Monopsony Power and Firm Organization

Álvaro Jáñez^a Lukas Delgado-Prieto^b

^aStockholm School of Economics

^bUniversity of Oslo

June 16, 2025

Motivation

What We Know

- Pervasive evidence of monopsony power by firms Staiger et al. (2010); Kline et al. (2019); Azar et al. (2022); Yeh et al. (2022)
- ➤ Results in overall ↓ wages and ↓ employment, especially in high productivity firms Berger et al. (2022); Azkarate-Askasua and Zerecero (2023); Shubhdeep et al. (2023)
- This paper shows that monopsony is largely heterogeneous across occupations
 - Occupations: production workers and (middle) managers
 - > New insights on firm size distortions and the effectiveness of minimum wage policies

What we do

- Model: quantitative GE model where firm-occupation-specific monopsony arises from
 - > The exposure to the statutory minimum wage (institutions)
 - Idiosyncratic tastes for firms (firm substitutability)
 - > The number and size of competitor firms in their markets (oligopsony)
- Estimation: matched employer-employee data from QP + balance sheet data from SCIE
 - > Indirect inference on occupation-specific labor supply elasticities
- Validation: quantitatively replicate untargeted quasi-experimental evidence on
 - > Pass-through of demand shocks to wages (Garin and Silvério, 2024)
 - Employment changes from minimum wage increases (Dube and Zipperer, 2024)

What we do

- Model: quantitative GE model where firm-occupation-specific monopsony arises from
 - > The exposure to the statutory minimum wage (institutions)
 - Idiosyncratic tastes for firms (firm substitutability)
 - > The number and size of competitor firms in their markets (oligopsony)
- Estimation: matched employer-employee data from QP + balance sheet data from SCIE
 - Indirect inference on occupation-specific labor supply elasticities
- Validation: quantitatively replicate untargeted quasi-experimental evidence on
 - > Pass-through of demand shocks to wages (Garin and Silvério, 2024)
 - Employment changes from minimum wage increases (Dube and Zipperer, 2024)

Main findings

Measuring Monopsony

- Mean wage markdown of 13.9% over production workers and 32.9% over managers
 - Results in too few employees, especially managers, working in high-productivity firms

Policy Implications

- Occupation-based MWs are more effective than a single MW in addressing monopsony
 - But, at best, optimal MWs only recover 0.3/1.5 pp = 20% of welfare losses from monopsony
- Production complementarities matter for optimal minimum wages
 - > Despite higher monopsony over managers, utilitarian planner would keep their MW low

Main findings

Measuring Monopsony

- Mean wage markdown of 13.9% over production workers and 32.9% over managers
 - Results in too few employees, especially managers, working in high-productivity firms

Policy Implications

- Occupation-based MWs are more effective than a single MW in addressing monopsony
 - But, at best, optimal MWs only recover 0.3/1.5 pp = 20% of welfare losses from monopsony
- Production complementarities matter for optimal minimum wages
 - > Despite higher monopsony over managers, utilitarian planner would keep their MW low

Contribution to the literature

 Literature on the welfare effects of monopsony power (Bhaskar et al., 2002; MacKenzie, 2021; Berger et al., 2022; Jarosch et al., 2023; Azkarate-Askasua and Zerecero, 2023)

Large occupational heterogeneity in monopsony power

• Literature on production organization (Garicano and Rossi-Hansberg, 2006; Caliendo and Rossi-Hansberg, 2012; Grobovsek, 2020; Mariscal, 2020; Grobovsek, 2020; Santamaria, 2023; Lawson et al., 2023)

We develop a GE model with monopsony power + management delegation choices

• Literature on minimum wage policies (Bamford, 2021; Ahlfeldt et al., 2022; Hurst et al., 2022; Karabarbounis et al., 2022; Drechsel-Grau, 2023; Berger et al., 2023)

Production complementarities matter and occupation-based MWs can improve welfare

Quantitative model

Labor market

- Continuum of locations $j \in [0, 1]$
- Location *j* has fixed number of firms $i \in \{1, \ldots, M_j\}$

Firms

• Firm *i* has idiosyncratic productivity $z_{ij} \sim F(\cdot)$

Households

- Two households indexed by occupation $o \in \{w, m\}$
- Heterogeneous in location amenities (B_{jo}) and disutility of labor supply $(\phi_o, \theta_o, \eta_o)$

Households

Preferences

$$\max_{\{n_{ijot}, c_{ijot}, K_{ot+1}\}_{t=0}^{\infty}} \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^{t} \left[\mathbf{C}_{ot} - \varphi_{o} \frac{\mathbf{N}_{ot}^{1+\frac{1}{\phi}}}{1+\frac{1}{\phi}} \right], \quad \text{where} \quad \underbrace{\mathbf{N}_{ot} := \left[\int_{0}^{1} \left(\frac{\mathbf{n}_{jot}}{B_{jo}} \right)^{\frac{\theta_{o}+1}{\theta_{o}}} dj \right]^{\frac{\theta_{o}}{\theta_{o}+1}}}_{Across-market firm differentiation} \quad \text{and} \quad \underbrace{\mathbf{n}_{jot} := \left[\sum_{i=1}^{M_{j}} n_{ijot}^{\frac{\eta_{o}+1}{\eta_{o}}} \right]^{\frac{\eta_{o}}{\eta_{o}+1}}}_{Within-market firm differentiation}$$

