Lecture 5: Two Quantitative Models for Regions

Economics 552

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Allen and Arkolakis

- Enormous degree of spatial inequality of economic activity
  - McLeod County, MN: 26 persons/km^2 and payroll \$13.5k per capita.
  - Mercer County, NJ: 591 persons/km^2 and payroll \$20.8k per capita.

- Why?
  - Local characteristics (climate, natural resources, institutions, etc.).
  - Geographic location.

- How important is geographic location?
- Much recent advancement in theory of economic geography.
- But the stylized nature of geography in these models make it difficult to take them directly to the data.

Geography

- Compact set S of locations inhabited by $\bar{L}$ workers.
- Location $i \in S$ is endowed with:
  - Differentiated variety (Armington assumption).
  - Productivity $\bar{A}(i)$.
  - Amenity $\bar{u}(i)$.
- For all $i, j \in S$, let the iceberg bilateral trade cost be $T(i, j)$.
- Terminology
  - $\bar{A}$ and $\bar{u}$ are the **local characteristics**.
  - T determines **geographic location**.
  - Together, $\bar{A}$, $\bar{u}$, and T comprise the **geography** of S.
- A geography is **regular** if $\bar{A}$, $\bar{u}$ and T are continuous and bounded above and below by strictly positive numbers.

Workers

- Endowed with identical CES preferences over differentiated varieties with elasticity of substitution $\sigma > 1$.
- Can choose to live/work in any location $i \in S$.
- Receive wage $w(i)$ for their inelastically supplied unit of labor.
- Welfare in location i is:

$$W(i) = \left(\int_{s \in S} q(s,i)^{\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma}} ds \right)^{\frac{\sigma}{\sigma-1}} u(i)$$

where $q(s,i)$ is the per capita quantity consumed in location i of the good produced in location s and $u(i)$ is the local amenity.

Production

- Labor is the only factor of production, $L(i)$ is the density of workers.
- Productivity of worker in location i is $A(i)$.
- Perfect competition implies price of good from i is $\frac{w(i)}{A(i)} T(i, j)$ in location j.
- Functions w and L comprise the **distribution of economic activity**.

Productivity and Amenity Spillovers

- Productivity is potentially subject to externalities:

$$A(i) = \bar{A}(i) L(i)^{\alpha}$$

- Amenities are potentially subject to externalities:

$$u(i) = \bar{u}(i) L(i)^{\beta}$$

- Isomorphisms:
  - Monopolistic competition with free entry: $\alpha = \frac{1}{\sigma-1}$.
  - Cobb-Douglas preferences over non-tradable sector: $\beta = -\frac{1-\gamma}{\gamma}$.
  - Heterogeneous (extreme-value) worker preferences: $\beta = -\frac{1}{\theta}$.

Equilibrium

- A **spatial equilibrium** is a distribution of economic activity such that:
- Markets clear: for all $i \in S$:

$$w(i) L(i) = \int_S X(i, s) \, ds,$$

  where $X(i, j)$ is the value of trade flows from $i \in S$ to $j \in S$.
- Welfare is equalized**:** there exists $W \in \mathbb{R}_{++}$ such that for all $i \in S$, $W(i) \leq W$, with the equality strict if $L(i) > 0$.
- The aggregate labor market clears, i.e. $\int_S L(s) \, ds = \bar{L}$.
- Characterization
  - A spatial equilibrium is **regular** if L and w are strictly positive and continuous.
  - A spatial equilibrium is **point-wise locally stable** if $\frac{dW(i)}{dL(i)} < 0$ for all $i \in S$.

Equilibrium without Spillovers

- Suppose $\alpha = \beta = 0$ so that $A(i) = \bar{A}(i)$ and $u(i) = \bar{u}(i)$. Then from welfare equalization:

$$w(i)^{1-\sigma} = W^{1-\sigma} \int_S T(s,i)^{1-\sigma} u(i)^{\sigma-1} A(s)^{\sigma-1} w(s)^{1-\sigma} ds$$

and from balanced trade

$$L(i) w(i)^{\sigma} = W^{1-\sigma} \int_S T(i,s)^{1-\sigma} A(i)^{\sigma-1} u(s)^{\sigma-1} L(s) w(s)^{\sigma} ds$$

Theorem

For any regular geography with exogenous productivity and amenities:

1. *There exists a unique equilibrium.*
2. *The equilibrium is regular and point-wise locally stable.*
3. *Equilibrium can be determined using an iterative procedure.*

Equilibrium with Spillovers

Can rewrite balanced trade and utility equalization as:

$$L(i)^{1-\alpha(\sigma-1)} w(i)^{\sigma} = W^{1-\sigma} \int_S T(i,s)^{1-\sigma} \bar{A}(i)^{\sigma-1} \bar{u}(s)^{\sigma-1} L(s)^{1+\beta(\sigma-1)} w(s)^{\sigma} ds$$

$$w(i)^{1-\sigma} L(i)^{\beta(1-\sigma)} = W^{1-\sigma} \int_S T(s,i)^{1-\sigma} \bar{A}(s)^{\sigma-1} \bar{u}(i)^{\sigma-1} w(s)^{1-\sigma} L(s)^{\alpha(\sigma-1)} ds$$

If $T(i,s) = T(s,i)$ for all $i, s \in S$ then the solution can be written as:

$$A(i)^{\sigma-1} w(i)^{1-\sigma} = \phi L(i) w(i)^{\sigma} u(i)^{\sigma-1}$$

$$L(i)^{\tilde{\sigma}\gamma_1} = K_1(i) W^{1-\sigma} \int_S T(s,i)^{1-\sigma} K_2(s) \left(L(s)^{\tilde{\sigma}\gamma_1} \right)^{\frac{\gamma_2}{\gamma_1}} ds,$$

where $K_1(i)$ and $K_2(i)$ are functions of $\bar{A}(i)$ and $\bar{u}(i)$, γ_1, γ_2, and $\tilde{\sigma}$ are functions of α, β, and σ.

Equilibrium with Spillovers

Theorem

Consider any regular geography with endogenous productivity and amenities with T symmetric. Define $\gamma_1 \equiv 1 - \alpha(\sigma - 1) - \beta\sigma$ and $\gamma_2 \equiv 1 + \alpha\sigma + (\sigma - 1)\beta$. If $\gamma_1 \neq 0$, then:

1. *There exists a regular equilibrium.*
2. *If $\gamma_1 < 0$, no regular equilibria are point-wise locally stable.*
3. *If $\gamma_1 > 0$, all equilibria are regular and point-wise locally stable.*
4. *If $\frac{\gamma_2}{\gamma_1} \in [-1, 1]$, the equilibrium is unique.*
5. *If $\frac{\gamma_2}{\gamma_1} \in (-1, 1]$, the equilibrium can be determined using an iterative procedure.*

Equilibrium Distribution of Labor

- When trade costs are symmetric, equilibrium distribution of labor can be written as a log-linear function of the underlying geography:

$$\gamma_1 \ln L(i) = C_L + (\sigma - 1) \ln \bar{A}(i) + \sigma \ln \bar{u}(i) + (1 - 2\sigma) \ln P(i)$$

- Implications:
  - When equilibrium is point-wise locally stable, population is increasing in $\bar{A}$ and $\bar{u}$.
  - Price index is a sufficient statistic for geographic location.
  - Conditional on price index, productivity and amenity spillovers only affect elasticity of $L(i)$ to geography.

Trade Costs

- Suppose S is a compact surface (e.g. a line, plane, or sphere).
- Let $\tau : S \to R_+$ be a continuous function, where $\tau(i)$ is the instantaneous trade cost of traveling over location $i \in S$.
- Define the **geographic trade cost** $T(i,j) = f(t(i,j))$, $f' > 0$, $f(0) = 1$ to be the total iceberg trade cost incurred traveling along the least cost route from i to j, i.e.

$$t(i,j) = \min_{\gamma \in \Gamma(i,j)} \int_0^1 \tau(\gamma(t)) \left|\left|\frac{d\gamma(t)}{dt}\right|\right| dt$$

  where $\gamma : [0,1] \to S$ is a path and $\Gamma(i,j) \equiv \{\gamma \in C^1 | \gamma(0) = i, \gamma(1) = j\}$ is the set of all paths.
- $f(t) = \exp(t)$ natural choice since $\prod_0^1 (1 + \tau(x)\, dx) = \exp\left(\int_0^1 \tau(x)\, dx\right)$, but can show T satisfied triangle inequality $\iff$ f is log subadditive.

