

# Geographic Location and Concentration of Container Ports

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## Comparative Analysis



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# 1.1 Introduction

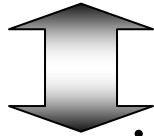
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Big ports  
important for international  
container transportation  
because of scale economics



Japan

Concentrated investment in Super Hub ports



Diversified investment in local ports

**Concentration** or **De-concentration**  
is a key point in container port policy

# 1.2 Objective

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There are many qualitative evaluations  
for container ports concentration and de-concentration

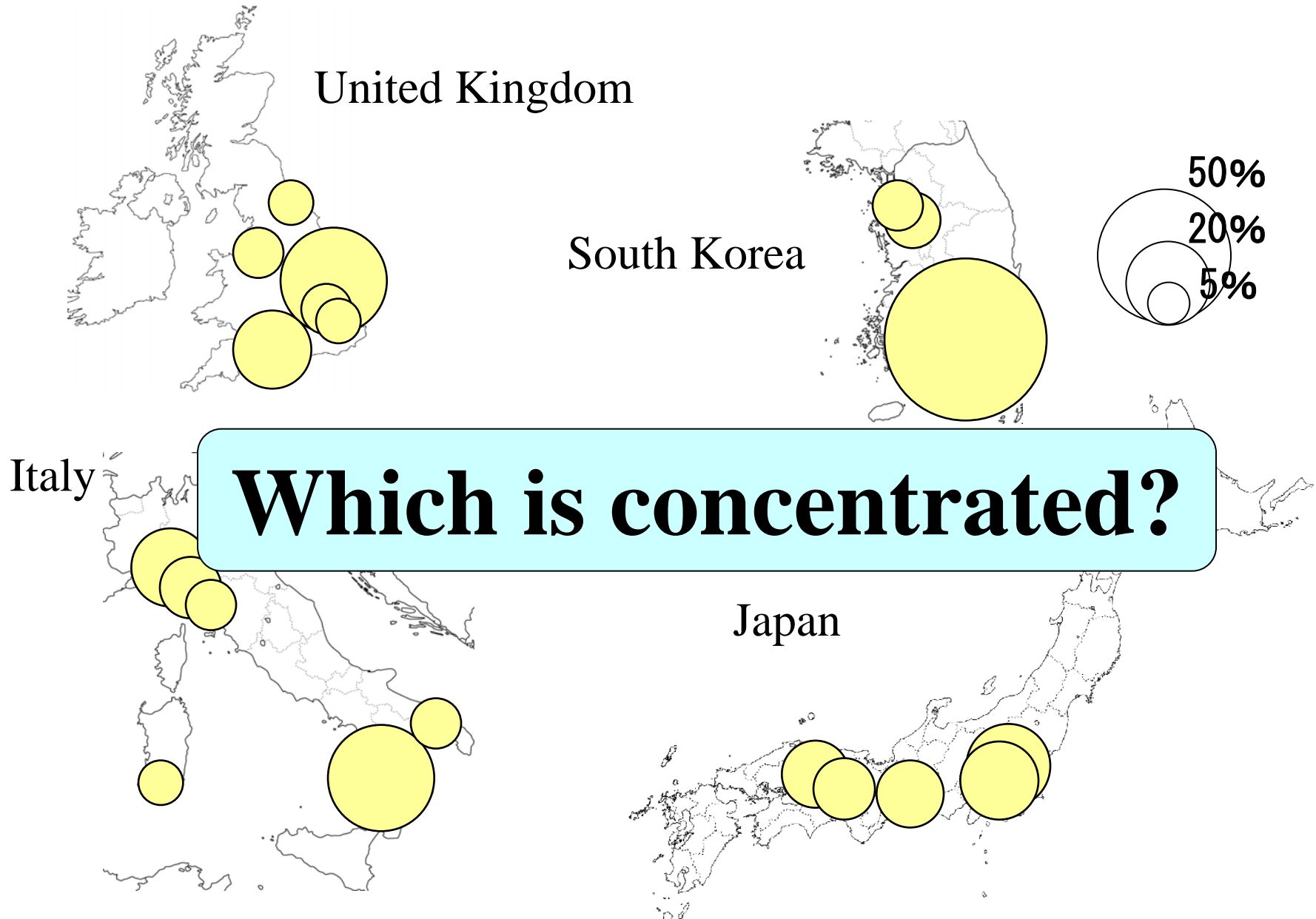


There is not confirmed method  
to quantify the level of container ports concentration

