

The Effect of Tariffs on Global Imports and Exports

GROUP- 7

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1. Introduction

Over the past two decades, the global economy has witnessed significant shifts in trade dynamics, influenced by a multitude of factors including changes in export and import tariffs. As nations engage in trade policy adjustments to pursue various economic objectives, understanding the precise impact of these tariffs on international trade becomes imperative. This paper aims to explore how export and import tariffs have shaped the value and composition of global trade from 2002 to 2021, offering insights into trade dynamics across developed and developing countries.

Understanding the impact of tariffs on international trade is crucial for informing trade policies and economic strategies. This study analyzes how export and import tariffs have influenced the value and composition of global trade over the past 20 years (2002-2021). By examining trade dynamics across developed and developing nations, insights can be gained to promote sustainable economic growth and facilitate effective policymaking. The research objective is to quantify the effects of tariffs on export and import values in US dollar terms, ultimately contributing to a deeper understanding of the complex interplay between trade barriers and cross-border commerce.

a. **Problem Statement**

To study how export and import tariffs impacted the value and composition of international trade over the last 20 years (2002-2021).

b. **Objective of the study**

The objective of this study is to analyze the influence of global export and import tariffs on trade dynamics in developed and developing countries. By specifically examining their effects on export and import values in terms of US dollars, this research seeks to elucidate the nuanced ways in which tariffs shape the patterns of international trade. Through rigorous empirical analysis, the study aims to provide a deeper understanding of how export and import tariffs have influenced trade flows, thereby informing policy discussions and academic discourse surrounding the effects of tariffs on global imports and exports.

2. Literature Review

- a. *The Impact of Trade and Tariffs on the United States* - Erica York, June 2018
Erica York's study (June 2018) outlines the adverse impacts of tariffs on the US economy, including price hikes, decreased employment, and sluggish economic growth. She stresses the necessity for policymakers to advocate for free trade to alleviate these negative effects, offering insights applicable to the broader discussion on global tariffs' implications for trade dynamics
- b. *Macroeconomic Consequences of Tariffs* - Davide Furceri, Andrew K. Rose, January 2019
Furceri and Rose (2019) illuminate the diverse impacts of tariffs on global import and export patterns, drawing from historical data and econometric analysis to reveal the complexities of trade policy. Their research underscores the significance of integrating tariffs into broader discussions on international trade dynamics and macroeconomic stability, offering a valuable framework for understanding the multifaceted consequences of tariffs on economic growth and geopolitical relations.
- c. *To What Extent are Tariffs Offset by Exchange Rates?* - Olivier Jeanne, Jeongwon Son, August 2020

Jeanne and Son (2020) examine how tariffs and exchange rates interact to influence import and export volumes, building on existing research by elucidating the mechanisms behind these dynamics. Their analysis sheds light on the interplay between trade policy and exchange rates, providing valuable insights into the complexities of shaping international trade dynamics.

- d. *The Macroeconomic Consequences of Import Tariffs and Trade Policy Uncertainty* - Lukas Boer and Malte Rieth, January 2024
Boer and Rieth (2024) investigate the macroeconomic consequences of import tariffs and trade policy uncertainty, expanding upon prior research to explore the interactive effects on economic stability and growth. Their analysis underscores the importance of considering both tariff levels and trade policy uncertainty in understanding their impacts on macroeconomic variables such as GDP growth, employment, and investment.

3. Data

The dataset utilized in this analysis is sourced from the World Bank's World Integrated Trade Solutions platform, consolidating global trade data from leading organizations including UNCTAD, WTO, UN Statistics Division, and the International Trade Centre. With 36 variables and 4,666 entries spanning from 2002 to 2021, it encompasses key trade metrics such as transaction details, trade flow direction, product specifics, values in thousands of US dollars, and tariff rates. Major developed and developing countries, strategically selected based on UN classification, provide a comprehensive global perspective on international trade dynamics and tariff impacts.

