Research on the Influence of Real Estate Investment and Economic Growth in China

Wen-Xian HUANG\textsuperscript{1,a,*}, Hong-Yun MA\textsuperscript{2,b}

\textsuperscript{1}School of Humanities and Economic Management, China University of Geosciences Beijing
\textsuperscript{2}Resource and Environmental Management Lab, China University of Geosciences Beijing
\textsuperscript{a}wenxian0626@sina.com, \textsuperscript{b}mahy@cugb.edu.com

*Corresponding author

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\textbf{Abstract.} Real estate investment has been influencing economic growth and fluctuations more evidently recently. A preliminary analysis on the status of REI, economic growth and fixed investment will be carried out on the relationship between Real Estate Investment and Economic Growth which is based on input-output method and National economic accounting theory. The results show that the influence of Real Estate Investment on Economic Growth exceeds that of Economic Growth on Real Estate Investment. Money supply in the market plays a more important role to the real estate investment increase.

\textbf{Introduction}

In recent years, China's real estate market has been developing very rapidly, the National Bureau of Statistics data shows that China annual real estate investment amounted to 8,601.338 billion Yuan in 2013, accounting for 15.12% gross domestic product (GDP) and 19.70% fixed asset investment in 2013. With the expansion, real estate investment has become an important factor in economic growth and fluctuations, and the problems which resulted from the part prosperous of real estate investment are becoming serious day by day. Liming Hong (2014) \cite{1} pointed out that the Real Estates Investment (REI) is not only an important factor in the impact of short-term fluctuations in the economy, meanwhile, underlying huge risk may lead to the decending economy in the long run.

Although the relationship between REI and Economic Growth has long been paid much attention to by researchers, there are many differences in different conclusions. Some adopted Econometric approach to analyze the relationship between REI and Economic Growth. Jean Gauger (2003) \cite{2} researched in the relationship between REI and macro economy using Error Correction Model (ECM), considering financial regulation, currency, interest and Yield. They found that when the financial regulation was loose, ERI could promote the GDP growth. Timothy O. Bisping and Hilde Patron (2008) \cite{3} studied the impact of residential and non-residential investment on American economic growth using Generalized Impulse Response approach, results showed that residential investment made a greater difference. Jie Zhang, Jianhua Wang and Aiyong Zhu (2012) \cite{5} used the panel data of 30 provinces in China over the period from 1999 q1 to 2007 q4 to implement a preliminary empirical test on the relationship between REI and GDP growth based on panel Granger approach, and they found that real estate investment could not exert a significant effect on GDP growth when per capita GDP was lower than $1,000. Yu Ren and Yufei Yuan (2014) \cite{6} established a dynamic stochastic partial equilibrium model for explaining residential investment dynamics in the United States, in this model, when interest rates were exogenously fixed, residence investment resulted in economic growth.

Some others used input-output method to analyze the relationship. Yong Li (2013) \cite{7} studied the driving effect of REI on national economy by calculating the direct consumption coefficient and complete consumption coefficient of China real estate industry in 2010. Chu Meng (2013) \cite{8} analyzed the panel data of 28 provinces in China from 2001 to 2008 using input-output model, and
they found REI led to economic growth through relevant industries, and current influence coefficient of REI on national economic growth was 0.30. ZhaoHui Wei(2013)[9] calculated the contribution of real estate industry on Sichuan economic growth from the angle of national account, taking multiplier effect into account, and the average contribution of Sichuan real estate industry was 12.8%, leading to GDP growth by 1.9%, which was lower than common expectation.

In this paper, an empirical study will be carried out on the relationship between Real Estate Investment and Economic Growth, combining econometrics and input-output method. At first, a preliminary analysis on the status of REI, economic growth and fixed investment will be made, which is based on input-output method and National economic accounting theory.

