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**Trade and FDI Liberalization: What to Expect  
from China's Entrance to WTO?**



# Trade and FDI liberalization: What to expect from China's entrance to WTO?<sup>a</sup>

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## Abstract

Trade liberalization episodes are usually analyzed in a horizontal dimension, that is, the movement of resources across sectors due to relative price changes. This perspective underestimates an element present in many liberalization processes: the opening access of foreign firms to produce and sell locally. As long there exist productivity differences between native and foreign firms and depending on the degree of technological transfers during the liberalization process, the effects on local firms of direct competition with better-equipped foreign ones within each industry - the vertical dimension - may dominate the resource allocation and factor return effects of traditional tariff liberalizations. This paper presents a model to evaluate the outcome of a liberalization process in terms of resource allocation and income distribution when a tariff reduction is accompanied by FDI liberalization. The framework presented provides a natural setting to answer several questions present in liberalization episodes: What is the rationale for privatizing native state-owned firms? How big are the potential short run effects on aggregate employment? Is there a role for fiscal and labor policies in sustaining the reform? The model is used to estimate the effects of China's entry to WTO, as a fall in tariffs is expected together with an end to the dual economic structure. Overall, the results show that FDI liberalization will not affect significantly the outcome in terms of the production structure but it will have a significant impact on the winners and losers of the process. (JEL F1, F2)

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“Earlier this month, also in Tianjin, disputes erupted between workers at a state-owned liquor company and its German partner, which wanted to sell factory parts for scrap metal. The workers blocked a truck, insisting that the profits from the metal were rightfully theirs. Late last year, workers at the formerly state-owned Red Lion Paint Factory in Beijing ended up in a near-fatal standoff with the management after a new private owner, a Chinese company from Shandong Province, wanted to close the plant and sell the land.” New York Times, August 31, 2000.

Trade liberalization studies usually emphasize the effects of tariff changes in the allocation of resources across sectors and factor returns. This horizontal view ignores that in many cases tariff liberalization is accompanied by the liberalization of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). The opening access of domestic markets to foreign production introduces competition in factor markets for native firms. If there exist technological differences between native and foreign firms, competition in factor markets provides a clear advantage to firms with technological superiority that shrinks the competitive position of native firms, in contrast with competition only in product markets, where technological differences may be compensated by the return of internationally immobile factors in order to keep industries competitive. As a consequence, FDI liberalization may generate an important movement of resources across firms within sectors - vertical movement - that may compensate the resource allocation and income distribution effects of pure tariff liberalization. In this context, the role of technological transfers is crucial in order to determine how competitive native firms remain.

The explicit consideration of a vertical dimension not only may prove useful to understand the wide variety of outcomes in several liberalization episodes but it also provides a clear conceptual framework to discuss questions that are present in these kind of processes. What is the role that privatization of state-owned native firms may have in the process?, Who should be in favor of privatizing?, How can we explain important employment and output costs observed in some cases?, Is there any role for fiscal or labor policies to support the process in the transition period? All these questions have been at the core of the debate in East European episodes, German unification, Mexican liberalization and many others.

A simple multi-sector model where firms with different technologies coexist is presented. The coexistence is supported by alternative protective measures to less-developed firms. Specifically, special protection in output markets that distort product prices and distortions in factor markets are considered. In this setting, it is analyzed the effects of a pure tariff reduction process across sectors and compared to the effects of FDI liberalization where the same set of rules are established for all firms regardless of their technology or ownership structure. Specifically, the same tariff protection as well as labor market rules hold for foreign and native firms. In consequence, FDI liberalization necessarily pressures up wages compared with the pure tariff liberalization, and so it affects negatively the short run return on capital and employment in native firms. The change in production structure depends on the relative distribution of tariff reductions for native firms and tariff increases to originally unprotected foreign firms.

If technological transfers take place even higher pressures on wages arise. The effect on capital returns and employment in native firms depends on the relative size of technological transfers and wage pressure from overall technological convergence. This implies that sectors with more backward technologies are those more benefited from technological transfers. Overall, the relevance of technological transfers is twofold. Its size affects the winners and losers of the process while its dispersion across sectors determine the final outcome in terms of production structure. In the long run, convergence is inevitable so the

technology set and relative prices of foreign firms are enough to determine the effects on factor returns and factor allocation.

The framework is used to estimate the effects of one of the most controversial liberalization cases in the last decades: China's entry to WTO. The case of China is important not only due to its geopolitical and economic relevance but also because it represents a case where the consequences of FDI liberalization may easily overtake those of a pure tariff liberalization. Although China started an important process of liberalization and transition to a "Socialist Market economy with Chinese Characteristics" in 1978 (see Lardy (1992), Naughton (1996), Feenstra (1998) and Sachs and Woo (1997) and the literature thereafter for a discussion of the transition process of China in the last two decades), important distortions remain that entrance to WTO mandate removing. In particular, the tariff structure of China is still highly protective of domestic firms and the economic system is characterized by a dual structure where foreign firms are restricted to access domestic markets in several aspects, creating a two-economy country.

China has had important policies to attract foreign investment providing them with special treatment in issues like tax policy and imported intermediate-inputs tariff remission. At the same time, important incentives to export their production as well as legal and de-facto restrictions to access domestic markets exist. Indeed, many of the benefits mentioned above are conditioned on export performance. Foreign-owned enterprises (FIEs) are mainly located in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) where they can have easy access to foreign markets and in some cases they serve as mere re-exporters of Hong Kong or Taiwanese production, adding small value-added to the process (see Feenstra, Hai, Woo and Yao (1998)) This structure is the basis for the huge expansion in foreign investment and exports observed in the last decades. Domestic firms (State-owned (SOEs) and Collectively-owned enterprises (COEs)) enjoy several protectionist measures but do not share many of the benefits directed to foreign firms. Native firms sell mainly in protected local markets and face some restrictions (specially SOEs) to access foreign markets directly. At the same time, they have to pay tariffs for the imported intermediate inputs and pay higher taxes than foreign firms.

The rationale for this system has been widely discussed, specially from the perspective of whether the successful transition of China is the result of an experimental set of institutions or just a convergence process towards market institutions (Sachs and Woo (1997)). This paper is probably more in line with the convergence school in the sense that it emphasizes that the dual economic structure serves as a cushion to protect domestic firms from increasing degrees of foreign competition. Furthermore, within domestic firms increasing competition between SOEs and COEs has appeared. The latter, semi-private institutions operating without the straightjacket of China's government intervention have crowded-out government production in the last years. As a consequence, the government has assigned increasing amounts of credit to state-firms to sustain its commitment to state employment and production. In this setting, a smooth opening of domestic markets has been taking place, but the biggest step is still to be seen: the removal of special protective policies to domestic firms in general and state-owned firms in particular.

These characteristics of the dual economic structure are not consistent with WTO rules, that prohibit special benefits for domestic firms. As stated by Naughton (1996), the integration process of China has advanced in many aspects but several additional elements are required to be considered part of WTO. In his words, "China's leaders have repeatedly reaffirmed that the long-range objectives of trade reform are a more open trade regime and membership in the World Trade Organization (WTO). A prerequisite of the latter is "national treatment" for FIEs; that is, that they not be subject to legal requirements

that they do not also apply to domestic firms. To this end, the Chinese have begun to take a number of steps to reduce, and ultimately eliminate, the differences between the present export promotion and ordinary trade regimes. Some of these changes have been mentioned above: tax breaks on investment goods for FIEs are being phased out, other aspects of tax treatment are becoming more unified; and there are plans to reduce the scope of tariff exemptions for all entities, foreign and domestic". Also, "If implemented, these reforms will tend to unify the trade regimes, and the resulting system will be more open than the present dual regime". Finally, "It is important to note that further liberalization will not entail convergence to the extremely open regime under which FIEs in southern China currently operate. Instead, trade in both regimes will be subjected to a uniform set of rules that will make the domestic economy overall significantly more open to the world economy, but will impose more tariffs and regulations on certain traders than at present".

The paper argues that this opening process is very similar to the one lived by East Germany in its unification with the West, as wage and technological differences in both sides of the wall generated significant pressures on state-owned dominated production structure of the East. Output and employment costs in this case are mostly associated with the movement of resources across firms with different technologies more than with a reallocation of labor across sectors (see Akerlof, Rose, Yellen and Hessenius (1991) and Dornbusch and Wolf (1994) for discussions of the unification process of Germany). As discussed by Fisher and Sahay (2000) in a cross-country study of European liberalization episodes, price and trade liberalization as well as the role of privatization and foreign firms penetration seem to be more important than macro stabilization (specially fiscal adjustment) explaining the evolution of output in the aftermath of the reform.

A key element in the paper is the presence of technological differences between domestic and foreign firms. A methodology to estimate these differences is proposed and applied to China. The results suggest that technological gap is higher in SOEs than in COEs, consistent with other results in the literature (see Brandt and Zhu (2000)). The results also show that penetration of FIEs is higher in sectors with higher technological gap. The estimation of the model for China reveals that a pure tariff liberalization tends to hurt labor intensive sectors for these are the industries with higher fall in tariffs. The presence of technological differences across firms does not alter this result because the productivity gaps are quite similar across sectors in state and collective firms. At the same time, the equalization of tariffs for all firms in each sector favors labor-intensive foreign firms. As a result, no clear pattern of change in the production structure is expected in the short run. Workers in domestic firms win, specially if technological transfers take place. In the long run, it is revealed that a movement of resources towards capital-intensive sectors is expected.

The paper is divided as follows. Section 1 presents an overview of the Chinese economy with special emphasis on the tariff structure and the characteristics of the dual economic system. Section 2 presents the model, while section 3 describes in detail the tariff and FDI changes that China's entry to WTO mandate changing. Section 3 also describes the methodology to estimate technological differences between firms. Section 4 reports the empirical results and section 5 concludes.

# 1 China's Economy

The objective of this section is not to provide an overview of the evolution of the Chinese economy in the last twenty years but to show some elements of the economy that result relevant to understand the effects of WTO. Special emphasis is put on understanding the implications of the dual economic system as well as the tariff structure, the two critical elements that China's entry to WTO demand altering.

China is characterized by a labor force of more than 650 millions workers of which almost a half is employed in the agriculture sector. Manufacturing, the sector target of this paper, employs close to 97 million workers and represents almost 40% of total GDP. As table 1 shows, the 3-digit ISIC sectors<sup>1</sup> with higher employment share are Machinery, except electrical, Textiles and Pottery and Glass. In value-added terms, the highest shares are in Chemicals and Machinery, both electrical and not electrical. Columns 3 to 5 show the distribution of Manufacturing value-added between state, collective and foreign enterprises, revealing a high dispersion of FIEs penetration.

What explains the different penetration rates of foreign firms across industries<sup>2</sup>? Two are the main answers offered, one now and the other in section 3 when technological differences are estimated. Figure 1 plots the share of foreign production in total value-added in each industry against a measure of relative capital intensity. Specifically, the y-axis variable is the ratio of  $K=L$  in each sector divided by the average  $K=L$  ratio of foreign firms operating in the manufacturing sector, where  $K$  is the nominal level of total assets in each industry and  $L$  is the number of workers. Although the variable used to proxy for capital stock in each industry is not the ideal one, what matters is that the relative level across sectors reflects adequately the relative capital stocks. The message of the negative and significant at 1% correlation (-0.65) is that foreign firms are mainly located in China in order to enjoy low labor costs, bringing their capital and technologies to combine them with local labor. The advantage generated by low wages is higher in labor-intensive sectors, and the incentives to locate in China in very capital-intensive sectors are clearly lower. Different would be the picture if there were open access of foreign firms to China's local markets. In this case, closeness and other considerations may attract capital intensive sectors to produce in China, as well.

The share in production does not point to the key aspect of the penetration of foreign firms in consumption. Although it is well documented (Branstetter and Feenstra (1999)) that several restrictions exist over foreign firms to sell in local market like exports requirements, location restrictions, limits for domestic access and others, it is necessary to discuss to what degree these restrictions are binding and the concept of a dual economic system is relevant. Table 2 from Branstetter and Feenstra reports the share across regions (no information is available across sectors) of different sources of supply: Multinational firms, state-owned enterprises and imports. The share value for region  $k$  is calculated as  $(Q_{ki} - X_{ki}) / (Q_{ki} - X_{ki} + M_k)$  for  $i =$  SOEs or FIEs and where  $Q_{ki} - X_{ki}$  is the production net of exports of firms type  $i$  in region  $k$  and  $Q_{ki} - X_{ki} + M_k$  is the total consumption in region  $k$ . This simple estimate shows that consumption penetration of foreign firms is in general very small in all regions but not in SEZs where FIEs are mainly located. Aside from Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai and in less degree Jianzu, high penetration of

<sup>1</sup> 3-digit ISIC sectors are 29, but China's authorities keep records (at list public ones) for those industries aggregated in 23 categories, that are the ones detailed in the table. Hereafter, all the analysis is done based on those 23 categories.

