# Profits, Scale Economies, and the <br> Gains from Trade and Industrial Policy 

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## Industrial Policy is on the Rise Globally

## The Rise of Industrial Policy

/ Global industrial policy interventions
2.0K


Source: "The New Economics of Industrial Policy," Reka Juhasz, Nathan Lane and Dani Rodrik, NBER (2023), figure 3.1

## Trade Restrictions Being Used to Pursue Industrial Policy Objectives

Made in China 2025

- 2015 Initiative to promote Chinese manufacturing via trade barriers and subsidies.

National Trade Council
Created in Dec 2016 to promote US
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## Renewed Interest in Old-but-Unresolved Policy Questions

These developments have resurfaced some old-but-unresolved policy questions:

1. is trade policy an effective tool for correcting inter-sectoral misallocation?

## 2. if not, should governments correct misallocation, unilaterally, with industrial subsidies to taroet industries?

3. or should they coordinate their industrial policies via deep trade agreements?

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## This Paper: Roadmap

Step \#1. characterize optimal trade and industrial policies in an important class of multi-industry, multi-country quantitative trade models where misallocation stems from scale economies or profit-generating markups

## Step \#2. estimate the structural parameters that govern the gains from trade and industrial policy in open economies

Step \#3. leverage the estimated parameters and optimal policy formulas to measure the gains from trade and industrial nolicy under various scenarios

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## This Paper: Overview of Findings

1. (2nd-best) Import tariffs and export subsidies are ineffective at correcting sectoral misallocation, even when designed optimally.

- This is due to an innate tension between allocative efficiency and the terms-of-trade in open economies

2. Unilateral adoption of targeted industrial policies is also ineffective, as it triggers immiserizing growth effects in most countries.

Internationally-coordinated industrial policies, however, deliver welfare gains that are more transformative that any unilateral policy intervention

- a deep agreement may be necessary to address free-riding


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Theoretical Model

## Overview of the Model

We adopt a generalized multi-country, multi-industry Krugman model:

- semi-parametric + general equilibrium
- tractably accommodates IO linkages
- accommodates the ToT-improving \& misallocation-correcting cases for policy
- is isomorphic to a Melitz-Pareto model or an Eaton-Kortum model with Marshallian externalities (Kucheryavyy et al., 2023).


## The Economic Environment

- Many countries: $i, j, n=1, \ldots, \mathcal{N}$
- Country $i$ is populated by $L_{i}$ workers who supply labor inelastically.
- Labor is the only (primary) factor of production
- Many industries: $k, g=1, \ldots, \mathcal{K}$
- Industries differ in terms of their trade elasticity, scale elasticity, etc.
- Each industry is served by many firms (index $\omega$ )


## Notation: Good's Indexes

- Goods are indexed by origin-destination-industry

$$
\operatorname{good} i j, k \sim \operatorname{origin} i-\text { destination } j \text { - industry } k
$$

## variables are indexed by origin-industry

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- Demand-side variables are indexed by destination-industry

$$
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## Preferences: Non-Parametric Across Industries

- Representative consumer's problem in country $i$

$$
\max _{\mathbf{Q}_{i}} U_{i}\left(\mathbf{Q}_{i}\right) \quad \text { s.t. } \sum_{k}\left(\tilde{P}_{i, k} Q_{i, k}\right)=Y_{i}
$$

- $\mathbf{Q}_{i} \equiv\left\{Q_{i, k}\right\} \sim$ composite industry-level consumption.
- $\tilde{\mathbf{P}}_{i} \equiv\left\{\tilde{P}_{i, k}\right\}$ ~"consumer" price index of industry-level composite.


