

# Cascading Innovation

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January 2018 @ AEA Philadelphia

# Introduction

- ▶ A big focus of growth research has been non-pecuniary **knowledge spillovers** (eg: Griliches (1982), Jaffee (1986) Bloom et al (2013)).
- ▶ Another focus is (pecuniary) **demand-led innovation**:
  - ▶ 'The amount of invention is governed by the extent of the market', Schmookler( 1966), *Invention and Economic Growth*.
- ▶ This has yielded a number of **market size** studies: Health (Acemoglu and Linn, 2004; Finkelstein, 2004), Environment (Aghion et al, 2012), Energy (Popp 2002).

# Role of the State

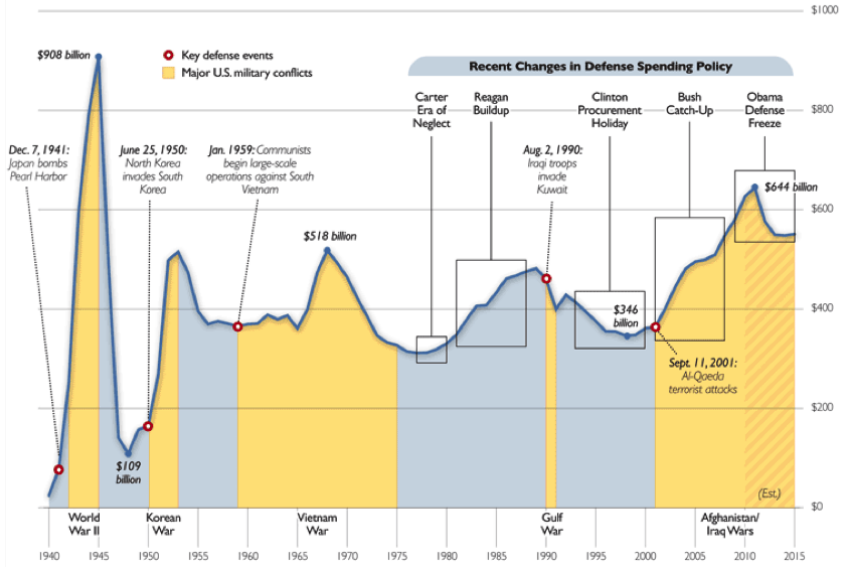
- ▶ Government-led innovation?
  - ▶ Government-led expansions of market size may have been instrumental for innovation
    - ▶ "Every technology that makes the iPhone so 'smart' was government funded: the Internet, GPS, its touch-screen display and the voice-activated SIRI" [Mazzucato, 2013 "*The Entrepreneurial State*"]
- ▶ Defense-led innovation?
  - ▶ Defense spending has had a massive role in US public spending:
    - ▶ 15-20% total government outlays
    - ▶ 20% of post-war R&D (30% in 1950s)
    - ▶ Major policy tool: Compare \$6.5 billion annually for R&D tax credit versus \$16 billion of military R&D alone.

## This paper.

- ▶ We address the market size question using a (firm-level) **production network** approach (eg: Atalay et al (2011), Acemoglu et al (2012), Carvalho(2014), Baqaee and Farhi (2017)).
- ▶ **Basic idea:** Trace the transmission of defense spending shocks through the supply chain. Are there credible 'cascading market size' effects on innovation?
- ▶ **Implementation:** A monstrous combination of federal contracts, patents and Compustat production network data. Best illustrated by example....

# A Topline View of U.S. Defense Budget History

Spending on National Defense, in Billions of 2005 Dollars



# Example - General Dynamics.

The screenshot shows the General Dynamics website. At the top is a blue navigation bar with the company name and links for Home, About Us, Products, Services, and News. The main content area features a large image of a Gulfstream G500 aircraft in flight, with a text overlay that reads "Gulfstream G500 Completes Flutter Testing". Below the image, there are sections for "Latest News" and "Market Information".

**GENERAL DYNAMICS**    HOME    ABOUT US    PRODUCTS    SERVICES    NEWS

**Gulfstream G500 Completes Flutter Testing**  
Gulfstream G500 aircraft has completed flutter testing at 430 knots.  
Learn More

**Latest News**

News 03/20/19  
**General Dynamics NASCO Awarded Contract for Repair and Modernization of Amphibious and Combatant Ships**

**Market Information**

News 02/20/19  
**California Delivers First G500ER**

News 02/20/19  
**General Dynamics UK Joins the £125 Billion Production of British Royal Air Force's New F-35s**

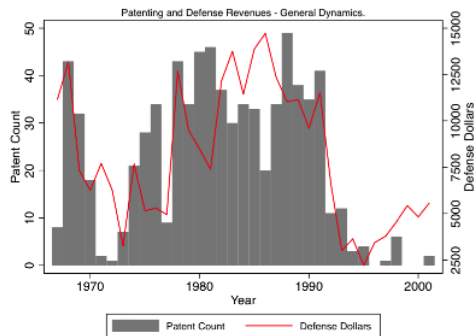
News 02/15/19  
**General Dynamics Wins \$1.2 Billion Contract for the U.S. Navy's Amphibious Landing Helicopter Assault Ship**

