

Updated 11/27/2015

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Economics, Georgia Institute of Technology, expected May 2016
- M.A. Economics, Central University of Finance and Economics, China, 2011
- B.Sc. Packaging Engineering, Beijing Forestry University, China, 2008

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Primary: International Trade, Environmental Economics
Secondary: Industrial Organization, Labor Economics

DISSERTATION

Essays on Multilateral Environmental Agreements and International Trade

Committee: Professor Tibor Besedeš (Chair), Professor Erik P. Johnson, Professor Haizheng Li, Professor Juan Moreno-Cruz

JOB MARKET PAPER

“Economic Determinants of Multilateral Environmental Agreement” (with Tibor Besedeš and Erik P. Johnson)

Abstract: Countries adopt multilateral environmental agreements to address environmental issues across borders such as global warming, acid rain and endangered species, which they cannot resolve alone. As we know, protecting the environment incurs costs and may even affect domestic firms' competitiveness in international market. However, countries' cooperation on environmental policies might also foster their cooperation on other policy areas, especially ones related to economic business. In this paper, we explore why some countries cooperate more on international environmental issues and why others cooperate less or never cooperate. Specifically, we ask two questions: first, which factors determine the likelihood of two countries having a multilateral environmental agreement and second, which factors determine the number of multilateral environmental agreements they have? We employ a gravity type model to analyze a near universe of multilateral environmental agreements from Ronald Mitchell's (2015) International Environmental Agreements database. In addition, we examine separately all environmental agreements, the environmental agreements with a few signatories, and those with many signatories. Our results show that two countries are more likely to have an environmental agreement or have more environmental agreements if they: are economically larger and of similar economic size; are closer in distance; have a trade agreement; and trade more with each other. These results are most robust and consistent for those environmental agreements with a small number of signatories.

OTHER RESEARCH PAPERS

“The Effect of Multi-Lateral Environmental Agreements on Member Country's Bilateral Trade Flows”, 2015, working paper, with Tibor Besedeš, Jianqiu Wang, and Mingge Wu

“Economic Determinants of the Timing of Pollution Environmental Agreements”, work in progress

“Economics Determinants of Various Categories of Multilateral Environmental Agreements”, work in progress, with Tibor Besedeš and Erik P. Johnson

“Pollution Environmental Agreements and the Duration of Trade”, work in progress

“Economic and Political Factors that Influence the Formation of Both Multilateral Environmental Agreements and Free Trade Agreements” work in progress

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Chinese Government Scholarship, China Scholarship Council, 2011-2015

RESEARCH PRESENTATION

Job Market Paper Research Development & Presentation Workshop, Georgia Tech, 2014

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Econintersect LLC, Intern Economic Analyst 2015

COMPUTER SKILLS AND CERTIFICATIONS

Software: Stata, SAS, Python, SQL, C Language, MS Office

Certification: SAS Certified Base Programmer; SAS Certified Advanced Programmer

REFERENCES

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