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## Essays on Economic Growth In India

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# ESSAYS ON ECONOMIC GROWTH IN INDIA

A Dissertation

Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the  
Louisiana State University and  
Agricultural and Mechanical College  
in partial fulfillment of the  
requirements for the degree of  
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in

The Department of Economics

by

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*Dedicated to Baba, Maa, and Bon*

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# Abstract

This dissertation comprises of three distinct studies that contribute to the field of economic growth in India. First, we investigate patterns of growth at the district level (second level administrative units) using radiance calibrated night lights data for 2000-2010. We examine growth both at the aggregated district level, as well as along the rural and urban dimensions. We find evidence of both absolute and conditional convergence, with convergence among rural areas being the primary driver. However, there is no evidence of convergence among urban areas.

Moving further along similar lines, we explore the effect of credit shocks, generated by scheduled commercial banks, on economic growth in districts of India during the years 2000-2010. We exploit the variation in the initial sectoral credit shares to predict the district level credit supply shock using a shift share instrument. We find a strong association between credit growth and growth in economic activity, but when controlled for the district specific demand shocks, the predicted supply shock effect fails to be statistically significant.

Lastly, we study distortions in input and output markets as the sources of misallocation in the Indian manufacturing sector, using data from both formal and informal firms. We consider output, capital, raw material, energy, and service sector distortions in a monopolistically competitive framework to measure the aggregate dispersion in total factor revenue productivity (TFPR). Decomposing the variance in TFPR, we show that the raw material and output distortions play the major role in defining aggregate misallocation.

# Chapter 1

## Introduction

Economic liberalization in 1991 resulted in a dramatic shift in economic policy landscape of the Indian economy. The country has experienced substantial growth along with structural transformation over the last couple of decades. During 1990-2013, the share of agriculture in total GDP declined from 28.5% to 13.9%, whereas the total value of services increased from 49% to 67%. This structural transformation combined with an average annual growth of 6.5% placed India, along with the other BRIC countries, in the lime light as an “emerging giant” ([Panagariya \[2008\]](#)).

Despite the apparent structural transformation, the majority of the population in India continues to live in rural areas. Specifically, according to the 2011 census, the rural share of population was 68%. Additionally, despite the fall in agricultural share in GDP, almost 72% of the rural population was engaged in agricultural activities. The rest of the population working outside the agriculture sector are mostly employed in the unorganized industry or service sector. Employment in the organized sector has remained stagnant at around 10% of the working population.

[Panagariya \[2008\]](#) has attributed this slow structural transition to the stagnation in the manufacturing output at 17% as a share of GDP between 1990-2004. He further argues that the slower growth in labor intensive organized manufacturing sector compared to the skilled labor and capital intensive services create the barrier to overall structural transition in India and promotes what economists aptly called “jobless growth” ([Subramanian \[2009\]](#)). This argument becomes more relevant when we look



at the growing share of service sector GDP compared to a decline in manufacturing share to 12% in 2013-14.

The rural-urban “dualism” is further reflected in human capital attainment – 58% of rural population is literate compared to the 74% of the urban population. In terms of infrastructure, 93% of the households in urban areas had an electricity connection whereas only 55% of households in rural areas had the same. The unequal distribution of opportunity across the sectors and regions has become one of the main concerns for policy makers.

Moreover, India’s growth continues to be skewed at the subnational level as well. The issue of increasing state level inequality is extensively addressed in the literature. [Shetty \[2003\]](#) shows that the state-wise GINI coefficient increased from .209 to .292 during 1980-2000 for all states whereas for the 16 major states, the GINI leaps up from .167 to .224. Several papers including [Das \[2012\]](#), [Kumar and Subramanian \[2012\]](#), [Ghate and Wright \[2012\]](#) have documented that the initially richer states grew faster than poorer ones, implying state level divergence. Additionally, [Bandyopadhyay \[2004, 2012\]](#) argue that the states in India were converging to a bimodal distribution during 1965-1998. To reduce this skewness in regional growth, the Indian government has introduced a series of policy reforms. Along with employment generation projects, there have been numerous reforms in education, health, electricity, finance, and other infrastructures, in rural as well as urban areas. Major programs like MGNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) and SGRY (Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana ) have been implemented to generate employment. On the other hand Golden Quadrilateral, PMGSY (rural road

project), SSA (compulsory elementary education), NHM (National Health Mission) are steps towards better infrastructure and overall development. Additionally, financial inclusion and growth in credit generation has been a leading agenda towards reducing inequality by loosening credit constraints.

Interestingly, if we drill down further to the second level administrative units (i.e., districts), the evidence of inequality becomes more controversial. Contrary to the literature of state level divergence, few recent papers (such as [Singh et al. \[2013\]](#), [Das et al. \[2013, 2015\]](#)) document conditional convergence in Indian districts. The former find evidence of convergence among the Indian districts conditioned upon road connection and access to finance. [Das et al. \[2013, 2015\]](#), on the other hand, find convergence conditional to geographic remoteness, urbanization, trade and migration costs, and the distance from urban agglomerations.

The second chapter of this dissertation makes a contribution towards the regional literature by exploring growth in the districts of India over the period of 2000-2010. More specifically, we examine the extent of convergence, if any, both at the aggregated district level, as well as along rural and urban dimensions. In the third chapter, we investigate the extent of such regional growth that can be associated with credit supply shocks. The fourth chapter provides a more comprehensive insight to the organized and unorganized manufacturing sector in India. We study resource misallocation as the source of variation in total factor productivity extending the model by [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#).

A key challenge in measuring sub-national, specifically district-level, economic growth rates in India is the absence of GDP data. Even when available, GDP is

measured poorly in developing countries due to poor statistical infrastructure and the presence of informal sector [Henderson et al. \[2012\]](#). Furthermore, GDP data, aggregated at the country or at the state level, does not provide us much insight about the rural and urban dualism mentioned above. To overcome such issues, we use radiance-calibrated satellite-based night-lights data collected from National Geophysical Data Center. Since its introduction by [Henderson et al. \[2012\]](#) into the literature, the use of night lights has become widespread in development economics research, mainly due to its availability at a highly detailed level. Moreover, the use of night light as a measure of economic activity allows us to exploit some recent contributions (e.g., [Zhou et al. \[2015\]](#), [Storeygard \[2016\]](#)) that use them to distinguish between urban and rural areas.

Using a standard Barro-style growth regression framework, we find evidence of both absolute and conditional convergence among Indian districts. The absolute rate of convergence of 1.8% is comparable to Barro’s “iron law” of 2% convergence rate over the countries. On the other hand, conditioned upon the initial demographic variables, human capital and infrastructure controls, and state dummies, we find that districts in India have been converging at 3%, a rate greater than [Barro \[2015\]](#)’s 1.7% conditional convergence rate for a panel of countries post 1960. Furthermore, our result exceeds the 2% regional convergence rate documented by [Gennaioli et al. \[2014\]](#) for first level administrative units suggesting that the rate of convergence is more pronounced in the fine grained level.

Although we find clear evidence of convergence, the state level policies and endowments seem to play a crucial role in district level growth. Specifically, almost

half of the district growth can be attributed to state specific characteristics. The twin findings of important role of state specific characteristics along with district level convergence seem to indicate that while the disparity between the states is increasing over time, the within state inequality has diminished. On the other hand, investigation of district specific initial conditions reveal that the districts with better infrastructure and human capital endowment tend to surge ahead. One of the main contribution of this work is to study the convergence pattern of rural and urban components of the districts separately. We find that the growth pattern of the overall districts are largely picking up the dynamics of the rural parts. However, there is no evidence of convergence in the urban areas during our study period.

While the array of initial controls explain very little of urban growth, per-capita initial credit along with population density and higher education has a significant positive relationship with growth in urban lights. Initial credit plays a significant role in defining growth even in the rural counterparts in the districts unless we introduce state specific dummies. This association along with the ever growing emphasis on financial inclusion and upsurging credit to GDP ratio (Figure 3.1) throughout the last couple of decades poses an interesting scenario. In the third chapter, we explore the extent to which the supply shock in credit generation affect the regional economic growth during 2000-2010, using the same satellite night light data.

A body of literature has documented the role of credit supply channel in explaining various economic outcomes. [Greenstone et al. \[2014\]](#) has explored the impact of credit supply shock on overall and small business employment over 1997-2011. They found evidence that predicted lending shocks have affected both country level and

small business employment negatively during the Great Recession but there has not been any association otherwise. [Amiti and Weinstein \[2013\]](#) has shown a substantial impact of credit supply shock on the investment decisions of the firm. On a similar note, [Paravisini et al. \[2015\]](#) established that in trade, credit supply shocks have a significant impact on the intensive margin of export but does not affect the extensive margin. Moreover the association between growth and credit has been established in a recent study by [Clark et al. \[2017\]](#) who finds that bank loan should be weighed more in explaining economic growth in China.

In light of this literature, first, we look at the association between per-capita credit growth and the per-capita growth in economic activity and find a positive and significant relationship. We find that an increase in overall per-capita credit growth rate by 1% is associated with approximately .1 percentage point increase in growth of economic activity. However, it is hard to distinguish the supply channel of the credit origination from the demand driven credit shock. We use the modified shift share approach introduced by [Greenstone et al. \[2014\]](#), which predicts the supply shock in credit by exploiting the initial share of the sectoral credit multiplied by the estimated supply growth in the respective sector. Such predicted growth, although strongly associated with actual growth in credit, fails to affect growth in economic activity during our study period.

After discussing the various facets of regional growth, this dissertation explores the variation in productivity deriving from misallocation in factor resources using the data from Indian firms. A body of literature including [Banerjee and Duflo \[2005\]](#), [Restuccia and Rogerson \[2008\]](#), [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#) argues that in poor

countries, productivity differences generates from misallocation of resources across firms. The fourth chapter of this dissertation provides an insight of the misallocation and total factor productivity variation in Indian manufacturing sector in an effort to extend the model provided by [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#).

Total factor productivity (TFP), being a residual in the production process, is not observed directly. It is difficult to measure firm-level TFP due to the across firm variation in unit of production. Instead we measure the variation in Total Factor Revenue Productivity (TFPR), which by definition is the product of output price and physical TFP of a firm. We exploit the intuition, well established in literature ([Restuccia and Rogerson \[2008\]](#), [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#), [Chatterjee \[2011\]](#)), that TFPR should be equalized for all firms within an industry, to measure the misallocation in factor resources. We measure productivity using gross output approach by including raw materials, energy, and service sector intermediate inputs as factors of production along with capital and labor. The inclusion of these factors separately into production process enables us to give a more detailed representation of factor market distortion as the source of misallocation. The firm level data from formal and informal manufacturing in India has been used to decompose factor market distortions by considering each factor input distortion separately. We find that the distortion in the output market and raw material market explains the lion's share of the variation in TFPR.

India, being a large emerging economy, has inspired voluminous research over the last few decades. This dissertation adds to the existing body of literature exploring economic growth in India. We address the following three aspects – regional conver-

gence, growth, and productivity variation in India – albeit with certain limitations, which can provide motivations for further research in this area. For example, our analysis explains very little of the urban growth patterns, and it would be of interest to further investigate factors explaining this. Furthermore, it may be helpful to do a spatial analysis on the district growth pattern to determine if the growth of a district is affected by its neighbours. In addition, we hope to explore sectoral credit growth for consecutive years to understand the short run effects of the credit supply channel.

# Chapter 2

## Local Growth and Convergence in India (2000-2010)

### 2.1 Introduction

Despite having recorded high growth rates since the introduction of economic reforms in 1991, the lopsided sub-national distribution of this growth in India remains a major concern. At the state level, GDP per capita of the richer states such as Gujarat stood at around 4.7 times that of Bihar in 2011. Several papers including [Das \[2012\]](#) and [Ghate and Wright \[2012\]](#) have documented that the initially richer states grew faster than poorer ones implying divergence. [Kumar and Subramanian \[2012\]](#) also document the continued divergence among Indian states in the same period as our study. The disparity is more pronounced at greater levels of disaggregation. At the district (i.e. second level administrative units) the domestic product per capita of Sheohar, a poor district in Bihar, a poor state, is barely a tenth that of Ludhiana, a district in the relatively rich state of Punjab in 2010-11.

In this chapter, we explore the determinants of local growth patterns in India using data for 518 districts for the period of 2000 to 2010. We use the standard Barro style growth regression framework, controlling for a variety of socio-economic demography, infrastructure, human capital, climate and time invariant state characteristics to investigate patterns of convergence among districts. Drilling further down we also examine the extent of convergence, if any, among rural areas of the districts and urban areas separately. Despite rapid growth, India remains primarily



a rural country. According to the 2011 census, 68 percent of the population resided in rural areas. Within the rural population, the vast majority relied on agriculture. Further, almost 72 percent of the rural population was engaged in agricultural activities. “Dualism” is also reflected in human capital attainment - 58 percent of rural population is literate whereas more than 74 percent of the urban population can read and write. In terms of infrastructure, 93 percent of the households in urban areas of the country had an electricity connection whereas only 55 percent of households in rural areas had the same.

Summarizing, we find evidence of both absolute and conditional convergence among Indian districts. The absolute rate of convergence of 1.8 percent is comparable to Barro’s “iron law” of 2 percent convergence rate over the countries even though we use night lights and not GDP. On the other hand, conditioned upon the initial demographic variables, human capital and infrastructure controls, and state fixed effects, we find that districts in India have been converging at 3 percent, a rate greater than Barro [2015]’s 1.7 percent conditional convergence rate for a panel of countries post 1960. Furthermore, our result exceeds the 2 percent regional convergence rate documented by Gennaioli et al. [2014] for first level administrative units suggesting that the rate of convergence is more pronounced in the fine grained level.

While there is clear evidence of convergence, the time invariant state characteristics explain approximately half of the district growth. In other words, state level policies and endowments continue to exert a significant effect on district growth. The twin findings of an important role for state effects but conditional convergence at the district level seems to indicate that while states gotten ahead leaving other

states behind, in general within state variation has diminished over time. As far as initial conditions are concerned, we find a strong role for infrastructure and literacy rates. Districts that had higher initial values have surged ahead during this time period. Further, when we break up districts into their rural and urban components, and examine growth separately, what we find to be true at the aggregate, seems to largely pick up the dynamics of rural growth. There is no evidence of convergence in the urban areas and the exhaustive array of controls in our study explains very little of urban growth. Finally, we also make a foray into examining the association between rural growth and some major public programs that were undertaken during this time period. We look at the amount of spending on the much publicized Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (henceforth, MNREGS), the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana - a major rural road project (henceforth, PMGSY), and Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana - a large scale rural electricity project (henceforth, RGGVY). While a large literature has emerged evaluating the success and failures of these schemes (and certainly the studies are more rigorous than what we do), we fail to find any significant association between these schemes and rural growth in the districts. One respect in which our data is different from many of the others is that we look at the expenditures rather than actual outcomes of these projects. For example, most of the current literature measures the magnitude of the employment guarantee scheme in terms of the number of work-days generated. However, from a cost-benefit perspective, looking at expenditures per capita can be as informative.

## 2.2 Related Works

While there is an abundance of studies on convergence, a recent update by [Barro \[2015\]](#) documents conditional convergence at 1.7 percent annually for a panel of countries post 1960. At the subnational level, [Gennaioli et al. \[2014\]](#) use 1,528 first-level administrative units of 83 countries to show a comparable regional convergence of 2 percent, conditioned upon geography, human capital along with political and socio-economic condition. For the United States, the recent literature, such as that of [Ganong and Shoag \[2013\]](#) note a decrease in income convergence. They attribute this to a fall in migration of population from poor to wealthy areas due to the changing relationship between housing prices and income. [Chanda and Panda \[2016\]](#) observe divergence in the service sector productivity across US states but convergence in the goods producing sectors.

Within India, several studies (such as [Kumar and Subramanian \[2012\]](#), [Bandyopadhyay \[2004, 2012\]](#), [Ghate \[2008\]](#), [Das \[2012\]](#), [Ghate and Wright \[2012\]](#)) do not find convergence at the state level. [Bandyopadhyay \[2004, 2012\]](#) finds evidence that the Indian states were converging to a bimodal distribution during 1965-1998. She argues that such polarization strongly depends on the infrastructure and macroeconomic variables, such as capital investment and fiscal deficit. [Ghate \[2008\]](#) and [Das \[2012\]](#), on the other hand, show evidence of divergence among Indian states. [Kumar and Subramanian \[2012\]](#) find continued state level divergence during the period of our study (2000-09). According to their findings, the rate of divergence between the states during this period is 1.7 percent, 55 percent greater than a 1.1 percent divergence rate at the 1990s.

In contrast to this literature, [Singh et al. \[2013\]](#), and [Das et al. \[2013, 2015\]](#) document conditional  $\beta$ -convergence in Indian districts. The former uses district level domestic product data obtained from individual state governments, for 210 Indian districts distributed over 9 states. They find evidence of convergence conditioned upon road connection and access to finance. [Das et al. \[2013, 2015\]](#), on the other hand, find conditional convergence among the Indian districts but not absolute  $\beta$ -convergence or  $\sigma$ -convergence. They use proprietary district level domestic product data from a private research firm, *Indicus*, for 2001 and 2008 to estimate conditional convergence taking into account geographic remoteness, urbanization, trade and migration costs, and the distance from urban agglomerations.

In addition to providing insights into convergence across Indian districts and investigating it along rural and urban dimensions, our research is also motivated by a separate literature examining the effects of large scale ambitious public projects that were aimed at reducing poverty or developing infrastructure in rural areas. For example, [Zimmermann \[2013\]](#) studies the role of MGNREGS as an alternative form of employment and a safety net in rural labor markets. She finds a small impact of MGNREGS on overall employment and casual wages, but the effect is greater after a bad rainfall shock. [Klonner and Oldiges \[2013\]](#) on the other hand finds that scheme increased household consumption for marginalised groups - scheduled caste and scheduled tribes. In similar vein, [Aggarwal \[2015\]](#) explores the association between PMGSY and poverty alleviation in rural districts of India, and finds that better road connection induces the adoption of modern agricultural technology but *raises* the drop-out rate among the teenagers who join the labor force instead.

A key challenge in measuring sub-national, specifically district-level, economic growth rates in India, and also other developing countries, is the absence of GDP data. Even when available, GDP is measured poorly in developing countries for several reasons [Henderson et al. \[2012\]](#). First, the statistical collection capacity is weaker in some regions of the country making official GDP data unreliable. Second, prices of same products over different regions vary significantly, making it harder to establish a uniform price level. Third, a significant share of economic activity is performed in informal sectors, where it is harder to measure production and the government agencies need to make estimates to fill in the missing data. To overcome such issues, we use radiance calibrated satellite based night lights data collected from National Geophysical Data Center. Since its introduction by [Henderson et al. \[2012\]](#) into the literature, the use of night lights has become widespread in development economics research to capture economic activity at a highly detailed level (of approximately 0.86 sq. km at the equator). Further, it has the added advantage that it allows us to draw on some recent contributions that use them to distinguish between urban and rural areas (e.g., [Zhou et al. \[2015\]](#), [Storeygard \[2016\]](#)).

The rest of this chapter is organized as follows. Section [2.3](#) provides the data and empirical methodology. In Section [2.4](#) we discuss our regression results. Section [2.5](#) incorporates some of rural public projects as additional control variables in our regression framework. Section [2.6](#) concludes with suggestion for further research.

## 2.3 Data and Empirical Methodology

### 2.3.1 Night Lights (NTL) Data

We first briefly describe the collection and creation of district level night lights measures. The raw night lights data measures average stable lights for a geographical location, scanned by OLS (Operation Linescan System) instruments flown on the US government’s Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP) satellites in an instant during 8:30 and 10:00 pm local time on all cloud free nights within a year. Each satellite year dataset reports the intensity of light by a 6 bit Digital Number (DN) for each 30 arc second grid which is approximately .86 kilometre at equator. DN is an integer that measures the stable light taking value from 0 to around 63 where 0 means no light and 63 is the highest light observed. The light detecting sensors onboard these satellites are amplified to detect moonlit clouds making them very sensitive in detecting low level lights. However, the amplifier saturates the sensors while measuring brightly lit places such as metropolitan cities, making the DN value top-coded. To get rid of such problems, the global radiance calibrated night lights dataset provided by National Geophysical data centre (NGDC), combines high magnification settings for the low light regions, whereas low magnification settings for the brightly lit places. Consequently, the top-coding of DN values for brightly lit places are eliminated without losing substantial information on low light areas. The radiance calibrated light does not have any theoretical upper bound of DN. The brightest pixel on earth has a DN value of 2379.62 (Krause and Bluhm [2016]). We use this radiance calibrated light data also used in Elvidge et al. [1999], Ziskin et al. [2010], and Henderson et al. [2016], among other studies. The raw radiance-calibrated night

lights data is available at the NOAA's National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC) almost annually 2000 to 2010. For this chapter, we use the data for 2000, 2005 and 2010. The data is aggregated to the district level for each year using spatial maps downloaded from the Global Administrative Areas website ([www.gadm.org](http://www.gadm.org)).

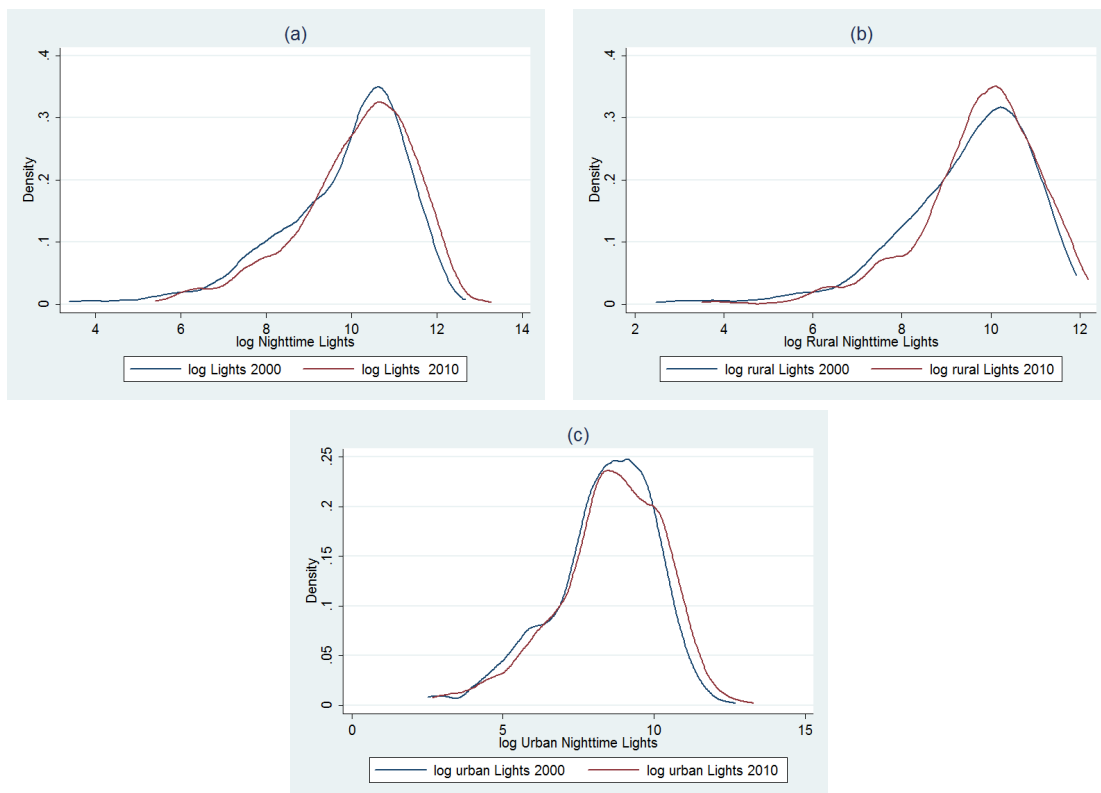


Figure 2.1: Kernel Density of log Night Lights for Total (a), Rural areas (b), Urban areas (c)

Next, we need to distinguish between rural and urban areas. We are aware of two strategies that use night light data. [Storeygard \[2016\]](#) uses DN value greater than 0 to represent urban area whereas [Small et al. \[2011\]](#) note that any area with DN value less than approximately 12 can be characterized as a dim light area and

corresponds to low density population and agricultural land. [Zhou et al. \[2015\]](#) follow the latter and use DN value equal to 12 as a threshold to distinguish urban area from rural area. They cross-check the data with remote sensed images of the land satellite (MODIS) and show that areas with DN value less than and equal to 12 correspond to higher frequency of agricultural land. As rural areas of Indian districts primarily have an agriculture based economy, we also adopted a DN value less than 12 in 2000 to identify a rural area. Figure (2.1) shows the kernel densities of total, rural and urban light for years 2000 and 2010. As is clear from the figures, there is a rightward shift for all of them, but for rural areas we also see a clear tendency towards a less spread out distribution.

