

## I. APPENDICES

### A. Proof of Lemma 1

A ED  $n$  has a strategy set  $\pi_n = \{q_n, s_n\}$ , all EDs constitute the strategy set  $\Sigma = \{\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_N\}$ . Each institution their strategy is  $\gamma_m$ , the composition of the strategy set is  $\Gamma = \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_M\}$ . For all EDs that choose institution  $m$ , they constitute the set  $W_m, |W_m| = Z$ , and they jointly compete for the payoff  $\gamma_m$ , so we can list the following equation.

$$\begin{cases} u_1 = \frac{b_1 q_1}{\sum_1^Z b_x q_x} \gamma_m - c_1 q_1 \\ u_2 = \frac{b_2 q_2}{\sum_2^Z b_x q_x} \gamma_m - c_2 q_2 \\ \dots \\ u_Z = \frac{b_Z q_Z}{\sum_Z^Z b_x q_x} \gamma_m - c_Z q_Z. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

For some  $n$  of them, we find his first order derivative with  $q_n$ :

$$\frac{\partial u_n}{\partial q_n} = -\frac{b_n^2 q_n \gamma_m}{\left(\sum_1^Z b_x q_x\right)^2} + \frac{b_n \gamma_m}{\sum_1^Z b_x q_x} - c_n. \quad (2)$$

Solving this equation, we can obtain the value of  $q_n$  as follows.

$$q_n = -\frac{\sum_{x \neq n}^Z b_x q_x}{b_n} + \sqrt{\frac{\gamma_m \left(\sum_{x \neq n}^Z b_x q_x\right)}{b_n c_n}}. \quad (3)$$

We multiply  $q_n$  by a  $b_n$  to get:

$$b_n q_n = -\sum_{x \neq n}^Z b_x q_x + \sqrt{\frac{\gamma_m b_n \left(\sum_{x \neq n}^Z b_x q_x\right)}{c_n}}. \quad (4)$$

Then, we can obtain:

$$\sum b_x q_x = \frac{(Z-1) \gamma_m}{\sum \frac{c_x}{b_x}}. \quad (5)$$

Finally, we can deduce the  $q_n$ :

$$q_n = \frac{(Z-1) \gamma_m \left[ b_n \sum \frac{c_x}{b_x} - (Z-1) c_n \right]}{\left( b_n \sum \frac{c_x}{b_x} \right)^2}. \quad (6)$$

### B. Proof of Lemma 2

Here we are going to give a lemma and prove it: for the ordering  $\frac{c_1}{b_1} < \frac{c_2}{b_2} < \dots < \frac{c_n}{b_n}$ , the further ahead the ED is, i.e., the lower the ratio of cost divided by contribution, the more competitive the ED is. When we go to arrange the jobs in order of ratio from lowest to highest, the set of workers that has been currently constituted is  $\mathcal{W} = \{W_1, \dots, W_M\}$ , when a new ED  $e$  (obviously  $\frac{c_n}{b_n}$  is greater than or equal to all the previously scheduled EDs) joins, the optimal choice for all the already scheduled EDs is not to change the current strategy, i.e., to have a Nash stable structure. We assume that ED  $e(e > n)$  wants to join the task of some MO, it has 2 choices. We assume that  $e$  gets more payoff from set  $m$  than set  $m'$ :  $u_{em} \geq u_{em'}$ . That is :

$$\begin{aligned} u_{em} &= \gamma_m \left[ 1 - \frac{c_e Z_m}{b_e \left( S_m + \frac{c_e}{b_e} \right)} \right]^2 \geq \\ u_{em'} &= \gamma_{m'} \left[ 1 - \frac{c_e Z_{m'}}{b_e \left( S_{m'} + \frac{c_e}{b_e} \right)} \right]^2. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Then we must prove  $n$  in the coalition  $m$  has no motivation to join another coalition  $m'$ .

To prove the inequality, let's first rewrite it in a more readable form:

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{m'} \left[ 1 - \frac{c_n Z_{m'}}{b_n \left( \sum_{x \in W_{m'}} \frac{c_x}{b_x} + \frac{c_n}{b_n} \right)} \right]^2 &\leq \\ \gamma_m \left[ 1 - \frac{c_n Z_m}{b_n \left( \sum_{x \in W_m} \frac{c_x}{b_x} + \frac{c_e}{b_e} \right)} \right]^2. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

We are given the following conditions:

- Monotonicity:  $\frac{c_1}{b_1} < \frac{c_2}{b_2} < \dots < \frac{c_n}{b_n} < \frac{c_e}{b_e}$ .
- $e$  gets more payoff from set  $m$  than set  $m'$ :  $u_{em} \geq u_{em'}$ .