<sup>2</sup> The data in Table 1 only refers to share in production, and says nothing with respect to where that production is sold.

SOEs coincides with low penetration of FIEs.

Overall, the production and consumption structure in China strongly supports the widely known idea of a dual economic structure. On the one hand FIEs are encouraged to produce in China combining its foreign capital and technologies with local labor force, receiving intermediate inputs tariff remission, lower profit taxes and several other incentives. On the other hand, they are encouraged to export their production and are limited to sell their products in local markets. In other words, native enterprises (state and collective) are protected from external forces with either high tariffs or restricted access of FIEs to domestic markets, either explicitly or through illegal surcharges. The protection to native firms is somewhat compensated with tariffs for intermediate inputs, higher profit taxes than FIEs and restrictions to access foreign markets directly.

Figure 2 shows the tariff structure of China as of 1999 and Figure 3 plots the nominal tariff levels against the measure of  $K=L$  ratio detailed above<sup>3</sup>. The results are suggestive; China protects more the labor intensive industries<sup>4</sup>. According to the Stolper-Samuelson view that protection favors the factor used intensively in that sector this is not an unreasonable result considering that China is a labor intensive country. Another reading of Figure 3 is that China protects those industries that export most.

How can we explain this phenomena? Why is a country protecting the sectors where it has comparative advantage? New trade theory would suggest economies of scale or the "import protection as export promoting" principle as an explanation for this "puzzle". I propose two alternative explanations. First, most of China's exports come from FIEs that as already seen have a clear bias towards labor intensive sectors while protection is directed only to state and collective firms. This is the nature of the dual economic system, where foreign firms are allowed to produce in China but have limited access to local protected markets that are restricted to native (state and collective) firms. Exports of labor-intensive goods come mainly from an economic system that is not subject to the protection structure detailed in Figure 3. The explanation for the high protection levels of labor-intensive industries in local market is discussed in section 3 and it is related to technological differences. Second, as Figure 4 (a) and (b) shows, although China exports the traditional labor intensive sectors like Apparel, Footwear, Textiles and Pottery, overall it is not clear that China's trade structure is one with a clear bias towards exporting labor intensive products and importing capital intensive ones.

## 2 The model

Consider a simple general equilibrium production framework where firms use three factors to produce output; labor and capital that are immobile internationally and hence their returns are endogenously determined, and intermediate inputs that are assumed to be internationally traded goods with their price set in international markets (and taken as given by the firms in the home country). The economy consists on 2 tradable sectors that face international prices and produce with constant return to scale

<sup>3</sup> See appendix 1 on Data Description for details about the calculation of 3-digit ISIC tariffs.

<sup>4</sup> Excluding Tobacco industries, the correlation of both series is -0.29 and not significant, but excluding Beverage industries also, the correlation falls to -0.43 significant at 5%.

technologies<sup>5</sup>. It is assumed that in the short run capital is firm-specific, so that possible rental-rate differences between sectors exist while in the long run capital movements imply an equalization of rental rates. The simple two-sector model is presented to highlight the basic mechanisms that are not altered in a higher dimensional framework. Indeed, the empirical estimations are done using a n-dimensional version of the model.

There are several reasons to focus in short and long run horizons. As Neary (1978) points out, the traditional long run responses to relative price changes may differ substantially from those when some factors are not mobile in the short run. At the same time, the relevance of technological differences between firms within sectors is different in the short run when some firm-specific or sector-specific factor can absorb all the impact of technological differences. In the long run, all factor end up in the hands of the firms with best technologies (at least in the CRS case considered in this paper). Another issue where different horizons of analysis are relevant is the aggregate response of employment. While short run frictions in the reallocation of labor across sectors or across firms within sectors may have important unemployment consequences, in the long run it is expected that these frictions die out and full employment exists.

This section presents first the short and long run effects on a change in relative prices (due to changes in tariffs) in an economy with only native firms. The second part discusses the conditions under which firms with different technologies may coexist. In this context, it is discussed the effects of trade and FDI liberalization in the economy and conditions under which each one dominates. The third part discusses two complementary issues: the rationale for privatization of native state-owned firms and the role of technological transfers, and the potential short run employment costs.

## 2.1 Only Native Firms

Consider an economy with 2 tradable sectors where native firms (operated with native capital and technologies) produce in a perfectly competitive framework (in both goods and factor markets) with CRS technologies. In this framework, the equilibrium is characterized by factor-market clearing conditions and zero profit conditions.

The labor market clearing condition is

$$\bar{L} = \sum_{h=1}^X a_{Lh} Q_h \quad (1)$$

where  $\bar{L}$  is the total (inelastic) supply of labor in the economy,  $a_{Lh}$  is the amount of labor required to produce one unit of value-added in sector  $h$  and  $Q_h$  is value-added in sector  $h$ . The capital market clearing condition differs in the short and long runs. In the short run, capital is sector-specific, so

$$K_h = a_{Kh} Q_h \quad (2)$$

where  $K_h$  is the amount of capital in sector  $h$  at any point in time. In the long run, when capital is mobile across sectors

$$\bar{K} = \sum_h K_h = \sum_h a_{Kh} Q_h \quad (3)$$

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<sup>5</sup> The absence of non-traded sectors does not alter the message or details of the paper, as their interaction with tradable sectors come mainly from the pressures on factor market.

The zero profit conditions are given by

$$p_h = a_{Lh}w + a_{Kh}r_h \quad (4)$$

where  $p_h$  is the value-added price of good  $h$  as faced by producers. In the short run, at any point in time wages are the same across sectors while rental rate on capital may vary. This differences die out in the long run as capital moves between sectors.

In general, the effects of tariff liberalization work through changes in relative prices. I suppose that all change in tariffs is passed to producer prices. Implicitly, I am assuming that prices of foreign goods are set in external markets, and that local goods are close enough substitutes for foreign goods so that producer prices follow the path of foreign goods. Totally differentiating (1), (2) and (4) and combining with the definition of the elasticity of substitution between labor and capital<sup>6</sup> we can obtain the short run percentage change in wages and sectorial employment given by

$$\frac{\Delta w^s}{w^s} = \frac{\sum_h \lambda_{Lh} \mu_{Kh} \frac{\Delta p_h}{p_h}}{\sum_h \lambda_{Lh} \mu_{Kh}} \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{\Delta E_h}{E_h} = \lambda_{Lh} \frac{\Delta w^s}{w^s} \quad (6)$$

where  $\lambda_{Lh}$  is the share of employment in sector  $h$  in total employment and  $\mu_{Kh}$  is the cost share of capital in value-added. In the short run, wages respond to the relative changes in labor demand in each sector, that depend on the change in prices, the substitution possibilities between labor and capital in each sector<sup>7</sup> that is given by  $\frac{\Delta \mu_{Kh}}{\mu_{Kh}}$  and the relative size of each sector measured by their employment share  $\lambda_{Lh}$ . The actual change in employment depends of course on the relevant measure of real wages at each sector's level, that is the nominal wage deflated by the industry price level.

This results contrast with the long run changes in wages and employment that are given by

$$\frac{\Delta w^l}{w^l} = \frac{\mu_{K1} \Delta p_1 - \mu_{K2} \Delta p_2}{\mu_{K1} \mu_{L2} - \mu_{K2} \mu_{L1}} \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{\Delta E_h}{E_h} = \lambda_{Lh} \frac{f(p)}{\mu_{K1} \mu_{L2} - \mu_{K2} \mu_{L1}} \quad (8)$$

with  $f(p) = (\mu_{K1} \Delta p_1 - \mu_{K2} \Delta p_2) = (\mu_{K1} \mu_{L2} - \mu_{K2} \mu_{L1})$ . The response of wages is completely determined by external competitiveness conditions and it can be different from the short run response, especially because in the long run the size of the sectors do not matter. In the extreme case where  $\lambda_{Lh} = 0$ , it is clear that in the short run the response of wages is null and so is the reallocation of labor across sectors. In the long run though, wages changes depending on the relative factor intensity of the sectors (Stolper-Samuelson effects) while the allocation of labor remains constant.

Figure 5 illustrates the possible differences between short and long run adjustments in a Lerner-Pierce diagram. Consider a relative-price fall of labor-intensive good 2. By Stolper-Samuelson effects, the long run effect is a fall in the real wage ( $w_L$ ), with BB the long run isocost line. But in the short run it may

<sup>6</sup> By definition of the elasticity of substitution and with no technological change,  $\sigma_{Li} = \lambda_{Li} \frac{\Delta \mu_{Ki}}{\mu_{Ki}} = \lambda_{Li} \frac{\Delta w_i}{w_i}$  and  $\sigma_{Ki} = \mu_{Li} \frac{\Delta \mu_{Ki}}{\mu_{Ki}} = \mu_{Li} \frac{\Delta w_i}{w_i}$

<sup>7</sup> Jones (1971) shows that  $\frac{\Delta \mu_{Ki}}{\mu_{Ki}} = (\sigma_{Ki} - \sigma_{Li}) = (\mu_{Li} - \lambda_{Li}) \frac{\Delta w_i}{w_i}$ . This is the elasticity of the marginal productivity of labor of the mobile factor, defined as positive.

be the case that the employment share in capital-intensive sector 1 is much higher than in sector 2 or that the technology to produce good 2 allows no substitution between labor and capital, generating a rise in wages to  $w_S$  (point C). A difference in capital return in favor of sector 1 arises, that is eventually arbitrated as capital (and labor) moves from the labor-intensive to the capital-intensive sectors. Another strategy to figure out the long run change in production structure is to compare  $w_S$  and  $w_L$ . The fact that there is a fall in wages reveals that the relative  $K=L$  ratio released by the shrinking sector is smaller than that of the expanding sector, generating an excess supply of labor that generates a wage fall (see Mussa (1974)).

## 2.2 Incorporating Foreign Firms

Although I explicitly called 'native' the firms operating in the economy, nothing fundamental changes had I call them foreign or mixed. The structure of production does not depend on the ownership structure of the firms. How does then the presence of foreign firms affect the equilibrium in the economy? It is useful to think that competition between native and foreign firms can exist at two levels: competition in product markets and in factor markets. In the former, relative prices carry the relevant information to local producers, and its consequences can be analyzed in the framework presented in 2.1.

When foreign firms produce locally things change because competition arises in factor markets. If foreign firms have the same technologies than local firms then because of the CRS assumption there is no effect in the production structure. If foreign firms bring capital the only effect may come from the Rybczynski derivatives. As long as the economy remains in the same cone of diversification (capital-labor ratio does not rise "too-much") there are no effects on factor returns but the economy moves its production mix to a more capital-intensive one. The competitiveness of native firms is not affected by the presence of firms with other ownership structure.

Different is the case when foreign firms have better technologies than local ones. Competition on factor markets generate pressures on native firms that are not able to compete internally with high-tech firms. Notice that if the firms with the best technology are located abroad, it is possible for the native ones to subsist as the returns on internationally-immobile factors make the adjustment. Even in the case where there are arbitrage opportunities across countries on capital markets, wage differences can make local firms remain competitive. But when high-tech firms are allowed to compete in the same factor markets there are no degrees of freedom to compensate for technological differences.

This section presents a couple of interventions that allow a country to compensate for technological differences across firms within sectors. The exercise is then to estimate the effects of the removal of those restrictions, leveling the field of competition between firms with different ownership structure (or strictly speaking, with different technologies) and to compare them to the effects of changes in relative prices. The parallel to a liberalization process is that the latter refers to a tariff liberalization while the former is equivalent to a FDI liberalization.

Labor and capital are allocated to those firms and industries where they received higher returns. In a non-distorted world, firms with better technologies concentrate all factors and all other firms disappear. Can firms with different technologies coexist within industries? Several non-competing pre-liberalization alternatives may be assumed. One possibility is that foreign firms are allowed to produce internally but they are restricted to sell in the same conditions as less developed firms are, either because native

...rms receive price subsidies or because foreign ...rms are not allowed to sell in protected local markets, generating a price advantage on native ...rms of the size of the protective tariff.