## The Marshallian demand function for industry $k$ goods in market $i$



$$
\text { The Cobb-Douglas case: } U_{i}\left(\mathbf{Q}_{i}\right)=\prod_{k=1}^{\mathcal{K}} Q_{i, k}^{e_{i, k}}
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## Preferences: Nested-CES within Industries

- Within-industry utility aggregator:

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Q_{i, k}=\left(\sum_{j \in \mathbb{C}} Q_{j i, k}^{\frac{\sigma_{k}-1}{\sigma_{k}}}\right)^{\frac{\sigma_{k}}{\sigma_{k}-1}} \quad Q_{j i, k}=\left(\sum_{\omega \in \Omega_{j, k}} q_{j i, k}(\omega)^{\frac{\gamma_{k}-1}{\gamma_{k}}}\right)^{\frac{\gamma_{k}}{\gamma_{k}-1}}
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## - Nested-CES demand demand function:


firm-level demand

national-level demand

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cross-national aggregator

- Notation: aggregate expenditure shares

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\lambda_{j i, k} \equiv \underbrace{\frac{\tilde{P}_{j i, k} Q_{j i, k}}{\sum_{j} \tilde{P}_{j i, k} Q_{j i, k}}}_{\text {cross-national }}
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## Production and Firms

- Firms compete under monopolistic competition.
- variety-specific marginal cost (origin $i$-destination $j$-industry $k$ )

$$
c_{i j, k}(\omega)=\frac{\tau_{i j, k} w_{i}}{\varphi_{i, k}(\omega)}
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Entry is either free or restricted
Free Entry: endogenous number of firms + zero profits
Restricted Entry: fixed number of firms + positive profits

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this presentation will focus on this case

## Summarizing the Supply Side

- The producer price index of goods supplied by origin i-industry $k$ :

$$
P_{i j, k}=\text { constant } \times\left[\int_{\Omega_{i, k}} c_{i j, k}(\omega)^{1-\gamma_{k}} d \omega\right]^{\frac{1}{1-\gamma_{k}}} L_{i, k}^{-\frac{1}{\gamma_{k}-1}}
$$

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## The Rationales for Policy Intervention

Two rationales for policy intervention from country $i$ 's standpoint:

## 1. Correct inter-industry misallocation

- high-returns-to-scale (high- $\mu$ ) industries exhibit inefficiently low levels of output

2. Take advantage of unexploited
export side: firm-level markups do not internalize country $i$ 's collective export market power $\longrightarrow$ use policy to elicit a higher markup

Import side: leverage national-level monopsony power to deflate import prices

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\text { scale elasticity } \sim \mu_{k}=-\frac{\partial \ln P_{i n, k}}{\partial \ln L_{i, k}} \sim \frac{\partial \ln \mathrm{TFP}_{i}}{\partial \ln L_{i, k}}
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## Key Elasticities for Policy Evaluation in Open Economies

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## Policy Instruments

- Governments are afforded a complete set of tax instruments $\longrightarrow$ they can target each policy margin and obtain the first-best outcome from a unilateral standpoint.
- Taxes/subsidies create a wedge b/w producer prices $(P)$ and consumer prices ( $\tilde{P})$ :

$$
\tilde{P}_{i j, k}=\frac{1+t_{i j, k}}{\left(1+x_{i j, k}\right)\left(1+s_{i, k}\right)} P_{i j, k}
$$

- Tax revenues are rebated to the consumers lump-sum. ${ }^{1}$ Deminno mulbim

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Definition of equilibrium

[^5]
# Efficient Policy from <br> a Global Standpoint 

## First-Best: Optimal Policy Problem with all Instruments

- The globally efficient policy solves the following planning problem contingent on the provision of lump-sum transfers:

$$
\max _{\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{s}} \sum_{i \in \mathbb{C}}\left[\delta_{i} \log W_{i}(\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{s} ; \mathbb{X})\right] \quad \text { s.t. Equilbrium conditons. }
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The efficient policy features zero trade taxes and Pigouvian subsidies that restore marginal-cost-nricing olohally.

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# Unilaterally Optimal Policy Choices 

## First-Best: Optimal Policy Problem with all Instruments

- Country $i^{\prime}$ s unilaterally optimal policy problem



## First-Best: Optimal Policy Problem with all Instruments

- Country $i^{\prime}$ s unilaterally optimal policy problem import tariff


> Note: the solution to the above problem does not internalize country $i^{\prime}$ s ToT externality on the rest of the world $\longrightarrow$ it's sub-optimal from a global standpoint.

