

# **Selection and Sorting of Heterogeneous Firms Through Competitive Pressures**

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Last Updated: 2026-01-19; 5:16:54 AM

January 2026

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# Introduction

## Competitive Pressures on Heterogeneous Firms

**Main Questions:** How do more *competitive pressures*, caused by lower *entry cost*, larger *market size*, or *globalization* affect firms with different productivity?

- Selection of firms
- Distribution of firm size (in revenue, profit and employment), Distribution of markup and pass-through rates, etc.
- Sorting of firms across markets with different market sizes

### Existing Monopolistic Competition Models with Heterogeneous Firms

- Melitz (2003): under **CES Demand System (DS)**
  - MC firms sell their products at an exogenous & common markup rate, *unresponsive to competitive pressures, inconsistent with some evidence for*
    - A higher production cost leads to less than proportional increase in the price (the pass-through rate  $< 1$ )
    - More productive firms have higher markup rates and lower pass-through rates
  - Firm size distribution does not depend on whether it is measured in revenue, profit, or in employment.
  - Market size: no effect on distribution of firm types nor their behaviors; All adjustments at *the extensive margin*.
  - Firms' incentive to move across markets with different market sizes independent of firm productivity
- Melitz-Ottaviano (2008) departs from CES with **Linear Demand System + the outside competitive sector**, which comes with its own restrictions.

**This Paper:** Melitz under **H.S.A. (Homothetic Single Aggregator)** Demand System to study how departing from CES in the direction consistent with the evidence affects the impact of competitive pressures on heterogeneous firms.

## Symmetric H.S.A. (Homothetic Single Aggregator) DS with Gross Substitutes

Think of a competitive final goods industry generating demand for a continuum of **intermediate inputs**  $\omega \in \Omega$ , with  
**CRS production function**:  $X = X(\mathbf{x})$ ;  $\mathbf{x} = \{x_\omega; \omega \in \Omega\} \Leftrightarrow$  **Unit cost function**,  $P = P(\mathbf{p})$ ;  $\mathbf{p} = \{p_\omega; \omega \in \Omega\}$ .

**Market share** of  $\omega$  depends *solely* on a single variable, its own price normalized by the *common* price aggregator

$$s_\omega \equiv \frac{p_\omega x_\omega}{\mathbf{p}\mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial \ln P(\mathbf{p})}{\partial \ln p_\omega} = s\left(\frac{p_\omega}{A(\mathbf{p})}\right), \quad \text{where} \quad \int_{\Omega} s\left(\frac{p_\omega}{A(\mathbf{p})}\right) d\omega \equiv 1.$$

- $s: \mathbb{R}_{++} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ : the **market share function**,  $\mathcal{C}^3$ , decreasing in the **normalized price**  $z_\omega \equiv p_\omega/A$  for  $s(z_\omega) > 0$  with  
 ◦  $\lim_{z \rightarrow \bar{z}} s(z) = 0$ . If  $\bar{z} \equiv \inf\{z > 0 | s(z) = 0\} < \infty$ ,  $\bar{z}A(\mathbf{p})$  is the **choke price**.
- $A = A(\mathbf{p})$ : the **common price aggregator** defined implicitly by the **adding-up constraint**  $\int_{\Omega} s(p_\omega/A) d\omega \equiv 1$ .  
 $A(\mathbf{p})$  linear homogenous in  $\mathbf{p}$  for a fixed  $\Omega$ . A larger  $\Omega$  reduces  $A(\mathbf{p})$ .

Special Cases	CES	$s(z) = \gamma z^{1-\sigma};$	$\sigma > 1$
	Translog Cost Function	$s(z) = \gamma \max\{-\ln(z/\bar{z}), 0\};$	$\bar{z} < \infty$
	Constant Pass Through (CoPaTh)	$s(z) = \gamma \max\left\{\left[\sigma + (1-\sigma)z^{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}}\right]^{\frac{\rho}{1-\rho}}, 0\right\}$	$0 < \rho < 1$
As $\rho \nearrow 1$ , CoPaTh converges to CES with $\bar{z}(\rho) \equiv (\sigma/(\sigma-1))^{\frac{\rho}{1-\rho}} \rightarrow \infty$ .			

## $P(\mathbf{p})$ vs. $A(\mathbf{p})$

**Definition:**  $s_\omega \equiv \frac{\partial \ln P(\mathbf{p})}{\partial \ln p_\omega} = s\left(\frac{p_\omega}{A(\mathbf{p})}\right) = s(z_\omega)$  where  $\int_{\Omega} s\left(\frac{p_\omega}{A(\mathbf{p})}\right) d\omega \equiv 1.$

By differentiating the adding-up constraint,

$$\frac{\partial \ln A(\mathbf{p})}{\partial \ln p_\omega} = \frac{[\zeta(z_\omega) - 1]s(z_\omega)}{\int_{\Omega} [\zeta(z_{\omega'}) - 1]s(z_{\omega'})d\omega'} \neq s(z_\omega) = \frac{\partial \ln P(\mathbf{p})}{\partial \ln p_\omega}$$

unless  $\zeta(z_\omega)$  is constant, where

**Price Elasticity  
Function:**

$$\zeta(z) \equiv 1 - \frac{d \ln s(z)}{d \ln z} \equiv 1 - \varepsilon_s(z) > 1 \Leftrightarrow s(z) = \gamma \exp \left[ \int_{z_0}^z \frac{1 - \zeta(\xi)}{\xi} d\xi \right]; \lim_{z \rightarrow \bar{z}} \zeta(z) = \infty, \text{ if } \bar{z} < \infty.$$

By integrating the definition,

$$\frac{A(\mathbf{p})}{P(\mathbf{p})} = c \exp \left[ \int_{\Omega} s\left(\frac{p_\omega}{A(\mathbf{p})}\right) \Phi\left(\frac{p_\omega}{A(\mathbf{p})}\right) d\omega \right], \quad \text{where} \quad \Phi(z) \equiv \frac{1}{s(z)} \int_z^{\bar{z}} \frac{s(\xi)}{\xi} d\xi$$

$c > 0$ : The integral constant, proportional to TFP.  $P(\mathbf{p})$  clearly satisfies linear homogeneity, monotonicity, and symmetry. Our 2017 paper proved the quasi-concavity of  $P(\mathbf{p})$ , iff  $\zeta(z) \equiv 1 - \frac{d \ln s(z)}{d \ln z} \equiv 1 - \varepsilon_s(z) > 0$ .

*Note:*  $A(\mathbf{p})/P(\mathbf{p})$  is not constant, **unless CES  $\Leftrightarrow \zeta(z) = \sigma \Leftrightarrow s(z) = \gamma z^{1-\sigma} \Leftrightarrow \Phi(z) = 1/(\sigma - 1)$ .**

- ✓  $A(\mathbf{p})$ , the inverse measure of *competitive pressures*, captures *cross price effects* in the DS, the reference price for MC firms
- ✓  $P(\mathbf{p})$ , the inverse measure of TFP, captures the *productivity effects* of price changes, the reference price for consumers.
- ✓  $\Phi(z) > 0$ , Productivity gains from a product sold at  $z > 0$ .  $\zeta'(\cdot) \gtrless 0 \Rightarrow \Phi'(\cdot) \lesseqgtr 0$ ;  $\Phi'(\cdot) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \zeta'(\cdot) = 0$ . The measure of “love for variety.” Matsuyama & Ushchev (2023)..

## Why H.S.A.

- **Homothetic** (unlike the linear DS and most other commonly used non-CES DSs)
  - a single measure of market size; the demand composition does not matter.
  - isolate the effect of endogenous markup rate from nonhomotheticity
  - straightforward to use it as a building block in multi-sector models with any upper-tier (incl. nonhomothetic) DS
- **Nonparametric and flexible** (unlike **CES** and **translog**, which are special cases)
  - can be used to perform robustness-check for CES
  - allow for (but no need to impose)
    - ✓ the choke price,
    - ✓ **Marshall's 2<sup>nd</sup> law** (Price elasticity is increasing in price) → more productive firms have higher markup rates
    - ✓ *what we call the 3<sup>rd</sup> law* (the rate of increase in the price elasticity is decreasing in price) → more productive firms have lower pass-through rates.
- **Tractable** due to **Single Aggregator** (unlike **Kimball**, which needs two aggregators), a *sufficient statistic* for competitive pressures, which acts like a *magnifier of firm heterogeneity*
  - guarantee the existence & uniqueness of free-entry equilibrium with firm heterogeneity
  - simple to conduct most comparative statics without *parametric* restrictions on demand or productivity distribution.
  - no need to assume zero overhead cost (unlike MO and ACDR)
- Defined by **the market share function**, for which data is readily available and easily identifiable.