Even with integrated product markets, there exists the possibility of distortions in factor markets. For example, labor laws that gives preferences to native ...rms or that impose extra restrictions on foreign ...rms may introduce a gap in wages that neutralizes the effects of technological differences in rental rates. By the same token, distortions in capital markets against high-tech ...rms may make the job. A third possibility is that with integrated product and factor market, capital owners of native ...rms are willing to accept lower rental rates. This may be the case of state-owned enterprises with some ideological commitment to state production and employment.

In terms of the model, I consider distortions in product and labor markets that imply an equalization of rental rates across sectors and across ...rms with different technology levels within sectors, so no incentives to capital movement are present in the long run equilibrium. There are native (h) and foreign (f) ...rms producing in each sector, and there exists an exogenous gap in wages between native and foreign ...rms  $w_h = w_f < 1$  and an exogenous product price gap in favor of native ...rms  $p_{hi} = p_{fi} > 1$  in each sector  $i$ . Appendix 2 shows that in the 2-sector case any technological gap between foreign and local ...rms can be compensated by a set of price and wage gaps. Totally differentiating the new labor market clearing condition implies

$$\frac{dw}{w} = \sum_{i2h} \frac{X_i}{L_i} da_{Li} Q_i + \sum_{i2h} \frac{X_i}{L_i} a_{Li} dQ_i + \sum_{i2f} \frac{X_i}{L_i} da_{Li} Q_i + \sum_{i2f} \frac{X_i}{L_i} a_{Li} dQ_i$$

In the special case where foreigners were not producing in the economy, the third term in the right hand side is zero and the last term is just  $\sum_{i2f} \frac{X_i}{L_i} a_{Li} dK_i = a_{Ki}$  where  $dK_i$  is the (exogenous) amount of capital brought by foreign ...rms when allowed to produce. The general expression for the short run response of wages as faced by native ...rms for tariff and FDI liberalization is given by

$$w^h = \frac{g(p)_i \prod_{i2f} \frac{X_i}{L_i} \frac{\mu_{Ki}^{3/4}}{\mu_{K_i}} \frac{w_{hi}}{Aw_{fi}} \prod_{i2h} \frac{X_i}{L_i} \frac{\mu_{Ki}^{3/4}}{\mu_{K_i}}}{\prod_{i2h} \frac{X_i}{L_i} \frac{\mu_{Ki}^{3/4}}{\mu_{K_i}} + \prod_{i2f} \frac{X_i}{L_i} \frac{\mu_{Ki}^{3/4}}{\mu_{K_i}} \frac{w_{hi}}{Aw_{fi}}} \quad (9)$$

with  $g(p) = \prod_{i2h} \frac{X_i}{L_i} \frac{\mu_{Ki}^{3/4}}{\mu_{K_i}} (\eta + \theta) + \prod_{i2f} \frac{X_i}{L_i} \frac{\mu_{Ki}^{3/4}}{\mu_{K_i}} \eta$  with  $\theta > 0$  is the multi-factor productivity gain associated with the adoption of the foreign technology and  $\hat{A}$  is the ...nal ratio of native to foreign wages (equal to 1 if all labor market distortions are removed). The convergence of the wage gap to 1 after the liberalization process is a disputable assumption because there exist evidence that foreign ...rms pay higher wages than native ...rms. This case is more difficult to support if domestic ...rms absorb completely the better technologies available for FIEs. The change in prices in (9) reflects both the change in tariffs for native ...rms and the homogenization of product prices for foreign ...rms. The associated change in wages relevant for foreign ...rms is  $w^f = w_{hi} = \hat{A} w_{fi} (1 + w^h)_i^{-1}$ .

It is clear from (9) that a pure tariff reduction in local ...rms generates a fall in nominal wages. The liberalization of FDI generates a rise in wages compared to the tariff liberalization because two forces push in the same direction. On the one hand, the rise in relative price for foreign ...rms generates a rise in demand for labor that tends to increase wages. On the other hand, the elimination of the wage gap between local and foreign ...rms runs against wages paid by local ...rms. If technological transfers to native ...rms take place an even higher pressure on wages arise from the shift of labor demand curves in native ...rms. As long as the differences in technology are wider the pressure on wages is higher.

Figure 6 depicts in a two-sector setting the impact of technological transfers. Consider that initially labor market distortions introduce a gap in wages paid by foreign and native firms that compensates the technological differences. The isocost curve for native enterprises is given by AA0 and the isocost for foreign firms is AA". The removal of this distortion implies an equalization of wages such that the new unique intercept in the L-axis (1/w) is in point B. In the short run and with no technological transfers there exist rental rate differentials between sectors and across firms in each sector. If technological transfers take place, the unit value-added isoquant for native firms shift inside to their foreign counterpart level and capital in sector 2 receives a rental rate  $r_2$  higher than the one in sector 1<sup>8</sup>. Rental rate differences within sectors disappear even without capital movements.

The return to capital is also significantly affected by FDI liberalization. It is possible to write the percentage change in capital return in sector  $i$  as

$$\Delta r_i = \frac{1}{\mu_{K_i}} \Delta \mu_i + \theta_i \mu_{L_i} \Delta w_i \quad (10)$$

It follows that a FDI liberalization unambiguously drops the rental rate on capital in native firms due to the rise in wages. This may be altered with technological convergence because a higher pressure on wages is compensated with productivity growth. The final effect depends on whether the rise in productivity more than compensates the higher employment costs due to convergence, that depend on the degree of technological transfers of the overall economy. The condition for the rental rate in native sector  $i$  to be higher with economy-wide convergence that without is<sup>9</sup>

$$\theta_i > \mu_{L_i} \frac{\sum_j \theta_j \mu_{K_j} \frac{\alpha_j}{\mu_{K_j}}}{\sum_j \theta_j \mu_{K_j} \frac{\alpha_j}{\mu_{K_j}} + \sum_j \theta_j \mu_{K_j} \frac{\alpha_j}{\mu_{K_j}} \frac{w_{fj}}{w_{Lj}}} \quad (11)$$

If  $\theta_i = \theta$  for all native sectors  $i$  then (11) always holds and technological transfers benefits all capital owners in local firms. In general, technological differences may vary across industries and (11) reveals that those sectors with less room to catch-up (technologies similar to the foreign ones) are the ones that do not benefit from (overall) convergence.

If the pressure on wages is high enough and technological transfers do not occur in some native firms, it is possible that the rental rate that keeps zero profit in some local firms becomes negative. This is more plausible in labor intensive sectors where the rise in wages hit the short run return on capital more than in capital intensive sectors. The relevant decision becomes to scrap the capital or not. If the rental rate is lower than its opportunity cost, then it may be optimal to scrap the capital. But if technological improvements in native firms take time and eventually will allow a positive rentability, then it may be in the interest of the native capitalists to keep the assets idle until better technological possibilities create a (normal) profit opportunity. The critical elements to consider is the speed of convergence, the scrappage value of the assets and the degree of compatibility between the foreign technology and the local capital. This last issue is important because it may be the case that local assets are incompatible with the latest technology. In this case, because convergence is not possible, scrappage becomes the only rational decision.

<sup>8</sup> For graphical purposes it is assumed that technological convergence of domestic firms does not affect wages, although we know from (9) that that is not the case.

<sup>9</sup> (11) is calculated under the assumption that wage differences are completely eliminated.

The short run response of employment in domestic firm  $i$  is given by

$$\epsilon_i = \frac{\frac{3}{4} \mu_i}{\mu_{K_i}} \left( \frac{\partial \ln \mu_i}{\partial \ln \mu_i} + \frac{\partial \ln \mu_i}{\partial \ln \mu_i} \right) \quad (12)$$

As in the case of rental rates, FDI liberalization pressures down employment in native firms due to the rise in wages. Technological convergence may alter this conclusion because as in the case of rental rates, the shift in labor demand due to technological transfer may compensate the fall in employment due to higher wages. The condition for employment in sector  $i$  to increase more or fall less with convergence than without is also equation (11), revealing the importance of the distribution of technological transfers across sectors.

The long run effects of FDI liberalization differ from the short run effects mainly because convergence in the long run is inevitable. Either native firms adopt the better technologies and directly compete with foreign firms or capital flows from local to foreign enterprises to get higher returns. In this context, the zero profit conditions for native and foreign firms are given by

$$\mu^h + \mu^h = \mu_{L_i} \omega^h + \mu_{K_i} b^h \quad (13)$$

$$\mu^f = \mu_{L_i} \omega^f + \mu_{K_i} b^f \quad (14)$$

where  $\omega^h$ ;  $\omega^f$ ;  $b^h$ ;  $b^f$  are the mandated change in native and foreign factor returns required to keep zero profit conditions in all sectors. It is possible to show that each equation in (13) for sector  $i$  is equal to the equation for sector  $i$  in (14) by using the definition of  $\mu^h$ . In other words, the long run equilibrium is independent of the ownership structure of the economy. The distribution of resources and returns to factors is determined by the technology set regardless of whether domestic firms adopt the new technologies by themselves or factors or production move to high-tech firms. If there is no convergence in native firms, then these firms get out of the market and only (14) holds. The case with no catch-up is one where the foreign economy continues operating and there is an increase in labor and capital endowment coming from native firms that by Rybczynski derivatives does not alter the factor returns (as long as we remain producing in the same cone of diversification). As discussed above in section 2.1, a comparison of the short and long run wage effects it is possible to get an approximation of the aggregate change in the production structure.

## 2.3 Two Complementary Issues

### 2.3.1 Privatizing state-owned firms

An interesting view of the rationale of privatizing follows from the model above by considering the case where native firms are state-owned enterprises with worse technology than foreign firms. The process of privatizing can be thought of as evaluating the possibility of resources used by domestic firms to be operated with the new technologies. In terms of the model, it is clear that the rationale for privatizing should be discussed considering mainly the short run impacts of it as in the long run the equilibrium is uniquely determined regardless of whether state-owned firms converge by themselves or sell their capital to firms with better technologies.

As discussed above, technological catch-up in the short run unambiguously benefits workers in state-owned firms while the effect on the rental rate on state capital is sector-specific as the benefits of access

to higher technologies may be compensated by higher wages. It follows that if the government is worried about workers welfare, then it should privatize its firms. If it is more worried about the return on capital then the decision is not too clear. The interesting point is that sectors that should be less willing to an overall privatizing program are those whose technologies are closer to the foreign ones, element that contrasts with the view that the government should keep protecting those sectors with higher disadvantages as workers there will be more hurt.

Two issues may affect the analysis above. First, if the assets in state-owned firms are incompatible with the foreign technologies then privatizing does not allow capital to operate with the best technology. In this scenario, some governments may prefer to avoid privatizing and keep subsidizing the operations of the state-firms in order to avoid important employment costs, even if the economically optimal decision is to scragpage the capital. This is not a likely scenario if that capital is in hands of private individuals.

A second issue is the role of fiscal and labor policies in sustaining the liberalization process. If a government is not willing to privatize in the short run and expect technological convergence in the medium run it is implicitly giving a subsidy that should be explicitly evaluated. If there are no real costs for privatizing and it is just a redistributive measure, then this implicit subsidy introduces a welfare cost. Different is the case if a smoother privatizing process avoids important unemployment costs that may have real benefits.

A final remark is required with respect to financial costs of no privatizing. The fall in rental rates in some sectors may impose an important financial burden on the financial system if important part of the credit is allocated in these state-owned firms. These issues are discussed in more detailed below for the specific case of China.

### 2.3.2 Unemployment

A second issue that is commonly discussed in liberalization processes is the possible unemployment costs associated with movement of resources across sectors. In many liberalization episodes with important output and employment costs it has been argued that more than reallocation across industries due to relative price changes, the big employment costs come from employment changes across firms with different technologies. This view is particularly relevant for the experiences of several ex-communists countries, specially East Germany, where the main impact on employment and output was probably the encounter of state-owned firms with high-tech east firms that introduce a strong pressures on factor markets that reduces dramatically employment in state-firms. As long as reallocation is costly, unemployment and output costs arise.

