

# Structural path decomposition analysis and its use in comparing multiregional input-output databases

Anne Owen – University of Leeds, UK

Richard Wood – NTNU, Norway

John Barrett – University of Leeds, UK

Andy Evans – University of Leeds, UK

## Overview

- Rationale & MRIO models investigated
- Structural path analysis (SPA) & structural path decomposition (SPD)
- The Common Classification
- Results
  - UK case study
  - What are the characteristics of paths which contain large differences?
  - Which element in the Taylor's expansion is responsible for the difference?
- Findings and next steps



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

- Choice of MRIO databases available for policy analysis
- Users of MRIO data need to understand the implications of choosing one MRIO database over another
- What is the cause of these differences in CO<sub>2</sub> consumption-based accounts?
  - Source data?
  - Structure of the database?
  - Construction techniques?

## Overview

- We propose using SPA and SPD to explore the difference in paired global value chains between:

Eora and EXIOBASE

Eora and GTAP

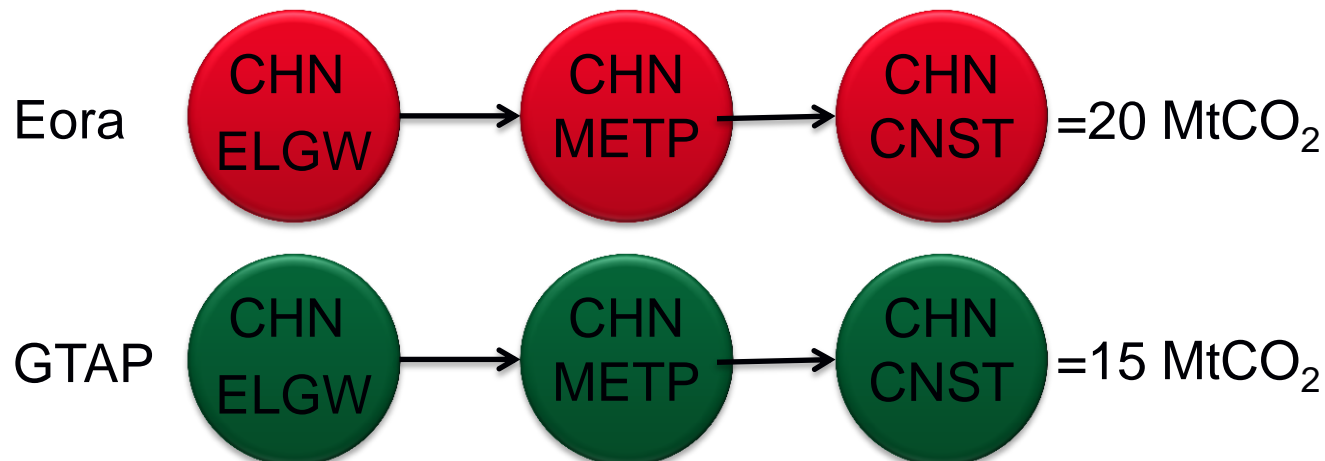
Eora and WIOD

EXIOBASE and GTAP

EXIOBASE and WIOD

GTAP and WIOD

- Use the common year 2007



Diff = 5 MtCO<sub>2</sub>

How much of this difference is due to the emissions data and how much the economic data?

## Structural path analysis

- Taylor's expansion is used to calculate the size of thousands of paths in each database:

$$Q = \sum_{i=1}^n e_i y_i + \sum_{i=1}^n e_i \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij} y_j + \sum_{i=1}^n e_i \sum_{k=1}^n A_{ik} \sum_{j=1}^n A_{kj} y_j + \sum_{i=1}^n e_i \sum_{l=1}^n A_{il} \sum_{k=1}^n A_{lk} \sum_{j=1}^n A_{kj} y_j + \dots \quad (1)$$

- The zeroth, first, second and third value chains can be characterised thus:

$$Q_{0th} = f_i \cdot x_i^{-1} \cdot y_i \quad (2)$$

$$Q_{1st} = f_i \cdot x_i^{-1} \cdot Z_{ij} \cdot x_j^{-1} \cdot y_j \quad (3)$$

$$Q_{2nd} = f_i \cdot x_i^{-1} \cdot Z_{ij} \cdot x_j^{-1} \cdot Z_{jk} \cdot x_k^{-1} \cdot y_k \quad (4)$$

$$Q_{3rd} = f_i \cdot x_i^{-1} \cdot Z_{ij} \cdot x_j^{-1} \cdot Z_{jk} \cdot x_k^{-1} \cdot Z_{kl} \cdot x_l^{-1} \cdot y_l \quad (5)$$

## Structural path analysis (SPA)

- Next we find the size of *path differences* between databases.
- An iterative technique is used until the top 100 largest differences for each country for each database are identified
- Also compile the top 100 overall differences for each pairing

## Structural path decomposition (SPD) (Wood & Lenzen, 2009)

- Use the Shapely-Sun (1998) decomposition approach – equivalent to the additive Dietzenbacher & Los (1998) without the  $n!$  combinations
- Identify the contribution each element has to the over all path difference

Dietzenbacher, E., & Los, B. (1998). Structural Decomposition Techniques : Sense and Sensitivity. *Economic Systems Research*, 10(4), 307–323.

