

Quantitative International Economics

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Weeks 7 and 8 - Economic Development - Part 2
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Outline

- Economic Development - An introduction
- We will cover a series of tools and applications to think about economic development
 - Non-homothetic preferences
 - Structural change
 - **Heterogeneous workers and land**

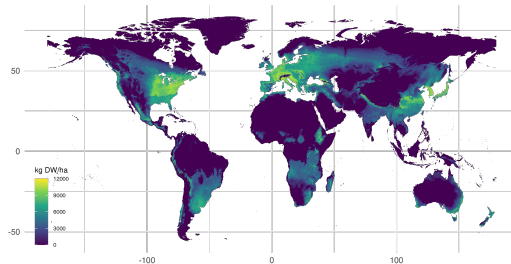
Outline

- Focus on land heterogeneity
 - Technique is very similar when applied to worker heterogeneity
- Recent evolution of land use models and data from FAO-GAEZ
- A simple land use model
- Farrokhi and Pellegrina (2023)

Land Use Models

Land Use Models

- Class of models that allow for rich granular geography in agricultural production and connection to rich agroclimatic (e.g., FAO-GAEZ)
 - Costinot, Donaldson, and Smith “Evolving comparative advantage and the impact of climate change in agricultural markets: Evidence from 1.7 million fields around the world” (2016)
 - Only variable input is land
 - Sotelo “Domestic trade frictions and agriculture” (2020)
 - Added variable labor and intermediate inputs
 - Farrokhi and Pellegrina “Trade, Technology and Agricultural Productivity” (2023)
 - Added multiple technology choices



- GAEZ \Rightarrow Global Agro-Ecological Zones
- What would be the total output of an agro-ecological zone (grid of $\sim 10 \text{ km}^2$) if the entire area were allocated to wheat production?
 - Data comes under different assumptions on technology use (no intermediate inputs vs high intermediate inputs)
 - Important: data is constructed without any information about local market conditions

FAO-GAEZ and TFP Calibration

- For non-agriculture sectors, we were saturating the data in terms of the gross output
 - Based on assumptions about production function, and implied use of factors of production, we could invert the model to recover the TFP
- For agriculture, we will be able to use FAO-GAEZ as our measures of TFP
 - Unique to agriculture, agroclimatic characteristics contain very useful information about productivity
 - No saturation of the data

Applications using FAO-GAEZ

- Other structural applications
 - Conte (2024), Dominguez-lino (2024), Pellegrina (2022), Adamopoulos and Restuccia (2022)
- RF applications
 - Bustos, Caprettini and Ponticelli (2016) Bustos, Garber and Ponticelli (2020), Nunn and Qian (2011), Fiszbein (2022)

A Simple Agricultural Economy

- Many countries indexed by $i, n \in \mathcal{I}$
 - Every country endowed with land L_i
- Many crops indexed by $k \in \mathcal{K}$
- Iceberg trade costs τ_{in}

Preferences

- Upper-tier: choice of crops

$$C_i = \left(\sum_k a_{ik}^{\frac{1}{\kappa}} C_{ik}^{\frac{\kappa-1}{\kappa}} \right)^{\frac{\kappa}{\kappa-1}}$$

- Lower-tier: choice of origin

$$C_{i,k} = \left(\sum_{n \in \mathcal{I}} a_{ni,k}^{\frac{1}{\kappa}} C_{ni,k}^{\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma}} \right)^{\frac{\sigma}{\sigma-1}}$$

Consumption Choices

- Share of consumption in crop k

$$\beta_{i,k} = \frac{a_{i,k} P_{i,k}^{1-\kappa}}{P_i^{1-\kappa}}$$

where

$$P_i^{1-\kappa} = \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} a_{i,k} P_{i,k}^{1-\kappa}$$

