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Personal Information:

Gender: Female
Citizenship: Chinese, Singapore Permanent Resident

Undergraduate Studies:

Bachelor of Social Sciences, Economics, National University of Singapore, Singapore, 2012

Masters Level Work:

Master of Sciences, Applied Economics, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, 2017

Graduate Studies:

Singapore Management University, 2017 to present
Thesis Title: Essays on International Trade
Expected Completion Date: Jul 2022

Thesis Committee and References:

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Indiana University
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Teaching and Research Fields:

Primary field: International Trade
Secondary field: Global Value Chain

Teaching Experience:

Teaching Certificate:

Certificate for Graduate Instructor, Center for English Communication, Singapore Management University.

Instructor:

2020 Math Camp for Ph.D Students, Singapore Management University.
2020 Math Camp for Master Students, Singapore Management University.
2019 Math Camp for Ph.D Students, Singapore Management University.

Teaching Assistant:

2021 COR2100 Economics and Society, Singapore Management University.
Instructor: Dr Bei, HONG
2020 ECON113 Economics of Globalisation, Singapore Management University.
Instructor: Assistant Professor Yuan MEI
2018 ECON 601 Microeconomics I (Ph.D. Level), Singapore Management University.
Instructor: Associate Professor Takashi KUNIMOTO

Research Experience:

2019-2020 Research Assistant for Assistant Professor Amanda JAKOBSSON on “Global Value Chains and Volatility”
2019 Research Assistant for Assistant Professor Yumi KOH on “The WTO Rules and R&D Subsidies”
2019 Research Assistant for Assistant Professor Yuan MEI on “Regulatory Barriers in International Trade: Evidence from Electric Plugs”

Professional Activities:

2012-2015 Planning and Service Analyst, The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

Conference and Seminar Presentations: (* indicates presented by coauthors)

2021 Trade Workshop, Singapore Management University.
European Trade Study Group (ETSG) 2021, GHENT*

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

2017 - Present Research Scholarship, Singapore Management University

Research Papers:

“The Balance of Concessions in the World Trade Organization” (Job Market Paper)

With Mostafa BESHKAR and Pao-Li CHANG

Abstract: Reciprocity is a key principle governing the negotiations under the GATT/WTO agreement, which calls for a balance of concessions among the WTO members. In recent years, however, various politicians across the world have voiced concerns about their country’s excessive obligations under the WTO and a lack of reciprocation by their trading partners. Our objective in this paper is to evaluate the degree to which the pattern of applied and negotiated tariffs across WTO members deviates from a balanced-concession condition. To this end, we employ a quantitative trade model and use various definitions of reciprocity to measure the concessions received and given by each country. In particular, we compare the observed volume of trade and welfare with two counterfactuals, namely free trade and a full-fledged trade war. We present findings on whether the concessions are balanced across major countries over the recent decades and how the imbalances may help explain the rising trade tensions.

“National Treatment, Product Likeness, and Trade Restrictiveness of Product Standards”

With Yuan MEI and Renjing CHEN

Abstract: The World Trade Organization disciplines regulatory protectionism by the principle of national treatment, which prohibits discrimination between imported and domestic “like” products. We provide the first empirical analysis on how product likeness, approximated by elasticity of substitution, affects trade frictions associated with non-tariff barriers that are subject to national treatment. Regression results using both product- and firm-level trade data are consistent with the hypothesis that technical barriers to trade create more frictions when the corresponding market and product have a smaller elasticity of substitution. We also construct a model that features heterogeneous firms and production relocation to illustrate the role of product likeness under national treatment.

“How Global are Global Value Chains?” (*Work in Progress*)

With Richard FRIBERG, Amanda JAKOBSSON, and Yoichi SUGITA

Abstract: We develop a matching strategy to identify unique establishments in dirty data and build a dataset that matches confidential shipment-level records from a global shipping company with establishment-level data from Orbis (Bureau van Dijk). Our created dataset is unique in several aspects. First, to our knowledge, it is the first dataset with global data on buyer-supplier relationships in global value chains. Second, it is a shipment-level dataset where each shipment is time-stamped, allowing us to observe the frequency of repeated shipments between establishments and firms. Third, our matching procedure can be applied to any shipment data, also dirty data with non-standardized input, by using firm names and incomplete records of postal codes and geo-coded locations. With the new facts that emerge from this dataset that is the first of its kind, we describe the observed pattern of supplier choices among firms globally. In essence, we can observe “how global” the global value chains in the dataset are.

Computer Skills:

Matlab, Stata, Python, LaTeX, LyX

Languages:

English, Mandarin Chinese