

Appendix

Under the strategy NN:

The revenue functions of agents i and j are:

$$\pi_i^{NN} = (p_i - w - c_p) \cdot (\alpha - p_i + \beta p_j + \tau(\theta_i - \mu\theta_j)) - \frac{1}{2}t\theta_i^2$$

$$\pi_j^{NN} = (p_j - w - c_p) \cdot \alpha - p_j + \beta p_i + \tau(\theta_j - \mu\theta_i) - \frac{1}{2}t\theta_j^2$$

The corresponding first partial derivatives are:

$$\frac{\partial \pi_i^{NN}}{\partial p_i} = w + \alpha + c_p - 2p_i + \beta p_j + \tau(\theta_i - \mu\theta_j)$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j^{NN}}{\partial \theta_j} = w + \alpha + c_p - 2p_j + \beta p_i + \tau(\theta_j - \mu\theta_i)$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_i^{NN}}{\partial \theta_i} = \tau(p_i - w - c_p) - t\theta_i$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j^{NN}}{\partial \theta_j} = \tau(p_j - w - c_p) - t\theta_j$$

Letting $\frac{\partial \pi_i^{NN}}{\partial p_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_j^{NN}}{\partial p_j} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_i^{NN}}{\partial \theta_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_j^{NN}}{\partial \theta_j} = 0$, the optimal sales price and the corresponding optimal price information disclosure quantity are obtained as follows.

$$p_i^{NN}, p_j^{NN} = \frac{t\alpha + (t + (\mu - 1)\tau^2)(w + c_p)}{t(2 - \beta) + (\mu - 1)\tau^2}, \theta_i^{NN} = \theta_j^{NN} = \frac{\tau(\alpha + (\beta - 1)(w + c_p))}{t(2 - \beta) + (\mu - 1)\tau^2}$$

Substituting the optimal sales price and optimal price information into the target's revenue function, we can get the maximum profit of the two agents:

$$\pi_i^{NN} = \pi_j^{NN} = \frac{t(2t - \tau^2)(\alpha + (\beta - 1)(w + c_p))^2}{2(t(2 - \beta)) + (\mu - 1)\tau^2}$$

Proof of Corollary 1.

$\frac{dD_i^{NN}}{d\tau} = \frac{dD_j^{NN}}{d\tau} = \frac{2t(\mu+1)\tau(\alpha-(\beta+1)(\omega-c_p))}{(t(\beta-2)-(\mu-1)\tau^2)^2}$, we know $\alpha \geq 1$, we have $(\alpha - (\beta + 1)(\omega - c_p)) > 0$, then $\frac{dD_{\{i,j\}}}{d\tau} > 0$;

$\frac{dp_i^{NN}}{d\tau} = \frac{dp_j^{NN}}{d\tau} = \frac{2t(\mu+1)\tau(\alpha-(\beta+1)(\omega-c_p))}{(t(\beta-2)-(\mu-1)\tau^2)^2}$, we know $\alpha \geq 1$, and $(\alpha - (\beta + 1)(\omega - c_p)) > 0$, then $\frac{dp_{\{i,j\}}}{d\tau} > 0$;

$\frac{d\theta_i^{NN}}{d\tau} = \frac{d\theta_j^{NN}}{d\tau} = \frac{(t(\beta+2)+(\mu+1)\tau^2)(\alpha-(\beta+1)(\omega-c_p))}{(t(\beta-2)-(\mu-1)\tau^2)^2}$, we know $\alpha \geq 1$, and $(\alpha - (\beta + 1)(\omega - c_p)) > 0$, then $\frac{d\theta_{\{i,j\}}}{d\tau} > 0$.

1) $(\omega - c_p) > 0$, then $\frac{d\theta_{i,j}^{NN}}{d\tau} > 0$;

$\frac{d\pi_i^{NN}}{d\tau} = \frac{d\pi_j^{NN}}{d\tau} = \frac{t\tau(t(2-\beta+4\mu)-(\mu+1)\tau^2)(\alpha-(\beta+1)\omega-(\beta+1)c_p)^2}{(t(\beta-2)-(\mu-1)\tau^2)^3}$, we know, $(\alpha - (\beta + 1)\omega - (\beta + 1)c_p)^2 > 0$, so, we set $\tau^* = t\tau(t(2 - \beta + 4\mu))$ and $\tau = (\mu + 1)\tau^2$, when $\tau < \tau^*$, $\frac{d\pi_{\{i,j\}}^{NN}}{d\tau} > 0$, otherwise, $\frac{d\pi_{\{i,j\}}^{NN}}{d\tau} < 0$.

Note: In line with reality, we assume that consumers are more sensitive to cross price than to cross information disclosure, and that disclosure is profitable.

Under the NN strategy:

The revenue functions of agents i and j are:

$$\begin{aligned}\pi_i^{YN} &= (p_i - w - c_p - c_B) \cdot D_i^{YN} - \frac{1}{2}t\theta_i^2 \\ \pi_j^{YN} &= (p_j - w - c_p) \cdot D_j^{YN} - \frac{1}{2}t\theta_j^2\end{aligned}$$

The corresponding first partial derivatives are:

$$\frac{\partial \pi_i^{YN}}{\partial p_i} = w + \alpha + c_p - 2p_i + \beta p_j + \tau(\theta_i - \mu\theta_j)$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j^{YN}}{\partial p_j} = w + \alpha + c_p - 2p_j + \beta p_i + \tau(\theta_j - \mu\theta_i)$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_i^{YN}}{\partial \theta_i} = \tau(p_i - w - c_p) - t\theta_i$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j^{YN}}{\partial \theta_j} = \tau(p_j - w - c_p) - t\theta_j$$

In order to facilitate the calculation, we first need to set some useful formulas, as follows.

$$A = t(2(1 + \tau^2) - t(4 - \beta^2) - \beta\mu\tau(1 + \tau)) + \tau^2(\mu^2\tau - 1)$$

$$B = (1 + \mu)\tau^2 - t(2 + \beta)$$

$$F = t(2 - \beta^2) + (\beta * \mu - 1)\tau^2$$

$$G = \tau(1 - t(2 + \beta) + \mu * \tau)$$

$$H = \tau(\beta(1 - t) - \mu * \tau)$$

$$U1 = (\alpha + (w + c_p)(\beta - 1))(B(\beta\mu\tau - 2) + G\tau(2\mu - \beta)) + (\mu\tau(2H + FB) -$$

$$2(A + F) - HB\tau)c_B$$

$$U2 = (\alpha + (w + c_p)(\beta - 1)) + G\tau(\beta\mu - 2)) - B(\beta - 2\mu\tau) - ((A + F)\beta + 2H\tau -$$

$$(2F + H\beta)\mu\tau)c_B$$

$$U3 = t(2t - 1)((\alpha + (\omega + c_p)(\beta - 1))(\beta^2 - 4)(t(2 + \beta) - (1 + \mu)\tau^2) + c_B(\beta^2 - 4)(t(\beta^2 - 2) + (1 - \beta\mu)\tau^2))^2;$$

$$U4 = t(2t - \tau^2)((\alpha + (\omega + c_p)(\beta - 1))(\beta^2 - 4)(1 - t(2 + \beta) + \mu\tau) + c_B(\beta^2 - 4)((t - 1)\beta + \mu\tau))^2;$$