- Share of consumption in goods from origin i

$$\beta_{in,k} = \frac{a_{in,k} (p_{i,k} \tau_{in,k})^{1-\sigma}}{P_{i,k}^{1-\sigma}}$$

where

$$P_{i,k}^{1-\sigma} = \sum_{n \in \mathcal{I}} a_{ni} (p_{n,k} \tau_{ni,k})^{1-\sigma}$$

Production

- Every country is split into many fields $f \in \mathcal{F}_i$ of equal sizes. Every field constitutes of a continuum of plots ℓ
 - Field will correspond to grids in the data from FAO-GAEZ

- Technology in plot ℓ , field f in country i of crop k is

$$Q_{i,k}^f(\ell) = z_{i,k}^f(\ell) L_{i,k}^f(\ell)$$

- $L_{i,k}^f(\ell)$ is the amount of land that agricultural producer allocates to crop k in plot ℓ
- Revenues from allocating plot ℓ to crop k is

$$Y_{i,k}^f(\ell) = p_{i,k} Q_{i,k}^f(\ell) = p_{i,k} z_{i,k}^f(\ell) L_{i,k}^f(\ell)$$

- Within a plot, all land will be allocated to the production of a single crop

Land use choices

- Agricultural producers choose to produce the crop that maximizes their revenues in every plot

$$\max_k \left\{ p_{i,1} z_{i,1}^f(\ell), \dots, p_{i,K} z_{i,K}^f(\ell) \right\}$$

- Assume that $z_{i,k}^f(\ell)$ is drawn from a Fréchet with location parameter $T_{i,k}^f$ and dispersion parameter θ
- Integrate discrete choices that maximum land revenues over continuum of plots to obtain

$$\alpha_{i,k}^f = \frac{\left(T_{i,k}^f p_{i,k} \right)^\theta}{\sum_{k'} \left(T_{i,k'}^f p_{i,k'} \right)^\theta}$$

Quantities produced

- Quantity of crop k produced in field f

$$Q_{i,k}^f = T_{i,k}^f \left(\alpha_{i,k}^f \right)^{\frac{\theta-1}{\theta}}$$

- Quantity of crop k produced in country i

$$Q_{i,k}^f = \sum_{f \in \mathcal{F}_i} Q_{i,k}^f$$

General Equilibrium

- Income

$$E_i = \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} p_{i,k} Q_{i,k} \quad (1)$$

- Trade

$$X_{in} = \beta_{in,k} \beta_{n,k} E_n \quad (2)$$

where

$$\beta_{in,k} = \frac{a_{in,k} (p_{i,k} \tau_{in,k})^{1-\sigma}}{P_{i,k}^{1-\sigma}} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta_{i,k} = \frac{a_{i,k} P_{i,k}^{1-\kappa}}{P_i^{1-\kappa}} \quad (3)$$

$$P_{i,k}^{1-\sigma} = \sum_{n \in \mathcal{I}} a_{ni} (p_{n,k} \tau_{ni,k})^{1-\sigma} \quad \text{and} \quad P_i^{1-\kappa} = \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} a_{i,k} P_{i,k}^{1-\kappa} \quad (4)$$

- Production

$$Q_{n,k} = \sum_{f \in \mathcal{F}_i} T_{i,k}^f \left(\alpha_{i,k}^f \right)^{\frac{\theta-1}{\theta}} \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_{i,k}^f = \frac{\left(T_{i,k}^f p_{i,k} \right)^\theta}{\sum_{k' \in \mathcal{K}} \left(T_{i,k'}^f p_{i,k'} \right)^\theta} \quad (5)$$

Definition: Given technology $\{T_{n,k}^f\}_{f,k}$ and $\{\theta\}$, trade costs $\{\tau_{ni}\}_{ni}$, and preferences $\{\sigma, \kappa, a_{in,k}, a_{i,k}\}$, an equilibrium is a vector of prices $\{p_{i,k}\}_{i,k}$ that satisfies equations (1)-(5).

