

## **THE QUALITY OF INSTITUTIONS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH (Panel regression analysis for sample of CEE countries in time series 1992-2007 and 2008-2011)**

### **Abstract**

We have known that technological improvements, investment in physical and human capital are the main factors which determine economic growth and differences in level of income per capita among countries. But the question which economists try to answer is: why do some countries invest more than other in physical and human capital? And why are some countries so much more productive than others? Maybe the right answer to this question we should find in differences in institutional infrastructure. The main idea is that institutions and government policies determine the economic environment within which individuals accumulate skills, and firms accumulate capital and produce goods. In that context, econometric techniques have been applied on cross-country data for a sample of CEE region, just to investigate the influence of institutions on economic growth and level of income per capita before and during the global economic crisis period. However, testing the correlation and causality between institutions and growth involves the difficult issue how to measure the quality of institutions, taking in consideration that many international agencies and researchers have developed plenty of empirical indicators recently, which measure different institutional aspects.

**Key words:** economic growth, institutional infrastructure and quality of institutions, OLS Panel regression, cross-country data, factor analysis.

## **Introduction**

We have known that technological improvements, investment in physical and human capital are the main factors which determine economic growth and differences in level of income per capita among countries. But the question which economists try to answer is: why do some countries invest more than other in physical and human capital? And why are some countries so much more productive than others? Maybe the right answer of this question we should find in differences in institutional infrastructure. The main idea is that institutions and government policies determine the economic environment within which individuals accumulate skills, and firms accumulate capital and produce goods. In that context, panel econometric techniques have been applied on cross-country data for sample of CEE countries, just to investigate the influence of institutions on economic growth and level of income per capita in the long run and during the global economic crisis period. However, testing the correlation and causality between institutions and growth involving the difficult issue how to measure the quality of institutions. Many international agencies and researchers have developed plenty of empirical indicators recently, which measure different aspects such as financial stability, quality of government regulations, democracy, quality of laws and courts, corruption and many others. One of the key challenges confronting us in this empirical study, having in mind the large number of government and institutional indicators, is how to combine this set of indicators into a one dimension with a clear-cut interpretation of quality of institutions and then analyze his influence on income per capita and economic growth. The most widely used approach to construct composite variables is to select relevant indicators and weigh them together using predetermined equal weights.

## Theoretical model of institutions, capital and economic growth

In the economic literature, especially in theory of growth there are many attempts which have been done to incorporate the influence of institution in growth models. In addition, we will try to do this work by interpreting the model of growth with quality of institutions to see how institution framework is correlate with economic performance in long run. In that context, we start our analysis with aggregate production function which describes how the inputs (physical and human capital, labor and technology) are combined to produce output.<sup>1</sup>

$$Y_t = A_t K_t^\alpha H_t^\beta L_t^{1-\alpha-\beta} \quad (1)$$

The equation of production function can write in per capita form

$$\frac{Y_t}{L_t} = \frac{K_t^\alpha}{L_t} \frac{H_t^\beta}{L_t} \frac{A_t L_t^{1-\alpha-\beta}}{L_t} \quad (2)$$

$$y_t = A_t k_t^\alpha h_t^\beta \quad (3)$$

Traditional macroeconomic growth models do not include the influence of institutional quality as a factor of economic growth. These models implicitly assume an underlying set of good institutions. The fact that institutions have important role in growth process, the economists try to implement the institutional quality in growth models.

$$A_t = A_0 k_t^{\delta_1(\ln-\ln^*)} h_t^{\delta_2(\ln-\ln^*)} \quad (4)$$

Substituting the equation (3) into equation of production function per worker, we get:

$$y_t = A_0 k_t^{\delta_1(\ln-\ln^*)} h_t^{\delta_2(\ln-\ln^*)} k_t^\alpha h_t^\beta \quad (5)$$

---

1

<sup>2</sup> The equation (1) we can write in this terms:  $Y_t = K_t^\alpha H_t^\beta (A_t L_t^{1-\alpha-\beta})$

Rewriting this equation we get:

$$y_t = A_0 k_t^{\alpha + \delta_1 (In - In^*)} h_t^{\beta + \delta_2 (In - In^*)} \quad (6)$$

To study the dynamic of output per capita, we will use a simple *mathematical trick* that economists often used in the study of growth.<sup>3</sup> The mathematical trick is to “take logs and then derivatives”.

If we take logs of equation (6), we obtain:

$$\log y_t = \log A_0 + [\alpha + \delta_1 (In - In^*)] \log k_t + [\beta + \delta_2 (In - In^*)] \log h_t \quad (6)$$

Derivatives regarding time t, we obtain following form:

$$\frac{d \log y_t}{dt} = \frac{d \log A_0}{dt} + [\alpha + \delta_1 (In - In^*)] \frac{d \log k_t}{dt} + [\beta + \delta_2 (In - In^*)] \frac{d \log h_t}{dt} \quad (7)$$

As we can see, the equation (8), show the growth rate of output per capita:

$$\frac{\Delta y_t}{y_t} = \frac{\Delta A_0}{A_0} + [\alpha + \delta_1 (In - In^*)] \frac{\Delta k_t}{k_t} + [\beta + \delta_2 (In - In^*)] \frac{\Delta h_t}{h_t} \quad (8)$$

Rewriting equation (8) we get following form of growth rate of output per capita:

$$\frac{\Delta y_t}{y_t} = \frac{\Delta A_0}{A_0} + [(\alpha - \delta_1 In^*) + \delta_1 In] \frac{\Delta k_t}{k_t} + [(\beta - \delta_2 In^*) + \delta_2 In] \frac{\Delta h_t}{h_t} \quad (9)$$

---

<sup>3</sup> Mathematical notes: The theory of growth uses some properties of natural logarithms. One of that properties is: The statement regarding the timing of the logarithms of a variable, gives the growth rate of that variable:

If  $y(t) = \log x(t)$ , then,  $\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{dy}{dx} \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1}{x} \Delta x = \frac{\Delta x}{x}$

<sup>4</sup> Where symbol,  $\Delta$ , denotes changes of parameters.

