

# Welfare Effects of Buyer and Seller Power

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Workshop on Market Power in Supply Chains

Competition and Markets Authority

February 14, 2025

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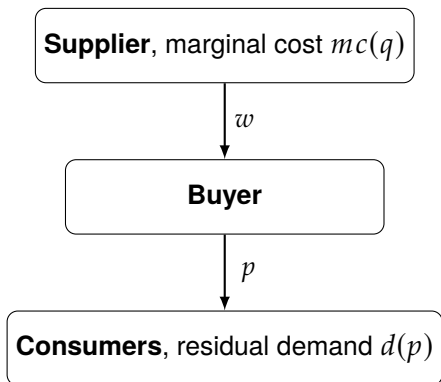
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**When are buyer & seller power anti-competitive or pro-competitive?**

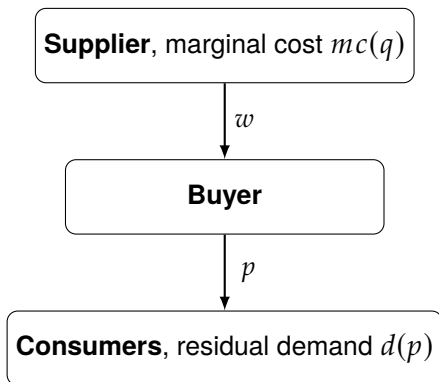
## Stylized Framework: Classical Monopsony



- $mc'(q) > 0$
- $d'(p) = 0$
- Seller chooses supply  $q(w)$
- Buyer chooses  $w$
- Inefficiency: **buyer exercises monopsony power** when setting  $w$



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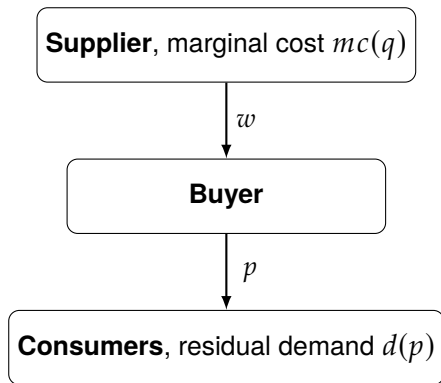


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### Examples:

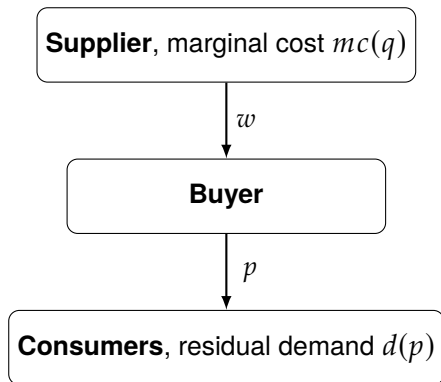
- Robinson (1969); Card, Cardoso, Heining, Kline (2018); Berger, Herkenhoff, Mongey (2022)

## Stylized Framework: Sequential Monopoly



- $d'(p) < 0$
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### Examples:

- Grennan (2013), Ho and Lee (2017); Crawford, Lee, Whinston, Yurukoglu (2018); Hosken, Larson-Koester, Tarragin (2023)

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- Increasing marginal cost of seller  $mc'(q) \geq 0$  , decreasing demand curve of buyer  $d'(p) \leq 0$
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- Conduct (**monopsony** or **monopoly**) is endogenously determined
- Nests most commonly used vertical models in the literature

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## Application to coal procurement of power plants from coal mines

- ERCOT ISO (Texas) market, 2005-2015
- Decompose total welfare loss from market power into monopsony vs. monopoly distortion

# Prior Literature

## 1. **Vertical models with double marginalization:**

- Ho, Lee (2017); Crawford, Lee, Whinston, Yurukoglu (2018); Collard-Wexler, Gowrisankaran, Lee (2019); Alviarez, Fioretti, Kikkawa, Morlacco (2022), Hosken, Larson-Koester, Tarragin (2023) ;

→ These assume downstream picks  $q$  (or  $p$ )

# Prior Literature

## 1. **Vertical models with double marginalization:**

## 2. **Vertical models with monopsony power:**

- Prager & Schmitt (2021); Arnold (2019); Berger, Hasenzagl, Herkenhoff, Mongey, & Posner, (2023)

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# Prior Literature

1. **Vertical models with double marginalization:**
  2. **Vertical models with monopsony power:**
  3. **Countervailing power**
    - Galbraith (1954), Hemphill & Rose (2018); Barrette, Gowrisankaran, Town (2022), Loertscher & Marx (2022), Avignon, Chambolle, Guigue, Molina (2024)
- We endogeneize vertical conduct in complete-information setup

# Prior Literature

1. **Vertical models with double marginalization:**
2. **Vertical models with monopsony power:**
3. **Countervailing power**
4. **Vertical conduct inference**
  - Bonnet & Dubois (2010), De Loecker & Scott (2015), Atkin, Blaum, Fajgelbaum, Ospital, 2024

→ Rather than testing for conduct, we endogeneize conduct

## Model Primitives

Seller  $u$  and buyer  $d$  negotiate over **linear contract**  $w$ .

- Profits:  $\pi_d = [p(q) - w]q$ ,  $\pi_u = [w - c(q)]q$ . Zero disagreement payoff.

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## Notation:

- $mc(q) \equiv \frac{\partial(c(q)q)}{q}$ ,  $mr(q) \equiv \frac{\partial(p(q)q)}{q}$
- $0 \leq \beta \leq 1$ : bargaining power of buyer, 'buyer power'

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## Assumptions:

- $p'(q) \leq 0$ ,  $c'(q) \geq 0$
- $d(mc(q) - c(q))/dq > 0$
- $d(mr(q) - p(q))/dq < 0$

## Vertical Conduct: Monopolistic vs. Monopsonistic

$$\text{'Monopolistic bargaining' ('mp')}: \begin{cases} \max_w (\pi_u)^{(1-\beta)} (\pi_d)^\beta \\ \max_q \pi_d \end{cases} \rightarrow (q^{mp}, w^{mp})$$

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We will compare to, but do not allow for, **joint profit maximization**: ('efficient bargaining')

$$q^* = \arg \max_{w,q} (\pi_u)^{(1-\beta)} (\pi_d)^\beta \rightarrow (q^*, w^*)$$



# Timing of Decisions

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1. Upstream and downstream observe  $c(\cdot), p(\cdot), \beta$
2. U and D bargain over  $w$ .
3. Upstream **or** downstream choose  $q$

