# APPENDIX <br> The Welfare Effects of Peer Entry in the Accommodation Market: The Case of Airbnb <br> Chiara Farronato and Andrey Fradkin <br> For Online Publication 

## A Appendix: Proof of Model Predictions

The short-run model from section 2.1 offers some comparative statics predictions. We present the propositions and the proofs below.

Proposition 1 Hotel profits and prices decrease in $K_{a}$. Hotel rooms sold decrease in $K_{a}$ if and only if $-\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}} / \frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}} \geq-\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h} \partial p_{a}} / \frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}}$.

Before we start the proof of Proposition 1 it is useful to separately consider markets where the hotel capacity constraint binds and markets where it does not. In markets where the hotel constraint binds the two equilibrium conditions are $Q_{h}\left(p_{h}, p_{a}\right)=K_{h}$ and $Q_{a}\left(p_{a}, p_{h}\right)=$ $K_{a} G\left(p_{a}\right)$, where $G()$ denotes the distribution of flexible marginal costs. See Section 2.1 for details. By totally differentiating the system of equilibrium equations we find the total derivatives of hotel and Airbnb prices with respect to Airbnb capacity:

$$
\begin{align*}
& {\left[\frac{d p_{h}}{d K_{a}}\right]^{c}=\frac{-\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}} G\left(p_{a}\right)}{\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}}\left[\frac{\partial Q_{a}}{\partial p_{a}}-K_{a} g\left(p_{a}\right)\right]-\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}} \frac{\partial Q_{a}}{\partial p_{h}}}}  \tag{A1}\\
& {\left[\frac{d p_{a}}{d K_{a}}\right]^{c}=\frac{\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}} G\left(p_{a}\right)}{\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}}\left[\frac{\partial Q_{a}}{\partial p_{a}}-K_{a} g\left(p_{a}\right)\right]-\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}} \frac{\partial Q_{a}}{\partial p_{h}}} .} \tag{A2}
\end{align*}
$$

In markets where the hotel constraint does not bind the two equilibrium conditions are $\partial \Pi\left(p_{a}, p_{h}\right) / \partial p_{h}=0$ and $Q_{a}\left(p_{a}, p_{h}\right)=K_{a} G\left(p_{a}\right)$. By totally differentiating the system of equilibrium equations we find the total derivatives of hotel and Airbnb prices with respect
to Airbnb capacity:

$$
\begin{align*}
& {\left[\frac{d p_{h}}{d K_{a}}\right]^{u}=\frac{-\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h} \partial p_{a}} G\left(p_{a}\right)}{\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}}\left[\frac{\partial Q_{a}}{\partial p_{a}}-K_{a} g\left(p_{a}\right)\right]-\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h} \partial p_{a}} \frac{\partial Q_{a}}{\partial p_{h}}}}  \tag{A3}\\
& {\left[\frac{d p_{a}}{d K_{a}}\right]^{u}=\frac{\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}} G\left(p_{a}\right)}{\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}}\left[\frac{\partial Q_{a}}{\partial p_{a}}-K_{a} g\left(p_{a}\right)\right]-\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h} \partial p_{a}} \frac{\partial Q_{a}}{\partial p_{h}}},} \tag{A4}
\end{align*}
$$

where $\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}}=2 \frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}}+\frac{\partial^{2} Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}}\left(p_{h}-c_{h}\right)$, and $\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h} \partial p_{a}}=\left[\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}}+\frac{\partial^{2} Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h} \partial p_{a}}\left(p_{h}-c_{h}\right)\right]$.
We start by proving that hotel prices are a decreasing function of flexible capacity in both constrained and unconstrained equilibria. To do that, we need to prove that the derivatives in equation A1 and A3 are negative. $\left[\frac{d p_{h}}{d K_{a}}\right]^{c} \leq 0$ since the numerator is negative and the denominator is positive. The numerator is negative as long as hotels and Airbnb rooms are substitutes, or $\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}} \geq 0$. The denominator is positive because the first term is the product of two negative terms, and the second term to be subtracted is positive but smaller than the first term in absolute value. Indeed, $-\frac{\partial Q_{a}}{\partial p_{a}}+K_{a} g\left(p_{a}\right) \geq \frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}} \geq 0$ and $-\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}} \geq \frac{\partial Q_{a}}{\partial p_{h}}$ since own-price elasticities are negative, cross-price elasticities are positive, and as long as there is an outside good with positive demand $Q_{0},-\frac{\partial Q_{j}}{\partial p_{j}}=\frac{\partial Q_{i}}{\partial p_{j}}+\frac{\partial Q_{0}}{\partial p_{j}} \geq \frac{\partial Q_{i}}{\partial p_{j}}$.

