

APPENDIX A  
PROOF OF THEOREM 1

When  $\alpha = 1$ :

The first-order partial derivative of the utility function is:

$$\frac{\partial U_n}{\partial l_n} = r \frac{\tau_n a \delta_n}{T - t(l_n)} - \tau_n a \beta v_n. \quad (1)$$

The second-order partial derivative of the utility function is:

$$\frac{\partial^2 U_n}{\partial^2 l_n} = -r \frac{(\tau_n a \delta_n)^2}{(T - t(l_n))^2} < 0. \quad (2)$$

Since the second-order derivative is always negative, the utility function is strictly concave with respect to  $l_n$ , so it has a unique maximum.

- When  $v_n \leq v_s$ :  $\delta_n \leq 0$ , the first-order derivative is always less than zero, so the optimal decision is  $l_n^*(r) = l_n^{\min}$ .
- When  $v_n > v_s$ :  $\delta_n > 0$ . Set the first-order derivative to zero and solve for the optimal cut layer:

$$l_n^{\alpha=1}(r) = \frac{1}{a\beta v_n \tau_n} r - \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} + \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} - \frac{b}{a}. \quad (3)$$

Since  $l_n^{\min} \leq l_n \leq l_n^{\max}$ , we give the following solution:

$$l_n^*(r) = \begin{cases} l_n^{\min}, & 0 < r < \xi_{\text{left}}^{n,\alpha=1}, \\ l_n^{\alpha=1}(r), & \xi_{\text{left}}^n \leq r \leq \xi_{\text{right}}^{n,\alpha=1}, \\ l_n^{\max}, & \xi_{\text{right}}^{n,\alpha=1} < r \leq r_{\max}, \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

where  $\xi_{\text{left}}^{n,\alpha=1} = a\beta v_n \tau_n \left( l_n^{\min} + \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} - \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} + \frac{b}{a} \right)$ ,

$\xi_{\text{right}}^{n,\alpha=1} = a\beta v_n \tau_n \left( l_n^{\max} + \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} - \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} + \frac{b}{a} \right)$ ,  $\delta_n = \delta_n$ .

When  $\alpha = 1$ , the optimal solution function for client  $n$  is:

$$l_n^*(r) = \begin{cases} l_n^{\min}, & \text{if } v_n \leq v_s, \\ \begin{cases} l_n^{\min}, & 0 < r < \xi_{\text{left}}^n, \\ l_n^{\alpha=1}(r), & \xi_{\text{left}}^n \leq r \leq \xi_{\text{right}}^n, \\ l_n^{\max}, & \xi_{\text{right}}^n < r \leq r_{\max}, \end{cases} & \text{if } v_n > v_s. \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

When  $\alpha \neq 1$ :

The first-order partial derivative of the utility function is:

$$\frac{\partial U_n}{\partial l_n} = r \frac{\tau_n a \delta_n}{(T - t(l_n))^\alpha} - \tau_n a \beta v_n. \quad (6)$$

The second-order partial derivative of the utility function is:

$$\frac{\partial^2 U_n}{\partial^2 l_n} = -r \alpha \frac{(\tau_n a \delta_n)^2}{(T - t(l_n))^{\alpha+1}} < 0. \quad (7)$$

Since the second-order derivative is always negative, the utility function is strictly concave with respect to  $l_n$ , so it has a unique maximum.

- When  $v_n \leq v_s$ :  $\delta_n \leq 0$ . The first-order derivative is always less than zero, so the best response is  $l_n^*(r) = l_n^{\min}$ .
- When  $v_n > v_s$ : Set the first-order derivative to zero and solve for the optimal cut layer:

$$l_n^{0 \leq \alpha < 1}(r) = \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{a\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \tau_n} r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} - \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} + \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} - \frac{b}{a}. \quad (8)$$

Since  $l_n^{\min} \leq l_n \leq l_n^{\max}$ , we give the following solution:

$$l_n^*(r) = \begin{cases} l_n^{\min}, & 0 < r < \xi_{\text{left}}^{n,0 \leq \alpha < 1}, \\ l_n^{0 \leq \alpha < 1}(r), & \xi_{\text{left}}^n \leq r \leq \xi_{\text{right}}^{n,0 \leq \alpha < 1}, \\ l_n^{\max}, & \xi_{\text{right}}^{n,0 \leq \alpha < 1} < r \leq r_{\max}, \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

where  $\xi_{\text{left}}^{n,0 \leq \alpha < 1} = \left( \frac{a\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \tau_n}{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}} \right)^\alpha \left( l_n^{\min} + \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} - \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} + \frac{b}{a} \right)^\alpha$ ,

$\xi_{\text{right}}^{n,0 \leq \alpha < 1} = \left( \frac{a\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \tau_n}{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}} \right)^\alpha \left( l_n^{\max} + \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} - \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} + \frac{b}{a} \right)^\alpha$ .

