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Micro-evidence on rent sharing from different perspectives*

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September 2008

Abstract

This article provides evidence of rent sharing from orthogonal directions. Taking advantage of a rich matched employer-employee dataset for France, we compare consistently across-industry heterogeneity in rent-sharing parameters relying on three different approaches: (i) the productivity approach, (ii) the accounting approach and (iii) the traditional labor economics approach. Focusing on economically meaningful parameter estimates shows that there exist differences in dispersion across the different approaches but more importantly that the rent-sharing estimates are within a comparable range.

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1 Introduction

The *theoretical* underpinnings of individual and firm wage heterogeneity can broadly be classified into three categories: matching/search-based models (Jovanovic, 1979; Postel-Vinay and Robin, 2002; Mortensen, 2003; Shimer, 2005), incentive compensation models (Lazear and Rosen, 1981) and rent-sharing models (McDonald and Solow, 1981; Nickell and Andrews, 1983). Regardless of the theoretical model one favors, the exclusion of unobserved individual or firm wage

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heterogeneity creates biases in wage equations as well as problems in identifying the underlying sources of wage variation.

On the *empirical* side, there is a large body of studies examining the effect of industry or firm performance on wages using aggregated data (among them Katz and Summers, 1989, Blanchflower et al., 1996, Estevao and Tevlin, 2003 for the US; Abowd and Lemieux, 1993, Christofides and Oswald, 1992 for Canada; Blanchflower et al., 1990, Holmlund and Zetterberg, 1991, Nickell et al., 1994, Hildreth and Oswald, 1997 for European countries) and testing the rent-sharing hypothesis. The seminal contribution of Abowd et al. (1999), providing a statistical decomposition of wage rates into worker and firm effects and focusing on the private sector in France, together with the availability of matched employer-employee datasets, fueled a resurgence of interest in this subject. Recent studies investigating the impact of profits on wages using matched worker-firm data include Margolis and Salvanes (2001) for France and Norway, Arai (2003) for Sweden, Kramarz (2003) for France and Martins (2007) for Portugal. Albeit using different models of collective bargaining, the results of these studies indicate, in general, that changes in profitability feed through into long-run changes in wages.

The main contribution of this article to the latter strand of the empirical literature is to provide evidence of rent sharing from orthogonal directions. Taking advantage of a rich matched employer-employee dataset for France, this article can be considered as a companion paper to our previous related research (Dobbelaere and Mairesse, 2008) where we provide an in-depth analysis of imperfections in the product and the labor markets as two sources of discrepancies between the marginal products of input factors and the apparent factor prices. This article compares consistently across-industry heterogeneity in rent-sharing parameters relying on three different approaches: (i) the productivity approach, (ii) the accounting approach and (iii) the traditional labor economics approach. In the first approach, we estimate a productivity equation at the firm level (see Crepon, Desplatz and Mairesse, 1999; Dobbelaere, 2004; Boulhol and Dobbelaere, 2006; Dobbelaere and Mairesse, 2008). By comparing the estimated factor elasticities for labor and materials and their shares in revenue, we are able to derive estimates of average price-cost mark-up and rent-sharing parameters. In the second approach, we directly compute measures of price-cost mark-up and rent-sharing parameters from the firm accounting information (see also Veugelers, 1989). In the third approach, we estimate directly a wage equation taking into account worker and firm wage heterogeneity. From the estimated profits-wage elasticities, we retrieve average rent-sharing parameters. We compare the estimated elasticities resulting from estimating a wage equation at the worker level with those resulting from estimating a wage equation at the firm level.

We proceed as follows. In Section 2, we present the three approaches. Section 3 discusses the data and focuses on across-industry heterogeneity in extent of rent-sharing parameters within each approach. In Section 4, we compare consistently across-industry heterogeneity in our parameter of interest across the three approaches. Section 5 concludes.

2 Three different approaches to provide rent-sharing evidence

In this section, we present three approaches from which we derive estimates of extent of rent sharing: (i) the productivity approach, (ii) the accounting approach and (iii) the traditional labor economics approach. All three approaches determine the extent of rent-sharing parameters that would prevail if bargaining were to take place according to the asymmetric Nash bargaining model.

2.1 Productivity approach

We rely on the model of Crépon, Desplatz and Mairesse (1999, 2002) that extends Hall (1988)'s framework to allow for the possibility that wages and employment are bargained over between firms and workers. We start from a production function $Q_{it} = \Theta_{it}F(N_{it}, M_{it}, K_{it})$, where i is a firm index, t a time index, N is labor, M is material input, K is capital and $F(\cdot)$ is assumed to be homogeneous of degree one in its arguments. Θ_{it} is an index of technical change or "true" total factor productivity. The logarithmic specification of the production function gives:

$$q_{it} = \varepsilon_{N_{it}}^Q n_{it} + \varepsilon_{M_{it}}^Q m_{it} + \varepsilon_{K_{it}}^Q k_{it} + \theta_{it} \quad (1)$$

Each firm operates under imperfect competition in the product market. On the labor side, we assume that the union and the firm are involved in a strongly efficient bargaining procedure with both wages (w) and labor (N) being the subject of an agreement (McDonald and Solow, 1981). The union's objective is to maximize $U(w_{it}, N_{it}) = N_{it}w_{it} + (\bar{N}_{it} - N_{it})\bar{w}_{it}$, where \bar{N}_{it} is union membership ($0 < N_{it} \leq \bar{N}_{it}$) and \bar{w}_{it} is the outside wage available in the event of a bargaining dispute ($\bar{w}_{it} \leq w_{it}$). Consistent with capital quasi-fixity,¹ the firm objective is to maximize its short-run profit function: $\pi(w_{it}, N_{it}, M_{it}) = R(N_{it}, M_{it}) - w_{it}N_{it} - j_{it}M_{it}$, where $R_{it} = P_{it}Q_{it}$ stands for total revenue. The outcome of the bargaining is the asymmetric generalised Nash solution to:

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{w_{it}, N_{it}, M_{it}} \{N_{it}w_{it} + (\bar{N}_{it} - N_{it})\bar{w}_{it} - \bar{N}_{it}\bar{w}_{it}\}^{\phi_{it}} \{R_{it} - w_{it}N_{it} - j_{it}M_{it}\}^{1-\phi_{it}} \\ & = \max_{w_{it}, N_{it}, M_{it}} \{N_{it}(w_{it} - \bar{w}_{it})\}^{\phi_{it}} \{R_{it} - w_{it}N_{it} - j_{it}M_{it}\}^{1-\phi_{it}} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where $\phi_{it} \in [0, 1]$ represents the workers' bargaining power.

Maximization with respect to material input gives $R_{M,it} = j_{it}$ with $R_{M,it}$ the marginal revenue of material input, which directly leads to:

$$\varepsilon_{M_{it}}^Q = \mu_{it}\alpha_{M_{it}} \quad (3)$$

¹Crépon et al. (1999, 2000) assume capital quasi-fixity. In their framework, what only matter is that capital is installed before bargaining takes place, which is a very reasonable hypothesis. When assuming that capital adjusts perfectly, the quasi-rents that unions target are lower and therefore a higher bargaining power would be needed empirically to match the data.

$\mu_{it} = \frac{P_{it}}{C_{Q,it}}$ refers to the mark-up of price (P_{it}) over marginal cost ($C_{Q,it}$) and $\alpha_{M_{it}} = \frac{j_{it}M_{it}}{P_{it}Q_{it}}$. Maximization with respect to the wage rate and labor respectively gives the following first-order conditions:

$$w_{it} = \bar{w}_{it} + \gamma_{it} \left[\frac{R_{it} - w_{it}N_{it} - j_{it}M_{it}}{N_{it}} \right] \quad (4)$$

$$w_{it} = R_{N,it} + \phi_{it} \left[\frac{R_{it} - R_{N,it}N_{it} - j_{it}M_{it}}{N_{it}} \right] \quad (5)$$

where $\gamma_{it} = \frac{\phi_{it}}{1-\phi_{it}}$. Eq. (4) states that the equilibrium wage is determined by the outside wage in the event of a bargaining dispute, the relative bargaining strength of the workers and the firm, and the level of profits per employee.

