

# The *CEPII Gravity Dataset*

## Information and Codebook

### Table of content

1. Introduction.....	1
2. Data.....	2
3. Codebook.....	5
3.1. Countries.....	5
3.2. Period.....	5
3.3. Geography.....	5
3.4. Common language, common history.....	6
3.5. Legal and religion similarities.....	8
3.6. Gross Domestic Product, Population.....	9
3.7. Currency Unions.....	11
3.8. GATT/WTO Membership.....	11
3.9. Regional Trade Agreements.....	11
3.10. Preferential Trade Agreements.....	12
3.11. Entry Costs.....	13
4. References.....	15

## 1. Introduction

CEPII makes available a "square" gravity dataset for all world pairs of countries (224), for the period 1948 to 2015.

This dataset was originally generated by Keith Head, Thierry Mayer and John Ries<sup>1</sup> for the period 1984-2006. Most variables are described in the data appendix of the paper which you should turn to for details and reference when using this data.

The main variables relating to trade costs come from the CEPII distance datasets to which we added new covariates, and that we arranged in a way such that it can be easily merged with any matrix of bilateral flow (usually trade, but many gravity applications use FDI, migrations, or other types of bilateral flows) using standard ISO codes for countries and for any year between 1948 and 2015 (the original paper and dataset stopped in 2006, the current version has been updated by the successive efforts of Julia Jauer, Jules Hugot, and Eve Sihra).

We also provide for replication purposes of Head et al. (2010) quoted above a lighter dataset, including trade flows (cleaned and treated as described in the data appendix) but restricted to observations where those trade flows are non-missing.

Both datasets are available in Stata13 format. Questions should be sent to [thierry.mayer@sciencespo.fr](mailto:thierry.mayer@sciencespo.fr).

---

<sup>1</sup> Head, K., T. Mayer and J. Ries, 2010, "The erosion of colonial trade linkages after independence" *Journal of International Economics*, 81(1):1-14. (formerly CEPII discussion paper # 2008-27)

## 2. Data

This dataset contains the following variables:

variable name	variable label
iso3_o	ISO3 alphanumeric
iso2_o	ISO2 alphanumeric
iso3_d	ISO3 alphanumeric
iso2_d	ISO2 alphanumeric
year	
contig	1 for contiguity
comlang_off	1 for common official or primary language
comlang_ethno	1 if a language is spoken by at least 9% of the population in both countries
comcol	1 for common colonizer post 1945
col45	1 for pairs in colonial relationship post 1945
distw	weighted distance (pop-wt, km)
pop_o	Population, total in mn
pop_d	Population, total in mn
gdp_o	GDP (current US\$)
gdp_d	GDP (current US\$)
gdpcap_o	GDP per cap (current in US\$)
gdpcap_d	GDP per cap (current in US\$)
gdp_ppp_o	GDP, PPP (current international \$)
gdp_ppp_d	GDP, PPP (current international \$)
gdpcap_ppp_o	GDP per cap, PPP (current international \$)
gdpcap_ppp_d	GDP per cap, PPP (current international \$)
gdp_ppp_pwt_o	GDP, current PPP (2011 US\$)
gdp_ppp_pwt_d	GDP, current PPP (2011 US\$)
pop_pwt_o	Population, total in mn (PWT)
pop_pwt_d	Population, total in mn (PWT)
area_o	Area in sq. kms
area_d	Area in sq. kms
tdiff	nb of hours difference between ex and im
heg_o	1 if origin is current or former hegemon of destination
heg_d	1 if destination is current or former hegemon of origin
conflict	1 if war

