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EFFECTS OF TARIFF ON
INTERNATIONAL MIXED DUOPOLY
WITH SEVERAL MARKETS

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Abstract

First, we formulate international multi-market mixed duopoly consisting of one labor-managed firm (economy) and one profit-maximizing firm (economy), which is shown to have a unique Cournot equilibrium under a set of reasonable assumptions. Second, we examine the effects of the LME's tariff imposed on its imports from the PME. We find that the tariff has ambiguous effects on both LME's and PME's equilibrium total outputs. This result is in sharp contrast with the one obtained for international multi-market duopoly comprising two profit-maximizing firms with decreasing marginal costs.

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1. Introduction

Mixed duopoly is characterized by coexistence of one profit-maximizing firm and one labor-managed firm or that of one profit-maximizing firm and one welfare-maximizing public firm. A labor-managed firm is well known to behave perversely in the event of a change in its product price or fixed costs. Mai and Hwang (1989), Okuguchi (1991) and Horowitz (1991) have analyzed the effects of subsidy to labor-managed firm in international mixed duopoly with one profit-maximizing firm or economy (PMF or PME for short) and one labor-managed firm or economy (LMF or LME for short). Any firm, be it LMF or PMF, sells its product not only in its domestic market but also in several foreign markets. Krugman (1984) has demonstrated the export promoting effects of import protection for international duopoly model without product differentiation and with several markets, assuming that both duopolists's marginal costs are decreasing. Okuguchi (1990) has examined the existence of a unique Cournot equilibrium in a model of international duopoly with several markets. Okuguchi and Serizawa (1995) have analyzed the effect of tariff on international duopoly with several markets, assuming asymmetric marginal costs for duopolists.

In this paper we will formulate international mixed duopoly with one LMF and one PMF, as well as with several markets, and analyze the effects of the LME's imposition of tariff on the total outputs of the LME and the PME.

As a preliminary to this investigation, we will in Section 2 prove the existence of a unique Cournot equilibrium for international duopoly with one LMF and one PMF in the absence of trade policy. In Section 3, we will introduce trade policy into our model of international duopoly. We will find that the effects of tariff on the LME's and PME's total outputs are, in general ambiguous. This is in sharp contrast with Krugman's export promoting effect of tariff in international duopoly with two profit-maximizing firms and with several markets.

2. International Duopoly in the Absence of Tariff

In this section we will formulate international mixed duopoly without product differentiation and with several markets. In the following analysis, variables without asterisk refer to the LMF and those with it to the PMF. Let $L = f(\sum x_i)$ with $f' > 0$, and $f'' > 0$ be the LMF's labor demand function, where L is the total labor working for the LMF and x_i is its supply to market i , $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. We let market 1 to be LMF's domestic market. Let $p_i = p_i(x_i + x_i^*)$ with $p_i' < 0$ be the inverse demand function in market i , where p_i is the market price of the product supplied by both LMF and PMF. If w and K are the competitive wage rate and fixed cost, respectively, the LMF's dividend s per unit of labor is given by

$$(1) \quad s \equiv \left\{ \sum p_j(x_j + x_j^*)x_j - wf(\sum x_j) - K \right\} / f(\sum x_j) + w .$$

The PMF's profits, π^* , are

$$(2) \quad \pi^* \equiv \sum p_j(x_j + x_j^*)x_j^* - w^*f(\sum x_j^*) - K^* .$$

Assume that both LMF and PMF expect their rival's supplies to all markets to be unaffected by their supplies, i.e. both firms behave as Cournot duopolists in any market. Assume further that both firms' supplies to all markets be positive. Then, the first order condition for maximum s with respect to x_i is

$$(3) \quad \frac{\partial s}{\partial x_i} = \left\{ (p_i + x_i p_i' - wf')f - (\sum p_j x_j - wf - K)f' \right\} / f^2 = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n ,$$

or

$$(4) \quad u^i(x_i, x_i^*, \sum x_j) \equiv (p_i + x_i p_i' - wf'(\sum x_j))f(\sum x_j) - (\sum p_j x_j - wf(\sum x_j) - K)f'(\sum x_j) = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n .$$

The second order condition is shown to be identical to

$$(5) \quad \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial x_i} \equiv u_1^i = (p_i' + p_i + x_i p_i'' - wf'')f - (\sum p_j x_j - wf - K)f'' < 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n .$$

Before proceeding further, we introduce the following fundamental assumption ("A"

before 6 refers to the assumption. The similar convention applies to other assumptions.)

$$(A.6) \quad p_i' + x_i p_i'' < 0, \quad p_i + x_i^* p_i'' < 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n .$$

This assumption has been widely used in the existence and stability analysis of the classical Cournot oligopoly equilibrium, as the reader can confirm from Okuguchi (1976) and Okuguchi and Szidarovszky (1990). It requires two firms' outputs to be strategic substitutes in each segmented market. If the LMF is viable,

$$(A.7) \quad \sum p_j x_j - wL - K \geq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

must hold. Hence (5) holds under (A.6).