A similar reasoning proves that $\left[\frac{d p_{h}}{d K_{a}}\right]^{u} \leq 0$. The inequality holds as long as the Bertrand price equilibrium is stable and hotel optimal prices are an increasing function of competitors' prices (Bulow et al. (1985)). The conditions on the stability of equilibrium and strategic complementarity in prices imply that $-\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}} \geq \frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h} \partial p_{a}} \geq 0$, or $-\left[2 \frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}}+\frac{\partial^{2} Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}}\left(p_{h}-c_{h}\right)\right] \geq$ $\left[\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}}+\frac{\partial^{2} Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h} \partial p_{a}}\left(p_{h}-c_{h}\right)\right] \geq 0$.

So far, we have proved that an increase in flexible capacity decreases hotel prices by showing that $\frac{d p_{h}}{d K_{a}} \leq 0$ whether or not the hotel is operating at capacity.

Now we prove that an increase in flexible capacity also decreases hotel profits in both constrained and unconstrained equilibria. An increase in $K_{a}$ affects hotel profits $\Pi_{h}=$ $Q_{h}^{d}\left(p_{h}-c_{h}\right)$ through changes in $p_{a}$ and $p_{h}$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d \Pi_{h}}{d K_{a}}=\frac{\partial \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}} \frac{d p_{h}}{d K_{a}}+\frac{\partial \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{a}} \frac{d p_{a}}{d K_{a}} . \tag{A5}
\end{equation*}
$$

Let us first consider the case where the hotel capacity constraint binds, and the price derivatives with respect to $K_{a}$ are given by equations A1 and A2. Since we are at a constrained maximum $\frac{\partial \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}}=\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}}\left(p_{h}-c_{h}\right)+Q_{h}<0$. Since hotel and Airbnb rooms are substitutes $\frac{\partial \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{a}}=\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}}\left(p_{h}-c_{h}\right) \geq 0$. After substituting the expressions of $\frac{\partial \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}}$ and $\frac{\partial \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{a}}$, and equations A1 and A2 into equation A5, simple algebra shows that equation A5 is negative if and only
if $-Q_{h} \frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}} G\left(p_{a}\right) \leq 0$, which is always true.
Let us now consider the case where the hotel capacity constraint does not bind. At the unconstrained optimum the first order condition holds with equality, $\frac{\partial \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}}=0$, so the first term in equation A5 is zero. The second term has the same sign as $\left[\frac{d p_{a}}{d K_{a}}\right]^{u} \leq 0$. From equation A4, this derivative is negative because it has the same sign as $\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}}$. The last expression is the second derivative of the hotel profit optimization function, which is negative for an interior maximum. Combining these results implies that flexible prices are a decreasing function of flexible capacity even when hotels are not capacity constrained in equilibrium. Therefore, whether the hotel is operating at capacity or not, $\frac{d \Pi_{h}}{d K_{a}} \leq 0$ : an increase in flexible capacity reduces hotel profits.

We are left with proving that hotel rooms sold decrease in $K_{a}$ if and only if $-\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}} / \frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}} \geq$ $-\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h} \partial p_{a}} \frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}}$. In words, this condition requires that the hotel best response function to competitor prices is steeper when hotel occupancy is held fixed than when hotel occupancy is allowed to change. ${ }^{20}$ The total derivative of hotel rooms sold with respect to Airbnb capacity is equal to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d Q_{h}}{d K_{a}}=\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}} \frac{d p_{h}}{d K_{a}}+\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}} \frac{d p_{a}}{d K_{a}} \tag{A6}
\end{equation*}
$$

When hotels are operating at capacity a marginal change in Airbnb capacity does not change hotel occupancy. Indeed, substituting equations A1 and A2 gives $\left[\frac{d Q_{h}}{d K_{a}}\right]^{c}=0$. When hotels are not operating at capacity, substituting equations A3 and A4 gives $\left[\frac{d Q_{h}}{d K_{a}}\right]^{c}=$ $\frac{-\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}} \frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h} p_{a}} G\left(p_{a}\right)+\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}} \frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{h}} G\left(p_{a}\right)}{\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{h}}\left[\frac{\partial Q_{a}}{\partial p_{a}}-K_{a} g\left(p_{a}\right)\right]-\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h} \partial_{a}} \frac{\partial Q_{a}}{\partial p_{h}}}$. We have already proved that the denominator is positive, while the numerator is negative as long as $-\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}} \frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h} \partial p_{a}}+\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}} \frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}} \leq 0$, which is identical to the condition stated in the proposition.

Proposition 2 The reduction in hotel prices when flexible capacity increases is larger when hotel capacity constraints bind if and only if $-\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}} / \frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}} \geq-\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h} \partial p_{a}} / \frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}}$. Under the same condition, the reduction in hotel rooms sold when flexible capacity increases is larger when hotel capacity constraints do not bind.

