

**2012 BWC-MSP Side Event**  
**Technology, Trade and Transparency**  
—  
**Lessons from other treaty regimes**



# The white noise problem

## HS 8419

Machinery, plant or laboratory equipment, whether or not electrically heated, for the treatment of materials by a process involving a change of temperature such as heating, cooking, roasting.

(excluding furnaces, ovens, nuclear reactors and boilers)



# The white noise problem

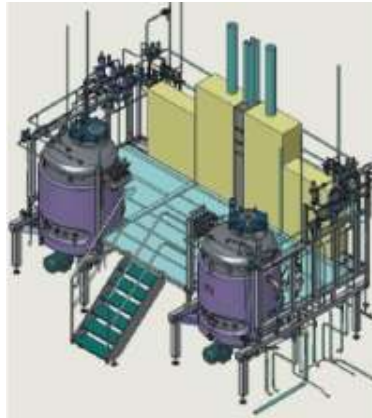
fermenters classified under

**HS 8419.89**

“Machinery, plant & equip. other than for making hot drinks/for cooking/heating food, whether/not electrically heated.”



# The white noise problem



fermenter



beverage cooler



microwave defrosting equipment



# The white noise problem

more distinct HS code

**HS 3821.00**

Prepared culture media for the development or maintenance of micro-organisms (including viruses and the like) or of plant, human or animal cells.



# Culture media

- liquid, dehydrated or gelatinous
- undefined, defined or selective

used for various purposes:

- research and diagnostic
- (bulk) production (e.g. bacterial vaccines)



# Culture media



Culture media on streak plate



Liquid bulk media



Dehydrated bulk media



# What we have done so far

- downloaded Trade Data for HS382100 („culture media“)
- manually via web interface on [www.comtrade.un.org](http://www.comtrade.un.org)
- manual visualisation
- huge personnel expenditure





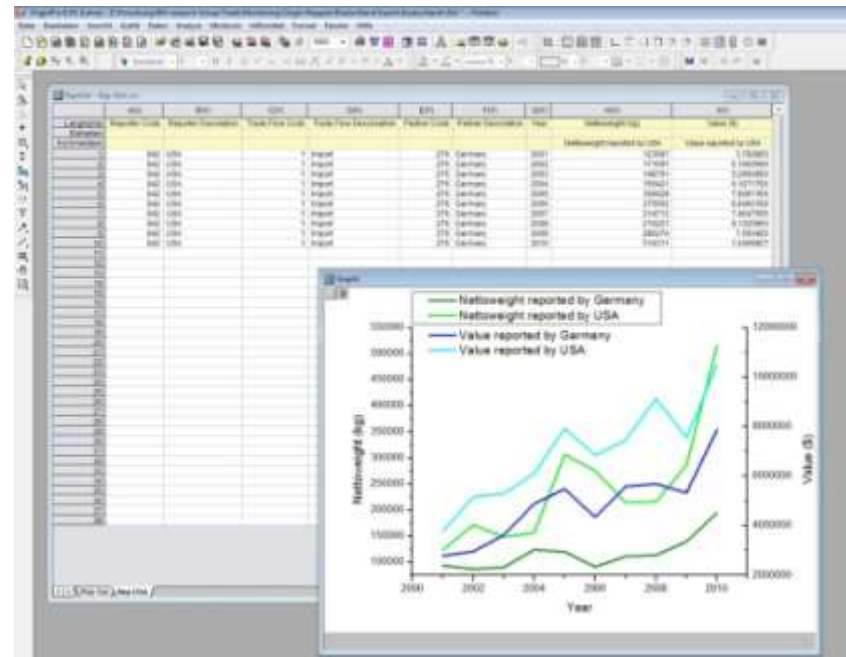
# What we have done so far

The screenshot shows the UN Comtrade website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with options like 'Home', 'Data Query', 'Data Availability', 'Metadata & Reference', 'Subscription & Support', and 'Fast tracks'. Below this, there are several steps for creating a query:

- Step 0. Load Saved Query (optional):** Includes an 'Export Query' dropdown and a 'Load' button.
- Step 1. Select Classification:** Includes radio buttons for 'HS' (As reported, 92, 96, 02, 07, BEC) and 'SITC' (As reported, Rev.1, Rev.2, Rev.3, Rev.4).
- Step 2. Enter Selection Items:** Includes tabs for 'Commodities', 'Reporters', 'Partners', 'Years', and 'Others'. Under 'Commodities', there are sub-steps for 'Select Source' and 'Select Items'. A search box contains '382100'. There are buttons for 'Add', 'Remove', 'Remove All', 'Exclude', and 'Save selections to favorites'.
- Step 3. Save Query (optional):** Includes a text field for 'Enter query name and Set Notification Option', 'Save Query', and 'Save As Default' buttons. There are also checkboxes for 'Enable Notification', 'Enable AutoBatch', and a dropdown for 'Update Type'.

At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Submit Query', 'Go to Comtrade Explorer', and 'Submit to Batch Processing'.

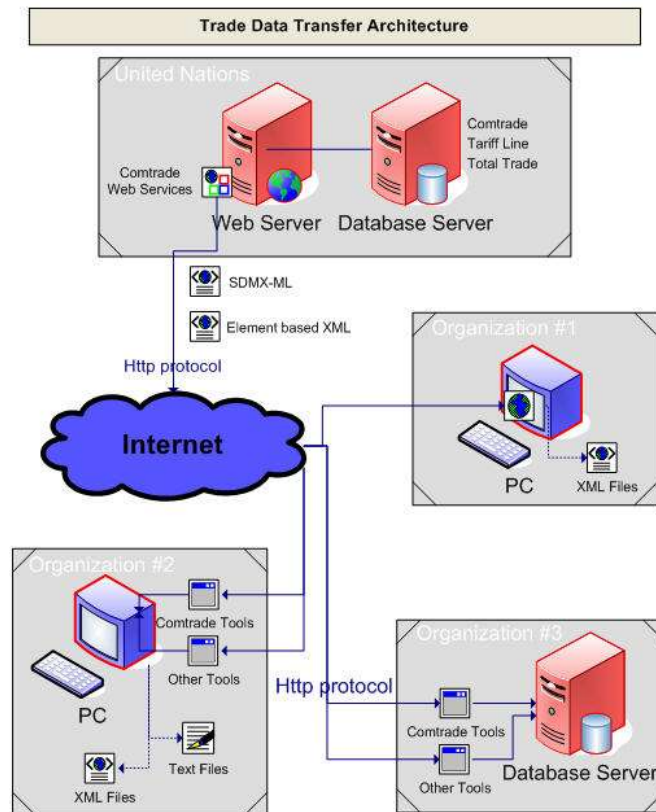
[www.comtrade.un.org/db](http://www.comtrade.un.org/db)



Origin Labs Origin Pro 8.5



# The way ahead



source: [un.comtrade.org](http://un.comtrade.org)

- software architecture for automated data exchange and synchronization
- continuous monitoring with appropriate personnel expenditure



# First results and observations

- large volume of trade  
(globally USD 900 million/year)
- expanding market  
(especially imports)
- very few big exporters