The first order and second order conditions for the PMF are

$$(8) \quad u^{*i}(x_i, x_i^*, \sum x_j^*) = p_i + x_i^* p_i' - w^* f''(\sum x_j^*) = \partial \pi^* / \partial x_i^* = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

and

$$(9) \quad \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial x_i^*} \equiv u_2^i = p_i' + p_i + x_i^* p_i'' - w^* f'' < 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n ,$$

respectively. Under (A.6), (9) is satisfied.

We introduce two additional assumptions.

$$(A.10) \quad \Delta_i \equiv \begin{vmatrix} u_1^i & u_2^i \\ u_1^{*i} & u_2^{*i} \end{vmatrix} > 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n .$$

$$(A.11) \quad \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial X} \equiv u_X^i = (p_i + x_i p_i')f' - (\sum p_j x_j - K)f'' < 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n ,$$

where $X \equiv \sum x_j$. Furthermore, let $X^* \equiv \sum x_j^*$. We note that

$$(A.12) \quad \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial x_i^*} \equiv u_2^i = x_i f p_i'' - p_i'(f - x_i f') \geq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n .$$

The assumption (A.10) holds if the stability condition is satisfied¹; (A.11) holds if the LMF is viable.

Solving (4) and (8) with respect to x_i and x_i^* , we have

$$(13.1) \quad x_i \equiv \varphi^i(X, X^*), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n,$$

where

$$(13.2) \quad \partial \varphi^i / \partial X = -u_x^i u_2^i / \Delta_i < 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n,$$

$$(13.3) \quad \partial \varphi^i / \partial X^* = u_x^i u_2^i / \Delta_i \gtrless 0, \quad \text{according as } u_2^i \lesseqgtr 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n,$$

and

$$(14.1) \quad x_i^* = \varphi^{*i}(X, X^*), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n,$$

where

$$(14.2) \quad \partial \varphi^{*i} / \partial X = u_x^i u_1^i / \Delta_i > 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n,$$

$$(14.3) \quad \partial \varphi^{*i} / \partial X^* = -u_x^i u_1^i / \Delta_i < 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n,$$

where we have made use of the assumptions (A.6), (A.10), and (A.11)². Note that the sign of $\partial \varphi^i / \partial X^*$ is indeterminate.

The Cournot equilibrium total outputs for the LMF and PMF are identical to the solution of the following system of equations, (15.1) and (16.1).

$$(15.1) \quad X = \varphi(X, X^*) \equiv \sum_j \varphi^j(X, X^*),$$

where

$$(15.2) \quad \varphi_x < 0, \quad \varphi_{x^*} \gtrless 0, \quad \text{according as } u_2^i \lesseqgtr 0 \text{ for all } i.$$

$$(16.1) \quad X^* = \varphi^*(X, X^*) \equiv \sum_j \varphi^{*j}(X, X^*),$$

where

$$(16.2) \quad \varphi_x^* > 0 \quad \varphi_{x^*}^* < 0.$$

We can find the solution by use of diagrams. Ruling out the case where $\varphi_{x^*} = 0$, we have to consider two cases.

Case 1 where $\varphi_{x^*} > 0$ ³: In this case the curve for $\varphi(X, X^*)$ for arbitrarily given X^* has a unique intersection E with the 45 degree line, as depicted in Fig.1. The intersection moves to northeast of E if X^* increases. Thus solving (15.1) with respect to X, we have

$$(17.1) \quad X \equiv F(X^*), \quad F' > 0.$$

Case 2 where $\varphi_{x^*} < 0$: In this case the intersection of the curve for $\varphi(X, X^*)$ with the 45 degree line moves to southwest if X^* increases. Hence,

$$(17.2) \quad X \equiv F(X^*), \quad F' < 0.$$

Taking into account (16.2) and arguing similarly as above, we can solve (16.1) with respect to X^* as

$$(18) \quad X^* \equiv F^*(X), \quad F^{*'} > 0.$$

Combining (17.1) and (18), we have the equilibrium as the unique intersection E of the two upward-sloping curves, as in Fig.2 where we have assumed that the slope of the curve for (17.1) is greater than that of the curve for (18)⁴.

