

Recent Advances in the Field of Trade Theory and Policy Analysis Using Micro-Level Data

July 2012

Bangkok, Thailand

Cosimo Beverelli and Nadia Rocha
(World Trade Organization)

Content

- a) Introduction
- b) Enterprise Surveys Dataset
- c) Empirical Examples
- d) Conclusion

a) Introduction

- Most of the published firm-level work has used national datasets
- Most commonly, these data come from government statistical agencies
- They are usually of very high quality, since firms can be subject to penalties for non-compliance or mis-statements
- Two main disadvantages:
 - They are generally not comparable across countries
 - Statistical coverage is essentially limited to accounting data

a) Introduction (ct'd)

- There is a small, but growing, part of the firm-level literature that uses data from a number of countries simultaneously
- One approach is to use commercially available firm-level data, such as Amadeus (EU), Orbis (Global), or Datastream
 - Extremely expensive
 - Again, only accounting data
 - Usually less reliable than national survey data
 - Problems of comparability across countries

b) Enterprise Surveys Dataset

- An alternative is provided by the World Bank's Enterprise Surveys project: www.enterprisesurveys.org
- Freely available at the aggregate level. For true firm-level data, just fill out the form, and accept the confidentiality restrictions
- Very wide coverage: 120,000+ firms in 125 countries
- Some countries/firms are surveyed over multiple years
- Contains a wide range of interesting information in addition to accounting data: business constraints, corruption, access to essential services, relationship with the government, etc.
- Data presentation is harmonized across countries

b) Enterprise Surveys Dataset (ct'd)

- Caution is required when using Enterprise Surveys data, however
- The data reported by many firms does not satisfy basic accounting identities (e.g., total assets = total liabilities). As a result, calculating sophisticated measures of productivity can be very difficult
- There are good reasons to be wary of the accuracy of some of the most interesting data: e.g., firms have a strong incentive to under-report corruption in many countries
- How comparable are the perceptions data across countries?

b) Enterprise Surveys Dataset (ct'd)

- World Bank employs survey specialists to administer a standardized survey instruments to firms in developing countries
- Stratified random sampling, but in reality large enterprises and exporters tend to be over-represented
- Basic firm information for productivity and accounting analysis
- Objective data on certain business processes (time to get a permit, time to export, etc.)
- Subjective data on business constraints (does licensing represent a serious constraint?)
- Full questionnaire available upon registration with the website

b) Enterprise Surveys Dataset (ct'd)

- Note that the Enterprise Surveys data are made available to researchers on the condition that individual firm responses be kept confidential
- The empirical work of this workshop will use a dataset based on part of the Enterprise Surveys data, but randomly altered so as to hide the responses of individual firms
- It is not possible to re-create the original data, or do proper analysis, using the example data from this course – you need to contact the Enterprise Surveys team directly to get the real data

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_7503

