

Industrial Organization, Week 4

Dynamic Oligopoly

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Agenda

1 Big picture

2 Stackelberg

Dynamic

- ▶ Plan: We look at our second dynamic model today
- ▶ Economic modelling works by gradually making things more complicated

Sequential equilibrium

- ▶ In game theory there is a whole family of equilibrium concepts we can use when there is time
- ▶ Examples: Risk, Markovian, Perfect, subgame perfect, bayesian, sunspot, etc
- ▶ Refinements: The most famous is called cho kreps intuitive criterion
- ▶ Most are discrete concepts
- ▶ In infinite games there are more equilibria possible which enable cooperation

Agenda

1 Big picture

2 Stackelberg

Stackelberg

- ▶ Born in 1905 Russia, died at 40 in Spain
- ▶ What happens if one firm produces first?
- ▶ Incumbent and Entrant take decisions at different times



Commitment



Timing and Strategy

- ▶ $t=0$ Firm 1 produces first
- ▶ $t=1$ Firm 2 produces second
- ▶ $t=2$ Profits are realized
- ▶ Backward induction implies, start with second mover
- ▶ Then plug in second movers move into first movers
- ▶ Once we have both we can plug them into profits/price

Sequential equilibrium 1

The data

$$P(q) = 600 - Q; c(q) = qc$$

The profit function is

$$\pi_2(q_1, q_2) = P(Q)q_2 - cq_2$$

FOC

$$\frac{\delta \pi_2}{\delta q_2} = 600 - q_1 - 2q_2 - c = 0$$

Re-arrange

$$q_2 = \frac{600 - c - q_1}{2}$$

Sequential equilibrium 2

Now we setup the profit of firm 1

$$\pi_1(q_1, q_2) = (600 - q_1 - q_2)q_1 - q_1c$$

Plug-in the reaction of firm 2

$$\pi_1(q_1, q_2) = (600 - q_1 - \frac{600 - c - q_1}{2})q_1 - q_1c$$

Simplify

$$= (300 + \frac{c}{2} - \frac{q_1}{2})q_1 - cq_1$$

Take the derivative

$$\frac{\delta \pi_1}{\delta q_1} = 300 + \frac{c}{2} - q_1 - c = 0$$

Solve for the quantity

$$q_1 = 300 - \frac{c}{2}$$

Sequential equilibrium 3

We have our two q 's

Plug-in the reaction of firm 2

Price:

$$q_1 = 300 - \frac{c}{2}; q_2 = \frac{600 - c - q_1}{2}$$

$$q_2 = 150 - \frac{c}{4}$$

$$P(q) = 150 + \frac{3c}{4}$$

How to plot isoprofit

- ▶ To plot the isoprofit on the reaction curve graph do the following:
- ▶ pick a number, say h
- ▶ equalize $\pi_1(q_1, q_2) = h$
- ▶ solve for q_2
- ▶ Do this a few times with different h
- ▶ Plot each q_2
- ▶ note: if the curves intersect you have a mistake