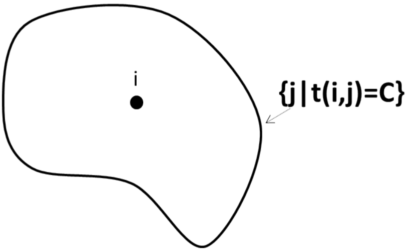
Optimal Path

- Previous equation appears in a number of branches of physics. A necessary condition for its solution is the following *eikonal* equation:

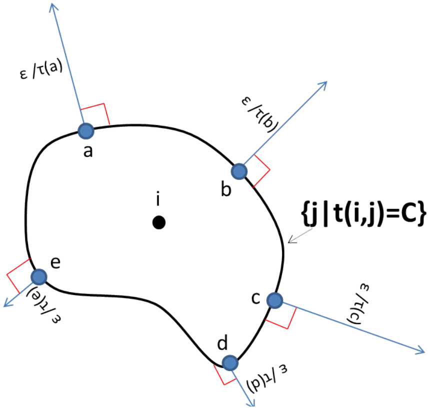
$$||\nabla t\left(i,j\right)|| = \tau\left(j\right)$$

  where the gradient is taken with respect to j.
- Simple geometric interpretation: the trade cost contour expands outward in the direction orthogonal to the contour at a rate inversely proportional to the instantaneous trade cost.

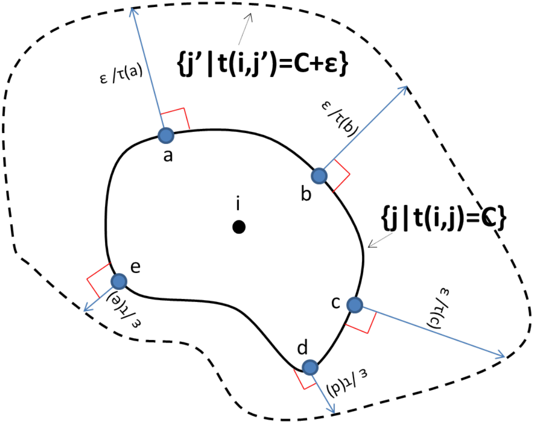
Optimal Path



Optimal Path



Optimal Path



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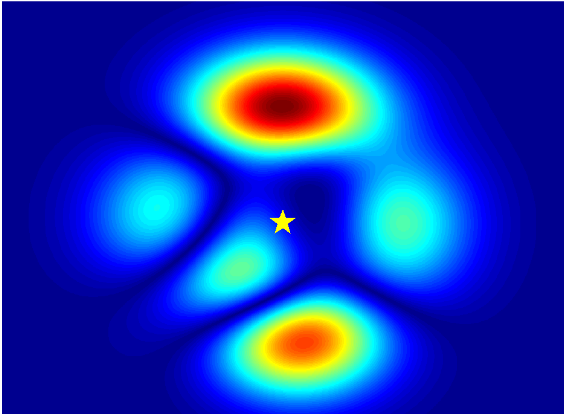

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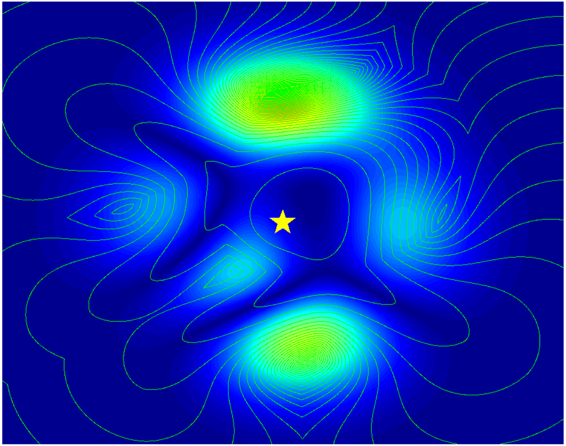

Estimating Trade Costs

- Goal: Find trade costs that best rationalize the bilateral trade flows observed in 2007 Commodity Flow Survey (CFS).
- Three step process:
  - Using **Fast Marching Method** (which operationalizes the Eikonal equation) and observed **transportation network**, calculate the (normalized) distance between every CFS area for each major mode of travel (road, rail, air, and water).
  - Using a **discrete choice** framework and observed **mode-specific bilateral trade shares**, estimate the relative cost of each mode of travel.
  - Using a **gravity** model and observed **total bilateral trade flows**, pin down normalization (and incorporate non-geographic trade costs).

Estimating Trade Costs

- For any $i, j \in S$, suppose $\exists$ traders $t \in T$ choosing mode $m \in \{1, ..., M\}$ of transit where cost is:

$$\exp\left(\tau_m d_m(i,j) + f_m + \nu_{tm}\right)$$

- Then mode-specific bilateral trade shares are:

$$\pi_m(i,j) = \frac{\exp\left(-a_m d_m(i,j) - b_m\right)}{\sum_k \left(\exp\left(-a_k d_k(i,j) - b_k\right)\right)},$$

where $a_m \equiv \theta\tau_m$ and $b_m \equiv \theta f_m$.

- Combined with model, yields gravity equation:

$$\ln X_{ij} = \frac{\sigma - 1}{\theta} \ln \sum_m \left(\exp\left(-a_m d_{mij} - b_m\right)\right) + (1-\sigma)\,\beta' \ln \mathbf{C}_{ij} + \delta_i + \delta_j$$

- Estimate a_m and b_m using bilateral trade shares, θ using gravity equation.
- Note:
  - No mode switching and assume $f_{road} = 0$ to pin down scale.

Estimating A and u

- Can identify a topography of productivities A and amenities u consistent with the estimated T and observed distribution of economic activity (w and L)
- See Theorem 3 in the paper
- Intuition: consider locations a and b with identical bilateral trade costs, i.e. for all $s \in S$, $T(a, s) = T(b, s)$. Then:
  - Utility equalization implies $\frac{u(b)}{u(a)} = \frac{w(a)}{w(b)}$.
  - Balanced trade implies $\frac{A(a)}{A(b)} = \left(\frac{L(a)w(a)^{\sigma}}{L(b)w(b)^{\sigma}}\right)^{\frac{1}{\sigma-1}}$.
- Note: $\bar{A}$ and $\bar{u}$ cannot be identified without knowledge of α and β.

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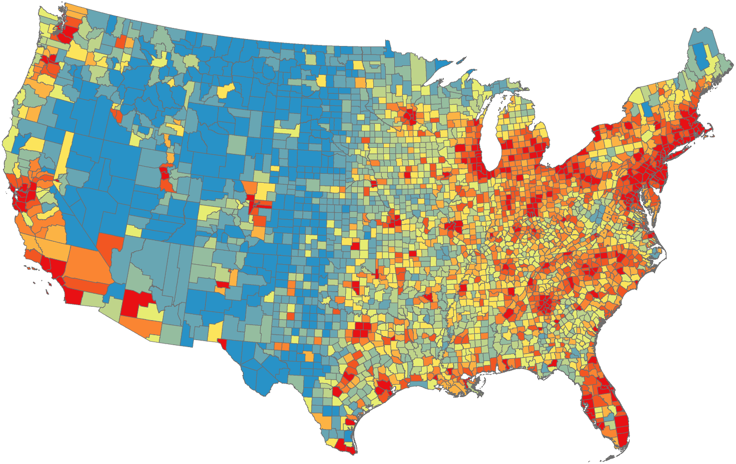
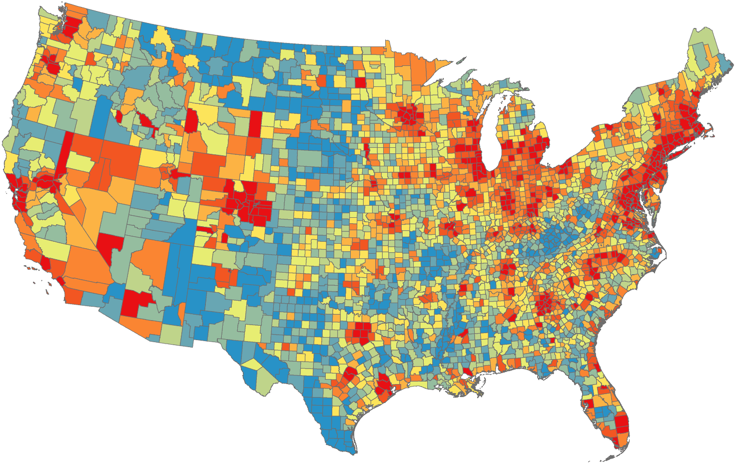
Observed L

