

Economic impacts of the US-China trade war on the asian economy : an applied analysis of IDE-GSM

著者	Kumagai Satoru, Gokan Toshitaka, Tsubota Kenmei, Isono Ikumo, Hayakawa Kazunobu
権利	Copyrights 日本貿易振興機構 (ジェトロ) アジア経済研究所 / Institute of Developing Economies, Japan External Trade Organization (IDE-JETRO) http://www.ide.go.jp
journal or publication title	IDE Discussion Paper
volume	760
year	2019-04
URL	http://hdl.handle.net/2344/00050856

IDE Discussion Papers are preliminary materials circulated to stimulate discussions and critical comments

IDE DISCUSSION PAPER No. 760

Economic Impacts of the US–China Trade War on the Asian Economy: An Applied Analysis of IDE-GSM

Satoru KUMAGAI*¹, Toshitaka GOKAN*²,
Kenmei TSUBOTA*³, Ikumo ISONO*⁴ and
Kazunobu HAYAKAWA*⁵,
April 2019

Abstract

In this paper, we try to estimate the economic impacts of the US–China trade war that began in 2018. We used IDE-GSM, a computational general equilibrium simulation model, to estimate the economic impacts of a “full-confrontation” scenario wherein both countries impose 25% additional tariffs on all goods imported from each other for three years 2019 onwards. In our calculation, the economic impact for the US is -0.4% and -0.6% for China. Some Asian countries actually benefit from the trade war. As far as it remains bilateral, the trade war is only an issue for the concerned parties. We also ran the US–world trade war scenario, wherein the US and all other countries impose a 25% additional tariff on all goods. The negative impact on the global economy is 1.7%, much greater than the 0.1% impact from the US–China trade war. Thus, it is clear that the world cannot afford to engage in a multilateral trade war.

Keywords: US–China trade war, IDE-GSM

JEL classification: C68, F13

*1 Director, Economic Geography Studies Group, Development Studies Center, IDE-JETRO (satoru_kumagai@ide.go.jp)

*2 Economic Geography Studies Group, Development Studies Center, IDE-JETRO
(toshitaka_gokan@ide.go.jp)

*3 Economic Geography Studies Group, Development Studies Center, IDE-JETRO
(kenmei_tsubota@ide.go.jp)

*4 Deputy Director, Economic Geography Studies Group, Development Studies
Center, IDE-JETRO (ikumo_isono@ide.go.jp)

*5 Senior Research Fellow, Economic Geography Studies Group, Development
Studies Center, IDE-JETRO (kazunobu_hayakawa@ide.go.jp)

The Institute of Developing Economies (IDE) is a semigovernmental, nonpartisan, nonprofit research institute, founded in 1958. The Institute merged with the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) on July 1, 1998. The Institute conducts basic and comprehensive studies on economic and related affairs in all developing countries and regions, including Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, Oceania, and Eastern Europe.

The views expressed in this publication are those of the author(s). Publication does not imply endorsement by the Institute of Developing Economies of any of the views expressed within.

INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPING ECONOMIES (IDE), JETRO
3-2-2, WAKABA, MIHAMA-KU, CHIBA-SHI
CHIBA 261-8545, JAPAN

©2019 by Institute of Developing Economies, JETRO

No part of this publication may be reproduced without the prior permission of the IDE-JETRO.

Economic Impacts of the US–China Trade War on the Asian Economy: An Applied Analysis of IDE-GSM

Satoru KUMAGAI, Toshitaka GOKAN, Kenmei TSUBOTA, Ikumo ISONO and
Kazunobu HAYAKAWA

Abstract

In this paper, we attempt to estimate the economic impacts of the US–China trade war that began in 2018. We used IDE-GSM, a computational general equilibrium simulation model, to estimate the economic impacts of a “full-confrontation” scenario wherein both countries impose 25% additional tariffs on all goods imported from each other for three years 2019 onwards. In our calculation, the economic impact for the US is -0.4% and -0.6% for China. Some Asian countries actually benefit from the trade war. As far as it remains bilateral, the trade war is only an issue for the concerned parties. We also ran the US–world trade war scenario, wherein the US and all other countries impose a 25% additional tariff on all goods. The negative impact on the global economy is 1.7%, much greater than the 0.1% impact from the US–China trade war. Thus, it is clear that the world cannot afford to engage in a multilateral trade war.

Keywords: *US–China trade war, IDE-GSM*

JEL Classification: *C68, F13*

Introduction

On December 5, 2018, it was reported that US President Donald Trump and China’s President Xi Jinping agreed to temporarily pause further escalation of tariff rates on mutual imports for 90 days December 1, 2018 onwards. During this period, both parties attempted to resolve various trade issues, including exchange rates and intellectual property rights, to avoid a full confrontation in the Group of Two (G2), namely the US and China, in the 21st century. As of the end of January 2019, the two parties have not reached an agreement to end the confrontation.

This trade war between the two countries began when President Trump imposed a 25% tariff on 818 Chinese goods valued at USD 34 billion effective July 1, 2018. China soon retaliated by imposing a 25% tariff on 545 US goods valued at USD 34 billion. Subsequently, the US imposed a 25% tariff on an additional 279 Chinese products valued at 16 billion on August 23, 2018, and China immediately responded by imposing a 25% tariff on an additional 333 US products valued at USD 16 billion. On September 24, 2018, the US imposed a third round of tariffs rated at 10% on USD 200 billion worth of Chinese products while China imposed a 5–10 % tariff on USD 60 billion worth of goods from the US.

It is unprecedented that the two biggest economies in the world have imposed import tariffs on each other on the global stage, clearly intending to harm the other. Numerous news articles have been published on this matter, most of which condemn both countries for damaging the global economy by discouraging world trade. However, the exact GDP loss of affected economies, because of the US–China trade war that started in 2018, is not clear.

