

```
In [1]: using Plots
```

Baseline Parameterization

```
In [2]: k = 6 # price_intervals
        α = 0.3 # step_size
        δ = 0.95 # discount_factor

        P = 0:1/k:1 # prices/action space (state space is competitor prices)

        # convergence if Q doesn't change for 100,000 consecutive periods (Calvano 2020, missing from Klein 2021)
        conv_len = 100_000

Out[2]: 100000
```

Learning

Define functions

```
In [3]: mutable struct Firm
        Q::AbstractMatrix # Q matrix ∈ M(actions, states)
        prices::Array # price history (save all for later calculations/plotting)
    end

        """Convert price p to index in Q matrix"""
        p2in(p) = Int(p * k + 1)

Out[3]: p2in
```

```
In [4]: """Calculate demand (linear)"""
        function D_i(p_i, p_j)
            if p_i < p_j
                1 - p_i
            elseif p_i == p_j
                0.5 * (1 - p_i)
            else
                0
            end
        end
```

```
        """Calculate profit"""
        π_i(p_i, p_j) = p_i * D_i(p_i, p_j)
```

```
In [5]: """Calculate argmax but return random if multiple found"""
        rand_argmax(arr::Array) = rand(findall(x -> x == maximum(arr), arr))
```

```
Out[5]: rand_argmax
```

```
In [6]: """Calculate argmax but return maximum if multiple found"""
        max_argmax(arr::Array) = maximum(findall(x -> x == maximum(arr), arr))
```

```
Out[6]: max_argmax
```

```
In [7]: """Return optimal strategy with ties chosen randomly"""
        function opt_strategy_rand(Q::Matrix, p::Number)
            (rand_argmax(Q[:, p2in(p)]) - 1) / k
        end
```

```
Out[7]: opt_strategy_rand
```

```
In [8]: """Return optimal strategy with ties given to the max price"""
        function opt_strategy_max(Q::Matrix, p::Number)
            (max_argmax(Q[:, p2in(p)]) - 1) / k
        end
```

```
Out[8]: opt_strategy_max
```

```
In [9]: """Update Q matrix at time t"""
        function update_Q(Q_i::Matrix, p_i::Array, p_j::Array, t::Int)
            ind_i, ind_j = p2in(p_i[t]), p2in(p_j[t])
            prev_est = Q_i[ind_i, ind_j]
            new_est = π_i(p_i[t], p_j[t]) + δ * π_i(p_i[t], p_j[t+1]) + δ^2 * maximum(Q_i[:, p2in(p_j[t+1])])
            Q_i[ind_i, ind_j] = (1 - α) * prev_est + α * new_est

            return Q_i
        end
```

```
Out[9]: update_Q!
```

```
In [10]: """Run simulation of duopoly for T periods"""
        function simulate_dupoly(T::Int)

            # initialize firms w/ t = {1, 3}
            Q1 = zeros(length(P), length(P))
            Q2 = zeros(length(P), length(P))

            prices1 = Array{Float64}(undef, T)
            prices2 = Array{Float64}(undef, T)

            prices1[1] = prices1[2] = rand(P) # t=1
            prices2[1] = prices2[2] = rand(P) # t=2
            prices1[3], prices2[3] = rand(P), prices2[2] # t=3

            firms = (Firm(Q1, prices1), Firm(Q2, prices2))

            converged = false
            prev_Q = [copy(Q1), copy(Q2)]
            unchanged = 0

            # update Q matrices
            i, j = 2, 1 # i = firm2 b/c t=4
            for t in 4:T

                # update Q at t-2
                update_Q!(firms[i].Q, firms[i].prices, firms[j].prices, t-2)

                # update unchanged and check for convergence
                firms[i].Q == prev_Q[i] ? (unchanged += 1) : (unchanged = 0)
                unchanged == conv_len && (converged = true)
                prev_Q[i] = copy(firms[i].Q)

                # set new prices
                ε = (0.00001)^(t/T) # ε = (1 - θ)^t where decay parameter θ is set s.t. ε_T = .0001%
                firms[i].prices[t] = rand() < ε ? rand(P) : opt_strategy_rand(firms[i].Q, firms[j].prices[t-1])
                firms[j].prices[t] = firms[j].prices[t-1]

                # swap i and j b/c sequential
                i, j = j, i
            end

            return firms, converged
        end
```

```
Out[10]: simulate_dupoly
```

```
In [11]: """Calculate profit history given price histories"""
        function getprofits(prices1, prices2)
            profits1 = [π_i(prices1[t], prices2[t]) for t in 1:length(prices1)]
            profits2 = [π_i(prices2[t], prices1[t]) for t in 1:length(prices1)]
            profits1, profits2
        end
```

```
Out[11]: getprofits
```

```
In [12]: """Plot price and profit histories"""
        function makeplots(prices1, prices2, profits1, profits2, step::Int; titled = "")
            x = 1:step:length(prices1)
            p1 = plot(x, [prices1[x] prices2[x]], ylim=(0, 1), title = "Price (every $(step)th)")
            p2 = plot(x, [profits1[x] profits2[x]], title = "Profit (every $(step)th)")
            plot(p1, p2, label=["Firm 1" "Firm 2"], layout=(2,1), plot_title=titled, titlelocation=:left)
        end
```

```
Out[12]: makeplots
```

