

# Let's Try Next Door: Technical Barriers to Trade and Multi-Destination firms

Lionel Fontagné<sup>1,2</sup>, Gianluca Orefice<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>PSE - University Paris 1, <sup>2</sup>CEPII

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## Motivation

- Technical Barriers to Trade (TBTs): quality, labeling, technical standards and conformity assessment procedures that have to be satisfied in the imposing country.
- Legal framework: covered by a WTO agreement:
  - ▶ Transparent, non-discriminatory
  - ▶ Notification
  - ▶ Dedicated committee: TBT concerns
- Stringent TBTs increase the cost of exporting into the country adopting such measures discouraging exporters from serving markets with TBTs
  - ▶ Fixed cost of exporting (product adaptation)
  - ▶ Variable cost of exporting (upgrading or adaptation of the product or packaging)
  - ▶ Variety of standards across markets → loss of economies of scale

## Research Questions

- Exporters compare:
  - ▶ Fixed and variable cost of complying with the new standard
  - ▶ Cost of diverting shipments at the intensive and/or extensive margin
    - ★ IM: diversion towards an existing destination → *incremental cost of reaching marginal consumers* (Arkolakis, JPE 2010)
    - ★ EM: diversion towards new destination → fixed cost of entry
- The higher the cost of complying with the TBT, the higher the probability of trade diversion towards existing markets (IM) and/or new markets (EM)
- The higher the marginal cost of reaching a consumer, the higher the probability of prospecting *new* markets

## Research Questions

- In a model with heterogeneous firms (Chaney, AER 2008):
  - ▶ Productivity cut-off differs by destination (due to the presence of different TBTs)
  - ▶ Selection of firms on more difficult destinations (with stringent TBTs)
- Not all firms exit because of TBTs: multi-destination firms have the option of diverting trade to other destinations that *do not* impose TBTs. They have lower diversion cost.

**Hypothesis 1:** *Stringent TBTs lead exporters to divert trade towards TBT-free destinations. And the more so for multi-destination firms.*

**Hypothesis 2:** *Multi-destination firms will look for new destinations and expand their geographical scope.*

## Research Questions

- Aggregate Implications:
  - ▶ Trade cost elasticity is exacerbated in less heterogeneous sectors, where more output is concentrated among small and less productive firms.
  - ▶ Trade cost elasticity at the aggregate level is thus increasing with the homogeneity of the sector (Chaney AER, 2008; Berman et al. QJE, 2012).

Table : Number of exporting firms and export share over total French exports.

	Number of exporting firm-HS4		Export Share (in %)	
	2000	2005	2000	2005
<i>Multi – Destination (if <math>k_{i,s,1995} &gt; 17</math>)</i>	1417	1294	32	33
<i>Other firms</i>	121275	112056	68	67

**Hypothesis 3:** *When total sector-destination exports are concentrated on multi-destination firms, the aggregate effect of TBT imposition is attenuated.*

## Preview of our results

- Result 1:** TBTs induce the exit of exporters.
  - ▶ This effect is stronger for *multi-destination* firms
  - ▶ Multi-destination firms that stay in the market and cope with the TBT, enjoy reduced competition at destination and *increase* their exports.
  - ▶ TBTs push multi-destination (high-productive) firms out of the market and reduce the average productivity of incumbent firms ( $\downarrow$  welfare).
- Result 2:** TBTs push exporters to bear the fixed cost of entering into new markets.
  - ▶ This effect is magnified for *multi-destination* firms.
- Result 3:** TBTs reduce export flows at sector-destination level with a bigger extend for homogeneous sectors (i.e. where export sales are concentrated among smaller and less productive firms).
  - ▶ negative effect on aggregate exports + null effect on the intensive margin of firms = TBTs increase fixed (more than variable) trade cost.

