# EU ACCESSION EFFECTS ON EXPORT PERFORMANCE: THE CASE OF GREECE

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#### Abstract

This paper estimates the effects on Greek export performance that caused by the EU accession. A simultaneous equations model of export demand and export supply is used in order to avoid the simultaneity problem. Comparative static analysis and the residuals approach have been implemented. The results indicate that EU accession had a negative effect on the country's export performance, instead of improving it. One of the reasons for this effect is that the export subsidies, during the time period that they were available, just improved the exporters' revenues and were not used for creating new comparative advantages for the Greek products.

**JEL Classification:** C30, F13, F15

**Keywords:** EU Accession, Export subsidies, Simultaneous equations, Comparative static analysis, Residuals approach, Anti-monde.

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#### 1. Introduction

Greece entered the EU as a full member in 1981. Being an associate member since 1962, the country had gradually reduced tariff protection, so that by 1981, imports of manufactures not produced domestically were totally deregulated, while tariffs on imports of products produced domestically had fallen by 60%. Yet protection by other means (quotas, financial stringencies, import taxes, etc.) was very large and its abolition has harmed the country's trade balance from the import side considerably. As Koukouritakis (2005) shows, the abolition of overall trade protection had negative effects on the country's domestic production. Especially in the case of manufactured goods, it was found that the cumulative reduction in the domestic sales of manufactured goods (i.e. domestic production minus total exports) for the first post-accession decade amounts to about 10% of the total expenditure and to about 6% of GDP. EU imports replaced the major part of the above reduction, while imports from the rest of the world (ROW) replaced a smaller part.

On the other hand, Greece had to abolish export subsidies. As Maroulis (1992) indicates, in some manufacturing sectors, such as shoes and garments, the export subsidies were up to 24% of the fob value of exports. Note also that from 1968, all barriers that were imposed by the six EC members on Greek imports were totally abolished. The present analysis shows that the gradual abolition of export subsidies had a negative effect on the country's export performance. This implies that the provision of this export promotion measure did not lead to an improvement of quality and competitiveness of the Greek exports. This fact is obvious especially in the categories 6 and 8 of the Standard International Trade Classification – Revision 3 (SITC3), which include the leading sectors of Greek exports, such as textiles, shoes and garments.

A number of studies have considered the implications of accession for Greek export performance (see for example Tsoukalis 1979, Mitsos 1983, Giannitsis 1988, Plummer 1991, Georgakopoulos 1993 and Arghyrou 2000). These studies have however used either elasticity estimates coming out of single equation export demand supply models or ex-post indices (growth rates, income elasticities, shares in apparent consumption etc.). The above studies provide crude results, since by using single equation models, they cannot avoid the simultaneity problem<sup>1</sup>.

The present study contributes in the following way: The estimation of the EU accession effects on the Greek export performance was carried out by using a simultaneous two-equation model, in order to avoid the simultaneity problem, and not single equation models. For this reason, I argue that my approach can investigate the EU accession effects on Greek exports more effectively. Comparative static analysis and the residuals approach have been used. The simultaneous estimation of the ex-

<sup>1.</sup> In brief, the use of single equation models cannot avoid the possible correlation between the exogenous variables and the error term. In that case, these variables become endogenous and the assumption E(X'u) = 0 of the OLS method is no longer valid.

port demand and supply functions allows me to avoid the simultaneity problem that may arise by the dual relationship between the volume of exports and the price of exports.

In the next section of the present paper, I present the institutional framework of Greek export subsidies, as well as the course of export penetration of Greek products during the last few decades. Section 3 describes the theoretical specification of the model, while Section 4 presents the data used and analyzes the estimation method and the results. In Section 5, I use comparative static analysis in order to estimate the short run and long run multipliers of the variables of the model, while in Section 6 I use the residuals approach in order to determine the effects caused by EU accession and the consequent abolition of export subsidies on the country's export performance. Section 7 offers some concluding remarks.

# 2. Export Subsidies and Export Penetration

Greece subsidized exporters of manufactures using the following formula, which had been determined by the Greek government in 1970:

$$S = E\left(0.12 + \frac{A - 30}{30} \cdot 0.12\right), \quad A \le 60 \tag{1}$$

where S is the subsidy, E is the fob value of exports and A is the so-called "export value added". Export value added is calculated by deducting from the fob value of exports, the cif value of imported inputs, half of the electricity and fuels expenditure of the exporting enterprise and the value of domestic inputs. From the above formula it is clear that the larger the "export value added", the larger the subsidies.

In 1982, a constant export subsidy for shoes and garments was set up, which was 24% of the fob value of exports. Other measures with equivalent effect to export subsidies were stamp-duty returns and low interest rates on loans, in order to finance export activity. The abolition of all forms of export subsidies took place between 1987 and 1992. Table 1 presents the time schedule of the gradual abolition of export subsidies.

As mentioned in the previous section, export subsidies were not used for the improvement of the quality and competitiveness of Greek exports. The above argument is indicated by the results of Tables 2 and 3, which present the Greek export penetration index for overall products and for industrial products, respectively. The export penetration index of a country i to a country (or group of countries) j is defined as the ratio of the country i's exports to the country (or group of countries) j, divided by the country (or group of countries) j's total imports.

This formula was taken by Leventakis and Brisimis (1987). They calculated it, based on the respective law that was published in the Official Paper of the Greek Government, in 1970.

