

Optimal Preservation Technology Investment, Credit Period and Ordering Policies for Deteriorating Inventory under Credit Period Dependent Quadratic Demand

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Abstract—The supplier presents its buyer a credit period to settle the account which attracts more buyers and increases market demand. However, the offer of credit period invites default risk for the supplier. In this paper, we also implement efficient preservation technology for our inventory system of deteriorating items. The demand is considered to be quadratic and is dependent of permissible trade credit. The objective is to maximize the total profit per unit time with respect to optimal investment to be made, credit period and procurement quantity. Numerical example is given to illustrate the theoretical results and concavity of total profit is established. Managerial observations are outlined using sensitivity analysis.

Keywords—Trade Credit, Deterioration, Preservation Technology Investment, Quadratic Demand.

I. INTRODUCTION

Harris-Wilson's EOQ model assumes that a supplier pays instantly when he gets delivery for the inventory products. But if the buyer has an option to pay after words without interest charges, then he attracts to buy. And this may be proved to be an excellent strategy in today's competitive scenario.

But at the same time, there may be a chance of default risk for the supplier if buyer can't pay his dues. Obviously, the lengthy delay period increases the default risk. Goyal [5] first derived an inventory model considering delay period. Shah et al. [12] gave a review article on inventory modeling with trade credits. Citations in the review articles are studied from the buyer's point of view when supplier offers a predetermined credit period. Jaggi et al. [8] developed retailer's decision with credit linked demand under permissible delay in payments.

In this model, deterioration added by Shah et al. [11]. Lou and Wang [9] found optimal trade credit and order quantity when trade credit impacts on both demand rate and default risk. They had deterministic constant demand. Teng and Lou [14] analyzed up-stream and down-stream trade credits in EOQ model. Chern et al. [2] gave stackel berg solution in a vendor – buyer supply chain model with permissible delay in

payments. Mostly the conclusion from all the articles says that demand rate increases with length of trade credit. Wee [15] defined deterioration as decay, damage, spoilage, evaporation, obsolescence, pilferage, loss of utility or loss of marginal value of commodities that reduces utility. Food grains, fruits and vegetables, beverages, medicines, radioactive chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides, volatile liquids like spray and perfumes, passenger seats are examples of deteriorating products, whose usefulness decreases during the regular storage. Raafat [10], Shah and Shah [13], Goyal and Giri [4], Bakker et al. [1] formulated a review of literature on deteriorating inventory model. Our main goal of the paper is to control deterioration of items by taking appropriate measures viz. architecting efficient preserving technology. This will reduce unnecessary waste, minimize economic losses and improve business rivalry.

Hsu et al. [7] developed an inventory model with preservation technology investment to minimize the deterioration rate of inventory for constant demand. Dye and Hsieh [3] derived an optimal replenishment policy for deteriorating items with effective investment in preservation technology. Hsein and Dye [6] derived a production inventory model incorporating the effect of preservation technology investment when demand is fluctuating with time. In this paper, we analyze an EOQ model for the supplier to integrate facts: (1) trade-credit dependent quadratic demand and (2) default risk due to offer of trade credit. (3) Optimal preservation technology investment for the deteriorating inventories.

Then we set up the necessary condition for finding the optimal solution, check how sensitive the optimal solution is to the various inventory parameters and deduce some managerial insights. The non-linearity of objective function renders us to obtain a closed form solution to the supplier's optimal credit period, purchase quantity and preservation technology investment. An algorithm is presented to obtain the supplier's optimal decision variables. The model is validated by giving the numerical example.

II. NOTATIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. Notations

A	Ordering cost per order
C	Purchase cost per unit
P	Selling price per unit ; where $P > C$
h	Holding cost per unit per annum
M	Credit period offered by the supplier to his buyers (a decision variable)
$R(M, t)$	Time and credit period dependent annual demand rate
$I(t)$	Inventory level at any instant of time t , $0 \leq t \leq T$
θ	Deterioration rate under natural environment, $0 \leq \theta \leq 1$
u	Preservation technology investment per unit time to reduce deterioration rate (a decision variable)
$f(u)$	Proportion of reduced deterioration rate, where $0 \leq f(u) \leq 1$
T	Cycle time (a decision variable)
Q	Supplier's purchase quantity
$\pi(M, T, u)$	Supplier's profit per unit time

Assumptions

1. The inventory system has single item.
2. The items in inventory deteriorate at a constant rate. There is no repair or replacement of deteriorated items during the cycle time under consideration.
3. The replenishment rate is infinite.
4. Lead-time is zero or negligible. Shortages are not allowed.
5. In global market, supplier keeps selling price constant to bind his retailers.
6. As stated in Teng and Lou ([14]), trade credit is similar to price discount. We consider demand rate to be function of time and credit period as

$$R(M, t) = a(1 + bt - ct^2)M^\beta \quad (1)$$
7. For supplier, default risk increases if longer credit period is presented to the buyer. Here, the rate of default risk giving the credit period M is taken to be

$$F(M) = 1 - M^{-\delta} \quad (2)$$

where $\delta > 0$ is a constant.

8. The proportion of reduced deterioration rate $f(u)$ is assumed to be continuous, increasing and concave function of capital investment in preservation technology u , i.e. $f'(u) > 0$, $f''(u) < 0$. We can set $f(0) = 0$.

III. MATHEMATICAL MODEL

The supplier's inventory is depleting due to quadratic demand and offer of credit period. The items in the inventory system deteriorate at constant rate θ . When the player devotes u in the preservation technology, the fraction of reduced deterioration rate $f(u)$ will appear. The differential equation governing the inventory level is given by

$$\frac{dI(t)}{dt} = -aM^\beta(1 + bt - ct^2) - \theta\alpha I(t); \text{ where } \alpha = 1 - f(u) \quad (3)$$

with $I(T) = 0$.

Then solution of differential equation (3) is given by

$$I(t) = \frac{-M^\beta a}{\theta^3 \alpha^3} \left[\left(\theta^2 \alpha^2 (cT^2 - Tb - 1) - 2\theta\alpha \left(-\frac{b}{2} + Tc \right) + 2c \right) + \left(\theta^2 \alpha^2 (1 + bt - ct^2) - \theta\alpha (b - 2ct) - 2c \right) \right] \quad (4)$$

At the start, the supplier has Q units in inventory system i.e. $Q = I(0)$

$$= \frac{-M^\beta a}{\theta^3 \alpha^3} \left[\left(\theta^2 \alpha^2 (cT^2 - Tb - 1) - 2\theta\alpha \left(-\frac{b}{2} + Tc \right) + 2c \right) + \left(\theta^2 \alpha^2 - \theta\alpha b - 2c \right) \right] \quad (5)$$

The applicable costs per cycle for the supplier are

- Net revenue after default risk:

$$SR = P \int_0^T R(M, t) dt M^{-\delta} = -\frac{1}{6} PM^{-\delta + \beta} aT(2cT^2 - 3Tb - 6)$$

- Purchase cost ; $PC = CQ$
- Ordering cost ; $OC = A$
- Holding cost ; $HC = h \int_0^T I(t) dt$
- Preservation Technology Investment; $PTI = uT$

Therefore, the supplier's annual profit per unit time is given by

$$\pi(M, T, u) = \frac{1}{T} [SR - PC - OC - HC - PTI] \quad (6)$$

For making annual profit maximum per unit time with respect to credit period, cycle time and preservation technology investment, the necessary conditions are

$$\frac{\partial \pi(M, T, u)}{\partial M} = 0; \frac{\partial \pi(M, T, u)}{\partial T} = 0; \frac{\partial \pi(M, T, u)}{\partial u} = 0 \quad (7)$$