The parameters θ_o and η_o proxy idiosyncratic firm tastes, e.g., commuting or search frictions (Microfoundation)

Labor supply for occupation *o*

$$n_{ijot} = \underbrace{B_{jo}^{1+\theta_{o}}}_{\text{Amenities}} \cdot \underbrace{\left(\frac{W_{ijot}}{W_{jot}}\right)^{\eta_{o}}}_{\text{Within the market}} \cdot \underbrace{\left(\frac{W_{jot}}{W_{ot}}\right)^{\theta_{o}}}_{\text{In other markets}} \cdot \mathbf{N}_{ot}.$$

(labor supply to each individual firm)

Households

Preferences

$$\max_{\{n_{ijot}, c_{ijot}, K_{ot+1}\}_{t=0}^{\infty}} \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^{t} \left[\mathbf{C}_{ot} - \varphi_{o} \frac{\mathbf{N}_{ot}^{1+\frac{1}{\phi}}}{1+\frac{1}{\phi}} \right], \quad \text{where} \quad \underbrace{\mathbf{N}_{ot} := \left[\int_{0}^{1} \left(\frac{\mathbf{n}_{jot}}{B_{jo}} \right)^{\frac{\theta_{o}+1}{\theta_{o}}} dj \right]^{\frac{\theta_{o}}{\theta_{o}+1}}}_{Across-market firm differentiation} \quad \text{and} \quad \underbrace{\mathbf{n}_{jot} := \left[\sum_{i=1}^{M_{j}} n_{ijot}^{\frac{\eta_{o}+1}{\eta_{o}}} \right]^{\frac{\eta_{o}}{\eta_{o}+1}}}_{Within-market firm differentiation}$$

The parameters θ_o and η_o proxy idiosyncratic firm tastes, e.g., commuting or search frictions Microfoundation

Labor supply for occupation o



(labor supply to each individual firm)

Firms

Technology managers

$$y(z, \ell = 1) = z_w (k^{1-\gamma} n_w^{\gamma})^{\alpha},$$

$$y(z, \ell = 2) = z_m n_m^{(1-\alpha)\alpha} (k^{1-\gamma} n_w^{\gamma})^{\alpha}.$$

(single-layer organization) (two-layer organization)

Organizational choice

$$\pi_t(\boldsymbol{z}) = \max_{\ell} \ \left\{ \pi_t(\boldsymbol{z}, \ell) \right\}_{\ell=1}^2,$$

Profits maximization for each organization type

$$\pi_t(z,\ell) = \max_{\{n_{ijot}\}_{\forall o \in \ell}} y_t(z,\ell) - \sum_{o \in \ell} w_{ijot} n_{iijot} - R_t k_t,$$

subject to: 1. Labor supply (n_{ijot}) , 2. Granularity (\mathbf{n}_{ijt}) , 3. Minimum wage $(w_{ijot} \ge \underline{w})$

Three channels shape monopsony power

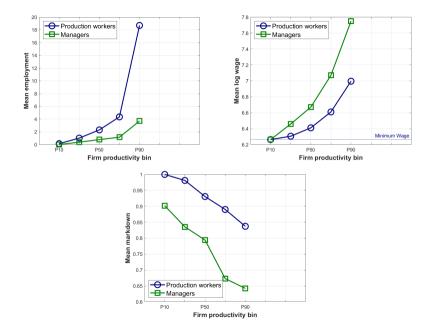
Labor demand has closed form solution when the MW is not binding:

$$w_{ijot}^{*} = \underbrace{\frac{\varepsilon_{ijot}}{\varepsilon_{ijot} + 1}}_{\text{Markdown on wages}} \cdot mrpl_{ijot}^{*}, \qquad \varepsilon_{ijot} = \left[\underbrace{\frac{1}{\eta_{o}} + \left(\frac{1}{\theta_{o}} - \frac{1}{\eta_{o}}\right)}_{\text{Strength of Firm Differentiation}} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{s_{ijot}}{\varepsilon_{ijot}}}_{\text{Firm size}}\right]^{-1}$$

Occupational heterogeneity in monopsony power stems from:

- ▶ Differences in labor supply elasticities \Rightarrow (η_o , θ_o)
- ➤ Differences in firm size ⇒ s_{ijot}
- > Different impact of minimum wages $\Rightarrow \underline{w}$