Run experiment

```
In [25]: T = 500_000

        firms, converged = simulate_dupoly(T)
        firm1, firm2 = firms

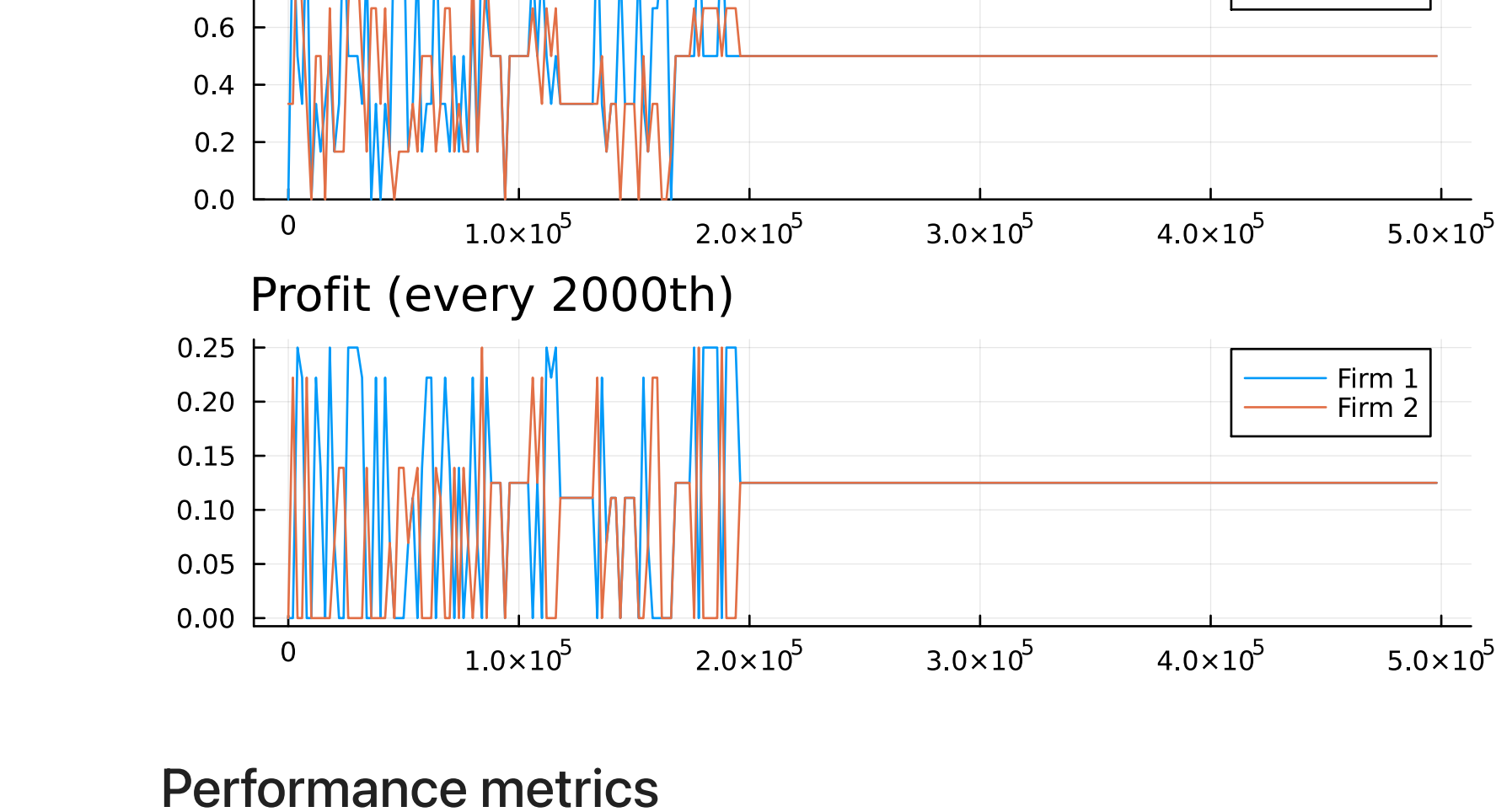
        # calculate profit history
        profits1, profits2 = getprofits(firm1.prices, firm2.prices)

        @show converged
        firm1.prices[end], profits1[end], firm2.prices[end], profits2[end]

converged = true
```

```
Out[25]: (0.5, 0.125, 0.5, 0.125)
```

```
In [26]: makeplots(firm1.prices, firm2.prices, profits1, profits2, 2_000, titled = "Learning Trajectory")
```



