

Pricing-To-Market and Networks

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CIGS

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1-1. Introduction

- Currency exchange rate \Rightarrow export price measured in X (e.g., *yen*)

E.g.,

$$\log(\mathbf{yen\ export\ price}) = \alpha + \beta \log(\mathbf{yen/USD}) + \varepsilon$$

$\Rightarrow \beta \doteq 0$ (i.e., complete pass-through)

$\Rightarrow \beta \doteq 1$ (i.e., no pass-through \Rightarrow profit margin might be altered)

- “Incomplete” pass-through: $\beta \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow$ Pricing-to-Market (PTM)

- Export dynamics (e.g., disconnect puzzle: macro)
- Market structure (industry)
- Firms’ pricing behavior (micro)

Q. What determine(s) the level of β ?

1-2. Introduction

- Well known **“incomplete”** pass-through phenomenon
 - Gopinath et al. (*AER* 2010), Nakamura & Steinsson (*AER* 2012)

- Potentially many firm-level **“heterogeneity”**
 - Price level: Melitz & Ottaviano (*RES* 2008)
 - Market share Atkeson & Burstein (*AER* 2008)
 - Product quality: Baldwin & Harrigan (*AEJ-Micro* 2011)
 - Import intensity & market share: Amiti et al. (*AER* 2014)

- Less than **“ideal”** data for examining specific mechanisms
 - Aggregate data or unit value computed from custom data are used...
 - Exception? Goldberg & Verboven (*RES* 2001): Automobile, Nakamura & Zerom (*RES* 2010): Coffee, Fitzgerald & Haller (*RES* 2014): “Plant-product”

2. This paper

In practice, different counts are considered as different products (e.g., In modern clothing, dress shirt: 40-120 count, casual shirt: 20-80 count)

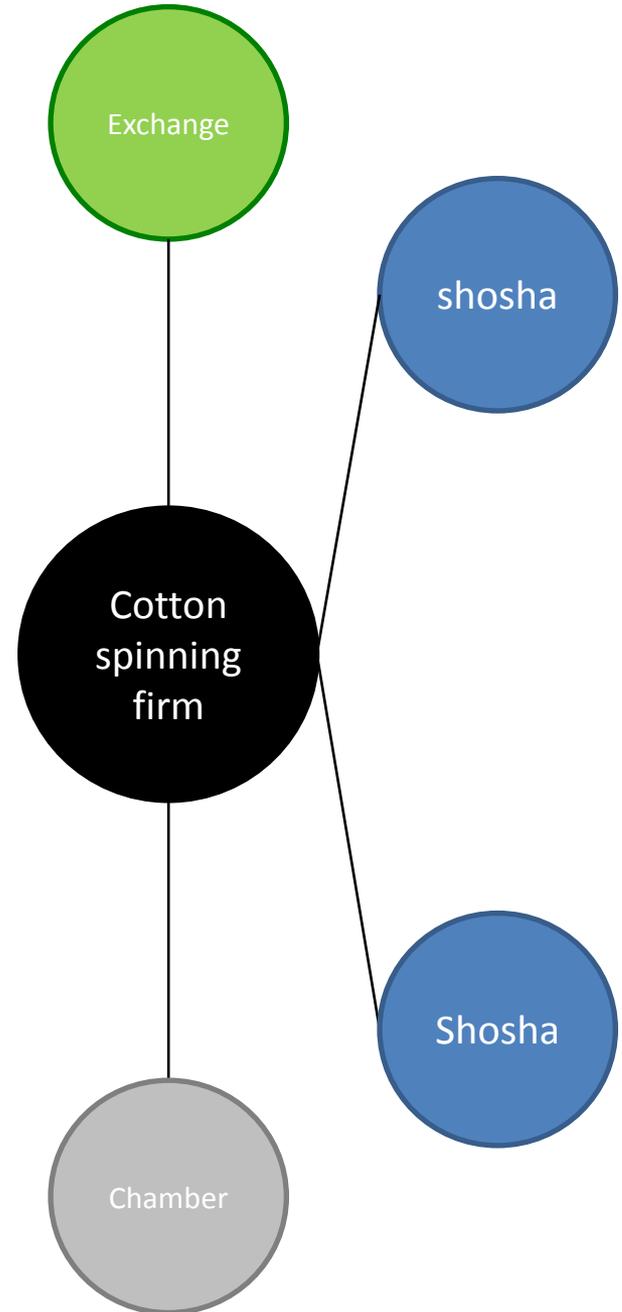
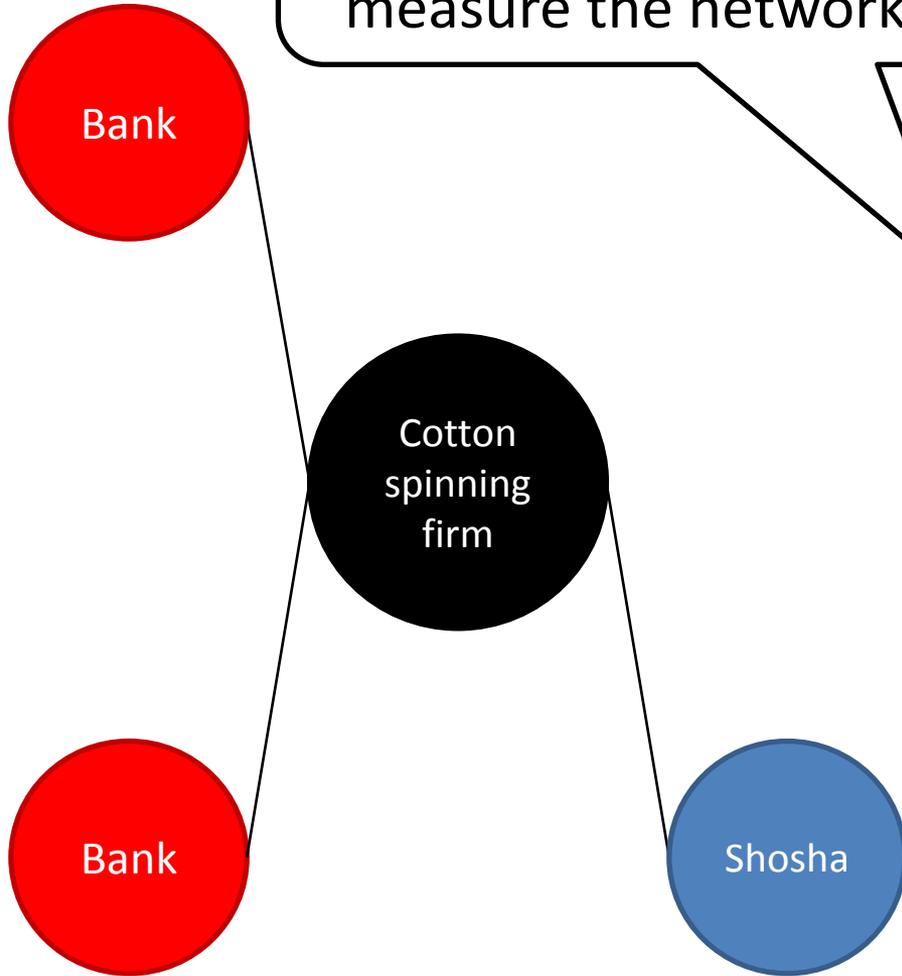
□ Use ideal data

