Managerial Labor Market Competition and Incentive Contracts

高管劳动力市场竞争与激励合同设计

复旦大学经济学院 胡博 September 10, 2019

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- Labor market competition gives total pay increases with firm size.

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 Why is the fraction of incentives higher in larger firms?

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 Why is the fraction of incentives higher in larger firms?
- Firm Size Incentive Premium and Managerial Labor Market: Incentive premium is higher in industries where the managerial labor market is more active.

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- Firm Size Incentive Premium:
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- Firm Size Incentive Premium and Managerial Labor Market: Incentive premium is higher in industries where the managerial labor market is more active.

What I provide:

· An explanation based on the executive job ladder.

Introduction — motivating facts

Data: U.S. S&P 1500 companies, 1992 - 2016

Key variables:

- firm size by market capitalization
- performance-based incentives by PPS, pay-for-performance sensitivity

$$PPS = \frac{\Delta Wealth(in dollars)}{\Delta Firm Value(in percentage)}$$

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Size incentive premium:

 Controlling for total compensation, year × industry dummies, etc.

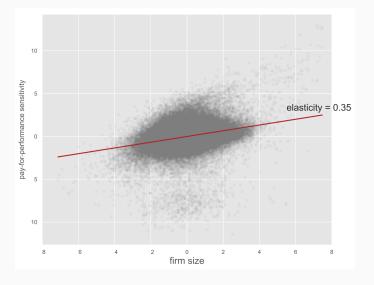


Figure 1: PPS increases in firm size (size incentive premium)

Scatter and linear fit of log(PPS) on log(Mktcap), based on S&P 1500 firms from 1992 to 2016.

Introduction — size incentive premium and labor market

		log(PPS)					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)		
log(firm size)	0.585*** (0.0141)	0.347*** (0.0247)	0.316*** (0.0029)	0.325*** (0.0036)	0.316*** (0.0029)		
log(firm size) × J-J rate			0.716** (0.1054)				
log(firm size) × GAI				0.055*** (0.0112)			
log(firm size) × inside-CEO-%					-0.087*** (0.0196)		
log(total pay)		0.609*** (0.0350)	0.692*** (0.0046)	0.0687*** (0.0056)	0.684*** (0.0046)		
tenure, age, year	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ		
other controls	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ		
industry	X	Χ					
year × industry	Χ	Χ					
Obs. adj. R ²	146,747 0.442	128,006 0.482	128,006 0.487	79,476 0.482	128,006 0.485		

- 1. GAI, general ability index is provided by Custódio et al. (2013)
- 2. Fraction of inside CEO is provided by Martijn Cremers and Grinstein (2013).

Model:

dynamic moral hazard + job ladder

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What are labor market incentives?

· on-the-job executives can be poached by outside firms

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Basic idea:

- performance-based incentives + labor market incentives
- · labor market incentives decrease with firm size
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What are labor market incentives?

- · on-the-job executives can be poached by outside firms
- labor market incentives: effort \leftarrow productivity \leftarrow poaching offer

Introduction — model intuition, cont'd

Key assumption (Gabaix and Landier, 2008):

- cash flow = firm size × executive productivity
- · larger firms can always outbid smaller ones
- the job ladder towards larger firms

Introduction — model intuition, cont'd

Key assumption (Gabaix and Landier, 2008):

- cash flow = firm size × executive productivity
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- the job ladder towards larger firms

Labor market incentives decrease in firm size

- · job ladder effect position on the ladder
- wealth effect wealthier executives are harder to incentivize

Introduction — contributions

This paper

- 1. documents the firm size incentive premium
- 2. develops a dynamic equilibrium framework to explain the premium
- 3. explains the significant increase in executive compensation since the mid 1970s (Frydman and Saks 2010)

Related Literature

- · Assignment models:
 - Tervio (2008), Gabaix and Landier (2008), Edmans et al. (2009), etc.
 - My paper adds dynamics and search frictions.
- · Moral hazard models
 - · Gayle and Miller (2009), Gayle et al. (2015)
 - My paper features a job ladder towards larger firms.

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- · Dynamic contract literature
 - · moral hazard: Spear and Srivastava (1987), etc.
 - · limited commitment: Thomas Worrall (1988, 1990), etc.
- Labor search literature
 - · sequential auction: Postel-Vinay and Robin (2002), etc.

Road Map

- 1. Model
- 2. Data & evidence
- 3. Structural estimation
- 4. Explain the pattern since the mid 1970s

The Model

Set Up: Moral Hazard

Discrete time and infinite periods

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Discrete time and infinite periods

Executives:

• risk averse, u(w) - c(e), $e \in \{0, 1\}$, c(1) = c, c(0) = 0,

$$u(w) = \frac{w^{1-\sigma}}{1-\sigma}$$

- effort e stochastically increases executive productivity $z \in \mathcal{Z}$
- · z is persistent, follows a discrete Markov Chain process

$$Z_t = \rho_0(e) + \rho_z Z_{t-1} + \epsilon_t$$

• die with $\eta \in (0,1)$, the match breaks up, the job disappears

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Firms:

- firm size $s \in \mathcal{S}$, exogenous and permanent
- production (cash flow) $y(s,z) = \alpha_0 s^{\alpha_1} z$, $\alpha_0, \alpha_1 \in (0,1]$.

