

CHRISTIAN HELMERS

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FIELDS OF CONCENTRATION

Economics of Innovation and Applied Microeconomics

DISSERTATION TITLE "Spillovers, Innovation and Firm Performance"

Expected Date of Completion: Spring 2010

Supervisor: Professor Marcel Fafchamps

EDUCATION:

11/2009-06/2010 Visiting Research Scholar, *University of California, Berkeley*
2006-present DPhil in Economics, *University of Oxford*
2005-2006 MSc in Economics for Development, *University of Oxford* (with Distinction)
2005-2007 Advanced Studies Programme in International Economic Policy Research, *Kiel Institute for World Economics*
2002-2005 Lic. oec. *University of Lausanne* (HEC)
2002 Exchange Program in Economics and Management, *Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro*(PUC-Rio)
2000-2002 First Degree (Vordiplom) in Economics and Management, *Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Germany*

AFFILIATIONS

2008- present Research Affiliate - Kiel Institute for World Economics (IfW)

AWARDS

2006 *Luca D'Agliano Prize* proxime accessit for MSc Extended Essay '*Knowledge Spillovers, Innovation and Endogenous Growth*', *University of Oxford*
2007/2008/2009 George Webb Medley Grant, Department of Economics, *University of Oxford*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2008-present Non-Stipendiary Lecturer Harris Manchester College, *University of Oxford*
Undergraduate lecturer: Development Economics; Microeconomics; Statistics
2008-2009 *University of Aston Business School, Birmingham*
Undergraduate lecturer (3rd year): The Economics of Innovation
2007-2008 Department of Economics, *University of Oxford*
Undergraduate class teacher: Mathematics and Statistics 1st year - Economics and Management Programme
2006-2009 *Oxford University Foreign Service Programme (OUFSP)*
Graduate class teacher: Economics, Trade and International Finance
2006-2008 *St. Catherine's College, University of Oxford*
Undergraduate tutor: Growth Theory; International Macroeconomics; Macroeconomics; Applied Econometrics

RESEARCH

PhD RESEARCH

The Effect of Market Entry on Innovation - Evidence from UK University Incubators (submitted)

Abstract: This paper investigates the effect of market entry of new firms on incumbent firms' innovative activity measured as patent applications. The basic assumption is that the effect of entry varies by geographical distance between entrants and incumbents due to the presence of localized unobserved spillovers. In order to avoid endogeneity problems commonly associated with the timing of entry and entrants' location choice, I analyze entry induced by the establishment of university business incubators, which are usefully exogenous in time and space. The results show that entry has a statistically and economically significantly positive strategic effect on incumbent patenting which is attenuated by the geographical distance between entrant and incumbent.

Patents, Spillovers and Firm Performance - Evidence from UK Start-Ups

Abstract: I assess the effect associated with patenting on firm growth for high- and medium-tech start-up companies in Great Britain between 2000 and 2005. Using a nonparametric framework to estimate conditional mean as well as conditional quantile functions, I propose a new approach to addressing well known issues challenging identification of any patent effect: firm heterogeneity, simultaneity between firm performance and patenting, and sample selection. Moreover, I account specifically for, in principle unobservable, spatial spillovers between firms, which I find to be important in shaping a firm's growth performance. In contrast to spillovers, I do not find patenting to be associated in a robust and statistically significant way with firm growth.

REVISE & RESUBMIT

The Formation and Evolution of Childhood Skill Acquisition: Evidence from India, with Manasa Patnam, Young Lives Working Paper No. 38 (**Journal of Development Economics**)

Abstract: Building on recent advances in the literature and using a rich data set for two cohorts of children aged between one and twelve for Andhra Pradesh, India, we investigate the determinants of children's cognitive as well as non-cognitive skills. We find evidence of self-productivity for cognitive skills and cross-productivity effects from cognitive on non-cognitive skills. Moreover, we demonstrate that parental investment has contemporaneously positive effects on skill levels for all age groups. Investigating other determinants of these skills, we find child health at age one to influence cognitive abilities at age five, whilst child health at age one is influenced by parental care already during pregnancy and earliest childhood. Understanding the determinants which account explicitly for the effect of a large number of child, caregiver and household characteristics provides insights with regard to possible policy interventions to improve the chances of children in poor environments of developing cognitive and non-cognitive skills crucial for success in many spheres of life.

Innovation and the Survival of New Firms across British Regions, with Mark Rogers, University of Oxford Department of Economics Working Paper No. 416 (**Review of Industrial Organization**)

Abstract: This paper analyses the survival of the complete cohort of more than 162,000 limited companies incorporated in Britain in 2001 over the subsequent five-year period. For this purpose, we estimate firms' hazards of failure and survival functions using nonparametric and semi-parametric techniques. The paper focuses on two important policy-related issues. The first is to what extent survival rates vary across regions in Britain. A second, and related, policy issue concerns innovation. The data available allows us to look at the intellectual property (IP) activity of all British firms, including that of the 162,000 new firms in 2001. The results indicate substantial differences in survival rates across regions, and also that IP activity is associated with a higher probability of survival. These differences across regions, and the importance of IP activity, remain when we condition on a large range of regional, industry and firm-level characteristics shifting firms' hazards of failure.

SUBMITTED WORKING PAPERS

Does Patenting Help High-Tech Start-Ups?, with Mark Rogers, Intellectual Property Research Institute of Australia (IPRIA) Working Paper No. 06/09.

Patents, entrepreneurship and performance, with Mark Rogers

Export subsidies in a Heterogeneous Firms Framework, with Natalia Trofimenko, Kiel Working Paper No. 1476.

