

NBER WORKING PAPER SERIES

GLOBALIZATION, TECHNOLOGY, AND THE SKILL PREMIUM:
A QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

Ariel Burstein
Jonathan Vogel

Working Paper 16459
<http://www.nber.org/papers/w16459>

NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH
1050 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138
October 2010

We thank Francisco Alcalá, Chris Kurz, and especially Eric Verhoogen for help with their data. We are grateful to Andrew Atkeson, Arnaud Costinot, Javier Cravino, Jonathan Eaton, Gene Grossman, Oleg Itskhoki, Ellen McGrattan, Andrés Rodríguez-Clare, Esteban Rossi-Hansberg, and Stephen Yeaple for very useful comments. The views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Bureau of Economic Research.

NBER working papers are circulated for discussion and comment purposes. They have not been peer-reviewed or been subject to the review by the NBER Board of Directors that accompanies official NBER publications.

© 2010 by Ariel Burstein and Jonathan Vogel. All rights reserved. Short sections of text, not to exceed two paragraphs, may be quoted without explicit permission provided that full credit, including © notice, is given to the source.

Globalization, Technology, and the Skill Premium: A Quantitative Analysis
Ariel Burstein and Jonathan Vogel
NBER Working Paper No. 16459
October 2010
JEL No. F1,F11,F16

ABSTRACT

We construct a model of international trade and multinational production (MP) to examine the impact of globalization on the skill premium in skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries. The key mechanisms in our framework arise from the interaction between three elements: cross-country differences in factor endowments and sectoral productivities, technological heterogeneity across producers within sectors, and skill-biased technology. Reductions in trade and/or MP costs induce a reallocation of resources towards a country's comparative advantage sector (increasing the skill premium in skill-abundant countries and reducing it in skill-scarce countries) and within sectors towards more productive and skill-intensive producers (increasing the skill premium in all countries).

We parameterize the model to match salient features of the extent and composition of trade and MP between the U.S. and skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries in 2006. We show that a reduction in trade and MP costs, moving from autarky to 2006 levels of trade and MP, increases the skill premium by roughly 5% in skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries. We also show that the growth in US trade and MP between 1966 and 2006 accounts for 1/9th of the 24% rise in the US skill premium over this period. MP is at least as important as international trade in generating this rise in the skill premium.

Ariel Burstein
Department of Economics
Bunche Hall 8365
Box 951477
UCLA
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1477
and NBER
arielb@econ.ucla.edu

Jonathan Vogel
Department of Economics
Columbia University
420 West 118th Street
New York, NY 10027
and NBER
jvogel@columbia.edu

1 Introduction

The nature of globalization has changed. The value of world trade as a share of world output, the sales of foreign affiliates as a share of world output, and the developing world’s share of this global activity have grown tremendously over the last few decades. Over this period there was also a large increase in income inequality, both in developed and developing countries, as measured for example by the rise in the relative wage of skilled to unskilled workers—the *skill premium*. The changing nature of globalization and the increase in the skill premium raise a set of important questions. To what extent can the growth of trade and multinational production (MP) account for the rise in the skill premium in developed and developing countries? What are the different implications for the skill premium in developed countries of globalization with developing countries versus globalization with developed countries?

In this paper we construct a multi-country model of international trade and MP to address these and other questions. Our framework extends the classic model of trade and inequality, the two-factor (skilled and unskilled labor) Heckscher-Ohlin (H-O) model, in three key dimensions. First, as in much of the recent trade literature our framework incorporates productivity differences not only across sectors but also across producers within sectors, motivated by the large observed heterogeneity in size and export status within sectors; see e.g. Bernard and Jensen (1999).¹ We introduce heterogeneous, perfectly competitive producers building on the Eaton and Kortum (2002) model. Second, our framework allows for an arbitrary factor bias of technology. When technology is skill biased, a producer’s productivity is positively correlated with its skill intensity. This feature of the model enables us to address in a simple way the empirical evidence that exporters and large producers in manufacturing tend to be relatively skill intensive; see e.g. Bernard et. al. (2007) for the US, Bustos (2007) for Argentina, Verhoogen (2008) for Mexico, Alcalá and Hernández (2009) for Spain, and Molina and Muendler (2009) for Brazil. Third, motivated by the fact that sales of US foreign affiliates are larger than the value of US exports, our model incorporates multinational production (MP), giving producers the ability to use their technologies, at a cost, to produce in foreign countries, as in Ramondo and Rodriguez-Clare (2009). Our extended model provides additional channels, beyond those in the standard H-O model, through which globalization affects the skill premium.

In Section 3, we examine analytically the workings of simplified, two-country versions of our model that abstract from MP. We prove that starting in autarky, a reduction in trade costs generates what is often called the Stolper-Samuelson effect in the standard H-O model, which we refer to as the between effect: labor reallocates between sectors as countries specialize in their comparative

¹Other models that combine elements of H-O and either Ricardian or Krugman-style models include Trefler (1993) and (1995), Davis (1995), Harrigan (1997), Davis and Weinstein (2001), Romalis (2004), Costinot (2005), Chor (2008), and Morrow (2008). While these papers focus on the role of endowment and technology differences in explaining observed trade patterns, our focus is on the impact of globalization on the skill premium.

advantage sector, increasing the skill premium in the country with a comparative advantage in the skill-intensive sector and reducing the skill premium in the other country. Our model features a simple mechanism to explain the observation that the between effect is weak in the data (see e.g. Goldberg and Pavcnik 2007): for a fixed share of trade in output, greater productivity dispersion across producers within sectors mitigates the between effect. We show, however, that the strength of the between effect is fully determined by the factor content of trade.

Next, we show that if technology is skill biased, reductions in trade costs increase the skill premium through what we refer to as the within effect: as trade costs decline, the relative demand for skill increases because labor shifts within sectors towards the most productive producers, which have the highest skill intensities. Hence, trade liberalization increases the relative demand for skill, analogous to the effect of skill-biased technological change. This prediction receives empirical support in Bustos (2007) and Bloom et. al. (2009). We are not the first to model the potentially important interaction between skill-biased technology, international trade, and inequality; see e.g. Acemoglu (2003) and Yeaple (2005).² Our paper contributes to this literature by including both trade and MP, nesting the within and between effects, and quantitatively assessing the strength of these effects.

Our analytic results suggest that the between effect and the within effect both lead to an increase in the skill premium in skill-abundant countries in response to a reduction in trade costs. On the other hand, these effects push the skill premium in opposite directions in skill-scarce countries. Which force dominates and by how much is a quantitative question that we address in our quantitative analysis.

To do so, in Sections 4 and 5 we present a parameterized four-country version of our model, with two symmetric skill-abundant countries and two symmetric skill-scarce countries. In these sections we abstract from MP in order to isolate the impact of international trade on the skill premium. We calibrate the model to match, for the US, the trade share, the composition of trade with skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries, and the factor content of trade, all in 2006. We also match the volume and composition of trade for the average skill-scarce country (instead of matching this data for any individual skill-scarce country). We choose the degree of skill bias of technology to target the relative skill intensity of exporters to non-exporters in Mexico, for which there is detailed information on worker educational attainment by producer. With skill-biased technology, a key implication of our model is that trade shares (relative to sectoral expenditures) are relatively higher in skill-intensive manufacturing sectors, a prediction borne out in US manufacturing data.

We use the parameterized model to conduct a series of counterfactuals. We first consider a reduction in trade costs moving from autarky to the level of trade in 2006, holding all other exogenous variables fixed. This is a "but for" analysis (see Krugman 2000): What would the skill

²See also the work of Matsuyama (2007), Zeira (2007), Helpman et. al. (2008), Vannoorenberghe (2008), Verhoogen (2008), and Costinot and Vogel (2009).

premium be, but for the availability of international trade opportunities? The rise in the skill premium caused by trade is 1.8% in the US (and the other skill-abundant country) and 2.9% in skill-scarce countries. The skill premium rises in all countries because the within effect is relatively strong compared to the between effect. The between effect is weak because, in our parameterization as in the data, the factor content of trade in the US is not very high. Because, under our baseline parameterization, the between effect is weaker than the within effect for the US, we conclude that how much the US trades matters more for its skill premium than with whom the US trades.

The relatively small trade share in the US plays a critical role in explaining the relatively small impact of trade on the US skill premium in our model. International trade, however, is only one form of globalization. Multinational production (MP) is another important form of globalization. For example, in 2006, sales of majority-owned, non-bank US foreign affiliates were more than twice as large as US exports. To study the impact of MP on the skill premium, in Section 6 we extend our model and assume that producers are able to use their technologies to produce abroad, at a cost. Hence, MP reduces the technological gap between producers in different countries and increases the relative importance of factor endowment differences in shaping patterns of specialization. With Hicks-neutral technology, we show that this strengthens the between effect of globalization on the skill premium. With skill-biased technology, we show that MP strengthens the within effect: a reduction in MP costs between two symmetric countries leads to an increase in the skill premium in both countries because producers that engage in MP tend to be the most productive (and, thus, the most skill intensive). Previous theoretical work that finds an impact of MP on inequality requires that countries differ in their factor-endowment ratios and/or their TFP's.³ The contribution of our finding is that we obtain a positive effect on the skill premium of MP even between countries with similar endowment ratios and TFP's, which in the data account for the vast majority of MP.⁴

We use the extended model to simulate a reduction in trade and MP costs moving from autarky to the volume and geographic composition of international trade and MP in 2006 in the US—holding all other exogenous variables fixed. The rise in the skill premium is 4.8% in the US (and the other skill-abundant country) and 6.5% in the skill-scarce countries. Combined with the previous counterfactual, this result suggests that MP is at least as important as international trade for determining the impact of globalization on the skill premium. In order to assess the extent to which the growth of trade and MP can account for the rise in the skill premium between 1966 and 2006 in the US, we consider a second counterfactual in which we choose parameters to match the growth of trade and MP between these years. In this counterfactual we do not hold endowments or technologies fixed, but instead we target the increase in the supply of skilled labor and the greater growth of the skill-scarce countries between 1966 and 2006 and we allow for exogenous skill-biased

³See e.g. Feenstra and Hanson (1996) and (1997), Zhu and Trefler (2005), Antras et. al. (2006), Grossman and Rossi-Hansberg (2008), and Costinot and Vogel (2009).

⁴See e.g. Navaretti and Venables (2004) for evidence that most FDI flows take place between advanced countries, which typically have similar, high skill endowment ratios and TFPs.

technology growth to match the 24% increase in the US skill premium (see Acemoglu and Autor 2010). In our preferred, baseline parameterization, we show that in the absence of globalization, the rise in the skill premium in the US would have been 1/9th smaller than the observed rise in the skill premium over this time period.⁵

Whereas in this paper we use a structural, parameterized model to quantify the impact of international trade and MP on the skill premium in skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries, the literature has mostly focused on three alternative approaches that emphasize: the factor content of trade, as in Katz and Murphy (1992); the extent of between-sector factor reallocation, as in Berman et. al. (1997); and the mandated wage equation, as in Feenstra and Hanson (1999). We show in Section 7 that while each of these alternative approaches may provide estimates of the impact of international trade on the skill premium via the between effect, they do not capture the impact of the within effect of trade and MP. Using data generated by our model, in which the within effect is relatively strong, we show that these approaches underestimate the rise in the skill premium in skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries.

While our quantitative results echo those in previous research finding that globalization is not as important as the combination of other forces in shaping the recent rise in the skill premium, our work has two advantages. First, our model, in contrast to the standard H-O model upon which most previous work is based, is not inconsistent with a number of empirical regularities. These empirical regularities—which include (i) the rise in the skill premium in skill-scarce countries, (ii) the lack of a large rise in the relative price of skill-intensive goods accompanying the large rise in the US skill premium, and (iii) the lack of extensive factor reallocation towards skill intensive sectors in developed and developing countries—have been used often as evidence against the importance of globalization in accounting for the rise in the skill premium in both skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries; see e.g. Acemoglu (2002), Goldberg and Pavcnik (2007), and references therein. Second, our model incorporates two important forces in the debate on globalization and the skill premium—the within effect and the role of MP—that are largely absent in previous quantitative work.

2 Basic Model of International Trade

Our model economy features I countries indexed by $i = 1, \dots, I$. Aggregate quantities of inelastically supplied unskilled and skilled labor in country i are L_i and H_i , respectively. Each country produces a final non-tradeable good using a continuum of intermediate goods that can be traded subject to an iceberg cost. Intermediate goods are grouped into J sectors, indexed by j , in order of increasing skill intensity of production. Within each sector j there are a continuum of subsectors, indexed

⁵In a less conservative parameterization—in which we choose parameter values so that, given trade and MP shares, the between and within effects are strengthened—we find that in the absence of globalization the rise in the skill premium in the US would have been 1/5th smaller than the observed rise over this time period.

by $\omega \in [0, 1]$. Within each subsector, intermediate good producers from the same country share the same level of productivity. Productivity varies across subsectors, sectors, and countries. Goods markets and factor markets are perfectly competitive, and factors are perfectly mobile across sectors and subsectors but are immobile across countries. We assume that countries have balanced trade every period. Given that equilibrium allocations and prices are determined in a static fashion, we abstract from time subscripts.

The final non-tradeable good, denoted by Q_i , is produced in all countries by competitive producers that use an identical CES aggregator, which places equal weight on intermediate goods from all sectors and subsectors

$$Q_i = \left(\sum_{j=1}^J Q_i(j)^{(\sigma-1)/\sigma} \right)^{\sigma/(\sigma-1)}$$

$$Q_i(j) = \left(\int_0^1 q_i(\omega, j)^{(\eta-1)/\eta} d\omega \right)^{\eta/(\eta-1)}.$$

Here, $Q_i(j)$ and $q_i(\omega, j)$ denote country i 's use of the sector j aggregate good and the subsector (ω, j) good, respectively; and $\sigma, \eta > 0$ are the elasticities of substitution between sectors and between subsectors, respectively.

Facing prices P_i , $P_i(j)$ and $p_i(\omega, j)$ for the final non-traded good, the aggregate sector j good, and the subsector (ω, j) good, respectively, profit maximization by the final good producers gives rise to the following demands

$$Q_i(j) = \left(\frac{P_i(j)}{P_i} \right)^{-\sigma} Q_i \quad (1)$$

$$q_i(\omega, j) = \left(\frac{p_i(\omega, j)}{P_i(j)} \right)^{-\eta} Q_i(j).$$

The output of each subsector is produced by intermediate good producers. Goods within each subsector are perfect substitutes and potentially produced by every country. The final good producer purchases each intermediate good from the lowest cost source of that good in the world.

Our assumptions on the production of intermediate goods are as follows. A country i producer in subsector (ω, j) hiring h units of skilled labor and l units of unskilled labor, produces output y according to a constant returns to scale production function

$$y = A_i(j) \left[\alpha_j^{1/\rho} \left(z^{2\tilde{\varphi}} h \right)^{\frac{\rho-1}{\rho}} + (1 - \alpha_j)^{1/\rho} \left(z^{2(1-\tilde{\varphi})} l \right)^{\frac{\rho-1}{\rho}} \right]^{\frac{\rho}{\rho-1}}, \quad (2)$$

where $\rho > 0$ is the elasticity of substitution between skilled and unskilled workers at the level of an individual producer, $\alpha_j \in [0, 1]$ determines the relative importance of skilled labor in sector j ,

$\tilde{\varphi} \in [0, 1]$ shapes the skill bias of technology (as described below), $A_i(j) > 0$ is country i 's Hicks-neutral productivity in sector j , and z is the producer's idiosyncratic component of productivity. To facilitate exposition, we decompose $A_i(j)$ into two components—national TFP, T_i , and sectoral TFP, $T_i(j)$ —so that $A_i(j) = T_i \times T_i(j)$.

Note that if $\tilde{\varphi} = 1/2$, then Equation (2) simplifies to a standard CES production function with multiplicative productivity $A_i(j)z$. If $\tilde{\varphi} \neq 1/2$ and $\rho \neq 1$, then technology is not multiplicative. In general, facing wages of unskilled and skilled labor w and s respectively, a cost minimizing producer with productivity z in sector j chooses the following ratio of skilled-to-unskilled labor

$$\frac{h}{l} = \frac{\alpha_j}{1 - \alpha_j} \left(\frac{w}{s}\right)^\rho z^\varphi, \quad (3)$$

where $\varphi \equiv 2(2\tilde{\varphi} - 1)(\rho - 1)$ is the *skill-bias of technology*, which determines the effect of a producer's productivity on its relative demand for skill. We say that technology is Hicks-neutral if $\varphi = 0$ (i.e. if $\tilde{\varphi} = 1/2$ or $\rho = 1$), so that h/l is independent of z . In contrast, we say that technology is skill biased if $\varphi > 0$ (i.e. if $\tilde{\varphi} > 1/2$ and $\rho > 1$ or if $\tilde{\varphi} < 1/2$ and $\rho < 1$), so that h/l increases with z .

Each country i draws a subsector-specific idiosyncratic component of productivity $z_i(\omega, j) > 0$, henceforth denoted z when the dependence on i and (ω, j) is clear. Within a given country, producers in each subsector have access to a common z . We model subsector-specific productivity draws as in Eaton and Kortum (2002) and Alvarez and Lucas (2007). In an arbitrary subsector and country $z = u^{-\theta}$, where u is an *i.i.d.* random variable that is exponentially distributed with mean and variance 1 in all countries. The parameter $\theta > 0$ determines the dispersion of productivity across subsectors.⁶ Note that while the subsector-specific component of productivity z is *i.i.d.* across subsectors, sectors, and countries, the sectoral component of productivity $A_i(j)$ can potentially be systematically correlated with a sector's skill intensity and a country's factor endowment.

We introduce trade barriers using iceberg transportation costs: delivering a unit of intermediate good from country i to country n requires producing $\tau_{in} \geq 1$ units in i , where $\tau_{ii} = 1$ for all i and $\tau_{in} \leq \tau_{ik}\tau_{kn}$ for all $n, i, k \in I$. Denote by $c_{in}(\omega, j)$ the unit cost of intermediate good producers in subsector (ω, j) producing in country i and selling in country n , which is given by

$$c_{in}(\omega, j) = \frac{\tau_{in}}{A_i(j)} \left[\alpha_j z^{\frac{\varphi}{2} + \rho - 1} s_i^{1 - \rho} + (1 - \alpha_j) z^{\rho - 1 - \frac{\varphi}{2}} w_i^{1 - \rho} \right]^{1/(1 - \rho)}. \quad (4)$$

With $\tilde{\varphi} = 1/2$ so that technology is Hicks-neutral, the unit cost of a given subsector (ω, j) can be written as the cost of the factor bundle for all subsectors in sector j , $v_i(j)$, divided by the

⁶As in EK, we must constrain the values of η and θ to have a well-defined price index. In the skill-biased case, however, we cannot derive an analytic expression for this constraint. In all simulations, we check numerically that the price level is well defined.

subsector-specific productivity. Namely, $c_{in}(\omega, j) = \tau_{in} v_i(j) / z$, where $v_i(j)$ is defined as

$$v_i(j) = \frac{1}{A_i(j)} \left[\alpha_j s_i^{1-\rho} + (1 - \alpha_j) w_i^{1-\rho} \right]^{1/(1-\rho)}.$$

This case corresponds to the Eaton and Kortum 2002 (henceforth EK) setup with a factor bundle that combines skilled and unskilled labor.