We prove results both when 2. and 3. happen **simultaneously** and when **sequentially**

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This nests often-used models:

Monopolistic		Monopsonistic
$\beta = 0$	Sequential monopoly	Seller makes TIOLI offer $(w, q)$
$\beta = 1$	Buyer makes TIOLI offer $(w, q)$	Classical monopsony

# Result 1: Existence of Equilibrium

## Result

- $mc'(q) = 0$ : interior solution exists only under **monopolistic conduct**
- $mr'(q) = 0$ : interior solution exists only under **monopsonistic conduct**
- $c'(q) > 0, d'(p) < 0$ : Both monopolistic and monopsonistic conduct have an interior solution

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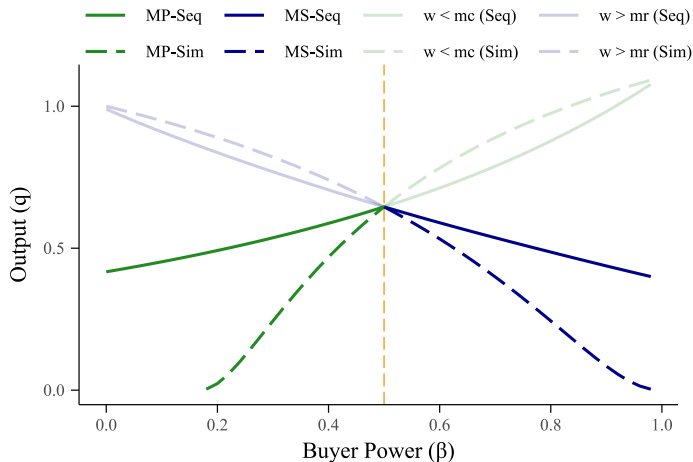
Denote  $q^{ms}(\beta), q^{mp}(\beta)$  as equilibrium output under each conduct

## Result 2: How Does Equilibrium Quantity Change with Buyer Power

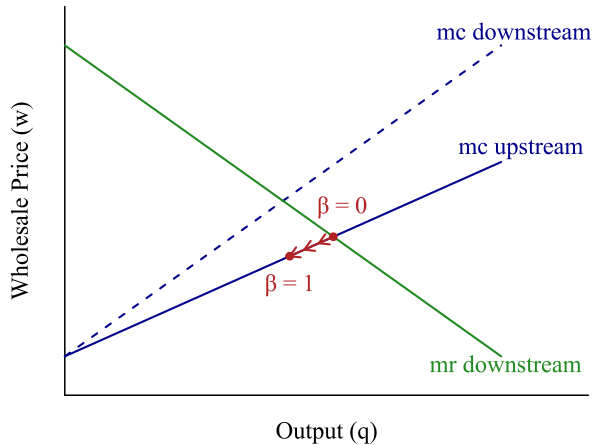
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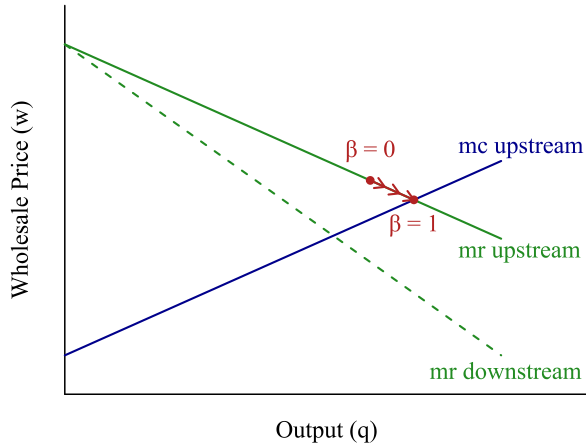


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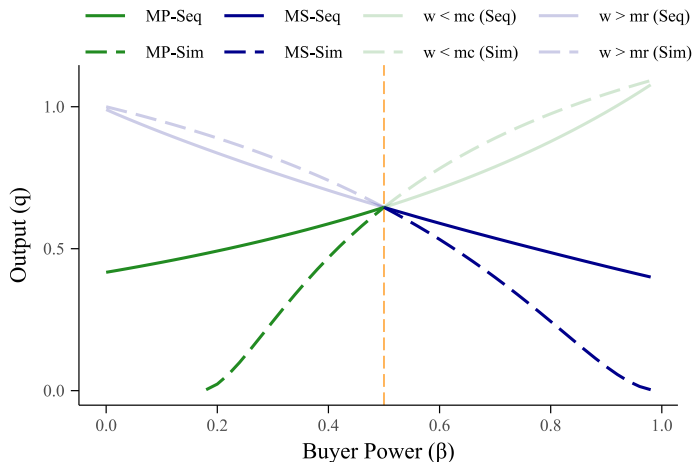


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## **Participation Constraint 1:**

- $w \geq mc(q)$  (nonnegative markup) (A1)
- $w \leq mr(q)$  (nonnegative markdown) (A2)
- Satisfied if transfers between units are impossible
- Testable implication: Output bounded by  $q^{jpm}$

# Conduct Selection: Participation Constraint 1

[Stage 0:]

U,D observe  $\beta$ ,  $c(\cdot)$ ,  $p(\cdot)$

[Stage 1:]

Bargaining:

$$\max_w (\pi_u^{1-\beta} \pi_d^\beta)$$

U picks  $q$ :  
 $\max_q (\pi_u)$

D picks  $q$ :  
 $\max_q (\pi_d)$

$$\beta < \beta^*$$

$$\beta \geq \beta^*$$

$$w > mr$$

D refuses

$$(0, 0)$$

$$w \leq mr$$

D agrees

$$(q^{ms}, w^{ms})$$

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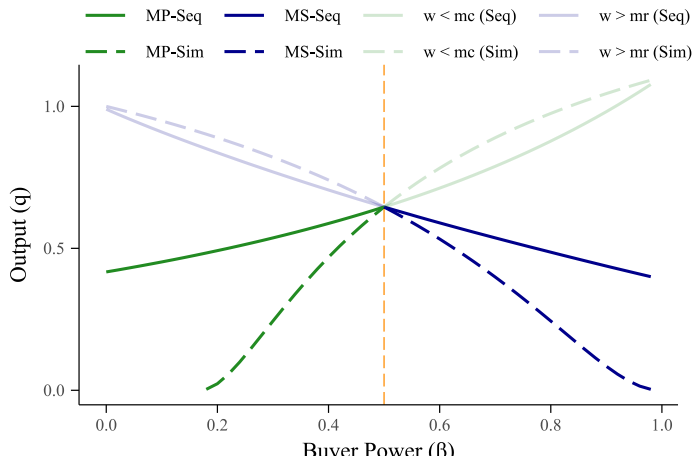
## Result 4: Unique Vertical Conduct

**Theorem** Under Participation Constraint 1, for any bargaining parameter  $\beta$ , either the monopsonistic or the monopolistic bargaining equilibrium exists, but not both. Specifically, the monopsonistic equilibrium exists if  $\beta > \beta^*$ , while the monopolistic equilibrium exists if  $\beta < \beta^*$ .

