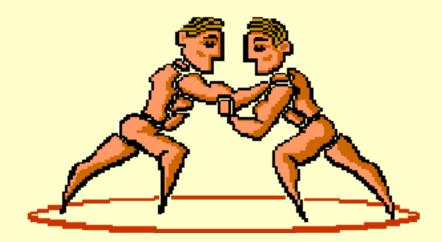
# 제 9 장 과점이론의 기초 Basic Theories of Oligopoly



#### 과점시장 Oligopoly Environment

- Relatively few firms, usually less than 10.
- "Oligospolein" (few to sell)
  - g Duopoly two firms
  - <sup>q</sup> Triopoly three firms
- The products firms offer can be either differentiated or homogeneous.
- 상품 차별화 가능성

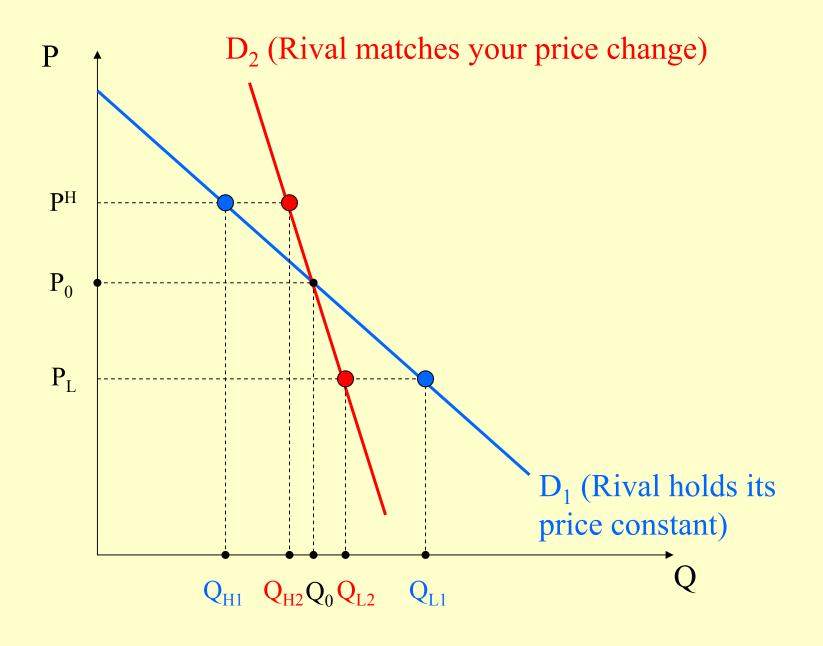
#### 전략적 상호작용 Role of Strategic Interaction

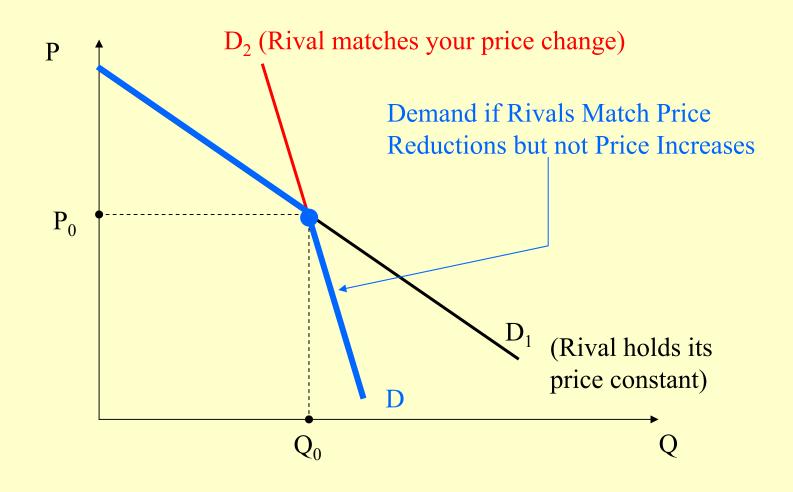


- Your actions affect the profits of your rivals.
- Your rivals' actions affect your profits.
- Interdependence
  (상호의존성, "서로 눈치보기")

## An Example

- You and another firm sell differentiated products.
- How does the quantity demanded for your product change when you change your price?