In the second case when (17.2) and (18) hold, the equilibrium is identical with the unique intersection of the downward-sloping curve for (17.2) and the upward sloping curve for (18), as shown in Fig.3.

3. Effects of Tariff

We are now in a position to analyze the effects of the LME's imposition of tariff on the PME's exports. Let market 1 be the LME's domestic market and t be the parameter for the tariff imposed on its imports from the PME. Then, the PME's revenue from the LME is written as $R^{*1}(x_1, x_1^*, t)$, where

$$(19) \quad \partial R^*/\partial t \equiv R_t^* < 0, \quad \frac{\partial^2 R^*}{\partial x_1 \partial t} \equiv R_{t1}^* < 0 .$$

The first order condition for the LME's own market is unaffected by the tariff and given by

$$(20) \quad u^1(x_1, x_1^*, X) = 0 ,$$

while the PME's first order condition for the same market is now written as

$$(21) \quad u^{*1}(x_1, x_1^*, X^*, t) \equiv \partial R^*/\partial x_1^* - w^* f''(X^*) = 0 ,$$

where $u_t^1 < 0$.

The first order conditions for all other markets remain the same as before for both LME and PME. Solving (20) and (21) with respect to x_1 and x_1^* , and taking into account (19), we have

$$(22.1) \quad x_1 \equiv \varphi^1(X, X^*, t),$$

$$(22.2) \quad \partial \varphi^1 / \partial X = -u_x^1 u_2^* / \Delta_1 < 0,$$

$$(22.3) \quad \partial \varphi^1 / \partial X^* = u_x^* u_2^1 / \Delta_1 \geq 0 \quad \text{according as } u_2^1 \leq 0,$$

$$(22.4) \quad \partial \varphi^1 / \partial t = u_2^1 u_t^1 / \Delta_1 \geq 0 \quad \text{according as } u_2^1 \geq 0 .$$

$$(23.1) \quad x_1^* \equiv \varphi^{*1}(X, X^*, t),$$

$$(23.2) \quad \partial \varphi^{*1} / \partial X = u_x^* u_1^* / \Delta_1 > 0,$$

$$(23.3) \quad \partial \varphi^{*1} / \partial X^* = -u_x^{*1} u_1^1 / \Delta_1 < 0,$$

$$(23.4) \quad \partial \varphi^{*1} / \partial t = -u_t^{*1} u_1^1 / \Delta_1 < 0.$$

The Cournot equilibrium total outputs in the presence of tariff are the values of X and X^* satisfying (24) and (25).

$$(24) \quad X = \varphi(X, X^*, t) \equiv \varphi^1(X, X^*, t) + \sum_{j=2}^n \varphi^j(X, X^*),$$

$$(25) \quad X^* = \varphi^*(X, X^*, t) \equiv \varphi^{*1}(X, X^*, t) + \sum_{j=2}^n \varphi^{*j}(X, X^*).$$

We have from (24), (22.2), (22.3), (22.4), and (13.2) and (13.3) for $i = 2, \dots, n$,

$$(26.1) \quad X \equiv F(X^*, t),$$

where

$$(26.2) \quad F_{X^*} \geq 0 \quad \text{according as } u_2^i \leq 0 \text{ for all } i; \quad F_t \geq 0 \quad \text{according as } u_2^i \leq 0 .$$

Solving (25) with respect to X^* and taking into account (23.2), (23.3) and (23.4) as well as (14.2) and (14.3) for $i = 2, \dots, n$, we derive the equation

$$(27.1) \quad X^* \equiv F^*(X, t),$$

where

$$(27.2) \quad F_X^* > 0, \quad F_t^* < 0 .$$

We have to distinguish two cases depending upon the sign of F_{X^*} , excluding the case where $F_{X^*} = 0$.