The approach followed here is just a simple exercise aimed to discussed how big the additional employment cost of a FDI liberalization may be. For that, consider the percentage change in aggregate employment in native firms that is given by the following expression

$$\Delta L_i = \sum_{i2h} \frac{X_i}{\mu_{K_i}} \frac{3/4_i}{\mu_{K_i}} (\theta_i + \theta_i) \omega^h \sum_{i2h} \frac{X_i}{\mu_{K_i}} \frac{3/4_i}{\mu_{K_i}} \quad (15)$$

where  $\omega^h$  is defined in (10). As discussed above and in appendix 3, any set of technological differences may be compensated with exogenous output price and wage gaps in order to make all firms competitive and keep a common rental rate. For sake of simplicity, I consider the case where all the burden is put on output prices, so that the pre-liberalization equilibrium is one where wages and capital returns are



The production function implicit in the model is one where labor and capital are used to produce value added, that add to intermediate inputs to produce ...nal output. Assuming a ...xed technology between intermediate inputs and K and L, what determines the allocation of resources is the evolution of the value added price. In a perfectly competitive setting the zero profit condition implies that

$$p_j^h \sum_{j \geq 1} a_{jh} p_j = p_j^{h,va} = a_{Lj}^h w_j^h + a_{Kj}^h r_j^h \quad (16)$$

where  $p_j^h$  is the local product price (including any tariffs), and  $a_{xh}$  is the amount of factor  $x = L; K$  required to produce one unit of output. Totally differentiating implies

$$\frac{dp_j^h}{p_j^h} - \sum_{j \geq 1} \frac{p_j^h}{p_j^h} \frac{dp_j^h}{p_j^h} = \frac{d p_j^{h,va}}{p_j^{h,va}} = \frac{\mu_{Lj}^h}{1} \frac{dw_j^h}{w_j^h} + \frac{\mu_{Kj}^h}{1} \frac{dr_j^h}{r_j^h} \quad (17)$$

where  $\mu_{Lj}^h$  and  $\mu_{Kj}^h$  are the share of labor and capital costs in total output in domestic sector  $j$ . Considering that local firms are protected from foreign competition through a tariff of  $t_j$  in sector  $j$  and that they also pay tariffs for their intermediate inputs, it follows that  $p_j^h = p_j^f (1 + t_j)$  for ...nal product in industry  $j$ . By plugging the formula for changes in product prices and intermediate product prices in (17) we get the change in nominal value-added prices for each industry. Implicitly, the method considers a 100% pass-through from tariffs to local prices. Because of lack of information with respect to the usage of intermediate inputs in each sector, I calculated from the ratio of output to value added the share in cost of intermediate inputs, and assuming that all are imported I applied the average tariff change as measure of its price change. Figure 7 shows the relative value-added price change for state-owned firms associated with the tariff reduction against the initial tariff level. The strong negative association (-0.78) reflects that the sectors most affected with the tariff changes are the most protected ones<sup>11</sup>. Being the labor-intensive sectors the most protected, this result suggests that a pure tariff liberalization would induce an important movement of resources out of labor intensive sectors in local industries. This represents the most important impact that entrance to WTO has on China.

### 3.2 Unification of Dual Economy

The other crucial element of the liberalization process in China refers to changes in relative protection and access to local markets for firms with different ownership structure. China's entrance to WTO considers the opening of the local markets to FDI, that is, freedom of access of foreign enterprises producing in China's borders to access the mainland markets. As discussed in section 1, this refers to equate the level of protection that native firms receive in product markets and also eliminate any possible labor market distortion between native and foreign firms<sup>12</sup>.

The tariff structure of china reveals that protection to foreign firms will reverse the effect of tariff liberalization to native firms. Indeed, Figure 7 and the high and significant correlation between the initial

<sup>11</sup> A similar result not shown holds for collective firms, where the correlation between initial protection level and relative value-added price change in -0.84.

<sup>12</sup> Strictly speaking, WTO prohibits discrimination against foreign firms, but do not prohibit discrimination against native firms. The position taken here is that the rules for foreign and native firms are set the same. See section 4.1 for a discussion of the relevance of this assumption.

and nominal tariff structure (0.83) reveals that increase in tariff protection to foreign firms benefit those sectors with higher fall in relative prices due to tariff reduction in native firms. A second impact of the liberalization of FDI concerns the role of technological differences between foreign and native firms. As the model suggests, these are critical in a scenario of integration between both systems.

### 3.3 Measuring Technological Differences

Technological differences between state, collective and foreign firms have been considered as explanations for several stylized facts in China in the last 30 years. The first observation is the observed evolution of competition in local markets. It has been well established that being in theory equally treated, there have been an important crowding out of state enterprises in hands of collective ones. The basic reason given is that those companies are more flexible in their resource allocations decision and in their contact with external markets, being able to trade without the intervention of government officials. It is probably the better technology of these quasi-private firms that make them grow at the expense of state-owned firms. A second evidence of higher technological progress in collective firms is provided in Brandt and Zhu (2000) explaining the output-inflation cycle in China. The argument is that more-productive collective firms have generated an increase in bank credit directed to them in comparison to state-firms. The commitment of China's government with state employment and production has been translated in money creation (soft budget) to finance their deteriorated position. As long as credit is assigned to those projects (collective-firms) with higher returns, the economy grows and inflation rises. In this context, the existence of state-owned firms in direct competition with collective firms is explained by artificial subsidies from the Bank of China.

The methodology proposed to estimate technological differences is summarized in Figure 8, where the axis are labor and capital and depicted are the unit value-added isoquants for a typical domestic and foreign firm in a given industry. In this case, the capital/labor ratio is higher in foreign firms than in local ones (just for graphical example, although the data shows that this is the most general case). Given the different observed techniques of production, and in order to disentangle between technique and technological differences, we correct for differences in relative input prices observed between firms in similar industries. For that, it is estimated the movement along the unit value-added isoquant in foreign firms for equate the  $w=r$  in state and collective enterprises. After correcting for price differences, the distance between  $AA_0$  and  $BB_0$  isocost lines reflect the differences in technology and define implicitly the productivity gains for native firms associated with convergence. The specific steps and data requirement are the following.

#### 3.3.1 Initial data requirement

The data needed to estimate technological differences are:

1. Measures of relative factor per unit of value-added requirements in different firms in each sector:  $a_{Lj}^F = a_{Lj}^n$  where  $a_{ij}^n$  is the amount of input  $i$  required to produce one unit of value-added in firm  $n =$  (state;collective) in industry  $j$ .

2. Measures of relative wages and rental rates between foreign and native firms:  $w_j^F = w_j^S$  and  $r_j^S = r_j^F$  where  $f_j^m$  is the return to factor  $f$  (labor;capital) in firm  $m$  (foreign; state; collective) in sector  $j$ .

How do we compute these variables for the case of China?

$\mu_{Lj} = a_{Lj}^m w_j^m = p_j^m$  is the cost share of labor in total value added in industry  $j$  where  $p_j^m$  is the value added price as defined above in section 3.1. It follows that

$$\frac{a_{Lj}^F}{a_{Lj}^n} = \frac{\mu_{Lj}^F p_j^F w_j^n}{\mu_{Lj}^n p_j^n w_j^F} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{a_{Kj}^F}{a_{Kj}^n} = \frac{\mu_{Kj}^F p_j^F r_j^n}{\mu_{Kj}^n p_j^n r_j^F}$$

There exist data on  $L_j^F = L_j^n$ ;  $V A_j^F = V A_j^n$  and  $w_j^F = w_j^n$  and it is possible to estimate the ratio of value-added prices with the following formula

$$\frac{p_{vai}^F}{p_{vai}^n} = \frac{p_i^a i}{p_{i2F} a_{i2n}^F p_j^a (1 + t_i)} = \frac{1}{1} \frac{\mu_{Lj}^F}{\mu_{Lj}^n} \frac{1}{1 + t_i}$$

With this information, it is possible to estimate

$$a_{Lj}^F = a_{Lj}^n = (L^F = Q^F p^S) \frac{1}{(Q^S p^F = L^S)}$$

Additionally, approximating capital stock with the value of total assets in the balance sheet we calculate  $a_{Kj}^F = a_{Kj}^n = K_j^F = K_j^n \frac{1}{Q_j^F} \frac{1}{Q_j^n} \frac{1}{p_j^F} = p_j^F$  and from here it follows the estimation of  $r_j^S = r_j^F$ .

### 3.3.2 Correcting for differences in w=r ratios

Compare the wage-rental rate ratio between foreign and native firms in each sector and calculate the required change in  $(w=r)^F$  in order to be equal to the ratio in native firms.

Let  $w^n = w^F = \omega$  and  $r^n = r^F = \tau$ . It implies

$$\frac{d(w=r)^F}{(w=r)^F} = \frac{(w=r)^n}{(w=r)^n} = \frac{\omega^f}{\tau^f} = \omega^{-1} \tau^1$$

It is possible now to estimate the new factor intensity ratios between foreign and native firms. By definition of the elasticity of substitution

$$\sigma_{Lj}^F = \frac{1}{\mu_{Kj}^F} \frac{1}{\omega_j^F \tau_j^F} \quad \sigma_{Kj}^F = \frac{1}{\mu_{Lj}^F} \frac{1}{\omega_j^F \tau_j^F}$$

It follows the ratio of factor intensities between foreign and native firms for similar w=r:  $(a_{Lj}^F = a_{Lj}^n)^0 = a_{Lj}^F = a_{Lj}^n \frac{1}{(1 + \sigma_{Lj}^F)}$  and  $(a_{Kj}^F = a_{Kj}^n)^0 = a_{Kj}^F = a_{Kj}^n \frac{1}{(1 + \sigma_{Kj}^F)}$ . The elasticity of substitution between labor and capital is assumed the same across different firms in the same industry, and its estimation is detailed in appendix 3.

### 3.3.3 Correcting for price differences

The correction for the "observed" price differences between foreign and state and collective firms will be reflected in the wage rate as well as the rental rate. The production technique does not change as seen in the formulae above and the share of labor and capital in value added remains the same. The new wage and rental rate implicitly include the price differences with either state and collective firms.

### 3.3.4 Comparing production costs

The final step then is to compute the productivity gain in each native firm associated with technological convergence. By definition  $TFP_j^n = \mu_{L_j}^n a_{L_j}^n \mu_{K_j}^n a_{K_j}^n$ . We estimate  $a_{L_j}^n$  and  $a_{K_j}^n$  such that  $a_{L_j}^F = a_{L_j}^n = a_{K_j}^F = a_{K_j}^n = 1$ . This implies

$$a_{L_j}^n = \frac{1 + (a_{L_j}^n = a_{L_j}^F)^0}{(a_{L_j}^n = a_{L_j}^F)^0}$$

$$a_{K_j}^n = \frac{1 + (a_{K_j}^n = a_{K_j}^F)^0}{(a_{K_j}^n = a_{K_j}^F)^0}$$

Table 3 reports the changes in multi-factor productivity in state-owned and collectively-owned firms from adopting foreign technologies. Additionally, it reports the ratio of the cost of producing one unit of value-added in foreign firms over native firms estimated as  $c^n = c^f = 1 / (1 + TFP_j^n)$ . This ratio, if higher than 1, reflects the technological advantage of foreign firms over local (state) firms expressed as a proportion of the foreign costs. That is, a ratio of 1.6 reflects that the cost of producing one unit value-added in the foreign sector is 37.5% lower ( $1 - 1/1.6$ ) than in state firms. That is the equivalent price increase required for local firms to compete with foreign ones by paying the unit factor costs or equivalently the productivity gains for native firms associated with acquiring foreign technologies.

The results show that FIEs have technological advantages over state-owned enterprises in all industries, being the highest gap in Professional and Scientific Equipment industries (ISIC 385) and the lowest in Tobacco industries (ISIC 314). Interestingly, the results show that collective firms that technologies much more in line with foreign ones. Moreover, in 8 out of 23 industries the results show a technological superiority of collective over foreign firms. Overall, collective firms have better technologies than state-owned enterprises in 22 out of 23 sectors. Without Tobacco the correlation between technological gap in state and collective firms against foreign enterprises is 0.68, significant at 1%, revealing that the sectorial distribution of technological deficiencies is similar in both groups.

Are these estimates reasonable? I answer yes for three reasons.

1. Calculations for COEs and SOEs show that the former have technologies much more in line with international firms than the latter. As discussed above several empirical features of the economy are explained by a higher technological development of collective firms.

2. The sectors with higher share of foreign firms in total output are those where the technological advantage of foreign firms is higher (see figure 9). Comparing state and foreign firms, the correlation between the cost equivalent of the technological gap and the share of foreign firms in total output is 0.61, significant at 1% level. Although local firms have a price advantage over foreign firms because of their protection through tariffs, figure 9 reveals that the different penetration rates of foreign firms is partially explained by differences in technologies. The equivalent correlation for collective firms is also positive but not significant.

3. Finally, as a mirror image of point 2, figure 10 shows that the technological gap is higher in labor-intensive foreign sectors, consistent with the evidence that foreign firms penetration is higher in labor-intensive sectors and also higher in sectors with wider technological differences. This suggests that the high protection in labor-intensive sectors for domestic firms is a way to compensate for their technological backwardness.

