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EDUCATION

Ph.D in Economics University of Quebec at Montréal	2017 - Present (Expected May 2023)
M.A. In Economic and Statistics Sub-Regional Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics	2011 - 2014
M.A. In Mathematics University of Yaoundé I	2010 - 2011
B.A. In Mathematics University of Yaoundé I	2007 - 2010

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Economic, Macroeconomics, Development Economic

REFERENCES

Sophie Osotimehin
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University of Quebec at Montréal
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Erhan Artuc
Development Research Group
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JOB MARKET PAPER

Role of international trade on Mexico's structural change

Abstract: Over the past three decades, the Mexican economy has gone through a structural change. During this period, Mexico joined the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in 1986 and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with the United States and Canada in 1994. This paper aims to assess the role played by these two trade agreements on Mexico's structural change and the effect of trade with an advanced economy such as the US on Mexico's structural changes. I use a multisectoral open economy model that I calibrated for the US and Mexican economies for 1970 - 2010. I found that the impact of the GATT shock is not substantive on the sectoral labor share in Mexico while NAFTA's tariff reductions decreased the labor share in agriculture by 51% (8 percentage points) and increased the labor share in industry by 24% (7 percentage points). I also find that these NAFTA effects would have been half of what they were halved if Mexico had signed this agreement with a country that was at the same stage of development. Moreover, I found that counterfactually replacing the US with a country similar to Mexico increased the labor share in agriculture by 6 percentage points on average and decreased the labor share in industry and services by 4 and 2 percentage points, respectively. Our findings suggest that in addition to tariff reduction, the stage of development of trade partners can impact the pattern of structural change in the local economy.

OTHER PAPERS

Uganda's Mobility Barriers and Structural Change *(joint with Erhan Artuc and Harun Onder)*

Abstract: In developing countries, frictions in labor markets restrict worker mobility across industries despite large wage differentials across sectors, and frictions in land markets cause under-utilization or usurpation of agricultural fields. Using a multi-sector model calibrated with Ugandan data, this paper finds that removing labor and land market frictions simultaneously would accelerate the structural change in Uganda, increasing labor mobility from the agriculture sector to manufacturing and services, and resulting in between 8.5 to 10.3 percent welfare gains. When implemented separately, removing labor market frictions would yield to 5.4. to 6.4 percent and removing labor market frictions would yield 0.8 to 2.5 percent welfare gains. These results suggest that there are strong complementarities between factor market frictions.

Endogenous growth model of Premature Deindustrialization *(joint with Wilfried Koch)*

Abstract: Many recent industrializers seem to be experiencing a lower peak in manufacturing labor share, and the peak is occurring at a much lower level of development relative to what earlier industrializers experienced, Rodrik (2015) called this phenomenon premature deindustrialization (PD). Recent studies show that heterogeneity in sectoral productivity across sectors and countries is the main driving of PD. Using a Schumpeterian growth model of structural change, we show analytically that heterogeneity in productivity affects the labor share at the peak in the industry sector and the GDP at that peak through the ratio of the gap between productivity growth rates in agriculture and industry sectors and the gap between productivity growth rates in industry and services sectors. Through the lens of our endogenous growth model, we show that heterogeneity in the labor share in the industry at its peak and the GDP at that peak can result in heterogeneity across countries in relative productivity at the initial period, in productivity of R&D activity, and in sectoral efficiency of innovation on productivity growth.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

Consultant in Development Research Group - World Bank TTL: Erhan Artuc - Senior Economist	Sept 2021 - Present
Research Assistant - University of Ottawa Supervisor: Roland Pongou	Winter 2021
Research assistant - University of Quebec at Montréal Supervisor: Sophie Osotimehin	Summer 2020

TEACHING EXPERIENCES

Undergraduate - Macroeconomic analysis Lecturer	Winter 2019 and 2021, Fall 2019 and 2021
Graduate - Macroeconomic issues for companies and organizations Teaching Assistant - Alain Paquet	Fall 2019 - Winter 2021
Undergraduate - Intermediate macroeconomics Teaching Assistant - Wilfried Koch	Fall 2019 - Winter 2020
Undergraduate - Intermediate microeconomics Teaching Assistant - Arnaud Dellis	Fall 2020 - Fall 2021

OTHER EXPERIENCES

Senior Statistician Ministry of Economics, Cameroon.	June 2014 -Aug 2017
Data manager Assistant Program of poverty alleviation, Cameroon	July 2016-August 2017

PROJECTS AND RESEARCH

Growth, trade, and transformation: Economic Memorandum for Uganda 2022
World Bank Policy report - Team member

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Africa Meeting of the Econometric Society June 2022
Abidjan, Virtual

Canadian Society of Economics Conference May 2021
Montreal, in person

HONORS AND AWARDS

World Bank Robert McNamara Fellowships Program 2021 - 2022

Ph.D. Scholarship of "Fonds de Recherche Société et Culture Quebec" 2014 - 2021

Ph.D. Scholarship of Department of Economics - University of Quebec at Montreal 2017 - 2021

Ministry of Economy of Cameroon Excellence Scholarship 2011 - 2014

PROGRAMMING SKILLS

Matlab, R, Stata, SPSS, LATEX

LANGUAGES

French (native), English (fluent)