Set Up: Managerial Labor Market

Managerial Labor Market:

- · search frictional and allows on-the-job search
- with $\lambda_1 \in (0,1)$ sample an outside firm s' from F(s')

Set Up: Managerial Labor Market

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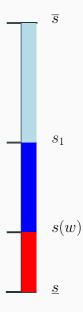
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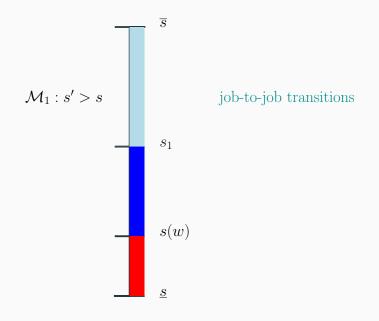
Bertrand Competition:

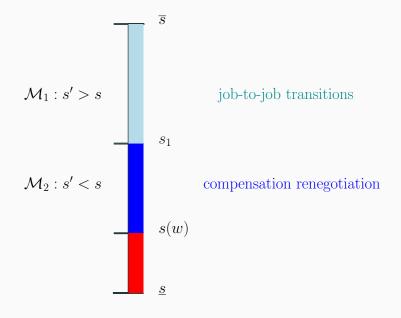
- · current firm s versus outside firm s'
- each has a bidding frontier, $\overline{W}(z,s)$, defined by

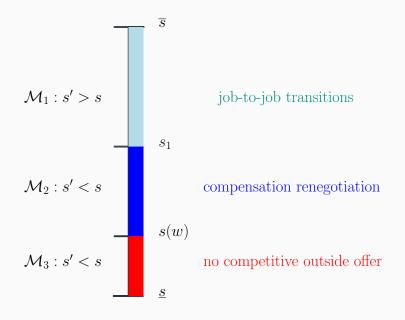
$$\Pi(z,s,\overline{W}(z,s))=0$$

• $\overline{W}(z,s)$ increases in z and s









Contracting Problem

Firms maximize profits by choosing

- current period compensation w
- state-contingent continuation value W(z', s')

subject to

Promise-keeping Constraint,	(PKC)
Incentive Compatibility Constraint,	(IC)
Participation Constraint of executive,	(PC-Executive)
Participation Constraint of firm,	(PC-Firm)