To prove that hotel prices fall more as a function of flexible capacity when hotel capacity constraints bind, it suffices to show that equation A1 is smaller than equation A3. In proving proposition 1 we have showed that both derivatives are negative. After some algebra, the condition $\left[\frac{d p_{h}}{d K_{a}}\right]^{c} \leq\left[\frac{d p_{h}}{d K_{a}}\right]^{u}$ simplifies to $-\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}} / \frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}} \geq-\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h} \partial p_{a}} / \frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}}$.

[^0]To prove that hotel rooms sold fall more as a function of flexible capacity when hotel capacity constraints do not bind, we again use parts of the proof of Proposition 1. There, we have showed that hotel rooms sold are unchanged following a marginal increase in flexible capacity whenever hotel constraints bind: $\left[\frac{d Q_{h}}{d K_{a}}\right]^{c}=0$. We have also showed that $\left[\frac{d Q_{h}}{d K_{a}}\right]^{u} \leq 0$ if and only if $-\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{a}} / \frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial p_{h}} \geq-\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h} \partial p_{a}} / \frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}}$. Therefore $\left[\frac{d Q_{h}}{d K_{a}}\right]^{u} \leq\left[\frac{d Q_{h}}{d K_{a}}\right]^{c}$.

The next proposition contains comparative statics results on the long-run entry of peer supply. We define the expected daily benefit of joining Airbnb as $v_{a}=\int_{d} E_{c}\left(\max \left\{0, p_{a}^{d}-c\right\}\right) d F(d)$, and the one-time cost of joining as $C$, randomly drawn for each potential host. We also let $T$ denote the number of days a peer host will be available to host on Airbnb after joining the platform, so that the net benefit is $T v_{a}-C$. We let $K_{a}$ denote the mass of potential hosts who find it profitable to join Airbnb, i.e. all those hosts with $C \leq T v_{a}$.

Proposition 3 Entry of flexible sellers is larger ( $K_{a}$ increases) if the distribution of peers' marginal costs $c$ decreases in the sense of first-order stochastic dominance. $K_{a}$ increases if $K_{h}$ decreases. $K_{a}$ also increases if $F(d)$ increases in the sense of first order stochastic dominance or in response to a mean-preserving spread in $F(d)$.

It is intuitive that if the distribution of flexible marginal costs $c$ shifts to the left, $E_{c}\left[\max \left\{0, p_{a}^{d}-c\right\}\right]$ weakly increases in every demand state, so $v_{a}$ increases and more flexible sellers enter.

It is also straightforward to see that if $F(d)$ shifts to the right, $E_{c}\left[\max \left\{0, p_{a}^{d}-c\right\}\right]$ will not change for any demand state, but higher demand states are more likely so $v_{a}$ increases, inducing more flexible entry.

Proving that a reduction in $K_{h}$ induces more flexible entry requires a little more explanation. Assume $K_{h}$ decreases on the margin. For demand states for which $K_{h}$ was not binding, the decrease in hotel capacity has no effect, so $p_{a}^{d}$ does not change for $d$ lower than a certain threshold. For demand states in which $K_{h}$ was binding the two equilibrium conditions are, with simplified notation, $Q_{h}^{d}\left(p_{h}, p_{a}\right)=K_{h}$ and $Q_{a}^{d}\left(p_{a}, p_{h}\right)=K_{a} G\left(p_{a}\right)$. We proved above (for Propositions 1 and 2) that an increase in flexible capacity decreases both hotel and peer prices. An analogous proof is valid for a change in hotel capacity. So for high demand states a decrease in hotel capacity increases flexible prices. So far we showed that in unconstrained demand states flexible prices do not change if $K_{h}$ decreases, while in constrained demand states they increase. This is a shift in the distribution of flexible prices in the sense of first order stochastic dominance. So $\frac{d v_{a}}{d K_{h}} \leq 0$ and a decrease in hotel capacity induces more flexible entry.

Finally, a mean-preserving spread of $F(d)$ induces more entry of flexible sellers. The
utility function for demand state $d, E_{c}\left[\max \left\{0, p_{a}^{d}-c\right\}\right]$, is a convex function of $p_{a}^{d}$. Since $p_{a}^{d}$ is an increasing function of $d$, as long as it is not too concave, the result is a direct implication of Jensen's inequality. Intuitively, flexible sellers lose nothing from low demand periods since they can choose not to host, and gain high profits in periods of high demand. A sufficient condition for this to hold is that flexible prices are non-decreasing in $d$, which is the case if hotel and flexible prices are strategic complements and the Bertrand price equilibrium is stable. As before, the proof relies on totally differentiating the system of equilibrium equations $Q_{a}^{d}=K_{a} G\left(p_{a}\right)$ and $Q_{h}^{d}=-\frac{\partial Q_{h}^{d}}{\partial p_{h}}\left(p_{h}-c_{h}\right)$ (which is $Q_{h}^{d}=K_{h}$ if hotels are capacity-constrained) with respect to the demand state and the price variables. The sufficient conditions require that $-\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{b}^{d}}{\partial p_{h} \partial_{a}} / \frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}^{d}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}} \in(0,1)$ (equilibrium stability and strategic complementarity of hotel and flexible prices) and $-\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}^{d}}{\partial p_{h} \partial d} / \frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}^{d}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}} \geq 0$ (optimal hotel price is an increasing function of demand), where $\partial \Pi_{h}^{d} / \partial p_{h}$ is the first order condition of the hotel maximization problem.

