

Ownership Structure and Economic Growth

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Share

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- Two inter-firm externalities of innovation (Aghion and Howitt, 1992; Bloom et al., 2013):
 - Business-stealing effect
 - + Technology spillover effect
- The aggregate effects of common ownership on R&D allocation and growth remain unknown

Merger Guidelines

Quantitative Endogenous Growth Model with Ownership Structure

- Common ownership and technology spillovers span across industries \implies
Firms internalize intra- and inter-industry externalities
 - Innovation networks: Scherer (1982); Acemoglu et al. (2016); Liu and Ma (2024)

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if any, strategic interactions occur only within an industry
 - Monopolistic competition: Romer (1990); Klette and Kortum (2004)
 - Oligopoly with 2–4 firms in each industry: Aghion et al. (2001); Cavenaile et al. (2023)

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- My framework is based on the endogenous growth model by Hopenhayn and Okumura (2025)
 - Hundreds or thousands of oligopolists engage in a dynamic R&D game
 - Product market rivalry networks (Pellegrino, 2024) and innovation networks
 - LQ differential game avoids the curse of dimensionality

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- This paper incorporates ownership networks into Hopenhayn and Okumura (2025) \Rightarrow
Overlap of networks determines the internalization of the two externalities

Model Environment

- Continuous time

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- Each firm invests in R&D to accumulate knowledge capital $z_{i,t}$
- Strategic interaction through three (exogenous) inter-firm networks

Network	Notation	Measurement
Ownership	$K = [\kappa_{ij}]$	Weight firm i places on firm j 's value
Product market	$\Sigma = [\sigma_{ij}]$	Substitutability between firms i and j 's products
Innovation	$\Omega = [\omega_{ij}]$	Technology spillover through $z_{i,t}$ and $z_{j,t}$

Key Properties of the Model

- (Stochastic) Balanced growth path with endogenous growth rate

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- More overlap in K and $\Omega \implies$ internalize technology spillovers $\implies R\&D \uparrow$

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Identification of Networks

- Identify networks for publicly listed patenting firms in the U.S. (>700 firms)

Network	Notation	Measurement
Ownership	$K = [\kappa_{ij}]$	Institutional investor shareholdings
Product market	$\Sigma = [\sigma_{ij}]$	Business descriptions (Hoberg and Phillips, 2016)
Innovation	$\Omega = [\omega_{ij}]$	Patent classifications (Jaffe, 1986)

Impact of Common Ownership on R&D and Production

Production ownership structure R&D ownership structure	Dispersed Dispersed	Dispersed Common	Common Common
Total Output (Dispersed: 100)	100	100	97.3
Total R&D (Dispersed: 100)	100	69.8	86.4
Economic Growth Rate (%)	1.32	1.20	1.29
CE Welfare (Dispersed: 100)	100	99.4	97.3
Firm Value Share (%)	26.6	27.2	34.1

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- Less product market competition \implies Private return on R&D \uparrow
- Internalization of business-stealing > technology spillovers + less product market competition

Conclusion

- Quantitative Schumpeterian growth model with ownership structure
 - Utilizes micro data and computational capabilities
- Common ownership in the U.S.:
 1. Internalization of business-stealing effect $\Rightarrow g \downarrow\downarrow$
 2. Internalization of technology spillover effect $\Rightarrow g \uparrow$
- Potential applications:
 - M&A / FDI
 - Conglomerate / Cross-shareholdings (e.g. Japan, Korea, Germany, AI companies AI)

Related Literature

- Competition and Innovation:

d'Aspremont and Jacquemin (1988); Kamien et al. (1992); Ericson and Pakes (1995); Aghion et al. (2001, 2005); Acemoglu and Akcigit (2012); Aghion et al. (2013); Bloom et al. (2013); Lopez and Vives (2019); Peters (2020); Akcigit and Ates (2021, 2023); Cavenaile et al. (2023), **Hopenhayn and Okumura (2025)**

Endogenous growth model with ownership networks

- Common Ownership:

Rubinstein and Yaari (1983); Rotemberg (1984); Gutierrez and Philippon (2017); He and Huang (2017); Azar et al. (2018, 2022); Azar and Vives (2021); Anton et al. (2023), **Kini et al. (2024); Anton et al. (2025)**

Macroeconomic implications of common ownership for R&D allocation and growth

- Oligopoly / Hedonic Demand:

Lancaster (1966); Rosen (1974); Berry et al. (1995); Nevo (2001); Neary (2003); Atkeson and Burstein (2008); Autor et al. (2020), **Pellegrino (2024); Ederer and Pellegrino (2024)**

Dynamic general equilibrium model / R&D / technology spillovers

Preference and Production Technology (1/2)

- Continuous time
- Risk-neutral representative household:

$$U_t = \int_t^{\infty} \exp(-\rho(s-t)) C_s ds$$

- Production labor is inelastically supplied
- Final goods are used for consumption and R&D
- Firm $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ produces a single differentiated intermediate good
- Linear-quadratic aggregator (Pellegrino, 2024):

$$Y_t = \mathbf{q}_t^T \mathbf{b}_t - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{q}_t^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{q}_t$$

- $\mathbf{b}_t = [b_{1,t}, \dots, b_{n,t}]^T$: product quality vector (endogenous)
- $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = [\sigma_{ij}]$: product-market rivalry matrix (exogenous) $(\sigma_{ii} = 1)$

Preference and Production Technology (2/2)

- Final goods price is normalized to 1

- Linear inverse demand:

$$p_{i,t} = b_{i,t} - \sum_{j \neq i} \sigma_{ij} q_{j,t} - q_{i,t}$$

- CRS intermediate-good production technology:

$$q_{i,t} = a_{i,t} l_{i,t}$$

- Each firm i has knowledge capital $z_{i,t}$
- Firms allocate knowledge capital to improve labor productivity and product quality:

$$\zeta a_{i,t} + b_{i,t} = z_{i,t}$$

Law of Motion of Knowledge Capital

$$\dot{z}_t = \underbrace{\Omega z_t}_{\text{Tech Spillover}} + \underbrace{\mu x_t}_{\text{R\&D}} - \underbrace{\delta z_t}_{\text{Depreciation}}$$

- $\Omega = [\omega_{ij}]$: technology spillover matrix / innovation networks
- $x_{i,t} = \sqrt{d_{i,t}}$
 - $d_{i,t}$: R&D input in terms of final good
 - Innovation elasticity $d \log(\text{firm value}) / d \log(\text{R\&D cost}) = 0.5$
- μ, δ : positive scalars
- Can incorporate (idiosyncratic / aggregate) shocks (not today)

Market Clearing

- Final good market clearing:

$$Y_t = C_t + \underbrace{\sum_i d_{i,t}}_{\text{R\&D input}}$$

- Inelastic production labor supply:

$$L = \sum_i l_{i,t}$$

Ownership Networks: Common Ownership Weights

- $\mathbf{K} = [\kappa_{ij}]$: common ownership weights that firm i places on the value of firm j ($\kappa_{ii} = 1$)
- More overlapping ownership between firms i and $j \implies$ higher κ_{ij}
- $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{I}$: dispersed ownership (each firm maximizes its own value)
- $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{1}_{n \times n}$: monopoly (maximizes total producer surplus)

Proportional Influence (Rotemberg, 1984)