When  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , the optimal solution function for client  $n$  is:

$$l_n^*(r) = \begin{cases} l_n^{\min}, & \text{if } v_n \leq v_s, \\ \begin{cases} l_n^{\min}, & 0 < r < \xi_{\text{left}}^{n,0 \leq \alpha < 1}, \\ l_n^{0 \leq \alpha < 1}(r), & \xi_{\text{left}}^{n,0 \leq \alpha < 1} \leq r \leq \xi_{\text{right}}^{n,0 \leq \alpha < 1}, \\ l_n^{\max}, & \xi_{\text{right}}^{n,0 \leq \alpha < 1} < r \leq r_{\max}, \end{cases} & \text{if } v_n > v_s. \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

We integrate the solution forms of two cases and find that when  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ ,  $\xi_{\text{left}}^n(\alpha) =$

$\left( \frac{a\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \tau_n}{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}} \right)^\alpha \left( l_n^{\min} + \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} - \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} + \frac{b}{a} \right)^\alpha$ ,  $\xi_{\text{right}}^n(\alpha) =$

$\left( \frac{a\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \tau_n}{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}} \right)^\alpha \left( l_n^{\max} + \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} - \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} + \frac{b}{a} \right)^\alpha$  and

$$l_n^\alpha(r) = \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{a\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \tau_n} r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} - \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} + \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} - \frac{b}{a}.$$

In summary, the optimal solution function for client  $n$  is:

$$l_n^*(r) = \begin{cases} l_n^{\min}, & \text{if } v_n \leq v_s, \\ \begin{cases} l_n^{\min}, & 0 < r < \xi_{\text{left}}^n(\alpha), \\ l_n^\alpha(r), & \xi_{\text{left}}^n(\alpha) \leq r \leq \xi_{\text{right}}^n(\alpha), \\ l_n^{\max}, & \xi_{\text{right}}^n(\alpha) < r \leq r_{\max}, \end{cases} & \text{if } v_n > v_s. \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

APPENDIX B  
PROOF OF THEOREM 2

Under assumption 1, we have  $T_n = t_n^{max}$ , so when  $v_s < v_n$ :

$$\begin{aligned} l_n^\alpha(r) &= \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{a\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\tau_n} r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} - \frac{t_n^{max}}{a\tau_n\delta_n} + \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} - \frac{b}{a} \\ &= \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}}{a\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\tau_n} - \frac{\tau_n(-b\delta_n + S_t + \frac{f(L)}{v_s})}{a\tau_n\delta_n} + \frac{S_t + \frac{f(L)}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} - \frac{b}{a} \\ &= \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{a\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\tau_n} r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \geq 0. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Therefore, the Assumption 1 yields a candidate cut-layer that is always nonnegative. Under Assumption 1, where the maximum allowable cut layer approaches positive infinity, any such value for users with  $r$  and  $v_n > v_s$  automatically lies in the feasible interval  $[l_n^{min}, l_n^{max}]$ .

Therefore, we revised the conclusion in the general case and provided the solution under assumption 1. In summary, the optimal solution function for client  $n$  under assumption 1 is:

$$l_n^*(r) = \begin{cases} l_n^{min}, & \text{if } v_s \geq v_n, \\ l_n^\alpha(r), & \text{if } v_s < v_n. \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

APPENDIX C  
PROOF OF THEOREM 3

1)  $v_s < v_{min}$ : When  $v_s < v_n$  (i.e., the server's computational capability is inferior to that of the clients), and under the setting ( $\alpha = 1$ ), the server's cost function can be derived based on the clients' optimal strategies. For simplicity, we define  $Z$  as all terms in the equation that are independent of the variable  $r$ . After simplification, the cost function takes the form:

$$\begin{aligned} C_s(r) &= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} r \cdot \ln \left( r \cdot \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} \right) - \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} a\tau_n v_s \beta \frac{1}{a\beta v_n \tau_n} r \\ &\quad + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} a\tau_n v_s \beta \left[ L + \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} - \frac{\left( S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s} \right)}{a\delta_n} + \frac{b}{a} \right] \\ &= Nr \ln r + r \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \left[ \ln \left( \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} \right) - \frac{v_s}{v_n} \right] + Z. \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