## B Appendix: Endogeneity Concerns

This Appendix presents additional evidence regarding the specification in equation 4 under alternative identifying assumptions. First, in Table A1 we progressively add controls from a simple regression of hotel revenue on the size of Airbnb. Our baseline specification in OLS form is in the fifth column. The coefficients of Airbnb listings decreases as we keep adding controls for demand fluctuations, days of the weeks, seasonality, and market-specific characteristics.

Appendix Table A2 displays OLS results using specification 4 for four different measures of Airbnb size: active, available (the naive version), adjusted available, and booked Airbnb rooms. This table shows the flaws related to each potential measure of Airbnb size. A regression using active listings, displayed in Column (1), results in a negative, but small effect. Column (2) displays results using the naive measure of available listings. In this case, the OLS estimate is much larger in magnitude than our IV estimates. The reason for this, as previously described, is that this variable is counter-cyclical: hosts are more likely to update their unavailability on their calendar in periods of high demand, meaning that measured supply is negatively correlated with demand. Column (3) displays our preferred measure of availability described in the previous section. The OLS estimate is not significant and smaller in magnitude than the IV estimate, which is expected if there is bias due to the number of available listings being positively correlated with demand. Lastly, Column (4) shows the results with respect to the number of Airbnb bookings. There is a positive and statistically significant coefficient because demand for Airbnb is highest precisely in times of high overall accommodations demand, as shown in the previous subsection.

Appendix Table A3 displays the full set of results described in the previous paragraph but with the measure of Airbnb instrumented with city-specific quadratic time trends. Using this strategy, the effect of Airbnb is similar regardless of the measure used, except for booked listings.

Table A1: Hotel Revenue and Airbnb - Additional Controls

|  | Log(Revenue per Available Hotel Room) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| $\log$ (Available Listings) | $\begin{gathered} 0.177^{* * *} \\ (0.019) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline 0.124^{* * *} \\ (0.016) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.125^{* * *} \\ (0.016) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.043^{* * *} \\ (0.005) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -0.032 \\ & (0.021) \end{aligned}$ |
| $\log$ (Google Search Trend) |  | $\begin{gathered} 0.388^{* * *} \\ (0.060) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.388^{* * *} \\ (0.060) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.311^{* * *} \\ (0.037) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.147^{* * *} \\ (0.049) \end{gathered}$ |
| log(Incoming Air Passengers) |  | $\begin{gathered} 0.181^{* * *} \\ (0.041) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.180^{* * *} \\ (0.041) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1.016^{* * *} \\ (0.047) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1.169^{* * *} \\ (0.065) \end{gathered}$ |
| log(Hotel Rooms) |  | $\begin{gathered} -0.166^{*} \\ (0.099) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -0.166^{*} \\ (0.099) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -0.444^{*} \\ (0.254) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -0.767^{* * *} \\ (0.198) \end{gathered}$ |
| Day of Week FE | No | No | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| City FE | No | No | No | Yes | Yes |
| Quarter-Year FE | No | No | No | No | Yes |
| Observations | 268,489 | 268,489 | 268,489 | 268,489 | 268,489 |
| $\mathrm{R}^{2}$ | 0.325 | 0.445 | 0.504 | 0.717 | 0.729 |
| Note: |  |  | dard Error | Clustered | City Level |

The table shows OLS estimates of equation 4. It progressively add controls: day of the week fixed effects, month fixed effects (January 2011 is a different fixed effect from January 2012), market fixed effects (e.g. SF), and city-specific time trends. The first columns show clearly a spurious correlation: Airbnb grows in markets where the accommodation industry is thriving. With the inclusion of additional controls the effect of Airbnb is negative across the markets under consideration.