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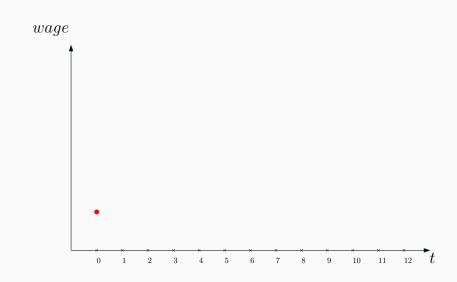
```
 \begin{array}{ll} \textit{Promise-keeping Constraint,} & (PKC) \\ \textit{Incentive Compatibility Constraint,} & (IC) \\ \textit{W(z',s')} \geq \min\{\overline{W}(z',s'),\overline{W}(z',s)\}, & (PC\text{-Executive}) \\ \textit{W(z',s')} \leq \overline{W}(z',s), & (PC\text{-Firm}) \\ \end{array}
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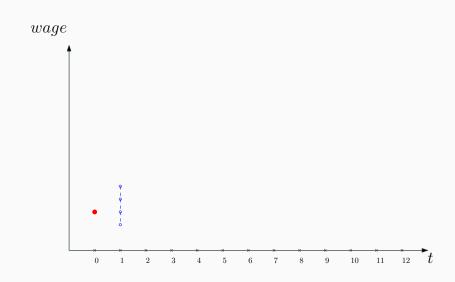


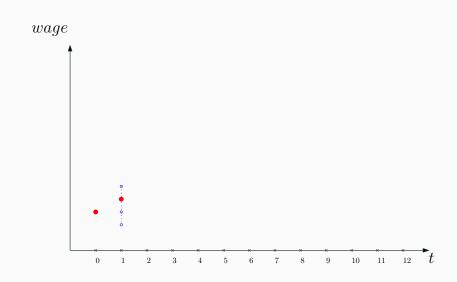
The Equilibrium

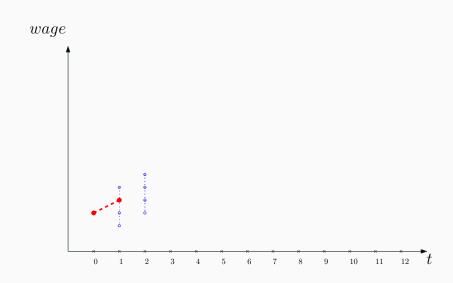
A recursive equilibrium consists of

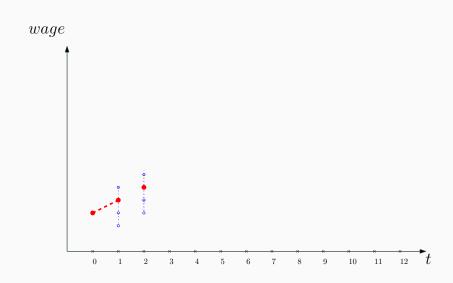
- the value functions $\{W^0, W, \Pi\}$;
- the optimal contracts $\sigma = \{w, W(z', s')\}$ for all $z' \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $s' \in \mathbb{S}$;
- a transition probability function $\Gamma(z'|z)$ following the optimal effort choice;
- a distribution of executives across employment states evolving according to flow equations.

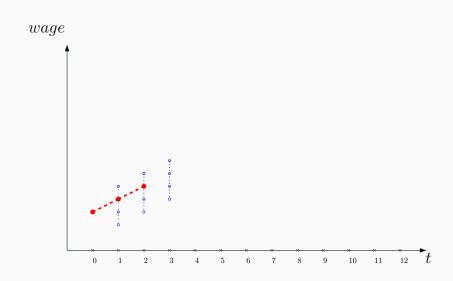


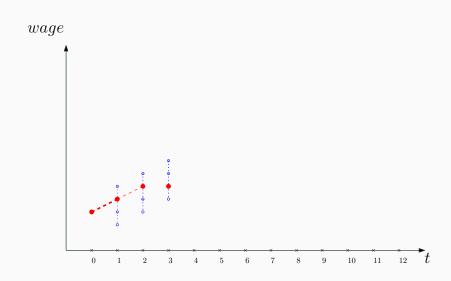


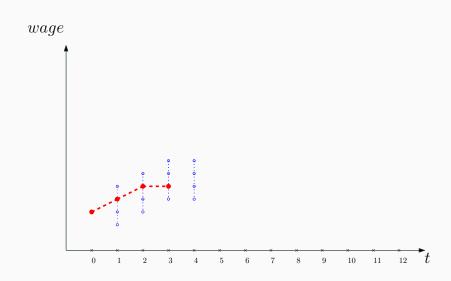


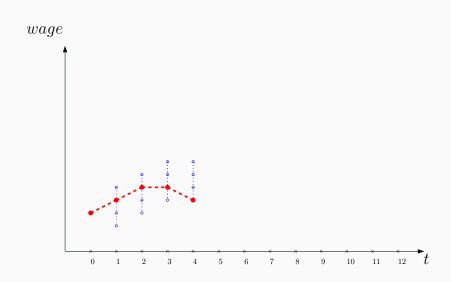


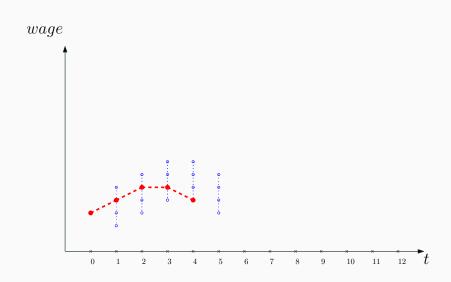


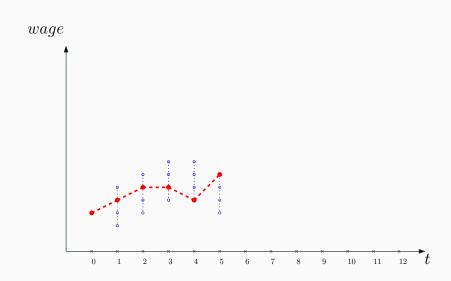


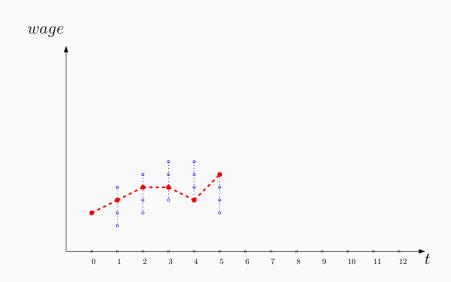


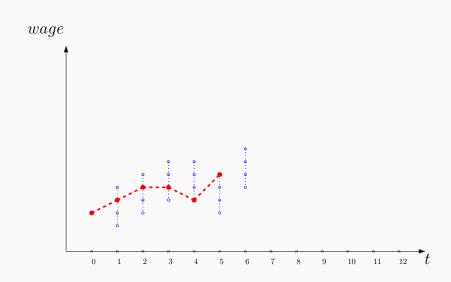


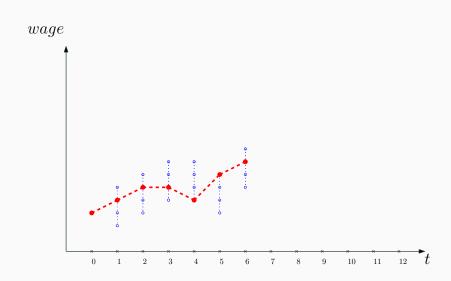


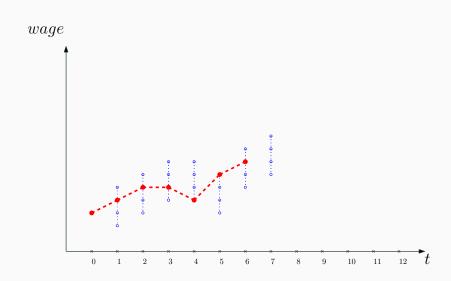


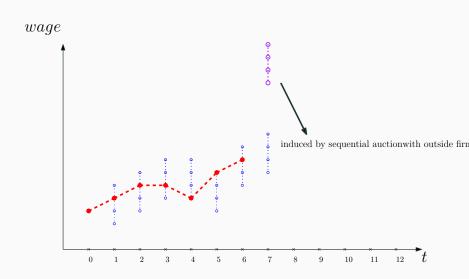


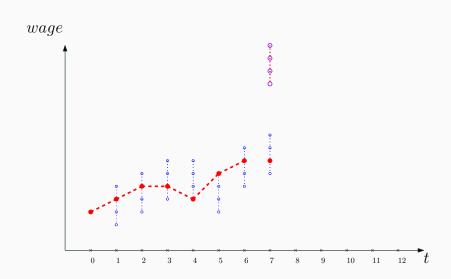


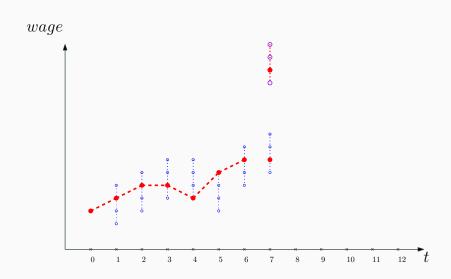


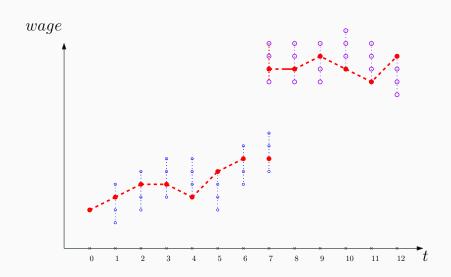


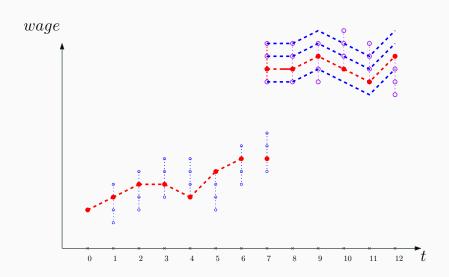












Labor market incentives

What is the incentive out of W(z')?

$$\mathcal{I}[W(z')] \equiv \mathbb{E}_{z'}\Big[W(z')|e=1\Big] - \mathbb{E}_{z'}\Big[W(z')|e=0\Big].$$

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The incentive compatibility constraint is

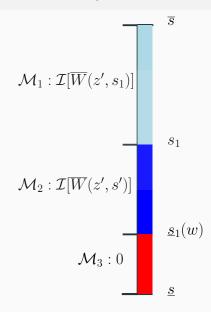
$$\sum_{\underline{s'} \in \mathcal{M}_1} F(s') \mathcal{I}[\overline{W}(z',s)] + \sum_{\underline{s'} \in \mathcal{M}_2} \mathcal{I}[\overline{W}(z',s')] F(s') + \sum_{\underline{s'} \in \mathcal{M}_3} F(s') \mathcal{I}[W(z')] \geq \tilde{c},$$
Labor Market Incentives

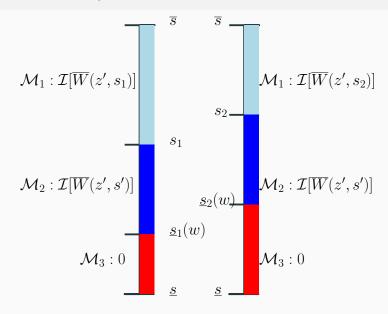
where

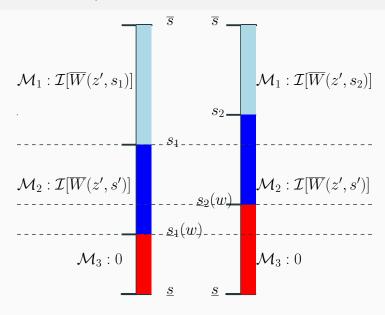
 $\mathcal{M}_1: s' \geq s$, lead to job turnovers

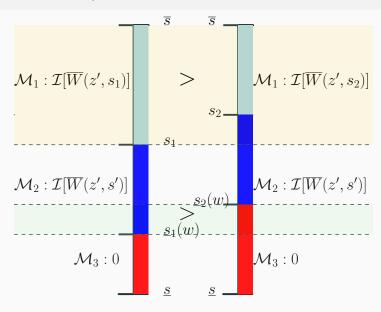
 $\mathcal{M}_2: s' < s, \text{ improve compensation, no job turnovers}$