- Baseline corporate governance assumption to map shareholding data to κ_{ij}
- $o \in \{1, 2, \dots, n_o\}$: owners
- s_{io} : the proportion of shares in firm i owned by owner o where $\sum_o s_{io} = 1$
- \widehat{V}_i : value of firm i
- $\widetilde{V}_o \equiv \sum_i s_{io} \widehat{V}_i$: value of owner o
- Firm i 's objective:

$$\sum_o s_{io} \widetilde{V}_o \propto \sum_j \kappa_{ij} \widehat{V}_j$$

where

$$\kappa_{ij} \equiv \frac{\mathbf{s}_i^T \mathbf{s}_j}{\mathbf{s}_i^T \mathbf{s}_i} = \cos(\mathbf{s}_i, \mathbf{s}_j) \sqrt{\frac{\text{Investor HHI}_j}{\text{Investor HHI}_i}} \quad \text{where} \quad \mathbf{s}_i \equiv [s_{i1}, \dots, s_{io}, \dots, s_{in_o}]^T$$

Markov Perfect Equilibrium

- Given other firms' strategies, firm i chooses $\{a_{i,t}, b_{i,t}, q_{i,t}, x_{i,t}\}_{t \geq 0}$ to maximize

$$\max_{\{a_{i,t}, b_{i,t}, q_{i,t}, x_{i,t}\}_{t \geq 0}} V_i(z_0) \equiv \int_0^\infty \exp(-\rho t) \sum_j \kappa_{ij} \left(\underbrace{\pi_{j,t}}_{\text{Gross Profit}} - \underbrace{d_{j,t}}_{\text{R&D Cost}} \right) dt$$

- Markov perfect equilibrium can be solved by the following steps:
 - Static Game: For each t , choose $\{a_{i,t}, b_{i,t}, q_{i,t}\}$ to maximize $\sum_j \kappa_{ij} \pi_{j,t}$.
 - Dynamic Game: Given the static strategy profile, choose $\{x_{i,t}\}$ to maximize $V_i(z_0)$

Static Cournot Game

- Firm i 's static objective is given by:

$$\sum_j \kappa_{ij} \pi_{j,t}$$

where the profit (before R&D cost) of firm i is given by:

$$\pi_{i,t} = p_{i,t} q_{i,t} - w_t l_{i,t} = q_{i,t} \left(b_{i,t} - \sum_{j \neq i} \sigma_{ij} q_{j,t} - q_{i,t} - \frac{w_t}{a_{i,t}} \right)$$

Assumption

Given w_t , $z_{i,t}$, and $\{a_{j,t}, b_{j,t}, q_{j,t}\}_{j \neq i}$ and $\zeta a_{i,t} + b_{i,t} = z_{i,t}$, firm i chooses $a_{i,t}$, $b_{i,t}$, and $q_{i,t}$ to maximize $\sum_j \kappa_{ij} \pi_{j,t}$

Dynamic R&D Game \implies Linear-Quadratic Differential Game

- Given other firms' R&D $\{x_{j,t}\}_{j \neq i, t \geq 0}$, firm i chooses R&D $\{x_{i,t}\}_{t \geq 0}$ to maximize

$$\max_{\{x_{i,t}\}_{t \geq 0}} V_i(z_0) \equiv \int_0^{\infty} \exp(-\rho t) \sum_j \kappa_{ij} (\pi_{j,t} - d_{j,t}) dt$$

- Gross profit: $\sum_j \kappa_{ij} \pi_{j,t} = z_t^T Q^i z_t$
- R&D cost: $\sum_j \kappa_{ij} d_{j,t} = \sum_j \kappa_{ij} x_{j,t}^2$
- Law of motion: $\dot{z}_t = \Omega z_t + \mu x_t - \delta z_t$
- Firm i 's HJB equation:

$$\rho V_i(z) = \max_{x_i} \left\{ z^T Q^i z - \sum_j \kappa_{ij} x_j^2 + V_z^i(z) [\Omega z + \mu x - \delta z] \right\}$$

HJB Equations \Rightarrow Riccati Equations

- Guess and verify $V_i(z) = z^T \mathbf{X}^i z$ (for any z)
- \mathbf{X}^i is the solution of stacked algebraic Riccati equations

Riccati Equations

- Public & patenting firms in the U.S. in our dataset > 700 firms \Rightarrow
$$\underbrace{700 \times 700 \times \dots \times 700}_{\text{size of } \mathbf{X}^i} = 343 \text{ million undetermined coefficients (< 1 min on my laptop)}$$

Schumpeterian growth model with oligopolistic competition	Computation time	# of firms in each game	Productivity space
Cavenaile et al. (2023)	$O(2^n)$	4	6 grid
HO (2025), This paper	$O(n^4)$	>700	Continuous

Transition

BGP

- Linear R&D strategy: $x_t = \mu \tilde{X} z_t$ where $\tilde{X} = [X_1^1 \cdots X_n^1]^T$ and X_i^i is the i th column of X^i
- The law of motion is rewritten as $\dot{z}_t = \Phi z_t$ where

$$\Phi \equiv \underbrace{\Omega}_{\text{Tech Spillover}} + \underbrace{\mu^2 \tilde{X}}_{\text{R&D}} - \underbrace{\delta I}_{\text{Depreciation}}$$

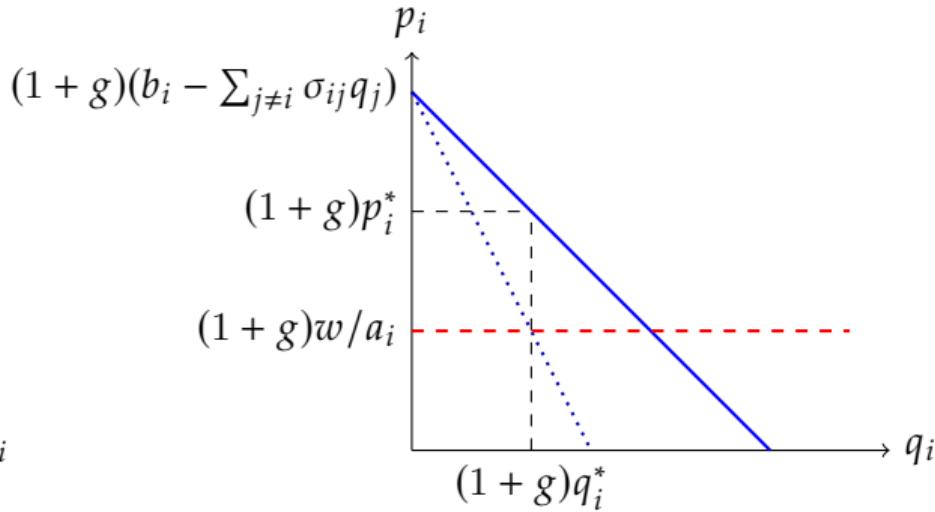
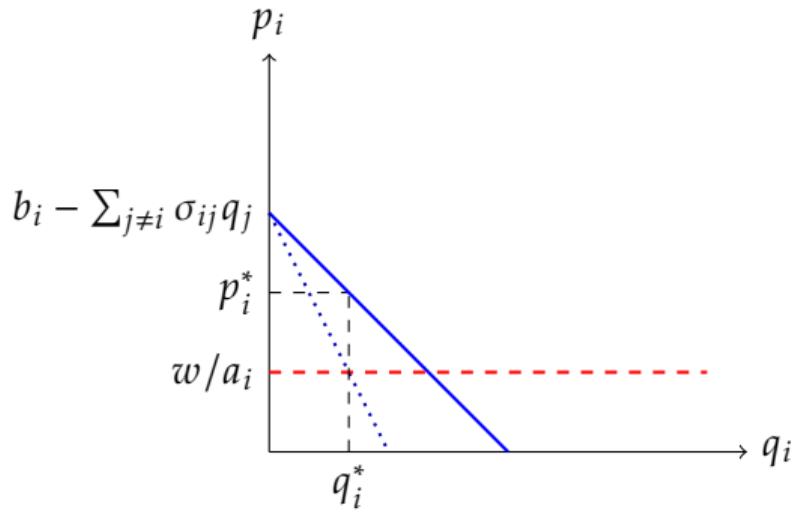
Theorem