Letting $\frac{\partial \pi_i^{YN}}{\partial p_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_j^{YN}}{\partial p_j} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_i^{YN}}{\partial \theta_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_j^{YN}}{\partial \theta_j} = 0$, the optimal sales price and the corresponding optimal price information disclosure quantity are obtained as follows.

$$p_i^{YN} = \frac{w + c_p + \alpha}{(2 - \beta)} + \frac{U1}{A(\beta^2 - 4)} ; p_j^{YN} = \frac{w + c_p + \alpha}{(2 - \beta)} + \frac{U2}{A(\beta^2 - 4)}$$

$$\theta_i^{YN} = \frac{(\alpha + (w + c_p)(\beta - 1))B + Fc_B}{A} ; \theta_j^{YN} = \frac{(\alpha + (w + c_p)(\beta - 1))G + Hc_B}{A}$$

Substituting the optimal sales price and optimal price information into the target's revenue function, we can get the maximum profit of the two agents:

$$\pi_i^{YN} = \frac{t(2t-1)((\alpha + (w + c_p)(\beta - 1))(\beta^2 - 4)(t(2+\beta) - (1+\mu)\tau^2) + c_B(\beta^2 - 4)(t(\beta^2 - 2) + (1 - \beta\mu)\tau^2))^2}{2A^2(\beta^2 - 4)^2}$$

$$\pi_j^{YN} = \frac{t(2t-\tau^2)((\alpha + (w + c_p)(\beta - 1))(\beta^2 - 4)(1 - t(2+\beta) + \mu\tau) + c_B(\beta^2 - 4)((t-1)\beta + \mu\tau))^2}{2A^2(\beta^2 - 4)^2}$$

Proof of Corollary 2.

Part I, the impact of consumer trust:

$\frac{d\theta_i^{YN}}{d\tau} = \frac{(\alpha + c_p w(\beta - 1))(2\tau(\beta\mu - 1)c_B + (1 + \mu))}{\tau(3\mu^2\tau - 2 + 4t(2 - t(4 + \beta^2) + \beta\mu\tau + 2\tau^2))}$; We know $\beta \leq 1$, then, $\beta - 1 \leq 0$, since $\alpha \geq 1$, thus, the first term is positive as $(\alpha + c_p w(\beta - 1)) > 0$. When $\beta\mu \geq 1$, $\frac{d\theta_i^{YN}}{d\tau} > 0$; Otherwise, $\frac{d\theta_i^{YN}}{d\tau} < 0$.

$\frac{d\theta_j^{YN}}{d\tau} = \frac{(\alpha + (w + c_p)(\beta - 1))(\tau(1 - 2t + \beta)c_B)}{\tau(3\mu^2\tau - 2 + 4t(2 - t(4 + \beta^2) + \beta\mu\tau + 2\tau^2))}$; We know $\beta \leq 1$, then, $\beta - 1 \leq 0$, since $\alpha \geq 1$, thus, the first term is positive as $(\alpha + (w + c_p)(\beta - 1)) > 0$. When $t < \beta$, $\frac{d\theta_j^{YN}}{d\tau} > 0$; Otherwise, $\frac{d\theta_j^{YN}}{d\tau} < 0$;

$\frac{dp_i^{YN}}{d\tau} = \frac{w(2 - \beta\mu\tau)c_p + \tau(2\mu - \mu\beta) + ((2\beta\tau + \mu) + (1 - \beta))c_B(\alpha(1 - \mu)^2\tau(\beta - 2\mu))}{\tau(3\mu^2\tau - 2 + 4t(2 - t(4 + \beta^2) + \beta\mu\tau + 2\tau^2))}$; We have $\beta \leq 1$, $\mu \leq 1$, and $\tau \leq 1$, thus $2 - \beta\mu\tau > 0$, $2\mu - \mu\beta > 0$, $1 - \beta \geq 0$, and $1 - \mu > 0$; thus, the range of the solution depends on $\beta - 2\mu$, when $\beta \geq 2\mu$, $\frac{dp_i^{YN}}{d\tau} > 0$; Otherwise, $\frac{dp_i^{YN}}{d\tau} < 0$.

$\frac{dp_j^{YN}}{d\tau} = \frac{w(\beta - 2\mu)\tau(2 - \mu)c_B(1 - \beta) + (\alpha + w(\beta - 1)^2c_p)t(2 - \beta\tau)c_p}{\tau(3\mu^2\tau - 2 + 4t(2 - t(4 + \beta^2) + \beta\mu\tau + 2\tau^2))}$; We have $\beta \leq 1$, $\mu \leq 1$, and $\tau \leq 1$, thus $2 - \mu > 0$, $1 - \beta \geq 0$, $(\beta - 1)^2 > 0$, and $2 - \beta\tau > 0$; then,

the range of the solution depends on $\beta - 2\mu$, when $\beta \geq 2\mu$, $\frac{dp_j^{YN}}{d\tau} > 0$; Otherwise, $\frac{dp_j^{YN}}{d\tau} < 0$.

$\frac{d\pi_i^{YN}}{d\tau} = \frac{\alpha(4-\beta^2)(1-\mu+t(2+\beta))(4-\beta^2)\omega(1-\mu+t(2+\beta))+(4-\beta^2)c_p(1-\mu+t(2-\beta))(\beta-2\mu)}{\tau(3\mu^2\tau-2+4t(2-t(4+\beta^2)+\beta\mu\tau+2\tau^2))}$; We have $\beta \leq 1$ and $\mu \leq 1$, thus $(4 - \beta^2) > 0, 1 - \mu > 0$ and $2 - \beta > 0$; then, the range of the solution depends on $\beta \geq 2\mu$, when $\beta \geq 2\mu$, $\frac{d\pi_i^{YN}}{d\tau} > 0$; otherwise, $\frac{d\pi_i^{YN}}{d\tau} < 0$.

$$\frac{d\pi_j^{YN}}{d\tau} = \frac{2(\beta^2-4)^2 + (t(2\tau^2-(4-\beta^2)t-\beta\mu\tau(1+\tau)+\tau^2(\mu^2\tau-1))^2)}{\tau(3\mu^2\tau-2+4t(2-t(4+\beta^2)+\beta\mu\tau+2\tau^2))}; \text{ We have } (\beta^2 - 4)^2 > 0,$$

Similarly, $(t(2\tau^2 - (4 - \beta^2)t - \beta\mu\tau(1 + \tau) + \tau^2(\mu^2\tau - 1))^2 > 0$, then $\frac{d\pi_j^{YN}}{d\tau} > 0$.