# Literature

- Impact of alleviating TBTs: regional or deep integration agreements
  - ▶ Harmonization (-) versus mutual recognition (+)
  - ▶ Impact on third countries
  - ▶ Specific impact on developing countries
  - ▶ Baller (wp, 2007), Chen & Mattoo (CJE, 2008), Essaji (JIE, 2008), Disdier, Fontagné & Cadot (WBER, 2015)
- Impact on trade margins: Bao & Qiu (RIE, 2012)
  - ▶ Aggregate data
  - ▶ Gravity, TBT notifications 1995 - 2008
  - ▶ Negative impact on EM, positive on IM

# Data

## 1 Focus on trade *restrictive* TBTs

- ▶ Specific Trade Concerns
- ▶ Raised by affected exporting countries at the TBT committee
- ▶ Exporting country concentrate claims on the most restrictive TBTs (allocation of time)
- ▶ → focus on TBT-market pairs spotted by trade representatives in committee
- ▶ No continuous measure of stringency: (0,1)

## 2 Universe of exporters from a country (France)

- ▶ Firm level custom data (ID-CN8-destination-time)
- ▶ EU acts as a single country in WTO committees: restricted to extra-EU export flows
- ▶ Definition: "exporter" → legal unit (ID = SIREN) exporting within an HS4
- ▶ HS4 chosen for coherence with TBT data
- ▶ Clean for churning: keep firms exporting at least 4 times over 1995-2008
  - ★ Different definition of churning, i.e. drop firm-HS4-destination units that stop exporting after TBT concern and re-export the year after, with the same TBT concern still active.



# Data

More on TBT concerns:

- 13,000 TBT notifications (1995-2009)
- 318 Specific Trade Concerns raised at the TBT committee (1995-2011)
- → the most stringent TBTs: fits our theoretical argument
- Concerns raised by the EU over the period 1995-2007 (coherence with trade data)
- Consider 1997-2007 period due to lagged specification

## Example of STCs on TBT

- The representative of the European Communities raised concerns on a TBT measure imposed by China on wine. Such measure was notified by China in May 2006, and specifies the terminologies, definitions, technical requirement and labelling of imported wines.
- In particular, this measure fixed a level of sulphur dioxide consistently below the level fixed by international standards. The EU delegation considered such measure being unnecessarily restrictive for their wine exporters.

## Empirical Strategy

We test the three following hypothesis:

- 1 **Hypothesis 1:** Stringent TBTs push firms out of market imposing the measure. The more so for multi-destination firms (low diversion cost).
- 2 **Hypothesis 2:** Multi-destination exporters look for new markets as a result of stringent TBTs.
- 3 **Hypothesis 3:** Aggregate exports elasticity to trade cost is bigger in homogeneous sectors - where multi-destination firms are relatively less important (Chaney 2008).

## Empirical Strategy: **Definition of multi-destination dummy**

- Multi-destination firms switch destination easily because of lower diversion cost:
  - ▶ IM: they already serve many TBT-free destinations
- Multi-destination status of the firm is  $I_{i,s,1995}(k_{i,s,1995} > \bar{k})$ .
- Dummy equal to one if the number of TBT-free destinations served by firm-product  $is$  in 1995 -  $k_{i,s,1995}$  - is above a certain threshold  $\bar{k}$ :
  - ▶ Top-10 percentile of  $k_{i,s,1995}$
  - ▶ Top 5th and 1st percentile of  $k_{i,s,1995}$  (robustness)
- Rob check: we use the number of destinations (instead of TBT-free destinations). Results hold.

## Hypothesis 1: empirical strategy

**Hypothesis 1:** *Stringent TBTs push exporters out of the imposing market. The more so for multi-destination firms.*

$$\begin{aligned} y_{i,s,j,t} = & \alpha + \beta_1 TBT_{s,j,t} + \beta_2 (TBT_{s,j,t}) * I_{i,s,1995}(k_{i,s,1995} > \bar{k}) \\ & + \beta_3 I_{i,s,1995}(k_{i,s,1995} > \bar{k}) + \beta_4 (TBT_{s,j,t} * \ln(size)_{i,1995}) \\ & + \beta_5 (TBT_{s,j,t} * Domestic_{i,s,1995}) + \beta_6 \ln(tariff + 1)_{s,j,t} \\ & + \phi_{HS2,t,j} + \mu_i + \varepsilon_{i,s,j,t}, \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

- Where  $y_{i,s,j,t}$  is in turn:
  - ▶ dummy variable for the legal unit (firm) ( $is$ ) exiting a certain market  $j$  at time  $t$  (firm not exporting in year  $t$  and  $t + 1$  but having exported the two previous years)
  - ▶ dummy variable for positive trade flows into a certain market
  - ▶ firm's export values (in logs)
  - ▶ *price* of exported goods (in logs), proxied by unit export values