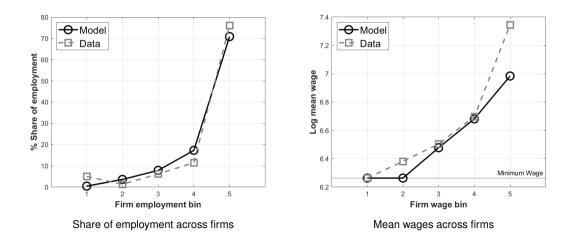
4



Estimation: labor supply elasticities are key for the amount of monopsony power

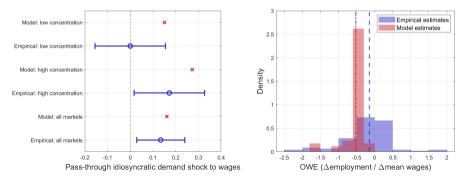
- Across-market elasticity: exploit exogenous labor demand shocks at the municipality level
 - > Managerial employment is less responsive to a given municipality's labor demand shock
 - > Thus, lower *across*-market elasticity for managers: $\theta_w = 2.4$ and $\theta_m = 1.03$
- Within-market elasticity: size-wage relationship within markets at the establishment level
 - > Steeper relationship between wages and firm size for managers
 - > Thus, lower within-market elasticity for managers: $\eta_w = 7.8$ and $\eta_m = 2.3$

Model fit: model matches employment and wages across firms



Validation: model replicates key untargeted reduced form empirics

- > Consistent with pass-through of idiosyncratic demand shocks to wages (Garin and Silvério, 2024)
- > Consistent with effects of minimum wages on employment (Dube and Zipperer, 2024)

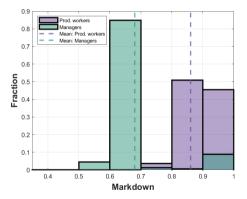




Results

Measurement: monopsony is twice stronger over managers than over production workers

Distribution of wage markdowns across firms



Mean markdown: managers = 32.9% and production Workers = 13.9%

> Managers (i) have fewer outside firms, (ii) are more attached to their current firm, and (iii) are less affected by the MW

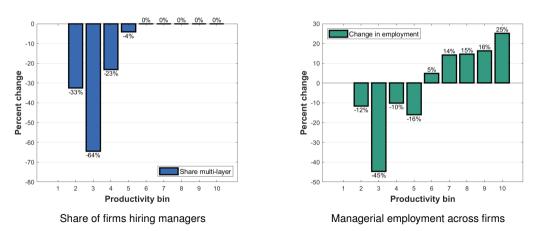
Monopsony power is a key determinant of employees' well-being, especially for managers

Efficient economy relative to benchmark with monopsony

| | % Change | | % Change |
|--------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|----------|
| Panel A: Employment | | Panel B: Firm Organization | |
| Production workers | 7.9 | Share multi-layer firms | -10.9 |
| Managers | 14.6 | Median span of control | -4.4 |
| Aggregate | 9.1 | Mean HHI | 5.2 |
| Panel C: Wages | | Panel D: Efficiency & Welfare | |
| Mean: Production workers | 20.5 | Output | 10.2 |
| Mean: Managers | 41.4 | Welfare: Production workers | 1.6 |
| Managerial premium | 17.3 | Welfare: Managers | 4.4 |

> Welfare gains stem from higher consumption and despite worker reallocation across firms

Part of the welfare gains from efficiency stem from firm reorganization



Efficient economy relative to benchmark with monopsony

Policy implication: weaken effectiveness of raising statutory minimum wage

- The statutory minimum wage stands out as a policy to address monopsony power
- Benchmark: direct effect concentrated on low-wage occupations ($\approx 60\%$ of mean wage)
 - > Both in model and data nearly 94% of minimum wage earners are production workers
- Counterfactual: single minimum wage that maximizes utilitarian welfare (population weights)
 - > Optimal statutory MW at 75% of benchmark production workers' mean wage
 - > Utilitarian welfare gain of 0.2% (\approx 13% of losses from monopsony)

We can do better by jointly adjusting occupation-based minimum wages

- A single MW fails to address the pervasive monopsony over high-wage workers
- Counterfactual

> Occupation-based minimum wage that maximizes utilitarian welfare (population weights)

- Optimal occupation-based minimum wage
 - Optimal MWs to mean wage are at 75% for production workers and 30% for managers
 - > i.e., production complementarities imply a low managers' MW despite strong monopsony
 - > Utilitarian welfare gain of 0.3% ($\approx 20\%$ of losses from monopsony)

Conclusion

- Quantitative GE model with firm-occupation-specific monopsony power
 - Consistent with quasi-experimental evidence on pass-through and minimum wages
- Measurement of monopsony
 - Stronger monopsony power over managers than production workers
 - > Helps to explain employment, wages, and welfare across both worker types
- Implications for minimum wage policies
 - Firm heterogeneity makes optimal MWs ineffective in tackling monopsony losses
 - > Optimal MWs depend on both monopsony power and production complementarities

Ahlfeldt, G. M., Roth, D., and Seidel, T. (2022). Optimal minimum wages.

- Azar, J., Marinescu, I., and Steinbaum, M. (2022). Labor market concentration. *Journal of Human Resources*, 57(S):S167–S199.
- Azkarate-Askasua, M. and Zerecero, M. (2023). Union and firm labor market power. *Working Paper.*
- Bachmann, R., Demir, G., and Frings, H. (2022). Labor market polarization, job tasks, and monopsony power. *Journal of Human Resources*, 57(S):S11–S49.
- Bamford, I. (2021). Monopsony power, spatial equilibrium, and minimum wages. *Job Market Paper*.
- Berger, D., Herkenhoff, K., and Mongey, S. (2022). Labor market power. *American Economic Review*, 112(4):1147–93.
- Berger, D. W., Herkenhoff, K. F., and Mongey, S. (2023). Minimum wages, efficiency and welfare. Technical report.
- Bhaskar, V., Manning, A., and To, T. (2002). Oligopsony and monopsonistic competition in labor markets. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 16(2):155–174.

