Labor Economics Term Paper

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Q1

(1) The value functions of the worker are:

$$\begin{cases} rW = w + \lambda(\bar{u} + f_e - W) & \text{for employment} \\ r\bar{u} = z + \theta q(\theta)(W - \bar{u}) & \text{for unemployment} \end{cases}$$

W and \bar{u} are the values of employment and unemployment. w and z are the instantaneous utility of employment and unemployment, respectively. r is the discount factor, and $q(\theta)$ is the matching function of $\theta = \frac{v}{u}$. v and u is the vacancy rate and the unemployment rate of the workers, satisfying $q'(\theta) < 0$. When a worker was dismissed, they receive f_e as the severance payment.

(2) The value functions of the firm are:

$$\begin{cases} rJ = (p - w) + \lambda(V - f_e - f_a J) & \text{for having a vacancy filled} \\ rV = -c + q(\theta)(J - W) & \text{for vacancy} \end{cases}$$

J and *V* are the values of vacancy filled and vacancy. p is the the instantaneous productivity of the worker and w is the instantaneous wage. c is the expected hiring cost. When a firm fire a worker, then it have to pay the severance payment f_e to the worker, and f_a as the related cost for firing.

(3) By the free-entry/exit condition, V = 0 holds. Then, the value function of vacancy is rewritten as follows:

$$J = \frac{c}{q(\theta)}$$

Then, substituting this into the value function of having vacancy filled,

$$rJ = p - w + \lambda(V - f_e - f_a - J)$$

$$p - w = (r + \lambda)\left(\frac{c}{q(\theta)}\right) - \lambda(f_e + f_a)$$

$$p - w = \frac{(r + \lambda)c - \lambda(f_e + f_a)}{q(\theta)},$$

which corresponds to the job creation condition.

(4)

Q2

- (1)
- (2)
- (3)
- (4)

Q3

- (1)
- (2)
- (3)
- (4)