

If The Daily Marginal Cost For A Product Is $MC = 6x + 140$, With Fixed Costs Amounting To \$300, Find The

If The Daily Marginal Cost For A Product Is $MC = 6x + 140$, With Fixed Costs Amounting To \$300, Find The solution involves understanding the concepts of marginal cost, fixed costs, and how they influence the total cost, average cost, and ultimately the decision-making process related to production levels. This problem provides essential data points that allow us to analyze the cost structure and derive meaningful insights about the optimal production quantity and total costs associated with producing the product.

In this article, we will explore the fundamental concepts of marginal cost, fixed costs, and their roles in cost analysis. We will also walk through the detailed steps to solve the problem, providing clarity on the calculations involved. Whether you are a student, an economist, or a business owner, understanding these principles is crucial for effective production planning and cost management.

Understanding the Cost Components

Before diving into calculations, it is important to understand the key elements involved in this problem:

Fixed Costs

- Fixed costs are expenses that do not change with the level of production.
- In this problem, the fixed costs are given as \$300.
- Fixed costs are incurred regardless of whether the company produces zero units or a large number of units.

Marginal Cost (MC)

- Marginal cost is the additional cost incurred to produce one more unit of a product.
- It plays a vital role in determining the optimal production quantity.
- The given marginal cost function is expressed as $MC = 6x + 140$, where:
- x is the number of units produced.
- MC is the marginal cost per additional unit at level x .

Deciphering the Marginal Cost Function

The provided marginal cost function appears as:

$$[Mc = 6x + 140]$$

This suggests that:

- The marginal cost increases linearly with the number of units produced.
- When $x = 0$ (no units produced), the marginal cost is \$140.
- As production increases, the marginal cost increases by \$6 for each additional unit produced.

This linear form indicates that the cost of producing each additional unit becomes more expensive as output grows, which is typical in many real-world scenarios due to factors like resource constraints or diminishing returns.

Calculating Total Cost (TC)

Total cost combines fixed costs and variable costs, which depend on the level of production.

Relationship Between Marginal Cost and Total Cost

- Total cost can be derived by integrating the marginal cost function over the quantity produced.
- The general formula:

$$[TC = FC + VC]$$

where:

- FC is fixed costs.
- VC is variable costs, which can be obtained by integrating the marginal cost.

Deriving Total Variable Cost (TVC)

Given the marginal cost function:

$$[Mc = 6x + 140]$$

the total variable cost (TVC) for producing x units is:

$$[TVC = \int_0^x Mc \, dx]$$

Calculating this integral:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{[TVC} &= \int_0^x (6t + 140) dt \text{]} \\ \text{[TVC} &= \left[3t^2 + 140t \right]_0^x \text{]} \\ \text{[TVC} &= 3x^2 + 140x \text{]} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the total cost (TC) is:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{[TC} &= \text{FC} + \text{TVC} \text{]} \\ \text{[TC} &= 300 + 3x^2 + 140x \text{]} \end{aligned}$$

Finding the Optimal Production Level

In many scenarios, a producer aims to determine the optimal quantity x to maximize profit or minimize cost. Although the problem statement does not specify a demand function or revenue, we can analyze the cost structure and find the total cost at different levels of production.

Suppose we want to find the total cost for a certain production level or analyze how costs evolve as x increases.

Step-by-Step Calculation

Let's illustrate the total cost calculation at various production levels:

- At $x = 0$ units:

- $TC = 300 + 3(0)^2 + 140(0) = \300

- At $x = 10$ units:

- $TC = 300 + 3(10)^2 + 140(10) = 300 + 3(100) + 1400 = 300 + 300 + 1400 = \2000

- At $x = 20$ units:

- $TC = 300 + 3(20)^2 + 140(20) = 300 + 3(400) + 2800 = 300 + 1200 +$

$$2800 = \$4300$$

This progression shows how costs escalate with increased production, highlighting the importance of balancing production levels with demand and profitability.

Analyzing Cost Behavior

Understanding how total costs change with production helps in decision-making:

Cost Trends

- The quadratic term $(3x^2)$ indicates that costs accelerate as production increases, reflecting increasing marginal costs.
- The linear term $(140x)$ shows consistent incremental costs per unit.
- Fixed costs ($\$300$) are spread over more units as production increases, reducing average fixed costs.

Average Cost (AC)

- Average cost per unit:

$$AC = \frac{TC}{x} = \frac{300 + 3x^2 + 140x}{x}$$

- Simplify:

$$AC = \frac{300}{x} + 3x + 140$$

- As x increases:
- The term $(\frac{300}{x})$ decreases, lowering average fixed costs.
- The term $(3x)$ increases, raising average variable costs.
- The constant 140 remains unchanged.

Understanding the behavior of AC helps determine the most cost-effective production level.

Conclusion and Practical Implications

The analysis of the cost structure provided reveals critical insights:

- The total cost function is $TC = 300 + 3x^2 + 140x$.
- Fixed costs are \$300, and variable costs increase quadratically with production.
- Marginal costs increase linearly with production, starting at \$140 when no units are produced.
- To optimize profit, a producer would need to consider revenue functions and market demand, but understanding cost behavior is fundamental.