An Algorithm

- Step 1: Guess a vector of wages $p_{i,k}^g$ (pick a normalization)
- Step 2: Construct E_n
- Step 3: Construct $\beta_{ni,k}$, $\beta_{i,k}$ and $X_{in,k}$
- Step 4: Construct the demand for crop $Q_{i,k}^{dem} = \sum_k \sum_i X_{in,k} / p_{i,k}^g$
- Step 5: Construct the supply for crop $Q_{i,k}^{sup} = \sum_{f \in \mathcal{F}_i} T_{i,k}^f \left(\alpha_{i,k}^f \right)^{\frac{\theta-1}{\theta}}$
- Step 6: Check goods market clearing
 - If $\max_i \{|Q_{i,k}^{dem} - Q_{i,k}^{sup}|\} < \epsilon$ and $\max_i \{|Q_{i,k}^{dem} - Q_{i,k}^{sup}|\} < \epsilon$, then stop algorithm
 - Otherwise, update $p_{i,k}^g$ go back to step 2
 - Increase $p_{i,k}^g$ if $Q_{i,k}^{dem} - Q_{i,k}^{sup} > 0$ and decrease $p_{i,k}^g$ if $Q_{i,k}^{dem} - Q_{i,k}^{sup} < 0$

Calibration of $T_{i,k}^f$

- What is the total output of a field f if the entire area was allocated to crop k ?

$$\begin{aligned} q_{i,k}^f &= T_{i,k}^f \left(\underbrace{\alpha_{i,k}^f}_{=1} \right)^{\frac{\theta-1}{\theta}} \\ &= T_{i,k}^f \end{aligned}$$

- FAO-GAEZ \Rightarrow total output if the entire field were allocated to crop k , call it $T_{i,k}^{f,GAEZ}$
- We can then set

$$T_{i,k}^f = T_{i,k}^{f,GAEZ}$$

- And simulate the model using these value for $T_{i,k}^f$

Returns to land

- In Eaton and Kortum (2002), the avg. price of goods coming from any importing country was the same. What is the equivalent result here?
- The avg. return to land allocated to each crop k will be the same within a field, in other words

$$E\left(y_{i,k}^f(\ell)\right) = E\left(y_{i,k}^f(\ell) | k\right) \text{ for any } k$$

- To see this, write the measured yield (output per hectare) of a crop in field f , $y_{i,k}^f$,

$$y_{i,k}^f = \frac{p_{i,k} T_{i,k}^f \left(\alpha_{i,k}^f\right)^{\frac{\theta-1}{\theta}}}{\alpha_{i,k}^f} \Rightarrow y_{i,k}^f = \left(\sum_{k'} \left(T_{i,k'}^f p_{i,k'}\right)^\theta\right)^{\frac{1}{\theta}}$$

- If I increase the productivity of a single crop k' , $T_{i,k'}^f$, then the measured yield of all crops will experience the same increase
 - When you use these techniques to model worker heterogeneity in productivity, you will get the same implication: avg. returns to labor (or avg wage) across choices are equalized

Farrokhi and Pellegrina (2023)

Introduction

- Technology adoption often depends on having access to foreign intermediate inputs
 - E.g. semiconductors for electronics, garment machinery for textile
- Technology adoption in agriculture has been crucial for economic development
 - Agricultural modernization: **Traditional (labor-intensive)** → **Modern (input-intensive)**
 - Johnston and Mellor (1961), Schultz et al. (1968), Gollin et al. (2007)
 - Little is known about the role of int'l trade
 - 2/3 of intermediate inputs in agriculture are purchased in int'l markets
- **This paper:** What is the impact of int'l trade on agricultural technology adoption? What are the implications for ag productivity and welfare across the world?

