

# Grin and Bear It: Producer-Financed Exports from an Emerging Market

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# Motivation

- Large amounts are spent on trade financing - \$1.5 trillion annually.
- Shock to trade finance viewed as one of the drivers of the Great Trade Collapse.
- Trade financing is a key issue for policy makers and exporters in developing countries.

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  - cash in advance (CIA): importer finances and bears the risk
  - letter of credit (LC): neither of the trading partners bears the risk.
- Literature on trade finance is very new, and there is a lot to learn.



## Research questions

- What determines the choice of financing terms in an international trade transaction?
- Does competition in the destination market matter for the choice of financing terms?
  - End of the Multi-Fibre Agreement
  - Great Recession

# Literature

- Literature on trade finance (broader perspective): e.g. Amiti and Weinstein (2011); Chaney (2005); Manova (2008); Paravisini et al. (2013).
- Very recent literature on financing terms in international trade: Antràs and Foley (2013); Eck et al. (2012); Engemann et al (2011); Hoefele et al. (2013); Schmidt-Eisenlohr (2013).

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- Detailed information on the universe of exports (as opposed to data for a single firm or indirect tests).
- First study to examine the role of competition in the destination market for the choice of financing terms.
- Exploits the end of the Multi-Fibre Agreement and the Great Recession as exogenous shocks

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- OA exports increase with the degree of competition in the destination market
  - more OA exports after the end of the MFA
  - to countries affected by the Great Recession
- Effect of contractual enforcement in the destination is stronger for differentiated goods.

# Outline

- Data
- Stylized facts
- Model
- Empirical findings
- Conclusion

# Data

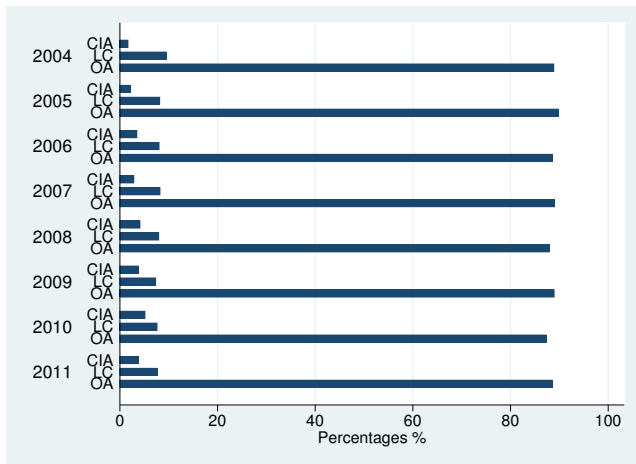
- Data cover manufacturing exports of Turkey by destination, financing term, and product (HS10) for the period 2004-2011.
- Manufacturing exports account for about 94% of total exports.

# Why Turkey?

- Only country that publishes trade data disaggregated by financing terms.
- Turkey exports almost 5,000 (HS6) products to more than 200 countries, reflecting a diversified product base.
- Since 1996, Turkey has been in a customs union with the EU: the 5<sup>th</sup> largest exporter to the EU and its 7<sup>th</sup> largest importer.

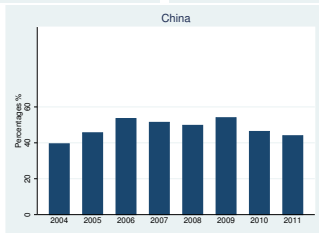
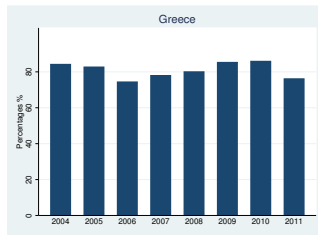
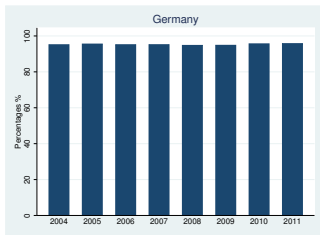
## Stylized facts - OA as the dominant form of financing

- On average, OA accounts for 80% of total exports, while CIA 7% and LC 13%.