One important caveat for our study is that the census definition of rural and urban areas is different from the way rural and urban lights are constructed. The former relies more on administrative classifications. To ensure that the construction of our rural and urban level values of lights per capita is not driven by inconsistent data, we compare the share of rural night lights in total lights for each district with the census based calculations of the share of rural population to total population. The kernel density for both variables are displayed in Figure (2.2) for the beginning and terminal years. It is clear that the distribution of both shares is very similar. The correlation stands at .77 approximately, for 518 districts in our study for 2000-01. The small gaps between the red and blue lines in the graph indicates occasional inconsistencies. For example, according to our estimates, Kinnaur in Himachal Pradesh has very low but positive urban lights. However, the 2001 census does not show any urban populations in that district. To avoid such anomalies, we



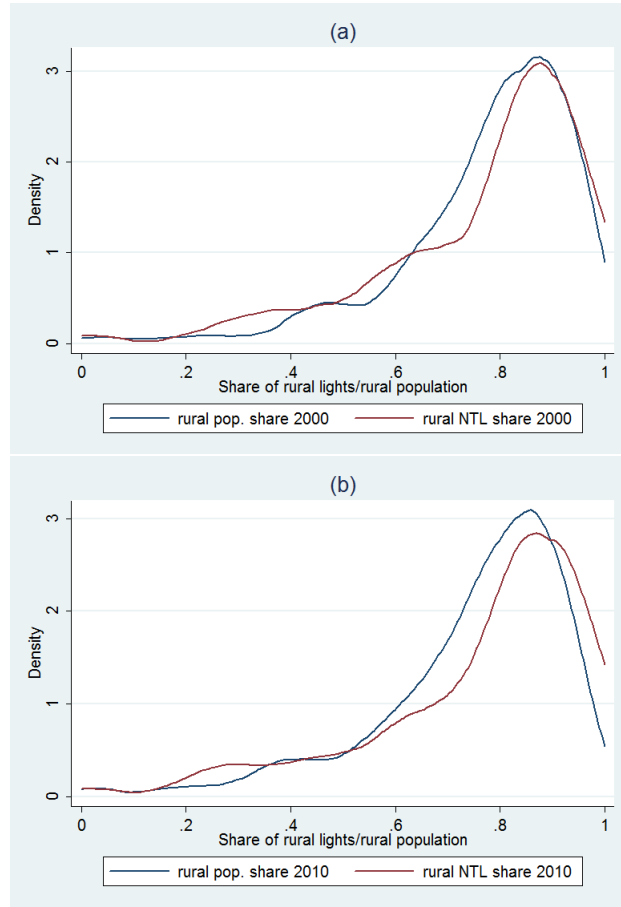


Figure 2.2: Rural share in Night Lights & census population in 2000-01(a) & 2010-11(b)

drop districts with either zero urban light or zero urban populations when examining urban growth (and likewise for rural areas when studying rural growth).

As a further check on the validity of using night lights data to proxy district level economic activity, we compare it to district level GDP data from Planning Commission of the Government of India for the year 2000.<sup>1</sup> Panel (a) of Figure

<sup>1</sup>The Government of India, for a limited period of time undertook an exercise to estimate GDP data at the district level. Data for most states during 1999-2005 is available [here](#).

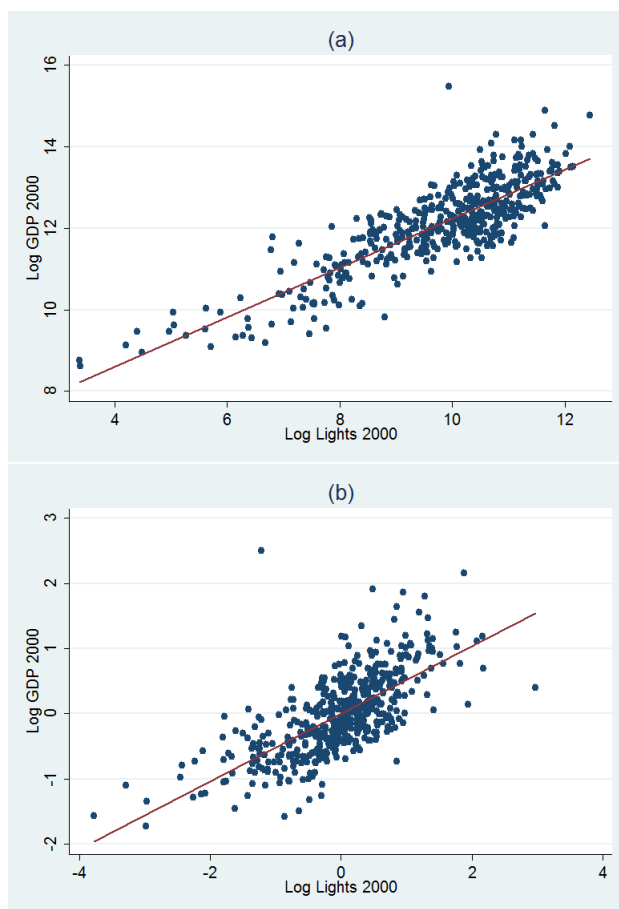


Figure 2.3: Correlation between GDP and Night Lights without(a) and with (b) state fixed effects

(2.3) shows the correlation between logarithm of district level GDP and logarithm of district level night lights, whereas panel (b) shows the same after controlling for the state fixed effects. Both panels indicate a strong positive correlation: 0.84 in panel (a) and 0.70 in panel (b), using 481 districts for which DDP data is available.

For most of this chapter, we use radiance calibrated night light data for the years 2000 and 2010, selected due to their close proximity to the census years of 2001 and

2011. This ensures we have adequate data for additional district level controls. In a subsection of this chapter, we also break up the study into two sub-periods of 2000-2005 and 2005-2010 though for many demographic variables we need to interpolate initial values for 2005. Over the ten year period, 47 new districts were created. While there were 593 districts in 2001, by 2011 there were 640. To ensure consistency, we summed up the data of the new districts to the district of origin if the new district was created dividing a single district. If the new district was carved out from multiple districts, we dropped both the new and the district of origin to avoid complications. We also decided to drop the state of Assam as more than 50 percent of districts in the state were redrawn. Our baseline regressions include 518 districts.

### 2.3.2 Empirical Methodology

To investigate the presence of absolute convergence, we estimate Equation (2.1):

$$gy_{i,t,t-k} = \beta y_{i,t-k} + \epsilon_{i,t,t-k} \quad (2.1)$$

where  $gy_{i,t,t-k}$  is the average growth rate of night light per capita of district  $i$  between years  $t(2010)$  and  $t-k(2000)$  and  $y_{i,t-k}$  is the logarithm of initial lights per person in district  $i$ .  $\epsilon$  is district specific random shocks.  $\beta$  in equation 1 represents the rate of absolute convergence. A negative  $\beta$  suggests an inverse relationship between initial condition and the growth rate implying convergence between the regions whereas the magnitude of  $\beta$  measures the rate of convergence. We use the above equation to look at aggregated, rural and urban convergence. Absolute convergence entails that the growth rate of areas with poorer initial conditions will be higher. In other

words, inequality between districts will reduce even without any influence of other factors. As is well known, this is not something that is observed in cross-country data. On the other hand, at the cross country level ‘conditional convergence’ often holds, implying that the growth rate of region converge to a long run (steady-state) growth rate conditioned on variables that explain the long run values. Therefore, to examine conditional convergence among districts, as well as rural and urban regions, we estimate the following equation:

$$gy_{i,t,t-k} = \beta y_{i,t-k} + \eta X_i + f_j + \epsilon_{i,t,t-k} \quad (2.2)$$

Where  $\beta$  gives us the rate of conditional convergence controlling for district characteristics.  $\epsilon$  is district specific random shocks similar to equation 1.  $X_i$  represents district specific control variables for  $i^{th}$  district, whereas  $\eta$  estimated the coefficient of such controls. The  $X_i$  in our study includes initial district specific demographic characteristics such as literacy rates, higher education attainment rates, scheduled cast and scheduled tribe population shares, working population shares as well as geographic variables such as population density and rainfall. It also includes infrastructure variables such as net irrigated land, connectivity to paved roads, access to finance, and electricity connections. A negative  $\beta$  implies convergence in growth pattern conditional on the district specific characteristics. and a higher magnitude of  $\beta$  suggests a higher rate of conditional convergence. Finally, time invariant state characteristics such as institutions, governance etc. might explain disparities in growth rates of the districts. To take into account such variations, we also examine the consequences of adding state fixed effects,  $f_j$ , to both equations 2.1 and 2.2. We

discuss the sources and construction of the control variables further in Appendix A at the end of this dissertation.

### 2.3.3 Data Summary and Correlation

Table (2.1) shows the summary of dependent and explanatory variables in our study. The overall district sample uses 518 districts, whereas the total observations in rural and urban areas are 506 and 474 respectively.<sup>2</sup> The main variable of interest is the ‘Initial light’ defined as logarithm of per-capita light in the year of 2000 for growth regressions of 2000-05 and 2000-10. Additionally 2005-10 growth regressions use log per-capita night lights of 2005 as initial light. Both night lights growth and initial lights are estimated for the overall district as well as rural and urban areas of the districts separately.

The data for shares of population that belong to a scheduled caste (SC pop. share), scheduled tribe (ST pop. share), are of working age (Working pop.share), are literate (Literate pop. share), have higher education (Higher edu. share); fraction of households that have electricity connections (Electricity connection), and credit per capita (Log Credit p.c.) can be calculated for urban and rural areas separately. Population density (Overall pop. Density) and rainfall per square kilometre (Log Rainfall per sq km.) are for the entire district. For paved roads (Log HH with paved roads), we use the whole district and also apply the same variable for rural areas without further modification. In urban areas, roads are usually “paved” (even though a significant portion might be abysmal by any objective standard). As a result even though it is measured at the overall district level, it primarily reflects differences in

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<sup>2</sup>514 out of 518 districts in our study has rural population and light data, but we have data for Net irrigated area for only 506.

Table 2.1: Data Summary

	Total		Rural		Urban	
VARIABLES	Observation	Mean	Observation	Mean	Observation	Mean
Lights Growth p.c. (2000-10)	518	0.01	514	0.02	474	-0.01
Lights Growth p.c. (2000-05)	518	-0.07	514	-0.09	474	-0.02
Lights Growth p.c. (2005-10)	518	0.11	514	0.14	474	-0.01
Log Initial Light p.c. (2000)	518	-4.28	514	-4.31	474	-4.17
Log Initial Light p.c. (2005)	518	-4.61	514	-4.77	474	-4.23
SC Pop. Share	518	0.15	514	0.17	474	0.13
ST Pop. Share	518	0.15	514	0.17	474	0.05
Working Pop. share	518	0.41	514	0.43	474	0.31
Literate Pop. share	518	0.53	514	0.49	474	0.67
Higher Edu. Share	518	0.07	514	0.04	474	0.16
Electricity Connection	518	0.54	514	0.48	474	0.82
Log Rainfall per sq km.	518	-3.72	514	-3.74	486	-3.761
Log Credit p.c.	518	-4.27	514	-5.13	474	-3.04
Rural Percent	518	0.78				
Overall Pop. Density	518	0.01	514	0.01	474	0.01
Log HH with Paved Roads	518	4.00	514	4.00		
Log Net Irrigated Area			506	4.05		

rural development. Similarly, net irrigated area (Log Net irrigated area) is used for rural samples only. The share of rural population in total population (Rural Percent) is only used in the overall district regression as an inverse measure of urbanization. Apart from the expected differences in means between urban and rural areas of districts, a highlight of this table is the average growth rates in lights per capita. We can see that the average growth rate in urban areas was actually negative while the average growth rate in rural areas was 2% points. This is not because of any particular outlier. In the case of urban areas, exactly half experienced positive growth in lights per capita while the remaining experienced negative growth. In the case of rural areas, 348 of the 518 districts experienced positive growth while the remaining 170 experienced negative growth. Thus underlying our sample are very disparate experiences when using light data.

Tables 2a, 2b, and 2c show the correlations among dependent and independent variables for total, rural and urban areas respectively. From Table 2a we can see that the initial lights per capita has a negative correlation with growth in lights per capita thus providing some prima facie evidence of absolute convergence. The correlation between all of the control variables and growth in lights per capita is not as compelling. We can also observe from column (2) that the initial lights per capita is also negatively correlated with rural share of the population and rainfall while it positively correlated with working age population share, literacy rates, higher education attainment, electricity connection, roads and credit. Interestingly, the relationship between lights per capita and the share of the population that belongs to scheduled castes is positive while for scheduled tribes is negative. In other words,

Table 2a: Correlations: Total District (Rural+Urban)

VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
1 Lights Growth p.c. (2000-10)												
2 Log Initial Light p.c. (2000)	-0.35*											
3 Rural Percent	0.03	-0.33*										
4 Overall Pop. Density	0.04	-0.05	-0.44*									
5 SC Pop. Share	-0.13*	0.21*	0.03	0.00								
6 ST Pop. Share	0.13*	-0.23*	0.19*	-0.14*	-0.61*							
7 Working Pop. Share	0.03	0.26*	0.20*	-0.21*	-0.22*	0.42*						
8 Literate Pop. Share	0.05	0.46*	-0.50*	0.15*	0.00	-0.13*	0.03					
9 Higher Edu. Share	0.06	0.28*	-0.74*	0.43*	-0.03	-0.22*	-0.23*	0.70*				
10 Log Rainfall per sq km.	0.10*	-0.40*	-0.04	0.32*	-0.18*	0.13*	-0.23*	0.15*	0.23*			
11 Electricity Connection	0.05	0.64*	-0.54*	0.09*	-0.07	-0.09*	0.27*	0.67*	0.55*	-0.11*		
12 Log HH with Paved Roads	0.12*	0.36*	-0.27*	0.06	0.01	-0.10*	0.04	0.33*	0.31*	-0.06	0.40*	
13 Log Credit p.c.	-0.01	0.50*	-0.74*	0.35*	0.11*	-0.33*	-0.09*	0.61*	0.75*	0.01	0.67*	0.35*

Note. The correlations are shown for 518 districts. \* represents significance at 5 percent level



Table 2b: Correlations: Rural Areas

VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
1 Rural lights growth p.c.												
2 Log Initial Rural Light p.c.	-0.35*											
3 Overall Pop. Density	-0.03	-0.31*										
4 Rural SC Pop. Share	-0.13*	0.15*	0.25*									
5 Rural ST Pop. Share	0.12*	-0.17*	-0.40*	-0.62*								
6 Rural Working Pop. Share	-0.03	0.43*	-0.60*	-0.23*	0.37*							
7 Rural Literate Pop. Share	0.12*	0.41*	-0.02	0.05	-0.14*	0.12*						
8 Rural Higher Education	0.17*	0.13*	0.17*	-0.01	-0.19*	-0.12*	0.69*					
9 Log Rainfall per sq km.	0.13*	-0.43*	0.32*	-0.16*	0.12*	-0.30*	0.16*	0.28*				
10 Rural Electricity Connection	0.06	0.64*	-0.24*	-0.02	-0.08	0.41*	0.58*	0.36*	-0.14*			
11 Log HH with Paved Roads	0.15*	0.35*	-0.05	0.04	-0.10*	0.11*	0.31*	0.29*	-0.08	0.38*		
12 Log Net Irrigated Area	-0.35*	0.28*	0.25*	0.49*	-0.51*	-0.21*	-0.12*	-0.14*	-0.48*	0.01	0.04	
13 Log Rural Credit p.c.	0.07	0.48*	-0.10*	0.22*	-0.20*	0.23*	0.37*	0.26*	-0.13*	0.57*	0.32*	0.09

Note. The correlations are shown for 506 districts. \* represents significance at 5 percent level

Table 2c: Correlations: Urban Areas

VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1. Urban Lights Growth p.c. (2000-10)	1									
2. Log Initial Urban Light p.c. (2000)	0.1*	1								
3. Overall Pop. Density	0.16*	-0.04	1							
4. Urban SC Pop. Share	0.16*	0.22*	-0.04	1						
5. Urban ST Pop. Share	-0.13*	-0.16*	-0.09	-0.36*	1					
6. Urban Working Pop. Share	0.09	0.19*	0.03	0.05	0.14*	1				
7. Urban Literate Pop. Share	0.01	0.27*	0.04	-0.07	0.22*	0.44*	1			
8. Urban Higher Edu. Share	0.07	0.06	0.03	-0.02	0.00	0.02	0.15*	1		
9. Log Rainfall per sq km.	0.07	-0.31*	0.37*	-0.19*	0.15*	0.06	0.20*	0.02	1	
10. Urban Electricity Connection	0.02	0.53*	0.03	-0.01	0.08	0.40*	0.52*	0.08	-0.23*	1
11. Log Urban Credit p.c.	0.17*	0.33*	0.28*	0.01	-0.18*	0.28*	0.39*	-0.06	0.12*	0.37*

Note. The correlations are shown for 474 districts. \* represents significance at 5 percent level

the simple correlation seems to indicate that districts with larger scheduled caste populations have already been faring better than those with large scheduled tribe affiliations. This is not surprising since from Table (2.1), we can see that rural areas tend to have larger scheduled tribe population shares while scheduled caste population shares are more consistent across both urban and rural areas. If we look at the percentage of the population that is rural in 2001, we can also see that it is negatively correlated with many of the control variables such as literacy rates, population density, higher education attainment, electricity connections, roads and credit. In other words, the table reinforces some of the prior perceptions one might have about the rural-urban dichotomy in India. Finally, the table also indicates that roads, credit, and electricity are all correlated with each other and credit is also correlated with education.

Similarly, Table 2b for rural areas shows negative correlation between the log of initial lights per capita and growth in lights per capita. The infrastructure variables are positively correlated with each other -showing that the rural areas in a district with better electricity connection also have higher access to credit. Moreover, a positive correlation can be observed between infrastructure variables and education variables. In the case of Table 2c, contrary to the previous tables, a low but positive correlation is depicted between initial urban lights per capita and subsequent growth rates. Beyond that, the pattern of correlation in urban areas is similar to that of their rural counterparts.

## 2.4 Results

### 2.4.1 Growth Regressions

In this section we present our basic empirical results for the overall districts as well as rural and urban areas separately. Equations (2.1) & (2.2) are estimated taking average growth in night lights per capita in the districts between 2000 and 2010 as the dependent variable and initial lights per capita as the main variable of interest. Additionally, we take into account the state fixed effects to control for state level factors. Andhra Pradesh is the baseline state in our study. To mitigate the problem of heteroskedasticity robust standard errors are used in all the regressions.

- **Overall District Growth:**

The regression results for the overall district for the period of 2000-10 is presented in Table (2.3). The first column shows the most parsimonious version of our models, regressing the growth in lights per capita on the logarithm of initial lights per capita. The  $\beta$ - coefficient is significant at 1 percent with a magnitude of -.018 and the standard deviation is .004. This result indicates absolute convergence among the districts. In the second column, we consider the effect of adding demographic variables. We include rural population shares, population density, shares of SC and ST populations, and share of working population. The convergence coefficient remains significantly negative with a higher magnitude (-.024) than in column (1). The coefficient of the rural percentage is negative and significant at 1 percent level, whereas the working population has a significant positive effect. population density, SC and ST population share do not have significant impact on growth. Table 2a indicates that initial lights per capita is correlated with a range of infrastructure and education

Table 2.3: District Growth, 2000-2010

VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Dependent Variable:	Overall Night Lights Growth per capita						
Log Light p.c. (2000)	-0.018*** (0.004)	-0.024*** (0.005)	-0.043*** (0.008)		-0.023*** (0.006)	-0.024*** (0.005)	-0.031*** (0.006)
Rural Percent		-0.053*** (0.015)	0.047** (0.019)			-0.037** (0.016)	0.010 (0.019)
Overall Pop. Density		-0.074 (0.074)	0.105 (0.109)			-0.058 (0.105)	0.139 (0.101)
SC Pop. Share		-0.008 (0.026)	0.037 (0.023)			0.046 (0.040)	0.019 (0.032)
ST Pop. Share		-0.009 (0.015)	0.012 (0.015)			0.022 (0.023)	0.023 (0.019)
Working Pop. Share		0.153** (0.065)	0.056 (0.049)			-0.026 (0.042)	-0.000 (0.040)
Literate Pop. Share			0.071** (0.032)				0.113*** (0.035)
Higher Edu. Share			-0.017 (0.109)				-0.034 (0.105)
Log Rainfall per sq km.			-0.009** (0.005)				-0.014*** (0.004)
Electricity Connection			0.070*** (0.018)				0.043** (0.020)
Log HH with Paved Roads			0.014*** (0.003)				0.007*** (0.003)
Log Credit p.c.			0.007** (0.003)				0.001 (0.003)
State Fixed Effect	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Constant	-0.063*** (0.017)	-0.107*** (0.040)	-0.372*** (0.085)	0.023*** (0.002)	-0.057*** (0.020)	-0.030 (0.029)	-0.278*** (0.079)
Observations	518	518	518	518	518	518	518
Adjusted R-squared	0.124	0.154	0.318	0.480	0.547	0.554	0.607

Note: The results presented here refer to the entire district, i.e. rural + urban.

Robust standard errors are given in the parenthesis.

\*\*\* shows  $p - value < .01$  , \*\* shows  $.01 < p - value < .05$  and \* shows  $.05 < p - value < .1$

variables in addition to demographic characteristics. In other words, even though initial lights is negatively correlated with subsequent growth, it might be correlated with other omitted variables that we have not controlled for. In the third column, we incorporate the human capital accumulation and infrastructure variables along with those used in column (2) to take into account such initial variations. We use initial literacy rates and share of the population with higher education (completed higher secondary or more) as indicators of human capital accumulation, whereas, infrastructure includes share of households with electricity connections and access to paved roads, along with logarithm of credit per capita. Finally, we also include rainfall to control for climate variation over the districts. In line with our expectations, all the infrastructure variables have positive and significant effects on growth together with share of literate population. Higher education is insignificant and so are other demographic variables. Interestingly, the convergence coefficient increases to  $-.043$  with inclusion of above controls indicating that many of these variables reflect long run steady state conditions. The percentage of rural population in a district changes signs from column (2) and becomes positively significant but as we shall see below this is not robust. The coefficient of the logarithm of rainfall per square km. is negatively significant. Finally, the addition of human capital, infrastructure and rainfall doubles the adjusted R-square.

