Re-Examining the Convergence of the World Economy: Markov Chain Model with Population Weighting

Alvaro Domínguez

Asian Growth Research Institute (AGI)

Hiroshi Sakamoto

Asian Growth Research Institute (AGI)

Working Paper Series Vol. 2022-02

February 2022

The view expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the Institute.

No part of this article may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission except in the case of brief quotations embodied in articles and reviews. For information, please write to the Institute.

Asian Growth Research Institute

Re-Examining the Convergence of the World Economy: Markov Chain Model with Population Weighting

Alvaro Domínguez¹

Asian Growth Research Institute (AGI) 11-4 Otemachi, Kokurakita, Kitakyushu, 803-0814 JAPAN

Hiroshi Sakamoto²

Asian Growth Research Institute (AGI) 11-4 Otemachi, Kokurakita, Kitakyushu, 803-0814 JAPAN

Abstract

We study the convergence hypothesis of economic growth relying on recent data. To fix the population size of each country for rank changes, we re-estimate the transition probability matrix by applying a population weight to changes in the income rank of each country. We then find that with no population weighting, the world economy can be divided into two peaks as before. Nevertheless, the population-weighted probability model yields more optimistic results: We divide the world economy into several regions, estimate similar probability models, and calculate the convergence distribution. We then divide the world into the optimistic and pessimistic region. The optimistic region, with high income, is composed of East Asia and Europe; The pessimistic region, with low income, is composed of Sub-Saharan Africa. These two extremes cause the observed twin peaks. The transition information of China and India has a significant impact when considering population weighting. These two countries show rapid economic growth, which produces optimistic results in our population-weighted model.

JEL classification: C49, D39, O50, R11 Keywords: Convergence, World Economy, Markov Chain.

¹ E-mail address: alvdom@agi.or.jp

² E-mail address: sakamoto@agi.or.jp

1. Introduction

We study the long-term growth trends of the world economy since the 1950s from the perspective of convergence. We analyze the hypothesis of whether economically poor countries (regions) can catch up with rich countries (regions) in the context of economics. The possibility of convergence increases if we assume a production function with diminishing returns represented à la Solow (1956). This is due to productivity being higher when there are low inputs and gradually decreasing as input increases. We thus link this to empirical research by replacing "low input" with "poor country (region)".

There is large literature analyzing the trends of convergence at the world scale (Barro and Sala-i-martin, 2004; Islam, 2003). Traditionally, this has been analyzed mainly through econometric methods. In this study, instead, we analyze it relying on the stochastic method proposed by Quah (1993, 1996a, 1996b). This unique analytical method, classified as a "distribution approach" (Islam 2003), produces distinctive results compared to the econometric methodology. It divides the logarithmic value of relative income, which compares each country's GDP per capita with the average, into several ranks in descending order of income. Then, the time-series changes of the rank (income states) in each sample are totaled, and these are represented by probabilities. The Markov transition matrix obtained by such a procedure has an eigenvalue (the dominant eigenvalue), whose absolute value is 1. Therefore, the convergence distribution (ergodic distribution) can be estimated by obtaining the eigenvector associated to the dominant eigenvalue. With this approach, Quah argues that the world economy divides into two extremes with twin peaks: a rich economy and a poor economy.

Up to this point, the changes in the income state have been calculated using a single country (region) as a sample, but it is not easy for the income state to change in countries such as China or India, which have large populations. Taking this into consideration, in this study we multiply each sample by the population weight and we estimate the Markov transition matrix from the aggregated results to obtain the convergence distribution. For the population weightthe ratio was obtained from the total of these worlds and was multiplied by the income state movement. This is expected to make the stochastic model more precise, but the aggregation work becomes more complex because the population ratio is multiplied for all states changes.

The rest of this article is organized in the following way. Section 2 describes the stochastic model using Markov chains. Section 3 explains the data used. The world economy is divided into several regions. This aims at finding out the characteristics between regions by conducting similar analyses per region. Section 4 details the results of the regional model without population weights while section 5 does so for the case including population weights. Finally, section 6 concludes.

2. The model

The distribution approach of Quah (1993, 1996a, b) relies on a Markov transition matrix to show the change in the distribution from a period to the next. In this section, we briefly explain the essentials of this methodology.

Let F_t be the income distribution state in period *t* expressed as a 1×*N* vector (number of states). The Markov process is a mathematical expression of the situation in which the income distribution situation F_{t+1} in the next term depends on the income distribution states F_t in the current term. In other words, the fluctuation of the income distribution states between the two-time points is defined as follows.

$$F_{t+1} = F_t \cdot M_t \quad (1)$$

Where M_t is the transition matrix. Since the income distribution is ranked for this transition, the transition matrix is estimated by aggregating the changes in the rank. The estimation method is as follows, with P as the number of changes in rank.

$$M_{t,jk} = P_{t,jk} / \sum_{k=1}^{n} P_{t,jk}$$
 (2)

This shows the probability of how many of the total number of changes (total number of income state movements from state k), including the number staying in the same state, that moved to state j. Then, we can take advantage of the ergodic property that is characteristic of Markov chains, and find the convergence distribution (ergodic distribution).

$$F = F \cdot M$$
 (3)

The transition matrix obtained through this procedure usually has an eigenvalue with an absolute value of 1. Relying on the associated eigenvector, the estimation of the convergence distribution (ergodic distribution) can be obtained using the solver in Excel or through any other method to compute it. In this case, eq (3) holds when M is given, and the model is constrained so that the sum of F equal to 1 is solved.

