# A dynamic marketing model with best reply and inertia

### Gian Italo Bischi - Lorenzo Cerboni Baiardi University of Urbino (Italy)

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"Farris, P., Pfeifer, P.E., Nierop, E., Reibstein, D. "When Five is a Crowd in the Market Share Attraction Model: The Dynamic Stability of Competition". Marketing - Journal of Research and Management (2005), p. 29-45.

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x_i(t+1) = (1 - \lambda_i)x_i(t) + \lambda_i \left( \sqrt{B \frac{\sum_{j \neq i} a_j x_j(t)}{a_i}} - \sum_{j \neq i} a_j x_j(t) \right)
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It results from standard arguments in marketing modelling:

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customers' attraction: A_i = a_i x_i^{\beta_i}
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The resulting profits are

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Each firm maximizes its own profit function computing its gradient

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\frac{\partial \Pi_i(t+1)}{\partial x_i} = 0
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Setting  $\beta_i = 1$ , this leads to

$$
x_i(t+1) = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{j \neq i} a_j x_j^{(e)}(t+1)}{a_i}} - \sum_{j \neq i} a_j x_j^{(e)}(t+1)
$$

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Assuming naïve expectations,  $x_i^{(e)}$  $j_j^{(e)}(t+1) := x_j(t)$ , Farris et al. derive the following "Best Response" dynamic model with adaptive adjustment:

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$$

Setting  $N = 2$  and the new (rescaled) variables

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$$
x = a_1 a_2 x_1, \ y = a_1 a_2 x_2
$$

we have

$$
\text{Farris:} \begin{cases} \begin{aligned} x' &= (1 - \lambda_1)x + \lambda_1 a_2 \left(\sqrt{y} - y\right) \\ y' &= (1 - \lambda_2)y + \lambda_2 a_1 \left(\sqrt{x} - x\right) \end{aligned} \end{cases}
$$

$$
P_{UU} : \begin{cases} q_1' = (1 - \lambda_1) q_1 + \lambda_1 \left( \sqrt{\frac{q_2}{c_1}} - q_2 \right) \\ q_2' = (1 - \lambda_2) q_2 + \lambda_2 \left( \sqrt{\frac{q_1}{c_2}} - q_1 \right) \end{cases}
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We obt[a](#page-15-0)in the Puu' from the Farris setting  $a_2 = 1/a_1$  $a_2 = 1/a_1$ 

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The equilibria' abscissas follows from the fourth order algebric equation:

$$
\eta \left[ \frac{\left( 1-a_1 a_2 \right)^2}{a_1 a_2} \eta^3 + 2 \left( 1-a_1 a_2 \right) \eta^2 + a_2 \left( a_1 + 1 \right) \eta - a_2 \right] = 0
$$

where *η* := √  $\overline{\mathsf{x}}$ . An analogous equation for  $\zeta:=\sqrt{\mathsf{y}}$  holds.

From Cardano's formula, the number of real solutions is given provided the sign of the discriminant:

$$
D(a_1, a_2): \begin{cases} > 0 & 1 \text{ real solution} \\ & = 0 & 1 \text{ real solution and } 2 \text{ coincident} \\ & < 0 & 3 \text{ distinct real solutions} \end{cases}
$$

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# **Equilibria**

### Section of the function  $D(a_1, a_2)$  with the plane  $(a_1, a_2, 0)$



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# **Equilibria**

### Section of the function  $D(a_1, a_2)$  with the plane  $(x, y, 0)$



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### Proposition

Besides  $E_0 = (0, 0)$  a non vanishing fixed point always exists in the region  $S = (0, 1) \times (0, 1)$ . If  $a_1 a_2 \neq 1$  then two further distinct fixed points exist in the region S if the following inequality holds

$$
D(a_1, a_2) = \frac{a_1^2 a_2^4}{108 (1 - a_1 a_2)^6} [27 + a_1 a_2 (4 a_1 + 4 a_2 - 18) - a_1^2 a_2^2] < 0
$$

and if  $D(a_1, a_2) = 0$  these two further fixed points are merging, i.e. there are two real coincident solutions of the cubic equation. In the particular case  $a_1a_2=1$  the unique fixed point  $E=\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\right)$  $\frac{1}{(a_1+1)^2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{(a_2+1)}$  $\frac{1}{(a_2+1)^2}$ ) is get.

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Bifurcation path:  $a_2 = -a_1/9 + 13/3$ 



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# Typical scenario (after the final bifurcation)



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Fixed poits are:

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$$
E_1 = \left(\frac{a^2}{(1+a)^2}, \frac{a^2}{(1+a)^2}\right) \in \Delta = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 | x = y \}
$$

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$$

For  $a \geqslant 3$  the two further fixed points in symmetric positions with respect to ∆:

$$
E_2 = \frac{a^2}{2(a-1)^2(a+1)} \left( a - 1 + \sqrt{(a+1)(a-3)}, a - 1 - \sqrt{(a+1)(a-3)} \right)
$$
  

$$
E_3 = \frac{a^2}{2(a-1)^2(a+1)} \left( a - 1 - \sqrt{(a+1)(a-3)}, a - 1 + \sqrt{(a+1)(a-3)} \right)
$$

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# The symmetric case: stability of  $E_1 \in \Delta$

Local asymptotic stability for

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a
$$

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Transverse instability (saddle) via pichfork, merging of two further fixed points  $E_2$  and  $E_3$ , for

<span id="page-26-0"></span> $a \geqslant a_p$ 

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<span id="page-27-0"></span> $a \geqslant a_p$ 

Unstability via flip for

$$
\mathsf a\geqslant \mathsf a_{\mathsf f}=1+2\sqrt{1-2\left(\frac{1}{\lambda_1}+\frac{1}{\lambda_2}\right)+\frac{4}{\lambda_1\lambda_2}}\geqslant 3
$$

## Fixed points and their basin of attraction



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# The symmetric case: stability of  $E_2$  and  $E_3$

Local asymptotic stability for

$$
a < a_h = 1 + \sqrt[3]{2\left(\frac{1}{\lambda_1} + \frac{1}{\lambda_2}\right) + 2\sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{\lambda_1} + \frac{1}{\lambda_2}\right)^2 - \frac{16}{27}} + \sqrt[3]{2\left(\frac{1}{\lambda_1} + \frac{1}{\lambda_2}\right) - 2\sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{\lambda_1} + \frac{1}{\lambda_2}\right)^2 - \frac{16}{27}}}
$$

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# The symmetric case: stability of  $E_2$  and  $E_3$

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$$

Unstability via Hopf for  $a \geq a_h$ 

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# **Profits**

Computing the profits we get:

$$
\Pi_1 > \Pi_2 \iff (x-y)(x+y-a^2) < 0
$$



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# Conclusions: effect of eterogeneities

#### **o** Farris

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<span id="page-33-0"></span>N homogeneous firms (i.e. identical parameters)

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- *N* homogeneous firms (i.e. identical parameters)
- <span id="page-34-0"></span>Study the synchronous dynamics and common behavour

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- N as bifurcation parameter
- Bischi Cerboni Baiardi

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	- A rich dynamical scenario is observed

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	- Stress on the effect of eterogeneities (i.e. differences in parameters)
	- A rich dynamical scenario is observed
	- Eterogeneities and initial conditions: asymptotic behavour of the system

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