Performance metrics

Define metrics

```
In [33]: """Calculate optimal Q-function given current competitor strategy"""
        function optimal_Q(firm_i::Firm, firm_j::Firm; max_periods=10_000_000)

            main = Firm(copy(firm_i.Q), firm_i.prices[end-1:end])
            comp = Firm(firm_j.Q, firm_j.prices[end-1:end])

            firms = (main, comp)

            # loop over all action-state pairs in Q until convergence
            prev_Q = copy(firms[i].Q)
            unchanged = 0 # periods Q has remained unchanged

            i, j = 1, 2
            periods = 0
            while true

                # stop if hasnt converged
                periods == max_periods && break

                # update Q if firm is main (to get optimal)
                if i == 1

                    update_Q!(firms[i].Q, firms[i].prices, firms[j].prices, 1)

                    # update unchanged and check for convergence
                    firms[i].Q == prev_Q ? (unchanged += 1) : (unchanged = 0)
                    unchanged == conv_len && break
                    prev_Q = copy(firms[i].Q)

                    # set epsilon to .1 b/c cant use decay since dont know when will converge
                    # perhaps theres a better value / way to decay?
                    ε = .1
                    firms[i].prices[2] = rand() < ε ? rand(P) : opt_strategy_rand(firms[i].Q, firms[j].prices[2])
                else
                    firms[j].prices[2] = opt_strategy_max(firms[j].Q, firms[i].prices[2])
                end

                firms[j].prices[1] = firms[j].prices[2] # future price becomes current price

                i, j = j, i
                periods += 1
            end
            firms[i].Q
        end
```

```
Out[33]: optimal_Q
```

```
In [29]: """Calculate profitability metric := avg profit of final 1000 periods"""
        Π_i(profits::Array{Float64}) = sum(profits[end-999:end]) / 1000

        Π_i(profits1), Π_i(profits2)
```

```
Out[29]: (0.125, 0.125)
```

```
In [34]: """Calculate optimality metric := estimated / best-response discounted future profits"""
        function Γ_i(firm_i::Firm, firm_j::Firm)
            ind_i, ind_j = p2in(firm_i.prices[end]), p2in(firm_j.prices[end])
            firm_i.Q[ind_i, ind_j] / maximum(optimal_Q(firm_i, firm_j)[i, ind_j])
        end
```

```
Out[34]: 1.0
```

```
In [35]: """Check if outcome is a Nash equilibrium"""
        isNash(firm_i, firm_j; tol = 0.00001) = isapprox(Γ_i(firm_i, firm_j), 1, atol = tol) &&
            isapprox(Γ_i(firm_j, firm_i), 1, atol = tol)
```

```
Out[35]: true
```

```
In [36]: best_response = optimal_Q(firm1, firm2)
```

```
Out[36]: 7x7 Matrix{Float64}:
 2.14344  2.14344  1.30435  2.14344  1.50902  1.53851  1.54842
 2.14344  2.21288  2.08718  2.28233  1.65497  1.59299  1.54922
 2.14344  2.14344  1.32877  2.36566  1.54983  1.56951  1.56043
 2.375    2.375    1.34622  2.5    2.68145  1.60014  1.5716
 2.25625  2.25625  1.32423  2.25625  1.63189  2.50226  2.50469
 2.25625  2.25625  1.32501  2.25625  1.61265  1.55132  1.56628
 2.25625  2.25625  1.29459  2.25625  1.77304  1.5543  1.53323
```