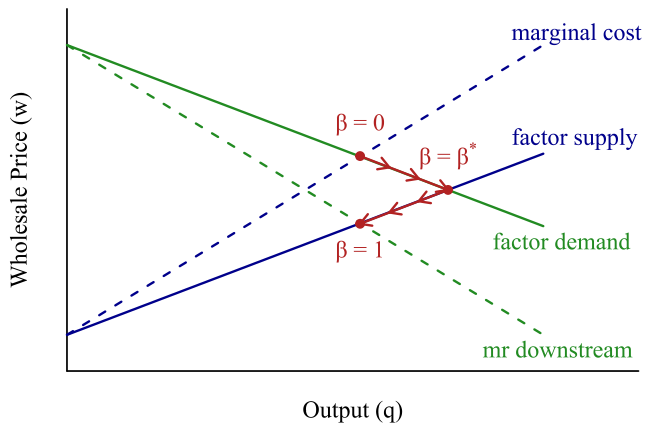


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## Intuition: Buyer *and* Seller Power



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In sequential model, have alternative microfoundation:

### **Participation Constraint 2:**

$D$  and  $U$  choose  $q$  unilaterally only if they cannot earn higher profits by bargaining over  $(q, w)$  instead:

$$\begin{cases} \pi_u(q^{ms}, w^{ms}) \geq \pi_u(q^*, w^*) \\ \pi_d(q^{mp}, w^{mp}) \geq \pi_d(q^*, w^*) \end{cases}$$

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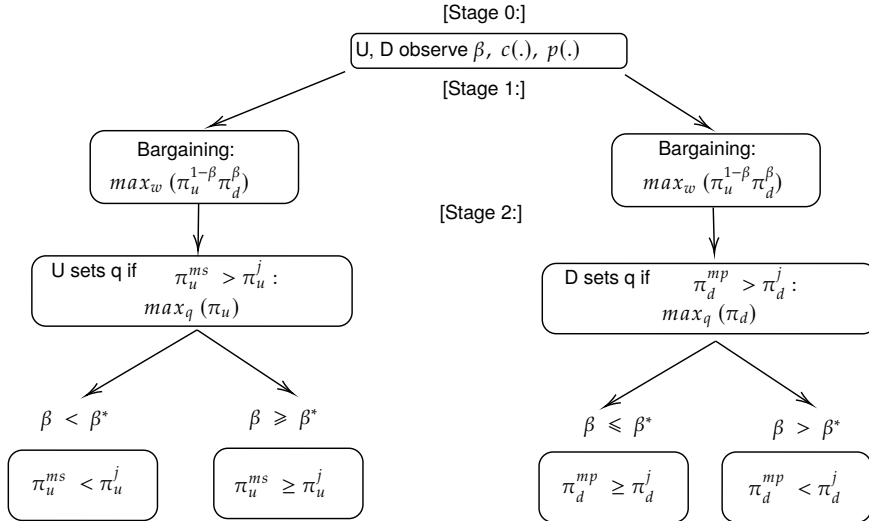
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This leads to the same equilibrium selection rule:

- Monopsonistic if  $\beta > \beta^*$
- Monopolistic if  $\beta < \beta^*$

# Conduct Selection: Participation Constraint 2



## Vertical Conduct: Determinants

- Vertical conduct depends on how  $\beta$  relates to  $\beta^*$
- $\beta^*$  is a function of cost and demand curvature:

$$\beta^* = \frac{-p'(q^*)}{c'(q^*) - p'(q^*)}$$

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- More inelastic demand ( $-p'(q^*) \uparrow$ )  $\rightarrow \beta^* \uparrow$
- Steeper marginal cost curve ( $c'(q^*) \uparrow$ )  $\rightarrow \beta^* \downarrow$
- $\beta^* = 0$  if fully elastic residual demand,  $\beta^* = 1$  if constant marginal cost



# Welfare and Policy Implications

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  - Opposite holds for mergers between upstream entities
- **Vertical mergers:** double marginalization reduction increases with  $|\beta - \beta^*|$

# Extensions

- **Non-zero disagreement payoffs**

- Baseline: fix disagreement payoffs, vary  $\beta$
- Alternative: fix  $\beta$ , vary disagreement payoff of buyer ('z') & seller ('y')
- Results generalize:  $q(z - y)$  is inverted V-function

Disagreement payoff results

- **Multiple buyers** that compete à la Cournot

- # Competitors  $\uparrow \Rightarrow \beta^* \downarrow$
- Increased competition makes residual demand curve more elastic
- This increases the range of  $\beta$  values for which monopsonistic conduct occurs in equilibrium

Cournot results

- **Multiple buyers and sellers**

- Results generalize under a passive beliefs assumption

Results

- **Multi-input production function**

- Results generalize under a CES production function

Multiple inputs

# Takeaways

Consumer welfare losses of buyer / seller power depend on:

- shape of the marginal cost curve (upstream)
- shape of the demand curve (downstream)
- level of the bargaining parameter

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Empirical roadmap:

- If  $w$  is observed: estimate  $c(\cdot)$  and  $d(\cdot)$ , infer both  $\beta$  and  $\beta^*$
- If  $w$  is unobserved: estimate  $c(\cdot)$ ,  $d(\cdot)$ , infer  $\beta^*$ , prior on distribution of  $\beta$

# Empirical Applications

Estimation of  $\beta^*$  when  $w$  is unobserved:

1. Effects of unionization in U.S. construction industry
2. Effects of farmer cooperatives in Chinese tobacco industry

Application

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Estimation of  $\beta^*$  when  $w$  is observed:

3. Sources of misallocation in U.S. coal procurement
  - Focus on coal-fired power plants in the **ERCOT** ISO, 2005-2015
  - Isolated market with little external trade
  - Mostly deregulated plants
  - Rich hourly price and generation data

