Chiapas Economic Structure: a Qualitative Input Output Analysis with a spatial approach

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The structural analysis of an input-output system may have a qualitative and a quantitative dimension (Ghosh & Roy, 1998). There has been an important development of tools to study quantitatively the structure of the interindustry relationships. However, there has been a neglect of qualitative aspects of the input-output structure. For instance, the relevance of a sector in the transmission of influences between others sectors. (Cárdenas, Brugués, & Fuentes, 2013). It may happen that the position of a sector in a network of economic activities is more relevant than its size.

Furthermore, either the quantitative or the qualitative structural analysis of the input-output system cannot tell us anything from the spatial location of the important features identified by these analyses.

From this perspective, the present paper conducts a qualitative and spatial input-output analysis of Chiapas's state (Mexico) economic structure for the year 2008. The objective of the research is to identify 1) the most important industries for a qualitative approach and 2) their location in the micro regions of Chiapas.

To achieve this, a Multiregional Input-Output Matrix of Chiapas' state is constructed mainly with data from various official sources for 2008, under a hybrid approach to construct state economic accounts. Based on this multiregional matrix, a qualitative matrix is then constructed to identify the most important sectors located in their micro regions.

This research has two novelties. On one hand, the construction of the Multiregional Input Output Matrix with a hybrid approach, which consists in the develop of a regional database adjusted with balancing and calibration processes through the accounting identities. This approach beholds the spatial perspective itself, relevant to understand the specificities of the micro regional performance of the state. On the other hand, the identification of important sectors based on a qualitative input-output analysis provides important insights in the interindustry structure of Chiapas' state.

Key words: Qualitative Input Output Analysis, Spatial Approach of the Economy, Regional Database