Online Appendix for "A Simple Model of Corporate Tax Incidence" Dustin Swonder and Damián Vergara

A. Analytical results

In the Cobb-Douglas case, we have that $\phi_k = \phi v a k_D^{-1}$ and $\phi_l = \phi v (1-a) l^{-1}$. Combining both first-order conditions yields $al/(1-a)k_D = r^*/(1-t)w$. Then, some simple algebra allows us to compute closed-form solutions for factor demands:

$$k_D(w,t) = (v\psi)^{\frac{1}{1-v}} \left[\frac{a(1-t)}{r^*} \right]^{\frac{1-(1-a)v}{1-v}} \left[\frac{1-a}{w} \right]^{\frac{(1-a)v}{1-v}},$$

$$l(w,t) = (v\psi)^{\frac{1}{1-v}} \left[\frac{a(1-t)}{r^*} \right]^{\frac{av}{1-v}} \left[\frac{1-a}{w} \right]^{\frac{1-av}{1-v}}.$$

Taking logs and differentiating yields:

$$d \log k_D(w,t) = \frac{1 - (1 - a)v}{1 - v} d \log(1 - t) - \frac{(1 - a)v}{1 - v} d \log w,$$

$$d \log l(w,t) = \frac{av}{1 - v} d \log(1 - t) - \frac{1 - av}{1 - v} d \log w,$$

where we assumed $d \log v = d \log \psi = d \log a = d \log r^* = 0$. Let $\epsilon^S = f(w)w/L$ denote the labor supply elasticity. Then, differentiating the labor market equilibrium yields:

$$f(w)dw = Ndl(w,t) \Leftrightarrow \epsilon^S d\log w = d\log l(w,t).$$

Replacing in the input demands we get:

$$d \log k_D(w,t) = \frac{1 - (1 - a)v}{1 - v} d \log(1 - t) - \frac{(1 - a)v}{\epsilon^S(1 - v)} d \log l(w,t),$$

$$d \log l(w,t) = \frac{av}{1 - v} d \log(1 - t) - \frac{1 - av}{\epsilon^S(1 - v)} d \log l(w,t).$$

Starting from the labor demand equation, we have that:

$$\varepsilon_l = \frac{d \log l(w, t)}{d \log(1 - t)} = \left(1 + \frac{1 - av}{\epsilon^S(1 - v)}\right)^{-1} \frac{av}{1 - v} = \frac{\epsilon^S av}{\epsilon^S(1 - v) + 1 - av},$$

and $\varepsilon_w = (\epsilon^S)^{-1} \varepsilon_l$. Note that $d \log L = d \log(Nl(w,t)) = d \log N + d \log l(w,t)$, so $\varepsilon_l = \varepsilon_L$ when N is fixed. Assuming that ϵ^S is locally constant, it follows that:

$$\frac{\partial \varepsilon_l}{\partial a} = \frac{\epsilon^S v \left(\epsilon^S (1-v) + 1 \right)}{\left(\epsilon^S (1-v) + 1 - av \right)^2} = \frac{\varepsilon_l (\epsilon^S (1-v) + 1)}{a \left(\epsilon^S (1-v) + 1 - av \right)} > 0.$$

Regarding capital, using the expressions above, it follows that:

$$\varepsilon_{k} = \frac{d \log k_{D}(w, t)}{d \log(1 - t)} = \frac{1 - (1 - a)v}{1 - v} - \frac{(1 - a)v}{\epsilon^{S}(1 - v)} \frac{d \log l(w, t)}{d \log(1 - t)},
= \frac{1}{1 - v} \left(1 - (1 - a)v - \frac{(1 - a)av^{2}}{\epsilon^{S}(1 - v) + 1 - av} \right),
= \frac{1}{1 - v} \left(1 - \frac{(\epsilon^{S}(1 - v) + 1)(1 - a)v}{\epsilon^{S}(1 - v) + 1 - av} \right).$$

Note that $\varepsilon_k > 0$ since $(\epsilon^S(1-v)+1)(1-a)v < \epsilon^S(1-v)+1-av$ if and only if v < 1. Then:

$$\frac{\partial \varepsilon_k}{\partial a} = \frac{-1}{1 - v} \left(\frac{-\left(\epsilon^S(1 - v) + 1\right) v \left(\epsilon^S(1 - v) + 1 - av\right) + \left(\epsilon^S(1 - v) + 1\right) (1 - a)v^2}{\left(\epsilon^S(1 - v) + 1 - av\right)^2} \right),
= \frac{-\left(\epsilon^S(1 - v) + 1\right) v}{1 - v} \left(\frac{-\left(\epsilon^S(1 - v) + 1 - av\right) + (1 - a)v}{\left(\epsilon^S(1 - v) + 1 - av\right)^2} \right),
= \frac{-\left(\epsilon^S(1 - v) + 1\right) v}{1 - v} \left(\frac{-\left(\epsilon^S + 1\right) (1 - v)}{\left(\epsilon^S(1 - v) + 1 - av\right)^2} \right) > 0.$$

By comparing the expressions, we can also note that $\varepsilon_k > \varepsilon_l$ if and only if $\epsilon^S(1-v)+1 > 0$, a condition that always holds in this model.

