

The Relationship of the Manufacturing Growth with the Financial Industry and Real Estate Industry

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Abstract

This paper focuses on the relationship of the manufacturing industry with the financial and real estate industry. The purpose is to examine whether the fast development of the financial or real estate sector negatively affects the growth of the manufacturing industry as some claimed. Based on the data of China, USA, Germany, and Japan and using the regression analysis, the paper identified factors or variables significantly affecting a country are manufacturing growth. However, it did not find out any such direct significant effect of the financial or real estate sector on the manufacturing industry. On the other hand, the productivity, export, and investment of the manufacturing industry are more important generally to the growth of manufacturing. The paper then further discusses and suggests policy implications on what a country should do to maintain sustainable manufacturing growth.

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The shrinking of the manufacturing industry and the decrease of jobs in the sector and whole economy have been a serious problem in developed countries as well as some developing countries like China (Chen et al. 2017). What caused such a significant decrease of the manufacturing industry? People often blame fast developments of the financial industry and real estate sector. They argue that the investment goes to these fast-growing sectors due to the high rate of return; therefore, little money is left to be invested in the manufacturing industry. Also, the salary and benefits are better in these fast-growing sectors. As a result of these, less labor will be available in manufacturing.

This paper uses the data from China, USA, Germany, and Japan to examine whether any significant statistical relationship of developments between the manufacturing and financial or real estate sector. Then, based on the regression analysis and its outcomes, the paper makes suggestions to these four countries on what they should do in order to maintain sustainable and stable developments of the manufacturing industry.

Not many previous researches have directly addressed the relationship of the manufacturing industry with the financial and real estate industry; especially there were not much regression analyses on the subject. Besides two variables-financial and real estate growth, the paper also includes other variables-the productivity growth in manufacturing, investment and export growth in the industry, the R & D spending growth of the country and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow of the country, therefore, the econometric model used in this study is more comprehensive than other previous studies.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows: next section reviews the literature; Section II explains the data used, variables selected and provides the relevant summary statistics and correlations; Section III gives the econometric model, hypothesis, and regression outcomes; Section IV discusses the policy implications based on significant variables from the regressions and particularly discusses how countries like China can better sustain its manufacturing growth; Section V concludes the paper and reviews possible future research.

I. Review of literature

According to the economic production theory, the economic output is based on its inputs of labor, capital, and other factors such as technological progress and innovations.

Therefore, the growth of manufacturing relies on the changing of these inputs. One may also view an industry's growth from the demand and supply side. The manufacturing sector shrinks because of less demand for its products and at least less demand for the domestic-made products. As a result, a country's manufacturing sector falls. From the view point of the supply-side, when less companies are willing to produce these manufacturing products, the whole sector drops. The reasons for such unwillingness can be the production-cost or profit margin related or due to the opportunity costs.

International trade theory explains trades and shifting of manufacturing companies among countries based on absolute and/or comparative advantages of the costs. Manufacturing was outsourced from developed countries like the US to developing countries like China because of the cost-saving in doing so. When production cost increases significantly in China, these manufacturers will shift to other places like Southeastern countries. As a result, China's manufacturing suffers. The competitive advantage theory shows that a manufacturer's growth depends on whether it can sustain its competitive advantages against its competitors. These advantages can be cost-related or others such as quality or technology.

There have had studies on the relationship between the manufacturing development and economic growth. Baily and Bosworth, B. P. (2014) had comprehensive review of US manufacturing developments in the past and future and its effects on the economy. Dehejia and Panagariya (2014) studied the link of manufacturing and service industries developments in India. Kerwin et al. (2016) explained how house market bubbles affected manufacturing employments. Chen (2015) demonstrated how its manufacturing developments helped China's exports and economic growth and how crucial the sustainable and stable manufacturing growth will be to China's future economic development.

There were studies on the relationship between the development of financial industry and economic growth. Cezar (2014) studied the effects of finance on international trade. Goldsmith (1969), McKinnon (1973) and Shaw (1973) showed that the development of financial institutions partly explained different economic growth rates in different countries. King and Levin (1992, 1993a, 1993b) explained the effects of financial institutions on entrepreneurship and innovations and therefore on the productivity and the economic growth. But Robinson (1952), Lucas (1988), and Stern (1989) doubted the importance of financial factors in growth. Solow (1956, 1957) viewed the changes of investment having only minor effects on growth.

Although there were not many studies on the direct relationship between the manufacturing and real estate, there were some studies on the relationship between the manufacturing growth and financial industry. Anwar and Sun (2013) focused on how Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) affected China's manufacturing industry. Meusser and Kugler (1998) found that there were not many co-integrations between the manufacturing outputs and financial sector GDP among OECD countries; however, they found some links between the manufacturing Total Factor Productivity (TFP) and financial development although such links are complex in different countries.