- **Narrowly defined & differentiated** product
- Cotton yarn in a specific count: “16-bante”
 - ⇒ Even better than Fitzgerald & Haller (2014): SIC 8 digit-level (E.g., 22810302: COTTON YARN, SPUN)
 - ⇒ Exported to one common market (i.e., Shanghai)
- **High frequency** (monthly) **firm-level export price** data
 - ⇒ Allows panel estimation to control for unobservable factors
- **Exogenous currency exchange rate dynamics** under the gold standard in Japan and the silver standard in China (i.e., destination country)
- Use a **comprehensive list of firm attributes** (Braguinsky et al. *AER* 2015)

□ Study the association b/w β & one untouched channel:

↔ **Networks (esp. shosha) held by cotton spinning firms**

We use the board member identities to measure the networks



3. Key takeaways

- Low unconditional pass-through rate (↔Fitzgerald & Haller 2014)
- Pass-through depends on...
 - TFP, firm size, import intensity, labor skill (↔Product quality), as in the extant studies

- Pass-through also depends on **“network”** factor ...
 - Tight connection with “shosha” increases pass-through
↔ Might reflect the actual price setting pattern in reality

⇒ First analysis employing ideal price data to pin down network factor with controlling for a list of comprehensive firm attributes

4-1. Literature: “Mark-up”

□ Larger β when...

■ Lower price (\Leftrightarrow higher TFP: Melitz & Ottaviano *RES* 2008;
Berman et al. *QJE* 2012)

■ Higher market share (Atkeson & Burstein *AER* 2008)

■ Higher product quality (Baldwin & Harrigan *AEJ-Micro* 2011)

← Lower demand elasticity

\Leftrightarrow Higher mark-up elasticity \Leftrightarrow Lower pass-through

4-2. Literature: “Marginal cost”

□ Larger β when...

- Higher import intensity of intermediate goods (Amiti et al. *AER* 2014)
- Central product (Chatterjee et al. *AEJ-Policy* 2013)
- Higher local distribution cost share (Corsetti & Dedola *JIE* 2005)
- Higher productivity (Berman et al. *QJE* 2012)

← Higher marginal cost elasticity

↔ Higher elasticity of home currency-measured price

↔ Lower pass-through

4-3. Literature: Some new angles...

□ Employ some of them jointly...

■ Amiti, et al. (*AER* 2014): (i) Firms w/ larger market share and/or (ii) firms w/ higher import intensity shows larger mark-up dynamics (\Leftrightarrow lower pass-through)

□ Attempting to claim something new...