## Hypothesis 1: empirical strategy

### Main explanatory variables:

- $TBT_{s,j,t}$  Dummy: TBT concern at time  $t$  in product  $s$  between the EU and importer country  $j$ . NOTICE:  $TBT_{s,j,t}$  turns to zero when the TBT concern is solved.
- Interaction TBT dummy with Multi-Destination status of the firm ( $I_{i,s,1995}(k_{i,s,1995} > \bar{k})$ ) → investigates how TBT concerns shape the adjustment of multi-destination exporters

## Hypothesis 1: empirical strategy

### Other covariates:

- Interaction  $Size_{i,1995}$  - TBT dummy  $\rightarrow$  controls for the heterogeneous effect of TBT across the firm size distribution
  - ▶ We do not have exhaustive information on French exporters' balance sheets. We use total exports:  $ln(size)_{i,1995} = \sum_{s \subset S} \sum_{j \subset J} exports_{i,s,j,1995}$
- $Ln(tariff + 1)_{s,j,t}$ : applied tariff at HS4 level
- Firm FE and Country-HS2-Year FE in all specifications
  - ▶ Rob check: HS4-destination fixed effects also included.
- Interact the TBT dummy for  $Domestic_{i,s,1995}$ , i.e dummy equal to one if the firms was pure domestic in 1995 (no a priori), but needed when squaring the matrix: number of TBT-free destinations in 1995  $\rightarrow$  zero for firms exporting only in destinations with TBT and also for firms that did not export to any destination in 1995.) but started exporting afterwards)

## Hypothesis 1: empirical strategy

### Endogeneity:

- The inclusion of firm and country-HS2-time fixed effects drastically reduces any endogeneity concern due to the omitted variables bias
- Reverse causality if the government of a certain destination imposes a TBT to face imports from a specific French firm
  - ▶ *plausible claim?* TBT concerns raised by the EU as a whole (and not STCs raised specifically by France → might be imposed to face German or Italian firms).
- We pick this up by introducing a variable controlling for the visibility of the firm in a given destination  $j$ , HS2 chapter in 1995 -  $Visibility_{i,HS2,j,1995}$ .
  - ▶ Share of exports of a firm in a certain market-HS2 sector over total French exports in the same market and sector.
  - ▶ Introduced also as an interaction with the TBT dummy.
  - ▶ Rationale: if a government imposes a TBT to face a big exporting firm → high-visible exporter must suffer from the TBT imposition to a larger extent.
- **2SLS** strategy and other robustness checks in a while....



## Hypothesis 1: results - exit probability

Dep. Var.	Exit Dummy				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
TBT	0.025*** (0.008)	0.016** (0.008)	0.015* (0.008)	0.015* (0.008)	0.016* (0.008)
TBT* $I_{i,s,1995}(k_{i,s,1995} > \bar{k})$			0.011* (0.006)	0.011* (0.006)	0.014* (0.008)
$I_{i,s,1995}(k_{i,s,1995} > \bar{k})$			-0.011*** (0.000)	-0.011*** (0.000)	-0.012*** (0.001)
TBT*Visibility 1995				-0.011 (0.012)	-0.011 (0.012)
TBT*Firm size 1995		0.002 (0.001)	0.002 (0.002)	0.003 (0.002)	0.003 (0.002)
TBT*Domestic Dummy 1995		0.014*** (0.005)	0.015*** (0.005)	0.015*** (0.005)	0.015*** (0.005)
Log(tariff+1)	0.007** (0.003)	0.007** (0.003)	0.007** (0.003)	0.007** (0.003)	0.007** (0.003)
Firm FE	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
HS2-Destination-Year FE	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
$k_{i,s,1995}$	# TBT-free destinations in 1995				# destinations
Observations	5,879,232	5,879,232	5,879,232	5,878,870	5,878,870
R-squared	0.059	0.059	0.059	0.059	0.059

Visibility and Domestic Dummy in 1995 are included but not reported when interacted with TBT.

Clustered standard errors by destination-HS4-year in parentheses.

\*\*\*  $p < 0, 01$ ; \*\*  $p < 0, 05$ ; \*  $p < 0, 1$ .

