

ICT, R&D and organizational innovation:

Exploring complementarities in investment and production

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December 12, 2019

Abstract

This paper examines whether there are complementarities between investments in ICT, R&D and organizational innovation, and the contributions of different investment profiles to total factor productivity growth on Dutch firm-level data. We estimate an integrated model of investment profile adoption and total factor productivity growth. We find that the three investment decisions are complementary, in the sense that investing in one increases the probability of investing in another, because joint investments lead to higher TFP growth than individual investments. ICT earns on average an average rate of return of 9.7%, followed by 6% to 7% on organizational innovation and a modest 1.4% to 1.8% on R&D in services and manufacturing respectively.

Keywords: ICT, R&D, organizational innovation, productivity, investment, complementarity

JEL codes: L25, O30-033.

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The views expressed in this paper are those of the authors and do not reflect any policy stance by Statistics Netherlands. We thank for their comments Eric Bartelsman, Emmanuel Duguet, Bronwyn Hall, Jonathan Haskel, Jacques Mairesse, Stéphane Robin, Nicolas van Zeebroeck, and the participants at various workshops. Errors are our own.

1. Introduction

In the eyes of most historians of science and technology, the information and communication technology (ICT) can be classified among general purpose technologies (GPT) such as the wheel, steam power, combustion engine and electricity (Lipsey, Carlaw and Bekhar, 2005; Jovanovic and Rousseau, 2005; Brynjolfsson and McAfee, 2014). It took some time before ICT showed up in the productivity statistics, but by now it is common to distinguish between ICT and non-ICT capital in productivity analysis, and a great deal of economic and labor productivity growth in the last 30 years has been ascribed to ICT capital deepening (Jorgenson et al. 2008). Even skeptics have acknowledged the transformational power of digital technology, although some claim that the economic benefits are short-lived, and that the impact of ICT does not stand up to that of earlier GPTs (e.g. Gordon, 2016).

Another channel through which ICT affects labour productivity growth is through its potential impact on total factor productivity (TFP). One explanation for the differential success of ICT capital in fostering productivity has been the argument of complementarity between ICT investment and investment in intangible assets, such as organizational capital (Brynjolfsson and Saunders, 2010; Bresnahan, Brynjolfsson and Hitt, 2002). Firms need to reorganize their way of operating to benefit from the digital technology, and vice versa.¹

Beyond its contribution to TFP via organizational change, ICT can also increase the returns to R&D, generating a string of new technological innovations. It can also make R&D more effective in the sense that it facilitates the gathering, documenting, and sharing of knowledge and information. Finally, besides the potential to improve research effectiveness, these characteristics of ICT can also improve the possibility and quality of collaboration between researchers.

In this paper, we look at the triangle between ICT, technological and non-technological innovation. In particular, we look at R&D as an instance of technological innovation, and organizational change as a non-technological innovation. Parts of this triangle and its relation to productivity have been covered extensively in the literature. Putting the pieces together in one framework is a novelty of our analysis. We shall reassess the contribution of ICT to TFP growth and reexamine the hypothesis of complementarity between organizational innovation and ICT. In addition, we shall explore whether the returns to ICT and R&D are mutually reinforcing, in the sense that innovation is ICT-facilitated and, vice versa, that the returns from ICT stem in part from the generation of knowledge.

The paper is structured as follows. In section 2, we briefly review the literature on the role of ICT and R&D for productivity, on the complementarity between ICT and organizational innovation and on the GPT aspects of ICT. Section 3 is devoted to modeling aspects. In section

¹ At the aggregate level, network and spillover effects can arise, and digital technology may improve the allocation of resources (Syverson, 2011).

4 we describe the data and the main variables. In section 5 we present the estimation results and in section 6 we conclude.

2. The literature

A vast literature has documented evidence on different determinants of productivity, both at the macro- and at the micro-level (see Syverson, 2011). Among the determinants, investment in information and communication technology (ICT) and the generation of knowledge feature prominently.

One strand of the literature has estimated the returns (private and social) to R&D and the contribution of R&D to total factor productivity (TFP) or economic growth following the seminal work by Griliches (1979), and with some recent advances by Doraszelski and Jaumandreu (2013) (see e.g. Hall, Mairesse and Mohnen, 2010, for a review of the literature). Another branch has related R&D to innovation, and innovation to productivity, the workhorse model being the CDM model as proposed by Crépon, Duguet and Mairesse (1998); see Mairesse and Mohnen (2010) for an overview. Neither line of research has considered the complementarity with ICT, although recently Polder, van Leeuwen, Mohnen and Raymond (2010) and Hall, Lotti and Mairesse (2013) have modelled R&D and ICT investment as input into innovation, defined as product, process and organizational innovation.

In parallel, many studies have investigated the effect of the adoption of ICT equipment on economic performance (see e.g. Stiroh, 2010), without an explicit role for R&D. Some studies have used aggregate or sectoral data, others have used firm data. The studies that use macro or sectoral data have mainly analyzed the effect of ICT or R&D on productivity within a growth accounting framework (see Draca, Sadun and van Reenen 2007, and Biagi, 2013, for reviews of the literature), but not so much the complementarity between ICT and R&D in raising productivity.

A substantial effort has been made to measure the stocks of intangibles, including R&D but also software, databases and organizational capital, and to assess their importance in (intangible-adjusted) cross-country GDP growth (Corrado, Hulten and Sichel, 2009; Corrado, Haskel, Jona-Lasinio and Iommi, 2013). These industry-level data are beginning to be used to explore complementarities between different types of assets. Chen, Niebel and Saam (2014) and Corrado, Haskel and Jona-Lasinio (2017) find evidence of a positive direct effect of ICT on TFP, as well as a significant indirect effect through its interaction with intangibles. Using EUKLEMS data, Pieri, Vecchi and Venturini (2017) explore complementarities between ICT and R&D in reducing technical inefficiencies.

By contrast, the empirical studies that have been conducted on the hypothesis of complementarity between ICT and organizational change are mainly based on micro data (Bresnahan et al., 2002; Black and Lynch, 2001; Caroli and Van Reenen, 2001; Crespi et al., 2007; Van Reenen et al., 2010; Riley and Vahter, 2013). The available econometric evidence shows that

a combination of investment in ICT and changes in organization and work practices facilitated by these technologies contributes to firms' productivity growth. Case studies reveal that the introduction of information technology is combined with a transformation of the firm, including investment in intangible assets, and a change in the relation with suppliers and customers. Electronic procurement, for instance, increases the control over inventories and decreases the costs of coordinating with suppliers. In addition, ICT offers the possibility for flexible production such as just-in-time inventory management, and enterprise resource planning.