<b>indepdate</b>	Independence date if colony == 1
<b>colony</b>	1 for pair ever in colonial relationship
<b>curcol</b>	1 for pair currently in colonial relationship
<b>sibling</b>	1 for pair ever in sibling relationship
<b>cursib</b>	1 for pair currently in sibling relationship
<b>empire</b>	hegemon if cursib==1
<b>sever</b>	severance year for pairs if sibling == 1
<b>sib_conflict</b>	1=Pair ever in sibling relationship and conflict
<b>comcur</b>	1 for common currency
<b>comrelig</b>	common religion
<b>comleg_pretrans</b>	1 if common legal origins before transition
<b>comleg_posttrans</b>	1 if common legal origins after transition
<b>transition_legalchange</b>	1 if common legal origin changed since transition
<b>legold_o</b>	origin legal system before transition
<b>legold_d</b>	destination legal system before transition
<b>legnew_o</b>	origin legal system after transition
<b>legnew_d</b>	destination legal system after transition
<b>gatt_o</b>	1 if origin is GATT/WTO member
<b>gatt_d</b>	1 if destination is GATT/WTO member
<b>pta_bb</b>	1=Non-reciprocal PTA ; 2=PTA (Source: Baier & Bergstrand, 2009)
<b>fta_wto</b>	1=RTA (Source: WTO, 2015)
<b>fta_bb</b>	1=FTA; 2=Cust. Union; 3=Common Market; 4=Economic union (Source: Baier & Bergstrand, 2009)
<b>fta_hmr</b>	1=FTA (Source: Head, Mayer and Ries, 2010)
<b>acp_to_eu</b>	1 for ACP to EU
<b>eu_to_acp</b>	1 for EU to ACP
<b>gsp_o_d</b>	1 if origin is donator
<b>gsp_d_d</b>	1 if destination is donator
<b>flaggsp_o_d</b>	report of changes in Rose data
<b>flaggsp_d_d</b>	report of changes in Rose data
<b>entry_cost_o</b>	Cost of business start-up procedures (% of GNI per capita)
<b>entry_cost_d</b>	Cost of business start-up procedures (% of GNI per capita)
<b>entry_proc_o</b>	Start-up procedures to register a business (number)
<b>entry_proc_d</b>	Start-up procedures to register a business (number)
<b>entry_time_o</b>	Time required to start a business(days)
<b>entry_time_d</b>	Time required to start a business(days)
<b>entry_tp_o</b>	Days+Procs to start a business

---

<b>entry_tp_d</b>	Days+Procs to start a business
<b>eu_o</b>	1=Origin is a EU member
<b>eu_d</b>	1=Destination is a EU member

---

### 3. Codebook

#### 3.1. Countries

<b>iso3_o</b>
Standard ISO code for exporting country (three letters).

<b>iso3_d</b>
Standard ISO code for importing country (three letters).

<b>iso2_o</b>
Standard ISO code for exporting country (two letters).

<b>iso2_d</b>
Standard ISO code for importing country (two letters).

#### 3.2. Period

<b>year</b>
Numeric, from 1948 to 2015. The dataset is a complete dyad*year matrix.

#### 3.3. Geography

<b>area_o</b>
Area of origin in square kilometers Source: CEPII Distance Dataset

<b>area_d</b>
Area of destination in square kilometers. Source: CEPII Distance Dataset

<b>distw</b>
Weighted bilateral distance between origin and destination in kilometer (population weighted). Source: CEPII Distance Dataset

**tdiff**

Time difference between origin and destination, in number of hours.

For countries which stretch over more than one time zone, the respective time zone is generated via the mean of all its time zones (for instance: Russia, Canada, USA)

### 3.4. Common language, common history

**colony**

Dummy for origin and destination ever in colonial relationship.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**col45**

Dummy for origin and destination in colonial relationship post 1945.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**col\_to**

Dummy for origin and destination in colonial relationship post 1945.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**col\_fr**

Dummy for origin and destination in colonial relationship post 1945.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**comcol**

Dummy for common colonizer of origin and destination post 1945.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**comlang\_off**

Dummy for common official or primary language.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**comlang\_ethno**

Dummy for language spoken by at least 9% of the population in both countries.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**conflict**

Dummy if war between origin and destination

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**curcol**

Dummy if origin and destination currently in colonial relationship.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**cursib**

Dummy if origin and destination currently in sibling relationship, i.e. two colonies of the same empire.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**empire**

ISO code (three letters) of hegemon if cursib == 1.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**heg\_o**

Dummy if origin is current or former hegemon of destination.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**heg\_d**

Dummy if destination is current or former hegemon of origin.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**indepdate**

Independence date if colony == 1.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**sever**

Severance year for pairs if sibling == 1.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**sibling**

Dummy for origin and destination ever in sibling relationship, i.e. two colonies of the same empire.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

**sib\_conflict**

Dummy for origin and destination ever in sibling relationship and conflict.

Source: Head et al. (2010)

### 3.5. Legal and religion similarities

**comleg\_pretrans**

Dummy if origin and destination share common legal origins before transition.