Competition

```
In [55]: """Simulate competition using derived Q functions"""
        function compete(firm_i::Firm, firm_j::Firm; periods::Int; deviate=0)
            firms = (firm_i, firm_j)
            tprices = (Array{Float64}(undef, periods), Array{Float64}(undef, periods))
            tprices[1][1] = 1

            i, j = 2, 1
            for t in 2:periods
                tprices[i][t] = opt_strategy_max(firms[i].Q, tprices[j][t-1])
                (t == deviate) && (tprices[i][t] -= 1/k) # undercut by 1 interval
                tprices[j][t] = tprices[j][t-1]
            end
            tprices
        end
```

```
Out[55]: compete
```

Comparison with firm 1's best-response Q function

```
In [38]: tprices = compete(firm1, firm2, 20)
        tprofits1, tprofits2 = getprofits(tprices[1], tprices[2])

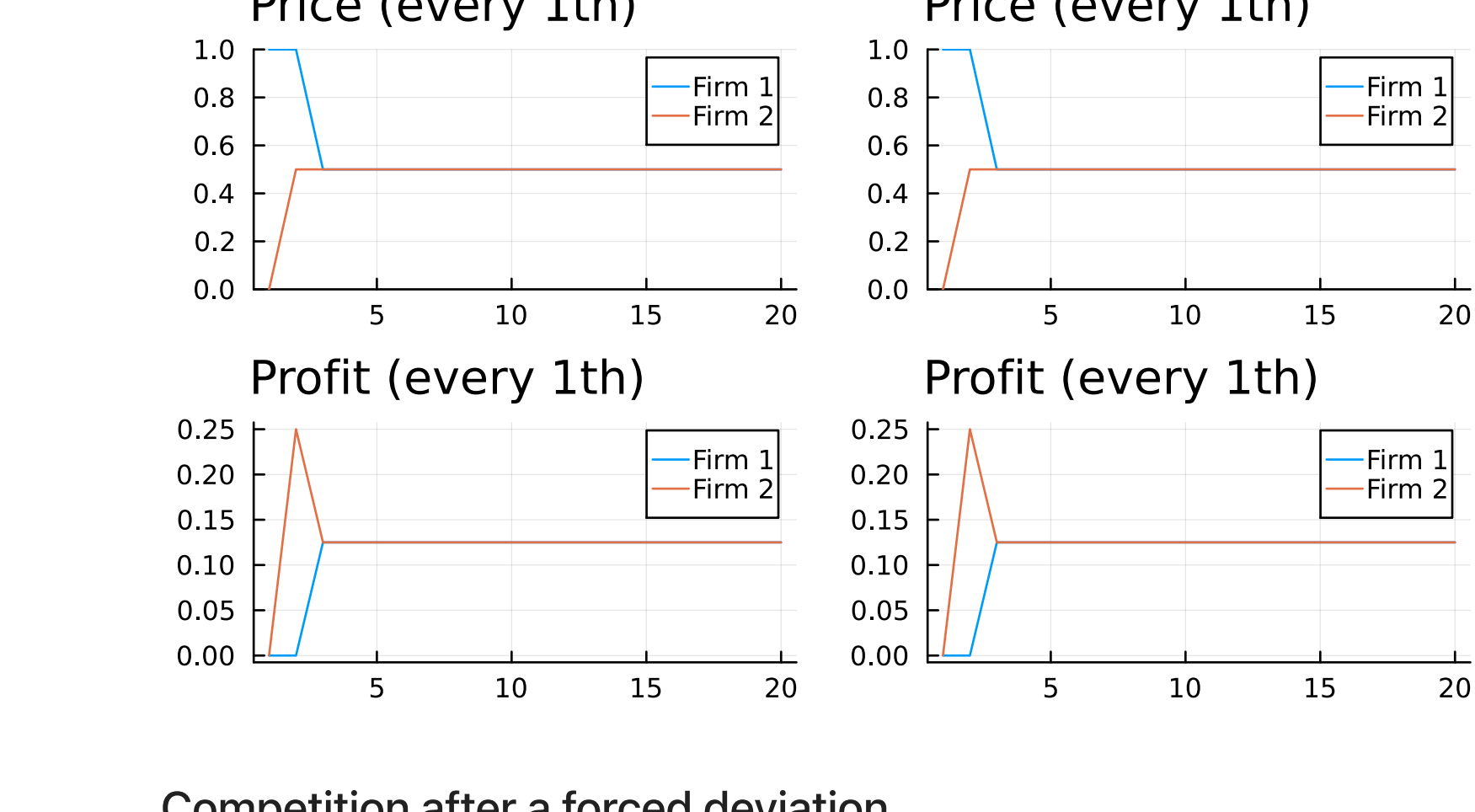
        tprices_best = compete(Firm(best_response, []), firm2, 20)
        tprofits_best1, tprofits_best2 = getprofits(tprices_best[1], tprices_best[2])

        println("Total Firm 1 current profits = ", sum(tprofits1))
        println("Total Firm 1 best-response profits = ", sum(tprofits_best1))

        p1 = makeplots(tprices[1], tprices[2], tprofits1, tprofits2, 1, titled="Current")
        p2 = makeplots(tprices_best[1], tprices_best[2], tprofits_best1, tprofits_best2, 1, titled="Best-Response")
        plot(p1, p2)
```