In this paper, we attempt to estimate the economic impacts of the US–China trade war on the global economy, especially on Asian economies, by using IDE-GSM, a computer simulation model based on spatial economics developed by IDE-JETRO. IDE-GSM is a computational general equilibrium model covering more than 160 countries at the national and subnational levels. It has been developed primarily to estimate the economic impacts of transport infrastructure, but it is also possible to estimate the impacts of tariff rate changes by using IDE-GSM. Estimating the economic impacts of the trade war by using IDE-GSM, we will evaluate an economic consequence through trade channel, excluding political consequences and economic impacts through non-trade channels, such as a disturbance in the financial market and restrictions on technology transfer in high-tech sectors.

This paper is structured as follows. First, we briefly introduce the simulation tool that we use—IDE-GSM. Second, we provide background information by describing the bilateral

trade between the G2 countries and review some previous estimates on the trade war; we also propose a theoretical framework to analyze the trade war. Third, we construct a scenario for the trade war and present the estimated economic impacts, using IDE-GSM, and then we analyze the simulation results and interpret them from a theoretical point of view. We also derive some policy implications from our analysis. The conclusion summarizes the paper and identifies issues for further research.

1. The Model

The Geographical Simulation Model, developed by IDE-JETRO (IDE-GSM), is a variation of the computable general equilibrium model based on spatial economics (Kumagai et al. 2013). IDE-GSM has been developed with two primary objectives: (1) to simulate the dynamics of the locations of populations and industries in East Asia over the long term and (2) to analyze the economic impacts of trade and transport facilitation measures (TTFMs), such as developing the transport infrastructure and reducing time and costs at national borders on regional economies at the subnational level. There are two endowments: labor, which is mobile within a country but prohibited from migrating to other countries, and land, which is unequally spread in all regions and is jointly owned by all the labor of each region.

The simulation procedures are as follows. First, with the given distribution of labor and regional GDP by sector and region, according to the actual data set, short-run equilibrium values¹ of nominal wages and price indices are obtained by iterative calculation. Observing the achieved short-run equilibrium, labor migrate among regions and industries, moving to the sector that offers higher nominal wage rates in the same region and to the region that offers higher real wages within the same country. This migration narrows the gap between nominal and real wage rates in a region and in a country, respectively. Following these migration dynamics, we obtain a new distribution of labor and economic activities among regions and industries. We call this cycle of calculation

¹ ‘Short-run’ equilibrium in this model means that all the endogenous variables are in equilibrium under given distribution of population and industry, although the real wages paid for different industries in different locations are not equalized.

“one year” in the simulation. With this new distribution and predicted national-level population growth given externally, the next short-run equilibrium is calculated for the following year, and we observe the migration dynamics again. These computations are repeated for 30 years from 2010 to 2040.

IDE-GSM depends on two data sets. One is a geo-economic dataset, i.e., economic and population data at the subnational level. We derive the regional-level GDP (RGDP) for the agriculture sector, mining sector, five manufacturing sectors, and the service sector for 2010, primarily based on official statistics, sometimes by utilizing satellite imagery (Keola et al. 2015). The five manufacturing sectors are food processing, garments and textiles, electronics and electric (E&E), automotive, and other manufacturing. Figure 1 shows the data availability in the dataset.

These sectors behave differently in IDE-GSM. The agricultural and mining sectors are perfectly competitive and provide homogenous goods, using constant returns to scale technology. The manufacturing and service sectors produce many differentiated goods under monopolistic competition, using increasing returns to scale technologies. The agricultural and mining sectors use labor and land as inputs. The manufacturing sector uses labor and the intermediate goods produced by a firm in the same subsector of the manufacturing sector. The service sector uses labor as a sole input. Thus, the manufacturing sector has stronger agglomeration forces than the service sector does, and the service sector has stronger agglomeration forces than the agricultural sector does. The usage of land as an input in the agricultural and mining sectors leads to a stronger dispersion of forces than in other sectors.

<<Figure 1>>

The other dataset is a transport network dataset. The number of routes included in this dataset is more than 14,000 (land: 10,000, sea: 1,300, air: 2,150, and railway: 900). The route data consists of start city, end city, distance between the cities, the speed of the vehicle running on the route, etc. The land routes between cities are primarily based on the “Asian Highway” database of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission

for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), supplemented by the routes on various maps. The actual road distances between cities are used; if they are not available, the distances between cities in a straight line are employed. Figure 2 shows the land route networks in this dataset.

<<Figure 2>>

When we calculate the economic impacts of a specific TTFM, we take the differences in baseline and in an alternative scenario (Figure 3). The baseline scenario incorporates infrastructure projects that were already completed by 2015. The alternative scenario assumes additional infrastructure development projects that are analyzed in the simulation. We compare and show the differences between Regional GDPs for each subnational region on the basis of alternative scenarios against regional GDP for the same subnational region in baseline scenarios for a specific year. If a region under alternative scenarios has a higher (or lower) RGDP than under the baseline scenario, we regard this surplus (or deficit) as a positive (or negative) economic impact of the TTFM.

<<Figure 3>>

In the baseline scenario, we assume a kind of business-as-usual situation. The following assumptions are maintained in all scenarios, including the baseline case, even if they are not specified in the following scenarios:

- Each country's national population is assumed to increase at the rate forecast by the United Nations Population Division until 2030.
- International labor migration is prohibited.
- Tariffs, non-tariff barriers, and services barriers change as per free trade agreements (FTAs)/economic partnership agreements (EPAs) that are currently in effect and according to the phased-in tariff reduction schedule by the FTAs/EPAs and Hayakawa and Kimura (2015).
- The tariff revenue of each country is evenly distributed to the population of the country.

- We give different exogenous growth rates for each country's technological parameters to replicate the GDP growth trend from 2010 to 2023, which is estimated and provided in the World Economic Outlook by the International Monetary Fund.
- After 2023, we gradually reduce the calibrated growth rates of technological parameters to half in 20 years.

Although TTFMs might have a negative effect on the regional economy under some simulation scenarios, it does not mean that the region is worse than the current situation. For instance, most Asian developing countries are expected to grow faster in the next few decades. Thus, the negative economic impacts from TTFMs offset only part of the gains from the expected economic growth.

