

# The Demand Side of Firm Growth: Evidence from Mexico

Louise Guillouët<sup>1</sup> and Enrique Seira<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Columbia University

<sup>2</sup>ITAM

In progress  
October 22, 2021

- Firms in developing countries face many constraints to upgrading  
[Verhoogen 2020](#)
- There must exist demand for the additional and/or improved products  
[Atkin Khandelwal and Osman 2017](#), [Hjort Iyer and de Rochambeau 2021](#)
- In the long run, firms cannot rely exclusively on exporting [Goldberg and Reed 2020](#)
- This paper: studies informational frictions as a potential demand-side barrier to the growth of firms in the domestic market

- Consumer goods sector in Mexico:
  - 42% of households are below the national poverty line
  - Despite higher prices, Multinational Corporations (MNCs) dominate the market price premium size

- Consumer goods sector in Mexico:
  - 42% of households are below the national poverty line
  - Despite higher prices, Multinational Corporations (MNCs) dominate the market **price premium** **size**
- Hypothesis: there is domestic demand for higher-quality products, but quality uncertainty prevents domestic firms from fully capturing it
  - Many instances of product safety issues
  - Efforts to raise national standards

- Consumer goods sector in Mexico:
  - 42% of households are below the national poverty line
  - Despite higher prices, Multinational Corporations (MNCs) dominate the market price premium size
- Hypothesis: there is domestic demand for higher-quality products, but quality uncertainty prevents domestic firms from fully capturing it
  - Many instances of product safety issues
  - Efforts to raise national standards
- How does quality uncertainty impact the growth of domestic firms?
  - What can be done to support the domestic sector?

# Research Design & Preview of Results

- ① Use rare consumption data to establish new stylized facts
  - ① Domestic firms grow relatively more through surviving goods
  - ② Domestic products have a slower life-cycle
  - ③ Customer acquisition is key to domestic firm growth
  - ④ Domestic firms acquire customers relatively more within products
  - ⑤ The new customers of domestic products are poorer
- ② Propose a model of consumer learning in a context of uncertainty
  - Consumers may learn about quality by experimenting themselves
  - Or by waiting until others experiment.
  - Uncertainty makes waiting valuable for poorer customer, hurting firms
- ③ Test for this uncertainty mechanism

# Contribution 1: quality uncertainty

- Uncertainty about product quality drives prices down, which can drive quality down: Akerlof (1970), Sandmo (1971)
- Relational contracts can be a solution in certain circumstances: Machiavello and Morjaria (2015, 2019) but not in all contexts: Startz (2016), Bjorkman-Nyqvist, Svensson and Yanagizawa-Drott (2012)
- Reputations can be a solution but can also increase markups: Shapiro (1983), Bronnenberg Dube Gentzkow and Shapiro (2015)
- Collective reputations may benefit or hurt individuals: Bai Gazze and Wang (2017)

This paper: thinks about how uncertainty about product quality slows down firm growth

## Contribution 2: trade and consumption

How does trade affect consumption in developing countries?

- Using expenditure shares: Fajgelbaum and Khandelwal (2016)
- Using broadly-defined good categories: Atkin (2013)
- Using barcode-level data but without the origin: Atkin, Faber and Gonzalez-Navarro (2018)
- Using barcode-level data with the origin a handful of imported products: Atkin and Donaldson (2015)

This paper: analyzes the role of MNCs in the consumer goods market in developing countries thanks to the identification of the origin of the universe of CPG



## Contribution 3: marketing

How does marketing affect firms' sales?

- Marketing efforts increase markups: Atkin, Chaudhry, Chaudry, Khandelwal and Verhoogen (2015), Hottman Redding and Weinstein (2016), Afrouzi Drenik and Kim (2020)
- Marketing costs limit firms' expansion in export markets: Arkolakis (2016)
- Teachable marketing skills can increase firms' market access: Hjort, Iyer and de Rochambeau (2021)
- Marketing expenses may come at the expense of firms' investment in R&D: Einav, Klenow, Levin and Murciano-Goroff (2021)

This paper: suggests how marketing could overcome quality uncertainty issues in the context of competition between domestic firms and MNCs

# Overview

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Setting and Data
- 3 Stylized Facts
- 4 Conceptual Framework
- 5 Mechanism

# Outline

1 Introduction

2 Setting and Data

3 Stylized Facts

4 Conceptual Framework

5 Mechanism

# Mexico: A large and highly-integrated emerging market

- 15th economy in the world, GDP: \$1.2 TR USD in 2015
- 15.6% growth in constant terms between 2010 and 2015
- Upper middle-income country: GDP/capita  $\sim$  \$10,000 GDP/capita
- High inequality and high poverty
- High volatility
- Highly exposed to trade:
  - Imports + exports total over 60% of GDP in goods and services
  - The U.S. is by far the main importer & exporter [USCMA]
  - Up to 50% of the goods consumed are manufactured by MNCs

# An extremely detailed consumption panel

Kantar World Panel: similar to Nielsen Homescan

- 8,000 households per year, each followed 3.5 years on average
- Household information: number of people, age, gender, some socio-economic information, some appliances, city

summary stats

# An extremely detailed consumption panel

Kantar World Panel: similar to Nielsen Homescan

- 8,000 households per year, each followed 3.5 years on average
- Household information: number of people, age, gender, some socio-economic information, some appliances, city [summary stats](#)
- Households are surveyed **weekly** about their purchases of at-home consumption packaged goods
- Purchase information: date, price, category, quantity, brand, flavor, color, packaging material, size, etc. **at the barcode level** [data structure](#)

# An extremely detailed consumption panel

Kantar World Panel: similar to Nielsen Homescan

- 8,000 households per year, each followed 3.5 years on average
- Household information: number of people, age, gender, some socio-economic information, some appliances, city summary stats
- Households are surveyed **weekly** about their purchases of at-home consumption packaged goods
- Purchase information: date, price, category, quantity, brand, flavor, color, packaging material, size, etc. **at the barcode level** data structure
- The firms are the “manufacturer” of the products purchased.
  - Directorio Estadístico Nacional de las Unidades Económicas (DENUE)
  - Registro Nacional de Inversiones Extranjeras (RNIE) firms

