



Plant-level responses to antidumping duties: Evidence from U.S. manufacturers[☆]

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ABSTRACT

This paper describes the effects of a temporary increase in tariffs on the performance and behavior of U.S. manufacturers. Using a dataset that includes the full population of U.S. manufacturing plants, I show that an apparent positive correlation between antidumping duties and traditional revenue productivity is likely misleading. For the subset of plants reporting quantity-based output data, increases in prices and markups artificially inflate the effect of antidumping duties on revenue productivity, while physical productivity actually falls. Moreover, antidumping duties allow low-productivity plants to continue producing protected products, slowing the reallocation of resources from less productive to more productive uses.

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1. Introduction

While temporary trade policies like antidumping duties have become one of the primary forms of trade protection worldwide, the empirical evidence needed to evaluate these policies has been lacking. This paper provides the first micro-level evidence on the effects of antidumping duties in the United States with a dataset that includes the full population of U.S. manufacturing plants. Using output data measured in units of quantity, I show that apparent increases in traditional revenue productivity associated with antidumping protection are most likely misleading. For the subset of plants reporting output data measured in units of quantity, increases in revenue productivity are driven primarily by increases in prices and markups, while physical productivity actually falls at protected plants. In addition, I show that antidumping duties allow for continued

production by low-productivity plants that would have otherwise stopped production, slowing the reallocation of resources toward more productive uses.

The ability of antidumping duties to alter or halt trade flows is unparalleled and their effects can be used to examine broader aspects of international trade. When aluminum sulfate from Venezuela was assigned a 259% antidumping duty in December 1989, annual U.S. imports from Venezuela fell 98%. The use of antidumping duties is also widespread in the U.S. economy—sixteen of nineteen manufacturing sectors contain products that petitioned for antidumping protection.¹ Moreover, the imposition of antidumping duties provides a rare opportunity to study how firms in a developed country respond to a major tariff shock. But despite the importance and ubiquity of antidumping duties, there is disagreement about some of their most fundamental implications, including their effect on firm and plant-level productivity.

Theoretical evidence regarding the effect of unilateral changes in tariffs on productivity is limited and mixed. Melitz and Ottaviano (2008), show that a unilateral increase in tariffs lowers industry productivity in the short run by allowing for continued operation by low-productivity firms, although productivity rises in the long run due to increased entry. Bernard et al. 2011 show that symmetric trade liberalization can yield within-firm productivity gains by inducing firms to reallocate resources to their most productive products, but this result has not been extended to a setting with

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¹ I define sectors at the 2-digit Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) level. SIC Sector 39, "Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries," is excluded from the analysis.

unilateral liberalization.² In contrast, Matsuyama (1990) shows that temporary protection can speed up the time of technology adoption—and hence increase productivity—by increasing the incentive to invest in new technology, while noting that the government's threat to remove protection if the domestic firm fails to invest is not credible. Similarly, Miyagiwa and Ohno (1995) show that protection can induce investment in a fixed-cost technology by increasing the market share of domestic firms.

In the empirical literature, many papers including Pavcnik (2002) and Fernandes (2007) (for developing countries) and Bernard et al. (2006) (for the U.S.) find that tariff rates and plant or firm-level productivity are negatively correlated. There is, however, evidence that tariff protection—especially temporary protection—may increase productivity along the lines discussed by Matsuyama (1990) and Miyagiwa and Ohno (1995). In particular, Konings and Vandenbussche (2008), find that antidumping duties are associated with a mean increase in revenue productivity at E.U. manufacturers.³ As noted in that paper, however, increases in revenue productivity can be caused not only by increases in physical productivity, but also by increases in prices and mark-ups.

I examine these issues by comparing the behavior of a treatment group of plants that receive protection to a control group of plants in similar industries that do not receive protection. As described below, this control group is constructed in a manner that controls for two potential sources of bias described in Konings and Vandenbussche (2008): a self-selection bias that exists if industries that apply for protection differ from those that do not apply and a “government-selection bias” that arises if the government bases its decision of whether to provide protection on variables that are correlated with productivity. I employ a difference-in-difference estimator to estimate the effect of antidumping protection, which nets out time-invariant differences between the treatment and control groups, as well as macro-level shocks affecting the treatment and control groups identically.

I find that the effect of antidumping duties on plant-level productivity depends crucially on whether output is measured in revenue or physical units of quantity. While antidumping protection is associated with increases in revenue productivity, these increases are driven primarily by increases in prices and mark-ups. Antidumping duties are associated with lower physical productivity among the set of protected plants reporting output data in units of quantity. These results underscore the importance of differentiating between revenue and physical productivity—a distinction described in Foster et al. (2008) and Syverson (2004) and recently discussed in the trade literature by Eslava et al. (2004), De Loecker (forthcoming) and Katayama et al. (2008). This distinction is particularly important when considering the case of antidumping duties, since increases in prices and markups would likely be taking place at the same time as any changes in physical productivity.

It is important to note that output data measured in units of quantity are only available for a subset of products and hence results for physical productivity, prices and markups are not available for all plants. This data limitation raises the possibility of an additional selection bias if plants reporting quantity data are different than those that do not report quantity data and are selected through non-random sampling. To address this concern, I calculate the probability that a plant reports quantity data and use the inverse of this predicted probability as a regression weight, to generate results that are more

representative of the sample as a whole. Importantly, the main results of the paper are robust to this adjustment for potential section bias.

I also describe a potential reason for the decline in physical productivity associated with antidumping protection. I show that in the unprotected control group, low-productivity plants are forced to stop production through product-dropping or exit. In contrast, low-productivity plants in the protected treatment group are able to continue producing. This continued production by low-productivity plants in the treatment group leads to a productivity decline relative to the control group.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. Section 2 describes the data. Section 3 provides a brief discussion of the antidumping investigation process in the United States, as well as a description of the products typically involved in antidumping investigations. Section 4 defines the treatment and control groups and describes the productivity measures employed in this paper. Section 5 describes the empirical strategy and reports results. Section 6 concludes.

2. Data

This analysis uses data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Census of Manufactures (CM) for the years 1987, 1992 and 1997.⁴ The CM is conducted every 5 years, in years ending in two and seven and all U.S. manufacturers, regardless of size, are required by law to respond.⁵ The CM contains plant-level data on the value of shipments, as well as input data including the number of production and non-production employees, raw material usage and book value of capital, which can be used to calculate total factor productivity. In addition, the CM includes plant-product-level output data measured in revenue for every product and in physical units of quantity for some products.

An important benefit of the CM is the availability of output data measured in units of quantity for certain products. The availability of quantity-based output data allows for the calculation of physical productivity—described in detail below—as well as average unit prices and price-cost mark-ups. Indeed, these quantity-based output data have been used in recent studies examining differences between revenue and physical productivity, including Foster et al. (2008). This information is especially important when studying antidumping duties, since changes in physical productivity are likely accompanied by changes in prices and mark-ups. Below, I discuss steps that control for a potential selection bias that can arise if plants that report output data in units of quantity differ from those that do not.

It is important to define a number of terms that will be used throughout this paper. The term plant refers to a manufacturing establishment, which is a production facility located at a single physical location. Products and industries are 5-digit and 4-digit categories of the SIC, respectively.⁶ A sub-industry is the set of plants producing a particular product. Lastly, an investigated product is a product that was involved in an antidumping investigation, regardless of the outcome of the investigation.

The use of plant-level data is an important innovation of this paper and provides many advantages over more aggregated data, even including firm-level data. Many firms involved in petitioning for antidumping protection are large multi-product manufacturers. In

² Nocke and Yeaple (2008) show that a unilateral increase in tariffs induces high-capability firms to add products, while low-capability firms drop products, but their results do not have a firm-product-level productivity component.

