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# ‘Dual’ gravity: Using spatial econometrics to control for multilateral resistance

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## Abstract

We propose a quantity-based ‘dual’ version of the gravity equation that yields an estimating equation with both cross-sectional interdependence and spatially lagged error terms. Such an equation can be concisely estimated using spatial econometric techniques. We illustrate this methodology by applying it to the Canada-U.S. data set used previously, among others, by Anderson and van Wincoop (2003) and Feenstra (2002, 2004). Our key result is to show that controlling directly for spatial interdependence across trade flows, as suggested by theory, significantly reduces border effects because it captures ‘multilateral resistance’. Using a spatial autoregressive moving average specification, we find that border effects between the U.S. and Canada are smaller than in previous studies: about 8 for Canadian provinces and about 1.3 for U.S. states. Yet, heterogeneous coefficient estimations reveal that there is much variation across provinces and states.

**Keywords:** gravity equations; multi-region general equilibrium trade models; spatial econometrics; border effects

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“Improved econometric techniques based on careful consideration of the error structure are likely to pay off. Recent literature on spatial econometrics [...] may be helpful.”  
(Anderson and van Wincoop, 2004, p.713)

## 1 Introduction

The gravity equation is a remarkably good predictor for bilateral trade flows. Having been derived from various formal trade models under a wide range of modeling assumptions, it is nowadays firmly rooted in mainstream economic theory and has, as such, become an essential part of every applied trade theorist’s tool box.<sup>1</sup> Despite its wide applicability and excellent fit, the gravity equation suffers from several well-known and from several less well-known shortcomings. The former category comprises mainly empirical issues, such as the treatment of zero trade flows, the construction of own absorption, the measurement of internal distances, and concerns about the theoretical plausibility of various parameter estimates. These problems have been extensively discussed in the literature (see Anderson and van Wincoop, 2004, pp.729-733, for a recent overview) and we have nothing new to add to the debate. We instead focus on one of the less well-known theoretical problems that plagues the gravity equation: how to take into account the interdependence between trade flows and estimate, as consistently as possible, the general equilibrium system?

Anderson and van Wincoop (2003) have recently argued that accounting for the interaction structure is important when estimating the gravity equation. They show that the proper inclusion of *multilateral resistance* terms, i.e., terms which capture the fact that bilateral trade flows do not only depend on bilateral trade barriers but also on trade barriers across all trading partners, is crucial for the results one obtains.<sup>2</sup> In other words, bilateral predictions do not readily extend to a multilateral world because of complex indirect interactions linking all the trading partners. Although such a finding is hardly surprising in a general equilibrium setting, it has been largely neglected until now in applied work. Interdependence has, however, to be somehow controlled for in the gravity equation to obtain consistent estimates. Some previous studies aim at doing so by including ad hoc remoteness indices, even if there is no theoretical foundation to such an approach. Other studies try to capture interdependence among trade flows with the help of origin- and destination-specific importer-exporter fixed effects. The disturbing common feature of both of these approaches lies in the implicit assumption that trade flows between two trading partners are *independent from what happens to the rest of the*

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<sup>1</sup>For various instances of the gravity equation see, e.g., Anderson (1979), Helpman and Krugman (1985), Feenstra (2002, 2004), Anderson and van Wincoop (2003), and Melitz and Ottaviano (2005).

<sup>2</sup>The omission of the multilateral resistance terms leads to biased estimates and incorrect comparative static results. Their inclusion allows to partly solve the ‘border effect puzzle’ (McCallum, 1995) and to obtain smaller estimates of the distance elasticities.

*trading world*. This is clearly a very strong assumption that is not likely to hold and, therefore, may lead to biased and inconsistent estimates of the gravity equation. Furthermore, though technically easy to implement, fixed effects estimations do not allow for a finer analysis of border effects and cannot be used to conduct meaningful counterfactual analyses.

This paper offers a methodological contribution to the rapidly expanding literature on the theory-based estimation of gravity equations. Building upon the observation that the consistent estimation of a CES-based gravity equation crucially hinges on the correct treatment of the *unobservable* price indices, our modeling strategy consists in taking a ‘dual’ approach that relies on *observable* trade flows only. More concretely, we derive a gravity equation from the quantity-based version of the CES model by exploiting the property that the price indices are themselves implicit functions of trade flows. Using an appropriate linearization of the resulting equilibrium system allows us to recover, quite naturally, an econometric specification in which bilateral trade flows between two regions depend on trade flows involving all the other trading partners. Put differently, the model displays a *spatial autoregressive structure in trade flows*. Since goods are gross substitutes, the sales from any region into a market negatively depend on the sales from the other regions into that market, which themselves depend on the whole distribution of bilateral trade barriers. Controlling for such interdependencies with the help of spatial econometric techniques amounts to control for multilateral resistance and yields consistent estimates of the gravity equation. Although the idea of applying spatial econometrics to the gravity equation has been in the air recently we provide, to the best of our knowledge, the first attempt at doing so starting from a theory-based trade model.<sup>3</sup> On top of controlling directly for cross-sectional interdependence across trade flows, our approach has several additional desirable properties. First, it reveals that all coefficients, including the spatial autoregressive ones for both the spatially lagged endogenous variable and the error terms, are generally region-specific. Hence, a fully theory-based estimation of the model requires the use of local techniques that can deal with parameter heterogeneity. Our approach allows us to do so and provides statistical inference on region-specific border effects and distance elasticities. Second, it allows us to model more carefully the error structure, thereby controlling for cross-sectional correlations in the error terms. Last, our procedure does not require an a priori estimate for the elasticity of substitution and is, therefore, self-contained.

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<sup>3</sup>See Anselin and Bera (1998) for an overview of spatial econometrics. The asymptotic properties of some spatial estimators have been derived by Kelejian and Prucha (1998) and Lee (2004). Spatial econometric techniques have been applied to a wide range of topics including growth and convergence (Moreno and Trehan, 1997; Ertur and Koch, 2007), spatial patterns of foreign direct investment (Bloningen *et al.*, 2004, 2005), retail price competition (Pinkse *et al.*, 2002), and interactions between local governments (Case *et al.*, 1993; Brueckner, 1998). To the best of our knowledge there are, until now, no applications to trade and the gravity equation, which may be due to the fact that origin-destination interdependencies have not yet been much developed in the spatial econometrics literature (yet, see LeSage and Pace, 2006, for an extension of the standard theory to origin-destination interactions in a migration context).

We illustrate our methodology by applying it to the well-known Canada-U.S. dataset used by Anderson and van Wincoop (2003) and Feenstra (2002, 2004). Since estimating the model with heterogeneous coefficients is a daunting task, as standard estimation routines are not available, we use an incremental approach and estimate as a first step a simple specification where all coefficients are constrained to be identical across regions (homogeneous coefficient case). Doing so simplifies the econometric implementation and yields results that are comparable with those in the literature. In a second step, we then provide estimates for a model with region-specific coefficients, except for the spatial autoregressive ones which we assume to be country specific (heterogeneous coefficient case).

Our key results may be summarized as follows. First, we show that there remains a significant amount of spatial autocorrelation in the OLS residuals of the gravity equation, even when including origin- and destination-specific importer-exporter fixed effects. Put differently, OLS estimates are at best inefficient and at worst inefficient and biased, because the fixed effects fail to capture the spatial interdependence among trade flows. This finding vindicates the use of spatial econometric techniques and a more careful modeling of the error structure. Second, we estimate the homogeneous coefficient specification of the model and show that, as predicted by theory, there exists a significant negative spatial autocorrelation between trade flows. It is worth pointing out that, although the possible existence of such a negative spatial autocorrelation is acknowledged in the literature, it is usually considered more a ‘textbook case’ than of empirical relevance.<sup>4</sup> Once this autocorrelation is controlled for, the border effects between the U.S. and Canada are shown to be smaller than in previous studies: about 8 for Canadian provinces and about 1.3 for U.S. states. Our approach thus shows how spatial econometrics allows to deal with the ‘border effect puzzle’ by controlling for multilateral resistance in a novel way. Last, we provide results for the heterogeneous coefficient specification of the model under the restriction of country-specific autoregressive parameters. Our estimates reveal significant variations in both distance elasticities and border effects across provinces and states. Whereas border effects for most U.S. states are statistically insignificant and small, those for Canadian provinces are statistically significant and generally larger.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we present the model and derive the theoretical gravity equation, whereas in Section 3 we briefly review previous estimation methods. We then propose, in Section 4, a spatial econometric estimating equation derived from the linearized version of the theoretical model. We also show how we can theoretically decompose and retrieve the border effects. Our empirical results are presented in Section 5. Section 6 finally concludes.

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<sup>4</sup>The reason is that, to the best of our knowledge, negative spatial autocorrelation is never derived from a structural model and, therefore, hard to interpret convincingly. This contrasts starkly with theory where the existence of negative interdependence in, for example, exchange networks is fairly well known and has been established experimentally (see, e.g., Bonacich, 1987).

## 2 A ‘dual’ gravity model

In this section, we present a novel way of deriving a gravity equation that does not depend on unobservable price indices yet encapsulates the general equilibrium interdependence of the full trading system. The idea is to get rid of prices and price indices by using the inverse demand functions and by exploiting the fact that price indices depend on trade flows. This allows us to obtain an implicit equation system that depends on observables only and that can be estimated with spatial econometric techniques. In a nutshell, whereas Anderson and van Wincoop (2003) derive a gravity equation subject to a system of nonlinear constraints in the unobservable price indices, we derive an unconstrained gravity equation in which the observable trade flows are spatially autocorrelated. To do so, we build upon a CES trade model à la Dixit and Stiglitz (1977) and Krugman (1980) with an arbitrary number  $n$  of regions. Every region  $i$  is endowed with  $L_i$  consumers/workers, who each supply inelastically one unit of labor. Labor is the only production factor and  $L_i$  stands for both the size of, and the aggregate labor supply in, region  $i$ .

### 2.1 Preferences

All consumers have identical preferences over a continuum of horizontally differentiated product varieties. A representative consumer in region  $j$  solves the following problem:<sup>5</sup>

$$\max U_j = \sum_i \int_{\Omega_i} q_{ij}(v)^{\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma}} dv \quad \text{subject to} \quad \sum_i \int_{\Omega_i} q_{ij}(v) p_{ij}(v) dv = y_j,$$

where  $\sigma > 1$  denotes the constant elasticity of substitution between any two varieties;  $y_j$  stands for individual income in region  $j$ ;  $p_{ij}(v)$  and  $q_{ij}(v)$  denote the consumer (i.e., the delivered) price and per capita consumption of variety  $v$  produced in region  $i$ ; and where  $\Omega_i$  denotes the set of varieties produced in region  $i$ . Since all varieties produced in the same region can be treated symmetrically in what follows, we alleviate notation by dropping the variety index  $v$ . Let  $m_k$  stand for the measure of  $\Omega_k$  (i.e., the mass of varieties produced in region  $k$ ). It is readily verified that the aggregate inverse demand functions for each variety are then given by

$$p_{ij} = \frac{Q_{ij}^{-1/\sigma}}{\sum_k m_k Q_{kj}^{1-1/\sigma}} Y_j, \quad (1)$$

where  $Q_{ij} \equiv L_j q_{ij}$  denotes the aggregate demand in region  $j$  for a variety produced in region  $i$ ; and where  $Y_j \equiv L_j y_j$  stands for the aggregate income in region  $j$ .

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<sup>5</sup>Following previous work by Anderson (1979), Anderson and van Wincoop (2003) derive a gravity equation from a CES expenditure system with goods that are differentiated by region of origin and the supply of which is fixed. We instead prefer the monopolistic competition specification with free entry, since it allows us to control for factor price differences in the empirical part. Note also that including home bias parameters in the utility function is irrelevant for the empirical analysis as they cannot be separated from population size and trade costs.

## 2.2 Technology

Each firm produces only a single product variety. Thus, there is a one-to-one correspondence between varieties and firms and  $m_k$  also stands for the mass of firms operating in region  $k$ . To produce  $q$  units of output requires  $cq + F$  units of labor, where  $c$  is the constant marginal and  $F$  is the fixed input requirement. Shipping varieties *both within and across* regions is costly. More precisely, shipping one unit of any variety between regions  $j$  and  $k$  requires to dispatch  $\tau_{jk} > 1$  units from the region of origin, while the rest ‘melts away’ in transportation (the so-called ‘iceberg’ cost). It is worth pointing out at this stage that we need not to make a priori any assumption on either the value of intraregional trade costs  $\tau_{ii}$ , or on symmetry of trade costs across regions. This contrasts with the bulk of the literature which commonly assumes that trade within each region is costless ( $\tau_{ii} = 1$ ) and that trade costs are pairwise symmetric across regions ( $\tau_{ij} = \tau_{ji}$ ). Though theoretically convenient, neither of these two assumptions is particularly appealing from an applied perspective.

A firm located in country  $j$  maximizes its profit, given by

$$\pi_j = \sum_k (p_{jk} - cw_j \tau_{jk}) Q_{jk} - Fw_j,$$

with respect to the quantities  $Q_{jk}$  and subject to the inverse demand schedule (1). Because price and quantity competition are equivalent when there is a continuum of firms, the profit maximizing prices display as always a constant markup over marginal cost:  $p_{jk} = \tau_{jk} p_j$ , where  $p_j \equiv cw_j \sigma / (\sigma - 1)$  stands for the producer (i.e., the mill) price in region  $j$ . Free entry and exit drive profits to zero, which implies that each firm must produce the break-even quantity

$$\sum_k \tau_{jk} Q_{jk} = \frac{F(\sigma - 1)}{c} \equiv \bar{Q}, \quad (2)$$

irrespective of the region  $j$  it is located in.<sup>6</sup>

## 2.3 Equilibrium

To derive the gravity equation requires to determine the value of trade flows from  $i$  to  $j$ . This is given by  $X_{ij} \equiv m_i p_{ij} Q_{ij}$  which, using (1) can be expressed as follows:

$$X_{ij} = m_i \frac{Q_{ij}^{1-1/\sigma}}{\sum_k m_k Q_{kj}^{1-1/\sigma}} Y_j. \quad (3)$$

Aggregate income constraints, the equilibrium prices, and the zero profit condition (2) then imply that

$$Y_i = \sum_k m_i p_{ik} Q_{ik} = m_i p_i \bar{Q}.$$

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<sup>6</sup>Strictly speaking, this equilibrium condition only holds for interior equilibria. In what follows, we focus exclusively on such equilibria as they are the empirically relevant ones for our subsequent analysis.

Solving for  $m_i = Y_i/(p_i\bar{Q})$  and substituting into (3), we can eliminate the unobservable mass of firms to obtain

$$X_{ij} = Y_i Y_j \frac{Q_{ij}^{1-1/\sigma}}{\sum_k \frac{p_i}{p_k} Y_k Q_{kj}^{1-1/\sigma}}. \quad (4)$$

By definition of the trade flows  $X_{ij}$  and the mass of firms  $m_i$ , it must be that

$$Q_{ij} = \frac{X_{ij}}{m_i p_{ij}} = \frac{X_{ij} \bar{Q}}{Y_i \tau_{ij}}. \quad (5)$$

Plugging (5) into (4) and simplifying then yields

$$X_{ij} = Y_i Y_j \frac{\left(\frac{X_{ij} \bar{Q}}{Y_i \tau_{ij}}\right)^{1-1/\sigma}}{\sum_k \frac{p_i}{p_k} Y_k \left(\frac{X_{kj} \bar{Q}}{Y_k \tau_{kj}}\right)^{1-1/\sigma}} = Y_j \frac{\tau_{ij}^{1/\sigma-1} \left(\frac{X_{ij}}{Y_i}\right)^{1-1/\sigma}}{\sum_k \frac{L_k}{L_i} \tau_{kj}^{1/\sigma-1} \left(\frac{X_{kj}}{Y_k}\right)^{1-1/\sigma}}, \quad (6)$$

where we have used the equilibrium relationship  $p_i/p_k = w_i/w_k$  and the aggregate income constraint  $w_i = Y_i/L_i$ . Expression (6) can be rewritten as follows:

$$X_{ij} = Y_j^\sigma \left[ \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L_i} \left(\frac{\tau_{kj} Y_k}{\tau_{ij} Y_i}\right)^{1/\sigma-1} X_{kj}^{1-1/\sigma} \right]^{-\sigma} \quad \forall i, j \quad (7)$$

which defines a system of implicit equations describing the interdependence of all trade flows towards region  $j$ . To close the general equilibrium system finally requires to impose the aggregate income constraints

$$Y_i - \sum_k X_{ik} = 0. \quad (8)$$

As can be seen from expressions (7) and (8), the GDP  $Y_i \equiv f_i(\mathbf{L}, \sigma, \mathbf{T})$  of each region can generally be expressed as a function of technology  $f_i$ , the vector of endowments  $\mathbf{L} = (L_i)$ , preferences  $\sigma$ , and the matrix of trade frictions  $\mathbf{T} = (\tau_{ij})$ . As can be further seen from (7) and (8), all trade flows  $X_{ij}$  (including own absorption  $X_{ii}$ ) are linked in equilibrium, both directly (since goods are gross substitutes) and indirectly (via the aggregate income constraints). Formally, one may think about such a system in terms of a directed graph, where the  $X_{ij}$  are the flows between regions (the ‘nodes’) along trading routes (the ‘edges’), and where the  $Y_i$  play the role of flow conservation constraints. Figure 1 illustrates the equilibrium relationships in a simple three-region world.