With perfect competition, the price of the subsector (ω, j) good in country i is

$$p_i(\omega, j) = \min \{c_{ki}(\omega, j)\}_{k=1}^I \quad (5)$$

and the aggregate prices P_i and $P_i(j)$ are

$$P_i = \left(\sum_{j=1}^J P_i(j)^{1-\sigma} d\omega \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}} \quad (6)$$

$$P_i(j) = \left(\int_0^1 p_i(\omega, j)^{1-\eta} d\omega \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\eta}}.$$

The total quantity produced of each intermediate good in country i must equalize its world demand

$$y_i(\omega, j) = \sum_{n=1}^I \tau_{in} q_n(\omega, j) \mathbb{I}_{in}(\omega, j)$$

where $\mathbb{I}_{in}(\omega, j)$ is an indicator function that equals one if country n imports subsector (ω, j) goods from country i and equals zero otherwise.

The amount of skilled and unskilled labor demanded by subsector (ω, j) in country i in order to supply country n are

$$l_{in}(\omega, j) = \left(\frac{\tau_{in}}{A_i(j)} \right)^{1-\eta} Q_n P_n^\eta w_i^{-\eta} f\left(\frac{w_i}{s_i}, z, j\right) \mathbb{I}_{in}(\omega, j) \quad (7)$$

and

$$h_{in}(\omega, j) = \left(\frac{\tau_{in}}{A_i(j)} \right)^{1-\eta} Q_n P_n^\eta s_i^{-\eta} g\left(\frac{w_i}{s_i}, z, j\right) \mathbb{I}_{in}(\omega, j), \quad (8)$$

respectively, where

$$f\left(\frac{w_i}{s_i}, z, j\right) = (1 - \alpha_j) z^{2(\eta-1)(1-\tilde{\varphi})} \left[\alpha_j \left(\frac{w_i}{s_i}\right)^{\rho-1} z^\varphi + (1 - \alpha_j) \right]^{\frac{\rho-\eta}{1-\rho}}$$

$$g\left(\frac{w_i}{s_i}, z, j\right) = \alpha_j z^{2\tilde{\varphi}(\eta-1)} \left[\alpha_j + (1 - \alpha_j) z^{-\varphi} \left(\frac{w_i}{s_i}\right)^{1-\rho} \right]^{\frac{\rho-\eta}{1-\rho}}.$$

Labor market clearing in each country requires

$$L_i = \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{n=1}^N \int_0^1 l_{in}(\omega, j) d\omega, \text{ and} \quad (9)$$

$$H_i = \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{n=1}^N \int_0^1 h_{in}(\omega, j) d\omega. \quad (10)$$

We assume that countries spend all of their income on the final non-traded good, which implies balanced trade:

$$P_i Q_i = s_i H_i + w_i L_i. \quad (11)$$

An equilibrium of the world economy is a set of aggregate prices $[P_i, w_i, s_i]_{i \in I}$, aggregate quantities $[Q_i]_{i \in I}$, sector and subsector prices $[P_i(j)]_{i \in I, j \in J}$ and $[p_i(\omega, j)]_{\omega \in [0,1], i \in I, j \in J}$, sector and subsector quantities $[Q_i(j)]_{i \in I, j \in J}$ and $[q_i(\omega, j), y_i(\omega, j)]_{\omega \in [0,1], i \in I, j \in J}$ demanded and produced, and factor demands $[l_i(\omega, j), h_i(\omega, j)]_{\omega \in [0,1], i \in I, j \in J}$, that satisfy final and intermediate goods producers' optimality conditions, factor and goods market clearing conditions, and trade balance in each country.

Solution algorithm: Equilibrium factor prices can be solved as follows. Given factor prices, the marginal cost of each subsector/country is given by Equation (4). Given marginal costs, prices are calculated using Equations (5) and (6), and Equation (5) also gives the identity of the supplier of each good in each country, summarized by $\mathbb{I}_{in}(\omega, j)$. Unskilled and skilled labor hired by each subsector, normalized by output of the final good, is obtained from Equations (1), (7), and (8) and output of the final good is then obtained using one of the labor market clearing equations in each country, either Equation (9) or (10). Equilibrium factor prices must satisfy the remaining labor market clearing equation in each country and balanced trade, Equation (11) (by Walras' Law, and given the choice of a numeraire, one of these equations is redundant).

In the solution procedure above, in order to calculate which country supplies each good in each country, we must compare marginal costs, Equation (4), across all potential suppliers, as indicated by the pricing equation (5). In the special case of Hicks-neutral technology, the marginal cost is given by the product of the inverse of productivity and the cost of the factor bundle. In this case, if productivities are exponentially distributed, we obtain simple analytic expressions that characterize the probability that country i supplies country n with an arbitrary sector j subsector (as in EK).

This probability, denoted by $\pi_{in}(j)$, is

$$\pi_{in}(j) = \frac{[\tau_{in}v_i(j)]^{-1/\theta}}{\sum_{k=1}^I [\tau_{kn}v_k(j)]^{-1/\theta}}. \quad (12)$$

EK show that $\pi_{in}(j)$ is also equal to country i 's revenue share of sector j in country n . This closed-form solution for $\pi_{in}(j)$ considerably simplifies the solution algorithm to calculate equilibrium factor prices because it implies that the amount of unskilled (and skilled) labor used in country i sector j to supply n , which is $\int_0^1 l_{in}(\omega, j) d\omega$ in Equation (9), can be written as a simple function of factor prices, aggregate prices, and aggregate quantities.

With non-Hicks-neutral technology, we do not obtain such analytic expressions because unit cost cannot be expressed as the product of the inverse of productivity and the cost of the factor bundle in the expression for marginal cost, Equation (4). Hence, we must simulate marginal cost draws across a large number of subsectors and for each subsector compare them numerically across countries.

3 International Trade and the Skill Premium

In this section, we conduct analytic comparative statics on the skill premium in our basic model of international trade under simplifying assumptions, which we relax in the quantitative section. The appendices provide proofs of all lemmas and propositions. Our goal is twofold: (i) to provide intuition for the key mechanisms operating in our framework and (ii) to gain insight into how to parameterize the model. We focus, in particular, on two central interactions: those between productivity heterogeneity and country differences, in Subsection 3.1, and those between productivity heterogeneity and skill-biased technology, in Subsection 3.2. In both subsections we maintain the following simplifying assumption.

GEN There are two countries, $I = \{1, 2\}$; trade costs are symmetric, $\tau \equiv \tau_{12} = \tau_{21}$; and the elasticity of substitution between sectors is one, $\sigma = 1$.

3.1 Hicks-Neutral Technologies and Asymmetric Countries

In this subsection we study a special version of the model, close to standard models in the literature, in which we assume that $\rho = 1$ and $\tilde{\varphi} = 1/2$. With Cobb-Douglas production functions, skilled labor's share of revenue in sector j is equal to α_j ($\rho = 1$). With either $\rho = 1$ or $\tilde{\varphi} = 1/2$, technology is Hicks-neutral, $\varphi = 0$. We assume that $\tilde{\varphi} = 1/2$ so that the productivity of a z -type producer in sector j is $A_i(j)z$, as in standard models such as EK.

In this specification of the model, the impact of international trade on the skill premium can be inferred from what is called the factor content of trade, which we define below. Denote by

NX_i^L and NX_i^H the units of unskilled and skilled labor, respectively, embodied in country i 's net exports. That is, if country i produces a positive amount in all sectors $NX_i^L = \sum_j L_i(j) \lambda_i(j)$ and $NX_i^H = \sum_j H_i(j) \lambda_i(j)$; where $L_i(j)$ and $H_i(j)$ denote the employment of unskilled and skilled labor in country i sector j , respectively; and where $\lambda_i(j)$ equals the ratio of country i 's net exports in sector j to country i 's total revenue in sector j :⁷

$$\lambda_i(j) = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^I [\pi_{in}(j) - \pi_{ni}(j)] P_n Q_n}{\sum_{n=1}^I \pi_{in}(j) P_n Q_n}$$

Proposition 1 provides a simple relationship between the units of unskilled and skilled labor embodied in country i 's net exports and associated changes in factor prices. We prove the following proposition in Appendix A in a more general environment with asymmetric trade costs and with arbitrarily many sectors, factors, and countries.

Proposition 1 *Let s_i/w_i , NX_i^L , NX_i^H , L_i , and H_i denote country i 's skill premium, factor content of trade, and endowments under one set of parameters and s'_i/w'_i , $NX_i^{L'}$, $NX_i^{H'}$, L'_i , and H'_i under another set of parameters, where skill-intensities (α_j 's) are constant across the sets of parameters. If $\sigma = \rho = 1$, and $\tilde{\varphi} = 1/2$, then $\frac{s'_i/w'_i}{s_i/w_i} = \frac{L'_i - NX_i^{L'}}{H'_i - NX_i^{H'}} \bigg/ \frac{L_i - NX_i^L}{H_i - NX_i^H}$.*

Proposition 1 extends the results in Deardorf and Staiger (1988) to a framework in which technologies are heterogeneous within sectors and, unlike Deardorf and Staiger (1988), holds even if a country produces no output in a subset of sectors. Burstein and Vogel (2010) extend this and all results in Section 3.1 to an imperfectly competitive environment with heterogeneous firms.

In what follows, we define the factor content of trade (FCT) to be $\log\left(\frac{L_i - NX_i^L}{H_i - NX_i^H} \frac{H_i}{L_i}\right)$, which according to Proposition 1 corresponds to the percentage change in the skill premium that results from moving away from autarky if $\sigma = \rho = 1$, and $\tilde{\varphi} = 1/2$. Note that changes in the factor content of trade, and therefore the skill premium, are caused by changes in either factor endowments or the units of unskilled and skilled labor embodied in a country's net exports. In particular, if H_i falls or L_i rises, then the skill premium rises, all else equal. If NX_i^H rises—country i exports more skilled labor—this is equivalent to a reduction in H_i , which causes the skill premium to rise. Similarly, if NX_i^L falls—country i imports more unskilled labor—this is equivalent to an increase in L_i , which causes the skill premium to rise.

In the remainder of this subsection, we conduct comparative statics exercises on the skill premium under Assumption GEN and the following assumption, which imposes an additional restriction that there are two sectors:

⁷In Appendix A we provide a formulation of NX_i^L and NX_i^H that is well-defined when country i produces no output in any given sector.

HN There are two sectors, $J = \{x, y\}$ with sector x relatively skill intensive, $\alpha_y < \alpha_x$; production functions are Cobb Douglas, $\rho = 1$; and $\tilde{\varphi} = 1/2$.

In order to study the effects of trade on the skill premium under the assumptions imposed in this subsection, we must introduce the concept of comparative advantage. We say that country 1 has a comparative advantage in sector x if $v_1(x)/v_1(y) < v_2(x)/v_2(y)$ in autarky. While comparative advantage is defined as a condition on relative composite input bundle costs in autarky, it is straightforward to show that if country 1 has a comparative advantage in the x sector, then $v_1(x)/v_1(y) < v_2(x)/v_2(y)$ in any trade equilibrium with positive trade costs. Hence, if country 1 has a comparative advantage in the x sector, then it is a net exporter in the x sector if trade shares are positive ($\pi_{12}(x) > \pi_{12}(y)$). Under the assumptions imposed in this subsection, the necessary and sufficient condition under which country 1 has a comparative advantage in the skill-intensive sector is

$$a \left(\frac{H_1/L_1}{H_2/L_2} \right)^{\alpha_x - \alpha_y} > 1, \quad (13)$$

where $a = A_1(x)A_2(y)/A_1(y)A_2(x)$ indexes country 1's Ricardian comparative advantage (if $a > 1$) or disadvantage (if $a < 1$) in sector x . This condition is a strict generalization of comparative advantage in the Ricardian and Heckscher-Ohlin models. If $a = 1$, so that there is no Ricardian comparative advantage, then country 1 has a comparative advantage in sector x if and only if $H_1/L_1 > H_2/L_2$, exactly as in the Heckscher-Ohlin model. If endowment ratios are the same across countries, $H_1/L_1 = H_2/L_2$, so that there is no Heckscher-Ohlin-based comparative advantage, then country 1 has a comparative advantage in sector x if and only if $a > 1$, exactly as in the Ricardian model.

We are now equipped to study the effects of a trade liberalization on the skill premium. Starting in autarky, a reduction in trade costs leads to reallocation of factors between sectors towards a country's comparative advantage sector. This increases the relative demand and, therefore, the relative price of the factor that is used intensively in the comparative advantage sector. We refer to this force as the *between effect* of globalization on the skill premium. This result is summarized in the following corollary of Proposition 1.

Corollary 1 *Suppose Assumptions GEN and HN hold. Reducing trade costs from autarky to any positive level of trade increases s_1/w_1 and decreases s_2/w_2 .*

In any equilibrium with positive trade, country 1 is the net exporter in sector x under Condition (13). Because sector x is skill intensive, this implies that in any equilibrium with positive trade, country 1 has positive net exports of skilled labor and negative net exports of unskilled labor, while the reverse is true in country 2. The corollary then follows directly from Proposition 1.

When there are no productivity differences between sectors and subsectors, our model is similar to the Heckscher-Ohlin model, in which the location of production of each subsector is determined

solely by trade costs and factor endowments. In this case, Corollary 1 captures what is often called the Stolper-Samuelson effect. However, in our model a given subsector's location of production is determined not only by trade costs and factor endowments, but also by sectoral productivities and within-sector idiosyncratic productivities. A higher dispersion of productivities within sectors (a higher θ) increases the relative importance of the idiosyncratic component of production costs. Intuitively, if θ is very high, then in any subsector one country is likely to have a much higher subsector-specific productivity than the other, and this country is likely to export in this subsector even if it has a comparative disadvantage in the sector. Hence, for given trade shares (country 1's trade share is $\pi_{21}(x) + \pi_{21}(y)$ and country 2's trade share is $\pi_{12}(x) + \pi_{12}(y)$), if θ is higher, then country 1's net exports of skilled (unskilled) labor are smaller (larger), which results in a smaller factor content of trade.

On the other hand, a higher value of a increases the relative importance of the systematic Ricardian component of comparative advantage (recall that country 1 has a comparative advantage in the x sector). Intuitively, if a is very high, then country 1's comparative advantage in the x sector is likely to be sufficiently strong to overcome even large idiosyncratic productivity disadvantages in a given sector x subsector, so that country 1 is likely to export in this sector x subsector. Hence, for given trade shares, if a is higher, then country 1's net exports of skilled (unskilled) labor are larger (lower), which result in a greater factor content of trade. The following proposition confirms this intuition.⁸

Proposition 2 *Suppose Assumptions GEN and HN hold. If τ and T_1/T_2 are chosen to match fixed trade shares, then the increase in s_1/w_1 and the decrease in s_2/w_2 caused by moving from autarky to these trade shares is decreasing in θ and increasing in a .*

Proposition 2 provides comparative static results on the impact of key parameters on the strength of the between effect. However, from the discussion above, the percentage change in the skill premium of moving from autarky to any positive trade shares is fully pinned down by the factor content of trade. In particular, conditional on keeping the factor content of trade fixed, the percentage change in the skill premium is independent of our particular choice of θ , a , and factor endowments. This logic guides our choice of targets when quantifying the strength of the between effect in Section 4.

⁸In Proposition 2 we hold trade shares constant, rather than holding trade costs constant, while varying θ and a for two reasons. First, as we increase θ holding trade costs constant, the impact on the skill premium is ambiguous because trade shares rise and greater volumes of trade tend to strengthen the between effect, all else equal. Second, in our quantitative analysis we assess the strength of the between effect by calibrating the model to match observed trade shares rather than (unobserved) trade costs.

3.2 Skill-Biased Technology and Symmetric Countries

In this subsection, we conduct comparative static exercises on the skill premium under Assumption GEN and the following assumption.

SB There is one sector: $J = 1$; the sector-level aggregator is Cobb Douglas: $\eta = 1$; technology is skilled biased: $\varphi > 0$; and countries are symmetric: $H_1 = H_2$, $L_1 = L_2$, & $A_1(j) = A_2(j) = 1$.

The assumption that countries are symmetric and that there is a single sector abstracts from the between effect, allowing us to isolate the within effect. The assumption that $\eta = 1$ simplifies the algebra: a consequence of $\eta = 1$ is that, in the factor demand equations, the direct effect of a reduction in trade costs—less labor is required to sell a given quantity of output in the foreign market—and the indirect effect—falling export prices increase the quantity sold in export markets—exactly offset each other. With skill-biased technology, we cannot solve explicitly for $\pi_{in}(j)$, unlike under Assumptions GEN and HN. However, we are able to obtain analytic comparative static results without this explicit solution.⁹

If countries are symmetric and technology is Hicks-neutral, $\varphi = 0$, then reductions in the cost of trade do not affect the skill premium. On the other hand, if technology is skill biased, $\varphi > 0$, then reductions in the cost of trade increase the skill premium. The intuition behind this result is as follows. As in standard models with heterogeneous productivities (Ricardian or heterogeneous firm models), reductions in trade costs induce a reallocation of factors of production within sectors towards relatively productive producers. With skill-biased technology, relatively productive producers are also relatively skill intensive; see Equation (3). Hence, trade liberalization increases the relative demand for skill and the skill premium. This result is summarized in Proposition 3.

Proposition 3 *If Assumptions GEN and SB hold, then s_i/w_i is strictly decreasing in τ for $i = 1, 2$.*

Summary of comparative statics on international trade and the skill premium: To summarize the findings in this section, the results in Propositions 1 and 3 suggest that the between effect and the within effect both lead to an increase in the skill premium in skill-abundant countries in response to a reduction in trade costs. On the other hand, these effects push the skill premium in opposite directions in skill-scarce countries. According to Proposition 2, a higher value of idiosyncratic productivity dispersion weakens the between effect—and, as we quantitatively show below, strengthens the within effect—and hence increases the likelihood that the skill premium also rises in skill-scarce countries. Which force dominates and by how much is a quantitative question that we address in our quantitative analysis.

⁹Because we do not require a closed-form solution for $\pi_{in}(j)$, our results in this subsection do not make use of the assumption that costs are distributed exponentially.

4 Baseline Parameterization with International Trade

In this section, we study the quantitative implications of a reduction in trade costs on the skill premium in a parameterized version of our model. We first present the quantitative model, which relaxes Assumptions GEN, HN, and SB and introduces a non-tradeable sector. We then calibrate our model to match salient features of the data on US and the average skill-scarce country's trade with skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries. Finally, we present our baseline results on the implications of reductions in trade costs on the skill premium.

4.1 Quantitative model

We extend our analytic model by introducing a non-tradeable sector (matched to service producing sectors in the data) in addition to the tradeable sector (mainly matched to goods producing sectors and merchandise trade in the data, although sometimes matched to manufacturing due to data availability). We do so to account for the relatively high share of non-traded service sectors in the US and many other countries. In particular, we assume that the final good in country i is produced according to $(Q_i)^\gamma (N_i)^{1-\gamma}$, where Q_i denotes output of the final tradeable good, as modeled in Section 2, and N_i denotes output of the final non-tradeable good.¹⁰ We model production of non-tradeable goods exactly as in Section 2, but we abstract from trade in services by assuming that trade costs in these sectors are infinite. We assume that labor is perfectly mobile between the tradeable and non-tradeable sectors.