# Data

1. **Power Plant Data**: EPA, EIA, Velocity Suite, ERCOT
  - Hourly fuel consumption and generation
  - Fuel Type, Capacity, Location, Ownership
  - Hourly nodal prices

Summary statistics

ERCOT coal capacity

# Data

1. **Power Plant Data**: EPA, EIA, Velocity Suite, ERCOT
2. **Coal Mine Data**: Mine Safety and Health Administration, Coal Cost Guide, Velocity Suite
  - Quarterly production of coal mines
  - Variable and fixed cost by mine type, hourly wages at the county level
  - Ownership and mergers and acquisitions

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1. **Power Plant Data**: EPA, EIA, Velocity Suite, ERCOT
2. **Coal Mine Data**: Mine Safety and Health Administration, Coal Cost Guide, Velocity Suite
3. **Coal Transaction Data**: Velocity Suite (based on EIA data)
  - Monthly coal shipment with prices, quantities and coal type
  - Contract duration
  - Transportation mode and transportation cost

Summary statistics    ERCOT coal capacity

# Empirical Model: Overview

- **Mining Firm Supply Curves**

- Estimate marginal costs at unit level, then aggregate to firm level

Implementation

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Monopsonistic      Monopolistic

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- Use observed wholesale prices to infer fitted quantities, select conduct by comparing to  $q^*$ , compute bargaining parameter



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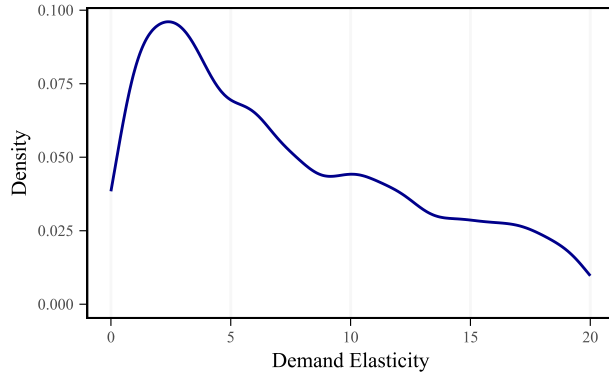
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- **Welfare**

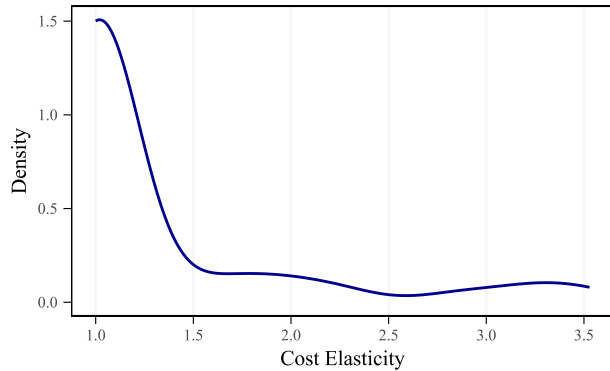
Implementation

- Compute output under observed conduct and under joint profit maximization. Decompose deviations into monopsony- and monopoly-induced.
- Focus on output (consumer surplus) but can adjust for externalities (e.g. environmental).

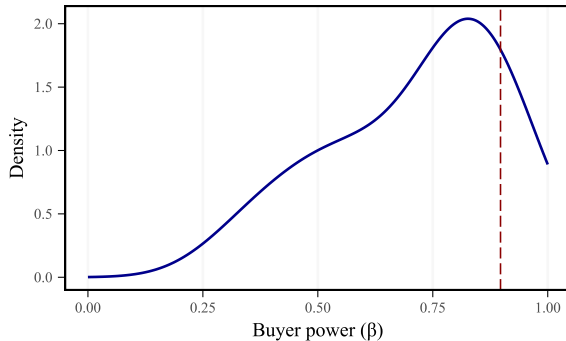
## Results: Demand Estimates



## Results: Cost Estimates

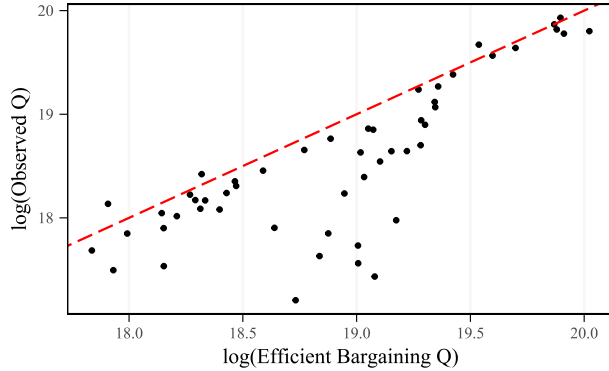


## Results: Buyer Power Estimates



- ▶ Power plants relatively more bargaining power than mines
- ▶ Efficient level of buyer power around 0.9
- ▶ Mines still have too much bargaining power, deadweight loss mostly due to double marginalization

# Deadweight Loss



## Decomposing Welfare Losses

Misallocation	% of Coal Expenditure
Total misallocated output	5.11 %
<i>Decomposition:</i>	<i>% of Total Loss</i>
Due to monopsony	17.29%
Due to monopoly	82.71%

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Applying model to study coal fuel procurement in the ERCOT ISO, we find that

- A deadweight loss of 5.11% the total output.
- 83% of DWL due to seller power, 17% due to buyer power

# Appendix

# Parametrization

Consumer demand for  $q$ :

$$q(p) = p^\eta$$

Cost curve of  $U$ :