Whereas there is a lot of empirical backing at the firm level for the complementarity between ICT and organizational innovation, there is less evidence of a complementarity between R&D and ICT or between ICT and technological innovations in the form of new products or processes. Hall, Lotti and Mairesse (2013) on Italian data, Rybalka (2015) on Norwegian data and Aboal and Tacsir (2018) on Uruguyan data find no conclusive evidence in favour of either a complementarity or a substitutability between R&D and ICT. Many studies have investigated the role of ICT in fostering R&D or innovation, however. For German firm data, Cerquera and Klein (2008) find that ICT is associated with an increase in the variation of productivity across firms, and that this process of creative destruction gives incentives for firms to invest in R&D. Also for Germany, Engelstätter (2012) finds that different types of software have a positive effect on product and process innovation, and moreover that there is complementarity between software and organizational practices in their effect on innovative performance. Polder et al. (2010) find that ICT investment is important for all types of innovation in services, while it plays a limited role in manufacturing, while Kleis, Chwelos, Ramirez and Cockburn (2012) find that investments in information technology increase innovation output, as measured by the number of patents. Van Leeuwen and Farooqui (2008) show that e-sales and broadband use affect productivity significantly through their effect on innovation output. Finally, Forman and van Zeebroeck (2012) find that internet connections increase collaborative research, but not the productivity of lone researchers or of researchers located close to each other. In contrast, Spiezia (2011) concludes from an OECD-led international comparison study on firm data that ICT usage does not increase the probability to come up with a new innovation developed in-house.

Finally, a related line of research looks at complementarities between different types of innovation or different types of ICT. Miravete and Pernías (2006) and Martínez-Ros and Labeaga (2009) for instance find complementarity between product and process innovation by looking at the adoption decision. This result is confirmed in Polder et al. (2010) who look at complementarity in the production function. This latter study also finds that product and organizational innovation are complements, while process and organizational innovation are found to be substitutes. For ICT, following an approach methodologically close to ours in the current paper, Kretschmer, Miravete and Pernías (2012) find that different types of software are substitutes in production. The results of Bartelsman, van Leeuwen and Polder (2017), however, point to complementarity as well as substitutability, depending on the types of software considered.

In our paper we will address the triangle of complementarity between ICT (hardware), R&D and organizational change, by looking at the joint firm-level binary investment decisions together with their productivity effects.

3. Model

While it is true that ICT and R&D can be considered as inputs in the innovation process, ICT for sure, but even R&D, also play a direct role in the production function besides affecting innovation. Therefore, in contrast to Polder et al. (2010), Hall et al. (2012) and Rybalka (2015) we do not resort to a CDM type of model (Crépon, Duguet, and Mairesse, 1998), with innovation inputs only affecting productivity through a knowledge production function. Instead, we shall model ICT, R&D and organizational innovation as binary choices with simultaneous feedback effects. That is, when two strategies are complements in the sense that doing one increases the returns of doing the other one (Milgrom and Roberts, 1990), the returns from adoption (and therefore the adoption decisions) are mutually dependent.

In our model, firms choose combinations of investments (c.q. ‘investment profiles’) based on their (ex-ante) expected returns in terms of productivity growth. When multiple investments are involved, there is a ‘complementarity bonus’ (or ‘substitutability penalty’) added to the return on the individual investment. Given the simultaneous modelling of the productivity equation, the ex-post effects of the investments on productivity growth will be consistent with the ex-ante expected returns which prompted the choice for that specific combination of investments.² We thus model complementarities in terms of an objective function where the strategy choices (or investments) are themselves endogenous, as in Kretschmer, Miravete and Pernías (2012), who combined the adoption and production approach recommended by Athey and Stern (1998).

Modelling the direct effect of ICT and R&D on productivity, brings our analysis also closer to the literature on intangibles and growth accounting using industry-level data (Corrado, Hulten and Sichel, 2009), where R&D and ICT are considered as separate types of capital. Also in conformity with the introduction of stocks of intangibles in the production function as in Corrado et al. (2009) we consider it more appropriate that investment affects the growth rather than the level of total factor productivity. The productivity levels depend on the stocks of knowledge, organizational capital and ICT capital. The productivity growth rates, instead, depend on the increases in these stocks. We do not model the choice of the investment levels, only the binary choices as to whether investments in ICT, R&D and organizational innovations are made.

² It could be argued that the strategy choices are made on the basis of another objective function than total factor productivity growth, and that therefore, as well as for reasons of limited managerial foresight or unforeseen developments, there may be a difference between ex-ante and ex-post complementarity.

3.1. Investment stage

In order to test for the presence of complementarity between innovation strategies, in particular between investing in ICT, R&D and organizational innovation, we first consider the adoption approach, i.e. the detection of joint use of strategies for reasons other than correlations in unobserved determinants (Milgrom and Roberts, 1990; Athey and Stern, 1998). This approach is close to that of Miravete and Pernías (2006), and was also applied in Bartelsman et al. (2017) and Van Leeuwen and Mohnen (2017).

Consider an objective function that depends on the realization of the combination of strategies, so called states. The contribution to the objective function O_{it}^j achieved by the adoption of each individual strategy denoted by $y_{it}^j \in \{0,1\}$, and j denoting the ICT, R&D, and organizational innovation decision, is given by the following expression

$$O_{it}^j = (\beta_j' x_{it}^j + \sum_{k \neq j} (\alpha_{jk}/2) y_{it}^k + \varepsilon_{it}^j) y_{it}^j. \quad (1)$$

For reasons of identification, $\alpha_{jk} = \alpha_{kj}$. The “return” from the adoption of strategy j depends on exogenous variables x_{it}^j , which may be strategy specific, the adoption of the other strategies y_{it}^k and a random error term ε_{it}^j . The error terms are assumed to be jointly normally distributed with unitary variances (for reasons of identification) but non-zero covariances. The dependence on the adoption of other strategies makes this a simultaneous model, in which the choice of strategies is endogenously determined. This allows us to test for potential complementarity at the investment stage, in the sense that firms adopt a combination of strategies which they think will be beneficial.

The total level of the objective, which will be left unspecified for now but modelled in section 3.2 as the contribution to total factor productivity (TFP) growth, is given by

$$TO_{it} = \sum_j O_{it}^j. \quad (2)$$

As shown by Lewbel (2007), this way of writing the objective function avoids any incoherency and incompleteness problem, i.e. guarantees the existence and uniqueness of the endogenous dummy variables for any given realization of the exogenous variables.

Let us illustrate the model by working with two strategies denoted as $y^j \in \{0,1\}$, $j = 1, 2$. For example, if state (1,1) is chosen, where the first position refers to strategy y^1 and the second position to strategy y^2 , then the contribution to TFP growth is given by³

$$TO_{it}(1,1) = \beta_1' x_{it}^1 + \alpha_{12} + \beta_2' x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^1 + \varepsilon_{it}^2. \quad (3)$$

³ Notice that, for notational convenience, $\alpha_{12} = \alpha_{21}$ in equation (3) corresponds to $\alpha_{12}/2 + \alpha_{21}/2$ in equation (1).