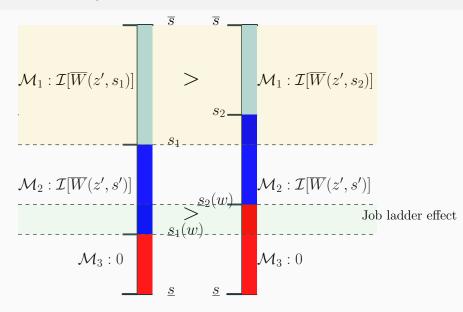
 \mathcal{M}_3 : other or no outside firms



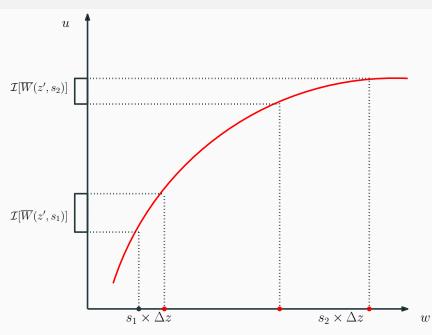


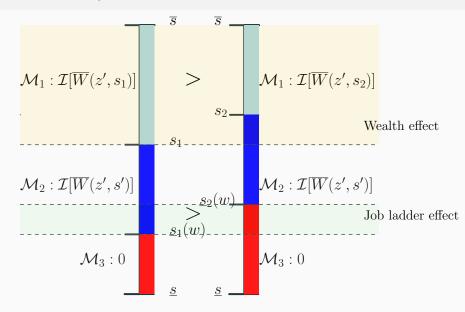






Incentives from $\overline{W}(z',s)$ decrease in s





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Proposition

Suppose the executives' utility is of the CRRA form and the cost of effort $c=\overline{c}(s)$, then $\mathcal{I}\left(\overline{W}(z',s)\right)$ decreases in s if

$$\sigma > 1 + \frac{s^{1-\alpha_1}}{\alpha_1} \psi'(s), \tag{1}$$

where $\psi(s)$ is a function of s that is positive and increasing in s.

Summary

- Firms compete to retain/attract executives.
- Firm size matters.
- Labor market incentives decrease in firm size due to a job ladder effect and a wealth effect.

Data and Evidence

Data

Assemble a new dataset

- ExecuComp & BoardEX + hand-collected from LinkedIn/Bloomberg
- ExecuComp: annual records on top executives' compensation
- BoardEX: detailed executive employment history
- Final sample: 35,088 executives, 218,168 executive-year obs., spanning the period 1992 to 2016.

Define job turnovers

- Job-to-job transition: leaves the current firm, and starts to work in another firm within n? days.
- · Exit: otherwise.

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Define job turnovers

- Job-to-job transition: leaves the current firm, and starts to work in another firm within 180 days.
- · Exit: otherwise.

Reduced-form evidence

- 1. Managerial labor market is active. Details
 - · annual job-to-job transition rate 5%
 - relatively stable over years industries
- 2. Executives climb job ladders towards larger firms. Details
 - about 72% of job-to-job transitions are towards larger firms
 - \cdot for the rest, 20% of them are promotions from non-CEO to CEO

Reduced-form evidence

- 3. Executives in larger firms have less job-to-job transitions. Details
 - Cox model, 1% increase in firm size leads 8.3% lower hazard of job-to-job transitions.
- 4. Starting from the same level of compensation, the pay-growth is higher in larger firms. Details
 - 1% increase in firm size leads to 10% increase in pay-growth rate

Estimation

Model Specifications

· utility function of CRRA form

$$u(w) = \frac{w^{1-\sigma}}{1-\sigma}$$

production function of multiplicative form

$$y(s,z)=e^{\alpha_0}s^{\alpha_1}z$$

• productivity process by AR(1), discretized by Tauchen (1989)

$$Z_t = \rho_0(e) + \rho_z Z_{t-1} + \epsilon_t$$

• the distribution of poaching firms: truncated log-normal F(s)

