

Trade of codfish between China and Europe & US

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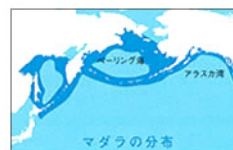
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What is a codfish?

- Atlantic cod: *Gadus morhua* (800 MT/year)



- Pacific Cod: *Gadus macrocephalus*



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Pollock and haddock

Alaska Pollock: *Theragra Chalcogramma*
(2 mill MT/year)



• Atlantic saithe (pollock): *Pollachius virens*



• Atlantic haddock:

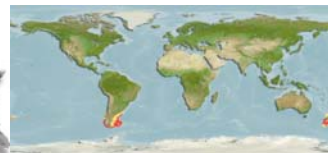
• *Melanogrammus aeglefinus*



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Blue whittings

• Southern Blue whiting: *Micromesistius australis*

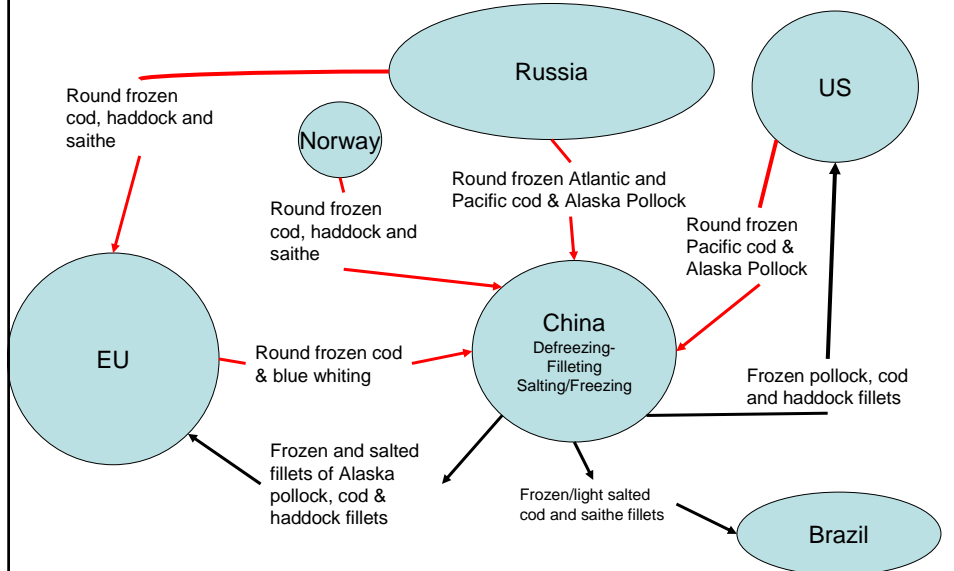


• Northern Blue whiting: *Micromesistius poutassou*



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China: A global processing center for Codfishes

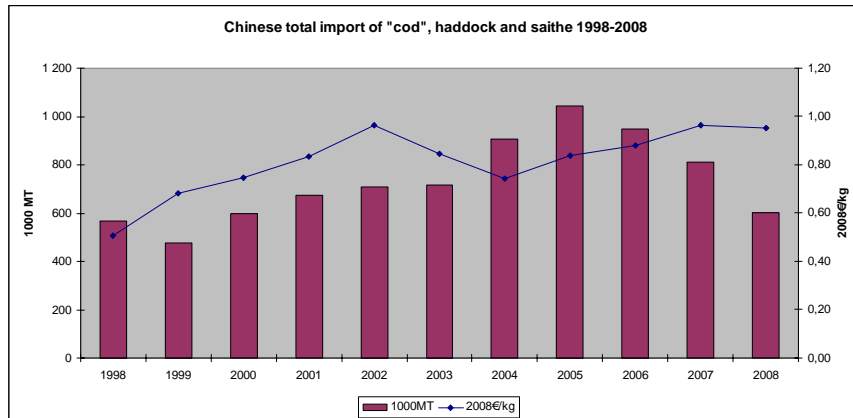


Research design

- **Research question**
 - How are the international trade of codfish through China linked?
- **Data**
 - Official national import and export statistics from US, EU (Eurostat), Norway and Iceland
 - supplied from the Norwegian statistics/Seafood Norway
- **Methodology.**
 - Empirical study of trade flow
 - What is the actual figures in MT and unit values?
 - Can import/export figures of MT and average values from one national statistical source be confirmed export/import figures from other statistical sources?
 - How can differences in national figures be understood?
 - Can international trade statistics be harmonized and developed more reliable?

