

Misthinking Globalisation

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Conventional view of globalisation

- Autarky to free trade, slowly.
- Several 'waves', but single process.



1870–1990: Globalisation ↔ Trade costs

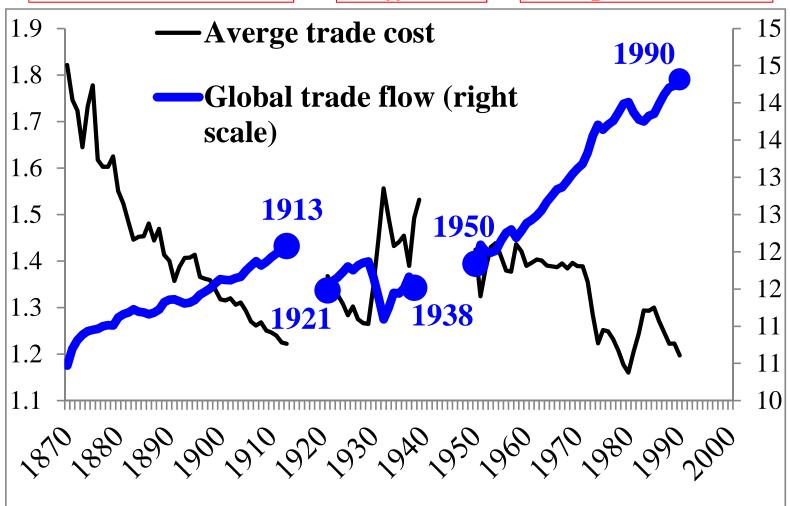


1870–1990: Globalisation ↔ Trade costs

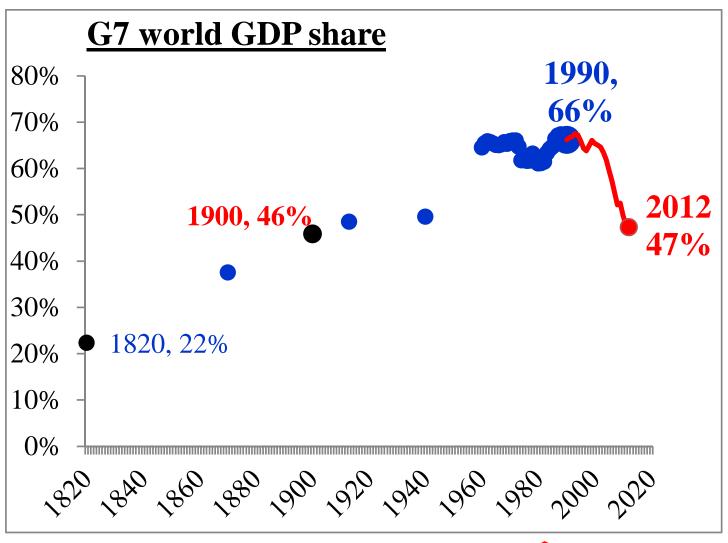
1.Falling transport costs

2.Rising tariffs

3. Falling tariffs & transport costs



Globalisation changed post-1990







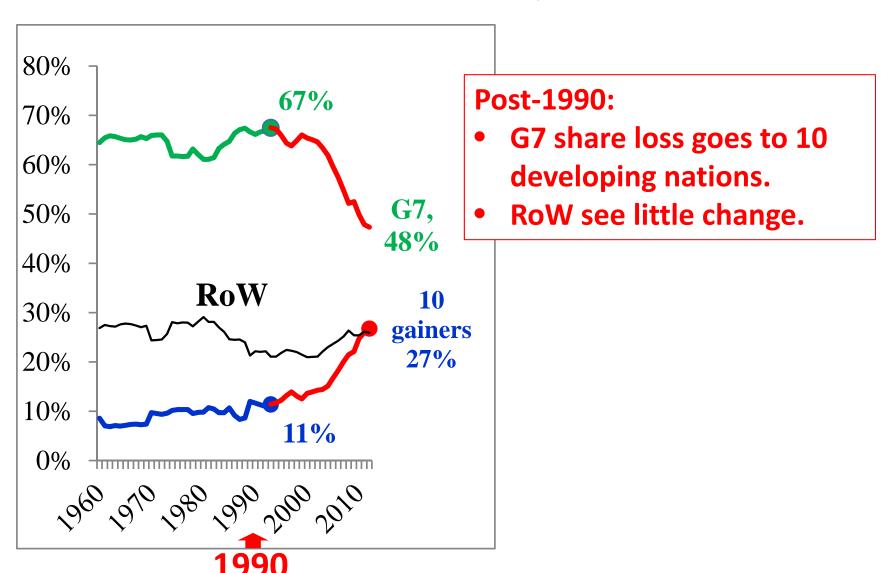
What changed globalisation?

