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Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

## **Structural Change and Global Trade**

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# Structural Change and Global Trade

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## Abstract

Services, which are less traded than goods, rose from 58 percent of world expenditure in 1970 to 79 percent in 2015. Using a Ricardian trade model incorporating endogenous structural change, we quantify how this substantial shift in consumption has affected trade. Without structural change, we find that the world trade to GDP ratio would be 15 percentage points higher by 2015, about half the boost delivered from declining trade costs. In addition, this structural change has lowered the global welfare gains from trade integration by almost 40 percent over the past four decades. Absent further reductions in trade costs, ongoing structural change implies that world trade as a share of GDP would eventually decline. Going forward, higher income countries gain relatively more from reducing services trade costs than from reducing goods trade costs.

*JEL classifications:* F41, L16, O41

*Keywords:* Globalization, Structural Change, International Trade

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# 1 Introduction

Since 1970, world trade has grown faster relative to world income than at any other time in history, with the ratio of global trade to GDP more than doubling from about 20 percent to nearly 50 percent by 2015. Understanding this trend of greater “openness” is important, because when trade grows more rapidly than production, economies become more sensitive to changes in trade flows, trade policy and the composition of trade.<sup>1</sup> In addition, openness is closely related to gains from trade. The typical explanation for the rapid growth in the trade to GDP ratio is a decline in trade costs, including tariff reductions, improvements in communications technology, and lower transportation costs. However, there is another factor affecting the long-run movement in openness that has not been studied in the literature: the share of global spending on *services* has risen consistently and substantially. This fact, often referred to as “structural change”, is a well-known foundational component of economic growth and development. Yet because services are traded substantially less than goods, structural change has dampened the growth in global openness and thus also the potential benefits from trade integration.

We study the joint evolution of international trade flows and structural change since 1970 and answer two related questions: (i) How much has structural change restricted the growth in global trade openness and, hence, the gains from trade? How does the magnitude of that restriction compare to the effect of lowering trade barriers over the same period? (ii) What are the implications of future trade liberalization in either goods or services in the face of continued structural change? We find that, by 2015, structural change has held back openness by 15 percentage points, or about one-third. The magnitude of this novel channel is half as much as declining trade costs have boosted openness over this period. The gains from trade estimated in our model with structural change increase only about two-thirds as much compared to a model without structural change. Absent further reductions in trade costs, ongoing structural change implies that trade openness would eventually decline. Moreover, rich countries stand to benefit relatively more from liberalizing services trade than from liberalizing goods trade, and poor countries, the opposite.

The key insight is that structural change, the result of both price and income effects, determines what we consume, produce, and trade. The data show that the share spent on services increases with real income and with relative services prices, both of which are endogenous to the trade regime. As countries open up to trade, the relative price of services

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<sup>1</sup> See, for example, Hoekman (2015) and Irwin (2002).

and real income both rise, shifting expenditure to services and attenuating the benefits from more-integrated goods markets.

To fix ideas, we start by calculating a simple reduced-form counterfactual ratio of trade to GDP for a world without structural change. We assume that every country’s expenditure share on each sector is fixed at its 1970 level, while the ratio of trade to expenditure in each sector and country—“sectoral openness”—evolves as in the data. Under these assumptions, openness would have been 81 percent by 2015, or 34 percentage points higher than in the data. This indicates that shifting consumption towards less traded services substantially suppressed trade growth in the last four decades. At the same time, it is implausible to assume that sectoral openness would have evolved exactly as in the real world in the absence of structural change; the different levels of prices and of trade in intermediate inputs implied by a world of fixed expenditure shares should lead to different sectoral trade-to-expenditure ratios. The interactions between these factors call for a general equilibrium model to better measure the effect of structural change on trade.

We build a two-sector, multi-country, Ricardian trade model that incorporates endogenous structural change and trade patterns over time, similar to Uy, Yi and Zhang (2013) and Sposi (2019). On the production side, labor and intermediates produce a continuum of varieties in each sector. Countries differ in their input-output linkages, productivity and trade costs, forming the basis for comparative advantage. The evolution of productivity and bilateral trade costs at the sector level influences the patterns of production and trade over time. On the demand side, nonhomothetic preferences allow for total income and relative prices to shape sectoral expenditure shares, as in Comin, Lashkari and Mestieri (2018).

We calibrate the underlying structural parameters and time-varying processes of the model to relevant observables in 26 countries and a rest-of-world aggregate from 1970–2015. Using data on sectoral expenditures, sectoral prices, and employment levels, we estimate the key preference parameters, namely the elasticity of substitution between goods and services and the income elasticity of demand for both goods and services. Services have a higher income elasticity than goods, generating a positive correlation between the services expenditure share and income, and goods and services are complements. As Comin et al. (2018) show, the higher income elasticity of services is crucial for explaining the trend of higher services expenditure shares seen across countries. Coupling these with input-output coefficients from the World Input-Output Database and bilateral trade data enables us to back out estimates of productivity and trade costs at the sector level from the structural equations of the model.

After calibrating and solving the baseline model, we conduct a counterfactual similar to the reduced-form one. We impose constant expenditure shares across time by setting both the elasticity of substitution and the income elasticity to one. The model differs from the reduced-form calculation in that it allows for the counterfactual expenditure shares to impact prices for goods, services and labor, and trade flows, all of which affect sectoral openness in turn. Still, the model-based counterfactual implies a substantial increase in the global trade-to-expenditure ratio relative to the data—15 percentage points or 32 percent higher than in reality by 2015. Using the same model, we show that the size of the decrease in openness as a result of structural change is about half the size of the increase in openness that stemmed from lower trade barriers.

The model-based contribution of structural change on world openness (15 percentage points) is smaller than the reduced-form one (34 percentage points). Why is this the case? The primary reason is that “goods openness”—the ratio of goods trade over goods expenditure—in the counterfactual is substantially lower than in the data. By fixing the expenditure shares at the 1970 level, the goods expenditure share rises relative to the data. However, goods trade does not rise by the same degree because trade includes both intermediates and final expenditure. When the services expenditure share declines, the services sector demands less goods as intermediate inputs. The overall effect leads to lower “goods openness” in the counterfactual than in the data. This result highlights the importance of input-output linkages in disciplining sectoral openness.

The model incorporating nonhomothetic preferences requires using *equivalent variation* to measure the welfare gains from trade.<sup>2</sup> With the trade integration over the past four decades, we estimate that the gains from trade relative to autarky have increased by 6.2 percentage points. This is lower than in a counterfactual world with expenditure shares held fixed from 1970 onwards, where gains from trade increase by 8.6 percentage points. Thus, since structural change holds back goods trade, and goods trade is a major contributor to welfare gains, accounting for structural change implies lower estimated welfare gains. We find that relative price changes, rather than income effects, explain most of the difference between the 6.2 and 8.6 percentage point changes.

Projecting our model into the future by assuming constant trade costs and continued technical progress, we demonstrate that openness has peaked and may decline to below 40 percent by 2060. Importantly, the projected downward trend in the trade to GDP ratio is

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<sup>2</sup>The class of additively non-separable nonhomothetic preferences we use is not within the set discussed by Arkolakis, Costinot, Donaldson and Rodríguez-Clare (2019).

driven by the effects of increased services consumption. At the same time, there is little evidence that the slowdown in international trade growth that started in 2011 is due to new forces; that is, structural change has been a drag on trade growth for decades, and the drag has not been stronger in recent years.

To the extent that structural change reflects the efficient, long-run response of expenditures and production to asymmetric technological progress and aggregate income growth, it would not prove prudent to design policies that restrict the expansion of the service sector. Furthermore, trade policy has become increasingly restrained in its ability to further boost trade in goods, as tariffs are currently low. Modern trade policy could focus on liberalizing trade in services in order to foster the growth in world trade and to stimulate the benefits therein. Indeed, we estimate the projected gains from further reductions in trade barriers in either goods or services in the face of continued structural transformation induced by technical progress. The benefits from liberalizing services trade complements the rising services expenditures, particularly when the services sector becomes substantially more open. Moreover, rich countries gain relatively more from liberalizing services trade than from liberalizing goods trade, and poor countries, the opposite.

This paper contributes to a broad literature on how global trade grows relative to GDP. In an early theoretical contribution, Markusen (1986) includes nonhomothetic preferences in a trade model to be consistent with empirical evidence of a relationship between income and trade volumes. Rose (1991) shows that increases in income and international reserves along with declining tariff rates help explain the differences in trade growth across countries over three decades. Krugman, Cooper and Srinivasan (1995) analyze the growth in world trade since World War II and potential consequences for labor markets. Baier and Bergstrand (2001) find that income growth explains nearly two-thirds of the increase in global trade, with tariffs explaining an additional one-quarter. Imbs and Wacziarg (2003) document a U-shaped pattern of specialization as countries become richer; they first diversify across industries and only later specialize as they grow. Yi (2003) shows how vertical specialization—the splitting of production stages across borders—can amplify gross trade relative to value-added trade and help explain the large increases in trade-to-GDP ratios. Our paper provides an additional reason why the trade-to-GDP ratio is an imperfect measure of true openness, and given our projection exercise, a decline in this ratio does not necessarily reflect a less-open world with increasing protectionism.

A well-established literature documents how international trade and openness affect structural change. Matsuyama (2009) emphasizes that trade can alter patterns of structural

change and that using closed-economy models may be insufficient. Uy et al. (2013) find that rapid productivity growth in South Korea's manufacturing sector contributed to a rise in manufacturing employment share due to improved comparative advantage. In a closed economy, the same productivity growth would have produced a decline in the manufacturing share. Betts, Giri and Verma (2017) explore the effects of South Korea's trade policies on structural change, finding that these policies raised the industrial employment share and hastened industrialization in general. Teignier (2018) finds that international trade in agricultural goods affected structural change in the United Kingdom even more than in South Korea. We show in this paper that structural change may be more consequential for international trade than trade is for explaining structural change in many countries.

More broadly, our findings point to structural change as being an important link between international trade and economic development. McMillan and Rodrik (2011) find that the effect of structural change on growth depends on a country's export pattern, specifically the degree to which a country exports natural resources. Cravino and Sotelo (2019) show that structural change originating from greater manufacturing trade increases the skill premium, particularly in developing countries. Sposi (2019) documents how the input-output structures of advanced economies are systematically different from those of developing economies, which contributes to systematic differences in resource allocations between rich and poor countries. Markusen (2013) shows how including nonhomothetic preferences into a Heckscher-Ohlin model can help explain why we observe less trade than predicted by models without nonhomotheticities.

Some analyses suggest that international trade plays only a small role in explaining structural change. Kehoe, Ruhl and Steinberg (2017) find that relatively faster growth in manufacturing productivity was the primary cause for reduced employment in the goods-producing sector in the United States, with a smaller role for trade deficits. Świącki (2017) also finds differential productivity growth is more important than other mechanisms, including international trade, in explaining structural change. Nonetheless, even if international trade only contributes a small portion to structural change, we show that structural change plays a large role in the growth of world trade.

Nonhomothetic preferences are important in understanding other aspects of international trade as well. Fieler (2011) finds that nonhomothetic preferences can explain why trade grows with income per capita but not population. Caron, Fally and Markusen (2014) documents a positive correlation between the income elasticity and skilled labor intensity across sectors and demonstrates that this is important for understanding international trade



patterns. Simonovska (2015) shows that nonhomothetic preferences can match the pattern found in the data that higher-income countries have higher prices of tradable goods. Matsuyama (2015) and Matsuyama (2019) show that nonhomothetic preferences combined with home market effects can lead to high-income countries producing and exporting higher income elasticity goods without assuming they have an exogenous comparative advantage in such goods.

The remainder of the paper proceeds as follows. Section 2 describes the reduced-form counterfactual, and Section 3 sets up the model. Section 4 describes the calibration and solution of the model, and Section 5 presents the quantitative results. Section 6 concludes.

## 2 Empirics and a Reduced-Form Counterfactual

The ratio of global trade to GDP rose from about 20 percent to 50 percent between 1970 and 2010 before flattening through 2015. How would this trend have differed without the significant shift in expenditures from goods to services over that time? This section presents a direct and simplified answer to the question by holding each country's expenditure share on goods and services fixed at its 1970 level and tracing out a counterfactual path for the global trade-to-GDP ratio.

### 2.1 Data

We begin by laying out the key concepts for our exercise and describing how we capture them in the data. First, some definitions: *Expenditure* refers to final demand: consumption, investment, and government spending. *Structural change* refers to changes in the expenditure of goods and services as a share of total expenditure over time. *Openness* is defined as total trade (imports plus exports) as a share of expenditure, with *sectoral openness* defined analogously at the sector (either goods or services) level.

For every country (and for the world as a whole), we can decompose openness in period  $t$  as:

$$\frac{Trade_t}{Exp_t} = \frac{Trade_{gt}}{Exp_{gt}} \frac{Exp_{gt}}{Exp_t} + \frac{Trade_{st}}{Exp_{st}} \frac{Exp_{st}}{Exp_t}, \quad (1)$$

where  $g$  and  $s$  denote goods and services. Clearly, changes in sectoral openness  $\frac{Trade_{kt}}{Exp_{kt}}$ , and sectoral expenditure shares  $\frac{Exp_{kt}}{Exp_t}$ , shape the aggregate openness measure over time.

We gather data needed to do the breakdown in equation (1) for the 26 countries and a rest-of-world aggregate over the period 1970–2015.<sup>3</sup> In UN nomenclature, we take the goods sector to consist of “agriculture, hunting, forestry, fishing” and “mining, manufacturing, utilities,” while services includes “construction,” “wholesale, retail trade, restaurants, and hotels,” “transport, storage, and communication,” and “other activities”. The trade data is straightforward to assemble. We begin using data for 1995–2011 from the 2013 release of the World-Input-Output Database (WIOD). For the remaining years, we splice country-level goods trade data from the IMF Directions of Trade Statistics Database, and country-level services trade data from the World Development Indicators database.<sup>4</sup>

Next is the construction of sectoral expenditures for each country in the sample. Although this data is provided in the WIOD, only the years 1995 through 2011 are included. In order to generate a longer time series of sectoral expenditure data, we use the aggregate identity that total absorption of each sector (i.e., gross output plus imports minus exports) must go either to final expenditures or intermediate expenditures. Using input-output coefficients, we can calculate what fraction of sectoral absorption went to intermediate usage. The remaining amount corresponds to final sectoral expenditure.