## Hypothesis 1: results - participation dummy

Dep. Var.	Participation Dummy				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
TBT	-0.046*** (0.017)	-0.065*** (0.019)	-0.064*** (0.019)	-0.065*** (0.019)	-0.065*** (0.019)
TBT* $I_{i,s,1995}(k_{i,s,1995} > \bar{k})$			-0.046*** (0.013)	-0.044*** (0.013)	-0.056*** (0.015)
$I_{i,s,1995}(k_{i,s,1995} > \bar{k})$			0.186*** (0.001)	0.186*** (0.001)	0.200*** (0.001)
TBT*Visibility 1995				0.117*** (0.026)	0.115*** (0.026)
TBT*Firm size 1995		-0.010*** (0.003)	-0.008** (0.003)	-0.021*** (0.004)	-0.020*** (0.004)
TBT*Domestic Dummy 1995		0.081*** (0.017)	0.082*** (0.017)	0.083*** (0.017)	0.083*** (0.017)
Log(tariff+1)	0.006 (0.007)	0.005 (0.007)	-0.000 (0.007)	-0.000 (0.007)	0.001 (0.007)
Firm FE	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
HS2-Destination-Year FE	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
$k_{i,s,1995}$	# TBT-free destinations in 1995				# destinations
Observations	5,879,232	5,879,232	5,879,232	5,878,870	5,878,870
R-squared	0.108	0.111	0.117	0.117	0.116

Visibility and Domestic Dummy in 1995 are included but not reported when interacted with TBT.

Clustered standard errors by destination-HS4-year in parentheses.

\*\*\*  $p < 0, 01$ ; \*\*  $p < 0, 05$ ; \*  $p < 0, 1$ .

# Hypothesis 1: results - intensive margin

Dep. Var.	Log of export value				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
TBT	0.081 (0.076)	0.083 (0.079)	0.063 (0.076)	0.062 (0.076)	0.075 (0.076)
TBT* $I_{i,s,1995}(k_{i,s,1995} > \bar{k})$			0.145** (0.070)	0.146** (0.070)	0.142* (0.079)
$I_{i,s,1995}(k_{i,s,1995} > \bar{k})$			1.244*** (0.006)	1.244*** (0.006)	1.352*** (0.007)
TBT*Visibility 1995				0.062 (0.168)	0.043 (0.169)
TBT*Firm size 1995		0.016 (0.021)	-0.011 (0.019)	-0.017 (0.028)	-0.013 (0.029)
TBT*Domestic Dummy 1995		-0.057 (0.046)	-0.015 (0.045)	-0.015 (0.045)	-0.027 (0.046)
Log(tariff+1)	-0.126*** (0.038)	-0.128*** (0.037)	-0.161*** (0.037)	-0.161*** (0.037)	-0.155*** (0.037)
Firm FE	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
HS2-Destination-Year FE	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
$k_{i,s,1995}$	# TBT-free destinations in 1995				# destinations
Observations	3,007,840	3,007,840	3,007,840	3,007,660	3,007,660
R-squared	0.324	0.336	0.354	0.354	0.353

Visibility and Domestic Dummy in 1995 are included but not reported when interacted with TBT.

Clustered standard errors by destination-HS4-year in parentheses.

\*\*\*  $p < 0, 01$ ; \*\*  $p < 0, 05$ ; \*  $p < 0, 1$ .

# Hypothesis 1: results - export price

Dep. Var.	Log of Trade Unit Value				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
TBT	0.127*** (0.048)	0.097** (0.047)	0.101** (0.047)	0.101** (0.047)	0.099** (0.047)
TBT* $I_{i,s,1995}(k_{i,s,1995} > \bar{k})$			-0.057 (0.035)	-0.056 (0.035)	-0.062 (0.040)
$I_{i,s,1995}(k_{i,s,1995} > \bar{k})$			-0.099*** (0.003)	-0.099*** (0.003)	-0.122*** (0.004)
TBT*Visibility 1995				0.022 (0.069)	0.022 (0.070)
TBT*Firm size 1995		-0.000 (0.010)	0.006 (0.011)	0.004 (0.013)	0.004 (0.013)
TBT*Domestic Dummy 1995		0.073*** (0.027)	0.065*** (0.025)	0.065*** (0.025)	0.068*** (0.026)
Log(tariff+1)	-0.271*** (0.022)	-0.271*** (0.022)	-0.268*** (0.022)	-0.268*** (0.022)	-0.268*** (0.022)
Firm FE	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
HS2-Destination-Year FE	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
$k_{i,s,1995}$	# TBT-free destinations in 1995				# destinations
Observations	3,007,840	3,007,840	3,007,840	3,007,660	3,007,660
R-squared	0.771	0.771	0.771	0.771	0.771