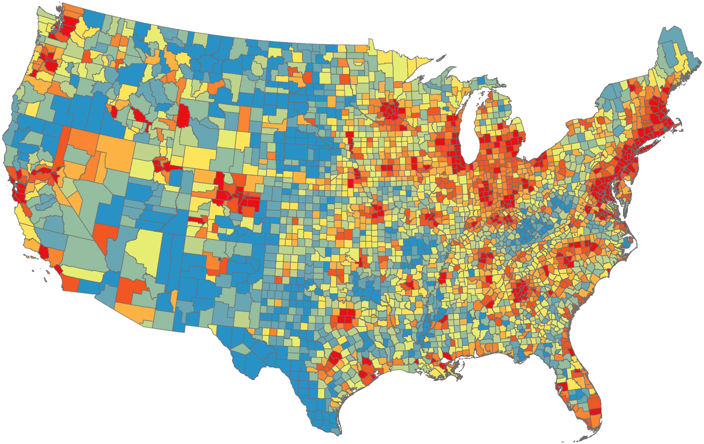


Observed w



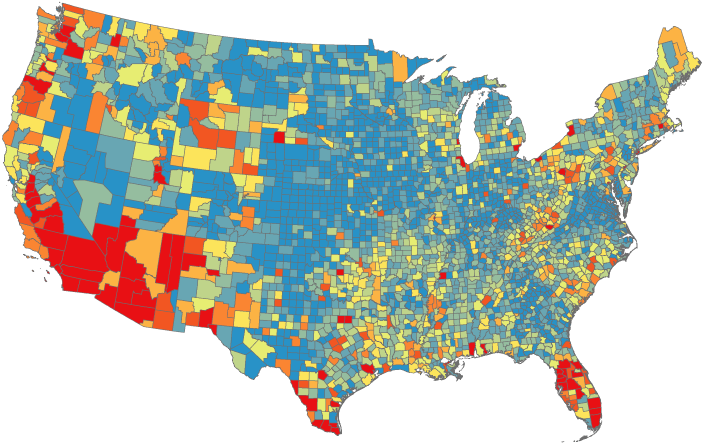
Exogenous A

- $\alpha = 0.1$

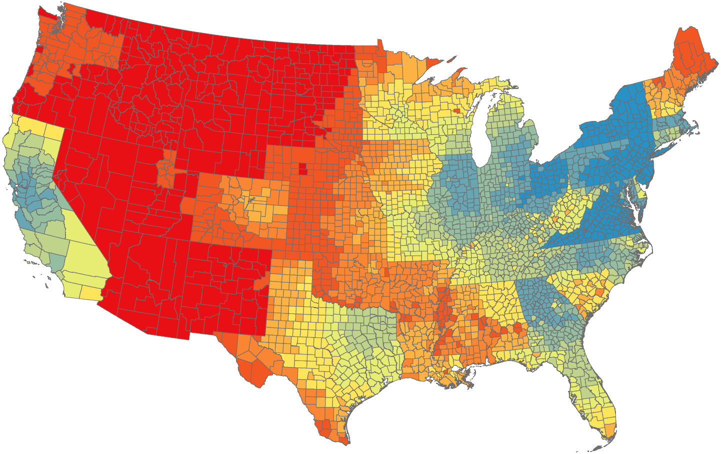


Exogenous u

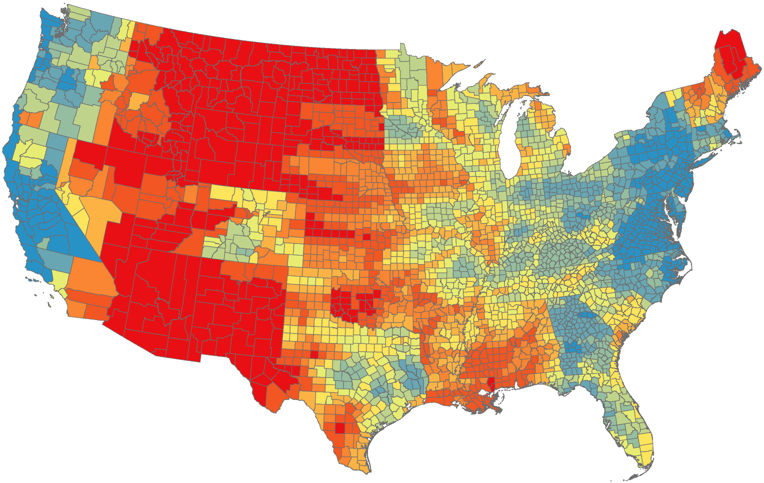
- $\beta = -0.3$



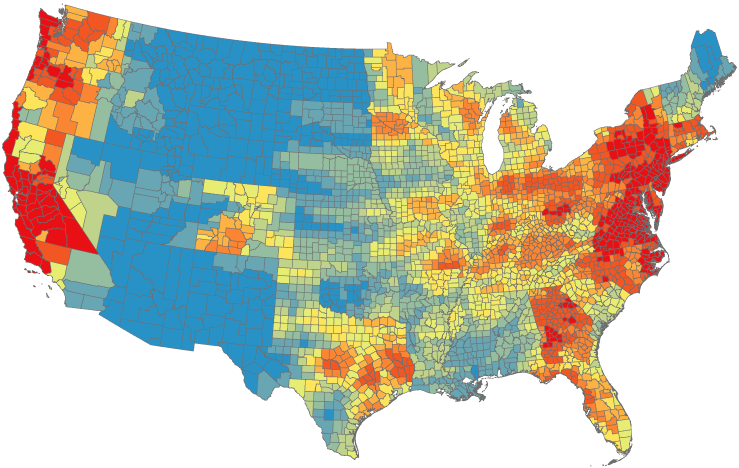
Estimated P



Removing the Interstate Highway System: P



Removing the Interstate Highway System: L



Removing the Interstate Highway System: Costs and Benefits

- Estimated annual cost of the IHS: $\approx$ \$100 billion
- Annualized cost of construction: $\approx$ \$30 billion (\$560 billion @5%/year) (CBO, 1982)
- Maintenance: $\approx$ \$70 billion (FHA, 2008)
- Estimated annual gain of the IHS: $\approx \$150 - 200$ billion
- Welfare gain of IHS: $1.1 - 1.4\%$.
- Given homothetic preferences and holding prices fixed, can multiply welfare gain by U.S. GDP.
- Suggests gains from IHS substantially greater than costs.

Conclusion

- Theoretical contributions
  - Unified GE framework combining gravity, labor mobility, flexible spillovers.
  - Microfoundation of trade costs as "geographic trade costs" .
  - Combine those two and develop appropriate tools to determine equilibrium economic activity on any surface with (nearly) any geography.
- Empirical contributions
  - Calculate bilateral trade costs based on observable geographical features and trade flows.
  - Disentangle productivities and amenities.
  - Quantify the importance of geographic location.
  - Perform counterfactual analysis based on changes in geography.

Caliendo, Parro, Sarte and R-H

- Fluctuations in aggregate economic activity are the result of a wide variety of disaggregated TFP changes
  - Sectoral: process or product innovations
  - Regional: natural disasters or changes in local regulations
  - Sectoral *and* regional: large corporate bankruptcy or bailout
- What are the mechanisms through which these changes affect the aggregate economy? What is their quantitative importance?
  - Input-output, trade and migration linkages
  - Differences in regional and sectoral TFP, local factors, and geography
- We model and calibrate these mechanisms for all 50 U.S. states and 26 traded and non-traded industries
- Aggregate real GDP elasticity to local productivity changes varies substantially:
  - 1.6 in NY, 1.3 in CA, but only 0.89 in FL and 0.34 in WI

Heterogeneity across U.S. states

- Differences in GDP and employment go beyond geographic size
  ▸ GDP by regions ▸ Regional employment
- GDP and Employment levels vary over time differentially across regions
  ▸ GDP change 2002 - 2007 ▸ Employment change 2002 - 2007
- Why?
  Local characteristics are essential to the answer
  - *Differences in TFP changes*
    Heterogeneity in changes in regional measured TFP
    ▸ Regional TFP ▸ Regional TFP contrib.
    Distribution of sectors across regions is far from uniform
    ▸ Petroleum ▸ Wood ▸ Concentration
    ... and changes in sectoral TFP varies widely across sectors
    ▸ Sectoral TFP ▸ Sectoral TFP contrib.
  - *Differences in local factors*
    ▸ Local Factors
  - *Differences in access to products from other regions*
    ▸ Regional Trade

Literature

- Literature has focused mainly on aggregate shocks as in Kydland and Prescott (1982) and the many papers that followed
  - When disaggregated, focus has been on sectors: Long and Plosser (1983), and Horvath (1998, 2000), Foerster, Sarte, and Watson (2012), Acemoglu, et al. (2012), Oberfield (2012)
    ... and sometimes firms: Jovanovic (1987), and Gabaix (2011)
  - Some papers have underscored labor mobility: Blanchard and Katz (1992), Fogli, Hill and Perri (2012), Hamilton and Owyang (2012)
- Recent literature on international trade uses static, multi-sector, multi-country quantitative models to assess the gains from trade
  - For example, Arkolakis, et al. (2012), Costinot, Donaldson, and Komunjer (2012), Caliendo and Parro (2012) and more
  - Paper relates to studies on internal trade and migration: Redding (2012), Allen and Arkolakis (2014), Fajgelbaum and Redding (2014)
- We adapt a multi-sector version of Eaton and Kortum (2002) to introduce labor mobility and local factors
  - Large scale quantitative exercise for 50 states and 26 industries

The Model

- The economy consists of N regions, J sectors, and two factors
  - Labor, L_n^j: mobile across regions and sectors
  - Land and structures, H_n: fixed across region but mobile across sectors
- The problem of an agent in region n is given by

$$v_n \equiv \max_{\left\{c_n^j\right\}_{j=1}^J} \prod_{j=1}^J \left(c_n^j\right)^{\alpha^j} \text{ with } \sum_{j=1}^J \alpha^j = 1$$

$$s.t. \sum_{j=1}^J P_n^j c_n^j = w_n + \frac{\sum_i \iota_i r_i H_i}{\sum_i L_i} + (1 - \iota_n) \frac{r_n H_n}{L_n} \equiv I_n.$$