Introduction: Traditional vs Modern Agriculture

Traditional (labor-intensive)



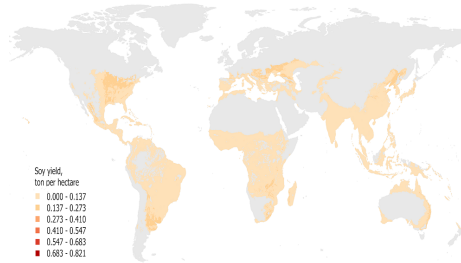
Modern (input-intensive)



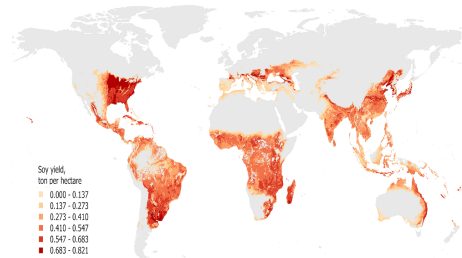
Measures of Productivity by Crop and Technology

- **FAO-GAEZ**: Potential yields for every **crop-technology pair** in more than one million **fields** (grid-cells) based on agroclimatic conditions

a. Traditional Technology



b. Modern Technology



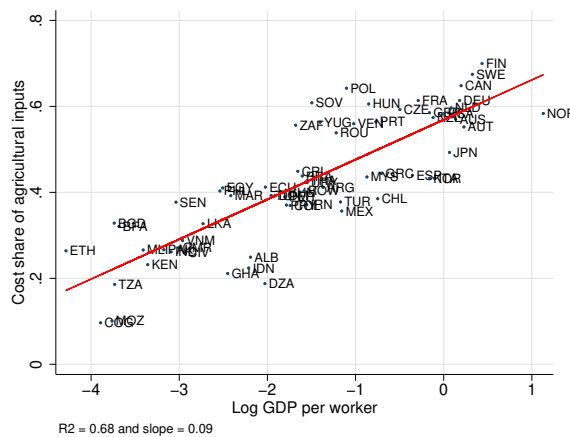
What we do

- Empirical patterns: economic development, agr-input use, and trade
- Global trade model: **rich spatial structure** + **endogenous technology choice**
 - In every **field**: choices of **what crop** to produce and with **which technology**
 - We bridge two approaches
 - Crop specialization and comp. adv. (Costinot et al. 2016, Sotelo 2020) → *Not technology choice*
 - Agricultural modernization in closed-economy (Gollin et al., 2017) → *No trade*
 - **This paper**: trade in ag inputs → choices of technology → ag productivity
 - Analytical results for the GFT and PPF
- Estimate the model to evaluate
 - Effects of globalization in agriculture → Δ trade costs 1980-2007
 - Global transmission of shocks → Δ productivity of ag-input sector 1980-2007

Data

- **Cross-country:** 65 countries + ROW
 - Production and trade by sector (UN, FAOSTAT, and others)
 - Agricultural input use
 - Crop production (FAOSTAT)
- **Field-level:** approximately 1.1 mi fields (5 minutes arc $\sim 10 \times 10$ km)
 - Potential yields by crop and technology
 - FAO-GAEZ
- **Microregion:** 80 thousand microregions
 - Input use (fertilizers, pesticides, machinery, etc) at the plot, farm or microregion level
 - Source: LSMS (World Bank) + agricultural censuses
 - 10 Countries: COL, IND, UGA, GHA, ETH, NGA, ARG, BRA, PER, MWI

Empirical Pattern 1: GDP per capita and cost share of ag inputs



Empirical Patterns 2 and 3

- **Empirical pattern 2:** Import content of agricultural input use is large
 - On avg, imports account for **65% of a country's expenditure on agricultural inputs**
 - Several countries import more than **90% of their agricultural inputs**
 - Production is **globally concentrated**
 - Fertilizers → availability of natural resources
 - Tractors and pesticide → production capability in machinery and chemicals

Empirical Patterns 2 and 3

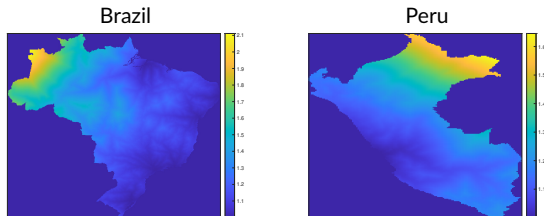
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- **Empirical pattern 3:** large potential yield improvement from modern over traditional technology (FAO-GAEZ)
 - No corr. between yield improvements and GDP per capita