If Φ is irreducible, then:

- (i) There exists a largest positive eigenvalue of Φ , g , and an associated positive eigenvector, z^* .
- (ii) There exists a globally stable BGP such that the knowledge capital growth rate of all firms is g , and the knowledge capital distribution is a scalar multiple of z^* .

- Proof: Perron–Frobenius Theorem
- “ Φ is irreducible” \iff “All firms are directly or indirectly connected technologically”

CES on BGP despite Non-CES Demand



- $a_i, b_i, q_i (= a_i l_i), p_i$, and w/a_i grow at the same rate g
- (i) (consumer surplus / producer surplus) and (ii) markup stay the same
- Demand elasticity is constant on BGP despite linear demand

Lifetime Utility

- Lifetime utility is expressed in quadratic form:

$$\int_t^{\infty} \exp(-\rho s) C_s ds = z_t^T X z_t$$

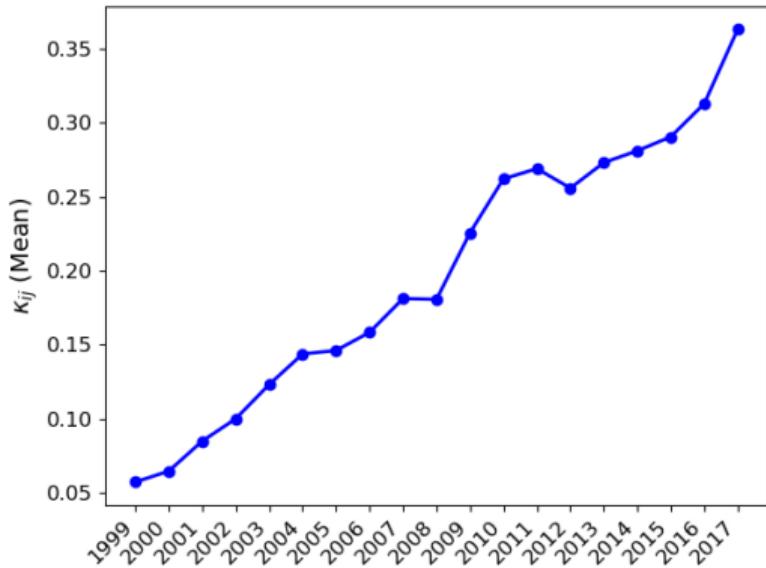
x

- Solve the equilibrium once \implies we can compute lifetime utility for any initial z_t
- This property holds for expected utility even if we introduce (idiosyncratic / aggregate) shocks
- In the exercise, we focus on the transition dynamics starting from the observed initial z_t

Common Ownership Weights K

- Backus et al. (2021) construct a dataset on institutional investors' holdings based on Form 13F
- Baseline: proportional influence (Rotemberg, 1984)

Proportional Influence



Product-Market Rivalry Σ

- Hoberg and Phillips (2016) estimates product proximity using business descriptions in 10-K
- Pellegrino (2024) estimates α to align with the cross-price elasticity of demand

$$\underbrace{\sigma_{ij}}_{\text{substitutability}} = \alpha \times \text{product proximity between } i \text{ and } j \quad (i \neq j)$$

micro estimates

Technological Proximity $\tilde{\Omega}$

- Technological profile of firm i
 - The vector of the share of patents held by firm i in each technology class
 - Baseline: group-level patent classifications (≈ 4000), five years window
- Jaffe (1986) technological proximity measure $\tilde{\omega}_{ij}$:
 - Cosine similarity of the technological profiles between firms i and j
 - Impose $\sum_{j \neq i} \tilde{\omega}_{ij} = 1$ for each i

Distribution of Knowledge Capital z_t

Variables	Identification
$\pi_{i,t}$	Gross profit (before R&D cost) = Revenue – Cost of goods sold
q_t	$\pi_{i,t} = \sum_j \kappa_{ij} \sigma_{ij} q_{i,t} q_{j,t}$
ζ/L	Matches sample firms' cost share (average markup)
z_t	$z_t = \left\{ 2 \frac{\zeta}{L} \mathbf{1}_{n \times n} + \Sigma + K \circ \Sigma \right\} q_t$

- Observed z_t is used to
 1. estimate the law of motion of knowledge capital, and
 2. identify the initial distribution of knowledge capital

Technology Spillover $\Omega = \beta \times$ Technological Proximity $\tilde{\Omega}$

First Stage

$$\log z_{i,t+1} - \log z_{i,t} = \beta \sum_{j \neq i} \tilde{\omega}_{ij,t} \frac{z_{j,t}}{z_{i,t}} + \text{Controls}_{i,t} + \epsilon_{i,t}$$

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	$\log z_{i,t+1} - \log z_{i,t}$	$\log z_{i,t+1} - \log z_{i,t}$	$\log z_{i,t+1} - \log z_{i,t}$
$\sum_{j \neq i} \tilde{\omega}_{ij,t} \frac{z_{j,t}}{z_{i,t}}$	0.026** (0.010)	0.024** (0.010)	0.073* (0.038)
$\frac{x_{i,t}}{z_{i,t}}$		0.514*** (0.063)	
Firm & Year FE	✓	✓	✓
Controls	✓	✓	✓
IV			✓
Observations	14,576	14,576	14,576

SEs clustered by years and 4-digit NAICS industries are reported in parentheses. Control variables include $\log z_{i,t}$, firm fixed effects, and year fixed effects. * $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

- IV: User cost of R&D, driven by federal and state-specific rules variations (Bloom et al., 2013)

Identification: Summary

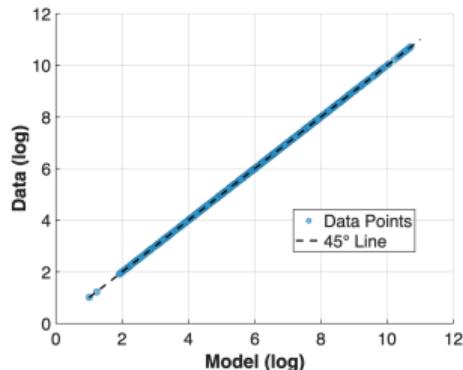
- Publicly available data + Compustat

Notation	Description	Value	Source
Σ	Product proximity		Form 10-K, Hoberg and Phillips (2016)
$\tilde{\Omega}$	Technological proximity		USPTO, Patent classification
K	Common ownership weights		Form 13F, Backus et al. (2021)
α	Product proximity → Substitutability	0.120	Pellegrino (2024)
β	Technological proximity → Spillovers	0.024	Estimated from the law of motion
ζ/L	Labor-augmenting efficiency	0.004	Compustat, Cost of goods sold
ρ	Discount rate	0.100	
μ	R&D efficiency	0.066	2.6% R&D share (moment match)
δ	Depreciation rate	0.017	1.2% economic growth rate (moment match)