Three Classes of Homothetic Demand Systems: Matsuyama-Ushchev (2017)

Here we consider a **continuum** of varieties ( $\omega \in \Omega$ ), **gross substitutes**, and **symmetry**

<b>CES</b>	$s_\omega \equiv \frac{\partial \ln P(\mathbf{p})}{\partial \ln p_\omega} = f\left(\frac{p_\omega}{P(\mathbf{p})}\right) \Leftrightarrow s_\omega \propto \left(\frac{p_\omega}{P(\mathbf{p})}\right)^{1-\sigma}$	
<b>H.S.A.</b> (Homotheticity with a Single Aggregator)	$s_\omega = s\left(\frac{p_\omega}{A(\mathbf{p})}\right),$	$\frac{P(\mathbf{p})}{A(\mathbf{p})} \neq c, \text{ unless CES}$
<b>HDIA</b> (Homotheticity with Direct Implicit Additivity) Kimball is a special case:	$s_\omega = \frac{p_\omega}{P(\mathbf{p})} (\phi')^{-1}\left(\frac{p_\omega}{B(\mathbf{p})}\right),$	$\frac{P(\mathbf{p})}{B(\mathbf{p})} \neq c, \text{ unless CES}$
<b>HIIA</b> (Homotheticity with Indirect Implicit Additivity)	$s_\omega = \frac{p_\omega}{C(\mathbf{p})} \theta'\left(\frac{p_\omega}{P(\mathbf{p})}\right),$	$\frac{P(\mathbf{p})}{C(\mathbf{p})} \neq c, \text{ unless CES}$

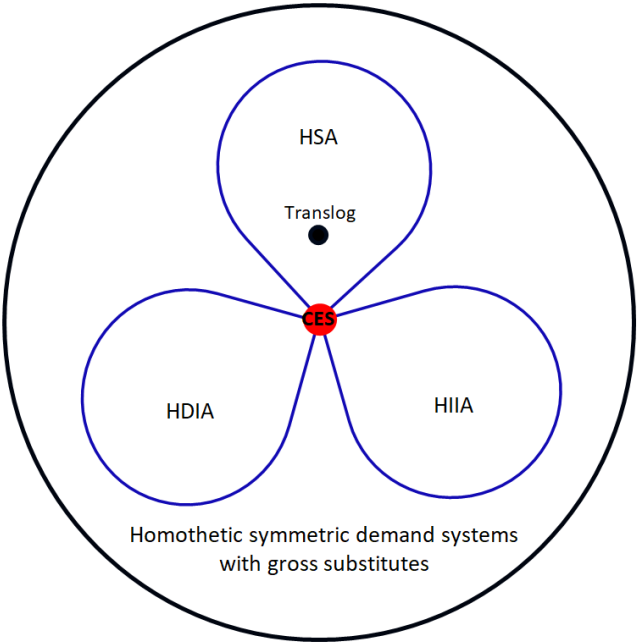
$\phi(\cdot)$  &  $\theta(\cdot)$  are both increasing & concave  $\rightarrow (\phi')^{-1}(\cdot)$  &  $\theta'(\cdot)$  positive-valued & decreasing.  
 $A(\cdot), B(\cdot), C(\cdot)$  all determined by the adding-up constraint.

The 3 classes are pairwise disjoint with the sole exception of CES.

We use HSA, because, under HDIA(Kimball) and HIIA,

- Two aggregators needed for the market shares. [One aggregator enough for the price elasticity under all 3 classes.]
- The existence and uniqueness of free-entry equilibrium not guaranteed without some strong restrictions on both productivity distribution and the price elasticity function.

*Note:* Beyond these three, “almost anything goes.” E.g., Marshall’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Law doesn’t ensure even procompetitive entry.





## A Summary of Main Results

- **Existence & Uniqueness of Equilibrium:** straightforward under H.S.A., not under HDIA/HIIA.
- **Under CES (i.e., Melitz),** we not only reproduce well-known results but also have some new results.
  - Impacts of entry/overhead costs on the masses of entrants/active firms hinges on the sign of the derivative of the elasticity of the pdf of marginal cost. Pareto is the knife-edge!
- **Cross-Sectional Implications:** profits and revenues are always higher among more productive.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Law = incomplete pass-through  $\Leftrightarrow$  the procompetitive effect  $\Leftrightarrow$  strategic complementarity in pricing.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup>) Law  $\rightarrow$  more productive firms have higher markup (lower pass-through) rates.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Laws  $\rightarrow$  hump-shaped employment; the more productive hire less labor under high overhead cost..
- **Comparative Statics**
  - *Entry cost*  $\downarrow$ : 2<sup>nd</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup>) Law  $\rightarrow$  markup rates  $\downarrow$  (pass-through rates  $\uparrow$ ) for all firms.  
profits (revenues) decline faster among less productive  $\rightarrow$  a tougher selection.
  - *Overhead cost*  $\downarrow$ : similar effects when the employment is decreasing in firm productivity.
  - *Market size*  $\uparrow$ : 2<sup>nd</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup>) Law  $\rightarrow$  markup rates  $\downarrow$  (pass-through rates  $\uparrow$ ) for all firms.  
profits (revenues)  $\uparrow$  among more productive;  $\downarrow$  among less productive.
  - *Composition effect*, these changes may *increase* the average markup rate & the aggregate profit share in spite of 2<sup>nd</sup> Law and *reduce* the average pass-through in spite of 3<sup>rd</sup> Law; Pareto is the knife-edge *for entry cost*  $\uparrow$ .
- **Sorting of Heterogeneous Firms** across markets that differ in size: Larger markets  $\rightarrow$  more competitive pressures.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Law  $\rightarrow$  more (less) productive go into larger (smaller) markets.
  - *Composition effect*, average markup (pass-through) rates can be *higher (lower)* in larger markets in spite of 2<sup>nd</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup>) Law.
- **International Trade with Differential Market Access**
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Law  $\rightarrow$  Exporters sell their products at lower markup rates abroad than at home.
  - Globalization (Iceberg cost  $\downarrow$ )  $\rightarrow$  share of exporting (domestic) firms up (down);
  - Exporters reduce the markup rate at home, increases their markup rate abroad.

## (Highly Selective) Literature Review

**Non-CES Demand Systems:** Matsuyama (2023) for a survey; **H.S.A. Demand System:** Matsuyama-Ushchev (2017)

**MC with Heterogeneous Firms:** Melitz (2003) and many others: Melitz-Redding (2015) for a survey

**MC under non-CES demand systems:** Thisse-Ushchev (2018) and Matsuyama (2025) for a survey

- *Nonhomothetic non-CES:*
  - $U = \int_{\Omega} u(x_{\omega})d\omega$ : Dixit-Stiglitz (77), Behrens-Murata (07), ZKPT (12), Mrázová-Neary(17), Dhingra-Morrow (19); ACDR (19)
  - *Linear-demand system with the outside sector:* Ottaviano-Tabuchi-Thisse (2002), Melitz-Ottaviano (2008)
- *Homothetic non-CES:* Feenstra (2003), Kimball (1995), Matsuyama-Ushchev (2020a,b, 2023)
- *H.S.A.* Matsuyama-Ushchev (2022), Kasahara-Sugita (2020), Grossman-Helpman-Lhuiller (2021), Fujiwara-Matsuyama (2022), Baqaee-Fahri-Sangani (2023)

**Empirical Evidence:** *The 2<sup>nd</sup> Law:* DeLoecker-Goldberg (14), Burstein-Gopinath (14); *The 3<sup>rd</sup> Law:* Berman et.al.(12), Amiti et.al.(19), *Market Size Effects:* Campbell-Hopenhayn(05); *Rise of markup:* Autor et.al.(20), DeLoecker et.al.(20)

### Selection of Heterogeneous Firms through Competitive Pressures

Melitz-Ottaviano (2008), Baqaee-Fahri-Sangani (2023), Edmond-Midrigan-Xu (2023)

### Sorting of Heterogeneous Firms Across Markets:

- *Reduced Form/Partial Equilibrium;* Mrázová-Neary (2019), Nocke (2006)
- *General Equilibrium:* Baldwin-Okubo (2006), Behrens-Duranton-RobertNicoud (2014), Davis-Dingel (2019), Gaubert (2018), Kokovin et.al. (2022)

**Log-Super(Sub)modularity:** Costinot (2009), Costinot-Vogel (2015)

## **Monopolistic Competition under H.S.A.**

**Pricing: Markup & Pass-Through Rates.** Taking the value of  $A = A(\mathbf{p})$  given, firm  $\omega$  chooses  $p_\omega$ .

**Lerner Pricing Formula**

$$p_\omega \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{\zeta(p_\omega/A)} \right] = \psi_\omega \Rightarrow z_\omega \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{\zeta(z_\omega)} \right] = \frac{\psi_\omega}{A},$$

$\psi_\omega$ : *firm-specific* (quality-adjusted) marginal cost (in labor, the numeraire)

Under (A1), LHS is strictly increasing in  $z_\omega \rightarrow$  firms with the same  $\psi$  set the same price  $\rightarrow p_\omega = p_\psi$ .

**Normalized Price:**

$$\frac{p_\psi}{A} \equiv z_\psi = Z\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) \in (\psi/A, \bar{z}), Z'(\cdot) > 0;$$

**Price Elasticity:**

$$\zeta(z_\psi) = \zeta\left(Z\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right)\right) \equiv \sigma\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) > 1; \quad \text{Markup Rate:} \quad \mu_\psi \equiv \frac{p_\psi}{\psi} = \frac{\sigma(\psi/A)}{\sigma(\psi/A) - 1} \equiv \mu\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) > 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sigma(\psi/A)} + \frac{1}{\mu(\psi/A)} = 1 \Leftrightarrow \left[ \sigma\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) - 1 \right] \left[ \mu\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) - 1 \right] = 1$$

**Pass-Through Rate:**

$$\rho_\psi \equiv \frac{\partial \ln p_\psi}{\partial \ln \psi} = \varepsilon_z\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) \equiv \rho\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) = 1 + \varepsilon_\mu\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) = 1 - \frac{\varepsilon_\sigma(\psi/A)}{\sigma(\psi/A) - 1} > 0$$

are all functions of the *normalized cost*,  $\psi/A$ , only; continuously differentiable.

- Market size  $E = \mathbf{p}\mathbf{x}$  affects the pricing behaviors of firms only through its effects on  $A$ .
- More competitive pressures, a lower  $A$ , act like a magnifier of firm heterogeneity.

