

# Electricity Pay-as-bid Market: The Best Response of a Producer

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# Outline

- 1 General context
- 2 Description of the model
- 3 Dispatch quantities: well-posed model?
- 4 Market price: well-posed model?
- 5 Analytic solution of ISO's problem
- 6 Problem of Producer  $i$
- 7 Conclusion

# Project context

- Project PGM0-IROE “*Nash equilibrium problems for the valorization of daily offers: the point of view of the producer*” (2012-2015)
- Ph.D. student: Miroslav Pistek - co-supervising with Jiri Outrata (Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czech Rep.)
- EDF partner: Pascale Bendotti (Osiris)

## Aim:

*In a deregulated electricity market, given an estimation of the bid of the other players, provide the best bid for a fix producer and study the stability of this best response.*

# Modeling an Electricity Markets

- electricity market consists of
  - i) **generators/consumers**  $i \in \mathcal{N}$  respect their own interests in competition with others
  - ii) **market operator (ISO)** who maintain energy generation and load balance, and protect **public welfare**
- the ISO has to consider:
  - ii) **quantities**  $q_i$  of generated/consumed electricity
  - iii) **electricity dispatch**  $t_e$  with respect to transmission capacities

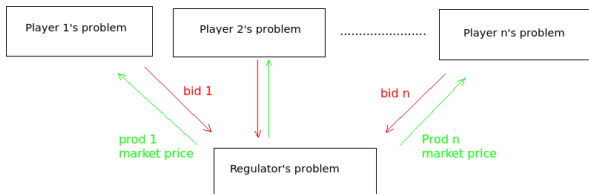
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- since 1990s, **Nash equilibrium problem** is the most popular way of modeling spot electricity markets

# Scientific context

In this project, we consider, at a first glance, a simplified model:

- **Bilevel model**, that is, **Multi-leader-common-follower game**



# Scientific context

In this project, we consider, at a first glance, a simplified model:

- Bilevel model, that is, Multi-leader-common-follower game
- no transmission losses
- no production capacity constraint or at least the production bounds are not reached
- no transmission capacity

In order to simplify the notations, we aggregate the total demand and consider only producers

## Some references on the topic:

- **Electricity markets without transmission losses:**

X. Hu & D. Ralph, Using EPECs to Model Bilevel Games in Restructured Electricity Markets with Locational Prices, *Operations Research* (2007).

*bid-on-a-only*

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- **Electricity markets with transmission losses:**

- Henrion, R., Outrata, J. & Surowiec, T., Analysis of M-stationary points to an EPEC modeling oligopolistic competition in an electricity spot market, *ESAIM: COCV* (2012). *M-stationary points*
- D. A., R. Correa & M. Marechal Spot electricity market with transmission losses, *J. Industrial Manag. Optim* (2013).  
*existence of Nash equil., case of a two island model*

## Some references on the topic (cont.)

- **Electricity markets with transmission losses:**

*D.A., M. Cervinka, M. Maréchal, Deregulated electricity markets with thermal losses and production bounds: models and optimality conditions (RAIRO, under revision) **production bounds, well-posedness of model, global optimality conditions for equilibrium***

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- **Best response in electricity markets:**

- *E. Anderson, P. Holmberg and A. Philpott, Mixed strategies in discriminatory divisible-good auctions, The RAND Journal of Economics (2013). **necessary optimality cond. for local best response***
- *E. Anderson and A. Philpott, Optimal Offer Construction in Electricity Markets, Mathematics of Operations Research (2002). **necessary optimality cond. for local best response in time dependent case***

## Description of the model

# Notations

Let consider a **fixed time instant** and denote

- $D > 0$  be the overall energy demand of **all consumers**
- $\mathcal{N}$  be the set of producers
- $q_i \geq 0$  be the production of  $i$ -th producer,  $i \in \mathcal{N}$

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We assume that producer  $i \in \mathcal{N}$  provides to the ISO a quadratic bid function  **$a_i q_i + b_i q_i^2$**  given by  **$a_i, b_i \geq 0$** .