News 02/15/19  
**General Dynamics Wins \$1.2 Billion Contract for the U.S. Navy's Amphibious Landing Helicopter Assault Ship**

**FIGURE:** General Dynamics, a major defense contractor

- ▶ DoD records: information on all procurement contracts
- ▶ General Dynamics is a major DoD contractor during 80s
  - ▶ "F-16 Falcon" fighter; "Stinger" surface-to-air missile; "M1 Abrahams" tank
  - ▶ DoD records show General Dynamics winning contracts throughout the 80s in each of these categories

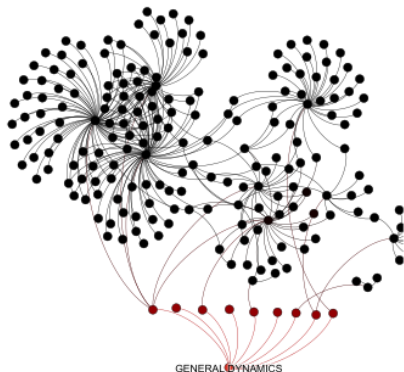
## Data - Matched Procurement Contracts.



**FIGURE:** Total defense contracts awarded to General Dynamics and patents issued by firm.

- ▶ DoD records: information on all procurement contracts
- ▶ General Dynamics is a major DoD contractor during 80s
  - ▶ Use Compustat balance sheet data + NBER patent data to look into firm-level innovation outcomes following DoD contracts

## Data - Supply Chain



**FIGURE:** The Supply Chain of General Dynamics in 1990

- ▶ Supply Chain & Cascading Innovation
- ▶ Financial Accounting Standards Rule No.131: listed firms required to disclose identity of major customers
  - ▶ Back out supply chain of each firm in DoD records
  - ▶ Use Compustat balance sheet data + NBER patent data to look into innovation outcomes across the supply chain



## Shocks to Market Size?

- ▶ To parse exogenous shocks we use product-level information on the composition of DoD spending.
- ▶ Specifically, the DoD has historically utilised a 4-digit Federal Supply Code (FSC) that is largely consistent from 1966 onwards.
- ▶ We use this to define 'DoD product markets' that firms specialise in. Shifts in spending then affect firms through a Bartik-style mechanism..



D

Department of Defense  
**Procurement Coding Manual**

**2-DIGIT LEVEL**

	<u>FEDERAL SUPPLY GROUP</u>
Nuclear Ordnance	10
Fire Control Equipment	11
Ammunition & Explosives	12
Guided Missiles	13
	14
Aircraft & Airframe Structural Components	15
Aircraft Components & Accessories	16
Aircraft Launching, Landing, & Ground Handling Equipment	17
Space Vehicles	18
Ships, Small Craft, Pontoons, & Floating Docks	19
Ship & Marine Equipment	20
Railway Equipment	22
Ground Effect Vehicles, Motor Vehicles, Trailers, & Cycles	23
Tractors	24
Vehicular Equipment Components	25
Tires & Tubes	26
Engines, Turbines, & Components	28
Engine Accessories	29
Mechanical Power Transmission Equipment	30
Bearings	31
Woodworking Machinery & Equipment	32
Metalworking Machinery	34
Service & Trade Equipment	35
Special Industry Machinery	36
Agricultural Machinery & Equipment	37



Department of Defense  
**Procurement Coding Manual**

**4-DIGIT LEVEL**

<b>AIRCRAFT COMPONENTS &amp; ACCESSORIES</b>	<b>(16)</b>
Aircraft Propellers	1610
Helicopter Rotor Blades, Drive Mechanisms, & Components	1615
Aircraft Landing Gear Components	1620
Aircraft Wheel & Brake Systems	1630
Aircraft Hydraulic, Vacuum, & De-Icing System Components	1650
Aircraft Air Conditioning, Heating, & Pressurizing Equipment	1660
Parachutes; Aerial Pick Up, Delivery, & Recovery Systems; & Cargo Tie-Down Equipment	1670
Miscellaneous Aircraft Accessories & Components	1680
<b>NUCLEAR ORDNANCE</b>	<b>(11)</b>
Nuclear Bombs	1105
Nuclear Projectiles	1110
Nuclear Warheads & Warhead Section	1115
Nuclear Depth Charges	1120
Nuclear Demolition Charges	1125
Nuclear Rockets	1127
Conversion Kits, Nuclear Ordnance	1130
Fuzing & Firing Devices, Nuclear Ordnance	1135
Nuclear Components	1140
Explosive & Pyrotechnic Components Nuclear Ordnance	1145
Specialized Test & Handling Equipment, Nuclear Ordnance	1190
Miscellaneous Nuclear Ordnance	1195

# Firm Product Specialisation Example

## EXAMPLE: GENERAL DYNAMICS PRODUCT SHARES, 1981.

	2-digit Code	Share
Aircraft and Airframe Structural Components	15	0.4324501
Ships, Small Craft, Pontoons, and Floating Docks	19	0.2136508
Guided Missiles	14	0.0919438
R&D (Weapons / Electronics/ Communications)	AC	0.0903228
Weapons	10	0.0667323
Modification of Equipment	K0	0.0134402
Maintenance, Repair, and Rebuilding of Equipment	J0	0.0110186
Support - Professional: Program evaluation/review/development	R4	0.0089637
R&D (Space Transportation)	AR	0.0085547
Maintenance and Repair Shop Equipment	49	0.0074202

