
EDITORIAL

-----TRANSFORMATIONS IN -----
BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

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The Contents Review

Currently the world is undergoing a rapid change in many aspects, be it economic, sociocultural, political and technological. Some new factors such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the digitalization process further cause many firms to adapt themselves to the new trends and requirements. For many firms, in the economic and managerial transformation process, new phenomena need to be understood and new research methodologies need to be used. At the country level, many countries are experiencing an even more dynamic transformation process than ever because the “old transformation process” is still underway while the current new situations require these countries to transform in a faster and more dynamic pace. Therefore many of the concerned countries will have to respond to current economic and managerial transformation requirements in their unique ways. This issue strives to provide some insights on economic and managerial transformation requirements and consequences through a discussion of some dedicated topics.

Topics are classified into four sections in this issue. The first section is on “Digitization performance and inclusion in activities at different levels”. In this section three papers discussed digitalization and its influence at different levels. Miao Jiang’s paper studied the influence of digital inclusive finance on green total factor productivity of the service industry. The study took a novel perspective on Green Total Factor Productivity (GTFP) of the service industry in China and adopted Epsilon-Based Measure (EBM) DEA model to measure it. It is found that digital inclusive finance has a significantly positive effect on the GTFP of the service industry and the effect is heterogeneous and green technology innovation and regional entrepreneurship activity are two transmission paths. Xiaosong Zheng and Anran Sun investigated the relationship between digitalization and internationalization at the first level by using data from the Chinese manufacturing industry. The study revealed that the digital ownership advantage increases firm internationalization, which is greater in the primary stages of internationalization. Digitalization and capital can be combined to promote internationalization of firms. The paper from Yiping Xiao *et al.* answered the question: does digital financial inclusion narrow the urban-rural income gap? This is another good paper on digital financial inclusion which tackles the impact of digital financial inclusion on income levels.

The second section contains four papers which are organized on the theme “Analysis and evaluation of the Chinese market at the international level”. Ping Li *et al.* studied edible mushroom trade between China and belt and road countries. Edible mushroom trade represents a potential agricultural product for export trade. Chuyi Fang *et al.* investigated the impact of international trade on the urban-rural income gap in China. The research is based on the spatial econometric model and results are reliable. Using China’s OFDI to countries along the “belt and road”, Xu Tao *et al.* revealed how institutional distance affects binary margins of

investment. It is found that formal institutional distance significantly promotes the increase of the investment intensive margin while informal institutional distance reduces the occurrence of the investment expansion margin. The paper from Yuegang Chen et al. explored the structure characteristics of urban networks. The linkage of headquarter-branch in urban networks means production relation and the linkage of headquarter-investment involves social relation. Both dimensions are considered in the research and results are interesting and reliable.

In the third section, five papers are collected around the theme “Assessment of personal and motivational factors in the perspective of professional activity”. Yaya Zheng’s paper investigated translation quality self-evaluation competence. By doing so, a preliminary translation quality self-evaluation competence model is built up. Biruta Švagždienė et al. examined and explained the phenomenon of leisure time organiser’s burnout which is a very interesting topic. Xiaolei Wang et al. did research on behavioural economics analysis and enhancement of work incentives for college counsellors. The research showed that traditional standard economics fails to reveal counsellors’ work decisions comprehensively and precisely so they adopted behavioural economics in the analysis. The research from Weichen Shen et al. answered the question: can role-based public leadership promote subordinate taking charge? They specifically examined the role of political skills and public service motivation. The paper from Tao Tian et al. examined the relationship between professional experiences of executives and corporate internal control effectiveness. The research results are interesting.

In the fourth section, four papers are organized around the theme “Application of various assessment methodologies in scientific research in different fields”. Muhammad Imran et al. explored the relationship between risk factors and project success in construction industry. Abouzar Gholamalizadeh et al. studied the complicated public service procurement process using a novel multi-attribute auction. Marek Vochozka et al.’s research is on how to include sentiment in evaluation of corporate bond price. Tingting Yi et al. used online reviews as the data source to analyze the tourist experience of the script murder game in scenic spots. Content analysis method and the importance-performance analysis (IPA) model were used in the analysis. All the four papers in the section showed novelty in their assessment methodologies.

I invite you to take time to read the professional papers in the issue. These papers reflect a few featured topics in the economic and managerial transformation era. They not only provide good academic insights but also trigger further discussions on a number of important topic areas. Enjoy reading!

Guest Editor,

Professor Xiaosong Zheng, PhD
SILC Business School
Shanghai University
China