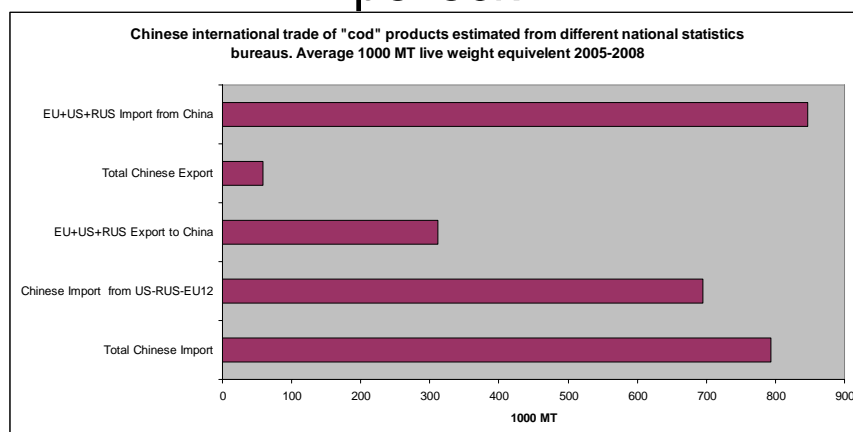
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Chinese import of codfish recorded in Chinese statistics



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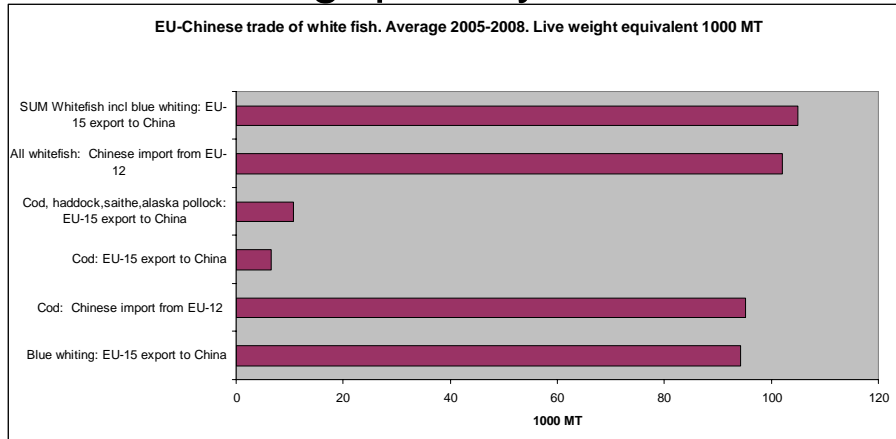
Chinese trade of cod and alaska pollock



Huge differences between recorded EU+US+Russia import from China and Chinese recorded export to the same countries

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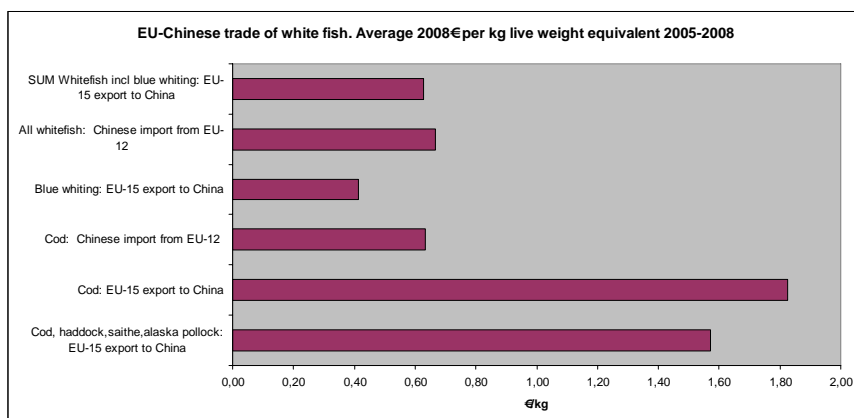
EU=>Chinese trade Testing quantity match



