

CONTACT INFORMATION

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CURRENT POSITION

Post-doctoral researcher at the Department of Economics

October 2016-

EDUCATION

PhD in Economics, Lund University, Sweden. 2011-2016.
MA in Economics, Boston University, USA. 2008-2009.
BS in Economics, University of Iceland, Iceland. 2005-2008.
Exchange Student in Economics, University of Oklahoma, USA. 2006-2007.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Primary: International Economics, Labour Economics
Secondary: Economic Geography, Industrial Organization

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CHIEF ECONOMIST, ICELAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (Dec.) 2009-2011
BUSINESS JOURNALIST, FRETTLADID NEWSPAPER, ICELAND (Summers) 2007 and 2008

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

TEACHING ASSISTANT, LUND UNIVERSITY

- Introductory Macroeconomics (Undergraduate) Fall/Spring 2012 - 2016
- International Trade (Undergraduate) Fall/Spring 2014 - 2016
- Economic Integration (Masters) Spring 2015, 2016
- Advanced Trade Theory (Masters) Spring 2015, 2016
- Introductory Microeconomics (Undergraduate) Spring 2013-2014

INSTRUCTOR, REYKJAVIK UNIVERSITY

- Lecturer in Introductory Macroeconomics (Undergraduate) Spring 2011
- Teaching assistant in Applied Statistics (Undergraduate) Spring 2010

PUBLICATIONS

“The Paternity Leave Act in Iceland: Implications for Gender Equality in the Labor Market”, *Applied Economic Letters*, volume 17, issue 7, 2010 (with Aparna Mitra)

NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

REPORTS FOR THE INSTITUTE OF ECONOMIC STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ICELAND:

- “Status and prospects of horticulture - Iceland and the EU” with Dr. Dadi Mar Kristofersson. Report nr. C10:05, 2010.
- “Economic Impact of Harpa Reykjavik Concert Hall and Conference Center”, with Dr. Sveinn Agnarsson. Report nr. C11:02, 2011.
- “Status and Prospects of Pig Husbandry - Iceland and the EU”, with Dr. Dadi Mar Kristofersson. Report nr. C11:07, 2011.
- Memo on the impact of the accession of Iceland in the EU on financing and costs of intermediaries of farmers, 2012. Written for the Ministry of Finance with Dr. Dadi Mar Kristofersson.

REPORTS FOR THE ICELAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:

- “Future Prospects for Business in Iceland”, 2010, with Dr. Oddsson F., Olafsson F. and Birgisson H.
- “Tax System of the Business Sector: Investment–Employment–Prosperity”, with six co-editors, 2010.
- “The Economic situation in Iceland: Status Report”, (mimeo) main editor.

- “Seizing opportunities - the role of business and industry”, 2011, with Birgisson, H., Bjarnadóttir, T., Dr. Oddsson F.
- “Capitals controls in Iceland- Cost and economic impact”, with Dr. Oddsson F., Björnsson, B.B., Eliasson, L., and Birgisson H. published in 2011.

SKILLS

Software: STATA, L^AT_EX, Matlab, MS Office, ArcGIS.
 Languages: Icelandic (native), English (fluent), Swedish (advanced), German (basic).

CONFERENCES AND INVITED SEMINARS

2017: Invited seminar at Örebro University (scheduled).
2016: Invited seminar at University of Copenhagen, Invited seminar at IFN Stockholm, NOITS conference Oslo, ADI Conference Copenhagen, Lund University, ETSG conference Helsinki, Summer School on Urban Growth and Agglomeration in Barcelona.
2015: European Trade Study Group (ETSG) conference (Paris), Summer school on Panel Data Methods given by Jeffrey Wooldridge (Thessaloniki), Nordic International Trade Seminar conference (Copenhagen), GEP Postgraduate Conference at the University of Nottingham, Lund University, The Danish International Economics Workshop (Aarhus), Invited seminar at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Southern Sweden (Sydsvenska Handelskammaren, Malmö).
2014: ERSa Summer school, Nordic International Trade Seminar (NOITS) conference, Nordic Summer Symposium in Macroeconomics, Lund University, European Trade Study Group conference (ETSG).