Sun, J. W. (1998). Changes in energy consumption and energy intensity: A complete decomposition model. *Energy Economics*, 20(1), 85–100. [http://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-9883\(97\)00012-1](http://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-9883(97)00012-1)

Wood, R., & Lenzen, M. (2009). Structural path decomposition. *Energy Economics*, 31(3), 335–341.  
<http://doi.org/10.1016/j.eneco.2008.11.003>

## The common classification (CC)

- As Owen et al. (2014) explain, structural decomposition techniques, used with MRIO databases, will only work when each matrix element has the same meaning and dimensions
- A classification system common to Eora, EXIOBASE, GTAP and WIOD is developed containing 17 common sectors and 40 common countries
- For information on the effect of aggregation see Steen-Olsen et al. (2014)

Owen, A., Steen-Olsen, K., Barrett, J., Wiedmann, T., & Lenzen, M. (2014). A Structural Decomposition Approach To Comparing MRIO Databases. *Economic Systems Research*, 26(3). <http://doi.org/10.1080/09535314.2014.9352997>

Steen-Olsen, K., Owen, A., Hertwich, E. G., & Lenzen, M. (2014). Effects of Sector Aggregation on CO2 Multipliers in Multiregional Input–Output Analyses. *Economic Systems Research*, 26(3), 284–302.

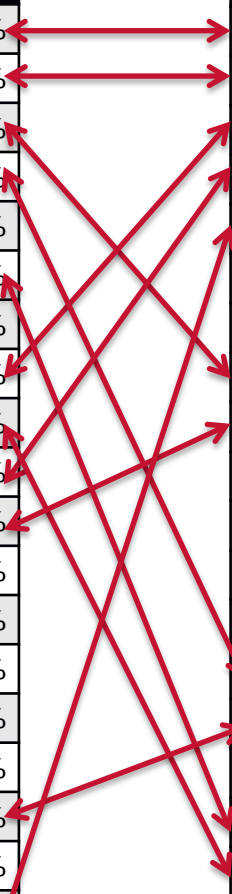
<http://doi.org/10.1080/09535314.2014.934325>

## Largest UK paths from GTAP

Rank	KtCO <sub>2</sub>	Order	Sector 1	Sector 2	%
1	69,897	0	GBR ELGW		11.1%
2	36,193	0	GBR TRNS		5.7%
3	18,872	1	GBR ELGW	GBR PAEH	3.1%
4	12,538	1	GBR ELGW	GBR TRNS	2.0%
5	6,369	1	GBR TRNS	GBR PAEH	1.0%
6	5,804	1	GBR TRNS	GBR TRNS	0.9%
7	5,411	1	GBR ELGW	GBR FOOD	0.9%
8	5,333	1	GBR ELGW	GBR ELGW	0.8%
9	5,232	0	GBR FOOD		0.8%
10	5,141	0	GBR PAEH		0.8%
11	4,817	0	GBR PETC		0.8%
12	4,436	1	GBR ELGW	GBR BSNS	0.7%
13	3,937	0	ROW TRNS		0.6%
14	3,773	0	GBR BSNS		0.6%
15	3,594	1	GBR TRNS	GBR BSNS	0.6%
16	3,336	1	GBR TRNS	GBR FOOD	0.5%
17	3,163	1	GBR ELGW	GBR TRAD	0.5%
18	3,011	1	GBR ELGW	GBR PETC	0.5%
19	2,457	0	USA TRNS		0.4%
20	2,405	0	ROW PETC		0.4%
Rest	369,459				58.2%

## Largest UK paths from WIOD

Rank	KtCO <sub>2</sub>	Order	Sector 1	Sector 2	Sector 3	%
1	72,326	0	GBR ELGW			10.9%
2	20,941	0	GBR TRNS			3.2%
3	19,673	1	GBR ELGW	GBR ELGW		3.0%
4	15,471	0	GBR PAEH			2.3%
5	13,045	0	ROW PETC			2.0%
6	11,195	1	GBR TRNS	GBR TRAD		1.7%
7	9,717	0	GBR TRAD			1.5%
8	9,517	1	GBR ELGW	GBR PAEH		1.4%
9	6,566	0	GBR PETC			1.0%
10	6,443	0	ROW CNST			1.0%
11	5,680	0	GBR METP			0.9%
12	5,351	2	GBR ELGW	GBR ELGW	GBR ELGW	0.8%
13	4,705	1	GBR PETC	GBR PDEH		0.7%
14	4,545	1	GBR TRNS	GBR PDEH		0.75
15	4,414	1	GBR ELGW	GBR TRAD		0.7%
16	3,905	0	ROW MANU			0.6%
17	3,469	1	GBR TRNS	GBR TRNS		0.5%
18	3,400	0	GBR FOOD			0.5%
19	2,589	2	GBR ELGW	GBR ELGW	GBR PAEH	0.4%
20	2,496	0	GBR AGRI			0.4%
Rest	375,879					56.7%