• Follow the clues ...



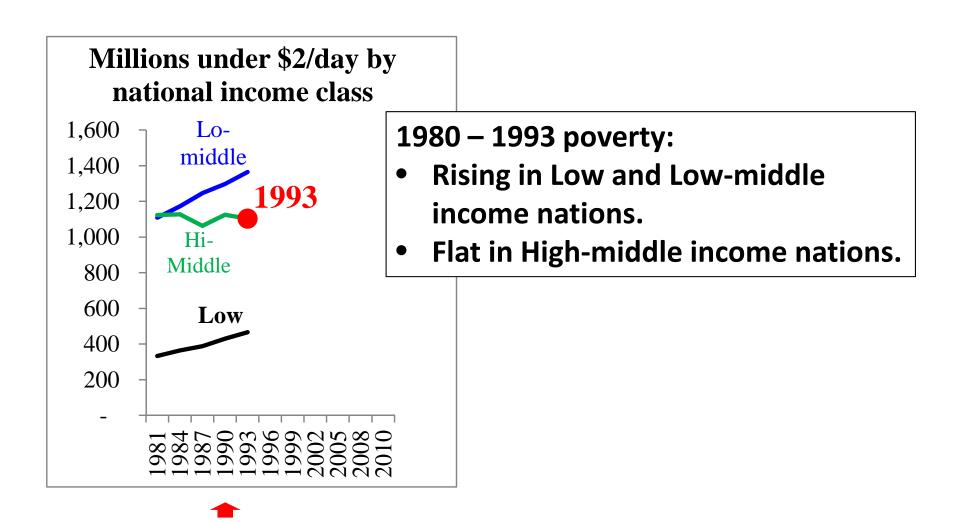


Global GDP shares, 1960-2012



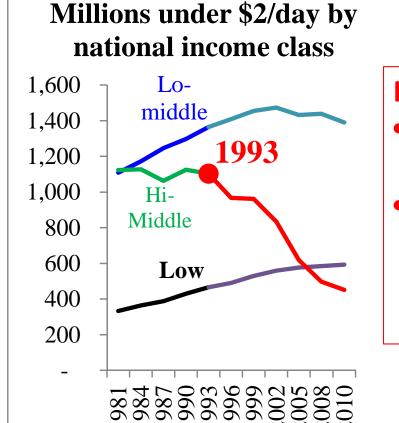


People in poverty (under \$2/day)





People in poverty (under \$2/day)



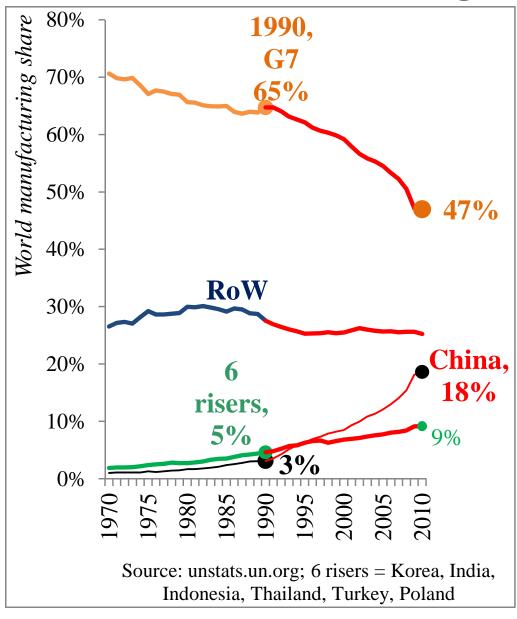
Post 1993

- Hi-middle poverty plummets.
 - 650 million fewer poor!
- Others' poverty keeps rising.





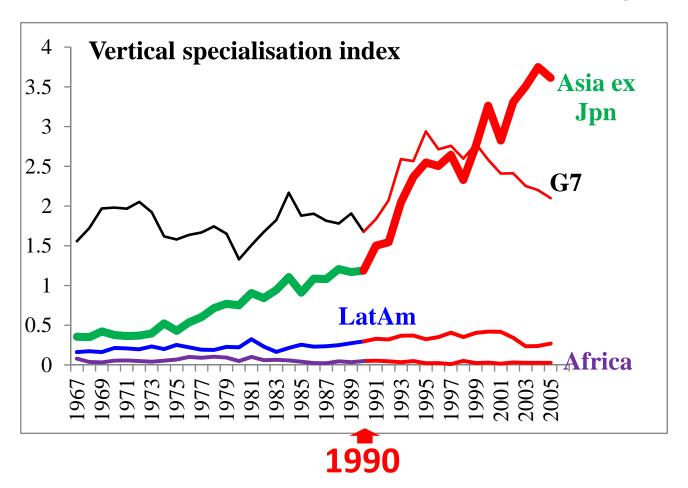
Global manufacturing shares, 1970-2010



- 7 'losers'.
- 7 'risers'.
- RoW = little change.