Transport costs are of the iceberg type; if one unit of product is sent from one region to another, some portion of the unit melts and a relatively smaller portion arrives. Depending on the "melted" portion, the supplier needs to set a higher price. The increase in the supplier's price compared to the producer's price is regarded as the transport cost. Transport costs within the same region are considered negligible, and various trade costs are considered in IDE-GSM (Figure 4).

<<Figure 4>>

The sum of Tariffs and Non-Tariff Barriers (TNTBs) is estimated by employing the log odds ratio approach initiated by Head and Mayer (2000). We estimate industry-level TNTBs for 69 countries. TNTBs for the remaining sampled countries are obtained by prorating their TNTBs according to each country's per capita GDP. To evaluate these estimates for TNTBs, we need the elasticity of substitution, the sources of which are explained below.

Next, we obtain NTBs by subtracting tariff rates from the TNTBs. Our data source for tariff rates is the World Integrated Trade Solution, particularly TRAINS (Trade Analysis and Information System) raw data. For each trading pair, we aggregate the lowest tariff rates among all available tariff schemes at the tariff-line level into single tariff rates for

each industry, by taking a simple average. Available tariff schemes include multilateral FTAs and bilateral FTAs alongside other schemes such as the Generalized System of Preferences. Additionally, we consider the gradual tariff elimination schedule in six ASEAN + 1 FTA in addition to AFTA (ASEAN free trade area). We obtain information about whether each product finally attains a zero rate in ASEAN + 1 FTA from the FTA database developed in ERIA. We set the final rates for all products at zero in the case of AFTA, owing to the lack of such information. Thus, we obtain separate (bilateral) tariff rates and (importer-specific) NTBs by industry on a tariff-equivalent basis. Finally, our total transport costs are the product of the sum of physical transport and time costs and the sum of tariff rates and NTBs.

Industry-related parameters are provided in Table 1. We mainly adopt the elasticity of substitution for the manufacturing sectors from Hummels (1999) and estimate it for services. Estimates for the elasticity of services are obtained from estimating the usual gravity equations for trade services, including independent variables such as the importer's GDP, the exporter's GDP, the importer's corporate tax, the geographical distance between countries, a dummy for FTAs, a linguistic commonality dummy, and a colonial dummy. For this estimation, we mainly employ data from the "Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Statistics on International Trade in Services."

<<Table 1>>

The consumption share of consumers by industry is uniformly determined for the entire region in the model. It would be more realistic to change the share as per country or region; however, this cannot be done because we lack sufficiently reliable consumption data. The single labor input share for each industry is uniformly applied throughout the region and time period in the model. Although it may differ among countries/regions and across time, we use an "average" value; in this case, the value for Thailand, a country that is in the middle-stage of economic development and whose value is taken from the Asian International Input–Output Table for 2005 by the IDE-JETRO. As the manufacturing sector data source, we use the data collected in the survey conducted by the JETRO (2013).

2. Background Information and Theoretical Framework of Trade War

The US and China are the two biggest economies in the world in terms of Nominal GDP in USD since 2010 and consist of 39% of world GDP in 2017. The US is the biggest export market for China, consisting of 19% of total exports in 2017. China is the third largest export market for the US, following Canada and Mexico, consisting of 9% of total exports.

Table 2 shows the trade balance of G2 by five stages of production: primary commodities, processed goods, capital goods, parts and components, and consumption goods as per the RIETI-TID classification. It is obvious that China records a huge trade surplus against the US, and the most of it comes from consumption goods and capital goods. In this classification, personal computers and mobile phones are classified as capital goods. Thus, China's exports to the US are mainly goods that are directly consumed by consumers, while most US exports to China are mainly goods that are consumed by producers.

<<Table 2>>

Spatial economics used in IDE-GSM will have two possibilities on the trade war's consequence—higher tariffs between the US and China. Two possibilities result from two different assumptions on the distribution of manufacturing firms and transport costs before the trade war.

As a thought experiment, we begin imagining the world as divided into three: the US, China, and the rest of the world. Transport costs are zero inside these three areas, yet firms incur transport costs between them. In this scenario, only the transport costs between the US and China increased, while those between each of them and the rest of the world remain unchanged. However, transport costs between the US and China are not significant enough to replace all direct trade between them into trade via the rest of the world.

Our manufacturing firms under this setting correspond to those in Puga and Venables (1997). Furthermore, Puga and Venables (1997) examined the impact of preferential move toward a free trade area with two countries and reciprocal trade barriers between each of them and the remaining country unchanged. This change corresponds to the reverse case of our interest.

The first assumption is the symmetric distribution of economic activity among three regions at the initial stage. The second assumption is that the US has the fewest manufacturing firms and China has the most among the three at the initial stage. Furthermore, in the second assumption, the transport costs between the US and China were lower than costs between the each of them and the rest of the world before this trade war.

One of the result of Puga and Venables (1997) under the first assumption shows that the equilibrium number of firms decreases in the US and China and increases in the rest of the world. This means that the manufacturing sector in the US and China is likely to be negatively affected by the trade war, while the manufacturing sector in other countries is likely to be positively affected. This is the reverse case of “production shifting” (Baldwin and Venables 1995) that emerges because of regional economic integration. Consequently, the US and China may be worse off and the rest of the world better off, and this is one possibility on the trade war’s consequence.

Next, the result of numerical analysis of Puga and Venables (1997) under the second assumption shows that, if the transport costs between the US and China surpass a threshold value, the roughly even distributions of firms and welfare among three locations emerge discontinuously. This is the other possibility on the trade war’s consequence.

Furthermore, the distribution of economic activity in the US and China may change as a result of the high tariff rates between them. If the transport costs of service sector decrease, the number of service sector workers in IDE-GSM will decrease in the city closer to the US or China and increase in the inland city, as Matsuyama (2017) demonstrates. Regarding the manufacturing sector, this tendency may strengthen owing to the input–

output linkage within each sub-sector in IDE-GSM.

