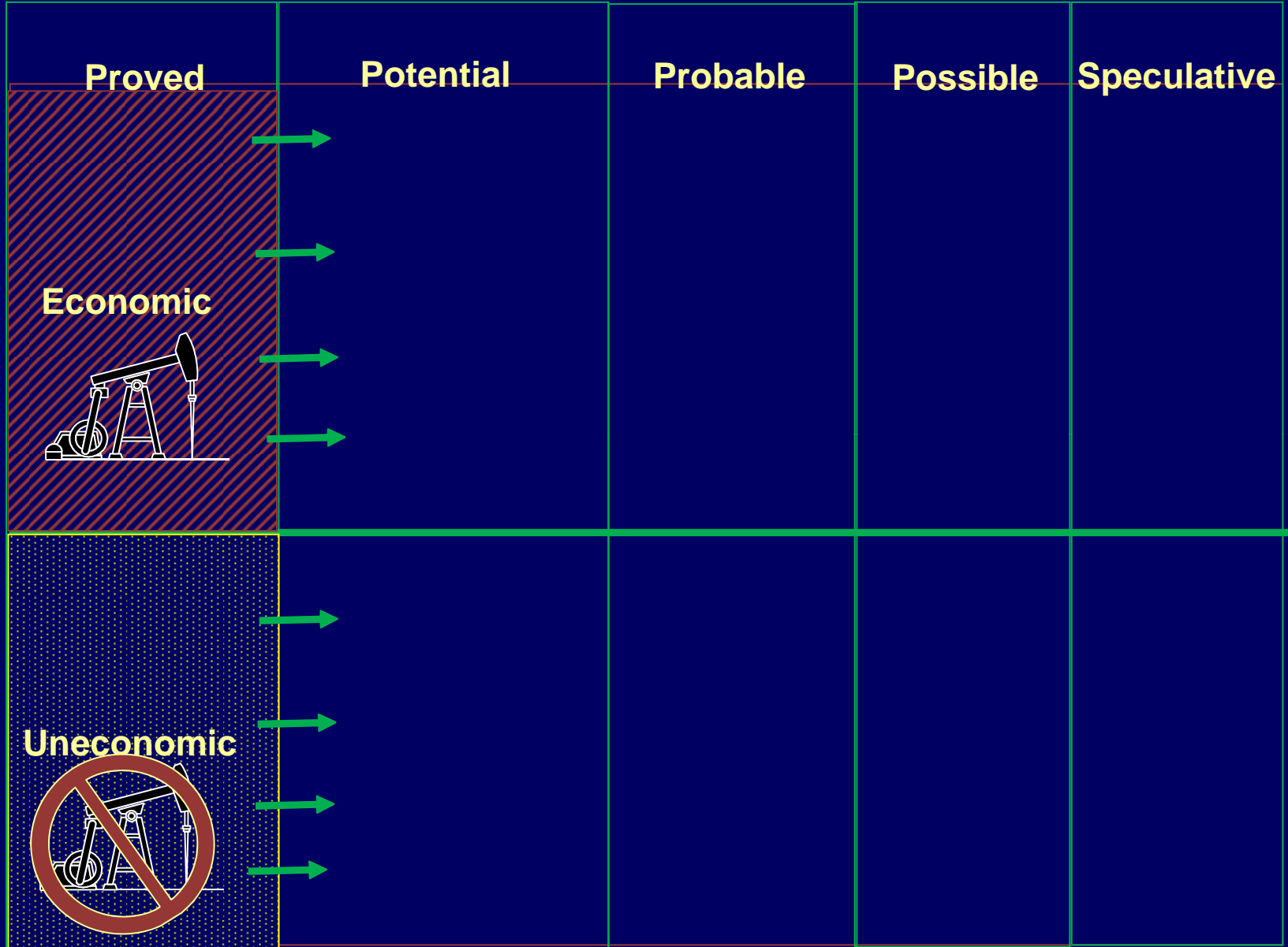
**4. Substitute nonrenewable resources
in good supply for nonrenewable
resources in short supply**



**coal versus oil for fuel & electricity
oil vs. natural gas**

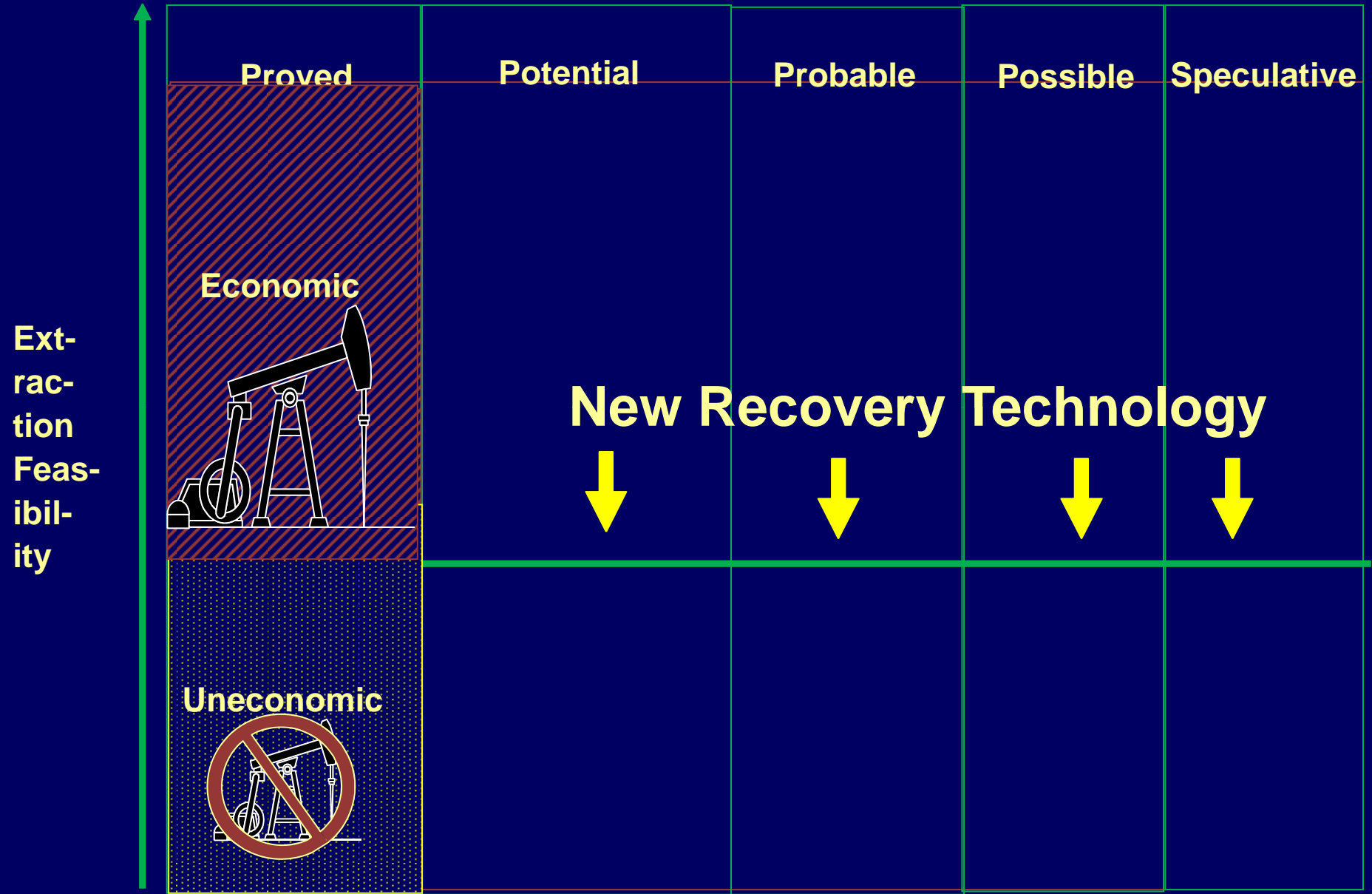
Total Resource Reserve

Ext-
rac-
tion
Feas-
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ity



Decreasing certainty of existence

Total Resource Reserve



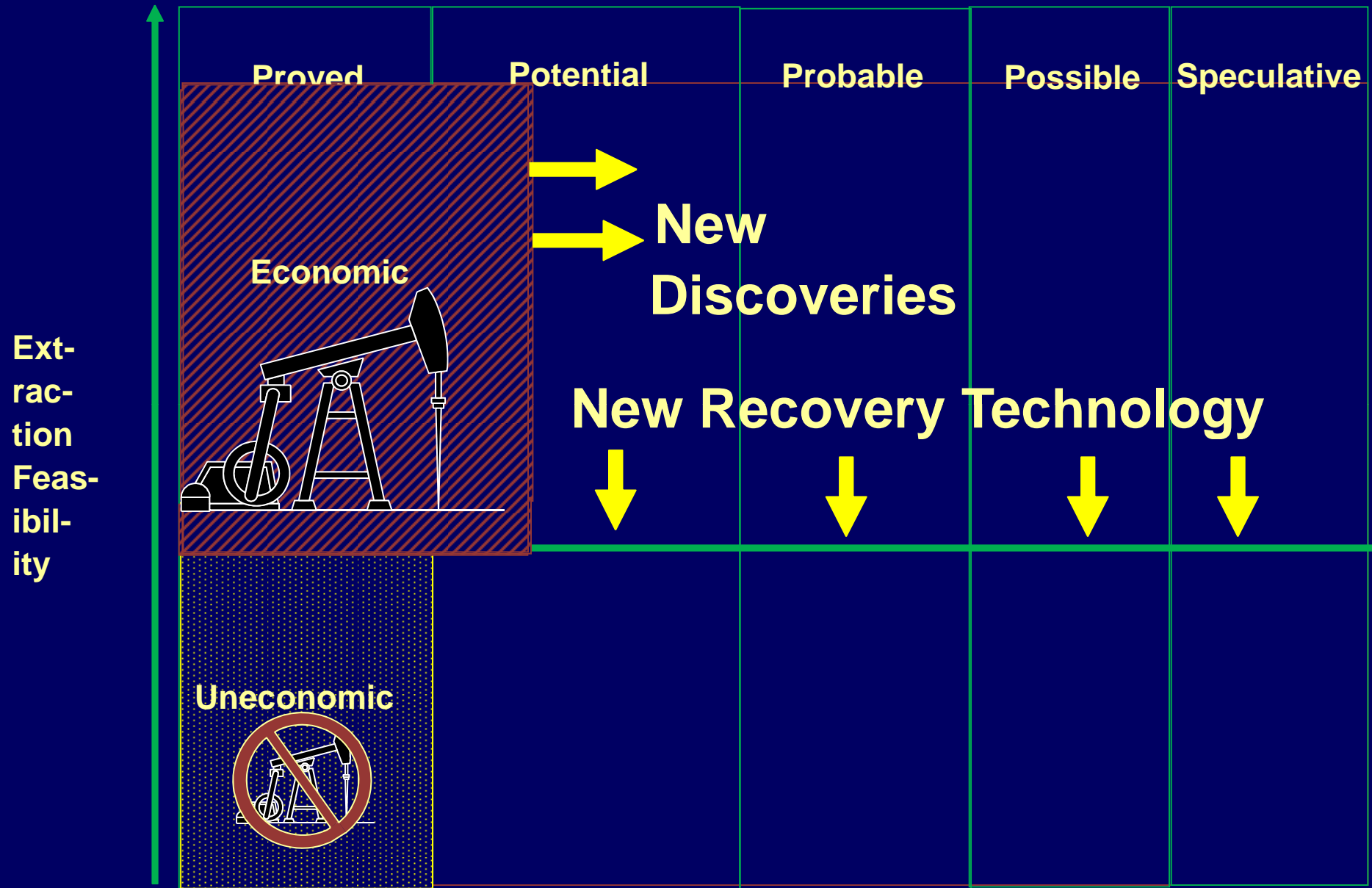
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New Recovery Technology



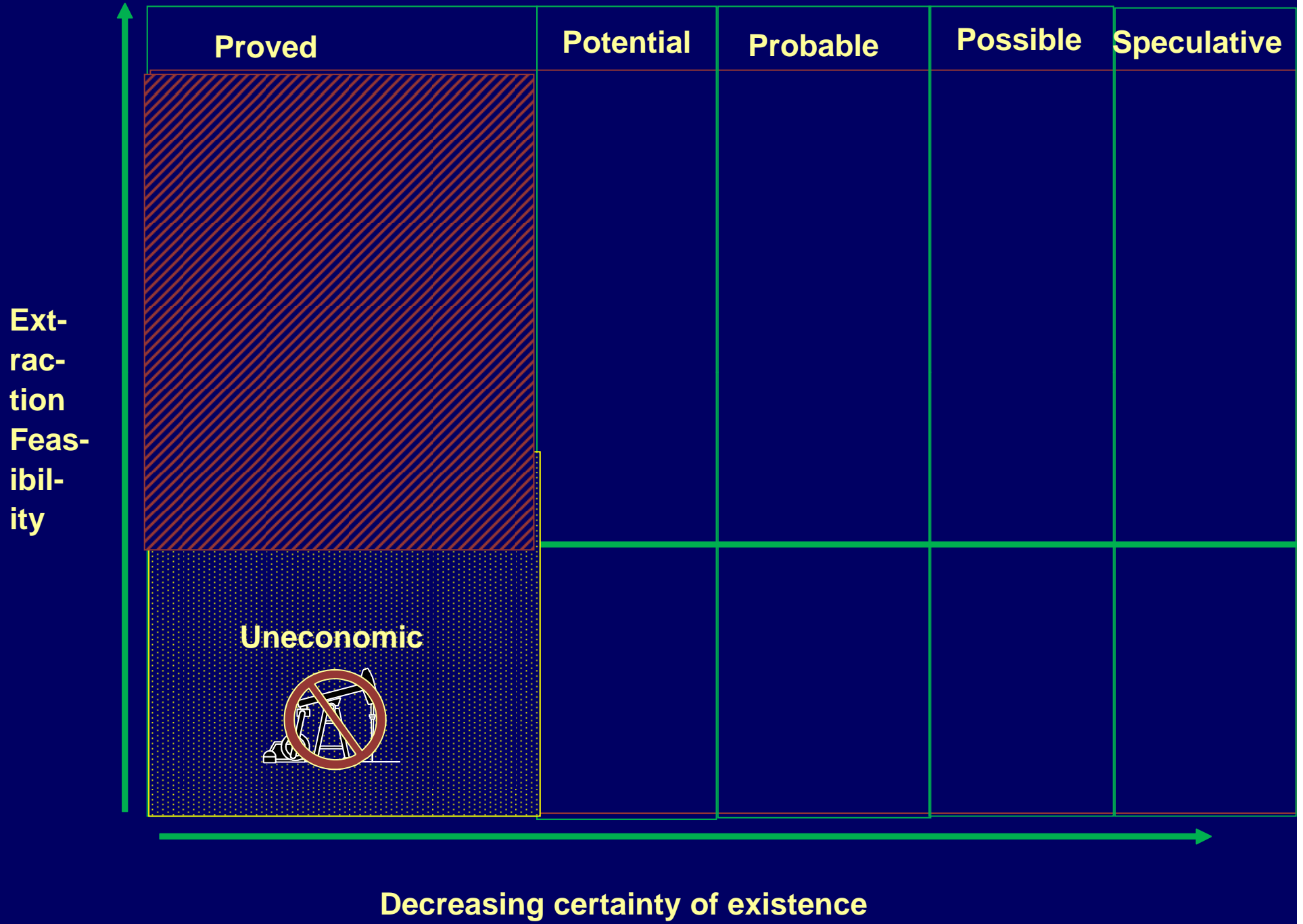
Decreasing certainty of existence

Total Resource Reserve

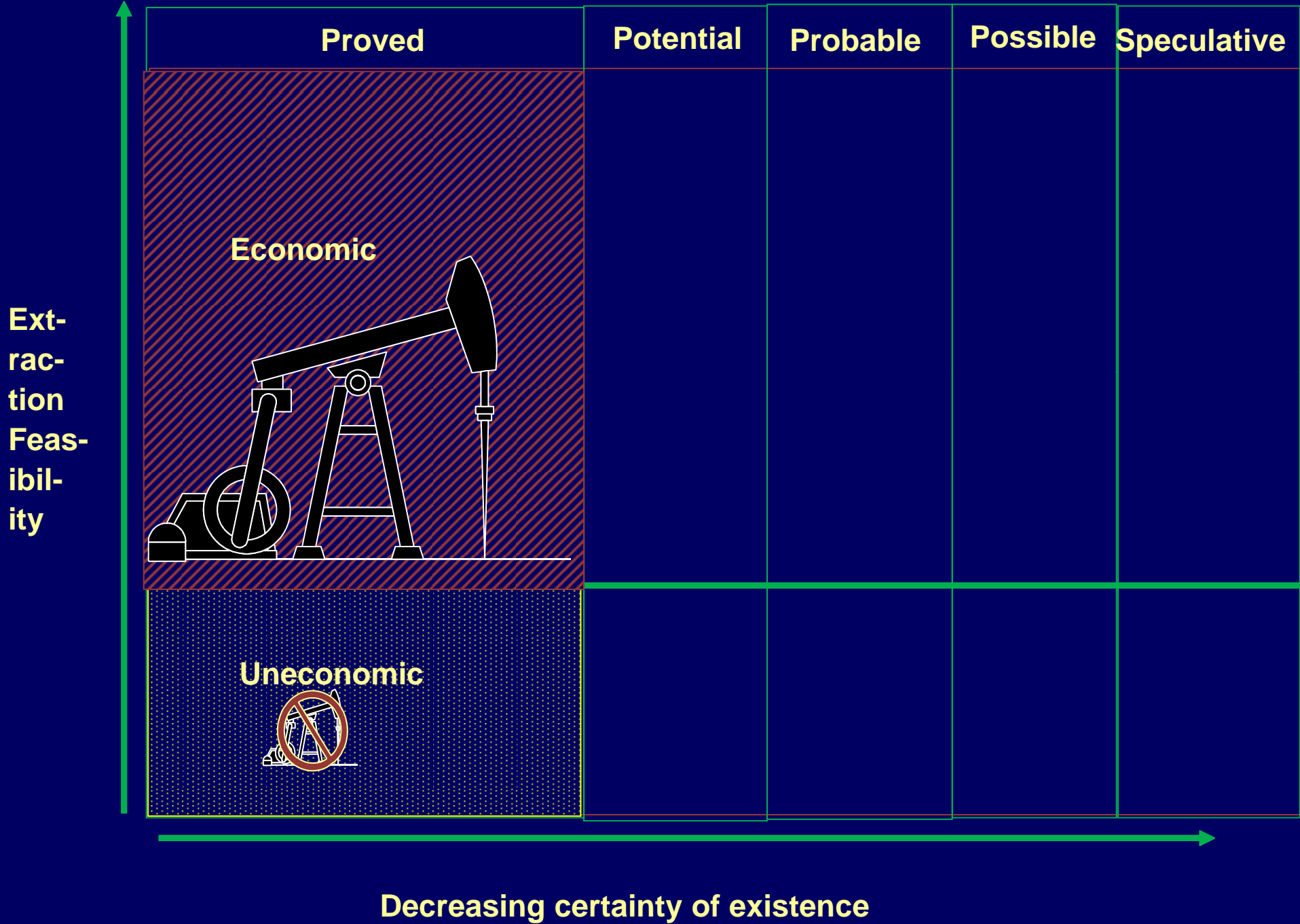


Decreasing certainty of existence

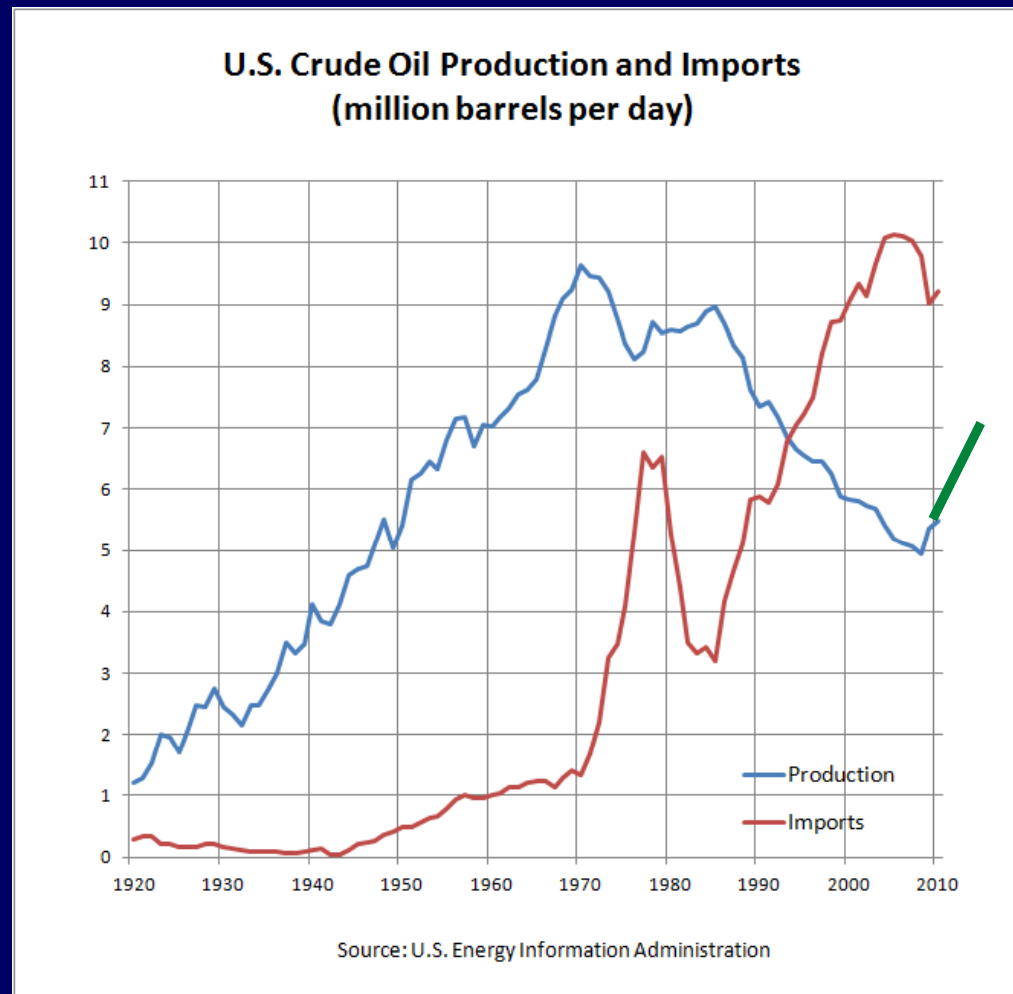
Total Resource Reserve



Total Resource Reserve

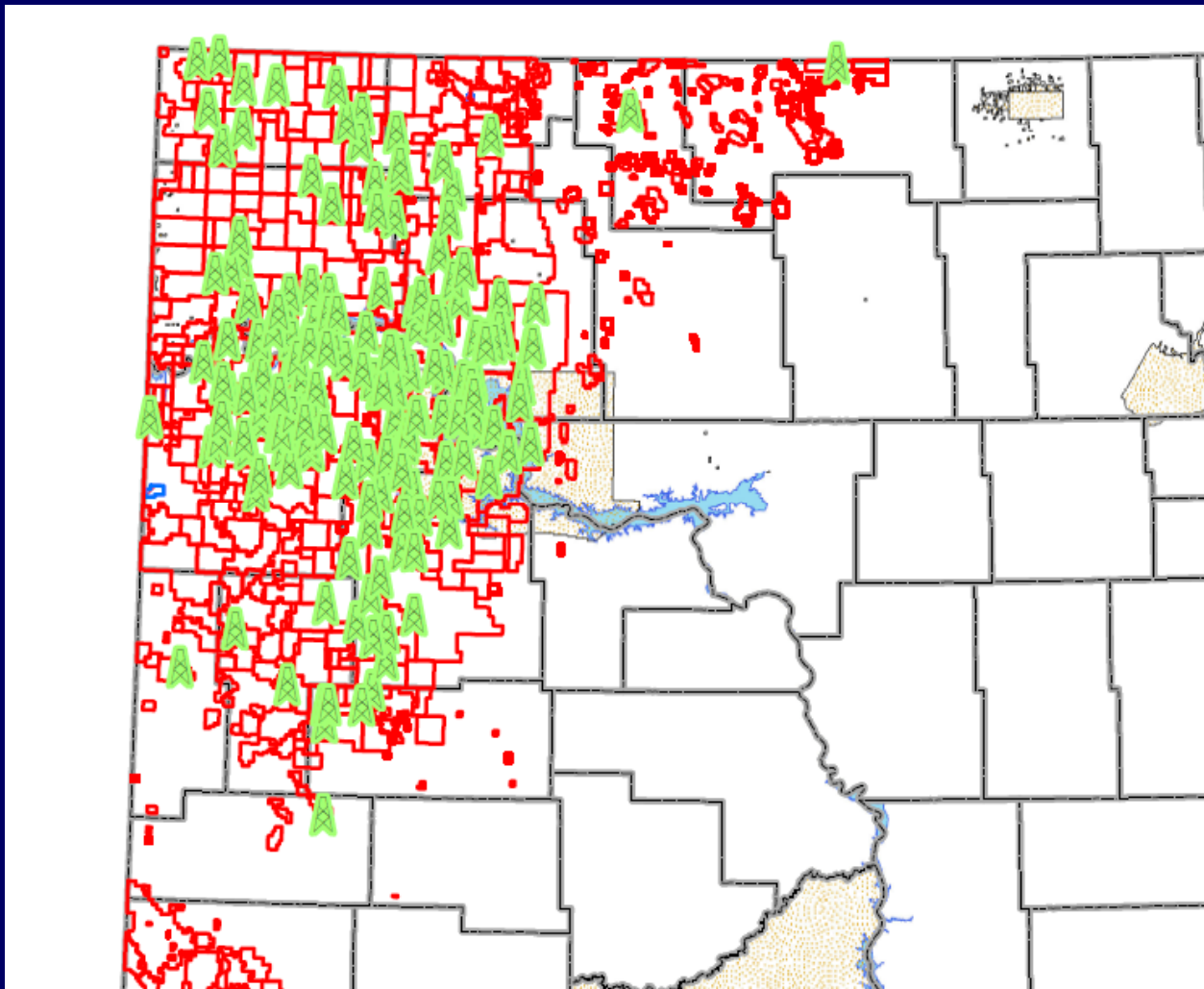


U.S. Oil production is rebounding as imports are falling



2013 U.S. Oil production estimated at over 7 million barrels/day

Oil Rigs in the Bakken Field of Northwest North Dakota (field started 2006)



Conclusion

**We do not really "run out" of a
nonrenewable resource**

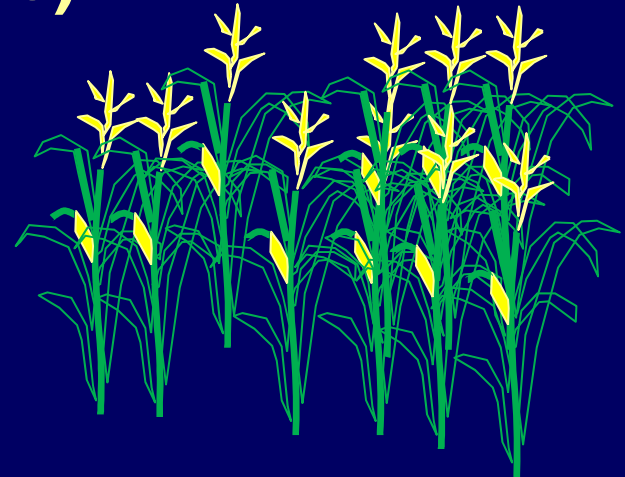
**As new recovery technology develops
some of the resource uneconomic
to recover becomes economic to recover**

**As new discoveries are made
some potential reserves become
proven reserves**

**Extraction always feasible at
some price...**

But what price??