The coefficient α_{12} captures the complementarity (if positive) or substitutability (if negative) between the pair of strategies. For every combination of strategies we can compute the value of the objective function. To estimate the parameters of the model we write down the probability of every possible state. For instance, the probability that strategy 1 and strategy 2 are chosen, denoted as state (1,1), is derived from the upper and lower bounds of the distribution of the error terms given that the value of the objective function under (1,1) must be higher than under any pair of strategies:

$$TO_{it}(1,1) > TO_{it}(0,0) \Rightarrow \beta'_1 x_{it}^1 + \alpha_{12} + \beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^1 + \varepsilon_{it}^2 > 0 \quad (4.1)$$

$$TO_{it}(1,1) > TO_{it}(1,0) \Rightarrow \beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \alpha_{12} + \varepsilon_{it}^2 > 0 \quad (4.2)$$

$$TO_{it}(1,1) > TO_{it}(0,1) \Rightarrow \beta'_1 x_{it}^1 + \alpha_{12} + \varepsilon_{it}^1 > 0. \quad (4.3)$$

State (1,1) is therefore associated to the following area of the distribution of the error terms:

$$\varepsilon_{it}^1 > -(\beta'_1 x_{it}^1 + \alpha_{12}) \quad (5.1)$$

$$\varepsilon_{it}^2 > \max(-(\beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \alpha_{12}), -(\beta'_1 x_{it}^1 + \alpha_{12} + \beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^1)) \quad (5.2)$$

where (5.1) follows directly from (4.3), and (5.2) follows from combining (4.1) and (4.2) while conditioning on ε_{it}^1 . The same reasoning can be applied to derive the adoptions for the other states.

State (1,0) is adopted when

$$TO_{it}(1,0) > TO_{it}(0,0) \Rightarrow \beta'_1 x_{it}^1 + \varepsilon_{it}^1 > 0 \quad (6.1)$$

$$TO_{it}(1,0) > TO_{it}(0,1) \Rightarrow \beta'_1 x_{it}^1 + \varepsilon_{it}^1 > \beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^2 \quad (6.2)$$

$$TO_{it}(1,0) > TO_{it}(1,1) \Rightarrow \beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \alpha_{12} + \varepsilon_{it}^2 < 0 \quad (6.3)$$

$$\text{In other words, when } \varepsilon_{it}^1 > -\beta'_1 x_{it}^1 \text{ and} \quad (7.1)$$

$$\varepsilon_{it}^2 < \min(-(\beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \alpha_{12}), (\beta'_1 x_{it}^1 - \beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^1)) \quad (7.2)$$

State (0,1) is adopted when

$$TO_{it}(0,1) > TO_{it}(0,0) \Rightarrow \beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^2 > 0 \quad (8.1)$$

$$TO_{it}(0,1) > TO_{it}(1,0) \Rightarrow \beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^2 > \beta'_1 x_{it}^1 + \varepsilon_{it}^1 \quad (8.2)$$

$$TO_{it}(0,1) > TO_{it}(1,1) \Rightarrow \beta'_1 x_{it}^1 + \alpha_{12} + \varepsilon_{it}^1 < 0 \quad (8.3)$$

$$\text{In other words, when } \varepsilon_{it}^1 < -(\beta'_1 x_{it}^1 + \alpha_{12}) \text{ and} \quad (9.1)$$

$$\varepsilon_{it}^2 > \max(-(\beta'_2 x_{it}^2), \beta'_1 x_{it}^1 - \beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^1) \quad (9.2)$$

State (0,0) is adopted when

$$TO_{it}(0,0) > TO_{it}(1,0) \Rightarrow \beta'_1 x_{it}^1 + \varepsilon_{it}^1 < 0 \quad (10.1)$$

$$TO_{it}(0,0) > TO_{it}(0,1) \Rightarrow \beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^2 < 0 \quad (10.2)$$

$$TO_{it}(0,0) > TO_{it}(1,1) \Rightarrow \beta'_1 x_{it}^1 + \beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \alpha_{12} + \varepsilon_{it}^1 + \varepsilon_{it}^2 < 0 \quad (10.3)$$

$$\text{In other words, when } \varepsilon_{it}^1 < -\beta'_1 x_{it}^1 \text{ and} \quad (11.1)$$

$$\varepsilon_{it}^2 < \min(-\beta'_2 x_{it}^2, -(\beta'_1 x_{it}^1 + \beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \alpha_{12} + \varepsilon_{it}^1)) \quad (11.2)$$

As shown in Miravete and Pernías (2006), when $\alpha_{12} = 0$, the subdivision of the space of $(\varepsilon_{it}^1, \varepsilon_{it}^2)$ is the same as for the bivariate probit. When $\alpha_{12} > 0$, the states (1,1) and (0,0) are defined over a larger region of that error space, and if $\alpha_{12} < 0$, the states (1,0) and (0,1) are defined over a smaller region of that error space.

3.2. Productivity growth equation

Going one step further, the return from each investment profile can be measured in terms of productivity growth. The objective, which was left unspecified in equation (2), is then explicitly specified. In this way we integrate the strategy adoption equations with the productivity growth equation. This is what Kretschmer, Miravete and Pernías (KMP, 2012) have done in combining the “adoption approach” and the “productivity approach” of complementarity in the words of Athey and Stern (1998). Like them, we distinguish between observed and unobserved determinants of innovation, hence firms may adopt different strategies even if the observed determinants are the same. We differ from KMP (2012) in that we do not use economic profits but productivity growth rates. Instead of combining dichotomous data on two types of software innovation with continuous variables on scale and profit, which depend on the innovation choices, we combine three dichotomous innovation indicators (ICT, R&D and organizational innovation) with productivity growth rates that depend on the choice of investments. Another difference is that instead of maximizing a likelihood function with analytical conditional distributions, an expression which becomes more tedious to derive as the number of equations increases, we work with simulated conditional likelihoods.

To that effect we shall estimate a total factor productivity growth equation, which depends on the chosen investment profiles. TFP growth is the portion of output growth that is not explained by the growth rates in the traditional inputs, labor and capital. In the case of two strategies, TFP growth would be given by the following expression:

$$TFP_{it} = \gamma_t + TO_{it} = \gamma_t + (\beta'_1 x_{it}^1 + \varepsilon_{it}^1)y_{it}^1 + (\beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^2)y_{it}^2 + \alpha_{12}y_{it}^1y_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^3 \quad (12)$$

where γ_t represents disembodied technical change and ε_{it}^3 represent unobservable determinants of TFP growth.

TFP_{it} can take four values depending on the realizations of the error terms ε_{it}^1 and ε_{it}^2 :

- State (1,1): $\gamma_t + \beta_1' x_{it}^1 + \alpha_{12} + \beta_2' x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^1 + \varepsilon_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^3$ in the region defined by (5.1) and (5.2)
- State (1,0): $\gamma_t + \beta_1' x_{it}^1 + \varepsilon_{it}^1 + \varepsilon_{it}^3$ in the region defined by (7.1) and (7.2)
- State (0,1): $\gamma_t + \beta_2' x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^3$ in the region defined by (9.1) and (9.2)
- State (0,0): $\gamma_t + \varepsilon_{it}^3$ in the region defined by (11.1) and (11.2).