To do this calculation, we take a long time series of data on sectoral value added from the United Nations Main Aggregates Database and convert it into sectoral gross output using gross-output-to-value-added ratios.<sup>5</sup> After adding imports and subtracting exports, we then use intermediate input coefficients to separate intermediate expenditure from final expenditure.<sup>6</sup> The entire procedure is outlined in Appendix A.1.<sup>7</sup>

## 2.2 Openness and Structural Change

The long-term trends in openness and expenditure shares are shown in figure 1. The left panel shows the trade to GDP ratio (i.e., “openness”), rising from 19 percent in 1970 to 55 percent by 2008. Openness grew substantially during much of the period, accelerating in the late 1990s and 2000s. From 2011–2015, the ratio was nearly flat at about 50 percent.

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<sup>3</sup>The full list of countries is listed in Appendix A.1.

<sup>4</sup>For pre-1995 trade data, we compute the annual changes from the data source, and then extrapolate the levels off of the 1995 value from WIOD. We do the same for post-2011 data.

<sup>5</sup>Some years require imputing country-level gross-output-to-value-added ratios, where our imputation procedure is based on estimating a relationship between value-added-to-gross-output ratios and income per capita, with country and time fixed effects. Details available upon request.

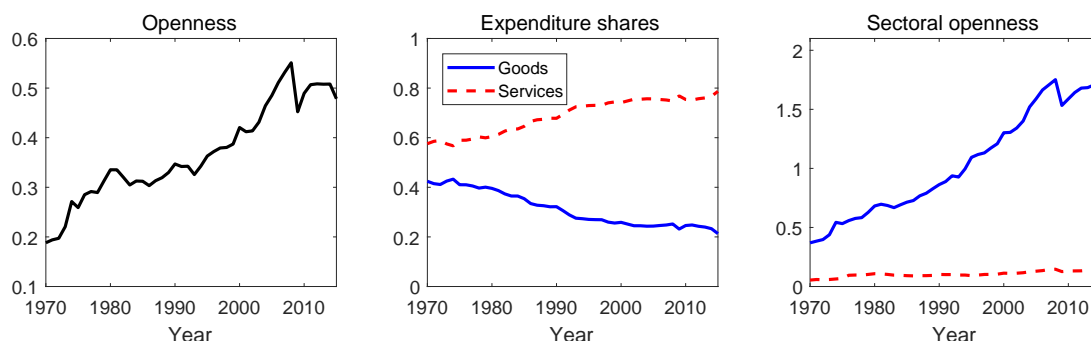
<sup>6</sup>These input-output coefficients also need to be imputed for some country years. Full details are presented in the Appendix, though the results are not sensitive to our choice of imputation.

<sup>7</sup>A stylized depiction of this calculation is in figure B.4 in the Appendix.

The middle panel plots the expenditure shares for goods and services from 1970 to 2015. Clearly, world consumption shifted prominently from goods to services. The services expenditure share increased steadily by a total of 21 percentage points, from 58 percent in 1970 to 79 percent in 2015.

If these two sectors were both traded internationally with similar intensities, the impact of structural change on openness would be small. In the data, however, openness significantly differs between the two sectors. The right panel of figure 1 plots the ratio of sectoral trade to sectoral expenditure over 1970-2015. Clearly, goods are much more open than services; the ratio of trade to expenditure was about 5 percent for services compared to 37 percent for goods in 1970. Over time, trade openness increased for both sectors, while the increase was much more pronounced for goods. By the end of the period, the trade-expenditure ratio was about 14 percent for services and 170 percent for goods.<sup>8</sup>

Figure 1: Openness and structural change



Considering these three figures together presents a puzzle of sorts: How could trade grow so quickly while a relatively less-traded sector gained expenditure share? In fact, trade grew spectacularly *in spite of* the ongoing transition to services in the world economy, meaning structural change prevented even greater increases in trade. This dynamic becomes apparent when calculating the correlation between the growth rates of openness and the services expenditure share. For the world, the correlation is  $-0.77$  meaning that periods of faster openness growth feature a slower-growing service expenditure share. This relationship also exists at the country level.<sup>9</sup> Next we present reduced-form evidence of

<sup>8</sup>The ratio of trade to expenditure can be over 100 percent for two reasons. First, trade refers to the sum of imports and exports. Second, trade is a gross measure including intermediate spending, while expenditure includes only final spending.

<sup>9</sup>For detailed results see Appendix B.1. When a country featured higher growth in its service expenditure share, it experienced lower growth in openness, even controlling for its level of income per worker.

how much structural change held back global trade growth.

## 2.3 A Reduced-Form Counterfactual

To gauge the contribution of structural change to openness, we return to equation (1), but freeze every country's expenditure shares at their 1970 levels. We compute a counterfactual measure of openness as:

$$\frac{\widetilde{Trade}_t}{Exp_t} = \frac{Trade_{gt}}{Exp_{gt}} \frac{Exp_{g0}}{Exp_0} + \frac{Trade_{st}}{Exp_{st}} \frac{Exp_{s0}}{Exp_0}. \quad (2)$$

By holding the expenditure shares of sector  $k$  fixed at the first period, we shut down the process of structural change in the data. The counterfactual openness measure,  $\frac{\widetilde{Trade}_t}{Exp_t}$ , is free of structural change but retains the observed sectoral openness.

Figure 2: Openness: data and empirical counterfactual

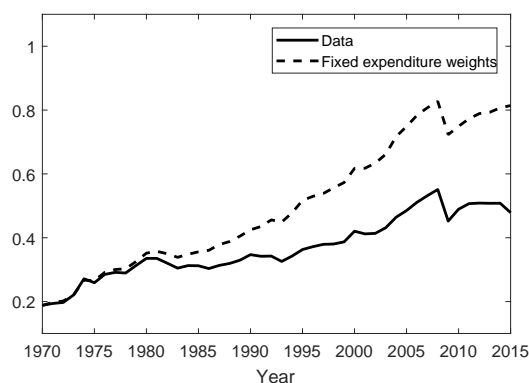


Figure 2 contrasts the aggregate trade openness measure in the data (the solid line) with the reduced-form counterfactual (the dashed line). The gap between the counterfactual measure and the data widens substantially over the 1990s and early 2000s, indicating that without underlying movements toward less-tradable services, global trade growth would have been far greater. As of 2015, persistent structural change since 1970 had lopped about 34 percentage points off the ratio of trade to expenditure.

Of course, this reduced-form exercise has a major deficiency: Sectoral openness should be *jointly* affected by the same forces that instigated structural change. The dynamics of sectoral productivity and trade barriers not only affect expenditure shares through relative prices and income levels, but they also affect sectoral openness through comparative advantage and trade flows. Additionally, input-output linkages are critical for identify-

ing how changing expenditure shares feed through into production and trade. Thus, a structural model incorporating these endogenous relationships and featuring intermediate input-output linkages is needed to properly quantify the impact of structural change on international trade.

### 3 Model

We consider a multi-country, two-sector, Eaton-Kortum trade model of the global economy with nonhomothetic preferences. There are  $I$  countries and the two sectors are goods ( $g$ ) and services ( $s$ ). Household preferences have non-unitary income and substitution demand elasticities. In each sector, there is a continuum of varieties, and production uses both labor and intermediate inputs. All varieties are tradable, but trade costs vary across sectors, country-pairs, and over time. Productivities also differ in initial levels and subsequent growth rates across sectors and countries. These time-varying forces drive structural change. We omit the time subscript in this section for brevity.

#### 3.1 Endowments and Preferences

Labor is mobile across sectors within a country, but immobile across countries. Let  $L_i$  denote total labor endowment in country  $i$ , which varies over time, and  $L_{ik}$  denote labor employed in sector  $k$ . The factor market clearing condition is given by:

$$L_i = L_{ig} + L_{is}. \quad (3)$$

The household in country  $i$  maximizes the level of aggregate consumption,  $C_i$ , which is a function of sectoral consumption  $C_{ig}$  and  $C_{is}$ . Aggregate consumption, which is a stand in for the overall utility level, combines sectoral composite goods according to the implicitly defined function:

$$\sum_{k=g,s} \omega_k^{\frac{1}{\sigma}} \left( \frac{C_i}{L_i} \right)^{\frac{\varepsilon_k(1-\sigma)}{\sigma}} \left( \frac{C_{ik}}{L_i} \right)^{\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma}} = 1, \quad (4)$$

where for each sector  $k \in \{g, s\}$ ,  $\omega_k > 0$  describe the relative weight of each sector in the aggregate consumption bundle. These preferences, known as “Non-Homothetic Constant Elasticity of Substitution”, are discussed by Hanoch (1975) and are also used by Comin et al. (2018). The elasticity of substitution across sectoral composite goods is  $\sigma$ . If  $\sigma > 1$ ,

goods and services are substitutes, and if  $\sigma < 1$ , they are complements. Parameter  $\varepsilon_k$  governs the income elasticity of demand for sector  $k$ . The sector with a greater  $\varepsilon_k$  is a luxury good, which expands in expenditure shares as the income rises, all else equal.

Hanoch (1975) showed that in order for these preferences to be well-behaved, i.e., monotone and quasi-concave, we require  $\varepsilon_k > 0$  and either (i)  $0 < \sigma < 1$  or (ii)  $\sigma > 1$  must hold.<sup>10</sup> Given our broad categorization of the two sectors, goods and services are complements empirically, so (i) is the relevant case in our context.<sup>11</sup> As is usual when dealing with non-homothetic preferences, one of the income elasticity parameters needs to be normalized, since only the difference matters for allocations.<sup>12</sup> We normalize  $\varepsilon_g = 1$ . Another attraction of this normalization is that when  $\varepsilon_s$  is set at one, the preferences collapse into the commonly used homothetic CES preferences in the literature.

Comin et al. (2018) show that this specification of nonhomothetic preferences has two attractive properties for studying long-run structural change. First, the elasticity of the relative demand for the two sectoral composites with respect to aggregate consumption is constant at all levels of consumption. This contrasts with Stone-Geary preferences, where the elasticity of relative demand goes to zero as income or consumption rises—a prediction at odds with the data both at the macro and micro levels. Second, the elasticity of substitution between sectoral composites, given by  $\sigma$ , is constant over income, meaning that there is no functional relationship between income and substitution elasticities.<sup>13</sup>

The representative household maximizes aggregate consumption,  $C_i$ , in each period by choosing sectoral consumption levels,  $C_{ik}$ , subject to the following budget constraint:

$$\underbrace{P_{ig}C_{ig} + P_{is}C_{is}}_{P_i C_i} + \rho_i w_i L_i = w_i L_i + R L_i, \quad (5)$$

where  $w_i$  and  $P_{ik}$  denote the wage rate and the price of the sector- $k$  composite good, respec-

<sup>10</sup>Our notation differs from Hanoch (1975). These conditions are a rewriting of his expression (i) on page 403, with  $d = \frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma}$  and  $e_i = \varepsilon_k$ .

<sup>11</sup>For the empirical estimation of  $\sigma$  and  $\varepsilon_k$  see section 4.1.

<sup>12</sup>In our notation,  $C$  is really utility and the income elasticities are technically elasticities w.r.t. utility levels. Scaling each sector's income elasticity by the same proportion is a monotonic transformation of the utility function and only affects cardinal properties of the level of utility. Comin et al. (2018) employ the same preference structure as we do in a three-sector model and normalize the income elasticity in one sector to 1. Another commonly used class of preferences is “Stone-Geary”, which incorporates income effects through sector-specific subsistence requirements. With Stone-Geary preferences, the subsistence term is normalized to zero in at least one sector; see Herrendorf, Rogerson and Valentinyi (2013) and Kongsamut, Rebelo and Xie (2001).

<sup>13</sup>This is a key difference from the preferences used in Fajgelbaum and Khandelwal (2016) and Hottman and Monarch (2018), whose frameworks could be used to ask a similar question to ours.

tively, and  $P_i$  denotes the cost of aggregate real consumption (i.e., the price of one util when expenditures are optimally allocated across goods and services). The household supplies its labor endowment inelastically and spends its labor income on consumption. A fraction  $\rho_i$  of income is sent into a global portfolio, and the portfolio disperses  $R$  in lump sum equally across countries on a per-worker basis.  $\rho_i$  varies over time and  $R$  is determined by global portfolio balance in each period. Therefore, each country lends, on net,  $\rho_i w_i L_i - R L_i$  to the rest of the world. This aspect enables the model to tractably match aggregate trade imbalances in the data, as in Caliendo, Parro, Rossi-Hansberg and Sarte (2018).

The first-order conditions imply that sectoral consumption demand satisfies:

$$C_{ik} = L_i \omega_k \left( \frac{P_{ik}}{P_i} \right)^{-\sigma} \left( \frac{C_i}{L_i} \right)^{(1-\sigma)\varepsilon_k + \sigma}, \quad (6)$$

The sectoral expenditure shares are thus given by:

$$e_{ik} \equiv \frac{P_{ik} C_{ik}}{P_i C_i} = \omega_k \left( \frac{P_{ik}}{P_i} \right)^{1-\sigma} \left( \frac{C_i}{L_i} \right)^{(1-\sigma)(\varepsilon_k - 1)} \Leftrightarrow \frac{e_{is}}{e_{ig}} = \frac{\omega_s}{\omega_g} \left( \frac{P_{is}}{P_{ig}} \right)^{1-\sigma} \left( \frac{C_i}{L_i} \right)^{(1-\sigma)(\varepsilon_s - \varepsilon_g)} \quad (7)$$

and the average cost of real consumption is given by:

$$P_i = \left[ \sum_{k=g,s} \omega_k P_{ik}^{1-\sigma} \left( \frac{C_i}{L_i} \right)^{(1-\sigma)(\varepsilon_k - 1)} \right]^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}}. \quad (8)$$

Thus, the elasticity of substitution between sectors and the sectoral elasticity of income govern how relative price and real income per worker shape the sectoral expenditure shares. Specifically, when  $\sigma < 1$ , a rising sectoral relative price pushes up the expenditure share in that sector, and vice versa. When sectoral income elasticities differ, i.e.,  $\varepsilon_s - \varepsilon_g > 0$ , the service sector's expenditure share also rises with consumption per worker.

### 3.2 Technology and Market Structure

There is a continuum of varieties,  $z \in [0, 1]$ , in both the goods ( $g$ ) and services ( $s$ ) sectors. The sectoral composite good,  $Q_{ik}$ , is an aggregate of the individual varieties  $Q_{ik}(z)$ :

$$Q_{ik} = \left( \int_0^1 Q_{ik}(z)^{\frac{\eta-1}{\eta}} dz \right)^{\frac{\eta}{\eta-1}},$$

where the elasticity of substitution across varieties within a sector is  $\eta > 0$ . Each variety  $z$  is either produced locally or imported from abroad. The composite sectoral goods are used in domestic final consumption and domestic production as intermediate inputs:

$$Q_{ik} = C_{ik} + \sum_{n=g,s} M_{ink},$$

where  $M_{ink}$  is the intermediate input of composite good  $k$  in the production of sector  $n$ .