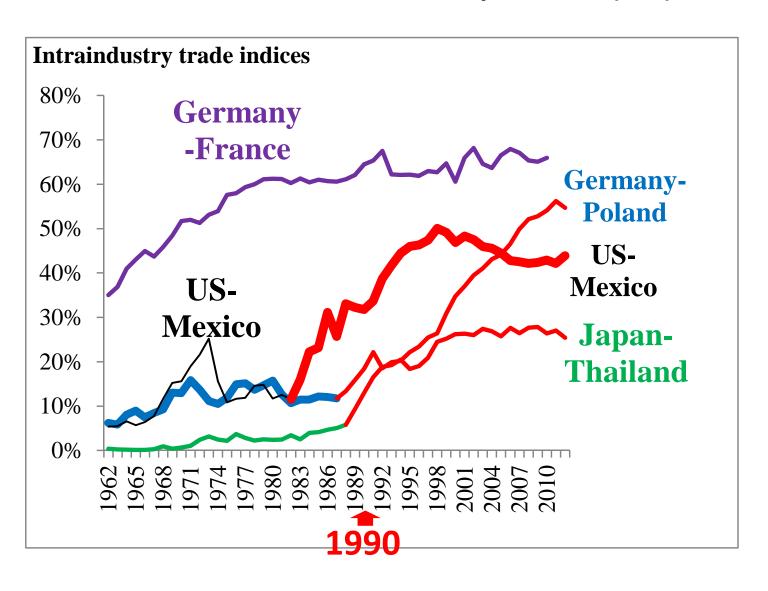


Nature of trade: Vertical specialisation



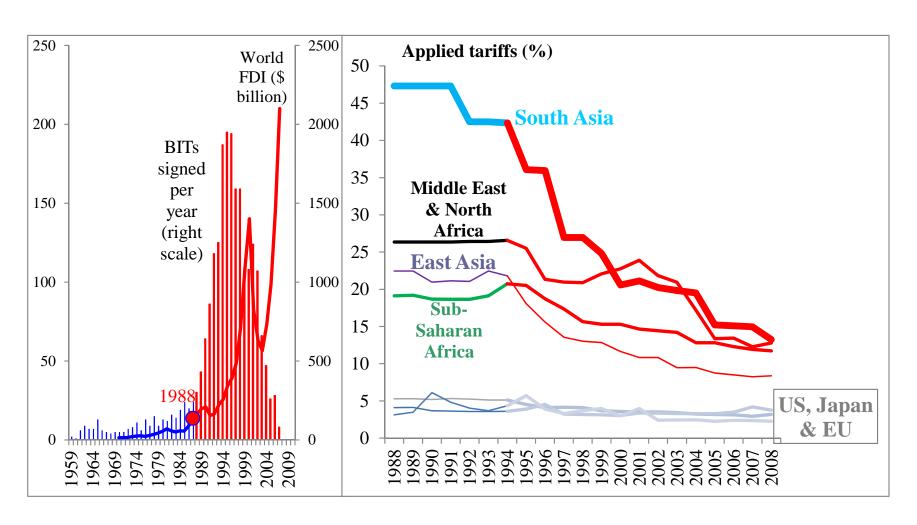
Nature of trade changed:

Intra-industry trade (IIT)





Trade & investment policies Developing nations





What changed globalisation?





Clues

Clue #1: The change is:

- Historic in size,
- Global in reach,
- Unevenly spread geographically

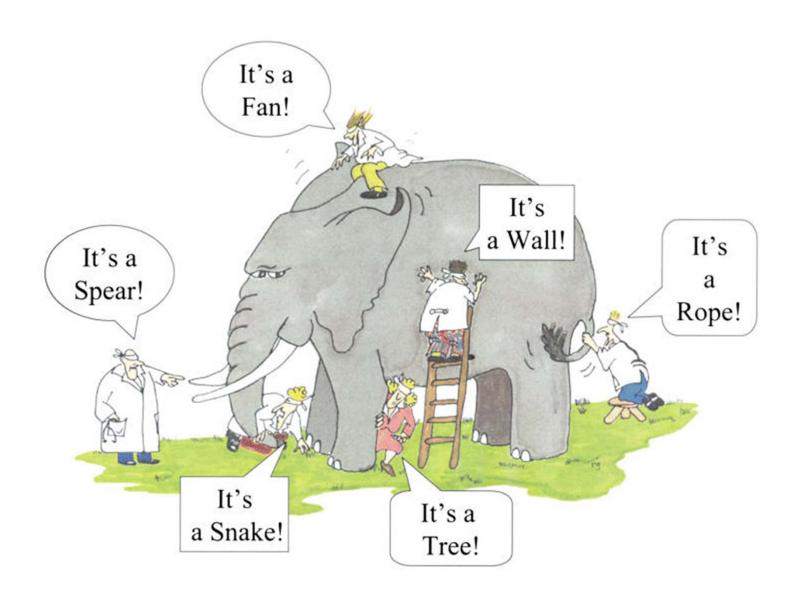
Clue #2: The change is:

Related to manufacturing & trade in intermediates.