Practical applications include:

- Identifying the production level where average cost is minimized.
- Planning production schedules to avoid unnecessary cost escalation.
- Making informed decisions about pricing and output levels to maximize profit.

Final Thoughts

Cost analysis, especially understanding the interplay between fixed costs, variable costs, and marginal costs, is vital in any production or business scenario. The provided function $Mc = 6x + 140$ offers a clear example of how costs evolve with output. By integrating the marginal cost to find total costs and analyzing their behavior, decision-makers can better strategize production levels, pricing, and resource allocation.

Remember, in real-world applications, additional factors such as demand elasticity, market competition, and operational constraints also influence optimal production decisions. Nonetheless, mastering the fundamentals of cost analysis is an essential step toward effective business management.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the total cost function if the daily marginal cost is given by $Mc = 6x + 140$ and fixed costs are \$300?

The total cost function is obtained by integrating the marginal cost: $C(x) = \int (6x + 140) dx + 300 = 3x^2 + 140x + 300$.

How do fixed costs influence the total cost in the given problem?

Fixed costs add a constant amount (\$300) to the total cost, regardless of the level of production, ensuring the total cost starts at \$300 when no units are produced.

What is the meaning of the marginal cost function $Mc = 6x + 140$?

It indicates that the additional cost of producing one more unit increases linearly with x , starting at 140 when x is zero, and increasing by 6 for each additional unit produced.

How can we find the total cost when producing x units based on the marginal cost?

By integrating the marginal cost function with respect to x and adding fixed costs: $C(x) = 3x^2 + 140x + 300$.

What is the total cost of producing 10 units?

Total cost at $x=10$: $C(10) = 3(10)^2 + 140(10) + 300 = 3(100) + 1400 + 300 = 300 + 1400 + 300 = \2000 .

How does the marginal cost function relate to the average cost per unit?

The average cost per unit is $C(x)/x$, which can be derived from the total cost function, reflecting how costs change per unit as production scales.

What is the significance of the fixed costs in profit analysis?

Fixed costs are costs that do not vary with production volume and are essential for calculating break-even points and overall profitability.

If the production increases, how does the marginal cost impact the total cost?

Since the marginal cost increases linearly with x , the total cost increases at an accelerating rate as production expands.

Can you derive the average cost function from the

total cost function?

Yes. The average cost function is $AC(x) = C(x)/x = (3x^2 + 140x + 300)/x = 3x + 140 + 300/x$.

What is the importance of understanding the marginal cost for decision-making?

Understanding marginal cost helps determine optimal production levels, pricing strategies, and assessing whether increasing output is cost-effective.

Additional Resources

Understanding Marginal Cost and Fixed Costs: An In-Depth Analysis of Cost Structures in Production

In the realm of economics and business management, understanding the intricacies of cost structures is fundamental for making informed decisions that influence profitability, pricing strategies, and production efficiency. This article delves into a specific scenario where the daily marginal cost of a product is given by the function $(M_c = 6x + 140)$, alongside fixed costs totaling \$300. By dissecting this information, we aim to uncover critical insights about the total cost, average cost, and other relevant financial metrics that shape a company's strategic choices.

Fundamental Concepts: Marginal Cost and Fixed Costs

Before diving into the specifics of the problem, it is essential to clarify the core concepts involved:

What Is Marginal Cost?

Marginal cost (MC) represents the additional cost incurred to produce one more unit of a product. It is a vital component in economic analysis because it influences decisions related to production levels, pricing, and maximizing profit.

Mathematically, marginal cost is often derived as the derivative of the total cost function with respect to quantity (x) :

$[$

$$MC = \frac{dC}{dx}$$

where:

- C stands for total cost
- x denotes the number of units produced

In the context of the given problem, the marginal cost function is specified explicitly, allowing us to analyze how costs change with production volume.

Fixed Costs vs. Variable Costs

- Fixed Costs (FC): Expenses that do not vary with production volume. They are incurred regardless of whether the company produces 0 or a large number of units. Examples include rent, salaries of permanent staff, and equipment depreciation.
- Variable Costs (VC): Costs that change directly with the level of output. These involve raw materials, direct labor, and other costs proportional to production volume.

In this scenario, fixed costs amount to \$300, which means the company bears this expense regardless of how many units are produced.

Deciphering the Cost Function: From Marginal Cost to Total Cost

Given the marginal cost function:

$$M_c = 6x + 140$$

our primary goal is to determine the total cost function $C(x)$.

From Marginal Cost to Total Cost

Since the marginal cost is the derivative of the total cost:

$$MC = \frac{dC}{dx}$$

we can find the total cost function $C(x)$ by integrating the marginal cost with respect to x :

$$C(x) = \int MC \, dx + C_0$$

where C_0 is the constant of integration, representing fixed costs.