**Insert Figure 1 about here.**

As is clear from Figure 1, a meaningful comparative static exercise on either  $Y_i$  or  $X_{ij}$  should take into account the equilibrium interdependence of the trade flows and GDPs. This seems especially relevant for gravity equations, since the estimated coefficients are usually interpreted as providing precisely these comparative static results for the flows  $X_{ij}$ . Yet, taking into account all of these interdependencies unfortunately yields an equilibrium system that does not allow for any tractable empirical specification.<sup>7</sup> In what follows, we therefore only control for a part of the interdependencies, namely those between the different trade flows  $X_{ij}$ . We thus stick closely to the existing literature which considers that regional GDPs are exogenous to the analysis.<sup>8</sup>

### 3 Some previous estimation methods

A first estimation method is based upon the admittedly strong assumption that *trade flows are independent*: estimating the determinants of  $X_{ij}$  can be done without taking into account any information contained in  $X_{kl}$ . McCallum (1995), among others, makes this assumption to estimate by OLS the following empirical gravity equation for Canada-U.S. interregional trade:

$$\ln X_{ij} = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \ln Y_i + \alpha_3 \ln Y_j + \alpha_4 \ln d_{ij} + \alpha_5 b_{ij} + \varepsilon_{ij}. \quad (9)$$

The novelty with respect to previous approaches is that McCallum includes a dummy variable  $b_{ij}$ , which equals one for interprovincial trade and zero for state-province trade. This variable is, therefore, intended to capture the trade-reducing impacts of the international border. Quite surprisingly, McCallum obtains paradoxically large values for the coefficient  $\alpha_5$ , ranging from 3.07 to 3.30. Consequently, Canadian provinces seem to trade 21.5 to 27 times more with themselves than with U.S. states of equal size and distance, a seemingly unrealistically large value for the border effect between two well-integrated and culturally similar countries like Canada and the U.S.

McCallum’s ‘border effect puzzle’ has triggered a substantial amount of subsequent research intended to explain these seemingly paradoxical values. As recently shown by Anderson and van Wincoop (2003), McCallum’s estimates are biased by the omission of multilateral resistance terms. Anderson and van Wincoop build on the ‘price version’ of the CES model presented in

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<sup>7</sup>It has been realized since a long time that the full interdependence of the system should be somehow taken into consideration. Bergstrand (1985, p.474) argues that “the gravity equation is a reduced form from a partial equilibrium subsystem of a general equilibrium model”. Anderson and Smith (1999, p.29) claim that “SUR is an appropriate econometric technique”, yet they do not estimate the gravity equation using this methodology because of problems with handling own absorption  $X_{ii}$ .

<sup>8</sup>As argued by Bergstrand (1985), exogeneous GDPs amount to assuming that regions are small enough so that they cannot affect GDPs by any one trade flow. Although this is the case for the  $X_{ij}$ , the same does not hold true for the  $X_{ii}$ . These constitute indeed a quite large share of GDP for most regions, so that changes in them are bound to affect regional GDPs. To the best of our knowledge, this issue has not been dealt with until now in the literature where own absorption is usually disregarded.



Section 2 and derive the following instance of the gravity equation, assuming equal wages and symmetric trade costs that are a log-linear function of bilateral distance and the existence of an international border between  $i$  and  $j$ :

$$\ln \left( \frac{X_{ij}}{Y_i Y_j} \right) = k + a_1 \ln d_{ij} + a_2(1 - b_{ij}) - \ln \tilde{\mathbb{P}}_i^{1-\sigma} - \ln \tilde{\mathbb{P}}_j^{1-\sigma} + \varepsilon_{ij}, \quad (10)$$

where  $k \equiv -Y_W$  is a constant, with  $Y_W$  the ‘world’ GDP; and where  $\tilde{\mathbb{P}}_i^{1-\sigma}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbb{P}}_j^{1-\sigma}$  are the multilateral resistance terms of regions  $i$  and  $j$ , which, apart from unitary income elasticities, represent the key difference with equation (9) estimated by McCallum. These multilateral resistance terms are implicitly defined by a system of non-linear equations involving all regions’ expenditure shares and the whole trade cost distribution:

$$\tilde{\mathbb{P}}_i^{1-\sigma} = \sum_k \frac{Y_k}{Y_W} \tilde{\mathbb{P}}_k^{\sigma-1} e^{a_1 \ln d_{ik} + a_2(1-b_{ik})} \quad \forall i. \quad (11)$$

Equations (10) and (11) reveal that the determinants of  $X_{ij}$  cannot be consistently estimated without taking into account the conditions prevailing in the origin and destination markets  $i$  and  $j$ , as captured by a simple transformation of the CES price indices. These price indices depend themselves on the inverse demands and, therefore, on the different trade flows.<sup>9</sup> Hence, the independence assumption underlying the McCallum-type estimates is clearly invalid and biases the results.

Anderson and van Wincoop (2003) estimate equation (10) using nonlinear least squares, where the multilateral resistance terms are solved for in a first step using (11). While this procedure accounts for interdependence, it has at least three drawbacks. First, it requires symmetric trade costs. Although this assumption holds when one uses simple distance data, it may prevent the elaboration and the use of more complex trade cost measures which are likely to be asymmetric. Second, as the multilateral resistance terms are solved for numerically, they do not allow for statistical inference and significance tests. Furthermore, an a priori estimate of the elasticity of substitution  $\sigma$  is required as it cannot be estimated separately because it enters in multiplicative form the trade cost parameters  $a_1$  and  $a_2$ . Last, as argued by Feenstra (2002, 2004), Anderson and van Wincoop’s estimation procedure requires custom programming of the minimization algorithms to obtain estimates of the coefficients and of the standard errors.

A simpler alternative estimation method, suggested by Anderson and van Wincoop (2003) and Feenstra (2002) and used, among others, by Rose and van Wincoop (2001), leads to replace

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<sup>9</sup>Despite their central theoretical role, price indices have been largely neglected in empirical applications of the gravity equation. The main reason for this is that they are unobservable, so that most studies have tried to somehow eliminate them. Notable exceptions are given by Bergstrand (1985) and Baier and Bergstrand (2001), who retain the price indices as explanatory variables using published price data, namely GDP deflators. This method suffers from severe data constraints, especially at subnational levels for which regional GDP deflators are not available. Furthermore, the theoretical link between published price indices and the CES price aggregators is unclear.

the multilateral resistance terms with region-specific importer-exporter fixed effects. In this case, (10) can be written as:

$$\ln \left( \frac{X_{ij}}{Y_i Y_j} \right) = k + a_1 \ln d_{ij} + a_2(1 - b_{ij}) + \beta_1^i \delta_1^i + \beta_2^j \delta_2^j + \varepsilon_{ij}, \quad (12)$$

where  $\delta_1^i$  denotes an indicator variable that equals one if region  $i$  is the exporter, and zero otherwise; and where  $\delta_2^j$  denotes an indicator variable that equals one if region  $j$  is the importer, and zero otherwise. The coefficients  $\beta_1^i = (\sigma - 1) \ln \tilde{\mathbb{P}}_i$  and  $\beta_2^j = (\sigma - 1) \ln \tilde{\mathbb{P}}_j$  then provide estimates of the multilateral resistance terms.<sup>10</sup>

Although the fixed effects procedure yields theoretically consistent estimates of the average border effect (see Feenstra, 2002), it amounts to disregarding a significant part of the spatial interdependence. Hence, while the fixed effects method has the advantage of being simple to implement, as OLS can be used under the traditional assumptions on the error term  $\varepsilon_{ij}$ , its main drawback is that *it does not fully capture the spatial interactions* of the model. This point will be made more clearly in our subsequent developments where we show that, even after controlling for multilateral resistance by using region-specific importer-exporter fixed effects, there remains a significant amount of spatial autocorrelation in the OLS residuals. Hence, OLS estimates are at best inefficient and at worst inefficient and biased as fixed effects fail to capture the full spatial interdependence among trade flows.<sup>11</sup> Furthermore, as pointed out in the introduction, fixed effects estimations do not allow for a finer analysis of border effects and cannot be used to conduct meaningful counterfactual analyses. Both of these points strike us as important and lie at the heart of an analysis of border effects.

## 4 Econometric specification

We now propose a novel method for estimating the gravity equation, which builds on the foregoing observation that trade flows are spatially interdependent and that this interdependence needs to be somehow taken into account. Our approach draws quite naturally on spatial econometric techniques, which are precisely designed to deal with cross-sectional interdependence. When compared to other estimation methods, we believe that ours offers a series of distinct advantages:

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<sup>10</sup>Note that equation (10) features only a single multilateral resistance term per region, whereas there are two fixed effects in equation (12). The reason is that Anderson and van Wincoop (2003, p.175) make a symmetry assumption on trade costs (in the general case, there are two terms per region given by expressions (10) and (11) on p.175 of their paper).

<sup>11</sup>Note that Anderson and van Wincoop (2003, p.180) also emphasize that the fixed-effects estimator could be less efficient than the non-linear least squares estimator, which uses information on the full structure of the model. We furthermore show in this paper that it could also be biased. One should keep in mind that fixed effects allow to control for heterogeneity, but not for interdependence. This fact is often overlooked in the literature, even when more complex fixed effects specifications are used (e.g., Baltagi *et al.*, 2003).

1. it accounts for cross-sectional interdependence among trade flows, as implied by the model, and thus directly controls for multilateral resistance as in Anderson and van Wincoop (2003);
2. it uses a more careful modeling of the error structure, thereby controlling for possible cross-sectional interdependence in the error terms;
3. it reveals that all coefficients, including the distance elasticities and border effects, are generally region-specific (see Anderson and Smith, 1999; Helpman *et al.*, 2007) and allows for statistical inference on estimated regional border effects and distance elasticities;
4. it does not require an a priori value for  $\sigma$  and is, therefore, self-contained. This latter point is especially desirable given the numerous ways of estimating the elasticities of substitution and the widely varying results obtained in the literature.<sup>12</sup>

We now linearize the model of Section 2, derive a spatial econometric specification and discuss in more detail the error structure.

#### 4.1 Linearization and matrix form

We start with the theory-based specification of the model. Taking equation (7) in logarithmic form, we readily obtain:<sup>13</sup>

$$\ln X_{ij} = \sigma \ln Y_j - \sigma \ln \left[ \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L_i} \left( \frac{\tau_{kj} Y_k}{\tau_{ij} Y_i} \right)^{\frac{1}{\sigma}-1} X_{kj}^{1-\frac{1}{\sigma}} \right] \equiv f(\sigma), \quad (13)$$

which describes an implicit nonlinear relationship between the trade flows towards market  $j$ . There is clearly spatial interdependence as  $X_{ij}$  depends negatively on the nominal sales of the other regions in market  $j$  (recall that all varieties are gross substitutes). To obtain a

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<sup>12</sup>The usual problem in CES-based models is that “without knowing  $\sigma$  we cannot infer the size of the trade barrier, and without knowing the size of the barrier we cannot infer  $\sigma$ ” (Hummels, 2001, p.9). Estimation results for  $\sigma$  depend on the level of aggregation and the estimation method, and vary widely. For example, Hanson (2005), using aggregate data for the US, obtains about 7 with non-linear least squares and about 2 with GMM. Estimates in Hummels (2001) vary from 2 to 5.26. Using extremely disaggregated data, Broda and Weinstein (2006) estimate several thousand elasticities of substitution, which range depending on the industry and the level of aggregation from 1.3 (telecommunication equipments) to 22.1 (crude oil).

<sup>13</sup>As recently argued by Santos Silva and Tenreyro (2006), the log-linearization may bias some estimates in the presence of heterogeneity. Yet, the Poisson pseudo maximum likelihood estimator these authors suggest cannot be readily implemented in our specification with lagged endogenous variables. Whether the omission of spatial interdependence is preferable to the log-linearization of the estimating equation is unclear and beyond the scope of this paper. Yet, it is worth emphasizing that our weight matrix gives more weight to larger regions (as measured by  $L_i/L$ ) which, as argued by Santos Silva and Tenreyro (2006) is desirable because trade data for larger regions is usually more accurate.

specification that is estimable with the help of spatial econometric techniques, we linearize  $f$  around  $\sigma = 1$ .<sup>14</sup> As shown in Appendix A, this yields the following equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \ln X_{ij} = & \sigma \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \frac{L_k}{L} + \sigma \ln Y_j - (\sigma - 1) \left[ \ln \tau_{ij} - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \tau_{kj} \right] \\ & - \sigma \left[ \ln w_i - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln w_k \right] + \left[ \ln Y_i - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln Y_k \right] - (\sigma - 1) \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln X_{kj}, \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

where  $L \equiv \sum_k L_k$  denotes the total population. Expression (14) reveals the essence of spatial interdependence in the gravity equation: *the trade flow  $X_{ij}$  from region  $i$  to region  $j$  also depends on all the trade flows from the other regions  $k$  to region  $j$* . Hence, trade flows cannot be analyzed as isolate observations though this is predominantly done in empirical applications of the gravity equation.

Several comments are in order. First, as expected, trade flows from  $i$  to  $j$  increase with destination GDP  $Y_j$ . Yet, by contrast to traditional gravity equations, the coefficient on partner GDP exceeds unity. Second, trade flows from  $i$  to  $j$  are affected by relative trade barriers, as measured by the deviation of bilateral trade barriers  $\tau_{ij}$  from the population weighted average (third term in brackets). Put differently, *relative accessibility matters*. Third, trade flows from  $i$  to  $j$  are negatively affected by wages  $w_i$  in the origin region, measured again by the deviation from the population weighted average (fourth term in brackets). Above-average wages raise production costs and make region  $i$ 's firms less competitive in market  $j$ . Fourth, trade flows from  $i$  to  $j$  increase in own GDP  $Y_i$ , yet again only as measured by the deviation from the population weighted average (fifth term in brackets). The intuition is that a larger region hosts more firms, because of the ‘home market effect’, yet that the presence of other large regions reduces that mass by providing equally attractive export bases (see Behrens *et al.*, 2005). Last, trade flows from  $i$  to  $j$  decrease with the value of sales  $X_{kj}$  from any third region  $k$  into the destination market, because goods are gross substitutes. This effect is stronger the closer substitutes the varieties are (i.e., the larger the value of  $\sigma$ ). Since the spatial interdependence will be captured by the *spatial autoregressive coefficient* in our estimating equation, this coefficient may be interpreted as a measure of ‘spatial competition’ encapsulating both considerations on firms’ market power and on consumers’ preference for diversity.<sup>15</sup> It is worth pointing out that when  $\sigma \rightarrow 1$ , the linear approximation of the model gets better but that the spatial autoregressive

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<sup>14</sup>When compared to Anderson and van Wincoop (2003), our approach has the potential drawback to require a linearization in order to obtain an exploitable econometric specification. Similar linearizations are commonly used in empirical growth and convergence, as well as in estimating CES production functions (see, e.g., Kmenta, 1967, who considers a second-order approximation).

<sup>15</sup>We do not seek to disentangle market power from preference for diversity in our model as both are observationally equivalent by reducing trade flows between  $i$  and  $j$ . See Benassy (1996) for further discussion on how to disentangle market power from preference for diversity.

term disappears, whereas the approximation gets worse when  $\sigma$  is large but there is more spatial interdependence. When  $\sigma$  gets very large, trade flows fall to zero, which corresponds to an extreme form of spatial interdependence where trade frictions almost completely inhibit interregional exchanges.