<u>Clue #3</u>: Transformed developing nations' views of trade & investment.

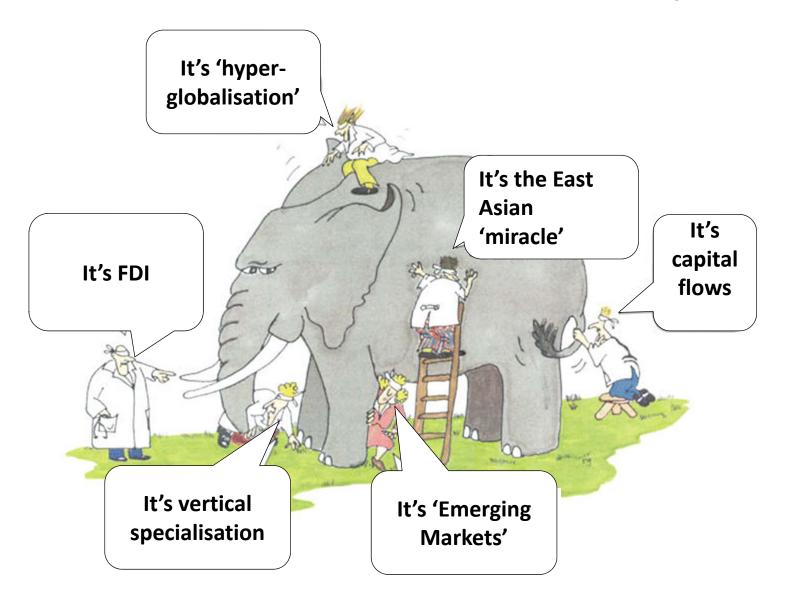






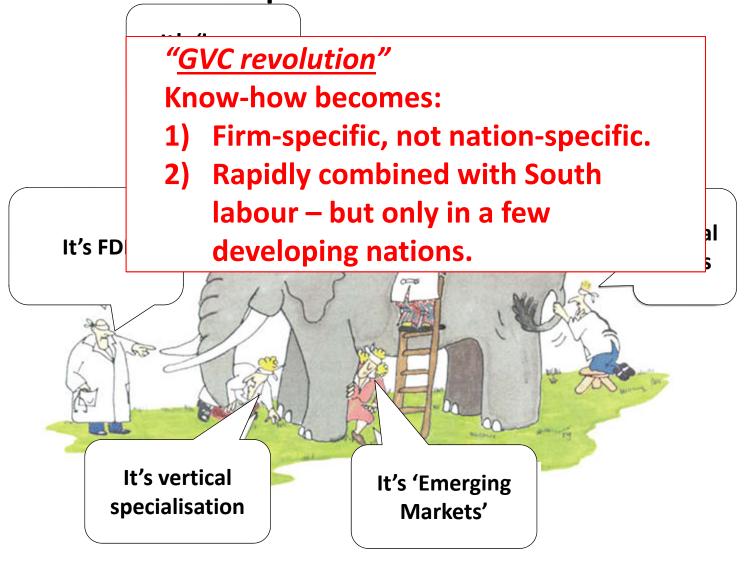


Buzzwords in lieu of analysis





Elephant = international movement of firm-specific know-how.





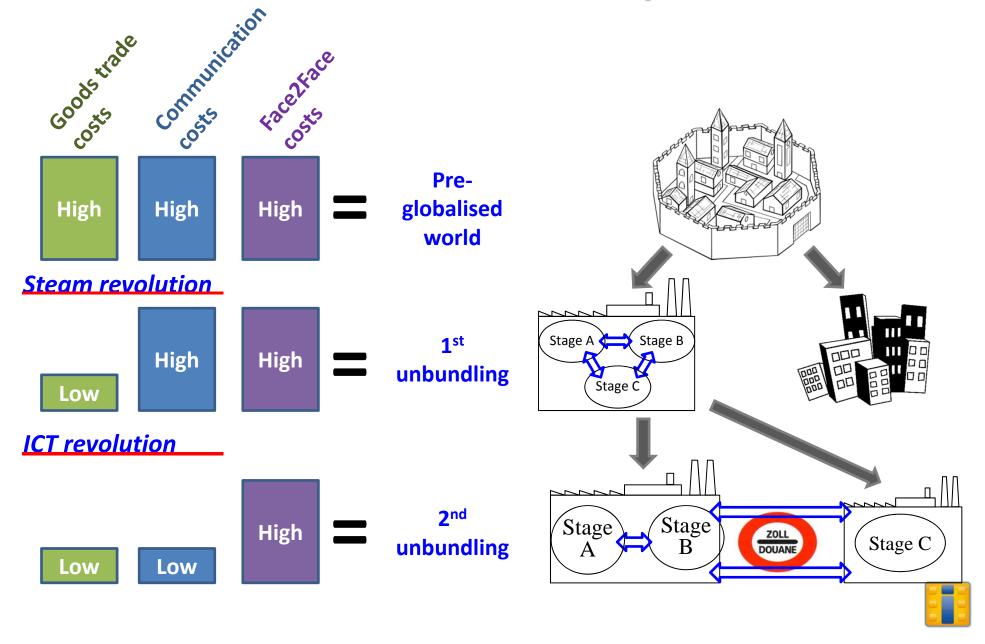
We need a new narrative for globalisation