We have now all the elements required to answer the empirical questions that motivate this paper: What are the factor allocation consequences of China's entrance to WTO?, Who gains and loses in China with WTO?, Is FDI liberalization economically relevant or the tariff liberalization dominates the expected outcome?

## 4 Empirical Results

The estimations presented are based on a generalization of the model of section 2 that allows for three types of firms in each sector: state, collective and foreign firms for 23 3-digit ISIC manufacturing sectors. This is critical because the presence of more goods than factors generates a mathematical indeterminacy of the production structure in the long run. As a consequence, the strategy to estimate the long run effects on factor returns and factor allocation has to change. I follow Leamer (1998) who estimates a set of mandated wage and rental rate changes in order to keep zero profit conditions in all sectors. It assumes that the initial equilibrium in the economy is one where rental rates and wages are arbitrated across sectors within firms with different ownership structure. The long run model to estimate becomes

$$p_{fx1} = \mu_{L^f} \mu_{K^f} \frac{\tilde{A}^f}{f_{x2}^f} \frac{w^f}{b^f} + \pi_{fx1} \quad (18)$$

The even model in section 2 showed that in the long it does not matter whether foreign firms adapt the new technologies by themselves or sell their capital to firms with better technologies: the long run impact on factor returns and factor allocation is independent of who owns the capital if all factors have access to the same technology frontier. The comparison of wage responses in the short and long runs provides a relevant estimation for the long run changes in the production structure.

### 4.1 Short Run Effects

The first step is to estimate the equilibrium change in state, collective and foreign wages when tariffs change in such a way that value-added prices are equal across firms in each industry and the removal of all restrictions to foreign firms mandate an equalization of wages across firms<sup>13</sup>. Computing the value of the right hand side of (10) implies a fall in foreign wages of 44.1%, a rise in state and collective wages of 38.7% and 16.1% respectively if technological transfers take place. Otherwise, there is a fall in wages in foreign firms of 56.8% accompanied with a mild rise in state wages of 2.5% and a fall in wages paid by collective enterprises of 14.2%, revealing that workers are unambiguously benefited with technological convergence in the short run. Table 4 shows the estimations for changes in rental rates and employment in native firms for the two extreme alternative convergence criteria. Employment changes are computed using equation (12) and rental rate changes are the implicit residual in equation (13). There are several implications.

1. Without technological transfers, employment levels and rental rates are lower than with convergence in all state-owned firms. This reflects that the productivity gains from convergence more than

<sup>13</sup> This assumption is more reasonable if convergence takes place because in that case it is more difficult to explain wage differentials. If technological transfers do not exist, then it might be possible that some equilibrium gap in wages remains. In this case, there is a higher rise or smaller fall in wages for all firms.

compensate the higher wages. Furthermore, the fact that all firms gains with convergence reflects that the technological gap with foreign firms is similar across sectors. This is not the case on collective firms, where the gap varies significantly across sectors, and hence the sectors with less productivity gains (or with falls in productivity) are those hurt with overall convergence. Recall that as long as product prices, technologies and wages converge, the return to capital equalizes across firms within industries even in the short run when capital is immobile.

2. The correlation coefficient of rental rate changes with and without technological transfers is 0.83 is state firms and 0.49 for collective firms. Similar correlations hold for employment changes. Two factors explain this result. First, changes in relative prices due to tariff changes and the productivity gains associated with convergence are not correlated neither in SOEs (-0.01) nor in COEs (-0.13). Second, the dispersion of technological gap in state firms is low enough so that the employment and rental rate responses are dominated by tariff changes. This effect is milder in collective firms. Overall, technological convergence is critical in the short to establish winners and losers with the liberalization process but it does not affect significantly the change in production structure due to the low enough variance in technological differences between sectors in comparison with the tariff changes.

3. Figure 11 plots the change in aggregate sectorial employment in the case of convergence (by adding the net effects in each sector for different firms) against a relative measure of capital intensity as used in section 1. No significant pattern of change in the production structure is expected, revealing that the labor-intensive bias of the tariff reduction is small enough and partially compensated with the rise in protection for foreign firms. As discussed above, technological transfers do not alter this pattern. Figure 12 confirms the result from a different perspective; there is a close association of (aggregate) sectorial changes with and without technological transfers.

4. The aggregate response of employment in state-owned enterprises provides a good idea of how big the employment costs may be. If technological transfers take place, state firms are expected to increase their employment level in the short run by 2.9 million workers. Without technological transfers, the shrinkage in state employment is about 6.3 millions of workers. The difference represents almost 10% of total employment in manufacturing, revealing that the employment costs in the "local" economy may be important if labor movements have frictions. Adding both state and collective firms, the fall in employment is very similar under both convergence assumptions (fall of 4.3 million without convergence and fall of 3.4 millions with convergence). This results is determined by the fact that the pressure on wages from native firms is high enough so that in general the technological gains in collective firms are more than compensated by higher wages<sup>14</sup>.

So far, it has been assumed that technological transfer are exogenous. Can we say something about them? If there are incompatibilities between local capital and foreign technologies, convergence is not possible. In that case, as discussed in section 2, the decision on capital owners is whether to scrap the capital or not. Considering that the opportunity cost of capital is zero, table 4 reveals that no scrapping is expected for no sectors have a fall in rental rate lower than -100%. In this case, it seems better for capital owners to continue producing until the assets are completely depreciated. The decision

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<sup>14</sup>These results assume that technological convergence is to foreign technology and not to the best available technology (recall that some collective firms appear to have better technologies than foreign firms). The results are not significantly altered if we consider convergence to the best available technology. Indeed, in this case the fall in total native (state and collective) employment is of 3.5 million workers.

to scrap may be difficult due to employment commitment in state-owned enterprises. If reallocation of employment is not costless, then governments may decide to keep firms producing even with a rental rate lower than its opportunity cost. The experience of German unification is very illustrative because the government decided to keep subsidizing state firms with negative rentability to prioritize employment over employment reallocation. Akerlof et al., (1991) present and defend this position as the optimal one. Dornbusch (1991) and Guitien (1991) sustain that artificial protection for employment limits resource reallocation, jeopardizing the transformation process and having a negative welfare effect in the long run.

Different is the situation if technological transfers are only possible through privatizing. From a conceptual point of view, it is clear that the value of state capital in private hands (with better technologies) is higher than the value for the government. The degree of competition in the privatizing process will determine how gains that difference. This problem is at the core of the liberalization discussion in Eastern Europe, as many privatizing processes have been delayed not only due to disputes over property rights but also due to lack of competition. Workers are always benefited with privatization unless important unemployment costs arise.

Another implication of the result above are the consequences on the banking system and fiscal accounts. The "irrational" allocation of credit towards state-owned firms in order to keep them producing under increasing competition suggests that drastic falls in the rate of return of those firms can generate an important financial problem to the creditors, as the value of their assets may fall dramatically with important patrimonial losses. On the fiscal side, the extensive use of subsidies to allow a smooth transition and the potential fall in government revenue because of the deteriorated situation of state-owned firms may imply an important rise in fiscal deficits. Again, the comparison with Germany is useful because the West side was the strong support for the policies executed by the newly formed country. As long as no West China appears in the map, fiscal restrictions may impose a sharp adjustment.

A final word is required to discuss the relevance of the liberalization process analyzed. As mentioned in footnote 13, the assumption is that all differences between foreign and native firms disappear, element that does not necessarily follow WTO rules, that prohibit discrimination against foreign firms but not against native ones. In the case where original preferences over FIEs are not altered (tax exemptions and intermediate-input remission) the results (not reported) show that even higher pressures on wages affect negatively employment and rental rates in domestic firms. This reflects an interesting dichotomy for china's authorities, because the removal of preferences for foreign firms benefit workers but hurt themselves. The actions that China take may end up providing a natural experiment on the relative weights that the state puts on workers welfare and its own capital return in the liberalization process.

## 4.2 Long Run Effects

The main result presented in this sub-section concern the estimation of the long run effects on factor returns of the liberalization process (equation (18)). As discussed in section 2, these results are not affected by the timing or type of (inevitable) convergence. The results of the estimation for 23 ISIC industries is

$$\ln^f = \beta_i - 0.56 \ln^f_{L_i} + 0.39 \ln^f_{K_i} + \epsilon_i$$

The fall in wages in foreign firms of 56% implies a long run rise in state-firms wages of 4.2% and a fall in collective wages of 12.8%. This reveals that the long run impact of the liberalization process benefits

workers in state firms but hurt all the rest. At the same time, wages fall compared to the short run equilibrium with technological convergence. This is a very important result because convergence in the short run imply equalization of rental rates across firms within sectors even without capital movements. As a consequence, the result reveals that the long run movement of capital and labor across sectors is from labor-intensive sectors to capital-intensive sectors. The relative  $K=L$  released by shrinking sectors is lower than  $K=L$  in expanding sectors, generating a fall in wages and rise in rental rates.

This result does not say anything with respect to the long run change in production structure compared to the initial situation, because the rental rate differential across firms in each sector in the pre-liberalization situation does not allow us to reveal resource reallocation across sectors by comparing wage changes. But considering that the short run results do not show a clear pattern of change in employment across sectors with different factor intensities, it is possible to conclude that the production structure of China should move towards a more capital-intensive mix in the long run<sup>15</sup>.

## 5 Conclusion

Competition of domestic firms with foreign sources of production takes place in product markets. The information is transmitted through relative prices, and as long as there is limited international mobility of factors, differences in productivity are traduced in differences in factor returns. The presence of FDI introduces a new place for competition: factor markets. If there are technological differences between firms, disadvantaged firms do not have degrees of freedom to adjust and are condemned to disappear. The most relevant element in a trade liberalization episode may not be the change in relative prices through tariff reductions but the increasing access to foreign firms to produce locally.

The case of China and WTO provides a natural experiment for a liberalization process where the access of foreign firms to domestic markets may overcome the effects of tariff changes. Although important steps towards a market economy have taken place in the last two decades, important distortions remain. WTO demands from China a change in tariff structure but more importantly a break in the dual economic system. The projected results in terms of income distribution, production structure as well as the situation of public enterprises suggests that the step by the Chinese government is a difficult test for the whole liberalization effort.

Overall, the situation of China is similar to the one lived by East Germany at the beginning of the 1990s in its unification process with the West. The encounter of backward East firms with highly developed West firms is probably the most significant element in the German unification, and according to the predictions in this paper, a similar phenomena may be lived by inward-oriented China in its encounter with outward-oriented China.

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<sup>15</sup> Due only to the fall in distortions after entrance to WTO.

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## APPENDIX 1: DATA DESCRIPTION

The data used consists of trade and production data. Production data is disaggregated at the 3 digit ISIC level and comes from UNIDO data set and the 1997 China Statistical Yearbook. Data of Output, value added and employment is provided for enterprises with independent account systems, that represent 69% of total manufacturing employment. It is assumed that this sample is a representative sample of all manufacturing sector. Data is divided between state-owned enterprises (SOEs), collective and share holding enterprises (COEs) and foreign funded and enterprises funded overseas (FIEs). Output and value added is detailed for each industry (23 3-digit ISIC categories, see foot note 1), and employment levels are at each industry are only present for SOEs. Average productivity provided in the Yearbook (Value-added/employment) is used to back up the employment levels in COEs and FIEs. The assumption that average productivity is as twice as high in foreign firms than in collective firms is used to back up employment levels in collective firms, and variations of this assumption does not alter the results.

The data set also provides information on relative wages for state, collective and foreign firms, and these ratios are assumed to hold in each industry. With that it is possible to calculate the share of labor and capital costs in total value-added, and using the ratio of output to value-added we back up the share of intermediate inputs in total output. The results show that foreign firms are more capital intensive than local firms in each sector, and no big difference exist between state and collective enterprises. Also, as expected because of the existent tariff exemption regime, FIEs are more intensive in intermediate (foreign?) inputs than domestic firms.

Trade data is available at the 4 digit SITC level from Robert Feenstra (2000), and is transformed into 3 digit ISIC level in order to make it comparable to the production series. Specifically, by assuming linearity between 5 and 4 digit SITC it is possible to use the concordance table between 5 digit SITC and 4 digit ISIC to transform the 4d SITC data into ISIC data. To estimate the tariff level at the 3 and 4 digit ISIC level, I used the tariff schedule of China at the 10 digit HS for 1999 and the concordance table between HS10 and SITC5. It is possible then to get the "supposed" revenues from 1997 imports by multiplying the nominal tariff by the import level at the 5 and then 4 digit SITC. Although it is known that important tariff exemptions exist in China, the results are very resistant to different taxable import vector. By using the concordance table between 4 digit SITC and 4 digit ISIC it is possible then to obtain an estimation of the trade and tariff structure compatible with production data.