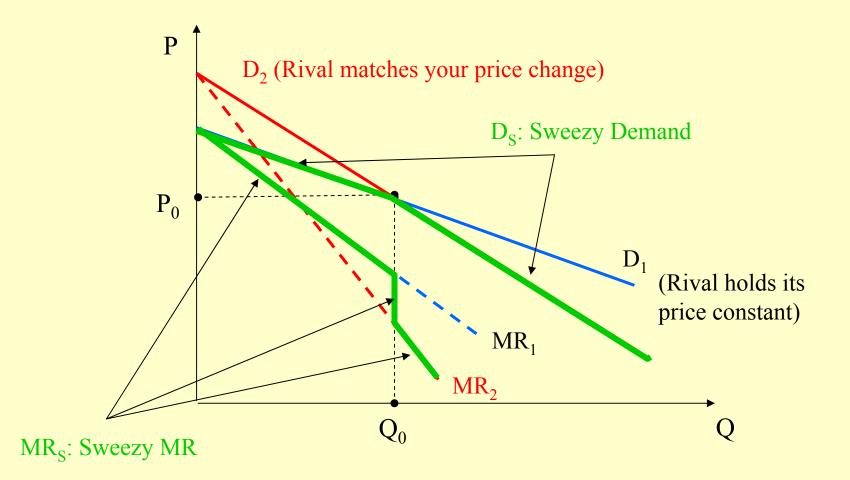
# **Key Insight**

- The effect of a price reduction on the quantity demanded of your product depends upon whether your rivals respond by cutting their prices too!
- The effect of a price increase on the quantity demanded of your product depends upon whether your rivals respond by raising their prices too!
- Strategic interdependence: You aren't in complete control of your own destiny!

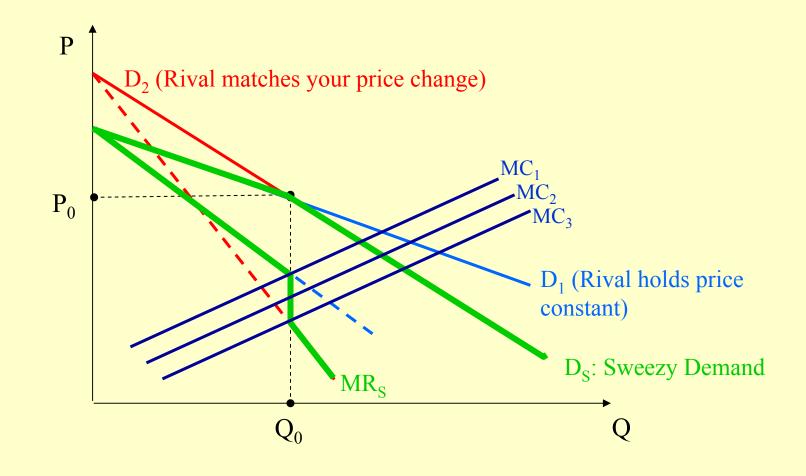
#### 굴절수요이론 Paul Sweezy (Kinked-Demand) Model

- Few firms in the market serving many consumers.
- Firms produce differentiated products.
- Barriers to entry.
- Each firm believes rivals will match (or follow) price reductions, but won't match (or follow) price increases.
- Key feature of Sweezy Model <sub>q</sub> *Price-Rigidity*.

#### **Sweezy Demand and Marginal Revenue**



### **Sweezy Profit-Maximizing Decision**



## **Sweezy Oligopoly Summary**

- Firms believe rivals match price cuts, but not price increases.
- Firms operating in a Sweezy oligopoly maximize profit by producing where

#### $MR_{S} = MC.$

- <sup>q</sup> The kinked-shaped marginal revenue curve implies that there exists a range over which changes in MC will not impact the profit-maximizing level of output.
- <sup>q</sup> Therefore, the firm may have no incentive to change price provided that marginal cost remains in a given range.