## First-Best: Optimal Policy Problem with all Instruments

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## Theorem 1: First-Best Unilaterally Optimal Policy

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1+s_{i, k}^{*}=\left(1+\mu_{k}\right)\left(1+\bar{s}_{i}\right)
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[import tariff] $1+t_{j i, k}^{*}=\left(1+\omega_{j i, k}\right)\left(1+\bar{t}_{i}\right)$
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## Special Case: Multi-Industry Armington Model

Theorem 1 describes optimal policy in the multi-industry Armington or Eaton-Kortum models, as a special case with constant-returns to scale industries ( $\mu_{k}=0$ ):

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## A Verbal Summary of Theorem 1

The unilaterally optimal (first-best) policy consists of

1. industrial subsidies ( $\mathbf{s}_{i}$ ) that promote high- $\mu$ (high-returns-to-scale) industries.
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Corollary: first-best optimal tariffs and export subsidies are misallocation-blind.

## Second-Best: Optimal Policy with Limited Policy Instruments

- Country $i^{\prime}$ s 2 nd-best optimal trade policy problem
import tariff

$$
\max _{\mathbf{t}_{i} \boldsymbol{x}_{i} \mathbf{s}_{i}} W_{i}\left(\mathbf{t}_{i}, \mathbf{x}_{i}, \mathbf{s}_{i} ; \mathbb{X}\right)
$$

$$
\text { s.t. }\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\text { Equilbrium conditons } \\
\mathbf{s}_{i}=\mathbf{0}
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Note: The restriction that $\mathbf{s}_{i}=0$ may reflect institutional barriers or political economy nressures

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## Theorem 2: Second-Best Import Tariffs and Export Subsides

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1+x_{i j, k}^{* *}=\frac{1+\mu_{k}}{1+\bar{\mu}_{i}}\left(1+x_{i j, k}^{*}\right)
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Intuition: 2nd-best import tariff \& export subsidies try to mimic the 1 st-best Pionouvian subsidies, hut are unable to this effectively as we see next!

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1+x_{i j, k}^{* *}=\frac{1+\mu_{k}}{1+\bar{\mu}_{i}}\left(1+x_{i j, k}^{*}\right) \\
\text { average } \mu_{k} \text { in economy } i
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The Efficacy of
Trade and Industrial Policy

## Tension between ToT and Allocative Efficiency

- Improving allocative efficiency necessitates directing resources toward high-returns-to-scale (high- $\mu$ ) industries.
- ToT improvement requires contracting exports (an thus output) (low- $\sigma$ ) industries, where import demand is less-elastic.


## Conjecture 1

- If $\operatorname{Cov}\left(\sigma_{k}, \mu_{k}\right)<0 \longrightarrow$ standalone trade policy has difficulty striking a balance between ToT \& misallocation-correcting objectives
- 2nd-best trade policy measures are, thus, ineffective, even when set optimally.


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- Improving allocative efficiency necessitates directing resources toward high-returns-to-scale (high- $\mu$ ) industries.
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Conjecture 2

- If $\operatorname{Cov}\left(\sigma_{k}, \mu_{k}\right)<0 \longrightarrow$ unilateral scale correction via industrial policy can worsen national welfare through adverse ToT effects
- These adverse consequences resemble the immiserizing growth paradox


## Tension between ToT and Misallocation-Correcting Objectives



Consequences of Unilateral Scale/Markup Correction


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Consequences of Unilateral Scale/Markup Correction


## The Case for Industrial Policy Coordination

|  |  | Country $j\left(\% \Delta W_{j}\right)$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\mathbf{s}_{j}=\mathbf{0}$ |  |  |  | $\mathbf{s}_{j}=\boldsymbol{\mu}$ |
| Country $i\left(\% \Delta W_{i}\right)$ | $\mathbf{s}_{i}=\mathbf{0}$ | $(0 \%, 0 \%)$ | $(3.7 \%,-1.2 \%)$ |  |  |
|  | $\mathbf{s}_{i}=\boldsymbol{\mu}$ | $(-1.2 \%, 3.7 \%)$ | $(2.7 \%, 2.7 \%)$ |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