If we assume that:  $\varphi_1 = (\alpha - \delta_1 In^*)$ ;  $\varphi_2 = (\beta - \delta_2 In^*)$  and  $\alpha_0 = \Delta A_0$ , and adding an error term  $\varepsilon_t$ , we get final equation of growth rate of output per capita:

$$\frac{\Delta y_t}{y_t} = \alpha_0 + \varphi_1 \frac{\Delta k_t}{k_t} + \delta_1 In \frac{\Delta k_t}{k_t} + \varphi_2 \frac{\Delta h_t}{h_t} + \delta_2 In \frac{\Delta h_t}{h_t} + \varepsilon_t \quad (10)$$

The final basic equation that we got in our theoretical model can use to test the impact of institution on the growth by the influence of institution's quality on the productivity of physical and human capital. In addition, we explain the coefficient estimates for  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \delta_1, \delta_2$ . The coefficient  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  measure the return to physical and human capital investments (the productivity of capital investments) in a country with the worst possible institutional quality, while coefficient  $\delta_1$  and  $\delta_2$  showing an increasing return to these capital investments as the country's institutional quality improves to the ideal level for economy based of market foundations.

**OLS Panel regression analysis of income per capita and institutional quality for CEE countries (1993-2007)**

Variable	Variable description	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
LGDP	Log GDP per capita, US\$	124	8.088048	0.7498555	6.096838	9.511979
Institution	Institution quality (Index of corruption, political rights and civil liberties)	122	0.5344152	0.7152418	-2.38324	1.20147
Innovation	Innovation capacity (Royal payments, GERD and Journal articles)	120	-1.892837	0.3460532	-	-
Human capital	Human capital (Gross enrolment in primary, secondary and tertiary education and education spending)	135	3.865763	0.1192445	3.570382	4.080292
Export demand	Export demand for goods and services, US\$	135	18.14359	1.590651	13.92526	21.09715
Bank credit	Bank credit to private sector, as % of GDP	131	3.052384	0.71494	1.252763	4.484921

	Log of GDP	Institution quality	Innovation capacity	Human capital	Bank credit	Investment	FDI inflow	Export	Openness	Inflation
Log of GDP	1									
Institution quality	0.5959	1								
Innovation capacity	0.6068	0.3561	1							
Human capital	0.6254	0.7871	0.1672	1						
Bank credit	0.8022	0.3884	0.5361	0.5263	1					
Investment	0.6469	0.3539	0.2345	0.3811	0.5676	1				
Remittances	0.4147	0.1735	0.087	0.4297	0.5574	0.3503				
Net FDI inflow	0.5358	0.2449	0.3007	0.1597	0.3474	0.2567	1			
Export	0.3373	-0.0273	0.22	-0.0378	0.2057	0.0122	0.8303	1		
Openness	0.3822	0.6002	0.2897	0.5854	0.4189	0.2911	0.0852	0.3147	1	
Inflation	-0.6122	-0.4973	-0.2874	-0.6209	0.4328	-0.4237	0.1163	0.0492	-0.3607	1

DEPENDENT VARIABLES:	OLS Panel regression	OLS Panel regression	Random-effects GLS regression	Fixed-effects (within) regression
Log GDP per capita				
INDEPENDENT VARIABLES				

Institution quality	0.157 (0.152)	0.192** (0.0795)	0.160** (0.009)	0.0130** (0.030)
Innovation capacity	0.642*** (0.175)			0.124** (0.236)
Human capital	2.672*** (0.774)	1.368*** (0.502)	2.709** (0.000)	1.149** (0.061)
Export demand	0.178*** (0.0346)	0.142*** (0.0244)	0.240** (0.000)	0.534** (0.000)
Bank credit to private sector	0.227** (0.0911)	0.142*** (0.0635)	0.078** (0.125)	
Investment in physical capital		1.211*** (0.125)	0.709** (0.000)	0.523** (0.000)
Constant	-5.155* (2.762)	-4.369** (1.947)	-9.303081** (0.000)	-7.709** (0.000)
Observations	99	108	108	101
R-squared	0.696	0.800	0.715	0.474

Standard errors in parentheses

\*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1

**OLS Panel regression analysis of economic growth per capita and institutional quality for CEE countries (1993-2007)**

	<i>Growth rate</i>	<i>Investment</i>	<i>Human capital</i>	<i>Innovation</i>	<i>Competitive</i>	<i>Institution quality</i>	<i>Infrastruc.</i>
Growth rate	1						
Investment	0.2744	1					
Human capital	0.3334	-0.0572	1				
Innovation	0.3272	0.4098	0.2814	1			
Competitiveness	0.4654	0.5401	0.4552	0.568	1		
Institution quality	0.2756	0.1267	0.5393	0.1298	0.369	1	
Infrastructure	0.4427	0.3721	0.5391	0.7477	0.6456	0.3606	1

The results from empirical study for economic growth per capita and institutional quality that we have partly done by using data for group of CEE countries in modified Panel econometric methods and OLS regression analysis show two controversial results. First, regression analysis which we use to estimate the first econometric model shows strong positive statistical correlation between quality of institutions and economic growth in time series of 1993-2007 for sample of CEE countries.

