

Report on Bachelor Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

Student:	Yoo Hanbee
Advisor:	Ing. Lukáš Jordán, M.A.
Title of the thesis:	The Impact of Low Fertility Rate on Economic Growth in South Korea

OVERALL ASSESSMENT (provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):

Short summary

Yoo submitted a very good bachelor's thesis.

The author studied the impact of the low fertility rate on economic growth in South Korea. This topic is extremely important as the fertility rate is meagre in many developed countries, especially South Korea. The thesis exploits the Solow Model. Using the Solow model, Yoo set up various econometric models. Then, Yoo explained the methods and data. The last chapter examines the results of the econometric analysis. In conclusion, the author made some policy recommendations.

Contribution

To the best of my knowledge, no such paper has investigated this topic in South Korea. Yoo used a quite extensive length of panel data studying the effect of low fertility on economic growth for an extended period. The fact that she used the panel data increases the amount of observations and, thus, the degree of freedom, which makes the results more robust.

Methods

The author used panel data. This method is relevant to this topic and adequate to the knowledge of students in bachelor programs. She explained the assumptions, e.g. stationarity, and handled them well.

Yoo estimated several models. I appreciate that she used the AIC to determine the most superior model. On the other hand, I do not understand why she chose the 75th percentile as a threshold for a determining rural and urban area.

Literature

The author provided a literature review that goes deeply into the history up to Malthus. She also provided recent literature. The author worked with the literature well. Furthermore, Yoo described the history of South Korea's child-control policies. The author showed a good understanding of the literature. However, I would appreciate incorporating more very recent papers.

Manuscript form

The thesis is well-structured. The language is academic and appropriate. Citations seem correct. I appreciate using LaTeX and creating her own tables and graphs. The abbreviations of variables are hard to follow on some pages, e.g. „thousands of krw“ and „w_workforce“. The reader must scroll back to realise the meaning. Also, I find the beginning of chapter 4.2 unclear. The reader must read it more times to understand the branches of the econometrics models. Furthermore, the author used more terms for one thing, e.g. labour vs. population, which tends to be confusing. She improved this issue throughout the drafts. Nevertheless, it still appears to some degree. Lastly, some steps in the Solow model are hard to follow.

Overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense

Overall, the thesis is decent, with only a few minor issues described above.

Report on Bachelor Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

Student:	Yoo Hanbee
Advisor:	Ing. Lukáš Jordán, M.A.
Title of the thesis:	The Impact of Low Fertility Rate on Economic Growth in South Korea

The thesis fulfils the requirements for a bachelor thesis at IES, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University; I recommend it for the defence and suggest a grade B.

The results of the Turnitin analysis do not indicate significant text similarity with other available sources.

Question:

Why did you choose the 75th percentile as a threshold for rural vs. urban areas?

SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED (for details, see below):

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	27
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	28
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	15
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	14
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	84
GRADE (A – B – C – D – E – F)	B

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Ing. Lukáš Jordán, M.A.

DATE OF EVALUATION: 25. 8. 2024

Digitálně podepsáno (25. 8. 2024)
Lukáš Jordán

Referee Signature

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:

CONTRIBUTION: *The author presents original ideas on the topic demonstrating critical thinking and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics. There is a distinct value added of the thesis.*

METHODS: *The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. The thesis topic is comprehensively analyzed.*

LITERATURE REVIEW: *The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.*

MANUSCRIPT FORM: *The thesis is well structured. The student uses appropriate language and style, including academic format for graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables and disposes with a complete bibliography.*

Overall grading:

TOTAL	GRADE
91 – 100	A
81 - 90	B
71 - 80	C
61 – 70	D
51 – 60	E
0 – 50	F