

NBER WORKING PAPER SERIES

SPATIAL CORRELATION, TRADE, AND INEQUALITY:  
EVIDENCE FROM THE GLOBAL CLIMATE

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Working Paper 25447  
<http://www.nber.org/papers/w25447>

NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH

1050 Massachusetts Avenue

Cambridge, MA 02138

January 2019, Revised November 2020

Dingel and Meng contributed equally to this work. We thank Rodrigo Adão, Treb Allen, Costas Arkolakis, Mark Cane, Chris Costello, Arnaud Costinot, Tatyana Deryugina, Pedro DiNezio, Dave Donaldson, Robert Feenstra, Kinda Hachem, Christian Hansen, Matthew Kahn, Yuhei Miyachi, Brent Neiman, Ben Olken, Esteban Rossi-Hansberg, Veronica Rappaport, and Michael Waugh for valuable discussions and suggestions. Thanks to seminar participants at numerous institutions and conferences for helpful comments. Kevin Dano provided excellent research assistance. This work was completed in part with resources provided by the University of Chicago Research Computing Center. Dingel thanks the James S. Kemper Foundation Faculty Research Fund at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business for financial support. A previous version of this paper circulated as “The Spatial Structure of Productivity, Trade, and Inequality: Evidence from the Global Climate.” The views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Bureau of Economic Research.

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NBER Working Paper No. 25447  
January 2019, Revised November 2020  
JEL No. F11,F14,F18,O13,Q17,Q54,Q56

**ABSTRACT**

This paper shows that greater global spatial correlation of productivities can increase cross-country welfare dispersion by increasing the correlation between a country's productivity and its gains from trade. We validate this prediction using a global climatic phenomenon as a natural experiment. We find that gains from trade in cereals over the last half-century were larger for more productive countries and smaller for less productive countries when cereal productivity was more spatially correlated. Incorporating this role for spatial interdependence into a projection of climate-change impacts raises projected international inequality, with higher welfare losses across most of Africa.

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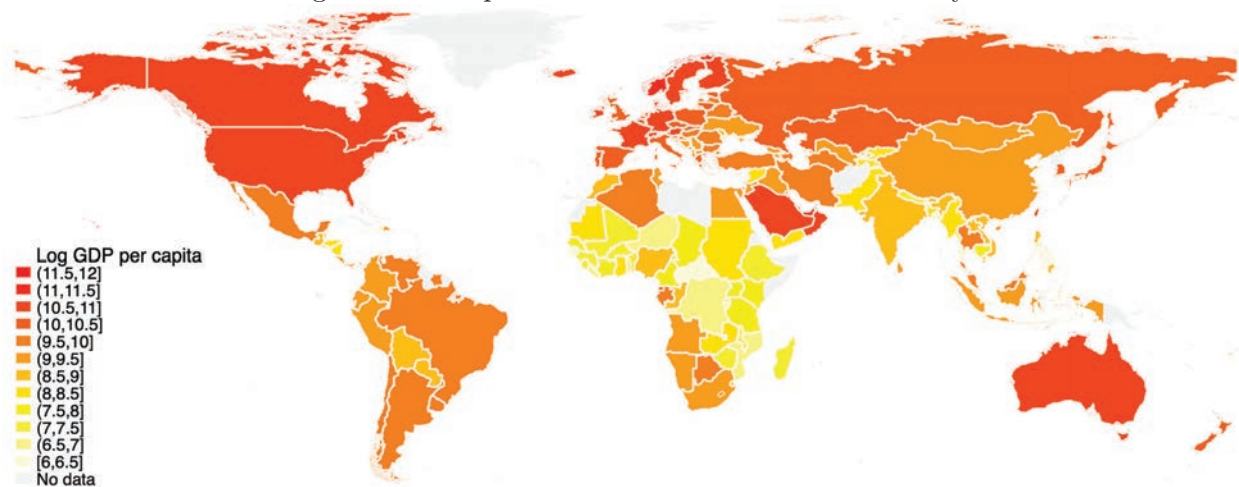
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# 1 Introduction

A striking feature of global economic activity is the extent to which it is spatially correlated. This spatial structure is evident in Figure 1: low-income countries tend to be near other low-income countries and high-income countries are similarly clustered near one another. This pattern reflects the fact that many determinants of income are spatially correlated. Neighboring locations often have similar demographics, political institutions, and natural endowments, a pattern dubbed the “first law of geography” (Tobler, 1970).<sup>1</sup> What are the economic consequences of such spatial correlation? That is, what would happen if countries’ productivities had the same mean and variance but were reshuffled to be less spatially correlated?

Figure 1: The spatial correlation of economic activity



NOTES: Log gross domestic product per capita in 2013. SOURCE: Feenstra, Inklaar and Timmer (2015).

In this paper, we show that greater spatial correlation of productivities increases welfare inequality by altering the pattern of international trade. In theory, the spatial structure of productivity shapes countries’ gains from trade because they trade more with their neighbors than distant countries. We empirically validate this prediction, finding that an observable sufficient statistic for the gains from trade responds to exogenous variation in the spatial correlation of productivities induced by a global climatic phenomenon over the last half-century. To demonstrate how this result can inform empirical research, we show that incorporating the general-equilibrium effects of increased spatial correlation into climate-change impact projections leads to greater projected inequality.

In Section 2, we use a canonical model of trade to show why the spatial correlation of productivity may influence welfare inequality between trading economies. A country benefits by trading with more productive counterparts, which demand more of its exports and sell it cheaper imports. Since trade costs increase with geographic distance (Disdier and Head, 2008), a country enjoys larger gains from trade when its neighbors, rather than distant trading partners, are more productive.

<sup>1</sup>Table F.1 shows that measures of capital stocks, human capital, political stability rule of law, corruption, temperature, water access, and soil suitability for agriculture are spatially correlated across countries.

Thus, when productivities are spatially correlated more productive countries gain more from trade because their neighbors are more productive. When productivities are spatially uncorrelated, the gains from trade are more evenly distributed across space. We first establish this result for small productivity changes by showing that a local approximation of the change in welfare inequality depends on a term akin to the change in Moran’s  $I$ , a commonly used measure of global spatial correlation. We then prove that welfare inequality increases with Moran’s  $I$  in a four-country model. Finally, we simulate a quantitative trade model with a realistic geography to show that Moran’s  $I$  aptly summarizes the model’s rich spatial structure. In particular, we show that a reduced-form regression that can be readily taken to data and uses the Moran’s  $I$  statistic captures 93% of the welfare variance generated by the model when productivities are reshuffled.

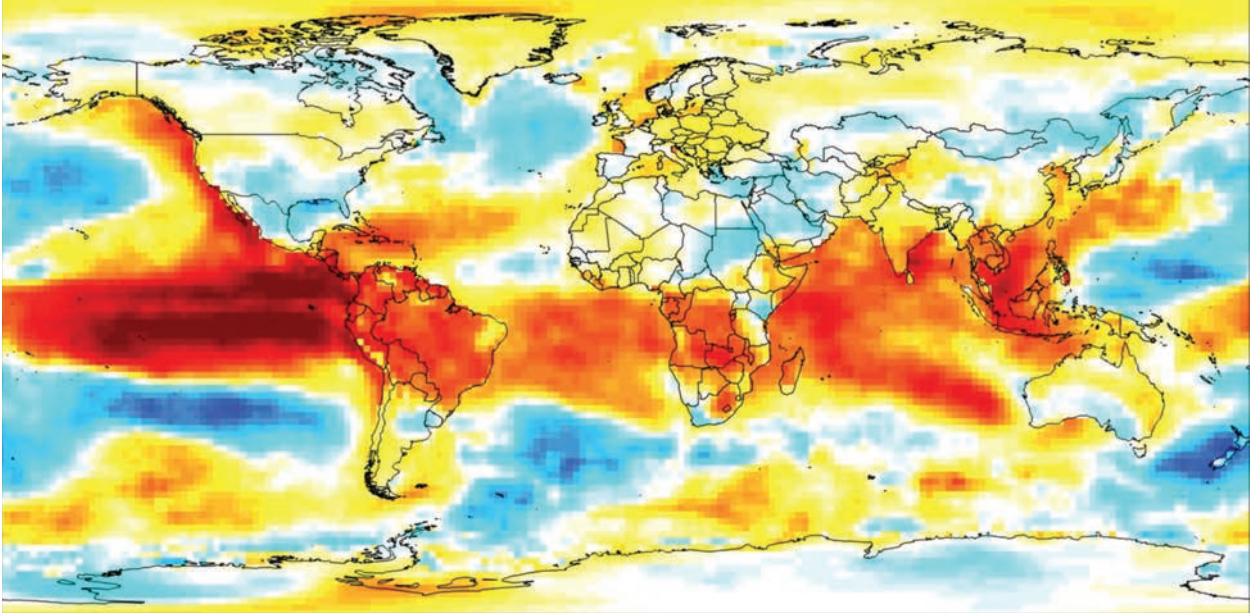
Our main contribution is to empirically validate this prediction about global productivity and the gains from trade. Inferring the causal effects of aggregate changes is typically difficult because of a paucity of unaffected control units (Donaldson, 2015; Fuchs-Schündeln and Hassan, 2016; Nakamura and Steinsson, 2018). This is particularly true when the setting involves international trade and the treatment of interest affects the entire global trading network. Under such circumstances, comparisons must be made across equilibria or time. While we cannot experimentally reshuffle productivities, we can approximate the experimental ideal using a suitably exogenous phenomenon that varies the global spatial correlation of productivities across time.

To that end, our empirical investigation exploits a naturally-occurring climatic phenomenon known as the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO), described in Section 3. In years when ENSO is strong, there are large, spatially contiguous regions of similar temperature conditions. Figure 2 depicts the temperature deviations caused by these ENSO events. Locations near the equator tend to become hotter (red), while mid-latitude locations tend to become cooler (blue). As a result, ENSO increases the global spatial correlation of cereal productivities.

In Section 4, we examine the effect of this natural experiment on the distribution of the gains from trade in cereals. In an important class of trade models, a country’s gains from trade are revealed by the share of its expenditure devoted to imports (Arkolakis, Costinot and Rodríguez-Clare, 2012). We therefore estimate how temperature- and ENSO-driven variation in cereal productivities affects these expenditure shares. As predicted, we find that greater spatial correlation of productivity increases the cross-sectional correlation between productivity and the gains from trade. Increasing the cross-sectional spatial correlation of cereal productivities by one standard deviation above the average year increases the dispersion of welfare attributable to cereal consumption by 2%. We corroborate these findings using a different outcome variable that is informative under much weaker theoretical assumptions: a local approximation of the change in the terms of trade from Dixit and Norman (1980). Using this measure, we again find that an increase in productivity reduces a country’s gains from trade in cereals and that this effect is dampened when productivity is more spatially correlated.

Since spatial correlation of economic features is pervasive, this mechanism may be relevant for empirical analyses of many determinants of economic outcomes. Understanding the consequences

Figure 2: ENSO and the global spatial structure of temperature



NOTES: This map depicts pixel-level correlations between ENSO in December and average temperature during the following February for 1961–2013. Red areas are hotter with warmer ENSO conditions. Blue areas are cooler with warmer ENSO conditions.

of aggregate phenomena requires quantifying both local direct effects and indirect effects due to spatial linkages. Researchers often face a trade-off between using plausibly exogenous variation to estimate treatment effects and capturing indirect effects due to spatial linkages. Quasi-experimental research designs typically estimate local direct effects but ignore spatial linkages, while structural models used to quantify indirect effects typically impose many functional-form assumptions. We propose a way to incorporate the spatial correlation of productivity when projecting economic outcomes without imposing the full structure of quantitative trade models.

To illustrate this approach, we apply it to anthropogenic climate change in Section 5. A growing literature projects future global impacts using estimates from quasi-experimental variation in local temperatures. The projection for each location implicitly holds temperatures in other locations fixed at their historical values, so that the projected global impact of climate change is the sum of each location’s outcome under isolated warming. Climate change, however, is a global phenomenon and expected to alter productivities across the planet at the same time. Asking what would happen if Ethiopia were to warm independent of simultaneous warming in Canada or Kenya misses the global nature of climate change. We amend this projection approach to account for the change in the spatial correlation of cereal productivity due to climate change. Incorporating spatial linkages leads to a 20% greater increase in welfare inequality from cereal consumption by the end of the twenty-first century. Notably, a projection that omits the change in spatial correlation considerably understates the climate-driven welfare losses for most countries in Africa because these countries jointly experience larger productivity losses. While these projections are not literal forecasts of future climate impacts because they abstract from adaptation, migration, and other

possible responses, they demonstrate how one can extend quasi-experimental research designs to examine the consequences of spatial interdependence.

This paper relates to the long-running dialogue regarding the influence of environmental and geographic endowments on the well-being of societies (Sachs and Warner, 1997; Easterly and Levine, 2003). Persistent correlations between local geographic endowments and local economic outcomes are often remarkable (Hornbeck, 2012), with prior work articulating numerous potential channels of influence from local conditions to local productivities (Nordhaus, 2006; Bleakley, 2007) and local institutions (Nunn and Puga, 2012). Our analysis advances this literature by exploring the influence of *non-local* geographic endowments, from both neighboring and distant locations, in the determination of local outcomes – an effect that depends critically on the overall spatial structure of endowments. In short, we focus on the spatial linkages introduced by geography.

This paper thus contributes to a large literature in international trade and economic geography studying local economic consequences of the geographic distribution of economic activity (Head and Mayer, 2004; Redding and Venables, 2004). Our results link the distribution of the gains from trade to the spatial structure of productivity. In neoclassical trade models, a country’s gains from trade depend on its terms of trade – the relative price of its exports compared to its imports. In models of small open economies, these prices are exogenous, so the terms of trade do not depend on local economic conditions. By contrast, Costinot and Rodríguez-Clare (2014, p.251) say that “one of the main goals of quantitative trade models therefore is to predict the terms-of-trade changes associated with particular shocks.” The terms of trade are also important to topics in development and growth.<sup>2</sup> Despite this prominent theoretical role, there is little empirical evidence linking changes in the terms of trade to their economic determinants.<sup>3</sup> We find that expenditure shares respond to local productivity shocks, contrary to the small-open-economy assumption. Higher productivity worsens a country’s terms of trade, and this effect is dampened when neighboring countries also have higher productivity.

Spatial correlation in the level of productivity (absolute advantage) is distinct from spatial correlation in the pattern of relative productivities (comparative advantage). Comparative advantage causes countries to gain by specializing and trading with each other. Absolute advantage affects how these gains from trade are divided between countries through the terms of trade. Our prediction concerns the spatial correlation of absolute advantage. In standard quantitative trade models, the pattern of comparative advantage is symmetric across countries. If comparative advantage were spatially correlated, neighboring countries would gain less by trading with each other due to the similarity of their relative productivities (Lind and Ramondo, 2018). Our empirical investigation estimates how the spatial correlation of absolute advantage in cereals affects expenditure shares and the terms of trade, given any underlying spatial correlation in comparative advantage.

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<sup>2</sup>For example, in Acemoglu and Ventura (2002), diminishing returns due to terms-of-trade effects govern the dispersion of the world income distribution.

<sup>3</sup>Empirical work, which “typically assumes that countries are small and that the terms of trade are exogenous” (Debaere and Lee, 2003, 1), has primarily focused on the consequences of external shocks to countries’ commodity terms of trade. Notable exceptions are Acemoglu and Ventura (2002) and Debaere and Lee (2003), which study the effects of capital accumulation on the terms of trade.



The most closely related study of global agricultural trade is by Costinot, Donaldson and Smith (2016), who examine the consequences of climate change using a model of international trade and an agronomic productivity forecast. While we focus on the spatial correlation of absolute advantage, they focus on changes in comparative advantage and within-country crop switching. While they employ agronomic forecasts to predict changes in trade flows, we empirically estimate the trade effects of historical variation in agricultural productivities.

Finally, this paper speaks to the growing empirical literature examining how anthropogenic climate change may affect inequality across countries, which could provide a new consideration for the long-running discussion of cross-country convergence (Barro, 1991; Johnson and Papageorgiou, 2018). Prior studies using quasi-experimental variation in local temperatures project increased dispersion in various economic outcomes across countries under climate change (Dell, Jones and Olken, 2012; Burke, Hsiang and Miguel, 2015). This paper shows that projected future welfare inequality may be even greater when such projections incorporate the consequences of rising spatial correlation of productivity. In doing so, this paper advances the climate-impacts literature by bringing the quasi-experimental approach conceptually closer to recent structural macroeconomic analyses exploring the spatial distribution of economic activity under climate change (Brock, Engström and Xepapadeas, 2014; Desmet and Rossi-Hansberg, 2015; Krusell and Smith, 2016).

## 2 Theoretical framework

This section introduces our theoretical framework that shows how the spatial correlation of productivities may affect welfare inequality and guides our empirical investigation of this prediction. As is common in trade theory, we abstract from dynamics and risk by studying a static model.

A country’s welfare in any trade equilibrium can be stated as the sum of its welfare in autarky and its gains from trade. A country’s welfare in autarky depends only on its own productivity. Its gains from trade depend on the entire distribution of productivities across the trading network. The variance of welfare across countries is the variance of this sum. It therefore depends on not only the variances of productivity and the gains from trade but also the covariance between these two components.

We investigate how the spatial correlation of productivities influences the covariance between a country’s productivity and its gains from trade. This requires an observable outcome that identifies the gains from trade. In an important class of models, a country’s gains from trade are revealed by the share of its expenditure devoted to its own output. The less a country spends on its own output, the larger its gains from trade. In autarky, all its expenditure is on its own output. In the trade equilibrium, this expenditure share, when combined with the “trade elasticity” governing how consumers substitute across consumption sources, summarizes the welfare gain from exchange with other locations (Arkolakis, Costinot and Rodríguez-Clare, 2012).

Section 2.1 establishes that within this class of trade models our object of interest is the covariance between a country’s productivity and its domestic share of expenditure. Section 2.2 illustrates

how this covariance depends on the spatial correlation of the productivity distribution and shows how to identify this *ceteris paribus* prediction in empirical settings. Section 2.3 discusses the role of comparative advantage and describes conditions under which examining one sector in isolation is informative about welfare dispersion in a multi-sector world. Section 2.4 describes why observed changes in the terms of trade are informative about the welfare consequences of exogenous shocks under weaker theoretical assumptions than those maintained by Arkolakis, Costinot and Rodríguez-Clare (2012). Section 2.5 describes the criteria used to select a suitable empirical setting. Further details and derivations are available in Appendix A.

## 2.1 Sufficient statistics for welfare dispersion

We consider a general economic environment within the class of models characterized by Arkolakis, Costinot and Rodríguez-Clare (2012), in which the gains from trade can be inferred from the domestic share of expenditure. We assume perfect competition in the main text, while Appendix A.1 covers the case of monopolistic competition. The world economy consists of  $j = 1, \dots, N$  countries.

**Preferences.** Individuals in country  $j$  have preferences with a constant elasticity of substitution  $\sigma > 1$  over goods indexed by  $\omega$ . The accompanying price index is

$$P_j = \left( \int_{\omega} p_j(\omega)^{1-\sigma} d\omega \right)^{1/(1-\sigma)}.$$

**Production.** There is one factor of production, and each country  $j$  inelastically supplies  $L_j$  units of that factor, which earns wage  $w_j$ . A country's income is therefore  $Y_j = w_j L_j$ . The production technology exhibits constant returns to scale and is employed by perfectly competitive firms. The cost of producing in country  $j$  depends on productivity  $A_j$ . This parameter's microeconomic meaning is model-specific:  $A_j$  governs the cost of producing  $j$ 's good in the Armington model and the location parameter of  $j$ 's cost distribution for a continuum of goods in the Eaton and Kortum (2002) model.

**Trade costs.** There are iceberg trade costs, such that selling one unit of a good to  $j$  from  $i$  requires  $\tau_{ij} \geq 1$  units, with  $\tau_{ii} = 1$ . By the no-arbitrage condition,  $p_j(\omega) \leq \tau_{ij} p_i(\omega)$ .

**Gravity equation.** Denote sales from  $i$  to  $j$  by  $X_{ij}$  and  $j$ 's total expenditure by  $X_j \equiv \sum_{i=1}^N X_{ij}$ . The share of expenditure by  $j$  on goods from  $i$  takes the form of a gravity equation:

$$\lambda_{ij} = \frac{X_{ij}}{X_j} = \frac{\chi_i (\tau_{ij} w_i)^{-\epsilon}}{\sum_{l=1}^N \chi_l (\tau_{lj} w_l)^{-\epsilon}} = \frac{\chi_i (\tau_{ij} w_i)^{-\epsilon}}{\Phi_j}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\chi_i$  is a function of  $A_i$  and other structural parameters that are not trade costs,  $\epsilon$  is the "trade elasticity", and  $\Phi_j \equiv \sum_{l=1}^N \chi_l (\tau_{lj} w_l)^{-\epsilon}$  is the "inward multilateral resistance" term (Head and Mayer, 2014).  $\Phi_j$  is a (decreasing) transformation of  $j$ 's price index that summarizes consumers' access to goods from every source.

**Equilibrium.** In equilibrium, labor-market clearing, goods-market clearing, and budget constraints are satisfied such that total income  $Y_i = w_i L_i$  equals total expenditure  $X_i$ . Thus, an



equilibrium is a set of incomes  $\{Y_i\}_{i=1}^N$  such that

$$Y_i = \sum_{j=1}^N \lambda_{ij} Y_j.$$

In this environment, the results of Arkolakis, Costinot and Rodríguez-Clare (2012) imply that real consumption per capita is

$$\ln(C_i/L_i) = \ln A_i + \gamma - \frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii}, \quad (2)$$

where  $\gamma$  is a constant determined by structural parameters that are not productivity. The former term,  $\ln A_i + \gamma$ , is per capita welfare in autarky. In the absence of trade, a country's welfare is independent of other countries' conditions and depends only on its own productivity. The latter term,  $-\frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii}$ , is a sufficient statistic for the gains from trade relative to autarky. It is a country's expenditure share on its own goods, mediated by the trade elasticity  $\epsilon$  that governs how bilateral expenditures respond to changes in bilateral trade costs. Since expenditure shares depend on relative prices, this sufficient statistic is closely linked to the country's terms of trade: a country purchases less from itself when its export price is higher. Using this familiar expression for equilibrium welfare, we can consider how dispersion in  $\ln(C/L)$  across countries depends on the spatial distribution of productivities.

From equation (2), variance in welfare across countries is governed by the variance of productivity, the covariance of productivities and gains from trade, and the variance of those gains.

$$\text{var}(\ln(C_i/L_i)) = \text{var}(\ln A_i) + 2\text{cov}\left(\ln A_i, \frac{-1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii}\right) + \text{var}\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii}\right) \quad (3)$$

To examine the role of spatial correlation, consider two productivity distributions – a correlated state  $c$  and an uncorrelated state  $u$  – in which the unconditional variance in productivities is identical,  $\text{var}(\ln A_i^c) = \text{var}(\ln A_i^u)$ . Under this assumption, the difference in welfare dispersion between the correlated and uncorrelated states is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}(\ln(C_i^c/L_i)) - \text{var}(\ln(C_i^u/L_i)) &= -\frac{2}{\epsilon} [\text{cov}(\ln A_i^c, \ln \lambda_{ii}^c) - \text{cov}(\ln A_i^u, \ln \lambda_{ii}^u)] \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} [\text{var}(\ln \lambda_{ii}^c) - \text{var}(\ln \lambda_{ii}^u)]. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

The latter term should make only a second-order contribution to the difference in welfare dispersion, since  $\frac{1}{\epsilon^2}$  is an order of magnitude smaller than  $\frac{2}{\epsilon}$  for empirically relevant values of the trade elasticity.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup>Typical estimates of the aggregate trade elasticity are between 4 and 8. Caliendo and Parro (2015) estimate that the trade elasticity for agricultural goods is between 8 and 17. Provided that  $\text{var}(\ln \lambda_{ii}^c) - \text{var}(\ln \lambda_{ii}^u)$  is the same order of magnitude or smaller than  $\text{cov}(\ln A_i^c, \ln \lambda_{ii}^c) - \text{cov}(\ln A_i^u, \ln \lambda_{ii}^u)$ , this means that the second term on the right side of equation (4) is an order of magnitude smaller than the first term. Appendix A.1.3 shows that  $\text{cov}(\ln A_i^c, \ln \lambda_{ii}^c) - \text{cov}(\ln A_i^u, \ln \lambda_{ii}^u)$  is the same order of magnitude as  $\text{var}(\ln \lambda_{ii}^c) - \text{var}(\ln \lambda_{ii}^u)$  if trade costs are

The first-order difference in welfare dispersion is governed by the covariance of productivities and domestic shares of expenditure. We expect this covariance to be positive. A more productive country produces greater output, so the relative price of its output is lower and it sells more to every consumer, including itself. Thus, *ceteris paribus*, a more productive country has worse terms of trade and purchases more from itself.<sup>5</sup>

Our primary focus, however, is how this covariance changes with the spatial correlation of productivities. We will estimate this relationship empirically, but we first illustrate why we expect that  $cov(\ln A_i^c, \ln \lambda_{ii}^c) < cov(\ln A_i^u, \ln \lambda_{ii}^u)$  and thus that  $var(\ln(C_i^c/L_i)) > var(\ln(C_i^u/L_i))$ .

## 2.2 Spatial correlation and the covariance of productivity and gains from trade

This section illustrates how the spatial correlation of productivity influences the variance of welfare by shaping the covariance of productivity and gains from trade. The key is that bilateral trade costs increase with the physical distance between trading partners. Thus, when proximate countries have more similar productivity levels, more productive countries tend to enjoy greater gains from trade because their nearby trading partners are also more productive. Conversely, less productive countries experience lower gains from trade when productivity is more spatially correlated.

We illustrate the theoretical role of the spatial correlation of productivity in a series of steps. First, we use a local approximation to show that the change in the covariance of productivities and domestic shares of expenditure resulting from an infinitesimal change in countries' productivities depends on the change in a term akin to the Moran's  $I$  spatial-correlation statistic for productivity. Second, we turn to two settings in which countries are perfectly symmetric except for productivity differences to establish the link between welfare inequality and the Moran's  $I$  statistic for large productivity changes in general equilibrium. We prove our theoretical prediction in a four-country model and show that it holds in numerical simulations of a many-country model. Finally, we examine how to identify this *ceteris paribus* prediction in asymmetric environments in which countries differ by other, potentially confounding, determinants of equilibrium trade flows. These more realistic examples inform how we empirically investigate our prediction.

### 2.2.1 A local approximation

We first consider the effect of an infinitesimal change in countries' productivities on the covariance of productivities and domestic shares of expenditure. Let  $\{d \ln A_i\}_i$  denote a set of local productivity changes that do not alter the distribution's variance ( $dvar(\ln A_i) = 0$ ). The resulting change in

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symmetric ( $\tau_{ij} = \tau_{ji}$ ) and countries equal sized ( $L_i = L \forall i$ ). This is also overwhelmingly true in numerical simulations featuring countries of different sizes reported in Appendix Figure E.1. Nonetheless, our welfare calculations, laid out in Appendix D, incorporate  $\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} [var(\ln \lambda_{ii}^c) - var(\ln \lambda_{ii}^u)]$ .

<sup>5</sup>Under certain conditions, productivity increases can reduce the terms of trade so much that this growth is immiserizing (Bhagwati, 1958). The standard assumptions of quantitative trade models imply that increases in productivity do reduce the terms of trade but not so much as to lower welfare. Consider the free-trade equilibrium,  $\tau_{ij} = 1 \forall i, j$ . In this case, there is a closed-form solution for equilibrium incomes ( $Y_i = (A_i L_i)^{\frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon+1}}$ ) and we obtain the following comparative statics:  $\frac{d \ln \lambda_{ii}}{d \ln A_i} = \frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon+1} (1 - \lambda_{ii}) > 0$  and  $\frac{d \ln C_i}{d \ln A_i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon+1} (\epsilon + \lambda_{ii}) > 0$ .

$cov(\ln \lambda_{ii}, \ln A_i)$  can be written as the sum of four terms:

$$dcov(\ln \lambda_{ii}, \ln A_i) = \underbrace{\epsilon dvar(\ln A_i)}_{=0} - \underbrace{\epsilon cov(d \ln w_i, \ln A_i)}_{=0 \text{ by P.E.}} - \underbrace{cov(d \ln \Phi_i, \ln A_i)}_{\approx dI \text{ by P.E.}} + cov(\ln \lambda_{ii}, d \ln A_i) \quad (5)$$

The first term is zero by the assumption that the distribution's variance is unchanged. If we take a partial-equilibrium perspective by assuming  $d \ln w_i = 0 \forall i$ , the second term is also zero. Furthermore, in partial equilibrium the third term is closely related to the spatial correlation of productivity. Appendix A.2.1 shows that, if wages are unchanged,  $cov(d \ln \Phi_i, \ln A_i)$  is akin to the change in Moran's  $I$  if we set spatial weights equal to initial expenditure shares  $\omega_{ji} = \lambda_{ji}$  for  $j \neq i$ .<sup>6</sup> The fourth term, while not taking the form of a change in Moran's  $I$ , is also intuitively linked to spatial correlation. Conditional on  $A_i$  and  $L_i$ ,  $\lambda_{ii}$  will be lower in locations where neighboring countries are larger and more productive. An increase in spatial correlation will tend to raise productivity in locations with more productive neighbors, so the fourth term should also be negative when spatial correlation increases.

Thus, a partial-equilibrium local approximation suggests that an increase in the spatial correlation of productivity should decrease the covariance of productivities and domestic shares of expenditure and that Moran's  $I$  captures part of this spatial interdependence. A general-equilibrium local approximation that exploits the assumption of symmetric trade costs ( $\tau_{ij} = \tau_{ji}$ ) delivers a very similar result, as shown in Appendix A.2.1. We could regress  $\ln \lambda_{ii}$  on the interaction of log productivity and Moran's  $I$  to empirically estimate this relationship. Before doing so, we relax the assumption that the productivity changes are small.

### 2.2.2 Stylized example 1: Four-country case

We start with the simplest possible environment in which one can demonstrate our result. There are four countries of equal size,  $L_i = L$  for  $i = 1, \dots, 4$ . The four countries are evenly spaced on a symmetric geography such that each country is "near" two neighboring countries and farther from the remaining country. Thus, the trade cost matrix is

$$\tau \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 1 & d_1 & d_2 & d_1 \\ d_1 & 1 & d_1 & d_2 \\ d_2 & d_1 & 1 & d_1 \\ d_1 & d_2 & d_1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad 1 < d_1 < d_2 < d_1^2 \quad (6)$$

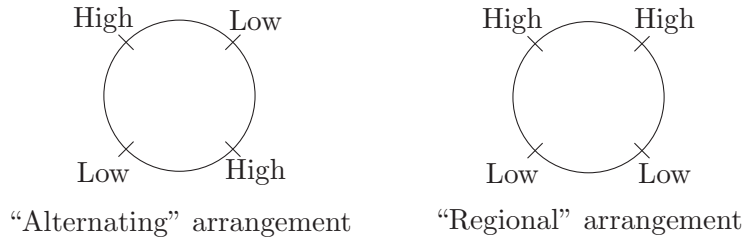
where the trade costs  $d_2 > d_1$ , a mnemonic for distance, obey the triangle inequality:  $d_2 < d_1^2$ .

<sup>6</sup>Moran's  $I$  is a commonly used measure of global spatial correlation that can be computed for any geography endowed with a distance metric. It takes values between -1 and 1. Moran's  $I$  for productivity  $\ln A_i$  is defined by

$$I \equiv \frac{N}{\sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} \omega_{ij}} \frac{\sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} \omega_{ij} (\ln A_i - \overline{\ln A}) (\ln A_j - \overline{\ln A})}{\sum_\ell (\ln A_\ell - \overline{\ln A})^2},$$

where  $N$  is the number of countries,  $\omega_{ij} = \omega_{ji}$  is a symmetric spatial weight, and  $\overline{\ln A}$  is the cross-sectional average.

Figure 3: Four-country example: Productivity distributions



For these four countries, consider a mirror-image productivity distribution in which two countries have high productivity and the other two countries have low productivity. Without loss of generality, normalize the lower productivity to one and denote the higher productivity level by  $\tilde{a} > 1$ . For this symmetric geography with four countries, these productivities might alternate – high, low, high, low – or the world may be divided into a high-productivity region and a low-productivity region. These two spatial arrangements are depicted in Figure 3. What are the consequences for trade and welfare?

Proposition 1 shows that the “regional” arrangement of productivities exhibits greater spatial correlation, as measured by Moran’s  $I$ . As a result, the covariance of productivity and the domestic share of expenditure is lower when productivities are distributed this way. That makes the variance of welfare across countries greater. The mean of welfare across countries is lower. The proof of Proposition 1 appears in Appendix A.2.2.