Case 1 where $F_{X^*} > 0$: In this case, $u_2^i < 0$ for all i and $F_t > 0$. Let the initial equilibrium be E in Fig.4. If t increases, the curve for $F(X^*, t)$ shifts downward and that for $F^*(X, t)$ also shifts downward. Consequently, five possibilities arise. At the equilibrium E_1 , the total outputs for both economies increase. In the case of E_2 , the LME's total output increases but the PME's total output remains unchanged. At E_3 , the total output of LME increases but that of PME decreases. At E_4 , the total output of LME remains unchanged and that of PME decreases. In the case of E_5 , the total outputs decrease for both economies.

Case 2 where $F_{X^*} < 0$: In this case, $u_2^i > 0$ for all i and $F_t < 0$. The curves for both $F(X^*, t)$ and $F^*(X, t)$ shift downward in the event of an increase in t , as depicted in Fig.5. Three possibilities arise. In all three cases, the total output for the PME decreases. On the other hand, the LME's total output decreases, remains unchanged, or increases if the new

equilibrium is E_1 , E_2 or E_3 , respectively.

Thus the effect of tariff on the LME's and PME's equilibrium total outputs are, in general, ambiguous regardless of the signs of F_x and F_i ⁵.

4. Conclusion

In Section 2 we have formulated international duopoly comprising one labor-managed firm (or economy) and one profit-maximizing firm (or economy) and assumed that the homogeneous goods produced by the two firms are sold in several markets. After deriving the relationships between the two firms' total outputs, separately for each firm, we have established the existence of a unique Cournot equilibrium. In Section 3, we have extended our model in Section 2 to take into consideration of the effects of the LME's tariff on the two firms' equilibrium total outputs. We have found that those effects are in general ambiguous. This contrasts with Krugman's export promoting effect of tariff on international duopoly consisting of two profit-maximizing firms (or economies) with diminishing marginal costs.

Footnotes

1. Suppose that x_j and x_j^* are given for all $j \neq i$. Suppose, in addition, that x_i and x_i^* are adjusted according to

$$\frac{dx_i}{dt} = \alpha_i u^i,$$

$$\frac{dx_i^*}{dt} = \alpha_i^* u^{*i},$$

where α_i and α_i^* are positive constants and $\text{sgn } u^i = \text{sgn } \partial s / \partial x_i$. Since $u_1^i < 0$ and $u_2^{*i} < 0$, we can claim that the above system is globally stable if $\Delta_i > 0$ in the light of Olech (1963)'s theorem.

2. The partial derivatives of u^i and u^{*i} are calculated and signed as follows:

$$u_1^i = (p_i' + p_i' + x_i p_i'' - w f'') f - (\sum p_j x_j - w f - K) f'' < 0,$$

$$u_2^i = x_i p_i'' f + p_i' (f - x_i f') \geq 0,$$

$$u_x^i = (p_i + x_i p_i') f' - (\sum p_j x_j - K) f'' < 0,$$

$$u_1^{*i} = p_i' + x_i^* p_i'' < 0,$$

$$u_2^{*i} = p_i' + p_i' + x_i^* p_i'' - w^* f^{*''} < 0,$$

$$u_x^{*i} = -w^* f^{*''} < 0.$$

3. If $u_2^i < 0$ for all i , we have $\partial \phi^i / \partial X^* > 0$ for all i , hence $\partial \phi / \partial X^* > 0$. If, in addition, p_i is sufficiently concave, $u_2^i < 0$ is likely to hold. On the other hand, we have $\partial \phi / \partial X^* < 0$ if $u_2^i > 0$ for all i , which is true provided that p_i is either convex, or concave and its degree of concavity is small.

4. If this assumption is satisfied, the discrete iterative process for computing the equilibrium, given by

$$\begin{cases} X(t+1) = F(X^*(t)) \\ X^*(t+1) = F^*(X(t)) \end{cases}$$

is globally convergent.

5. This ambiguity is also confirmed algebraically on the basis of two expressions for comparative statics as given by

$$\begin{aligned} dX/dt &= (\varphi_x(1 - \varphi_{x^*}) + \varphi_{x^*}\varphi_x)/\Delta, \\ dX^*/dt &= (\varphi_x^*(1 - \varphi_x) + \varphi_x\varphi_x^*)/\Delta, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\Delta \equiv \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \varphi_x & -\varphi_{x^*} \\ -\varphi_x^* & 1 - \varphi_x^* \end{vmatrix}$$

These two expressions are obtained by totally differentiating (24) and (25) and solving with respect to dX/dt and dX^*/dt .