There are some calculations on the US–China trade war so far. The National Institute of Social and Economic Research (NISER) calculated the economic impacts of the US–China trade war based on the simulation by NIESR’s Global Economic Model (NISER 2018). NISER estimated the economic impacts for three scenarios: 25% tariffs on USD 50 billion imports between each other, 10% tariffs on USD 200 billion US imports from China, and 10% tariffs on remaining 25 billion US imports from China. In the simulation, it is assumed that these tariffs are applied for three years, and then they return to the initial levels. The economic impacts are proposed as percentages of GDP in the third year of the trade war. The economic impact for the US in the worst scenario is around -0.8%, while that for China is slightly less than -0.8%, and the impact for the global economy is around -0.5% (NISER 2018)².

The Daiwa Research Institute (DRI) also estimated the trade war’s economic impacts by using the DIR macro model (DRI 2018). It assumes that the US imposes 25% tariffs on USD 50 billion imports from China and 10% tariffs on USD 200 billion imports from China. China then imposes 25% tariffs on USD 50 billion imports from the US. DRI shows that the economic impacts are -0.15% for US and -0.14% for China, while the economic impacts for Japan is -0.01%, if some additional government expenditures from tariff revenues are not considered.

Furthermore, it is noteworthy that some factors affecting actual economic impacts of the trade war are not included in this simulation analysis. These factors are as follows: 1) negative impacts from the uncertainty of US trade policy; 2) disturbance in the financial markets caused by the trade war; 3) negative psychological effects from the diplomatic tension between G2 countries; 4) an adjustment in the RMB/USD exchange rate, offsetting higher tariffs; 5) US policy on high-tech intellectual property rights that exclude

² Because they show only a graph, the economic impacts mentioned are rough numbers.

certain Chinese companies from the US market; and 6) the indifference between multinational enterprises and local firms in IDE-GSM, which may soften the different impacts among countries.

3. The Scenario and Results

In this study, we formulate the US–China trade war as the case wherein both countries impose 25% tariffs on all the imports from each other. In other words, it is the trade war’s worst case scenario. We assume that the tariffs remain the same during 2019–2021, and economic impacts are estimated at the end of 2021, compared to the baseline scenario. It must be noted that an additional government expenditure from tariff revenues for the US and Chinese governments are not considered in the model.

Further, we ran another scenario, which is the trade war between the US and the world, wherein we assume a 10% increase in bilateral tariff rates between the US and all the other countries in the world. This scenario is intended at identifying the consequence if the US applies its offensive trade policy against all other countries after China.

Table 3 shows the economic impacts from the US–China trade war at the end of 2021, compared to the baseline scenario. For the US, the economic impact is -0.4%, while for China, it is -0.5%. In contrast, the economic impact on the global economy is relatively small, i.e., -0.1%. Thus, some Asian countries actually benefit from the trade war. The one that gains the most is Singapore, +0.7% of GDP, followed by Malaysia (+0.5%), Taiwan (+0.4%) and Korea (+0.3%). For Japan, economic impact is small but positive, i.e., +0.2%. For 17 East Asian economies³, the impacts from the US–China trade war is -0.1%, while for 16 East Asian economies—excluding China—is positive, i.e., +0.1%.

<<Table 3>>

³ 16 East Asian economies consist of ASEAN10 (Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines, Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam), Japan, China, Korea, Taiwan, Australia, and New Zealand.

In the industrial sector, the biggest loser is the E&E sector in the G2 countries, which loses 12.4% in the US and 7.5% in China. The automotive sector in the G2 countries is also negatively affected by the trade war, losing 0.8% in China and 1.7% in the US. In contrast, the E&E sector in Japan, Singapore and Malaysia gains 3.6%, 3.6% and 3.3% respectively.

Table 4 shows five states/provinces that are most negatively affected by the trade war. For US states, the State worst hit by the trade war is California, followed by Texas and Massachusetts. For Chinese provinces, Shenzhen suffers the most, followed by Guangzhou and Fushan. The negative impact for Shenzhen province is 3.3% of the GDP, which is much higher than 0.5% of the GDP for China at the national level.

<<Table 4>>

Some regions in Asia and EU gain from the trade war. Tables 5 and 6 show ten regions that are most positively affected by the trade war in Asia and EU. For Asia, the region gains most from the trade war is Hsinchu City, Taiwan, followed by Penang, Malaysia and Hsinchu region, Taiwan. For EU, the region gains most from the trade war is Oberpfalz, Germany, followed by Lansi Suomi and Etela Suomi in Finland.

<<Table 5>>

<<Table 6>>

Figure 5 shows the economic impacts for the G2 countries in relation to the GDP, which is evaluated from the production and consumption sides. The production (consumption) numbers are calculated upon the production (consumption) share of each industry when adjusting the GDP. For the production side, a larger negative economic impact is observed for China (-0.5%) than for the US (-0.4%), while for consumption side, a larger negative economic impact is observed for the US (-0.5%) than China (-0.3%). This result is plausible, considering that most Chinese exports to the US are goods that are consumed directly by consumers, as shown in Table 2.

<Figure 5>

Table 7 shows the economic impacts from the US–world trade war at the end of 2021, compared to the baseline scenario, wherein the negative impact on the global economy is 0.8%, which is much higher than that from US–China trade war, i.e., 0.1%.

The countries that are most negatively affected by the US–world trade war are Taiwan (-7.3%), followed by Malaysia (-4.8%), Thailand (-4.2%), and Korea (-3.8%). The economic impacts from the US–world trade war for the 16 East Asian economies, excluding China, is -1.2%, which is much higher than the economic impact for China (-0.5%).

<<Table 7>>

4. Analysis and Policy Implications

The simulation results revealed that economic impacts from the full-trade war between the G2 economies are significant for both the countries. Negative impacts for the US and China are -0.4% and -0.5% of their GDPs, respectively. Thus, considering that the IMF estimation of the GDP growth rates for the US and China in 2021 are 1.7% and 6.0%, respectively, these negative impacts are fairly large for both the countries. Furthermore, negative impacts to the E&E sector in the G2 countries are much larger in terms of percentage, which loses 12.4% in the US and 7.5% in China.

