Firm-to-firm Trade in Sticky Production Networks

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Motivation Methodology Relation to Literature Outline

Motivation

- A growing literature studies:
 - input-output networks between production units (e.g. firms, industries)
 - how these networks matter for aggregate effects of production unit shocks
- However, leading theories take fundamental network structure as exogenous:
 - typically, network = technological I-O matrix between sectors
 - hence, an exogenous technology that does not respond to shocks
- How important is the dynamic adjustment of firm production networks for the aggregate effects of firm-level shocks?

Motivation Methodology Relation to Literature Outline

Methodology

Develop a dynamic structural model of trade between heterogeneous firms with endogenous network of firm-level linkages



- Estimate model using data on trading relationships between US firms
- Simulate model to study importance of production network structure and dynamics for aggregate effects of shocks to firm-level productivity and demand

Motivation Methodology Relation to Literature Outline

Relation to Literature

- Network structure, micro shocks, and macro effects: Acemoglu et al (2012), Magerman et al (2016), Taschereau-Dumouchel (2017), Baqaee (2017), Baqaee and Farhi (2017), Grassi (2017)
 - study endogenous formation of firm-to-firm trade networks
- Dynamics of firm-level trade networks: Atalay et al (2011), Oberfield (2015), Chaney (2014, 2015)
 - allow for richer relationship heterogeneity
 - simultaneously model intensive/extensive margins of traded
- Buyer-seller matches: Bernard, Moxnes, and Saito (2015), Bernard, Moxnes, and Ulltveit-Moe (2015), Eaton, Jinkins, Tybout, and Xu (2015), Krolikowski and McCallum (2016), Monarch and Schmidt-Eisenlohr (2016)
 - model full network instead of one tier of buyers/sellers
- Related to broader literature on social and economic network formation
 - solve for transition dynamics without resorting to myopic agents

Motivation Methodology Relation to Literature **Outline**

Outline

- Description of model:
 - (static) given network of relationships, how much do firms trade?
 - (dynamic) which relationships do firms choose to form?
- Data and model estimation:
 - data sources
 - estimation strategy
 - stylized facts and model fit
- Counterfactual exercises and results

Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

Basic Environment

- Exogenous unit continuum of firms producing differentiated goods
- Firms heterogeneous over states $\chi \equiv (\phi, \delta)$
 - ϕ : fundamental productivity (labor input more productive)
 - δ : fundamental quality (household prefers product more)
 - exogenous distribution function F_{χ} and support $S_{\chi} \subset \mathbb{R}^2_+$
- Representative household supplies L units of labor inelastically, with preferences:

$$U = \left[\int_{S_{\chi}} \left[\delta x_{\mathcal{H}} \left(\chi \right) \right]^{\frac{\sigma}{\sigma} - 1} dF_{\chi} \left(\chi \right) \right]^{\frac{\sigma}{\sigma - 1}}$$

Conditional on prices, household demand $x_H(\chi)$ is greater for firms with higher δ

Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

Production Network



- Firm-to-firm trade characterized by production network
- Network fully specified by matching function m

•
$$m(\chi, \chi') =$$
 probability that χ -firm buys from χ' -firm

Production CES in labor and supplier inputs, given matching function:

$$X\left(\chi\right) = \left[\left[\phi^{\prime}\left(\chi\right)\right]^{\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma}} + \int_{\mathcal{S}_{\chi}} m\left(\chi,\chi'\right) \left[x\left(\chi,\chi'\right)\right]^{\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma}} dF_{\chi}\left(\chi'\right)\right]^{\frac{\sigma}{\sigma-1}}$$

• Conditional on prices, firms with higher ϕ have lower marginal cost $\eta(\chi)$

Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

- Market structure: monopolistic competition
- Continuum of sellers for each buyer \Rightarrow all firms charge CES markup $\mu = \frac{\sigma}{\sigma-1}$
- Given network, how much do firms buy and sell?



Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

Sourcing and selling decisions

- Market structure: monopolistic competition
- Continuum of sellers for each buyer \Rightarrow all firms charge CES markup $\mu = \frac{\sigma}{\sigma-1}$
- Given network, how much do firms buy and sell?