Since there is evidence that states have diverged during this time period, our findings of convergence at the district level might be misleading if we do not account for state fixed effects. From Column (4) onwards, we introduce state fixed effects. Adding state fixed effects is also important since a large number of policies are

made at the state level. As a precursor, we run a regression of growth in lights per capita on only state dummies in column (4) to show the extent to which the state fixed effects explain growth in districts. The adjusted R-square depicts that 48% percent of district growth can be explained by state specific characteristics. In other words, while districts have experienced very heterogenous growth rates, almost half of the growth seems to be driven by variables at the state level. Column (5) presents regression similar to column (1) with the state fixed effects. The convergence coefficient remains significant at 1 percent with the magnitude of -.023. The Adjusted R- square increases to 55% percent with inclusion of initial lights.

In column (6) & (7) we present the regressions similar to second and third column including state fixed effects. The  $\beta$ - coefficient in column (6) is close to the same in column (5). Similar to column (2), the percentage of rural population is negative and significant. All other demographic variables remain insignificant. Column (7) shows the broadest specification of our models where we include all the control variables along with the state effects. The convergence coefficient is still negative and significant with around 3 percent rate of convergence though it is lower than what we see in column (3). In other words, even though states might be diverging, within states there seems to have been a tendency towards convergence. Electricity connection, paved road connections and share of literate population are consistently positive and significant reflecting importance of infrastructure and human capital accumulation for economic growth. The coefficient of credit per capita reduces considerably in size and is insignificant in column (7). An interesting observation is that the coefficient of the literate population share increases in magnitude (from .071 to .113), while

the coefficients of the infrastructure variables fall (electricity connection: .070 to .043, paved road connection: .014 to .007, Credit: .007 to .001) with introduction of the state effects. This result suggests that to some extent, state has a role to play in building district level infrastructure, however human capital accumulation varies even within states, and has influenced the growth of districts. Rainfall per square km. affects growth negatively - similar to column (3). In a primarily rural country like India, where agriculture mainly depends upon rainfall, this result is surprising and may suggest that the growth in the past decade was mainly in non- agricultural sector, where heavy rainfall might even be harmful for economic activity. Another possibility is that excess rainfall might be bad for economic growth even in agriculture. However, since we use logarithmic values, our results should not be sensitive to this scenario. Moreover, in our study, we do not include Assam, one of the rainiest states and with high agricultural production.

- **Rural Growth:**

As mentioned earlier, the rural-urban dualism is prominent in India from demographic and socio-economic perspectives. Being a primarily rural country with 68 percent of the population residing in rural areas, rural growth has been a major concern for economists in India. Since 1991, several policies as well as massive public spending projects have been introduced to reduce disparity between rural and urban areas. In light of this, we explore whether initially poorer rural areas have been closing the gap with their richer counterparts.

In Table (2.4) we consider growth in rural night lights per capita as the dependent variable to examine rural convergence (or divergence). In comparison to Table



Table 2.4: Rural Growth, 2000-2010

VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Dependent Variable:	Rural Night Lights Growth per capita				
Log Initial Rural Light p.c. (2000)	-0.019*** (0.004)	-0.044*** (0.007)		-0.026*** (0.006)	-0.033*** (0.006)
Overall Pop. Density		-1.084 (0.713)			-0.369 (0.636)
Rural SC Pop. Share		0.023 (0.023)			0.014 (0.031)
Rural ST Pop. Share		-0.005 (0.014)			0.017 (0.016)
Rural Working pop. Share		-0.034 (0.042)			-0.054 (0.037)
Rural Literate Pop. Share		0.092*** (0.034)			0.122*** (0.036)
Rural Higher Edu. share		-0.024 (0.158)			-0.134 (0.144)
Log Rainfall per sq km.		-0.018*** (0.005)			-0.017*** (0.005)
Rural Electricity Connection		0.053*** (0.013)			0.040** (0.017)
Log HH with Paved Roads		0.015*** (0.003)			0.008*** (0.003)
Log Net Irrigated Area		-0.012*** (0.002)			-0.005*** (0.002)
Log Rural Credit p.c.		0.011*** (0.003)			0.005 (0.003)
State Fixed Effect	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Constant	-0.065*** (0.016)	-0.246*** (0.067)	0.030*** (0.002)	-0.059*** (0.019)	-0.203*** (0.067)
Observations	506	506	506	506	506
Adjusted R-squared	0.126	0.416	0.504	0.579	0.636

Note. Robust Standard errors are given in the parenthesis.

\*\*\* shows  $p - value < .01$  , \*\* shows  $.01 < p - value < .05$  and \* shows  $.05 < p - value < .1$

(2.3), we exclude the rural population share from the set of demographic controls, but include net irrigated area as a rural infrastructure variable in an otherwise comparable set of controls. The demographic and human capital controls along with credit data are calculated for rural areas using values for rural areas provided by the census along with rural populations. Population density, rainfall per sq km., paved road connection and net irrigated area are the only variables that we could not distinguish for rural areas due to data limitations.

Similar to Table (2.3), column (1) of Table (2.4) reports the regression of rural night lights growth per capita on logarithm of initial rural lights per capita. The coefficient shows significant convergence in night lights with a rate of 1.9 percent. Interestingly this is very close to the absolute convergence coefficient of for the entire districts that we found in the earlier table. The adjusted R-square is at .125 depicting that initial lights per capita alone explains 12.5 percent of growth in rural areas. In column (2) we incorporate all district specific controls to estimate conditional convergence in rural areas. Similar column (3) in the earlier table, the rural convergence coefficient increases to -.044 - very close to that of overall district growth. Population density has a negative and significant coefficient. Note that the population density incorporates the rural and urban areas which may distort the sign of the coefficient. The share of literate population and the infrastructure variables such as electricity connection, paved road connection, and rural credit are significantly positive consistent to our findings for overall districts. Surprisingly, even for rural areas where agriculture is the primary occupation, rainfall per sq km along with net irrigated area are negative and significant. It is quite possible that areas with higher

rainfalls continued to focus on farming while growth happened in more productive rural non-farming occupations.

Column (3) presents the regression of the dependent variable only on state dummies. Similar to the previous table, the state fixed effects solely explain more than 50 percent of the rural growth. In column (4), we run the regression similar to column (1) but with state fixed effects. The rural convergence coefficient remains significant at 1 percent level with a magnitude of -.026. Column (5) shows the regression results with all our district levels controls along with the state fixed effects. The coefficient for initial lights drops as they did for in the earlier table but is again very similar in magnitude. Population density and rural credit per capita lose significance once we introduce the state effects. However, the variables significant in column (2), such as share of literate population, infrastructure variables other than credit, rainfall and net irrigated area are still significant with the same signs. It is interesting to note that similar to the overall district regressions, the coefficients of the infrastructure variables reduce in magnitude once we introduce state fixed effect, however, at the same time, the coefficient of the share of literate population increases. To summarize, rural district growth patterns are very similar to that of the entire district. From hindsight, some may view this as unsurprising given the extent of rural population shares in India. However, given the rapid growth in India during this time period, the strong correspondence might appear as surprising to others.

- **Urban Growth:**

The correlation between urbanization and per capita incomes remains one of the strongest patterns in development at the country level [Gollin et al. \[2016\]](#). The

strong relationship between urbanization and development is also observed at the sub-national level [Chanda and Ruan \[2015\]](#). Urbanization can take various patterns- the growth of new towns or existing towns; or the continued expansion of large cities that reinforce their advantages in a period of rapid growth. Here we do not distinguish between these types of growth. For the regression analysis, we take the same controls used in the rural growth regressions, but calculated for urban areas.<sup>3</sup> Paved roads and net irrigated area have been excluded as since they largely capture differences in rural areas.

We report the regression result taking urban night lights growth per capita as the dependent variable in Table 2.5. Similar to the previous regression tables, we report the absolute convergence coefficient in column (1). The coefficient is positive and small (.003) but significant at 10 percent level, indicating absolute divergence among the urban areas. Also, the adjusted R-square is very low (.006) indicating that initial light explains very little of subsequent urban growth. Next, we include urban controls along with overall population density and rainfall. The  $\beta$ -coefficient still remains very small and becomes insignificant. Population density is positive and significant implying a district with higher population per km shows higher growth in light. Recall that population density is a district level variable. The variable likely picks up the benefits to agglomeration in some districts. Some indication of this comes from Table 2a - districts that have higher population densities also have lower population shares. This is not surprising and certainly reflects some initial degree of agglomeration. Finally, the share of the scheduled caste population in urban areas

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<sup>3</sup>Similar to rural areas, population density and rainfall per sq km has not been distinguished for rural and urban areas. We use overall district data for these two variables.

Table 2.5: Urban Growth, 2000-2010

VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Dependent Variable:	Urban Night Lights Growth per capita				
Log Initial Urban Light p.c. (2000)	0.003* (0.001)	0.002 (0.002)		0.003 (0.002)	0.002 (0.002)
Overall Pop. Density		0.154*** (0.057)			0.125* (0.073)
Urban SC Pop. Share		0.078** (0.032)			0.046 (0.029)
Urban ST Pop. Share		-0.006 (0.017)			0.019 (0.031)
Urban Working Pop. Share		0.052 (0.045)			0.063 (0.054)
Urban Literate Pop. Share		-0.034 (0.026)			-0.002 (0.031)
Urban Higher Edu. share		0.014** (0.006)			0.010** (0.004)
Log Rainfall per sq km.		0.002 (0.002)			-0.000 (0.002)
Urban Electricity Connection		-0.007 (0.017)			0.015 (0.025)
Log Urban Credit p.c.		0.005 (0.003)			0.006* (0.003)
State Fixed Effect	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Constant	0.006 (0.006)	0.023 (0.024)	-0.004 (0.003)	0.007 (0.009)	-0.025 (0.034)
Observations	474	474	474	474	474
Adjusted R-squared	0.006	0.068	0.197	0.195	0.220

Note: Robust standard errors are given in the parenthesis. \*\*\* shows  $p - value < .01$ , \*\* shows  $.01 < p - value < .05$  and \* shows  $.05 < p - value < .1$

has significant positive effect on urban growth. Unlike rural areas, the coefficient of higher education in the urban area is positive and significant showing accumulation

of human capital in above secondary level has a role to play in urban growth. This result is in contrast with the rural area where only literate population share has a significant effect on growth. Thus while education is important for both areas, it is clear that the thresholds are important. This is a useful result particularly given the recurring ambiguity of the role of various education attainment measures in growth regressions.

Column (3) presents the extent to which the the state dummies can explain urban growth. The adjusted R-square is as low as 19.7 percent even with state dummies, which rises to 22 percent once we include initial light and other controls in column (5). In other words, unlike rural growth where states effects were more important, urban areas seem to be less driven by state factors. In column (5) we present the broadest model specification with all the controls and state effects. The coefficient of initial light is still insignificant implying absence of conditional convergence. Only population density and higher education along with urban credit are positively significant at 10 percent level. The lack of significance of other infrastructure variable and low R-square might indicate the presence of omitted variable problem. According to [Das et al. \[2015\]](#), convergence depends upon proximity to capital cities. Also, urban regions might be growing because of the benefits they reap from other infrastructure projects such as access to the national highway system or perhaps access to international trade. We plan to investigate the determinant of urban growth further as future research, but at this stage what we see is that a range of initial conditions are not useful in understanding patterns of urban growth.

## 2.4.2 Rural and Urban Spillovers

So far we have not discussed the issue of spillovers. There are two types of spillovers – one is the standard theoretical notion of urban growth leading to in-migration and as a result leading to not just urban growth but also raising the productivity of adjoining rural areas as the marginal product of labor increases. Secondly, from an econometric viewpoint, there might be an omitted variable problem of spillovers in growth from adjoining areas. Here we consider the first kind of spillover. To see why this might be important consider Figure 2.4.

Clearly, the logarithm of night lights per capita in the rural and urban areas are positively correlated (using 477 observation the correlation is .57 without and .36 with state effects).<sup>4</sup> We examine the extent of rural urban spillovers in Table 2.6. As a straightforward exercise, we look at growth in rural, urban and overall districts separately like before but control for initial light per capita from both rural and urban areas in an effort to estimate the spillover effects on convergence. The control variables (other than population density, rainfall, paved road connection and irrigated area) in Table 2.6 represents total, rural and urban values in respective regressions.

In first column of Table 2.6, we present regression using night lights growth as dependent variable where main independent variables of interest are initial lights (2000) per capita for both rural and urban areas. In line with our previous results, the coefficient of initial rural light is negative and significant showing that the rural initial condition affects district growth negatively. On the other hand, the initial urban light

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<sup>4</sup>We use the districts with positive rural and urban lights. Delhi is an outlier with very low rural lights and high urban lights, hence dropped from the scatter diagram.

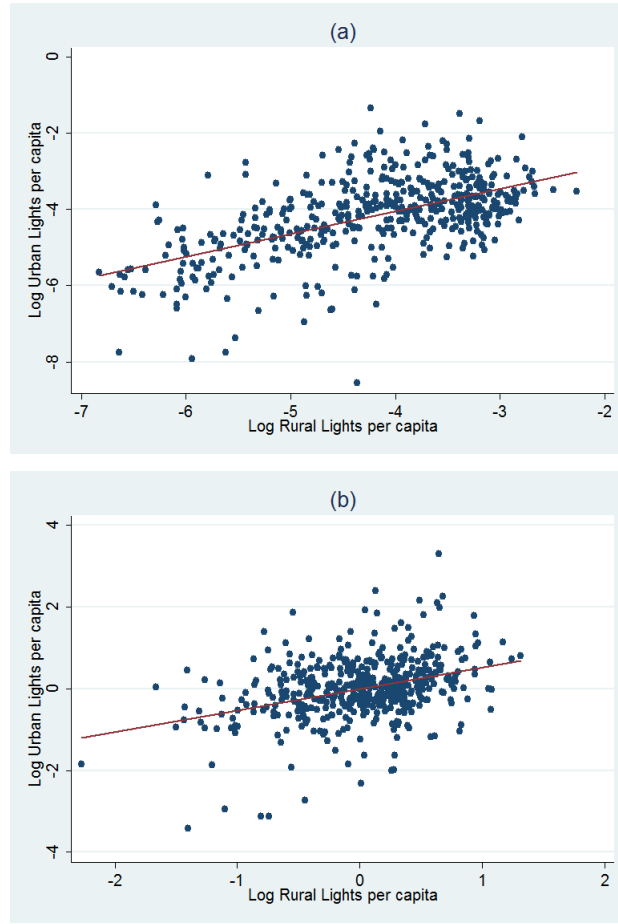


Figure 2.4: Relationship between Urban and Rural Night Lights in 2000, without (a) and with (b) state effects

does not affect district growth. The control variables behave similar to Table 2.3, where literate population and paved road connections are still positively significant whereas electricity connection and credit per capita lost significance. Column (2) shows the similar regression for rural areas but also controlling for initial light of urban areas in that district. Rural convergence is still present, though the rate of convergence falls from 3.4 to 2.3 percent. Urban initial light does not affect rural



Table 2.6: Rural-Urban Spillovers

VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)
Dependent variable:	Total p.c. Growth (2000-10)	Rural p.c. Growth (2000-10)	Urban p.c. Growth (2000-010)
Log Initial Rural Light p.c. (2000)	-0.021*** (0.004)	-0.023*** (0.004)	0.008*** (0.003)
Log Initial Urban Light p.c. (2000)	-0.002 (0.002)	-0.003 (0.002)	-0.001 (0.003)
Rural Percent	-0.007 (0.017)		
Overall Pop. Density	-0.885 (0.595)	-0.456 (0.546)	1.826*** (0.463)
SC Pop. Share	-0.017 (0.027)	-0.015 (0.028)	0.032 (0.032)
ST Pop. Share	-0.014 (0.014)	-0.006 (0.013)	0.007 (0.054)
Working Pop. Share	0.005 (0.036)	-0.056 (0.035)	0.035 (0.058)
Literate Pop. Share	0.060** (0.025)	0.067*** (0.025)	0.022 (0.036)
Higher Edu. Share	0.012 (0.089)	-0.066 (0.113)	0.010** (0.005)

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VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)
Dependent variable:	Total p.c. Growth (2000-10)	Rural p.c. Growth (2000-10)	Urban p.c. Growth (2000-010)
Log Rainfall per sq. km.	-0.005** (0.002)	-0.007*** (0.002)	-0.001 (0.002)
Electricity Connection	0.023 (0.015)	0.023* (0.013)	-0.011 (0.028)
Log HH with Paved Roads	0.007** (0.003)	0.008** (0.003)	
Log Credit p.c.	0.002 (0.003)	0.006** (0.003)	0.002 (0.005)
Log Net Irrigated Area		-0.003 (0.002)	
State Fixed Effect	Yes	Yes	Yes
Constant	-0.144*** (0.032)	-0.098*** (0.034)	-0.005 (0.039)
Observations	478	474	470
Adjusted R-squared	0.572	0.585	0.191

Note: The independent variables in the rural and urban regressions takes the value rural and urban controls respectively. Only ‘Density’, ‘Rainfall’ and ‘Paved roads’ has not been classified between rural and urban areas. Robust standard errors are given in the parenthesis.

\*\*\* shows  $p - value < .01$  , \*\* shows  $.01 < p - value < .05$  and \* shows  $.05 < p - value < .1$

growth. The third column shows the urban growth regressions taking into account the initial rural lights per capita of the district. Interestingly, the initial rural light has a positive coefficient which is significant at the 1 percent level implying higher growth in urban areas for districts where the rural areas were better off. In other words, districts that were doing better in the rural areas also seem to have made a successful transition into urban growth. As far as the remaining control variables are concerned we continue to see a consistent pattern- of the asymmetric area-specific of education and the role of population density in urban growth.

### **2.4.3 Examining Sub-Periods**

The above sections show the evidence of convergence in rural areas that reflected in convergence of overall district whereas not much can be inferred about the urban growth. One might be interested in looking at the different sub-periods to explore if the convergence among the districts or specifically, rural areas were consistent over the decade. Also, several reform projects were implemented after 2005 which might affect the growth pattern and thus change our result for the later half of the decade. We divide the time period of our study to see if the convergence results as shown in the last sections hold for both part of the decade. The growth rate night lights for 2000-05 and 2005-10 are used separately as dependent variables to run the regressions similar to the last section. Table (2.7) shows the result of the regressions for rural and urban areas along with the overall district. Column (1) & (2) shows the result of growth regressions for overall districts whereas column (3) & (4), and (5) & (6) show the same for rural and urban areas respectively. The independent variables, though shown in the same table, take rural and urban values in rural and urban

regressions. Only population density, rainfall per sq km and paved road connections have not been classified between urban and rural areas, thus take the same values in all regressions. Due to data limitations, we control for the initial demographic, socio-economic, and infrastructural conditions measured at the beginning of the decade for both period regressions in our study.

The evidence of convergence is consistent in rural areas and overall districts with our previous results. The magnitude of the rates of convergence are greater in the second part of the decade in both cases showing that areas with lower night lights in 2005 grew at around 5 percent faster than their counterparts. Interestingly, the urban areas seem to diverge in the first half of the decade and converge in the later half. However, for the second period the rate of convergence is far lower than we observe in rural areas. Given the diametrically opposite experiences with urbanization in the two sub-periods, it is not surprising that the effect for the entire ten year period is insignificant.

Among the control variables, rural percent has a positively significant coefficient in 2005-10 regression, suggesting a rural bias in district level growth during the period. Working population has negative effect on growth in the rural areas and overall district during the first half and flips sign in the later half of the decade. In line with our expectation, share of literate population has significant positive effect on rural growth over both periods whereas initial population share with higher education in urban areas affect urban growth favorably in the first part of the decade. This result strengthens the case for increasing investment in education further. Infrastructure variables such as connection to paved roads has positive and significant effect on

Table 2.7: Different Sub-periods

VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	Total p.c. Growth (2000-05)	Total p.c. Growth (2005-10)	Rural p.c. Growth (2000-05)	Rural p.c. Growth (2005-10)	Urban p.c. Growth (2000-05)	Urban p.c. Growth (2005-10)
Log Initial Light p.c. (2000)	-0.032*** (0.011)		-0.042*** (0.010)		0.008** (0.004)	
Log Initial Light p.c. (2005)		-0.055*** (0.009)		-0.056*** (0.010)		-0.009*** (0.003)
Rural Percent	-0.051 (0.036)	0.076** (0.030)				
Overall Pop. Density	0.116 (0.151)	0.209 (0.160)	0.413 (0.994)	-2.268** (1.059)	0.172** (0.087)	0.138 (0.132)
SC Pop. Share	0.004 (0.062)	0.063 (0.051)	-0.015 (0.052)	0.061 (0.053)	0.129** (0.053)	-0.005 (0.051)
ST Pop. Share	0.066* (0.039)	-0.014 (0.021)	0.047 (0.032)	-0.018 (0.022)	-0.025 (0.055)	0.113** (0.049)
Working Pop. Share	-0.211*** (0.069)	0.210*** (0.070)	-0.210*** (0.062)	0.104 (0.070)	0.000 (0.085)	0.121 (0.093)
Literate Pop. Share	0.126* (0.070)	0.135*** (0.050)	0.207*** (0.072)	0.094* (0.049)	-0.065 (0.062)	0.050 (0.051)
Higher Edu. Share	0.036 (0.184)	-0.119 (0.161)	-0.324 (0.278)	-0.007 (0.177)	0.031*** (0.007)	-0.008 (0.006)

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VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	Total p.c. Growth (2000-05)	Total p.c. Growth (2005-10)	Rural p.c. Growth (2000-05)	Rural p.c. Growth (2005-10)	Urban p.c. Growth (2000-05)	Urban p.c. Growth (2005-10)
Log Rainfall per sq km.	-0.022*** (0.008)	-0.013*** (0.004)	-0.027*** (0.009)	-0.014*** (0.005)	-0.002 (0.003)	-0.001 (0.003)
Electricity Connection	0.060 (0.046)	0.076** (0.036)	0.084** (0.037)	0.043 (0.032)	0.101** (0.041)	-0.081** (0.041)
Log HH with Paved Roads	0.006 (0.005)	0.012*** (0.004)	0.006 (0.005)	0.015*** (0.005)		
Log Net Irrigated Area			-0.004 (0.004)	-0.006* (0.004)		
Log Credit p.c.	0.009 (0.007)	-0.005 (0.005)	0.007 (0.006)	0.008 (0.006)	0.014*** (0.005)	0.002 (0.005)
State Fixed Effect	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Constant	-0.231 (0.153)	-0.522*** (0.093)	-0.329*** (0.127)	-0.277*** (0.082)	-0.004 (0.060)	-0.064 (0.061)
Observations	518	518	506	506	474	474
Adjusted R-squared	0.497	0.505	0.524	0.415	0.386	0.153

Note: The independent variables in the rural and urban regressions takes the value rural and urban controls regressions takes the value rural and urban controls respectively. Only ‘Density’, ‘Rainfall’ and ‘Paved roads’ has not been classified between rural and urban areas. Robust standard errors are given in the parenthesis.

\*\*\* shows  $p - value < .01$  , \*\* shows  $.01 < p - value < .05$  and \* shows  $.05 < p - value < .1$

rural growth during 2005-10 whereas the share of households with electricity connection affects rural growth favorably during the first half. This result might reflect the effect of public policy reforms taken during the period in the respective sectors. We will discuss that in more details in next section of this chapter.