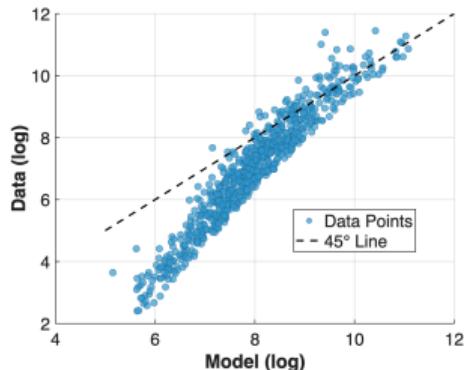
Network Correlation

Model vs. Data: Firm-level Profits, Sales, and R&D

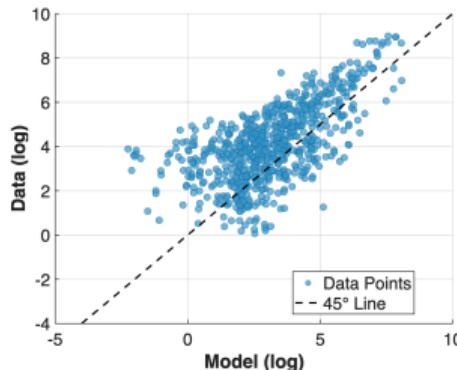
- Comparison of firm-level model-generated values (x -axis) with observed data (y -axis)



(a) Log of Profit (Targeted)



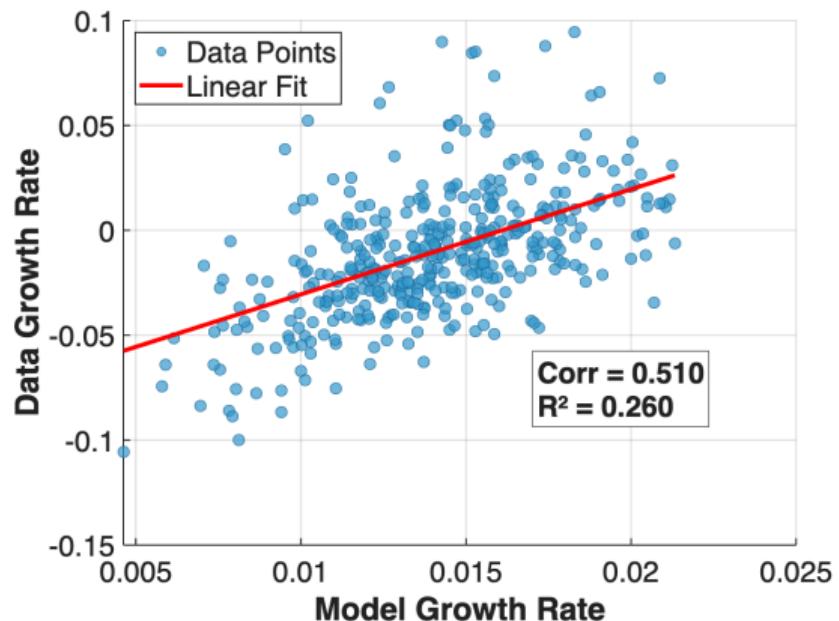
(b) Log of Sales



(c) Log of R&D Expenditure

Model vs. Data: Firm-level Growth Rates

- Data: Average growth rate of $z_{i,t}$ between 2010 and 2017
- Model: Networks and initial knowledge capital in 2010



Model vs. Data: Comparison with Anton et al. (2025)

- Anton et al. (2025) estimates the effect of interaction b/w common ownership and technology/product proximity on R&D

$$\log(1 + \text{R\&D}_{it}/A_{it}) = \gamma_1 \log \left(\sum_{j \neq i} \kappa_{ijt} \text{tech proximity}_{ijt} G_{jt} \right) + \gamma_2 \log \left(\sum_{j \neq i} \kappa_{ijt} \text{product proximity}_{ijt} G_{jt} \right) \\ + \text{Controls}_{it} + \text{Firm FEs}_i + \text{Year FEs}_t + \varepsilon_{ijt}$$

	R&D _{it}	A _{it}	G _{it}	Sample period
Anton et al. (2025)	Observed R&D	Assets	R&D stocks	1985–2015
Our model	Model-generated R&D	Knowledge capital	Knowledge capital	1999–2017

	Anton et al. (2025)	Our model
$\log \left(\sum_{j \neq i} \kappa_{ijt} \text{tech proximity}_{ijt} G_{jt} \right)$	0.00513** (0.00226)	0.00194*** (0.000272)
$\log \left(\sum_{j \neq i} \kappa_{ijt} \text{product proximity}_{ijt} G_{jt} \right)$	-0.00457** (0.00222)	-0.00547*** (0.000693)

Counterfactual Ownership Structures

Ownership Structure	Description
Baseline	Observed common ownership structure in 2017
Mean=1999	$\kappa_{ij,2017}^{M1999} = \text{const} \times \kappa_{ij,2017}$ and $E\left[\kappa_{ij,2017}^{M1999}\right] = E\left[\kappa_{ij,1999}\right]$ for $j \neq i$
Dispersed	$K^D = I$
Monopoly	$K^M = \mathbf{1}_{n \times n}$

Total R&D Expenditure

- For the moment, assume that ownership structure only affects R&D decisions
 - Product-market competition: firms maximize gross profits (dispersed ownership)

Total R&D in 2017 (Optimal R&D: 100)	Ownership Structure			
	Dispersed	Mean=1999	Baseline	Monopoly
Both	40.5	38.7	28.3	21.4
Only Business Steal				
$\Omega = [0]$	52.0	49.7	36.4	30.7
Only Tech Spill				
$\Sigma = I, \zeta/L = 0$	13.6	14.3	19.3	27.8

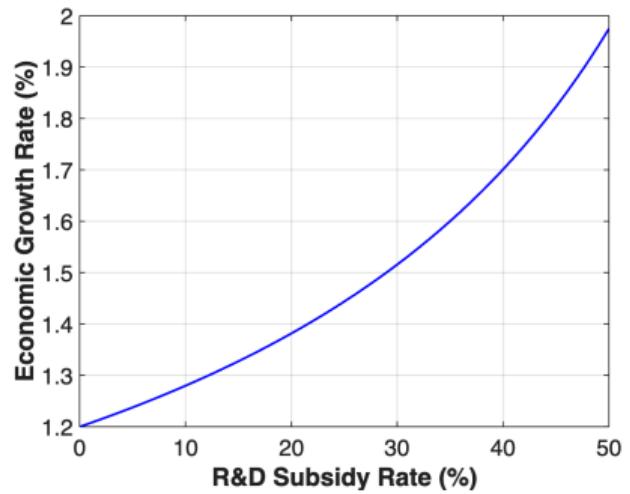
- Internalization of business-stealing > internalization of technology spillovers