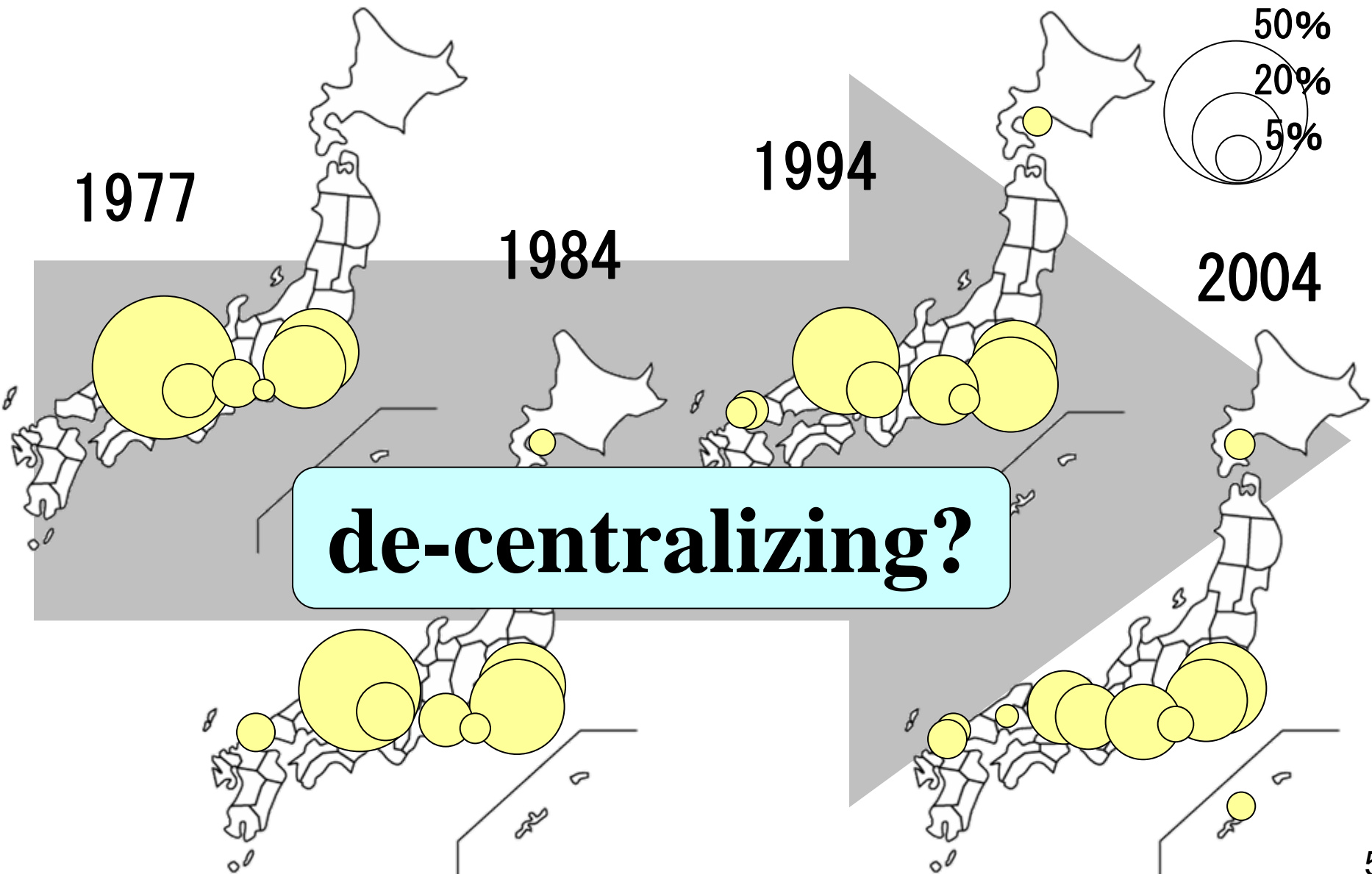


- 1 . International comparison  
of container ports concentration
2. Clarifying the shift  
of container ports concentration

# 2.1 Geographic Distribution in 2004

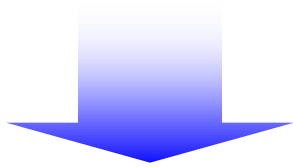


## 2.2 Geographic Distribution Shift in Japan



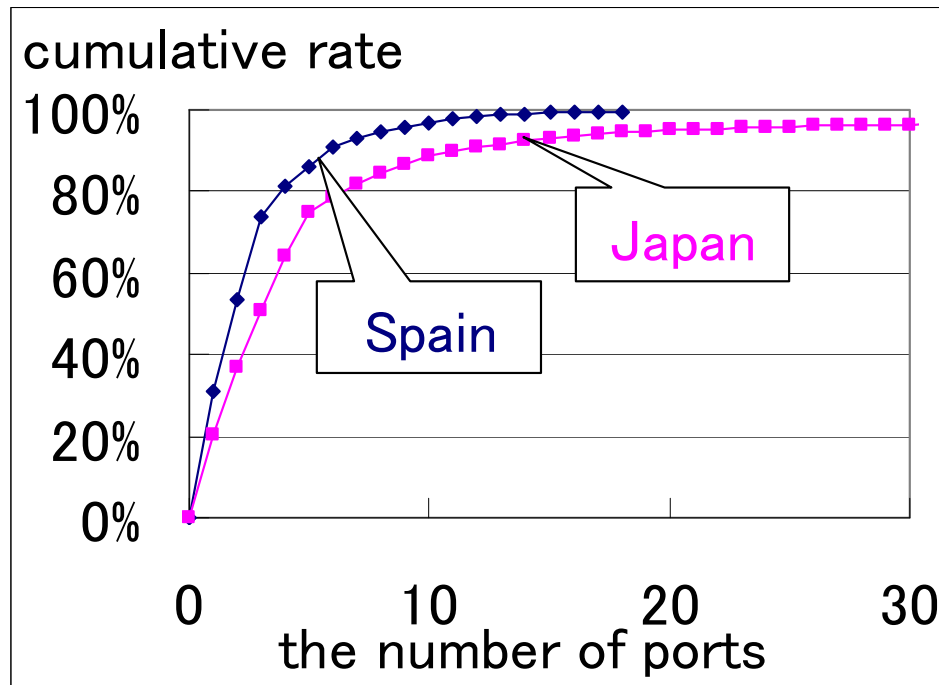
# 2.3 Quantifying Concentration

Quantifying method  
to compare the level of concentration



## Cumulative curve

is affected by  
the number of ports...



# 2.4 Problems with quantification

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## Problem 1

We should consider country's scale

The length of coastal line

The amount of trade

The number of ports

## Problem 2

We can't get enough data

country

times

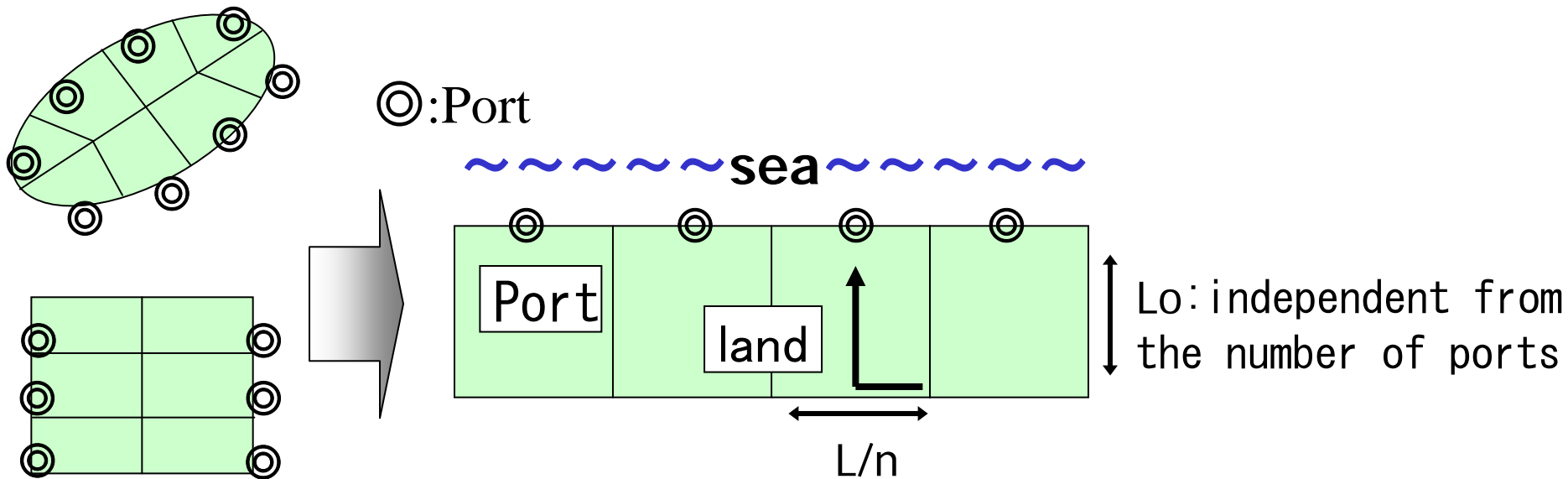
obtainable data of container ports

Adjust the number of ports for comparison

# 2.5 Quantifying method

calculate the number of ports which minimize the cost of container in a country

Land can be developed like below





## 2.5 Quantifying method

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$C_t = C_a + C_h + C_o$  cost per unit