Visibility and Domestic Dummy in 1995 are included but not reported when interacted with TBT.

Clustered standard errors by destination-HS4-year in parentheses.

\*\*\*  $p < 0, 01$ ; \*\*  $p < 0, 05$ ; \*  $p < 0, 1$ .

## Hypothesis 1: robustness checks

- **Binned model.** Our baseline strategy test the specific adjustment of firms with more than 17 destinations. Too strict? → a binned model supports our choice.
- **Robustness using also non-EU concerns.**
- **Robustness using lagged TBT.** Concern raised in  $t - 1$  is related to a measure introduced in  $t - 2$  or earlier → low chance that such concern is driven by exports at time  $t$
- **Robustness excluding top-exporting firms.** Top-exporting French firms might push the EU to raise a TBT concern → endogeneity → Rob check excluding top-exporting firms - i.e.firms with product-destination exports above the 99th percentile

▶ Excluding top-exporters

## Hypothesis 1: robustness checks

- **IV estimations 1.** Our instrument is a dummy  $IV TBT_{jst}$  equal to one if two conditions hold:
    - ▶ at least one third country (other than  $j$ ) has an active TBT concern on product  $s$  at time  $t$
    - ▶ if country  $j$  has an active TBT concern on at least one product other than  $s$ .
    - ▶ *Rationale:* probability of having a TBT in country  $j$  - product  $s$  is correlated with the activism of country  $j$  in imposing a measure (on other products than  $s$ ) and with the sensitivity of product  $s$  of being protected by third country.
- ▶ 2SLS estimations
- **IV estimations 2.** Alternative instrument is a dummy equal to one if at least a third country ( $k \neq j$ ), belonging to the same region as  $j$ , has an active TBT concern on product  $s$ .

## Hypothesis 2: empirical strategy

**Hypothesis 2:** *In presence of TBT concern the firm may want to exit the market but add a new TBT-free destination. The more so for multi-destination firms.*

$$y_{i,s,t} = \alpha + \beta_1 TBT_{i,s,t-1} + \beta_2 k_{i,s,t-1} + \beta_3 (TBT_{i,s,t} * k_{i,s,t-1}) + \phi_{s,t} + \mu_i + \varepsilon_{i,s,j,t}, \quad (2)$$

Where:

- $y_{i,s,t}$  is the number of *new* destination markets served by firm  $i$  on product  $s$
- $TBT_{i,s,t-1}$  is a dummy being equal to one if the firm faced at least one TBT measure at (t-1) when exporting a given product.
- $k_{i,s,t-1}$  is the number of TBT-free destinations served by firm  $i$  on product  $s$  at time  $t-1$
- We interact these two variables to test the peculiar behavior of multi-destination firms facing TBT concerns
- Firm FE and HS4-Year FE in all specifications

## Hypothesis 2: results - main

	Number of New TBT-free destination			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Dummy if TBT dest (t-1)	0.107*** (0.004)	0.063*** (0.004)	0.047*** (0.004)	0.050*** (0.004)
$k_{i,s,t-1}$		0.048*** (0.001)	0.048*** (0.001)	-0.036*** (0.001)
Dummy if TBT dest (t-1)* $k_{i,s,t-1}$			0.009*** (0.003)	0.009*** (0.003)
Firm FE	yes	yes	yes	no
Firm-Sector FE	no	no	no	yes
Sector-Year FE	yes	yes	yes	no
Year FE	no	no	no	yes
Observations	1,653,940	1,653,940	1,653,940	1,653,940
R-squared	0.118	0.144	0.144	0.271

Clustered standard errors by firm-HS4 in parentheses.

\*\*\*  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*  $p < 0.05$ ; \*  $p < 0.1$ .