To make notation more compact, we recast (14) into matrix form as follows:

$$\mathbf{X} = \sigma\zeta\mathbb{1} + \sigma\mathbf{Y}_d + \underbrace{(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W})\mathbf{Y}_o}_{\equiv \tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_o} - (\sigma - 1) \underbrace{(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W})\boldsymbol{\tau}}_{\equiv \tilde{\boldsymbol{\tau}}} - \sigma \underbrace{(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W})\mathbf{w}}_{\equiv \tilde{\mathbf{w}}} - (\sigma - 1)\mathbf{W}\mathbf{X}. \quad (15)$$

In expression (15), we define:

$\mathbf{X} \equiv (\ln X_{ij})$  as the  $n^2 \times 1$  vector of the logarithms of trade flows;

$\zeta \equiv \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \frac{L_k}{L}$ , which is the entropy of the population distribution;

$\mathbb{1}$  as the  $n^2 \times 1$  vector whose components are all equal to 1;

$\mathbf{Y}_d \equiv (Y_j)$  as the  $n^2 \times 1$  vector of the logarithms of destination GDPs;

$\mathbf{I}$  as the  $n^2 \times n^2$  identity matrix;

$\mathbf{W}$  as the  $n^2 \times n^2$  *spatial weight matrix*, whose expression is given below;

$\mathbf{Y}_o \equiv (Y_i)$  as the  $n^2 \times 1$  vector of the logarithms of origin GDPs;

$\boldsymbol{\tau} \equiv (\ln \tau_{ij})$  as the  $n^2 \times 1$  vector of the logarithms of trade costs;

$\mathbf{w} \equiv (\ln w_i)$  as the  $n^2 \times 1$  vector of the logarithms of origin wages.

Note from expressions (14) and (15) that all variables superscripted with a tilde are measured as deviations from their population weighted averages. We stick to this notational convention in the remainder of the paper to ease the exposition. Some simple algebraic manipulations show that the structure of the *theory-based spatial weight matrix* is given by:  $\mathbf{W} = [\mathbf{S} \text{diag}(\mathbf{L})] \otimes \mathbf{I}_n$ , where  $\mathbf{S}$  is the  $n \times n$  matrix whose elements are all equal to 1; where  $\otimes$  denotes the Kronecker (tensor) product; and where  $\text{diag}(\mathbf{L})$  is defined as the  $n \times n$  diagonal matrix of the  $L_k/L$  terms. It is worth pointing out that, by construction,  $\mathbf{W}$  is row-standardized.

Turning to the functional form of trade costs, we follow standard practice by assuming that  $\tau_{ij}$  is a log-linear function of distance and border effects as follows:<sup>16</sup>

$$\tau_{ij} \equiv d_{ij}^\gamma e^{\xi b_{ij}} \quad (16)$$

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<sup>16</sup>Henderson and Millimet (2006) show that this linearity assumption cannot be rejected.

where  $d_{ij}$  denotes the distance between regions  $i$  and  $j$ , and where  $b_{ij}$  is a dummy variable taking the value 1 if the flow  $X_{ij}$  crosses the Canada-U.S. border, and 0 otherwise. Taking logarithms of (16), we can rewrite this expression in matrix form as follows:

$$\tau = \gamma \mathbf{d} + \xi \mathbf{b}, \quad (17)$$

where  $\mathbf{d} \equiv (\ln d_{ij})$  is the  $n^2 \times 1$  vector of the logarithms of distance; and where  $\mathbf{b}$  is the  $n^2 \times 1$  vector of dummy variables for cross-border flows. Substituting (17) into (15) then yields the following estimating equation:

$$\mathbf{X} = \beta_0 \mathbf{I} + \beta_1 \mathbf{Y}_d + \beta_2 \tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_o + \beta_3 \tilde{\mathbf{d}} + \beta_4 \tilde{\mathbf{w}} + \theta \tilde{\mathbf{b}} + \rho \mathbf{W} \mathbf{X}, \quad (18)$$

where  $\beta_0 \equiv \sigma \zeta < 0$  is the constant term;  $\beta_1 \equiv \sigma > 1$  is the coefficient for destination GDP;  $\beta_2 \equiv 1$  is the coefficient for origin GDP;  $\beta_3 \equiv -(\sigma - 1)\gamma < 0$  is the distance coefficient (which, because of the implicit structure of the model, differs from the true distance elasticity); and where  $\beta_4 \equiv -\sigma < 1$  is the coefficient for wage in the origin region. Note that  $\beta_2, \beta_3$  and  $\beta_4$  all capture deviations from population weighted averages, as explained in the foregoing. Turning to the border effects, their coefficient is given by  $\theta \equiv -(\sigma - 1)\xi < 0$ . How to precisely compute and decompose the border effects into intra- and international components is analyzed in Section 5. Finally, the spatial autoregressive coefficient  $\rho \equiv -(\sigma - 1) < 0$  is the smaller the closer substitutes the varieties are. Hence,  $\rho$  provides an intuitive measure of ‘spatial competition’.

## 4.2 Spatial econometric specification

To obtain a specification that can be estimated by spatial econometric techniques requires to rewrite (18) in explicit form, i.e., to move all of the  $\ln X_{ij}$  terms to the left-hand side. Let  $\mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}} \equiv \text{diag}(\mathbf{L}) \otimes \mathbf{I}_n$  denote the matrix containing only the diagonal elements of  $\mathbf{W}$ , each repeated  $n$  times by block. Recalling that  $\rho \equiv -(\sigma - 1)$ , equation (18) can then be rewritten as follows:

$$(\mathbf{I} - \rho \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}}) \mathbf{X} = \beta_0 \mathbf{I} + \beta_1 \mathbf{Y}_d + \beta_2 \tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_o + \beta_3 \tilde{\mathbf{d}} + \beta_4 \tilde{\mathbf{w}} + \theta \tilde{\mathbf{b}} + \rho (\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}}) \mathbf{X}.$$

Because  $\mathbf{I} - \rho \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}}$  is, by construction, an invertible diagonal matrix, we can premultiply by its inverse to obtain the following expression:

$$\mathbf{X} = \bar{\beta}_0 \mathbf{I} + \bar{\beta}_1 \mathbf{Y}_d + \bar{\beta}_2 \tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_o + \bar{\beta}_3 \tilde{\mathbf{d}} + \bar{\beta}_4 \tilde{\mathbf{w}} + \bar{\theta} \tilde{\mathbf{b}} + \bar{\rho} (\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}}) \mathbf{X}. \quad (19)$$

The  $n$  elements between positions  $i \times n + 1$  and  $(i + 1) \times n$  of  $(\mathbf{I} - \rho \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}})^{-1}$ , given by  $[1 + (\sigma - 1)\frac{L_i}{L}]^{-1}$ , depend on the origin index  $i$  only which is fixed and identical for all destinations. In expression (19), the components of the transformed (overlined) vectors of coefficients

are thus given by:

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\beta}_{1i} &\equiv \sigma [1 - \rho(L_i/L)]^{-1} > 0, & \bar{\beta}_{2i} &\equiv [1 - \rho(L_i/L)]^{-1} > 0, \\ \bar{\beta}_{3i} &\equiv \rho [1 - \rho(L_i/L)]^{-1} \gamma < 0, & \bar{\beta}_{4i} &\equiv -\bar{\beta}_{1i} < 0, \\ \bar{\theta}_i &\equiv \rho [1 - \rho(L_i/L)]^{-1} \xi < 0, & \bar{\rho}_i &\equiv \rho [1 - \rho(L_i/L)]^{-1} < 0,\end{aligned}$$

which shows that we obtain a specification with one set of parameters for each region. The full model, therefore, has a ‘club’ structure since all parameters (including the spatial autoregressive ones) must be estimated locally for each region. Quite naturally, we refer to this model as the *heterogeneous coefficients model*. Since it is econometrically quite complicated to handle, we will first estimate a simpler benchmark in which we constrain all coefficients to be identical across regions, which we refer to as the *homogeneous coefficients model*. Formally, constraining the coefficients to be identical amounts to assuming that the diagonal elements of  $\mathbf{W}$  are equal to zero in equation (18). In that case, the model becomes simpler and can readily be estimated using standard spatial econometric techniques.

Before turning to the estimation proper, we need to make precise the error structure underlying the model. Though fundamental to the analysis, this modeling aspect has received only little attention until now. This is quite surprising because when the error terms are introduced into the econometric specification via the trade costs  $\tau_{ij}$  or the trade flows  $X_{ij}$ , as usual in the literature, one must take into account the fact that “the multilateral resistance variables also depend on these error terms” (Anderson and van Wincoop, 2004, p.713). The same holds true for the border effects, since these effects in any region depend in a complex way on a spatially weighted average of the effects in all the other regions. Consequently, *the error terms will exhibit some form of cross-sectional correlation that has to be dealt with*. To the best of our knowledge, this point has largely gone unnoticed until now in the gravity literature.<sup>17</sup> Although “errors can enter the model in many [...] ways of course, about which the theory has little to say” (Anderson and van Wincoop, 2003, p.180), it is likely that the exact way the error terms are introduced into the model is crucial for the consistency of the estimates one obtains.

In what follows, we introduce the error terms via the trade flows  $X_{ij}$ . Doing so can be justified on the basis that regional trade flows are observed imperfectly. Let  $X_{ij}^{\text{real}} \equiv X_{ij}^{\text{obs}} e^{\varepsilon_{ij}}$  stand for the unobserved ‘real’ trade flow, where  $X_{ij}^{\text{obs}}$  denotes the observed trade flow and  $\varepsilon_{ij}$  is an i.i.d. normal error term. Introducing this error specification into (19) yields:

$$\mathbf{X} = \bar{\beta}_0 \mathbb{1} + \bar{\beta}_1 \mathbf{Y}_d + \bar{\beta}_2 \tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_o + \bar{\beta}_3 \tilde{\mathbf{d}} + \bar{\beta}_4 \tilde{\mathbf{w}} + \bar{\theta} \tilde{\mathbf{b}} + \bar{\rho} (\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}}) \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{u} \quad (20)$$

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<sup>17</sup>As pointed out by Anderson and van Wincoop (2004, p.713), such interdependencies give rise to complex problems since “[structural estimation techniques] would have to be modified since the multilateral resistance variables also depend on these error terms.” While introducing origin–destination fixed effects allows to circumvent this problem by using standard estimation techniques (Feenstra, 2002, 2004) we propose, in the remainder of this paper, to explicitly take into account the more complicated error structure.

where  $\mathbf{X}$  now stands for the vector of observed trade flows and where

$$\mathbf{u} = -\varepsilon + \bar{\rho}(\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}})\varepsilon \quad (21)$$

stands for the error term.<sup>18</sup> Note from (21) that the error terms  $\varepsilon_{ij}$  are spatially correlated under the form of a *first-order moving average* with correlation coefficients  $\bar{\rho}_i$  that are region-specific. We hence obtain, quite naturally, cross-sectional interdependence in the error terms. Although moving averages are quite common in structural econometric models, especially in time series, they are less so in spatial econometrics. A first explanation of this fact is the clear lack of structural models. A second explanation is that the combined estimation of a moving average error structure with an autoregressive part (the so-called SARMA model; Huang, 1984) is uncommon and scarcely used.

## 5 Empirical implementation

In what follows, we apply our methodology to the well-known Canada-U.S. dataset used by Anderson and van Wincoop (2003) and Feenstra (2002, 2004). We first estimate the OLS benchmark, both with and without importer-exporter fixed effects, and show that the residuals are in all cases spatially autocorrelated. This finding vindicates the use of spatial econometric techniques for estimating such equations because OLS estimators are at best inefficient and at worst inefficient and biased. We then estimate our preferred theory-based specification, namely the SARMA model, under the assumption of homogeneous coefficients. We also run a series of robustness checks by estimating the model under alternative error structures. As will become clear, the empirical results strongly back the theoretical specification. Finally, we estimate the SARMA model with heterogeneous coefficients. Since estimating the fully heterogeneous model is too complicated, because it requires estimating as many spatial autoregressive coefficients for the endogenous lagged variable and the error terms as there are regions, we restrict ourselves to the simpler case in which we estimate only country-specific autoregressive coefficients. The technical details underlying this procedure are relegated to Appendix D.<sup>19</sup>

### 5.1 Data and controls

The dataset features bilateral trade flows  $X_{ij}$ , regional GDPs  $Y_i$ , internal absorption  $X_{ii}$  (all measured in million US\$), and distances  $d_{ij}$  in km between regional and provincial capitals for

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<sup>18</sup>Note that since we will use different autoregressive coefficients for the spatially lagged variable and the error terms when estimating the model, all of the subsequent developments hold true even when the error terms are introduced via the trade costs ( $\tau_{ij} \equiv d_{ij}^\gamma e^{\xi b_{ij}} e^{\varepsilon_{ij}}$ ).

<sup>19</sup>To the best of our knowledge, ours are the first estimations of SARMA models with heterogeneous autoregressive coefficients.



30 U.S. states and 10 Canadian provinces.<sup>20</sup> Unlike most gravity equations, which disregard own absorption  $X_{ii}$ , we require a measure of internal trade costs because we have to take into account the full structure of spatial interdependence. Following Redding and Venables (2004), we measure internal trade costs as  $\tau_{ii} \equiv \kappa \sqrt{\text{surface}_i/\pi}$ , where the regional surface data is taken from the ArcView database and has been converted into square kilometers. As estimation results are known to be somewhat sensitive to the measure of internal distance (see, e.g., Head and Mayer, 2002) we use the values 1/3, 2/3 and 1 for the parameter  $\kappa$  as robustness checks in what follows.<sup>21</sup> Hourly wages are obtained from Statistics Canada for the Canadian provinces, and from the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the U.S. states. All wage data is for 2005 and the Canadian values have been converted to US\$ using the average 2005 exchange rate.

Since our estimation method requires the whole information contained in the sample to account for spatial interdependence, we further have to deal with the well-known problem of zero trade flows. Indeed, there are 49 zero observations out of 1600, which requires an appropriate treatment. Since there is no generally agreed-upon method for doing so (Anderson and van Wincoop, 2004; Disdier and Head, 2007), we control for the potential zero flow outliers by including a dummy variable in all regressions. Although this is an admittedly crude way of controlling for zero trade flows, alternative methods like truncating the sample are not known to perform better or to be theoretically more sound.<sup>22</sup>

## 5.2 Homogeneous coefficient regressions

We start with the simplest possible specification in which all coefficients are constrained to be identical across regions. We first estimate McCallum-type OLS regressions of the form (9) as our benchmark, the results of which are summarized in Table 1 (columns 1–3). To stay as closely as possible to the original analysis, we define the border effects as in Anderson and van Wincoop (2003). Hence, we introduce two sets of dummy variables,  $\text{bordCA}_{ij}$  and  $\text{bordUS}_{ij}$ , for Canada-U.S. and U.S.-Canada flows, respectively. The implied border effects can, as always,

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<sup>20</sup>The dataset is publicly available from Robert C. Feenstra’s homepage at the following URL (under the heading ‘Chapter 5’): <http://www.econ.ucdavis.edu/faculty/fzfeens/textbook.html>.

<sup>21</sup>When  $\kappa = 2/3$ , our measure of internal distance gives the average distance between any two points in a disc-shaped country of the specified surface. Lower values of  $\kappa$  correspond to a more concentrated demand pattern, whereas larger values correspond to a more dispersed pattern. Note that we did not try more complex measures of interregional distance as suggested in, e.g., Helliwell and Verdier (2001) or Head and Mayer (2002). We conjecture that our main results are relatively robust to the use of such more complex measures.

<sup>22</sup>Note that our zeros are unlikely to be ‘true zeros’, as this would imply no aggregate manufacturing trade between several US states. In the case of ‘true zeros’, as for example in international trade applications, a Tobit estimator would perform better (Helpman *et al.*, 2007). See Felbermayr and Kohler (2006) for a recent discussion on the various treatments of zero trade flows. They argue that the neglect of zero trade flows is at the heart of the “puzzling persistence of distance” and they estimate a gravity equation with corner solutions using a Tobit estimator.

be retrieved as the exponential of minus the coefficient of  $\text{bordCA}_{ij}$  and  $\text{bordUS}_{ij}$ . As can be seen from Table 1, all coefficients have the correct sign, reasonable magnitudes, and are precisely estimated. Results for the distance elasticity are somewhat sensitive to the definition of internal distance, which is a well-known result in the literature. As can be further seen from Table 1, the magnitude of the border effects for Canadian provinces ranges from about 14.5 to 16, depending on the definition of internal distance. These estimates are in line with the McCallum-type regressions of Anderson and van Wincoop (2003, Table 1, p.173), which obtain border effects of about 15.7.<sup>23</sup>

**Insert Table 1 about here.**

As can be seen from the last line of Table 1, *not a single OLS specification passes Moran's I test* for the absence of spatial autocorrelation of the residuals (Cliff and Ord, 1981). Stated differently, there remains a significant amount of spatial autocorrelation in the OLS residuals, which leads at best to inefficient and at worst to both inefficient and biased estimates (with omitted variable bias because of the missing spatially lagged variable). The same finding holds true for gravity equations including origin and destination importer-exporter fixed effects à la Feenstra (2002, 2004), the results of which are summarized in Table 1 (columns 4–6). This finding suffices to show that fixed effects capture at best some heterogeneity but do not capture spatial interdependence. Hence, although fixed effects allow to partly control for border effects, they are by no means sufficient from both a theoretical and from an econometric point of view.