Also we check the condition

$$\begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 \pi}{\partial M^2} & \frac{\partial^2 \pi}{\partial M \partial T} & \frac{\partial^2 \pi}{\partial M \partial u} \\ \frac{\partial^2 \pi}{\partial T \partial M} & \frac{\partial^2 \pi}{\partial T^2} & \frac{\partial^2 \pi}{\partial T \partial u} \\ \frac{\partial^2 \pi}{\partial u \partial M} & \frac{\partial^2 \pi}{\partial u \partial T} & \frac{\partial^2 \pi}{\partial u^2} \end{vmatrix} < 0$$

The non-linearity of equation (6) and its partial derivatives will not allow us to derive closed form of solution. So, we suggest following solution procedure:

- Step 1: Allocate values to the inventory parameters.
- Step 2: Work out equations in (7) simultaneously with Mathematical software. We have used Maple XIV.
- Step 3: Check second order (sufficiency) conditions.
- Step 4: Calculate profit $\pi(M, T, u)$ per unit time from Equation (6) and purchase quantity Q using equation (5).

IV. NUMERICAL EXAMPLE AND SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

Example: 1 Consider the reduced deterioration rate as $f(u) = 1 - e^{-\gamma u}$, $\gamma > 0$ (Hsu *et al.* [7] and Dye and Hsieh [3]).

Let $a = 50$ units, $\beta = 2$, $b = 50\%$, $c = 20\%$, $\delta = 1.5$, $C = \$10$ per unit, $P = \$20$ per unit, $h = \$2$ per unit per annum, $A = \$50$ per order, $\theta = 50\%$ and $\gamma = 0.05$.

We obtain optimal credit period $M = 0.5332$ year, cycle time $T = 1.7035$ years and preservation technology investment $u = \$31.54$ for the supplier. This results in profit of \$614.01 with purchase of 32.73 units. The concavity of the total profit per unit time is shown in figure 1 w. r. t. u for $M = 0.5332$ and $T = 1.7035$, in figure 2 w. r. t. T for $M = 0.5332$ and $u = 31.54$ and in figure 3 w. r. t. M for $T = 1.7035$ and $u = 31.54$.

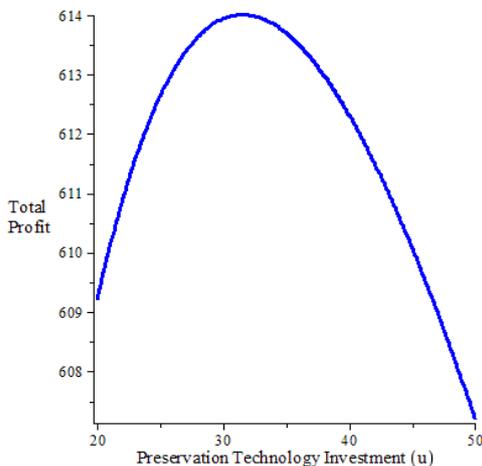


Fig. 1 Concavity of Total Profit w. r. t. Preservation Technology Investment (u)

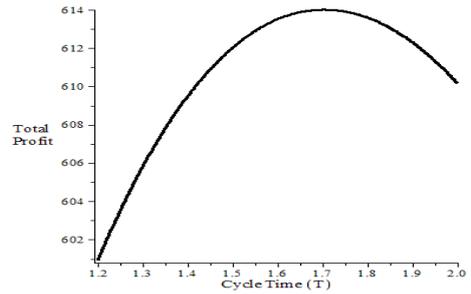


Fig. 2 Concavity of Total Profit w. r. t. Cycle Time (T)

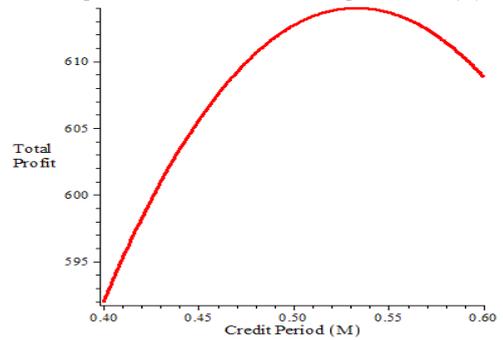


Fig. 3 Concavity of Total Profit w. r. t. Credit Period (M)