Part II, the impact of blockchain application costs:

$$\frac{d\theta_i^{YN}}{dc_B} = \frac{t(2-\beta^2)+(\beta\mu-1)\tau^2}{t(2(1+\tau^2)-t(4-\beta^2)-\beta\mu\tau(1+\tau))+\tau^2(\mu^2\tau-1)}; \text{ We know } \beta \leq 1, \text{ thus, } 2 - \beta^2 > 0,$$

then, the range of the solution depends on $\beta\mu - 1$, when $\beta\mu \geq 1$, $\frac{d\theta_i^{YN}}{dc_B} > 0$;

Otherwise $\frac{d\theta_i^{YN}}{dc_B} < 0$.

$\frac{d\theta_j^{YN}}{dc_B} = \frac{\tau(\beta+\beta t-\mu t)}{t(2(1+\tau^2)-t(4-\beta^2)-\beta\mu\tau(1+\tau))+\tau^2(\mu^2\tau-1)}$; We know $\beta \leq 1$ and $\mu \leq 1$, the range of the solution depends on $\beta + \beta t - \mu t$, when $\beta > \mu$, $\frac{d\theta_j^{YN}}{dc_B} > 0$; Otherwise, $\frac{d\theta_j^{YN}}{dc_B} < 0$.

$\frac{dp_i^{YN}}{dc_B} = \frac{t\tau^2+2t^2(\beta\mu\tau-t\beta\mu\tau)+\tau^2-\mu^2\tau^3}{t(2(1+\tau^2)-t(4-\beta^2)-\beta\mu\tau(1+\tau))+\tau^2(\mu^2\tau-1)}$; We know $t < 1$, thus, we have $\beta\mu\tau > t\beta\mu\tau$. Similarly, as $\mu < 1$, we have $\tau^2 > \mu^2\tau^3$, then $\frac{dp_i^{YN}}{dc_B} > 0$.

$\frac{dp_j^{YN}}{dc_B} = \frac{t^2+2u(\beta\tau-\mu\tau)+\tau-\mu\tau}{t(2(1+\tau^2)-t(4-\beta^2)-\beta\mu\tau(1+\tau))+\tau^2(\mu^2\tau-1)}$; We know $\mu < 1$ and $\tau < 1$, thus we have $\tau > \mu\tau$, the range of the solution depends on $\beta\tau - \mu\tau$, when $\beta > \mu$, $\frac{dp_j^{YN}}{dc_B} > 0$; otherwise, $\frac{dp_j^{YN}}{dc_B} < 0$.

$\frac{dD_i^{YN}}{dc_B} = \frac{t((\beta\mu-1)\tau^2+t(2-\beta^2))}{t(2(1+\tau^2)-t(4-\beta^2)-\beta\mu\tau(1+\tau))+\tau^2(\mu^2\tau-1)}$; We know $\beta \leq 1$, thus, $2 - \beta^2 > 0$,

the range of the solution depends on $\beta\mu - 1$, when $\beta\mu \geq 1$, $\frac{dD_i^{YN}}{dc_B} > 0$; Otherwise,

$\frac{dD_i^{YN}}{dc_B} < 0$.

$\frac{dD_j^{YN}}{dc_B} = \frac{t(\beta\tau-\mu\tau+t\beta)}{t(2(1+\tau^2)-t(4-\beta^2)-\beta\mu\tau(1+\tau))+\tau^2(\mu^2\tau-1)}$; We know $\mu < 1$ and $t < 1$, thus, the

range of the solution depends on $\beta\tau - \mu\tau$, when $\beta > \mu$, $\frac{dD_j^{YN}}{dc_B} > 0$; otherwise,

$$\frac{dD_j^{YN}}{dc_B} < 0.$$

$\frac{d\pi_i^{YN}}{dc_B} = \frac{t(3-2t)+(\beta-1)+c_B[(\beta\mu-1)\tau^2-t(\beta^2-2)]^2[(\alpha+(\beta-1)(\omega+c_p)((1+\mu)\tau^2]}{(t(2(1+\tau^2)-t(4-\beta^2)-\beta\mu\tau(1+\tau))+\tau^2(\mu^2\tau-1))^2}$; We know $t < 1$, thus,

$3 - 2t > 0$. Furthermore, we have $[(\beta\mu - 1)\tau^2 - t(\beta^2 - 2)]^2 > 0$, the range of the solution depends on $\beta - 1$, when $\beta > 1$, $\frac{d\pi_i^{YN}}{dc_B} > 0$; otherwise, $\frac{d\pi_i^{YN}}{dc_B} < 0$.

$\frac{d\pi_j^{YN}}{dc_B} = \frac{2t(t+1)t\beta(2t-\tau^2)c_B}{(t(2(1+\tau^2)-t(4-\beta^2)-\beta\mu\tau(1+\tau))+\tau^2(\mu^2\tau-1))^2}$; We know $t < 1$, the range of the solution depends on $2t - \tau^2$, when $2t > \tau$, then, $\frac{d\pi_j^{YN}}{dc_B} > 0$; Otherwise, $\frac{d\pi_j^{YN}}{dc_B} < 0$.

Under the strategy YY:

The revenue functions of agents i and j are:

$$\pi_i^{YY} = (p_i - w - c_p - c_B)(\alpha - p_i + \beta p_j + \theta_i - \mu\theta_j) - \frac{1}{2}t\theta_i^2$$

$$\pi_j^{YY} = (p_j - w - c_p - c_B)(\alpha - p_j + \beta p_i + \theta_j - \mu\theta_i) - \frac{1}{2}t\theta_j^2$$

The corresponding first partial derivatives are:

$$\frac{\partial\pi_i^{YY}}{\partial p_i} = w + \alpha + c_B + c_p - 2p_i + \beta p_j + \theta_i - \mu\theta_j$$

$$\frac{\partial\pi_j^{YY}}{\partial p_j} = w + \alpha + c_B + c_p - 2p_j + \beta p_i + \theta_j - \mu\theta_i$$

$$\frac{\partial\pi_i^{YY}}{\partial\theta_i} = (p_i - w - c_B - c_p) - t\theta_i$$

$$\frac{\partial\pi_j^{YY}}{\partial\theta_j} = (p_j - w - c_B - c_p) - t\theta_j$$

Letting $\frac{\partial\pi_i^{YY}}{\partial p_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial\pi_i^{YY}}{\partial\theta_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial\pi_j^{YY}}{\partial p_j} = 0$, $\frac{\partial\pi_j^{YY}}{\partial\theta_j} = 0$, the optimal sales price and the corresponding optimal price information disclosure quantity are obtained as follows.

$$p_i^{YY} = p_j^{YY} = \frac{t\alpha - (w + c_p + c_B)(\mu - 1 - t)}{1 + (2 - \beta)t - \mu}$$

$$\theta_i^{YY} = \theta_j^{YY} = \frac{(w + c_p + c_B)(1 - \beta) - \alpha}{1 + (2 - \beta)t - \mu}$$

Substituting the optimal sales price and optimal price information into the target's revenue function, we can get the maximum profit of the two agents:

$$\pi_i^{YY} = \pi_j^{YY} = \frac{(\alpha + (w + c_p + c_B)(\beta - 1))^2 t^3 (2 - \beta) A - t(1 - \mu) B}{2((\mu - 1)^2 - t^2(\beta - 2)^2)^2}$$

Proof of Corollary 3.