A list of countries based on developed and developing selected for the analysis is as follows:

Developed: France, Switzerland, Australia, Belgium, Ireland, Canada, Czech Republic, Italy, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, United States, Singapore, United Kingdom

Developing: Malaysia, Brazil, China, Russia, Hong Kong, India, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam

Key terms in the Dataset:

- *Trade Transactions:* The dataset records exchanges of goods between different countries.
- *Trade Flow:* Indicates whether goods are being exported (sent out) or imported (brought in) by a country.
- *Product Details:* Provides information on specific products traded, identified by HS six-digit codes.
- *Trade Values:* Includes the monetary value of exports and imports in thousand US dollars.
- *Tariff Measures:* Includes data on tariff rates, such as average rates and specifics like dutiable items and duty-free items.
- *Tariff Types:* Differentiates between tariff rates based on the Applied Harmonized System (AHS) and the Most Favored Nation (MFN) schedules.

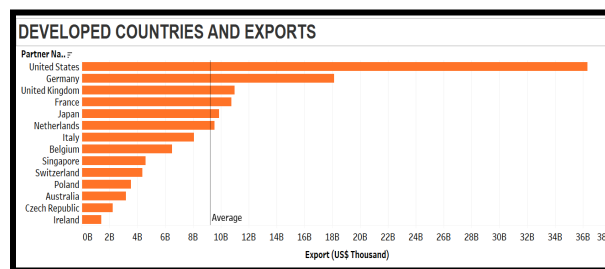
a. Data Preparation

The data preparation process addressed missing data and irrelevant variables. Duplicate rows were checked for (0% found), null fields were identified (418), and irrelevant variables (AHS_MinRate, MFN_MinRate) were removed due to consistently null values. Finally, all remaining null fields were converted to a numeric value of "0" to ensure a clean dataset ready for analysis.

b. Exploratory Analysis

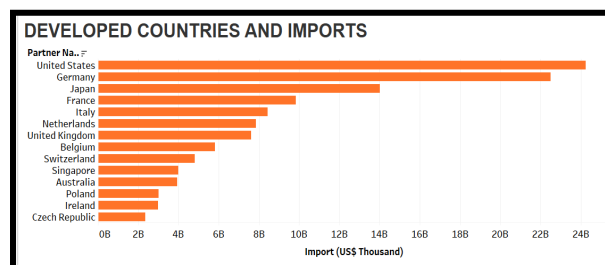
Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) involves visually exploring and analyzing data to uncover patterns and relationships. It includes understanding the dataset's structure, checking for missing values, and computing summary statistics. Through techniques like histograms, scatter plots, and boxplots, EDA helps identify insights that guide further analysis and modeling decisions. A meticulously crafted and impactful visualization showcases the evolving trends in imports and exports between developed and developing nations from 2002 to 2021, encapsulating the dynamic global trade landscape with precision and sophistication.

(i) Cumulative Export and Import Values over 20 years - Developed Countries



Over the past two decades, the United States has consistently led in exports, nearly doubling Germany's export values. This dominance is attributed to its diverse economy and large consumer market.

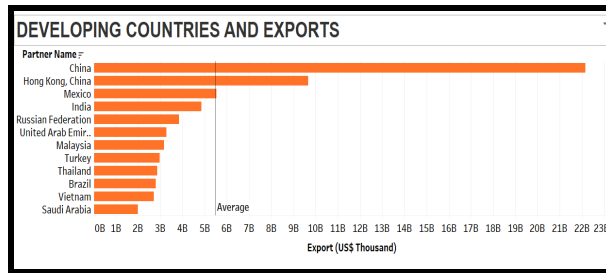
Notably, 50% of the countries' imports exceed the average line, indicating significant import levels. However, Ireland's export diversity is constrained by its focus on high-tech and pharmaceutical industries, potentially impacting overall export volumes despite sector strengths.



In imports, the United States holds a slight lead of approximately \$2 billion over Germany, followed by Japan and France, underscoring their significance in global trade. Conversely, the Czech Republic ranks lowest, indicating comparatively lower import volumes.

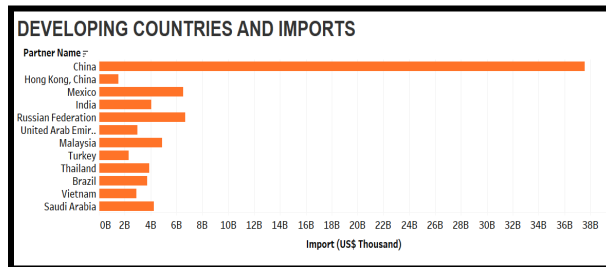
This ranking reflects factors such as economic policies, market demands, and industrial strength, illustrating the varying degrees of influence countries exert in global trade due to their diverse economies and population sizes.