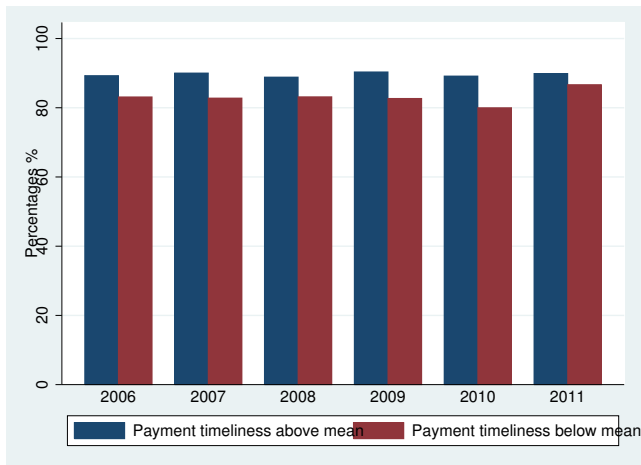


Share of exports by financing terms (2004-2011)

# Stylized facts - considerable variation in the use of OA across countries and years



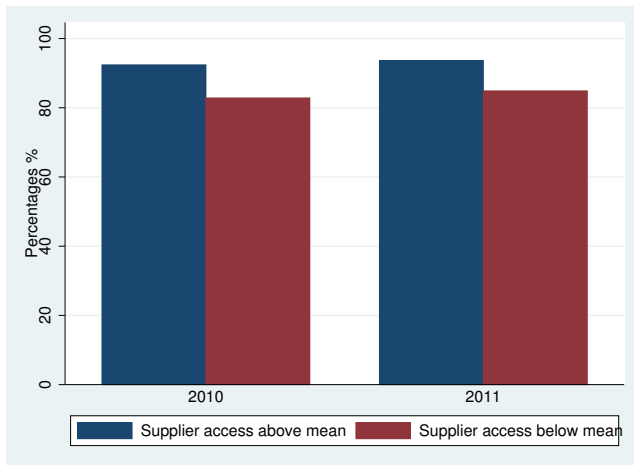
## Exporter financing more prevalent to countries with better institutions



Share of exports on open account terms and institutional quality

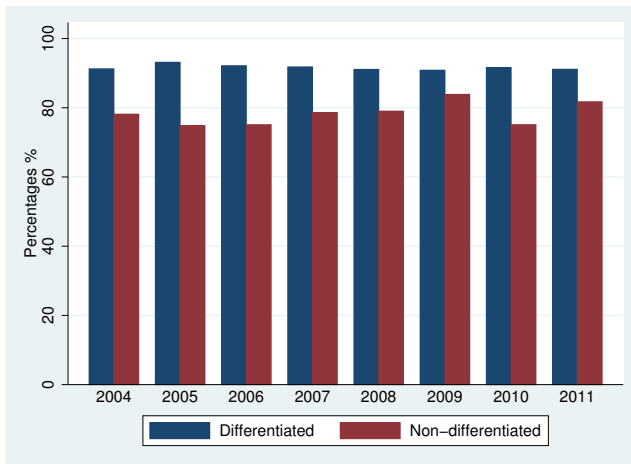


## Exporter financing more prevalent to more competitive countries



Share of exports on open account terms and competition in the destination

## Exporter financing more prevalent for differentiated products



Share of exports on open account terms across product types

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- Timing:
  - Under CIA: importer pays at  $t = 0$  → goods arrive at  $c$  after  $t$  periods
  - Under OA: exporter produces and ships the goods at  $t = 0$  → importer pays after  $t$  periods
  - Under LC: importer's bank guarantees payment to the exporter after the arrival of goods at the destination (pre-financing on both sides)



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- Expected profits of the exporter and the importer:

$$E[\Pi_E^{CIA}] = Q(P^{CIA} - 1),$$
$$E[\Pi_I^{CIA}] = Q \left\{ \frac{\lambda + (1 - \lambda)(1 - \delta(e))}{(1 + r_c)^t} S - P^{CIA} \right\},$$

where  $Q$  is the size of shipment,  $P^{CIA}$  the price agreed when the contract was concluded, and  $r_c$  the cost of financing in the importer's country.

