Expanded Trade and GDP Data
Summary of changes
Version 4.0

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The original published (Gleditsch 2002) article on the Expanded Trade and GDP data describes version 2.0 of the data. This document highlights the main changes over the data described in the article.

The GDP data are now updated with the new Penn World Tables (PWT) 6.1 data. Note the following changes in the current data from the data described in the article.

* The real GDP per capita figures are now expressed in 1996 prices, not 1985 figures.

* Some annual observations in the old PWT 5.6 data have not been included in the new PWT 6.0. The reasons why these countries were omitted are discussed in a document available at http://webhost.bridgew.edu/baten/pwt6/append6.0.pdf. The Expanded Trade and GDP data include observations in the PWT 5.6 data not in the PWT 6.1 data. These observations have been assigned an origin code of –1.

* Adding additional observations from PWT 5.6 to the PWT 6.1 create some missing entries between observations. These have been interpolated and assigned an origin code of 2 the new data.

* Since the origin code 2 is now used for interpolated values in the GDP data, the estimates based on the CIA data are now assigned origin code 3.

* The new data contain trade figures collected by Andrew G. Long of the University of Mississippi for the years 1997-2000 from the IMF Direction of Trade (DOT) Yearbook for 2002. Note that trade data were not collected for any dyads involving certain microstates with very small populations, more specifically Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Antigua and Barbuda, St. Kitts-Nevis, Seychelles, Vanuatu, Marshall Islands, Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, and Western Samoa.

* Version 4.0 incorporates new estimates for trade with Taiwan, which is not included altogether in the IMF data. These estimates are taken from two sources, 1971 to 2002 data from the Directorate General of Budget Accounting and Statistics Executive Yuan of the ROR (Taiwan), and 1952 to 1974 data from the Statiscal Yearbook of ROC (Taiwan). These data were collected and converted into $US by Zhiming Chen and Bruce M. Russett of Yale University.

* IMF lists values for Vietnam, without distinguishing whether values refer to North and South Vietnam before unification. The hard copy of the IMF yearbook for 1977, however, states on p. 262 that “values through 1974 refer to the former South Vietnam”. In the new version of the data it is thus assumed that all data for Vietnam up through 1974 refer to South Vietnam. I am grateful to Bruce M. Russett for locating this information in the hard copies of the IMF yearbook.