³ The primary result in Konings and Vandenbussche (2008) is that antidumping duties allow for technological catch-up by low-productivity firms, while firms with high ex-ante productivities experience productivity declines. Their results also show that antidumping duties are associated with a mean increase in observed revenue productivity in the EU.

⁴ This time period was selected for two specific reasons. First, this is the only period for which a high-quality HS10-SIC5 concordance was available. See Pierce and Schott (2011) for a detailed discussion of this concordance. In addition, Pierce and Schott (forthcoming) was used to track changes in HS codes over time. Second, the years from 1987 to 1997 were a stable period in the SIC, with no major revisions to industry codes and only minor revisions to product-class codes taking place. This stability in the SIC was a major reason that the same Census years of 1987, 1992 and 1997 were used in Bernard et al.'s (2010) analysis of the product-switching behavior of U.S. manufacturers.

⁵ The CM collects a limited set of data from small manufacturers, referred to in the data as “administrative records.” Since input usage data may be imputed for administrative records, they have been excluded from the analysis. This exclusion of administrative records is standard in research employing the CM. See, e.g. Bernard et al. (2010).

⁶ The 1987 SIC contains 459 four-digit industries and 1,446 products.

fact, some firms participated as petitioners in multiple antidumping investigations involving multiple products. Individual plants on the other hand, tend to produce a much narrower set of products than firms as a whole. The use of plant-level data, therefore allows for more accurate matching between the products named in antidumping investigations and the facilities that actually produce those products.

In addition, I am able to greatly refine the identification of plants that did and did not receive antidumping protection through the use of plant-product-level data contained in the CM. These data report the full list of products manufactured at each plant, as well as the value, and sometimes quantity, of shipments attributable to each product. The availability of this plant-product-level data represents an additional level of disaggregation beyond the “major industry” codes generally used to identify plants and firms in micro-level datasets.

The list of products involved in antidumping investigations in the United States is from version 3.0 of [Chad Bown's Global Antidumping Database \(2010\)](#). Products subject to antidumping investigations are identified using the Harmonized Tariff System (HTS) and products may be defined from the 4-digit level to the 10-digit level. In addition to a description of the products involved in each investigation, the antidumping database provides the dates and outcomes of each phase of the investigation—e.g. preliminary and final injury and dumping determinations—along with the final remedy. The HTS product codes in the Bown dataset are mapped to the SIC5 product codes in the CM using an official U.S. Census Bureau concordance that is described in detail in [Pierce and Schott \(forthcoming\)](#). This concordance, which links HTS codes to SIC5 codes via an eight-character “base code” results in a median of 12 ten-digit HTS codes being matched to each SIC5.

The analysis in this paper considers the effects of antidumping investigations that were completed during the period from 1988 to 1996. This setup ensures that I am able to observe plant-level outcomes both before and after the imposition of protection for every product group.⁷ Lastly, because successful antidumping investigations in the United States almost always result in ad-valorem tariffs—rather than price undertakings or suspension agreements—I am able to study the effect of variation in the antidumping duty rate on productivity.

3. Antidumping duties in the United States

Under GATT Article VI and the WTO's Antidumping Agreement, WTO members are permitted to impose discriminatory tariffs on goods sold by foreign producers at prices that are deemed to be less than fair value (LTFV), if these sales result in material injury to the domestic industry. In the United States, sales are considered to be made at LTFV—i.e. dumped—when a foreign firm sells a good in the United States at a price that is below that offered on comparable sales in its home market, or below a constructed value similar to average total cost (ATC).

Antidumping investigations in the United States are initiated by individual firms, groups of firms or sometimes labor unions, which are referred to in antidumping investigations as petitioners. The foreign firms selling allegedly dumped merchandise are referred to as respondents. Petitioners apply for antidumping protection by submitting a petition to the Import Administration of the Department of Commerce (DOC) and the International Trade Commission (ITC). The DOC determines whether sales made by foreign firms in the U.S. are being made at LTFV. The ITC determines whether the U.S. industry has been injured as a result of the dumping.

If the DOC finds that sales have been made at LTFV and the ITC concludes that these sales have injured U.S. producers, an ad-valorem

tariff is placed on imports of goods from the respondents' home countries.⁸ This ad-valorem tariff, which is known as an antidumping duty is equal to the percentage difference between the U.S. price and the home-market price or ATC. I refer to the magnitude of the antidumping duty as the antidumping duty rate. Because the antidumping duty is applied to all dumped goods, it benefits the petitioners, as well as non-participating producers of the investigated product.

[Table 1](#) reports the types of products involved in antidumping investigations that were completed from 1988 to 1996, showing the number of antidumping duty investigations by 2-digit HTS Chapter. The most frequent seekers of antidumping duties were producers of “Iron and Steel” (Chapter 72) and “Articles of Iron and Steel” (Chapter 73). Other active applicants for antidumping protection included producers of machinery and parts (Chapters 84 and 85) and inorganic and organic chemicals (Chapters 28 and 29).

[Fig. 1](#) shows the number of antidumping investigations completed, by outcome for the years 1980 to 2005. As described in [Prusa and Knetter \(2003\)](#), the number of antidumping investigations tends to increase during and immediately following periods of recession, and we see that this phenomenon did, in fact, occur following the recession of 1990–1991, when the number of new investigations spiked in 1991 and 1992. Aside from this countercyclical trend in new investigations, the period from 1988 to 1996 was typical in terms of the number of investigations initiated.⁹

4. Pre-estimation definitions

4.1. Definition of treatment and control groups

I conduct this analysis by comparing the behavior of plants in a treatment group receiving antidumping protection to plants in a control group that do not. The treatment group consists of plants in sub-industries that applied for and received antidumping protection. Each plant in the treatment group is assigned a date of treatment and an ad-valorem duty rate, which comes from the results of the antidumping investigation associated with the product it produces. If a plant produces more than one product that receives protection, the treatment date and duty are those associated with the product that accounts for the highest share of its shipments. These products are also the basis of the product-level fixed effects used in this analysis.

In defining an appropriate control group, I will control for two potential sources of bias described in [Konings and Vandebussche \(2008\)](#). The first is a self-selection bias, which arises if the types of sub-industries that apply for antidumping protection are different from those that do not. This is almost certainly the case. For example, antidumping applicants produce goods that are subject to import competition, perceive themselves as being injured by imports and operate in sub-industries capable of cooperating to file a case. Moreover, antidumping petitions are concentrated in particular sectors, especially metals, chemicals and basic mechanical goods.

The second source of bias, which I will refer to as the “government selection bias,” arises if the government bases its decision of whether or not to approve protection for petitioners based on variables that are correlated with productivity or other dependent variables I will examine. The variables considered by the ITC when determining the injury portion of an antidumping investigation are publicly disclosed and include, among others, import penetration and employment.

⁸ In some cases, protection may take the form of a suspension agreement, in which foreign producers agree to change their behavior in a way that halts any dumping. Of the 148 antidumping investigations completed between 1988 and 1996, 5 ended with suspension agreements as the only form of protection. For these cases, no ad-valorem antidumping duty rate was available and they have been excluded from the analysis in this paper.

⁹ Examples of research describing and examining the effects of antidumping duties include [Prusa \(2001\)](#), [Konings and Vandebussche \(2005\)](#), [Bown and Crowley \(2007\)](#), [Crowley \(2006\)](#) and [Vandebussche and Zanardi \(2010\)](#).

⁷ The number of years observed before and after an antidumping investigation varies based on the year in which the investigation was initiated. As discussed below, however, the results are robust to controls for this asymmetry in the timing of antidumping investigations. In particular, the results hold when controlling for the duration of antidumping protection. Moreover, the results hold when examining investigations from subsets of years including 1991–1993 and 1990–1994.