## Hypothesis 2: results - robustness

	Number of New TBT-free destination			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Dummy if TBT dest (t-1)	0.107*** (0.004)	0.054*** (0.004)	0.020*** (0.005)	0.050*** (0.004)
N. of dest (t-1)		0.048*** (0.001)	0.048*** (0.001)	-0.036*** (0.001)
Dummy if TBT dest (t-1)*N. of dest (t-1)			0.018*** (0.003)	0.012*** (0.003)
Firm FE	yes	yes	yes	no
Firm-Sector FE	no	no	no	yes
Sector-Year FE	yes	yes	yes	no
Year FE	no	no	no	yes
Observations	1,653,940	1,653,940	1,653,940	1,653,940
R-squared	0.118	0.144	0.144	0.271

Clustered standard errors by firm-HS4 in parentheses.

\*\*\*  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*  $p < 0.05$ ; \*  $p < 0.1$ .

## Hypothesis 3: empirical strategy

- TBTs push firms out of the imposing market
- Multi-destination firms switch destination country more easily than other firms, and, move to *new* TBT-free destinations.
- How such firm level mechanism translates into aggregate evidence?
  - ▶ Chaney, AER (2008): the trade cost elasticity is exacerbated in less heterogeneous sectors (where more output is concentrated among smaller/less productive firms)
  - ▶ The aggregated effect of TBT is expected to be attenuated when (big) multi-destination firms have a predominant role in the sector (i.e. high sector heterogeneity).
  - ▶ Chaney, AER (2008): the aggregate effect of fixed trade cost is entirely driven by the extensive margin channel. Are TBTs pure fixed trade cost? (still unclear in the literature)

### Hypothesis 3: empirical strategy

We aggregate our dataset at the sector-destination-year level and estimate:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Log}(exports)_{s,j,t} = & \alpha + \beta_1 TBT_{s,j,t} + \beta_2 (TBT_{s,j,t}) * \text{ParetoParameter}_{HS2,j,t} \\ & + \beta_3 \text{ParetoParameter}_{HS2,j,t} + \beta_4 \text{Ln}(\text{tariff} + 1)_{s,j,t} \\ & + \phi_{st} + \phi_{jt} + \varepsilon_{s,j,t}, \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Where:

- $TBT_{s,j,t}$  is a dummy for active TBT concern
- $\text{Ln}(\text{tariff} + 1)_{s,j,t}$  is the tariff level faced by French firms in destination  $j$  and product  $s$ .
- $\text{ParetoParameter}$  is the estimated Pareto distribution shape parameter (QQ regression as in Head et al.(2014)) [▶ Details QQ regressions](#)
- Other proxies for the heterogeneity of a sector:
  - ▶ # of multi-destination over total # of firms in the sector-destination cell.
  - ▶ share of total sector-destination exports held by top-10 and top-5 exporters
  - ▶ share of total sector (HS2)-destination exports held by multi-destination firms

### Hypothesis 3: results - aggregate estimations

	Log of exports.					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
$TBT_t$	-0.691*** (0.055)	-0.557*** (0.059)	-0.953*** (0.109)	-0.921*** (0.156)	-0.722*** (0.066)	-0.862*** (0.079)
$TBT_t$ *Pareto par.		-0.439*** (0.092)				
$TBT_t$ *Top-5 exp sh			0.499*** (0.179)			
$TBT_t$ *Top-10 exp sh				0.340 (0.209)		
$TBT_t$ *Multi-dest exp sh					0.249** (0.116)	
$TBT_t$ *Multi-dest firms sh						0.632*** (0.176)
Log(tariff+1)	-1.080*** (0.041)	-0.997*** (0.041)	-1.063*** (0.041)	-1.065*** (0.041)	-0.980*** (0.040)	-1.059*** (0.041)
Sector-Year FE	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Destination-Year FE	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Observations	399,523	384,492	399,523	399,523	399,523	399,523
R-squared	0.539	0.545	0.541	0.541	0.551	0.540

Robust standard errors in parentheses.

\*\*\*  $p < 0, 01$ ; \*\*  $p < 0, 05$ ; \*  $p < 0, 1$ .

