

# Chapter 5

## Changes in Competition of Small vs. Large Firms from International Trade

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## CHAPTER 5

# Changes in Competition of Small vs. Large Firms from International Trade<sup>\*</sup>

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*Using Korean plant level manufacturing data, this paper examines the effect of lowering trade barriers on changes in markups of small and large firms, exporter and non-exporters. We find that the large firms decide on higher markups in each sector as they have higher market powers in integrated markets, also exporters set higher markups through relatively higher observable productivity than non-exporters. Even after controlling productivity and other firm characteristics, markups are proportional to market share, which can be interpreted that market power purely influences firm price strategy. Interestingly, the markup distribution which is more closely related to the competition from globalization has been decreasing over time while the performance gap measured as sales has been stable over time. It cautions that even if performance gap measured in quantity may be widening, this does not imply that the level of competition between large and small firms is weakened.*

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## 1. **Introduction**

Globalization has been regarded as one of the main driving forces which changes market environments such as degree of competitiveness between firms. Intuitively, more integrated markets confer a benefit on more productive firms to sell their products in a bigger market. The firm selling its product in the domestic market can grow as a global company. This leads to the exit of less productive firms in the market, thereby firm performance has been polarized. On the other hands, the surge of foreign products from the world makes market environment more competitive, so firms with monopolistic power due to market frictions can lose their market power in the domestic market. It creates a level playing field to all firms, so firms of a second mover with small market share can enjoy more equal benefits. It alleviates inequality between firms, especially in terms of firm size.

Since globalization has two opposite effects on inequality between firms, it is a natural question whether more integrated markets have equal benefits to all firms or not. There are full amount of literature studying the relationship between globalization and its effect on aggregate output or firm performance, but it is relatively rare to investigate the different impact of globalization on firm performance.

For policy administration, firm size is a convenient measure to be observed. In many countries, firm policy has been implemented discriminately according to firm size. Tax benefits accrue more to small firms, and regulations are stronger to large firms. Even if firm size contains many characteristics suggesting productivity, firm age, market power, size itself is actually obscure property. For example, firm size is not directly linked to productivity. There are on-going debates about why large firms are large. Are they big because of their advanced technology or just benefit as an early entry making them a first mover. Economists who had thought that small firms are the engine of growth and the entity of creative destruction now have realized that many small firms are actually in the low level of innovation. (Eric Hurst and Pugsley (2011)) However there is a general consensus that market share is the obvious characteristic of market power. Thus it is plausible to study the effect of globalization on changes in market power of firms. As a proxy variable capturing market power, markups are commonly investigated.

In this paper, we investigate whether more integrated markets through globalization expand or shrink the gap of market power between large and small firms. Using the plant level data of Korean annual survey of manufacturing, we rigorously estimate plant markups and keep track of trend of markups over time. Then we examine empirically the effect of lowering trade barriers on changes in markups of small and large plants. Through this exercise, we can test the educational guess of markup variations in small and large firms in the international models. Furthermore, we can directly observe gap of market power between small and large firms measured by markups, and investigate whether this gap supposedly converges when markets are more open through trade liberalization.

For the theoretical literature, our paper is closely associated to recent development of heterogeneous model of international trade. Markups have many attentions from economists and policymakers in a sense that it measures the effect of various competition and trade policies on market power. Recently the theoretical study of firm heterogeneity in terms of productivity or size combines with heterogeneity in markups. Melitz and Ottaviano (2008) suggest a monopolistically competitive model of trade with firm heterogeneity. In their model, the market size and the trade affect the toughness of competition. Larger and more integrated markets through trade exhibit lower markups. However, this paper does not point out the difference between small and large firms. Decreases in markups when market size is bigger through trade, is linear in terms of productivity.

Another types of theoretical model of endogenous markups, such as Atkeson and Burstein (2008), Oh (2013), and Edmund, Midrigan and Xu (2013) emphasize the increasing schedule of optimal markup with respect to market share of a firm. These types of models rely on the similar setting of monopolistically competitive market except that the number of competitors is small in an industry or a product level. In this setting, firms take into account the effect of their pricing decisions on the equilibrium of the prices of industry goods. The price elasticity of demand decreases in a firm's market share. Thus an optimal markup, which is the inverse of the price elasticity, increases in firm size. Large firms assign higher markups than small firms. A reduction in trade barriers reduces the industry share of domestic producers, thus reducing their markups. Interestingly, the optimal markup is convex-increasing in a

firm size. Therefore, the adjustment of markup of large firms is larger than that of small firms with the same reduction of market share from international trade.

This notion of differences in markups by small and large firms has hardly been investigated empirically. Roberts and Supina (1996) show that plant-specific markups of price over marginal cost vary across size distribution of producers. In three products, markups decline in size and in two cases they increase. Edmund, Midrigan and Xu (2013) accurately calibrate their model with Taiwanese manufacturing plant level data and argue that endogenous markup setting shows much larger gains from trade than Ricardian models. Bigger welfare gains in their model are driven by the significant reduction of large firm's markups. They imply that import competition reduces the gap between large and small in terms of firm markup. However, they never show any empirical evidence that plant specific markups decrease after trade barriers are lower.

Our empirical main findings confirm many theoretical predictions. First the level of markup is obviously higher in more productive firms as predicted by Melitz and Ottaviano (2008). Second, markup increases as market share rises. This reinforces increasing relationship between markup and market share. As Atkeson and Burstein (2008) and Oh (2013) expect, larger market share leads to higher markup because large firms can enjoy more market power which comes from lower level of demand elasticity. Third, markups of exporters are higher on average. This makes sense that exporters are mostly more productive and larger firms which can afford to pay fixed costs for exporting as Melitz (2003) predicts. Fourth, we create distributions of firm markups at every point in year, and compare them. Interestingly, the mean of markups has decreased over time, and the dispersion also has been densely packed. Even though we cannot identify the main force for convergence of markups, competition effect from globalization is definitely one of the plausible factors. In order to identify and quantify the effect of import competition on markup dispersions, we regress industry markup dispersions on industry import penetrations. Generally speaking, import competition makes markup dispersion shrunked. Lastly, although the overall picture of markup distribution has been more condensed over time, we find that individual firms expanding market share which might go to the overseas market increase their markups.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. We introduce our theoretical

model and briefly provide theoretical predictions about empirical results in Section 2. Section 3 introduces our empirical framework and our estimation routine. Section 4 provides main empirical results and discussion. The final section concludes.

## 2. Theoretical Background

In this section, we illustrate how variations in firm size is theoretically related to the different level of firm markup. We first lay out the market structure in the model to examine the mechanisms involving market share and markup. This model is based on the monopolistic competition suggested by Dixit and Stiglitz (1977), except that it has a few competitors rather than a continuum of firms. The goods market features differentiated oligopoly competition with a quantity-setting game.

We construct a model of imperfect competition in which final goods consist of a continuum of industry goods and each industry goods market consists of  $N_j$  firms. The final good is produced using a constant returns to scale production function, which aggregates a continuum of industry goods.

$$Y = \left( \int_0^1 y_j^{1-1/\eta} dj \right)^{\frac{\eta}{\eta-1}} \quad (1)$$

where  $y_j$  denotes the output of industry  $j$ . The elasticity of substitution between any two different industry goods is constant and equals  $\eta$ . Final goods producers behave competitively.

In each industry, there are  $N_j$  firms producing differentiated goods that are aggregated into industry goods through a CES aggregating function. The output of goods in industry  $j^\dagger$  is given by

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<sup>†</sup> The term N1-11P implies that there is no variety effect in the model.

$$y_j = N_j^{\frac{1}{1-\theta}} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} y_{ij}^{1-\frac{1}{\theta}} \right)^{\frac{\theta}{\theta-1}} \quad (2)$$

where  $y_{ij}$  is the output of firm  $i$  in industry  $j$ . Within each industry of  $N_j$  firms, a firm sets its quantity. The elasticity of substitution between any two intra-industry goods is constant and equals  $\theta$ . It is assumed that the elasticity of substitution between any two goods within an industry is higher than the elasticity of substitution across industries,  $1 < \eta < \theta$ .

The final good producer solves a static optimization problem that results in the usual conditional demand for each industry good,

$$y_j = \left( \frac{P_j}{P} \right)^{-\eta} Y,$$

where  $P_j$  is the industry  $j$  price and  $P$  is the price of final goods,

$$P = \left( \int_0^1 P_j^{1-\eta} dj \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\eta}}, \quad (3)$$

Denoting the price of good  $i$  in industry  $j$  by  $p_{ij}$ ,

$$P_j = N_j^{\frac{1}{\theta-1}} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} p_{ij}^{1-\theta} \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\theta}}, \quad (4)$$

the inverse demand functions for goods within an industry are given by:

$$\left(\frac{p_{ij}}{P}\right) = \left(\frac{y_{ij}}{y_j/N_j}\right)^{-1/\theta} \left(\frac{y_j}{Y}\right)^{-1/\eta}.$$

Dixit and Stiglitz (1977) assume that each firm is small relative to the economy, and therefore does not influence the equilibrium price and quantity. In this model, the assumption of a small number,  $N_j$ , of firms in each industry implies that a firm's quantity choice affects the industry price. Within a given industry, each firm takes into account the effect that the pricing and production decisions of other firms has on the demand for its own goods. Therefore, the price elasticity of demand  $\epsilon(S_{ij})$  of firm ( $i$ ) is a decreasing function of the firm's when the substitutability of within-industry goods is higher than that of between-industry goods ( $\eta < \theta$ ). In equation (6), the demand elasticity is a market share weighted average of two values  $[\eta, \theta]$ : when  $y_{ij}$  is near zero, the perceived demand elasticity of firm  $i$  in industry  $j$  is equal to  $\theta$ , which is the same as in Dixit and Stiglitz (1977). On the other hand, if  $y_{ij}$  is near one, the demand elasticity of firm  $i$  is the same as that of the monopoly firm in industry  $j$ <sup>§</sup>.

$$\epsilon(S_{ij}) = \left[ \frac{1}{\theta} (1 - S_{ij}) + \frac{1}{\eta} S_{ij} \right]^{-1} \quad (5)$$

From eq (4) and eq (5), these market shares can be written as a function of prices in equation (7)

$$S_{ij} = \frac{p_{ij} y_{ij}}{P_j Y_j} = \frac{p_{ij}^{1-\theta}}{\sum_{i=1}^{N_j} p_{ij}^{1-\theta}} \quad (6)$$

Directly from the demand elasticity in equation (6), the firm markup is an increasing function of its market share from (8).

