

An empirical research of regional internal migration in Buryatia Republic based on environmental factors, as well as the information society readiness index factors

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Abstract— In this paper we analyze the specific features of regional migration. For such analysis we chose Buryat Republic. Our empirical research is based on gravity model. To perform econometric estimation we employ panel data estimation techniques. We provide random effect estimation techniques. This procedure is applied in Poisson pseudo maximum likelihood (PPML) estimation.

Our approach is innovative in the way that we include in econometric model not only general socio-economic determinants but environmental and information and telecommunication infrastructure development determinants as well. We also target our analysis on the one-way migration flow of home region. So, we are enabled to study the relationships in the gravity model in more specific way.

Keywords— migration, gravity model, Poisson pseudo maximum likelihood

I. INTRODUCTION

Migration is one of the most important socio-economic factors, which can reduce the interregional socio-economic differentiation. Migration affects the demographic structure of the population, determines the conditions of regional and local labor markets. The prognosis of the size and direction of migration flows can be the base of the successful socio-economic policy. However, it is impossible without migration models development.

One of the specific features of the Russian economy is its regional differentiation that is rather high in comparison with the developed countries, but the level of internal migration flows is significantly low. For example, the internal migration in Russia was only 1.4% of the total population in the two-thousand years. For comparison, the internal migration in the

United States on the average was 13.7% of the total population for the period 2000-2006, in Canada - 14.6%, in Japan - 4.6% [1]. Among the main reasons for the low mobility of the Russian's population migration are the following: high costs of resettlement, underdevelopment of transportation network, limited market of housing rental, high cost of housing and rent, low income of the most people.

At the same time, in some Russian northern and eastern regions, there is a very high level of out-migration of the population. The main direction of the interregional internal migration in Russia is the movement from the East to the Center of Russia and to the Moscow region, which increases the imbalance in the distribution of the population on the territory of Russia.

Evaluation of migration flows in these regions is an important aspect of further socio-economic development of Russia. According to the State Migration Policy Concept of the Russian Federation for the period until 2025 (approved by the President of the Russian Federation on 13 June 2012), it is necessary to suspend the migration outflow from Siberia and the Far East until 2021, and provide the migratory influx of population to these areas until 2026.

However, to provide this process it is necessary to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the various factors that influence the migration processes in Russia.

In the economic literature, we can find different study of the influence of various factors on the interregional internal migration. Among the factors distinguish the socio-economic, socio-political, demographic, natural and geographical, ethnic and political, environmental factors. The degree of influence of these factors evaluated in the various econometric models

developed for analysis of migration processes. At the same time, at present important factors for regional prosperity become the factors of information and telecommunication environment development and the information society readiness index as well. In this regard, in our view, these new factors reflect the degree of regional attractiveness and can be considered as an attraction factor of the migration.

The object of research is the internal interregional migration processes in Russia on the example Buryat Republic.

The empirical significance of the work lies in the field of calibration and testing of the econometric model for migration process. For empirical testing, we chose the gravity model for the one-way migration flow (i.e. migration flows between one home region and other regions).

We analyze panel data sets of interregional migration flows in Russia in time period 2001-2012. The analysis covers panel data sets of 78 regions of Russian Federation.

Defining Buryat Republic as a single "home region" i , the analysis is based on an econometric estimation of migration function from the home "region" to the other regions j . Our data set consists of 924 observations of one-way migration flows in time period 12 years (1 X 77 X 12).

Our approach is innovative in the way that we include in econometric model not only general socio-economic determinants but environmental and information and telecommunication infrastructure development determinants as well.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS (MODEL)

The first mathematical model of migration was proposed by Young, 1924. He explored the rural migration to the United States and offered the first interactional pattern of migration (spatial interaction model) [2].

In the 40s of the XX century J. Zipf proposed gravity model of migration (Zipf, 1949): migration flows between regions is directly proportional to the population in the region and the region disposal arrival and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between the regions. This model has low explanatory power, as it considers only 3 factors. Furthermore, the distance is not very constant category for different regions of the country. Thus, it is appropriate to use a modified measure of the distance between the regions of the country [3].

Lee E. (1966) proposed the model of migration factors. In addition, this model is called extended gravity model [4].