Under CES,  $\sigma(\cdot) = \sigma$ ;  $\mu(\cdot) = \sigma/(\sigma - 1) = \mu$ ;  $\rho(\cdot) = 1$ .

Revenue, Profit, & Employment

Revenue	(Gross) Profit	(Variable) Employment
$R_\psi = s(z_\psi)E = s\left(\tilde{Z}\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right)\right)E \equiv r\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right)E$	$\Pi_\psi = \frac{r(\psi/A)}{\sigma(\psi/A)}E \equiv \pi\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right)E$	$\psi x_\psi = \frac{r(\psi/A)}{\mu(\psi/A)}E \equiv \ell\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right)E$
$\frac{\partial \ln R_\psi}{\partial \ln(\psi/A)} \equiv \varepsilon_r\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) = \left[1 - \sigma\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right)\right]\rho\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) < \mathbf{0}$ Always strictly negative.	$\frac{\partial \ln \Pi_\psi}{\partial \ln(\psi/A)} \equiv \varepsilon_\pi\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) = 1 - \sigma\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) < \mathbf{0}$ Always strictly negative.	$\frac{\partial \ln(\psi x_\psi)}{\partial \ln(\psi/A)} \equiv \varepsilon_\ell\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) = 1 - \sigma\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right)\rho\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) \mathbf{??0}$ Nonmonotone in general.
$\frac{\partial^2 \ln R_\psi}{\partial \psi \partial (1/A)} = \left[1 - \sigma\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right)\right]\rho'\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) - \sigma'\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right)\rho\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right)$ Negative under the 2 <sup>nd</sup> & weak 3 <sup>rd</sup> laws	$\frac{\partial^2 \ln \Pi_\psi}{\partial \psi \partial (1/A)} = -\sigma'\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right)$ Negative under the 2 <sup>nd</sup> law	$\frac{\partial^2 \ln(\psi x_\psi)}{\partial \psi \partial (1/A)} = -\sigma'\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right)\rho\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) - \sigma\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right)\rho'\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right)$ Negative under the 2 <sup>nd</sup> & the weak 3 <sup>rd</sup> laws

- Revenue  $r(\psi/A)E$ , profit  $\pi(\psi/A)E$ , employment  $\ell(\psi/A)E$  all functions of  $\psi/A$ , multiplied by **market size**  $E$ , continuously differentiable under mild regularity conditions.
- Their elasticities  $\varepsilon_r(\cdot)$ ,  $\varepsilon_\pi(\cdot)$  and  $\varepsilon_\ell(\cdot)$  depend solely on  $\sigma(\cdot)$  and  $\rho(\cdot)$ .  
More competitive pressures, a lower  $A$ , act like a magnifier of firm heterogeneity.  
Market size affects the distribution of the profit, revenue and employment across firms only via its effects on  $A$ .  
Under CES,  $r(\cdot)/\pi(\cdot) = \sigma$ ;  $r(\cdot)/\ell(\cdot) = \mu = \sigma/(\sigma - 1) \Rightarrow \varepsilon_r(\cdot) = \varepsilon_\pi(\cdot) = \varepsilon_\ell(\cdot) = 1 - \sigma < 0$ .
- Both revenue and profit are always strictly decreasing in  $\psi/A$ .
- Employment may be nonmonotonic in  $\psi/A$ .

## **Selection of Heterogenous Firms: A Single-Market Setting**

## General Equilibrium: Existence & Uniqueness

- Ex-ante identical firms pay the entry cost  $F_e > 0$  to draw  $\psi \sim G(\psi)$ , cdf whose support,  $(\underline{\psi}, \bar{\psi}) \subset (0, \infty)$ ,
  - After learning  $\psi$ , decide whether to pay the overhead  $F > 0$  to stay & produce.
- Assume  $F + F_e < \pi(0)E$ . Otherwise, no firm would enter.

**Cutoff Rule:** stay if  $\psi < \psi_c$ ; exit if  $\psi > \psi_c$ , where

$$\max_{\psi_c} \int_{\underline{\psi}}^{\psi_c} \left[ \pi\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) E - F \right] dG(\psi) \Rightarrow \pi\left(\frac{\psi_c}{A}\right) E = F$$

positive-sloped, as  $A \downarrow$  (more competitive pressures)  $\Rightarrow \psi_c \downarrow$  (tougher selection).

rotate clockwise, as  $F/E \uparrow$  (higher overhead/market size)  $\Rightarrow \psi_c/A \downarrow$ .

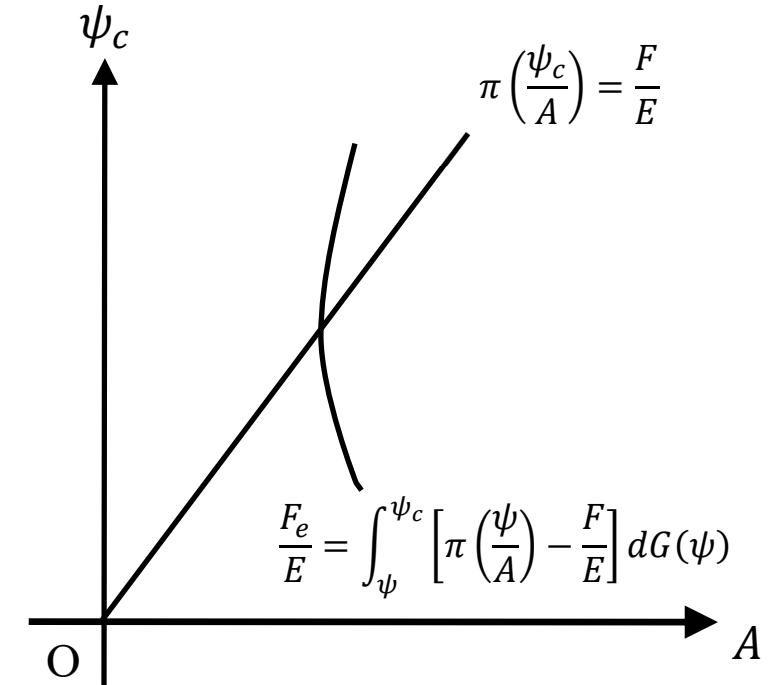
**Free Entry Condition:**

$$F_e = \int_{\underline{\psi}}^{\psi_c} \left[ \pi\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) E - F \right] dG(\psi)$$

shift to the left as  $F_e \downarrow$  (lower entry cost)  $\Rightarrow A \downarrow$  (more competitive pressures).

Notes:

- $A = A(\mathbf{p})$  and  $\psi_c$ : uniquely determined as functions of  $F_e/E$  &  $F/E$ , with the interior solution,  $0 < G(\psi_c) < 1$ , ensured for a sufficiently small  $F_e > 0$  with no further restrictions on  $G(\cdot)$  and  $s(\cdot)$ .
- **A sector-wide productivity shock,  $G(\psi) \rightarrow G(\psi/\lambda)$ :** causes  $\psi_c \rightarrow \lambda\psi_c$ ,  $A \rightarrow \lambda A$ , leaving  $\psi_c/A$ , hence, the markup and the pass-through rates, the profit, the revenue, and the employment distributions across firms all unchanged.



**Equilibrium Mass of Firms:** With  $A$  &  $\psi_c$  already determined, from **the Adding-up Constraint**,

**Mass of Active Firms**

= the measure of  $\Omega$ .

$$MG(\psi_c) = \left[ \int_{\underline{\psi}}^{\psi_c} r\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) \frac{dG(\psi)}{G(\psi_c)} \right]^{-1} = \left[ \int_{\underline{\xi}}^1 r\left(\frac{\psi_c}{A} \xi\right) d\tilde{G}(\xi; \psi_c) \right]^{-1} > 0$$

where

$$\tilde{G}(\xi; \psi_c) \equiv \frac{G(\psi_c \xi)}{G(\psi_c)}$$

is the cdf of  $\xi \equiv \psi/\psi_c$ , conditional on  $\underline{\xi} \equiv \underline{\psi}/\psi_c < \xi \leq 1$ .

**Lemma 1:**  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\psi) < 0 \Rightarrow \mathcal{E}'_G(\psi) < 0$ ;  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\psi) \geq 0 \Rightarrow \mathcal{E}'_G(\psi) \geq 0$ , with some boundary conditions.

**Lemma 2:** A lower  $\psi_c$  shifts  $\tilde{G}(\xi; \psi_c)$  to the right (left) in MLR if  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\psi) < (>)0$  and in FSD if  $\mathcal{E}'_G(\psi) < (>)0$ .

- Some evidence for  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\psi) > 0 \Rightarrow \psi_c \downarrow$  (tougher selection) shifts  $\tilde{G}(\xi; \psi_c)$  to the left.
- Pareto-productivity,  $G(\psi) = (\psi/\bar{\psi})^\kappa \Rightarrow \mathcal{E}'_g(\psi) = \mathcal{E}'_G(\psi) = 0 \Rightarrow \tilde{G}(\xi; \psi_c)$  is independent of  $\psi_c$ .
- Fréchet, Weibull, Lognormal;  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\psi) < 0 \Rightarrow \mathcal{E}'_G(\psi) < 0 \Rightarrow \psi_c \downarrow$  (tougher selection) shifts  $\tilde{G}(\xi; \psi_c)$  to the right.

**Equilibrium can be solved recursively under H.S.A.!!**

Under HDIA/HIIA, all 3 conditions need to be solved simultaneously  $\rightarrow$  possibility of multiplicity/non-existence. (This unique existence proof applies also to the Melitz model.)