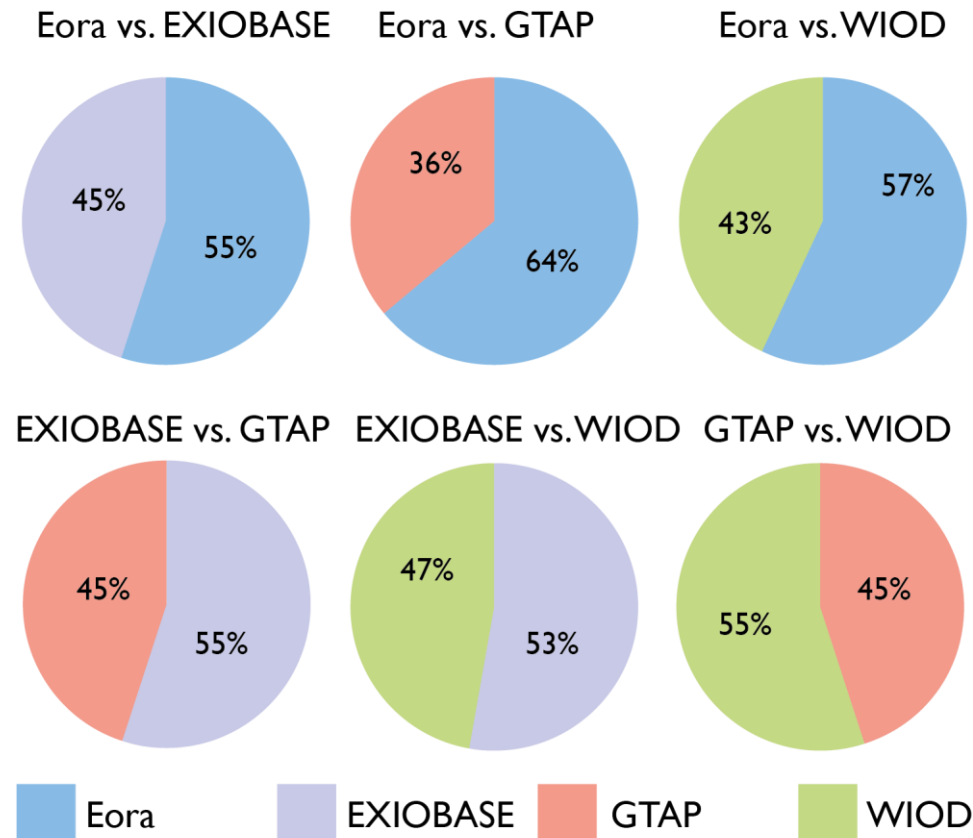




## Top 20 path differences between GTAP & WIOD for the UK

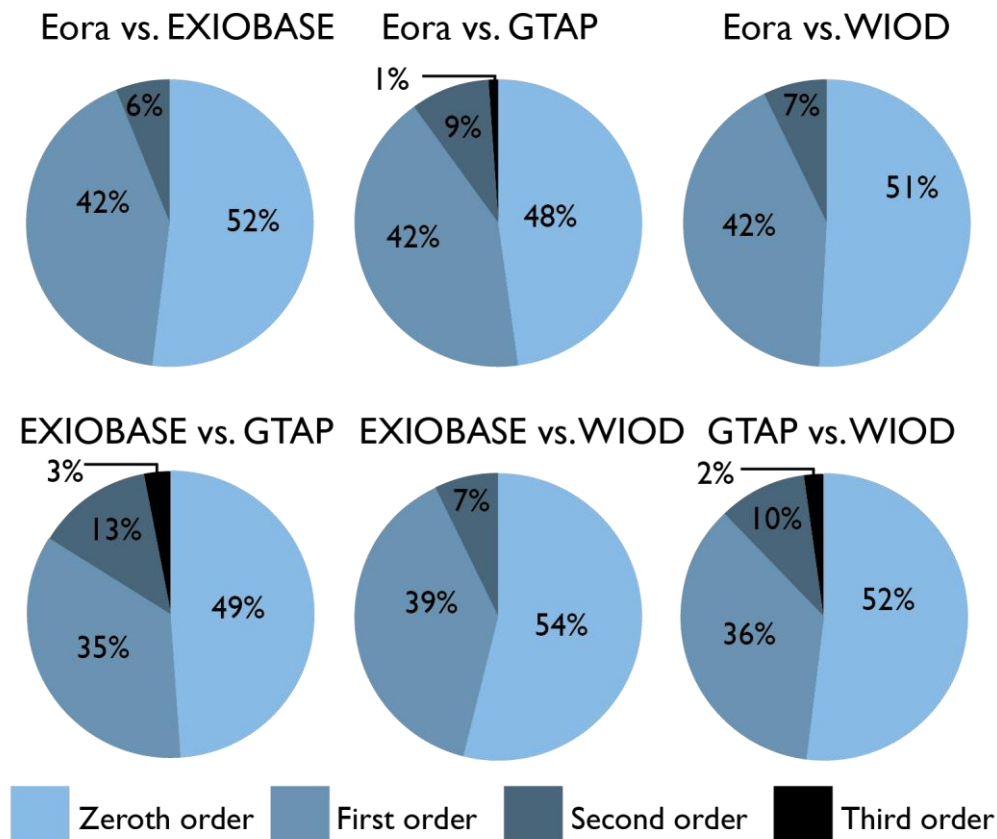
Rank	KtCO <sub>2</sub> Diff	Order	Sector 1	Sector 2	Sector 3	f effect	x <sup>-1</sup> effect	Z effect	x <sup>-1</sup> effect	Z effect	x <sup>-1</sup> effect	y effect
1	15,252	0	GBR TRNS			10133	-7092					12212
2	-14,340	1	GBR ELGW	GBR ELGW		1700	10304	-25312	10304			-14340
3	-10,640	0	ROW PETC			-3264	-3150					-4226
4	-10,330	0	GBR PAEH			-10896	947					-381
5	10,121	1	GBR ELGW	GBR PAEH		1511	8575	-731	1297			-532
6	-8,290	0	GBR TRAD			-9897	2012					-404
7	-4,944	2	GBR ELGW	GBR ELGW	GBR ELGW	382	2380	-5022	2380	-5022	2380	-2424
8	-4,688	0	GBR CNST			-4730	-42					84
9	-4,381	0	GBR METP			-3358	-944					-79
10	4,020	1	GBR ELGW	GBR FOOD		344	1905	71	-112			2812
11	-4,000	1	ROW PETC	GBR PAEH		-1120	-1081	-1927	214			-86
12	3,644	0	ROW TRNS			457	-402					3589
13	-3,419	0	ROW MANU			-2743	-496					-180
14	2,741	1	GBR TRNS	GBR FOOD		643	-472	1642	-637			1566
15	2,443	1	GBR ELGW	GBR BSNS		334	1891	701	500			-983
16	-2,429	0	GBR ELGW			8114	47465					-58008
17	2,335	1	GBR TRNS	GBR TRNS		1665	-1164	990	-1164			2007
18	-2,276	0	GBR AGRI			-1518	590					-1347
19	-2,258	1	GBR MINQ	GBR ELGW		-1083	462	-1665	786			-758
20	1,958	1	GBR ELGW	GBR PETC		205	1146	437	-499			669