The work of Andrienko and Guriev is interesting too, they tested the modified gravity model for Russia (Andrienko, Guriev, 2004). In particular, they proposed a model for panel data with individual fixed effect on the region to region data for the period 1992-1999. In 2006 they published a second paper, where they continued their previous work. They increased the sample of analyzing the interval from 1992 to 2003. As for the results, the authors again noted the applicability of the gravity model to the Russian data [5].

In general, many researchers consider that the gravity models for migration flows are consistent with the basic theoretical model. At the same time, it has some drawbacks for its use on the Russian's data.

Our empirical research is based on the so-called "gravity-model", which often is used by some researchers of migration. This model is similar to the Newton's law of universal gravity. According to which "demographic" force of attraction between regions is directly proportional to the population in the region of origin and an arrival region and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between the regions.

$$F_{ij} = \beta_0 \frac{P_i^{\beta_1} P_j^{\beta_2}}{D_{ij}^{\beta_3}} \quad (1)$$

F_{ij} – the force of attraction between the regions i and j ; P_i – the number of the population in given region; P_j – the number of the population in attraction region; D_{ij} – the distance between the two regions.

Gravity model for migration considers the bilateral migration as the "gravity force" between two regions and suggests the same relationship between this force, masses of the regions proxies by the population and the distance between them.

For estimating purposes, the traditional gravity model of migration could be rewritten in the following form:

$$F_{ij} = \beta_0 P_i^{\beta_1} P_j^{\beta_2} D_{ij}^{\beta_3} \varepsilon_{ij}, \quad (2)$$

Where ε_{ij} – the error term; $\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3$ are parameters to be estimated.

However, the recent studies of the estimation log-linearized version of the gravity model show its rather significant shortcomings; even if we use panel data for estimation. Namely, Santos Silva and Tenreyro (2006) show that the general approach cannot be used for zero force of attraction between the countries or regions. Moreover, they argued that estimating the log-linearized equation by OLS could lead to significant biases. Thus, the estimation based on the logarithmic transformed model creates a potential significant risk to the properly estimated coefficients.

In order to overcome log-linearized version of the gravity model shortcomings Santos Silva and Tenreyro (2006) suggested using Poisson pseudo maximum likelihood estimation (PPML) technique [6]. For our experiments, we use Poisson pseudo maximum likelihood (PPML) estimation.

In our research the following statistical information is used:

- regularly published data of Rosstat on social and economic processes in regions of Russia for the period 2001-2012;
- the matrixes of internal migration (so-called "shakhmatka") for the period 2001-2012.

To assess the gravity model parameters is used the matrix of the shortest distances between regional centers of Russia. This calculation procedure was offered by Abramov A. (2000).

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this paper we analyze the specific features of regional migration. For such analysis we chose Buryat Republic. Buryat Republic is the depressed region there is the constant migration outflow. In our opinion, such region accurately reflects the main problems of Russia in the field of migration.

The dynamic of migration outflow from Buryat Republic we show on the Exhibit 1. So, we can notice the constant growth of migration outflow from Buryat Republic. It was some decline in 2008-2009; we connect this process with world financial crises. However, in 2011 it was rapid growth which was continued in 2012.

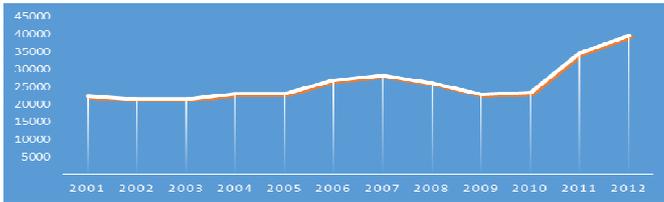


Exhibit 1 - Migration outflow from Buryat Republic

The structure of inter-regional migration is presented on the Exhibit 2. The population of the republic is mainly migrates within the Siberian FD. In the Siberian Federal District accounts for about 83% of the all emigration from the republic. The second place where the population migrates is the Central FD, is about 4.8% and the third is the Far East FD, the volume is about 4.5%. So, population prefer to migrate on a short distance within the Federal District because of high level of the migrations' costs.

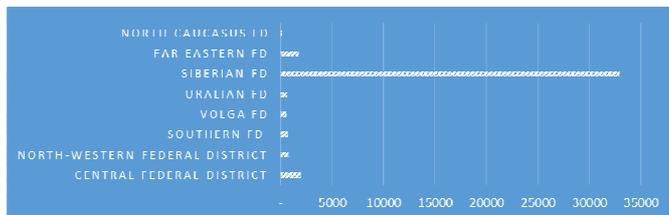


Exhibit 2 - The structure of inter-regional migration in Buryat Republic

In this section we also target our analysis on the one-way migration flow of home region. So, we are enabled to study the relationships in the gravity model in more specific way. Defining Buryat Republic as a single "home region" i, the analysis is based on an econometric estimation of migration function from the home "region" to the other regions j.