The convergence distribution we analyze is a fixed distribution that is reached when looking at the future, where this model is maintained for a long term in a stochastic model composed of samples from 1953 to 2017. The convergence hypothesis examines whether indicators such as GDP per capita in the world economy, or a specific economic group settle at a certain value. In the verification of the convergence hypothesis by the stochastic model, the shape of the convergence distribution is a concern. Therefore, given that there is convergence to a certain value, it is desirable that the distribution is mountain-shaped, centered on the middle-income group. In the case of other distributions, it cannot be confirmed that the convergence hypothesis is universally established.

3. Data

In this study we rely on the Penn World Table (PWT),³ which provides internationally comparable data (Feenstra, Inklaar and Timmer, 2015). The PWT provides macroeconomic indicators such as GDP, for the case of some countries, presenting estimates going back to 1950. However, since the data for China is only available from 1952 to 2017, we set the period of analysis for that period. We show that the number of countries (regions) change during this period. Figure 1 shows the change in the number of samples in the analysis, with a maximum value of 182. As we can see in the figure, it is possible to classify and analyze the world economy by dividing it into several regions. Table 1 shows the applicable countries when classified by region. Based on this table, we separate it into the following seven regions:

East Asia & Pacific (*ea*, *es*, *as*) Europe & Central Asia (*eu*) Latin America & Caribbean (*la*, *nl*) Middle East & North Africa (*me*, *ms*, *as*) North America (*na*, *nl*) South Asia (*sa*, *es*, *ms*, *as*) Sub-Saharan Africa (*af*)

This regional classification is based on the WDI (World Development Indicators) classification. In addition, for the convenience of the analysis, we combine and analyze the adjacent regions into a larger area (mentioned in parenthesis). For example, (*ea*) in East Asia & Pacific is simply referred to as "East Asia & Pacific", (*es*) alludes to East Asia & Pacific and South Asia, and (*as*) references to East Asia & Pacific, Middle East & North Africa and South Asia, all combined.

We next use real GDP and population data. The PWT estimates real GDP from production and expenditure, with some slight differences in the estimated values. In this study, we adopt real GDP ("rgdpo" in the PWT notation) from the production side. The relative income per capita is calculated from this data, and is defined as the logarithm when the average income (per year) is 1 ($ln(y/n/\sum y/\sum n)$, with y being real GDP, and n the population).

In this paper we analyze the convergence, in fluctuations, of the relative income of each country and region through the lens of the method proposed by Quah (1993, 1996a, 1996b). In this methodology, the logarithmic value of the relative income previously mentioned is ranked in ascending order of income, the change in the rank is followed in chronological order, and the aggregated value is indicated through a probability. Nevertheless, since this ranking is arbitrary, the logarithmic value of the relative income for ranking is fixed with the following numbers based on an average of 0.

³ Penn World Table version 9.1, https://www.rug.nl/ggdc/productivity/pwt/

5 states: (lo, ml, mi, mh, hi or 1, 2, 3, 4, 5).
-1.386 (1/4), -0.693 (1/2), 0.000 (1), 0.693 (2)
7 states: (ll, lo, ml, mi, mh, hi, hh or 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7).
-1.500, -1.000, -0.500, 0.000, 0.500, 1.000

The numbers in parenthesis from the five states show the values for 1/4, 1/2 and 2 times the average income. This allows for changes in the number of samples.

Tables 2 and 4 display the hierarchical distribution by region. In table 2 we see that North America (na) only has the highest income group (5) whereas South Asia (sa) possesses all but the highest income group. In the case of table 4, na only has positive values in states 6 and 7, while sa has positive values in all states except in 6 and 7. In regards to the convergence distribution, World (wd) is evenly distributed whilst other regions are biased. Among these regions, East Asia & Pacific (ea), Europe & Central Asia (eu), and Middle East & North Africa (me) are concentrated in the high-income group, and Latin America & Caribbean (la) is in the middle-income group. Finally, Sub-Saharan Africa (af) is concentrated in the low-income group.

Tables 3 and 5 show the changes in the hierarchy of each member of *ea* and *sa*, at a given time. We see that in the seventh state of table 5, Japan falls from a value of 7 to 6. In the case of Australia and Brunei, they remain in the highest income class in every state. In the other extreme, for each state, Nepal persists in the lowest income class. Countries with large populations like China have, in recent years, risen from 2 to 4, while India has lately jumped to 3 after a period of falling from 2 to 1. We would expect that countries with big populations lift their income groups as they grow, although we don't observe this with low-income countries such as Cambodia, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Pakistan.

4. Regional Model of Markov Chain without Population Weight

We first estimate the stochastic model proposed by Quah (1993, 1996a, 1996b) and find its convergence distribution. The stochastic model estimates models by region as well as the entire world economy and compares their convergence distributions.

Tables 6 and 7 show the transition probability matrices for the world (*wd*) and East Asia & Pacific (*ea*). A five states model (5×5 matrix) and a seven states model (7×7 matrix) are displayed, respectively (see tables 1 and 2 in the Appendix for results of all areas analyzed, including these). Each matrix shows only the elements in which the income state movements are seen. The blank elements are the places where the state movements are not observed, and the movement probability is zero. In addition, since the values are displayed with 4 digits after the decimal point, even if state movements are spotted, they are displayed as 0.0000 if the probability is extremely low. For the convenience of computation, the movement probability is zero at this point as well.

We can observe from table 6 that there are areas where the stochastic model does not hold.

For example, *ea* has a probability of moving from hi (highest income group) to hi 1.0000. Since there is a probability of moving from *mh* to *hi* in the next income group (0.0561), this shows that once the highest income group is reached, it will not fall to the lower level. Therefore, it is expected that the convergence distribution will be concentrated at one point in *hi*.