(ii) Cumulative Export and Import Values over 20 years - Developing Countries



China and Hong Kong remain dominant players in global trade, highlighting their crucial roles in the international market. Interestingly, around 80% of countries have export figures below the dataset's average, indicating a widespread distribution of export volumes globally.

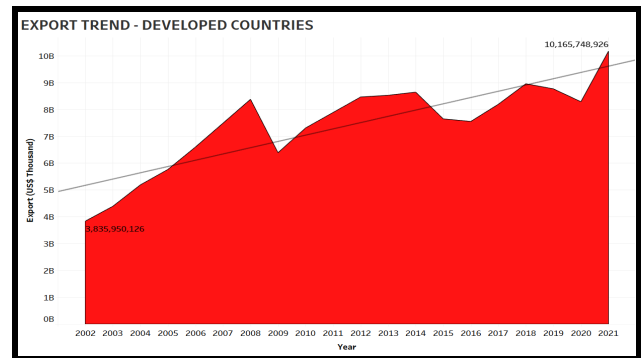
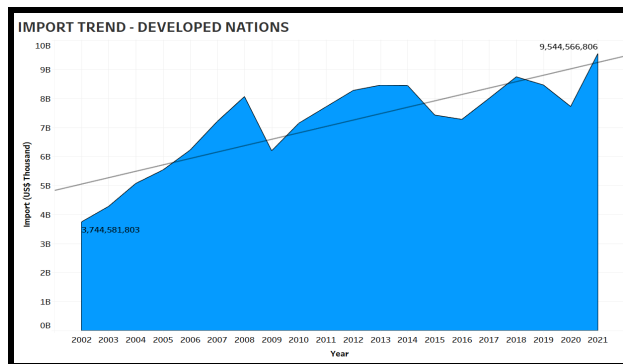
This suggests challenges in competing with powerhouse economies like China and Hong Kong, whose strong export capabilities significantly impact global commerce.



China remains the world's largest importer, boasting a diverse range of products sourced from various countries, showcasing its expansive and dynamic economy. Conversely, many countries focus on specific trade products, like oil and minerals, to drive economic growth and competitiveness.

While China's broad import portfolio provides versatility, specialization offers strategic advantages for countries excelling in specific industries. For instance, resource-rich nations leverage their abundance to become key suppliers globally, enhancing economic stability and influence. Despite this, the global trade landscape remains complex, with each country navigating unique strengths and challenges to secure its position in the international marketplace.

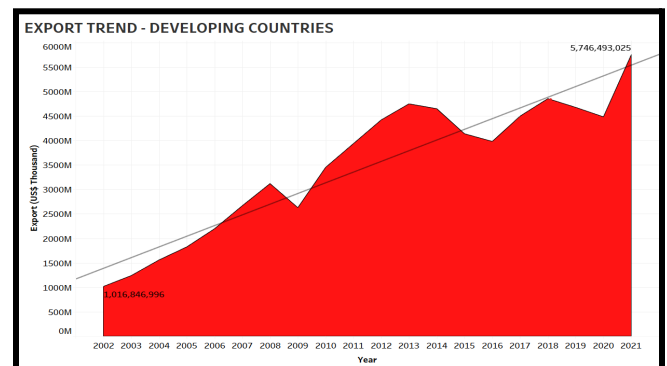
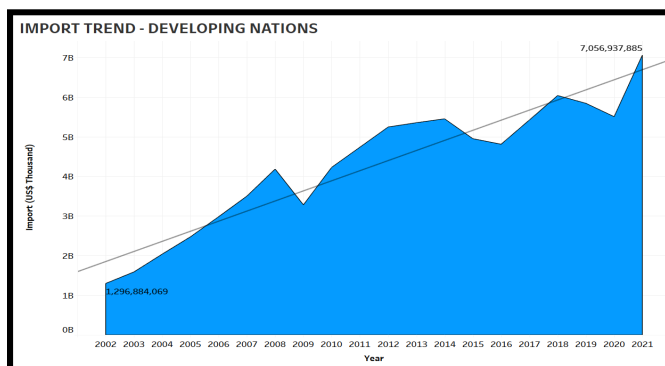
(iii) Import & Export Value Trend over 20 years - Developed Countries



