EMPIRICAL RESEARCH ON TRADE LIBERALISATION WITH IMPERFECT COMPETITION : A SURVEY

J. David Richardson

CONTENTS

I. Theoretical background 1 A. Microeconomic structure 1 B. General equilibrium structure and trade policy 1 C. Some additional considerations 1 II. Empirical research 1 A. Overview 1 B. Quantitative method 1 C. Distinctive features and conclusions 2 D. Closely related research 3 III. Research potential 3 Bibliography 4	Intro	oduction, overview and conclusions	а
A. Microeconomic structure 1 B. General equilibrium structure and trade policy 1 C. Some additional considerations 1 II. Empirical research 1 A. Overview 1 B. Quantitative method 1 C. Distinctive features and conclusions 2 D. Closely related research 3 III. Research potential 3 Bibliography 4	I.	Theoretical background	9
II. Empirical research 1 A. Overview 1 B. Quantitative method 1 C. Distinctive features and conclusions 2 D. Closely related research 3 III. Research potential 3 Bibliography 4		A. Microeconomic structureB. General equilibrium structure and trade policyC. Some additional considerations	10 11 15
III. Research potential 3 Bibliography 4	11.	 Empirical research A. Overview B. Quantitative method C. Distinctive features and conclusions D. Closely related research	17 17 19 22 33
Bibliography 4	III.	Research potential	34
	Bibl	iography	44

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INTRODUCTION, OVERVIEW AND CONCLUSIONS

The theory of trade policy has changed markedly in the past ten years or so. One of the fundamental reasons is that the international trading environment itself has changed.

Imperfectly competitive behaviour seems increasingly relevant and perfect competition less. Technological advantage, scale economies, and multinational corporations seem to be playing growing roles in international trade. Governments own some of the multinationals and champion others, often pitting themselves against each other as competitive promoters and defenders of their own firms. Equilibrium in global markets seems often to be determined by small numbers of large, strategically self-conscious, agents (firms and governments), not by large numbers of small agents competing at arms length. Such oligopolistic equilibria have a quite different character than perfectly competitive equilibria, and respond to government policy initiatives quite differently.

In part these changes are a reflection of the changing composition of trade, as documented for example, by OECD (1987b). As a share of total trade and production for fourteen large OECD countries, resource- and labour-intensive commodities have been shrinking steadily, and science-based, scale-intensive and differentiated commodities and services have been growing; "intra-industry" trade has jumped dramatically in the **1980s** after remaining constant during the 1970s.

The most important reason for the present survey of empirical research under imperfect competition is that it is necessarily an empirical question whether or not an economy gains from trade liberalisation in this environment. The easy presumption of gains in a perfectly competitive environment vanishes under imperfect competition. Yet, as discussed in more detail below, empirical research to date has generated a replacement presumption: as a rule, trade liberalisation still leads to gains, which may be two to three times larger than those estimated under perfect competition'.

Part I discusses the theoretical background for the empirical research in three ways: verbally, algebraically and graphically. The algebra and graphics are admittedly stylised, and the examples discussed are decidedly hypothetical. Yet the approach aims for clarity and accessibility, and its purpose is to distil a set of

pure, unmixed elements that underlie the effects of trade policy under imperfect competition².

The pure elements from Part I are joined in various combinations in the more realistic and less stylised empirical work surveyed in Part II. Indeed the purpose of the distillation in Part I is to allow decomposition and comprehension of the empirical results of Part II. The empirical studies are still only approximations to reality, but approximations that depend at least on data and generalised wisdom on how the economy works.

In this spirit, Part III completes the survey with some directions for building better models – more interesting, more practical and more useful for private decision-making and the assessment of policy.

The most important conclusionfrom the research surveyed is that simultaneous reduction of barriers to international and internal competition creates sizeable and mutually reinforcing increases in an economy's real income. There are exceptions, however. Such benefits are not virtually "guaranteed", in the way that they are in traditional textbook models of market economies with undistorted, perfect competition. Exceptions notwithstanding, the rule is that trade liberalisation *still* generates significant gains under imperfect competition with scale economies.

Although there are sizeable estimated gains, these studies suggest a second conclusion: the blessings are not unmixed. Trade liberalisation can cause significant adjustment pressure – probably most heavily on firms and workers, but possibly also on entire industrial sectors and historically important trading partners. This research does not support the blithe dismissal of adjustment pressure popular among those who emphasize specialisation among differentiated product lines. In that case, its burden would be light, focused on specialisation within firms and two-way intra-industry trade. Such effects are certainly there in the estimates, but so also are forced exits of marginal firms, moderate stimuli for workers to move from sector to sector, and sharp changes in trading patterns among traditional trading partners.

The most important research question for the future is whether these conclusions will continue to hold in the more refined extensions of empirical research that are discussed in Part III, and if so, how policy should be shaped in their light.

I. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

Both theory and empirical research on trade policy under imperfect competition have borrowed heavily from industrial organisation. It is useful first to summarise some partial- and general-equilibrium thinking about elementary industrial organisation, and then to show how trade policy matters in the typical empirical study.

A. Microeconomic structure

Most empirical studies of trade policy under imperfect competition use a very straightforward, yet very flexible, model of firm and industry behaviour³. The model includes many realistic features, and also many familiar and robust economic relationships. For example, a sensible firm will keep on producing and marketing a product until the extra revenue it earns from selling another unit just covers the extra cost of producing it. This familiar equality between "marginal revenue" and "marginal cost" implies a realistic kind of mark-up pricing, after some algebraic manipulation:

[1]

where p and c are the product's price and marginal cost, and where e is the elasticity of demand that the firm perceives when it changes its price (defined positively)⁴. Sensible firms will charge a mark-up over marginal cost (p-c), which when expressed as a proportion of price, is simply the reciprocal of the perceived demand elasticity. Elasticity governs market power. A firm facing an elasticity of two will mark up price so that it doubles marginal cost. One facing three will mark up price 50 per cent above marginal cost. Perfect competitors facing infinitely elastic demand will enjoy no market power and no mark-up, but will be induced to price at exactly marginal cost.

In imperfectly competitive settings, the first interesting question is how one firm's market power depends on the actions of its rivals. This can even be measured, and provides a first index of imperfect competition for empirical purposes. For example, suppose that n similar rival firms sell q units each of the same product in the same market. Then the total amount sold (*nq*) will in equilibrium be willingly purchased by buyers according to a market demand schedule:

nq = A - Bp

[2]

where A and B can be considered constants. This market demand schedule has its own elasticity E, which equals the reciprocal of $A/Bp-1^5$.

The market demand elasticity, E, will not in general be equal to e, each firm's perceived demand elasticity. It is helpful to see their relationship and the interdependence of each firm's market power along a continuum ordered by an "imperfection weight" w:

$$\frac{l}{e} = w(\frac{l}{E})$$
[3]

At one extreme, for perfectly competitive firms, w=0; imperfect competition plays no role, and firms are independent. At the other extreme, for a monopolist, w=I, and e is E For a tight collusion of **n** firms, acting as if they were one to maximize joint profits, $w \operatorname{also} = I$, and each firm faces an *e* that is equal to E With less intensely collusive competition, whiles between 0 **and** 7, and each firm's market power depends moderately on that of its rivals. When w is empirically estimated (see Bresnahan, 1987), it serves as one measure of the imperfection of competition. A very important intermediate degree of imperfect competition is called Cournot competition. It is a useful empirical reference point, in which w equals each firm's share of the overall market (w=q/nq=1/n, and hence e=nE). Cournot competition is what emerges when each firm perceives as given the outputs of its rivals and then optimally decides on its own output⁶. "Cournot pricing", often encountered in empirical studies, is marking up price above marginal cost by the reciprocal of nE, the product of a firm's market share and the overall market elasticity.

The intensity of competition, measured by w, is one important dimension of imperfect competition. A second is excess profits – profits above the normal amount necessary to keep entrepreneurial resources committed. Unhindered ("free") entry and exit of firms drives excess profit rates per unit of output, r, close to zero in the long run⁷. In that case, the market structure is described as "monopolistically competitive". If n cannot vary, but is fixed by barriers to entry (or exit), then r is variable, and the market structure is called oligopolistic.

The excess profit rate r is defined more precisely as the proportion by which price lies above average cost per unit of product. Average cost is the sum of variable and fixed cost (*f*). Empirical studies often assume constant variable cost per unit, making:

$$r = \frac{p - c - f/q}{P}$$
 [4]

When free entry and exit drive excess profits to zero, [4] implies that (p-c)/p = f/pq. In this case, a firm's mark-up over marginal cost from equation [1] is not arbitrary, but necessary to pay its fixed cost per dollar of output. Market power is then merely the power to pay off one's fixed commitments to operate – legal incorporation and retainer fees, plant construction and maintenance, market research, licensing, and so on. Sometimes a finer distinction is made between "sunk" fixed costs, like initial incorporation and irrecoverable construction costs, and recurrent fixed costs, like retainer fees and plant maintenance. Sunk fixed costs are paid one time; recurrent fixed costs are paid every period⁸.

Increasing returns to scale, in this case the ability to spread fixed costs thinner and thinner over larger and larger outputs, is built into [4], and into the definition of average cost. The sector described by equations [1] to [4] can be seen as a type of natural monopoly. On the face of it, it would be wasteful for a duopoly to use up resources worth 2f when a monopoly would require only f to supply the whole market.

B. General equilibrium structure and trade policy

International trade and trade policy affect this imperfectly competitive behaviour in numerous ways. Three of the most important for policy debate and empirical work on economic welfare can be illustrated in a very simple general equilibrium diagram. Trade policy has potential to accentuate or alleviate an economy's losses from:

- *i*) Distortionary pricing above marginal cost;
- *ii)* Wasteful duplication of facilities or firms whose fixed costs cause a sector's average costs to be unduly high;
- iii) Exploitative income transfers to foreign firms charging excess profits.

After introducing the diagram, the case in which trade liberalisation alleviates losses is discussed at length, followed by allusions to the remaining cases. The diagram is admittedly stylised. But it captures many of the significant contentious issues in trade policy under imperfect competition, and it reveals the most important ways that empirical models have attempted to quantify their importance9

Figure [1] illustrates overall equilibrium for a hypothetical economy with one perfectly competitive sector, producing standardized goods (*S*), and a second imperfectly competitive sector, producing technology-intensive goods (*T*). The *T*-sector will fit equations [1] to [4] above. Figure [1] can be taken initially to illustrate prohibitive trade barriers and a closed economy¹⁰.