There are three possible factors that the E&E sector in the G2 countries has the largest negative impact from a 25% increase in the tariff rate. First, the tariff rate on E&E goods before the trade war is the lowest among the manufacturing sector for the US and the second lowest for China. This makes a 25% increase relatively large compared with the original tariff rate. Second, the transport costs of E&E goods are the lowest among the manufacturing goods, because of a high price-to-weight ratio. This makes a 25% increase in the tariff rate relatively large compared with the total trade costs. Third, the elasticity

of substitution parameter for E&E goods is relatively high among the manufacturing goods, making it easy to be substituted by imports from other countries.

It is noteworthy that our simulation predicts that the negative economic impacts for the US are larger for consumers than they are for producers, while for China, they are larger for producers than for consumers. This difference may have some implications in the trade negotiation between the two countries. The US government is more likely to be criticized by the public for increased consumer product prices.

In contrast, the economic impacts for the global economy are not significant, i.e., 0.1% of the total GDP. Our simulation results revealed that the trade war between G2 itself is not likely to trigger another Great Depression or deep recession for the global economy because most of the negative impacts remain within the two parties involved in the trade war. It is not surprising that a bilateral trade war primarily harms the countries involved.

Our simulation results predict that some countries gain benefit from the trade war because of the trade diversion effects. Theoretically, a bilateral trade war—a mutual increase in bilateral trade costs—works just as the reverse of a bilateral FTA—a mutual reduction in bilateral trade costs. It is also well known that a bilateral FTA has trade diversion effects, which harms third-party countries. By contrast, a bilateral trade war is likely to cause reverse trade diversion effects, which benefits third-party countries.

In fact, 70% of US firms in southern China refrain from any further investment in China and are planning to relocate their production to other countries (Reuters, 29 October 2018). The Economist Intelligent Unit (EIU) published a list of “winners” of the trade war by industry. In the information and communications technology sector, Malaysia and Vietnam are nominated as the winners with strong benefits, while Bangladesh, Vietnam, and India are nominated as the winners with strong benefits in the readymade garments sector. For the automotive sector, Malaysia and Thailand are nominated as the winners with strong benefits (EIU 2018). Thus, the EIU predictions are mostly in line with our simulation results.

On the contrary, if the US tries to apply its offensive trade policy for other countries following China, its negative impacts on the global economy would be significant. Some small and medium Asian economies—such as Taiwan, Korea, and some ASEAN member countries—cannot afford to confront the trade war against the US because they are too dependent on the US market for their exports.

5. Conclusions

In conclusion, we estimated the economic impacts of the US–China trade war through the trade channel using IDE-GSM. Accordingly, few publications have revealed numerical economic impacts from the trade war thus far, not only for the US and China but also for other countries. Thus, this study will be valuable for researchers as well as for policy- and decision-makers.

Considering only economic impacts through trade channels, the trade war is harmful for both the US and China, although it is not likely to lead the global economy to another Great Depression. It is practically inappropriate to brand the trade war as the primary cause of a potential slowdown in the G2 countries and/or the global economy without conducting any calculations based on economic models.

Some industries in some countries may benefit from the trade war owing to the trade diversion effect. In fact, there are news reports stating that some firms have changed their procurement from China/the US to other countries for exports to China/the US. However, this potential benefit to other countries is not likely to be fully explored because it is highly uncertain as to how much longer this trade war will continue.

As far as the trade war remains bilateral, it is an issue only for the concerned parties. However, it will be a completely different scenario if the trade war would involve third-party countries. Thus, the world cannot afford to engage in a multilateral trade war.

References

Baldwin, R. E. and Venables, A. J. (1995) "Regional Economic Integration." In: G.M. Grossman and K. Rogoff, eds., *Handbook of International Economics 3*, Elsevier: Amsterdam, pp. 1597-1644.

Daiwa Research Institute (2018), Estimating the Impact of the US-China Trade War. National Institute of Social and Economic Research (NISER), 2018, Trade wars: any winners? *National Institute Economic Review* No. 245 August 2018

Hayakawa, K., and Kimura, F. (2015) How much do free trade agreements reduce impediments to trade? *Open Economies Review*, 26(4), pp.711-729.

Head, K., and Mayer, T. (2000) Non-Europe: the magnitude and causes of market fragmentation in the EU. *Weltwirtschaftliches Archiv*, 136(2), pp.284-314.

Hummels, D. (1999) Toward a Geography of Trade Costs, *GTAP Working Paper*, No. 17.

Keola, S., Andersson, M., and Hall, O. (2015) Monitoring economic development from space: using nighttime light and land cover data to measure economic growth. *World Development*, 66, pp.322-334.

Kumagai, S., K. Hayakawa, I. Isono, Keola S., and K. Tsubota (2013) Geographical Simulation Analysis for Logistics Enhancement in Asia, *Economic Modelling*, 34, pp. 145-153.

Matsuyama, K. (2017) "Geographical advantage: Home market effect in a multi-region world." *Research in Economics*, 71 pp. 740-758.

Puga, D. and Venables, A. J. (1997) "Preferential trading arrangements and industrial location." *Journal of International Economics* 43 pp. 347-368.

Reuters, Many U.S. firms in China eyeing relocation as trade war bites: survey, 29

October 2018. (<https://reut.rs/2EYV5wS>)

Economists Intelligence Unit (EIU), 2018, Creative disruption: Asia's winners in the US-China Trade War.

Table 1: Parameters specifying each industry

	Elasticity of substitution: σ	Share of labor input: β	Share in consumption: μ
Agriculture	3.8	0.61	0.040
Automotive	4	0.57	0.020
Electronics	6	0.56	0.026
Textile	8.4	0.64	0.018
Food	5.1	0.61	0.033
Others	5.3	0.59	0.172
Service	3	1.00	0.687
Mining	5.6	0.25	0.004

(source) Authors.