Each country possesses technologies for producing all the varieties in both sectors. Production requires labor and intermediate inputs as in Levchenko and Zhang (2016). The production function for variety  $z \in [0, 1]$  in sector  $k \in \{g, s\}$  of country  $i$  is:

$$Y_{ik}(z) = A_{ik}(z) (T_{ik} L_{ik}(z))^{\lambda_{ik}} [\Pi_{n=g,s} M_{ikn}^{\gamma_{ikn}}(z)]^{1-\lambda_{ik}}, \quad (9)$$

where  $\lambda_{ik}$  denotes the country-specific value-added share in production, and  $\gamma_{ikn}$  denotes the country-specific share of intermediate inputs sourced from sector  $n$ ; these parameters vary over time to track changes in input-output relationships.  $Y_{ik}(z)$  denotes output,  $L_{ik}(z)$  denotes labor input, and  $M_{ikn}(z)$  denotes sector- $n$  composite goods used as intermediates in the production of the sector  $k$  variety  $z$ .  $T_{ik}$  is the time-varying, exogenous productivity of varieties in sector  $k$  and scales value added equally across all varieties.  $A_{ik}(z)$  is a variety-specific productivity level that scales gross output, given by the realization of a random variable drawn from the cumulative distribution function  $F(a) = \Pr[A \leq a]$ . Following Eaton and Kortum (2002), we assume that  $F(a)$  is a Fréchet distribution:  $e^{-a^{-\theta_k}}$ . The larger  $\theta_k$  is, the lower the heterogeneity, or variance, in  $A_{ik}(z)$  is.<sup>14</sup> The parameters governing the distribution of idiosyncratic productivity draws are invariant across countries but different across sectors. We assume that the productivity is drawn each period.<sup>15</sup>

Total sectoral labor, input usage, and production in sector  $k$  in country  $i$  are the aggregates of the variety-level components taken over the set of varieties produced,  $V_{ik}$ :

$$L_{ik} = \int_{V_{ik}} L_{ik}(z) dz; \quad M_{ikn} = \int_{V_{ik}} M_{ikn}(z) dz; \quad Y_{ik} = \int_{V_{ik}} Y_{ik}(z) dz.$$

Markets are perfectly competitive; prices are determined by marginal costs of production.

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<sup>14</sup>  $A_k(z)$  has geometric mean  $e^{\frac{\gamma}{\theta_k}}$  and its log has a standard deviation  $\frac{\pi}{\theta_k \sqrt{6}}$ , where  $\gamma$  is Euler's constant.

<sup>15</sup> Alternatively, we could assume that the productivity is drawn once in the initial period, and as the  $T$ 's change over time, the productivity relative to  $T$  remains constant.



The cost of an input bundle in sector  $k$  is:

$$v_{ik} = B_{ik} w_i^{\lambda_{ik}} (\Pi_{n=g,s} (P_{in})^{\gamma_{ikn}})^{1-\lambda_{ik}},$$

where  $B_{ik} = \lambda_{ik}^{-\lambda_{ik}} ((1 - \lambda_{ik}) \Pi_{n=g,s} \gamma_{ikn}^{-\gamma_{ikn}})^{\lambda_{ik}-1}$ . The cost of an input bundle is the same within a sector, but varies across sectors given different input shares.

### 3.3 Trade

When varieties are shipped abroad, they incur trade costs, which include transportation costs, information barriers, and other barriers to trade. We model these costs as exogenous iceberg costs, which vary over time to track the pattern of bilateral trade. Specifically, if one unit of variety  $z$  is shipped from country  $j$ , then  $\frac{1}{\tau_{ijm}}$  units arrive in country  $i$ . We assume that trade costs within a country are zero, i.e.,  $\tau_{iig} = \tau_{iis} = 1$ . This means that the price at which country  $j$  can supply variety  $z$  in sector  $k$  to country  $i$  equals  $p_{ijk}(z) = \frac{\tau_{ijk} v_{jk}}{A_{ik}(z) T_{ik}^{\lambda_k}}$ . Since buyers will purchase from the cheapest source, the actual price for this variety in country  $i$  is  $p_{ik}(z) = \min \{p_{ijk}(z)\}_{j=1}^I$ .

Under the Fréchet distribution of productivities, Eaton and Kortum (2002) show that the price of composite good  $k \in \{g, s\}$  in country  $i$  is:

$$P_{ik} = \Gamma_k \left[ \sum_{j=1}^I \left( T_{jk}^{-\lambda_{jk}} v_{jk} \tau_{ijk} \right)^{-\theta_k} \right]^{-\frac{1}{\theta_k}}, \quad (10)$$

where the constant  $\Gamma_k = \Gamma(1 - \frac{\eta-1}{\theta_k})^{\frac{1}{1-\eta}}$  denotes the Gamma function, and the summation term on the right-hand side summarizes country  $i$ 's access to global production technologies in sector  $k$  scaled by the relevant unit costs of inputs and trade costs.<sup>16</sup>

The share of country  $i$ 's expenditure on sector- $k$  goods from country  $j$ ,  $\pi_{ijk}$ , equals the probability of country  $i$  importing sector- $k$  goods from country  $j$ , and is given by:

$$\pi_{ijk} = \frac{\left( T_{jk}^{-\lambda_{jk}} v_{jk} \tau_{ijk} \right)^{-\theta_k}}{\sum_{s=1}^I \left( T_{sk}^{-\lambda_{sk}} v_{sk} \tau_{isk} \right)^{-\theta_k}}. \quad (11)$$

Equation (11) shows how a higher average productivity, a lower unit cost of input bundles,

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<sup>16</sup>We assume  $\eta - 1 < \theta_k$  to have a well-defined price index. Under this assumption, the parameter  $\eta$ , which governs the elasticity of substitution across goods within a sector, can be ignored because it appears only in the constant term  $\Gamma$ .

and a lower trade cost in country  $j$  translates into a greater import share by country  $i$ .

### 3.4 Equilibrium

Combining the goods and factor market clearing conditions and demand equations with the equations for the consumption of the composite good, trade shares, prices, and the global portfolio balance yields a set of conditions that fully characterize the equilibrium of the model. Table 1 collects these conditions. Equations (D1)-(D3) describe the household demand side. (D1) provides the optimal condition for sectoral consumption. (D2) specifies the aggregate price index given the preferences. (D3) is the budget constraint.

Table 1: Equilibrium conditions

D1	$C_{ik} = L_i \omega_k \left( \frac{P_{ik}}{P_i} \right)^{-\sigma} \left( \frac{C_i}{L_i} \right)^{(1-\sigma)\varepsilon_k + \sigma}$	$\forall i, k$
D2	$P_i = \left[ \sum_{k=g,s} \omega_k P_{ik}^{1-\sigma} \left( \frac{C_i}{L_i} \right)^{(1-\sigma)(\varepsilon_k-1)} \right]^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}}$	$\forall i$
D3	$P_i C_i + \rho_i w_i L_i = w_i L_i + R L_i$	$\forall i$
S1	$\pi_{ijk} = \frac{\left( T_{jk}^{-\lambda_{jk}} v_{jk} \tau_{ijk} \right)^{-\theta_k}}{\sum_{l=1}^I \left( T_{lk}^{-\lambda_{lk}} v_{lk} \tau_{ilk} \right)^{-\theta_k}}$	$\forall i, j, k$
S2	$v_{ik} = B_{ik} w_i^{\lambda_{ik}} \prod_{n \in \{g,s\}} P_{in}^{(1-\lambda_{ik})\gamma_{ikn}}$	$\forall i, k$
S3	$P_{ik} = \Gamma_k \left( \sum_{j=1}^I \left( T_{jk}^{-\lambda_{jk}} v_{jk} \tau_{ijk} \right)^{-\theta} \right)^{-\frac{1}{\theta}}$	$\forall i, k$
S4	$w_i L_{ik} = \lambda_{ik} P_{ik} Y_{ik}$	$\forall i, k$
S5	$P_{in} M_{ikn} = (1 - \lambda_{ik}) \gamma_{ikn} P_{ik} Y_{ik}$	$\forall i, k, n$
S6	$Q_{ik} = C_{ik} + \sum_{n \in \{g,s\}} M_{ink}$	$\forall i, k$
S7	$\sum_{k \in \{g,s\}} P_{ik} Y_{ik} - \sum_{k \in \{g,s\}} P_{ik} Q_{ik} = \rho_i w_i L_i - R L_i$	$\forall i$
G1	$\sum_{i=1}^I \rho_i w_i L_i = R \sum_{i=1}^I L_i$	
G2	$P_{ik} Y_{ik} = \sum_{j=1}^I P_{jk} Q_{jk} \pi_{jik}$	$\forall i, k$

Equations (S1)-(S7) are from the supply side. (S1) gives bilateral import shares in total absorption at the sector level. (S2) specifies the cost of a unit of the input bundle. (S3) gives sectoral prices. (S4) and (S5) state the optimal value added and intermediate input usages implied by the Cobb-Douglas production function. (S6) links sectoral aggregate absorption with final demand and intermediate input demand. (S7) is the resource constraint at the country level.

Equations (G1)-(G2) are from the global market clearing conditions. Equation (G1) specifies net transfers across countries are zero globally. Equation (G2) links a country's

total output in a sector with the sum of demand from all countries. Together, these conditions imply that all labor markets clear.

We define a competitive equilibrium of our model economy with the exogenous time-varying processes for every country: labor endowment  $\{L_i\}$ , trade costs  $\{\tau_{ijg}, \tau_{ijs}\}_{i,j=1}^I$ , productivity  $\{T_{ig}, T_{is}\}$ , and contribution shares to the global portfolio  $\{\rho_i\}$ ; time-varying structural parameters for every country  $\{\lambda_{ik}, \gamma_{ikn}\}$ ; and time-invariant structural parameters  $\{\sigma, \varepsilon_k, \omega_k, \theta_k\}_{k=g,s}$  as follows.

**Definition 1.** A *competitive equilibrium* is a sequence of output and factor prices  $\{w_i, P_{ig}, P_{is}, P_i\}_{i=1}^I$ , allocations  $\{L_{ig}, L_{is}, M_{igg}, M_{igs}, M_{isg}, M_{iss}, Q_{ig}, Q_{is}, Y_{ig}, Y_{is}, C_{ig}, C_{is}, C_i\}_{i=1}^I$ , transfers from the global portfolio,  $R$ , and trade shares  $\{\pi_{ijg}, \pi_{ijs}\}_{i,j=1}^I$ , such that each condition in table 1 holds.

### 3.5 Gains from Trade

In existing multisector trade models that feature homothetic preferences like CES and Cobb-Douglas, the gains from trade are equivalent to changes in real income or aggregate consumption from autarky to trade, and as shown by Costinot and Rodríguez-Clare (2014), there is typically a sufficient statistic for calculating this change. Unfortunately, the structure of the non-homothetic CES preferences used in our model means that changes in real income or consumption are not appropriate for quantitative applications, complicating the welfare calculation. Instead, we rely on the concept of the *equivalent variation* to compare the equilibrium allocation in both trade and autarky.<sup>17</sup> This measure is invariant to any monotonic transformation of the utility function, i.e., the normalization of  $\varepsilon_g$ .

The calculation begins by considering two equilibrium states characterized by different real incomes and sector prices: the trade equilibrium summarized by  $(w_i, P_{ig}, P_{is})$  and the autarky equilibrium summarized by  $(w_i^{AUT}, P_{ig}^{AUT}, P_{is}^{AUT})$ . These are the equilibrium outcomes of the baseline model and a counterfactual where the trade costs are set to a prohibitively high level, respectively. The welfare changes between the trade regime and the autarky regime for any country  $i$  can be expressed using equivalent variation. Equivalent variation measures the amount of extra income that country  $i$  requires in order to obtain the utility level possible in autarky, while facing prices in the trade regime:

$$EV_i = e(P_{ig}, P_{is}, u^{AUT}) - e(P_{ig}, P_{is}, u),$$

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<sup>17</sup>Nigai (2016) uses the equivalent variation concept to measure heterogeneous gains from trade across households with non-homothetic preferences.

where  $e(\cdot)$  is the expenditure function, and  $u = v(w_i, P_{ig}, P_{is})$  and  $u^{AUT} = v(w_i^{AUT}, P_{ig}^{AUT}, P_{is}^{AUT})$  are the utility levels for the indirect utility function  $v(\cdot)$  evaluated at the two equilibria. To match the literature, we define the gains from trade as the lost income that comes from moving to the lower utility level in autarky, taken as a fraction of initial income:

$$GFT_i = \frac{e(P_{ig}, P_{is}, u) - e(P_{ig}, P_{is}, u^{AUT})}{e(P_{ig}, P_{is}, u)}. \quad (12)$$

To take this definition to our model, we derive the indirect utility function and expenditure functions. For a country  $i$  with a per-capita income level  $w_i$  and prices  $(P_{ig}, P_{is})$  under the trade regime, equilibrium conditions (D2) and (D3) in Table 1 imply the indirect utility (per capita) function  $v(w_i, P_{ig}, P_{is})$  takes the implicit form:

$$\sum_k \omega_k P_{ik}^{1-\sigma} v(w_i, P_{ig}, P_{is})^{(1-\sigma)\epsilon_k} = w_i^{1-\sigma}. \quad (13)$$

In turn, expenditure minimization yields the expenditure function  $e(P_{ig}, P_{is}, u)$  as:

$$e(P_g, P_s, u) = \left( \sum_k \omega_k P_{ik}^{1-\sigma} u^{(1-\sigma)\epsilon_k} \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}}. \quad (14)$$

Plugging in the optimal consumption bundle consistent with the model solution as well as a version solved with infinite trade costs will thus permit the calculation of welfare gains.

Importantly, this definition nests the standard method of calculating welfare gains. Since setting  $\epsilon_k = 1$  for all  $k$  produces standard CES preferences, gains from trade under equation (12) are:

$$GFT_i = 1 - \left( \frac{\sum_k \omega_k P_{ik}^{1-\sigma}}{\sum_k \omega_k P_{ik}^{AUT 1-\sigma}} \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}} \frac{w_i^{AUT}}{w_i} = 1 - \frac{w_i^{AUT} / P_i^{AUT}}{w_i / P_i}. \quad (15)$$

Thus, the gains from trade for homothetic preferences are simply the change in real income from trade to autarky.