$\frac{d\theta_i^{YY}}{dc_B} = \frac{d\theta_j^{YY}}{dc_B} = \frac{1-\beta}{1+t(2-\beta)-\mu}$; the range of the solution depends on β , When $\beta <$

1, then, $\frac{d\theta_{\{i,j\}}^{YY}}{dc_B} > 0$; Otherwise, $\frac{d\theta_{\{i,j\}}^{YY}}{dc_B} < 0$.

$\frac{dp_i^{YY}}{dc_B} = \frac{dp_j^{YY}}{dc_B} = \frac{1+t-\mu}{1+t(2-\beta)-\mu}$; We know $\mu < 1$, we have $1+t-\mu > 0$, then, $\frac{dp_{ij}^{YY}}{dc_B} > 0$.

$\frac{dD_i^{YY}}{dc_B} = \frac{dD_j^{YY}}{dc_B} = \frac{t(\beta+1)(t(\beta-2)-(3-2\beta)(1-\mu))}{(1-t(\beta-2)-\mu)(1+t(\beta-2)-\mu)}$; We know $\beta < 1$, thus, $\beta-2 < 0$; We

have $(3-2\beta)(1-\mu) > 0$, thus $t(\beta-2) - (3-2\beta)(1-\mu) < 0$, then $\frac{dD_{\{i,j\}}^{YY}}{dc_B} < 0$.

$\frac{d\pi_i^{YY}}{dc_B} = \frac{d\pi_j^{YY}}{dc_B} = \frac{(2-\beta)(\beta-1)(2-t^3\mu^2+2\tau^2)}{(t^2(\beta+2)^2-(\mu+1)^2)^2}$; It is very easy to verify $(2-\beta)(\beta-1)(2-t^3\mu^2+2\tau^2) < 0$, We know $\beta < 1, t < 1$ and $\mu < 1$, thus $\beta-1 < 0$ and $t^3\mu^2 < 1$, thus $2-t^3\mu^2+2\tau^2 > 0$, then, $\frac{d\pi_{\{i,j\}}^{YY}}{dc_B} < 0$.

Proof of Lemma 1.

Since $\theta_i^{NN} = \theta_j^{NN} = \frac{\tau(\alpha+(\beta-1)(w+c_p))}{t(2-\beta)+(\mu-1)\tau^2}$ and $\theta_i^{YN} = \frac{(\alpha+(w+c_p)(\beta-1))B+Fc_B}{A}$; Letting

$\theta_i^{YN} - \theta_i^{NN} = \frac{\beta\mu+\mu+c_B+t-\tau^2}{\tau+t(2-2t+\beta+4\tau^2-\tau)}$; We know $t < 1$ and $\tau \leq 1$, thus, $t > t\tau^2$, then, $\theta_i^{YN} > \theta_i^{NN}$.

Since $\theta_i^{NN} = \theta_j^{NN} = \frac{\tau(\alpha+(\beta-1)(w+c_p))}{t(2-\beta)+(\mu-1)\tau^2}$ and $\theta_j^{YN} = \frac{(\alpha+(w+c_p)(\beta-1))G+Hc_B}{A}$;

Letting $\theta_j^{YN} - \theta_j^{NN} = \frac{\tau^2(1-2t)+\beta c_B}{t+2t\tau^2+\mu\tau^2-t\beta\mu(\tau+\tau^2)}$, the range of the solution depends on

$1-2t$, when $t \leq \frac{1}{2}$, then $\theta_j^{YN} > \theta_j^{NN}$, otherwise, $\theta_j^{YN} < \theta_j^{NN}$.

Since $\theta_i^{YN} = \frac{(\alpha+(w+c_p)(\beta-1))B+Fc_B}{A}$ and $\theta_j^{YN} = \frac{(\alpha+(w+c_p)(\beta-1))G+Hc_B}{A}$;

Letting $\theta_i^{YN} - \theta_j^{YN} = \frac{(1+\mu)\tau^2+(2t+(\beta\mu-1)\tau^2)c_B}{A}$, Expanding the numerator of the equation we can get $\tau^2 + \mu\tau^2 + 2tc_B - \tau^2c_B + \beta\mu\tau^2c_B$, it can be seen that when $t > \tau$, $\theta_i^{YN} > \theta_j^{YN}$, otherwise, $\theta_i^{YN} < \theta_j^{YN}$.

Since $\pi_i^{NN} = \pi_j^{NN} = \frac{t(\alpha+(\beta-1)(w+c_p))^2(2t-\tau^2)}{t(2-\beta)+(\mu-1)\tau^2}$ and

$\pi_i^{YN} = \frac{t(2t-1)((\alpha+(w+c_p)(\beta-1))(\beta^2-4)(t(2+\beta)-(1+\mu)\tau^2)+c_B(\beta^2-4)(t(\beta^2-2)+(1-\beta\mu)\tau^2))^2}{2A^2(\beta^2-4)^2}$,

Letting $\pi_i^{YN} - \pi_i^{NN} = \frac{4-t(10-2\beta^2)+\tau+2\beta\mu(\tau-1)\tau+2\mu^2\tau^3((-4+\beta^2)^2+\mu\tau^2-t\beta)}{2A^2(\beta^2-4)^2-t(2-\beta)+(\mu-1)\tau^2}$, we can set c_1^a to be the solution of $\pi_i^{YN} - \pi_i^{NN}$, According to the numerator of π_i^{YN} we can get

$$c_B = \frac{w-\alpha-w\beta+c_p-\beta c_p}{1-\beta}, c_B < c_1^b =$$

$$\frac{t(2t-1)((\alpha+(w+c_p)(\beta-1))(\beta^2-4)(t(2+\beta)-(1+\mu)\tau^2)+c_B(\beta^2-4)(t(\beta^2-2)+(1-\beta\mu)\tau^2))^2}{2A^2(\beta^2-4)^2}, \text{ when } 0 \leq$$

$c_B < c_1^a, \pi_i^{YN} > \pi_{\{i,j\}}^{NN}$; when $c_1^a \leq c_B < c_1^b, \pi_i^{YN} \leq \pi_{\{i,j\}}^{NN}$; The equilibrium is $c_B = c_1^a$.