- If countries restrict themselves to efficient industrial policy choices, they my avoid implementation to escape immiserizing growth effects $\longrightarrow$ race to the bottom


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## Estimating the Key Policy Parameters

## The Parameters Governing the Gains from Policy

- The gains from optimal policy depend crucially on two sets of elasticities: ${ }^{2}$

1. industry-level scale elasticity $\left(\mu_{k}\right)$
2. industry-level trade elasticity $\left(\sigma_{k}-1\right)$

The past literature often uses ad-hoc normalizations to recover $\mu_{k}$
perfectly competitive models $\longrightarrow \mu_{k}=0$
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## Overview of Estimation Strategy

- We jointly estimate $\mu_{k}$ and $\sigma_{k}$ to obtain credible estimates for $\operatorname{Cov}\left(\mu_{k}, \sigma_{k}\right)$
- Estimating equation : firm-level nested-CES demand function ( $t$ indexes year)
$\ln \tilde{x}_{j i, k t}(\omega)=-\left(\sigma_{k}-1\right) \ln \tilde{p}_{j i, k t}(\omega)+\left[1-\frac{\sigma_{k}-1}{\gamma_{k}-1}\right] \ln \lambda_{j i, k t}(\omega)+D_{i, k t}+\varepsilon_{\omega j i k t}$
firm-leve sales $(\tilde{x}=\tilde{p} q)$
firm-level price
within-national market share

Data source: Universe of Colombian import transactions during 2007-2013, covering 226,288 exporting firms from 251 different countries.

Identification strategy: leverage high-frequency trade data to construct a
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## Estimation Results

| Sector | ISIC code | Estimated Parameter |  |  | Obs. | Weak Ident. Test |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | trade elasticity $\sigma_{k}-1$ | scale elast. $\times$ trade elast. $\mu_{k} \times\left(\sigma_{k}-1\right)$ | scale elasticity $\mu_{k}$ |  |  |
| Agriculture \& Mining | 100-1499 | $\begin{aligned} & 6.227 \\ & (2.345) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.891 \\ & (0.148) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.143 \\ (0.059) \end{gathered}$ | 11,568 | 2.40 |
| Food | 1500-1699 | $\begin{gathered} 2.303 \\ (0.765) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.905 \\ (0.046) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.393 \\ (0.132) \end{gathered}$ | 19,615 | 6.27 |
| Textiles, Leather, \& Footwear | 1700-1999 | $\begin{gathered} 3.359 \\ (0.353) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.753 \\ (0.022) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.224 \\ (0.024) \end{gathered}$ | 125,120 | 66.65 |
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| Rubber \& Plastic | 2500-2599 | $\begin{aligned} & 5.157 \\ & (1.176) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.721 \\ & (0.062) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.140 \\ (0.034) \end{gathered}$ | 106,398 | 7.16 |
| Minerals | 2600-2699 | $\begin{gathered} 5.283 \\ (1.667) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.881 \\ & (0.108) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.167 \\ (0.056) \end{gathered}$ | 27,952 | 3.53 |
| Basic \& Fabricated Metals | 2700-2899 | $\begin{gathered} 3.004 \\ (0.484) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.627 \\ & (0.030) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.209 \\ (0.035) \end{gathered}$ | 153,102 | 20.39 |
| Machinery \& Equipment | 2900-3099 | $\begin{gathered} 7.750 \\ (1.330) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.927 \\ & (0.072) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.120 \\ (0.023) \end{gathered}$ | 263,797 | 12.01 |
| Electrical \& Optical Equipment | 3100-3399 | $\begin{gathered} 1.235 \\ (0.323) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.682 \\ (0.017) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.552 \\ (0.145) \end{gathered}$ | 257,775 | 26.27 |
| Transport Equipment | 3400-3599 | $\begin{gathered} 2.805 \\ (0.834) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.363 \\ (0.036) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.129 \\ (0.041) \end{gathered}$ | 85,920 | 5.50 |
| N.E.C. \& Recycling | 3600-3800 | $\begin{aligned} & 6.169 \\ & (1.012) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.938 \\ (0.090) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.152 \\ (0.029) \end{gathered}$ | 70,264 | 11.57 |