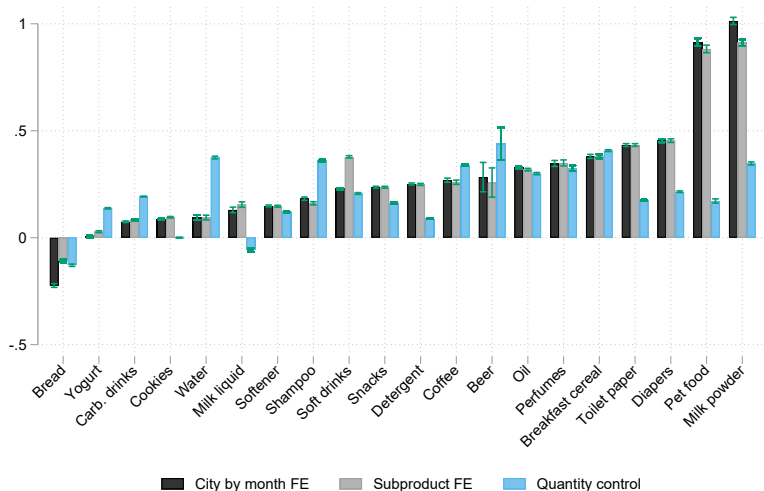
# A panel that's representative of urban Mexican consumers

	ENIGH			KWP			Difference	
	mean	sd	N	mean	sd	N	diff	p
Number of household members	3.94	1.98	26942	4.37	1.83	8414	0.430	0.00
Number of women in household	2.03	1.27	26942	2.29	1.22	8414	0.267	0.00
Age head of household	48.32	15.62	26942	45.61	14.02	8412	-2.707	0.00
Finished primary	0.84	0.37	26942	0.96	0.20	8414	0.120	0.00
Finished secondary	0.35	0.48	26942	0.65	0.48	8414	0.307	0.00
Finished Post-secondary	0.26	0.44	26942	0.13	0.34	8414	-0.130	0.00
Works full time	0.75	0.44	26942	0.75	0.43	8414	0.006	0.24
Number of cars	0.53	0.80	26942	0.56	0.66	8414	0.030	0.00
Number of PCs	0.31	0.61	26942	0.33	0.47	8414	0.019	0.01
Access to Internet (0/1)	0.19	0.39	26942	0.24	0.42	8414	0.043	0.00
Number of color TVs	1.44	0.92	26942	1.87	0.98	8413	0.426	0.00
Number of fridges	0.83	0.43	26942	0.96	0.19	8412	0.135	0.00
Number of microwaves	0.42	0.51	26942	0.70	0.46	8414	0.287	0.00
Number of bedrooms	2.01	0.97	26385	2.20	0.97	8412	0.188	0.00
Debit or credit card (0/1)	0.21	0.41	26942	0.28	0.45	8414	0.070	0.00
Monthly expenditure (MXN)	1107.30	758.20	26942	1320.09	736.49	8414	212.796	0.00

[back](#)



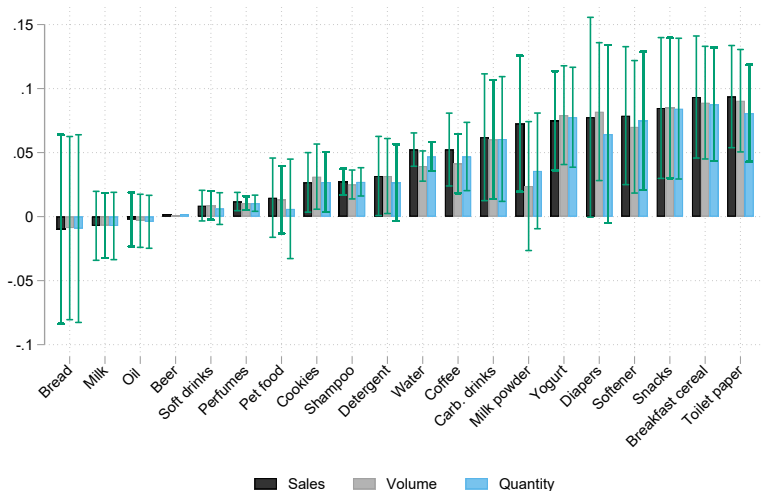
# The Foreign price premium in Mexican consumer goods



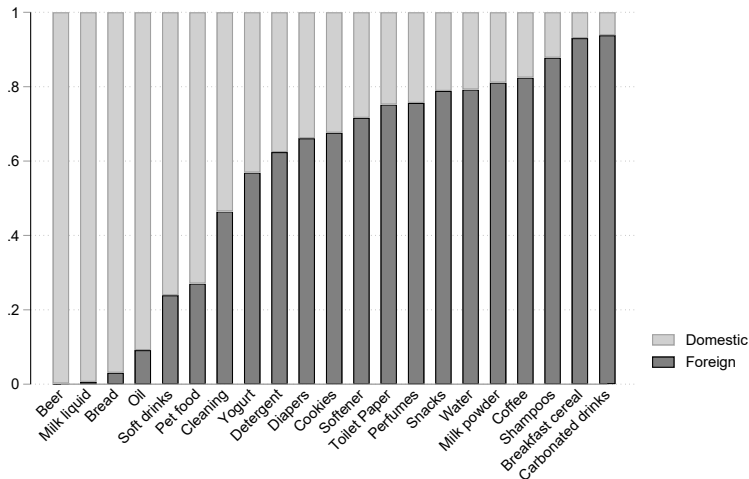
[back](#)

[more controls](#)

# The Foreign share premium in Mexican consumer goods



# The Foreign share in Mexican consumer goods



# A large sample of firms manufacturing consumer goods

Over 4,000 manufacturers,  $> 90\%$  of them are domestic.

	Top Foreign Firm			Top Domestic Firm		
	Rank	Share	Name	Rank	Share	Name
Milk	20	0.00	WAL-MART	1	0.50	LALA
Detergent	1	0.43	PROCTER & GAMBLE	2	0.27	LA CORONA
Water	1	0.31	COCA COLA FEMSA	5	0.05	JOSE RAMOS CHIAPAS
Oil	5	0.07	ACH FOODS	1	0.23	EMBOTELLADORA MEXICANA
Toilet paper	1	0.53	KIMBERLY CLARK	3	0.09	FABRICA DE PAPEL SAN FRANCISCO
Bread	3	0.01	GRUPO GAMESA	1	0.93	BIMBO
Cookies	1	0.58	GRUPO GAMESA	2	0.23	BIMBO
Beer	5	0.00	HEINEKEN	1	0.51	CERVECERIA MODELO
Yogurt	1	0.37	DANONE	2	0.19	LALA
Milk powder	1	0.71	NESTLE	3	0.07	LICONSA

[back](#)

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Setting and Data
- 3 Stylized Facts**
- 4 Conceptual Framework
- 5 Mechanism

- 1 Domestic firms grow relatively more through surviving goods

# What share of growth is due to product innovation?

Following Argente, Lee and Moreira (2020), the growth of sales  $S$  of firm  $i$  at time  $t$  are made of:

- the growth of sales of older products,
- *minus* the  $t-1$  share of sales of products that exited between  $t$  and  $t-1$
- *plus* the sales of new products, which are made of
  - the rate of entry of new products between  $t-1$  and  $t$
  - multiplied by the relative average sale of a new product at time  $t$  compared to an old, surviving product at time  $t$

$$\Delta S_{i,t} = \underbrace{\Delta S_{i,t}^{old,survive} - \bar{S}_{i,t-1}^{old,exit}}_{\text{product life-cycle}} + \underbrace{n_{i,t}^{new} \times \bar{s}_{i,t}^{new}}_{\text{new products}}$$

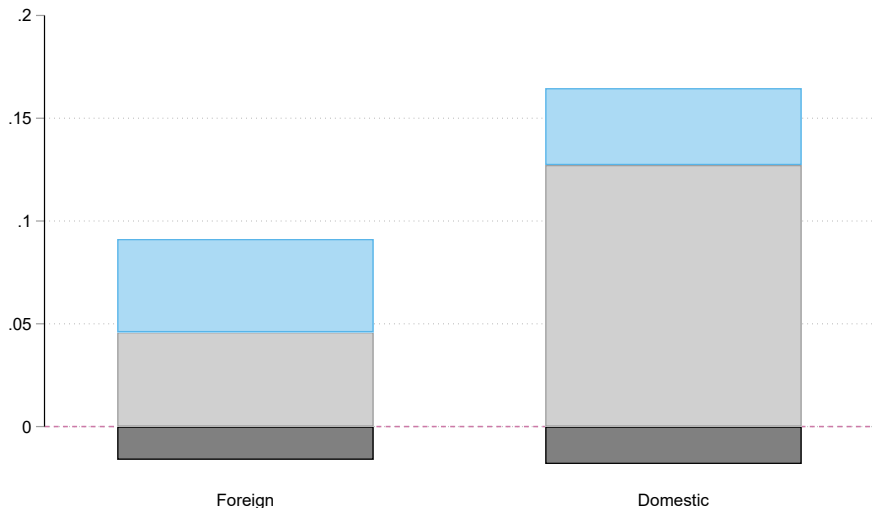
# Data-driven definition of new goods

- Data-driven definition
- Product that appears at least one year into the dataset
- Introduced by households who have been **active** in the dataset for at least one year
- Verification: Based on marketing releases, for example Coca-Cola Life or Ocean Spray Pomegranate and Blueberry, released in 2013

rate



# Domestic firms grow more through surviving goods

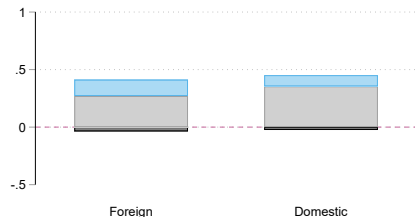
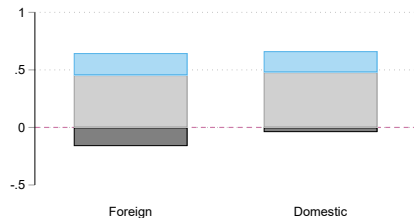
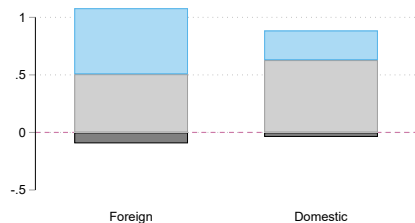


■ Sales share exiting products

■ Growth of surviving products

■ New products

# This is robust to conditioning on size



- 1 Domestic firms grow relatively more through surviving goods
- 2 Domestic products have a slower life-cycle

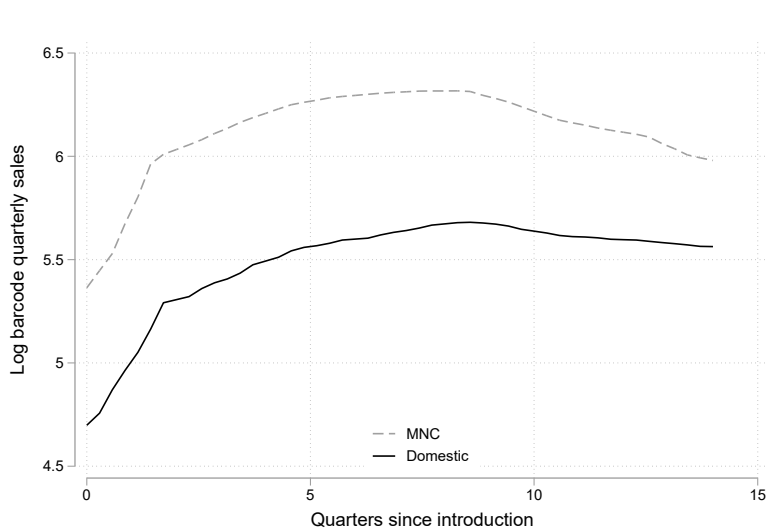
We estimate the effect of age on product sales following Argente, Lee and Moreira (2020):

$$\log Y_{u,t} = \alpha + \sum_{a=2} \beta_a D_a + \lambda_{jt} + \theta_c + u_{u,t}$$

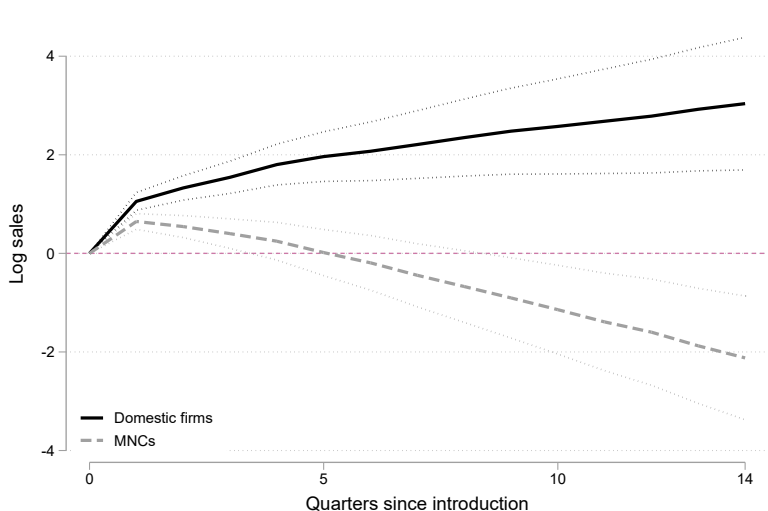
- $u$  product
- $a$  age in quarters -  $D_a$  are fixed effects for each age
- $j$  product category
- $t$  quarter - we control for time and product category fixed effects
- $c$  cohort - we control for cohort effects [Deaton 1997](#)

Balanced panel comprised of products introduced starting in 2011 Q1 and that survived at least 14 quarters, observed for 14 quarters.