We next turn to our preferred theory-based specification, namely the SARMA model (20) and (21) which takes into account the spatial interdependence among both trade flows and error terms. Columns 1–3 of Table 2 summarize the estimation results obtained under homogeneous coefficients in the unconstrained specification.

**Insert Table 2 about here.**

As can be seen from Table 2 (columns 1–3), all coefficients, including the spatial autoregressive ones, have the correct signs, plausible magnitudes, and are precisely estimated. To begin with, note that, as predicted by the model, the coefficient for origin GDP, as measure by the deviation from population weighted average  $(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W}) \ln Y_i$ , remains close to unity. As further predicted by the model, the coefficient on destination GDP  $\ln Y_j$  clearly exceeds unity. The distance coefficient, measured again as deviation from population weighted average  $(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W}) \ln d_{ij}$ , slight decreases in absolute value when compared to the OLS specification but remains overall fairly stable. Turning to the wage terms, it is worth noting that they are highly significant and

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<sup>23</sup>It is worth pointing out that the slight differences between our OLS estimates and those of Anderson and van Wincoop (2003) are due to: (i) inclusion of own trade flows  $X_{ii}$ ; (ii) accounting for intra-regional distances; and (iii) controlling for zero trade flows.

negative. Put differently, *higher origin wages reduce trade flows because of increased production costs*. Although one might a priori suspect that interregional wage differentials should not significantly affect interregional trade flows in an integrated economic environment like North America, where interregional wages differentials are relatively small, our results show that this is not the case: interregional wage differentials are significant enough across North American regions to affect trade flows. One of the key empirical results in the SARMA specification is that *there is a significant amount of negative spatial autocorrelation among trade flows* ( $\hat{\rho} < 0$ ), as predicted by theory.<sup>24</sup> There is also negative spatial autocorrelation among error terms ( $\hat{\lambda} < 0$ ), thus showing that controlling for cross-sectional correlations in errors is important.

Finally, as can be seen from Table 2, capturing the spatial interdependence of the equilibrium system in the SARMA model significantly reduces the border effects with respect to the OLS estimates, but also with respect to Anderson and van Wincoop (2003). Indeed, in our preferred theory-based specification, the border effects for Canadian provinces range from about 7.7 to 8.2, whereas the ones for U.S. states range from 1.31 to about 1.32 (see Appendix B.1. for a more detailed explanation of how to compute and to decompose the border effects). Our specification thus captures much of the spatial interdependence that has been shown to lie at the heart of the ‘border effect puzzle’. Furthermore, we can provide a finer account on what drives border effects by disentangling the *trade boosting* intranational from the *trade reducing* international effect of the border.

As can be seen from equation (18), the most exact theoretical specification imposes some additional restrictions on the coefficients of the model. In particular, own GDP should have a unit coefficient, whereas the coefficients on relative distance and relative wages should be identical. In Appendix C, we show how to derive a constrained model that encapsulates these additional restrictions. Columns 4–6 of Table 3 give results for the constrained specification. Note that all coefficients have the correct sign and are precisely estimated. The major change between the constrained and the unconstrained SARMA estimates lies in the fact that the spatial autoregressive coefficient is larger in the former than in the latter, whereas the border effects are slightly smaller. Overall, the estimation results of the constrained specification largely confirm those of the unconstrained one, thus suggesting that the results are robust.

As stated in the foregoing, there are many ways of modeling the error structure about which theory has little to say. To see how sensitive the results are to the precise nature of the error structure, we now run two robustness checks. First, we approximate the moving average by a more general autoregressive error structure, which leads to the so-called general spatial model (henceforth, GSM; Anselin, 1988). Consider a vector of error terms  $\mathbf{u}$  that is spatially

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<sup>24</sup>Note that we cannot identify  $\sigma$  in our estimations. However, our results “suggest” that  $\sigma$  may lie somewhere in between 1.5 and 2.5, which is the lower end of the spectrum of existing estimates (e.g., Hummels, 2001; Hanson, 2005; Broda and Weinstein, 2006). Given the high aggregation level of the data, this result seems plausible.

correlated according to the autoregressive structure

$$\mathbf{u} = \bar{\lambda}(\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}})\mathbf{u} + \varepsilon, \quad (22)$$

where  $\varepsilon$  is i.i.d. and normally distributed with zero mean and variance  $\sigma^2\mathbf{I}$ . Provided that  $|\bar{\lambda}_i| < 1$  for all  $i$ , we then can write

$$\mathbf{u} = [\mathbf{I}_{n^2} - \bar{\lambda}(\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}})]^{-1} \varepsilon = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} [\bar{\lambda}(\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}})]^j \varepsilon + \varepsilon.$$

When the successive powers of  $[\bar{\lambda}(\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}})]^j$  converge to 0 sufficiently quickly, the spatial autoregressive structure approximates appropriately the first-order moving average, i.e.,  $\mathbf{u} \approx \varepsilon + \bar{\lambda}(\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}})\varepsilon$  as in (21).<sup>25</sup>

We estimate the GSM specification in the homogeneous case and the results are summarized in Table 3 (columns 1–3). Observe that, as in the SARMA model, the spatial autoregressive coefficient  $\rho$  is negative and highly significant in all estimations, which is in accord with the underlying theory stipulating that goods are gross substitutes. Yet, the magnitude of  $\rho$  is smaller than in the unconstrained theory-based SARMA model, thus suggesting that the approximation is not very good. The value is close to the one obtained in the constrained SARMA model.

**Insert Table 3 about here.**

All remaining coefficients are precisely estimated and the signs are identical to the ones obtained under the SARMA specification. Note that the magnitude of both origin and destination GDPs change, with the former now exceeding unity whereas the latter falls short of unity. These results are at odds with the underlying model and probably driven by the poor fit of the approximation. The distance coefficients and the border effects remain fairly similar, and the wage coefficient is again negative and highly significant.

As a second robustness check, we re-estimate the model by introducing the error terms in an ad hoc way. The simplest way of doing so is to rewrite (19) as follows:

$$\mathbf{X} = \bar{\beta}_0 \mathbb{1} + \bar{\beta}_1 \mathbf{Y}_d + \bar{\beta}_2 \tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_o + \bar{\beta}_3 \tilde{\mathbf{d}} + \bar{\beta}_4 \tilde{\mathbf{w}} + \bar{\theta} \tilde{\mathbf{b}} + \bar{\rho}(\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}})\mathbf{X} + \varepsilon, \quad (23)$$

which simply amounts to adding the i.i.d. error term  $\varepsilon$  to the estimating equation. The resulting specification (23) is a standard *spatial autoregressive model* (for short, SAR; Lee, 2004). Table 3 (columns 4–6) summarize estimation results for the SAR with homogeneous coefficients. Observe that, although the other coefficients remain fairly stable, the spatial autoregressive coefficient  $\rho$  is not significantly different from zero (with even positive point

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<sup>25</sup>Note that this approximation is reasonably accurate provided that: (i) all  $\lambda_i$  are small enough; and (ii) the elements of the successive powers of  $\bar{\lambda}(\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}})$  converge to zero sufficiently quickly.

estimates). This result runs plainly against the underlying theory which predicts a negative spatial autocorrelation across trade flows. Hence, the ad hoc introduction of the error term is not backed by the data in the sense that it is incompatible with the qualitative predictions of the theory. In other words, the SAR specification is clearly rejected by the data as not fitting the theoretical model presented in Section 2.

### 5.3 Heterogeneous coefficient regressions

All previous estimates are based upon the strong assumption of homogeneous coefficients. Although, as pointed out by Henderson and Millimet (2006), this assumption does not directly flow from the theory, it has become a staple in estimating gravity equations.<sup>26</sup> Yet, as one can see from equation (19), the theory predicts that coefficients are region specific. This is in accord with recent findings by Helpman *et al.* (2007, p.23), who note that “the elasticities vary widely across different country pairs”. We therefore now estimate the model by allowing every region to have different coefficients, as implied by the underlying theoretical specification. In so doing, we restrict ourselves to the preferred SARMA specification because OLS have no theoretical foundation, because GSM offers a poor approximation, and because SAR runs against the theory.

For reasons of computational complexity, we estimate a simpler heterogeneous coefficients model in which only the non-autoregressive parameters  $\bar{\beta}_i$  are allowed to vary across regions, whereas the autoregressive coefficients  $\bar{\rho}$  and  $\bar{\lambda}$  vary by country only ( $\bar{\rho}_{CA}$  and  $\bar{\lambda}_{CA}$  for Canada; and  $\bar{\rho}_{US}$  and  $\bar{\lambda}_{US}$  for the U.S.).<sup>27</sup> For estimation purposes, we rewrite the model in a more compact way, as presented in Appendix C. All the technical details for estimating this model, including the derivation of the likelihood function and the information matrix, are relegated to Appendix D.

The estimation results for this  $\beta$ -heterogeneous SARMA model are summarized in Table 3, where we give the estimated coefficients for the borders and the distances, the true regional distance elasticities  $\varepsilon_{d_{ij}}$ , the border effects (and their decomposition; see Appendix B.2.), as well as the country-specific autoregressive coefficients. It is worth noting that, in the presence of region-specific coefficients, we can no longer identify the impacts of origin GDP  $Y_i$  separately, as it is subsumed by the regional fixed effect.

**Insert Table 4 about here.**

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<sup>26</sup>Anderson and van Wincoop (2004, p.711) note that: “Implausibly strong regularity (common coefficients) conditions are often implicitly imposed on the trade cost function.” As shown in the foregoing, heterogeneity is also likely to affect the other coefficients.

<sup>27</sup>Ideally, we would like one  $\rho$  and one  $\lambda$  coefficient per region. We keep the estimation of this fully heterogeneous model for future work. To the best of our knowledge, even the two-coefficient SARMA model has not been estimated in the literature until now.

Several comments are in order. First, it is worth noting that there is *a substantial amount of heterogeneity in the estimated coefficients*, both for distance elasticities, border effects, and autoregressive coefficients. As can be seen from Table 3, the autoregressive coefficient for the U.S. is smaller than that for Canada, thus suggesting that the U.S. market is more competitive than the Canadian market. The estimated distance coefficients (which differ from the true elasticity  $\varepsilon_{d_{ij}}$  because of the cross-sectional interdependence and the implicit form of the estimating equation) range from  $-0.7$  for California to  $-3.3$  for Newfoundland.<sup>28</sup> The real elasticities are very similar, with values in the same range.

**Insert Figure 2 about here.**

Figure 2 depicts the relationship between the true distance elasticities and the size of the local market ( $L_i/L$ ). There is a clear pattern relating regional sizes to distance elasticities: *larger regions face systematically lower distance elasticities than smaller regions*. As shown in Section 4.2, the model predicts the existence of such a positive and concave relationship between a region's relative size  $L_i/L$  and its distance coefficient. The latter is indeed given by  $\bar{\beta}_{3i} \equiv \rho \frac{\gamma}{1-\rho \frac{L_i}{L}}$ , which is concave and increasing in  $L_i/L$ .<sup>29</sup> One possible explanation for this finding is that firms in larger regions predominantly serve the local market, so that export flows are relatively smaller and less sensitive to distance (when measured in percentage changes). Another possible interpretation of this finding, which is in accord with recent developments in the literature on firm heterogeneity, is that smaller markets are less competitive, so that less productive firms are selected into those markets (Melitz, 2003; Melitz and Ottaviano, 2005). These firms then have a greater handicap in serving foreign markets, thus facing higher distance elasticities than firms in larger and more competitive markets.

**Insert Figure 3 about here.**

The regional structure of distance elasticities is depicted in Figure 3. The Canadian core regions (Ontario and Quebec), as well as the north-eastern U.S. states (Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania) form a cluster of regions facing small distance elasticities (in absolute value) of trade

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<sup>28</sup>Because the estimating equation is given in implicit form, the true distance elasticities differ from the estimated coefficients. However, starting from (19), they can be computed (in matrix form) as follows:

$$\varepsilon_d \equiv [\mathbf{I} - \bar{\rho}(\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}})]^{-1} \bar{\beta}_3, \quad (24)$$

which is derived from the explicit solution to the estimating equation. Note that  $\varepsilon_d \equiv (\varepsilon_d)_{ij}$  is the  $n^2 \times n^2$  matrix of distance elasticities. Since all distance elasticities with the same origin index are identical, there are only  $n$  distinct distance elasticities, i.e., one for each region.

<sup>29</sup>Table 8 in Helpman *et al.* (2007), though very aggregated since countries are just clustered into three broad categories, also exhibits such a positive and concave relationship when size is measured by GDP. We conjecture that further disaggregation of their results would yield a graph similar to the one in Figure 4.

flows. The same holds true for the western states and provinces (Alberta, British Columbia, Washington, California), whereas the Great Plains and the remote Canadian provinces, face relatively high distance elasticities (in absolute value).

Turning next to the border effects, Table 4 and Figure 4 reveal that, as expected, the Canadian provinces face larger border effects than the U.S. states. The reason for this is as in Anderson and van Wincoop (2003) and explained in detail in Appendix B. As shown by Table 4, the intranational trade-boosting effect of the border is much larger for Canadian provinces than for U.S. states. Put differently, “trade barriers raise size adjusted trade within small countries more than within large countries” (Anderson and van Wincoop, 2003, p.176). Furthermore, the trade-reducing international effect of the border for Canadian exports is larger than that for U.S. exports, which illustrates again that the border has a stronger effect on Canadian firms than on U.S. firms. The reason is that the U.S. internal market is much larger, so that the border affects only a much smaller part of sales from U.S. firms than from Canadian firms.

**Insert Figure 4 about here.**

Finally, as can be seen from Table 4, most border coefficients for U.S. states are not significant at the 5% level, except for a few regions like Maryland, North Dakota and Virginia. On the contrary, the border effects for Canadian provinces are almost all highly significant and there is a lot of variation.<sup>30</sup> Magnitudes for the border effects range from about 0.9 in Newfoundland to 23.7 in Ontario, yet most values are clustered between 8 and 12 (with the exception of a few provinces with larger border effects). On the contrary, border effects for the U.S. states are uniformly small, ranging from a low of about 0.68 to a high of about 5.2. Although we obtain in the estimation a large number of positive coefficients for U.S. states, which runs against theory, these are not precisely enough estimated to be significantly different from zero. To sum up, border effects do nearly not exist for U.S. exports to Canada, whereas they do exist for Canada exports to the U.S.

## 6 Conclusions

Building on a ‘dual’ version of the gravity equation, we have shown how spatial econometric techniques provide a natural tool for controlling for cross-sectional interdependence among trade flows. Handling directly such interdependence is a major issue for consistent estimation but has

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<sup>30</sup>As in Anderson and Smith (1999), there is a huge amount of variation in border effects. Ontario and Quebec may be viewed as “import platforms” (low value of the international border component), whereas British Columbia appears to be an “export platform” (large value of the international border component). Contrary to Anderson and Smith, our estimations include information on the full sample since we account for interdependencies. Large border effects for Quebec and Ontario mirror the economic sizes of these regions and the fact that they trade a lot with the US and, therefore, stand to gain the most from removing the border.

been rather elusive until now. Our results suggest that, as in Anderson and van Wincoop (2003), consistent theory-based estimates of the gravity equation lead to significantly smaller border effects than those obtained with ad hoc specifications or fixed effect methods. Put differently, there is much less of a border effect puzzle once the cross-sectional interdependencies have been controlled for. Besides partially solving the ‘border effect puzzle’, our methodology offers a number of additional advantages when compared to previous approaches: (i) it accounts for cross-sectional interdependence among trade flows, as implied by the model, and thus directly controls for multilateral resistance; (ii) it uses a more careful modeling of the error structure, thereby controlling for possible cross-sectional interdependence in the error terms; (iii) it reveals that all coefficients are generally region-specific, and allows for statistical inference on estimated regional border effects and distance elasticities; and (iv) it does not require an a priori value for the elasticity of substitution and is, therefore, self-contained.

Finally, it is worth noting that, despite a very different methodology than the one used by Anderson and van Wincoop (2003), our border effects are of roughly similar magnitudes. This suffices to show that the two methodologies are ‘dual’ with respect to prices-quantities and may both be profitably used to consistently handle interdependence in the gravity equation. There is, in our opinion, much complementarity in the two approaches and many further avenues to be explored in the future.