- A few firms produce goods that are either perfect substitutes (homogeneous) or imperfect substitutes (differentiated).
- Firms set output, as opposed to price.
- Each firm believes their rivals will hold output constant if it changes its own output (The output of rivals is viewed as given or "fixed").
- Barriers to entry exist→기존기업의 담합 가능성

### **Inverse Demand in a Cournot Duopoly**

• Market demand in a homogeneous-product Cournot duopoly is

 $P = a - b(Q_1 + Q_2)$ 

• Thus, each firm's marginal revenue depends on the output produced by the other firm. More formally,

$$MR_1 = a - bQ_2 - 2bQ_1$$
$$MR_2 = a - bQ_1 - 2bQ_2$$

### 최적반응함수 Best-Response Function

- Since a firm's marginal revenue in a homogeneous Cournot oligopoly depends on both its output and its rivals, each firm needs a way to "respond" to rival's output decisions.
- Firm 1's best-response (or reaction) function is a schedule summarizing the amount of  $Q_1$  firm 1 should produce in order to maximize its profits for each quantity of  $Q_2$  produced by firm 2.
- Since the products are substitutes, an increase in firm 2's output leads to a decrease in the profitmaximizing amount of firm 1's product.

# Best-Response Function for a Cournot Duopoly

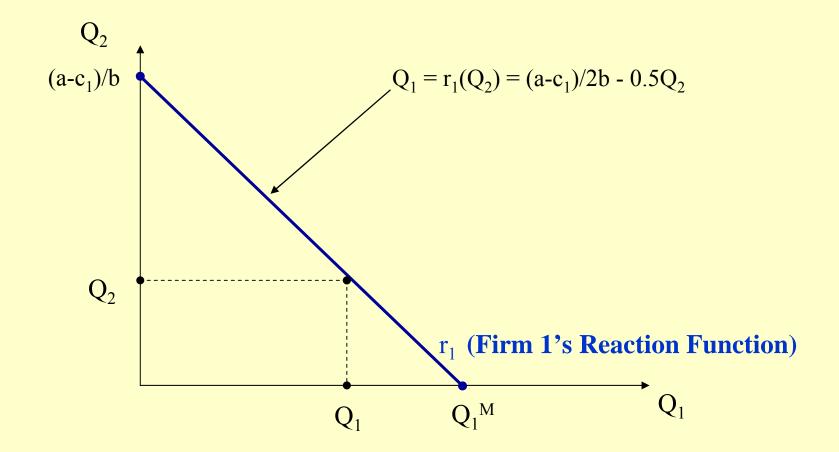
- To find a firm's best-response function, equate its marginal revenue to marginal cost and solve for its output as a function of its rival's output.
- Firm 1's best-response function is (c<sub>1</sub> is firm 1's MC)

$$Q_1 = r_1(Q_2) = \frac{a - c_1}{2b} - \frac{1}{2}Q_2$$

• Firm 2's best-response function is  $(c_2 \text{ is firm 2's MC})$ 

$$Q_2 = r_2(Q_1) = \frac{a - c_2}{2b} - \frac{1}{2}Q_1$$

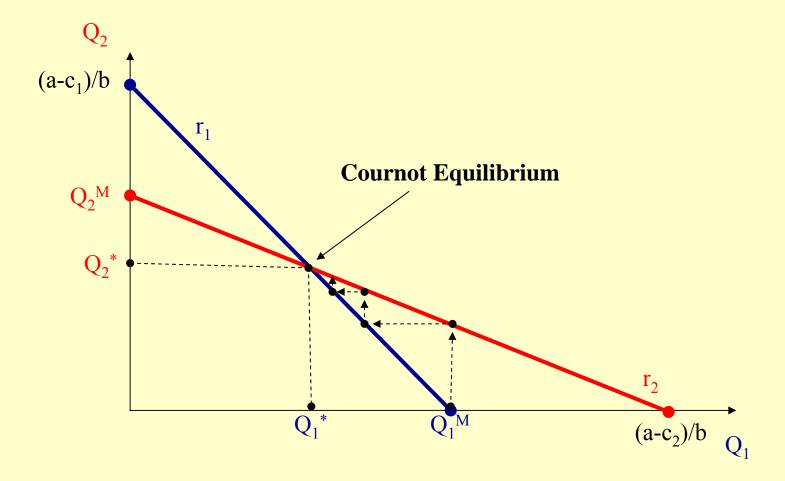
#### **Graph of Firm 1's Best-Response Function**