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<sup>§</sup> firms compete in a price-setting game (Bertrand competition) within an industry, the demand elasticity would be  $\epsilon_{y,p} = \theta(1 - s_i) + \chi s_i$ .

$$\mu_{ij}(S_{ij}) = \frac{\epsilon(S_{ij})}{\epsilon(S_{ij}) - 1} = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{\theta}(1 - S_{ij}) - \frac{1}{\eta}S_{ij}} \quad (7)$$

Firm markups are combined into aggregate industry markup ( $\bar{\mu}_j$ ). Aggregate markup can be expressed in two ways: the input-share weighted average of firm markup, which is equal to the revenue-share weighted harmonic average of firm markup.

$$\bar{\mu}_j = \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} x_{ij} \mu_{ij} = \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} \frac{S_{ij}}{\mu_{ij}} \right)^{-1} \quad (8)$$

where  $x_{ij} = \frac{Input_{ij}}{Input_j}$  is the input share\*\* of firm  $i$  in industry  $j$ .

In a symmetric industry equilibrium, aggregate industry markup  $\bar{\mu}_j$  is equal to aggregate markup  $\bar{\mu}$ . Going forward, I will restrict attention to symmetric industry equilibrium.

The assumption of ( $\theta > \eta$ ) implies that each firm's markup of its price over marginal costs is an increasing function of that firm's market share within an industry. At one extreme, if the firm has a market share  $S_i$  approaching zero, it faces only the industry elasticity of demand  $\theta$  and chooses a markup equal to  $\theta / (\theta - 1)$ . At the other extreme, if the firm has a market share approaching one, it faces the lower elasticity of demand across industries  $\eta$  and sets a higher markup equal to  $\eta / (\eta - 1)$ . The difference  $\theta - \eta$  actually determines how much the demand elasticity changes in response to shifts in market share. As  $\theta - \eta$  gets bigger, the effect of market share on demand elasticity and markup becomes increasingly significant.

$\Gamma(s)$  refers to the elasticity of the markup with respect to market share. Note that  $\Gamma(s)$  is an increasing and convex function of  $s$ . In the constant markup model,  $\Gamma(s) = 0$ .

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\*\* In the case that input prices are common to all firms, input shares of any input are equal within firms. For instance, the labor input share  $\frac{h_{ij}}{H_j}$  of firm  $i$  in industry  $j$  is the same as the capital input share  $\frac{k_{ij}}{K_j}$ , if firms face the same wage rates and capital rental prices.

$$\Gamma(s) = \frac{s}{1 - \frac{1}{\theta}(1-s) - \frac{1}{\eta}s} \left( \frac{1}{\eta} - \frac{1}{\theta} \right)$$

This convexity plays an important role in the dynamics of aggregate markup. Due to this convexity, aggregate markup increases as market shares across firms become more dispersed or unequal.

In addition to convexity, the level of aggregate markup is influenced by a composition effect. Since aggregate markup is the input-share weighted average of firm markups, a large firm's high markup weighted by its high input-share contributes significantly to raising aggregate markup, and vice versa. This composition effect implies that the pricing behaviors of large firms play a dominant role in the dynamics of aggregate markup.

It is worth mentioning that a firm's markup does not change unless its market share changes. When there are uniform changes such as cost reductions for all firms, relative prices do not change between firms; therefore, market share stays constant. This is an important departure from a generic sticky price model in which an exogenous price-setting friction causes variations in markup for the representative firm.<sup>††</sup> In our model, aggregate fluctuations cannot change aggregate markup. Only changes in relative productivity between firms matter in determining aggregate markup.

The described model above can apply to how globalization can influence firm decisions in terms of markups. In terms of increases in importing, the trade liberalization and the surge of imported goods make domestic markets more competitive. The rises in import penetration in an industry naturally reduces market share of domestic firms. Based on the theoretical framework above, this effect lowers the level of domestic markups. Furthermore, the speed of lowering markups is accelerated in large firms rather than small firms due to the convex schedule of optimal markup. In this sense, we can say that globalization generates more competitive and reduces market power inequality between large and small firms.

When it comes to globalization through exporting, it is ambiguous to apply for this

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<sup>††</sup> It follows that my model can explain why large firms are reluctant to cut prices in recessions - due to the low demand elasticity they face

modified imperfect competition framework. It is obvious for domestic firms to lose their domestic market share to foreign competitors. For exporting producers, domestic market share may not change at all after participating exporting, but entry to exporting may change the firm distribution through selection process.

Related to the literature, we can lean on the endogenous markup model suggested by Melitz and Ottaviano (2008). Even if the details are different, the basic mechanism is closely related to the model above. Competition from entry lowers the level of markups. Melitz and Ottaviano (2008) theoretically prove that the mean of markups decreases and the average level of productivity of firms increases as markets are more integrated through trade liberalization. This makes sense that the selection effect pushes the least productive firms out of market. More competitive environment makes firms to reduce price and markups as well. Interestingly, they also expect the dispersion of the firm performance measures such as price, markup, and firm size: the variance of cost, prices, and markups are lower in bigger markets because the selection effect decreases the support of these distributions. On the other hand, the variance of firm size (in terms of either output or revenue) is larger in bigger market due to the direct magnifying effect of market size on these variables.

Regarding the dispersion of firm performances, these two different directions about price and quantity are very fascinating. Even if the degree of competition increases, the firm size distribution can be viewed to be more unequal. The better measure is the markup distribution than firm size distribution in order to answer the question that globalization actually increases the level of competition or benefit more to the large firms. Going forward, we will show the empirical results about the dispersion of markups.

On the other hand, the effect of increases in export on firm markups is ambiguous in terms that variations of markups across firms in cross-sectional may not show the same pattern in time series. Thus, the real effect of international trade on the difference in markups by size should be measured empirically. De Loecker and Warzynski (2012) show that exporting makes firms increase markups in time-series as well as in cross-sectional.

### 3. **Estimation**

### 3.1. **Production function Estimation**

The problem of estimating the production function is an important issue since the beginning of the economics because production functions are a fundamental component of all economics. In fact, the econometric subject is the possibility that the major determinants of firm's production decision might be unobservable to econometricians. Thus, this measurement error induces the endogeneity problem due to the relation between observed inputs and unobserved productivity shocks. Olley and Pakes (1996, hereafter as OP model), Levinsohn and Petrin (2003, hereafter as LP model), Akerberg, Caves and Frazer (2006, hereafter as ACF model), and De Loecker and Warzynski (2012, hereafter as DLW model) are seminal papers leading to the introduction of new techniques for identification of production functions. OP model and LP model cannot avoid the multicollinearity issue when they estimate the labor coefficient of production function in the estimation scheme. DLW model owes ACF model in terms of the full identification in the second stage of structural estimation. In addition, these papers are somewhat more structural in nature-using observed input decisions to control for unobserved productivity shocks (De Loecker and Warzynski (2012)). These techniques have been used in a large number of recent empirical papers including Pavcnik (2002), Fernandes (2007), Criscuola and Martin (2009), Topalova and Khandelwal(2011), Blalock and Gertler (2004), and Alvarez and Lopez (2005).

### 3.2. **Markup Estimation**

Estimating markups has a long tradition in industrial organization and international trade. Re-searchers in industrial organization are interested in measuring the effect of various competition and trade policies on market power through estimating unobservable markups. In this paper, we use a simple empirical framework in DLW model to estimate markups. Our approach following DLW model nests the price-setting model used in applied industrial organization and international trade and relies on optimal input demand conditions obtained from standard cost minimization and the ability to identify the output elasticity of a variable input. This framework removes out issues related to input adjustment costs. Also, this methodology derives that the output elasticity of a variable factor of production is exactly equal to its expenditure share in

total revenue as price equals marginal cost of production solving the cost minimization problem. Therefore, the markup under imperfect completeness of market drives some gap between the input's revenue share and its output elasticity.

Markup estimates are obtained using production data where we observe output, total expenditures on variable inputs, and revenue plant-level datasets. Especially, DLW model requires a measure of output that does not pick up price differences across firms. Therefore, we use real output value in Korean data. In literature, those types of datasets from several countries are becoming increasingly available to empirical researchers, making empirical approach very much suitable to these data (Foster, Haltiwanger, and Syverson (2008) and Goldberg et al. (2010) and Kugler and Verhoogen (2008), De Loecker and Warzynski (2012)).

Some assumptions are relaxed following DLW model. First, constant returns to scale is not imposed, and second, the user cost of capital do not need to be observed or measured in our model. This relaxation leads to a flexible methodology and reliable estimates such as DLW model. We then use our empirical model to verify whether exporters, on average, charge higher markups than their domestic counterparts in the same industry, and how markups change as the firm size, i.e., the market share changes. This framework is well suited to relate markups to any observed plant-level activity potentially correlated with plant-level productivity.

### **3.3. Local Constant Kernel Model**

In recent decade, the literature on nonparametric econometric methods has offered solutions for the problems related to the parametric misspecification of econometric regression models. This misspecification problem can be generically generated in production or markup estimations because the functional form of production is wholly determined by the researcher's arbitrary decision. However, nonparametric regression techniques basically do not make the researcher to assume and specify a functional form of production for the relationship between the firm's decision variables and the production variable (output production or value added production). Fully nonparametric model is most often applied to cross-sectional data, while they are seldom applied to

panel data sets (Czekaj and Henningsen (2013)<sup>\*\*</sup>).

There still exists a possibility that DLW model has the multicollinearity problem because DLW model uses the  $n$ th order nonparametric series regression with inter-variable components in the first stage of structural estimation even though it fully estimates coefficients necessary to compute the markups in the second stage formed by GMM structure. Therefore, we use local constant kernel model (hereafter, LCK model) with unordered discrete data in the first stage of structural estimation. LCK model is fully nonparametric model that uses the time variable and the individual identifier as additional (categorical) explanatory variables (Racine and Li (2004)). In this formation we do not need to consider separately the production part of labor and capital, and the productivity shock observed to firm managers before the input decisions (labor, investment and materials so on), but unobservable to econometricians. The fully nonparametric regression, that is, LCK model only focuses on how well to estimate data. At the same time LCK model captures non-linear individual and time effects which do not need to be assumed to be additive and separable.

In our analysis we use a fully nonparametric and nonseparable panel data model (LCK model) that has been suggested by Henderson and Simar (2005), Racine (2008), and Gyimah-Brempong and Racine (2010). They estimate a undefined function as a fully nonparametric two-ways effects panel data model with individual and time as categorical explanatory variables using the nonparametric regression method proposed by Li and Racine (2004) and Racine and Li (2004). Those papers use both continuous and categorical explanatory variables for fully nonparametric specification. This estimator does not require any data transformation with a loss of observations. In addition, the intercept of the dependent variable and the slopes of the explanatory variables on the dependent variable are not fixed according to the interaction between time periods and individuals on the fully nonparametric model. Hence, this estimator does not imply any restrictions on the most general specification of panel data models. Furthermore, the bandwidths of the explanatory variables can be selected using data driven cross-validation methods. The overall shape of the relationship between the

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<sup>\*\*</sup> Czekaj and Henningsen (2013) only compare the fittability of OLS, semiparametric and fully nonparametric regressions. Their purpose is not to solve unbiased estimators for unobserved productivity shocks in firm decisions

dependent variable and the covariates, the individual, and time is entirely determined by the data.