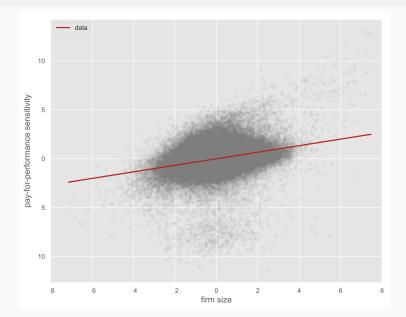
Parameters

Parameters	Description
$\overline{\eta}$	the death probability
λ_1	the offer arrival probability
$ ho_{Z}$	the AR(1) coefficient of productivity shocks
μ_{Z}	the mean of productivity shocks for $e = 1$
$\sigma_{\it Z}$	the standard deviation of productivity shocks
μ_{S}	the mean of $F(s)$
$\sigma_{ extsf{S}}$	the standard deviation of F(s)
C	cost of efforts
σ	relative risk aversion
α_0, α_1	production function parameters

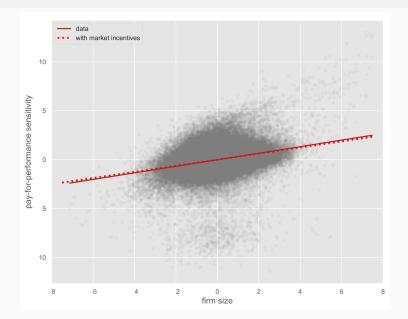
Moments and Estimates

Moments	Data	Model	Estimates	Standard Error
Exit Rate	0.0691	0.0691	$\eta = 0.0695$	0.0127
J-J Transition Rate	0.0498	0.0473	$\lambda_1 = 0.3164$	0.0325
$\hat{ ho}_{profit}$	0.7683	0.6299	$ ho_{\rm Z}=0.8004$	0.0366
Mean(profit)	0.1260	0.1144	$\mu_{\rm Z}=0.0279$	0.0014
Var(profit)	0.0144	0.0160	$\sigma_z^2=0.1198$	0.0044
Mean(log(size))	7.4515	7.4806	$\mu_{\rm S} = 1.2356$	0.0365
Var(log(size))	2.3060	2.1610	$\sigma_{\rm S}=2.5795$	0.1211
Mean(log(total pay))	7.2408	7.2665	$\alpha_0 = -1.5534$	0.0147
<pre>Var(log(total pay))</pre>	1.1846	0.8960	$\alpha_1=0.5270$	0.0217
$eta_{ ext{total pay}}$ - size	0.3830	0.2822		
etaPPS - total pay	1.1063	1.1997	$\sigma = 1.1038$	0.0030
Mean(log(PPS))	8.4994	8.478	c = 0.0814	0.0259
Var(log(PPS))	3.4438	3.35872		

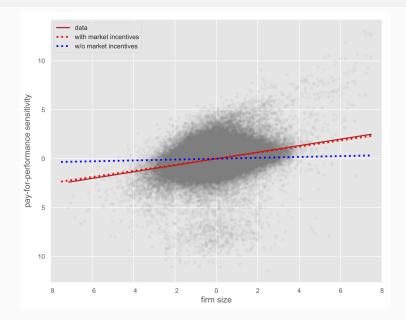
Data



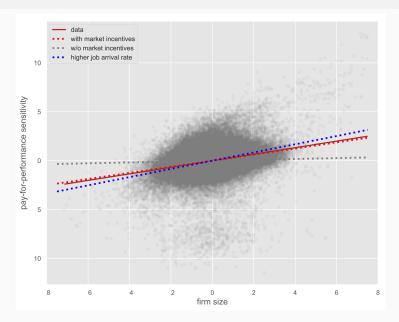
Predictions — model



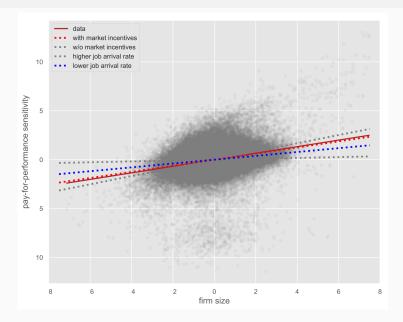
Predictions — without labor market incentives



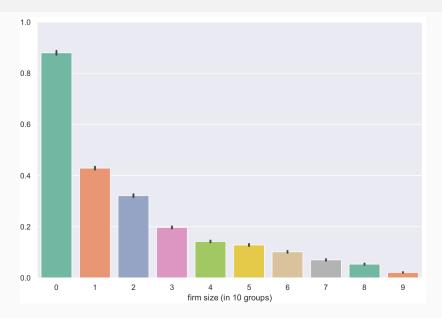
Predictions — with higher job arrival rate



Predictions — with lower job arrival rate



Fraction of labor market incentives



The pre-1970 puzzle

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Frydman and Saks (2010) document that since the mid-1970s:

- 1. sharp increase in total and incentive pay.
- 2. more inequality among executives
- 3. higher correlation between compensation and firm size

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- 2. more inequality among executives
- 3. higher correlation between compensation and firm size

These facts can be quantitatively explained by an exogenous increase in higher job arrival rate λ_1 .

- Huson et al. (2001), Murphy and Zabojnik (2007): An increasing number of CEO openings have been filled through external hires.
- Frydman (2005): Executive jobs have increasingly placed greater emphasis on general rather than firm-specific skills.

Calibration for moments in the 1970s and 1990s