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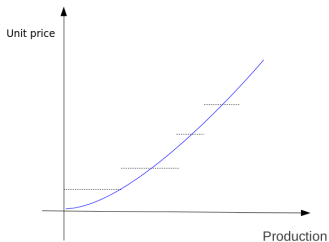
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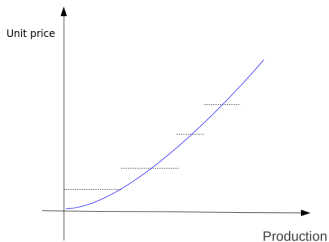
Similarly, let  $A_i q_i + B_i q_i^2$  be the true production cost of  $i$ -th producer with  $A_i \geq 0$  and  $B_i > 0$  reflecting the **increasing marginal cost** of production.

# Why a quadratic bid?



Smooth approximation of box bids

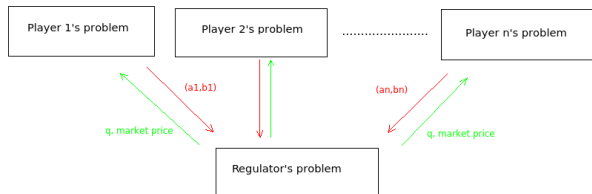
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## Smooth approximation of box bids

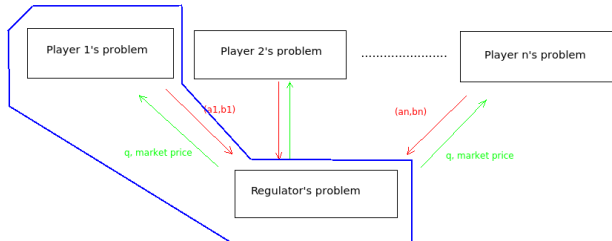
This approach has already been used in Hu-Ralph (bid-on- $a$ -only), ACM and HOS..

# Multi-Leader-Common-Follower game



# Multi-Leader-Common-Follower game

Our focus in this work



# Multi-Leader-Common-Follower game

Peculiarity of electricity markets is their **bi-level** structure:

$$P_i(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D) \quad \max_{a_i, b_i} \max_{q_i} \quad a_i q_i + b_i q_i^2 - (A_i q_i + B_i q_i^2)$$

$$\text{such that} \quad \begin{cases} a_i, b_i \geq 0 \\ (q_j)_{j \in \mathcal{N}} \in Q(a, b) \end{cases}$$

where set-valued mapping  $Q(a, b)$  denotes solution set of

$$ISO(a, b, D) \quad Q(a, b) = \underset{q}{\operatorname{argmin}} \quad \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} (a_i q_i + b_i q_i^2)$$

$$\text{such that} \quad \begin{cases} q_i \geq 0, \forall i \in \mathcal{N} \\ \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} q_i = D \end{cases}$$

Is the above model well-posed/coherent?

- from the point of view of dispatch quantities/flows
- from the point of view of Market price

## Optimistic case

$$P_i(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D) \quad \max_{a_i, b_i} \max_{q_i} a_i q_i + b_i q_i^2 - (A_i q_i + B_i q_i^2)$$

such that  $\begin{cases} a_i, b_i \geq 0 \\ (q_j)_{j \in \mathcal{N}} \in Q(a, b) \end{cases}$

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## Pessimistic case

$$P_i(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D) \quad \max_{a_i, b_i} \min_{q_i} a_i q_i + b_i q_i^2 - (A_i q_i + B_i q_i^2)$$

such that  $\begin{cases} a_i, b_i \geq 0 \\ (q_j)_{j \in \mathcal{N}} \in Q(a, b) \end{cases}$

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# Uniqueness for the ISO's problem

Knowing overall demand  $D > 0$  and bid vectors  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{2N}$  provided by producers, the ISO computes  $q \in \mathbb{R}_+^N$  in order to minimize the total generation cost.

$$\begin{aligned} \min_q \quad & \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} (a_i q_i + b_i q_i^2) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \begin{cases} q_i \geq 0, \forall i \in \mathcal{N} \\ b_i > 0, \forall i \in \mathcal{N} \\ \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} q_i = D \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Assumption used in Hu-Ralph, ACM and HOS

This problem has a unique solution.

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Assumption called **Equity property**

This problem **also has a unique solution**.