This paper studies the relationship of the manufacturing growth with both financial and real estate industry. The contributions of the paper are that it includes the real estate sector and also compares the effects in developed countries-US, Germany, and Japan and developing country-China. Also, this paper uses regression models to study the relationship, different from many previous approaches which used co-integration methods. The advantage of using the regression models is that it can control effects of other relevant variables. In addition, it can show which factors affect the manufacturing growth more significantly. The most important contribution of this paper is its policy applications. Based on this study, main factors affecting a country's manufacturing growth are different, given its development stage and unique situations. Then each country can focus on its main problems to improve its manufacturing growth. In addition, a developing country like China can learn from other developed countries and adjust its policy and actions to maintain its manufacturing strength when its economy advances toward a high income economy.

II. Variables, data, summary statistics and correlations

Based on the economic theory and previous other relevant studies, this paper uses the following variables: GDP_m is the country's annual manufacturing growth rate; $INVEST_M$, the annual investment growth rate in manufacturing; $PRODUCT_M$, the annual productivity growth of the manufacturing, where the productivity is the GDP in manufacturing divided by the # of employees in the sector; $EXPORT_M$, the annual manufacturing export growth rate; GDP_F , the annual GDP growth rate of the financial sector; GDP_R the annual GDP growth rate of the real estate sector; R&D, the annual growth rate of a country's R&D spending; and FDI, the annual growth rate of the Foreign Direct Investment inward (inflow). In addition, GDP is the annual GDP growth rate of the relevant country.

The annual growth rates are calculated and used for all variables. The growth rates should be more stable and better than absolute values and particularly they will be less influenced by the exchange rate changes in specific years for specific countries.

China, USA, Germany, and Japan are selected since they are the top four largest manufacturing countries and also the largest economies in the world. Except investment data, all data of the relevant variables of these four countries over years are collected from the World Bank unless otherwise mentioned (please see the Endnotes).

2.1. Summary statistics of data

Table 1 is the summary statistics of China's data; Table 2 is for the USA; Table 3 for Germany and Table 4 for Japan.

Table 1. Summary of China Data

Year	GDP _M	GDP	INVEST _M	PRODUCT _M	GDP _F	GDP _R	EXPORT _M	R&D	FDI
1991	0.1224	0.1136		0.0455	0.1312	0.1533	0.2282	0.1191	1.5552
1992	0.0815	0.0417	-0.3341	0.0958	0.1484	0.4421	0.1060	-0.0054	1.4664
1993	0.2567	0.2689	2.1509	0.0374	0.0113	0.2527	0.3467	0.1493	0.2279
1994	0.3028	0.3016	0.1795	0.2283	0.2633	0.3840	0.2567	0.1751	0.0610
1995	0.1710	0.1759	-0.4355	0.2743	0.2747	0.2329	0.0180	0.1651	0.1208
1996	0.1019	0.1133	-0.4040	0.1314	0.1730	0.1120	0.2245	0.2625	0.1010
1997	0.0269	0.0701	-0.7364	0.0790	0.1609	0.1159	0.0278	0.0838	-0.0110
1998	0.0543	0.0631	1.0206	0.0236	0.1324	0.1758	0.0730	0.2320	-0.1142
1999	0.1248	0.1073	1.2996	0.0658	0.1071	0.0720	0.2775	0.3193	0.0862
2000	0.0888	0.1057	-0.2887	0.1388	0.1421	0.1269	0.0725	0.1641	0.1178
2001	0.0897	0.0979	0.0107	0.0878	0.1456	0.1364	0.2407	0.2351	0.1280
2002	0.1802	0.1290	1.0085	0.1281	0.1252	0.1339	0.3569	0.1957	0.0910
2003	0.1599	0.1777	-0.1128	0.1621	0.1231	0.1545	0.3661	0.2772	0.1764
2004	0.1734	0.1691	0.0846	0.1056	0.1540	0.1622	0.2912	0.2585	0.5284
2005	0.2174	0.2039	0.2534	0.1036	0.1734	0.1871	0.2786	0.2597	0.1919
2006	0.2873	0.2907	0.3217	0.1447	0.2179	0.2177	0.2690	0.2949	0.2592
2007	0.2835	0.2945	-0.0132	0.2049	0.3228	0.3316	0.1712	0.3621	0.0978
2008	0.0924	0.1113	-0.6742	0.2606	0.2933	0.0673	-0.1548	0.2785	-0.2360
2009	0.1938	0.1939	1.0984	0.0650	0.1506	0.2869	0.3127	0.2282	0.8595
2010	0.2583	0.2413	0.3329	0.1521	0.1870	0.2427	0.2000	0.2888	0.1492
2011	0.1110	0.1305	-0.5704	0.2191	0.2438	0.1951	0.0865	0.2135	-0.1387
2012	0.0912	0.1223	-0.1785	0.0777	0.1597	0.1094	0.0792	0.1720	0.2061
2013	0.0848	0.0911	-0.0699	0.0945	0.1567	0.1517	0.0600	0.1081	-0.0785
2014	0.0208	0.0555	-0.7549	0.0881	0.1738	0.0559	-0.0260	0.0795	-0.0955
2015		0.0122	-1.0000	0.0390	0.0849	0.0870	-0.0829		
Average	0.1501	0.1546	0.1386	0.1290	0.1757	0.1890	0.1710	0.2086	0.1824
STD	0.0853	0.0801	0.7369	0.0687	0.0685	0.0997	0.1393	0.0872	0.3594

