

Summary: GTAP Advisory Board Meeting 2007

Dates for next year's meeting: June 9-10, 2008 at Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN, USA

A. Summary of Goals and Accomplishments in the Past Year

See Board Report and Issues document:

https://www.gtap.agecon.purdue.edu/events/Board_Meetings/2007/default.asp

B. Summary of Agency Activities in the Past Year

See: https://www.gtap.agecon.purdue.edu/events/Board_Meetings/2007/agencies.asp

C. Overview of Core Priorities

The core tasks of the Center are defined as those which are funded from core board member fees and data sales. Our policy is that these tasks are primarily those which ensure the continuation and improvement in quality of the GTAP Data Base and the core models (GTAP, GTAP-E and GDyn). The core includes mostly data related activities under the Data goal, but also some research goals (e.g., the Dynamic GTAP model) and continued improvements aimed at validation as well as supporting the broader user community (model goal). Conferences and courses are expected to be cost neutral (not-for loss) and should not affect the core funding. Non-core activities generally include research on projects that may feed into the data base and model in the future, but until this research has evolved to a level where it is believed that the data will continue to be updated and can be incorporated into the GTAP Data Base on an ongoing basis, we will continue to see these as non-core activities and hence we will continue to look for alternative funding sources. Wherever possible our aim is to make the research outputs of core and non-core activities available to the consortium and to the broader GTAP network and we will choose those projects which we believe will benefit the network in the long run (including both trade and environmental projects).

The Center's yearly action plan, containing core and non-core activities is provided in the next section. In the table below we outline what the Center sees as its core priorities and the individuals involved in these tasks.

Task	Individuals
Hire a new Data Base Administrator	TW, TH and RMD
GTAP 7 Data Base – Priority: Pre-release 3: October, 2007. Gather updates:	New person/BG (with assistance from BD, RMD and TW)

<p>trade, protection, macro etc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Secondary priority: Agricultural production targeting, incorporating new agricultural protection work¹ – Longer term goal: documentation² 	
<p>I-O tables</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Priority: Implement peer review process and incorporate the 27 new EU I-O tables being funded by the European Commission. – Longer term: Pursue other ideas for updating older I-O tables 	TW and grad student
<p>Services Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Priority: finalize and build into Data Base construction program and document – Long term priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travelers' expenditures • More bilateral detail (Non-OECD) 	RMD
<p>Taxes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Priority: Direct taxes – Priority: Commodity taxes 	RMD and grad student and an Outside Consultant (we are hoping for project funds from the US-EPA to help support the taxes work)
<p>Energy Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Priority: Finalize improvements and include in v7 – Other possible: Linking up with MIT and EPA possible small project on margins 	RMD and grad student RMD and TH

¹ The OECD is in the process of revising the PSE data set. We will need to rethink how to incorporate these revised protection data into the GTAP Data Base as we move forward after version 7. Of course the OECD is only covering a few developing countries in its present work program. Therefore, we also hope to incorporate the agricultural protection estimates from Kym Anderson's work with numerous collaborators on agricultural protection in 90 developing countries. Indeed there are prospects for FAO picking up this work in the future.

² The center will look at sending out a shorter version of the GTAP documentation in future and will consider selling the book to libraries to obtain additional revenue.

D. Detailed Action Plan for the Coming Year

The following is a preliminary list of action plans for the forthcoming year: The items in **bold** were referred to above as priority items. I have also indicated where the activity is primarily funded through core funding or by other means. In some cases the Center may have been able to obtain special project funding for a core goal which clearly leads to an improvement in the data and/or model (e.g., improving the GTAP-E model). In these cases this is indicated by “special project/core”. In other cases core funding may be used to finalize a special project to make it publicly available (e.g., the Migration data base).

Data Goal: To Improve Data Products.

1. Hire a new staff member to manage Data Base construction process	Core	Terrie Walmsley	Tom Hertel, Robert McDougall
2. Implement the GTAP 7 Data Base release schedule: pre-release 3 in October	Core	New person/ Badri Narayanan	Robert McDougall, Betina Dimaranan and Terrie Walmsley
3. Implement Peer-review process for regional data	Core	Terrie Walmsley	Ginger Batta, Grad student (Tasneem Mirza)
4. Work with European Commission to include 27 new EU countries.	Core	Terrie Walmsley	Grad student (Tasneem Mirza), Marc Mueller
5. Finalize services trade data, build into Data Base construction program and document	Core	Robert McDougall	Grad student (Amer Ahmed)
6. Provide full country level data on services trade and traveler’s expenses to the board	Core	Robert McDougall	
7. Examine ways to further improve tax data for the GTAP 7 Data Base.	Core	Robert McDougall	Tom Hertel, Gilbert Metcalf, John Reilly, Richard Garbaccio and Grad student (Csilla Lakatos)

