

class - B.Com - Part - I.

Subject: Business Economics
and Environment

Topic: Iso-product curve

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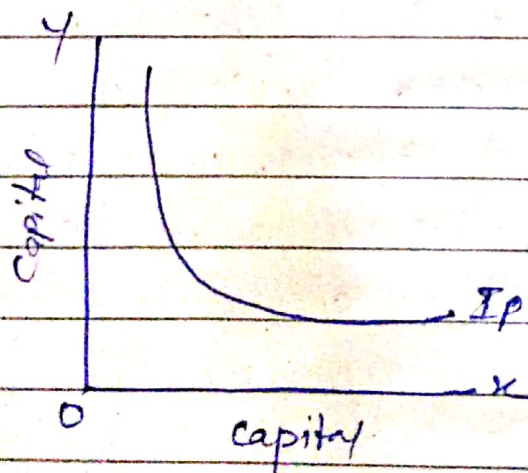
Properties of ISO-product Curve:-

- ① Iso product is convex to the origin
- ② Iso product is negatively sloped i.e. its slopes downward from left to right.
- ③ Higher iso product represents higher production
- ④ Two iso product never intersect each other.
- ⑤ Iso-product curve never touches axis.

① Iso product is convex to the Origin:

The Iso-product is convex to the origin because the marginal rate of technical substitution (MRTS) between the inputs is diminishing. As shown in the tabular example of MRTS the ratio by which the input units of capital is substituted by labour units diminishes with more and more substitution of labour for capital. Thus, the iso-product curve is convex to the origin.

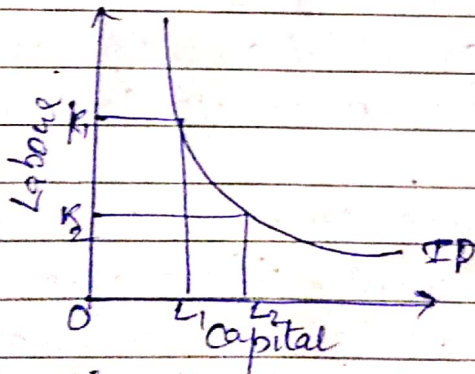
If the isoproduct curve has been concave to origin, it would imply that the MRTS increases as more and more of labour is substituted for capital. And this would be against the assumption that the iso-product curve is based on



2. **Iso-product is negatively sloped, slope downward sloping left to right :-**

The Iso-product curve is neither upward sloping nor horizontal but always slopes downward from left to right. It is because the producer will have to give up some of the input units of capital to increase the input of labour when keeping the production amount unchanged.

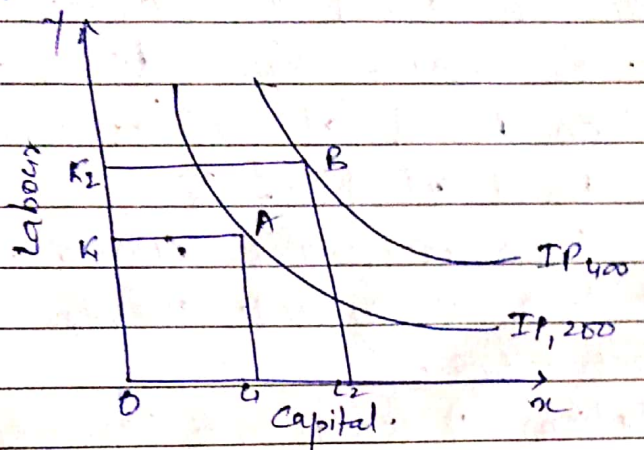
Increasing input units of either of the factors without deducing the input of the other factor will result in increased production and it is beyond the principle of iso-product curve.



3. In the figure when OK_1 units of Labour were employed OL_1 units of capital were employed too. When the input units of labour was increased to OK_2 the input of ~~labours~~ capital was increased to OL_2 the input units of labour was reduced to OK_1 . Therefore, the curve is downward sloping from left to right. And slope of any downward sloping curve is always negative.

3. Higher isoquant represent higher production

The isoquant which is in higher stage has higher units of labour and capital combination. Greater combination of labour and capital makes large scale of production. So higher the isoquant curve greater will be the production level.

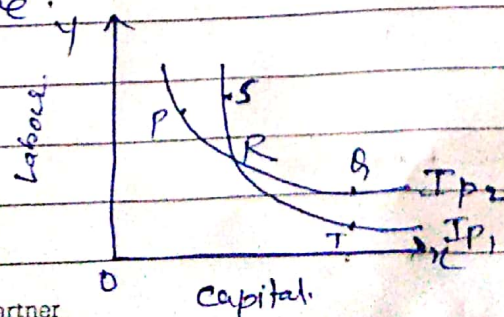


In the figure, we can see that there are two isoquant curve (IP_1 and IP_2). We can also see that the combination A lies on IP_1 and combination B lies on IP_2 .

Combination A consists of OL_1 units of ~~labour~~^{capital} and OK_1 units of labour and OL_2 units of labour at point B . So we can say that product level at IP_2 is higher than the production level at IP_1 .

4. Two isoquants never intersect each other

Each isoquant curve is a representative of particular level of production. The level of production or output of a production process is same throughout the curve.



In the above figure IP_1 and IP_2 are two iso-product curves and R is the point where both the curve intersect

According to the principle of isoquant curve
 production level at point S = production level
 at point R = production level at point T

Also production level at point P = production
 level at point R = production level at point Q

But production level at point S and point T
 = production level at point Q

Therefore, two isoquant curve cannot
 intersect. Yet two isoquant curves need not be
 parallel to each other.

The parallelism of isoquant curves depend
 upon the MRTS. The isoquant curves can be
 parallel only when the MRTS of both the curve
 are equal

5. Iso-product curve never touches axis:

If an Iso-product curve touches X axis
 it would mean that the product is being
 produced with the help of X factor alone.
 without using factor Y . This is a logical
 absurdity that a single factor cannot produce
 anything. Therefore IP_1 and IP_2 cannot be
 Iso-product curves as shown in fig.