## 2.5 Public Projects and Rural Growth

While the previous sections presented evidence of rural convergence leading to the overall district convergence, one might be concerned that rural growth during the past decade may not reflect the standard neoclassical approach but the fruits of large scale publicly financed projects implemented in Indian districts during this period. Specifically, the growth in night lights may reflect the rapid increase in electricity connections due to rural electrification project which was targetted at poorer districts. Alternatively it might reflect economic growth due to the economic spillovers from MGNREGS etc. To investigate further, we consider the effect of expenditures on three large scale infrastructure and poverty reduction projects initiated by central government during our study period. A large body of literature has already investigated the association of rural poverty alleviation and district level growth with the reform policies initiated during last two decades. Among them MGNREGS or rural employment generation scheme has been popular in literature. Zimmerman (2012), Imbart & Papp (2013), and [Bhargava \[2014\]](#) find significant effect of MGNREGS on rural labor market, wages and adoption of agricultural technology. In similar vein, a couple of recent papers by Aggarwal (2015), and [Asher and Novosad \[2016\]](#) examine the effect of rural roads project (PMGSY) on agricultural advancement and sectoral allocation of labor respectively. We consider the spending on rural employment gen-

eration project (MGNREGS), Rural road project (PMGSY) and a rural electricity project (RGGVY) in our regression framework to examine if convergence still holds. Unlike most of the existing literature, we measure the effectiveness of these projects through incurred or sanctioned expenditures rather than physical outcomes. At best our exercises are suggestive - there is no clear identification. However, our main purpose here is to see if some of the convergence effects are driven by omitted variables. We should also note that these are certainly not exhaustive. Most importantly we do not have sufficient data on a number of education and health projects as well as some rural credit expansion schemes. However since most of the education and health projects are targeted to school age children, it is not clear that they would have had a significant short-term impact on growth anyways. We briefly describe the projects below before discussing the results.

- **MGNREGS (Rural Employment Generation Project):**

We begin with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme based on Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA 2005) which is one of the largest public development schemes in the world. Envisioned to secure the livelihood of the households in the rural areas of India, MGNREGS was chartered as means to provide a legal guarantee of 100 days of public-sector wage employment in every fiscal year for adult members of the household who volunteered to enroll for unskilled manual labor. It was implemented in three phases which started with phase one implementation of 200 most backward districts in 2006. 130 more districts were incorporated in phase two in 2007. In 2008, phase three of the program included all remaining rural districts in the country. While it was initiated to



reduce rural poverty and involved employing rural workers in public projects during low season for agriculture, it could have the potential effect of crowding out private investment by raising wages. Thus the growth effects may be ambiguous. As our control variable, we take the disbursed labor and material expenditure data for each districts from the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD). There has been considerable controversy about administrative waste in the program. Thus, if any effects show up in our regressions, it would be an overestimate of the effect of the program.<sup>5</sup> The public data portal of MGNREGA shows physical and monetary variables reported by the districts to MoRD. We use the data from 2006, the year of introduction of the program, till 2010. The variable is constructed as total expenditure in a district per unit of rural population.

- **PMGSY (Rural Road Project):**

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) was launched in December 2000 to provide connectivity by construction of all weather road (operable throughout the year) in the eligible unconnected habitations in rural India. The priority and eligibility for inclusion of the unconnected habitation under the program were based on population of the area. All unconnected habitations with a population of 1000 persons and above were planned to be covered in first three years (2000-2003), while all unconnected habitations with a population of 500 persons and above were to be covered by the end of the Tenth Plan Period (2007).<sup>6</sup> The data for PMGSY has been obtained from Online Management, Monitoring and Accounting System (OM-

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<sup>5</sup>We could not include administrative expenses due to inconsistencies in the website.

<sup>6</sup> Any habitation in the Hill States (North-East, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttaranchal), the Desert Areas (identified in the Desert Development Programme), and the tribal areas would be eligible to be covered if the population of the area was 250 persons and above.

MAS) website where the district level summary of annual sanctioned expenditure is provided from 2000 to present. We take the data relevant to our study period (2000-2010). The control variable construction is given in the Data Appendix [A](#).

- **RGGVY (Rural Electrification Project):**

Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyut Yojana (RGGVY) was initiated in 2005 with three objectives, firstly, to electrify all unelectrified villages and habitations and intensify the process in already electrified villages; secondly, to equip all rural households with electricity connection; and thirdly, to provide free electricity connections to all below poverty line households. The Rural Electrification Corporation Limited was appointed by Ministry of Power of the Indian government to serve as the nodal agency to implement the scheme. RGGVY was started in 2005 with a mandate to attain the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) goal of providing electricity to all households by 2010, which then extended to 2012 in 11th five year plan. However, due to slow implementation pace, the program had been extended in the 12th five year plan (2012-17) where it has been subsumed in Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) as the rural electrification component of the program. RGGVY data is obtained from the Ministry of Power website provided by Government of India. The description of the variable used is given in Appendix [A](#).

### 2.5.1 Results

A summary of total expenditures in these projects per unit of rural population is presented in Table [2.8](#). The unit of the expenditure per capita is expressed in rupees. The table shows that total disbursed labor and material cost of NREGA per unit of rural population is around Rs. 1474.16 whereas the annual sanctioned expenditure

Table 2.8: Rural Public Projects: Expenditures per capita (in Rs.)

Variable	Obs	Mean	Duration	Years used in this study
NREGA (Labor and material cost)	506	1474.16	2005 - present	2005-2010
PMGSY (Road expenditure)	506	1704.45	2000 - present	2000-2010
RGGVY (Sanctioned electricity expenditure)	506	708.90	2005 - 2012	2005-2010

Table 2.9: Correlations: Public Project Expenditures per capita

Variable	Obs	(1)	(2)
Log Total Expenditure in PMGSY per capita	506		
Log Total Expenditure in NREGA per capita	506	0.33*	
Log Total Expenditure in RGGVY per capita	506	0.68*	0.37*

per capita of PMGSY Rs. 1704.45. Unlike the other two projects, we used plan-wise data for RGGVY where most of the districts received grant only once during our study period. The total expenditure per unit of rural population during our study period is around Rs. 708.90. It is important to note that both NREGA and RGGVY have been started at the second half of the decade and the data we use is for the period of 2005-06 to 2010, whereas the data for the PMGSY data is for 2000-2010.

The correlations between the logarithm of project expenditure per capita are presented in Table 2.9. We find significant correlations between all three project expenditures. The infrastructure projects, road and electricity expenditure have a correlation as high as .68 whereas the correlation coefficient of such projects with NREGA are .33 and .37 respectively. The correlations are in line with our expectation, as all of the project were implemented by prioritizing poorer districts.

In Table 2.10, we show the regression results for the rural areas with the same specification as column (5) of Table 2.4 but now controlling for the expenditure on

Table 2.10: Growth Effects of Rural Public Projects

VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Dependent variable:	Rural Night Lights Growth per capita			
Log Initial Rural Light (2000) p.c.	-0.033*** (0.006)	-0.032*** (0.006)	-0.035*** (0.007)	-0.033*** (0.006)
Log PMGSY Exp. p.c.	0.002 (0.004)			
Log NREGA Exp. p.c.		-0.004** (0.001)		
Log RGGVY Exp. p.c.			0.001 (0.003)	
Log Combined Exp. p.c.				-0.004 (0.004)
Overall Pop. Density	-0.318 (0.657)	-0.469 (0.621)	0.215 (0.904)	-0.503 (0.641)
Rural SC Pop. Share	0.015 (0.031)	0.028 (0.031)	-0.006 (0.038)	0.019 (0.030)
Rural ST Pop. Share	0.015 (0.017)	0.024 (0.017)	0.019 (0.020)	0.021 (0.017)
Rural Working Pop. Share	-0.057 (0.038)	-0.051 (0.037)	-0.045 (0.043)	-0.050 (0.038)
Rural Literate Pop. Share	0.122*** (0.036)	0.113*** (0.036)	0.134*** (0.042)	0.122*** (0.036)

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VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Dependent variable:	Rural Night Lights Growth per capita			
Rural Higher Edu. share	-0.124 (0.143)	-0.124 (0.144)	-0.154 (0.198)	-0.133 (0.147)
Log Rainfall per sq km	-0.017*** (0.005)	-0.017*** (0.005)	-0.020*** (0.005)	-0.017*** (0.005)
Rural Electricity Connection	0.043** (0.018)	0.034** (0.017)	0.051** (0.023)	0.039** (0.018)
Log HH with Paved Roads	0.008*** (0.003)	0.008*** (0.003)	0.009** (0.003)	0.008*** (0.003)
Log Net Irrigated Area	-0.005** (0.002)	-0.006*** (0.002)	-0.007*** (0.003)	-0.006*** (0.002)
Log Rural Credit p.c.	0.005 (0.003)	0.004 (0.003)	0.009** (0.004)	0.005 (0.003)
State Fixed Effect	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Constant	-0.194*** (0.069)	-0.215*** (0.067)	-0.208*** (0.069)	-0.216*** (0.067)
Observations	500	504	413	506
Adjusted R-squared	0.635	0.638	0.620	0.635

Note: The unit of project investment given in Rs. Lakh. Robust standard errors are given in the parenthesis.

\*\*\* shows  $p - value < .01$  , \*\* shows  $.01 < p - value < .05$  and \* shows  $.05 < p - value < .1$

reform projects. In column (1), (2) & (3) we include logarithm of total expenditure per capita in the rural road project (PMGSY), rural employment project (NREGA) and rural electricity project (RGGVY) respectively. There are no significant effects of infrastructure development projects such as PMGSY and RGGVY on rural night lights growth. The coefficient of expenditure on NREGA is perversely, negative and significant at the 10 percent level. The convergence coefficient remains at around 3.3 percent, close to our basic regression results in the rural areas. Similarly, initial human capital and infrastructure such as literate population, household share with paved road connection, rural electricity connection have significantly positive coefficients. Rainfall per square km. and net irrigated area on the other hand negatively affect rural growth as before. Rural credit per capita is only significant in column (3) when we include the electricity expenditure only.

As the correlation between the project expenditures is significant, it is possible that the total expenditure on all three projects combined may have influenced rural growth in a district even when the individual project expenditures does not have any significant impact on the same. We present rural regression with the sum of the project expenditures per capita in column (4). The coefficient of the sum of project expenditure is still insignificant and there is very little change in the convergence coefficient and other control variables. These results emphasize our claim that the initial conditions has a major role in explaining rural growth, thus strengthening the case of rural convergence. Nonetheless a more careful treatment of identification is warranted before we can reach any firm conclusion about these projects.

## 2.6 Conclusion

Our analysis of the pattern and determinants of local growth using 518 districts in India enables certain findings. First, we find evidence of both absolute and conditional convergence in the overall districts primarily driven by rural convergence. The convergence rate stands at around 3%, greater than Barro's "iron law". There is no evidence of convergence in the urban area. Second, the initial measure of human capital along with Access to road, credit and electricity connection are strongly associated with both urban and rural growth. In the case of human capital literacy rate plays a role in defining the rural growth whereas, higher education is related to urban growth. Moreover, State effects explain almost half of the district level growth. However, the range of initial conditions used in our study explain very little of urban growth. Finally, we fail to find any significant evidence to associate three major rural reform projects with rural growth. Although a more careful treatment of identification are necessary to draw any conclusion about these projects, this result strengthens our case of rural convergence.

We conclude with certain limitations that can lead to future research. This chapter uses data for 2000, 2005 and 2010 to measure long run growth where it may be useful to collect the data for consecutive years to calculate annual growth rate. Furthermore, our analysis explains very little of urban growth pattern. An obvious step forward is to gather more informations on urban areas, for example, proximity to capital cities, urban infrastructure projects, to recognize the determinants of urban growth. Finally, it may be helpful to do a spatial analysis on the district growth pattern to determine if the growth of a district is affected by its neighbours.

# Chapter 3

## Effect of Credit Supply Shock on Growth

### 3.1 Introduction

The importance of bank credit as a share of GDP has increased steadily over last couple of decades in India. Additionally, several government initiatives have been taken to increase credit generation and other financial services. For example, the Prime Minister Jan Dhan Yojana, a financial inclusion project, prompted 180 million new accounts within a year of its launching in 2014. There is evidence in the literature that negative credit shocks affects economic activity ([Bernanke and Blinder \[1992\]](#), [Chodorow-Reich \[2014\]](#), [Iyer et al. \[2014\]](#)). However, the magnitude and mechanism of such impact is less understood ([\[Paravisini et al., 2015\]](#)). In this chapter, we investigate the effect of bank credit shock on regional economic growth using district-level outstanding credit data of 511 districts in India from 2000-2010.

We find evidence of positive and significant association between per capita credit growth and the per capita growth in economic activity over our study period. However, it is hard to distinguish between the supply side growth in credit and demand driven credit shocks. To disentangle these effects, we use the shift share instrument to estimate predicted growth controlling for the district specific demand shock in credit. For identification, we exploit the heterogeneity of initial sectoral share of outstanding credit, which is originated by the scheduled commercial banks. While there is a significant and positive relationship between the predicted shock in the credit supply



and the overall credit growth in the district, the predicted credit supply shock fails to affect economic growth.

## 3.2 Background

To provide some context, we first look at the national trends in credit origination in India over the past two decades. Figure 3.1 shows the trend in overall credit-to-GDP ratio from 1996 to 2012.

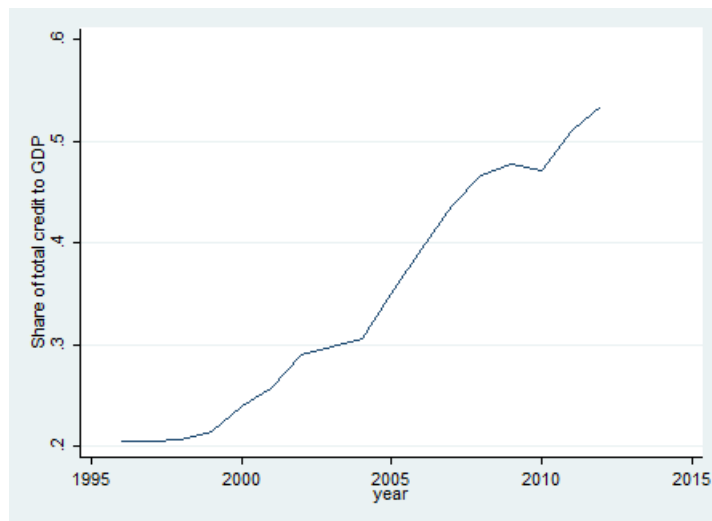


Figure 3.1: National trend in credit to GDP ratio

Starting at around 20%, there has been a steady rise in the ratio over most of the period. There was a slight decline in 2010, but subsequently experienced increase in credit as a percent of GDP upto 53.5%. This steady upward trajectory implies that credit growth has outpaced economic growth during this time period.

Taking one step further, we explore the growth in national credit in different sectors over the period of our study. The trend in real sectoral credit is presented in Figure 3.2.

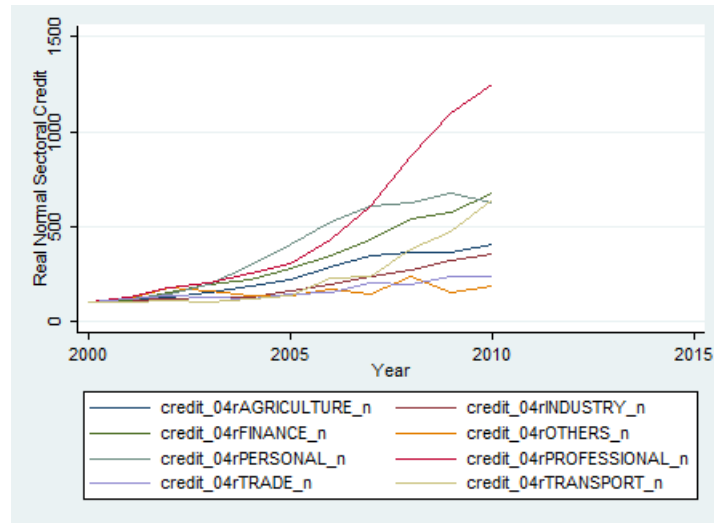


Figure 3.2: National trend in real sectoral credit relative to Agriculture

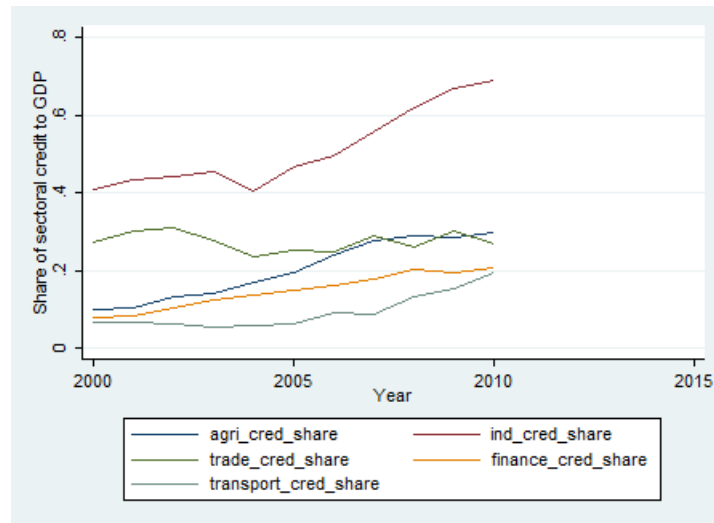


Figure 3.3: National trend in real sectoral credit to GDP ratio

There has been a substantial growth in professional service sector, personal loans, and financial sector credit. Credit in trade, industry, and unspecified other credits grew at a much lower rate. A more comprehensive understanding about the sectoral

Table 3.1: Sectoral Growth in GDP & Credit (2000-2010)		
	Growth rate of GDP	Growth rate of Credit
Agriculture	0.03	0.15
Industry	0.08	0.14
Trade	0.09	0.09
Finance	0.10	0.21
Transport	0.08	0.21

credit is presented in Figure 3.3. We could match the sectoral credit with sectoral GDP for agriculture, trade, transport, industry, and finance. The line showing credit-to-GDP ratio in industries (for example, mining and manufacturing), lies well above the same for all other sectors, and additionally, it is growing at a steady rate from 2004 onwards. For the other three sectors (i.e., agriculture, finance, and transport), the ratio has increased slightly. Table 3.1 shows the national growth in sectoral GDP and sectoral credit for the matched sectors.

The national trend in overall and sectoral credit depicts an ever growing dependence on credit. [Greenstone et al. \[2014\]](#) has explored the impact of credit supply shock on overall and small business employment over 1997-2011. Using a modified shift share approach, they showed that the predicted lending shocks are associated with significant but small decline in both country level and small business employment during the Great Recession. However, they fail to find any evidence of the credit supply shock on employment in “normal times”. [Amiti and Weinstein \[2013\]](#) has shown a substantial impact of credit supply shock on the investment decisions of the firm. [Paravisini et al. \[2015\]](#) established that in trade, credit supply shock has a significant impact on the intensive margin of export but does not affect the extensive margin. In close association, we explore the impact of credit supply shock

on economic growth in Indian districts. As mentioned in the previous chapter of this dissertation, the main concern in measuring regional growth in economic activity in a developing country like India, is the lack of sub-national GDP data. Even when present, the measurement quality of the data is questionable at best. We use radiance calibrated satellite night light data to measure the growth in economic activity similar to the previous chapter.

The rest of the chapter is organized as follows. Section 3.3 provides the data sources, and Section 3.4 explains the empirical methodology. In Section 3.5, we discuss our regression results. Finally, we conclude in Section 3.6.

## **3.3 Data**

### **3.3.1 Night Light Data**

We use radiance calibrated light data (used in the previous chapter) collected from NOAA’s National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC) for the years 2000 and 2010.

### **3.3.2 Credit Data**

The main variable of interest is district level credit for the years 2000 and 2010. We use the data collected from ‘Basic Statistical Returns’ published by the Reserve Bank of India . The data consists of the outstanding credit originated by the scheduled commercial banks to various sectors of the economy. The main credit sectors in our data are defined as agriculture, industry, transportation, personal, professional and other services, trade, finance, and all other credits. We summed up the sectoral credit to find overall credit in each district. Figure 3.4 shows the average share of the sectoral credit relative to the total credit in the districts for 2000 and 2010. It is evident that agriculture (27%) and industry (25%) captures the lion’s share of

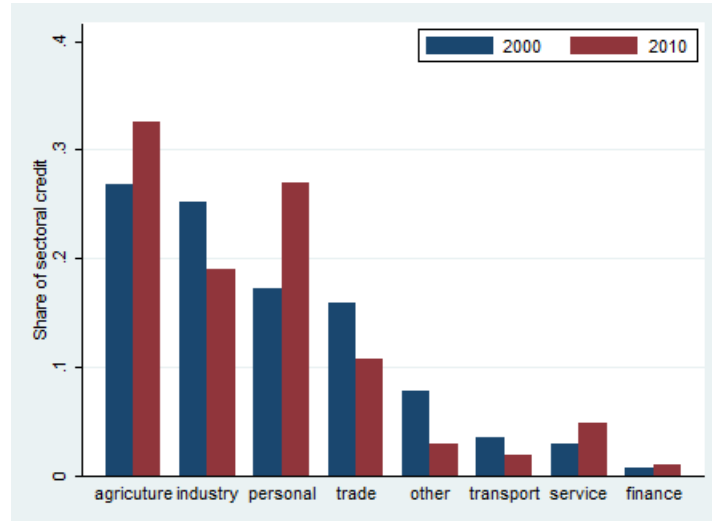


Figure 3.4: Distribution of credit among main sectors in 2000 & 2010

the credit originated by the scheduled commercial banks in 2000, whereas service and finance sector credit share are among the lowest. The share of agriculture tends to increase even higher to 33%, while the share of industrial credit falls to 17 % in 2010. Among others, there has been an increase in the share of personal loan (17 % to 27%) and service sector credit (3% to 5 %). At the same time, the share of credit in trade, transport, and other unspecified sector has declined over the decade. Figure 3.5 presents the real growth rate among the sectoral credit (for the districts in this chapter) more extensively. It is interesting to note that the average growth rate is highest for the two sectors with lowest initial share, namely, finance and service. Growth in personal loan and agriculture is also substantial in line with the findings from Figure 3.4.

Next, we calculate the yearly growth rate of total credit over 2000 and 2010. As the nominal credit data collected from RBI is not comparable between the years, we

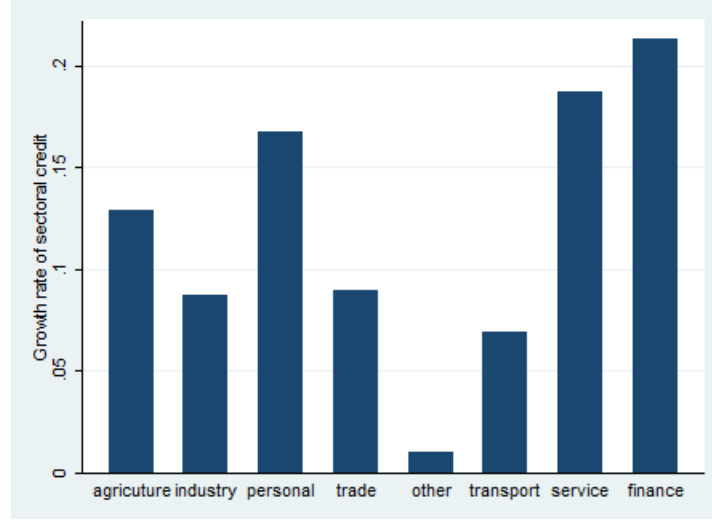


Figure 3.5: Average growth rate of sectoral credit (2000-2010)

estimate the real credit at 2004-05 price, using state level GDP deflators, calculated from the state GDP data, published by RBI. Figure 3.6 shows the kernel density of log total credit in 2000 and 2010. There is a pronounced rightward shift in the density functions from 2000 to 2010.

Our primary focus in this chapter is to explore the relationship between credit growth and the growth in economic activity. We find a positive correlation of .28 among the variables, whereas the correlation goes down to .13 if we control for the state characteristics. Figure 3.7 shows the scatter plot of the relationship with (Panel B) and without (Panel A) controlling for state dummies.