We will use these conditions to prove the inequality step by step.

- Step 1: Divide both sides of the inequality by  $\gamma_m \gamma_{m'}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\gamma_m} \left[ 1 - \frac{c_n Z_{m'}}{b_n \left( \sum_{x \in W_{m'}} \frac{c_x}{b_x} + \frac{c_n}{b_n} \right)} \right]^2 &\leq \\ \frac{1}{\gamma_{m'}} \left[ 1 - \frac{c_n Z_m}{b_n \left( \sum_{x \in W_m} \frac{c_x}{b_x} + \frac{c_e}{b_e} \right)} \right]^2. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

- Step 2: Take the square root of both sides.

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{\frac{1}{\gamma_m}} \left[ 1 - \frac{c_n Z_{m'}}{b_n \left( \sum_{x \in W_{m'}} \frac{c_x}{b_x} + \frac{c_n}{b_n} \right)} \right] &\leq \\ \sqrt{\frac{1}{\gamma_{m'}}} \left[ 1 - \frac{c_n Z_m}{b_n \left( \sum_{x \in W_m} \frac{c_x}{b_x} + \frac{c_e}{b_e} \right)} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

- Step 3: Subtract 1 from both sides, and multiply both sides by -1. This will reverse the inequality sign.

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{\frac{1}{\gamma_m}} \left[ \frac{c_n Z_{m'}}{b_n \left( \sum_{x \in W_{m'}} \frac{c_x}{b_x} + \frac{c_n}{b_n} \right)} \right] &\geq \\ \sqrt{\frac{1}{\gamma_{m'}}} \left[ \frac{c_n Z_m}{b_n \left( \sum_{x \in W_m} \frac{c_x}{b_x} + \frac{c_e}{b_e} \right)} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

From the equation 7, we can derive:

$$\sqrt{\frac{1}{\gamma'_m}} \left[ \frac{Z_m}{\left( \sum_{x \in W_m} \frac{c_x}{b_x} + \frac{c_e}{b_e} \right)} \right] \leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{\gamma'_m}} \left[ \frac{Z'_m}{\left( \sum_{x \in W'_m} \frac{c_x}{b_x} + \frac{c_e}{b_e} \right)} \right]. \quad (12)$$

Because  $\frac{c_n}{d_n} < \frac{c_e}{d_e}$ , we can use the scaling method. Then, we can get:

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{\frac{1}{\gamma'_m}} \left[ \frac{Z_m}{\left( \sum_{x \in W_m} \frac{c_x}{b_x} + \frac{c_e}{b_e} \right)} \right] &\leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{\gamma'_m}} \left[ \frac{Z'_m}{\left( \sum_{x \in W'_m} \frac{c_x}{b_x} + \frac{c_e}{b_e} \right)} \right] \\ \sqrt{\frac{1}{\gamma'_m}} \left[ \frac{Z'_m}{\left( \sum_{x \in W'_m} \frac{c_x}{b_x} + \frac{c_e}{b_e} \right)} \right] &\leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{\gamma'_m}} \left[ \frac{c_n Z'_m}{b_n \left( \sum_{x \in W_{m'}} \frac{c_x}{b_x} + \frac{c_n}{b_n} \right)} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

As a result, we have proven that  $n$  has no motivation to leave  $m$  to join into another  $m'$ .

### C. Proof of Theorem 1

The uniqueness of Nash equilibrium must meet the following three conditions.

- The strategy sets are convex, bounded, and closed.
- In the strategy space, the utility functions are quasi-concave and continuous.

*Proof:* We can obtain the second derivative of  $q_n$ :

$$\frac{\partial^2 u_{nm}}{\partial q_n^2} = -\frac{2b_n^2 \gamma_m \sum_{x \neq n} b_x q_x}{\left( \sum_{x \in W_m} \frac{c_x}{b_x} \right)^3} < 0. \quad (14)$$

This shows that when  $\Gamma$  and  $\Pi$  are both determined, for ED  $n$ , its optimal strategy is a concave problem, and there is a unique optimal solution  $q_n^*$ .