Globalisation as 2 processes, not 1

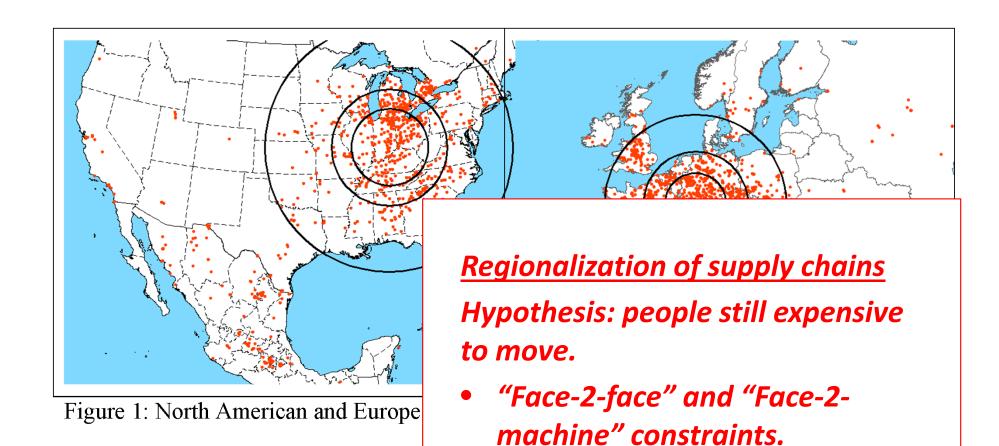




Globalisation: 3 cascading constraints



Distance still matters





Lets make better mistakes tomorrotat



Misthinking industrialisation:

Spence growth commission (2008)

3,800
4,000
1,400
29,900
900
9,600
.3,200
4,400
9,600
9,000
25,400
.6,400
2,400



Misthinking globalisation = misthinking economics

• 1st unbundling thinking:

$$Y_{Jpn} = A_{Jpn} F[L_{Jpn}, K_{Jpn}]$$

- 2nd unbundling thinking:
 - Globalisation changes technology in some developing nations.
 - Know-how flows directly in 'global value chains' & indirectly via intermediates.



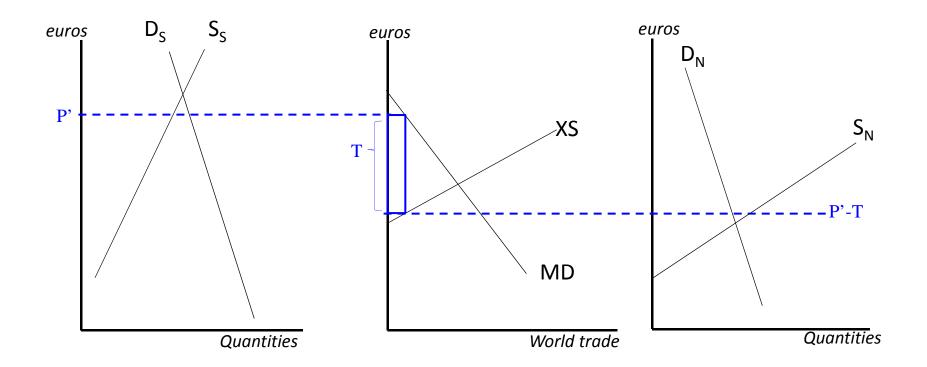
Economics of 2nd unbundling

- 2 ways of recombination hi-tech & low-wages:
 - Direct: North know-how moves to South labour
 - (offshoring).
 - Indirect: North know-how moves to South in components.
 - (trade in parts & components).

NB: Comparative advantage becomes a multicountry concept.