Finally, we compare the empirical results with LCK, DLW and conventional OLS models. It is found that LCK model is more fitted to the production data and more consistent to the economic theory compared with DLW and OLS models. This means that LCK model captures the non-linear individual and time effects by the discrete smoothing parameter, and the fitted value added is determined by the local weighted average rather than by labor, capital, and material variables.

### 3.4. Structure to Estimate Markups

We explain the structural model to obtain plant-level markups relying on standard cost minimization conditions for variable inputs following DLW model. These conditions derives that the markup is the output elasticity of an input to the share of that input's expenditure in total sales and the firm's markup (DLW model). To obtain output elasticities, we need estimates of the production function, for which we rely on proxy methods developed by DLW model. We follow the restrictions that DLW imposes, and we discuss our model in detail in below given DLW model.

#### 3.4.1. Deriving Markups

A firm  $i$  produces output at time  $t$  with the implicit production technology:

$$Q_{it} = Q_{it}(X_{it}^1, \dots, X_{it}^N, K_{it}, z_{it}),$$

in which it relies on  $N$  variable inputs such as labor, intermediate inputs, and electricity. In addition, a firm relies on a capital stock,  $K_{it}$ , which is treated as a dynamic input in production, which means the amount of investment at  $t$  is determined given the information at  $t - 1$ . The productivity shock  $z_{it}$  evolves exogenously following an first order markov process, and the labor in production is a non-dynamic input, which means the amount of labor at  $t$  is related to the observed productivity shock  $z_{it}$ . However, the only restriction we impose on  $Q_{it}$  to derive an expression of the markup is that  $Q_{it}$  is continuous and twice differentiable with respect to its arguments.

Producers have the cost-minimization problem such as the associated Lagrangian function:

$$\mathcal{L}(X_{it}^1, \dots, X_{it}^N, K_{it}, z_{it}) = \sum_{j=1}^N P_{it}^{X^j} X_{it}^j + r_{it} K_{it} + \chi_{it} (Q_{it} - Q_{it}(\cdot)),$$

in which  $P_{it}^{X^j}$  and  $r_{it}$  show a firm's input price for a variable input  $j$  and capital, respectively. The first-order condition for any variable input is

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{it}}{\partial X_{it}^j} = P_{it}^{X^j} - \chi_{it} \frac{\partial Q_{it}(\cdot)}{\partial X_{it}^j} = 0,$$

in which  $\chi_{it}$  is the marginal cost of production at a given level of output as

$\partial \mathcal{L}_{it} / \partial Q_{it} = \chi_{it}$ . Then we can generate the following expression after some calculus:

$$\frac{\partial Q_{it}(\cdot)}{\partial X_{it}^j} \frac{X_{it}^j}{Q_{it}} = \frac{1}{\chi_{it}} \frac{P_{it}^{X^j} X_{it}^j}{Q_{it}}. \quad (9)$$

The equation (9) can be rewritten as following DLW (2012) such that

$$\mu_{it} \frac{P_{it}^X X_{it}}{P_{it} Q_{it}} = \epsilon_{it}^X,$$

in which the output elasticity on an input  $X$  is denoted by  $\epsilon$ . This expression shows that the markup is the measure for the output elasticity on an input divided by the share of an input's expenditure in total sales such that

$$\mu_{it} = \frac{\epsilon_{it}^X}{\sigma_{it}^X}, \quad (10)$$

where  $\sigma_{it}^X$  is the share of expenditures on input  $X_{it}$  in total sales  $P_{it} Q_{it}$ . This means that an estimate of the output elasticity of one variable input in production and data on the expenditure share are enough to obtain a measure of plant-level markups using

production data. The expenditure share can be directly obtained from observed micro data.

This derivation is standard and has been used throughout the literature, especially DLW model (2012), their contribution is to provide consistent estimates of the output elasticities while allowing some inputs to face adjustment costs and recover firm-specific estimates of the markup related to various economic variables.

### 3.4.2. Output Elasticities and Markups

For estimates of the output elasticities  $\epsilon_{it}$ , production functions are implicitly assumed to be with a scalar Hicks-neutral productivity term and with common technology parameters across the set of producers. But, when taking the log of production, the overall function can be estimated by fully nonparametric regression, LCK model. The latter does not imply that output elasticities of inputs across firms are constant, except for the special case of Cobb-Douglas.

The production function is

$$Q_{it} = G(X_{it}^1, \dots, X_{it}^N, K_{it}, z_{it}; \beta) = F(X_{it}^1, \dots, X_{it}^N, K_{it}; \beta) \exp(z_{it}),$$

in which a set of common technology parameters  $\beta$  govern the transformation of inputs to units of output, combined with the firm's productivity  $z_{it}$ .

This expression contains most specifications used in empirical work such as the translog production function. The main advantage of restricting production technologies of this form is proxy methods suggested by LCK, DLW, and OLS to obtain consistent estimates of the technology parameters  $\beta$  in the second stage. In the first stage, the total function of production  $G$  will be estimated. We consider the log version of equation (10) given that the output elasticity of a variable input  $j$ ,  $\epsilon_{it}^{X^j}$  is given by a  $\partial \ln G(\cdot) / \partial \ln X_{it}^j$  and is by definition independent of a firm's productivity level.

We implicitly assume that there exist the measurement error in output observed in the data and for unanticipated shocks to production, which we combine into  $v_{it}$ . It is assumed that the log output is given by  $q_{it} = \ln Q_{it} + v_{it}$ , where  $v_{it}$  are unanticipated shocks to production and i.i.d. shocks including measurement error. Also, the first stage

of our estimation separates the overall production part and the measurement error from the data. From literature it is important to emphasize that we explicitly count on the fact that firms do not observe  $v_{it}$  before optimal input decisions.

Therefore, the production function we estimate for each industry separately, is defined as

$$q_{it} = f(x_{it}; \beta) + z_{it} + v_{it},$$

in which we collect all variable inputs in  $x_{it}$ , and  $\beta$  contains all relevant coefficients. We consider flexible approximations to  $f(\cdot)$ , therefore we can use LCK model, and explicitly write the production function we estimate on the data in general terms. For instance, our main empirical specification relies on any functional form that implies that  $f(\cdot)$  is approximated by a fully non-parametric specification (LCK model), or a second order nonparametric series where all (logged) inputs, (logged) inputs squared, and interaction terms between all (logged) inputs are included (DLW model). We recover the translog production function when we drop higher-order and inter-action terms. The departure from the translog production function (DLW model) is important for our purpose to compare the empirical results.

Our fully nonparametric approach can nest various specifications of the production function, and only need the proper order of approximation of production functions in the second stage of structural estimation framework. However, in order to obtain consistent estimates of the production function in the second stage, we need to control for unobserved productivity shocks, which are potentially correlated with input choices such as the insight of OP and LP models, and we use DLW model approach while relying on materials to proxy for productivity. In this case, we do not need to reconsider the underlying dynamic model when considering modifications to OP setup when dealing with additional state variables. We describe the estimation framework while relying on a dynamic control for capital and discuss the additional assumptions.

We follow DLW model (2012) and use material demand,

$$m_{it} = m_t(k_{it}, z_{it}, \mathbf{x}_{it}),$$

to proxy for productivity by inverting  $m(\cdot)$ , where we collect additional variables

potentially affecting optimal material demand choice in the vector  $x_{it}$ . The inclusion of these additional control variables shows the only restriction we impose on the underlying model of competition (DLW model). Once those variables are appropriately accounted for in the estimation routine to obtain output elasticities, we can analyze how markups are different across firms and time, and how they relate to firm-level characteristics such as the globalization or export status.

$z_{it} = m_t^{-1}(k_{it}, m_{it}, x_{it})$  is used to proxy for productivity in the production function estimation. The use of a material demand equation to proxy for productivity is important for researchers considering the multicollinearity and estimating output elasticities and markups. Especially, as long as  $\partial m / \partial z > 0$  conditional on the firm's capital stock and variables captured by  $x_{it}, m_t^{-1}(k_{it}, m_{it}, x_{it})$  can be used to proxy for  $z_{it}$  being used to index a firm's productivity. In this setting, DLW model (2012) finds it useful to refer to Melitz and Levinsohn (2006) who also rely on intermediate inputs to proxy for unobserved productivity while allowing for imperfect competition. Melitz and Levinsohn (2006) shows that this monotonicity condition holds as long as more productive firms do not set lower markups than less productive firms. This is the main part of DLW model's idea.

### 3.4.3. Steps for Estimating Markups

Basically, our analysis departs from De Loecker and Warzynski (2012) and give up on identifying any parameter in the first stage since conditional on a nonparametric function in capital, materials, and other variables affecting input demand, identification of the labor coefficient is not plausible. Even though they use nonparametric series regression with inter-variable components with high order, we use the fully nonparametric regression with continuous and discrete data. Given that we are concerned with more flexible production functions and allow for a undefined functional form between the various inputs, identification of the labor coefficients in the first stage.

Our procedure consists of two steps and follows DLW model. However, let us consider a value added production function with the general form, which is given by

$$q_{it} = \Phi(k_{it}, l_{it}, m_{it}, \iota_i, \iota_t, \mathbf{x}_{it}) + \nu_{it}, \quad (11)$$

also for the comparison with DLW model, given by

$$q_{it} = \beta_l l_{it} + \beta_k k_{it} + \beta_{ll} l_{it}^2 + \beta_{kk} k_{it}^2 + \beta_{lk} l_{it} k_{it} + z_{it} + \nu_{it}, \quad (12)$$

in which lower case means the natural logarithms.  $k_{it}$  and  $l_{it}$  are log labor and log capital in firm  $i$  in period  $t$  and  $q_{it}$  denotes log value added, and  $l_i$  and  $l_t$  in (11) are the individual and time identifiers as categorical explanatory variables.

In the first stage, we run a fully nonparametric kernel regression (LCK model) of (11), then we obtain estimates of expected output ( $\hat{\Phi}_{it}$ ) and an estimate for  $\nu_{it}$ . Expected output is given by

$$\hat{\Phi}_{it} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n q_{it} \mathcal{K}_{\delta}(k_{it}, l_{it}, m_{it}, \iota_i, \iota_t, \mathbf{x}_{it})}{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{K}_{\delta}(k_{it}, l_{it}, m_{it}, \iota_i, \iota_t, \mathbf{x}_{it})}, \quad (13)$$

in which  $K$  is the kernel function for the vector of mixed variables<sup>§§</sup>. For DLW model,

$$\hat{\Phi}_{it} = \hat{\beta}_l l_{it} + \hat{\beta}_k k_{it} + \hat{\beta}_{ll} l_{it}^2 + \hat{\beta}_{kk} k_{it}^2 + \hat{\beta}_{lk} l_{it} k_{it} + \hat{f}_t(k_{it}, l_{it}, m_{it}) + \nu_{it},$$

in which  $\hat{f}_t$  is estimated by high-order polynomial series of  $k_{it}$ ,  $l_{it}$ , and  $m_{it}$ . Note that under a value added production function in the first stage of estimation is identical on each estimation model.

