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CEPII'S CHELEM-TRADE DATABASE

Alix de Saint Vaulry

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

The CEPII's CHELEM-TRADE database contains international trade statistics for exporting and importing countries by product and allows several indicators to be calculated. This database has been built by the CEPII since the last seventies, mostly drawn on United Nations COMTRADE data.

The major asset of CHELEM is its completeness: to provide a coherent view of international trade both in time and space (countries and products), the trade matrices are fully completed with the crossings between exporters, importers and products covering the whole world and the total of traded products, stretching back to 1967. CHELEM harmonizes data provided in different classifications, completes the missing data, reconciliates exporters' and importers' reportings which show up discrepancies and minimizes the breaks in the series.

The following paper describes the database contents, the classifications and methods of construction as well as the associate indicators, available since the big enlargement of classifications of the 8.1 release of July 2006. It updates the former documents describing the whole CHELEM database (including the Balance of Payments and GDP - population - exchange rates parts) and the CHELEM-TRADE building method¹.

J.E.L. Classification: C82.

Keywords: Database, International Trade, International Statistics.

¹ CEPII, CHELEM, Harmonized Data for International Trade and the World Economy, CEPII's International Database On CD-ROM, June 2002, mimeo.

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