- In equilibrium households are indifferent about living in any region so

$$v_n = \frac{I_n}{P_n} = U \text{ for all } n \in \{1, ..., N\}$$

where $P_n = \prod_{j=1}^J \left(P_n^j / \alpha^j\right)^{\alpha^j}$ is the ideal price index in region n

Model - Intermediate goods

- Representative firms in each region n and sector j produce a continuum of intermediate goods with *idiosyncratic* productivities z_n^j
  - Drawn independently across goods, sectors, and regions from a Fréchet distribution with shape parameter θ^j
  - Productivity of all firms is also determined by a deterministic productivity level T_n^j
- The production function of a variety with z_n^j and T_n^j is given by

$$q_n^j(z_n^j) = z_n^j \left[T_n^j h_n^j(z_n^j)^{\beta_n} l_n^j(z_n^j)^{(1-\beta_n)} \right]^{\gamma_n^j} \prod_{k=1}^{J} M_n^{jk}(z_n^j)^{\gamma_n^{jk}}$$

- Importantly, T_n^j affects value added and not gross output

Model - Intermediate good prices

- The cost of the input bundle needed to produce varieties in (n, j) is

$$x_n^j = B_n^j \left[r_n^{\beta_n} w_n^{1-\beta_n} \right]^{\gamma_n^j} \prod_{k=1}^{J} \left(P_n^k \right)^{\gamma_n^{jk}}$$

- The unit cost of a good of a variety with draw z_n^j in (n, j) is then given by

$$\frac{x_n^j}{z_n^j} \left(T_n^j \right)^{-\gamma_n^j}$$

and so its price under competition is given by

$$p_n^j \left(z^j \right) = \min_i \left\{ \frac{\kappa_{ni}^j x_i^j}{z_i^j} \left(T_i^j \right)^{-\gamma_i^j} \right\},$$

where $\kappa_{ni}^j \geq 1$ are "iceberg" bilateral trade cost

Model - Final goods

- The production of final goods is given by

$$Q_n^j = \left[\int \tilde{q}_n^j (z^j)^{1-1/\eta_n^j} \phi^j \left(z^j \right) dz^j \right]^{\eta_n^j / \left(\eta_n^j - 1 \right)},$$

where $z^j = (z_1^j, z_2^j, ... z_N^j)$ denotes the vector of productivity draws for a given variety received by the different n regions

- The resulting price index in sector j and region n, given our distributional assumptions, is given by

$$P_n^j = \xi_n^j \left[\sum_{i=1}^{N} \left[x_i^j \kappa_{ni}^j \right]^{-\theta^j} \left(T_i^j \right)^{\theta^j \gamma_i^j} \right]^{-1/\theta^j},$$

where ξ_n^j is a constant

Migration

- Labor market clearing

$$\sum_n \sum_{j=1}^J \int_0^\infty l_n^j(z) \phi_n^j(z)\, dz = \sum_n L_n = L$$

... plus firm optimization

$$w_n L_n = \frac{1-\beta_n}{\beta_n} r_n H_n$$

- Implies that

$$L_n = \frac{H_n \left[\frac{\omega_n}{P_n U}\right]^{1/\beta_n}}{\sum_{i=1}^N H_i \left[\frac{\omega_i}{P_i U}\right]^{1/\beta_i}} L$$

where $\omega_n \equiv (r_n/\beta_n)^{\beta_n} (w_n/(1-\beta_n))^{(1-\beta_n)}$

Regional trade

- Total expenditure on goods in industry j in region n

$$X_n^j = \sum_{k=1}^J \gamma_n^{kj} \sum_i \pi_{in}^k X_i^k + \alpha^j I_n L_n,$$

where π_{in}^k denote the share of region i's total expenditures on sector k's intermediate goods purchased from region n

- Then, as in Eaton and Kortum (2002),

$$\pi_{ni}^j = \frac{X_{ni}^j}{X_n^j} = \frac{\left[x_i^j \kappa_{ni}^j\right]^{-\theta^j} \left(T_i^j\right)^{\theta^j \gamma_i^j}}{\sum_{i'=1}^N \left[x_{i'}^j \kappa_{ni'}^j\right]^{-\theta^j} \left(T_{i'}^j\right)^{\theta^j \gamma_{i'}^j}}$$

- Trade surplus/deficit in n is given by $L_n \frac{\sum_i \iota_i r_i H_i}{\sum_i L_i} - \iota_n r_n H_n$

Changes in measured TFP

- Using firm optimization and aggregating over all produced intermediate goods, total gross output in (n, j) is given by

$$\frac{Y_n^j}{P_n^j} = \frac{x_n^j}{P_n^j}\left[\left(H_n^j\right)^{\beta_n}\left(L_n^j\right)^{(1-\beta_n)}\right]^{\gamma_n^j}\prod_{k=1}^{J}\left(M_n^{jk}\right)^{\gamma_n^{jk}}$$

  - $Y_n^j/P_n^j = Q_n^j$ when j is a non-tradable good
- So the change in measured TFP as a result of $\hat{T}_n^j$ is

$$\ln \hat{A}_n^j = \ln \frac{\widehat{x}_n^j}{\hat{P}_n^j} = \ln \frac{\left(\hat{T}_n^j\right)^{\gamma_n^j}}{\left(\hat{\pi}_{nn}^j\right)^{1/\theta^j}}$$

- Aggregate measured TFP changes using gross output revenue shares
  - Leads to aggregate TFP measures similar to those of the OECD

Changes in real GDP

- The Cobb-Douglas production function in intermediates implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \ln \widehat{GDP}_n^j &= \ln \frac{\hat{w}_n \hat{L}_n^j}{\hat{P}_n^j} \\ &= \ln \hat{A}_n^j + \ln \hat{L}_n^j + \ln \left(\frac{\hat{w}_n}{\widehat{x}_n^j} \right) \end{aligned}$$

  - In the case without materials, the last term is simply

$$\ln \left(\hat{w}_n / \widehat{x}_n^j \right) = \beta_n \ln \left(\hat{w}_n / \widehat{r}_n \right) = \beta_n \ln 1 / \hat{L}_n$$

  ... otherwise, a function of all final-good price changes

- We aggregate real GDP changes using value added shares

Changes in Welfare

- Welfare changes are given by

$$\ln \hat{U}_n = \sum_{j=1}^{J} \alpha^j \left(\ln \hat{A}_n^j + \ln \left(\varpi_n \frac{\hat{w}_n}{\hat{x}_n^j} + (1 - \varpi_n) \frac{\hat{\chi}}{\hat{x}_n^j} \right) \right),$$

where $\varpi_n = \frac{(1-\beta_n \iota_n) w_n}{(1-\beta_n \iota_n) w_n + (1-\beta_n)\chi}$

  - Note that if $\iota_n = 0$ for all n, then $\chi = 0$ and $\varpi_n = 1$. In that case

$$\ln \hat{U}_n = \sum_{j=1}^{J} \alpha^j \left(\ln \hat{A}_n^j + \ln \frac{\hat{w}_n}{\hat{x}_n^j} \right).$$

- ACR (2012) emphasize the case with one sector, no factor mobility, and no trade deficits where

$$\ln \hat{U}_n = \ln \hat{A}_n$$

Counterfactuals

- We need to calibrate and compute the model to assess the aggregate effect of regional shocks
  - We only compute the model in changes as a result of $\hat{T}_n^j$, parallel to Dekle, Eaton and Kortum (2008)
  - System of $2N + 3JN + JN^2 = 69000$ equations and unknowns
- Some issues:
  - We estimate ι_n to match 2007 regional trade imbalances, S_n
    - ⋆ Not exact since $\iota_n \in [0, 1]$ iota iota-map
    - ⋆ So use counterfactual without unexplained deficits
  - No international trade: CFS provides data of expenditures on domestically produced goods

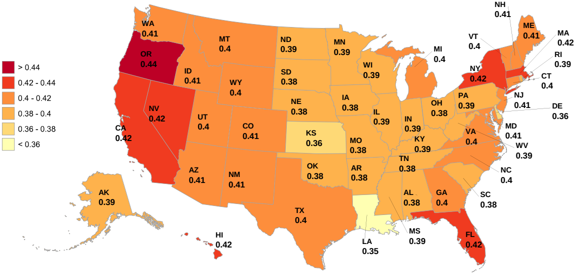
Data

- We need to find data for $I_n, L_n^j, S_n, \pi_{ni}^j$ as well as values for the parameters $\theta^j, \alpha^j, \beta_n, \iota_n, \gamma_n^{jk}$
  - L_n^j : BEA, with aggregate employment across all states summing to 137.3 million in 2007
  - I_n : Total value added in each state in 2007
  - π_{ni}^j and S_n : CFS with total trade equal to 5.2 trillion in 2007
  - θ^j : We use the numbers in Caliendo and Parro (2012)
  - α^j : Calculated as the aggregate share of consumption
  - β_n : Labor share by region adjusted by $\beta_n = (\bar{\beta}_n - .17)/.83$
    - ⋆ Share of equipment equal to .17 Greenwood, Hercowitz and Krusell (1997), which we group with materials
  - ι_n : From S_n using minimum least squares
  - γ_n^{jk} : Get γ_n^j from BEA value added shares and use national IO table to compute $\gamma_n^{jk} = (1 - \gamma_n^j)\gamma^{jk}$