Table 2: Trade balance between China and US by type of goods (2017)

			(Billion USD)
	China's Exports to US	US Exports to China	US Trade Balance
Primary Commodities	2.0	30.2	28
Capital Goods	187.3	33.0	-154
Consumption Goods	186.1	23.9	-162
Parts and Components	71.2	26.4	-45
Processed Goods	72.3	40.1	-32
Total	519	154	-365

(source) Compiled by authors from UN COMTRADE.

Table 3: Economic impacts of US–China trade war (% of GDP in 2021, compared with the baseline)

	Agriculture	Automotive	E&E	Textile	Food Processing	Oth. Mfg	Services	Mining	GDP
United States	-0.1%	-1.7%	-12.4%	-0.5%	-0.1%	-0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.4%
China	-0.3%	-0.8%	-7.5%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.5%
Japan	0.0%	-0.1%	3.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Korea	0.0%	0.0%	2.9%	0.9%	-0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%
Taiwan	-0.1%	-0.1%	2.5%	0.0%	-0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.4%
Indonesia	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Malaysia	0.0%	0.0%	3.3%	-0.2%	0.5%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%
Singapore	0.0%	0.2%	3.6%	0.7%	-0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.7%
Thailand	0.0%	-0.1%	2.9%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Philippines	0.0%	0.0%	2.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Cambodia	0.0%	-0.3%	0.6%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Laos	0.0%	-0.5%	0.8%	0.6%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Myanmar	0.0%	-0.1%	0.5%	-0.3%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Vietnam	0.0%	-0.2%	0.7%	0.5%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Australia	0.0%	0.3%	3.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
New Zealand	0.0%	0.2%	3.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
India	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Russia	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
EU	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
East Asia	-0.1%	-0.3%	-2.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.1%
Excl. China	0.0%	0.0%	2.8%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
World	-0.1%	-0.3%	-3.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.1%

(source) Authors.

Table 4: Worst hit five States/Provinces from US–China trade war (2021, compared with the baseline)

		(Million USD)			
State	Economic Impact	% of GDP	Province	Economic Impact	% of GDP
California	-13,900	-0.6%	Shenzhen	-18,782	-3.3%
Texas	-6,888	-0.5%	Guangzhou	-7,900	-1.2%
Massachusetts	-3,498	-0.6%	Fushan	-3,298	-1.7%
North Carolina	-3,169	-0.6%	Shanghai	-3,038	-0.3%
New York	-2,903	-0.2%	Dongguan	-2,624	-1.7%

(source) Authors.

Table 5: Top 10 regions most benefited from US–China trade war in Asia (2021, compared with the baseline)

Region	Country	% of GDP
Hsinchu City	Taiwan	1.8%
Penang	Malaysia	1.4%
Hsinchu	Taiwan	1.3%
Phra Nakhon Si Ayudhya	Thailand	1.0%
Melaka	Malaysia	1.0%
Gyeongsangbuk-do	Korea	0.9%
Cordillera Administrative region (CAR)	Philippines	0.8%
Saraburi	Thailand	0.8%
Singapore	Singapore	0.7%
Negeri Sembilan	Malaysia	0.7%

(source) Authors.

Table 6: Top 10 regions most benefited from US–China trade war in EU (2021, compared with the baseline)

Region	Country	% of GDP
Oberpfalz	Germany	0.3%
Lansi-Suomi	Finland	0.3%
Etela-Suomi	Finland	0.2%
Stredni Morava	Czech Republic	0.2%
Helsinki-Uusimaa	Finland	0.2%
Severovychod	Czech Republic	0.2%
Pohjois- ja Ita-Suomi	Finland	0.2%
Mittelfranken	Germany	0.2%
Freiburg	Germany	0.2%
Detmold	Germany	0.2%

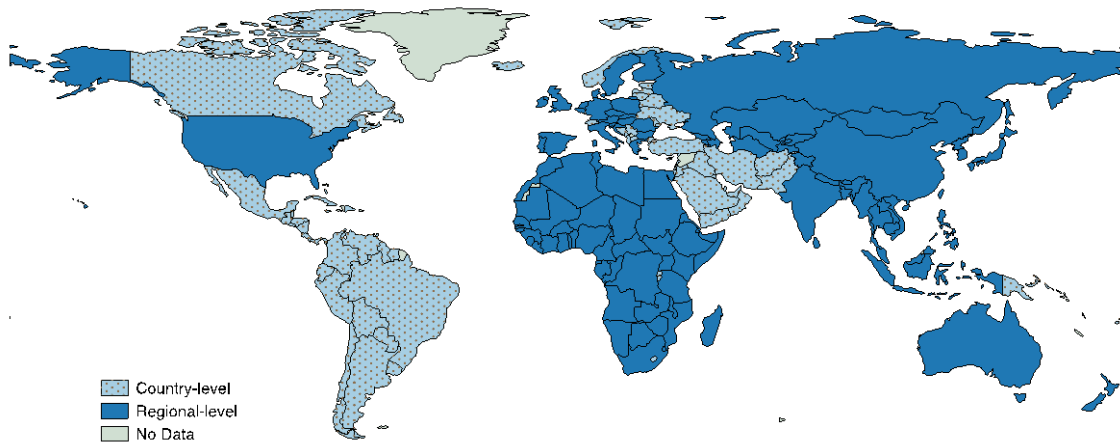
(source) Authors.