• firm-to-firm trade depends on fundamental (ϕ, δ) of buyer/seller...

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- but also on (ϕ, δ) of buyers/sellers of buyer/seller...

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- and on (ϕ, δ) of buyers/sellers of buyers/sellers of buyer/seller...
- aggregate state variable = entire network?
- Solution: characterize firms in terms of network productivity and quality

$$\begin{array}{l} \Phi\left(\chi\right) & \equiv \eta\left(\chi\right)^{1-\sigma} & (\text{inverse marginal cost}) \\ \Delta\left(\chi\right) & \equiv \frac{1}{\Delta_{H}}X\left(\chi\right)\eta\left(\chi\right)^{\sigma} & (\text{intermediate demand shifter}) \end{array}$$

Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

Firm Network Characteristics

 Firm's network characteristics depend on fundamental characteristics and network characteristics of suppliers/customers through matching function

$$\Phi(\chi) = \phi^{\sigma-1} + \mu^{1-\sigma} \int_{S_{\chi}} m\left(\chi, \chi'\right) \Phi\left(\chi'\right) dF_{\chi}\left(\chi'\right)$$
$$\Delta(\chi) = \mu^{-\sigma} \delta^{\sigma-1} + \mu^{-\sigma} \int_{S_{\chi}} m\left(\chi', \chi\right) \Delta\left(\chi'\right) dF_{\chi}\left(\chi'\right)$$

- Decoupled contraction mappings in $\Phi(\cdot)$ and $\Delta(\cdot) \Rightarrow$ easily solved
- Firm network characteristics determine all variables of interest:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{firm revenue:} & R\left(\chi\right) & \propto \Delta\left(\chi\right) \Phi\left(\chi\right) \\ \text{firm profit:} & \Pi\left(\chi\right) & \propto \Delta\left(\chi\right) \Phi\left(\chi\right) \\ \text{firm-to-firm sales:} & r\left(\chi,\chi'\right) & \propto \Delta\left(\chi\right) \Phi\left(\chi'\right) \\ \text{firm-to-firm profit:} & \pi\left(\chi,\chi'\right) & \propto \Delta\left(\chi\right) \Phi\left(\chi'\right) \end{array}$$

Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

Dynamic Network Formation

- Now ask: which relationships do firms choose to form?
 - discrete time
 - linear household preferences
- CES production technology generates incentives to form links:
 - ▶ constant marginal cost ⇒ more customers desirable
 - ▶ finite, positive substitution elasticity ⇒ more suppliers desirable
- Counterbalance incentives with two kinds of frictions in relationship formation
- Relationship reset shocks (exogenous chance):
 - 1ν opportunity to activate/terminate relationship each period
 - reset shocks independent across all firm pairs and time
- Relationship cost shocks (endogenous choice):
 - active relationship requires $f_t = \psi \xi_t$ units of labor
 - ξ_t iid across relationships and time, CDF F_{ξ} with unit mean
 - zero serial correlation in ξ_t for tractability, persistence built in through ν

Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

Dynamic Network Formation



• Inactive $\chi - \chi^{'}$ relationship at date t-1

Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

Dynamic Network Formation



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• with probability ν , no reset shock received: relationship remains inactive

Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

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- with probability 1ν , reset shock received: firms select based on cost ξ_t
 - with probability $a_t(\chi, \chi')$, relationship activated

Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

Dynamic Network Formation



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- ▶ with probability 1ν , reset shock received: firms select based on cost ξ_t
 - with probability $a_t(\chi, \chi')$, relationship activated

• with probability
$$1 - a_t \left(\chi, \chi' \right)$$
, relationship rejected

Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

Dynamic Network Formation

- a_t denotes acceptance function: probability that a relationship is voluntarily selected given chance to reset relationship
- Law of motion for matching function:

►

$$\begin{split} m_{t} &= \underbrace{m_{t-1}}_{\text{existing relationships}} + \underbrace{(1-\nu) a_{t} (1-m_{t-1})}_{\text{newly created relationships}} - \underbrace{(1-\nu) (1-a_{t}) m_{t-1}}_{\text{terminated relationships}} \\ &= \nu m_{t-1} + (1-\nu) a_{t} \end{split}$$