## **Cournot Equilibrium**

- Situation where each firm produces the output that maximizes its profits, given the the output of rival firms.
- No firm can gain by unilaterally changing its own output to improve its profit.
  - <sup>q</sup> A point where the two firm's best-response functions intersect.

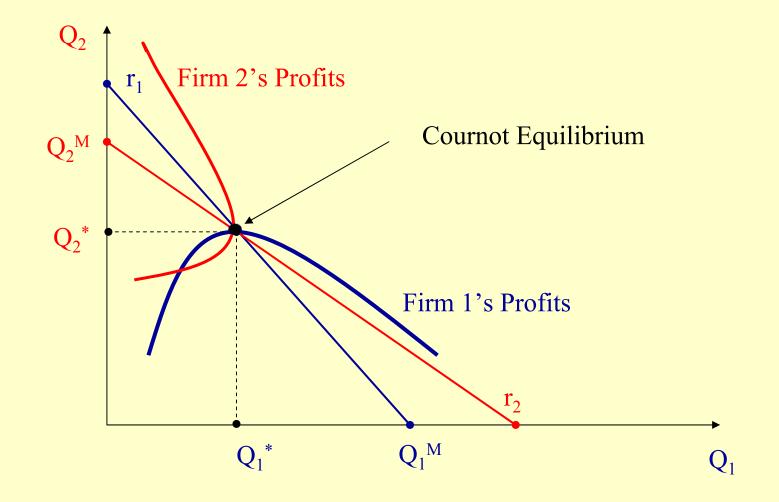
## **Graph of Cournot Equilibrium**



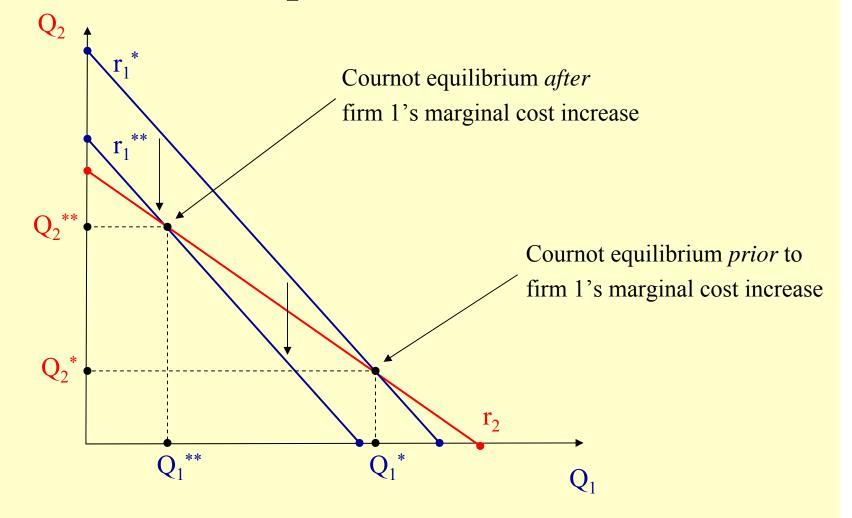
### **Summary of Cournot Equilibrium**

- The output  $Q_1^*$  maximizes firm 1's profits, given that firm 2 produces  $Q_2^*$ .
- The output  $Q_2^*$  maximizes firm 2's profits, given that firm 1 produces  $Q_1^*$ .
- Neither firm has an incentive to change its output, given the output of the rival.
- Beliefs are consistent:
  - <sup>q</sup> In equilibrium, each firm "thinks" rivals will stick to their current output and they do!

