

Technical Appendix to AGE-DEPENDENT EMPLOYMENT PROTECTION

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ECONOMIC JOURNAL, doi: 10.1111/j.1468-0297.2011.02453.x

Appendix A. The Existence and Uniqueness of the Equilibrium

Let us rewrite (15) as follows:

$$\frac{c}{\beta(1-\gamma)} = q(\theta) \sum_{i=1}^{T-2} \frac{u_i}{u} \int_{R_{i+1}^0}^1 [1 - G(x)] dx \equiv f(\theta).$$

First, let us note that $f(\theta)$ is a continuous function, as it is the sum and the product of continuous functions. Secondly, let us notice that $\lim_{\theta \rightarrow \infty} q(\theta) = 0$. If $f(0) > [c/\beta(1-\gamma)]$, then there is at least one equilibrium. As $R_i^0 < b, \forall i$, a sufficient condition for the existence of equilibrium is: $\int_b^1 [1 - G(x)] dx > [c/\beta(1-\gamma)]$. Considering an uniform distribution for $G(x)$, it is possible to derive an explicit condition ensuring the existence of the equilibrium characterised in Proposition 1:

$$\frac{1}{2}(1-b)^2\beta(1-\gamma) > c.$$

On the other hand, it is not possible to show an explicit condition under which this equilibrium would be unique. Equation (15) can be rewritten as follows: $\Psi(\theta) = (1-\gamma)\beta\Gamma(\theta)$ with $\Psi(\theta) \equiv [c/q(\theta)]$ and $\Gamma(\theta) \equiv \sum_{i=1}^{T-2} (u_i/u) \int_{R_{i+1}^0}^1 [1 - G(x)] dx$. It is straightforward that $\Psi' > 0$. The equilibrium is then unique if the function Γ is continuously decreasing:

$$\Gamma'(\theta) = \underbrace{\frac{\partial \Gamma(\theta)}{\partial \theta} \Big|_{I(R_{i+1}^0)=Cst}}_{A(?)} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial \Gamma(\theta)}{\partial \theta} \Big|_{u_i=Cst}}_{B \leq 0},$$

with $I(R_{i+1}^0) = \int_{R_{i+1}^0}^1 [1 - G(x)] dx$.

First, let us note that in MP, we have $A = 0$ so that the condition $\Gamma'(\theta) < 0$ is always satisfied. Indeed, this first term of the derivative of Γ represents the impact of a variation in θ on the unemployment rates by age: because in MP the agents are homogeneous, this term, related to the non-segmented search, does not exist. In our framework, $A \neq 0$, and it is no longer possible to show that the equilibrium is unique for an arbitrary value of T .

Appendix B. The Complete Model with Persistence

We present the model in the general case where idiosyncratic shocks are persistent. At each age, we then assume that a new productivity ϵ is drawn in the distribution $G(\epsilon)$ with a probability $\lambda \leq 1$. To derive the results without any persistence, $\lambda = 1$ must be considered in all equations.

B.1. The Value Functions of the Agents

The value functions for an occupied firm, $J_i(\epsilon)$, a worker, $W_i(\epsilon)$, a new firm, $J_i^0(\epsilon)$, a new employed worker, $W_i^0(\epsilon)$ and an unemployed worker are respectively given by:

$$J_i(\epsilon) = \epsilon - w_i(\epsilon) + \beta \left\{ \lambda \int_{R_{i+1}}^1 J_{i+1}(x) dG(x) - \lambda G(R_{i+1}) F_{i+1} + (1 - \lambda) \max[J_{i+1}(\epsilon); -F_{i+1}] \right\},$$

$$W_i(\epsilon) = w_i(\epsilon) - t_i + \beta \left\{ \lambda \int_{R_{i+1}}^1 W_{i+1}(x) dG(x) + (1 - \lambda) \max[W_{i+1}(\epsilon); U_{i+1}] + \lambda G(R_{i+1}) U_{i+1} \right\},$$

$$J_i^0(\epsilon) = \epsilon - w_i^0(\epsilon) + \beta \left\{ \lambda \int_{R_{i+1}}^1 J_{i+1}(x) dG(x) - \lambda G(R_{i+1}) F_{i+1} + (1 - \lambda) \max[J_{i+1}(\epsilon); -F_{i+1}] \right\},$$