## Summary of Estimated Scale Elasticities

High returns to scale sectors

1. Electrical \& Optical Equipment
2. Petroleum
3. Paper

Low returns to scale sectors

1. Agriculture \& Mining
2. Wood
3. Machinery Equipment

When using our estimated scale elasticities, researchers must ensure to retain the covariance hetween scale \&, trade elasticities, Cors ( $1, \sigma, \sigma$ ) hy either.
using our estimated scale elasticities $\left(\mu_{k}\right)$ in conjunction with our estimated trade clasticitios $(\sigma-1)$ which implios $C$ orr $(\mu, \sigma,) \sim-0.65$
estimating the trade elasticity externally, and recovering the scale elasticity from our estimated product of the two elasticities, $\mu_{k}\left(\sigma_{k}-1\right)$

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- When using our estimated scale elasticities, researchers must ensure to retain the covariance between scale \& trade elasticities, $\operatorname{Cov}\left(\mu_{k}, \sigma_{k}\right)$, by either:

1. using our estimated scale elasticities $\left(\mu_{k}\right)$ in conjunction with our estimated trade elasticities $\left(\sigma_{k}-1\right)$, which implies $\operatorname{Cov}\left(\mu_{k}, \sigma_{k}\right) \approx-0.65$
2. estimating the trade elasticity externally, and recovering the scale elasticity from our estimated product of the two elasticities, $\mu_{k}\left(\sigma_{k}-1\right)$

Quantifying the Gains from Policy

## Sketch of Quantitative Strategy

- Compute the counterfactual equilibrium under optimal policy:
- (1) equilibrium allocation depends on optimal policy
- (2) optimal policy depends on equilibrium allocation
- jointly solve the systems of equations implied by (1) and (2).

Sufficient statistics for counterfactual policy analysis
$\mathcal{B}_{v} \equiv\left\{\lambda_{n i, k}, e_{n, k}, r_{n i, k}, \rho_{i, k}, w_{n} \bar{L}_{n}, \bar{Y}_{n}\right\}_{n i, k}$

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## Data Sources

## World Input-Output Database (2000-2014)

- production and expenditure by origin $\times$ destination $\times$ industry.
- 44 Countries + an aggregate of the rest of the world
- 56 Industries

UNCTAD-TRAINS Database:

- average industry-level tariffs for all $44 \times 43$ country pairs.


## The Gains from Unilaterally Optimal Policies (w/o retaliation)

## Average Gains from Policy (\% $\Delta$ Real GDP)



2nd-best trade restrictions $\square 0.59 \%$ 1.23\%

3rd-best import restrictions $\square 0.46 \%$


## The Immiserizing Growth Effects of Unilateral Industrial Policy

Welfare consequences of corrective industrial subsidies under free entry

- Unilateral adoption $\longrightarrow \mathbf{0 . 7 0 \%}$ decline in real GDP
- Coordinated via a deep agreement $\longrightarrow \mathbf{3 . 2 2} \%$ rise in real GDP

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## The Prospective Gains from Deep Cooperation



## A Stronger Case for International Cooperation?

## Restricted Entry



Free Entry


## Conclusions

- Import tariffs and export subsidies are an ineffective second-best measure for correcting sectoral misallocation due to scale economies
- Unilateral adoption of first-best industrial policies is also ineffective, as it leads to immiserizing growth effects in most countries.
- Industrial policies coordinated internationally via a deep agreement are more transformative than any unilateral policy intervention.