Based on these results, the ergodic convergence distribution is calculated in tables 8 and 9. From the above explanation, there are areas where the transition probability matrix does not hold, thus blank parts in the convergence distribution of these areas appear. Additionally, in the table, the income states with the largest distribution are colored yellow, the states with the second largest distribution with blue, and the states with the smallest distribution with orange. Based on this, the tendency of the ergodic convergence distribution in each region is divided as follows. First, only *wd* is divided into two extremes, the highest-income group and the lowest-income group, and the rest is a distribution with a concentration in one peak. Among them, there are many regions that are concentrated in the highest income class, and the regional divisions of *ea*, *eu*, *me*, *na*, and *es* fall under this category. The regional divisions of *la*, *sa*, *nl*, and *ms* are concentrated in the middle-income group, and only *af* (Sub-Saharan Africa) is concentrated in the lowest-income group. This difference in the convergence distribution of each region seems to indicate the "twin peak" that Quah claims, that is, the tendency of the world economy to differentiate into two peaks.

5. Regional Model of Markov Chain with Population Weight

Tables 10 and 11 show the transition probability matrix for the world (*wd*) and East Asia & Pacific (*ea*). Since the income state movement itself is irrelevant with or without population weighting, the positions of the elements in which the probabilities are described are the same. By considering the population weight, only the value of the probability is different (see tables 3 and 4 in the Appendix for results for all the regions analyzed, including these). When we compare the values of wd in table 6 with those in table 10, the former's values are 0.9624, 0.9100, 0.9110, 0.9233, 0.9833, whereas the latter's values are 0.9058, 0.9125, 0.9441, 0.9395, and 0.9976.

Based on this, tables 12 and 13 present the ergodic distributions. There is a clear distinction in each distribution. Initially, the distribution is convergent throughout *wd*, showing a bipolar distribution without population weighting. When we add population weighting, the distribution becomes concentrated in the high-income group. In addition, there are many regions where the distribution is concentrated in the high-income class and, besides *wd*, there are regional divisions corresponding to *ea*, *eu*, *na*, *nl*, *es*, and *as*. The areas concentrated in the middle-income group are divided into two areas, *la* and *me*, while *af* concentrates in the low-income group even when population weighting is taken into consideration. As a result of adding population weight, there is a slight difference in the tendency of the convergence distribution between the five and seven states. Therefore, it becomes difficult to judge the two regional divisions of *sa* and *ms*.

In tables 6 and 10, we compare again this difference in convergence distribution. As we described above, in the elements of the diagonal matrix the probability of *lo* decreases, while the other probabilities increase. Next, the probability of moving from *lo* to *ml* increases from 0.0370 without population weighting to 0.0942 with population weighting. From this, we can say that the population weighted model is more likely to get out of the low-income class. Furthermore, the probability that the income class will rise from *ml* to *mi*, *mi* to *mh*, and *mh* to *hi* is higher without population weight, whereas the probability that the income class will fall from *hi* to *mh*, *mh* to *mi*, and *mi* to *ml* is higher with population weight. It is likely that the distribution will be concentrated in the high-income group, since no alternative is higher. So, we can consider that the discrepancy in the result of the convergence distribution is due to such a difference in probability.

6. Conclusion

We analyzed the convergence distribution of the world economy by region using a stochastic model based on a Quah-style Markov chain. As a feature of the study, we compared a normal stochastic model without population weighting with a model that considers it. We found that the model without population weighting still shows the tendency of the world economy to become polarized (Twin Peaks). One of the factors for this is the characteristics of each region. Sub-Saharan Africa has a convergent distribution of low incomes, but many regions have high or medium incomes.

On the other hand, when we considered population weighting, the distribution tended to be concentrated in the high-income group, indicating that the possibility of twin peaks is excluded. However, it is still regional and sub-Saharan Africa continues being a low-income region. The convergence hypothesis does not hold without population weighting, but it does so with population weighting. Nevertheless, the fact that income is concentrated in high-income groups does not suggest that income inequality will disappear in the foreseeable future.

References

- Barro, Robert J. and Xavier Sala-i-Martin. (2004) *Economic growth (Second edition)*, Cambridge: MIT Press
- Feenstra R., Inklaar. R, and Timmer. M, (2015) "The Next Generation of the Penn World Table," *American Economic Review*, 105(10), pp. 3150-3182.
- Islam, Nazrul. (2003) "What Have We Learnt from the Convergence Debate? A Review of the Convergence Literature," *Journal of Economic Surveys*, 17(3), pp. 309-362.
- Quah, Danny. (1993) "Empirical Cross-Section Dynamics in Economic Growth," *European Economic Review*, 37, pp. 426-434.
- Quah, Danny. (1996a) "Empirics for Economic Growth and Convergence," European

Economic Review, 40, pp. 1353-1375.

- Quah, Danny. (1996b) "Twin Peaks: Growth and Convergence in Model of Distribution Dynamics," *Economic Journal*, 106, pp. 1045-1055.
- Solow, Robert M. (1956) "A Contribution to the Theory of Economic Growth," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 70, pp. 65-94.