Empirical Pattern 4: Modern Technology and Internal Geography

- Corr. between access to exporting hubs and technology adoption

$$(\text{modern share})_{\ell i, k} = \delta_{i, k} + \beta \log (\text{Trade Cost to nearest Hub})_{\ell i} + \epsilon_{\ell i, k}$$

- modern share $_{\ell i, k}$: is the share of area in microregion ℓ producing crop k using modern technologies (any chemical fertilizer) in country i
- Trade cost to hubs based on Allen and Arkolakis (2014) using data on
 - Exporting hubs (main ports and big cities)
 - Rivers, roads and railroads



Empirical Pattern 4: Modern Technology and Internal Geography

	DV: Modern Land Share		
	(1)	(2)	(3)
log(Trade Cost to Nearest Hub)	-0.536*** (0.146)	-0.608*** (0.156)	-1.312*** (0.180)
R2	0.114	0.309	0.441
Obs	78250	78199	78199
Country FE	Y		
Country-crop FE		Y	Y
Potential Yield			Y

The Model

- Multiple countries $i \in \mathcal{N}$
 - Endowed by Land (L_n), Labor (N_n), Raw Fertilizers (V_n)
- Space of goods, $g = \underbrace{0}_{\text{non-ag}}, \underbrace{1, \dots, J}_{\text{ag-inputs } j \in \mathcal{J}}, \underbrace{J+1, \dots, J+K}_{\text{ag-output } k \in \mathcal{K}}$
 - A non-agricultural good, multiple ag-inputs $j \in \mathcal{J}$, multiple ag-outputs $k \in \mathcal{K}$
- Consumption: three tier (Armington) structure
 - Upper tier: CES for ag vs non-ag
 - Middle tier: CES between agricultural goods (e.g., wheat vs soy)
 - Lower tier: CES between varieties from different countries (e.g., soy from Brazil vs from USA)
- Iceberg international trade costs $d_{ij,g}$

The Model: Field-level ingredients

- Land L_n consists of many fields f , each consisting of a continuum of plots ω
 - In each plot ω , ag producers choose a **crop-technology** pair
- Production function

$$Q_{i,k\tau}^f(\omega) = \bar{q}_{k\tau} \left(\underbrace{z_{i,k\tau}^f(\omega)}_{\text{productivity}} \underbrace{L_{i,k\tau}^f(\omega)}_{\text{land}} \right)^{\gamma_{k\tau}^L} \left(\underbrace{N_{i,k\tau}^f(\omega)}_{\text{labor}} \right)^{\gamma_{k\tau}^N} \left(\underbrace{\prod_{j \in \mathcal{J}} \left(M_{i,k\tau}^{j,f}(\omega) \right)^{\lambda_k^j}}_{\text{ag inputs}} \right)^{\gamma_{k\tau}^M}$$

- Technologies: Traditional ($\tau = 0$), Modern ($\tau = 1$)
 - $\gamma_{k0}^M = 0$ for traditional technology
 - $\gamma_{k1}^M > 0$ for modern technology

Agricultural production at the plot level

- Returns to land in plot ω :

$$r_{i,k\tau}^f(\omega) = \underbrace{z_{i,k\tau}^f(\omega)}_{\text{land productivity}} \times \underbrace{h_{i,k\tau}}_{\text{price effect}}$$

- Price effect:

$$h_{i,k\tau} = \underbrace{p_{i,k}}_{\text{output price}} \times \underbrace{\left(\frac{w_i}{p_{i,k}}\right)^{-\gamma_{k\tau}^N/\gamma_{k\tau}^L} \left(\frac{m_{i,k}}{p_{i,k}}\right)^{-\gamma_{k\tau}^M/\gamma_{k\tau}^L}}_{\text{relative wage \& input price}}$$