$$W_i^0(\epsilon) = w_i^0(\epsilon) - t_i + \beta \left\{ \lambda \int_{R_{i+1}}^1 W_{i+1}(x) dG(x) + (1 - \lambda) \max[W_{i+1}(\epsilon); U_{i+1}] + \lambda G(R_{i+1}) U_{i+1} \right\},$$

$$U_i = b - t_i + \beta \left\{ p(\theta) \int_{R_{i+1}^0}^1 W_{i+1}^0(x) dG(x) + p(\theta) G(R_{i+1}^0) U_{i+1} + [1 - p(\theta)] U_{i+1} \right\}.$$

The productivity thresholds are defined by:

$$J_i(R_i) = -F_i \quad \text{and} \quad J_i^0(R_i^0) = H_i.$$

B.2. Wage Equations under a Two-tier Structure

The sharing rules can be written as:

$$-\gamma H_i - (1 - \gamma) \mathcal{U}_i = \gamma [J_i^0(\epsilon) + \mathcal{W}_i^0(\epsilon)] - \mathcal{W}_i^0(\epsilon), \quad (\text{B.1})$$

$$-\gamma F_i - (1 - \gamma) \mathcal{U}_i = \gamma [J_i(\epsilon) + \mathcal{W}_i(\epsilon)] - \mathcal{W}_i(\epsilon). \quad (\text{B.2})$$

From the value functions, it turns out that:

$$\begin{aligned} J_i(\epsilon) + W_i(\epsilon) = & \epsilon - t_i + \beta \left(\lambda \int_{R_{i+1}}^1 [J_{i+1}(x) + W_{i+1}(x)] dG(x) \right. \\ & + (1 - \lambda) \{ \max[J_{i+1}(\epsilon); -F_{i+1}] + \max[W_{i+1}(\epsilon); U_{i+1}] \} \\ & \left. + \lambda G(R_{i+1}) U_{i+1} - \lambda G(R_{i+1}) F_{i+1} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Using the sharing rules, we deduce that:

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma [J_i(\epsilon) + W_i(\epsilon)] - W_i(\epsilon) = & \gamma \epsilon - w_i(\epsilon) + (1 - \gamma) t_i - \lambda \gamma G(R_{i+1}) \beta F_{i+1} \\ & - (1 - \gamma) \lambda \beta U_{i+1} - \gamma \lambda [1 - G(R_{i+1})] \beta F_{i+1} \\ & + \gamma \beta (1 - \lambda) \max[J_{i+1}(\epsilon); -F_{i+1}] \\ & - (1 - \gamma) \beta (1 - \lambda) \max[W_{i+1}(\epsilon); U_{i+1}]. \end{aligned}$$

We then obtain the following wage equations:

$$w_i(\epsilon) = \gamma\epsilon + (1-\gamma)t_i + (1-\gamma)[U_i - \beta U_{i+1}] + \gamma(F_i - \beta F_{i+1}) \\ + \gamma\beta(1-\lambda) \max[J_{i+1}(\epsilon) + F_{i+1}; 0] - (1-\gamma)\beta(1-\lambda) \max[W_{i+1}(\epsilon) - U_{i+1}; 0].$$

Because we also have $\gamma[J_{i+1}(\epsilon) + F_{i+1}] = (1-\gamma)[W_{i+1}(\epsilon) - U_{i+1}]$, and, as $\max[J_{i+1}(\epsilon) + F_{i+1}; 0] = J_{i+1}(\epsilon) + F_{i+1}$, then $\max[W_{i+1}(\epsilon) - U_{i+1}; 0] = W_{i+1}(\epsilon) - U_{i+1}$, we finally obtain:

$$w_i(\epsilon) = \gamma(\epsilon + F_i - \beta F_{i+1}) + (1-\gamma)(U_i - \beta U_{i+1}) \\ = \gamma(\epsilon + F_i - \beta F_{i+1} + c\theta\tau_i) + (1-\gamma)b,$$

given that

$$U_i = b - t_i + \beta \left\{ p(\theta) \int_{R_{i+1}^0} [W_{i+1}^0(x) - U_{i+1}] dG(x) + U_{i+1} \right\} \\ = b - t_i + \frac{\gamma}{1-\gamma} c\theta \underbrace{\frac{\int_{R_{i+1}^0} J_{i+1}^0(x) dG(x)}{\sum_{i=1}^{T-2} (u_i/u) \int_{R_{i+1}^0} J_{i+1}^0(x) dG(x)}}_{\tau_i} + \beta U_{i+1}.$$