8. Hire a consultant to examine how the commodity taxes data can be improved	Core	Robert McDougall	Terrie Walmsley, Kevin Hanslow
9. Finalize improvements to the energy data and include in v7	Core	Robert McDougall	Angel Aguiar (Grad student)
10. Create African Data Base: priorities are trade, protection and I-O data	Special project	Badri Narayanan	Robert McDougall
11. Improve the trade data for Africa	Special project	Mark Gehlhar	Nelson Villoria, Badri Narayanan and Tom Hertel
12. Improve agricultural protection data for African Data Base	Special project	Badri Narayanan	Tom Hertel, Kym Anderson, and Ernesto Valenzuela
13. Fix problems with the I-O disaggregation module	Core	Robert McDougall	Grad student (Angel Aguiar)
14. Examine how Labor skill splits can be improved	Core	Terrie Walmsley	Rod Tyers and Grad student (Amer Ahmed)
15. Incorporate information from updated literature survey on the primary factor shares in agriculture	Core	Thomas Hertel	Grad student (Nelson Villoria)
16. Production of TrdMat	External	Mark Horridge	Thomas Hertel
17. Make GMig2 Data Base publicly available	Core	Terrie Walmsley	Amer Ahmed
18. Develop a bilateral FDI data base to be made publicly available. Examine possibility of incorporating this data into the GTAP Data Base.	External	Lionel Fontagne, Christophe Gouel	Terrie Walmsley and Gaspar Frontini
19. Revise Global Land use data base and release through revised technical paper and publicly available files on the web	Special Project	Thomas Hertel, Navin Ramankutty, Brent Sohngen	Misak Avetisyan (Grad Student)
20. Non-CO2 Emissions data base	Special	Thomas	Misak Avetisyan

	Project	Hertel and Steve Rose	(Grad Student)
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Research Goal: To actively participate in quantitative economic analysis of pressing global concerns.

Multilateral and Bilateral Trade Agreements

21. Work with African Scholars on Research Papers	Special Project	Badri Narayanan	Terrie Walmsley and Tom Hertel
22. Complete book about Dynamic GTAP Model	Core	Terrie Walmsley	Elena Ianchovichina, Robert McDougall, Alla Golub, Rod Tyers, Ken Itakura and others
23. Technical paper on the GMig2 Model	Core	Terrie Walmsley	Grad student (Amer Ahmed)
24. Publish paper on South Asian regional integration	Special Project	Tom Hertel	Grad student (Tasneem Mirza)
25. Publish paper on impacts of China's growth in Southern Africa	Special Project	Tom Hertel	Grad student (Nelson Villoria)
26. Analysis of South Asia and China growth with Dynamic GTAP Model	Special Project	Alla Golub	Terrie Walmsley, Tom Hertel
27. Technical paper on comparing alternative weightings of tariffs	External	Antoine Bouët	

Global Environmental Issues

28. Revise the GTAP-E model	Special Project/core	Alla Golub	Robert McDougall, Terrie Walmsley, Tom Hertel
29. Extend Dynamic GTAP to include energy (GDyn-E)	Special Project	Alla Golub	Terrie Walmsley, Tom Hertel, Robert McDougall
30. Develop Dynamic land use model	Special	Alla Golub	Tom Hertel

	Project		
31. Complete book on Economic Analysis of Land Use in Global Climate Change Policy.	Special Project	Tom Hertel	Steven Rose, Richard Tol
32. Publish paper on determinants of the long run demand for land	Special Project	Tom Hertel	Alla Golub
33. Incorporate bio-fuels into a special version of GTAP	Special Project	Wally Tyner	Tom Hertel, Farzad Taheripor and Dileep Birur

Trade and Development

34. Develop a module for poverty analysis in GTAP	Purdue	Tom Hertel	Roman Keeney
35. Publish a paper on the nutritional impacts of globalization	Special Project	Tom Hertel, Antoine Bouet	Grad student (Monika Verma)

Education Goal: To Expand and Improve Global Economic Analysis Education Worldwide (both within and outside the network).

36. Hold Fifteenth Annual GTAP Short Course at Purdue in August, 2007	Course fees	Terrie Walmsley	Kavitha Muthuraman, Ginger Batta, Tom Hertel, Robert McDougall, Alla Golub
37. Hold a 2-day course on contributing regional data to the GTAP Data Base.	Special Project	Mark Horridge and Terrie Walmsley	Robert McDougall and Badri Narayanan, Kavitha Muthuraman
38. Continue to Refine the Dynamic GTAP Model, course materials and software	Course fees	Terrie Walmsley	Alla Golub, Ginger Batta and others

Model Goal: To Improve Understanding and Credibility of GTAP-Based Models.

39. Estimate love of variety parameters for use in modified models of monopolistic	Purdue	Tom Hertel	Grad student (Adina Ardelean)
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competition.

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| 40. Estimate new set of consumer demand elasticities, for use in GTAP 7 Data Base. | Core | Tom Hertel | Grad student (Tasneem Mirza) |
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Network Goal: To Increase Effective Participation in the Global Network, Particularly in Developing Countries.

