

\* According to Boulding "The marginal utility of any commodity is the increase in total utility which results from a unit increase in consumption."

$$MU_n = TU_n - TU_{(n-1)}$$

Where  $MU_n$  = Marginal utility  
 $TU_n$  = Total utility drawn from 'n' units.  
 $TU_{n-1}$  = Total utility from (n-1) units.

\* \* Relation between marginal utility and TU.

\* In initial stage, total utility and marginal utility both are positive,

\* When the successive units of a commodity are consumed, total utility increased at decreasing rate.

\* Marginal utility decreases with increase in consumption. After a point it becomes zero and afterward it becomes negative.

\* When MU is zero, total utility is maximum.

\* When marginal utility becomes negative, total utility starts declining.

\* Second law of Gossen - Law of Equi-marginal utility.



- \* At the point of satiety, marginal utility is zero.
- \* Utility is a psychological concept.
- \* Utility varies with different persons.
- \* Utility carries no moral significance.
- \* ~~an~~ Average utility equals  $\text{total utility} \div \text{quantity demanded}$
- \* According to Marshall, utility is a quantifiable entity.
- \* The price of a commodity is related to its marginal utility not total utility.
- \* The total utility of a diamond may be low but its marginal utility is very high due to less availability.
- \* Marginal utility curve is the demand curve of a commodity.
- \* Utility implies expected satisfaction.
- \* Cardinal approach — prof. Marshall.
- \* Ordinal approach — Allen and Hicks
- \* Consumer's equilibrium — maximum satisfaction.