In the top 100 Global path differences, how often does a particular database contain the larger of the two paths?



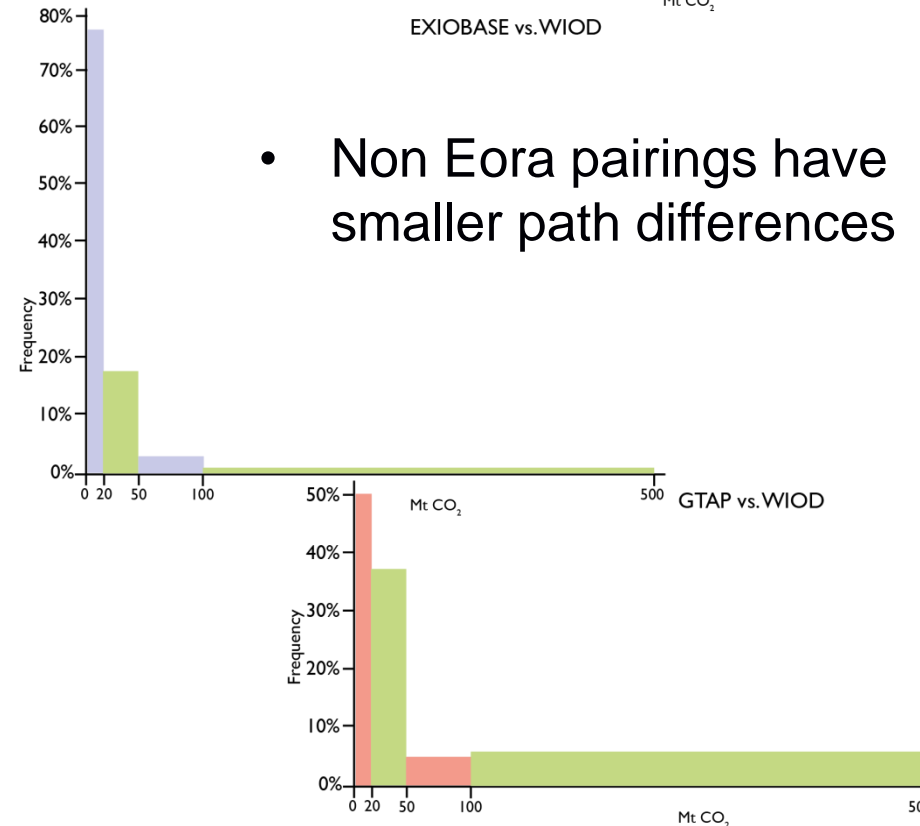
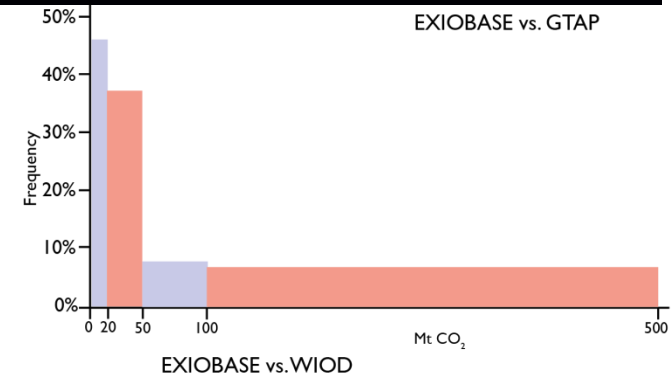
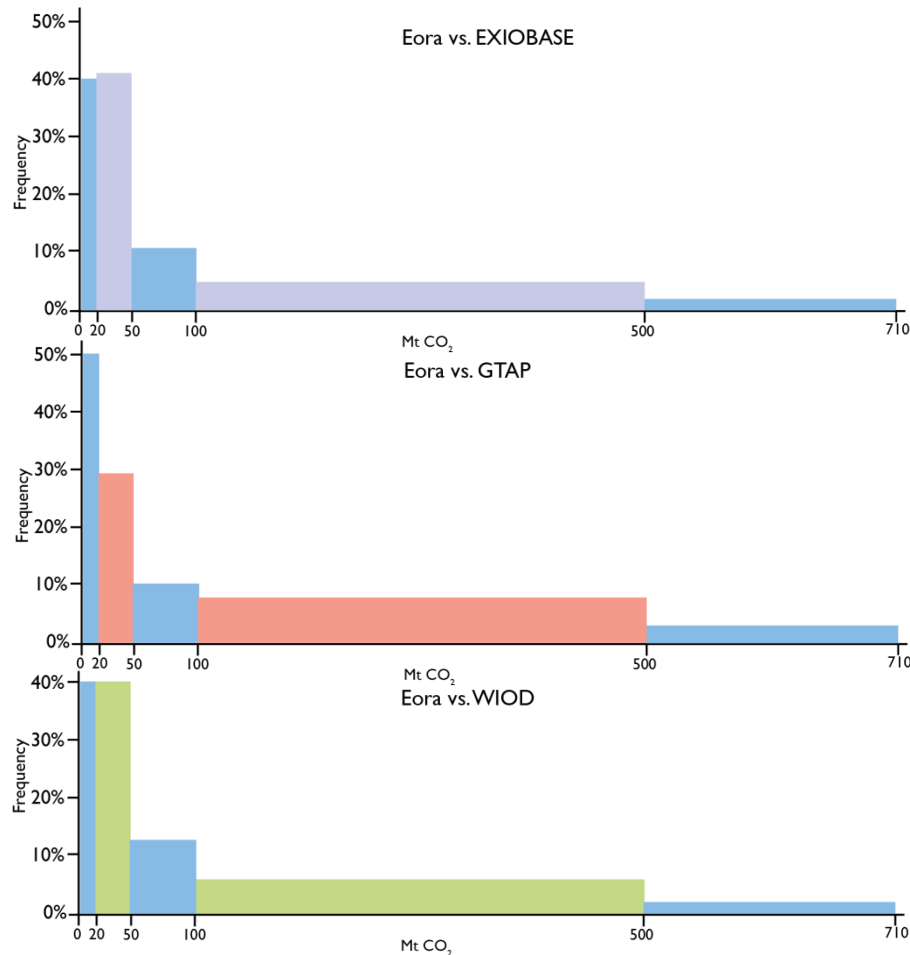
- Eora paths tend to be larger
- EXIOBASE paths tend to be larger than GTAP and WIOD
- WIOD paths tend to be larger than GTAP