- 1. cost of extraction**
 - 2. extraction + Research & Development costs**
 - 3. Imputed value, Implicit worth
(Cost of "next best" alternative)**
- Arab oil vs grain alcohol**



An oil crisis, what happened?

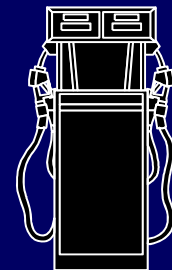
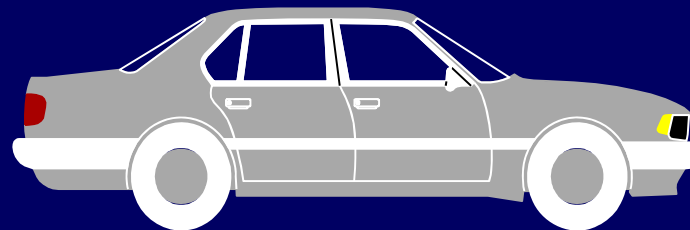
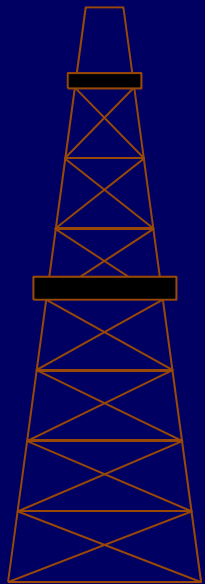
We didn't run out of oil, at least not yet

Gasoline prices "reasonable" again

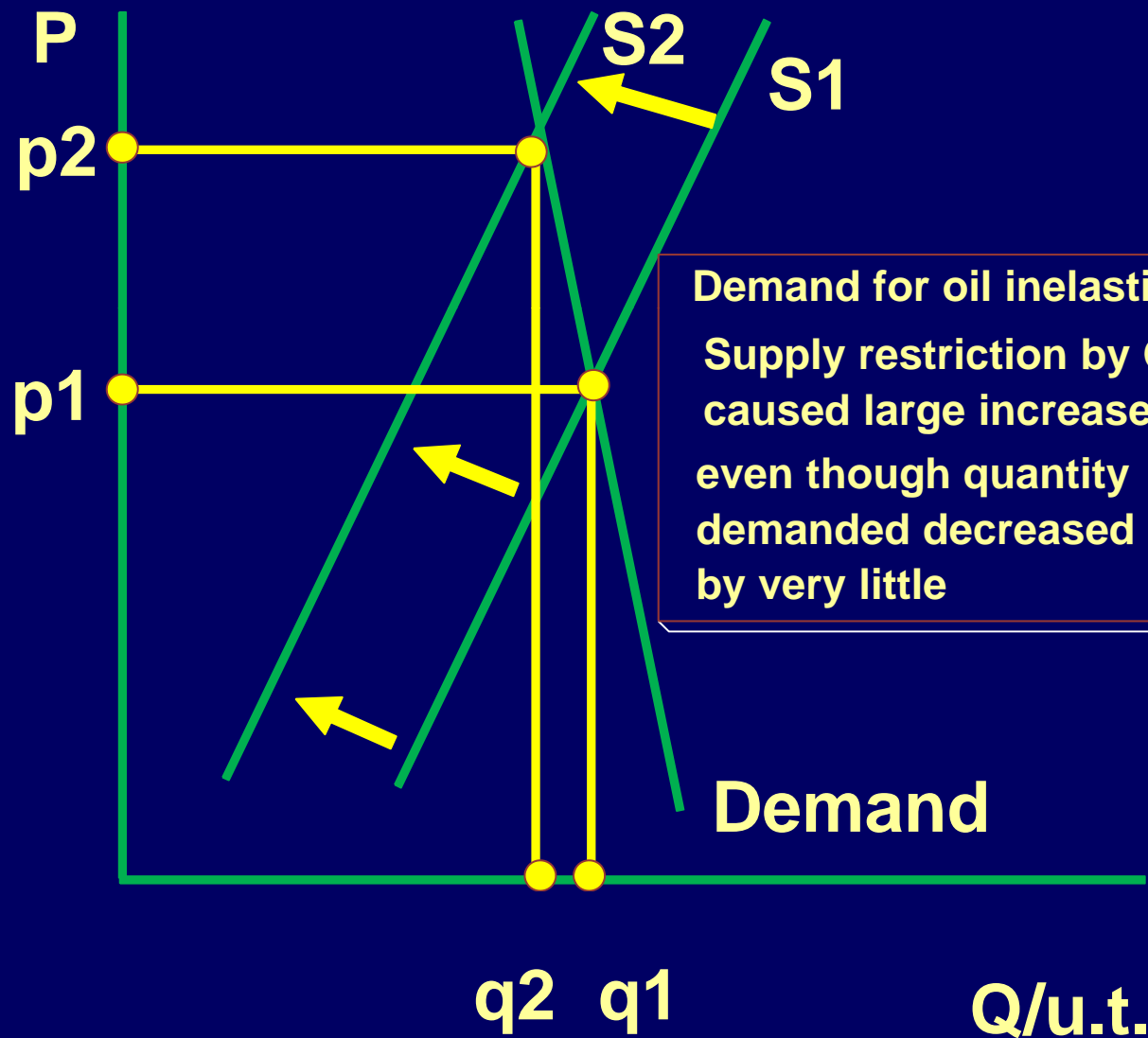
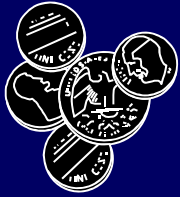
Monopoly power of oil cartel broken

Autos became more fuel-efficient

Small shifts in demand caused price reductions



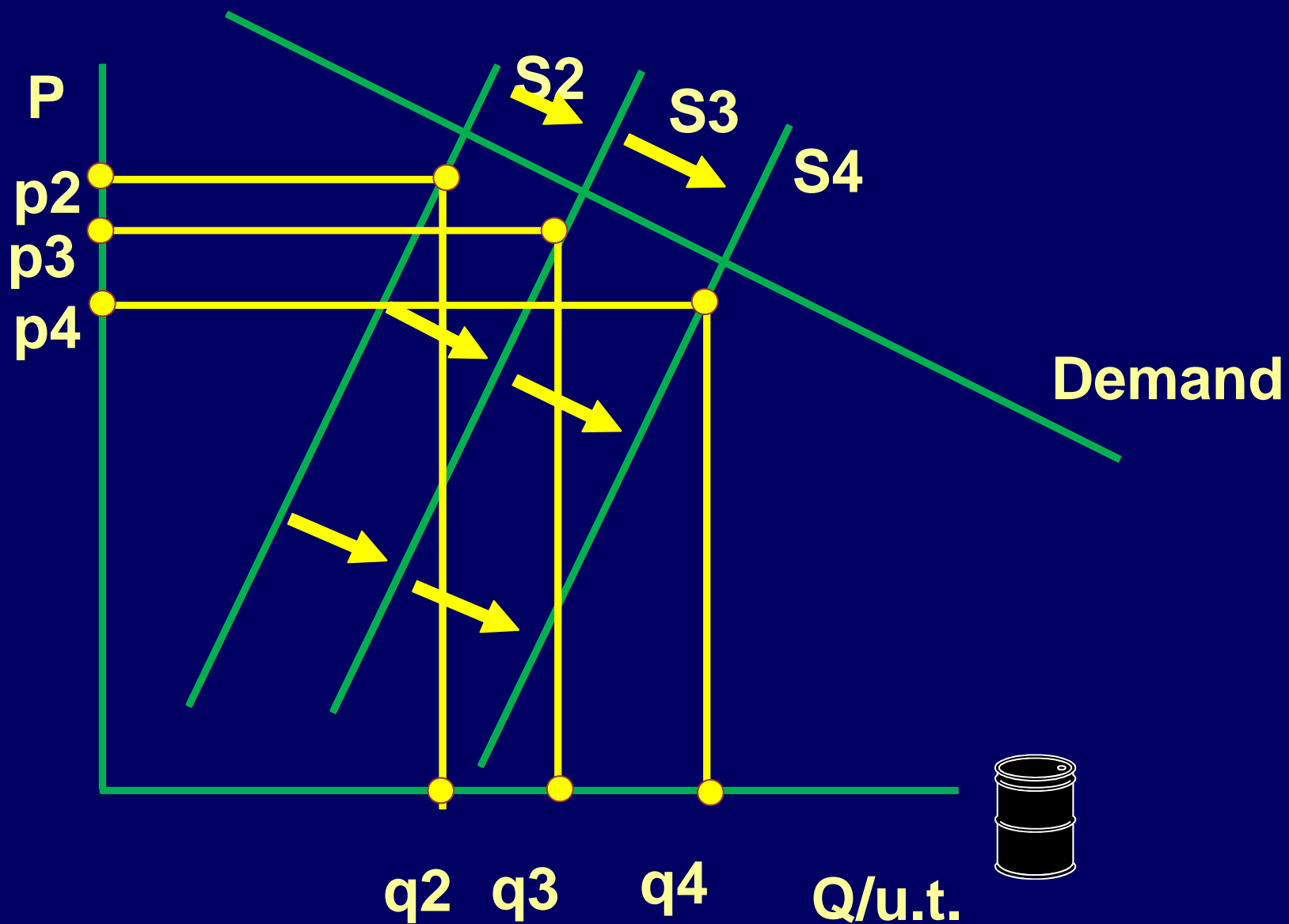
Demand for oil, 1979, Short Run, U.S.



Demand for oil inelastic in short run
Supply restriction by OPEC
caused large increase in price
even though quantity
demanded decreased
by very little

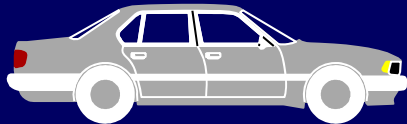


Long-run Demand and Supply for oil, U.S.



In the long run

**Demand more price-elastic
as cars become more
fuel -efficient**



More substitutes for oil

Old, oil-burning furnaces replaced

OPEC monopoly power reduced

less able to restrict supply

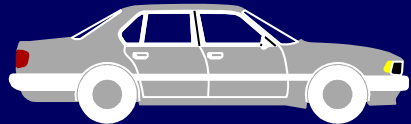
as non-OPEC nations produce more

Supply gradually shifts outward

Prices gradually move downward

In the long run

New technology makes previously uneconomic sources economic



(Bakken field in North Dakota)

More substitutes for oil

Supply gradually shifts outward

Electric-powered vehicles

Wind farms

Solar panels

Better insulated homes and factories

More fuel efficient production practices in manufacturing

Soil Conservation

**Problem: How do you get farmers
to implement soil-conserving practices
when they can make more money
in the short run
by not implementing the practices?**

**Borrowing from the productivity
of land for future generations**

Alternatives

**1. Scold farmers
threaten
cajole**

**not very effective (usually)
hard to justify if your family is starving**

**Educational efforts
by Soil Conservation Service**

2. Government subsidies

**Federal government pays part
or all of the cost of the
conservation practice**

This gets farmers interested (usually)

Why is SCS a government agency?

**Farmers, as individuals would
not look at long run**

Subsidy programs heavily used

CRP is basically soil conservation

3. Develop conservation practices that are economically warranted in the short run

**A few conservation practices are
more profitable to farmer than
conventional practices
even in the short run**

**Min and no-till
as good or better yields
lower machinery costs
soil conserving compared
to conventional tillage**

Energy and U.S. Agriculture

How is efficiency in agricultural production measured?

1. Output Per Worker

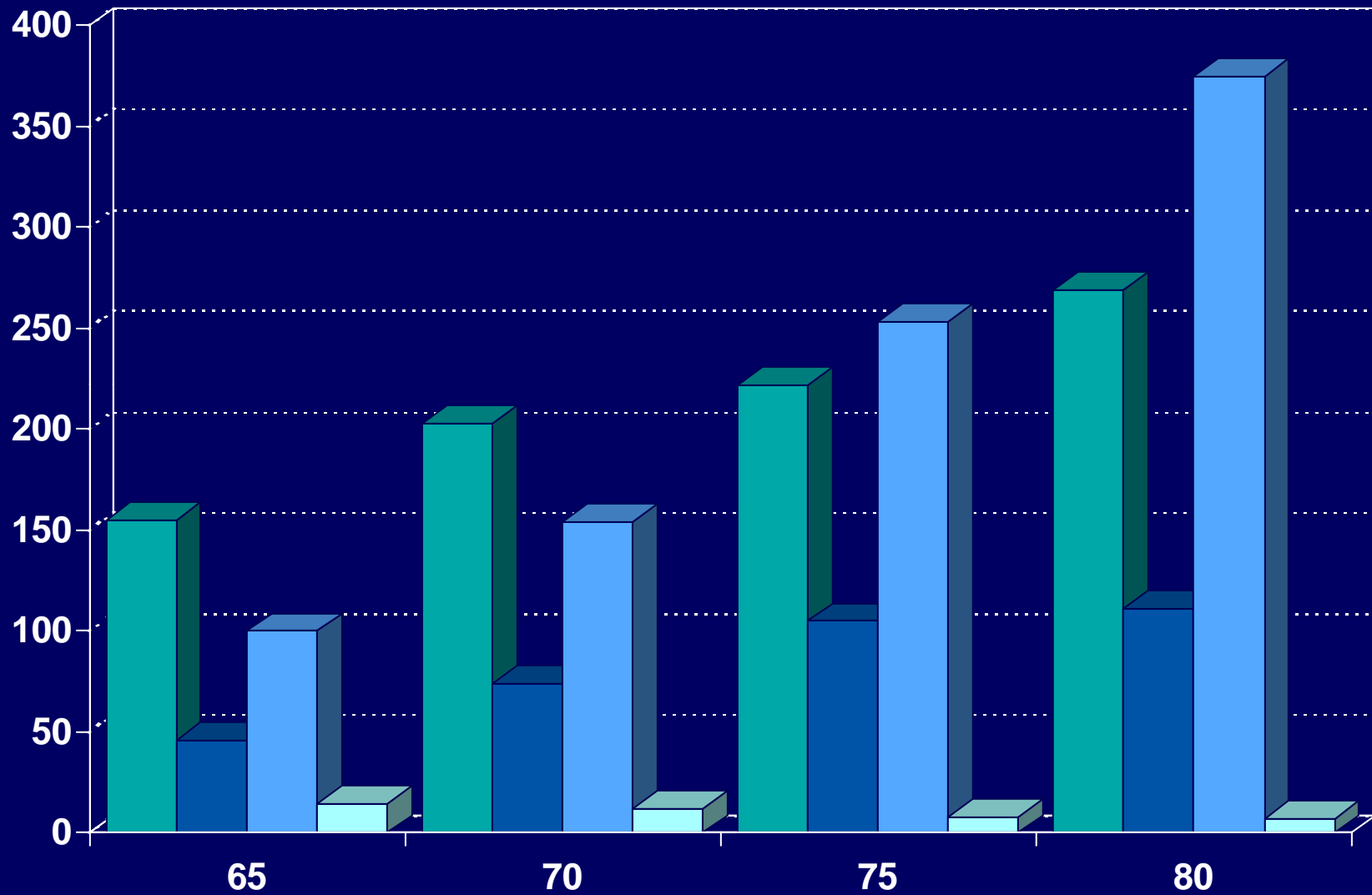
US agriculture one of the most efficient
in the world based on this criterion

Only one measure of efficiency

Assumes that labor is the
"high cost" input that
must be conserved

May not continue to be the
most important measure

Resources used in US Agriculture



■ Tractor horsepower ■ Fertilizer/Acre ■ Chemicals/Acre ■ Labor/Acre

- 2. Output Per Unit of Fertilizer**
- 3. Output Per Unit of Pesticide**
- 4. Output Per Unit of Capital Invested**
- 5. Output Per Unit of Liquid Fuels Energy**

**Based on measures 2-5, above,
the U.S. probably does not rank
high relative to other countries
we would view as having
more "primitive" agricultures**

**A major reason for our efficiency
in terms of output per worker
is because of our inefficiency
based on these other measures...**

What are the relevant criteria?

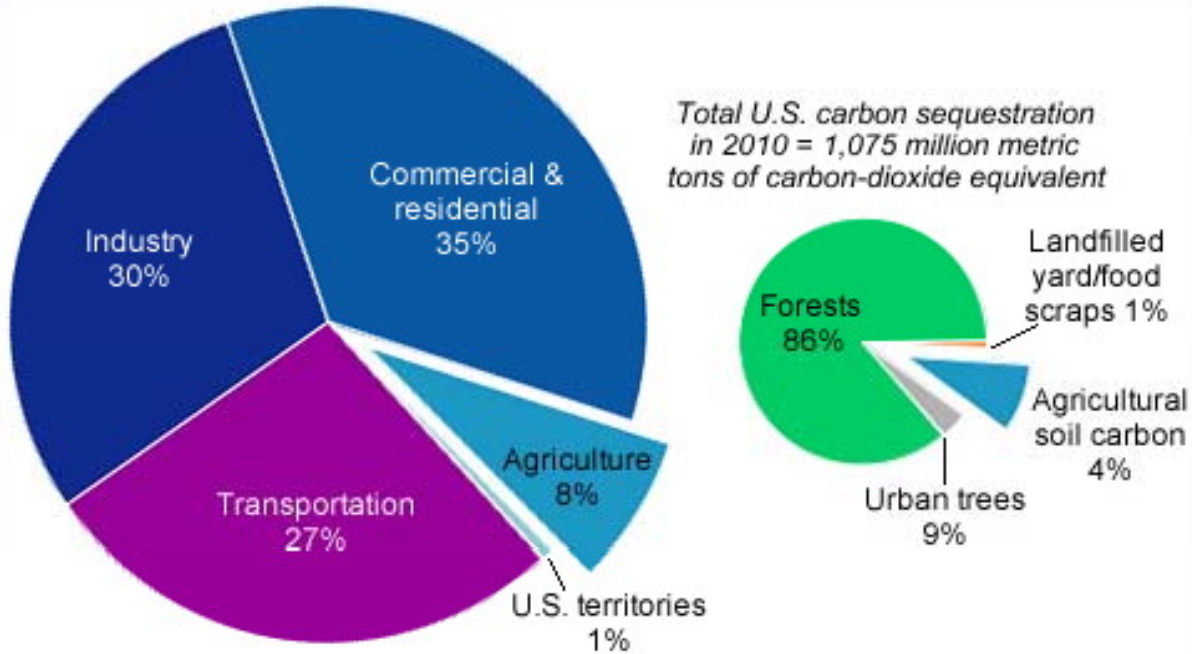
**Who are we to say that we are right and other
nations are wrong?**

**Our agriculture is very wasteful
of nonrenewable resources**

**Our agriculture pollutes the environment with
chemical fertilizers & pesticides**

Role of Agriculture in Greenhouse Gas Emissions

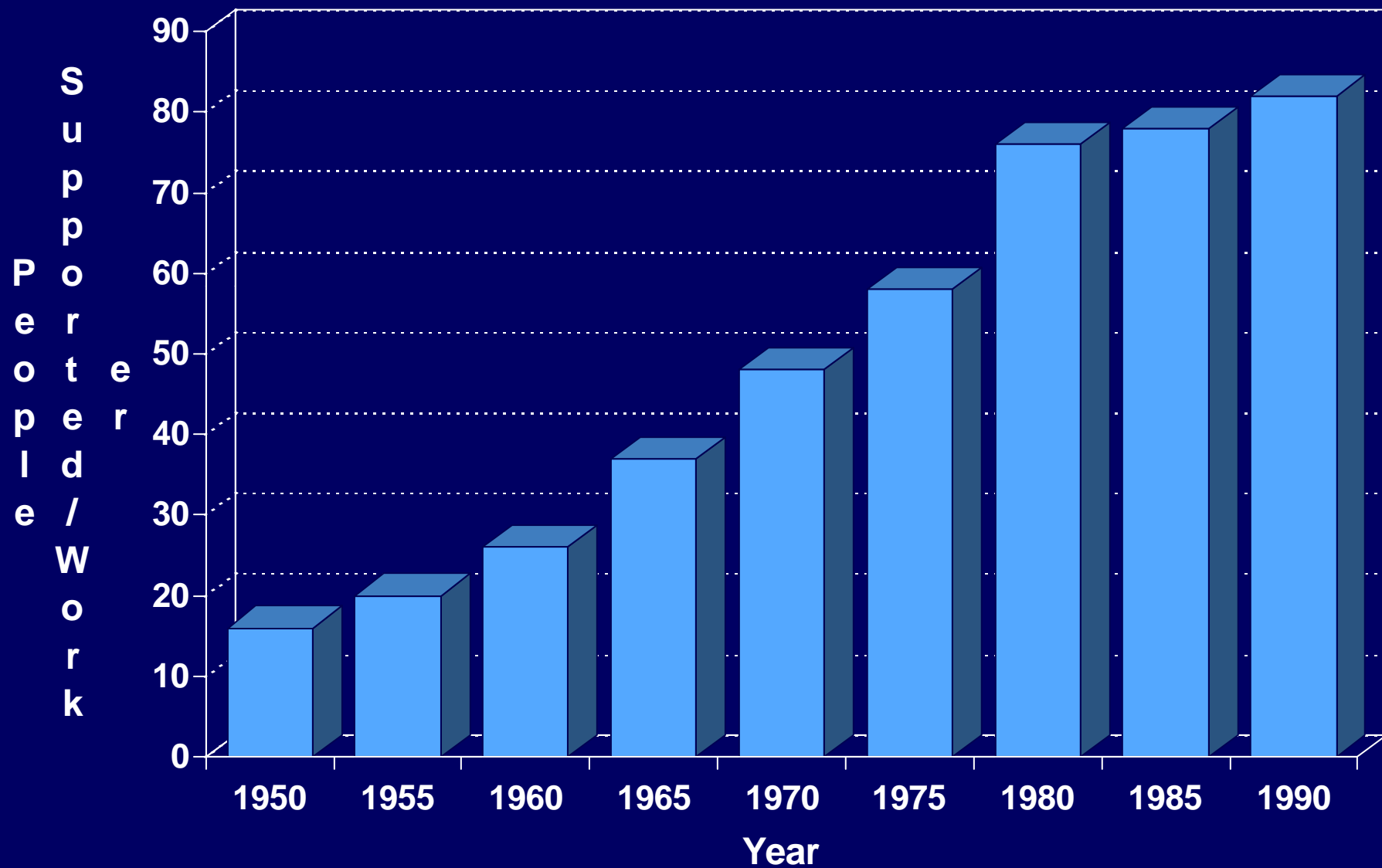
U.S. greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sequestration by economic sector, 2010



Total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions in 2010 = 6,822 million metric tons of carbon-dioxide equivalent

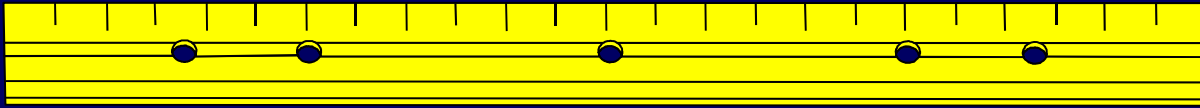
Note: Electricity emissions are allocated to each end-use sector based on its consumption. USDA, Economic Research Service using data from Tables 2-12 and 2-14, U.S. EPA. 2012. Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2010.

People Supported/Farm Worker, U.S., 1950-90



The current estimate is that each farmer feeds approximately 155 people!

Technologies that improve labor productivity continue to reduce the need for farm labor.



Is output per worker the appropriate

Measuring Stick?

**Will this measuring stick
continue to be appropriate?**

What about the long term implications?

**Nonrenewable resource supplies
Pollution and the environment**

Do farmers have a responsibility?

Chapter 14: Trade in Agricultural Goods

International Trade

Basis for International Trade



Countries should specialize in production for which they have a

Comparative advantage

Why does the U.S. import products requiring large amounts of hand labor?

Oriental rugs

Weaving, baskets, etc.

**Labor is cheap in countries producing
these products**

**Products require little capital investment
Americans value hand-made goods**

**Hand-made goods expensive
given U.S. wage rates**

Value of your grandmother's time

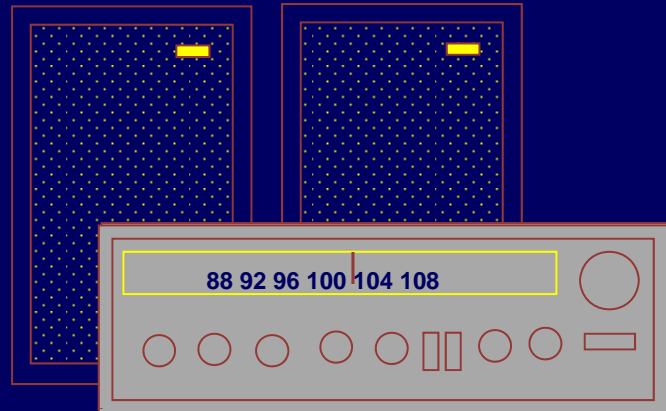
**Couldn't set up an efficient factory to
produce hand-sewn items in U.S.**

U.S. imports items from countries

**with a comparative advantage in producing
hand-made goods**

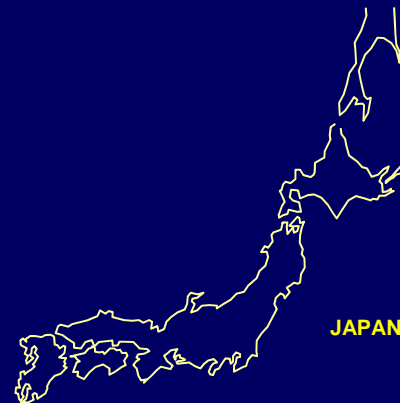
U.S. also imports high-tech items

VCR's
TV sets
Camcorders
CD players



Electronics industry established in places like

Korea
Taiwan
Singapore
Japan



Investment in automated, efficient plants

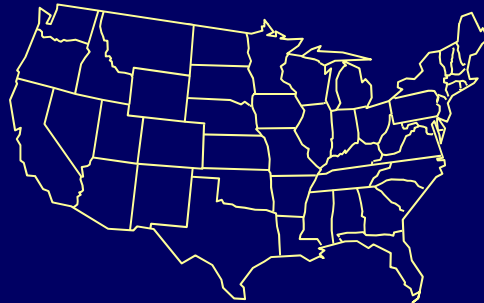
US exports agricultural commodities

Capital-intensive, low cost production of crops

Traditionally, the U.S. is the efficient producer

Comparative advantage in crops, beef, dairy

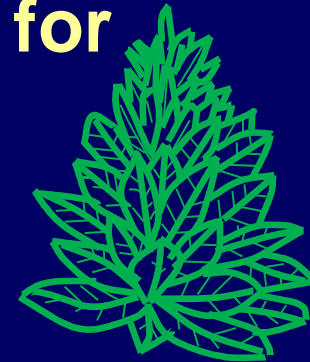
More threat from foreign competition for



Labor-intensive crops

Tobacco

Horticultural crops



Agriculture improving in much of rest of world



Soybeans--Brazil

Wheat-Saudi Arabia



Korea:



LG

Samsung

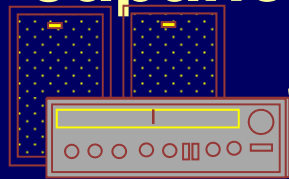
Cheaper, but labor rates increasing

Not all made in Korea

Korean-owned firms



“Japanese” electronics almost never made in Japan



**Japanese electronics sourced
around the world**

Why did Toyota invest in US?