Table 1
Completed antidumping investigations by HTS Chapter, 1988–1996.

HTS2	Description	(1) AD investigations with no protection	(2) AD investigations with protection	(3) Total AD investigations
73	Articles of Iron and Steel	12	15	27
72	Iron and Steel	6	12	18
84	Machinery	6	9	15
28	Inorganic Chemicals	6	6	12
29	Organic Chemicals	4	8	12
85	Electrical Machinery	5	7	12
87	Transportation Vehicles and Parts	8	2	10
90	Precision Instruments and Apparatus	3	4	7
25	Plastering, Lime and Cement	3	3	6
39	Plastics and articles thereof	1	5	6
40	Rubber and articles thereof	1	3	4
56	Certain Textiles	3	1	4
20	Preparations of Vegetables or Fruits	1	2	3
Other		18	25	43
Total		77	102	179

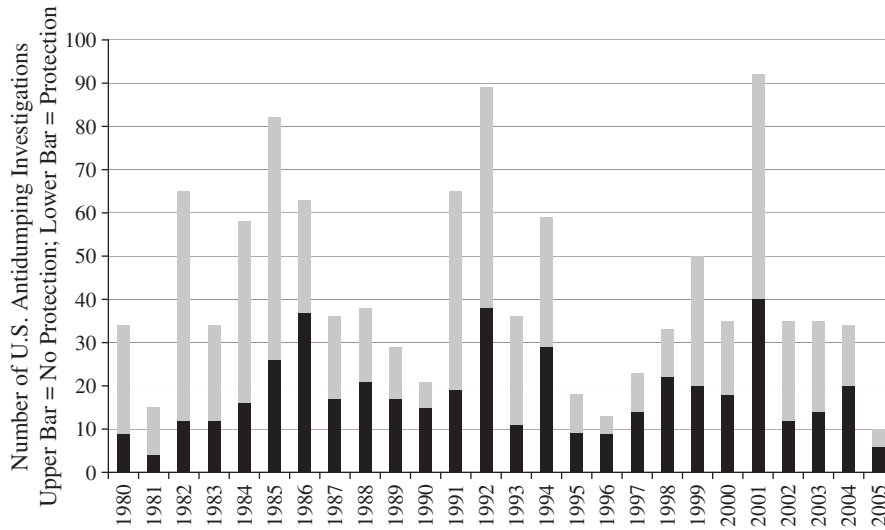


Fig. 1. Antidumping investigations, by outcome. Notes: This figure displays the number of U.S. antidumping investigations by outcome and year. For each year, the upper portion of the bar represents the number of investigations ending with no protection and the lower portion of the bar represents the number of investigations ending with protection. Data are from United States International Trade Commission (2006).

Because these variables are likely correlated with productivity, it will be necessary to address this government selection bias.

I control for these potential sources of bias in two steps. First, to control for the self-selection bias, I limit the control group to plants in

sub-industries that applied for protection, but whose petitions were rejected by the government. I refer to these sub-industries whose petitions were rejected as “terminated sub-industries.” As with the treated (protected) sub-industries, terminated sub-industries face

Table 2
Plant-level observations, by SIC2.

SIC2 Description	Total observations				Observations with quantity			Share of obs. with quantity		
	SIC2	Control	Treatment	Total	Control	Treatment	Total	Control	Treatment	Total
Food and Kindred Spirits	20	0	1546	1546	0	1084	1084	N/A	70%	70%
Textile Mill Products	22	1062	969	2031	741	402	1143	70%	41%	56%
Apparel and Other Textiles	23	5355	1753	7108	220	525	745	4%	30%	10%
Furniture and Fixtures	25	1741	0	1741	54	0	54	3%	N/A	3%
Paper and Allied Products	26	2646	0	2646	1063	0	1063	40%	N/A	40%
Chemical Products	28	880	3703	4583	67	635	702	8%	17%	15%
Rubber Products	30	12,177	4009	16,186	143	74	217	1%	2%	1%
Leather Products	32	2077	650	2727	425	398	823	20%	61%	30%
Primary Metals	33	0	3326	3326	0	1923	1923	N/A	58%	58%
Fabricated Metals	34	11,834	4394	16,228	965	486	1451	8%	11%	9%
Industrial Machinery	35	4084	16,294	20,378	84	278	362	2%	2%	2%
Electronic Machinery	36	488	7950	8438	87	32	119	18%	0%	1%
Transportation Equipment	37	2469	886	3355	*	*	*	*	*	*
Measuring Instruments	38	611	7647	8258	*	*	*	*	*	*

Notes: This table reports the number of plant-level observations in the treatment group (applied and received protection) and control group (applied but did not receive protection), by 2-digit SIC (1987) category. In addition, the table shows the number of plant-level observations where output data were reported in units of quantity by treatment status and SIC2. An asterisk (*) denotes a cell that was suppressed to prevent the disclosure of confidential data.

Table 3
Summary statistics by treatment group, year.

Year	Treatment	(1) Mean TVS (‘000\$)	(2) Mean no. employees	(3) Mean capital intensity	(4) No. plants	(5) Qty. share	(6) Treatment share	(7) Effective AD rate	(8) Mean FHS TFP (Rev.)	(9) Mean LP (Rev.)	(10) Mean FHS TFP (Phys.)	(11) Mean LP (Phys.)
1987	0	25,844	151	42	12,934	93%	71%		4.09	4.70	3.96	4.85
1987	1	23,402	165	52	16,372	93%	71%	17%	4.42	4.64	4.77	5.18
1992	0	27,783	125	46	15,563	93%	71%		3.98	4.70	3.79	4.95
1992	1	28,267	149	55	17,851	91%	70%	17%	4.37	4.73	4.64	5.31
1997	0	34,498	119	52	16,927	94%	73%		4.01	4.78	4.26	5.49
1997	1	36,833	146	70	18,904	92%	70%	16%	4.46	4.89	4.73	5.41

Notes: This table reports summary statistics by treatment group and year. A treatment of zero denotes the control group (unprotected) and a treatment of one denotes the treatment group (protected). Mean TVS is the mean plant-level value of shipments. Mean capital intensity is the mean plant-level book value of capital divided by the number of employees. Qty. share is the share of a plant's shipments associated with a product for which quantity data are reported. Treatment share is the mean share of a plant's shipments associated with a product defined in the treatment or control groups. Effective AD rate is the trade-weighted antidumping duty rate. Sum TVS is the total value of shipments for the treatment and control groups in a particular year. FHS TFP denotes the TFP measure from Foster et al. (2008) and LP denotes labor productivity. "Rev." denotes a revenue productivity measure and "Phys." denotes a physical productivity measure.

import competition, perceive themselves as being injured by those imports and are able to collaborate to file an antidumping petition. Moreover, as shown in Table 2, both the treated and terminated sub-industries are concentrated in the sectors that are most frequently involved in antidumping investigations, namely primary and fabricated metals, chemical products and industrial equipment.