Source: LaPorta, Lopez-de-Silanes and Shleifer (2008)

**comleg\_posttrans**

Dummy if origin and destination share common legal origins after transition.

Source: LaPorta, Lopez-de-Silanes and Shleifer (2008)

**comrelig**

Religious proximity (Disdier and Mayer, 2007) is an index calculated by adding the products of the shares of Catholics, Protestants and Muslims in the exporting and importing countries. It is bounded between 0 and 1, and is maximum if the country pair has a religion which (1) comprises a vast majority of the population, and (2) is the same in both countries. Source of religion shares: LaPorta, Lopez-de-Silanes, Shleifer and Vishny (1999), completed with the CIA world factbook.

**legnew\_o**

Legal system of origin after transition.

This variable takes the values: "fr" for French, "ge" for German, "sc" for Scandinavian, "so" for Socialist and "uk" for British legal origin.

Source: LaPorta, Lopez-de-Silanes and Shleifer (2008)

**legnew\_d**

Legal system of destination after transition.

For values of the variable, see legnew\_o.

Source: LaPorta, Lopez-de-Silanes and Shleifer (2008)

**legold\_o**

Legal system of origin before transition.

For values of the variable, see legnew\_o.

Source: LaPorta, Lopez-de-Silanes and Shleifer (2008)

**legold\_d**

Legal system of destination before transition.

For values of the variable, see legnew\_o.

Source: LaPorta, Lopez-de-Silanes and Shleifer (2008)

**transition\_legalchange**

Dummy if common legal origin changed since transition.

Source: LaPorta, Lopez-de-Silanes and Shleifer (2008)

### 3.6. Gross Domestic Product, Population

**gdp\_o**

Gross Domestic Product of origin (current US\$)

Source:

From 1960 to 2015, the data comes from the World Development Indicators, World Bank.

For Taiwan, the data comes from the Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (DGBAS).

For data before 1960 and for some countries for which WDI does not keep track (for instance, Russia), we complete the data using the Maddison<sup>2</sup> and Barbieri databases<sup>3</sup>.

**gdp\_d**

Gross Domestic Product of destination (current US\$)

Source: see gdp\_o

**gdpcap\_o**

Gross Domestic Product per capita of origin (current US\$)

Source: computed from gdp\_o and pop\_o

**gdpcap\_d**

Gross Domestic Product per capita of destination (current US\$)

Source: computed from gdp\_d and pop\_d

<sup>2</sup> Data available on <http://www.ggd.net/maddison/maddison-project/home.htm>.

<sup>3</sup> Data available on <http://www.correlatesofwar.org>.

**gdp\_ppp\_o**

Gross Domestic Product of origin (PPP, current international \$)

Source:

World Development Indicators, World Bank

For Taiwan, Penn World Table

**gdp\_ppp\_d**

Gross Domestic Product of destination (PPP, current international \$)

Source: see gdp\_ppp\_o

**gdpcap\_ppp\_o**

Gross Domestic Product per capita of origin (PPP, current international \$)

Source: see gdp\_ppp\_o

**gdpcap\_ppp\_d**

Gross Domestic Product per capita of destination (PPP, current international \$)

Source: see gdp\_ppp\_o

**gdp\_ppp\_pwt\_o**

Gross Domestic Product of origin (current PPP, 2011 US\$)

Source: Penn World Table (Feenstra, Inklaar and Timmer, 2015)<sup>4</sup>

**gdp\_ppp\_pwt\_d**

Gross Domestic Product of destination (current PPP, 2011 US\$)

Source: see gdp\_ppp\_pwt\_o

**pop\_o**

Population of origin, total in million

Source: see gdp\_o

**pop\_d**

Population of destination, total in million

Source: see gdp\_o

---

<sup>4</sup> Data available on [www.ggdc.net/pwt](http://www.ggdc.net/pwt).

**pop\_pwt\_o**

Population of origin, total in million (Penn World Table)

Source: see gdp\_ppp\_pwt\_o

**pop\_pwt\_d**

Population of destination, total in million (Penn World Table)

Source: see gdp\_ppp\_pwt\_o

### 3.7. Currency Unions

**comcur**

Dummy for common currency

Updated with dataset from De Sousa (2015)

### 3.8. GATT/WTO Membership

**gatt\_o**

Dummy if origin is GATT/WTO member.