- In every plot ω , choose **crop-technology** pair with highest return: $\max_{k\tau} \{r_{i,k\tau}^f(\omega)\}$
- Aggregate supply:
 - Sum over plot-level choices \rightarrow Field-level quantities
 - Sum over field-level quantities \rightarrow Country-level quantity

The Model: Aggregation over plot-level choices

- Vector of productivities, $\mathbf{z}_i^f(\omega)$, drawn from a generalized Frechet [See details](#)
 - $a_{i,k\tau}^f \rightarrow$ controls **average** productivity draws across plots
 - θ_1 and $\theta_2 \rightarrow$ control the **dispersion** of draws between “crops” and between “technologies”
- Fraction of land in field f allocated to crop-technology (k, z)

$$\pi_{i,k\tau}^f = \underbrace{\frac{(H_{i,k}^f)^{\theta_1}}{\sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} (H_{i,k}^f)^{\theta_1}}}_{\alpha_{i,k}^f} \times \underbrace{\frac{\left(a_{i,k\tau}^f h_{i,k\tau}\right)^{\theta_2}}{(H_{i,k}^f)^{\theta_2}}}_{\alpha_{i,k\tau}^f}$$

share of land in crop k share of land in tech τ within crop k

- $h_{i,k\tau}$: return to crop-technology pair
- $H_{i,k}^f = \left(\sum_{\tau} (a_{i,k\tau}^f h_{i,k\tau})^{\theta_2}\right)^{1/\theta_2}$: avg return to crop k

The Model: Aggregation over field-level quantities

- Output quantities at the field-level

$$Q_{i,k\tau}^f \propto L_i^f \times \underbrace{a_{i,k\tau}^f}_{\text{productivity}} \times \underbrace{(\alpha_{i,k}^f)^{\frac{\theta_1-1}{\theta_1}}}_{\text{crop choice}} \times \underbrace{(\alpha_{i,k\tau}^f)^{\frac{\theta_2-1}{\theta_2}}}_{\text{technology choice}}$$

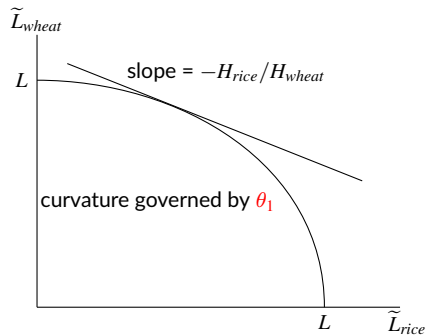
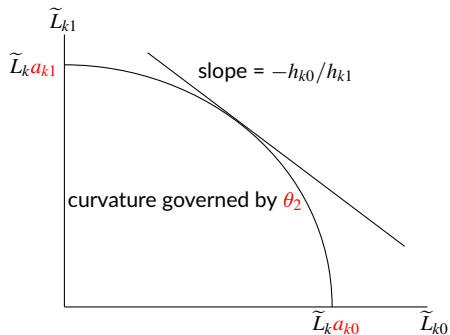
- $\alpha_{i,k}^f$: Share of area in crop k
- $\alpha_{i,k\tau}^f$: Share of area in technology τ (given crop k)
- Output quantities for a given crop at the country-level

$$Q_{i,k} = \sum_{f \in \mathcal{F}_i} \sum_{\tau} Q_{i,k\tau}^f$$

- General equilibrium: Prices that equalize demand and supply of all goods in all locations

Analytical Discussion: Production Possibility Frontier (PPF)

- **PPF in every field (within a country):** representation with 2 crops and 2 technologies



- Each country is a *collection* of PPFs

Analytical Discussion: Gains from Trade

- Pared-down version of the model
 - One agricultural good + One big plot f per country
 - No domestic production of ag inputs → only traditional technology in autarky
- The gains from trade:

$$G_i = 1 - \underbrace{(\lambda_{ii})^{\frac{1}{\sigma-1}}}_{\text{Trade}} \underbrace{(\alpha_{i,0})^{\frac{1}{\theta_2}}}_{\text{Technology}}$$