In steady-state, $m\left(\chi, \chi'\right) = a\left(\chi, \chi'\right)$

Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

Relationship Selection

- Given the chance to reset a relationship, when do firms choose to do so?
- Assume that selling firm pays full share of relationship cost:
 - optimal pricing is the same as before
 - buying firm is always agreeable to any trading relationship
- Static variable profit earned by a χ' -firm from selling to χ -firm at date t:

$$\pi_{t}\left(\chi,\chi^{'}
ight)\propto\Delta_{t}\left(\chi
ight)\Phi_{t}\left(\chi^{'}
ight)$$

Acceptance function with myopic firms:

$$\tilde{\mathsf{a}}_{t}\left(\boldsymbol{\chi},\boldsymbol{\chi}'\right) = \mathsf{Pr}\left[\pi_{t}\left(\boldsymbol{\chi},\boldsymbol{\chi}'\right) \geq \psi\xi_{t}\right] = \mathsf{F}_{\xi}\left[\frac{\pi_{t}\left(\boldsymbol{\chi},\boldsymbol{\chi}'\right)}{\psi}\right]$$

But stickiness of relationships makes acceptance decisions forward-looking

Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

Relationship Selection

Value of selling:

$$V_{t}^{+}\left(\chi,\chi^{'}|\xi_{t}\right) = \underbrace{\pi_{t}\left(\chi,\chi^{'}\right) - \psi\xi_{t}}_{\text{static profit}} + \underbrace{\beta\nu\mathbb{E}_{t}\left[V_{t+1}^{+}\left(\chi,\chi^{'}|\xi_{t+1}\right)\right]}_{\text{stuck-in value}} + \underbrace{\beta\left(1-\nu\right)\mathbb{E}_{t}\left[V_{t+1}^{0}\left(\chi,\chi^{'}|\xi_{t+1}\right)\right]}_{\text{reset option value}}$$

Value of not selling:

$$V_{t}^{-}\left(\chi,\chi'\right) = \underbrace{\beta\nu V_{t+1}^{-}\left(\chi,\chi'\right)}_{\text{stuck-out value}} + \underbrace{\beta\left(1-\nu\right)\mathbb{E}_{t}\left[V_{t+1}^{0}\left(\chi,\chi'|\xi_{t+1}\right)\right]}_{\text{reset option value}}$$

Reset option value:

$$V_{t}^{O}\left(\chi,\chi^{'}|\xi_{t}\right) = \max\left\{V_{t}^{+}\left(\chi,\chi^{'}|\xi_{t}\right),V_{t}^{-}\left(\chi,\chi^{'}\right)\right\}$$

Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

Relationship Selection

Selling premium equals EPV of profits before relationship can be reset:

$$V_{t}^{+}\left(\chi,\chi^{'}|\xi_{t}\right)-V_{t}^{-}\left(\chi,\chi^{'}\right)=\mathbb{E}_{t}\left[\sum_{s=0}^{\infty}\left(\beta\nu\right)^{s}\left[\pi_{t+s}\left(\chi,\chi^{'}\right)-\psi\xi_{t+s}\right]\right]$$

Acceptance function with forward-looking firms:

$$\mathbf{a}_{t}\left(\boldsymbol{\chi},\boldsymbol{\chi}'\right) = F_{\xi}\left[1 + \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \left(\beta\nu\right)^{s} \left[\frac{\pi_{t+s}\left(\boldsymbol{\chi},\boldsymbol{\chi}'\right)}{\psi} - 1\right]\right]$$

Need to solve for future path of profit functions dynamic algorithm

- guess number of periods T before convergence to post-shock steady-state
- ▶ guess { π_{t+s} }^T_{s=1} and solve static equilibrium at each date
- iterate on guess of $\{\pi_{t+s}\}_{s=1}^{T}$ until convergence
- increment T until π_{t+T} is close enough to post-shock steady-state π

Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

Relationship Selection

In steady-state:

$$\mathbf{a}\left(\boldsymbol{\chi},\boldsymbol{\chi}'\right) = \mathbf{F}_{\xi}\left[\frac{\pi\left(\boldsymbol{\chi},\boldsymbol{\chi}'\right) - \beta\nu\psi}{\left(1 - \beta\nu\right)\psi}\right]$$

Firms with better network characteristics are more likely to trade

Forward-looking firm decisions imply:

- temporarily unprofitable relationships may be activated if $\pi\left(\chi,\chi'
 ight)>\psi$
- temporarily profitable relationships may not be activated if $\pi\left(\chi,\chi'
 ight)<\psi$
- Firm pairs will never trade in steady-state if $\pi\left(\chi,\chi'
 ight)<eta
 u\psi$
- Model closed using labor market clearing condition market clearing

Static Production Network Dynamic Network Formation Model Properties and Predictions

Model Properties and Predictions

Existence and uniqueness

- static market equilibrium is unique (contraction mapping theorem)
- uniqueness of dynamic market equilibrium harder to prove, but no numerical counterexample found in simulations
- Efficiency
 - static market equilibrium is inefficient: double marginalization
 - in dynamic setting, additional source of "network externality" efficiency
- Model generates analytic predictions about:
 - firm-level revenue and degree distributions distributions
 - assortativity of matching between firms (matching)
 - dynamics of relationships dynamics
- Take these predictions to data in order to discipline parameters of the model

Data Sources Estimation Procedure Model Fit

Data Sources

Compustat data

- publicly-listed firms in the US
- records of firms' major customers (>10% revenue)
- panel data from 1979-2008, >100,000 firm-year observations
- relationship data also exploited by Atalay et al (2011), Barrot and Sauvagnat (2016), Taschereau-Dumouchel (2017)
- Capital IQ data
 - private and public firms
 - relationships recorded from multiple sources (publications, news reports)
 - select all firms in continental US with recorded relationship data and positive average revenue from 2003-2007
 - ▶ ~9,000 firms accounting for 54.3% of total non-farm US business revenue

Data Sources Estimation Procedure Model Fit

Estimation Procedure

- Parametric assumptions
 - log (φ, δ): uncorrelated Gaussian RVs with common variance v² and zero mean (scale invariance)
 - ξ_t: Weibull RV with unit mean and shape s_ξ
- 7 model parameters
 - not estimated: L = 1, $\beta = .95$, $\sigma = 4$
 - estimated via simulated method of moments: v, ψ , s_{ξ} , ν
- Targeted moments:
 - firm size distribution (v)
 - relationship retention/creation rates (s_{ξ} , ν)
 - 70% labor share (ψ)

Data Sources Estimation Procedure Model Fit

Model Fit

- Objective function contour plots objfun
- Targeted moments:
 - size firm size distribution
 - dynamics relationship retention/creation rates

Untargeted moments:

- degree firm degree distribution
- size-degree firm size-degree joint distribution
- matching firm matching distributions

Counterfactual Exercises

- Use model to study aggregate effects of firm-level supply/demand shocks
 - start from model steady-state at estimated parameter values
 - group firms according to deciles of firm size
 - \blacktriangleright solve for predicted effects of 1-s.d. shock to ϕ or δ for each firm group

Focus on aggregate welfare effects and role of network structure and dynamics:

- CF1 relationship heterogeneity
- CF2 supply chain heterogeneity
- CF3 relationship dynamics

Conclusion

- New theory of how heterogeneous firms create/destroy trading relationships
- Tractable model with rich relationship heterogeneity and endogenous dynamics
- Simulations highlight role of network structure/dynamics in propagation and aggregation of firm-level supply and demand shocks
- Ongoing research agenda:
 - network adjustment and business cyckes (paper revision)
 - role of networks in labor market outcomes (with Kory Kroft, David Price)
 - network shocks with adjustment costs (with Sungki Hong)
 - market structures that deliver efficient outcomes
 - microfoundations of relationship frictions