**Real Estate Investment Status**

The scale of REI has been expanding since 2000, and the share of REI in GDP is on rise year by year, which means REI has become a dominating force in stimulating domestic demand. Figure 1 shows that REI in 2000 was 498.405 billion Yuan, and increased to 8601.338 billion Yuan in 2013. The share of REI in GDP rised from 5.02% in 2000 to 15.12% in 2013. The proportions of Real estate in fixed assets remained around 17%.

![Figure 1 National Real Estate Investment Trends and proportion](image)

**Calculation of real estate investment’s positive effect on economic growth**

In this paper, three indicators, including REI’s dependency on GDP growth, REI’s contribution to economic growth, percentage of GDP growth that REI enhances [10], are used to calculate REI’s positive effect on economic growth, based on national accounting theory.

As is shown in fig.2, real estate investment’s dependency is Between 0.05 to 0.15, and keep increasing steadily. In 2013, real estate investment dependency reached the peak, which is 0.1512. The growth speed of REI is faster than that of GDP.
REI’s contribution to GDP growth has been fluctuating during recent years. Because of the finance crisis in 2008, the Chinese government invested much to fixed asset, including real estate industry. So REI’s contribution to GDP growth increased repaidly after 2009.

The percentage of GDP growth that REI enhances is small, which is between 1.3%-3.5%. But the gap between the peak and valley is big. It reached a peak of 3.5% in 2010. Analysis shows that REI growth accords with economic development. The linear correlation coefficient of the the two variables is 0.9806, revealing strong interdependent relationship.

Analysis of real estate investment growth and economic growth

The growth level of China’s real estate investment is almost the same as fixed investment growth level and economic growth level, which are allperiodic. From 1996 to 1999, the financial crisis attacked Asia. As a result, China's GDP growth fell, the corresponding real estate investment decreases 1.2% and fixed investment growth slow down.

Source: National Bureau of Statistics

Figure 2  trends related economic indicators

Figure 3 GDP, FAI, REI growth rate during 1996 to 2013
After 1999, the macroeconomic situation changed and the government introduced a series of fiscal policies and monetary policy to promote economic growth. Real estate investment was started with a new wave of expansion, so did investment in fixed assets. Real estate investment increased 30.33% in 2003.

Figure 3 illustrates that China’s real estate investment tended to rise with fluctuations and monetary policy guidance makes a remarkable effect on real estate investment. Real estate investment has a positive correlation with investment in fixed assets as well as the macroeconomic level. But the growth rate of real estate development investment is significantly higher than GDP growth rate. The former is almost twice of the latter, which indicates that there is an overinvestment tendency in real estate industry.

Conclusion

In the long run, China’s real estate industry comes with the reforms of housing system and land use system. It is gradually established and developed under the influence of gradualness of all kinds of economic policies in a variety of economic situation.

After 2003, due to the overheated investment, the state adopted a new round of macro-control such as moderately controlling the scale of investment and adjusting the investment structure. As a result, real estate investment began to decline.

Real estate investment increased 30.2% in 2007. Sustained and rapid economic growth played an important role in keeping real estate development and investment increasing.

From 2008 to 2009, due to the US subprime crisis, the external demand played a less important role on the investment growth. The domestic monetary policy became to tighten, the land environment regulation kept being strengthened and the growth of GDP slow down, therefore, real estate investment growth fell back.

Since 2010, the world economic recovery has been lacking power and monetary policy has turned steady, which contributed to restrain China’s GDP growth. As affordable housing construction proceeded all around, fixed asset investment of the whole society increased to a higher level.

This paper executes a research on the relation between REI and economic growth. Following are the conclusions:

1) The relation between REI and economic growth is not symmetrical. Economic has a great effect on REI while REI has less impact on economic growth. So when economic change happens, REI will fluctuate wildly.

2) REI crow out other investments in FI. When real estate industry makes more money, large amount of money will flow into this industry.

3) M1 growth accelerates REI growth, also, it accounts for overheated REI growth.

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References