Table A2: Hotel Revenue and Airbnb - Different Measures of Airbnb

|  | Log(Revenue per Available Hotel Room) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| $\log$ (Active Listings) | $\begin{aligned} & -0.015 \\ & (0.013) \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
| $\log$ (Available Listings Raw) |  | $\begin{gathered} -0.101^{* * *} \\ (0.027) \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| $\log$ (Available Listings Corrected) |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & -0.032 \\ & (0.021) \end{aligned}$ |  |
| $\log$ (Booked Listings) |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 0.139^{* * *} \\ (0.013) \end{gathered}$ |
| $\log$ (Google Search Trend) | $\begin{gathered} 0.147^{* * *} \\ (0.050) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.145^{* * *} \\ (0.049) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.147^{* * *} \\ (0.049) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.122^{* * *} \\ (0.047) \end{gathered}$ |
| log(Incoming Air Passengers) | $\begin{gathered} 1.171^{* * *} \\ (0.065) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1.149^{* * *} \\ (0.063) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1.169^{* * *} \\ (0.065) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.961^{* * *} \\ (0.056) \end{gathered}$ |
| log(Hotel Rooms) | $\begin{gathered} -0.758^{* * *} \\ (0.193) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -0.783^{* * *} \\ (0.270) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -0.767^{* * *} \\ (0.198) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -0.651^{*} \\ (0.349) \end{gathered}$ |
| Day of Week FE | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Quarter-Year FE | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| City FE | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Observations | 268,489 | 268,489 | 268,489 | 268,489 |
| $\mathrm{R}^{2}$ | 0.729 | 0.731 | 0.729 | 0.744 |

The table shows results of OLS estimates of equation 4, where the size of Airbnb is measured as the number of active listings (column 1), the number of available listings adjusted for demand-induced calendar updates (column 2), the number of available listings (column 3), or the number of booked listings (column 4).

Table A3: Hotel Revenue and Airbnb - IV Estimates for Different Measures of Airbnb

|  | Log(Revenue per Available Hotel Room) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| $\log$ (Google Search Trend) | $\begin{gathered} 0.148^{* * *} \\ (0.049) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.146^{* * *} \\ (0.049) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.147^{* * *} \\ (0.049) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.148^{* * *} \\ (0.050) \end{gathered}$ |
| log(Incoming Air Passengers) | $\begin{gathered} 1.172^{* * *} \\ (0.065) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1.163^{* * *} \\ (0.065) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1.169^{* * *} \\ (0.065) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1.189^{* * *} \\ (0.071) \end{gathered}$ |
| $\log$ (Hotel Rooms) | $\begin{gathered} -0.766^{* * *} \\ (0.199) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -0.761^{* * *} \\ (0.199) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -0.768^{* * *} \\ (0.200) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -0.759^{* * *} \\ (0.198) \end{gathered}$ |
| $\log$ (Active Listings) | $\begin{gathered} -0.034^{* *} \\ (0.014) \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |
| $\log$ (Available Listings Raw) |  | $\begin{gathered} -0.034^{* *} \\ (0.014) \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| $\log$ (Available Listings Corrected) |  |  | $\begin{gathered} -0.033^{* *} \\ (0.014) \end{gathered}$ |  |
| $\log$ (Booked Listings) |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & -0.012 \\ & (0.014) \end{aligned}$ |
| Day of Week FE | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Month-Year FE | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Market FE | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Observations | 268,489 | 268,489 | 268,489 | 268,489 |
| $\mathrm{R}^{2}$ | 0.729 | 0.730 | 0.729 | 0.726 |

The table shows IV estimates of equation 4 for four different measures of Airbnb size from table A2: active listings, available listings adjusted for demand-induced calendar updates, available listings, and booked listings.

## C Appendix: Additional Details and Results from the Structural Estimation

## C. 1 Formulation of Differentiation Instruments

In this section, we describe the demand side differentiation instruments $I V$. The first step of formulating these instruments is to predict the after-tax price, $\hat{\bar{p}}_{j n}=\left(1+\tau_{j n}\right) \hat{p}_{j n}$. We then use this price to derive measures of the amount of competition between options in a market $n$. The instruments used are:

- $I V_{1 j n}=\sum_{i \neq j} \mathbb{1}\left(a b s\left(\hat{\bar{p}}_{i n}-\hat{\bar{p}}_{j n}\right)<s t d_{\hat{p_{c}}}\right)$, where $s t d_{\hat{p}_{c}}$ is the standard deviation of predicted prices over time within city $c$.
- $I V_{2 j n}=\sum_{i=j-1} \hat{\bar{p}}_{i n}-\hat{\bar{p}}_{j n}$. This is equal to zero for luxury hotels, and the highest quality Airbnb tier.
- $I V_{3 j n}=\sum_{i=j-1}\left(\hat{\bar{p}}_{i n}-\hat{\bar{p}}_{j n}\right)^{2}$. This is equal to zero for luxury hotels, and the highest quality Airbnb tier.
- $I V_{4 j n}=\sum_{i=j+1} \hat{\bar{p}}_{i n}-\hat{\bar{p}}_{j n}$. This is equal to zero for economy hotels, and the lowest quality Airbnb tier.
- $I V_{5 j n}=\sum_{i=j+1}\left(\hat{\bar{p}}_{i n}-\hat{\bar{p}}_{j n}\right)^{2}$. This is equal to zero for economy hotels, and the lowest quality Airbnb tier.
- $I V_{6 j n}=\sum_{i \in \text { hotels }}\left(\hat{\bar{p}}_{\text {in }}-\hat{\bar{p}}_{j n}\right)$. This is equal to zero for Airbnb options.
- $I V_{7 j n}=\sum_{i \in \text { hotels }}\left(\hat{\bar{p}}_{i n}-\hat{\bar{p}}_{j n}\right)^{2}$. This is equal to zero for Airbnb options.