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$$E[\Pi_E^{OA}] = Q \left\{ \frac{\lambda_c + (1 - \lambda_c)(1 - \gamma(e))}{(1 + r)^t} P^{OA} - 1 \right\},$$

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$$E[\Pi_E^{LC}] = Q \left\{ \frac{1}{(1+r)^t} P^{LC} - 1 \right\},$$

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$$\Omega_{CIA}^* \propto \left( \frac{\lambda + (1 - \lambda)(1 - \delta(e))}{(1 + r_c)^t} S - 1 \right),$$

$$\Omega_{OA}^* \propto \left( \frac{(1 + r)^t}{\lambda_c + (1 - \lambda_c)(1 - \gamma(e))} \right)^\alpha \left( \frac{\lambda_c + (1 - \lambda_c)(1 - \gamma(e))}{(1 + r)^t} S - 1 \right)$$

$$\Omega_{LC}^* \propto (1 + r)^{t\alpha} \left( \frac{1}{(1 + r_c)^t (1 + r)^t f_{LC}} S - 1 \right).$$

## Predictions

- OA becomes more attractive as enforcement in the destination improves

$$\frac{\partial(\Omega_{OA}^*/\Omega_{CIA}^*)}{\partial\lambda_c}, \frac{\partial(\Omega_{OA}^*/\Omega_{LC}^*)}{\partial\lambda_c} > 0$$

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$$\frac{\partial^2(\Omega_{OA}^*/\Omega_{CIA}^*)}{\partial e \partial \lambda_c}, \frac{\partial^2(\Omega_{OA}^*/\Omega_{LC}^*)}{\partial e \partial \lambda_c} > 0,$$

# Variables

- All continuous variables are mean-centered.
- We measure *IQ* in four ways:
  - *PT*: (payment timeliness) measures the risk associated with receiving and exporting payments from the country.
  - *CV*: (contract viability) measures the risk of unilateral contract modification or cancellation.
  - *CLS* (confidence in legal system): measures the degree to which firms believe the judicial system will defend their rights in a business dispute
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- We also control for the inefficiency of the banking sector in the destination country
  - *NIM* (net interest margin): difference between interest income and interest expense as a percentage of interest-earning assets.

## Empirical strategy

$$X_{cpft} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 OA_{cpft} * IQ_{ct} + \beta_2 OA_{cpft} * NIM_{ct} + \beta_3 OA_{cpft} * Comp_{cpt} \\ + \Theta OA_{cpft} * Z_{ct} + \delta_{ft} + \gamma_{ct} + \alpha_{cp} + \varepsilon_{cpft}$$

where

- $X_{cpft}$  denotes the log of Turkey's exports, measured in physical units, of HS10 product  $p$  to country  $c$  on financing term  $f$  at time  $t$ .
- $OA_{cpft}$  takes on the value one if  $f = OA$ , and zero otherwise.
- $IQ_{ct}$  is a measure of institutional quality in country  $c$  at time  $t$ .
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- Theory predicts  $\beta_1 > 0$ ,  $\beta_2 > 0$ , and  $\beta_3 > 0$
- Also  $\beta_1^{Diff} > \beta_1^{Non-diff}$  and  $\beta_2^{Diff} < \beta_2^{Non-diff}$

## Empirical strategy

$$X_{cpft} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 OA_{cpft} * IQ_{ct} + \beta_2 OA_{cpft} * NIM_{ct} + \beta_3 OA_{cpft} * Comp_{cpt} \\ + \Theta OA_{cpft} * Z_{ct} + \delta_{ft} + \gamma_{ct} + \alpha_{cp} + \varepsilon_{cpft}$$

where

- $X_{cpft}$  denotes the log of Turkey's exports, measured in physical units, of HS10 product  $p$  to country  $c$  on financing term  $f$  at time  $t$ .
- $OA_{cpft}$  takes on the value one if  $f = OA$ , and zero otherwise.
- $IQ_{ct}$  is a measure of institutional quality in country  $c$  at time  $t$ .
- $Comp_{cpt}$  is a measure of the degree of competitiveness for product  $p$  in country  $c$  at time  $t$ .
- $Z_{ct}$  is a vector of additional destination-level controls.
- Theory predicts  $\beta_1 > 0$ ,  $\beta_2 > 0$ , and  $\beta_3 > 0$
- Also  $\beta_1^{Diff} > \beta_1^{Non-diff}$  and  $\beta_2^{Diff} < \beta_2^{Non-diff}$
- Standard errors are clustered at the country-year level.