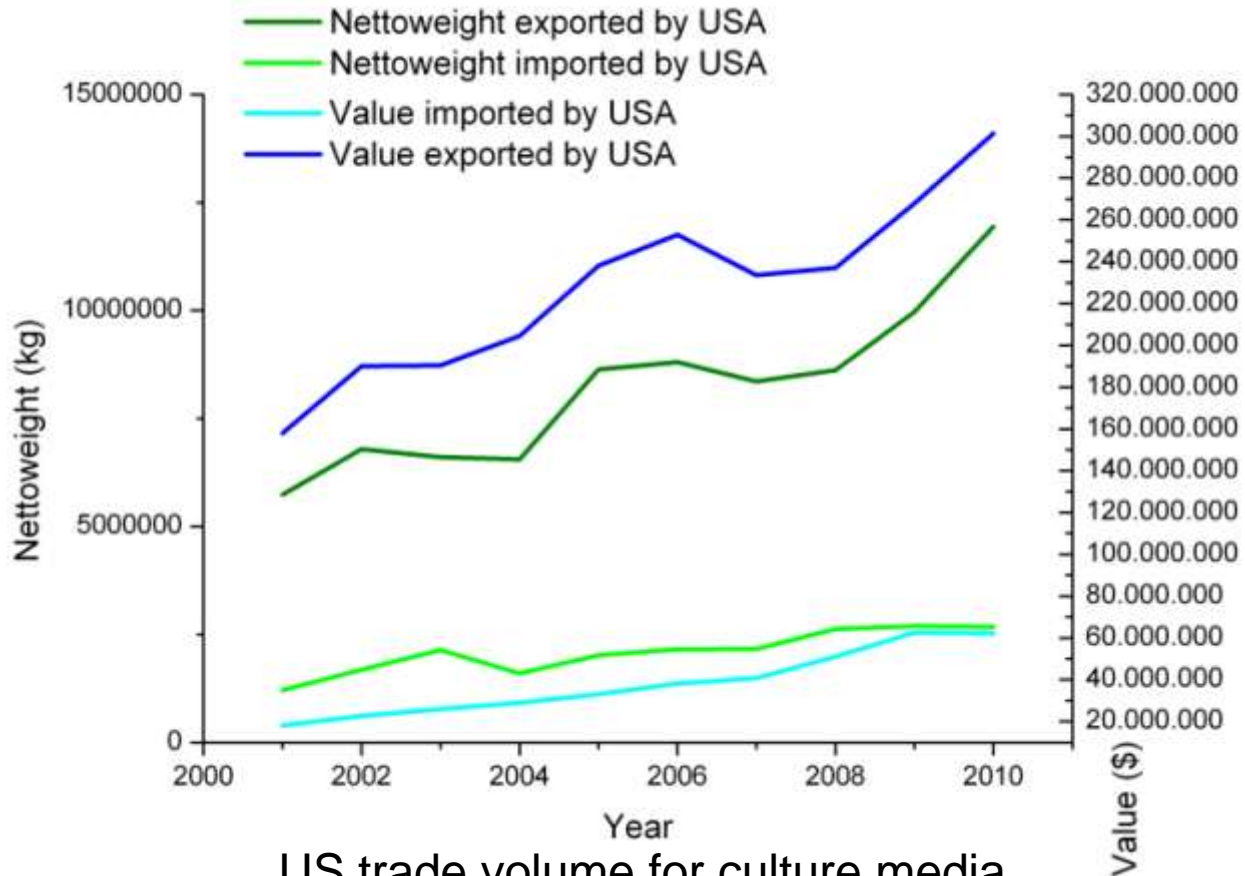
# First results and observations



Korean trade volume for culture media  
as reported by Korea itself



# First results and observations



US trade volume for culture media  
as reported by the USA themselves



# First results and observations

- data can't be used to monitor Art. III compliance at this stage
- trade volume already gives hints on Art. X implementation



# Two Construction Sites for a BWC related Trade Monitoring



# **Construction site no. 1: Make the most out of the available data**

Download them from UN COMTRADE

Develop criteria for interpretation

Apply statistical methods for analysis

Display them in a clear and practical  
environment

Combine them with other open source data in  
one place





## **Construction site no. 2: What else do we want to know?**

Gather knowledge about trade in a greater variety of relevant items.

UNMOVIC items list is applicable due to the paradoxical situation that items most relevant for the implementation of article III are at the same time most relevant for article X.





Equipment for:  
Processing  
Production  
Protection



## Earlier activities in this matter

Co-operation of the HS Secretariat and the HRG back in 2007-2008:

Identified relevant equipment

Identified current HS (basket) codes for the items

Proposed new codes for these items in the RSC.

HS Parties stopped the amendment process in May 2008 to avoid precedence (related WCO documents on our website).

**We encourage States to support a new proposal for an HS amendment!**



Thank you for your attention