We then do a principal component decomposition of $I V$, and keep the largest factors accounting for $75 \%$ of the variation.

## C. 2 Additional Figures and Tables

Figure A1: Hotel Rooms


The figure plots the number of available hotel rooms over time for the top 10 cities. In contrast to the growth of Airbnb, the number of hotel rooms has been relatively stable over this time period.

Figure A2: Peer Production and Supply Characteristics


The figures are analogous to Figure $4 a$ and Figure $4 b$. The left figure plots the size of Airbnb against a measure of constraints to the construction of new hotels: the Wharton Residential Land Use Regulation Index. The index measures the stringency of the local regulatory environment for housing development, which we consider to be similar for commercial buildings. The center figure plots the size of Airbnb against the share of children in the MSA. The right figure plots the size of Airbnb against the ratio of median rent to household income in the MSA in 2010. The size of Airbnb is measured as the average share of available listings in the last quarter of 2014.

Table A4: Heterogeneous Effects of Airbnb: Hotel Scale

|  | Log(Price) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| log(Incoming Air Passengers) | $\begin{gathered} 0.670^{* * *} \\ (0.076) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.543^{* * *} \\ (0.066) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.476^{* * *} \\ (0.065) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.444^{* * *} \\ (0.057) \end{gathered}$ |
| $\log$ (Google Search Trend) | $\begin{gathered} 0.130^{* *} \\ (0.059) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.055 \\ (0.043) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.109^{* *} \\ (0.043) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.099^{* *} \\ (0.040) \end{gathered}$ |
| log(Hotel Rooms) | $\begin{gathered} 0.294 \\ (0.580) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.034 \\ (0.290) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -0.280 \\ & (0.228) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} -0.872^{* * *} \\ (0.332) \end{gathered}$ |
| $\log$ (Available Listings) | $\begin{gathered} 0.006 \\ (0.031) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -0.064^{* *} \\ (0.031) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -0.058^{*} \\ (0.030) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -0.090^{* * *} \\ (0.022) \end{gathered}$ |
| Hotel Scale | Luxury | Upscale | Midscale | Economy |
| Instruments | City Time Trends |  |  |  |
| City FE | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Year-Quarter FE | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Day of Week FE | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Observations | 90,863 | 112,348 | 112,348 | 112,348 |
| $\mathrm{R}^{2}$ | 0.817 | 0.716 | 0.828 | 0.916 |
| Note: | Standard | rors Clust | at a City an | ar-Quarter |

The table shows the IV estimates of equation 4 split by the type of hotel, where the size of Airbnb is measured as the number of available listings and Airbnb listings are instrumented with a city-specific quadratic time-trend. The Google search trend is a one-week lag. The dependent variable is log price.
Table A5: Demand Own-Price Elasticities by City and Accommodation Type

|  | Austin | Boston | Los Angeles | Miami | New York | Oakland | Portland | San cisco | Fran- | San Jose | Seattle |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Luxury | -7.49 | -8.30 | -6.87 | -5.16 | -8.54 | -5.28 | -4.84 | -7.53 |  | -5.19 | -5.89 |
| Upper Upscale | -1.22 | -1.35 | -1.48 | -3.04 | -3.37 | -1.27 | -1.74 | -2.21 |  | -1.98 | -1.85 |
| Upscale | -3.72 | -3.59 | -3.92 | -3.98 | -5.75 | -3.42 | -3.21 | -4.43 |  | -3.92 | -3.69 |
| Upper Midscale | -3.24 | -3.63 | -3.64 | -3.73 | -5.77 | -3.44 | -2.81 | -4.59 |  | -3.75 | -3.29 |
| Midscale | -2.97 | -3.53 | -3.25 | -3.83 | -6.24 | -3.05 | -2.65 | -4.83 |  | -3.68 | -3.14 |
| Economy | -1.59 | -2.72 | -1.99 | -3.08 | -5.34 | -1.94 | -1.88 | -3.29 |  | -2.50 | -2.09 |
| Airbnb Top | -4.89 | -4.53 | -4.57 | -5.46 | -5.49 | -3.20 | -3.42 | -5.02 |  | -3.86 | -3.89 |
| Airbnb Upper Mid | -4.15 | -3.87 | -3.82 | -4.55 | -4.75 | -2.91 | -3.09 | -4.69 |  | -3.44 | -3.51 |
| Airbnb Lower Mid | -3.56 | -3.35 | -3.29 | -4.08 | -3.96 | -2.66 | -2.63 | -4.05 |  | -3.10 | -3.07 |
| Airbnb Low | -2.79 | -2.50 | -2.44 | -3.27 | -2.93 | -2.11 | -2.14 | -3.11 |  | -2.36 | -2.42 |