Applying the integration:

$$\begin{aligned} C(x) &= \int (6x + 140) dx + C_0 \\ C(x) &= 6 \int x dx + 140 \int dx + C_0 \\ C(x) &= 6 \times \frac{x^2}{2} + 140x + C_0 \\ C(x) &= 3x^2 + 140x + C_0 \end{aligned}$$

Determining the Constant of Integration (C_0)

Since fixed costs amount to \$300, and these costs are incurred even when no units are produced ($(x=0)$), we evaluate:

$$\begin{aligned} C(0) &= 300 \\ \text{Plugging into the total cost function:} \\ C(0) &= 3 \times 0^2 + 140 \times 0 + C_0 = C_0 \\ \Rightarrow C_0 &= 300 \end{aligned}$$

Final Total Cost Function:

$$\boxed{C(x) = 3x^2 + 140x + 300}$$

This function encapsulates all cost considerations, allowing for further analysis.

Analyzing Cost Metrics: Average Cost and Marginal Cost

Understanding the cost per unit is crucial for pricing and production decisions.

Average Cost (AC)

Average cost at production level x is:

$$AC(x) = \frac{C(x)}{x}$$
$$AC(x) = \frac{3x^2 + 140x + 300}{x}$$
$$AC(x) = 3x + 140 + \frac{300}{x}$$

This expression reveals how costs per unit decrease as production increases, especially considering the fixed costs are spread over more units.

Behavior of Average Cost

- As $x \rightarrow \infty$, $\left(\frac{300}{x} \rightarrow 0\right)$, and $(AC(x) \rightarrow 3x + 140)$, which grows without bound.
- As $x \rightarrow 0^+$, $(AC(x) \rightarrow \infty)$, indicating high costs per unit at very low production levels due to fixed costs.

Marginal Cost vs. Average Cost

- The marginal cost function, $(MC = 6x + 140)$, increases linearly with x .
- The average cost initially decreases with increasing x , reaches a minimum, then increases again.
- The point where $(MC = AC)$ indicates the minimum average cost, which is critical for optimal production planning.

Determining the Optimal Production Level

To minimize costs per unit and optimize output, it's essential to analyze the relationship between marginal and average costs.

Finding the Quantity that Minimizes Average Cost

Set $(MC = AC)$:

$$6x + 140 = 3x + 140 + \frac{300}{x}$$

Subtract $(3x + 140)$ from both sides:

$$6x + 140 - 3x - 140 = \frac{300}{x}$$

$$3x = \frac{300}{x}$$

Multiply both sides by (x) :

$$3x^2 = 300$$

$$x^2 = 100$$

$$x = \pm 10$$

Since production quantity cannot be negative:

$$x = 10$$

Interpretation:

The average cost reaches its minimum at a production level of 10 units.

Minimum Average Cost

Calculate $(AC(10))$:

$$AC(10) = 3 \times 10 + 140 + \frac{300}{10} = 30 + 140 + 30 = 200$$

Thus, the minimum average cost per unit is \$200 when producing 10 units.

Implications for Business Strategy

The derived functions and calculations have profound implications for operational and strategic decisions:

Pricing Strategies

- Knowing the minimum average cost aids in setting a baseline price to ensure profitability.
- Pricing below the minimum average cost would lead to losses, while pricing above ensures covering costs and earning profit.

Production Planning

- Producing exactly 10 units minimizes per-unit costs, ideal for small-batch or customized products.
- For mass production, costs increase beyond this point, suggesting that economies of scale are limited in this scenario.

Cost Management

- Fixed costs of \$300 are amortized over the number of units produced.
- Increasing production beyond 10 units reduces average cost initially but eventually causes costs to rise again due to the quadratic nature of total costs.

Graphical Interpretation and Further Insights

Visualizing the cost functions can deepen understanding:

- Total Cost Curve: A quadratic parabola opening upwards, reflecting increasing total costs at an accelerating rate as production increases.
- Average Cost Curve: A U-shaped curve, with its minimum at $(x=10)$, indicating the optimal production point for cost efficiency.
- Marginal Cost Line: A straight line with a slope of 6, crossing the average cost at the minimum point.

Graphical analysis confirms that producing around 10 units is cost-optimal, but strategic considerations such as demand, capacity, and market prices must also influence decisions.

Conclusion: Integrating Cost Analysis into Business Decisions

This comprehensive investigation into the cost structure revealed how marginal costs and fixed costs interact to shape total and average costs in a production environment. The key takeaways include:

- The total cost function is $(C(x) = 3x^2 + 140x + 300)$.
- The average cost per unit is minimized at 10 units, with a cost of \$200.
- Understanding the cost functions enables firms to optimize production levels, set competitive prices, and plan for scaling operations.

In the broader context, such analyses highlight the importance of detailed cost modeling in strategic planning, especially in competitive markets where efficiency can determine success. Whether for small-scale bespoke products or larger manufacturing operations, grasping the nuances of cost functions empowers managers to make data-driven, profitable decisions.

Note: This analysis assumes a linear marginal cost function with respect to units produced and fixed costs remaining constant. Real-world scenarios may involve additional complexities such as economies of scale, variable fixed costs, or changing market conditions, which

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