Table 7: Economic impacts of US-World trade war (% of GDP in 2021, compared with the baseline)

	Agriculture	Automotive	E&E	Textile	Food Processing	Oth. Mfg	Services	Mining	GDP
United States	2.2%	-2.5%	-8.9%	-0.1%	-0.4%	-5.4%	-0.1%	0.1%	-0.7%
China	1.2%	-0.5%	-9.1%	0.1%	0.4%	0.2%	-0.2%	0.0%	-0.5%
Japan	-2.2%	-6.6%	1.3%	-1.6%	-1.7%	-7.6%	-0.2%	0.1%	-1.2%
Korea	-0.9%	-11.0%	-13.5%	-25.4%	-3.6%	-8.8%	-0.5%	0.1%	-3.8%
Taiwan	-2.3%	-22.5%	-26.1%	-22.3%	-19.9%	-18.7%	-0.6%	0.0%	-7.3%
Indonesia	2.2%	1.0%	-4.2%	-0.8%	-0.3%	-0.9%	-0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Malaysia	2.1%	-8.6%	-11.5%	-2.2%	-3.0%	-20.9%	-0.3%	0.1%	-4.8%
Singapore	2.4%	1.6%	7.0%	-5.6%	0.2%	-6.7%	-0.3%	0.1%	-0.1%
Thailand	1.9%	-4.9%	-22.7%	-0.9%	-0.6%	-11.2%	-0.1%	0.1%	-4.2%
Philippines	2.2%	-2.5%	-9.9%	-1.9%	0.3%	-0.5%	-0.2%	0.1%	-0.5%
Cambodia	2.2%	-4.7%	-2.3%	0.0%	0.4%	-0.5%	-0.3%	0.1%	0.2%
Laos	2.2%	-5.0%	-3.3%	-4.0%	0.2%	-0.8%	-0.3%	-0.1%	0.0%
Myanmar	2.2%	-0.7%	-1.9%	-17.8%	0.7%	-3.0%	-0.2%	0.2%	0.4%
Vietnam	2.2%	-9.0%	-0.4%	-1.6%	-3.6%	-6.7%	0.1%	0.1%	-2.3%
Australia	2.2%	-7.7%	-7.9%	-4.4%	-5.3%	-8.6%	-0.2%	0.1%	-0.7%
New Zealand	2.2%	-18.8%	-15.3%	-5.7%	-4.4%	-9.9%	-0.2%	0.0%	-0.8%
India	1.8%	-0.4%	-9.8%	-0.2%	0.4%	-0.7%	-0.2%	0.0%	-0.3%
Russia	2.0%	-5.0%	-13.8%	-0.7%	-1.0%	-5.6%	-0.2%	0.1%	-1.0%
EU	1.0%	-4.1%	-5.1%	-2.6%	-3.3%	-4.9%	-0.2%	0.1%	-0.9%
East Asia	1.4%	-2.8%	-7.2%	-0.5%	-0.3%	-1.6%	-0.2%	0.0%	-0.9%
Excl. China	1.5%	-4.1%	-5.2%	-2.9%	-1.0%	-5.1%	-0.2%	0.1%	-1.2%
World	1.6%	-3.1%	-7.5%	-1.0%	-1.0%	-3.0%	-0.2%	0.1%	-0.8%

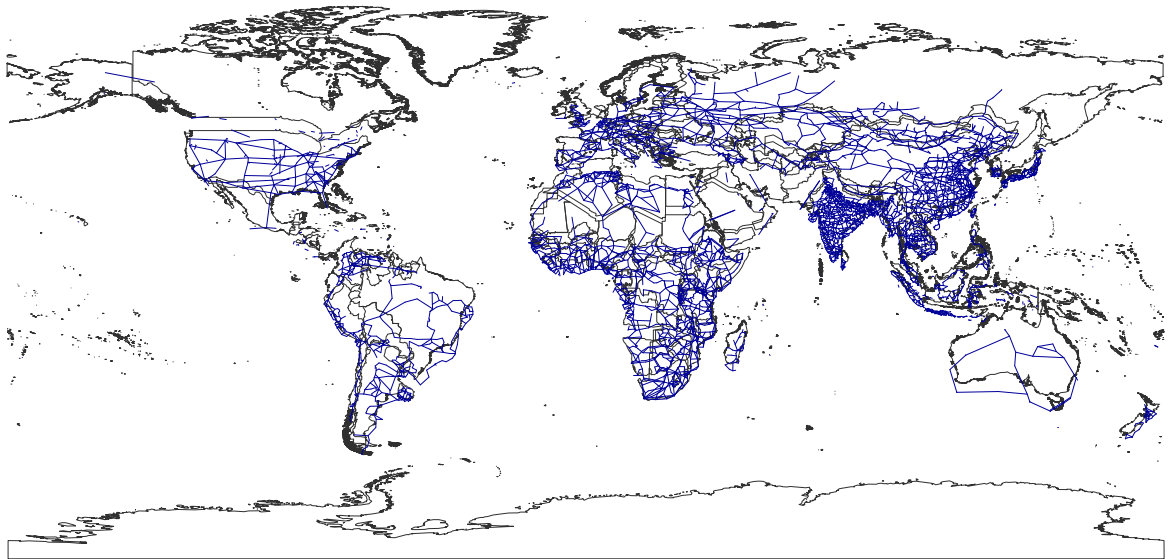
(source) Authors.

Figure 1: Data coverage in IDE-GSM



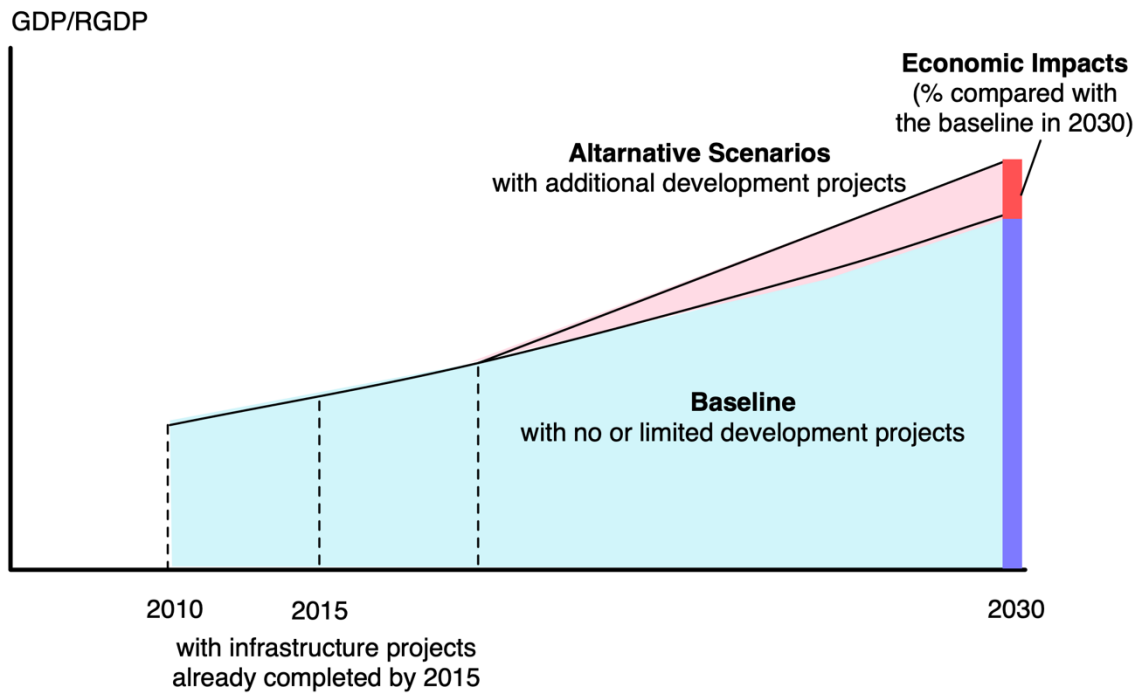
(source) Authors.