# Uniqueness for the ISO's problem

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Assumption called **Equity property**

This model allows linear (**Crucial point**, see conclusion part)

Let us consider different cases for the revenue function:

- Pay-as-bid market:  $\pi_i(a_i, b_i) = a_i \cdot q_i + b_i \cdot q_i^2$
- Marginal price with production capacity:  $\pi_i(a_i, b_i) = \lambda_i \cdot q_i$
- Marginal price without production capacity:  
 $\pi_i(a_i, b_i) = (a_i + 2b_i \cdot q_i) \cdot q_i$

$$P_i(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) \quad \max_{a_i, b_i, q, t} \quad \pi_i(a, b, q, t) - (A_i q_i + B_i q_i^2) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad \begin{cases} \underline{A}_i \leq a_i \leq \bar{A}_i, \\ \underline{B}_i \leq b_i \leq \bar{B}_i, \\ (q, t) \text{ solves } ISO(a, b), \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $ISO(a, b)$  stands for the following ISO's problem

$$ISO(a, b) \quad \min_{q, t} \quad \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} (a_i q_i + b_i q_i^2) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad \begin{cases} q_i \geq 0, \forall i \in \mathcal{N} \\ q_i \leq \bar{Q}_i, \forall i \in \mathcal{N} \\ q_i + \sum_{e \in \mathcal{L}} \left( \delta_{ie} t_e - \frac{L_e |\delta_{ie}|}{2} t_e^2 \right) \geq D_i, \forall i \in \mathcal{N} \\ t_e \geq \underline{T}_e, \forall e \in \mathcal{L} \\ t_e \leq \bar{T}_e, \forall e \in \mathcal{L} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

# Market price: uniqueness

## Proposition

*Assume that for all producers  $i \in \mathcal{N}$ , one has  $a_i \neq 0$  or  $b_i \neq 0$ , and, for all lines  $e \in \mathcal{L}$ ,  $L_e > 0$ . Then  $ISO(a, b)$  admits a unique solution  $(q^*, t^*)$ .*

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## Proposition

*Let  $(a, b) \in \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B}$  be such that for all producers  $i \in \mathcal{N}$ , one has  $a_i \neq 0$  or  $b_i \neq 0$  and there exists a unique  $(q^*, t^*)$  solving  $ISO(a, b)$ . Further, suppose that for all  $e \in \mathcal{L}$ ,  $\underline{T}_e < t_e^* < \overline{T}_e$  and that there exists a node  $i_0 \in \mathcal{N}$  satisfying  $q_{i_0}^* \in (0, \overline{Q}_{i_0})$ . Then for each  $i \in \mathcal{N}$  there exist unique Lagrange multipliers  $\lambda_i^*$ ,  $\mu_i^*$ ,  $\bar{\mu}_i^*$  and for each  $e \in \mathcal{L}$  there exist unique Lagrange multipliers  $\beta_e^*$  and  $\bar{\beta}_e^*$ .*

D.A., M. Cervinka, M. Maréchal, RAIRO, under revision

## Another alternative to fix well-posedness of market price

Another alternative has been used in Escobar-Jofré, *Equilibrium analysis of electricity auctions*, preprint (2014) to fix the problem of well-posedness of market price: they use a **selection of the set of Lagrange multipliers**.

## Analytic solution of ISO's problem

# Critical Parameters

$$\lambda^m(a) = \min_{i \in \mathcal{N}} a_i \quad (3)$$

Since we allow  $b_i = 0$ , we need to introduce more parameters a **critical market price**  $\lambda^c(a, b)$ , a **critical value of the overall demand**  $D^c(a, b)$ , and a **set of producers bidding critical (linear) bids**  $\mathcal{N}^c(a, b) \subset \mathcal{N}$

$$\lambda^c(a, b) = \min_{i: b_i = 0} a_i$$

$$D^c(a, b) = \sum_{i: a_i < \lambda^c(a, b)} \frac{\lambda^c(a, b) - a_i}{2b_i}$$

$$\mathcal{N}^c(a, b) = \{i \in \mathcal{N} : a_i = \lambda^c(a, b) \text{ and } b_i = 0\}$$