East Asia & Pacific	Middle East & North Africa	North America	South Asia
Australia	United Arab Emirates	Bermuda	Bangladesh
Brunei Darussalam	Bahrain	Canada	Bhutan
China	Djibouti	United States	India
Fiji	Algeria		Sri Lanka
China, Hong Kong SAR	Egypt		Maldives
Indonesia	Iran (Islamic Republic of)		Nepal
Japan	Iraq		Pakistan
Cambodia	Israel		
Republic of Korea	Jordan		
Lao People's DR	Kuwait		
China, Macao SAR	Lebanon		
Myanmar	Morocco		
Mongolia	Malta		
Malaysia	Oman		
New Zealand	State of Palestine		
Philippines	Qatar		
Singapore	Saudi Arabia		
Thailand	Syrian Arab Republic		
Taiwan	Tunisia		
Viet Nam	Yemen		

Table 1 Classification of Region





Continues					
Europe & Central	Asia	Latin America &	Caribbean	Sub-Saharan Afri	ca
Albania	Italy	Aruba	Mexico	Angola	Mozambique
Armenia	Kazakhstan	Anguilla	Montserrat	Burundi	Mauritania
Austria	Kyrgyzstan	Argentina	Nicaragua	Benin	Mauritius
Azerbaijan	Lithuania	Antigua and Barbuda	Panama	Burkina Faso	Malawi
Belgium	Luxembourg	Bahamas	Peru	Botswana	Namibia
Bulgaria	Latvia	Belize	Paraguay	Central African Republic	Niger
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Republic of Moldova	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	El Salvador	Côte d'Ivoire	Nigeria
Belarus	North Macedonia	Brazil	Suriname	Cameroon	Rwanda
Switzerland	Montenegro	Barbados	Sint Maarten (Dutch part)	D.R. of the Congo	Sudan
Cyprus	Netherlands	Chile	Turks and Caicos Islands	Congo	Senegal
Czech Republic	Norway	Colombia	Trinidad and Tobago	Comoros	Sierra Leone
Germany	Poland	Costa Rica	Uruguay	Cabo Verde	Sao Tome and Principe
Denmark	Portugal	Curaçao	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Ethiopia	Eswatini
Spain	Romania	Cayman Islands	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Gabon	Seychelles
Estonia	Russian Federation	Dominica	British Virgin Islands	Ghana	Chad
Finland	Serbia	Dominican Republic		Guinea	Togo
France	Slovakia	Ecuador		Gambia	U.R. of Tanzania: Mainland
United Kingdom	Slovenia	Grenada		Guinea-Bissau	Uganda
Georgia	Sweden	Guatemala		Equatorial Guinea	South Africa
Greece	Tajikistan	Honduras		Kenya	Zambia
Croatia	Turkmenistan	Haiti		Liberia	Zimbabwe
Hungary	Turkey	Jamaica		Lesotho	
Ireland	Ukraine	Saint Kitts and Nevis		Madagascar	
Iceland	Uzbekistan	Saint Lucia		Mali	

	1	2	3	4	5
All wd	1,820	1,869	2,088	1,774	2,319
East Asia & Pacific	195	248	209	109	405
Europe & Central Asia	43	118	314	647	1,092
Latin America & Caribbean	50	320	881	631	299
Middle East & North Africa	91	223	268	183	307
North America	0	0	0	0	180
South Asia	151	172	77	11	0
Sub-Saharan Africa	1,290	788	339	193	36

Table 2 Distribution of Income State among Region (Five States)

Table 3 Income State Changes (Five States, East Asia & Pacific, South Asia)

	1952	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2017
Australia	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Brunei Darussalam			5	5	5	5	5	5
China	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3
Fiji		3	3	3	3	3	3	3
China, Hong Kong SAR		4	4	5	5	5	5	5
Indonesia		2	1	2	2	2	3	3
Japan	3	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
Cambodia			2	1	1	1	1	1
Republic of Korea		2	2	3	4	5	5	5
Lao People's DR			1	1	1	1	2	2
China, Macao SAR			4	5	5	5	5	5
Myanmar			1	1	1	1	2	2
Mongolia			1	2	2	2	3	3
Malaysia		3	3	3	4	4	4	4
New Zealand	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Philippines	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
Singapore		3	4	5	5	5	5	5
Thailand	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	4
Taiwan	2	3	3	4	5	5	5	5
Viet Nam			1	1	1	1	2	2
Bangladesh		2	2	1	1	1	1	1
Bhutan			2	2	2	2	3	3
India	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	2
Sri Lanka	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	3
Maldives			2	3	3	3	3	3
Nepal		1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pakistan	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

		0 0		,			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
All wd	1,584	1,230	1,459	1,504	1,427	1,058	1,608
East Asia & Pacific	163	154	189	146	90	117	307
Europe & Central Asia	28	69	126	252	507	503	729
Latin America & Caribbean	39	110	447	655	528	227	175
Middle East & North Africa	78	104	214	186	128	145	217
North America	0	0	0	0	0	5	175
South Asia	129	138	90	43	11	0	0
Sub-Saharan Africa	1,147	655	393	222	163	61	5

Table 4 Distribution of Income State among Region (Seven States)

Table 5 Income State Changes (Seven States, East Asia & Pacific, South Asia)

	1952	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2017
Australia	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Brunei Darussalam			7	7	7	7	7	7
China	2	2	2	2	2	3	4	4
Fiji		4	4	4	4	4	3	3
China, Hong Kong SAR		5	5	6	7	7	7	6
Indonesia		2	2	2	3	3	3	4
Japan	4	5	6	7	7	7	7	6
Cambodia			2	1	1	1	1	1
Republic of Korea		2	3	4	5	6	6	6
Lao People's DR			1	1	1	1	2	3
China, Macao SAR			5	6	7	7	7	7
Myanmar			1	1	1	1	2	3
Mongolia			2	2	3	2	3	4
Malaysia		3	4	4	5	5	5	5
New Zealand	7	7	7	6	6	7	6	6
Philippines	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Singapore		4	5	7	7	7	7	7
Thailand	2	2	3	3	4	4	4	5
Taiwan	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	7
Viet Nam			1	1	1	2	2	3
Bangladesh		2	2	1	1	1	1	2
Bhutan			2	2	2	3	3	3
India	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	3
Sri Lanka	4	4	3	2	3	3	4	4
Maldives			3	3	4	4	4	4
Nepal		1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pakistan	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

		lo	ml	mi	mh	hi
wd	lo	0.9624	0.0370		0.0006	
wd	ml	0.0428	0.9100	0.0472		
wd	mi	0.0015	0.0401	0.9110	0.0474	
wd	mh		0.0006	0.0502	0.9233	0.0260
wd	hi	0.0004		0.0004	0.0158	0.9833
ea	lo	0.9330	0.0670			
ea	ml	0.0408	0.9102	0.0490		
ea	mi		0.0245	0.9314	0.0441	
ea	mh			0.0280	0.9159	0.0561
ea	hi					1.0000