## 4 Calibration and Solution

To quantify the role of structural change in global trade flows, we calibrate the exogenous processes and the parameters in the model to match data from 26 countries plus a rest-of-the-world aggregate over 1970–2015. Preference parameters  $(\sigma, \epsilon_g, \epsilon_s, \omega_g, \omega_s)$  are

estimated using panel data on sectoral prices, expenditure shares, and total expenditure per worker. The trade elasticity,  $\theta_k$ , is taken from the literature. Trade imbalances,  $\rho_{it}$ , and labor endowment,  $L_{it}$ , are set to match data on trade deficits and total number of employees. The production coefficients  $\lambda_{ikt}$  and  $\gamma_{iknt}$  are constructed using the input-output data. Processes for sectoral trade costs,  $\tau_{ijkt}$ , and productivity,  $T_{ikt}$ , are constructed to match data on bilateral trade shares and expenditure shares at the sector level.

We discuss the calibration procedures together with the corresponding data sources in the next three subsections. With the calibrated parameters, we can solve the baseline model fully in levels for each year  $t = 1970, \dots, 2015$ . In the following subsection, we check the model fit by comparing untargeted moments in the model with those in the data.

## 4.1 Preference parameters

To estimate the preferences parameters  $(\sigma, \varepsilon_g, \varepsilon_s, \omega_g, \omega_s)$ , we collect data on sectoral prices  $P_{ik}$ , sectoral expenditure  $P_{ik}C_{ik} = E_{ik}$ , aggregate expenditure,  $P_i C_i = \sum_k E_{ik}$ , and employment levels,  $L_i$ . The construction of sectoral expenditure data is discussed in section 2. For sectoral prices, we use the UN Main Aggregates Database and the GGDC Productivity Level Database “2005 Benchmark” from Inklaar and Timmer (2014). Aggregate employment comes from the Penn World Table and corresponds to “number of persons engaged”. Details of data construction and data sources are provided in Appendix A.1.

We structurally estimate the elasticities of both income and price channels by minimizing the distance between the observed sectoral expenditures and those implied by the model given the observed prices. One complication is that we rely on the model to infer utility, or real aggregate consumption  $C_i$ , since there is no direct empirical counterpart to it. Formally, the preference parameters are estimated by solving a constrained nonlinear least squares problem:

$$\min_{(\sigma, \varepsilon_s)} \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i=1}^I \left( \left( \frac{\omega_s}{\omega_g} \right) \left( \frac{\hat{P}_{ist}}{\hat{P}_{igt}} \right)^{1-\sigma} \left( \frac{C_{it}}{\hat{L}_{it}} \right)^{(1-\sigma)(\varepsilon_s - \varepsilon_g)} - \left( \frac{\hat{E}_{ist}}{\hat{E}_{igt}} \right) \right)^2 \quad (16)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \varepsilon_g = 1 \quad (17)$$

$$\omega_g + \omega_s = 1 \quad (18)$$

$$\frac{\hat{E}_{igt} + \hat{E}_{ist}}{\hat{L}_{it}} = \left( \sum_{k=g,s} \omega_k \hat{P}_{ikt}^{1-\sigma} \left( \frac{C_{it}}{\hat{L}_{it}} \right)^{(1-\sigma)\varepsilon_k} \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}}, \forall (i, t), \quad (19)$$

where observables are denoted using a “hat”. Equation (17) normalizes the income elas-

ticity for goods to one. As in Comin et al. (2018), this normalization has no influence on equilibrium allocations; instead different values of  $\varepsilon_g$  reflect monotonic transformations of the same utility function. Equation (18) normalizes the sum of  $\omega_g$  and  $\omega_s$  to one without loss of generality. We have flexibility in setting  $\omega_s$  by changing the units of relative prices. Specifically, we normalize relative prices such that  $\omega_s = 0.58$ , the global expenditure share on services in 1970. Equation (19) implicitly specifies utility  $C_{it}$  obtained with the expenditure per capita,  $\frac{\hat{E}_{ig} + \hat{E}_{is}}{\hat{L}_{it}}$  and sectoral prices  $\hat{P}_{ikt}$ . It is derived by multiplying the price index in equation (D2) by  $\frac{\hat{C}_i}{\hat{L}_i}$  on both sides. Since the expenditures per capita and sectoral prices are observed, we can infer the real aggregate consumption (utility) implicitly.

We solve the minimization problem as follows. Start by making a guess for  $(\sigma, \varepsilon_s)$ . Given this guess, we exploit aggregate expenditure and sectoral price data to impute the aggregate consumption index,  $C_{it}$ , for each country in every year using constraint (19), which is a simple nonlinear equation with one unknown. Given the imputed consumption indexes we then exploit data on sectoral prices and expenditures and use nonlinear least squares on the objective function (16) to obtain updated estimates of  $(\sigma, \varepsilon_s)$ . With the updated estimates of the preference parameters in hand, we revisit equation (19) and impute updated consumption indexes and, in turn, obtain new estimates of the preference parameters by minimizing (16). We continue the iterative procedure until we converge to a fixed point in the preference parameter space. Finally, we bootstrap the confidence interval for the estimates.<sup>18</sup>

Table 2 reports the estimation results. Using annual data, we obtain point estimates  $\sigma = 0.16$  and  $\varepsilon_s = 1.62$ , reported in the left column. Both parameters are statistically significantly different from one, implying the strong presence of both income and price effects for accounting for the structural patterns of expenditure shares. We also conduct the estimation on the non-overlapping, five-year averages of the expenditure and price data to smooth out the short-run variations, which is not the focus of our long-run structural change process. The results are reported in the second column of the table. The estimated parameter values are almost identical to those in the baseline estimation. In the estimation process, we obtain estimates of the aggregate consumption index,  $C_{it}$ , which will be used to calibrate productivity levels in an internally consistent manner later on.

Our estimates of the preference elasticities are consistent with the regularity conditions

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<sup>18</sup>We bootstrap the standard errors by drawing country-time pairs with replacement to obtain the same number of observations in each bootstrapped series. We report the 2.5 and 97.5 percentiles of 1000 bootstrapped replications.

Table 2: Estimated Preferences Parameter Values

Variable	Baseline		5-year averages	
	Estimate	95% C.I.	Estimate	95% C.I.
$\sigma$	0.16	(0.08, 0.25)	0.17	(0.03, 0.34)
$\varepsilon_s$	1.62	(1.56, 1.68)	1.63	(1.53, 1.82)
Number of observations	1242		243	

Note: The 95 percent confidence intervals are constructed using a naive bootstrap with 1000 repetitions. Estimates reported under the “5-year averages” column are based on data averaged over 1970–1974, 1975–1979, ... 2000–2014, and we drop the year 2015 from this particular estimation.

specified in Section 3.1, namely  $0 < \sigma < 1$  and  $\varepsilon_k > 0$  for all  $k$ . While estimation of demand functions may suffer from endogeneity problems, our estimates are remarkably similar to those obtained by Comin et al. (2018) using Consumer Expenditure Survey data at the household level, including instrumenting for household consumption. In addition, their three-sector estimates using cross-country panel data on sectoral employment and value added shares are broadly consistent with our two-sector estimates using cross-country panel data on expenditure shares.<sup>19</sup> Specifically, goods and services are complements, and services have a higher income elasticity than goods. The structural estimates are also very close to the reduced form estimates using OLS, detailed in Appendix A.2.

## 4.2 Parameters directly from the literature and the data

We set the dispersion parameter of productivity draws in the goods sector,  $\theta_g$ , at 4, following Simonovska and Waugh (2014). There is no reliable estimate of the trade elasticity for services, so we set  $\theta_s = 4$  as well. We conduct sensitivity analysis for a smaller  $\theta_s$  of 2.5 in Appendix B.3; the main results are robust. The elasticity of substitution between varieties in the composite good,  $\eta$ , plays no quantitative role in the model other than satisfying  $1 + (1 - \eta)/\theta > 0$ ; we set this value at 2. The upper panel of Table 3 summarizes these parameter values.

The country-specific, time-varying production parameters  $\gamma_{iknt}$  and  $\lambda_{ikt}$  are constructed by condensing multi-sector, input-output tables to a two-sector input-output construct. Specifically,  $\lambda_{ikt}$  is the ratio of value added to total production in sector  $k$ , while the  $\gamma_{iknt}$  is the share of sector  $k$  intermediate spending that is sourced from sector  $n$ . The World Input-Output Database (WIOD) provides country-level data annually from 1995–2011. Prior to

<sup>19</sup>Comin et al. (2018) estimate a substitution elasticity of 0.50 and  $\varepsilon_s - \varepsilon_m$  of 0.21 with data on agriculture, manufacturing, and services value added and employment. Their data goes back to 1947, and includes 37 countries.

1995, we make use of country-specific input-output tables for 11 countries from multiple sources, covering various years depending on the country, resulting in an unbalanced panel of input-output data from 1970-2011 (see Appendix A.1 for more details). We impute the shares for missing country-year observations by (i) estimating a relationship between each share and GDP per worker in our unbalanced panel and (ii) using the estimates and observed GDP per worker to fill in the missing values.

While these production shares vary significantly across countries, they change only mildly over time. Moreover, there are notable patterns that hold across countries. First, production of services is more value-added intensive than production of goods. The lower panel of table 3 indicates that, on average, 61 percent of total service production compensates value-added factors, compared to 39 percent in goods. Second, inputs from goods sectors account for 70 of intermediate expenditures by the goods sector. That is, goods production is goods-intensive. Similarly, services production is service intensive: inputs from the service sector account for 64 percent of intermediate expenditures by the service sector. Still, cross-sector linkages are relatively strong: roughly one-third of intermediate inputs in each sector is sourced from the other sector.

Table 3: Parameter values

<b>Preference parameters</b>		
$\sigma$	Elasticity of substitution b/w sectors	0.16
$\varepsilon_g$	Elasticity of income in goods	1
$\varepsilon_s$	Elasticity of income in services	1.62
$\omega_g$	Preference weight on goods	0.42
$\omega_s$	Preference weight on services	0.58
<b>Production parameters</b>		
$\theta_g$	Trade elasticity in goods sector	4
$\theta_s$	Trade elasticity in service sector	4
$\eta$	Elasticity of substitution b/w varieties in composite good	2
<b>Input-Output parameters (cross-country, cross-time averages)</b>		
$\lambda_g$	Ratio of value added to gross output in goods sector	0.39
$\lambda_s$	Ratio of value added to gross output in service sector	0.61
$\gamma_{gg}$	Good's share in intermediates used by goods sector	0.70
$\gamma_{sg}$	Good's share in intermediates used by service sector	0.36

The parameters  $\rho_{it}$  are calibrated to match each country's ratio of net exports to GDP. In the model, the ratio of net exports to GDP in country  $i$  at time  $t$  is  $\frac{\rho_{it}w_{it}L_{it}-R_tL_{it}}{w_{it}L_{it}}$ . In



the calibration, we let  $R_t = 0$  and simply set  $\rho_{it} = \frac{NX_{it}}{GDP_{it}}$ . So long as net exports sum to zero across countries (as it does in our data), the global portfolio is balanced. In the counterfactual analysis, the endogenous term  $R_t$  adjusts to ensure that the global portfolio balances period-by-period:  $R_t \sum_{i=1}^I L_{it} = \sum_{i=1}^I \rho_{it} w_{it} L_{it}$ .

### 4.3 Technology and Trade Costs

We recover the exogenous productivity terms,  $T_{ik}$ , and trade costs,  $\tau_{ijk}$ , by exploiting structural relationships from our model in order to match the panel data on sectoral expenditures and bilateral trade flows. In each year, we calibrate  $2I$  productivity parameters and  $2I(I-1)$  trade cost parameters to match  $2I$  sectoral expenditures and  $2I(I-1)$  bilateral trade flows. One major benefit of this approach is that we automatically match the observed sectoral value added shares exactly given the matched expenditure shares, trade shares and input-output shares. We do so in two steps. First, we use the estimated preferences parameters and the aggregate consumption index  $C_{it}$  from section 4.1 to impute sectoral prices  $\{P_{ig}, P_{is}\}$  that are consistent with the observed sectoral expenditures. Second, we use two key structural relationships to provide identification for productivity and trade costs:

$$T_{ik}^{\lambda_{ik}} = \frac{v_{ik}}{\Gamma_k^{-1} P_{ik} (\pi_{iik})^{-\frac{1}{\theta_k}}} = \frac{B_{ik} w_i^{\lambda_{ik}} \prod_{n \in \{g,s\}} P_{in}^{(1-\lambda_{ik}) \gamma_{ikn}}}{\Gamma_k^{-1} P_{ik} (\pi_{iik})^{-\frac{1}{\theta_k}}}, \quad (20)$$

$$\tau_{ijk} = \left( \frac{\pi_{ijk}}{\pi_{jjk}} \right)^{-\frac{1}{\theta_k}} \left( \frac{P_{ik}}{P_{jk}} \right). \quad (21)$$

Both structural relationships are derived by manipulating equations (10) and (11). Our procedure is similar to that of Świącki (2017), but incorporates input-output linkages as in Levchenko and Zhang (2016) and Sposi (2019). In this step, we also need data on wages  $w_i$  to construct unit costs.

Measurement of sectoral productivity takes into account differences between input costs and output prices. Holding fixed the unit costs of inputs, the model assigns a high productivity to a country with a low price, meaning that inputs are converted to output at an efficient rate. It also takes into account the home trade share, which reflects the selection effect in Ricardian trade models. Measurement of the trade costs takes into account cross-country price differences and the bilateral trade shares. Holding fixed the imputed price difference between countries  $i$  and  $j$ , if country  $i$  imports a large share from country  $j$  relative to what  $j$  sources from itself, the inferred trade barrier is low.

One potential concern of this calibration strategy is that the imputed prices do not match

the observed prices because preference parameters are set constant across countries and over time. However, the differences between the imputed and observed prices are minimized in the preferences estimation, which is further illustrated in the evaluation of the model fit in section 4.4. An alternative calibration strategy is to directly use the observed sectoral prices and trade flows in equation (20) and (21) so that the model reproduces the prices. We conduct the quantitative analysis using this alternative calibration and our main results are robust.<sup>20</sup> One downside of this strategy is that it will not match the observed expenditure shares and value added shares exactly. Furthermore, prices tend to be measured with more error, especially for services, and also exhibit more noise, than expenditures.

The estimated sectoral productivity and trade costs are illustrated in figure 3. The upper panel plots the log of the fundamental productivity levels,  $T_{ik}$ , of the median country (solid lines), the 25th percentile country and the 75th percentile country (dashed lines) at the sector level in each year. As shown in the figure, productivity grows faster in goods than in services. Specifically, over the sample period, on average the median fundamental productivity series grows by 3.5 percent per year in the goods sector and by 0.3 percent in the services sector. The cross-country productivity dispersion is fairly stable over time in both sectors.

