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and to the Steinmetz Archive (see above).

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## 2. SOURCES

As a point of departure for our activities, we started checking the annual export figures contained in the DOT data base. In case of missing values or doubt about the correctness of particular export data, they have been checked with the Yearbooks of International Trade Statistics published by the UN. When necessary, the DOT data have been replaced by the ITS data. Subsequently, annual figures on exports among nations with centrally planned economies have been added to the DOT data base.

The data for the East-European nations and the USSR during the period 1948-1969 have been obtained from: P. Marer (1972), *Soviet and East-European Foreign Trade, 1946-1969*, Bloomington: Indiana University Press. Figures on the annual exports between the USSR and the PR China for the period 1948-1975 have been obtained

from: B.R. Mitchell (1980), *European Historical Statistics, 1750-1975*, London: Macmillan. The data on annual exports sent between the PR China and the PDR Korea have been taken from: State Statistical Bureau of the PCR (1982, 1984), *Statistical Yearbook of China 1981/1983*, Hong Kong: Economic Information and Agency. The data on annual exports among nations with centrally planned economies, which have not been presented in these sources, have been obtained from the Yearbooks of International Trade Statistics.

### 3. MEASUREMENT PROCEDURES.

All figures on annual exports free on board (fob) among nations contained in the WED data base are expressed in millions of US-dollars at current prices. When figures expressed in local currencies were obtained, they have been converted into US-dollars by applying the official exchange rates published in the Yearbooks of International Trade Statistics. In case of exports from nations with centrally planned economies to other nations, we stuck to the IMF approach of converting the other nations' figures on annual imports (cost, insurance and freight included; cif) from nations with centrally planned economies into export data. As conversion factor, we used a rough 0.9. The same procedure has been applied when no export data could be obtained but only import data.

We have tried to avoid interruptions in time series of data on exports sent from and to colonies that were dissolved into several independent states during the period of observation. The time series of exports sent to nations, which formerly belonged to a colony, have been extended back in time into the colonial subperiod by distributing colonial trade over the later independent states. This has been done by means of each nation's share in the colonial trade during the first 3 years of independence as if the colony was not dissolved. When figures on national shares in colonial trade for two (or more) distinct moments of observation separated by some timespan were available, interpolation of shares between both moments of observation has been applied. As there are no figures on exports sent within a colony among the later independent states, we could not obtain figures on exports among the constituting areal units during their colonial subperiod in the period 1948-1983. This applies to former French West-Africa, former French Equatorial Africa, former British East Africa, the former Federation of Rhodesia and Nyassaland, former Indochina, and the former Federation of Malaya.

The time series of exports from and to South-Vietnam (nation-code 582) are set equal to zero after 1975. Exports from and to the unified Republic of Vietnam during the period 1976-1983 are represented as exports from and to North-Vietnam (nation-code 958).

The data on annual exports from and to Belgium (nation-code 124) include data for Luxemburg. The data on exports from and to South Africa (nation-code 199) refer to the South African Common Customs Area and include data for Botswana (nation-code 616), Lesotho (nation-code 666) and Swaziland (nation-code 734). The data for Malaysia (nation-code 548) refer to West-Malaysia only during the period 1948-1963. Since 1964 the data for Sabah and Sarawak are included in the Malaysian data.

#### 4. THE WED DATA BASE STRUCTURE

The WED data base is presented as a SPSS-readable data file. It contains over 15,000 cases. Each case consists of 6 records (with 80 columns) containing 38 variables. The first 2 variables represent the nations from which and to which the exports are sent. The remaining 36 variables represent 36 annual figures on the value of the exports in millions of US-dollars at current prices beginning in 1948 and ending in 1983. The format of each case reads as follows.

(2f3.0,/,4(8f10.2,/),4f10.2) in SPSS

and

(2i3,/,4(8f10.2,/),4f10.2) in Fortran

The number-codes in the first two variables reflect the nations contained in the WED data base. These number-codes are the same as those used in the DOT data base. The number-codes of nations are presented in the Appendix of this user's guide.

#### 5. SHORTCOMINGS

Every data base on trade statistics contains omissions and incomplete time series of data. The WED data base is no exception to this statement. First, we will report on the most important omissions. We will also indicate which time series are incomplete.

It proved to be impossible to find data concerning the exports between Albania and the PR China, Mongolia, North-Korea and North-Vietnam. Some data on exports between Albania and the PR China have been included but only for the period 1955-1964. Furthermore, the exports between the nations mentioned above and other nations with centrally planned economies are available only for the period 1953, 1954 or 1955 to 1983 (except for the German Democratic Republic, which are ending in 1974). Another

problem is the omission of many figures on exports sent between Guinea and the nations with centrally planned economies.