Date	Exports to the EU countries	Exports to the ROW countries
1/1/1987	55%	40%
1/1/1988	1.5%	12%
1/1/1989	15%	12%
1/1/1990	15%	12%
1/1/1991	-8	12%
1/1/1992		12%

**Table 1.** Reduction percentages of the export subsidies that were available from 31/12/1986

Source: Koukouritakis (2002)

As Table 2 indicates, Greek export penetration to all destinations increased in the 1970s. One possible explanation is that export subsidies and low interest rates in financing investments in the agricultural and industrial sector, led a large number of domestic and foreign enterprises to start their operations in this country. In the first years after EU accession Greek export penetration of the EU increased, while penetration of the rest of the OECD countries decreased. But the gradual abolition of export subsidies that began in 1986 led to a continuous decrease in the country's export penetration. This decrease mainly occurred in exports to the EU markets.

**Table 2.** Greek export penetration index: Total products

	Total e	xports exclu	ding fuels	Total exports			
Year	Intra EU	Total EU	Rest OECD	Intra EU	Total EU	Rest OECD	
1970	0.61	0.32	0.17	0.58	0.28	0.15	
1975	0.74	0.41	0.25	0.79	0.38	0.19	
1980	0.66	0.39	0.25	0.72	0.36	0.17	
1981	0.68	0.40	0.22	0.63	0,32	0.21	
1982	0.73	0.44	0.18	0.69	0.36	0.17	
1983	0.80	0.47	0.06	0.73	0.38	0.06	
1984	0.86	0.50	0.08	0.82	0.42	0.08	
1985	0.71	0.43	0.08	0.71	0.38	0.08	
1986	0.82	0.50	0.09	0.81	0.46	0.09	
1987	0.79	0.48	0.10	0.79	0.46	0.10	
1988	0.56	0.34	0.07	0.55	0.32	0.07	
1989	0.75	0.45	0.09	0.75	0.43	0.08	
1990	0.63	0.38	0.09	0.63	0.37	0.09	
1991	0.67	0.40	0.08	0.66	0.38	0.08	
1992	0.78	0.47	0.07	0.77	0.44	0.07	
1993	0.61	0.38	0.07	0.60	0.35	0.07	
1994	0.54	0.34	0.06	0.54	0.33	0.06	
1995	0.57	0.36	0.06	0.56	0.35	0.05	
1996	0.48	0.31	0.07	0.48	0.29	0.06	
1997	0.42	0.26	0.10	0.42	0.25	0.09	

Source: OECD - Foreign Trade by Commodities (Series C), Various Issues

Table 3 presents the Greek export penetration index for industrial products. I mainly focus on categories 6 and 8 of SITC3, which include the leading sectors of Greek exports, such as textiles, shoes and garments. Until the mid-1980s this index is almost constant for all destinations. It is also obvious that in the last years of the 1980s, where the abolition of export subsidies began, there was a continuous decrease in the specific index, especially for exports to the EU markets. The export penetration index remained at low levels in the 1990s, which may reflect the low competitiveness and the structural problems of the Greek economy.

**Table 3.** Greek export penetration index: Industrial products

	Chemical products  (Category 5 of SITC3)		class	strial pro sified by materia	raw I	tra	inery an nsporta materia	ion I	indus	scellane strial pro	oducts	
				(Category 6 of SITC3)		(Category 7 of SITC3)			(Category 8 of SITC3)			
Year	Intra EU	Total EU	Rest OECD	Intra EU	Total EU	Rest OECD	Intra EU	Total EU	Rest OECD	Intra EU	Total EU	Rest
1970	0.42	0.27	0.02	0.75	0.42	0.12	0.03	0.02	0.06	0.18	0.10	0.26
1975	0.38	0.27	0.09	0.89	0.53	0.26	0.06	0.04	0.10	0.92	0.54	0.84
1980	0.22	0.16	0.11	0.99	0.57	0.17	0.04	0.03	0.02	1.10	1.01	1.04
1981	0.11	0.08	0.07	1.04	0.63	0.23	0.05	0.03	0.02	1,27	1.16	0.76
1982	0.18	0.13	0.04	1.01	0.60	0.18	0.06	0.04	0.03	1.44	1.32	0.57
1983	0.22	0.16	0.03	1.01	0.63	0.08	0.05	0.03	0.00	1.53	0.86	0.08
1984	0.17	0.12	0.04	1.11	0.69	0.18	0.06	0.04	0.00	1.75	0.96	0.11
1985	0.12	0.09	0.04	0.96	0.61	0.18	0.05	0.03	0.00	1.54	0.87	0.14
1986	0.12	0.08	0.03	1.02	0.65	0.17	0.06	0.04	0.00	1.83	1.05	0.18
1987	0.10	0.08	0.05	1.01	0.65	0.18	0.06	0.03	0.00	1.87	1.04	0.20
1988	0.08	0.06	0.03	0.74	0.47	0.13	0.04	0.03	0.00	1.41	0.76	0.16
1989	0.14	0.10	0.04	0.90	0.56	0.13	0.06	0.04	0.00	1.51	0.81	0.22
1990	0.12	0.09	0.05	0.75	0.48	0.11	0.06	0.04	0.01	1,37	0.74	0.20
1991	0.13	0.09	0.05	0.83	0.52	0.10	0.06	0.04	0.01	1.44	0.75	0.17
1992	0.15	0.11	0.05	0.88	0.56	0.09	0.08	0.05	0.01	1.84	0.95	0.08
1993	0.14	0.11	0.06	0.61	0.43	0.12	0.08	0.05	0.01	1.68	0.85	0.08
1994	0.12	0.09	0.04	0.58	0.41	0.10	0.07	0.04	0.01	1.39	0.71	0.06
1995	0.15	0.11	0.04	0.60	0.41	0.10	0.10	0.06	0.01	1.37	0.71	0.07
1996	0.12	0.09	0.05	0.48	0.34	0.12	0.07	0.04	0.01	1.22	0.62	0.07
1997	0.11	0.08	0.07	0.45	0.31	0.13	0.07	0.05	0.01	1.10	0.54	0.19

Source: OECD - Foreign Trade by Commodities (Series C), Various Issues

The analysis in the present section indicates that there has been a downward trend in Greek export penetration since the mid-1980s, when the abolition of the export subsidies began<sup>3</sup>. During the long time period that these subsidies were valid, they did not manage to improve the competitiveness of the Greek products in international

<sup>3.</sup> For a more detailed analysis of the institutional framework of Greek export subsidies and the penetration by the country's exports of international markets, see also Koukouritakis (2002).

markets by developing product differentiation or new production specializations (see for example, Arghyrou and Bazina, (2003)). Thus, one can claim that the reduction of the country's export penetration of international markets after the abolition of the subsidies was inevitable.

