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TITLE: THE HOMOGENISATION OF DETAILED EMPLOYMENT DATA

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ABSTRACT:

Abstract: The paper discusses the homogenisation of detailed employment data using commodity or industry technology. The exercise is based on the Belgian Make table and employment data for 2000. When employment is detailed by gender and six education levels, applying commodity technology yields plausible results and there is hardly a negative problem. If a distinction between employees and self-employed is introduced, a negatives problem arises. Applying industry technology to homogenise self-employed workers yields implausible results. The assumption of commodity technology can be considered to be most valid at the all workers level. One reason for this is that equally skilled self-employed and employees are often substitutes. Therefore we respect the commodity technology results obtained for all workers. In a next step, results for employees and self-employed based on commodity technology are derived. The results for employees are obtained by taking the difference between the homogenised series for all worker and an adjusted series for self-employed. This method yields plausible employment figures and plausible wages per head for employees.