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## Appendix A: Linearization of the model

In this appendix, we linearize (13) to obtain the estimable specification (14). The linearization of  $f$  around  $\sigma = 1$  is given by  $\ln X_{ij} = f(1) + (\sigma - 1)f'(1)$ . Some straightforward calculation yields

$$f(1) = \ln Y_j - \ln \left[ \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L_i} \right] = \ln Y_j - \ln L + \ln L_i, \quad (\text{A.1})$$

where  $L \equiv \sum_k L_k$ . Turning to the derivative, some longer calculation shows that

$$f'(\sigma) = \ln Y_j - \ln \left[ \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L_i} \left( \frac{\tau_{kj} Y_k}{\tau_{ij} Y_i} \right)^{\frac{1}{\sigma}-1} X_{kj}^{1-\frac{1}{\sigma}} \right] \\ - \sigma \frac{\sum_k \frac{L_k}{L_i} \left( \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \right) \left\{ - \left( \frac{\tau_{kj} Y_k}{\tau_{ij} Y_i} \right)^{\frac{1}{\sigma}-1} X_{kj}^{1-\frac{1}{\sigma}} \ln \left( \frac{\tau_{kj} Y_k}{\tau_{ij} Y_i} \right) + \left( \frac{\tau_{kj} Y_k}{\tau_{ij} Y_i} \right)^{\frac{1}{\sigma}-1} X_{kj}^{1-\frac{1}{\sigma}} \ln X_{kj} \right\}}{\sum_l \frac{L_l}{L_i} \frac{\tau_{lj} Y_l}{\tau_{ij} Y_i}^{\frac{1}{\sigma}-1} X_{lj}^{1-\frac{1}{\sigma}}},$$

which implies that

$$f'(1) = \ln Y_j - \ln L + \ln L_i + \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \frac{\tau_{kj}}{\tau_{ij}} + \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \frac{Y_k}{Y_i} - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln X_{kj}. \quad (\text{A.2})$$

Using (A.1) and (A.2), linearized equation can then be expressed as follows:

$$\ln X_{ij} = \sigma \ln L_i - \sigma \ln L + \sigma \ln Y_j - (\sigma - 1) \ln Y_i - (\sigma - 1) \ln \tau_{ij} \\ + (\sigma - 1) \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \tau_{kj} + (\sigma - 1) \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln Y_k - (\sigma - 1) \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln X_{kj},$$

which, using the aggregate income constraint  $Y_i = w_i L_i$ , yields:

$$\ln X_{ij} = -\sigma \ln w_i - \sigma \ln L + \sigma \ln Y_j + \ln Y_i - (\sigma - 1) \ln \tau_{ij} + (\sigma - 1) \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \tau_{kj} \\ + \sigma \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln w_k + \sigma \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln L_k - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln Y_k - (\sigma - 1) \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln X_{kj}.$$

Rearranging terms we then readily obtain equation (14).

## Appendix B: Border effects

**B.1. Homogeneous coefficients.** Following Anderson and van Wincoop (2003) we decompose the border effects into two components: the trade-boosting intranational effect and the trade-reducing international effect of the border. To disentangle the two components and to retrieve the full implied border effect (both intranational and international), we proceed as

follows. First, we define the border effects as the ratio of trade flows in a world with borders to that which would prevail in a borderless world. Let  $X_{ij}$  denote the former and  $\bar{X}_{ij}$  the latter. Using (14) and (16), we then have

$$B_{ij} \equiv \frac{X_{ij}}{\bar{X}_{ij}} = e^{\theta [b_{ij} - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} b_{kj}]} \prod_k \left( \frac{X_{kj}}{\bar{X}_{kj}} \right)^{\rho \frac{L_k}{L}}, \quad (\text{B.1})$$

where the term  $e^{\theta [b_{ij} - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} b_{kj}]}$  subsumes the border frictions as a deviation from their population-weighted average. Note that (B.1) defines a log-linear system of all the relative trade flows, which depend on all border effects. Let  $\mathbf{B}$  stand for the  $n^2 \times 1$  vector of the  $\ln(X_{ij}/\bar{X}_{ij})$  and let  $\mathbf{b}$  stand for the  $N^2 \times 1$  vector of the  $[b_{ij} - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} b_{kj}]$ . The log-linearized version of the system has the following solution,  $\mathbf{B} = \theta(\mathbf{I} - \rho\mathbf{W})^{-1}\mathbf{b}$ , which allows us to retrieve the border effect as the exponential of the foregoing expression.

Note that (B.1) quite naturally depends upon where regions  $i$  and  $j$  are located. Four cases may therefore arise with respect to Canada-U.S. trade. Let  $\text{popCA} \equiv \sum_{k \in \text{CA}} \frac{L_k}{L}$  (resp.,  $\text{popUS} \equiv \sum_{k \in \text{US}} \frac{L_k}{L}$ ) stand for the Canadian (resp., the U.S.) population share. It is readily verified that

$$\theta \left[ b_{ij} - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} b_{kj} \right] = \begin{cases} -\theta \text{popUS} & \text{if } i \in \text{CA}, j \in \text{CA} \\ \theta \text{popUS} & \text{if } i \in \text{CA}, j \in \text{US} \\ \theta \text{popCA} & \text{if } i \in \text{US}, j \in \text{CA} \\ -\theta \text{popCA} & \text{if } i \in \text{US}, j \in \text{US} \end{cases} \quad (\text{B.2})$$

The explicit solution for  $\ln B_{ij}$  is then given by

$$\ln B_{ij} = \theta [(\mathbf{I} - \rho\mathbf{W})^{-1}]_i \mathbf{b}, \quad (\text{B.3})$$

where  $[(\mathbf{I} - \rho\mathbf{W})^{-1}]_i$  denotes the  $i$ -th line of the matrix. Using (B.2) and (B.3), and the fact that  $\mathbf{W}$  is row-standardized and has a special structure which implies that  $\mathbf{W}\mathbf{b} = 0$ , the border effects are finally given as follows:

$$\ln B_{ij} = \begin{cases} -\theta \text{popUS} & \text{if } i \in \text{CA}, j \in \text{CA} \\ \theta \text{popUS} & \text{if } i \in \text{CA}, j \in \text{US} \\ \theta \text{popCA} & \text{if } i \in \text{US}, j \in \text{CA} \\ -\theta \text{popCA} & \text{if } i \in \text{US}, j \in \text{US} \end{cases}$$

These expressions for the border effects reveal several interesting points. First, the expressions for CA-CA and U.S.-U.S. can be interpreted as the *trade-boosting* effect of the international border on flows within each country. Indeed, when  $\xi$  is positive and  $\rho$  is negative (as implied by the model), the trade flows within each country will be larger in a world with border than in a borderless world. The reason is that the border protects domestic firms from import

competition and gives them an advantage in the home market. Second, the expressions for CA-U.S. and U.S.-CA can be interpreted as the *trade-reducing* effect of the international border on flows across countries. When  $\xi$  is positive and  $\rho$  is negative, the trade flows across countries will be smaller in a world with borders than in a borderless world. Third, as in Anderson and van Wincoop (2003), smaller countries will have larger implied border effects than large countries since their magnitude depends positively on the size of the trading partner, as measured by its population share. The reason is that the border affects the small country more than the large country, as it creates trade frictions for a larger share of the total demand served by its firms.

**Insert Figure 5 about here.**

Finally, the full border effect (combining the trade-boosting and trade-reducing effects), is given by  $e^{-2\xi\rho\text{pop}^{\text{US}}}$  for Canadian provinces and by  $e^{-2\xi\rho\text{pop}^{\text{CA}}}$  for U.S. states. As shown by Figure 5, which is drawn for  $\text{pop}^{\text{US}} = 0.89$  as implied by the data, the dependence on size implies that the border effects for Canada (left panel) are much larger for any estimated value of  $\theta$  than for the U.S (right panel).

**B.2. Heterogeneous coefficients.** In the heterogeneous coefficients model, we can retrieve the region-specific border effects in an analogous way to that presented in the foregoing Appendix B.1. Starting from (B.1), taking logarithms and rearranging, we readily obtain:

$$\ln X_{ij} - \ln \bar{X}_{ij} = \underbrace{\frac{\theta}{1 - \rho \frac{L_i}{L}}}_{\bar{\theta}_i} \left[ b_{ij} - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} b_{kj} \right] - \underbrace{\frac{\rho}{1 - \rho \frac{L_i}{L}}}_{\bar{\rho}_i} \sum_{k \neq i} \frac{L_k}{L} (\ln X_{kj} - \ln \bar{X}_{kj}). \quad (\text{B.4})$$

Using the expressions established in Appendix B.1. (which remain unchanged in the heterogeneous coefficient case), as well as the same matrix notation, we then obtain:

$$\ln B_{ij} = \bar{\theta}_i [\mathbf{I} - \bar{\rho} \otimes (\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_d)]_i^{-1} \mathbf{b}.$$

The only change with respect to the homogeneous coefficient case is that the coefficient  $\bar{\theta}_i$  captures the *local border frictions*, whereas  $\bar{\rho}$  is a vector of elements accounting for the varying ‘toughness of competition’ in the different regional markets.

## Appendix C: Constrained specification

In this appendix, we derive a constrained version of equation (14) that integrates all the theoretical restrictions on the coefficients. This specification will be useful for estimation in the

presence of heterogeneous coefficients. Starting from (14), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \ln \left( \frac{X_{ij}}{Y_i Y_j} \right) &= \sigma \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \frac{L_k}{L} + (\sigma - 1) \ln Y_j - (\sigma - 1) \left[ \ln \tau_{ij} - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \tau_{kj} \right] \\ &\quad - \sigma \left[ \ln w_i - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln w_k \right] - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln Y_k - (\sigma - 1) \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln X_{kj}. \end{aligned}$$

Using the aggregate income constraint  $Y_i = L_i w_i$ , and since  $\sum_k (L_k/L) = 1$ , we then have

$$\begin{aligned} \ln \left( \frac{X_{ij}}{Y_i Y_j} \right) &= \sigma \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \frac{L_k}{L} + (\sigma - 1) \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln Y_j - (\sigma - 1) \left[ \ln \tau_{ij} - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \tau_{kj} \right] \\ &\quad - \sigma \left[ \ln w_i - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln Y_k + \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln L_k \right] - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln Y_k - (\sigma - 1) \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln X_{kj} \\ &= -\sigma L - (\sigma - 1) \left[ \ln \tau_{ij} - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \tau_{kj} \right] - \sigma \ln w_i - (\sigma - 1) \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \left( \frac{X_{kj}}{Y_k Y_j} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Some simple rearrangements the yield

$$\ln \left( \frac{X_{ij} L}{Y_i Y_j} \right) = -(\sigma - 1) \left[ \ln \tau_{ij} - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \tau_{kj} \right] - \sigma \ln w_i - (\sigma - 1) \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \left( \frac{X_{kj} L}{Y_k Y_j} \right).$$

The previous expression is a spatial autoregressive model with respect to the transformed explained variable  $Z_{ij} \equiv (X_{ij} L)/(Y_i Y_j)$ :

$$\ln Z_{ij} = -(\sigma - 1) \left[ \ln \tau_{ij} - \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln \tau_{kj} \right] - \sigma \ln w_i - (\sigma - 1) \sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln Z_{kj}. \quad (\text{C.1})$$

Note that (C.1) is structurally close to the estimating equations of both Feenstra (2002, 2004) and Anderson and van Wincoop (2003). In the case of local estimates with region-specific coefficients,  $\ln w_i$  may be viewed as origin fixed effect, whereas  $\sum_k \frac{L_k}{L} \ln Z_{kj}$  is a destination ‘fixed effect’ that incorporates the spatial equilibrium interdependence.

## Appendix D: Log-likelihood and the information matrix

In this appendix, we derive the theoretical properties of the heterogeneous coefficients SARMA model with country-specific autoregressive parameters ( $\bar{\rho}_j$  and  $\bar{\lambda}_j$  for  $j = 1, 2$ ) and region-specific non-autoregressive parameters ( $\bar{\beta}_{0i}, \bar{\beta}_{1i}, \bar{\beta}_{2i}, \bar{\beta}_{3i}, \bar{\beta}_{4i}$  and  $\bar{\theta}_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ).

**D.1. Model.** To make notation as compact as possible, let  $\mathbf{V}_i$  stand for the diagonal matrix defined by  $\mathbf{V}_i \equiv \mathbf{E}_i \otimes \mathbf{I}_n$ , where  $\mathbf{E}_i = [0 \mid 0 \mid \dots e_i \dots \mid 0 \mid 0]$  with  $e_i$  (the  $i$ -th vector of the

canonical base of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ) in position  $i$  and zero column vectors elsewhere. The diagonal matrix  $\mathbf{V}_i$  is, therefore, a selection matrix with 1 on its main diagonal for the selected variables and 0 otherwise. Note that, by construction,  $\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{V}_i = \mathbf{I}_{n^2}$ . Analogously, let  $\mathbf{D}_j$  stand for the diagonal selection matrix with 1 on its main diagonal for selecting canadian provinces or U.S. states, and 0 otherwise. Again,  $\sum_{j=1}^2 \mathbf{D}_j = \mathbf{I}_{n^2}$  by construction. Using the definitions of  $\mathbf{V}_i$  and  $\mathbf{D}_j$ , the estimating equation (19) can be rewritten as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{X} &= \sum_i \mathbf{V}_i \left\{ \bar{\beta}_{0i} \mathbb{1} + \bar{\beta}_{1i} \mathbf{Y}_d + \bar{\beta}_{2i} \tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_o + \bar{\beta}_{3i} \tilde{\mathbf{d}} + \bar{\beta}_{4i} \tilde{\mathbf{w}} + \bar{\theta}_i \tilde{\mathbf{b}} \right\} + \sum_j \mathbf{D}_j \bar{\rho}_j \mathbf{W}_d \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{u}, \\ &= \mathbf{Z} \bar{\beta} + \mathbf{D}(\bar{\rho} \otimes \mathbf{W}_d) \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{u}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D.1})$$

where

$$\mathbf{u} = \varepsilon + \mathbf{D}(\bar{\lambda} \otimes \mathbf{W}_d) \varepsilon. \quad (\text{D.2})$$

In expressions (D.1) and (D.2),  $\mathbf{W}_d \equiv \mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_{\text{diag}}$  denotes the spatial weight matrix without its diagonal elements;  $\mathbf{Z} \equiv \mathbf{V}(\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{M})$  denotes the  $n^2 \times 6n$  block diagonal matrix of explanatory variables, with  $\mathbf{M} \equiv [\mathbb{1} \mid \mathbf{Y}_d \mid \tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_o \mid \tilde{\mathbf{d}} \mid \tilde{\mathbf{w}} \mid \tilde{\mathbf{b}}]$ ;  $\mathbf{V} \equiv [\mathbf{V}_1 \mid \mathbf{V}_2 \dots \mathbf{V}_i \dots \mathbf{V}_n]$  stands for the  $n^2 \times n^3$  selection matrix which extracts local subsamples from the full sample;  $\bar{\beta}$  is the  $6n \times 1$  vector of region-specific parameters; and  $\bar{\rho}$  and  $\bar{\lambda}$  are the  $2 \times 1$  vectors of spatial autoregressive coefficients. Expressions (D.1) and (D.2) constitute the most compact and general specification of our model and will be useful for deriving the log-likelihood function and the information matrix.

Note that, in contrast to the SARMA model in the homogeneous case, we need to estimate two spatial autoregressive coefficients associated with different spatial weight matrices, the sum of which is equal to the spatial weight matrix that is used in the homogenous case ( $\bar{\rho}_j = \rho$  and  $\bar{\lambda}_j = \lambda$  for  $j = 1, 2$ ). Letting  $\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho}) = \mathbf{I}_{n^2} - \mathbf{D}(\bar{\rho} \otimes \mathbf{W}_d)$  and  $\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda}) = \mathbf{I}_{n^2} - \mathbf{D}(\bar{\lambda} \otimes \mathbf{W}_d)$ , the equilibrium vector  $\mathbf{X}$  is as follows:

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})^{-1} [\mathbf{Z} \bar{\beta} + \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda}) \varepsilon], \quad (\text{D.3})$$

where  $\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})$  and  $\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})$  are both non-singular. We propose to estimate this model by standard maximum likelihood techniques.

**D.2. Log-likelihood.** Let  $\varepsilon(\theta) \equiv \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} [\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho}) \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Z} \bar{\beta}]$ , where  $\theta = [\beta' \mid \bar{\rho}' \mid \bar{\lambda}']'$ . The log-likelihood of (D.3) is then given by:

$$\ln L(\theta, \sigma^2) = -\frac{n}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{n}{2} \ln \sigma^2 + \ln |\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})| - \ln |\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})| - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \varepsilon'(\theta) \varepsilon(\theta). \quad (\text{D.4})$$

The Maximum Likelihood Estimators (MLE)  $\hat{\theta}_{ML}$  and  $\hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2$  are derived from the maximization of equation (D.4). In order to compute these estimators, it is convenient to work with the concentrated log-likelihood.