In order to produce even the first unit of T-goods, a fixed cost of f must be borne. Resources that could have produced S_0S_1 of standardized goods must be diverted, say, to a research laboratory for *T*. The economy's production possibilities curve $S_0S_1T_1$ lies uniformly inside of a reference curve that would pertain without fixed costs, $S_0T_0^{11}$. Furthermore, if *two* firms compete by setting up research laboratories in order to produce *T*-goods, the economy's production possibility curve would lie even lower: $S_0S_2T_2$. The second research laboratory may involve a social waste of resources equal to *f*, and the second firm's entry into the *T*-market is possibly an example of inefficient entry¹².

Since imperfectly competitive firms mark up price above marginal cost, equilibrium is illustrated in Figure [1] by a point like Q_1 for a monopolistic market structure, and Q_2 for a duopoly. Buyers determine purchases at Q_1 so that their satisfaction from the last dollar's worth of each good bought is equal – illustrated by tangency between the relative price line p_{T1}/p_{S1} and the equal-welfare curve $U_{,.}$ Imperfectly competitive mark-ups at Q_1 or Q_2 make the relative price of *T*-goods higher than the relative marginal cost of T-goods, c_T/c_S , which is what the slope of the production possibilities curve represents. The wedge between the two dashed lines at Q_1 represents a wasteful price distortion.

Finally, it is quite possible, for example at **Q** that both firms are earning excess **profits**¹³. But both may be paying a portion of potentially larger excess profits to a foreign patent holder whose innovation the two research laboratories are implementing – a fixed fee, say, somewhat similar to the fixed costs *f*. In that case there is a transfer of excess profits abroad, and the economy's real income, OQ_3 , is less than its real output OQ_2 .

 Q_0 is a hypothetical reference point that locates the competitive equilibrium for this economy in the absence of any fixed costs. At least f of fixed costs is, however, an assumed fact of life, and the fundamental cause of imperfect competition. Thus the best the economy could hope to do is attain the equilibrium (undrawn)

FIGURE 1 A STYLIZED ECONOMY UNDER IMPERFECT COMPETITION



T — goods (Technology-intensive)

on $S_0S_1T_1$ that is tangent to an equal welfare contour like U_0 , but below it and above U_1 .

Relative to that "best" equilibrium, imperfect competition in this stylised economy can reduce welfare for three reasons. Price distortions can reduce welfare to U_1 . Inefficient entry of a second T-firm seeking excess profits can create unduly small-scale production and high average cost, reducing welfare further to U_2 . And net payments of excess profits to imperfect competitors abroad can reduce welfare still further to U_3 .

Now we can identify some extra potential gains from trade for an economy with imperfect competition. Liberalisation that opens this particular economy to trade has all its normal benefits and more. Freer trade normally allows an economy to increase welfare to, say, U^* by shifting production to a point like P^* and consumption to a point like C^* , with exports of S and imports of T respectively equal to the vertical and horizontal distances between P^* and C^* . But freer trade in this case also :

- *i)* Reduces imperfectly competitive price distortions, as every domestic firm is forced to compete against new foreign rivals;
- *ii*) "Rationalises" the domestic industry by forcing exit of excessive firms that drive up average costs;
- *iii*) Reduces transfers of excess profits abroad. The economy's gains from freer trade, counting its effects **on** imperfect competition, are more like the difference between U_3 and U^* than between U_0 and U^* .

This accounting, however, is one-sided. It neglects to convey that most imperfectly competitive behaviour is a two-edged sword. It can "cut" in favour of an economy as well as against it. Contrary to Figure [1], trade liberalisation under imperfect competition is not guaranteed to produce extra benefits, either in theory or in practice. A simple alteration in the figure to make the economy an inherent exporter of *T*-goods, instead of an importer, could show that :

- *i)* Mark-up pricing on imperfectly competitive exports can capture the same benefits as the classic optimal tariff under perfect competition;
- *ii)* Having two dominant producers that have already sunk 2f of fixed costs in an export market (Boeing and McDonnell-Douglas?) can deter undesirable entry by a foreign competitor (Airbus?) that could potentially reduce the exporter's national welfare (Krugman, 1987, pp. 135-36); and
- *iii)* An economy's imperfectly competitive firms may on balance reap excess profits on exports, which enhance its welfare. In this altered scenario, trade liberalisation may reduce and even reverse the standard gains from trade. Trade liberalisation may be detrimental to an economy, not beneficial, with imperfect competition.

Some of the elements in this fuller accounting, especially *iii*), are of course transfers from one economy to another. Thus from the viewpoint of all trading

economies together, they are neither a gain nor a loss. Other elements, though, especially *i*) and *ii*), apply at the global level as well : trade liberalisation can be an effective instrument for disciplining distortionary forces and economising on fixed resource costs – or, occasionally, it can accentuate distortions and resource costs.

We can draw an important conclusion about imperfectly competitive environments. From a national viewpoint, it is necessarily an *empirical* question whether there are gains from trade liberalisation or losses, gains from active trade intervention or losses. We will turn to research that attempts to answer that question after completing our inventory of additional trade-policy considerations arising out of imperfect competition.

C. Some additional considerations

Evaluators of any trade policy initiative under imperfect competition need to weigh its effects on price distortions, sectoral rationalisation, and profit transfers, as discussed above. In addition, evaluations **need to** be concerned with several other unique features.

1. Adjustment pressure and trade patterns

Trade liberalisation under imperfect competition due to scale economies can cause much more dramatic, discontinuous changes in trade, production and market structure than under perfect competition with zero fixed costs. Rationalisation will usually imply that some plants or firms shut down, not just that they shrink. It may imply that a country loses all firms and production in a given sector¹⁴. For example, in Figure [1], a slight flattening of the dashed line P^*C^* , equivalent to a small drop in world prices of T-goods, will cause the ideal production point to jump discontinuously from near P^* to S_0 , without traversing intermediate points of incomplete specialisation¹⁵. Both exports of S and imports of T would nearly double. Very little increase in welfare would result, but the T-industry would vanish. A very small, not very costly import barrier could then cause the industry to re-appear suddenly. That suddenness is precisely the point : trade and trade policy in some cases have very powerful effects on the sectoral composition of a country's production and employment under imperfect competition, without necessarily much affecting its long-run welfare¹⁶. But in the short run, welfare could decline if firms became suddenly insolvent, capacity became temporarily unproductive, and employees faced dislocation and the need to move or retrain.

Several commentators summarise this concern and provide evidence¹⁷. Others, however, discount it. They suggest that what happens instead is that rationalisation causes each country's firms to specialise on narrowly defined *varieties* of a product, so that any dramatic changes in production and trade are of an "intraindustry" sort. A country may indeed cease producing large automobiles, but correspondingly increase its production and export of intermediate-sized models. Shortterm adjustment costs will be minimal because the same firms produce both varieties, each of which uses very similar plants, machinery, workers and techniques¹⁸.

2. Product variety

Product variety is important in its own right. rationalisation across different varieties of similar products is a unique potential gain from trade liberalisation under imperfect competition (Helpman, 1984, pp. 355-362). One benefit is availability. Trade liberalisation may make certain varieties of a product available for the first time, a clear welfare gain. A related benefit is continuity. Trade liberalisation may make choices possible along a continuum of quality and performance characteristics, whereas gaps exist without it. "Just the right lathe" or "the perfect truck" for our route structure may have been unavailable or unduly expensive because of trade barriers. Continuity in turn can heighten the desirable competitive discipline provided by close substitutes for a **product**¹⁹.

It is possible, however, that trade liberalisation might reduce variety. This possibility is most pronounced when each firm produces a set of varieties that do not "overlap" significantly with those of other **firms**²⁰. Gains from increased varieties of foreign products should then be weighed against any losses from reduced varieties of domestic products caused by exit of domestic firms. The latter could possibly outweigh the former.

In general, however, it seems likely that trade liberalisation will increase the "supply of variety" for all buyers. In fact, entirely new varieties may spring up, as global market sales of a new variety may be large enough to cover its fixed costs (f), whereas sub-global sales would not be.

Finally, as implied by the examples above, variety is no frivolity. It is arguably more important to firms when they purchase capital equipment and intermediate components than to consumers. To increase variety in producer goods actually increases productivity and lowers resource **costs**²¹.

3. Cost effects

Trade liberalisation reduces resource costs by increasing the availability and lowering the price of imported intermediate and capital goods. Both of these effects can be discussed under perfect **competition**²². Imperfectly competitive behaviour adds new considerations. Fixed costs may be reduced by importing research and development, legal and financial services, capital equipment, and so on. Fixed costs may become an irrelevant fact of life if production becomes specialised (for example, at S_0 in Figure [1]). Entry may be encouraged when marginal costs (c) are reduced by cheaper imported inputs. Entry will in turn generally increase the perceived demand elasticities of incumbent firms (e) and reduce the price distortions caused by their mark-up pricing.

4. Demand-side effects

Almost all trade policy alters market demand curves. But such alterations have greater significance for imperfectly competitive behaviour than for perfect competition, where firms' demand curves remain invariantly flat. Mere rotation of the market demand curves around an equilibrium point will change perceived elasticities (*e*) and the equilibrium – even if no conventional "shift" occurs (Bresnahan, 1987, pp. 38-39). Changes in tariffs will usually change the elasticity of the market demand curve (*E*), and hence change the size of mark-ups and price distortions (which are invariant at zero under perfect competition). Voluntary restraint arrangements that prescribe market shares (such as in steel for many countries and in autos for some) can alter the power relationships among rivals dictated by equation [3]. **By** implicitly guaranteeing market share, they can convert moderate competition into a tight collusion with no competition at all (*w* can rise to **one**)²³. Mark-ups would rise and price distortions would become worse.

Integrative trade liberalisation – for example, liberalisation that turns two separated national markets, with different firms competing in each, into one integrated common market – almost certainly increases welfare (Smith and Venables, 1988a; Markusen and Venables, 1988). Even if overall market elasticity *E* remains the same from adding together two demand curves like equation [2], the new presence of $n_1 + n_2$ firms instead of n_1 or n_2 puts pressure on perceived elasticities (e) to rise, with consequently smaller mark-ups and price distortions.

Almost all of these additional features of imperfect competition can provide reasons for a country's trade liberalisation and reasons for its trade-policy activism. Which dominate and when are necessarily empirical questions to which we now turn.

II. EMPIRICAL RESEARCH

A. Overview

The first conclusion from empirical research on these matters is that incorporating imperfectly competitive behaviour, especially when motivated by scale economies, can make a significant difference to estimated effects of trade policy on economic welfare, industrial structure, and adjustment. Table 1 summarises the studies discussed in Part C and Tables 3 and 4 below. The comparisons (small, moderate, large) are in every case to empirical research that assumes perfect competition and no fixed costs or scale economies. "Small" suggests little quantitative sensitivity to the inclusion of scale effects and imperfect competition; "large" suggests considerable sensitivity.