## What orders of paths make up the top 100 differences?



- Most large path differences are zeroth order paths
- Only the pairings involving GTAP have large third order path differences, indicating the difference lies in **Z**

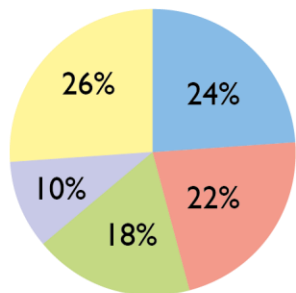
## What is the frequency distribution by size of path difference?



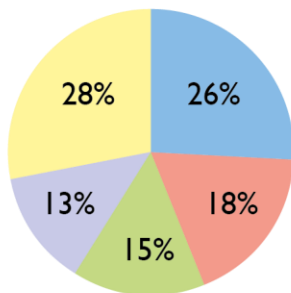
- Non Eora pairings have smaller path differences

## Are there particular countries that tend to produce large path differences?

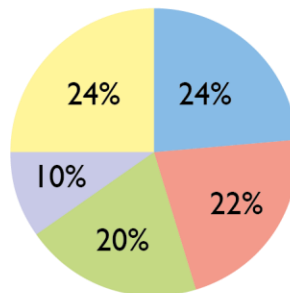
Eora vs. EXIOBASE



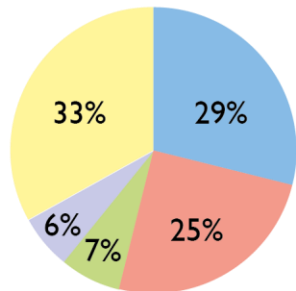
Eora vs. GTAP



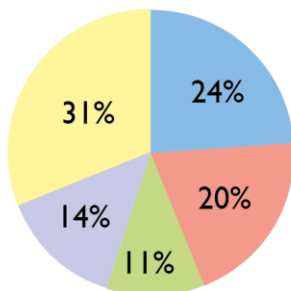
Eora vs. WIOD



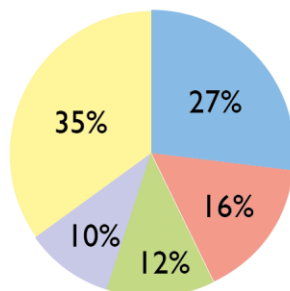
EXIOBASE vs. GTAP



EXIOBASE vs. WIOD



GTAP vs. WIOD



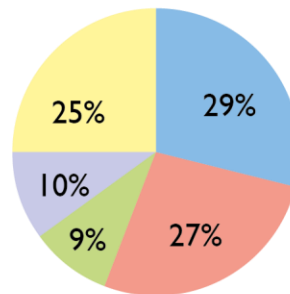
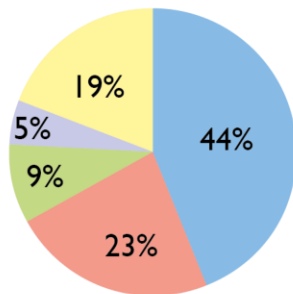
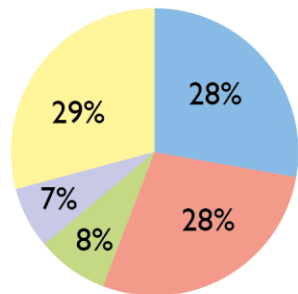
- There are no paths in the top 100 path differences where a path crosses a country border
- The USA, China, India and Russia have the largest path differences