# Domestic products have a slower life-cycle



# Domestic products have a slower life-cycle



narrower fixed effects

12 quarters

16 quarters

quantity

price

exit

- 1 Domestic firms grow relatively more through surviving goods
- 2 Domestic products have a slower life-cycle
- 3 Customer growth is key to firm growth, especially for domestic firms

# How can firms grow sales?

Following Einav, Klenow, Levin and Murciniao-Goroff (2021):

$$\text{Sales} \equiv \text{Customers} \frac{\text{Quantity}}{\text{Customers}} \underbrace{\frac{\text{Sales}}{\text{Quantity}}}_{\text{Unit value}}$$



# How can firms grow sales?

Following Einav, Klenow, Levin and Murciniao-Goroff (2021):

$$\text{Sales} \equiv \text{Customers} \frac{\text{Quantity}}{\text{Customers}} \underbrace{\frac{\text{Sales}}{\text{Quantity}}}_{\text{Unit value}}$$

$$\log(\text{Sales}) = \log(\text{Customers}) + \log(\text{Quantity per Customer}) + \log(\text{Unit value})$$

# How can firms grow sales?

Following Einav, Klenow, Levin and Murciniao-Goroff (2021):

$$\text{Sales} \equiv \text{Customers} \frac{\text{Quantity}}{\text{Customers}} \underbrace{\frac{\text{Sales}}{\text{Quantity}}}_{\text{Unit value}}$$

$$\log(\text{Sales}) = \log(\text{Customers}) + \log(\text{Quantity per Customer}) + \log(\text{Unit value})$$

$$\log(\text{Customers}_{it}) = \alpha + \beta_C \log(\text{Sales})_{it} + \gamma_i + \delta_t + \epsilon_{it}$$

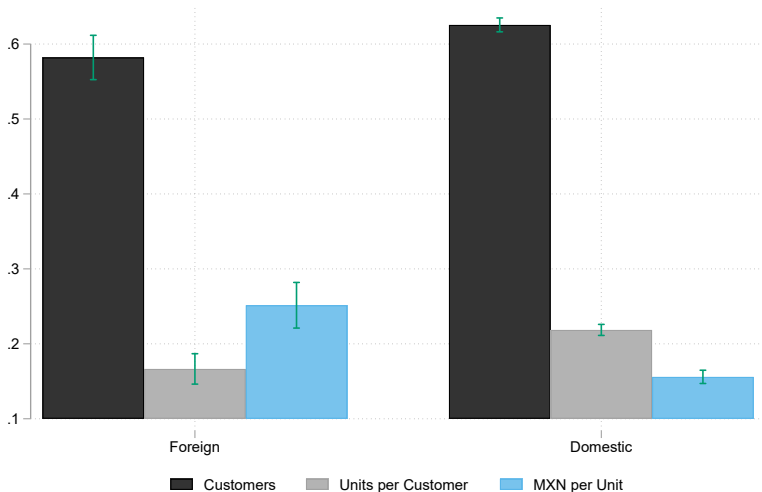
$$\log(\text{Quantity per Customer}_{it}) = \alpha + \beta_Q \log(\text{Sales})_{it} + \gamma_i + \delta_t + \epsilon_{it}$$

$$\log(\text{Unit value}_{it}) = \alpha + \beta_U \log(\text{Sales})_{it} + \gamma_i + \delta_t + \epsilon_{it}$$

$$\beta_C + \beta_Q + \beta_U \equiv 1$$

$\gamma_i$  are firm fixed effects and  $\delta_t$  are year fixed effects

# The fastest-growing firms also acquire customers the fastest



purchases

sector

- 1 Domestic firms grow relatively more through surviving goods
- 2 Domestic products have a slower life-cycle
- 3 Customer growth is key to firm growth, especially for domestic firms
- 4 Domestic firms acquire customers relatively more within product markets

# How can firms acquire more customers?

$$\text{Customers} \equiv \text{Markets} \frac{\text{Customers}}{\text{Markets}}$$

# How can firms acquire more customers?

$$\text{Customers} \equiv \text{Markets} \frac{\text{Customers}}{\text{Markets}}$$

$$\log(\text{Customers}) = \log(\text{Markets}) + \log(\text{Customers per markets})$$

$$\log(\text{Markets})_{it} = \alpha + \beta_M \log(\text{Customers})_{it} + \gamma_i + \delta_t + \epsilon_{it}$$

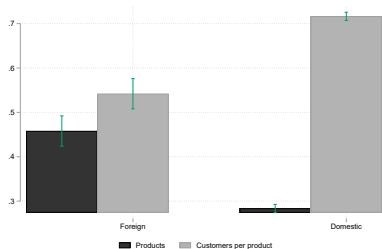
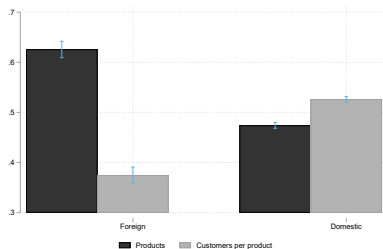
$$\log(\text{Customers per markets})_{it} = \alpha + \beta_C \log(\text{Customers})_{it} + \gamma_i + \delta_t + \epsilon_{it}$$

$$\beta_M + \beta_C \equiv 1$$

$\gamma_i$  are firm fixed effects and  $\delta_t$  are year fixed effects

# Domestic firms acquire customers relatively more within product markets

Across firms / Within firms over time



table

- 1 Domestic firms grow relatively more through surviving goods
- 2 Domestic products have a slower life-cycle
- 3 Customer growth is key to firm growth, especially for domestic firms
- 4 Domestic firms acquire customers relatively more within products
- 5 The new customers of older domestic products are poorer



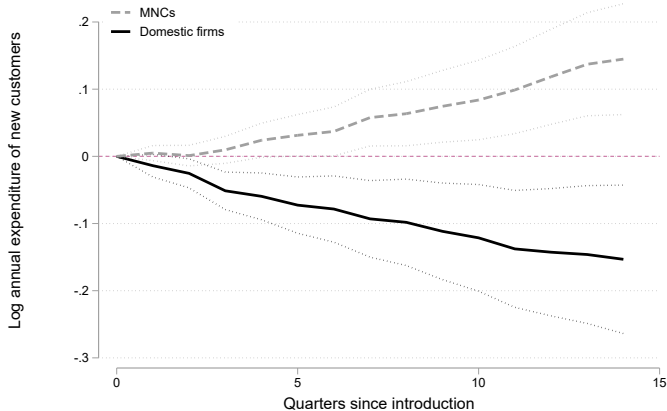
# Who are the new customers of older goods?