We consider a world economy that is composed of four countries: two ex-ante identical skill-abundant countries, countries 1 and 2, and two ex-ante identical skill-scarce countries, countries 3 and 4. That is, countries 1 and 2 (and countries 3 and 4) are identical in all respects but in their ex-post realizations of country/subsector-specific productivity draws. We parameterize country 1 to match US data, and country 3 to match data for the average skill-scarce country, as described below.

We believe that our four-country setup is not too restrictive to quantify the strength of the between effect on the skill premium since, as we showed above, under Assumptions GEN and HN this effect is pinned down by the factor content of trade, which we target in our calibration. To assess the role of our assumption that there are four countries for the strength of the within effect, we performed a sensitivity exercise in which we changed the number of symmetric skill-abundant or skill-scarce countries and found that, following our calibration strategy, the percentage change in the skill premium did not vary much.¹¹

¹⁰In our sensitivity analysis, we allowed for an elasticity of substitution between tradeable and non-tradeable sectors different from one. Our quantitative results were largely unaffected by varying this elasticity over a wide range of values.

¹¹We do not consider a world economy with a larger number of asymmetric countries because with many countries it becomes computationally infeasible to choose bilateral trade costs to exactly match bilateral trade shares. This

4.2 Parameterization

The parameters that we must choose are the skill bias of technology, φ ; the within-sector dispersion of productivity, θ ; the elasticity of substitution across sectors and subsectors, σ and η ; the elasticity of substitution between skilled and unskilled labor at the level of an individual producer, ρ ; the share of tradeables in final output, γ ; the country-sector TFP levels, $A_i(j) = T_i \times T_i(j)$; the labor endowments, H_i, L_i for $i = 1, 3$; the sectoral skill intensities, α_j 's; and the trade costs τ_{12} , τ_{13} , and τ_{34} . It is straightforward to show that, for given endowment ratios H_i/L_i and other parameter values, trade shares and the skill premia only depend on population size and aggregate TFP through the ratio $(T_1 L_1) / (T_3 L_3)$. Hence, without loss of generality we set $T_1 = L_1 = L_3 = 1$. We assume that the sectoral component of TFP, $T_i(j)$, is a linear function of skill-intensity α , with $T_i(\text{median } j) = 1$. We normalize $T_1(j) = 1$, which leaves us with one parameter left to choose, which determines the extent of sectoral productivity differences in country 3: $t_3 = \log\left(\frac{T_3(j_{\alpha \min})}{T_3(j_{\alpha \max})}\right)$, where $j_{\alpha \min}$ and $j_{\alpha \max}$ are the sectors with the lowest and highest α 's, respectively. A positive value of t_3 means that country 3 is relatively more productive in unskill-intensive sectors.

General strategy: Our central objective is to quantify the strength of the between and within effects of globalization on the skill premium, with special emphasis on the US. We use our theoretical results to guide our calibration strategy. Consider first the between effect. Proposition 1 implies that if $\rho = 1$, and $\tilde{\varphi} = 1/2$ (so that only the between effect is active), and $\sigma = 1$, then the ratio of the skill premium with trade to the skill premium under autarky is equal to the factor content of trade. Motivated by this result, our calibration targets the factor content of trade in the tradeable sector. We acknowledge, however, that in our calibrated model—in which we do not impose $\sigma = \rho = 1$ or $\tilde{\varphi} = 1/2$ —the factor content of trade does not exactly pin down the strength of the between effect.

Now consider the within effect of going from autarky to fixed trade shares. Based on our theoretical results, for a given share of total sales accounted for by exporters, the strength of the within effect is largely shaped by the difference in skill intensity between exporting and non-exporting producers within a sector. Given trade shares, the larger is either the share of sales of exporters or the difference in skill intensities between exporters and non-exporters, the larger is the increase in the demand for skill as labor shifts towards exporting producers in response to a trade liberalization. Motivated by this logic, our calibration targets these two moments. Note that the difference in skill intensity between exporters and non-exporters is increasing in the elasticity

is because, with skill-biased technology, to solve the model we must simulate productivity draws across a large number of subsectors, and for each subsector compare marginal costs numerically across countries, as discussed above. Two common approaches to reduce the number of parameters have been used in environments with Hicks-neutral productivities. The first approach is to choose a parametric relationship between bilateral trade costs and bilateral country characteristics (see e.g. EK 2002, Fieler 2007, and Waugh 2009). However, this approach does not match bilateral trade volumes for each country, which are essential for determining the strength of the between and within effects. The second approach is to make use a model's implied analytic sectoral gravity equations, which summarize all relevant information about trade costs, as in Dekle et. al. (2008). However, this approach is infeasible with skill-biased technology, where no such analytic solutions exist.

of skill intensity to productivity φ , while the share of sales accounted for by exporters (for a fixed trade share) is increasing in the dispersion of subsector productivities θ when $\eta > 1$.¹² Finally, given that the rise in the demand for skill, starting in autarky, is increasing in the magnitude of the trade shares, we also target these in our calibration.

Specifics of calibration: We calibrate our model using data for 2006 or the closest years with available information. We first determine the set of skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries that we map into our four-country model economy. Using the educational attainment dataset described in Barro and Lee (2000), we rank countries by their most recent data on the average years of education for the population over age 25. We consider a country to be skill abundant if this average is greater than 6.9 years. According to this cutoff, Mexico is the most skilled of the skill-scarce countries and Italy is the least skilled of the skill-abundant countries. We set the ratio of endowment ratios $(H_1/L_1)/(H_3/L_3) = 0.49$ to match the population-weighted average of education levels in the skill-abundant countries relative to the unskill-abundant countries, and we set $H_1/L_1 = 0.71$ as in Acemoglu (2002). Recall that under Assumptions GEN and HN, given the FCT, country-sector TFP's and fixed endowments do not affect the strength of the between effect of moving away from autarky.

We set the share of tradeable goods in final output, $\gamma = 0.26$, to match the share of good producing sectors in US gross output in 2006, exclusive of government sectors.¹³ We assume that there are 100 tradeable sectors and 100 non-tradeable sectors, and that each sector contains 1200 subsectors. As noted above, we calibrate many of our parameters using manufacturing data, as opposed to data from all goods producing sectors. The sectoral skill intensities, α , are uniformly distributed over the range 0.1 and 0.6 to roughly match the range of skill intensities of manufacturing sectors in the US.¹⁴ For symmetry, we assume that the elasticity of substitution between sectors equals the elasticity of substitution between subsectors, $\sigma = \eta$.¹⁵ We set the value of this elasticity at $\eta = 2.7$, to match the median sectoral elasticity for SITC 5-digit industries in the US estimated by Broda and Weinstein (2006).

We choose the elasticity of substitution between skilled and unskilled labor at the level of an individual producer, $\rho = 1.2$, to roughly match the aggregate elasticity of substitution of 1.4 between skilled and unskilled labor estimated by Katz and Murphy (1992). In particular, we set ρ so that, given other parameter values, a change in the relative endowment of skilled labor results in

¹²If $\eta = 1$, then with symmetric countries, export sales equal domestic sales, independent of trade costs. Hence, in this case, matching trade shares immediately pins down the total share of sales accounted for by exporters.

¹³This is based on data from the Bureau of Economic Statistics. Good producing sectors include agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, mining, and manufacturing.

¹⁴Our measure of sectoral skill intensity is the sectoral share of non-production worker employment, obtained from the NBER-CES Manufacturing Industry Database for 2002.

¹⁵In our sensitivity analysis, we considered a lower elasticity of substitution across sectors σ . This reduces the strength of the within effect, so that globalization induces a smaller rise in the skill premium, because trade liberalization induces less factor reallocation towards skill-intensive sectors in all countries.

a change in the skill premium that is consistent with that estimated by Katz and Murphy (1992). This procedure yields a value of ρ that is lower than 1.4 due to inter- and intra-sectoral labor reallocation in response to a change in factor endowments.

We set the value of the seven remaining parameters, (*i – iii*) trade costs τ_{12} , τ_{13} , and τ_{34} , (*iv*) aggregate TFP in country 3, T_3 , (*v*) the parameter that controls the linear slope of sectoral productivities, t_3 , (*vi*) the dispersion of subsector productivities θ , and (*vii*) the skill-bias of technology φ , to match seven moments. These are (*i*) the average of merchandise exports and imports relative to gross output of goods producing sectors in the US;¹⁶ (*ii*) the average of merchandise exports and imports relative to gross output of goods producing sectors in skill-scarce countries;¹⁷ (*iii*) the share of US imports in manufacturing from skill-abundant countries;¹⁸ (*iv*) the ratio of merchandise trade between skill-scarce countries relative to total merchandise trade of skill-scarce countries;¹⁹ (*v*) the factor content of US manufacturing trade²⁰; (*vi*) the ratio of aggregate sales of exporters relative to non-exporters in US manufacturing;²¹ and (*vii*) the average (across sectors) of the logarithm of the skill intensity of exporters relative to non-exporters in Mexican (i.e. country 3) manufacturing, for which there is detailed information on worker educational attainment by producer.²² In constructing moments (*vi*) and (*vii*) in our model, we assume that within each exporting subsector, all producers export. This is one among many other configurations because,

¹⁶Merchandise trade is given by trade in goods from the BEA, and gross output of goods includes the sectors listed above. The resulting goods trade share in country 1 is 25.3%. We match the share of trade in gross output as opposed to value added, because our model abstracts from intermediate inputs in production.

¹⁷We first obtain the share of merchandise trade in total output as the product of the two following numbers: (i) the average of merchandise exports and imports relative to the combined GDP of skill-scarce countries, equal to 26.6% in 2006 based on information from the IMF’s Direction of Trade Statistics and WDI; and (ii) the median share of value added in gross output, equal to 0.5, across the set of unskill-abundant countries with available input-output data as reported by the OECD. The implied share of trade in gross output in goods’ producing sectors is equal to $0.266/2/\gamma = 50.9\%$.

¹⁸The share of U.S. imports in manufacturing from skill-abundant countries was equal to 0.59 in 2006.

¹⁹This statistic is based on information from the IMF’s Direction of Trade Statistics, and is equal to 20.6% in 2006.

²⁰We define sectors in the data using 4-digit SIC codes. We obtain sectoral gross output and sectoral employment of skilled, $H_i(j)$, and unskilled, $L_i(j)$, workers (which we define as non-production and production workers) as well as total manufacturing employment of skilled and unskilled workers using the 2005 NBER-CES Manufacturing Industry Database (which is why we use the factor content of manufacturing trade). With sectoral gross output and net exports (for 2006), we construct $\omega_i(j)$. Using $L_i(j)$, $H_i(j)$, and $\omega_i(j)$, we construct NX_i^L and NX_i^H for manufacturing. Using these NX_i ’s and total manufacturing employment of skilled and unskilled labor, we obtain the factor content of manufacturing trade.

²¹Using data from the 1992 U.S. Census of Manufactures (reported in Bernard et. al. 2003), this ratio equals 1.49. This follows from the fact that the average exporter’s sales are 5.6 times larger than those of the average non-exporter, and the fact that 21% of firms are exporters.

²²From unpublished Mexican manufacturing plant-level data for 1998, Verhoogen (2008) calculates by sector the share of skilled workers (relative to the sector’s employment) in exporting and non-exporting plants, where skilled workers are those with 12 or more years of education. The average across sectors of the log of the relative skill intensity of exporters to non-exporters is 0.19. We do not target the skill intensity premium of US exporters reported in Bernard et. al. (2007), because it is constructed using a less perfect measure of skill intensity: the non-production-worker share of employment. Using their measure of skill intensity and a slightly different procedure than the one in Verhoogen (2008), they find that US exporting plants are 11% more skill intensive than non-exporting plants. Following Bernard et. al.’s procedure in our model, the skill intensity premium of exporters in country 1 is 7.2%.

with perfect competition and constant returns to scale, the distribution of size and exporting status across producers within subsectors is not uniquely pinned down.

Table 1 displays the parameter values in our baseline parameterization and Table 2 reports the targets that we used in our calibration. Our baseline value of $\theta = 0.2$ falls within the range of θ 's estimated by others, although the gravity equations that give rise to these estimates do not apply with skill-biased technology. For example, EK estimate $\theta \in [0.08, 0.28]$, Donaldson (2008) estimates $\theta \in [0.14, 0.26]$, Ramondo and Rodriguez-Clare (2009) estimate $\theta = 0.14$, Simonovska and Waugh (2010) estimate $\theta = 0.22$, and Waugh (2009) estimates $\theta = 0.18$. In our baseline parameterization, skill-scarce countries have a relatively low productivity in skill-intensive sectors (i.e. $T_3(j)$ is negatively sloped). However, with $t_3 = 0.06$, the variation in the systemic component of productivity across sectors is very small, only a 6% difference between the least and most skill-intensive sectors.²³ Given the high skill intensity of exporters relative to non-exporters in Mexico, our calibrated value of the degree of skill bias in technology is $\varphi = 0.33$. In our parameterization, the resulting share of trade (i.e. the average of exports and imports) in total output is equal to 6.6% in country 1 and 13.3% in country 3. Note that we choose a relatively low level of aggregate productivity in country 3, $T_3 = 0.29$ —which implies that country 3 is relatively small in terms efficiency units—because the skill-scarce countries' share of global trade is less than 50% while their average trade share is greater than in the US, country 1. Finally, our target factor content of trade of 0.018 in the tradeable sectors in country 1 anticipates a weak between effect: if $\rho = \sigma = 1$ and $\varphi = 0$, then moving from autarky to the 2006 levels of trade in an economy composed of only tradeable sectors results in a rise in the skill premium of only 1.8%.

Our parameterized model with skill-biased technology implies a positive relation between a sector's skill intensity and the level of normalized trade (defined as the ratio of exports plus imports to output minus net exports). This is illustrated in Figure 1 under our baseline parameterization. Figure 1 also shows that this relation is essentially flat in a parameterization of our model with Hicks-neutral technology. We prove this result in Proposition 6 in Appendix C under Assumption GEN and a two-sector version of Assumption SB. Intuitively, the interaction between skill intensity and subsector-specific productivity—which implies that z is relatively more important in the production function in skill-intensive sectors—causes the same distribution of underlying productivities in all sectors to yield a more dispersed distribution of unit costs in skill-intensive sectors. Hence, a given productivity advantage, $z_i > z_{-i}$, provides country i producers in skill-intensive sectors a relatively larger cost advantage than in the unskill-intensive sector. With positive trade costs, it is more likely that a good in a skill intensive sector is traded.²⁴

²³This is consistent with empirical evidence in Morrow (2008) that country-sector productivities are not very correlated with the sectors' factor intensities or country endowments.

²⁴This result is similar to that in Fieler (2007), which predicts that one sector is more traded than another, but unlike Fieler (2007) does not rely on an assumption that the distribution of productivities is more dispersed in one sector than in another.

We find some supportive evidence of this prediction of the model by regressing measures of US normalized trade—defined as the average of exports plus imports, divided by gross output plus net imports—in manufacturing sectors, using the BEA’s detailed IO tables for the 2002 Benchmark, on skill intensity, measured by the share of non-production workers. In all specifications we considered, the coefficient on skill intensity is positive and significant at the 1% level.²⁵

5 Baseline Results with International Trade

In this section we study the implications of international trade on the skill premium. To do so, we use our parameterized model to conduct the following counterfactual. We consider a reduction in trade costs starting in autarky ($\tau_{in} = \infty$) to the levels of trade costs that generate the volumes of international trade observed in 2006, while holding fixed all other parameters at our baseline level. One way to interpret this counterfactual is that it answers the question: But for international trade, by how much would the skill premium change?

Rows 12 and 13 in Table 2 report the log-percentage change in the skill premium, s_i/w_i , resulting from this experiment. The US and the other skill-abundant country (countries 1 and 2) experience a 1.8% increase in the skill premium while the skill-scarce countries (countries 3 and 4) experience a 2.9% increase in the skill premium. The two central messages from these results are as follows. First, in contrast to the standard H-O model upon which most work on trade and the skill premium is based, our parameterized model is consistent with a rising skill premium in all countries. The skill premium rises in skill-scarce countries because the within effect is stronger than the between effect. Second, the magnitudes of the changes in the skill premium of moving from autarky to 2006 levels of trade are quite small relative to, for example, the 24% rise in the (composition-adjusted) US College-High School wage gap between 1966 and 2006 (see, e.g., Acemoglu and Autor 2010). In what follows, we explain in detail the key features of our parameterized model that give rise to these two findings.

5.1 Within Effect Stronger Than Between Effect

The rise in the skill premium in the skill-scarce countries reveals that the between effect is weak relative to the within effect. This can be understood in two parts. First, we show that, consistent with Proposition 2, the parameters that determine (i) the dispersion of subsector productivities and (ii) sectoral productivity differences play a central role in shaping the strength of the between effect. Given the information we use to calibrate these two parameters, we obtain a weak between effect. Second, we show that the dispersion of subsector productivities and the skill bias of technology

²⁵To our knowledge, we are the first to identify this relationship in the data. We acknowledge that there are alternative mechanisms that could also lead to this pattern in the data. For example, an alternative hypothesis is that trade costs are lower in skill-intensive sectors.

play a central role in determining the strength of the within effect. Given the information we use to calibrate these two parameters, we obtain a relatively stronger within effect. We also examine the implications of the relative strength of the within effect for how the skill abundance of a country's trade partners determines the effect of a trade liberalization on that country's skill premium.

5.1.1 Between Effect

The strength of the between effect is determined by the factor content of trade, which—conditional on trade shares—is largely shaped by two parameters: the dispersion of subsector productivities, θ , and the extent of sectoral productivity differences, $t_3 = \log\left(\frac{T_3(j_{\alpha \text{ min}})}{T_3(j_{\alpha \text{ max}})}\right)$. Proposition 2 states that the magnitude of the change in the skill premium resulting from the between effect is decreasing in θ and increasing in t_3 . We now illustrate the quantitative relevance of this proposition in our parameterized model, which relaxes Assumptions GEN and HN. We focus on the role of the parameter θ although a similar exercise could be conducted with t_3 .

To isolate the quantitative effect of θ on the between effect, we assume that technology is Hicks-neutral, $\varphi = 0$, as in Proposition 2. Figure 2 depicts the percentage change in the skill premium in countries 1 and 3 as they move from autarky to the baseline shares of trade in output, for levels of θ ranging from 0.02 to 0.35. Note that the strength of the between effect is significantly weakened as we raise θ . For example, increasing θ from 0.02 to 0.10 (which is at the low range of the value of this parameter used in the literature) reduces the change in the skill premium in all countries by about 1/3.

While different values of θ and of t_3 are consistent with a weak or strong between effect, our choice of the combination of these parameters is constrained by the factor content of trade in the data. Any combination of θ and t_3 that yields small net exports of skilled labor and small net imports of unskilled labor will yield only a weakly positive between effect. This result echoes those that have led others in the labor and trade literatures to conclude that the impact of trade on the skill premium is quite weak.