- Caliendo, L., Mion, G., Opromolla, L. D., and Rossi-Hansberg, E. (2020). Productivity and organization in Portuguese firms. *Journal of Political Economy*, 128(11):4211–4257.
- Caliendo, L. and Rossi-Hansberg, E. (2012). The impact of trade on organization and productivity. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 127(3):1393–1467.
- Diamond, R. (2016). The determinants and welfare implications of us workers' diverging location choices by skill: 1980–2000. *American Economic Review*, 106(3):479–524.
- Drechsel-Grau, M. (2023). Employment and reallocation effects of higher minimum wages. *Working Paper*.
- Dube, A. and Zipperer, B. (2024). Own-wage elasticity: Quantifying the impact of minimum wages on employment. Technical report, National Bureau of Economic Research.
- Garicano, L. and Rossi-Hansberg, E. (2006). Organization and inequality in a knowledge economy. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 121(4):1383–1435.
- Garin, A. and Silvério, F. (2024). How responsive are wages to firm-specific changes in labour demand? evidence from idiosyncratic export demand shocks. *Review of Economic Studies*, 91(3):1671–1710.

- Goolsbee, A. and Syverson, C. (2023). Monopsony power in higher education: A tale of two tracks. *Journal of Labor Economics*, 41(S1):S257–S290.
- Grobovsek, J. (2020). Managerial delegation, law enforcement, and aggregate productivity. *The Review of Economic Studies*, 87(5):2256–2289.
- Hurst, E., Kehoe, P. J., Pastorino, E., and Winberry, T. (2022). The distributional impact of the minimum wage in the short and long run. Technical report, National Bureau of Economic Research.
- Jarosch, G., Nimczik, J. S., and Sorkin, I. (2023). Granular search, market structure, and wages. *Working Paper*.
- Karabarbounis, L., Lise, J., and Nath, A. (2022). Minimum wages and labor markets in the twin cities. Technical report, National Bureau of Economic Research.
- Kline, P., Petkova, N., Williams, H., and Zidar, O. (2019). Who profits from patents? rent-sharing at innovative firms. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 134(3):1343–1404.
- Lamadon, T., Mogstad, M., and Setzler, B. (2022). Imperfect competition, compensating differentials, and rent sharing in the US labor market. *American Economic Review*, 112(1):169–212.

- Langella, M. and Manning, A. (2021). Marshall lecture 2020: The measure of monopsony. *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 19(6):2929–2957.
- Lawson, N., Lelarge, C., and Spanos, G. (2023). The minimum wage in firms' organizations: Productivity implications.
- MacKenzie, G. (2021). Trade and market power in product and labor markets. Technical report, Bank of Canada Staff Working Paper.
- Mariscal, A. (2020). Firm organization and information technology: Micro and macro implications. *Working Paper*.
- Santamaria, C. (2023). Small teams in big cities: Are technology differences across cities optimal? *Working Paper*.
- Shubhdeep, D., Eeckhout, J., Patel, S., and Warren, L. (2023). Market power and wage inequality. *Working Paper*.
- Staiger, D. O., Spetz, J., and Phibbs, C. S. (2010). Is there monopsony in the labor market? evidence from a natural experiment. *Journal of Labor Economics*, 28(2):211–236.
- Yeh, C., Macaluso, C., and Hershbein, B. (2022). Monopsony in the US labor market. *American Economic Review*, 112(7):2099–2138.

What is a manager?

- Matched employer-employee census of private sector employees in Portugal
- Sample: 3.2M workers between 2010-2016 translates into 12M worker-year observations
- Portuguese law: firms must assign workers to hierarchic categories More
 - > Managers guide groups of production workers in their tasks
 - Managers account for 20% of sample and production workers for 80%
 - > Managers are mostly supervisors, team leaders, and middle managers

Quadros de Pessoal

- Annual census of private sector employees in Portugal.
- Matched employer-employee data with information on location, industry, occupation, wages, and hours worked.
- Sample period: 2010-2016.
- Sample selection: non-farm sectors, workers aged 18-65, and exclude CEOs.
- Sample size: 3.5M workers and 13M worker-year observations.



Occupational classification

- Occupations: (i) managers and (ii) production workers.
- Group sub-occupations according to tasks performed, skills required, and hierarchy within the firm (Caliendo et al., 2020). Details Transitions

| | Mean | P10 | P25 | P50 | P75 | P90 |
|--|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Production Workers | | | | | | |
| Monthly Wage Hourly Wage | 734 4 | 511 3 | 569 3 | 644 4 | 791 5 | 1,019 6 |
| Managers | | | | | | |
| Monthly Wage Hourly Wage Span of Control | 1,251 7 8 | 565 3 1 | 697 4 1 | 995 6 3 | 1,505 9 8 | 2,234 13 17 |

Summary Statistics at the Establishment Level

- Local Market: Occupation × Geography (Municipality) × Industry (2-Digit NACE).
- Municipality: 278 regions with an average size of 320km² and 7,300 workers.
- 2-Digit NACE: 88 industries.
 - 14 Manufacture of wearing apparel.
 - 26 Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products.
- This results in 25,655 markets and 131,084 market-year observations.