■ Financial constraint: Strasser (*JME* 2013): Financially constrained firms pass-through the change in exchange rate more \leftarrow Critique in Gopinath (*JME* 2013)

5-1. Data: Firm-month export price

- ❑ Hand-collected from industry report (*Geppo*: 大日本紡績連合会月報)
- ❑ Monthly frequency firm-level export price data
- ❑ 1897/5 ~ 1898/6, 1901/10, 1902/4 ~ 1903/12, 1911/6 ~ 1914/12

⇒ Note: The gold standard was introduced in 1897

⇒ Note: Periods associated with major events (e.g., The Boxer Rebellion, Japan-Russo war) are excluded

- ❑ Firm ID, count-level (e.g., 16, 20, etc.) export price

- For each firm × count, we have max (highest reported prices in each month), min (lowest in each month), avr (average price in each month)

- Mainly 16 and 20 count data are available (also 10, 12, and 14)

- Price information from China and Indian producers are also available

- ❑ Domestic price (製糸十六番手一梱平均代価)

- ❑ Export quantity (16 and 20 count: converted to 梱数)

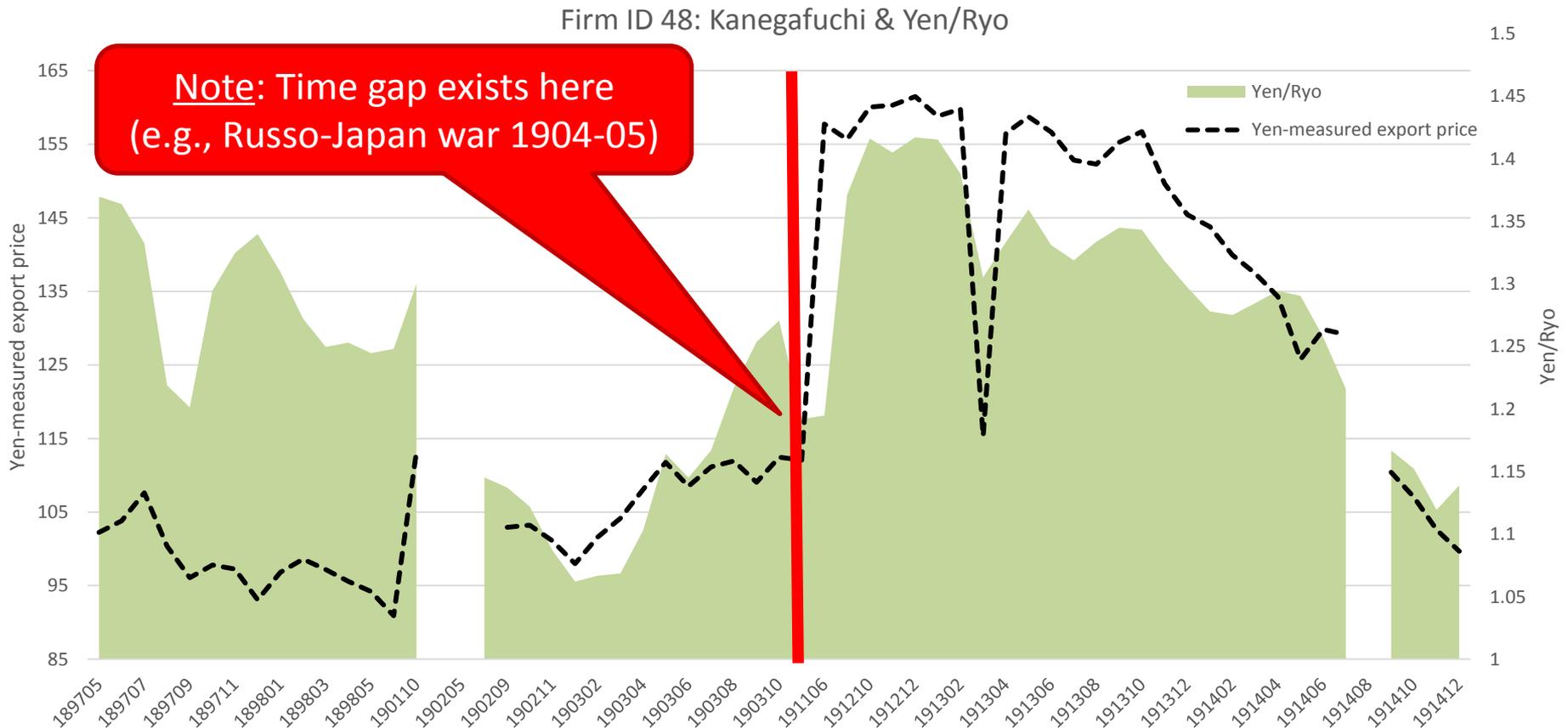
- ❑ Many missing data on export quantity (even when prices are reported)

- ❑ Mumbai price is also partially available

Note: 22, 23, 24, 30, 32, 40, 41, 42, 60, and 80 counts were actually produced

5-2. Data: Currency exchange rate

- Data book of Japanese economic statistic (日本経済統計総観)
- Monthly frequency *yen/ryo* (Chinese currency) exchange rate
 - Highest, lowest, average (used in our analysis) for each month



5-3. Data: Firm characteristics

□ Firm characteristics

■ *Geppo* & financial statement (考課状)

■ Items included in the data

- Output: Measured in physical units for two machinery (ring & mule)
- Capital: Two-types of machinery, operating hours & days, power source
- Labor: Male & female w/ wage information
- Intermediate good: Cotton & coal
- Cotton sources: Japan, China, India, US, HK, Vietnam, Egypt, others
- Product composition: Share of 16 & 20 counts out of total production
- Location: All the plants (with detailed information)
- Almost all the P/L & B/S items (e.g., inventory, sales)
- Board member managers' attributes (e.g., education)
- Plant-level attributes, entry/exit (firm & plant) ⇒ Planning to use...