5.1.2 Within Effect

The strength of the within effect—conditional on trade shares—is largely shaped by two parameters: the skill bias of technology, φ , and the dispersion of subsector productivities, θ . Panel A of Figures 3 and 4 depict the percentage change in the skill premia in countries 1 and 3 as they move from autarky to the baseline shares of trade in output, for values of φ ranging from -0.2 to 0.7 and θ ranging from 0.02 to 0.35, respectively.

Panel A of Figure 3 reveals that the change in the skill premium is increasing in φ . Intuitively, the difference in skill intensities of a high- z producer and a lower- z producer is strictly greater, the higher is φ . Hence, when a reduction in trade costs induces low- z producers to contract and high- z

producers to expand, the increase in the relative demand for skill is strictly greater, the higher is φ . When $\varphi = 0$, only the between effect is active, and hence the skill premium rises in country 1 and falls in country 3, as in Figure 2. When $\varphi > 0$, both the between and within effects are active. For $\varphi \geq 0.15$ (less than half of our preferred value of $\varphi = 0.33$), the within effect dominates the between effect in country 3, in the sense that the skill premium increases there. Note that changes in φ have a relatively larger impact on the change in the skill premium in country 3 than in country 1. This is because—under our parameterization—country 3 is relatively small (in efficiency units), so that export sales relative to domestic sales are relatively greater in country 3, which implies that the fraction of exporters is lower in country 3 than in country 1. Hence, the difference between the skill intensity of exporters and non-exporters is greater in country 3 than in country 1 (our target moment *(vii)* defined above is 0.19 in country 3 and 0.17 in country 1), and the sales of exporters relative to non-exporters is greater in country 3 than in country 1 (our target moment *(vi)* defined above is 2.0 in country 3 and 1.5 in country 1). Hence, because country 3 is relatively smaller, the within effect is stronger in country 3 than in country 1. This explains why, in our baseline parameterization, the skill premium rises by more in country 3 than in country 1, despite the fact that the between effect reduces the skill premium in country 3.

Panel A of Figure 4 reveals that the change in the skill premium is increasing in θ in country 3 and is non-monotonic in θ in country 1. This is because the impact of increasing θ on the between and within effects push the skill premium in the same direction in country 3 but in opposite directions in country 1: the between effect is weakened with a higher value of θ , as shown in Figure 2, and the within effect is strengthened with a higher value of θ . Intuitively, as θ rises the within effect becomes stronger because the relative difference in productivity between expanding (high- z) and contracting (low- z) producers increases. Thus, labor reallocation across producers as a result of a decline in trade costs induces a greater increase in the relative demand for skill, the greater is θ .

While different values of φ and θ are consistent with a weak or strong within effect, Panel B of Figures 3 and 4 illustrates how our choices of $\varphi = 0.33$ and $\theta = 0.2$ are constrained by *(i)* the difference in skill intensity between exporting and non-exporting producers and *(ii)* the share of sales of exporters relative to non-exporters, both of which we target in our calibration. At $\varphi = 0.33$, $\theta = 0.2$, and $t_3 = 0.056$, the within effect is stronger than the between effect.

How robust is our conclusion that the within effect is stronger than the between effect to our measure, in the data, of the factor content of trade? In order to address this question, we vary the factor content of trade by changing the extent of sectoral differences in productivity, t_3 . Panel A of Figure 5 illustrates the impact of changing t_3 on the skill premium and Panel B illustrates the impact of such a change on the factor content of trade. As t_3 increases, so that country 3 becomes relatively more productive in unskill-intensive sectors, the between effect becomes stronger. Note that in order for the between effect to become stronger than the within effect in country 3, we require

$t_3 \geq 0.426$ (more than seven times our baseline value of t_3), so that country 3 has a substantial Ricardian comparative advantage in unskill-intensive sectors. At this value of t_3 , the factor content of trade is 0.08, more than four times the value of 0.018 used in our baseline parameterization. This sensitivity analysis on how the factor content of trade affects the relative strength of the between effect helps address concern, see e.g. Krugman (2008) and Feenstra (2010), that aggregation at the sector level—which implies that the factor content of trade observed in the data underestimates the true factor content of trade—may bias downward the estimated strength of the between effect. Our results show that this aggregation bias would need to be substantial (i.e. raising our target by roughly a factor of four) in order to overturn our result that the within effect is relatively strong.

5.1.3 Trade partners' skill endowment and the skill premium

To what extent does the skill abundance of a country's trade partners matter for determining the impact of trade liberalization on that country's skill premium? To address this question, we conduct a counterfactual in which we hold trade shares fixed but shut down international trade between skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries (so that the between effect is inactive). In particular, we calculate the change in the skill premium in country 1 of moving from autarky to a modified version of our baseline 2006 parameterization in which (i) skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries do not trade with each other and (ii) trade shares in skill-abundant countries are fixed at their 2006 baseline level. The skill premium rises by 1.25% in country 1, which corresponds to roughly 70% of the 1.8% rise in the skill premium of moving from autarky to our baseline that includes trade between skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries (we do not report these results in the tables).

We also consider an alternative counterfactual in which we move from autarky to a modified version of our baseline 2006 parameterization in which H_3/L_3 is set equal to H_1/L_1 . We obtain a similar result: the skill premium rises by 1.25% in country 1.

We conclude from these counterfactuals that factor endowment differences across countries account for roughly 30% of the increase in the skill premium in country 1 generated by international trade. This suggests that while with whom a country trades matters for the impact of trade on its skill premium, how much a country trades is more important, a point that we now address.

5.1.4 Trade Shares and Small Changes in Skill Premium

To what extent is the small US trade share responsible for the small impact of trade liberalization on the US skill premium that we find in our baseline parameterization? To answer this question, we consider two alternative counterfactual exercises in which we increase trade shares.

In the first counterfactual, we raise the share of tradeables γ in final output so that, while we continue to match the share of trade in tradeables, the overall share of trade in country 1 coincides with the 8.4% US trade share including trade in both goods and services (recall that in our baseline

calibration we only consider trade in goods, so that the US trade share is 6.6%, due to a lack of services data in many other countries). In this counterfactual we keep the share of trade in skill-scarce countries unchanged. The rise in the skill premium of going from autarky to this modified baseline is 2.4% in country 1, instead of 1.8% (we do not report these results in the tables).

In the second counterfactual, we set the share of tradeables in gross output γ to 1, and match the current share of trade in tradeables. That is, we abstract from the nontradeable sector of the economy. This results in an overall share of trade in country 1 of 25.3%. The rise in the skill premium in country 1, starting in autarky, is 6.8%. An alternative interpretation of this exercise is that, if there is no labor mobility between tradeable and nontradeable sectors, then the skill premium in the tradeable sector rises by 6.8%.²⁶

We conclude from these counterfactuals that in our model, obtaining large changes in the skill premium from trade requires unreasonably high trade shares relative to current US trade shares. This suggests that, given the relatively small current trade shares in the US, international trade may not be the central force shaping its skill premium.

6 Multinational Production

In this section, we extend our model by incorporating multinational production (MP). In Section 6.1 we introduce MP into our model and conduct comparative static exercises on the skill premium. In Section 6.2 we parameterize the full model with international trade and MP and study the implications for the skill premium of moving from autarky to 2006 levels of international trade and MP. Finally, In Section 6.3 we calculate the contribution of globalization to the observed rise in the US skill premium between 1966 to 2006.

6.1 MP and the Skill Premium

We model MP as enabling intermediate good producers to use their technologies in foreign countries. Producers choosing to engage in MP incur a per-unit cost. In particular, country k producers in subsector (ω, j) that operate in country i incur a per-unit cost of MP given by $\mu_{ki} \times m_{ki}(\omega, j)$. The country-level per-unit cost of MP, $\mu_{ki} \geq 1$, is analogous to the per-unit cost of exporting and we similarly assume $\mu_{ii} = 1$. As in Ramondo and Rodriguez-Clare (2009), we introduce a country/subsector-specific efficiency loss of MP, with $m_{ki}(\omega, j) = m_{kn}(\omega, j) \geq 1$ for all $i, n \neq k$ and $m_{ii}(\omega, j) = 1$, in order to obtain an interior equilibrium for the subsectors that engage in MP versus exports; if we did not include this idiosyncratic MP cost, then producers from one country supplying a foreign country would all do so either by exporting or by MP.

²⁶We also consider a more extreme counterfactual of moving to free trade in both the tradeable and nontradeable sectors, by setting the share of tradeables in gross output γ to 1, and by eliminating trade costs ($\tau_{in} = 1$ for all $i, n \in I$). The overall trade share is now 59% in country 1 and 88% in country 3. Starting in autarky, the skill premium rises by 9.8% in country 1 and by 12% in country 3.

Goods in subsector (ω, j) can be supplied to country n in I^2 ways: production can take place in any of the I countries and production can use productivity from any of the I countries. We denote by $c_{in}^k(\omega, j)$ the per-unit cost of supplying (ω, j) to country n by producing in country i and using country k 's productivity:

$$c_{in}^k(\omega, j) = \frac{\mu_{ki} m_{ki} \tau_{in}}{A_k(j)} \left[\alpha_j z_k^{\frac{\varphi}{2} + \rho - 1} s_i^{1-\rho} + (1 - \alpha_j) z_k^{\rho - 1 - \frac{\varphi}{2}} w_i^{1-\rho} \right]^{1/(1-\rho)},$$

where we omit the dependence of m_{ki} and z_k on (ω, j) . Note that if country k producers locate in country i , then they use their own productivity z_k and TFP $A_k(j)$, but they use country i labor and hence incur country i 's labor costs, s_i and w_i . For simplicity, in what follows in this section we consider the case with two countries and symmetric country-level MP costs (we drop this assumption in the quantitative analysis in Sections 6.2 and 6.3).

As before, we conduct comparative static exercises under two different sets of simplifying assumptions to obtain analytic solutions.

Hicks-neutral technology and asymmetric countries: We first consider the specification of our model with $\tilde{\varphi} = 1/2$ so that technology is Hicks-neutral. In this case, the cost of the factor bundle can be disentangled from the productivity z , so that the cost $c_{in}^k(\omega, j)$ can be expressed as

$$c_{in}^k(\omega, j) = \frac{v_i(j)}{z_k(\omega, j)} \frac{A_i(j)}{A_k(j)} \tau_{in} \mu_{ki} m_{ki}(\omega, j).$$

The cost of supplying country 1 (omitting the dependence on sector j) is (i) v_1/z_1 if production is carried-out in country 1 using country 1's productivity; (ii) $\tau v_2/z_2$ if production is carried-out in country 2 using country 2's productivity and output is exported to country 1; (iii) $\mu m_{21} v_1 A_1/A_2 z_2$ if production is carried-out in country 1 via MP (using country 2's productivity); and, (iv) $\tau \mu m_{12} v_2 A_2/A_1 z_1$ if production is carried-out in country 2 via MP and output is exported to country 1. Each good is supplied by the lowest cost of the four alternatives, which is determined by factor prices, productivity draws, trade costs, and MP costs.

We now derive analytic results on the impact of changes in MP costs on the skill premium under assumptions GEN and HN. We solve for our model as in Subsection 3.1, where $\pi_{in}(j)$ is now the fraction of subsectors in sector j that are supplied in country n by producers located in country i , defined as

$$\pi_{in}(j) = \Pr \left[\min_{k=1,2} \left\{ c_{in}^k(j) \right\} \leq \min_{k=1,2} \left\{ c_{-in}^k(j) \right\} \right]. \quad (14)$$

With Hicks-neutral technology, MP does not affect the relative demand for skill within a sector at fixed factor costs because skill intensity is common across all producers in that sector; MP can only affect the between-sector allocation of factors. In the absence of international trade, $\pi_{nn}(j) = 1$ so MP does not affect the between-sector allocation of factors either. Combining these two implications, we obtain the result that, in the absence of international trade, the cost of MP

has no impact on the skill premium.

Consider now the case with international trade. As the cost of MP decreases, the expected technological gap across locations decreases. With international trade, this increases the importance of factor endowment and sectoral technology differences in determining the pattern of specialization. Hence, as μ and m_{ki} decline, a country moves towards specializing in its comparative advantage sector, as in the model with no technological dispersion ($\theta \rightarrow 0$). In fact, under Assumptions GEN and HN, the skill premium with costless MP is equivalent to the skill premium with no technological dispersion.

Proposition 4 summarizes these two results.

Proposition 4 *Suppose Assumptions GEN and HN hold and that $A_1(j) = A_2(j)$ for $j = x, y$. Then*

1. $\lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} (s_i/w_i) = 0$ is independent of μ for $i = 1, 2$; and
2. $\lim_{\mu m_{ki}(\omega, j) \rightarrow 1 \forall (\omega, j), k, i} \frac{s_l}{w_l} = \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{s_l}{w_l}$ for $l = 1, 2$.

The central implication of Proposition 4 is that a lower MP cost strengthens the between effect by making the systematic components of comparative advantage (i.e. factor endowments and sectoral productivities) more important in determining patterns of specialization. That is, trade liberalization has a larger effect on the skill premium in both countries in the presence of costless MP. We return to this in our quantitative analysis.

Skill-biased technology and symmetric countries: We now consider the impact of MP on the skill-premium in the specification of our model with skill-biased technology and two symmetric countries.

A reduction in the cost of MP—from a level at which there is a positive volume of MP, $\mu < \tau$ —increases the skill premium. If $\mu < \tau$, then a reduction in MP costs increases the fraction of subsectors in a country that produce using foreign productivity. If a domestic subsector produces using foreign productivity, producers in the foreign subsector must be more productive than those in the domestic one. Hence, a reduction in MP costs weakly increases the productivity of all subsectors and strictly increases the productivity of some subsectors. With skill-biased technology, relatively productive subsectors are also relatively skill intensive. Hence, reductions in the cost of MP increase the relative demand for skill and the skill premium. Proposition 5 summarizes this result.

Proposition 5 *If Assumptions GEN and SB hold and $\mu < \tau$, then s_i/w_i is strictly decreasing in μ for $i = 1, 2$.*

Note that Proposition 5 holds even in the absence of positive trade flows. This is in contrast to the case of Hicks-neutral technology, in which MP does not impact the skill premium in the absence of trade.

6.2 Baseline Parameterization and Results with Trade and MP

In this section, we discuss how we parameterize the extended model with international trade and MP and study the quantitative implications of a reduction in trade and MP costs for the skill premium.

Parameterization with trade and MP: To calibrate the model with MP, we assume that the country/subsector-specific efficiency loss of MP, $m_{in}(\omega, j)$, is given by $1 + \tilde{u}$, where $\tilde{u} \geq 0$ is an *i.i.d.* random variable that is exponentially distributed with mean and standard deviation θ_m . We also assume that the country-level MP cost, μ_{in} , is symmetric between pairs of countries, $\mu_{ni} = \mu_{in}$, and is equal in the tradeable and nontradeable sectors. We allow for MP in the non-traded sector because in 2006 more than half of majority-owned non-bank US foreign affiliate sales are in service-producing sectors.

The new, MP-specific parameters that we must choose are the country-level per-unit costs of MP (μ_{12} , μ_{13} , and μ_{34}) and the parameter that governs the mean and standard deviation of country/subsector-specific MP costs, θ_m . We set $\mu_{34} = \infty$ since most MP originates from skill-abundant source countries (see Navaretti and Venables 2004) and choose μ_{12} and μ_{13} to match the two following observations on US outward multinational activity in 2006, obtained from the BEA: (i) the sum of the total sales of majority-owned non-bank US foreign affiliates (i.e. outward MP) and the total sales of majority-owned non-bank US affiliates of foreign firms (i.e. inward MP), divided by the sum of US imports and exports of merchandise, which is 2.40; and (ii) the share of US outward MP to and inward MP from skill abundant countries, which is 0.91.²⁷ We set $\theta_m = 0.1$. We considered alternative values of this parameter, $\theta_m = 0.2$ and $\theta_m = 1$, and found that the change in the skill premium was largely unaffected. The remaining parameters are chosen using the same procedure described in Section 4. Column 2 of Tables 1 and 2 report the parameter values and calibration targets in the model with trade and MP.

Baseline results with trade and MP: We now study the implications of international trade and MP for the skill premium. To do so, we use our parameterized model to conduct the following counterfactual. We consider a reduction in trade and MP costs starting in autarky to the levels of trade and MP costs that generate the volumes of international trade and MP observed in 2006, while holding fixed all other parameters at our baseline level. This exercise extends the counterfactual conducted in Section 5 by incorporating MP. As in Section 5, one way to interpret this counterfactual is that it answers the question: But for international trade and MP, by how much would the skill premium change?

Rows 12 and 13 in Table 2 report the log-percentage change in the skill premium resulting from

²⁷Note in Table 1 that our calibration with trade and MP requires a high $\mu_{13} = 4.7$. This is because country 3 has a low relative TFP, so that producers from countries 1 and 2 have a large incentive to produce in country 3. An alternative strategy to match our targets is to assume a lower location-specific TFP in country 3, as in Burstein and Monge-Naranjo (2008). This does not have a significant impact on our baseline calibration.

this experiment. The US and the other skill-abundant country (countries 1 and 2) experience a 4.8% increase in the skill premium while the two skill-scarce countries (countries 3 and 4) experience a 6.5% increase in the skill premium.

The two central messages from these results are as follows. First, MP appears to be at least as important as international trade in determining the impact of globalization on the skill premium: incorporating both international trade and MP implies an increase in the skill premium that is almost three times as large in countries 1 and 2 (4.8% compared to 1.8%) and more than two times as large in countries 3 and 4 (6.5% compared to 2.9%) as our counterfactual incorporating only international trade.

Second, in contrast to the model with trade only, the magnitudes of the changes in the skill premium of moving from autarky to 2006 levels of trade and MP are sizeable. To put the 4.8% rise of the skill premium in country 1 in perspective, it represents 1/5 of the 24% rise in the US College-High School wage gap between 1966 and 2006. However, the world in 1966 was not in autarky, which motivates the counterfactual we conduct in the following section.

6.3 Accounting for the US Skill Premium, 1966 to 2006

In what follows, we conduct an additional counterfactual to assess the contribution of globalization to the actual rise in the US skill premium between 1966 and 2006, taking into account the rise in the supply of skilled labor and the greater growth of skill-scarce countries while matching the observed rise in the levels of trade and MP. We choose 1966 as a base year because it is the earliest year for which we have (outward) MP data for the US.