Table 2. Summary of US Data

Year	GDP _M	GDP	INVEST _M	PRODUCT _M	GDP _F	GDP _R	EXPORT _M	R&D	FDI
1998	0.0329	0.0558	0.0782	0.0245	0.1068	0.0343	0.0080	0.0669	0.6955
1999	0.0409	0.0629	-0.0545	0.0552	0.0630	0.0779	0.0309	0.0820	0.6167
2000	0.0409	0.0646	0.0954	0.0444	0.1058	0.0560	0.1183	0.0976	0.2094
2001	-0.0500	0.0328	-0.1039	-0.0024	0.0900	0.0747	-0.0787	0.0398	-0.5102
2002	-0.0043	0.0335	-0.1513	0.0730	0.0204	0.0619	-0.0525	-0.0012	-0.3616
2003	0.0394	0.0486	-0.0844	0.0931	0.0363	0.0464	0.0324	0.0499	0.0172
2004	0.0579	0.0664	0.0494	0.0723	0.0258	0.0549	0.1241	0.0401	0.8669
2005	0.0523	0.0667	0.0531	0.0589	0.1149	0.0818	0.0984	0.0736	-0.3346
2006	0.0591	0.0582	0.1562	0.0643	0.0579	0.0299	0.1281	0.0768	1.1275
2007	0.0281	0.0449	0.0310	0.0487	-0.0086	0.0791	0.0969	0.0764	0.1556
2008	-0.0216	0.0166	0.0731	0.0130	-0.1305	0.0262	0.0702	0.0708	-0.0216
2009	-0.0531	-0.0204	-0.2627	0.0712	0.0704	0.0123	-0.2601	-0.0020	-0.5378
2010	0.0607	0.0378	0.0243	0.0900	0.0382	0.0246	0.1992	0.0091	0.6864
2011	0.0427	0.0370	0.2114	0.0250	0.0314	0.0362	0.1135	0.0480	-0.0075
2012	0.0391	0.0411	0.0573	0.0217	0.1022	0.0319	0.0410	0.0170	-0.0274
2013	0.0252	0.0332	0.0749	0.0174	-0.0071	0.0335	0.0040	0.0470	0.1509
2014	0.0320	0.0420	0.0508	0.0181	0.1014	0.0397	0.0202	0.0475	-0.1752
2015	0.0348	0.0418	0.0375	0.0222	0.0325	0.0509	-0.0396	0.0540	1.1298
2016		0.0278	0.0166				-0.0465		-0.0528
Average	0.0254	0.0424	0.0187	0.0450	0.0473	0.0473	0.0363	0.0496	0.2045
STD	0.0347	0.0210	0.1127	0.0286	0.0593	0.0210	0.1032	0.0290	0.5312

Table 3. Summary of Germany Data

Year	GDP _M	GDP	INVEST _M	PRODUCT _M	GDP _F	GDP _R	EXPORT _M	R&D	FDI
1992	0.0759	0.1403	0.0241	0.1345	0.0707	0.2378	0.0691	0.0862	-1.4459
1993	-	-0.0257	-0.0221	-0.0572	0.0690	0.0581	-0.1634	-0.0569	-1.1896
1994	0.0411	0.0664	-0.0501	0.1038	0.0151	0.1202	0.1441	0.0261	17.1651
1995	0.1585	0.1748	1.8004	0.2238	0.1256	0.2290	0.2528	0.1778	0.6440
1996	-	-0.0339	-0.6732	-0.0164	0.0108	-0.0093	-0.0254	-0.0310	-0.4636
1997	-	-0.1138	-0.0538	-0.0938	-0.1004	-0.1149	-0.0127	-0.0966	0.9904
1998	0.0211	0.0111	0.0835	0.0015	-0.0442	-0.0030	0.0780	0.0266	0.8471
1999	-	-0.0193	0.0342	-0.0255	0.1203	-0.0485	-0.0070	0.0346	1.3653
2000	-	-0.1136	-0.7480	-0.0938	-0.2791	-0.0956	-0.0162	-0.0917	3.4357
2001	0.0104	0.0004	3.4578	-0.0080	0.0103	0.0163	0.0726	-0.0022	-0.7704
2002	0.0384	0.0659	-0.0184	0.0533	0.1361	0.0869	0.0838	0.0792	-0.1003
2003	0.2103	0.2052	-0.0201	0.2421	0.2557	0.1972	0.1767	0.2257	0.2758
2004	0.1373	0.1251	-0.0690	0.1434	0.2371	0.1096	0.2043	0.1087	-1.3129