The second stage estimates coefficients for the production function through the law of motion for productivity such that

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<sup>§§</sup> We kindly refer to Racine (2008) and Racine and Li (2004) for details of fully nonparametric estimation with continuous and discrete data, and how to find optimal smoothing parameters for discrete data. Also, see Appendix A for basics of nonparametrics

$$z_{it} = g(z_{it-1}) + \eta_{it}.$$

Following DLW model, we allow for the potential of additional (lagged and observable) decision variables to affect current productivity outcomes (in expectation), in addition to the standard inclusion of past productivity. By allowing plant-level decisions such as export participation and investment which directly affect a firm's future profit, DLW model tackles down concerns of De Loecker (2010) who discusses potential problems of restricting the productivity process to be completely exogenous.

After the first stage, we can compute productivity for any value of  $\beta$ , where  $\beta = (\beta_l, \beta_k, \beta_{ll}, \beta_{kk}, \beta_{lk})$ , using

$$z_{it}(\beta) = \hat{\Phi}_{it} - \beta_l l_{it} - \beta_k k_{it} - \beta_{ll} l_{it}^2 - \beta_{kk} k_{it}^2 - \beta_{lk} l_{it} k_{it}.$$

The innovation to productivity given  $\beta, \eta_{it}(\beta)$  is recovered by regressing  $z_{it}(\beta)$  on its lag  $z_{it-1}(\beta)$ . Then, we use generalized moment conditions to estimate parameters of the production function such that

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \eta_{it}(\beta) \times (l_{it-1}, l_{t-1}^2, l_{t-1} k_t, k_{it}, k_{it}^2)' \right] = 0.$$

The moments above are from DLW model and exploit the fact that the capital is assumed to be decided a period ahead and therefore should not be correlated with the innovation in productivity. We use lagged labor to identify the coefficients on labor since current labor is expected to react to shocks to productivity, and hence  $\mathbb{E}[l_{it} \eta_{it}]$  is expected to be nonzero. In fact, DLW (2012) require input prices to be correlated over time while using lagged labor as a valid instrument for current labor, and they already find very strong evidence for that requirement by running various specifications that essentially relate current wages to past wages.

The estimated output elasticities are computed using the estimated coefficients of the production function. Under a translog value added production function, the output elasticity for labor (1) is given by

$$\hat{\epsilon}_{it}^l = \hat{\beta}_l + 2\hat{\beta}_{ll}l_{it} + \hat{\beta}_{lk}k_{it}.$$

In addition, a CD production implies that the output elasticity of labor is simply given by  $\hat{\beta}_l$ . Finally, using expression (10) and our estimate of the output elasticity, we compute markups directly. However, we only observe  $\tilde{Q}_{it}$ , which is given by  $Q_{it} \exp(\nu_{it})$ . The first stage of our procedure gives us with an estimate for  $\nu_{it}$  and we use it to compute the expenditure share such that

$$\hat{\sigma}_{it}^X = \frac{P_{it}^X X_{it}}{P_{it} \frac{\tilde{Q}_{it}}{\exp(\hat{\nu}_{it})}}.$$

This correction exactly same as DLW model is important as it remove any variation in expenditure shares coming from variation in output not correlated with  $\Phi(k_{it}, l_{it}, m_{it}, \nu_i, \nu_t, \mathbf{x}_{it})$ , or output variation not related to variables impacting input demand including input prices, productivity, technology parameters, and market characteristics, such as the elasticity of demand and income levels. These estimates for the markup as given by equation (10) for plant  $i$  at time  $t$  are computed while allowing for considerable flexibility in the production function, consumer demand, and competition (DLW (2012)).

## 4 Empirical Results

In this section, we use our empirical model to estimate markups for Korean manufacturing firms, and test whether exporters and non-exporters, also large and small plants have, on average, different markups. In addition, we rely on substantial how markups change with correlation with market share and export status, additionally, industry import penetration, and as such we are the first, to our knowledge, to provide robust econometric evidence of this relationship with unbalanced fixed effect regression and dynamic unbalanced panel regression.

After estimating the output elasticity of labor and materials, we can compute the implied markups from the FOCs as described above. We use our markup estimates to

discuss several major findings. First, we compare our markup estimates to DLW model and OLS model. Second, we look at the relationship between markups and plant-level export status and market size, and industry import penetration effect in both the cross-section and the time series. Third, we briefly discuss the relationship between markups and other economic variables.

#### 4.1. Background and Data

We use a plant-level dataset covering firms selected in Korean manufacturing during the period 1980–2001. The data are provided by the Korean Statistical Office and contains plant-level accounts for an unbalanced panel of 91,522. We have the information about market entry and exit, as well as detailed information on plant-level export status and export sales. At every point in time  $t$ , we know whether the firm is a domestic producer, an export entrant, an export quitter, or a continuing exporter. Table 1 provides some summary statistics about numbers of observations, observation period, manufacturing industries, and plants in data. In addition, Table 2 presents basic statistics of input variables related to production, value added, export, material cost, labor and capital. The unit of variables except monthly average employees is Mil. KRW.

**Table 1: Data Statistics**

This table lists numbers of observations, observation period, manufacturing industries, and plants in data.

	Value
Number of Observations	576,690
Observation Period	> 5 year
Number of Industries	69
Number of Plants	91,522

**Table 2: Statistics of Input Variables**

This table lists basic statistics of input variables related to production, value added, export, material cost, labor and capital. The unit of variables except monthly average employees is Mil. KRW.

Variable	Min	Median	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.
Nominal Production	2	400	17,100,000	4,150	81,154
Nominal Export	0	0	8,466,105	1,230	44,315
Nominal Material Cost	0.2	161	9,288,284	2,271	46,490
Real Material Cost	0.0	3.1	140,137	42	819
Monthly Average Employees	2	13	33,553	45	315
Property, Plant and Equipment	0.5	141	9,041,855	2,010	43,344
Real Production	2.1	495	16,500,000	4,676	82,190
Real Value Added	0.0	195	5,107,007	1,461	26,035

#### 4.2. Estimated Markups

We obtain an estimate of each plant's markup and unobservable productivity shock (or total factor productivity, TFP) and compare the average or median with DLW and OLS approach (simple regression of the first stage without the second stage of structural estimation) in Table 3. Although our focus is not so much on the exact level of the markup and TFP, we want to highlight that the markup estimates and TFPs are comparable to those obtained with different methodologies, but are different in an important way.

Our procedure generates industry-specific production function coefficients which in turn deliver firm-specific output elasticity of variable inputs. The latter are plugged in the FOC of input demand together with data on input expenditure to compute markups. We list the median markup using a set of specifications to highlight our results in Table 3. We first present results using our standard methods using LCK model. We present our results using value added functions (for value added production functions, we rely on the output elasticity of labor to compute markups), allowing for nonparametric series regression (DLW model) and conventional OLS model (CD production).

**Table 3: Statistics of TFPs and Markups**

This table lists the statistics of TFPs and markups estimated by local constant kernel (LCK) model, De Loecker and Warzynski (DLW: 2012) model, and OLS model. The root mean squared error (RMSE) shows the deviation of fitted value added (VA) from real value added. The lower panel shows correlations of LCK, DLW, and OLS markups.

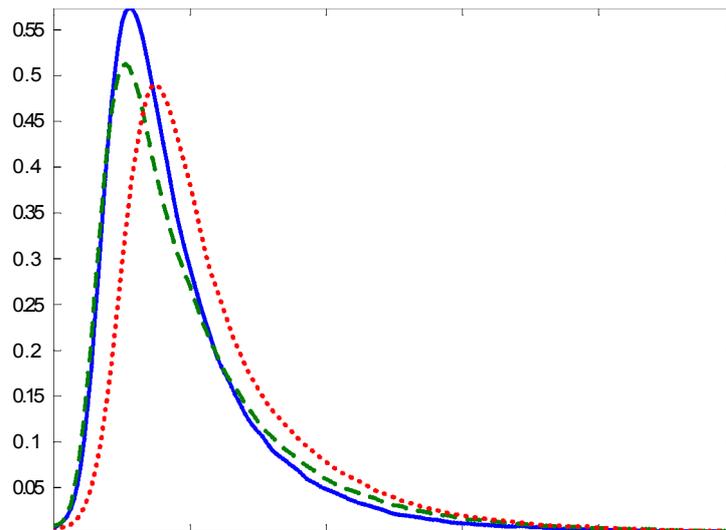
Model	RMSE	1%	Median	99%	Mean	Std. Dev.
LCK						
<i>q</i>	0.39					
TFP		1.08	3.45	4.55	3.32	0.65
Markup		0.41	1.61	8.93	2.09	2.51
DLW						
<i>q</i>	0.65					
TFP		0.72	3.45	6.32	3.33	0.98
Markup		-0.57	1.68	9.75	2.21	2.27
OLS						
Markup		0.62	2.05	9.35	2.57	2.39
Correlation	LCK	DLW	OLS			
LCK	1					
DLW	0.54	1				
OLS	0.87	0.48		1		

As you see Table 3, the RMSE of LCK model is much lower than DLW model. This means the measurement error from LCK model is estimated to be small as long as suitable to data compared to DLW model. In addition, the median of LCK model is slightly lower than DLW model, but much lower than OLS model. The literature argues that the simple OLS model (based on CD function) has biased estimates for coefficients so that markup estimates from OLS model might have relatively upward-bias compared to other structural estimation. However, the interesting thing is that OLS markups are higher correlated to LCK markups than DLW markups. The correlation between LCK and DLW markups is only 0.54, which is much lower than we expect because LCK and DLW markups basically share the estimation framework except the

first stage for  $\phi_{it}$ . Figure 1 shows distributions of markups estimated by LCK, DLW, and OLS models respectively, which are left-skewed sequentially by list. In addition, Figure 2 presents distributions of LCK markups over time from 1980 to 2001. As time goes by, the distributions of markups are getting dense and lower, which can be interpreted as changes of the competition and the globalization in Korean economy must have effect on firms' markups.

**Figure 1: Distributions of Markups According to Estimation Models**

This figure shows distributions of markups estimated by local constant kernel (LCK) model, De Loecker and Warzynski (DLW: 2012) model, and OLS model. The vertical line shows the frequency of distributions, and the horizontal line shows markups from 0 to 10 in the figure. The solid line represents the distribution of LCK markups, the dashed line is for DLW markups, and the dot line is for the distribution of OLS markups



**Figure 2: Distributions of Markups over Time**

This figure shows distributions of LCK markups and standard deviations of LCK markups and log of sales over time from 1980 to 2001. The vertical line in upper panel shows the frequency of distributions over time, and the horizontal line shows markups from 0 to 5 in the figure. The arrow shows the direction of medians of markups over time. The solid line in lower panel represents standard deviations of LCK markups and the dashed line is for standard deviations of log of sales in real term.