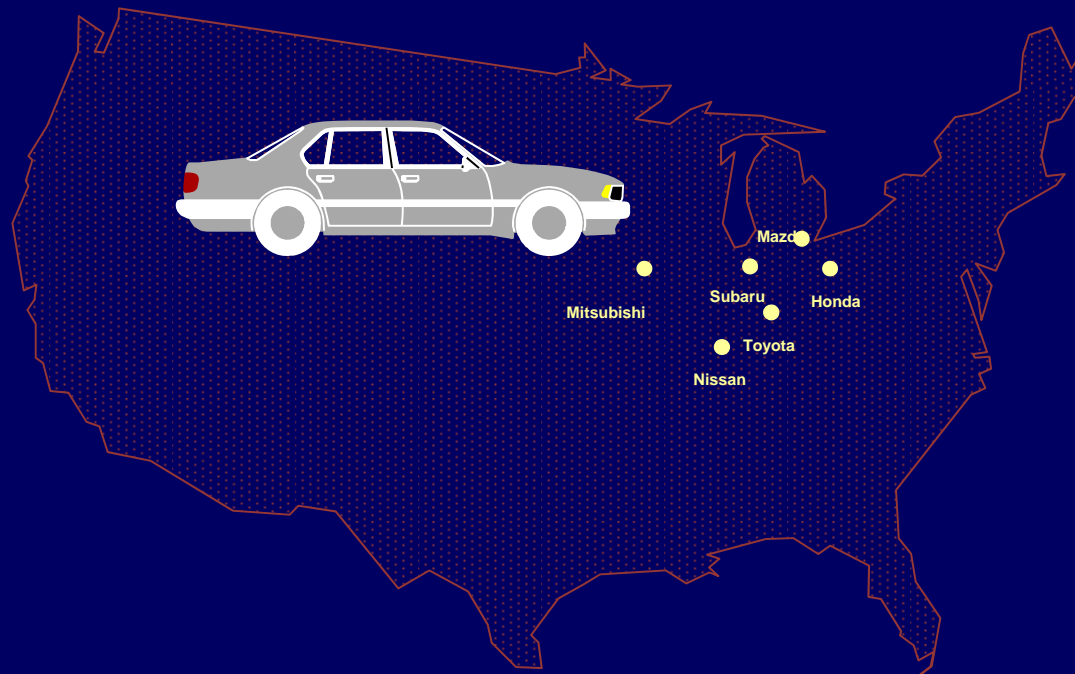
Real wage rates only slightly lower in Japan

Wage differentials no longer a big issue

Import restrictions on cars built outside the U.S.

No restrictions on U.S. assembled cars

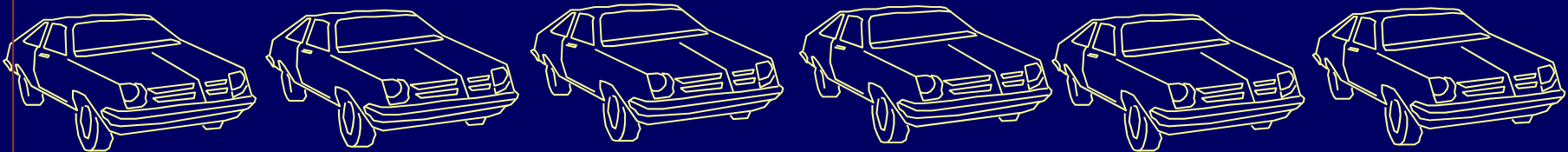
Honda 3 years ahead of Toyota with Ohio plant



Production of Motor Vehicles

Dodge Journey
Chevrolet Silverado
Chevrolet Impala
Lexus ES 350
Mazda MX-6
Honda Accord
Dodge Dart
Toyota Camry
Volkswagen Passat
Chevrolet Camaro

Saltillo, Mexico
Silao, Mexico
Oshawa, Canada
Georgetown, KY
Flat Rock, MI
Marysville, OH
Belvedere, IL
Georgetown, KY
Chattanooga, TN
Oshawa, Canada



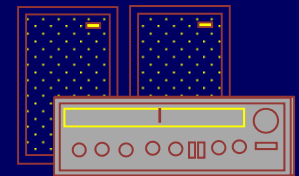
**Are you certain your american auto is american
Or your foreign auto is foreign?**

Production Possibilities Curve (U.S.)

Wheat

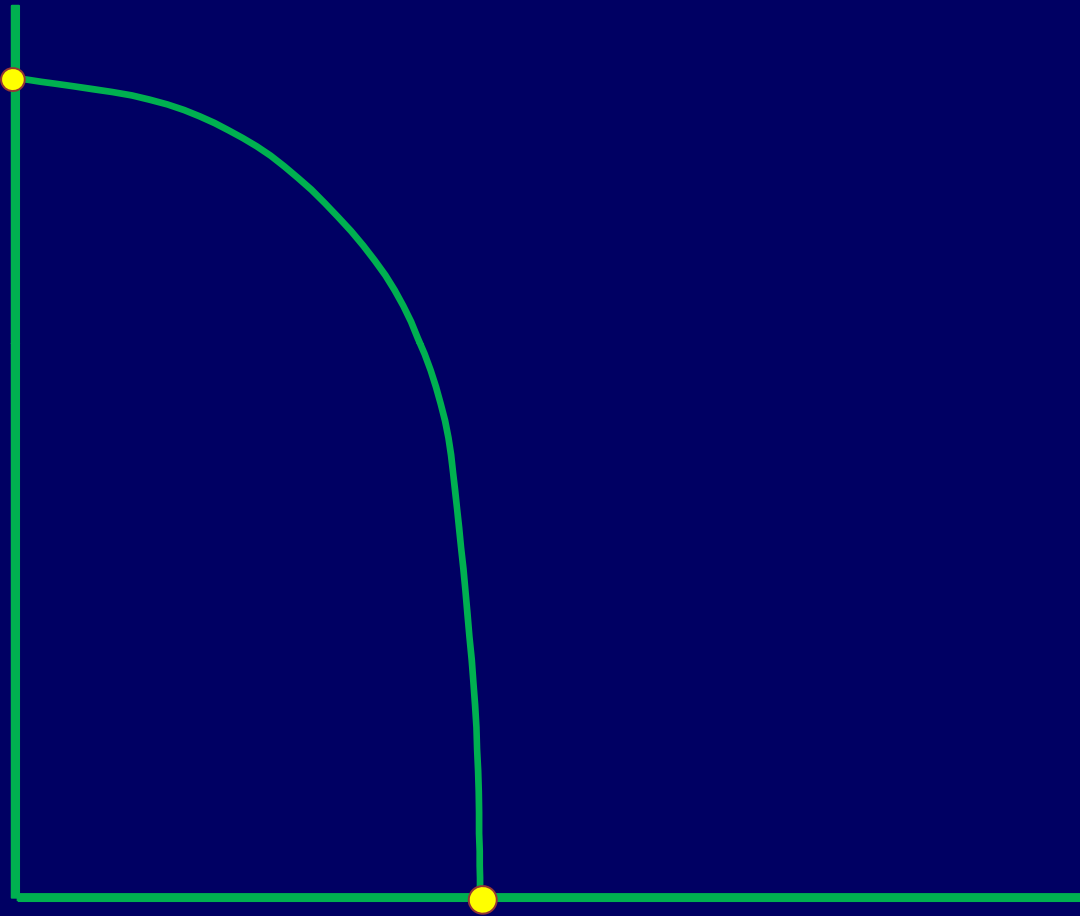


Electronics goods

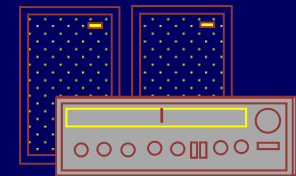


Production Possibilities Curve (U.S.)

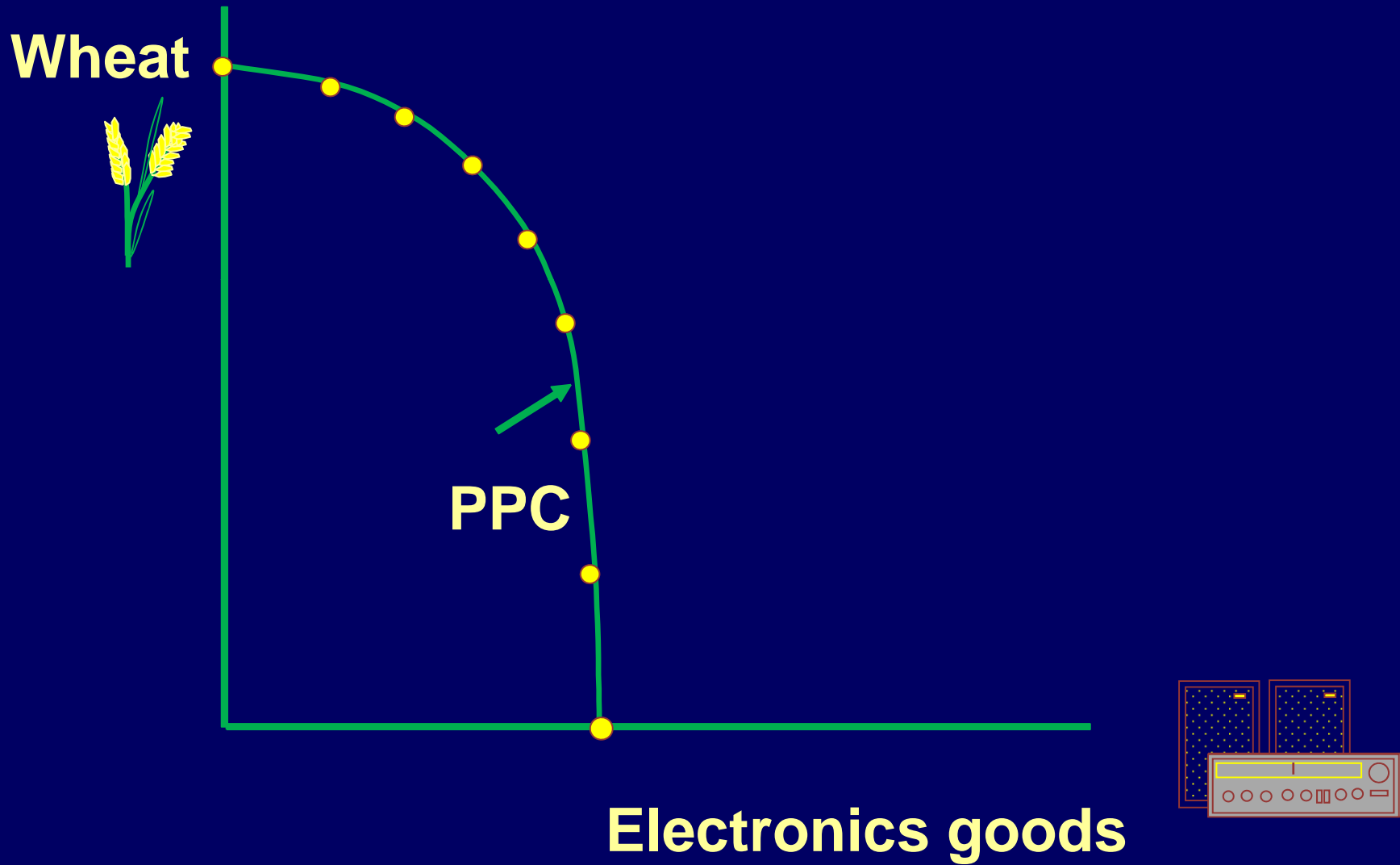
Wheat



Electronics goods



Production Possibilities Curve (U.S.)



Production Possibilities Curve (U.S.)

Wheat

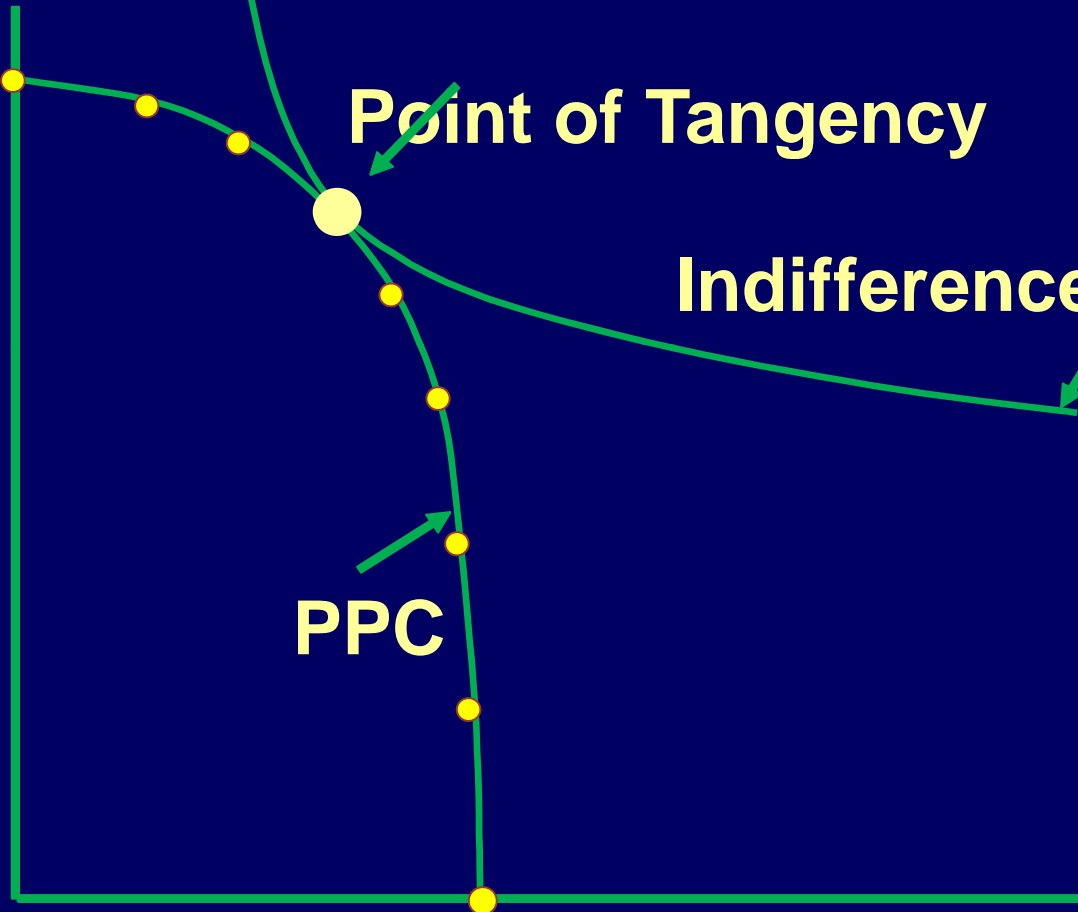
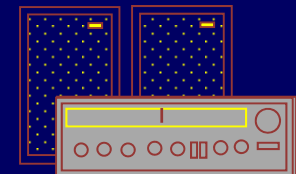


Point of Tangency

Indifference curve

PPC

Electronics goods



Production Possibilities Curve (U.S.)

Wheat



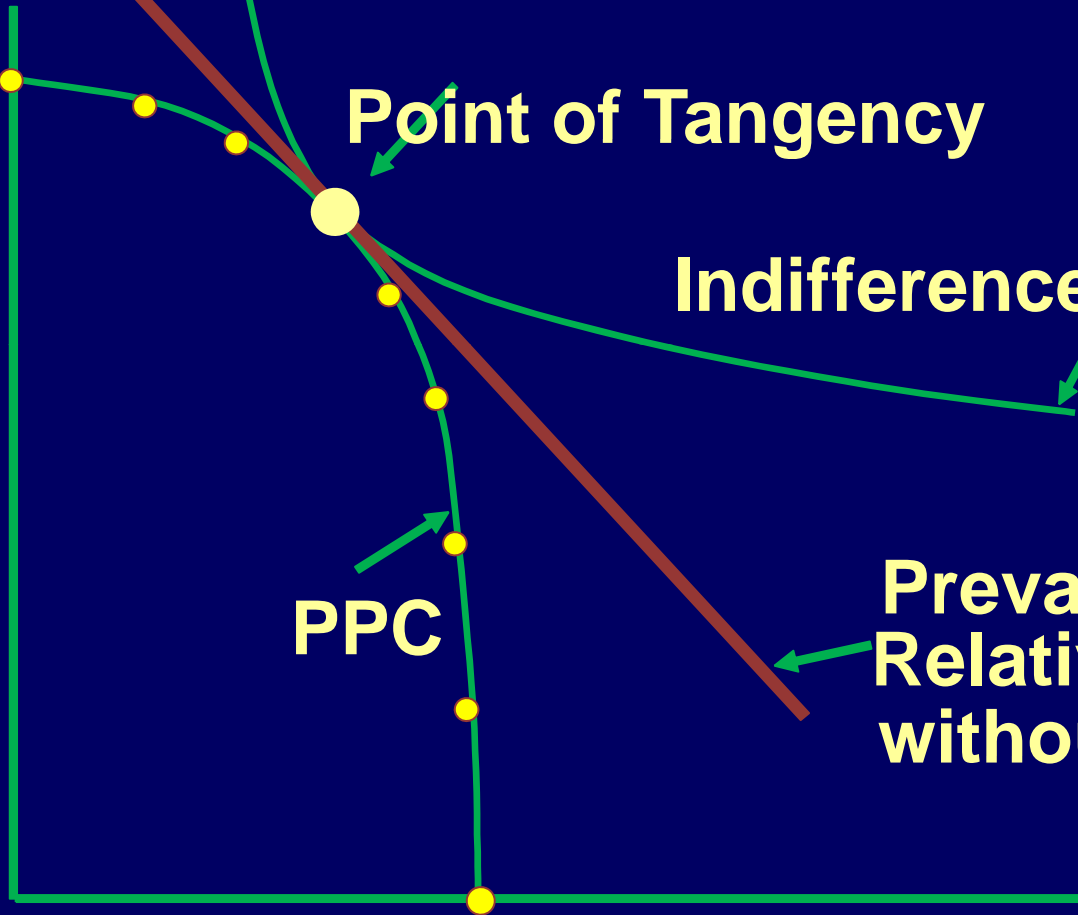
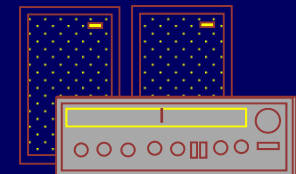
Point of Tangency

Indifference curve

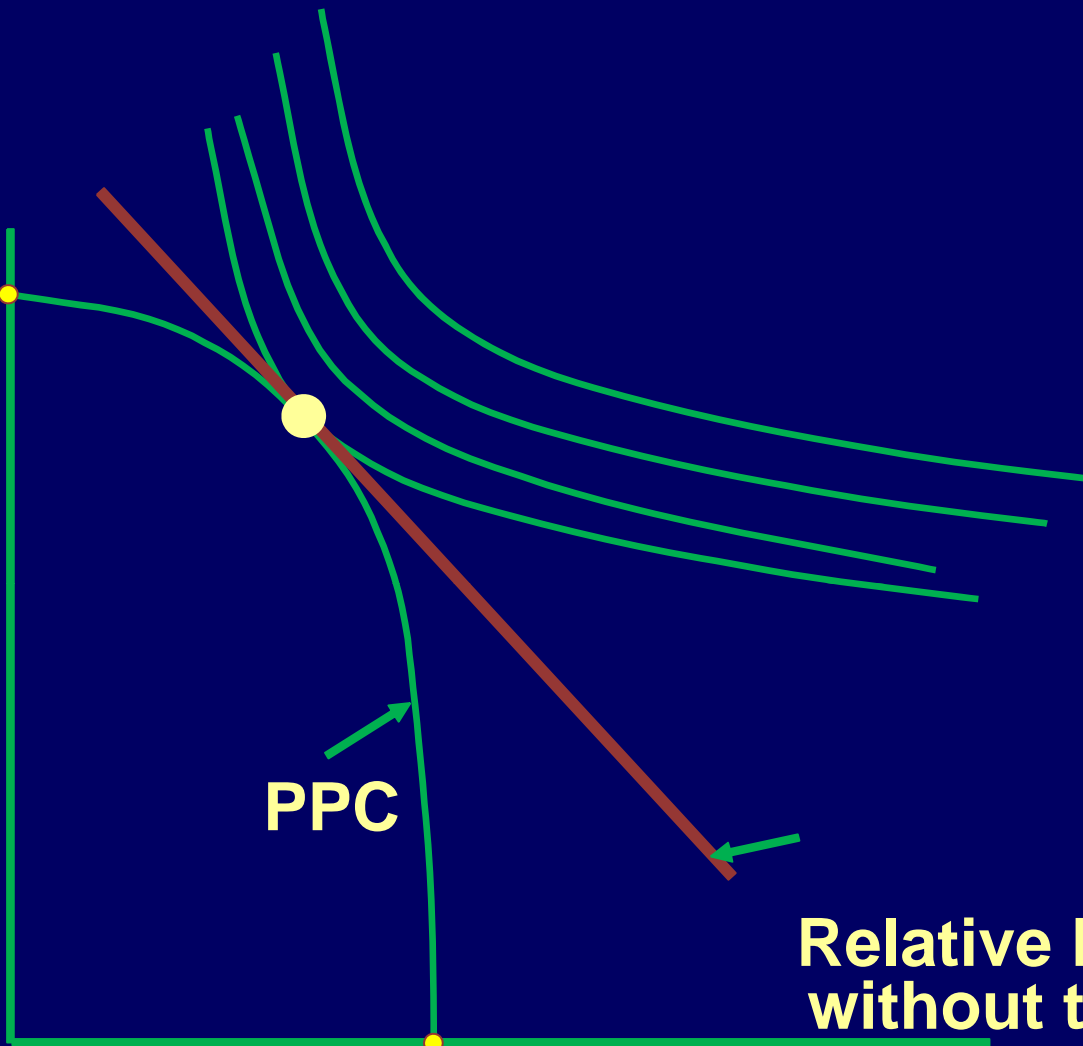
PPC

Prevailing Relative Prices without trade

Electronics goods



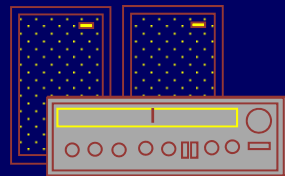
Wheat



PPC

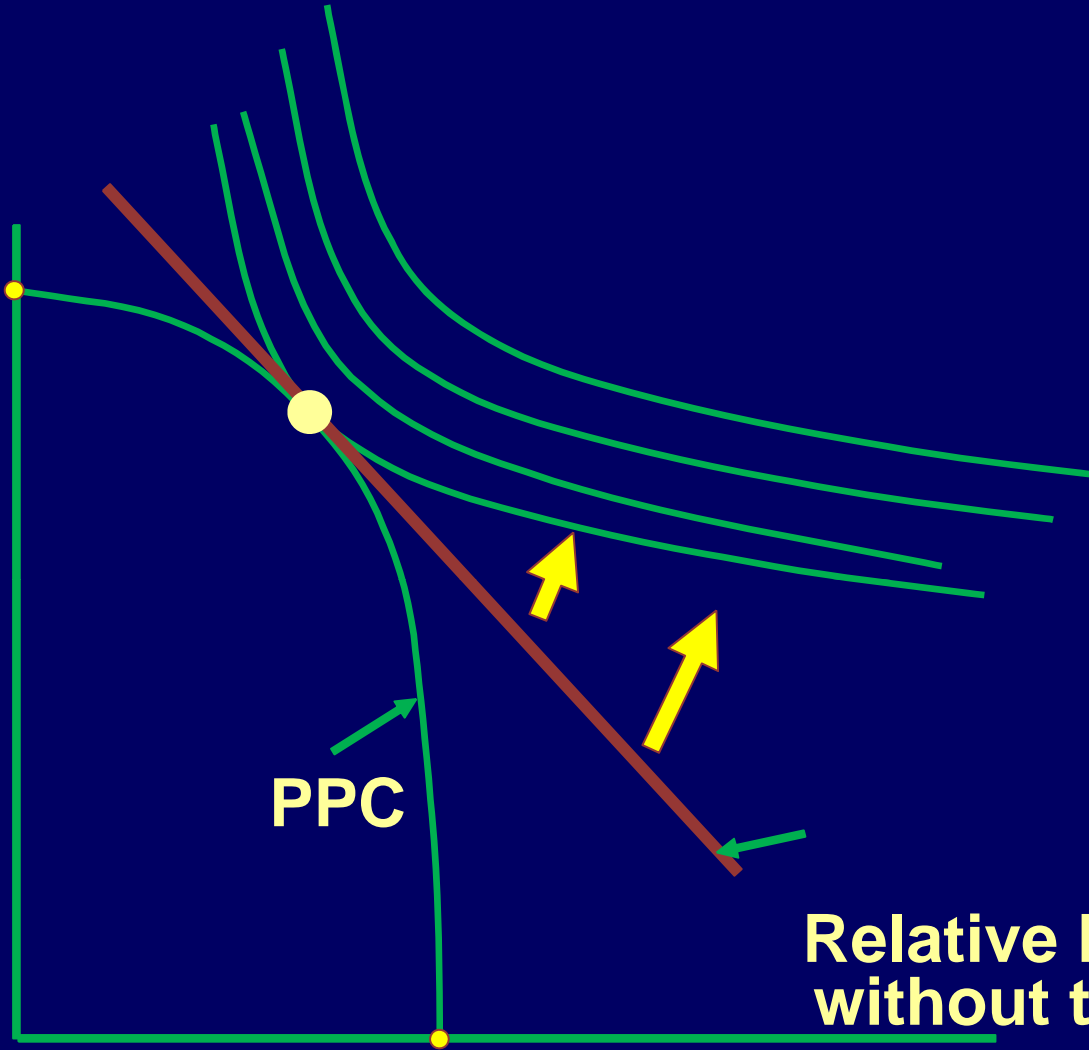
Relative Prices without trade

Electronics goods



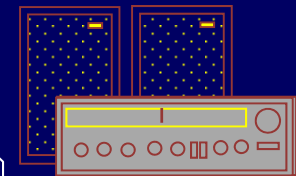
U.S. reaches higher indifference curve by trading wheat for electronics

