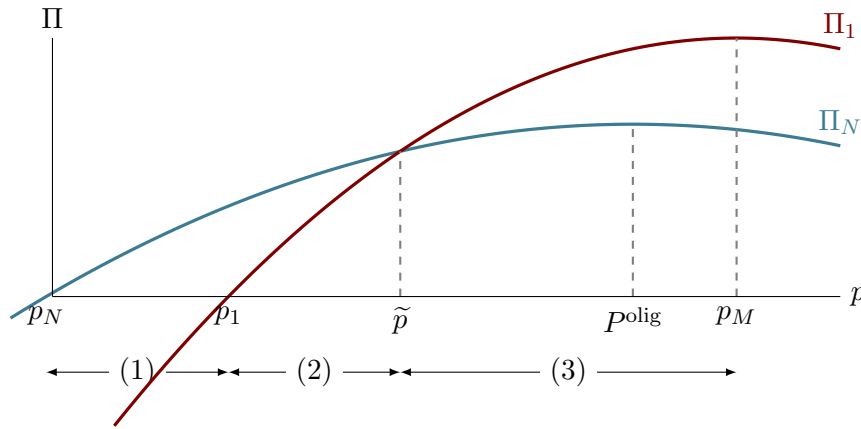


**Solution 1.**  $N$  firms compete in prices in a market with demand  $D(p)$ . Each firm  $i$  has a cost function  $C(q_i)$ , con  $C'''(q_i) > 0$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$ . Is there an equilibrium in which the resulting market price would be as if firms where price takers?

Let  $\Pi_1$  and  $\Pi_N$  be the monopoly and oligopoly benefits, respectively. If there exists  $\tilde{p} \in [p_1, p_N]$  there is a continuum of equilibria.



- For prices in the interval (1), oligopoly profits are positive, but monopoly profits are negative.
- For prices in the interval (2), both monopoly and oligopoly profits are positive, but monopoly profits are smaller in comparison. There are no incentives to deviate.
- For prices in the interval (3), both monopoly and oligopoly profits are positive, but monopoly profits are higher in comparison. There are incentives to deviate by doing *undercutting*.