$$\text{We know } \pi_j^{YN} = \frac{t(2t-\tau^2)((\alpha+(w+c_p)(\beta-1))(\beta^2-4)(1-t(2+\beta)+\mu\tau)+c_B(\beta^2-4)((t-1)\beta+\mu\tau))^2}{2A^2(\beta^2-4)^2}$$

$$\text{and } \pi_i^{NN} = \pi_j^{NN} = \frac{t(\alpha+(\beta-1)(w+c_p))^2(2t-\tau^2)}{t(2-\beta)+(\mu-1)\tau^2}.$$

$$\text{Letting } \pi_j^{YN} - \pi_{\{i,j\}}^{NN} = \frac{2t(4-\beta^2)+4(1-\beta t-\mu\tau)-\beta^2(4-\beta t-\mu\tau)+(4-\beta^2)(\beta t-\mu\tau)c_B}{2t-t\beta-2t\tau(1-2t\tau)+2t^2\beta^2-(4-\beta^2)^2+\tau^3},$$

we can set c_1^c to be the solution of $\pi_j^{YN} - \pi_{\{i,j\}}^{NN}$, According to the numerator of π_j^{YN} ,

$$\text{we can get } c_B = \frac{(2t^2+t\tau^2)(+2t-\beta t-\mu\tau-1)(w+w\beta+\alpha+c_p-\beta c_p)}{t\beta+\beta-\mu\tau}, c_B < c_1^d =$$

$$\frac{t(2t-\tau^2)((\alpha+(w+c_p)(\beta-1))(\beta^2-4)(1-t(2+\beta)+\mu\tau)+c_B(\beta^2-4)((t-1)\beta+\mu\tau))^2}{2A^2(\beta^2-4)^2}, \text{ when } 0 \leq c_B <$$

$c_1^c, \pi_j^{YN} > \pi_{\{i,j\}}^{NN}$; When $c_1^c \leq c_B < c_1^d, \pi_j^{YN} < \pi_{\{i,j\}}^{NN}$; The equilibrium is $c_B = c_1^c$.

We known $\pi_i^{YN} =$

$$\frac{t(2t-1)((\alpha+(w+c_p)(\beta-1))(\beta^2-4)(t(2+\beta)-(1+\mu)\tau^2)+c_B(\beta^2-4)(t(\beta^2-2)+(1-\beta\mu)\tau^2))^2}{2A^2(\beta^2-4)^2} \text{ and } \pi_j^{YN} =$$

$$\frac{t(2t-\tau^2)((\alpha+(w+c_p)(\beta-1))(\beta^2-4)(1-t(2+\beta)+\mu\tau)+c_B(\beta^2-4)((t-1)\beta+\mu\tau))^2}{2A^2(\beta^2-4)^2};$$

Letting $\pi_i^{YN} - \pi_j^{YN} = \frac{1+\tau^2-\beta\mu\tau^2+t(\beta^2-2)c_B(\beta^2-4)-(\beta+t\beta-\mu\tau)c_B(4+\beta^2)}{2A^2(\beta^2-4)^2}$, We can set c_1^e to

be the solution of $\pi_i^{YN} - \pi_j^{YN}$, according to the numerator of π_i^{YN} , we can get $c_B =$

$$\frac{w-\alpha-w\beta+c_p-\beta c_p}{1-\beta}, c_B < c_1^b =$$

$$\frac{t(2t-1)((\alpha+(w+c_p)(\beta-1))(\beta^2-4)(t(2+\beta)-(1+\mu)\tau^2)+c_B(\beta^2-4)(t(\beta^2-2)+(1-\beta\mu)\tau^2))^2}{2A^2(\beta^2-4)^2}, \text{ when } 0 \leq$$

$c_B < c_1^e, \pi_i^{YN} > \pi_j^{YN}$; when $c_1^e \leq c_B < c_1^b, \pi_i^{YN} < \pi_j^{YN}$; The equilibrium is $c_B = c_1^e$.

Proof of Lemma 2.

Comparing the amount of information disclosure and agent profit in YY, YN and NN scenarios:

Since $\theta_i^{YY} = \theta_j^{YY}, \theta_i^{NN} = \theta_j^{NN}$, We only need to prove the relationship between

$\theta_{\{i,j\}}^{YY}, \theta_{\{i,j\}}^{NN}, \theta_i^{YN}$ and θ_j^{YN} .

We have known $\theta_i^{YY} = \frac{(w+c_p+c_B)(1-\beta)-\alpha}{1+(2-\beta)t-\mu}$ and $\theta_i^{YN} = \frac{(\alpha+(w+c_p)(\beta-1))B+Fc_B}{A}$.

Letting $\theta_i^{YY} - \theta_i^{YN} = \frac{(\beta^2-1)\mu\tau^2c_B(w+c_B)(w+\beta+w\beta-1)c_p}{1-3t\tau^2+t(4t+\beta)-\mu-\tau+t\mu^2\tau^3}$, we know $\beta \leq 1$, thus, we have $\beta^2 - 1 < 0$, then, $\theta_i^{YY} < \theta_i^{YN}$.

We have known $\theta_j^{YY} = \theta_i^{YY} = \frac{(w+c_p+c_B)(1-\beta)-\alpha}{1+(2-\beta)t-\mu}$ and $\theta_j^{YN} = \frac{(\alpha+(w+c_p)(\beta-1))G+Hc_B}{A}$,

Letting $\theta_j^{YY} - \theta_j^{YN} = \frac{(w(\beta-1)c_p)(2t\tau+\tau^2+\beta\tau c_B)}{1+4t^2-2t\tau^2+\beta t+\tau^3-\mu(1+\mu\tau^3)}$, we know $\beta \leq 1$, thus $\beta - 1 < 0$ and

$(w(\beta - 1)c_p) < 0$, then, $\theta_j^{YY} < \theta_j^{YN}$.

Since $\theta_i^{YY} = \theta_j^{YY} = \frac{(w+c_p+c_B)(1-\beta)-\alpha}{1+(2-\beta)t-\mu}$ and $\theta_i^{NN} = \theta_j^{NN} = \frac{\tau(\alpha+(\beta-1)(w+c_p))}{t(2-\beta)+(\mu-1)\tau^2}$;

Letting $\theta_{i,j}^{YY} - \theta_{i,j}^{NN} = \frac{w(1-\beta)-\tau w(1-\beta)+(1-\beta)c_B+\alpha+(1-\beta)(1-\alpha\tau)c_p}{1-t(\beta-2)-\mu-(1+\mu)\tau^2-t(2+\beta)}$; We know $\beta \leq 1$ and $\tau < 1$, thus, we have $w(1-\beta) > \tau w(1-\beta)$ and $\alpha > (1-\beta)(1-\alpha\tau)c_p$, then, $\theta_i^{YY} > \theta_i^{NN}$.

Since $\pi_j^{YY} = \pi_i^{YY} = \frac{(\alpha+(w+c_p+c_B)(\beta-1))^2t^3(2-\beta)A-t(1-\mu)B}{2((\mu-1)^2-t^2(\beta-2)^2)^2}$, according to the numerator

of $\pi_{\{i,j\}}^{YY}$, we can get $c_B = \frac{2t^3w-\alpha-2t^3w\beta-2t\tau^2+t\beta^2\mu^2\tau^2+\tau^3+2t^3c_p-2t^3\beta c_p}{2t^3(-1+\beta)}$, $c_B < c_1^g = \frac{(\alpha+(w+c_p+c_B)(\beta-1))^2t^3(2-\beta)A-t(1-\mu)B}{2((\mu-1)^2-t^2(\beta-2)^2)^2}$, thus, there is a common upper threshold c_1^g in scenario YY.