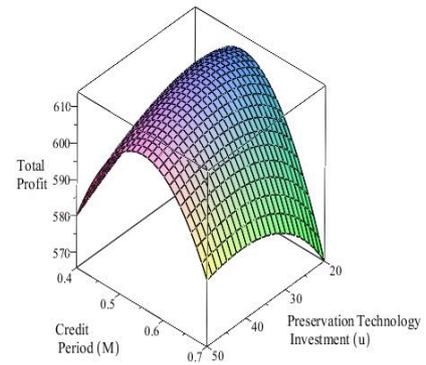


Fig. 4 Concavity of Total Profit w. r. t. Credit Period (M) and Preservation Technology Investment (u)

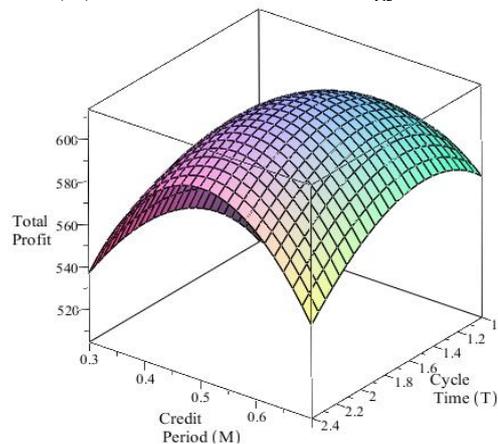


Fig. 5 Concavity of Total Profit w. r. t. Credit Period (M) and Cycle Time (T)

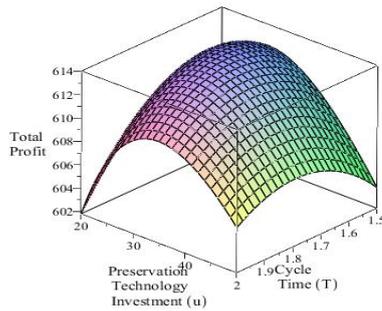


Fig. 6 Concavity of Total Profit w. r. t. Preservation Technology Investment (u) and Cycle Time (T)

Now, we study changes in optimal solutions and profit function by varying inventory parameters as -40%, -20%, +20%, +40%; one at a time. The variations in credit period, cycle time, total profit, purchase quantity and preservation technology investment are shown in figure 7-11 respectively. It is observed from fig. 7 that credit period has large impact of retail price and trade credit elasticity. It decreases for unit purchase cost and rate of change of demand; b . This validates so long said argument that delay period increases demand. Fig. 8 shows that increase in rate of change of demand b boosts cycle time whereas increase in trade credit elasticity decreases cycle time. Ordering cost has positive impact on cycle time. Fig. 9 reveals that increase in retail price, scale demand and rate of change of demand have deep impact on total profit and contrast to this increase in trade credit elasticity and purchase cost reduce total profit. Fig. 10 describe that purchase quantity get increase with increase in trade credit elasticity, retail price, rate of change in demand and scale demand whereas it decreases with increase in holding cost and purchase cost. Fig. 11 says that we have to invest more in preservation technology investment with increase in trade credit elasticity, rate of change of demand, retail price and the obvious parameter deterioration rate. Whereas the impact of mark up trade credit, holding cost and purchase cost is negative on preservation technology investment. The conduct of the demand with time and delay period is shown in fig. 12.

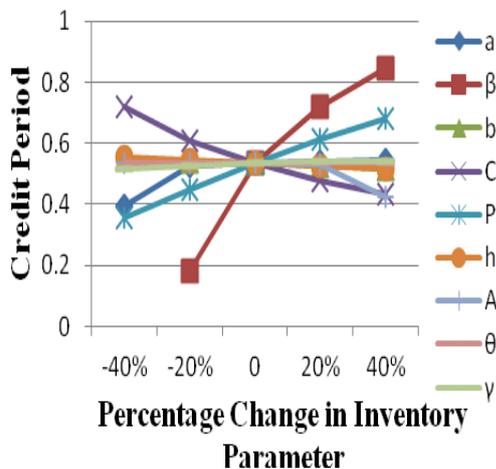


Fig. 7 Sensitivity analysis for credit period (M)