$C_a = a \times L/n + b$  inland transporting cost

$C_h = c$  handling cost

$C_o = d \times (T/n)^{-\alpha}$  port operating cost

$n$ : the number of ports       $L$ : length of coastline

$T$ : the amount of trade       $\alpha$ : scale economics parameter

$a, b, c, d$ : parameter

$$n^* = \arg \min C_t$$

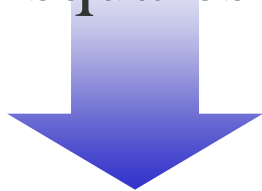
$$n^* \propto L^{1-\beta} \times T^\beta \quad \beta = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+1} \quad 0 \leq \beta \leq 1$$

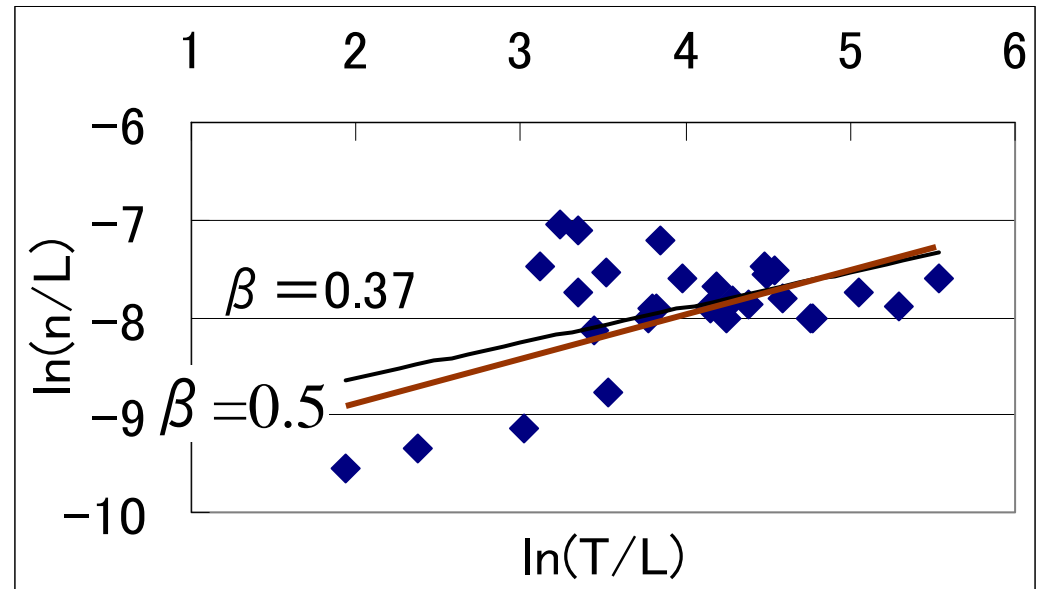
# 2.5 Quantifying method

How much is  $\beta$  ?

data in 8 countries during 4 years

least-squares method

  
 $\beta = 0.37$



This is from only 8 countries' data

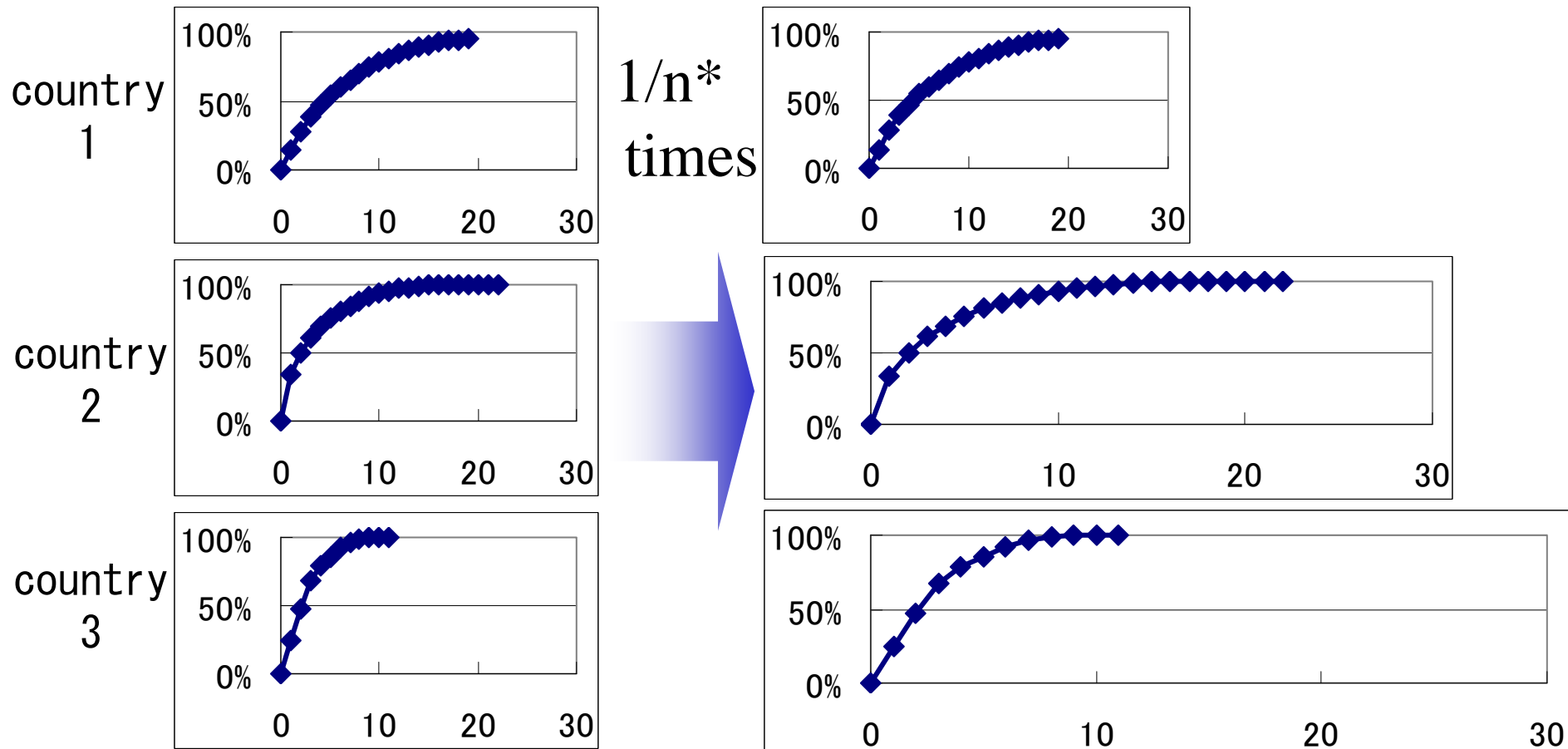
Results are not so different even if we use  $\beta = 0.5$