For the rest of this chapter, we use credit and radiance calibrated night light data for 2000 and 2010. As in the previous chapter, these years were selected to ensure that we have adequate data for additional district level controls taken from the census of 2001 and 2011. Table 3.2 shows the summary of the dependent, independent

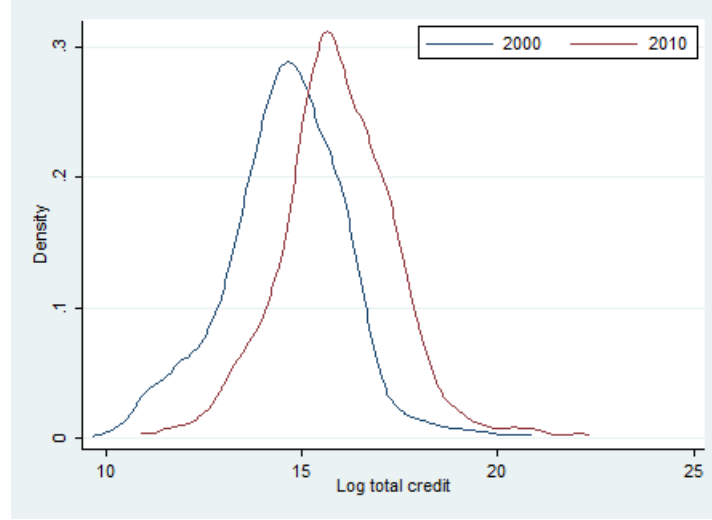


Figure 3.6: Kernel Density of log Total Credit for 2000 and 2010

and control variables. As mentioned earlier, we summed up the data from the new district created during this 10 year period with the district of origin, to maintain consistency, if the district of origin is singular. If the new district was carved out from multiple districts, we dropped both the new and the district of origin. We also drop the state of Assam as more than 50 percent of districts in the state were redrawn. Moreover, the credit data is available for 560 districts out of 593 in 2000, whereas credit data for 631 districts is available for the year 2010. After eliminating the missing observations, our baseline regressions include data from 511 districts.

The main variable of interest is the ‘Per capita credit growth’ between 2000 and 2010, defined as the average annual log change in total credit net of log change in population . Similarly, the dependent variable ‘Per capita light growth’ measure the log change in light net of log change in population per year. We use data for shares of population that belong to a scheduled caste (SC pop. share), scheduled

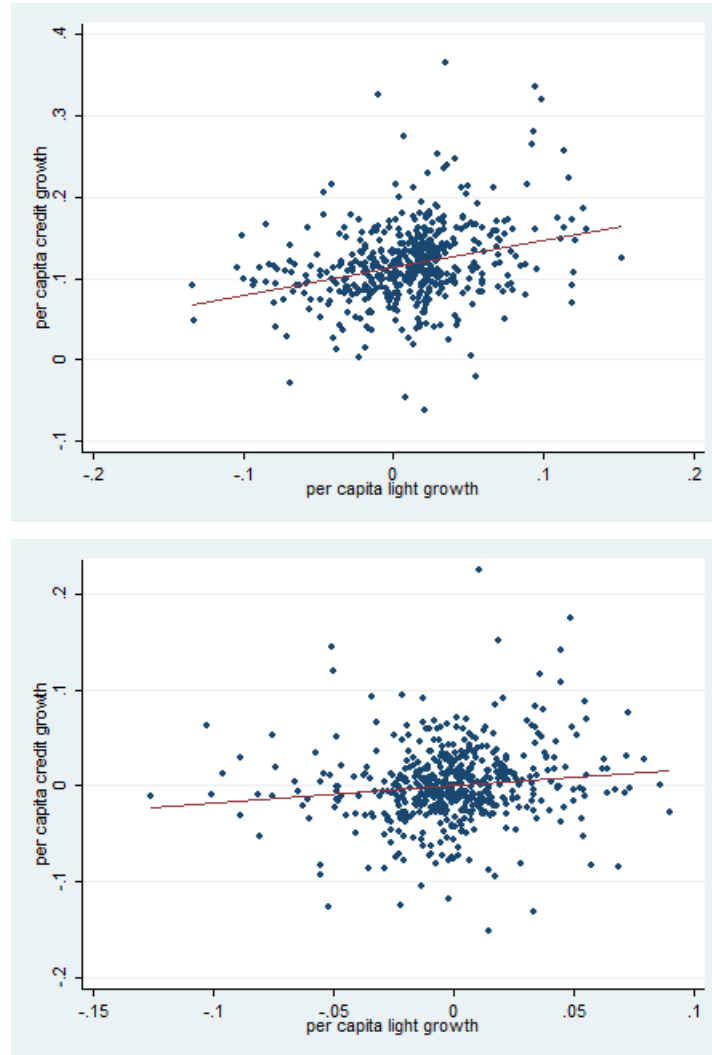


Figure 3.7: Correlation between per capita credit growth and per capita light growth (A) without and (B) With controlling state dummies

tribe (ST pop. share), are of working age (Working pop.share), are literate (Literate pop. share), have higher education (Higher edu. share); fraction of households that have electricity connections (Electricity connection) collected from census 2001. Rainfall per square kilometre (Log Rainfall/sq km.) is collected from the University



Table 3.2: Summary Statistics

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.
Per capita light growth	511	0.01	0.04
Per capita credit growth	511	0.12	0.05
Log initial light per capita	511	-4.28	1.00
Log area (sq me)	511	22.02	0.86
Share of SC pop.	511	0.15	0.08
Share of ST pop.	511	0.15	0.25
Share of working pop.	511	0.41	0.07
Share of literate pop.	511	0.53	0.12
Share of higher educated	511	0.07	0.04
Log rain/sqkm	511	-3.66	1.15
HH with electricity	511	0.55	0.27

of Delaware website. We can see that the average growth rate in light per capita 1.1 percent, whereas the average per capita growth rate in credit remains at around 12 percent. It is interesting to note that 338 out of 511 districts in our study experience positive light growth whereas 507 districts experience positive credit growth.

### 3.4 Empirical Design

Our empirical design is based on the observation that the credit growth rate among the sectors varies substantially. Table 3.3 shows the variation in sectoral credit growth. While the growth in financial and service sector credit are as high as 21.3% and 18.7% respectively, growth in trade and industry credit are around 9%.

Furthermore, we exploit the heterogeneity in proclivity of each sector in the districts, measured by initial credit share, for our identification strategy. We assume that the borrowers of a certain sector cannot easily relocate to another sector depending upon the credit supply in that sector. Table 3.4 shows the summary statistics of the sectoral credit share among the districts. It is evident that the standard deviation

Table 3.3: Credit Growth in Sectors	
Sectors	Growth rate of sectoral credit
Agriculture	12.99
Finance	21.33
Industry	8.70
All other	1.17
Personal	16.73
Service	18.91
Trade	9.03
Transport	7.05
Total	13.29

Table 3.4: Sectoral credit share					
		2000		2010	
Sectors	Obs	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Agriculture	511	0.27	0.15	0.33	0.19
Finance	511	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02
Industry	511	0.25	0.17	0.19	0.16
All Other	511	0.08	0.06	0.03	0.03
Personal	511	0.17	0.07	0.27	0.14
Service	511	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.05
Trade	511	0.16	0.07	0.11	0.06
Transport	511	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02

among the agricultural and industry shares are the highest, whereas the variation in the share are lower for the finance, service and transport sectors.

Next, we investigate the relationship between per capita growth rate of credit and night light using the following primary equation.

$$g_{i,t,t-k}^{ntl} = \beta g_{i,t,t-k}^{credit} + \gamma X_i + \epsilon_{i,t,t-k} \quad (3.1)$$

Where  $g_{i,t,t-k}^{ntl}$  is the average growth rate of night light per capita and  $g_{i,t,t-k}^{credit}$  is the growth rate of credit in district  $i$  between years  $t(2010)$  and  $t - k(2000)$ .  $X_i$

represents district specific control variables for  $i^{th}$  district, whereas  $\gamma$  estimates the coefficient of such controls.  $\epsilon$  is district specific random shocks.  $\beta$  is the main parameter of interest representing the relationship between credit growth and night light growth. However, estimation of equation (3.1) is unlikely to produce unbiased estimation of  $\beta$  because, the unobserved district characteristics may affect the growth in economic activity and also be correlated with the credit growth. Moreover, the credit growth can be viewed as the equilibrium of increase in demand and supply in the credit market. It is difficult to distinguish the supply shocks apart from the demand shocks. To overcome such identification issues and separate out the credit supply effect, we build a shift share instrument following [Greenstone et al. \[2014\]](#). First, we estimate equation (3.2)

$$g_{ij,t,t-k}^{credit} = d_i + s_j + e_{ij} \quad (3.2)$$

where the  $g_{ij,t,t-k}$  is the credit growth rate in district  $i$  and sector  $j$ . We use the initial share of credit in district  $i$  and sector  $j$  ( $cs_{ij}$ ), to weight the equation.  $d_i$  in equation (3.2) is the district specific dummies to control for the demand shocks in the districts during our study period. The main parameters of interests are the coefficients ( $\hat{s}_j$ ) of the sector specific dummies  $s_j$ .  $\hat{s}_j$  represents the weighted credit growth rate that can be attributed to sector  $j$  relative to the reference sector, in our case, agriculture. We estimate ( $\hat{s}_j$ ) for each sector and re center the weighted coefficients to it's mean.

Once we have the sector specific supply shock in credit, we replace the sectoral credit growth rate in equation 3.2 by the same. The new modified shift share instrument  $Z_i^S$ , which represents the predicted credit supply shock in the economy, is

defined by the following equation:

$$Z_i^S = \sum_j (cs_{ij} \times \hat{s}_j) \quad (3.3)$$

The methodology of modified shift share instrument, presented in 3.3, to purge the demand shock has been used in literature. Khwaja and Mian [2008] has used such instrument to separate out firm specific demand shock for bank-firm lending data in Pakistan. Amiti and Weinstein [2013] has used the same methodology for the Japanese data to investigate the supply side effect of financial shock on firm level investment.

The exclusion restriction for the validity of the instrument can be written as :

$$Cov(Z_i^S \epsilon_{i,t,t-k}) = 0 \quad (3.4)$$

Intuitively, the identifying assumption is now weaker than the previous case. It requires that the sectors with below average supply shock are not systematically distributed in the districts with below average credit shock. To validate our assumption, we calculate the correlation between the coefficient of district fixed effects and the initial credit share weighted sector fixed effect from equation 3.2. We find no correlation between the fixed effects, thus validating our assumption that the districts with low credit growth are not systematically exposed to the sectors with low supply shock.

## 3.5 Results

In this section we present our basic empirical results using ordinary least square and IV regression methods. We estimate equation 3.1 with and without the instrument specified in the previous section. Additionally, we use state dummies to control for state level factors. Andhra Pradesh is the baseline state in our study. Moreover, to mitigate the problem of heteroskedasticity, robust standard errors are used in all the regressions.

### 3.5.1 Ordinary Least Square

First, we present the ordinary least square regression estimation in Table 3.5. The first column shows the most parsimonious model regressing per capita light growth on growth in credit per capita. The coefficient is significant at 1% level showing that a percent increase in credit growth is associated with .25 percentage point growth in light with a standard deviation of .040. Column (2) includes socio-demographic factors along with rainfall and electricity connection. The coefficient of credit growth is significant and a little lower (.24) than the first column. Initial light is negatively significant demonstrating convergence among the districts consistent with the first chapter of this dissertation. Additionally, electricity connection is positive and significant showing that a high initial electricity connection in a district is positively associated with per capita light growth. Next, we regress the variable of interest along with only state dummies to explore the extent of light growth per capita has been explained by state characteristics. The credit growth coefficient falls to .091 but remain significant at 1%. The adjusted  $R^2$  jumps up to .49 from .085 (in column 1) as we include the state dummies. The fourth column of Table 3.5 presents the

Table 3.5: OLS Regression

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
VARIABLES	Light growth per capita	Light growth per capita	Light growth per capita	Light growth per capita
Credit growth per capita	0.254*** (0.040)	0.244*** (0.039)	0.091*** (0.035)	0.097*** (0.032)
Log per capita initial light		-0.025*** (0.003)		-0.019*** (0.003)
Log area		0.004 (0.004)		0.004 (0.004)
SC pop. share		0.030 (0.020)		-0.001 (0.028)
ST pop. share		-0.007 (0.011)		-0.008 (0.012)
Working pop. share		0.006 (0.033)		-0.031 (0.037)
Literate pop. share		0.033 (0.025)		0.063*** (0.024)
Share of higher educated		0.050 (0.064)		-0.005 (0.062)
Log rain/sqkm		-0.001 (0.003)		-0.003 (0.003)
Electricity connection		0.045*** (0.011)		0.028* (0.014)
State dummies	No	No	Yes	Yes
Constant	-0.018*** (0.005)	-0.255*** (0.082)	0.049*** (0.005)	-0.177** (0.089)
Observation	511	511	511	511
Adjusted $R^2$	0.085	0.234	0.497	0.558

Robust standard errors are given in the parenthesis.

\*\*\* shows  $p - value < .01$  , \*\* shows  $.01 < p - value < .05$  and \* shows  $.05 < p - value < .1$

broadest model specification including both district characteristics and state dummies. The coefficient of credit growth remains significant with a magnitude of .097 and a standard deviation .03. Initial light and electricity connection continues to show the same sign as column (2) although the magnitude of the coefficient drops with introduction of state dummies. Share of literate population becomes significant at 1% level in column (4).

### 3.5.2 First Stage Regressions

Next, we calculate predicted credit growth rate from equation 3.3 and present the relationship of such predicted growth and the actual credit growth in the districts. Table 3.6 shows the first stage regressions. The first column presents the uni-variate regression of original credit growth on the predicted credit growth. The coefficient with a magnitude of .74 shows strong positive association significant at 1% level. The second column includes the district characteristics whereas column (3) & (4) repeats the regression on column (1) & (2) respectively along with state dummies. The positive and significant relationship between predicted and original credit growth persists all through the models. The fourth column shows the highest magnitude of the coefficient at .949.

Having established a significant positive relationship between the instrument and the variable of interest, we turn to the first stage statistics for the validity of our instrument. Table 3.7 shows the 1st stage statistics from an uni variate regression when the endogeneous regressor credit growth per capita is instrumented by per capita predicted growth. Kleibergen-Paap F statistics is at 20.34 above the critical rule of thumb value of 10 validating our instrument. Cragg-Donald F statistics for

Table 3.6: First Stage Regression

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
VARIABLES	Credit growth per capita	Credit growth per capita	Credit growth per capita	Credit growth per capita
$Z_i$	0.744*** (0.165)	0.928*** (0.195)	0.660*** (0.181)	0.949*** (0.215)
Log per capita initial light		-0.002 (0.004)		0.005 (0.004)
Log area		0.008 (0.006)		0.002 (0.007)
SC pop. share		-0.034 (0.031)		-0.074* (0.040)
ST pop. share		0.040** (0.015)		-0.002 (0.022)
Working pop. share		0.012 (0.046)		-0.012 (0.044)
Literate pop. share		-0.024 (0.033)		-0.077* (0.045)
Share of higher educated		0.119 (0.112)		0.354** (0.159)
Log rain/sqkm		0.006 (0.005)		-0.001 (0.006)
Electricity connection		0.024* (0.013)		-0.004 (0.023)
State dummies	No	No	Yes	Yes
Constant	0.116*** (0.002)	-0.062 (0.107)	0.143*** (0.002)	0.138 (0.136)
Observation	511	511	511	511
Adjusted $R^2$	0.055	0.136	0.271	0.286

Robust standard errors are given in the parenthesis.

\*\*\* shows  $p - value < .01$  , \*\* shows  $.01 < p - value < .05$  and \* shows  $.05 < p - value < .1$



Table 3.7: First Stage Statistics for the Uni-variate Regression

Underidentification test (Kleibergen-Paap rk LM statistic):	12.936
Chi-sq(1) P-val =	0.0003
Weak identification test (Cragg-Donald Wald F statistic):	30.551
(Kleibergen-Paap rk Wald F statistic):	20.340
Stock-Yogo weak ID test critical values: 10% maximal IV size :	16.38
Instrumented:	Per capita credit growth
Excluded instruments:	$Z_i^S$

the weak identification test is 18.925, above the Stock and Yogo (2005) critical value (16.38) of 10 % maximal IV size. Consequently, we can reject the null hypothesis of weak identification. Also, the Kleibergen -Paap rk LM statistics has a p-value less than .05 implying that the statistics is significant and we reject the null hypothesis that the model is unidentified.

### 3.5.3 IV Regressions

Next, we turn to the IV regression. Table 3.8 presents the results for the reduced form regression of per capita light growth on the instrument. The first column shows the uni-variate regression without any control. The coefficient is negative at a magnitude of .09 and standard deviation of .17 but it fails to be statistically significant. As we have mentioned earlier, the first stage F-state for the univariate regression is at 20.34, validating the instrument. The effect of predicted credit supply shock becomes positive in column (2) when we introduce district specific characteristics. The magnitude of the coefficient falls to .07 and still is not statistically significant. Similar to our OLS regression in table 3.5, the logarithm of initial per capita light is negatively significant and electricity connection has positive and significant association with light growth. The F-stat in column (2) is 22.60 which is higher than the

Table 3.8: IV Regression

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
VARIABLES	Light growth per capita	Light growth per capita	Light growth per capita	Light growth per capita
$Z_i^S$	-0.093 (0.175)	0.073 (0.138)	-0.061 (0.186)	0.022 (0.129)
Log per capita initial light		-0.025*** (0.003)		-0.018*** (0.003)
Log area		0.005 (0.004)		0.004 (0.004)
SC pop. share		0.026 (0.021)		-0.005 (0.027)
ST pop. share		-0.002 (0.012)		-0.007 (0.012)
Working pop. share		0.012 (0.035)		-0.031 (0.035)
Literate pop. share		0.037 (0.025)		0.061*** (0.023)
Share of higher educated		0.041 (0.066)		0.006 (0.060)
Log rain/sqkm		0.000 (0.004)		-0.003 (0.003)
Electricity connection		0.050*** (0.012)		0.027* (0.014)
State dummies	No	No	Yes	Yes
Constant	0.022 (0.021)	-0.274*** (0.082)	0.069*** (0.025)	-0.168* (0.090)
Observation	511	511	511	511
Adjusted $R^2$	-0.077	0.197	0.474	0.552
First stage F	20.340	22.607	13.235	19.433

Note that  $Z_i^S$  is the predicted credit supply growth in equation 3.3

Robust standard errors are given in the parenthesis.

\*\*\* shows  $p - value < .01$  , \*\* shows  $.01 < p - value < .05$  and \* shows  $.05 < p - value < .1$

rule of thumb 10, demonstrating the validation of our instrument. Column (3) shows the regression with only state dummies. The coefficient of the instrument is negative and insignificant but the  $R^2$  increases to .47 validating our earlier claim that state fixed effects play a major role in explaining the light growth in the districts. The fourth column shows the broadest regression taking into account district characteristics along with state dummies. The coefficient of the predicted credit shock is low at .02. The coefficient fails to be statistically significant. The  $R^2$  in this specification is around .59 and the F-stat for the first stage rises to 22.61.

It is interesting to note that the coefficients of our instrument for all the model specifications are very close to zero and fail to be statistically significant. This result implies that the positive impact of credit growth on economy mainly derives from the demand side. When we separate out the growth in supply of credit, we fail to establish any significant impact. Our result is in line with [Greenstone et al. \[2014\]](#) in saying that in normal times (except for a financial crisis), credit supply channel fails to become an important determinant of economic activity.

### 3.5.4 Excluding Personal Loan

So far we have explored the relationship between growth in total credit and economic activity represented by night time light. While there is heterogeneity in sectoral share in credit, on average a substantial percentage (17 %) of total credit is originated as ‘personal loan’. Moreover, the average growth rate in such loan is as high as 16.7 % (see figure 3.5). Personal loan may impact economic activity by enhancing consumption and investment and reducing the credit constraint of households. In this section, we repeat the same exercise from previous sections eliminating personal

Table 3.9: OLS Regression excluding Personal Loan

VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Light growth per capita	Light growth per capita	Light growth per capita	Light growth per capita
Credit growth per capita	0.168*** (0.036)	0.193*** (0.032)	0.086*** (0.029)	0.093*** (0.025)
Log per capita initial light		-0.026*** (0.003)		-0.019*** (0.003)
Log area		0.005 (0.004)		0.004 (0.004)
SC pop. share		0.025 (0.021)		-0.002 (0.028)
ST pop. share		0.003 (0.011)		-0.007 (0.012)
Working pop. share		0.002 (0.034)		-0.031 (0.037)
Literate pop. share		0.040 (0.025)		0.063*** (0.024)
Share of higher educated		0.039 (0.065)		-0.001 (0.063)
Log rain/sqkm		0.001 (0.004)		-0.003 (0.003)
Electricity connection		0.049*** (0.012)		0.026* (0.014)
State dummies	No	No	Yes	Yes
Constant	-0.006 (0.004)	-0.281*** (0.083)	0.053*** (0.003)	-0.176** (0.088)
Observation	511	511	511	511
Adjusted $R^2$	0.044	0.219	0.499	0.560

Note that the dependent variable credit growth rate per capita does not include personal loan

Robust standard errors are given in the parenthesis.

\*\*\* shows  $p - value < .01$  , \*\* shows  $.01 < p - value < .05$  and \* shows  $.05 < p - value < .1$

loan from our data in an attempt to explore the effect of lending shock that is not associated with such personal consumption or investment.

Table 3.9 shows the OLS regression after dropping personal loan. The coefficient of the uni-variate regression falls from .23 to .16 but remains significant at 1% level when we eliminate personal loan. When we control for socio- economic and geographic factors in column (2), the association between credit growth and economic growth increases to .19. Inclusion of state dummies in column (3) and (4) reduces the coefficient to around .08 and .09 respectively. Similar to the previous case, literate population and share of household with electricity connection is positively associated with light growth whereas the initial light has a significant negative coefficient in the fourth column. Additionally, the  $R^2$  shows that the credit growth along with district characteristics and state dummies can explain 60 percent of the growth in satellite night light.

In Table 3.10 we present the 1st stage regression excluding personal loans. The coefficient of predicted growth on actual credit growth remains positive significant. In column 1, the uni-variate regression shows a percent increase in predicted growth is associate with a .63 % growth in actual credit growth. The coefficient goes down to .56 % when we include district specific characteristics. In column 3, as we include state dummies, the coefficient goes further down to .37 and becomes level of significance goes up to 10 %. When we include both state dummies and district characters, the association between predicted and actual credit growth is positive at a magnitude of .65 and significant at 5%. Further, we look at the first stage statistics derived from the uni-variate regression presented in Table 3.11. The test

Table 3.10: First Stage Regression excluding Personal Loan

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
VARIABLES	Credit growth per capita	Credit growth per capita	Credit growth per capita	Credit growth per capita
$Z_i^S$ (No personal loan)	0.635*** (0.196)	0.561** (0.230)	0.370* (0.217)	0.654** (0.265)
Log per capita initial light		0.002 (0.004)		0.006 (0.005)
Log area		0.005 (0.007)		0.001 (0.008)
SC pop. share		-0.009 (0.036)		-0.063 (0.047)
ST pop. share		-0.010 (0.019)		-0.002 (0.025)
Working pop. share		0.050 (0.056)		-0.018 (0.057)
Literate pop. share		-0.029 (0.038)		-0.052 (0.051)
Share of higher educated		0.095 (0.133)		0.266 (0.186)
Log rain/sqkm		0.001 (0.006)		-0.003 (0.007)
Electricity connection		0.014 (0.016)		0.003 (0.028)
State dummies	No	No	Yes	Yes
Constant	0.103*** (0.002)	-0.015 (0.130)	0.096*** (0.003)	0.107 (0.164)
Observation	511	511	511	511
Adjusted $R^2$	0.031	0.035	0.188	0.191

Robust standard errors are given in the parenthesis.