We can also show, using the same computational method, that:

$$w_i^0(\epsilon) = \gamma(\epsilon + H_i - \beta F_{i+1} + c\theta\tau_i) + (1-\gamma)b.$$

B.3. The Firm's Value

Given the solution for the wage, and the free entry condition ($V = 0$), the firm values are, $\forall i \in [1, T-1]$:

$$J_i(\epsilon) = \underbrace{(1-\gamma)(\epsilon - b) - \gamma(F_i - \beta F_{i+1}) - \gamma p(\theta)\beta \int_{R_{i+1}^0} [J_{i+1}^0(x) + H_{i+1}] dG(x)}_{\epsilon - w_i(\epsilon)} \\ + \beta \left\{ -\lambda G(R_{i+1})F_{i+1} + \lambda \int_{R_{i+1}} J_{i+1}(x) dG(x) + (1-\lambda) \max[J_{i+1}(\epsilon); -F_{i+1}] \right\}, \quad (\text{B.3})$$

$$J_i^0(\epsilon) = \underbrace{(1-\gamma)(\epsilon - b) - \gamma(H_i - \beta F_{i+1}) - \gamma p(\theta)\beta \int_{R_{i+1}^0} [J_{i+1}^0(x) + H_{i+1}] dG(x)}_{\epsilon - w_i^0(\epsilon)} \\ + \beta \left\{ -\lambda G(R_{i+1})F_{i+1} + \lambda \int_{R_{i+1}} J_{i+1}(x) dG(x) + (1-\lambda) \max[J_{i+1}(\epsilon); -F_{i+1}] \right\}. \quad (\text{B.4})$$

We deduce that:

$$J_i^0(\epsilon) = J_i(\epsilon) + \gamma(F_i - H_i).$$

From (B.3) and (B.4), the reservation productivity, defined by $J_i(R_i) = -F_i$ is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}
-F_i = & (1 - \gamma)(R_i - b) - \gamma(F_i - \beta F_{i+1}) - \gamma p(\theta) \beta \int_{R_{i+1}^0}^1 [J_{i+1}^0(x) + H_{i+1}] dG(x) \\
& + \beta \left\{ -\lambda G(R_{i+1}) F_{i+1} + \lambda \int_{R_{i+1}}^1 J_{i+1}(x) dG(x) + (1 - \lambda) \max[J_{i+1}(R_i); -F_{i+1}] \right\}, \quad (B.5)
\end{aligned}$$

and the reservation productivity for a new job, defined by $J_i^0(R_i^0) = -H_i$, is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}
-H_i = & (1 - \gamma)(R_i^0 - b) - \gamma(H_i - \beta F_{i+1}) - \gamma p(\theta) \beta \int_{R_{i+1}^0}^1 [J_{i+1}^0(x) + H_{i+1}] dG(x) \\
& + \beta \left\{ -\lambda G(R_{i+1}) F_{i+1} + \lambda \int_{R_{i+1}}^1 J_{i+1}(x) dG(x) + (1 - \lambda) \max[J_{i+1}(R_i); -F_{i+1}] \right\}. \quad (B.6)
\end{aligned}$$

From (B.5) and (B.6), we easily deduce that:

$$R_i^0 = R_i + F_i - H_i.$$

Using these first results, it is possible to express the value function as a function of the productivity reservation. Taking the difference between (B.3) and (B.5) gives

$$J_i(\epsilon) = (1 - \gamma)(\epsilon - R_i) - F_i + \beta(1 - \lambda) \{ \max[J_{i+1}(\epsilon); -F_{i+1}] - \max[J_{i+1}(R_i); -F_{i+1}] \}.$$

The solution to this equation depends on the age-pattern of the productivity thresholds, except for $\lambda = 1$. The strategy in the general case $\lambda \leq 1$ is to postulate a monotonic age-pattern and then to verify that the solution for the reservation productivity is consistent with the initial guess.