## Hypothesis 3: implications

- Chaney, AER (2008): the aggregate effect of fixed trade cost is entirely driven by the extensive margin channel.
- Null effect of TBTs on the intensive margin (firm level)
- Strong effect of TBTs on the exit probability and participation (firm level)
- Strong negative effect of TBTs at the aggregate level
- The 70% of the total (aggregate) effect of TBTs is channeled by the extensive margin [▶ elasticity decomposition](#)

**TBTs are increases in the fixed (more than variable) cost of trade**

## Conclusion

- Theory based testable hypotheses:
  - ▶ Small exporters are unable to cope with additional fixed cost of restrictive TBTs → leave the imposing market
  - ▶ Multi-destination firms reorient their exports away from markets with TBT concerns → variable cost of reaching new consumers  $<$  cost of TBT
  - ▶ Multi-destination firms reach new markets → fixed cost of entering TBT-free new markets  $<$  cost of TBT
  
- Empirics:
  - ▶ TBT drive the average firm out of the market (competition reduced in the imposing market)
  - ▶ Multi-destination firms switch destination more easily: they exit the imposing country with higher likelihood (average productivity, i.e. welfare, reduced in the imposing country)
  - ▶ Multi-destination firms exit the imposing country and divert trade toward new TBT-free destinations
  - ▶ TBTs are increases in fixed (more than variable) trade cost.

THANK YOU

# Hypotheses 1: results - 2SLS estimations

	Exit		Extensive		Log export value		TUV	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
TBT	0.098*** (0.030)	0.073** (0.034)	0.115 (0.114)	-0.391*** (0.135)	0.654 (0.401)	1.005** (0.401)	-0.333 (0.334)	-0.471 (0.316)
TBT*I( $k_{i,s,95} > \bar{k}$ )	0.052* (0.026)	0.064** (0.025)	-0.266*** (0.060)	-0.021 (0.065)	2.290*** (0.396)	2.149*** (0.372)	-0.094 (0.136)	-0.035 (0.130)
TBT*Firm size 1995	-0.017*** (0.006)	-0.014* (0.007)	-0.113*** (0.015)	-0.046*** (0.017)	-0.347*** (0.092)	-0.395*** (0.094)	0.086* (0.046)	0.105** (0.049)
TBT*Domestic Dummy 1995		0.048* (0.029)		0.972*** (0.203)		-0.636** (0.252)		0.249** (0.116)
$I_{i,s,95}(k_{i,s,95} > \bar{k})$	-0.011*** (0.000)	-0.011*** (0.000)	0.186*** (0.001)	0.186*** (0.001)	1.237*** (0.006)	1.237*** (0.006)	-0.099*** (0.003)	-0.099*** (0.003)
Domestic Dummy 1995	-0.004*** (0.000)	-0.004*** (0.003)	-0.081*** (0.001)	-0.084*** (0.001)	-0.618*** (0.004)	-0.617*** (0.004)	0.063*** (0.002)	0.062*** (0.002)
Log(tariff+1)	0.007** (0.003)	0.007** (0.003)	-0.000 (0.007)	-0.000 (0.007)	-0.161*** (0.037)	-0.161*** (0.037)	-0.268*** (0.021)	-0.268*** (0.021)
First Stage Coefficients								
IV TBT	0.122***	0.124***	0.122***	0.124***	0.088***	0.090***	0.088***	0.090***
IV TBT*I( $k_{i,s,95} > \bar{k}$ )	0.190***	0.190***	0.190***	0.190***	0.183***	0.184***	0.183***	0.184***
IV TBT*Firm size 1995	0.144***	0.145***	0.144***	0.145***	0.123***	0.123***	0.123***	0.123***
IV TBT*Domestic Dummy 1995		0.158***		0.158***		0.115***		0.115***
Firm F.E.	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
HS2-Destination-Year F.E.	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Observations	5879232	5879232	5879232	5879232	3007840	3007840	3007840	3007840
Joint F-stat	15.48	11.70	15.48	11.70	9.26	6.92	9.26	6.92

Clustered standard errors by destination-HS4-year in parentheses.

\*\*\*  $p < 0, 01$ ; \* \*  $p < 0, 05$ ; \*  $p < 0, 1$ .