Table 1. Summary results of empirical research on trade policy under imperfect competition

Deperturb	Size (a) of Effects on				
Research	EconomicWelfare (b)	MarketStructure/c/	AdjustmentStimuli (d)		
Rodrik (1988)	moderateto large	moderate	moderate		
Smith and Venables (1988a)	moderate	moderate	moderateto large		
Digby, Smith, and Venables (1988)	moderate	moderate	moderateto large		
Dixit (1988)	small	small	moderate		
Baldwin and Krugman (1988)	?	large	large		
Owen (1983)	moderate	moderate	moderate		
Cox and Harris (1985)	large	large	large		
Canada (1988)	moderate	moderate	small		
Brown and Stern (1988b)	small to moderate	small to moderate	small to moderate		
Nguyen and Wigle (1988)	small to moderate	moderate	moderate		

Approximate measure of responsivenessper "unit" of policy change (i.e, a rough elasticity). "Moderate" suggests responsivenessrougly twice as large a) as found in studies assuming perfect competition. Economicwelfare effect of the policy change expressed as a percentage of the relevant sectoral or aggregate consumption.

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Effects on costs, profits, number and size of firms.

Effects on a country's output mix across sectors and/or trade patterns across trading partners.

Source - Tables 3.4 and text

Table 2 further documents the importance of imperfect competition. It summarises the results of several empirical studies capable of answering the question, "How would calculations have changed if fixed cosis had been assumed to be zero and competition had been assumed perfect?"²⁴ In every case the calculations are estimates of the effect of various kinds of trade liberalisation on the overall economic welfare of countries and regions.

The most important conclusion from Table 2 is that or. balance, trade liberalisation has strong positive effects on economic welfare that are due in significant part to rationalisation of industrial structure and heightened market competitiveness. Cases in which the addition of imperfectly competitive behaviour shrinks or reverses the benefits from trade liberalisation appear to be the exception rather than the rule, especially under the assumption of free entry to and exit from economic activity.

Several other conclusions stand out in Tables 1 to 4. The first conclusion is that the quantitative importance of scale, fixed costs and imperfect competition is greatest when there is free entry and exit. It is entry of new competitive firms, plants and product lines, and exit of uncompetitive firms, plants and product lines that create the largest change in average resource productivity, and hence in economic welfare²⁵. The second conclusion is a result of the first. Calculated adjustment pressures are not trivial, by comparison with those estimated under perfect competition.

They range on average from moderate to severe, contrary to popular wisdom about the ease of adjusting intra-industry trade to policy **innovations**²⁶. These studies calculate significant pressures on workers to change industries and jobs, on firms to change outputs and activities, and on trading partners to change their trade patterns. The pressures nevertheless shrink toward levels of normal turnover and attrition if estimates are cumulated incrementally over five- to ten-year phase-in periods. The third conclusion is the potential for what might be termed "scale diversion" in those studies that vary the scope of participation in trade liberalisation (Smith and Venables, 1988a; Digby, Smith and Venables, 1988; Nguyen and Wigle, 1988). Small countries and firms that are included in liberalisation are sometimes large gainers, even though rivals that are left out would realise scale economies even more dramatically if only they were included, too. For example, estimated welfare gains for Canada and Italy decline noticeably when Greece, Spain, Portugal and developing countries are fully integrated into trade liberalisation.

The policy implications corresponding to these conclusions would seem to be that simultaneous reduction of barriers to international and internal competition creates sizeable and mutually reinforcing benefits, but at the expense of adjustment burdens, either across sectors or among trading partners, that cannot blithely be dismissed.

B. Quantitative method

1. Calibration/counterfactuals

All of the research summarised in Tables 1 to 4 employs a variant of the behavioural structure discussed in Part I²⁷ and a quantitative method sometimes described as a calibration/counterfactual experiment. A calibrationkounterfactual is in essence an empirical analog to comparative statics, and is familiar from computablegeneral-equilibrium (CGE) studies²⁸ - although applied here to partial-equilibrium studies as well. The method begins with assumptions about economic behaviour (such as equations [1] to [4] above), and maintains them as true for purposes of quantitative analysis. It then uses econometric estimates and industry case studies to measure key behavioural parameters. Since some parameters are subjective or have been estimated dubiously, there are always gaps. These can often be filled by assuming that the behaviour accurately describes a real period, and using this period's data as a benchmark along with measured parameters to infer the values of missing, subjective, or dubious parameters. This inference is called "calibration", and amounts to making the assumed behaviour and one period's data mutually consistent. The model's mechanics will consequently produce an equilibrium that matches reality for that one period. The counterfactual step is to change one (or more) of the parameters or data entries - in this case trade policy - and to calculate the new equilibrium that would have been generated by the model's mechanics.

Cturdu da un avien ant	Calculated economic	Effecton calculation from	
Studyexperiment	Perfectcompetition	Perfectcompetition Imperfectcompetition	
Brown and Stern (1988a), Canada-US. free trade area.			•
Canada U. S . Restof World	-0.015 0.045 -0.005	1.177 0.027 -0.004	1.192 -0.018 0.001
Harris (1984), unilateralCanadian liberalisation, reciprocatedCan	adian liberalisation, effects on Canada.		
Unilateral Reciprocated	0.0 24	4.1 8.6	41 6.2
Rodrik (1988), (d) 10 per cent loosening of import quotas, effects	on Turkey.		
<i>Noentry/exit</i> Autos Tires Electricalappliances	6.3 29 1.0	2.6 0.6 -0.5	-3.7 -2.3 -1.5
Free entry/exit			
Autos Tires Electricalappliances	6.3 29 1.0	5.2 41 1.2	-1.1 12 0.2
Smith and Venables (1988a) <i>(d),</i> cut in transport/transfer costs ar	nong EC members equal to 2.5 per cent of	value of trade, effects on EC as a whole.	
No entry/exit		. 10	
Cerneri, inne, plaster Pharmaceuticalproducts Artificial, syntheticfibres Machinetools Office machinery Electric motors, generators Electricalhouseholdappliances Motor vehicles Carpets, linoleum Footwear	0.04 0.25 0.91 0.56 0.59 0.22 0.49 0.62 0.47 0.27	-0.10 0.29 0.84 0.88 0.29 0.64 0.83 0.67 0.35	-0.14 0.04 0.08 0.28 0.29 0.07 0.14 0.21 0.20 0.08

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Table 2. Welfare effects (a) of trade policies under perfectly and imperfectly competitive (b) assumptions Percentage change in real consumption

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Freeentry/exit			
Cement, lime, plaster	0.04	0.02	-0.02
Pharmaceuticalproducts	0.25	0.29	0.04
Artificial, synthetic fibres	0.91	1.17	0.26
Machinetools	0.56	0.82	0.26
Office machinery	0.59	1.31	0.72
Electric motors, generators	0.22	0.29	0.07
Electricalhousehold appliances	0.49	0.70	0.21
Motor vehicles	0.62	0.95	0.33
Carpets, linoleum	0.47	0.74	0.27
Footwear	0.27	0.37	0.10

a) Calculatedchangeineconomicwelfareasa percentage of GNP or GDP, except for Rodrik (1988) and Smith and Venables (1988a), where the calculatedwelfare effect is scaled by consumption within the industry indicated. b) Version reflected in table. Brown and Stem (1988a) : monopolistic competition. Harris (1984) : non-product differentiation. Rodrik (1988) : Coumot pricing. Smith and Venables (1988a) : Cournot pricing, models per firm

a fan men waa yaa ina amaan menangkan kanangkan kanang menangkan kanang menangkan kanang menangkan kanangkan kanang kan

constant

c) Second column minus first column.
 c) Second column minus first column.
 d) Column 1 estimates under perfectcompetition are especially rough approximations, by the authors' own admission, but useful for an order of magnitude.
 Sources: Brown and Stem (1988a, Table 3), scaled by 1976 base GDPs implied by Deardorff and Stem (1986, Table 4.4, pp. 54-55) : Canada-195737; US-1737250; Rest of World -3 020 124. Hams (1984, Table 2, p. 1028). Rodrik (1988, Tables 5-7). Smith and Venablw (1988a, Table 3, p. 1514).

Values of variables in this new equilibrium are compared to their actual values – "facts" are "countered" with hypothetical calculations – and differences between them are taken to be estimates of the effects of trade policy²⁹.

Calibration/counterfactual methods have compelling strengths, despite their simplicity, selective and judgmental use of data and econometric estimation, insistence on maintaining rather than testing hypotheses, and imprecise statistical robustness (Baldwin, 1988c; Harrison *et al.*, 1987). In the research surveyed here, they complement the data with a flexible structure to describe imperfect competition generically. They impose sensible economic consistency on experimentation (that is, incentives are calculated and profitable opportunities are assumed to be seized). And they organise the interpretation of results around accepted descriptions of economic trends (although there are usually several such descriptions). Not "any-thing can happen".

These strengths notwithstanding, calibration/counterfactual methods are more art than science³⁰. They provide less definitive results than econometric, data-intensive methods that characterise modern empirical research in industrial organisation, as surveyed by Bresnahan (1987). The intricacies and inadequacies of international and comparative national data for the moment preclude recourse to more sophisticated empirical methods in the study of trade policy.

2. Partial- and general-equilibrium approaches

The studies summarised in Tables 3 and 4 are respectively "partial-equilibrium" and "general-equilibrium" approaches. The latter take into account and calculate several potentially important economic effects that are neglected by the former³¹. These effects always involve how one sector's trade policy changes prices or costs in other sectors, either through intermediate purchases, or through impacts on the whole economy's wages, rents, and costs of capital. For changes in trade policy within a single sector or small sub-set of sectors, as in Table 3, cross-sector and factor-price effects are arguably insignificant, and can be ignored. For across-the-board changes in trade policy, such as those underlying Table 4, cross-sector and factor-price effects are cumulatively large, and must be estimated.

The distinction, although important for many empirical purposes, turns out to be unimportant for the purposes of this survey. Almost all conclusions about the special effects of trade policy under imperfect competition show up in both the partial-equilibrium and general-equilibrium studies.

C. Distinctive features and conclusions

Although the studies of Tables 3 and 4 share a common structure and quantitative method, each has distinctive features. Some of these features seem strengths to be emulated in future research; others seem weaknesses to be avoided. Conclusions are, of course, sensitive to these distinctive features.