Total Firm 1 current profits = 2.25

Total Firm 1 best-response profits = 2.25



Competition after a forced deviation

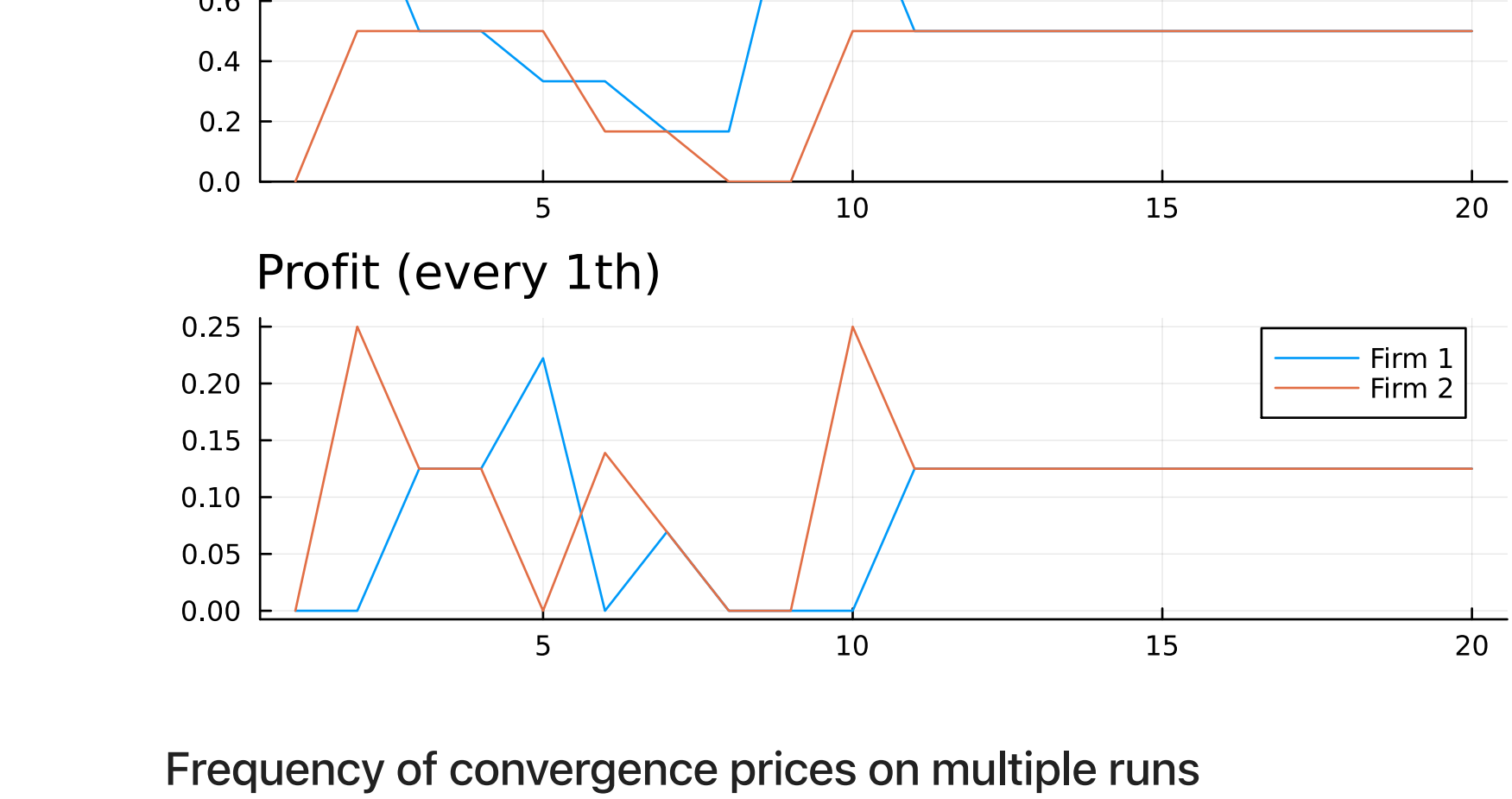
Firm 1 deviates at t=5. Deviation profits of 1.79 are lower than non-deviation profits of 2.25 (from best-response comparison). Firm 2 punishes Firm 1 by its reducing price further before returning to the monopoly level.

```
In [64]: tprices = compete(firm1, firm2, 20, deviate = 5)
        tprofits1, tprofits2 = getprofits(tprices[1], tprices[2])

        println("Total Firm 1 deviation profits = ", sum(tprofits1))

        makeplots(tprices[1], tprices[2], tprofits1, tprofits2, 1, titled="Forced Deviation")
```

Total Firm 1 deviation profits = 1.7916666666666665



Frequency of convergence prices on multiple runs

Figure 2 in Klein 2021 had 667/1000 runs lead to a Nash equilibrium

```
In [42]: T = 500_000
        runs = 50 # 1000

        convg_prices = Array{Tuple{Float64, Float64}}(undef, runs)
        nashcount = 0
        for i in 1:runs
            firms, converged = simulate_dupoly(T)
            convg_prices[i] = (firms[1].prices[end], firms[2].prices[end])

            nashcount += isNash(firms[1], firms[2])
        end
```

```
In [43]: nashcount
```

```
Out[43]: 33
```

```
In [44]: freq = Dict{()
        for tup in convg_prices
            freq[tup] = get(freq, value, 0) + 1
        end
        sorted = sort(freq, byvalue=true, rev=true)
```

Out[44]: OrderedCollections.OrderedDict{Any, Any} with 9 entries:

```
(0.333333, 0.333333) => 24
(0.5, 0.5) => 11
(0.5, 0.333333) => 6
(0.166667, 0.666667) => 3
(0.333333, 0.5) => 2
(0.833333, 0.666667) => 1
(0.333333, 0.166667) => 1
(0.666667, 0.666667) => 1
(1.0, 0.5) => 1
```

```
In [ ]:
```