Compilation of symmetric input-output tables with a minimum of assumptions.

Topic: Foundations of the Supply-Use model
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When input-output statistics are compiled in practice it is essential to consider the desired properties of the symmetric input-output table (SIOT) already at the stage where the supply and use tables (SUT) are planned. By making appropriate choices of classifications and structure of the SUT it is possible to construct a set of basic data which is relevant and useful both in compiling the current national accounts and deriving the SIOT with a minimum of efforts and data manipulation.

In this paper it is illustrated with data from the Danish input-output tables that it is possible to derive an industry-by-industry input-output table from the SUT as if it were almost directly observed, i.e. only to a very limited degree based on assumptions. The following procedures are shown to be essential: (1) For industries: specific redefinitions, primarily to deal with important cases of secondary production of products belonging in other major industrial groups (sections of the ISIC Rev.4) and vertically integrated enterprises that should be partitioned into establishments according to the stages of production if they span several sections of the ISIC; and (2) For products: The most detailed product classification possible. For products with a single user or a single producer no assumptions are necessary. The cases of more than one user can be dealt with in several ways, and eventually by applying the assumption of fixed product sales structures.