The government selection bias arises if the treatment and control group differ in terms of the variables considered by the government when deciding whether to provide protection. I control for this bias with a second step that limits the control group to the set of terminated sub-industries that are most similar to the treated sub-industries in terms of variables considered by the ITC in its determinations. This procedure, therefore, controls for selection bias on observable variables.¹⁰

To determine which of the terminated sub-industries are most "similar" to the treated sub-industries, I estimate a probability of protection with the following logistic regression:

$$\Pr(\text{Treatment}_{it} = 1) = \Phi(\beta_1 IP_{it-1} + \beta_2 TE_{it-1} + \beta_3 GDP_t + \beta_4 P_{it} + \beta_5 LP_{it}) \quad (1)$$

where the binary dependent variable Treatment_{it} takes a value of 1 if a product in industry i received protection¹¹ and a value of zero if it did not and where IP_{it-1} is lagged import penetration, TE_{it-1} is the log of lagged employment, GDP_t is the GDP growth rate between period $t-1$ and period t , P_{it} is the growth rate of industry-level prices from period $t-1$ to period t and LP_{it} is the log of labor productivity.¹² After calculating the probability of protection using the fitted values from this regression, the control group is limited to terminated sub-industries that were in the top 75th percentile in terms of their predicted probability of receiving protection.¹³

¹⁰ It is important to note that restriction of the control group to sub-industries that applied for protection also has the attractive property of controlling for selection on unobservable variables, such as political economy variables. In particular, firms applying for protection may take into account whether they have political connections—such as the support of a member of Congress, or participation in a politically sensitive industry—that would affect their chances of receiving protection.

¹¹ The treatment is set equal to one in this industry-level regression if the industry received protection either through an ad-valorem tariff or a suspension agreement.

¹² These variables have been used to explain the probability of receiving antidumping protection in Blonigen and Park (2004) and Konings and Vandenbussche (2008). In this paper, lagged employment enters the specification in logs, while it is included in levels in the cited papers. In addition, the cited papers include a variable for previous antidumping filings, which is excluded from this analysis due to data limitations.

¹³ While this cutoff is somewhat arbitrary, the results are robust to different cutoff percentiles including the 50th percentile and the inclusion of all plants that applied but were turned down for protection (i.e. the 100th percentile). Moreover, the 75th percentile cutoff is also used by Konings and Vandenbussche (2008) in construction of their matched control group.

Results of the logit regression described above are reported in Table 5.¹⁴ Estimated coefficients take the expected sign and are consistent with results in Blonigen and Park (2004) and Konings and Vandenbussche (2008). Specifically, the probability of receiving antidumping protection increases with higher levels of import penetration and labor productivity and increases with negative price growth.

Through these two steps, the control group has the attractive property of being composed of plants in industries that applied for protection—thus controlling for potential self-selection bias—while also being highly similar to the treated industries, in terms of the variables considered by the ITC, therefore controlling for the government selection bias. In addition, as described in Table 3, plants in the treatment and control groups are comparable in terms of their mean value of shipments, mean number of employees and mean capital to labor ratios.¹⁵ As discussed below, the results are robust to consideration of two alternate control groups.

4.2. Calculation of productivity

4.2.1. Revenue versus physical productivity

As discussed above, the observed effects of trade protection on productivity may differ based on whether productivity is calculated as revenue or physical productivity. To examine these differences I calculate TFP and labor productivity using both revenue and physical units of quantity as measures of output. Throughout this paper, the term revenue productivity refers to productivity measures where output is measured as revenue, or price multiplied by quantity. The term physical productivity refers to productivity measures that use physical units of quantity as a measure of output. Revenue is deflated by constructing a plant-specific deflator that is a value-weighted average of industry-level price indexes for industries in which the plant operates. These price indexes are drawn from the NBER-CES Manufacturing Industry Database, available from Bartelsman et al. (2005). Importantly, even with this relatively sophisticated deflation strategy, I find that the effect of antidumping protection on revenue productivity is drastically different from the effect on physical productivity.

¹⁴ Regressions employ industry-level observations, as comprehensive data for price growth are unavailable at the product-level. The main results in the paper are robust to construction of the control group using product-level data, but excluding the variable for price growth.

¹⁵ Observations where the treatment and control groups overlap have been dropped from the analysis. Overlapping of treatment and control groups can occur for two reasons. First, a single plant could produce multiple products, where one product receives protection and the other is denied protection. 3629 of 102,180 plants were dropped from the sample because they produced products associated with both successful and failed antidumping investigations. In addition, a single SIC5 product could receive protection from one antidumping investigation but be denied protection in another. This is possible if the HTS10 products defined in two different antidumping investigations both map into the same SIC5. 69 of the 440 SIC5-level products involved in antidumping investigations were excluded from the sample for this reason.

Table 4
Summary statistics by "quantity status", year.

Year	QTY	Mean TVS ('000\$)	Mean no. employees	Mean capital intensity	No. plants	Qty. share	Treatment share	Effective AD rate	Mean FHS TFP (Rev.)	Mean LP (Rev.)	Mean FHS TFP (Phys.)	Mean LP (Phys.)
1987	0	22,564	46	157	24,670		67%	17%	4.30	0.70	4.63	1.03
1987	1	34,678	58	171	4636	93%	91%	17%	4.16	4.47	4.85	5.11
1992	0	22,876	46	128	30,079		68%	16%	4.21	1.41	4.69	2.26
1992	1	74,630	97	231	3335	92%	93%	17%	4.05	4.32	5.00	5.20
1997	0	34,819	56	128	33,383		70%	18%	4.25	1.37	4.82	2.23
1997	1	48,155	141	199	2448	93%	93%	19%	4.20	4.63	5.12	5.50

Notes: This table displays summary statistics by quantity status and year. A quantity status (QTY) value of zero denotes observations that are not in the quantity sample, while a QTY of one denotes observations in the quantity sample. Other variables are defined in the notes to Table 3.

4.2.2. The quantity sample

Manufacturing establishments may produce more than one product, and they may report output data in physical units of quantity for some products, but not others. Following Foster et al. (2008), I restrict calculation of physical productivity measures to those plants that earn at least 50% of the value of their shipments from products for which physical output data are reported. Naturally, in my analysis, these products must also be in the set of products included in the treatment and control groups defined above.¹⁶

I also make adjustments to the sample to eliminate plants with imputed quantity data. Specifically, I exclude plants from the quantity sample if the price associated with a particular product is equal to the average price at the 4-digit, 5-digit or 7-digit SIC level. This eliminates imputations based on industry or product averages.¹⁷ In addition, I exclude products defined by "balancing product codes," which are used by Census to ensure that the sum of a plant's product-level shipments is equal to that plant's total shipments. These exclusions based on average price or balancing codes do not affect the results qualitatively.

Lastly, I exclude certain outlier observations from the baseline quantity sample. Specifically, plants reporting product-level prices that were outside three standard deviations of the mean price at the 5-digit SIC level were excluded from the quantity sample. I note that the main results are robust to a number of alternative outlier restrictions including no dropping of outliers, the exclusion of plants reporting prices that were ten times the product-level median and the exclusion of plants reporting prices that were ten times the plant-level median.¹⁸

4.2.3. Methods of calculating productivity

I first calculate revenue and physical TFP using the standard index number employed by Foster et al. (2008) (referred to as FHS TFP, hereafter) in their study of differences between revenue and physical productivity.¹⁹ This technique employs a Cobb Douglas production function with an implicit assumption of constant returns to scale²⁰ and measures TFP as follows:

$$tfp_{pt} = y_{pt} - \alpha_k k_{pt} - \alpha_l l_{pt} - \alpha_m m_{pt} \tag{2}$$

¹⁶ Because input data are collected at the plant-level, rather than the product-level, input usage must be allocated across products for multi-product plants. I follow the adjustment procedure in Foster et al. (2008), which involves simply dividing the product-level quantity by the share of sales associated with the product in question. Note that the results discussed in the paper hold without the 50% restriction on quantity data.

¹⁷ Certain quantities in the CM are imputed based on average unit values of reported data.

¹⁸ The magnitude of the estimated effects of antidumping duties can vary with differing outlier restrictions, but the qualitative results are robust to these different restrictions.

