

**Technological Change and Gender Wage Differentials,  
Estimates for US Industries: 1979-2001**

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This paper empirically investigates the impact of skill-biased technological change on gender wage differentials. We use quarterly CPS data on employment and wages, by industry and occupation, from 1979 to 2001 to estimate a constant elasticity of substitution production function (CES) that incorporates male and female labor inputs by occupation in each industry, a non-labor input and a productivity parameter function that captures non-neutral technological change. The model is estimated by non-linear two stage least squares (NL2SLS) with cross-equation restrictions. The estimated parameters suggest that non neutral technological change was present in all industries, with a stronger effect on the narrowing of the gender gap at the highest pay occupation level, where, at the mean, changes in skilled-biased technology adopted by firms are raising the female-to-male wage ratio at a quarterly rate that varies between 0.35 and 0.47, while the least impact was found for the lower pay occupations (operators and laborers), with quarterly rates that vary between 0.04 and 0.25.