Thank you

## References

## Equilibrium for a given Vector of Taxes, $\mathbb{T}=(\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{s})$

1. Consumption choices are optimal:
2. Production choices are optimal:

3. Wage payments equal net sales:
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## Equilibrium for a given Vector of Taxes, $\mathbb{T}=(\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{s})$

1. Consumption choices are optimal: $\left\{\begin{array}{l}Q_{j i, k}=\mathcal{D}_{j i, k}\left(Y_{i}, \tilde{\mathbf{P}}_{i}\right) \\ \tilde{P}_{j i, k}=\frac{1+t_{j i, k}}{\left(1+x_{j i, k}\right)\left(1+s_{j, k}\right)} P_{j i, k}\end{array}\right.$
2. Production choices are optimal: $P_{i j, k}=$ constant $_{i j} \times w_{i}\left(\sum_{n} \tau_{i n, k} Q_{i n, k}\right)^{-\frac{\mu_{k}}{1+\mu_{k}}}$
3. Wage payments equal net sales: $w_{i} L_{i}=\sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{N}} \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{K}}\left[P_{i j, k} Q_{i j, k}\right]$
4. Income equals wage payments plus tax revenues: $Y_{i}=w_{i} L_{i}+\mathcal{R}_{i}(\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{x}, \mathrm{s})$

## Our Dual Approach to Characterizing T*

Step 1-Reformulate the optimal policy problem

- The government in $i$ chooses optimal consumer prices and abatement levels

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\max _{\mathbb{T}_{i}} W_{i}\left(\mathbb{T}_{i} ; \mathbb{X}_{i}\right) \quad[\mathbf{P} 1] \quad \xrightarrow{\text { reformulate }} \max _{\mathbb{P}_{i}} W_{i}\left(\mathbb{P}_{i} ; \mathbb{X}_{i}\right) \quad\left[\mathbf{P} 1^{\prime}\right]
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Step 2-Derive F.O.C.s for the reformulated problem $\mathrm{P}^{\prime}$

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1. wages $\mathbf{w}=\left\{w_{i}\right\}$ are constant
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- We use the primitive properties of Marshallian demand (i.e., Cournot aggregation, homogeneity of degree zero) to prove that the system of F.O.C.s admits a unique and trivial solution.

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## Identification Strategy

Take first differences to eliminate the firm-product FE
$\ln \tilde{x}_{j, k t}(\omega)=-\left(\sigma_{k}-1\right) \Delta \ln \tilde{p}_{j, k t}(\omega)+\left(1-\mu_{k}\left[\sigma_{k}-1\right]\right) \Delta \ln \lambda_{j, k t}(\omega)+D_{k t}+\Delta \varepsilon_{\omega j k t}$

Identification Challenge: $\Delta \ln p$ (and $\Delta \ln \lambda$ ) maybe correlated with $\Delta \varepsilon$.

Identification Strategy: leverage high frequency transaction level data to
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## Shift-Share Instrument

- Compile an external database on monthly exchange rates.
- Interact the change in monthly exchange rates w/ prior monthly export shares to construct a variety-specific shift-share IV:
$z_{j, k t}(\omega)=\sum_{m=1}^{12}[\text { share of month } m \text { exports }]_{t-1} \times[\text { YoY change in month } m \text { exchange rate }]_{t}$
measures firm-level exposure to cost shocks that channel through exchange rate movements.


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```
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## Accounting for Firm-Selection à la Melitz-Chaney

## Return




## Gains Implied by $\sigma_{k}$ and $\mu_{k}$ Estimated in Levels

Return




[^0]:    Note: lump-sum transfers are isomorphic to uniform consumption subsidies in the present setup because the labor supply is inelastic-see Dixit, 1980 and Lashkaripour, 2020.

[^1]:    - Tax revenues are rebated to the consumers lump-sum. ${ }^{1}$ Dation ocatibrim

[^2]:    Note: lump-sum transfers are isomorphic to uniform consumption subsidies in the present setup because the labor supply is inelastic-see Dixit, 1980 and Lashkaripour, 2020.

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[^6]:    ${ }^{2}$ Note: To account for firm-selection à la Melitz-Chaney, we need to estimate the shape of the Pareto distribution in addition to $\sigma_{k}$ and $\mu_{k}=1 /\left(\gamma_{k}-1\right)$.

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