**Proposition 1** (Four-country case). *Consider an economy in which  $N = 4$ ,  $L_i = L \forall i$ ,  $\epsilon \geq 1$ , and trade costs  $\tau_{ij}$  are given by condition (6). Comparing the productivity distributions  $A^c = (\tilde{a}, \tilde{a}, 1, 1)$  and  $A^u = (\tilde{a}, 1, \tilde{a}, 1)$ , where  $\tilde{a} > 1$ ,*

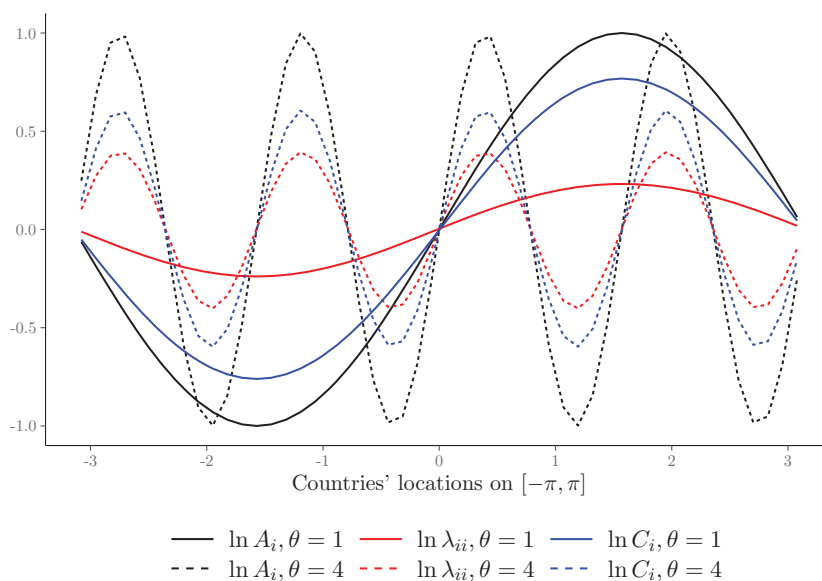
- $A^c$  is more spatially correlated than  $A^u$  in the sense that the value of Moran’s  $I$  for  $\ln A^c$  is greater for any spatial weight matrix that is a one-to-one mapping between  $\omega_{ij}$  and  $\tau_{ij}$  and assigns a higher weight to the pairs with  $\tau_{ij} = d_1$  than pairs with  $\tau_{ij} = d_2$ .
- Equilibrium income inequality, given by  $Y_1/Y_4$ , is greater for the more spatially correlated productivity distribution,  $A^c$ . Equivalently, the more productive economies’ equilibrium double-factoral terms of trade are greater for the more spatially correlated productivity distribution.
- The covariance of productivity and the domestic share of expenditure is lower for the more spatially correlated productivity distribution:  $\text{cov}(\ln A_i^c, \ln \lambda_{ii}^c) < \text{cov}(\ln A_i^u, \ln \lambda_{ii}^u)$ .
- The variance of welfare across countries is greater for the more spatially correlated productivity distribution:  $\text{var}(\ln(C_i^c/L)) > \text{var}(\ln(C_i^u/L))$ .
- The mean of welfare across countries is lower for the more spatially correlated productivity distribution:  $\mathbb{E}(\ln(C_i^c/L)) < \mathbb{E}(\ln(C_i^u/L))$ .

This four-country case establishes our prediction linking the spatial correlation of productivity to welfare inequality. Next, we illustrate this logic in a setting with an arbitrary number of countries that are perfectly symmetric except for productivity differences.

### 2.2.3 Stylized example 2: Circular geography with productivity sine wave

Our second stylized environment has productivity follow a sine wave over a one-dimensional space. There are  $N$  locations evenly spaced on the unit circle. These locations have equal population sizes,  $L_i = 1 \forall i$ . Trade costs depend only on distance: the log trade cost between two locations is proportionate to the log distance between them. The trade elasticity is  $\epsilon = 1$ , so that welfare is  $\ln A_i - \ln \lambda_{ii}$ , a difference that is easy to depict visually.<sup>7</sup> Productivity  $\ln A_i$  follows a sine-wave distribution, with an integer frequency of  $\theta$  over the circle's circumference. This functional form has two convenient properties. First, the spatial correlation of productivity is governed by the frequency  $\theta$ : lower frequencies exhibit greater spatial correlation. Second, the mean, variance, skewness, and kurtosis of the productivity distribution are independent of the frequency. Thus, we can explore the effect of spatial correlation by varying  $\theta$  alone. While we do not have an analytical result, our numerical simulations deliver the same patterns for all parameter values we have examined.<sup>8</sup>

Figure 4: Circular geography with productivity sine wave

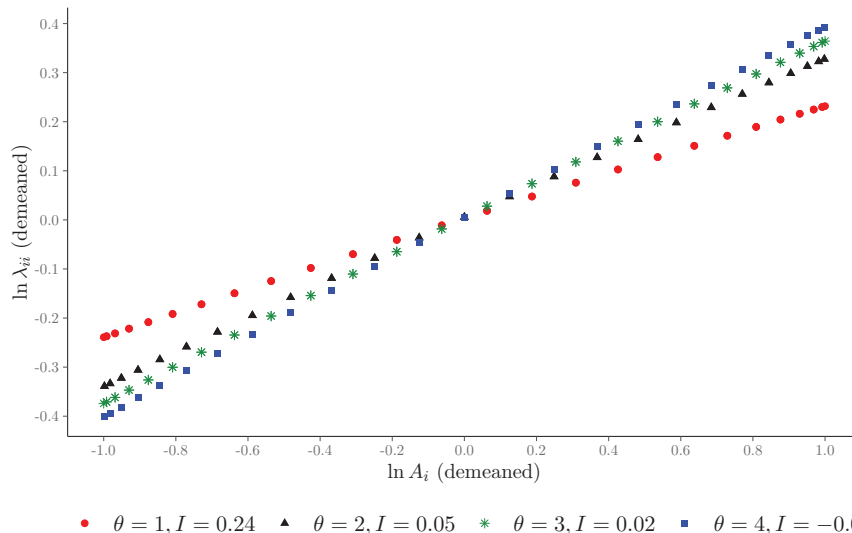


NOTES: This figure depicts an economy with a circular geography and a productivity distribution that follows a sine wave with frequency  $\theta$ . There are  $N = 50$  locations evenly spaced on the unit circle. Bilateral log trade costs are proportionate to the log length of the arc between two points on the circle. The (demeaned) distributions of productivities, equilibrium domestic shares of expenditure, and welfare are depicted for the cases of  $\theta = 1$  and  $\theta = 4$ . The trade elasticity is  $\epsilon = 1$ , so that welfare is simply the difference  $\ln A_i - \ln \lambda_{ii}$ . See Appendix A.2.3 for parameterization details.

<sup>7</sup>This convenient value of  $\epsilon$  is notably lower than the empirical estimates summarized in footnote 4.

<sup>8</sup>Details of the parameters underlying Figure 4 are in Appendix A.2. By Theorem 1 of Allen, Arkolakis and Takahashi (2017), the equilibrium solution depicted for each set of parameter values is unique.

Figure 5: Circular geography with productivity sine wave:  $cov(\ln \lambda_{ii}, \ln A_i)$



NOTES: This figure depicts the  $\ln \lambda_{ii}$ - $\ln A_i$  relationship for an economy with a circular geography and a productivity distribution that follows a sine wave with frequency  $\theta$ . The legend reports the value of Moran's  $I$  for each sine wave. Geographic locations, trade costs, and the trade elasticity are the same as in Figure 4. See Appendix A.2.3 for parameterization details.

Figure 4 depicts the spatial distributions of productivities ( $\ln A_i$ ), domestic shares of expenditure ( $\ln \lambda_{ii}$ ), and welfare ( $\ln C_i$ ) in this circular economy for the cases in which the sine wave has frequencies of  $\theta = 1$  and  $\theta = 4$ . It is clear that the spatial correlation of productivity is greater in the  $\theta = 1$  case, as location “zero” divides the circle into two contiguous regions with above-average and below-average productivity. In the  $\theta = 4$  case, spatial correlation is lower because the distance between the productivity sine wave's peaks and troughs is shorter. Stated in terms of Moran's  $I$ , the spatial correlation statistic is 0.242 for  $\theta = 1$  and -0.011 for  $\theta = 4$ .

The frequency of the exogenous productivity sine wave affects the amplitude of the endogenous welfare sine wave. In the case of higher spatial correlation, the equilibrium domestic share of expenditure series follows the productivity series less closely, as evident by the larger vertical gap between them. Thus, the smaller amplitude of the  $\ln \lambda_{ii}$  series when productivity is more spatially correlated is accompanied by a lower value of  $cov(\ln A_i, \ln \lambda_{ii})$ . As a result, the amplitude of the welfare series is greater in the  $\theta = 1$  case: welfare dispersion is higher when productivity is more spatially correlated.<sup>9</sup>

Figure 5 depicts the expenditure-productivity relationship in our sine-wave example for more values of the sine-wave frequency,  $\theta$ . The scatter plot reveals an almost perfectly linear relationship between  $\ln \lambda_{ii}$  and  $\ln A_i$ . The slope of this relationship, which is proportionate to  $cov(\ln A_i, \ln \lambda_{ii})$ , systematically varies with the spatial correlation of the sine wave. When the productivities are more spatially correlated, a location's domestic share of expenditure is less responsive to its own productivity level.

<sup>9</sup>See Table A.1 for numerical details.



#### 2.2.4 Asymmetric environments

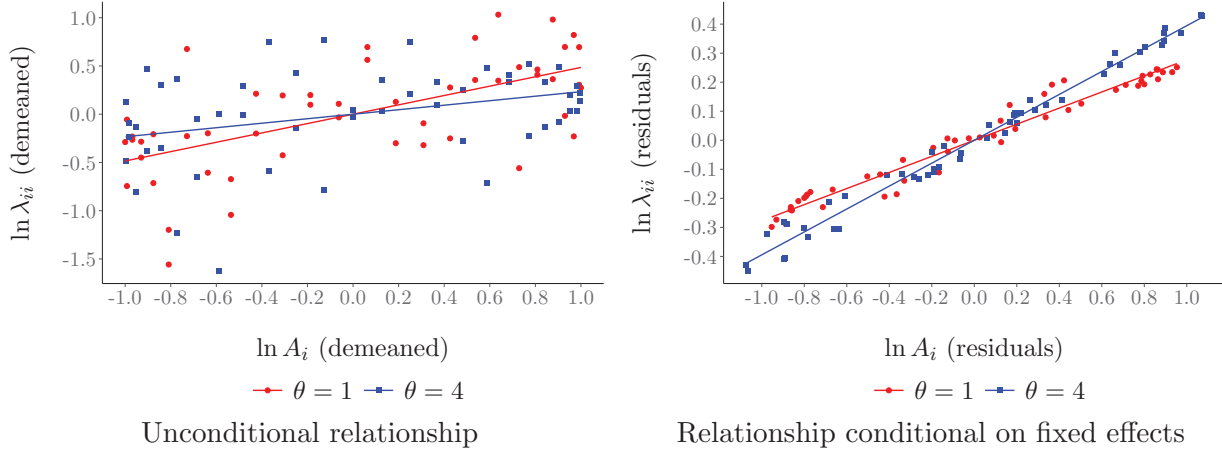
Our stylized, many-country example in Section 2.2.3 demonstrates the consequence of spatial correlation of productivity for global welfare inequality in an ideal environment that holds fixed all other economic elements. Our empirical investigation must address the facts that there are other determinants of equilibrium trade flows and the distributions of trade costs and productivities are not symmetric. In this section, we use numerical simulations to motivate our empirical estimating equation that identifies our *ceteris paribus* prediction about the impact of spatial correlation in such settings.

First, economic characteristics other than productivity that influence domestic shares of expenditure complicate bivariate plots like Figure 5. A simple example is heterogeneity in country size  $L_i$ : all else equal, larger economies have a larger domestic share of expenditure. Variation in size orthogonal to productivity simply adds noise to the bivariate plot. However, variation in size correlated with productivity also introduces omitted variable bias. This can be empirically addressed by examining the covariance of the domestic share of expenditure and productivity conditional on size. More generally, any time-invariant country characteristics that influence the domestic share of expenditure and might be correlated with productivity can be absorbed by country fixed effects.

We illustrate this in Figure 6, which depicts the relationship between  $\ln \lambda_{ii}$  and  $\ln A_i$  in an environment that features, like the previous section, a circular geography and sine-wave productivity, and, unlike the previous section, heterogeneous country sizes. In particular, country size  $\ln L_i$  is positively correlated with productivity  $\ln A_i$  in the  $\theta = 1$  state. The left panel depicts the covariance of  $\ln \lambda_{ii}$  and  $\ln A_i$  for the frequencies  $\theta = 1$  and  $\theta = 4$ . The right panel depicts these covariances conditional on country fixed effects. While our *ceteris paribus* prediction is not evident in the left panel due to omitted variable bias, the right panel shows that the covariance of  $\ln \lambda_{ii}$  and  $\ln A_i$  is lower when  $\theta$  is lower after country fixed effects absorb the consequences of heterogeneous country sizes.

Second, the real world features productivities and trade costs that do not exhibit the symmetry of a sine wave on a circle. Departing from the sine-wave distribution, Figure A.1 in Appendix A.2.3 depicts the expenditure-productivity relationship for the circular geography with equal-sized countries when we shuffle a productivity vector drawn from the normal distribution so as to vary its spatial correlation. There is a clear negative relationship: as Moran's  $I$  increases, the equilibrium domestic share of expenditure is less responsive to domestic productivity. Departing from the circular geography, Figure A.2 in Appendix A.2.4 plots the expenditure-productivity relationship against Moran's  $I$  for an economy with countries randomly located on a two-dimensional space and random assignments of productivity levels that differ only in their spatial correlation. In such asymmetric geographies, some countries are more "remote" from economic activity and therefore exhibit a higher domestic share of expenditure, all else equal. This variation is absorbed by country fixed effects, since remoteness is a time-invariant characteristic. Conditional on these fixed effects, we find that greater spatial correlation reduces the covariance of the domestic share of expenditure and productivity.

Figure 6: Circular geography with heterogeneous sizes and productivity sine wave



NOTES: This figure depicts the  $\lambda_{ii}$ - $A_i$  relationship for an economy with a circular geography and a productivity distribution that follows a sine wave with frequency  $\theta$ . Geographic locations, trade costs, and the trade elasticity are the same as in Figure 4. Country sizes  $L_i$  are positively correlated with  $A_i$  in the  $\theta = 1$  state. The residuals in the right panel are obtained by subtracting the country-level mean values of  $\ln \lambda_{ii}$  and  $\ln A_i$  across the five equilibria associated with  $\theta = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ . See Appendix A.2.3 for parameterization details.

To examine our prediction with realistic productivities and trade costs, we simulate a global economy made up of 158 countries whose geographic coordinates, cereal yields, and crop areas are their 1961–2013 averages in our data. We impose distance-related trade costs and swap pairs of countries’ productivity levels in order to vary spatial correlation without altering the mean or variance of the productivity distribution.<sup>10</sup> We recover the covariance of expenditure and productivity in each equilibrium by regressing the domestic share of expenditure for country  $i$  at “time”  $t$ , where each  $t$  denotes an equilibrium associated with a different productivity distribution, on its own productivity and fixed effects:

$$\ln \lambda_{iit} = \beta_t \ln A_{it} + \pi_i^I + \pi_t^T + \mu_{it}. \quad (7)$$

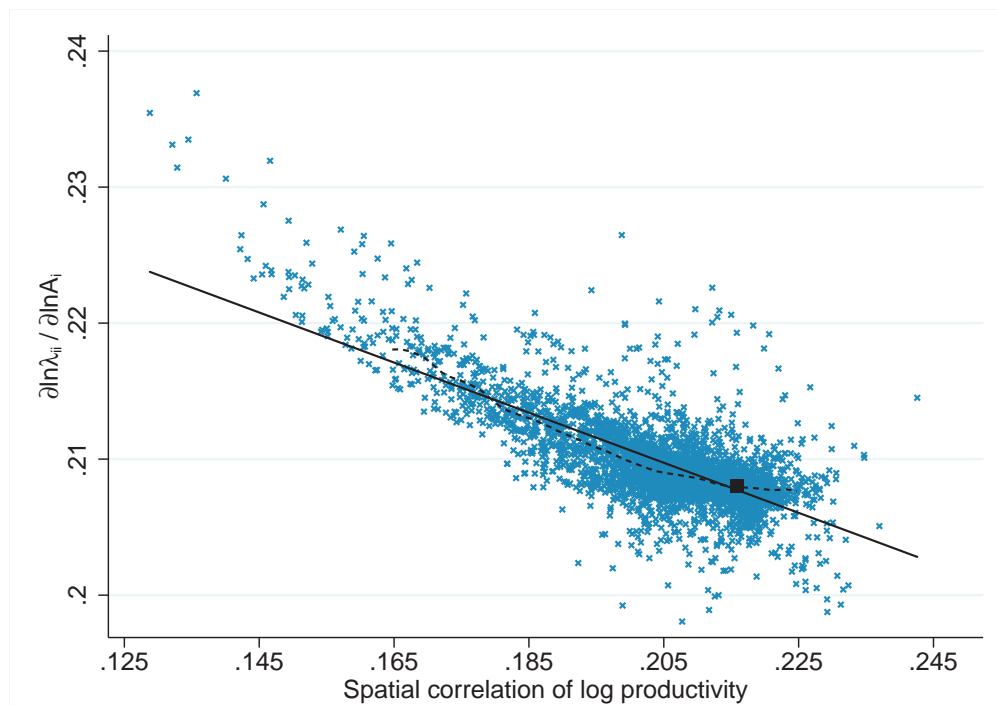
As in the right panel of Figure 6, the country fixed effects  $\pi_i^I$  control for differences in countries’ time-invariant determinants of the domestic share of expenditure, such as size and remoteness. The “year” fixed effects  $\pi_t^T$  control for differences in the average domestic shares of expenditure across different spatial distributions of productivity.

The coefficients  $\beta_t$  in equation (7) characterize the conditional covariance of  $\ln \lambda_{ii}$  and  $\ln A_i$  in each equilibrium. Since the equilibrium value of  $\ln \lambda_{ii}$  depends on the entire vector of productivities and not just  $\ln A_i$ , as shown by the gravity equation (1), this covariance differs across equilibria.<sup>11</sup> Relating the general-equilibrium elasticity  $\beta_t$  to properties of the exogenous productivity vector shows how this covariance’s contribution to welfare inequality depends on properties of the produc-

<sup>10</sup>Empirically, trade flows of cereals are well characterized by the gravity equation, as reported in column 1 of Table C.1 in Appendix C. Cereals are often both exported to and imported from the same foreign trading partner, and cereal trade between countries that are farther apart is substantially lower.

<sup>11</sup>For the same reason, we expect the elasticity  $\frac{\partial \ln \lambda_{ii}}{\partial \ln A_i}$  to vary across  $i$ , so that  $\beta_t$  is an average elasticity.

Figure 7: Real-world geography and bilateral productivity swaps



NOTES: Each observation is the estimated productivity elasticity of domestic expenditure share and spatial correlation of productivity for the equilibrium resulting from a bilateral swap of two countries' productivity levels. Countries' productivities and factor endowments are set equal to their long-run averages of cereal yield and log crop area, respectively. Bilateral trade costs are proportionate to bilateral distances between countries' crop centroids. The trade elasticity is set to 8.59 and the scale of trade costs is set so that the distance elasticity of trade is 1.46. Equilibria computed for 7499 bilateral swaps of productivities. Linear fit shown as solid line. Local polynomial fit for 1st through 99th percentiles of spatial correlation shown as dashed line. Equilibrium associated with long-run averages shown as square.

tivity vector. Figure 7 shows that this covariance exhibits a negative and roughly linear relationship with Moran's  $I$ , a statistic that captures the spatial correlation of productivity. On this realistic geography, when productivity is less spatially correlated, the equilibrium covariance of  $\ln \lambda_{ii}$  and  $\ln A_i$  is more positive and thus welfare inequality is lower.

While the line of best fit in Figure 7 is not perfect, the Moran's  $I$  statistic aptly summarizes how the spatial structure of productivity affects welfare inequality. In the model, the covariance of productivity and gains from trade is determined by the general-equilibrium solution of a system of non-linear equations. In Appendix Figure E.1, we examine how well relating this covariance to Moran's  $I$  for productivity captures changes in the variance of welfare per capita. For each of the equilibria depicted in Figure 7, we compare the variance of welfare per capita in the model to that predicted by using the line of best fit. Regressing variance of welfare per capita in the model on its predicted value yields an  $R^2$  of .93. Thus, a log-linear specification employing Moran's  $I$  aptly captures how welfare inequality determined by the general-equilibrium model depends on the spatial structure of productivity. Our empirical investigation will therefore estimate the expenditure-

productivity relationship using a linear regression and exogenous variation in productivities without imposing the full structure of a quantitative trade model.<sup>12</sup>

### 2.3 Comparative advantage

We have obtained these predictions about the spatial correlation of absolute advantage  $A_i$  using a theoretical framework that makes two important assumptions about the pattern of comparative advantage. First, there is only one sector. Second, the pattern of comparative advantage across varieties within that sector is symmetric across countries.

Our empirical investigation exploits exogenous variation in the spatial distribution of productivities in the agricultural sector, which constitutes a small share of global trade. What happens in an economy with multiple sectors? Appendix A.3 shows that our prediction linking the spatial correlation of productivity and the productivity-expenditure relationship holds for each sector in a multi-sector gravity model of trade. When consumers have Cobb-Douglas preferences over sectors and CES preferences over varieties within sectors, there are multi-sector analogues of equations (2), (3), and (4) that sum over sectors using their expenditure shares. Thus, the previous section’s predictions about trade in one sector can be empirically investigated in a multi-sector world that introduces an additional dimension of comparative advantage.

Compared to a one-sector model, the opportunity to produce non-agricultural goods is an additional margin of adjustment that can dampen the magnitude of the welfare consequence of a given agricultural productivity shock. If agricultural and non-agricultural activities were positively correlated, there would be little scope for adjustment.<sup>13</sup> To illustrate the case in which these productivities are orthogonal, Figure A.3 in Appendix A.3 presents a multi-sector analogue of Figure 5 for an economy with two symmetric sectors that differ only in their sine-wave frequency. The idiosyncratic, orthogonal variation in the second sector’s productivity adds noise to the relationship between the domestic share of agricultural expenditure and agricultural productivity, but it does not change the comparative static of interest. When the first sector’s productivity is more spatially correlated, the covariance of its log productivity and log domestic share of expenditure is smaller. This raises dispersion in welfare relative to the case in which the first sector’s productivity is less spatially correlated.

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<sup>12</sup> An alternative way to examine the predicted expenditure-productivity relationship would be to calibrate the trade model to rationalize the observed data from one year, introduce a change in the spatial correlation of productivity, and then examine how well the calibrated model’s predicted expenditure responses align with observed changes. This approach would encounter two challenges. First, computing the spatial correlation of productivity requires productivity levels. Common calibration procedures, such as “exact hat algebra” (Costinot and Rodríguez-Clare, 2014), do not identify these productivity levels. One would therefore need to explicitly estimate many structural parameters to pursue this approach. Second, since other shocks affect both expenditure shares and productivities, this alternative approach would still require the researcher to select relevant exogenous variation and define a criterion for evaluating model fit. Our instrumental-variables approach employs standard statistical criteria to define appropriate exogenous variation and perform causal inference.

<sup>13</sup> Appendix A.3 shows that a multi-sector model with perfectly correlated productivities, proportionate bilateral trade costs, and equal trade elasticities delivers a welfare-difference expression exactly proportionate to the single-sector expression in equation (4).

Finally, introducing spatially correlated comparative advantage could reverse how the expenditure-productivity relationship varies with the spatial correlation of absolute advantage. The predictions above concern the spatial correlation of absolute advantage  $A_i$  when comparative advantage is symmetric across countries. Most quantitative trade models assume this pattern of comparative advantage.<sup>14</sup> In Appendix A.4, we relax this assumption to examine how the spatial correlation of comparative advantage may interact with the spatial correlation of absolute advantage. Our thought experiment varies the spatial correlation of absolute advantage, holding the pattern of comparative advantage fixed.<sup>15</sup> We find that when this pattern of comparative advantage is sufficiently spatially correlated, the expenditure-productivity relationship becomes steeper with greater spatial correlation of absolute advantage, not flatter. In short, when neighboring countries specialize in similar products, a neighbor’s productivity improvement may actually worsen a country’s terms of trade by increasing the world supply of that country’s exports and thereby depressing its export price. If comparative advantage were sufficiently spatially correlated, it would imply that  $\beta_t$  in equation (7) would increase with the spatial correlation of  $A_i$ . Our empirical estimates in Section 4 reject this possibility.

## 2.4 The terms of trade

The sufficient statistic for welfare described in Section 2.1 is derived from assumptions restricting admissible combinations of consumer preferences, production technologies, and market structure (Arkolakis, Costinot and Rodríguez-Clare, 2012). This class of models allows one to make quantitative statements about the welfare changes induced by changes in trade costs, productivities, and other exogenous parameters. Section 2.2 employed these popular functional forms to illustrate the hypothesized connection between the spatial correlation of productivity and the distribution of the gains from trade. However, in most empirical settings it is not easy to test the parametric restrictions that define this class of models. To relax these assumptions, we also examine an outcome that is informative about the welfare consequences of productivity changes for a much broader class of economic models.

We examine changes in the terms of trade as measured by the product of price changes and the previous period’s traded quantities. While quantitative trade models are employed to predict how a country’s terms of trade respond to exogenous changes, the idea that a country’s welfare is higher if the prices of its exports are higher relative to the prices of its imports is much more general.<sup>16</sup> For a small change in prices, a country’s terms of trade improve if its initial net import vector is cheaper at the new prices than at the old prices, just as a consumer is better off when their

<sup>14</sup>A notable exception is recent work by Lind and Ramondo (2018) that generalizes quantitative Ricardian models by tractably relaxing this assumption.

<sup>15</sup>Consistent with this assumption, column 2 of Table C.1 shows that the distance elasticity of trade is unaffected by ENSO, our source of exogenous variation in the spatial correlation of absolute advantage. In the Eaton and Kortum (2002) model, this elasticity embodies the pattern of comparative advantage.

<sup>16</sup>To see the connection between gains from trade and terms of trade in quantitative trade models, consider the Armington case detailed in Appendix Section A.1. Note that  $\lambda_{ii}^{-\frac{1}{\epsilon}} = p_i / \left[ \sum_{l=1}^N (p_{li})^{-\epsilon} \right]^{-1/\epsilon}$  is the price of country  $i$ ’s export relative to its consumer price index.

initial consumption bundle becomes cheaper (Dixit and Norman, 1980, p.132). Thus, the product of price changes and the previous period’s traded quantities is an outcome variable that captures the welfare consequences of changes in the terms of trade due to exogenous shocks.

This measure is attractive because it only relies on a revealed-preference argument. We use this outcome variable to evaluate the prediction linking the terms of trade to the spatial correlation of productivity without imposing many theoretical restrictions. For example, this outcome measure is informative about welfare changes even if comparative advantage within cereals is spatially correlated, a concern discussed above. Unfortunately, this measure limits any conclusions about the welfare consequences of trade to whether a country’s terms of trade improved or deteriorated. We therefore cannot make quantitative statements about welfare inequality using this measure.

## 2.5 From theory to empirics

Section 2.2.4 shows that our prediction relating the productivity-expenditure relationship to the spatial correlation of productivity can be estimated using a log-linear regression and appropriate fixed effects. Appendix A.3 shows that this test can be conducted using a single sector in multi-sector economy.

Our choice of empirical setting is guided by three criteria. First, examining the role of the spatial correlation of productivity across a trade network requires a measure of productivity reported in comparable terms across the globe. Second, examining variation in global spatial correlation requires sufficient time-series variation to identify its effects. Finally, the identifying variation in productivities and their global spatial correlation needs to be plausibly exogenous to infer a causal relationship.

To satisfy these criteria, we study the cereals sector, which we define as the top eight cereals that account for more than 99% of global cereal production and trade.<sup>17</sup> Cereals satisfy the first and second criteria because a measure of productivity, cereal yield (the output-land ratio), is available at the country-year level with nearly global coverage since 1961 from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).<sup>18,19</sup>

Our empirical investigation requires exogenous variation in national cereal productivities and

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<sup>17</sup>These cereals are barley, maize, millet, oats, rice, rye, sorghum, and wheat. According to the FAO, these eight cereals constituted 99.3% of global production (in metric tons) and 99.6% of global trade (in nominal US dollars) during 1961–2013. These cereals are not homogeneous goods. FAO data report quantities of wheat produced, but trade data distinguish durum and non-durum wheat. Trade data distinguish four types of rice, but the [International Rice Genebank](#) holds more than 125,000 rice varieties, which are differentiated by quality, appearance, and taste (Agcaoili-Sombilla and Rosegrant, 1994). Quantitative trade models make common predictions about trade flows while making different assumptions about the set of goods in the utility function. We study expenditure shares, so we need not map our data sources’ product definitions to goods indexed by  $\omega$  in the theoretical framework.

<sup>18</sup>If land and other inputs are perfect complements in the production of cereals, yield equals total factor productivity (TFP) (Costinot, Donaldson and Smith, 2016). More generally, land productivity and TFP may differ, in which case one needs an instrument for yield that shifts its TFP component. Using weather as a source of exogenous variation in cereal yields is a popular research design (e.g., Roberts and Schlenker 2013) that dates to the first application of instrumental variables (Wright, 1928).

<sup>19</sup>Unfortunately, data on other sectors’ expenditure shares and productivities lack the spatial and temporal coverage necessary for our empirical analysis.



their global spatial correlation. In an ideal experiment, a researcher would manipulate productivities around the world in a way that alters the global spatial correlation of productivities without changing the global mean or variance of productivities. Such an experiment is obviously not possible. However, because of the well-established sensitivity of cereal yields to environmental conditions (Schlenker and Roberts, 2009; Hsiang and Meng, 2015), we are able to approximate this ideal experiment by exploiting productivity variation attributable to temperature variation and a global climatic phenomenon known as the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO), described in the following section.

Finally, our analysis, following convention in international economics, ignores countries' internal economic geography. This abstraction is motivated by our empirical application. While there is also annual variation in the within-country spatial correlation of cereal productivity, data constraints prevent us from measuring this variation and the relevant outcome variables within countries. Data on agricultural productivity, internal trade, and population counts for subnational spatial units on an annual basis have not been collected by most countries for most years. We therefore focus on international trade and the spatial correlation of productivity across countries.

### 3 The El Niño-Southern Oscillation

This section first summarizes the basic physics of ENSO and then empirically demonstrates that it drives annual variation in the global spatial correlation of cereal productivity.

#### 3.1 Background

ENSO is a naturally occurring, annual climatic phenomenon characterized by mutually reinforcing circulation patterns between the atmosphere and the tropical Pacific ocean. While ENSO originates in the tropical Pacific, it is a major determinant of weather conditions around the world. Indeed, at an annual frequency, ENSO is often recovered as the first principal component of various local atmospheric or oceanographic variables across the planet (Sarachik and Cane, 2010).

ENSO is often colloquially described as consisting of one neutral state and two extreme states. These conditions are broadly characterized by the amount of heat that is released from the tropical Pacific ocean into the atmosphere (Cane and Zebiak, 1985). In typical “ENSO neutral” years, normal circulation patterns pushing westward hold a pool of warm water against Indonesia and other land masses in the South Pacific. A positive “El Niño” state occurs when this circulation pattern weakens such that this pool of warm water spills eastward across a large area of the equatorial Pacific Ocean. With warm water exposed to the atmosphere over a greater sea surface area, El Niño years release more ocean heat into the atmosphere over a relatively short period. The opposite occurs during the negative “La Niña” state. In La Niña years, stronger circulation patterns push the same volume of warm water more firmly against the Indonesian landmass, reducing sea-surface contact with the atmosphere and thus reducing heat released from the ocean. While these three distinct states are descriptively convenient, there is in fact a continuum of ENSO conditions

corresponding to the amount of heat released into the tropical atmosphere.

ENSO conditions in the tropical Pacific affect the spatial pattern of weather conditions across the planet due to how heat travels when released in the tropics. Because there is almost no Coriolis effect near the equator (a result of the simple facts that the Earth is round and spins), atmospheric signals propagate rapidly throughout the tropics. During a positive ENSO event, the warm air initially released above the tropical Pacific Ocean is propagated throughout the tropics by a transport mechanism in the atmosphere known as an equatorial Kelvin wave that sweeps across the globe, altering weather conditions almost simultaneously throughout the tropics (Chiang and Sobel, 2002).<sup>20</sup> For this reason, it is often said that the tropical atmosphere is “teleconnected” during a positive ENSO event, as atmospheric conditions in locations distant from each other are linked through this mechanism. Because the equatorial Kelvin wave that connects local weather around the equator is constrained primarily to the tropics, where the Coriolis effect is weak, the weather conditions that prevail during a positive ENSO event do not generally extend to higher latitudes, which may in fact experience opposing weather conditions because of changes to atmospheric circulation.

This physical mechanism allows ENSO to induce large areas of the planet to experience similar local temperature, precipitation, humidity, and other weather conditions. The spatial consequences of a positive ENSO event are perhaps best illustrated by temperature.<sup>21</sup> During a positive ENSO event, temperature conditions around the world are reorganized such that there is a spatially contiguous area of relatively warm temperature across the tropics and subtropics while almost simultaneously there is a spatially contiguous area of relatively cooler temperatures in higher-latitude locations. The opposite occurs during negative ENSO events: less heat is released into the atmosphere and temperatures across the globe are less spatially organized.

ENSO conditions are typically summarized by the average sea-surface temperature over a fixed area in the tropical Pacific. In our main analysis, we employ the widely used NINO4 index, a statistic defined as average ocean temperature (in degrees Celsius) over a rectangular area bounded by 5°S - 5°N, 160°E - 150°W (see Figure E.2).<sup>22</sup> Figure 8 plots this monthly ENSO index for 1856–2013, which extends back further than our estimation sample period of 1961–2013. There are two important features of ENSO relevant for our empirical application: (i) the monthly timing of a typical ENSO event and (ii) how an ENSO event influences local temperatures around the planet both spatially and temporally.