Solving simultaneously (5) and (4) leads to an expression for the contract curve: $R_{N,it} = \bar{w}_{it}$, which shows that the firm decision about employment is the same as if it was maximizing its short-run profit at the outside wage. Expressing the marginal revenue of labor as $R_{N,it} = R_{Q,it}Q_{N,it} = \frac{P_{it}Q_{N,it}}{\mu_{it}}$ and using this expression together with (5), the elasticity of output with respect to employment can be written as:

$$\varepsilon_{N_{it}}^Q = \mu_{it}\alpha_{N_{it}} + \mu_{it}\gamma_{it}(\alpha_{N_{it}} + \alpha_{M_{it}} - 1) \quad (6)$$

with $\alpha_{N_{it}} = \frac{w_{it}N_{it}}{P_{it}Q_{it}}$. Assuming constant returns to scale ($\varepsilon_{N_{it}}^Q + \varepsilon_{M_{it}}^Q + \varepsilon_{K_{it}}^Q = 1$), the capital elasticity can be expressed as:

$$\varepsilon_{K_{it}}^Q = 1 - \mu_{it}\alpha_{M_{it}} - \mu_{it}\alpha_{N_{it}} - \mu_{it}\gamma_{it}(\alpha_{N_{it}} + \alpha_{M_{it}} - 1) \quad (7)$$

Estimating the following productivity equation:

$$q_{it} - k_{it} = \varepsilon_{N_{it}}^Q (n_{it} - k_{it}) + \varepsilon_{M_{it}}^Q (m_{it} - k_{it}) + \theta_{it} \quad (8)$$

allows the identification of (i) the mark-up of price over marginal cost and (ii) the extent of rent sharing:

$$\mu_{it} = \frac{\varepsilon_{M_{it}}^Q}{\alpha_{M_{it}}} \quad (9)$$

$$\gamma_{it} = \frac{\phi_{it}}{1-\phi_{it}} = \frac{\varepsilon_{N_{it}}^Q - \left(\varepsilon_{M_{it}}^Q \frac{\alpha_{N_{it}}}{\alpha_{M_{it}}} \right)}{\frac{\varepsilon_{M_{it}}^Q}{\alpha_{M_{it}}} (\alpha_{N_{it}} + \alpha_{M_{it}} - 1)} \quad (10)$$

$$\phi_{it} = \frac{\gamma_{it}}{1 + \gamma_{it}} \quad (11)$$

By embedding the efficient bargaining model into a microeconomic version of Hall's (1988) framework, it follows that the firm price-cost mark-up and the extent of rent sharing generate a wedge between output elasticities and factor

shares. As a benchmark case, we assume that firms consider input prices as given prior to deciding their level of inputs. In that case, short-run profit maximization with respect to labor would imply that $\varepsilon_{N_{it}}^Q = \mu_{it}\alpha_{N_{it}}$ and estimating the productivity equation would lead to the identification of the price-cost mark-up only ($\mu_{only_{it}}$).

2.2 Accounting approach

Dividing Eq. (4) by total revenue $P_{it}Q_{it}$ and defining the wage premium as the difference between the bargained wage and the outside wage in the event of a bargaining dispute ($WP_{it} = w_{it} - \bar{w}_{it}$), we directly compute the price-cost mark-up assuming that firms consider input prices as given prior to deciding their level of inputs ($\mu_{only_{a_{it}}}$), the price-cost mark-up taking into account that both wages and employment are the subject of a bargaining agreement ($\mu_{a_{it}}$) and the extent of rent sharing ($\phi_{a_{it}}$) from the firm accounting information as follows (see also Veugelers, 1989):

$$\mu_{only_{a_{it}}} = 1 + \left(\frac{P_{it}Q_{it} - w_{it}N_{it} - j_{it}M_{it}}{P_{it}Q_{it}} \right) \quad (12)$$

$$\mu_{a_{it}} = \frac{P_{it}Q_{it} - \bar{w}_{it}N_{it} - j_{it}M_{it}}{P_{it}Q_{it}} = \mu_{only_{a_{it}}} + \frac{(w_{it} - \bar{w}_{it})N_{it}}{P_{it}Q_{it}} \quad (13)$$

$$\gamma_{a_{it}} = \frac{(w_{it} - \bar{w}_{it})N_{it}}{P_{it}Q_{it} - w_{it}N_{it} - j_{it}M_{it}} = \frac{\mu_{a_{it}} - \mu_{only_{a_{it}}}}{\mu_{only_{a_{it}}} - 1} \quad (14)$$

$$\phi_{a_{it}} = \frac{\gamma_{a_{it}}}{1 + \gamma_{a_{it}}} = \frac{\mu_{a_{it}} - \mu_{only_{a_{it}}}}{\mu_{a_{it}} - 1} \quad (15)$$

where the outside wage \bar{w}_{it} is measured by the 5th percentile value of the nominal wage per worker in the industry in which the firm operates.

2.3 Traditional labor economics approach

Following standard practice in the rent-sharing literature, we interpret \bar{w}_{it} as the expected income in the event of a bargaining dispute which is determined by productivity-related characteristics of the worker and the probability of becoming unemployed. Having longitudinal data, we assume that \bar{w}_{it} is captured by year effects and by a proxy of the wage outside the employing firm within the same industry. Hence, the empirical specification of Eq. (4) can be written as:

$$\ln w_{j(i)t} = \ln w_{It} + \gamma_{it} \ln \left(\frac{\pi_{it}}{N_{it}} \right) + \alpha_{j(i)} + \alpha_i + \alpha_t + \epsilon_{jt} \quad (16)$$

where $w_{j(i)t}$ is the annual nominal wage of individual j working in firm i at date t , w_{It} is the 5th percentile value of the nominal wage per worker in industry I in which the employing firm i operates at time t , π_{it} and N_{it} are respectively the profits and employment of the employing firm i at time t , $\alpha_{j(i)}$ is the individual effect, α_i the firm effect, α_t the year effect and ϵ_{jt} the statistical residual.

2.4 Right-to-manage versus efficient bargaining

Equilibrium relation (4) is independent of the true nature of the employment function. In particular, it does not depend on whether employment is determined at the labor demand curve (which would result from the right-to-manage model where the workers and the firm bargain over wages in the first stage, and the firm retains the right to determine its optimal level of employment given the wage in the second stage) or on a contract curve (which would result from the efficient bargaining model where bargaining is about wages and employment).

Contrary to Eq. (4) which would result as a first-order condition from either the right-to-manage model or the efficient bargaining model, Eq. (6) discriminates between the two standard models of rent sharing. In the right-to-manage model, employment is highly endogenous with respect to wages. As in the perfectly competitive labor market case, the marginal revenue of labor is equal to the wage whereas in the efficient bargaining model, employment does not depend directly on the bargained wage. Hence, the null hypothesis of $\gamma_{it} = 0$ in Eq. (6) does not only correspond to the assumption that the labor market is competitive but also to the less restrictive assumption that firms and workers only bargain over wages in a first step and firms unilaterally determine their employment level in a second step (right-to-manage assumption).

Given our purpose of providing micro-evidence on rent sharing from orthogonal directions, we presume that the three approaches rely on the same model of rent sharing. Hence, we assume that the workers and the firm are involved in an efficient bargaining procedure.

3 Data description and a first look at the three approaches

3.1 Data description

We use data from the DADS (“Déclarations Annuelles des Données Sociales”) on the matched worker-firm side and firm accounting information from EAE (“Enquête Annuelle d’Entreprise”, “Service des Etudes et Statistiques Industrielles” (SESSI)) on the firm side. The DADS is a large-scale administrative database collected by INSEE (“Institut de National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques”) and maintained in the Division des Revenus. The data are based on a mandatory employer report of the gross earnings of each employee subject to French payroll taxes. These taxes apply to essentially all employed individuals in the economy. The Division des Revenus provides an extract of the DADS for scientific purposes, covering all individuals employed in French enterprises who were born in October of even-numbered years, excluding civil servants.

Our analysis sample is obtained by merging the firm current account and balance sheet data of the 10 646 firms, with the number of observations for each firm

varying between 12 and 24, that we used in our previous research (Dobbelaere and Mairesse, 2008) with the matched employer-employee information. Our initial data set contained 1 388 089 observations, each corresponding to a unique firm-worker-year combination. Because of the 1982 and 1990 Census, however, the 1981, 1983 and 1990 DADS data are excluded. To avoid large discrepancies in the number of years available in the matched employer-employee dataset and the firm dataset, we select the period 1984-2001. After some cleaning to eliminate outliers and anomalies, our matched worker-firm dataset contains 1 077 402 observations, corresponding to 209 780 individuals and 10 396 firms. For each observation, we have information on the exact starting date and end date of the job spell in the firm and the full-time/ part-time status of the worker. Each firm-worker-year observation additionally includes information on the individual's sex, month, year and place of birth, current occupation and total net nominal earnings during the year for the individual. Employer characteristics include the location and industry of the employing firm. 9.7% of the employees move at least once between firms (movers).

For regression purposes, we only select full-time stayers who worked 12 months a year. Our final sample contains 719 693 observations, corresponding to 91 353 individuals, 9 121 firms and 38 industries. Concerning the distribution of workers across firms, we observe 2 workers per firm for firms in the first quartile, 3 workers per firm for firms in the second quartile and 7 workers per firm for firms in the third quartile. The number of observations per worker (firm) is 7 (13) for the first quartile of workers (firms), 10 (16) for the second quartile and 13 (16) for the third quartile.

Using the firm dataset, we measure output (Q_{it}) by real current production deflated by the two-digit producer price index of the French industrial classification. Labor (N_{it}) refers to the average number of employees in each firm for each year and material input (M_{it}) refers to intermediate consumption deflated by the two-digit intermediate consumption price index. The capital stock (K_{it}) is measured by the gross bookvalue of fixed assets. The shares of labor ($\alpha_{N_{it}}$) and material input ($\alpha_{M_{it}}$) are constructed by dividing respectively the firm total labor cost and undeflated intermediate consumption by the firm undeflated production and by taking the average of these ratios over adjacent years. Profits per worker ($\frac{\pi_{it}}{N_{it}}$) is measured as value added minus labor costs divided by the average number of employees in each firm for each year. Using the matched worker-firm dataset, the wage ($w_{j(i)t}$) refers to the average net nominal wage per worker. In addition to defining the wage at the worker level, we compute the firm average wage per worker in two ways: (i) computed directly from the firm accounting information as the wage bill divided by the average number of employees in each firm for each year (w_{it}) and (ii) using the worker information and computed as the sum of the workers' wages divided by the number of workers observed in each firm-year $\left(\frac{\sum_{j \in i} w_{j(i)t}}{\sum_{j \in i} j}\right)$. By construction, the latter firm average wage per worker is highly correlated with the average net nominal wage

per worker ($w_{j(i)t}$). Table 1 reports the means, standard deviations and quartile values of our main variables. The average growth rate of real firm output for the overall sample is 2.6% per year over the period 1984-2001. Capital has remained stable, while materials and labor have increased at an average annual growth rate of 4% and 0.7% respectively. As expected for firm-level data, the dispersion of all these variables is considerably large. For example, capital growth is smaller than -7.2% for the first quartile of firms and higher than 6.5% for the fourth quartile.