If we assume the random vector $[\varepsilon_{it}^1, \varepsilon_{it}^2, \varepsilon_{it}^3]'$ to be normally distributed with mean 0 and variance-covariance matrix Ω , then the likelihood function associated with the observed choices of strategies and the observed values of TFP growth is given by

$$\mathcal{L} = \prod_{i,t} f_1(TFP_{it} - (\gamma_t + (\beta_1' x_{it}^1 + \varepsilon_{it}^1)y_{it}^1 + (\beta_2' x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^2)y_{it}^2 + \alpha_{12}y_{it}^1y_{it}^2) | \varepsilon_{it}^1, \varepsilon_{it}^2) \times F_2(\varepsilon_{it}^1, \varepsilon_{it}^2) \quad (13)$$

where $f_1(\cdot | \varepsilon_{it}^1, \varepsilon_{it}^2)$ is the (conditional) univariate normal density function of ε_{it}^3 conditional on values of ε_{it}^1 and ε_{it}^2 , and $F_2(\varepsilon_{it}^1, \varepsilon_{it}^2)$ is the bivariate normal distribution of ε_{it}^1 and ε_{it}^2 . If we define the four regions of $(\varepsilon_{it}^1, \varepsilon_{it}^2)$ as R(1,1), R(1,0), R(0,1) and R(0,0) respectively, and the corresponding truncated distributions as $F_2(\varepsilon_{it}^1, \varepsilon_{it}^2) | R(1,1)$ et cetera, then the likelihood function can also be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & \prod_{i,t} f_1(TFP_{it} - (\gamma_t + \beta_1' x_{it}^1 + \alpha_{12} + \beta_2' x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^1 + \varepsilon_{it}^2) | R(1,1)) F_2(\varepsilon_{it}^1, \varepsilon_{it}^2 | R(1,1)) \\ & \times f_1(TFP_{it} - (\gamma_t + \beta_1' x_{it}^1 + \varepsilon_{it}^1) | R(1,0)) F_2(\varepsilon_{it}^1, \varepsilon_{it}^2 | R(1,0)) \\ & \times f_1(TFP_{it} - (\gamma_t + \beta_2' x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^2) | R(0,1)) F_2(\varepsilon_{it}^1, \varepsilon_{it}^2 | R(0,1)) \\ & \times f_1(TFP_{it} - \gamma_t | R(0,0)) F_2(\varepsilon_{it}^1, \varepsilon_{it}^2 | R(0,0)) \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

In practice the variance-covariance matrix must be imposed to be positive definite. This can be done by using a Cholesky factorization of Ω . In the appendix we indicate the various steps taken to calculate the maximum simulated likelihood using the Geweke-Hajivassiliou-Keane (GHK) procedure (see Train, 2003; Cappellari and Jenkins, 2006).

We measure TFP growth using the index approach, that is, we assume constant returns to scale, equilibrium factor holdings and perfectly competitive markets, such that the output elasticities can be measured by the observed factor shares, which we allow to vary over time and to be industry-specific. We are interested in differences in the contributions to TFP growth for firms adopting different investment profiles: (0,0), (1,0), (0,1) and (1,1). These differences can be estimated by drawing values for ε_{it}^1 and ε_{it}^2 from their respective domains of definition and then averaging over the different draws. We are also interested in finding

out whether those different investments reinforce each other. This indication of complementarity (or substitutability) is given by the sign of coefficient α_{12} .

The model we have just presented can be generalized to more than two strategies. In the remainder of the paper we shall work with three strategies : investment in ICT, R&D, and organizational innovation. To determine the optimal investment profile, i.e. combination of strategies, each combination needs to be compared with seven other combinations. We shall estimate pairwise complementarities and returns from investing in ICT only, R&D only, organizational innovation only, pairs of investments, all three of them or none at all.

4. Data

The data used in this exercise are sourced from the Business Register and different surveys at Statistics Netherlands, which are linked at the firm level. The sample includes firms in the manufacturing sector (NACE Rev. 2 10 to 33) as well as the services sector (NACE Rev. 2 50 to 93).⁴ Production data (value added, capital depreciation costs, and employment) are taken from the Production Statistics (PS). Capital services are proxied by depreciation costs (observed at the firm-level). Value added and depreciation cost are deflated using industry-level price information from the Dutch National Accounts. Information on the age of a firm, and whether it is foreign-owned, is derived from the Business Register.

Information on R&D and organizational innovation, as well as the export status, is sourced from the Community Innovation Survey (CIS). Organizational innovations include the introduction of new business practices, knowledge management systems, methods of workplace organization (i.e. system of decision making), and management of external relations. The CIS provides information on whether a firm stated to have performed such an innovation or not in the three-year period ending in the year preceding the survey (for example, the CIS 2010 is carried out in 2011 and concerns innovation in the period 2008 to 2010). R&D investment is the sum of internal and external R&D and, unlike organizational innovation, refers only to the last year of the survey.

Information on ICT investment comes from the investment survey, and concerns hardware only.⁵ We have decided to treat the three investment types in the same way, and therefore we work with binary data for ICT and R&D, which is the only type of information we have for organizational innovation. In our analysis, a firm classifies as investing in ICT and R&D when the investment is positive, but the investment should also have some substance. This is

⁴ The commercial R&D sector, NACE Rev 2 code 72, is excluded from the analysis, as well as Oil and petroleum, NACE Rev 2 code 19.

⁵ From 2012 onwards the Dutch Investment Survey includes information on investment in software. We therefore focus on hardware as, including software would have substantially reduced the number of observations in our analysis.

to improve the identification of any effects of investment on TFP, where really small investments can be expected not to make any difference, and we need to distinguish between those and more substantial investment efforts. By way of threshold, we therefore exploited industry-specific data on depreciation cost by type of investment. The investment dummies then equal 1 when the ratio of the firm's investment to its value added, exceeds the share of the depreciation cost for that capital good in value added in the firm's industry. Table A1 reports the annual average of these thresholds by industry. Thus, the investment dummies can be loosely interpreted as capturing whether a firm has expansionary investments or not, over and above the average industry replacement rate.

Our data span the period from 2008 to 2012. We assume that R&D and ICT in period t and ORG in period $t-2$ to t affect TFP growth between year t and year $t+1$. Because CIS only covers even years, the eventual estimation sample refers to 2008, 2010 and 2012, where TFP growth concerns growth from 2008 to 2009 et cetera. A sensitivity analysis where the timing of the ICT and R&D investment dummies refers to $t-2$ rather than t , gave more or less similar results as those reported in the results section of this paper.

Table 1 gives the summary statistics by sector for the key variables used in the estimation, separately for manufacturing and services. Firms in both sectors are on average of a similar size, whereas manufacturing firms are slightly older than their counterparts in services. Moreover, manufacturing firms are more often foreign-owned, and are more likely to export. Overall, the share of exporting firms is relatively high, which is probably due to the fact that we observe mainly larger firms.