# Exporter-financed exports: Role of institutional quality

	Full sample				$X_{cpt}$ on both terms	
	PT	CV	CLS	DLP	PT	CV
OAxIQ	0.294*** (0.0676)	0.193** (0.0758)	0.274*** (0.0685)	-0.124*** (0.0400)	0.284*** (0.0731)	0.201** (0.0840)
OAxNIM	0.0393** (0.0168)	0.0316* (0.0170)	-0.00356 (0.0196)	-0.00686 (0.0207)	0.0448** (0.0180)	0.0380** (0.0182)
OAxDist	-0.443*** (0.0398)	-0.409*** (0.0408)	-0.489*** (0.0419)	-0.424*** (0.0424)	-0.448*** (0.0432)	-0.412*** (0.0440)
OAxGDPpc	0.0112*** (0.00352)	0.0147*** (0.00315)	0.0300*** (0.00303)	0.0162*** (0.00279)	0.0132*** (0.00385)	0.0164*** (0.00337)
N	1190679	1190679	789483	948284	527050	527050
R2	0.808	0.807	0.808	0.808	0.787	0.787
FE	cxt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10

Standard errors clustered at country-year level. All specifications include fxt FEs



## Is it economically significant?

- A one-standard-deviation increase in PT  $\Rightarrow$  a 26% increase in OA-based exports relative to exports on other financing terms.
- E.g. going from the PT measured in China in 2012 to Germany in 2012  $\Rightarrow$  a 34% increase in OA relative to non-OA exports

# Robustness check: Fractional Logit

	PT	CV	CLS	DLP
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
IQ	<b>0.0645*</b> (0.0345) [0.009177*]	<b>0.0818**</b> (0.0349) [0.0116256**]	<b>0.176***</b> (0.0348) [0.0234473***]	-0.0000176 (0.0000215) [-0.00000245]
NIM	<b>0.0528***</b> (0.00987) [0.0075009***]	<b>0.0526***</b> (0.0101) [0.0074745***]	0.0191 (0.0127) [0.0025438]	<b>0.0441***</b> (0.0105) [0.0061266***]
Distance	-0.242*** (0.0195) [-0.0344155]***	-0.236*** (0.0194) [-0.0335962]***	-0.239*** (0.0231) [-0.031803]***	-0.237*** (0.0202) [-0.0328915]***
GDPpc	0.00415** (0.00186)	0.00423** (0.00170)	0.0140*** (0.00184)	0.00610*** (0.00151)
GDP	0.0824*** (0.0115)	0.0874*** (0.0119)	0.0124 (0.0140)	0.109*** (0.0121)
N	648458	648458	425539	515826
AIC	541477.1	541397.7	337074.2	423426.2
BIC	542512.9	542433.5	338071.7	424441.1
FE	HS2,t	HS2,t	HS2,t	HS2,t

Notes: Standard errors are clustered at the country-year level. Dependent variable is share of exports of HS6 product  $p$  to country  $c$  on OA terms at time  $t$ . Measure of institutional quality (IQ) is given at the top of each column. Marginal effects in square parantheses.

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- Advice given to exporters by the US Department of Commerce:
  - *“Open account terms may help win customers in competitive markets”*
  - *“Insisting on cash-in-advance could, ultimately, cause exporters to lose customers to competitors who are willing to offer more favorable payment terms to foreign buyers”*

# Testing the competition effect: Part I



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  - $SA_{c,t-3}$  is a measure of foreign supply potential (access) of destination  $c$  in year  $t - 3$  constructed as

$$SA_{ct} = \sum_{i \neq c} \exp(\hat{E}_i + \hat{\delta}_2 contig_{ic}) dist_{ic}^{\hat{\delta}_1},$$

where the estimated coefficients are obtained from a gravity equation run for each  $t$

$$\ln T_{ic} = E_i + I_c + \delta_1 \ln dist_{ic} + \delta_2 contig_{ic} + u_{ic}$$

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where the estimated coefficients are obtained from a gravity equation run for each  $t$

$$\ln T_{ic} = E_i + I_c + \delta_1 \ln dist_{ic} + \delta_2 contig_{ic} + u_{ic}$$

- $N_{c,t-3,HS6}$  is the number of countries exporting a given HS product to destination  $c$  in year  $t - 3$

## Testing the competition effect: Part II Tariff disadvantage as a competitive barrier

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- WITS/TRAINS applied tariff data by destination, year, and HS6 product:
- $Rel\_Tariff_{ct,HS6} = Tariff_{c,t-3,HS6}^{TUR} - Tariff_{c,t-3,HS6}^{CHN}$
- $D\_Tariff_{ct,HS6} = 1$  if  $Tariff_{c,t-3,HS6}^{TUR} > Tariff_{c,t-3,HS6}^{CHN}$  and zero otherwise.
- Exclude MFA products.