From 2002 to 2021, both developed and developing countries experienced growth, progress, and setbacks, reflecting societal dynamics, economic factors, and political developments. Developed nations generally showed steady progress, driven by technological advancements and sound leadership decisions. Conversely, developing countries faced complexities such as infrastructure deficits and political instability, though they also made strides forward. Importantly, these changes underscore the interconnectedness of society, economics, and politics in shaping global trends.

Imports surged from 2002 to 2008 amid global expansion but plummeted in 2009 due to the economic downturn, with recovery seen in 2010 and a slight dip in 2019 likely attributed to COVID-19 disruptions. However, a rebound in 2021 suggests resilience in overcoming pandemic impacts and adapting to challenges for economic recovery. Similarly, exports peaked in 2008 with global economic growth but declined afterward, particularly affecting developing countries during the recession. Despite challenges, the subsequent steady export growth showcases the resilience of developing economies and the importance of coordinated efforts for sustainable growth amidst global economic fluctuations.

(iv) Import & Export Value Trend over 20 years - Developing Countries



From 2002 to 2021, both developed and developing countries experienced growth and setbacks, shaped by societal, economic, and political factors. The recession of 2009 slowed international trade, disproportionately affecting exports from developing nations. In 2018, trade policies, tariff

reductions, and currency fluctuations made imports more accessible and affordable for developing countries, fostering greater economic integration.

EDA focused on export and import trends over the past two decades of developed and developing countries. The US emerged as a major exporter, nearly doubling Germany's values, while Ireland's export range was limited due to its focus on high-tech and pharmaceutical industries. Importantly, the recession of 2009 significantly impacted global trade, though policies like tariff reductions in 2018 made imports more accessible for developing countries.

4. Empirical Methods

Empirical methods form the backbone of scientific inquiry, using observation and experimentation to gather real-world data and draw reliable conclusions. They enable researchers to test hypotheses, validate theories, and advance knowledge across various disciplines. For the project a thorough analysis of how the tariff lines impact the world's export and import among the developed and developing nations. Potentially, a multiple linear regression model has been used in order to assess the level of impact and significance of the variables.

- Regression Model for Export - DEVELOPED NATIONS
- Regression Model for Import - DEVELOPED NATIONS
- Regression Model for Export - DEVELOPING NATIONS
- Regression Model for Imports - DEVELOPING NATIONS

```
Call:
lm(formula = log(df$`Export_(USD_Thousand)`) ~ df$`AHS_SpecificDuty_Imports(USD_Thousand)` +
  `MFN_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` + `AHS_Total_Tariff_Lines` +
  `MFN_Duty_Free_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` + `AHS_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` +
  `MFN_SpecificDuty_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` + `AHS_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share` +
  `MFN_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share` + `AHS_Duty_Free_Tariff_Lines_Share` +
  `AHS_Simple_Average` + df$Year + `AHS_Specific_Tariff_Lines_Share`,
  data = df)
```

Residuals:

	Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
	-1.09300	-0.19809	-0.02694	0.21961	0.82936

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t)
(Intercept)	-6.076e+01	1.344e+01	-4.521	9.20e-06 ***
df\$`AHS_SpecificDuty_Imports(USD_Thousand)`	5.598e-10	3.917e-10	1.429	0.1541
`MFN_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)`	5.679e-09	2.615e-09	2.172	0.0307 *
AHS_Total_Tariff_Lines	5.111e-06	3.030e-07	16.866	< 2e-16 ***
`MFN_Duty_Free_Imports_(USD_Thousand)`	2.277e-08	1.086e-08	2.096	0.0370 *
`AHS_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)`	-6.048e-09	2.601e-09	-2.325	0.0208 *
`MFN_SpecificDuty_Imports_(USD_Thousand)`	-4.456e-10	3.399e-10	-1.311	0.1911
AHS_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share	1.282e-01	1.737e-02	7.380	1.93e-12 ***
MFN_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share	-9.984e-02	1.680e-02	-5.942	8.57e-09 ***
AHS_Duty_Free_Tariff_Lines_Share	1.149e-01	1.658e-02	6.927	3.11e-11 ***
AHS_Simple_Average	1.422e-01	2.859e-02	4.975	1.16e-06 ***
df\$Year	3.641e-02	6.193e-03	5.880	1.20e-08 ***
AHS_Specific_Tariff_Lines_Share	-3.036e-02	4.080e-02	-0.744	0.4574

 Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 0.315 on 272 degrees of freedom
 Multiple R-squared: 0.8724, Adjusted R-squared: 0.8667
 F-statistic: 154.9 on 12 and 272 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16

Model 1:

- Predict exports among developed nations using multiple linear regression, considering factors like tariff lines for exports and imports.
- Incorporates measures to manage the dependency between exports and imports due to simultaneous involvement of many countries.
- R squared value of 0.87 suggests that the model explains 87% of the variability in exports, indicating strong predictive reliability.
- Includes a linear trend from 2002 to 2021 to account for systematic changes over time.
- Extremely low p-values for explanatory variables indicate their significant impact on determining exports.
- Overall model p-value less than 0.05 signifies a statistically significant collective effect of the included variables on export dynamics.


```
lm(formula = log(df$`Import_(USD_Thousand)` ~ df$`AHS_SpecificDuty_Imports(USD_Thousand)` +
`MFN_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` + `AHS_Total_Tariff_Lines` +
`MFN_Duty_Free_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` + `AHS_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` +
`MFN_SpecificDuty_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` + `AHS_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share` +
`MFN_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share` + `AHS_Duty_Free_Tariff_Lines_Share` +
`AHS_Simple_Average` + df$Year + `AHS_Specific_Tariff_Lines_Share`,
data = df)
```

Residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-1.1712	-0.2044	-0.0081	0.1732	0.9379

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t)
(Intercept)	-7.212e+01	1.343e+01	-5.372	1.68e-07 ***
df\$`AHS_SpecificDuty_Imports(USD_Thousand)`	9.021e-10	3.912e-10	2.306	0.021877 *
`MFN_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)`	9.193e-09	2.612e-09	3.520	0.000505 ***
AHS_Total_Tariff_Lines	3.356e-06	3.027e-07	11.087	< 2e-16 ***
`MFN_Duty_Free_Imports_(USD_Thousand)`	8.677e-09	1.085e-08	0.800	0.424572
`AHS_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)`	-9.058e-09	2.598e-09	-3.486	0.000571 ***
`MFN_SpecificDuty_Imports_(USD_Thousand)`	-5.768e-10	3.396e-10	-1.699	0.090534 .
AHS_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share	1.318e-01	1.735e-02	7.596	4.94e-13 ***
MFN_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share	-8.652e-02	1.678e-02	-5.156	4.87e-07 ***
AHS_Duty_Free_Tariff_Lines_Share	1.219e-01	1.657e-02	7.359	2.20e-12 ***
AHS_Simple_Average	1.501e-01	2.856e-02	5.258	2.95e-07 ***
df\$Year	4.150e-02	6.185e-03	6.709	1.13e-10 ***
AHS_Specific_Tariff_Lines_Share	1.360e-03	4.075e-02	0.033	0.973400

Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 0.3146 on 272 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared: 0.8417, Adjusted R-squared: 0.8347
F-statistic: 120.5 on 12 and 272 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16

Model 2:

- Analyzes the impact of tariff lines and other factors on imports in developed nations using multi-linear regression.
- Includes a time trend and selects relevant features for accurate analysis.
- Metrics such as R squared and Adjusted R squared show the model explains about 84% of the variability in imports.
- Extremely low p-values for most independent variables indicate significant impacts on imports. However, variables like MFN Specific Duty Import and AHS Specific Tariff Lines Shares, with p-values above 0.05, may not significantly influence imports.
- The collective p-value confirms the significant effect of included variables on imports, highlighting the need to consider various factors, including tariff lines, in import analysis.

```
Call:
lm(formula = log(df2$`Export_(USD_Thousand)` ~ df2$`AHS_SpecificDuty_Imports(USD_Thousand)` +
`MFN_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` + `AHS_Total_Tariff_Lines` +
`MFN_Duty_Free_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` + `AHS_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` +
`MFN_SpecificDuty_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` + `AHS_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share` +
`MFN_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share` + `AHS_Duty_Free_Tariff_Lines_Share` +
`AHS_Simple_Average` + df2$Year + `AHS_Specific_Tariff_Lines_Share`,
data = df2)
```

Residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-0.59335	-0.16766	0.00694	0.15416	0.81183

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t)
(Intercept)	-2.682e+01	1.674e+01	-1.602	0.11110
df2\$`AHS_SpecificDuty_Imports(USD_Thousand)`	-1.206e-09	6.832e-10	-1.765	0.07942 .
`MFN_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)`	-1.179e-09	3.801e-09	-0.310	0.75684
AHS_Total_Tariff_Lines	1.413e-06	2.136e-07	6.613	5.52e-10 ***
`MFN_Duty_Free_Imports_(USD_Thousand)`	2.222e-08	1.059e-08	2.098	0.03752 *
`AHS_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)`	3.482e-09	3.950e-09	0.882	0.37935
`MFN_SpecificDuty_Imports_(USD_Thousand)`	1.364e-09	6.460e-10	2.111	0.03633 *
AHS_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share	5.614e-02	1.311e-02	4.282	3.20e-05 ***
MFN_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share	-7.746e-02	1.915e-02	-4.045	8.17e-05 ***
AHS_Duty_Free_Tariff_Lines_Share	6.066e-02	1.327e-02	4.572	9.71e-06 ***
AHS_Simple_Average	2.106e-02	1.923e-02	1.095	0.27520
df2\$Year	2.215e-02	7.638e-03	2.900	0.00426 **
AHS_Specific_Tariff_Lines_Share	-4.996e-02	2.967e-02	-1.684	0.09412 .

Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 0.2509 on 158 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared: 0.8524, Adjusted R-squared: 0.8412
F-statistic: 76.03 on 12 and 158 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16

Model 3:

- Understand exports in developing nations based on various tariff lines of import and export.
- Applies a linear trend to assess changes in exports from 2002 to 2021.
- R squared and adjusted R squared values at 0.85 indicate that the model reliably predicts 85% of the variability in exports.
- P-values greater than 0.05 for AHS Specific Duty Imports, AHS Total Tariff Lines, AHS Dutiable Imports, and AHS Specific Tariff Line Share suggest these variables do not significantly impact exports in developing nations.
- These findings highlight a shift from previous assumptions, indicating that these variables are less influential in explaining export behavior in the context of this model.
- The results encourage researchers and policymakers to consider different factors or