Table 1. Summary statistics for the estimation sample (2008-2012, even years)

		manufacturing		services		total	
		mean	stdev	mean	stdev	mean	stdev
ICT investment	share of firms	0.42	0.49	0.40	0.49	0.41	0.49
R&D investment	share of firms	0.27	0.44	0.19	0.39	0.22	0.41
organizational innovation*	share of firms	0.45	0.50	0.35	0.48	0.39	0.49
TFP growth**	%	-0.05	0.31	-0.04	0.29	-0.04	0.30
employment	Fte	257.31	436.03	241.01	526.86	247.21	494.33
age	Years	24.31	15.18	20.13	15.05	21.72	15.24
export status	share of firms	0.82	0.39	0.56	0.50	0.66	0.47
foreign owned	share of firms	0.34	0.47	0.26	0.44	0.29	0.46

* organizational innovation refers to the period $t-2$ to t

** TFP growth refers to growth from t to $t+1$

Table 2. Combinations of investment strategies (estimation sample, 2008-2012, even years)

Manufacturing						
profile	N	%	TFP growth*			
			mean	median	Q1	Q3
000	802	0.29	-0.067	-0.029	-0.186	0.095
001	430	0.15	-0.062	-0.014	-0.170	0.094
010	123	0.04	-0.062	-0.009	-0.224	0.081
011	266	0.09	-0.023	-0.014	-0.146	0.097
100	484	0.17	-0.039	-0.018	-0.158	0.092
101	335	0.12	-0.054	-0.039	-0.192	0.106
110	140	0.05	-0.088	-0.021	-0.211	0.127
111	227	0.08	-0.008	0.018	-0.124	0.128
	2807					
Services						
profile	N	%	TFP growth*			
			mean	median	Q1	Q3
000	1665	0.36	-0.048	-0.020	-0.159	0.094
001	659	0.14	-0.059	-0.018	-0.156	0.077
010	181	0.04	-0.024	0.020	-0.158	0.112
011	259	0.06	-0.041	0.001	-0.149	0.097
100	948	0.21	-0.038	-0.014	-0.147	0.094
101	450	0.10	-0.030	-0.006	-0.130	0.105
110	162	0.04	-0.019	-0.008	-0.156	0.138
111	252	0.06	0.001	0.006	-0.126	0.128
	4576					

Q1 and Q3 are the first and third quartile of the distribution. Combinations of ICT, R&D, and organizational innovation, where 0 = no investment and 1 = positive (net) investment. Organizational innovation refers to the period $t-2$ to t . * TFP growth refers to growth from t to $t+1$

Average TFP growth is negative in both sectors, with a similar magnitude of respectively minus 5% in manufacturing, and minus 4% in services. The fact that our data period includes the financial crisis of 2008/2009 explains these substantial negative growth figures, where average (median) TFP growth was minus 10 (minus 5) percent in these years. In the other years, the crisis aftermath, TFP growth is roughly around 0. Table 2 also shows that for each investment profile there are firms reporting negative as well as positive growth, and that the third quartile of the TFP growth distribution is always positive. Interestingly, the distribution of TFP growth seems to roughly move to the right with the number of investments. That is, average and median TFP growth, as well as the first and third quartile of the distribution, are larger for those profiles where multiple investments are combined. This is an indication of complementarity between these investments, which will be tested more formally in our econometric model. Nevertheless, firms do not often combine these investments, witness the frequency distribution of the profiles. In manufacturing, about two-thirds of the observations concerns cases where a firm does not invest at all, or in a single strategy only. In services, this share is even higher, with about three-quarters of the sample.

Table 3 reports the summary statistics of the variables that are input to the TFP growth calculation. Using a Laspeyres-index, TFP-growth was calculated as the ratio of the volume changes in value added and the total of inputs, where the capital and labour changes have been weighted by their lagged factor shares at the industry-level. This approach takes into account differences in the nature of the production process between industries. Clearly, the average TFP growth differs across industries, with the pharmaceutical industry being a clear outlier.

Table 3. Summary statistics for the production variables (by industry, estimation sample, 2008-2012, even years)

	Industry variables		Firm variables			
	<i>Averages across years</i>		<i>Averages across industry and years</i>			
	capital share	labour share	value added	employment	capital services	TFP growth
Manufacturing						
10-12 Food and beverages	0.35	0.65	22468	265	3400	-0.050
13-15 Textile-, leatherproducts	0.27	0.73	9898	115	741	0.017
16-18 Wood and paper, printing	0.32	0.68	13527	162	2092	0.012
20 Chemicals	0.50	0.50	42740	195	6386	-0.092
21 Pharmaceuticals	0.52	0.48	69118	433	5176	0.283
22-23 Plastics, construction products	0.28	0.72	12611	192	1943	0.037
24-25 Basic metals and –products	0.24	0.76	11222	144	1113	-0.002
26 Electronic products	0.40	0.60	23626	239	1497	0.137
27 Electric equipment	0.50	0.50	31100	410	4059	-0.047
28 Machinery n.e.c.	0.28	0.72	22889	233	2486	-0.025
29-30 Transport equipment	0.33	0.67	37808	398	4730	0.039
31-33 Other manufacturing, repair	0.15	0.85	19807	482	1069	-0.005
Services						
58-60 Publishing, movie, radio and TV	0.16	0.84	22784	247	4405	-0.040
61 Telecommunications	0.62	0.38	57741	275	25460	0.073
62-63 IT- and information services	0.12	0.88	15288	170	1497	0.036
69-71 Management, tech. consultancy	0.10	0.90	20151	253	1100	-0.032
73-75 Advertising, design and other	0.11	0.88	8622	126	627	0.023
G Wholesale and retail trade	0.20	0.80	15598	218	1460	-0.023
H Transportation and storage	0.32	0.68	25648	309	3430	-0.006
I Accommodation and food serving	0.17	0.83	10424	213	1894	-0.030

Value added and depreciation cost in prices of 2008. Employment in full-time equivalents.

5. Results

In this section, we report the estimation results of the integrated model with three types of investment, the returns for each investment profile, and the individual returns of each investment, both on average and as a contribution to the return of each investment profile. Anticipating that the patterns differ across industries, we present the estimation results separately for manufacturing and services.

5.1 Complementarities

In table 4 we report the results for the integrated model with simultaneous discrete-choice investment equations for ICT, R&D and organizational innovation, mutual dependence

among the three types of investment and controlling for firm size, export status, age, and foreign ownership, and for four industry sub-sectors in services.⁶ Firm size can be seen to be positively associated with investing in our sample, except for investments in ICT for firms in manufacturing and in R&D for firms in services. Exporting firms are more frequently observed to invest in R&D, less frequently in ICT and are found to be not particularly different from non-exporting firms in terms of the frequency of organizational innovation.⁷ Age is not found to be significant in any of the three equations. Foreign ownership is positively correlated to organizational innovation, and negatively, whenever significant, to ICT and R&D investments. As already mentioned before, aggregate TFP growth in the Netherlands was negative just after the crisis of 2008, but then recovered in the following years, which is reflected in the year dummy pattern. The correlations between the error terms are significant, attesting to the existence of unobservables that are correlated in the adoption and the productivity equations, which justifies our estimation approach.