Note: Production data are handled to compute TFPQ by following Braguinsky et al. (AER 2015)

⇒ At most, 32 firms × 57months (max #obs = 517 in the current analysis)

5-4. Data: Summary stat (a) - (c)

Variable	Definition	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev	Min	Max
Sample (a): Sample for Table 2						
<i>P</i>	Natural logarithm of Yen(i.e., home currency)-measured 16-bante cotton exported	436	4.67	0.16	4.05	5.08
<i>ER</i>	Exchange rate measured as units of yen per one ryo	436	0.21	0.08	0.06	0.35
<i>TFP</i>	Firm-level total factor productivity obtained from fixed-effect panel estimation	436	0.00	0.13	-0.36	0.45
Sample(b): Sample for Table 3						
<i>P</i>	Natural logarithm of Yen(i.e., home currency)-measured 16-bante cotton exported	353	4.67	0.16	4.46	5.08
<i>ER</i>	Exchange rate measured as units of yen per one ryo	353	0.22	0.07	0.06	0.35
<i>TFP</i>	Firm-level total factor productivity obtained from system GMM estimation	353	0.00	0.12	-0.33	0.34
Sample(c): Sample for Table 4						
<i>P</i>	Natural logarithm of Yen(i.e., home currency)-measured 16-bante cotton exported	353	4.67	0.16	4.46	5.08
<i>ER</i>	Exchange rate measured as units of yen per one ryo	353	0.22	0.07	0.06	0.35
<i>TFP</i>	Firm-level total factor productivity obtained from fixed-effect panel estimation	353	0.01	0.13	-0.33	0.45
<i>WAGE</i>	Natural logarithm of female worker wage	353	0.00	0.29	-0.49	0.58
<i>SIZE</i>	Natural logarithm of output	353	0.06	1.14	-2.48	2.68

Note: All the variables other than IMPORT is demeaned

5-5. Data: Summary stat (d)

Sample(d): Sample for Table 5

<i>P</i>	Natural logarithm of Yen(i.e., home currency)-measured 16-bante cotton exported	189	4.68	0.17	4.51	5.08
<i>ER</i>	Exchange rate measured as units of yen per one ryo	189	0.21	0.07	0.06	0.35
<i>TFP</i>	Firm-level total factor productivity obtained from fixed-effect panel estimation	189	0.02	0.13	-0.31	0.43
<i>WAGE</i>	Natural logarithm of female worker wage	189	0.06	0.28	-0.43	0.53
<i>SIZE</i>	Natural logarithm of output	189	0.26	1.23	-2.48	2.68
<i>IMPORT</i>	Import from Ryo export source countries / Import from all the souces (Note: this variable is time-invariant and measured as of the initial appearance in the data)	189	4.46	20.60	-39.67	39.23
<i>INVENTORY</i>	(Inventory + Account receivable) / Sales	189	-0.01	0.08	-0.09	0.26
<i>RATE</i>	BOJ's discount rate	189	-0.15	0.64	-1.05	1.14
<i>SHARE</i>	Output share of 16 count cotton yarn	189	0.02	0.24	-0.42	0.55
<i>CAPUTIL</i>	Capuital utilization rate	189	-0.01	0.14	-0.41	0.51

5-6. Network data

□ Coded data

■ Shosha & trade exchange

- 1893-1918

■ Bank, chamber of commerce

- 1893, 1894, 1895, 1898, 1900, 1901, 1907

□ Merge the following items to our cotton yarn firm-level panel data

■ Count the number of overlapped board members

■ Time-invariant as of 1898 & time-variant for shosha

5-6. Network data

□ E.g., Amagasaki

15 1898 01			
名前	タイトル (取締役、監	本株式数	仮株式数
福本元之助	社長	676	786
亀岡徳太郎	取締役	320	430
本咲利一郎	取締役	605	655
菊池恭三	取締役	472	360
広岡信五郎	監査役	603	523
阪上新次郎	監査役	315	325
M31(1898)銀行役員データ&商社&商業会議所			
1,618	M31(1898)	貯金銀行	取締役
9,505		大阪商業会議所	副会頭
2,512		尼崎銀行	頭取
#N/A			
1,723		加島貯蓄銀行	監査役
1,104		北浜銀行	監査役
M31(1898)繊維関係商社役員データ			
#N/A			
12		日本綿花株式会社	監査役
#N/A			
M31(1898)三品取引所役員データ			
#N/A			
M31(1898)商社のみ			
#N/A			
M31(1898)商業会議所のみ			
#N/A			
38	大阪商業会議所	副会頭	
#N/A			

