

example in the electronics industry¹. There are similar such examples in the pharmaceutical and textiles industries. In this paper we investigate the competition between two different firms of similar end products targeting the same market. Both the firms order from a common supplier to fulfill their own customer demand. We consider two distinct supply chain structures: decentralized and partially integrated. In the case of decentralized supply chain all the entities are independent. In partially integrated structure the supplier owns the first firm and these two firms together form a vertically integrated entity; the second firm operates independently. Similar situation arises when one firm markets her product simultaneously through an 'independent traditional retail channel as well as through a firm-owned direct online channel' (Ryan, Sun & Zhao, 2013) or when a monopolist supplier enters a new demographic market, modifying an existing product to meet local needs, she needs to find a local retailer for selling of the product (Corbett, Zhou & Tang 2004). The si slf i i

relationship between a supplier and a buyer. In our work we are going to address these two issues – in case of determ

3 The model

We consider a supply chain network consisting of a single supplier and two buyers. The buyers procure a common raw material or component or semi-finished goods from the supplier and subsequently each of them produce one finished p

Here we consider four different types of contracts: whole-sale price contract, linear two-part tariff contract, nonlinear two-part tariff contract and quantity discount contract. Quantity discount and nonlinear two-part tariff are distinctive contract types; wholesale price and linear two-part tariff contracts stem from them respectively as special cases.

We adopt the quantity discount contract structure of Cachon and Kök (2010) for our paper; the corresponding transfer payment function is given as follows

$$T(q) = \begin{cases} p \cdot q - \frac{A}{2} q^2 & q \leq \bar{q} \\ p \cdot \bar{q} - \frac{A}{2} \bar{q}^2 + (p - 2c) \cdot (q - \bar{q}) & q > \bar{q} \end{cases}$$

where p and A designates per-unit price and quantity discount rate respectively; $\bar{q} \in [0, A^*]$ and $A = \min\left\{\frac{Q_R}{Q_S}, \frac{Q_R^*}{Q_S^*}\right\}$ and $\bar{c}_U = \bar{c}_S + \bar{c}_M$. The quantity discount is assumed to be continuous, differentiable and concave. If the order quantity is more than \bar{q} , the supplier sells the excess units at a per-unit price equal to her own marginal production cost c . By setting $A = 0$, we obtain wholesale price contract, where the transfer payment function assumes a simpler form: $T(q) = p \cdot q$ with p representing the per-unit wholesale price.

In linear two-part tariff contract, the supplier extracts per-unit price p as well as a per-period fixed fee W from buyer; but p and W are independent of the order quantity q . In nonlinear two-part contract $\{p(q), W(q)\}$, the per-unit price and fixed fee are both functions of the order quantity q . Transfer payment of two-part tariff contract is given by:

$$T(q) = p(q) \cdot q + W(q)$$

profit function $\pi_j = \dots$ over \dots . Since $\dots = \dots + \dots$ the solution to this is given by \dots, \dots for the \dots buyer and is expressed by equation (5) and (6).

$$\begin{aligned} \check{p}_{qr} &= s_{qr} + t_{qr} + \dots u^* \\ \check{e}_{qr} &= \frac{\check{z} + \dots}{v} \dots - \dots t_{qr} + \dots y^* \end{aligned}$$

where,

$$s_{qr} = \frac{L' v \cdot v_S + L' \cdot v \cdot \check{w} + \check{z}_S \#f_i + v_S \alpha}{Z' \cdot \dots f_i + v \cdot \dots} + \check{z} \cdot \dots, t_{qr} = \frac{\dots + \check{z} \cdot \dots}{Z' \cdot \dots f_i + v \cdot \dots} + \check{z} \cdot \dots, Z$$

$$\mathbb{E}_f = \{0, \dots, j^* + \lfloor j^* \rfloor, \dots\}^T \quad j \in \mathbb{I}$$

$$\mathbb{E} = \frac{f_1}{f_1 \tilde{z} + \alpha^*} \text{TM} \check{S} \frac{L}{f_1 \tilde{z}} - \gamma + \delta) f_1 \tilde{z} + \alpha^* 2 \alpha e$$

$$\tilde{W} = \delta \tilde{z} + \alpha^* \check{Y} \frac{f_1 \tilde{z} + \alpha^* L_1 \cdot + L''}{f_1 \tilde{z} + \alpha^* f_1 \tilde{z} + 1 \alpha^*} - \frac{\check{z}}{f_1 \tilde{z} + \alpha^*} \tilde{z} + \alpha^* i \frac{L}{f_1 \tilde{z}} - \delta) f_1 \tilde{z} + \alpha^* 2 + \alpha^* \check{C} - \alpha_3 \cdot$$

In Case CF4, the supplier offers a flexible contract through nonlinear two-part tariff structure. In Case CF3, it is evident that the supplier is able to extract all profit beyond the reservation level α_3 .