#### 3. The Model

The model used in the present study assumes imperfect substitution and is based on previous works by Goldstein and Khan (1978, 1985) and Tansel and Togan (1987). Imperfect substitution means that the exported goods are not perfect substitutes for the domestic ones. The structure of the model, which is expressed in a log-linear form, is the following:

$$\ln X_i^D = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \ln \left( PX / PXW \right)_i + \alpha_2 \ln YW_i \tag{2}$$

$$\ln X^{S} = \beta_{0} + \beta_{1} \ln (PX/P)_{1} + \beta_{2} \ln Y_{1}^{*} + \beta_{3} \ln S_{1} + \beta_{4} \ln S_{1-1}$$
(3)

In equation (2),  $X^D$  is the volume of Greek exports demanded, PX is the price of the Greek exports, PXW is the price of the world exports and YW refers to the real world output. In equation (3), P is the domestic price index,  $Y^*$  is a trend of the domestic productive capacity and S refers to the rate of export subsidies on the fob value of exports<sup>4</sup>.

Note that the variable S has the form of the following polynomial:

$$S = (a + bL)S_t \tag{4}$$

since it enters the model with a lag (L is the lag operator). The reason that I use this assumption is that the preparation expenditures of Greek exports were pre-financed at special low interest rates. These low interest rates were, of course, a measure of export promotion (Koukouritakis, 2002).

Since trade flows need some time to adjust to their long-run levels, the estimation of a static form of the model is problematic. Therefore, a dynamic form has been developed in order to introduce the disequilibrium behaviour into the model.

The adjustment mechanism utilized in the export market is partly based on that followed by Goldstein and Khan (1978) and Browne (1982). Assume that the price of exports adjusts according to world demand for exports. The adjustment mechanism employed in this case is based on the polynomial distributed lag (PDL) scheme developed by Almon (1965). In this case it takes the following form:

$$\ln X_{t}^{D} - \ln X_{t} = \sum_{k=0}^{T} g_{k} \ln P X_{t-k}$$
 (5)

<sup>4.</sup> Note that the export subsidies are a separate variable in this model and not embodied in export prices. The reason is that we also examine whether the effects on the export volume due to the subsidies' changes are similar to those brought about by export price changes.

Demand theory imposes the following homogeneity restriction:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{T} g_k = 0 \tag{6}$$

Almon assumes that  $g_k$  can be approximated by a suitable-degree polynomial in k, where k denotes the length of the lag. Generally, it is assumed that the degree of the polynomial (m) is less than k (the maximum length of the lag). In order to choose the appropriate lag length, the Akaike information criterion has been used. It is found that k=2 and, consequently, m=1.

Therefore, equation (5) becomes:

$$\ln X_{t}^{D} - \ln X_{t} = g_{0} \ln PX_{t} + g_{1} \ln PX_{t-1} + g_{2} \ln PX_{t-2}$$
 (7)

and the polynomial has the following form:

$$g_k = q_0 + q_1 k \tag{8}$$

For k=0 equation (8) becomes:  $g_0=q_0$ .

For k=1 equation (8) becomes:  $g_1 = q_0 + q_1$ .

For k=2 equation (8) becomes:  $g_2 = q_0 + 2q_1 = -2q_0 - q_1$  due to the homogeneity restriction in equation (6).

By substituting equation (2) and the above expressions of equation (8) into equation (7) and solving for the price of exports, one can obtain:

$$\ln PX_{t} = c_{0} + c_{1} \ln X_{t} + c_{2} \ln YW_{t} + c_{3} \ln PXW_{t} + c_{4} \ln PX_{t-1} + c_{5} \ln PX_{t-2}$$
 (9)

where 
$$c_0 = -\frac{\alpha_0}{\alpha_1 - q_0}$$
,  $c_1 = \frac{1}{\alpha_1 - q_0}$ ,  $c_2 = -\frac{\alpha_2}{\alpha_1 - q_0}$ ,  $c_3 = \frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_1 - q_0}$ ,  $c_4 = \frac{q_0 + q_1}{\alpha_1 - q_0}$ 

$$c_5 = -\frac{2q_0 + q_1}{\beta_1 - q_0},$$

According to economic theory it is expected that  $a_1 < 0$  and  $a_2 > 0$ . Consequently, it is expected that  $c_1 < 0$ ,  $c_2 > 0$ ,  $c_3 > 0$  and  $c_4 > 0$ . Due to the homogeneity restriction that requires  $c_3 + c_4 + c_5 = 1$ , the sign of the parameter  $c_5$  depends on the size of the parameters  $c_3$  and  $c_4$ .