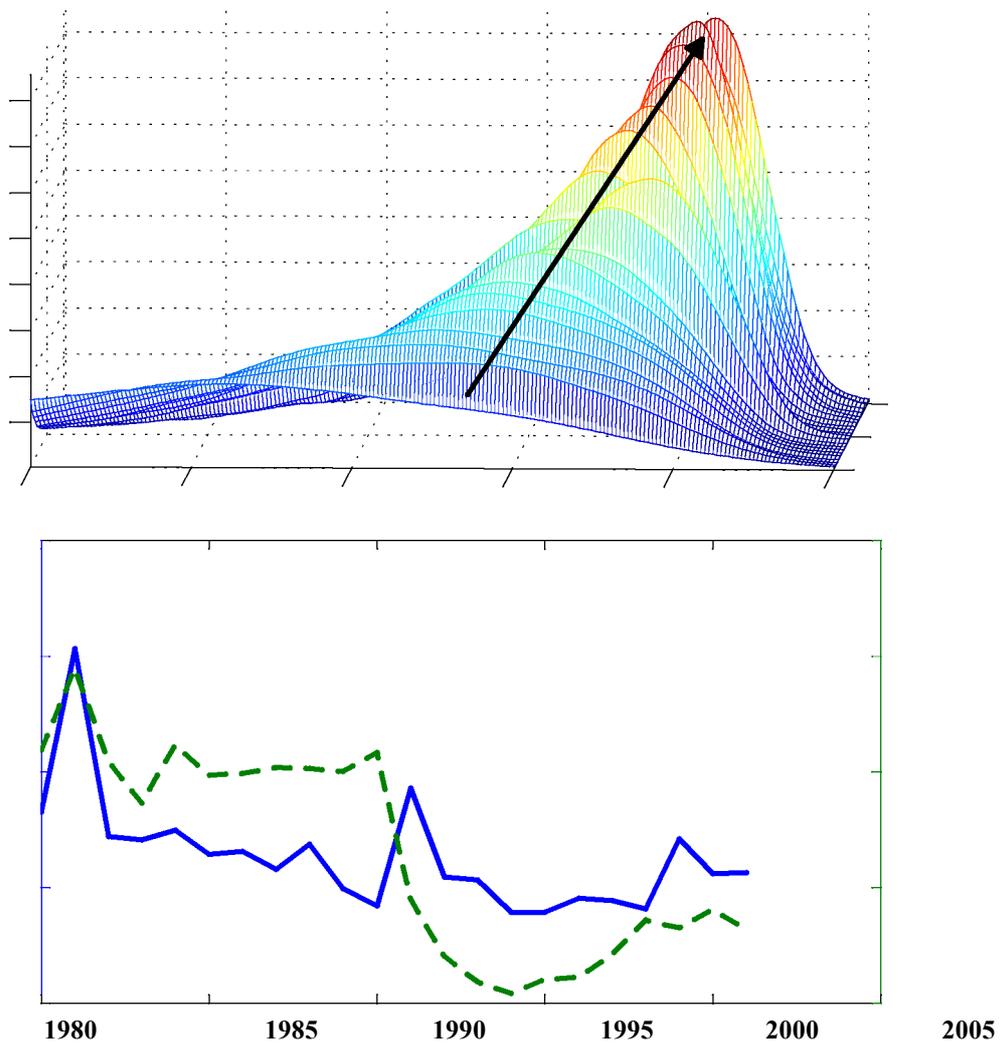


Table 4 presents means of four groups' markups (LCK model) as independent sorts of size and globalization (export status). The small plants are in lower 30% of sales in each industry at each time period, and the large plants are in upper 30% of sales in each industry at each time period, and the other sort is exporter or non-exporter. As you see

Table 4, mean differences between large firms and small firms given export status is relatively larger than mean differences between exporters and non-exporters control on firm size. We can interpret that firm markups are affected by firm size rather than by firm globalization strategy. Figure 3-5 show distributions of exporters and non-exporters, large and small plants, and four groups' markups as independent sorts of size and globalization. As you see the lower panel in Figure 5, mean and median differences of large and small firms' markups given the export status is bigger than those of exporters and non-exporters control on size over time. However, we can see that mean and median differences decrease in time, which is contrary to the notion that the polarization between large and small or exporters and non-exporters would be getting worse over time. This phenomenon might occur due to the tighter competition in the industry, in other words, the markup gap decreases in the degree of competition intensified over time even though the innovation polarization gets worse over time.

**Table 4: Means and Differences of Markups**

This table lists means of four groups' markups (LCK model) as independent sorts of size and globalization. The small plants are in lower 30% of sales in each industry, and the large plants are in upper 30% of sales in each industry, and the other sort is exporter or non-exporter. Numbers of plants are annual average through 1980 to 2001. t-statistics in parentheses are for mean differences, defined as mean difference divided by the standard error (the standard deviation of mean difference divided by the square root of number of years).

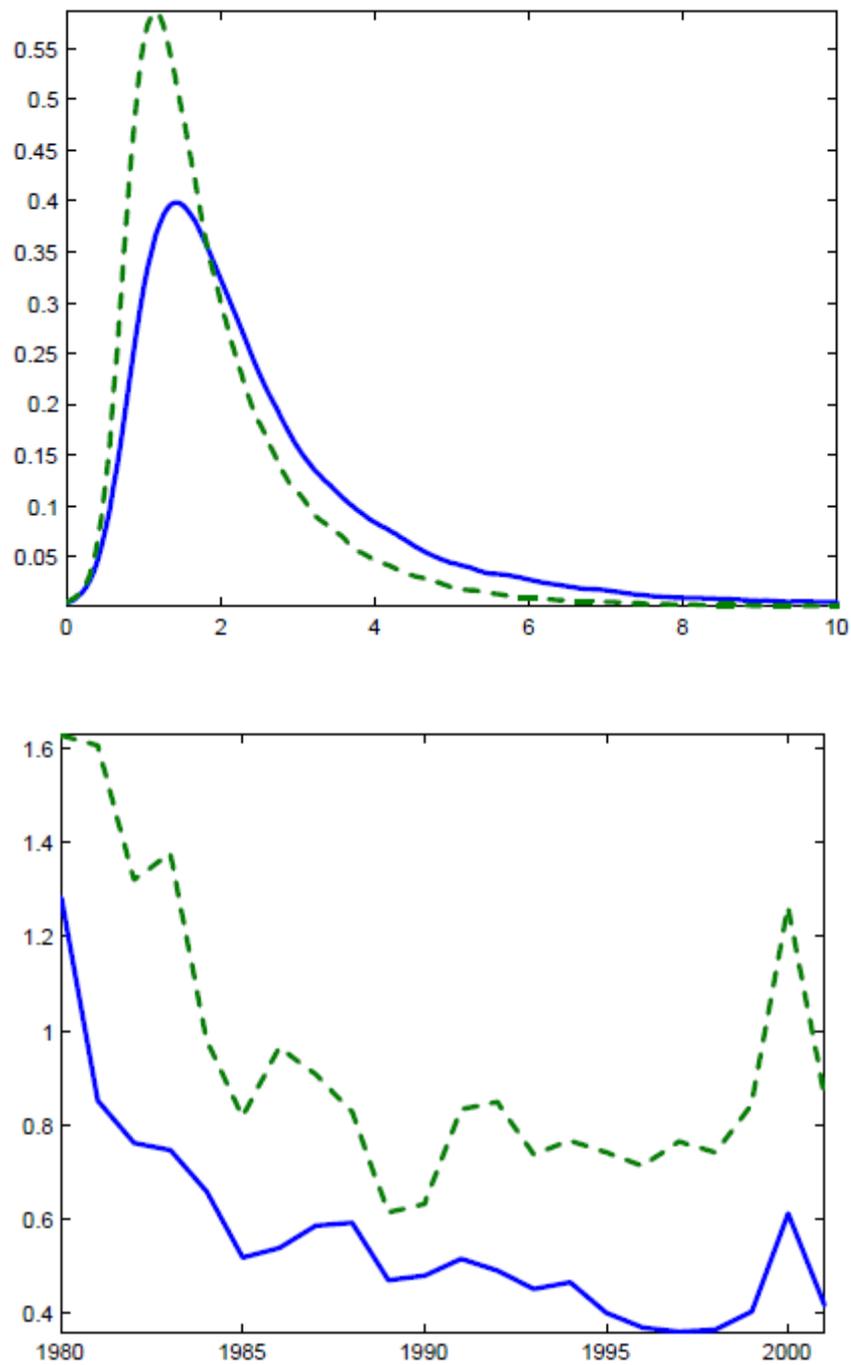
Means of Markups			
	Exporter(A)	Non-Exporter(B)	(A) - (B)
Large Plant(C)	3.63	2.84	0.79 (12.7)
Small Plant(D)	2.05	1.97	0.08 (2.96)
(C) - (D)	1.57	0.86	
	(16.4)	(16.2)	

Numbers of Plants		
	Exporter	Non-Exporter
Large Plant	880	8,551
Small Plant	2,569	7,551