Personand policy change	Effects				
Research and policy change	Economicwelfare (a)	Marketstructure	Sectoral structure or trade pattern		
Rodrik (1988) Policy change: Unilateral loosening of Turkish import quotas by 10 per cent.	 Proportional change : a) i) 0.9 Averageeffectacross ii) 24 three sectors. 	 a) With fixed number of firms, profit/sales rates fall by 2 to 3 percentage points. 	 a) Moderate adjustment pressure. Output per firm falls 6 to 9 per cent under courset pricing but only 21 of per cent 		
Data base : various years, 1970s, early 1980s, late 1970s, early 1980s.	<i>ii)</i> 69		under collusive pricing.		
Sector market : 3 sectors Turkey. Pricing rule : (a) Cournot pricing (b) Collusive joint profit-maximizing. Entry/exit : a) none; b/ free Product variety : differentiation by nation of supply. Morphology : static.		b) One firm exits each sector uniformly, leaving 2,3 and 7 incumbents (respec- tively for autos, tires, and appliances), each of which increases output despite lower sectoral output.	 b) Moderate adjustment pressure. One firm always exits. Most incumbent's outputs rise more than 10 per cent, up to 50 per cent (autos, collusive pricing). 		
Smith and Venables (1988)					
 Policy change : (a) Cut in transport and transfer costs among- EC members equal to 25 per cent of value of trade. (b) Same cut as a) with market segmentation removed. 	Froportional change : a) i) 0.57 Average effect on EC ii) 0.67 acrossten sectors. b) i) 1.78 ii) 2.12	 a) Average costs fall uniformly, up to 1 per cent without entry and up to 3 or 4 per cent (fibres, office machinery) with free entry. 	 a) Modest sectoral adjustment pressure based on electrical household appliances (other sectors not given). National output rises as much as 6.4 per cent (Italy) or falls by as much as 4.9 per cent (UK) The degree of Computer 		
Data base : 1982			rises 22 to 25 per cent; imports from		
Sector/market :10 sectors/5 EC markets, 1 rest-of- world market.			non-EC fall 6 to 8 per cent.		
 Pricing rule : Cournot pricing (also Bertrand for illustration). Entry/exit : a) none; b) free. Product variety : differentiation across firms and within (models), market segmentation due to transport and transfer costs. Morphology : static. 		Average costs fall uniformly, up to 27 per cent (office, machinery) without entry, and up to 4.3 per cent (fibres) with free entry. Significant exit takes place, by nearly 30 per cent of firms. Remaining firms increase in size as much as 50 per cent.	inocerate sectoral adjustment pressure based on electrical household appliances (other sectors not given) National output rises as much as 20 per cent for smaller EC members, and falls as much as 1 per cent for Italy. Heavy adjustment pressure on firms because of significant exit.		

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Table 3. Partial-equilibrium research on trade policy under imperfect competition

23

Table 3. (cont.) Partial-equilibrium research on trade policy under imperfect competition

	Effects				
Research and policy change	Economicwelfare (a)	Market structure	Sectoral structure or trade pattern		
Digby, Smith and Venables (1988) Policy change : Removal of Japanese VERs a) In the United Kingdom b) In all EC members. Data base : 1985. Sectorharket : passenger automobiles / 5 EC markets. Japan. 1 rest-of-world market.	Proportional change : a/ 2.1 (UnitedKingdom) b/ 2.0 (UnitedKingdom) 2.5 (France) -0.9 (Germany) 4.2 (Italy) 2.5 (Japan)	 a) Prices declines almost 1 per cent on average for non-Japanese firms, 8 per cent for Japanese. Mark-ups decline accordingly. But average costs rise almost 1 per cent for non-Japanese firms, and profits fall accordingly. 	 a) Moderate adjustment pressure. Non- Japanese firms lose 4 to 9 per cent of previous sales; Japanese firms gain 57 per cent over previous sales. 		
Pricing rule : Cournot pricing modified for VER. Entry/exit : none. Product variety : differentiation across firms and within (models), market segmentation due to transport and transfer costs. Morphology : static.		b) Prices decline up to 2 per cent on average for non-Japanese firms, and 26 (France) and 52 (Italy) per cent for Japanese. Mark-ups decline accordingly. But average costs rise up to 2 per cent for non-Japanese firms and profits fall accordingly.	b) Moderate to heavy adjustment pres- sure. Non-Japanese firms lose 4 to 22 per cent of previous sales; Japanese sales increase six-fold (France) and more than 100-fold (Italy).		
Dixit (1988) Policy change : Replace \$100 U.S. tariff with optimal tariff and/or production subsidy. Data base : 1979,1980. Sectorharket : US. passenger autos. Pricing rule : variable mark-up over marginal cost. Entry/exit : none. Product variety : differentiation by nation of supply. Morphology : static.	Proportional change : 11979 : 0.14 (optimaltariff of \$570 with zero subsidy). 0.55 (optimaltariff of \$408 with optimal subsidy). 11980 : 0.03 (optimaltariff of \$298 with zero subsidy). 0.14 (optimaltariff of \$211 with optimal subsidy).	 1979: U.S. profits rise at most 23 per cent; Japanese profits fall at most 33 per cent. 1980: U.S. profits rise at most 12 per cent; Japanese profits fall at most 16 per cent (optimal subsidy). 	 1979: U.S. auto sales rise at most 11 per cent (0.9 mil. units); Japanese exports fall at most 18 per cent (0.3 mil. units). 1980: U.S. auto sales rise at most 6 per cent (0.4 mil. units); Japanese exports fall at most 8 per cent (0.2 mil. units). 		

	Effects			
Research and policy change	Economicwelfare (a)	Market structure	Sectoral structure or trade pattern	
Baldwin and Krugman (1988) Policy change : a) Removal of alleged Japanese closure of internal market (approximated by 27 per cent tariff).	'roportional change : '/ > 0 (U.S.) > 0 (Japan)	 Number of firms falls from 9 (6 U.S., 3 Japanese) to 7 (all U.S.); average output per firm rises; average cost 	 i) Extreme adjustment pressure. Japa- nese firms never start to become com- petitive; equilibrium production and 	
 <i>b)</i> Retaliatory U.S. closure of internal market (trade war, approximated by 100 per cenl tariffs in each). 	ı/ < 0 (U.S.) > 0 (Japan)	falls. Number of firms rises from 9 (6 U.S., 3 Japanese) to 12 (7 U.S., 5 Japanese); average output per firm falls; average cost rises	 exports are zero. U.S. firms serve the entire market. Moderate adjustment pressure compared to base case, Japanese firms lose 0.19 share of sales in U.S. U.S. firms lose 0.14 share of 	
Data base : 1976-84. Sectorharket : 16K RAM chips in U.S. and Japan.		0050 11555.	sales in Japan.	
Pricing rule : mark-up over marginal cost pricing. Entry/exit : free. Product variety : none, homogeneous products, but market segmentation due to transport costs and policy. Morphology : dynamic - two-stage competition in capacity, then price (Bertrand).				
Owen (1983) Policy change : Formation/expansion of EC. Date base : 1976-84 Sectorharket : 3 sectors/4 countries. Pricing rule : variable mark-up over marginal cost. Morphology : implicity dynamic, static sales competition based on continuous competition in caractiv formation	 'roportional change : 20 Average effect on EC across to three sectors. 25 	Verage costs fall 1.8 to 2.3 1.5 to 2.0 0.0 to 0.1 per cent for washing machines, autos, and trucks, respectively. Marginal firms exit in significant numbers (washing machines, Italy).	ntra-EC trade assumed to rise 40 to 50 per cent. :xtreme adjustment pressure on margina firms that exit.	

Table 3. (cont.) Partial-equilibrium research on trade policy under imperfect competition

of sectoral consumption Average et a cross sectors of multi-sectoralstudies are not w hted. Baldwin and Krugman (1988) figures could not

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25

be computed on a comparable basis given data limitation. Sources of numerical calculations are available from the author on request

	Effects				
Research and policy change	Economicwelfare(a)	Marketstructure	Sectoral structure or trade pattern		
Cox and Harris (1985) Policy change : Eliminatetariffs and selected NTBs a) of Canada (unilateral) b) of Canada and world (multilateral) Data base : 1976 Sectors : 29 Primaryfactors : 2	Pioportional change : a) 4.1 (Canada) b) 8.6 (Canada)	Average output per firm a) rises 41 per cent b rises 67 per cent	Considerable adjustment pressure, 4 to 6 per cent of workers are forced to change their industry of employment. As many as half of the firms in a sector exit. Trade volumes, both imports and exports grow on ave rage 50 per cent (unilateralliberalisation) to 90 per cent (multilateralliberalisation).		
Pricing rules: in 20 manufacturing sectors, weighted average of: <i>i</i> / collusive pricing at landed (tariff-inclusive) world price, and <i>ii</i> / monopolistic competitive pricing; competi- tive in nine sectors. Entrylexit; free. Productvariety: differentiationby nationof supply.					
Canada (1988). Policy change : Eliminate tariffs and selected NTBs on bilateral Canada-US. trade only. Data base : 1981 but 1987 trade barriers. Sectors : 88	Proportional change : 2.5 (Canada)	Average costs (manufacturing)fall roughly 10 per cent.	Little adjustmentpressure. Only 1.3 per cen of workers are forced to change their industry of employment. Trade volume both exports and imports, rises 16 per cen with the U.S. and 6 per cent with the rest o the world.		
Primaryfactors: 2 Regions : 3 Pricing rules: collusive at landed (tariff-inclusive) word price for import-competitive manufac- tures (60 per cent); average-cost, contestable markets pricingfor export-orientedmanufactu- res; competitive otherwise. Entrylexit: free for import-competitive manufac- tures; none for export-orientedmanufactures. Productvariety: differentiation by nation of supply.					

