

# DISCUSSION PAPERS IN ECONOMICS

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The Export Skill Content, Learning By Exporting  
and Economic Growth

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*We empirically investigate whether countries' export mix influences their economic growth. Using panel data from 86 countries covering the period between 1970 and 1990, we identify a statistically significant positive relationship between export skill content and economic growth. The evidence supports the idea that, after controlling for the levels of GDP per capita, education, openness to foreign trade, and political and macroeconomic stability, a higher export content of skill-intensive goods generates higher per-capita GDP growth rates.*

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*explicit*

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$$\begin{aligned}
GROWTH_{j,t} = & \beta_1 + \beta_2 EXPORTS_{j,t-1} + \beta_3 GDPCAP_{j,t-1} + \beta_4 PRIM_{j,t-1} \\
& + \beta_5 SECM_{j,t-1} + \beta_6 INVSHR_{j,t-1} + \beta_7 OPEN_{j,t-1} + \beta_8 INVPP_{j,t-1} \\
& + \beta_9 GOV_{j,t-1} + \beta_{10} REV_{j,t-1} + \sigma_j + \zeta_t + \epsilon_{j,t}
\end{aligned}$$

$GROWTH_{j,t}$   $j'$

$EXPONENTS_{j,t-1}$   $j$

$INVSHR_{j,t-1}$

$PRIM_{j,t-1}$

$SECM_{j,t-1}$

$GDPCAP_{j,t-1}$   $j$

$OPEN_{j,t-1}$

$INVPP_{j,t-1}$

$GOV_{j,t-1}$

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*REV*

$\sigma_j$

$\zeta_i$

*EXPORTS*

$$EXPORTS_{j,t} = \alpha_i [(R\&D/Sales)_i e_i] \beta_j$$

$\alpha_i$

$$e_i, e_i = EXP_{i,t} / EXP_i$$

$\beta_j$

$\beta_j$

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*fixed*

*EXPORTS*

*PRIM*

*SECM*

*EXPORTS*

*GDPCAP*

*PRIM SECM*

*OPEN PPP.*

*GOV*

*REV*

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*Journal of International Economics*

*Quarterly*

*Journal of Economics*



<i>EXPORTS</i> <sub><i>j,t-1</i></sub>									
<i>LGDP</i> <sub><i>j,t-1</i></sub>									
<i>PRIM</i> <sub><i>j,t-1</i></sub>									
<i>SECM</i> <sub><i>j,t-1</i></sub>									
<i>OPEN</i> <sub><i>j,t-1</i></sub>									

*PPP*<sub>*j,t-1*</sub>

$GROWTH_{j,t-1}$		
$LGDP_{j,t-1}$		
$PRIM_{j,t-1}$		
$SECM_{j,t-1}$		
$OPEN_{j,t}$		
$PPP_{j,t-1}$		
$TOT_{j,t}$		
$INVEST_{j,t-1}$		
$GOV_{j,t-1}$		
$REV_{j,t}$		
<i>Observations</i>		
<i>Adjusted R-</i>		

<i>squared</i>		
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