$$c(q) = q^\psi$$

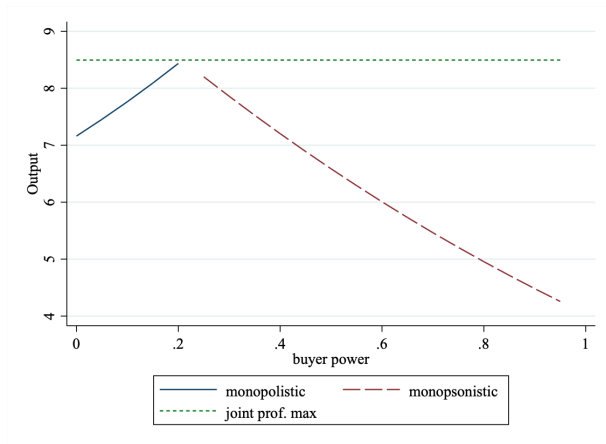
Solve for equilibrium using

- $\eta = -6$
- $\psi = 0.25$
- $\beta \sim \mathcal{U}[0, 1]$ ,

Back to conduct

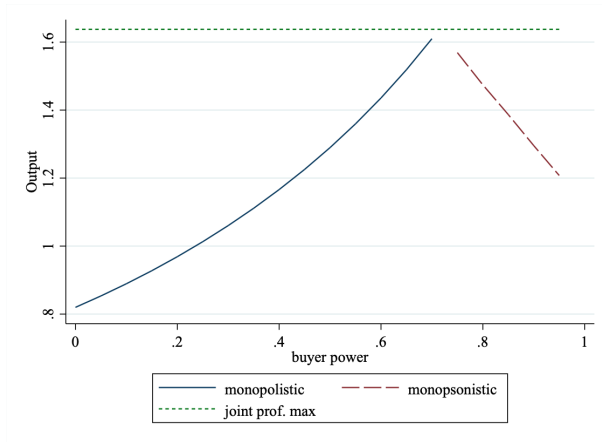
## More elastic demand

Let  $\eta = -20$ , rather than  $\eta = -6$



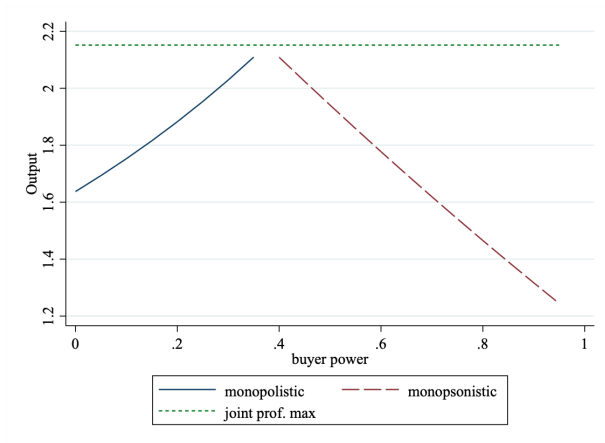
## More inelastic demand

Let  $\eta = -3$ , rather than  $\eta = -6$



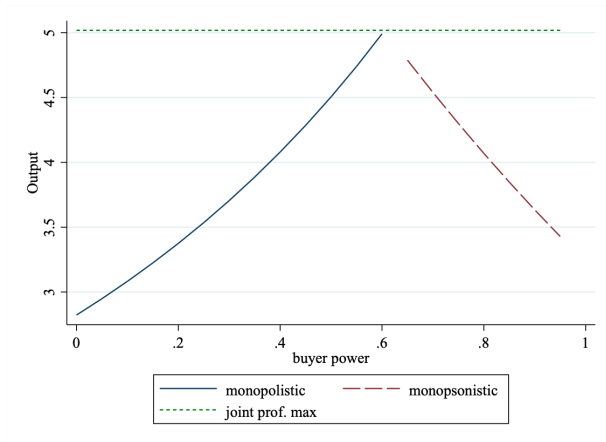
## More elastic supply

Let  $\psi = 0.5$  rather than  $\psi = 0.25$ :



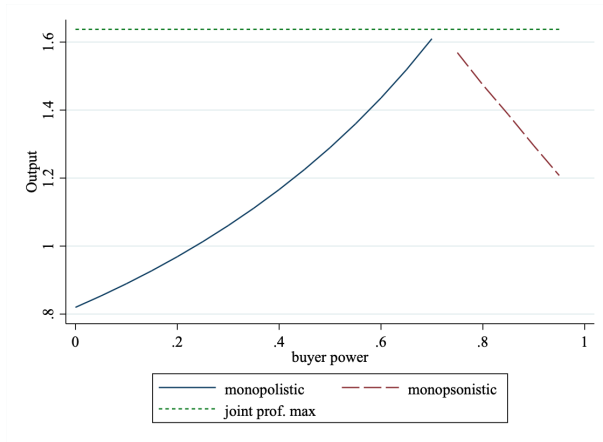
## More elastic marginal costs curve

Let  $\psi = 0.15$  rather than  $\psi = 0.25$ :



## More inelastic demand

Let  $\eta = -3$ , rather than  $\eta = -6$

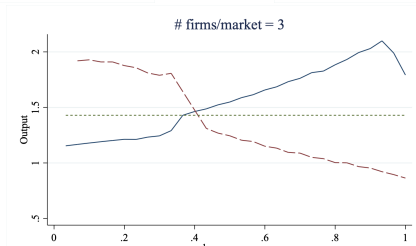
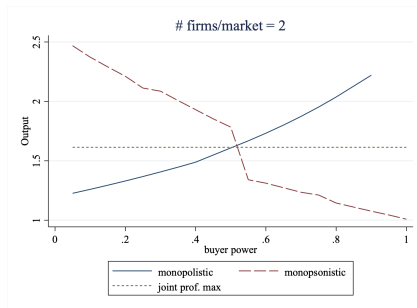
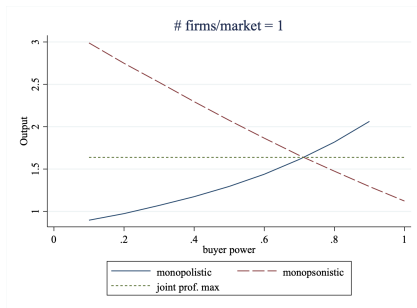




# Cournot competition

$\eta = -3$ ,  $\psi = 0.25$ , 1 to 3 firms

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# Coal Mining Production Model Estimation

- Mines  $m$  characterized by 'type'  $\theta_m$ : (capacity, vein thickness, technology)

- Coal Cost Guide:  $\gamma_{\theta_m} = \frac{p^v v}{hl}$

$$\Rightarrow c_m = h_m \frac{l_m}{q_m} (1 + \gamma_{\theta_m}) + v_m (cap_m - q_m) \text{ if } q_m \leq cap_m$$

- Estimate  $c_m - v_m(cap_m - q_m)$  by  $cap_m$ , then find  $v_{cap_m}$  by linear interpolation

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# Bargaining model

- **Monopolistic bargaining:**

$$\begin{cases} \max_{Q_d^e} \pi_d(Q_d^e, W_d) \\ \max_{W_{kl}} \left[ \left( \pi_d(Q_d^e, W_d) - \pi_d(\tilde{Q}_d^e, W_{u,-d}) \right)^{\beta_{ud}} \left( \pi_u(Q_u^c, W_u) - \pi_u(\tilde{Q}_u^c, W_{u,-d}) \right)^{1-\beta_{ud}} \right] \end{cases}$$