Due to ENSO’s tropical origins, the timing of ENSO events is phase-shifted relative to the calendar year. Figure E.3 illustrates this timing by plotting the monthly ENSO index 12 months before and after a given December for the 10 most positive ENSO events during 1961–2013. An ENSO event generally begins during April-May of a given year and lasts until the following April-May, an interval known as the “tropical year.” Because the ENSO index typically peaks in December, the

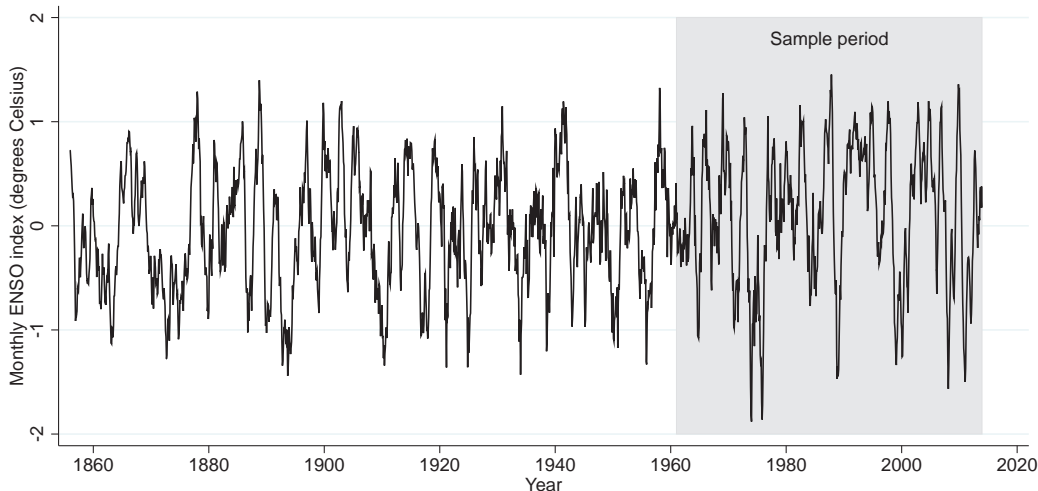
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<sup>20</sup>This tropical phenomenon is described in Hsiang and Meng (2015). For a complete scientific treatment of ENSO physics, see Sarachik and Cane (2010).

<sup>21</sup>ENSO alters the spatial structure of other weather variables but these effects tend to be of smaller spatial scales. For example, during positive ENSO events there is typically flooding over the Pacific coast of South America while the Atlantic coast of South America primarily experiences droughts (Ropelewski and Halpert, 1987).

<sup>22</sup>In robustness checks, we show that using other measures of ENSO yields similar empirical results.

Figure 8: Monthly ENSO index (1856–2013)



NOTES: Monthly ENSO index during 1856–2013. Shaded area shows our 1961–2013 sample period.

cleanest annual measure of any ENSO event is simply the December value of the ENSO index.<sup>23</sup> In all following empirical analyses, we use December values as our annualized measure of ENSO.

A typical ENSO event affects local temperatures around the planet in a spatially and temporally distinct manner. Figure 9 depicts the month-by-month structure of warming that occurs when the ENSO index increases. Each map displays the time-series correlation of monthly temperatures for each pixel during the specified month and ENSO in month zero, defined as December. Yellow, orange, and red colors indicate locations that warm as the ENSO index increases; blues indicate locations that cool. In the May before a December ENSO event (month -7), the east equatorial Pacific begins to warm. Regions throughout the tropics, both over land and the oceans, continue to warm for the next several months, peaking in the eastern Pacific in December (month 0) and over the rest of the tropics in March and April (months +3 and +4). This warming then dissipates across the tropics, with little effect visible more than a year after the December peak. Higher latitudes experience some cooling through these months, though the effect is weaker.

Figure 9 shows that the local impacts on temperatures around the planet from a single ENSO event straddles two calendar years. When using annual socioeconomic data reported by calendar years, one must examine how outcomes in a given year depend on both ENSO in that year and ENSO in the previous year.

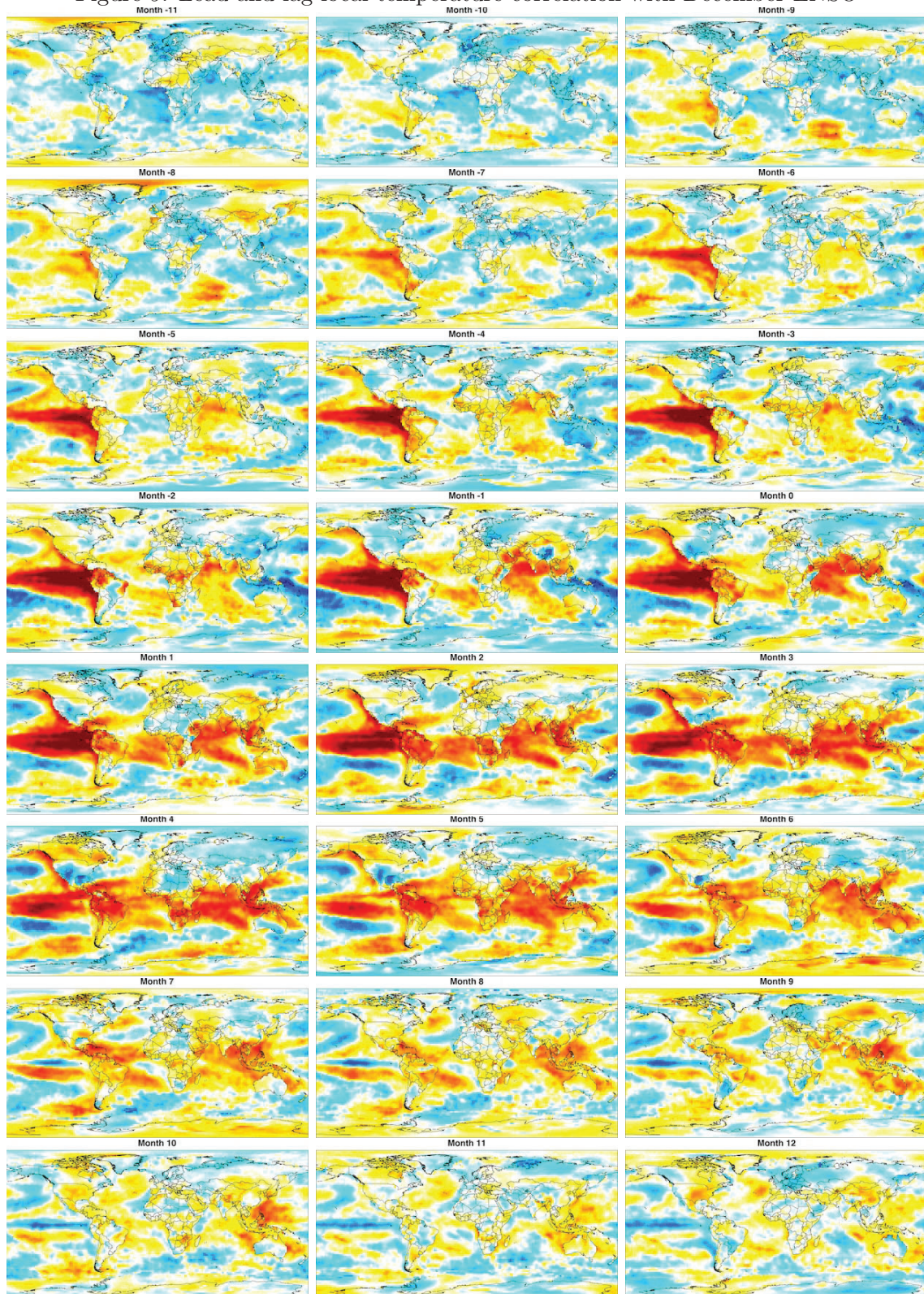
### 3.2 ENSO and the spatial correlation of cereal productivity

The spatial and temporal patterns shown in Figure 9 suggest that ENSO could drive the spatial correlation of cereal yields. Figure 10 shows country-level responses for log cereal yields to a 1-

<sup>23</sup>This measure of ENSO is stationary and does not exhibit serial correlation. A Dickey-Fuller test strongly rejects the presence of a unit root in favor of stationarity ( $p=4.15e-21$ ). We do not detect any statistically significant coefficients when estimating a time series regression of our annual December NINO4 measure of ENSO on a constant, a linear trend, and five lagged terms with optimal bandwidth Newey-West standard errors.



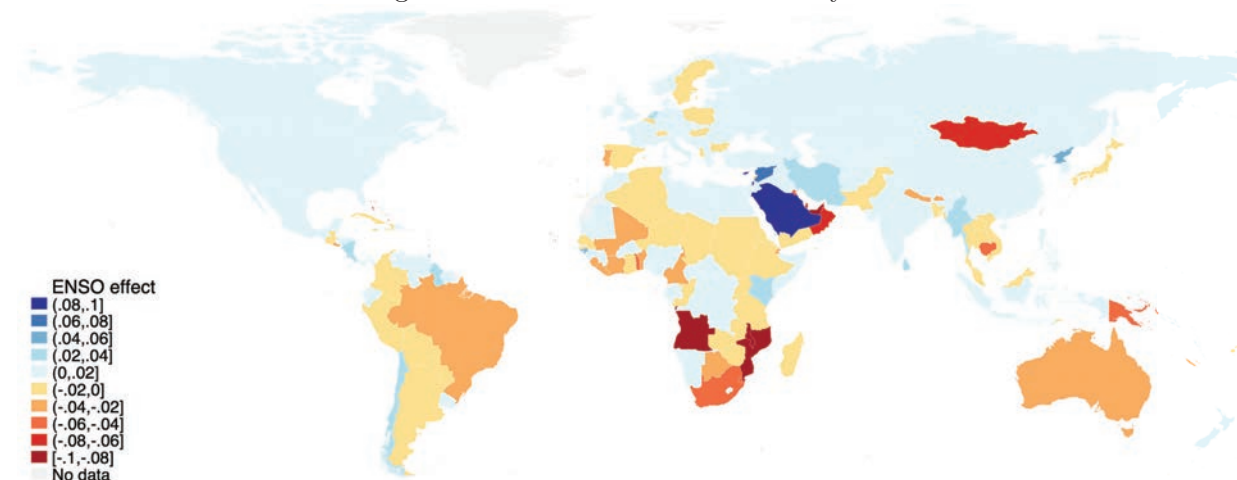
Figure 9: Lead and lag local temperature correlation with December ENSO



NOTES: Each panel shows pixel-level ( $0.5^\circ$  latitude by  $0.5^\circ$  longitude resolution) correlation between the ENSO index in December and pixel-level monthly temperatures for 11 months before (lead) and 12 months after (lag) December. Blue shows areas with negative correlation. Red shows areas with positive correlation.

degree increase in the sum of contemporaneous and lagged December ENSO indices.<sup>24</sup> Consistent with the tropical climatic dynamics discussed above, increases in the ENSO index tend to lower cereal productivities in countries closer to the equator and raise cereal productivities in countries farther from the equator. This pattern suggests an increase in the global spatial correlation of cereal yields.

Figure 10: ENSO’s effects on cereal yields



NOTES: This map shows the linear coefficient on the sum of contemporaneous and lagged ENSO for each country’s log cereal yield. Each country-specific time-series model includes a constant and a linear time trend.

To quantify global spatial correlation within each year, we construct an annual Moran’s  $I$  statistic for country-level log cereal yields.<sup>25</sup> Figure 11 shows a relationship between ENSO and the global spatial correlation of cereal productivity. To characterize the ENSO phenomenon in terms of a scalar, we plot the sum of December ENSO indices in years  $t$  and  $t - 1$  on the horizontal axis and Moran’s  $I$  in year  $t$  on the vertical axis. An increase in the ENSO index raises this measure of spatial correlation. ENSO, in this simple bivariate model, explains 12% of annual variation in the global spatial correlation of cereal productivities.

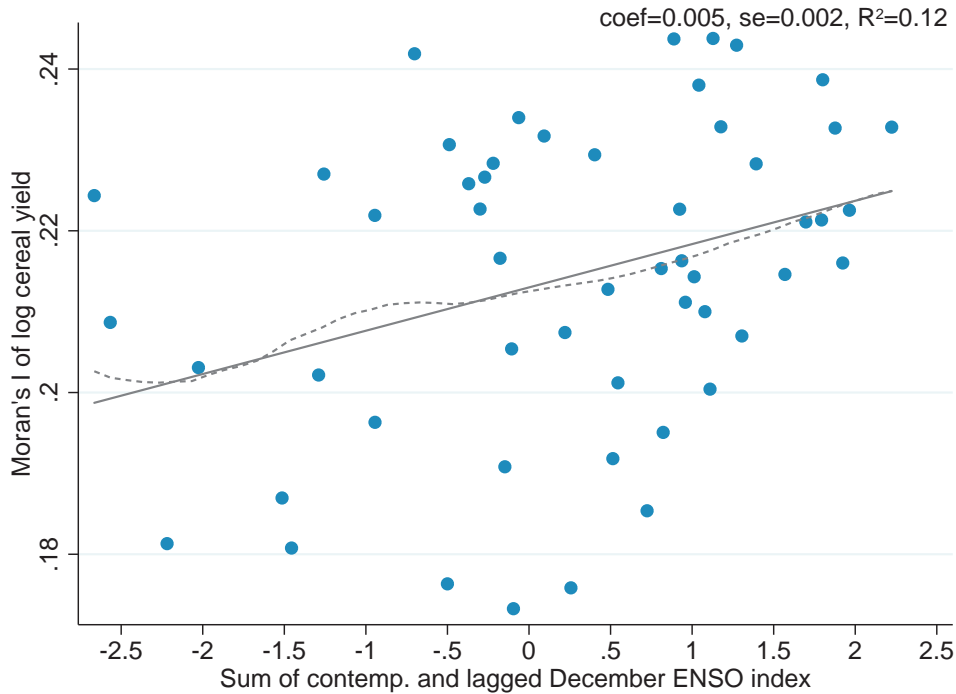
To relax the timing simplification of Figure 11, Table 1 presents regressions of the annual Moran’s  $I$  statistic for log cereal yields on flexible polynomial functions of December ENSO in years  $t$  and  $t - 1$ . Each model includes a linear time trend and reports standard errors robust to serial correlation and heteroskedasticity. In column 1, we include only linear contemporaneous and lagged ENSO terms. Column 2 adds quadratic contemporaneous and lagged ENSO terms and a linear interaction term. Column 3 estimates the linear and quadratic effects for the sum of contemporaneous and lagged ENSO. This more parsimonious specification effectively imposes a common coefficient for  $ENSO_t$  and  $ENSO_{t-1}$  and a common coefficient for  $ENSO_t \times ENSO_{t-1}$ ,  $ENSO_t^2$ , and  $ENSO_{t-1}^2$ . Two results are evident. First, both contemporaneous and lagged ENSO

<sup>24</sup>Our country-by-year measure of aggregate cereal yield is the harvested area-weighted cereal-level yield across the eight major cereals. See Appendix B for data details.

<sup>25</sup>In our empirical applications, we use spatial weights  $\omega_{ij} = 1/(d_{ij} + 1)$ , where  $d_{ij}$  is the great-circle distance between the two countries’ area-weighted centroids.



Figure 11: Moran's  $I$  for log cereal yields and ENSO



NOTES: Figure shows the relationship between Moran's  $I$  of crop-weighted country-level log cereal yields in year  $t$  and the sum of contemporaneous and lagged December ENSO. Linear fit shown as solid line. Local polynomial fit shown as dashed line.

affect the spatial correlation of cereal productivity but only after controlling for higher-order terms, as shown in column 2. Second, compared with the model in column 2, column 3 produces a stronger fit, as summarized by a lower Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) value. As a consequence, all empirics in Section 4 will use the functional form in column 3 to model the relationship between ENSO and the global spatial correlation of cereal productivity as it strikes a balance between allowing nonlinearity while limiting overfitting.

Columns 1–3 illustrate the overall effect of ENSO on the global spatial correlation of cereal productivity. It is natural to wonder whether one could simply drive global spatial correlation of cereal productivity using the global spatial correlation of temperature. This measure would capture both ENSO and variation in local temperatures due to other climatic factors. Column 4 shows that while annual Moran's  $I$  in temperature is correlated with annual Moran's  $I$  in cereal productivity, it has poorer predictive power than ENSO, as reflected by a higher BIC statistic. This may be because cereal yields depend on other environmental conditions besides temperature, such as precipitation and humidity, many of which also become more spatially correlated under a positive ENSO event. These other environmental channels are captured by ENSO in columns 1–3 and not by the global spatial correlation of only temperature in column 4. For this reason, our benchmark regression in the following section use ENSO directly. Consistent with column 4 of Table 1, we further show that our main result become noisier when we replace ENSO with just the spatial correlation of local temperature.



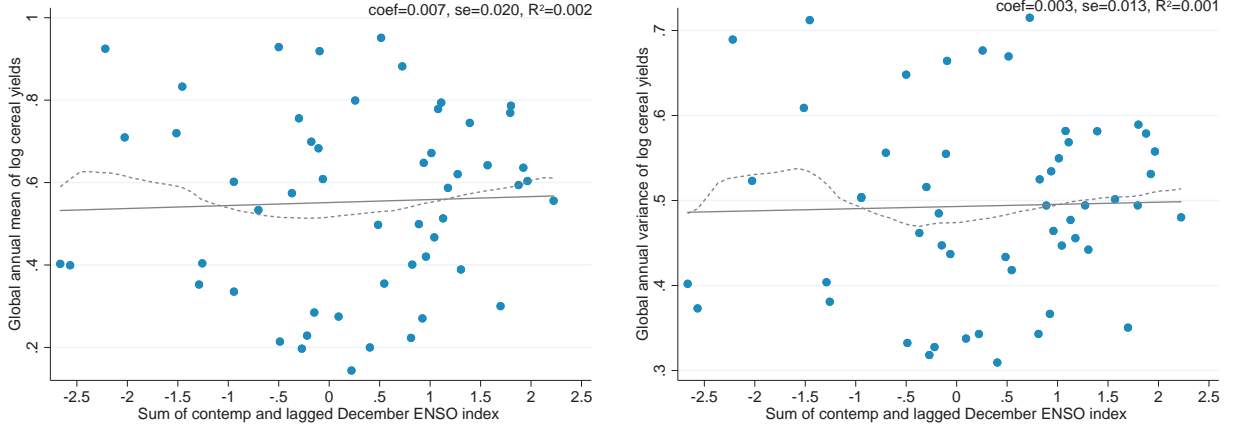
Finally, consistent with our thought experiment in Section 2.1, ENSO appears to affect neither the global mean nor the variance of cereal productivity, as shown by the left and right panels of Figure 12, respectively. Moreover, when we estimate a gravity model that relates bilateral trade flows to bilateral distances, column 2 of Table C.1 shows that the distance elasticity is invariant to ENSO. This is consistent with the assumption, introduced in equation (4), that the trade elasticity is invariant to the spatial structure of productivity.

Table 1: Moran's  $I$  in cereal productivity and ENSO  
Outcome is Moran-I in log cereal yields

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
$ENSO_t$	0.008 (0.002) [0.000]	0.008 (0.002) [0.000]		
$ENSO_{t-1}$	0.003 (0.002) [0.121]	0.005 (0.002) [0.008]		
$ENSO_t \times ENSO_{t-1}$		0.004 (0.003) [0.148]		
$ENSO_t^2$		-0.001 (0.002) [0.639]		
$ENSO_{t-1}^2$		0.004 (0.003) [0.197]		
$(ENSO_t + ENSO_{t-1})$			0.006 (0.001) [0.000]	
$(ENSO_t + ENSO_{t-1})^2$			0.002 (0.001) [0.070]	
$I_t(T_{it})$				0.541 (0.163) [0.001]
BIC	-275.84	-267.21	-276.63	-272.95
Observations	53	53	53	53

NOTES: Time-series regressions of Moran's  $I$  in log cereal yields on nonlinear functions of contemporaneous and lagged December ENSO. All models include a linear time trend. Serial correlation and heteroskedasticity-robust Newey-West standard errors with optimal bandwidth in parentheses (Newey and West, 1987); p-values in brackets.

Figure 12: Global cross-sectional mean and variance in cereal productivity and ENSO



NOTES: Left (right) panel shows the relationship between the mean (variance) of cross-sectional country log cereal yields and the sum of contemporaneous and lagged December ENSO. Linear fit shown as solid line. Local polynomial fit shown as dashed line.

## 4 Empirical results

The theoretical results in Section 2 suggest that the covariance between agricultural productivity,  $\ln A_i$ , and the domestic share of expenditure,  $\ln \lambda_{ii}$ , should be lower when the spatial correlation of productivity across the entire trading network increases. This section examines this relationship empirically using exogenous temperature- and ENSO-driven changes in productivities and their global spatial correlation. Sequentially, we describe our research design, estimate this relationship, examine a series of robustness checks, and corroborate the terms-of-trade interpretation of the outcome variable. Appendix B details our data sources.

### 4.1 Estimation strategy

Following the logic of Section 2.2.4, we estimate a variant of equation (7) that uses Moran's  $I$  to summarize the spatial structure of productivity. Figure 7 demonstrated that a linear approximation can capture most of the relevant variation generated by a quantitative trade model. Thus, for country  $i$  in year  $t$  during 1961–2013, we estimate the following regression equation:

$$\ln \lambda_{iit} = \beta_0 \ln A_{it} + \beta_1 I_t \ln A_{it} + \Pi' \mathbb{Z}_{it} + \mu_{it} \quad (8)$$

where  $\lambda_{iit}$  is country  $i$ 's domestic share of cereal expenditure in year  $t$ , constructed using FAO output and trade data (see Appendix B).  $A_{it}$  is cereal yield, also from the FAO.  $I_t$  is the Moran's  $I$  statistic capturing the spatial correlation of  $\ln A_{it}$  for all countries in year  $t$ .  $\mathbb{Z}_{it}$  is a vector of semi-parametric controls. In Section 2.2.4, we discussed how time-invariant country characteristics such as size and remoteness could potentially generate omitted variable bias. We also noted that the average domestic share of expenditure may differ across equilibria. We therefore include country

fixed effects and year fixed effects in  $\mathbb{Z}_{it}$ .  $\mathbb{Z}_{it}$  also includes country-specific time trends.  $\mu_{it}$  is a residual due to unobserved shocks and the linear approximation.

$\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  are our two reduced-form parameters describing the covariance of interest.  $\beta_0$  captures the relationship between a country's gains from trade and productivity when productivity is spatially uncorrelated (when Moran's  $I$  is zero).  $\beta_1$  captures the degree to which the global spatial correlation of productivities mediates this covariance between gains from trade and productivity.

The coefficient  $\beta_1$  connects the spatial correlation of productivity to the global variance of welfare. When  $\beta_1 < 0$ , greater spatial correlation lowers the covariance of productivity and the domestic share of expenditure. Since ENSO does not alter the trade elasticity  $\epsilon$  (see column 2 of Table C.1),  $\beta_1 < 0$  implies a higher covariance of productivity  $\ln A_i$  and the sufficient statistic for the gains from trade,  $\frac{-1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii}$ . That is, greater spatial correlation of agricultural productivity causes more productive countries to experience greater gains from trade and less productive countries to experience lower gains from trade. Thus,  $\beta_1 < 0$  means that an increase in the spatial correlation of productivities increases global welfare dispersion.

Estimation of equation (8) by ordinary least squares (OLS) may be problematic if expenditure shares and productivity are simultaneously determined or if there are omitted determinants of expenditure shares that are correlated with productivity, even after conditioning on  $\mathbb{Z}_{it}$ . For example, demand shocks could affect expenditure shares and elicit supply responses that change average yields. Similarly, if domestic cereal production employs imported intermediate goods, then unobserved trade-cost shocks could jointly affect domestic cereal yields and the domestic share of expenditure.

To address these potential sources of bias, we employ an instrumental-variables (IV) strategy that exploits plausibly exogenous variation in local yields and the global spatial correlation of yields. To drive local yields, we use country-level crop-area-weighted annual temperature,  $T_{it}$ , constructed from Willmott and Matsuura (2001) (see Appendix B). As described in Section 3, global spatial correlation of yields is driven by contemporaneous and lagged ENSO.

Our second-stage equation (8) has two endogenous variables,  $\ln A_{it}$  and  $I_t \ln A_{it}$ . We instrument for them using the following first-stage equations:

$$\ln A_{it} = \alpha'_{11} f(T_{it}) + \alpha'_{12} f(T_{it}) g(ENSO_t + ENSO_{t-1}) + \Gamma'_1 \mathbb{Z}_{it} + v_{1it} \quad (9)$$

$$I_t \ln A_{it} = \alpha'_{21} f(T_{it}) + \alpha'_{22} f(T_{it}) g(ENSO_t + ENSO_{t-1}) + \Gamma'_2 \mathbb{Z}_{it} + v_{2it} \quad (10)$$

where the vector of semi-parametric controls,  $\mathbb{Z}_{it}$ , includes the same variables as our second-stage equation (8).  $\alpha'_{11}$ ,  $\alpha'_{12}$ ,  $\alpha'_{21}$ , and  $\alpha'_{22}$  are vectors of first-stage coefficients.  $f(\cdot)$  captures the relationship between local temperature and yield; nonlinearity in  $f(\cdot)$  is well documented around the world (Schlenker and Roberts, 2009; Schlenker and Lobell, 2010; Welch et al., 2010; Moore and Lobell, 2015; Proctor et al., 2018). In particular,  $f(\cdot)$  is modeled as a restricted cubic spline of local temperature; the choice of the number of splines is detailed below.  $g(\cdot)$  captures the relationship between ENSO and the global spatial correlation of yields. Following the model-selection results

in Table 1,  $g()$  is a quadratic function of  $(ENSO_t + ENSO_{t-1})$ .  $v_{1it}$  and  $v_{2it}$  are error terms.

Nonlinear functional forms for  $f()$  and  $g()$  are necessary to capture nonlinearities in our first-stage equations, but this means that we have more than two instruments for the two endogenous variables. Two-stage least squares (2SLS) estimation in such over-identified IV settings can exacerbate issues with biased point estimates and incorrectly sized inference. These issues worsen if the many instruments are also weak (Bound, Jaeger and Baker, 1995).<sup>26</sup>

We address this concern using several weak-instrument diagnostics. First, we employ the limited information maximum likelihood (LIML) IV estimator, which is approximately median-unbiased for over-identified models (Mariano, 2001). Second, we conduct tests to detect weak instruments in our LIML estimator. Third, we conduct inference that is robust to the presence of weak instruments.

## 4.2 Main results

To begin, consider OLS estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  from equation (8), reported in column 1 of Table 2. The OLS estimate of  $\beta_0$  has the expected sign and is statistically distinct from zero, but the OLS estimate of  $\beta_1$  is indistinct from zero and, in fact, positive.

Columns 2 through 6 of Table 2 report IV estimates that address the potential bias of the OLS estimates. Across columns, we vary the number of spline terms in the temperature function  $f()$ . Column 2 has 2 spline terms, the minimum needed to capture nonlinearity in  $f()$ . Each subsequent column adds another spline term in  $f()$ .<sup>27</sup> Because all models include a quadratic function of the sum of contemporaneous and lagged ENSO, this corresponds to 6, 9, 12, 15, and 18 instruments used jointly across the first-stage equations (9) and (10).<sup>28</sup> Panel A shows 2SLS estimates, while panel B shows LIML estimates. Because ENSO varies only in the time dimension, we cluster standard errors by year to allow arbitrary forms of spatial correlation and heteroskedasticity across countries within a given year. In robustness checks, we consider other error structures, including the Bekker (1994) adjustment that accounts for LIML standard errors being potentially too small in the presence of many weak instruments.

The OLS estimate of  $\beta_0$  appears to be biased downward relative to the IV estimates, suggesting that  $\ln A_{it}$  and  $\mu_{it}$  are negatively correlated. One potential source of such OLS bias would be demand shocks for domestic output, as a positive shock would raise the value of the dependent variable and lower the average-productivity regressor if domestic production exhibited decreasing

<sup>26</sup>Indeed, the use of local temperature in first-stage equations (9) and (10) is intended to ameliorate the over-identification problem. One could alternatively predict  $\ln A_{it}$  and  $I_t \ln A_{it}$  using flexible functions of country-specific ENSO effects. However, that approach would involve many more instruments as our sample has over 130 countries. Our benchmark specification for equations (9) and (10) employs 12 instruments.

<sup>27</sup>2 to 6 spline terms correspond to 3 to 7 knots. Knots are placed between equally spaced percentiles of the temperature empirical distribution according to Harrell (2001).

<sup>28</sup>Columns 1–5 of Table F.2 show first-stage statistics for  $\alpha'_{11}$  and  $\alpha'_{12}$  from equation (9) and  $\alpha'_{21}$  and  $\alpha'_{22}$  from equation (10), corresponding to the IV specifications shown in columns 2–6 of Table 2. They show p-values from F-tests examining the joint significance of elements in each vector of first-stage coefficients. As expected, uninteracted local temperature is consistently a strong predictor of local cereal yields in first-stage equation (9). For the interaction between local yields and the global spatial correlation of yields in first-stage equation (10), both uninteracted local temperature (i.e., 0<sup>th</sup> order ENSO) and local temperature interacted with ENSO (i.e., 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> order ENSO) are strong predictors.

returns. Similarly, an exogenous increase in trade costs could increase the value of the dependent variable and decrease cereal yields if production employs imported inputs.

Table 2: Domestic share of expenditure and spatial correlation of productivity  
Outcome is log domestic share of expenditure

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	OLS	IV	IV	IV	IV	IV
Panel A: 2SLS estimates						
$\ln A_{it} (\beta_0)$	0.284 (0.119) [0.021]	1.541 (0.515) [0.004]	1.746 (0.542) [0.002]	1.696 (0.412) [0.000]	1.701 (0.425) [0.000]	1.654 (0.431) [0.000]
$\ln A_{it} \times I_t (\beta_1)$	0.758 (0.487) [0.126]	-3.321 (2.071) [0.115]	-3.440 (2.148) [0.115]	-3.391 (1.476) [0.026]	-3.350 (1.493) [0.029]	-3.290 (1.555) [0.039]
Pct. change in welfare variance from 1 s.d. increase in $I_t$	-0.353 (0.226) [0.119]	1.536 (0.976) [0.116]	1.591 (1.023) [0.120]	1.568 (0.716) [0.029]	1.549 (0.728) [0.033]	1.521 (0.754) [0.044]
Panel B: LIML estimates						
$\ln A_{it} (\beta_0)$		2.110 (0.837) [0.015]	2.380 (0.847) [0.007]	2.114 (0.604) [0.001]	2.196 (0.669) [0.002]	2.308 (0.771) [0.004]
$\ln A_{it} \times I_t (\beta_1)$		-4.530 (2.752) [0.106]	-4.907 (2.937) [0.101]	-4.144 (1.834) [0.028]	-4.218 (1.949) [0.035]	-4.463 (2.194) [0.047]
Pct. change in welfare variance from 1 s.d. increase in $I_t$		2.091 (1.407) [0.137]	2.264 (1.497) [0.131]	1.914 (0.954) [0.045]	1.948 (1.035) [0.060]	2.060 (1.191) [0.084]
Number of temperature splines in $f()$		2	3	4	5	6
ENSO polynomial order in $g()$		2	2	2	2	2
Number of instruments		6	9	12	15	18
Cragg-Donald F-stat		7.052	5.832	5.174	4.324	3.801
Stock-Yogo crit. value: 10% max 2SLS bias		9.480	10.430	10.780	10.930	11.000
Stock-Yogo crit. value: 10% max 2SLS size		21.680	27.510	32.880	38.080	43.220
Stock-Yogo crit. value: 10% max LIML size		4.060	3.700	3.580	3.540	3.560
Kleibergen-Paap F-stat		6.100	5.664	3.963	3.332	3.069
Anderson-Rubin weak-id robust joint p-value		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
BIC for first stage equations		-30933.7	-30917.4	-31134.0	-31120.2	-31091.8
Observations	5452	5452	5452	5452	5452	5452

NOTES: This table reports estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  from equation (8). Column 1 shows OLS estimates. Columns 2–6 show IV estimates that vary by the number of temperature spline terms in  $f()$ . Panel A (B) shows 2SLS (LIML) IV estimates. All models include quadratic  $ENSO_t + ENSO_{t-1}$  terms and incorporate country fixed effects, year fixed effects, and country-specific linear trends as included instruments. Standard errors, clustered by year, in parentheses; p-values in brackets. Appendix D.1 describes how we compute the percentage change in the variance of welfare for a one-standard-deviation increase in Moran's  $I$  relative to the historical mean assuming  $\epsilon = 8.59$ , with those standard errors calculated using the delta method.

The 2SLS estimates reported in panel A of Table 2 show  $\hat{\beta}_0 > 0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1 < 0$ , with little variation in the point estimates across columns 2 to 6. The 2SLS estimates of both parameters are also statistically different from the OLS estimates, suggesting that the 2SLS estimates do not exhibit the same bias as the OLS estimates and thus are not the result of completely uninformative

instruments. However, in over-identified IV settings, 2SLS estimates are still biased and incorrectly sized. This is evident in that the Cragg and Donald (1993) joint F-statistic for both first-stage regressions is well below the Stock and Yogo (2005) critical values for 10% maximal 2SLS bias and size across columns 2 to 6 of Panel A.

As an alternative to 2SLS, panel B of Table 2 presents LIML estimates. Again, we find very similar point estimates for  $\hat{\beta}_0 > 0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1 < 0$  across the varying number of temperature splines in columns 2 to 6. The LIML estimates are even farther away from the OLS estimates than the 2SLS estimates, suggesting that the LIML estimator mitigates bias in our 2SLS estimates.

LIML is an approximately median-unbiased estimator in over-identified settings, but its standard errors may still be incorrectly sized in the presence of weak instruments. We report two tests to assess whether weak instruments are a concern. First, across columns 2 to 6, the Cragg-Donald joint F-statistic for both first-stage regressions is above the Stock-Yogo critical values for 10% maximal LIML size, which rejects the presence of weak instruments. However, the Stock-Yogo critical values are only valid for iid errors. While we also report the Kleibergen-Paap F-statistic, which is more appropriate given our clustered error structure (Kleibergen and Paap, 2006), there are no established critical values for non-iid errors. We therefore cannot entirely rule out the presence of weak instruments solely by looking at first-stage F-statistics. Second, we turn to inference methods that are robust to the presence of weak instruments. For each IV model in columns 2 to 6, we present the p-value from the Anderson-Rubin test of the null hypothesis that  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  in equation (8) are jointly zero (Anderson and Rubin, 1949). This null hypothesis is strongly rejected. The combined evidence from these various diagnostics suggests that weak instruments are not a concern. This gives us confidence that our LIML estimates are unbiased and correctly sized.

