

# EBEHI IYOHA

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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

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## 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

University Honors Program Semester Research Grant

2013

Seid M. Zekavat Award for Outstanding Statistician

2011

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

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## 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. Many empirical studies investigating firm-to-firm spillovers measure productivity by exploiting proxy variables or first-order conditions to estimate a production function. However, these methods implicitly rule out the interdependence of firms’ outcomes and decisions through productivity spillovers. I show that ignoring network effects when estimating production functions may lead to substantial biases in both measured productivity and estimated spillovers. Furthermore, the direction of bias cannot be generally be predicted *a priori*: depending on the structure of the network and persistence of productivity over time, estimates of network effects may be biased upwards or downwards. To address this limitation of existing methods, I develop a framework to jointly estimate network effects and productivity in value-added and gross output production functions. I demonstrate that my approach is robust to endogenous network formation and can accommodate spillovers that are heterogeneous in direction and firm characteristics. Using this method, I characterize vertical productivity spillovers over the US production network from 1977 to 2016 and find that firms enjoy substantial productivity boosts by transacting with more efficient partners. My results suggest that the average firm in 1978 would be 20 percent more productive by 2016 due to spillovers, and efficiency gains from suppliers twice as large as those from customers. In addition, a 10 percent increase in the productivity of the most central firm in each year could result in a 2 percent rise in aggregate productivity through spillovers alone.

### Working Paper

“Spillovers from Multinationals through the Network of US Firms.”

### Work in Progress

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

### 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.

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Vanderbilt University	
Strategic Analysis	2019
Teaching Assistant, Vanderbilt University	
Principles of Microeconomics	2020, 2019
Principles of Macroeconomics	2020
Field Experience in Economic Development	2019, 2018
Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory	2018
Project Evaluation	2018
Seminar in Economic Development	2018, 2017
Strategic Analysis	2017
International Trade	2016
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
Research Assistant for Prof. Benjamin Munyan	2017

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## PRESENTATIONS OF RESEARCH

### “Production Function Estimation in the Presence of Spillovers”

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

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## SERVICE AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Columnist, Stearns Business	2014-Present
Discussant, Young Economists' Symposium	2020
President, Council of Economics Graduate Students, Vanderbilt University	2017-2018

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## SOFTWARE SKILLS

Python, Stata, Tableau, MATLAB, ArcGIS

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