

Mexico vs. China in Global Value Chains: Who is the hare and who is the tortoise?

Topic: Input-Output Tables as a Network II

Author: Manuel GARCÍA-RAMOS

Co-Authors: Gerardo Fujii

The international fragmentation of production is re-shaping the world economy and Global Value Chains (GVCs) are at the forefront of this phenomenon. The aim of this study is to provide a quantitative assessment of the evolution of GVC activity with a particular focus on the Mexico and China direct forward and backward linkages, from 1995 to 2009. The method to observe these linkages is represent GVS as a weighted directed graph; then, we use the most common metrics for network analysis. The results suggest that China has changed from an independent non-manufacturing country of concentrated impact, in 1995, to a manufacturing country of disperse impact, in 2009; meanwhile, Mexico remains a manufacturing country of concentrated impact.