Which number of spline terms in the temperature function  $f()$  yields the most informative estimates of our parameters of interest? Note that this model selection is not crucial to our conclusions: across columns 2 through 6, the point estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  do not vary much. All the estimates of  $\beta_0$  have p-values near or below 0.01, and the LIML estimates of  $\beta_1$  have p-values ranging from 0.03 to 0.11. To select one specification, we employ the Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) statistic from a joint seemingly unrelated regression of first-stage equations (9) and (10) to address the trade-off between capturing nonlinearities in  $f()$  and having too many spline terms in  $f()$ . Table 2 shows that the BIC statistic is minimized with four temperature spline terms in column 4. This corresponds to the specification with the most precise LIML estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ , with p-values of 0.001 and 0.03, respectively, and will serve as our benchmark model moving forward.

Per the theoretical framework of Section 2.1, our empirical estimates suggest that the spatial distribution of productivity affects a country's terms of trade, as revealed by its domestic share of expenditure. The positive relationship between its own productivity and domestic share of expenditure ( $\hat{\beta}_0 > 0$ ) reveals that higher productivity worsens the terms of trade. This deterioration is dampened when productivity is more spatially correlated ( $\hat{\beta}_1 < 0$ ) since higher productivity in neighboring countries improves a country's terms of trade.<sup>29</sup> We corroborate this terms-of-trade

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<sup>29</sup>At empirically observed levels of spatial correlation, this does not reverse the positive relationship between  $\ln A_{it}$



interpretation using observed changes in unit values in Section 4.4.

For the class of models introduced in Section 2.1, these estimated effects imply an increase in the global variance of welfare. Suppose that the cross-sectional global spatial correlation of agricultural productivity were to increase by one standard deviation relative to the historical mean. Applying the expression for the variance of welfare in equation (3) to our benchmark LIML estimates in column 4, panel B of Table 2, we find that a one-standard-deviation increase in the spatial correlation of productivity leads to a statistically significant 2% increase in the global variance of welfare (see Appendix D.1 for details).<sup>30</sup>

### 4.3 Additional robustness checks

This section presents several robustness checks of our main empirical result. They are designed to test the validity of our statistical assumptions, the interpretation of our results, and the consequences of our data-construction choices. Our benchmark model throughout is that shown in column 4, panel B of Table 2.

**Randomization inference** Our main source of identifying variation is global time-series fluctuations in the ENSO cycle, as shown in Figure 8. While it is plausible that ENSO is uncorrelated with unobserved determinants of domestic shares of expenditure over a large sample of years, spurious correlations could occur within a 53-year sample.

To examine the relevance of this concern, we conduct a placebo test by randomly reshuffling years (i.e., drawn without replacement) of our panel data, breaking the time-series link between domestic shares of expenditure and ENSO-driven changes in country-level cereal yields and the global spatial correlation of yields. This allows us to obtain an empirical distribution of our estimated reduced-form coefficients,  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$ , under placebo conditions and compute the probability of observing our benchmark estimates if years were randomly assigned.

The left and right panels of Figure 13 show the empirical distribution for  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$ , respectively, for 10,000 samples. The vertical lines show the location of our estimated  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$  from the observed data. We find that it is highly unlikely that our main result is due to small-sample bias.

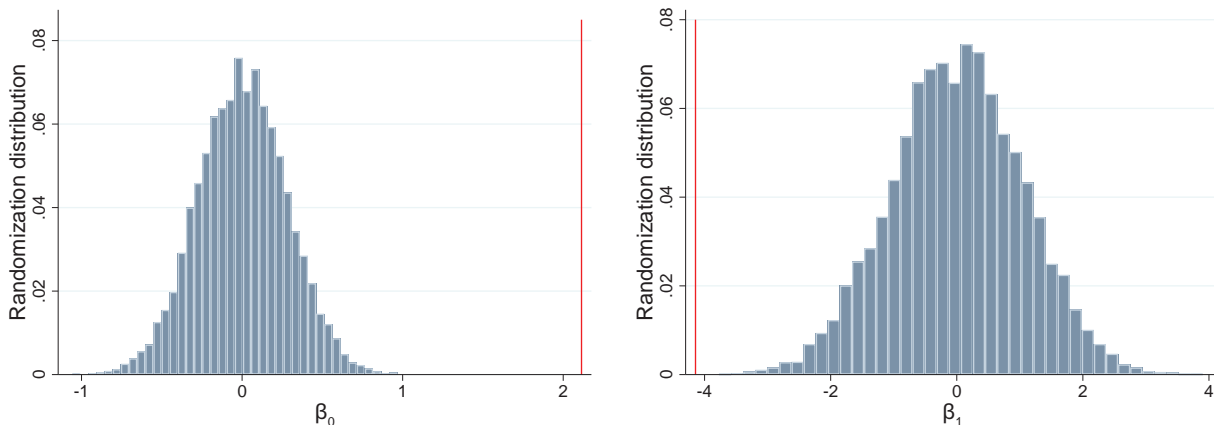
**Standard errors** Standard errors are clustered by year in our benchmark model because ENSO treatment occurs at the global time-series level. Table F.3 considers alternative error structures. Column 1 reproduces our benchmark results. To account for serial correlation, column 2 allows year-level clustering and common serial correlation across countries within a 20-year rolling window following Driscoll and Kraay (1998). Column 3 allows differential serial correlation and heteroskedasticity across countries over our entire sample period by clustering standard errors by both

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and  $\ln \lambda_{iit}$ . As shown in Figure 11, the spatial correlation of cereal yields lies between 0.17 and 0.25 in our estimation sample. Thus,  $\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \times I_t > 0$  at all historical values of  $I_t$  for the estimates reported in Table 2.

<sup>30</sup>As a point of comparison, Kopczuk, Saez and Song (2010) find that the annual variance of log earnings across U.S. workers increased on average by 2% per year between 1970–2003.

Figure 13: Randomization inference



NOTES: Empirical distributions of  $\hat{\beta}_0$  (left panel) and  $\hat{\beta}_1$  (right panel) from 10,000 samples of 53 years drawn from the original data without replacement. Vertical lines show  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$  from observed data estimated using benchmark model in column 4, panel B of Table 2.

year and country. Allowing both forms of serial correlation has little effect on standard errors. Finally, if instruments are weak, standard errors from the LIML estimator may be too small (Hansen, Hausman and Newey, 2008). Column 4 applies the Bekker (1994) adjustment to our benchmark LIML estimates. This only slightly inflates our standard errors, which is unsurprising given that the various tests in Table 2 do not suggest our instruments are weak.

**Controlling for time-varying trade costs** Our IV model correctly identifies  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  when ENSO conditions influence a country’s domestic share of cereal expenditure only through its effects on local yields and the global spatial correlation of yields.<sup>31</sup> While it is unlikely that ENSO, as a naturally occurring climatic phenomenon, is affected by economic activity, the exclusion restriction could be violated if ENSO affects domestic cereal expenditure outside of its influence on cereal yields. For example, a violation would occur if ENSO were to directly affect trade costs.

To address this potential violation of the exclusion restriction, Table F.4 augments our benchmark model with additional controls designed to capture time-and-country-varying trade costs. Column 1 replicates our benchmark result. In column 2, we add a country-year-varying proxy for trade costs by interacting the global annual crude oil price with the country’s average log domestic share of expenditure over our sample period. Column 3 uses an alternative measure of cross-

<sup>31</sup>For example, Hsiang, Meng and Cane (2011) show that warmer ENSO conditions increase the likelihood of civil conflicts in the tropics over the same period. This relationship, however, need not imply an exclusion-restriction violation. Suppose ENSO increases civil conflicts in the tropics only through lowered cereal yields. In that scenario, civil conflict would serve as a “bad control” in our IV specification, potentially biasing our coefficients of interest (see Angrist and Pischke 2009, p. 64-68). Our exclusion-restriction assumption is invalid only if ENSO increases civil conflicts partially through non-agricultural channels and if civil conflicts affect domestic share of expenditure by, for example, raising international trade costs relative to internal trade costs. Because the current climate-conflict literature currently supports both agricultural and non-agricultural channels (Hsiang, Burke and Miguel, 2013), the inclusion of conflict as a control would not deliver a unique interpretation: it would either jeopardize a valid identification strategy or suggest that our instrumental-variable strategy is invalid.

sectional trade openness by interacting the global oil price with a country’s centrality, measured as the average of its inverse distance to every other country weighted by that trading partner’s long-run average log agricultural output. In both cases, these proxies for trade costs do not meaningfully alter our estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ . Columns 4 and 5 provide more flexible specifications by interacting year fixed effects with the two cross-sectional measures of trade openness used in columns 2 and 3. Again, our coefficients of interest are relatively unaffected by the inclusion of these controls, suggesting that unobserved shocks to trade costs are not correlated with our ENSO-driven instruments. Cereals may be subject to export restrictions that are imposed in response to productivity shocks. In column 6, we include a dummy variable that indicates if a country imposed a new export restriction on cereals that year, using data from the UNCTAD TRAINS database. Controlling for such export restrictions does not alter our result. ENSO also alters local precipitation. If precipitation is also a determinant of trade costs, there may be an exclusion restriction violation. In column 7, we include quadratic terms for total annual precipitation for each country and find that it does not affect our result.

**Large economies** Our estimate of  $\hat{\beta}_0 > 0$  implies that a positive productivity shock worsens an economy’s terms of trade. This is at odds with the small-open-economy assumption that terms of trade are exogenous to local conditions. Of course, some economies must influence world prices, but since our estimating equation treats each country as an informative observation without weighting by size, our results suggest that the “typical” economy is not small. To examine this more explicitly, column 2 of Table F.5 excludes the ten largest economies that account for more than half of world cereal production from our estimation sample. The resulting estimates of  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$  are very similar to our benchmark estimates. This finding is consistent with the idea that trade costs make all markets “local”, so that no exporter is a price taker.

**Sample split** Table F.5 further examines whether  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  vary over our sample period. Column 3 shows estimates using the years 1961–1987, the first half of our sample period. Column 4 restricts the years to 1988–2013, the second half of our sample period. While estimates from the second half of our sample period are smaller in absolute magnitude than those from the first half, the differences are not statistically significant.

**Dynamic effects** Table F.6 empirically estimates dynamic responses that the static model presented in Section 2 necessarily omits. Column 1 replicates our benchmark contemporaneous-productivity specification for a sample in which  $t$  is restricted to 1962–2012, the sample period that allows for both lead and lagged yields. Before discussing our lead and lagged results, it is important to note that because current productivity is affected by  $ENSO_t$  and  $ENSO_{t-1}$ , we would not expect lead productivity, driven in part by  $ENSO_t$ , or lagged productivity, driven in part by  $ENSO_{t-1}$ , to have zero effect on current domestic share of expenditure. Rather, the absence of dynamics would produce lead and lagged effects that are muted compared with the contemporaneous effect.

Improvements since the 1980s in the forecasting of strong ENSO events (Chen et al., 2004; Shrader, 2017) could allow the domestic share of expenditure to respond to future ENSO-driven cereal yields. To examine whether agricultural trade anticipates future ENSO events, column 2 tests for the effects of lead log yields, as instrumented by ENSO in years  $t + 1$  and  $t$  and local temperature in year  $t + 1$ . Lead effects are much smaller in magnitude than contemporaneous effects and are not statistically significant.

Past yields might influence the domestic share of expenditure if past productivity affects contemporary productivity through intertemporal channels such as depletion of soil nutrients or if past output is stored to facilitate current consumption. Cereal storage, in particular, has been shown to facilitate consumption smoothing in many settings (Williams and Wright, 2005; Roberts and Schlenker, 2013). We address this in two ways. Column 3 examines the effects of lagged log yields generally, as instrumented by ENSO in years  $t - 1$  and  $t - 2$  and local temperature in year  $t - 1$ . Compared with contemporaneous effects, lagged effects are smaller in magnitude and not significant at conventional levels. Our measure of domestic expenditure is contemporaneous output minus exports; this includes potential changes in stored cereal inventories. In column 4, we use a measure of domestic expenditure that removes changes in cereal inventory using cereal storage data from the FAO.<sup>32</sup> The estimated coefficients are smaller in absolute magnitude than our benchmark estimates; however, they are not statistically different.

The static model of Section 2 assumes that trade is balanced. To verify the plausibility of this assumption, we have estimated a variant of the regression specification in equation (8) in which the dependent variable is instead country  $i$ 's aggregate goods trade deficit in year  $t$ . Neither instrumented cereal productivity nor its interaction with Moran's  $I$  for cereal productivities have statistically significant effects on the trade deficit.

**ENSO and local temperature definitions** Table F.7 considers alternative definitions of ENSO and country-level local temperatures. Column 1, panel A reproduces our benchmark results using the NINO4 measure as our ENSO index and crop-area-weighted country-level temperatures. In columns 2, 3 and 4, we use NINO3, NINO34, and NINO12, alternative measures of ENSO that differ by the spatial area over which average sea-surface temperature is calculated (see Figure E.2). In panel B, we construct country-level temperature from pixel-level temperature data by taking the pixel average across the total area of a country rather than weight by growing crop area.<sup>33</sup> Our results are largely unaffected by these two data-construction choices.

Our identification strategy need not require ENSO per se. Rather, one needs an exogenous driver of the global spatial correlation of cereal yields that exhibits a sufficiently strong first stage. In Table F.8, we report estimates produced by replacing  $g(ENSO_t + ENSO_{t-1})$  in equations (9)

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<sup>32</sup>This measure is contemporaneous output minus exports minus change in cereal inventory, where the latter is defined as the difference in stored cereals in year  $t$  minus stored cereals in year  $t - 1$ . This implicitly assumes that all stored cereals are domestically produced. The sample is smaller due to observations with missing storage data.

<sup>33</sup>Our sample of countries increases slightly when using total-area-weighted temperature compared with using crop-area-weighted temperature because a handful of small-sized countries have no agricultural activity in the Ramankutty et al. (2008) dataset.

and (10) with the annual global spatial correlation of temperature,  $I_t(T_{it})$ .<sup>34</sup> While the point estimates in Table F.8 do not differ drastically from the corresponding estimates in panel B of Table 2, the first stages are generally weaker. This is consistent with Table 1, which shows that  $I_t(T_{it})$  does not predict the global spatial correlation of cereal yields as strongly as ENSO. In short, ENSO is preferred to the spatial correlation of an intermediate local weather variable as the source of exogenous variation in the global spatial correlation of cereal yields on the basis of the strength of the first-stage relationship.

**Domestic expenditure share construction** As detailed in Appendix B, we do not observe cereal prices for all cereal-country-year observations with positive cereal output. Our benchmark measure of domestic share of expenditure imputes missing cereal-level prices using the average export-volume-weighted cereal export unit value for that country and year. While this imputation increases the number of observations in our estimation sample, this procedure could bias our estimates if it introduces measurement error into our outcome variable that is correlated with our instrumented regressors.

Table F.9 considers alternative approximations for the domestic expenditure share. Column 1 reproduces our benchmark result. Columns 2 through 4 consider alternative price imputations. Column 2 imputes missing export unit values using producer prices.<sup>35</sup> Columns 3 and 4 impute missing cereal prices using the lowest and highest observed export unit values, rather than the average, for a given country and year. All three alternative imputation methods yield estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  that are statistically indistinguishable from the benchmark estimate in column 1. To see if our benchmark result is sensitive to the source of trade data, in column 5 we compute domestic expenditure shares using trade data from Comtrade instead of FAO. Finally, in column 6 we drop observations where our benchmark measure of log domestic expenditure share is in the bottom and top 1% of its unconditional distribution. Neither robustness check alters our conclusions.

#### 4.4 Estimates using terms-of-trade outcomes

Thus far, the outcome variable in our empirical investigation is the domestic share of expenditure, a sufficient statistic for welfare under the modeling assumptions described in Section 2.1. That theoretical result leverages assumptions that restrict admissible combinations of consumer preferences, production technologies, and market structure. While widely used, this class of models may be regarded as narrow.

We now investigate how the spatial correlation of productivity affects the gain from trade using an outcome variable that captures welfare changes under much weaker assumptions. We examine

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<sup>34</sup>When considering temperature-driven only variation, instead of using  $I_t(T_{it})$  in equations (9) and (10), one could alternatively use the vector of country-specific local temperature-predicted productivity to construct a predicted Moran's I statistic. Such an approach, however, implicitly assumes that  $I_t(\{\widehat{\ln A_{it}(T_{it})}\})$  is the correct functional relationship between local temperature and the global spatial correlation in yields. Our approach, which follows Kelejian (1971) and Amemiya (1974), allows for more flexible estimation and in general produces a more efficient IV estimator.

<sup>35</sup>See discussion in Appendix B regarding concerns with using FAO's producer prices.



changes in the terms of trade as measured by the product of price changes and the previous period’s traded quantities. Appendix B describes how we construct this variable using trade data. This measure identifies whether a country’s terms of trade locally improve or deteriorate under the relatively weak assumptions required for the revealed-preference argument of Dixit and Norman (1980).

Since this outcome variable is defined in terms of changes from the previous year, we time-difference our estimating equations so that we relate changes in the terms of trade to changes in log productivity and changes in the product of spatial correlation and log productivity. In particular, we employ first-differenced versions of the second-stage and first-stage equations (8, 9, 10). The second-stage equation is now

$$\arcsin(\Delta\text{ToT}_{it}) = \varsigma_0(\ln A_{it} - \ln A_{it-1}) + \varsigma_1(I_t \ln A_{it} - I_{t-1} \ln A_{it-1}) + \zeta_i + \xi_t + \varepsilon_{it} \quad (11)$$

where  $\zeta_i$  and  $\xi_t$  are country and year fixed effects that correspond to the country-specific trends and differences in year fixed effects in the levels second-stage equation (8), respectively.<sup>36</sup>  $\varepsilon_{it}$  is an error term that we cluster by year. To facilitate interpretation of  $\varsigma_0$  and  $\varsigma_1$  as elasticities (as with  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ ), we use an inverse hyperbolic sine transformation of  $\Delta\text{ToT}_{it}$  on the left side of equation (11) (Bellemare and Wichman, 2020).<sup>37</sup> The terms-of-trade interpretation of our main empirical results predicts that  $\varsigma_0 < 0$  and  $\varsigma_1 > 0$ . The two first-stage equations are:

$$\begin{aligned} \ln A_{it} - \ln A_{it-1} &= \varrho'_{11}(f(T_{it}) - f(T_{it-1})) \\ &\quad + \varrho'_{12}(f(T_{it})g(ENSO_t + ENSO_{t-1}) - f(T_{it-1})g(ENSO_{t-1} + ENSO_{t-2})) \\ &\quad + \zeta_{1i} + \xi_{1t} + \varphi_{1it} \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

$$\begin{aligned} I_t \ln A_{it} - I_{t-1} \ln A_{it-1} &= \varrho'_{21}(f(T_{it}) - f(T_{it-t})) \\ &\quad + \varrho'_{22}(f(T_{it})g(ENSO_t + ENSO_{t-1}) - f(T_{it-1})g(ENSO_{t-1} + ENSO_{t-2})) \\ &\quad + \zeta_{2i} + \xi_{2t} + \varphi_{2it} \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where  $\varphi_{1it}$  and  $\varphi_{2it}$  are error terms. Consistent with the benchmark expenditure share specification in column 4, panel B of Table 2,  $f(\cdot)$  is a restricted cubic spline function with four terms and  $g(\cdot)$  is a quadratic function.

Table 3 reports LIML IV estimates of equation (11). Column 1 examines changes in the terms of trade for cereals. An increase in productivity worsens a country’s terms of trade ( $\hat{\varsigma}_0 < 0$ ), but this effect is dampened when productivity is more spatially correlated ( $\hat{\varsigma}_1 > 0$ ). This corroborates the interpretation of our expenditure-share results as reflecting terms-of-trade effects. To broaden the economic scope, Column 2 examines changes in the terms of trade for all commodities in the commodity section “food and live animals,” which includes cereals. Consistent with the discussion of multi-sector models in Section 2.3, these welfare effects are somewhat dampened when we incor-

<sup>36</sup>The country fixed effects of equation (8) are eliminated by taking the difference.

<sup>37</sup>Since changes in the terms of trade can be positive or negative, a log transformation is infeasible.

Table 3: Changes in terms of trade  
Outcome is asinh(change in terms of trade)

	(1) Cereals	(2) Food
$\Delta \ln A_{it} (\varsigma_0)$	-1.886 (1.015) [0.069]	-1.354 (1.273) [0.292]
$\Delta \ln A_{it} \times I_t (\varsigma_1)$	8.756 (5.058) [0.089]	6.625 (6.643) [0.323]
Cragg-Donald F-stat	10.054	10.054
Stock-Yogo crit. value: 10% max LIML size	3.580	3.580
Kleibergen-Paap F-stat	3.347	3.347
Observations	5747	5747

NOTES: This table reports estimates of equation (11). Column 1 examines change in the terms of trade for cereals. Column 2 examines change in the terms of trade for all commodities in Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) section 0 (food and live animals). Standard errors are reported in parentheses; p-values in brackets.

porate a broader set of goods. The standard errors in column 2 are also larger than in column 1, perhaps unsurprisingly given that the dependent variable uses a broader set of unit values, which are noisy proxies for prices, and cereal imports are only 25% of food imports for the average observation. The dampened coefficients and larger standard errors render these estimates statistically insignificant at conventional thresholds. We therefore find that countries' terms of trade in cereals respond in the predicted manner to greater spatial correlation of cereal productivities, but we lack the statistical power to trace these effects through to economy-wide changes in the terms of trade.<sup>38</sup>

## 5 Application: Inequality under future climate change

In this section, we demonstrate how to incorporate the role of spatial interdependence via trade into projections of economic outcomes when the global spatial structure of productivity changes. Recent reviews of quasi-experimental studies that inform climate-change impact projections emphasize the need to consider spatial spillovers (Dell, Jones and Olken, 2014; Hsiang, 2016; Auffhammer, 2018; Deschênes and Meng, 2018). In this growing literature, the effect of local temperature on an economic outcome is first estimated using quasi-experimental variation that implicitly holds temperatures in other locations fixed. These estimates are then applied to expected local warming and the sum of these projected local impacts is used to quantify climate change's global impact. However, by using estimates that hold fixed the spatial structure of temperature, these projections

<sup>38</sup>Estimates of the coefficients  $\varsigma_0$  and  $\varsigma_1$  for other 1-digit commodity sections are not statistically significant and often have the opposite sign of those found for the "food and live animals" section.

amount to considering many scenarios in which each scenario has only a single location experiencing warming. This exercise misses the global nature of climate change, in which all locations experience warming simultaneously.

To that end, we amend this approach to incorporate changes in the spatial correlation of productivities due to climate change.<sup>39</sup> By allowing the expenditure-productivity relationship to depend on spatial correlation, this approach incorporates spatial interdependence without imposing the full structure of quantitative trade models. This strategy is similar to that of Monte, Redding and Rossi-Hansberg (2018), who use observables to account for heterogeneous local employment elasticities implied by a quantitative model of commuting flows. More broadly, we posit that this approach can be applied to studying other determinants of productivity, provided that the researcher observes exogenous variation in that determinant that also alters its global spatial correlation.

Because this exercise serves only to highlight the implications of incorporating this particular mechanism, we emphasize that it omits other potential general-equilibrium effects of climate change. First, these projections study changes in cereal productivity due to climate-driven changes in local temperatures over the twenty-first century in isolation. We fix all other variables, such as the spatial pattern of comparative advantage within cereals, at recent historical values. Thus, we do not take into account important trends such as technological change. Second, we apply estimates based on past exogenous annual changes in cereal productivity to future long-term productivity changes due to climate change. This implies that we omit possible adaptations in anticipation of future climate change (Deschênes and Greenstone, 2007; Hsiang, 2016). Third, we do not consider other potential adjustments such as factor reallocation across sectors and across crops within the agricultural sector. All three practices are standard in this climate-impacts literature, due to the absence of credible estimates of the relevant phenomena, and these assumptions may ultimately cause these projections to differ from realized climate impacts. Our objective is merely to demonstrate how the economic consequences of spatial correlation, estimated using quasi-experimental variation, can be incorporated into projections of climate impacts. As such, this exercise helps bridge the gap between quasi-experimental approaches and structural models of climate impacts (Brock, Engström and Xepapadeas, 2014; Desmet and Rossi-Hansberg, 2015; Costinot, Donaldson and Smith, 2016; Krusell and Smith, 2016).

We first report climate change’s anticipated effects on the global variance and spatial correlation of cereal productivity. We then show how incorporating these changes in the spatial correlation of productivities affects welfare projections.

## 5.1 Cereal productivity under climate change

To examine how climate change will affect cereal productivity, we estimate a nonlinear log cereal yield response function using historical variation in annual temperatures across countries and years.

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<sup>39</sup>There is currently no scientific consensus on how ENSO will be affected by anthropogenic climate change (Stocker et al., 2013). Our projection exercise therefore assumes ENSO is stationary over the twenty-first century and does not contribute to long-run changes in the global spatial correlation of cereal productivities.

Specifically, for the period 1961–2013, we estimate:

$$\ln A_{it} = k(T_{it}) + \Psi' \mathbb{X}_{it} + \nu_{it} \quad (14)$$

where  $k(\cdot)$  is a restricted cubic spline function and the benchmark set of controls in  $\mathbb{X}_{it}$  include country fixed effects, year fixed effects, and country-specific quadratic trends. Figure 14 shows the estimated cubic spline response function,  $k(\cdot)$ , using four temperature spline terms. It also shows two cross-sectional temperature distributions: observed temperatures in 2013 and the forecast for 2099 under a business-as-usual (Representative Concentration Pathway 8.5) climate scenario obtained from the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP5) multi-model ensemble mean.<sup>40</sup> Column 1 of Table F.10 shows that the coefficients of  $k(\cdot)$  shown in Figure 14 are jointly statistically significant with a productivity-maximizing temperature around 9°C.<sup>41</sup> Table F.10 also indicates that the predicted optimal temperature is relatively insensitive to the number of knots in the spline function and to the inclusion of precipitation controls. Next, we combine the estimated coefficients in equation (14) with local temperature projections under a business-as-usual climate scenario to project log cereal yields in the 2014–2099 period. All other variables in equation (14) are fixed at 2013 levels (see Appendix D.2 for details).

Climate change alters two important moments of the cross-country cereal productivity distribution. First, the variance of cereal productivity increases. In 2013, of the 12 countries with temperatures below the global productivity-maximizing temperature, 10 had productivities above the cross-sectional mean (see Figure E.4).<sup>42</sup> As temperatures increase under climate change, these countries with high relative productivity will gain further by moving towards the productivity-maximizing temperature shown in Figure 14. Concurrently nearly all other countries will experience productivity losses as they move away from the optimal temperature. Because the gains from climate change are experienced almost exclusively by relatively high-productivity countries, there is a resulting increase in the cross-country variance of productivity, depicted by the black line in the left panel of Figure 15.

Second, as temperatures increase across the planet, the spatial correlation of cereal productivities increases. This is again due to the non-monotone yield response function shown in Figure 14 and the fact that surface temperatures are generally decreasing in distance to the equator. Absent climate change, mid-latitude locations experience the productivity-maximizing temperature. Locations closer to and farther from the equator both generally exhibit lower yields. As

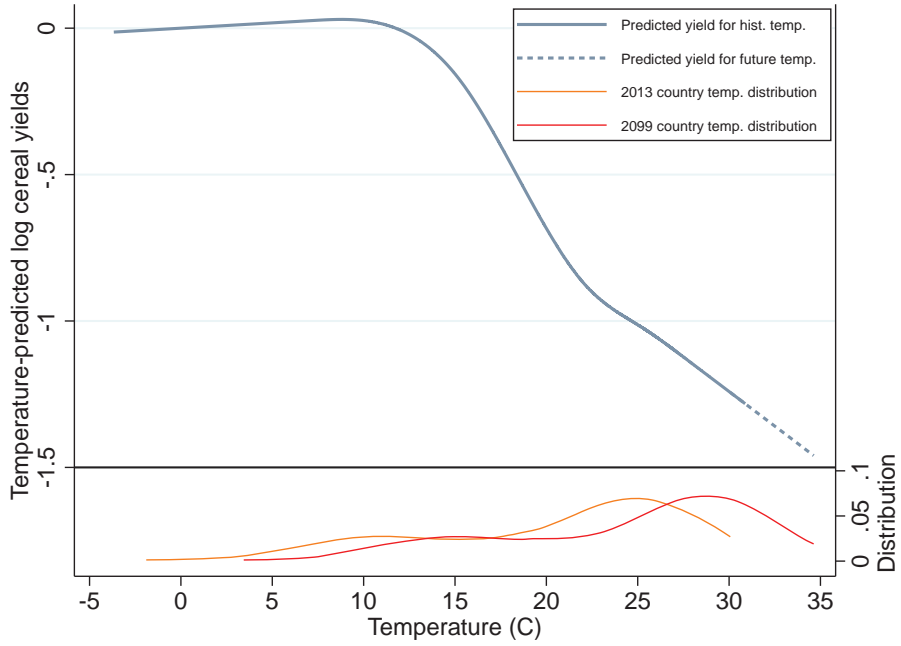
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<sup>40</sup>CMIP5 is a coordinated effort by the climate-science community to harmonize model runs across various climate models. The average climate projection across CMIP5 models is known as the multi-model ensemble mean. CMIP5 was used to inform the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (see Taylor, Stouffer and Meehl (2012) for details).

<sup>41</sup>Using similar country-by-year-level data but for the 1983-2009 period, Proctor et al. (2018) find a similar productivity-maximizing temperature.

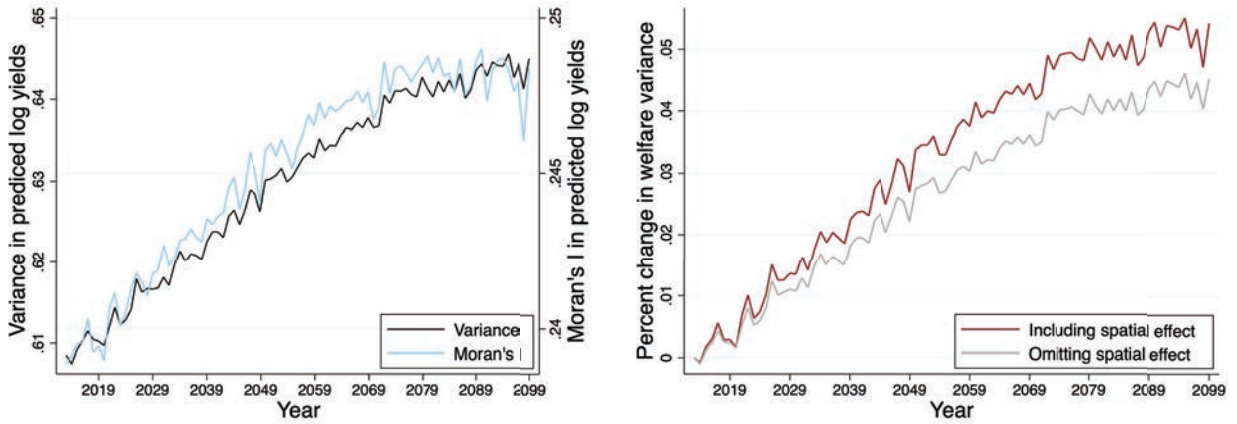
<sup>42</sup>Figure E.4 shows that the unconditional relationship between log productivity and temperature is very similar to the conditional relationship depicted in Figure 14,  $k(T_{it})$ . Thus, we can describe how climate change alters the variance and spatial correlation of productivity in terms of the nonlinear shape of  $k(T_{it})$ , even though productivity incorporates other determinants contained in controls  $\Psi' \mathbb{X}_{it}$  and residual  $\nu_{it}$  from equation (14).

Figure 14: Estimated temperature response function for log cereal yields



NOTES: Gray solid line shows  $k()$  in equation (14), the predicted relationship between crop-area-weighted country-level temperature and log cereal yields, estimated during 1961–2013. Restricted cubic spline function is estimated using four spline terms with knots placed along the temperature support according to Harrell (2001). Gray dashed line shows additional predicted log cereal yields using extrapolated temperature in 2099. Estimated model corresponds to column 1 of Table F.10. Orange line shows the distribution of observed country-level temperature in 2013. Red line shows country-level projected temperature in 2099 from CMIP5 ensemble mean under a business-as-usual (RCP 8.5) scenario.

Figure 15: Variance in climate-driven welfare over the 21<sup>st</sup> century



NOTES: Left panel shows the change in the global variance (black line) and Moran’s I (blue line) of log cereal yields over the twenty-first century under climate change. Right panel shows the percent change in the variance of welfare omitting (gray line) and including (red line) changes in the spatial correlation of log cereal yields over the same period. Climate projections from CMIP5 ensemble mean under a business-as-usual (RCP 8.5) scenario. Appendix D.2 describes welfare calculations assuming  $\epsilon = 8.59$ .

climate change increases temperatures across the globe, latitudes closer to the poles now expe-



rience the productivity-maximizing temperature, with less productive locations becoming more bunched around the equator. This bifurcation of global agriculture into high-productivity poles and a low-productivity band around the equator increases the spatial correlation of cereal productivity.<sup>43</sup> The resulting increase in Moran’s  $I$  for cereal productivity under climate change is indicated by the blue series in the left panel of Figure 15.

## 5.2 Welfare projections and changes in spatial structure

The change in the spatial correlation of cereal productivity due to climate change is consequential for global welfare inequality. To demonstrate this, we combine projected local cereal productivity under climate change with the benchmark estimates of  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$  from Section 4 to project future domestic shares of expenditure via equation (8) and welfare variance via equation (3) (see Appendix D.2 for details). We consider two scenarios with different terms-of-trade effects.<sup>44</sup> In the first scenario, we fix the spatial correlation of temperature-predicted cereal productivities to its 2013 value. In the second scenario, we allow climate change to increase the spatial correlation of productivities as depicted by the blue series in the left panel of Figure 15.

The projected change in the variance of welfare over the twenty-first century is shown in the right panel of Figure 15. The gray line shows the projection that omits changes in spatial correlation and the red line shows the projection that include such changes. Omitting changes in spatial correlation, the projected increase in the variance of cereal productivity generates a projected increase in the variance of welfare. The projection that incorporates increases in the spatial correlation of cereal productivity due to climate change predicts a 20% greater increase in welfare inequality between 2013–2099 compared to the projection that holds spatial correlation fixed.