(Plus 56 further 2-digit products)

For sample: Num products = 11 (median), 19 (mean)]

## Cascading Market Size...

- ▶ The twist to the basic Bartik strategy is that we map how the DoD market size shocks affect firms *down the supply chain with no direct relationship to the DoD*.
- ▶ Hence, these firms are *removed from the endogeneity concerns* that come up with first-order transmission in Bartik designs.
- ▶ The approach also closely captures the indirect 'government-induced innovation' effect that has been long speculated but hard to pin down empirically.

## Preview of Results

- ▶ Manage to capture clear evidence of firm-to-firm transmission of defense spending shocks. Effects are at least as big the main direct effects of defense sales.
- ▶ This 'pecuniary spillover' channel is a separate empirical mechanism to the better known knowledge spillover mechanism.
- ▶ Innovation patterns among the 'islands' plausibly fit the hypothesis of high-tech 'general purpose' innovation indirectly created by defense spending.

# Overview of Talk

- ▶ **Analytical Framework:** Market size and innovation in the simplest supply chain.
- ▶ **Data:** How we build these 'cascading shocks' and what the pattern looks like.
- ▶ **Empirical Strategy and Results:** Simple, clean approach to modelling 'sparse' network shocks.

# Analytical Framework (1)

- ▶ 3 agents in the simplest supply chain:
  - ▶ Final consumer: downward sloping demand curve
  - ▶ Downstream final goods producer,
  - ▶ Upstream intermediate goods suppliers (Cournot competitors)
- ▶ Both downstream and upstream firms:
  - ▶ Choose quantities produced in order to maximize profits
  - ▶ Choose how much to spend on (marginal) cost-reducing innovation efforts
- ▶ Key comparative statics of interest:
  - ▶ Response of quantities produced, innovation efforts and profits
  - ▶ Across the supply chain
  - ▶ Following outward shift of final demand curve



## Analytical Framework (2)

- ▶ Key result: Cascading Innovation
  - ▶ Increasing the extent of the final demand good's market → worthwhile to engage in cost-reducing innovation *at all levels of the supply chain*
- ▶ These are simple market size mechanics:
  - ▶ *Downstream*: Downstream producer faces (the traditional) direct market size effect + cost reduction effect on its intermediate input (given upstream innovation)
  - ▶ *Upstream*: Upstream producer faces a (derived) demand increase: increasing the size of the final demand goods' market leads to *recursive* market size effects up the supply chain.
    - ▶ This is a novel *pecuniary* spillover channel.

## Data - US Defense Procurement Data.

- ▶ DoD Military Prime Contracts Files
  - ▶ 1966-2003: via National Archives
  - ▶ supplemented with Federal Procurement Data System 2003-2010
- ▶ Universe of DoD military contracts above \$10,000.
  - ▶ Transaction amount, contractor name, location of work, dates of action, estimated completion date, contracting office within DoD.
  - ▶ Also: detailed Federal Supply product codes + weapon system codes.

## Data - Firm-Level Outcomes.

- ▶ Match procurement winners to firms in COMPUSTAT.
- ▶ Matched via contractor name + ownership structure
  - ▶ String-based name matching + DUNS + manual
  - ▶ Getting about 75-80% total dollar value of DoD contracts, up to 95% for R&D contracts.
  - ▶ Obtain Sales and R&D outcomes + host of covariates for 1966 onwards
- ▶ Merge in NBER Patents Database:
  - ▶ Obtain Patent counts, Citations at firm level
  - ▶ 1966- 2007 (baseline sample years)
  - ▶ Baseline sample: only firms that have ever patented

## Data - Supply Chain Data.

- ▶ Financial Accounting Standards Rule No.131:
  - ▶ US Publicly listed firms are required to disclose the identity of their major customers (10% of the seller's revenues).
  - ▶ They often disclose the share as well: we only work with these observations.
- ▶ Information retrieved from SEC filings:
  - ▶ Available in Compustat Customer Segment File.
  - ▶ String-based name matching + manual.
  - ▶ 1977-2007 (annual).

## Data - Compustat Production Network.

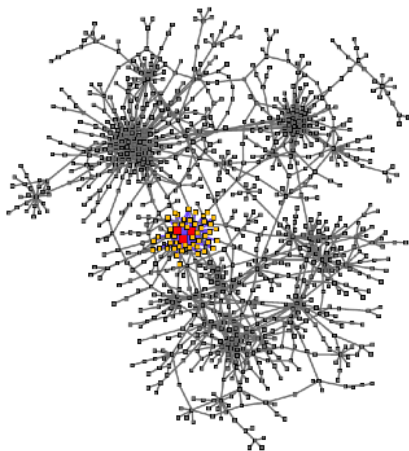


Fig. 2. Buyer-supplier network in 2006. GM, Ford, and Chrysler are colored red. Their suppliers are colored orange. All other firms are gray.