5-6. Network data

□ Tabulate the time-invariant information

firm_name	firm_id_final	yearmonth	firm_id_final_yearmonth	firm_id_final	num_boards	num_bank	num_kaigi	num_shosha	num_exc
朝日紡績	4	189705	4189705	4	5	0	1	0	0
尼ヶ崎	5	189804	5189804	5	6	4	1	1	0
合同	24	190211	24190211	4	5	0	1	0	0
大阪紡績	28	189705	28189705	28	6	3	0	1	2
岡山紡績	36	189705	36189705	36	8	3	2	0	0
笠岡紡績	43	190110	43190110	43	9	4	1	0	0
金巾	46	189711	46189711	46	7	6	0	2	0
鐘淵紡績	48	189705	48189705	48	8	3	1	0	0
岸和田	52	189711	52189711	52	8	4	0	0	0
吉備紡績	56	190110	56190110	56					
三池紡績	58	189705	58189705	58	10	4	0	1	0
倉敷紡績	65	190110	65190110	65	7	5	0	0	0
郡山紡績	72	190303	72190303	72	7	3	0	0	0
堺紡績	76	190110	76190110	76	7	2	1	0	0
讃岐サ	79	190307	79190307	79	9	4	0	0	0
摂津紡績	98	189705	98189705	98					
泉州紡績	100	189705	100189705	100	8	5	0	0	0
玉島紡績	109	189705	109189705	109	5	2	0	0	0
中国紡績	111	190110	111190110	111	9	4	2	0	0
東京紡績	124	189705	124189705	124	5	0	0	0	0
名古屋紡績	136	190303	136190303	136	7	5	1	0	0
浪花紡績	139	189705	139189705	139	9	7	0	3	0
日本紡織	145	190207	145190207	145	8	6	0	0	1
日本紡績	147	190209	147190209	147	10	6	1	5	0
野田	149	189709	149189709	149	9	4	0	0	2
備前	155	189706	155189706	155	9	2	0	0	0
平野紡績	158	189705	158189705	158	6	2	0	1	0
福島紡績	160	190312	160190312	160	5	1	0	0	0
福山紡績	162	190110	162190110	162	5	5	0	0	0
三重紡績	174	190110	174190110	174	6	2	2	0	0

6. Bring it to estimation

Focus on the observation with some price change
(\Leftrightarrow Nakamura & Steinsson 2012)

(i) Fixed-effect panel estimation:

$$\ln P_{i,t} = \alpha + \beta_1 \ln ER_t + \beta_2 x_{i,t} + \beta_3 \ln ER_t \times x_{i,t} + FE_i + \varepsilon_t$$

(ii) Allison's hybrid random-effect estimation (Allison 2009)

$$\begin{aligned} \ln P_{i,t} = & \alpha + \beta \ln ER_t + \gamma_1 (x_{i,t} - \bar{x}_i) + \gamma_2 \bar{x}_i \\ & + \delta_1 \{ \ln ER_t \times x_{i,t} - \overline{\ln ER \times x_i} \} + \delta_2 \overline{\ln ER \times x_i} + RE_i + \varepsilon_t \end{aligned}$$

(iii) Correlated coefficient random-effect estimation (Wooldridge 2010)

$$\begin{aligned} \ln P_{i,t} = & \alpha + \beta \ln ER_t + \gamma_1 x_{i,t} + \gamma_2 \bar{x}_i \\ & + \delta_1 \ln ER_t \times x_{i,t} + \delta_2 \overline{\ln ER \times x_i} + RE_i + \varepsilon_t \end{aligned}$$

