TITLE: REFLECTIONS ON INPUT-OUTPUT-COEFFICIENTS

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ABSTRACT:

This paper intends to discuss the concept of input output coefficients. First Leontief's notion of flow-flow coefficients and the concept of stock-stock coefficients employed by Sraffa or von Neumann are compared. It is shown, that the later can be translated into the former but not vice versa. The notions of a plant, vertical integration and Bertram Schefold's concept of centre-coefficients are introduced. It turns out, that IO-coefficients depend on the subject of the analysis. If a quantity model is concerned, than IO-coefficients depend on the growth rate of the system - if prices are analyzed, then the coefficients are a function of the rate of profit. The second section of the paper is devoted to the problem of choice of technique. Keeping the basic concept of Leontief´s fixed coefficients in the long, one may use Chenery's notion of engineering production functions and the related concepts of Gutenberg's production-function of type B or his idea of "Verbrauchsfunktionen" to introduce some flexibility and substitution possibilities in the short run.