<b>DEPENDENT VARIABLES:</b> ECONOMIC GROWTH	OLS Panel regression	OLS Panel regression	Random- effects GLS regression	Random- effects GLS regression
<b>INDEPENDENT VARIABLES</b>				
Institution quality	0.188*** (0.215)	0.196** (0.172)	0.110** (0.0552)	0.106* (0.0546)
Innovation capacity	0.242** (0.029)	0.265** (0.029)		
Human capital	1.642** (0.002)	0.761** (0.002)	2.148*** (0.304)	0.386*** (0.122)
Infrastructure				1.024** (0.495)
Economic competitiveness		0.427** (0.000)		0.250*** (0.0323)
Investment in physical capital	0.138** (0.003)		0.239*** (0.032)	
Trust			0.594*** (0.184)	0.205 (0.213)
Constant	-3.946** (0.108)	0.698** (0.670)	-1.930 (1.223)	2.324 (1.949)
Observations	214	229	378	373
R-squared	0.504	0.591	0.56	0.54

Standard errors in parentheses



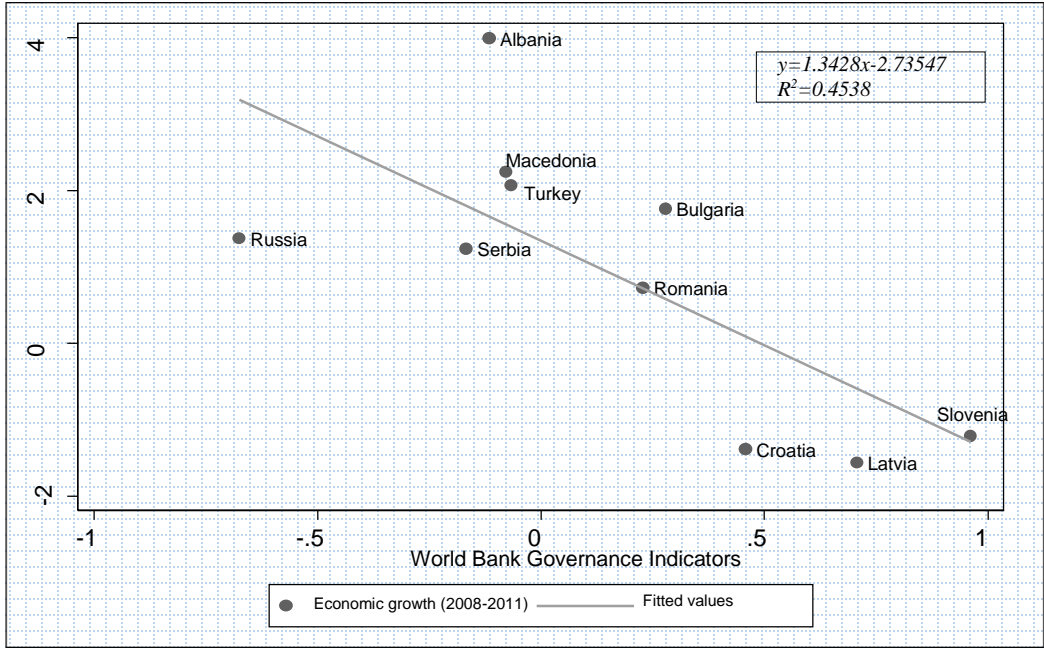
The quality of institutions have positive effect and influence of economic performance during transition and post-transition period for all sample of countries, that means, those countries which have implemented growth-promoting institutions (high level of transition progress to market economy, successful results in integration process to EU and adaptation to EU-compatible institutions, high quality of government policy making) have high level of GDP per capita and sustainable economic growth in long run.