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| 41. Organize the Eleventh Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis to be held in Helsinki, Finland, June 2008 | Core (staff time) | Tom Hertel | Ginger Batta, Kavitha Muthuraman, Terrie Walmsley |
| 42. Work with ECLAC in Chile to refine their planning for the 2009 Conference on Global Economic Analysis to be held in Santiago. | Core (staff time) | Tom Hertel | Ginger Batta, Kavitha Muthuraman, Terrie Walmsley |
| 43. Solicit proposals for the 2010 Conference on Global Economic Analysis to be circulated to the Board in December, 2007. | Core (staff time) | Tom Hertel | Ginger Batta, Kavitha Muthuraman, Terrie Walmsley |
| 44. Hire a new Program Manager | Core | Terrie Walmsley | Tom Hertel, Robert McDougall |

E. Resources

An overview of how individuals are funded and all the activities they will spend their time over the next 12 months is given below.

Robert McDougall	Badri Narayanan	New Person	Terrie Walmsley	Alla Golub	Thomas Hertel
100% core	100% Africa Project	100% core	100% core	100% EPA Project	30% core
Assisting new staff members with construction process	Learn construction process	Learn construction process	Hiring	GTAP-E model	Hiring
Services	Pre-release 3 of GTAP Data Base		Oversee release strategy	Dynamic GTAP Model Applications	Agricultural factor shares

Taxes	Africa Data Base: Trade, Protection	Pre-process external data sets	I-O Tables and peer review process	Land Use Data Base and environmental modeling	Agricultural protection
Energy	Agricultural protection		Contributing I-O Tables course		Assist with GTAP Conference
Contributing I-O Tables course	Liaise with I-O table contributors		Organize GTAP short Course		Demand elasticities
I-O disaggregation	Projects with African economists		Assist with GTAP Conference		Land Use Data Base and environmental modeling
	Contributing I-O Tables course		GMig2 Data Base and technical paper		Grad Student Projects – South Asia Integration, China grows and Nutrition
			Dynamic GTAP model, book and course		Bio-fuels
			Skill splits		Poverty Module
			FDI Data Base		Non-CO2 Emissions data base

F. Other areas of interest to Board members for future reference:

1. Non-tariff barriers
2. Rules of origin
3. Labor market effects
4. Water, biofuels and land-use

G. European Commission Proposal

Board members discussed the FP-7 call for proposals in the area of global data base construction and modeling. The Center reiterated its desire to work with European institutions in this general area. None of the European board members in attendance were in a position to lead on this proposal, but all were willing to collaborate and be involved. Joe Francois submitted a memo to the board indicating his desire to lead two proposals: one on data and one on modeling. It is hoped that there can be a European meeting designed to flesh out this proposal in the coming month.

H. Members at large

At last year's board meeting Alan Powell presented a proposal for an academic committee to replace the members at large. This was encouraged, and this year Joe Francois submitted a partial list of names for discussion. However, the precise terms of reference for this group, as well as the enumeration and incentives for active participation are still incomplete, in the view of many of the board members. They would like to see a more fully developed proposal that addresses the following points:

- a. Precise responsibilities
- b. Frequency and location of meetings; if they are to attend the annual conference, what are the budgetary implications? There was concern that unless they met face to face there would be little commitment. But bringing everyone to the board meeting is expensive.
- c. Total number of members
- d. Are we looking for those with a long term commitment to the project (e.g., Alan Powell) or new innovative researchers (e.g., plenary speakers), or both?
- e. One member to attend board meetings and present committee's report to board
- f. Duties:
 - i. Assist with checking data
 - ii. Provide alternative perspective at board meetings
- g. Benefits
 - i. Access to data
 - ii. Potential influence and contacts

I. Research Fellows

The members of the Research Fellow Nominating Committee included Patrick Jomini (PC), Will Martin (WB), John Reilly (MIT) and Antoine Bouet (IFPRI) from the board, and Betina Dimaranan from the Center.

Antoine Bouet proposed the following:

The following people were re-nominated as research fellows: Mary Burfisher, Allan Rae, and Dominique van der Mensbrugghe.

The following individuals were nominated as new research fellows: Mustafa Acar, Xinshen Diao, Lionel Fontagne, Marijka Kuiper, Carlos Ludena, Richard Tol, Nico van Leeuwen and Zhi Wang.

The following people were added to the Hall of Fame: Mark Gehlhar, Ken Pearson, Mark Horridge, Marinos Tsigas, and Tom Rutherford.

After some discussion these people were accepted, however the board strongly felt that the committee had nominated too many individuals and should limit the number to 5 people in future.

J. Conferences

2008 Conference

Juha Honkatukia presented an overview of the 11th Annual Conference to be held in Helsinki, Finland.

2009 Conference

Andres Schuschny presented an overview of the 12th Annual Conference to be held in Santiago, Chile.

Later Conferences

The board agreed to consider a proposal by FEEM in Venice even though it would occur in July, instead of June.