

Agragative Games and Entry

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Profit maximized function

- rewrite $\tilde{\pi}_i(Q, q_i) = \pi_i(Q_{-i} + q_i; q_i)$.
- agent's choice q_i of can be written from FOC for $\tilde{\pi}_i(Q, q_i)$ as

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{\pi}_i(Q, q_i)}{\partial Q} \frac{\partial Q}{\partial q_i} + \frac{\partial \tilde{\pi}_i(Q, q_i)}{\partial q_i} = 0,$$

where

- for the Nash “oligopoly” equilibrium $\frac{\partial Q}{\partial q_i} = 1$, so

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{\pi}_i(Q, q_i)}{\partial Q} + \frac{\partial \tilde{\pi}_i(Q, q_i)}{\partial q_i} = 0,$$

- Since $\frac{\partial \tilde{\pi}_i(Q, q_i)}{\partial Q} < 0$ we get

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{\pi}_i^o(Q, q_i)}{\partial q_i} > 0$$

Monopolistic competition equilibrium

- for the monopolistic competition equilibrium $\frac{\partial Q}{\partial q_i} = 0$, so

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{\pi}_i^m(Q, q_i)}{\partial q_i} = 0,$$

- Since $0 = \frac{\partial \tilde{\pi}_i^m(Q, q_i)}{\partial q_i} < \frac{\partial \tilde{\pi}_i^o(Q, q_i)}{\partial q_i}$, we have $q_i^m > q_i^o$ - monopolistically competition firm have higher q_i than at Nash equilibrium.

“Maximum value function”

- “Maximum value function” is $\tilde{\pi}_i^*(Q) = \pi_i(Q, \tilde{r}_i(Q))$,

where $\tilde{r}_i(Q) = Q - Q_{-i}$ -cumulative reaction function.

- Differentiation yields:

$$\frac{d\tilde{\pi}(Q)}{dQ} = \frac{\partial\tilde{\pi}_i(Q, q_i)}{\partial Q} + \frac{\partial\tilde{\pi}_i(Q, q_i)}{\partial q_i} \tilde{r}'_i(Q),$$

Using FOC and $\frac{\partial Q}{\partial q_i} = 1$ for the Nash equilibrium oligopoly we get

$$\frac{d\tilde{\pi}(Q)}{dQ} = \frac{\partial\tilde{\pi}_i(Q, q_i)}{\partial q_i} (\tilde{r}'_i(Q) - 1) = \frac{\partial\tilde{\pi}_i(Q, q_i)}{\partial Q} (1 - \tilde{r}'_i(Q)).$$

Assumptions

- Free entry of symmetric fringe.
- Welfare is a function of number of entrants:

$$W(n) = \tilde{\phi}(Q) + n\tilde{\pi}^*(Q),$$

- number of entrants can be varied;
- Aggregator is determined according to Nash equilibrium of the aggregate game and increases with n .

Derivative of welfare

$$W'(n^e) = \left(\tilde{\phi}'(Q) + n^e \tilde{\pi}^{*'}(Q) \right) \frac{dQ}{dn},$$

where

- n^e is a number of entrants at the free entry equilibrium (zero profit of fringe firms).
- $\tilde{\phi}'(Q)$ is the non-appropriability of consumer surplus (Spence, 1976).
- $n^e \tilde{\pi}^{*'}(Q)$ is the business stealing effect on other firms' profits (Spence, 1976).

Cournot competition

- $\tilde{\phi}'(Q)$ is the net consumer surplus, so $\tilde{\phi}'(Q) = -Qp'(Q)$
- under symmetry $\frac{d\tilde{\pi}(Q)}{dQ} = \frac{\partial \tilde{\pi}_i(Q, q_i)}{\partial Q} (1 - \tilde{r}'_i(Q)) = p'(Q)q(1 - \tilde{r}'_i(Q))$
we get

$$\tilde{\phi}'(Q) + n^e \tilde{\pi}^{*'}(Q) = -Qp'(Q) + np'(Q)q(1 - \tilde{r}'_i(Q)) = -p'(Q)Q\tilde{r}'_i(Q),$$

- There sign of $W'(n^e)$ is the same to $\tilde{r}'_i(Q)$.
- Under strategic substitutes ($\tilde{r}'_i(Q) < 0$) we get excessive entry (Mankiw-Whinstone, 1986)
- Under strategic complementary ($\tilde{r}'_i(Q) > 0$) we get opposite result.

Bertrand model

- profit function: $\pi_i = (p_i - c_i)D_i(p_i, Q)$;
- aggregator: $D_i(p_i, Q) = -\tilde{\phi}'(Q)g'(p_i)$;

We assume symmetric situation when marginal cost as well as demand functions are the same. Under monopolistic competition:

$$\frac{d\tilde{\pi}(Q)}{dQ} = \frac{\partial\tilde{\pi}_i(Q, q_i)}{\partial Q} = -(p_i - c)\tilde{\phi}''(Q)g'(p_i),$$

Bertrand model

Using FOC for producer's problem $-(p_i - c)\tilde{\phi}'(Q)g'(p_i) \rightarrow \max_{p_i}$ we get

$$(p_i - c) = -\frac{g'(p_i)}{g''(p_i)}$$

So,

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{\pi}_i(Q, q_i)}{\partial Q} = \frac{[g'(p_i)]^2}{g''(p_i)} \tilde{\phi}''(Q),$$

We seek the sign of

$$W'(n^e) = \left(\tilde{\phi}'(Q) + n^e \frac{[g'(p_i)]^2}{g''(p_i)} \tilde{\phi}''(Q) \right) \frac{dQ}{dn},$$

Monopolistic competition: logit case

$$\tilde{\phi}(Q) = \mu \ln Q;$$

$$g(p_i) = e^{-\frac{p_i}{\mu}}.$$

So, since $Q = n^e e^{-\frac{p_i}{\mu}}$

$$W'(n^e) = \frac{\mu}{Q} \left(1 - n^e \frac{e^{-\frac{p_i}{\mu}}}{Q} \right) \frac{dQ}{dn} = 0$$

This means that the optimum and the equilibrium match.

Monopolistic competition: CES case

$$\tilde{\phi}(Q) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \ln Q;$$

$$g(p_i) = p_i^{-\lambda}.$$

So, since $Q = n^e p_i^{-\lambda}$

$$W'(n^e) = \frac{1}{\lambda Q} \left(1 - n^e \frac{\lambda p_i^{-\lambda}}{(\lambda + 1)Q} \right) \frac{dQ}{dn} = \frac{1}{\lambda Q} \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda + 1} \cdot \frac{dQ}{dn} > 0$$

This means that the equilibrium number of firms less than equilibrium number of firms.

Thank you for your attention!