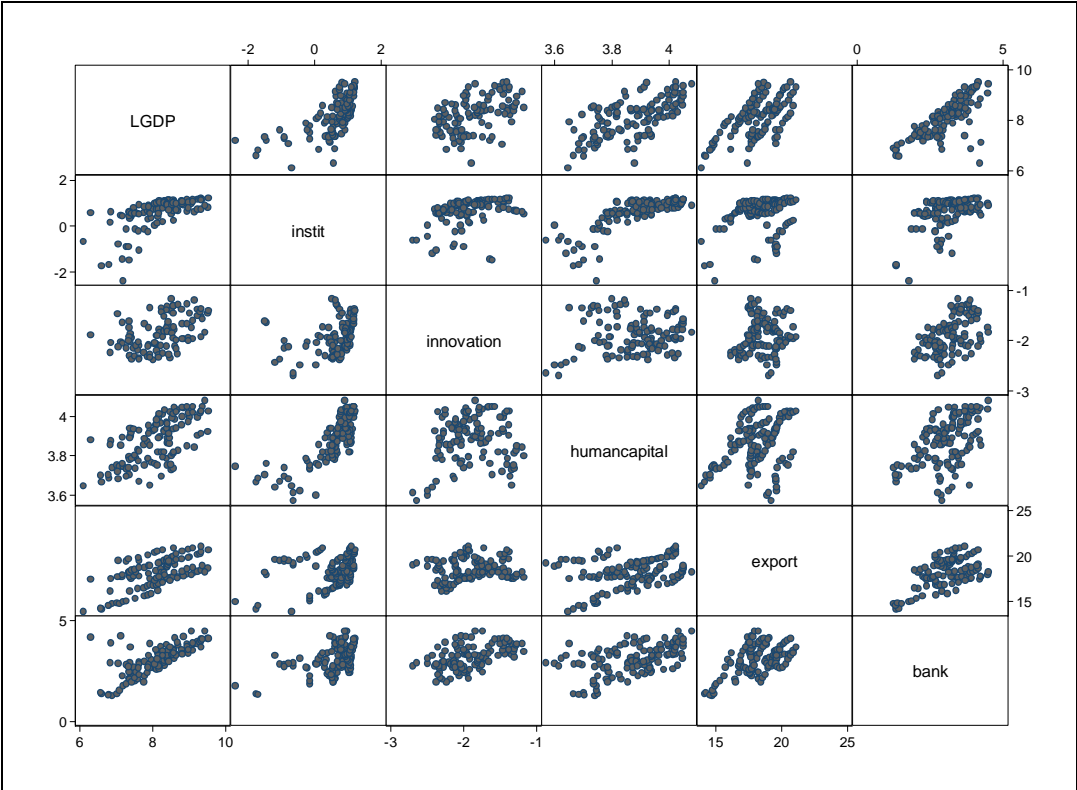
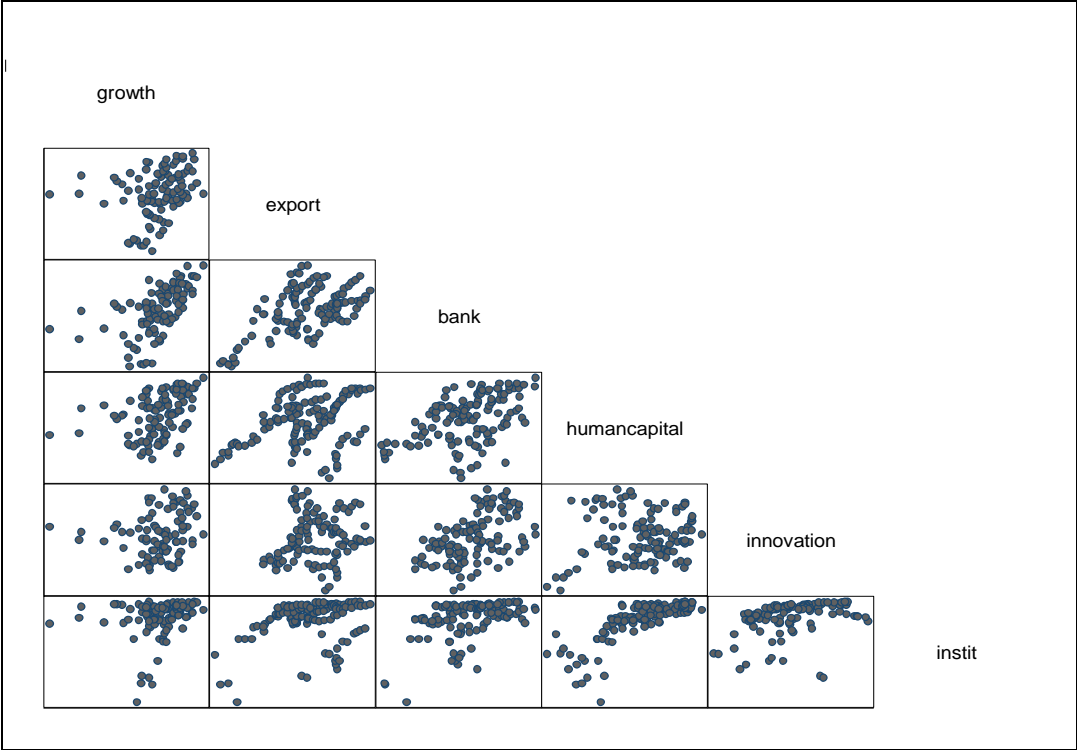
On the other hand, our second regression model that we have estimated using different set of variables to represent the quality of institutions (WBGI, EBRD Index, EU integration), for the time period (2008-2011), shows negative correlation between institutions and economic growth. The logical explanation of the negative influence of institutional quality we should find out in fact that countries in CEE which have made the most significant institutional progress by integration to EU are more vulnerable to the crisis. This sensitivity and vulnerability to the crisis, primarily came from the higher degree of openness to the transmission effects through financial flows and falling export demand. But, at the same time they have better chance to overcome the crisis and better opportunities for recovering their economies, since private sector in those countries operate within a more supportive and market oriented institutional environment.<sup>5</sup>

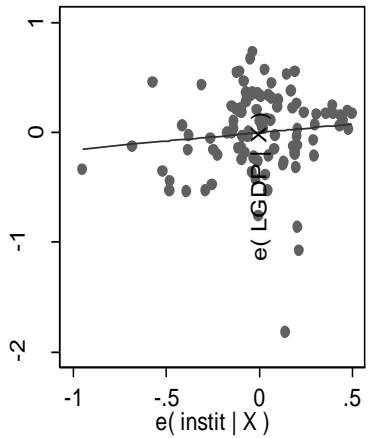
**Figure1. Average economic growth and Quality of institutions (2008-2011)**