(i) Assuming $R_i > R_{i+1}$, then $J_{i+1}(R_i) > -F_{i+1}$ and $J_{i+1}(\epsilon) > -F_{i+1}$. We deduce that:

$$J_i(\epsilon) = (1 - \gamma)(\epsilon - R_i) - F_i + \beta(1 - \lambda)[J_{i+1}(\epsilon) - J_{i+1}(R_i)],$$

$$\Leftrightarrow J_i(\epsilon) = -F_i + (1 - \gamma) \left[\sum_{j=0}^{T-i-1} \beta^j (1 - \lambda)^j \right] (\epsilon - R_i).$$

(ii) Assuming $R_i < R_{i+1}$, then $J_{i+1}(R_i) < -F_{i+1}$. This implies that:

$$J_i(\epsilon) = (1 - \gamma)(\epsilon - R_i) - F_i + \beta(1 - \lambda)F_{i+1} + \beta(1 - \lambda) \max[J_{i+1}(\epsilon); -F_{i+1}].$$

Because the existing productivity level ϵ can be in the interval $]R_i, R_{i+1}[$, we have two subcases:

(a) if $\epsilon \leq R_{i+1}$, then $J_{i+1}(\epsilon) \leq -F_{i+1}$, and $\max[J_{i+1}(\epsilon); -F_{i+1}] = -F_{i+1}$, implying that:

$$J_i(\epsilon) = (1 - \gamma)(\epsilon - R_i) - F_i,$$

(b) if $\epsilon > R_{i+1}$, then $J_{i+1}(\epsilon) > -F_{i+1}$, implying that:

$$J_i(\epsilon) = (1 - \gamma)(\epsilon - R_i) - F_i + \beta(1 - \lambda)F_{i+1} + \beta(1 - \lambda)J_{i+1}(\epsilon).$$

By backward induction, we obtain:

$$J_i(\epsilon) = -F_i + (1 - \gamma) \left\{ \sum_{j=0}^{T-i-1} \beta^j (1 - \lambda)^j \max[\epsilon - R_{i+j}; 0] \right\}.$$

The value function can be rewritten as follows:

$$J_i(\epsilon) = -F_i + \mathcal{J}(\epsilon) \quad \text{with } \mathcal{J}(\epsilon) = \begin{cases} \Gamma(\epsilon, \{R_j\}_{j=i+1}^{T-1}) & \text{if } R_i < R_{i+1} \\ \Psi(\epsilon, R_i) & \text{if } R_i > R_{i+1} \end{cases}. \quad (\text{B.7})$$

Let us note that we have simply $J_i(\epsilon) = -F_i + (1-\gamma)(\epsilon - R_i)$ if $\lambda = 1$ whatever the shape of the reservation productivity sequence $(R_i \geq R_{i+1})$.

B.4. The Reservation Productivity

Using the general expression ((B.7)) of the value function for an occupied job, the reservation productivity is the solution to:

$$\begin{aligned} -F_i &= (1-\gamma)(R_i - b) - \gamma(F_i - \beta F_{i+1}) \\ &\quad - \gamma p(\theta) \beta \int_{R_{i+1} + F_{i+1} - H_{i+1}}^1 [-F_{i+1} + \mathcal{J}(\epsilon) + \gamma(F_{i+1} - H_{i+1}) + H_{i+1}] dG(x) \\ &\quad + \beta \left\{ -\lambda G(R_{i+1}) F_{i+1} + \lambda \int_{R_{i+1}}^1 [-F_{i+1} + \mathcal{J}(\epsilon)] dG(x) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (1-\lambda) \max[J_{i+1}(R_i); -F_{i+1}] \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Hereafter, we assume that $H_i = F_i$.

- If $R_i < R_{i+1}$, we have $\max[J_{i+1}(R_i); -F_{i+1}] = -F_{i+1}$ and then:

$$R_i = b - F_i + \beta F_{i+1} - [\lambda - \gamma p(\theta)] \beta \sum_{j=0}^{T-i-1} \beta^j (1-\lambda)^j I(R_{i+j}), \quad (\text{B.8})$$

where $I(R_{i+j}) = \int_{R_{i+j}}^1 (x - R_{i+j}) dG(x) = \int_{R_{i+j}}^1 [1 - G(x)] d(x) > 0$ with $I'(R_{i+j}) < 0$.