Total R&D, Growth Rate, Social Welfare, Firm Value Share

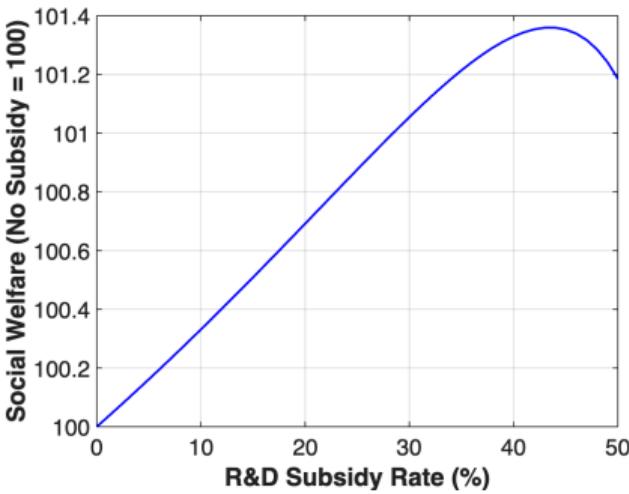
	Ownership Structure			
	Dispersed	Mean=1999	Baseline	Monopoly
Total R&D (Optimal R&D: 100)	40.5	38.7	28.3	21.4
Economic Growth Rate (%)	1.32	1.31	1.20	1.11
CE Welfare (Optimal R&D: 100)	94.9	94.9	94.4	93.5
Firm Value Share (%)	26.6	26.7	27.2	27.8

- The rise of common ownership from 1999 to 2017 $\implies g \downarrow$ by 0.11 p.p., CE welfare \downarrow by 0.54%

Optimal Uniform R&D Subsidy



(a) Economic Growth



(b) Social Welfare

- Optimal rate is $s = 43\%$, which increases g by 0.57 pp and CE welfare by 1.4%
- c.f. Welfare gains from optimal R&D allocation: 6.0%

Which Firms' R&D Should be Subsidized?

	Private R&D x	Social / Private value of R&D
Initial knowledge capital z	0.12*** (0.00085)	-0.00021 (0.00016)
Product market centrality	-16*** (0.29)	-1.1*** (0.053)
Technology spillover centrality	5.5*** (0.42)	1.5*** (0.079)
Ownership structure centrality	-7.2** (0.24)	0.58*** (0.045)
Intercept	-22*** (0.26)	0.90*** (0.048)
Observations	740	740
R^2	0.98	0.56

Alternative Corporate Governance Models

1. Dispersed ownership: $\kappa_{ij}^D = 0 \quad (i \neq j)$
2. Baseline proportional influence: $\kappa_{ij} = \frac{\sum_o s_{io} s_{jo}}{\sum_o s_{io}^2}$
3. Super-proportional influence: $\kappa_{ij}^{SP} = \frac{\sum_o \gamma_{io} s_{io} s_{jo}}{\sum_o \gamma_{io} s_{io}^2}$ where $\gamma_{io} = \sqrt{s_{io}}$
4. Blockholder influence: $\kappa_{ij}^{BH} = \frac{\sum_o b_{io} s_{io} s_{jo}}{\sum_o s_{io}^2} \quad (i \neq j), \text{ where } b_{io} = 1 \text{ if } s_{io} > 5\%$
5. Structural estimation in the airline industry by Azar and Ribeiro (2021): $\kappa_{ij}^{AR} = \tau_i \kappa_{ij} \quad (i \neq j)$
 - 5.1 Uniform: $\tau = 0.29$
 - 5.2 Firm-specific: $\tau_i = \frac{\exp[\theta_0 + \log(\text{Investor HHI}_i)]}{1 + \exp[\theta_0 + \log(\text{Investor HHI}_i)]}$ where $\theta_0 = 2.68$

Alternative Corporate Governance Models

	Ownership Structure					
	Dispersed Ownership	Baseline: Proportional Influence	Super Proportional Influence	Blockholder Influence	AR Uniform	AR Firm-Specific
Total R&D Expenditure	100	69.8	69.0	77.5	90.3	90.4
Growth Rate (%)	1.32	1.20	1.19	1.23	1.29	1.29
CE Welfare	100	99.4	99.4	99.6	99.9	99.9
Firm Value Share (%)	26.6	27.2	27.2	27.1	26.8	26.8

- Internalization of business-stealing > internalization of technology spillovers

Share of Top 5 Shareholders in Largest Market Cap Firms

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Microsoft

Vanguard	9.20%
Blackrock	7.75%
Steven Ballmer	4.48%
State Street	3.97%
Fidelity	2.66%

Nvidia

Vanguard	8.93%
BlackRock	7.74%
Fidelity	4.12%
State Street	3.97%
Jensen Huang	3.80%

Apple

Vanguard	9.29%
Blackrock	7.48%
State Street	3.96%
Fidelity	2.27%
Geode Capital	2.26%

Google

Vanguard	7.36%
Blackrock	6.47%
State Street	3.39%
Fidelity	3.01%
Sergey Brin	2.99%

Amazon

Jeffrey Bezos	8.58%
Vanguard	7.77%
Blackrock	6.50%
State Street	3.44%
Fidelity	3.10%

Meta

Vanguard	7.55%
Blackrock	6.50%
Fidelity	5.38%
Accel IX LP	3.88%
State Street	3.40%

Merger Guidelines

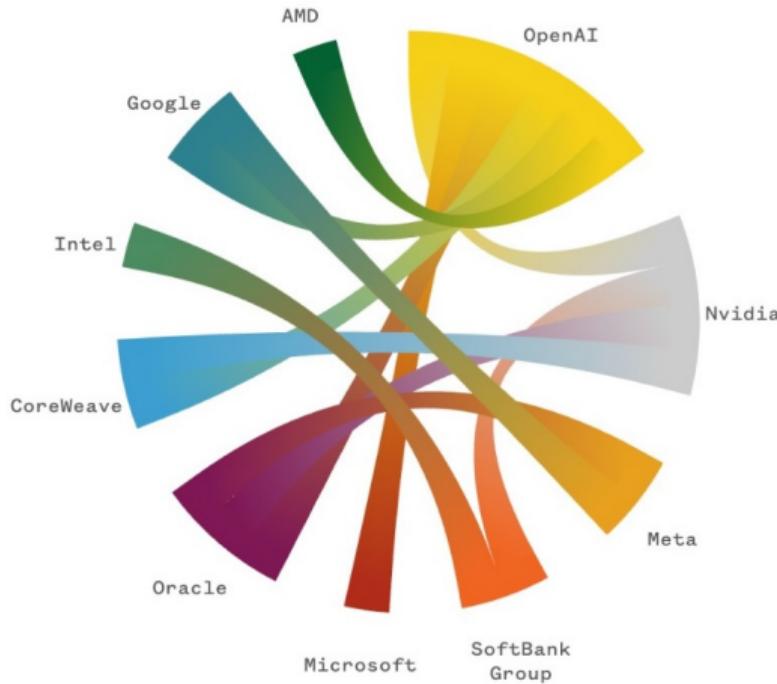
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"For example, the partial owner may decide not to develop a new product feature to win market share from the firm in which it has acquired an interest, because doing so will reduce the value of its investment in its rival."

