

# The RICardo Project

Conference « International trade  
and the economy, 1600-1870 »

*(Béatrice Dedinger & Paul Girard)*

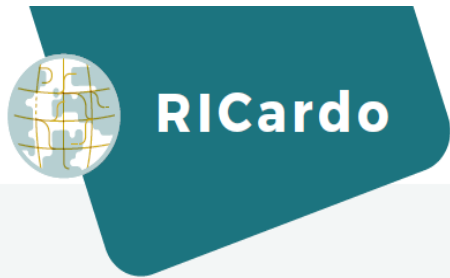
# Introduction

- The RICardo project focuses on **total and bilateral** trade of all countries of the world. There are no data of trade by products
- The RICardo time period spans from c. 1800 to 1938
- RICardo helps to study the **geography** of trade
- **“Entities” are the basic information** to analyze and to compare geographical trade patterns
- The **denomination and classification of entities** raise as many problems as the denomination and classification of products in trade databases
- The RICardo project has two main components: a corpus and a website

# The RICardo corpus

- Trade database (October 2017 version): 300 000 data
- Exchange rate database:
  - 128 currencies
  - 7300 exchange rates
- Sources: 92 types of sources
  - Primary sources (national trade statistics): 41
  - Secondary sources (compilation of primary sources): 19
  - Estimation (for exchange rate and some total trade): 34
- Entities: from 5300 original names to 1800 RICnames

# The RICardo website



Views ▾

MetaData

Glossary

Corpus

About

FR | EN

## THE RICARDO PROJECT

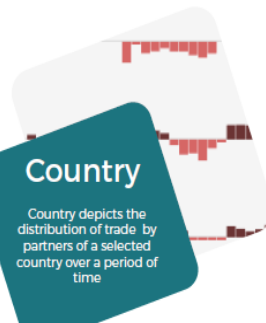
Trade between Nations from c. 1800 to 1938

RICardo (Research on International Commerce) is a corpus dedicated to trade between nations over a period spanning the beginning of the Industrial Revolution to the eve of the Second World War. It combines a historical database of bilateral trade of all of the world's countries and a website which aims at exploring the history of international trade through data visualizations.



### World

World provides different historical series of world trade as well as a view of the growth of countries share in world trade



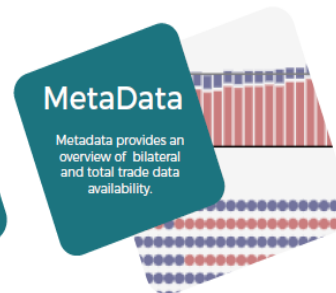
### Country

Country depicts the distribution of trade by partners of a selected country over a period of time



### Bilateral

Bilateral focuses on trade between two selected countries and allows for a comparison between their trade statistics



### MetaData

Metadata provides an overview of bilateral and total trade data availability.

# The RICardo entity table

RICname	type	continent	COW_code
Aden & Algeria & Egypt/United Arab Republic & Iran (Persia) & Asian Turkey	group	World	
Adriatic harbours	city/part_of	Adriatic	
Afghanistan	country	Asia	700
Ancona	country	Europe	3271
Andaman and Nicobar Is.	country	Asia	7501
Andorra	country	Europe	232
Angola	country	Africa	540
Angola & Kabinda (Portuguese Congo)	group	Africa	
Angola & Portuguese West Africa	group	Africa	
Angra Pequena	city/part_of	Africa	
Anjouan	country	Africa	5813
Annaba (Bône)	city/part_of	Africa	
Belgium & Luxemburg	group	Europe	
Belize (British Honduras)	country	America	80
Belize (British Honduras) & British Virgin Is.	group	America	
Black Sea & Levant	geographical_area	World	
British Africa	colonial_area	Africa	
Central Africa	geographical_area	Africa	
Central America	geographical_area	America	
Danish America	colonial_area	America	
Danish Colonies	colonial_area	World	
Danish Colonies & Denmark	group	World	
Dominica	country	America	54
Dominican Republic (Santo Domingo)	country	America	42
Dominican Republic (Santo Domingo) & Haiti	group	America	
Dunkirk	city/part_of	Europe	
Dutch America	colonial_area	America	
Dutch Asia	colonial_area	Asia	