$$n^* \propto (L \times T)^{0.5}$$

# 2.5 Quantifying method

Coordination of horizontal axes by the value of  $1/n^*$   
→ solution for problem 1: considering scale

$$1/n^* = 1/(L \times T)^{0.5}$$

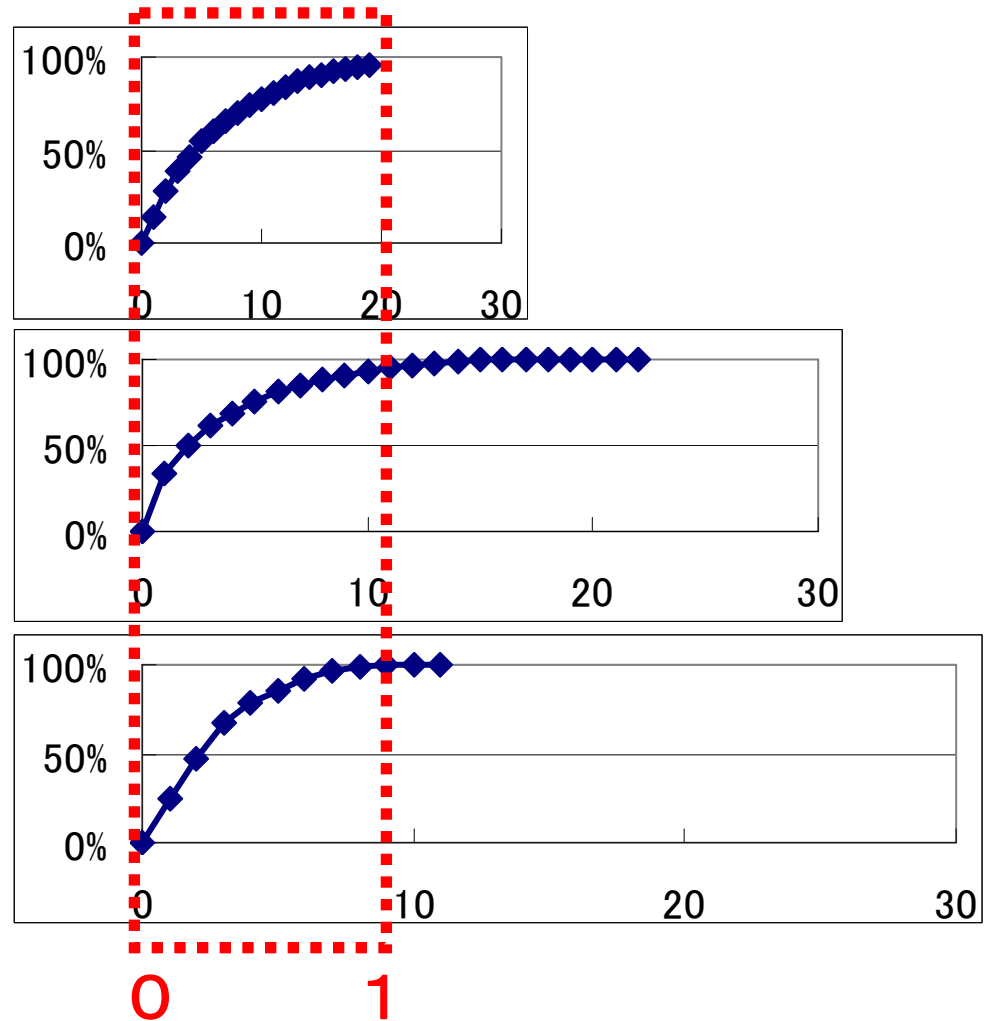


# 2.5 Quantifying method

The analysis subject is determined by the area which shows as many obtained data as possible