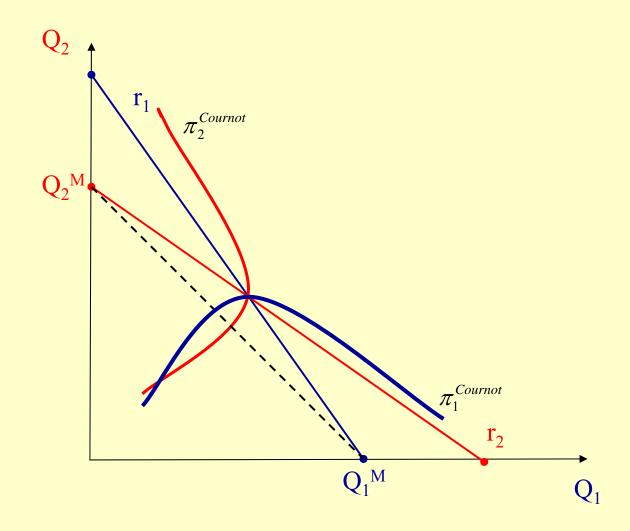
#### **Another Look at Cournot Equilibrium**



## Impact of Rising Costs on the Cournot Equilibrium



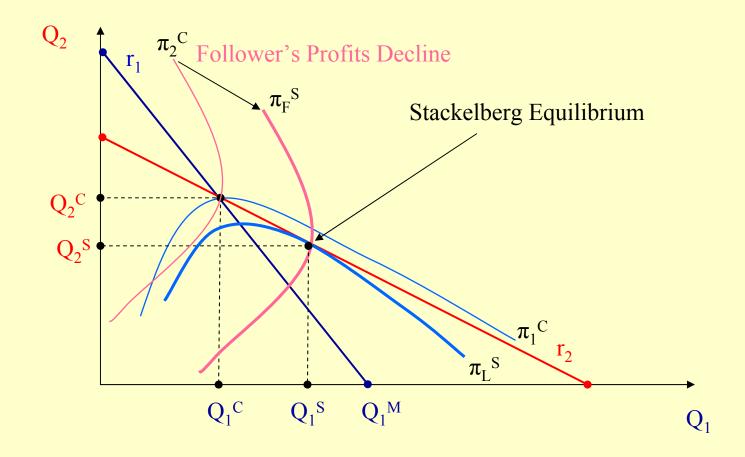
### **Collusion Incentives in Cournot Oligopoly**



# Stackelberg Model (슈타겔버그 과점)

- Firms produce differentiated or homogeneous products.
- Barriers to entry.
- Firm one is the leader.
  - <sup>q</sup> The leader commits to an output before all other firms.
- Remaining firms are followers.
  - <sup>q</sup> They choose their outputs so as to maximize profits, given the leader's output.

### **Stackelberg Equilibrium**



# **Stackelberg Summary**

- Stackelberg model illustrates how commitment can enhance profits in strategic environments.
- Leader produces *more* than the Cournot equilibrium output.
  - <sup>q</sup> Larger market share, higher profits.
  - <sup>q</sup> First-mover advantage.
- Follower produces *less* than the Cournot equilibrium output.
  - <sup>q</sup> Smaller market share, lower profits.

# Bertrand Model (베르트랑 모형)

- Few firms that sell to many consumers.
- Firms produce identical products at constant marginal cost.
- Each firm independently sets its price in order to maximize profits.
- Barriers to entry.
- Consumers enjoy
  - <sup>q</sup> Perfect information.
  - <sup>q</sup> Zero transaction costs.

### **Bertrand Equilibrium**

- Firms set  $P_1 = P_2 = MC!$  Why?
- Suppose  $MC < P_1 < P_2$ .
- Firm 1 earns (P<sub>1</sub> MC) on each unit sold, while firm 2 earns nothing.
- Firm 2 has an incentive to slightly undercut firm 1's price to capture the entire market.
- Firm 1 then has an incentive to undercut firm 2's price. This undercutting continues...
- Equilibrium: Each firm charges  $P_1 = P_2 = MC$ .