To determine the optimal reward  $r^*$ , we analyze the first and second derivatives of  $C_s(r)$ :

$$\frac{\partial C_s}{\partial r} = N(1 + \ln r) + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \left( \ln \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} - \frac{v_s}{v_n} \right), \quad (15)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 C_s}{\partial r^2} = \frac{N}{r} > 0 \quad \text{for } r > 0. \quad (16)$$

The positive second derivative implies that  $C_s(r)$  is strictly convex in  $r$ , ensuring that any critical point found is the global minimum. Setting the first derivative to zero yields the unique optimal reward:

$$r^* = \exp \left\{ - \frac{\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \left[ \ln \left( \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} \right) - \frac{v_s}{v_n} \right]}{N} - 1 \right\}. \quad (17)$$

2)  $v_{min} \leq v_s \leq v_{max}$ : When  $v_{min} < v_s < v_{max}$ , the server's cost function under the proportional fairness setting ( $\alpha = 1$ ) is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} C_s(r) &= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} r \cdot \ln \left( r \cdot \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} \right) + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} r \cdot \ln (T - t_n(l_n^{min})) \\ &\quad + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} a\tau_n v_s \beta (L - l_n^{min}) \\ &\quad + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} a\tau_n v_s \beta \left( L - \left( \frac{r}{a\beta v_n \tau_n} - \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} + \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} - \frac{b}{a} \right) \right) \\ &= r \left[ \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} \left( \ln \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} - \frac{v_s}{v_n} \right) + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} \ln (T - t_n(l_n^{min})) \right] \\ &\quad + N_1 r \ln r + Z, \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

The first-order and second-order derivatives of  $C_s(r)$  with respect to  $r$  are:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial C_s}{\partial r} &= N_1(1 + \ln r) + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} \left( \ln \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} - \frac{v_s}{v_n} \right) + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} \ln (T - t_n(l_n^{min})). \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 C_s}{\partial r^2} = \frac{N_1}{r} \geq 0. \quad (20)$$

The positive second derivative implies strong convexity, ensuring the existence of a unique global minimum, given by:

$$r^* = \exp \left\{ - \frac{\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} \left( \ln \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} - \frac{v_s}{v_n} \right) + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} \ln (T - t_n(l_n^{min}))}{N_1} - 1 \right\}. \quad (21)$$

APPENDIX D  
PROOF OF THEOREM 4

1)  $v_s < v_{min}$ : When  $v_s < v_n$  (i.e., the server's computational capability is inferior to that of the clients), and under

the setting ( $\alpha \neq 1$ ), the cost function takes the form:

$$\begin{aligned}
C_s(r) &= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} r \frac{\left(\frac{r\delta_n}{\beta v_n}\right)^{\frac{1-\alpha}{\alpha}}}{1-\alpha} - \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} a\tau_n v_s \beta \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{a\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \tau_n} r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \\
&+ \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} a\tau_n v_s \beta \left[ L + \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} - \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} + \frac{b}{a} \right] \\
&= r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \left( \frac{\left(\frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n}\right)^{\frac{1-\alpha}{\alpha}}}{1-\alpha} - a\tau_n v_s \beta \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{a\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \tau_n} \right) + Z \\
&= r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \left( \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}} \right) \left( \frac{v_n}{1-\alpha} - v_s \right) + Z,
\end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

where  $z$  is still all terms in the equation that are independent of the variable  $r$ .

To determine the optimal reward  $r^*$ , we analyze the first and second derivatives of  $C_s(r)$ :

$$\frac{\partial C_s}{\partial r} = r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} \frac{1}{\alpha} \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \left( \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}} \right) \left( \frac{v_n}{1-\alpha} - v_s \right), \tag{23}$$

At this time, the server's cost function is a power function. Since  $v_n \geq v_{min} > v_s$ , so  $\frac{v_n}{1-\alpha} > v_n > v_s$ , so  $\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \left( \frac{v_n}{1-\alpha} - v_s \right) > 0$ . At this point,  $C_s(r)$  is a monotonically increasing function, then  $r^* = r_{min} = 0$ .

2)  $v_{min} \leq v_s \leq v_{max}$ : We give the following definition for similarity:  $\gamma_1 = \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} \left( \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}} \right) \left( \frac{v_n}{1-\alpha} - v_s \right)$  and  $\gamma_2 = \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} \frac{(T_n - t_n(l_n^{min}))^{1-\alpha}}{1-\alpha}$ .  $Z$  represents the constant term aggregates all  $r$ -independent expressions.