If the price of exports adjusts to world demand, as specified in equation (5), then the volume of exports will adjust according to excess supply. Assume that the volume of exports (X) adjusts to the optimal supply ( $X^{S}$ ) according to a partial adjustment process:

$$\Delta \ln X_i = \lambda \left( \ln X_i^s - \ln X_{i-1} \right), \quad 0 < \lambda < 1 \tag{10}$$

By substituting equation (3) into equation (10) and solving for the volume of exports, one can obtain:

$$\ln X_{i} = b_{0} + b_{1} \ln \left( \frac{PX}{P} \right)_{i} + b_{2} \ln Y_{i}^{*} + b_{3} \ln S_{i} + b_{4} \ln S_{r-1} + b_{5} \ln X_{r-1}$$
 (11)

where 
$$b_0 = \lambda \beta_0$$
,  $b_1 = \lambda \beta_1$ ,  $b_2 = \lambda \beta_2$ ,  $b_3 = \lambda \beta_3$ ,  $b_4 = \lambda \beta_4$  and  $b_5 = 1 - \lambda$ .

Since the coefficient of adjustment ( $\lambda$ ) lies between zero and one,  $b_5$  will also lie between zero and one. According to economic theory it is expected that  $\beta_1 > 0$ ,  $\beta_2 > 0$ ,  $\beta_3 > 0$  and  $\beta_4 > 0$ . Consequently, it is expected that  $b_1 > 0$ ,  $b_2 > 0$ ,  $b_3 > 0$  and  $b_4 > 0$ .

# 4. Data and Empirical Results

Due to lack of quarterly data, especially in the case of the Greek GDP and export subsidies, annual data were used. The time span is 1962 to 1997. I did not use data that cover the post-1997 period, since the change in Greek monetary policy in order to start preparations for the Greek currency to join the Eurozone, had a considerable effect on the exchange rate of the drachma, that was reflected in the country's trade flows. Thus, the inclusion of data that cover the post-1997 period in the present analysis may bias the results<sup>5</sup>.

Data for the volume and unit value index of Greek exports were obtained from the External Trade Statistics of the National Statistical Service of Greece. As domestic price index, I used the wholesale price index of goods produced and consumed domestically, which was obtained from the Statistical Yearbook of the National Statistical Service of Greece. For the export subsidies, I used primary and unpublished data that were obtained from the Central Bank of Greece<sup>6</sup>. Price of world exports and real world output were obtained from the world tables of the CD-ROM of International Financial Statistics of the International Monetary Fund.

In order to construct the trend of Greek productive capacity, the following formula has been used:

$$Y_{\bullet}^* = Y_{\bullet} e^{yt} \tag{12}$$

where  $Y_0$  is the initial value of the volume of domestic production and g is the average growth rate for the corresponding period. Constructing this index I used two separate

For the same reason, the calculation of the export penetration index in the previous section stops in 1997.

<sup>6.</sup> In the present study I do not investigate Greek exports to the EU countries and to the ROW countries separately, which, of course, would be more insightful. The reason is that the primary data I collected from the Central Bank of Greece, were only handwritten and not separated in that way.

average growth rates. The first covers the 1962-1979 period and the second covers the 1980-1997 period. The reason is that the country's growth performance has not been uniform during the overall sample period. Average growth rate between 1980 and 1997 has been considerably lower than the 1962-1979 rate. A similar distinction between the two periods' average growth rates in Greece is also made by Alogoskou-fis (1995)<sup>7</sup>. Data for the Greek GDP were obtained from the Statistical Yearbook of the National Statistical Service of Greece. All data are expressed in US dollars and the base year is 1982.

The equations (9) and (11) of the model are overidentified. Therefore, they were estimated simultaneously by using 3-stage least squares method. The predetermined variables of the model are used as instruments. The estimates for the structural and the reduced-form parameters are presented in Tables 4 and 5, respectively.

Table 4.	Structural	parameters		
		Explanatory		

Explanatory variables	Export demand lnPX,	Export supply InX <sub>t</sub>
$lnX_t$	-0.1398 (-0.68)	
InPXW,	0.1678 (3.09)**	
lnYW,	0.5976 (1.15)	
$InPX_{t-1}$	1.2077 (8.19)**	
$lnPX_{t-2}$	-0.3755 (-0.95)	
$ln(PX/P)_i$		0.4635 (0.56)
lnY,		0.0402 (2.36)*
$lnS_t$		0.1090 (2.23)*
$lnS_{l-1}$		-0.0956 (-1.73)
$lnX_{t-1}$		0.5723 (4.01)**
Intercept	-2.0445 (-1.40)	0.8834 (1.77)
R <sup>2</sup>	0.997	0.981
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.997	0.978
Σ	0.06	0.12
Durbin-Watson	1.73	2.27
h-statistic (Durbin)	10, 102	-1.42
Ramsey RESET test a	0.21 (0.65)	1.54 (0.23)
Hausman test b	1.78 (0.18)	1.07 (0.39)
Sargan test $(N-K-1)*R^2$	4.16 (9.49)	3.91 (7.81)

*t-statistics* are shown in parentheses. <sup>a</sup> The test statistic for the Ramsey RESET is F-statistic and its test regression includes square fitted terms. <sup>b</sup> The test statistic for the Hausman test is F-statistic and its degrees of freedom  $(v_1, v_2)$  are (4,25) for the export demand equation and (5,23) for the export supply equation. Numbers in parentheses for the Ramsey RESET and the Hausman tests are P-values. <sup>c</sup> The Sargan test is distributed, under the null, as  $\chi^2$ -statistic, with degrees of freedom (M-K-1), where M refers to the number of instruments and K denotes the number of explanatory variables. Numbers in parentheses for the Sargan test are the critical values of the  $\chi^2$ -statistic, at a 0.05 level. The degrees of freedom are 4 for the export demand and 3 for the export supply.

<sup>\*\*</sup> denotes statistical significance at a 0.01 level. \* denotes statistical significance at a 0.05 level.

<sup>7.</sup> An alternative approach to calculate  $Y_i^*$  is by fitting a Hodrick-Prescott filter (Hodrick and Prescott 1997) in the series of the volume of the domestic production. The results obtained by estimating the model using this alternative approach remain robust. These results are not presented in the paper but are available on request.