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Table 4. General-equilibrium research on trade policy under imperfect competition-

26

Table 4. (cont.)	General-equilibrium research on trade	polic	v under im	perfectcom	oetition
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Descerch and policy change	Effects			
	Economicwelfare (a)	Market structure	Sectoral structureortrade patterm	
Brown and Stern (1988b) Policy change : Eliminatetariffs on bilateralCanada-U.S. trade only. Data base: 1976, but post-Tokyo Round tariff rates. Sectors : 29 Primaryfactors : 2 Regions : 4 Pricing rules: competitive, monopolisticallycom- petitive, Cournot, varying judgmentally across sectors. Entry/exit : free or none, varying judgmentally across sectors. Product variety : differentiation by firm only.	Proportional change : 1.1 (Canada) 0.1 (United States) ~0.0; (Rest of World)	Average size of firm : Canada : grows modestly (4 to 20 per cent) in only 4/24 sectors, and falls sharply (35 per cent) in textiles. Otherwise little change. U.S. : little change, with slightly more than 1 per cent growth in paper products and electrical machinery, and 4 per cent growth in textiles.	Modest adjustmentpressure in Canada, little in the United States. Employment changes in Canada are greater than 1 per cent in 221 29 sectors, greater than 5 per cent in 13/29, and greater than 10 per cent in 8/29, Employ- ment changes in the U.S are greater than 11 per centilin 4/29 sectors. (Note: sectoral output parallels employment because factor prices show little change.) Large changes in bilateral trade. Canadian imports from US rise more than 25 per cent in 20122 tradeables sectors, and more than 50 per cent in 11/22. Rest of world imports from Canada and U.S. fall in aggregate by, roughly, the rise in each country's bilateral imports:	
Policy change: Eliminatetariffs and selected NTBs a) among all regions b) among DCs only Data base : 1977 (?) Sectors : 6 Primaryfactors : 2 Regions : 8 Pricing rules: virtually monopolisticallycompeti- tive in manufacturing, competitive otherwise. Entry/exit : free Product variety : differentiation by nation of sup- ply.	Froportional change: a) 1.5 (large DCs); 07 (small:DCs) -0.0 (others) b) -0.2 (large DCs) 0.3 (small DC) 29 (others)	 Average size of firm (manufactures) a), Grows:modestlý (large:DCs); Falls: sharply (Canada). Falls modestly (smallDCs); b) Grows modestlý (large DCs); Grows sharply (Canada).) Fälls modestly (LDCs and NICs, except machinery and transport grows sharply in LDCs). Average number of firms :[manufactures), Approximate negative of trends in average ize. 	Modèst adjustment pressure. Mödést changes (below 10 per cent) in output of manufacturing sectors in almost all regions: Average size and: number of firms: vary negativelyand have quantitatively offsetting effects.	

a) Economicwelfare effect of the policy change expressed as a percentage of GNP, GDP, or aggregate spending. Sources of *numerical* calculations are available from the author on request.

27

Rodrik (1988) is an especially clear and accessible introduction to the mainstream of early empirical research on trade policy under imperfect competition. Its distinctive features are two-fold :

- *i*) Its consideration of quotas (most of the other studies are predominantly about tariffs); and
- *ii*) Its ability therefore to capture incentives and disincentives for rent-seeking in addition to the standard effects.

Rodrik is one of the few researchers to address the "integer problem" empirically, the potentially important observation that free entry and exit may *not* guarantee zero excess profits³². When fixed costs are especially large, the marginal entrant may be deterred from entering, even though "free" to do so, because its anticipated share of the positive excess profits will not cover its large fixed costs. Making allowance for free entry with ongoing positive profits is presumably quite important in empirical research like Rodrik's on developing countries with small numbers of firms³³, or like Baldwin's and Krugman's (1987, 1988) on industries with unusually high fixed costs. They in fact adopt a similar approach.

Rodrik's results are noteworthy for the large size of the estimated welfare effect. This may reflect his allowance for collusive (monopolistic) pricing. It may also signal that market-structure benefits of trade liberalisation are greater in developing countries, as are more conventional benefits. His results also show clearly the way that welfare effects are larger with free entry (which promotes rationalisationj and collusion in the base period (which is undercut desirably by international competition).

Smith and Venables (1988a) is noteworthy first for its timely application to the European Community's intention to complete its internal market by 1992³⁴. It is unique among the studies summarised in embodying the potential gains from increased product variety when trade is liberalised³⁵. This is accomplished in essence by allowing firms free entry and exit not only among product categories, but among "models" within a product category. Fixed costs, which depend on the number of models produced, may be spread not only across large volumes of a given model (standard scale economies), but across models as well (an illustration of one kind of "economies of scope"). On average, this flexibility enhances ways that average fixed costs can be reduced, and Smith and Venables show somewhat larger welfare gains from trade liberalisation with product (model) differentiation than without. Finally, their study allows a better tentative assessment than others of the important question of "market segmentation" - how to define the market demand in equation [2] above. Most of the other studies merely assume either that [2] describes a national demand curve and use corresponding estimates of its parameters, or that [2] describes a global market, with guite different estimated parameters³⁶. Smith and Venables, as well as Brown and Stern (1988a), do calculations both ways, and show that the results are very sensitive to the segmentation question. Of the roughly 2 per cent rise in EC welfare that Smith and Venables estimate from completion of the EC's internal market, two-thirds can be taken as a measure of abandoning the assumption

of market segmentation. That makes market segmentation an important issue for ongoing research, rather than mere **assumption**³⁷.

The unique feature of Digby, Smith and Venables (1988) is that it includes a simple way of analysing voluntary export restraints (VERs) in the context of intermediate (Cournot) competition. It also illustrates the potential for perverse effects from trade liberalisation via product variety ; it concludes very cautiously that removing Japanese auto VERs for Britain reduces the number of British models produced and exported to Europe-so much so that EC welfare declines very slightly, although British welfare increases.

These studies are also notable for their estimates of moderately large adjustment pressures : a significant number of EC firms may exit due to full EC integration; some European auto makers might lose up to 20 per cent of their market if free trade with Japan were permitted. Yet, as Harris and Kwakwa **(1988)** suggest, the burden of such adjustment may not be overwhelming if trade liberalisation **is** phased in over five- to ten-year periods, as is often the case. Then the adjustment impetus per year during the transition is not that much greater than normal consolidation/merger rates for firms nor job-move/attrition rates for workers.

Dixit's **(1988)** study is unique among those from Tables 3 and **4** in assuming only imperfectly competitive behaviour, and not (necessarily) increasing returns to scale, hence allowing an assessment of how one contributes independent of the other³⁸. **B** y incorporating the potential for an explicit pro-competition policy (e.g. anti-trust), proxied by a production subsidy, Dixit is able to demonstrate the important and familiar point that international trade policy is often a second-best way of accomplishing a government's goals. In the presence of an optimal pro-competition policy, there are only small remaining imperfectly competitive gains to capture by trade policy, in the neighbourhood of one-tenth to one-thirtieth of **1** per cent of consumption³⁹! Dixit's hypothetical policies do, however, have moderately large effects on profits and market shares – measured by elasticities often above one. Thus these may be effective rnercantilistic transfer devices, however small their welfare effects, and rnay cause non-trivial adjustment pressures.

Dixit's study is also distinctive in observing why excess profits may exist but be hard to detect quantitatively. Excess "profits" may be disguised in a sector's above-average wages and salaries compared to other sectors, and insulated by labour-market barriers. Dixit shows that the larger are such disguised profits, the greater **is** the scope for active trade policy to create significant welfare gains. In a hypothetical extreme where half of labour compensation is disguised excess profits, Dixit's calculated gains to optimal pro-competition policy grow to 3 per cent of consumption, and the calculated gains from optimal tariffs increase several times over. But these tariff gains are still well below one-half of 1 per cent. The important message is that empirical calculations are quite sensitive to the amount of "rent" reflected in factor costs – an argument elaborated by Eaton **(1988)**.Other studies, in contrast to Dixit's, tend to take wage or cost data to reflect genuine resource costs, without any rent component⁴⁰.

Baldwin and Krugman (1987, 1988) capture some rudimentary dynamics of international competition⁴¹, in which firms compete first to establish pre-emptive capacity or R & D necessary to build a product, and subsequently compete over price (in Bertrand fashion) or over market share. Their documentation makes it difficult to discern the independent contribution that this dynamic structure makes to the striking results in their 1988 paper, in which extreme Japanese import protection in 16K RAM chips is immensely successful, although welfare-reducing, export promotion. Essentially, Japanese market closure to imports allows it to displace the United States as the dominant world producer and exporter⁴².

Owen's seminal (1983) study is implicitly dynamic in a similar way, since capacity is assumed subject to continuous replenishment and expansion. But Owen's theory and quantitative method, while in the spirit of the more recent studies, are generally more primitive⁴³. His meticulous case studies, on the other hand, set a standard of sophistication that is unparalleled. Owen's other unique feature, in contrast to subsequent studies, is to treat asymmetries among "firms" (or plants)⁴⁴ explicitly. In the simplest framework, he allows firms to differ in size only (q in equations [1] to [4]), but hence in average cost and profit also (see equation [4]). Unspecified barriers to competition are assumed to keep the large, low=cost, high-profit firms from displacing the small, high-cost, no-profit firms. Yet any reduction in these barriers, such as creation and expansion of the European Economic Community, exposes the small, marginal firms to losses and drives them out of business (marginal exporting firms as well as marginal import competitors). That is what leads to Owen's distinctive conclusion : trade liberalisation leads to significant consolidation through thg extinction of marginal, small activities⁴⁵. Therein lies both his moderately large estimated welfare effects and his potentially serious calculated adjustment pressures.

The studies by Richard Harris and David Cox, from which Canada (1988) with its supporting documentation⁴⁶ descends, have been influential for a number of the other general-equilibrium studies. They, with Wigle (1988), have underlined the quantitative importance of the imperfectly-competitive pricing behaviour discussed above. All employ a conventional form of monopolistically competitive pricing, often equivalent to the Bertrand assumptions noted above. Yet all employ additionally a controversial form of collusive pricing described as "focal" or Eastman-Stykolt (1967) pricing. With discretion by sector, prices gre assumed to be a weighted average of the two pricing rules.

Focal pricing embodies two characteristics that heighten the importance of imperfect competition for trade policy, and increase calculations of the welfare gains from trade liberalisation. One is that all domestic firms implicitly collude – without any competitive deviation to undercut the average price of their rivals. The second is that these firms implicitly collude with all their foreign rivals too – by setting a price that is essentially equal to the world price plus any transport and transfer costs (including tariffs) between Canada and the "world". Most commentators (e.g. Deardorff, 1986) agree that these characteristics prejudice the empirical research toward

finding large benefits from trade liberalisation, especially when Canadian liberalisation is matched **by** its trading partners. In that case, liberalisation directly and mechanically lowers the collusive focal **price** charged by **all** Canadian firms, whether export-oriented or import-competitive, rationalising **all** industries by forcing some firms to exit and incumbents to reduce mark-ups and increase scale by moving down their average cost **curves**⁴⁷. In line with the higher estimates of welfare gains due to focal pricing, several of these **studies show** larger adjustment burdens.