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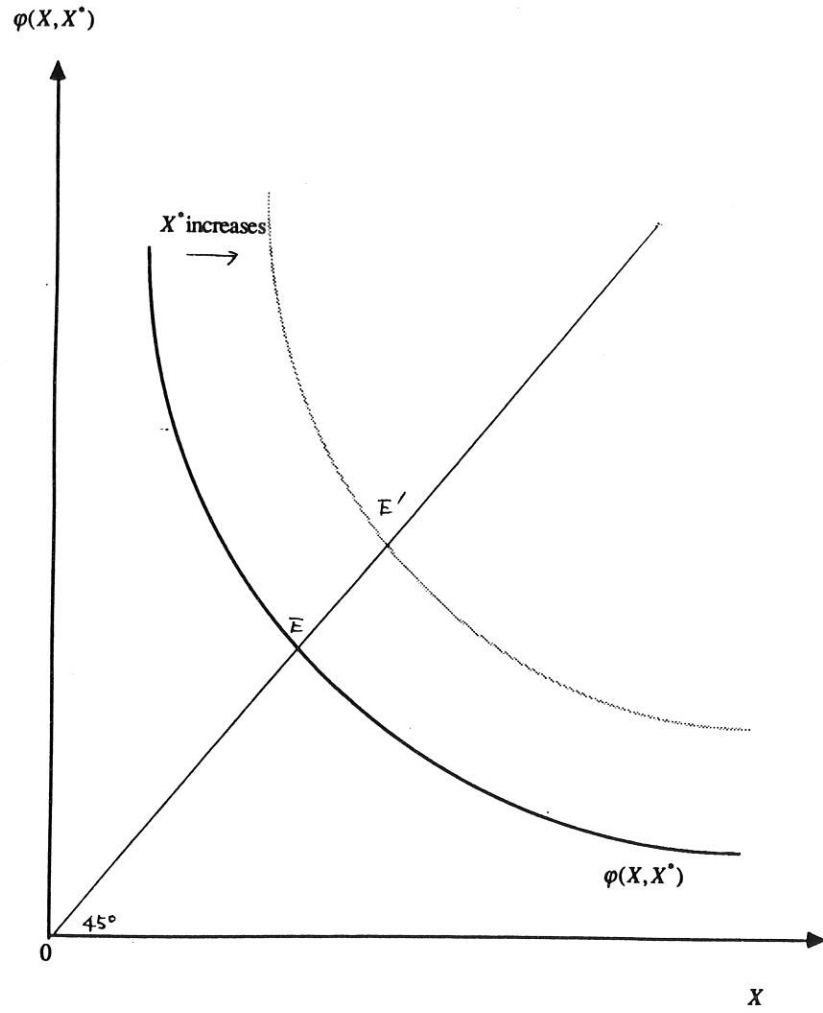
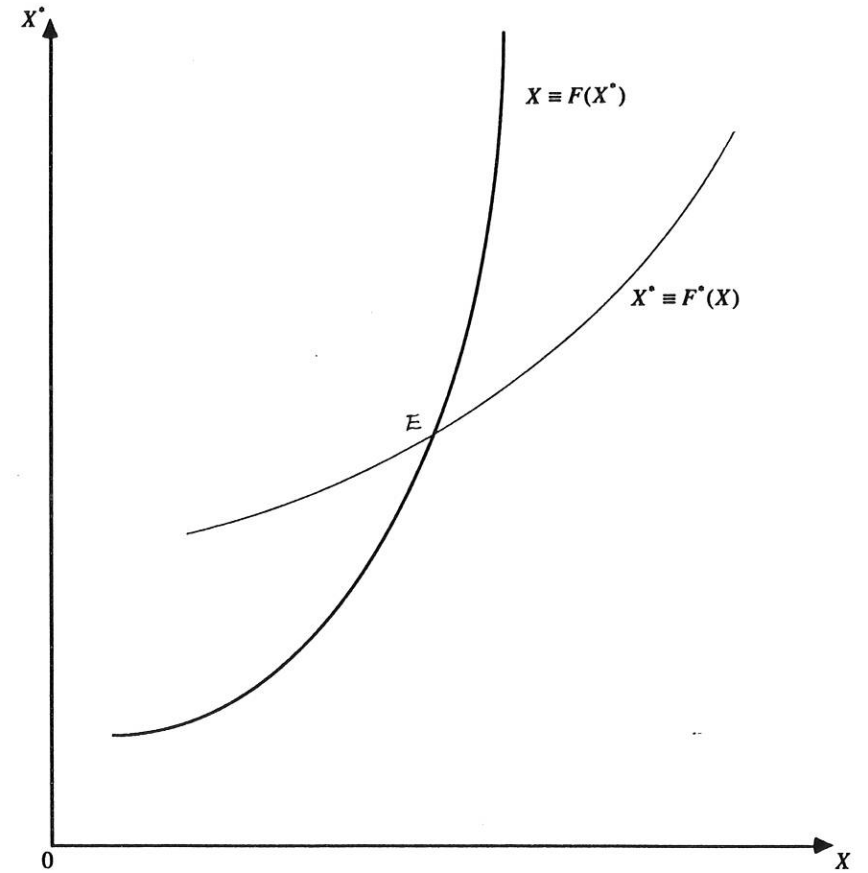