Table 6 Five States Markov Transition Matrix without Population Weight (wd and ea)

Table / Seven States Markov Transition Matrix without Population weight (<i>wa</i> and <i>ea</i>	Table	e 7 Seven	States I	Markov '	Transition	Matrix	without	Population	Weight	(wd and	ea
---	-------	-----------	----------	----------	------------	--------	---------	------------	--------	---------	----

		11	lo	ml	mi	mh	hi	hh
wd	11	0.9620	0.0368	0.0006		0.0006		
wd	lo	0.0584	0.8774	0.0626	0.0016			
wd	ml	0.0007	0.0523	0.8885	0.0578		0.0007	
wd	mi	0.0014	0.0007	0.0543	0.8784	0.0645	0.0007	
wd	mh		0.0007	0.0007	0.0608	0.8933	0.0437	0.0007
wd	hi			0.0010	0.0010	0.0505	0.8873	0.0603
wd	hh	0.0006					0.0378	0.9616
ea	11	0.9383	0.0617					
ea	lo	0.0519	0.8701	0.0779				
ea	ml		0.0217	0.9348	0.0435			
ea	mi			0.0140	0.9231	0.0629		
ea	mh				0.0341	0.8977	0.0682	
ea	hi						0.9027	0.0973
ea	hh						0.0298	0.9702

	lo	ml	mi	mh	hi
wd	0.2015	0.1678	0.1879	0.1731	0.2697
ea					1.0000
eu	0.0113	0.0383	0.1003	0.2383	0.6118
la	0.0367	0.1773	0.4022	0.2882	0.0957
me	0.0611	0.1744	0.2382	0.1824	0.3439
na	1.0000				
sa	0.3446	0.3932	0.2282	0.0339	
af	0.6335	0.2340	0.0800	0.0433	0.0092
nl	0.0347	0.1678	0.3805	0.2727	0.1443
es					1.0000
ms	0.1246	0.2290	0.2375	0.1473	0.2616
as	0.0685	0.1192	0.1462	0.1235	0.5426

Table 8 Five States Ergodic Distribution without Population Weight

Table 9 Seven States Ergodic Distribution without Population Weight

	11	lo	ml	mi	mh	hi	hh
wd	0.1820	0.1118	0.1307	0.1334	0.1375	0.1175	0.1870
ea						0.2344	0.7656
eu	0.0058	0.0176	0.0356	0.0738	0.1735	0.2255	0.4682
la	0.0340	0.0699	0.2270	0.2954	0.2420	0.0797	0.0519
me	0.0437	0.0732	0.1714	0.1749	0.1344	0.1922	0.2102
na						0.0335	0.9665
sa	0.2367	0.2515	0.2713	0.1896	0.0509		
af	0.6061	0.2166	0.0973	0.0392	0.0275	0.0122	0.0010
nl	0.0323	0.0665	0.2162	0.2814	0.2306	0.0774	0.0956
es						0.2344	0.7656
ms	0.0901	0.1211	0.1887	0.1712	0.1143	0.1502	0.1643
as	0.0365	0.0447	0.0873	0.0979	0.0920	0.2217	0.4199

		lo	ml	mi	mh	hi
wd	lo	0.9058	0.0942		0.0000	
wd	ml	0.0632	0.9125	0.0243		
wd	mi	0.0022	0.0195	0.9441	0.0342	
wd	mh		0.0000	0.0398	0.9395	0.0207
wd	hi	0.0000		0.0000	0.0024	0.9976
ea	lo	0.7134	0.2866			
ea	ml	0.0636	0.9106	0.0258		
ea	mi		0.0136	0.9653	0.0210	
ea	mh			0.0330	0.9006	0.0664
ea	hi					1.0000

Table 10 Five States Markov Transition Matrix with Population Weight (wd and ea)

Table 11 Seven States Markov Transition Matrix with Population We	eight (<i>wd</i>	and <i>ea</i>)
---	-------------------	-----------------

		11	lo	ml	mi	mh	hi	hh
wd	11	0.9231	0.0769	0.0000		0.0000		
wd	lo	0.0385	0.9153	0.0462	0.0000			
wd	ml	0.0000	0.0484	0.9046	0.0470		0.0000	
wd	mi	0.0032	0.0001	0.0213	0.9263	0.0492	0.0000	
wd	mh		0.0000	0.0002	0.0481	0.9041	0.0475	0.0001
wd	hi			0.0000	0.0000	0.0403	0.9049	0.0548
wd	hh	0.0000					0.0164	0.9836
ea	11	0.6988	0.3012					
ea	lo	0.0323	0.9111	0.0566				
ea	ml		0.0505	0.9066	0.0430			
ea	mi			0.0001	0.9633	0.0366		
ea	mh				0.0409	0.8747	0.0844	
ea	hi						0.9188	0.0812
ea	hh						0.0460	0.9540

	lo	ml	mi	mh	hi
wd	0.0572	0.0820	0.0920	0.0791	0.6896
ea					1.0000
eu	0.0009	0.0058	0.0227	0.1006	0.8700
la	0.0093	0.0542	0.5453	0.3877	0.0036
me	0.0901	0.1812	0.3751	0.2647	0.0889
na	1.0000				
sa	0.5605	0.4281	0.0114	0.0000	
af	0.6865	0.2214	0.0666	0.0254	0.0001
nl	0.0048	0.0279	0.2806	0.1995	0.4872
es					1.0000
ms	0.4497	0.3713	0.0982	0.0605	0.0203
as	0.0620	0.1054	0.1154	0.0658	0.6514

