

A New Global CGE Database

Topic: IO modeling: Computable General Equilibrium Modeling and Social Accounting Matrices

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This paper provides details about a new global database designed primarily for use by Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) modelers. While there are other global databases for CGE analysis and analysis using fixed price models, it is argued that these databases lack important features that are desirable in CGE models, e.g., current account transactions other than trade balances. The distinctive features this database are: its construction in accordance with the principles of the SNA; its presentation in the form of a Social Accounting Matrix (SAM); the domestic transactions data are presented as Supply and Use Tables (SUT); transactions between domestic and international institutions are explicitly identified; and the database is designed to make the process of extending transactions data and augmenting the database with satellite accounts straightforward. The database relies on the work of others, principally WIOD, and builds on research that extends and augments the GTAP database to include current account transactions. The primary purpose of the database is to demonstrate a "better mousetrap" in the hope that it will encourage the international input-output (IO) and CGE communities to develop "complete and consistent"™ databases that are robust.