The three types of investment turn out to be complementary in the sense that they reinforce each other in increasing TFP growth and hence that the probability of investing in one increases the probability of investing in the other one. It is only for ICT and organizational innovation that we do not obtain a positive and significant interaction term. In the logic of our model, two investments are carried out simultaneously if they yield a larger contribution to TFP growth than if they are carried out separately or not at all. Three investments are carried out simultaneously if together they increase TFP growth by more than any pair of investments, individual investment or no investment at all. The coefficient for the combination of ICT and organizational innovation is significantly smaller than the other α coefficients, in both sectors. This is surprising because given the existing evidence in the literature one would expect this relation to be relatively strong. A possible explanation for this finding is that we consider investment in hardware only, while the complementarity with organizational innovation could lie more in the use of software and specific types of telecommunication equipment.

By contrast, the R&D and organizational innovation combination is significant and has the highest coefficient in both sectors. This suggests that firms that invest in R&D benefit from a simultaneous organizational change. Such a complementarity could be related to the introduction of knowledge management systems, or the management of external relations (such as information flows or coordination of collaborative innovation efforts), which are seen as an organizational innovation, and which clearly could improve the effectiveness of R&D. To our knowledge there is not much evidence in the literature on this relation, and our finding suggests that it could be explored in further detail. While the magnitude of the coefficient seems quite large here, our analysis of the implied average returns in the next section shows that these are plausible.

⁶ We report in table 4 the estimated coefficients and not the marginal effects. However, the qualitative conclusions about patterns of significance remain the same.

⁷ Clearly, the causality can run both ways here. Including export status is meant to control for the degree of international activities here.

Finally, investing in ICT and R&D are found to be complementary decisions, in the sense that investing in one increases the productivity of investing in the other one. This lends support to the idea that ICT is a general purpose technology that facilitates innovation and increases the output and productivity of R&D (Jovanovic and Rousseau, 2005). Vice versa, investing in R&D increases the returns to ICT by generating knowledge that can be shared and diffused through new technology.

In sum, our results suggest that firms consider investment in ICT, R&D, and organizational innovation simultaneously, and that they believe that simultaneous investment can be beneficial. In the next section we shall examine the implied average returns of investing in certain profiles and from individual investments.

Table 4. Estimation results of the investment plus productivity equations
(based on Maximum Simulated Likelihood)

		Manufacturing (N = 2,807)			Services (N = 4,576)		
		coef	se	p-value	coef	se	p-value
ICT	log employment	-0.079 ***	0.017	0.000	0.060 ***	0.013	0.000
	export status	-0.121 ***	0.045	0.008	-0.014	0.029	0.637
	log age	0.012	0.016	0.452	0.000	0.012	0.996
R&D	foreign ownership	-0.086 **	0.038	0.024	-0.091 **	0.033	0.006
	log employment	-0.005	0.024	0.838	-0.068 ***	0.016	0.000
	export status	0.524 ***	0.074	0.000	0.289 ***	0.041	0.000
ORG	log age	-0.004	0.027	0.869	-0.002	0.019	0.930
	foreign ownership	0.019	0.050	0.704	-0.104 **	0.044	0.019
	log employment	0.147 ***	0.021	0.000	0.108 ***	0.015	0.000
TFP growth	export status	-0.004	0.054	0.942	-0.044	0.034	0.195
	log age	0.011	0.021	0.605	0.008	0.015	0.574
	foreign ownership	0.116 **	0.044	0.008	0.070 *	0.038	0.064
complementarities	Year 2010	0.164 ***	0.018	0.000	0.101 ***	0.014	0.000
	Year 2012	0.118 ***	0.023	0.000	0.071 ***	0.017	0.000
	intercept	-0.653 ***	0.021	0.000	-0.498 ***	0.014	0.000
Correlations	ICT-R&D	0.251 ***	0.027	0.000	0.175 ***	0.025	0.000
	ICT-ORG	-0.044	0.038	0.245	0.046 **	0.019	0.018
	R&D-ORG	1.279 ***	0.072	0.000	1.129 ***	0.020	0.000
Correlations	ρ_{12}	-0.229 ***	0.034	0.000	0.173 ***	0.024	0.000
	ρ_{13}	0.166 ***	0.044	0.000	0.045 **	0.019	0.018
	ρ_{14}	-0.742 ***	0.021	0.000	0.811 ***	0.007	0.000
	ρ_{23}	-0.771 ***	0.036	0.000	-0.061 *	0.035	0.079
	ρ_{24}	0.254 ***	0.049	0.000	0.011	0.032	0.733
	ρ_{34}	-0.517 ***	0.028	0.000	-0.695 ***	0.015	0.000
	σ_4	0.553 ***	0.015	0.000	0.503 ***	0.010	0.000
Log-likelihood		-6561.12			-9912.21		

Significance at 10% (*); 5% (**); 1% (***). Intercepts in the probit equations and sector dummies for services are not reported. ρ_{ij} is the correlation between the error terms of equations i and j . The equations are numbered as follows: 1 = ICT, 2 = R&D, 3 = ORG, 4 = TFP growth.

5.2 Returns on investments

In our model, the expected return from a given investment profile is the same as the ex-post return in terms of TFP growth. If a certain profile is chosen, it is because its realized return is higher than the return on any other investment profile. In table 5 we present the average and the standard deviation of the returns earned on the seven investment profiles in manufacturing and in services.⁸ In the example of two strategies given above the return to adopting investment profile (1,1) would be given by

$$((\beta'_1 x_{it}^1 + \alpha_{12} + \beta'_2 x_{it}^2 + \varepsilon_{it}^1 + \varepsilon_{it}^2) | R(1,1)) F_2(\varepsilon_{it}^1, \varepsilon_{it}^2 | R(1,1))$$

where $R(1,1)$ are all values of ε_{it}^1 and ε_{it}^2 defined by restrictions (5.1) and (5.2).

These returns are to be understood as above-normal rates of return, since R&D and ICT are not subtracted from the traditional inputs (labor and capital) in the calculation of TFP growth. In part these returns are random in the sense that they depend on unobservables that lie in a truncated part of their distribution, which is determined by the observed investment profile, and are to be understood as the returns conditional on having chosen that investment profile times the probability of choosing that investment profile. They are calculated via simulation using the same draws as in the estimation procedure. They are also conditional on the values taken by the vector of explanatory variables x_{it}^1 and x_{it}^2 . According to our model, for each observation the alternative investment profiles yield a return lower than the observed profile. In the case of pairs or triplets of investment, the joint returns are subdivided in the table into the return contributions made by the individual investments.

It is remarkable that the ranking of the returns per investment profile and even the magnitudes of those returns are very similar for firms in manufacturing and in services. The highest average return is earned by firms that invest at the same time in ICT and organizational innovation, followed by firms that invest in ICT only. While this may seem surprising recalling the result of no complementarity for this combination, as reported above, it should be noted that we are not comparing the same firms under alternative investment profiles. The differences in return could be due to different characteristics of the firms, like size, age or export status. Likewise, the returns for firms that invest in all three strategies are smaller than the returns for firms that invest only in ORG, only in ICT or in both ORG and ICT, whereas according to the complementarities, we would expect the highest returns for firms that invest in all strategies. That would only be true when comparing the same firm under different scenarios, while in our case the composition of the sample of firms choosing any of the profiles differs.⁹

⁸ Note that the returns in the (0,0,0) case, where no investment takes place, is 0 by definition and is not reported.