When  $v_{min} < v_s < v_{max}$ , the server's cost function under the setting ( $0 < \alpha < 1$ ) is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
C_s(r) &= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} r \frac{\left(\frac{r\delta_n}{\beta v_n}\right)^{\frac{1-\alpha}{\alpha}}}{1-\alpha} - \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} a\tau_n v_s \beta \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{a\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \tau_n} r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \\
&+ \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} a\tau_n v_s \beta \left[ L + \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} - \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} + \frac{b}{a} \right] \\
&+ \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} r \cdot \frac{(T_n - t_n(l_n^{min}))^{1-\alpha}}{1-\alpha} + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} a\tau_n v_s \beta (L - l_n^{min}) \\
&= \gamma_1 r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} + \gamma_2 r + Z
\end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

In  $\mathcal{N}_1$ ,  $v_n > v_s$ , so  $\gamma_1 > 0$  and we have  $\gamma_2 > 0$ .  $C'_s(r) = \gamma_1 \frac{1}{\alpha} r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} + \gamma_2$  and  $C'_s(r) = \gamma_1 \frac{1}{\alpha} (\frac{1}{\alpha} - 1) r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-2}$ . So  $C'_s(r) > 0$ , then  $r^* = r_{min} = 0$ .

## APPENDIX E PROOF OF THEOREM 5

A. When  $v_s > v_{max}$

$$C_s^*(0 < \alpha < 1) = \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} r_{min} \frac{(T_n - t_n(l_n^{min}))^{1-\alpha}}{1-\alpha} + E_s(f(L) - f(l_n(r_{min}))) \tag{25}$$

$$C_s^*(\alpha = 1) = \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} r_{min} \ln(T_n - t_n(l_n^{min})) + E_s(f(L) - f(l_n(r_{min}))). \tag{26}$$

It can be proved that for any  $x > 0$  and  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , there is  $\ln x < \frac{x^{1-\alpha}}{1-\alpha}$ . According to this formula, we have for  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ ,  $\frac{(T_n - t_n(l_n^{min}))^{1-\alpha}}{1-\alpha} > \ln(T_n - t_n(l_n^{min}))$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} r_{min} \frac{(T_n - t_n(l_n^{min}))^{1-\alpha}}{1-\alpha} &> \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} r_{min} \ln(T_n - t_n(l_n^{min})) \\
C_s^*(0 < \alpha < 1) &> C_s^*(\alpha = 1)
\end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

B. When  $v_s < v_{min}$

We define  $Z = \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} a\tau_n v_s \beta \left( L + \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} - \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} + \frac{b}{a} \right)$  and  $W = -\frac{\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} (\ln \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} - \frac{v_s}{v_n})}{|N|} - 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
C_s^*(0 < \alpha < 1) &= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \left( \frac{\left(\frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n}\right)^{\frac{1-\alpha}{\alpha}}}{1-\alpha} - a\tau_n v_s \beta \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{a\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \tau_n} \right) r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \\
&+ \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} a\tau_n v_s \beta \left[ L + \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} - \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a\delta_n} + \frac{b}{a} \right] \\
&= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}} \left( \frac{v_n}{1-\alpha} - v_s \right) r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} + Z
\end{aligned} \tag{28}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
C_s^*(\alpha = 1) &= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} r^* \cdot \ln \left( r^* \cdot \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} \right) - \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} a\tau_n v_s \beta \frac{1}{a\beta v_n \tau_n} r^* \\
&+ \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} a\tau_n v_s \beta \left[ L + \frac{T_n}{a\tau_n \delta_n} - \frac{\left( S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s} \right)}{a\delta_n} + \frac{b}{a} \right] \\
&= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} e^W \cdot \ln \left( e^W \cdot \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} \right) - \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} a\tau_n v_s \beta \frac{1}{a\beta v_n \tau_n} e^W + Z \\
&= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} e^W W + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} e^W \cdot \left( \ln \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} - \frac{v_s}{v_n} \right) + Z \\
&= e^W W |N| - e^W \cdot (W + 1) |N| + Z \\
&= -e^W |N| + Z.
\end{aligned} \tag{29}$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned}
C_s^*(0 < \alpha < 1) - C_s^*(\alpha = 1) &= \\
\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}} \left( \frac{v_n}{1-\alpha} - v_s \right) r_{\min}^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} + Z - (-e^W |N| + Z) \\
&= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}} \left( \frac{v_n}{1-\alpha} - v_s \right) r_{\min}^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} + e^W |N| > 0
\end{aligned} \tag{30}$$

So  $C_s^*(0 < \alpha < 1) > C_s^*(\alpha = 1)$ .