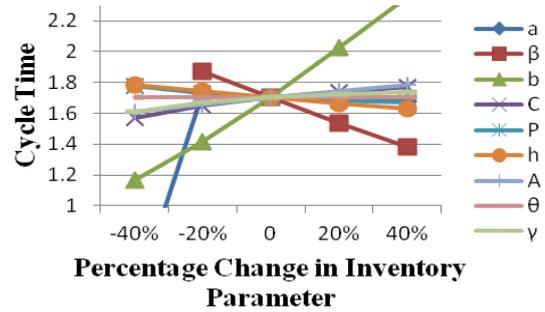


Fig. 8 Sensitivity analysis for cycle time (T)

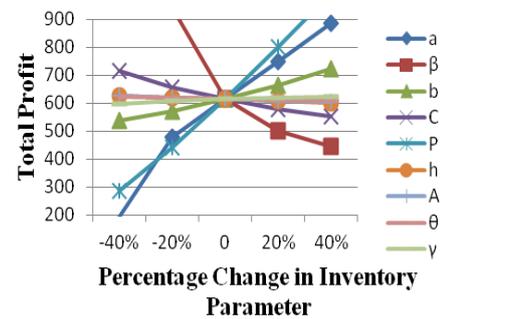


Fig. 9 Sensitivity analysis for total profit

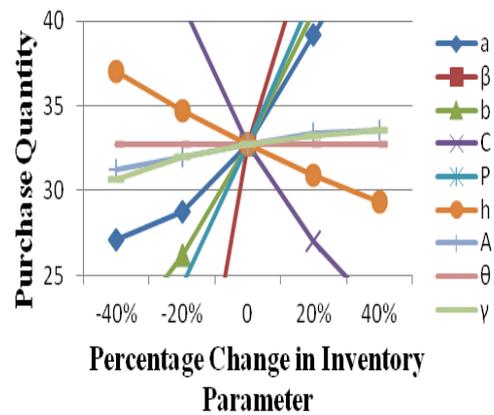


Fig. 10 Sensitivity analysis for Purchase quantity (Q)

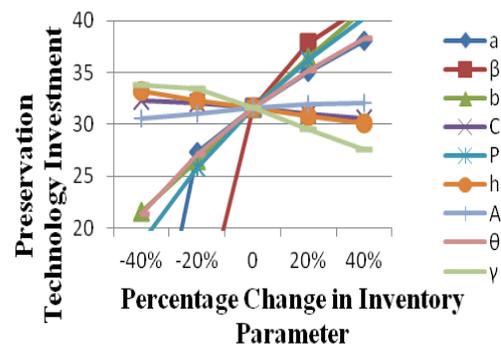


Fig. 11 Sensitivity analysis for preservation technology investment (u)

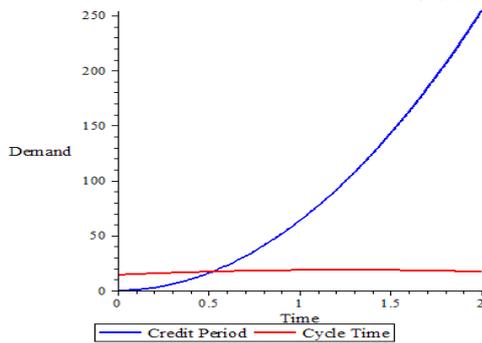


Fig. 12 Demand vs. Time

V. CONCLUSIONS

The judgment about setting allowable credit period is tough for the supplier. The longer credit period involves higher default risk. This paper discusses above concerns. The non-linear profit function is derived. The inventory system deals with quadratic demand. The necessary conditions are shaped to search out optimal solution based on the data. This research will help extensively to the supplier for setting optimal credit period and for deploying optimal investment in preservation technology to cope up with deterioration. For future research, this concept can be extended for stochastic demand or fuzzy demand. One can think of allowing shortages or can add risk analysis to give more realistic results.

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