Wheat



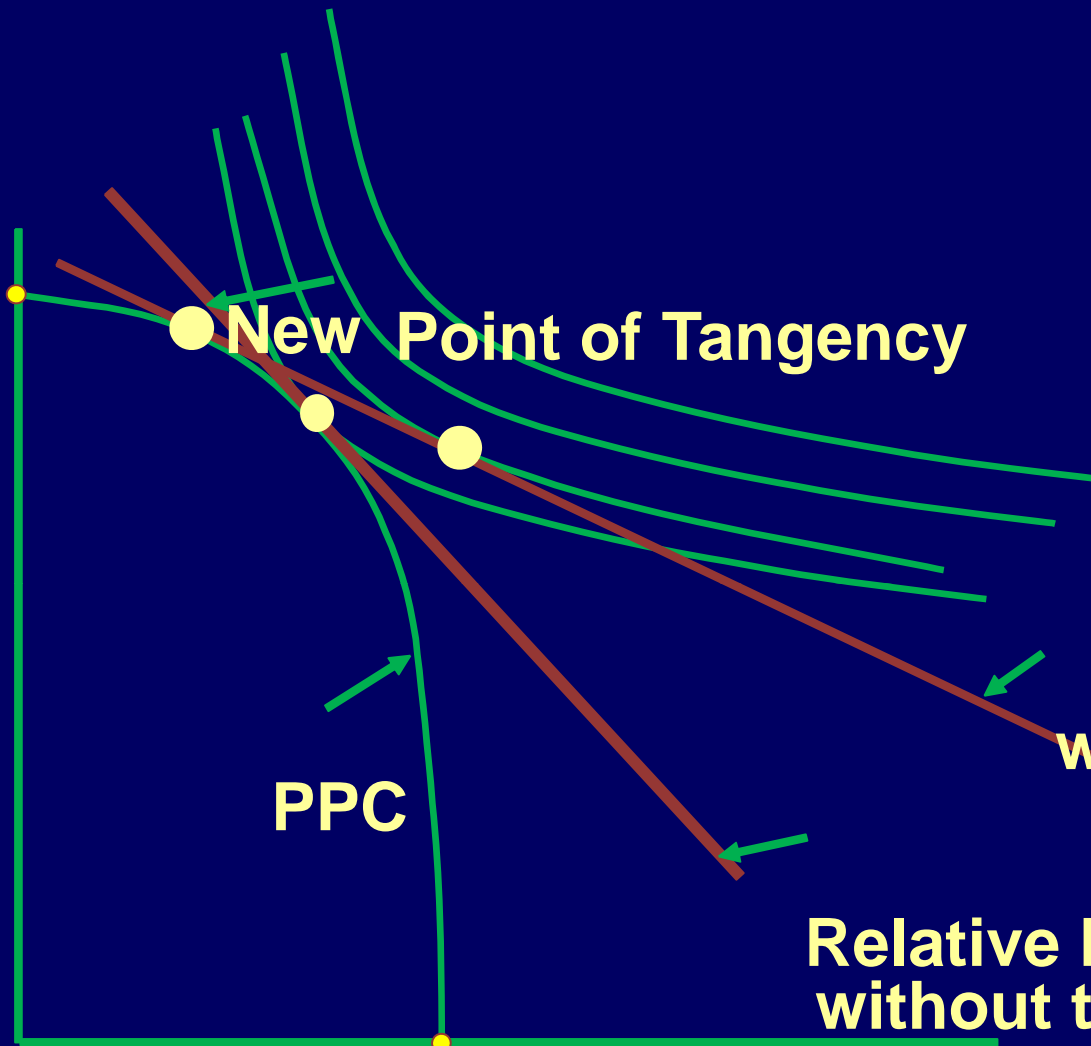
Relative Prices
without trade

Electronics goods



U.S. reaches higher indifference curve
by trading wheat for electronics

Wheat



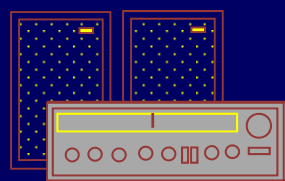
New Point of Tangency

PPC

with trade

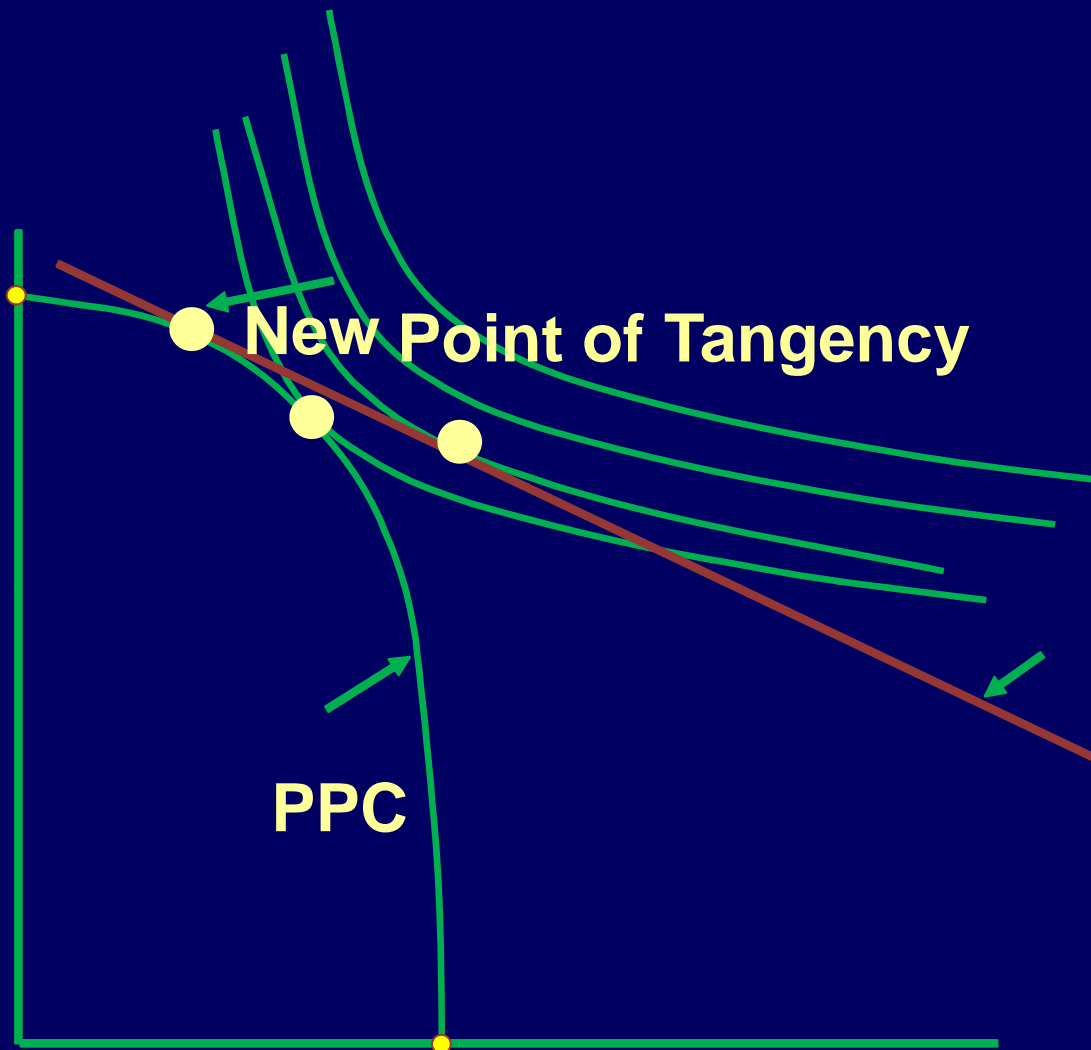
Relative Prices without trade

Electronics goods



U.S. reaches higher indifference curve by trading wheat for electronics

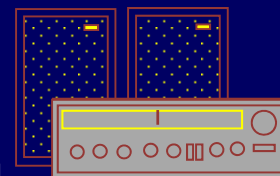
Wheat



PPC

Electronics goods

with trade



U.S. reaches higher indifference curve by trading wheat for electronics

Wheat



Production

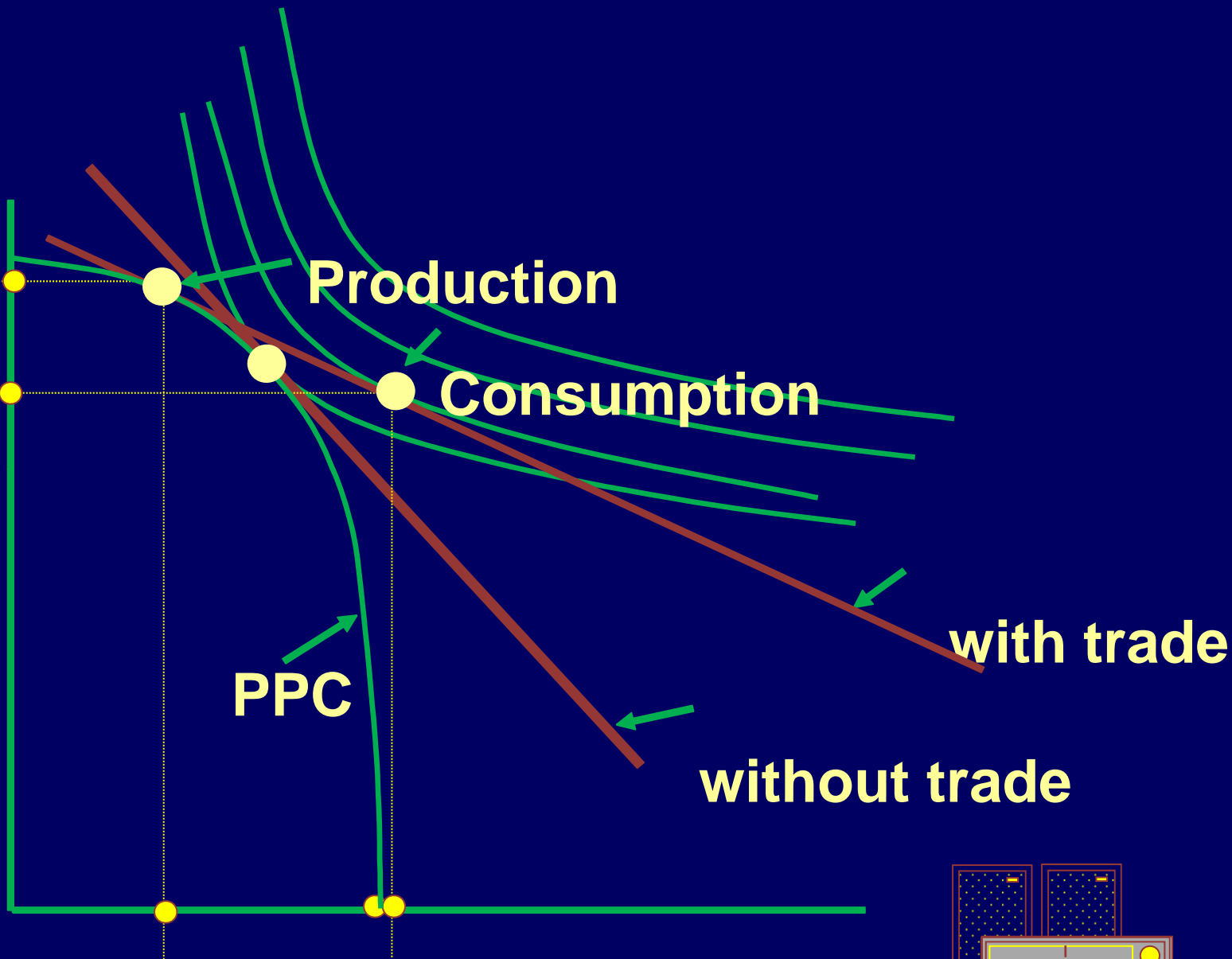
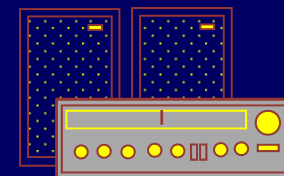
Consumption

PPC

with trade

without trade

Electronics goods



Wheat



Production

Consumption

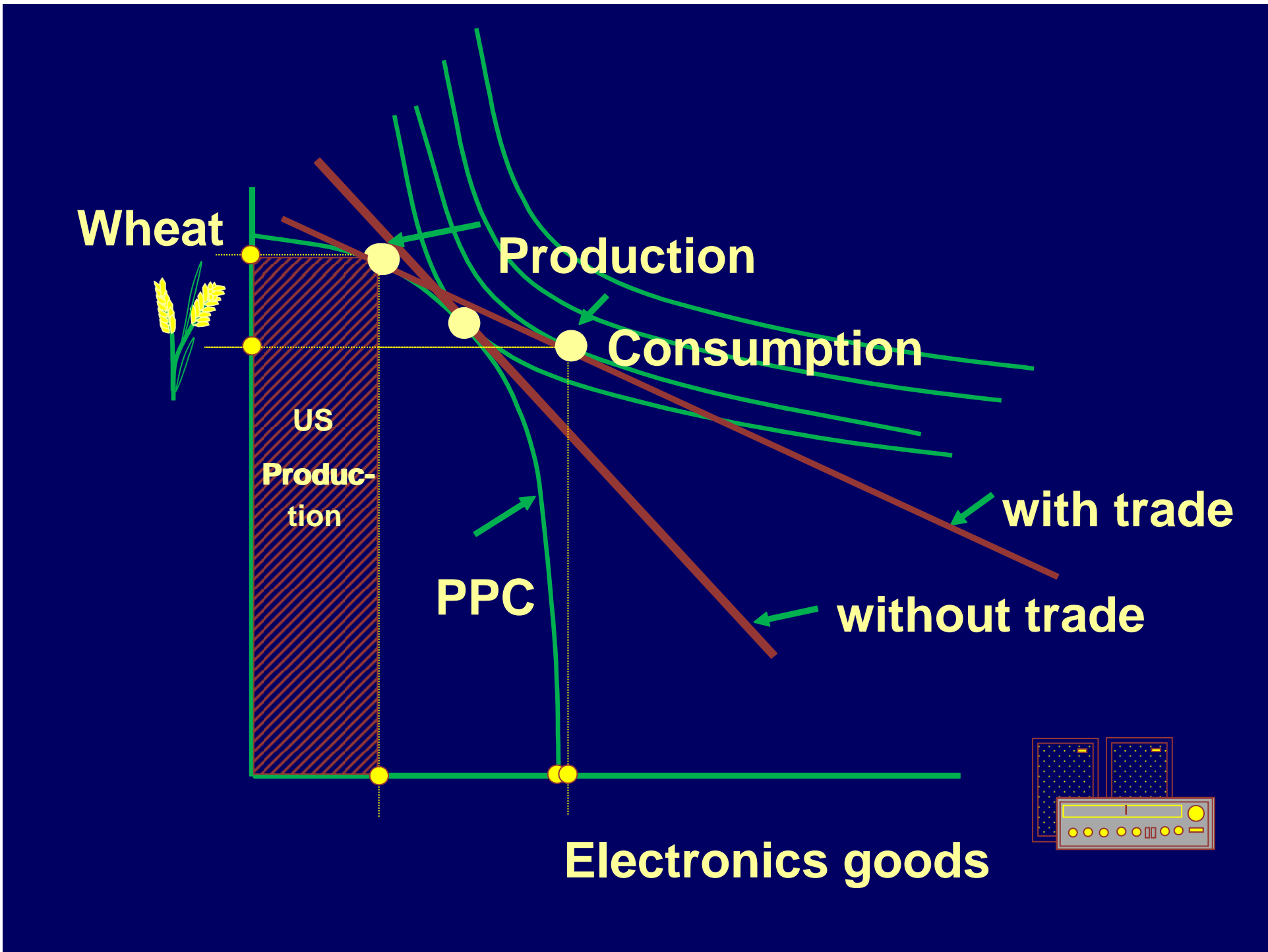
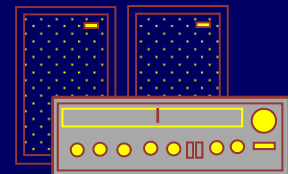
US
Production

PPC

with trade

without trade

Electronics goods



Wheat



Production

Consumption

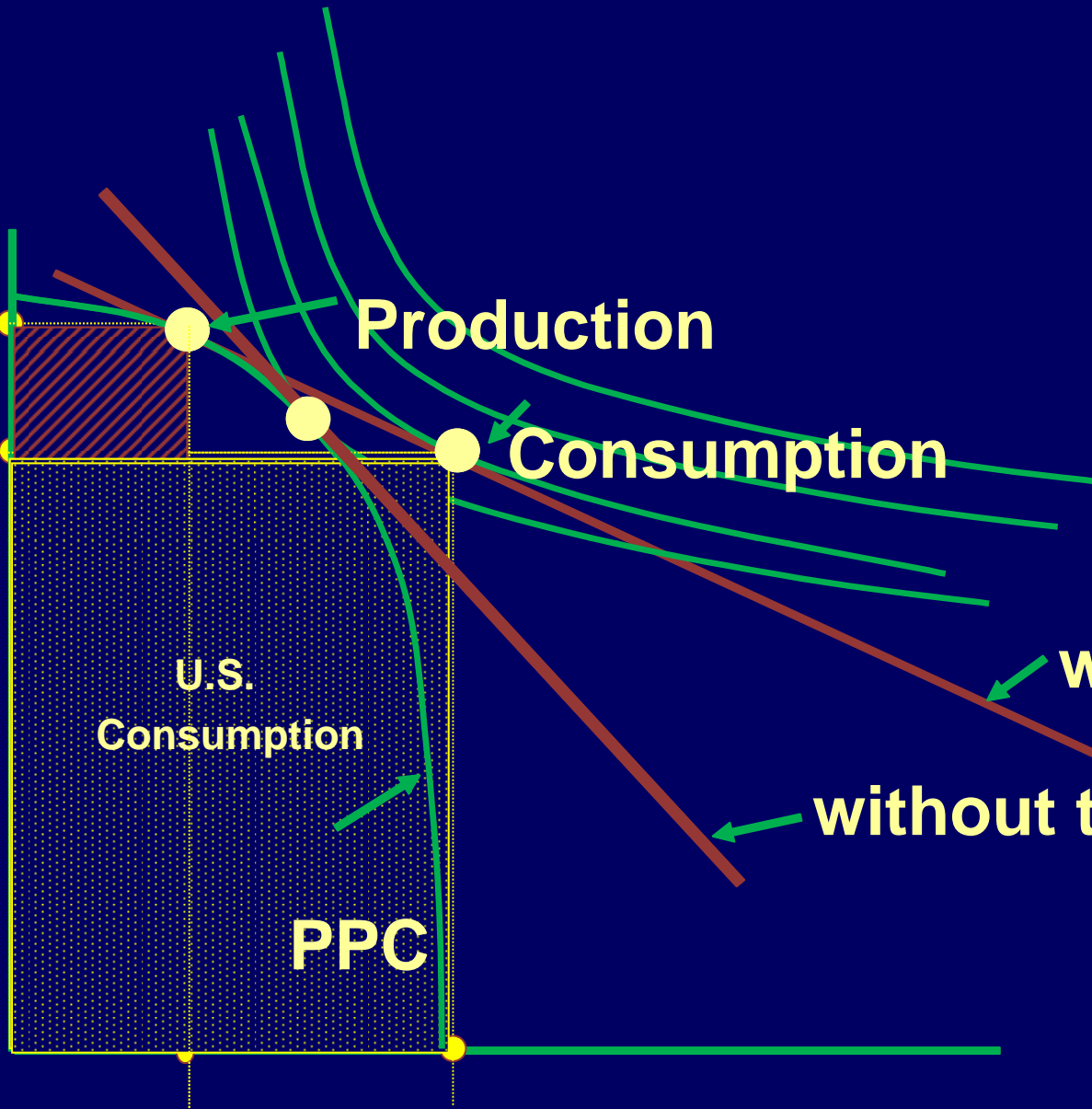
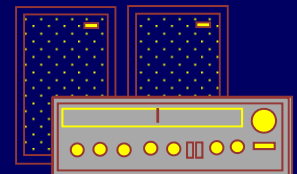
with trade

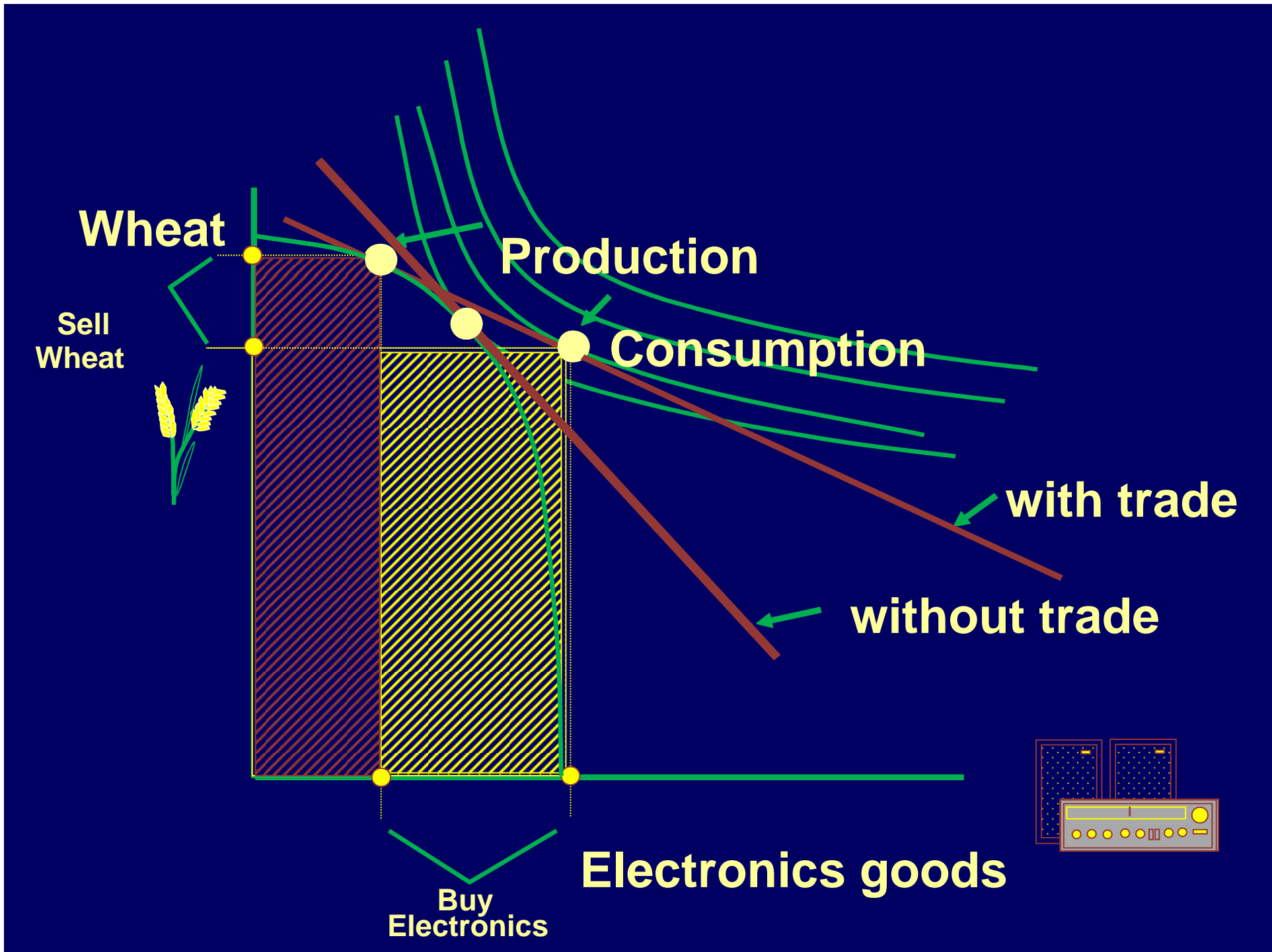
without trade

U.S.
Consumption

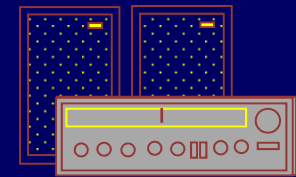
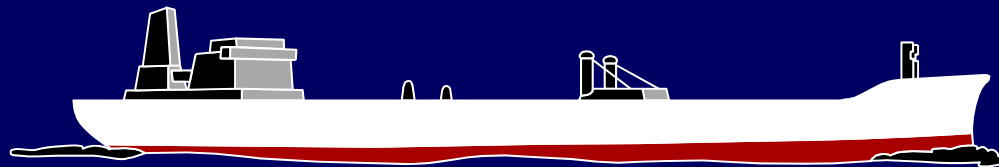
PPC

Electronics goods



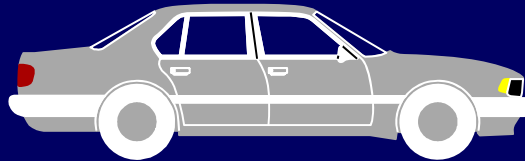


International trade will make both countries better off if the relative prices for the two commodities does not correspond with the slope of the production possibility curve at the point of tangency with the corresponding indifference curve.

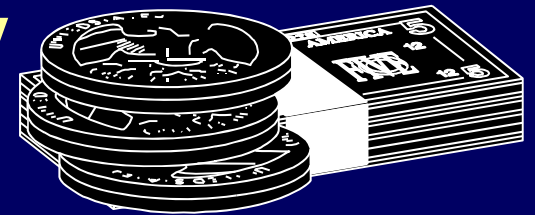


U.S. Balance of Trade

**Cheap wheat but
Americans demand
foreign cars & CD players**



**Value of currency ultimately determined
by the value of goods produced by
a country in world markets**



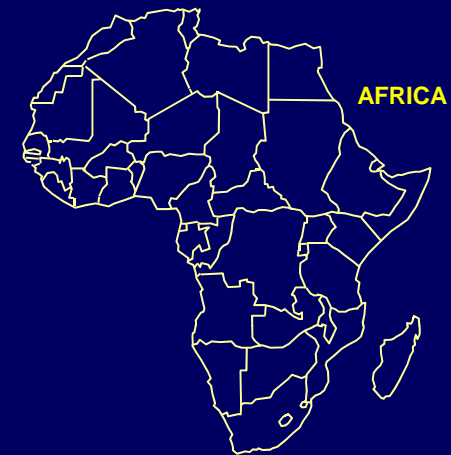
**Cheap wheat--no one wants \$ to buy U.S. wheat
European currency valuable to us
because Europe produces goods we like
German Mercedes & BMW**

**Currency of third world nation
not valuable because economy does not
produce what we want**

**Low-value currency relative to
U.S. dollars**

**U.S. dollars always in demand
by residents of third-world countries**

**Russians get U.S. dollars by selling
oil, gold, platinum
nonrenewable natural resources**



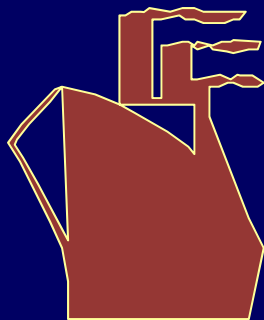
What would you purchase with currency from Mali?