Table 12 Five States Ergodic Distribution with Population Weight

Table 13 Seven States Ergodic Distribution with Population Weight

	11	lo	ml	mi	mh	hi	hh
wd	0.0404	0.0711	0.0602	0.1144	0.1166	0.1378	0.4595
ea						0.3613	0.6387
eu	0.0006	0.0019	0.0144	0.0320	0.1297	0.2607	0.5608
la	0.0181	0.0241	0.1436	0.4336	0.3402	0.0395	0.0009
me	0.0566	0.0634	0.2057	0.2885	0.2783	0.0668	0.0409
na						0.0000	1.0000
sa	0.1142	0.1607	0.6726	0.0521	0.0004		
af	0.6868	0.1998	0.0780	0.0248	0.0106	0.0001	0.0000
nl	0.0107	0.0143	0.0852	0.2575	0.2020	0.0235	0.4067
es						0.3613	0.6387
ms	0.1639	0.2132	0.2360	0.1752	0.1526	0.0366	0.0224
as	0.0092	0.0228	0.0206	0.0767	0.0631	0.3227	0.4849

		lo	ml	mi	mh	hi
wd	lo	0.9624	0.0370		0.0006	
wd	ml	0.0428	0.9100	0.0472		
wd	mi	0.0015	0.0401	0.9110	0.0474	
wd	mh		0.0006	0.0502	0.9233	0.0260
wd	hi	0.0004		0.0004	0.0158	0.9833
ea	lo	0.9330	0.0670			
ea	ml	0.0408	0.9102	0.0490		
ea	mi		0.0245	0.9314	0.0441	
ea	mh			0.0280	0.9159	0.0561
ea	hi					1.0000
eu	lo	0.8837	0.1163			
eu	ml	0.0345	0.8534	0.1121		
eu	mi		0.0428	0.8816	0.0757	
eu	mh			0.0318	0.9490	0.0191
eu	hi				0.0074	0.9926
la	lo	0.9167	0.0625		0.0208	
la	ml	0.0128	0.9295	0.0577		
la	mi	0.0012	0.0242	0.9308	0.0438	
la	mh		0.0016	0.0600	0.9206	0.0178
la	hi	0.0034		0.0034	0.0470	0.9463
me	lo	0.8556	0.1444			
me	ml	0.0455	0.8818	0.0727		
me	mi	0.0038	0.0494	0.9125	0.0342	
me	mh			0.0447	0.9050	0.0503
me	hi				0.0267	0.9733
na	lo	1.0000				
na	ml		1.0000			
na	mi			1.0000		
na	mh				1.0000	
na	hi					1.0000

Appendix Table 1 Five States Markov Transition Matrix without Population Weight

		lo	ml	mi	mh	hi
sa	lo	0.9799	0.0201			
sa	ml	0.0176	0.9353	0.0471		
sa	mi		0.0811	0.8919	0.0270	
sa	mh			0.1818	0.8182	
sa	hi					1.0000
af	lo	0.9769	0.0231			
af	ml	0.0614	0.9130	0.0256		
af	mi	0.0030	0.0719	0.8772	0.0479	
af	mh			0.0885	0.8750	0.0365
af	hi				0.1714	0.8286
nl	lo	0.9167	0.0625		0.0208	
nl	ml	0.0128	0.9295	0.0577		
nl	mi	0.0012	0.0242	0.9308	0.0438	
nl	mh		0.0016	0.0600	0.9206	0.0178
nl	hi	0.0021		0.0021	0.0295	0.9663
es	lo	0.9534	0.0466			
es	ml	0.0313	0.9205	0.0482		
es	mi		0.0396	0.9209	0.0396	
es	mh			0.0424	0.9068	0.0508
es	hi					1.0000
ms	lo	0.9331	0.0669			
ms	ml	0.0333	0.9051	0.0615		
ms	mi	0.0030	0.0564	0.9080	0.0326	
ms	mh			0.0526	0.9000	0.0474
ms	hi				0.0267	0.9733
as	lo	0.9330	0.0670			
as	ml	0.0362	0.9071	0.0567		
as	mi	0.0018	0.0444	0.9168	0.0370	
as	mh			0.0438	0.9057	0.0505
as	hi				0.0115	0.9885