Brown and Stern (1988a,b), Wigle (1988), and Markusen and Wigle (1987) all calculate smaller welfare effects and adjustment pressures from very similar tradepolicy experiments with less or no recourse to focal pricing. But Brown and Stern are reluctant to see their own welfare calculations as more than approximate since their model embodies an indefinite wage distortion (rigidity), while nevertheless requiring long-run full employment, as do the other general-equilibrium studies⁴⁸. There are two other noteworthy features to the Brown and Stern studies. Their (1988b) estimates rest on a sensible judgmental partitioning of sectors into five types, depending on the intensity of competition, on market segmentation (whether a sector's market demand is global or merely national) and on whether there is free entry or not. Most of the other studies, including their (1988a) paper, assume a less realistic symmetry in these dimensions across all manufacturing sectors⁴⁹. Secondly, Brown and Stern highlight differences in the factor content of fixed and variable costs in rationalisation, showing its potential importance for estimates of welfare change, and (implicitly) for adjustment burdens from trade liberalisation⁵⁰.

Nguyen and Wigle (1988) analyse global trade liberalisation ir an adaptation of Whalley's (1985) model to imperfect competition, **As** is true there as well, terms-of-trade effects swamp other sources of welfare change. This appears to be the result of allowing changes in trade policy to alter each country's equilibrium current-account balance, and by necessity its equilibrium capital-account balance⁵¹. The more realistic and conventional alternative (in theory, as well as in other CGE models, such as those of Brown and Stern, 1988a,b; Deardorff and Stern, 1986; and Devarajan and Rodrik, 1988) requires that the terms of trade settle at a value that leaves the equilibrium current-account balance unaffected by inter-sectoral and border policies like trade liberalisation⁵². In most cases, requiring this would appear greatly to reduce Whalley's estimated terms-of-trade impacts from trade policy and the corresponding welfare effects (Richardson, 1986, p. **374).** Bresumably the same is true of the Nguyen-Wigle calculations⁵³.

The Cox-Harris-Canada general-equilibrium studies allow productive capital to be mobile across borders, unlike traditional analysis". Documentation is inadequate to determine, however, how this assumption changes the calculated effects of trade policy under imperfect **competition**⁵⁵. The question **is** important and topical for the European Community today, for example, and for **all** regions that simultaneously liberalise trade and investment policies, such as Canada and the United States recently.

In addition to the representative studies highlighted above and in Tables 3 and 4, there are several more recent and/or provisional contributions that share the same methodology.

Harris and Kwakwa (1988) is a significant elaboration of the Cox-Harris-Canada studies⁵⁶. The elaboration aims to recalculate the effects of trade liberalisation on Canada in a framework that features both an explicit ten-year phase-in and underlying growth of the economy. Populations of both workers and firms are assumed to be growing, as are the economy's capital stock and external net claims/indebtedness. Key elements of the Harris-Kwakwaframework are imperfect inter-sectoral factor mobility, resulting in potential for medium-run wage and profit differences across sectors, sluggish wage adjustment, and forward-looking (for only one period, however) sectoral investment and entry decisions. The most important conclusion of their study is the greatly reduced calculation of worker adjustment costs. The natural turnover rates that are embedded in the growth calibration dominate the incipient worker dislocation from trade liberalisation phased over ten years. Real wages actually increase almost immediately for most workers. Among other conclusions is reduced industry rationalisation relative to calculations in the early Harris-Cox-Canada variants⁵⁷. Welfare effects from trade liberalisation are, however, not calculable until conceptual difficulties are resolved⁵⁸.

Daltung, Eskeland and Norman **(1987)** analyse optimal policy for two Norwegian industries : skis, in which product differentiation and variety play distinctive roles; and Caribbean cruise shipping, in which commitments about future capacity, and whether the vessels can be used in other markets or not, are the key issues. Their sceptical assessment of the case for policy intervention is based on unique information shortcomings that would undermine its efficacy, for example, firms' incentives to dissemble and withhold information about their own costs.

Lee (1988) is a general-equilibrium study of Japanese trade and industrial policies. It does not assume mobility of productive capital across its four sectors, but its conclusions are quantitatively comparable to those of the research above. Ngowsirimanee (1988) is a general-equilibrium study of Thailand's trade and industrial policies which makes explicit provision for trade liberalisation to alter variety. It concludes that increased variety contributes much more to welfare gains than industrial rationalisation. Gunasekera and Tyers (1988) find industrial rationalisation, by contrast, to be a much more significant source of potential Korean gains from trade liberalisation (as large as 7 per cent of real income). Their general-equilibrium study is a close relative of the Cox-Harris-Canada studies discussed above, and may suffer from the same tendency toward quantitative overstatement. Devarajan and Rodrik (1988) is a general-equilibrium study of unilateral tariff removal in Cameroon. It is noteworthy in allowing calculations of welfare and adjustment effects both when imperfect competition is accompanied by scale economies and when it is not. The addition of modest scale economies nearly doubles the welfare gains (from 1 to 2 per cent), but also aggravates the incidence and severity of adjustment that is imposed

on the manufacturing industries. Finally, Horridge (1987a,b) and Cory and Horridge (1985) are careful and extensive studies of how hypothetical scale economies and imperfect competition could influence results from the widely-used Australian CGE model, ORANI. The influence is usually considerable, but highly sensitive to various assumptions that are implemented quantitatively.

D. Closely related research

A number of recent papers quantify elements of the behavioural structure underlying the research summarised above. While all relate to trade policy, not all estimate its effects directly. Levinsohn (1987) and Levinsohn and Feenstra (1988), for example, develop techniques to discover which auto models are close substitutes for each other, and implement them for a sample of domestic and foreign models. Eventhough policy does not enter explicitly, they point out (1988, p. 1) that "...policy implications abound... Would an oil import fee affect one firm more adversely than other firms?... Will an import quota on Korean automobiles benefit domestic firms or are Japanese firms the primary beneficiaries?" There is a long series of indirectly relevant studies in the industrial organisation tradition of empirically comparing summary measures of domestic competitive performance on the one hand (e.g. mark-ups) to international competitive exposure on the other (e.g. import **shares**)⁵⁹.

More directly tied to policy are papers that identify the quality upgrading that often accompanies quantitative trade barriers, and that attempt to estimate its welfare effects⁶⁰. Quality upgrading is merely one example of firms "entering" or exiting from models or varieties, as discussed above. Papers that estimate the "pass-through" from a change in trade barriers into domestic prices are similarly tied to policy. Under many of the imperfectly competitive pricing rules described above, it can be shown that a rise in barriers or in world prices will not pass point for point into higher domestic prices; only a fraction will "pass through", and that fraction can be estimated. Furthermore, different pricing rules and imperfectly competitive behaviour generate different degrees of pass-through, so that pass-through estimates by industry can be used to make inferences about market structure⁶¹.

Finally, two strands of research with very different behavioural mechanisms are nevertheless related to that summarised above. The first assumes that excess profits are passed on into wages above some normal level (Dickensand Lang, 1988; Katz and Summers, 1988). It focuses on how imperfectly-competitive labour markets might respond to trade policy, but has not yet been cast with adequate theoretical or empirical structure. The second is inter-temporal CGE research that is typically competitive in its assumed market behaviour and is only recently being carried out for open economies⁶². With one exception⁶³, the research has initially focused on taxes, tax reform, expected taxes, investment, and capital flows. But it is reasonably straightforward to consider tariffs and other trade barriers, and only slightly more complex to incorporate imperfectly competitive behaviour, scale economies and elementary labour-market dynamics (inthe fashion of Harris and Kwakwa, 1988)⁶⁴.

III. RESEARCH POTENTIAL

Until a few years ago, there was at best only a few pieces of empirical research on trade policy under imperfect competition. Recent research, the subject of this survey, represents a natural first step – a set of projects that most economists would undertake first because of the ready availability of models, methods and data. More difficult, but presumably far more interesting research lies ahead. With some good fortune, it may prove practical and relevant to policy.

- Empirical research would be valuable on elementary yet general and flexi) ible models of dynamic imperfect competition, perhaps along the lines of the theoretical framework of Grossman and Helpman (1988a,b). In it an economy's primary resources are allocated to research, intermediate producer goods, and final products, with the first two serving as inputs to the third and embodying a very natural form of learning-by-doing scale economies. Or, for another example, models in the fashion of Baldwin and Krugman (1988), might be refined to become models where fixed costs are (or are linked to) a "first-stage" international investment decision, behaviourally detailed, and where the rest of the behaviour describes "second-stage" output and pricing decisions⁶⁵. As a result of such research, the independent effects of trade policy on research or investment decisions could be distilled, as could a refined view of how trade policy affects the usual variables "contingently", e.g. differently when research is done or investments are made in response to the trade policy than when they are not. A dynamic project could be carried on profitably in empirical industry studies, and then possibly in a general-equilibrium setting. Several researchers featured in Part II already have rudimentary capability to calculate how trade policy affects international and sectoral investment.
- ii) The size and interdependence of overall markets, and the number and character of firms competing in each, have special influences on estimates of the effects of trade policy under imperfect competition, influences that they do not have in traditional approaches. Since size of market and density/character of competition are key aspects that differentiate global multilateral liberalisation from regional "mini-lateral" liberalisation (Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement, 1992 in the EC), empirical models with imperfectly-competitive structure ought to have a special role in evaluating the relative merits of global and alternative regional policy initiatives. Techniques from industrial organisation research on the questions of "market definition", applied widely in anti-trust analysis (Bresnahan, 1987, pp. 65 ff.; see also Rogowsky, 1988, and Scott, 1982), are the natural tools with which to start. The economics of mergers among firms

and mergers among markets are interdependent, in principle and increasingly in practice. An important element of "market definition" is the presence of imperfect substitutes for the good in question and the related markets in which they are sold. Much less empirical than theoretical work has been done on these issues of substitutability and variety, which are important not only in their own right, but for their impact on calculations of adjustment costs, as described **below⁶⁶**.

- (iii) One of the most politically relevant questions in trade liberalisation is its transitional adjustment costs. Opinions vary, and theory can support several conclusions. Rationalisation that takes place among sectors may have heavy adjustment costs, especially under imperfect competition. Rationalisation that takes place within a sector, among varieties of differentiated products, may have minimal adjustment costs. Rationalisation that takes place among firms of varying productivity and diversification may have moderate adjustment costs that should not be ignored in empirical assessments of policy changes. A merging of empirical research on structural adjustment and on trade policy under imperfect competition seems especially timely, for example, on how imperfect competition affects the speed and degree of industry down-sizing.
- iv) Merging of empirical research on industrial organisation and on trade policy under imperfect competition seems equally timely. Modern industrial organisation methods are richer, more demanding, and more revealing than those employed in early trade policy research, as implied, for instance, by Bresnahan (1987) or in the useful survey in EC (1988, Chapters 6 and 7). The next steps seem to rest on data development, especially time-series and longitudinal data that would be comparable across borders, and on imitating the more powerful and sophisticated methods already in use in industrial organisation⁶⁷. A five-country longitudinal study of firms exposed to significant trade liberalisation, being undertaken by World Bank researchers, is promising in this regard⁶⁸. The project focuses on how such liberalisation alters measures of competitive performance such as mark-up pricing, realisation of scale economies and rates of total factor productivity. The panel of firms (across countries and over time) is rich enough to permit the econometrics of panels to be employed, with formal attention to familiar characteristics such as truncation, selectivity bias, and cross-equation constraints.
- v) Empirical work on open-economy imperfect competition with asymmetric firms is needed, as is more empirical work with product differentiation and potential gains from variety. Product differentiation itself is a reason for asymmetries and a competitive instrument among firms. The welfare effects of changes in variety and quality induced by policy are not yet clearly conceived or measured, and welfare effects calculated from price

changes alone may seriously mislead when price, variety and quality are jointly determined and interdependent.