¹⁹ This index measure is standard for differentiating between physical and revenue productivity and has been used in other studies including Syverson (2004) and Hortacsu and Syverson (2007).

²⁰ As discussed in Foster et al. (2008), the assumption of constant returns to scale is supported by the literature on the estimation of production functions using plant-level data. See, for example, Syverson (2004), Bailey et al. (1992) and Olley and Pakes (1996).

Here, lower-case letters represent the logarithms of TFP, output, capital, labor and raw materials (including energy), respectively at plant *p* at time *t*. Output, *y_{pt}*, is measured as the logarithm of deflated revenue (for revenue productivity) or physical units of quantity (for physical productivity). Capital is measured as the real book value of capital, labor is the total number of employees and materials are the real value of material expenditures. Nominal values for revenue, capital and raw materials are deflated using the industry-level price indices in the NBER-CES manufacturing industry database from Bartelsman et al. (2005).

The factor elasticities, $\alpha_j (j = \{k, l, m\})$ are measured as the average cost share for each input at the industry level. The numerators of the cost shares are calculated using the real value of wages and salaries for labor and the real value of material expenditures for materials. The equivalent term for the capital share is calculated by multiplying the real book value of capital by the rental rate of capital at the two-digit SIC level, using rental rates from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The denominator of the cost shares is the real total value of shipments. Note that results discussed below based on FHS TFP measures are also robust to calculation of TFP with the index number technique presented in Caves et al. (1982).

As a robustness check, I also report results with a simple, single-factor labor productivity, defined as output per employee:

$$LP_{pt} = \frac{Y_{pt}}{TE_{pt}} \tag{3}$$

where *Y_{pt}* is output, measured in either real revenue or physical units of quantity and *TE_{pt}* is the total number of employees at plant *p* at time *t*.²¹

4.3. Effective antidumping duty rates

A single antidumping investigation can be filed against imports from multiple countries and if the case ends with a determination by the DOC and ITC to offer protection, each country may be assigned a different ad-valorem antidumping duty. Naturally, imports from certain countries account for larger shares of U.S. imports of a good than others. In order to account for the true importance of an antidumping duty on U.S. trade, therefore, I calculate an effective antidumping duty rate for each product that is assigned an ad-valorem antidumping duty. The effective antidumping rate is calculated as follows:

$$Rate_{gt} = \sum_c SHARE_{c,g,t-1} * AVD_{c,g,t} \tag{4}$$

where *SHARE_{c,g,t-1}* is country *c*'s share of U.S. imports of product *g* in time *t-1* and *AVD_{c,g,t}* is the ad-valorem duty applied to imports of

²¹ Semi-parametric estimators, including those developed by Olley and Pakes (1996) and Levinsohn and Petrin (2003) to correct for simultaneity and selection biases have been used extensively in recent papers studying the effects of changes in trade policy on TFP. As discussed in Foster et al. (2008), these proxy estimators are best suited to annual data, while the physical quantity data used in this paper are only available in five-year increments. For this reason, papers that make use of U.S. physical quantity data, such as Foster et al. (2008), Syverson (2004) and Hortacsu and Syverson (2007) employ the index method for calculating TFP described above. Lastly, I note that Van Biesebroeck (2004) finds that TFP measures derived from various methods tend to be highly correlated.

Table 5
Results of logit regression for preferred control group.

	Probability of protection
Lagged import penetration	0.453** 0.181
ln(lagged employment)	−0.016 0.086
ln(labor productivity)	0.550*** 0.151
Real GDP growth	0.001 0.061
Price growth	−0.045*** 0.017
Number of observations	694
Pseudo-R squared	0.03
Estimation technique	Logit

Notes: This table summarizes estimation results for the logit model used to generate the preferred control group. The dependent variable takes a value of 1 if an industry applied for and received protection and 0 if it applied for, but did not receive protection. Independent variables are at the industry-year-level

- *** Represents statistical significance at the 1% level.
** Represents statistical significance at the 5% level.
* Represents statistical significance at the 10% level.

product g from country c at time t . More specifically, $AVD_{c,g,t}$ is the “all others” rate assigned to country c , which is the weighted average of the duty rates assigned to each foreign respondent firm in the investigation. A country's share is calculated based on imports in time $t-1$, rather than time t , because antidumping duties often lead to significant reductions in imports from pre-protection levels. Using a pre-protection share, therefore, provides a more accurate representation of a country's importance to U.S. trade.

5. Empirical strategy and results

5.1. The effect of temporary tariffs on plant-level productivity

5.1.1. Empirical strategy

I examine the effect of temporary protection on plant-level productivity, prices and mark-ups using a difference-in-difference approach. As discussed above, the treatment group is composed of plants producing products that receive antidumping protection. The control group is composed of plants producing products that applied for protection and are similar to those in the treatment group, but did not receive antidumping protection. The difference-in-difference estimator is attractive because it isolates the effect of the treatment—antidumping protection—by eliminating time-invariant differences between the treatment and control group, as well as time-specific effects common to both treatment and control. The difference-in-difference estimator, therefore, measures not simply the change in the dependent variable that occurs following antidumping protection, but rather the difference between the changes in the treatment group and the changes in the control group.

Let T be the set of products that receive antidumping protection and let C be the set of products in the control group. Further, define I_g to be the treatment year for product g .²² I measure the difference-in-difference effect by estimating Eq. (5):

$$y_{pt}^g = \alpha + \beta_1 Treatment_g * Post_{gt} + \gamma_t + \delta_g + \varepsilon_{pt}, \quad (5)$$

where

$$Treatment_g = 1 \forall g \in T \text{ and } Treatment_g = 0 \forall g \in C$$

$$Post_{gt} = 1 \forall t > I_g \text{ and } 0 \text{ otherwise}^{23}$$

Here, y_{pt}^g is the outcome variable of interest—such as productivity, prices or mark-ups—at plant p , which produces product g at time t . Year fixed effects capture any macro-level shocks affecting plants in T and C equally. Similarly, product fixed effects, δ_g , capture time-invariant differences between products. Note that Eq. (5) contains product-level fixed effects, rather than a more general $Treatment$ dummy used in the most basic difference-in-difference expressions. This specification captures time-invariant differences between producers of different products within T and C . This is likely important when dealing with a diverse set of manufacturers from different sectors and industries. Finally, the coefficient β_1 on the interaction term is the coefficient of interest and measures the difference-in-difference effect of antidumping protection on the plant-level outcomes discussed below.

Eq. (5) defines protection with a binary variable—any plant that receives any antidumping protection is considered to be equally protected. It seems reasonable to expect, however, that plants' reactions to protection could depend not only on this simple binary classification, but also on the level of protection they receive. That is, plants producing products that receive high ad-valorem duty rates—such as the 259.17% antidumping duty rate on Aluminum Sulfate from Venezuela—may respond differently than those producing products that receive low antidumping duty rates, such as the 4.18% rate on Corrosion Resistant Carbon Steel Sheet from Germany. As these two examples indicate, the variation in duty rates among cases that receive protection is large: the mean duty rate is 51% and the standard deviation is 49% at the product-country-level.

I measure the effects of heterogeneity in antidumping rates by augmenting Eq. (5) with an additional interaction term:

$$y_{pt}^g = \alpha + \beta_1 Treatment_g * Post_{gt} + \beta_2 Rate_{gt} * Post_{gt} + \gamma_t + \delta_g + \varepsilon_{pt} \quad (6)$$

Here, $Rate_{gt}$ is the ad-valorem effective antidumping duty rate on product g at time t . By interacting $Rate_{gt}$ with the $Post_{gt}$ dummy, I am able to separate the effect of varying rates of protection from the mean response of all plants receiving antidumping protection.