<Insert Table 1 about here>

3.2 A first look at the three approaches

This section concentrates on across-industry heterogeneity in the extent of rent sharing within each approach. We decompose the total sample into 38 manufacturing industries according to the French industrial classification ("Nomenclature économique de synthèse - Niveau 3" [NES 114]). Table A.1 in Appendix A shows the industry repartition of the sample and presents for each industry the number of observations (in the firm and matched worker-firm dataset), the number of firms and the number of workers.

3.2.1 Productivity approach

Being interested in average reduced-form parameters, we estimate the following specification for each industry I over the period 1984-2001:

$$q_{it} - k_{it} = \varepsilon_N^Q (n_{it} - k_{it}) + \varepsilon_M^Q (m_{it} - k_{it}) + \alpha_t + \zeta_{it} \quad (17)$$

The average industry-level price-cost mark-up ($\hat{\mu}_I$), relative extent of rent sharing ($\hat{\gamma}_I$) and extent of rent sharing ($\hat{\phi}_I$) are derived from comparing the estimated average output elasticities with the average input shares: $\hat{\mu}_I = \frac{\hat{\varepsilon}_{M_I}^Q}{\alpha_{M_I}}$, $\hat{\gamma}_I = \frac{\hat{\varepsilon}_{N_I}^Q - \left(\hat{\varepsilon}_{M_I}^Q \frac{\alpha_{N_I}}{\alpha_{M_I}}\right)}{\hat{\varepsilon}_{M_I}^Q (\alpha_{N_I} + \alpha_{M_I} - 1)}$ and $\hat{\phi}_I = \frac{\hat{\gamma}_I}{1 + \hat{\gamma}_I}$.

Table 2 summarizes the system GMM results of the industry analysis.² The table is drawn up in increasing order of $\hat{\gamma}_I$. From Table 2, it follows that industry differences in the parameters are quite sizeable. Considering all industries, the median price-cost mark-up and the median extent of rent sharing are estimated at 1.21 and 0.19 respectively. Concentrating on the industry estimates for which the price-cost mark-up equals or exceeds 1 and the corresponding extent of rent

²The GMM estimation is carried out in Stata 9.2 (Roodman, 2005). We report results for the *one*-step estimator, for which inference based on the asymptotic variance matrix is shown to be more reliable than for the asymptotically more efficient two-step estimator (Arellano and Bond, 1991). The specification tests are passed in 25 out of 38 cases. Results not reported but available upon request.

sharing lies in the $[0, 1]$ -interval [22 industries], the price-cost mark-up ($\widehat{\mu}_I$) is estimated to be lower than 1.23 for the first quartile of industries and higher than 1.33 for the top quartile. The corresponding estimate of the extent of rent sharing is found to be lower than 0.22 for the first quartile of industries and higher than 0.44 for the top quartile.

<Insert Table 2 about here>

3.2.2 Accounting approach

Table 3 presents for each industry I the distribution of the firm-level price-cost mark-up assuming that firms consider input prices as given prior to deciding their level of inputs ($\mu_{only_{a_I}}$), the price-cost mark-up taking into account that both wages and employment are the subject of a bargaining agreement (μ_{a_I}) and the extent of rent sharing (ϕ_{a_I}). Table 3 is drawn up in increasing order of the median value of γ_{a_I} . Focusing on the average distribution across industries, the price-cost mark-up (μ_{a_I}) is computed to be lower than 1.17 for the first quartile of industries and higher than 1.29 for the top quartile. The corresponding extent of rent sharing (ϕ_{a_I}) is lower than 0.21 for the first quartile of industries and exceeds 0.48 for the upper quartile.

<Insert Table 3 about here>

3.2.3 Traditional labor economics approach

The profit per worker variable ($\frac{\pi_{it}}{N_{it}}$) varies a lot over time. When estimating Eq. (16) for each industry I , we use the average of the profit per worker variable from time t until $(t - 4)$ as the main independent variable and assume that the outside wage is entirely captured by year effects.³ Table 4 presents the results of estimating the wage equation. The left part uses the average net nominal wage per worker ($w_{j(i)t}$) as the dependent variable whereas the right part uses the firm average wage per worker (w_{it}) as the dependent variable.⁴ In Table A.2 in Appendix we additionally present the results using the firm average wage per worker computed on the basis of the worker information $\left(\frac{\sum_{j \in i} w_{j(i)t}}{\sum_{j \in i} j}\right)$ as the dependent variable.⁵ Within each part, the first column reports the estimated profits-wage elasticity ($\varepsilon_{w_I}^\pi$), the second column derives the corresponding relative extent of rent sharing (γ_I) by multiplying the estimated elasticity by the

³Since the firm dataset covers the period 1978-2001, we also use the information over the period 1978-1984 to compute our smooth profit per worker measure.

⁴When using the worker wage as the dependent variable, the specification tests are never passed. On the contrary, when using the firm-average wage per worker as the dependent variable, the specification tests are passed in 35 out of the 38 cases. Results not reported but available upon request.

⁵Table A.2 is drawn up in increasing order of $\widehat{\gamma}_I$ using the average net nominal wage per worker ($w_{j(i)t}$) as the dependent variable (see Table 4). The specification tests are passed in 37 out of the 38 cases.

ratio of the firm-average wage per worker to the profit per worker,⁶ and the third column gives the corresponding extent of rent sharing (ϕ_I). The table is drawn up in increasing order of $\hat{\gamma}_I$ using the average net nominal wage per worker ($w_{j(i)t}$) as the dependent variable.

Focusing on the left part, except for one industry, the profits-wage elasticity is estimated to be positive. The elasticity is estimated to be lower than 0.06 for the first quartile of industries and higher than 0.15 for the upper quartile. These elasticities are in line with previous studies (see Christofides and Oswald, 1992; Blanchflower et al., 1996; Hildreth and Oswald, 1997; Arai, 2003). The corresponding extent of rent sharing is lower than 0.10 for the first quartile of industries and exceeds 0.24 for the top quartile. Comparing these estimates with the right part reveals that the estimated elasticities and the derived extent of rent-sharing parameters using the firm-average wage per worker as the dependent variable are consistent with the ones using the worker wage as the dependent variable. The former elasticity is estimated to be lower than 0.14 for the first quartile of industries and higher than 0.25 for the upper quartile.

<Insert Table 4 about here>

4 A comparison of the three different approaches

In this section, we compare consistently estimates of rent sharing across the three different approaches. Table 5 presents the distribution of our parameter of interest across the three approaches. For the traditional labor economics approach, we compute the relative extent of rent-sharing parameters by multiplying the estimated profits-wage elasticities by the median value of the smooth ratio of the firm-average wage per worker to the profit per worker at the industry level. Likewise, we focus on the median values of the accounting (relative) extent of rent sharing. The upper part of Table 5 shows the GMM results, the lower part gives the OLS results. For each estimator, we consider (i) all industries and (ii) a subsample of industries for which the relative extent of rent-sharing parameters are estimated (or computed) to be positive across the different approaches.⁷ This subsample contains 20 industries when focusing on the GMM results and 22 industries when considering the OLS results. The left part of Table 5 displays the distribution of the relative extent of rent-sharing parameters whereas the right part gives the distribution of the rent-sharing parameter.

⁶Consistent with the smooth profit per worker measure, we compute the average of this ratio from time t until $(t - 4)$.

⁷To define this subsample, we require that the estimated (or computed) relative extent of rent sharing parameters are positive across the different approaches and additionally for each of the three variants of the traditional labor economics approach, i.e. for the wage equation using the worker wage ($w_{j(i)t}$) and the two firm-average wage per worker (w_{it}) and $\left(\frac{\sum_{j \in i} w_{j(i)t}}{\sum_{j \in i} w_{jt}}\right)$. The results of the latter are presented in Table A.2 in Appendix.

Focusing on the upper-right part of the table and on the 38 industries, we observe the most sizeable dispersion in the estimated extent of rent-sharing parameter ($\hat{\phi}_I$) within the productivity approach whereas the lowest dispersion is observed within the accounting approach. The two variants of the traditional labor economics approach display a comparable dispersion. Restricting the sample to the economically meaningful parameter estimates reveals that the differences in dispersion across the different approaches become smaller but more importantly that the rent-sharing estimates are within a comparable range. Concentrating at the median values, we find that these estimates lie in the $[0.22, 0.33]$ -range. As could be expected, the OLS estimates of rent-sharing are lower compared to the GMM estimates and display a larger discrepancy across the three approaches. As a graphical illustration, Figure 1 presents the box diagrams for the subsample of the economically meaningful rent-sharing estimates. The upper diagram displays the GMM estimates whereas the lower diagram shows the OLS estimates.

