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PLACEMENT DIRECTORS

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Maryland at College Park, expected May 2017
M.A. Economics, University of Maryland at College Park, May 2016
B.S. Mathematics and Economics, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, 2012

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Primary: International Trade
Secondary: Macroeconomics, Development Economics

DISSERTATION

Essays on International Trade and Wage Inequality
Committee: Prof. Nuno Limão (Chair), Prof. Felipe Saffie, Dr. Luca David Opromla

JOB MARKET PAPER

“Structural Change and Skill Premium in a Quantitative Model of Trade”

I develop a multi-country general equilibrium trade model to investigate the effects of international trade and technical change on structural change and the skill premium. In my three-sector framework, trade and technical change affect structural change by altering the household and intermediate expenditure shares for each sector. Sectors differ in their skill intensity, so that reallocation to skill intensive sectors increases the skill premium. I apply the framework to 37 countries, and the model replicates the changes in trade shares, production shares, consumption shares, and skill premium from 1997 to 2007. I find that (1) trade increased the skill premium in all countries; (2) trade and technical change each explains half of the increase in skill premium in countries where both channels contributed positively; (3) the underlying force of trade increasing the skill premium is higher foreign production efficiency rather than reductions in the trade costs. An application to the U.S. and China reveals that, for the U.S., (1) trade with China explains more than half of the decline in manufacturing share; and (2) trade and technical change together reallocate 1.6% of skilled workers out of the shrinking manufacturing sector, but only 0.2% of unskilled workers.

OTHER RESEARCH PAPERS

“Input Specialization, Technology, and the Welfare Gains from Trade”, work in progress, with Nuno Limão

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, International Trade and Trade Policy in a New Global Economy (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Spring 2017 Fall 2016 Summer 2016 Spring 2016 Fall 2015
Instructor, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory & Policy (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Summer 2015
Teaching Assistant, Econometrics II (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Spring 2015
Teaching Assistant, Principles of Microeconomics (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Fall 2014

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant, University of Maryland, Summer 2016
International Conference Student Support Award (ICSSA), University of Maryland, Summer 2016
Graduate Assistantship, University of Maryland, 2014 – 2016
Dean's List, Nanyang Technological University, 2010, 2011

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2016: International Conference on Growth, Trade and Dynamics (Taipei), Midwest Trade Meeting (University of Rochester), 2015: 10th Economics Graduate Student Conference (Washington University in St. Louis)

LANGUAGES

Mandarin Chinese (native), English (fluent)

REFERENCES

Prof. Nuno Limão University of Maryland limao@econ.umd.edu (301) 405-7842
Prof. Felipe Saffie University of Maryland saffie@econ.umd.edu (301) 405-3490
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