# Critical Parameters

- (a) On one hand, if the price is strictly below  $\lambda^c(a, b)$  then only truly quadratically bidding producers will be active in the market. On the other hand, if price equals  $\lambda^c(a, b)$ , there is some linearly bidding producer ( $b_i = 0$ ) that can formally provide arbitrary amount of electricity at price  $\lambda^c(a, b)$ .
- (b)  $\mathcal{N}^c(a, b)$  is the set of all the critical producers - that is, producers bidding linearly and at the critical price - that may possibly be active in the market.
- (c)  $D^c(a, b)$  will be later identified with the overall amount of electricity produced by sub-critical producers, i.e., those bidding with  $b_i > 0$
- (d) From the definition of  $\lambda^c(a, b)$  we clearly have that  $a_i < \lambda^c(a, b)$  immediately implies  $b_i > 0$ . This means that if the linear term of the bid of producer  $i$  is strictly smaller than the critical market price, then this producer is bidding quadratically.
- (e) We note that condition  $D^c(a, b) = 0$  means that no sub-critical producer, i.e. producer bidding  $b_i > 0$ , can be active in the market. Moreover, this condition may be equivalently stated as  $\lambda^m(a) = \lambda^c(a, b)$ .

# Market Price

Next we define

$$\lambda(a, b, D) = \begin{cases} \lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+ \text{ s.t. } \sum_{i: a_i < \lambda} \frac{\lambda - a_i}{2b_i} = D & \text{if } D \in ]0, D^c(a, b)[ \\ \lambda^c(a, b) & \text{if } D \geq D^c(a, b) \end{cases}$$

which is continuous, piece-wise linear, and non-decreasing in  $D$ .

# Analytic Solution to ISO(a,b,D) Problem

## Theorem

Let  $D > 0$  and  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{2N}$ , then  $ISO(a, b, D)$  admits a unique solution obeying the equity property (H) with  $q(a, b, D)$  given by

$$q_i(a, b, D) = \begin{cases} \frac{\lambda(a, b, D) - a_i}{2b_i} & \text{if } a_i < \lambda(a, b, D) \\ \frac{D - D^c(a, b)}{N^c(a, b)} & \text{if } a_i = \lambda(a, b, D), b_i = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } a_i = \lambda(a, b, D), b_i > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } a_i > \lambda(a, b, D) \end{cases}$$

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Denoting  $C(a, b, D)$  the overall cost of production, it holds

$$\lambda(a, b, D) = \partial_D C(a, b, D).$$

## Active bidders/producers

One can deduce that for a given demand  $D > 0$  and a given bid vector  $(a, b)$ , the active producers are:

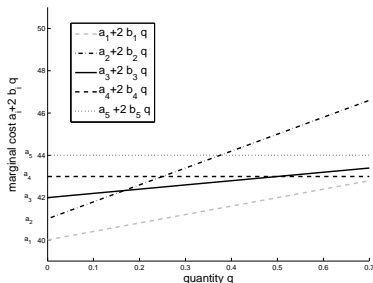
- (a) either the quadratically bidding producers ( $b_i > 0$ ) for whom the linear term coefficient  $a_i$  of the bid is strictly less than the market price  $\lambda(a, b, D)$ ,
- (b) or the linearly bidding producers ( $b_i = 0$ ) who bid exactly the market price  $\lambda(a, b, D)$ .

# A toy market

Consider a market with 5 producers,  $\mathcal{N} = \{1, \dots, 5\}$ , having bid functions given by

$i \in \mathcal{N}$	1	2	3	4	5
$(a_i, b_i)$	(40, 2)	(41, 4)	(42, 1)	(43, 0)	(44, 0)

Respective marginal bid functions  $a_i + 2b_i q_i$  of such producers are



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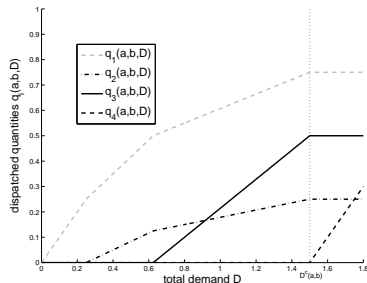
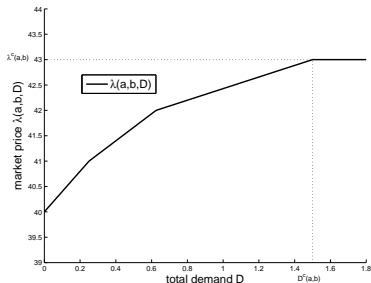
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Then, we have