## APPENDIX 2: COMPENSATING FOR TECHNOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES

Consider two sectors with foreign and native firms. All firms operate with Leontief production functions. Technologies of native and foreign firms are such that

$$\begin{aligned} a_{Li}^h &= \theta_{Li}^h \zeta a_{Li}^f \\ a_{Ki}^h &= \theta_{Ki}^h \zeta a_{Ki}^f \\ a_{Lj}^h &= \theta_{Lj}^h \zeta a_{Lj}^f \\ a_{Kj}^h &= \theta_{Kj}^h \zeta a_{Kj}^f \end{aligned}$$

where  $\theta_{l;g}^h$  is the technology gap in factor  $l = K; L$  for firm type  $h$  (domestic) in industry  $g = i; j$ . Consider a set  $(\omega; \omega_i; \omega_j)$  such that  $w^h = \omega w^f$ ;  $p_i^h = \omega_i \zeta p_i^f$  and  $p_j^h = \omega_j \zeta p_j^f$ .

**Proposition 1** There exists a set  $(\alpha_i; \beta_j)$  such that for any combination of technological gaps  $(\alpha_i^h; \alpha_i^f; \beta_j^h; \beta_j^f)$  both native and foreign firms are competitive and there is a unique rental rate in the economy.

**Proof.** The zero profit condition for foreign firms in sector  $g = i; j$  are

$$p_g^f = a_{Lg}^f W^f + a_{Kg}^f r^f$$

As a consequence, given Leontief technologies (known) and international prices (known), there is a unique set of wages and rental rates that make foreign firms competitive and operative in equilibrium.

The set of zero profit conditions for native firms in sector  $g$  is given by

$$p_g^h = a_{Lg}^h W^h + a_{Kg}^h r^h$$

that can be rewritten as

$$\beta_j p_g^f = \alpha_i^h a_{Lg}^f \beta_j W^f + \alpha_i^h a_{Kg}^f r^h$$

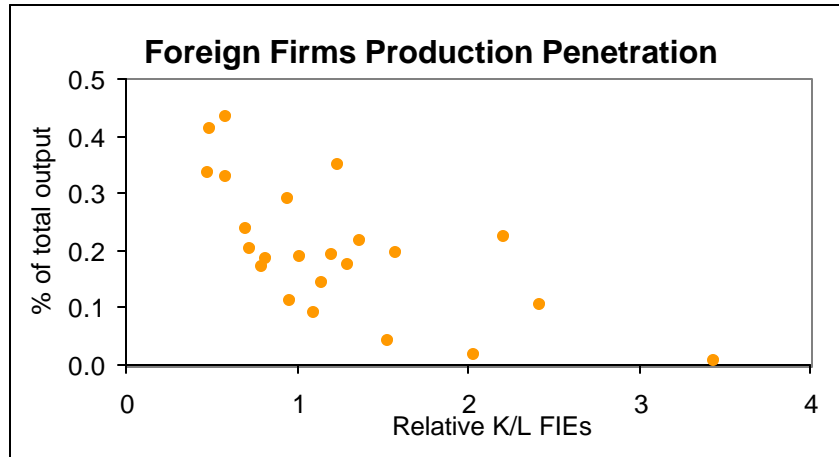
It follows that for  $r^h = r^f$  there exists a combination of  $(\alpha_i; \beta_j)$  that satisfy both equations. ■

### APPENDIX 3: ESTIMATION OF ELASTICITY OF SUBSTITUTION

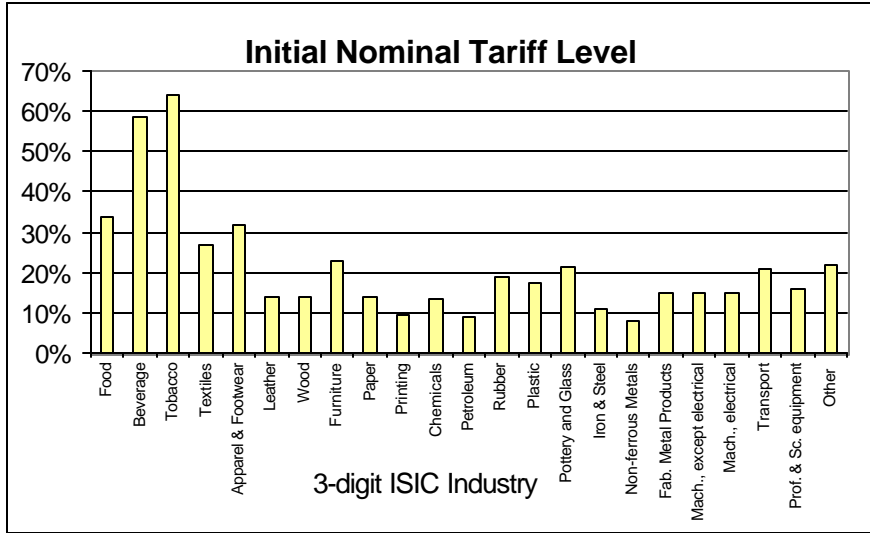
Consider a simple CES production function of the form  $q = (aK^{\frac{1}{2}} + bL^{\frac{1}{2}})^{1=1/2}$ . Combining the first order conditions with respect to capital and labor we get  $\ln w = r = \ln b = a + (\frac{1}{2} - 1) \ln L = K$ .

The estimation of this equation using 29 3-digit ISIC manufacturing cross-country data for 1996 provides an estimator of the elasticity of substitution  $\frac{1}{\sigma} = 1 - (\frac{1}{2})$ . The database provides information on sectorial employment for each country and sectorial capital stock in each country is calculated as the sum of capital accumulation for 20 years using a depreciation rate of 5%. Wages are estimated as total wage bill divided by the number of workers and rental rate is estimated as value-added minus wage bill divided by capital stock. The results are detailed in table 5, that also reports the  $R^2$  of each regression as well as the number of countries with enough data in each industry. For the estimation in the paper, a simple weighted average of the elasticities of substitution was used when the sector aggregation comprised more than one 3-digit ISIC industry. The results are invariant to alternative assumptions.

# Figure 1



# Figure 2





# Figure 4

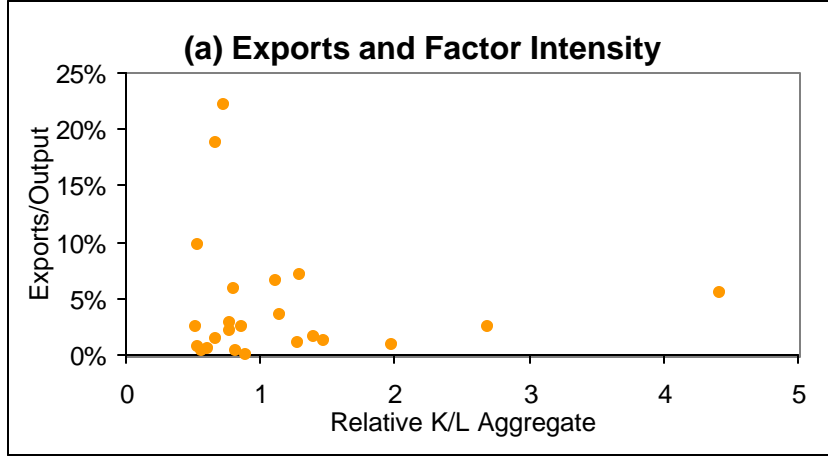


Figure 5

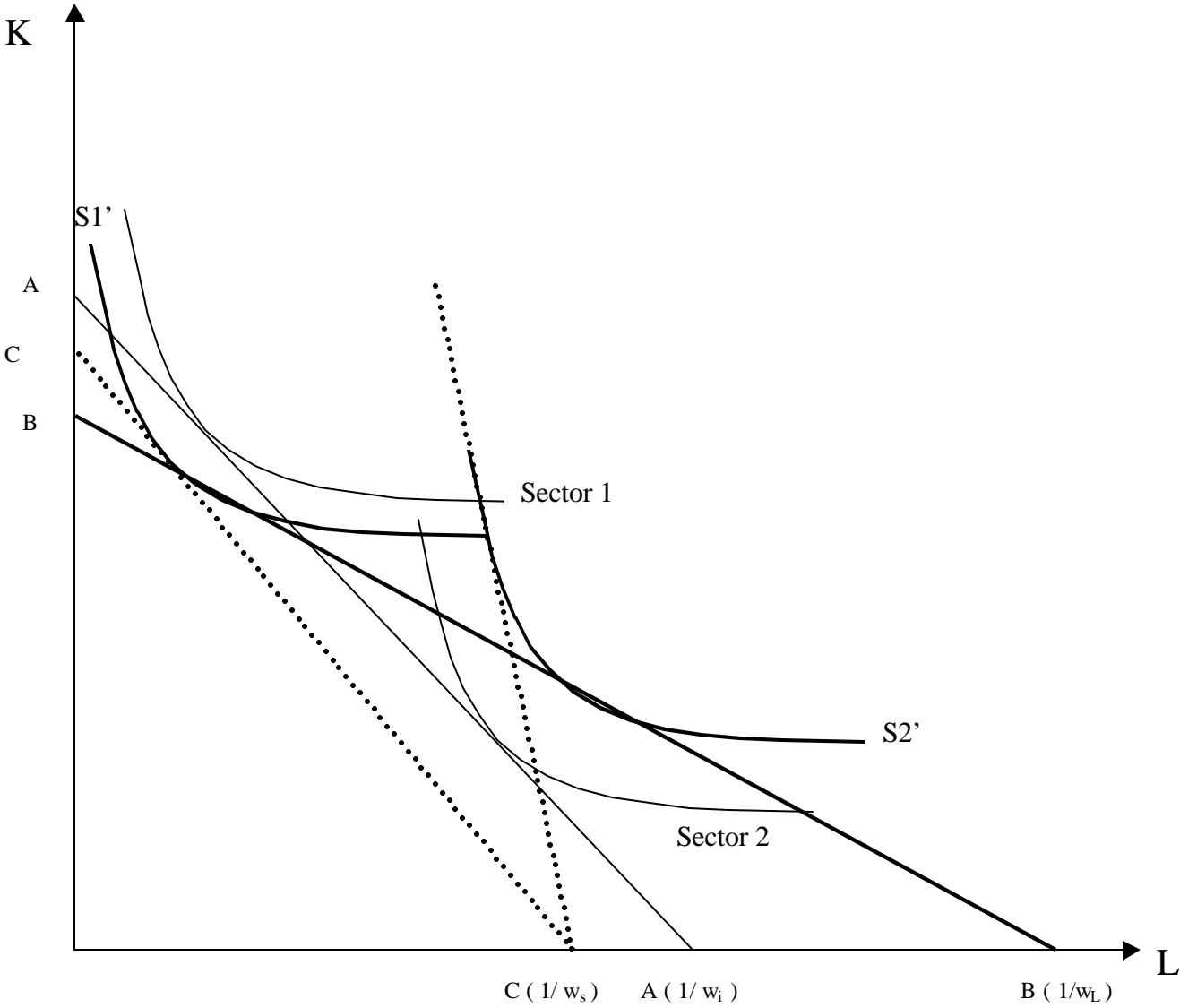
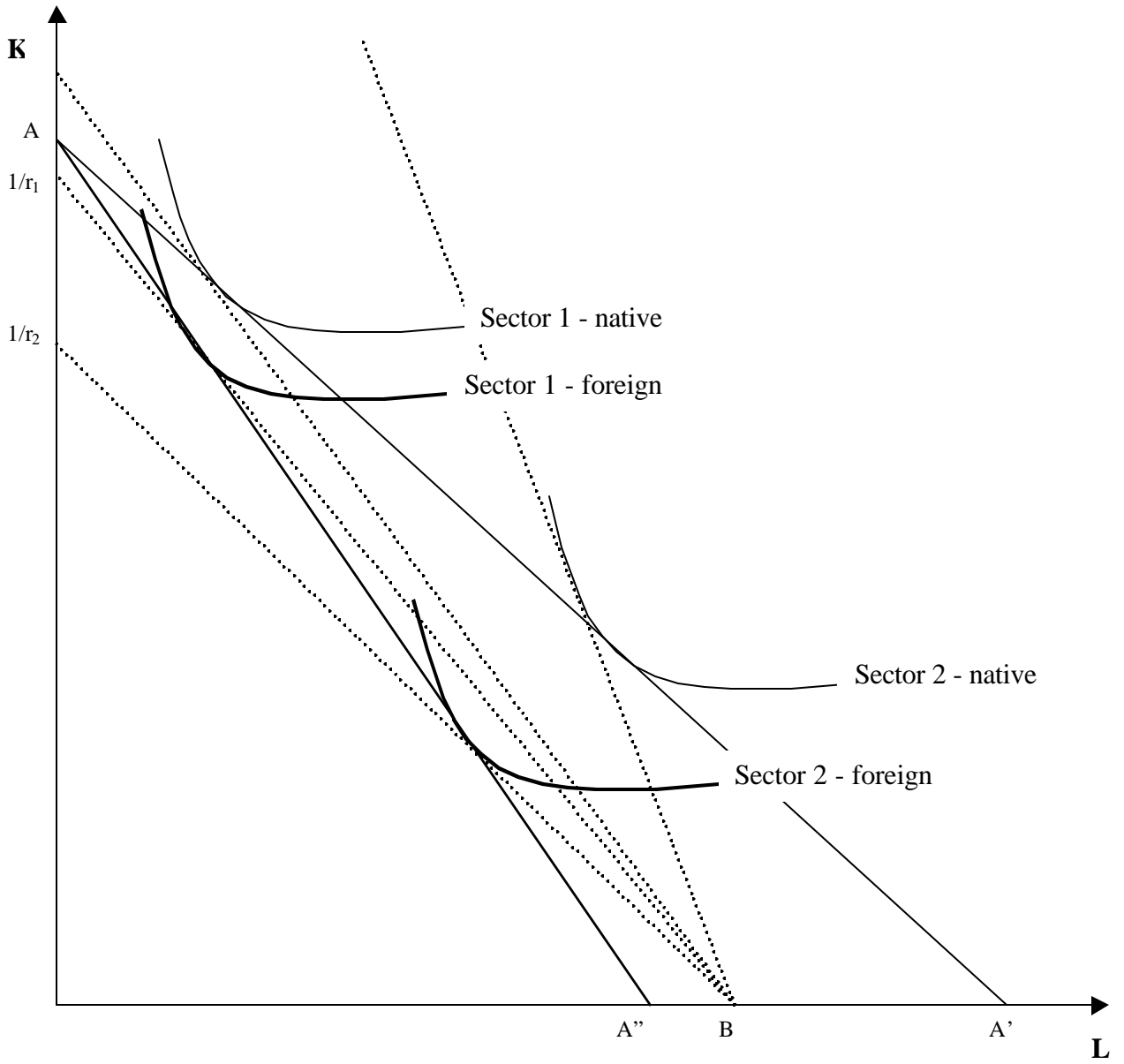
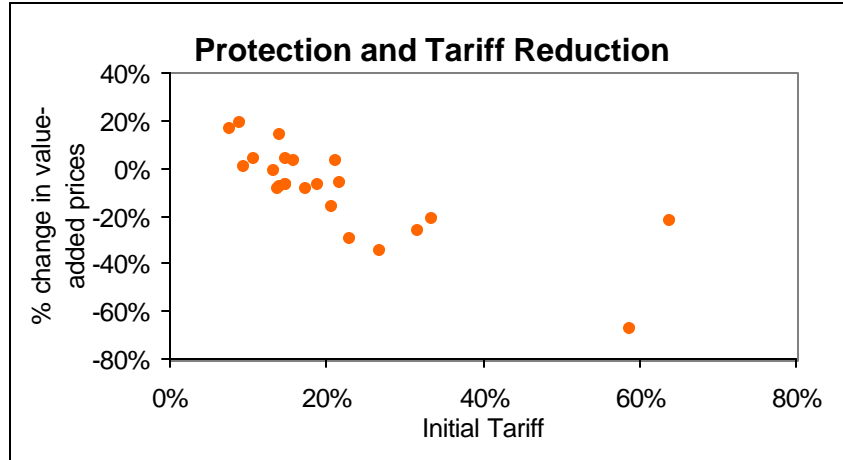