$\pi_i^{YY} = \pi_j^{YY} = \frac{(\alpha+(w+c_p+c_B)(\beta-1))^2t^3(2-\beta)A-t(1-\mu)B}{2((\mu-1)^2-t^2(\beta-2)^2)^2}$ and

$\pi_i^{YN} = \frac{t(2t-1)((\alpha+(w+c_p)(\beta-1))(\beta^2-4)(t(2+\beta)-(1+\mu)\tau^2)+c_B(\beta^2-4)(t(\beta^2-2)+(1-\beta\mu)\tau^2))^2}{2A^2(\beta^2-4)^2}$

Letting $\pi_i^{YY} - \pi_i^{YN} = \frac{t(1+\mu)-c_B(t^2(1-2t)\beta^2(4-\beta^2)-(1-\beta)t^3(2+\beta))-\tau^2(1-\mu^2\tau)}{(t^2(2-\beta)^2-(1-\mu)^2)^2+2-\tau^2(1-\mu^2\tau)-4t^3(2+t-\tau)}$, We can set c_1^f to be the solution of $\pi_i^{YY} - \pi_i^{YN}$. When $0 \leq c_B < c_1^f$, then, $\pi_i^{YY} > \pi_i^{YN}$; When $c_1^f < c_B < c_1^g$, then, $\pi_i^{YY} \leq \pi_i^{YN}$; The equilibrium is $c_B = c_1^f$.

Since $\pi_j^{YN} = \frac{t(2t-\tau^2)((\alpha+(w+c_p)(\beta-1))(\beta^2-4)(1-t(2+\beta)+\mu\tau)+c_B(\beta^2-4)((t-1)\beta+\mu\tau))^2}{2A^2(\beta^2-4)^2}$ and

$\pi_i^{YY} = \pi_j^{YY} = \frac{(\alpha+(w+c_p+c_B)(\beta-1))^2t^3(2-\beta)A-t(1-\mu)B}{2((\mu-1)^2-t^2(\beta-2)^2)^2}$;

Letting $\pi_j^{YY} - \pi_j^{YN} = \frac{(w+c_p+c_B)t^3(2-t)+\tau t+\mu^2\tau^2-\tau^2(w-c_p)-c_B(t\beta+\beta)}{(4t\tau+2\mu^2\tau^2)^2(\beta^2-4)^2}$, We can set c_1^h to

be the solution of $\pi_j^{YY} - \pi_j^{YN}$; When $0 \leq c_B < c_1^h$, then, $\pi_j^{YY} > \pi_j^{YN}$; When

$c_1^h < c_B < c_1^g$, $\pi_j^{YY} \leq \pi_j^{YN}$; The equilibrium is $c_B = c_1^h$.

We known $\pi_i^{YY} = \pi_j^{YY} = \frac{(\alpha+(w+c_p+c_B)(\beta-1))^2t^3(2-\beta)A-t(1-\mu)B}{2((\mu-1)^2-t^2(\beta-2)^2)^2}$ and $\pi_i^{NN} = \pi_j^{NN} =$

$$\frac{t(\alpha+(\beta-1)(w+c_p))^2(2t-\tau^2)}{t(2-\beta)+(\mu-1)\tau^2}$$

Letting $\pi_{i,j}^{YY} - \pi_{i,j}^{NN} = \frac{t((2-\beta)-(1-\mu)-\tau(\tau^2-\beta\mu\tau-(2-\beta\mu\tau)\tau))}{2((1-\mu)^2+t(2-\beta)^2)^2-(1-\mu)\tau^2}$, We can set c_1^k to be the

solution of $\pi_i^{YY} - \pi_i^{NN}$. When $0 \leq c_B < c_1^k$, then, $\pi_{i,j}^{YY} > \pi_{i,j}^{NN}$; When $c_1^k < c_B < c_1^g$,

then $\pi_{i,j}^{YY} \leq \pi_{i,j}^{NN}$; The equilibrium is $c_B = c_1^k$.

Proof of extensions

Proof of cost-sharing contracts

The profit functions of agents and platforms are as follows

$$\pi_i^{CYY} = (p_i - w - c_p - \eta c_B)(\alpha - p_i + \beta p_j + \theta_i - \mu \theta_j) - \frac{1}{2} t \theta_i^2$$

$$\pi_j^{CYY} = (p_j - w - c_p - \eta c_B)(\alpha - p_j + \beta p_i + \theta_j - \mu \theta_i) - \frac{1}{2} t \theta_j^2$$

$$\pi_p^{CYY} = (c_p - (1 - \eta)c_B) \cdot D_T^{YY} - \frac{1}{2} t \theta_T^2, \quad T = i + j$$

The corresponding first partial derivatives are:

$$\frac{\partial \pi_i^{CYY}}{\partial p_i} = w + \alpha + \eta c_B + c_p - 2p_i + p\beta_j + \theta_i - \mu \theta_j$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j^{CYY}}{\partial p_j} = w + \alpha + \eta c_B + c_p - 2p_j + p\beta_i + \theta_j - \mu \theta_i$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_i^{CYY}}{\partial \theta_i} = (p_i - w - \eta c_B - c_p) - t \theta_i$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j^{CYY}}{\partial \theta_j} = (p_j - w - \eta c_B - c_p) - t \theta_j$$

Letting $\frac{\partial \pi_i^{CYY}}{\partial p_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_j^{CYY}}{\partial p_j} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_i^{CYY}}{\partial \theta_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_j^{CYY}}{\partial \theta_j} = 0$, the optimal sales price and the

corresponding optimal price information disclosure quantity are obtained as follows.

$$\theta_i^{CYY} = \theta_j^{CYY} = \frac{(w + c_p + \eta c_B)(1 - \beta) - \alpha}{1 + (\beta - 2)t - \mu}$$

$$p_i^{CYY} = p_j^{CYY} = \frac{t\alpha - (w + c_p + \eta c_B)(\mu - 1 - t)}{1 - t(\beta - 2) - \mu}$$

$$\pi_i^{CYY} = \pi_j^{CYY} = \frac{(\alpha + (w + c_p + \eta c_B)(\beta - 1))^2 t^3 (2 - \beta) A - t(1 - \mu) B}{2((\mu - 1)^2 - t^2(\beta - 2)^2)^2}$$

$$\pi_p^{CYY} = \frac{2t((w + c_p + \eta c_B)(1 - \beta) - \alpha)(QW(\alpha + (w + c_p)(\beta - 1) + (\beta - 1)\eta c_B) - JV^2((\eta - 1)c_B + c_p))}{QV^2 K}$$

We set up some useful expressions as follows:

$$A = 2t(2 - \beta) + (2 - 2\beta + 4(\beta - 1)\mu);$$

$$B = (1 - \mu) + 2t(5 - 3\mu + \beta(2\mu - 3));$$

$$J = t(\beta - 2) - (2\beta - 3)(\mu - 1);$$

$$Q = t(\beta - 2) - \mu + 1;$$

$$K = 1 - t(\beta - 2) - \mu;$$

$$V = 1 + (\beta - 2)t - \mu;$$

Since $\pi_i^{CYY} = \pi_j^{CYY} = \frac{(\alpha + (w + c_p + \eta c_B)(\beta - 1))^2 t^3 (2 - \beta) A - t(1 - \mu) B}{2((\mu - 1)^2 - t^2(\beta - 2)^2)^2}$, We have $\eta < \frac{\alpha + (\omega + c_p)(\beta - 1)}{(1 - \beta)c_B}$.