I will also employ the difference-in-difference framework in Eqs. (5) and (6)—with the same treatment and control groups—to examine the effect of antidumping duties on plant-product-level prices, as well as mark-ups over average variable cost. These measures of prices and mark-ups are calculated with plant-product-level data from the CM, where products are defined at the five-digit SIC level. Specifically, prices are defined as follows:

$$P_{pt}^g = \frac{VS_{pt}^g}{Q_{pt}^g} \quad (7)$$

where VS is the value of shipments of good g by plant p at time t and Q is the associated quantity of units shipped. Plant-level mark-ups over average variable cost are defined as:

$$PAVC_{pt}^g = \frac{P_{pt}^g}{AVC_{pt}^g} - 1 \quad (8)$$

²² The treatment year is defined as the year in which the final affirmative ITC determination was made for protected (treatment) products and as the year in which the investigation was initiated for terminated (control) products. The results are qualitatively identical when defining the treatment year for the control group as the year in which the investigation was terminated.

²³ Antidumping protection often lasts for ten years or more, meaning that almost every antidumping duty put in place during the sample period considered was still in effect at the end of the period. In 3 of the 148 antidumping investigations considered in this sample, however, antidumping protection began after 1988, but ended prior to 1997. In these cases, the variable $Post_{gt}$ takes the value zero in years when antidumping protection has already ended.

Table 6
The effect of AD on revenue productivity measures.

	Full sample				Quantity sample			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	FHS TFP (Rev.)	LP (Rev.)	FHS TFP (Rev.)	LP (Rev.)	FHS TFP (Rev.)	LP (Rev.)	FHS TFP (Rev.)	LP (Rev.)
Treatment*post	0.0278*	0.0644***	0.0203	0.0701***	0.0005	− 0.0093	0.0096	0.0411
Post*rate	0.0167	0.0186	0.0208	0.0249	0.0221	0.0299	0.0243	0.0288
			0.0005	− 0.0003			− 0.0005	− 0.0027**
			0.001	0.0015			0.0007	0.0013
R-squared	0.5255	0.2978	0.5255	0.2978	0.6505	0.415	0.6505	0.4153
Observations	98,551	98,551	98,551	98,551	10,419	10,419	10,419	10,419

Notes: This table summarizes OLS regression coefficients of plant-level productivity on the difference-in-difference interaction term "Treatment*post" and the effective duty rate interaction term "Post*rate." Columns 1–4 report results for revenue productivity in the full sample and Columns 5–8 report results for the quantity sample. FHS TFP denotes the TFP measure from Foster et al. (2008) and LP denotes labor productivity. "Rev." denotes a revenue productivity measure and "Phys." denotes a physical productivity measure. All regression results include both product and year fixed effects.

Robust standard errors are reported below each coefficient after adjustment for clustering at the product-level.

- *** Represents statistical significance at the 1% level.
- ** Represents statistical significance at the 5% level.
- * Represents statistical significance at the 10% level.

where

$$AVC_{pt}^g = \frac{Wages_{pt}^g + MAT_{pt}^g}{Q_{pt}^g} \tag{9}$$

Results showing the effect of AD on AVC are preserved when markups are calculated over average total cost. Reported results for revenue productivity, physical productivity, prices and mark-ups all include robust standard errors that have been adjusted for clustering at the product-level.

5.1.2. Results

5.1.2.1. Plant-level productivity. I find that antidumping protection is associated with increases in revenue productivity of 3 to 7%. Table 6 reports the results for Eqs. (5) and (6) for both the TFP and LP revenue productivity measures in columns 1 and 2. I continue to find a positive relationship between antidumping protection and revenue productivity when the effective duty rate is included in the specification, in columns 3 and 4, although the effect is not significant when using FHS TFP. The results indicate that antidumping protection is associated with an increase in measured revenue productivity.

As can be seen in columns 1–4 of Table 7, however, the effect of AD on physical productivity is starkly different from that for revenue productivity. In columns 1 and 2 of Table 7, antidumping duties are actually associated with a decrease in physical productivity among the set of plants reporting quantity data. In fact, physical productivity actually falls by a greater amount as the effective duty rate protecting the plant increases, as shown in columns 3 and 4 of Table 7. These results highlight substantial differences between the effects of AD on physical, as opposed to revenue productivity.

A word of warning in terms of interpreting these results is necessary here. It would be inappropriate based on these results to claim that antidumping duties, in general, decrease plant-level physical productivity. It is true that antidumping duties are associated with a relative decline in productivity among the set of plants reporting output data in units of quantity. However, this group is subject to a potential selection bias if plants that report output data in units of quantity differ from those that do not. Indeed, when I examine the effect of antidumping protection on the revenue productivity of the subset of plants reporting output in units of quantity in columns 5–8 of Table 6, I find that, on average, revenue productivity was unaffected by antidumping protection.²⁴ I will directly address this

potential selection bias below and demonstrate that it is not driving the results.

5.1.2.2. Prices and mark-ups. The disparity between results showing the effect of antidumping protection on revenue versus physical productivity suggests that increases in prices and mark-ups are playing a role in the apparent increase in revenue productivity. I use the same difference-in-difference specifications and treatment and control groups from the productivity analysis to examine the effects of antidumping duties on the measures of prices and mark-ups over average variable cost defined above. In these estimates, prices are plant-product-level prices from the CM, which are calculated as in Eq. (7) and then measured in logs. Markups are measured in percentages, as defined in Eq. (8).

As reported in columns 5–8 of Table 7, I find that increases in the effective duty rate are associated with increases in both prices and mark-ups, while the relationship between the binary protection measure and prices and mark-ups is weaker. On average, each 1 percentage point increase in the effective duty rate is associated with a price increase of 3% at protected plants. Similarly, I find that for each 1 percentage point increase in the effective duty rate, mark-ups over average variable cost increase by 0.3 percentage points.²⁵ These results illustrate the reason that the results for revenue and physical productivity differ so sharply—the effect of AD on revenue productivity is inflated by increases in prices and markups.

5.2. Robustness checks

5.2.1. Examination of sample selection bias

As mentioned above, results for physical productivity, prices and markups could only be calculated for the sub-sample of plants that reported output data in units of quantity. This data limitation, however, gives rise to a potential selection bias if plants that report output data in units of quantity differ from those that do not. I now examine the representativeness of results based on the quantity sample by describing characteristics of the quantity sample and re-estimating the main results using weights based on the probability of being in the quantity sample.

In its CM questionnaires, the Census Bureau only asks plants to report output data in units of quantity for certain products. The Census Bureau's primary considerations in determining whether to request quantity data

²⁴ I find a small decrease in revenue labor productivity as the effective duty rate increases, although the magnitude of this effect is ten times smaller than the result found for physical productivity. This result is not present for TFP.

²⁵ I also estimate specifications that allow a non-linear relationship between the effective duty rate and the various dependent variables. The main results are very similar to those in Tables 6 and 7, with mixed evidence for a non-linear effect. A quadratic rate term is almost always statistically insignificant when added to Eq (6). However, replacing the effective duty rate variable with indicators for medium and high duty rates indicates that plants protected by high duties (i.e. their duty rate is in the top third of the distribution) experience the largest declines in physical productivity and the largest increases in price.

Table 7
The effect of AD on physical productivity, price and markups.