---

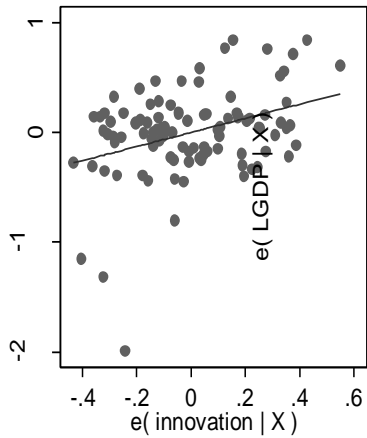
<sup>5</sup> Will Bartlett and Ivana Prca (2011): The variable impact of the global economic crisis in South East Europe, London School of Economics.



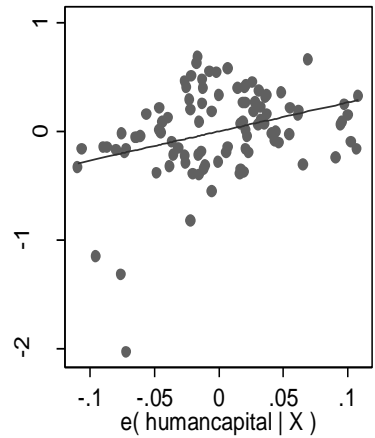




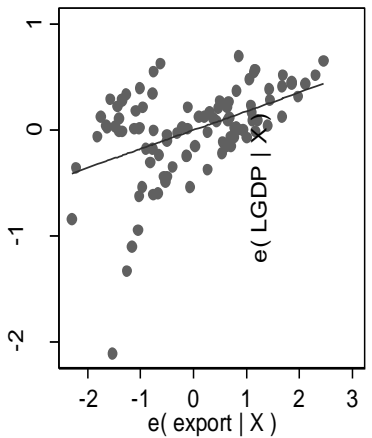
coef = .15658607, se = .1518828, t = 1.03



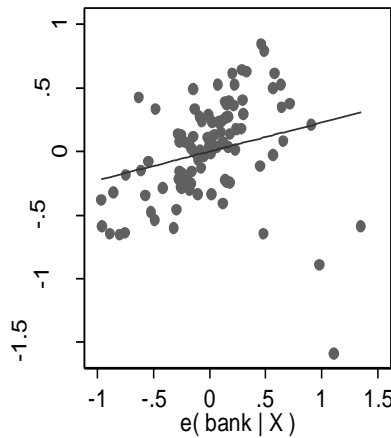
coef = .64242423, se = .17513249, t = 3.67



coef = 2.6717935, se = .77364471, t = 3.45



coef = .17765645, se = .03463992, t = 5.13



coef = .22706022, se = .09107852, t = 2.49

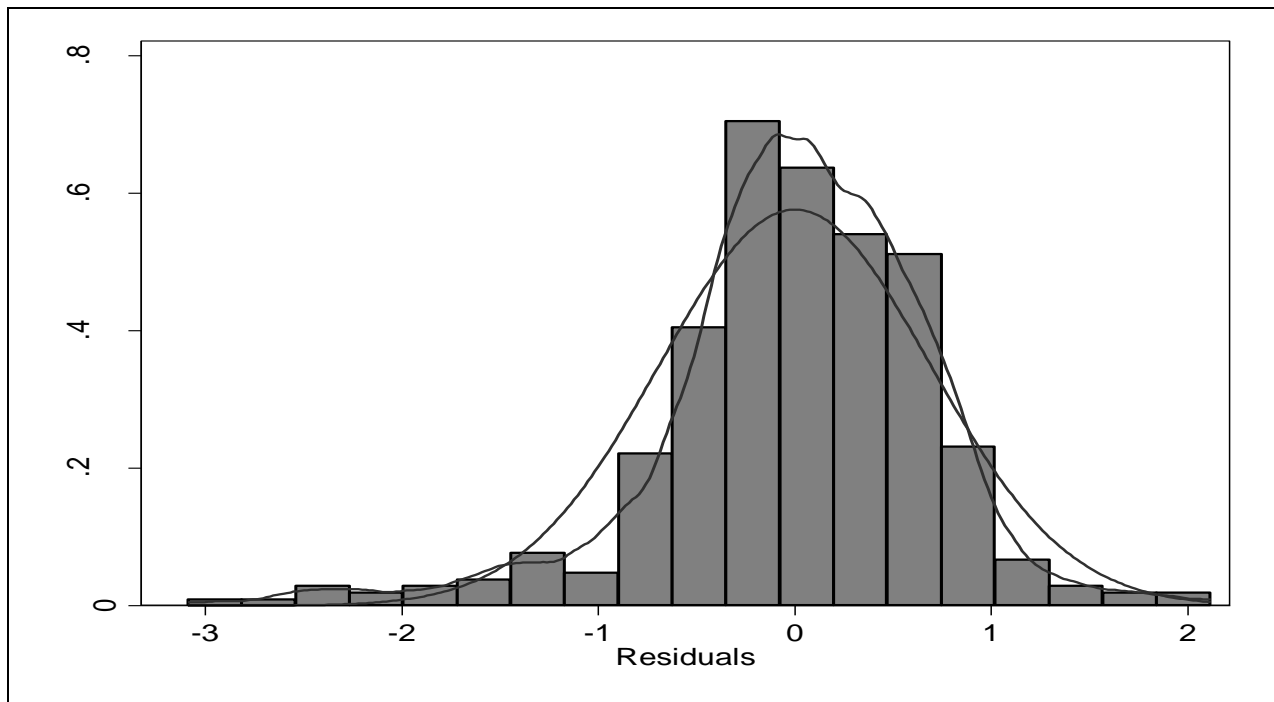
Ramsey RESET test using powers of the fitted values of growthrate