# Exporter-financed exports and competition in the destination

	$GDP_{c,t}$	$SA_{c,t}$	$N_{c,t-3,HS6}$	$Rel\_Tariff_{ct,HS6}$	$D\_Tariff_{ct,HS6}$
OAxCompet	0.279*** (0.00604)	0.201*** (0.00771)	0.0274*** (0.000840)	0.0043*** (0.0004)	0.365*** (0.0186)
OAxIQ	0.150** (0.0130)	0.0938 (0.0222)	0.0815 (0.0297)	0.260*** (0.0109)	0.252*** (0.0109)
OAxNIM	0.0663*** (0.00323)	0.101 (0.00804)	0.114 (0.0125)	0.0518*** (0.0028)	0.0516*** (0.0028)
OAxDistance	-0.582*** (0.0106)	-0.391*** (0.0178)	-0.524*** (0.0219)	-0.389*** (0.0085)	-0.371*** (0.0085)
OAxGDPpc	0.00374 (0.000570)	0.00539 (0.000910)	0.0183** (0.00124)	0.0087*** (0.0005)	0.0084*** (0.0005)
N	1190679	430953	295960	1018997	1018997
R2	0.809	0.875	0.880	0.822	0.822
FE	cxt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10

Standard errors clustered at country-year level. All specifications include fxt FEs and all relevant interactions.



## Is it economically meaningful?

- SA measured for Germany in 2011 is 0.75 std higher than the one measured for China  $\Rightarrow$  a 50% increase in OA relative to non-OA exports
- Number of countries exporting to Germany (averaged over HS6 products) in 2011 is 0.55 std higher than the number of countries exporting to China  $\Rightarrow$  a 30% increase in OA relative to non-OA exports

# Testing the competition effect: Part III

## End of the Multi-fibre Agreement

- Turkey, China, India, and Bangladesh have been the leading exporters of textiles and apparel into the EU market.
- Turkish exports have not been subject to any quota restrictions since 1996.
- Quota restrictions against India were abolished in January 2005, and those against China in 2008.
- Focus on Turkish exports of textile/apparel to the EU in 2004 and 2008

## Policy experiment: Measurement

- Treatment: quotas for an HS6 product were binding for at least one exporter in 2004

$$Treat_{HS6} = 1 \text{ if } \exists i \in \{CHN, BGD, IND\} \text{ s.t. } FR_{i,HS6,2004} > 0.9$$

$$Treat_{HS6} = 0 \text{ if } \forall fill\_rate_{i,HS6,2004} < 0.9$$

- Max fill rate per product in 2004:  $Max\_FR_{HS6}$
- Did OA exports increase disproportionately in treated products?

$$\ln(X_{cpt,OA}) - \ln(X_{cpt,nonOA}) = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 2008_t * MFA_{HS6} + \gamma_2 MFA_{HS6} \\ + \gamma_3 2008_t + \Theta * Z_{ct} + \epsilon_{cpt}$$

where  $MFA = \{Treat_{HS6}, Max\_FR_{HS6}\}$  and  $t = 2004, 2008$ .

- We estimate

$$\ln(X_{cpt,OA}) - \ln(X_{cpt,nonOA}) = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 2008_t * MFA_{HS6} + \alpha_p + \alpha_{ct} + \epsilon_{cpt}$$

- We expect  $\gamma_1 > 0$

# End of MFA and exporter financed exports

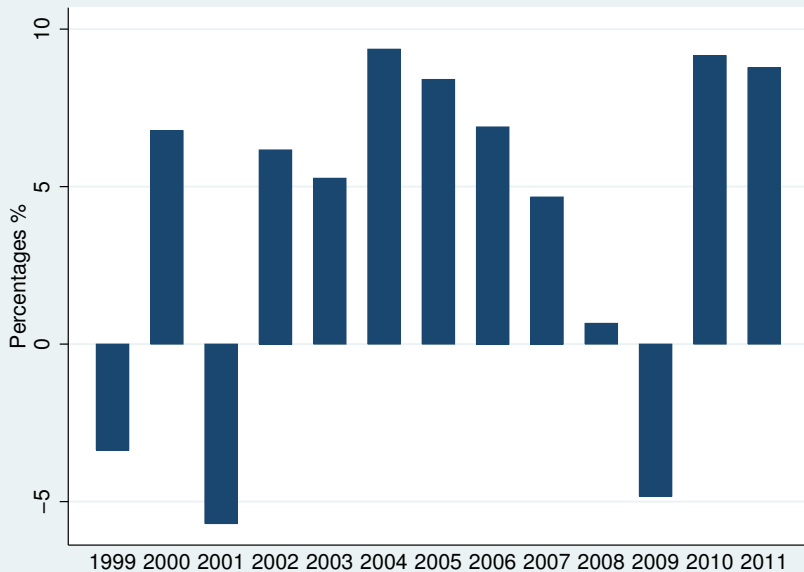
	Treatment dummy		Maximum fill rate	
2008xMFA	<b>0.564***</b> (0.165)	<b>0.509*</b> (0.290)	<b>0.597***</b> (0.173)	<b>0.542*</b> (0.303)
N	25913	25913	25913	25913
R2	0.220	0.786	0.220	0.786
FE	cxt, HS10	cxt, cxHS10	cxt, HS10	cxt, cxHS10