The quantity of cod, haddock and blue whiting exported from in the EU15 to China matches the Chinese recorded import of "cod" from EU12

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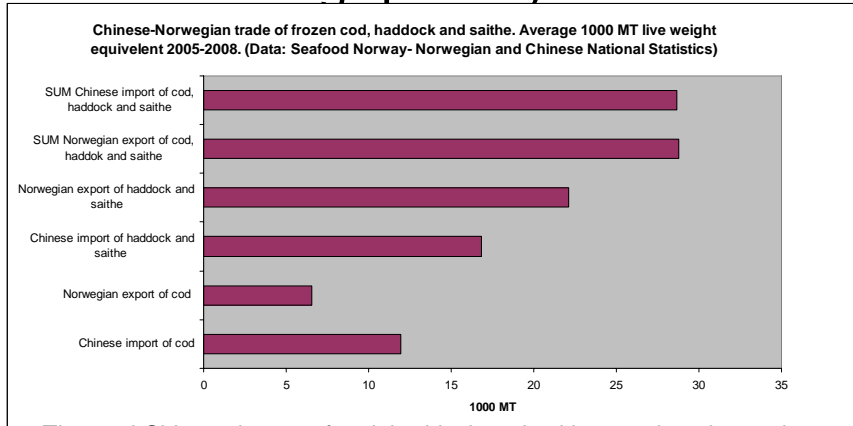
EU=>Chinese trade Testing average unit value match



The average value of the Chinese import of cod matches the average value of the EU export of all whitefish including blue whiting

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Norwegian=> Chinese trade Testing quantity match

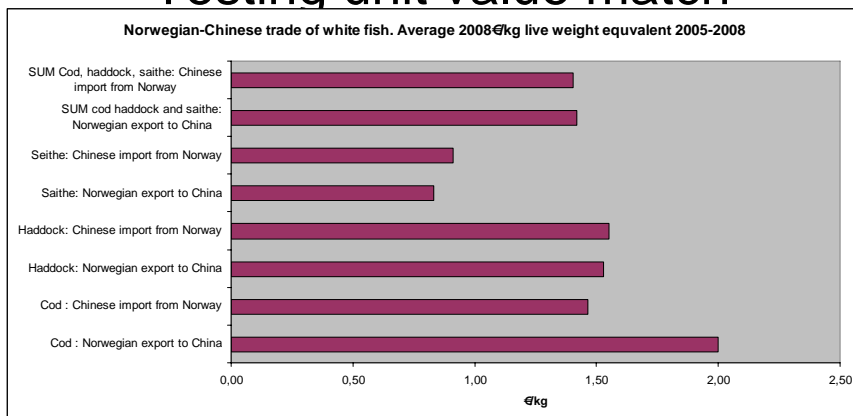


The total Chinese import of cod, haddock and saithe matches the total Norwegian export of the same species

But, the Norwegian figures for export of cod and haddock and saithe do not match the Chinese import figures for the same species, separately!

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Norway=>Chinese trade. Testing unit value match



The average value of cod, haddock and saithe exported from Norway matches the average value imported in China.

The exported unit value of cod from Norway is much higher compared to import unit values while unit values for haddock and saithe are lower.

Discussion

- Chinese import statistics does not separate blue whiting and alaska pollock as species, but are included in the category “cod” in the import statistics
- Very significant differences
 - between Chinese recorded imported quantities of codfish and actual exported codfish from US-EU-Russia
 - Between EU-US-Russian recorded codfish import from China and Chinese recorded export
- The Norwegian export of whitefish matches in average the Chinese imports
- The exported cod quantity from Norway is lower to a higher unit value compared to the Chinese export, while the opposite happens with haddock and saithe
 - Cod is redefined to haddock and saithe in the export papers?

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Conclusions

- Significant and unexplained differences in the import and export statistics for fish between China and the major trading partners
- We need more common research in studying the procedures for recording export and import figures to understand the differences
- We might develop improved statistical routines as a basis for better basis for trade management in government and business and for trade research.

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