2023 Merger Guidelines by the U.S. Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission

Cross Shareholdings among AI Companies

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Technology & Product Proximity: Example

Tesla vs. Ford

Technology Proximity	0.11
Product Proximity	0.15

Apple vs. Intel

Technology Proximity	0.57
Product Proximity	0.00

Empirical Literature: Common Ownership \implies R&D

- Anton et al. (2025):
 - Dependent variables: R&D, citation-weighted patents, market value of patents
 - + Interaction term between common ownership and technology proximity
 - Interaction term between common ownership and product proximity
- Kini et al. (2024): DiD that exploits mergers between financial institutions
 - Dependent variables: Investments, new product development
 - + Post (merger) \times treatment (common owner) \times technology proximity

R&D Externalities

1. Business-stealing effect
 - Innovators steal the business (profits) of other firms
2. Technology spillover effect
 - Innovation improves the productivity of other firms
3. Appropriability effect (market power)
 - Innovators cannot appropriate the entire consumer surplus

Generalized Hedonic-Linear Demand (Pellegrino, 2024)

- $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$: firms / products
- 1 unit of product i provides
 - 1 unit of idiosyncratic characteristic $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
 - $\psi_{k,i}$ unit of shared characteristic $k \in \{n + 1, n + 2, \dots, n + n_k\}$ where $\sum_k \psi_{k,i}^2 = 1$
- Aggregate each characteristic:

$$y_{k,t} = \begin{cases} q_{k,t} & k = 1, 2, \dots, n \\ \sum_i \psi_{k,i} q_{i,t} & k = n + 1, n + 2, \dots, n + n_k \end{cases}$$

- Linear-quadratic aggregator over characteristics:

$$Y_t = (1 - \alpha) \sum_{k=1}^n \underbrace{\left(\hat{b}_{k,t} y_{k,t} - \frac{1}{2} y_{k,t}^2 \right)}_{\text{idiosyncratic characteristic}} + \alpha \sum_{k=n+1}^{n+n_k} \underbrace{\left(\hat{b}_{k,t} y_{k,t} - \frac{1}{2} y_{k,t}^2 \right)}_{\text{shared characteristic}}$$

Generalized Hedonic-Linear Demand (Pellegrino, 2024)

- Quality:

$$b_i = (1 - \alpha) \hat{b}_i + \alpha \sum_{k=n+1}^{n+n_k} \psi_k \hat{b}_k$$

- Inverse demand:

$$\frac{p}{P} = b - \Sigma q$$

- Inverse cross-price elasticity of demand:

$$\frac{\partial \log p_i}{\partial \log q_j} = -\frac{q_j}{p_i} \cdot \sigma_{ij}$$

- Cross-price elasticity of demand:

$$\frac{\partial \log q_i}{\partial \log p_j} = -\frac{p_j}{q_i} (\Sigma^{-1})_{ij}$$

Static Profits

- Firms choose labor productivity and product quality: $\zeta a_{i,t} = \sqrt{\zeta w_t}$, $b_{i,t} = z_{i,t} - \sqrt{\zeta w_t}$
- Labor market clearing: $L = \sum_i \frac{q_{i,t}}{a_{i,t}} \implies \sqrt{\zeta w_t} = \frac{\zeta}{L} \sum_i q_{i,t}$
- $q_t = Nz_t$ where $N \equiv \left\{ 2\frac{\zeta}{L} \mathbf{1}_{n \times n} + \Sigma + K \circ \Sigma \right\}^{-1}$
- N_i : the i th row of N
- Ownership weighted profit:

$$\sum_j \kappa_{ij} \frac{\pi_{j,t}}{P_t} = \sum_j \kappa_{ij} \sum_h \kappa_{jh} \sigma_{jh} q_{j,t} q_{h,t} = z_t^T Q^i z_t$$

where

$$Q^i = \frac{1}{2} \sum_j \kappa_{ij} \sum_h \kappa_{jh} \sigma_{jh} \left(N_j^T N_h + N_h^T N_j \right)$$

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Intuition of Externality

- Assume firms choose static variables $\{a_{i,t}, b_{i,t}, q_{i,t}\}$ to maximize static profits
- Equilibrium quantity $q_i = \frac{1}{2}z_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k \neq i} \sigma_{ik} q_k - \sqrt{\zeta w_t}$ and profit $\pi_i = q_i^2$

Tech Spillover Externalities: $\frac{\partial \dot{z}_j}{\partial z_i} = \omega_{ij}, \quad \frac{\partial \pi_j}{\partial z_j} = 2q_j \frac{\partial q_j}{\partial z_j} = q_j$

$$z_i \uparrow \quad \underbrace{\implies}_{\text{strong if } \omega_{ij} \text{ is large}} \quad z_j \uparrow \implies \pi_j \uparrow$$

Business Stealing Externalities: $\frac{\partial \pi_j}{\partial z_i} = 2q_j \frac{\partial q_j}{\partial z_i} = 2q_j \left(-\frac{1}{2} \sigma_{ji} \frac{\partial q_i}{\partial z_i} \right) = -\frac{1}{2} \sigma_{ji} q_j$

$$z_i \uparrow \implies q_i \uparrow \quad \underbrace{\implies}_{\text{strong if } \sigma_{ij} \text{ is large}} \quad q_j \downarrow \implies \pi_j \downarrow$$

Riccati Equations

- $V_i(z) = z^T \mathbf{X}^i z$ where \mathbf{X}^i is the solution of the stacked Riccati equation

$$0 = \mathbf{Q}^i - \mu^2 \sum_j \kappa_{ij} \mathbf{X}_j^j \left(\mathbf{X}_j^j \right)^T + \left(\mathbf{\Phi} - \frac{1}{2} (\rho - \gamma^2) \mathbf{I} \right)^T \mathbf{X}^i + \mathbf{X}^i \left(\mathbf{\Phi} - \frac{1}{2} (\rho - \gamma^2) \mathbf{I} \right)$$

- $\mathbf{X}_i^i \equiv$ the i th column of \mathbf{X}^i
- $\mathbf{\Phi} \equiv \mathbf{\Omega} + \mu^2 \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}_1^1 & \cdots & \mathbf{X}_n^n \end{bmatrix}^T$
- Algorithm: Given $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}_\tau^1 & \cdots & \mathbf{X}_\tau^n \end{bmatrix}$, update $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}_{\tau-\Delta}^1 & \cdots & \mathbf{X}_{\tau-\Delta}^n \end{bmatrix}$ by

$$-\frac{\mathbf{X}_\tau^i - \mathbf{X}_{\tau-\Delta}^i}{\Delta} = \mathbf{Q}^i - \mu^2 \sum_j \kappa_{ij} \mathbf{X}_{j,\tau}^j \left(\mathbf{X}_{j,\tau}^j \right)^T + \left(\mathbf{\Phi}_\tau - \frac{1}{2} (\rho - \gamma^2) \mathbf{I} \right)^T \mathbf{X}_\tau^i + \mathbf{X}_\tau^i \left(\mathbf{\Phi}_\tau - \frac{1}{2} (\rho - \gamma^2) \mathbf{I} \right)$$