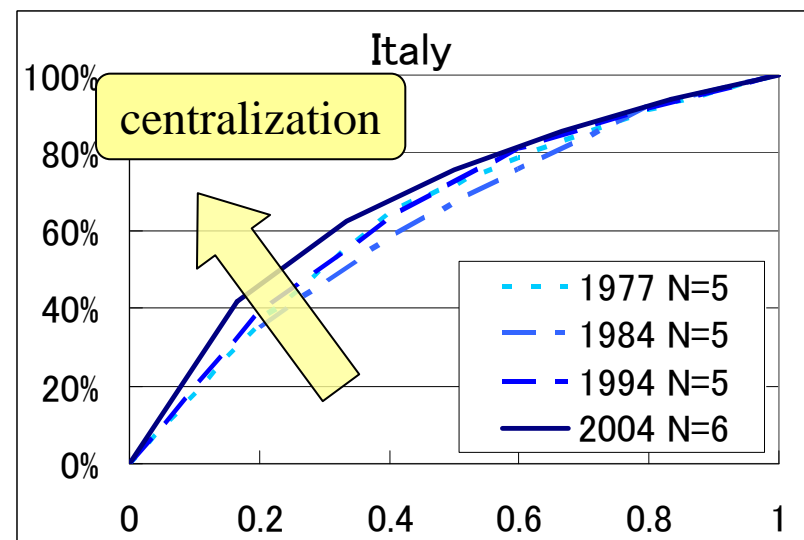
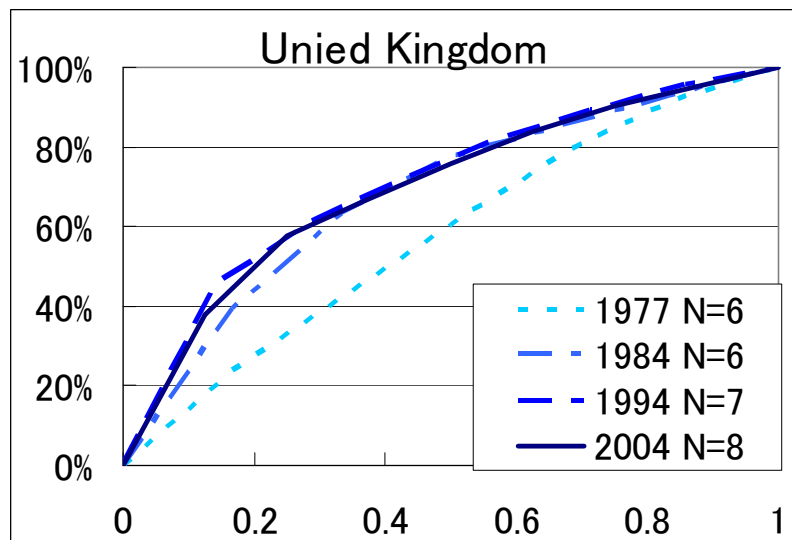
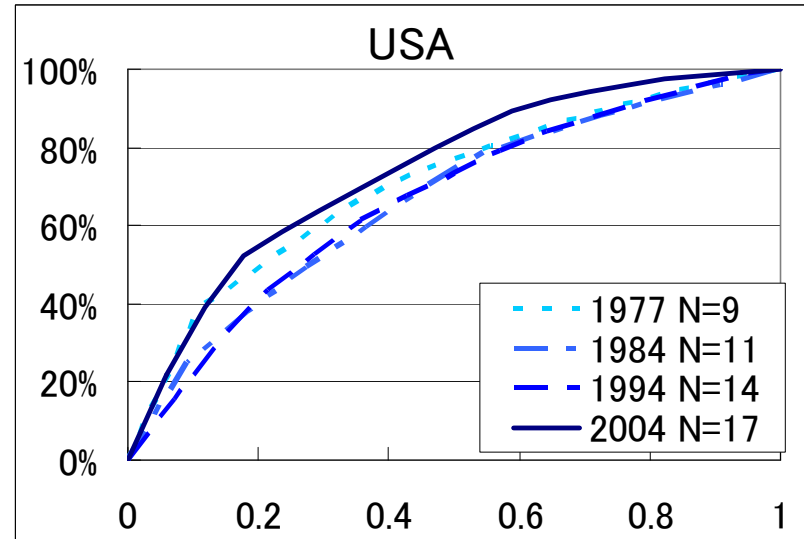
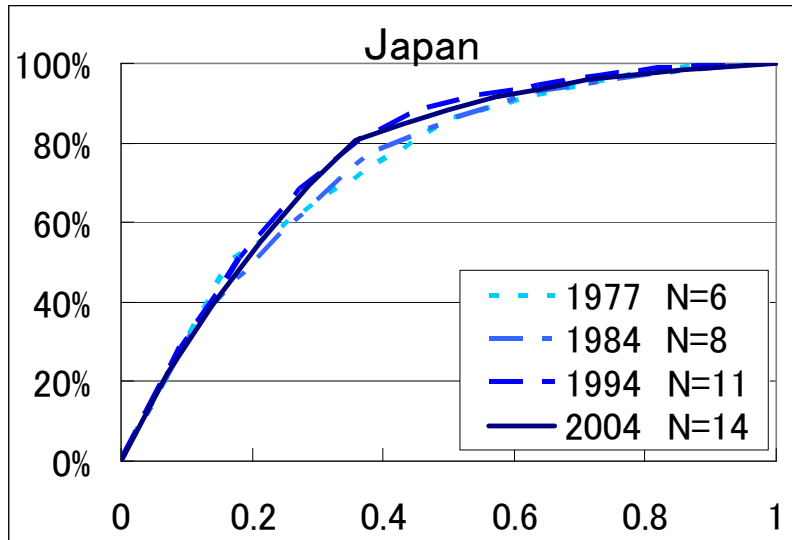
Comparative analysis by enclosed cumulative curve