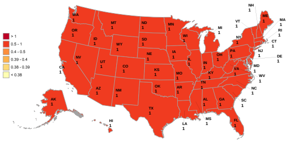
Aggregate and Local or Sectoral Elasticities

- We present all results using elasticities
  - All based on 10% changes ($\hat{T}_n^j = 1.1$)
    - ⋆ Matters due to non-linearities
  - Aggregate elasticities calculated by dividing by share of state/sector and the size of the shock
    - ⋆ So benchmark for aggregate TFP elasticity is 1 independent of the size of the state
  - Local/sectoral elasticities adjusted by the size of the shock only
    - ⋆ So benchmark for local TFP elasticity in the affected state/sector is 1 too

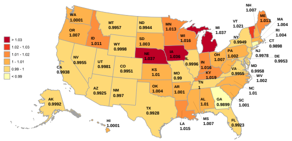
Aggregate TFP elasticity of a local productivity change



NRNS Model



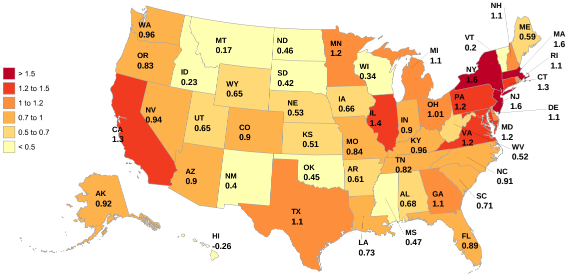
RNS Model



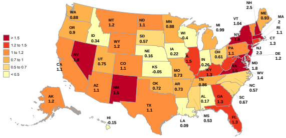
$$\ln \hat{A}_n^j = \ln \frac{\left(\hat{T}_n^j\right)^{\gamma_n^j}}{\left(\hat{\pi}_{nn}^j\right)^{1/\theta^j}}$$

Zoom

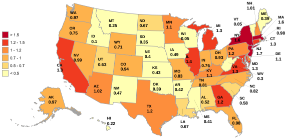
Aggregate GDP elasticity of a local productivity change



NRNS Model



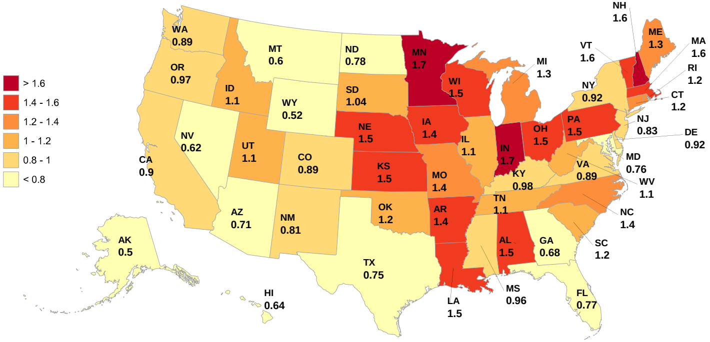
RNS Model



$$\ln \widehat{GDP}_n^j = \ln \hat{A}_n^j + \ln \hat{L}_n^j + \ln\left(\frac{\hat{w}_n}{\hat{x}_n^j}\right)$$

▸ Local Factors ▸ Zoom

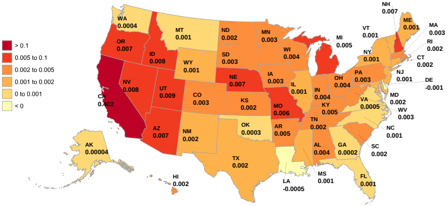
Welfare elasticity of a local productivity change



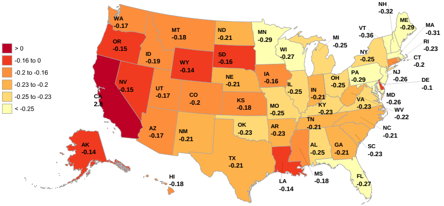
iota-map

Regional elasticity of a productivity change in California

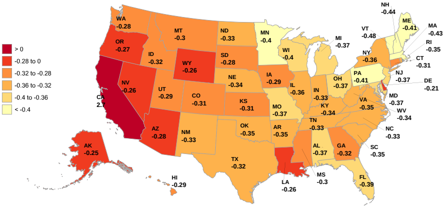
TFP elasticity



GDP elasticity

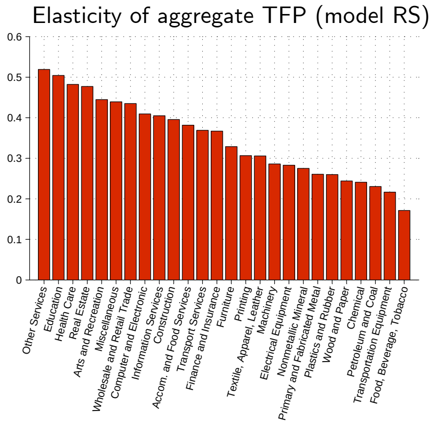


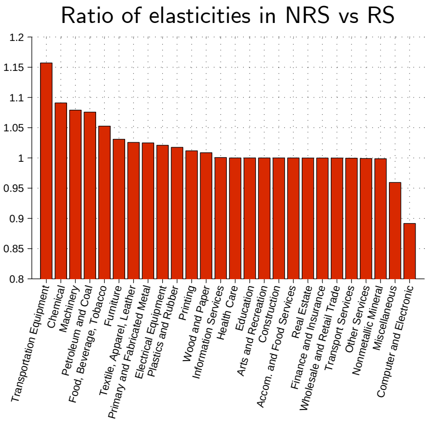
Employment elasticity



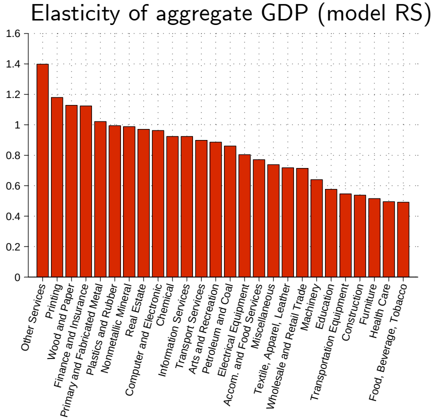
▸ Zoom ▸ Sectoral Comp.

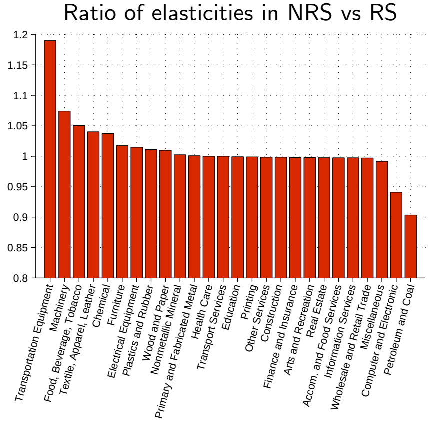
Aggregate TFP elasticities to a sectoral change



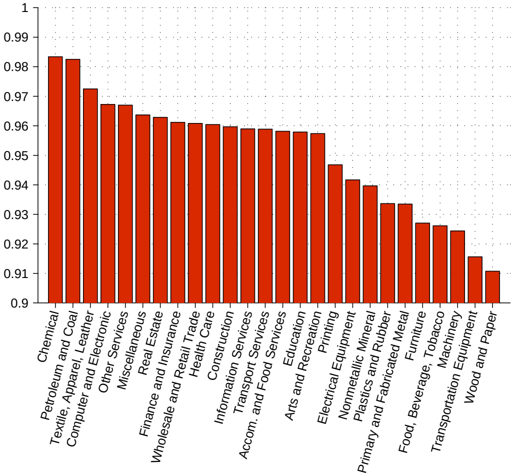


Aggregate GDP elasticities to a sectoral change





Welfare elasticity of a sectoral productivity change



Concentration

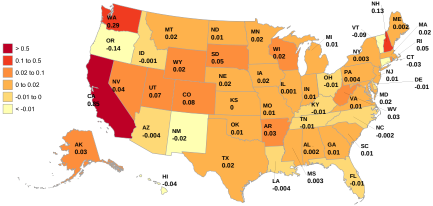
An Application

The Productivity Boom in Computers and Electronics in California

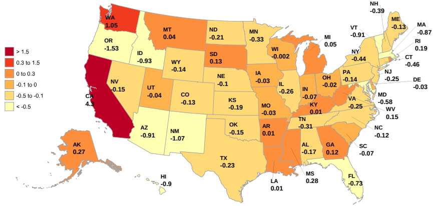
- California, home of prominent information and technology firms
  - Apple, Cisco Systems, Hewlett-Packard, Intel and others
- In 2007, California accounted for 24% of all employment in Computers and Electronics
  - Texas 8%, Massachusetts 6%, other states (37) less than 2%
- From 2002-2007 California experienced a productivity boom in Computers and Electronics
  - An average of 31% annual fundamental TFP increase in that sector, which corresponds to a 14.6% yearly increase in measured TFP
  - The largest across all states and regions in the U.S. during that period
- We evaluate how productivity boom in that sector and state propagated to all other sectors and states of the U.S. economy