- **Monopsonistic bargaining:**

$$\begin{cases} \max_{Q_u} \pi_u(Q_u^c, W_u) \\ \max_{W_{kl}} \left[ \left( \pi_d(Q_d^e, W_d) - \pi_d(\tilde{Q}_d^e, W_{u,-d}) \right)^{\beta_{ud}} \left( \pi_u(Q_u^c, W_u) - \pi_u(\tilde{Q}_u^c, W_{u,-d}) \right)^{1-\beta_{ud}} \right] \end{cases}$$

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# Equilibrium conditions

- Each pair  $ij$  forms a contract  $\mathbb{C}_{ij} \in \mathcal{C}_{ij}$ , no agreement is  $\mathbb{C}_0$
- Given all contracts  $\mathbb{C} \equiv \{\mathbb{C}_{ij}\}$ , downstream profit is  $\Pi_j^d(\mathbb{C})$ , upstream  $\Pi_i^u(\mathbb{C})$
- Set of contracts with non-negative gains to trade for  $i$  and  $j$  is:

$$\mathcal{C}_{ij}^+(\mathbb{C}_{-ij}) \equiv \{\mathbb{C}_{ij} \in \mathcal{C}_{ij} : [\Pi_j^d(\mathbb{C}_{ij}, \mathbb{C}_{-ij}) - \Pi_j^d(\mathbb{C}_0, \mathbb{C}_{-ij})] \geq 0$$

$$\text{and } [\Pi_j^u(\mathbb{C}_{ij}, \mathbb{C}_{-ij}) - \Pi_j^u(\mathbb{C}_0, \mathbb{C}_{-ij})] \geq 0$$

next slide

# Nash-in-Nash bargaining equilibrium

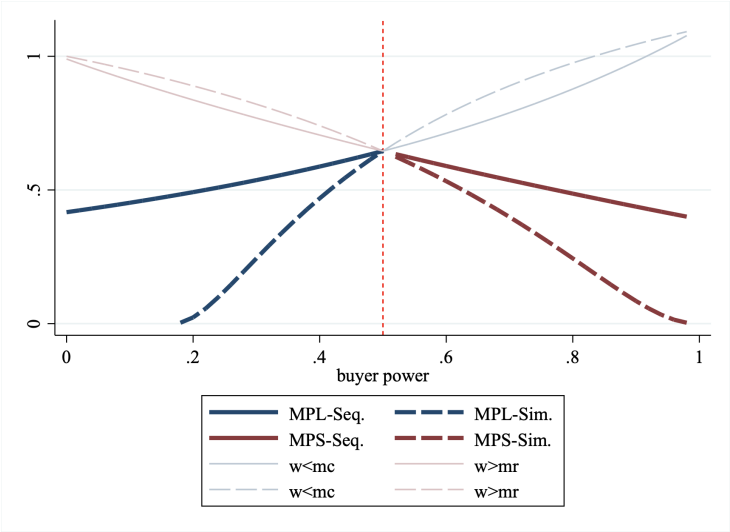
$\hat{\mathbb{C}} \equiv \{\hat{\mathbb{C}}_{ij}\}$  is a **Nash-in-Nash equilibrium** if:

(i)  $\forall i, j$  such that  $\hat{\mathbb{C}}_{ij} \neq \mathbb{C}_0$ :

$$\{\hat{\mathbb{C}}_{ij}\} \in \arg \max [\Pi_j^d(\{\{\mathbb{C}_{ij}\}, \{\hat{\mathbb{C}}_{-ij}\}\}) - \Pi_j^d(\{\{\mathbb{C}_0\}, \{\hat{\mathbb{C}}_{-ij}\}\})]^{b_{ij}} \\ x [\Pi_i^u(\{\{\mathbb{C}_{ij}\}, \{\hat{\mathbb{C}}_{-ij}\}\}) - \Pi_i^u(\{\{\mathbb{C}_0\}, \{\hat{\mathbb{C}}_{-ij}\}\})]^{1-b_{ij}}$$

(ii)  $\forall i, j$  such that  $\hat{\mathbb{C}}_{ij} = \mathbb{C}_0$ , there is no contract in  $C_{ij}^+(\mathbb{C}_{-ij})$  that gives strictly positive gains from trade to both  $i$  and  $j$ . [back to main slide deck](#)

# Simultaneous vs. sequential model

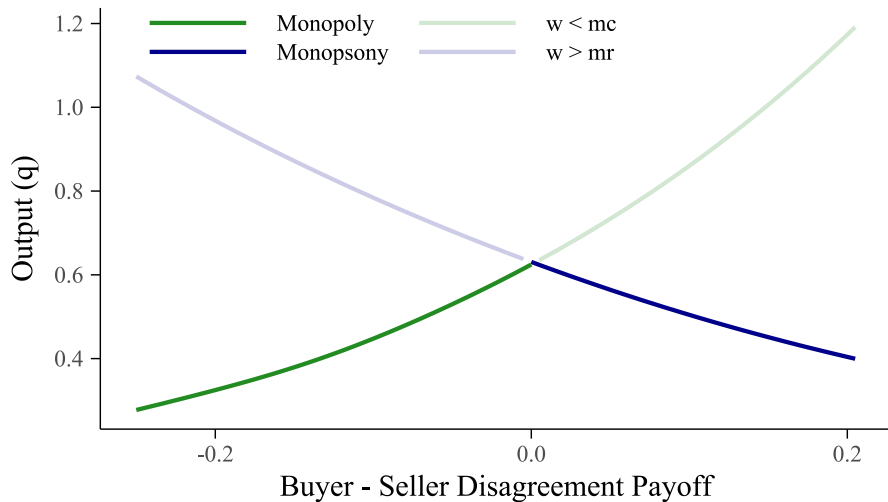


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Parametrization

## Non-zero disagreement payoffs

$$\pi^u = (w - c(q - y))q, \quad \pi^d = (p(q) - w - z)q$$

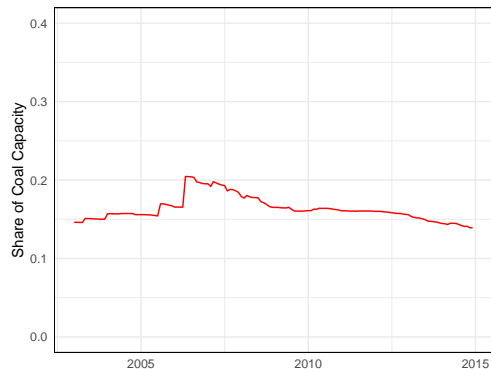


# Summary Statistics

	Upstream	Downstream
<i>Unit Characteristics</i>		
# of Units (Plant or Mine)	25	9
# of Firms	9	3
# of Units per Firm	2.51	2.88
Avg. # of Trade Partners	22.09	2.65
Avg. Share of Largest Partner	0.42	0.53
<i>Transaction Characteristics</i>		
Average Fob Price (per mmtbu)	-	0.85
Contract Duration (year)	-	1.42
% Spot	-	0.04
% Railroad	-	0.77