Summary of Equilibrium

Description	Expression
Production strategy	$q_t = Nz_t$
R&D strategy	$x_t = \mu\tilde{X}z_t$
Law of motion	$dz_t = (\Omega z_t + \mu x_t) dt + \gamma z_t dW_t$
Profit of final producers	$\Pi_t^F/P_t = q_t^T \left(\frac{1}{2}\Sigma\right) q_t$
Total operating profit of firms	$\Pi_t/P_t = q_t^T \left(\frac{1}{2}\Sigma \circ (K + K^T)\right) q_t$
Labor income	$w_t L/P_t = q_t^T \left(\frac{\zeta}{L} \mathbf{1}_{n \times n}\right) q_t$
Output	$Y_t = q_t^T \left(\frac{\zeta}{L} \mathbf{1}_{n \times n} + \frac{1}{2}\Sigma + \frac{1}{2}\Sigma \circ (K + K^T)\right) q_t$
Consumption	$C_t = Y_t - x_t^T x_t$

Example: Symmetric Equilibrium

Assumption

- Symmetric product substitutability, technology spillover, and ownership structure:
 $\sigma_{ij} = \sigma, \omega_{ij} = \omega, \kappa_{ij} = \kappa \quad \forall i \neq j$
- R&D strategy: $x_{i,t}^* = \mu \left(\tilde{x}_1 z_{i,t} + \tilde{x}_2 \sum_{j \neq i} z_j \right)$
 - \tilde{x}_1 : market size effect (> 0)
 - \tilde{x}_2 : strategic substitutability (< 0) / complementarity (> 0)
- Growth rate: $g = \underbrace{(n - 1)\omega}_{\text{Tech Spillover}} + \underbrace{\mu^2 (\tilde{x}_1 + (n - 1)\tilde{x}_2)}_{\text{R&D}}$
- Stability (irreducibility) requires $\omega + \mu^2 \tilde{x}_2 > 0$
 - Tech spillover (ω) must be strong relative to strategic substitutability ($\tilde{x}_2 < 0$)

Output and Expected Utility

- Output: $Y_t = q_t^T Q q_t$ where

$$Q = \frac{\zeta}{L} \mathbf{1}_{n \times n} + \frac{1}{2} \Sigma + \frac{1}{2} \Sigma \circ (K + K^T)$$

- Expected utility:

$$V(z_t) \equiv E_t \left[\int_t^\infty \exp(-\rho s) C_s ds \middle| z_t \right] = z_t^T X z_t$$

where X is the solution of the Lyapunov equation (obtained from households' HJB equation):

$$0 = Q - \mu^2 \tilde{X}^T \tilde{X} + X \left(\Phi - \frac{1}{2} (\rho - \gamma^2) I \right) + \left(\Phi - \frac{1}{2} (\rho - \gamma^2) I \right)^T X$$

Social Optimum

- Static optimal allocation: $q_t^* = N^* z_t$ where $N^* \equiv \left\{ 2\frac{\zeta}{L} \mathbf{1}_{n \times n} + \Sigma \right\}^{-1}$
- Optimal output: $Y_t^* = z_t^T Q^* z_t$ where $Q^* = \frac{1}{2} N^*$
- Optimal expected utility:

$$V^*(z_t) \equiv E_t \left[\int_t^\infty \exp(-\rho s) C_s ds \middle| z_t \right] = z_t^T X^* z_t,$$

where X^* is the solution of the Riccati equation (obtained from planner's HJB equation):

$$0 = Q^* - \mu^2 (X^*)^2 + X^* \left(\Phi^* - \frac{1}{2} (\rho - \gamma^2) I \right) + \left(\Phi^* - \frac{1}{2} (\rho - \gamma^2) I \right) X^*$$

- Optimal R&D: $x_t^* = \mu X^* z_t$
- Optimal technology transition matrix: $\Phi^* = \Omega + \mu^2 X^*$

Property of BGP

- On the BGP, a_t , b_t , z_t , and q_t grow at the same rate

Knowledge Capital: $\zeta a_{i,t} + b_{i,t} = z_{i,t}$

Linear Production Technology: $q_{i,t} = a_{i,t} l_{i,t}$

Inelastic Labor Supply: $L = \sum_i l_{i,t}$

- The linear and quadratic terms in q_t of output grow at the same rate:

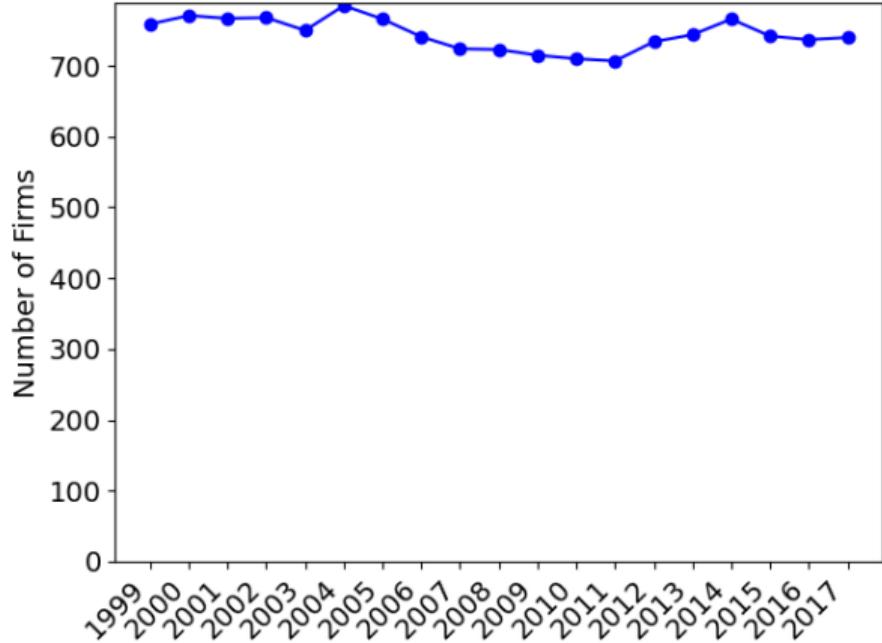
$$Y_t = \mathbf{q}_t^T \mathbf{b}_t - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{q}_t^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{q}_t$$

Growth Decomposition

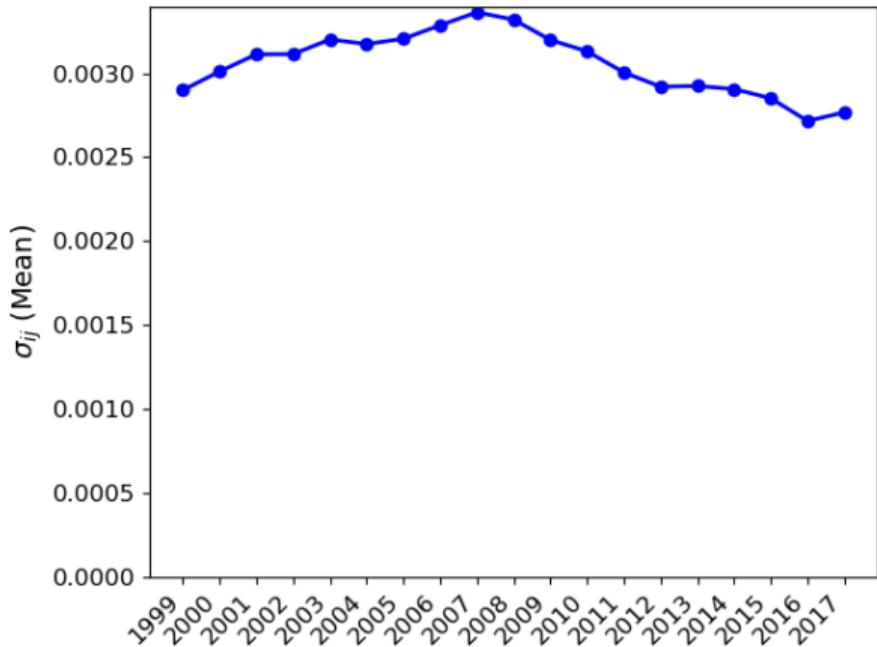
- Aggregate output: $Y_t = z_t^T Q z_t$
- $dz_t/dt = \Phi z_t$ where $\Phi = \Omega + \mu^2 \tilde{X} - \delta I$

$$\frac{d \log Y_t}{dt} = \underbrace{\frac{z_t^T (Q\Omega + \Omega Q) z_t}{Y_t}}_{\text{Tech Spillover}} + \underbrace{\frac{\mu^2 z_t^T (Q \tilde{X} + \tilde{X}^T Q) z_t}{Y_t}}_{\text{R&D}} - \underbrace{2\delta}_{\text{Depreciation}}$$