Productivity Boom in Comp. & Elec. in California

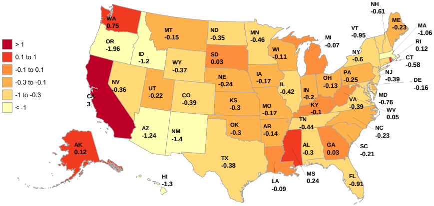
Regional TFP effects (percent)



Regional GDP effects (percent)



Regional Employment effects (percent)



Trade costs

- The exercises above suggest that trade is important in determining the effect of productivity changes
  - But how important are regional trade barriers?
  - What portion of trade barriers is explained by physical distance?
    - ★ Compute average miles per shipment for each region from CFS (996 for Indiana but 4154 for Hawaii)
  - What are the gains (TFP, GDP, welfare) from reducing distance versus other trade barriers?
- Following Head and Ries (2001) we can compute

$$\frac{\pi_{ni}^{j}\pi_{in}^{j}}{\pi_{ii}^{j}\pi_{nn}^{j}} = \left(\kappa_{ni}^{j}\kappa_{in}^{j}\right)^{-\theta^{j}}$$

- So given θ^{j}, and assuming symmetry, we can identify κ_{ni}^{j}

Counterfactuals

- Decompose trade barrier using

$$\log \kappa_{ni}^{j} = \delta^{j} \log d_{ni}^{j} / d_{ni}^{j\,\min} + \eta_{n} + \varepsilon_{ni}^{j}$$

- Then calculate counterfactuals:

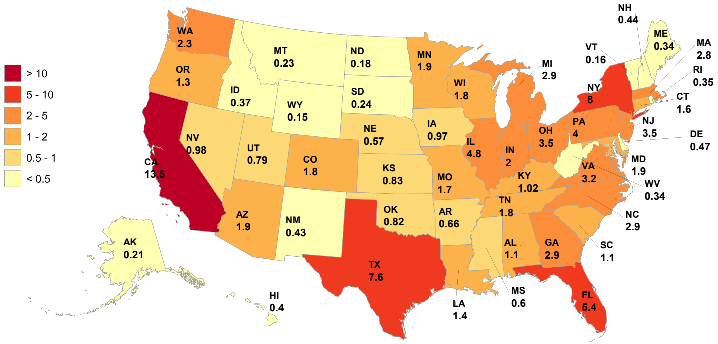
Effects of a reduction in trade cost across U.S. states		
	Distance	Other barriers
Aggregate TFP gains	50.98%	3.62%
Aggregate GDP gains	125.88%	10.54%
Aggregate Welfare gains	58.83%	10.10%

Conclusions

- Study the effects of disaggregated productivity changes in a model that recognizes explicitly the role of geographical factors
  - Calibrate for 50 U.S. states and 26 sectors
  - Ready to implement in other countries or regions
- Disaggregated productivity changes can have dramatically different aggregate quantitative implications
  - Elasticity of regional change on welfare varies from 1.7 in MN to 0.75 in TX and 0.5 in AK
  - Elasticity of sectoral productivity increases also varies from .98 in Chemicals to .92 in Transportation Equipment
    - ⋆ And very heterogenous regional impact
- For future work:
  - Mobility frictions
  - Local factor accumulation

Economic activity in the U.S.

Share of GDP by region (%, 2007)



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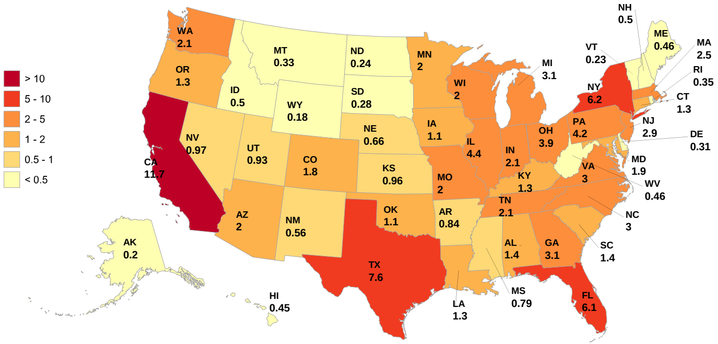
Economic activity in the U.S.

Share of Employment by region (%, 2007)



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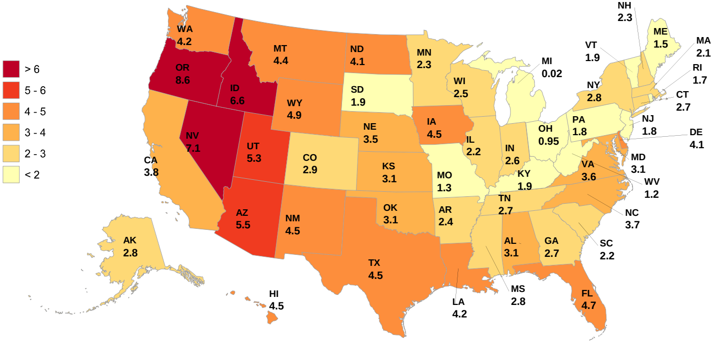
Economic activity in the U.S.

Change in GDP (%, 2002 to 2007)



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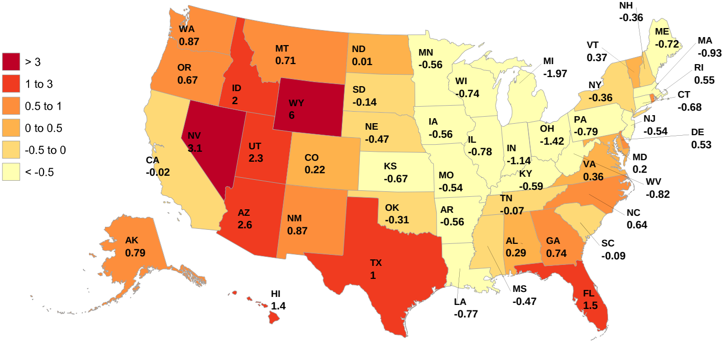
Economic activity in the U.S.

Change in Employment (%, 2002 to 2007)



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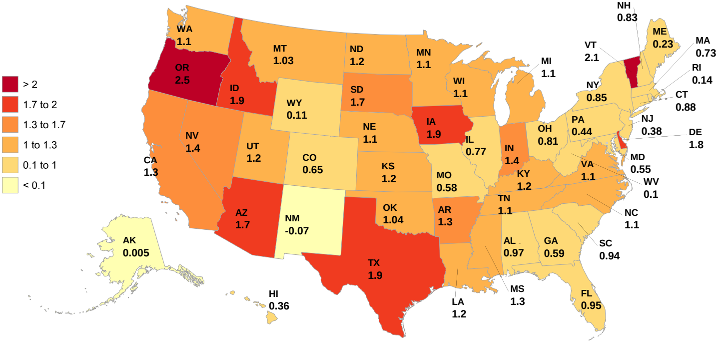
Change in measured TFP by region

Annualized rate (2002-2007, %)



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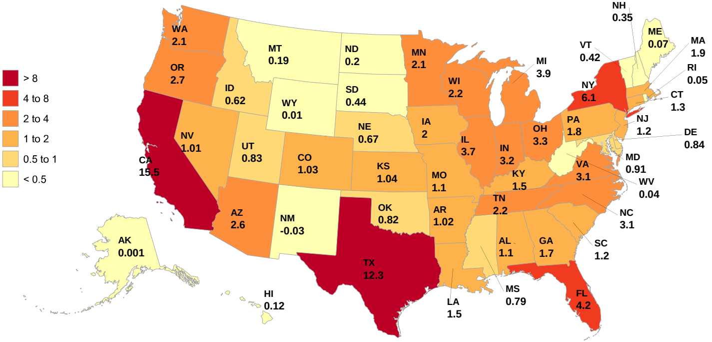
Regional contribution

Regional contribution to the change in aggregate measured TFP (%)



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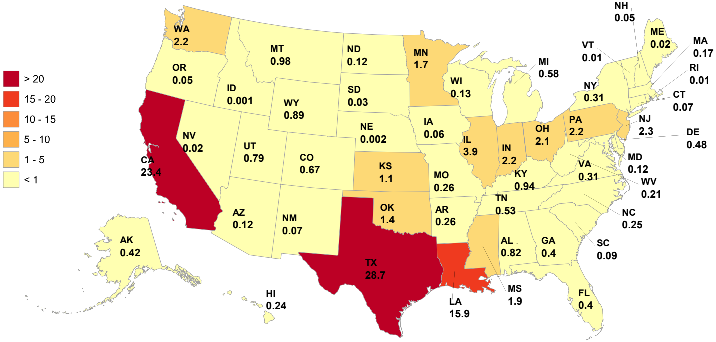
Economic activity in the U.S.