C. when  $v_{\min} < v_s < v_{\max}$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{We define } X &= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} a \tau_n v_s \beta \left( L + \frac{T_n}{a \tau_n \delta_n} - \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a \delta_n} + \frac{b}{a} \right) \\
&+ \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} a \tau_n v_s \beta (L - l_n^{\min}) \text{ and } G = \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} \left( \ln \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} - \frac{v_s}{v_n} \right) \\
&+ \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} \ln(T_n - t_n(l_n^{\min})).
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
C_s^*(0 < \alpha < 1) &= \\
\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} r \frac{\left( \frac{r \delta_n}{\beta v_n} \right)^{\frac{1-\alpha}{\alpha}}}{1-\alpha} - \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} a \tau_n v_s \beta \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{a \beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \tau_n} r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \\
&+ \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} a \tau_n v_s \beta \left[ L + \frac{T_n}{a \tau_n \delta_n} - \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a \delta_n} + \frac{b}{a} \right] \\
&+ \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} r \cdot \frac{(T - t_n(l_n^{\min}))^{1-\alpha}}{1-\alpha} + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} a \tau_n v_s \beta (L - l_n^{\min}) \\
&= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} \left( \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}} \right) \left( \frac{v_n}{1-\alpha} - v_s \right) r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} r \cdot \frac{(T - t_n(l_n^{\min}))^{1-\alpha}}{1-\alpha} + X.
\end{aligned} \tag{31}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
C_s^*(\alpha = 1) &= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} r^* \cdot \ln \left( r^* \cdot \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} \right) + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} r^* \cdot \ln (T - t_n(l_n^{\min})) \\
&+ \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} a \tau_n v_s \beta (L - l_n^{\min}) \\
&+ \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} a \tau_n v_s \beta \left( L - \left( \frac{r}{a \beta v_n \tau_n} - \frac{T_n}{a \tau_n \delta_n} + \frac{S_t + \frac{aL+b}{v_s}}{a \delta_n} - \frac{b}{a} \right) \right) \\
&= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} r^* \cdot \ln \left( r^* \cdot \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} \right) + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} r^* \cdot \ln (T - t_n(l_n^{\min})) + X \\
&= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} e^{-\frac{G}{|\mathcal{N}_1|}-1} \cdot \ln \left( e^{-\frac{G}{|\mathcal{N}_1|}-1} \cdot \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} \right) + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} e^{-\frac{G}{|\mathcal{N}_1|}-1} \cdot \ln (T - t_n(l_n^{\min})) + X \\
&= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} e^{-\frac{G}{|\mathcal{N}_1|}-1} \left( -\frac{G}{|\mathcal{N}_1|} - 1 \right) + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} e^{-\frac{G}{|\mathcal{N}_1|}-1} \ln \left( \frac{\delta_n}{\beta v_n} \right) + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} e^{-\frac{G}{|\mathcal{N}_1|}-1} \cdot \ln (T - t_n(l_n^{\min})) + X \\
&= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} e^{-\frac{G}{|\mathcal{N}_1|}-1} \left( -\frac{G}{|\mathcal{N}_1|} - 1 \right) + |\mathcal{N}_1| e^{-\frac{G}{|\mathcal{N}_1|}-1} G + X \\
&= -e^{-\frac{G}{|\mathcal{N}_1|}-1} |\mathcal{N}_1| + X.
\end{aligned} \tag{32}$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned}
C_s^*(0 < \alpha < 1) - C_s^*(\alpha = 1) &= \\
\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} \left( \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}} \right) \left( \frac{v_n}{1-\alpha} - v_s \right) r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} r \cdot \frac{(T - t_n(l_n^{\min}))^{1-\alpha}}{1-\alpha} + X \\
&- (-e^{-\frac{G}{|\mathcal{N}_1|}-1} |\mathcal{N}_1| + X) \\
&= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_1} \left( \frac{\delta_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}}{\beta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} v_n^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}} \right) \left( \frac{v_n}{1-\alpha} - v_s \right) r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_2} r \cdot \frac{(T - t_n(l_n^{\min}))^{1-\alpha}}{1-\alpha} \\
&+ e^{-\frac{G}{|\mathcal{N}_1|}-1} |\mathcal{N}_1| > 0
\end{aligned} \tag{33}$$

So  $C_s^*(0 < \alpha < 1) > C_s^*(\alpha = 1)$ .

In summary, we have  $C_s^*(0 < \alpha < 1) > C_s^*(\alpha = 1)$ .