Meanwhile, we know in Lemma 2 that when selecting tasks in the order of  $\frac{c_x}{b_x}$  from small to large, each ED's choice is unique, and other users have no motivation to deviate from their current strategy.

To sum up, for each ED, there is a unique Nash equilibrium in its data provision strategy  $q$  and MO selection strategy. Specifically, we use **algorithm 1** to find the unique Nash equilibrium solution. ■

### D. Proof of Lemma 3

We have the utility function:

$$\mathcal{U}_m = \theta_m \log \left( 1 + \alpha \left( H + \frac{Z'_m \gamma_m}{\Delta_m} \right) \right) - \gamma_m - D_m \frac{Z'_m \gamma_m}{\Delta_m} - G$$

Taking the partial derivative with respect to  $\gamma_m$ :

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{U}_m}{\partial \gamma_m} = \frac{\theta_m \alpha Z'_m}{\Delta_m (1 + \alpha (H + \frac{Z'_m \gamma_m}{\Delta_m}))} - 1 - D_m \frac{Z'_m}{\Delta_m}$$

Setting the partial derivative to zero:

$$0 = \frac{\theta_m \alpha Z'_m}{\Delta_m (1 + \alpha (H + \frac{Z'_m \gamma_m}{\Delta_m}))} - 1 - D_m \frac{Z'_m}{\Delta_m}$$

Now, let's isolate  $\gamma_m$ :

$$1 + D_m \frac{Z'_m}{\Delta_m} = \frac{\theta_m \alpha Z'_m}{\Delta_m (1 + \alpha (C + \frac{Z'_m \gamma_m}{\Delta_m}))}$$

We can cross-multiply to get rid of the fraction:

$$\Delta_m (1 + \alpha (H + \frac{Z'_m \gamma_m}{\Delta_m})) (1 + D_m \frac{Z'_m}{\Delta_m}) = \theta_m \alpha Z'_m$$

Expanding and simplifying the expression:

$$\Delta_m + \alpha \Delta_m H + \alpha Z'_m \gamma_m + \alpha D_m \frac{Z_m'^2 \gamma_m}{\Delta_m} = \theta_m \alpha Z'_m$$

Now, let's isolate  $\gamma_m$ :

$$\gamma_m (Z'_m \alpha + \alpha D_m \frac{Z_m'^2}{\Delta_m}) = \theta_m \alpha Z'_m - \alpha \Delta_m H - \Delta_m$$

Finally, we can solve for  $\gamma_m$ :

$$\gamma_m = \frac{\theta_m \alpha Z'_m - \alpha \Delta_m H - \Delta_m}{Z'_m \alpha + \alpha D_m \frac{Z_m'^2}{\Delta_m}}$$

### E. Proof of theorem 2

To prove that every  $m$  has a unique solution  $\gamma_m$  to maximize their utility, we need to find the first-order condition (FOC) and second-order condition (SOC) for the optimization problem, assuming we are optimizing over the variable  $\gamma_m$ .

We already have the first-order derivative of the utility function with respect to  $\gamma_m$  from the previous discussion:

$$\frac{d\mathcal{U}_m}{d\gamma_m} = \frac{\theta_m \cdot \alpha (Z_m - 1)}{\Delta_m \left[ 1 + \alpha \left( \frac{K + (Z_m - 1) \gamma_m}{sg} \right) \right]} - 1 - \frac{D_m (Z_m - 1)}{\Delta_m}$$

Now, let's compute the second-order derivative of the utility function with respect to  $\gamma_m$ :

$$\frac{d^2 \mathcal{U}_m}{d\gamma_m^2}$$

This can be achieved by taking the derivative of the first-order derivative we derived earlier:

$$\frac{d^2 \mathcal{U}_m}{d\gamma_m^2} = \frac{d}{d\gamma_m} \left[ \frac{\theta_m \cdot \alpha (Z_m - 1)}{\Delta_m \left[ 1 + \alpha \left( \frac{K + (Z_m - 1) \gamma_m}{sg} \right) \right]} - 1 - \frac{D_m (Z_m - 1)}{\Delta_m} \right]$$

To simplify the expression, let's define:

$$x(\gamma_m) = \frac{K + (Z_m - 1) \gamma_m}{\Delta}$$

So, we now have:

$$\frac{d\mathcal{U}_m}{d\gamma_m} = \frac{\theta_m \cdot \alpha(Z_m - 1)}{\Delta_m[1 + \alpha x(\gamma_m)]} - 1 - \frac{D_m(Z_m - 1)}{\Delta_m}$$