		11	lo	ml	mi	mh	hi	hh
wd	11	0.9620	0.0368	0.0006		0.0006		
wd	lo	0.0584	0.8774	0.0626	0.0016			
wd	ml	0.0007	0.0523	0.8885	0.0578		0.0007	
wd	mi	0.0014	0.0007	0.0543	0.8784	0.0645	0.0007	
wd	mh		0.0007	0.0007	0.0608	0.8933	0.0437	0.0007
wd	hi			0.0010	0.0010	0.0505	0.8873	0.0603
wd	hh	0.0006					0.0378	0.9616
ea	11	0.9383	0.0617					
ea	lo	0.0519	0.8701	0.0779				
ea	ml		0.0217	0.9348	0.0435			
ea	mi			0.0140	0.9231	0.0629		
ea	mh				0.0341	0.8977	0.0682	
ea	hi						0.9027	0.0973
ea	hh						0.0298	0.9702
eu	11	0.8214	0.1786					
eu	lo	0.0588	0.7941	0.1471				
eu	ml		0.0640	0.8320	0.1040			
eu	mi		0.0041	0.0413	0.8595	0.0950		
eu	mh			0.0020	0.0384	0.9091	0.0505	
eu	hi					0.0389	0.9121	0.0491
eu	hh						0.0236	0.9764
la	11	0.9189	0.0541			0.0270		
la	lo	0.0278	0.9074	0.0556	0.0093			
la	ml	0.0023	0.0183	0.9128	0.0642		0.0023	
la	mi			0.0526	0.8901	0.0557	0.0015	
la	mh		0.0019		0.0698	0.8973	0.0310	
la	hi			0.0045	0.0045	0.0938	0.8304	0.0670
la	hh	0.0057					0.0971	0.8971
me	11	0.8961	0.0909	0.0130				
me	lo	0.0490	0.8235	0.1275				
me	ml		0.0521	0.8531	0.0948			
me	mi	0.0055		0.0874	0.8579	0.0492		
me	mh				0.0640	0.8640	0.0640	0.0080
me	hi					0.0504	0.8993	0.0504
me	hh						0.0512	0.9488
na	11	1.0000						
na	lo		1.0000					
na	ml			1.0000				
na	mi				1.0000			
na	mh					1.0000		
na	hi						0.5000	0.5000
na	hh						0.0173	0.9827

Appendix Table 2 Seven States Markov Transition Matrix without Population Weight

Continues

		11	lo	ml	mi	mh	hi	hh
sa	11	0.9766	0.0234					
sa	lo	0.0221	0.9412	0.0368				
sa	ml		0.0341	0.9318	0.0341			
sa	mi			0.0488	0.9024	0.0488		
sa	mh				0.1818	0.8182		
sa	hi						1.0000	
sa	hh							1.0000
af	11	0.9732	0.0268					
af	lo	0.0742	0.8779	0.0464	0.0015			
af	ml		0.1049	0.8670	0.0281			
af	mi	0.0046		0.0737	0.8479	0.0737		
af	mh				0.1049	0.8580	0.0370	
af	hi					0.0833	0.8667	0.0500
af	hh						0.6000	0.4000
nl	11	0.9189	0.0541			0.0270		
nl	lo	0.0278	0.9074	0.0556	0.0093			
nl	ml	0.0023	0.0183	0.9128	0.0642		0.0023	
nl	mi			0.0526	0.8901	0.0557	0.0015	
nl	mh		0.0019		0.0698	0.8973	0.0310	
nl	hi			0.0044	0.0044	0.0921	0.8246	0.0746
nl	hh	0.0029					0.0575	0.9397
es	11	0.9552	0.0448					
es	lo	0.0379	0.9034	0.0586				
es	ml		0.0257	0.9338	0.0404			
es	mi			0.0217	0.9185	0.0598		
es	mh				0.0505	0.8889	0.0606	
es	hi						0.9027	0.0973
es	hh						0.0298	0.9702
ms	11	0.9463	0.0488	0.0049				
ms	lo	0.0336	0.8908	0.0756				
ms	ml		0.0468	0.8763	0.0769			
ms	mi	0.0045		0.0804	0.8661	0.0491		
ms	mh				0.0735	0.8603	0.0588	0.0074
ms	hi					0.0504	0.8993	0.0504
ms	hh						0.0512	0.9488
as	11	0.9428	0.0545	0.0027				
as	lo	0.0408	0.8827	0.0765				
as	ml		0.0373	0.8986	0.0642			
as	mi	0.0027		0.0545	0.8883	0.0545		
as	mh				0.0580	0.8750	0.0625	0.0045
as	hi					0.0278	0.9008	0.0714
as	hh						0.0387	0.9613

		lo	ml	mi	mh	hi
wd	lo	0.9058	0.0942		0.0000	
wd	ml	0.0632	0.9125	0.0243		
wd	mi	0.0022	0.0195	0.9441	0.0342	
wd	mh		0.0000	0.0398	0.9395	0.0207
wd	hi	0.0000		0.0000	0.0024	0.9976
ea	lo	0.7134	0.2866			
ea	ml	0.0636	0.9106	0.0258		
ea	mi		0.0136	0.9653	0.0210	
ea	mh			0.0330	0.9006	0.0664
ea	hi					1.0000
eu	lo	0.8857	0.1143			
eu	ml	0.0175	0.8594	0.1232		
eu	mi		0.0314	0.8570	0.1116	
eu	mh			0.0251	0.9473	0.0276
eu	hi				0.0032	0.9968
la	lo	0.9567	0.0433		0.0001	
la	ml	0.0074	0.9077	0.0849		
la	mi	0.0000	0.0084	0.9592	0.0324	
la	mh		0.0000	0.0456	0.9540	0.0005
la	hi	0.0003		0.0003	0.0490	0.9504
me	lo	0.9239	0.0761			
me	ml	0.0306	0.8857	0.0837		
me	mi	0.0035	0.0369	0.9226	0.0370	
me	mh			0.0524	0.9358	0.0117
me	hi				0.0350	0.9650
na	lo	1.0000				
na	ml		1.0000			
na	mi			1.0000		
na	mh				1.0000	
na	hi					1.0000