$$\tilde{W}_{\alpha, \beta} = \frac{[s_{\alpha} - t_{\alpha}] \cdot \frac{[s_{\beta} - t_{\beta}] \cdot Q_{\beta} \cdot \mathbb{E}\{ \dots \}}{[s_{\beta} - t_{\beta}] \cdot Q_{\beta} \cdot \mathbb{E}\{ \dots \}}}{[s_{\alpha} - t_{\alpha}] \cdot \frac{[s_{\beta} - t_{\beta}] \cdot Q_{\beta} \cdot \mathbb{E}\{ \dots \}}{[s_{\beta} - t_{\beta}] \cdot Q_{\beta} \cdot \mathbb{E}\{ \dots \}}]} - \alpha$$

Proposition 7. In Case CA4, the optimal contract is given by the following per-unit price $\tilde{W}_{\alpha, \beta}$ and subsequent condition on the franchise fee $\tilde{W}_{\alpha, \beta}$

$$\tilde{W}_{\alpha, \beta} = \frac{[s_{\alpha} - t_{\alpha}] \cdot \mathbb{E}\{ \dots \} + [s_{\beta} - t_{\beta}] \cdot \mathbb{E}\{ \dots \}}{[s_{\alpha} - t_{\alpha}] \cdot \mathbb{E}\{ \dots \} + [s_{\beta} - t_{\beta}] \cdot \mathbb{E}\{ \dots \}} + \frac{[s_{\alpha} - t_{\alpha}] \cdot \mathbb{E}\{ \dots \}}{[s_{\alpha} - t_{\alpha}] \cdot \mathbb{E}\{ \dots \}} + \frac{[s_{\beta} - t_{\beta}] \cdot \mathbb{E}\{ \dots \}}{[s_{\beta} - t_{\beta}] \cdot \mathbb{E}\{ \dots \}}$$

Again by putting $A = 0$ in these optimal values of price and order quantity, we obtain the optimal solution $\tilde{p}_i, \tilde{e}_{\alpha_i}$ for wholesale price contract, as expressed by equation (13) - (16).

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{p}_i &= s_{i+} + (f_i - t_{i+}) \frac{2 + \alpha_i}{2 + \alpha_i} - Z^* \dots) f_i \\ \tilde{e}_{\alpha_i} &= \tilde{z}_i + \frac{1}{2 + \alpha_i} \{s_{i+} - t_{i+}\} \frac{2 + \alpha_i}{2 + \alpha_i} - Z^* \dots) f_i \\ \tilde{p}_i &= s_{i+} + (f_i - t_{i+}) \frac{2 + \alpha_i}{2 + \alpha_i} + \frac{1}{2 + \alpha_i} \{s_{i+} - t_{i+}\} - Z^* \dots) f_i \\ \tilde{e}_{\alpha_i} &= \tilde{z}_i + \frac{1}{2 + \alpha_i} \{s_{i+} - t_{i+}\} + \frac{1}{2 + \alpha_i} \{s_{i+} - t_{i+}\} - Z^* \dots) f_i \end{aligned}$$

where $\alpha_i = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\beta} + \frac{1}{\gamma} \right) \frac{1}{1 + \beta}$. Results obtained through equation (13) - (16) will be used for the purpose of wholesale price contract, linear two-part tariff

buyer i.e. buyer 2. In this section, we compare various outcomes to discuss the effect of supply chain structure, market share, cutoff policies and value of information on different contract types. We also discuss the impact of different contract types on the profit level of individual players with the help of a numerical example.

6.1. Effect of supply chain structure on the profit level

In this section, we explore se

Figure 2 shows how the profit level of the supplier varies under similar setting. In the case of partially integrated structure supplier profit designates the total profit of the partially integrated chain. In the case of decentralized setting the supplier profit increases rapidly as cross-price sensitivity increases. In other words, as the competition between the two buyers increases the supplier can extract higher wholesale price leading to increase in more profit. From a supplier's perspective lower price-sensitivity of demand leads to more profit irrespective of the supply chain structure. These observations about the supplier and the buyer are consistent with the results discussed in Anderson and Bao (2010) that the profit level of buyer is strictly decreasing as cross-price elasticity increases.

Figure 2. Supplier profit (Cases: CF2 t winturcar (

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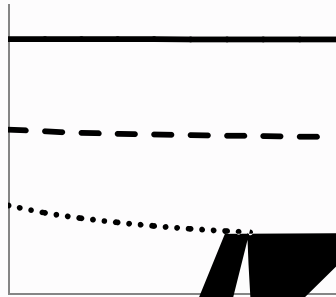


Figure 3. Supplier or Participant in Profit (Cases: CF3 and PF3)

Next we consider the variation in overall supply chain profit with respect to market share. Figure 4 shows the variation of overall supply chain profit with respect to the variation of market share of buyer 1. We compare the results for two different supply chain structures. Cases CF2 and PF2 are used as benchmark. Cases CF3 and PF3. In the first case, the profit of vertically integrated is taken as a benchmark. In the second case, the profit of a two-stage supply chain is taken as a benchmark. The variation in overall supply chain profit with respect to the variation in market share of buyer 1 is shown in Figure 4. The price cost ratio is set to 1.5. The market share of buyer 1 is low (0.1) and high (0.9). The results show that the overall supply chain profit is partially interdependent on the market share of buyer 1.