- critical market price  $\lambda^c(a, b) = 43$
- critical value of the overall demand  $D^c(a, b) = 1.5$
- set of producers bidding critical (linear) bids  $\mathcal{N}^c(a, b) = \{4\}$

# A toy market (cont.)

$i \in \mathcal{N}$	1	2	3	4	5
$(a_i, b_i)$	(40, 2)	(41, 4)	(42, 1)	(43, 0)	(44, 0)



# Best response

Aim : given the aggregated demand  $D > 0$  and the bids of “the other players”  $(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$ , determine, if exists, the best response  $(\tilde{a}_i, \tilde{b}_i)$  of producer  $i$  that solves

$$P_i(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D) \quad \tilde{\pi}_i := \sup_{a_i, b_i \geq 0} \pi_i(a_i, a_{-i}, b_i, b_{-i}, D)$$

where

$$\pi_i(a, b, D) = [a_i \cdot q_i(a, b, D) + b_i \cdot q_i(a, b, D)^2] - [A_i \cdot q_i(a, b, D) + B_i \cdot q_i(a, b, D)^2]$$

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Our conclusions will be:

- A linear bid is the best response!!

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Our conclusions will be:

- A linear bid is the best response!!
- But it's often better not to search for the best response!!!

Similarly to previous notation: on a market consisting only of producers in  $\mathcal{N} \setminus \{i\}$ : we define

$$\lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) = \min_{j \in \mathcal{N} \setminus \{i\}, b_j=0} a_j,$$

and similarly also the other critical parameters  $\lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$ ,  $D^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$  of  $E\text{-ISO}(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D)$ .

### Lemma

Consider demand  $D > 0$  and bid vector  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{2N}$ . Then

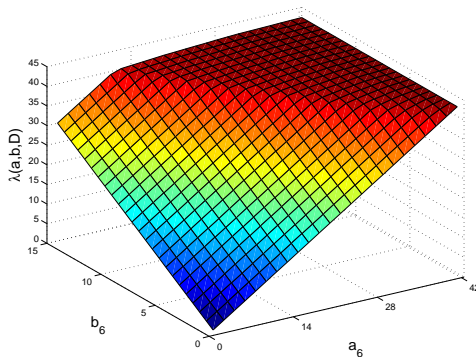
- (a)  $\lambda(a, b, D) \leq \lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D)$ ,
- (b)  $a_i \leq \lambda(a, b, D)$  if and only if  $a_i \leq \lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D)$ ,
- (c) if  $b_i > 0$ , then,  $a_i < \lambda(a, b, D)$  if and only if  $a_i < \lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D)$ .

An economical interpretation:

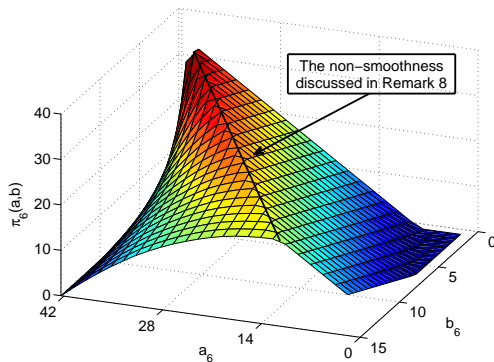
- (a) it states that the price in the market including producer  $i$  is always less or equal to the price in the market without producer  $i$
- (b) (respectively (c)) it enlightens that if producer  $i$  would have been active with a linear bid (respectively with a quadratic bid) in the market without him then he will be active in the market with him.