[From Atalay et al, 2012, PNAS]

## Defining Cascading Shocks.

- ▶ Construct 'derived demand' from DoD contracts for supplier  $i$  of firm  $k$  at time  $t$ :
  - ▶  $\theta_{ik}$ : share of inputs that customer  $k$  purchases from supplier  $i$ .
  - ▶ Amount of defense dollars from customer  $k$  to its supplier  $i$ :

$$c_{ikt} = \theta_{ik} d_{kt}$$

- ▶ Supplier receives these 'cascading' shocks across multiple purchasers of its goods. Aggregate across the  $K$  customers of each supplier  $i$  to get the full cascading shock:

$$c_{it}^K = \sum_{k=1}^K c_{ikt}$$

- ▶ Premise: supply chain relations are "sticky".

## Defining Market Size Shocks.

- ▶ Here, we need the historical within-firm product shares of the customer firms:

$$\phi_{kl,t-5} = \frac{d_{kl,t-5}}{\sum_{l=1}^L d_{kl,t-5}} \quad (1)$$

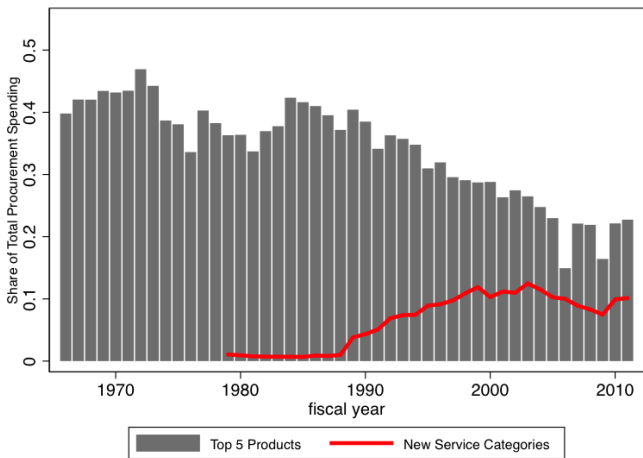
where  $l$  denotes DoD product code and  $k$  is customer firm.

- ▶ Hence total market size for firm  $k$  in period  $t$  calculated as:

$$m_{kt} = \sum_{l=1}^L \phi_{kl,t-5} D_{lt} \quad (2)$$

where  $D_{lt}$  is total DoD spending on product  $l$ . This variation at the  $k$  level then gets **transmitted through the supply chain network via  $\theta_{ik}$  the input share relationships.**

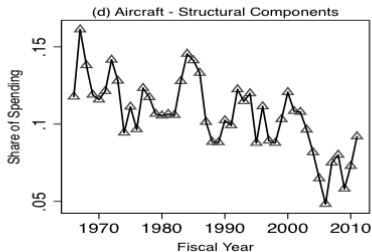
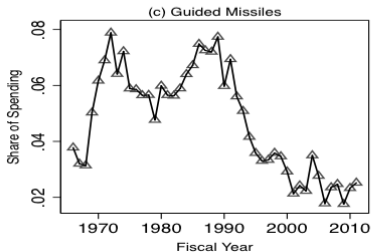
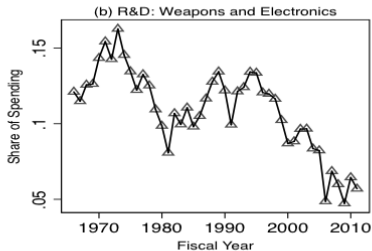
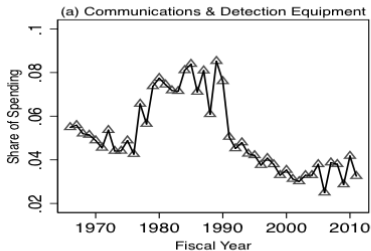
Figure 2: Product Shares in Total Procurement Spending, 1966-2011.



Notes: This figure shows the share of “Top 5” products in total procurement spending over time. The Top 5 have been calculated based on shares in the 1966-1976 period and include the categories: Defense, Weapons & Electronics R&D (AC); Aircraft and Airframe Structural Components (15); Guided Missiles (14); Ammunition and Explosives; and Communications, Detection and Coherent Radiation Equipment (58). (2-digit FSC classifications given in parentheses). The New Service Categories represent new 2-digit FSC groups introduced in 1979 and 1989. These include Social and Economic Science R&D (FSC groups AB, AE, AF, AL, AQ, B5 and R5); Architecture and Engineering Services (FSC groups R1, C1, C2); Data Processing and Communications (D3); Environmental Services (F0, F1, F9); Equipment and Materials Testing (H2), Lease and Rental of Facilities (X2); Medical Services (Q5), and Quality Control Services (H1, H9)



**Figure 3: Changes in Federal Supply Code (FSC) 2-digit Product Shares.**



## Empirical Model (1)

- ▶ We have a generic outcome equation:

$$y_{it} = \alpha_i + \beta c_{it}^K + \delta d_{it} + X_{it}' \lambda + \tau_t + \epsilon_{it} \quad (3)$$

where  $y_{it}$  is patents, sales or R&D;  $c_{it}^K$  are cascading sales shocks;  $d_{it}$  are direct defense sales receipts.