Appendix Table 3 Five States Markov Transition Matrix with Population Weight

Continues		
I ANTINIDEC	Continues	
COMUNICS	Commues	

		lo	ml	mi	mh	hi
sa	lo	0.9403	0.0597			
sa	ml	0.0781	0.9199	0.0020		
sa	mi		0.0737	0.9255	0.0007	
sa	mh			0.1903	0.8097	
sa	hi					1.0000
af	lo	0.9807	0.0193			
af	ml	0.0538	0.9268	0.0194		
af	mi	0.0197	0.0446	0.8933	0.0423	
af	mh			0.1109	0.8877	0.0014
af	hi				0.5000	0.5000
nl	lo	0.9567	0.0433		0.0001	
nl	ml	0.0074	0.9077	0.0849		
nl	mi	0.0000	0.0084	0.9592	0.0324	
nl	mh		0.0000	0.0456	0.9540	0.0005
nl	hi	0.0000		0.0000	0.0002	0.9998
es	lo	0.8850	0.1150			
es	ml	0.0675	0.9131	0.0194		
es	mi		0.0155	0.9641	0.0204	
es	mh			0.0331	0.9005	0.0663
es	hi					1.0000
ms	lo	0.9395	0.0605			
ms	ml	0.0724	0.9158	0.0118		
ms	mi	0.0031	0.0416	0.9230	0.0324	
ms	mh			0.0526	0.9357	0.0117
ms	hi				0.0350	0.9650
as	lo	0.8864	0.1136			
as	ml	0.0662	0.9121	0.0217		
as	mi	0.0006	0.0192	0.9569	0.0233	
as	mh			0.0409	0.9147	0.0444
as	hi				0.0045	0.9955

		11	lo	ml	mi	mh	hi	hh
wd	11	0.9231	0.0769	0.0000		0.0000		
wd	lo	0.0385	0.9153	0.0462	0.0000			
wd	ml	0.0000	0.0484	0.9046	0.0470		0.0000	
wd	mi	0.0032	0.0001	0.0213	0.9263	0.0492	0.0000	
wd	mh		0.0000	0.0002	0.0481	0.9041	0.0475	0.0001
wd	hi			0.0000	0.0000	0.0403	0.9049	0.0548
wd	hh	0.0000					0.0164	0.9836
ea	11	0.6988	0.3012					
ea	lo	0.0323	0.9111	0.0566				
ea	ml		0.0505	0.9066	0.0430			
ea	mi			0.0001	0.9633	0.0366		
ea	mh				0.0409	0.8747	0.0844	
ea	hi						0.9188	0.0812
ea	hh						0.0460	0.9540
eu	11	0.8434	0.1566					
eu	lo	0.0467	0.7611	0.1923				
eu	ml		0.0222	0.8903	0.0875			
eu	mi		0.0013	0.0361	0.8259	0.1367		
eu	mh			0.0005	0.0333	0.8954	0.0709	
eu	hi					0.0353	0.9136	0.0511
eu	hh						0.0238	0.9762
la	11	0.9713	0.0287			0.0001		
la	lo	0.0215	0.9271	0.0513	0.0001			
la	ml	0.0000	0.0086	0.8992	0.0922		0.0000	
la	mi			0.0305	0.9293	0.0401	0.0000	
la	mh		0.0000		0.0511	0.9229	0.0260	
la	hi			0.0000	0.0000	0.2234	0.7711	0.0055
la	hh	0.0007					0.2332	0.7660
me	11	0.9508	0.0490	0.0003				
me	lo	0.0201	0.8324	0.1475				
me	ml		0.0382	0.8907	0.0711			
me	mi	0.0052		0.0455	0.8940	0.0553		
me	mh				0.0573	0.9270	0.0149	0.0008
me	hi					0.0656	0.8849	0.0495
me	hh						0.0867	0.9133
na	11	1.0000						
na	lo		1.0000					
na	ml			1.0000				
na	mi				1.0000			
na	mh					1.0000		
na	hi						0.4722	0.5278
na	hh						0.0000	1.0000

Appendix Table 4 Seven States Markov Transition Matrix with Population Weight

Continues

		11	lo	ml	mi	mh	hi	hh
sa	11	0.9370	0.0630					
sa	lo	0.0448	0.9318	0.0234				
sa	ml		0.0056	0.9900	0.0044			
sa	mi			0.0567	0.9418	0.0015		
sa	mh				0.1903	0.8097		
sa	hi						1.0000	
sa	hh							1.0000
af	11	0.9815	0.0185					
af	lo	0.0609	0.8733	0.0657	0.0001			
af	ml		0.1614	0.8230	0.0156			
af	mi	0.0223		0.0274	0.9025	0.0478		
af	mh				0.1116	0.8871	0.0013	
af	hi					0.1339	0.7991	0.0670
af	hh						0.6486	0.3514
nl	11	0.9713	0.0287			0.0001		
nl	lo	0.0215	0.9271	0.0513	0.0001			
nl	ml	0.0000	0.0086	0.8992	0.0922		0.0000	
nl	mi			0.0305	0.9293	0.0401	0.0000	
nl	mh		0.0000		0.0511	0.9229	0.0260	
nl	hi			0.0000	0.0000	0.2234	0.7710	0.0056
nl	hh	0.0000					0.0003	0.9997
es	11	0.8957	0.1043					
es	lo	0.0375	0.9198	0.0427				
es	ml		0.0459	0.9150	0.0391			
es	mi			0.0016	0.9627	0.0357		
es	mh				0.0411	0.8746	0.0843	
es	hi						0.9188	0.0812
es	hh						0.0460	0.9540
ms	11	0.9379	0.0621	0.0000				
ms	lo	0.0438	0.9279	0.0283				
ms	ml		0.0221	0.9398	0.0381			
ms	mi	0.0047		0.0466	0.8986	0.0501		
ms	mh				0.0575	0.9268	0.0149	0.0008
ms	hi					0.0656	0.8849	0.0495
ms	hh						0.0867	0.9133
as	11	0.8988	0.1012	0.0000				
as	lo	0.0372	0.9183	0.0444				
as	ml		0.0452	0.9128	0.0421			
as	mi	0.0010		0.0103	0.9491	0.0396		
as	mh				0.0481	0.8973	0.0543	0.0004
as	hi					0.0107	0.9132	0.0761
as	hh						0.0507	0.9493