variables to more accurately predict and understand export dynamics in developing regions.

```
lm(formula = log(df2$`Import_(USD_Thousand)`) ~ df2$`AHS_SpecificDuty_Imports(USD_Thousand)` +
`MFN_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` + AHS_Total_Tariff_Lines +
`MFN_Duty_Free_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` + `AHS_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` +
`MFN_SpecificDuty_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` + AHS_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share +
MFN_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share + AHS_Duty_Free_Tariff_Lines_Share +
AHS_Simple_Average + df2$Year + AHS_Specific_Tariff_Lines_Share,
data = df2)

Residuals:
    Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
-1.00813 -0.09088  0.00130  0.12004  0.48677

Coefficients:
                Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)      2.263e+01  1.525e+01   1.484  0.139853
df2$`AHS_SpecificDuty_Imports(USD_Thousand)`  4.313e-10  6.226e-10   0.693  0.489531
`MFN_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` -2.262e-09  3.464e-09  -0.653  0.514624
AHS_Total_Tariff_Lines -4.556e-07  1.947e-07  -2.340  0.020539 *
`MFN_Duty_Free_Imports_(USD_Thousand)`  1.713e-08  9.652e-09   1.775  0.077824 .
`AHS_Dutiable_Imports_(USD_Thousand)`  7.578e-09  3.599e-09   2.105  0.036834 *
`MFN_SpecificDuty_Imports_(USD_Thousand)` -2.154e-10  5.887e-10  -0.366  0.714911
AHS_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share  2.129e-02  1.195e-02   1.782  0.076696 .
MFN_Dutiable_Tariff_Lines_Share -6.597e-02  1.745e-02  -3.780  0.000222 ***
AHS_Duty_Free_Tariff_Lines_Share  1.548e-02  1.209e-02   1.280  0.202418
AHS_Simple_Average -2.605e-02  1.753e-02  -1.487  0.139137
df2$Year -8.141e-04  6.960e-03  -0.117  0.907035
AHS_Specific_Tariff_Lines_Share -8.879e-03  2.704e-02  -0.328  0.743028
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Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 0.2287 on 158 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared:  0.8808,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.8717
F-statistic: 97.25 on 12 and 158 DF,  p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

Model 4:

- Analyzes imports in developing nations using tariff lines and various MFN and dutiable variables.
- R squared and adjusted R squared values of 0.88 indicate high reliability and accuracy in predicting import behavior.
- The collective p-value is extremely low, suggesting significant influence of combined variables on imports.
- Several variables, including AHS Specific Dutiable Imports, MFN Dutiable Imports, MFN Duty Free Imports, MFN Specific Duty Imports, and AHS Duty Free Tariff Lines, show p-values greater than 0.05, indicating they may not significantly affect import predictions.
- These results reveal complexities in import dynamics and suggest that some traditionally significant variables may not be strong predictors in this model.
- The findings encourage a more nuanced analysis and potentially exploring additional variables to better understand import behavior in developing nations.

5. Results

a. Key Findings:

Developed Countries:

Tariff Lines and Duties: Intricate trade agreements, like the EU's Common External Tariff, consist of numerous tariff lines, correlating positively with high trade volumes.

Most Favored Nation (MFN) Duties: Increases in MFN dutiable imports in developed countries indicate higher import values, suggesting greater demand for raw materials for advanced manufacturing. Higher duties may be used to protect domestic industries, affecting export competitiveness in specific sectors.

Year Trend: Positive trade value trends over time, driven by globalization, technological advancements, and e-commerce, facilitating greater market access.

Developing Countries:

Tariff Lines and Duties: Complex tariff structures aimed at protecting domestic industries, but negative impacts on export values suggest challenges in competitiveness due to higher tariffs. High duties on imports and exports contribute to inflation by raising costs for goods.

Most Favored Nation (MFN) Duties: Increases in MFN dutiable imports reflect dependency on imported materials for industrial production but may hinder export competitiveness due to higher duties imposed by trading partners.

Year Trend: Significant growth in trade values influenced by economic liberalization, foreign investment, and integration into global value chains, exemplified by China's economic rise and increased trade activity.

b. General Insights:

Understanding the likely impacts of different approaches allows policymakers to formulate more effective strategies for economic growth. This includes trade expansion policies to increase overall trade volume, import substitution strategies to boost domestic production, and nuanced policies tailored to diverse national needs and challenges within the global trading framework. Developed economies may prioritize free trade agreements to expand markets, while developing countries may use protectionist measures like tariffs to promote domestic production. These strategies aim to improve the economy while ensuring fair opportunities for all.

6. Conclusion**a. Recommendations:**

- **Enhancing Trade Relations:** Countries should engage in comprehensive trade agreements to stabilize relations and reduce tariff impacts, similar to the European Union's approach with its single market.
- **Leveraging Competitive Advantages:** Nations need to tailor tariffs to strengthen competitive industries, as seen with Japan's focus on electronics and automotive sectors.
- **Investing in Trade Facilitation:** Improving trade infrastructure and procedures can reduce trade costs and enhance competitiveness, exemplified by Singapore's efficient port systems.
- **Adaptive Monitoring and Response:** Continual adaptation and monitoring of tariff impacts are crucial for maintaining flexible and effective trade policies, demonstrated by the U.S. renegotiation of NAFTA.

b. Final Observations:

Tariffs play a significant role in shaping global trade dynamics, with a considerable impact on economic growth and trade patterns, necessitating thoughtful and strategic trade policies.

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