- vi) How industrial structure, market competitiveness and trade policy affect macroeconomic performance is still undetermined. it is a question of great practical importance as well as research interest. Careful comparative studies of this question require a rich historical data base, one that is comparable across countries, and further attention to the conceptual framework.
- vii) Special data and measurement weaknesses confront empirical research under imperfect competition. Progress in measuring the following variables would be very valuable : a) costs fixed (sunk and recurrent), variable, marginal and their allocation across products, divisions, etc.; b) non-tariff barriers to trade, including policy barriers but also natural barriers such as transport costs, marketing costs, and other transfer costs.

NOTES

- "Gains" are measured by an economy's real income, its aggregate purchasing power over goods and services. Only empirical work capable of generating this measurement is surveyed. The extensive anecdotal literature on trade and industrial policy is ignored (see Norton (1986) for a survey). Hazledine (1988) and Norman (1988) survey the methods and models that concern this paper, but do not discuss the quantitative results or their implications for trade policy.
- 2. More sophisticated and detailed theoretical surveys exist in Grossman and Richardson (1985), Helpman (1984), Helpman and Krugman (1985), Krugman (1985, 1986a,b), Markusen (1985) and Venables (1985).
- 3. Rodrik (1988, Section 3) is a good example, quite parallel to the treatment here. See also Norman (1988).
- 4. The firm's perceived elasticity is the percentage change in quantity demanded, q, for every percentage change in its price : $e = (\Delta q/q)/(\Delta p/p)$. Marginal revenue in this notation is defined as $\Delta (pq)$, which for small changes is approximately equal to p(1 1/e). The mark-up expressed as a proportion of price is usually called the Lerner index of market power.
- 5. The elasticity of market demand, **E**, is the percentage change in market quantity demanded for every percentage change in market price : $E = (\Delta nq/nq)/(\Delta p/p)$, which= $(\Delta nq/\Delta p) \cdot (p/nq)$, which= $-B \cdot (p/nq) B \cdot (p/A Bp)$, which when defined positively= 1/(A/Bp 1).
- 6. If it is correct in its perceptions, when it sells an extra unit it will force the market price received by itself and all other firms to decline by 1/B. Hence it will perceive its own elasticity of demand, e, to be equal to B·p/q, which is exactly equal to nE (see note 5). Bresnahan (1987, p. 13, 74 passim) summarises the evidence in support of the view that the degree of competition associated with Cournot assumptions is empirically relevant, whatever one thinks of the rationality of the behaviour. The unweighted average of estimated perceived elasticities (e) from his Table 1 is a little over 3 (using midpoints of intervals), higher than most estimated market demand elasticities (E), but well below the very large (infinite) estimates associated with perfect competition.
- 7. Zero may not be attained exactly if competition from the marginal entrant would make excess profits negative. This point is discussed further when Rodrik's (1988) work is described in PartII C.
- 8. The distinction is quite important for studying the dynamics of industrial structure, e.g. exactly when firms enter and exit an activity. But it has been less important in most early empirical research on trade policy under imperfect competition, which has focused on estimating differences in long-run equilibria consistent with different trade policies.
- 9. The diagram is in fact the foundation for empirical estimates used by the Canadian Government in negotiating the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement, and in convincing the Canadian public of its benefits (Canada, 1988).
- **10.** Markusen **(1985)** provides a similar treatment.
- **11.** $S_0 S_1 T_1$ is also no longer uniformly bowed out from the origin, given the $S_0 S_1$ segment, creating the flavour of the non-convex production possibilities curves that are often associated with economies of scale.

- 12. The statement is merely illustrative. The possibility of *excessive* research and development is easily demonstrated under imperfectly competitive behaviour. On the other hand, increased competition in producing research and development is often thought to increase its quantity and quality.
- 13. The ratio of average cost of *T* to Sgoods must lie between the slopes of the price line and the marginal cost line in this kind of model.
- 14. Whether it is firms, plants or product lines that disappear depends on whether fixed costs are associated with firms, plants or product lines. The adjustment burdens are probably greatest for the first and least for the third, but the empirical research sheds little light on this question. Both Owen (1983) and Bałdwin and Gorecki (1985,1986) find that scale economies associated with plants seem more important for many measures of economic performance (e.g. bilateraltrade balances, cost competitiveness) than those associated with firms and product lines. But their rich analyses also highlight many exceptions to this generalisation, and do not specifically address the issue of adjustment.
- 15. The potential for sharper adjustment pressures is due to the reduced likelihood of diversified, nonspecialised production in the presence of fixed costs. The point can be seen in Figure [2], a re-drawing of Figure [1], and can be easily generalised to more realistic settings with many sectors. In the absence of fixed costs, the country's production remains diversified for all price ratios between m_0 and m_0' . When fixed costs are *f*, the country remains diversified for a much narrower band of price ratios, between m, and m_1' ; when fixed costs are *2f*, even narrower, between m_2 and m_2' .
- 16. This is what the theoretical literature implies when it concludes that trade patterns and the distribution of industries among trading partners are "indeterminate" under scale economies and imperfect competition (see Krugman, 1985, pp. 7-8, 23-24, 43; Helpman, 1984, p. 359). The factor content of trade *is* determinate, however. The factor content is the bundle of labour, capital and other primary factor services embodied in exports and imports. This determinatenessimplies that long-run equilibrium differences among countries in factor rewards will not be affected much by volatility in production and trade patterns caused by imperfect competition. But short-run dislocation and adjustment may nevertheless be frequent, burdensome and welfare-reducing.
- 17. Harris (1985, pp. 165-166; 1986, pp. 241-242), modified to account for normal turnover in Harris and Kwakwa (1988), Shea (1988), Wonnacott (1987, pp. 33-40), and Wonnacott with Hill (1987, Appendix B, C).
- 18. In Figure [1], if Sand Twere two varieties of a product with very similar production technologies, the curves ST would be virtually straight lines. Moving resources from one corner to the other would be very easy, especially within the same firm.
- 19. More precisely, new availability of a close substitute for the product with demand behaviour given by equations [1] and [2] will generally shift those functions in ways that increase their respective elasticities, e and E. This causes a decline in distortionary mark-ups, and a possible departure of marginal, inefficient firms that are no longer able to cover fixed costs out of reduced mark-ups (see the discussion of equation [4] above).
- 20. "Overlap" is defined by cross-price elasticities of demand. The condition is that buyers find alternative varieties produced by a given firm to be closer substitutes for each other than for competitors' varieties ("a Ford product of some kind is always better than a General Motors product of any kind"). Horridge (1987a, p. 50) describes this as a "split" pattern of tastes, in contrast to an "interleaved" pattern (small cars produced by any firm are closer substitutes for each other than for large cars, and similarly for large cars), in which trade liberalisation almost certainly increases variety. For further discussion, see Horridge (1987a, pp. 31-39), Digby, Smith and Venables (1988, pp. 20-24) and the pioneering work of Levinsohn (1987) and Levinsohn and Feenstra (1988), discussed in Part II.
- 21. Such effects play a key role in the innovative theory of international trade and economic growth that has been developed recently by Grossman and Helpman (1988a,b).
- 22. There is some evidence, however, that these effects are accentuated in models with imperfectly competitive behaviour : see Harris (1986), Devarajan and Rodrik (1988), and Eichengreen and Goulder (1988a).

- 23. See Krishna (1985) for a discussion of this conclusion under Bertrand competition. Bertrand competition is an intermediate degree of imperfection in the sense of equation [3], where firms choose prices of differentiated product varieties under the perception that rivals' prices are given.
- 24. The comparisons are somewhat rough in several cases because perfectly competitive estimates were made in an admittedly crude way. This is especially true of Rodrik (1988) and Smith and Venables (1988a).



- **25.** Norman (1988) finds, however, that under free entry and exit the calculations summarised in Tables 1 to 4 are much more sensitive quantitatively to alternative parameter values and behavioural specifications than when there is a fixed number of firms.
- 26. However, only a few of the studies in the tables, notably Smith and Venables (1988a) and Digby, Smith, and Venables (1988) incorporate product variety adequately enough to allow independent calculations of both inter-industry and intra-industry adjustment (they do not actually perform such a decomposition). Thus the conclusion that these studies calculate significant adjustment pressures may be weakened by adequate modelling of variety in subsequent research.
- 27. One of the more surprising technical conclusions of the survey is in fact how common is the basic structure of the theoretical model underlying the various empirical studies. Within that basic structure, however, there are important differences in specification and parameterisation. These are summarised well by Hazledine (1988) and Norman (1988), as well as in the detailed discussion of PartII.C.
- 28. Srinivasan and Whalley (1986)s the most relevant survey for trade policy. See also Borges (1986), Shoven and Whalley (1984), and a large cliometric literature that uses the method. Burniaux et a/. (1988)s a recent and synthetic example of CGE research, in this case applied to agriculture.
- 29. Most of the studies in Tables 1 to 4 use the following procedure. Trade policy is taken to be either some change in international differences in prices (p), or some change in the properties of the market demand curve (equation [2]), in the case of quotas. Most studies rely on econometric estimates and industry data to measure the market demand behaviour reflected in equation [2] : average price, average quantity produced, market demand elasticity (E), etc. Then the behaviour summarised by equations [1] and [3] is "calibrated" in one of two ways. In the first, an assumption about inter-firm dependence (w) is made in [3], e.g. firms are collusive, or they are Cournot competitors, or... Then the representative firm's perceived demand elasticity is inferred (i.e. e is inferred by [3] from an assumed wand an estimated E). Finally, the inferred e and measured price are used in [1] to infer marginal cost (c), which is often not easy to measure. When marginal cost is measurable, however, usually from engineering or econometric studies, a second way of calibrating is often adopted. The measured c and measured p are used in [1] to infer e, the firm's perceived demand elasticity. It in turn, combined with estimates of E, implies a value for the intensity of competition, w, "calibrating" it instead of assuming it, using equation [3]. Whichever method is used to establish c e and w the values of marginal cost and prices can be used with equation [4] : either to infer fixed costs, f, given data on excess profits r or the assumption that they are zero (free entry and exit); or to infer excess profits r, given engineering or econometric estimates of fixed costs, f. Occasionally, the value of a hard-to-measuretrade policy is itself inferred using these techniques, as in the work of Baldwin and Krugman (1987,1988).
- 30. Hence, almost all the studies below perform elaborate sensitivity analysis with respect to key parameters. Some of these sensitivity analyses are multi-dimensional, e.g. in Markusen and Wigle (1988) and techniques for refining these are described by Wigle (1986) and by Bernheim, Scholz and Shoven (1988).
- **31.** See Dixit and Grossman (1986), for example, in the context of trade policy under imperfect competition.
- 32. Harris (1988, p. 178) includes a graphical treatment of the "integer problem".
- 33. See also Devarajan and Rodrik's (1988) general-equilibrium study of trade liberalisation for Cameroon. It appears that Rodrik calibrates his (1988) model so that excess profits in the benchmark are exactly zero, and the number of existing base-periodfirms "just fits". Excess profits show up in his counterfactual equilibrium, and are thus wholly attributed to the effects of trade liberalisation. A more persuasive experiment might have been to assume that the benchmark featured the typical (average) "integer problem" in each industry – that is, to assume that excess profits didexist in the base-period data, but at a level that would have been driven to zero by the entry of a firm exactly one-half the size of the representative incumbent firm.
- 34. It is, in fact, discussed at length in EC (1988, Chapter 9).
- 35. See also Goto (1987).