**Figure 3: Distributions of Exporters and Non-Exporters' Markups**

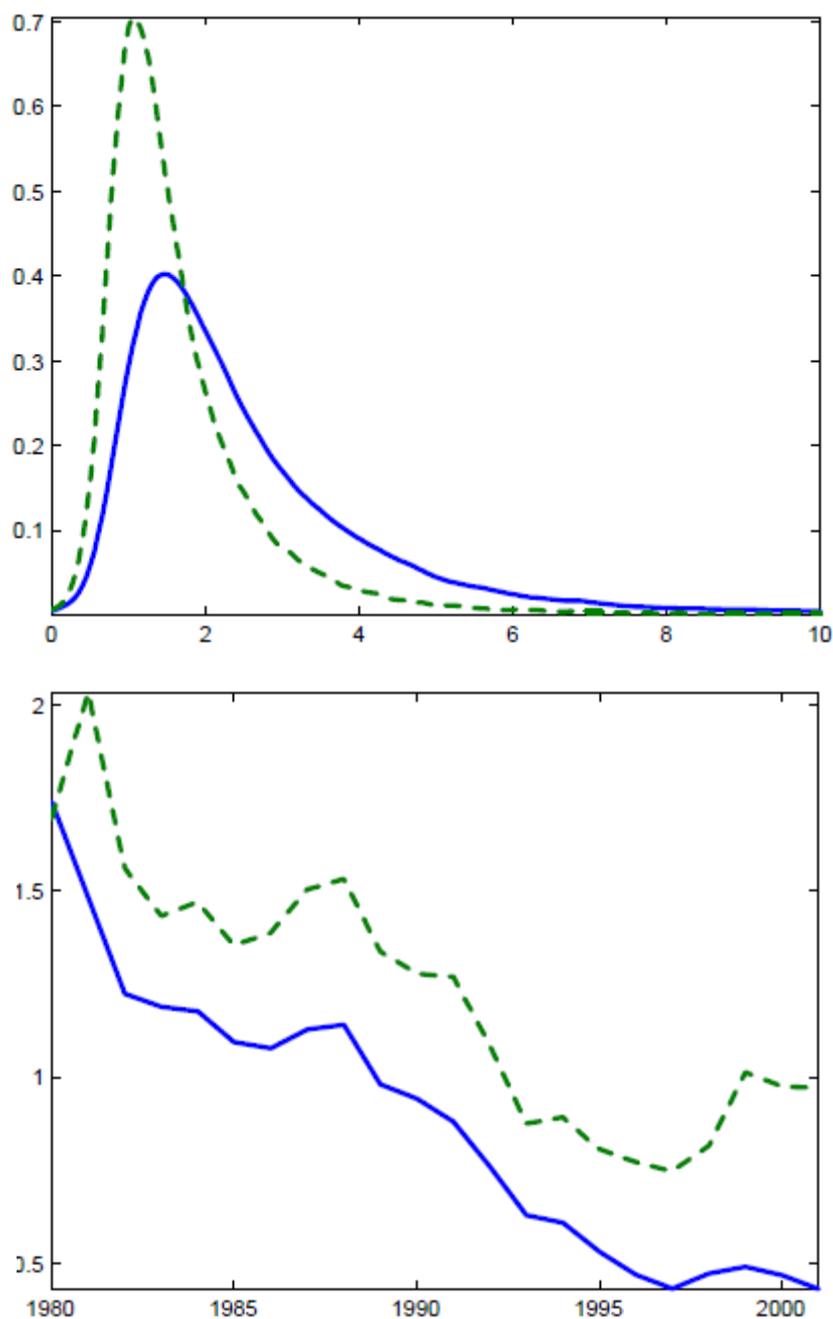
This figure shows distributions of exporters and non-exporters' markups. The solid line in the upper panel represents the distribution of exporters' markups, and the dashed line is for the distribution of non-exporters' markups. The solid line in the lower panel shows the difference between medians of exporters and non-exporters' markups over time, and the dashed line is for the difference between means of exporters and non-exporters' markups over time.



**Figure 4: Distributions of Small and Large Plants' Markups**

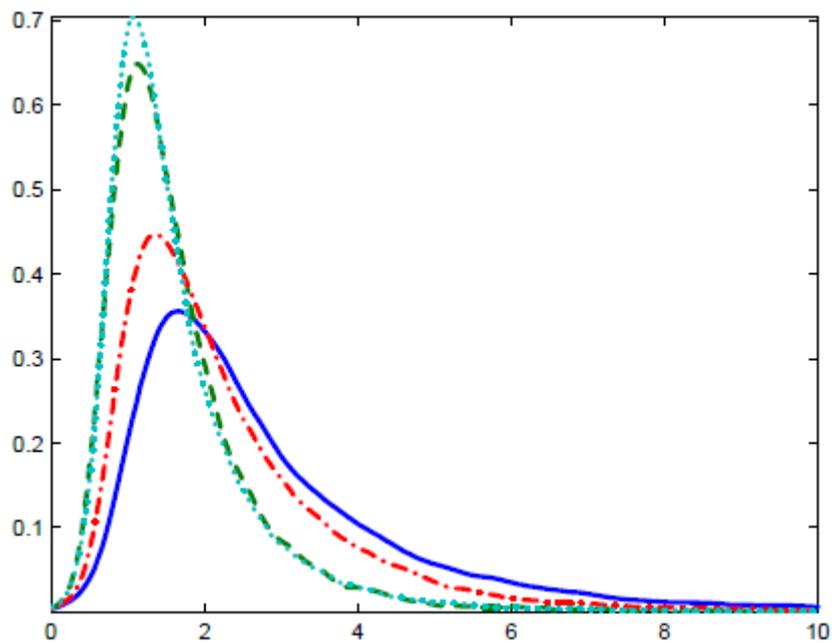
This figure shows distributions of small plants and large plants' markups. The small plants are in lower 30% of sales, and the large plants are in upper 30% of sales. The solid line in the upper panel represents the distribution of large plants' markups, and the

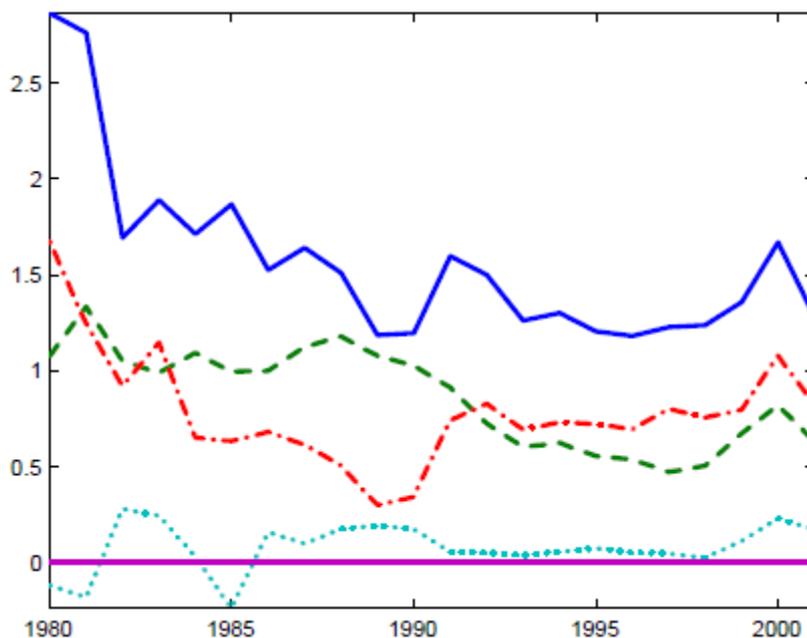
dashed line is for the distribution of small plants' markups. The solid line in the lower panel shows the difference between medians of large and small plants' markups over time, and the dashed line is for the difference between means of large and small plants' markups over time.



**Figure 5: Distributions of Markups of Plants sorted by Size and Globalization**

This figure shows distributions of four groups' markups as independent sorts of size and globalization. The small plants are in lower 30% of sales in each industry, and the large plants are in upper 30% of sales in each industry, and the other sort is exporter or non-exporter. The solid line in the upper panel represents the distribution of large and exporting plants' markups, the dashed line is for the distribution of small and exporting plants' markups, the dashed-dot line is for the distribution of large and non-exporting plants's markups, and the dot line is for the distribution of small and non-exporting plants' markups. The solid line in the lower panel shows the difference between medians of large and small exporters' markups over time, the dashed line is for the difference between medians of large and small non-exporters' markups, the dashed-dot line is for the difference between medians of large exporters and non-exporters over time, and the dot line is for the difference between medians of small exporters and non-exporters over time.





### 4.3. Unbalanced Panel Data Analysis for Markups

We can now turn to the main focus of our application, whether size, globalization and productivity shock on average have higher markups and whether markups change when the import penetration in industry increases. We discuss unbalanced panel data analysis for markups in fixed effects regression and dynamic panel regression.

The estimation framework introduced above was not explicit about firms selling in multiple markets. In light of our application we want to stress that our measure of markups for globalization is a share-weighted average markup across the multi-markets, where the weight by market is the share of an input's expenditure used in production sold in that market. We can correctly compare markups across producers and time without requiring additional information on input allocation across production destined for different markets. To compare markups across markets within a plant, we do require either more data or more theoretical structure to pin down the input allocation by final market.

Given plant-specific markups, we can simply relate a plant's markup to its size and globalization (export status) in a regression framework. As noted before, we are not interested in the level of the markup and we instead estimate the percentage difference in markups depending on its size (market share in industry and export status). The

unbalanced panel specification we take to the data is given by

$$\ln \hat{\mu}_{ijt} = X_{ijt}\gamma + \iota_i + \iota_j + \iota_t + \xi_{ijt},$$

in which  $\iota_i$ ,  $\iota_j$ , and  $\iota_t$  are individual, industry and time effects, respectively.  $X_{ijt}$  is an independent vector with industrial import penetration ratio,  $\log(z_{it})$ ,  $\log(K_{ijt}/L_{ijt})$ ,  $\log(\text{market share}_{ijt})$ , export dummy, and export dummy x  $\log(\text{market share}_{ijt})$ . We control for labor and capital use,  $\log(K_{ijt}/L_{ijt})$ , in order to capture differences in factor intensity, as well as full year-industry interactions to take out industry specific aggregate trends in markups ( $\iota_j$ ). We collect all the controls in a vector  $X_{ijt}$  with  $\gamma$  the corresponding coefficients.

We rely on our approach to test whether, on average, exporters have different markups as well as different slope for exporter's market share. The latter, to our knowledge, has not been documented and we see this as a first important set of results. We are interested in the coefficients on the various control variables, so later we will discuss the separate coefficients of other economic variables such as total factor productivity and industry import penetration. We estimate this fixed effect regression at the manufacturing level and include a full interaction of year and industry dummies. Once we have estimated coefficients of export dummy and export dummy x  $\log(\text{market share}_{ijt})$ , we can compute the level markup difference by applying the percentage difference to the constant term, which captures the domestic markup average. We

denote this markup ratio between exporter's markup  $\mu_{ijt}^E$  and non-exporter's markup  $\mu_{ijt}^N$ , and we compute it by applying

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{\mu_{ijt}^E}{\mu_{ijt}^N} \mid X_{ijt} \text{ except export status} \right] = \exp \left[ \gamma^E + \gamma^{E \times \log(\text{market share})} \log(\text{market share}_{ijt}) \right]$$

after estimating the relevant parameters. Table 5 presents our results.