Petroleum and Coal concentration across regions (%, 2007)



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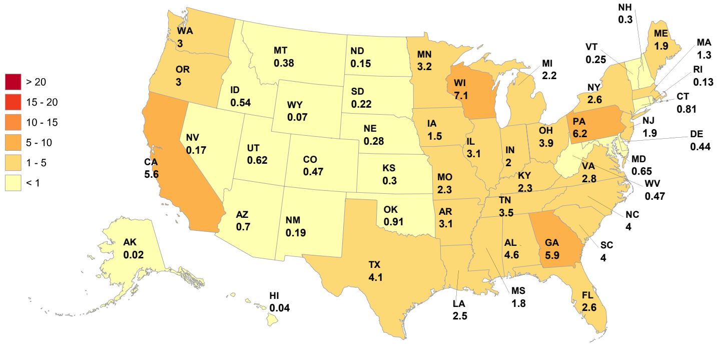
Economic activity in the U.S.

Wood and Paper concentration across regions (%, 2007)



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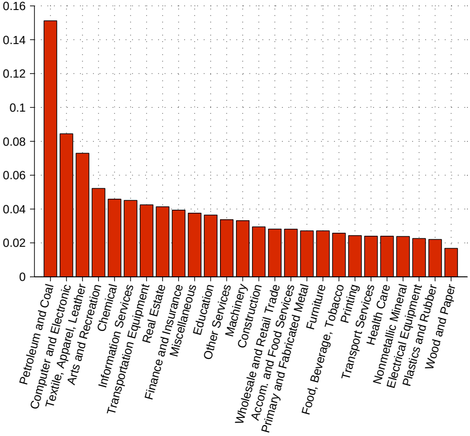
Regional concentration of economic activity across sectors

Herfindahl Index, 2007



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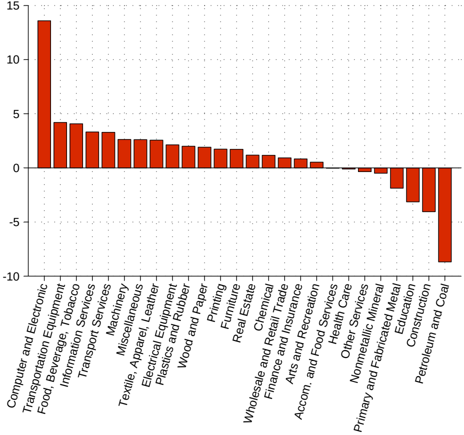
Change in sectoral measured TFP

Annualized rate (2002-2007, %)



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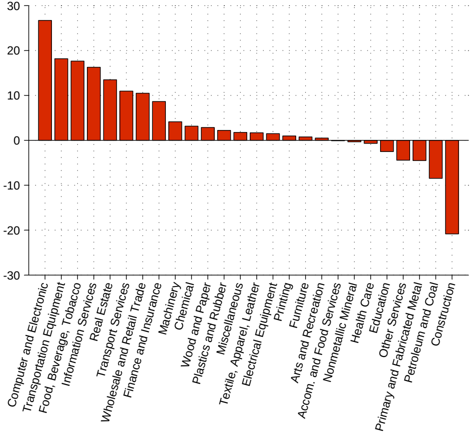
Sectoral contribution

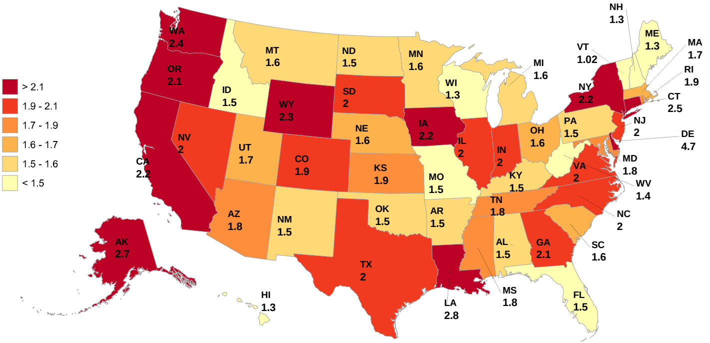
Sectoral contribution to the change in aggregate measured TFP (%)



Back Intro

Per capita returns from local factors

- Depicts $\frac{r_n H_n}{L_n}$ calculated using $GDP_n = w_n L_n + r_n H_n$



Back Intro Counterfactuals GDP

Regional Trade

- Regional trade much more important than international trade

U.S. trade as a share of GDP (%, 2007)			
	Exports	Imports	Total
International trade	11.9	17.0	28.9
Inter-regional trade	33.4	33.4	66.8

Source: World Development indicators and CFS

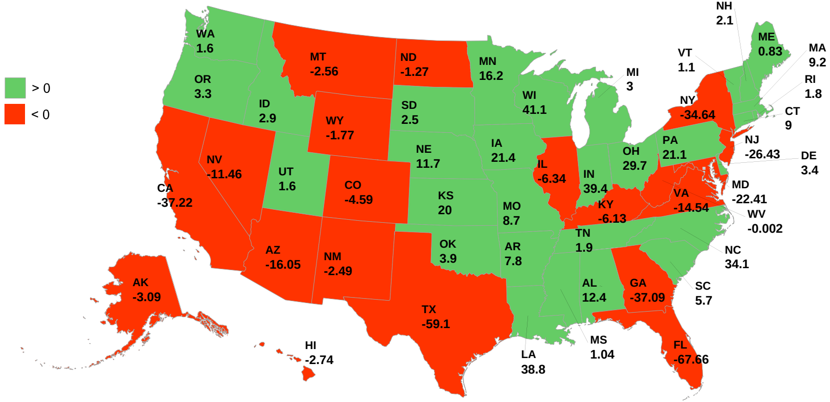
Regional trade

- Still, calibrated trade costs are such that eliminating distance increases GDP by 125% and measured TFP by 50%
  - So geography of production determines prices and trade flows

Back

Economic activity by regions

Net exports (exports - imports) across U.S. states (2007, U.S. dollars, billions)



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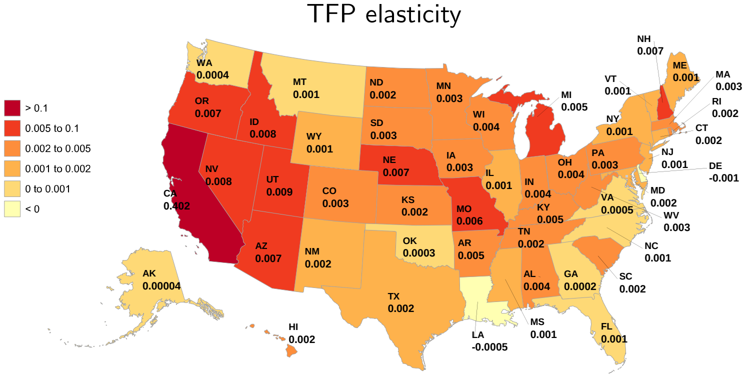
Regional elasticity of a productivity change in California



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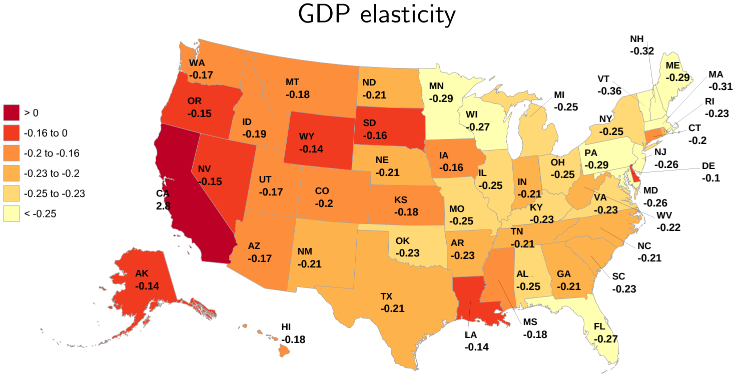
Regional elasticity of a productivity change in California



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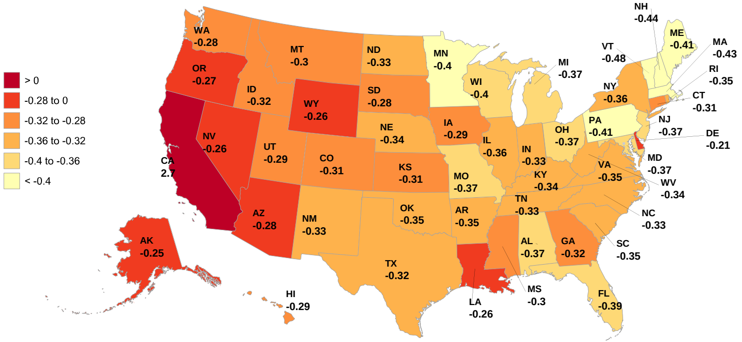
Regional elasticity of a productivity change in California