Table A.3 in Appendix presents the correlation between the estimates of (relative) extent of rent sharing across the three approaches. Consistent with the discussion above, we consider the full sample and a subsample. Considering the economically meaningful parameter estimates, the correlation between the (relative) extent of rent sharing appears to be between 0.20 and 0.58 across the different approaches. As a graphical illustration, Figure A.1 in Appendix plots the GMM results (economically meaningful parameter estimates) of (i) the accounting extent of rent sharing versus the estimated extent of rent sharing using the traditional labor economics approach (worker wage), (ii) the estimated extent of rent sharing using the productivity approach versus the estimated extent of rent sharing using the traditional labor economics approach (worker wage) and (iii) the estimated extent of rent sharing using the traditional labor economics approach (firm wage) versus the estimated extent of rent sharing using the traditional labor economics approach (worker wage). The dashed lines denote the median values.

5 Conclusion

This article provides evidence of rent sharing from orthogonal directions. Taking advantage of a rich matched employer-employee dataset for France, we compare consistently across-industry heterogeneity in rent-sharing parameters relying on three different approaches: (i) the productivity approach, (ii) the accounting approach and (iii) the traditional labor economics approach. We presume that all three approaches rely on the same underlying rent-sharing model, i.e. the efficient bargaining model. Restricting the analysis to the economically meaningful estimates of rent sharing, our main results reveal that there are differences in dispersion of the estimates of rent sharing across the three different approaches. However, it is reassuring to find that the rent-sharing estimates across the three different approaches are within a comparable range. Concentrating at the me-

dian values, we find that these estimates lie in the $[0.22, 0.33]$ -interval.

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Table 1
Summary statistics

| Variables | 1984-2001 | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------|
| | Mean | Sd. | Q ₁ | Q ₂ | Q ₃ | N |
| Real firm output growth rate Δq_{it} | 0.026 | 0.152 | -0.055 | 0.024 | 0.108 | 125528 |
| Labor growth rate Δn_{it} | 0.007 | 0.123 | -0.042 | 0.000 | 0.055 | 125528 |
| Capital growth rate Δk_{it} | 0.001 | 0.152 | -0.072 | -0.017 | 0.065 | 125528 |
| Materials growth rate Δm_{it} | 0.041 | 0.193 | -0.060 | 0.038 | 0.141 | 125528 |
| Labor share in nominal output $\alpha_{N_{it}}$ | 0.310 | 0.135 | 0.214 | 0.295 | 0.389 | 132552 |
| Materials share in nominal output $\alpha_{M_{it}}$ | 0.517 | 0.155 | 0.420 | 0.524 | 0.624 | 132552 |
| $\Delta q_{it} - \Delta k_{it}$ | 0.026 | 0.189 | -0.077 | 0.027 | 0.129 | 125528 |
| $\Delta n_{it} - \Delta k_{it}$ | 0.006 | 0.165 | -0.075 | 0.012 | 0.087 | 125528 |
| $\Delta m_{it} - \Delta k_{it}$ | 0.040 | 0.221 | -0.081 | 0.039 | 0.159 | 125528 |
| Profit per worker $\frac{\pi_{it}}{N_{it}}$ | 21592 | 30658 | 6761 | 13529 | 25839 | 132552 |
| Firm-average wage per worker w_{it} | 28346 | 8453 | 22480 | 27220 | 32817 | 132552 |
| Number of workers per firm $\sum_{j \in i} j$ | 10 | 55 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 9121 |
| Average wage per worker $w_{j(i)t}$ | 17199 | 9237 | 11650 | 14794 | 19553 | 719693 |

Table 2Productivity approach: Industry analysis: Estimated industry-level mark-up $\hat{\mu}_I$ (*only*) and extent of rent sharing $\hat{\phi}_I$

| Industry | # Firms | GMM SYS $(t-2)(t-3)$ | | | |
|---------------|------------|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | $\hat{\mu}_I$ <i>only</i> | $\hat{\mu}_I$ | $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | $\hat{\phi}_I$ |
| Ind 1 | 276 | 0.966 (0.066) | 0.841 (0.014) | -1.289 (0.420) | -4.460 (5.032) |
| Ind 3 | 96 | 1.254 (0.062) | 1.047 (0.021) | -0.792 (0.232) | -3.811 (5.367) |
| Ind 32 | 149 | 1.126 (0.042) | 1.014 (0.019) | -0.410 (0.314) | -0.696 (0.902) |
| Ind 10 | 102 | 1.244 (0.039) | 1.111 (0.028) | -0.405 (0.350) | -0.682 (0.990) |
| Ind 17 | 136 | 1.089 (0.030) | 1.039 (0.028) | -0.347 (0.583) | -0.531 (1.365) |
| Ind 19 | 159 | 1.239 (0.036) | 1.142 (0.023) | -0.341 (0.518) | -0.517 (1.191) |
| Ind 25 | 93 | 1.073 (0.063) | 0.968 (0.027) | -0.309 (0.413) | -0.448 (0.865) |
| Ind 4 | 105 | 1.265 (0.047) | 1.180 (0.031) | -0.287 (0.246) | -0.402 (0.484) |
| Ind 14 | 117 | 1.134 (0.031) | 1.058 (0.033) | -0.282 (0.383) | -0.394 (0.743) |
| Ind 9 | 125 | 1.326 (0.047) | 1.215 (0.015) | -0.260 (0.293) | -0.351 (0.535) |
| Ind 21 | 133 | 1.198 (0.0483) | 1.165 (0.028) | -0.143 (0.470) | -0.167 (0.641) |
| Ind 20 | 234 | 1.226 (0.035) | 1.189 (0.020) | -0.113 (0.456) | -0.127 (0.580) |
| Ind 29 | 360 | 1.237 (0.031) | 1.211 (0.014) | -0.043 (0.170) | -0.045 (0.185) |
| Ind 38 | 289 | 1.083 (0.033) | 1.059 (0.016) | -0.020 (0.303) | -0.021 (0.316) |
| Ind 34 | 116 | 1.255 (0.047) | 1.208 (0.021) | -0.012 (0.247) | -0.012 (0.253) |
| Ind 2 | 109 | 1.120 (0.050) | 1.090 (0.016) | -0.007 (0.280) | -0.007 (0.284) |
| Ind 15 | 122 | 1.238 (0.036) | 1.231 (0.017) | 0.104 (0.274) | 0.094 (0.225) |
| Ind 23 | 160 | 1.192 (0.049) | 1.232 (0.019) | 0.139 (0.362) | 0.122 (0.279) |
| Ind 30 | 288 | 1.266 (0.033) | 1.307 (0.015) | 0.176 (0.119) | 0.150 (0.086) |
| Ind 33 | 521 | 1.148 (0.025) | 1.196 (0.014) | 0.209 (0.234) | 0.173 (0.160) |
| Ind 13 | 138 | 1.258 (0.063) | 1.281 (0.029) | 0.256 (0.249) | 0.204 (0.158) |
| Ind 31 | 180 | 1.136 (0.036) | 1.210 (0.014) | 0.285 (0.226) | 0.222 (0.137) |
| Ind 28 | 277 | 1.207 (0.036) | 1.213 (0.015) | 0.333 (0.394) | 0.250 (0.222) |
| Ind 7 | 186 | 1.160 (0.055) | 1.194 (0.023) | 0.368 (0.342) | 0.269 (0.183) |
| Ind 24 | 159 | 1.156 (0.033) | 1.266 (0.013) | 0.374 (0.161) | 0.272 (0.085) |
| Ind 11 | 286 | 1.261 (0.038) | 1.303 (0.017) | 0.407 (0.320) | 0.289 (0.162) |
| Ind 5 | 427 | 1.126 (0.033) | 1.231 (0.011) | 0.458 (0.105) | 0.314 (0.049) |
| Ind 36 | 812 | 1.139 (0.018) | 1.238 (0.011) | 0.466 (0.156) | 0.318 (0.072) |
| Ind 26 | 334 | 1.228 (0.049) | 1.393 (0.015) | 0.499 (0.157) | 0.333 (0.070) |
| Ind 35 | 126 | 1.246 (0.032) | 1.333 (0.018) | 0.563 (0.182) | 0.360 (0.074) |
| Ind 37 | 518 | 1.260 (0.029) | 1.473 (0.014) | 0.668 (0.158) | 0.400 (0.057) |
| Ind 12 | 163 | 1.285 (0.036) | 1.442 (0.016) | 0.742 (0.205) | 0.426 (0.068) |
| Ind 18 | 247 | 1.106 (0.021) | 1.209 (0.015) | 0.775 (0.306) | 0.437 (0.097) |
| Ind 8 | 618 | 1.246 (0.020) | 1.428 (0.008) | 0.795 (0.143) | 0.443 (0.045) |
| Ind 27 | 235 | 1.162 (0.027) | 1.257 (0.011) | 0.832 (0.356) | 0.454 (0.106) |
| Ind 22 | 237 | 1.091 (0.032) | 1.239 (0.012) | 0.920 (0.295) | 0.479 (0.080) |
| Ind 16 | 100 | 1.209 (0.040) | 1.338 (0.018) | 0.956 (0.268) | 0.489 (0.070) |
| Ind 6 | 388 | 1.182 (0.033) | 1.271 (0.009) | 1.062 (0.209) | 0.515 (0.049) |
| Mean | 240 | 1.188 (0.039) | 1.206 (0.018) | 0.166 (0.287) | 0.086 (0.586) |
| Median | 172 | 1.202 (0.036) | 1.212 (0.016) | 0.193 (0.277) | 0.188 (0.184) |

Time dummies are included but not reported. First-step robust standard errors in parentheses.

- (1) Instruments used: the lagged levels of q , n , m and k dated $(t-2)$ and $(t-3)$ in the first-differenced equations and the lagged first-differences of q , n , m and k dated $(t-1)$ in the levels equations.