\*\*\* shows  $p - value < .01$  , \*\* shows  $.01 < p - value < .05$  and \* shows  $.05 < p - value < .1$

Table 3.11: First Stage Statistics for the Uni-variate Regression excluding Personal Loan

Underidentification test (Kleibergen-Paap rk LM statistic):	7.655
Chi-sq(1) P-val =	0.0057
Weak identification test (Cragg-Donald Wald F statistic):	17.467
(Kleibergen-Paap rk Wald F statistic):	10.518
Stock-Yogo weak ID test critical values: 10% maximal IV size :	16.38
Instrumented:	Per capita credit growth
Excluded instruments:	$Z_i^S$ (No personal loan)

statistics under-identification and weak identification test are still significant rejecting the null hypothesis of both under-identification and weak- identification. The Kleibergen-Paap rk Wald F-statistics is at 10.518, above the critical value of 10.

Next, we present the corresponding IV regression in Table 3.12. The instrument  $Z_i^S$  is the predicted credit growth excluding the personal loan component. The first column of Table 3.12 shows the uni-variate regression of Light growth on the predicted credit growth. Contrary to our baseline result, we find significant negative coefficient. Although, the first stage F statistics is at 10.52 which is just above the critical rule of thumb for a valid instrument. As we include district specific characteristics in the model, the coefficient of the predicted credit growth loses statistical significance. Additionally the First stage F - statistics fall to 5.94 undermining the validity of our instrument. We find similar result repeating the model in column (1) & (2) including state dummies. Column (4) shows the regression including all the control variables and state dummies. The coefficient of predicted credit growth is very low at .01 and fail to be significant. The first stage F- statistics is at around 6 and the  $R^2$  leaps up to .25.

Table 3.12: IV Regression excluding Personal Loan

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
VARIABLES	Light growth per capita	Light growth per capita	Light growth per capita	Light growth per capita
$Z_i^S$ (No personal loan)	-0.508* (0.304)	-0.237 (0.294)	-0.225 (0.373)	0.010 (0.200)
Log per capita initial light		-0.025*** (0.004)		-0.018*** (0.003)
Log area		0.007 (0.005)		0.004 (0.004)
SC pop. share		0.024 (0.025)		-0.006 (0.028)
ST pop. share		-0.004 (0.014)		-0.007 (0.012)
Working pop. share		0.030 (0.048)		-0.031 (0.035)
Literate pop. share		0.036 (0.029)		0.061** (0.024)
Share of higher educated		0.036 (0.084)		0.008 (0.062)
Log rain/sqkm		0.000 (0.004)		-0.003 (0.003)
Electricity connection		0.055*** (0.013)		0.026* (0.014)
State dummies	No	No	Yes	Yes
Constant	0.063** (0.032)	-0.282*** (0.094)	0.081** (0.034)	-0.167* (0.095)
Observation	511	511	511	511
Adjusted $R^2$	-0.701	-0.079	0.369	0.550
First stage F stat	10.518	5.945	2.901	6.099

Note that  $Z_i^S$  is the predicted credit supply growth in equation 3.3 dropping personal loan

Robust standard errors are given in the parenthesis.

\*\*\* shows  $p - value < .01$  , \*\* shows  $.01 < p - value < .05$  and \* shows  $.05 < p - value < .1$



The instrumental variable regressions excluding personal loan fail to establish a significant relationship between credit supply growth and growth in economic activity. Unlike the previous section, the instrument fails to be valid except for the uni-variate regression. Even when it is valid, the coefficient of the instrument is showing an adverse sign at 10% level of significance.

### **3.6 Conclusion**

Our investigation of the effect of credit supply shock on growth of economic activity has three fold results. First, we find a strong association between credit growth and economic growth using ordinary least square regression. An 1% increase in credit is associated with a .1% growth in satellite night light, a measure of economic activity. Second, we use a shift share approach to estimate predicted growth to isolate the supply shock in credit from the district specific demand shocks. There is a strong association between the predicted credit shock and the actual credit shock. Lastly, we fail to find an association between predicted credit supply shock and economic growth. We repeated the whole process dropping personal loans to find similar results.

# Chapter 4

## Measuring the Effect of Misallocation on Productivity in Indian Manufacturing: A Gross Output Approach

### 4.1 Introduction

According to World Bank data, the per capita income of US was 34 times higher than that of India in 2013. Explaining such differences is one of the fundamental problems in growth economics. [Klenow and Rodriguez-Clare \[1997\]](#), and [Hall and Jones \[1999\]](#) demonstrated the disparity in Total Factor Productivity (TFP) as the primary source behind cross country income differences. Another debate in this area is about the source of TFP differences among rich and poor nations. [Banerjee and Duflo \[2005\]](#), [Restuccia and Rogerson \[2008\]](#), and [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#) argued that in poor countries, some of the TFP differences are generated from misallocation of resources across firms. In this chapter, we follow the aforementioned notion that resource misallocation is a primary source of variation in TFP. We include intermediate inputs such as raw material, energy and services in the model given by [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#) to obtain the extent of misallocation that originates from factor market distortions in a developing country like India.

There are two known approaches in measuring firm's output – Value Added and Gross Output. The former excludes intermediate inputs, whereas the latter includes them. While measuring physical TFP, one can adopt either of the two approaches.

The difference between the two measures of TFP is more pronounced at the firm or industry level rather than in aggregate output. [van der Wiel \[1999\]](#), [Gullickson and Harper \[1999\]](#), [Hulten \[2001\]](#), and [Cobbold \[2003\]](#) have demonstrated the benefits of gross output approach over that of value added. The productivity manual published by [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development \[2001\]](#) concludes that the gross output approach is more appropriate for productivity measurement because it reduces productivity measurement bias. Based on these findings we extend the Hsieh Klenow model to measure productivity using gross output approach by including raw materials, energy, and service sector intermediate input as factors of production. The inclusion of these factors separately into production process enables us to give a more detailed representation of factor misallocation.

TFP, being a residual in the production process, is not observed directly. It is difficult to measure firm-level TFP as the unit of production varies across the firms. Therefore, we measure the variation in Total Factor Revenue Productivity (TFPR), which by definition is the product of output price and physical TFP of a firm. In the absence of any factor market misallocation, TFPR should be equalized for all firms within an industry. The intuition behind this claim is as follows: if a firm has high TFP, the marginal cost as well as the price for that firm will be proportionally lower compared to a low TFP firm in a particular industry, thus equalizing the TFPR. We use this intuition given by [Restuccia and Rogerson \[2008\]](#), and [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#) to build our empirical results by using data from both formal and informal manufacturing sector firms in India for the year 2005-06. In such a developing country, the informal sector plays an extensive role in shaping the

economy. The informal manufacturing sector in India consists of around 17 million firms that provide 82 percent of total employment in that sector. Hence, it seems rather appropriate to include informal sector data for our empirical analysis.

Our work has the closest resemblance to that of [Chatterjee \[2011\]](#). To the best of our knowledge, this is the only available work which also uses gross output approach in measuring TFPR, and also considers informal firms for India. We extend her work by including the service sector inputs and the energy inputs in the model separately. In India, the cost share of service inputs is around 12 percent and that of energy is around 9 percent for the formal manufacturing sector. Exclusion of these factor inputs might lead to misleading measurements of output and productivity. We also include distortion in energy and that in service sector to verify whether some of the variation in firm-level TFPR is attributed to these factors. We find that there is very little variation in TFPR due to energy input distortion. The service inputs misallocation is more pronounced in the dispersion of TFPR.

Furthermore, we decompose factor market distortions by considering each factor input distortion separately. This exercise facilitates us in distinguishing the level of misallocation in each factor market and to identify corresponding potential gain from reallocation. We find that the distortion in the output market and raw material market explains the lion's share of the variation in TFPR. Our result is in line with that of [Chatterjee \[2011\]](#), however, we find the variances of factor distortions to be larger than that in her result. Another interesting result is that the distortions when taken from several factor markets together, reduces the variation in TFPR. This surprising result is the subject of further research.

## 4.2 Related Works

Our work is related to a large body of literature that has accumulated through the last few decades. [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#) argue that in a monopolistically competitive framework, misallocation of the factor markets can result in a large difference in TFP as well as output among the firms within an industry. For example, a capital market distortion caused by the disparity in access to cheap credit will result in differences in the marginal product of capital among firms. Hsieh and Klenow argued that in such a situation, the aggregate economy will be better off by allocating more capital to the firm with the higher marginal product of capital. Using firm-level data from India and China, they calculated the TFP gain from the reallocation of capital, equalizing TFPR within the industry, to be 30 to 50 percent in China and 40 to 60 percent in India. We follow the same intuition in our work. We include raw materials, energy, and service sector inputs as factors of production and find the effect of distortion in all those inputs on firm level TFPR. Our goal is to find the empirical measurement of distortion in individual factor markets on aggregate TFPR.

[Restuccia and Rogerson \[2008\]](#) demonstrates the effect of factor distortion on TFP. They state that the different taxes and policies in firms create disparity in prices and lead to 30 to 50 percent decrease in output and TFP in developing countries. [Midrigan and Xu \[2010\]](#) argues that the financial frictions cause variation in TFP across firms through two channels. In particular, financial friction distorts entry decisions and technological adoption of the producers. Furthermore, it creates disparity in return to capital among the producers. [Fernald and Neiman \[2010\]](#) deviated from standard set up of monopolistic competition to show that in a two-sector

economy with heterogeneous financial policies and monopoly power, there will be a divergence between TFP, measured in terms of quantity and that in terms of real factor prices.

There is a body of literature based on Hsieh and Klenow framework. [Camacho and Conover \[2010\]](#) used Hsieh and Klenow methodology to measure the productivity differences through misallocation in resources for Colombian industries. Taking USA as the benchmark economy, they found a wide TFPR distribution for Colombia, that implies large resource misallocation across firms. They also calculated the reallocation of labor and capital among firms would have improved aggregate TFP by 47 to 55 percent. Another paper by [Kalemli-Ozcan and Sørensen \[2014\]](#) measures the TFP dispersion through capital misallocation for 10 African countries using the World Bank enterprise survey data. They argued that access to finance as one of the main source of substantial capital misallocation. Dias, [Dias et al. \[2014\]](#) extends Hsieh-Klenow model to include intermediate input and measure TFP disparity taking firm-level data from Portugal. They consider data from all the sectors of the economy. Consequently, the endogeneous intermediate input in their model takes into account goods produced by all the sectors. In India it is rather difficult to find firm level data for sectors other than manufacturing, thus we take aggregate input produced by other sectors as exogenously given in our model. Dias et al. found huge misallocation across industries. According to them, in the absence of misallocation within industries, there would have been a 48 to 79 percent gain in value added output during 1996 to 2011.

The most closely related work to our research is the paper by [Chatterjee \[2011\]](#), which tries to extend Hsieh-Klenow framework for both formal and informal manufacturing sector of India. Chatterjee also included intermediate input market distortion in the model as a source of variation in TFP. She assumes that the economy has an intermediate input aggregated from a fraction of the total production by each existing firm. the data is taken from ASI for formal firms and NSSO for informal sector firms, similar to that of our case. As both of these surveys primarily focus on manufacturing sector firms, the aggregated intermediate input produced from these firms will take into account only manufacturing sector products. In consequence, she ignores inputs from other sectors such as energy and services in her model. However, we consider an aggregated energy and service inputs to be exogenously given in our model apart from the combined raw material produced by the existing firms. In the next section, we extend the model of Hsieh and Klenow to measure the degree of misallocation in the economy.

The rest of this chapter is organized as follows: we present a theoretical model to show how TFPR is affected by firm level distortion in [Section 4.3](#). The data is described in [Section 4.4](#). We analyze our empirical results and decomposition of the variance of TFPR in [Section 4.5](#). In [Section 4.6](#), we construe some relationship between firm size and misallocation in factor markets. We conclude in [Section 4.7](#).

### 4.3 Model

We consider a static one period model without uncertainty, used by [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#). We assume that the economy consists of  $J$  manufacturing industries indexed as  $j = 1, 2, \dots, J$ . Each industry consists of  $N_j$  monopolistically competitive firms

indexed as  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N_j$ . Each firm produces differentiated product, and thus has substantial market power. The firms have heterogeneous productivity  $A_{ij}$  exogenously given, and an endowment of capital  $K_{ij}$ , labor  $L_{ij}$ , raw material  $M_{ij}$ , energy  $E_{ij}$ , and service sector input  $Z_{ij}$ . Firms combine the factors together to produce a good with a Cobb-Douglas production function. The firm's production function is as follows

$$Y_{ij} = A_{ij} K_{ij}^{\alpha_{Kj}} L_{ij}^{\alpha_{Lj}} M_{ij}^{\alpha_{Mj}} E_{ij}^{\alpha_{Ej}} Z_{ij}^{\alpha_{Zj}},$$

where  $\sum_S \alpha_{Sj} = 1$  and  $S \in \{K, L, M, E, Z\}$ .

We consider only manufacturing sector firms in the model because we could find data only for manufacturing sector in India for our empirical analysis. For the simplicity of the model, we assume that all raw materials coming from the manufacturing sector are aggregated in a single raw material M, whereas all energy inputs and service sector inputs are aggregated in factor inputs E and Z respectively. We consider M as endogenously determined whereas energy and service sector inputs along with capital and labor are exogenously given in our model.

Here, we deviate from the work of [Chatterjee \[2011\]](#), which considers one intermediate input M, has been aggregated combining fractions of production from each existing firms. As she also studies only the manufacturing firms, this endogeneity assumption implies that the sole intermediate good regarded in her model consists only of manufacturing products, thereby ignoring any other sector. On the contrary, we consider an interdependent structure of different sectors of the economy. There are other sectors that produce energy and services which are used as intermediate



inputs in production process of manufacturing firms. These sectors also use manufacturing goods as intermediate inputs in their production. Those intermediate inputs produced by manufacturing firms that are used in other sectors is considered as a part of consumption good in our model. We assume that all firms in an industry have same cost share of factor inputs  $\alpha_{sj}$ , but there is variation in factor shares between the industries.

In this chapter, we measure the misallocation in resources that affect firm level TFPR. Distortion in an input or output market does not always uniformly increase (or, decrease) the marginal product of the factors of production (MPF) for all firms. As firms equalize price with the marginal product of factor inputs, a firm facing taxes will have higher MPF for service inputs than the firms facing subsidies. The intuition behind the entire literature based on Hsieh and Klenow (2009) originates from the hypothesis that the aggregate productivity will be larger if the factors can be reallocated from lower MPF firms to that of higher MPF firms.

We assume several kinds of factor market distortions in our model. Some elements that change MPF for all inputs by the same proportion are denoted as output distortion ( $\tau_{Yij}$ ). tax on output of a firm affects all the inputs proportionally, thus can be identified as an example of output distortion. Moreover, if the distortion creates a discrepancy in only the marginal product of capital, we call it capital distortion ( $\tau_{Kij}$ ) in accordance with Hsieh and Klenow. Similar remarks hold for raw material distortion ( $\tau_{Mij}$ ), energy distortion ( $\tau_{Eij}$ ) and service sector input distortion ( $\tau_{Zij}$ ). For an instance, price differentiation in the electricity between small and large businesses is perceived as energy distortion as it affects only the marginal prod-

uct of energy. It is to be noted that we do not consider labor distortion separately, but that every other distortion affects the respective MPF, relative to the marginal productivity of labor.

Each firm produces a single good  $Y_{ij}$  that is to be used both as final consumption good and as intermediate raw materials.  $C_{ij}$  and  $X_{ij}$  denote the final consumption good and intermediate raw material respectively, that are produced by the  $i^{th}$  firm from the  $j^{th}$  industry.

Firms face a downward sloping demand schedule that resulted from the assumption of differentiated product environment in a monopolistically competitive market. So, the industry's final good appears to be a CES aggregation of all firm's final goods represented as,

$$Y_j = \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} Y_{ij}^{\frac{\rho-1}{\rho}} \right)^{\frac{\rho}{\rho-1}}$$

where  $\rho > 1$  is the elasticity of substitution. For simplicity, we assume elasticity of substitution is the same over all industries. This assumption follows from the literature. Each industry's output is sold as consumption good  $C_j$  and intermediate raw material  $X_j$  as was the case with firm level output.

We further assume that the market of consumption good and raw material, produced by each industry, is perfectly competitive. So, the final consumption good is aggregated from industry level consumption good by a Cobb-Douglas production function.

$$C = \prod_{j=1}^J C_j^{\theta_j}, \text{ where } \sum_{j=1}^J \theta_j = 1$$

The intermediate raw material is produced endogenously by aggregating each industries' production of raw material, again using a Cobb-Douglas production function as follows.

$$M = \prod_{j=1}^J X_j^{\lambda_j}, \text{ where } \sum_{j=1}^J \lambda_j = 1$$

In the above two equations,  $\theta_j$  and  $\lambda_j$  are the factor shares of each industry in total consumption and total intermediate raw material production respectively. Each firm chooses intermediate raw material from the aggregated  $M$  according to their productivity.

The aggregate quantity of other inputs such as energy  $E$  and services  $Z$  are exogenous in our model. Given that, each firm chooses the optimal amount  $E_{ij}$  and  $Z_{ij}$  based on its production function. The industry aggregates  $E_j$  and  $Z_j$  are given by the sum over each firm's usage in that industry.

Now, we try to solve the model for optimal factor resources and output by maximizing profit for firm, industry, and economy. We assume that the total factor resources are limited in the manufacturing sector by the aggregate usage of the firms in the sector. For each  $S \in \{K, L, M, E, Z\}$ , we write the aggregate factor resources

as in the following equation:

$$S = \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} S_{ij}$$

Next, we solve for the equilibrium to identify the effects of distortion on productivity.

### 4.3.1 Equilibrium Analysis

In this section, we present a comprehensive equilibrium structure for the firms, the industries, and the economy. The equilibrium consists of the quantities of the consumption good and the intermediate raw material produced at the firm, industry, and the aggregate economy level. It also takes into account the optimal amount of capital, labor, raw material, energy, and services, which are used by each firm. The input markets and final good markets clear at equilibrium. We now solve the optimization problems for each market.

- **Final Good Problem:**

We assume a representative firm produces a final good  $Y$  that is used in consumption  $C$  and in raw material  $M$  for further production.  $C$  is produced using the consumption goods  $C_j$  produced by the industries. We assume  $C$  to be a numeraire commodity with unit price  $P$ . Likewise,  $P_j$  represents the price for industry output  $Y_j$ . We do not distinguish between price of final good  $C_j$  and raw material  $X_j$ , produced by each industry, on the assumption that both are fractions of the same good, and are subjected to same cost and market structure. So, the optimization problem for the final consumption good is given by

$$\max_{C_j} PC - \sum_{j=1}^J P_j C_j \quad (4.1)$$

subject to

$$C = \prod_{j=1}^J C_j^{\theta_j} \quad (4.2)$$

- **Intermediate Raw Material Problem:**

The fraction of the good produced by the representative firm, that used as the intermediate raw material, is produced using raw materials produced by each industry. Price of the aggregated intermediate raw material  $M$  is given by  $p_m$ . The representative firm optimizes the production of  $M$  as follows.

$$\max_{M_j} p_m M - \sum_{j=1}^J P_j X_j \quad (4.3)$$

subject to

$$M = \prod_{j=1}^J X_j^{\lambda_j} \quad (4.4)$$

we solve the final good's problem from equation 4.1 and 4.2 and the intermediate raw material's problem from equation 4.3 and 4.4 to find out the prices set by the

representative firms. We get the market clearing price of the final good as

$$P = \prod_{j=1}^J \left( \frac{P_j}{\theta_j} \right)^{\theta_j} = 1 \quad (4.5)$$

and the intermediate raw material's price as

$$p_m = \prod_{j=1}^J \left( \frac{P_j}{\lambda_j} \right)^{\lambda_j} \quad (4.6)$$

The second equality in equation 4.5 follows from our assumption that  $C$  is numeraire good. Both prices are functions of the industry price ( $P_j$ ) and the share of each industry in producing the same good ( $\theta_j$  and  $\lambda_j$ , respectively).

- **Industry's Problem:**

The final good produced by each industry  $Y_j$  is used as both final consumption good  $C_j$  and intermediate raw material  $X_j$ . We assume that  $C_j$  and  $X_j$  are fractions of the same good, and hence, faces the same optimization problem. Furthermore,  $C_{ij}$  and  $X_{ij}$  are fraction of firm's output  $Y_{ij}$ ; therefore, we assume that they are produced using the same production function, and that they also incur the same marginal cost. It is safe to assume that the firms charge the same price  $P_{ij}$  for both parts of their output. We represent the industry's problem as

$$\max_{Y_j} P_j Y_j - \sum_{j=1}^J P_{ij} Y_{ij} \quad (4.7)$$

subject to

$$Y_j = \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} Y_{ij}^{\frac{\rho-1}{\rho}} \right)^{\frac{\rho}{\rho-1}} \quad (4.8)$$

We get the market clearing industry price to be

$$P_s = \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} P_{ij}^{1-\rho} \right)^{1/(1-\rho)} \quad (4.9)$$

- **Firm's Problem:**

To allow for factor misallocation in the input and output markets, we consider several types of distortions. We assume that there exists an output distortion ( $\tau_{Yij}$ ) that affects marginal product of each factor of production by the same proportion. We also consider capital distortion ( $\tau_{Kij}$ ), raw material distortion ( $\tau_{Mij}$ ), energy distortion ( $\tau_{Eij}$ ), and service sector input distortion ( $\tau_{Zij}$ ) that affects marginal product of capital, raw material, energy, and service inputs respectively, relative to the marginal product of labor. Each firm solves the following profit maximization problem to choose optimal capital, labor, raw material, energy, and service inputs.

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{Y_{ij}} & P_{ij} Y_{ij} (1 - \tau_{Yij}) - w L_{ij} - r(1 + \tau_{Kij}) K_{ij} - p_m(1 + \tau_{Mij}) M_{ij} \\ & - p_e(1 + \tau_{Eij}) E_{ij} - p_z(1 + \tau_{Zij}) Z_{ij} \end{aligned} \quad (4.10)$$

subject to

$$Y_{ij} = A_{ij} K_{ij}^{\alpha_{Kj}} L_{ij}^{\alpha_{Lj}} M_{ij}^{\alpha_{Mj}} E_{ij}^{\alpha_{Ej}} Z_{ij}^{\alpha_{Zj}} \quad (4.11)$$

Solving firm  $i$ 's problem,

$$K_{ij}^* = \left( \frac{\rho - 1}{\rho} \right) \frac{\alpha_{Kj}(1 - \tau_{Yij})P_{ij}Y_{ij}}{(1 + \tau_{Kij})r} \quad (4.12a)$$

$$L_{ij}^* = \left( \frac{\rho - 1}{\rho} \right) \frac{\alpha_{Lj}(1 - \tau_{Yij})P_{ij}Y_{ij}}{w} \quad (4.12b)$$

$$M_{ij}^* = \left( \frac{\rho - 1}{\rho} \right) \frac{\alpha_{Mj}(1 - \tau_{Yij})P_{ij}Y_{ij}}{(1 + \tau_{Mij})p_m} \quad (4.12c)$$

$$E_{ij}^* = \left( \frac{\rho - 1}{\rho} \right) \frac{\alpha_{Ej}(1 - \tau_{Yij})P_{ij}Y_{ij}}{(1 + \tau_{Eij})p_e} \quad (4.12d)$$

$$Z_{ij}^* = \left( \frac{\rho - 1}{\rho} \right) \frac{\alpha_{Zj}(1 - \tau_{Yij})P_{ij}Y_{ij}}{(1 + \tau_{Zij})p_z} \quad (4.12e)$$

Optimal quantities of factor inputs contain both output distortion and distortion in their respective factor market. Combining the equations 4.12a–4.12e with firm's objective function in equation (4.10), we get the market clearing price for each firm to be

$$P_{ij} = \left( \frac{\rho - 1}{\rho} \right) \left( \frac{MC}{\epsilon} \right) \frac{(1 + \tau_{Kij})^{\alpha_{Kj}} (1 + \tau_{Mij})^{\alpha_{Mj}} (1 + \tau_{Eij})^{\alpha_{Ej}} (1 + \tau_{Zij})^{\alpha_{Zj}}}{(1 - \tau_{Yij})A_{ij}} \quad (4.13)$$



where

$$\epsilon = \prod_S \alpha_{Sj}^{\alpha_{Sj}}$$

$$MC = r^{\alpha_{Kj}} w^{\alpha_{Lj}} p_m^{\alpha_{Mj}} p_e^{\alpha_{Ej}} p_z^{\alpha_{Zj}}$$

Note that the firm level price in the expression 4.13 comprises of the marginal cost of production, mark up, distortions, and reciprocal of the firm level productivity. Given the assumptions that the firms in an industry have same factor shares and input costs, we can infer that in the absence of distortions, price of each firm in an industry would have been inversely proportional to the TFP of the firm. This inference goes in line with our conjecture that all firms in an industry will have same revenue productivity in the absence of any misallocation in factor resources.