Table A6: Demand Cross-Price Elasticities by Accommodation Type

|  | Luxury | Upper scale | Up- | Upscale | Upper Midscale | Midscale | Economy | Airbnb Top | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Airbnb Up- } \\ & \text { per Mid } \end{aligned}$ | Airbnb <br> Lower Mid | Airbnb Low |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Luxury | -6.91 | 4.32 |  | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Upper Upscale | 2.44 | -2.02 |  | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Upscale | 0.03 | 0.04 |  | -4.24 | 0.78 | 0.31 | 0.67 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Upper Midscale | 0.03 | 0.04 |  | 1.32 | -3.99 | 0.32 | 0.69 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Midscale | 0.03 | 0.04 |  | 1.29 | 0.76 | -3.85 | 0.70 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Economy | 0.03 | 0.05 |  | 1.24 | 0.75 | 0.32 | -2.70 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.01 |
| Airbnb Top | 0.04 | 0.05 |  | 1.32 | 0.79 | 0.33 | 0.74 | -4.77 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.01 |
| Airbnb Upper Mid | 0.03 | 0.05 |  | 1.28 | 0.79 | 0.33 | 0.75 | 0.06 | -4.09 | 0.02 | 0.01 |
| Airbnb Lower Mid | 0.03 | 0.05 |  | 1.24 | 0.78 | 0.33 | 0.76 | 0.06 | 0.03 | -3.53 | 0.01 |
| Airbnb Low | 0.03 | 0.05 |  | 1.21 | 0.78 | 0.33 | 0.81 | 0.06 | 0.04 | 0.03 | -2.66 |

Table A7: Hotel Cost Estimates - Linear Component

| STR_name | Luxury | Upper Upscale | Upscale | Upper Midscale | Midscale | Economy |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Austin/TX | 201.986 | 80.726 | 68.202 | 67.162 | 53.633 | 20.935 |
| Boston/MA | 213.879 | 132.860 | 103.347 | 87.744 | 71.723 | 54.383 |
| Los Angeles/Long Beach/CA | 297.744 | 116.987 | 106.164 | 85.632 | 68.541 | 52.963 |
| Miami/Hialeah/FL | 258.789 | 115.807 | 77.140 | 61.519 | 67.784 | 62.662 |
| New York/NY | 324.235 | 170.181 | 138.283 | 111.068 | 94.698 | 96.956 |
| Oakland/CA | 122.613 | 97.103 | 97.839 | 78.801 | 59.553 | 43.948 |
| Portland/OR | 118.310 | 106.172 | 85.069 | 62.775 | 48.416 | 31.632 |
| San Francisco/San Mateo/CA | 200.413 | 126.514 | 91.844 | 87.878 | 60.522 | 51.452 |
| San Jose/Santa Cruz/CA | 137.933 | 115.922 | 98.412 | 86.231 | 69.545 | 50.333 |
| Seattle/WA | 141.331 | 134.288 | 104.541 | 84.645 | 64.181 | 42.936 |

This table displays the coefficient estimates for the linear part of the hotel cost functions from Equation 7.

Table A8: Hotel Cost Estimates - Increasing Component

| STR_name | Luxury | Upper Upscale | Upscale | Upper Midscale | Midscale | Economy |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Austin/TX | 12.294 | 7.341 | 7.889 | 8.680 | 12.075 | 12.726 |
| Boston/MA | 7.918 | 2.966 | 3.513 | 4.305 | 7.700 | 8.351 |
| Los Angeles/Long Beach/CA | 6.917 | 1.964 | 2.512 | 3.303 | 6.698 | 7.349 |
| Miami/Hialeah/FL | 21.719 | 8.249 | 3.766 | 17.314 | 18.106 | 21.500 |
| New York/NY | 5.599 | 0.646 | 3.844 | 1.194 | 4.635 | 8.030 |
| Oakland/CA | 1.648 | 2.195 | 1.986 | 5.380 | 6.681 |  |
| Portland/OR | 2.600 | 2.123 | 2.671 | 2.987 | 6.382 | 7.033 |
| San Francisco/San Mateo/CA | 7.076 | 1.565 | 3.159 | 3.462 | 6.857 | 7.508 |
| San Jose/Santa Cruz/CA | 6.300 |  | 1.895 | 3.951 | 7.346 | 7.997 |
| Seattle/WA |  |  | 2.687 | 6.081 |  |  |

This table displays the coefficient estimates for the increasing part of the hotel cost functions from Equation 7.