**Trade balances self regulating with free
exchange rates**

**If \$ overvalued, imports rise,
exports decrease**

**If \$ undervalued, exports rise,
imports decrease**

(high-priced Japanese imports)



Self-equilibrating adjustments

Tariff

**A tax on imported items
to make them more expensive to consumers**

**Justification: protect domestic
industry, but...**

**Protects domestic industry by
taxing U.S. consumers**

**What's good for US industry
may not be good for consumers**



**If some other country can produce an
item cheaper, why worry about where
it is produced?**

Import quota

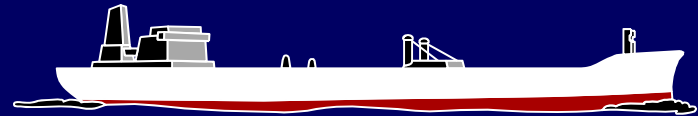
Limits quantity of a good that can be imported

Effect similar to a tariff

Domestic producers raise prices

Consumer is the loser

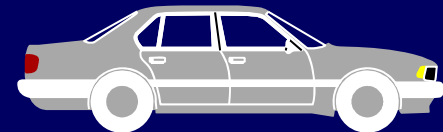
Foreign producers raise prices under quota



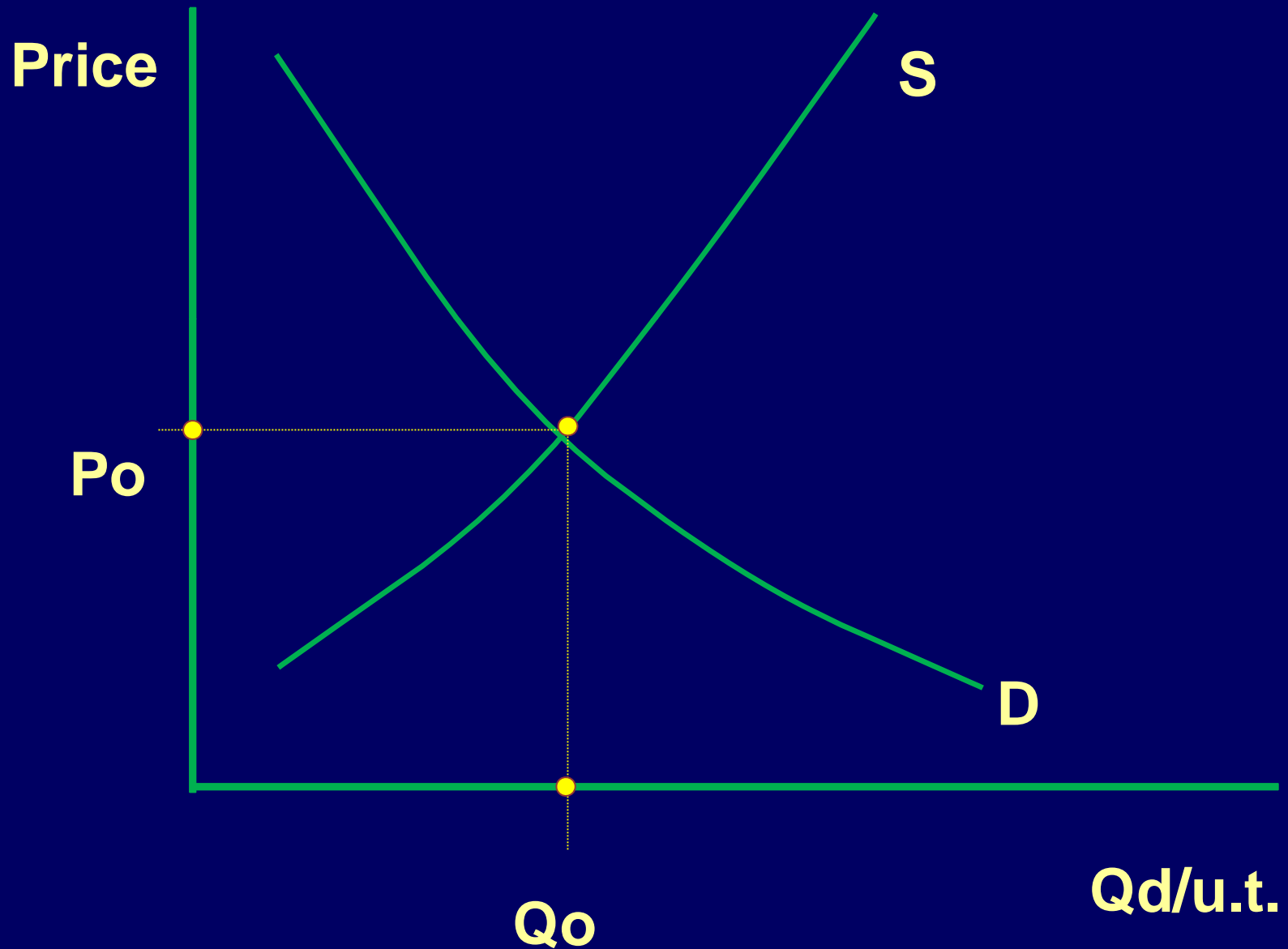
**Allows auto dealers to pad prices
of foreign-made autos**

**Additional dealer profit, or
Adjusted market value**

**This is a consequence of the quota
on Japanese autos**



Economic Impact of a Quota



Price

S_n

S_o

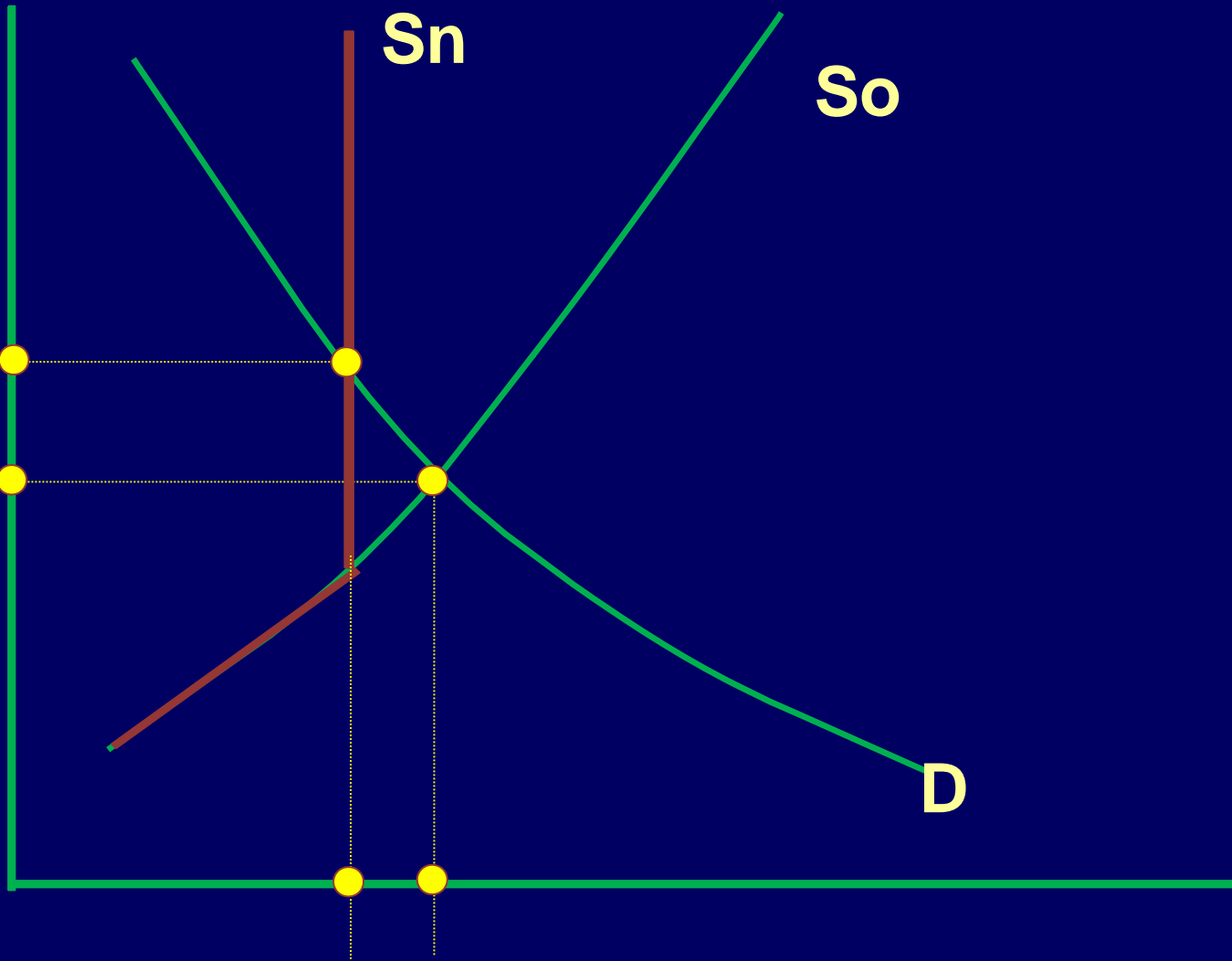
P_n

P_o

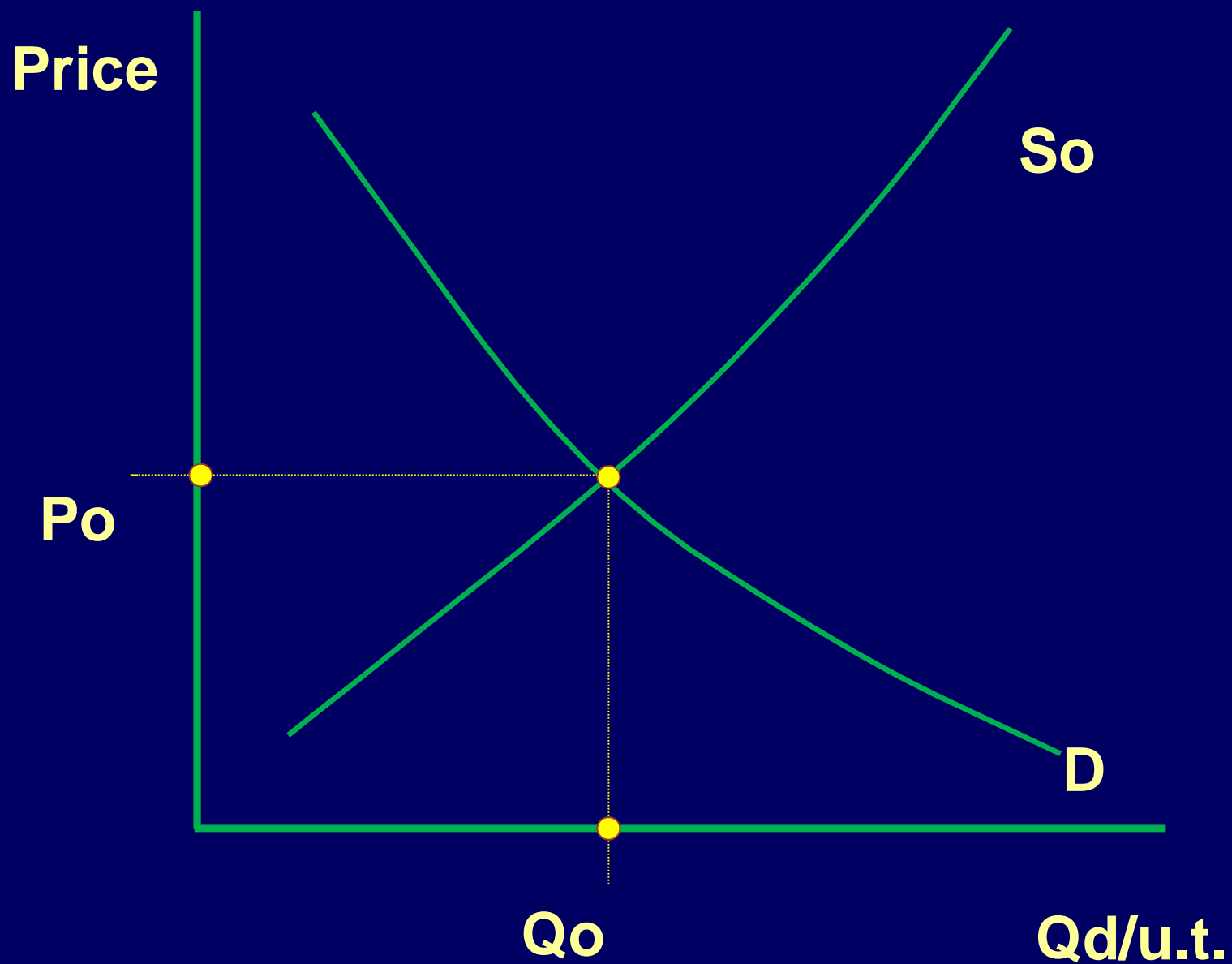
D

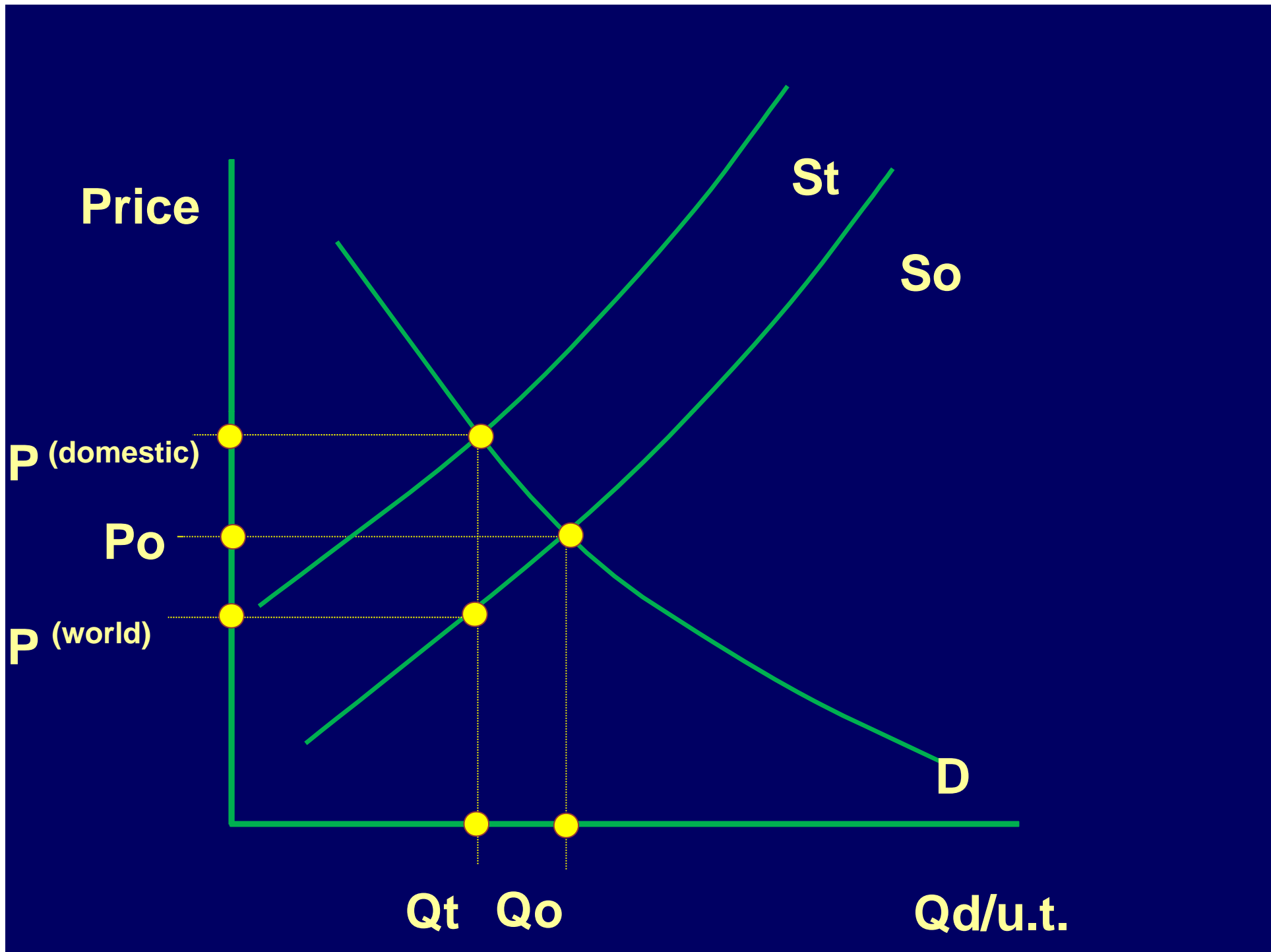
Q_n Q_o

Qd/unit of time



Economic Impact of a Tariff





Arguments for Protection

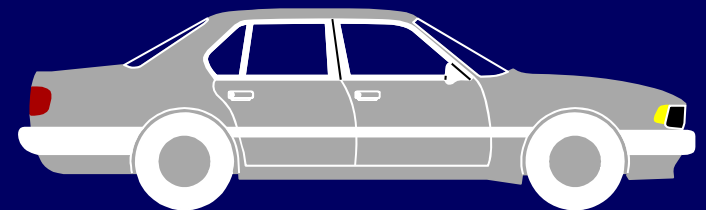
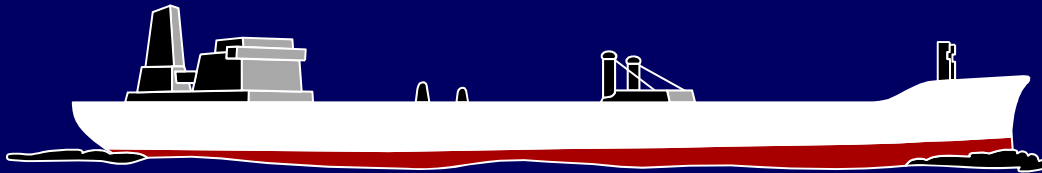
Infant industry