**D.3. Estimators.** The first-order conditions yield the following expressions for the estimators as a function of the autoregressive parameters:

$$\hat{\beta}_{ML}(\bar{\rho}, \bar{\lambda}) = [\mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{Z}]^{-1}\mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})\mathbf{X} \quad (\text{D.5})$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2(\bar{\rho}, \bar{\lambda}) = \frac{1}{n}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\rho})\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{M}(\bar{\lambda})\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})\mathbf{X}, \quad (\text{D.6})$$

with  $\mathbf{M}(\bar{\lambda}) \equiv \mathbf{I}_{n^2} - \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{Z}[\mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{Z}]^{-1}\mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}$  the  $n^2 \times n^2$  projection matrix.

**Proof.** The first-order condition with respect to  $\beta$  is given by:

$$\nabla_{\beta} \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2) = 0 \iff \mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{Z}\beta,$$

which directly yields

$$\hat{\beta}_{ML}(\bar{\rho}, \bar{\lambda}) = [\mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{Z}]^{-1}\mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})\mathbf{X}.$$

The first-order condition with respect to  $\sigma^2$  is given by:

$$\nabla_{\sigma^2} \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2) = 0 \iff -n + \frac{1}{\sigma^2}\varepsilon'(\theta)\varepsilon(\theta) = 0,$$

which directly yields

$$\hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2(\bar{\rho}, \bar{\lambda}) = \frac{1}{n}\varepsilon'(\theta)\varepsilon(\theta).$$

Using the definition of the projection matrix  $\mathbf{M}(\bar{\lambda})$  we then obtain:

$$\hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2(\bar{\rho}, \bar{\lambda}) = \frac{1}{n}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\rho})\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{M}(\bar{\lambda})\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})\mathbf{X},$$

which establishes the result. ■

**D.4. Maximization of the concentrated log-likelihood.** The concentrated log-likelihood can be rewritten as a function of the vectors  $\bar{\rho}$  and  $\bar{\lambda}$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \ln L_c(\bar{\rho}, \bar{\lambda}) &= -\frac{n}{2}(\ln(2\pi) + 1) + \ln |\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})| + \ln |\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})| \\ &\quad - \frac{n}{2} \ln \left[ \frac{(\mathbf{e}_0(\bar{\lambda}) - \sum_{i=1}^n \rho_i \mathbf{e}_i(\bar{\lambda}))' (\mathbf{e}_0(\bar{\lambda}) - \sum_{i=1}^n \rho_i \mathbf{e}_i(\bar{\lambda}))}{n} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D.7})$$

where  $\mathbf{e}_0(\bar{\lambda}) = \mathbf{M}(\bar{\lambda})\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{X}$ , and where  $\mathbf{e}_i(\bar{\lambda}) = \mathbf{M}(\bar{\lambda})\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{D}_i\mathbf{W}_d\mathbf{X}$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Put differently,  $\mathbf{e}_0(\bar{\lambda})$  is the vector of residuals of a regression of  $\mathbf{X}$  on  $\mathbf{Z}$ , and  $\mathbf{e}_i(\bar{\lambda})$  is the vector of residuals of a regression of  $\mathbf{D}_i\mathbf{W}_d\mathbf{X}$  on  $\mathbf{Z}$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ .

**Proof.** Note first that, using the expression for  $\hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2(\bar{\rho}, \bar{\lambda})$ , we have the following relation:  $\varepsilon'(\theta)\varepsilon(\theta) = n\hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2(\bar{\rho}, \bar{\lambda})$ . Moreover, using the expression of the projection matrix  $\mathbf{M}(\bar{\lambda})$ , it is straightforward to obtain the concentrated log-likelihood. ■

The MLEs of  $\bar{\rho}$  and  $\bar{\lambda}$ , denoted respectively by  $\hat{\bar{\rho}}_{ML}$  and  $\hat{\bar{\lambda}}_{ML}$ , maximize the concentrated log-likelihood (D.7). The MLEs of  $\beta$  and of  $\sigma^2$  are then given by  $\hat{\beta}_{ML} \equiv \beta_{ML}(\hat{\bar{\rho}}_{ML}, \hat{\bar{\lambda}}_{ML})$  and by  $\hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2 \equiv \sigma_{ML}^2(\hat{\bar{\rho}}_{ML}, \hat{\bar{\lambda}}_{ML})$ , respectively.

**D.5. Information matrix.** The asymptotic covariance matrix of the maximum likelihood estimators is given by the inverse of the information matrix, which is defined as follows:

$$\mathbf{I}(\tilde{\theta}) = -E \left[ \nabla_{\tilde{\theta}, \tilde{\theta}'}^2 \ln L(\tilde{\theta}) \right] \quad (\text{D.8})$$

with  $\tilde{\theta} = (\theta', \sigma^2)'$ . We can use the following estimator for this matrix:

$$\left[ \hat{\mathbf{I}}(\hat{\theta}) \right]^{-1} = \left[ -\nabla_{\hat{\theta}, \hat{\theta}'}^2 \ln L(\hat{\theta}) \right]^{-1} \quad (\text{D.9})$$

To obtain this estimate, we need to compute that derivatives of the log-likelihood function.

**D.6. First-order derivatives of the log-likelihood.** We start with the first-order derivatives. By definition,  $\varepsilon(\theta) = \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho}) \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{Z} \beta$ . Because the transpose of a scalar is that scalar itself, we then obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon'(\theta) \varepsilon(\theta) &= \mathbf{X}' \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\rho}) \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho}) \mathbf{X} - 2\beta' \mathbf{Z}' \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho}) \mathbf{X} \\ &\quad + \beta' \mathbf{Z}' \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{Z} \beta. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D.10})$$

The derivative of the log-likelihood with respect to  $\beta$  is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\beta} \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2) &= -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \nabla_{\beta} [\varepsilon'(\theta) \varepsilon(\theta)] \\ &= -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} [-2\mathbf{Z}' \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho}) \mathbf{X} + 2\mathbf{Z}' \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{Z} \beta] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \mathbf{Z}' \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \varepsilon(\theta). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D.11})$$

The derivative of the log-likelihood with respect to  $\sigma^2$  is given by:

$$\nabla_{\sigma^2} \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2) = -\frac{n}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{2}{4(\sigma^2)^2} \varepsilon'(\theta) \varepsilon(\theta) = -\frac{n}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2(\sigma^2)^2} \varepsilon'(\theta) \varepsilon(\theta). \quad (\text{D.12})$$

The derivative of the log-likelihood with respect to  $\bar{\rho}_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , is given by:

$$\nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2) = -\text{tr} \left( \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_i \mathbf{W}_d \right) + \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \mathbf{X}' \mathbf{W}'_d \mathbf{D}'_i \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \varepsilon(\theta). \quad (\text{D.13})$$

**Proof.** To establish the expression for  $\nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2)$ , note that

$$\nabla_{\bar{\rho}} \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2) = \nabla_{\bar{\rho}} \ln |\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})| - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \nabla_{\bar{\rho}} (\varepsilon'(\theta) \varepsilon(\theta))$$

Computation of the first term requires to apply the theorem for chain derivation of a matrix expression. Applying it for each element of the vector  $\bar{\rho}$ , we have:

$$\nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} \ln |\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})| = \text{tr} \left( \nabla_{\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})} (\ln |\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})|)' \nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho}) \right),$$

with  $\nabla_{\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})} \ln |\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})| = (\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})')^{-1}$ , and with

$$\nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho}) = -\mathbf{D} [(\nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} \bar{\rho}) \otimes \mathbf{W}_d + \bar{\rho} \otimes (\nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} \mathbf{W}_d)] = -\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{e}_i \otimes \mathbf{W}_d) = -\mathbf{D}_i \mathbf{W}_d.$$

As in the foregoing,  $\mathbf{e}_i$  denotes the  $i$ -th vector of the canonical base, with 1 in position  $i$  and 0 otherwise. We then, therefore, obtain:

$$\nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} \ln |\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})| = -\text{tr} (\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_i \mathbf{W}_d).$$

To compute the second term, note that

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} (\varepsilon'(\theta) \varepsilon(\theta)) &= \nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} (\varepsilon'(\theta) \varepsilon(\theta)) + \varepsilon(\theta) \nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} \varepsilon(\theta) \\ &= \mathbf{X}' \nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\rho}) \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \varepsilon(\theta) + \varepsilon'(\theta) \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho}) \mathbf{X} \\ &= 2\mathbf{X}' \nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\rho}) \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \varepsilon(\theta), \end{aligned}$$

where we use the property that the transpose of a scalar is the scalar itself. We obtain:

$$\nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} (\varepsilon'(\theta) \varepsilon(\theta)) = -2\mathbf{X}' (\mathbf{e}_i \otimes \mathbf{W}_d)' \mathbf{D}' \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \varepsilon(\theta) = -2\mathbf{X}' \mathbf{W}'_d \mathbf{D}'_i \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \varepsilon(\theta)$$

Putting finally the expressions together, we have:

$$\nabla_{\bar{\rho}_i} \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2) = -\text{tr} (\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_i \mathbf{W}_d) + \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \mathbf{X}' \mathbf{W}'_d \mathbf{D}'_i \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \varepsilon(\theta)$$

for  $i = 1, 2$ , which establishes the result. ■

Next, the derivative of the log-likelihood with respect to the vector  $\bar{\lambda}$  is given by:

$$\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i} \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2) = \text{tr} (\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_i \mathbf{W}_d) - \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \varepsilon'(\theta) \mathbf{W}'_d \mathbf{D}'_i \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \varepsilon(\theta). \quad (\text{D.14})$$

**Proof.** To begin with, note that

$$\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}} \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2) = -\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}} \ln |\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})| - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \nabla_{\bar{\lambda}} (\varepsilon'(\theta) \varepsilon(\theta))$$

Computation of the first term requires to apply the theorem for chain derivation of a matrix expression. Applying it for each element of the vector  $\bar{\lambda}$ , we have:

$$\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i} \ln |\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})| = \text{tr} \left( \nabla_{\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})} \ln |\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})|' \nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda}) \right),$$

with  $\nabla_{\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})} \ln |\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})| = (\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})')^{-1}$ , and with

$$\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda}) = -\mathbf{D} [(\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i} \bar{\lambda}) \otimes \mathbf{W}_d + \bar{\lambda} \otimes (\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i} \mathbf{W}_d)] = -\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{e}_i \otimes \mathbf{W}_d) = -\mathbf{D}_i \mathbf{W}_d. \quad (\text{D.15})$$

As in the foregoing,  $\mathbf{e}_i$  denotes the  $i$ -th vector of the canonical base, with 1 in position  $i$  and 0 otherwise. We then, therefore, obtain:

$$\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i} \ln |\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})| = -\text{tr} (\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_i \mathbf{W}_d).$$

To compute the second term, note that

$$\begin{aligned}
\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i}(\varepsilon'(\theta)\varepsilon(\theta)) &= \nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i}\varepsilon'(\theta)\varepsilon(\theta) + \varepsilon'(\theta)\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i}\varepsilon(\theta) \\
&= [\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Z}\beta]' \nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i}\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\varepsilon(\theta) + \varepsilon'(\theta)\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}[\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Z}\beta] \\
&= 2[\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Z}\beta]' \nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i}\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\varepsilon(\theta)
\end{aligned}$$

where we use the property that the transpose of a scalar is the scalar itself. We obtain:

$$\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i}\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} = -\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i}\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} = \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{W}'_d\mathbf{D}'_i\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}.$$

Putting finally the expressions together, we have:

$$\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i}(\varepsilon'(\theta)\varepsilon(\theta)) = 2[\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Z}\beta]' \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{W}'_d\mathbf{D}'_i\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\varepsilon(\theta)$$

and

$$\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_i} \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2) = \text{tr}(\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{D}_i\mathbf{W}_d) - \frac{1}{\sigma^2}[\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Z}\beta]' \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{W}'_d\mathbf{D}_i\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\varepsilon(\theta),$$

for  $i = 1, 2$ , which establishes the result. ■

**D.7. Second-order derivatives of the log-likelihood.** We next turn to the second-order derivatives with respect to  $\beta$ . Deriving (D.11) with respect to  $\beta$ , we obtain:

$$\nabla_{\beta}^2 \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sigma^2}\mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\nabla_{\beta}\varepsilon(\theta) = -\frac{1}{\sigma^2}\mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{Z}. \quad (\text{D.16})$$

Deriving (D.11) with respect to  $\sigma^2$  yields:

$$\frac{\partial(\nabla_{\beta} \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2))}{\partial\sigma^2} = -\frac{1}{(\sigma^2)^2}\mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\varepsilon(\theta). \quad (\text{D.17})$$

Taking the derivative of (D.11) with respect to  $\bar{\rho}_j$  yields:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial(\nabla_{\beta} \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2))}{\partial\bar{\rho}_j} &= \frac{1}{\sigma^2}\mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\nabla_{\bar{\rho}_j}\varepsilon(\theta) \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma^2}\mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\nabla_{\bar{\rho}_j}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})\mathbf{X} \\
&= -\frac{1}{\sigma^2}\mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{D}_j\mathbf{W}_d\mathbf{X}
\end{aligned} \quad (\text{D.18})$$

for  $j = 1, 2$ . Finally, the derivative of (D.11) with respect to  $\bar{\lambda}_j$  is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial(\nabla_{\beta} \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2))}{\partial\bar{\lambda}_j} &= \frac{1}{\sigma^2}\mathbf{Z}' \left[ \frac{\partial\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}}{\partial\bar{\lambda}_j}\varepsilon(\theta) + \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\frac{\partial\varepsilon(\theta)}{\partial\bar{\lambda}_j} \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma^2}\mathbf{Z}' \left[ \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{W}'_d\mathbf{D}'_j\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\varepsilon(\theta) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{D}_j\mathbf{W}_d\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}(\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Z}\beta) \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma^2}\mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \left[ \mathbf{W}'_d\mathbf{D}'_j\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} + \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{D}_j\mathbf{W}_d \right] \varepsilon(\theta)
\end{aligned} \quad (\text{D.19})$$

for  $j = 1, 2$ . We next derive (D.12) with respect to  $\sigma^2$  to obtain the following second-order derivative:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2)}{\partial(\sigma^2)^2} = \frac{n}{2(\sigma^2)^2} - \frac{1}{(\sigma^2)^3} \varepsilon'(\theta) \varepsilon(\theta). \quad (\text{D.20})$$

The derivative of (D.12) with respect to  $\bar{\rho}_j$  is computed as follows:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2)}{\partial \sigma^2 \partial \bar{\rho}_j} = \frac{1}{2(\sigma^2)^2} \nabla_{\bar{\rho}_j} (\varepsilon'(\theta) \varepsilon(\theta)) = -\frac{1}{(\sigma^2)^2} \mathbf{X}' \mathbf{W}'_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{D}'_j \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \varepsilon(\theta), \quad (\text{D.21})$$

for  $j = 1, 2$ . The derivative of (D.12) with respect to  $\lambda_j$  is given by:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2)}{\partial \sigma^2 \partial \bar{\lambda}_j} = \frac{1}{2(\sigma^2)^2} \nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_j} (\varepsilon'(\theta) \varepsilon(\theta)) = \frac{1}{(\sigma^2)^2} \varepsilon'(\theta) \mathbf{W}'_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{D}'_j \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \varepsilon(\theta), \quad (\text{D.22})$$

for  $j = 1, 2$ . We next derive (D.13) with respect to  $\bar{\rho}_j$ :

$$\frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2)}{\partial \bar{\rho}_i \partial \bar{\rho}_j} = -\frac{\partial(\text{tr}(\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_i \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{d}}))}{\partial \bar{\rho}_j} + \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \mathbf{X}' \mathbf{W}'_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{D}'_i \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \nabla_{\bar{\rho}_j} \varepsilon(\theta) \quad (\text{D.23})$$

for  $j = 1, 2$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial(\text{tr}(\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_i \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{d}}))}{\partial \bar{\rho}_j} &= \text{tr} \left( \nabla_{\bar{\rho}_j} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_i \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{d}} \right) \\ &= \text{tr} \left( -\mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})^{-1} \nabla_{\bar{\rho}_j} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho}) \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_i \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{d}} \right) \\ &= \text{tr} \left( \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_j \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_i \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{d}} \right), \end{aligned}$$

and since

$$\nabla_{\bar{\rho}_j} \varepsilon(\theta) = \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \nabla_{\bar{\rho}_j} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho}) \mathbf{X} = -\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_j \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{X},$$

we finally obtain:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2)}{\partial \bar{\rho}_i \partial \bar{\rho}_j} = -\text{tr} \left( \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_j \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\rho})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_i \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{d}} \right) - \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \mathbf{X}' \mathbf{W}'_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{D}'_i \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_j \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{X}. \quad (\text{D.24})$$