Table 3

Accounting approach: Industry analysis:

Distribution of industry-level mark-up μ_{a_I} (*only*) and extent of rent sharing ϕ_{a_I}

| Industry | $\mu_{only a_I}$ | | | μ_{a_I} | | | γ_{a_I} | | | ϕ_{a_I} | | |
|---------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Q ₁ | Q ₂ | Q ₃ | Q ₁ | Q ₂ | Q ₃ | Q ₁ | Q ₂ | Q ₃ | Q ₁ | Q ₂ | Q ₃ |
| Ind 4 | 1.110 | 1.159 | 1.218 | 1.137 | 1.198 | 1.251 | 0.085 | 0.350 | 0.085 | 0.086 | 0.171 | 0.244 |
| Ind 2 | 1.089 | 1.129 | 1.173 | 1.114 | 1.159 | 1.205 | 0.063 | 0.379 | 0.063 | 0.080 | 0.186 | 0.280 |
| Ind 3 | 1.136 | 1.207 | 1.272 | 1.200 | 1.260 | 1.327 | 0.121 | 0.395 | 0.121 | 0.130 | 0.186 | 0.277 |
| Ind 30 | 1.155 | 1.189 | 1.228 | 1.213 | 1.250 | 1.298 | 0.191 | 0.453 | 0.191 | 0.171 | 0.240 | 0.313 |
| Ind 34 | 1.126 | 1.157 | 1.224 | 1.176 | 1.222 | 1.290 | 0.171 | 0.509 | 0.171 | 0.163 | 0.266 | 0.357 |
| Ind 24 | 1.175 | 1.220 | 1.274 | 1.235 | 1.295 | 1.351 | 0.143 | 0.543 | 0.143 | 0.138 | 0.246 | 0.341 |
| Ind 15 | 1.127 | 1.164 | 1.217 | 1.180 | 1.229 | 1.291 | 0.153 | 0.599 | 0.153 | 0.147 | 0.253 | 0.363 |
| Ind 23 | 1.101 | 1.158 | 1.233 | 1.213 | 1.272 | 1.146 | -0.047 | 0.872 | -0.047 | 0.156 | 0.371 | 0.657 |
| Ind 32 | 1.128 | 1.179 | 1.254 | 1.193 | 1.249 | 1.319 | 0.180 | 0.710 | 0.180 | 0.153 | 0.267 | 0.365 |
| Ind 29 | 1.145 | 1.173 | 1.213 | 1.201 | 1.235 | 1.283 | 0.202 | 0.537 | 0.202 | 0.177 | 0.257 | 0.337 |
| Ind 1 | 1.087 | 1.117 | 1.208 | 1.117 | 1.160 | 1.271 | 0.143 | 0.632 | 0.143 | 0.151 | 0.272 | 0.426 |
| Ind 26 | 1.137 | 1.193 | 1.265 | 1.200 | 1.265 | 1.355 | 0.191 | 0.690 | 0.191 | 0.188 | 0.280 | 0.397 |
| Ind 31 | 1.117 | 1.161 | 1.225 | 1.183 | 1.232 | 1.304 | 0.172 | 0.723 | 0.172 | 0.208 | 0.312 | 0.413 |
| Ind 33 | 1.108 | 1.145 | 1.199 | 1.172 | 1.219 | 1.275 | 0.193 | 0.781 | 0.193 | 0.199 | 0.315 | 0.439 |
| Ind 37 | 1.145 | 1.185 | 1.247 | 1.218 | 1.281 | 1.360 | 0.231 | 0.719 | 0.231 | 0.189 | 0.305 | 0.413 |
| Ind 10 | 1.127 | 1.175 | 1.221 | 1.204 | 1.262 | 1.322 | 0.234 | 0.955 | 0.234 | 0.210 | 0.330 | 0.491 |
| Ind 19 | 1.084 | 1.135 | 1.222 | 1.159 | 1.222 | 1.316 | 0.167 | 0.949 | 0.167 | 0.201 | 0.352 | 0.536 |
| Ind 14 | 1.101 | 1.129 | 1.197 | 1.164 | 1.201 | 1.259 | 0.191 | 0.809 | 0.191 | 0.216 | 0.325 | 0.466 |
| Ind 9 | 1.141 | 1.192 | 1.254 | 1.221 | 1.284 | 1.344 | 0.254 | 0.694 | 0.254 | 0.211 | 0.299 | 0.427 |
| Ind 5 | 1.105 | 1.142 | 1.228 | 1.176 | 1.232 | 1.315 | 0.205 | 0.898 | 0.205 | 0.191 | 0.317 | 0.460 |
| Ind 13 | 1.104 | 1.164 | 1.254 | 1.201 | 1.256 | 1.341 | 0.265 | 0.913 | 0.265 | 0.215 | 0.331 | 0.524 |
| Ind 38 | 1.087 | 1.128 | 1.196 | 1.179 | 1.232 | 1.299 | 0.061 | 1.008 | 0.061 | 0.267 | 0.447 | 0.631 |
| Ind 25 | 1.109 | 1.159 | 1.250 | 1.186 | 1.255 | 1.365 | 0.127 | 0.766 | 0.127 | 0.265 | 0.336 | 0.494 |
| Ind 7 | 1.106 | 1.145 | 1.194 | 1.173 | 1.214 | 1.278 | 0.198 | 0.825 | 0.198 | 0.195 | 0.324 | 0.460 |
| Ind 22 | 1.073 | 1.109 | 1.174 | 1.165 | 1.209 | 1.283 | 0.174 | 1.341 | 0.174 | 0.223 | 0.434 | 0.601 |
| Ind 20 | 1.073 | 1.098 | 1.159 | 1.151 | 1.187 | 1.250 | 0.194 | 1.226 | 0.194 | 0.235 | 0.435 | 0.598 |
| Ind 17 | 1.067 | 1.086 | 1.134 | 1.125 | 1.152 | 1.213 | 0.234 | 1.116 | 0.234 | 0.235 | 0.392 | 0.589 |
| Ind 35 | 1.121 | 1.140 | 1.178 | 1.171 | 1.217 | 1.252 | 0.257 | 0.865 | 0.257 | 0.243 | 0.326 | 0.434 |
| Ind 27 | 1.082 | 1.118 | 1.176 | 1.143 | 1.190 | 1.276 | 0.217 | 1.019 | 0.217 | 0.236 | 0.389 | 0.560 |
| Ind 12 | 1.105 | 1.148 | 1.198 | 1.184 | 1.240 | 1.298 | 0.215 | 0.958 | 0.215 | 0.246 | 0.364 | 0.508 |
| Ind 8 | 1.110 | 1.146 | 1.189 | 1.202 | 1.254 | 1.311 | 0.183 | 1.278 | 0.183 | 0.268 | 0.430 | 0.578 |
| Ind 11 | 1.095 | 1.124 | 1.171 | 1.171 | 1.213 | 1.270 | 0.306 | 1.101 | 0.306 | 0.274 | 0.388 | 0.534 |
| Ind 21 | 1.076 | 1.104 | 1.161 | 1.143 | 1.187 | 1.263 | 0.095 | 1.117 | 0.095 | 0.257 | 0.419 | 0.563 |
| Ind 36 | 1.120 | 1.147 | 1.185 | 1.198 | 1.244 | 1.301 | 0.321 | 1.056 | 0.321 | 0.264 | 0.395 | 0.517 |
| Ind 16 | 1.071 | 1.103 | 1.147 | 1.160 | 1.213 | 1.276 | 0.042 | 1.370 | 0.042 | 0.313 | 0.529 | 0.707 |
| Ind 6 | 1.094 | 1.121 | 1.170 | 1.180 | 1.223 | 1.283 | 0.319 | 1.313 | 0.319 | 0.292 | 0.445 | 0.575 |
| Ind 28 | 1.083 | 1.122 | 1.179 | 1.176 | 1.227 | 1.298 | 0.179 | 1.292 | 0.179 | 0.296 | 0.450 | 0.606 |
| Ind 18 | 1.063 | 1.086 | 1.122 | 1.148 | 1.189 | 1.230 | 0.220 | 1.842 | 0.220 | 0.341 | 0.530 | 0.692 |
| Mean | 1.107 | 1.146 | 1.205 | 1.177 | 1.227 | 1.294 | 0.183 | 0.456 | 0.884 | 0.211 | 0.340 | 0.478 |
| Median | 1.106 | 1.145 | 1.204 | 1.177 | 1.228 | 1.294 | 0.191 | 0.454 | 0.868 | 0.210 | 0.328 | 0.478 |

Table 4

Labor economics approach: Industry analysis:

Estimated industry-level profits-wage elasticity $\varepsilon_{w_I}^\pi$ and extent of rent sharing ϕ_I

| Industry | GMM SYS $(t-2)(t-3)$ | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | WORKER | | | FIRM | | |
| | $\varepsilon_{w_I}^\pi$ | γ_I | ϕ_I | $\varepsilon_{w_I}^\pi$ | γ_I | ϕ_I |
| Ind 19 | 0.083 (0.018) | -0.235 | -0.307 | 0.071 (0.033) | -1.044 | 23.73 |
| Ind 17 | -0.018 (0.026) | -0.063 | -0.067 | -0.0002 (0.027) | -0.001 | -0.001 |
| Ind 16 | 0.039 (0.011) | 0.020 | 0.020 | 0.134 (0.050) | 0.463 | 0.316 |
| Ind 14 | 0.021 (0.007) | 0.021 | 0.020 | 0.131 (0.029) | 0.372 | 0.271 |
| Ind 13 | 0.022 (0.035) | 0.047 | 0.045 | 0.053 (0.031) | 0.144 | 0.126 |
| Ind 2 | 0.061 (0.024) | 0.058 | 0.055 | 0.077 (0.036) | 0.087 | 0.080 |
| Ind 22 | 0.019 (0.015) | 0.061 | 0.058 | 0.048 (0.028) | 0.210 | 0.174 |
| Ind 10 | 0.045 (0.021) | 0.074 | 0.069 | 0.098 (0.047) | 0.181 | 0.154 |
| Ind 12 | 0.046 (0.021) | 0.098 | 0.089 | 0.113 (0.033) | 0.317 | 0.240 |
| Ind 34 | 0.065 (0.017) | 0.108 | 0.098 | 0.045 (0.037) | 0.073 | 0.068 |
| Ind 15 | 0.095 (0.014) | 0.109 | 0.099 | 0.100 (0.031) | 0.142 | 0.124 |
| Ind 1 | 0.076 (0.024) | 0.121 | 0.108 | 0.088 (0.026) | 0.170 | 0.145 |
| Ind 3 | 0.144 (0.018) | 0.121 | 0.108 | 0.198 (0.040) | 0.219 | 0.179 |
| Ind 21 | 0.049 (0.023) | 0.132 | 0.117 | 0.048 (0.029) | 0.147 | 0.128 |
| Ind 9 | 0.101 (0.024) | 0.134 | 0.118 | 0.132 (0.040) | 0.200 | 0.167 |
| Ind 24 | 0.118 (0.041) | 0.160 | 0.138 | 0.152 (0.042) | 0.231 | 0.188 |
| Ind 29 | 0.108 (0.042) | 0.164 | 0.141 | 0.185 (0.040) | 0.299 | 0.230 |
| Ind 4 | 0.246 (0.053) | 0.181 | 0.153 | 0.046 (0.042) | 0.043 | 0.041 |
| Ind 30 | 0.168 (0.024) | 0.196 | 0.164 | 0.123 (0.028) | 0.166 | 0.142 |
| Ind 11 | 0.095 (0.027) | 0.121 | 0.175 | 0.061 (0.027) | 0.179 | 0.152 |
| Ind 23 | 0.105 (0.008) | 0.220 | 0.180 | 0.068 (0.022) | 0.329 | 0.248 |
| Ind 28 | 0.095 (0.022) | 0.236 | 0.191 | 0.144 (0.031) | 0.461 | 0.315 |
| Ind 20 | 0.092 (0.022) | 0.266 | 0.210 | 0.059 (0.026) | 0.223 | 0.182 |
| Ind 38 | 0.134 (0.011) | 0.271 | 0.213 | 0.102 (0.022) | 0.284 | 0.221 |
| Ind 5 | 0.210 (0.016) | 0.288 | 0.224 | 0.150 (0.021) | 0.330 | 0.248 |
| Ind 32 | 0.197 (0.028) | 0.289 | 0.224 | 0.104 (0.043) | 0.176 | 0.149 |
| Ind 33 | 0.150 (0.026) | 0.293 | 0.227 | 0.074 (0.028) | 0.168 | 0.144 |
| Ind 25 | 0.191 (0.018) | 0.299 | 0.230 | 0.156 (0.030) | 0.353 | 0.261 |
| Ind 36 | 0.124 (0.031) | 0.308 | 0.236 | -0.022 (0.027) | -0.054 | -0.057 |
| Ind 7 | 0.154 (0.023) | 0.316 | 0.240 | 0.137 (0.035) | 0.357 | 0.263 |
| Ind 8 | 0.113 (0.023) | 0.317 | 0.241 | 0.099 (0.038) | 0.274 | 0.215 |
| Ind 37 | 0.180 (0.026) | 0.323 | 0.244 | 0.111 (0.033) | 0.223 | 0.183 |
| Ind 6 | 0.108 (0.021) | 0.337 | 0.252 | 0.236 (0.023) | 0.940 | 0.485 |
| Ind 31 | 0.190 (0.009) | 0.337 | 0.252 | 0.162 (0.031) | 0.297 | 0.229 |
| Ind 27 | 0.140 (0.026) | 0.349 | 0.259 | 0.126 (0.030) | 0.354 | 0.262 |
| Ind 26 | 0.223 (0.019) | 0.362 | 0.266 | 0.104 (0.024) | 0.190 | 0.160 |
| Ind 35 | 0.135 (0.024) | 0.435 | 0.303 | 0.104 (0.035) | 0.407 | 0.289 |
| Ind 18 | 0.175 (0.013) | 0.835 | 0.455 | 0.053 (0.025) | 0.282 | 0.220 |
| Mean | 0.113 (0.022) | 0.205 | 0.154 | 0.102 (0.032) | 0.216 | 0.807 |
| Median | 0.108 (0.022) | 0.204 | 0.169 | 0.103 (0.031) | 0.221 | 0.183 |

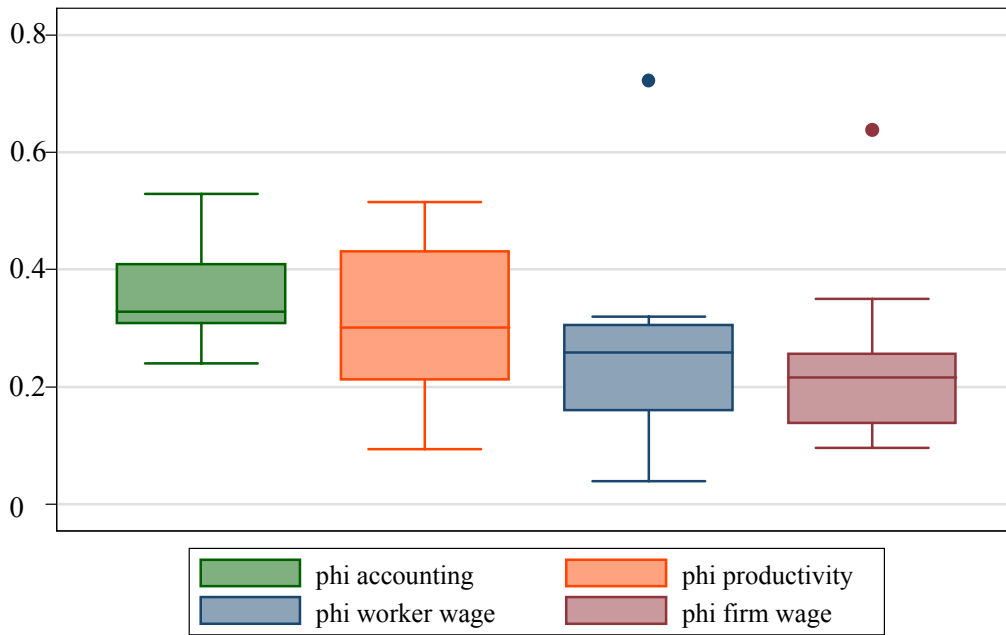
Time dummies are included but not reported. First-step robust standard errors in parentheses.

- (1) Instruments used: the lagged levels of q , n , m and k dated $(t-2)$ and $(t-3)$ in the first-differenced equations and the lagged first-differences of q , n , m and k dated $(t-1)$ in the levels equations.

Table 5Comparison of distribution of (relative) extent of rent sharing γ_I (ϕ_I) across the three approaches