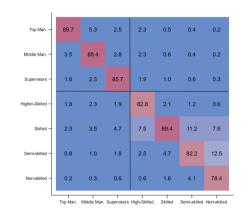
Classification of occupations

| Level | Tasks | Skills | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| Top Management | Definition of the firm general policy or consulting on the organization of the firm; strategic planning; creation or adaptation of technical, scientific and administrative methods or processes | Knowledge of management and coordination of firms fundamental activities; knowledge of management and coordination of the fundamental activities in the field to which the individual is assigned and that requires the study and research of high responsibility and technical level problems | | | |
| Middle Management | Organization and adaptation of the guidelines established by the superiors and directly linked with the executive work | Technical and professional qualifications directed to executive, research, and management work | | | |
| Supervisors | Orientation of teams, as directed by the superiors, but requiring the knowledge of action processes | Complete professional qualification with a specialization | | | |
| Higher-skilled Profesisonals | Tasks requiring a high technical value and defined in general terms by the superiors | Complete professional qualification with a specialization adding to theoretical and applied knowledge | | | |
| Skilled Professionals | Complex or delicate tasks, usually not repetitive, and defined by the superiors | Complete professional qualification implying theoretical and applied knowledge | | | |
| Semi-skilled Professionals | Well defined tasks, mainly manual or mechanical (no intellectual work) with low complexity, usually routine and sometimes repetitive | Professional qualification in a limited field or practical and elementary professional knowledge | | | |
| Non-skilled Professionals | Simple tasks and totally determined | Practical knowledge and easily acquired in a short time | | | |

Classification of occupations

| Level | Share (%) | Share Hierarchy (%) | Mean Wage | Std. dev. Wage |
|------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Managers | 19.19 | 100 | 2,007 | 1,554 |
| Top Management | 7.97 | 41.55 | 2,466 | 1,966 |
| Middle Management | 5.96 | 31.08 | 1,790 | 1,157 |
| Supervisors | 5.25 | 27.37 | 1,554 | 931 |
| Production Workers | 80.81 | 100 | 871 | 944 |
| Higher-skilled Professionals | 8.07 | 9.98 | 1,461 | 2,630 |
| Skilled Professionals | 40.44 | 50.04 | 887 | 493 |
| Semi-skilled Professionals | 21.48 | 26.58 | 720 | 294 |
| Non-skilled Professionals | 10.83 | 13.40 | 668 | 259 |

Transition probabilities



Unconditional

| 1. | | | | | | | |
|------------------|----------|------------------|-------------|--------------|---------|-------------------|-------------|
| Top Man. – | 59.7 | 12.2 | 5.6 | 7.1 | 10.3 | 3.9 | 1.2 |
| Middle Man. – | 18.8 | 43.9 | 6.9 | 8.8 | 15.0 | 5.1 | 1.5 |
| Supervisors - | 9.4 | 7.9 | 41.6 | 6.9 | 21.7 | 8.9 | 3.5 |
| Higher-Skilled - | 7.9 | 7.5 | 5.2 | 35.9 | 27.1 | 12.4 | 4.0 |
| Skilled - | 1.9 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 4.7 | 62.3 | 18.2 | 8.4 |
| Semi-skilled - | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 3.2 | 27.6 | 50.1 | 15.6 |
| Non-skilled – | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.7 | 20.8 | 26.1 | 49.4 |
| Ľ | Top Man. | I Middle Man. | Supervisors | High-Skilled | Skilled | l Semi-skilled | Non-skilled |

Conditional on Changing Firm

Equilibrium. Given a minimum wage \underline{w} , the general equilibrium of this economy is a set of organizational structures $\{\ell_{ij}^*\}$, aggregate disutilities of labor supply (N_w^*, N_m^*) , and employment levels $\{n_{ijw}^*, n_{ijm}^*\}$ such that:

1 Labor supply: Households choose aggregate disutility N_o^* and labor supply to each firm $\{n_{ijo}^*\}$ to maximize utility. That is, **??** and **??** hold $\forall o \in \{w, m\}$.

2 *Firm organization*: Firms optimally choose the organizational structure: ℓ_{ij}^* . That is, Section 2 holds $\forall j \in [0, 1], \forall i = \{1, ..., M_j\}$.

- Solution 2.3 Labor Demand: Firms optimally choose employment (n_{ijw}^*, n_{ijm}^*) . That is, Equations (9)-(??) hold $\forall j \in [0, 1], \forall i = \{1, \dots, M_j\}$.
- Market Clearing: Labor supply and demand are given by Equations (9) and (??) for firms in Cases I and II. For firms in Case III, households supply the labor demand n^{*}_{ijo} given by ??.



