

EBEHI IYOHA

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Vanderbilt University
Department of Economics
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GRADUATE EDUCATION

Vanderbilt University, Department of Economics

PhD Candidate in Economics

2021 (Expected)

Dissertation Title: Essays on the Role of Networks in Firm Productivity
and International Trade

References:

Professor Joel Rodrigue (Primary Advisor): joel.b.rodrigue@vanderbilt.edu

Professor Kamal Saggi: k.saggi@vanderbilt.edu

Professor Yuya Sasaki: yuya.sasaki@vanderbilt.edu

Professor Mattias Polborn (Placement Director): mattias.polborn@vanderbilt.edu

MA Economics

2017

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

Loyola Marymount University, Department of Economics

BS Economics, *summa cum laude*

2014

RESEARCH AND TEACHING FIELDS

Primary: Industrial Organization

Secondary: International Trade, Networks

HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Vanderbilt University

University Graduate Fellowship

2015-Present

University Fellowship (Merit-based supplement to the Graduate Fellowship)

2015-2020

Council of Economics Graduate Students (CEGS) Research Grant

2020

Arts & Science Summer Language Grant

2016

Loyola Marymount University

Best Graduating Student in Economics

2014

Presidential Citation for academic achievement, leadership and service

2014

Sr. Raymunde Mckay, R.S.H.M. Award for outstanding service and leadership

2014

Presidential Scholarship

2010-2014

The Laffin Foundation

John and Maria Laffin Scholarship for Asian and Pacific Studies

2012-2014

Delta Sigma Pi Fraternity

Delta Sigma Pi Merit Scholarship

2012-2013

RESEARCH

Job Market Paper

“Estimating Productivity in the Presence of Spillovers: Firm-level Evidence from the US Production Network.”

This paper examines the extent to which efficiency gains diffuse over a network of firms. Empirical studies typically estimate firm-to-firm spillovers using productivity measured from estimated production functions. However, standard production function estimation methods implicitly rule out the interdependence of firms’ outcomes and decisions through productivity spillovers. I show that ignoring network effects when estimating production functions biases productivity and spillovers in directions that cannot generally be predicted *a priori*. To address this limitation, I develop a framework to jointly estimate network effects and firm-level productivity. My approach can account for non-random buyer-supplier matching and network effects that vary by relationship direction and firm characteristics. Using this method, I characterize productivity spillovers over the US production network from 1977 to 2016 and find substantial heterogeneity by direction, industry, firm size and over time. My results suggest that the average firm in 1978 would be 16 percent more productive by 2016 due to spillovers. In addition, a 10 percent increase in the productivity of the most central firm in each year could result in up to a 2 percent rise in aggregate TFP through spillovers alone. These findings highlight the potential for industrial policy, even if narrowly targeted, to have broader ramifications for the economy as a whole.

Working Paper

“Home-Country Effects of US Multinational Activity through Vertical and Horizontal Spillovers.”

Work in Progress

“The Impact of the US-China Trade War on Latin America: Evidence from Importer-Exporter Linkages,” with Joel Rodrigue.

“Bank Lending and Productivity Growth,” with Benjamin Munyan.

Other Writing

“Integrated economies: Post-pandemic trade in West Africa,” *West Africa Insight*, Volume 6(6), Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD) West Africa, July 2020.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Vanderbilt University

Strategic Analysis	2019
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Teaching Assistant, Vanderbilt University

Seminar in Economic Development	2020, 2018, 2017
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Principles of Microeconomics	2020, 2019
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Principles of Macroeconomics	2020
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Field Experience in Economic Development	2019, 2018
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Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory	2018
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Project Evaluation	2018
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Strategic Analysis	2017
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International Trade	2016
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Practice and Pedagogy Leader, Teaching Assistant Orientation, Vanderbilt University	2019
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OTHER EXPERIENCE

Vanderbilt University

Research Assistant for Prof. Joel Rodrigue	2018
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Research Assistant for Prof. Benjamin Munyan	2017
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PRESENTATIONS OF RESEARCH

“Estimating Productivity in the Presence of Spillovers: Firm-level Evidence from the US Production Network”

Society for Economic Dynamics Annual Meeting, Barcelona, Spain	2021
International Network for Economic Research (INFER) Annual Conference, Paris, France	2020
Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA	2020
Empirics and Methods in Economics Conference (EMCON), Virtual	2020
Young Economists Symposium, Virtual	2020
Economics Seminar, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA	2020
Departmental Microeconomics Seminar, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN	2020
Centre for the Study of the Economies of Africa (CSEA), Abuja, Nigeria	2019
Graduate Student Research Day, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN	2019

“Spillovers from Multinationals and Exporters through the Network of US Firms”

International Economics Seminar, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN	2018
Missouri Valley Economic Association (MVEA) Conference, Memphis, TN	2018
Graduate Student Research Day, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN	2018

SERVICE AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Columnist, Stearns Business	2014-Present
Discussant, Empirics and Methods in Economics Conference (EMCON)	2020
Discussant, Young Economists' Symposium	2020
President, Council of Economics Graduate Students, Vanderbilt University	2017-2018

SOFTWARE SKILLS

Python, Stata, Tableau, MATLAB, ArcGIS