Exogenous variables	Endogenous variables				
-	Export demand	Export supply			
	$lnPX_t$	$lnX_t$			
$lnPXW_i$	0.1576	0,0730			
$lnYW_i$	0.5612	0.2601			
$lnPX_{t-1}$	1.1342	0.5257			
$InPX_{t-2}$	-0.3526	-0.1634			
$lnP_i$	0.0608	-0.4353			
$lnY_i$	-0.0053	0.0377			
$lnS_i$	-0.0143	0.1024			
$lnS_{l-1}$	0.0125	-0.0898			
$lnX_{r-1}$	-0.0751	0.5375			
1	-2.0361	-0.0603			

**Table 5.** Reduced-form parameters

As shown in Table 4, the signs of the structural parameters are consistent with economic theory and most of them are statistically significant. The Durbin-Watson statistic and the *h-statistic*, which is used in partial adjustment models, indicate no presence of serial correlation. The multiple coefficients of determination and the adjusted ones are also above 0.97. The Ramsey RESET and the Hausman<sup>8</sup> tests indicate that the model is well specified, since the null hypothesis that there is no specification error, cannot be rejected at the 5 percent level of significance, for both equations. Also, as indicated by the Sargan<sup>9</sup> test, the instruments that have been used for this model are valid. The null hypothesis, which assumes validity of the instruments, cannot be rejected for both equations.

The estimated coefficients have the expected signs in all cases. In the case of export demand, the export price is mainly determined by changes in the price of world exports and in the domestic price of exports in the previous period. In the case of export supply, the coefficient of relative prices is statistically insignificant. On the contrary, the productive capacity of the Greek economy, the export subsidies and, of course, the volume of exports in the previous period has an important role in the determination of the country's export supply. The coefficient of the export subsidies with one period lag is statistically insignificant at the 5 percent level of significance. According to Table 3, the signs of the reduced-form parameters are consistent with economic theory<sup>10</sup>.

<sup>8.</sup> For a more detailed analysis of the Ramsey RESET and the Hausman tests, see Johnston and DiNardo (1997).

<sup>9.</sup> For a more detailed analysis of the Sargan test, see Cuthbertson, Hall and Taylor (1992).

<sup>10.</sup> The matrix of the reduced-form parameters ( $\Pi$ ) is given by the following formula:  $\Pi = -\mathbf{B}^{-1}\Gamma$ , where  $\mathbf{B}$  is the matrix of the parameters of the endogenous variables and  $\Gamma$  is the matrix of the parameters of the predetermined variables of the system.

The estimated model has also been tested for dynamic stability by calculating its respective eigenvalues. They were calculated from the endogenous part of the structural model:

$$\ln PX_t + 0.1398 \ln X_t - 1.2077 \ln PX_{t-1} + 0.3755 \ln PX_{t-2} = 0$$
 (13)

$$\ln X_{t} - 0.4635 \ln PX_{t} - 0.5723 \ln X_{t-1} = 0 \tag{14}$$

The eigenvalues are 0.4356 and  $0.6180\pm0.2852i$  and their moduli are 0.4356 and 0.6807, respectively. All the calculated moduli are less than unity and consequently, the estimated model is dynamically stable.

An important issue that comes to light is that the variables are not stationary in level but in first difference<sup>11</sup>. Based on the cointegration theory, this problem can be faced if the estimated residuals are integrated of order zero, i.e. I(0). This means that the difference between dependent and independent variables is stationary and thus the parameter estimates are not spurious. In order to test for cointegration, the estimated residuals of equations (9) and (11) were tested for a unit root using the ADF test, following the Engle-Granger methodology (Engle and Granger, 1987). In order to select the appropriate lag length, the Akaike information criterion was used. As Enders (2004, pp. 336-337) points out, it is not possible to use the Dickey-Fuller tables in order to obtain critical values in this case. The reason is that the estimated residuals ( $\hat{e}_{i,l}$ ) are generated from regression equations and we do not know the actual errors ( $e_{i,l}$ ) but only the estimated ones ( $\hat{e}_{i,l}$ ). MacKinnon (1991) developed the critical values for the Engle-Granger cointegration test using the response surface methodology. They are calculated by the following formula:

$$C(p) = \varphi_{\infty} + \varphi_1 T^{-1} + \varphi_2 T^{-2}$$
(15)

where C(p) is the p percent critical value, T is the number of observations  $\Psi_n$  is the estimated asymptotic critical value and  $\varphi_1$ ,  $\varphi_2$  are coefficients in the response surface regression. In the present study T=36 and consequently, the critical values for the export demand and supply functions (with 5 variables as regressors and a constant in the cointegrating vector) are C(1)=-5.60, C(5)=-4.81 and C(10)=-4.43. The *ADF statistic* for the export demand function is -4.88 and for the export supply function is -6.60. Therefore, the null hypothesis for the existence of a unit root is rejected. This means that the estimated residuals of equations (9) and (11) are stationary. In other words, the variables of the structural model are moving together in the long run.

<sup>11.</sup> For the sake of brevity, the Augmented Dickey-Fuller test results for the variables of the model are not presented here, but are available on request.

Since the estimated structural model is dynamically stable and the parameter estimates are not spurious, one can use these estimates for estimating the long run export functions in order to determine the long run behaviour of Greek exports. The long run equations have the following form:

$$\ln X_t^d = -14.62 - 1.20 \ln (PX/PXW)_t + 4.27 \ln YW_t, \quad q_0 = -0.41, \quad q_1 = -0.53$$
 (16)

$$\ln X_t^s = 2.07 + 1.08 \ln (PX/P)_t + 0.09 \ln Y_t^* + 0.03 \ln S_t, \quad \lambda_1 = 0.43$$
 (17)

The coefficient of the export subsidies in the long run export supply function results by setting L=1 in the term  $S=(\alpha+bL)S_t$  and dividing with the adjustment coefficient. It is the sum of the structural coefficients of the export subsidies.