- 36. The technical difference is that when equation [2] describes a national demand curve, its cross-price elasticities with respect to similar products in other national markets range from zero (the case of "market segmentation") to finite values (characterised as the "Armington assumption", after one of its early developers). As such cross-price elasticities go to their limiting (infinitely large) values, however, nationality of sales no longer differentiates a product, and [2] must define a global market. See Brown (1987), Brown and Stern (1988a) and Markusen and Venables (1988) for additional discussion.
- 37. Similar studies to Smith and Venables (1988a) include Smith and Venables (1988b) and Venables and Smith (1986, 1987).
- 38. The small size of Dixit's welfare calculations make it appear that scale economies, and not imperfect competition per se, is carrying the weight of quantitative significance. Devarajan and Rodrik (1988), by contrast, find roughly equal weight.
- 39. Digby, Smith and Venables (1988, pp. 13-16, 18-19) ratify Dixit's point in a very similar way. They find that the welfare cost of VERs is two to three times as large as that of a tariff that had the same effect on production.
- 40. Similar studies to Dixit (1988) include Dixit (1987c), Goto (1985, 1986, 1987) and Laussel, Montet and Peguin-Feissolle (1988).
- 41. Although these two papers are the only genuinely dynamic approaches, they still allow no scope for an allegedly important dynamic linkage: the (external? internal?) benefits that spill over from one generation of semiconductors or aircraft onto another, thus increasing the power of trade policy for one generation of product to have "desirable" effects on several generations of products.
- 42. In fact, under free trade, Baldwin and Krugman estimate that there would be no Japanese producers at all! Richard Baldwin has written that this result is sensitive to the dynamic structure, and that Japanese firms would survive under free trade if learning-by-doing effects were half as large as assumed.
- 43. Even more so is the study by Hazledine and Wigington (1987), albeit also in the spirit of studies summarised in Tables 1 to 4. Their analysis aggregates firms into three national sub-groups, assumes that the Japanese are price leaders, and calculates the effect of removing Japanese VERs in the Canadian market for three mechanical rules of price parallelism: North American producers are assumed alternatively to lower their prices by one-half, one-quarter or none of the percentage by which Japanese producers lower theirs. Furthermore, Hazledine and Wigington simply assume target market shares that Japanese producers would desire without VERs (and also without the presence of Korean imports); from those assumptions, pricing behaviour follows quite straightforwardly through estimates of demand price elasticities.
- 44. Owen is properly agnostic on whether fixed costs and scale economies are associated with firms, plants or product lines, as discussed in note 14. "Firms" is the term used in the text above to maintain continuity, but very similar points are made by Owen with regard to "plants" and "product lines".
- 45. Daltung, Eskeland, and Norman (1987) also allow some asymmetries in firm size, but in the particular case of the Norwegian ski industry, they assume that the largest firm has the highest costs.
- 46. See Harris (1988), Letourneau, Lester and Robidoux (1988), and Lester (1987). The related papers by Harris and Cox include Harris (1984, 1986), Harris with Cox (1984), Cox and Harris (1985, 1986), and are summarised in Harris (1985). Gunasekera and Tyers (1988) is a similar study of Korea.
- 47. In sensitivity tests of the model of Canada (1988), the Canada-U.S. free trade arrangements apparently predict Canadian rationalisation only when the weight on focal pricing, as opposed to conventional pricing, exceeds zero. See also Cory and Horridge (1985, pp. 60-61), who find extreme sensitivity of their results to the weight on focal pricing. Deardorff (1986) and Hazledine (1988) explain why. They also comment on the anomaly of collusion that is adequate to maintain a common price but inadequate to defend against entry.
- **48.** The assumed wage distortion in Brown's and Stern's model, however, would make it an ideal general-equilibrium setting to sensitise calculations to Dixit's concern that excess profits may be

disguised in above-average wages. Dixit's concern is a strong conviction in research by Katz and Summers (1988) and Dickens and Lang (1988), discussed below.

- 49. The symmetric approach, however, allows them to show (1988a, pp. 28-29) how sectoral output and employment adjustment, while small to modest under both perfect and imperfect competition, is several times larger under the latter. This suggests again the important possibility that adjustment pressures from trade liberalisation may be worse under imperfectly competitive than perfectly competitive market structures.
- 50. Its importance is only potential in their (1988b) study, however, since their calculated change in the relative price of capital to labour is minuscule. They lean toward fixed cost being largely capital cost. Harris has disagreed, interpreting the decline in labour to output ratios that he finds as firms approach minimum efficient scale, as indirect evidence of heavy labour content in fixed cost. The issue is again obviously empirical, with physical capacity costs being heavily capital-intensive and research and development being heavily labour-intensive. It illustrates how traditional questions about the inherent capital or labour intensity of one sector relative to another may depend on the scale of an average firm, plant, or production run, with "factor-intensive reversals" possibly taking place at different scales of operation.
- 51. Whalley (1985, p. 270) and Nguyen, Whalley and Wigle (1988, p. 7) rationalise this as (indefinite) alteration in each period's domestic purchases or sales of capital goods that are left in place instead of shipped across borders. But there is no portfolio or other economic behaviour specified to determine such purchases and sales their value seems instead to be established recursively by explicit demand and supply behaviour for all other goods, spelt out elsewhere in the model.
- 52. The current-account balance is determined by inter-temporal considerations in the long run, both in theory and (arguably) in reality, not by sectoral and border policies. See Arndt and Richardson (1987) and McCulloch and Richardson (1986).
- 53. Studies in a similar vein to Nguyen and Wigle (1988) include Wigle (1988) and Markusen and Wigle (1987, 1988).
- 54. An exception is Brown and Stern (1987), a perfectly competitive approach with the same assumption about mobile capital.
- 55. Richard Harris reports in correspondence that David Cox's thesis examined this issue in great detail, finding very little sensitivity of his results to the presence or absence of capital mobility.
- 56. This study, and presumably Kwakwa (1988) as well, still rest on the focal pricing assumption discussed above, although in a more subtle way. Focal pricing helps determine expected future prices, and hence also expected future excess profits and decisions to enter/exit.
- 57. Unilateral liberalisation by Canada is estimated to cause average output per firm to rise roughly 5 per cent after 20 periods versus 41 per cent in Table 4, calculated in Cox and Harris (1985)from an admittedly higher base-period level of trade barriers.
- 58. Although populations are assumed to grow, births and deaths are not explicitly specified, so that evaluations of real income by generation, by cohort, or even by individual are not possible. Of course, similar conceptual problems are neglected during whatever time interval separates the two equilibria (pre- and post-policy-change)that are the sole focus of comparison in more conventional static calibration/counterfactual studies.
- 59. Richard E. Caves and his students have been constant contributors to this sort of research; Caves (1988) is a recent example. Caves (1985) is a reflective survey. See also Baldwin and Gorecki (1985, 1986) and Tybout (1987).
- 60. Anderson (1988), Aw and Roberts (1988). Boorstein and Feenstra (1987), Feenstra (1988).
- See Feenstra (1987) for an illustration of this kind of work. Pass-through studies featuring imperfect competition have been much more abundant for exchange rates than for trade policy, however. Empirical illustrations are numerous, and the following is a recent sample: Baldwin (1988a,b), Dixit (1987a,b), Froot and Klemperer (1988). Harrison (1988), Knetter (1988), Kreinin, Martin and Sheehy (1987), and Mann (1987).

- 62. Eichengreen and Goulder (1988a,b,c) for the United States, Sachs and Boone (1988) for Japan, and similar work in progress by Susan M. Collins and Sachs for Korea.
- 63. The exception is the report by Eichengreen and Goulder (1988a, Section VA), which calculates the effects of permanent and temporary changes in tariffs, both anticipated and unanticipated, in the short, medium and long runs.
- 64. The Eichengreen-Goulder work features policy-induced changes in sectoral capital stocks, determined by optimal response to expected future variables, given a goal of maximizing the value of the firm. But implicit entry and exit of firms is uninteresting because of their atomistic size under perfectly competitive assumptions. The Harris-Kwakwa work features policy-induced entry and exit of firms, but rudimentary inter-temporal optimimisation. Incremental changes in sectoral capital stocks (investment and disinvestment) are determined by empirically pre-specifiedparameters, such as an elasticity of entry with respect oexcess profits expected one period ahead, and a rate of real depreciation of the capital stock.
- 65. Venables reports that empirical implementation of the two-stage model in his (1988) paper is in progress. Capacity is assumed to be determined in the first stage and price or output in the second.
- 66. See note 26 above.
- 67. An example is duality relationships, as applied simply to international economic questions by Applebaum and Kohli (1979), Diewert (1983, 1985) and Fare, Logan and Lovell (1986).
- 68. Tybout (1987) is a project description, and Corbo, de Melo and Tybout (1988) is one of the early outputs of the project, which is being co-directed by de Melo and Tybout. The countries involved are Chile, Colombia, Ivory Coast, Morocco and Turkey.

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