Some time series of export data on Iran and Iraq acting either as importing or as exporting nation are incomplete after 1977. This applies to exports sent between Iran and Lebanon, the PDR Yemen, Afghanistan, Angola, Eastern Germany, Poland and the USSR, and to exports sent between Iraq and Lebanon and the PDR Yemen. Furthermore, annual data on exports sent from and to Nepal are lacking for the period 1948-1963. In the case of the PR China and Nepal, annual data on exports are lacking for the period 1948-1974. The annual data on the exports from Libya to the USSR and also from Iran to several East European nations should be used cautiously. There are large differences between the values of the exports and imports reported by each of the trading partners. We recommend first to make a listing of those time series of export data, which one might use in subsequent analyses and research. Inspection of those time series is necessary in order to determine the subperiods in each time series that can be used in further data analyses. We hope that other researchers will profit from our efforts also. Possibly, the WED data base will act as a new point of departure for a new and more complete data base on trade statistics.

Amsterdam, October 1987.

APPENDIX; Nations included in  
WED and their corresponding  
nation-codes

Afghanistan	512	Gabon	646
Albania	914	Gambia	648
Algeria	612	Ghana	652
Angola	614	Greece	174
Antigua	311	Grenada	328
Argentina	213	Guatemala	258
Australia	193	Guinea	656
Austria	122	Guinea-Bissau	654
Bahamas	313	Guyana	336
Bahrein	419	Haiti	263
Bangladesh	513	Honduras	268
Barbados	316	Hong Kong	532
Belgium	124	Hungary	944
Belize	339	Iceland	176
Benin	638	Ireland	178
Bolivia	218	India	534
Botswana	616	Indonesia	536
Brazil	223	Iran	429
Brunei	516	Iraq	433
Bulgaria	918	Israel	436
Burma	518	Italy	136
Burundi	618	Ivory Coast	662
Cameroon	622	Jamaica	343
Canada	156	Japan	158
Cape Verde	624	Jordan	439
Centr.African Rep.	626	Kampuchea	522
Chad	628	Kenya	664
Chile	228	Kiribati	826
China	924	Korea, PDR	954
Colombia	233	Korea, Republic of	542
Comoros	632	Kuwait	443
Congo	634	Laos	544
Costa Rica	238	Lebanon	446
Cuba	928	Lesotho	666
Cyprus	423	Liberia	668
Czechoslovakia	934	Libya	672
Denmark	128	Madagascar	674
Djibouti	611	Malawi	676
Dominica	321	Malaysia	548
Dominican Republic	243	Maldives	556
Eastern Germany	938	Mali	678
Ecuador	248	Malta	181
Egypt	469	Mauritania	682
El Salvador	253	Mauritius	684
Ethiopia	644	Mexico	273
Equatorial Guinea	642	Mongolia	948
Fiji	819	Morocco	686
Finland	172	Mozambique	688
France	132	Nauru	836



Nepal	558	Western Germany	134
Netherlands	138	Western Samoa	862
New Zealand	196	Yemen Arab Republic	473
Nicaragua	278	Yemen, PDR	459
Niger	692	Yugoslavia	188
Nigeria	694	Zaire	636
Norway	142	Zambia	754
Oman	449	Zimbabwe	698
Pakistan	564		
Panama	283		
Papua New Guinea	853		
Paraguay	288		
Peru	293		
Philippines	566		
Poland	964		
Portugal	182		
Qatar	453		
Romania	968		
Rwanda	714		
Sao Tome and Principe	716		
Saudi Arabia	456		
Senegal	722		
Seychelles	718		
Sierra Leone	724		
Singapore	576		
Solomon Islands	813		
Somalia	726		
South Africa	199		
Spain	184		
Sri Lanka	524		
St.Kitts-Nevis-Ang.	361		
St. Lucia	362		
St. Vincent	364		
Sudan	732		
Suriname	366		
Swaziland	734		
Sweden	144		
Switzerland	146		
Syria	463		
Tanzania	738		
Thailand	578		
Togo	742		
Tonga	866		
Trinidad and Tobago	369		
Tunisia	744		
Turkey	186		
Tuvalu	869		
Uganda	746		
United Arab Emirates	466		
United Kingdom	112		
United States	111		
Upper Volta	748		
Uruguay	298		
USSR	974		
Vanuatu	846		
Venezuela	299		
Vietnam, PDR	958		
Vietnam, Republic of	582		