How do the projections differ across countries? Figure 16 maps the difference between the two projections.<sup>45</sup> Including an increase in the spatial correlation of productivity causes the gains from trade to be lower in less productive countries and higher in more productive countries than in a projection that holds spatial correlation fixed. In particular, Figure 16 shows that most countries in Africa, and a few in Asia and South America have lower gains from trade in the projection that incorporates changes in spatial correlation. This is because the relatively high local temperatures that drive yield losses in these countries are compounded by similar temperatures simultaneously experienced by neighboring countries. In the simplest terms, a key feature of climate change is that it makes Ethiopia and Kenya less productive at the same time, lowering the gains from trade compared to a scenario in which each country warms independently. By the same logic,

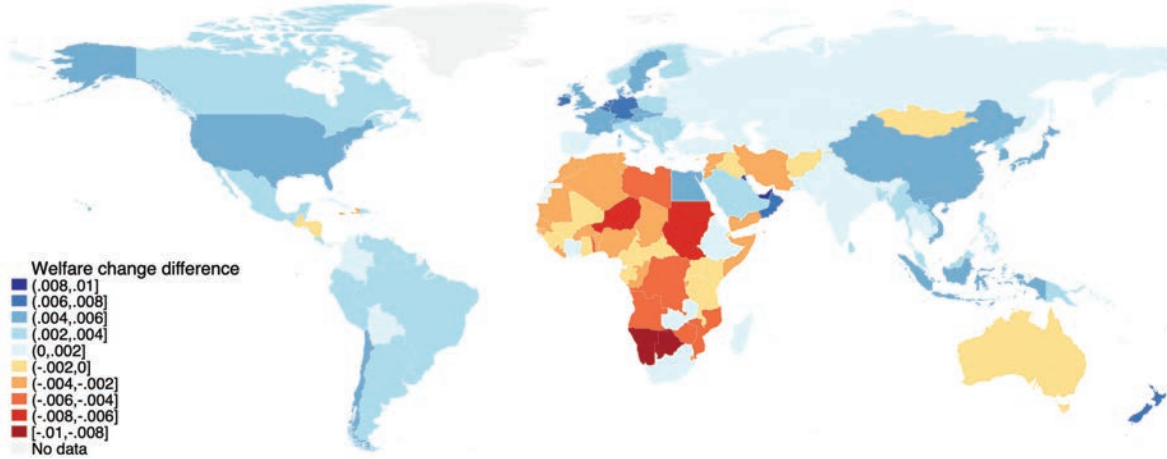
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<sup>43</sup>Additionally, the country-specific shift in temperature due to climate change is not spatially uniform. Because of surface albedo changes due to polar ice melt, there is higher warming in the poles relative to lower latitude areas. However, this latitude-dependent gradient is relatively small compared to the average global temperature change and thus plays a second-order role in determining changes in the spatial correlation of productivity. For example, the projected temperature change over the twenty-first century for Gabon, the country located closest to the equator, is 3.4°C. For Finland, the country located closest to the north pole, the projected temperature change is 2.9°C.

<sup>44</sup>In autarky, the variance of welfare would be proportionate to the variance of productivity. Since a productivity increase is associated with worse terms of trade, an increase in the variance of productivity causes a smaller increase in the variance of welfare when there is international trade.

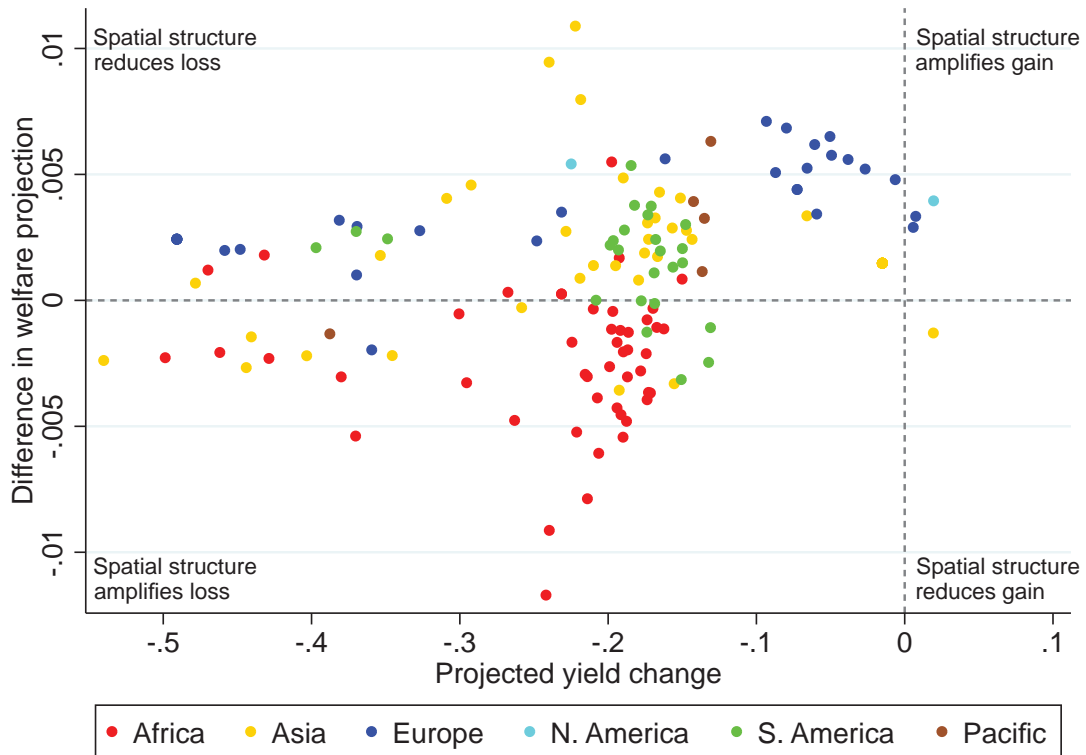
<sup>45</sup>See equation (D.12) at the end of Appendix D.2.

Figure 16: Differences in projected welfare changes due to change in spatial correlation (2013–2099)



NOTES: Map shows the difference in projected country-level welfare change over 2013–2099 between projections that include and omit changes in spatial correlation. Climate projections from CMIP5 ensemble mean under a business-as-usual (RCP 8.5) scenario. Appendix D.2 describes welfare calculations assuming  $\epsilon = 8.59$ .

Figure 17: Differences in welfare projections due to change in spatial correlation and projected yield changes



NOTES: Scatter shows the difference in projected country-level welfare change between projections that include and omit changes in spatial correlation (from Figure 16) plotted against change in log cereal yields over 2013–2099 under climate change. Countries are color-coded by continent. See Figure E.5 for the same plot with country identifiers. Appendix D.2 describes welfare calculations assuming  $\epsilon = 8.59$ .

parts of Europe and North American have higher gains from trade when the projection includes increases in spatial correlation. The relatively milder temperatures experienced by these countries are accompanied by similar temperatures over neighboring locations.

Figure 17 depicts climate-change forecasts for each country in terms of the predicted change in cereal productivity and the difference in projected welfare from omitting the change in spatial correlation shown in Figure 16 on the vertical axis. The vast majority of countries suffer a decrease in cereal productivity as a result of increased temperature. As in Figure 16, the strongest contrast in Figure 17 is between outcomes for African and European economies. While there is substantial heterogeneity in the productivity declines across countries within each continent, most economies in Africa, and a few in South America and Asia, experience productivity losses that would be considerably amplified by changes in spatial correlation. By contrast, most European economies have reduced projected welfare losses when the change in spatial correlation is incorporated. For the few economies with increased productivity under climate change, the differences across projections are close to zero.

## 6 Conclusion

This paper studies how the spatial structure of the global productivity distribution shapes the distribution of welfare across countries. In particular, we use a benchmark trade model with distance-related trade costs to show that, holding the unconditional moments of the productivity distribution fixed, greater spatial correlation of productivity can increase welfare inequality. The increase in spatial correlation causes high-productivity locations to enjoy larger gains from trade than they would if productivity were spatially uncorrelated. In settings in which welfare differences are arbitrated away by mobile factors of production, greater spatial correlation of productivity would make population density, rather than welfare per capita, more unequal across locations.<sup>46</sup>

To empirically investigate this relationship, we exploit a global natural experiment that is well-suited for identifying the economic consequences of a change in the spatial structure of productivity. Specifically, we use the El Niño-Southern Oscillation, a naturally occurring global climatic phenomenon, which exogenously alters the annual spatial correlation of cereal productivity around the planet. We examine how the spatial correlation of cereal productivity governs the response of the domestic share of expenditure, a sufficient statistic for the gains from trade in a broad class of trade models, to local productivity. Using data from the past five decades of cereal trade, we find that high-productivity countries enjoy larger gains from trade when cereal productivity is more spatially correlated, as predicted. More broadly, our empirical approach advances the use of causal-inference techniques to validate general-equilibrium predictions.

In our application, we demonstrate that incorporating changes in the spatial correlation of productivities substantially alters predictions about global welfare inequality when forecasting the consequences of anthropogenic climate change. This interplay between the spatial structure of

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<sup>46</sup>Appendix A.5 proves that this is the case for a symmetric geography with four locations.

productivity and welfare inequality is potentially important in many other domains. Many determinants of productivity – such as demographics, political institutions, and natural endowments – tend to exhibit substantial spatial correlation. For natural endowments in particular, spatial correlation may change following the relocation of existing endowments (e.g., migrating wildlife stocks), the discovery of new uses for them (e.g., solar and wind availability), or the discovery of new endowments (e.g., fossil fuel deposits). This paper provides a framework for analyzing the welfare consequences of such widespread productivity changes.

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## Appendix – For Online Publication

### A Theory appendix

#### A.1 General economic environment

This appendix section provides details of perfect-competition results presented in Section 2 and extends them to the Krugman (1980) model of monopolistic competition.

##### A.1.1 Perfect-competition microfoundations

**Production function.** In the Armington model, each country  $i$  produces a distinct variety using a linear production technology such that one unit of labor yields  $A_i$  units of output. Under perfect competition, its price is  $w_i/A_i$  and thus the Dixit-Stiglitz price index is  $P_j = \left( \sum_{i=1}^N (w_i \tau_{ij}/A_i)^{1-\sigma} \right)^{1/(1-\sigma)}$ . In the Eaton and Kortum (2002) model, there is a continuum of varieties, and each country's efficiency in producing them follows a Fréchet distribution with location parameter  $T_i$  and dispersion parameter  $\vartheta$ .

**Gravity equation.** Written in terms of expenditure shares, the gravity equation is

$$\lambda_{ij} = \frac{\chi_i (\tau_{ij} w_i)^{-\epsilon}}{\sum_{l=1}^N \chi_l (\tau_{lj} w_l)^{-\epsilon}}.$$

In the Armington model,  $\epsilon = \sigma - 1$  and  $\chi_i = A_i^\epsilon$ . In the Eaton-Kortum model without intermediate inputs,  $\epsilon = \vartheta$  and  $\chi_i = T_i$ . Thus, the equilibrium trade flows associated with a productivity distribution  $\{A_i\}_i$  and trade elasticity  $\epsilon$  in the Armington model are equal to the equilibrium trade flows for an Eaton-Kortum model in which efficiency distributions have location parameters  $T_i = A_i^\epsilon$ .

**Welfare.** Equation (2) is an immediate consequence of the main result in Arkolakis, Costinot and Rodríguez-Clare (2012). They show that, in a broad class of models, the gains from trade relative to autarky are equal to  $-\frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii}$ . In our theoretical environment, autarky welfare is equal to  $\ln A_i + \gamma$ , as implied by equation (2).  $\gamma$  is a function of structural parameters. In the Armington model with symmetric preferences,  $\gamma$  is zero. In the Eaton and Kortum (2002) model,  $\gamma = \left[ \Gamma \left( 1 + \frac{1-\sigma}{\theta} \right) \right]^{1/(1-\sigma)}$  where  $\Gamma$  is the gamma function.

##### A.1.2 Krugman (1980) microfoundations

We now discuss the case of monopolistic competition with homogeneous firms, in which the measure of varieties available in equilibrium is endogenously determined. Consider a many-country version of the Krugman (1980) model in which fixed costs  $f_j$  and marginal costs  $c_j$  may vary across countries. Denote the equilibrium number of homogeneous firms producing in country  $j$  by  $n_j$ .

**Gravity equation.** In the free-entry equilibrium,  $\epsilon = \sigma - 1$ ,  $n_i = L_i / (\sigma f_i)$ , and  $\chi_i = n_i c_i^{-\epsilon}$ .

**Welfare.** In this setting, real per capita consumption is

$$\ln(C_i/L_i) = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln n_i - \ln c_i + \ln\left(\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma}\right) - \frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii}$$

If population size  $L_i$  and fixed costs  $f_i$  are country-invariant ( $n_i = n \forall j$ ) and we interpret productivity as shifting marginal costs,  $A_i = c_i^{-1}$ , then this is equivalent to equation (2) with  $\gamma = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln n + \ln\left(\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma}\right)$ . If population size  $L_i$  and marginal costs  $c_i$  are country-invariant and we interpret productivity as shifting fixed costs,  $A_i = f_i^{-1/\epsilon}$ , then this is equivalent to equation (2) with  $\gamma = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln(L/\sigma) + \ln\left(\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma c}\right)$ .

In the case of countries with heterogeneous population sizes, equation (2) must be extended to replace  $\gamma$  with a location-specific  $\gamma_i$  that depends on structural parameters other than productivity. For example, if productivity shifts marginal costs,  $A_i = c_i^{-1}$ , then we obtain

$$\ln\left(\frac{C_i}{L_i}\right) = \ln A_i + \gamma_i - \frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii}, \quad (2')$$

where  $\gamma_i = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln n_i + \ln\left(\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma}\right)$ . If we assume that  $\text{cov}(\ln A_i^u, \gamma_i) = \text{cov}(\ln A_i^c, \gamma_i)$ , we obtain an extension of equation (4):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}(\ln C_i^c/L_i) - \text{var}(\ln C_i^u/L_i) &= -\frac{2}{\epsilon} [\text{cov}(\ln A_i^c, \ln \lambda_{ii}^c) - \text{cov}(\ln A_i^u, \ln \lambda_{ii}^u)] \\ &\quad - \frac{2}{\epsilon} [\text{cov}(\gamma_i, \ln \lambda_{ii}^c) - \text{cov}(\gamma_i, \ln \lambda_{ii}^u)] \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} [\text{var}(\ln \lambda_{ii}^c) - \text{var}(\ln \lambda_{ii}^u)]. \end{aligned} \quad (4')$$

### A.1.3 The case of symmetric trade costs

Starting from the equilibrium system of equations and using the assumption of symmetric trade costs ( $\tau_{ij} = \tau_{ji}$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} Y_i &= w_i L_i = \sum_j \left(\frac{w_i}{A_i}\right)^{-\epsilon} \tau_{ij}^{-\epsilon} \frac{w_j L_j}{\Phi_j} = \left(\frac{w_i}{A_i}\right)^{-\epsilon} \Omega_i \\ \Rightarrow \frac{w_i}{A_i} &= \left(\frac{\Omega_i}{A_i L_i}\right)^{\frac{1}{\epsilon+1}} \\ \Rightarrow \Phi_i &= \sum_j \tau_{ji}^{-\epsilon} \left(\frac{w_j}{A_j}\right)^{-\epsilon} = \sum_j \tau_{ji}^{-\epsilon} (A_j L_j / \Omega_j)^{\frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon+1}} \\ &= \sum_j \tau_{ji}^{-\epsilon} (A_j L_j / \Phi_j)^{\frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon+1}} \end{aligned}$$

The last equality exploits the fact that we can normalize incomes such that  $\Phi_i = \Omega_i$  when trade is balanced and  $\tau_{ij}^{-\epsilon}$  is symmetric, as established in Anderson and van Wincoop (2003) and Head and Mayer (2014).



Combining  $\lambda_{ii} = \frac{(w_i/A_i)^{-\epsilon}}{\Phi_i}$ , the above expression for  $w_i/A_i$ , and the assumption of symmetric trade costs yields the result that

$$\lambda_{ii} = \frac{(\Omega_i/(A_i L_i))^{\frac{-\epsilon}{\epsilon+1}}}{\Phi_i} = (A_i L_i)^{\frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon+1}} \Phi_i^{-\frac{2\epsilon+1}{\epsilon+1}}.$$

Thus, in the case in which  $L_i = L \forall i$ ,  $\text{var}(\ln \lambda_{ii}) = \frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon+1} \text{cov}(\ln A_i, \ln \lambda_{ii}) - \frac{1+2\epsilon}{1+\epsilon} \text{cov}(\ln \Phi_i, \ln \lambda_{ii})$ . Comparing these outcomes for productivity distributions  $A^c$  and  $A^u$  in the case in which  $L_i = L \forall i$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}(\ln \lambda_{ii}^c) - \text{var}(\ln \lambda_{ii}^u) &= \frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon+1} \left[ \text{cov}(\ln A_i^c, \ln \lambda_{ii}^c) - \text{cov}(\ln A_i^u, \ln \lambda_{ii}^u) \right] \\ &\quad - \frac{1+2\epsilon}{1+\epsilon} \left[ \text{cov}(\ln \Phi_i^c, \ln \lambda_{ii}^c) - \text{cov}(\ln \Phi_i^u, \ln \lambda_{ii}^u) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Heuristically, the latter term is of smaller magnitude, since  $\Phi_i$  is a price-index term that is a weighted sum of all other countries' prices. Thus,  $\text{var}(\ln \lambda_{ii}^c) - \text{var}(\ln \lambda_{ii}^u)$  is the same order of magnitude as  $\text{cov}(\ln A_i^c, \ln \lambda_{ii}^c) - \text{cov}(\ln A_i^u, \ln \lambda_{ii}^u)$ .

## A.2 Spatial correlation and the covariance of productivity and gains from trade

This appendix section contains the derivation of the local approximations discussed in Section 2.2.1, the proof of the four-country case presented in Section 2.2.2, and details the construction and parameterization of the illustrative examples presented in Section 2.2.

### A.2.1 A local approximation

This section derives the local approximations discussed in Section 2.2.1.

#### Partial-equilibrium case

Using the facts that  $\ln \lambda_{ii} = \epsilon \ln A_i - \epsilon \ln w_i - \ln \Phi_i$  and  $\text{dcov}(y_i, x_i) = \text{cov}(dy_i, x_i) + \text{cov}(y_i, dx_i)$ , we can derive the following

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dcov}(\ln \lambda_{ii}, \ln A_i) &= \epsilon \text{dcov}(\ln A_i, \ln A_i) - \epsilon \text{dcov}(\ln w_i, \ln A_i) - \text{dcov}(\ln \Phi_i, \ln A_i) \\ &= \epsilon \text{dvar}(\ln A_i) - \epsilon \text{cov}(\text{d} \ln w_i, \ln A_i) - \epsilon \text{cov}(\ln w_i, \text{d} \ln A_i) - \text{cov}(\text{d} \ln \Phi_i, \ln A_i) - \text{cov}(\ln \Phi_i, \text{d} \ln A_i) \\ &= \underbrace{\epsilon \text{dvar}(\ln A_i)}_{=0} - \underbrace{\epsilon \text{cov}(\text{d} \ln w_i, \ln A_i)}_{=0 \text{ by P.E.}} - \underbrace{\text{cov}(\text{d} \ln \Phi_i, \ln A_i)}_{\approx \text{d}I \text{ by P.E.}} - \underbrace{\text{cov}(\epsilon \ln w_i + \ln \Phi_i, \text{d} \ln A_i)}_{=\text{cov}(\ln \lambda_{ii}, \text{d} \ln A_i)}, \end{aligned}$$

which yields equation (5). The first two terms are zero by the assumptions of unchanged variance and partial equilibrium, respectively. The fourth term is equivalent to  $\text{cov}(\ln \lambda_{ii}, \text{d} \ln A_i)$  because  $\ln \lambda_{ii} = \epsilon \ln A_i - \epsilon \ln w_i - \ln \Phi_i$  and  $\text{dvar}(\ln A_i) = 2\text{cov}(\ln A_i, \text{d} \ln A_i) = 0$ . We proceed to show why the third term is related to the change in Moran's  $I$ ,  $dI$ .

Starting from the definition of Moran's  $I$  for productivity, we can write changes in Moran's  $I$

as a covariance of  $\ln A_i$  and a weighted sum of  $d \ln A_j$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
I &\equiv \underbrace{\frac{N}{\sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} \omega_{ij}} \frac{1}{\sum_\ell (\ln A_\ell - \overline{\ln A})^2}}_{\equiv \Omega} \sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} \omega_{ij} (\ln A_i - \overline{\ln A}) (\ln A_j - \overline{\ln A}) \\
dI &= \Omega \sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} \omega_{ij} [d \ln A_i (\ln A_j - \overline{\ln A}) + (\ln A_i - \overline{\ln A}) d \ln A_j] && \text{by } dvar(\ln A) = 0 \\
&= 2\Omega \sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} \omega_{ij} (\ln A_j - \overline{\ln A}) d \ln A_i && \text{by } \omega_{ij} = \omega_{ji} \forall i, j \\
&= 2\Omega cov \left( \sum_j \omega_{ji} d \ln A_j, \ln A_i \right) && \text{by } \omega_{ii} = 0 \forall i
\end{aligned}$$

The third term in equation (5) evaluated at fixed wages is a covariance of  $\ln A_i$  and a weighted sum of  $d \ln A_j$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\Phi_i &= \sum_j A_j^\epsilon \tau_{ji}^{-\epsilon} w_j^{-\epsilon} \\
d \ln \Phi_i &= \frac{1}{\Phi_i} \sum_j \epsilon A_j^\epsilon \tau_{ji}^{-\epsilon} w_j^{-\epsilon} \left( \frac{1}{A_j} dA_j - \frac{1}{w_j} dw_j \right) \\
&= \epsilon \sum_j \lambda_{ji} (d \ln A_j - d \ln w_j) \\
cov(d \ln \Phi, \ln A_i |_{d \ln w_i = 0} \forall i) &= \epsilon cov \left( \sum_j \lambda_{ji} d \ln A_j, \ln A_i \right)
\end{aligned}$$

As a result, this covariance would be proportionate to the expression for  $dI$  above if  $\omega_{ji} = \lambda_{ji}$ . It is not identical to the change in Moran's  $I$  because  $\omega_{ii} = 0$  and while spatial weights are symmetric,  $\omega_{ji} = \omega_{ij}$ , the initial equilibrium's expenditures shares need not be.

### General-equilibrium case with symmetric trade costs

Assume that  $\tau_{ij} = \tau_{ji} \forall i, j$ . Using the previously noted facts that (1)  $dcov(y_i, x_i) = cov(dy_i, x_i) + cov(y_i, dx_i)$ , and (2) symmetric trade costs imply  $\lambda_{ii} = (A_i L_i)^{\frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon+1}} \Phi_i^{-\frac{2\epsilon+1}{\epsilon+1}}$ , we obtain the following expression for  $dcov(\ln \lambda_{ii}, \ln A_i)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
dcov(\ln \lambda_{ii}, \ln A_i) &= cov(d \ln \lambda_{ii}, \ln A_i) + cov(\ln \lambda_{ii}, d \ln A_i) \\
&= \frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon+1} \left[ \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} dvar(\ln A_i)}_{=0} + \underbrace{cov(d \ln L_i, \ln A_i)}_{=0} \right] - \frac{2\epsilon+1}{\epsilon+1} cov(d \ln \Phi_i, \ln A_i) + cov(\ln \lambda_{ii}, d \ln A_i)
\end{aligned}$$

Section A.1.3 showed that when  $\tau_{ij} = \tau_{ji} \forall i, j$ , we can characterize equilibria in terms of  $\{\Phi_i\}_i$  and exogenous variables. We therefore obtain an expression for  $d \ln \Phi_i$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi_i &= \sum_j \tau_{ji}^{-\epsilon} A_j^\epsilon w_j^{-\epsilon} = \sum_j \tau_{ji}^{-\epsilon} (A_j L_j / \Phi_j)^{\frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon+1}} \\ d \ln \Phi_i &= \frac{1}{\Phi_i} \frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon+1} \sum_j \tau_{ji}^{-\epsilon} (A_j L_j / \Phi_j)^{\frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon+1}} \left( \frac{1}{A_j} dA_j - \frac{1}{\Phi_j} d\Phi_j \right) \\ &= \frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon+1} \sum_j \lambda_{ji} (d \ln A_j - d \ln \Phi_j)\end{aligned}\tag{A.1}$$

To establish the connection between  $cov(d \ln \Phi_i, \ln A_i)$  and the change in Moran's  $I$ , we switch to matrix notation. Define the following matrices:

$$\begin{aligned}\ln \tilde{\mathbf{A}} &\equiv \{\ln A_i - \overline{\ln A}\}_i && n\text{-element vector} \\ d \ln \mathbf{A} &\equiv \{d \ln A_i\}_i && n\text{-element vector} \\ \mathbf{W} &\equiv \{\omega_{ij}\}_{i,j} && n\text{-by-}n \text{ matrix}\end{aligned}$$

Using these matrices, we can write the change in Moran's  $I$  as

$$dI = 2\Omega \sum_i \sum_j \omega_{ij} (\ln A_j - \overline{\ln A}) d \ln A_i = 2\Omega \cdot \ln \tilde{\mathbf{A}}' \mathbf{W} d \ln \mathbf{A}.$$

If we define  $\mathbf{B}$  as the matrix whose  $ij$  element is  $\frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon+1} \lambda_{ji}$ , then equation (A.1) can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}d \ln \Phi &= \mathbf{B} (d \ln \mathbf{A} - d \ln \Phi) \\ \Rightarrow d \ln \Phi &= (\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{B})^{-1} \mathbf{B} d \ln \mathbf{A},\end{aligned}$$

where the inverse exists because  $\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{B}$  is diagonal-dominant. As a result

$$cov(\ln A_i, d \ln \Phi_i) = \frac{1}{N} \left[ \ln \tilde{\mathbf{A}}' (\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{B})^{-1} \mathbf{B} d \ln \mathbf{A} \right].$$

This covariance would be proportionate to the change in the Moran's  $I$  spatial-correlation statistic for  $\{\ln A_i\}_i$  if we were to use the spatial weight matrix  $\mathbf{W} = (\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{B})^{-1} \mathbf{B} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \mathbf{B}^n$ . That is, if the spatial weights were equal to the infinite sum of expenditure-share interactions that summarize the entire trading network, the change in Moran's  $I$  would capture  $cov(d \ln \Phi_i, \ln A_i)$ . The first term in this infinite sum,  $\mathbf{B}$ , is the ‘‘direct effect’’ in which productivity changes are simply weighted by their expenditure share. Since the gravity equation relates expenditure shares to bilateral distances, we thus expect the change in spatial correlation to affect  $dcov(\ln \lambda_{ii}, \ln A_i)$ .

## A.2.2 Four-country case

The proof of Proposition 1 follows.

$A^c$  is more spatially correlated than  $A^u$

*Proof.* Recall that Moran's  $I$  is given by

$$I(\ln A, W) = \frac{N}{\sum_i \sum_j \omega_{ij}} \frac{\sum_i (\ln A_i - \overline{\ln A}) \sum_j \omega_{ij} (\ln A_j - \overline{\ln A})}{\sum_i (\ln A_i - \overline{\ln A})^2},$$

where  $\omega_{ij}$  are spatial weights. Define the spatial weight matrix

$$\{\omega_{ij}\} = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_0 & \omega_1 & \omega_2 & \omega_1 \\ \omega_1 & \omega_0 & \omega_1 & \omega_2 \\ \omega_2 & \omega_1 & \omega_0 & \omega_1 \\ \omega_1 & \omega_2 & \omega_1 & \omega_0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus, there is a one-to-one mapping between  $\omega_{ij}$  and  $\tau_{ij}$ .  $\omega_1$  is the spatial weight associated with trade cost  $d_1$ ;  $\omega_2$  is the spatial weight associated with trade cost  $d_2$ .

The average log productivity is given by  $\overline{\ln A} = \frac{1}{2} \ln \tilde{a}$ . For the correlated state,  $\ln A^c = (\ln \tilde{a}, \ln \tilde{a}, 0, 0)$ , so the demeaned log productivity vector is equal to  $\widehat{\ln A^c} = (\frac{1}{2} \ln \tilde{a}, \frac{1}{2} \ln \tilde{a}, -\frac{1}{2} \ln \tilde{a}, -\frac{1}{2} \ln \tilde{a})$ . For the uncorrelated state,  $\ln A^u = (\ln \tilde{a}, 0, \ln \tilde{a}, 0)$  and  $\widehat{\ln A^u} = (\frac{1}{2} \ln \tilde{a}, -\frac{1}{2} \ln \tilde{a}, \frac{1}{2} \ln \tilde{a}, -\frac{1}{2} \ln \tilde{a})$ .

$\ln A^c$  is more spatially correlated than  $\ln A^u$  if and only if  $I(\ln A^c, W) > I(\ln A^u, W) \iff \sum_i \widehat{\ln A_i^c} \sum_j \omega_{ij} \widehat{\ln A_j^c} > \sum_i \widehat{\ln A_i^u} \sum_j \omega_{ij} \widehat{\ln A_j^u}$ .

The relevant terms are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_j \omega_{ij} \widehat{\ln A_j^c} &= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} (\omega_0 - \omega_2) \ln \tilde{a} & \text{for } i = 1, 2 \\ -\frac{1}{2} (\omega_0 - \omega_2) \ln \tilde{a} & \text{for } i = 3, 4 \end{cases} \\ \sum_i \widehat{\ln A_i^c} \sum_j \omega_{ij} \widehat{\ln A_j^c} &= (\omega_0 - \omega_2) (\ln \tilde{a})^2 \\ \sum_j \omega_{ij} \widehat{\ln A_j^u} &= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} (\omega_0 - 2\omega_1 + \omega_2) \ln \tilde{a} & \text{for } i = 1, 3 \\ -\frac{1}{2} (\omega_0 - 2\omega_1 + \omega_2) \ln \tilde{a} & \text{for } i = 2, 4 \end{cases} \\ \sum_i \widehat{\ln A_i^u} \sum_j \omega_{ij} \widehat{\ln A_j^u} &= (\omega_0 - 2\omega_1 + \omega_2) (\ln \tilde{a})^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$I(\ln A^c, W) > I(\ln A^u, W) \iff \omega_0 - \omega_2 > \omega_0 - 2\omega_1 + \omega_2 \iff \omega_1 > \omega_2. \quad \square$$

**Equilibrium for the correlated state:**  $A^c = (\tilde{a}, \tilde{a}, 1, 1)$

By symmetry, the equilibrium incomes and market access of countries 1 and 2 are identical,  $Y_1 = Y_2$  and  $\Phi_1 = \Phi_2$ . Similarly, countries 3 and 4 have identical outcomes:  $Y_3 = Y_4$  and  $\Phi_3 = \Phi_4$ . As a result, the equilibrium incomes that solve  $Y_i = \sum_{j=1}^N \lambda_{ij} Y_j$  can without loss of generality be characterized by the scalar  $x \equiv Y_1/Y_4$ , the relative income levels.

$$Y_1 = \lambda_{11} Y_1 + \lambda_{12} Y_2 + \lambda_{13} Y_3 + \lambda_{14} Y_4 \Rightarrow x = \frac{\lambda_{13} + \lambda_{14}}{1 - \lambda_{11} - \lambda_{12}}$$

Equilibrium expenditure shares can be expressed as  $\lambda_{ij} = A_i^\epsilon Y_i^{-\epsilon} \tau_{ij}^{-\epsilon} / \Phi_j$ . Thus  $\lambda_{ij} A_i^{-\epsilon} Y_i^\epsilon = \tau_{ij}^{-\epsilon} / \Phi_j$  and

$$x = \frac{\tau_{13}^{-\epsilon} / \Phi_3 + \tau_{14}^{-\epsilon} / \Phi_4}{\tilde{a}^{-\epsilon} Y_1^\epsilon - \tau_{11}^{-\epsilon} / \Phi_1 - \tau_{12}^{-\epsilon} / \Phi_2}.$$

Using the facts that  $\Phi_1 = \Phi_2 = Y_1^{-\epsilon} \tilde{a}^\epsilon (1 + d_1^{-\epsilon}) + Y_3^{-\epsilon} (d_2^{-\epsilon} + d_1^{-\epsilon})$  and  $\Phi_3 = \Phi_4 = Y_1^{-\epsilon} \tilde{a}^\epsilon (d_2^{-\epsilon} + d_1^{-\epsilon}) + Y_3^{-\epsilon} (1 + d_1^{-\epsilon})$ , it can be shown that the equilibrium value of  $x$  is the solution to the equation

$$x^{2\epsilon+1} + \underbrace{\frac{d_2^{-\epsilon} + d_1^{-\epsilon}}{1 + d_1^{-\epsilon}}}_{\equiv r^c} \tilde{a}^\epsilon (x^{\epsilon+1} - x^\epsilon) - \tilde{a}^{2\epsilon} = 0. \quad (\text{A.2})$$

**Equilibrium for the uncorrelated state:**  $A^u = (\tilde{a}, 1, \tilde{a}, 1)$

Analogous to the correlated state, this case can be solved by exploiting the facts that countries 1 and 3 have identical outcomes,  $Y_1 = Y_3$  and  $\Phi_1 = \Phi_3$ , and countries 2 and 4 have identical outcomes:  $Y_2 = Y_4$  and  $\Phi_2 = \Phi_4$ . The equation that characterizes equilibrium relative income  $x$  is

$$x^{2\epsilon+1} + \underbrace{\frac{d_1^{-\epsilon} + d_1^{-\epsilon}}{1 + d_2^{-\epsilon}}}_{\equiv r^u} \tilde{a}^\epsilon (x^{\epsilon+1} - x^\epsilon) - \tilde{a}^{2\epsilon} = 0. \quad (\text{A.3})$$

Note that  $0 < r^c < r^u < 1$  since  $d_1^2 > d_2 > d_1 > 0$ .