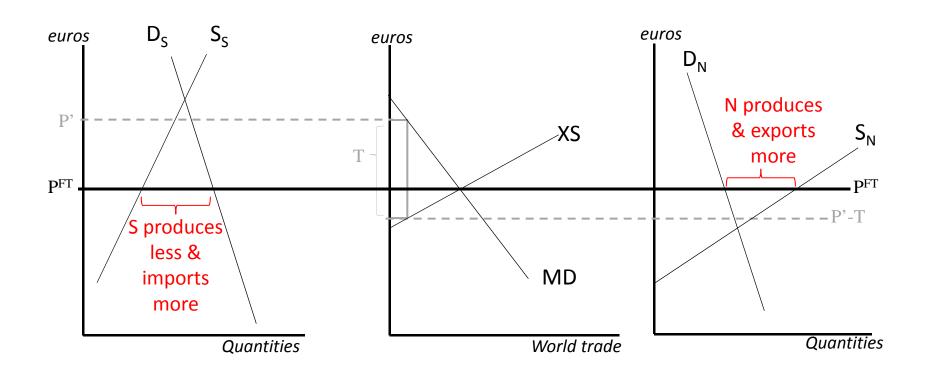
1st unbundling:





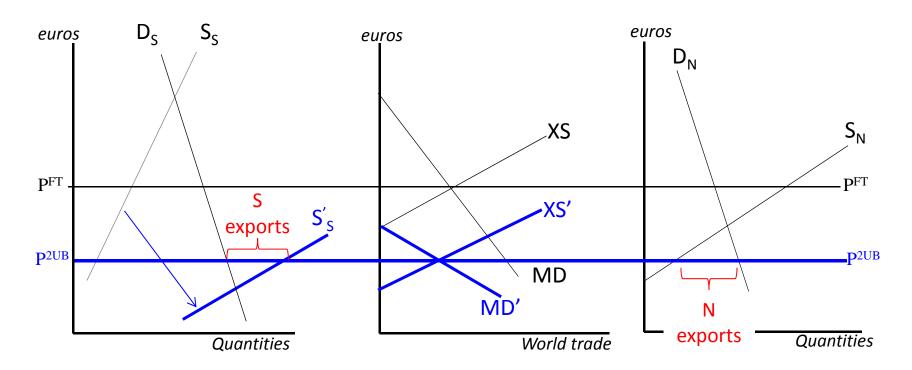
1st unbundling: Trade costs fall ->

North industrialises; South de-industrialises



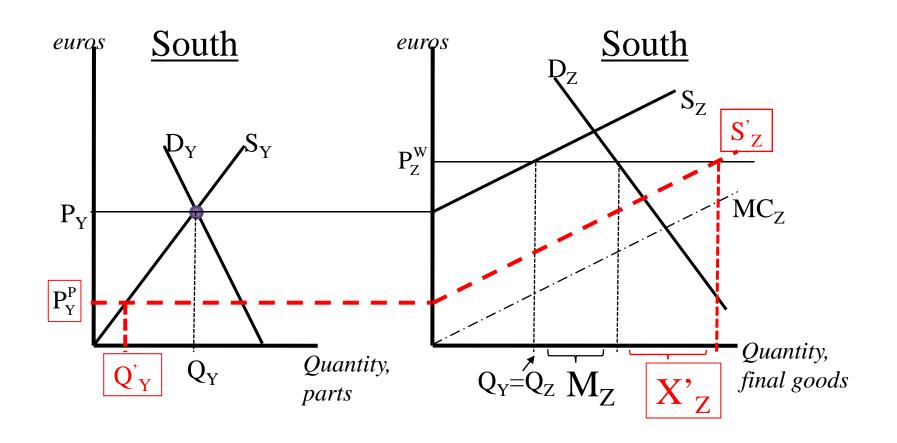


2^{nd} UB \rightarrow Direct recombination of North tech with South labour





Trade in parts can switch comparative advantage





Basic economic difference

- 1st unbundling globalisation:
 - Exploit comparative advantage by producing more at home & exporting.
- 2nd unbundling globalisation:
 - "Sources of comparative advantage" move internationally.



Rethinking impact of globalisation

The death of production functions?

$$Y_{Jpn} = A_{Jpn} F[L_{Jpn}, K_{Jpn}]$$

- Globalisation works with a finer degree of resolution.
 - Need IO work to track its impact.
- Old, bold approaches need more detail.
- Open up the blackbox of production functions.



Key difference for policy

- 1st unbundling = UB
 - Slow, predictable, controllable (tariff cuts).
 - By sector and skill-group.
- 2nd unbundling = 2UB
 - Sudden, individual, unpredictable.
 - Globalisation with a 'finer degree of resolution'.



GVC revolution:

Policy rethinks necessary

- 1. Social & education policy.
- 2. Industrial policy.
- 3. Urban policy.
- 4. Trade policy & Global trade governance.