Proof of Dishonest Punishment

In scenario DYN, the profits of both agents are:

$$\pi_i^{DYN} = (p_i - w - c_p - c_B) \cdot (\alpha - p_i + \beta p_j + \tau(\theta_i - \mu \theta_j) - \frac{1}{2} t \theta_i^2 - (\varphi F) p_i)$$

$$\pi_j^{DYN} = (p_j - w - c_p - c_B) \cdot (\alpha - p_j + \beta p_i + \tau(\theta_j - \mu \theta_i)) - \frac{1}{2} t \theta_j^2$$

The corresponding first partial derivatives are:

$$\frac{\partial \pi_i^{DYN}}{\partial p_i} = (w + \alpha + c_B + c_p - 2p_i + p\beta_j + \tau(\theta_i - \mu \theta_j)) - \varphi F p_i$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j^{DYN}}{\partial p_j} = w + \alpha + c_B + c_p - 2p_j + p\beta_i + \tau(\theta_j - \mu \theta_i)$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_i^{DYN}}{\partial \theta_i} = (p_i - w - c_B - c_p) - t\theta_i - \varphi F p_i$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j^{DYN}}{\partial \theta_j} = (p_j - w - c_B - c_p) - t\theta_j$$

Letting $\frac{\partial \pi_i^{DYN}}{\partial p_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_j^{DYN}}{\partial p_j} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_i^{DYN}}{\partial \theta_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_j^{DYN}}{\partial \theta_j} = 0$, the optimal sales price and the corresponding optimal price information disclosure quantity are obtained as follows.

$$\theta_i^{DYN} = \frac{(\alpha - (\omega - c_p)(\beta + 1))B - G(\varphi F - c_B)}{A}$$

$$\theta_j^{DYN} = \frac{\tau((\alpha - (\omega - c_p)(\beta + 1))H - J(\varphi F - c_B))}{A}$$

$$p_i^{DYN} = \frac{((\omega + c_p) + \alpha)}{(2 - \beta)} +$$

$$\frac{(\alpha + (\omega + c_p)(\beta - 1))(B\beta\mu\tau - H(\beta - 2\mu)\tau^2 - 2B) + (c_B + \varphi F)(2A - 2G + G\beta\mu\tau + J(\beta - 2\mu)\tau^2)}{A(4 - \beta^2)}$$

$$p_j^{DYN} = \frac{((\omega+c_p)+\alpha)}{(2-\beta)} +$$

$$\frac{(\alpha+(\omega+c_p)(\beta-1))(B\beta-2B\mu\tau+H(2-\beta\mu)\tau^2)+(c_B+\varphi F)(-A\beta+G\beta-2G\mu\tau+J(-2+\beta\mu)\tau^2)}{A(\beta^2-4)}$$

Substituting the optimal sales price and optimal price information into the target's revenue function, we can get the maximum profit of the two agents:

$$\pi_i^{DYN} =$$

$$\frac{t(2t-1)((\alpha+(\omega+c_p)(-1+\beta))(\beta^2-4)(t(2+\beta)-(1+\mu)\tau^2)+((\varphi*F+c_B)(-4+\beta^2)(t(-2+\beta^2)+(1-\beta\mu)\tau^2)))^2}{2A^2(\beta^2-4)^2}$$

$$\pi_j^{DYN} = \frac{t(2t-\tau^2)((\alpha+(\omega+c_p)(-1+\beta))(\beta^2-4)(1-t(2+\beta)+\mu\tau)+((\varphi*F+c_B)(\beta^2-4)((t-1)\beta+\mu\tau)))^2}{2A^2(\beta^2-4)^2}$$

We set up some useful expressions as follows:

$$A = t^2(\beta^2 - 4) - t\beta\mu\tau(1 + \tau) + \tau^2(\mu^2\tau - 1) + 2t(1 + \tau^2);$$

$$B = t(2 + \beta) - (1 + \mu)\tau^2;$$

$$G = t(\beta^2 - 2) + (1 - \beta\mu)\tau^2;$$

$$H = t(2 + \beta) - \mu\tau - 1;$$

$$J = \beta - t\beta - \mu\tau;$$

$$L = -2G + A(-2 + \beta^2) + G * \beta * \mu * \tau + J(\beta - 2\mu)\tau^2;$$

$$M = 2A - 2G + G * \beta * \mu * \tau + J(\beta - 2\mu)\tau^2;$$

$$V = (B * \beta * \mu * \tau - H(\beta - 2\mu)\tau^2 - 2B);$$

$$U = -B * \beta + 2B * \mu * \tau + H(-2 + \beta\mu)\tau^2;$$

$$W = -A * \beta + G * \beta - 2G * \mu * \tau + J(-2 + \beta * \mu)\tau^2;$$

In scenario DYY, the profits of both agents are:

$$\pi_i^{DYY} = (p_i - w - c_p - c_B).(\alpha - p_i + \beta p_j + \theta_i - \mu\theta_j) - \frac{1}{2}t\theta_i^2 - (\varphi F)p_i$$

$$\pi_j^{DYY} = (p_j - w - c_p - c_B).(\alpha - p_j + \beta p_i + \theta_j - \mu\theta_i) - \frac{1}{2}t\theta_j^2 - (\varphi F)p_j$$

The corresponding first partial derivatives are:

$$\frac{\partial \pi_i^{DYY}}{\partial p_i} = (w + \alpha + c_B + c_p - 2p_i + p\beta_j + \theta_i - \mu\theta_j) - \varphi F p_i$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j^{DYY}}{\partial p_j} = (w + \alpha + c_B + c_p - 2p_j + p\beta_i + (\theta_j - \mu\theta_i) - \varphi F p_j)$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_i^{DYY}}{\partial \theta_i} = (p_i - w - \varphi F - c_B - c_p) - t\theta_i - \varphi F p_i$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j^{DYY}}{\partial \theta_j} = (p_j - w - \varphi F - c_B - c_p) - t\theta_j - \varphi F p_j$$