### Comparing equilibria

Equations (A.2) and (A.3) show that relative income in each equilibrium is given by the zeros of the following generalized polynomial

$$R(x; r) = x^{2\epsilon+1} + r \tilde{a}^\epsilon (x^{\epsilon+1} - x^\epsilon) - \tilde{a}^{2\epsilon}$$

when  $r > 0$  is evaluated at  $r^c$  and  $r^u$ , respectively. By Descartes' rule of signs,  $R(x; r)$  has exactly one real positive zero (for a given value of  $r$ ) (Jameson, 2006).<sup>47</sup> Denote this zero of  $R(x; r)$  by  $x^*(r)$ .

We prove that  $x^*(r)$  is decreasing by contradiction. Let  $r_1 < r_2$  and denote by  $x_1^*$  and  $x_2^*$  their respective unique positive zeros. Suppose that  $x_1^* < x_2^*$ . Consider the function  $F(x) = R(x; r_2) - R(x; r_1) = (r_2 - r_1) \tilde{a}^\epsilon x^\epsilon (x - 1)$ . It is evident that  $F(0) = F(1) = 0$ ,  $F(x) < 0 \forall x \in (0, 1)$ , and  $F(x) > 0 \forall x > 1$ . When evaluated at  $x_1^*$ ,  $F(x_1^*) = R(x_1^*; r_2) - R(x_1^*; r_1) = R(x_1^*; r_2)$ , since  $x_1^*$  is a zero of  $R(x; r_1)$ .

Note that  $R(x; r)$  is continuous in  $x$  and that  $R(0; r) < 0$ . Therefore,  $R(x; r_2) < 0 \forall x \in (0, x_2^*)$ . Since  $x_1^* \in (0, x_2^*)$  by assumption,  $F(x_1^*) = R(x_1^*; r_2) < 0$ . Since  $F(x) > 0 \forall x > 1$ , we conclude that  $x_1^* \in (0, 1)$ . We also know that  $\forall x > x_1^*$ ,  $R(x; r_1) > 0$  since  $R(x_1^*; r_1) = 0$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} R(x; r_1) =$

<sup>47</sup>It also has either 0 or 2 negative zeros that are obviously not of interest.

$+\infty$ . Together, these results imply that  $R(1; r_1) > 0$ . Yet,  $R(1; r_1) = 1 - \tilde{a}^{2\epsilon} < 0$  as  $\tilde{a} > 1$ . Thus, we have a contradiction. We conclude that  $r_1 < r_2 \Rightarrow x_1^* > x_2^*$ .

Denote the equilibrium relative incomes by  $x_c$  and  $x_u$ . Since  $r^u > r^c$ ,  $x_u < x_c$ . The ratio of equilibrium incomes is greater in the correlated case. Since the countries are of equal size, the ratio of equilibrium incomes  $x$  is also the more productive economy's "double-factoral terms of trade". Thus, the more productive economies' double-factoral terms of trade are greater in the correlated case.

### $cov(\ln A_i, \ln \lambda_{ii})$ is lower in the spatially correlated case

*Proof.* Equilibrium domestic shares of expenditure can be expressed as  $\lambda_{ii} = A_i^\epsilon Y_i^{-\epsilon} / \Phi_i$ . For the correlated state  $A^c$ ,  $\Phi_1 = \Phi_2 = Y_1^{-\epsilon} \tilde{a}^\epsilon (1 + d_1^{-\epsilon}) + Y_3^{-\epsilon} (d_2^{-\epsilon} + d_1^{-\epsilon})$  and  $\Phi_3 = \Phi_4 = Y_1^{-\epsilon} \tilde{a}^\epsilon (d_2^{-\epsilon} + d_1^{-\epsilon}) + Y_3^{-\epsilon} (1 + d_1^{-\epsilon})$ , so

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_{11}^c &= \lambda_{22}^c = A_1^\epsilon Y_1^{-\epsilon} / \Phi_1 = \frac{1}{1 + d_1^{-\epsilon} + \tilde{a}^{-\epsilon} x_c^\epsilon (d_2^{-\epsilon} + d_1^{-\epsilon})} = \frac{1}{(1 + d_1^{-\epsilon})(1 + \tilde{a}^{-\epsilon} x_c^\epsilon r^c)} \\ \lambda_{33}^c &= \lambda_{44}^c = A_3^\epsilon Y_3^{-\epsilon} / \Phi_3 = \frac{1}{1 + d_1^{-\epsilon} + \tilde{a}^\epsilon x_c^{-\epsilon} (d_2^{-\epsilon} + d_1^{-\epsilon})} = \frac{1}{(1 + d_1^{-\epsilon})(1 + \tilde{a}^\epsilon x_c^{-\epsilon} r^c)}\end{aligned}$$

For the uncorrelated state  $A^u$ ,  $\Phi_1 = \Phi_3 = Y_1^{-\epsilon} \tilde{a}^\epsilon (1 + d_2^{-\epsilon}) + 2Y_2^{-\epsilon} d_1^{-\epsilon}$  and  $\Phi_2 = \Phi_4 = Y_2^{-\epsilon} (1 + d_2^{-\epsilon}) + 2Y_1^{-\epsilon} \tilde{a}^\epsilon d_1^{-\epsilon}$ , so

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_{11}^u &= \lambda_{33}^u = A_1^\epsilon Y_1^{-\epsilon} / \Phi_1 = \frac{1}{1 + d_2^{-\epsilon} + 2\tilde{a}^{-\epsilon} x_u^\epsilon d_1^{-\epsilon}} = \frac{1}{(1 + d_2^{-\epsilon})(1 + \tilde{a}^{-\epsilon} x_u^\epsilon r^u)} \\ \lambda_{22}^u &= \lambda_{44}^u = A_2^\epsilon Y_2^{-\epsilon} / \Phi_2 = \frac{1}{1 + d_2^{-\epsilon} + 2\tilde{a}^\epsilon x_u^{-\epsilon} d_1^{-\epsilon}} = \frac{1}{(1 + d_2^{-\epsilon})(1 + \tilde{a}^\epsilon x_u^{-\epsilon} r^u)}\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we obtain the following demeaned values of the log domestic shares of expenditure

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{\ln \lambda_{11}} &= -\frac{1}{2} [\ln(1 + x^\epsilon \tilde{a}^{-\epsilon} r) - \ln(1 + \tilde{a}^\epsilon x^{-\epsilon} r)] \\ \widehat{\ln \lambda_{44}} &= -\widehat{\ln \lambda_{11}}\end{aligned}$$

when evaluated at  $(r^c, x_c)$  and  $(r^u, x_u)$  for the two respective equilibria.

The covariance of productivity and the domestic share of expenditure is therefore

$$cov(\ln A_i, \ln \lambda_{ii}) = \frac{-1}{4} \ln \tilde{a} [\ln(1 + x^\epsilon \tilde{a}^{-\epsilon} r) - \ln(1 + \tilde{a}^\epsilon x^{-\epsilon} r)]$$

Recall that  $\epsilon$  and  $\tilde{a}$  are fixed parameters while  $x$  is a function of  $r$ . This covariance is positive because  $\tilde{a} > x$ .<sup>48</sup>

<sup>48</sup> $\tilde{a} > x$  because  $x$  is the largest positive zero of  $R(x; r)$ ,  $R(x'; r) < 0 \forall x' \in (0, x)$ , and  $R(\tilde{a}; r) = (1+r)(\tilde{a}-1)\tilde{a}^{2\epsilon} > 0$ .



It can be shown that  $cov(\ln A_i, \ln \lambda_{ii})$  is increasing in  $r$ .

$$\frac{dcov(\ln A_i, \ln \lambda_{ii})}{dr} \propto -\frac{d \ln \left( \frac{1+x^\epsilon \tilde{a}^{-\epsilon} r}{1+\tilde{a}^\epsilon x^{-\epsilon} r} \right)}{dr} \propto \underbrace{\left( \frac{\tilde{a}}{x} \right)^\epsilon - \left( \frac{x}{\tilde{a}} \right)^\epsilon}_{>0} - \underbrace{\frac{r\epsilon}{x} [2 + x^\epsilon \tilde{a}^{-\epsilon} + x^{-\epsilon} \tilde{a}^\epsilon]}_{>0} \underbrace{\frac{dx}{dr}}_{<0} > 0$$

Since  $r^u > r^c$ , the covariance of productivity and the domestic share of expenditure is lower for  $A^c$  than  $A^u$ . Thus, the covariance of productivity and the equilibrium gains from trade,  $cov(\ln A_i, \frac{-1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii})$ , is greater for  $A^c$  than  $A^u$ . □

**$var(\ln(C_i/L))$  is greater in the spatially correlated case**

*Proof.* In both equilibria,

$$var(\ln \lambda_{ii}) = \frac{2}{4} \left( \widehat{\ln \lambda_{11}} \right)^2 + \frac{2}{4} \left( \widehat{\ln \lambda_{44}} \right)^2 = \left( \widehat{\ln \lambda_{11}} \right)^2 = \frac{4\epsilon^2}{(\ln \tilde{a})^2} \left( cov(\ln A_i, -\frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii}) \right)^2.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} var(\ln(C_i/L)) &= var(A_i) + 2cov(\ln A_i, -\frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii}) + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} var(\ln \lambda_{ii}) \\ &= var(A_i) + 2cov(\ln A_i, -\frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii}) + \frac{4}{(\ln \tilde{a})^2} \left( cov(\ln A_i, -\frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii}) \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

This is increasing in  $cov(\ln A_i, -\frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii})$  if and only if

$$2 + \frac{8}{(\ln \tilde{a})^2} cov(\ln A_i, -\frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii}) > 0 \iff \ln \tilde{a} > \frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \left( \frac{1 + \tilde{a}^\epsilon x^{-\epsilon} r}{1 + x^\epsilon \tilde{a}^{-\epsilon} r} \right)$$

This inequality is true. The triangle inequality for trade costs,  $d_2 < d_1^2$ , implies that  $r^u < 1$ . If  $r < 1$  and  $\epsilon \geq 1$ , then  $R(\sqrt{\tilde{a}}; r) \leq 0$ .<sup>49</sup> Thus,  $x^*(r) \geq \sqrt{\tilde{a}} \forall r \in (0, 1)$ . That implies the following inequality:

$$\frac{1 + \tilde{a}^\epsilon x^{-\epsilon} r}{1 + x^\epsilon \tilde{a}^{-\epsilon} r} \leq \frac{\tilde{a}^\epsilon x^{-\epsilon} (1+r)}{x^\epsilon \tilde{a}^{-\epsilon} (1+r)} = \left( \frac{\tilde{a}}{x} \right)^{2\epsilon} \leq \left( \frac{\tilde{a}}{\sqrt{\tilde{a}}} \right)^{2\epsilon} = \tilde{a}^\epsilon$$

Thus,  $var(\ln(C_i/L))$  is increasing in  $cov(\ln A_i, -\frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii})$ . □

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$$\begin{aligned} R(\sqrt{\tilde{a}}; r) &= \tilde{a}^{\frac{2\epsilon+1}{2}} + r\tilde{a}^\epsilon (\tilde{a}^{\frac{\epsilon+1}{2}} - \tilde{a}^{\frac{\epsilon}{2}}) - \tilde{a}^{2\epsilon} = \tilde{a}^\epsilon \left( \tilde{a}^{\frac{1}{2}} + r\tilde{a}^{\frac{\epsilon}{2}} (\tilde{a}^{\frac{1}{2}} - 1) - \tilde{a}^\epsilon \right) \\ &\leq \tilde{a}^\epsilon \left( \tilde{a}^{\frac{1}{2}} + \tilde{a}^{\frac{\epsilon}{2}} (\tilde{a}^{\frac{1}{2}} - 1) - \tilde{a}^\epsilon \right) = -\tilde{a}^\epsilon \left( \tilde{a}^{\frac{\epsilon}{2}} - \tilde{a}^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \left( 1 + \tilde{a}^{\frac{\epsilon}{2}} \right) \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$\mathbb{E}(\ln(C_i/L))$  is lower in the spatially correlated case

*Proof.* By equation (2), the difference in average welfare between the uncorrelated and correlated states is

$$\mathbb{E}(\ln(C_i^u/L)) - \mathbb{E}(\ln(C_i^c/L)) = -\frac{1}{4\epsilon} \sum_{i=1}^4 [\ln \lambda_{ii}^u - \ln \lambda_{ii}^c] = \frac{1}{4\epsilon} \ln \left( \prod_{i=1}^4 \frac{\lambda_{ii}^c}{\lambda_{ii}^u} \right).$$

Due to the symmetry of the problem,  $\lambda_{11}^c = \lambda_{22}^c$ ,  $\lambda_{33}^c = \lambda_{44}^c$ ,  $\lambda_{11}^u = \lambda_{33}^u$  and  $\lambda_{22}^u = \lambda_{44}^u$ . Consequently,

$$\mathbb{E}(\ln(C_i^u/L)) - \mathbb{E}(\ln(C_i^c/L)) = \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \ln \left( \frac{\lambda_{11}^c \lambda_{44}^c}{\lambda_{11}^u \lambda_{44}^u} \right)$$

The following results were obtained in proving that  $\text{cov}(\ln A_i, \ln \lambda_{ii})$  is lower in the spatially correlated case:

$$\frac{\lambda_{11}^c}{\lambda_{11}^u} = \frac{1 + d_2^{-\epsilon} 1 + \left(\frac{x_u}{\tilde{a}}\right)^\epsilon r^u}{1 + d_1^{-\epsilon} 1 + \left(\frac{x_c}{\tilde{a}}\right)^\epsilon r^c} \quad \frac{\lambda_{44}^c}{\lambda_{44}^u} = \frac{1 + d_2^{-\epsilon} 1 + \left(\frac{x_u}{\tilde{a}}\right)^{-\epsilon} r^u}{1 + d_1^{-\epsilon} 1 + \left(\frac{x_c}{\tilde{a}}\right)^{-\epsilon} r^c}$$

Recall that  $r^c = \frac{d_1^{-\epsilon} + d_2^{-\epsilon}}{1 + d_1^{-\epsilon}}$  and  $r^u = \frac{d_1^{-\epsilon} + d_1^{-\epsilon}}{1 + d_2^{-\epsilon}}$ . It follows that  $\frac{1+r^c}{1+r^u} = \frac{1+d_2^{-\epsilon}}{1+d_1^{-\epsilon}}$  and therefore

$$\frac{\lambda_{11}^c}{\lambda_{11}^u} = \frac{1 + r^c 1 + \left(\frac{x_u}{\tilde{a}}\right)^\epsilon r^u}{1 + r^u 1 + \left(\frac{x_c}{\tilde{a}}\right)^\epsilon r^c} \quad \frac{\lambda_{44}^c}{\lambda_{44}^u} = \frac{1 + r^c 1 + \left(\frac{x_u}{\tilde{a}}\right)^{-\epsilon} r^u}{1 + r^u 1 + \left(\frac{x_c}{\tilde{a}}\right)^{-\epsilon} r^c}$$

Combining the above expressions yields

$$\frac{\lambda_{11}^c \lambda_{44}^c}{\lambda_{11}^u \lambda_{44}^u} = \left( \frac{1 + r^c}{1 + r^u} \right)^2 \frac{1 + r^u V \left( \left( \frac{x_u}{\tilde{a}} \right)^\epsilon \right) + (r^u)^2}{1 + r^c V \left( \left( \frac{x_c}{\tilde{a}} \right)^\epsilon \right) + (r^c)^2}$$

where  $V(\cdot)$  denotes the function  $V(x) = x + x^{-1}$ , which for  $x \in (0, 1)$  is greater than 2 and decreasing. From proofs above, we know that  $1 > r^u > r^c > 0$  and  $\tilde{a} > x_c > x_u > 1$ . Therefore  $1 > (x_c/\tilde{a})^\epsilon > (x_u/\tilde{a})^\epsilon > 0$  and  $V((x_u/\tilde{a})^\epsilon) > V((x_c/\tilde{a})^\epsilon) > 2$ . Now consider the ratio

$$Q(r) = \frac{1 + r V \left( \left( \frac{x^*(r)}{\tilde{a}} \right)^\epsilon \right) + r^2}{(1 + r)^2} = 1 + \frac{r}{1 + r} \left( V \left( \left( \frac{x^*(r)}{\tilde{a}} \right)^\epsilon \right) - 2 \right).$$

Since  $r^u > r^c > 0$ , we have  $\frac{r^u}{1+r^u} > \frac{r^c}{1+r^c}$ . Combining this result with the fact that  $V \left( \left( \frac{x_u}{\tilde{a}} \right)^\epsilon \right) - 2 > V \left( \left( \frac{x_c}{\tilde{a}} \right)^\epsilon \right) - 2 > 0$  leads to  $Q(r^u) > Q(r^c)$ . As a consequence:

$$\frac{\lambda_{11}^c \lambda_{44}^c}{\lambda_{11}^u \lambda_{44}^u} = \frac{Q(r^u)}{Q(r^c)} > 1 \Rightarrow \ln \left( \frac{\lambda_{11}^c \lambda_{44}^c}{\lambda_{11}^u \lambda_{44}^u} \right) > 0 \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}(\ln(C_i^u/L)) > \mathbb{E}(\ln(C_i^c/L))$$

□

### A.2.3 Circular geography

Figures 4 and 5 present an illustrative example in which we parameterize  $A_i$  and  $\tau_{ij}$  on a circular geography. As stated in the main text,  $N = 50$ ,  $\epsilon = 1$ , and  $L_i = 1 \forall i$ . Countries have locations given by  $l_i = \frac{\pi}{N}(2i - 1 - N)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, N$ . Productivity  $\ln A_i$  has a mean value of 10 and follows a sine wave with amplitude 1 and frequency  $\theta$ .<sup>50</sup> Bilateral trade costs are given by  $\ln \tau_{ij} = .8 \ln(1 + \|l_i - l_j\|)$ , where  $\|l_i - l_j\|$  is the distance between locations  $i$  and  $j$  on the circle. Moran's  $I$  is computed using spatial weight  $\omega_{ij} = \frac{1}{1 + \|l_i - l_j\|}$  for  $i \neq j$ .

Figures 4 and 5 depict demeaned distributions. Table A.1 reports the means and variances of countries' welfare per capita under autarky and trade.

Table A.1: Outcomes for one-sector sine-wave economy

Frequency of $\ln A$ sine wave ( $\theta$ )	1	2	3	4
Autarky welfare ( $\ln A$ ) mean	10	10	10	10
Autarky welfare ( $\ln A$ ) variance	0.510204	0.510204	0.510204	0.510204
Trading-equilibrium welfare ( $\ln C/L$ ) mean	12.2654	12.2769	12.2807	12.2836
Trading-equilibrium welfare ( $\ln C/L$ ) variance	0.298203	0.226274	0.203006	0.184882

Figure 6 introduces heterogeneous sizes to the parameterization used in Figures 4 and 5. Size  $\ln L_i$  is the sum of a sine wave with mean value 10, amplitude 1, and frequency  $\theta_L = 1$  and Gaussian noise  $\sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ . The residuals in the right panel of Figure 6 are obtained by estimating fixed effects using the equilibrium outcomes of the five equilibria associated with  $\theta = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ .

Figure A.1 depicts the expenditure-productivity relationship in a circular geography with equal-sized countries for three selected productivity vectors. These otherwise arbitrary productivity distributions differ only in their spatial correlation. They were generated by shuffling a vector  $\ln A_0$  that was drawn from  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ .

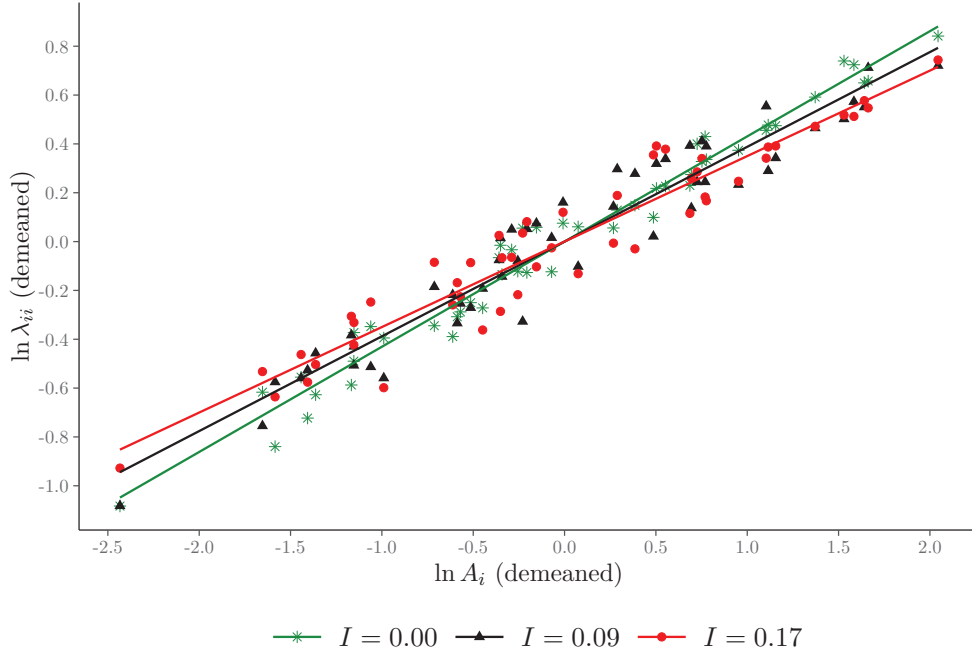
### A.2.4 Randomly generated geography

In Figure A.2, we examine how the relationship between productivity and domestic share of expenditure depends on the spatial correlation of productivity in a randomly generated geography. We draw  $N = 50$  locations' coordinates on a plane  $l_j \in \mathbb{R}^2$  from a standard normal distribution. We generate bilateral, distance-related trade costs using  $\ln \tau_{ij} = \tau \ln(1 + d_{ij})$ , where distance  $d_{ij} = \|l_i - l_j\|$  is the Euclidean norm on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\tau$  is a positive scaling factor. Countries are of equal size,  $L_j = 1 \forall j$ . The trade elasticity is  $\epsilon = 8.59$ . Moran's  $I$  is computed using spatial weight  $\omega_{ij} = \frac{1}{1 + \|l_i - l_j\|}$  for  $i \neq j$ .

To construct  $M$  productivity distributions that have identical first and second moments and different spatial covariances, we employ a procedure that makes use of the eigenvectors of a trans-

<sup>50</sup>The standard deviation of a sine wave is proportional to its amplitude and independent of its frequency. This is true for both the function and our  $N$ -point discretization.

Figure A.1: Circular geography with equal-sized countries and arbitrary productivities



NOTES: This figure depicts the  $\lambda_{ii}$ - $A_i$  relationship in an economy with a circular geography for three randomly generated productivity distributions. Geography, equal-sized locations, and trade costs are the same as in Figure 4.

formation of the spatial weight matrix. Let  $I$  denote the identity matrix and consider  $J = ee^\top$ , where  $e$  is the constant vector of ones. The object of interest is the matrix  $\Pi = CWC$  where  $C$  corresponds to the centering matrix:  $C = I - \frac{1}{N}J$  and  $W$  is our spatial weight matrix. It can be shown that the upper and lower bounds of Moran's  $I$  are given by:  $\lambda_{max} \frac{N}{W_0}$  and  $\lambda_{min} \frac{N}{W_0}$  where  $\lambda_{max}$  and  $\lambda_{min}$  denote the largest and the smallest eigenvalues of  $\Pi$  respectively and  $W_0 = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N W_{ij}$ . More generally, Moran's  $I$  will be equal to  $\lambda_i \frac{N}{W_0}$  when evaluated at the  $i$ th eigenvector. It can also be shown that the non-constant eigenvectors of  $\Pi$  are centered and have identical second moments.

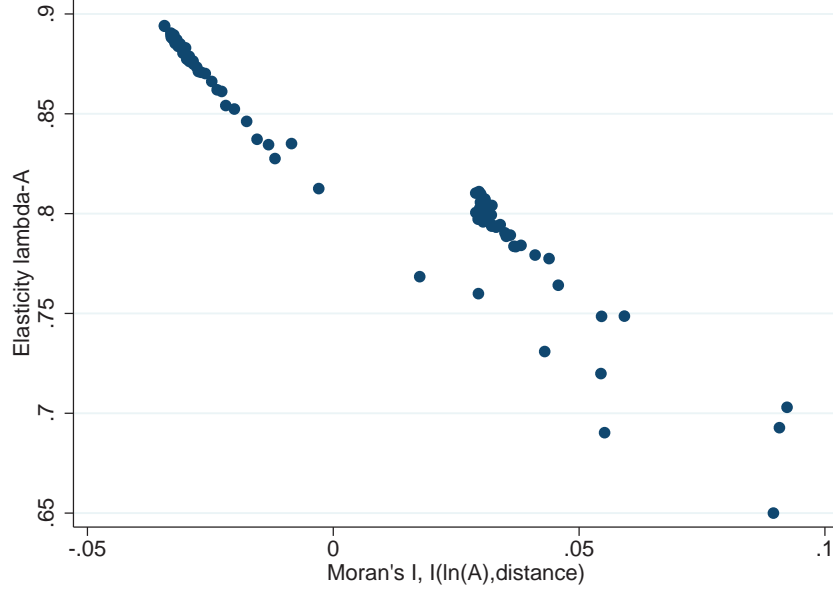
With these eigenvectors in hand, we apply a translation  $T_c : v \rightarrow v + c$  with  $c \in \mathbb{R}_+^2$  to the non-constant eigenvectors of  $\Pi$ . We employ linear combinations of the strictly positive vectors produced by this transformation to produce a set of  $M$  productivity distributions denoted  $(A_1, \dots, A_M)$ . By construction, these productivity distributions have identical first and second moments but vary in their spatial covariance as measured by Moran's  $I$ .

### A.3 Multiple-sector case

This appendix section provides details of the multi-sector economic environment summarized in Section 2.3.

**Preferences.** Individuals in country  $i$  have preferences that are Cobb-Douglas over sectors  $s = 1, \dots, S$  and constant elasticity of substitution (CES) within sectors. Thus, the relevant price

Figure A.2: Random-geography economy



NOTES: This figure depicts how  $cov(\ln \lambda_{ii}, \ln A_i)$  varies with the spatial correlation of productivity, as measured by Moran's  $I$ , over a randomly generated geography. We vary the spatial distribution of productivity while holding the first and second moments fixed. The elasticity of  $\lambda_{ii}$  with respect to  $A_i$  is  $\hat{\beta}_t$  estimated from  $\ln \lambda_{iit} = \beta_t \ln A_{iit} + \pi_i^I + \pi_i^T + \epsilon_{it}$ , as described in the text. See Appendix A.2.4 for parameterization details.

indices are

$$P_i = \prod_{s=1}^S P_{is}^{\alpha_{is}} \text{ and } P_{is} = \left( \int_{\omega_s} p_i(\omega_s)^{1-\sigma_s} d\omega_s \right)^{1/(1-\sigma_s)},$$

where  $\alpha_{is} \geq 0$  are expenditure shares ( $\sum_{s=1}^S \alpha_{is} = 1$ ) and  $\sigma_s$  are sectoral elasticities of substitution across varieties.

**Production.** Productivity in country  $j$  in sector  $s$  is  $A_{ijs}$ .

**Trade costs.** Selling one unit to  $j$  from  $i$  in sector  $s$  requires producing  $\tau_{ijs} \geq 1$  units, with  $\tau_{iis} = 1$ .

**Gravity equation.** Denote sales from  $i$  to  $j$  in sector  $s$  by  $X_{ijs}$  and  $j$ 's total expenditure by  $X_j \equiv \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{s=1}^S X_{ijs}$ . Across sectors, Cobb-Douglas preferences cause optimizing consumers to spend  $\alpha_{js}$  of their total expenditure in sector  $s$ ,  $X_{js} = \alpha_{js} X_j$ . Within each sector, CES preferences result in the share of expenditure by  $j$  on goods from  $i$  in sector  $s$  taking the form of a gravity equation:

$$\lambda_{ijs} = \frac{X_{ijs}}{X_{js}} = \frac{\chi_{is} (\tau_{ijs} w_i)^{-\epsilon_s}}{\sum_{l=1}^N \chi_{ls} (\tau_{ljs} w_l)^{-\epsilon_s}} = \frac{\chi_{is} (\tau_{ijs} w_i)^{-\epsilon_s}}{\Phi_{js}}.$$

**Equilibrium.** In a competitive equilibrium, labor-market clearing, goods-market clearing, and budget constraints are satisfied such that total income  $Y_i = w_i L_i$  and sectoral income  $Y_{is} = w_i L_{is}$  satisfy  $Y_{is} = \sum_{j=1}^N X_{ijs}$ ,  $Y_i = \sum_{s=1}^S Y_{is}$ , and  $X_{is} = \alpha_{is} Y_i$  for all countries. The equilibrium system

of equations is

$$Y_{is} = \sum_{j=1}^N \lambda_{ijs} \alpha_{js} \sum_{s'=1}^S Y_{js'}.$$

In this environment, real consumption per capita is

$$\ln \left( \frac{C_i}{L_i} \right) = \sum_{s=1}^S \alpha_{is} \left( \ln A_{is} + \gamma_s - \frac{1}{\epsilon_s} \ln \lambda_{iis} \right).$$

The first two terms,  $\sum_{s=1}^S \alpha_{is} (\ln A_{is} + \gamma_s)$ , are per capita welfare in autarky, and the final term,  $-\sum_{s=1}^S \frac{\alpha_{is}}{\epsilon_s} \ln \lambda_{iis}$ , summarizes the gains from trade.

Dispersion in per capita welfare across countries thus depends on the exogenous variation in productivities  $A_{is}$  and the endogenous variation in domestic shares of expenditure  $\lambda_{iis}$ . For the sake of expositional brevity, assume that expenditures shares are common across countries,  $\alpha_{is} = \alpha_s \forall i$ . In that case, the variance of per capita welfare is

$$\text{var} \left( \ln \left( \frac{C_i}{L_i} \right) \right) = \text{var} \left( \sum_{s=1}^S \alpha_s \ln A_{is} \right) + \text{var} \left( \sum_{s=1}^S \frac{\alpha_s}{\epsilon_s} \ln \lambda_{iis} \right) - 2 \sum_{s=1}^S \sum_{s'=1}^S \frac{\alpha_s \alpha_{s'}}{\epsilon_s \epsilon_{s'}} \text{cov} (\ln A_{is}, \ln \lambda_{iis'})$$

To examine the role of spatial correlation, consider two productivity distributions – a correlated state  $c$  and an uncorrelated state  $u$ . Assume that unconditional variance of the productivity distributions is the same,  $\text{var} \left( \sum_{s=1}^S \alpha_s \ln A_{is}^c \right) = \text{var} \left( \sum_{s=1}^S \alpha_s \ln A_{is}^u \right)$ . The difference in welfare dispersion then depends on the covariance of productivities and domestic shares of expenditure, both within and across sectors, and between domestic shares of expenditure.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var} (\ln (C_i^c / L_i)) - \text{var} (\ln (C_i^u / L_i)) &= 2 \sum_{s=1}^S \sum_{s'=1}^S \frac{\alpha_s \alpha_{s'}}{\epsilon_s \epsilon_{s'}} \left\{ \text{cov} (\ln A_{is}^u, \ln \lambda_{iis'}^u) - \text{cov} (\ln A_{is}^c, \ln \lambda_{iis'}^c) \right\} \\ &\quad - \sum_{s=1}^S \sum_{s'=1}^S \frac{\alpha_s \alpha_{s'}}{\epsilon_s \epsilon_{s'}} \left\{ \text{cov} (\ln \lambda_{iis}^u, \ln \lambda_{iis'}^u) - \text{cov} (\ln \lambda_{iis}^c, \ln \lambda_{iis'}^c) \right\} \end{aligned} \tag{A.4}$$

Just as in the single-sector case, for typical values of the sectoral trade elasticities,  $2 \frac{\alpha_s \alpha_{s'}}{\epsilon_s \epsilon_{s'}}$  is an order of magnitude larger than  $\frac{\alpha_s \alpha_{s'}}{\epsilon_s \epsilon_{s'}}$ . Thus, the difference in welfare dispersion is governed by the  $\text{cov} (\ln A_{is}, \ln \lambda_{iis'})$  terms, provided that the block of  $\text{cov} (\ln A_{is}, \ln \lambda_{iis'})$  terms is the same order of magnitude as the block of  $\text{cov} (\ln \lambda_{iis}, \ln \lambda_{iis'})$  terms.

Under what circumstances is studying differences in  $\text{cov} (\ln A_{is}, \ln \lambda_{iis})$  in one sector alone informative about welfare dispersion? For simplicity, consider the two-sector case and three possible relationships between the two sectors: perfectly correlated productivities, perfectly anti-correlated productivities, and orthogonal productivities.

In the perfectly correlated case, there is little scope for adjustment across sectors, and thus



Table A.2: Outcomes for two-sector sine-wave economy

Frequency of $\ln A_1$ sine wave ( $\theta_1$ )	1	2	3	4
Autarky welfare ( $\frac{1}{2} \ln A_1 + \frac{1}{2} \ln A_2$ ) mean	10	10	10	10
Autarky welfare ( $\frac{1}{2} \ln A_1 + \frac{1}{2} \ln A_2$ ) variance	0.255102	0.255102	0.255102	0.255102
Trading-equilibrium welfare ( $\ln C/L$ ) mean	12.3610	12.3699	12.3721	12.3736
Trading-equilibrium welfare ( $\ln C/L$ ) variance	0.114255	0.097649	0.092189	0.087935

outcomes are similar to those obtained in the one-sector environment. In fact, if all sectors have perfectly correlated productivities ( $A_{is} \propto A_i \forall s$ ), perfectly correlated spatial linkages ( $\tau_{ijs} \propto \tau_{ij} \forall s$ ), and equal trade elasticities ( $\epsilon_s = \epsilon \forall s$ ), then expenditure shares are equal across sectors,  $\lambda_{ijs} = \lambda_{ij}$ , and the difference in welfare dispersion in equation (A.4) is exactly proportionate to the single-sector expression in equation (4).