Now, we proceed to compute the second-order derivative:

$$\frac{d^2\mathcal{U}_m}{d\gamma_m^2} = \frac{d}{d\gamma_m} \left[ \frac{\theta_m \cdot \alpha(Z_m - 1)}{\Delta_m[1 + \alpha x(\gamma_m)]} - 1 - \frac{D_m(Z_m - 1)}{\Delta_m} \right]$$

Calculating the derivative, we get:

$$\frac{d^2\mathcal{U}_m}{d\gamma_m^2} = -\frac{\theta_m \cdot \alpha^2(Z_m - 1)^2}{\Delta_m^2[1 + \alpha x(\gamma_m)]^2}$$

We can see that the second-order derivative is strictly negative for all values of  $\gamma_m$ . This implies that the utility function is strictly concave with respect to  $\gamma_m$ . So, we can conclude that there is a unique solution  $\gamma_m$  that maximizes the utility for every  $m$ .

#### F. Proof of theorem 3

According to Theorems 1 and 2, this unique SE is evidently valid.

#### G. Proof of theorem 4

The formation of the coalition is comparable to a series of transfer operations. Following the rules of the coalitional game, each current state  $\Pi_c$  can be transferred to the next state  $\Pi_{c+1}$ , and the Pareto improvement in social utility must be satisfied each time for the transfer to take place. From the initial state  $\Pi_0$ , our algorithm will produce the next transition

$$\Pi_0 \rightarrow \Pi_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \Pi_c \rightarrow \Pi_{c+1}, \quad (15)$$

where the implementation of a shift procedure is indicated by the  $\rightarrow$  symbol. Every application of the shift rule generates two possible cases.

As we know, the number of coalitions a client can join is limited and cannot exceed the Bell number limit. Hence, it is inevitable that the transformation sequence will reach termination, culminating in convergence to a specific partition, denoted by  $\Pi_f$ .

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#### Algorithm 1: Computing NE for CDP game.

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**Input:**  $\Gamma = \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_M\}, \Pi = \{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_k\}, \mathcal{D}_N = \{\mathcal{D}_1, \mathcal{D}_2, \dots, \mathcal{D}_N\}, \mathcal{D}_M = \{\mathcal{D}_1, \mathcal{D}_2, \dots, \mathcal{D}_M\}, \mathcal{B} = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_N\}, \mathcal{C} = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$

**Output:**  $\Sigma^* = \{\pi_1^*, \pi_2^*, \dots, \pi_N^*\}$

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1 sort all of the clients by the  $\frac{c_1}{b_1} \leq \frac{c_2}{b_2} \leq \dots \leq \frac{c_N}{b_N}$ ;
2 for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $N$  do
3   for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $M$  do
4     if  $D_{KL}(\mathcal{D}_i, \mathcal{D}_j) \leq \epsilon_1$  then
5        $W_j = W_j \cup \{i\}$ ;
6       calculate the utility  $u_{ij}$  of client  $i$ 
          according to equation (11);
7        $W_j = W_j \setminus \{i\}$ ;
8     end
9   end
10   $J = \arg \max_j u_{ij}$ ;
11  if  $u_{iJ} > 0$  then
12     $s_i^* = J$ ;
13     $U_i = u_{iJ}$ ;
14  else
15     $s_i^* = 0$ ;
16  end
17  for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $N$  do
18    if  $s_i^* > 0$  then
19      calculate  $q_i^*$  according to equation (??);
20    end
21  end
22 end
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#### Algorithm 2: Computing NE for RDP game.

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**Input:**  $\Pi = \{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_k\}, \mathcal{B} = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_N\}, \mathcal{C} = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$

**Output:**  $\Gamma = \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_M\}$

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1 Initialize  $\Gamma \leftarrow \{0, 0, \dots, 0\}$ ;
2 Flag  $\leftarrow$  True;
3 while Flag=true do
4   Flag  $\leftarrow$  False;
5   foreach  $S_k \in \Pi$  do
6     foreach  $m \in S_k$  do
7       calculate the optimal reward  $\gamma_{m'}$  according
          to equation (13);
8       if  $|\frac{\gamma_m - \gamma_{m'}}{\gamma_m}| > \epsilon$  then
9         Flag  $\leftarrow$  True;
10      end
11    end
12  end
13 end
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**Algorithm 3:** Computing new  $\gamma$  and  $\xi$ .

