

## Elasticity of the the Marketing Investment

Ted Mitchell

### The Definition of Elasticity

- Elasticity is an index
- A value free number that measures the sensitivity of a dependent variable to an independent variable
- Classic is price elasticity the sensitivity of demand to changes in the price tag.
- %Δ in demand, ΔQ/Q, for a %Δ in the price tag, %ΔP/P
- Price Elasticity = %ΔQ/%ΔP

### The Definition of Investment Elasticity

- Marketing Investment Elasticity is the sensitivity of Average Rate of Return on the Investment to changes in the size of the investment, ΔI
- %Δ in AROR for a %Δ in the amount of the marketing investment
- Elasticity of Investment, E = %ΔAROR/%ΔI

### Elasticity is easy to measure

- %Δ(AROR) / %ΔI
- %Δ(AROR) = (AROR<sub>2</sub>-AROR<sub>1</sub>)/AROR<sub>1</sub>
- %ΔI = (I<sub>2</sub>-I<sub>1</sub>)/I<sub>1</sub>
- It is a practical metric

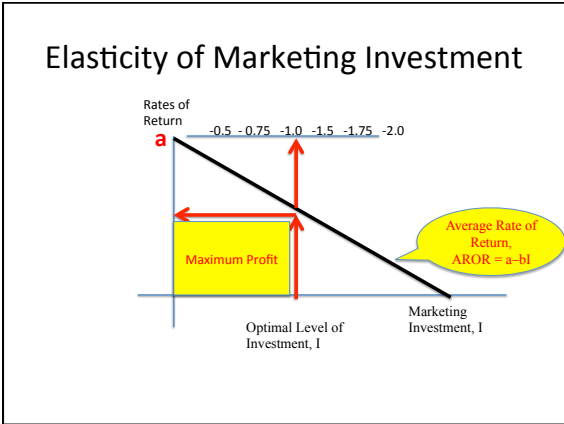
### Elasticity of Marketing Investment

	Observation of Performance #1	Observation of Performance #2	ΔP = P <sub>2</sub> - P <sub>1</sub>
The amount of Investment, I	I <sub>1</sub>	I <sub>2</sub>	ΔI = I <sub>2</sub> - I <sub>1</sub>
The average rate of Return, AROR	AROR <sub>1</sub>	AROR <sub>2</sub>	ΔAROR = (AROR <sub>2</sub> - AROR <sub>1</sub> )
Marketing Profit, Z = AROR x I			

Elasticity is the ratio of the % change in AROR over the % change in investment,  
 Investment Elasticity, E = % ΔAROR / %ΔI

### Elasticity of Marketing Investment

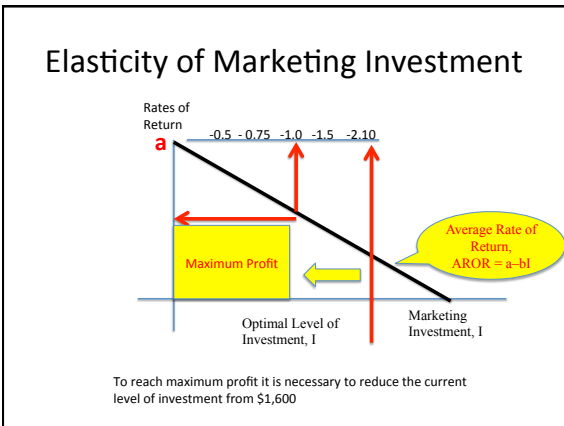
- Is a negative number between 0 and ∞
- The key point of Investment Elasticity is that when the elasticity index, E, is equal to -1 then the firm has the optimal level of Marketing investment which will maximize profit



### Elasticity of Marketing Investment

	Observation of Performance #1	Observation of Performance #2	$\Delta P = P_2 - P_1$
The amount of Investment, I	$I_1 = \$1,500$	$I_2 = \$1,600$	$\Delta I = I_2 - I_1$ $\Delta I = \$100$
The average rate of Return, AROR	$AROR_1 = 30\%$	$AROR_2 = 29\%$	$\Delta AROR = (AROR_2 - AROR_1)$ $\Delta AROR = -1\%$
Marketing Profit, $Z = AROR \times I$	\$450	\$512	

Elasticity is the ratio of the % change in AROR over the % change in investment,  
 Investment Elasticity,  $E = \% \Delta AROR / \% \Delta I$   
 $\% \Delta AROR = \$100 / \$1500 = .07$   
 $\% \Delta I = -0.01 / 0.3 = -0.03$   
 $E = 0.07 / -0.03 = -2.10$



The sensitivity of AROR to changes in the level of Marketing Investment is

- The Elasticity of Marketing Investment
- It provides the metric for the increase or decrease in investment to improve profits!
- When elasticity is a smaller negative number than  $-1.0$  then an increase in investment increases profit
- When elasticity is a larger negative number than  $-1.0$  then a decrease in investment increases profit