- λ_{ii} : domestic share of expenditure
- $\alpha_{i,0}$: share of land allocated to traditional technology
- Back of the envelope calculations
 - For COL, $\lambda_{ii} = 0.85$ and $\alpha_0 = 0.55$, evaluated at $\sigma = 5.7$ and $\theta_2 = 4.5$
 - GFT with ACR only 3.4% → GFT with Technology 18.6%
- (In the paper) General version for welfare changes

Check expressions

Taking the Model to Data

- Full-fledge, quantative model brings in two additional features

1. **Internal geography:** hub-and-spoke

- Agricultural producers can only sell ag-output and buy ag-input via the hub (ports and major cities)
- Trade costs to the hub depend on internal geography (railroads, highways and rivers) as in Allen and Arkolakis (2014)

2. **Worker heterogeneity:** Lagakos and Waugh (2013)

- Labor market frictions
- Workers have heterogeneous skills

Taking the Model to Data

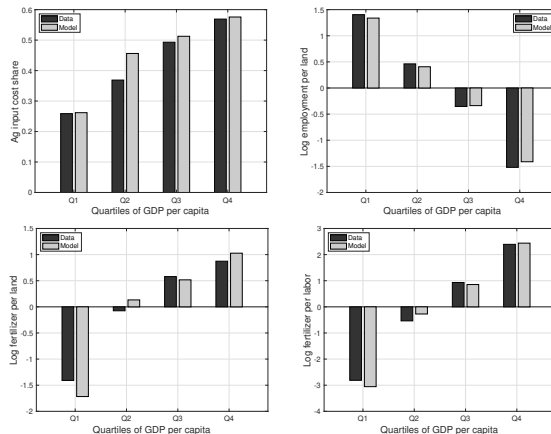
- **Data:** 65 countries and ROW in 2007 + 10 crops + 3 ag-inputs
- **First step:** estimation of demand side parameters
 - Demand shifters and elasticity estimated from gravity equations
- **Second step:** estimation of supply side parameters
 - Minimize distance between data-moments and their model counterparts
 - Moments based on within country variations in land use
 - Identify θ_1 and θ_2
 - Calibration of productivity shifters $a_{i,k\tau}^f$
 - Relative $a_{i,k\tau}^f$ comes from FAO-GAEZ
 - Calibration is embedded *within* the estimation algorithm (solves the entire GE)

Taking the Model to Data

Parameter	Description	Source	Estimate
a. Demand-side (Ω_D)			
σ_g for $g \in \mathcal{K}$	Elasticity of subst. between countries - crops	International trade flows of crops	5.76 (0.32)
σ_g for $g \in \mathcal{O}, \mathcal{J}$	Elasticity of subst. between countries - other goods	Literature	4
κ	Elasticity of subst. between crops	Country-level expenditure on crops	4.16 (0.49)
η	Elasticities of subst. between agr. and nonagr.	Comin et al. (2015)	0.5
b. Supply-side (Ω_S)			
θ_1	Productivity dispersion between crops	Minimum Distance	1.38 (0.19)
θ_2	Productivity dispersion between technologies	Minimum Distance	4.51 (0.45)
$a_{i,k\tau}^f$	Crop-technology productivity shifter	Potential yields from FAO-GAEZ	-
$a_{i,0}^f$	Investment intensity parameter	Cropland share from EarthStat	-
$\gamma_{k\tau}^N, \gamma_{k\tau}^L, \gamma_k^M, \gamma_k^{j,M}$	Factor and input shares	USDA data & Cross-country input cost share	-
ψ	Between-sector labor supply elasticity	Literature	2

- $b_{ni,g} d_{ni,g}^{1-\sigma_g}, b_n^0, b_n^1, A_{i,g}, d_{n,g}^{f'} \rightarrow$ residuals and trade costs