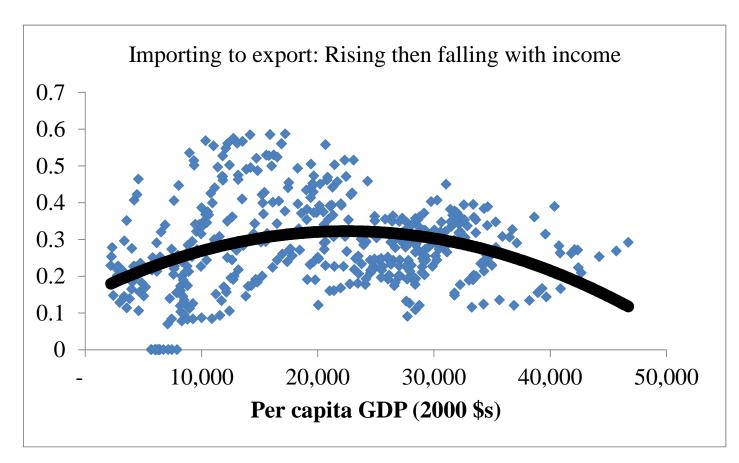
#5: Development policy

- Traditional industrialisation = <u>build</u> a supply chain (e.g. Korea).
- After 2nd unbundling, industrialisation = <u>join</u> a supply chain (e.g. Thailand).
- Some key points:
 - Industrialisation is easier but less significant.
 - 2nd unbundling killed import substitution.
 - North tech + South labour unbeatable.



Development paths changed

Holmes-Lopez-Gonzales curve





END

- Thank you for listening.
- Please continue developing Int'l IO tables and the like.
 - World of 2nd unbundling needs finer ganularity!

Unpaid avert: please visit:

www.VoxEU.org

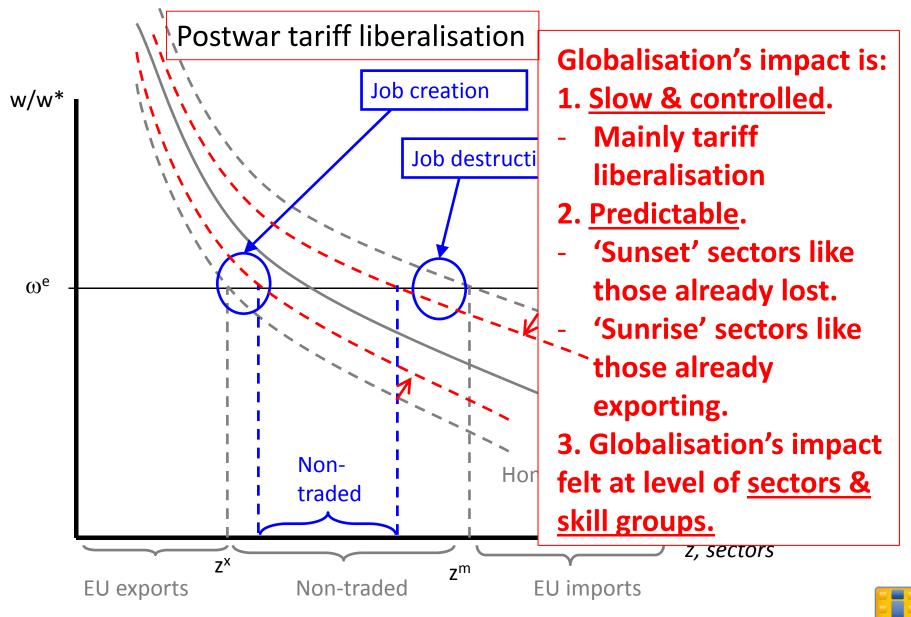
"Research-based policy analysis and commentary by leading economists"