$$\log Y_{u,i,t} = \alpha + \sum_{a=1} \beta_a D_a + \lambda_{jt} + \theta_c + \delta_g + u_{u,t}$$

Where  $Y_{u,t}$  is the the annual expenditure of the new customers of product  $u$  at quarter  $t$

We control for product category by quarter fixed effects  $\lambda_{jt}$ , cohort fixed effects  $\theta_c$ , and city fixed effects  $\delta_g$

# The new customers of older domestic goods are poorer



city

SES

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Setting and Data
- 3 Stylized Facts
- 4 Conceptual Framework**
- 5 Mechanism

- New good of unknown quality  $x$  R. V. with prior  $\mu_0$
- Agents maximize utility

$$u(x) = \max \{ \mu - \beta_i p, 0 \}$$

- There are two agents  $i$ , where price-sensitivity  $\beta_i \in \{\beta_L, \beta_H\}$ ,  $\beta_H > \beta_L$ .
- They each represent a share  $\gamma_i$  of the market, where  $\gamma_i \in \{\gamma_L, \gamma_H\}$ ,  $\gamma_H > \gamma_L$ .

# Sequence of events

- In each period, agents decide whether to buy the new good or not.
- Once they have tried the good, they immediately learn the true quality.
- If they like the good, they continue buying for 3 periods and exit.
- If they don't, they immediately exit.
- Everybody observes whether the good has been purchased or not.

## Period $t$

- Suppose no agent has purchased the good yet.
- Everyone has the same prior  $\mu_t$ .

$$\mu_t - \beta_i p > 0?$$

## Period $t$

- Suppose no agent has purchased the good yet.
- Everyone has the same prior  $\mu_t$ .

$$\mu_t - \beta_i p > 0?$$

- Suppose one agent purchases the good.
- It must be the agent with the lowest  $\beta$ : the “leader”.
- Immediately after, she learns the true quality  $x$ .

## Period $t+1$

- The “follower” has not purchased and not learned. For him,

$$\mu_{t+1} = \mu_t$$

- The “leader” has learned and faces a new problem:

$$x - \beta_L p > 0?$$

She decides whether to buy the good again or not.



## Period $t+2$

- If the “leader” has not bought in  $t + 1$ :
  - The “follower” agent learns that that  $x < \beta_L p$
  - Updates his belief  $\mu_{t+2}(x < \beta_L p) < \mu_{t+1} = \mu_t$
  - If he didn't experiment with  $\mu_t$ , he won't with  $\mu_{t+2}$ .
- If the the “leader” has bought in  $t + 1$ :
  - The “follower” agent learns that  $x > \beta_L p$
  - He updates his belief  $\mu_{t+2}(x > \beta_L p) > \mu_{t+1}$
  - He might decide to start buying the good.

# Life-cycle of a successful product

With unknown quality:

Quarter	0	1	2	3	4	5
$\beta_L$	$\gamma_L$	$\gamma_L$	$\gamma_L$	0	0	0
$\beta_H$	0	0	$\gamma_H$	$\gamma_H$	$\gamma_H$	0
Total	$\gamma_L$	$\gamma_L$	$\gamma_L + \gamma_H$	$\gamma_H$	$\gamma_H$	0
Quarter FE	.	0	$+\gamma_H$	$+\gamma_H - \gamma_L$	$+\gamma_H - \gamma_L$	$-\gamma_L$

# Life-cycle of a successful product

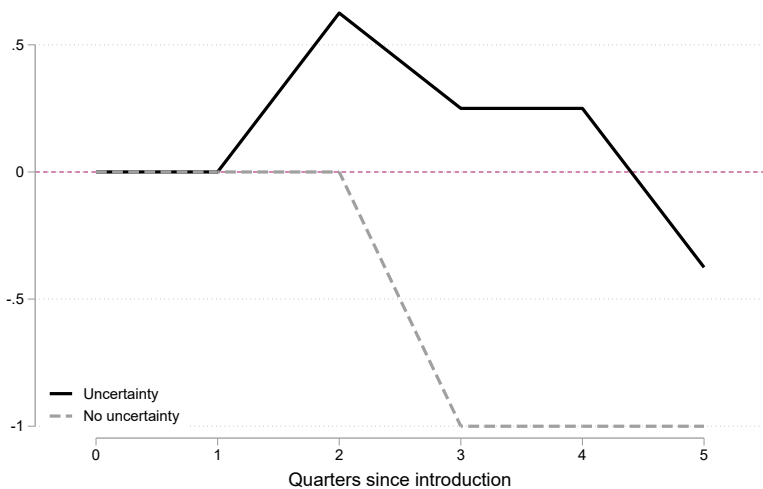
With unknown quality:

Quarter	0	1	2	3	4	5
$\beta_L$	$\gamma_L$	$\gamma_L$	$\gamma_L$	0	0	0
$\beta_H$	0	0	$\gamma_H$	$\gamma_H$	$\gamma_H$	0
Total	$\gamma_L$	$\gamma_L$	$\gamma_L + \gamma_H$	$\gamma_H$	$\gamma_H$	0
Quarter FE	.	0	$+\gamma_H$	$+\gamma_H - \gamma_L$	$+\gamma_H - \gamma_L$	$-\gamma_L$

With known quality:

Quarter	0	1	2	3	4	5
$\beta_L$	$\gamma_L$	$\gamma_L$	$\gamma_L$	0	0	0
$\beta_H$	$\gamma_H$	$\gamma_H$	$\gamma_H$	0	0	0
Total	$\gamma_L + \gamma_H$	$\gamma_L + \gamma_H$	$\gamma_L + \gamma_H$	0	0	0
Quarter FE	.	0	0	$-\gamma_H - \gamma_L$	.	.

# Trajectory



What can be done to accelerate adoption?