Fig. 1 Solution of (15.1)

Fig. 2 Equilibrium total outputs when $u_2^i < 0$ for all i .

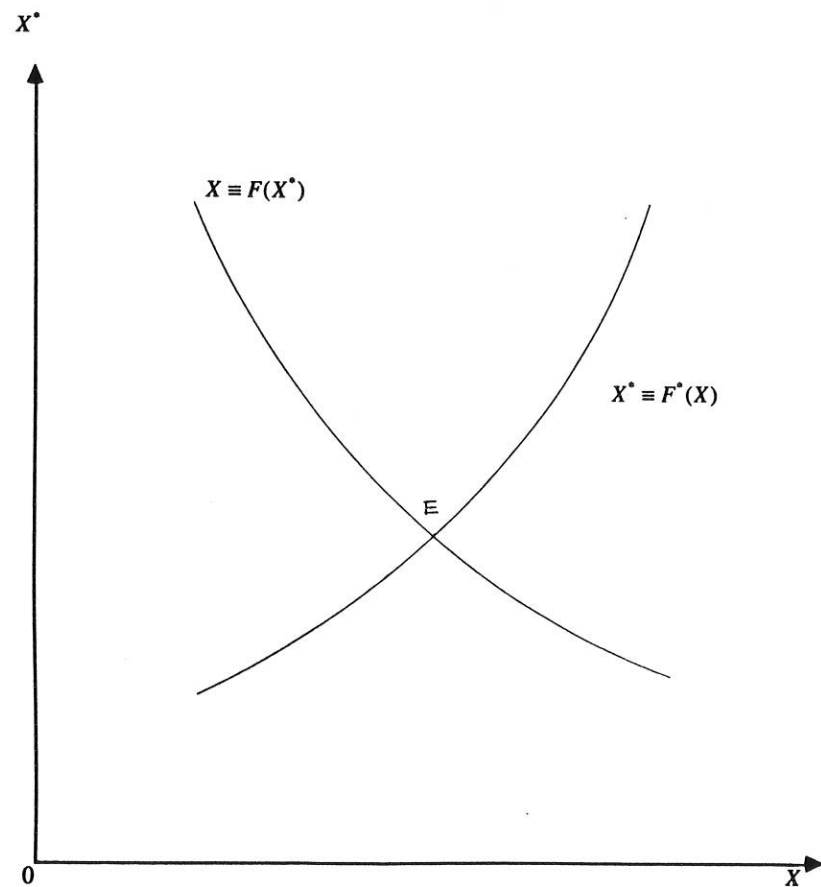


Fig. 3 Equilibrium total outputs when $u_2^i > 0$ for all i .