Employment elasticity



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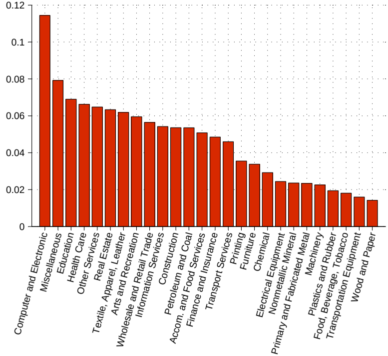
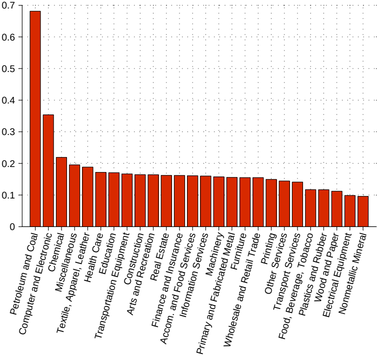
Sectoral elasticity of a productivity change in California

Elasticity of aggregate TFP



Elasticity of aggregate GDP



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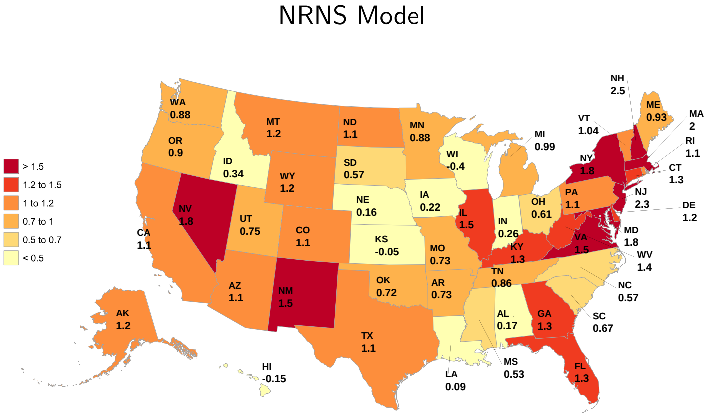
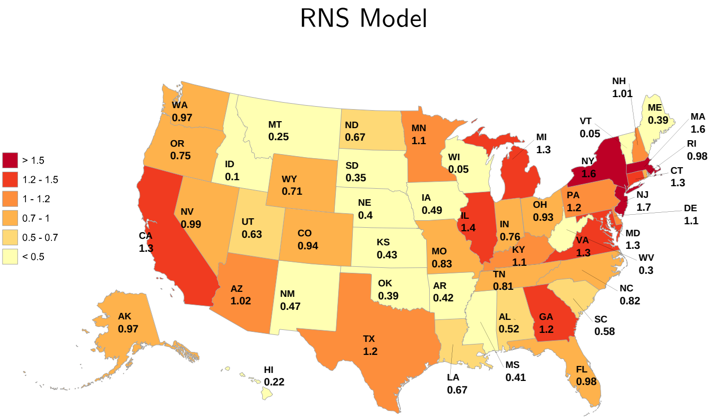
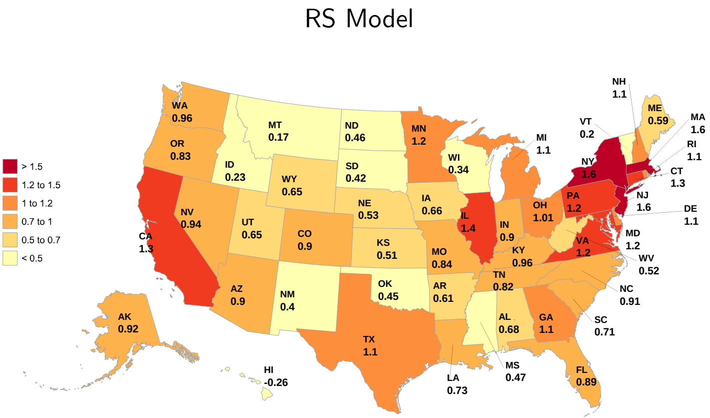
Aggregate elasticity of a local change: Real GDP



Aggregate elasticity of a local change: Real GDP



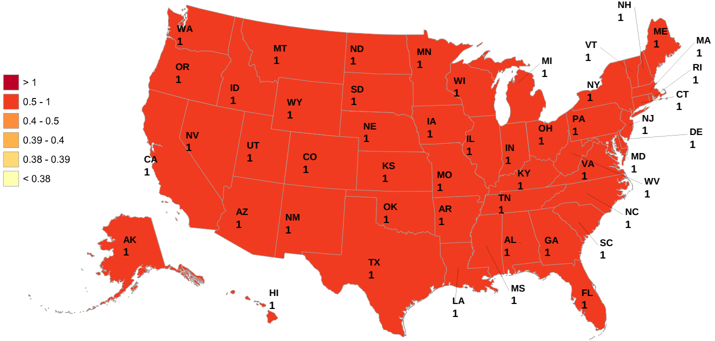
Aggregate elasticity of a local change: Real GDP



▸ Counterfactuals GDP

Aggregate elasticity of a local change: TFP

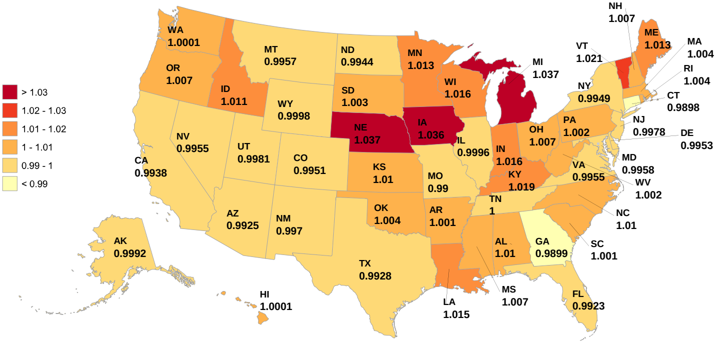
Model with no inter-regional trade and no inter-sectoral trade, NRNS
Then $\ln \hat{A}_n^j = \ln \hat{T}_n^j$



Aggregate elasticity of a local change: TFP

Model with inter-regional trade and no inter-sectoral trade, RNS

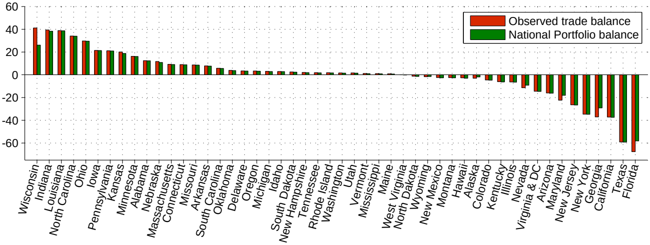
Then $\ln \hat{A}_n^j = \dfrac{\hat{T}_n^j}{\left(\hat{\pi}_{nn}^j\right)^{1/\theta^j}}$



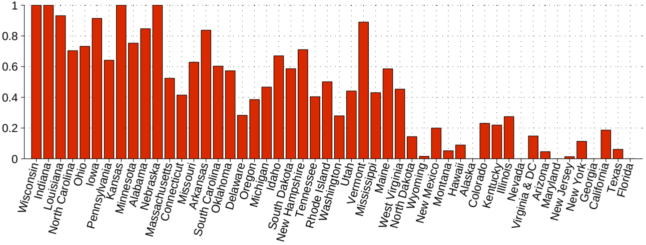
Back

Trade balances and contributions to the National Portfolio

Trade Balance: Model and data (2007 U.S. dollars, billions)



Local rents on structures contributed to the National Portfolio (ι_n)



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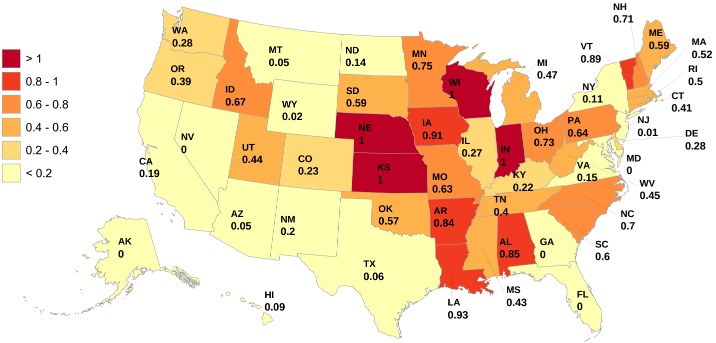
Contributions to the National Portfolio

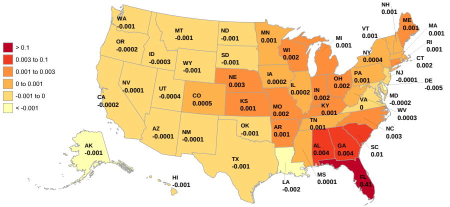
Local rents on structures contributed to the National Portfolio (ι_n)



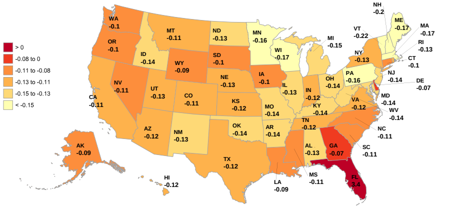
Back   Back to Welfare

Regional elasticity of a productivity change in Florida

TFP elasticity



GDP elasticity



Employment elasticity