Number of Sample Firms

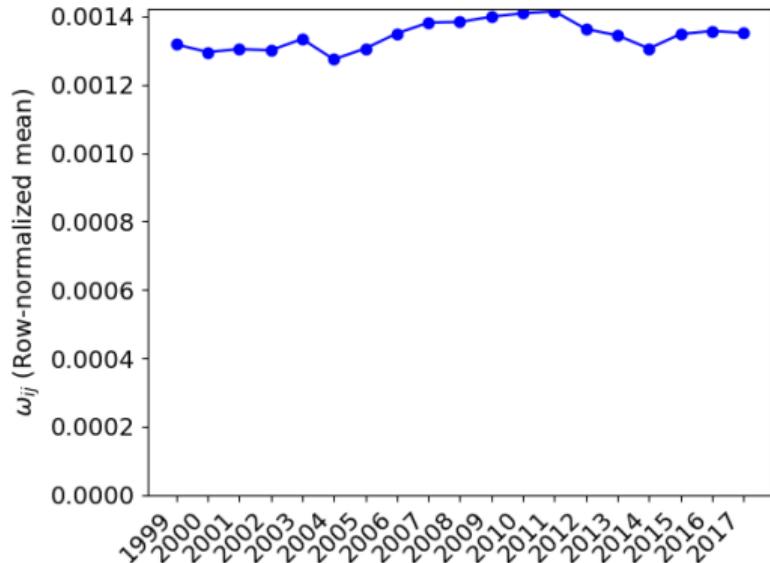


Trend of Product Substitutability



Technological Proximity

- Merge USPTO data with Compustat firms using DISCERN 2 dataset (Arora et al., 2024)
- Jaffe measure, group-level patent classification, stacked over 5 years



Correlation Across Networks

	K	Σ	Ω
K	1.0000	-0.0035	0.0115
Σ	-0.0035	1.0000	0.2542
Ω	0.0115	0.2542	1.0000

- K : Ownership network
- Σ : Product substitutability network
- Ω : Technological proximity network

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Microeconometric Estimates vs. GHL (Pellegrino, 2024) (1/2)

Market	Firm <i>i</i>	Firm <i>j</i>	Micro Estimate	GHL
Auto	Ford	Ford	-4.320	-5.197
Auto	Ford	General Motors	0.034	0.056
Auto	Ford	Toyota	0.007	0.017
Auto	General Motors	Ford	0.065	0.052
Auto	General Motors	General Motors	-6.433	-4.685
Auto	General Motors	Toyota	0.008	0.005
Auto	Toyota	Ford	0.018	0.025
Auto	Toyota	General Motors	0.008	0.008
Auto	Toyota	Toyota	-3.085	-4.851

Microeconometric Estimates vs. GHL (Pellegrino, 2024) (2/2)

Market	Firm <i>i</i>	Firm <i>j</i>	Micro Estimate	GHL
Cereals	Kellogg's	Kellogg's	-3.231	-1.770
Cereals	Kellogg's	Quaker Oats	0.033	0.023
Cereals	Quaker Oats	Kellogg's	0.046	0.031
Cereals	Quaker Oats	Quaker Oats	-3.031	-1.941
Computers	Apple	Apple	-11.979	-8.945
Computers	Apple	Dell	0.018	0.025
Computers	Dell	Apple	0.027	0.047
Computers	Dell	Dell	-5.570	-5.110

First Stage

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	R&D (1)
State tax credit component of R&D user cost	-1.16*** (0.29)
Federal tax credit component of R&D user cost	-34.29*** (3.64)
Firm fixed effects	✓
Year fixed effects	✓
No. of observations	16197

SEs clustered by years and 4-digit NAICS industries are reported in parentheses.

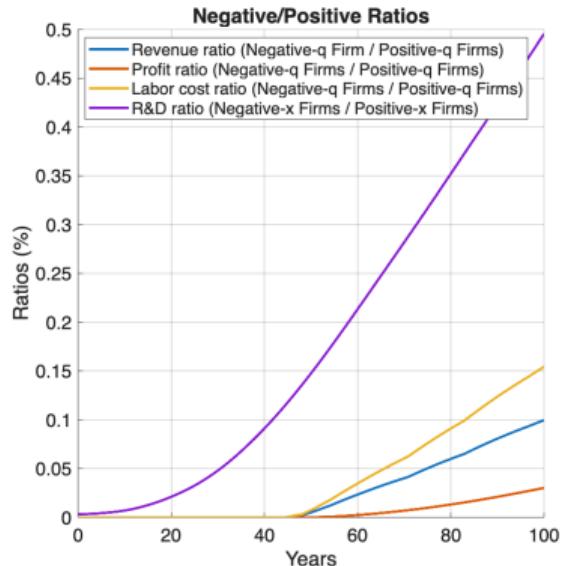
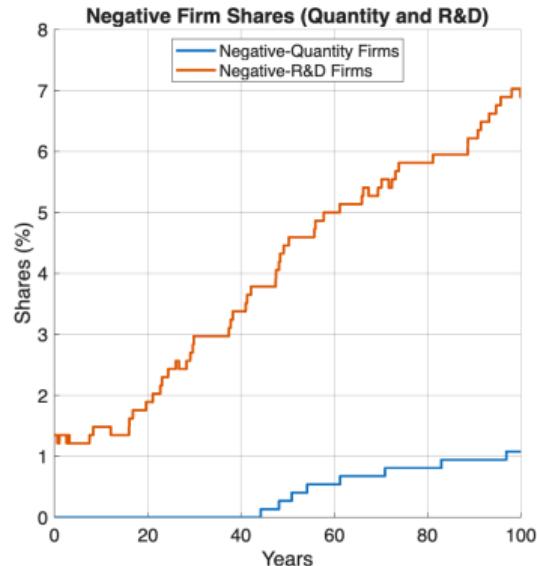
- IV: User cost of R&D, driven by federal and state-specific rules variations
(Wilson, 2009; Bloom et al., 2013)

Negative R&D and Output

- Issue with the model: negative output and R&D
 - Inada condition is not satisfied
 - Non-negativity constraint makes model intractable

Negative R&D and Quantity

- Firms with negative values are negligible along the transition path
- The weight on values 100 years and beyond is 0.005% when $\rho = 0.1$



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