

# Market Making by Price-Setting Firms

[Get access >](#)

Daniel F. Spulber

*The Review of Economic Studies*, Volume 63, Issue 4, October 1996, Pages 559–580, <https://doi.org/10.2307/2297793>

**Published:** 01 October 1996    **Article history** ▼

## Abstract

A model of market making by firms with heterogeneous consumers, suppliers and price-setting intermediaries is examined. Consumers and suppliers engage in time-consuming search for the best price and discount future returns. There exists a unique symmetric equilibrium pricing strategy. In equilibrium, there are non-degenerate distributions of ask and bid prices that straddle the Walrasian price. As the discount rate goes to zero, the ranges of the bid and ask prices, and the total output approach the Walrasian equilibrium values. As the discount rate becomes large, the ask and bid prices approach the monopoly pricing policies. An increase in the discount rate leads to an increase in the equilibrium number of active firms, profit per firm, the mean spread between ask and bid prices, and the variance of ask and bid prices, while lowering the number of active consumers and suppliers. The model is extended to examine the steady-state market equilibrium with continual entry and exit of consumers and suppliers.

This content is only available as a PDF.

© 1996 The Review of Economic Studies Limited

**Issue Section:** [Articles](#)

You do not currently have access to this article.

## Sign in

 [Get help with access](#)


**Personal account**


**Institutional access**

- Sign in with email/username & password
- Get email alerts
- Save searches
- Purchase content
- Activate your purchase/trial code
- Add your ORCID iD

Sign in >

Register

 Sign in through your institution

 Sign in through your institution >

[Sign in with a library card](#)

[Sign in with username/password](#)

[Recommend to your librarian](#)

### **Institutional account management**

[Sign in as administrator](#)

## Purchase

[Subscription prices and ordering for this journal](#)

[Purchasing options for books and journals across Oxford Academic](#)

## Short-term Access

To purchase short-term access, please sign in to your personal account above.

Don't already have a personal account? [Register](#)

Market Making by Price-Setting Firms - 24 Hours access

EUR €53.00

GBP £44.00

USD \$58.00

## Rental



This article is also available for rental through DeepDyve.