- ▶ Main issue is that  $c_{it}^K$  and  $d_{it}$  are sparse, with a mix of intensive and extensive margin shifts in sales shocks.

## Empirical Model (2)

- ▶ Use discrete indicators to measure different levels of sales shocks:

$$y_{it} = \alpha_i + \sum_{q=1}^Q \beta^q c_{it}^{K,q} + \sum_{q=1}^Q \delta^q d_{it}^q + X'_{it} \lambda + \tau_t + \epsilon_{it} \quad (4)$$

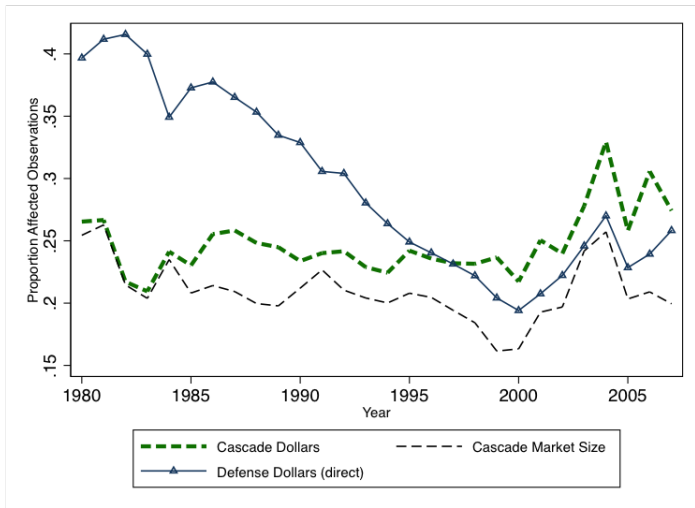
where where  $q$  indexes the quantile and we set all the instances of  $c_{it}^K = 0$  and  $d_{it} = 0$  as the default categories.

- ▶ Basic logic of this 'discretized shock' approach can be extended to indicators for the layer of the supply chain, market size shocks, or type of firm.

Table 1: Characteristics of Compustat Supplier Sample, 1976-2007

Variable	Value	Std. Dev.
<b>(A) Main Variables (mean)</b>		
Patent Count	11.3	80.7
Citation Count	81.0	598.6
Employment (in 1000s)	5.9	(18.8)
Employment (median)	0.6	-
Sales (in \$1000s)	1,445	5,5680
R&D	73.1	358.0
<b>(B) Sales Shocks (frequency)</b>		
Cascade Dollars	0.234	-
Defense Dollars	0.287	-
"Island" Cascade Dollars	0.095	-
Cascade Market Size	0.195	-
<b>(C) Link Structure</b>		
Distinct Supplier-Customer pairs	6,976	-
Mean Link Duration (years)	3.1	3.1
Suppliers per Customer (mean)	18.0	98.3
Suppliers per Customer (median)	3.0	-
(Customer Purchases / Supplier Sales) share (mean)	0.201	0.186
(Customer Purchases / Supplier Sales) share (median)	0.146	-
Number of Customer Firms	1,414	-
Number of Supplier Firms	2,633	-

**Figure 4: Frequency of Non-Zero Sales Shocks, Supplier Sample.**



Notes: This figure shows the frequency of non-zero observations for Cascading Dollars, Defense Dollars and Cascade Market Size, defined as per the frequency definition of Table 1. That is, this plots the proportion of non-zero observations for each variable where we normalise by the total number of supplier observations in a given year. The sample used is the N = 38,580 sample with 2,633 unique supplier firms. The plot starts in 1980 to allow for the lags in the definition of the market size variable to settle in.

## BASELINE RESULTS

*How do the effects of cascade shocks versus direct defense sales shocks compare?*

Table 2: Cascade Effects for Suppliers, 1976-2007

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	ln(Patent Count)	ln(Sales)	ln(R&D)
<b>(A) Continuous Model</b>			
ln(Cascade Defense Sales) $_{t-1}$	0.019*** (0.004)	0.028*** (0.005)	0.025*** (0.006)
ln(Direct Defense Sales) $_{t-1}$	0.029*** (0.004)	0.050*** (0.006)	0.033*** (0.006)
<b>(B) Discrete Model</b>			
Cascade Shock $_{t-1}$	0.081*** (0.018)	0.167*** (0.028)	0.088*** (0.029)
Direct Defense Shock $_{t-1}$	0.138*** (0.022)	0.258*** (0.031)	0.145*** (0.032)
Number of Firms	2,633	2,633	2,226
Number of Observations	38,580	38,580	27,862

*Notes:* Standard errors clustered by firm in parentheses. All specifications include firm fixed effects and SIC4-year fixed effects.  $\ln(\text{Cascade Dollars})_{t-1}$  is the log of all sales dollars received by the supplier via cascading customer purchases.  $\ln(\text{Defense Dollars})$  is the log of dollars received by the supplier via directly awarded prime defense contracts. The variable  $\text{Cascade Shock}_{t-1}$  is an indicator variable for instances where  $(\text{Cascade Defense Sales}_{t-1} > 0)$ . The variable  $\text{Direct Defense Shock}_{t-1}$  is an indicator variable for instances where  $(\text{Direct Defense Sales}_{t-1} > 0)$ .