Greek export demand is price elastic in the long run. As shown in equation (16), there is a large response to export demand due to changes in relative prices, a result that is consistent with previous studies (see for example, Arghyrou and Bazina (2003)). It is an expected result for Greece, since the country is a small open economy with no market power in world trade and its production remains concentrated in low technology and high competition sectors. Thus, it is inevitable for the Greek export demand to be quite sensitive to relative price changes, since the emergence of lower cost close substitutes leads to substantial market share losses.

The results for the country's export demand also indicate a high income elasticity, which implies that Greek products abroad are treated as "luxury" goods. These results are consistent with those obtained by Arghyrou and Bazina (2003), which indicate that due to this high income elasticity Greek exports are vulnerable to downward cyclical fluctuations abroad. Yet it is well known that Greek exports are mainly concentrated in agricultural and labour-intensive products, such as textiles, which cannot be considered "luxury" items. The explanation is that Greek exports are treated as "luxury" goods only compared with similar exports (textile exports from south-eastern Asia and the transition economies or agricultural exports from the Mediterranean countries) to the world markets.

On the other hand, Greek export supply is price elastic in the long run. As shown in equation (17), the volume of exports supplied is mainly affected in a positive way by changes in the ratio of domestic export prices over world export prices and the productive capacity of the Greek economy. There is also a small positive response in Greek export supply due to changes in export subsidies. The coefficient of adjustment indicates that 43% of the change of export volume towards its equilibrium level is taking place in one year. The mean adjustment period of Greek export supply to a relative price change is quite long and equals  $(\lambda)^{-1}=2.3$  years, which, of course, reflects the structural problems of the Greek economy.

## 5. Comparative Static Analysis

In this section I use comparative static analysis in order to estimate the effects of the EU accession on the volume of Greek exports, on their prices and on exporters' revenues (R). Following Moran (1988), the use of the reduced-form parameters of Table 5 allows me to estimate the short run and long run effects on X, PX and R that come up by a unit change of the exogenous variables of the model (S, Y\*, PXW and YW). The reduced-form equations have the following form:

$$\ln PX_{t} = \pi_{13} \ln S_{t} + \pi_{16} L \ln S_{t} + \pi_{17} L \ln X_{t} + \pi_{18} L \ln PX_{t} + \pi_{19} L^{2} \ln PX_{t} + \pi_{1} Z_{1t}$$
(18)

$$\ln X_t = \pi_{23} \ln S_t + \pi_{26} L \ln S_t + \pi_{27} L \ln X_t + \pi_{28} L \ln PX_t + \pi_{29} L^2 \ln PX_t + \pi_2 Z_{15}$$
 (19)

where L is lag operator and  $Z_t=(1, lnP_t, lnY_t^*, PXW_t, YW_t)$ . Equivalently:

$$(1 - \pi_{18}L - \pi_{19}L^2) \ln PX_i = (\pi_{13} + \pi_{16}L)S_i + \pi_{17}L \ln X_i + \pi_1 Z_i$$
(20)

$$(1 - \pi_{27}L) \ln X_t = (\pi_{23} + \pi_{26}L) S_t + (\pi_{28}L + \pi_{29}L^2) \ln PX_t + \pi_2 Z_t$$
(21)

# 5.1 Supply Side

In the supply side I examine the effects on X, PX and R by a unit change in the exports subsidies and the productive capacity of the Greek economy. For the export subsidies, I differentiate equations (20) and (21) with respect to S and having constant the vector of the exogenous variables (i.e.  $dZ_t=0$ ), I have the following system of equations:

$$(1 - \pi_{18}L - \pi_{19}L^2) \frac{d \ln PX_t}{d \ln S_t} = (\pi_{13} + \pi_{16}L) + \pi_{17}L \frac{d \ln X_t}{d \ln S_t}$$
 (22)

$$(1 - \pi_{27}L)\frac{d\ln X_t}{d\ln S_t} = (\pi_{23} + \pi_{26}L) + (\pi_{28}L + \pi_{29}L^2)\frac{d\ln PX_t}{d\ln S_t}$$
(23)

The following short run multipliers arise by setting L=0:

$$m_{PX,S}^{S.R.} = \left[ \frac{d \ln PX_t}{d \ln S_t} \right]^{S.R.} = \pi_{13}$$
 (24)

$$m_{X,S}^{S,R} = \left[\frac{d \ln X_t}{d \ln S_t}\right]^{S,R} = \pi_{23}$$
 (25)

The following long run multipliers arise by setting L=1:

$$(1 - \pi_{18} - \pi_{19}) m_{p\chi,S}^{L.R.} = (\pi_{13} + \pi_{16}) + \pi_{17} m_{\chi,S}^{L.R.}$$
 (26)

$$(1-\pi_{27})m_{X,S}^{L,R.} = (\pi_{23} + \pi_{26}) + (\pi_{28} + \pi_{29})m_{PX,S}^{L,R.}$$
(27)