We first partially reparameterize the model to 1966 data. In order to match the growth in the US skill premium between 1966 and 2006, given that in this period there was an increase in the relative supply of skilled labor, we must allow for an additional force to increase the skill premium, which we assume to be exogenous skill-biased technical change; see e.g. Acemoglu (2002). We then ask, by how much would the skill premium in the US have risen if endowments and technologies had evolved as in our parameterization, but the US were in autarky? One way to interpret this counterfactual is that it answers the question: But for globalization, by how much would the skill premium have changed in the US between 1966 and 2006?²⁸

1966 Parameterization: We re-calibrate the following nine parameters: (i)–(ii) skill endowment ratios, H_1/L_1 and H_3/L_3 ; (iii) the tradeable share in final output, γ ; (iv) aggregate TFP in country 3, T_3 ; (v)–(vii) trade costs, τ_{12} , τ_{13} , and τ_{34} ; and (viii)–(ix) MP costs, μ_{12} and μ_{13} . For (i), we set $H_1/L_1 = 0.51$ to match the 40% growth between 1966 and 2006 in the average years of

²⁸Note that by calculating the rise in the US skill premium from changes in endowments and technologies assuming that the US is in autarky, we are attributing to globalization the impact on the skill premium from the interaction between changes in endowments, technologies, international trade, and MP. An alternative accounting strategy that keeps trade and MP costs constant between 1966 and 2006 implies a smaller role for globalization because US trade and MP shares increase as endowments and technologies change (as the skill-scarce countries become relatively larger).

education for the US population over age 25. For (ii) – (vii) we use the same procedure as in our 2006 parameterization, using data from 1966 or the closest year with available information.²⁹ In choosing parameters (viii) and (ix), we do not have 1966 data on inward MP in the US. We impute this data by assuming that the 1977 ratio of outward MP to inward MP (i.e. the earliest year with available data) is the same as in 1966. Given the imputed level of inward MP, we target the sum of outward and imputed inward MP divided by the sum of US imports and exports of merchandise (as in our 2006 parameterization), which is 2.29. Because we do not have data on inward MP, we target the 2006 share of US outward MP to and inward MP from skill abundant countries, which is 0.91.³⁰ We also consider a parameterization with only trade in both 1966 and 2006, in which MP costs are set to infinity in both years.

Finally, to match the observed 24% increase in the US skill premium between 1966 and 2006, we include one additional parameter—the aggregate skill-bias of technology—which we assume to be common across countries and sectors and varying across time. In particular, we extend the producer-level production function, Equation (2), to allow for exogenous skill-biased technological growth, which is parameterized by A^h :

$$y = A_i(j) \left[\alpha_j^{1/\rho} \left(A^h z^{2\tilde{\varphi}} h \right)^{\frac{\rho-1}{\rho}} + (1 - \alpha_j)^{1/\rho} \left(z^{2(1-\tilde{\varphi})} l \right)^{\frac{\rho-1}{\rho}} \right]^{\frac{\rho}{\rho-1}}. \quad (15)$$

We maintain $A^h = 1$ in 2006, in which case Equations (2) and (15) are identical, and choose A^h in 1966 as a residual to fully match the 24% growth in the skill premium in the US between 1966 and 2006.

Table 3 displays the parameter values and the calibration targets that we vary between 1966 and 2006. Given the large rise in the relative supply of skilled workers in the US, our model requires a large rise in the skill bias of technology, A^h , to match the 24% increase in the US skill premium.

Accounting results: By how much would the skill premium in country 1 have changed if endowments and technologies had evolved as in our parameterization, but country 1 were in autarky in 1966 and in 2006? If the skill premium in country 1 rose by $X\%$ in autarky, then we would conclude that, in the absence of globalization, the rise in country 1’s skill premium would have been $(1 - X/24)\%$ smaller than in the presence of globalization. We answer this question using the parameterization with trade only and the parameterization with both trade and MP.

In the parameterization with trade and MP (columns 3 and 4 of Table 3), we find that the skill premium in country 1 would have risen 21.3% in autarky between 1966 and 2006. From this

²⁹These moments are: the ratio of endowment ratios in the skill-abundant countries relative to the unskill-abundant countries in 1966, $(H_1/L_1)/(H_3/L_3) = 0.32$; the US share of good producing sectors in gross output, 0.49; the US trade share in tradeable sectors, 0.041; the average skill-scarce country’s total trade share, 0.048; the share of US imports from skill-abundant countries, 0.89; and the share of skill-scarce countries’ trade (exports plus imports) with skill-scarce countries, 0.08.

³⁰As a check, the share of US outward MP to skill-abundant countries in 1966 is 0.87, which is close to our target of 0.91.

counterfactual we conclude that, but for globalization, the skill premium would have risen about 11% less than what it actually did in the US between 1966 and 2006. To show that MP is at least as important as international trade, columns 1 and 2 of Table 3, report that in the parameterization with only trade, the skill premium in country 1 would have risen 23.2% in autarky between 1966 and 2006. From this counterfactual we conclude that, but for international trade, the skill premium would have risen about 4% less than what it actually did in the US between 1966 and 2006.

Accounting results in an alternative parameterization: We also consider a less conservative parameterization in which we choose parameter values so that, given trade and MP shares, the between and within effects are strengthened. In particular, we make four changes from our baseline parameterization. First, we increase the skill bias of technology, from $\varphi = 0.33$ to $\varphi = 0.4$. This alternative value of φ raises $\tilde{\varphi}$ to its maximum value of $\tilde{\varphi} = 1$. Second, we increase the dispersion of idiosyncratic productivity from $\theta = 0.2$ to $\theta = 0.25$. This alternative value is at the high end of the range of θ 's used in the literature. Third, we increase the share of tradeables in final output in both years to match the total share of trade in output in country 1 including trade in both goods and services rather than only in goods, as discussed in Section 5.1.4. Finally, we raise country 3's Ricardian comparative advantage in unskill-intensive sectors (t_3) to increase country 1's factor content of trade in the tradeable sector in 2006 from 0.018 to 0.048. This addresses concerns, see e.g. Krugman (2008) and Feenstra (2010), that aggregation at the sector level may bias downward the estimated factor content of trade and thus lead to artificially low estimates of the strength of the between effect.

In the parameterization with trade and MP (columns 7 and 8 of Table 3), we find that, but for globalization, the skill premium would have risen about 19% less than what it actually did in the US between 1966 and 2006.³¹

While globalization can account for 1/9th of the rise in the US skill premium between 1966 and 2006 in our preferred parameterization and 1/5th in our more extreme parameterization, we conclude from these counterfactuals that the combination of other forces in shaping the skill premium is significantly more important than our model's within and between effects of globalization.

7 Implications for Alternative Approaches

Others in the literature have reached the conclusion that globalization is not as important as the combination of other forces in shaping the evolution of the US skill premium. In this section, we use our model and quantitative results to revisit three common alternative approaches that have been used in the international trade and labor literatures to reach this conclusion. We show that while each of these alternative approaches may provide estimates of the impact of globalization on the

³¹In the parameterization with only trade (columns 5 and 6 of Table 3), we find that, but for international trade, the skill premium would have risen about 10% less than what it actually did in the US between 1966 and 2006.

skill premium via the between effect, they do not capture the impact of the within effect. Hence, they tend to underestimate the increase in the skill premium from globalization in skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries.

The factor content of trade: As stated in Krugman (2000), “...many economists studying the impact of trade on wages have been reluctant to commit themselves to a specific CGE model. Instead, they have tried to use a shortcut, by estimating the ‘factor content’ of trade.” According to Proposition 1, this approach is justified in our model under Assumptions GEN and HN. Because the elasticity of substitution between skilled and unskilled workers is not equal to one (an assumption imposed in Assumption HN), the typical approach to estimating the percentage change in the skill premium is to multiply the factor content of trade for the entire economy by the inverse of the aggregate elasticity of substitution between skilled and unskilled workers.

We investigate to what extent this is an accurate approach to determining the change in the skill premium from a reduction in trade costs in our general model, in which we do not impose Assumptions GEN and HN. To do so we replicate the FCT exercise on data generated by our model with trade and MP and compare the estimated changes in the skill premium with the actual changes in the skill premium that result from the full model.

Consider first a parameterization of the model in which we impose that technology is Hicks-neutral ($\varphi = 0$), so that only the between effect is active, and otherwise follow our baseline calibration procedure. In this case, the actual change in the skill premium in countries 1 and 3 is 0.28% and -1.0% , respectively. According to the FCT approach, the change in the skill premium in countries 1 and 3 is 0.35% and -1.4% , respectively. Although the results are not exactly identical because our quantitative model does not satisfy Assumptions GEN and HN, the FCT approach quite accurately captures the impact of globalization, via the between effect, on the skill premium.

Consider now the baseline parameterization of the model with skill-biased technology. In this case, the actual change in the skill premium in countries 1 and 3 is 4.8% and 6.5%, respectively. According to the FCT approach, the change in the skill premium in countries 1 and 3 is 0.34% and -1.4% , respectively. With skill-biased technology, the FCT approach predicts a change in the skill premium that is very different from the actual change in the skill premium implied by the model. It predicts the change in the skill premium with the incorrect sign in skill-scarce countries, and underestimates by an order of magnitude the change in the skill premium in skill-abundant countries.

The FCT approach does well with Hicks-neutral technology and poorly with skill-biased technology because the assumptions underlying the approach are reasonable in the prior case—in which all producers in a sector share the same skill intensity—but not the latter case—in which (in both countries) the skill intensity of a typical exporting producer is relatively high compared to the skill intensity of a typical producer that is replaced by imports.

Factor reallocation: The strength of the between effect can be inferred from the amount of

between-sector (and within-sector) factor reallocation, as in, for example, Berman et. al. (1994). Intuitively, if international trade causes a substantial increase in the relative demand for skill via the between effect, then it must also generate substantial shifts in the sectoral distribution of employment towards skill-intensive sectors. At fixed factor supplies, this requires within-sector reductions in skill intensities in all sectors. However, empirical studies document both within-industry increases in the share of skilled workers—see e.g. Berman et. al. (1994) for the US—and relatively little between-sector labor reallocation—see e.g. Currie and Harrison (1997) for Morocco, Hanson and Harrison (1999) for Mexico, and Attanasio et. al. (2004) for Colombia. These findings have been interpreted as evidence that globalization is not responsible for much of the rise in inequality.

Instead, we interpret these empirical results as evidence that the between effect is not responsible for much of the rise in the skill premium, but not as evidence against the combined impact of the between and within effects. In our model, a rise in the skill premium can accompany small changes in the sectoral allocation of factors. To see this, note that under Assumptions GEN and SB we proved in Proposition 3 that reductions in trade costs increase the skill premium in a one-sector model in which, by construction, there is no between-sector factor reallocation.³²

Sectoral prices and the mandated wage approach: The basic mandated wage approach takes changes in observed sectoral prices, which are often assumed to result from international trade, and attempts to identify the mandated change in factor prices that are consistent with maintaining zero profits, given factor intensities; see, e.g., Sachs and Shatz (1994). Using this approach, the observation that large increases in the skill premium in the US have not been accompanied by large increases in the relative price of skill-intensive sectors has been interpreted as evidence that globalization is not responsible for much or any of the rise in inequality; see e.g. Lawrence and Slaughter (1993). This conclusion follows from the following logic. Globalization raises the skill premium if and only if globalization raises the relative price of skill-intensive sectors, all else equal.

All else, however, is not equal. For example, skill-biased technological change changes relative goods prices for given factor prices. A similar mechanism to skill-biased technological change is at work in our model with skill-biased technology. Globalization affects sectoral absorption prices, $P_i(j)$, through two channels. First, it increases the relative price of sectors intensive in the locally abundant factor, as in the Heckscher-Ohlin model. Second, in our parameterization with skill-biased technology, globalization leads to a greater increase in trade volumes in skill-intensive sectors.³³ This decreases the relative price of skill-intensive goods, similar to skill-biased technological change.

³²In our baseline parameterization with trade and MP, moving from autarky to 2006 levels of globalization we obtain a 4.8% increase in the skill premium in country 1 while the increase in the share of manufacturing labor employed in the 50% most skill intensive sectors that results from this liberalization is only 2.8% in country 1.

³³That reductions in trade costs increase trade more in skill-intensive sectors is not an unambiguous prediction of the model. Indeed, one can show that the growth of trade in skill-intensive sectors is higher (lower) at high (low) trade costs.

These two channels push relative sectoral prices in opposite directions in a skill-abundant country (such as the US). Figure 6 displays the percentage change in sectoral absorption prices of tradeable sectors in country 1 that results from moving from autarky to our baseline level of trade and MP. Note that the relative price of skill-intensive sectors falls because the within effect is more powerful than the between effect.

Our model, therefore, provides a mechanism by which globalization can jointly increase the skill premium and decrease the relative price of skill-intensive goods. The mandated wage approach, however, would not attribute the rise in the skill premium generated by this mechanism to globalization.³⁴

8 Conclusions

We have constructed a quantitative model of international trade and multinational production to study the impact of globalization on the skill premium in skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries. The key mechanisms in our framework arise from the interaction between three elements: cross-country differences in factor endowments and sectoral productivities, technological heterogeneity across producers within sectors, and skill-biased technology. By combining these three elements, our model includes both the between effect and the within effect of globalization on the skill premium. We have shown that within-sector heterogeneity can (*i*) rationalize the finding—in previous empirical studies—that the between effect is weak, and (*ii*) generate a stronger within effect, which can lead to a rise in the skill premium in both skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries. We have also shown that multinational production strengthens both the between and within effects of globalization on the skill premium. We used our framework to investigate the impact on the skill premium of changes in the extent (the share of trade and MP in output), the geographical composition (the relative importance of skill-abundant and skill-scarce countries in the world economy), and the type (international trade and MP) of globalization.

We have shown that a reduction in trade and MP costs starting in autarky to our baseline parameterization of 2006—holding fixed all other parameters at our baseline level—increases the skill premium by 4.8% in the US (and other skill-abundant countries) and 6.5% in the average skill-scarce country. One way to interpret this counterfactual is that it answers the question: But for international trade and MP, by how much would the skill premium change? We then showed that globalization accounts for about 1/9th of the 24% rise in the US skill premium between 1966 and 2006. Multinational production is at least as important as international trade in generating this rise in the skill premium.

Whereas in this paper we capture two important forces in the debate on globalization and the

³⁴Feenstra and Hanson (1999) provide a richer version of the mandated wage approach that controls for technological change. Their approach provides an estimate of the impact of globalization, through the between effect, on the skill premium, but misses the impact of the within effect.

skill premium—the between and within effects—and incorporate both trade and MP, we abstract from other interesting and potentially important considerations discussed in the literature. For example, our model abstracts from additional factors of production (such as land, other natural resources, and capital) in order to focus on the impact of globalization on the skill premium. Additionally, our framework does not incorporate endogenous changes in the supply of skilled and unskilled labor, endogenous skill-biased technical change, product or process innovation, or capital accumulation with capital-skill complementarity.³⁵ Our analysis also abstracts from unemployment and within-group inequality.³⁶ Finally, our model abstracts from non-homothetic preferences, which can lead to differences between changes in the nominal and the real skill premia.³⁷ Extending our model along these directions is a fruitful area for future research to fully assess the quantitative effects of globalization on inequality.

Finally, the mechanisms studied in this paper apply equally well to intra-national integration as to international integration. The effects of intra-national integration on the skill premium could prove quantitatively large given the high volumes of intra-national trade relative to international trade in the US.

A Trade Proofs

Proof of Proposition 1. We prove Proposition 1 with arbitrarily many countries, factors, and sectors. In particular, we impose the following restrictions on our general model: $\sigma = 1$, $\rho = 1$, and $\tilde{\varphi} = 1/2$. In the specification of the model in which $\sigma = 1$, $\rho = 1$, and $\tilde{\varphi} = 1/2$, the labor market clearing conditions for unskilled and skilled labor become

$$w_i L_i = \frac{1}{J} \sum_{n=1}^I \sum_{j=1}^J (1 - \alpha_j) \pi_{in}(j) Q_n P_n \quad (16)$$

$$s_i H_i = \frac{1}{J} \sum_{n=1}^I \sum_{j=1}^J \alpha_j \pi_{in}(j) Q_n P_n, \quad (17)$$

where $\pi_{in}(j)$ is defined in Equation (12). Equations (16) and (17) are derived as follows. With a constant and equal share of expenditure allocated to each sector, the value of country i 's production supplied to country n in sector j is given by $\pi_{in}(j) Q_n P_n / J$. With Cobb-Douglas production functions and perfect competition, the payments to each type of labor in each sector is given by the product of the constant factor shares and the total value of production in that sector. Using the factor market clearing conditions, the skill premium is given by

$$\frac{s_i}{w_i} = \frac{L_i}{H_i} \frac{\sum_{n=1}^I \sum_{j=1}^J \alpha_j \pi_{in}(j) Q_n P_n}{\sum_{n=1}^I \sum_{j=1}^J (1 - \alpha_j) \pi_{in}(j) Q_n P_n}. \quad (18)$$

³⁵See e.g. Grossman and Helpman (1991), Acemoglu (2003), Atkeson and Burstein (2009), and Krusell et. al. (2000), respectively

³⁶See e.g., Davidson et. al. (1988) and Helpman et. al. (2008), respectively.

³⁷See e.g. Broda and Romalis (2009) for an empirical investigation of this issue.

In addition to skilled and unskilled labor, we consider $F \geq 0$ additional factors, indexed by $f = 1, \dots, F$. We denote by $\alpha_f(j) > 0$ the factor f intensity of production in sector j , where $\alpha_H(j) + \alpha_L(j) + \sum_{f=1}^F \alpha_f(j) = 1$. We re-express $NX_i^L = \sum_{j=1}^J L_i(j) \lambda_i(j)$ and $NX_i^H = \sum_{j=1}^J H_i(j) \lambda_i(j)$ as

$$w_i NX_i^L = \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{n \neq i} \alpha_L(j) [\pi_{in}(j) Q_n P_n - \pi_{ni}(j) Q_i P_i] \quad (19)$$

$$s_i NX_i^H = \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{n \neq i} \alpha_H(j) [\pi_{in}(j) Q_n P_n - \pi_{ni}(j) Q_i P_i], \quad (20)$$

which are well defined even if country i produces no output in sector j . Equations (19) and (20) are derived as follows. The value of country i 's net exports in sector j is $\frac{1}{J} \sum_{n \neq i} [\pi_{in}(j) Q_n P_n - \pi_{ni}(j) Q_i P_i]$. The share of revenues paid to unskilled workers and skilled workers is $\alpha_L(j)$ and $\alpha_H(j)$, respectively. Summing across sectors yields the right-hand side of Equations (19) and (20), which represent the value of unskilled and skilled labor, respectively, that is embodied in country i 's net exports. There are F similar equations, one for each additional factor.

To show that changes in NX_i^L and NX_i^H pin down changes in the skill premium that result from trade, we proceed as follows. Equation (16), Equation (17), and $\pi_{ii}(j) = 1 - \sum_{n \neq i} \pi_{ni}(j)$ imply

$$w_i L_i = \frac{1}{J} \left[\sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{n \neq i} \alpha_L(j) [\pi_{in}(j) Q_n P_n - \pi_{ni}(j) Q_i P_i] + \sum_{j=1}^J \alpha_L(j) Q_i P_i \right]$$

$$s_i H_i = \frac{1}{J} \left[\sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{n \neq i} \alpha_H(j) [\pi_{in}(j) Q_n P_n - \pi_{ni}(j) Q_i P_i] + \sum_{j=1}^J \alpha_H(j) Q_i P_i \right]$$

Substituting NX_i^L and NX_i^H from Equation (19) and Equation (20) into the two equations above yields

$$w_i = \frac{1}{L_i - NX_i^L} \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J \alpha_L(j) Q_i P_i$$

$$s_i = \frac{1}{H_i - NX_i^H} \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J \alpha_H(j) Q_i P_i.$$

Hence,

$$\frac{s_i}{w_i} = \frac{L_i - NX_i^L}{H_i - NX_i^H} \frac{\sum_{j=1}^J \alpha_H(j)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \alpha_L(j)}. \quad (21)$$

The Proposition directly follows from Equation (21). **QED.**

Proof of Proposition 2. After setting out the necessary notation we provide two preliminary steps before proving the proposition. Denote by $\Delta_i = \frac{1}{2} [\pi_{-ii}(x) + \pi_{-ii}(y)]$ for $i = 1, 2$ country i 's expenditure share of trade and by $\Delta_3 = \pi_{21}(y) - \pi_{21}(x)$ the difference in import shares between sector x and sector y in country 1.