Figure 2: Road network data in IDE-GSM



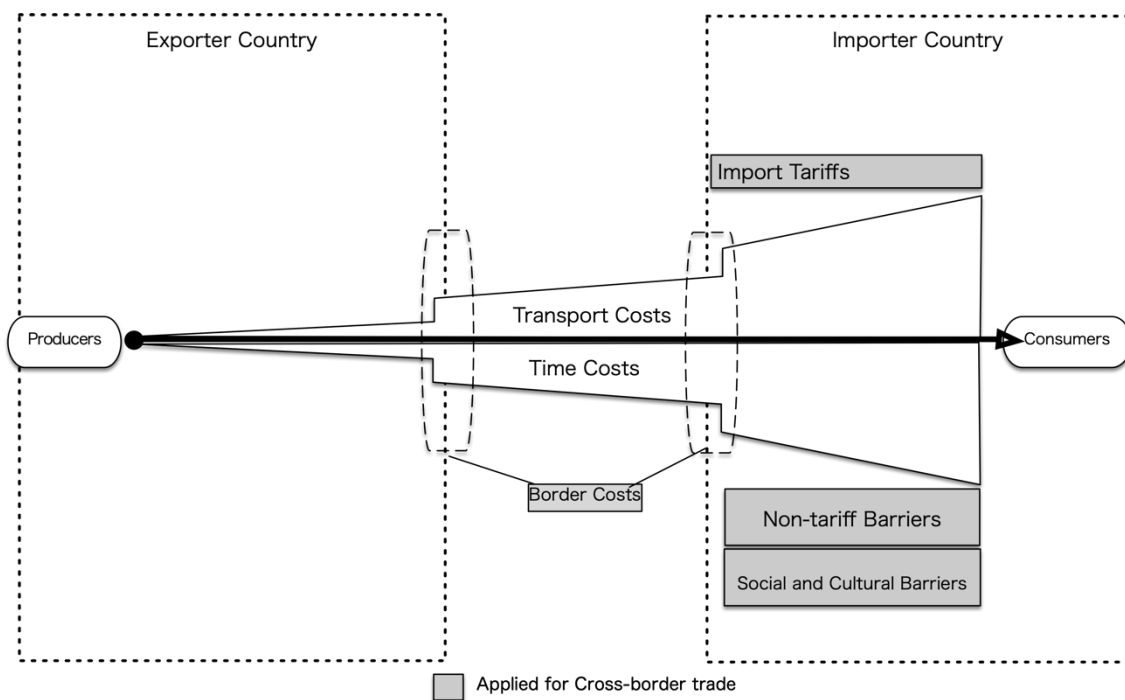
(source) Authors.

Figure 3: The method to calculate economic impacts



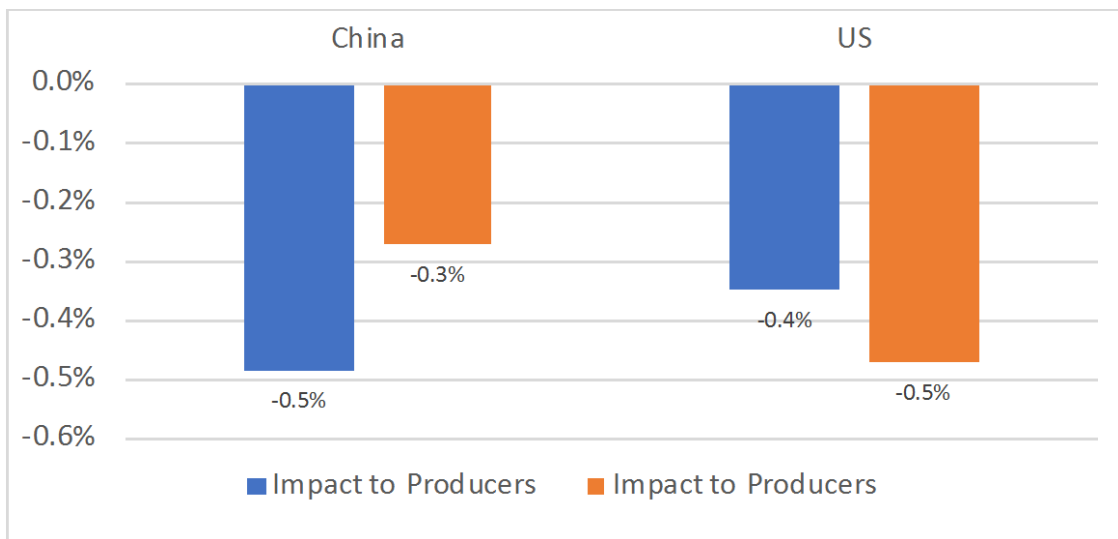
(source) Authors.

Figure 4: Trade costs taken into account in IDE-GSM



(source) Authors.

Figure 5: Impact to producers/consumers from US–China trade war (% of GDP in 2021, compared with the baseline)



(source) Authors.