- 1 Provoke experimentation: subsidize first purchase
- 2 Reduce uncertainty: raise and enforce quality regulation
- 3 Substitute for social learning: leverage brand power

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Setting and Data
- 3 Stylized Facts
- 4 Conceptual Framework
- 5 Mechanism**

# Measuring individual learning

Looking only at product consumer  $i$  did not consumer in year  $t - 1$ ,

$$y_{i,jk,t} = \alpha + \beta y_{ij,t-1} + \gamma D_j + \delta D_j \times y_{j,t-1} + d_i + \epsilon_{i,jk,t}$$

- $i$  is the consumer,  $j$  is the brand,  $k$  the product,  $t$  is the year
- $y_{ij,t-1}$  is a dummy that turns on if the individual has experience with the brand (excluding the product) in the past year.
- $D_j$  is a dummy that turns on if the brand is domestic
- we control for individual fixed effects  $d_i$

# Domestic brand effects are larger

	Current consumption			
	Brand (1)	Barcode (2)	Firm (3)	Country (4)
Previous consumption	0.018 (0.000)	0.326 (0.001)	0.012 (0.000)	0.007 (0.000)
Domestic	-0.002 (0.000)	-0.004 (0.000)	-0.002 (0.000)	-0.004 (0.000)
Previous consumption X Domestic	0.007 (0.000)	0.070 (0.001)	0.008 (0.000)	0.000 (.)
Hhd FEs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year FEs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Control mean	0.007	0.013	0.005	0.008
N	6141346	6259248	6141346	6141346
R2	0.01	0.12	0.01	0.00



# Measuring learning heterogeneity

Looking only at product consumer  $i$  did not consumer in year  $t - 1$ ,

$$y_{i,jk,t} = \alpha + \beta y_{ij,t-1} + \gamma D_k + \delta D_k \times y_{ij,t-1} + d_i + \epsilon_{i,jk,t}$$

- $i$  is the consumer,  $j$  is the brand,  $k$  the product,  $t$  is the year
- $y_{ij,t-1}$  is a dummy that turns on if the individual has experience with the brand (excluding the product) in the past year.
- $D_k$  is a dummy that turns on if the product quality is salient
  - food vs other
  - baby diapers vs other paper
  - infant formula vs other milk
- we control for individual fixed effects  $d_i$

# Consumers react more to experience with high-salience products

	Current consumption		
	All	Milk	Pads
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Previous consumption	0.017 (0.000)	0.025 (0.001)	0.014 (0.001)
Salient category	0.000 (0.000)	-0.001 (0.001)	-0.004 (0.001)
Previous consumption X Salient	0.005 (0.000)	0.041 (0.006)	0.002 (0.002)
Hhd FEs	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year FEs	Yes	Yes	Yes
Control mean	0.008	0.009	0.009
N	6141346	252782	175652
R2	0.01	0.01	0.01

# Measuring learning heterogeneity

Looking only at product consumer  $i$  did not consumer in year  $t - 1$ ,

$$y_{i,jk,t} = \alpha + \beta y_{ij,t-1} + \gamma D_i + \delta D_i \times y_{ij,t-1} + d_k + \epsilon_{i,jk,t}$$

- $i$  is the consumer,  $j$  is the brand,  $k$  the product,  $t$  is the year
- $y_{ij,t-1}$  is a dummy that turns on if the individual has experience with the brand (excluding the product) in the past year.
- $D_i$  is a dummy that turns on if the consumer belongs to the bottom half of the expenditure distribution
- we control for barcode fixed effects  $d_k$

# Poorer households react more to experience

	Current consumption			
	Brand (1)	Barcode (2)	Firm (3)	Country (4)
Previous consumption	0.020 (0.000)	0.290 (0.000)	0.017 (0.000)	0.011 (0.000)
Low expenditure	-0.004 (0.001)	-0.005 (0.001)	-0.004 (0.001)	-0.007 (0.003)
Previous consumption X Low expenditure	0.005 (0.001)	0.107 (0.003)	0.002 (0.001)	0.005 (0.003)
Barcode FEs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year FEs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Control mean	0.007	0.013	0.005	0.008
N	6141346	6259248	6141346	6141346
R2	0.05	0.17	0.05	0.05

- In the Mexican consumer goods sector, domestic firms have quite different growth patterns compared to MNCs.
- Part of these differences can be attributed to hesitant demand for new domestic goods.
- Uncertainty about product quality may be one contributor.
- Marketing strategies may help address this problem.
- Policy intervention raising quality and transparency could also help support the domestic sector.

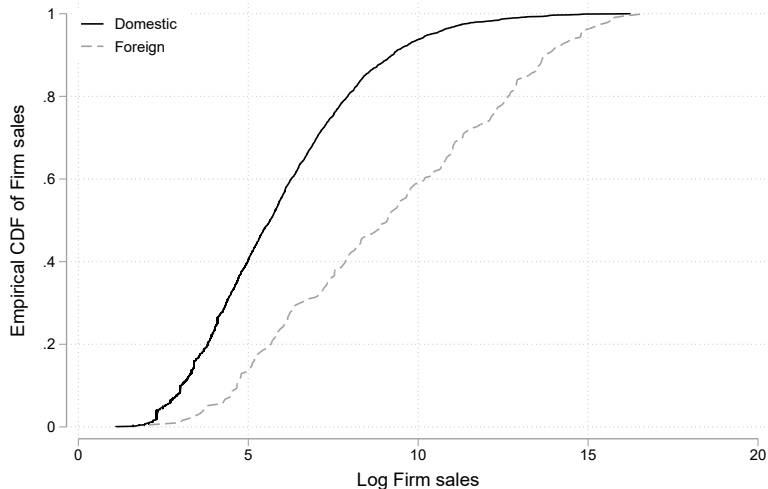
# Thank you

Thank you!

[www.louiseguillouet.com](http://www.louiseguillouet.com)  
[louise.guillouet@columbia.edu](mailto:louise.guillouet@columbia.edu)

# Appendix slides

# The distribution of firm size in the Mexican Consumer goods sector



[back](#)

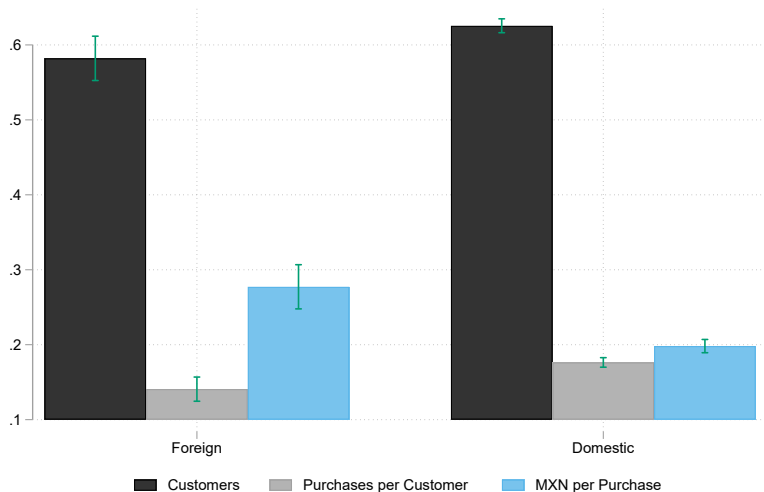


Date	id	product	subproduct	brand	producer	charac1	charac2	[...]	content	hhid
2013/02/17	1	Energy drinks	regular	Burn	Coca-Cola	.	can	[...]	310 ML	a
2013/09/05	2	Snacks	.	Doritos	Sabritas	Pizzerolas	bag	[...]	52gr	b
2013/12/26	2	Oil	Oil	1-2-3	La Corona	Vegetal	plastic	[...]	500 ML	b