Age Distribution across Occupations

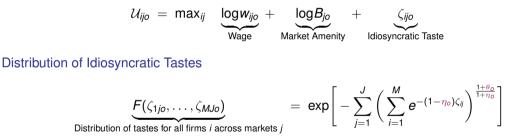
Greater labor market concentration in managerial markets

m Production Workers Managers _ _ _ 2 Density -0 .2 .3 .4 .5 .6 .7 Labor Market Concentration (HHI) 0 .1 .8 .9

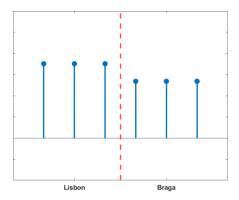
Market Concentration by Occupation

Microfoundation for the labor supply

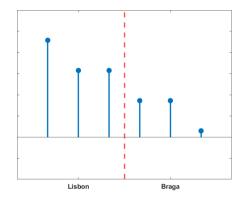
Preferences



 θ_o determines the correlation of tastes across firms in *distinct* markets η_o determines the correlation of tastes across firms *within the same* market

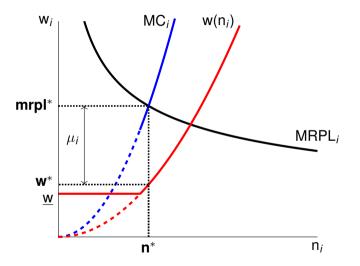


Production Workers, high θ and high η

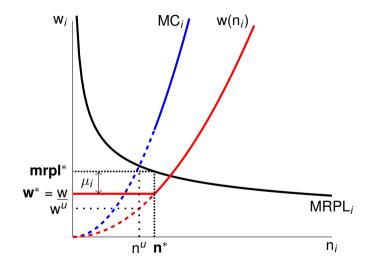


Managers, low θ and low η

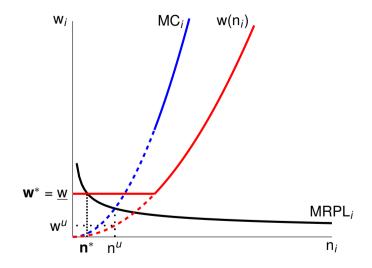
Case I: minimum wage is not binding



Case II: minimum wage is binding, and labor supply equals labor demand



Case III: minimum wage is binding, and labor supply exceeds labor demand



Joint estimation using the Simulated Method of Moments

Preferences

- Labor disutility shifter of workers (φ_w) \Rightarrow Average firm size
- Labor disutility shifter of managers (φ_m) \Rightarrow Economy-wide share of managers

Firm organization

Table Targeted

Untargeted

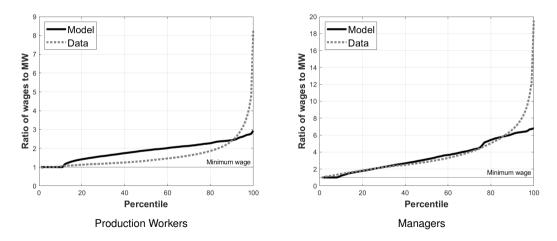
- Organization efficiency $(\bar{z}_w, \bar{z}_m) \Rightarrow$ Mean wage of prod. workers and manager wage premium
- Decreasing returns to scale (α) \Rightarrow Labor income is 62 percent of GDP
- Std. Dev. firm productivity (σ_z) \Rightarrow Mean HHI production workers

| Parameter Value | Description | Value | Moment |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Panel I: Exogenous calibration | | | |
| ϕ | Aggregate Frisch elasticity | 0.50 | Berger et al. (2022) |
| <u>W</u> | Minimum wage | 525 | Real minimum wage in 2016 |
| Panel II: Endogenous calibration | | | |
| β | Discount factor | 0.96 | Annual discount rate of 4% |
| δ | Share of capital depreciation | 0 | Annual interest rate of 4% |
| α | Decreasing returns to scale | 0.55 | Labor share of 62% |
| γ | Exponent on labor | 0.82 | Capital share of 31% |
| (η_w,η_m) | Within-market firm substitutability | (7.82,2.32) | Within-market labor supply elastic |

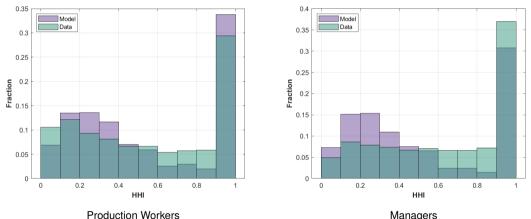


| Parameter Value | Description | Value | Moment |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|---|
| Panel II: SMM Estimation | | | |
| A: Preferences | | | |
| φw | Labor disutility shifter: workers | 122 | Average firm size |
| φ_m | Labor disutility shifter: managers | 1.4 | Share managers |
| B: Firm Organization | | | |
| <i>Z</i> _₩ | Worker efficiency | 1,062 | Mean wage of prod. workers |
| \bar{z}_m/\bar{z}_w | Managerial efficiency | 2.1 | Wage gap managers vs prod. workers |
| σ_Z | Std. Dev. firm TFP | 0.7 | Weighted mean HHI prod. workers |
| C: Market Characteristics | | | |
| B _{ijw} | Amenities in small markets | 0.7 | Share workers in markets $M_i \leq 10$ |
| $G(\cdot)$ | Firm distribution | | Mean, variance, and mass single-firm |
| D: Firm Substitutability | | | |
| (θ_w, θ_m) | Across-market firm substitutability | (2.4 , 1.0) | Across-municipality labor supply elasticity |