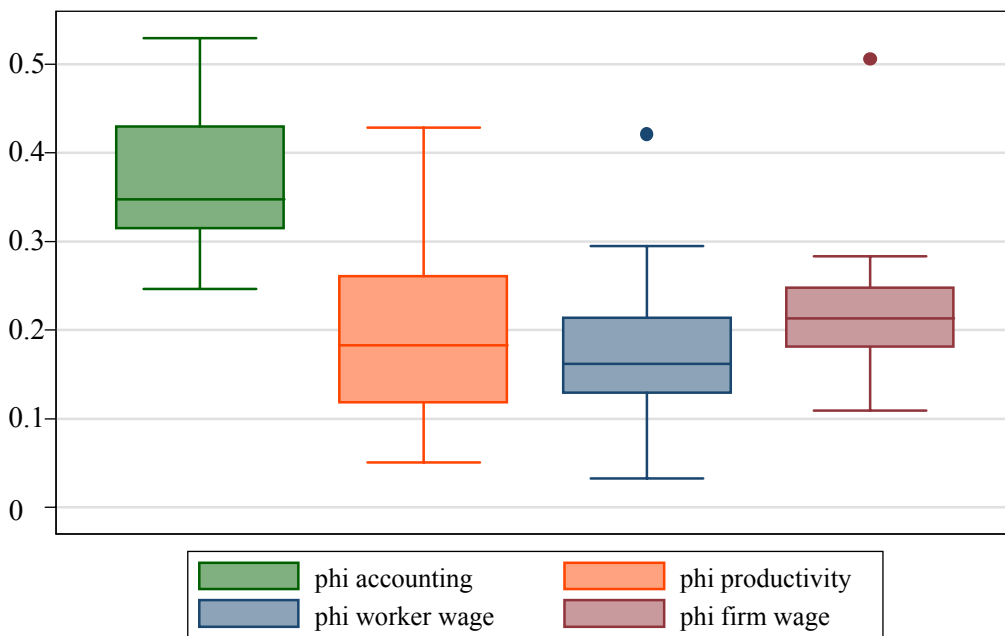
| # Ind. | GMM SYS $(t-2)(t-3)$ | | | | | GMM SYS $(t-2)(t-3)$ | | | | |
|--------|-------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Estimate | Mean | Q ₁ | Q ₂ | Q ₃ | Estimate | Mean | Q ₁ | Q ₂ | Q ₃ |
| 38 | Accounting γ_{aI} | 0.456 | 0.347 | 0.454 | 0.532 | Accounting ϕ_{aI} | 0.339 | 0.271 | 0.327 | 0.395 |
| 38 | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.166 | -0.260 | 0.193 | 0.499 | Productivity $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.086 | -0.167 | 0.188 | 0.360 |
| 38 | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.201 | 0.108 | 0.193 | 0.293 | Wage worker $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.201 | 0.108 | 0.193 | 0.293 |
| 38 | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.182 | 0.133 | 0.160 | 0.239 | Wage firm $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.182 | 0.133 | 0.160 | 0.239 |
| 20 | Accounting γ_{aI} | 0.493 | 0.374 | 0.459 | 0.579 | Accounting ϕ_{aI} | 0.357 | 0.308 | 0.328 | 0.409 |
| 20 | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.500 | 0.271 | 0.432 | 0.758 | Productivity $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.311 | 0.213 | 0.302 | 0.431 |
| 20 | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.249 | 0.159 | 0.258 | 0.306 | Wage worker $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.249 | 0.159 | 0.258 | 0.306 |
| 20 | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.226 | 0.139 | 0.216 | 0.256 | Wage firm $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.226 | 0.139 | 0.216 | 0.256 |
| | OLS lev | | | | | OLS lev | | | | |
| 38 | Accounting γ_{aI} | 0.456 | 0.347 | 0.454 | 0.532 | Accounting ϕ_{aI} | 0.340 | 0.272 | 0.328 | 0.395 |
| 38 | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.033 | -0.146 | 0.100 | 0.250 | Productivity $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.068 | -0.115 | 0.108 | 0.208 |
| 38 | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.151 | 0.090 | 0.140 | 0.193 | Wage worker $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.151 | 0.090 | 0.140 | 0.193 |
| 38 | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.198 | 0.149 | 0.200 | 0.231 | Wage firm $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.198 | 0.149 | 0.200 | 0.231 |
| 22 | Accounting γ_{aI} | 0.493 | 0.439 | 0.460 | 0.569 | Accounting ϕ_{aI} | 0.368 | 0.315 | 0.347 | 0.429 |
| 22 | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.271 | 0.134 | 0.225 | 0.214 | Productivity $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.198 | 0.118 | 0.183 | 0.261 |
| 22 | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.221 | 0.181 | 0.213 | 0.248 | Wage worker $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.171 | 0.130 | 0.162 | 0.214 |
| 22 | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.226 | 0.139 | 0.216 | 0.256 | Wage firm $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.221 | 0.181 | 0.213 | 0.248 |

Fig. 1a: GMM estimates of rent-sharing across the three approaches



Source: Own estimates

Fig. 1b: OLS estimates of rent-sharing across the three approaches



Source: Own estimates

Appendix: Detailed results

Table A.1
Industry repartition

| Industry | Code | Name | # Firms | # Workers | # Obs. Firm dataset | # Obs. Matched firm-worker dataset |
|----------|--------------|--|---------|-----------|---------------------------|---|
| Ind 1 | B01 | Meat preparations | 276 | 2006 | 3913 | 13514 |
| Ind 2 | B02 | Milk products | 109 | 1716 | 1603 | 13269 |
| Ind 3 | B03 | Beverages | 96 | 1297 | 1390 | 10118 |
| Ind 4 | B04 | Food production for animals | 105 | 721 | 1516 | 5479 |
| Ind 5 | B05-B06 | Other food products | 427 | 3492 | 6153 | 26601 |
| Ind 6 | C11 | Clothing and skin goods | 388 | 2407 | 5333 | 17234 |
| Ind 7 | C12 | Leather goods and footwear | 186 | 1328 | 2680 | 10471 |
| Ind 8 | C20 | Publishing, (re)printing | 618 | 3427 | 8834 | 25286 |
| Ind 9 | C31 | Pharmaceutical products | 125 | 2738 | 1779 | 20113 |
| Ind 10 | C32 | Soap, perfume and maintenance products | 102 | 1699 | 1518 | 13583 |
| Ind 11 | C41 | Furniture | 286 | 2001 | 4189 | 16353 |
| Ind 12 | C42, C44-C46 | Accommodation equipment | 163 | 1892 | 2370 | 15976 |
| Ind 13 | C43 | Sport articles, games and other products | 138 | 913 | 1942 | 6938 |
| Ind 14 | D01 | Motor vehicles | 117 | 9342 | 1725 | 77448 |
| Ind 15 | D02 | Transport equipment | 122 | 2788 | 1848 | 21494 |
| Ind 16 | E11-E14 | Ship building, aircraft and railway construction | 100 | 3793 | 1492 | 26316 |
| Ind 17 | E21 | Metal products for construction | 136 | 669 | 1956 | 4679 |
| Ind 18 | E22 | Ferruginous and steam boilers | 247 | 1610 | 3609 | 11364 |
| Ind 19 | E23 | Mechanical equipment | 159 | 2027 | 2412 | 16898 |
| Ind 20 | E24 | Machinery for general usage | 234 | 1942 | 3367 | 15490 |
| Ind 21 | E25-E26 | Agriculture machinery | 133 | 752 | 1910 | 5696 |
| Ind 22 | E27-E28 | Other machinery for specific usage | 237 | 1598 | 3425 | 12955 |
| Ind 23 | E31-E35 | Electric and electronic machinery | 160 | 2381 | 2289 | 15450 |
| Ind 24 | F11-F12 | Mineral products | 159 | 641 | 2332 | 4763 |
| Ind 25 | F13 | Glass products | 93 | 1916 | 1382 | 17855 |
| Ind 26 | F14 | Earthenware products and construction material | 334 | 2824 | 4878 | 21471 |
| Ind 27 | F21 | Textile art | 235 | 1940 | 3322 | 13583 |
| Ind 28 | F22-F23 | Textile products and clothing | 277 | 2227 | 3943 | 16788 |
| Ind 29 | F31 | Wooden products | 360 | 1317 | 5267 | 10579 |
| Ind 30 | F32-F33 | Paper and printing products | 288 | 2692 | 4247 | 22810 |
| Ind 31 | F41-F42 | Mineral and organic chemical products | 180 | 5338 | 2718 | 52625 |
| Ind 32 | F43-F45 | Parachemical and rubber products | 149 | 1780 | 2216 | 13824 |
| Ind 33 | F46 | Transformation of plastic products | 521 | 3233 | 7710 | 25874 |
| Ind 34 | F51-F52 | Steel products, non-ferrous metals | 116 | 2746 | 1704 | 22452 |
| Ind 35 | F53 | Ironware | 126 | 1120 | 1887 | 9277 |
| Ind 36 | F54 | Industrial service to metal products | 812 | 2925 | 11880 | 22946 |
| Ind 37 | F55-F56 | Metal products, recuperation | 518 | 3277 | 7563 | 25843 |
| Ind 38 | F61-F62 | Electrical goods and components | 289 | 4838 | 4250 | 36278 |

Table A.2

Labor economics approach: Wage equation using $\left(\frac{\sum_{j \in i} w_{j(i)t}}{\sum_{j \in i} j}\right)$ as the firm-average wage per worker

Industry analysis: Estimated industry-level profits-wage elasticity $\varepsilon_{w_I}^\pi$ and extent of rent sharing ϕ_I

| | GMM SYS $(t-2)(t-3)$ | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| | <i>FIRM</i> | | |
| Industry | $\varepsilon_{w_I}^\pi$ | γ_I | ϕ_I |
| Ind 19 | 0.065 (0.034) | -0.970 | -31.895 |
| Ind 17 | -0.015 (0.044) | -0.055 | -0.058 |
| Ind 16 | 0.114 (0.060) | 0.394 | 0.283 |
| Ind 14 | 0.037 (0.038) | 0.372 | 0.095 |
| Ind 13 | 0.096 (0.058) | 0.258 | 0.205 |
| Ind 2 | 0.104 (0.053) | 0.117 | 0.105 |
| Ind 22 | -0.041 (0.043) | -0.179 | -0.219 |
| Ind 10 | 0.053 (0.066) | 0.099 | 0.090 |
| Ind 12 | 0.098 (0.057) | 0.276 | 0.216 |
| Ind 34 | 0.033 (0.047) | 0.055 | 0.052 |
| Ind 15 | 0.087 (0.041) | 0.124 | 0.110 |
| Ind 1 | 0.118 (0.047) | 0.227 | 0.185 |
| Ind 3 | 0.205 (0.055) | 0.227 | 0.185 |
| Ind 21 | 0.088 (0.039) | 0.270 | 0.212 |
| Ind 9 | 0.085 (0.062) | 0.128 | 0.114 |
| Ind 24 | 0.122 (0.064) | 0.186 | 0.157 |
| Ind 29 | 0.134 (0.063) | 0.217 | 0.178 |
| Ind 4 | -0.005 (0.050) | -0.005 | -0.005 |
| Ind 30 | 0.156 (0.052) | 0.211 | 0.174 |
| Ind 11 | 0.072 (0.044) | 0.211 | 0.174 |
| Ind 23 | 0.068 (0.037) | 0.327 | 0.247 |
| Ind 28 | 0.024 (0.045) | 0.078 | 0.072 |
| Ind 20 | 0.099 (0.035) | 0.373 | 0.272 |
| Ind 38 | 0.112 (0.035) | 0.313 | 0.238 |
| Ind 5 | 0.099 (0.039) | 0.218 | 0.179 |
| Ind 32 | 0.134 (0.062) | 0.227 | 0.185 |
| Ind 33 | 0.140 (0.046) | 0.319 | 0.242 |
| Ind 25 | 0.058 (0.045) | 0.131 | 0.116 |
| Ind 36 | 0.114 (0.045) | 0.283 | 0.221 |
| Ind 7 | 0.073 (0.050) | 0.190 | 0.159 |
| Ind 8 | 0.055 (0.059) | 0.152 | 0.132 |
| Ind 37 | 0.182 (0.064) | 0.365 | 0.267 |
| Ind 6 | 0.153 (0.026) | 0.609 | 0.379 |
| Ind 31 | 0.183 (0.047) | 0.337 | 0.252 |
| Ind 27 | 0.058 (0.048) | 0.164 | 0.141 |
| Ind 26 | 0.131 (0.036) | 0.241 | 0.194 |
| Ind 35 | 0.085 (0.050) | 0.333 | 0.250 |
| Ind 18 | 0.007 (0.049) | 0.038 | 0.036 |
| Mean | 0.089 (0.048) | 0.173 | -0.686 |
| Median | 0.092 (0.047) | 0.214 | 0.176 |