Step 1. If $\tau, \tau', a, a', \theta$, and θ' are chosen such that $\Delta_3 > \Delta'_3 \geq 0$, $\Delta_1 = \Delta'_1 > 0$, and $\Delta_2 = \Delta'_2 > 0$, then (i) $\pi_{12}(x) > \pi'_{12}(x)$, (ii) $\pi_{12}(y) < \pi'_{12}(y)$, (iii) $\pi_{21}(x) < \pi'_{21}(x)$, (iv) $\pi_{21}(y) > \pi'_{21}(y)$, and (v)

$s'_1/w'_1 < s_1/w_1$.

We first show that $\Delta_3 > \Delta'_3 \geq 0$, $\Delta_1 = \Delta'_1 > 0$, and $\Delta_2 = \Delta'_2 > 0$ imply conditions (i)–(iv). Conditions (iii) and (iv) follow from

$$\pi_{21}(x) = \Delta_1 - \frac{1}{2}\Delta_3 < \Delta_1 - \frac{1}{2}\Delta'_3 = \pi'_{21}(x) \quad (22)$$

and

$$\pi_{21}(y) = \Delta_1 + \frac{1}{2}\Delta_3 > \Delta_1 + \frac{1}{2}\Delta'_3 = \pi'_{21}(y). \quad (23)$$

respectively. Equations (12), (22), and (23) imply

$$\left(\frac{v_2(x)}{v_1(x)}\right)^{-1/\theta} \left(\frac{v'_1(x)}{v'_2(x)}\right)^{-1/\theta'} < \frac{(\tau')^{-1/\theta'}}{\tau^{-1/\theta}} < \left(\frac{v_2(y)}{v_1(y)}\right)^{-1/\theta} \left(\frac{v'_1(y)}{v'_2(y)}\right)^{-1/\theta'}. \quad (24)$$

Equation (12) and $\Delta_2 = \Delta'_2$ imply

$$\gamma_1 \left[1 - \frac{(\tau')^{-1/\theta'}}{\tau^{-1/\theta}} \left(\frac{v_2(x)}{v_1(x)}\right)^{-1/\theta} \left(\frac{v'_1(x)}{v'_2(x)}\right)^{-1/\theta'} \right] = \gamma_2 \left[\frac{(\tau')^{-1/\theta'}}{\tau^{-1/\theta}} \left(\frac{v_2(y)}{v_1(y)}\right)^{-1/\theta} \left(\frac{v'_1(y)}{v'_2(y)}\right)^{-1/\theta'} - 1 \right] \quad (25)$$

where $\gamma_1 > 0$ and $\gamma_2 > 0$ are functions of τ , τ' , and $v_i(j)$ for $i = 1, 2$ and $j = x, y$. Equations (24) and (25) imply

$$\gamma_1 \left[1 - \frac{(\tau')^{-1/\theta'}}{\tau^{-1/\theta}} \left(\frac{v_2(y)}{v_1(y)}\right)^{-1/\theta} \left(\frac{v'_1(y)}{v'_2(y)}\right)^{-1/\theta'} \right] < -\gamma_2 \left[1 - \frac{(\tau')^{-1/\theta'}}{\tau^{-1/\theta}} \left(\frac{v_2(y)}{v_1(y)}\right)^{-1/\theta} \left(\frac{v'_1(y)}{v'_2(y)}\right)^{-1/\theta'} \right]$$

which implies

$$\frac{(\tau')^{-1/\theta'}}{\tau^{-1/\theta}} > \left(\frac{v_1(y)}{v_2(y)}\right)^{-1/\theta} \left(\frac{v'_2(y)}{v'_1(y)}\right)^{-1/\theta'}. \quad (26)$$

Equations (12) and (26) imply Condition (ii), which, in turn, implies Condition (i).

To conclude Step 1, note that the skill premium can be expressed as

$$\frac{s_1}{w_1} = \frac{L_1}{H_1} \frac{\alpha_x R_1(x) + \alpha_y R_1(y)}{(1 - \alpha_x) R_1(x) + (1 - \alpha_y) R_1(y)}$$

where $R_i(j)$ is country i 's revenue in sector j . Hence, $s_1/w_1 > s'_1/w'_1$ if and only if $R_1(x) R'_1(y) > R'_1(x) R_1(y)$. $\Delta_1 = \Delta'_1$ and $\Delta_2 = \Delta'_2$ imply $Q_1 P_1 / Q_2 P_2 = Q'_1 P'_1 / Q'_2 P'_2 = \Delta_2 / \Delta_1$ for $i = 1, 2$. Therefore, $R_1(j) = Q_2 P_2 [\pi_{12}(j) + \pi_{11}(j) \Delta_2 / \Delta_1]$ and $R'_1(j) = Q'_2 P'_2 [\pi'_{12}(j) + \pi'_{11}(j) \Delta_2 / \Delta_1]$. Together with the definition of $R_1(j)$ and $R'_1(j)$, Conditions (i)–(iv) imply $R_1(x) R'_1(y) > R'_1(x) R_1(y)$, concluding the proof of Step 1.

Step 2. If country 1 has a comparative advantage in sector x and $\Delta_1, \Delta_2 > 0$, then $\Delta_3 > 0$. First, note that $\Delta_3 > 0$ and $\Delta'_3 > 0$ imply, respectively,

$$\frac{1}{a} \times \left(\frac{s_1/w_1}{s_2/w_2}\right)^{(\alpha_x - \alpha_y)} < 1 \quad (27)$$

and

$$\frac{1}{a'} \times \left(\frac{s'_1/w'_1}{s'_2/w'_2} \right)^{(\alpha_x - \alpha_y)} < 1. \quad (28)$$

Second, note that Step 1 implies

$$s_1/w_1 \geq s'_1/w'_1 \quad (29)$$

$$s_2/w_2 \leq s'_2/w'_2. \quad (30)$$

Third, note that $\Delta_3 \geq \Delta'_3 > 0$, $\Delta_1 = \Delta'_1 > 0$, and $\Delta_2 = \Delta'_2 > 0$ imply

$$\left(\frac{1}{a'} \times \left(\frac{s'_1/w'_1}{s'_2/w'_2} \right)^{(\alpha_x - \alpha_y)} \right)^{1/\theta'} \geq \left(\frac{1}{a} \times \left(\frac{s_1/w_1}{s_2/w_2} \right)^{(\alpha_x - \alpha_y)} \right)^{1/\theta}. \quad (31)$$

which follows from Equation (12) and Conditions (i) – (iv) in Step 1.

We now use Equations (27)-(31) to prove Proposition 2. We first prove the comparative static result for θ . To obtain a contradiction, suppose that $\theta > \theta'$, $a = a'$, and that $\Delta_3 \geq \Delta'_3 > 0$. Then

$$\left(\frac{1}{a'} \left(\frac{s'_1/w'_1}{s'_2/w'_2} \right)^{(\alpha_x - \alpha_y)} \right)^{\theta/\theta'} \geq \frac{1}{a'} \left(\frac{s_1/w_1}{s_2/w_2} \right)^{(\alpha_x - \alpha_y)} \geq \frac{1}{a'} \left(\frac{s'_1/w'_1}{s'_2/w'_2} \right)^{(\alpha_x - \alpha_y)} \quad (32)$$

where the first weak inequality follows from Equation (31) and $a = a'$ while the second weak inequality follows from Equations (29) and (30). Equation (32) and $\theta > \theta'$ contradict Equation (28). Thus, if $a = a'$, $\theta > \theta'$, and country 1 has a comparative advantage in sector x , then $\Delta_3 < \Delta'_3$. Combined with Condition (v) in Step 1, this yields the desired comparative static result for θ .

Next, we prove the comparative static result for a . To obtain a contradiction suppose that $\theta = \theta'$, $a < a'$, and $\Delta_3 \geq \Delta'_3 > 0$. Then Equation (31) yields

$$\frac{1}{a'} \times \left(\frac{s'_1/w'_1}{s'_2/w'_2} \right)^{(\alpha_x - \alpha_y)} \geq \frac{1}{a} \times \left(\frac{s_1/w_1}{s_2/w_2} \right)^{(\alpha_x - \alpha_y)} \quad (33)$$

With $a < a'$, Equation (33) requires $\frac{s'_1/w'_1}{s'_2/w'_2} > \frac{s_1/w_1}{s_2/w_2}$, which contradicts Equations (29) and (30). Thus, if $\theta = \theta'$, $a < a'$, and country 1 has a comparative advantage in sector x , then $\Delta_3 < \Delta'_3$. Combined with Condition (v) in Step 1, this yields the desired comparative static result for a . **QED.**

Proof of Proposition 3. After setting out the necessary notation we provide two preliminary steps before proving the proposition. In what follows we impose Assumptions GEN and SB.

Notation and factor market clearing: Denote by s and w the wages under trade cost τ and s' and w' the wages under trade cost τ' . Denote by $\chi_{ni}(z; \tau) / \int_0^\infty \chi_{ni}(k; \tau) dk$ the density of country n subsectors with productivity z supplying country i , written explicitly as a function of the trade cost τ . Define $\Delta\chi_{ii}(z) \equiv \chi_{ii}(z; \tau') - \chi_{ii}(z; \tau)$ and $\Delta\chi_{i-i}(z) \equiv \chi_{i-i}(z; \tau') - \chi_{i-i}(z; \tau)$. Denote by $\Omega_{ii}(\tau)$ the set of subsectors in which country i producers supply their domestic market; similarly denote by $\Omega_{i-i}(\tau)$ the set of subsectors in which country i producers supply the foreign country.

Under Assumptions GEN and SB, we can write the factor market clearing conditions as

$$\begin{aligned} wL &= \sum_{j=x,y} \int_0^\infty f\left(\frac{w}{s}, z, j\right) [\chi_{ii}(z, j) + \chi_{i-i}(z, j)] dz \\ sH &= \sum_{j=x,y} \int_0^\infty g\left(\frac{w}{s}, z, j\right) [\chi_{ii}(z, j) + \chi_{i-i}(z, j)] dz \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

where f and g are as defined in the text, however with $\eta = 1$.

Step 1: *If $\tau < \tau'$ and $w/s \geq w'/s'$, then $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}(\tau)$ implies $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}(\tau')$.*

Let $\tau < \tau'$ and $w/s \geq w'/s'$ and suppose that $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}(\tau)$, which is equivalent to $\frac{c_{ii}(\omega; \tau)}{c_{-ii}(\omega; \tau)} \leq 1$, where $c_{ni}(\omega, \tau)$ is the unit cost of country n supplying country i in subsector ω at trade cost τ . There are two possible cases to consider: (i) $z_{-i}(\omega) \geq z_i(\omega)$ and (ii) $z_{-i}(\omega) < z_i(\omega)$. In case (i) we have $\frac{c_{ii}(\omega; \tau')}{c_{-ii}(\omega; \tau')} < \frac{c_{ii}(\omega; \tau)}{c_{-ii}(\omega; \tau)} \leq 1$, since $\frac{c_{ii}(\omega; \tau)}{c_{-ii}(\omega; \tau)}$ is weakly increasing in w/s if $z_{-i}(\omega) \geq z_i(\omega)$ and is strictly decreasing in τ . Hence, in case (i) we have $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}(\tau')$. In case (ii), we have $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}(\tau'')$ for any $\tau'' \geq 1$; and in particular, $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}(\tau')$. Thus, if $\tau < \tau'$ and $w/s \geq w'/s'$, then $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}(\tau)$ implies $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}(\tau')$, concluding the proof of Step 1.

Step 2: *If $\tau < \tau'$ and $w/s \geq w'/s'$, then $-\int_0^z \Delta\chi_{i-i}(v) dv < \int_0^z \Delta\chi_{ii}(v) dv$ for all $z > 0$, $j = x, y$, and $i = 1, 2$.*

Let $\tau < \tau'$ and $w/s \geq w'/s'$ and suppose that $\omega \notin \Omega_{ii}(\tau)$. Then $\frac{c_{ii}(\omega; \tau)}{c_{-ii}(\omega; \tau)} > 1$, which requires $z_{-i}(\omega) > z_i(\omega)$. Hence, $\frac{c_{ii}(\omega; \tau)}{c_{-ii}(\omega; \tau)} > \frac{c_{ii}(\omega; \tau')}{c_{-ii}(\omega; \tau')}$. Thus, there must exist a positive mass of ω for which $\omega \notin \Omega_{ii}(\tau)$ and $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}(\tau')$ for $i = 1, 2$.³⁸ Choose an arbitrary ω such that $\omega \notin \Omega_{ii}(\tau)$ and $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}(\tau')$. Then $\omega \in \Omega_{-ii}(\tau)$, $\omega \notin \Omega_{-ii}(\tau')$, and $z_{-i}(\omega) > z_i(\omega)$. Moreover, for any ω there is a positive probability that $\omega \notin \Omega_{ii}(\tau)$ and $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}(\tau')$ (so that $\omega \in \Omega_{-ii}(\tau)$ and $\omega \notin \Omega_{-ii}(\tau')$). Hence,

$$\Pr[z_{-i}(\omega) < z \mid \omega \in \Omega_{-ii}(\tau) \setminus \Omega_{-ii}(\tau')] < \Pr[z_i(\omega) < z \mid \omega \in \Omega_{ii}(\tau') \setminus \Omega_{ii}(\tau)]$$

or, equivalently,

$$\frac{\int_0^z [-\Delta\chi_{-ii}(v)] dv}{\int_0^\infty [-\Delta\chi_{-ii}(v)] dv} < \frac{\int_0^z \Delta\chi_{ii}(v) dv}{\int_0^\infty \Delta\chi_{ii}(v) dv}, \text{ for all } z > 0 \quad (35)$$

By symmetry: (i) $\chi_{-ii}(z) = \chi_{i-i}(z)$ for almost all z , and (ii) $\int_0^\infty -\Delta\chi_{-ii}(v) dv = \int_0^\infty \Delta\chi_{ii}(v) dv$. Thus, according to Equation (35), we have $\int_0^z [-\Delta\chi_{i-i}(v)] dv < \int_0^z \Delta\chi_{ii}(v) dv$ for all $z > 0$, $j = x, y$, and $i = 1, 2$, concluding the proof of Step 2.

We now use Steps 1 and 2 to prove the proposition. Consider an arbitrary pair of trade costs $1 \leq \tau < \tau'$, and to obtain a contradiction, suppose that $w/s \geq w'/s'$. According to Equation (11), and our normalization $w(\tau)L + s(\tau)H = 1$, this implies $w \geq w'$ and $s \leq s'$. Equation (34), the condition that $w \geq w'$, and the fact that $\frac{d}{d(w/s)} f\left(\frac{w}{s}, z, j\right) < 0$ together imply

$$\sum_{j=x,y} \int_0^\infty f\left(\frac{w}{s}, z, j\right) \Delta\chi_{ii}(z) dz \leq \sum_{j=x,y} \int_0^\infty f\left(\frac{w}{s}, z, j\right) [-\Delta\chi_{i-i}(z)] dz. \quad (36)$$

³⁸This requires that the density of subsectors drawing a productivity z must be positive for all z , but is otherwise independent of our choice of exponential distribution.

Finally, (i) $\frac{d}{dz} f\left(\frac{w}{s}, z, j\right) < 0$ with $\varphi > 0$, (ii) and Step 2 imply³⁹

$$\int_0^\infty f\left(\frac{w}{s}, z, j\right) \Delta\chi_{ii}(z) dz > \int_0^\infty f\left(\frac{w}{s}, z, j\right) [-\Delta\chi_{i-i}(z)] dz. \quad (37)$$

Equation (36) contradicts Equation (37). Therefore, if $\tau < \tau'$, then $w/s < w'/s'$. **QED.**

B Trade and MP Proofs

Proof of Proposition 4. From Equations (16) and (17), we have $\lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} H_1 s_1 = \frac{1}{2} Q_1 P_1 (\alpha_x + \alpha_y)$ and $\lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} L_1 w_1 = \frac{1}{2} Q_1 P_1 (2 - \alpha_x - \alpha_y)$. Hence, $\lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} (s_1/w_1) = (\alpha_x + \alpha_y) / (2 - \alpha_x - \alpha_y)$, so that $\frac{d}{d\mu} \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} (s_1/w_1) = 0$. Similarly, we have $\frac{d}{d\mu} \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} (s_2/w_2) = 0$, concluding the proof of Part 1 of Proposition 4.

The cost of MP and θ affect the equations determining wages, Equations (16) and (17), through the $\pi_{in}(j)$ terms. To prove Part 2, we show that in the limit as MP becomes costless, the $\pi_{in}(j)$ terms have the same solution as in the limit as the dispersion of idiosyncratic productivity converges to zero. We focus here on $\pi_{21}(j)$, but the proof for all other $\pi_{in}(j)$ terms is similar.

With trade and MP we have

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{21}(j) &= \Pr \left[v_2(j) \tau \min \left\{ \frac{1}{z_2(\omega, j)}, \frac{\mu m_{21}(\omega, j)}{z_1(\omega, j)} \right\} \leq v_1(j) \min \left\{ \frac{\mu m_{12}(\omega, j)}{z_2(\omega, j)}, \frac{1}{z_1(\omega, j)} \right\} \right] \\ &= \Pr \left[v_2(j) \tau \frac{\min \left\{ \frac{1}{z_2(\omega, j)}, \frac{\mu m_{21}(\omega, j)}{z_1(\omega, j)} \right\}}{\min \left\{ \frac{\mu m_{12}(\omega, j)}{z_2(\omega, j)}, \frac{1}{z_1(\omega, j)} \right\}} \leq v_1(j) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

In the limit, as MP costs converge to zero, $\frac{\min \left\{ \frac{1}{z_2(\omega, j)}, \frac{\mu m_{21}(\omega, j)}{z_1(\omega, j)} \right\}}{\min \left\{ \frac{\mu m_{12}(\omega, j)}{z_2(\omega, j)}, \frac{1}{z_1(\omega, j)} \right\}}$ converges to one, so that $\pi_{21}(j)$ converges to $\Pr[\tau v_2(j) \leq v_1(j)]$. With only trade we have

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{21}(j) &= \Pr[\tau v_2(j) / z_2(\omega, j) \leq v_1(j) / z_1(\omega, j)] \\ &= \Pr[\tau v_2(j) \leq v_1(j) z_2(\omega, j) / z_1(\omega, j)]. \end{aligned}$$

In the limit, as the dispersion of idiosyncratic productivity converges to zero, $z_2(\omega, j) / z_1(\omega, j)$ converges to one, so that $\pi_{21}(j)$ converges to $\Pr[\tau v_2(j) \leq v_1(j)]$, the same as above. Hence, the skill premium is the same in the limit as trade and MP costs converge to zero as in the limit (with only trade) as the dispersion of idiosyncratic productivity converges to zero. **QED.**

Proof of Proposition 5. The proof of Proposition 5 follows very closely the proof of Proposition 3. After setting out the necessary notation we provide a preliminary step before proving the proposition. In what follows we impose Assumptions GEN and SB.