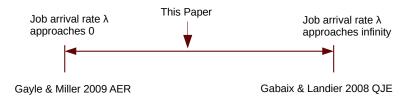
Moments	Da	ata	Model				
(dollar value in year 2000)	1970s	1990s	$\lambda_1 = 0.05$	$\lambda_1 = 0.4$			
Mean total pay (thousand) Mean size (million) Mean PPS (thousand) $eta_{totalpay-size}$	1090	4350	985	4296			
	-	-	2426	5710			
	21.743	120.342	24.972	125.310			
	0.199	0.264	0.175	0.240			
Percentiles of total pay (thousand) 25th percentile 50th percentile 75th percentile	640	1350	109	1217			
	930	2360	478	2957			
	1310	4430	1596	5860			

A conjecture by Gabaix and Landier (2008)

Another possibility is that the U.S. CEO market before 1970 was more like the contemporary Japanese CEO market. Companies would groom their CEOs in-house and not poach them from other firms. Hence, this labor market would just not be described well by our model. We conclude that our frictionless benchmark model does not apply unamended to the pre-1970 sample and leave the search for a fuller model to future research.

— Gabaix and Landier (2008)

A model links GM and GL



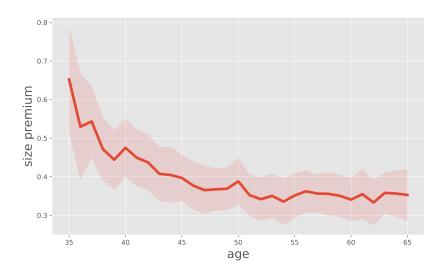
- In terms of compensation level, a "weighted sum" of GM and GL
- In terms of incentives, the interaction gives labor market incentives

Takeaways

Takeaways

- Small and medium firms take advantage of the labor market incentives.
- Managerial labor market competition explains firm size incentive premium.

Firm size incentive premium over age



感谢大家问题和建议。

http://bohuecon.github.io

Contracting Problem

Firms choose $\{w, W(z', s')\}$ to maximize profits

$$\Pi(z,s,V) = \max_{w,W(z',s')} \sum_{z' \in \mathbb{Z}} \sum_{s' \in \mathbb{S}} \left[y(s,z') - w + \tilde{\beta} \Pi(z',s,W(z',s')) \right] \tilde{F}(s') \Gamma(z'|z)$$

subject to

$$V = u(w) - c + \tilde{\beta} \sum_{z' \in \mathbb{Z}} \sum_{s' \in \mathbb{S}} W(z', s') \tilde{F}(s') \Gamma(z'|z), \tag{PKC}$$

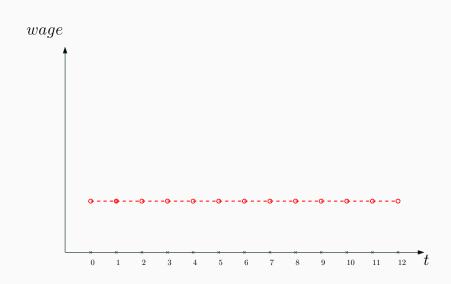
$$\tilde{\beta} \sum_{z' \in \mathbb{Z}} \sum_{s' \in \mathbb{S}} W(z', s') \tilde{F}(s') \Big(\Gamma(z'|z) - \Gamma^s(z'|z) \Big) \ge c, \tag{IC}$$

$$W(z', s') \ge \min\{ \overline{W}(z', s'), \overline{W}(z', s) \}, \tag{PC-Executive}$$

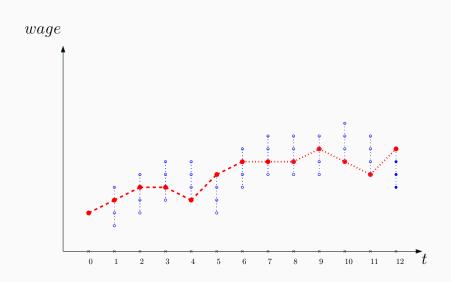
$$W(z', s') \le \overline{W}(z', s), \text{ for all } z' \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ and } s' \in \mathbb{S}. \tag{PC-Firm}$$

Back

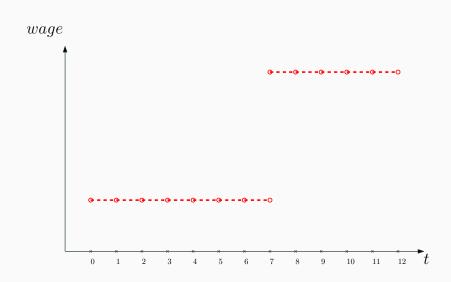
No Moral Hazard, Full Commitment



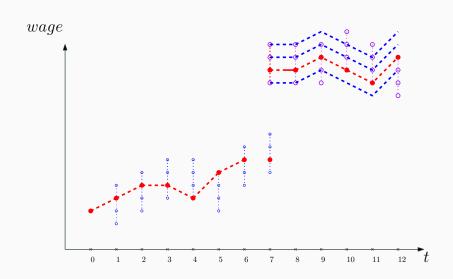
Only Moral Hazard



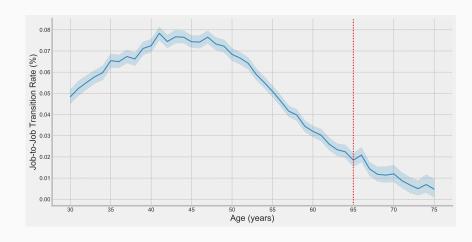
Only Limited Commitment



