

# Chapter 4

## Long-term Chinese Trade Statistics:

### 3-Digit Level SITC-R1 Classifications from the 1950s to the Latest and Estimation of Trade Value by Partner Country

#### FUKAO Kyoji

As is well known, Chinese trade statistics by product can be uncertain prior to 1986. The study discussed here employed official Chinese trade statistics as control totals, and organized the results of a 2004 study by Fukao, Yue and Kiyota which classified and totaled unpublished Chinese analytical trade data for 1952-1964 and 1981-2000, CIA reports concerning Chinese trade (for 1970 and 1975-1982), UN Comtrade data (able to be used from 1987 onwards) which estimated China's trade structure from partner country data. This enabled the formulation of statistical data for the import and export value for SITC-R1 3-digit level in China for 1952-2006. For years for which data is unavailable, linear compensation has been applied to the share for each product.

With regard to China's trade totals by partner country, for 1950-1983 we organized import and export value statistics for 146 partner countries published in 1984 in Yearbook of China's Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, and for 1984 onwards we organized import and export value statistics for 240 partner countries published in the UN Comtrade data. Based on this data we formulated trade statistics by partner country for 1950-2006.

Because not all partner countries are covered, our totals are lower than the totals in officially published statistics for 1980-1985. Tables 1 and 2 show the cover ratio of our estimates.

Table 1 Cover ratio of import value statistics by partner country

FY	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
Cover ratio	97.4	87.9	90.1	86.0	95.5	94.2

Table 2 Cover ratio of export value statistics by partner country

FY	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
Cover ratio	99.9	90.6	88.1	89.0	95.1	93.7