Notation and factor market clearing: Denote by s and w the wages in both countries under MP cost μ and s' and w' the wages under MP cost μ' . Denote by $\chi_{ni}^k(z; \mu) / \int_0^\infty \chi_{ni}^k(z; \mu) dz$ the density of

³⁹This follows from the fact that if $\int_0^z f(v) dv < \int_0^z g(v) dv$ for any $z > 0$, and $h'(z) < 0$, then $\int_0^\infty f(v) h(v) dv < \int_0^\infty g(v) h(v) dv$.

productivities of subsectors in country n that supply market i using productivity from country k , written explicitly as a function of the MP cost μ . Note that with symmetric countries we have $\chi_{i-i}^{-i}(z; \mu) = 0$ because $c_{i-i}^{-i}(\omega) > c_{-i-i}^{-i}(\omega)$. Let $\Delta\chi_{ni}^k(z) \equiv \chi_{ni}^k(z; \mu') - \chi_{ni}^k(z; \mu)$. Finally, denote by $\Omega_{ni}^k(\mu)$ the set of subsectors in which country n producers supply country i using country k 's productivity.

Under Assumptions GEN and SB, we can write the factor market clearing conditions as:

$$\begin{aligned} wL &= \sum_{j=x,y} \int_0^\infty f\left(\frac{w}{s}, z, j\right) [\chi_{ii}^i(z; \mu) + \chi_{i-i}^i(z; \mu) + \chi_{ii}^{-i}(z; \mu)] dz \\ sH &= \sum_{j=x,y} \int_0^\infty g\left(\frac{w}{s}, z, j\right) [\chi_{ii}^i(z; \mu) + \chi_{i-i}^i(z; \mu) + \chi_{ii}^{-i}(z; \mu)] dz. \end{aligned} \quad (38)$$

where f and g are as defined in the text, however with $\eta = 1$.

Preliminary step. *If $1 < \mu < \min\{\mu', \tau\}$, and $w/s \geq w'/s'$, then*

$$-\int_0^z \Delta\chi_{ii}^{-i}(z) dv < \int_0^z [\Delta\chi_{ii}^i(z) + \Delta\chi_{i-i}^i(z)] dv \quad \text{for all } z > 0 \text{ and } i = 1, 2.$$

Let $1 < \mu < \min\{\mu', \tau\}$ and $w/s \geq w'/s'$ and suppose that $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}^i(\mu)$. As in the proof of Proposition 3, it is easy to show that if $\mu < \min\{\mu', \tau\}$ and $w/s \geq w'/s'$, then (i) $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}^i(\mu)$ implies $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}^i(\mu')$; (ii) $\omega \in \Omega_{i-i}^i(\mu)$ implies $\omega \in \Omega_{i-i}^i(\mu')$; (iii) there exist a positive mass of ω for which $\omega \notin \Omega_{ii}^i(\mu)$ and $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}^i(\mu')$; (iv) there exist a positive mass of ω for which $\omega \notin \Omega_{i-i}^i(\mu)$ and $\omega \in \Omega_{i-i}^i(\mu')$; and (v) there exist a positive mass of $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}^{-i}(\mu)$ for which $\omega \notin \Omega_{ii}^{-i}(\mu)$.⁴⁰

Choose an arbitrary $\omega \notin \Omega_{ii}^i(\mu) \cup \Omega_{-ii}^{-i}(\mu)$ and $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}^i(\mu') \cup \Omega_{-ii}^{-i}(\mu')$. Then $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}^{-i}(\mu)$, $\omega \notin \Omega_{ii}^{-i}(\mu')$, and $z_{-i}(\omega) > z_i(\omega)$. We have $z_{-i}(\omega) > z_i(\omega)$, because, if $z_{-i}(\omega) \leq z_i(\omega)$ then no MP would take place for any $\mu > 1$, contradicting $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}^{-i}(\mu)$. And if $\omega \notin \Omega_{ii}^{-i}(\mu)$ and $\omega \in \Omega_{-ii}^{-i}(\mu')$, then the efficiency of production in subsector ω is unaffected, since country $-i$'s productivity is used under either μ or μ' . Nevertheless, for any ω there is a positive probability that $\omega \notin \Omega_{ii}^i(\mu)$, $\omega \in \Omega_{ii}^i(\mu')$, $\omega \notin \Omega_{-ii}^{-i}(\mu)$ and $\omega \in \Omega_{-ii}^{-i}(\mu')$. Hence,

$$\Pr[z_{-i}(\omega) < z \mid \omega \in \Omega_{ii}^{-i}(\mu) \setminus \Omega_{ii}^{-i}(\mu')] < \Pr[z_i(\omega) < z \mid \omega \in \{\Omega_{ii}^i(\mu') \cup \Omega_{-ii}^{-i}(\mu')\} \setminus \{\Omega_{ii}^i(\mu) \cup \Omega_{-ii}^{-i}(\mu)\}]$$

or, equivalently,

$$\frac{\int_0^z [-\Delta\chi_{ii}^{-i}(v)] dv}{\int_0^\infty [-\Delta\chi_{ii}^{-i}(v)] dv} < \frac{\int_0^z [\Delta\chi_{ii}^i(v) + \Delta\chi_{-ii}^{-i}(v)] dv}{\int_0^\infty [\Delta\chi_{ii}^i(v) + \Delta\chi_{-ii}^{-i}(v)] dv}, \quad \text{for all } z > 0 \quad (39)$$

By symmetry

$$\chi_{-ii}^{-i}(z) = \chi_{i-i}^i(z) \quad \text{for almost all } z,$$

and

$$\int_0^\infty [-\Delta\chi_{ii}^{-i}(v)] dv = \int_0^\infty [\Delta\chi_{ii}^i(v) + \Delta\chi_{-ii}^{-i}(v)] dv.$$

Thus, according to Equation (39), we have

$$\int_0^z [-\Delta\chi_{ii}^{-i}(v)] dv < \int_0^z [\Delta\chi_{ii}^i(v) + \Delta\chi_{i-i}^i(v)] dv, \quad \forall z > 0, \quad i = 1, 2$$

⁴⁰If $\mu \geq \tau$, then no offshoring takes place, so that decreasing μ' to μ has no impact on the equilibrium.

completing the proof of the Preliminary Step.

Consider an arbitrary pair of MP costs satisfying $1 < \mu < \min\{\mu', \tau\}$. To obtain a contradiction, suppose that $w/s \geq w'/s'$. According to Condition (11), and our normalization $wL + sH = 1$, this implies $w\mu \geq w'$ and $s \leq s'$. Equation (34), the condition that $w \geq w'$, and the fact that $\frac{d}{dw/s} f(w/s, z, j) < 0$ together imply

$$\int_0^\infty f\left(\frac{w}{s}, z, j\right) [\Delta\chi_{ii}^i(z) + \Delta\chi_{i-i}^i(z)] dz \leq - \int_0^\infty f\left(\frac{w}{s}, z, j\right) \Delta\chi_{ii}^{-i}(z) dz \quad (40)$$

Finally, $\frac{d}{dz} f\left(\frac{w}{s}, z, j\right) < 0$ and Step 1 imply

$$\int_0^\infty f\left(\frac{w}{s}, z, j\right) [\Delta\chi_{ii}^i(z) + \Delta\chi_{i-i}^i(z)] dz > - \int_0^\infty f\left(\frac{w}{s}, z, j\right) \Delta\chi_{ii}^{-i}(z) dz. \quad (41)$$

Equation (40) contradicts Equation (41). Thus, if $\mu < \min\{\mu', \tau\}$, then $w/s < w'/s'$. **QED.**

C Additional Proofs

Proposition 6 *If Assumptions GEN and SB' hold (where SB' is a two-sector version of SB in which $\alpha_x > \alpha_y$), then normalized trade in each country is greater in the skill-intensive sector.*

Proof. Suppose Assumptions GEN and SB' hold and fix an arbitrary pair of productivities $z_i \equiv z_i(\omega, y) = z_i(\omega, x)$ and $z_{-i} \equiv z_{-i}(\omega, y) = z_{-i}(\omega, x)$. Note that $z_i > z_{-i}$ is equivalent to $\frac{c_{in}(\omega, x)}{c_{-in}(\omega, x)} < \frac{c_{in}(\omega, y)}{c_{-in}(\omega, y)}$. Hence, the mass of subsectors that export from country i in the skill-intensive x sector is strictly greater than the mass that export from the unskill-intensive y sector, for all i . With $\eta = 1$, this implies that the value of a country's exports plus its imports is greater in the x sector than in the y sector. Finally, with $\eta = 1$, the value of a country's consumption is equal in the x and y sectors. Hence, normalized trade is strictly greater in the skill-intensive sector, concluding the proof of Proposition 6. **QED.**

REFERENCES

- Acemoglu, Daron.** 2002. "Technical Change, Inequality and the Labor Market." *Journal of Economic Literature*, 40: 7-72.
- Acemoglu, Daron.** 2003. "Patterns of Skill Premia." *Review of Economic Studies*, 70: 199-230.
- Alcalá, Francisco and Pedro J. Hernández.** 2009. "Firms' main market, human capital, and wages." Mimeo. Universidad de Murcia.
- Alvarez, Fernando and Robert Jr. Lucas.** 2007. "General equilibrium analysis of the Eaton-Kortum model of international trade." *Journal of Monetary Economics*, 54(6): 1726-1768.
- Antras, Pol, Luis Garicano, and Esteban Rossi-Hansberg.** 2006. "MP in a Knowledge Economy." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 121(1): 31-77.
- Atkeson, Andrew and Ariel Burstein.** 2009. "Innovation, Firm Dynamics, and International Trade." Mimeo. UCLA.

Attanasio, Orazio, Pinelopi K. Goldberg, and Nina Pavcnik. 2004. "Trade Reforms and Wage Inequality in Colombia." *Journal of Development Economics*, 74(2): 331–66.

Autor, David H., Lawrence F. Katz, and Melissa S. Kearney. 2008. "Trends in US Wage Inequality: Revising the Revisionists." *The Review of Economics and Statistics*. 90(2): 300–323.

Berman, Eli, John Bound, and Zvi Griliches. 1994. "Changes in the Demand for Skilled Labor within US Manufacturing: Evidence from the Annual Survey of Manufacturers." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 109 (2): 367-397.

Bernard, Andrew B., Jonathan Eaton, J. Bradford Jensen, and Samuel Kortum. 2003. "Plants and Productivity in International Trade." *American Economic Review*, 93(4):1268-1290.

Bernard, Andrew B. and J. Bradford Jensen. 1999. "Exceptional Exporter Performance: Cause, Effect, or Both?" *Journal of International Economics*, 47(1): 1–25.

Bernard, Andrew B. and J. Bradford Jensen. 2004. "Entry, Expansion and Intensity in the US Export Boom, 1987-1992" *Review of International Economics*, 12(4), 662-675.

Bernard, Andrew B., Stephen J. Redding, and Peter K. Schott. 2007a. "Comparative Advantage and Heterogeneous Firms." *Review of Economic Studies*, 74(1): 31-66.

Bernard, Andrew, J. Bradford Jensen, Stephen Redding and Peter Schott. 2007b. "Firms in International Trade." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 21(3): 105-130.

Bloom, Nick, Mirko Draca, and John Van Reenen. 2009. "Trade Induced Technical Change: The Impact of Chinese Imports on IT and Innovation." Mimeo. Stanford University.

Broda, Christian and John Romalis. 2009. "The Welfare Implications of Rising Price Dispersion." Mimeo. University of Chicago, GSB.

Broda, Christian and David Weinstein E. 2006. "Globalization and the Gains from Variety." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 121(2): 541-585.

Bustos, Paula. 2007. "The Impact of Trade on Technology and Skill Upgrading: Evidence from Argentina." Mimeo. CREI.

Burstein, Ariel and Alexander Monge-Naranjo. 2009. "Foreign Know-How, Firm Control, and the Income of Developing countries." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 124(1): 149–195.

Burstein, Ariel and Jonathan Vogel. 2010. "International Trade Patterns, the Skill Premium, and Heterogeneous Firms." Mimeo. Columbia University.

Chor, Davin. 2008. "Unpacking Sources of Comparative Advantage: A Quantitative Approach." Mimeo. Singapore Management University.

Costinot, Arnaud. 2005. "Three Essays on Institutions and Trade." Ph.D. Dissertation. Princeton University.

Costinot, Arnaud and Jonathan Vogel. 2009. "Matching and Inequality in the World Economy." NBER Working Paper No. 14672.

Currie, Janet, and Ann E. Harrison. 1997. "Sharing the Costs: The Impact of Trade Reform on Capital and Labor in Morocco." *Journal of Labor Economics*, 15(3): S44–71.

Davidson, Carl, Lawrence Martin, and Steven Matusz. 1988. "The Structure of Simple General Equilibrium Models with Frictional Unemployment." *Journal of Political Economy*. 96(6): 1267-93.

Davis, Donald R. 1995. "Intra-Industry Trade: A Heckscher-Ohlin-Ricardo Approach." *Journal of International Economics*, 39(3-4): 201-226.

Davis, Donald R. and David E. Weinstein. 2001. "An Account of Global Factor Trade." *American Economic Review*, 91(5): 1423-1453.

Deardorff, Alan V. and Robert W. Staiger. 1988. "An Interpretation of the Factor Content of Trade." *Journal of International Economics*, 24(1-2): 93-107.

Dekle, Robert, Jonathan Eaton, and Samuel Kortum. 2008. "Global Rebalancing with Gravity: Measuring the Burden of Adjustment." *IMF Staff Papers*, 55(3): 511-540.

Dornbusch, Rudiger, Stanley Fischer, and Paul A. Samuelson. 1980. "Heckscher-Ohlin Trade Theory with a Continuum of Goods." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 95(2): 203-24.

Eaton, Jonathan and Samuel Kortum. 2002. "Technology, Geography, and Trade." *Econometrica*, 70(5): 1741-1779.

Epifani, Paolo and Gino Gancia. 2006. "Increasing Returns, Imperfect Competition, and Factor Prices." *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 88(4): 583-598.

Feenstra, Robert C. and Gordon H. Hanson. 1996. "Foreign Investment, Outsourcing, and Relative Wages." in R.C. Feenstra, G. M. Grossman, and D.A. Irwin, eds. *Political Economy of Trade Policy: Essays in Honor of Jagdish Bhagwati*. MIT Press: 89-127.

Feenstra, Robert C. and Gordon H. Hanson. 1997. "Foreign Direct Investment and Relative Wages: Evidence from Mexico's Maquiladoras." *Journal of International Economics*, 42: 371-394.

Feenstra, Robert C. and Gordon H. Hanson. 1999. "The Impact of Outsourcing and High-Technology Capital on Wages: Estimates for the US, 1979–1990." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 114 (3): 907–40.

Feenstra, Robert C. 2010. *Offshoring in the Global Economy: Microeconomic Structure and Macroeconomic Implications*. The MIT Press.

Fieler, Ana Cecilia. 2007. "Non-Homotheticity and Bilateral Trade: Evidence and a Quantitative Explanation." Mimeo. NYU.

Goldberg, Pinelopi Koujianou and Nina Pavcnik. 2007. "Distributional Effects of Globalization in Developing countries." *Journal of Economic Literature*, 45(1): 39-82.

Grossman, Gene M. and Elhanan Helpman. 1991. "Innovation and Growth in the Global Economy." Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Grossman, Gene M. and Esteban Rossi-Hansberg. 2008. "Trading Tasks: A Simple

Theory of MP." *American Economic Review*, 98(5): 1978–1997.

Harrigan, James. 1997. "Technology, Factor Supplies and International Specialization: Estimating the Neoclassical Model." *American Economic Review*, 87(4): 475-494.

Harrison, Ann E., and Gordon H. Hanson. 1999. "Who Gains from Trade Reform? Some Remaining Puzzles." *Journal of Development Economics*, 59(1): 125–54.

Helpman, Elhanan, Oleg Itskhoki, and Stephen J. Redding. 2008. "Inequality and Unemployment in a Global Economy." Mimeo. Harvard University.

Helpman, Elhanan and Paul R. Krugman. 1985. "Market Structure and Foreign Trade: Increasing Returns, Imperfect Competition and the International Economy." MIT Press.

Katz, Lawrence F. and Kevin M. Murphy. 1992. "Changes in Relative Wages, 1963-1987: Supply and Demand Factors." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 107(1): 35-78.

Krugman, Paul R. 1980. "Scale Economies, Product Differentiation, and the Pattern of Trade." *American Economic Review*, 70(5): 950-959.

Krugman, Paul R. 2000. "Technology, Trade and Factor Prices." *Journal of International Economics*, 50(1): 51-71.

Krugman, Paul R. 2008. "Trade and Wages Reconsidered." *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*.

Krusell, Per, Lee E. Ohanian, Jose-Victor Rios-Rull, and Giovanni L. Violante. 2000. "Capital-Skill Complementarity and Inequality: A Macroeconomic Analysis." *Econometrica*, 68: 1029-1054

Lawrence, Robert Z. and Matthew J. Slaughter. 1993. "International Trade and American Wages in the 1980s: Giant Sucking Sound or Small Hiccup?" *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, 2: 161–226.

Matsuyama, Kiminori. 2007. "Beyond Icebergs: Towards A Theory of Biased Globalization." *The Review of Economic Studies*, 74: 237-253.

Molina, Danielken and Marc-Andreas Muendler. 2009. "Preparing to Export." Mimeo. UC San Diego.

Morrow, Peter M. 2008. "East is East and West is West: A Ricardian-Heckscher-Ohlin Model of Comparative Advantage." Mimeo. University of Toronto.

Navaretti, Giorgio Barba and Anthony J. Venables. 2004. "Multinational Firms in the World Economy." Princeton University Press.

Ramondo, Natalia and Andres Rodriguez-Clare. 2009. "The Gains from Openness: Trade, Multinational Production, and Diffusion." Mimeo. Penn State University.

Romalis, John. 2004. "Factor Proportions and the Structure of Commodity Trade." *American Economic Review*, 94(1): 67-97.

Sachs, Jeffrey D. and Shatz, Howard J. 1994. "Trade and Jobs in Manufacturing." *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, 25(1): 1-84.

Simonovska, Ina and Waugh, Michael E. 2010. "The Elasticity of Trade: Estimates and Evidence." Mimeo. University of California, Davis.

Trefler, Daniel. 1993. "International Factor Price Differences: Leontief was Right!" *Journal of Political Economy*, 101: 961-987

Trefler, Daniel. 1995. "The Case of the Missing Trade and Other Mysteries." *American Economic Review*, 85: 1029-1046.

Vannoorenberghe, Gonzague. 2008. "Trade Between Symmetric countries, Heterogeneous Firms and the Skill Wage Premium." Mimeo. University of Mannheim.