	Physical productivity measures				Price and markups			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	FHS TFP (Phys.)	LP (Phys.)	FHS TFP (Phys.)	LP (Phys.)	Price	P/AVC	Price	P/AVC
Treatment*post	-0.3867*	-0.3878*	0.1926	0.214	0.4022*	0.0065	-0.197	-0.0467
Post*rate	0.2045	0.2073	0.1534	0.1583	0.2102	0.0354	0.1567	0.0365
			-0.0312***	-0.0325***			0.0323***	0.0029**
			0.004	0.0044			0.004	0.0012
R-squared	0.6284	0.6178	0.6324	0.622	0.6406	0.0829	0.6451	0.0831
Observations	10,419	10,419	10,419	10,419	10,419	10,419	10,419	10,419

Notes: This table summarizes OLS regression coefficients of plant-level productivity, prices and mark-ups on the difference-in-difference interaction term "Treatment*post" and the effective duty rate interaction term "Post*rate." Columns 1–4 reports results for physical productivity and Columns 5–8 report results for prices and markups (P/AVC) for the quantity sample. FHS TFP denotes the TFP measure from Foster et al. (2008) and LP denotes labor productivity. "Rev." denotes a revenue productivity measure and "Phys." denotes a physical productivity measure. All regression results include both product and year fixed effects. Robust standard errors are reported below each coefficient after adjustment for clustering at the product-level.

*** Represents statistical significance at the 1% level.

** Represents statistical significance at the 5% level.

* Represents statistical significance at the 10% level.

for a particular product are whether the product is homogeneous enough for quantity data to be meaningful and the extent to which asking for quantity data imposes a burden on survey respondents. The Census Bureau's preference for homogeneous products can be seen in Table 2, where sectors with the highest share of quantity data include food, primary metals and textile mill products. In contrast, sectors dominated by differentiated products including industrial and electronic machinery generally do not contain much quantity data.

These criteria likely mean that products for which quantity data are reported—and hence the plants producing them—differ from those for which quantity data are not collected.²⁶ However, the criteria also provide variables that can be used to construct weighted regression results that provide information on the population of plants in the treatment and control groups. As described in Cameron and Trivedi (2005), it is possible to control for non-random sampling by calculating the probability of inclusion in the sample—i.e. the probability that a plant reports output data in units of quantity—and using the inverse probability as a weight in the regression of interest.

I follow this approach by estimating the probability that a plant reports quantity data (QTY_{pt}) in a logit regression framework. My explanatory variables are selected to replicate the criteria considered by the Census Bureau when determining whether to request quantity data from respondents. To measure product homogeneity, I calculate a SIC5-level version of the Rauch (1999) classifications, which classify goods into three categories: exchange-traded (homogeneous) goods, reference-priced goods and differentiated products. These categories are included through dummy variables that equal one if plant p produces a product that is reference-priced and zero otherwise (REF_{pt}) and a dummy variable that equals one if plant p produces a product that is differentiated and zero otherwise ($DIFF_{pt}$). The primary measure of respondent burden considered by the Census Bureau is the number of plants that would have to respond to a question and hence I include the number of plants producing each product (denoted by g) as a measure of burden ($NUMPLANT_{gt}$). In addition, since large plants generally respond to the CM at higher rates than smaller plants, I include total employment as a measure of plant size (TE_{pt}). Lastly, I include a set of dummy variables, δ_i for the SIC2 sectors and estimate the following equation:

$$\Pr(QTY_{pt} = 1) = \Phi\left(\frac{0.407}{0.087^{***}} REF_{pt} - \frac{0.316}{0.090^{***}} DIFF_{pt} - \frac{0.0007}{0.00004^{***}} NUMPLANT_{gt} + \frac{0.04}{0.016^{**}} TE_{it} + \sum_i \beta_5 \delta_i\right) \quad (10)$$

²⁶ See Table 4 for summary statistics comparing plants by whether or not they are classified in the quantity sample.

Coefficient results and standard errors are reported in the body of Eq. (10), which yielded a pseudo- R^2 of 0.31. I find that producers of differentiated-products are less likely to report quantity data than those producing homogeneous goods, as expected, although producers of reference-priced goods were actually the most likely to report quantity data. Sub-industries with more plants are less likely to report quantity data, reflecting the higher burden associated with requesting quantity data in those sub-industries. Larger plants are more likely to report quantity data than their smaller counterparts.

Having estimated a probability of reporting quantity data for each plant in the full sample, I re-estimate the paper's main results, using the inverse predicted probability of inclusion in the quantity sample as a weight, as described in Cameron and Trivedi (2005). This strategy assigns a higher weight to plants that reported quantity data, but were similar to the plants excluded from the quantity sample. The resulting estimates then provide an indication of whether results estimated for the quantity sample are applicable for the sample as a whole.

Table 8
The effect of AD, weighted by inverse probability of inclusion in quantity sample.

	Excluding effective AD rate					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	FHS TFP (Rev.)	LP (Rev.)	FHS TFP (Phys.)	LP (Phys.)	Price	P/AVC
Treatment*post	0.032	-0.019	-0.670*	-0.669*	0.744*	0.078*
	0.041	0.044	0.380	0.401	0.386	0.043
Observations	10,419	10,419	10,419	10,419	10,419	10,419
R-squared	0.653	0.335	0.432	0.443	0.471	0.074
	Including effective AD rate					
	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
	FHS TFP (Rev.)	LP (Rev.)	FHS TFP (Phys.)	LP (Phys.)	Price	P/AVC
Treatment*post	0.018	0.040	0.261**	0.349	-0.227	0.018
	0.054	0.062	0.447	0.465	0.442	0.068
Post*rate	0.001	-0.002	-0.037***	-0.040***	0.038***	0.002
	0.002	0.002	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.002
Observations	10,419	10,419	10,419	10,419	10,419	10,419
R-squared	0.653	0.336	0.435	0.447	0.475	0.074

Notes: These tables summarize OLS regression coefficients of product-level prices and markups on the difference-in-difference interaction term "Treatment*post", the effective duty rate interaction term "Post*rate." Results are weighted by the inverse probability of inclusion in the quantity sample. FHS TFP denotes the TFP measure from Foster et al. (2008) and LP denotes labor productivity. "Rev." denotes a revenue productivity measure and "Phys." denotes a physical productivity measure. All specifications include product and year fixed effects. Robust standard errors are reported below each coefficient after adjustment for clustering at the product-level.

*** Represents statistical significance at the 1% level.

** Represents statistical significance at the 5% level.

* Represents statistical significance at the 10% level.

As reported in Table 8, the results generated by this weighted regression are consistent with the main results reported in Tables 6 and 7. The effect of antidumping duties on revenue productivity is still found to be overstated due to increases in prices and markups, with physical productivity falling for protected plants, relative to unprotected plants. In sum, the results indicate that the potential selection bias associated with non-random sampling of plants in the quantity sample is not driving the results.

5.2.2. Alternate control groups

I also consider two alternate control groups employed in Konings and Vandebussche (2008). The first alternative control group, AC1, consists of all plants in sub-industries that applied for protection, but whose petitions were rejected by the government.²⁷ The second alternative control group, AC2, consists of industries that did not receive protection, but had a high probability of receiving protection based on a multinomial logit model of antidumping protection described in Blonigen and Park (2004) and Konings and Vandebussche (2008).²⁸ The primary conceptual difference between AC2 and the control group used in this paper is that AC2 includes industries that never applied for protection, but were similar to those industries that did apply and receive protection.²⁹

Results using the two alternate control groups are broadly consistent with those in the preferred control group. In particular, I find that antidumping duties were associated with an increase in revenue productivity in both alternate control groups, as they were with the preferred control group. I also continue to find that physical productivity falls, the higher the effective duty rate, as was the case in the preferred control group.³⁰ Lastly, I continue to find that both prices and mark-ups increase as the effective duty rate increases, as they did using the preferred control group. In sum, the results presented above are robust to calculation with different control groups, even with substantial differences in the composition of plants in each group.³¹

5.2.3. Additional robustness checks

In addition to the robustness checks described in detail above, the results are also robust to a number of other controls. First, the results are robust to inclusion of a variable measuring the duration of protection, as well as examination of subsets of investigations that took place in the years 1991–1993, 1990–1994 and 1989–1995.³²

²⁷ The preferred control group, therefore, is a subset of AC1.