Two Faces of Foreign Management Capabilities: FDI and Productivity in the UK Retail Sector, with Xiaolan Fu and Jing Zhang

Do Spillovers Matter When Estimating Private Returns to R&D?, with Markus Eberhardt and Hubert Strauss

BOOK CHAPTER

2009 Trade Marks and Performance in UK firms, with Mark Rogers, in Teresa da Silva Lopes and Paul Duguid (Eds.) 'Trade Marks, Brands and Competitiveness', Routledge.

PUBLICATION

forthcoming Firm Growth and Firm Size, with Christoffer Koch and Mark Rogers, Applied Economic Letters.

POLICY RELATED WRITTEN WORK

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY and R&D

- 2009 *R&D expenditure and capital in Europe*, with Christian Schulte and Hubert Strauss, EIB Papers, Volume 14, Issue 1.
- 2009 *A literature review on the efficiency and effectiveness of university technology transfer offices and hybrid commercialisation models*, Mark Rogers, David Baghurst and Terry Pollard, Strategic Advisory Board for IP policy and UK Intellectual Property Office.
- 2008 *High Growth Firms in the UK*, with Mark Rogers, UK Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR) – BERR Economics Paper No. 3
- 2007 *An Analysis of the association between the use of intellectual property by UK SMEs and subsequent performance*, with Mark Rogers and Christine Greenhalgh, UK Intellectual Property Office.
- 2007 *An analysis of the characteristics of small and medium enterprises that use intellectual property*, with Mark Rogers and Christine Greenhalgh, UK Intellectual Property Office.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

- 2009 *The Role of Trade Policy in Reducing Ukraine's Current Account Deficit - Lessons from Abroad*, with Ricardo Giucci, Veronika Movchan and Kateryna Kutsenko, Institute for Economic Research IER Policy Paper 01/2009
- 2008 *Determinants of Trade Competitiveness in Jordan*, with Michael Freudenberg and Thierry Paulmier, ITC UNCTAD/WTO
- 2007 *Analysis of International Trade in Services: Mongolia*, with Miles Light, GTZ, USAID, and Mongolian Ministry for Industry and Trade.
- 2007 *Determinants of Trade Competitiveness in Romania*, with Michael Freudenberg and Thierry Paulmier, ITC UNCTAD/WTO
- 2006 *Assessing Bilateral Trade Potential at the Commodity Level*, with Jean-Michel Pasteels, ITC UNCTAD/WTO Working Paper 2006-11.
- 2006 *Options for Mongolia for the Formation of Bilateral Free Trade Agreements - Options in Merchandise Trade*; GTZ, UNDP, USAID, and Mongolian Ministry for Industry and Trade.
- 2005 *TradeSim3: A Gravity Model for the Calculation of Trade Potentials for Developing Countries and Countries in Transition*; with Jean-Michel Pasteels, ITC UNCTAD/WTO Working Paper 2005-05.

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS

- 2009 Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU) München
Comparative Analysis of Enterprise Data Conference, Tokyo
4th Annual Conference of the EPIP Association, Bologna
European Investment Bank
24th European Economic Association Meetings, Barcelona
Zvi Griliches Research Summer School, Barcelona
Oxford Intellectual Property Seminar
Gorman Workshop, Oxford University
Young Lives International Conference, Oxford
EUDN Workshop, Oxford
CSAE Oxford University
- 2008 Kiel Institute
ZEW Mannheim
3rd Annual Conference of the EPIP Association, Bern
2nd World Conference of the Spatial Econometrics Association, New York
Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association Annual Meeting, Rio de Janeiro
4th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development at the Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi
- 2007 22nd European Economic Association Meetings, Budapest
London Business School
Kiel Institute
National University of Mongolia

POLICY PRESENTATIONS

- 2009 WIPO, Geneva
WIPO-PPO-KIPO Eastern European Regional Forum, Warsaw
- 2008 UK Intellectual Property Office, Newport
ITC UNCTAD/WTO, Geneva
- 2007 Ministry for Industry and Trade, Mongolia
- 2005 Ministry for Industry and Trade, Mongolia
ITC UNCTAD/WTO, Geneva

REFEREE

Journal of African Economies; Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics; Oxford Economic Papers

FIELD RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2006 Center for the Study of African Economies, University of Oxford; Assistance to Pedro Vicente in field-research on 'Vote-Buying and Corruption' in São Tomé e Príncipe

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONSULTANT)

- 2009 Oxford University Consulting (ISIS)
- 2005-2009 International Trade Center UNCTAD/WTO
- 2005-2007 GTZ (German Technical Co-operation)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (INTERNSHIP)

- 2004 -2005 International Trade Center UNCTAD/WTO, Market Analysis Section
- 2004 European Parliament, DG External Policies; Committee on Development
- 2004 United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), DITE
- 2004 German Permanent Mission to the United Nations, Economic Department
- 2003-2004 German Ministry of Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ)
- 2003 French Embassy Copenhagen, Economic Department German Embassy Copenhagen
- 2002 Globaltrac Ltda; Rio de Janeiro

MILITARY SERVICE

1999-2000 Compulsory Military Service

LANGUAGES

German (Native); Portuguese (Proficient); English (Proficient); French (Proficient: DELF Diploma I and II); Spanish (Proficient: Diploma Superior de Español); Italian (Good Knowledge: CELI 5 Diploma); Danish (Good Knowledge); Russian (Intermediate)

REFERENCES:**MARCEL FAFCHAMPS**

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