Aggregate Labor Cost and Profit Shares and TFP

Notations:

The $w(\cdot)$ -weighted average of $f(\cdot)$ among the active firms, $\psi \in (\underline{\psi}, \psi_c)$	$\mathbb{E}_w(f) \equiv \frac{\int_{\underline{\psi}}^{\psi_c} f\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) w\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) dG(\psi)}{\int_{\underline{\psi}}^{\psi_c} w\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) dG(\psi)}.$
The unweighted average of $f(\cdot)$ among the active firms, $\psi \in (\underline{\psi}, \psi_c)$	$\mathbb{E}_1(f) \equiv \frac{\int_{\underline{\psi}}^{\psi_c} f\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) dG(\psi)}{\int_{\underline{\psi}}^{\psi_c} dG(\psi)}.$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{E}_w\left(\frac{f}{w}\right) = \frac{\mathbb{E}_1(f)}{\mathbb{E}_1(w)} = \left[\mathbb{E}_f\left(\frac{w}{f}\right)\right]^{-1}.$$

By applying the above formulae to  $\pi(\cdot)/r(\cdot) = 1 - \ell(\cdot)/r(\cdot) = 1/\sigma(\cdot) = 1 - 1/\mu(\cdot)$ ,

<b>Aggregate Labor Cost Share</b> (Average inverse markup rate)	$\frac{\mathbb{E}_1(\ell)}{\mathbb{E}_1(r)} = \mathbb{E}_r\left(\frac{1}{\mu}\right) = 1 - \left[\mathbb{E}_\pi\left(\frac{\mu}{\mu - 1}\right)\right]^{-1} = \frac{1}{\mathbb{E}_\ell(\mu)}$
<b>Aggregate Profit Share</b> (Average inverse price elasticity)	$\frac{\mathbb{E}_1(\pi)}{\mathbb{E}_1(r)} = \mathbb{E}_r\left(\frac{1}{\sigma}\right) = \frac{1}{\mathbb{E}_\pi(\sigma)} = 1 - \left[\mathbb{E}_\ell\left(\frac{\sigma}{\sigma - 1}\right)\right]^{-1}$
<b>Aggregate TFP</b>	$\ln\left(\frac{X}{L}\right) = \ln\left(\frac{1}{P}\right) = \ln\left(\frac{C}{A}\right) + \mathbb{E}_r[\Phi \circ Z]$

**Revisiting Melitz (2003):**  $\zeta(z) = \sigma > 1 \Leftrightarrow s(z) = \gamma z^{1-\sigma}$

<b>Pricing:</b>	$\mu\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) = \frac{\sigma}{\sigma-1} > 1 \Rightarrow \rho\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) = 1$
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Constant, uniform markup rate; pass-through rate = 1.

<b>Relative firm size:</b>	$\varepsilon_r\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) = \varepsilon_\pi\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) = \varepsilon_\ell\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) = 1 - \sigma < 0.$
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Firm size distribution in revenue, profit, employment, never change across equilibria.

**Cutoff Rule:**

$$c_0 E \left(\frac{\psi_c}{A}\right)^{1-\sigma} = F,$$

**Free Entry Condition:**

$$\int_{\underline{\psi}}^{\psi_c} \left[ c_0 E \left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right)^{1-\sigma} - F \right] dG(\psi) = F_e,$$

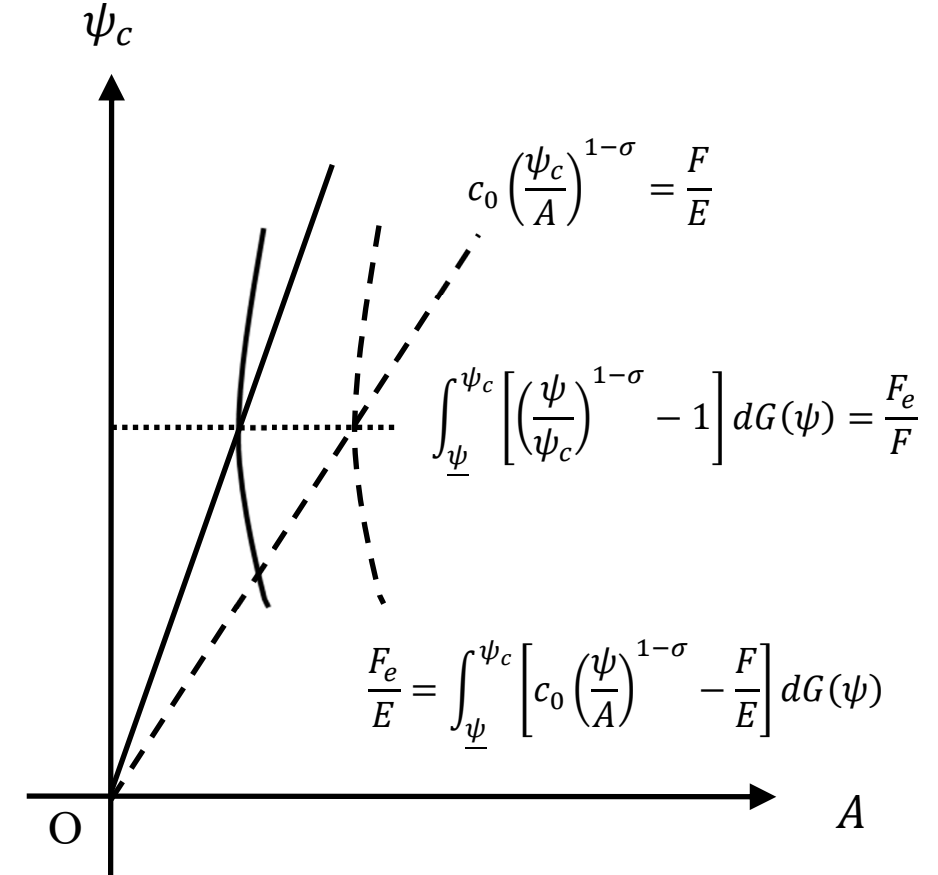
with  $c_0 > 0$ . As  $E$  changes, the intersection moves along

$$\int_{\underline{\psi}}^{\psi_c} \left[ \left(\frac{\psi}{\psi_c}\right)^{1-\sigma} - 1 \right] dG(\psi) = \frac{F_e}{F}$$

horizontal, i.e., independent of  $A$  and of  $E$ .

**Proposition 1:** Under CES,

- $E \uparrow$  keeps  $\psi_c$  unaffected; increases both  $M$  and  $MG(\psi_c)$  proportionately; **All adjustments at the extensive margin.**
- $F_e \downarrow$  reduces  $\psi_c$ ; increases  $M$ ; **increases (decreases)  $MG(\psi_c)$**  if  $\varepsilon'_G(\psi) < (>) 0$ ;  $MG(\psi_c)$  unaffected under Pareto.
- $F \downarrow$  increases  $\psi_c$ ; increases  $MG(\psi_c)$ ; **increases (decreases)  $M$**  if  $\varepsilon'_G(\psi) < (>) 0$ ;  $M$  unaffected under Pareto.



## **Cross-Sectional Implications of the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Laws**

## Marshall's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law: Cross-Sectional Implications (Proposition 2)

(A2):  $\zeta(z_\psi)$  is increasing in  $z_\psi \equiv p_\psi/A = Z(\psi/A)$

Note: A2  $\Rightarrow$  A1.

- **Price elasticity**  $\zeta(Z(\psi/A)) \equiv \sigma(\psi/A)$ ,  $\sigma'(\psi/A) > 0$ ; **high- $\psi$  firms operate at more elastic parts of demand curve.**
  - **Markup Rate**,  $\mu(\psi/A)$ , decreasing in  $\psi/A \Leftrightarrow \varepsilon_\mu(\psi/A) < 0$ ; **high- $\psi$  firms charge lower markup rates.**
  - **Incomplete Pass-Through:** The pass-through rate,  $\rho(\psi/A) = 1 + \varepsilon_\mu(\psi/A) < 1$ .
- **Procompetitive effect of entry/Strategic complementarity in pricing**,  $\frac{\partial \ln p_\psi}{\partial \ln A} = 1 - \rho(\psi/A) = -\varepsilon_\mu(\psi/A) > 0$ .  
**Markups lower under more competitive pressures ( $A = A(\mathbf{p}) \downarrow$ ), due to either a larger  $\Omega$  and/or a lower  $\mathbf{p}$**

**Lemma 5:** For a positive-valued function of a single variable,  $f(\cdot)$ ,

$$\text{sgn} \left\{ \frac{\partial^2 \ln f(\psi/A)}{\partial \psi \partial A} \right\} = -\text{sgn} \left\{ \varepsilon'_f \left( \frac{\psi}{A} \right) \right\} = -\text{sgn} \left\{ \frac{d^2 \ln f(e^{\ln(\psi/A)})}{(d \ln(\psi/A))^2} \right\}$$

$f(\psi/A)$  *log-super(sub)modular* in  $\psi$  &  $A \Leftrightarrow \varepsilon'_f(\cdot) < (>) 0 \Leftrightarrow \ln f(e^{\ln(\psi/A)})$  *concave (convex)* in  $\ln(\psi/A)$

- **Profit**,  $\pi(\psi/A)L$ , always decreasing, **strictly log-supermodular** in  $\psi$  and  $A$ .  
 $A \downarrow \rightarrow$  a proportionately larger decline in profit for high- $\psi$  firms  $\rightarrow$  Larger dispersion of profit

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Law: Cross-Sectional Implications (Propositions 3, 4, and 5)