### **Table 5: Market Share and Export Effects on LCK Markups in Unbalanced Panel**

This table shows results of fixed effect regressions in unbalanced panel data for

markups estimated by local constant kernel (LCK) model such as

$$\ln \hat{\mu}_{ijt} = X_{ijt}\gamma + \iota_i + \iota_j + \iota_t + \xi_{ijt},$$

in which  $\iota_i$ ,  $\iota_j$ , and  $\iota_t$  are individual, industry and time effects, respectively.  $X_{ijt}$  is an independent vector with industrial import penetration ratio,  $\log(z_{ijt})$ ,  $\log(K_{ijt}/L_{ijt})$ ,  $\log(\text{market share}_{ijt})$ , export dummy, and export dummy x  $\log(\text{market share}_{ijt})$  - \*\* and \* refer to the statistical significance levels at 1% and 5%, respectively. Robust standard errors in brackets are clustered within plants.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Import Penetration	0.000 [0.000]		0.000 [0.000]		
Log(z <sub>ijt</sub> )	1.333** [0.027]	1.065** [0.018]			
Log(K <sub>ijt</sub> /L <sub>ijt</sub> )	0.071** [0.001]	0.072** [0.001]	0.065** [0.001]	0.062** [0.001]	0.062** [0.001]
Log(market share <sub>ijt</sub> )	-0.077** [0.002]	-0.039** [0.001]	-0.016** [0.002]	0.012** [0.001]	0.016** [0.001]
Dummy(exporter)	0.344** [0.015]	0.329** [0.013]	0.176** [0.018]	0.131** [0.013]	0.042** [0.002]
Dummy(exporter) xLog(market share <sub>ijt</sub> )	0.047** [0.002]	0.040** [0.001]	0.022** [0.002]	0.011** [0.001]	
Industry dummy (L~)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
R-sq: within	0.31	0.40	0.14	0.27	0.27
Num. of Plants	61,549	78,803	61,557	78,812	78,812
Num. of Obs	320,385	565,899	320,679	566,756	566,756

We run the fixed effect regression for the various estimates of the markups as described above. The parameter  $\gamma^E$  is estimated very significantly in all specifications (1) — (5) and values are between 0.042 and 0.344, which means that the exporter's markup is, on average, about 4.2% to 34.4% greater than non-exporter's markup, and

values for coefficient -  $\gamma^{E \times \log(\text{market share})}$  is around from 0.011 to 0.047. The parameter for the log market share is around from -0.077 to 0.016. As expected, all the results except base of market share level relying on a translog technology are very similar because the variation in markups is almost identical across the various specifications. One important message that comes from this table is that the parameter of market share has not consistent signs. Therefore, this unbalanced fixed effects regression might has the omitted variables.

Under assumptions of dynamic unbalanced panel data (Arellano and Bond (1991)), we take to the data is given by

$$\Delta \ln \hat{\mu}_{it} = \alpha \Delta \ln \hat{\mu}_{it-1} + \Delta X_{it} \gamma + \Delta \xi_{it},$$

in which  $X_{it}$  is an independent vector with industrial import penetration ratio,  $\log(z_{it})$ ,  $\log(K_{it}/L_{it})$ ,  $\log(\text{market share}_{it})$  export dummy, export dummy x  $\log(\text{market share}_{it})$  and time dummy. The second lags of  $\log(z_{it})$ ,  $\log(K_{it}/L_{it})$ ,  $\log(\text{market share}_{it})$ , export dummy x  $\log(\text{market share}_{it})$ , and the first differences of industrial penetration ratio, export dummy, time dummy are used as instrument variables in difference GMM system. Table 6 presents our results. The parameter  $\gamma^E$  is estimated very significantly in all specifications (1) — (5) and values are between 0.054 and 0.396, which are slightly higher than values in Table 5, and values for coefficient  $\gamma^{E \times \log(\text{market share})}$  is around from 0.010 to 0.043, which are similar to results of fixed effects regressions. The parameters for the log market share in all specifications have robust positive signs. The significances for the import penetration ratio are weak, thus we need to consider another variables capturing the industrial characteristics. In addition, similarly to DLW (2012), TFP increases the markup on average by from 16.3% to 24.0%.

**Table 6: Market Share and Export Effects on LCK Markups in Dynamic Unbalanced Panel**

This table shows results of difference GMMs in dynamic unbalanced panel data (Arellano and Bond (1991)) for markups estimated by local constant kernel (LCK) model such as

$$\Delta \ln \hat{\mu}_{it} = \alpha \Delta \ln \hat{\mu}_{it-1} + \Delta X_{it} \gamma + \Delta \xi_{it},$$

in which  $X_{it}$  is an independent vector with industrial import penetration ratio,  $\log(z_{it})$ ,  $\log(K_{it}/L_{it})$ ,  $\log(\text{market share}_{it})$ , export dummy, export dummy x  $\log(\text{market share}_{it})$ , and time dummy. The second lags of  $\log(z_{it})$ ,  $\log(K_{it}/L_{it})$ ,  $\log(\text{market share}_{it})$ , export dummy x  $\log(\text{market share}_{it})$ , and the first differences of industrial penetration ratio, export dummy, time dummy are used as instrument variables in difference GMM system. \*\* and \* refer to the statistical significance levels at 1% and 5%, respectively. Robust standard errors in brackets are estimated by the finite-sample corrected two-step covariance matrix.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Log(markup <sub>it</sub> )	0.169** [0.005]	0.175** [0.004]	0.179** [0.006]	0.185** [0.004]	0.184** [0.004]
Import Penetration	0.000 [0.000]		0.001* [0.000]		
Log(z <sub>it</sub> )	0.240** [0.075]	0.163** [0.038]			
Log(K <sub>it</sub> /L <sub>it</sub> )	0.079** [0.008]	0.045** [0.005]	0.074** [0.009]	0.036** [0.005]	0.034** [0.006]
Log(market share <sub>it</sub> )	0.080** [0.015]	0.115** [0.010]	0.079** [0.016]	0.109** [0.011]	0.118** [0.012]
Dummy(exporter)	0.121 [0.134]	0.396** [0.102]	0.054 [0.152]	0.383** [0.107]	0.063** [0.006]
Dummy(exporter) x Log (market share <sub>ijt</sub> )	0.010 [0.017]	0.043** [0.013]	0.002 [0.020]	0.042** [0.014]	
Num. of Plants	48,674	76,472	48,686	76,502	76,502
Num. of Obs	199,926	370,917	200,203	371,701	371,701

For comparison of DLW and OLS models, Table B.1-B.4 shows the results of unbalanced fixed effects and dynamic panel regressions. Tables for DLW model shows

that DLW model still has the negative signs for market share, and weak consistent signs for the parameter of productivity shock. OLS model has negative signs for variables related to export dummy. Therefore, results of LCK model are robustly consistent to the industrial organization and international economic theories compared to those of DLW and OLS models.

For the last exercise, we directly quantify how import competition can influence the dispersion of markups. Since large firms set the higher markups than small firms, the dispersion of markups is closely related to the gap of markups between small and large firms. Table 7 reports the industry panel fixed-effect regressions. It shows that import competition measured as import penetration makes differential of firm markups reduced. In the first column, the standard deviation of industry markups decreases by about 0.07% with 1% point increase of import penetration. The inequality of markups between firm decreases with intensified international competition as the theory expects.

**Table 7: Import Penetration Effect on Dispersion of Markups**

This table shows results of industry panel fixed-effect regressions

$$\ln SD_{jt} = \alpha + \beta_1 \ln IMPR_{jt} + \beta_2 \ln K/L_{jt} + \beta_3 \ln \mu_{jt}$$

in which  $SD_{jt}$  is a standard deviation of markup in an industry  $j$ ,  $IMPR$  is an industry import penetration,  $\log(K_{jt}/L_{jt})$  is an industry capital-labor ratio, and  $\mu_{jt}$  is log industry average markup. Overall import penetration can be categorized into two types. One is only import from China, and the other is import from the rest of the world. This classification comes from Bernard, Jensen and Schott (2006). They emphasize that the response of industry employment to import competition from low-wage countries such as China can be different from usual import competition from the other world. The dependent variable of column (1) and (2) is the standard deviation of industry markups, and the column (3) and (4) use inter-quartile range of industry markups as a response variable. \*\* and \* refer to the statistical significance levels at 1% and 5%, respectively.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Import Penetration	-0.067** [0.019]		0.068 [0.039]	
Import Penetration(Other)		-0.099** [0.020]		0.057 [0.043]
Import Penetration(China)		1.162** [0.315]		0.504 [0.675]
Log(K <sub>jt</sub> /L <sub>jt</sub> )	0.240** [0.035]	0.211** [0.033]	0.378** [0.069]	0.368** [0.072]
Log( $\mu_i$ )	0.040** [0.016]	0.056** [0.015]	0.113** [0.031]	0.119** [0.033]
Num. of Industry	16	16	16	16
Num. of Obs	130	130	130	130

We further exercise whether the import competition from low-wage countries such as China has stronger effect on domestic firm behaviors. Interestingly, the second column reveals positive sign of import penetrations from China on markup dispersion while import penetration from the rest of the world still keeps the negative effect on markup dispersion. In some sense, it is embarrassed, but it can be possible if forces of import competition are concentrated on only very small firms. Products from China are usually low-quality and low prices. These types of goods are commonly made by domestic small firms. We can think that if the good markets are segmented by high and low quality goods, and the substitution between high and low quality products are very low, then import competition from low-wage countries can affect low and cheap price goods only. If domestic small firms face to the stronger competition from low-wage countries, they have to cut down prices to stay in the market, while the big firms with high quality can generally maintain their own prices. In this case, the standard deviation of markups rises up with increase of import penetration.

As for the robust check, we also use inter-quartile range of markups as markup

dispersion in each industry as a dependent variable. However import penetration has insignificant effect on markup dispersion in this case. It indirectly implies that the part of changes from import penetration is concentrated on lower tail or upper tail of the support of markups. If the changes in markup dispersion occur uniformly or in overall support, the same result should come out when we use the standard deviation as a dispersion measure. We can conjecture that very small firms or very large firms are more influenced by import penetration considering the different results of the standard deviation and inter-quartile range.

## **5 Conclusions**

In this paper, we show that the large firms decide on higher markups in each industry as they have higher market powers in integrated markets, also exporters set higher markups through relatively higher observable productivity than non-exporters. This is empirically consistent to the theory that the firm conditional on higher observable productivity decide on higher markups. Interestingly, even after controlling productivity and other firm characteristics, the level of markup is proportional to the market share. One percent increase of market share leads to 0.080.12% increase of markup. It draws attention since it is the evidence that the firm strategy of price is reflected by pure market power.

To the question that whether globalization confers unequal benefits to small and large firms, we generate markup distribution and find out that the mean and the dispersion of markups have been decreasing over time. On the other hand, the average firm size and firm size distribution have been increasing. These patterns are exactly predicted by the theoretical model of trade. The main hurdle is to identify the effect of globalization. In order to investigate the effect of globalization, we use industry panel fixed-effect regressions. For the proxy of globalization, the import penetration is used. It is a disadvantage that import penetration only captures the one side effect of importing although globalization includes both import and export. It turns out that import competition makes the markup gap between small and large firms reduced as the

prediction of theory.

Methodologically, we develop De Loecker and Warzynski (2012) and control endogeneity problem using the difference GMM in dynamic unbalanced panel data suggested by Arellano and Bond (1991). Compared to De Loecker and Warzynski (2012), our estimate of markups has smaller errors and reasonable level of average and median of markups.

This paper provides an important message to enterprise policies. Even if the performance gap measured as output or sales between large and small firms is widened, this cannot be interpreted by that globalization interferes the welfare of consumers. It is likely that globalization strengthens competition between all firms, so the gap of price or markup shrinks due to the selection effect. These are all beneficial to consumer welfare. Thus a protective policy for SME from globalization may interfere the selection process and harms the productivity growth.