## Extended toy market: a new producer $i = 6$

Let us consider another producer  $i = 6$  in the toy market described above. Then the price curve in the market with producer 6, its real production cost coefficients  $(A_6, B_6)$  and  $D = 1$  is:



## Example: the Profit of Producer $i = 6$ , $D = 1$



## Theorem

Assume  $D > 0$  and take  $(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{2N-2}$ . Then, considering the unique solution  $q(a, b, D)$  to the regulator's problem  $E\text{-}ISO(a, b, D)$ , the  $i$ -th producer profit  $\pi_i(a, b, D)$  satisfies one of the following statements:

(a) for  $a_i \leq \lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D)$  and  $b_i > 0$ ,

$$\pi_i(a, b, D) = \frac{\lambda(a, b, D) - a_i}{4b_i^2} [a_i b_i - 2A_i b_i + a_i B_i + \lambda(a, b, D)(b_i - B_i)],$$

(b) for  $a_i < \lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D)$  and  $b_i = 0$  (and so  $a_i = \lambda^c(a, b)$  and  $\mathcal{N}^c(a, b) = \{i\}$ ),

$$\pi_i(a, b, D) = (\lambda^c(a, b) - A_i)(D - D^c(a, b)) - B_i(D - D^c(a, b))^2,$$

(c) for  $a_i = \lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D)$  and  $b_i = 0$  (and so  $a_i = \lambda^c(a, b)$  and  $i \in \mathcal{N}^c(a, b)$ ),

$$\pi_i(a, b, D) = (\lambda^c(a, b) - A_i) \frac{D - D^c(a, b)}{N^c(a, b)} - B_i \left( \frac{D - D^c(a, b)}{N^c(a, b)} \right)^2,$$

(d) for  $a_i > \lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D)$  it holds  $\pi_i(a, b, D) = 0$ .

Note that  $a_i$  is compared to  $\lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D)$

## Ideal production for producer $i$

We introduce a level of production

$$q_i^*(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) = \frac{\lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) - A_i}{2B_i}$$

having a significant economic meaning for producer  $i \in \mathcal{N}$ :

*Let  $(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) \in \mathbb{R}^{2N-2}$ ,  $a_i = \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$  and  $b_i = 0$  be fixed for some  $i \in \mathcal{N}$ . Then, if we consider  $q_i$  as a free variable for the moment, the profit of producer  $i$  is given by  $\pi_i^c(q_i) : q_i \rightarrow (\lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) - A_i) q_i - B_i q_i^2$ . Then, the maximum of  $\pi_i^c(q_i)$  is attained for  $q_i = q_i^*(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$ , thus corresponding to a kind of ideal production rate for producer  $i$ . This follows from  $B_i > 0$ , then for production quantity higher than  $q_i^*(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$  the additional production cost will be higher than the respective additional gain. Finally, we note that  $q_i^* > 0$  and  $\pi_i^c(q_i^*) > 0$  provided  $A_i < \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$ .*

## Proposition

Let  $(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{2N-2}$ ,  $D > 0$  and  $b_i = 0$  be fixed. Then,  $\pi_i(a_i, a_{-i}, 0, b_{-i}, D)$  is strictly quasiconcave in  $a_i$  on  $[0, \lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D)[$ , and problem

$$\hat{P}_i(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D) \quad \sup_{a_i \in [0, \lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D)[} \pi_i(a_i, a_{-i}, 0, b_{-i}, D)$$

admits a solution if and only if one of the following alternatives holds:

- (a)  $A_i < \lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D) < \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$  (implying  $\lambda^m(a_{-i}) < \lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D)$ ),
- (b)  $\lambda^m(a_{-i}) < \lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D) = \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$  and  $q_i^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) > D - D^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$ .

Moreover, if a solution exists, it is unique. Denoting it by  $\tilde{a}_i$ , it is given by

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \tilde{a}_i = \lambda^m(a_{-i}) & \text{if } D \leq q_i^m(a_{-i}, b_{-i}), \\ \frac{\tilde{a}_i - A_i}{2B_i + m^-(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, \tilde{a}_i)} \leq D - F(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, \tilde{a}_i) \leq \frac{\tilde{a}_i - A_i}{2B_i + m^+(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, \tilde{a}_i)} & \text{if } D > q_i^m(a_{-i}, b_{-i}), \end{array} \right.$$

and satisfies  $\tilde{a}_i \in [\lambda^m(a_{-i}), \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})[$ . Moreover, the respective maximal profit is positive,  $\pi_i(\tilde{a}_i, a_{-i}, 0, b_{-i}, D) > 0$ . Additionally, if a solution does not exist, then  $\pi_i(a, b, D)$  is strictly increasing in  $a_i$  on  $[0, \lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D)[$ .