Regarding effects on pre-tax profits, introducing the optimal factor demands in the pretax profits function yields, after some algebra:

$$\pi_D(w,t) = \left(\frac{a(1-t)}{r^*}\right)^{\frac{av}{1-v}} \left(\frac{1}{w}\right)^{\frac{v(1-a)}{1-v}} \Omega,$$

where $\Omega = \psi(v\psi)^{\frac{v}{1-v}}(1-a)^{\frac{v(1-a)}{1-v}} - (v\psi)^{\frac{1}{1-v}}(1-a)^{\frac{1-av}{1-v}}$ is a constant. Then:

$$d\log \pi_D(w,t) = \frac{av}{1-v}d\log(1-t) - \frac{v(1-a)}{1-v}d\log w,$$

so

$$\varepsilon_{\pi} = \frac{d \log \pi_{D}(w, t)}{d \log(1 - t)} = \frac{av}{1 - v} - \frac{v(1 - a)}{\epsilon^{S}(1 - v)} \varepsilon_{l}.$$

Then:

$$\frac{\partial \varepsilon_{\pi}}{\partial a} = \frac{v}{1-v} + \frac{v\varepsilon_{l}}{\epsilon^{S}(1-v)} - \frac{v(1-a)}{\epsilon^{S}(1-v)} \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{l}}{\partial a},$$

$$= \frac{v}{1-v} \left(1 + \frac{av}{\epsilon^{S}(1-v) + 1 - av} - \frac{(1-a)v(\epsilon^{S}(1-v) + 1)}{(\epsilon^{S}(1-v) + 1 - av)^{2}} \right).$$

Then, $\partial \varepsilon_{\pi}/\partial a > 0$ if:

$$1 + \frac{av}{\epsilon^{S}(1-v) + 1 - av} - \frac{(1-a)v(\epsilon^{S}(1-v) + 1)}{(\epsilon^{S}(1-v) + 1 - av)^{2}} > 0,$$

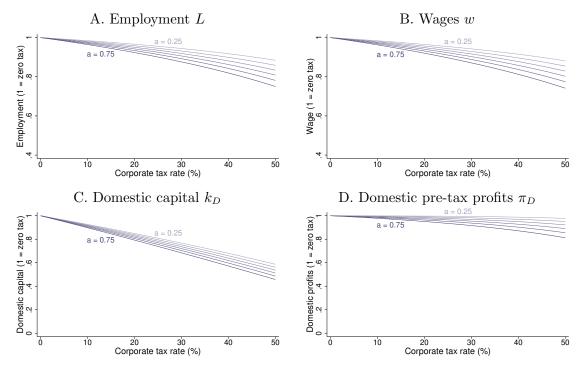
which holds if $\epsilon^S(1-v)+1>0$, a condition that is always true. Then, $\partial \varepsilon_{\pi}/\partial a>0$. Finally, to see the role of wage adjustments in mediating factor demands, we have that:

$$\frac{\partial \varepsilon_l}{\partial \epsilon^S} = \frac{1 - av}{\left(\epsilon^S (1 - v) + 1 - av\right)^2} > 0,$$

$$\frac{\partial \varepsilon_k}{\partial \epsilon^S} = \frac{\left(1 - a\right)av^2}{\left(\epsilon^S (1 - v) + 1 - av\right)^2} > 0.$$

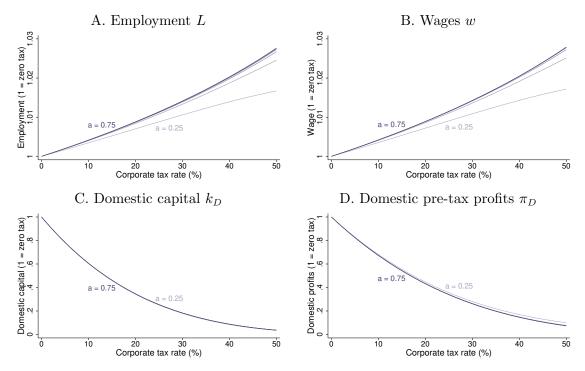
B. Additional Figures

Figure B.1. Comparative statics with respect to the corporate tax rate, t, low capital-labor substitution ($\rho = -1$)



Note: This figure shows how the employment, wage, domestic capital, and domestic pre-tax profit responses to the corporate tax depend on the capital intensity, a, of the firm. In each figure, the outcome is normalized to be equal to 1 under t=0, and the different lines represent different values of a, from a=0.25 (lighter) to a=0.75 (darker). These figures use $\rho=-1$, v=0.79, $r^*=0.042$, N=10, $\psi=0.15$, and $c\sim \exp(0.2)$.

Figure B.2. Comparative statics with respect to the corporate tax rate, t, high capital-labor substitution ($\rho=0.8$)



Note: This figure shows how the employment, wage, domestic capital, and domestic pre-tax profit responses to the corporate tax depend on the capital intensity, a, of the firm. In each figure, the outcome is normalized to be equal to 1 under t=0, and the different lines represent different values of a, from a=0.25 (lighter) to a=0.75 (darker). These figures use $\rho=0.8,\ v=0.79,\ r^*=0.042,\ N=10,\ \psi=0.15,$ and $c\sim \exp(0.2)$.