Ho: model has no omitted variables  
F(3, 370) = 1.42  
Prob > F = 0.2364

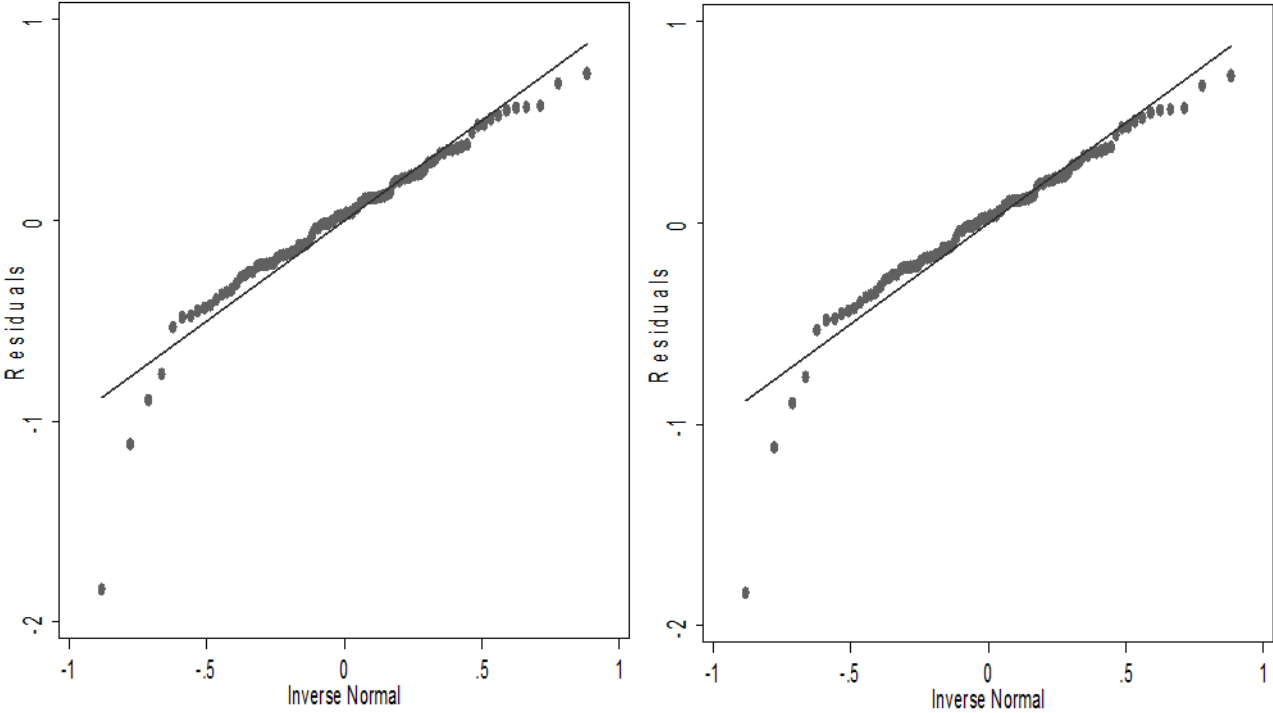
Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs =	378
Model	151.484139	2	75.7420694	F( 2, 375) =	158.15
Residual	179.602308	375	.478939488	Prob > F =	0.0000
				R-squared =	0.4575
				Adj R-squared =	0.4546
				Root MSE =	.69205