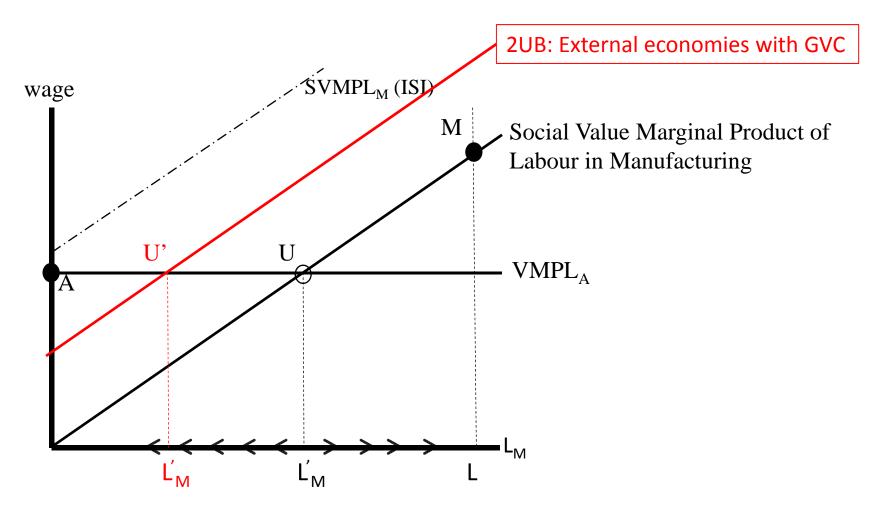
Extra slides for Q&A



1UB

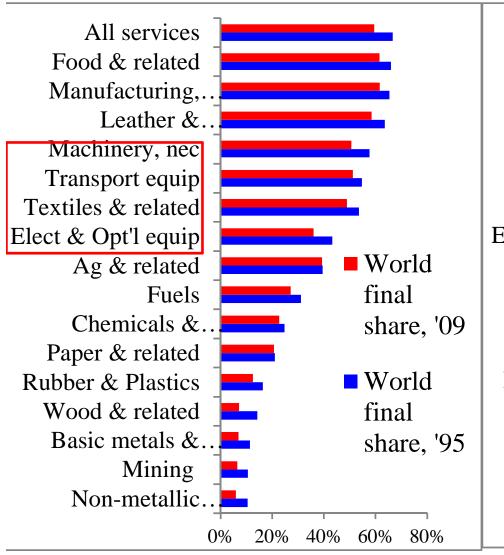


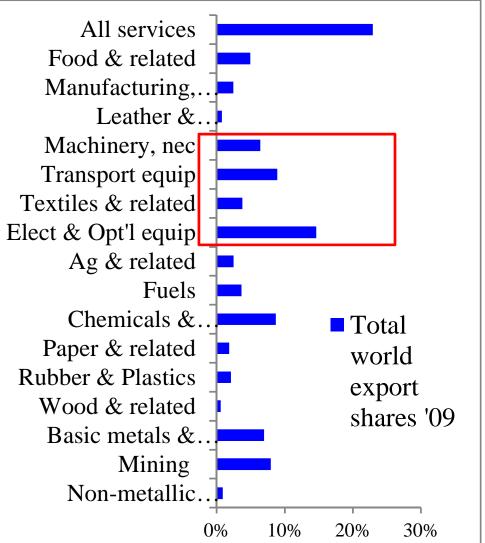
2nd unbundling: Industrialisation easier, but less meaningful





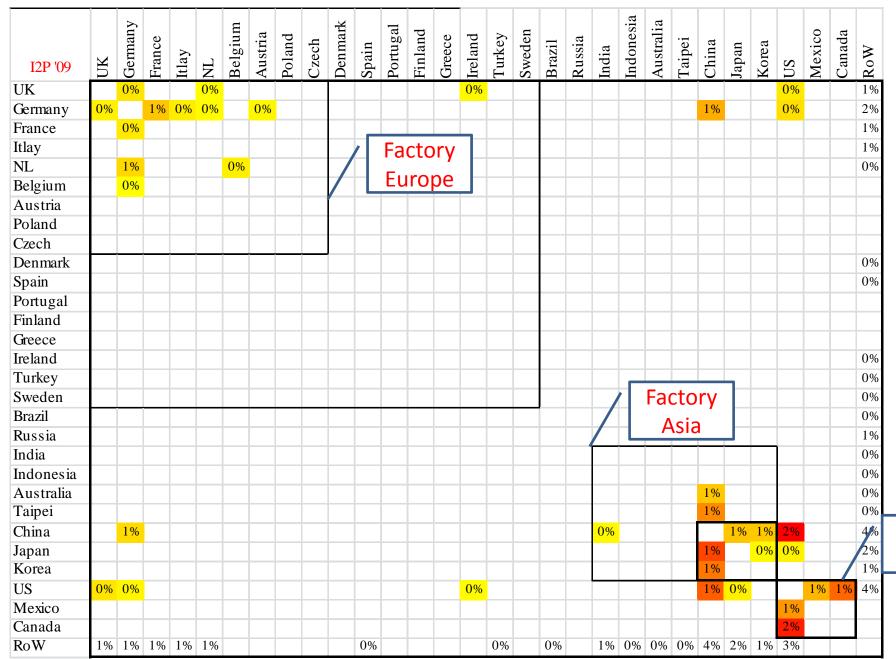
Supply-chain trade by industry







<u>I2P trade</u>: Bilateral intermediate imports as % of global flows, 2009



Facto NorA



2nd unbundling:

Differences for policymaking

- Misthinking globalisation = misthinking policy.
- 2nd unbundling:
- 1. Less predictable.
 - Globalisation changes national comparative advantage.
- 2. More sudden.
 - Not controlled by tariff cutting.
- 3. More individual.
 - Not by sectors or skill-groups.