⁹ In most cases, the alternative (counterfactual) returns (not shown) are negative, although they only need to be lower than the returns earned on the chosen investment profile.

Finally, table 6 presents the average returns to each individual investment conditional on the firms' characteristics. These returns are calculated as follows. The average rate of return on R&D, for instance, is the return a firm gets if it belongs to the set of investment profiles (0,1,0), (1,1,0), (0,1,1) and (1,1,1) multiplied by the respective probabilities of choosing each of those profiles. Since a firm can be in eight zones of the space spanned by $(\varepsilon_{it}^1, \varepsilon_{it}^2, \varepsilon_{it}^3)$, which are themselves determined by the firm's characteristics, and since it makes a positive return on a particular investment only if it actually invests in it, the average rate of return is a weighted average of the returns in the four profiles in which it is active regarding that investment.

It is interesting to notice that the returns are again very similar in manufacturing and in services. Investing in ICT yields on average an implied rate of return close to 10%, which can go as high as 33.5% in manufacturing and 23.1% in services. R&D earns on average only 1.8% in manufacturing and 1.4% in services, with at most 8.8% in manufacturing and 4.7% in services. This is definitely lower than the average rates of return on R&D reported in Hall et al. (2010) and those reported for the Netherlands by Bartelsman, van Leeuwen, Nieuwenhuijsen and Zeelenberg (1989). The implied rate of return on organizational innovation lies in between the rate on R&D and ICT with an average of 7.3% in manufacturing and 5.9% in services, which can exceed 20%.

Table 5. Average returns of individual investments depending on the investment profile

profile		Manufacturing					Services				
		obs	mean	st. dev	min	max	obs	mean	st. dev	min	max
(0,0,1)	<i>ORG only</i>	430	0.107	0.035	0.033	0.238	659	0.090	0.025	0.039	0.205
	ORG		0.107	0.035	0.033	0.238	659	0.090	0.025	0.039	0.205
(0,1,0)	<i>R&D only</i>	123	0.034	0.009	0.010	0.053	181	0.024	0.009	0.006	0.047
	R&D		0.034	0.009	0.010	0.053	181	0.024	0.009	0.006	0.047
(0,1,1)	<i>R&D and ORG</i>	266	0.057	0.031	0.003	0.195	259	0.033	0.011	0.010	0.061
	R&D		0.021	0.012	-0.001	0.088	259	0.012	0.006	-0.001	0.030
	ORG		0.036	0.025	0.002	0.159	259	0.021	0.008	0.007	0.041
(1,0,0)	<i>ICT only</i>	484	0.145	0.052	0.035	0.335	948	0.143	0.027	0.071	0.231
	ICT		0.145	0.052	0.035	0.335	948	0.143	0.027	0.071	0.231
(1,0,1)	<i>ICT and ORG</i>	335	0.164	0.027	0.105	0.266	450	0.121	0.036	0.053	0.298
	ICT		0.083	0.016	0.052	0.140	450	0.062	0.019	0.027	0.159
	ORG		0.081	0.016	0.039	0.129	450	0.058	0.019	0.024	0.146
(1,1,0)	<i>ICT and R&D</i>	140	0.044	0.014	0.012	0.075	162	0.037	0.013	0.012	0.082
	ICT		0.025	0.008	0.006	0.044	162	0.021	0.007	0.007	0.043
	R&D		0.020	0.007	0.004	0.039	162	0.016	0.006	0.005	0.038
(1,1,1)	<i>all investments</i>	227	0.102	0.023	0.017	0.174	252	0.064	0.024	0.023	0.165
	ICT		0.059	0.011	0.013	0.082	252	0.036	0.013	0.014	0.091
	R&D		0.004	0.007	-0.019	0.023	252	0.008	0.006	-0.003	0.028
	ORG		0.039	0.014	0.005	0.091	252	0.020	0.009	0.005	0.062

Table 6. Average returns to individual investments conditional on firms' characteristics

Manufacturing					
	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
ICT	1,186	0.097	0.055	0.006	0.335
R&D	756	0.018	0.014	-0.019	0.088
ORG	1,258	0.073	0.040	0.002	0.238
Services					
	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
ICT	1,812	0.097	0.054	0.007	0.231
R&D	854	0.014	0.009	-0.003	0.047
ORG	1,620	0.059	0.035	0.005	0.205

6. Conclusions and further research

This paper has investigated the relation between investments in ICT, R&D and organizational innovation, and the contributions of different investment profiles on TFP growth at the firm-level in Dutch manufacturing and services. We find that, overall, the investment decisions are complementary, in the sense that investing in one strategy increases the probability of investing in another because joint investments lead to higher TFP growth than individual investments. We find a relatively strong complementarity between R&D and organizational innovation, which could be related to new ways of managing knowledge systems and external relations improving the productivity of R&D. To our knowledge this relation has not been explored intensively in the literature. The fact that the magnitude of the complementarity between ICT and organizational innovation is lower than the other complementarities also merits some further investigation, in particular considering software investments in addition to those in hardware only. There is clear evidence that ICT and R&D complement each other. This implies that R&D policies could stimulate investments in ICT, and conversely policies designed to stimulate ICT also increase the demand for R&D. Our results imply that ICT earns on average a rate of return of 9.7%, followed by 6% to 7% on organizational innovation and a modest 1.4% to 1.8% on R&D.

The research could be extended in a number of directions. Firstly, information on the separate types of organizational innovation that is available in our data could be exploited (business practices, knowledge systems, and external relations), as those types could relate differently to ICT and R&D. Secondly, as mentioned above, it will be good to consider software investment next to hardware investment, even though for the Netherlands we only have data from 2012 onwards for this type of asset. Thirdly, we could estimate the elasticities of labor and capital simultaneously with the returns to ICT, R&D and organizational innovation. A fourth extension would be to use the intensities of R&D and ICT in the productivity growth equation instead of, or in addition to, just the binary information.

