The Economic Characteristics of Data and Data-driven Markets

Comments by Diane Coyle WTO, 10 December 2020

Bennett Professor of Public Policy,
University of Cambridge
dc700@cam.ac.uk





Data-driven economy presents many policy challenges.....

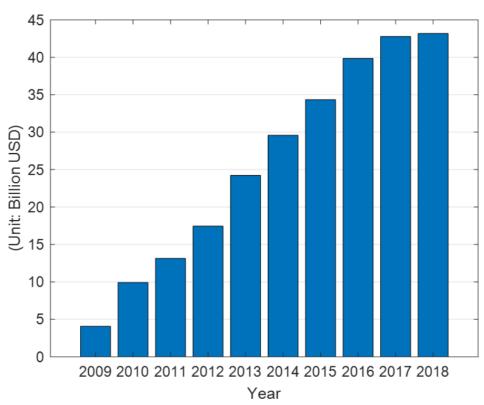
- Digital market concentration "winner takes all"
 - competition policy challenge of looking ahead
 - data as an entry barrier
 - new regulatory approaches standards & interoperability
 - detail matters, regulators need digital skills
- Privacy/online harms and collective value of data
 - data collection, access and use policies in light of tradeoffs
- Trade implications of data economy





How to value data?

Figure 3: The Data Market of the Global Hospitality Industry



From Coyle & Li, 'The Data Economy: Market Size & Global Trade'





Implications for trade

- Few countries have dominant platforms:
 - competition policy and trade policy intersect
 - most are data exporters
- Dominant platforms reduce cost of accessing overseas markets eg use cloud services built on data science
- Local data essential to serve local markets
- Local markets can be big for dominant international platforms
- Typology 6 types of countries (platforms, market size, income level, local tech talent & infrastructure)
- Data localisation & regulation policies vary between types

Some references

- Furman Review: Unlocking Digital Competition:
- https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/up loads/system/uploads/attachment data/file/785547/un locking digital competition furman review web.pdf
- Bennett Institute Value of Data Report:
- https://www.bennettinstitute.cam.ac.uk/media/upload s/files/Value of data Policy Implications Report 26 F eb ok4noWn.pdf