Protect jobs

National security

**Unfair competition from
cheap foreign labor**

•
•
**Domestic
Automobiles
only are
Available
in the U.S.**
•



GATT

General Agreement on Tariffs & Trade

80 + nations

85 % of world trade

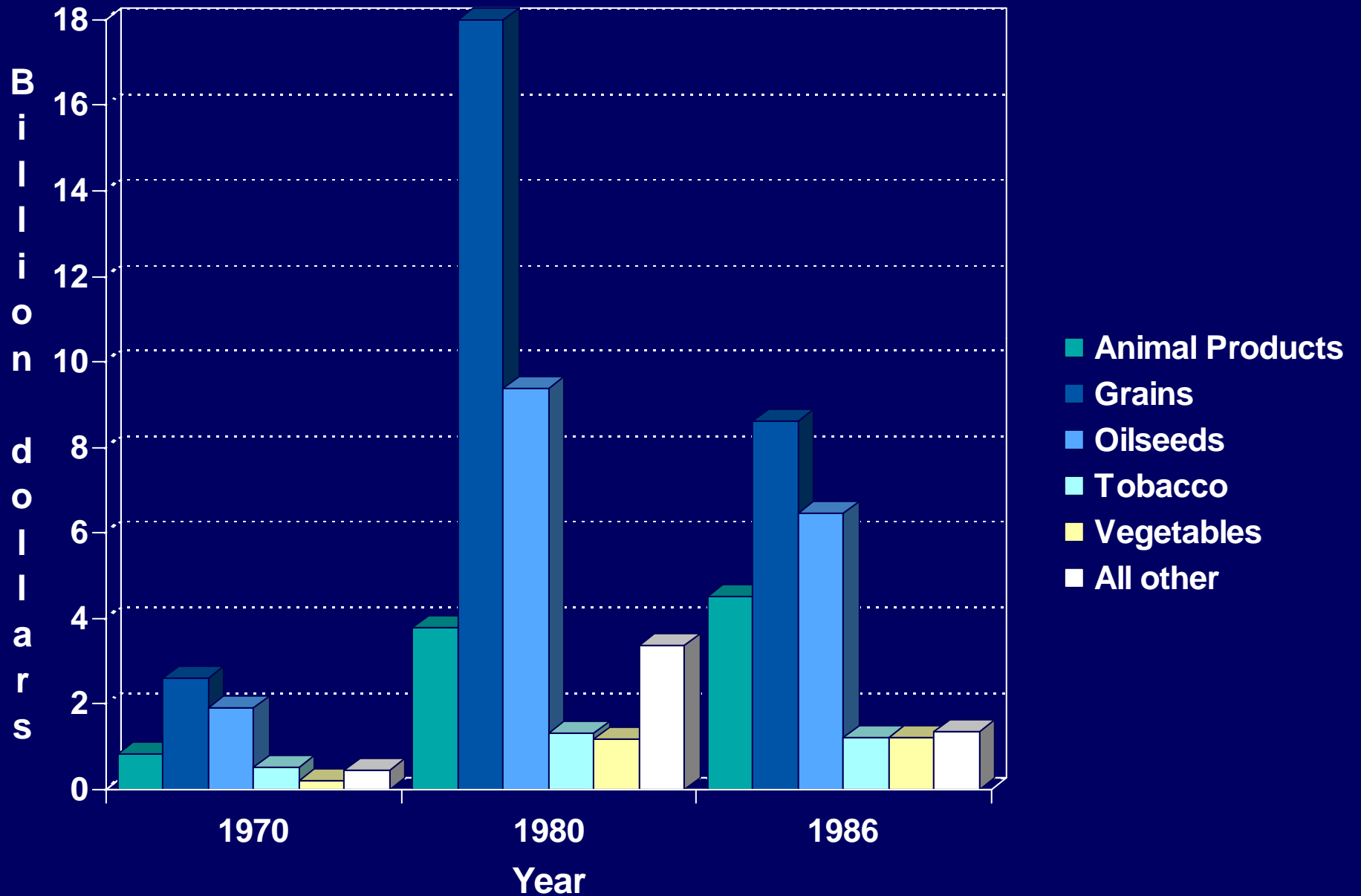
Where trade negotiations take place

Rules established for the conduct of trade

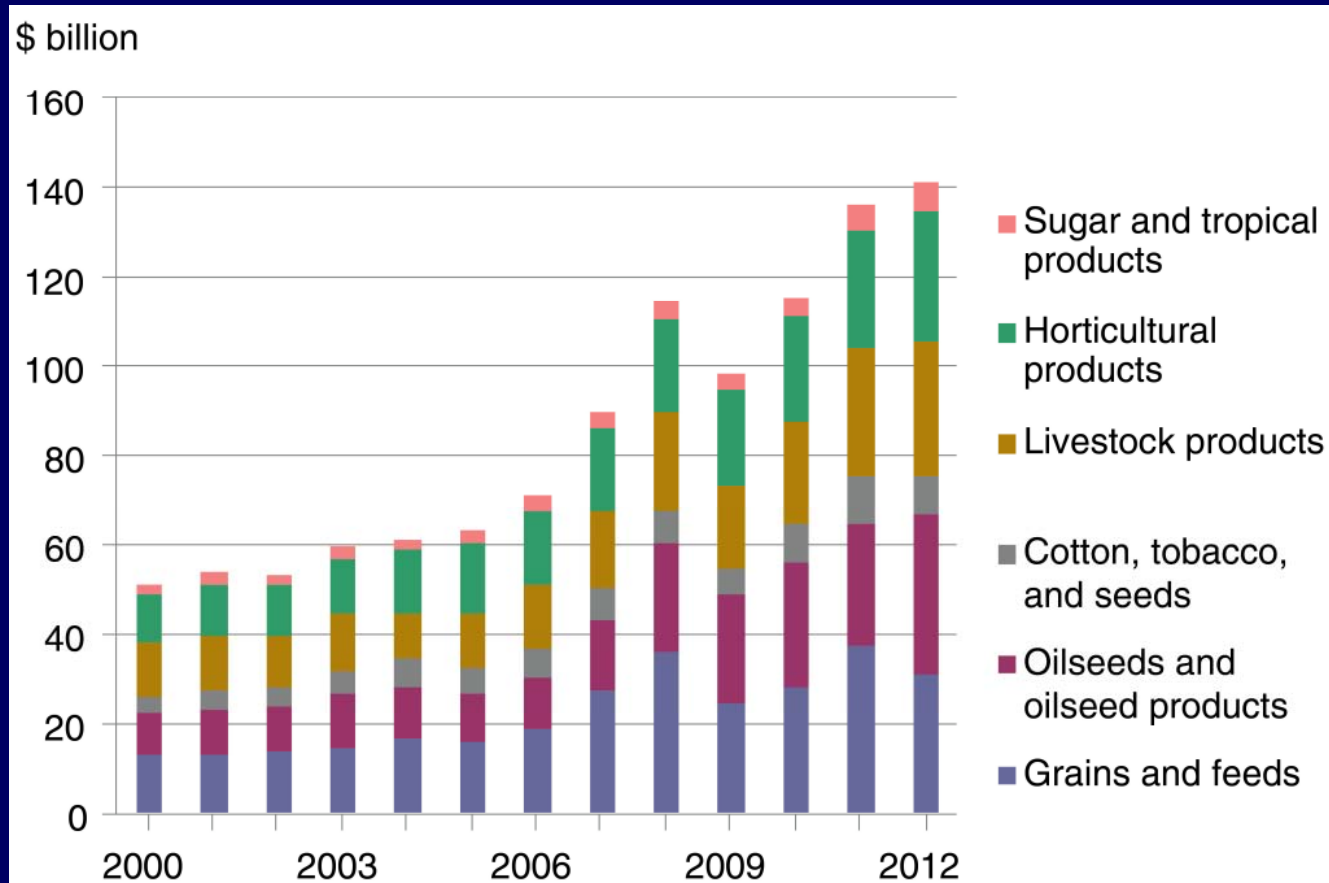
Rules and regulations agreed upon by

member nations

U.S. Ag Exports, Value, 1970, 1980, 1986

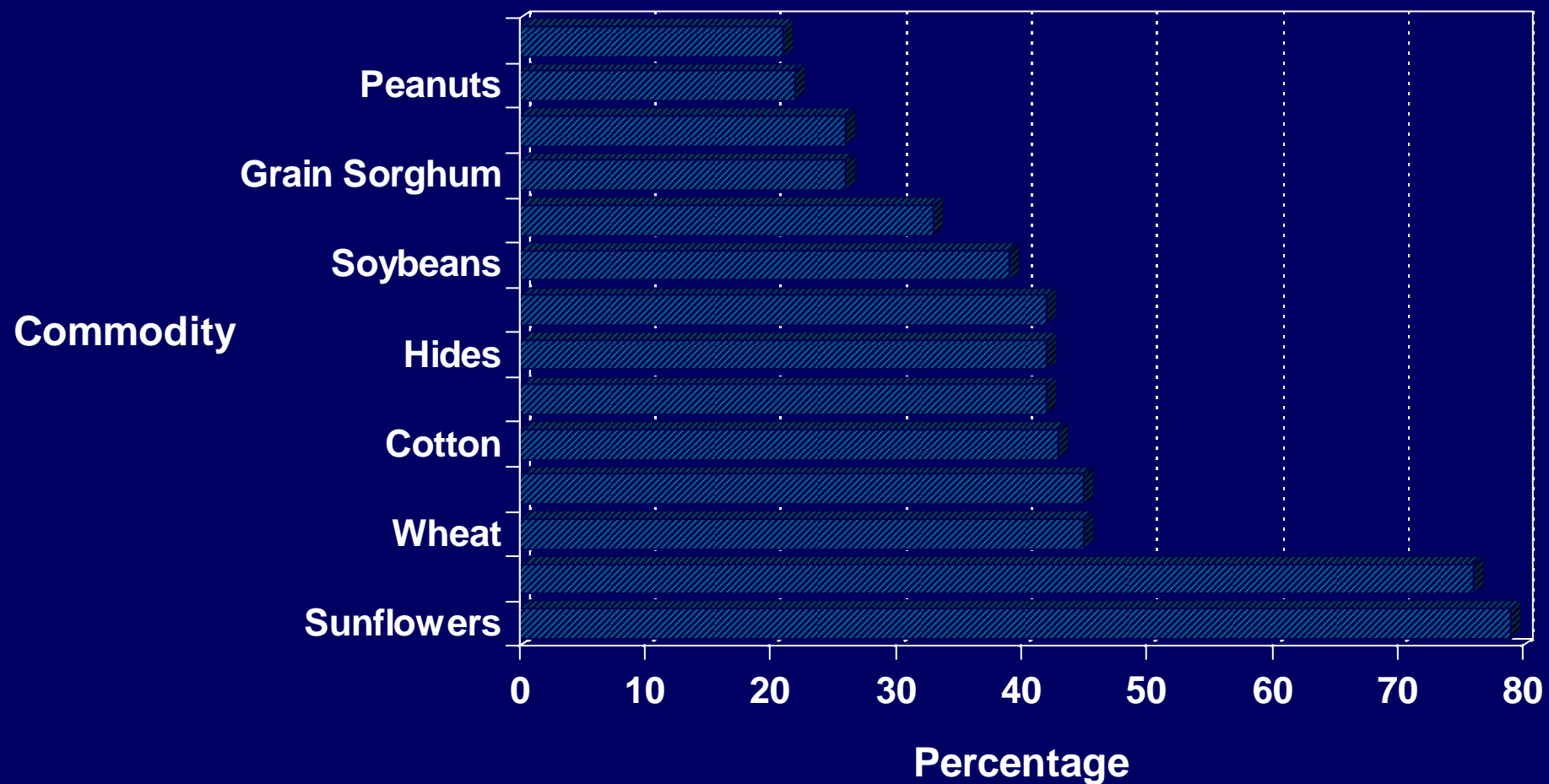


US Agricultural Exports, 2000-2012

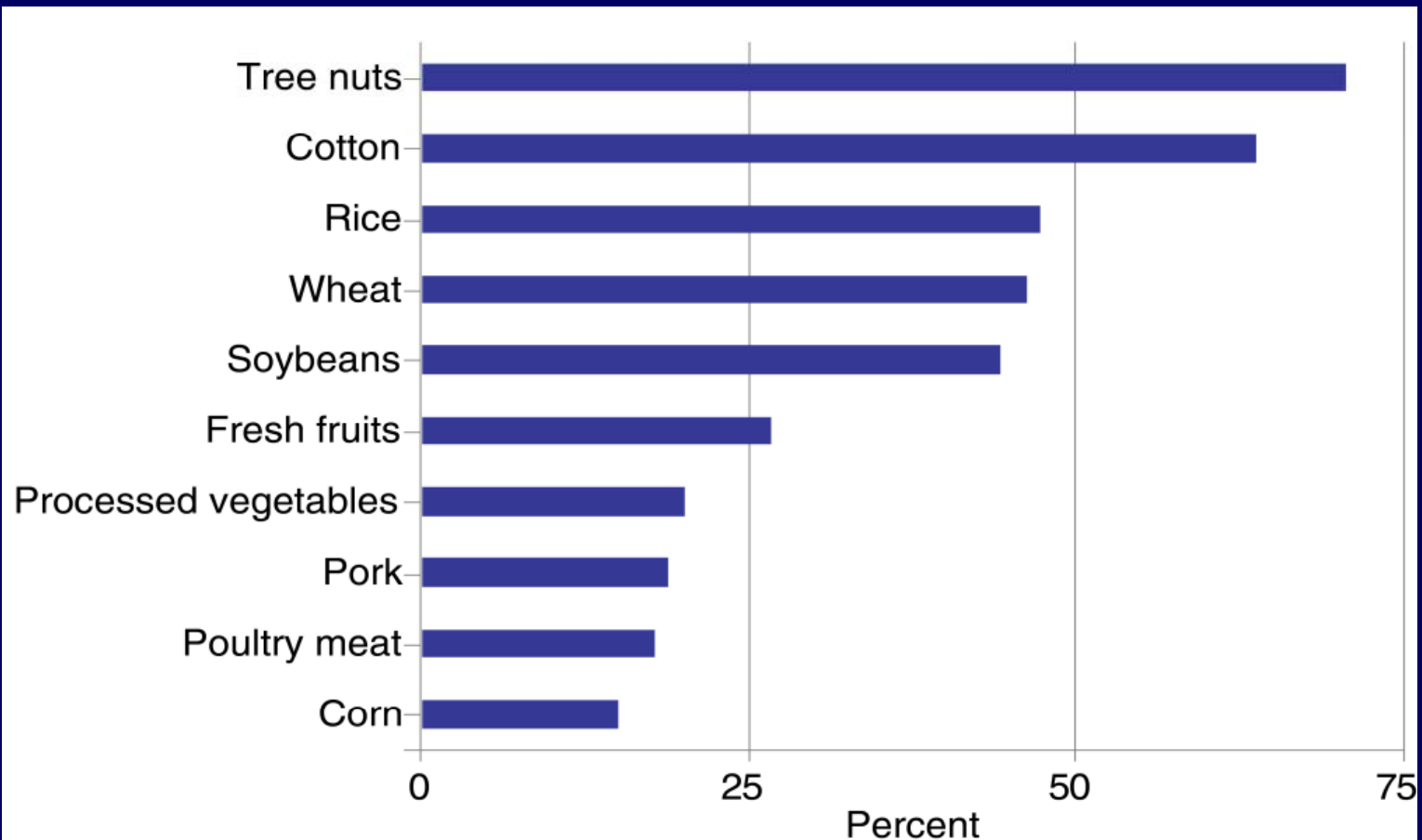


Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Database.

Leading U.S. Ag. Exports as a Percent of Total Production, 1985



Exports as a Share of Total US Ag. Production, Average, 2008-2010



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service calculations based on data from U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Database; and USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, various reports.

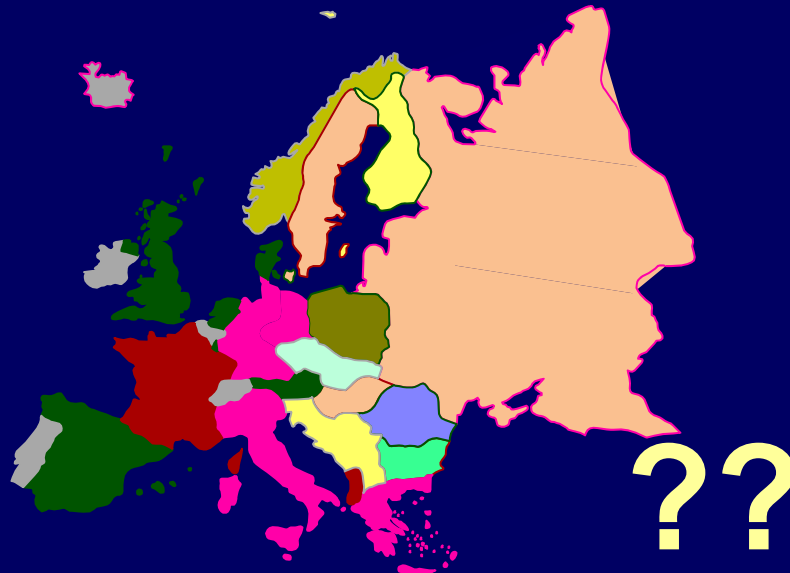
Chapter 15: Economic Systems in Other Countries

Comparative Economic Systems

Fundamental Questions

1. What should be produced?
2. How Should it be produced?
(production technology)
3. How should it be distributed?

These questions must be answered
by any economic system



Types of Economic Systems:

1. Capitalism

Government not involved in decisionmaking

Producers produce what the consumers want

Production technology--low cost way

Market determines prices & output

**Production resources owned by individuals
not the government**

**Goods are distributed based on incomes of
consumers**

2. Pure Socialism

Government (people, collectively) own all the resources

No individual ownership

Government determines what is produced

Government determines production technology

Government allocates production to individuals

Family income irrelevant (not needed)

No market incentives

Shortages of goods desired by consumers

Government vs consumer utility function

Requires careful planning

Economic incentives lacking

3. *Mixed economic systems*

Mixture of private & public ownership

Allocation by government and according to incomes of consumers

Mixture of market signals and government planning

Production technology determined by mix of public & private decisionmakers

Ours is a *mixed economy*

**Capitalism
(Pure)**

Mixed Economic Systems

**Socialism
(pure)**

United States

Norway

Republic of China

Germany

Sweden

France

South Korea

Cuba

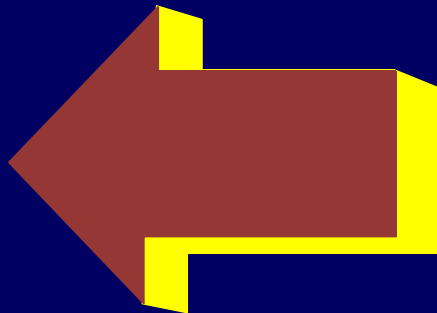
Japan

Greece

North Korea

Italy

Viet Nam



Poland

Russia?

Czechoslovakia

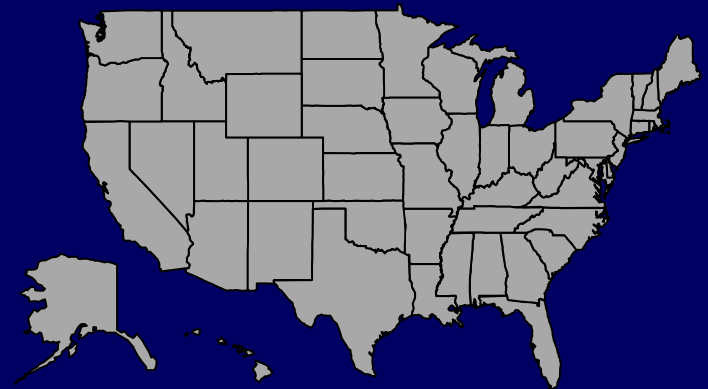
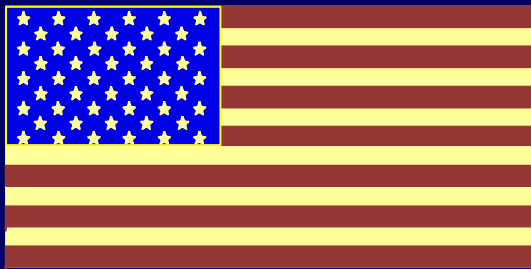
Hungary

Baltic States

Yugoslavia

Socialism in the U.S.

Public welfare programs for disadvantaged
Nationalized Medicare health insurance
More government rules and regulations
affecting how goods are produced
Increased emphasis on government
intervention rather than market price signals



Capitalism in Eastern Europe

**Production decisions increasingly based
on what consumers want**

**Increased private ownership of resources
Market signals & economic incentives**

**Income, not need, determines how goods are
allocated among consumers**



History of Russian Farms

1. Collective farms

Large-scale

Hundreds of workers

Emphasis on capital investment

Technology lags behind U.S.

Farmers allowed to sell output from

small plots on the individual farms

Small plots important source of production

Vestigal capitalism was present even before

the breakup of the Soviet Union

2. State Farms

Even bigger than collective farms

Run like factories

Average size-- 65,000 acres

Private plots also allowed

Average size declining

**as new farms are formed near
urban centers**

**Efforts underway to "privatize" ownership
of resources and use markets and prices
to encourage production.**

**Markets for agricultural commodities are no
longer assured.**

Agriculture in other parts of the Former Soviet Union

**Not as well endowed as U.S. with rich farmland
and ample rainfall**

**Ukraine more comparable to Kansas
or North Dakota than to Indiana or Iowa**

Much yield variation because of weather variation

**Technology for ag. traditionally lost out
compared to space & military projects**

**Crop failure leads to higher imports on
world markets
but this takes scarce foreign currency**

**The people want improved diets
More meat- less grain
Very costly to improve**

Grain fed to cattle cannot be fed to humans

**Lots of awareness of the need to
improve the productivity of agriculture**

**Need for capital investment
and economic incentives for the
individual worker**

**Central plan for agriculture
versus consumer utility function**

Important issues remain.

**On what basis should land and other resources
be divided?**

**To what extent should farmers be protected from
the "cold winds" of the competitive marketplace?**

**Should food prices to consumers fully reflect
costs of production and market conditions?**

**Important transportation and distributional
problems are of concern.**

**Supermarkets limited and the transportation from
production areas is often poor!**

Since the Breakup of the Soviet Union:

State and Collective farms have become largely stockholder-owned operations, with stock owned by the former state and collective farm workers

Shares do not represent titles to individual tracts of land, but are paper representing private ownership of a portion of the entire farm

Peasant farms: farmers own title to a small individual tract of land. With the breakup these were expected to become very popular, but it hasn't happened that way

Since the Breakup:

During the late 1990s, Russian agriculture fared poorly, without government guaranteed prices for both inputs and output. Yields and output were below levels of the collective and state farms

Since 2000, the situation has gradually improved, Output is up, and Russian farms are gradually faring better.

Free-market capitalism does not necessarily solve all problems, at least not over short periods of time!

A Changing Structure of Russian Agriculture

Indicator	Farm type	1990	1995	2000	2005
Agricultural land	Corporate farms	98	90	87	80
	Household plots	2	5	6	10
	Peasant farms	0	5	7	10
Cattle	Corporate farms	83	70	60	52
	Household plots	17	29	38	44
	Peasant farms	0	1	2	4
Agricultural production	Corporate farms	74	50	43	41
	Household plots	26	48	54	53
	Peasant farms	0	2	3	6

Shares of agricultural land, cattle headcount, and gross agricultural Output for farms of different types (in percent of respective totals)

Source: "Russian Agriculture" Wikipedia. For additional information, read the entire article!

Chinese Agriculture

**How do you feed 1.4 billion people?
Not at the Burger King!**

**Arable land moved from state-own farms to
private plots**

Has not traditionally relied heavily on food imports

Increased recent emphasis on market system

Land for agriculture is becoming land for industry

Since the late 1990s

China's domestic food production has not kept up with demand as rising incomes from industrialization has occurred

China now imports and exports a variety of agricultural commodities

Has not traditionally relied heavily on food imports

Increased recent emphasis on market system

Land for agriculture is becoming land for industry

China exports high-value manufactured goods, goods that would be expensive to produce with US labor, and uses part of the proceeds to buy agricultural commodities needed, especially those needed to and meat (mainly pork and chicken) to the diets of the Chinese people.

Labor costs are rising, and China may not long be the low-cost producer of manufactured goods such as electronics. This could be a problem for US ag exports.

The Wikipedia article “agriculture in China” is a most interesting reading and is recommended reading if you want to know more about Chinese agriculture, its structure and productivity.

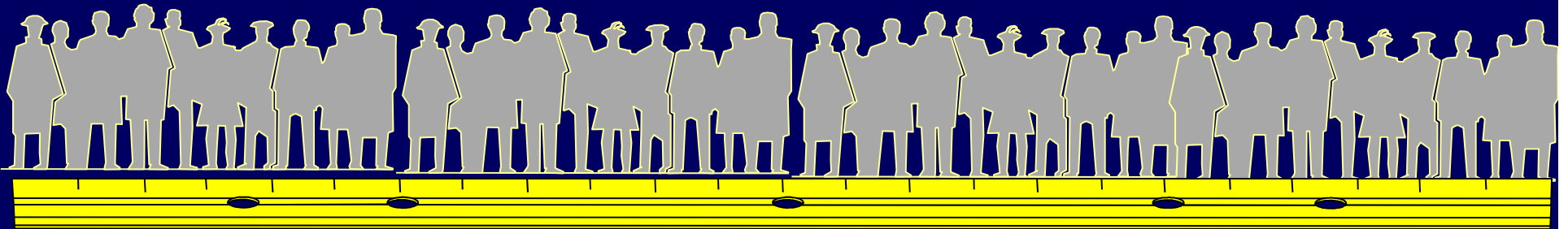
Chapter 16: World Food

World Food Issues

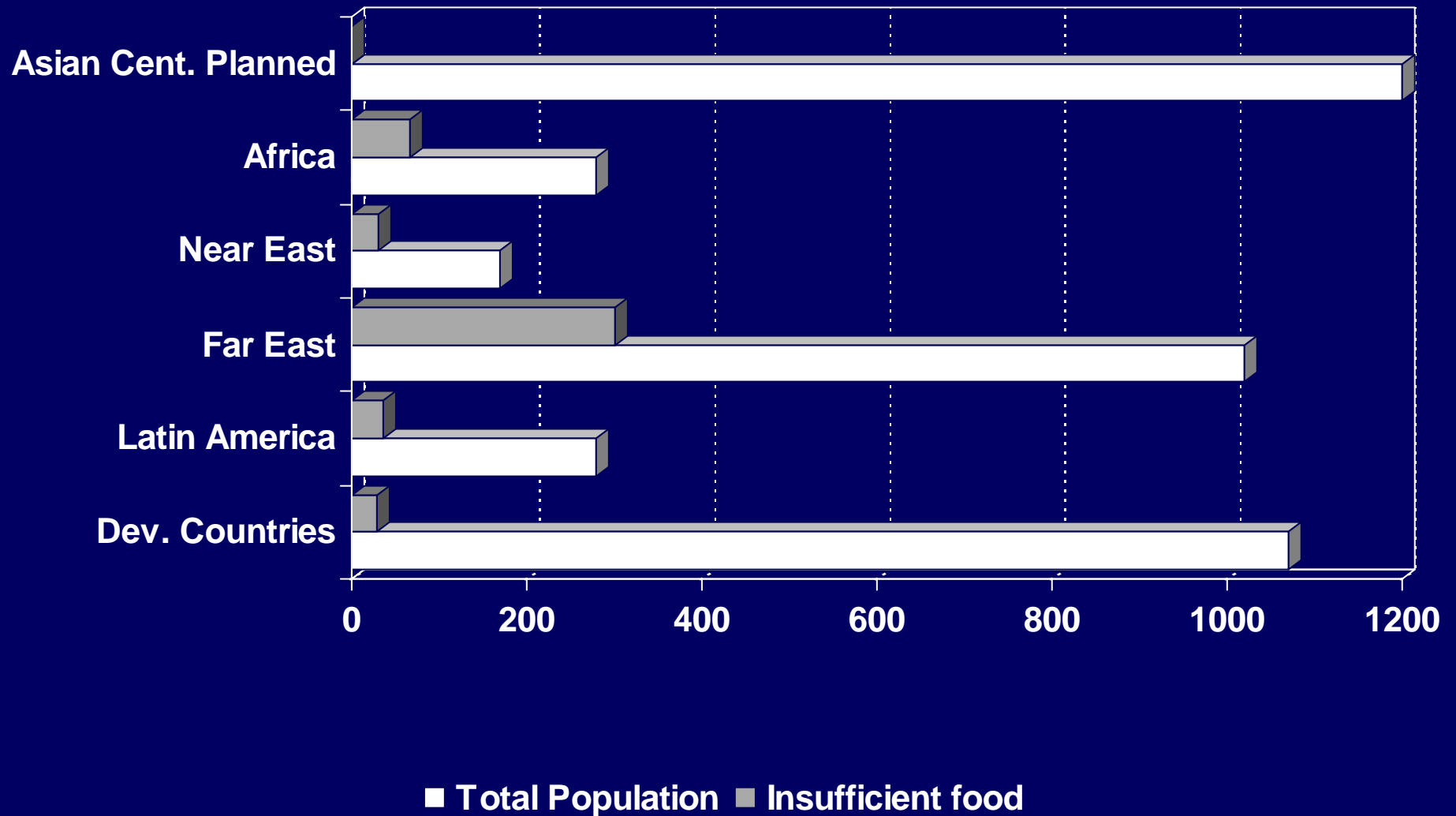
**World population 4.83 billion
or more**

Perhaps 500 million or more undernourished

(plus those in centrally planned economies)



Estimated number of People with Insufficient Protein/Energy Supply by Regions (1974)

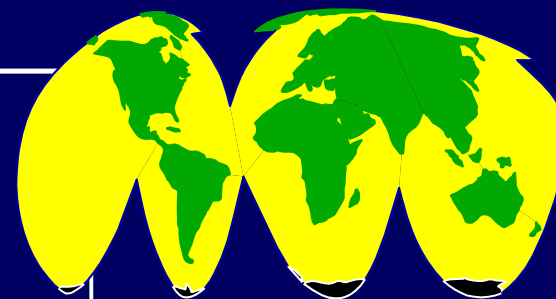
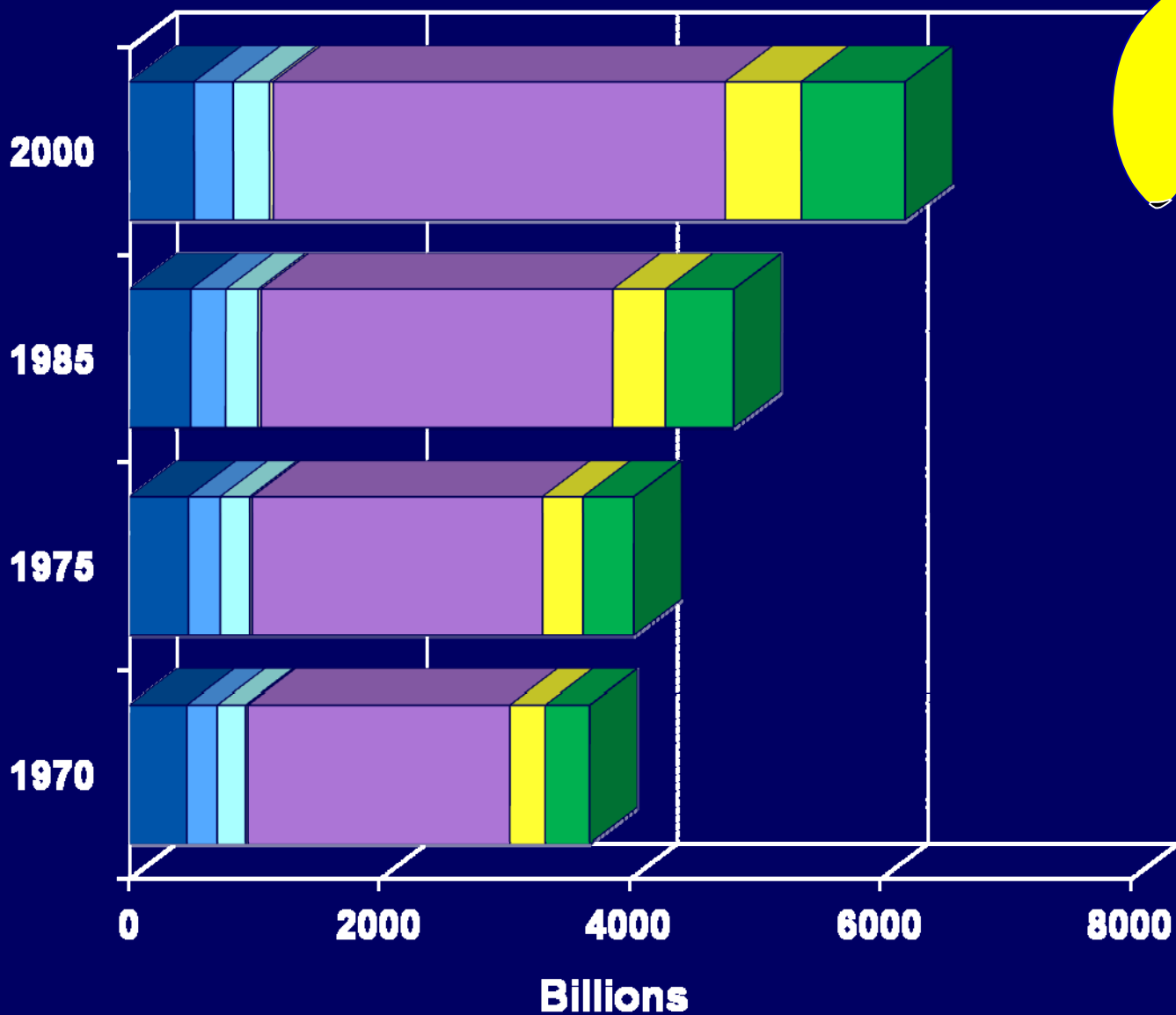


Since 1974, China has made great strides in feeding its people, and there is less hunger in Latin America than was true 50 years ago

Less developed african nations remain the most important areas of the world for insufficient caloric intake, plus certain countries in other parts of the world, such as Haiti and the Dominican Republic