Model Fit: model closely fits wage distribution across occupations

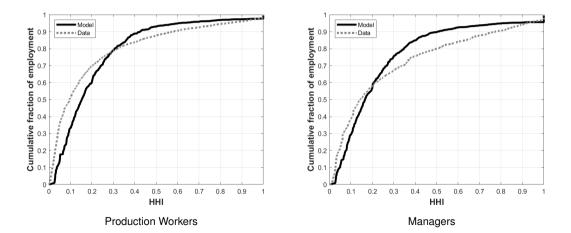


Model fit: model closely fits that most markets are highly concentrated



Managers

Model fit: model approximates well that most workers sort into low concentrated markets



Untargeted Moments

| | Production Workers | | Managers | |
|---|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Model | Data | Model | Data |
| Panel A: Minimum Wage | | | | |
| Share minimum wage earners Share Minimum wage earner | 0.11 0.85 | 0.06 0.94 | 0.09 0.15 | 0.02 0.06 |
| Panel B: Firm Organization | | | | |
| Median span of control | 3.57 | 3.14 | | |
| P25 firm size | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| P50 firm size | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| P90 firm size | 13 | 9 | 4 | 5 |
| P99 firm size | 55 | 59 | 9 | 34 |
| Panel D: Market Concentration | | | | |
| Weighted mean HHI | | | 0.24 | 0.27 |
| Weighted mean Max s _{ij} | 0.31 | 0.30 | 0.34 | 0.38 |

Indirect inference to estimate the across-market elasticity (θ_o)

• Goal: replicate reduced-form inverse LS elasticities (β) from municipality-level regression

$$\mathsf{Log} \, \mathbf{w}_{m,o,t} = \beta_o \, \mathsf{Log} \, \mathbf{L}_{m,o,t} + \alpha_{m,o} + \mathbf{e}_{m,o,t},$$

 Instrument: standard value added shift-share instrument for municipality's employment (Lamadon et al., 2022)

$$\hat{L}_{m,o,t} = \sum_{s} \left(\underbrace{\frac{y_{i,m,s,o,2004}}{\sum_{i} y_{i,m,s,o,2004}}}_{\text{Industry-municipality}} \times \underbrace{\sum_{i} y_{i,s,o,t}}_{\text{National value added in industry s}} \right)$$

• Estimates: We estimate $\theta_w = 2.4$ for production workers and $\theta_m = 1.0$ for managers

Calibrate the within-market elasticity (η_o)

• The model implies the following equilibrium relationship between wages and employment:

$$\log(w_{ijo,t}) = \beta_o \log(n_{ijo,t}) + \mu_{jo,t} + \nu_{ijo,t},$$

where $\beta_o = \frac{1}{\eta_o}$

- Goal: choose within-market elasticity (η_o) to match β_o in previous firm-level regression
- Instrument: value added shift-share instrument for firm's employment (Ahlfeldt et al., 2022)

$$\hat{n}_{ijo,t} = \sum_{s} \left(\underbrace{\frac{y_{is,2004}}{\sum_{i} y_{is,2004}}}_{\text{Industry-firm share}} \times \underbrace{\sum_{i} y_{is,t}}_{\text{National value added in industry s}} \right).$$

• Estimates: We estimate $\eta_w = 7.8$ for production workers and $\eta_m = 2.3$ for managers

Discussion on estimated firm substitutability parameters

- Our results range within the range of similar estimates in the literature (Berger et al., 2022; Azkarate-Askasua and Zerecero, 2023; Shubhdeep et al., 2023):
 - Estimates range are $\theta \in [0.4, 2]$ and $\eta \in [1.2, 10.9]$.
- Our key finding is that production workers are more mobile than managers in Portugal.
 - Consistent with low-elasticity of college workers (Diamond, 2016)
 - Consistent with low-elasticity of top earners (Langella and Manning, 2021)
 - Consistent with performing non-cognitive non-routine tasks (Bachmann et al., 2022)
 - Consistent with low-elasticity of long tenure faculty (Goolsbee and Syverson, 2023)

Replication pass-through of idiosyncratic demand shocks to wages

- Garin and Silvério (2024) quantify pass-through of idiosyncratic demand shocks to wages
 - > Exploit unexpected export demand shocks in *Portugal* during 2008-2009
- Replication
 - Limit sample to firms with > 11 employees to match mean firm size in GS (2024)
 - > Draw random firms and change their idiosyncratic TFP to $z\epsilon$ where $\epsilon \sim N(\mu_{\epsilon}, \sigma_{\epsilon})$
 - > To replicate negative shocks, we set $\mu_{\epsilon} = 0.95$ and $\sigma_{\epsilon} = 0.05$ (results are robust)
- Measurement of pass-through elasticities
 - > Regress log firm's mean wages (\bar{w}_{ijt}) on log total value added (y_{ijt}) with firm-specific FE