# Best response?

## Theorem

Let  $D > 0$ ,  $(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{2N-2}$  for some  $i \in \mathcal{N}$  and consider the problem

$$\tilde{\pi}_i := \sup_{a_i, b_i \geq 0} \pi_i(a_i, a_{-i}, b_i, b_{-i}, D).$$

Then either  $A_i \geq \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$  and  $\tilde{\pi}_i \leq 0$ , or one of the following alternatives holds:

- (a) if  $D \in ]0, q_i^0(a_{-i}, b_{-i})]$  then  $\tilde{\pi}_i \leq 0$ ,
- (b) if  $D \in ]q_i^0(a_{-i}, b_{-i}), D^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) + q_i^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})[$  then  $\tilde{\pi}_i > 0$  and there is a unique best response  $(\tilde{a}_i, \tilde{b}_i)$  given by  $\tilde{b}_i = 0$ , and  $\tilde{a}_i < \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$  satisfying

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \tilde{a}_i = \min_{i \in \mathcal{N}} a_i & \text{if } D \leq q_i^m(a_{-i}, b_{-i}), \\ \frac{\tilde{a}_i - A_i}{2B_i + m^-(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, \tilde{a}_i)} \leq D - F(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, \tilde{a}_i) \leq \frac{\tilde{a}_i - A_i}{2B_i + m^+(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, \tilde{a}_i)} & \text{otherwise} \end{array} \right.$$

- (c)  $D \in [D^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) + q_i^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}), D^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) + q_i^*(a_{-i}, b_{-i})]$  then  $\tilde{\pi}_i > 0$  and a limiting best response  $(\tilde{a}_i^k, \tilde{b}_i^k)_k$  is given by  $\tilde{a}_i^k \nearrow \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$  and  $\tilde{b}_i^k = 0$ ,

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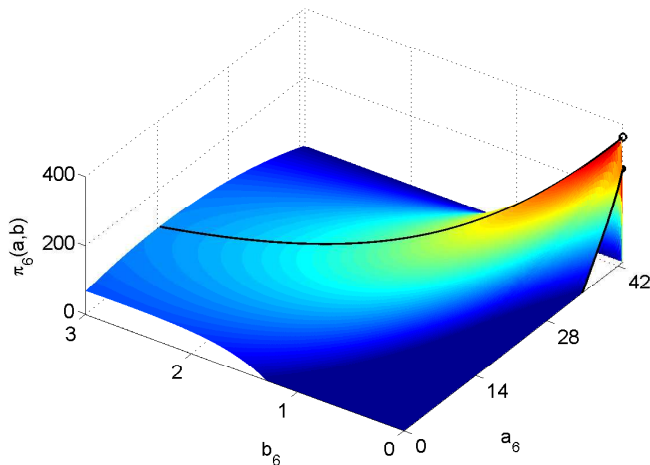
Then either  $A_i \geq \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$  and  $\tilde{\pi}_i \leq 0$ , or one of the following alternatives holds:

- (c) if  $D \in ]D^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) + q_i^*(a_{-i}, b_{-i}), +\infty[$  and  $D \neq D^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) + (N^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) + 1) q_i^*(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$  then  $\tilde{\pi}_i > 0$  and a limiting best response  $(\tilde{a}_i^k, \tilde{b}_i^k)_k$  is given by  $\tilde{a}_i^k \nearrow \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$  and  $\tilde{b}_i^k \searrow 0$  satisfying

$$\tilde{a}_i^k = \frac{A_i \tilde{b}_i^k + B_i \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})}{\tilde{b}_i^k + B_i}$$

- (d) if  $D = D^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) + (N^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) + 1) q_i^*(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$  then  $\tilde{\pi}_i > 0$  and there is a unique best response  $(\tilde{a}_i, \tilde{b}_i) = (\lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}), 0)$ .