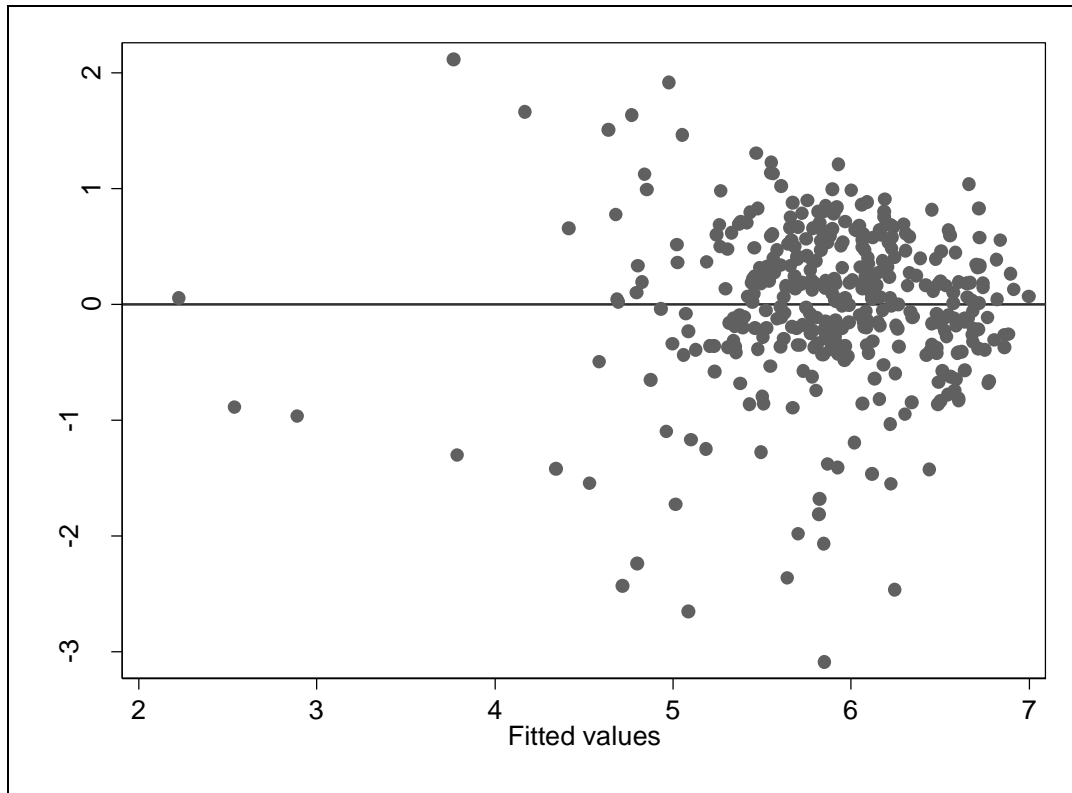
  

growthrate	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
_hat	1.608009	.424873	3.78	0.000	.7725771 2.443441
_hatsq	-.0562156	.0389352	-1.44	0.150	-.1327743 .0203432
_cons	-1.608843	1.163243	-1.38	0.167	-3.896139 .678453



A kernel density plot produces a kind of histogram for normal distribution of the residuals. Here residuals seem to follow quite a normal distribution.





Rvfplot scatter plotting residuals vs. predicted values (Yhat) which means that residuals seem to slightly expand at higher levels of Yhat.

```
Breusch-Pagan / Cook-Weisberg test for heteroskedasticity
Ho: Constant variance
Variables: fitted values of LGDP
chi2(1)      =      2.88
Prob > chi2  =      0.0895
```

This is the Breusch-Pagan test for heteroskedasticity. The null hypothesis is that residuals are homoskedastic. Here we accept the null and concluded that residuals are homoskedastic. (the minimum threshold p-value is 0.05)

Variable	VIF	1/VIF
-----+-----		
humancapital	2.66	0.376304
instit	2.61	0.383801
bank	1.87	0.534089
export	1.34	0.746060
investment	1.12	0.891900
-----+-----		
Mean VIF	1.92	

A  $vif > 10$  or a  $1/vif < 0.10$  indicates that there is multicollinearity problem in regression model. One of the reason why we use principle-component analysis in our regression is to avoid the problem of multicollinearity. Neither of independent variables in the regression is nor causal correlate each other, that is signal for not multicollinearity bias.



**Appendix1 Factor analysis of Innovation capacity: Royal payments, number of patents, journal articles and expenditure of research and development.**

```

Factor analysis/correlation                Number of obs   =    323
Method: principal-component factors        Retained factors =     1
Rotation: (unrotated)                    Number of params =     4

```

---

Factor	Eigenvalue	Difference	Proportion	Cumulative
Factor1	2.50990	1.57707	0.6275	0.6275
Factor2	0.93283	0.65074	0.2332	0.8607
Factor3	0.28209	0.00691	0.0705	0.9312
Factor4	0.27518	.	0.0688	1.0000

---

LR test: independent vs. saturated:  $\chi^2(6) = 547.07$  Prob> $\chi^2 = 0.0000$

---

Factor loadings (pattern matrix) and unique variances

---

Variable	Factor1	Uniqueness
dilroyag	0.3691	0.8638
di6patecap	0.8786	0.2281
di7articap	0.8887	0.2103
di16merdt	0.9011	0.1880

---

```

Factor analysis/correlation                Number of obs   =    323
Method: principal-component factors        Retained factors =     1
Rotation: orthogonal varimax (Kaiser off)  Number of params =     4

```

---

Factor	Variance	Difference	Proportion	Cumulative
Factor1	2.50990	.	0.6275	0.6275

---

LR test: independent vs. saturated:  $\chi^2(6) = 547.07$  Prob> $\chi^2 = 0.0000$

---

Rotated factor loadings (pattern matrix) and unique variances

---

Variable	Factor1	Uniqueness
dilroyag	0.3691	0.8638
di6patecap	0.8786	0.2281
di7articap	0.8887	0.2103
di16merdt	0.9011	0.1880

---

Factor rotation matrix

---

	Factor1
Factor1	1.0000

---

**Appendix2 Factor analysis of human capital: gross enrolment in primary, secondary and tertiary education, education spending and number of teacher per student.**

```
Factor analysis/correlation           Number of obs   =    356
Method: principal factors           Retained factors =     3
Rotation: (unrotated)              Number of params =    15
```

Factor	Eigenvalue	Difference	Proportion	Cumulative
Factor1	2.42104	2.11148	1.0396	1.0396
Factor2	0.30956	0.24784	0.1329	1.1725
Factor3	0.06172	0.18163	0.0265	1.1990
Factor4	-0.11990	0.00644	-0.0515	1.1475
Factor5	-0.12634	0.09082	-0.0542	1.0932
Factor6	-0.21716	.	-0.0932	1.0000