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Appendix: Calculation of the maximum simulated likelihood

This part is based on Train (2003) and Capellari and Jenkins (2006). For simplicity we take the case of two strategies and one performance equation. The example can easily be generalized to 3 strategies and one performance equation. We start by using a Cholesky factorization of Ω :

$$\begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{it}^1 \\ \varepsilon_{it}^2 \\ \varepsilon_{it}^3 \end{bmatrix} = C \begin{bmatrix} \eta_{it}^1 \\ \eta_{it}^2 \\ \eta_{it}^3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ c_{21} & c_{22} & 0 \\ c_{31} & c_{32} & c_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \eta_{it}^1 \\ \eta_{it}^2 \\ \eta_{it}^3 \end{bmatrix}$$

with

$$\Omega = C * C' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \rho_{21} & \rho_{31}\sigma_3 \\ \rho_{21} & 1 & \rho_{32}\sigma_3 \\ \rho_{31}\sigma_3 & \rho_{32}\sigma_3 & \sigma_3^2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and each } \eta_{it}^j \text{ (j=1,2,3) follows a standard normal dis-}$$

tribution. We set the variances of ε_{it}^1 and ε_{it}^2 equal to 1 for reasons of identification. In order to have this Ω matrix, we elements of C are as follows: $c_{11} = 1$, $c_{21} = \rho_{21}$, $c_{31} = \rho_{31}\sigma_3$, $c_{22} = \sqrt{(1 - c_{21}^2)}$, $c_{32} = (\rho_{32}\sigma_3 - c_{31} * c_{21})/c_{22}$, $c_{33} = \sqrt{(\sigma_3^2 - c_{31}^2 - c_{32}^2)}$. The ρ_{ij} coefficients are imposed to stay between -1 and 1 by using the following reparameterization:

$$\rho_{ij} = \frac{\exp(2\tilde{\rho}_{ij}) - 1}{\exp(2\tilde{\rho}_{ij}) + 1}.$$

$$\text{We can rewrite } \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{it}^1 \\ \varepsilon_{it}^2 \\ \varepsilon_{it}^3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c_{11}\eta_{it}^1 \\ c_{21}\eta_{it}^1 + c_{22}\eta_{it}^2 \\ c_{31}\eta_{it}^1 + c_{32}\eta_{it}^2 + c_{33}\eta_{it}^3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Inequalities (5.1), (7.1), (9.1) and (11.1) can be rewritten as:

$$\eta_{it}^1 > -(\beta_1' x_{it}^1 + \alpha_{12}) \quad (5.1)'$$

$$\eta_{it}^1 > -(\beta_1' x_{it}^1) \quad (7.1)'$$

$$\eta_{it}^1 < -(\beta_1' x_{it}^1 + \alpha_{12}) \quad (9.1)'$$

$$\eta_{it}^1 < -\beta_1' x_{it}^1 \quad (11.1)'$$

The first step of the maximum simulated likelihood algorithm consists in drawing for each alternative a value from the corresponding truncated standard normal distribution of η_{it}^1 using initial values of the parameters. Let us denote this value as d_{it}^1 .

Inequalities (5.2), (7.2), (9.2) and (11.2) can be rewritten as:

$$\eta_{it}^2 > \max(-(a_{2it} + \alpha_{12})/c_{22}, -(a_{1it} + a_{2it} + \alpha_{12})/c_{22}) \quad (5.2)'$$

$$\eta_{it}^2 < \min(-(a_{2it} + \alpha_{12})/c_{22}, (a_{1it} - a_{2it})/c_{22}) \quad (7.2)'$$

$$\eta_{it}^2 > \max(-a_{2it}/c_{22}, (a_{1it} - a_{2it})/c_{22}) \quad (9.2)'$$

$$\eta_{it}^2 < \min(-a_{2it}/c_{22}, -(a_{1it} + a_{2it} + \alpha_{12})/c_{22}) \quad (11.2)'$$

where $a_{1it} = \beta_1' x_{it}^1 + d_{it}^1$, $a_{2it} = \beta_2' x_{it}^2 + c_{21} d_{it}^1$.

The second step consists in drawing for each alternative a value from the corresponding truncated standard normal distribution of η_{it}^2 using initial values of the parameters. Let us denote this value as d_{it}^2 .

The third step consists in changing from ε_{it}^3 to η_{it}^3 so that the final likelihood function becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & \prod_{i,t} \left(\frac{1}{c_{33}} \right) \varphi((TFP_{it} - (\gamma_t + \beta_1' x_{it}^1 + \alpha_{12} + \beta_2' x_{it}^2 + (1 + c_{21})d_{it}^1 + c_{22}d_{it}^2) - c_{31}d_{it}^1 - \\ & c_{32}d_{it}^2)/c_{33}) \Phi_2(d_{it}^1, d_{it}^2) | R(1,1) \\ & \times \left(\frac{1}{c_{33}} \right) \varphi((TFP_{it} - (\gamma_t + \beta_1' x_{it}^1 + d_{it}^1) - c_{31}d_{it}^1 - c_{32}d_{it}^2)/c_{33}) \Phi_2(d_{it}^1, d_{it}^2) | R(1,0) \times \\ & \left(\frac{1}{c_{33}} \right) \varphi((TFP_{it} - (\gamma_t + \beta_2' x_{it}^2 + c_{21}d_{it}^1 + c_{22}d_{it}^2) - c_{31}d_{it}^1 - c_{32}d_{it}^2)/c_{33}) \Phi_2(d_{it}^1, d_{it}^2) | R(0,1) \\ & \times \left(\frac{1}{c_{33}} \right) \varphi(TFP_{it} - \gamma_t - c_{31}d_{it}^1 - c_{32}d_{it}^2)/c_{33}) \Phi_2(d_{it}^1, d_{it}^2) | R(0,0) \end{aligned} \quad (14)'$$

where d_{it}^1 and d_{it}^2 are draws from each of the truncated bivariate normal distributions $\Phi_2(d_{it}^1, d_{it}^2) | R(\cdot)$ defined over the region $R(\cdot)$, itself defined by the boundaries of η_{it}^1 and η_{it}^2 , and where $\varphi(\cdot)$ is the univariate standard normal density function, and Φ_2 the bivariate normal cumulative distribution function. It is important here to account for the Jacobian of the variable transformation $\left(\frac{1}{c_{33}}\right)$.

In our application the model has four equations, and a step is added between the second and third step above. The logic is the same but there are 8 inequalities to take into account, and 8 elements in the likelihood function. The steps are repeated 50 times and then an average is

taken of the corresponding values of the likelihood function.¹⁰ The parameters of the likelihood function are then estimated using a numerical maximization algorithm, at each iteration repeating the simulation-based computation of the likelihood function starting from the updated values of the estimated parameters.

¹⁰ Experiments with up to 200 draws did not produce very different results.

Table A1. Depreciation shares in value added by industry (average across years).

	ICT	R&D
10-12 Food and beverages	0.002	0.018
13-15 Textile-, leather products	0.003	0.008
16-18 Wood and paper, printing	0.004	0.006
20 Chemicals	0.002	0.091
21 Pharmaceuticals	0.002	0.195
22-23 Plastics, construction products	0.002	0.027
24-25 Basic metals and –products	0.002	0.017
26 Electronic products	0.002	0.182
27 Electric equipment	0.003	0.211
28 Machinery n.e.c.	0.004	0.085
29-30 Transport equipment	0.002	0.073
31-33 Other manufacturing, repair	0.003	0.016
58-60 Publishing, movie, radio and TV	0.007	0.004
61 Telecommunications	0.016	0.005
62-63 IT- and information services	0.016	0.023
69-71 Management, tech. consultancy	0.007	0.011
73-75 Advertising, design and other	0.008	0.010
G Wholesale and retail trade	0.005	0.005
H Transportation and storage	0.006	0.006
I Accommodation and food serving	0.002	0.002

Source: Statistics Netherlands, Growth accounts.