7-1. Unconditional & TFP

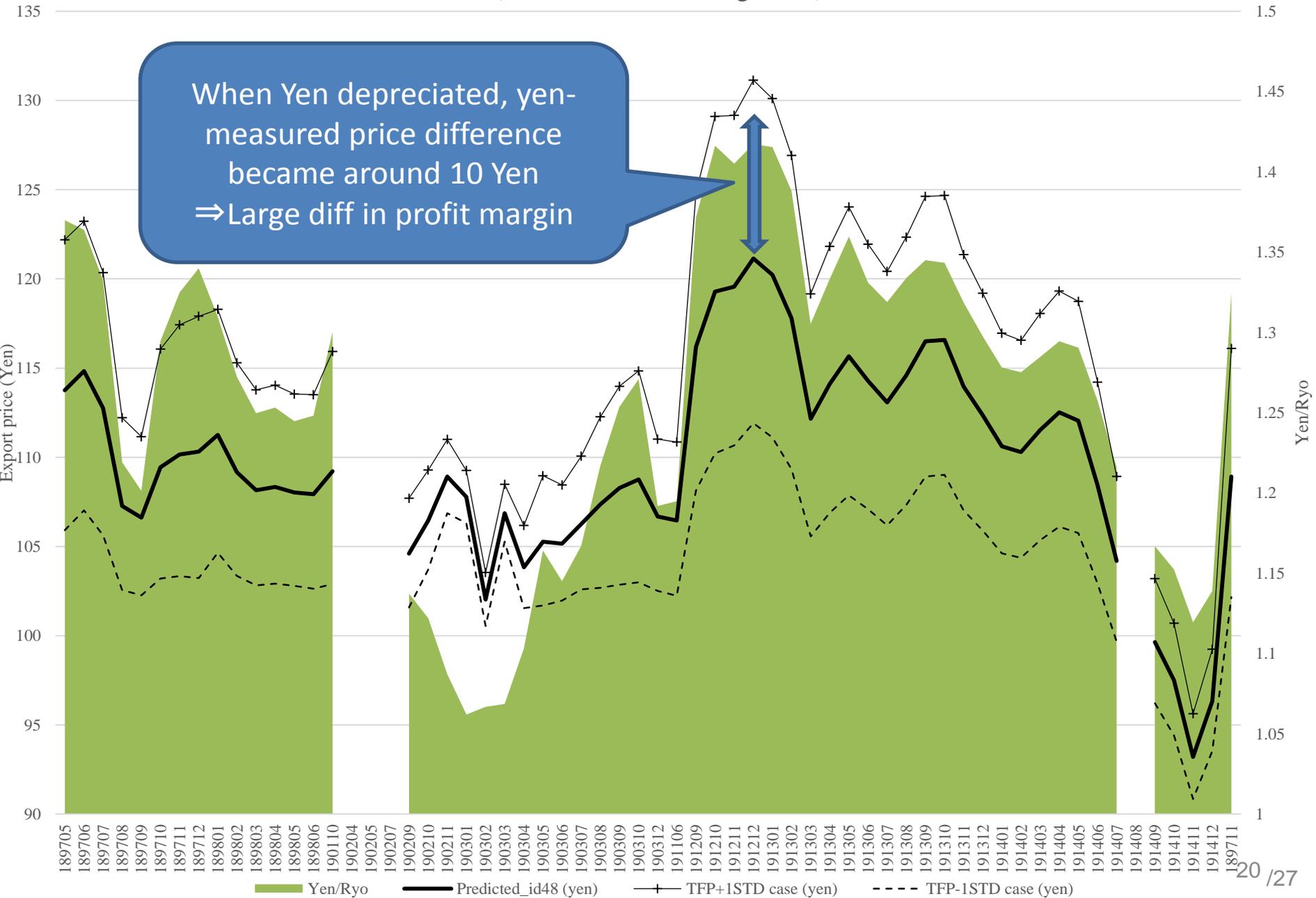
Dependent variable: P

Independent Variables	Fixed-effect model		Fixed-effect model		Allison (2009) Hybrid random-effect model		Correlated random-effects model	
	Coef.	Std. Err.	Coef.	Std. Err.	Coef.	Std. Err.	Coef.	Std. Err.
ER	1.067	0.070 ***	1.024	0.068 ***			1.019	0.068 ***
TFP			-0.400	0.150 ***			-0.407	0.149 ***
$ER \times TFP$			1.748	0.629 ***			1.786	0.628 ***
$ER - ER_{AVR}$					1.019	0.068 ***		
$TFP - TFP_{AVR}$					-0.407	0.149 ***		
$ER \times TFP - ER \times TFP_{AVR}$					1.786	0.628 ***		
ER_{AVR}					-0.118	0.346	-1.137	0.352 ***
TFP_{AVR}					-0.131	0.628	0.276	0.640
$ER \times TFP_{AVR}$					0.486	2.788	-1.300	2.831
<i>constant</i>	4.462	0.016 ***	4.451	0.015 ***	4.643	0.072 ***	4.643	0.072 ***
No. of Obs.	517		436		436		436	
No. of Groups	32		30		30		30	
Observation per group								
min	1		1		1		1	
avr	16.2		14.5		14.5		14.5	
max	57		57		57		57	
F or Wald chi2	231.55		76.79		227.30		227.30	
Prob > F or chi2	0.0000		0.0000		0.0000		0.0000	
R-sq								
within	0.3236		0.3637		0.3637		0.3637	
between	0.0047		0.0044		0.0136		0.0136	
overall	0.2074		0.1767		0.1791		0.1791	
corr(u_i , xb)	-0.0870		-0.1267		0 (assumed)		0 (assumed)	
F test that all $u_i=0$								
F	12.93		18.61		n.a.		n.a.	
Prob>F	0.0000		0.0000		n.a.		n.a.	

Almost same magnitude reported in Fitzgerald & Haller (2014) i.e., $\beta=1.01$ (std. 0.090)***

Fitzgerald & Haller (2014) "meets" Berman et al. (2012) i.e., depends on firm characteristics

Prediced Yen price w/ different TFP
(basecase = id48: Kanegafuchi)



7-2. Another TFP measure

□ Robust to alternative TFP computation

Dependent variable: <i>P</i>									
Independent Variables	Fixed-effect model			Allison (2009) Hybrid random-effect model		Correlated random-effects model			
	Coef.	Std. Err.		Coef.	Std. Err.	Coef.	Std. Err.		
<i>ER</i>	1.016	0.076	***			1.012	0.076	***	
<i>TFP</i>	-0.469	0.187	**			-0.480	0.187	***	
<i>ER</i> × <i>TFP</i>	2.529	0.789	***			2.573	0.791	***	
<i>ER - ER_AVR</i>				1.012	0.076	***			
<i>TFP - TFP_AVR</i>				-0.480	0.187	***			
<i>ER</i> × <i>TFP - ER</i> × <i>TFP_AVR</i>				2.573	0.791	***			
<i>ER_AVR</i>				-0.321	0.495		-1.333	0.501	***
<i>TFP_AVR</i>				-0.280	1.103		0.200	1.116	
<i>ER</i> × <i>TFP_AVR</i>				1.690	4.827		-0.883	4.881	
<i>constant</i>	4.449	0.017	***	4.686	0.106	***	4.686	0.106	***