Standard errors clustered at HS6 level.

# Export financing during the Great Recession

- Turkish economy recovered relatively quickly from the Great Recession.
- The banking sector weathered the crisis times unscathed, e.g. no bank bail-outs (Uygur (2010)).
- In the crisis database constructed by Laeven and Valencia (2012), Turkey is not among the countries that experienced a banking crisis after 2008.
- Two effects of the crisis
  - More limited access to financing by importers
  - A negative demand shock which could be viewed as an increase in competitive pressures

# Real GDP growth in Turkey



# Specification

- Diff-in-diff similar to the MFA exercise
- OA exports relative to non-OA exports in 2006 vs 2009.
- Dependent variable:  $\ln(X_{cpt,OA}) - \ln(X_{cpt,nonOA})$
- We estimate

$$\ln(X_{cpt,OA}) - \ln(X_{cpt,nonOA}) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 2009_t + \beta_2 2009_t * Crisis_c \\ + \Theta * Z_{ct} + \alpha_{c,HS6} + \alpha_p + \epsilon_{cpt}$$

- We expect  $\beta_2 > 0$

# Export financing during the Great Recession

2009	-0.378*** (0.0011)	-0.369*** (0.0028)	-0.352*** (0.0048)	-0.373*** (0.0041)	-0.367*** (0.0027)	-0.375*** (0.0029)
<b>Crisis</b>	<b>0.0927***</b> (0.0204)					
<b>Output_loss</b>		<b>0.0025***</b> (0.0006)			<b>0.0043***</b> (0.0005)	<b>0.0014**</b> (0.0007)
<b>Liq_support</b>			<b>-0.0011</b> (0.0011)		<b>-0.0068***</b> (0.0005)	
<b>NPLs</b>				<b>0.0082***</b> (0.0011)		<b>0.0054***</b> (0.0002)
GDPpc	-0.0267*** (0.0013)	-0.0237*** (0.0007)	-0.0213*** (0.0009)	-0.0225*** (0.0003)	-0.0212*** (0.0008)	-0.0233*** (0.0007)
NIM	0.0239*** (0.0043)	0.0250*** (0.0044)	0.0270*** (0.0048)	0.0253*** (0.0047)	0.0247*** (0.0044)	0.0248*** (0.0044)
N	346046	346046	346046	346046	346046	346046
R2	0.671	0.671	0.671	0.671	0.671	0.671
Fixed effects	cxHS6,HS10	cxHS6,HS10	cxHS6,HS10	cxHS6,HS10	cxHS6,HS10	cxHS6,HS10
Standard errors clustered at the country-year level.						



## Conclusion

- Better contract enforcement in the importing country increases the incidence of OA, and even more so for differentiated goods.
- Cost of financing in the destination increases exports on OA terms, but to a smaller extent for differentiated goods.
- Exports on OA terms are larger to more competitive destinations.
  - Increase in OA exports in quota-restricted products after the end of the MFA
  - Increase in OA exports to crisis-affected countries
- Our results are consistent with the idea that the ability to provide financing helps increase aggregate exports from an emerging market.

## Price under each financing term

Setting the first-order condition with respect to  $P^f$  to zero under each financing term, we obtain the following expressions for the transaction prices

$$P^{CIA} = (1 - \alpha) \frac{\lambda + (1 - \lambda)(1 - \delta(e))}{(1 + r_c)^t} S + \alpha,$$

$$P^{OA} = (1 - \alpha)S + \alpha \frac{(1 + r)^t}{\lambda_c + (1 - \lambda_c)(1 - \gamma(e))},$$

$$P^{LC} = (1 - \alpha) \frac{1}{f^{LC}(1 + r_c)^t} S + \alpha(1 + r)^t.$$

► choice

## Digression: New products

- New product defined as an HS10 product exported to a destination  $c$  for the first time in the last three years.

