

## Supply and Demand Curves

Antitrust
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## Thoughts on POE Ch. 3

- This chapter is more than we need.
- And it's sometimes confusing.
- And it has a way of making simple stuff complicated.
- So let's break it down ...

> Economics is about logic and incentives in decision-making.

It's not about memorizing stuff. But here's one thing it's helpful to memorize ... the basic supply and demand diagram.




Example: Windchimes in Wendover on Wednesday An economy with just eight people and one day:

- Allen, who adores windchimes and would pay $\$ 20$ for one.
- Bonnie, who thinks windchimes are okay, and would pay $\$ 15$ for one.
- Chuck, finds windchimes uncharming, but he would buy one at $\$ 10$ just to have the option of annoying his neighbor, Darla, if Darla's incense burning was annoying him.
- Darla hates windchimes and she would only pay $\$ 5$ for one, which she could use for smashing with a hammer to let off steam. If the price were $\$ 2$, she'd buy two. For $\$ 1$, she'd get up to 5 and smash them all.
- Wendy, loves making wind chimes, and she's good at it. She can churn out two out for $\$ 5$ each.
- Xavier likes making things out of metal and clay. It would be worth it for him to make one set of windchimes if it could fetch $\$ 10$.
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- Zendaya is a successful celebrity actor and singer. For it to be worth it to her to make windchimes, she'd have to be paid \$20 each, and even then she'd mostly do if for Instagram value. But she's a fast worker, so she could make four.
What is the efficient number of windchimes for this society to produce?



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And it would be crazy to have Zendaya make windchimes for Darla, because it's only worth it for Zendaya if she gets \$20 for them, and they are only valued by Darla at \$1-2.


And it would be crazy to have Zendaya make windchimes for Darla, because it's only worth it for Zendaya if she gets \$20 for them, and they are only valued by Darla at <1-?
That would be a
waste!! (Waste is
the opposite of
efficiency.)
Point of Equilibrium
Supply



The point of equilibrium is the point at which mutually beneficial bargains run
out, and where, if you went any
Demand
further, production and consumption
would get pointless (wasteful). That's
why the point of equilibrium shows
efficient production and consumption.

# Let's talk about shifts in the supply and demand curves. 




## What if

Let's assume everyone is bored so they have more time and therefore more willingness to make windchimes ...

## An electromagnetic pulse device goes off over Wendover disabling all electronics?





This is from Fig. 3.16 in POE2e. From 2014 to 2015, it got a lot easier to catch salmon, we're told.

| Price | Quantity <br> supplied 2014 | Quantity <br> supplied 2015 | Quantity <br> demanded <br> anytime |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\$ 2.00$ | 80 | 400 | 840 |
| $\$ 2.25$ | 120 | 480 | 680 |
| $\$ 2.50$ | 160 | 550 | 550 |
| $\$ 2.75$ | 200 | 600 | 450 |
| $\$ 3.00$ | 230 | 640 | 350 |
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What does the highlighted box mean?
It means that if the price is $\$ 2.00$, then there's enough willingness among consumers who want to pay that such that 840 units could be sold (transacted in the market).

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What does the highlighted box mean?
It means that if the price is $\$ 3.50$, then there's enough
willingness among suppliers that 270 units could be supplied to the market.

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