

BADIS TABARKI

Paris School of Economics

Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne

Maison des Sciences Économiques (314)

106 - 112, Boulevard de l'Hôpital

75013 Paris

Email: badis.tabarki@univ-paris1.fr

Phone: +33 (0)6 95 95 14 97

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Fields: International Trade, Industrial Organization, Consumption Theory

Topics: Structural Gravity, Welfare Gains from Trade, Heterogeneous Firms Theory, Consumer Preferences

POSITIONS

09/2018 - **ATER (Research Fellow and Teaching Assistant)**, Université Paris1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

01-07/2018 **Visiting Scholar**, World Trade Organization,
Economic Research and Statistics division, Geneva, Switzerland
Working on *World Trade Report 2018*.

EDUCATION

2015 - 2020 **Ph.D.** in Economics, Paris School of Economics / Université Paris 1
Title: "Firm heterogeneity, country-level asymmetry and the structure of the welfare gains from Trade"
Supervisor: Lionel Fontagné
Thesis Committee: Thomas Chaney (referee), Monika Mrazova (referee), Maria Bas (president), Mathieu Parenti and Ariell Reshef.
Defense: April 2020 (expected)

2014-2015 **Master 2 Research** "Theoretical and Empirical Economics(ETE)" (with honors), Paris School of Economics and Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne
Master Thesis: "The Heterogeneous Effects of Trade on Asymmetric Countries"
Advisor: Lionel Fontagné, Result: Very good.

2013-2014 **Maitrise (Master 1)** in International economics and Globalization , Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne

2012-2013 **Bachelor of science** in Economics , Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne

2008-2011 **Bachelor of science** in Management , IHEC Carthage, Tunis, Tunisia

WORK IN PROGRESS

Title [Structural Gravity under size asymmetry and non-homotheticity \(Job Market Paper\)](#)

Abstract I propose a structural gravity model with heterogeneous firms, asymmetric countries and indirectly additive preferences nesting non-homotheticity as a general case and the CES as a homothetic exception. By exploiting the flexibility of preferences on the demand side and market size asymmetry on the supply side, the model generates five novel theoretical predictions. First, the intensive margin of trade is orthogonal to the population size of the destination and increases only with its per-capita income in general equilibrium. Second, the responsiveness of the intensive margin to a variation in the variable trade cost decreases with per-capita income as richer consumers are less price sensitive. Third, higher per-capita income dampens the sensitivity of the extensive margin to fixed trade costs. Fourth, I show that the structure of welfare gains from unilateral trade liberalization solely depends on the relative size of the trading partner. Fifth, I highlight two new sources of welfare gain: *an additional gain from tougher selection on the export market and an increase in nominal wage in the liberalizing country*. Finally, using the World Bank's exporter dynamics database, I test the empirical validity of the preferences-driven predictions and I find strong support in the data.

Title [A New Theory of Coexistence of Gains from Trade](#)

Abstract I propose a multi-country model where I combine firm-level heterogeneity in productivity on the supply side with additive separability (both direct and indirect) on the demand side. The peculiarity of this theoretical setting is that firm heterogeneity in efficiency levels translates into an asymmetry of consumer preferences across firms as the price elasticity of demand is firm specific, except under the CES case. In order to capture this key feature of the model, I use the concept of “demand curvature”. The main contribution of this paper is to show that the magnitude of the increase in the intensity of competition in the domestic market of the liberalizing economy rather depends on which type of exporters (the most or the least productive amongst them) is capturing additional market shares than on how numerous they are. As this pattern of reallocation is governed by demand curvature, this latter shapes the structure of welfare gains from trade, allowing then for net variety gains and gains from selection as in [Melitz \(2003\)](#) to coexist only when demand is sub-convex.