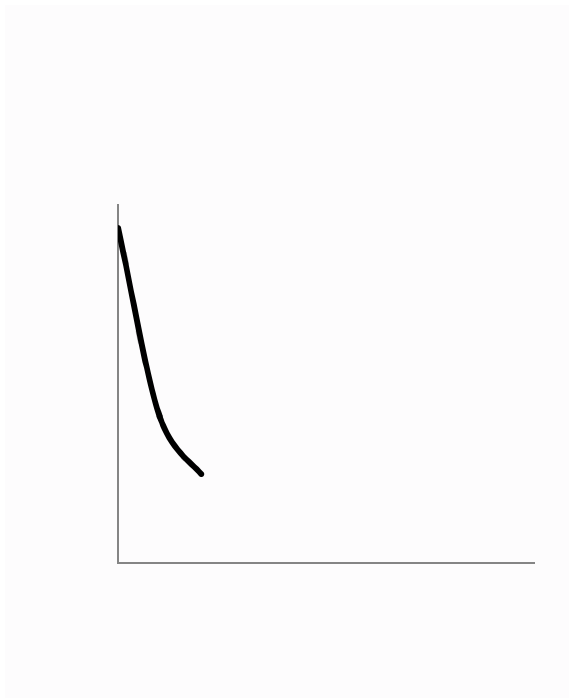


Figure 4. Overall supply chain profit (Cases: CF2, CF3, PF2 and PF3)

Buyer profit strictly decreases as the competition intensity increase. Decentralized supply chain works in the advantage of the supplier in the case of wholesale price contract. However if the cross-price elasticity is low or the independent buyer has higher market share, then it helps the supplier to charge more per-unit wholesale price in the case PF2 compared to the case CF2, as evident from figure 5.

Figure 5. Wholesale price with cross-price elasticity and market share

When the competition among the buyers increases, the profitability of the supplier also increases. In partially integrated chain, if the independent buyer captures the majority of the market share the overall supply chain profit decreases for wholesale price contract; the overall supply chain behaves inefficiently compared to its decentralize

centralization is given by $\mathbb{1} \mathbb{E}^*_{\{ \ominus \}}$ in the case of wholesale price contract under availability of full information. Then $\mathbb{1} \mathbb{E}^*$

buyer) will refuse to trade. We discuss the cutoff policies for wholesale price contract under full and asymmetric information in detail.

Proposition 8a. In the case of wholesale price contract (Case CF2) under the assumption of full information and complete decentralization, different cutoff points are as follows,

(i) The buyer's cutoff point $\hat{\Delta}_j^*$ is given by

$$\hat{\Delta}_{j, f} = \frac{fl}{t_{\{ \cdot \}} \hat{\Delta} s_{\{ \cdot \}} - \hat{\Delta} \frac{a_j \cdot}{\check{z} \cdot + " *}} \tilde{A} - \frac{3}{2} \tilde{z} + \frac{s_{\{ \cdot \}} \check{z} \cdot + " *}{t_{\{ \cdot \}} \check{z} \cdot + " *}$$

(ii) The supplier's cutoff point $\hat{\Delta}_b^*$ is given by

$$\hat{\Delta}_{b, f} = \frac{s_{\{ \cdot \}} \check{z} \cdot + " *}{t_{\{ \cdot \}} \check{z} \cdot + " *} - \hat{\Delta} \frac{2 + fl \tilde{A} a_b \{ 1 - t_{\{ \cdot \}} \check{z} \cdot + " * \} \tilde{E}}{\tilde{A} \tilde{C}}$$

where a_b designates the reservation profit level of the supplier.

Both $\hat{\Delta}_j$ and $\hat{\Delta}_b$ are identically decreasing in \tilde{z} . Both the cutoff policies are decreasing in their respective reservation profit levels i.e. $\hat{\Delta}_j$ is decreasing in a_j and $\hat{\Delta}_b$ is decreasing in a_b . Supplier's cutoff point $\hat{\Delta}_b$ is absolutely increasing in L and buyer's cutoff point $\hat{\Delta}_j$ is increasing in L under the condition $\frac{\{ \# Q, \mathbb{E} \sigma_{\{ \cdot \}} \} \mathbb{E}}{\cdot \cdot \cdot} > \frac{T_{\{ \# Q, \mathbb{E} \sigma_{\{ \cdot \}} \} Q, \mathbb{E}}}{T_{\{ \# Q, \mathbb{E} \sigma_{\{ \cdot \}} \} Q, \mathbb{E}}}$. If both the buyers have identical own-price elasticity then with increase in the market size L , the cutoff point decreases for the buyer with lower market share.

Proposition 8b. In the case of wholesale price contract (Case CA2) under the assumption of asymmetric information and complete decentralization, supplier's cutoff point $\hat{\Delta}_{b, f}^*$ is given by the following condition,

$$dl \cdot \check{z} \cdot + " * s_{\{ \cdot \}} \cdot -) ff? - 2^* 1$$

This paper focuses on the influence of competition, market structure and supply chain structure on the performance of the supply chain. We have also calculated the value to a supplier of different types of contract; in case of information asymmetry we have shown the value of obtaining more accurate information about the buy d

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