# Ercot Market



- ▶ Ercot market is ideal empirical setting
  - No import and export
  - Most power plants are not regulated
  - Availability of nodal prices
- ▶ Stable coal capacity share between 2005 and 2015
- ▶ Existing evidence of market power  
(Hortacsu and Puller, 2008 ; Hortacsu et al, 2015)

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## Estimating Mining Supply Function

- A mining firm  $u$  consists of a portfolio of mines  $i(u)$
- Estimate Leontief production function in labor and non-labor inputs
- Mine  $i$  that produce  $q_i$  has the following marginal cost curve (quantities in terms of heat input)

# Estimating Mining Supply Function

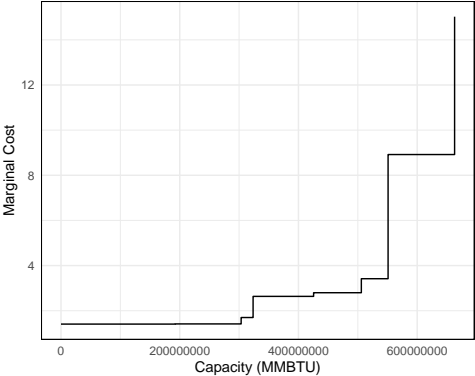
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$$\underbrace{c_i}_{\text{marginal cost}} = \frac{\overbrace{h_i l_i}^{\text{Labor cost}} + \overbrace{p^v v_i}^{\text{Non-labor variable costs}}}{\underbrace{q_i}_{\text{production}}} \text{ if } q_i < cap_i$$

- **Supply curve of mining firm:** rank mines by increasing  $c_i$ , add start-up costs of idle mines  
 $c_u = \{c_1, c_2 + I_2, c_3 + I_3 \dots\}$

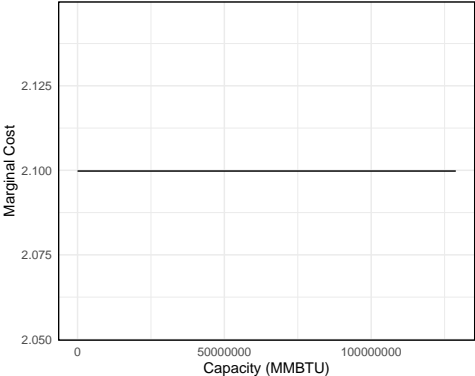
# Mining Supply Curves: Examples

**Vistra Energy (2015)**



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**Westmoreland Coal Company (2015)**



## Power Plant Cost Curve

- Each power company  $d$  consists of a portfolio of power plants
  - Potentially different fuels (nuclear, gas, coal renewable)
  - Each power plant  $j$  has a technology characterized by heat rate

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Production technology for power plant  $j$ :

$$\underbrace{q_j^e}_{\text{electricity output}} = \underbrace{q_j^c}_{\text{heat input}} / \underbrace{\lambda_j}_{\text{heat rate}}$$

Marginal cost of each power plant:

$$c_j(q_j^e) = q^c \lambda_j \underbrace{w}_{\text{coal price per mmbtu}}$$

- $w^c$  = fob price + transportation cost

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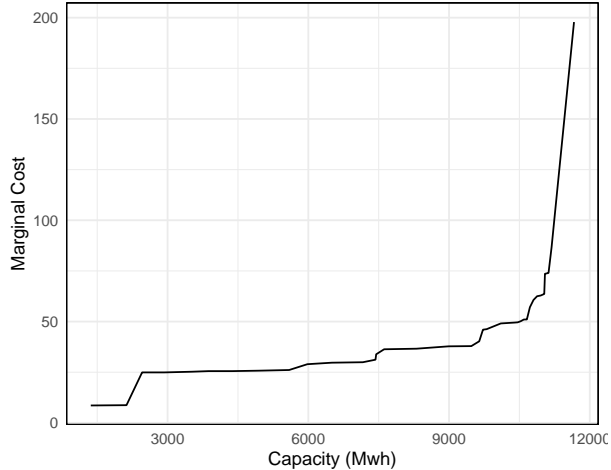
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- $w^c$  = fob price + transportation cost
- Cost curve of power firm is the aggregation of individual marginal cost from lowest to highest

# Power Plant Cost Curve: Example

## NRG Energy (2015)





# Modeling Electricity Market: Cournot Competition

- We impose **Cournot competition** to model electricity market
  - (Borenstein et al., 1995; Borenstein and Bushnell, 1999 ; Puller, 2007)
- Market includes **fringe and strategic firms**
  - Fringe (competitive) firms: Small market share firms (less than 5% capacity) and regulated firms.
  - Strategic (Cournot) firms: Large firms compete à la Cournot
  - The market definition is an ISO (ERCOT)

# Modeling Electricity Market: Cournot Competition

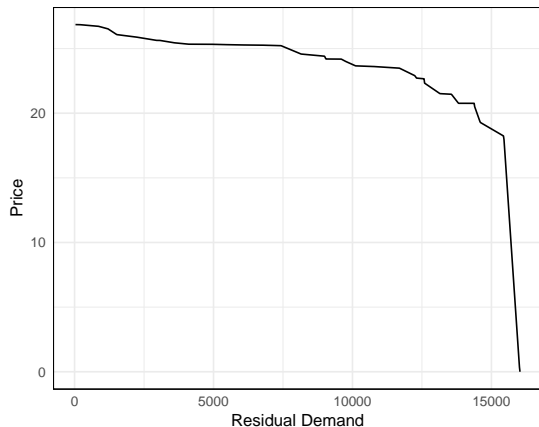
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  - Fringe (competitive) firms: Small market share firms (less than 5% capacity) and regulated firms.
  - Strategic (Cournot) firms: Large firms compete à la Cournot
  - The market definition is an ISO (ERCOT)
- Strategic firms face the following demand curve every hour  $t$

$$\underbrace{Q_{\text{strat}}^D(P_t)}_{\text{Strategic demand at price } P_t} = \underbrace{Q_{\text{total}_t}^D}_{\text{Inelastic demand at hour } t} - \underbrace{Q_{\text{fringe}}^S(P_t)}_{\text{Supply from fringe firms at price } P_t}$$