We next derive (D.13) with respect to  $\bar{\lambda}_j$ , which yields:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2)}{\partial \bar{\rho}_i \partial \bar{\lambda}_j} &= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \mathbf{X}' \mathbf{W}'_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{D}'_i \left[ \nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_j} \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \varepsilon(\theta) + \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_j} \varepsilon(\theta) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \mathbf{X}' \mathbf{W}'_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{D}'_i \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \left[ \mathbf{W}'_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{D}'_j \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} + \mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_j \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{d}} \right] \varepsilon(\theta), \quad (\text{D.25}) \end{aligned}$$

for  $j = 1, 2$ . Finally, the derivative of (D.14) with respect to  $\bar{\lambda}_j$  is computed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2)}{\partial \bar{\lambda}_i \partial \bar{\lambda}_j} &= \frac{\partial(\text{tr}(\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_i \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{d}}))}{\partial \bar{\lambda}_j} - \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \left[ \nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_j} \varepsilon'(\theta) \mathbf{W}'_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{D}'_i \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \varepsilon(\theta) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \varepsilon'(\theta) \mathbf{W}'_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{D}'_i \left( \nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_j} \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \varepsilon(\theta) + \mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} \nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_j} \varepsilon(\theta) \right) \right] \quad (\text{D.26}) \end{aligned}$$

for  $j = 1, 2$ . We have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial(\text{tr}(\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{D}_i\mathbf{W}_d))}{\partial\bar{\lambda}_j} &= \text{tr}\left(\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_j}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{D}_i\mathbf{W}_d\right) \\
&= \text{tr}\left(-\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\nabla_{\bar{\lambda}_j}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{D}_i\mathbf{W}_d\right) \\
&= \text{tr}\left(\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{D}_j\mathbf{W}_d\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{D}_i\mathbf{W}_d\right)
\end{aligned}$$

so that, using the foregoing results, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\theta, \sigma^2)}{\partial\bar{\lambda}_i\partial\bar{\lambda}_j} &= \text{tr}\left(\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{D}_j\mathbf{W}_d\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{D}_i\mathbf{W}_d\right) - \frac{1}{\sigma^2}\varepsilon'(\theta)\left[\mathbf{W}'_d\mathbf{D}'_j\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{W}'_d\mathbf{D}'_i\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\right. \\
&\quad \left.+ \mathbf{W}'_d\mathbf{D}'_i\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{W}'_d\mathbf{D}'_j\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1} + \mathbf{W}'_d\mathbf{D}'_i\mathbf{S}'(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{S}(\bar{\lambda})^{-1}\mathbf{D}_j\mathbf{W}_d\right]\varepsilon(\theta). \quad (\text{D.27})
\end{aligned}$$

Table 1 — OLS regressions.

Model	OLS(1)	OLS(2)	OLS(3)	OLS(4)	OLS(5)	OLS(6)
Dependent variable	$\ln X_{ij}$	$\ln X_{ij}$	$\ln X_{ij}$	$\ln \frac{X_{ij}}{Y_i Y_j}$	$\ln \frac{X_{ij}}{Y_i Y_j}$	$\ln \frac{X_{ij}}{Y_i Y_j}$
Obs.	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600
$\ln Y_i$	1.045 (0.000)	1.044 (0.000)	1.043 (0.000)	— —	— —	— —
$\ln Y_j$	0.920 (0.000)	0.919 (0.000)	0.919 (0.000)	— —	— —	— —
$\ln d_{ij}$	-1.172 (0.000)	-1.228 (0.000)	-1.245 (0.000)	-1.289 (0.000)	-1.385 (0.000)	-1.423 (0.000)
bordCA <sub>ij</sub>	2.674 (0.000)	2.734 (0.000)	2.778 (0.000)	—	—	—
bordUS <sub>ij</sub>	0.393 (0.000)	0.397 (0.000)	0.407 (0.000)	—	—	—
bord <sub>ij</sub>	—	—	—	-1.482 (0.000)	-1.504 (0.000)	-1.528 (0.000)
fixed effects <sup>†</sup>	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes
internal distance	$\frac{1}{3}\sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$	$\frac{2}{3}\sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$	$\sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$	$\frac{1}{3}\sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$	$\frac{2}{3}\sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$	$\sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$
adjusted $R^2$	0.937	0.935	0.933	0.921	0.919	0.916
AIC	2.155	2.156	2.157	2.244	2.245	2.246
BIC	2.178	2.179	2.180	2.520	2.520	2.521
Border effect						
Canada	14.496 (0.000)	15.401 (0.000)	16.091 (0.000)	—	—	—
U.S.	1.482 (0.000)	1.487 (0.000)	1.502 (0.000)	—	—	—
“Average border”	4.634 (0.000)	4.786 (0.000)	4.916 (0.000)	4.404 (0.000)	4.501 (0.000)	4.608 (0.000)
Moran’s I stat.	0.038 (0.000)	0.043 (0.000)	0.043 (0.000)	-0.015 (0.000)	-0.015 (0.000)	-0.015 (0.000)

Notes:  $p$ -values are given in parentheses, those for border effect coefficients are computed using the Delta method. OLS(4), OLS(5) and OLS(6) include importer-exporter fixed effects. Following Feenstra (2002, 2004), average border effects are computed as the geometric mean of the individual border effects. AIC and BIC stand for the Akaike and the Schwarz information criteria, respectively.

Table 2 — Homogeneous coefficients SARMA regressions.

Model	SARMA(1)	SARMA(2)	SARMA(3)	SARMA(4)	SARMA(5)	SARMA(6)
Dependent variable	$\ln X_{ij}$	$\ln X_{ij}$	$\ln X_{ij}$	$\ln \frac{X_{ij}}{Y_i Y_j}$	$\ln \frac{X_{ij}}{Y_i Y_j}$	$\ln \frac{X_{ij}}{Y_i Y_j}$
Obs.	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600
Weight matrix	$\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_d$	$\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_d$	$\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_d$	$\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_d$	$\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_d$	$\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_d$
<i>constant</i>	-10.699 (0.000)	-10.850 (0.000)	-10.862 (0.000)	-16.130 (0.000)	-15.806 (0.000)	-15.706 (0.000)
$(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W}) \ln Y_i$	0.893 (0.000)	0.887 (0.000)	0.882 (0.000)	—	—	—
$\ln Y_j$	1.911 (0.000)	1.951 (0.000)	1.969 (0.000)	—	—	—
$(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W}) \ln w_i / \ln w_i$	-1.363 (0.000)	-1.398 (0.000)	-1.413 (0.000)	-1.270 (0.000)	-1.343 (0.000)	-1.378 (0.000)
$(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W}) \ln d_{ij}$	-1.152 (0.000)	-1.215 (0.000)	-1.233 (0.000)	-1.225 (0.000)	-1.343 (0.000)	-1.323 (0.000)
$(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W}) b_{ij}$	-1.156 (0.000)	-1.174 (0.000)	-1.193 (0.000)	-1.105 (0.000)	-1.298 (0.000)	-1.141 (0.000)
$\rho$	-0.805 (0.000)	-0.859 (0.000)	-0.893 (0.000)	-0.139 (0.005)	-0.133 (0.008)	-0.132 (0.009)
$\lambda$	-4.261 (0.000)	-4.366 (0.000)	-4.464 (0.000)	-1.312 (0.000)	-1.213 (0.000)	-1.161 (0.000)
internal distance	$\frac{1}{3} \sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$	$\frac{2}{3} \sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$	$\sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$	$\frac{1}{3} \sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$	$\frac{2}{3} \sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$	$\sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$
AIC	2.252	2.279	2.309	2.276	2.307	2.339
BIC	2.275	2.303	2.333	2.293	2.324	2.356
Border effect <sup>†</sup> (total) (intra) / (inter)						
CA	7.699 (0.000)	7.951 (0.000)	8.222 (0.000)	7.048 (0.000)	7.254 (0.000)	7.501 (0.000)
CA-CA / CA-US	2.775 / 0.360 (0.000)/(0.000)	2.820 / 0.355 (0.000)/(0.000)	2.868/0.349 (0.000)/(0.000)	2.655 / 0.377 (0.000)/(0.000)	2.693 / 0.371 (0.000)/(0.000)	2.739/0.365 (0.000)/(0.000)
US	1.310 (0.000)	1.316 (0.000)	1.322 (0.000)	1.295 (0.000)	1.300 (0.000)	1.306 (0.000)
US-US / US-CA	1.145 / 0.874 (0.000)/(0.000)	1.147 / 0.872 (0.000)/(0.000)	1.150 / 0.870 (0.000)/(0.000)	1.138 / 0.879 (0.000)/(0.000)	1.140 / 0.877 (0.000)/(0.000)	1.142 / 0.875 (0.000)/(0.000)
“Average border”	3.176 (0.000)	3.235 (0.000)	3.297 (0.000)	3.021 (0.000)	3.071 (0.000)	3.130 (0.000)

Notes:  $p$ -values are given in parentheses, those for border effect coefficients are computed using the Delta method. See Appendix B for an explanation of how to compute the border effects. Following Feenstra (2002, 2004), average border effects are computed as the geometric mean of the individual border effects. AIC and BIC stand for the Akaike and the Schwarz information criteria, respectively.



Table 3 — Homogeneous coefficients GSM and SAR regressions.

Model	GSM(1)	GSM(2)	GSM(3)	SAR(1)	SAR(2)	SAR(3)
Dependent variable	$\ln X_{ij}$	$\ln X_{ij}$	$\ln X_{ij}$	$\ln X_{ij}$	$\ln X_{ij}$	$\ln X_{ij}$
Obs.	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600
Weight matrix	$\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_d$	$\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_d$	$\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_d$	$\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_d$	$\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_d$	$\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_d$
<i>constant</i>	-6.838 (0.000)	-6.911 (0.000)	-6.753 (0.000)	-5.802 (0.000)	-5.751 (0.000)	-5.718 (0.000)
$(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W}) \ln Y_i$	1.248 (0.000)	1.266 (0.000)	1.249 (0.000)	1.062 (0.000)	1.058 (0.000)	1.056 (0.000)
$\ln Y_j$	0.984 (0.000)	0.979 (0.000)	0.979 (0.000)	1.006 (0.000)	1.004 (0.000)	1.003 (0.000)
$(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W}) \ln w_i$	-1.557 (0.000)	-1.604 (0.000)	-1.631 (0.000)	-1.582 (0.000)	-1.633 (0.000)	-1.659 (0.000)
$(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W}) \ln d_{ij}$	-1.246 (0.000)	-1.318 (0.000)	-1.342 (0.000)	-1.257 (0.000)	-1.329 (0.000)	-1.352 (0.000)
$(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W}) b_{ij}$	-1.109 (0.000)	-1.127 (0.000)	-1.145 (0.000)	-1.077 (0.000)	-1.093 (0.000)	-1.112 (0.000)
$\rho$	-0.179 (0.009)	-0.205 (0.007)	-0.200 (0.007)	0.009 (0.792)	0.007 (0.840)	0.004 (0.910)
$\lambda$	0.482 (0.000)	0.499 (0.000)	0.497 (0.000)	—	—	—
internal distance	$\frac{1}{3} \sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$	$\frac{2}{3} \sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$	$\sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$	$\frac{1}{3} \sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$	$\frac{2}{3} \sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$	$\sqrt{\frac{\text{surf}_i}{\pi}}$
AIC	1.138	1.168	1.199	2.298	2.328	2.359
BIC	1.162	1.192	1.223	2.321	2.352	2.383
Border effect <sup>†</sup> (total) (intra) / (inter)						
CA	7.087 (0.000)	7.322 (0.000)	7.553 (0.000)	6.694 (0.000)	6.895 (0.000)	7.131 (0.000)
CA-CA / CA-US	2.662 / 0.376 (0.000)/(0.000)	2.706 / 0.370 (0.000)/(0.000)	2.748 / 0.364 (0.000)/(0.000)	2.587 / 0.387 (0.000)/(0.000)	2.626 / 0.381 (0.000)/(0.000)	2.670 / 0.375 (0.000)/(0.000)
US	1.296 (0.000)	1.302 (0.000)	1.307 (0.000)	1.286 (0.000)	1.291 (0.000)	1.297 (0.000)
US-US / US-CA	1.138 / 0.878 (0.000)/(0.000)	1.141 / 0.877 (0.000)/(0.000)	1.143 / 0.875 (0.000)/(0.000)	1.134 / 0.882 (0.000)/(0.000)	1.136 / 0.880 (0.000)/(0.000)	1.139 / 0.878 (0.000)/(0.000)
“Average border”	3.031 (0.000)	3.087 (0.000)	3.142 (0.000)	2.935 (0.000)	2.984 (0.000)	3.041 (0.000)

Notes:  $p$ -values are given in parentheses, those for border effect coefficients are computed using the Delta method. See Appendix B for an explanation of how to compute the border effects. Following Feenstra (2002, 2004), average border effects are computed as the geometric mean of the individual border effects. AIC and BIC stand for the Akaike and the Schwarz information criteria, respectively.

Table 4 —  $\beta$ -heterogeneous SARMA regressions.

Model		SARMA						
Dependent variable		$\ln X_{ij}$						
Obs.		1600						
Weight matrix		$\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{W}_d$						
Region Code	$\ln d_{ij}$	p-value	$\ln b_{ij}$	p-value	$\varepsilon_{d_{ij}}$	$b_{ij}$ intra	$b_{ij}$ inter	Total border
AB	-1.647	0.000	-1.292*	0.000	-1.647	3.179*	0.315*	10.106*
BC	-1.003	0.000	-1.035*	0.001	-1.003	2.535*	0.394*	6.428*
MN	-2.151	0.000	-1.353*	0.000	-2.151	3.331*	0.300*	11.098*
NB	-1.967	0.000	-1.620*	0.000	-1.967	4.212*	0.237*	17.742*
Nfld	-3.317	0.000	0.114	0.732	-3.317	0.904	1.106	0.817
NS	-1.622	0.000	-1.353*	0.000	-1.622	3.326*	0.301*	11.064*
ON	-1.370	0.000	-1.709*	0.000	-1.371	4.860*	0.206*	23.622*
PEI	-1.970	0.000	-1.047*	0.001	-1.970	2.527*	0.396*	6.386*
Que	-1.150	0.000	-1.474*	0.000	-1.150	3.833*	0.261*	14.688*
SK	-1.869	0.000	-1.401*	0.000	-1.869	3.472*	0.288*	12.057*
Ala	-1.582	0.000	-2.462	0.346	-1.591	1.333	0.750	1.778
Ari	-1.316	0.000	-3.702	0.152	-1.323	1.540	0.649	2.372
Cal	-0.703	0.000	-2.321	0.312	-0.727	1.373	0.728	1.885
Flo	-1.190	0.000	0.211	0.934	-1.210	0.974	1.026	0.949
Geo	-1.670	0.000	-2.270	0.384	-1.686	1.309	0.764	1.713
Ida	-1.256	0.000	-2.623	0.312	-1.258	1.352	0.740	1.827
Ill	-1.251	0.000	-0.119	0.963	-1.270	1.015	0.986	1.029
Ind	-1.569	0.000	-2.728	0.295	-1.581	1.379	0.725	1.901
Ken	-1.596	0.000	-1.311	0.618	-1.604	1.165	0.858	1.357
Lou	-1.841	0.000	-1.976	0.447	-1.851	1.260	0.794	1.587
Mai	-1.398	0.000	-7.175*	0.006	-1.401	2.282*	0.438*	5.208*
Mas	-0.848	0.000	-2.513	0.330	-0.855	1.345	0.743	1.809
Mic	-1.604	0.000	0.933	0.716	-1.624	0.894	1.119	0.799
Min	-1.743	0.000	1.651	0.522	-1.754	0.824	1.213	0.679
MO	-1.862	0.000	0.890	0.732	-1.875	0.901	1.110	0.811
Mon	-1.825	0.000	0.604	0.817	-1.827	0.933	1.072	0.871
Mry	-1.015	0.000	0.492	0.849	-1.022	0.944	1.059	0.891
Nca	-1.274	0.000	-2.556	0.323	-1.286	1.354	0.739	1.833
Nda	-2.400	0.000	-5.002*	0.056	-2.402	1.774*	0.564*	3.147*
NHm	-1.064	0.000	-1.186	0.647	-1.065	1.146	0.873	1.313
NJr	-0.858	0.000	-3.620	0.158	-0.867	1.539	0.650	2.370
Nyr	-0.691	0.000	-0.567	0.820	-0.706	1.074	0.931	1.154
Ohi	-1.323	0.000	1.256	0.624	-1.342	0.859	1.165	0.737
Pen	-0.772	0.000	-1.255	0.622	-0.784	1.165	0.858	1.358
Ten	-1.675	0.000	-0.721	0.783	-1.686	1.088	0.919	1.185
Tex	-1.151	0.000	-1.398	0.575	-1.177	1.193	0.838	1.423
Ver	-1.215	0.000	-4.281	0.100	-1.216	1.633	0.612	2.668
Vir	-1.079	0.000	-5.229*	0.043	-1.089	1.856*	0.539*	3.444*
Was	-1.267	0.000	-3.463	0.183	-1.276	1.502	0.666	2.256
Wis	-1.594	0.000	-2.063	0.424	-1.604	1.274	0.785	1.623
$\rho_{CA}$				-0.995 (0.000)				
$\rho_{US}$				-1.293 (0.000)				
$\lambda_{CA}$				-4.758 (0.000)				
$\lambda_{US}$				-6.166 (0.000)				

Notes:  $p$ -values are given in parentheses, all are computed using the Delta method. See Appendix B for an explanation of how to compute the border effects. Asterisks denote significantly positive border effects at the 5% level. Distance elasticities  $\varepsilon_{d_{ij}}$  are computed from the explicit form of the model.