Source: WTO

**gatt\_d**

Dummy if destination is GATT/WTO member.

Source: WTO

### 3.9. Regional Trade Agreements

**eu\_o**

Dummy if origin is a member of the European Union.

Source: CEPII Distance Dataset

**eu\_d**

Dummy if destination is a member of the European Union.

Source: CEPII Distance Dataset

**eu\_d**

Dummy if destination is a member of the European Union.

Source: CEPII Distance Dataset

**fta\_bb**

Variable coded as 1 for Free Trade Area; 2 for Customs Union; 3 for Common Market; 4 for Economic Union.

Source: Baier and Bergstrand (2009)

**fta\_hmr**

Dummy for Free Trade Agreement.

Source: Head, Mayer and Ries (2010)

**fta\_wto**

Dummy for Regional Trade Agreement.

Source: WTO (2015)

### 3.10. Preferential Trade Agreements

**acp\_to\_eu**

Dummy for ACP country exporting to EC/EU member.

A Preferential Trade Agreement on imports between former colonies and other developing countries (Africa, Caribbean, Pacific), and members of the European Union.

**eu\_to\_acp**

Dummy for EC/EU member exporting to ACP country.

A Preferential Trade Agreement on imports between former colonies and other developing countries (Africa, Caribbean, Pacific), and members of the European Union.

**flaggsp\_o\_d**

Report changes in Rose's data on gsp\_o\_d.

No gsp recorded in Rose; Data directly from Rose; Changes in data from Rose; Assumption that gsp continues after 1999.

**flaggsp\_d\_d**

Report changes in Rose's data on gsp\_d\_d.

No gsp recorded in Rose; Data directly from Rose; Changes in data from Rose; Assumption that gsp continues after 1999.

**gsp\_o\_d**

Dummy if origin is donator in Generalized System of Preferences (GSP).

Source: Rose (2004)

**gsp\_d\_d**

Dummy if destination is donator in Generalized System of Preferences (GSP).

Source: Rose (2004)

**pta\_bb**

Variable coded as 1 for non-reciprocal Preferential Trade Agreement; 2 for Preferential Trade Agreement.

Source: Baier and Bergstrand (2009)

### 3.11. Entry Costs

**entry\_cost\_o**

Cost of business start-up procedures for origin (% of GNI per capita).

Source: World Development Indicators, World Bank

**entry\_cost\_d**

Cost of business start-up procedures for destination (% of GNI per capita).

Source: World Development Indicators, World Bank

**entry\_proc\_o**

Start-up procedures to register a business for origin (number)

Source: World Development Indicators, World Bank

**entry\_proc\_d**

Start-up procedures to register a business for destination (number)

Source: World Development Indicators, World Bank

**entry\_time\_o**

Time required to start a business for origin (days)

Source: World Development Indicators, World Bank

**entry\_time\_d**

Time required to start a business for destination (days)

Source: World Development Indicators, World Bank

## 4. References

Baier, S. L., and J. H. Bergstrand. 2009. "Estimating the effects of free trade agreements on international trade flows using matching econometrics", *Journal of International Economics*, vol. 77(1), pages 63-76.

Barbieri, Katherine. 2005. *The Liberal Illusion: Does Trade Promote Peace?* Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

Disdier, A-C., and T. Mayer. 2007. "Je t'aime, moi non plus: Bilateral Opinions and International Trade", *European Journal of Political Economy* 23(4): 1140-1159.

De Sousa, J. 2012. "The currency union effect on trade is decreasing over time", *Economics Letters*, 117(3), 917-920.

Feenstra, R. C., R. Inklaar and M. P. Timmer. 2015. "The Next Generation of the Penn World Table", *American Economic Review*, 105(10), 3150-3182

Head, K., T. Mayer, and J. Ries. 2010. "The erosion of colonial trade linkages after independence", *Journal of International Economics* 81(1):1-14.

LaPorta, R., Lopez-de-Silanes, F., Shleifer, A., and R. Vishny. 1999. "The Quality of Government", *Journal of Law, Economics and Organization* 15 (1): 222-279.

LaPorta, R., Lopez-de-Silanes, F., and A. Shleifer. 2008. "The Economic Consequences of Legal Origins", *Journal of Economic Literature* 46 (2): 285-332.

Rose, A. 2004. "Do We Really Know that the WTO increases Trade?", *American Economic Review* 94 (1), 98-114.