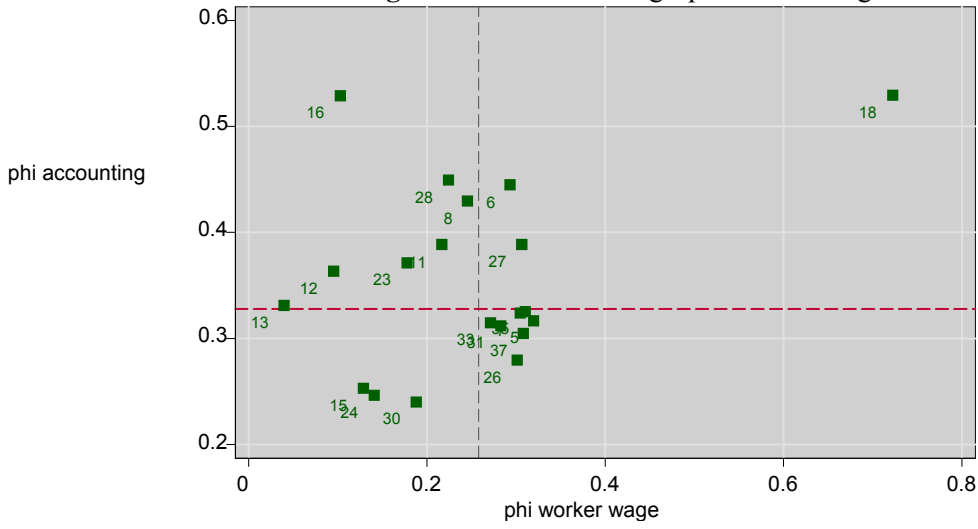
Time dummies are included but not reported. First-step robust standard errors in parentheses.

- (1) Instruments used: the lagged levels of q , n , m and k dated $(t-2)$ and $(t-3)$ in the first-differenced equations and the lagged first-differences of q , n , m and k dated $(t-1)$ in the levels equations.

Table A.3Correlation of (relative) extent of rent sharing estimates γ_I (ϕ_I) across the three approaches

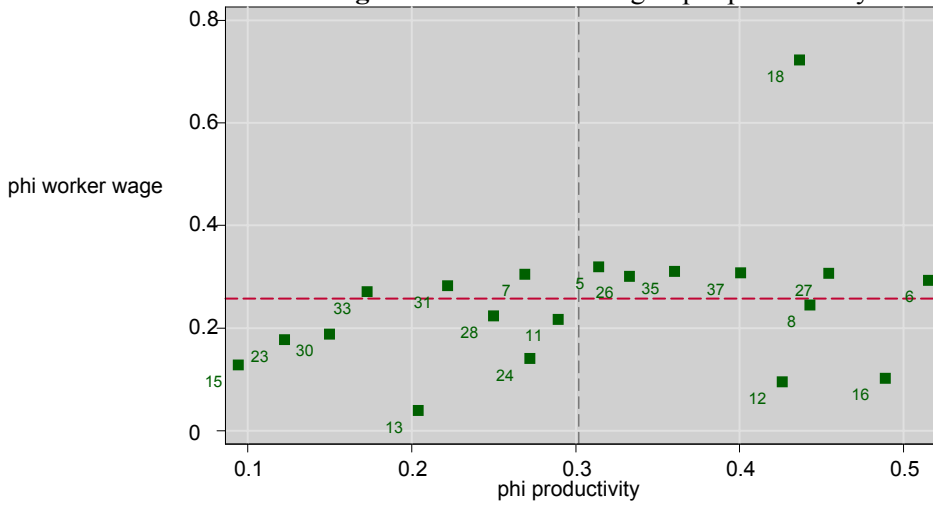
| # Ind. | GMM SYS $(t-2)(t-3)$ | | | | | GMM SYS $(t-2)(t-3)$ | | | | |
|--------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Estimate | Accounting γ_{aI} | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Estimate | Accounting γ_{aI} | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ |
| 38 | Accounting γ_{aI} | 1.000 | | | | Accounting ϕ_{aI} | 1.000 | | | |
| 38 | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.539 | 1.000 | | | Productivity $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.202 | 1.000 | | |
| 38 | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.447 | 0.387 | 1.000 | | Wage worker $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.335 | 0.109 | 1.000 | |
| 38 | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.424 | 0.430 | 0.293 | 1.000 | Wage firm $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.384 | 0.090 | 0.293 | 1.000 |
| | Estimate | Accounting γ_{aI} | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Estimate | Accounting γ_{aI} | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ |
| 20 | Accounting γ_{aI} | 1.000 | | | | Accounting ϕ_{aI} | 1.000 | | | |
| 20 | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.668 | 1.000 | | | Productivity $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.625 | 1.000 | | |
| 20 | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.501 | 0.295 | 1.000 | | Wage worker $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.342 | 0.331 | 1.000 | |
| 20 | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.571 | 0.682 | 0.156 | 1.000 | Wage firm $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.522 | 0.628 | 0.156 | 1.000 |
| | | OLS lev | | | | | OLS lev | | | |
| | Estimate | Accounting γ_{aI} | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Estimate | Accounting γ_{aI} | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ |
| 38 | Accounting γ_{aI} | 1.000 | | | | Accounting ϕ_{aI} | 1.000 | | | |
| 38 | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.382 | 1.000 | | | Productivity $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.016 | 1.000 | | |
| 38 | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.464 | 0.358 | 1.000 | | Wage worker $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.319 | 0.052 | 1.000 | |
| 38 | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.698 | 0.487 | 0.662 | 1.000 | Wage firm $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.590 | 0.062 | 0.662 | 1.000 |
| | Estimate | Accounting γ_{aI} | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Estimate | Accounting γ_{aI} | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ |
| 22 | Accounting γ_{aI} | 1.000 | | | | Accounting ϕ_{aI} | 1.000 | | | |
| 22 | Productivity $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.340 | 1.000 | | | Productivity $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.350 | 1.000 | | |
| 22 | Wage worker $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.450 | 0.197 | 1.000 | | Wage worker $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.204 | 0.219 | 1.000 | |
| 22 | Wage firm $\hat{\gamma}_I$ | 0.539 | 0.522 | 0.578 | 1.000 | Wage firm $\hat{\phi}_I$ | 0.342 | 0.485 | 0.578 | 1.000 |

Fig. A.1a: Phi accounting - phi worker wage



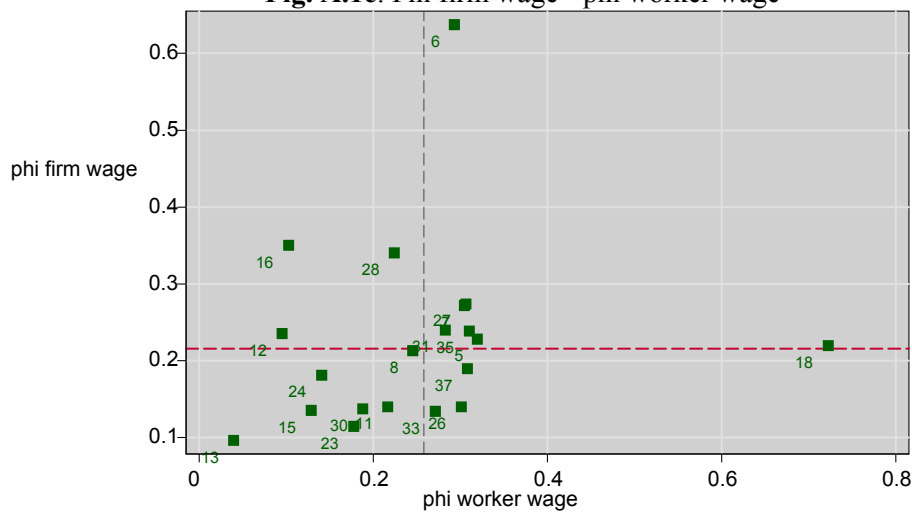
Source: Own estimates, corr.: 0.342

Fig. A.1b: Phi worker wage - phi productivity



Source: Own estimates, corr.: 0.331

Fig. A.1c: Phi firm wage - phi worker wage



Source: Own estimates, corr.: 0.156