To gauge how reasonable these fundamental productivity series are, we compare the model implied labor productivity with that in the data. In a model with trade selection, the model-implied labor productivity is in general higher than the fundamental productivity. The model-implied sectoral labor productivity is consistent with the data. On average, median labor productivity for goods grows by 4.7 percent per year in the model, compared to 4 percent in the data. For services, the median labor productivity grows by 1.7 percent per year in the model, compared to 1.5 percent in the data. The calibrated model slightly overshoots in sectoral productivity growth, because the calibration does not target sectoral employment or sectoral prices in the data.

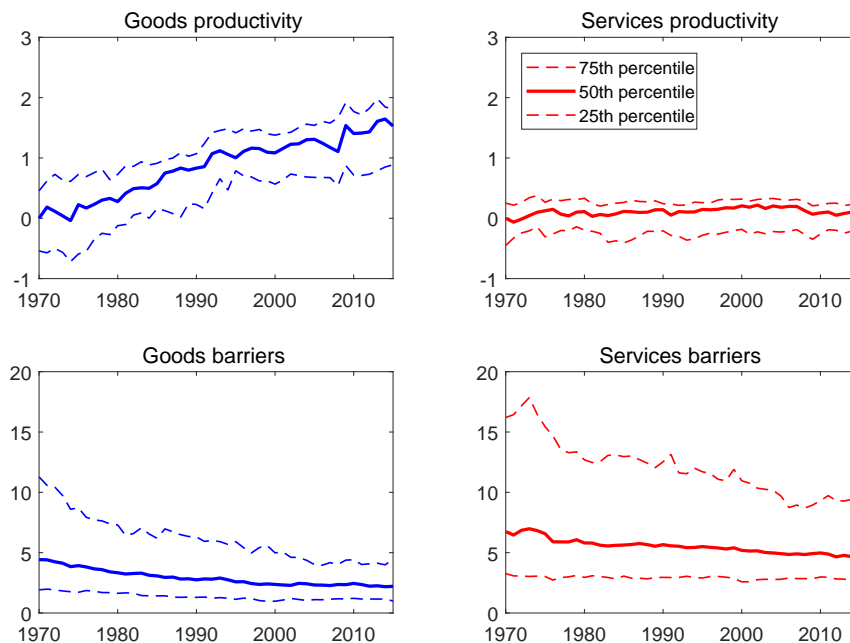
The lower panel of figure 3 plots the net trade barriers,  $\tau_{ijk} - 1$ , for goods and services over time. Again, the solid line is for the median level, and the dashed lines are for the 25th and the 75th percentiles. As illustrated in the figure, trade costs for both goods and services decline over time, and trade costs in services are generally higher than those in goods. Also, the cross-country dispersion of the trade barriers declines substantially in both sectors over time. Furthermore, the trade barriers decline faster in the goods sector than in the services sector. Over the sample period, the median trade barriers decline by

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<sup>20</sup>Results are available upon request.

about 50 percent (from 4.4 to 2.2) for goods, but only by about 30 percent (from 6.7 to 4.7) for services. The magnitudes of our estimated trade barriers for the goods sector are similar to those in Levchenko and Zhang (2016), and other papers in the literature.

Figure 3: Calibrated global productivity and trade costs



Note: Productivity plots in logs for each sector are normalized by the 1970 value of the median series of that sector. Trade barrier plots report the net trade cost,  $\tau - 1$ .

## 4.4 Model Fit

Our calibration procedure ensures that the model fits data on sectoral value added, sectoral gross output, sectoral absorption, sectoral bilateral trade flows, sectoral expenditures, input-output linkages, and total employment. We now check the fit of the model on observed moments that are not targeted directly by the calibration.

The first two are the sectoral prices, which are illustrated in the left and middle panels of figure 4. Each point corresponds to the price for a country-year with the model value on the y-axis and the data value on the x-axis. Of course, the points are limited by the incomplete coverage of the price data. All prices are taken relative to the U.S. in 2011. The prices fit the data reasonably well; the correlation between the model and the data is 0.90 for goods prices and is 0.96 for services prices.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>21</sup>The fit for prices is strong in both both within countries (over time) and across countries. The fit within

The second moment we check is the sectoral employment share. In the right panel of figure 4, we plot the services employment shares in the data against those implied by the baseline model. The baseline model succeeds in replicating the employment shares across sectors for all sample countries over time. The correlation between the model and the data is 0.92.

The calibration successfully matches the targeted moments in the data. Moreover, the calibrated model fits well on the above data moments that are not directly targeted by the calibration. Thus, the baseline model closely maps into the relevant data for our analysis and serves as the baseline for the counterfactual analysis in the next section.

Figure 4: Relative prices and services labor shares: model versus data



Note: Prices are in logs, normalized relative to the U.S. in 2011. Employment share depicts the number of workers engaged in services as a share of the entire workforce.

## 5 Model-based Counterfactuals

This section quantitatively assesses the dampening effect of structural change on global trade volumes in the past four decades by conducting counterfactuals using the calibrated model. We find that the magnitude of this dampening effect from structural change is half as large as the boosting effect of declining trade costs on openness in this period. We also highlight the importance of structural change on the measurement of the gains from trade. Finally, we project structural change into the future and consider the implications for openness and welfare for liberalizing trade in either goods or in services.

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countries is computed by indexing each country's price to 1 in 1970; for goods the correlation is 0.91 and for services is 0.92. The fit across countries is computed by normalizing each country's price relative to the U.S. in each year; the correlation for goods is 0.76 and for services is 0.97.

## 5.1 Global Trade in the Absence of Structural Change

To examine the implications on global trade flows from structural change, we construct a counterfactual in which structural change is absent by restricting expenditure shares to be constant over time. This provides the closest model-based analogue to our reduced-form counterfactual in Section 2. To do so, we assume that the preferences in the counterfactual are given by:

$$C_i = \prod_{k \in \{g,s\}} c_{ik}^{\omega'_{ik}}. \quad (22)$$

With the Cobb-Douglas specification, the income elasticities are one for both sectors and the substitution elasticity is also one across the two sectors. Consequently, expenditure shares across sectors are invariant to economic conditions and constant over time. That is, we choose values for  $\omega'_{ik} = e_{ik0}$  so that in 1970, the sectoral expenditure shares are identical to those in the baseline model.

All underlying processes in the counterfactual are identical to those in the baseline. Specifically in the counterfactual, we assume all other parameters and time varying processes for  $T_{ik}$ ,  $\tau_{ijk}$ , and  $L_i$  are unchanged from the baseline, except that the preference parameters  $\{\sigma, \varepsilon_g, \varepsilon_s, \omega_k\}$  in the baseline are set to  $\{1, 1, 1, \omega'_{ik}\}$  in the counterfactual experiment. We compute the equilibrium for the counterfactual experiment and analyze how the absence of structural change impacts global trade flows. Our solution procedure is based on Alvarez and Lucas (2007). Start with an initial guess for the vector of wages. Given wages, recover all remaining prices and quantities across countries using optimality conditions and market clearing conditions, excluding the trade balance condition. Then use departures from the trade balance condition to update the wages. Iterate on wages until the trade balance condition holds. Details are available in appendix B.2.

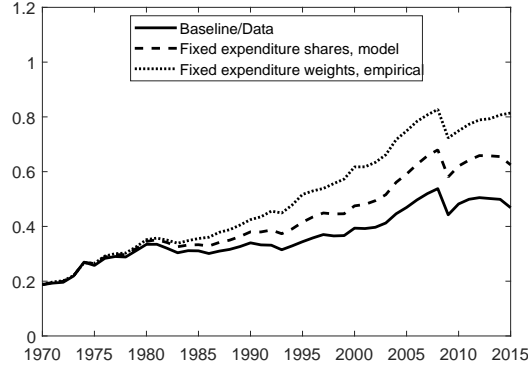
We now present the implications for global trade flows.<sup>22</sup> Figure 5 compares openness between the baseline model (solid line), model counterfactual (dashed line), and reduced-form counterfactual (dotted line). In both counterfactuals, global trade would have been much higher had structural change not occurred. By 2015, the reduced-form counterfactual yields 81 percent openness while the model counterfactual has 62 percent, compared with

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<sup>22</sup>As shown in figure B.5, the goods share of total expenditure falls from about 42 in 1970 percent to 21 percent in 2015 in both the data and the baseline model. In the counterfactual, the goods expenditure share is held fixed at the 1970 values, country-by-country. The slight rise since 2002 is driven by the increasing weight of China and India in the world economy, both of which have larger expenditure shares in goods compared to the developed countries.

47 percent in the data/baseline. The difference between the two counterfactuals peaks in 2015 and is driven by the endogenous changes to sectoral openness generated by the model.<sup>23</sup>

Figure 5: Openness: baseline and counterfactuals



### 5.1.1 Quantitative mechanisms

A key benefit of the general equilibrium structure is its ability to deliver an alternate path for sectoral openness that responds to the same forces that drive structural change. The left two panels of Figure 6 compares sectoral openness in the model counterfactual with the observed sectoral openness. In the model counterfactual, goods openness (the ratio of goods trade to goods expenditure) is about 50 percentage points lower relative to the baseline in 2015, while services openness is about 2 percentage points higher.

To understand how sectoral openness endogenously responds to changes in expenditure shares, we decompose sectoral trade openness into two terms: (i) the ratio of trade to absorption and (ii) the ratio of absorption to expenditure:

$$\frac{Trade_{kt}}{Exp_{kt}} = \left( \frac{Trade_{kt}}{Abs_{kt}} \right) \times \left( \frac{Abs_{kt}}{Exp_{kt}} \right). \quad (23)$$

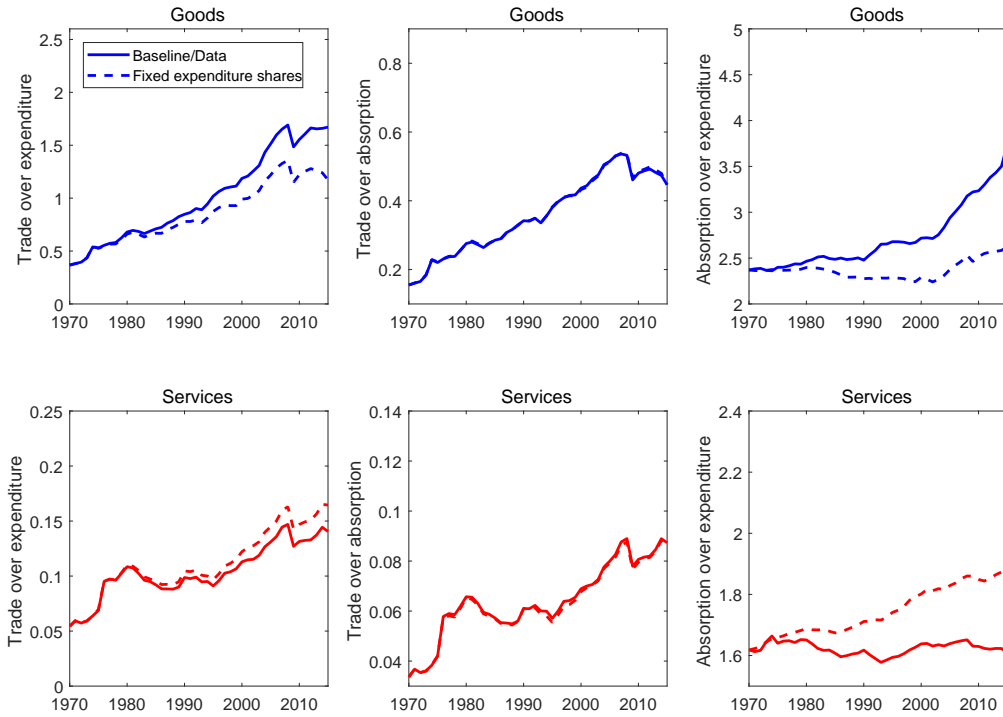
These two terms correspond to two potential channels of bias inherent in the reduced-form counterfactual. Through endogenous general equilibrium effects, changing sectoral demand might change the relative wages across countries, and thus the ratio of trade to absorption, which is captured by the first term. In the model, at the country level, the

<sup>23</sup>Appendix B.4 shows structural change and the model-based counterfactual for each country in figure B.2 and B.3 respectively, as well as a decomposition of each country's contribution to the aggregate counterfactual in table B.2 for 2015.

first term resembles  $1 - \pi_{ik}$  for each country  $i$  and sector  $k$ .<sup>24</sup> Also, changing the sectoral demand shares might affect the ratio of absorption to expenditure through input-output linkages, as captured by the second term.

We now quantify the bias of each channel. The ratios of trade to absorption in each sector are almost identical in the baseline and in the counterfactual, as shown in the center panels of figure 6. Recall the expression of  $\pi_{ik}$  in equation (S1) in table 1. Since the productivity and the trade cost processes are exogenous and thus unchanged, changing expenditure patterns affect the trade-over-absorption ratios only through their impact on relative wages across countries. It turns out that the general equilibrium effect on relative wages is quantitatively small in the model counterfactual. Thus, the share of each country's absorption that is sourced from abroad in each sector barely changes from the baseline to the counterfactual.

Figure 6: Sectoral openness: baseline and counterfactual with decomposition



The primary reason why sectoral trade openness in the model counterfactual differs from that in the baseline is due to differences in the ratio of absorption to expenditure, as shown in the right panels of figure 6. Compared with the baseline, the counterfactual

<sup>24</sup>Sectoral imports over expenditure is exactly equal to  $1 - \pi_{ik}$ . Sectoral exports differ, but quantitatively they are highly correlated with sectoral imports across countries.

ratios of absorption to expenditure in the counterfactual rise by less over time for the goods sector, but rise by more over time for the services sector. Using the expression for sectoral absorption in equation (S6) of table 1, we can write the sectoral ratio of absorption to expenditure as:

$$\frac{Q_{ig}}{C_{ig}} = \frac{C_{ig} + M_{igg} + M_{isg}}{C_{ig}}, \quad \frac{Q_{is}}{C_{is}} = \frac{C_{is} + M_{igs} + M_{iss}}{C_{is}},$$

where sectoral absorption equals final plus intermediate demand for the sectoral composite good. In order to counterfactually increase consumption of goods,  $C_{ig}$ , intermediates must be sourced from both sectors, implying that  $M_{igg}$  and  $M_{igs}$  rise, since these are directly used to produce the greater demand for goods consumption. At the same time, derived demand for  $M_{isg}$  and  $M_{iss}$  decline in response to a decline in  $C_{is}$ . Consequently, absorption rises by less than expenditure in the goods sector, while absorption declines by less than expenditure in the services sector, implying lower  $\frac{Q_{ig}}{C_{ig}}$  and higher  $\frac{Q_{is}}{C_{is}}$  in the model counterfactual compared with the baseline.