If sectoral productivities are perfectly anti-correlated, then outcomes in one sector may be exactly offset by outcomes in another, leaving welfare unchanged. That is, it is possible to construct circumstances in which the sum of covariances of productivities and domestic shares of expenditure within sectors is exactly the opposite of the sum of cross-sector covariances. Consider the two-sector case with equal expenditure shares  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \frac{1}{2} \forall j$  and equal trade elasticities  $\epsilon_1 = \epsilon_2 = \epsilon$ . If the two sectors' productivities are perfectly anti-correlated, such that  $\ln A_{i1} + \ln A_{i2}$  is a constant, then it can be shown that  $\sum_{s=1}^S \sum_{s'=1}^S \frac{\alpha_s \alpha_{s'}}{\epsilon_{s'}} \text{cov}(\ln A_{is}, \ln \lambda_{iis'}) = 0$ . Thus, our predictions about trade flows are valid, but the welfare consequences of these changes are fully offset by the non-agricultural sector's anti-correlated changes.

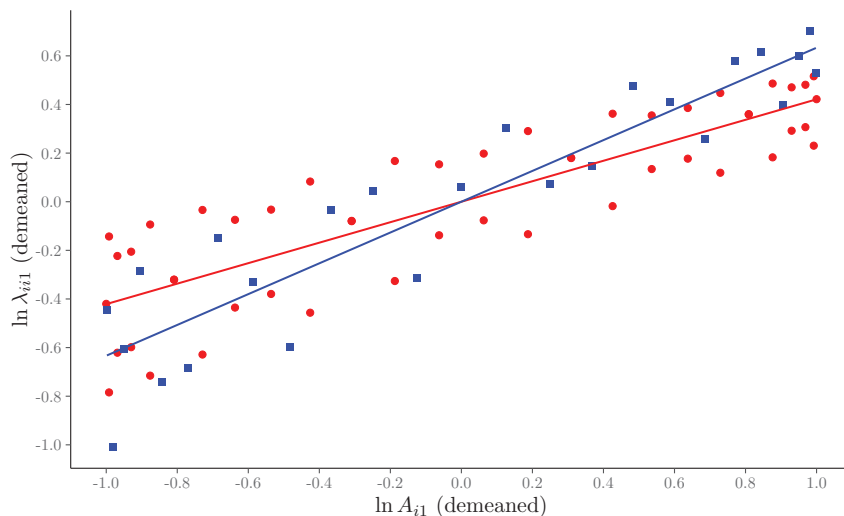
What about the orthogonal case? Figure A.3 depicts a two-sector sine-wave economy with two symmetric sectors that differ only in their sine-wave frequency. Table A.2 reports the means and variances of countries' welfare per capita under autarky and trade. Compared to Table A.1, the variance of autarky welfare is lower because autarky welfare is the simple average of two sectors' (orthogonal) productivities with the same mean and variance. The mean trading-equilibrium welfare is higher (the gains from trade are larger) in the multi-sector case due to gains from specialization according to comparative advantage. This additional margin of adjustment also dampens the degree to which greater spatial correlation of productivity in one of the two sectors affects the variance of welfare in the trading equilibrium, but our main prediction still holds in this multi-sector setting with orthogonal productivities.

#### A.4 Spatial correlation of comparative advantage

This appendix section addresses how the spatial correlation of comparative advantage interacts with the spatial correlation of absolute advantage.

To consider the role of spatially correlated patterns of comparative advantage, we extend the Eaton and Kortum (2002) model, in which comparative advantage is symmetric across countries, to

Figure A.3: Two-sector sine-wave economy:  $cov(\ln \lambda_{ii1}, \ln A_{i1})$



—●—  $\theta_1 = 1$  —■—  $\theta_1 = 4$

NOTES: This figure depicts the  $\lambda_{iis}-A_{is}$  relationship for  $s = 1$  in a two-sector economy in which sectoral productivity follows a sine wave with frequency  $\theta_s$ . The two series depicted are frequencies  $\theta_1 = 1$  and  $\theta_1 = 4$  for the first sector. The second sector has frequency  $\theta_2 = 10$  in both cases. The two sectors have identical trade costs  $\tau_{ijs}$ , expenditure shares  $\alpha_{i1} = \alpha_{i2} = \frac{1}{2}$ , and trade elasticities  $\epsilon_1 = \epsilon_2$ . The two lines are the line of best fit for each series. When productivity is more spatially correlated (when  $\theta_1$  is lower),  $cov(\ln \lambda_{ii1}, \ln A_{i1})$  is lower. See Table A.2 in Appendix A.3 for details of this example.

have “continents” of countries with correlated relative productivities. The world economy consists of  $N$  countries partitioned across  $k = 1, \dots, K$  continents. Country  $i$  belongs to continent  $k(i)$  and its productivity in good  $\omega$  is  $z_i(\omega)$ . We depart from Eaton and Kortum (2002) by assuming that the vector of productivities  $(Z_1, \dots, Z_N)$  is drawn from a multivariate nested Fréchet distribution:

$$F(z_1, \dots, z_n) = \exp \left\{ - \sum_{k=1}^K \left( \sum_{i:k(i)=k} (T_i z_i^{-\vartheta})^{\frac{1}{\rho_k}} \right)^{\rho_k} \right\},$$

where the location parameter  $T_i$  governs the absolute advantage of country  $i$  and the dispersion parameter  $\vartheta$  is common across countries. Parameters  $(\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k)$  govern the degree of within-continent correlation in productivities, which is decreasing in  $\rho_k$ . When  $\rho_k = 1 \forall k$ , these productivities are independent, as in Eaton and Kortum (2002). Note that  $\lambda_{ii}$  is a sufficient statistic for welfare only in the case in which  $\rho_k = 1 \forall k$ . Here, we focus on the consequences of the spatial correlation of comparative advantage for how the observed expenditure-productivity relationship varies with the spatial correlation of absolute advantage.

After considerable algebraic manipulations, it can be shown that the gravity equation for this

Table A.3: Estimates of  $\beta_1$  and within-continent correlation  $1 - \rho$

$K$	Within-continent correlation $1 - \rho$									
	0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9
2	-0.112	-0.111	-0.108	-0.101	-0.090	-0.073	-0.049	-0.022	0.002	0.014
3	-0.112	-0.110	-0.106	-0.099	-0.088	-0.071	-0.048	-0.021	0.005	0.018
4	-0.112	-0.108	-0.103	-0.094	-0.082	-0.064	-0.041	-0.013	0.013	0.029

NOTES: This table reports estimates of  $\beta_1$  obtained from the regression  $\ln \lambda_{it} = \beta_0 \ln A_{it} + \beta_1 I_t \ln A_{it} + \pi_i^I + \pi_i^T + \mu_{it}$  on equilibrium outcomes from a simulated global economy with 50 countries as described in the text of Appendix A.4. Moran's  $I$  is computed using spatial weight  $\omega_{ij} = \frac{1}{1 + \|l_i - l_j\|}$  for  $i \neq j$ . The correlation parameter  $\rho_k = \rho \forall k$ , the dispersion parameter is  $\vartheta = 8.28$  (Eaton and Kortum, 2002), and the level parameter  $\ln T_i$  follows a sine wave, as in Section 2.2.3, with  $\theta = 1, \dots, 8$ . In the standard model,  $1 - \rho = 0$ .

generalized productivity distribution is

$$\lambda_{ij} = \frac{(T_i(w_i \tau_{ij})^{-\vartheta})^{\frac{1}{\rho_{k(i)}}}}{\sum_{m:k(m)=k(i)} (T_m(w_m \tau_{mj})^{-\vartheta})^{\frac{1}{\rho_{k(i)}}}} \frac{\Phi_{k(i)j}}{\Phi_j},$$

where  $\Phi_{kj} = \left( \sum_{i:k(i)=k} (T_i(w_i \tau_{ij})^{-\vartheta})^{\frac{1}{\rho_k}} \right)^{\rho_k}$  and  $\Phi_j = \sum_{k=1}^K \Phi_{kj}$ .

To study the interaction of the spatial correlation of comparative advantage and the spatial correlation of absolute advantage, we simulate a world economy with a symmetric geography and a sine-wave productivity distribution, as in Section 2.2.3. We divide the 50 countries into two, three, or four continents with  $\rho_k = \rho \forall k$ . As we increase within-continent correlation in comparative advantage by lowering  $\rho$  from 1.0 to 0.1 in steps of size 0.1, we find that the effect of spatial correlation in absolute advantage is initially dampened and then reversed. As reported in Table A.3, for the highest values of  $1 - \rho$ , the estimated  $\beta_1$  is positive. That is, for sufficiently high within-continent correlation of comparative advantage, the  $cov(\ln \lambda_{ii}, \ln A_i)$  relationship depicted in Figure 5 becomes steeper with greater spatial correlation of  $A_i$ , not flatter.

Thus, our empirical estimate of  $\beta_1$  in equation (8) captures the effect of spatial correlation in absolute advantage as mediated by the existing spatial correlation in comparative advantage. Most quantitative trade models have symmetric patterns of comparative advantage, in which case  $\beta_1$  should be negative. If patterns of comparative advantage within cereals are very spatially correlated,  $\beta_1$  could be positive.

## A.5 Mobile labor

In an economic-geography model in which welfare differences are arbitrated away by mobile factors of production (e.g., Allen and Arkolakis 2014), greater spatial correlation of productivity makes population density, rather than welfare per capita, more unequal across locations. We demon-

strate this using a symmetric geography with four locations, akin to the first stylized example of Section 2.2.2, in which the population of each location is endogenously determined. Locations' productivities vary exogenously, and their amenities are identical.

Given four locations with trade costs given by equation (6), total population  $L$ , and an elasticity of substitution  $\sigma$ , the endogenous populations  $\{L_i\}_{i=1}^4$  and welfare level  $W$  must satisfy two equations:

$$L_i^{\tilde{\sigma}} = A_i^{\tilde{\sigma}(\sigma-1)} W^{1-\sigma} \sum_{j=1}^4 \tau_{ji}^{1-\sigma} A_j^{(1-\tilde{\sigma})(\sigma-1)} L_j^{\tilde{\sigma}} \quad \text{and} \quad L = \sum_{j=1}^4 L_j,$$

where  $\tilde{\sigma} \equiv \frac{\sigma-1}{2\sigma-1}$ . Let  $\mathbf{L}$  denote the vector containing  $L_1, \dots, L_4$ , let  $\mathbf{T}$  denote the (symmetric) matrix of trade costs raised (element-wise) to the power  $\frac{1}{1-\sigma}$ , and let  $\mathbf{A}$  denote the 4-by-4 diagonal matrix with  $\{A_1, \dots, A_4\}$  on the diagonal.

The equilibrium equation of interest can then be written as

$$\left( \mathbf{I} - \frac{1}{W^{\sigma-1}} \mathbf{A}^{\tilde{\sigma}(\sigma-1)} \mathbf{T} \mathbf{A}^{(1-\tilde{\sigma})(\sigma-1)} \right) \mathbf{L}^{\tilde{\sigma}} = 0.$$

$W^{\sigma-1}$  is the eigenvalue and  $\mathbf{L}^{\tilde{\sigma}}$  is the eigenvector of the matrix  $\mathbf{A}^{\tilde{\sigma}(\sigma-1)} \mathbf{T} \mathbf{A}^{(1-\tilde{\sigma})(\sigma-1)}$ .

Let  $\mathbf{A}_c$  and  $\mathbf{A}_u$  denote diagonal matrices whose diagonal elements are  $(\tilde{a}, \tilde{a}, 1, 1)$  and  $(\tilde{a}, 1, \tilde{a}, 1)$ , respectively, with  $\tilde{a} > 1$ . Also, let  $\bar{a} \equiv \tilde{a}^{\sigma-1} > 1$ ,  $\bar{d}_1 \equiv d_1^{1-\sigma}$ , and  $\bar{d}_2 \equiv d_2^{1-\sigma}$ .

Consider the eigenvalue  $\lambda_c = W_c^{\sigma-1}$  and eigenvector  $\mathbf{L}_c^{\tilde{\sigma}}$  associated with  $\mathbf{A}_c^{\tilde{\sigma}(\sigma-1)} \mathbf{T} \mathbf{A}_c^{(1-\tilde{\sigma})(\sigma-1)}$ . We can verify that the eigenvector  $\mathbf{L}_c^{\tilde{\sigma}} = (x_c, x_c, 1, 1)$  and the eigenvalue  $\lambda_c = \bar{a}^{1-\tilde{\sigma}} (d_1^{1-\sigma} + d_2^{1-\sigma}) x_c + d_1^{1-\sigma} + 1$  satisfy the equation of interest. This implies that the equilibrium value of  $x_c$  is given by

$$\bar{a}^{1-\tilde{\sigma}} (\bar{d}_1 + \bar{d}_2) x_1^2 - (\bar{a} - \bar{d}_1 - 1 + \bar{a} \bar{d}_1) x_1 - (\bar{d}_1 + \bar{d}_2) \bar{a}^{\tilde{\sigma}} = 0. \quad (\text{A.5})$$

Similarly, in the case of  $\mathbf{A}_u$ , consider the eigenvalue  $\lambda_u = W_u^{\sigma-1}$  and the eigenvector  $\mathbf{L}_u^{\tilde{\sigma}}$  associated with  $\mathbf{A}_u^{\tilde{\sigma}(\sigma-1)} \mathbf{T} \mathbf{A}_u^{(1-\tilde{\sigma})(\sigma-1)}$ . We can verify that the eigenvector  $\mathbf{L}_u^{\tilde{\sigma}} = (x_u, 1, x_u, 1)$  and the eigenvalue  $\lambda_u = 2\bar{a}^{1-\tilde{\sigma}} \bar{d}_1 x_2 + \bar{d}_2 + 1$  satisfy the equation of interest. This implies that the equilibrium value of  $x_u$  is given by

$$2\bar{a}^{1-\tilde{\sigma}} \bar{d}_1 x_u^2 - (\bar{a} - \bar{d}_2 - 1 + \bar{a} \bar{d}_2) x_u - 2\bar{a}^{\tilde{\sigma}} \bar{d}_1 = 0. \quad (\text{A.6})$$

The quadratic equations (A.5) and (A.6) each have one positive and one negative root. Restricting attention to the positive roots, we can compare the relative sizes of  $x_c$  and  $x_u$ . It can be shown that  $x_c > x_u$ .

The equilibrium values of  $\mathbf{L}_c$  and  $\mathbf{L}_u$  are

$$\mathbf{L}_c = \frac{L}{2x_c^{\frac{1}{\sigma}} + 2} \begin{bmatrix} x_c^{\frac{1}{\sigma}} \\ x_c^{\frac{1}{\sigma}} \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{L}_u = \frac{L}{2x_u^{\frac{1}{\sigma}} + 2} \begin{bmatrix} x_u^{\frac{1}{\sigma}} \\ 1 \\ x_u^{\frac{1}{\sigma}} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

It can then be shown that  $cov(\ln A_i, \ln L_i)$  is greater for  $\mathbf{A}_c$  than  $\mathbf{A}_u$  because  $x_c > x_u$ . Thus, with welfare equalized across locations, the productivity-population relationship is more positive when productivity is more spatially correlated.

## B Data sources and construction

**Agricultural data** Our cereal data cover barley, maize, millet, oats, rice, rye, sorghum, and wheat. We use cereal-level measures of output (in metric tons, 1961-2013), yield (in metric tons per harvested hectare, 1961-2013), trade quantity (in metric tons, 1961-2013), trade value (in nominal USD, 1961-2013), producer prices (in nominal local currency, 1966-2013), and change in storage (in metric tons, 1961-2013) for each country and year obtained from the FAO.<sup>51</sup>

Domestic share of expenditure aggregated across cereals  $c = 1, \dots, C$  for country  $i$  in year  $t$  is

$$\lambda_{iit} = \frac{\sum_{c=1}^C X_{ciit}}{\sum_{c=1}^C X_{ciit} + \sum_{j \neq i} \sum_{c=1}^C X_{cjit}}$$

where  $X_{cjit}$  is the value of cereal  $c$  sold to  $i$  by  $j$  in year  $t$ . We observe  $X_{cjit}$  for  $j \neq i$ . We must construct  $X_{ciit}$  using data on output quantities, export quantities, and prices.  $X_{ciit} = (q_{cit} - \text{exports}_{cit}) \cdot p_{cit}$ , where  $q_{cit}$  is domestic output quantity,  $\text{exports}_{cit}$  is export quantity, and  $p_{cit}$  is domestic price.

There are two potential data sources for price  $p_{cit}$ , neither of which are ideal. The first data source is export unit values,  $\frac{\sum_{j \neq i} X_{cijt}}{\text{exports}_{cit}}$ , which are observed when a country exports a cereal. Unfortunately, only 53% of the cereal-country-year observations in our sample with positive output quantities have positive export quantities. The second price measure, producer prices in nominal local currency, presents two challenges. First, producer prices are available for only 59% of the cereal-country-year observations with positive cereal output. Second, due to resource constraints at the time, the FAO did not standardize the collection of 1966-1990 producer prices as it did for prices since 1991. As such, the FAO warns against the combined use of the full 1966-2013 panel and notes that it is “not in a position to give any explanation for the existing differences” between 1966-1990 and 1991-2013 producer prices.<sup>52</sup> Thus, despite extensive efforts to convert 1966-1990 FAO producer prices into nominal US dollars, use of producer prices raises concerns.

<sup>51</sup> Available at <http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data>.

<sup>52</sup> See here: [http://fenixservices.fao.org/faostat/static/documents/PA/PA\\_e.pdf](http://fenixservices.fao.org/faostat/static/documents/PA/PA_e.pdf)

In light of these limitations and to ensure sufficient statistical power in our estimation, we elect to approximate domestic expenditure  $\sum_{c=1}^C X_{c,i,t}$  by domestic quantity times average export unit value,  $\left(\sum_{c=1}^C (q_{c,i,t} - \text{exports}_{c,i,t})\right) \left(\frac{\sum_{c=1}^C \sum_{j \neq i} X_{c,i,j,t}}{\sum_{c=1}^C \text{exports}_{c,i,t}}\right)$ . This measure is available for every year that a country exports at least one cereal, yielding a sizable estimation sample. This approximation of domestic expenditure  $\sum_{c=1}^C X_{c,i,t}$  makes our outcome variable a noisy measure of the domestic share of expenditure. Table F.9 shows results for alternative approximations of the domestic share of expenditure. Our country-year measure of aggregate cereal yield is harvested area-weighted cereal-level yield.

For several robustness checks, we use bilateral trade data from the U.N. Comtrade database.<sup>53</sup> Comtrade data has the disadvantage of using cereal codes that differ from that used by the FAO. As such, despite careful matching of cereal categories across the two datasets, we prefer to use production and trade data that is consistently reported by the FAO. However, trade data at the bilateral level is available from Comtrade starting in 1962, whereas it is only available from the FAO starting in 1986. Thus, for the gravity equations estimated in Table C.1, we use Comtrade bilateral trade data. As a robustness check, we show in column 5 of Table F.9 that our main result is unaffected when we alternatively construct domestic expenditure share using Comtrade data.

We also use bilateral trade data from Comtrade to construct a measures of the change in a country’s terms of trade each year. A country is better off if its initial net export vector is more expensive at new prices than at old prices (Dixit and Norman, 1980, p.132). Define the normalized net export vector for country  $i$  in year  $t - 1$  by a vector whose  $2 \times C \times (N - 1)$  elements are  $\text{exports}_{c,i,t-1}$  and  $-\text{exports}_{c,j,t-1}$  for  $j \neq i$  multiplied by a scalar so that its norm is one.<sup>54,55</sup> Define the accompanying price-change vector for country  $i$  in year  $t$  by a vector whose  $2 \times C \times (N - 1)$  elements are  $\Delta p_{c,i,t}$  and  $\Delta p_{c,j,t}$  for  $j \neq i$ , where  $\Delta$  denotes the time difference operator. We use changes in unit values of bilateral trade flows to proxy for these price changes. The change in the terms of trade is the inner product of these two vectors, which we denote  $\Delta \text{ToT}_{i,t}$ , with  $\Delta \text{ToT}_{i,t} > 0$  indicating an improvement in country  $i$ ’s terms of trade. Our measure is imperfect because unit values are a noisy measure of prices and the price-change element  $\Delta p_{c,i,t}$  is not observed if  $\text{exports}_{c,i,t} = 0$ . Absent further information, we impose  $\Delta p_{c,i,t} = 0$  for these elements. Beyond cereals, the change in the terms of trade for a broader set of commodities, such as all products in SITC sector 0 “food and live animals”, can be computed analogously using the quantities and unit values reported in Comtrade data.

**ENSO index** Annual ENSO variations can be detected using different indices, with the most commonly used being equatorial Pacific sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies. We primarily utilize 1960-2013 values of the monthly Kaplan NINO4 index which averages SST over the area

<sup>53</sup> Available at <https://comtrade.un.org>

<sup>54</sup> Recall  $N$  is the number of countries. The normalizing scalar is  $\frac{1}{\sum_{c,j} \text{exports}_{c,i,t-1} + \text{exports}_{c,j,t-1}}$ . Absent the normalization, larger economies would mechanically exhibit larger terms-of-trade changes.

<sup>55</sup> Note that  $\text{exports}_{c,i,t-1}$  and  $-\text{exports}_{c,j,t-1}$  are distinct elements in this net export vector, so that the same cereal imported and exported by the same country is not assumed to be a homogeneous good.



5°S-5°N, 160°E-150°W. For robustness checks in Table F.7, we also use the NINO3 (5°S-5°N, 150°W-90°W), NINO34 (5°S-5°N, 170°W - 120°W), and NINO12 (10°S-0°, 90°W-80°W) indices (Kaplan et al., 1998).<sup>56</sup>

**Historical temperature and precipitation** Global temperature (in degrees centigrade) and precipitation (in mm/month) variables constructed from monthly gridded global weather data at a 0.5° latitude by 0.5° longitude resolution were obtained from the Center for Climatic Research at the University of Delaware (Willmott and Matsuura, 2001). 1960-2013 monthly data was first spatially aggregated from pixel to country-level using cross-sectional crop-area weights in 2000 from Ramankutty et al. (2008). For robustness checks in Table F.7, we also aggregate temperature from pixel to country-level using total country area. Annual values are then constructed by averaging January-December monthly values.

**Projected temperature under climate change** Global multi-model ensemble mean temperature (in degrees centigrade) from monthly gridded global data at the 2.5° latitude by 2.5° longitude resolution from the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project version 5 (CMIP5).<sup>57</sup> 2014-2099 monthly data was first spatially aggregated from pixel to country-level using cross-sectional crop-area weights in 2000 from Ramankutty et al. (2008). Annual values are then constructed by averaging January-December monthly values.

**Geography** Country latitude and longitude are defined as crop area-weighted average using the global cross-sectional distribution of crop area in 2000 from Ramankutty et al. (2008). Great-circle distances between these country centroids are computed using the haversine formula.

**Global oil prices** Monthly West Texas Intermediate crude oil spot price obtained from the St. Louis Federal Reserve for 1961-2013.<sup>58</sup> Annual values are then constructed by averaging January-December monthly values.

**Export restrictions** Export restrictions come from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development's (UNCTAD) TRAINS database.<sup>59</sup> To construct the dummy variable used in column 6 of Table F.4, we employ all export-related measures (Chapter P of the International Classification of Non-Tariff Measures), excluding export subsidies. The indicator equals one for country-year observations in which a new restriction on exporting any cereal to any trading partner was introduced.

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<sup>56</sup> Available at <http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/SOURCES/.Indices/.nino/.EXTENDED/>

<sup>57</sup> Available at [https://climexp.knmi.nl/selectfield\\_cmip5.cgi](https://climexp.knmi.nl/selectfield_cmip5.cgi)

<sup>58</sup> Available at <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/WTISPLC>

<sup>59</sup> Available at <http://trains.unctad.org>

**Variables in Figure 1 and Table F.1** Country-level real GDP per capita, TFP, capital stock, and human capital index in 2013 from Feenstra, Inklaar and Timmer (2015). Country-level political stability, rule of law, and corruption indices in 2013 from World Bank’s World Governance Indicators.<sup>60</sup> Time-invariant country-level distance to nearest coastline or river and soil suitability for agriculture from Gallup, Sachs and Mellinger (1999).

## C Additional empirical results

The theoretical model of Section 2 assumes that trade in cereals follows a gravity specification for exporter  $i$ , importer  $j$ , and year  $t$ :

$$\ln X_{ijt} = -\epsilon \ln \tau_{ij} + \ln \left( \frac{X_{it}}{w_{it}^\epsilon} \right) + \ln \left( \frac{X_{jt}}{\Phi_{jt}} \right) \quad (\text{C.1})$$

Estimating this log-linear equation using bilateral trade flows in cereals results in patterns similar to those found in aggregate trade flows (e.g., Head and Mayer 2014). Bilateral cereal trade flows are available from Comtrade starting in 1962. We estimate a panel data model using bilateral distance as a (time-invariant) source of variation in bilateral trade costs ( $\tau_{ij}$ ) while employing exporter-year ( $it$ ) and importer-year ( $jt$ ) fixed effects. As in our main model, standard errors are clustered by year. Table C.1 reports the results. While the estimated distance coefficient of -1.5 shown in column 1 differs from the coefficient of -1.0 typically estimated for aggregate trade flows, the regression exhibits the typical explanatory power, accounting for the majority of the variation in cereal trade flows. In addition, 63% of countries that trade cereals in a given year both import and export cereals that year. At the level of importer-exporter pairs, 19% of trading pairs sell cereal in both directions. Thus, cereals are not homogeneous commodities, and international trade in cereals is reasonably described by the gravity specification. In column 2, we examine whether ENSO affects the trade elasticity  $\epsilon$  by examining its effect on the distance elasticity.<sup>61</sup> Specifically, we include an interaction between bilateral distance and a quadratic function of the sum of contemporaneous and lagged ENSO (i.e.,  $\text{ENSO}_t + \text{ENSO}_{t-1}$ ), the functional form for ENSO used for our main IV results in Table 2. ENSO does not alter the distance elasticity.

<sup>60</sup> Available at <http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/#home>

<sup>61</sup> This is informative about the trade elasticity per se to the extent that the distance elasticity of trade costs is invariant to ENSO.

Table C.1: Gravity regression for international trade in cereals

	Outcome is log import value	
	(1)	(2)
$\ln \text{distance}_{ij}$	-1.460 (0.046) [0.000]	-1.477 (0.066) [0.000]
$\ln \text{distance}_{ij} \times (ENSO_t + ENSO_{t-1})$		0.037 (0.037) [0.324]
$\ln \text{distance}_{ij} \times (ENSO_t + ENSO_{t-1})^2$		0.004 (0.029) [0.878]
Observations	102,787	102,787
R-squared	0.556	0.557
Country-level intra-industry trade share	0.628	0.628
Bilateral intra-industry trade share	0.185	0.185

NOTES: The dependent variable is log annual bilateral (importer-reported) cereal trade value from Comtrade. The data cover 1962-2013. All models include importer-year and exporter-year fixed effects. Intra-industry trade shares are fraction of country-year and country-pair-year observations with positive exports and imports, conditional on positive exports or imports. Standard errors, clustered by year, in parentheses; p-values in brackets.

## D Welfare calculations

This section details the welfare calculations in the main text.

### D.1 Historical variance of welfare effect

This section details the within-sample welfare calculation discussed in Section 4.2 and shown in Table 2. Recall the expression for the variance of welfare in equation (3):

$$\text{var}(\ln(C_i/L_i)) = \text{var}(\ln A_i) + 2\text{cov}\left(\ln A_i, \frac{-1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii}\right) + \text{var}\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{ii}\right)$$

We employ this expression to quantify the magnitude of our regression results in welfare terms. Consider the following thought experiment: suppose the spatial correlation of productivity increases from the 1961–2013 historical mean,  $\bar{I} = .214$ , by one standard deviation,  $\sigma_I = .0191$ . What is the resulting percentage change in the cross-sectional variance of welfare, holding everything else fixed? We denote these two hypothetical states as uncorrelated state  $u$  and correlated state  $c$ .

For the uncorrelated state, we define variance productivity as the average cross-sectional productivity variance during 1961–2013:

$$\text{var}(\ln A_i^u) \equiv E_t[\text{var}_i(\ln A_{it}|t)] \quad (\text{D.1})$$

Next, we define covariance between productivity and domestic share of expenditure during the uncorrelated state as the average cross-sectional covariance during 1961–2013:

$$\text{cov}(\ln A_i^u, \ln \lambda_{ii}^u) \equiv E_t[\text{cov}_i(\ln A_{it}, \ln \lambda_{iit}|t)] \quad (\text{D.2})$$

We further define the variance of domestic share of expenditure during the uncorrelated states as the average variance during 1961–2013:

$$\text{var}(\ln \lambda_{iiu}) \equiv E_t[\text{var}_i(\ln \lambda_{iit}|t)] \quad (\text{D.3})$$

Note that the values in definitions (D.1), (D.2), (D.3) can be directly computed from data since  $\ln A_{it}$  and  $\ln \lambda_{iit}$  are observed.

For the correlated state  $c$ ,  $\text{var}(\ln A_i^c)$  is also given by definitions (D.1) since we assume productivity variance is unaltered by changes in spatial correlation.  $\text{cov}(\ln A_i^c, \ln \lambda_{ii}^c)$  and  $\text{var}(\lambda_{ii}^c)$ , however, have to be calculated as one does not directly observe data from a year in which only  $I_t = \bar{I} + \sigma_I$  while everything else is fixed at the historical mean. To do this, first recall the expression for  $\ln \lambda_{it}$  in equation (8):

$$\ln \lambda_{iit} = \beta_0 \ln A_{it} + \beta_1 I_t \ln A_{it} + \Pi' Z_{it} + \mu_{it}$$

Our estimates of this equation can be employed to construct each component of equation (3) for the

correlated state. The covariance between productivity and domestic share of expenditure during the correlated state is:

$$\begin{aligned} cov(\ln A_i^c, \ln \lambda_{ii}^c) &\equiv (\widehat{\beta}_0 + \widehat{\beta}_1(\bar{I} + \sigma_I))E_t[var_i(\ln A_{it}|t)] \\ &\quad + E_t[cov_i(\ln A_{it}, \widehat{\Pi}'Z_{it}|t)] + E_t[cov_i(\ln A_{it}, \widehat{\mu}_{it}|t)] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D.4})$$

The variance of domestic share of expenditure during the correlated state is:

$$\begin{aligned} var(\ln \lambda_{ii}^c) &\equiv (\widehat{\beta}_0^2 + 2\widehat{\beta}_0\widehat{\beta}_1(\bar{I} + \sigma_I) + \widehat{\beta}_1^2(\bar{I} + \sigma_I)^2)E_t[var_i(\ln A_{it}|t)] \\ &\quad + E_t[var_i(\widehat{\Pi}'Z_{it}|t)] + E_t[var_i(\widehat{\mu}_{it}|t)] \\ &\quad + 2(\widehat{\beta}_0 + \widehat{\beta}_1(\bar{I} + \sigma_I))E_t[cov_i(\ln A_{it}, \widehat{\Pi}'Z_{it}|t)] \\ &\quad + 2(\widehat{\beta}_0 + \widehat{\beta}_1(\bar{I} + \sigma_I))E_t[cov_i(\ln A_{it}, \widehat{\mu}_{it}|t)] \\ &\quad + 2E_t[cov_i(\widehat{\Pi}'Z_{it}, \widehat{\mu}_{it}|t)] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D.5})$$

Each term in equations (D.4) and (D.5) is either directly observable or can be obtained by estimating equation (8). For example, for the model estimated in column 4, panel B of Table 2, with  $\widehat{\beta}_0 = 2.114$  and  $\widehat{\beta}_1 = -4.144$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} E_t[var_i(\ln A_{it}|t)] &= .453 \\ E_t[var_i(\widehat{\Pi}'Z_{it}|t)] &= 1.04 \\ E_t[var_i(\widehat{\mu}_{it}|t)] &= .083 \\ E_t[cov_i(\ln A_{it}, \widehat{\Pi}'Z_{it}|t)] &= -.497 \\ E_t[cov_i(\ln A_{it}, \widehat{\mu}_{it}|t)] &= -.026 \\ E_t[cov_i(\widehat{\Pi}'Z_{it}, \widehat{\mu}_{it}|t)] &= -.001 \end{aligned}$$

Applying equation (3), the percentage change in the variance of welfare in the correlated state, relative to the uncorrelated state, is

$$\frac{var\left(\ln \frac{C_i^c}{L_i}\right) - var\left(\ln \frac{C_i^u}{L_i}\right)}{var(\ln(C_i^u/L_i))} = \frac{var(\ln A_i^c) - \frac{2}{\epsilon}cov(\ln A_i^c, \ln \lambda_{ii}^c) + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2}var(\ln \lambda_{ii}^c)}{var(\ln A_i^u) - \frac{2}{\epsilon}cov(\ln A_i^u, \ln \lambda_{ii}^u) + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2}var(\ln \lambda_{ii}^u)} - 1 \quad (\text{D.6})$$

To complete the calculation, let the agricultural trade elasticity be  $\epsilon = 8.59$  (Caliendo and Parro, 2015, Table A2). Values from equation (D.6) are shown in Table 2, with standard errors calculated using the delta method.

## D.2 Change in country-level welfare and welfare variance under climate change

This section discusses how we calculate the percentage change in the global variance of welfare and the change in country-level welfare between the end of our estimation period,  $\bar{t} = 2013$ , and

the end of our projection period,  $\mathcal{T} = 2099$ , under climate change, holding everything else fixed.<sup>62</sup> We compare two projections, one which omits climate-induced changes in the spatial structure of agricultural productivity and another which allows for such changes.

We begin by showing how we quantify changes in country-level agricultural productivity as well as the global variance and spatial correlation of agricultural productivity under climate change. We then consider two projections of country-level domestic share of expenditure. The first projection, which would be a typical projection of climate impacts, omits climate-induced changes in the spatial structure of agricultural productivity. The second projection includes such changes. We then compare changes in the variance of welfare and in country-level welfare over the 20th century across these two projections.