Table A9: Airbnb Mean Costs and Standard Deviation of Costs by City

|  | Mean Cost |  |  |  |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Airbnb Economy | Airbnb Midscale | Airbnb Upscale | Airbnb Luxury |
| Austin | 90.85 | 122.14 | 159.62 | 218.77 |
| Boston | 76.58 | 107.16 | 131.56 | 179.22 |
| Los Angeles | 83.05 | 114.52 | 138.41 | 184.96 |
| Miami | 100.78 | 134.33 | 170.73 | 233.39 |
| New York | 90.77 | 127.41 | 161.58 | 195.48 |
| Oakland | 69.23 | 94.66 | 110.99 | 144.80 |
| Portland | 64.70 | 82.18 | 98.60 | 127.53 |
| San Francisco | 94.20 | 129.34 | 159.46 | 186.56 |
| San Jose | 75.43 | 101.58 | 120.36 | 152.46 |
| Seattle | 72.56 | 93.56 | 118.10 | 156.38 |
| Standard Deviation | 21.52 | 31.48 | 43.94 | 59.82 |

This table displays the mean costs for Airbnb options by city in 2014. The last line displays the estimated standard deviation of costs within each option type. The costs are obtained from a $2 S L S$ regression where the normal inverse of the share of active listings booked is regressed on price, city-specific trends, year-month fixed effects, and city by day-of-week fixed effects. This is simply a transformation of Equation 8, as described in Section 4.1. The instruments for price are $\log$ Google searches for hotels and log number of passengers traveled. The regressions are run separately by each hotel scale and achieve $r$-squared values ranging between . 34 and .46 .
Table A10: Competitive Effects on Hotels

| City | Quantity (000's) |  | Revenue (MM) |  | Profit (MM) |  | Alt. Profit (MM) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Base | Price Adj. | Base | Price Adj. | Base | Price Adj. | Base | Price Adj. |
| Austin | 8241 | 8320 | 1043 | 1056 | 289 | 295 | 594 | 602 |
| Boston | 14025 | 14122 | 2477 | 2495 | 451 | 458 | 1345 | 1355 |
| Los Angeles | 28199 | 28608 | 4162 | 4218 | 333 | 349 | 2154 | 2182 |
| Miami | 14062 | 14198 | 2642 | 2668 | 555 | 566 | 1822 | 1840 |
| New York | 32526 | 33176 | 8830 | 9029 | 1665 | 1748 | 5440 | 5570 |
| Oakland | 5452 | 5514 | 635 | 644 | 51 | 54 | 149 | 153 |
| Portland | 6907 | 7006 | 795 | 807 | 78 | 82 | 313 | 318 |
| San Francisco | 15714 | 15958 | 3258 | 3313 | 501 | 522 | 1705 | 1735 |
| San Jose | 9525 | 9585 | 1410 | 1420 | 158 | 161 | 594 | 599 |
| Seattle | 11294 | 11384 | 1550 | 1564 | 201 | 206 | 752 | 760 |
| All | 145946 | 147871 | 26802 | 27214 | 4282 | 4440 | 14868 | 15115 |
| All (Compression) | 32552 | 32875 | 7239 | 7364 | 2505 | 2585 | 4414 | 4509 |
| All (Non Compression) | 113394 | 114996 | 19563 | 19849 | 1777 | 1855 | 10454 | 10606 |

This table displays hotel bookings, revenue, and profits with and without Airbnb. All calculations are for 2014. "Base" refers to the current scenario with Airbnb, "Price Adj." refers to the counterfactual scenario in which hotels adjust prices in response to the absence of Airbnb. Row "All" refers to the sum across all cities, and "All (Compression)" refers to the sum across cities for time periods when at least one hotel option in the city has an occupancy of at least $95 \%$. The costs used in the first profit calculation are those estimated from equation 7, except that we exclude the increasing cost component from the computed costs. The costs used in the second profit calculation are derived from imputed accounting costs combining the wage bill in the STR data and trends in the wages of maids. This is likely a lower bound on the true marginal cost of hotels.


[^0]:    ${ }^{20}-\frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial P_{a}} / \frac{\partial Q_{h}}{\partial P_{h}}$ is the partial derivative of hotel prices with respect to Airbnb prices computed by implicit function theorem on the constrained equilibrium condition, $Q_{h}\left(p_{h}, p_{a}\right)=K_{h}$. Analogously, $-\frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h} \partial p_{a}} \frac{\partial^{2} \Pi_{h}}{\partial p_{h}^{2}}$ is the partial derivative under the unconstrained equilibrium condition, $\partial \Pi_{h}\left(p_{h}, p_{a}\right) / \partial p_{h}=0$.

