

Preface

The inframarginal approach to trade theory has attracted considerable – and rapidly expanding – interest in recent years. Yet, little has been done by way of organizing the accumulated knowledge in a single volume. This book represents a first effort to fill this gap by collecting key articles in this new and important area of research.

As in any collection of reprinted contributions, primary credit for this project goes to the authors of the various chapters. We are also grateful to the original publishers for their permission to reprint articles that appear in this volume.

Unlike the remaining contributions, Chapter 1 is written specifically for this volume. It offers an investigation of the origins of inframarginal analysis in the context of the evolution of economic thought since the publication of Adam Smith's well known 1776 treatise. Reliance of this Chapter on direct quotes from contributions not included in this volume is not so much adopted for stylistic reasons, but as an effort to provide a tangible bridge between the chapters that follow and a body of relevant literature that the usual constraints did not allow inclusion in the volume.

The production of the camera-ready copy of this manuscript was a formidable task, and represents the joint effort of a large number of people. In particular, we thank Cora Ng for outstanding logistical support, and Ye Deng, Tino Filippelli, and Scott Harding for excellent research assistance. We also thank our in-house copy editor Aiko Yoshiyayashi for her extraordinary attention to detail, and her hard work in managing almost every aspect of this project.

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Christis G. Tombazos
Managing Editor