## Are there particular sectors that tend to produce large path differences?

Eora vs. EXIOBASE

Eora vs. GTAP

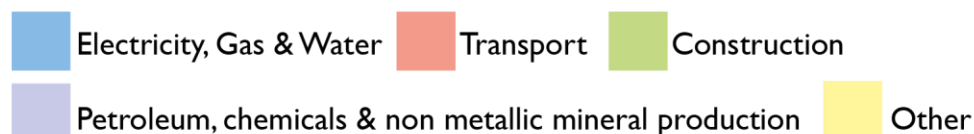
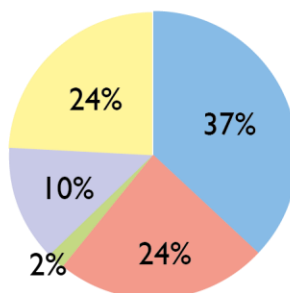
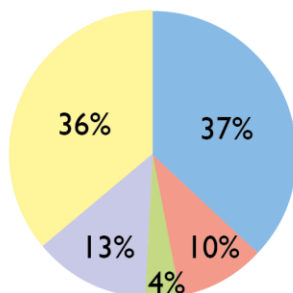
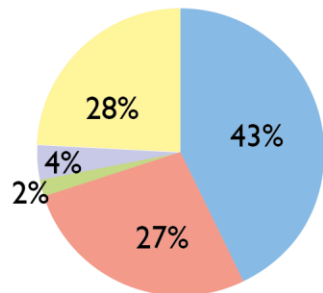
Eora vs. WIOD



EXIOBASE vs. GTAP

EXIOBASE vs. WIOD

GTAP vs. WIOD



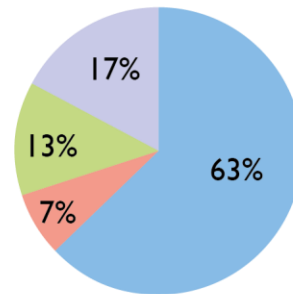
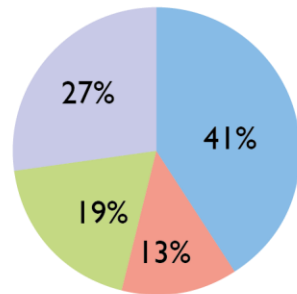
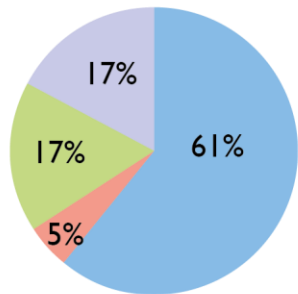
- Path differences involving GTAP feature the Electricity, Gas and Water section for a larger proportion of the paths
- There are fewer transport path differences when EXIOBASE and WIOD are compared

Are there particular elements with the Taylors equation that tend to be responsible for most of the difference between paths?

Eora vs. EXIOBASE

Eora vs. GTAP

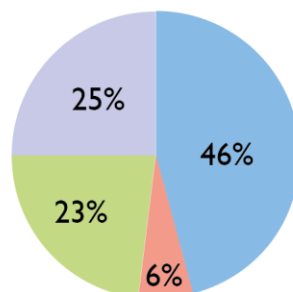
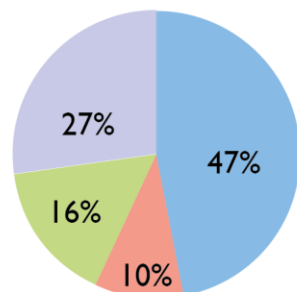
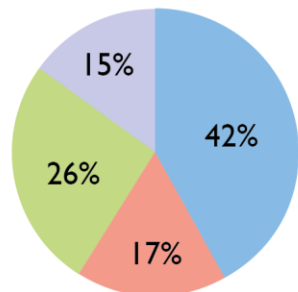
Eora vs. WIOD



EXIOBASE vs. GTAP

EXIOBASE vs. WIOD

GTAP vs. WIOD



- The emissions vector is the largest source of difference for over half the paths for the 'Eora and EXIOBASE' and 'Eora and WIOD' pairings

