Evaluation of Environmental Damage of Alborz Dam in Mazandaran By using the Choice Experiment Approach

Nazila Mohtashami, Iraj Saleh, Mohammadreza Nazari and Hamed Rafiee¹

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Abstract:

Construction of large dams like the Alborz Dam despite having great economics benefit, has a lot of adverse effects on natural ecosystems and society. In this study, in the context of a benefit analysis-social cost and with quantify the monetary value of environmental damage, the value of environmental damages of Alborz Dam determined by using experiencebased choice and modeling it as a multiple logit model (MNL) by using software SHAZAM.10. Also, the indicators of economic evaluation calculated in both "with and without taking into account the environmental costs" in order to show interact and clarify their sensitivity to environmental considerations. The required data were obtained through designing and completing 100 questionnaires in 1391 by interviews with families in the village of Flora and the sampling is also random. The results show that the maximum willingness to pay belongs to promote the conservation of plant species from the current crisis situation to the desired level (101/3 dollars per household in the year). Achieving to the optimum protection of animal species and forest (Respectively 23/6 and 0.516 dollars per household in the year) are in the next row of willingness to pay. Finally the results of ratio of benefit to cost show that calculate the costs of environmental damage at the cost of the dam, detracted its feasibility significantly.

JEL Classification: Q51, Q53, Q54, Q56

Keywords: environmental impact, Choice experiment approach, Multiple Logit Analysis, social cost-benefit analysis, Alborz Dam

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The Impact of Climate Variables on Wheat and Corn Yield and Yield Risk in Gazvin Province

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Abstract

The aim of this study is to investigate the impact of climate variables on wheat and corn yields and yield risks in Qazvin province by utilizing the Just-Pope's stochastic production function. For irrigated wheat, mean yield and risk yield functions estimated by the Cobb-Douglas and Linear- quadratic forms, respectively. Results show that aammonia fertilizer, maximum temperature and wind speed during the growth period have significant effects on irrigated wheat yield and increase the yield risk. Also the rain fed wheat yield and yield risk functions were estimated as Cobb-Douglas and Transcendental form, respectively. The results show that the amount of phosphate fertilizer, seed, rainfall during autumn and spring, the wind speed and maximum temperature during the growth period has significant effects on the yield. In this context, maximum temperature and wind speed raise the dry wheat yield risk. Corn yield and risk function were estimated by the linear-quadratic form. The results indicate that maximum temperature and fertilizer consumption have negative impacts on the corn yield. While the maximum temperature and rainfalls reduce the yield risk. So, we can reduce impacts of Unpredictable parameters on yield and yield risk with exactly planning such as risk management.

JEL classification: Q54, Q10, D24

Keywords: Climate change, Just and pope model, yield and risk function, wheat and corn

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Earnings Management Prediction Using Neural Network and Decision Tree Agriculture and Textile Industries Listed Companies on the Tehran Stock Exchange

Mehdi Salehi and Laleh Farokhipilehroud¹

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Abstract

Today, quantitative methods for prediction are become the most important tools for decision making in major investments in the market and capitalism. The most important parameter in prediction is the method of prediction. The main objective the current study is to accurately predicted earnings management using neural networks and decision tree is compared with linear models. For this purpose, nine affecting variables on earnings management considered as independent variables and accruals used as the dependent variable in the current study. In this study, both agriculture and the textile industries are selected for the study during 2008-2012. For testing the hypotheses the ordinary least squares (OLS) regression, feed forward neural network and decision tree data mining techniques were used to evaluate Cart. The results of this study showed that the neural network approach and linear decision tree methods adopted towards more accurate prediction of earnings management with error level is less obvious. Relationships between the dependent variable with the independent variables can be said, discretionary accruals prior period earnings management variables (DAI), nondiscretionary accruals prior threshold function (THOD) and pay for performance sensitivity (PPS) method, regression, neural networks and Cart had most relation. With respect the results of the study that revealed the existence of earnings management, it is strongly recommended to the financial statements users to employ alternative in order to monitoring to management decisions; so more monitoring as well overnighting may reduce opportunistic incentives of management for the earnings management.

