INTERMEDIATE MACROECONOMICS MATCHING MODEL OF UNEMPLOYMENT 20. UNEMPLOYMENT TYPES

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EFFICIENT UNEMPLOYMENT

- definition: the amount of unemployment maximizing the number of producers
 - too little unemployment means that too many workers are devoted to recruiting (see <u>https://perma.cc/945L-4AJ3</u>) instead of producing consumption goods
 - too much unemployment means that too many workers are idle instead of producing consumption goods
- in the US: efficient unemployment is likely between 4% and 6%
 - but much more work is needed to develop a complete theory of efficient unemployment







FRICTIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT

- definition: amount of unemployment due to recruiting costs
- firms would hire more workers if recruiting costs r = 0
 - that is, if the recruiter-producer ratio $\tau = 0$ or equivalently if $\theta = 0$
 - when $\theta = 0$, the recruiter-producer ratio $\tau(\theta) = 0$ (because $q(\theta) = \infty$), exactly as when r=0
 - firms would hire more workers if r = 0 because $L^d(r = 0) = L^d(\theta = 0, W) > L^d(\theta^* > 0, W) = L^*$
- formal definition of frictional unemployment: $U^F = L^d(r = 0) L^*$
 - hence: $U^{F} = L^{d}(\theta = 0, W) L^{d}(\theta^{*} > 0, W)$
- frictional unemployment is high in booms (because it is hard to recruit workers) and low in slumps (because it is easy to recruit workers)



RATIONING UNEMPLOYMENT

- definition: the amount of unemployment due to a lack of jobs, irrespective of recruiting costs
- formal definition: $U^{R} = H L^{d}(r = 0)$
 - hence: $U^{R} = H L^{d}(\theta = 0, W)$
 - once again, when $\theta = 0$, the recruiter-producer ratio $\tau(\theta) = 0$ (because $q(\theta) = \infty$), which is the same as when r=0
 - (we impose $U^R \ge 0$)
- total unemployment = frictional + rationing
- rationing unemployment is high in recessions (because jobs are lacking) and low in expansions (because jobs are plentiful)







LINEAR PRODUCTION FUNCTION

• consider a matching model with linear production function

• $Y = a \times N$

- firm's profits are: $a \times N W \times N \times [1+\tau(\theta)]$
- to maximize profits, the derivative of profits with respect to N must be 0:
 - setting derivative to zero: $a = W \times [1+\tau(\theta)]$
- thus the labor demand condition determines a unique tightness
 - tightness determined by labor demand: $\tau(\theta) = (a/W) 1$
- the labor demand curve is horizontal
 - all unemployment is frictional unemployment



CLASSICAL & KEYNESIAN UNEMPLOYMENT

- classical unemployment: unemployment due to high wages
 - in matching model: high wage (W) leads to low labor demand and high unemployment
- Keynesian unemployment: unemployment due to low aggregate demand
 - in matching model: low productivity (a) leads to low labor demand and high unemployment
- rationing unemployment is made of Keynesian and classical components