→ solution for Problem2:  
Definition of analysis area



# 3.1 Normalized Cumulative Curve

considering countries scale

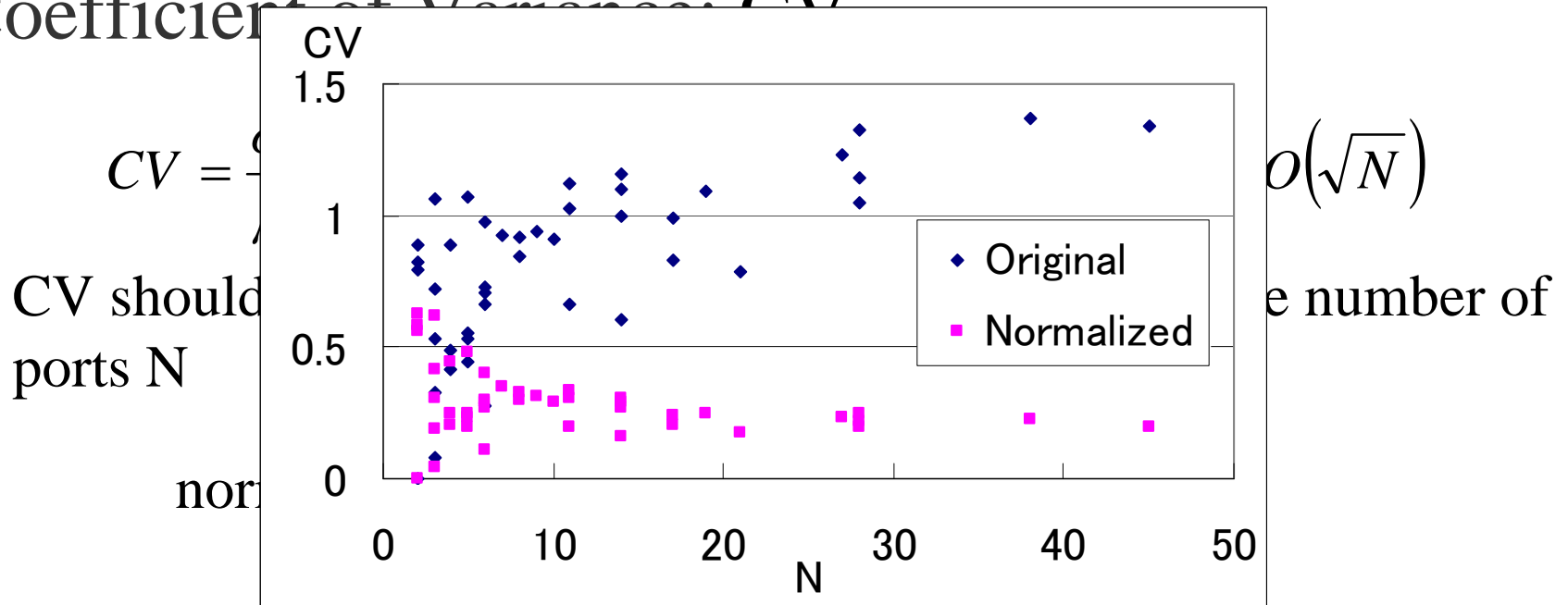


# 3.2 Indicator of Concentration

- Gini Coefficient: GC

$$0(\text{de-concentration}) \leq GC \leq 1(\text{concentration})$$

- Coefficient of Variance: CV



- HHI (Herfindahl Hirschman Index) : square sum of share

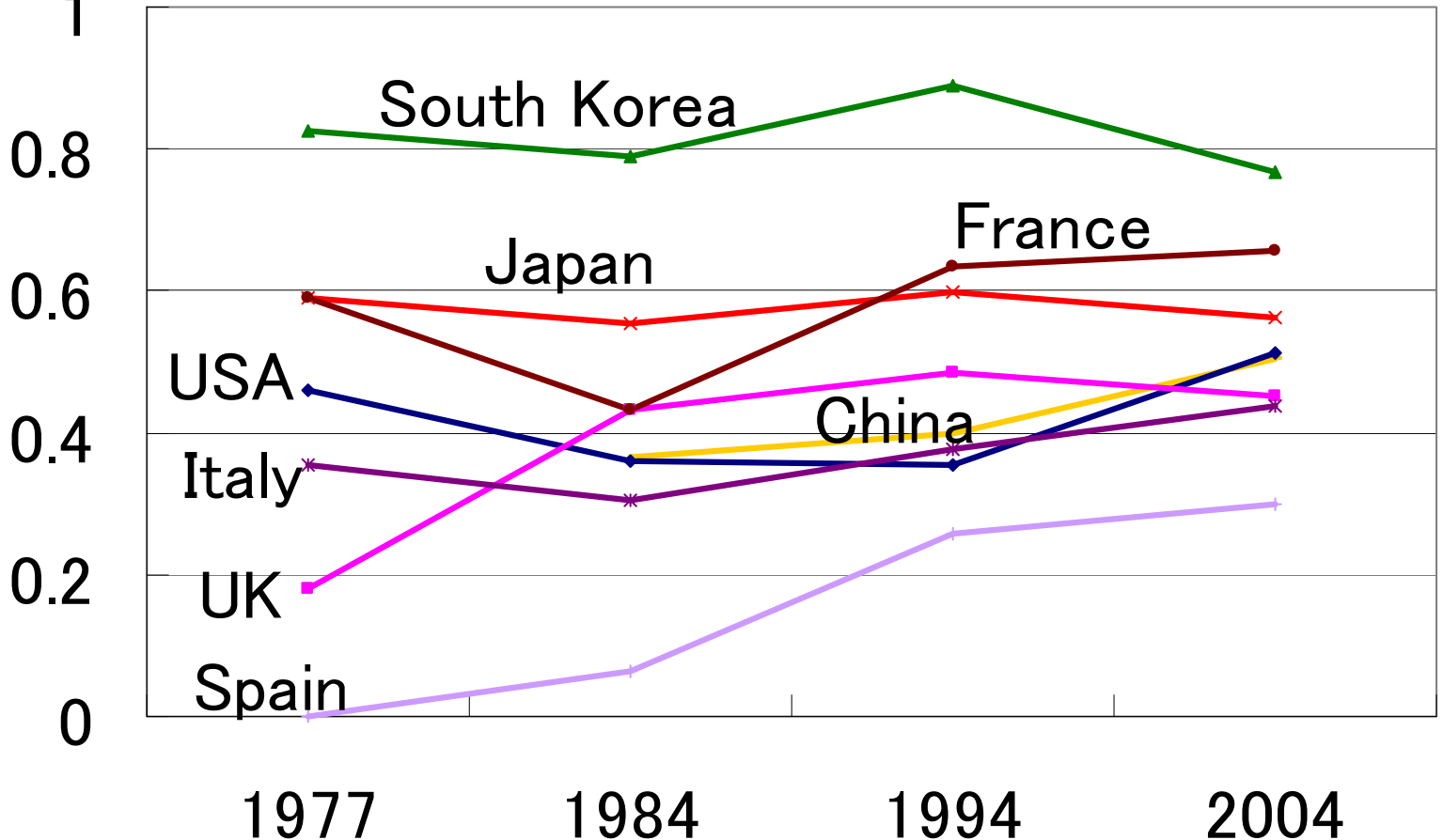
$$\text{normalized HHI} = \text{HHI} \times N$$