- If $R_i > R_{i+1}$, $\max[J_{i+1}(R_i); -F_{i+1}] = J_{i+1}(R_i)$. The solution of the value function leads to:

$$J_{i+1}(R_i) = -F_i + (1-\gamma) \left[\sum_{j=0}^{T-i-2} \beta^j (1-\lambda)^j \right] (R_i - R_{i+1}).$$

We then deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} R_i &= b - F_i + \beta F_{i+1} - [\lambda - \gamma p(\theta)] \beta P(i+1) I(R_{i+1}) \\ &\quad + (1-\lambda) \beta P(i+1) (R_i - R_{i+1}), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.9})$$

where $P(i+1) = \sum_{j=0}^{T-i-2} \beta^j (1-\lambda)^j$.

B.5. The Dynamic of the Reservation Productivity: Proofs of Propositions 12, 13, and 14

We determine the restrictions under which the reservation productivity increases or decreases with the worker's age. We assume that $H_i = F_i = F, \forall i$, implying that $R_i = R_i^0$.

B.5.1 Proofs of Propositions 12 and 13: the case without employment protection $F_i = H_i = 0$

- When the conjecture is $R_i < R_{i+1}$, the sequence of the reservation productivity is given by (B.8). The restriction $R_{T-2} < R_{T-1}$ is satisfied if $\lambda > \gamma p(\theta)$. We deduce that if $R_{i+1} < R_{i+2}$, then $I(R_{i+1}) > I(R_{i+2})$ because $I'(x) < 0$. In this case,

$$R_{i+1} - R_i = -[\lambda - \gamma p(\theta)]\beta \underbrace{[I(R_{i+2}) - I(R_{i+1})]}_{-} + \beta(1 - \lambda) \underbrace{(R_{i+2} - R_{i+1})}_{+}.$$

The condition $\lambda > \gamma p(\theta)$ is sufficient to ensure that $R_{i+1} > R_i$.

- When the conjecture is $R_i > R_{i+1}$, the sequence of the reservation productivity is given by (B.9). Then $R_{T-2} > R_{T-1}$ if $\lambda < \gamma p(\theta)$. Using backward iterations, we obtain:

$$[1 + \beta(1 - \lambda)P(i + 1)](R_i - R_{i+1}) = \underbrace{[\gamma p(\theta) - \lambda]\beta[P(i + 1)I(R_{i+1}) - P(i + 2)I(R_{i+2})]}_{SS_{i,i+1}} + \underbrace{\beta(1 - \lambda)P(i + 2)(R_{i+1} - R_{i+2})}_{LH_{i,i+1}}.$$

Unambiguously, we have $LH_{i,i+1} > 0$ because from the previous iteration we have $R_{i+1} - R_{i+2} > 0$. $I(R_{i+1}) < I(R_{i+2})$: the strictness of the selection process is more important for the younger workers. On the other hand, $P(i+1) > P(i+2)$ due to the horizon effect. As these two effects go in opposite directions, the sign of $SS_{i,i+1}$ is indeterminate.

As the condition $\lambda < \gamma p(\theta)$ must hold at the first iteration, we deduce that $SS_{i,i+1} > 0$ is a sufficient condition to ensure that $R_i > R_{i+1}$.

B.5.2 Proof of the Proposition 14: the case with constant employment protection $F = H$, $\forall i$

When the conjecture is $R_i < R_{i+1}$, using (B.8), $R_{T-2} < R_{T-1}$ if $F < [\lambda - \gamma p(\theta)] \times \int_{b-F} [1 - G(x)] dx$. We then define $\hat{F}(\lambda) = [\lambda - \gamma p(\theta)] \int_{b-\hat{F}(\lambda)} [1 - G(x)] dx$, implying that $d\hat{F}/d\lambda > 0$.