7-3. One step further

- ① Female wage (\Leftrightarrow quality)
- ② Import intensity
- ③ Inventory turnover (\Leftrightarrow "financial cost")
- ④ BOJ discount rate (sign???)

at variable: P

Fixed-effect model

Independent Variables	Coef.	Std. Err.		Coef.	Std. Err.		Coef.	Std. Err.	
<i>ER</i>	0.272	0.090	***	0.691	0.065	***	1.078	0.127	***
<i>TFP</i>	-0.166	0.142		-0.079	0.108		-0.035	0.122	
<i>ER</i> × <i>TFP</i>	0.200	0.686		-0.482	0.480		-0.144	0.585	
<i>WAGE</i>	-0.219	0.079	***	-0.315	0.068	***	-0.045	0.072	
<i>ER</i> × <i>WAGE</i>	1.511	0.384	***	2.149	0.328	***	1.067	0.339	***
<i>SIZE</i>	0.037	0.019	*	0.058	0.017	***	0.071	0.017	***
<i>ER</i> × <i>SIZE</i>	0.174	0.081	**	0.108	0.073		0.033	0.071	
<i>ER</i> × <i>IMPORT</i>	0.018	0.003	***	0.015	0.003	***	0.010	0.003	***
<i>INVENTORY</i>	0.985	0.376	***				0.728	0.322	**
<i>ER</i> × <i>INVENTORY</i>	-7.053	1.682	***				-4.604	1.467	***
<i>RATE</i>				-0.072	0.015	***	-0.191	0.024	***
<i>ER</i> × <i>RATE</i>				0.324	0.073	***	0.777	0.109	***
<i>constant</i>	4.575	0.018	***	4.497	0.014	***	4.392	0.028	***

7-4. Full model

Dependent variable: *P*

Fixed-effect model

Independent Variables	Coef.	Std. Err.	Coef.	Std. Err.	Coef.	Std. Err.	
<i>ER</i>	0.070	0.221	0.986	0.328	***	0.740 0.556	
<i>TFP</i>	-0.253	0.153	*	-0.057	0.156	0.006 0.160	
<i>ER</i> × <i>TFP</i>	0.350	0.713		-0.619	0.735	-1.449 0.690 **	
<i>WAGE</i>	-0.268	0.086	***	-0.349	0.085	***	0.025 0.097
<i>ER</i> × <i>WAGE</i>	1.755	0.434	***	2.132	0.430	***	0.327 0.535
<i>SIZE</i>	0.053	0.023	**	0.018	0.024		0.054 0.034
<i>ER</i> × <i>SIZE</i>	0.103	0.103		0.255	0.107	**	0.192 0.167
<i>ER</i> × <i>IMPORT</i>	0.009	0.006		0.017	0.006	***	0.013 0.012
<i>INVENTORY</i>	0.674	0.395	*	0.007	0.421		
<i>ER</i> × <i>INVENTORY</i>	-5.541	1.761	***	-1.933	1.959		
<i>ER</i> × <i>Shosha_share</i>	-2.641	1.415	*	-3.381	1.374	**	
<i>ER</i> × <i>Bank_share</i>	0.848	0.611		-0.629	0.712		-0.391 1.020
<i>ER</i> × <i>Kaigi_share</i>				-4.068	1.112	***	-0.356 2.281
<i>Shosha_num_TV</i>							0.016 0.009 *
<i>ER</i> × <i>Shosha_num_TV</i>							-0.114 0.050 **
<i>constant</i>	4.572	0.019	***	4.568	0.018	***	4.505 0.030 ***

7-5. Robustness

- Asymmetry b/w appreciation & depreciation
- Incorporate other currencies
- Incorporate prefectural controls
- Incorporate and consider additional factors:
 - Interaction b/w exchange rate & centrality of 16 count: (+/-) but insig
Interaction b/w exchange rate & 1(early entry to export market): (+) but insig
↔ Early entrant has some market power
 - Interaction b/w exchange rate & 1(headquartered in Tokyo): (+) but insig
↔ Distribution cost as in Berstein & Jaimovich (2012)?
 - Exclude the periods for WWI (July 1914~)

⇒ Results in “full model” are robust to the inclusion of these items

8-1. Discussion

- Somewhat stable (-) coef associated w/ shosha*ER
 - Under depreciation of JPY, firms with higher “shosha” increases yen-price by smaller margin
 - This leads to lower ryo-price (\Rightarrow more export “quantity”)
 - Note: This is the case with many controls proposed in literature

- Possible mechanism?
 - Intention to increase market share?
 - Intention to gain more profit from transaction?