Rauch classification of traded products

US trade:

| | 2014 US Exports | 2014 US Imports |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Traded via organized exchanges | 12.9% | 17.1% |
| Reference priced | 17.0% | 12.7% |
| All others | 70.1% | 70.2% |

World trade:

Shares of commodity categories in value of total trade (percent)

| | | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 |
|--------------|--------------------|------|------|------|
| Conservative | Organized exchange | 19.5 | 27.2 | 12.6 |
| Aggregation | Reference priced | 24.0 | 21.3 | 20.3 |
| | Differentiated | 56.5 | 51.5 | 67.1 |
| Liberal | Organized exchange | 24.7 | 31.7 | 16.0 |
| Aggregation | Reference priced | 21.8 | 19.5 | 19.5 |
| | Differentiated | 53.6 | 48.9 | 64.6 |
| | | | | |

Network Formation Literature

- Statistical models: e.g. Erdös-Rényi (1959), Watts-Strogatz (1998), Barabási-Albert (1999), Atalay et al (2011)
- Strategic network formation models: Aumann & Myerson (1988), Myerson (1991), Jackson & Wollinksy (1996), Kranton & Minehart (2001)
- Approach here is combination of chance and choice, similar in spirit to Bala and Goyal (2000), Watts (2001), Jackson and Watts (2002)
 - but within the context of structural trade model
 - can solve for rational expectations dynamics instead of approximate best-response

Dynamic Algorithm



Market Clearing

Labor market clearing:

$$\begin{split} L - L_{f} &= \int_{S_{\chi}} I(\chi) \, dF_{\chi} \left(\chi \right) \\ L_{f} &= f \int_{S_{\chi}} \int_{S_{\chi}} \left[\nu m \left(\chi, \chi' \right) + (1 - \nu) \, \bar{\xi} \left(\chi, \chi' \right) \right] dF_{\chi} \left(\chi \right) dF_{\chi} \left(\chi' \right) \\ \bar{\xi} \left(\chi, \chi' \right) &= \int_{0}^{\xi_{max}} \left(\chi, \chi' \right) \, \xi dF_{\xi} \left(\xi \right) \\ \xi_{max} \left(\chi, \chi' \right) &= \max \left\{ \frac{\pi \left(\chi, \chi' \right) - \beta \nu f}{(1 - \beta \nu) \, f}, 0 \right\} \end{split}$$

Output market clearing:

$$X\left(\chi\right) = x_{H}\left(\chi\right) + \int_{\mathcal{S}_{\chi}} m\left(\chi',\chi\right) x\left(\chi',\chi\right) dF_{\chi}\left(\chi'\right)$$

Household Welfare

Using labor market clearing condition, welfare is approximately equal to:

$$U \approx (L - L_f) \left[\int_{S_{\chi}} \int_{S_{\chi}} \left[\sum_{d=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\mu} \right)^{d(\sigma-1)} m^{(d)} \left(\chi, \chi' \right) \right] \left(\delta \phi' \right)^{\sigma-1} \right]^{\frac{1}{\sigma-1}}$$

- Welfare is greater when high-δ buyers are connected with high-φ sellers, both directly and indirectly
- Welfare cost of additional relationships captured by L L_f



Efficiency

Static social value of a relationship in the planner's problem:

$$\frac{dU_{t}}{d\bar{m}_{t}\left(\chi,\chi^{'}\right)}=\mathcal{C}_{t}\left[\pi_{t}^{SP}\left(\chi,\chi^{'}\right)-\psi\right]$$

π_t^{SP} is planner's analogue of the profit function, differs only by constant term μ
 C_t is total connectivity in the economy:

$$C_{t} \equiv \left[\int_{S_{\chi}} \int_{S_{\chi}} \left[\sum_{d=0}^{\infty} m_{t}^{SP,(d)} \left(\chi, \chi' \right) \right] \left(\delta \phi' \right)^{\sigma-1} dG_{\chi} \left(\chi \right) dG_{\chi} \left(\chi' \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{\sigma-1}}$$

