

Wei Jia

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EDUCATION

Brandeis University, International Business School Ph.D., International Economics and Finance	Waltham, Massachusetts expected May 2019
Brandeis University, International Business School M.S., International Economics and Finance	Waltham, Massachusetts May 2016
University of Michigan—Ann Arbor M.A. in Applied Economics	Ann Arbor, Michigan Dec 2013
Peking University B.S. in Physics / B.A in Economics	Beijing, China July 2012

FIELDS OF CONCENTRATION

International Economics, Innovation, Labor Economics / Gender Equality,
Mergers and Acquisitions

DESIRED TEACHING

Development, International Trade, Macroeconomics

DISSERTATION TITLE

The Implications of International Patent and Firm Collaboration on Economic Performance

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS AND AWARDS

Brandeis University International Business School Scholarship	2014 – Present
Brandeis University Provost Dissertation Fellowship	2018
First place in the 2017 Brandeis International Consulting Club Case Competition	Nov 2017
Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society	2013

RESEARCH GRANTS

Brandeis University International Business School IBS Grant	2014 - Present
Asia Pacific Institute for Economics and Business Summer Research Grant	2014 - Present
Rosenberg Summer Research Grant	2015, 2018
Brandeis University Travel and Research Grant	2018
Provost Dissertation Award	2018

“Crowding Out or Standing on Shoulders: Measuring the Effects of Knowledge Stocks and International Collaboration on Patent Quality”

(Job Market Paper)

Using patent data from the US Patent and Trademark Office spanning 1995 – 2014, this paper analyzes the effects of knowledge stocks and international collaboration on patent quality. The analysis uses the number of granted claims in each patent to assess the impact of past knowledge stocks on patent quality. This paper investigates the question of whether such quality differences arise from general access to a global stock of knowledge versus the independent effect of individual knowledge stocks. It further examines the implications of international inventor collaboration for its effect on augmenting the ability of home-country inventors to access and effectively utilize the knowledge stock, whether it is defined globally or differentiated across countries, including those in which the foreign inventors reside. I find that regardless of the delineated scope of the knowledge stock, enlargement of the stock has a crowding-out effect on future patent quality in which increases in the number of granted patents lead to reductions in average patent quality. However, the effects of different countries’ knowledge stocks on patent quality vary. Although international inventor collaborations generally improve patent quality, such collaboration is significantly more beneficial when home-country inventors engage with inventors from more innovative countries, notably the US and EU. The empirical analysis finds the results are robust to different approaches of constructing the knowledge stock. This paper contributes to the literature by showing the current knowledge stock and international inventor collaborations significantly affect patent quality.

“Foreign Direct Investment, Product Sophistication and the Demand for Skilled and Unskilled Labor in Chilean Manufacturing”

(with Ricardo Lopez)

This paper uses plant-level data from the manufacturing sector of Chile for the period 1995-2007 to analyze the existence of spillovers effects from FDI, and the role of product sophistication, on the demand for skilled and unskilled labor. We find that the presence of multinational corporations increases the demand for highly skilled labor while it decreases the demand for unskilled labor on firms located in the same industry and region and also on firms located in the same region but operating in different industries. The effect is more substantial for firms producing less sophisticated products, suggesting that, at least for Chile, lower levels of sophistication can make it easier for local firms to learn from multinational corporations. We also find that the spillover effects are more important for plants that are small and for those don’t participate in international markets as either exporters or importers. This paper contributes to the literature by showing that product sophistication can have a significant effect on the magnitude of FDI spillovers on the demand for both skilled and unskilled labor.

“Knowledge Production in China’s High-Tech Industries: The Role of R&D Spending and Personnel”

(with Gary Jefferson)

Over the past two decades, R&D spending and intensity and patenting have surged in China to levels that match or exceed those of the largest and most advanced OECD economies. No other middle-income country has achieved comparable levels of innovation activity. Given China as an innovation outlier, questions rise regarding the efficiency of its evolving innovation system. This paper uses various measures of R&D effort and patenting to estimate the returns to R&D. While the data are drawn from yearbooks on China’s high-technology industries, the paper also uses more disaggregated data from the National Bureau of Statistics to test the robustness of the results based on the more

limited samples of Yearbook data. In brief, we find returns to R&D that are consistently robust; moreover, controlling for patent quality, the productivity of R&D, measured in terms of the marginal cost per patent, improves from the earlier 1995-2005 period to the recent 2005-2014 period.

WORKS IN PROGRESS:

“How International Mergers and Acquisitions affect Acquirers’ Patent Quality”
“Occupational Exposure to Value-added Imports and Gender Wage Gap in the U.S.”
“The Effects of Local Town Exchange Rate Volatility on Earnings and Health—Evidence from the Amazon Plain Rural Areas in Bolivia” (with Ricardo Godoy)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Introduction to Macroeconomics Lecturer, Brandeis University	Summer 2018
Measurement and Political Economy of Income Inequality Teaching Assistant to Ricardo Godoy	Fall 2018
Survey Design and Data Analysis for Development Teaching Assistant to Ricardo Godoy	Fall 2018
Senior Thesis Research Teaching Assistant to Elizabeth Brainerd	Spring 2018
Economics of Education Teaching Assistant to Ricardo Godoy	Spring 2018
Applied Cost-Benefit Analysis for Development Practitioners Teaching Assistant to Ricardo Godoy	Spring 2018
Options & Derivatives II Teaching Assistant to Robert Reitano	Fall 2017
International Trade Policy and Institutions Teaching Assistant to Peter Petri),	Spring 2016
International Trade Policy and Institutions Teaching Assistant to Ricardo Lopez	Spring 2015

RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant to Professor Peter Petri, Brandeis University	2018.5 – Present
Research Assistant to Professor Gary Jefferson, Brandeis University	2014.8 – Present
Research Assistant to Professor Lucy Goodhart, Brandeis University	2017.3 – 2017.9
Research Assistant to Professor Ricardo Lopez, Brandeis University	2015.1 – 2017.1

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2018

88th Annual Conference of the Southern Economic Association (Washington DC, forthcoming)
Canadian Economic Association Annual Meeting (Montreal)
44th Eastern Economic Association Annual Conference (Boston)

2017

Midwest International Trade Conference (Dallas)

DISCUSSANT PRESENTATIONS

2018

- Canadian Economic Association Annual Meeting (Montreal)
“Determinants of FDI into Canada”
- Gaurav Sharma et. al (Carleton University)
- 44th Eastern Economic Association Annual Conference (Boston)
“Foreign Acquisition and Divestiture in Low and Middle-Income Countries”
- Andreas Waldkirch (Colby College)

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

Stata, R, MATLAB, Python, LaTeX, Machine Learning: scikit-learn

LANGUAGES

Chinese (native), English (fluent)

CITIZENSHIP

China (F1 Visa, STEM OPT)

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE AND REFERENCES

Prof. Gary H. Jefferson

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Dr. Ricardo A. López

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