Solving equations (26) and (27), I have:

$$m_{PX,S}^{L.R.} = \left[\frac{d \ln X_t}{d \ln S_t}\right]^{L.R.} = \frac{\left(\pi_{13} + \pi_{16}\right)\left(1 - \pi_{27}\right) + \pi_{17}\left(\pi_{23} + \pi_{26}\right)}{\left(1 - \pi_{18} - \pi_{19}\right)\left(1 - \pi_{27}\right) + \pi_{17}\left(-\pi_{28} - \pi_{29}\right)}$$
(28)

$$m_{X,S}^{L,R} = \left[\frac{d \ln PX_{t}}{d \ln S_{t}}\right]^{L,R} = \frac{\left(1 - \pi_{18} - \pi_{19}\right)\left(\pi_{23} + \pi_{26}\right) + \left(\pi_{13} + \pi_{16}\right)\left(\pi_{28} + \pi_{29}\right)}{\left(1 - \pi_{18} - \pi_{19}\right)\left(1 - \pi_{27}\right) + \pi_{17}\left(-\pi_{28} - \pi_{29}\right)}$$
(29)

Finally, the short run and long run effects on the exporters' revenues by a unit change of the export subsidies are determined by the following formula:

$$R = X * PX \Rightarrow \ln R = \ln X + \ln PX \tag{30}$$

$$m_{R,S} = \frac{d \ln R_t}{d \ln S_t} = \frac{d \ln X_t + d \ln PX_t}{d \ln S_t} = m_{X,S} + m_{PX,S}$$
(31)

The short run and long run effects on X, PX and R by a unit change of the productive capacity of the Greek economy are estimated in a similar way, by differentiating equations (20) and (21) with respect to Y\* and having  $dZ_t=0^{12}$ . The results are presented in Table 6.

**Table 6.** Effects by unit changes of S and Y\*

	Export volume		Export	prices	Exporters' revenues		
	Short run $(m_{X,i}^{S,R})^a$	Long run $(m_{X,i}^{L,R})$	Short run $\left(m_{PX,J}^{S,R}\right)$	Long run $\left(m_{PX,j}^{L,R}\right)$	Short run $\left(m_{R,i}^{S,R}\right)$	Long run $\left(m_{R,i}^{L,R}\right)$	
dSb	0.1024	0.0164	-0.0143	-0.0133	0.0881	0.0031	
dY*c	0.0377	0.0491	-0.0053	-0.0406	0.0324	0.0085	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> i refers to the respective variable, whose effects are examined.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> dS refers to a unit change of S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> dY\* refers to a unit change of Y\*.

<sup>12.</sup> In that case the vector of the exogenous variables  $dZ_t$  is different, since it includes the variable  $lnS_t$  and does not include the variable  $lnY_t^*$ .

As shown in Table 6, the short run effect on the volume of exports from a unit change in the export subsidies is quite high, while the long run effect is smaller. On the contrary, the effect of a unit change in the productive capacity of the Greek economy is higher in the long run than in the short run. The impact on export prices is very small, except the long run effect that is caused by a unit change in the productive capacity of the Greek economy. This last result reflects the interdependence between the structure of the country's economy and the competitiveness of the exported goods. Finally, the results indicate an important and positive short run effect on exporters' revenues, especially from a unit change in export subsidies, while the long run effect is close to zero.

#### 5.2 Demand Side

Following the same methodology as in Section 5.1, I estimated the short run and long run multipliers that refer to the effects on X, PX and R of a unit change in the price of world exports. The multipliers for the world income have not been estimated, since the structural parameter of the world income is statistically insignificant at the 5 percent level of significance (Table 4). The results are presented in Table 7.

Table 7.	Effects	hv	unit	changes	of PXW
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	Export volume		Expor	t prices	Exporters' revenues		
	Short run $(m_{X,I}^{S,R})^{a}$	Long run $\left(m_{X,i}^{L.R.}\right)$	Short run $\left(m_{PX,i}^{S.R.}\right)$	Long run $\left(m_{PX,i}^{L.R.}\right)$	Short run $\binom{S.R}{R,J}$	Long run $\left(m_{R,i}^{L.R.}\right)$	
dPXW <sup>b</sup>	0.0730	0.5694	0.1576	0.5211	0.2306	1.095	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> i refers to the respective variable, whose effects are examined.

As Table 7 indicates, there are strong short run and long run impacts on X, PX and R that are caused by a unit change in the world price of exports. These results are expected for Greece, since the country is a small open economy with no market power in world trade, which implies that the country is a price-taker in international markets. Additionally, its production remains concentrated in low technology and high competition sectors. Thus, it is inevitable for the Greek export volume to be quite sensitive to relative price changes, since the emergence of lower cost close substitutes leads to substantial world market share losses. Note that since Greece uses imported inputs for its production, a change in world export prices will affect domestic export prices. This is also reflected in the short run and long run impacts on the exporters' revenues.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> dPXW refers to a unit change of PXW.

### 6. EU Accession Effects

In order to estimate the effects on Greek export performance caused by the abolition of export subsidies, the residuals approach has been used. In general, the residuals approach, which can be implemented only ex-post, estimates the effects of an economic union as the residual between an actual and an estimated variable. The estimated variable represents the "anti-monde" (i.e. what would have happened to the corresponding variable if the country had not entered the economic union). In the present analysis I assume that if Greece had not entered the EU, the export subsidies would have remained at their 1986 level<sup>13</sup>. Consequently, in the present study the "anti-monde" begins in 1987. Of course, the effects caused by the export subsidies' abolition do not capture the overall EU accession effects on Greek exports. As Georgakopoulos (1993) indicates, there were a lot of induced effects, which are very difficult to capture<sup>14</sup>.

In this paper, the actual export volume and the actual export prices are the actual variables. The export volume and the export prices under the above assumption are the estimated variables. Therefore, the residual between the two variables (i.e. the actual and the estimated one) represents the effects of the accession. Using the reduced-form equations (18) and (19) I estimate the short run and long run effects of EU accession on Greek export volume and export prices. Since the abolition of the export subsidies began in 1987, the estimated variables in 1986 are the same as the actual ones.