Now, we define firm level total revenue productivity as  $TFPR_{ij} = P_{ij}A_{ij}$ . Solving  $TFPR_{ij}$  from equation 4.13

$$TFPR_{ij} = \frac{\rho}{\rho - 1} \frac{MC}{\epsilon} \frac{(1 + \tau_{Kij})^{\alpha_{Kij}} (1 + \tau_{Mij})^{\alpha_{Mij}} (1 + \tau_{Eij})^{\alpha_{Eij}} (1 + \tau_{Zij})^{\alpha_{Zij}}}{(1 - \tau_{Yij})} \quad (4.14)$$

Revenue productivity given by equation 4.14 is a measure of firm level distortion. Variation in  $TFPR_{ij}$  gives us the degree of misallocation in input and output markets. We build our empirical findings on this intuition, and try to measure the extent of variation in firm level revenue productivity in presence of distortions.

Now, we define marginal revenue products of factor inputs for an industry as the weighted average of value of firm level marginal revenue products, where the weight

is taken as share of the firm's output in the industry, as presented in the following equation:

$$MRPS_j = \frac{P_S}{\sum_{i=1}^{N_s} \frac{(1 - \tau_{Yij})P_{ij}Y_{ij}}{(1 + \tau_{Sij})P_jY_j}} \quad (4.15)$$

Note that  $S$  consists of all factor inputs such as K, L, M, E, and Z.  $P_S$  denotes the corresponding factor prices  $r$ ,  $w$ ,  $p_m$ ,  $p_e$ , and  $p_z$  respectively, and  $\tau_{Sij}$  indicate the corresponding factor distortions. Also note that we did not take labor distortion implying  $\tau_{Lij}$  to be zero.

We define industry level total factor revenue productivity ( $TFPR_j$ ) to be proportional to geometric average of the average marginal revenue products of factor inputs in the industry (given in equation 4.15).

$$TFPR_j = \frac{\rho}{\rho - 1} \frac{MC}{\epsilon} \left[ \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^{N_j} \frac{(1 - \tau_{Yij})P_{ij}Y_{ij}}{(1 + \tau_{Kij})P_jY_j}} \right]^{\alpha_{Kj}} \left[ \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^{N_j} \frac{(1 - \tau_{Yij})P_{ij}Y_{ij}}{P_jY_j}} \right]^{\alpha_{Lj}} \left[ \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^{N_j} \frac{(1 - \tau_{Yij})P_{ij}Y_{ij}}{(1 + \tau_{Mij})P_jY_j}} \right]^{\alpha_{Mj}} \left[ \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^{N_j} \frac{(1 - \tau_{Yij})P_{ij}Y_{ij}}{(1 + \tau_{Eij})P_jY_j}} \right]^{\alpha_{Ej}} \left[ \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^{N_j} \frac{(1 - \tau_{Yij})P_{ij}Y_{ij}}{(1 + \tau_{Zij})P_jY_j}} \right]^{\alpha_{Zj}} \quad (4.16)$$

### 4.3.2 Allocation of Factors in Industry

We now solve for the allocation of factor resources for each industry. We aggregate factor resources used by all the firms in an industry using their marginal product to get the following:

$$S_j = \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} S_{ij} = S \frac{\alpha_{Sj} \theta_j / MRPS_j}{\sum_{j=1}^J \alpha_{Sj} \theta_j / MRPS_j} \quad (4.17)$$

Recall that  $S \in \{K, L, M, E, Z\}$  and  $S = \sum_{j=1}^J S_j$  are aggregate supplies of factor inputs in the economy. Also recall that  $\theta_j$  is the share of each industry in producing final consumption good. Note that factor accumulations of each industry is affected by factor distortions only through the corresponding marginal revenue products. This result is the consequence of the Cobb-Douglas aggregation in industry level. Combining the industry level factor inputs (4.17) and the revenue productivity (4.16), we can derive

$$P_j Y_j = TFP R_j K_j^{\alpha_{Kj}} L_j^{\alpha_{Lj}} M_j^{\alpha_{Mj}} E_j^{\alpha_{Ej}} Z_j^{\alpha_{Zj}} \quad (4.18)$$

Combining industry price  $P_j$  from (4.9) and firm's price  $P_{ij}$  from (4.13) together with firm level revenue productivity from (4.14), we can simplify

$$P_j = \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} \left( \frac{TFP R_{ij}}{A_{ij}} \right)^{(1-\rho)} \right] \frac{1}{1-\rho} \quad (4.19)$$

Equating (4.18) and (4.19), we get

$$Y_j = TFP_j K_j^{\alpha_{Kj}} L_j^{\alpha_{Lj}} M_j^{\alpha_{Mj}} E_j^{\alpha_{Ej}} Z_j^{\alpha_{Zj}} \quad (4.20)$$

where

$$TFP_j = \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} \left( \frac{A_{ij} TFP R_j}{TFP R_{ij}} \right)^{\rho-1} \right]^{\frac{1}{1-\rho}} \quad (4.21)$$

So, the total factor productivity of each firm is a function of firm level TFP, TFPR, and industry level revenue productivity. Now, we can write final consumption outcome of the economy as

$$C^* = \prod_{j=1}^J \left( TFP_j K_j^{\alpha_{Kj}} L_j^{\alpha_{Lj}} M_j^{\alpha_{Mj}} E_j^{\alpha_{Ej}} Z_j^{\alpha_{Zj}} \right)^{\theta_j} \quad (4.22)$$

And intermediate good of the economy will be

$$M^* = \prod_{j=1}^J \left( TFP_j K_j^{\alpha_{Kj}} L_j^{\alpha_{Lj}} M_j^{\alpha_{Mj}} E_j^{\alpha_{Ej}} Z_j^{\alpha_{Zj}} \right)^{\lambda_j} \quad (4.23)$$

Following [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#), we now assume that TFP ( $A_{ij}$ ) and revenue productivity ( $TFPR_{ij}$ ) are jointly log normally distributed to depict the effect of firm level distortion on productivity of an industry. By this assumption, logarithm

of firm level TFP can be expressed as

$$\log TFP_j = \frac{1}{1-\rho} \log \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} A_{ij}^{(\rho-1)} \right) - \frac{\rho}{2} \text{Var}(\log TFPR_{ij}) \quad (4.24)$$

Equation (4.21) shows that the factor distortions reduce overall productivity of an industry through the variance of firm level TFPR. On the basis of this finding, we will now proceed to show how the factor distortions are contributing to firm level TFPR variation. Note that we consider the number of firms are unaffected by factor market distortions. This assumption is elaborated in more detail in [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#).

## 4.4 Data

We use data for formal manufacturing sector from the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) collected by the Central Statistical Organization of India. ASI is the primary source of industrial statistics in India, referring to the factories defined in accordance with the Factories Act 1948. ASI data acts as an annual survey for formal manufacturing firms with more than fifty workers and a random one-third sample survey of firms with more than ten workers (with power) or more than twenty workers (without power). We use 62nd round of ASI data collected in the year of 2005-06.

We also take into account data for unorganized manufacturing sector collected by National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) of India for the year 2005-06. The NSSO collects firm level data for informal manufacturing sector in India every five years. The data set includes small manufacturing firms along with some service sector firms and some unincorporated proprietary firms. These firms are not registered

Table 4.1: Informal Firm Distribution		
No. of labor	No. of firm	Cumulative % of value added
1	31874	1.6
2	23734	4.4
3	9468	6.9
4	4685	9.1
5	2601	11.6
6	1948	17.8
7	1349	21.8
8	1054	26.0
9	732	31.0
10	648	37.0
10 to 20	1648	57.4
20 to 30	327	62.8
30 to 50	185	73.0
50 to 100	92	95.0
more then 100	61	100.0

under the Factories Act 1948, thus are not included in ASI data. We found that the data for informal sector consists of a large number of firms that uses one or two workers. These firms had missing value of most of the variables we take into consideration. Also, they contribute a very small percentage of the total value added.

Table 4.1 summarizes the distribution of informal firms and corresponding cumulative percentages of the contribution in the total value added, according to the number of employees. There are over thirty thousand one-employee-firms, which contributes only 1.6 percent of the total value added and almost none of them had data for labor and capital. In our analysis, we do not include such firms. We only consider the informal firms that uses at least six employees, and set the cut off to be six employees on the basis of a substantial market share of such firms. To keep the two data set comparable, we only consider the manufacturing industries from

Table 4.2: Distribution of Firms: ASI vs NSSO			
ASI Data		NSSO Data	
No. of employees	No. of firms	No. of employees	No. of firms
1 to 10	4663	6 to 10	3026
10 to 20	7683	10 to 20	1605
20 to 50	7272	20 to 50	432
50 to 100	3838	50 to 100	79
100-500	7695	100-500	31
500 and above	2254	500 and above	5

informal sector data that were covered by ASI in its formal counterpart.

Table 4.2 shows the distribution of firms in our analysis. There are around 31 thousand formal sector firms taken from ASI data whereas number of informal sector firms from NSSO data is around 5 thousand. For our analysis, we had to drop some observations from both sectors due to missing data. Formal firms consists of all sizes while informal firms are mostly small. To simplify our analysis, we use 2-digit industry level data developed by National Industrial Classification (NIC). We consider 23 different industries including food and beverage, hardware, wood, paper, printing, computer and machinery, and etc. (see table 4.3)

Hsieh and Klenow [2009] used value added method to measure productivity and distortion in capital and output. They did not incorporate raw material, service or energy inputs in the production function. We will first replicate their results using value added method, then extend the model to incorporate intermediate inputs as factors of production. This extension will lead us to adopt Gross Output Method instead. We use nominal revenue of the firm as our output variable.

Table 4.3: Factor Shares : India vs US

Industry	Capital		Labor		Raw Material		Energy		Service Input	
	<i>India</i>	<i>US</i>	<i>India</i>	<i>US</i>	<i>India</i>	<i>US</i>	<i>India</i>	<i>US</i>	<i>India</i>	<i>US</i>
Food & beverage	0.07	0.12	0.16	0.15	0.62	0.57	0.09	0.03	0.08	0.13
Tobacco	0.04	0.12	0.41	0.15	0.40	0.57	0.03	0.03	0.13	0.13
Textile	0.08	0.10	0.18	0.23	0.54	0.53	0.11	0.03	0.11	0.11
Wearing apparel	0.08	0.11	0.27	0.34	0.43	0.32	0.05	0.02	0.20	0.21
Leather	0.06	0.11	0.18	0.34	0.58	0.32	0.08	0.02	0.12	0.21
Wood & furniture	0.10	0.07	0.19	0.24	0.55	0.53	0.09	0.03	0.09	0.14
Paper	0.06	0.14	0.12	0.21	0.67	0.46	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.12
Publishing	0.08	0.05	0.21	0.32	0.52	0.39	0.05	0.02	0.15	0.23
Petroleum prod	0.05	0.28	0.11	0.03	0.67	0.67	0.57	0.01	0.11	0.01
Chemical	0.06	0.19	0.16	0.17	0.61	0.40	0.07	0.06	0.11	0.19
Rubber/plastic	0.06	0.13	0.12	0.22	0.65	0.49	0.10	0.02	0.09	0.14
Non-metal mineral	0.10	0.16	0.21	0.29	0.44	0.31	0.15	0.08	0.09	0.16
Basic metal	0.05	0.14	0.08	0.20	0.68	0.39	0.14	0.10	0.07	0.17
Fabricated metal	0.07	0.14	0.18	0.31	0.59	0.37	0.08	0.02	0.11	0.17
Machinery/equip	0.05	0.11	0.17	0.28	0.61	0.45	0.05	0.01	0.14	0.15
computing machine	0.06	0.17	0.17	0.37	0.60	0.24	0.03	0.01	0.14	0.20
Electric machine	0.06	0.11	0.14	0.27	0.67	0.47	0.05	0.01	0.10	0.14
Communication machine	0.06	0.11	0.19	0.27	0.61	0.47	0.04	0.01	0.12	0.14
Medical instrument	0.05	0.17	0.20	0.33	0.55	0.31	0.05	0.01	0.16	0.18
Motor vehicle	0.05	0.10	0.17	0.25	0.59	0.51	0.06	0.01	0.13	0.14
Transport equipment	0.06	0.10	0.15	0.25	0.63	0.51	0.06	0.01	0.12	0.14
Furniture	0.11	0.11	0.22	0.31	0.56	0.40	0.06	0.01	0.10	0.17
Recycling	0.10	0.17	0.17	0.33	0.54	0.31	0.10	0.01	0.11	0.18



The variables, other than firm's revenue, that we use for our analysis are firm's industry (2-digit NIC), labor compensation, net book value of fixed capital stock, rent on capital, intermediate input costs, fuel and energy costs. We assume that the service input cost is same as the residual cost. We use the labor compensation including wages, bonuses and benefits to be a proxy for labor input. Capital is measured by the average of net book value of capital at the beginning and the end of the year. We deviate from [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#), [Chatterjee \[2011\]](#) as well as other previous researches, based on the measurement of the rental cost for capital. All other literature in this field have taken an exogenous percentage of capital to be the rental cost, whereas, we measure the same by variables such as rent for machinery, building, land, interest paid on loan, and etc, which have been taken from the ASI data for formal sector. For informal firms though, the NSSO data does not explicitly provide the rent of capital. We measured rental cost from the residual of value added after subtracting total labor cost. The costs of raw materials, and energy are calculated explicitly from the cost of inputs of production. Service input costs consist of transport and communication, insurance charges, license cost, and other operative expenses.

The elasticity of substitution ( $\rho$ ) is assumed to be constant in our model. Based on the previous literature in this field, we take the value of  $\rho$  to be equal to 3. In most part of our empirical analysis, we will use US factor shares for corresponding industries as a benchmark to identify the effect of distortion on productivity. We took the factor share data for US industries from Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) governed by US Department of Commerce.

## 4.5 Empirical Analysis

Our identification strategy is similar to that of [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#) and [Chatterjee \[2011\]](#). We establish our identification of distortions based on the rationale that in absence of distortion, revenue factor shares of output will be proportional to the parameters  $\alpha_{Kj}, \alpha_{Lj}, \alpha_{Mj}, \alpha_{Ej}$ , and  $\alpha_{Zj}$  in a market with monopolistic competition. As we assume distortion in factor markets, the revenue shares will give a biased estimation of the parameters. We can validate this from the first order conditions of the firms.

$$fs_j = \frac{\rho}{\rho - 1} \frac{p_f S_{ij} (1 + \tau_{S_{ij}})}{P_{ij} Y_{ij} (1 - \tau_{Y_{ij}})} \quad (4.25)$$

where  $fs_j = \{\alpha_{Kj}, \alpha_{Lj}, \alpha_{Mj}, \alpha_{Ej}, \alpha_{Zj}\}$  and  $p_f = \{r, w, p_m, p_e, p_z\}$ . Also recall that  $S$  consists of all factor inputs and  $\tau_{S_{ij}}$  denotes corresponding distortions.

In presence of distortions, we cannot identify the misallocation in resources separately from the bias in the parameters. Following [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#), we take into account US factor shares for our analysis. The strategy is based on the assumption that US factor market is less distorted than that in India and the technology used in the industries are same for both the countries. A more detailed discussion on the assumptions are presented in [Chatterjee \[2011\]](#). Factor shares for both countries, described in Table 4.3, represent the average of the cost share for each factor in each industry.

Figure 4.1 illustrates the bias in the factor share in Indian industries with respect to US as a benchmark. Any deviation from the 45 degree line shows misallocation

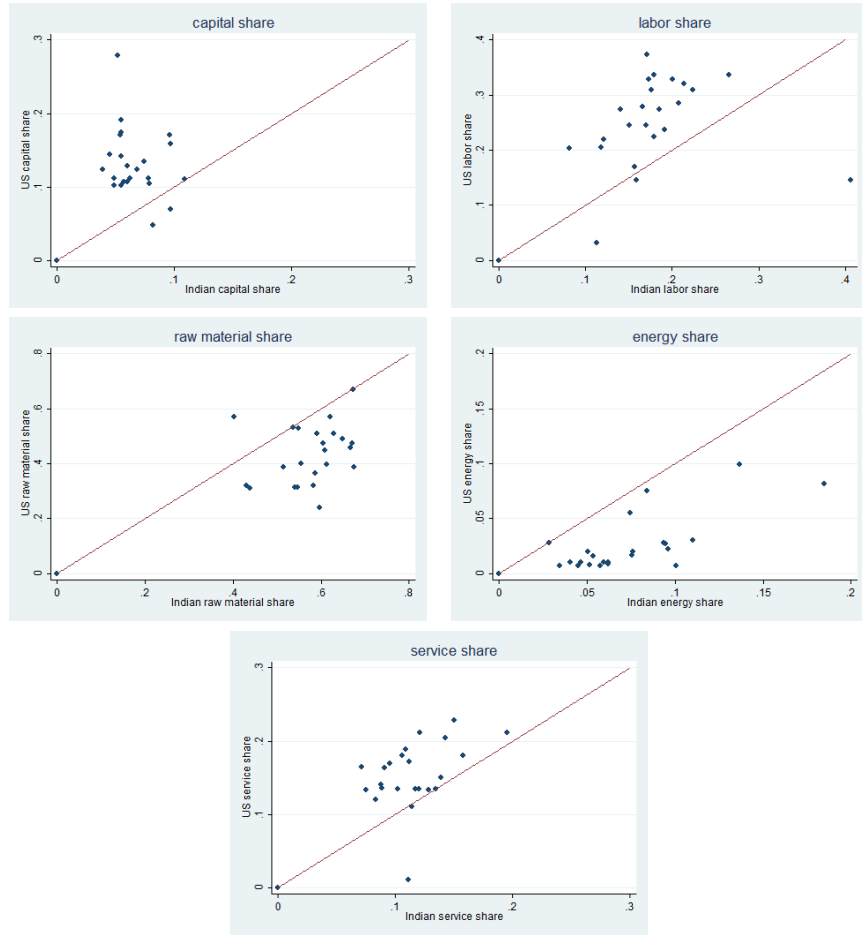


Figure 4.1: Factor share for US and India

in the corresponding factor markets in India. We found a similar pattern in capital, labor and raw material shares presented in [Chatterjee \[2011\]](#). It is evident from the diagram that cost shares of capital labor and service input are significantly higher in US than India, whereas share of raw material and energy are higher in the latter.

Next, we would like to see within industry variation in average revenue per worker which is measured by average revenue productivity of labor. Figure 4.2 illustrates

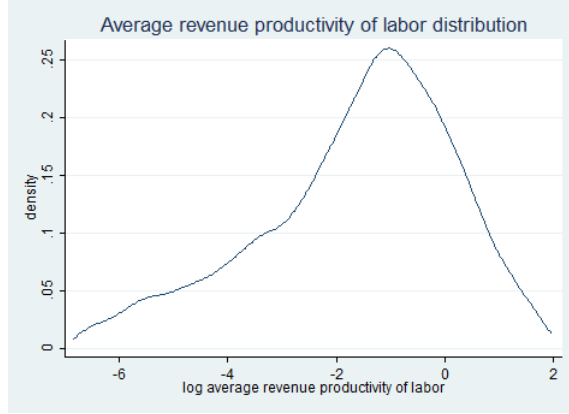


Figure 4.2: Logarithm of ARPL Distribution

the distribution of logarithm of firm's Average Revenue Product of Labor (ARPL) deviated from industry mean,  $\log(ARPL_{ij}/ARPL_j)$ . We trim 1 percentile from both end to avoid outliers. The horizontal axis is showing  $\log(ARPL_{ij}/ARPL_j)$ , whereas vertical axes measures the density of the firms. There is a substantial variation in average revenue product of labor within industry. The variance is measured as 3.76.

#### 4.5.1 Value Added vs. Gross Output Approach

Our goal in this section is to measure the variation in firm level TFPR as an indicator of misallocation in factor market. Our variable of interest is logarithm of firm level TFPR as a deviation from industry TFPR,  $\log(TFPR_{ij}/TFPR_j)$ . We will depict both value added and gross output approach to measure TFPR. First, we try to replicate the results from [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#) using value added approach. They estimated distribution of TFPR taking formal manufacturing sector data for 1987-88 and 1994-95. We repeat their method taking 2005-06 data for both formal and informal sector. We also illustrate the TFPR distribution using gross output

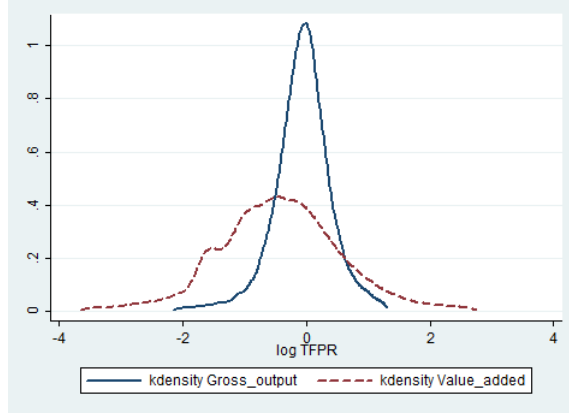


Figure 4.3: Logarithm of TFPR Distribution

method using the same data.

Cobbold [2003] presented the formal relationship between value-added and gross-output TFP as,

$$TFP_{VA} = \frac{G}{VA} \times TFP_{GO}$$

where G and VA represents nominal value of total revenue and total value added respectively.

Oulton and O'Mahony [1994] and van der Wiel [1999] show that the productivity growth measured using value added is much higher than the measurement considering all inputs. It naturally follows from the above equation that given G and VA, TFP as well as TFPR (each side multiplying by price) measured using value added approach will be larger than that measured by gross output approach.

Before calculating the variance, we trim 1 percent tails of  $\log(TFPR_{ij}/TFPR_j)$  to get rid of the outliers. Figure 4.3 plots the distributions of logarithm of TFPR deviated from the industry mean. The dashed line shows the value-added TFPR

Table 4.4: Dispersion of Logarithm of TFPR

Statistics	Value Added	Gross Output
SD	0.99	0.47
75-25	1.23	0.51
90-10	2.45	1.08

Note. The variable is  $\log(TFPR_{si}/TFPR_s)$

Table 4.5: Dispersion of Logarithm of TFPR in Literature

Statistics	Hsieh-Klenow (1994-95)	Chatterjee (2004-05)
SD	0.67	0.49
75-25	0.81	0.56
90-10	1.6	1.19

Note. Column 1 shows dispersion of TFPR estimated by Hsieh and Klenow [2009] for 1994-95 data, using value added approach. Column 2 depicts the same estimated by Chatterjee [2011] for 2004-05 data using gross output approach.

distribution whereas the solid line shows that of the gross-output approach. The variation in value added TFPR is much higher than that in gross output TFPR.