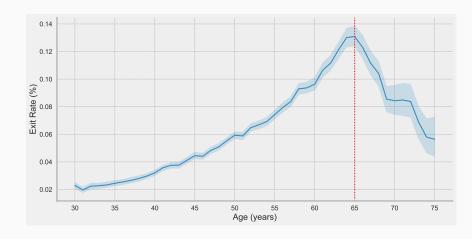
Optimal Contract



Job-to-job transition rate over age



Exit rate over age



Climb the Job Ladder

Table 3: Change of firm size upon job-to-job transitions

Panel A: All executives										
Firm size proxy	Total obs.	Firm size decrease obs. (%)	Firm size increase obs. (%)							
Market Cap	2567	985 (39%)	1582 (61%)							
Sales	2617	1051 (40%)	1566 (60%)							
Book Assets	2616	1038 (40%)	1578 (60%)							

Panel B: Across age groups

Age groups	Total obs.	Firm size decrease obs. (%)	Firm size increase obs. (%)
≤ 40	100	34 (34%)	66 (66%)
[40, 45)	381	135 (35%)	246 (65%)
[45, 50)	701	262 (37%)	439 (63%)
[50, 55)	766	304 (40%)	462 (60%)
[55, 60)	261	179 (43%)	82 (67%)
[60, 65)	73	52 (39%)	21 (61%)
[65, 70)	30	7 (25%)	23 (75%)
≥ 70	6	1 (16%)	5 (84%)

Table 4: Job-to-Job Transitions and Firm Size

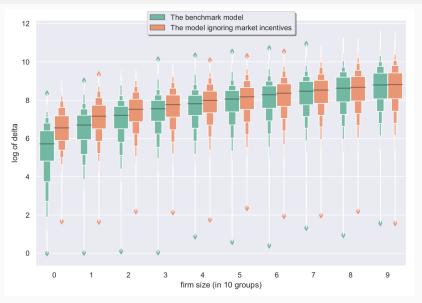
Job	Job-to-Job Transition										
•	(1)	(2)									
log(Firm Size)	0.917**** (0.0109)	0.972* (0.0139)									
Age	0.985**** (0.00273)	0.967*** (0.0112)									
log(tdc1)		0.830**** (0.0150)									
Market-Book Ratio	0.942**** (0.0150)	0.939**** (0.0157)									
Market Value Leverage	1.033** (0.0139)	1.035** (0.0142)									
Profitability	0.913**** (0.0197)	0.905**** (0.0199)									
Year FE	Yes	Yes									
Industry FE	Yes	Yes									
N chi2	154635 496.1	118119 491.4									

Table 1: Compensation growth increases with firm size

			Δ log	g(tdc1)		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
log(firm size) ₋₁	0.112*** (0.00903)	0.154*** (0.0129)	0.108*** (0.00183)	0.107*** (0.00189)	0.141*** (0.00177)	0.127*** (0.00489)
$\begin{array}{l} log(firm\;size)_{-1} \\ \times \; EE90 \end{array}$			0.0711* (0.0403)			
$\begin{array}{l} log(firm\ size)_{-1} \\ \times\ EE190 \end{array}$				0.0759** (0.0353)		
$\begin{array}{l} log(firm\ size)_{-1} \\ \times\ gai \end{array}$					0.0233*** (0.00546)	
$log(firm\ size)_{-1} \times inside\ CEO$						-0.000232*** (0.0000696)
$log(tdc1)_{-1}$	-0.290*** (0.0200)	-0.390*** (0.0262)	-0.251*** (0.00173)	-0.251*** (0.00173)	-0.304*** (0.00267)	-0.253*** (0.00173)
Dummies	X	X	X	X	X	X
Other contorls		X	X	X	X	X
Observations adj. R^2	129068 0.157	106819 0.216	106820 0.260	106820 0.260	58188 0.233	106820 0.262

Table 2: Performance-based incentives increases with firm size												
	$\log(delta)$ (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6)											
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)						