Efficiency

Planner's acceptance function:

$$a_{t}^{SP}\left(\chi,\chi^{'}\right) = F_{\xi}\left[1 + \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} (\beta\nu)^{s} \left(\frac{\mathcal{C}_{t+s}}{\mathcal{C}_{t}}\right) \left[\frac{\pi_{t+s}^{SP}\left(\chi,\chi^{'}\right)}{\psi} - 1\right]\right]$$

Two sources of market equilibrium inefficiency

- double marginalization: lowers private cost-benefit ratio of relationships relative to social ratio $(\pi_t^{SP}/\psi > \pi_t/\psi)$
- network externalities: firms do not internalize effect of creating/destroying relationships on overall network (amplification by factor C_t)

Firm-level Distributions

Firm size:

$$R(\chi) = \mu \Delta_H \Delta(\chi) \Phi(\chi)$$
$$I(\chi) = (\mu - 1) \Delta_H \Delta(\chi) \Phi(\chi) + I_f(\chi)$$

In- and out-degrees:

$$M_{S}(\chi) = \int_{S_{\chi}} m\left(\chi, \chi'\right) dF_{\chi}\left(\chi'\right)$$
$$M_{C}(\chi) = \int_{S_{\chi}} m\left(\chi', \chi\right) dF_{\chi}\left(\chi'\right)$$

- Firms with better fundamental characteristics are larger and more connected
- $\blacktriangleright\,$ Two dimensions of heterogeneity \Rightarrow imperfect correlation between firm size and degree

Matching Assortativity

• Matching between χ -buyer and χ' -seller depends only on $\Delta_H \Delta(\chi) \Phi(\chi')$:

$$m\left(\chi,\chi'\right) = \tilde{m}\left[\Delta_{H}\Delta\left(\chi\right)\Phi\left(\chi'\right)\right] \equiv F_{\xi}\left[\frac{\Delta_{H}\Delta\left(\chi\right)\Phi\left(\chi'\right) - \beta\nu\psi}{(1 - \beta\nu)\psi}\right]$$

Assortativity, e.g. average supplier revenue:

$$\tilde{R}_{S}\left(\chi\right) = \frac{\int_{S_{\chi}} \tilde{m} \left[\Delta_{H} \Delta\left(\chi\right) \Phi\left(\chi'\right)\right] R\left(\chi'\right) dF_{\chi}\left(\chi'\right)}{\int_{S_{\chi}} \tilde{m} \left[\Delta_{H} \Delta\left(\chi\right) \Phi\left(\chi'\right)\right] dF_{\chi}\left(\chi'\right)}$$

• Assortativity depends on elasticity ϵ_{ξ} of F_{ξ} , e.g. in special case with $\delta = \text{constant}$ and $\nu = 0$:

$$\begin{array}{l} \bullet \quad \epsilon_{\xi} > 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d\bar{R}_{5}(\phi)}{d\phi} > 0 \\ \bullet \quad \epsilon_{\xi} < 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d\bar{R}_{5}(\phi)}{d\phi} < 0 \\ \bullet \quad \epsilon_{\xi} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d\bar{R}_{5}(\phi)}{d\phi} = 0 \end{array}$$

Relationship Dynamics

Relationship retention rate, e.g. with suppliers:

$$\rho_{S}^{ret}\left(\chi\right) = \frac{\nu M_{S}\left(\chi\right) + \left(1 - \nu\right) \int_{S_{\chi}} m\left(\chi, \chi'\right) a\left(\chi, \chi'\right) dF_{\chi}\left(\chi'\right)}{M_{S}\left(\chi\right)}$$

Relationship creation rate, e.g. with suppliers:

$$\rho_{S}^{new}\left(\chi\right) = \frac{\left(1-\nu\right)\int_{\mathcal{S}_{\chi}}\left[1-m\left(\chi,\chi'\right)\right]\mathsf{a}\left(\chi,\chi'\right)\mathsf{dF}_{\chi}\left(\chi'\right)}{M_{S}\left(\chi\right)}$$

 Larger firms have greater relationship retention rates, lower relationship creation rates