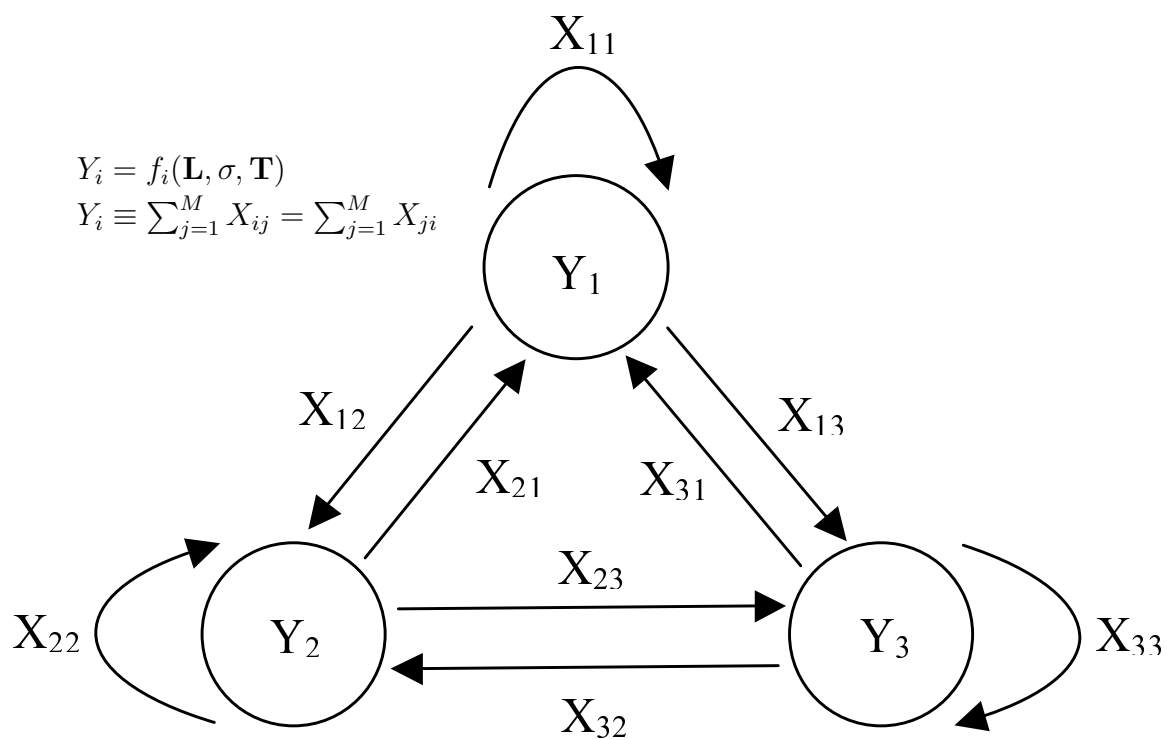


Figure 1. General equilibrium flows in a three-region trading network

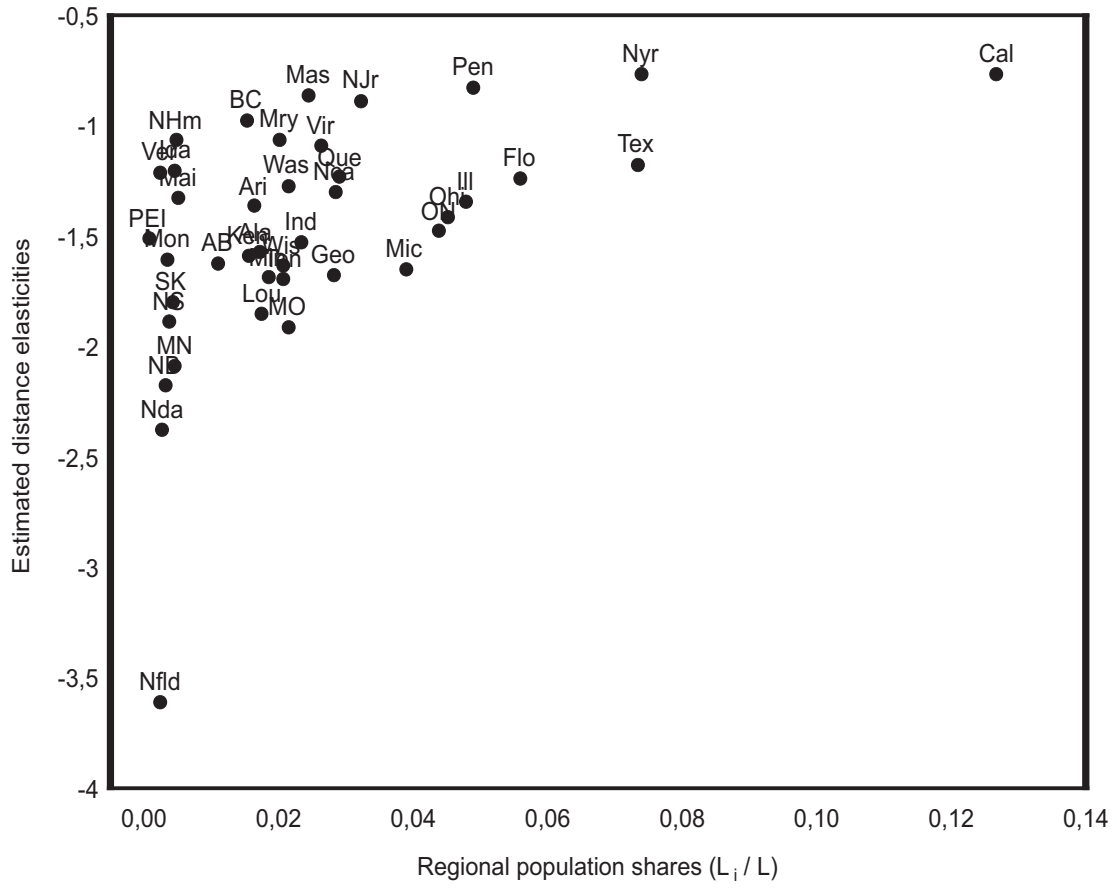


Figure 2. Distance elasticities and regional size ( $\beta$ -heterogeneous SARMA)

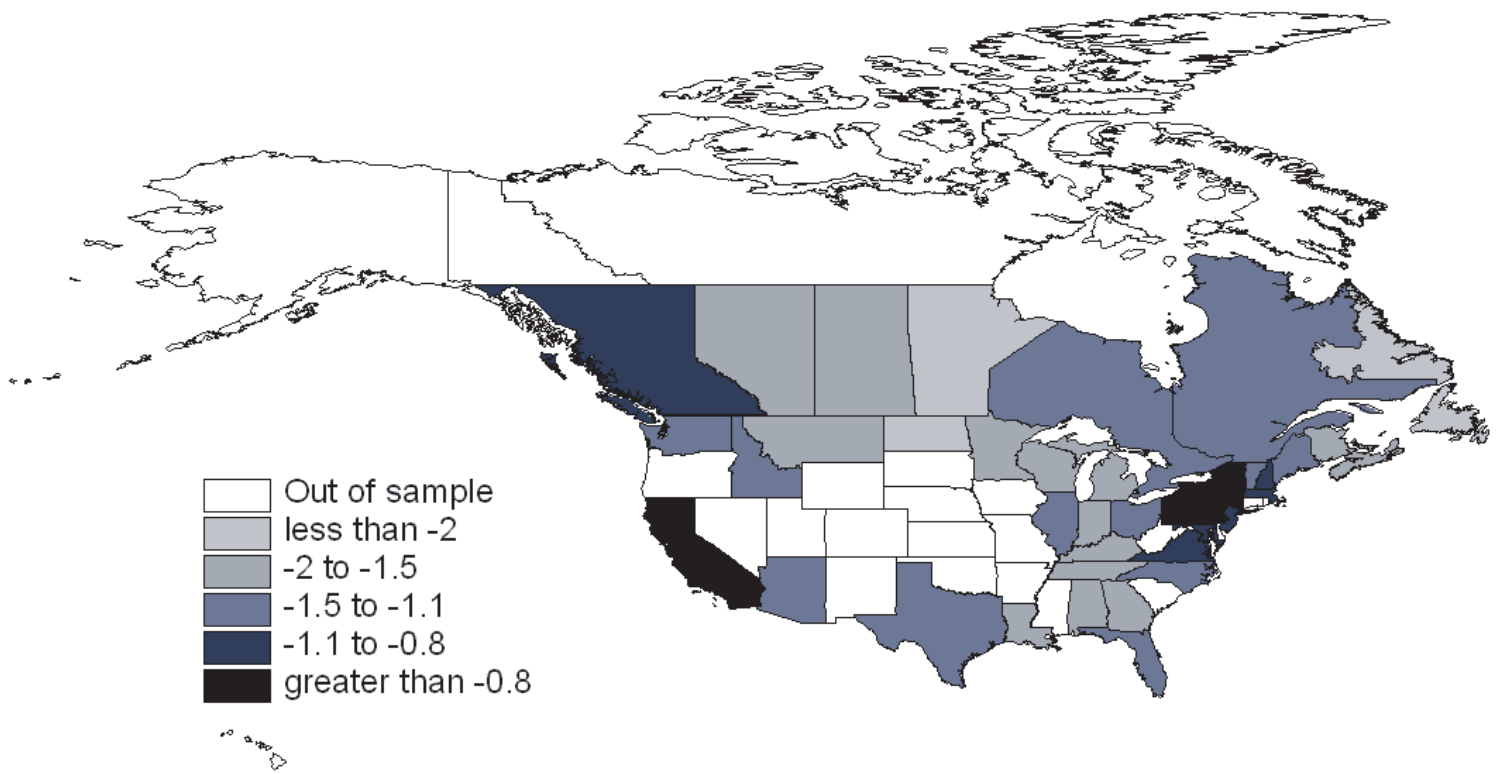


Figure 3. Regional structure of distance elasticities ( $\beta$ -heterogeneous SARMA)

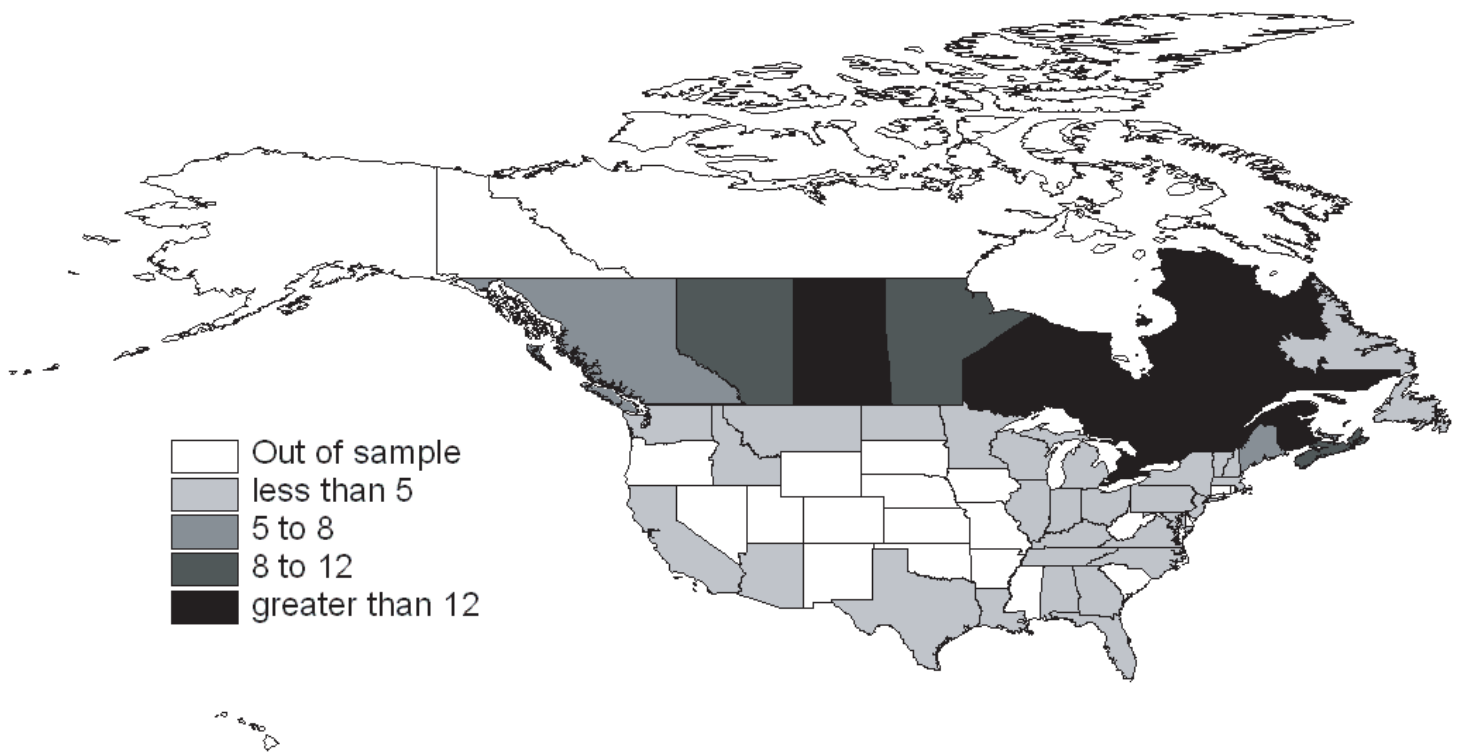


Figure 4. Regional structure of border effects ( $\beta$ -heterogeneous SARMA)

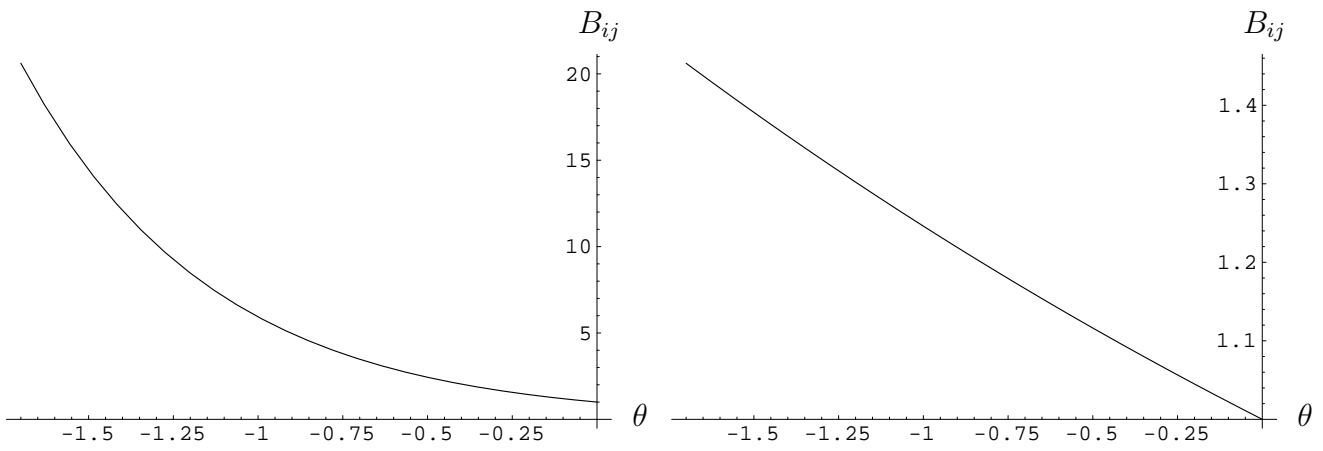


Figure 5. Magnitude of border effects (Canadian provinces and U.S. states)