

## APPENDIX A PROOF OF LEMMA 1

The risk-free profit  $\Phi(p) = (p-r)d(p)$  is quasiconcave, since  $p-r$  is monotonic and thus quasiconcave,  $d(p)$  is concave and thus quasiconcave, and the product of two quasiconcave functions are quasiconcave. From (7) and (8), the first-order derivative of the profit loss function  $\Lambda(p)$  is  $d'(p)m \int_{C-d(p)}^B f(u)du$ , which is increasing in  $p$ . Thus  $-\Lambda(p)$  is concave in  $p$ . Since  $E[R(p)] = \Phi(p) - \Lambda(p)$ , it can be readily shown that the sum of a quasiconcave function and a concave function is quasiconcave.

## APPENDIX B PROOF OF THEOREM 2

Since  $\bar{d}(p)$  includes both inelastic and elastic traffic demand, its elasticity is smaller, i.e.  $\bar{\sigma}(p) < \sigma(p)$  for any  $p$ . The first-order condition of (15) amounts to

$$\bar{p} = \bar{r} - \frac{\bar{d}(\bar{p})}{\bar{d}'(\bar{p})} \Rightarrow \bar{p} = \frac{\bar{r}}{1 - \bar{\sigma}(\bar{p})^{-1}} \quad (22)$$

by substituting (2). This implies that  $1 < \bar{\sigma}(\bar{p})$ . At the optimal spot price  $p^*$ ,  $d(p^*) < C$  always holds as discussed in Sec. 3.3. Thus substituting (2) into (12), and applying the one-sided Chebyshev Inequality (Chebyshev-Cantelli Inequality) to upper bound  $\Pr(\epsilon > C - d(p^*))$ ,

$$p^* < \frac{r}{1 - \sigma(p^*)^{-1}} + ma, \text{ where } a = \frac{\theta^2}{\theta^2 + (C - d(p^*) - \mu)^2}.$$

$\mu$  and  $\theta$  are the mean and standard deviation of  $\epsilon$ , respectively. Now assume that  $p^* \geq \bar{p}$ , which implies

$$\frac{\bar{r}}{1 - \bar{\sigma}(\bar{p})^{-1}} < \frac{r + ma(1 - \sigma(p^*)^{-1})}{1 - \sigma(p^*)^{-1}}.$$

$1 < \bar{\sigma}(\bar{p}) \leq \bar{\sigma}(p^*) < \sigma(p^*)$  by (3), and  $0 < 1 - \bar{\sigma}(\bar{p})^{-1} < 1 - \sigma(p^*)^{-1}$ . Thus,

$$\bar{r} < r + ma(1 - \sigma(p^*)^{-1}),$$

which contradicts with condition (16).

## APPENDIX C PROOF OF LEMMA 3

Substituting (12) into (7),

$$\begin{aligned} E[R(p^*)] &= (p^* - r)d(p^*) - m \int_{C-d(p^*)}^B (d(p^*) - C + u) f(u) du \\ &> (\bar{p} - r)d(\bar{p}) - m \int_{C-d(\bar{p})}^B (d(\bar{p}) - C + u) f(u) du \\ &> (\bar{p} - r)d(\bar{p}) - (d(\bar{p}) - C + B)m \cdot \Pr(\epsilon > C - d(\bar{p})) \end{aligned}$$

The first inequality is due to the optimality of  $p^*$ , and the second due to the fact that  $d(\bar{p}) - C + B \geq d(\bar{p}) -$

$C + u$ .  $p^* < \bar{p}$ , thus  $E'[R(\bar{p})] < 0$  due to quasiconcavity. From (11)

$$m \cdot \Pr(C - d(\bar{p})) < \bar{p} + \frac{d(\bar{p})}{d'(\bar{p})} - r.$$

$\bar{p} + \frac{d(\bar{p})}{d'(\bar{p})} = \bar{r}$  from (22). Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} E[R(p^*)] &> (\bar{p} - r)d(\bar{p}) - (d(\bar{p}) - C + B)(\bar{r} - r) \\ &= (\bar{p} - \bar{r})d(\bar{p}) + (\bar{r} - r)(d(\bar{p}) - d(\bar{p}) + C - B) \\ &= E[\bar{R}(\bar{p})] + (\bar{r} - r)(C - B). \end{aligned}$$

$C > B$  always holds as discussed in Sec. 3.3.