JEL Classification: C53, D22, E37

Keywords: earnings management, neural networks, decision tree

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Prioritization of Raisins Target Markets for Major Global Exporters (Identification of Competitive Potential in These Markets)

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Abstract

The aim of study is investigation of target markets of Iran raisins. Results indicate Britain, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, Netherlands, Canada, Kazakhstan, UAE, Ukraine, Russia, Peru, Japan, Poland, Colombia, Panama, Iceland, France, Lithuania, Ecuador, Norway, Belarus and Sweden have the highest priority among raisins importers, respectively. Importer's market structure show that market structure of all importers have closed oligopoly that market of 15 countries are associated exporters dominate. Iran in markets of East Europe blocks (Russia, Ukraine and Poland) and its largest trading partner (UAE), Turkey in the European developed markets (UK, Germany, Netherlands and France) and Oceania markets (Australia and New Zealand), USA in Europe, Asia and America developed markets (Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Japan and Canada) and Panama, Chile also in markets of South America (Peru, Colombia and Ecuador) and Lithuania have the highest exports share. Results indicate that Iran in among exporters has less stability in exports share, export prices and export advantage. Investigation of various factors like ultimate consumer, geographical advantage and weak competitive in target markets, this result obtained that Iran in Lithuania, Kazakhstan, Russia, Poland, Ukraine and UAE has the highest priority. Colombia, Peru, Japan, Ecuador, Norway, Sweden, Panama and Iceland considering the lack of geographical advantage and the presence of other export powers are not targeted in the short run. It is suggested, organizations of manufacturing and export with the aim of (promotion of modern methods of grapes processing, packaging procedures based on customers tastes, identification of production and exports advantages in each area, investigation of importing target markets, making of habit in target markets using marketing modern methods and reduction the power of domestic and foreign speculators) to be created.

JEL Classification: Q1, Q17, D49, N50

Keywords: Target markets, Screening, Exporters Competitiveness, Raisins, Iran.

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The Relationship between Export and Energy Use in Agriculture Sector of Selected Developing Countries

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Abstract

Implementing the export expansion policies may have significant impact on energy use in developing countries. Therefore, export expansion policies have increased environmental concerns about greenhouse gas emissions. Given to increase mechanization in agriculture sector, there are these concerns about agricultural export activities, too. In this regard, the present study tries to examine the relationship between export and energy consumption in agriculture sector of 28 developing countries in the period 1987-2007. For this purpose, after confirming the existence of unit root with CADF test and verifying cointegration with the tests of KAO, Pedroni and Westerlund, cointegrating vectors were estimated with the methods of AMG, FMOLS and DOLS. Also, it was used PMG to examine causality relationship between the variables. The results showed to exist positive and significant interaction between export and energy consumption in agriculture sector of developing countries but there is not relationship between two variables in short run.

JEL classification: F13 ·Q17 ·Q27 ·Q41 ·Q43

Keywords: Agriculture Export, Developing Countries, Energy, Panel Cointegration.

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The Estimation of Impact of Business Cycles on Total Factor Productivity of Different Economic Sectors in Iran

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Abstract

Productivity is one of the factors associated with the development ieads to increased production. Growth of total factor productivity, reduce production costs and increase the competitiveness power of producers in the market.since the business cycles is one of the most important macroeconoic indicators.in this paper, has tried to investiagate impact of business cycles on total factor productivity in different economic sectors (agriculture, mining, industry) using panel data methods and utilizes solow residual model, set of time series during the period 1979-2010. The result show that trade liberalization index, the cost of research and development and exchange rate have positive effect and business cycle variables, inflation rates have a negative effect on on Total Factor Productivity. So with the results of the present study, recommend greater attention to reducing inflation and expanding R & D activities in the country.

JEL Classification: E₆, E32, O47

Keywords: Business Cycles, Total Factor Productivity, Panel data

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Survey of the Effect of Agricultural and non-Agricultural Trade on Inflation Rate in Iranian economy

Vahideh Ansari and Ebrahim Ensan¹

Received: 01 Aug. 2014 Accepted: 20 Jan. 2015

Abstract

The goal of this study is survey the effect of trade in agricultural and nonagricultural sector, separately, on inflation rate in Iran. To this end, a vector error correction model (VECM) has been estimated using 1360-90 time series data. Results of this study indicate that trade variables have a significant influence on inflation rate in Iran and it is essential to enter them in the models which assess the factors affecting inflation, so that these variables improve the explanatory power of models and reliance on the precision of estimated coefficients. The results of this study show that the ratio of export to agricultural and non-agricultural products has positive long-run effects on inflation whereas the ratio of import to agricultural consumptions has a negative long- run effects on inflation. Also, based on the results, exchange rate has a significant positive long-run effect on inflation whereas growth of liquidity affects the inflation in the short run. Finally, in the present study, it has been suggested that the best strategy for reducing the gap between demand and supply, is to increase production through improving productivity, so, in this manner, inflation growth reduced without any requirement to increase import and reduce export. Also, control of the liquidity and the exchange rate growth has been introduced as the other strategies for reducing inflation.

JEL classification: C32, E21, E31, F13, F14

Keywords: Inflation, Trade, Agricultural Sector, Vector Error Correction Model, Iran

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