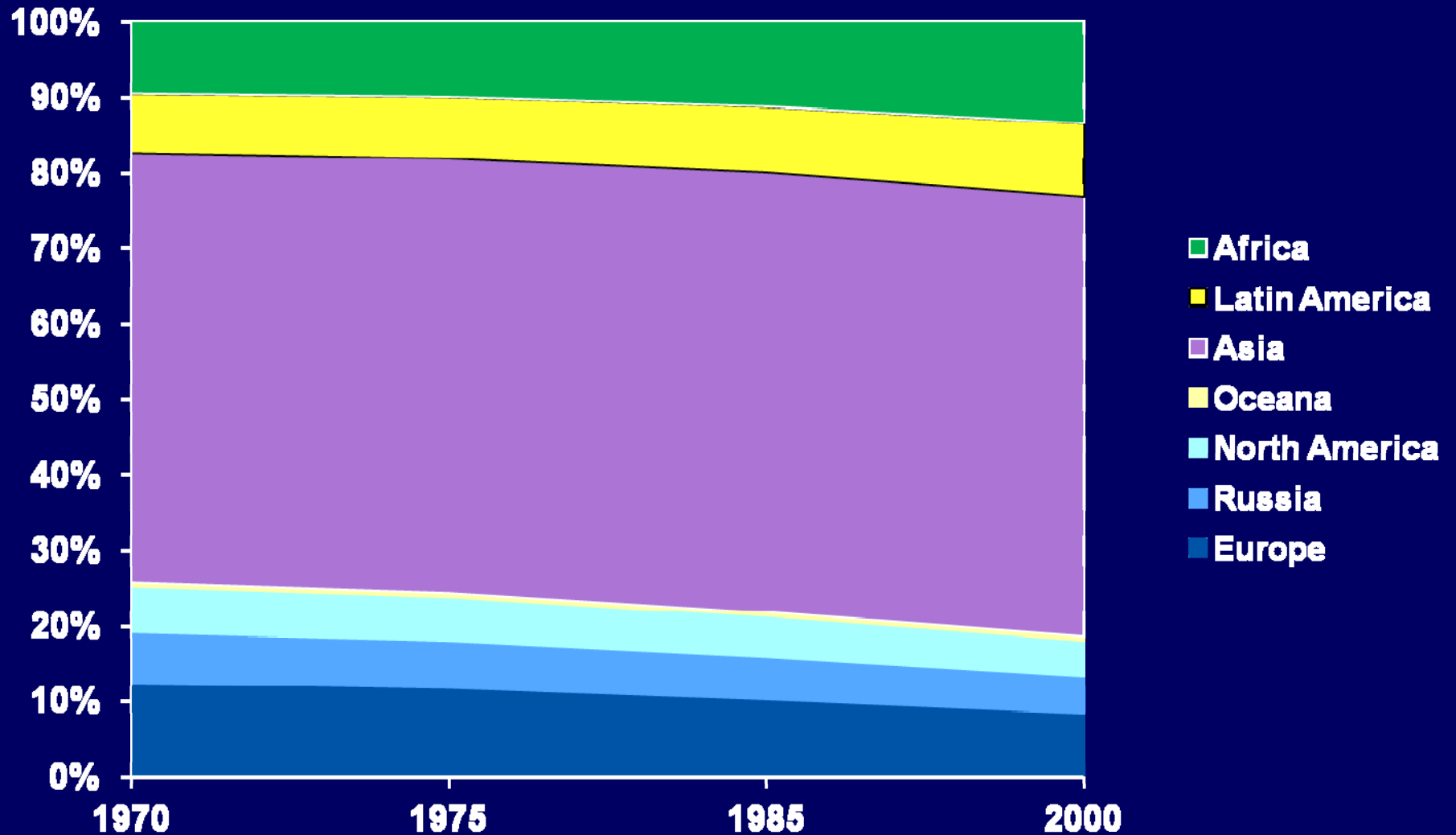
World Population by Region, 1970 - 2000



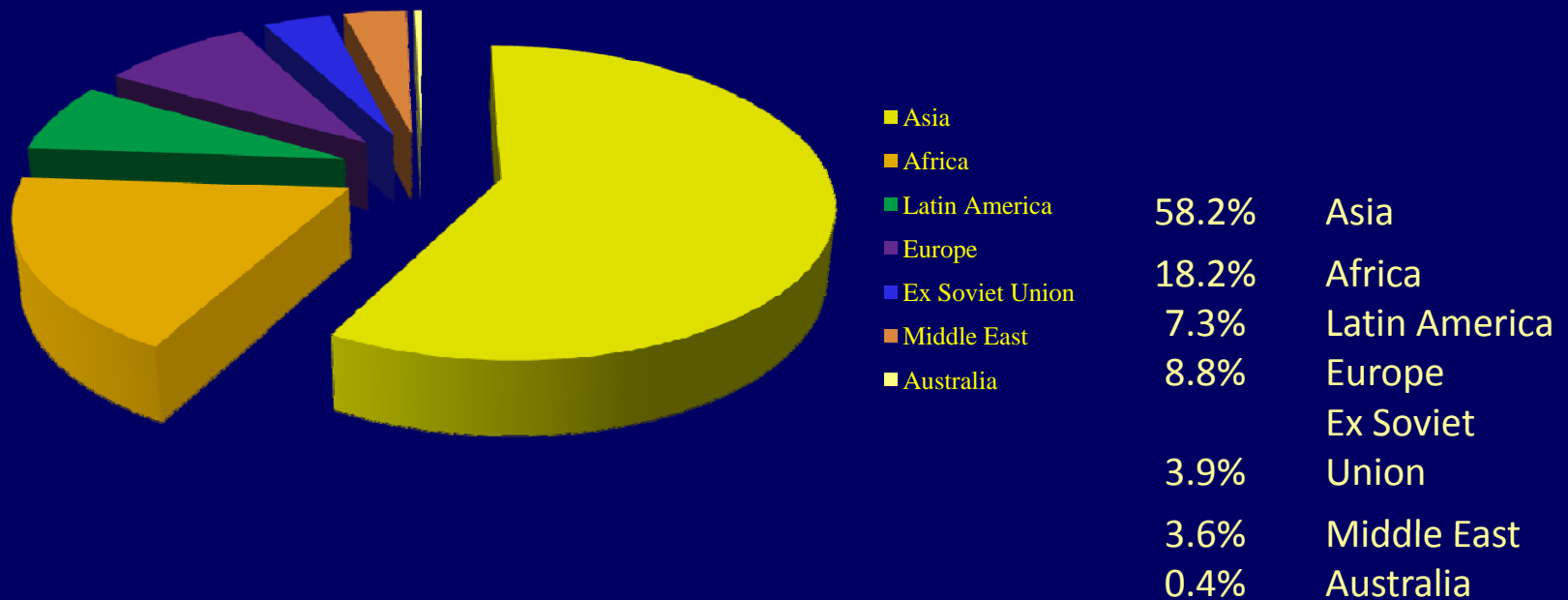
- Europe
- Russia
- North America
- Oceania
- Asia
- Latin America
- Africa

Africa, Latin America and parts of Asia are still experiencing the most rapid growth in population, and these are areas where world hunger persists

World Population by Region, As a % of Total Population



Approximately 7.1 billion people currently living in the world (US Bureau of the Census, 2010)



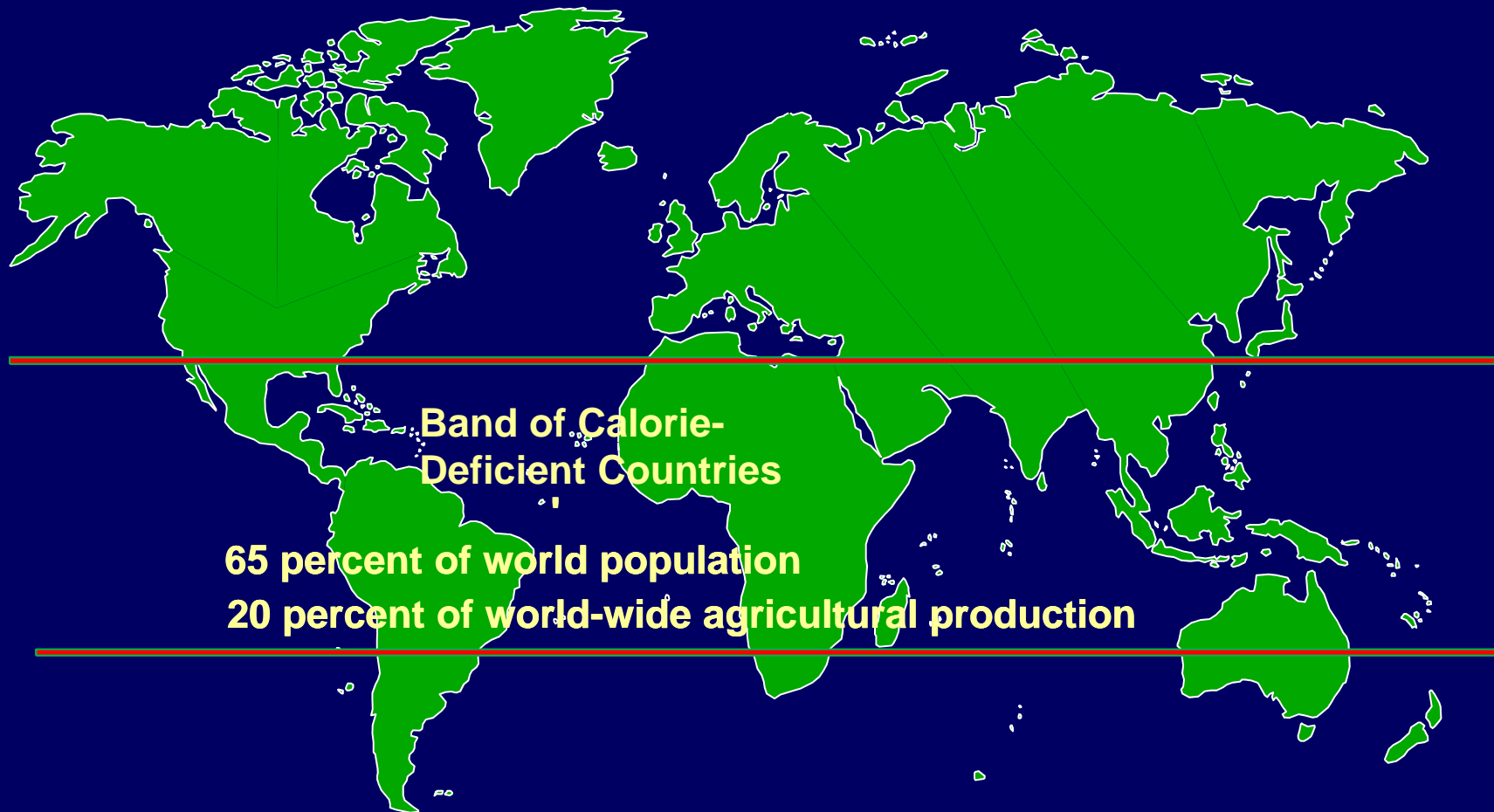
**Population in North America, Europe,
Oceania, and parts of Asia increasing slowly**

**Africa, Latin America and parts of Asia
increasing rapidly**

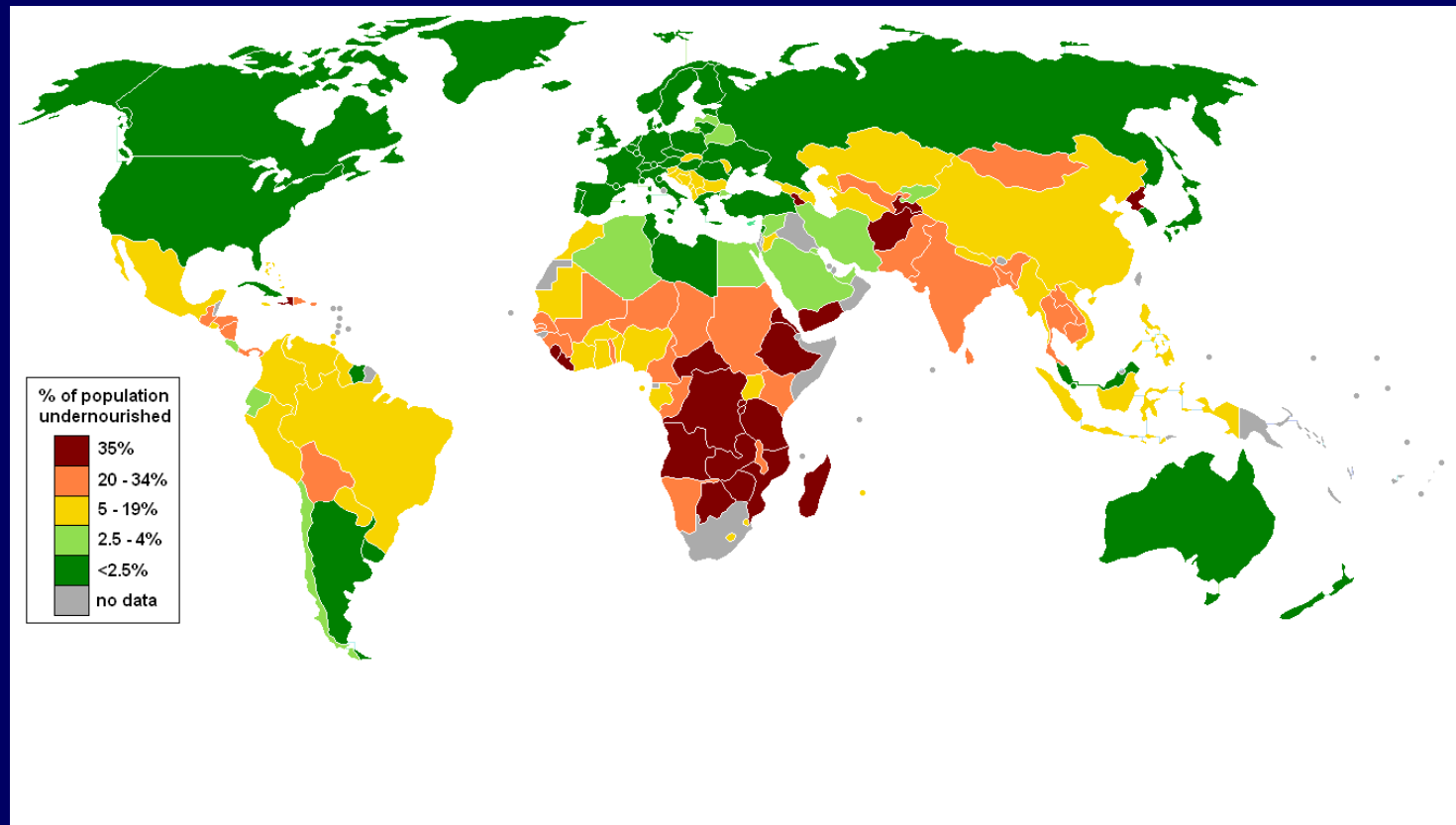
**Greatest population growth in countries
least able to feed themselves**



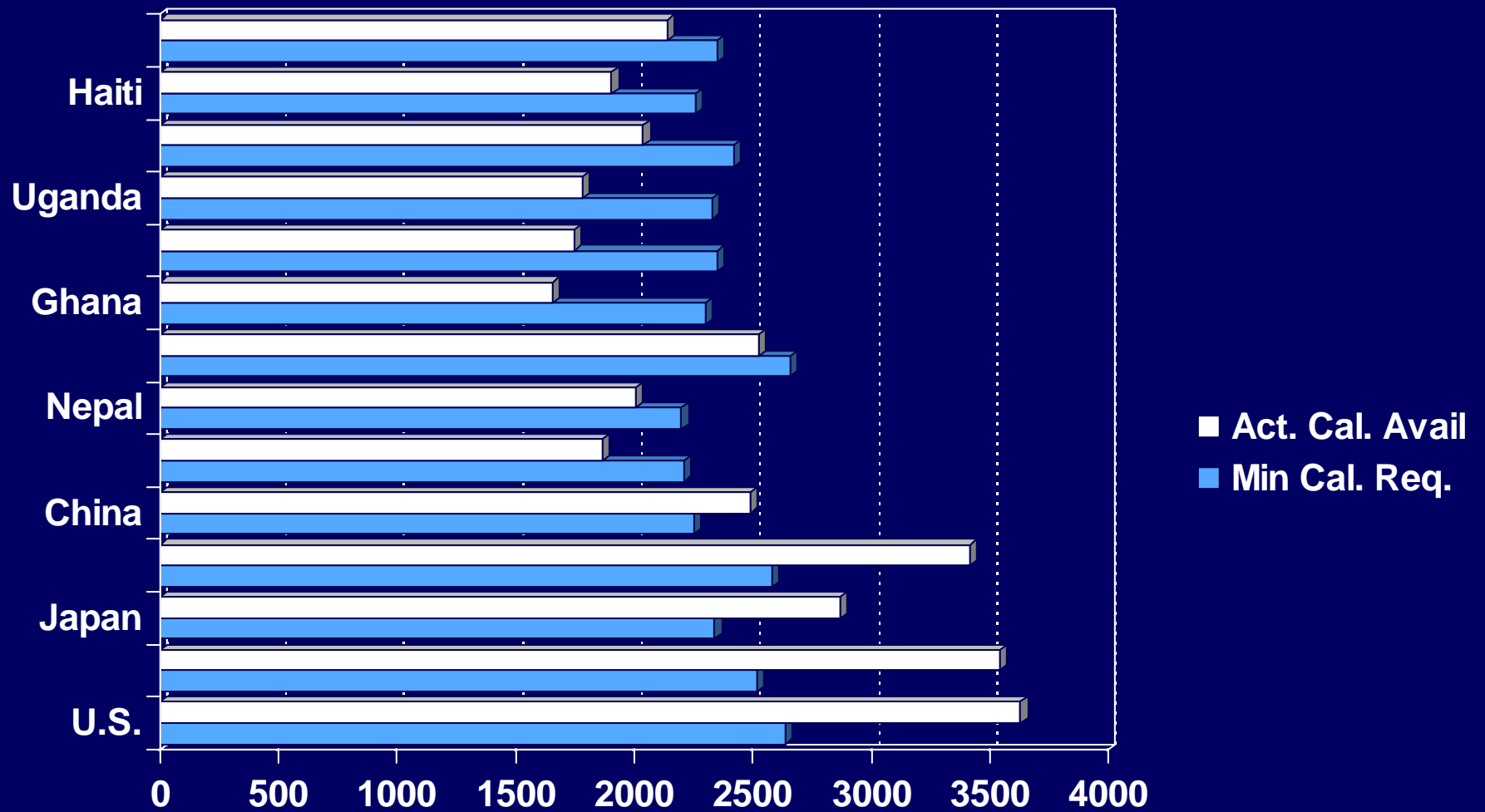
Geographical Distribution of World Food Problem, 1985



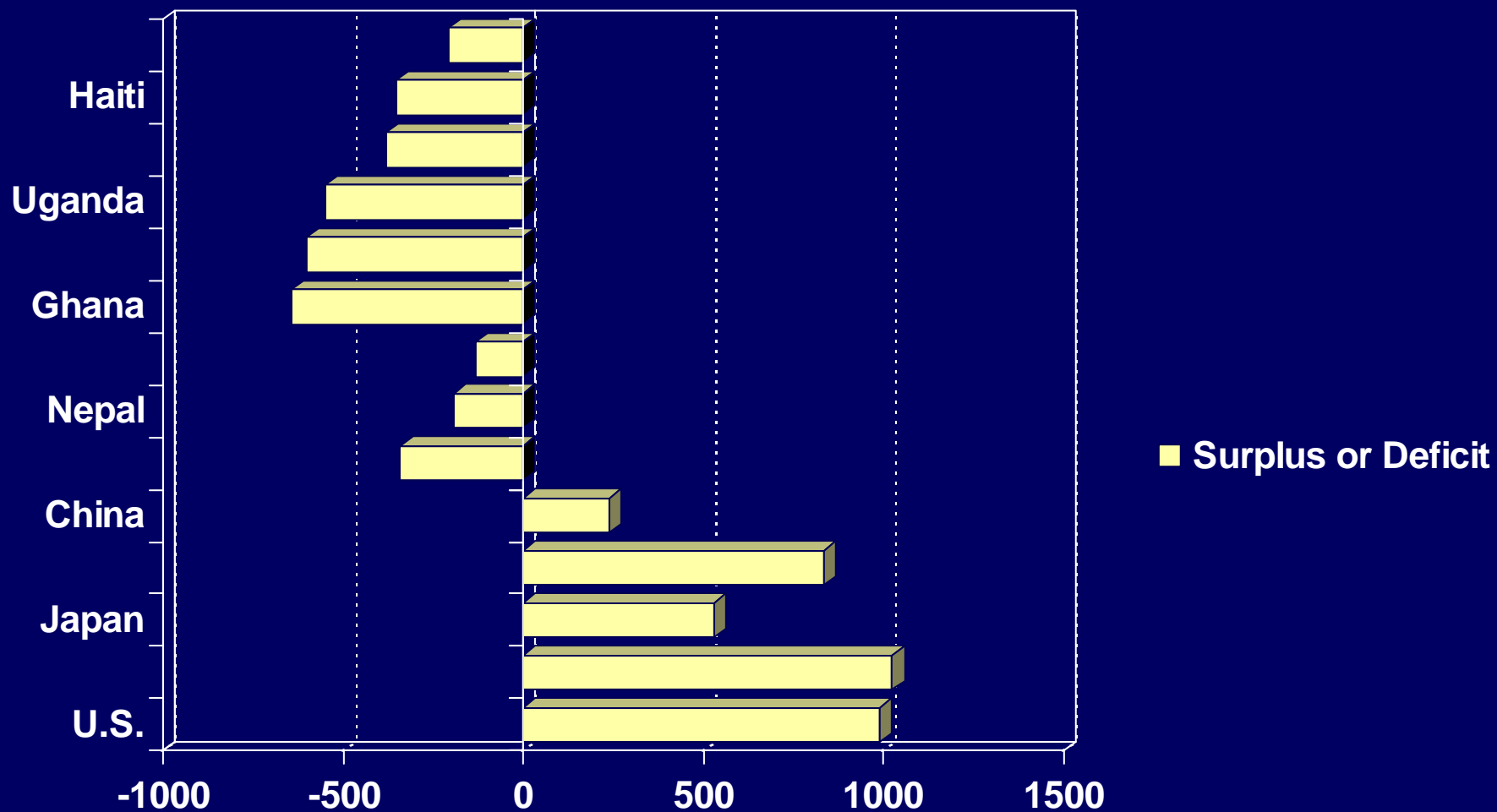
Percent of Population Undernourished according to UN Statistics (Wikipedia, “malnutrition”)



Caloric Food Requirements & Availability Per Capita



Caloric Food Requirements & Availability Per Capita



Diets in Developed Countries
High in Meat & Animal Products
High animal protein
High fat

Diets in Third World countries
Low in Meat & Animal Products
Lack Animal Protein
Soybeans, Rice
Low-fat high carbohydrate
protein balance
Calories not enough

Issues in increasing world food supply

Land where needs are greatest not well suited to food production

Capital investment to improve production efficiency

Where does capital come from?

Foreign currency issues

Economic development

Export market development

Genetic improvements

**Cultural, Institutional, Religious concerns
(sacred cows)**

U.S. Efforts:

1. Food give-aways

Public Law 480 "food for peace"

2. Private donations & assistance

3. Technical assistance

Federal government (AID)

Universities

4. Loans & Grants for capital investment

5. Efforts at genetic improvement

(help grow food, not give them food)

Barriers:

- 1. Acts of god (hurricane, flood)**
- 2. Cultural & Religious barriers**
- 3. Limitations due to poor soil
inadequate rainfall**
- 4. Financial barriers
(loans become grants)**
- 5. Institutional barriers
Financial incentives to farmers
"Low cost" food for consumers**

Possibilities:

- 1. Genetic Breakthroughs**
- 2. Exports of nonfood items by third world countries as a source of foreign currency to buy food**
- 3. Increase arable land base**
irrigation
Saudi Arabia did it but requires major capital investment
Cutting the rainforest!
- 4. Political & Institutional changes**
"Farm policy" of third world nation
- 5. Fish farming and food from the Sea**

Limits:

- 1. Generosity of the US & other developed countries**
 - 2. Phenomenal genetic breakthroughs occur infrequently and are often unplanned**
 - 3. Only huge capital investments could make some land suitable for ag use**
 - 4. Greenhouse effect, ozone layer other environmental concerns**
 - 5. Bounty of the sea not limitless**
- Malthus--food supply grows arithmetically
population geometrically**

Chapter 17: Rural Economic Development

Rural Development

Rural Development--

Efforts aimed at improving the quality of life in rural America (farm & nonfarm)

Economic development--

Efforts aimed at increasing per-capita income levels

Community development

Public policy at the local level

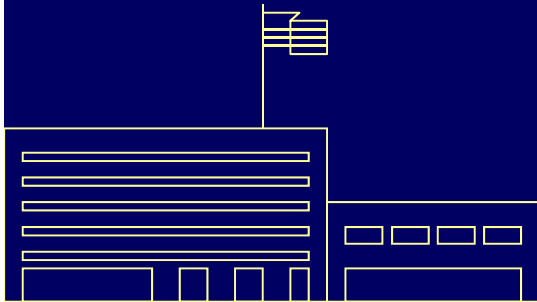
Public policy at the local level is frequently concerned with improving incomes and the quality of life for rural residents

Facets of Rural Development



Rural industrialization

brings (hopefully) higher paying jobs to rural residents



Public service delivery

improved education

fire, police protection

libraries, recreational facilities

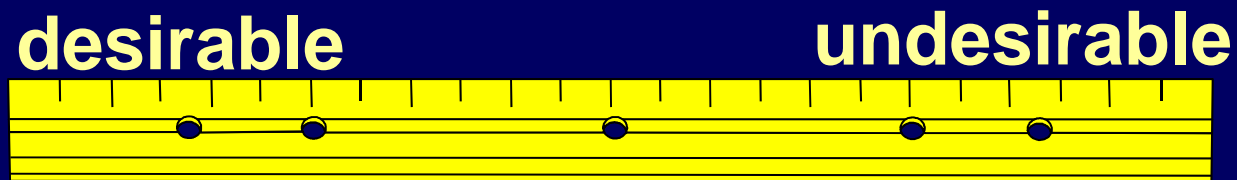
hospitals, medical services

other needed services

Rural Development issues:

What does the community need to do in order
to attract new industry?

Consequences of population growth?



Who pays for upgraded public services?
taxpayer revolt

How do you deal with outsiders?