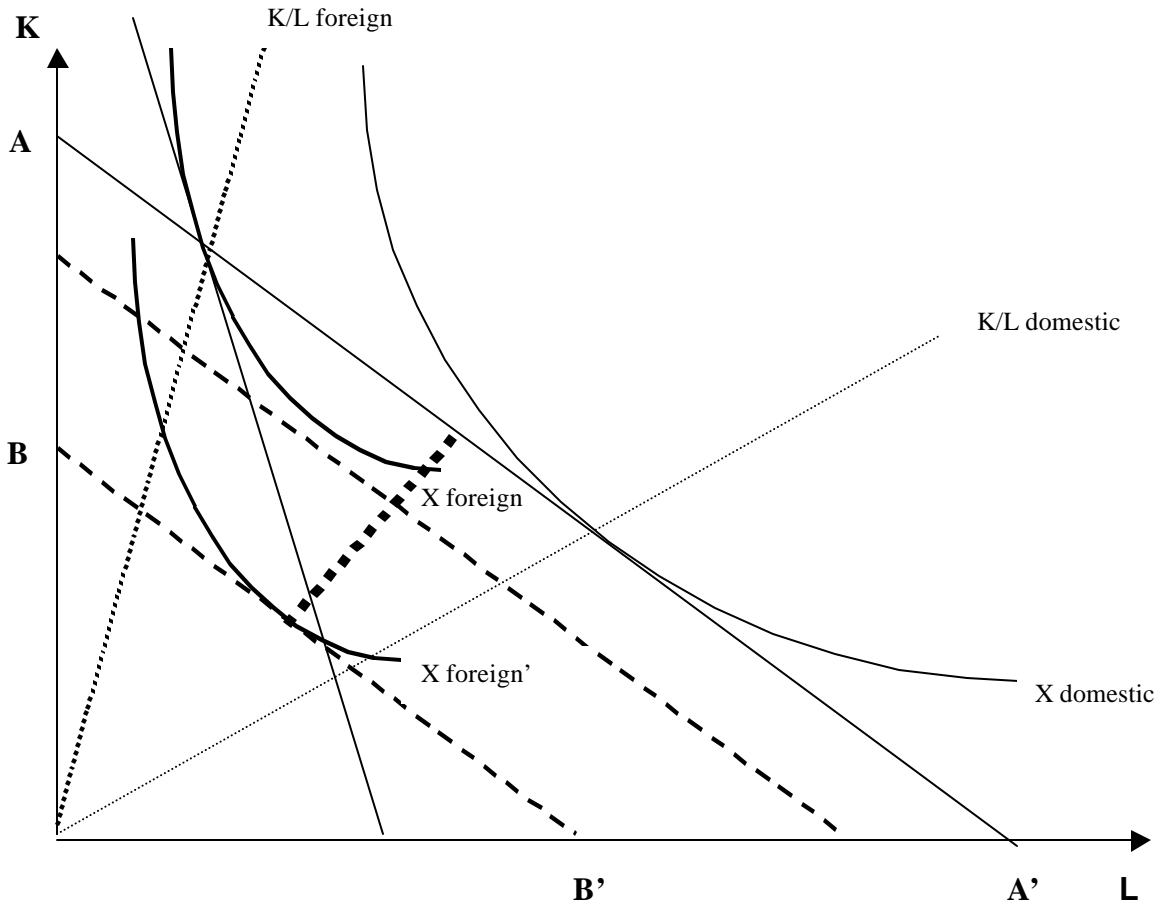
Figure 6



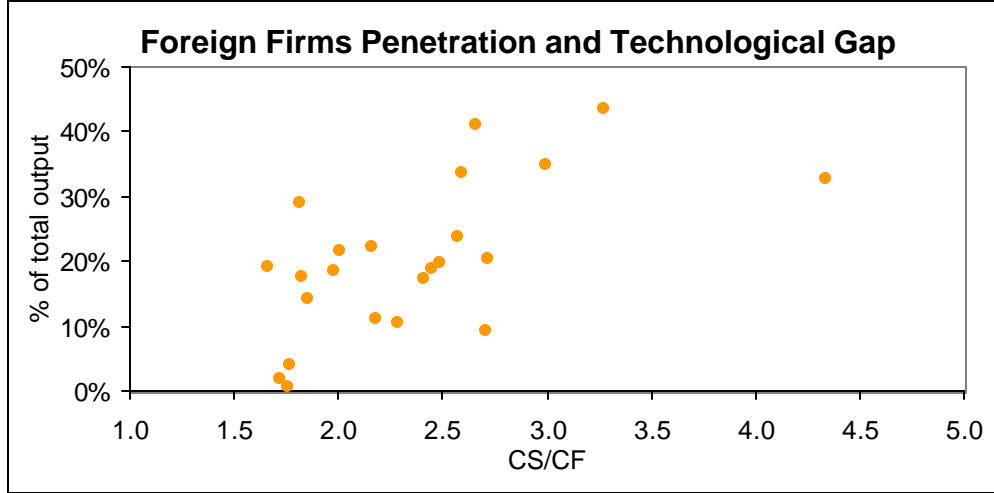
# Figure 7



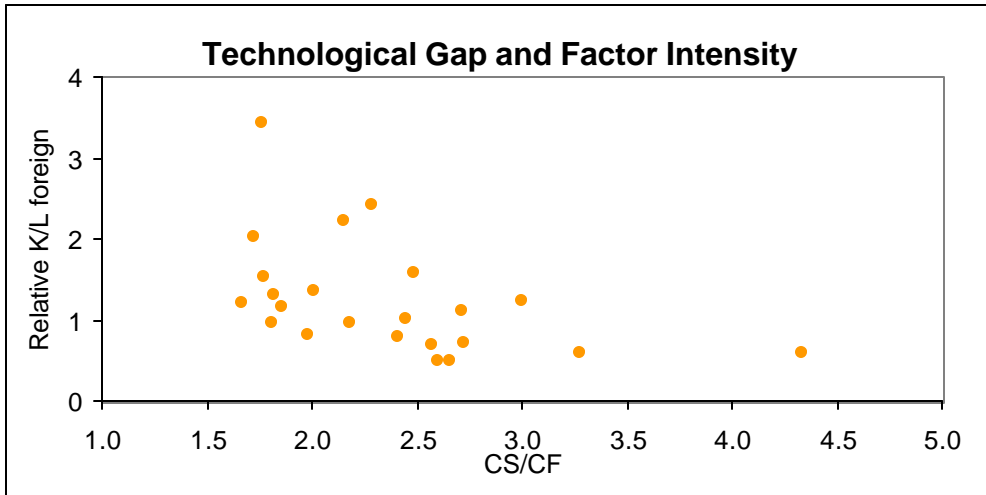
**Figure 8**



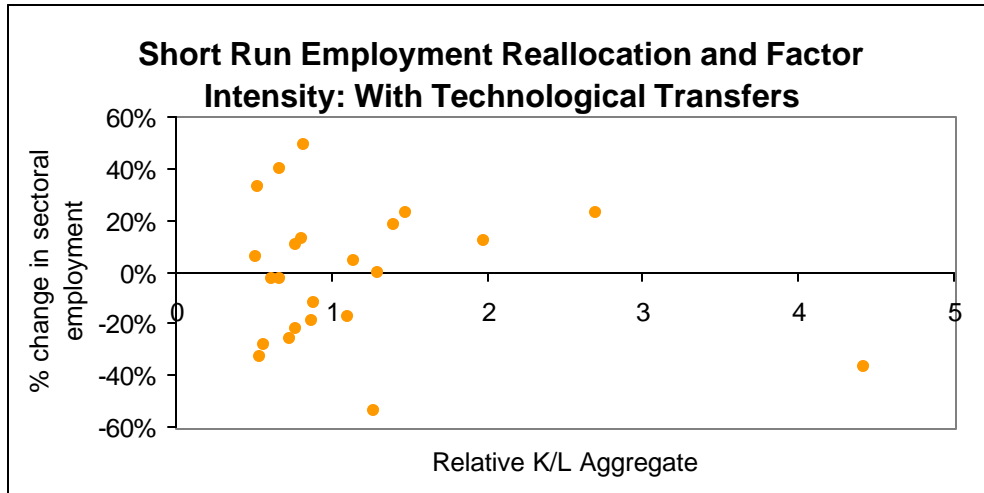
### Figure 9



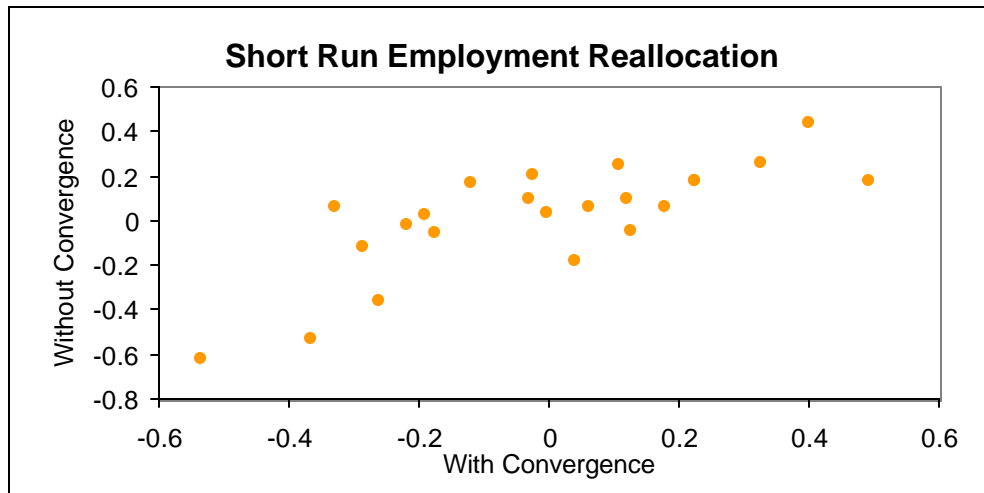
### Figure 10



### Figure 11



### Figure 12



**TABLE 1**  
**PRODUCTION STRUCTURE**  
**CHINA 1996**

Industry	ISIC Code	Share in Employment*	Share in output*	Share in Industry		
				State	Collective	Foreign
Food	311	5.6%	6.9%	37.7%	40.7%	21.6%
Beverage	313	2.2%	3.2%	51.5%	26.2%	22.3%
Tobacco	314	0.5%	5.2%	98.1%	1.3%	0.6%
Textiles	321	11.9%	7.2%	31.5%	51.2%	17.3%
Apparel & Footwear	322+324	3.8%	3.1%	6.3%	52.5%	41.2%
Leather	323	2.1%	1.9%	7.2%	49.4%	43.5%
Wood	331	1.5%	1.0%	14.6%	65.0%	20.4%
Furniture	332	0.7%	0.6%	6.9%	69.4%	23.7%
Paper	341	2.7%	2.3%	35.1%	50.7%	14.2%
Printing	342	1.6%	1.2%	40.1%	41.3%	18.6%
Chemicals	351+352	9.6%	12.0%	44.0%	38.5%	17.6%
Petroleum	353+354	1.1%	3.9%	85.1%	13.2%	1.7%
Rubber	355	1.4%	1.3%	34.9%	46.0%	19.1%
Plastic	356	2.3%	2.2%	9.5%	61.5%	29.1%
Pottery and Glass	361+362+369	11.4%	7.3%	28.2%	60.7%	11.1%
Iron & Steel	371	5.3%	6.9%	75.0%	21.0%	4.0%
Non-ferrous Metals	372	1.8%	2.1%	51.2%	38.3%	10.5%
Fabricated Metal Products	381	4.0%	3.4%	13.0%	68.1%	18.9%
Machinery, except electrical	382	12.3%	8.6%	39.0%	51.8%	9.2%
Machinery, electrical	383	7.1%	9.7%	25.1%	40.0%	35.0%
Transport	384	6.4%	6.4%	47.7%	32.7%	19.6%
Prof. & Sc. equipment	385	1.4%	1.0%	29.7%	37.5%	32.8%
Other	390	3.2%	2.5%	7.3%	59.1%	33.6%

Note :

Source: China Statistical Yearbook 1997

\* Based on firms with Independent Account Systems, that employ 69% of total manufacturing employment

State: State-Owned Enterprises

Collective: Collective-owned and Share-Holding Enterprises

Foreign: Foreign Funded Enterprises and Enterprises funded by Overseas Chinese from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan

## TABLE 2

### CONSUMPTION STRUCTURE - BY REGION CHINA 1995

	Output	Multinational Share	State-owned Share	Import Share
Beijing	1909	21.5%	55.5%	7.5%
Tianjin	2094	24.0%	28.4%	4.3%
<b>Include "Open Coastal Cities" or SEZ</b>				
Liaoning	4975	4.2%	38.9%	2.2%
Hebei	3996	6.6%	32.7%	0.7%
Shandong	8456	5.4%	27.4%	0.7%
Jianszu	11813	10.2%	17.6%	0.8%
Shanghai	5129	29.0%	29.4%	8.0%
Zhejiang	8088	7.5%	8.2%	1.0%
Fujian	2801	27.0%	6.8%	3.5%
Guangdong	9535	27.1%	0.0%	7.5%
Guangxi	1666	6.5%	35.7%	1.4%
Hainan	193	20.4%	5.4%	34.8%
<b>Do not include "Open Coastal Cities" or SEZ</b>				
Heilongjiang	2204	2.6%	64.8%	1.1%
Jilin	1429	6.2%	57.6%	5.4%
Inner Mongolia	782	4.8%	60.6%	2.1%
Shanxi	1754	1.7%	43.3%	0.5%
Henan	4715	4.1%	32.3%	0.6%
Anhui	3156	3.2%	29.2%	0.5%
Hubei	4103	3.7%	35.4%	1.3%
Jiangxi	1291	4.1%	49.5%	0.8%
Hunan	2451	3.4%	38.5%	0.9%
Guizhou	557	3.2%	64.1%	1.5%
Yunnan	1207	2.8%	64.4%	3.8%
Sichuan	4426	3.4%	37.4%	1.2%
Tibet	9	0.0%	72.5%	25.0%
Qinghai	149	0.6%	82.7%	0.5%
Shaanxi	1183	4.5%	56.3%	1.8%
Gansu	825	4.0%	64.5%	1.3%
Ningxia	198	9.3%	66.5%	0.6%
Xinjiang	803	2.0%	71.5%	0.9%

Source: Branstetter and Feenstra (1999)

Notes:

1. Output is measured in 100 million RMB, where 8 RMB ~ US\$ 1
2. The shares are proxies for consumption shares estimated as in text, and do not sum to 100% because there are collective firms and other minor categories left out.

### TABLE 3

#### TECHNOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN LOCAL AND FOREIGN FIRMS

Code	Industry	STATE ENTERPRISES		COLLECTIVE ENTERPRISES	
		CS/CF	TFP change	CC/CF	TFP change
311	Food	2.009	50.2%	0.813	-23.1%
313	Beverage	2.156	53.6%	1.080	7.4%
314	Tobacco	1.760	43.2%	2.476	59.6%
321	Textiles	2.413	58.5%	1.246	19.7%
322+324	Apparel & Footwear	2.659	62.4%	1.435	30.3%
323	Leather	3.278	69.5%	1.341	25.4%
331	Wood	2.722	63.3%	0.703	-42.3%
332	Furniture	2.575	61.2%	1.115	10.3%
341	Paper	1.858	46.2%	0.818	-22.3%