Table 4.4 presents the TFPR dispersion statistics in firm level TFPR. Standard Deviation (SD) in value-added TFPR is around .99 compared to .47, which is the SD of TFPR using gross-output approach. The difference in both approaches is more pronounced in estimating variation in TFPR at higher percentile.

Table 4.5 shows the dispersion in logarithm of TFPR in Hsieh and Klenow [2009] using value added and the same in Chatterjee [2011] using gross output approach. Our result displays a larger value-added SD than that of Hsieh and Klenow [2009], who used the same approach with formal sector data from 1994-95. This may be due to an increase in the overall level of misallocation in the last decade or inclusion of informal sector in our analysis.

Furthermore, we find comparable result with that of [Chatterjee \[2011\]](#) in dispersion of gross output TFPR. After inclusion of energy and service sector distortions, the SD in firm level TFPR has dropped by .02 from an overall .49 depicted in Chatterjee with 2004-05 data. The gap between the results is more conspicuous in 75 to 25 and 90 to 10 percentile.

## 4.5.2 Decomposition of Misallocation

We now turn towards separating out the effect of each component attributing to the variance of firm level TFPR. Moving forward, only Gross Output approach will be considered. We took into account several kinds of distortions in input and output markets. The calculation for each kind as a function of total revenue, cost of inputs and factor shares is derived from first order conditions of a firm as,

$$1 - \tau_{ysi} = \frac{\rho}{\rho - 1} \frac{wL_{si}}{\alpha_{Lj} P_{si} Y_{si}} \quad (4.26a)$$

$$1 + \tau_{ksi} = \frac{\alpha_{Kj}}{\alpha_{Lj}} \frac{wL_{si}}{RK_{si}} \quad (4.26b)$$

$$1 + \tau_{msi} = \frac{\alpha_{Mj}}{\alpha_{Lj}} \frac{wL_{si}}{p_m M_{si}} \quad (4.26c)$$

$$1 + \tau_{esi} = \frac{\alpha_{Ej}}{\alpha_{Lj}} \frac{wL_{si}}{p_e E_{si}} \quad (4.26d)$$

$$1 + \tau_{zsi} = \frac{\alpha_{Zj}}{\alpha_{Lj}} \frac{wL_{si}}{p_z Z_{si}} \quad (4.26e)$$

We assumed the labor market to be undistorted. All input market distortions are estimated relative to labor market. The intuition behind equations [4.26b-4.26e](#)

is that in presence of distortion, the input costs relative to labor compensation will be lower than given by the output elasticity. Equation 4.26a demonstrates that a deviation of labor share from output elasticity with respect to labor will result in output distortion.

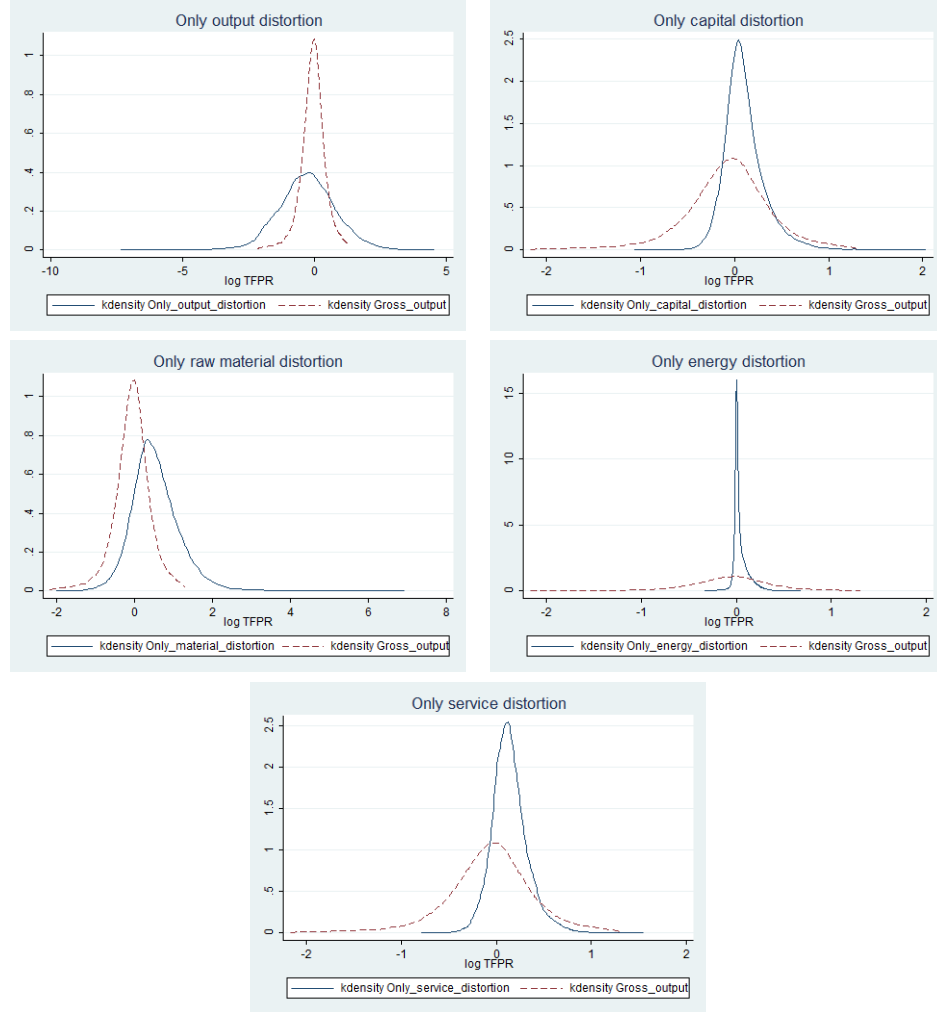


Figure 4.4: Distribution of log TFPR taking one distortion at a time



Next, we would like to find out the distinct effect of each distortion on logarithm of TFPR deviated from industry mean. In figure 4.4 the solid lines illustrates the distribution of our variable of interest, taking one factor distortion at a time. The dashed line represent the actual firm level TFPR distribution taking all distortion together. The top panel of Figure 4.4 shows TFPR distribution taking either output or capital distortion. Similarly, middle and bottom panel depict the scenarios with only material, energy, or service input distortion respectively.

It is perceptible from Figure 4.4 that output and material distortion play the primary role in dispersion of TFPR within an industry. Energy distortion is almost negligible, whereas capital and service input distortions also contribute a modest share in measurement of misallocation.

To give a more elaborate presentation of the above result, we now find the variance of  $\log(TFPR_{ij}/TFPR_j)$ . The total misallocation is measured by the following variance

$$\text{Var}\left[\log\left[\frac{TFPR_{ij}}{TFPR_j}\right]\right] = \text{Var}(D_K + D_L + D_M + D_E + D_Z - D_Y) \quad (4.27)$$

where,

$$D_S = \alpha_{Sj} \log \left[ (1 + \tau_{Sij}) \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} \frac{(1 - \tau_{Yij})P_{ij}Y_{ij}}{(1 + \tau_{Sij})P_jY_j} \right] \quad (4.28)$$

$$\text{and } D_Y = \log(1 - \tau_{Yij}) \quad (4.29)$$

Recall that  $S$  consists of all factor inputs such as K, L, M, E, and Z.  $\alpha_{Sj}$  denotes the corresponding factor shares, and  $\tau_{Sij}$  indicate the corresponding factor distortions. Also recall that we consider labor market is undistorted implying  $\tau_{Lij}$  to be zero. In the above equations,  $D_S$  can be inferred as components of each factor input in the variance of TFPR. Table 4.6 describes the variance and co-variances of each of the above components.

Variance of the components of equation (4.16) depict the contribution of factor distortion in explaining the variation in firm level TFPR. As labor is the only undistorted factor in our analysis, variance of  $D_L$  measures the benchmark variation in industry TFPR in presence of only output distortion, multiplied by cost share of labor. Moreover, Variance of  $D_Y$  determines the variation in firm TFPR attributed to only output distortion. Dispersion in  $D_Y$  and  $D_M$  are very high compared to the overall variance of  $\log(TFPR_{ij}/TFPR_j)$  implying that the misallocation is highest in output and raw material.

Overall variance in  $\log(TFPR_{ij}/TFPR_j)$  includes the pairwise covariance between the components of equation (4.16) as well. It is interesting to note that the covariance between output and raw material distortions are the highest (.5716). This result may follow from the fact that in our framework raw material is endogenous, thus output of one firm is used as raw material to the other.

Figure 4.5 illustrates the cumulative effect of each factor relative to actual TFPR distribution. The dashed line shows actual TFPR distribution, whereas the solid line in each block adds distortion one by one. Without any distortion, there would not have been any distribution of TFPR. We start from only output distortion in the top

Table 4.6: Variance Decomposition

Component	Variance-Covariance
$\text{Var}(D_K)$	0.0472
$\text{Var}(D_L)$	0.0119
$\text{Var}(D_M)$	0.3490
$\text{Var}(D_E)$	0.0048
$\text{Var}(D_Z)$	0.0345
$\text{Var}(D_Y)$	1.1203
$\text{Cov}(D_K, D_L)$	0.0030
$\text{Cov}(D_K, D_M)$	0.0346
$\text{Cov}(D_K, D_E)$	0.0029
$\text{Cov}(D_K, D_Z)$	0.0082
$\text{Cov}(D_K, D_Y)$	0.0727
$\text{Cov}(D_L, D_M)$	-0.0026
$\text{Cov}(D_L, D_E)$	0.0001
$\text{Cov}(D_L, D_Z)$	0.0001
$\text{Cov}(D_L, D_Y)$	0.0067
$\text{Cov}(D_M, D_E)$	0.0129
$\text{Cov}(D_M, D_Z)$	0.0533
$\text{Cov}(D_M, D_Y)$	0.5716
$\text{Cov}(D_E, D_Z)$	0.0034
$\text{Cov}(D_E, D_Y)$	0.0302
$\text{Cov}(D_Z, D_Y)$	0.1110
$\text{Var}(\log(TFPR_{si}/TFPR_s))$	0.2194

Note: The table shows variance and covariances of the components of  $\log TFPR$ , where  $D_S$ , ( $S \in \{K, L, M, E, Z\}$ ) and  $D_Y$  are given by the equation (4.28) and (4.29)

left panel. The solid line in top right panel depicts the TFPR distribution taking into account both capital and output distortion. The middle left panel considers output, capital, and raw material distortions together, while middle right panel adds energy distortion to the distribution. Bottom panel shows all distortion together, thus coinciding with the actual TFPR distribution.

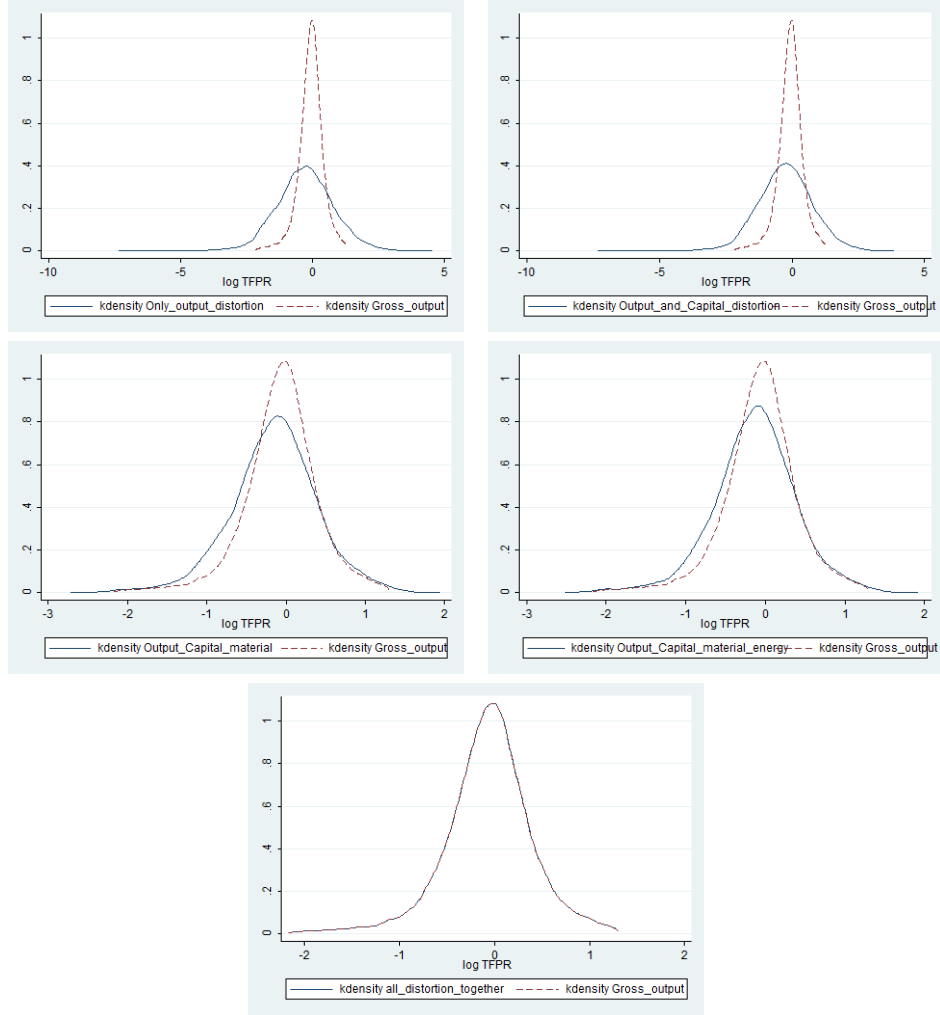


Figure 4.5: Distribution of TFPR Adding one distortion at a time

The intriguing observation from Figure 4.5 is that addition of each factor market distortion tend to reduce the variance of TFPR, thus indicating a lower overall misallocation. This result implies that when we consider more factor input distortions to our model, they are offsetting the effects of each other in describing total misallocation.

## 4.6 Misallocation and Firm Size

There is a body of literature on the sources of the factor distortions. [Banerjee and Duflo \[2005\]](#) discovered that capital market distortion might be originated from disparity in the credit policy. [Chatterjee \[2011\]](#) mentions unavailability of raw material acting as intermediate input distortion. [Bhidé \[2008\]](#) shows that in a developing country like India, electricity connection taken from private and public enterprises might cause a distortion in energy prices. [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#) argues that government policy, specially size restriction might prohibit the firms to achieve the optimal scale, thus creating an output distortion. They also considered firm size as an explanation of TFPR dispersion within industry. In this section, we would like to examine the relationship between firm size and distortion in factor markets.

Table 4.7: Regression of Firm Size on Distortion

Variables	log of distortions				
	Output (1)	Capital (2)	Raw material (3)	Energy (4)	Service (5)
$\log(labor)$	0.0752** (0.0048)	0.2741** (0.0063)	0.0440** (0.0079)	0.1900** (0.005)	0.0765** (0.0047)
Industry effect	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Ownership effect	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Organization effect	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Region effect	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
N	41237	44726	45589	47755	47829

Note. The dependent variables in the regressions are logarithm of output and input (capital, raw material, energy, service respectively) distortions. Standard errors are given in the parenthesis. \*\* shows  $p - value < .01$

Table 4.7 presents coefficient of regression of firm size on the distortions. We took logarithm of total labor employed as a measure of firm size. Panel (1) takes logarithm of firm level output distortion to be the regressand. Similarly, dependent

variable for (2), (3), (4) and (5) are logarithm of firm level capital, raw material, energy and service input distortion respectively. We control for industry fixed effects, ownership type (private, central government owned, state government owned etc.), type of organization (Individual Proprietorship, partnership, co-operative society, and etc.) and location of the firm.

We found a positive relationship of firm size with each kind of distortion, which is in line with the findings of [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#). Smaller firms in formal or informal sector might be able to avoid some policy restrictions unlike their larger counterparts. Assumption of monopolistic competition includes the provision of mark up in our model. Though we assumed all firms in an industry to have same mark up, larger firms might have greater market power and larger mark up which in turn will create more output distortion as well as raw material distortion. It will be fascinating to see the effect of firm size on distortion, once we relax the assumption of same elasticity of substitution within an industry.

## 4.7 Conclusion

We measure the aggregate misallocation in resources using firm level data from both formal and informal manufacturing sectors in India for the year 2005-06. We include energy distortion and service input distortion to extend existing works such as [Hsieh and Klenow \[2009\]](#) and [Chatterjee \[2011\]](#). The dispersion in TFPR within each industry turns out to be substantial, implying misallocation caused by distortion of factor resources. While energy distortion does not contribute much to the aggregate misallocation, effect of service sector input distortion is more pronounced. We further decomposed the variance of TFPR to find out effect of each factor market distortion

separately. We discover that output distortion and raw material distortion contribute the largest share in aggregate misallocation. Reallocation of such factors within the industries should result in the highest TFP gain. We also uncover a puzzling result that the inclusion of many factor distortions together offset each other's effect and result in a lower aggregate misallocation. Although unexpected, this result may inspire further research in this field.

# Chapter 5

## Concluding Remarks

Post-liberalization growth pattern and the driving factors of such growth in India has inspired a large body of research. In this dissertation, we address three facets of regional growth, convergence, and productivity variation, in an effort to provide a supplement to the existing literature.

The second chapter of this dissertation explores the growth pattern and convergence in Indian districts alongside the rural and urban dimension, using radiance calibrated satellite night light data. We find both absolute and conditional convergence in the districts, primarily driven by the convergence in rural areas. We fail to find any evidence of convergence in the urban area. Furthermore, we show that the state specific characteristics explain almost half of the rural as well as overall growth. On the other hand, among district level initial conditions, human capital and infrastructure has a role to play in defining the same. However, array of controls in our study fails to explain much of urban growth.

The third chapter investigates the impact of credit supply shock on economic growth in districts measured by the same radiance calibrated night light data. The modified shift-share approach has been used as a strategy of identification. Although we find strong positive association of credit growth with the growth in economic activity, the association fails to hold as we separate out the demand side effects using predicted lending shocks.

The fourth chapter, on the other hand, measures the aggregate misallocation



in resources using firm level data from both formal and informal manufacturing sectors in India for the year 2005-06. The variance decomposition of TFPR displays that output, and raw material distortion contribute the largest share in aggregate misallocation.

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# Appendix A

## Data Description

Table D1: Data Description		
Variable	Description	Source
Log Initial Light per capita	Logarithm of radiance calibrated satellite night lights data for 2000 per unit of population.	National Geophysical Data Center
Log Initial Rural Light per capita	Logarithm of Radiance calibrated satellite night lights data for 2000 per unit of population, when the Digital number value of two contiguous pixels are less than 12.	National Geophysical Data Center
Log Initial Urban Light per capita	Logarithm radiance calibrated satellite night lights data for 2000 per unit of population, when the Digital number value of two contiguous pixels are more than 12.	National Geophysical Data Center
Night Lights Growth per capita	Per capita radiance calibrated Night Time Light growth over 2000-2010, we also used 2000-05 and 2005-10 growth for various regressions.	National Geophysical Data Center
Rural Night Lights Growth per capita	Radiance calibrated night lights growth Per capita if the DN value of two contiguous pixel are less than 12.	National Geophysical Data Center
Urban night lights growth per capita	Radiance calibrated Night Lights growth Per capita if the DN value of two contiguous pixel are more than 12.	National Geophysical Data Center

Table D1: Data Description (continued)		
Variable	Description	Source
Rural Percent	Percent of rural populaion	Census of India 2001
Overall Popul- ation Density	Overall population per 100000 square km	Census of India 2002
SC Pop. Share	Share of scheduled cast population in total population collected for rural and urban areas separately	Census of India 2000
ST Pop. Share	Share of scheduled tribe population in total population collected for rural and urban areas separately	Census of India 2000
Working Pop. Share	Share of working population in total population collected for rural and urban areas separately	Census of India 2000
Literate Pop. Share	Share of literate population in total population collected for rural and urban areas separately	Census of India 2000
Higher Edu. Share	Share of population with higher secondary and tertiary education collected for rural and urban areas separately	Census of India 2000
Log Net Irrigated Area	Logarithm of net land irrigated land area (per million population) divided by district population	Das and Ghate & Robertson (2015)
Log HH with Paved Roads	Logarithm of the percentage of households connected by paved roads	Das and Ghate & Robertson (2015)

Table D1: Data Description (continued)

Variable	Description	Source
Log Credit per capita	<p>Logarithm of per capita outstanding credit.</p> <p>The data for credit of scheduled commercial banks, has been obtained from Basic,Statistical&gt;Returns,(BSR),compiled annually by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). BSR reports annual district-level outstanding credit for different population groups such as rural, semi-urban urban and metropolitan. (We remark that the rural and urban definition of RBI is somewhat different from that of Indian census. According to RBI, any region with population less than 10000 is considered as rural area, whereas population 10000 to 1 lakh, and 1 lakh to 10 lakhs indicate semi-urban and urban area respectively. Any region with population more than 10 lakhs is metropolitan.) We consider the sum of the credit in semi-urban, urban and metropolitan areas as ‘urban credit’, whereas the credit in rural areas are considered as ‘rural credit’. Each credit variables are taken per unit of the population in the area</p>	Reserve bank of India (Basic statistical return)
Log Rainfall per sq km	<p>The rainfall is measured in cm and is available for every latitudinal and longitudinal grid of 0.5 degrees by 0.5 degrees. A GIS map is used to identify the centroid of each district and latitudes and longitudes of the centroids. Then the latitudes and longitudes of each district centroid was matched with the nearest rain-fall database grid to find the monthly rainfall for the district. We sum up the monthly data to get annual rainfall data. We use logarithm of average rainfall per square kilometre between 2000 to 2010 as our control.</p>	University of Delaware website

Table D2: Reform Project Data Description

Variable	Description	Sources
NREGA Expenditure per capita	Average labor and material expenditure of NREGA per unit of rural population. The public data portal of MGNREGA shows physical and monetary variables reported by the districts to MoRD. We use the data from 2006, the year of introduction of the program to 2010.	NREGA Website (mnregaweb4. nic.in)
PMGSY Expenditure per capita	Average sanctioned expenditure on rural road project per unit of rural population. The data for PMGSY has been taken from Online Management and Monitoring System (OMMS). OMMS is used in program tracking and implementation of the program which provides the administrative records of the actual program. The OMMS reports district level yearly summary of number of road built, habitation covered, length of total road and LSB (Long Spanning Bridge) construction, and total expenditure in the projects.	OMMS Website (omms.nic.in)
RGGVY Expenditure per capita	Average sanctioned expenditure per capita rural population till the year 2011 per unit of rural population. The DDUGJY website reports plan-wise physical and financial progress for districts under RGGVY over tenth, eleventh and twelfth five year plan. The data reports implementation agency fund sanction and release date along with the amount, number of villages covered for both electrification and intense electrification, and number of BPL households which are provided with electricity under the program.	DDUGJY Website (www.ddugjy .gov.in)

# Vita

Sujana Kabiraj was born in India in 1986. She obtained her Bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Calcutta in 2008. Later, she obtained her first Master's degree from the Delhi School of Economics in 2010, and her second Master's degree from the Louisiana State University in 2014, both in Economics. During her stay at LSU, she worked as a teaching assistant and a primary instructor in the Department of Economics teaching Principles of Microeconomics, Principles of Macroeconomics, and Money, Banking and Financial Market. Sujana's primary research interest includes economic growth, regional economics, convergence, and the Indian economy. Her doctoral work's emphasis is on investigating the regional growth pattern, convergence, and productivity in India.