	Payment timeliness		Contract viability	
OAxIQ	0.253*** (0.0735)	0.243** (0.112)	0.192** (0.0803)	0.198 (0.127)
NewxOAxIQ	-0.102** (0.0452)	-0.0496 (0.0810)	-0.106* (0.0595)	-0.0454 (0.106)
NewxIQ	0.0532 (0.0366)	-0.00920 (0.0758)	0.0349 (0.0486)	-0.0362 (0.0963)
New	0.301*** (0.109)	0.510** (0.220)	0.362** (0.155)	0.612** (0.305)
NewxOA	-0.833*** (0.0332)	-0.891*** (0.0528)	-0.843*** (0.0346)	-0.905*** (0.0544)
N	1019154	1019154	1019154	1019154
R2	0.817	0.899	0.817	0.899
FE	cxt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS6xt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS6xt,cxHS10

Standard errors clustered at country-year level. All specifications include fxt FEs.

All specifications include distance, NIM, and GDPpc interactions.

# Exporter-financed exports and IQ: alternative IQ measures

	Regulatory quality		Government effectiveness	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
OAxIQ	0.136 (0.0830)	0.134 (0.126)	0.0756 (0.0851)	0.0616 (0.129)
OAxDistance	-0.377*** (0.0396)	-0.355*** (0.0618)	-0.396*** (0.0414)	-0.375*** (0.0643)
OAxNIM	0.00792 (0.0201)	0.00826 (0.0309)	0.00939 (0.0197)	0.00932 (0.0299)
OAxGDPpc	0.00904** (0.00369)	0.00978* (0.00567)	0.0113*** (0.00422)	0.0125* (0.00655)
N	1369605	1369605	1369605	1369605
R2	0.807	0.897	0.807	0.897
FE	cxt,cxHS10	cxHS6xt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10	cxHS6xt,cxHS10

Standard errors clustered at country-year level. All specifications include fxt FEs.

# Product differentiation matters

	Payment timeliness		Contract viability	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
OAxIQ	0.212*** (0.0296)	0.217*** (0.0305)	0.135*** (0.0274)	0.142*** (0.0285)
DiffxOAxIQ	0.103*** (0.0324)	0.101*** (0.0334)	0.0746** (0.0297)	0.0710** (0.0308)
DiffxIQ	-0.0816** (0.0341)	-0.0826** (0.0408)	-0.0476* (0.0275)	-0.0725** (0.0322)
OAxNIM	0.0753*** (0.00744)	0.0780*** (0.00764)	0.0707*** (0.00741)	0.0735*** (0.00760)
DiffxOAxNIM	-0.0432*** (0.00823)	-0.0448*** (0.00846)	-0.0470*** (0.00820)	-0.0486*** (0.00843)
DiffxNIM	0.0304*** (0.00789)	0.0228** (0.00899)	0.0330*** (0.00788)	0.0254*** (0.00898)
DiffxOA	0.561*** (0.0209)	0.561*** (0.0215)	0.564*** (0.0210)	0.565*** (0.0216)
N	1120495	1120495	1120495	1120495
R2	0.808	0.815	0.807	0.815
FE	cxt,cxHS10	cxHS2xt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10	cxHS2xt,cxHS10

S.E. clustered at country-HS10 level. All spec. incl. GDP per capita and distance interactions, and fxt FEs.

# Product differentiation matters: Role of Judicial System

	CLS		DLP	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
OAxIQ	0.306*** (0.0430)	0.313*** (0.0440)	-0.0551** (0.0225)	-0.0548** (0.0230)
DiffxOAxIQ	-0.0310 (0.0472)	-0.0356 (0.0483)	-0.0810*** (0.0247)	-0.0817*** (0.0253)
OAxNIM	0.0236** (0.0111)	0.0233** (0.0114)	0.0314*** (0.0108)	0.0326*** (0.0111)
DiffxOAxNIM	-0.0323*** (0.0122)	-0.0322** (0.0126)	-0.0446*** (0.0120)	-0.0450*** (0.0124)
DiffxNIM	0.0263** (0.0124)	0.0188 (0.0151)	0.0314** (0.0135)	0.0301* (0.0170)
DiffxOA	0.658*** (0.0262)	0.655*** (0.0268)	0.599*** (0.0241)	0.602*** (0.0248)
N	743562	743562	892789	892789
R2	0.808	0.815	0.807	0.815
FE	cxt,cxHS10	cxHS2xt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10	cxHS2xt,cxHS10

S.E. clustered at country-HS6.All spec. incl. GDP per capita and distance interactions, and fxt FEs.