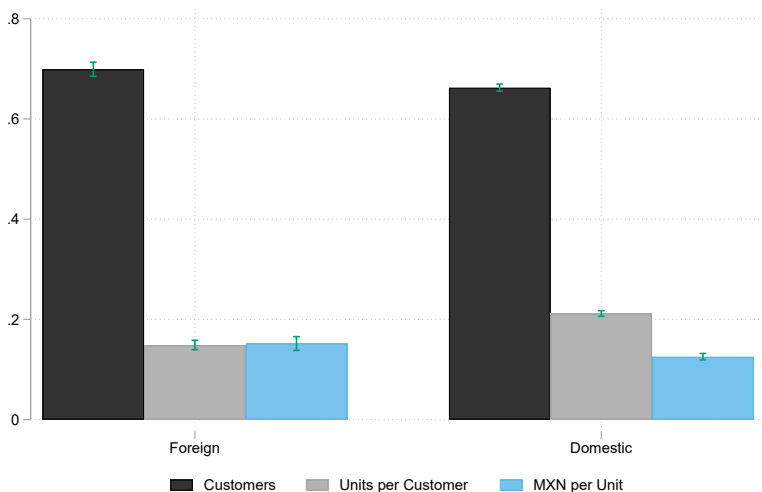
[back](#)

# The fastest-growing firms also acquire customers the fastest

Number of purchases instead of Volume



# The fastest-growing firm-industry pairs also acquire customers the fastest



# The customer margin is the key one to increase sales

Panel A: All firms			
Dep. var:	Customers	Items per C	MXN per item
All	0.622*** (0.005)	0.215*** (0.004)	0.162*** (0.004)
N	12064	12064	12064
R2	0.97	0.91	0.89

Panel B: Mexican firms			
Dep. var:	Customers	Items per C	MXN per item
All	0.625*** (0.005)	0.218*** (0.004)	0.157*** (0.005)
N	10943	10943	10943
R2	0.97	0.91	0.88

Panel C: Foreign Firms			
Dep. var:	Customers	Items per C	MXN per item
All	0.586*** (0.015)	0.171*** (0.010)	0.243*** (0.016)
N	1121	1121	1121
R2	0.99	0.96	0.91

# How to get more customers

Panel A: All firms						
Dep. var:	Cities	per city	Chains	per chain	Products	per product
All	0.630*** (0.004)	0.370*** (0.004)	0.595*** (0.004)	0.405*** (0.004)	0.294*** (0.005)	0.706*** (0.005)
N	12257	12257	12428	12428	12428	12428
R2	0.97	0.95	0.96	0.94	0.96	0.95

Panel B: Mexican firms						
Dep. var:	Cities	per city	Chains	per chain	Products	per product
Mexican firms	0.629*** (0.004)	0.371*** (0.004)	0.596*** (0.004)	0.404*** (0.004)	0.283*** (0.005)	0.717*** (0.005)
N	11165	11165	11283	11283	11283	11283
R2	0.96	0.94	0.96	0.93	0.95	0.95

Panel C: Foreign Firms						
Dep. var:	Cities	per city	Chains	per chain	Products	per product
Foreign firms	0.649*** (0.012)	0.351*** (0.012)	0.565*** (0.014)	0.435*** (0.014)	0.451*** (0.017)	0.549*** (0.017)
N	1092	1092	1145	1145	1145	1145
R2	0.99	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.96

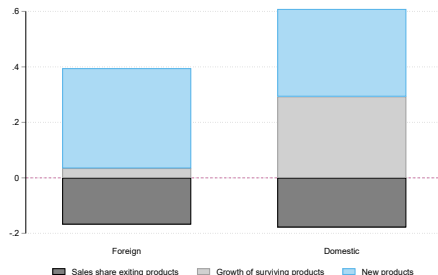
# New goods entry rate

(1)-(3): all firms, (4)-(6): conditional on having at least one not new good

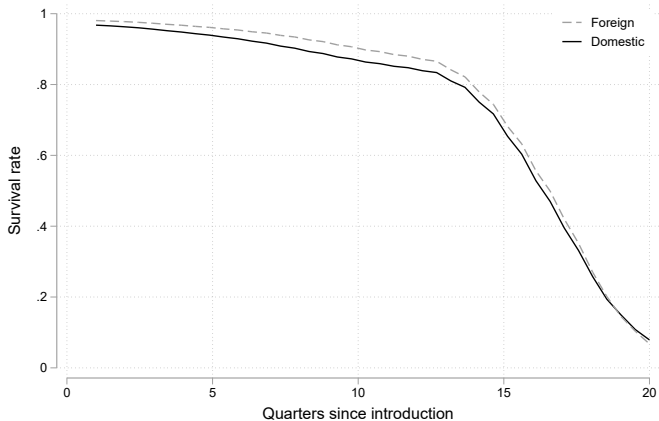
	Share new products					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Mexican	0.046 (0.012)	0.035 (0.013)	0.041 (0.013)	-0.046 (0.007)	-0.047 (0.007)	-0.037 (0.007)
Firm sales, mMXN		-0.025 (0.006)	0.017 (0.009)		-0.004 (0.003)	-0.003 (0.005)
Number of old varieties			-0.000 (0.000)			0.000 (0.000)
Firm leader in category			-0.062 (0.034)			-0.013 (0.017)
Category FEs	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
Baseline share (foreign)	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.16	0.16	0.16
N	12127	12127	12126	10008	10008	10008
R2	0.06	0.06	0.12	0.01	0.01	0.06

back

# Domestic firms grow much more through surviving goods over 5 years

[table](#)[back](#)

# No differential exit

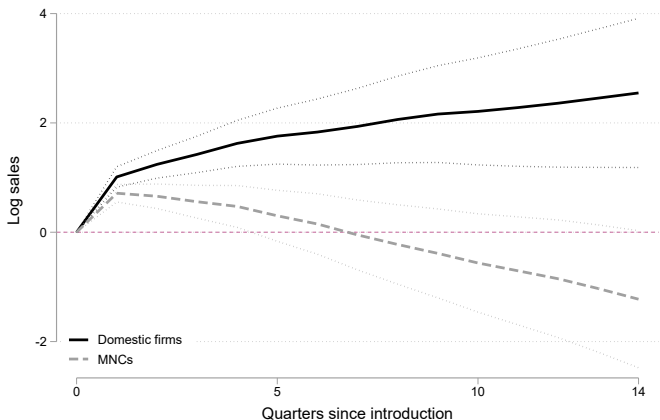


[back](#)