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**Input:**  $\Pi = \{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_k\}, \mathcal{B} = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_N\}, \mathcal{C} = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$   
**Output:**  $\Gamma = \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_M, \xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_M\}$

- 1 Initialize  $\Gamma \leftarrow \{0, 0, \dots, 0\}$  ;
- 2 Set value of  $err_1, err_2$  ;
- 3 **repeat**
- 4    $\xi^{k+1} = \arg \min_{\xi} L(\xi, \gamma^k, z^k, y^k, \lambda^k, \mu^k)$  ;
- 5    $\gamma^{k+1} = \arg \min_{\gamma} L(\xi^{k+1}, \gamma, z^k, y^k, \lambda^k, \mu^k)$  ;
- 6    $z^{k+1} = \arg \min_z L(\xi^{k+1}, \gamma^{k+1}, z, y^k, \lambda^k, \mu^k)$  ;
- 7    $y^{k+1} = \arg \min_y L(\xi^{k+1}, \gamma^{k+1}, z^{k+1}, y, \lambda^k, \mu^k)$  ;
- 8    $\lambda^{k+1} = \lambda^k + \rho \left( \sum_{m \in S_k} z_m^{k+1} \right)$  ;
- 9    $\mu^{k+1} = \mu^k + \rho \left( y^{k+1} - (\xi^{k+1} - \gamma^{k+1}) \right)$  ;
- 10    $\sigma_1 = \left\| \sum_{m \in S_k} z_m \right\|_2 + \left\| \sum_{m \in S_k} z_m \right\|_2$  ;
- 11    $\sigma_2 = \left\| \rho \left( \sum_{m \in S_k} z_m^{k+1} - \sum_{m \in S_k} z_m^k \right) \right\|_2 + \left\| \rho \left( y^{k+1} - y^k \right) \right\|_2$  ;
- 12 **until**  $\sigma_1 \leq err_1$  and  $\sigma_2 \leq err_2$  ;

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**Algorithm 4:** The Coalition Formation Algorithm

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**Input:** The set of MOs  $\mathcal{M}$   
**Output:** the final stable coalition partition  $\Pi_f$

- 1  $\Pi_0 = \{\{1\}, \{2\}, \dots, \{M\}\}$  ;
- 2 **repeat**
- 3    $Flag \leftarrow false; p \leftarrow random(1, 3)$  ;
- 4   **if**  $p=1$  **then**
- 5     two random coalition  $S_k$  and  $S_j$  from the current coalition structure  $\Pi_c$  ;
- 6      $m \leftarrow$  random select from  $S_k$  ;
- 7     **if**  $D_{KL}(\mathcal{D}_m, \mathcal{D}_i) \leq \epsilon_2, \forall i \in S_j$  and  $\Pi'_c \triangleright \Pi_c$  **then**
- 8        $\Pi_c \leftarrow \Pi'_c; Flag \leftarrow true$  ;
- 9     **end**
- 10   **end**
- 11   **if**  $p=2$  **then**
- 12     two random coalition  $S_k$  and  $S_j$  from the current coalition structure  $\Pi_c$  ;
- 13      $m, m' \leftarrow$  random select from  $S_k, S_j$  ;
- 14     **if**  $D_{KL}(\mathcal{D}_m, \mathcal{D}_i) \leq \epsilon_2, \forall i \in S_j$  and  $D_{KL}(\mathcal{D}'_m, \mathcal{D}_i) \leq \epsilon_2, \forall i \in S_k$  and  $\Pi'_c \triangleright \Pi_c$  **then**
- 15        $\Pi_c \leftarrow \Pi'_c; Flag \leftarrow true$  ;
- 16     **end**
- 17   **end**
- 18   **if**  $p=3$  **then**
- 19     random coalition  $S_k$  from the current coalition structure  $\Pi_c$  ;
- 20      $m \leftarrow$  random select from  $S_k$  ;
- 21     **if**  $\Pi'_c \triangleright \Pi_c$  **then**
- 22        $\Pi_c \leftarrow \Pi'_c; Flag \leftarrow true$  ;
- 23     **end**
- 24   **end**
- 25 **until**  $Flag=false$  ;

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