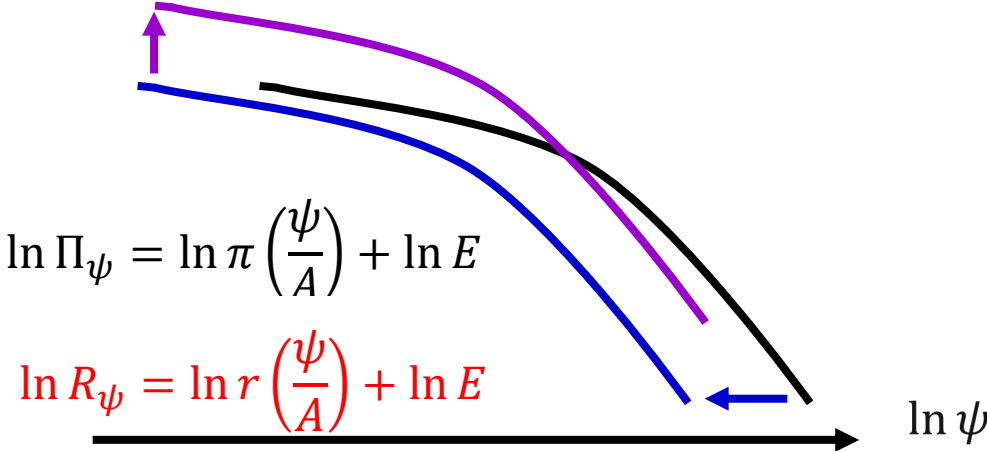
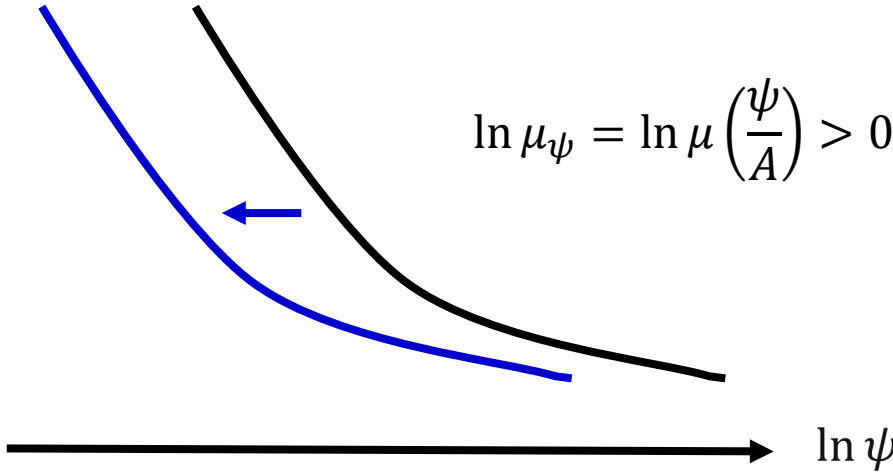
In addition to **A2**, if we further assume, with some empirical support, e.g. Berman et.al.(2012), Amiti et.al.(2019),

**(A3):**  $\mathcal{E}'_{\zeta/(\zeta-1)}(z) \geq (>)0 \iff \mathcal{E}'_{\mu}(\psi/A) = \rho'(\psi/A) \geq (>)0$ . --we call it **Weak (Strong) 3<sup>rd</sup> Law**.

Under translog,  $\rho(\psi/A)$  is strictly decreasing, violating even the weak 3<sup>rd</sup> Law.

- **Markup rate**,  $\mu(\psi/A)$ , decreasing under A2, **log-submodular** in  $\psi$  &  $A$  under A3. For strong A3, it is strict and  $A \downarrow \rightarrow$  a proportionately smaller decline in markup rate for high- $\psi$  firms  $\rightarrow$  smaller dispersion of markup rate
- **Revenue**,  $r(\psi/A)E$ , always decreasing, **strictly log-supermodular** in  $\psi$  &  $A$  under *weak A3*  
 $A \downarrow \rightarrow$  a proportionately larger decline in revenue for high- $\psi$  firms  $\rightarrow$  Larger dispersion of revenue
- **Employment**,  $\ell(\psi/A)E = \frac{r(\psi/A)}{\mu(\psi/A)}E$ , *hump-shaped* in  $\psi/A$ , **strictly log-supermodular** in  $\psi$  &  $A$  under *weak A3*  
Employment is increasing in  $\psi$  across all active firms with a large enough overhead/market size ratio.  
 $A \downarrow \rightarrow$  Employment up for the most productive firms.
- **Pass-through rate**,  $\rho(\psi/A)$ , **strictly log-submodular** in  $\psi$  &  $A$  for a small enough  $\bar{z}$  under strong A3  
 $A \downarrow \rightarrow$  a proportionately smaller increase in the pass-through rate for low- $\psi$  firms among the active.

Cross-Sectional Implications of More Competitive Pressures,  $A \downarrow$ : A Graphic Representation

<p><b>Profit(Revenue) Function:</b> <math>\Pi_\psi = \pi(\psi/A)E</math>; <math>R_\psi = r(\psi/A)E</math></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>always</i> decreasing in <math>\psi</math></li><li>• strictly log-supermodular <i>under A2 (Weak A3)</i></li></ul> <p>→ <math>A \downarrow</math> with <math>L</math> fixed shifts down with a steeper slope at each <math>\psi</math>;</p> <p>→ <math>A \downarrow</math> due to <math>E \uparrow</math>, a parallel shift up, a single-crossing.</p>	<p><b>Markup Rate Function:</b> <math>\mu_\psi = \mu(\psi/A) &gt; 1</math></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• decreasing in <math>\psi</math> <i>under A2</i></li><li>• weakly log-submodular <i>under Weak A3</i></li><li>• strictly log-submodular <i>under Strong A3</i></li></ul> <p>→ <math>A \downarrow</math> shifts down with a flatter slope at each <math>\psi</math></p>
 <p>The graph shows two downward-sloping curves on a coordinate system where the horizontal axis is <math>\ln \psi</math> and the vertical axis is <math>\ln \Pi_\psi</math> and <math>\ln R_\psi</math>. A black curve represents the profit function <math>\ln \Pi_\psi = \ln \pi(\frac{\psi}{A}) + \ln E</math>. A blue curve represents the revenue function <math>\ln R_\psi = \ln r(\frac{\psi}{A}) + \ln E</math>. A purple curve is shown above the black curve, representing a parallel upward shift due to an increase in <math>E</math>. A blue arrow points leftward from the black curve, indicating a shift due to a decrease in <math>A</math>. The curves intersect at a single point.</p>	 <p>The graph shows two downward-sloping curves on a coordinate system where the horizontal axis is <math>\ln \psi</math> and the vertical axis is <math>\ln \mu_\psi</math>. A black curve represents the markup rate function <math>\ln \mu_\psi = \ln \mu(\frac{\psi}{A})</math>. A blue curve is shown below the black curve, representing a downward shift due to a decrease in <math>A</math>. A blue arrow points leftward from the black curve. The equation <math>\ln \mu_\psi = \ln \mu(\frac{\psi}{A}) &gt; 0</math> is written on the right side of the graph.</p>

- ✓ With  $\ln \psi$  in the horizontal axis,  $A \downarrow$  causes a parallel leftward shift of the graphs in these figures.
- ✓  $f(\psi/A)$  is strictly log-super(sub)modular in  $\psi$  &  $A \Leftrightarrow \ln f(\psi/A)$  is (strictly) concave(convex) in  $\ln(\psi/A)$ .

<p><b>Employment Function:</b> <math>\ell(\psi/A)E = r(\psi/A)E/\mu(\psi/A)</math></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Hump-shaped</i> in <math>\psi</math> under <i>A2</i> and weak <i>A3</i>. → <math>A \downarrow</math> shifts up (down) for a low (high) <math>\psi</math> with <math>A \downarrow</math></li><li>• Strictly log-supermodular under weak <i>A3</i> for <math>A \downarrow</math> with a fixed <math>L</math>; for <math>A \downarrow</math> caused by <math>E \uparrow</math></li></ul> <p><i>Single-crossing even with a fixed <math>E</math></i></p>	<p><b>Pass-Through Rate Function:</b> <math>\rho_\psi = \rho(\psi/A)</math></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <math>\rho(\psi/A) &lt; 1</math> under <i>A2</i>, hence it cannot be strictly log-submodular for a higher range of <math>\psi/A</math></li><li>• Strictly increasing in <math>\psi</math> under <i>Strong A3</i></li><li>• Strictly log-submodular for a lower range of <math>\psi/A</math> under <i>A2</i> and <i>Strong A3</i> <math>\Rightarrow A \downarrow</math> shifts up with a steeper slope at each <math>\psi</math> with a small enough <math>\bar{z}</math>.</li></ul>

In summary, more competitive pressures ( $A \downarrow$ )

- $\mu(\psi/A) \downarrow$  under *A2* &  $\rho(\psi/A) \uparrow$  under strong *A3*
- Profit, Revenue, Employment become more concentrated among the most productive.