Appendix C. The Efficient Allocation

The problem of the planner is to determine the optimal allocation of any worker between the production and the search sectors (R_i^*) and the optimal investment in the search sector (θ^*). For any $\lambda \leq 1$, the per-unemployed worker value in the search sector and the per-employed worker value in the goods sector are respectively given by:

$$Y_i^s = b - c\theta^* + \beta \left\{ p(\theta^*) \int_0^1 \max[Y_{i+1}(x); Y_{i+1}^s] dG(x) + [1 - p(\theta^*)] Y_{i+1}^s \right\}, \quad (C.1)$$

$$Y_i(\epsilon) = \epsilon + \beta \left\{ \lambda \int_0^1 \max[Y_{i+1}(x); Y_{i+1}^s] dG(x) + (1 - \lambda) \max[Y_{i+1}(\epsilon); Y_{i+1}^s] \right\}, \quad (C.2)$$

where $c\theta^* \equiv c(v^*/u^*)$ represents the total cost of vacancies (cv^*) per unemployed worker (u^*). The planner's decisions R_i^* , $\forall i$ and θ^* are solutions to:

$$\begin{cases} Y_i(R_i^*) = Y_i^s \\ \theta^* = \text{Sup}(\sum_i u_i^* Y_i^u). \end{cases}$$

C.1. The Efficient Allocation in an Economy Without Persistence: Proof of Proposition 6

The optimal choice for θ is such that:

$$c \sum_i u_i^* = cu^* = p'(\theta^*) \beta \sum_i u_i^* \int_{R_{i+1}^*}^1 S_{i+1}(x) dG(x). \quad (C.3)$$

Given that $\theta q(\theta) = p(\theta)$ and

$$p'(\theta) = q(\theta) \left[1 + \theta \frac{q'(\theta)}{q(\theta)} \right] = q(\theta)(1 - \eta),$$

(C.3) can be rewritten as follows:

$$\frac{c}{q(\theta^*)} = (1 - \eta)\beta \sum_i \frac{u_i^*}{u^*} \int_{R_{i+1}^*}^1 S_{i+1}(x) dG(x).$$

The optimal reservation productivity at age i can be deduced from $Y_i(R_i^*) = Y_i^u \Leftrightarrow S_i(R_i) = 0$:

$$0 = R_i^* - b + c\theta^* + [1 - p(\theta^*)]\beta \int_{R_{i+1}^*}^1 S_{i+1}(x) dG(x).$$

Since $S_i(\epsilon) = \epsilon - R_i^*$, we have $\int_{R_{i+1}^*}^1 S_{i+1}(x) dG(x) = \int_{R_{i+1}^*}^1 (\epsilon - R_{i+1}^*) dG(x) = \int_{R_{i+1}^*}^1 [1 - G(x)] dx$. We then deduce (23) and (24).

C.2. The Efficient Allocation in an Economy with Persistence: Proof of Proposition 15

The optimal choice for θ^* does not depend directly on the persistence: the first order condition (C.3) holds for any $\lambda \leq 1$. On the other hand, the persistence changes the value of an occupied job. When $\lambda < 1$, the planner's surplus is:

$$S_i(\epsilon) = \epsilon - R_i^* + (1 - \lambda)\beta \{ \max[S_{i+1}(\epsilon); 0] - \max[S_{i+1}(R_i^*); 0] \}.$$

- If $R_i^* > R_{i+1}^*$, then we have $\epsilon > R_i^* > R_{i+1}^*$. The surplus is:

$$S_i(\epsilon) = \left[\sum_{j=0}^{T-i-1} \beta^j (1 - \lambda)^j \right] (\epsilon - R_i^*) \equiv P(i)(\epsilon - R_i^*)$$

- If $R_i^* < R_{i+1}^*$, then the surplus is

$$S_i(\epsilon) = \sum_{j=0}^{T-i-1} (1 - \lambda)^j \beta^j \max(\epsilon - R_{i+j}^*; 0).$$

The reservation productivity R_i of the efficient allocation then differs according to the age-profile that is assumed:

- If $R_i^* < R_{i+1}^*$, the reservation productivity is defined by:

$$R_i^* = b - c\theta^* - [\lambda - p(\theta^*)]\beta \int_{R_{i+1}^*}^1 \left[\sum_{j=0}^{T-i-2} (1 - \lambda)^j \beta^j \max(x - R_{i+j+1}^*; 0) \right] dG(x). \quad (C.4)$$

- If $R_i^* > R_{i+1}^*$, the reservation productivity is defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} R_i^* &= b - c\theta^* - [\lambda - p(\theta^*)]\beta \int_{R_{i+1}^*}^1 P(i+1)(x - R_{i+1}^*) dG(x) \\ &\quad - (1 - \lambda)\beta P(i+1)(R_i^* - R_{i+1}^*). \end{aligned} \quad (C.5)$$

In order to have an interior solution in each case, we assume that $b > c\theta^*$.