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## Appendix

### A. Local Constant Kernel

#### Regression

##### A.1 Basics of LCK Regression

The nonparametric model is taken as

$$y_i = g(x_i) + u_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n,$$

in which the functional form  $g(\bullet)$  is unknown. If  $g(\bullet)$  is a smooth function, then we can estimate  $g(\bullet)$  nonparametrically using kernel methods so that we consider  $g(\bullet)$  as the conditional mean of  $y$  given  $x$  such that

$$g(x) = \mathbb{E}[y_i | x_i = x],$$

due to the general result of nonparametric theory. Then, we note that  $\mathbb{E}[y_i | x_i = x] = \int y f_{y,x}(x, y) dy$  can be replaced by  $\int y \hat{f}_{y,x}(x, y) dy$  with the unknown probability density function  $f_{y,x}(x, y)$  estimated by kernel method such that

$$\hat{f}_{y,x}(x, y) = \frac{1}{nh_0 \dots h_q} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{K}\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right) k\left(\frac{y - y_i}{h_0}\right), \quad (14)$$

in which  $\mathcal{K}\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right) = k\left(\frac{x_{i1} - x_1}{h_1}\right) \times \dots \times k\left(\frac{x_{iq} - x_q}{h_q}\right)$  and where  $k$  is a kernel function satisfying basic conditions of nonparametrics,  $h_0$  is the smoothing parameter associated with  $y$ , and  $h_0 \dots h_q$  are bandwidths for  $x_i$ . From equation (14), we obtain the estimate

$$\hat{g}(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i \mathcal{K}\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{K}\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right)}, \quad (15)$$

which is simply a weighted average of  $y_i$  because we can rewrite (15) as

$$\hat{g}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i w_i,$$

in which  $w_i = \mathcal{K}\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right) / \sum_{j=1}^n \mathcal{K}\left(\frac{x_j - x}{h}\right)$  is the weight attached to  $y_i$

## A.2 Cross-Validation Method for Bandwidth

Once we have the continuous explanatory variables  $x_i$ , then the optimal bandwidth  $h$  is determined by the cross-validation method minimizing

$$CV(h_1, \dots, h_q) = \min_h \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n \left( y_t - \hat{f}_{-t}(x_t) \right)^2 m(x_t), \quad (16)$$

in which  $\hat{f}_{-t}(x_t) = \frac{\sum_{i \neq t} y_i \mathcal{K}\left(\frac{x_i - x_t}{h}\right)}{\sum_{i \neq t} \mathcal{K}\left(\frac{x_i - x_t}{h}\right)}$  is the leave-one-out kernel estimator of  $f(x_t)$  and  $m(x_t)$  is a weight function that rules out boundary observations and  $0 \leq m(\cdot) \leq 1$ . Then, the asymptotic result of optimal bandwidth is

$$n^{1/(q+4)} \hat{h} = \hat{a} \rightarrow_p a,$$

in which  $a$  is uniquely defined, positive, and finite to asymptotically minimize the first leading term of  $CV(h)$ .

## A.3. LCK Regression with Mixed Data

We now turn to a nonparametric approach with continuous and discrete variables. From a statistical point of view, smoothing discrete variables may introduce some bias,

however it is also known that it reduces the finite-sample variance resulting in a reduction in the finite-sample mean squared error of the nonparametric estimator.

Coming back to a nonparametric regression model given by

$$y_i = g(x_i^c, x_i^d) + u_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n,$$

in which  $x^c$  and  $x^d$  are continuous and discrete variables, respectively. Then we define the estimate of unknown PDF as

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{f}_{y,x}(x, y) &= \frac{1}{nh_0 \dots h_q} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{K}_\delta \left( \frac{x_i - x}{h} \right) k \left( \frac{y - y_i}{h_0} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{nh_0 \dots h_q} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{W}_h \left( \frac{x_i^c - x^c}{h} \right) L(x^d, x_i^d, \lambda) k \left( \frac{y - y_i}{h_0} \right), \end{aligned}$$

in which  $\delta = (h, \lambda)$ ,  $\mathcal{W}$  is a symmetric, nonnegative univariate kernel function, and  $L(x^d, x_i^d, \lambda) = \prod_{s=1}^r \lambda_s^{1(x_{is}^d \neq x_s^d)}$  where  $1(x_{is}^d \neq x_s^d)$  is an indicator function which equals one when  $x_{is}^d \neq x_s^d$  and zero otherwise. The smoothing parameter for  $x^d$  is assumed to be  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$ . Then,

$$\hat{g}(x_i^c, x_i^d) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i \mathcal{K}_\delta(x, x_i^c, x_i^d)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{K}_\delta(x, x_i^c, x_i^d)},$$

which is analogue to equation (13).

Least squares cross-validation selects  $\hat{g} = (h, \lambda)$  to minimize the following function:

$$CV(h, \lambda) = \min_{h, \lambda} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i - \hat{g}_{-i}(x_i^c, x_i^d) \right)^2 m(x_i^c, x_i^d),$$

in which  $\hat{g}_{-i}(x_i^c, x_i^d)$  and  $m(x_i^c, x_i^d)$  are the same as (16). Note that when

$\lambda = 1$ ,  $L(x^d, x_i^d, \lambda)$  becomes unrelated to  $(x^d, x_i^d)$  i.e.  $x_s^d$  is smoothed out. Finally, the asymptotic results of smoothing parameter  $\delta$  is

$$n^{1/(q+4)}\hat{h} = \hat{a} \rightarrow_p a,$$

$$n^{2/(q+4)}\hat{\lambda} = \hat{b} \rightarrow_p b,$$

in which  $a$  and  $b$  are uniquely defined, positive, and finite to asymptotically minimize the first leading term of  $CV(h, \lambda)$ .

## B. Additional Tables

**Table B.1: Market Share and Export Effects on DLW Markups in Unbalanced Panel**

This table shows results of fixed effect regressions in unbalanced panel data for markups estimated by De Loecker and Warzynski (DLW: 2012) model such as

$$\ln \hat{\mu}_{ijt} = X_{ijt}\gamma + \iota_i + \iota_j + \iota_t + \xi_{ijt}.$$

Other descriptions remain the same as Table 5.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Import Penetration	0.000 [0.000]		0.000 [0.000]		
Log(zzjt)	0.656** [0.043]	0.238** [0.013]			
Log(Kzjt/Lzjt)	0.030** [0.001]	0.016** [0.001]	0.027** [0.001]	0.016** [0.001]	0.015** [0.001]
Log(market sharezjt)	-0.086** [0.002]	-0.042** [0.001]	-0.075** [0.002]	-0.036** [0.001]	-0.027** [0.001]
Dummy(exporter)	0.316** [0.016]	0.302** [0.013]	0.263** [0.015]	0.262** [0.012]	0.029** [0.002]
Dummy(exporter)	0.043** [0.002]	0.035** [0.001]	0.036** [0.002]	0.030** [0.001]	
xLog(market sharezjt)					
R-sq: within	0.14	0.27	0.12	0.27	0.27
Num. of Plants	60,843	78,231	60,872	78,289	78,289

Num. of Obs 313,937 557,260 314,374 559,753 559,753

**Table B.2: Market Share and Export Effects on DLW Markups in Dynamic Unbalanced**

Panel This table shows results of difference GMMs in dynamic unbalanced panel data (Arellano and Bond (1991)) for markups estimated by De Loecker and Warzynski (DLW: 2012) model such as

$$\Delta \ln \hat{\mu}_{it} = \alpha \Delta \ln \hat{\mu}_{it-1} + \Delta X_{it} \gamma + \Delta \xi_{it}$$

Other descriptions remain the same as Table 6

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Log(markupit-1)	0.199** [0.006]	0.201** [0.004]	0.197** [0.006]	0.205** [0.004]	0.205** [0.004]
Import Penetration	-0.000 [0.000]		-0.000 [0.000]		
Log(zit)	0.147** [0.051]	- 0.082** [0.017]			
Log(Kit/Lit)	0.068** [0.009]	0.018** [0.006]	0.067** [0.009]	0.026** [0.006]	0.027** [0.006]
Log(market shareit)	0.082** [0.017]	0.051** [0.011]	0.073** [0.016]	0.068** [0.011]	0.083** [0.012]
Dummy(exporter)	0.286* [0.130]	0.627** [0.097]	0.292* [0.128]	0.594** [0.099]	0.042** [0.006]
Dummy(exporter)	0.032 [0.017]	0.077** [0.012]	0.033 [0.017]	0.072** [0.012]	
xLog(market shareijt)					
Num. of Plants	47,608	75,658	47,648	75,752	75,752
Num. of Obs	194,394	363,654	194,777	365,723	365,723

**Table B.3: Market Share and Export Effects on OLS Markups in Unbalanced Panel**

This table shows results of fixed effect regressions in unbalanced panel data for markups estimated by OLS model such as

$$\ln \hat{\mu}_{ijt} = X_{ijt}\gamma + \iota_i + \iota_j + \iota_t + \xi_{ijt}.$$

Other descriptions remain the same as Table 5.

	(1)	(2)	(3)
Import Penetration	0.001 [0.000]		
Log(Kijt/Lijt)	0.077** [0.001]	0.089** [0.001]	0.088** [0.001]
Log(market shareijt)	-0.084** [0.002]	-0.068** [0.001]	-0.056** [0.001]
Dummy(exporter)	0.289** [0.018]	0.278** [0.013]	-0.024** [0.002]
Dummy(exporter) xLog(market shareijt)	0.043** [0.002]	0.039** [0.001]	
Industry dummy (tj)	yes	yes	yes
R-sq: within	0.13	0.29	0.29
Num. of Plants	61,579	78,834	78,834
Num. of Obs	321,010	567,279	567,279

**Table B.4: Market Share and Export Effects on OLS Markups in Dynamic**

Unbalanced Panel This table shows results of difference GMMs in dynamic unbalanced panel data (Arellano and Bond (1991)) for markups estimated by OLS model such as

$$\Delta \ln \hat{\mu}_{it} = \alpha \Delta \ln \hat{\mu}_{it-1} + \Delta X_{it} \gamma + \Delta \xi_{it}$$

Other descriptions remain the same as Table 6

	(1)	(2)	(3)
Log(markupit-1)	0.176** [0.006]	0.181** [0.004]	0.181** [0.004]
Import Penetration	0.001** [0.000]		
Log(Kit/Lit)	0.095** [0.009]	0.054** [0.005]	0.052** [0.005]
Log(market shareit)	0.038** [0.016]	0.079** [0.010]	0.091** [0.011]
Dummy(exporter)	-0.009 [0.155]	0.292** [0.104]	0.040** [0.005]
Dummy(exporter) xLog(market shareijt)	-0.002 [0.020]	0.033* [0.013]	
Num. of Plants	48,744	76,573	76,573
Num. of Obs	200,519	372,262	372,262