LR test: independent vs. saturated:  $\chi^2(15) = 703.63$  Prob> $\chi^2 = 0.0000$

Factor loadings (pattern matrix) and unique variances

Variable	Factor1	Factor2	Factor3	Uniqueness
es1enrop	0.1462	0.4204	0.0060	0.8019
es2enros	0.8465	-0.0026	-0.0880	0.2756
es3enrot	0.7256	-0.0318	0.1010	0.4623
es10schom	0.5978	0.2323	0.0967	0.5793
es12educe	0.4284	-0.2684	0.1218	0.7296
es14teacr	0.7846	-0.0765	-0.1398	0.3590

```
Factor analysis/correlation           Number of obs   =    356
Method: principal factors           Retained factors =     3
Rotation: orthogonal varimax (Kaiser off)  Number of params =    15
```

Factor	Variance	Difference	Proportion	Cumulative
Factor1	2.32436	1.99452	0.9980	0.9980
Factor2	0.32983	0.19169	0.1416	1.1397
Factor3	0.13814	.	0.0593	1.1990

LR test: independent vs. saturated:  $\chi^2(15) = 703.63$  Prob> $\chi^2 = 0.0000$

Rotated factor loadings (pattern matrix) and unique variances

Variable	Factor1	Factor2	Factor3	Uniqueness
es1enrop	0.1078	0.4292	-0.0479	0.8019
es2enros	0.8454	0.0789	0.0588	0.2756
es3enrot	0.6940	0.0685	0.2267	0.4623
es10schom	0.5482	0.3118	0.1516	0.5793
es12educe	0.4185	-0.1935	0.2406	0.7296
es14teacr	0.8005	-0.0092	0.0120	0.3590

Factor rotation matrix

	Factor1	Factor2	Factor3
Factor1	0.9789	0.1138	0.1695
Factor2	-0.0815	0.9791	-0.1866
Factor3	-0.1872	0.1688	0.9677

**Appendix3 Factor analysis of the quality of institutions: Index of corruption, political rights, civic freedom and index of democracy.**

```
Factor analysis/correlation           Number of obs   =   356
Method: principal factors             Retained factors =    2
Rotation: (unrotated)                Number of params =    6
```

Factor	Eigenvalue	Difference	Proportion	Cumulative
Factor1	2.06135	1.98990	1.0618	1.0618
Factor2	0.07145	0.11807	0.0368	1.0986
Factor3	-0.04662	0.09820	-0.0240	1.0746
Factor4	-0.14482	.	-0.0746	1.0000

LR test: independent vs. saturated:  $\chi^2(6) = 633.89$  Prob> $\chi^2 = 0.0000$

Factor loadings (pattern matrix) and unique variances

Variable	Factor1	Factor2	Uniqueness
pf20demoa	0.8514	0.0896	0.2670
pf23legic	0.2500	0.1811	0.9047
pf1corri	0.6588	-0.1749	0.5354
pf12polir	0.9165	-0.0070	0.1601

```
Factor analysis/correlation           Number of obs   =   356
Method: principal factors             Retained factors =    2
Rotation: orthogonal varimax (Kaiser off)  Number of params =    6
```

Factor	Variance	Difference	Proportion	Cumulative
Factor1	2.06098	1.98916	1.0616	1.0616
Factor2	0.07182	.	0.0370	1.0986

LR test: independent vs. saturated:  $\chi^2(6) = 633.89$  Prob> $\chi^2 = 0.0000$

Rotated factor loadings (pattern matrix) and unique variances

Variable	Factor1	Factor2	Uniqueness
pf20demoa	0.8526	0.0780	0.2670
pf23legic	0.2525	0.1777	0.9047
pf1corri	0.6563	-0.1839	0.5354
pf12polir	0.9163	-0.0195	0.1601

Factor rotation matrix

-----

	Factor1	Factor2
Factor1	0.9999	-0.0137
Factor2	0.0137	0.9999

#### Appendix4 Factor analysis of economic competitiveness: bank credit to private sector and openness to trade.

Factor analysis/correlation  
Method: principal factors  
Rotation: (unrotated)

Number of obs = 356  
Retained factors = 1  
Number of params = 1

Factor	Eigenvalue	Difference	Proportion	Cumulative
Factor1	0.19642	0.33629	3.4736	3.4736
Factor2	-0.13987	.	-2.4736	1.0000

LR test: independent vs. saturated: chi2(1) = 10.17 Prob>chi2 = 0.0014

Factor loadings (pattern matrix) and unique variances

Variable	Factor1	Uniqueness
ec14credg	0.3134	0.9018
ec16openi	0.3134	0.9018

Factor analysis/correlation  
Method: principal factors  
Rotation: orthogonal varimax (Kaiser off)

Number of obs = 356  
Retained factors = 1  
Number of params = 1

Factor	Variance	Difference	Proportion	Cumulative
Factor1	0.19642	.	3.4736	3.4736

LR test: independent vs. saturated: chi2(1) = 10.17 Prob>chi2 = 0.0014

Rotated factor loadings (pattern matrix) and unique variances

Variable	Factor1	Uniqueness
ec14credg	0.3134	0.9018
ec16openi	0.3134	0.9018

Factor rotation matrix

	Factor1
Factor1	1.0000