## **Comparative Statics: General Equilibrium Effects**



## Comparative Statics: General Equilibrium Effects of $F_e$ , $E$ , and $F$ on $A$ and $\psi_c$

### Proposition 6:

$$\begin{bmatrix} d \ln A \\ d \ln \psi_c \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\mathbb{E}_1(\pi)}{\mathbb{E}_1(\ell)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 - f_x & f_x \\ 1 - f_x & f_x - \delta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} d \ln(F_e/E) \\ d \ln(F/E) \end{bmatrix}$$

where

$$\frac{\mathbb{E}_1(\pi)}{\mathbb{E}_1(\ell)} = \frac{1}{\mathbb{E}_\pi(\sigma) - 1} = \{\mathbb{E}_r[\mu^{-1}]\}^{-1} - 1 = \mathbb{E}_\ell(\mu) - 1 > 0;$$

The average profit/average labor cost ratio among the active firms

$$f_x \equiv \frac{FG(\psi_c)}{F_e + FG(\psi_c)} = \frac{\pi(\psi_c/A)}{\mathbb{E}_1(\pi)} < 1;$$

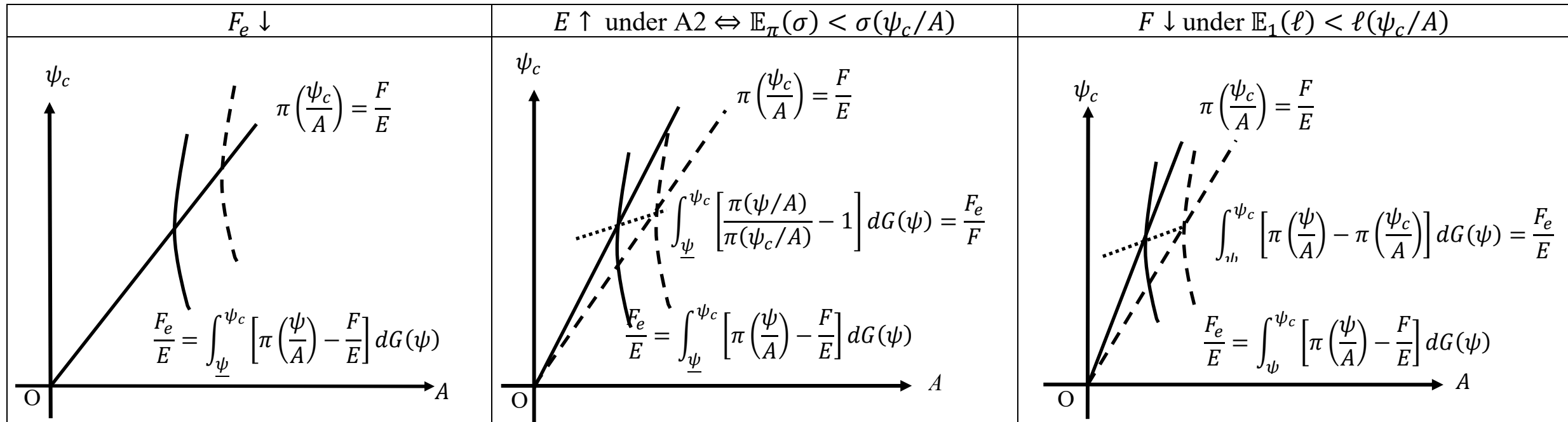
The share of the overhead in the total expected fixed cost = to the profit of the cut-off firm relative to the average profit among the active firms

$$\delta \equiv \frac{\mathbb{E}_\pi(\sigma) - 1}{\sigma(\psi_c/A) - 1} = \frac{\pi(\psi_c/A) \mathbb{E}_1(\ell)}{\ell(\psi_c/A) \mathbb{E}_1(\pi)} \equiv f_x \frac{\mathbb{E}_1(\ell)}{\ell(\psi_c/A)} > 0.$$

The profit/labor cost ratio of the cut-off firm to the average profit/average labor cost ratio among the active firms.

## Corollary of Proposition 6

	$A$	$\psi_c/A$	$\psi_c$
$F_e$	$\frac{dA}{dF_e} > 0$	$\frac{d(\psi_c/A)}{dF_e} = 0$	$\frac{d\psi_c}{dF_e} > 0$
$E$	$\frac{dA}{dL} < 0$	$\frac{d(\psi_c/A)}{dE} > 0$	$\frac{d\psi_c}{dL} < 0 \Leftrightarrow \mathbb{E}_\pi(\sigma) < \sigma\left(\frac{\psi_c}{A}\right)$ , which holds globally if $\sigma'(\cdot) > 0$ , i.e., under A2
$F$	$\frac{dA}{dF} > 0$	$\frac{d(\psi_c/A)}{dF} < 0$	$\frac{d\psi_c}{dF} > 0 \Leftrightarrow \mathbb{E}_1(\ell) < \ell\left(\frac{\psi_c}{A}\right)$ , which holds globally if $\ell'(\cdot) > 0$



Note: For  $F = 0$  &  $\frac{\psi_c}{A} = \bar{z} < \infty$ , the cutoff rule does not change  $E \uparrow$  is isomorphic to  $F_e \downarrow$

## Market Size Effect on Profit and Revenue Distributions (Proposition 7)

**7a:** Under **A2**, there exists a unique  $\psi_0 \in (\underline{\psi}, \psi_c)$  such that  $\sigma\left(\frac{\psi_0}{A}\right) = \mathbb{E}_\pi(\sigma)$  with

$$\frac{d \ln \Pi_\psi}{d \ln E} > 0 \Leftrightarrow \sigma\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) < \mathbb{E}_\pi(\sigma) \text{ for } \psi \in (\underline{\psi}, \psi_0),$$

and

$$\frac{d \ln \Pi_\psi}{d \ln E} < 0 \Leftrightarrow \sigma\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) > \mathbb{E}_\pi(\sigma) \text{ for } \psi \in (\psi_0, \psi_c).$$

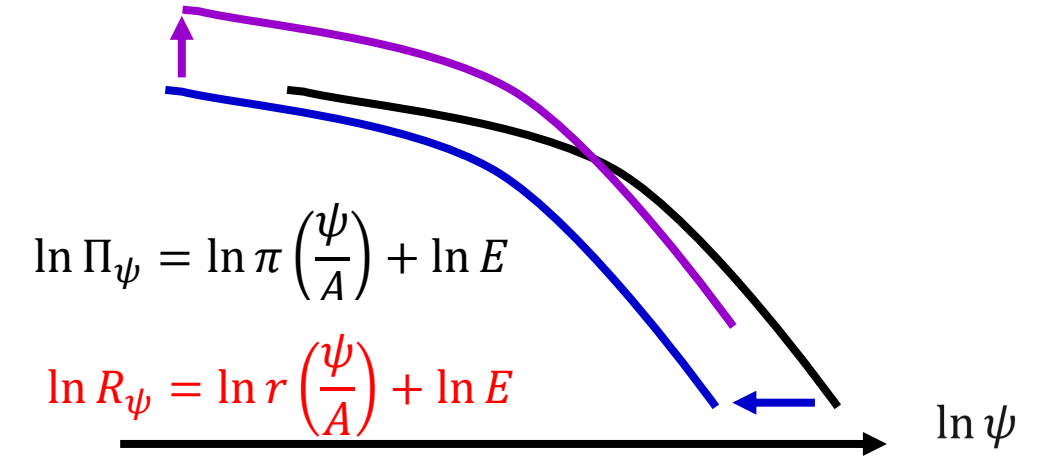
**7b:** Under **A2** and the weak **A3**, there exists  $\psi_1 > \psi_0$ , such that

$$\frac{d \ln R_\psi}{d \ln E} > 0 \text{ for } \psi \in (\underline{\psi}, \psi_1).$$

Furthermore,  $\psi_1 \in (\psi_0, \psi_c)$  and

$$\frac{d \ln R_\psi}{d \ln E} < 0 \text{ for } \psi \in (\psi_1, \psi_c),$$

for a sufficiently small  $F$ .



In short, more productive firms expand in absolute terms, while less productive firms shrink.

## The Composition Effect: Average Markup and Pass-Through Rates

- Under A2,  $A \downarrow$  causes  $\mu(\psi/A) \downarrow$  for each  $\psi$ , but distribution shifts toward low- $\psi$  firms with higher  $\mu(\psi/A)$ .
- Under strong A3,  $A \downarrow$  causes  $\rho(\psi/A) \uparrow$  for each  $\psi$ , but distribution shifts toward low- $\psi$  firms with lower  $\rho(\psi/A)$ .

**Proposition 8:** Assume that  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot)$  does not change its sign and  $\underline{\psi} = 0$ . Consider a shock to  $F_e$ ,  $E$ , and/or  $F$ , which affects competitive pressures, i.e.,  $dA \neq 0$ . Then, the response of any weighted generalized mean of any monotone function,  $f(\psi/A) > 0$ , defined by

$$I \equiv \mathcal{M}^{-1} \left( \mathbb{E}_w(\mathcal{M}(f)) \right)$$

with a monotone transformation  $\mathcal{M}: \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and a weighting function,  $w(\psi/A) > 0$ , satisfies:

	$f'(\cdot) > 0$	$f'(\cdot) = 0$	$f'(\cdot) < 0$
$\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) > 0$	$\frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d \ln I}{d \ln A} > 0$	$\frac{d \ln I}{d \ln A} = 0$	$\frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d \ln I}{d \ln A} < 0$
$\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) = 0$ (Pareto)	$\frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} \gtrless 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{d \ln I}{d \ln A} \gtrless 0$	$\frac{d \ln I}{d \ln A} = 0$	$\frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} \gtrless 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{d \ln I}{d \ln A} \gtrless 0$
$\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) < 0$	$\frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} \leq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d \ln I}{d \ln A} < 0$	$\frac{d \ln I}{d \ln A} = 0$	$\frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} \leq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d \ln I}{d \ln A} > 0$

Moreover, if  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) = \frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} = 0$ ,  $d \ln I / d \ln A = 0$  for any  $f(\psi/A)$ , monotonic or not. Furthermore,  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot)$  can be replaced with  $\mathcal{E}'_G(\cdot)$  in all the above statements for  $w(\psi/A) = 1$ , i.e., the unweighted averages.