- Supply elasticity of fringe firm determines the residual demand curve for strategic firms

# Electricity Demand: Example

## NRG Energy (January, Weekday 2pm)



- ▶ Estimate residual demand for every month-hour-(weekend/weekday) combination
- ▶ Use average fringe supply and demand to estimate firm's expected residual demand curve
- ▶ Aggregate hourly residual demand curves to yearly level

# Modeling Electricity Market: Cournot Competition

- Strategic firm  $d$  chooses quantity in period  $t$  to maximize profit subject to a capacity constraint:

$$\max_{q_{dt}} (P(q_{dt} + q_{-dt}) \cdot q_{dt} - C_{dt}(q_{dt})) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad q_{dt} \leq k_{dt}$$

- The annual profit of the power company is

$$\Pi_d = \sum_t \pi_{dt}(q_{dt}, q_{-dt})$$

# Bargaining Weight Estimation

We solve the model for every contracting pair-year using the estimated primitives

- (i) electricity demand curve at downstream firm
- (ii) coal mining marginal cost curve of upstream firm

# Bargaining Weight Estimation

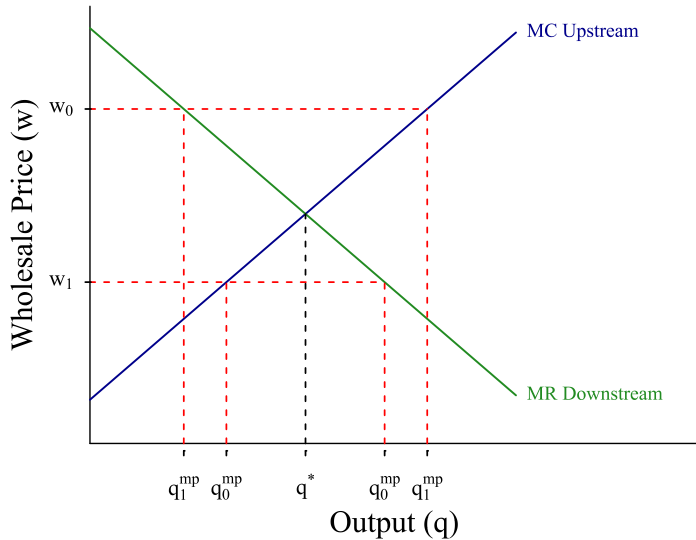
We solve the model for every contracting pair-year using the estimated primitives

- (i) electricity demand curve at downstream firm
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## Estimation Procedure

1. Solve equilibrium  $(q, p, w)$  under monopsonistic and monopolistic conduct to form payoff functions
2. For each  $\beta \in (0, 1)$ , form  $q(\beta)$  and  $w(\beta)$  under monopolistic and monopsonistic bargaining. Solve  $\beta$  as intersection of  $w(\beta)$  and  $w$ . equilibrium conditions
3. Compare  $\beta$  to  $\beta^*$ ,  $q(\beta)$  to  $q(\beta^*)$  to pick vertical conduct, applying theorem 1.

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# Bargaining problem

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \max_{w_{ud}} \left\{ \left[ w_{ud} q_{ud}^{ms}(w_{ud}) - \left( C_u(Q_{-d} + q_{ud}^{ms}(w_{ud})) - C_u(Q_{-d}) \right) \right]^{1-\beta} \right. \\ \quad \times \left. \left[ \sum_t f_t \left( \left[ P_t(Q_{-dt} + Q_{dt}^{ms}) Q_{dt}^{ms} - C_{dt}(Q_{dt}^{ms}) \right] - \left[ P_t(Q_{-dt} + \bar{Q}_{dt}^{-u}) \bar{Q}_{dt}^{-u} - C_{dt}^{-u}(\bar{Q}_{dt}^{-u}) \right] \right) \right]^\beta \right\} \\ Q_{dt}^{ms}(q_{ud}) = \underset{\tilde{Q}_{dt}}{\operatorname{argmax}} P_t(Q_{-dt} + Q_{dt}) Q_{dt} - C_{dt}^{-u}(Q_{dt}) \quad \text{where } Q_{dt} = \tilde{Q}_{dt} + Q_{udt} \\ q_{ud}^{ms}(C_u, w_{ud}) = \underset{q_{ud}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum w_{ud} q_{ud} - C_u(\sum q_{ud}) \end{array} \right.$$

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# Bargaining problem

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \max_{w_{ud}} \left\{ \left[ w_{ud} q_{ud}^{mp}(w_{ud}) - \left( C_u(Q_{-d} + q_{ud}^{mp}(w_{ud})) - C_u(Q_{-d}) \right) \right]^{1-\beta} \right. \\ \quad \times \left[ \sum_t f_t \left( \left[ P_t(Q_{-dt} + Q_{dt}^{mp}) Q_{dt}^{mp} - C_{dt}(Q_{dt}^{mp}) \right] - \left[ P_t(Q_{-dt} + \bar{Q}_{dt}^{-u}) \bar{Q}_{dt}^{-u} - C_{dt}^{-u}(\bar{Q}_{dt}^{-u}) \right] \right) \right]^\beta \right\} \\ Q_{dt}^{mp}(C_{dt}), q_{ud}^{mp}(w_{ud}) = \arg \max_{Q_{dt}} q_{ud} [P_t(Q_{-dt} + Q_{dt}) Q_{dt} - C_{dt}(Q_{dt})] \end{array} \right.$$

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# Applications: Labor Unions and Farmer Cooperatives

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Industry	Sources	$\psi$	$\eta$	$\beta^*$
U.S. construction workers	Kroft, Mogstad, Luo, and Setzler (forthcoming)	0.29	-7.30	0.42
Chinese tobacco farmers	Rubens (2023), Ciliberto and Kuminoff (2010)	1.904	-1.14	0.92

Notes: This table reports parameters for the inverse elasticity of supply,  $\psi$ , and the own-price elasticity of downstream demand,  $\eta$ , as estimated in the referenced studies. The final column shows the implied efficient level of buyer power,  $\beta^*$ , computed from these parameters using the log-linear approximation discussed in the text.