Brain drain from rural communities

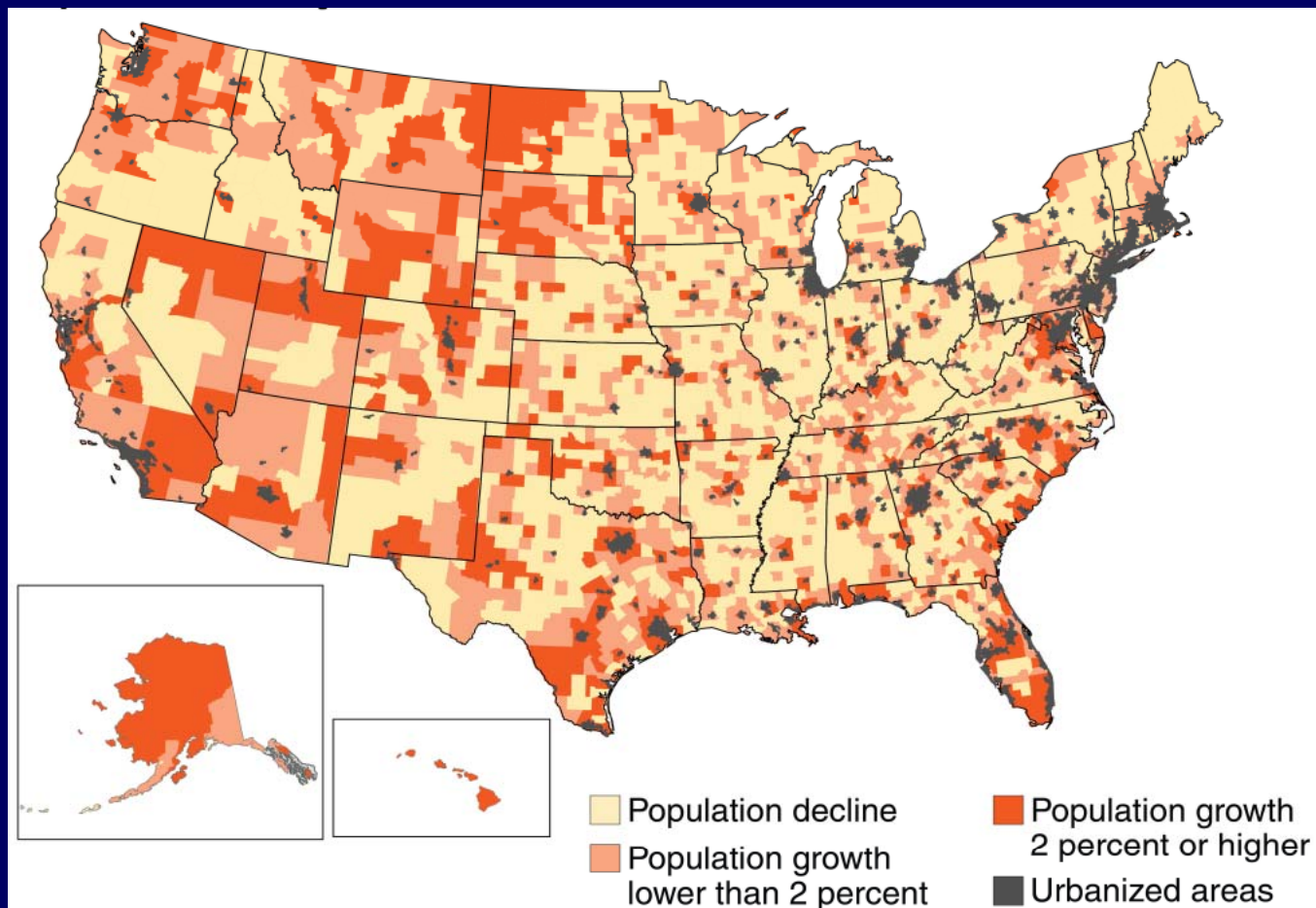
Population growth:
generally greatest in the counties
near a metro area

Urban employment and income
with rural lifestyle

Industry interested in locating near
(but not necessarily in) an urban center

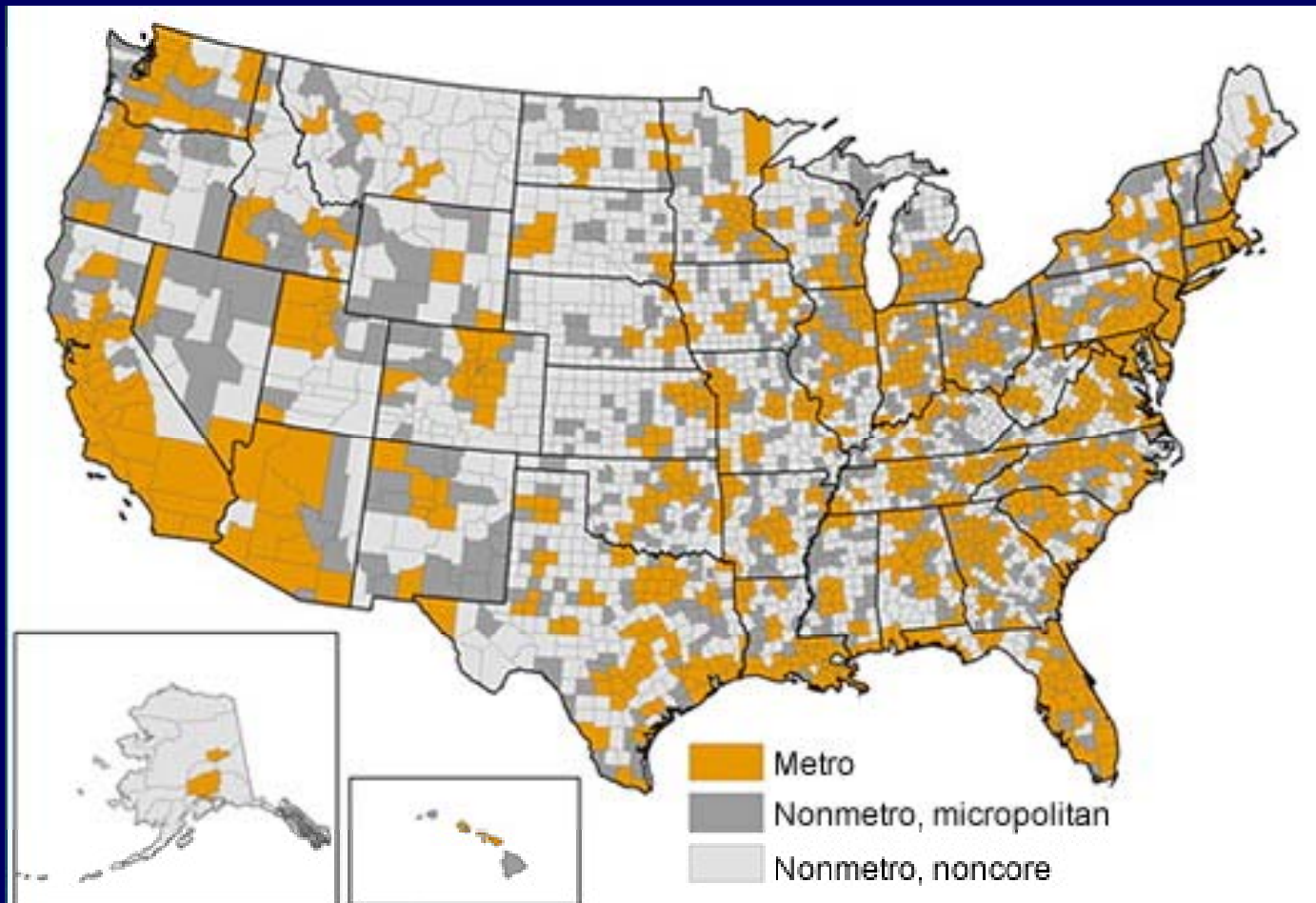
**How can public services
be efficiently delivered
in a nonmetro county
detached from but near
an urban center?**

Some Rural Counties are Experiencing Population Growth: Others are Losing People (percent change, 2010-2012)



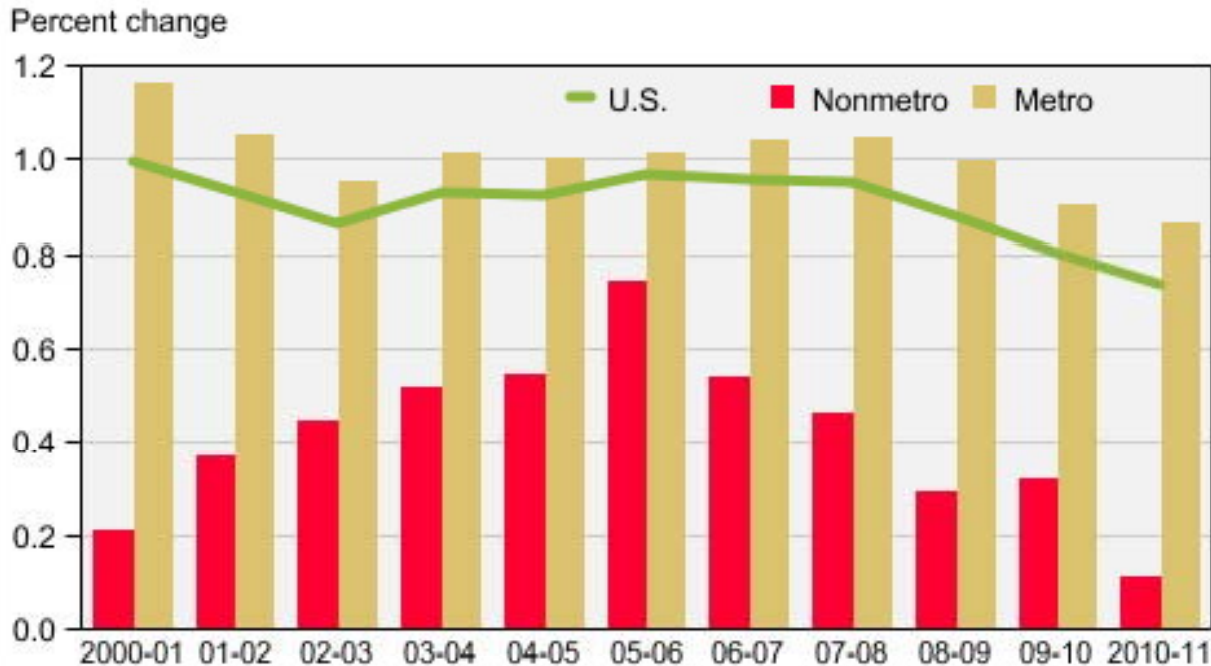
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from U.S. Census Bureau.

Metro, Non-Metro and Micropolitan Counties, 2013



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Annual Population Growth Rates for Metro and Non-Metro Areas, 2000-2010

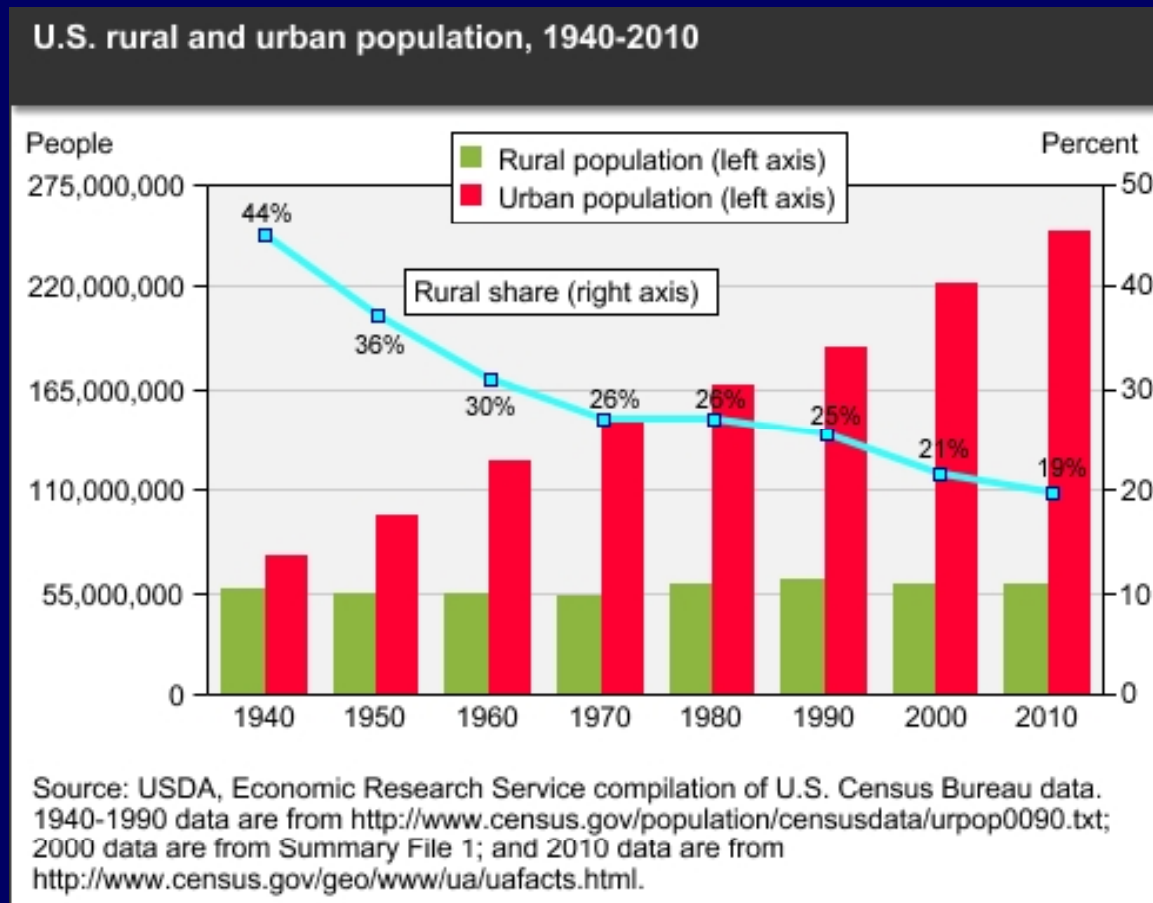


Note: Adjustments to county population estimates following the 2010 Census may partly explain the divergence in nonmetro trends during 2009-10 and 2010-11. It is probably more realistic to assume a steadier decline in nonmetro population rates since 2008-09, in line with national trends.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service, using data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Between 2000 and 2010, metro areas far outdistanced non-metro areas in population growth. This has changed since 2010.

The Rate of Population Loss in Rural Areas to Metro Areas is Slowing

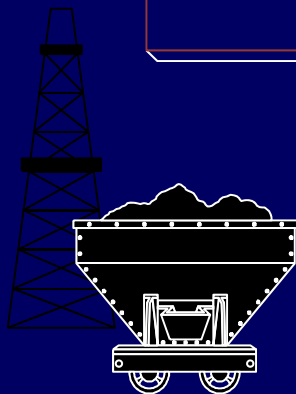


By 2011, about 51 million people lived in rural areas

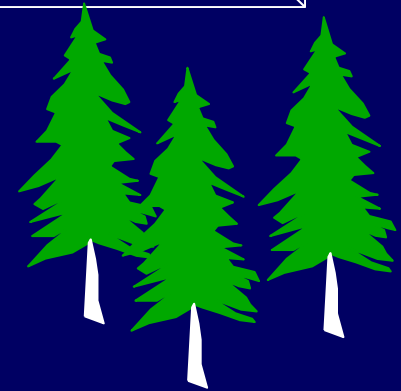
**Rural communities located far from
urban centers must rely on agriculture
as a primary source of income**

**Businesses in these towns are frequently
somehow linked to agriculture**

**USDA "farming dependent" counties
For these counties, their fate is
linked to the economic conditions
facing agriculture**



**Boom & Bust
Energy-related industry
Coal & Oil
Forestry & Timber**



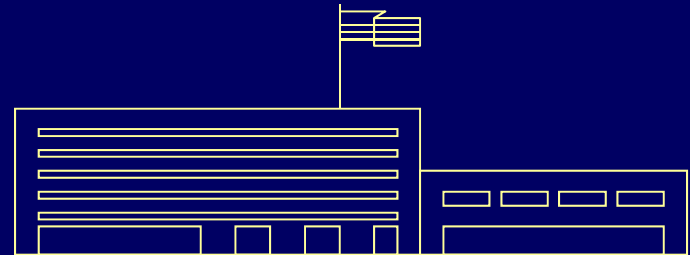
Education in rural areas:

Expensive on a per pupil basis as the cost of teachers spread over relatively few students

Attitudes toward education in rural areas vary considerably from state to state and region to region

Limited course offerings compared with urban schools

Loss of most talented students to high paying jobs in urban areas

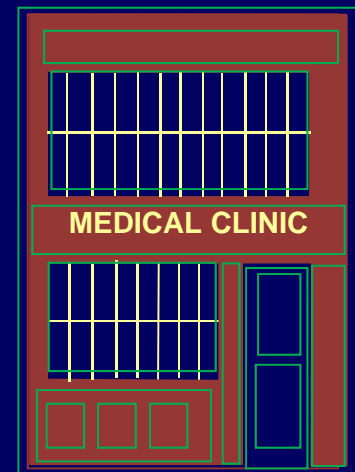


Medical care in rural areas:

Frequently limited in availability
family physician in rural community
in private practice declining

Physicians like high-paying
jobs in urban clinics

Care of elderly may be a problem
in rural areas



Housing in rural areas:

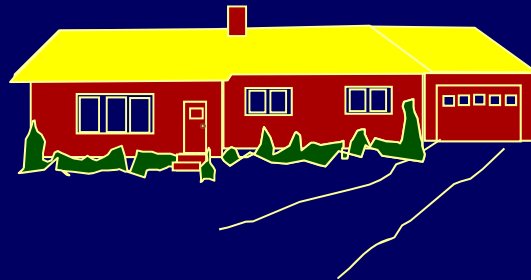
Deemed substandard if it lacks indoor plumbing

Under 28 million rural housing units total
a million substandard

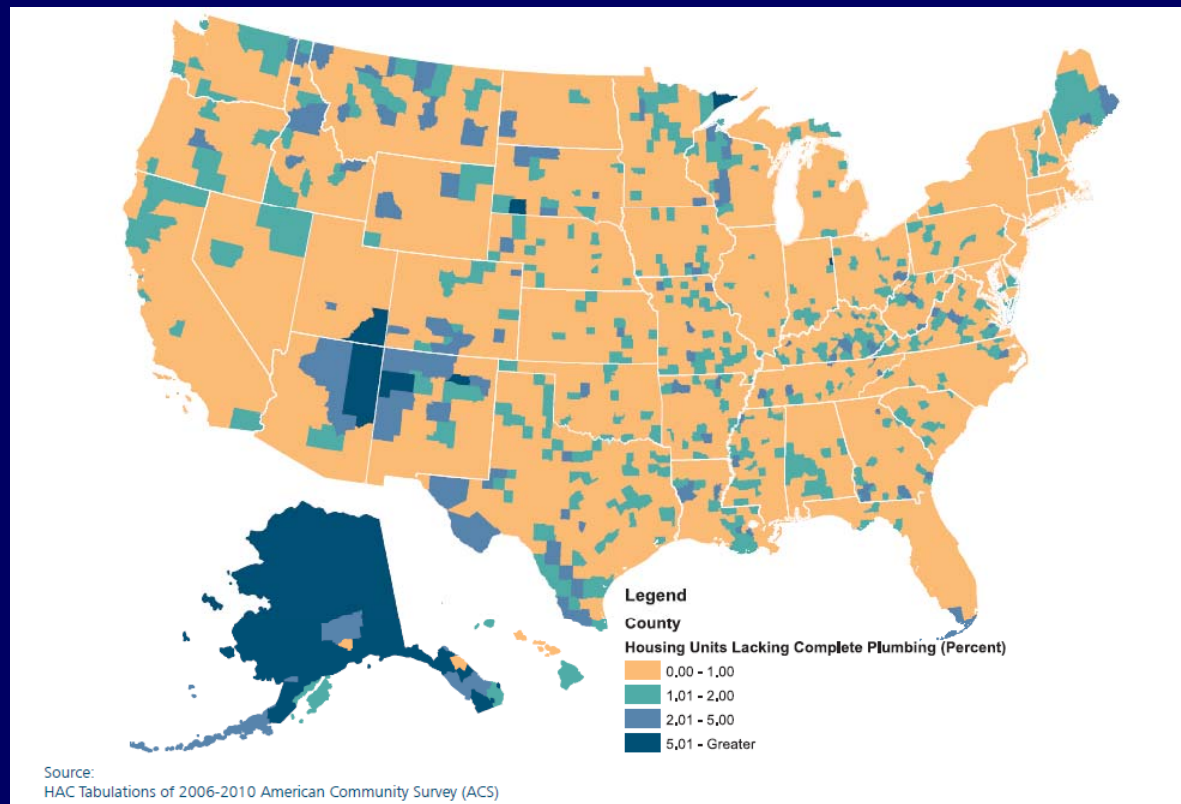
substandard units--59% 1959

less than 5% now

A number of rural counties still have
significant numbers of substandard
homes....

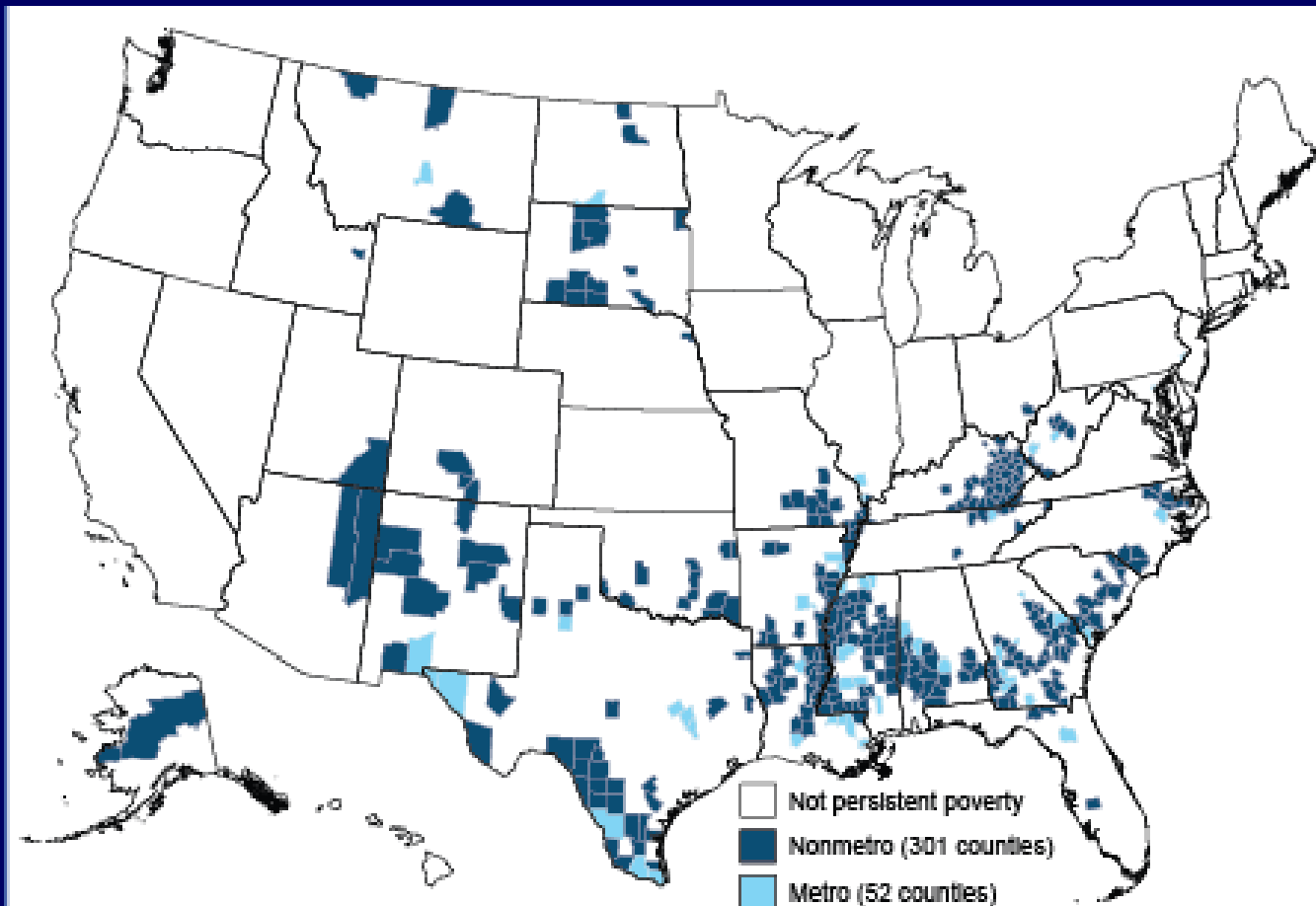


Rural Housing Units Lacking Complete Plumbing by County, 2010 (Percent)



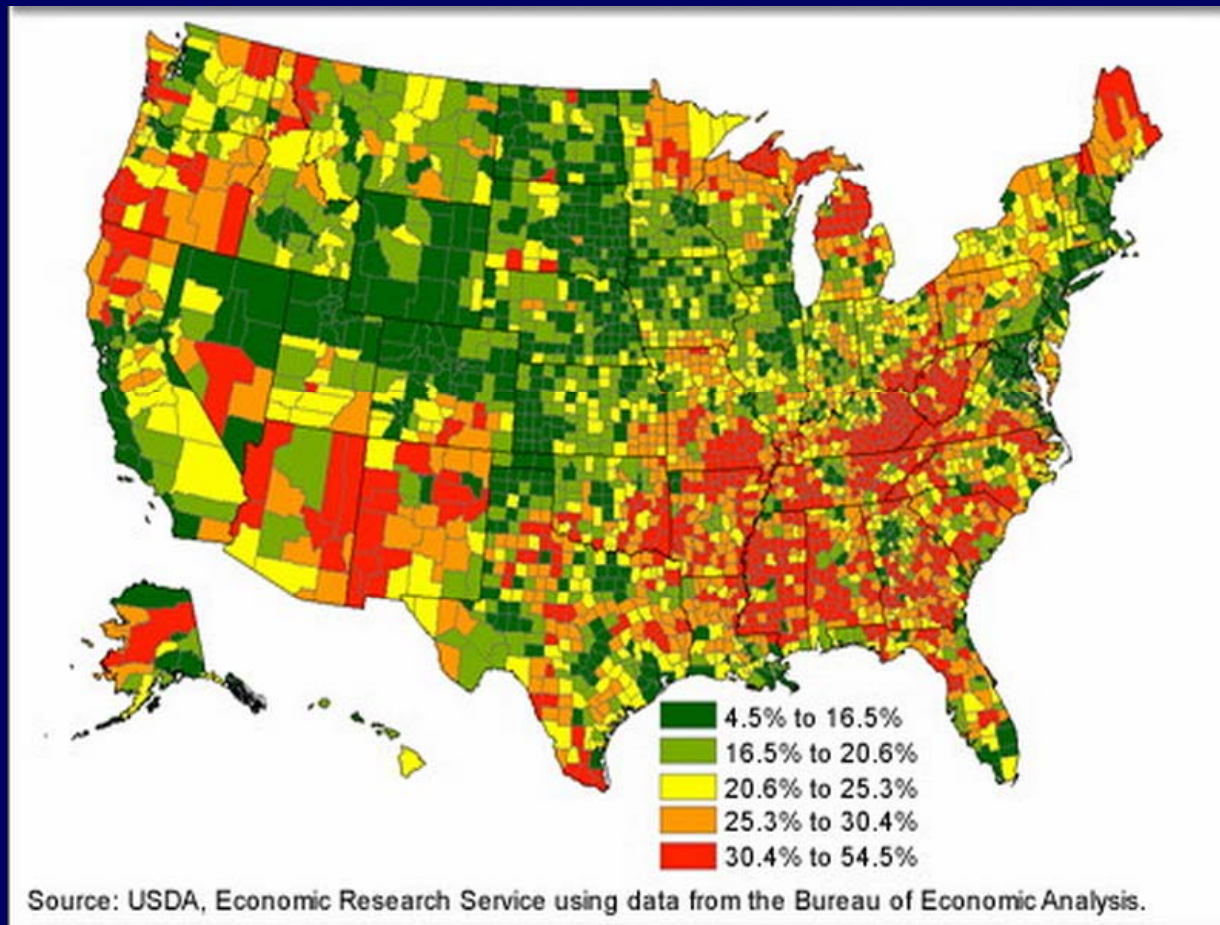
Source: Housing Assistance Council "Taking Stock" Report

Persistent Poverty Counties, Metro and Non-Metro



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service. Persistent poverty counties had poverty rates of at least 20 percent in each U.S. Census 1980, 1990, and 2000, and American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2007-11.

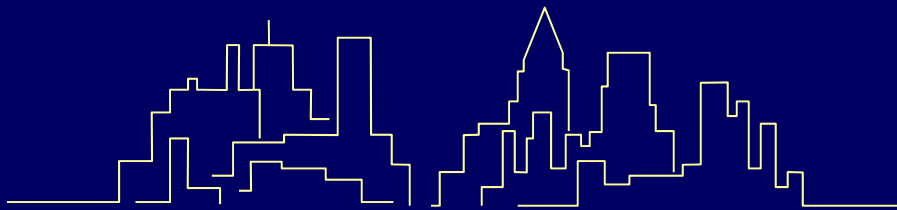
Government transfer payments to individuals as a percent of total county personal income, 2011



**Rural areas do not get their
proportionate share of federal aid**

**Urban congressmen support programs for
urban poor
Rural congressmen are concerned with
government assistance for farmers**

**Rural poor are often ignored
Renewed efforts are underway to redirect
federal funds to rural areas**



Rural Development Strategies:

- 1. More economic assistance to rural residents other than farmers (i.e. food stamps)**
- 2. Additional state and federal aid to rural schools to account for externalities and spillovers**
- 3. Strategic plans for quality medical service delivery irrespective of where you live**
- 4. Programs designed to further improve housing in rural areas**
- 5. Assistance to local governments in community improvements**

**6. Redirection of federal projects
toward remote rural areas**

**7. Assistance in developing plans for
attracting new industry**

**Fewer than 5 million people live on farms
but
59 million people live in non-farm rural areas**

**Public policy will be increasingly directed
toward meeting the needs of non-farm rural
residents.**