Title [A Simple Model of Standards Harmonization](#)

Abstract In this paper, I propose a version of the [Melitz \(2003\)](#) model for the case of three possibly asymmetric countries separated by non-tariff barriers. Given the absence of a pre-established cost hierarchy to standards, this paper covers two possible cases. The first is “purely vertical” where compliance with foreign standards is costly only when they are more stringent than local ones. The second is “verti-zontal” in the sense that compliance is always costly regardless of the potential difference in stringency of standards. The main finding of this paper is that standards harmonization is welfare improving only when the cost hierarchy is verti-zontal and the chosen partner is larger than the excluded country. Based on this theoretical result, a Southern country would have an incentive to align on Northern standards since trading more with the North and less with the South has a net positive impact on welfare.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

Upcoming	[April, 2020] the Second International Workshop “Market Studies and Spatial Economics”, Higher School of Economics (Moscow, Russia)
Previous Events	[December, 2019] 12th FIW Research Conference on International Economics, Austrian Institute of Economic Research WIFO (Vienna, Austria); [November, 2019] 14th BIGSEM Doctoral Workshop on Economic Theory, Bielefeld Graduate School of Economics and Management (Bielefeld, Germany); [September, 2019] 21st European Trade Study Group Annual Conference, University of Bern, World Trade Institute (Bern, Switzerland); [June, 2019] GSIE seminar, Paris School of Economics (Paris, France); [October, 2018] GSIE seminar, Paris School of Economics (Paris, France); [November, 2016] 12th Doctorissimes conference, Paris School of Economics - Centre d’Economie de la Sorbonne; [October, 2016] GSIE seminar, Paris School of Economics (Paris, France); [September, 2016] 18th European Trade Study Group Annual Conference, Aalto University School of Business (Helsinki, Finland); [March, 2016] GSIE study group, Paris School of Economics (Paris, France)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring 2020	Microeconomics , undergraduate (L1) (<i>in French</i>), TA for Prof.Jean-Philippe Tropéano, Université Paris 1 International Trade 1 , undergraduate (L3) (<i>in French</i>), TA for Prof.Lionel Fontagné and Prof.Maria Bas, Université Paris 1
Fall 2019	International Trade & Multinational Firms , graduate (M1) (<i>in English</i>), TA for Prof.Lionel Fontagné and Prof.Maria Bas, Université Paris 1
Fall 2015 - Spring 2019	International Trade & Multinational Firms , graduate (M1) (<i>in English</i>), International Trade 1 , undergraduate (L3) (<i>both in French and in English</i>) TA for Prof.Lionel Fontagné and Prof.Maria Bas, Université Paris 1
Spring 2015	Macroeconomics , undergraduate (L1) (2 groups) (<i>in French</i>)
Fall 2014	Microeconomics , undergraduate (L1) (2 groups) (<i>in French</i>) Tutor (Vacataire) for Prof.Matthieu Richard, Université Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2015-2018 Three-year PhD. grant - Université Paris 1 (France)
- 2008 Laureate at the Tunisian Baccalaureate in Economics, National Rank: 2

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- August 2014 Internship at the Central Bank of Tunisia, Monetary Policy and External Finance departments (Tunis, Tunisia)
- June-July
2014 Internship at Big Brands Group (BBG), Financial Analysis department (Warsaw, Poland)

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

- 05–12/2017 Co-organizer of the Graduate Students' in International Economics lunch seminar, Paris School of Economics.

LANGUAGES

English (fluent), French (fluent), Spanish (beginner), Polish (basic notions), Arabic (native)

COMPUTER SKILLS

Professional software: Stata and MATLAB

Office tools: MS Office and L^AT_EX

REFERENCES

- Lionel Fontagné Professor of Economics, Université Paris 1 and Paris School of Economics (PSE)
[Website](#), email: lionel.fontagne@univ-paris1.fr
- Mathieu Parenti Assistant Professor of Economics, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB)
[Website](#), email: mathieu.parenti@ulb.ac.be
- Ariell Reshef Directeur de Recherche, CNRS_Centre d'Economie de la Sorbonne (CES)
[Website](#), email: ariell.reshef@psemail.eu