**Projecting agricultural productivity** Recall equation (14) for  $\ln A_{it}$  during the estimation period,  $t \in [1961, 2013]$ :

$$\ln A_{it} = k(T_{it}) + \Psi' \mathbb{X}_{it} + \nu_{it}$$

Column 1 of Table F.10 shows coefficients for  $\widehat{k}()$  from our benchmark specification, which is also plotted in Figure 14. Using estimates from equation (14) and our business-as-usual CMIP5 ensemble mean projected temperatures under climate change,  $\widehat{T}_{it}$ , we first compute country-year agricultural productivity under climate change during the projection period  $t \in [2014, 2099]$ , holding everything but temperature fixed to estimated  $\bar{t} = 2013$  values:

$$\widehat{\ln A}_{it} = \widehat{k}(\widehat{T}_{it}) + \widehat{\Psi}' \mathbb{X}_{i\bar{t}} + \widehat{\nu}_{i\bar{t}} \quad (\text{D.7})$$

In the left panel of Figure 15, the black line shows  $\text{var}(\widehat{\ln A}_{it})$  while the blue line shows Moran's I,  $\widehat{I}_t$  computed using  $\widehat{\ln A}_{it}$ , for each projection year.

**Projecting domestic share of expenditure omitting and including change in spatial structure** We consider two projections of the domestic share of expenditure: one which holds the global spatial correlation of productivity fixed to the 2013 value and another which allows it to vary under climate change. Both projections use our benchmark estimate of  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  from equation (8), shown in column 4, panel B of Table 2.

Holding the spatial correlation of productivity fixed to the  $\bar{t} = 2013$  value (along with other unprojected determinants), the domestic share of expenditure during the projection period,  $t \in [2014, 2099]$ , is:

$$\widehat{\ln \lambda}_{iit}^n = (\widehat{\beta}_0 + \widehat{\beta}_1 I_{\bar{t}}) \widehat{\ln A}_{it} + \widehat{\kappa} I_{\bar{t}} + \widehat{\Pi}' \mathbb{Z}_{i,\bar{t}} + \widehat{\mu}_{i\bar{t}} \quad (\text{D.8})$$

where spatial correlation affects both the average domestic share of expenditure ( $\kappa$ ) and its relationship to domestic productivity ( $\beta_1$ ).<sup>63</sup>

<sup>62</sup>Compared with the welfare calculation described in Appendix D.1 and reported in Table 2, there is an added complication as climate change also changes the variance of productivity.

<sup>63</sup>To obtain  $\kappa$ , we first recover year fixed effects from equation (8).  $\widehat{\kappa} = 2.45$  is the coefficient from a linear regression of year fixed effects on  $I_t$  and a linear time trend.



Allowing the spatial correlation of productivity to vary under climate change, the domestic share of expenditure during the projection period,  $t \in [2014, 2099]$ , is:

$$\widehat{\ln \lambda_{iit}^s} = (\widehat{\beta}_0 + \widehat{\beta}_1 \widehat{I}_t) \widehat{\ln A_{it}} + \widehat{\kappa} \widehat{I}_t + \widehat{\Pi}' \mathbb{Z}_{i,\bar{t}} + \widehat{\mu}_{i,\bar{t}} \quad (\text{D.9})$$

**Projecting changes in global welfare variance** From equation (2), the expression for welfare of country  $i$  in year  $t$  is

$$\ln(C_{it}/L_{it}) = \ln A_{it} + \gamma - \frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \lambda_{iit}.$$

To compute the change in variance of welfare from the end of the estimation period,  $\bar{t} = 2013$ , to any year during the projection period,  $t \in [2014, 2099]$ , we difference equation (3):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}(\ln(C_{it}/L_{it})) - \text{var}(\ln(C_{i\bar{t}}/L_{i\bar{t}})) &= [\text{var}(\widehat{\ln A_{it}}) - \text{var}(\ln A_{i\bar{t}})] \\ &\quad - (2/\epsilon)[\text{cov}(\widehat{\ln A_{it}}, \widehat{\ln \lambda_{iit}}) - \text{cov}(\ln A_{i\bar{t}}, \ln \lambda_{i\bar{t}})] \\ &\quad + (1/\epsilon^2)[\text{var}(\widehat{\ln \lambda_{iit}}) - \text{var}(\ln \lambda_{i\bar{t}})] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D.10})$$

For the projection which holds spatial structure fixed, equations (D.7) and (D.8) allow construction of  $\text{var}(\widehat{\ln \lambda_{iit}^n})$  and  $\text{cov}(\widehat{\ln A_{it}}, \widehat{\ln \lambda_{iit}^n})$  for each year in the projection period. These then enter into equation (D.10) to compute the change in welfare variance between 2014–2099 for the projection that omits changes in spatial structure,  $\text{var}(\ln(C_{i\mathcal{T}}^n/L_{i\mathcal{T}}^n)) - \text{var}(\ln(C_{i\bar{t}}/L_{i\bar{t}}))$ . That projected welfare variance is shown as the solid gray line in the right panel of Figure 15.

Similarly, for the projection that allows climate-induced changes in spatial structure, equations (D.7) and (D.9) allow construction of  $\text{var}(\widehat{\ln \lambda_{iit}^s})$  and  $\text{cov}(\widehat{\ln A_{it}}, \widehat{\ln \lambda_{iit}^s})$  for each year in the projection period. These then enter into equation (D.10) to compute the change in welfare variance between 2014–2099 for the projection that includes changes in spatial structure,  $\text{var}(\ln(C_{i\mathcal{T}}^s/L_{i\mathcal{T}}^s)) - \text{var}(\ln(C_{i\bar{t}}/L_{i\bar{t}}))$ . That projected welfare variance is shown as the solid red line in the right panel of Figure 15.

We then calculate the percentage difference in the change in welfare variance between projections that include and omit changes in spatial structure:

$$\frac{\text{var}(\ln(C_{i\mathcal{T}}^s/L_{i\mathcal{T}}^s)) - \text{var}(\ln(C_{i\bar{t}}/L_{i\bar{t}}))}{\text{var}(\ln(C_{i\mathcal{T}}^n/L_{i\mathcal{T}}^n)) - \text{var}(\ln(C_{i\bar{t}}/L_{i\bar{t}}))} - 1 \quad (\text{D.11})$$

When applying baseline estimated parameters and an agricultural trade elasticity of  $\epsilon = 8.59$  (Caliendo and Parro, 2015, Table A2) to equation (D.11), we find that allowing climate change to alter the spatial correlation of productivities predicts a 20% greater increase in welfare variance than when spatial correlation is held fixed.

**Projecting changes in country-level welfare** For the projection that omits changes in spatial structure, the difference in country  $i$  welfare from  $\bar{t} = 2013$  to  $\mathcal{T} = 2099$  is:

$$\ln(C_{i\mathcal{T}}^n/L_{i\mathcal{T}}^n) - \ln(C_{i\bar{t}}/L_{i\bar{t}}) = [\widehat{\ln A_{i\mathcal{T}}} - \ln A_{i\bar{t}}] - (1/\epsilon) \left[ (\widehat{\beta}_0 + \widehat{\beta}_1 \widehat{I}_{\bar{t}})(\widehat{\ln A_{i\mathcal{T}}} - \ln A_{i\bar{t}}) \right]$$

Likewise, for the projection that includes changes in spatial structure, the difference in country  $i$  welfare from  $\bar{t} = 2013$  to  $\mathcal{T} = 2099$  is:

$$\ln(C_{i\mathcal{T}}^s/L_{i\mathcal{T}}^s) - \ln(C_{i\bar{t}}/L_{i\bar{t}}) = [\widehat{\ln A_{i\mathcal{T}}} - \ln A_{i\bar{t}}] - (1/\epsilon) \left[ (\widehat{\beta}_0 + \widehat{\beta}_1 \widehat{I}_{\mathcal{T}}) \widehat{\ln A_{i\mathcal{T}}} - (\widehat{\beta}_0 + \widehat{\beta}_1 I_{\bar{t}}) \ln A_{i\bar{t}} + \widehat{\kappa}(\widehat{I}_{\mathcal{T}} - I_{\bar{t}}) \right]$$

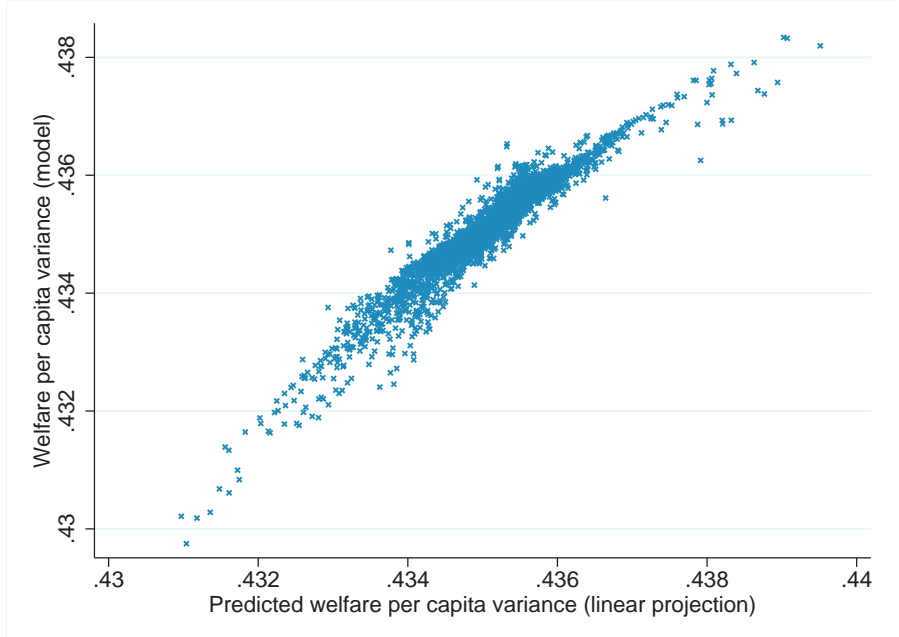
The difference in country welfare between projections that include and omit changes in spatial structure is:

$$[\ln(C_{i\mathcal{T}}^s/L_{i\mathcal{T}}^s) - \ln(C_{i\bar{t}}/L_{i\bar{t}})] - [\ln(C_{i\mathcal{T}}^n/L_{i\mathcal{T}}^n) - \ln(C_{i\bar{t}}/L_{i\bar{t}})] = -(1/\epsilon)[(\widehat{\beta}_1 \widehat{\ln A_{i\mathcal{T}}} + \widehat{\kappa})(\widehat{I}_{\mathcal{T}} - I_{\bar{t}})] \quad (\text{D.12})$$

Figures 16 and 17 show the country-level difference across projections.

## E Appendix figures

Figure E.1: Welfare per capita, model vs approximation by linear regression



NOTES: For each equilibrium depicted in Figure 7, we compute equilibrium welfare per capita in the model (vertical axis) and welfare per capita predicted by an estimated linear regression (horizontal axis). The regression specification is akin to the line of best fit depicted in Figure 7, see equation (8). Predicted welfare per capita is computed by plugging in predicted values of  $\ln \lambda_{ii}$  into equation (3). The  $R^2$  of the bivariate relationship is .93.  $cov(\ln A_i, \ln \lambda_{ii}) - cov(\ln \bar{A}_i, \ln \bar{\lambda}_{ii})$  is at least the same order of magnitude as  $var(\ln \lambda_{ii}) - var(\ln \bar{\lambda}_{ii})$  in 99% of swaps; it is an order of magnitude larger in 16%.

Figure E.2: Location of ENSO sea-surface temperature measurements



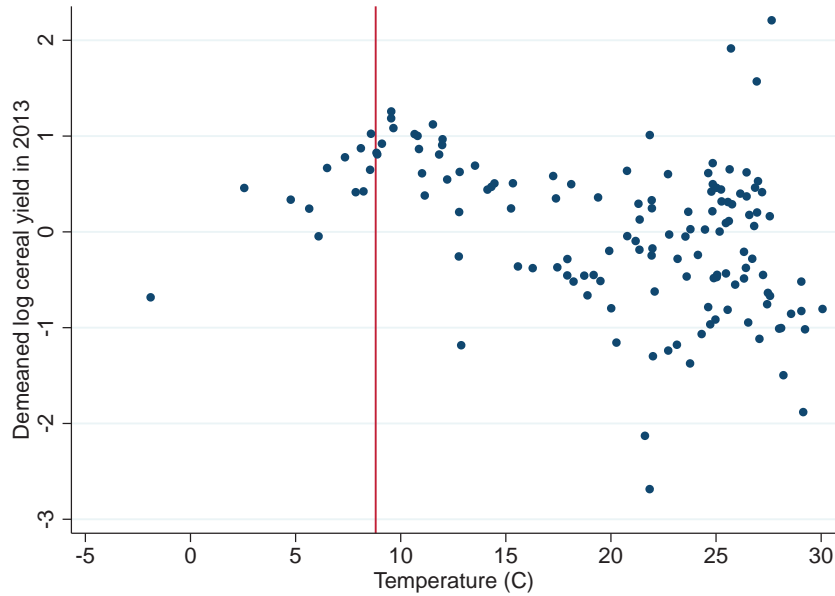
NOTES: ENSO indices defined as average sea surface temperature over a region minus the long-term mean sea surface temperature for that region. Spatial definitions for standard ENSO indices: NINO4 ( $5^{\circ}\text{S}$ - $5^{\circ}\text{N}$ ,  $160^{\circ}\text{E}$ - $150^{\circ}\text{W}$ ), NINO3 ( $5^{\circ}\text{S}$ - $5^{\circ}\text{N}$ ,  $150^{\circ}\text{W}$ - $90^{\circ}\text{W}$ ), NINO34 ( $5^{\circ}\text{S}$ - $5^{\circ}\text{N}$ ,  $170^{\circ}\text{W}$  -  $120^{\circ}\text{W}$ ), and NINO12 ( $10^{\circ}\text{S}$ - $0^{\circ}$ ,  $90^{\circ}\text{W}$ - $80^{\circ}\text{W}$ ).

Figure E.3: Monthly ENSO index for top 10 positive events



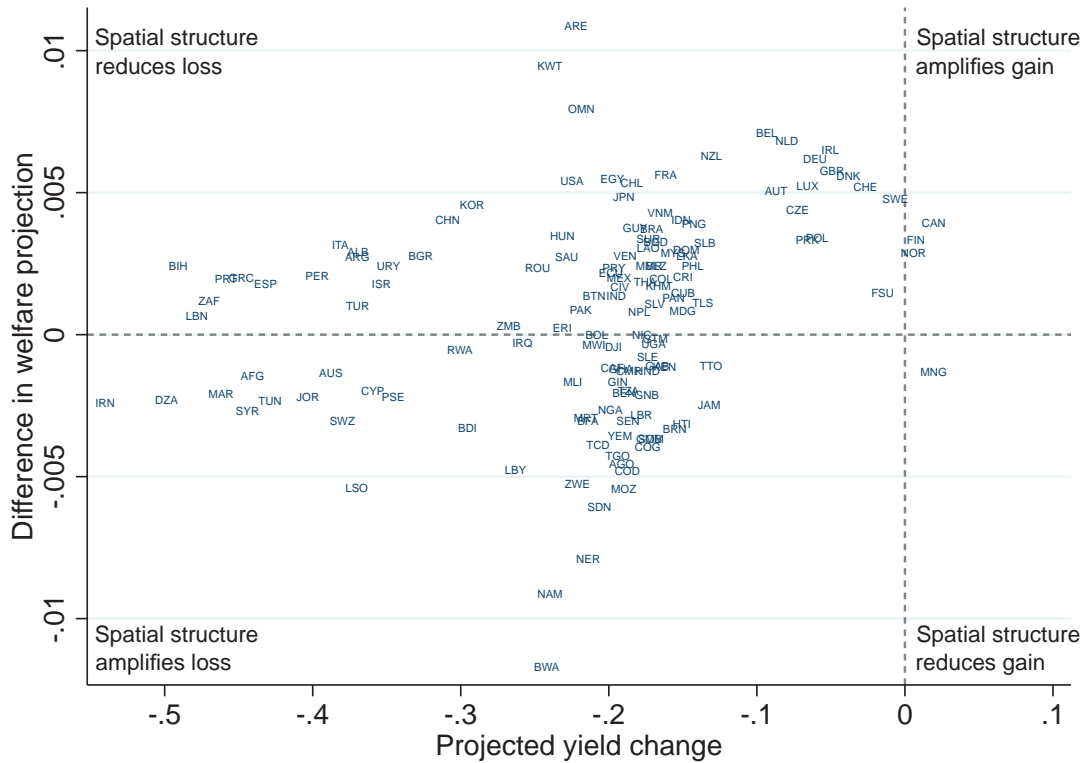
NOTES: Time evolution of monthly ENSO index 12 months before and after the 10 most positive ENSO events over 1961-2013. ENSO events occur during the winters of 1965, 1972, 1982, 1986, 1991, 1994, 1997, 2002, 2006, and 2009.

Figure E.4: Observed log cereal yields and temperature in 2013



NOTES: Observed country-level log cereal yields in 2013 with cross-sectional mean removed plotted against temperature in 2013. From equation (14), observed log cereal yield is sum of the nonlinear temperature relationship  $k(T_{it})$ , controls  $\Psi'X_{it}$ , and the residual term  $\nu_{it}$ . Vertical line shows the predicted log yield maximizing temperature from Figure 14.

Figure E.5: Differences in welfare projections due to change in spatial correlation and projected yield changes



NOTES: Scatter shows the difference in projected country-level welfare change between projections that include and omit changes in spatial correlation (from Figure 16) plotted against change in log cereal yields over 2013-2099 under climate change. Countries labeled by ISO3 identifier.

## F Appendix tables

Table F.1: Spatial correlation of economic determinants

	Moran's I
<u>Income</u>	
log real GDP per capita <sup>†</sup> (Figure 1)	.246
<u>Determinants</u>	
log TFP <sup>†</sup>	.214
log capital stock <sup>†</sup>	.261
Human capital index <sup>†</sup>	.346
Political stability index <sup>‡</sup>	.176
Rule of law index <sup>‡</sup>	.215
Corruption index <sup>‡</sup>	.194
Temperature <sup>§</sup>	.404
log distance to nearest coastline or river <sup>**</sup>	.188
Soil suitability for agriculture <sup>**</sup>	.175

NOTES: Spatial correlation for income per capita and various determinants. Moran's  $I$  lies within  $[-1, +1]$ , with 1 indicating perfect positive spatial correlation and 0 indicating no spatial correlation. <sup>†</sup> denotes cross-country variables in 2013 from Feenstra, Inklaar and Timmer (2015). <sup>‡</sup> denotes cross-country variables in 2013 from World Bank's World Governance Indicators. <sup>§</sup> denotes cross-country variable in 2013 from Willmott and Matsuura (2001). <sup>\*\*</sup> denotes time-invariant cross-country variables from Gallup, Sachs and Mellinger (1999).

Table F.2: Statistical significance of first-stage coefficients

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
$\alpha'_{11}$ joint F-stat p-value	0.022	0.007	0.011	0.011	0.008
$\alpha'_{12}$ joint F-stat p-value	0.006	0.038	0.097	0.178	0.218
$\alpha'_{21}$ joint F-stat p-value	0.071	0.004	0.007	0.006	0.003
$\alpha'_{22}$ joint F-stat p-value	0.041	0.062	0.028	0.041	0.071
Number of temperature splines in $f()$	2	3	4	5	6
Observations	5452	5452	5452	5452	5452

NOTES: Shows p-values from joint significance F-tests across the elements of each vector of first-stage coefficients,  $\alpha'_{11}$  and  $\alpha'_{12}$  from equation (9),  $\alpha'_{21}$  and  $\alpha'_{22}$  from equation (10). Columns 1-5 correspond to the IV specifications in columns 2-6 of Table 2.

Table F.3: Alternative error structures  
Outcome is log domestic share of expenditure

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
$\ln A_{it} (\beta_0)$	2.114 (0.604) [0.001]	2.114 (0.581) [0.001]	2.114 (0.830) [0.014]	2.114 (0.698) [0.004]
$\ln A_{it} \times I_t (\beta_1)$	-4.144 (1.834) [0.028]	-4.144 (1.659) [0.016]	-4.144 (2.157) [0.060]	-4.144 (1.939) [0.037]
Clustering	year cluster	year cluster and 20 year HAC	year cluster and cntry cluster	year cluster
Bekker adjustment	No	No	No	Yes
Observations	5452	5452	5452	5452

NOTES: Estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  from equation (8). Column 1 reproduces benchmark estimates from column 4, panel B of Table 2 with year-level clustered standard errors. Column 2 allows year-level clustering and common serial correlation across countries within a 20-year window. Column 3 allows year and country-level clustering. Column 4 allows year-level clustering with a Bekker (1994) adjustment. Standard errors in parentheses; p-values in brackets.

Table F.4: Controlling for time-varying trade costs

	Outcome is log domestic share of expenditure						
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
$\ln A_{it} (\beta_0)$	2.114 (0.604) [0.001]	2.178 (0.612) [0.001]	2.163 (0.593) [0.001]	2.492 (0.737) [0.001]	2.297 (0.641) [0.001]	2.115 (0.604) [0.001]	2.270 (0.796) [0.006]
$\ln A_{it} \times I_t (\beta_1)$	-4.144 (1.834) [0.028]	-4.254 (1.865) [0.027]	-4.189 (1.825) [0.026]	-4.748 (2.095) [0.028]	-4.227 (1.844) [0.026]	-4.145 (1.833) [0.028]	-4.281 (1.985) [0.036]
$\ln$ oil price $\times$ average $\ln \lambda_{ii}$		Yes					
$\ln$ oil price $\times$ centrality			Yes				
Year FE $\times$ average $\ln \lambda_{ii}$				Yes			
Year FE $\times$ centrality					Yes		
Export restrictions						Yes	
Precipitation							Yes
Cragg-Donald F-stat	5.174	5.249	5.077	4.875	4.042	5.163	3.932
Stock-Yogo crit. value: 10% max LIML size	3.580	3.580	3.580	3.580	3.580	3.580	3.580
Kleibergen-Paap F-stat	3.963	3.911	3.903	4.146	3.523	3.967	3.497
Observations	5452	5452	5452	5452	5452	5452	5452

NOTES: Estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  from equation (8). Column 1 replicates benchmark model from column 4, panel B, of Table 2. Column 2 (3) controls for the interaction of global log oil price and cross-sectional average log domestic share of expenditure (output-weighted inverse distance averaged across all other countries). Column 4 (5) controls for the interaction of year fixed effects and cross-sectional average log domestic share of expenditure (output-weighted inverse distance averaged across all other countries). Column 6 controls for introductions of export restrictions. Column 7 controls for quadratic precipitation terms. Standard errors, clustered by year, in parentheses; p-values in brackets.

Table F.5: Sample splits  
Outcome is log domestic share of expenditure

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
$\ln A_{it}$ ( $\beta_0$ )	2.114 (0.604) [0.001]	2.152 (0.595) [0.001]	1.845 (2.807) [0.517]	1.692 (0.511) [0.003]
$\ln A_{it} \times I_t$ ( $\beta_1$ )	-4.144 (1.834) [0.028]	-4.226 (1.925) [0.033]	-4.639 (12.564) [0.715]	-2.708 (1.627) [0.108]
Include large producers?	No	Yes	No	No
Sample period	1961-2013	1961-2013	1961-1987	1988-2013
Cragg-Donald F-stat	5.174	5.020	1.628	3.810
Stock-Yogo crit. value: 10% max LIML size	3.580	3.580	3.580	3.580
Kleibergen-Paap F-stat	3.963	4.473	1.137	4.052
Anderson-Rubin weak-id robust joint p-value	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Observations	5452	4952	2655	2793

NOTES: Estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  from equation (8). Column 1 reproduces benchmark estimates from column 4, panel B of Table 2. Column 2 excludes the following ten countries, which together account for more than half of world cereal output in each year: China, United States, India, Former Soviet Union, France, Indonesia, Canada, Brazil, Germany, and Bangladesh. Column 3 restricts sample to 1961–1987. Column 4 restricts sample to 1988–2013. Standard errors, clustered by year, in parentheses; p-values in brackets.

Table F.6: Dynamic effects  
Outcome is log domestic share of expenditure

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
$\ln A_{it}$	2.217 (0.651) [0.001]			1.326 (0.634) [0.041]
$\ln A_{it} \times I_t$	-4.152 (1.874) [0.031]			-3.233 (1.590) [0.047]
$\ln A_{it+1}$		0.724 (0.503) [0.156]		
$\ln A_{it+1} \times I_{t+1}$		-0.830 (1.642) [0.615]		
$\ln A_{it-1}$			0.851 (0.526) [0.112]	
$\ln A_{it-1} \times I_{t-1}$			-2.039 (1.354) [0.138]	
2nd stage sample period	1962-2012	1962-2012	1962-2012	1961-2013
Include stored cereals?	No	No	No	Yes
Cragg-Donald F-stat	4.480	5.688	5.293	5.345
Stock-Yogo crit. value: 10% max LIML size	3.580	3.580	3.580	3.580
Kleibergen-Paap F-stat	3.632	2.592	3.532	3.622
Observations	5237	5236	5235	5191

NOTES: Estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  from equation (8). Column 1 reproduces benchmark model using log yields in year  $t$  instrumented by December ENSO in years  $t$  and  $t - 1$  and local temperature in year  $t$ . Column 2 uses log yields in year  $t + 1$ , instrumented by December ENSO conditions in years  $t + 1$  and  $t$  and local temperature in year  $t + 1$ . Column 3 uses log yields in year  $t - 1$ , instrumented by December ENSO conditions in years  $t - 1$  and  $t - 2$  and local temperature in year  $t - 1$ . Column 4 uses log yields in year  $t$  to examine effects on a measure of domestic share of expenditure that includes stored cereals. Sample period for 2nd stage equation is 1962–2012 for columns 1-3 and 1961–2013 for column 4. Standard errors clustered by year in parentheses; p-values in brackets.



Table F.7: ENSO and local temperature definitions  
Outcome is log domestic share of expenditure

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Panel A: Crop-area-weighted country temperature				
$\ln A_{it} (\beta_0)$	2.114 (0.604) [0.001]	2.108 (0.715) [0.005]	2.084 (0.706) [0.005]	2.722 (0.987) [0.008]
$\ln A_{it} \times I_t (\beta_1)$	-4.144 (1.834) [0.028]	-4.064 (2.414) [0.098]	-4.465 (2.406) [0.069]	-6.026 (3.127) [0.059]
ENSO index	4	3	34	12
Cragg-Donald F-stat	5.174	5.013	5.195	3.781
Stock-Yogo crit. value: 10% max LIML size	3.580	3.580	3.580	3.580
Kleibergen-Paap F-stat	3.963	2.897	3.993	2.333
Observations	5452	5452	5452	5452
Panel B: Total-area-weighted country temperature				
$\ln A_{it} (\beta_0)$	1.632 (0.500) [0.002]	1.722 (0.626) [0.008]	1.562 (0.597) [0.012]	1.871 (0.729) [0.013]
$\ln A_{it} \times I_t (\beta_1)$	-3.960 (1.617) [0.018]	-4.125 (2.155) [0.061]	-4.155 (2.071) [0.050]	-4.517 (2.331) [0.058]
ENSO index	4	3	34	12
Cragg-Donald F-stat	4.423	3.928	4.186	3.103
Stock-Yogo crit. value: 10% max LIML size	3.580	3.580	3.580	3.580
Kleibergen-Paap F-stat	3.490	2.653	3.344	1.957
Observations	5605	5605	5605	5605

NOTES: Estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  from equation (8). Panel A uses crop-area-weighted country-level temperatures. Panel B uses total-area-weighted country-level temperatures. Columns 1 to 4 use NINO4, NINO3, NINO34, and NINO12 as ENSO index. Standard errors, clustered by year, in parentheses; p-values in brackets.

Table F.8: Using spatial correlation of temperature instead of ENSO  
Outcome is log domestic share of expenditure

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
$\ln A_{it}$ ( $\beta_0$ )	2.486 (1.310) [0.063]	2.540 (1.182) [0.036]	1.918 (0.600) [0.002]	1.647 (0.618) [0.010]	1.686 (0.624) [0.009]
$\ln A_{it} \times I_t$ ( $\beta_1$ )	-5.044 (4.173) [0.232]	-5.135 (4.011) [0.206]	-3.092 (1.884) [0.107]	-2.348 (1.943) [0.232]	-2.394 (2.021) [0.241]
Number of temperature splines in f	2	3	4	5	6
Temperature Moran's I polynomial order in g	1	1	1	1	1
Number of instruments	4	6	8	10	12
Cragg-Donald F-stat	6.407	5.267	6.161	5.428	4.846
Stock-Yogo crit. value: 10% max 2SLS bias	7.560	9.480	10.220	10.580	10.780
Stock-Yogo crit. value: 10% max 2SLS size	16.870	21.680	25.640	29.320	32.880
Stock-Yogo crit. value: 10% max LIML size	4.720	4.060	3.780	3.640	3.580
Kleibergen-Paap F-stat	2.813	2.217	2.145	2.389	2.061
BIC for first stage equations	-30779.0	-30789.6	-30873.7	-30862.6	-30845.5
Observations	5452	5452	5452	5452	5452

NOTES: LIML estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  from equation (8) with  $g(ENSO_t + ENSO_{t-1})$  in first-stage equations (9) and (10) replaced with the annual global spatial correlation of temperature,  $I_t(T_{it})$ . Columns show estimates that vary by the number of temperature spline terms in  $f()$ . All models include country fixed effects, year fixed effects, and country-specific linear trends as included instruments. Standard errors, clustered by year, in parentheses; p-values in brackets.

Table F.9: Alternative domestic expenditure share constructions

	Outcome is log domestic share of expenditure					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
$\ln A_{it}$ ( $\beta_0$ )	2.114 (0.604) [0.001]	1.365 (0.397) [0.001]	1.825 (0.559) [0.002]	1.568 (0.432) [0.001]	1.249 (0.430) [0.005]	1.867 (0.536) [0.001]
$\ln A_{it} \times I_t$ ( $\beta_1$ )	-4.144 (1.834) [0.028]	-3.068 (1.423) [0.036]	-3.622 (1.585) [0.026]	-2.835 (1.337) [0.039]	-2.452 (1.152) [0.038]	-3.520 (1.549) [0.027]
Price data	FAO	FAO	FAO	FAO	Comtrade	FAO
Price imputation	average export	export+ producer	lowest export	highest export	average export	average export
Drop outliers?	No	No	No	No	No	1%
Cragg-Donald F-stat	5.174	8.049	5.174	5.174	5.346	5.259
Stock-Yogo crit. value: 10% max LIML size	3.580	3.580	3.580	3.580	3.580	3.580
Kleibergen-Paap F-stat	3.963	3.864	3.963	3.963	2.406	3.832
Observations	5452	2918	5452	5452	4148	5366

NOTES: Estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  from equation (8). Column 1 reproduces benchmark estimates from column 4, panel B of Table 2 with average export-volume-weighted cereal export unit value used for imputing cereal-level prices in constructing domestic expenditure share. Column 2 uses cereal-level export unit values with missing observations imputed using producer prices to construct domestic expenditure. Columns 3 and 4 use cereal-level export unit values with missing observations imputed using the lowest and highest observed export unit value for a given country and year, respectively. Column 5 replicates column 1 but constructs domestic expenditure share using Comtrade bilateral trade data instead of FAO trade data. FAO trade data available for 1961–2013. Comtrade data available for 1962–2013. Column 6 replicates column 1 but drops observations with outcome variable being in the bottom and top 1% of distribution. Standard errors, clustered by year, in parentheses; p-values in brackets.

Table F.10: Log cereal yield and local temperature  
Outcome is log cereal yields

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Temperature 1st term	0.004 (0.009) [0.686]	0.004 (0.009) [0.677]	0.005 (0.010) [0.629]	0.005 (0.010) [0.631]	0.007 (0.011) [0.519]	0.005 (0.011) [0.623]
Temperature 2nd term	-0.183 (0.041) [0.000]	-0.165 (0.040) [0.000]	-0.222 (0.071) [0.003]	-0.203 (0.071) [0.006]	-0.126 (0.060) [0.041]	-0.100 (0.059) [0.093]
Temperature 3rd term	0.650 (0.160) [0.000]	0.599 (0.159) [0.000]	0.418 (0.196) [0.038]	0.393 (0.196) [0.050]	0.020 (0.212) [0.924]	-0.031 (0.205) [0.882]
Temperature 4th term	-1.162 (0.533) [0.034]	-1.100 (0.539) [0.047]	0.356 (0.649) [0.586]	0.248 (0.644) [0.702]	1.320 (0.674) [0.056]	1.394 (0.658) [0.039]
Temperature 5th term			-2.204 (1.775) [0.220]	-1.801 (1.760) [0.311]	-2.895 (1.880) [0.130]	-3.370 (1.864) [0.076]
Temperature 6th term					1.830 (3.814) [0.633]	3.213 (3.791) [0.401]
Precipitation		0.003 (0.001) [0.000]		0.003 (0.001) [0.000]		0.003 (0.001) [0.000]
Precipitation squared		-0.000 (0.000) [0.000]		-0.000 (0.000) [0.000]		-0.000 (0.000) [0.000]
Number of temperature splines	4	4	5	5	6	6
Precipitation	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Temp. joint p-value	0.0004	0.0014	0.0009	0.0030	0.0015	0.0049
Optimal temp.	8.81	8.91	8.87	8.94	7.80	7.70
Observations	7226	7226	7226	7226	7226	7226

NOTES: Estimates of cubic spline terms for  $h(\cdot)$  in equation (14) during 1961–2013. The number of knots placed along the temperature support according to Harrell (2001) varies across columns. Odd (even) numbered columns exclude (include) quadratic precipitation terms. P-value from a joint significance test of temperature terms shown. Standard errors, clustered by year, in parentheses; p-values in brackets.