Going back to figure 6, we conclude that although services trade openness goes up, goods openness decreases sufficiently to imply a lower overall trade openness in the model counterfactual than in the empirical counterfactual. Ignoring input-output linkages across sectors yields a major bias in the reduced-form counterfactual in estimating global trade openness in the absence of structural. To confirm the importance of cross-sector input-output linkages, we recalibrate the baseline model with no cross-sector input-output linkages ( $\gamma_{gg} = \gamma_{ss} = 1$ ). In this alternative model, we conduct a similar fixed expenditure counterfactual, and find that the absence of structural change has essentially no impact on sectoral trade openness.

As described in the calibration section, the input-output coefficients change modestly over time. In our counterfactual analysis, we assume that these time-varying coefficients are invariant to alternative expenditure patterns. One concern would be whether the changes in trade openness from the data/baseline to the counterfactual of fixed expenditure shares are due to the time-varying input-output coefficients, given the importance of the input-output channel. To evaluate the concern, we conduct the counterfactual analysis of fixed expenditure shares together with fixed input-output coefficients, over time. That is, all countries' IO coefficients are set at their 1970 levels. The implied trade openness in this scenario is similar to the counterfactual result with time-varying IO coefficients. Thus, the time-varying input-output coefficients are not quantitatively important for the counterfactual result.

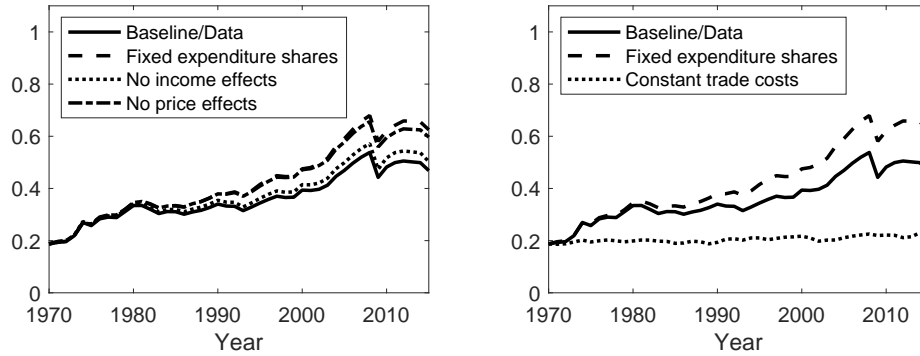


### 5.1.2 Decomposing income versus substitution effects

The literature on structural change has established two key mechanisms: income effects and substitution effects. Boppart (2014) provides the first model that incorporates both income and substitution effects to generate structural transformation along a balanced growth path. Herrendorf et al. (2013) demonstrate that when structural change is defined over final expenditures instead of value added, as it is in our paper, then income effects play a nontrivial role relative to substitution effects.

We use our model to evaluate the relative importance of each effect in shaping global trade flows. We first set  $\varepsilon_s = 1$  so that preferences are homothetic to remove the income effect.<sup>25</sup> By comparing global trade openness implied by this experiment with that of the counterfactual with both effects shut off, we can see to what extent the income effect drives our results. Equivalently, the comparison will illustrate the power of the substitution effect alone. We then set  $\sigma$  close to one to effectively shut down the price effect. This counterfactual reveals the quantitative importance of the income effect alone.

Figure 7: Alternative openness counterfactuals



The left panel of figure 7 plots the world ratio of trade to expenditure implied by our model counterfactual without the income effect, depicted with the dotted line and without price effects, depicted by the dot-dash line. For comparison, we also plot trade openness in the data with the solid line and the one implied by our model counterfactual without the income and substitution effect with the dashed line. As can be seen in the figure, the model that shuts down the income effect leads to a ratio of trade to expenditure that is only about 3 percentage points higher than in the data, or about one-fourth of the difference between

<sup>25</sup>We adjust the preferences weights,  $\omega_{ik}$ , so that in 1970 the sectoral expenditures are identical to those in the baseline model.

the data and the fixed-expenditure-shares counterfactual. Shutting down price effects, however, yields a counterfactual close to the fixed expenditure shares counterfactual. Thus, the substitution effect exerts a greater influence than the income effect in terms of attenuating the growth in international trade.

## **5.2 Global Trade in the Absence of Declining Trade Costs**

Arguably, declining trade costs are the most common factor attributed to the rise in global openness. Indeed, the past few decades have witnessed drastic reductions in both shipping costs and tariffs. To examine the role of declining trade barriers, consider a counterfactual in the model where trade barriers are held at their 1970 levels. The resulting trade openness is illustrated by the relatively flat line in the right panel of figure 7. In this world, the global ratio of trade to expenditure grows by only about 4 percentage points instead of about 30 over the sample period. That is, declining trade costs since 1970 have added about 26 percentage points to the ratio of trade to expenditures by 2015. Of course, trade costs in the baseline model are calculated as the residuals required to account for changes in trade not driven by technology or demand. As such, they incorporate a wide variety of economic forces, including tariff reductions, improvements in shipping technology, or even compositional changes in demand at a finer level of disaggregation than our goods and services distinction.

The constant-trade-cost counterfactual demonstrates the quantitative significance of structural change on global trade openness. As shown in figure 7, structural change has held back trade by roughly half the magnitude that reductions in trade costs have boosted trade over the past four decades. However, structural change has not received enough attention in the trade literature when accounting for the dynamics of openness. The following section shows that incorporating structural change also impacts one of the central themes in international trade: the measurement of the gains from trade.

## **5.3 Importance of Structural Change for the Gains from Trade**

In this subsection, we describe how accounting for structural change affects the measurement of the welfare gains from trade using equation (12). Table 4 summarizes the gains from trade from our full model. The left panel shows the distribution of the gains from trade in the first and last years. The gains from trade increase for the median country from about 4 percent in 1970 to over 10 percent in 2015 as trade integration rises over time. Countries

differ substantially in their gains from trade. Countries at the 75th percentile gain about 5 percentage points more than those at the 25th percentile in 1970. This dispersion in the gains from trade across countries is persistent over time. The difference between the 75th and 25th percentile is about 6 percentage points in 2015.

Table 4: Gains from trade

(a) Baseline model by percentile			(b) Alternative models at 50th percentile		
	1970	2015		1970	2015
25th percentile	2.2%	7.0%	Baseline	4.1%	10.3%
50th percentile	4.1%	10.3%	No income effects	4.1%	11.0%
75th percentile	6.8%	13.1%	Fixed expenditure shares	4.1%	12.7%

To highlight the role of structural change, the right panel of table 4 contrasts the gains from trade in the baseline with those from the no-income-effects and fixed-expenditure-shares counterfactuals. In the first counterfactual, we adopt homothetic CES preferences to shut down the income effects, while in the second, we use Cobb-Douglas preferences to shut down both the income and price effects. In 1970, the median gains from trade are practically the same in all three models since we set the initial sectoral expenditure shares to be the same across specifications. However, over time, the gains differ due to the presence (or lack) of structural change.

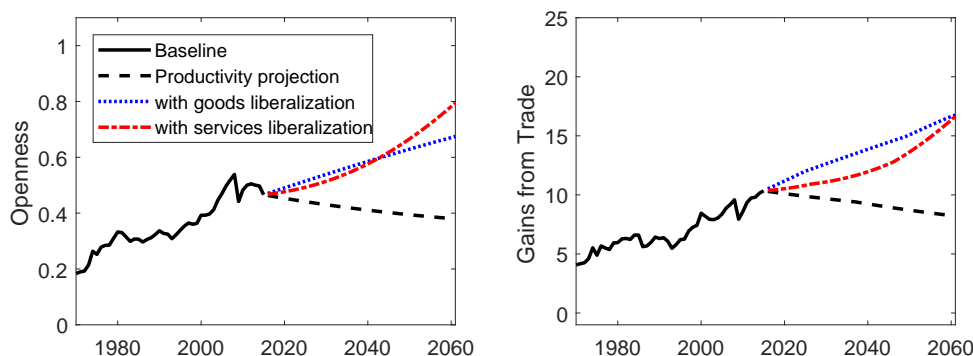
In our baseline model, the median gains from trade increase from 1970 to 2015 by about 6.2 percentage points. By contrast, in the fixed-expenditure-shares counterfactual, the gains increase by about 8.6 percentage points. Since trade integration occurs more prominently in the goods sector and structural change over time shifts expenditure away from goods, the measured gains from trade with structural change are 2.4 percentage points lower in 2015 than those without structural change. In addition, the income and price effects are both important in explaining the difference in the measured gains, while the price effect accounts for roughly two-thirds of the difference. Allowing for price effects alone (the no-income-effects counterfactual) accounts for 1.7 percentage points of the total 2.4-percentage-point difference between the baseline and the fixed-expenditure-shares counterfactual.

## 5.4 Projections

The recent slowdown in the growth of international trade has prompted careful consideration of the forces that might be restraining trade or no longer boosting it (IMF 2016b, Lewis

and Monarch 2016). While structural change has not been a stronger drag on trade growth recently than it was in preceding decades, world trade as a share of total expenditure is likely to fall in the future absent additional trade cost reductions. We show this possibility quantitatively through the lens of our model. Specifically, we extrapolate our sample of countries for another 46 years, holding trade costs fixed at their 2015 value and letting goods and services productivity grow at their respective world average rates observed between 1970-2015.<sup>26</sup> Without additional factors boosting trade, our model implies that the ratio of trade to expenditure would fall from 47 percent in 2015 to 38 percent in 2061, shown as the productivity projection in the left panel of figure 8.

Figure 8: Projection of trade openness and gains from trade



This quantitative example highlights the importance of paying attention to the role of the prevalent process of structural change when considering trade flows. Without incorporating structural change into the model, the downward pattern in the ratio of trade to GDP from figure 8 could be erroneously attributed to rising trade costs. However, we find such a result even without any change in trade costs, as the effects of increased services consumption in a world without rapid trade growth materially affects the trajectory of global trade openness. In other words, it is perfectly within reason to imagine a decline in the ratio of trade to GDP, or even a decline in total trade flows, without any increased trade barriers. All that would be necessary is the combination of ongoing changes in services consumption along the lines of that seen in the past four decades with the continuation of current levels of trade barriers.

**Trade policy in the presence of structural change** We next evaluate the implications of different future trade policy scenarios on global openness and welfare in an environment

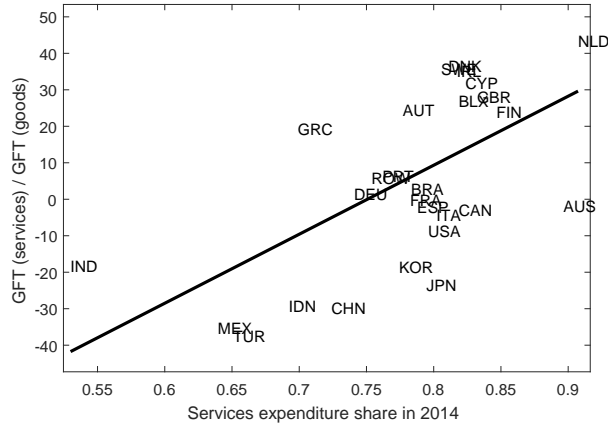
<sup>26</sup>Goods fundamental productivity grows 3.5 percent and services grows 0.3 percent annually.

of ongoing structural change. One scenario is continued reductions in trade costs in the goods sector over the next 46 years, occurring at the same rate as in the previous 46 years. The median goods trade cost has been declining by 1.5 percent per year, i.e., it is about halved from 1970 to 2015. The other scenario is instead reductions in services trade costs at the same rate of 1.5 percent per year, over the next 46 years. In both experiments, we keep the productivity growth process the same as in the productivity projection. We plot the implications of the two experiments also in figure 8. Openness rises in both cases with the declining trade costs boosting trade. However, in the long run, the boost in openness is larger for the declining services trade costs: the global trade to GDP ratio is predicted to be 79 percent with declining services trade costs and is 67 percent with declining goods trade costs. The reason is that initially services is less open than goods even with declining services trade costs, so as structural change shifts expenditures from goods to services aggregate openness does not increase very rapidly. However, as services become more open over time, when coupled with a shift in expenditures toward services, aggregate openness increases at an increasing rate.

The sector-biased trade policies have analogous implications for the overall gains from trade as they do for openness. The gains from trade under declining services trade costs are initially lower than those under declining goods trade costs, but eventually declining services trade costs would yield higher gains from trade.

We next illustrate that countries of varied income levels benefit differently from these two trade policy experiments: comparing a reduction of 1.5 percent per year in goods trade costs against services trade costs. In figure 9, we plot the percentage difference in the gains under the reduction of services trade costs relative to the gains under the reduction of goods trade costs, as of 2060, against the 2014 services expenditure shares. Clearly, differences in expenditure shares correlate with differences in gains from trade across countries. All else equal, higher income countries where services account for a greater share of the consumption basket tend to benefit more from the reduction in services trade costs compared to the same reduction in goods trade costs. Similarly, developing economies with low services expenditure shares will have greater gains from the reduction in goods trade costs compared to the same reduction in services trade costs.

Figure 9: Gains from trade comparison



Note: Vertical axis is the percentage difference in the gains from trade under a reduction of services trade costs relative to those under a reduction in goods trade costs. Gains are measured using equivalent variation in equation (12). The horizontal axis is the services expenditure share in 2014 (we use 2014 here since Ireland's sectoral expenditures in 2015 are tainted by unusual balance-of-payments adjustments). The upward-sloping line is a regression fit.

## 6 Conclusion

We show that structural change, whereby an increasing share of world income is allocated away from goods toward services, has exerted a significant drag on global trade growth over the past four decades. In the absence of structural change, defined as fixing expenditure shares in goods and services at their 1970 level, the global ratio of trade to GDP would be 15 percentage points higher, or one-third higher, than in the data. This is about the half the magnitude that declining trade costs have contributed to the increase in global openness over the same period.

We quantify the effect of structural change on global trade using a general-equilibrium model incorporating comparative advantage, nonhomothetic preferences, and an input-output structure. The model highlights that sectoral openness is endogenous and that holding expenditures fixed at their 1970s levels would have resulted in lower goods openness through the presence of input-output linkages. On the other hand, had structural change not occurred, aggregate openness would have been higher, as goods openness is much greater than services openness. The model also implies that income effects alone account for about one-third of the effect structural change has had on trade volumes and on the gains from trade. Indeed, in the face of prolonged structural change over the next few decades, reductions in trade costs in services would eventually yield greater gains than reductions in trade

costs in goods, particularly for advanced economies.

