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PLACEMENT DIRECTORS

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Maryland at College Park, expected May 2020
M.A. Economics, University of Maryland at College Park, 2017
M.A. Economics, Peking University, China, 2014
B.A. Supply Chain Management, Zhejiang University, China, 2010

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Primary: International Trade
Secondary: Econometrics, Applied Microeconometrics

DISSERTATION

Essays on Trade Shocks and Consumer Prices

Committee: Prof. Nuno Limão (Chair), Prof. Eunhee Lee, Prof. Ina Simonovska

JOB MARKET PAPER

“Trade Policy Shocks and Consumer Prices”

I examine the pass-through of import prices into consumer prices and its heterogeneity across consumers using a novel dataset with both US import prices and barcode-level consumer prices. I find that the pass-through of import prices to consumer prices is incomplete: a 1% increase in import prices leads to a 0.3 to 0.4% increase in consumer prices. Moreover, the pass-through is heterogeneous: it is higher for consumers with lower income and in markets with higher retail industry competition. To explain these findings, I build on Burstein and Gopinath (2014) to model domestic distribution margin with variable markups and extend it to allow for consumer price heterogeneity. A price decomposition shows the differential expenditure shares across varieties with heterogeneous pass-through rates explain most of the differential pass-through across consumers. To evaluate the impact of trade policy shocks on consumer welfare, I show that in addition to price changes of existing varieties, the number of imported varieties has a significant impact on consumer welfare. In particular, the exit of imported varieties leads to a decrease in the number of varieties in consumption basket and an increase in the exact consumer price index, thus causing additional welfare loss. Lastly, a quantitative exercise shows that a 25% tariff on all consumer goods from China would affect approximately 20% of import expenditures and cause the consumer prices of affected goods to increase 1-2% on average. The increase in consumer prices for lower income consumers is almost 50% higher than that of higher income. Across locations, consumers in the large cities in the Northeast region experience the largest increases in consumer prices while consumers in the South experience the lowest increases.

OTHER RESEARCH PAPERS

“Trade Liberalization and the Quality Upgrading of Intermediate Inputs: Evidence from Chinese Customs Data” *China Economic Quarterly*, 15(3), 1011-1028, 2015, with Miaojie Yu

“Comparative Advantage and Horizontal FDI”, working paper

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, Development Economics (graduate), Spring 2019

Teaching Assistant, Applied Econometrics(undergraduate), Spring 2016, Fall 2018

Teaching Assistant, Econometrics (core graduate), University of Maryland, Fall 2016

Teaching Assistant, Intermediate Microeconomic Analysis (undergraduate), Fall 2015, Spring 2017

RESEARCH AND RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Prof. Eunhee Lee, University of Maryland, Fall 2017–Spring 2018

Research Assistant, Prof. Yong Wang, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, 2013

Research Assistant, Prof. Miaojie Yu, Peking University, Spring 2013

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Graduate Assistantship, University of Maryland, Fall 2015–Spring 2018

University Fellowship, University of Maryland, Fall 2014–Spring 2015

Undergraduate Research and Innovation Reward, Zhejiang University, Spring 2009

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2019: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (scheduled)

LANGUAGES

Mandarin Chinese (native), English (fluent)

COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS

Stata, Matlab, Python, C++

REFERENCES

Prof. Nuno Limão University of Maryland limao@umd.edu (301) 405-7842

Prof. Eunhee Lee University of Maryland eunhee11@umd.edu (301) 405-3534

Prof. Ina Simonovska UC Davis inasimonovska@ucdavis.edu (530) 752-9241