# Example: the Profit of Producer $i$ , $D = 30$



## Corollary

Let  $D > 0$ ,  $i \in \mathcal{N}$ ,  $b_i = 0$ ,  $(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{2N-2}$  and denote  $\xi_i := \xi(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$ . Then, one of the following alternatives has to be satisfied:

(a) if  $\lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D) < \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$  then

$$\lim_{a_i \nearrow \lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D)} \pi_i(a_i, a_{-i}, 0, b_{-i}, D) = \pi_i(\lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D), a_{-i}, 0, b_{-i}, D),$$

(b) if  $\lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D) = \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$  and  $q_i^*(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) = \xi_i(D - D^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}))$  then

$$\lim_{a_i \nearrow \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})} \pi_i(a_i, a_{-i}, 0, b_{-i}, D) = \pi_i(\lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}), a_{-i}, 0, b_{-i}, D),$$

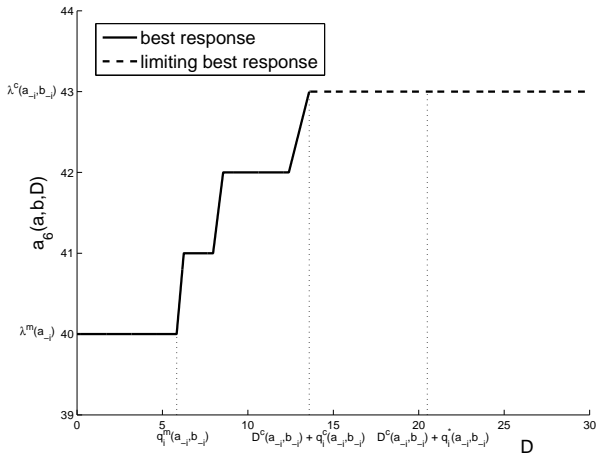
(c) if  $\lambda(a_{-i}, b_{-i}, D) = \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})$  and  $q_i^*(a_{-i}, b_{-i}) > \xi_i(D - D^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}))$  then

$$\lim_{a_i \nearrow \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})} \pi_i(a_i, a_{-i}, 0, b_{-i}, D) > \pi_i(\lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}), a_{-i}, 0, b_{-i}, D),$$

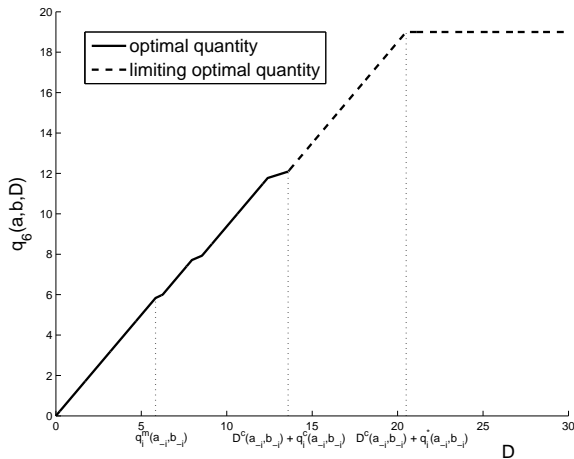
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$$\lim_{a_i \nearrow \lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i})} \pi_i(a_i, a_{-i}, 0, b_{-i}, D) < \pi_i(\lambda^c(a_{-i}, b_{-i}), a_{-i}, 0, b_{-i}, D).$$

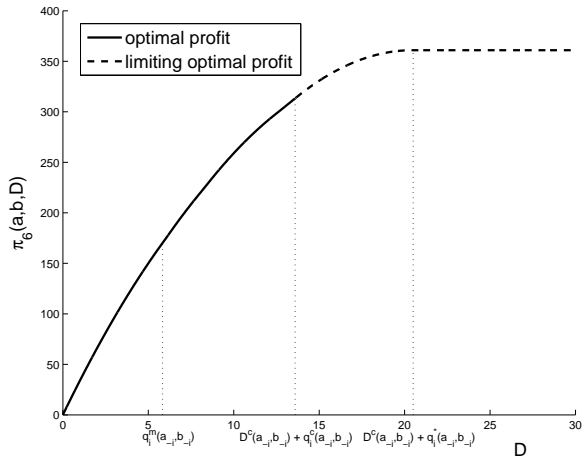
# The Best Response of Producer $i \in \mathcal{N}$



# Production quantity yielded by the best response



# The Optimal Profit of Producer $i \in \mathcal{N}$



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Thank you for your attention.

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