# 3.3 Each Countries Shift by GC

Concentration



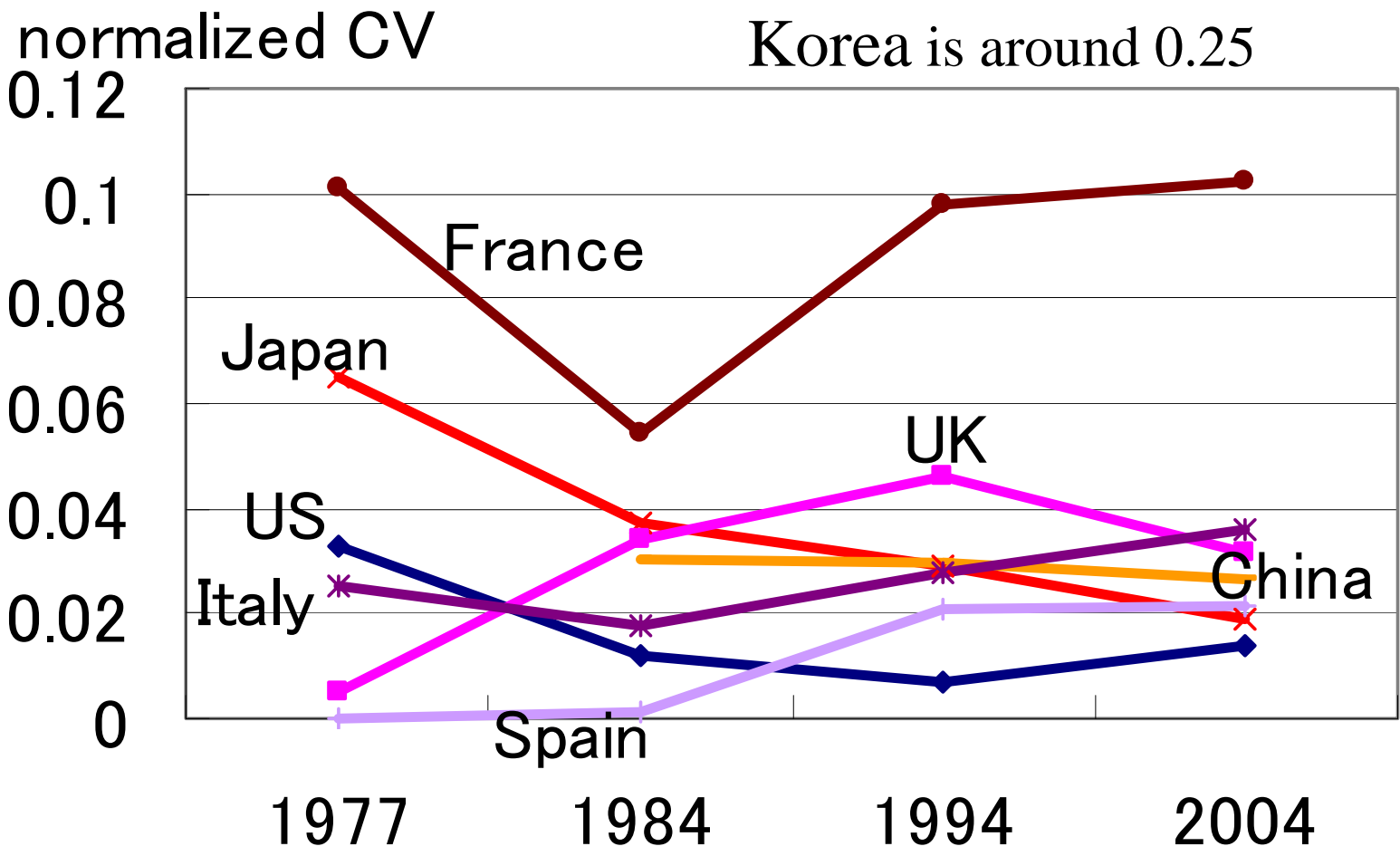
Gini Coefficient



De-concentration

# 3.4 Each Countries Shift by CV

Concentration



De-concentration

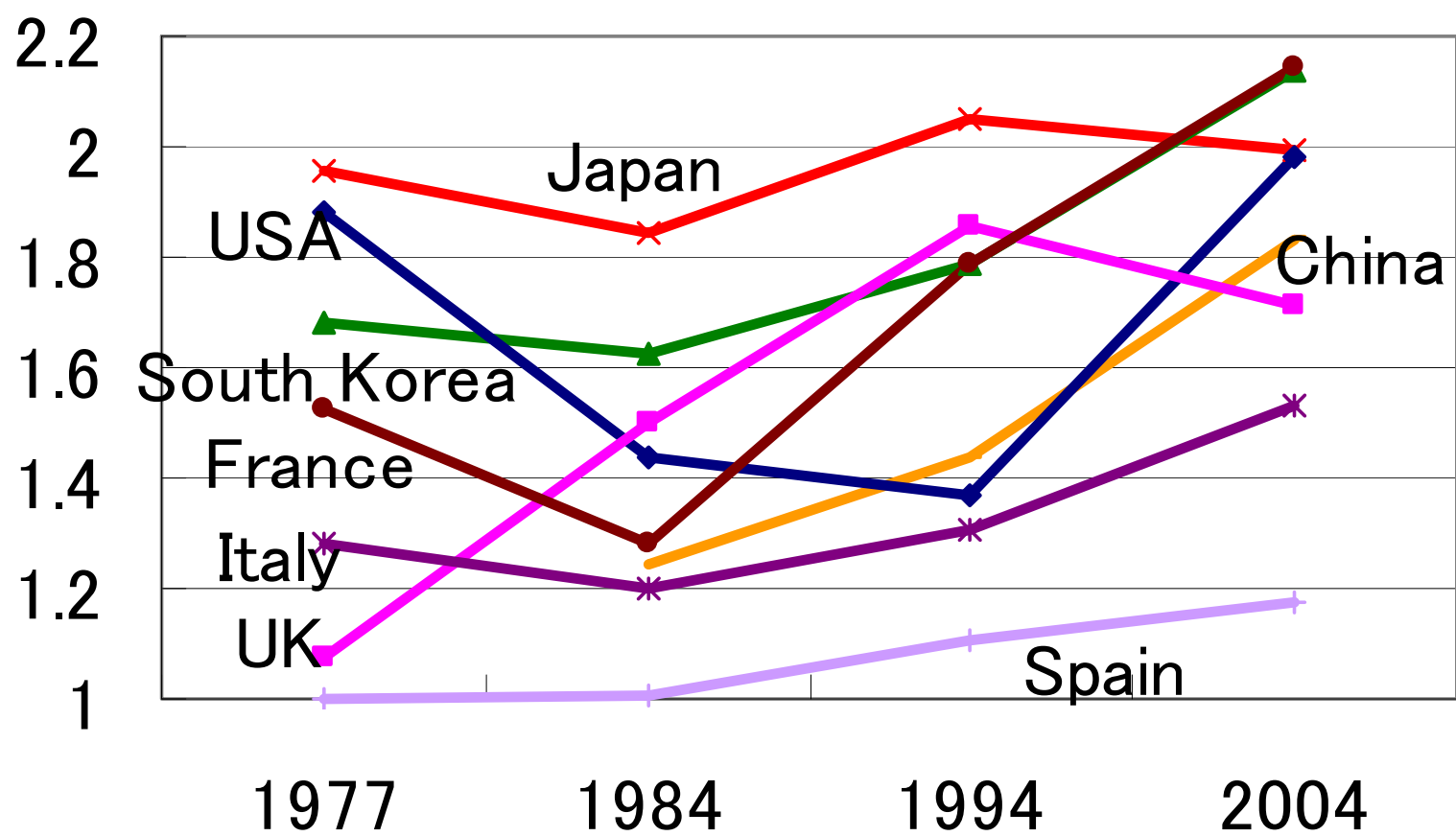


# 3.5 Each Countries Shift by HHI

Concentration

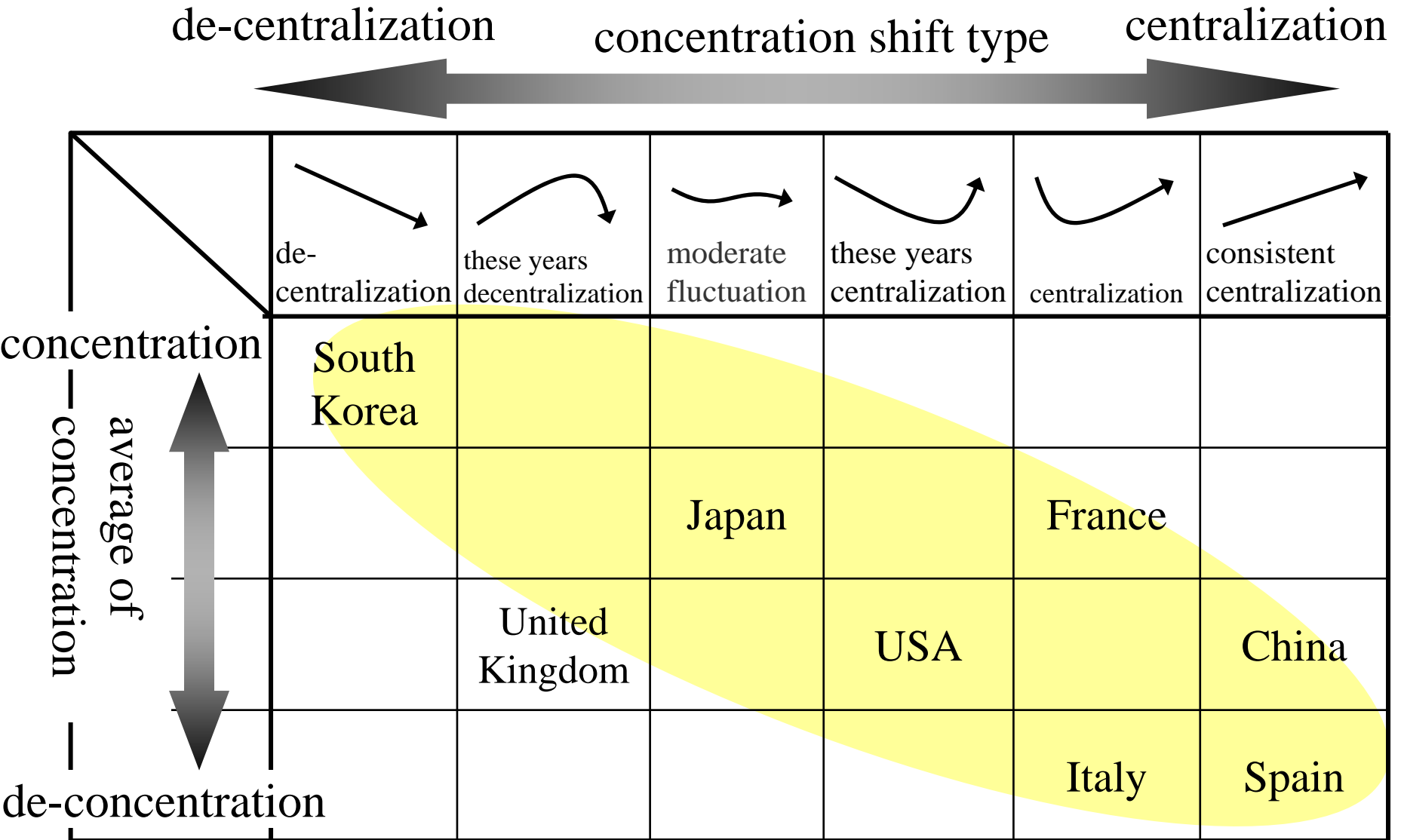


normalized HHI

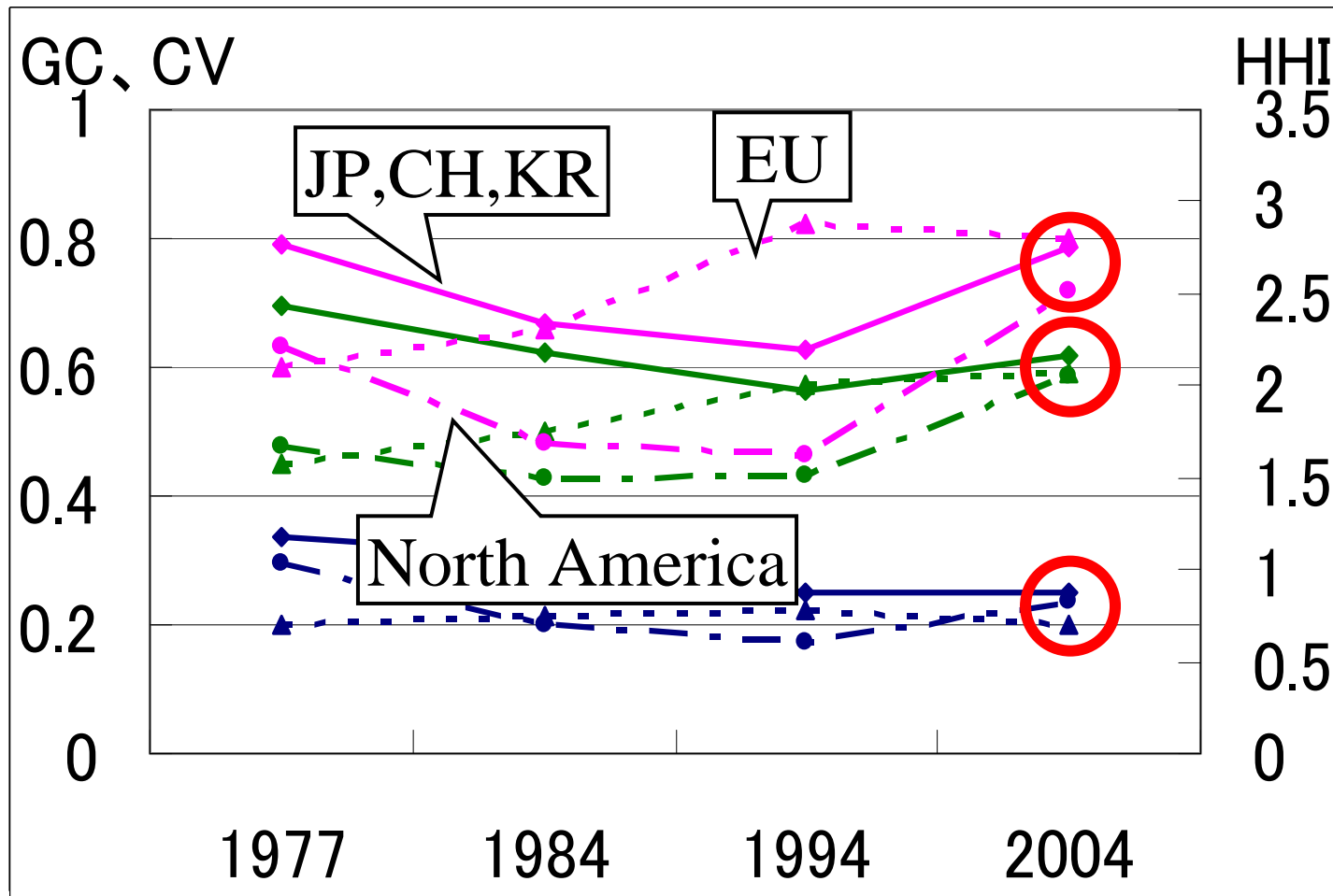


De-concentration

# 3.6 Classifying Countries by GC



# 3.7 Each Area's Shift



**Globalization of the stock that is ports**

# 4 Conclusion

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1. Establishment of **the method of quantifying** the level of container ports concentration, considering country's scale  
→ comparable internationally and temporally
2. **Classification of countries** on the basis of concentration shift type
3. Finding that the levels of concentration in each area are converging  
→ **Globalization of stock**