Letting $\frac{\partial \pi_i^{DYY}}{\partial p_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_j^{DYY}}{\partial p_j} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_i^{DYY}}{\partial \theta_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_j^{DYY}}{\partial \theta_j} = 0$, the optimal sales price and the corresponding optimal price information disclosure quantity are obtained as follows:

$$\theta_i^{DYY} = \theta_j^{DYY} = \frac{\alpha + (\omega + c_p + c_B + \varphi F)(\beta - 1)}{1 - 2t + t\beta - \mu}$$

$$p_i^{DYY} = p_j^{DYY} = \frac{t((\omega + c_p + c_B + \varphi F) + \alpha)}{t(2 - \beta) + \mu - 1} + \frac{(2\alpha + (\omega + c_p + c_B + \varphi F)\beta)(\mu - 1)}{(\beta - 2)(1 + t(-2 + \beta) - \mu)}$$

Substituting the optimal sales price and optimal price information into the target's revenue function, we can get the maximum profit of the two agents:

$$\pi_i^{DYY} = \pi_j^{DYY} = \frac{(\alpha + (\omega + c_p + c_B + \varphi F)(\beta - 1))^2(t(2 - \beta)(2t(2 - \beta) - 10 + \beta + 8\mu) + 8(1 - \mu)^2)}{2(\beta - 2)^2(1 + t(\beta - 2) - \mu)^2}$$

Proof of Variable Blockchain Costs

In the VYN scenario, the profit function of the two agents is as follows:

$$\pi_i^{VYN} = (p_i - w - c_p - c_B - (c_{vB} \cdot \theta_i)) \cdot D_i^{VYN} - \frac{1}{2} t \theta_i^2$$

$$\pi_j^{VYN} = (p_j - w - c_p) \cdot D_j^{VYN} - \frac{1}{2} t \theta_j^2$$

The corresponding first partial derivatives are:

$$\frac{\partial \pi_i^{VYN}}{\partial p_i} = w + \alpha + c_B + c_p - 2p_i + \beta p_j + \theta_i + c_{vB} \theta_i - \tau \mu \theta_j$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j^{VYN}}{\partial p_j} = w + \alpha + c_p - 2p_j + p \beta_i + \tau (\theta_j - \mu \theta_i)$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_i^{VYN}}{\partial \theta_i} = p_i - w - c_B - c_p - t \theta_i - c_{vB} \theta_i - c_{vB} (\alpha - p_i + \beta p_j + \theta_i - \tau \mu \theta_j)$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j^{VYN}}{\partial \theta_j} = (p_j - w - c_p) - t \theta_j$$

Letting $\frac{\partial \pi_i^{VYN}}{\partial p_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_j^{VYN}}{\partial p_j} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_i^{VYN}}{\partial \theta_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_j^{VYN}}{\partial \theta_j} = 0$, the optimal sales price and the corresponding optimal price information disclosure quantity are obtained as follows.

$$\theta_i^{VYN} = \frac{(\alpha + (\omega + c_p)(\beta - 1))B + F(c_B + c_{vB})}{A}$$

$$\theta_j^{VYN} = \frac{(\alpha + (\omega + c_p)(\beta - 1))G + H(c_B + c_{vB})}{A}$$

$$p_i^{VYN} = \frac{((\omega + c_p) + \alpha)}{(2 - \beta)} +$$

$$\frac{(\alpha + (\omega + c_p)(\beta - 1))(B(\beta \mu \tau - 2) + G(\tau(2\mu - \beta)) + (\mu \tau(2H + F\beta) - 2(A + F) - H\beta \tau)(c_B + c_{vB}))}{A(\beta^2 - 4)}$$

$$p_j^{VYN} = \frac{((\omega + c_p) + \alpha)}{(2 - \beta)} +$$

$$\frac{(\alpha + (\omega + c_p)(\beta - 1))(G(\beta \mu \tau - 2) - B(\beta - 2\mu \tau)) - ((A + F)\beta + 2H\tau - (2F + H\beta)\mu \tau)(c_B + c_{vB})}{A(\beta^2 - 4)}$$

$$\pi_i^{VYN} =$$

$$\frac{t(2t-1)((\alpha+(\omega+c_p)(\beta-1))(\beta^2-4)(t(2+\beta)-(1+\mu)\tau^2)+(c_B+c_{vB})(\beta^2-4)(t(\beta^2-2)+(1-\beta\mu)\tau^2))^2}{2A^2(\beta^2-4)^2}$$

$$\pi_j^{VYN} = \frac{t(2t-\tau^2)((\alpha+(\omega+c_p)(\beta-1))(\beta^2-4)(1-t(2+\beta)+\mu\tau)+(c_B+c_{vB})(\beta^2-4)((t-1)\beta+\mu\tau))^2}{2A^2(\beta^2-4)^2}$$

In the scenario VYY, the profit function of the two agents is as follows:

$$\pi_i^{VYY} = (p_i - w - c_p - c_B - (c_{vB}\theta_i)).D_i^{VYY} - \frac{1}{2}t\theta_i^2$$

$$\pi_j^{VYY} = (p_i - w - c_p - c_B - (c_{vB}\theta_j)).D_j^{VYY} - \frac{1}{2}t\theta_j^2$$

The corresponding first partial derivatives are:

$$\frac{\partial \pi_i^{VYY}}{\partial p_i} = w + \alpha + c_B + c_p - 2p_i + \beta p_j + \theta_i + c_{vB}\theta_i - \tau\mu\theta_j$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j^{VYY}}{\partial p_j} = w + \alpha + c_B + c_p - 2p_j + \beta p_i + \theta_j + c_{vB}\theta_j - \tau\mu\theta_i$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_i^{VYY}}{\partial \theta_i} = p_i - w - c_B - c_p - t\theta_i - c_{vB}\theta_i - c_{vB}(\alpha - p_i + \beta p_j + \theta_i - \tau\mu\theta_j)$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j^{VYY}}{\partial \theta_j} = p_j - w - c_B - c_p - t\theta_j - c_{vB}\theta_j - c_{vB}(\alpha - p_j + \beta p_i + \theta_j - \tau\mu\theta_i)$$

Letting $\frac{\partial \pi_i^{VYY}}{\partial p_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_j^{VYY}}{\partial p_j} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_i^{VYY}}{\partial \theta_i} = 0$, $\frac{\partial \pi_j^{VYY}}{\partial \theta_j} = 0$, the optimal sales price and the corresponding optimal price information disclosure quantity are obtained as follows.

$$\theta_i^{VYY} = \theta_j^{VYY} = \frac{(\alpha + c_p + c_B + c_{vB})(1 - \beta) - \alpha}{1 + (\beta - 2)t - \mu}$$

$$p_i^{VYY} = p_j^{VYY} = \frac{t\alpha - (\alpha + c_p + c_B + c_{vB})(\mu - 1 - t)}{1 - t(\beta - 2) - \mu}$$

$$\pi_i^{VYY} = \pi_j^{VYY} = \frac{(\alpha + (\omega + c_p + c_B + c_{vB})(\beta - 1))^2 t^3 (2 - \beta) A - t(1 - \mu) B}{2((\mu - 1)^2 - t^2(\beta - 2)^2)^2}$$