# Constructing an alternative measure of product differentiation

- Data on US imports by 10-digit HS and country in 2004.
- Keep only products measured in kg.
- Calculate unit values by product, country.
- Calculate the median absolute deviation at HS6-level across all importers:

$$MAD_{HS6,2004} = med_{HS6,2004}(|UV_{HS10,c,2004} - medUV_{HS6,2004}|)$$

- Define  $Diff = 1$  if  $MAD_{HS6,2004}$  is above the median in 2004.

# Product differentiation matters: Alternative measure of product differentiation

	Payment timeliness		Contract viability	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
OAxIQ	0.189*** (0.0351)	0.198*** (0.0369)	0.128*** (0.0323)	0.144*** (0.0342)
DiffxOAxIQ	0.0921** (0.0431)	0.0808* (0.0453)	0.0772* (0.0395)	0.0703* (0.0417)
DiffxIQ	-0.119** (0.0466)	-0.0869 (0.0572)	-0.0892** (0.0366)	-0.0723 (0.0439)
OAxNIM	0.0934*** (0.00878)	0.0956*** (0.00920)	0.0888*** (0.00871)	0.0911*** (0.00912)
DiffxOAxNIM	-0.0455*** (0.0111)	-0.0435*** (0.0117)	-0.0486*** (0.0111)	-0.0461*** (0.0116)
DiffxNIM	0.0303*** (0.0104)	0.0222* (0.0123)	0.0328*** (0.0104)	0.0241* (0.0123)
DiffxOA	0.587*** (0.0284)	0.604*** (0.0298)	0.591*** (0.0285)	0.609*** (0.0298)
N	400486	400486	400486	400486
R2	0.777	0.792	0.777	0.792
FE	cxt,cxHS10	cxHS2xt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10	cxHS2xt,cxHS10

S.E. clustered at country-HS10 level.All spec. incl. GDP per capita and distance interactions, and fxt FEs.



# Product differentiation matters: Detailed classification

	Diff vs Ref		Diff vs Hom		Ref vs Hom	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
OAxIQ	0.234*** (0.0315)	0.238*** (0.0324)	0.0555 (0.0818)	0.0601 (0.0866)	0.0563 (0.0859)	0.0536 (0.0941)
DiffxOAxIQ	0.0806** (0.0342)	0.0795** (0.0352)	0.260*** (0.0828)	0.257*** (0.0876)		
DiffxIQ	-0.0581 (0.0362)	-0.0651 (0.0436)	-0.230*** (0.0829)	-0.164 (0.101)		
RefxOAxIQ					0.179** (0.0910)	0.182* (0.0995)
RefxIQ					-0.176* (0.0919)	-0.231 (0.155)
OAxNIM	0.0730*** (0.00787)	0.0757*** (0.00808)	0.0847*** (0.0220)	0.0872*** (0.0231)	0.0841*** (0.0229)	0.0986*** (0.0190)
DiffxOAxNIM	-0.0410*** (0.00862)	-0.0426*** (0.00886)	-0.0525** (0.0223)	-0.0540** (0.0234)		
RefxOAxNIM					-0.0109 (0.0242)	-0.0236 (0.0194)
DiffxOA	0.542*** (0.0221)	0.542*** (0.0228)	0.741*** (0.0560)	0.730*** (0.0589)		
RefxOA					0.199*** (0.0612)	0.168** (0.0660)
N	1094152	1094152	935696	935696	211142	211142
R2	0.805	0.812	0.801	0.809	0.803	0.819
FE	cxt,cxHS10	cxHS2xt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10	cxHS2xt,cxHS10	cxt,cxHS10	cxHS2xt,cxHS10

S.E. clustered at country-HS10 level. All spec. incl. GDP per capita and distance interactions, and fxt FEs.

## Summary: Product differentiation

- Product differentiation reinforces the effect of *contractual enforcement* but weakens the effect of *cost of financing* on the attractiveness of OA terms.
- Results are robust to
  - using more aggregate (HS6-level) data
  - restricting the sample to *cpt* combinations with non-zero exports on both terms
  - using alternative measures of product differentiation
  - using more disaggregated measures of product differentiation