Verhoogen, Eric A. 2004. "Trade, Quality Upgrading and Wage Inequality in the Mexican Manufacturing Sector: Theory and Evidence from an Exchange-Rate Shock." Center for Labor Economics, UC Berkeley, Working Paper No. 67.

Verhoogen, Eric A. 2008. "Trade, Quality Upgrading, and Wage Inequality in the Mexican Manufacturing Sector." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 123(2): 489–530.

Waugh, Michael E. 2009. "International Trade and Income Differences." Mimeo. NYU.

Yeaple, Stephen Ross. 2005. "A Simple Model of Firm Heterogeneity, International Trade, and Wages." *Journal of International Economics*, 65(1): 1-20.

Zhu, Susan Chun and Daniel Trefler. 2005. "Trade and Inequality in Developing countries: a General Equilibrium Analysis" *Journal of International Economics*, 65(1): 21–48.

Table 1: Baseline parameterization

	1	2
	Trade only	Trade and MP
Production parameters		
1 Skill-bias of technology, φ	0.328	0.328
2 Dispersion of productivities, θ	0.2	0.2
3 Demand elasticity across sub-sectors and sectors, $\sigma=\eta$	2.7	2.7
4 Elasticity of substitution skilled-unskilled labor, ρ	1.2	1.2
5 Share of tradeables in final output, γ	0.261	0.261
Endowments		
6 Skill-unskill endowment ratio country 1, H_1/L_1	0.71	0.71
7 Skill-unskill endowment ratio country 3, H_3/L_3	0.348	0.348
8 Aggregate total factor productivity country 3, T_3	0.290	0.283
9 Sectoral productivity differences, t_3	0.056	0.050
Trade costs		
10 Between countries 1 and 2, τ_{12}	1.295	1.212
11 Between countries 1 and 3, τ_{13}	1.305	1.296
12 Between countries 3 and 4, τ_{34}	1.230	1.225
Multinational Production		
13 Dispersion of idiosyncratic MP costs, θ_m	-	0.1
14 Country-level MP cost between Countries 1 and 2, μ_{12}	-	4.684
15 Country-level MP cost between Countries 1 and 3, μ_{13}	-	100
Other Parameters		
16 Sectoral skill intensities	$\alpha \sim U(0.1,0.6)$	
17 Endowment of unskill labor country 1	1	
18 Endowment of unskill labor country 3	1	
19 Total factor productivity country 1, T_1	1	

Table 2: Baseline results

	1	2	3
	Trade only	Trade and MP	Target
Calibration Targets			
1 $1/2*(\text{exports}+\text{imports})/\text{tradeable output, country 1}$	0.253	0.252	0.253
$1/2*(\text{exports}+\text{imports})/\text{tradeable output, country 3}$	0.508	0.511	Not a target
$1/2*(\text{exports}+\text{imports})/\text{total output, country 1}$	0.066	0.066	Not a target
2 $1/2*(\text{exports}+\text{imports})/\text{total output, country 3}$	0.133	0.133	0.133
3 Share of imports in country 1 from country 2	0.591	0.598	0.588
4 Share of country 3's trade between countries 3 and 4	0.208	0.209	0.206
5 Factor content of trade in tradeables, country 1	0.018	0.018	0.018
6 Ratio of sales of exporters / non-exporters, country 1	1.473	1.497	1.490
7 Skill intensity of exporters relative to non-exporters (log difference), country 3	0.190	0.190	0.190
8 Effective elasticity of substitution between skills, country 1	1.34	1.35	1.40
9 Share of tradeables in gross output	0.261	0.261	0.261
10 Ratio of outward and inward MP to exports and imports, country 1	-	2.419	2.400
11 Share of country 1's outward and inward MP to country 2	-	0.907	0.910
Counterfactuals			
Skill Premium, log baseline/autarky			
12 Country 1 and country 2	0.018	0.048	
13 Country 3 and country 4	0.029	0.065	

Table 3: Accounting exercises

	Baseline parameterization				Alternative parameterization *			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Trade only		Trade + MP		Trade only		Trade + MP	
	1966	2006	1966	2006	1966	2006	1966	2006
Parameters that vary across years								
1	0.490	0.261	0.491	0.261	0.671	0.332	0.671	0.332
2	0.509	0.710	0.509	0.710	0.509	0.710	0.509	0.710
3	0.163	0.348	0.163	0.348	0.163	0.348	0.163	0.348
4	0.058	0.290	0.058	0.283	0.059	0.392	0.108	0.391
5	0.156	1.000	0.167	1.000	0.180	1.000	0.196	1.000
6	1.561	1.295	1.427	1.212	1.849	1.383	1.489	1.251
7	1.845	1.305	1.736	1.296	2.340	1.470	2.113	1.444
8	1.802	1.230	1.785	1.225	2.241	1.368	2.242	1.402
9	-	-	1.359	1.180	-	-	1.402	1.213
10	-	-	19.500	4.684	-	-	12.700	4.150
Calibration targets in both years								
11	0.040	0.253	0.042	0.252	0.033	0.255	0.045	0.258
	0.092	0.508	0.088	0.511	0.069	0.397	0.056	0.395
	0.020	0.066	0.021	0.066	0.022	0.085	0.030	0.086
12	0.045	0.133	0.043	0.133	0.046	0.132	0.038	0.131
13	0.891	0.591	0.895	0.598	0.911	0.588	0.890	0.587
14	0.083	0.208	0.078	0.209	0.061	0.206	0.083	0.184
15	0.490	0.261	0.491	0.261	0.671	0.332	0.671	0.332
16	-	-	2.251	2.419	-	-	1.757	1.930
17	-	-	0.886	0.907	-	-	0.930	0.911
Log change in skill premium 1966-2006, country 1								
18		0.240		0.240		0.240		0.240
19		0.231		0.213		0.217		0.195
20		0.040		0.110		0.098		0.188

* Target share of trade in country US including trade in services, target factor content of trade in tradeables in country 1 in 2006 = 0.05 , set $\phi = 0.4$, set $\theta = 0.25$

Figure 1: Normalized trade by sector in model

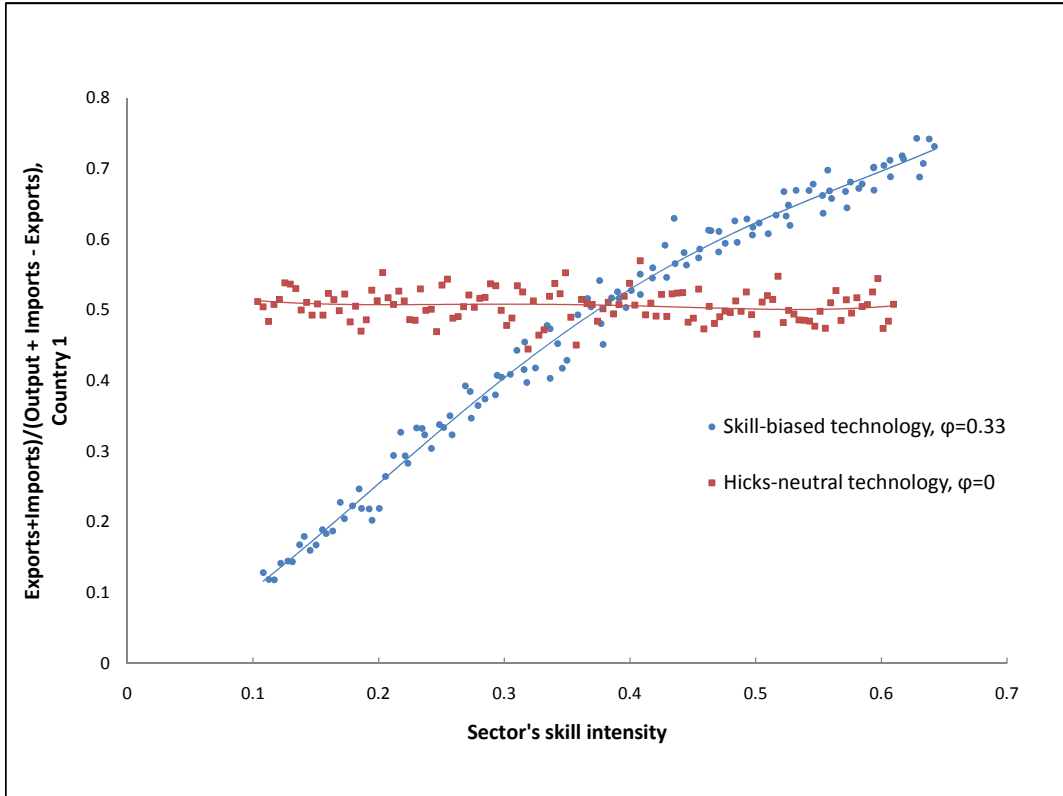


Figure 2: Skill premium and productivity dispersion, Hicks neutral technology

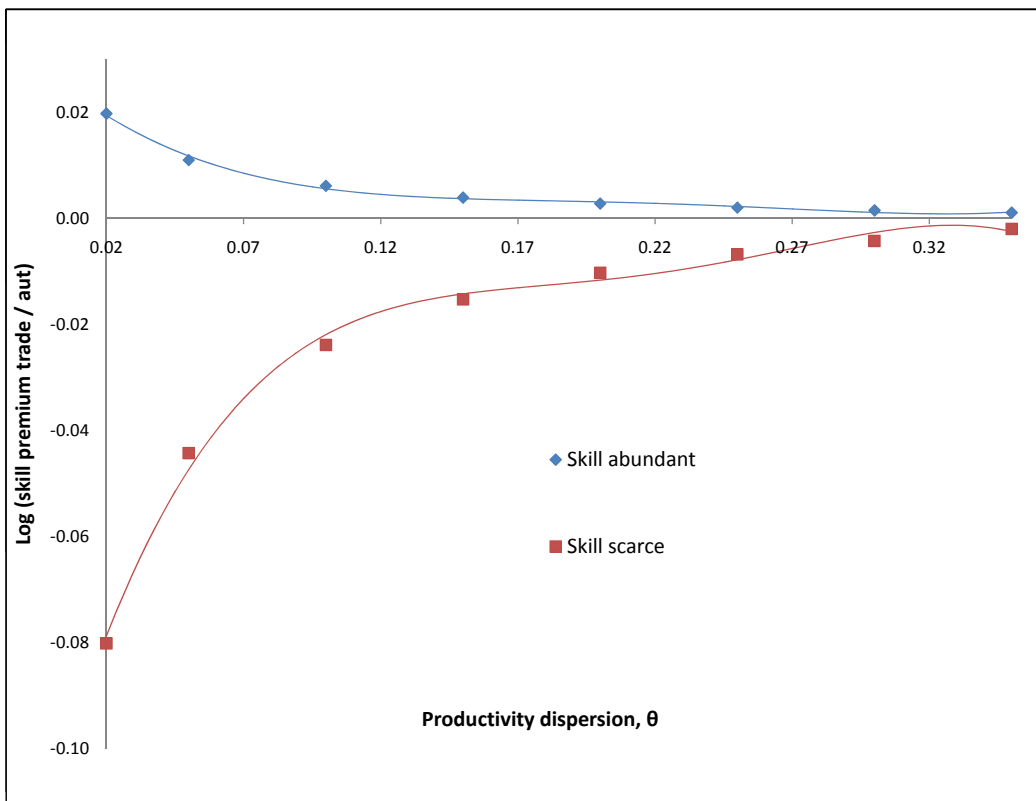


Figure 3: Skill premium and skill-bias of technology

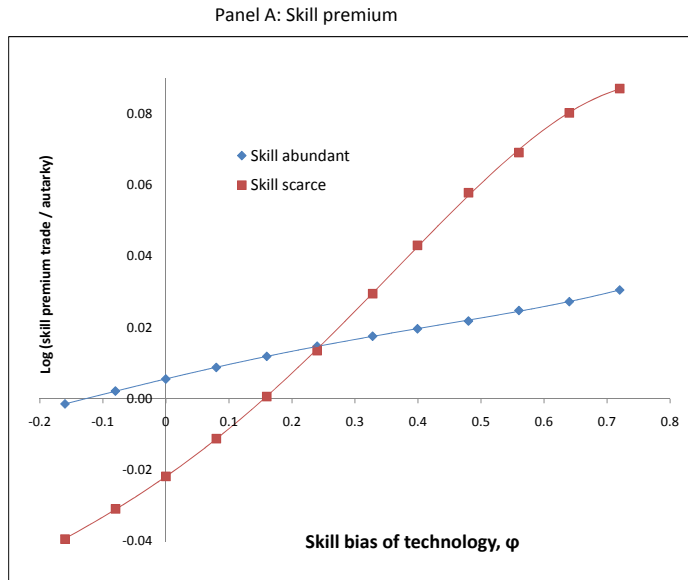
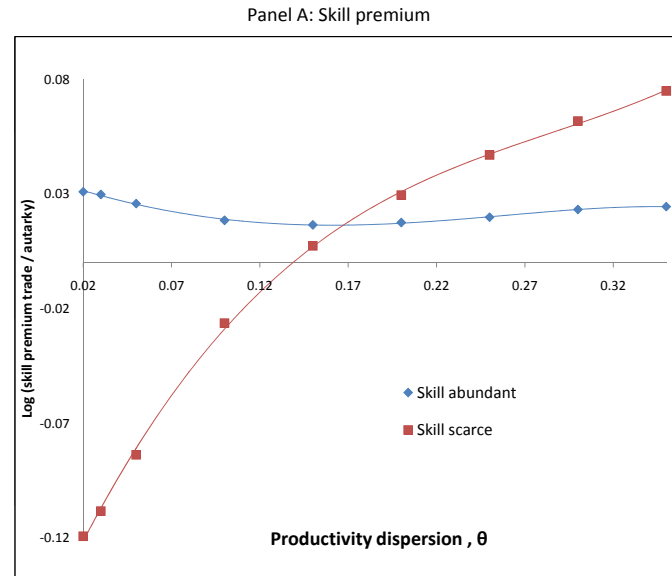
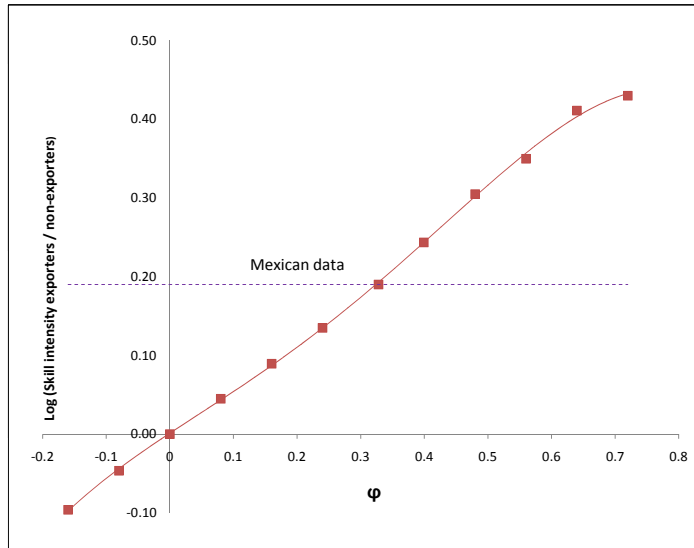


Figure 4: Skill premium and productivity dispersion, skill-biased technology



Panel B: Skill intensity exporters relative to non-exporters, skill scarce country



Panel B: Sales exporters relative to non-exporters, skill-abundant country

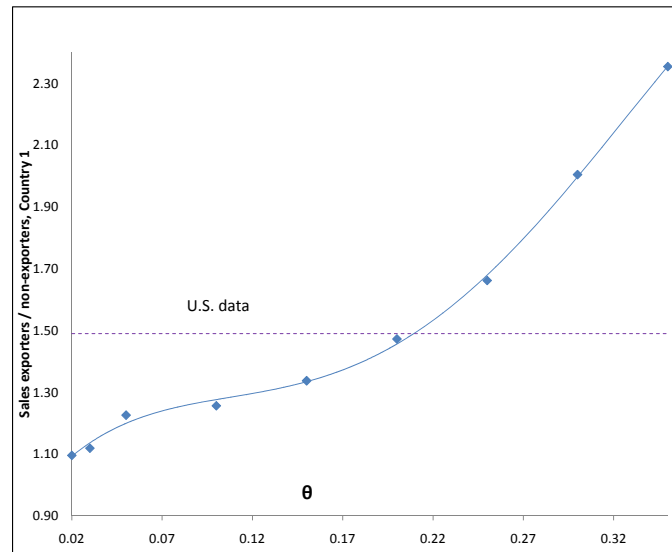


Figure 5: Skill premium and differences in sectoral productivity, skill-biased technology

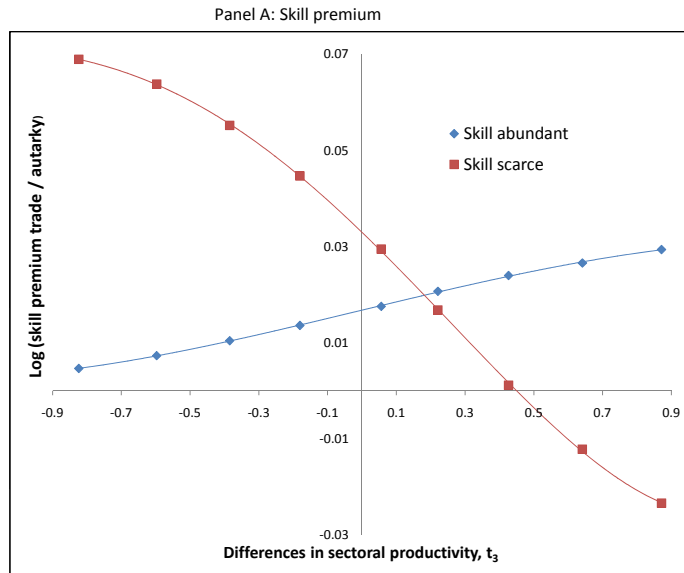
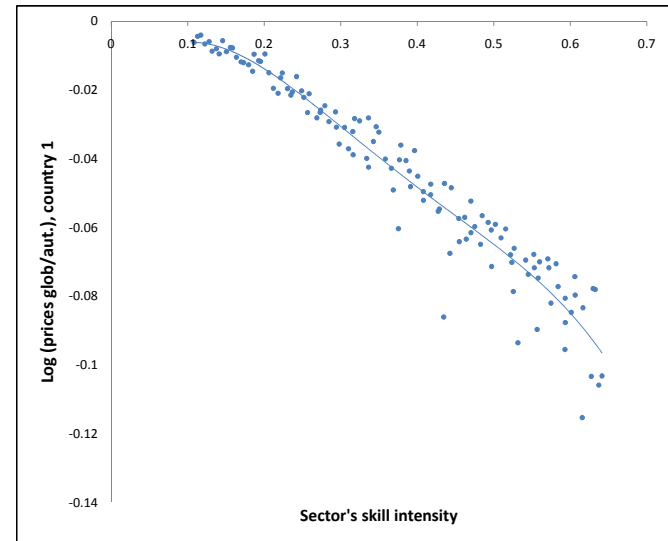


Figure 6: Change in sectoral prices by sector, from autarky to 2006 Trade and MP



Panel B: Factor content of trade