- If $R_i^* < R_{i+1}^*$, we have at the first step of the backward iteration:

$$R_{T-2}^* - R_{T-1}^* = -[\lambda - p(\theta^*)]\beta \int_{R_{T-1}^*}^1 \max(x - R_{T-1}^*; 0) dG(x).$$

The condition $\lambda > p(\theta^*)$ is sufficient to ensure that $R_{T-2}^* < R_{T-1}^*$. In the following iterations, we have:

$$R_{i+1}^* - R_i^* = -[\lambda - p(\theta^*)]\beta \underbrace{[I(R_{i+2}^*) - I(R_{i+1}^*)]}_{-} + \beta(1 - \lambda) \underbrace{(R_{i+2}^* - R_{i+1}^*)}_{+}.$$

The restriction $\lambda > p(\theta^*)$ is sufficient to ensure that the age-increasing dynamics is internally consistent.

- If $R_i^* > R_{i+1}^*$, we have at the first step of the backward iteration:

$$(R_{T-2}^* - R_{T-1}^*)[1 + (1 - \lambda)\beta] = -[\lambda - p(\theta^*)]\beta \int_{R_{T-1}^*}^1 \max(x - R_{T-1}^*; 0) dG(x).$$

We deduce that the restriction $\lambda < p(\theta^*)$ is sufficient to ensure that $R_{T-2}^* < R_{T-1}^*$. In the following backward iterations, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} [1 + \beta(1 - \lambda)P(i + 1)](R_i^* - R_{i+1}^*) &= \underbrace{[p(\theta^*) - \lambda]\beta[P(i + 1)I(R_{i+1}^*) - P(i + 2)I(R_{i+2}^*)]}_{SS_{i,i+1}^*} \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\beta(1 - \lambda)P(i + 2)(R_{i+1}^* - R_{i+2}^*)}_{LH_{i,i+1}^*(+)}, \end{aligned}$$

$\lambda < p(\theta^*)$ is no longer a sufficient condition to ensure that the R_i^* are monotonously decreasing. Adding the condition $SS_{i,i+1}^* > 0, \forall i$ is sufficient to ensure that $R_i^* > R_{i+1}^*$.

C.3. Optimal Age-dependent Employment Protection: Proof of Proposition 16

Comparing on the one hand (C.4) with (B.9) and on the other hand (C.5) with (B.8), it is straightforward to show that $F_i - \beta F_{i+1} = c\theta^*(\tau_i^* - 1), \forall \lambda \leq 1$ with

$$\tau_i^* \equiv \frac{\int_{R_{i+1}^*}^1 S_{i+1}(x) dG(x)}{\sum_i (u_i^* / u^*) \int_{R_{i+1}^*}^1 S_{i+1}(x) dG(x)}.$$

- If $R_i^* < R_{i+1}^*$, as

$$(R_{i+1}^* - R_i^*) = [\lambda - p(\theta)]\beta \left[\int_{R_{i+1}^*}^1 S_{i+1}(x) dG(x) - \int_{R_{i+2}^*}^1 S_{i+2}(x) dG(x) \right],$$

then $\tau_i^* > \tau_{i+1}^*$.

- If $R_i^* > R_{i+1}^*$, the sign of

$$\int_{R_{i+1}^*}^1 S_{i+1}(x) dG(x) - \int_{R_{i+2}^*}^1 S_{i+2}(x) dG(x) = [P(i + 1)I(R_{i+1}^*) - P(i + 2)I(R_{i+2}^*)],$$

is indeterminate. Proposition 15 shows that a sufficient condition for $R_i > R_{i+1}$ is that the sign of this expression is positive, which implies that $\tau_i^* > \tau_{i+1}^*, \forall i$.