Replication of minimum wage own elasticity

• Dube and Zipperer (2024) document a comprehensive set of OWE estimates from 90 studies

> OWE = $\frac{\Delta \text{employment}/\Delta MW}{\Delta \text{mean wages}/\Delta MW}$

> Thus, OWE is a meaningful measure of the employment effects of MW policies

- Replication
 - > OWE might not be invariant to different changes of the minimum wage
 - > We simulate changes in real MWs observed in Portugal during recent decades: $\underline{w} \in [400, 950]$

Measurement of OWE

> Compute OWE using changes in aggregate employment and mean wages relative to baseline

Regression migration on occupation

| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Manager | -0.012*** | -0.008*** | -0.012*** | -0.002*** | -0.003*** |
| Manager | (0.0003) | (0.0003) | (0.0003) | (0.0003) | (0.0003) |
| AME/Baseline | -17.1% | -11.4% | -17.1% | -5.7% | -4.3% |
| Year FE | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sex | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Age | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Education | No | No | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Temporary | No | No | No | Yes | Yes |
| Industry | No | No | No | No | Yes |
| N | 6,628,978 | 6,628,978 | 6,615,462 | 6,572,412 | 6,572,412 |
| Baseline | 0.07 | 0.07 | 0.07 | 0.07 | 0.07 |

Occupation and migration across municipalities

Regression sectoral mobility on occupation

| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | -0.012*** | -0.008*** | -0.014*** | -0.005*** | -0.006*** |
| Manager | (0.0002) | (0.0002) | (0.0002) | (0.0002) | (0.0002) |
| AME/Baseline | -20% | -13.3% | -23.3% | -8.3% | -10% |
| Year FE | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sex | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Age | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Education | No | No | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Temporary | No | No | No | Yes | Yes |
| Industry | No | No | No | No | Yes |
| N | 9,825,202 | 9,825,202 | 9,805,652 | 9,743,686 | 9,743,686 |
| Baseline | 0.06 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 0.06 |

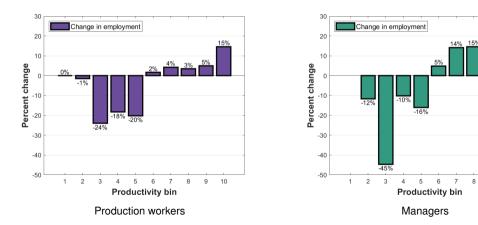
Occupation and sectoral mobility

Sample characteristics across occupations

| | (1) | (2) |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| | Production Workers | Managers |
| | Mean | Mean |
| Share Age≤25 | 0.11 | 0.04 |
| Share Age \leq 30 | 0.25 | 0.17 |
| Share Temporary | 0.31 | 0.16 |
| Share College | 0.07 | 0.55 |
| Share Change Establishment | 0.10 | 0.08 |
| Share Change Municipality | 0.07 | 0.06 |
| Share Change NUTS-3 Region | 0.03 | 0.02 |
| Share Change Sector | 0.06 | 0.05 |
| Observations | 11,286,635 | 2,690,239 |

Mobility and sample characteristics

Efficient economy: worker reallocation



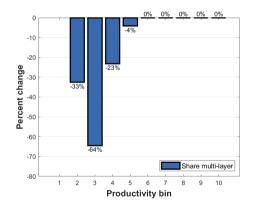
Effect of monopsony power on employment reallocation

25%

8 9 10

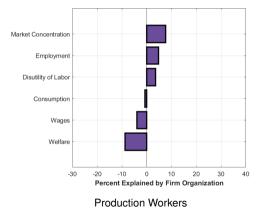
Monopsony incentivizes managerial delegation

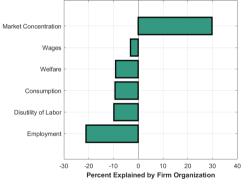
Share of multi-layer firms in the efficient relative to benchmark economy



Efficient Economy: firm organization channel

Firm organization channel

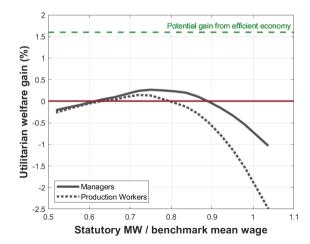




Managers

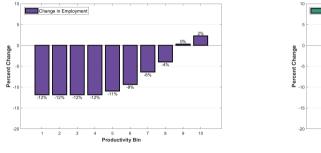
Optimal statutory minimum wage

Effect of the minimum wage reform on welfare relative to the benchmark Back

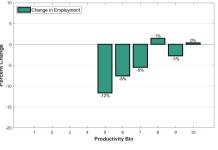


Minimum wages: worker reallocation

Effect of the minimum wage reform on employment reallocation



Production Workers



Managers

Back

Optimal occupation-sepecific minimum wage

Effect of the occupation-specific minimum wage reform on welfare relative to the benchmark Back