The arithmetic,  $I = (\mathbb{E}_w(f))$ , geometric,  $I = \exp[\mathbb{E}_w(\ln f)]$ , harmonic,  $I = (\mathbb{E}_w(f^{-1}))^{-1}$ , means are special cases.

The weight function,  $w(\psi/A)$ , can be profit, revenue, and employment.

### Corollary 1 of Proposition 8

**a) Entry Cost:**  $f'(\cdot)\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) \gtrless 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{d \ln I}{d \ln F_e} = \frac{d \ln I}{d \ln A} \frac{d \ln A}{d \ln F_e} \gtrless 0$ .

**b) Market Size:** If  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) \leq 0$ , then,  $f'(\cdot) \gtrless 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d \ln I}{d \ln E} = \frac{d \ln I}{d \ln A} \frac{d \ln A}{d \ln E} \gtrless 0$ .

**c) Overhead Cost:** If  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) \leq 0$ , then,  $f'(\cdot) \gtrless 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d \ln I}{d \ln F} = \frac{d \ln I}{d \ln A} \frac{d \ln A}{d \ln F} \gtrless 0$ .

Furthermore,  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot)$  can be replaced with  $\mathcal{E}'_G(\cdot)$  for  $w(\psi/A) = 1$ , i.e., the unweighted averages.

For the entry cost,  $\frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} = 0$ .

- $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) > 0$ ; **sufficient & necessary** for the composition effect to dominate:
  - The average markup & pass-through rates move in the *opposite* direction from the firm-level rates
- $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) = 0$  (Pareto); a knife-edge.  $A \downarrow \rightarrow$  no change in average markup and pass-through.
- $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) < 0$ ; **sufficient & necessary** for the procompetitive effect to dominate:
  - The average markup & pass-through rates move in the *same* direction from the firm-level rates

For market size and the overhead cost,  $\frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} < 0$

- $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) > 0$ ; **necessary** for the composition effect to dominate:
- $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) \leq 0$ ; **sufficient** for the procompetitive effect to dominate:

# The Composition Effect: Impact on $P/A$

$$\ln\left(\frac{A}{cP}\right) = \mathbb{E}_r[\Phi \circ Z]$$

$$\zeta'(\cdot) \gtrless 0 \Rightarrow \Phi'(\cdot) \lesseqgtr 0 \Leftrightarrow \Phi \circ Z'(\cdot) \lesseqgtr 0$$

**Corollary 2 of Proposition 8:** Assume  $\underline{\psi} = 0$ , and neither  $\zeta'(\cdot)$  nor  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot)$  change the signs. Consider a shock to  $F_e$ ,  $E$ , and/or  $F$ , which affects competitive pressures, i.e.,  $dA \neq 0$ . Then, the response of  $P/A$  satisfies:

	$\zeta'(\cdot) > 0$ (A2)	$\zeta'(\cdot) = 0$ (CES)	$\zeta'(\cdot) < 0$
$\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) > 0$	$\frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d \ln(P/A)}{d \ln A} > 0$	$\frac{d \ln(P/A)}{d \ln A} = 0$	$\frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d \ln(P/A)}{d \ln A} < 0$
$\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) = 0$ (Pareto)	$\frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} \gtrless 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{d \ln(P/A)}{d \ln A} \gtrless 0$	$\frac{d \ln(P/A)}{d \ln A} = 0$	$\frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} \gtrless 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{d \ln(P/A)}{d \ln A} \lesseqgtr 0$
$\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) < 0$	$\frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} \leq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d \ln(P/A)}{d \ln A} < 0$	$\frac{d \ln(P/A)}{d \ln A} = 0$	$\frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} \leq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d \ln(P/A)}{d \ln A} > 0$

## Comparative Statics on $MG(\psi_c)$

**Proposition 9:** Assume that  $\mathcal{E}'_G(\cdot)$  does not change its sign and  $\underline{\psi} = 0$ . Consider a shock to  $F_e$ ,  $F$ , and/or  $E$ , which affects competitive pressures, i.e.,  $dA \neq 0$ . Then, the response of the mass of active firms,  $MG(\psi_c)$ , is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{If } \mathcal{E}'_G(\cdot) > 0, \quad & \frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d \ln[MG(\psi_c)]}{d \ln A} > 0; \\ \text{If } \mathcal{E}'_G(\cdot) = 0, \quad & \frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} \gtrless 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{d \ln[MG(\psi_c)]}{d \ln A} \gtrless 0; \\ \text{If } \mathcal{E}'_G(\cdot) < 0, \quad & \frac{d \ln(\psi_c/A)}{d \ln A} \leq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d \ln[MG(\psi_c)]}{d \ln A} < 0. \end{aligned}$$

### Corollary 1 of Proposition 9

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) Entry Cost: } \mathcal{E}'_G(\cdot) \gtrless 0 & \Leftrightarrow \frac{d \ln[MG(\psi_c)]}{d \ln F_e} = \frac{d \ln[MG(\psi_c)]}{d \ln A} \frac{d \ln A}{d \ln F_e} \gtrless 0. \\ \text{b) Market Size: } \mathcal{E}'_G(\cdot) \leq 0 & \Rightarrow \frac{d \ln[MG(\psi_c)]}{d \ln E} = \frac{d \ln[MG(\psi_c)]}{d \ln A} \frac{d \ln A}{d \ln E} > 0. \\ \text{c) Overhead Cost: } \mathcal{E}'_G(\cdot) \leq 0 & \Rightarrow \frac{d \ln[MG(\psi_c)]}{d \ln F} = \frac{d \ln[MG(\psi_c)]}{d \ln A} \frac{d \ln A}{d \ln F} < 0. \end{aligned}$$

For a decline in the entry cost,

$\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) > 0$  sufficient & necessary for  $MG(\psi_c) \downarrow$ ;  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) = 0$ , no effect;  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) < 0$ ; sufficient & necessary for  $MG(\psi_c) \uparrow$

For market size and the overhead cost

$\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) > 0$  necessary for  $MG(\psi_c) \downarrow$ ;  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) \leq 0$  sufficient for  $MG(\psi_c) \uparrow$

Impact of Competitive Pressures on Unit Cost/TFP

By combining Corollary 2 of Proposition 8 and Corollary 1 of Proposition,

**Corollary 2 of Proposition 9:** *Assume  $\underline{\psi} = 0$ , and neither  $\zeta'(\cdot)$  nor  $\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot)$  change the signs. Consider a shock to  $F_e$ ,  $E$ , and/or  $F$ , which affects competitive pressures, i.e.,  $dA \neq 0$ . Then, the response of  $P$  satisfies:*

	$\zeta'(\cdot) > 0$ (A2)	$\zeta'(\cdot) = 0$ (CES)	$\zeta'(\cdot) < 0$
$\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) > 0$	$\frac{d \ln P}{d \ln A} > 1$ for $F_e$	$\frac{d \ln P}{d \ln A} = 1$	?
$\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) = 0$ (Pareto)	$\frac{d \ln P}{d \ln A} = 1$ for $F_e$ $0 < \frac{d \ln P}{d \ln A} < 1$ for $F$ or $E$ ;	$\frac{d \ln P}{d \ln A} = 1$	$\frac{d \ln P}{d \ln A} = 1$ for $F_e$ $\frac{d \ln P}{d \ln A} > 1$ for $F$ or $E$
$\mathcal{E}'_g(\cdot) < 0$	$0 < \frac{d \ln P}{d \ln A} < 1$	$\frac{d \ln P}{d \ln A} = 1$	$\frac{d \ln P}{d \ln A} > 1$



## **Sorting of Heterogenous Firms Across Multiple Markets**

## Sorting: GE Implications in a Multi-Market Setting

Many markets of different size. Firms, after learning their  $\psi$ , choose which market to enter.

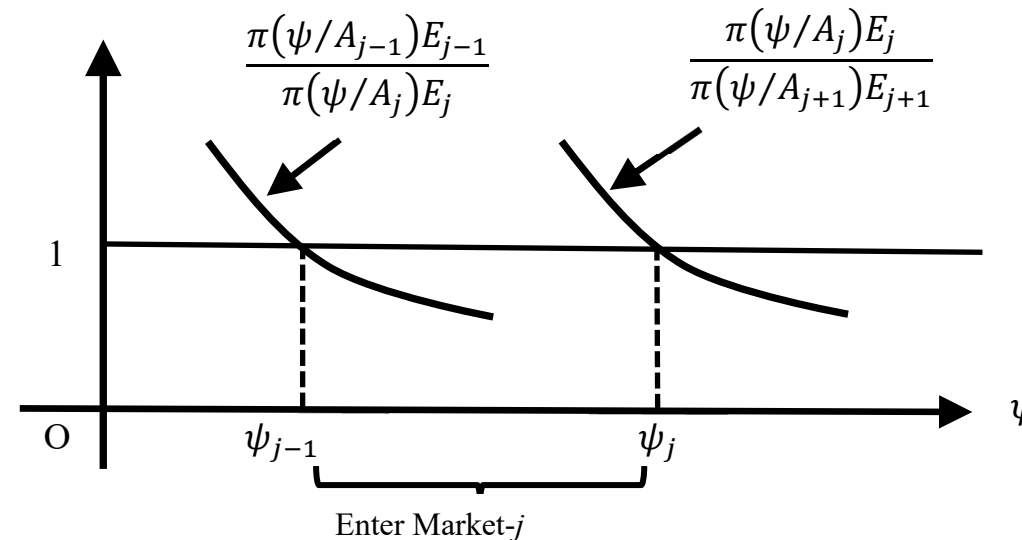
### Proposition 10: Assortative Matching