# The problem of non-homogeneity of entities

- Border changes issue
  - No adjustment for entities with constant names and changing borders (Australia, Canada, Germany, Italy...)
  - For total trade at constant borders, refer to Federico-Tena (2016)
- Changing name of the reporting entity over time
  - Example: Belgium / Belgium & Luxemburg
- Changing name of the partner entity over time

Trade of reporting  
'United Kingdom'  
with partner  
'Denmark'  
  
1860-1913

Denmark partner in UK trade statistics 1860-1913:

- Denmark 1860-90
- Denmark & Greenland & Iceland 1891-96
- Denmark & Faroe Is & Greenland & Iceland  
1897-1900 / 1911-13
- Denmark & Faroe Is 1901-10

# How to create aggregates of entities?

- What is the trade of the EU-28(27)?
- What is the trade with Portuguese colonies?

RIName	Type
Azores (Western Isles)	Country
Madeira Isles	Country
Cape Verde	Country
Angola	Country
Mozambique	Country
Portuguese Africa	Colonial area
Portuguese Asia	Colonial area
Azores (Western Isles) & Cape Verde & Madeira	Group
Angola & Kabinda (Portuguese Congo)	Group

# How to create a political classification of entities in time?

- Model of the COW entity table

Entity Number	Name	Begin Year	End Year	Ending Political Status
3	Alaska	1816	1867	Became colony of 365
3	Alaska	1867	1959	Became colony of 2
3	Alaska	1959	1993	Became part of 2
4	Hawaii	1898	1960	Became colony of 2
4	Hawaii	1960	1993	Became part of 2
5	Virgin Islands	1816	1917	Became colony of 390
5	Virgin Islands	1917	1993	Became colony of 2
6	Puerto Rico	1816	1821	Became part of 1070
6	Puerto Rico	1821	1898	Became colony of 230
6	Puerto Rico	1898	1952	Became colony of 2
7	Texas	1816	1836	Became part of 70
7	Texas	1845	1861	Became part of 2
7	Texas	1861	1865	Became part of 1002
7	Texas	1865	1993	Became part of 2
10	Greenland	1816	1953	Became colony of 390
10	Greenland	1941	1945	Occupied by 2
11	Faeroe Is.	1816	1947	Became colony of 390
11	Faeroe Is.	1940	1945	Occupied by 200
20	Canada	1816	1841	Became part of 1025



- What kind of new RICardo entity table?

RICname	Type	Continent	COW_code	Begin Year	Ending Year	Status	Name of Sovereign
Bavaria	country	Europe	245				
Belgium	country	Europe	211				
Belize (British Honduras)	country	America	80				
Benin (Dahomey)	country	Africa	434				
Bokhara	country	Asia	7020				
Bolivia	country	America	145				
Canada Atlantic coast	city/part_of	America					
Cape Town	city/part_of	Africa					
Cap-Haïtien	city/part_of	America					
Cap-Rouge	city/part_of	America					
Cartagena (Colombia)	city/part_of	America					
British West Africa	colonial_area	Africa					
Danish America	colonial_area	America					
Danish Colonies	colonial_area	World					
Dutch America	colonial_area	America					
Dutch Asia	colonial_area	Asia					
South East Africa	geographical_area	Africa					
Southern Africa harbours	geographical_area	Africa					
Southern America	geographical_area	America					
Southern Europe	geographical_area	Europe					
British Virgin Is. & Guyana (Br. Guiana)	group	America					
Brunei & Sabah (North Borneo) & Sarawak	group	Asia					
Brunei & Sarawak	group	Asia					
Buenos Aires & Montevideo	group	America					
Bulgaria & Crete & European Turkey	group	Europe					