Model Fit



- Input intensity parameters ($\gamma_{k\tau}^M$) are **exogenous** and not country-specific
- Cross-country differences come from **endogenous** technology choices

Counterfactual: Globalization in Agricultural Inputs and Outputs

- **Question:** What were the effects of globalization in agr inputs and outputs?
 - Measure reductions in int'l trade cost between 1980 and 2007 (Head and Ries, 2004)
 - **Counterfactual 1:** agricultural inputs + outputs
 - **Counterfactual 2:** agricultural inputs
 - **Counterfactual 3:** agricultural outputs
- **Interpretation:** From baseline to counterfactual → impact of no globalization

Counterfactual: Globalization in Agricultural Inputs and Outputs

	Changes in Trade Costs in Agriculture		
	Output and Input (1)	Only Input (2)	Only Output (3)
<i>a. Domestic expenditure shares</i>			
Agricultural input	18.8	19.8	-1.8
Agricultural output	6.9	-1.0	8.0
<i>b. Agricultural production</i>			
Share of land in modern	-5.1	-6.1	1.2
Yield (avg across crops)	-8.5	-7.7	-0.4
Agricultural labor share	5.6	3.8	1.7
<i>c. Welfare</i>			
Welfare from food	-6.5	-3.4	-3.0
Welfare	-3.3	-1.6	-1.6

- Global welfare ↓ 3.3%

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Welfare	-3.3	-1.6	-1.6

- Impact of globalization in inputs and output is comparable

Counterfactual: Globalization in Agricultural Inputs and Outputs

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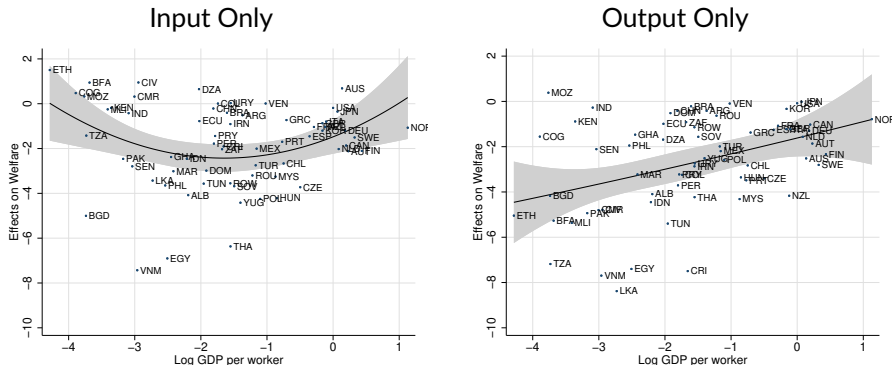
- Types of globalization operate via different domestic expenditure shares

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Agricultural output	6.9	-1.0	8.0
<i>b. Agricultural production</i>			
Share of land in modern	-5.1	-6.1	1.2
Yield (avg across crops)	-8.5	-7.7	-0.4
Agricultural labor share	5.6	3.8	1.7
<i>c. Welfare</i>			
Welfare from food	-6.5	-3.4	-3.0
Welfare	-3.3	-1.6	-1.6

- Share of land in modern technology ↓ 6.1% (comes from trade in inputs)

Counterfactual: Globalization in Agricultural Inputs and Outputs



- Two types of globalization have substantially different distributional implications
 - ↑ trade cost in **ag-output** → harms mostly **low-income countries**
 - ↑ trade cost in **ag-input** → harms mostly **middle-income countries**

Conclusion

- International trade is crucial for the use of modern ag-inputs
- We endogenize technology choice in an agricultural trade model
 - Estimate the model using FAO-GAEZ data
- Global trade in agricultural inputs has
 - Important implications to **global welfare** (*comparable to globalization in ag-output*)
 - But substantially *different* implications to **global welfare inequality**
- Foreign productivity shocks played a key role
 - As important for welfare as domestic productivity shocks
 - “External push force”