## TYPE OF SHOCK

*Effects by financial size of shock and level of cascade?*



Table 3: Cascade Effects by Size of Shock and Supply Chain Level

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	ln(Patent Count)	ln(Sales)	ln(R&D)
<b>(A) Size of Shock</b>			
Cascade Shock $_{t-1}$ - Below Median	0.035* (0.019)	0.149*** (0.034)	0.031 (0.030)
Cascade Shock $_{t-1}$ - Above Median	0.147*** (0.028)	0.195*** (0.034)	0.180*** (0.043)
Direct Defense Shock $_{t-1}$ - Below Median	0.092*** (0.021)	0.186*** (0.027)	0.093*** (0.030)
Direct Defense Shock $_{t-1}$ - Above Median	0.259*** (0.037)	0.447*** (0.052)	0.294*** (0.053)
<b>(B) Supply Chain Level</b>			
Cascade Shock $_{t-1}$ - Upper Level	0.072*** (0.019)	0.170*** (0.029)	0.063** (0.030)
Cascade Shock $_{t-1}$ - Lower Level	0.082*** (0.029)	0.144*** (0.037)	0.052 (0.040)
Direct Defense Shock $_{t-1}$	0.139*** (0.022)	0.261*** (0.031)	0.146*** (0.032)
Number of Firms	2,633	2,633	2,226
Number of Observations	38,580	38,580	27,862

Table A1: Cascade Effects - Tercile Models (Size of Shock)

	(1) ln(Patent Count)	(2) ln(Sales)	(3) ln(R&D)
Tercile 1 Cascade Shock $_{t-1}$	0.041** (0.021)	0.153*** (0.039)	0.001 (0.032)
Tercile 2 Cascade Shock $_{t-1}$	0.057** (0.024)	0.168*** (0.037)	0.123*** (0.046)
Tercile 3 Cascade Shock $_{t-1}$	0.181*** (0.038)	0.195*** (0.040)	0.197*** (0.047)
Tercile 1 Direct Defense Shock $_{t-1}$	0.052** (0.021)	0.145*** (0.026)	0.060** (0.029)
Tercile 2 Direct Defense Shock $_{t-1}$	0.188*** (0.031)	0.315*** (0.039)	0.195*** (0.046)
Tercile 3 Direct Defense Shock $_{t-1}$	0.341*** (0.048)	0.564*** (0.069)	0.393*** (0.068)
Number of Firms	2,633	2,633	2,226
Number of Observations	38,580	38,580	27,862

## DECOMPOSING DISCRETE SHOCKS

*Do we see effects among 'island' firms with no direct DoD link?*

Table 4: Cascade Effects - Decomposing Discrete Shocks

	ln(Patent Count)		ln(Sales)		ln(R&D)	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Cascade Shock $_{t-1}$	0.081*** (0.018)		0.167*** (0.028)		0.088*** (0.029)	
Island Shock $_{t-1}$		0.115*** (0.025)		0.268*** (0.049)		0.128*** (0.045)
Non-Overlapping Shock $_{t-1}$		0.105*** (0.028)		0.151*** (0.040)		0.063 (0.044)
Overlapping Shock $_{t-1}$		0.009 (0.033)		0.036 (0.035)		0.058 (0.046)
Direct Defense Shock $_{t-1}$	0.138*** (0.022)	0.162*** (0.024)	0.258*** (0.031)	0.288*** (0.034)	0.145*** (0.032)	0.146*** (0.036)
Number of Firms	2,633	2,633	2,633	2,633	2,226	2,226
Number of Observations	38,580	38,580	38,580	38,580	27,862	27,862

## LOOKING AT THE ISLANDS.

*Market size versus technology spillovers?*

Table 5: Cascade Effects - Market Size vs Technological Spillovers

	ln(Patent Count)			ln(R&D)		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Cascade Shock $_{t-1}$	0.111*** (0.028)			0.132*** (0.051)		
Cascade Market Size Shock $_{t-1}$		0.136*** (0.032)	0.135*** (0.032)		0.134** (0.056)	0.134** (0.056)
ln(Tech Spill) $_{t-1}$			0.310** (0.153)			1.495*** (0.560)
Number of Firms	817	817	817	698	698	698
Number of Observations	9,895	9,895	9,895	7,383	7,383	7,383

## Technological Distance

- ▶ What's the composition of the innovation in the cascade? Is defense spending inducing technological development in 'general purpose' areas?
- ▶ We break down the 3-digit US patent tech classes (N=419) and calculate shares among different firm groups.
- ▶ These are a) Top 50 direct contractors; b) Smaller contractors who are suppliers; and c) 'Island' suppliers.

Figure 5a - Technological Distance, Small Contractors versus Top Contractors.