# Hypotheses 1: results - Excluding Top-exporters

	Exit		Extensive		Exports (log)		TUV	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
TBT	0.016** (0.008)	0.015* (0.008)	-0.067*** (0.019)	-0.066*** (0.019)	0.063 (0.079)	0.045 (0.077)	0.097** (0.047)	0.102** (0.046)
TBT*I( $k_{i,s,95} > \bar{k}$ )		0.013** (0.006)		-0.047*** (0.013)		0.125* (0.070)		-0.068** (0.033)
$I_{i,s,95}(k_{i,s,95} > \bar{k})$		-0.011*** (0.000)		0.184*** (0.001)		1.232*** (0.006)		-0.085*** (0.003)
TBT*Firm size 1995	0.001 (0.001)	0.000 (0.001)	-0.008** (0.004)	-0.007* (0.004)	0.009 (0.020)	-0.016 (0.019)	0.015 (0.010)	0.022* (0.012)
TBT*Domestic Dummy 1995	0.013*** (0.005)	0.014*** (0.005)	0.082*** (0.017)	0.083*** (0.017)	-0.057 (0.046)	-0.017 (0.045)	0.081*** (0.027)	0.073*** (0.026)
Log(tariff+1)	0.006* (0.003)	0.006* (0.003)	0.005 (0.007)	0.000 (0.007)	-0.148*** (0.037)	-0.181*** (0.037)	-0.255*** (0.022)	-0.253*** (0.022)
Firm FE	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
HS2-Destination-Year FE	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
$\bar{k}_{i,s,1995}$	# TBT-free destinations in 1995							
Observations	5,813,410	5,813,410	5,813,410	5,813,410	2,967,494	2,967,494	2,967,494	2,967,494
R-squared	0.059	0.059	0.112	0.117	0.340	0.357	0.774	0.774

Domestic Dummy in 1995 is included but not reported. Clustered standard errors by destination-HS4-year.

\*\*\*  $p < 0, 01$ ; \*\*  $p < 0, 05$ ; \*  $p < 0, 1$ .

### Hypothesis 3: results - Pareto shape parameter

- We use the QQ estimator as in Head, Mayer and Thoenig (2014) to recover sector-destination specific Pareto shape parameters.
- The QQ estimator minimizes the sum of the squared errors between the theoretical and the empirical quantiles
  - ▶ Empirical quantiles: log of (sorted) export values for a given firm  $i$  into a given sector-destination  $HS2, j \rightarrow$  CDF function  $\widehat{F}_{i,HS2,j} = (i - 0.3)/(n + 0.4)$ .
  - ▶ Theoretical quantiles:  $Q_{i,HS2,j} = \ln(x_{min}) - (1/\tilde{\gamma})\ln(1 - \widehat{F}_{i,HS2,j})$
  - ▶ The OLS coefficient of the term  $-\ln(1 - \widehat{F}_{i,HS2,j})$  gives an inverse measure of the empirical  $\tilde{\gamma}$  with the primitive distribution value of gamma reversed since  $\gamma = (\sigma - 1)\tilde{\gamma}$  (we follow Head et al.2014 and use  $\sigma = 4$ ).
- The shape parameter of the Pareto distribution is directly related to the homogeneity of the sector (i.e. an inverse measure of the heterogeneity of the sector for a given destination)

	Mean across countries	USA	Japan	China	Canada
$\gamma$	2.132	1.574	1.658	2.046	1.920
$\tilde{\gamma}$	1.1563	1.1986	1.883	1.619	1.657
$\gamma$ in Head et al.(2014)			2.146		
$\tilde{\gamma}$ in Head et al.(2014)			1.396		

### Hypothesis 3: results - aggregate elasticity decomposition

Table : Aggregate export elasticities

	$\hat{\beta}$	$V_i/V$	Aggregate Elasticity	Aggregate Elasticity (% of total)
Intensive	-0.663***	0.307	-0.203	32%
Extensive	-0.621***	0.692	-0.429	68%
Total			-0.623	

- $\hat{\beta}$  is the estimated coefficient for TBT on a gravity type regression having the (log of) total destination-product-year specific export for respectively incumbent and new-entry exporters
- $V_i/V$  is the share of total aggregate exports by respectively incumbent and new-entry exporters
- Aggregate Elasticity =  $\hat{\beta} * V_i/V$