8-2. Things to be done

- Better to confirm the robustness of this result
 - Construct longer bank/kaigisho member list

9. Conclusion

- ❑ Use the ideal data and confirm heterogeneous pass-through in a comprehensive way: Product quality, import, financial cost

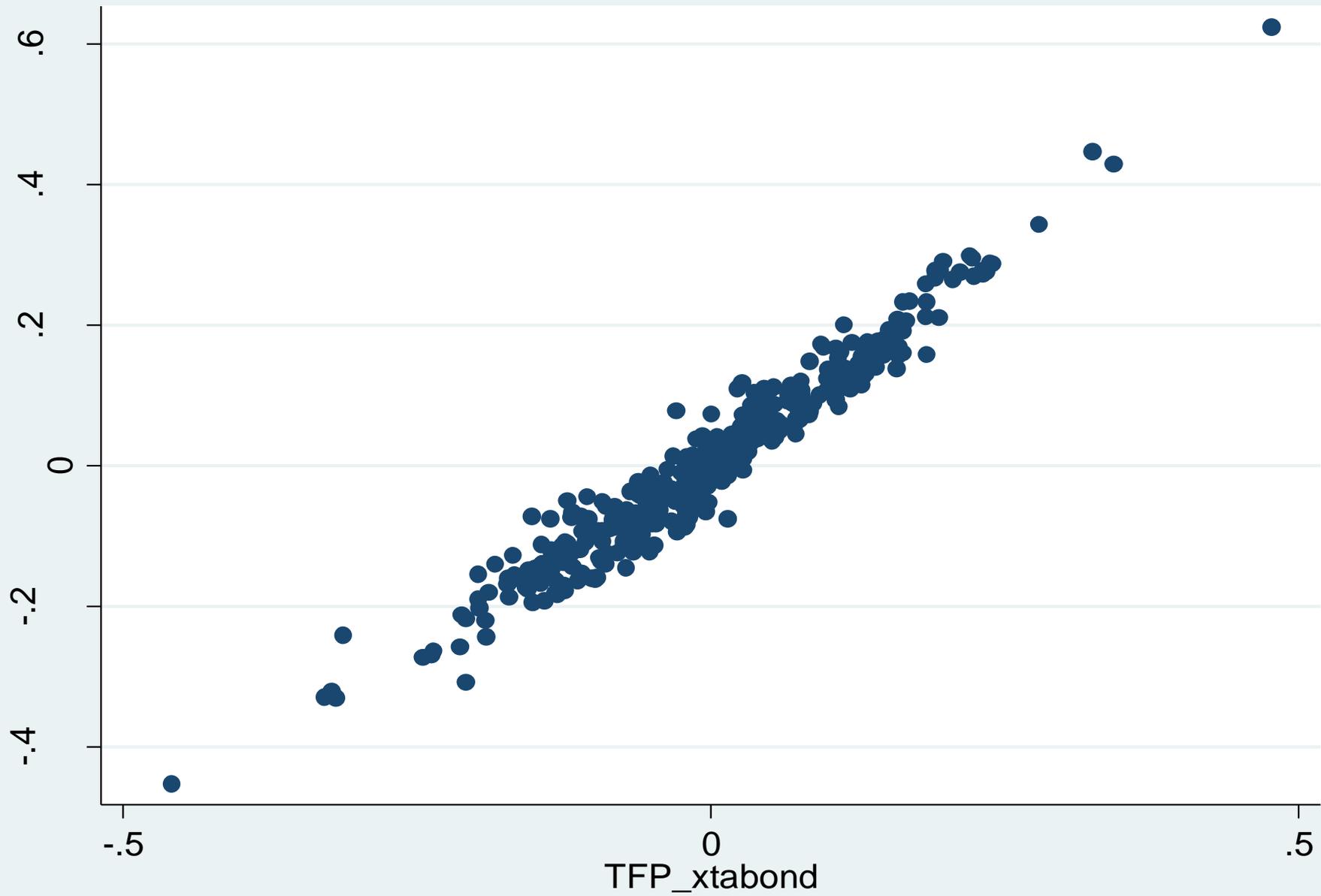
- ❑ Examine an untouched channel (networks) in the context of PTM

- ❑ Other projects using this data
 - Pre-export investment (i.e., tangibles & intangibles)

 - Pre-export & post-export productivity/profitability dynamics

 - Utilizing network information more intensively

Appendix



List to do for PTM paper

- ❑ Extensive margin & Urgency explanation (e.g., Nakamura)
- ❑ Downstream integration into cloth production
- ❑ Within-effect vs., between-effect
- ❑ Sources of data attrition
- ❑ Financial friction explanation: BOJ*B/S
- ❑ Way to demean (e.g., industry average)
- ❑ Domestic price dynamics of exporter and non-exporter firms
- ❑ Time-fixed effect (subsuming *ER* etc.)
- ❑ Benchmarking export prices by domestic (or industry) prices of cotton yarn produce by firms little depending on Chinese raw cotton
- ❑ Driver(s) of gold/silver rate (for ensuring exogeneity of *ER*)
- ❑ Controlling for FDI
- ❑ Lagged & averaged *ER* (related to delivery cost)
- ❑ Heterogeneity in cost adjustment
- ❑ Behavior of Chinese cotton producers
- ❑ Export price volatility within month
- ❑ Determinants of (i) level of *ER* and growth of *ER*?
- ❑ Delivery cost inside China
- ❑ Real Exchange Rate?
- ❑ Magnitude of the ER coef ↓ (not a one-to-one pass-through, R-squared is also much higher)
- ❑ Somewhat surprisingly, the depreciation of yen to shilling (*ER_S*) led to lower export price (Did India also have a gold standard? That could explain it. How much variation is there?)

Thank you and comments are welcome!

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