## Top 10 path differences where emissions is the largest contributor to the overall difference

Rank	Eora EXIOBASE & Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	Eora & GTAP Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	Eora & WIOD Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	EXIOBASE & Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	EXIOBASE & Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	GTAP WIOD & Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>
1	USA TRNS 631	CHN CNST 604	USA TRNS 659	USA PAEH 175	USA PAEH -81	USA PAEH -258
2	CHN CNST 594	USA TRNS 564	CHN CNST 597	CHN METP > CHN CNST 77	USA BSNS 66	USA TRAD -108
3	USA TRNS > USA PAEH 301	USA PAEH 134	USA TRNS > USA PAEH 295	USA TRAD 71	JPN ELGW 62	USA TRNS 95
4	IND CNST > IND TRNS 116	USA TRNS > IND TRNS 120	USA PAEH -123	USA TRNS -67	CHN METP > CHN CNST 46	USA BSNS -56
5	CHN METP > CHN CNST -112	IND CNST > IND TRNS 115	IND CNST > IND TRNS 115	USA CNST 49	CHN PETC > CHN CNST -45	CHN PETC > CHN CNST -49
6	MEX TRNS 88	USA TRNS > USA TRAD 80	USA TRAD -100	JPN ELGW 42	USA POST 24	USA PETC -41
7	USA TRNS > USA TRAD 86	USA BSNS 62	CHN PETC > CHN CNST -98	MEX TRNS -41	CHN METP > CHN ELGW 24	USA CNST -36
8	USA TRAD -68	IND ELGW > IND AGRI -57	MEX TRNS 82	FRA TRNS -38	JPN PAEH -21	DEU TRNS 36
9	IND CNST > IND BSNS 68	USA TREQ 55	USA TRNS > USA TRAD 73	USA POST 35	DEU ELGW -21	MEX TRNS 36
10	USA BSNS -60	USA CNST 54	IND CNST > IND BSNS 68	USA BSNS > USA PAEH 32	RUS PETC > RUS CNST -19	FRA TRNS 35

- Transport, construction and public administration, education, health and defence are where the emissions vectors disagree



## Top 10 path differences where emissions is the largest contributor to the overall difference

Rank	Eora EXIOBASE & Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	Eora & GTAP Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	Eora & WIOD Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	EXIOBASE & Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	EXIOBASE & Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	EXIOBASE & Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	EXIOBASE & Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	EXIOBASE & Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	EXIOBASE & Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	EXIOBASE & Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	EXIOBASE & Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>
1	USA TRNS 631	CHN CNST 604	USA TRNS 659	USA PAEH 175	USA PAEH -81	USA PAEH -258					
2	CHN CNST 594	USA TRNS 564	CHN CNST 597	CHN METP > CHN CNST 77	USA BSNS 66	USA TRAD -108					
3	USA TRNS > USA PAEH 301	USA PAEH 134	USA TRNS > USA PAEH 295	USA TRAD 71	JPN ELGW 62	USA TRNS 95					
4	IND CNST > IND TRNS 116	USA TRNS > USA TRNS 120	USA PAEH -123	USA TRNS -67	CHN METP > CHN CNST 46	USA BSNS -56					
5	CHN METP > CHN CNST -112	IND CNST > IND TRNS 115	IND CNST > IND TRNS 115	USA CNST 49	CHN PETC > CHN CNST -45	CHN PETC > CHN CNST -49					
6	MEX TRNS 88	USA TRNS > USA TRAD 80	USA TRAD -100	JPN ELGW 42	USA POST 24	USA PETC -41					
7	USA TRNS > USA TRAD 86	USA BSNS 62	CHN PETC > CHN CNST -98	MEX TRNS -41	CHN METP > CHN ELGW 24	USA CNST -36					
8	USA TRAD -68	IND ELGW > IND AGRI -57	MEX TRNS 82	FRA TRNS -38	JPN PAEH -21	DEU TRNS 36					
9	IND CNST > IND BSNS 68	USA TREQ 55	USA TRNS > USA TRAD 73	USA POST 35	DEU ELGW -21	MEX TRNS 36					
10	USA BSNS -60	USA CNST 54	IND CNST > IND BSNS 68	USA BSNS > USA PAEH 32	RUS PETC > RUS CNST -19	FRA TRNS 35					

- **Transport**, **construction** and **public administration, education, health and defence** are where the emissions vectors disagree

Top 10 path differences where total output, the transactions matrix or final demand is the largest contributor to the overall difference

Rank	Eora EXIOBASE	& Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	Eora & GTAP	Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	Eora & WIOD	Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	EXIOBASE & Diff GTAP MtCO <sub>2</sub>	EXIOBASE & Diff WIOD MtCO <sub>2</sub>	GTAP WIOD	& Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>		
1	USA ELGW	393	USA ELGW	685	USA ELGW	382	USA ELGW	292	CHN ELGW	126	USA ELGW	-303
2	IND CNST	116	CHN ELGW	-180	IND CNST	112	USA TRNS > USA PAEH	-181	RUS ELGW > RUS PAEH	47	CHN ELGW	285
3	USA ELGW > USA TRAD	-75	RUS ELGW	-159	CHN ELGW	103	CHN ELGW	-158	USA ELGW > USA PAEH	47	USA TRNS > USA PAEH	176
4	IND ELGW	-58	IND CNST	119	IND ELGW	-88	RUS ELGW	-137	CHN ELGW > CHN ELGW	47	USA ELGW > USA PAEH	154
5	CHN ELGW > CHN ELGW	-46	USA ELGW > USA PAEH	-166	RUS ELGW > RUS PAEH	75	USA BSNS	121	USA ELGW > USA TRAD	45	RUS ELGW	153
6	IND ELGW > IND CNST	-44	IND ELGW	-111	CHN ELGW > CHN PAEH	-40	USA ELGW > USA PAEH	-107	USA TRAD	-31	USA ELGW > USA ELGW	89
7	CHN ELGW > CHN PAEH	-36	USA ELGW > USA ELGW	-89	IND ELGW > IND CNST	-40	USA ELGW > USA ELGW	-87	USA ELGW > USA BSNS	29	CHN ELGW > CHN CNST	-65
8	ROW PETC	-29	RUS ELGW > RUS PAEH	87	USA ELGW > USA PAEH	37	RUS ELGW > RUS PAEH	60	USA TRNS	28	USA ELGW > USA TRAD	56
9	RUS ELGW > RUS ELGW	27	USA ELGW > USA TRAD	-86	USA ELGW > USA TRAD	-30	USA ELGW > USA BSNS	60	USA MINQ	-24	DEU ELGW	-45
10	USA PETC > USA CNST	-26	USA PETC	64	ROW PETC	-29	CHN ELGW > CHN ELGW	54	KOR ELGW	23	CHN TRNS	43