The meaning of the variables is presented in Table 1 of our report.

TABLE 1- Description of variables

variables	description of variables	the period under review
Dependent variable:		
M	migration flow from the region i to the region j	2001-2012
Independent variables:		
Basic gravity model determinants		
D	distance between two regions	
P	mid-year population in the region in person	2001-2012
Socio-economic determinants (SEV)		
I	average income per month in rubles	2001-2012
U	the average unemployment rate in%	2001-2012
Y	the gross regional product per capita	2001-2011
ND	the number of physicians per 10,000 population in human	2001-2012
Information and telecommunication infrastructure determinants (ITV)		
NS	the number of students at the beginning of the school year to 10,000 inhabitants	2001-2012
PC	Number of organizations used a PC (%)	2001-2012
PE	Number of personal computers per 100 employees (pcs.)	2001-2012
IP	Number of personal computers per 100 employees who have access to the Internet (pcs.)	2001-2012
Environmental determinants (EV)		
EA	Emissions of air pollutants from stationary sources (thous. Tons)	2001-2012
TW	Average monthly temperature (January °C)	2001-2012
TS	Average monthly temperature (July °C)	2001-2012

Descriptive statistic for the regions of Buryat Republic is as follows (Table 2).

TABLE 2 -Descriptive statistics of Buryat Republic

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
M _{ij}	924	134.6212	359.994	0	3834
D _{ij}	924	4764.922	1532.203	454	6946
I _i	924	8941.975	4983.472	2262.4	17119
I _j	924	10470.62	8144.088	1141.2	110499.4
U _i	924	13.29167	3.000918	7.9	18.4
U _j	924	8.213312	3.662641	.8	29.3
P _i	924	971.5	11.10781	960	997
P _j	924	1831.026	1648.214	49	11613
Y _i	847	93537.73	41444.34	30315	159221
Y _j	847	136591.9	139894	12562	1232269
ND _i	924	39.9	1.579884	37.7	42.8
ND _j	924	47.41948	10.86889	27	87.4
NS _i	924	39.71667	8.418517	26	48.9
NS _j	924	86.78106	141.3784	.1	1312.8
PC _i	924	9.25	6.04652	3	21
PC _j	924	9.428571	7.089605	1	51
PE _i	924	25.75	8.9782	15	41
PE _j	924	25.8842	10.32487	6	72
IP _i	924	96.95541	3.120853	89.7	100
IP _j	924	94.8665	6.402288	60.41812	100
EA _i	924	92.83333	6.404421	84	102
EA _j	924	254.9968	523.3535	1	4189
TW _i	924	-23.025	2.375145	-26.5	-17.8
TW _j	924	-11.51883	8.089918	-36.8	4.9
TS _i	924	17.29167	.7312153	16.5	18.8
TS _j	924	19.56645	3.379173	8.3	29.6

