

Appendix to the paper “A Unified Theory of Firm Selection and Growth”*

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Abstract

This appendix provides the detailed proof for Lemma 7 of the original paper

Lemma 1 *Let $y > x > 0$. Then*

$$y \frac{m'(y)}{m(y)} > x \frac{m'(x)}{m(x)},$$

Proof. Notice that $m' = m(m - x)$. Using that,

$$\begin{aligned} \left(x \frac{m'}{m}\right)' &= \frac{m'}{m} + x \left(\frac{m'}{m}\right)' \\ &= \frac{m'}{m} + x(m - x)' \\ &= \frac{m'}{m} + x(m(m - x) - 1) \\ &= \frac{m'}{m} + mx(m - x) - x \\ &= mx(m - x) - 2x + m. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, I need to show that

$$\begin{aligned} mx(m - x) - 2x + m &> 0 \implies \\ mx(m - x) - 3m &> 2x - 4m. \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

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It is also true that $m - x > 0$ from property F?? and that (see a lengthy proof by [?] p. 406),

$$\begin{aligned} mx(m-x)^2 - 3m(m-x) + 2 &> 0 \implies \\ (m-x)[mx(m-x) - 3m] + 2 &> 0, \end{aligned}$$

and therefore

$$mx(m-x) - 3m > -\frac{2}{m-x}.$$

In combination with 1 the last equation implies that it suffices to show

$$-\frac{2}{m-x} > 2x - 4m$$

Rearranging,

$$\begin{aligned} -1 &> (x - 2m)(m - x) \implies \\ 1 &< -(x - 2m)(m - x) \\ 0 &< (2m - x)(m - x) - 1 \end{aligned}$$

which is an inequality that has been proven by [?], which completes the proof of the lemma. ■