More competitive pressures in larger markets:

$$E_1 > E_2 > \dots > E_J > 0 \Rightarrow 0 < A_1 < A_2 < \dots < A_J < \infty$$

Under A2, more efficient firms sort themselves into larger markets: Firms  $\psi \in (\psi_{j-1}, \psi_j)$  entering market- $j$ , where

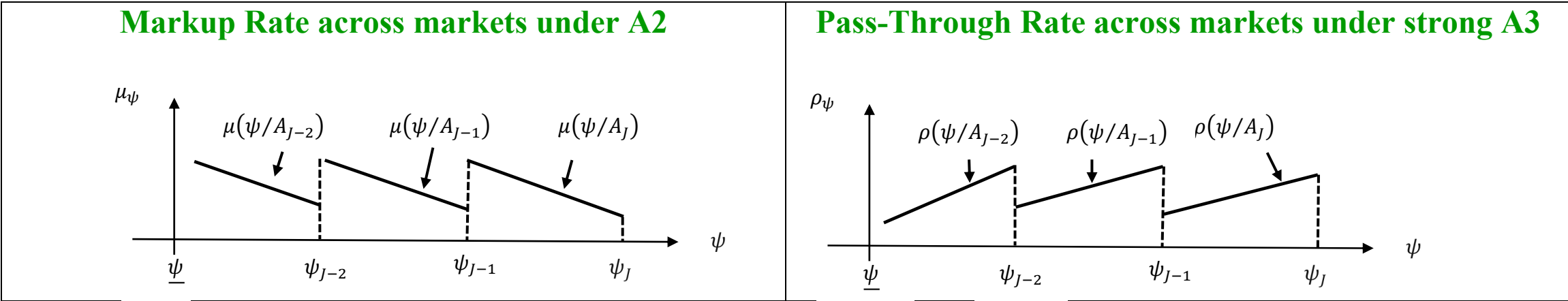
$$0 \leq \underline{\psi} = \psi_0 < \psi_1 < \psi_2 < \dots < \psi_J < \bar{\psi} \leq \infty.$$



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**Proposition 11: The Composition Effect:** *Examples with Pareto-productivity such that*

- The average markup rates *higher* (the average pass-through rates *lower* under Strong A3) in larger (more competitive) markets
- A decline in  $F_e$  causes uniform declines in  $\psi_j$  &  $A_j$  with the average markup/pass-through rates unchanged.



A caution against testing A2/A3 by comparing the average markup/pass-through rates in cross-section of cities.

## **International/Interregional Trade with Differential Market Access**

## Two Symmetric Markets, characterized by

The same market size  $E$ , “Labor” supplied at the same price (equal to one), the numeraire, ensuring the same level of competitive pressures,  $A$ .

- After paying  $F_e$ , & learning  $\psi_\omega$ , firm  $\omega$  can produce its product at home & sell to both markets.
  - The overhead cost,  $F > 0$  and the marginal cost of selling to the home market,  $\psi_\omega$ .
  - The overhead cost,  $F > 0$  and the marginal cost of selling to the export market,  $\tau\psi_\omega > \psi_\omega$ . **Iceberg cost,  $\tau > 1$ .**

**Cutoff Rules:** Firm  $\omega$  sells to both markets iff  $\psi_\omega \leq \psi_{xc} < \psi_c$ ; only to the home market iff  $\psi_{xc} < \psi_\omega \leq \psi_c$ , where

$$F \equiv \pi \left( \frac{\psi_c}{A} \right) E \equiv \pi \left( \frac{\tau\psi_{xc}}{A} \right) E.$$

### Free-Entry Condition:

$$F_e = \int_{\underline{\psi}}^{\psi_c} \left[ \pi \left( \frac{\psi}{A} \right) E - F \right] dG(\psi) + \int_{\underline{\psi}}^{\psi_{xc}} \left[ \pi \left( \frac{\tau\psi}{A} \right) E - F \right] dG(\psi).$$

These two conditions jointly pin down the equilibrium value of  $\psi_c \equiv \tau\psi_{xc} \equiv \pi^{-1}(F/E)A$  by:

$$\frac{F_e}{E} = \int_{\underline{\psi}}^{\psi_c} \left[ \pi \left( \frac{\psi}{\psi_c} \pi^{-1} \left( \frac{F}{E} \right) \right) - \frac{F}{E} \right] dG(\psi) + \int_{\underline{\psi}}^{\psi_c/\tau} \left[ \pi \left( \frac{\tau\psi}{\psi_c} \pi^{-1} \left( \frac{F}{E} \right) \right) - \frac{F}{E} \right] dG(\psi).$$

## Globalization Effect

After solving for  $\psi_c \equiv \tau\psi_{xc} \equiv \pi^{-1}(F/E)A$ , the mass of entering firms,  $M$ , and hence those of active firms  $MG(\psi_c)$ , and of exporting firms,  $MG(\psi_{xc})$ , are pinned down by:

**Adding-Up (Resource) Constraint:**

$$M \left[ \int_{\underline{\psi}}^{\psi_c} r\left(\frac{\psi}{A}\right) dG(\psi) + \int_{\underline{\psi}}^{\psi_{xc}} r\left(\frac{\tau\psi}{A}\right) dG(\psi) \right] = 1.$$

**Proposition 12: The Effect of Globalization: A Reduction in  $\tau > 1$ .**

- A decline in  $\psi_c$  and an increase in  $\psi_{xc} = \psi_c/\tau$ .  $\rightarrow G(\psi_c)$  falls,  $G(\psi_{xc})$  rises, and  $G(\psi_{xc})/G(\psi_c)$  rises.
- A decline in  $A$  and an increase in  $A/\tau$ .  $\rightarrow$ 
  - $r(\psi_\omega/A)$  &  $\pi(\psi_\omega/A)$  decline,  $r(\tau\psi_\omega/A)$  &  $\pi(\tau\psi_\omega/A)$  rise.
  - $\mu(\psi_\omega/A)$  declines and  $\mu(\tau\psi_\omega/A)$  rises **under the 2<sup>nd</sup> law**.
  - $\rho(\psi_\omega/A)$  rises and  $\rho(\tau\psi_\omega/A)$  declines **under the Strong 3<sup>rd</sup> law**.

# Three Parametric Families of H.S.A. (Appendix D)

<b>Generalized Translog</b> For $\eta > 0, \sigma > 1$	$s(z) = \gamma \left( -\frac{\sigma - 1}{\eta} \ln \left( \frac{z}{\bar{z}} \right) \right)^\eta ; z < \bar{z} \equiv \beta e^{\frac{\eta}{\sigma - 1}}$	$1 - \frac{1}{\zeta(z)} = \frac{\eta}{\eta - \ln \left( \frac{z}{\bar{z}} \right)} \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} \mathcal{E}_\mu(\cdot) < 0 \\ \mathcal{E}'_\mu(\cdot) = \rho'(\cdot) < 0 \end{matrix}$ satisfying <b>A2</b> ; violating <b>A3</b> .
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Translog is the special case where  $\eta = 1$ . CES is the limit case, as  $\eta \rightarrow \infty$ , while holding  $\beta > 0$  and  $\sigma > 1$  fixed.

<b>Constant Pass-Through (CoPaTh)</b> For $0 < \rho < 1, \sigma > 1$	$s(z) = \gamma \sigma^{\frac{\rho}{1-\rho}} \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{z}{\bar{z}} \right)^{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \right]^{\frac{\rho}{1-\rho}} ; \bar{z} \equiv \beta \left( \frac{\sigma}{\sigma - 1} \right)^{\frac{\rho}{1-\rho}}$	$1 - \frac{1}{\zeta(z)} = \left( \frac{z}{\bar{z}} \right)^{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} \mathcal{E}_\mu(\cdot) < 0 \\ \mathcal{E}'_\mu(\cdot) = \rho'(\cdot) = 0 \end{matrix} ;$ satisfying <b>A2</b> & weak <b>A3</b> ; violating strong <b>A3</b>
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CES is the limit case, as  $\rho \rightarrow 1$ , while holding  $\beta > 0$  and  $\sigma > 1$  fixed.

<b>Power Elasticity of Markup Rate (Fréchet Inverse Markup Rate)</b> For $\kappa \geq 0$ and $\lambda > 0$	$s(z) = \exp \left[ \int_{z_0}^z \frac{c}{c - \exp \left[ -\frac{\kappa \bar{z}^{-\lambda}}{\lambda} \right] \exp \left[ \frac{\kappa \xi^{-\lambda}}{\lambda} \right]} \frac{d\xi}{\xi} \right]$	$1 - \frac{1}{\zeta(z)} = c \exp \left[ \frac{\kappa \bar{z}^{-\lambda}}{\lambda} \right] \exp \left[ -\frac{\kappa z^{-\lambda}}{\lambda} \right]$ $\Rightarrow \mathcal{E}_\mu(\cdot) < 0; \mathcal{E}'_\mu(\cdot) = \rho'(\cdot) > 0$ satisfying <b>A2</b> and strong <b>A3</b> for $\kappa > 0$ and $\lambda > 0$ .
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CES for  $\kappa = 0$ ;  $\bar{z} = \infty$ ;  $c = 1 - \frac{1}{\sigma}$ ; CoPaTh for  $\bar{z} < \infty$ ;  $c = 1$ ;  $\kappa = \frac{1-\rho}{\rho} > 0$ , and  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$ .