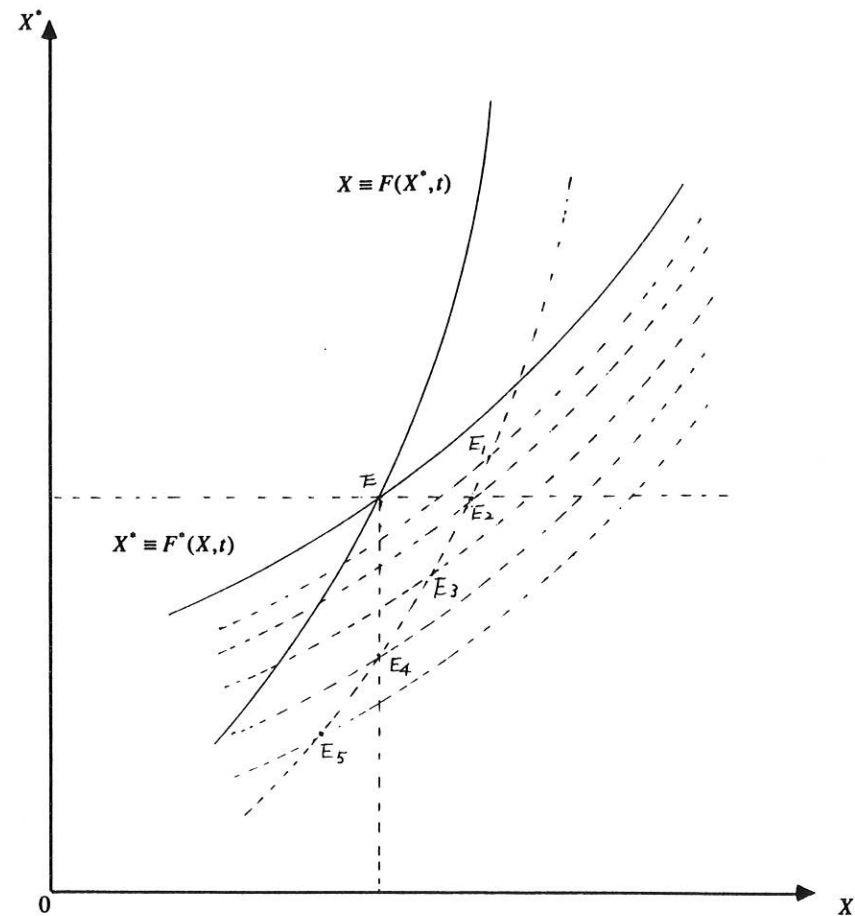


Fig.4 $F_{X^*} > 0$, $F_1 > 0$

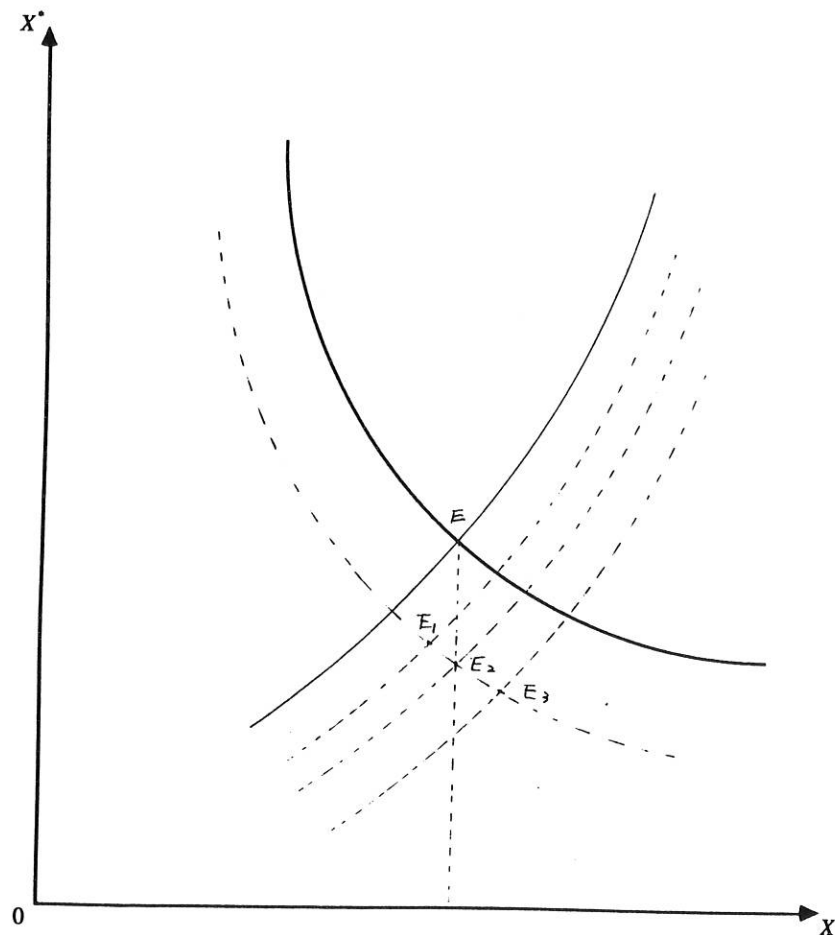


Fig. 5 $F_{X^*} < 0$, $F_t < 0$

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