TABLE 3 - Random effect model estimation for Buryat Republic

Variable	Coeff.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
lnP _i	16.28381	2.044902	7.96	0.000	12.27588 20.29174
lnP _j	1.32543	.0880647	15.05	0.000	1.152876 1.498083
lnI _i	-.9600706	.1347187	-7.13	0.000	-1.224114 -.6960268
lnI _j	.4879387	.0379955	12.84	0.000	.4134688 .5624086
lnU _i	-.5495725	.1137663	-4.83	0.000	-.7725502 -.3265947
lnU _j	.0566531	.023676	2.39	0.017	.030249 .1030572
lnY _i	1.069867	.1574919	6.79	0.000	.761189 1.378546
lnY _j	-.1880601	.0434267	-4.33	0.000	-.2731748 -.1029454
lnND _i	2.314135	.6201094	3.73	0.000	1.068743 3.529527
lnND _j	-.2532981	.1141852	-2.57	0.010	-.517097 -.0694991
lnNS _i	-.4113005	.0422748	-9.73	0.000	-.4941576 -.3284434
lnNS _j	-.0662369	.362792	-0.18	0.855	-.7722961 .6448222
lnPC _i	-.1522647	.0247665	-6.15	0.000	-.2008062 -.1037232
lnPC _j	-.1519033	.1764336	-0.86	0.389	-.4977068 .1939001
lnPE _i	.2491846	.3758296	0.66	0.507	-.487428 .9857972
lnPE _j	.080583	.0500707	1.61	0.108	-.0175487 .1787247
lnIP _i	-.62762	.4831892	-1.30	0.194	-1.574653 .3194134
lnIP _j	-.4280124	.0598583	-7.15	0.000	-.5453324 -.3106924
lnEA _i	.2269355	.212357	1.07	0.285	-.1852765 .6431475
lnEA _j	-.0762676	.0279005	-2.73	0.006	-.1309515 -.0215836
lnD _i	-1.756075	.1800109	-9.76	0.000	-2.10889 -1.40326
lnTW _i	(omitted)				
lnTW _j	.0164094	.0101756	1.61	0.107	-.0035343 .0363531
lnTS _i	(omitted)				
lnTS _j	-.2309187	.0414513	-5.57	0.000	-.3121618 -.1496756
_cons	-108.5211	14.65735	-7.40	0.000	-137.249 -79.79327
/lnalpha	-.6011493	.1554008			-.9057299 -.2965698
alpha	.548181	.0851878			.4042467 .7433638

Log likelihood = -5607.9967
Wald chi2(23) = 2481.14
Prob > chi2 = 0.0000

Random-effects Poisson regression
Group variable: id
Number of obs = 844
Number of groups = 77
Obs per group: min = 10
avg = 11.0
max = 11

Likelihood-ratio test of alpha=0: $\chi^2(01) = 2.4e+04$ Prob>= $\chi^2 = 0.000$

We can say that the difference between the main variables are also very high. So, population may have a reason to migrate. The interpretation of the variables we give in previous section. In this case we provide only random effect estimation techniques. This procedure is applied in Poisson pseudo maximum likelihood (PPML) estimation. We perform RE model, because it was the only appropriate model as our assessments show. The resulting estimated of the model are summarized in the table 3.

The model includes analysis of 77 pairs of regions. The dependent variable is the volume of migration. It is expressed in levels. The independent variables are used in logarithmic form. Zero migration flows observations represent about 2 percent of the sample.

We can say that we get not good result. Many coefficients of the variables are insignificant, as $p > 0.05$. It concerns information and telecommunication infrastructure determinants and environmental one for given region (Buryat Republic).

However, Reset test show that model rather adequate. We get the following result – $\chi^2(1) = 0.91$; $\text{Prob} > \chi^2 = 0.3397$.

IV. CONCLUSION

Important result of the analysis is that the population in Russia migrates by small distances therefore the greatest percentage is the migration in the Federal district. In this connection it is possible to draw a conclusion that migration is limited to financial opportunities of the population and higher expenses, and risks when moving to more long distances. In general low migratory mobility of the population in Russia to long distances aggravates a demographic situation and doesn't promote development of market economy, interferes with fuller use of labor. Movements of the population within the Federal district eventually don't solve problems of social character.

Thus regions of the Far East for the analyzed period lost 10% of the population, and Siberia – 5,6% of the population. The analyzed period concerns quite perspective stage in development of the Russian economy.

In our paper we perform different models using Poisson pseudo maximum likelihood (PPML) estimation.

The main estimation results are the following:

- except the basic gravity model determinants are rather significant number of physicians, gross regional product per capita, summer temperature, emission of air pollutants;

- direct relationship between emission of air pollutants parameter and migration flow, so in Russia migration depend on socio-economic situation in the region;

- the information and telecommunication infrastructure determinants have rather low impact. Moreover we get the opposite result, so our assumptions not confirmed. In our opinion, this result reflect not only the migrants' choice, but most likely depends on the quality of data in this sphere.

Thus, measures of migration policy of the Russian Federation have to be directed on the elimination of economic barriers of migration, i.e. on providing financial possibility of implementation of moving inhabitants, and also on the solution of the problem of migrants' arrangement and employment on a new place. Internal displacements of the population have to be carried out in those directions and in such scales which answer social and economic realities. Process of formation of the conditions influencing these processes generally lies out of the sphere of competence of migration policy. The existing realities are that both internal migrants and immigrants aspire to regions with higher standard of living, with good opportunities for employment

and self-realization. The most attractive to them are large and the largest cities having the created work niches.

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