Though structural change has been a significant drag on global trade growth over recent decades, it has not been a stronger drag since the global financial crisis. Instead, the recent slowdown in trade can be attributed to an absence of factors that have historically caused trade to rise relative to expenditure. Indeed, our paper demonstrates how unusual the 1990s and 2000s were: Even as the share of services in expenditure rose, international trade flows expanded, as input-output linkages proliferated across country borders. For the same reasons, however, our results indicate that world trade as a fraction of GDP may have peaked, and similar patterns of structural change projected into the future foreshadow declines in this measure of openness.

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# A Appendix

## A.1 Data Appendix

This section describes the data used to construct the empirical counterfactual in Section 2 and to estimate the model in Section 4. These data cover 1970–2015 for 27 countries/regions: Australia, Austria, Belgium-Luxembourg, Brazil, Canada, China, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, and United States, plus a “Rest of World”. The empirical counterfactual requires time series of 1) total exports and imports of goods and services and 2) final expenditure in goods and services. The model estimation requires these series as well as 3) bilateral goods and services trade data; 4) input-output coefficients; 5) value added to gross output ratios; 6) sectoral price indices; and 7) the aggregate wage bill, and 8) total employment.

Our strategy is to work with the World Input-Output Database (WIOD) from 1995–2011, which is described in Timmer, Dietzenbacher, Los, Stehrer and de Vries (2015), then build the rest of the time sample out from those numbers using splicing techniques with other longer-running datasets. For pre-1995 trade data, we compute the annual changes from the relevant data source then extrapolate the levels off of the 1995 value from WIOD. We do the same thing for post-2011 data. This ensures that the WIOD-based input-output coefficients generate sensible expenditure shares during WIOD years—otherwise, the input-output coefficients would be applied to trade data that may not match the underlying WIOD data used to generate those coefficients.

**Labor endowment by country** We take total employment data in the Penn World Table as our measure of  $L_i$ . These data correspond to the number of workers engaged in market activity. Since these data only go through 2014, we splice WDI total employment data in 2015 to the Penn World Table data in order to estimate the model through 2015.

**Wage by country** Dividing aggregate value added in current US\$ by the labor endowment gives the imputed wage  $w_i$ .

**Total exports and imports by country** For each of the 27 groupings above, we take total goods and services exports and imports from the WIOD from 1995–2011. Then, for all other years (i.e. 1970–1994 and 2012–2015), we splice with other data. The splicing

procedure divides the average of three years of the WIOD data by the average of three years of a longer dataset to generate a splicing factor, then applying that splicing factor to the longer dataset in non-WIOD years. The averages are calculated from 1995-1997 for all years before 1995, and from 2009-2011 for all years after 2011. For goods trade, we splice the WIOD trade data with total trade from the IMF Direction of Trade Statistics (IMF 2016a) database from 1970 to 2015. For services, we use aggregate services exports and imports data from the World Development Indicators (WDI) from 1970 to 2015 as the comparison. If WDI data on services are not available, we supplement in growth rates where necessary with OECD services data.

**Bilateral goods and services trade by sector and country** As with total goods trade, when not taken directly from the WIOD, goods trade between two regions in our sample is generated by splicing importer-reported bilateral goods trade data in the IMF DOTS database with WIOD data, using the same three-year splicing factors as above. Bilateral services data are sparse, so instead of splicing, we simply apply average bilateral shares (e.g., U.S. imports from Canada as a share of U.S. imports from the world) over three year periods to the total services trade data calculated as above. Again, for all years prior to 1995, we use average bilateral shares from 1995-1997, and for all years after 2011, we use average bilateral shares from 2009-2011.

**Value added by sector and country** For value added data, we rely on the UN Main Aggregates Database (UN 2017). We take nominal goods value added in a country to be the combination of expenditure in “Agriculture, hunting, forestry, fishing” and “Mining, Manufacturing, Utilities”, while services value added is expenditure in “Construction”, “Wholesale, retail trade, restaurants and hotels”, “Transport, storage, and communication”, and “Other Activities”.<sup>27</sup> Years: 1970-2015.

**Input-output coefficients and value added to gross output ratios** To construct  $\gamma_{ikn}$ , the country-specific share of intermediate inputs that sector  $k$  sources from sector  $n$ , we use the numbers directly from WIOD for 1995-2011. The value added to gross output ratio in sector  $k$ ,  $\lambda_{ik}$  is also a straightforward manipulation of data in the WIOD for 1995-2011.

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<sup>27</sup>Results are qualitatively similar defining construction as a goods category, but given the lack of direct trade in construction, categorizing it as a service will make goods sectoral openness higher and services sectoral openness lower. Both the model-based counterfactual and especially the reduced-form counterfactual would be smaller in magnitude relative to the data.

Since the WIOD covers only 1995-2011, we impute  $\gamma_{ikn}$  and  $\lambda_{ik}$  for the remaining years by (i) supplementing the WIOD with incomplete country-specific input-output tables to create a longer, yet unbalanced, panel and (ii) imputing all missing country-year observations based on an estimated relationship between the shares and real income per worker.

The specific countries and years that we add are the following: Japan (1970, 1973-1995, from the Japan Industrial Productivity Database); South Korea (1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1990, 1993, 1995, from the Bank of Korea); United States (1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, from the Bureau of Economic Analysis);. We also appeal to data from the OECD: Australia (1968, 1974, 1986, 1989); Canada (1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1990); Denmark (1972, 1977, 1980, 1985, 1990); France (1972, 1977, 1980, 1985, 1990); (West) Germany (1978, 1986, 1988, 1990); Italy (1985); Netherlands (1972, 1977, 1981, 1986); United Kingdom (1968, 1979, 1984, 1990).

For each country we linearly interpolate between the observed years and then splice the shares series to that from the WIOD data in 1995. If these data do not overlap with 1995, we linearly extrapolate forward until 1995, using data from the latest two years, and then splice. This gives us an unbalanced panel from which we can observe variation across countries and over time prior to 1995. This helps provide discipline on the estimated shares that we impute prior to 1995 for countries that have no data.

Using our unbalanced panel we first estimate:

$$\log\left(\frac{\lambda_{ikt}}{1-\lambda_{ikt}}\right) = \alpha + \beta \log(y_{it}) + \varepsilon_{it}, \quad (\text{A.1})$$

and then impute the ratio,  $\log(\frac{\lambda_{ikt}}{1-\lambda_{ikt}})$ , for missing country-years using the observed GDP per worker,  $y_{it}$  and the estimates of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . The imputed value for  $\lambda_{ikt}$  is ensured to be between 0 and 1. We follow a similar procedure to impute values for  $\gamma_{igst}$  and  $\gamma_{isst}$ , and then set  $\gamma_{iggt} = 1 - \gamma_{igst}$  and  $\gamma_{isgt} = 1 - \gamma_{isst}$ .

**Sectoral expenditure** We construct sectoral expenditures consistent with the other underlying data and model structure. First, combining (S5)-(S7) yields:

$$P_{ik}C_{ik} = P_{ik}Q_{ik} - \sum_{n=\{g,s\}} (1-\lambda_{in}) \gamma_{ikn} (P_{in}Q_{in} + NX_{in}), \quad (\text{A.2})$$

where  $NX_{ik}$  is net exports in country  $i$  sector  $k$ , and  $P_{ik}Q_{ik}$  is total absorption. From equilibrium condition S4, we also know total absorption of the composite good is given by:

$$P_{ik}Q_{ik} + NX_{ik} = \frac{w_i L_{ik}}{\lambda_{ik}}. \quad (\text{A.3})$$

Using data on sectoral value added,  $w_i L_{ik}$ , along with sectoral net exports,  $NX_{ik}$ , and the production share,  $\lambda_{ik}$ , we can calculate total expenditure,  $P_{ik}C_{ik}$ , via equations (A.2) and (A.3).<sup>28</sup> Once the sectoral expenditures are generated, the expenditure shares  $e_{ik}$  are straightforward to compute. (Note that  $w_i L_{ik}$  is the value added in sector  $k$ , so had we used value added data from WIOD directly for the years 1995-2011, then we would impute exactly the expenditures observed in WIOD as well for those years.)

**Sectoral prices** In order to estimate the preference parameters, we need gross-output sectoral prices. First, we take nominal and real value added (indexed to 2005) data in goods and services from the UN Main Aggregates Database. We generate sectoral value added price indices for each country-year as the ratio of nominal to real value added. In order to leverage cross-country variation in our estimation of preference parameters, we need price levels comparable across countries rather than price indices. To do so, we proportionally scale each country's value added price series using its 2005 PPP value added price level from the GGDC Productivity Level Database "2005 Benchmark" (Inklaar and Timmer 2014). Finally, we "gross up" the value added prices using the equation for the value added deflator in Appendix C4 of Spasi (2019). This grossing up calculation is based on the input-output coefficients alone. Therefore, the step from value added prices to gross output prices is identical in our model and in our data. Note that these prices are used in our estimation of preferences parameters. These prices are also plotted as the data series in Figure 4.

## A.2 OLS Estimation of Preferences

In this section, we estimate the preferences parameters using the OLS regression approach for two reasons. First, this alternative method provides a robustness check on our baseline nonlinear estimation. Second, the OLS regression illustrates the empirical importance of price and income effects transparently. Taking logs of equation (7), and replacing sectoral

<sup>28</sup>Equations (A.2) and (A.3) exactly summarize how we constructed sectoral expenditure for the empirical results in Section 2, and is detailed in words in Section 2.1 and figure B.4.

expenditure shares  $e_{ik}$  with sectoral expenditure levels  $E_{ik}$ , gives a simple OLS regression equation:

$$\ln\left(\frac{E_{ist}}{E_{igt}}\right) = \text{constant} + (1 - \sigma^{OLS}) \ln\left(\frac{P_{ist}}{P_{igt}}\right) + (1 - \sigma^{OLS})(\varepsilon_s^{OLS} - \varepsilon_g^{OLS}) \ln\left(\frac{C_{it}}{L_{it}}\right). \quad (\text{A.4})$$

Holding fixed variation in the last term (aggregate consumption per worker – income effects), the extent that relative expenditure shares move with relative prices helps us identify the price elasticity  $\sigma^{OLS}$ . Holding relative prices fixed, the extent that relative expenditure shares move with aggregate consumption per worker helps us identify the income elasticity  $\varepsilon_s^{OLS}$  (we maintain the normalization that  $\varepsilon_g^{OLS} = 1$ ). Setting the sector weights  $\omega_{ik}$ , which are encompassed by the constant term, to be constant across countries and over time allows us to exploit both the cross-section and time-series variation.

Data on utility  $C_{it}$  (which we have been calling consumption) is not observable. We proxy for this by using data on real domestic absorption, measured at current purchasing power parities.<sup>29</sup> The results are reported in Table A.1. The estimated values for  $\sigma$  and  $\varepsilon_s - \varepsilon_g$  are almost identical to our baseline nonlinear estimation results. We also report the results when either the relative prices are used alone in the regression (constraining  $\varepsilon_s^{OLS} = 1$ ). The explanatory power is much higher when including both relative prices and income, compared to including only prices. The  $R^2$  is 70 percent with both variables, while it is only 8 percent with relative prices alone. Thus, nonhomothetic preferences are crucial in accounting for the observed expenditure shares.

Table A.1: Regression results

Variable	Prices & income	Prices only
$\sigma^{OLS}$	0.16 (0.18)	0.31 (0.34)
$\varepsilon_s^{OLS} - \varepsilon_g^{OLS}$	0.62 (0.15)	
constant	-4.11 (0.53)	1.31 (4.59)
$N$	1242	1242
$R^2$	0.70	0.08

Note: Standard errors clustered at the country level are in parentheses.

<sup>29</sup>This is the variable cda in the Penn World Table.



## B Online Appendix

### B.1 Correlation of openness and service share

Table B.1 shows the results of regressing the country-level growth rate of openness on the country-level growth rate of the service share for our sample. We find strong evidence of a negative correlation; when a country featured higher growth in its service expenditure share, it experienced lower growth in openness, even accounting for its level of income per worker. In the next subsection, we present reduced-form evidence of how much structural change held back global trade growth.

Table B.1: Country-level openness and service share

<i>Dependent variable: openness growth</i>		
Services share growth	−0.379*** (0.070)	−0.404*** (0.069)
Log GDP per-capita		−0.036*** (0.008)
Country FE	YES	YES
N	1215	1215
$R^2$	0.05	0.07

Note: Robust standard errors are in parentheses, with \*\*\* denoting a 99% significance level.

### B.2 Solution Algorithm

This appendix details the solution algorithm for each period of the model economy. Equations that we refer to are listed in table 1. For each time period:

- Guess the vector of wages,  $w_i$ , across countries.
- Compute the sectoral unit costs  $v_{ik}$  and the sectoral prices  $P_{ik}$  using conditions (S2) and (S3) jointly.
- Compute the sectoral bilateral trade shares  $\pi_{ijk}$  using condition (S1).
- Compute the per-worker transfers from the global portfolio  $R$  using condition (G1).
- Compute the aggregate price levels  $P_i$  and aggregate consumption indices  $C_i$  using conditions (D2) and (D3) simultaneously.

- Compute sectoral consumption  $C_{ik}$  using condition (D1).
- Compute sectoral labor demand  $L_{ik}$  using condition (S4).
- Compute sectoral intermediate input demand  $M_{ikn}$  using condition (S5).
- Compute sectoral gross absorption  $Q_{ik}$  using condition (S6).
- Compute sectoral gross production  $Y_{ik}$  using condition (S7).
- Define excess demand as net exports minus net contributions to the global portfolio:

$$Z_i^w = \frac{\sum_{k \in \{g,s\}} (P_{ik}Y_{ik} - P_{ik}Q_{ik}) - (\rho_i w_i L_i - R L_i)}{w_i}.$$

Condition (G2) requires that  $Z_i^w = 0$ , for all  $i$ , in equilibrium. If this is different from zero in at least some country, then update the wage vector as follows:

$$w'_i = \left(1 + \kappa \frac{Z_i^w}{L_i}\right) w_i,$$

where  $w'_i$  is the updated guess of wages and  $\kappa$  is chosen to be sufficiently small so that  $w'_i > 0$ . Use the updated wage vector and repeat every step to get a new value for excess demand. Continue this procedure until the excess demand is sufficiently close to zero in every country simultaneously. Note that Walras' Law ensures that the labor market clears in each country.