log(firm size)	0.604*** (0.0141)	0.347*** (0.0247)	0.525*** (0.00512)	0.529*** (0.00499)	0.561*** (0.00310)	0.571*** (0.0139)						
log(firm size) × EE90			0.359* (0.118)									
log(firm size) × EE190	0.415** (0.101)											
log(firm size) × gai					0.0648*** (0.00156)							
log(firm size) × inside CEO						-0.000458* (0.000202)						
log(tdc1)		0.609*** (0.0350)	-0.251*** (0.00173)	-0.251*** (0.00173)	-0.304*** (0.00267)	-0.253*** (0.00173)						
Dummies	Χ	X	X	X	X	X						
Other contorls		X	X	X	X	X						
Observations adj. R^2	146747 0.442	128006 0.514	125858 0.521	125858 0.521	75747 0.531	125858 0.521						

If labor market incentives are ignored ...





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CEO's of "Small Firms" in S&P 500
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tdc1: total compensation
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PRICELINE GROUP INC

REGENERON PHARMACEUTICALS

SKYWORKS SOLUTIONS INC

ALASKA AIR GROUP INC

ACUITY BRANDS INC

LKO CORP

CENTENE CORP

HOLOGIC INC

ANSYS INC

GARTNER INC

delta: dollar-percentage incentive

Company Market Cap tdc1 delta | millions 000's 000's/% |

INCYTE CORP 446.408 2432.9734 60.939838 | WESTROCK CO 547.828 2800.668 130.96215 |

ENVISION HEALTHCARE CORP 678.6906 1777.991 217.729 |

886.0817 1775.531

889.9763 2602.093

897.3801 3094.134

1113.547 2638.243

1130.155 4584.605

1276.448 2709.708

1328.171 1102.528

1368.129 3738.803

1474.909 8945.338

950.098

1194.977

165.73476

473,70974

566,14187

128.10688

344.02299

99.525198

428,10996

133,42285

431.01562

158.65569

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CEO's of "Large Firms" in S&P 500
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i.															c -										. 1 .

UNITED PARCEL SERVICE INC.

VERTZON COMMUNICATIONS INC.

INTL BUSINESS MACHINES CORP

HOME DEPOT INC

CISCO SYSTEMS INC

WAI-MART STORES INC.

EXXON MOBIL CORP

COCA-COLA CO

CHEVRON CORP

TNTFL CORP

PEPSTCO INC

es

Company Market Cap tdc1 delta |

82439.55 3120.042

86128.2 35750.103

95494.39 12781.61

97836.48 15268.415

121238.6 16269.85

126749.6 13125.882

147738.2 6101.835

192048.2 16652.894

83233.88

AT&T INC 94944.89 17283.529

129381.2

19425

21693,615

344490.6 48922.808 3843.027

millions 000's 000's/%|

861.09722

2014.3633

1666,3201

425,62199

2919.7995

5981.3853

1106.8351

1298,8777

1874.5755

1465.7708

TIME WARNER INC 79965.89 18545.215 1212.9513 CONOCOPHILLIPS 80163.26 35442.729 4520.5571

340.01132

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