Objective Function



Model Fit - Revenue Distribution



Model Fit - Relationship Dynamics



Model Fit - Relationship Dynamics



Model Fit - Degree Distributions



Model Fit - Size-Degree Distributions



Model Fit - Matching



Model Fit - Matching



Relationship Heterogeneity

- In model and data, relationships are distributed heterogeneously across firms
- Consider alternative model of production where matching function is $m\left(\chi,\chi'\right) = \bar{m}$ for all $\left\{\chi,\chi'\right\} \in S_{\chi}^2$
 - firms identical in connectivity to other firms regardless of characteristics
 - equivalent to assumption that all firms produce using common composite intermediate input ("market model")
- Reestimate parameters of market model using same SMM approach
- Compare effects of supply/demand shocks in network vs. market model

Relationship Heterogeneity



- Market model under-predicts effect of shocks to large firms and over-predicts effects of shocks to small firms
- Large firms are central to the economy not only because they are large, but because they are the most connected



Supply Chain Heterogeneity

- In model and data, firms occupy different positions in various supply chains
- Structure of model offers simple method of decomposing shock effects into changes along each stage of relevant supply chains
- Consider short-run (fixed *m*) effects of shock $\phi \rightarrow \hat{\phi}(\phi)$

• 0th-order effect with no change in intermediate input prices:

$$\hat{\Phi}^{(0)}\left(\chi\right) = \hat{\phi}\left(\phi\right)^{\sigma-1} + \left(\frac{\alpha}{\mu}\right)^{\sigma-1} \int_{\mathcal{S}_{\chi}} m\left(\chi,\chi'\right) \Phi\left(\chi\right) d\mathcal{G}_{\chi}\left(\chi'\right)$$

1st-order effect with price changes only by firms directly affected:

$$\hat{\Phi}^{(1)}\left(\chi\right) = \hat{\phi}\left(\phi\right)^{\sigma-1} + \left(\frac{\alpha}{\mu}\right)^{\sigma-1} \int_{\mathcal{S}_{\chi}} m\left(\chi, \chi'\right) \hat{\Phi}^{(0)}\left(\chi\right) d\mathcal{G}_{\chi}\left(\chi'\right)$$

nth-order effect with price changes occurring up to *n* stages downstream:

$$\hat{\Phi}^{(n)}\left(\chi\right) = \hat{\phi}\left(\phi\right)^{\sigma-1} + \left(\frac{\alpha}{\mu}\right)^{\sigma-1} \int_{\mathcal{S}_{\chi}} m\left(\chi,\chi'\right) \hat{\Phi}^{(n-1)}\left(\chi\right) d\mathcal{G}_{\chi}\left(\chi'\right)$$

Supply Chain Heterogeneity



- 1st-order effects typically account for over 90% of overall short-run effects
- Suggests that higher-order propagation taking network as fixed is quantitatively unimportant

Relationship Dynamics

- To what extent does the endogenous response of the production network matter for the aggregate effects of firm-level shocks?
- Compare aggregate welfare effects over different time horizons
 - short-run: holding production network fixed
 - Iong-run: change in PDV of welfare allowing network to adjust

Relationship Dynamics

Ratio of long-run to short-run welfare change:

| also als | 1- | | | | | firm siz | e decile | | | | |
|----------|----|------|------|------|------|----------|----------|------|------|------|------|
| SHOCK | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| ф | + | 3.33 | 2.22 | 1.89 | 1.70 | 1.55 | 1.42 | 1.30 | 1.20 | 1.09 | 0.99 |
| | - | 1.47 | 1.32 | 1.20 | 1.12 | 1.06 | 1.02 | 0.99 | 0.97 | 0.96 | 0.84 |
| δ | + | 3.63 | 2.36 | 2.00 | 1.77 | 1.60 | 1.44 | 1.31 | 1.20 | 1.09 | 0.99 |
| | - | 1.69 | 1.59 | 1.37 | 1.24 | 1.15 | 1.08 | 1.03 | 0.99 | 0.97 | 0.87 |

- Magnitudes of short- and long-run effects can differ substantially
- Network adjustment has asymmetric implications for large vs. small firm shocks:
 - positive/negative shocks to small firms amplified
 - positive/negative shocks to large firms attenuated