²⁸ Results of the multinomial logit regression are available upon request. As in the logit estimation used to construct the preferred control group, estimated coefficients take the expected signs. In particular, the probability of receiving antidumping protection increases with higher levels of import penetration and total employment. In contrast, higher growth in prices is associated with a lower probability of receiving protection.

²⁹ Specifically, control group AC2 is the set of plants in industries that had a probability of protection greater than the 75th percentile of that in treated industries, but that did not receive protection.

³⁰ There are some differences in statistical significance—although not sign—of the coefficient estimates for AC1. In particular, the estimated effect of the binary protection measure on physical productivity is negative, but not significant. In addition, when both the binary measure of protection and the effective duty rate are included in the specification, the coefficient on the binary measure is positive and significant, although it is offset by the negative and highly significant coefficient on the effective duty rate.

³¹ For example, the AC2 sample has over 100% more revenue productivity observations than the preferred control group sample. The AC1 sample has over 35% more physical productivity observations than the preferred control group.

³² These robustness checks are important since the availability of CM data in 5 year intervals means that I observe plants for different amounts of time before and after antidumping investigations depending on the year in which the investigation takes place.

Second, I obtain qualitatively similar results when estimating results using plant fixed effects, in place of product fixed effects.³³ These results provide evidence that AD lowers physical productivity within plants over time.³⁴ Lastly, the results are robust to exclusion of products and industries that end in 9 (which are often “miscellaneous” categories) and consideration of only those products with at least 25 establishment observations per year.

5.3. Antidumping duties allow for continued production of protected products by low-productivity plants

I now examine whether antidumping protection allows for the continued operation of low-productivity plants that would have otherwise stopped production, as a potential explanation for why relative physical productivity declines in the treatment group. The analysis takes places in two steps. First, I estimate whether antidumping protection makes plants less likely to stop producing a protected product and, second, I examine whether plants that stop production are lower-productivity than plants that continue production. A novel aspect of this analysis is that I am able to define “production-stopping” based on a plant’s decision to exit or to drop a product. This allows me to account for multi-product plants that remain in operation but drop a treatment product and, more generally, allows for simultaneous examination of multi-product and single-product plants.

For the first step, I estimate the effect of antidumping protection on the probability of production-stopping using the following conditional logit specification with product and year fixed effects:

$$\Pr(\text{Stop}_{pt} = 1) = \Phi(\beta_1 \text{Treatment}_{pt1} * \text{Post}_{pt} + \beta_2 \text{Post}_{pt} * \text{Rate}_{pt} + \beta_3' X_{pt} + \gamma_t + \delta_g) \quad (11)$$

As mentioned above, Stop_{pt} is a binary variable that takes the value 1 if a plant stops producing a treatment or control product, either by dropping the product or exiting. β_1 and β_2 are the primary coefficients of interest and measure the effect of antidumping protection and the effective duty rate on the probability that a plant stops production. X is a matrix of plant-level variables including log number of employees, plant age, log of capital-labor ratio, log of average wage and indicators for whether the plant is a multi-product plant, or a part of a multi-unit firm. As reported in Table 9, I do find that antidumping protection makes plants between 10 and 15% less likely to stop producing a particular product.

For the second step, I examine whether the reduction in production-stopping associated with antidumping protection allows low-productivity plants to continue producing. To estimate the relative productivity of production-stoppers, I regress plant-level productivity, Prod , on a binary variable Stop that equals one in time t if plant p stopped producing an investigated product between

³³ As in the baseline results, antidumping protection has no effect on revenue productivity in the quantity sample, but a negative and significant effect on physical productivity due to a positive and significant effect on price. There are some differences in statistical significance in the results with plant fixed effects. Specifically, the coefficient on the binary protection measure is positive and significant for physical productivity, although it is offset by the negative and highly significant coefficient on the effective duty rate. The opposite signs hold for price. In addition, the coefficient estimate of the effect of antidumping protection on markups is positive, but not statistically significant.

³⁴ I present estimates with product fixed effects in Tables 6 and 7 as my baseline results. The primary reason for this choice is that the product FE specification allows for identification from plants that are present in only one year, due to entry and exit. This is a common occurrence in my sample and it is important to be able to capture changes in industry composition due to entry and exit.

Table 9
The effect of AD on production-stopping.

	Stop	Stop	Stop	Stop
Treatment*post	−0.149***	−0.114***	−0.132***	−0.106***
Post*rate	0.016	0.017	0.022	0.023
No. employees		−0.346***	0.022	−0.0004**
Plant age		0.008	0.001	0.001
Capital intensity		−0.014***	−0.118***	−0.346***
Avg. wage		0.001	0.001	0.008
Multi-unit		−0.118***	−0.118***	−0.014***
Multi-product		0.009	0.009	0.001
Year FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Product FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Observations	62,671	62,671	62,671	62,671

Notes: This table summarizes conditional logit regression coefficients of a dummy variable for production-stopping on the difference-in-difference interaction term "Treatment*post," the effective duty rate interaction term "Post*rate" and additional control variables. Multi-unit is a dummy that equals 1 if a plant is part of a multi-unit firm and multi-product is a dummy that equals 1 if a plant produces multiple products. Robust standard errors are reported below each coefficient.

*** Represents statistical significance at the 1% level.

** Represents statistical significance at the 5% level.

* Represents statistical significance at the 10% level.

time t and time $t + 5$ and zero otherwise, with year and product fixed effects:

$$Prod_{pgt} = a + \beta_1 Stop_{pgt} + \gamma_t + \delta_g + \varepsilon_{pt} \quad 12$$

I find that production-stoppers are 15% less productive in terms of revenue TFP and 10% less productive in terms of physical TFP, with both estimates statistically significant at the 5% level.

Combining the results from these two steps, I find that antidumping protection allows more plants to continue production of protected products than would be the case without protection, which leaves low productivity plants active in the industry. This continued operation by low-productivity plants, therefore, contributes to the relative decline in physical productivity found in the treatment group.

6. Conclusions

Antidumping duties have become one of the primary forms of trade protection worldwide, and the large magnitudes of the duties imposed can dramatically alter trade flows. Yet despite the growing importance of antidumping duties to international trade, there is little understanding of their effects at the micro level. In addition to increasing our understanding of an important trade policy, the study of antidumping duties can also provide new insights into the responses of firms in a developed country to a major tariff shock.

Using a difference-in-difference framework, I compare outcomes at plants in a treatment group that receives protection to those in a control group that did not. I find that apparent increases in revenue productivity associated with antidumping protection are driven primarily by increases in prices and mark-ups. Physical productivity actually falls among the protected plants reporting output data in units of quantity. Because antidumping protection allows for the continued operation of low-productivity plants that would have otherwise stopped producing the protected product, antidumping duties also prevent the reallocation of resources to their most productive uses.

The results have several implications. First, for empirical researchers, the results underscore the importance of differentiating between changes in revenue productivity—which may be driven by increases in prices and mark-ups—and changes in physical productivity. Separating these two effects is particularly important in situations where changes in productivity may be taking place concomitantly with changes in prices, as is the case with antidumping duties. Second, for theoretical researchers, the results provide stylized facts regarding the responses of plants in a large developed economy to a unilateral change in tariffs. More generally, the results suggest that antidumping protection is more likely to lead to higher prices than higher productivity.

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