342	Printing	1.981	49.5%	0.803	-24.6%
351+352	Chemicals	1.821	45.1%	0.961	-4.1%
353+354	Petroleum	1.723	42.0%	1.418	29.5%
355	Rubber	1.663	39.9%	0.816	-22.5%
356	Plastic	1.814	44.9%	1.058	5.5%
361+362+369	Pottery and Glass	2.179	54.1%	0.883	-13.3%
371	Iron & Steel	1.770	43.5%	1.318	24.1%
372	Non-ferrous Metals	2.289	56.3%	0.737	-35.6%
381	Fabricated Metal Products	2.450	59.2%	1.111	10.0%
382	Machinery, except electrical	2.711	63.1%	1.087	8.0%
383	Machinery, electrical	3.000	66.7%	1.642	39.1%
384	Transport	2.490	59.8%	1.128	11.4%
385	Professional & Scientific equipment	4.333	76.9%	2.176	54.0%
390	Other	2.596	61.5%	1.541	35.1%

Note:

CS/CF: Cost of producing one unit of value-added in state firm divided by same cost in foreign firm

TFP change: Productivity change in State or Collective associated with adopting foreign technologies

**TABLE 4**  
**SHORT RUN EFFECTS**

ISIC code	Industry	STATE ENTERPRISES				COLLECTIVE ENTERPRISES			
		RENTAL RATE		EMPLOYMENT		RENTAL RATE		EMPLOYMENT	
		TC	NTC	TC	NTC	TC	NTC	TC	NTC
311	Food	26%	-29%	-10%	-23%	-53%	-19%	-53%	-3%
313	Beverage	-27%	-85%	-57%	-75%	-75%	-79%	-78%	-56%
314	Tobacco	20%	-24%	-40%	-55%	28%	-35%	26%	-44%
321	Textiles	10%	-71%	-27%	-69%	-28%	-41%	-41%	-25%
322+324	Apparel & Footwear	34%	-44%	-3%	-33%	-3%	-33%	-14%	-13%
323	Leather	101%	18%	54%	13%	48%	25%	28%	34%
331	Wood	65%	-13%	15%	-9%	-81%	-5%	-56%	6%
332	Furniture	27%	-51%	-8%	-38%	-42%	-40%	-41%	-18%
341	Paper	37%	-16%	-2%	-15%	-49%	-7%	-53%	6%
342	Printing	63%	-1%	19%	-3%	-44%	12%	-48%	21%
351+352	Chemicals	47%	-3%	5%	-3%	-11%	2%	-19%	11%
353+354	Petroleum	65%	22%	21%	15%	55%	26%	31%	32%
355	Rubber	29%	-12%	-7%	-11%	-47%	-4%	-47%	7%
356	Plastic	35%	-14%	-4%	-17%	-11%	-6%	-29%	9%
361+362+369	Pottery and Glass	77%	3%	35%	1%	-27%	14%	-39%	26%
371	Iron & Steel	51%	5%	8%	1%	45%	28%	19%	28%
372	Non-ferrous Metals	103%	29%	38%	16%	-32%	23%	-28%	22%
381	Fabricated Metal Products	81%	5%	35%	2%	13%	15%	-3%	24%
382	Machinery, except electrical	75%	-19%	35%	-20%	-7%	-4%	-22%	10%
383	Machinery, electrical	67%	-10%	18%	-8%	38%	-4%	14%	6%
384	Transport	49%	-32%	9%	-33%	-12%	-15%	-26%	-1%
385	Professional & Scientific equipment	114%	4%	50%	1%	86%	14%	46%	19%
390	Other	67%	-13%	26%	-14%	38%	0%	20%	13%

Note: TC refers to the case where technological convergence to FIEs level occur in all sectors, while in NTC native firms stay with their original technology level.

## TABLE 5

### ELASTICITY OF SUBSTITUTION BETWEEN LABOR AND CAPITAL CES PRODUCTION FUNCTION

Industry	$\rho-1$	$\sigma$	R-Square	n
Food Products (311/312)	-1.324	0.756	0.576	32
Beverage (313)	-1.161	0.861	0.473	25
Tobacco (314)	-0.471	2.124	0.078	20
Textile (321)	-1.076	0.930	0.582	29
Apparel (322)	-1.421	0.704	0.628	26
Leather (323)	-1.159	0.863	0.568	20
Footwear (324)	-1.733	0.577	0.841	23
Wood (331)	-1.414	0.707	0.737	31
Furniture (332)	-1.233	0.811	0.770	23
Paper Products (341)	-1.243	0.804	0.692	30
Printing and Publishing (342)	-1.472	0.679	0.665	28
Chemicals (351)	-1.255	0.797	0.673	27
Other Chemicals (352)	-1.346	0.743	0.678	23
Petroleum Refineries (353)	-0.928	1.077	0.432	18
Misc. Products of Petroleum & Coal (354)	-1.083	0.924	0.556	13
Rubber (355)	-1.522	0.657	0.784	25
Plastic (356)	-1.691	0.592	0.812	21
Pottery (361)	-1.207	0.828	0.761	14
Glass (362)	-1.044	0.958	0.693	19
Other Non-Metallic Mineral Products (369)	-1.582	0.632	0.778	22
Iron & Steel (371)	-1.066	0.938	0.323	27
Non-Ferrous Metals (372)	-1.514	0.661	0.682	19
Fabricated Metal Products (381)	-1.094	0.914	0.707	31
Machinery except Electrical (382)	-1.046	0.956	0.427	23
Electrical Machinery (383)	-1.452	0.689	0.713	25
Transport Equipment (384)	-1.131	0.884	0.542	25
Professional & Scientific Equipment (385)	-0.982	1.018	0.545	21
Other Manufacturing Industries (390)	-0.726	1.377	0.391	24