- The electricity, gas and water sector features highly here, particularly for pairings involving GTAP

Top 10 path differences where total output, the transactions matrix or final demand is the largest contributor to the overall difference

Rank	Eora EXIOBASE	& Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	Eora & GTAP	Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	Eora & WIOD	Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>	EXIOBASE & Diff GTAP	EXIOBASE & Diff WIOD	GTAP WIOD	& Diff MtCO <sub>2</sub>		
1	USA ELGW	393	USA ELGW	685	USA ELGW	382	USA ELGW	292	CHN ELGW	126	USA ELGW	-303
2	IND CNST	116	CHN ELGW	-180	IND CNST	112	USA TRNS > USA PAEH	-181	RUS ELGW > RUS PAEH	47	CHN ELGW	285
3	USA ELGW > USA TRAD	-75	RUS ELGW	-159	CHN ELGW	103	CHN ELGW	-158	USA ELGW > USA PAEH	47	USA TRNS > USA PAEH	176
4	IND ELGW	-58	IND CNST	119	IND ELGW	-88	RUS ELGW	-137	CHN ELGW > CHN ELGW	47	USA ELGW > USA PAEH	154
5	CHN ELGW > CHN ELGW	-46	USA ELGW > USA PAEH	-166	RUS ELGW > RUS PAEH	75	USA BSNS	121	USA ELGW > USA TRAD	45	RUS ELGW	153
6	IND ELGW > IND CNST	-44	IND ELGW	-111	CHN ELGW > CHN PAEH	-40	USA ELGW > USA PAEH	-107	USA TRAD	-31	USA ELGW > USA ELGW	89
7	CHN ELGW > CHN PAEH	-36	USA ELGW > USA ELGW	-89	IND ELGW > IND CNST	-40	USA ELGW > USA ELGW	-87	USA ELGW > USA BSNS	29	CHN ELGW > CHN CNST	-65
8	ROW PETC	-29	RUS ELGW > RUS PAEH	87	USA ELGW > USA PAEH	37	RUS ELGW > RUS PAEH	60	USA TRNS	28	USA ELGW > USA TRAD	56
9	RUS ELGW > RUS ELGW	27	USA ELGW > USA TRAD	-86	USA ELGW > USA TRAD	-30	USA ELGW > USA BSNS	60	USA MINQ	-24	DEU ELGW	-45
10	USA PETC > USA CNST	-26	USA PETC	64	ROW PETC	-29	CHN ELGW > CHN ELGW	54	KOR ELGW	23	CHN TRNS	43

- The **electricity, gas and water** sector features highly here, particularly for pairings involving GTAP

## The emissions vector and the residence principle

	Eora	EXIOBASE	GTAP	WIOD
<b>Total Global emissions 2007 (MtCO<sub>2</sub>)</b>	30,431	28,975	26,524	29,218
<b>Industrial</b>	28,237	24,757	22,800	25,261
<b>Household</b>	2,194	4,218	3,724	3,957

- Eora has largest total emissions and uses territorial principle to emissions allocation. This reduces size of household component, increases industrial and effects the transport industrial emissions. We find large path differences for Eora pairs
- EXIOBASE & WIOD use residence principle – we find transport is not a major source of difference for this pairing but it is for other pairings

## Monetary data and electricity prices

- Closer inspection of the A matrix shows Eora, EXIOBASE and WIOD roughly agree on what proportion of the production recipe for ELGW is supplied by the sector itself - GTAP is the outlier
- Different industrial sectors spend different amounts of money to receive the same KWh of electricity because the price per KWh differs by sector
- GTAP does not rely on user submitted values in the energy rows of the IO tables. Physical data on energy use is taken from the IEA, converted to monetary values and placed in the IO tables – explains the major differences caused by this sector for GTAP pairings

## In conclusion and next steps

- Findings are useful to researchers who construct MRIO databases and want to understand the implications of assumptions made in the construction stages
- Findings may also be of use to the policy maker deciding which model is most applicable to a particular question e.g. – electricity tracing through supply chain
- SPD is a useful technique to explain the source of difference in product supply chains from different MRIO databases
- We recommend that this work be extended to include future MRIO systems and to consider data from different years.



Thank you

Anne Owen

[a.owen@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:a.owen@leeds.ac.uk)