GRANTS

- Handelsbanken project grant, *Local Conditions and Global Firms* (co-applicant, 1.5 m. kr.), 2016.
- Conference and Travel grant from Stiftelsen Siamon, 2015.
- Conference and Travel grant from Stiftelsen Siamon, 2016.
- Travel grant from Stiftelsen för Främjande av Ekonomisk Forskning, 2016.
- Travel grant from Stiftelsen för Främjande av Ekonomisk Forskning, 2015.
- Travel grant from Stiftelsen för Främjande av Ekonomisk Forskning, 2014.

WORKING PAPERS

The Superstar and the Followers: Intra-Firm Product Complementarity in International Trade

Working Papers 2016:25, Lund University, Department of Economics

This paper investigates whether the exports of different products by the same firm are systematically interconnected. Using Swedish firm-registry data from 1997-2011, I first document that the distribution of firm export sales is skewed towards their best performing products (‘superstars’). I then use a novel instrumental variable approach to identify if the ‘superstar’ products induce more trade of non-superstar products. I find evidence that the exports of low-ranked (non-star) products of a firm complement the exports of a single superstar product to each destination. Extending the ‘superstar’ concept to a ‘superstar core’ of products strengthens this result (this includes the top decile of products in terms of export value). The results show that a 1% increase in the exports of the superstar product and the superstar core increases the exports of non-star products by 0.13% and 0.376%. Hence, I find that the exports of non-star products complements the superstar while conversely, the same complementarity is not found using low-ranked products as placebo-superstars. The main contribution of this paper is identifying a new, sizeable and systematic intra-firm-destination one-way complementarity between products that is missing in the current models of multi-product exporters.

Bridging Trade Barriers: Evaluating Multi Product Models of Exporting*Working Papers 2015:6, Lund University, Department of Economics*

In this paper I investigate the impact of a decrease in trade costs on firms' decisions to export. The main contribution of this paper is to evaluate empirically the theoretical predictions of several models of multi-product exporters. The focus is on the firm export entry decision and the within firm adjustment regarding product scope and intensity. For identification I use a quasi-natural experiment, the introduction of the Öresund Bridge between southern Sweden and Denmark, to analyse the impact on firm behaviour. Using a difference-in-difference methodology, firms in the 'treated' municipality, Malmö, are compared to firms in more geographically distant Gothenburg and Stockholm ('controls'). For the 'treated' manufacturing firms a theoretically consistent positive effect is found for firm entry into exporting, aggregate firm trade flow and the number of products exported. The models of multi-product exporters evaluated do not provide a clear theoretical prediction regarding the impact on average trade value per product. In this paper, however, I find that around 70-80% of the increase in aggregate firm trade value is due to increases in the average trade value per product (the product intensive margin), while only 20-30% is due to increases in the number of products exported (the product extensive margin).

Linking Services to Manufacturing Exports, with Joakim Gullstrand.*Working Papers 2016:27, Lund University, Department of Economics*

In this paper we analyse the interplay between services and manufacturing. This is done through identifying and quantifying a direct link between manufacturing exports and the sales by service providers. For identification of this transmittance mechanism, with the help of highly detailed geographic data, we create a Localised Export Exposure (LEE) variable that captures the variation in demand for service inputs based on nearby exporters. Since service firms are much less geographically specialised than manufacturing firms, we observe a high variation in their exposure to demand changes. This spatial variation in the demand for service inputs results from a variation in local export volumes (LEE); which is used to assess the interplay between manufacturing exports and services. Our results show that a 1% increase in exports increases the volume of sales of service firms by 0.2% (and employment within the firm by 0.06%). The results show also that the link is highly local and the strongest impact is within 20 km of the shock.

REFERENCES

Prof. Joakim Gullstrand
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Lund University
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Prof. Fredrik Sjöholm
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