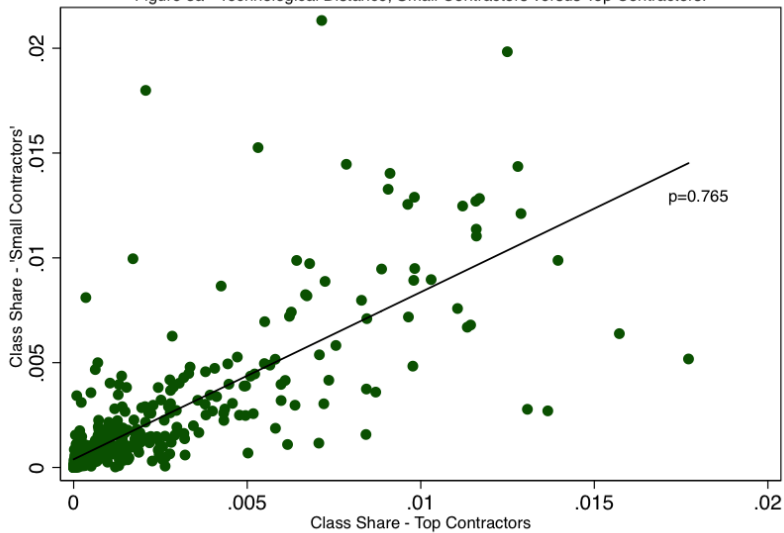




Figure 5b - Technological Distance, Islands versus Top Contractors.

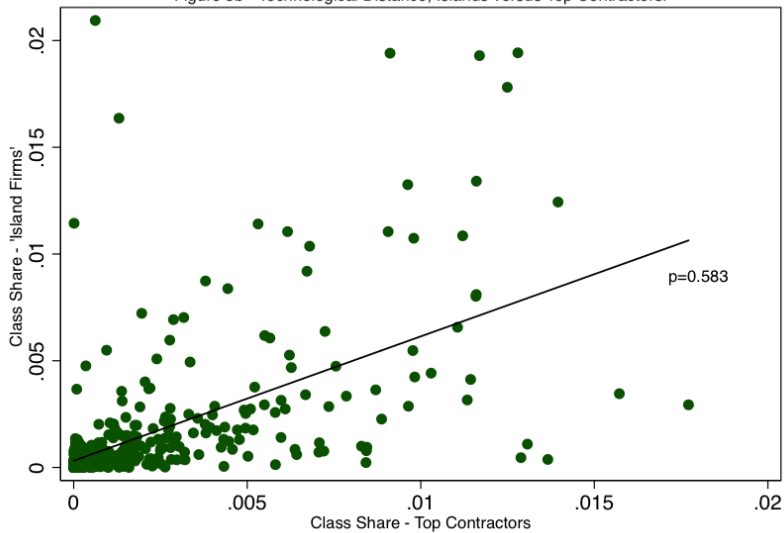


Figure 5b - Technological Distance, Islands versus Top Contractors.

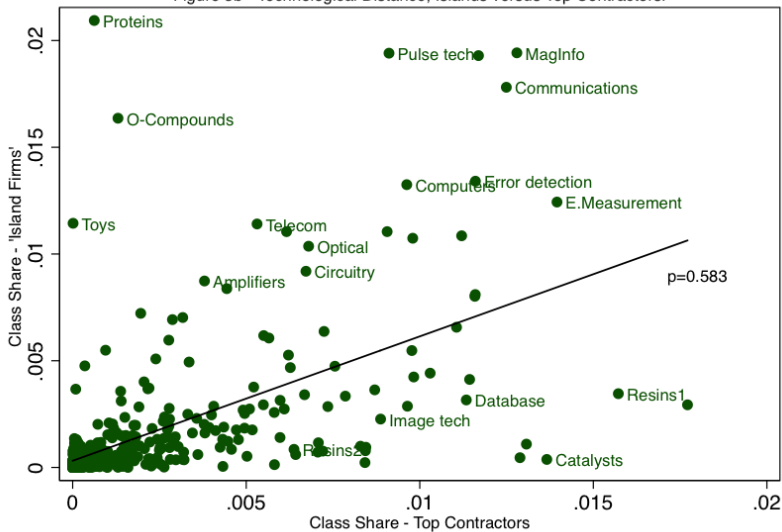
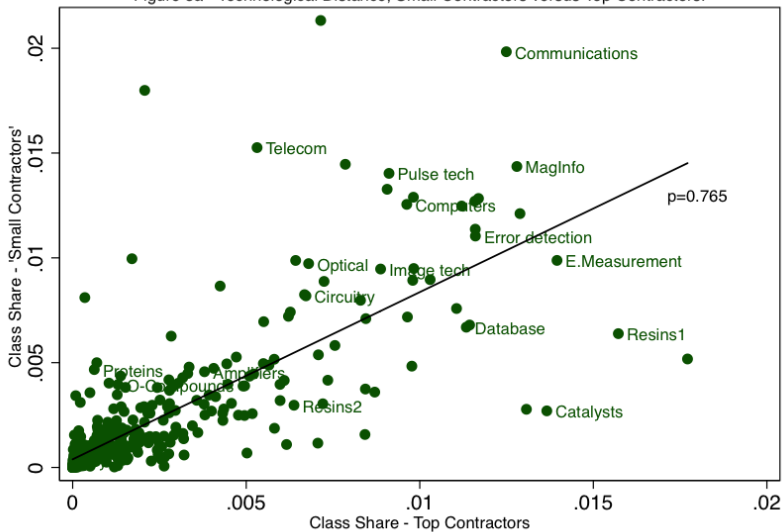


Figure 5a - Technological Distance, Small Contractors versus Top Contractors.