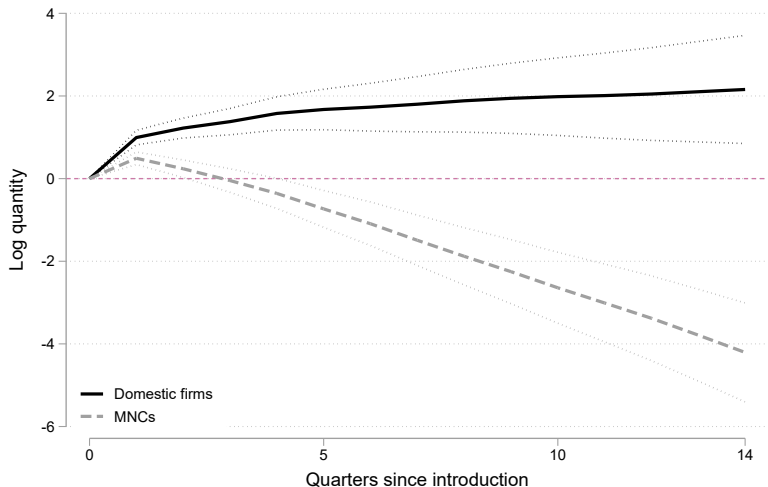


# Domestic products have a slower life-cycle

Twice narrower fixed effects at the product category level (X quarter level)



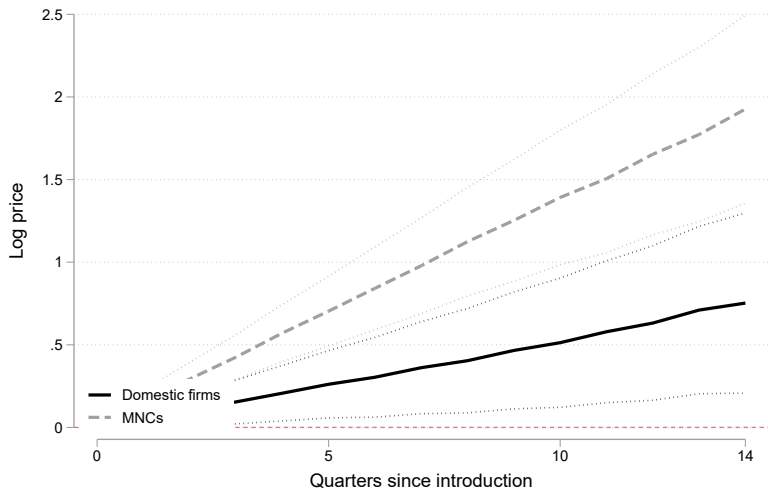
# Product life-cycle, quantity



sales

price

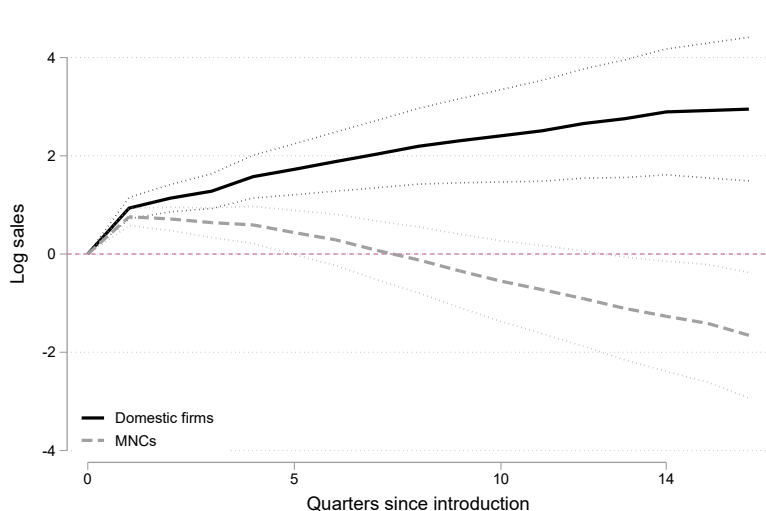
# Product life-cycle, price



sales

quantity

# Product life-cycle, longer period



narrower fixed effects

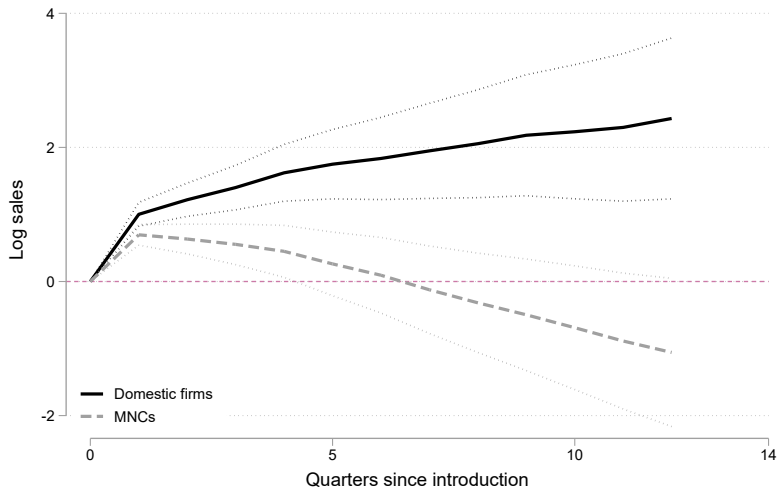
back

12 quarters

quantity

price

# Product life-cycle, shorter period



narrower fixed effects

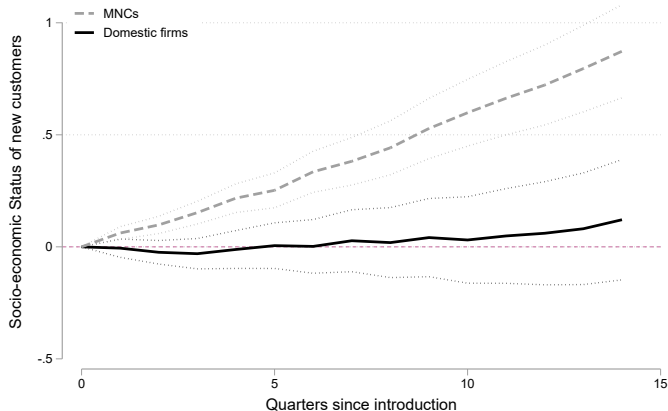
back

16 quarters

quantity

price

# The new customers of older foreign goods have a higher SES



[back](#)

# The new cities of domestic products are not different from the new cities of foreign product