Tables 8 and 9 present the long run annual and cumulative effects of EU accession on export volume and export prices respectively<sup>15,16</sup>. The results indicate that the effects of the EU accession were quite small for both variables<sup>17</sup>. More specifically,

<sup>13.</sup> In order to force Greece to abolish exports subsidies, the EU had appealed to the Court of European Communities several times during the 1981-1985 period.

<sup>14.</sup> For example, Greek efforts to adjust its economy in order to become member of the Exchange Rate Mechanism, led to the strong-drachma policy, which affected negatively the country's export performance and trade balance.

<sup>15.</sup> For the sake of brevity, the short run annual and cumulative effects of EU accession are not presented here but are available on request.

<sup>16.</sup> Since the reduced-form equations (18) and (19) are expressed in log-linear form, the implementation of the residuals approach gave results in logarithmic form. The EU accession effects that are presented in Tables 8 and 9 have been derived by using the exponential function on the results of the residuals approach.

<sup>17.</sup> Given the global relaxation in all trade barriers that has occurred since early 1990s, the hypothesis that "if Greece had not entered the EU, export subsidies would have remained at their 1986 level" is unrealistic for the post-1992 period and will lead to an overestimation of the EU accession effects. Therefore, the EU accession effects on the Greek export volume and export prices for the 1993-1997 period were not estimated.

the abolition of export subsidies on EU accession led to a reduction in Greek export volume by 2.32%. As shown in Table 8, almost half of this negative effect took place in 1987. This is an expected result, since export subsides were reduced by 55% for the EU exports and by 40% for the ROW exports, in that year. Also, the overall negative effect on the Greek export performance amounts to 0.30% of the country's GDP. Again, half of this effect took place in 1987. Also, as shown in Table 9, the effects on Greek export prices due to the export subsidies' abolition were very small. One possible explanation for this result is, as mentioned above, that the export subsidies were not used for the improvement of the quality and competitiveness of the Greek exports.

Table 8. Long run effects on Greek export volume, due to EU accession (in 1982 prices)

		As percenta	iges of total Gr	eek export vol	ume	
		Annual effects		C	umulative effec	ts
	Actual variable	Estimated variable	Residual	Actual variable	Estimated variable	Residual
Year	X	Â	$X - \hat{X}$	X	Â	$X - \hat{X}$
1986	100	100.00	0.00	100	100.00	0.00
1987	100	101.12	-1.12	100	101,12	-1.12
1988	100	100.36	-0.36	100	101.48	-1.48
1989	100	100.32	-0.32	100	101.80	-1.80
1990	100	100.32	-0.32	100	102,12	-2.12
1991	100	100.10	-0.10	100	102.22	-2.22
1992	100	100.10	-0.10	100	102.32	-2.32
		Asp	percentages of (	Greek GDP		
		Annual effects		C	umulative effec	ts
	Actual variable	Estimated variable	Residual	Actual variable	Estimated variable	Residual
Year	X	X	$X - \hat{X}$	X	Ñ	$X - \hat{X}$
1986	18.09	18.09	0.00	18.09	18.09	0.00
1987	20.45	20.59	-0.14	20.45	20.59	-0.14
1988	13.73	13.78	-0.05	13.73	13.92	-0.19
1989	18.92	18.96	-0.04	18.92	19.15	-0.23
1990	17.92	17.96	-0.04	17.92	18.19	-0.27
1991	20.52	20.54	-0.02	20.52	20.81	-0.29
1992	22.69	22.70	-0.01	22.69	22.99	-0.30

	Annual effects	Cumulative effects	Actual export price index	Predicted export price index
Year	(1)	(2)	(3)	PX (4)=(3)-(2)
1986	0.00	0.00	170.50	170.50
1987	1.09	1.09	182.30	181.21
1988	0.35	1.44	220.70	219.26
1989	0.32	1.76	254.00	252.24
1990	0.31	2.07	276.10	274.03
1991	0.10	2.17	300.50	298.33
1992	0.10	2.27	323.60	321.33

**Table 9.** Long run effects on Greek export prices, due to EU accession (1982=100)

The above findings for Greece are consistent, in qualitative terms, with those obtained by previous studies (see for example Giannitsis 1988, Plummer 1991, Georga-kopoulos 1993 and Arghyrou 2000). They all point out that the EU accession did not improve the country's export performance, but had a small negative effect instead. Also, as Arghyrou and Bazina (2003) point out, the deterioration in Greek export performance reflects the fact that Greek production remains concentrated in low-technology and high-competition sectors, where increases in relative prices, or the emergence of cheaper close substitutes lead to market-share losses.

## 7. Concluding Remarks

The purpose of this paper is to analyze the Greek export functions and to estimate the effects on the country's export performance that were caused by EU accession. As a small open economy with production concentrated in low technology and high competition sectors, the country faces a price elastic export demand in the long run. Export supply is also price elastic and is mainly determined by changes in the productive capacity of the Greek economy and export subsidies.

As this study shows, EU accession did not lead to an improvement in the country's export performance. Instead, it had a small negative effect on Greek exports. This argument is supported by the country's export penetration index and verified by both the comparative static analysis and the residuals approach. The latter estimates the above negative effect at 2.32% of total Greek export volume and 0.30% of Greek GDP. Also, the abolition of export subsidies had a very small effect on export prices.

As the existing literature indicates, one of the main reasons for the deterioration in Greek export performance after the EU accession is that the export subsidies, during the time period that they were valid, were not used for developing product differentiation or new production specializations. These would have helped the country

to create new comparative advantages for its products and to gain market power in international trade. Instead, as shown in the present study, the export subsidies were just used to increase the exporters' revenues. The above developments may explain the troubles that the Greek economy faced, especially after the mid-1980s, despite the large amount of net resources that the country received from the European budget.

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