## Conclusion / Extensions.

- ▶ More on market size variation + firm-to-firm knowledge spillover controls.
- ▶ Spending shocks based on 'winning and losing supply chains' through big contract awards.
- ▶ More complex empirical information on firm-to-firm network structure.

Table 6: Cascade Effects - Market Size vs Technological Spillovers

	ln(Sales)		
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Cascade Shock $_{t-1}$	0.260*** (0.059)		
Cascade Market Size Shock $_{t-1}$		0.223*** (0.062)	0.218*** (0.062)
ln(Tech Spill) $_{t-1}$			1.291*** (0.466)
Number of Firms	817	817	817
Number of Observations	9,895	9,895	9,895

# Analytical Framework (1)

- ▶ 3 agents in the simplest supply chain:
  - ▶ Final consumer: downward sloping demand curve
  - ▶ Downstream final goods producer,
  - ▶ Upstream intermediate goods suppliers (Cournot competitors)
- ▶ Both downstream and upstream firms:
  - ▶ Choose quantities produced in order to maximize profits
  - ▶ Choose how much to spend on (marginal) cost-reducing innovation efforts
- ▶ Key comparative statics of interest:
  - ▶ Response of quantities produced, innovation efforts and profits
  - ▶ Across the supply chain
  - ▶ Following outward shift of final demand curve

## Analytical Framework (2)

- ▶ Key result: Cascading Innovation
  - ▶ Increasing the extent of the final demand good's market → worthwhile to engage in cost-reducing innovation *at all levels of the supply chain*
- ▶ These are simple market size mechanics:
  - ▶ *Downstream*: Downstream producer faces (the traditional) direct market size effect + cost reduction effect on its intermediate input (given upstream innovation)
  - ▶ *Upstream*: Upstream producer faces a (derived) demand increase: increasing the size of the final demand goods' market leads to *recursive* market size effects up the supply chain.
    - ▶ This is a novel *pecuniary* spillover channel.

# Analytical Framework (1)

- ▶ Consider 3 firms:
  - ▶ Downstream final demand producer
  - ▶ 2 Upstream intermediate input suppliers
- ▶ Downstream firm:
  - ▶ 1 unit of final demand requires 1 unit of intermediate input price + processing.
  - ▶ Total cost of producing 1 unit of final demand:  $p(x) + c(k_d)$
  - ▶ Cost reducing innovation ( $k_d$ ) under decreasing returns:

$$c(k_d) > 0, c'(k_d) < 0, c''(k_d) > 0$$

- ▶ Faces downward sloping demand for final good:

$$P(y) = a - y$$



## Analytical Framework (2)

- ▶ Consider 3 firms:
  - ▶ Downstream final demand producer
  - ▶ 2 Upstream intermediate input suppliers
- ▶ Upstream firms:
  - ▶ Symmetric Cournot
  - ▶ Total cost of producing 1 unit of intermediate input  $x$ :  $c(k_u)$
  - ▶ Cost reducing innovation ( $k_u$ ) under decreasing returns

$$c(k_u) > 0, c'(k_u) < 0, c''(k_u) > 0$$

- ▶ Final good firm is sole source of demand.

## Analytical Framework (3)

- ▶ Solve for profit max. equilibrium in two stages:
  - ▶ 1st Stage: Firms decide on levels of R&D spending
  - ▶ 2nd Stage: Firms decide on quantities produced conditional on levels of R&D spending
- ▶ Want to know:
  - ▶ Upstream and Downstream: Profits, Quantities Produced and R&D
  - ▶ Following an increase in market size for final good ( $a \uparrow$ )

# Analytical Framework (4)

## Results/Comparative Statics

- ▶ Proposition: For  $a$  large enough, increasing the market size for the downstream final good ( $a \uparrow$ ) leads to:
  - ▶ Increasing downstream and upstream profits:

$$\frac{\partial \pi_d}{\partial a} > 0 \& \frac{\partial \pi_u}{\partial a}$$

- ▶ Increasing downstream and upstream quantities:

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial a} > 0 \& \frac{\partial x}{\partial a} > 0$$

- ▶ Increasing downstream and upstream innovation:

$$\frac{\partial k_d}{\partial a} > 0 \& \frac{\partial k_u}{\partial a} > 0$$

# Analytical Framework (5)

## Results/Comparative Statics

- ▶ These are simple market size mechanics:
  - ▶ Increasing the extent of the market → worthwhile to engage in cost-reducing innovation *at all levels of the supply chain*
    - ▶ *Downstream*: Downstream producer faces (the traditional) direct market size effect + cost reduction effect on its intermediate input (given upstream innovation)
    - ▶ *Upstream*: Upstream producer faces a (derived) demand increase: increasing the size of the final demand goods' market leads to recursive market size effects up the supply chain.