

ENDOGENOUS GROWTH, INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

BY

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Submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master or Economics by research at the University of Adelaide.

August 2004

ACKNOWLEGEMENTS

My acknowledgments are many.

First of all, I would like to thank my supervisors, Professor Daniel Leonard for his

compassionate care and his sharp supervision; and Associate Professor Richard

Damania for his helpful guidance.

I am also grateful to The University of Adelaide for the Adelaide Scholarship

International (ASI) that enables me to undertake the research. I also extend my thanks

to all the staff, both academic and administrative, especially to Dr Ian W. Mc Lean for

his invaluable advices in the last 5 years.

Finally, I wish to thank my family for their love, constant support and encouragement.

August 2004

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ABSTRACT

We develop a dynamic model that explicitly considers the trans-boundary pollution problem between two asymmetric countries. We found that the countries will enjoy higher long run growth rates and a higher environmental quality when they coordinate their environmental policies. Furthermore, the two countries suffer more heavily not cooperating with each other when their attitudes towards a cleaner environment differ greatly. The implication is that despite the inherent differences in their development level and in their environmental attitudes, developed and developing countries are strongly encouraged to cooperate environmentally. In the second part of the thesis, we turn the focus to the role of international trade in relation to economic growth and the environment. We found that the long run growth rates of the countries are lower when they engage in international trade, no matter whether the environmental externality is internalised or not. The impact of trade on welfare however is ambiguous.

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