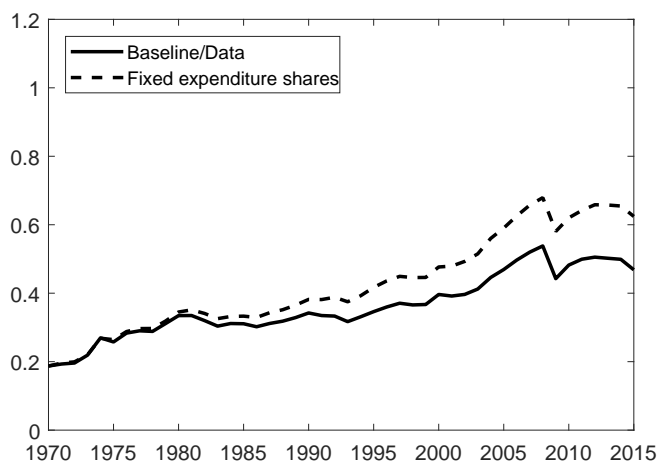
### B.3 Robustness of sector-specific trade elasticity

Throughout the paper we assumed that  $\theta = 4$  in both goods and services sectors. The trade elasticity for goods is widely accepted in the literature. However, there is no widely accepted value for the trade elasticity for services, largely because many studies ignore trade in services. We now consider a robustness exercise by setting  $\theta_s = 2.5$ , while keeping  $\theta_g = 4$ . For this experiment, we need to recalibrate  $T_{is}$  and  $\tau_{ijs}$  as in our baseline calibration, to target observed sectoral trade and sectoral expenditure. The remaining parameters are unchanged relative to our baseline calibration.

We compute the equilibrium for two versions of the recalibrated model: (i) a baseline case with endogenous structural change, and (ii) a counterfactual with fixed expenditures (Cobb-Douglas preferences with expenditure shares fixed at 1970 levels). Figure B.1 plots

the results. Holding fixed expenditure shares in 1970 does result in greater increases in openness, just as in our baseline calibration. In other words, structural change dampens growth in openness. By 2015, global openness is 32 percent higher in the model with fixed expenditure shares compared to the model with endogenous structural change (0.62 compared to 0.47). This effect is almost identical to the effect obtained in our baseline calibration.

Figure B.1: Openness: Baseline and counterfactual under  $\theta_s = 2.5$



## B.4 Country Results

In this appendix, we break down structural change and the structural model-based counterfactual for each country in our sample and highlight their contribution to the aggregate counterfactual. Figure B.2 shows the goods and services expenditure shares for each country and the rest of world aggregate. In all countries, the expenditure share of goods is falling, though for some countries, including Greece, Mexico, and Sweden, the shift is more gradual.

Figure B.3 shows the baseline model solution and the model-based counterfactual result holding expenditure shares fixed for each country. The trade to expenditure ratio in the counterfactual is higher for every country, though by starkly different amounts. The counterfactual tends to be more consistent in percent, rather than percentage point, terms across countries. For example, Belgium-Luxembourg starts out with a high degree of openness, and the counterfactual is about 25 percent higher than the baseline. The same is roughly true for other countries, like India and Japan, with a far lower degree of openness.

For some countries, however, the counterfactual level of openness is not much greater. This tends to relate directly to the degree to which the countries are experiencing structural change: Greece, Mexico, and Sweden all have fairly modest increases in their openness in the model-based counterfactual, which echoes their modest structural change from figure B.2.

Table B.2 shows the contribution to the aggregate fixed expenditure counterfactual depicted in figure 5 for the year 2015, the last year of the sample. The first column provides the expenditure share of each country in the world aggregate, while the second is its trade share (exports plus imports in each country as a share of world trade). The third column represents the percentage point contribution of each country to the difference between the model-based counterfactual and the baseline, which sums to 0.156. The final column shows the equivalent percent contribution. The table makes clear that the contribution to the aggregate counterfactual largely follows the country's trade share, not its expenditure share. For example, with the United States being relatively closed, with an expenditure share about twice its trade share, the contribution of the U.S. to the aggregate counterfactual is close to the trade share. By contrast, China has a similar trade share and a smaller expenditure share and contributes the most of any single country to the aggregate counterfactual.

Figure B.2: Sectoral expenditure shares by country

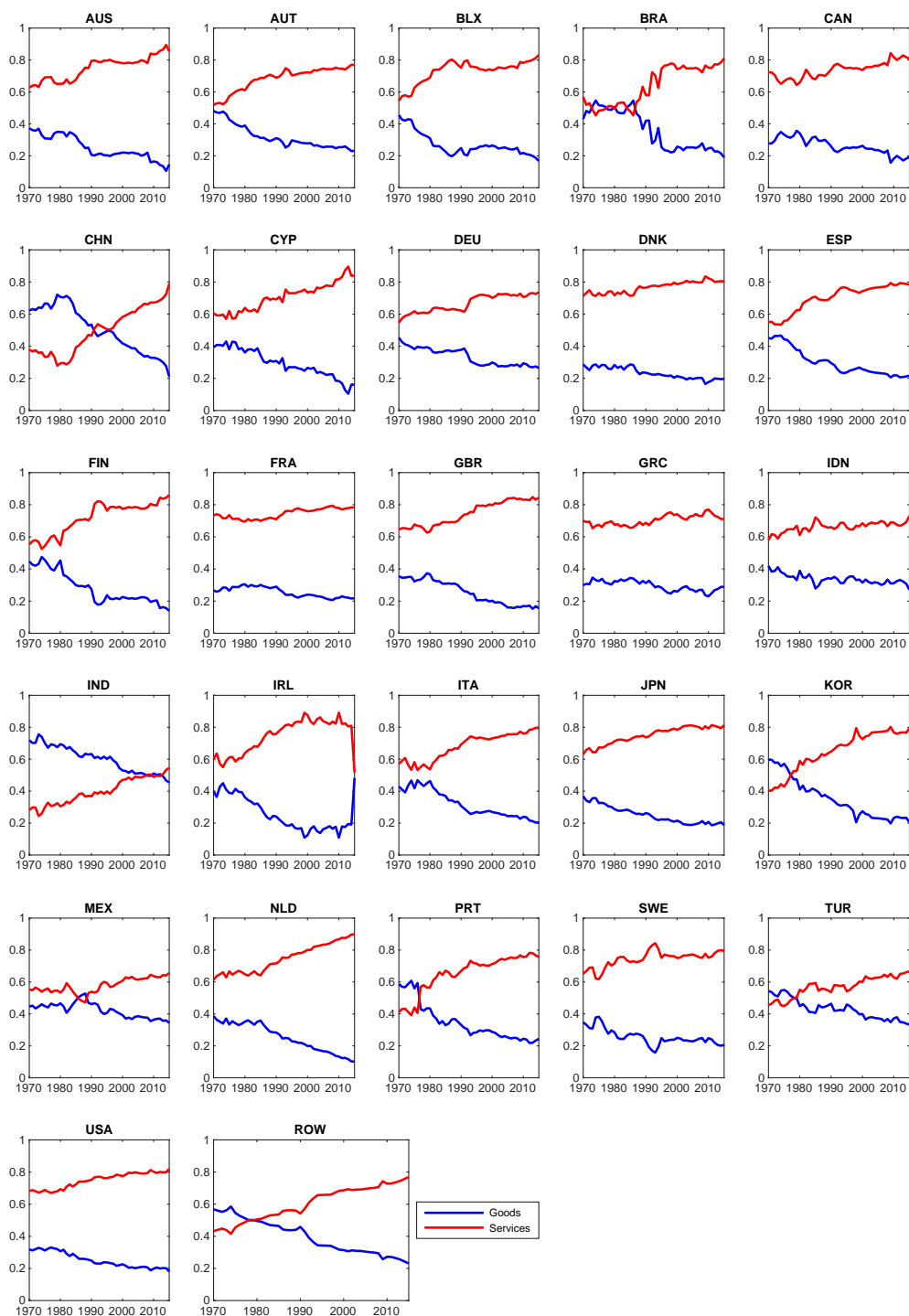


Figure B.3: Trade to expenditure ratio by country

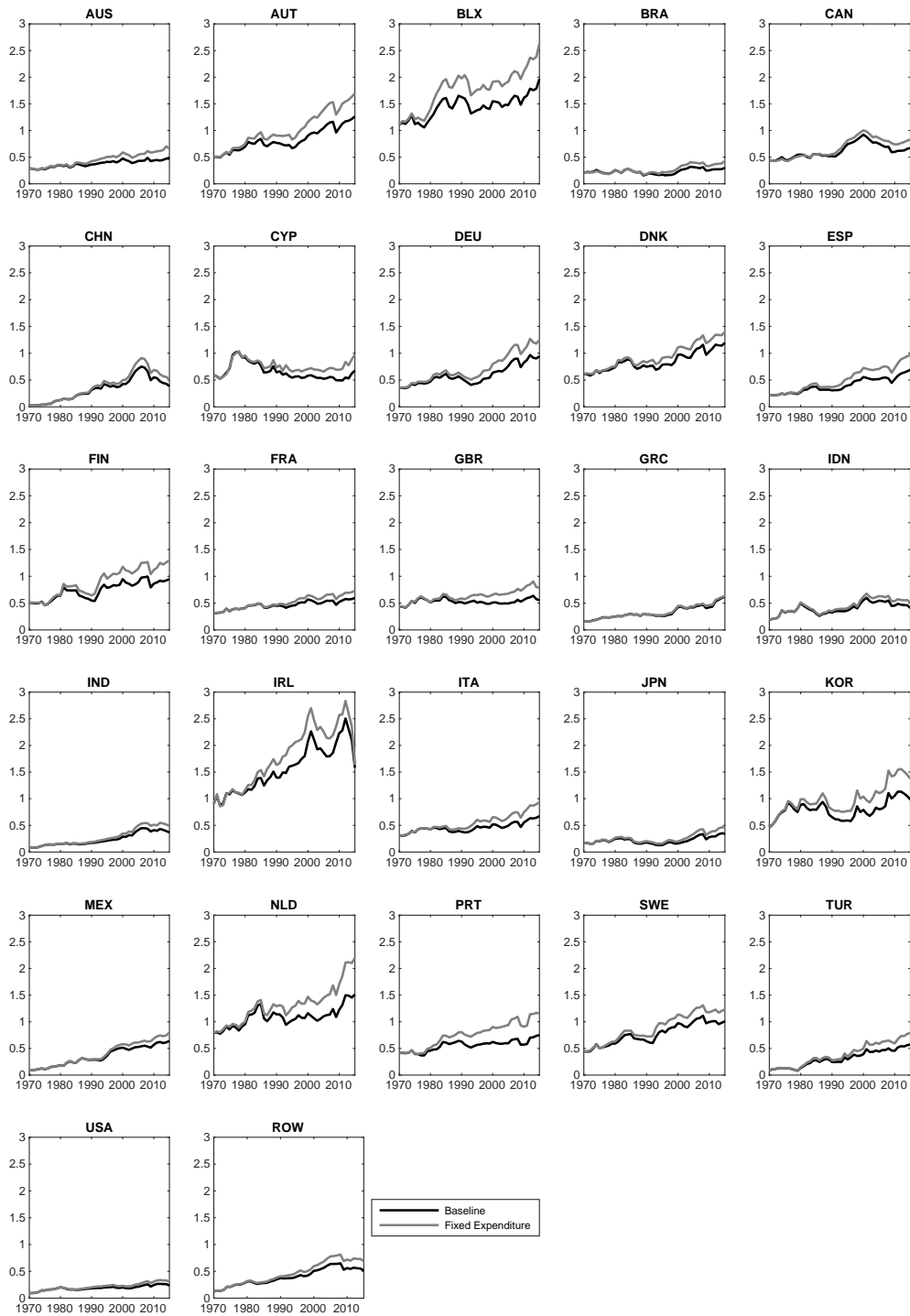
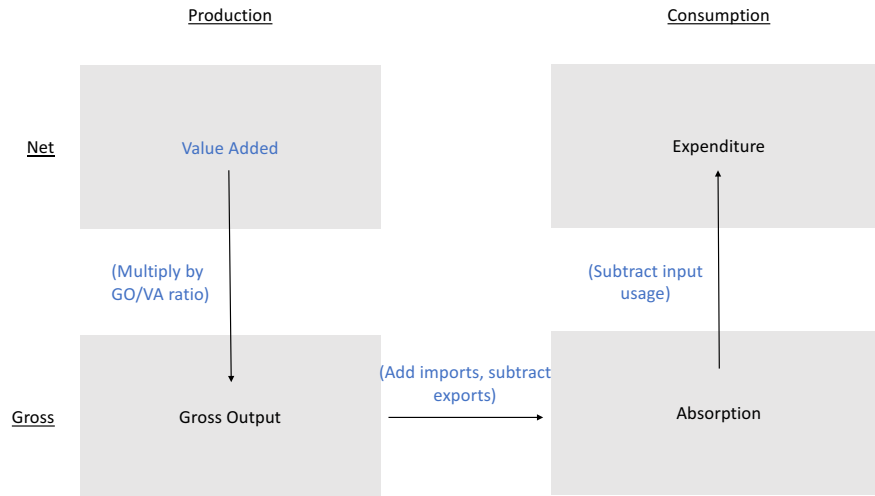


Table B.2: Contributions to fixed expenditure counterfactual in 2015

Country	Expenditure Share	Trade Share	Ppt. Contribution	Pct. Contribution
Australia	1.6%	1.6%	0.003	1.9%
Austria	0.4%	1.2%	0.002	1.2%
Belgium-Luxembourg	0.6%	2.4%	0.003	2.0%
Brazil	2.2%	1.4%	0.003	1.8%
Canada	2.1%	3.0%	0.004	2.3%
China	15.2%	12.5%	0.021	13.4%
Cyprus	0.0%	0.0%	0.000	0.0%
Germany	3.6%	7.2%	0.012	7.4%
Denmark	0.3%	0.9%	0.001	0.4%
Spain	1.5%	2.2%	0.004	2.7%
Finland	0.3%	0.5%	0.001	0.6%
France	3.0%	3.9%	0.005	3.2%
United Kingdom	3.6%	4.2%	0.007	4.7%
Greece	0.3%	0.3%	0.000	0.0%
Indonesia	1.2%	1.0%	0.001	0.9%
India	2.8%	2.2%	0.003	2.2%
Ireland	0.3%	1.1%	0.000	0.1%
Italy	2.2%	3.1%	0.006	3.7%
Japan	6.1%	4.4%	0.007	4.6%
Korea	1.6%	3.4%	0.007	4.2%
Mexico	1.6%	2.1%	0.003	1.8%
Netherlands	0.7%	2.4%	0.004	2.8%
Portugal	0.3%	0.4%	0.001	0.6%
Sweden	0.6%	1.2%	0.001	0.9%
Turkey	1.0%	1.2%	0.002	1.4%
United States	26.1%	13.1%	0.017	10.9%
Rest of World	21.0%	23.1%	0.038	24.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	0.156	100.0%

## B.5 Additional Figures

Figure B.4: Deriving sectoral expenditures from sectoral value added



Note: Categories in blue represent publicly available data, while categories in black represent imputed moments.

Figure B.5: Goods expenditure shares: baseline and counterfactual