2005	0.0167	0.0150	-0.0014	0.0453	-0.0128	0.0244	0.0987	0.0157	-3.9277
2006	0.0810	0.0493	-0.0321	0.0639	0.0074	0.0495	0.1268	0.0638	0.4609
2007	0.1548	0.1457	0.0204	0.1210	0.0295	0.1652	0.1590	0.1412	-0.4185
2008	0.0472	0.0908	0.1022	0.0839	-0.0199	0.1170	0.0881	0.1581	-0.3918
	-								
2009	0.1958	-0.0891	0.0449	-0.1693	0.0475	-0.0684	-0.2308	-0.0438	0.8324
2010	0.1166	-0.0003	0.3269	0.1560	-0.0330	-0.0429	0.1334	-0.0050	0.5185
2011	0.1328	0.0997	-0.2544	0.1160	0.0038	0.1060	0.1852	0.1329	0.1328
	-								
2012	0.0636	-0.0569	-0.0694	-0.0664	-0.0142	-0.0856	-0.0455	-0.0324	-0.3284
2013	0.0465	0.0588	-0.0574	0.0560	0.0338	0.0752	0.0303	0.0415	0.0297
2014	0.0578	0.0368		0.0361	0.0075	0.0016	0.0358	0.0589	-0.7519
Average	0.0276	0.0362	0.1739	0.0461	0.0304	0.0511	0.0637	0.0436	0.7431
STD	0.1038	0.0907	0.8663	0.1064	0.1105	0.1041	0.1168	0.0879	3.9124

Table 4. Summary of Japan Data

Year	GDP _M	GDP	INVEST _M	PRODUCT _M	GDP _F	GDP _R	EXPORT _M	R&D	FDI
1995	0.1097	0.1105	0.1232	0.1403	0.0524	0.1105	0.1120	0.1505	-0.9569
1996	-0.1141	-0.1129	-0.0838	-0.1079	-0.0769	-0.1172	-0.0758	-0.0845	4.2792
1997	-0.0874	-0.0867	-0.1137	-0.0855	-0.0944	-0.0829	0.0211	-0.0603	14.4115
1998	-0.1069	-0.0866	-0.1304	-0.0674	-0.1247	-0.0720	-0.0815	-0.0523	0.0213
1999	0.1101	0.1313	0.0759	0.1408	0.1241	0.1592	0.0756	0.1389	2.7662
2000	0.0755	0.0713	0.0788	0.0942	0.0679	0.0736	0.1441	0.0761	-0.1316
2001	-0.1704	-0.1195	-0.1436	-0.1458	-0.0305	-0.1209	-0.1673	-0.0994	-0.5391
2002	-0.0604	-0.0438	-0.1124	0.0007	0.0418	-0.0390	0.0348	-0.0302	1.3462
2003	0.0920	0.0803	0.0690	0.1139	0.1236	0.0817	0.1331	0.0907	-0.2410
2004	0.0945	0.0831	0.0810	0.1214	0.0602	0.0820	0.1946	0.0783	-0.1418
2005	0.0021	-0.0124	0.0039	0.0087	-0.0112	-0.0032	0.0427	0.0370	-0.2748
2006	-0.0487	-0.0473	-0.0474	-0.0636	-0.0783	-0.0239	0.0759	-0.0181	-1.4390
									-
2007	0.0180	-0.0033	-0.0140	0.0138	-0.0116	0.0033	0.0932	0.0153	10.0246
2008	0.0830	0.1158	0.1187	0.1034	-0.0496	0.1595	0.0835	0.1149	0.1384
2009	-0.0722	0.0384	-0.0980	-0.0106	0.0572	0.1275	-0.2668	0.0055	-0.5035
2010	0.1856	0.0896	0.0883	0.2128	0.0605	0.0699	0.3401	0.0578	-0.3914
2011	0.0197	0.0802	0.1211	0.0492	0.0541	0.0999	0.0705	0.1173	-1.1143
2012	0.0108	0.0074	0.0325	-0.0016	-0.0287	-0.0024	-0.0248	-0.0036	-1.6429
2013	-0.1813	-0.1689	-0.1492	-0.1870	-0.1601	-0.1753	-0.1182	-0.1414	18.4683
2014	-0.0467	-0.0595	-0.0315	-0.0479	-0.0901	-0.0766	-0.0343	-0.0350	0.8549
2015	-0.0657	-0.0960	-0.0951	-0.0613	-0.1118	-0.1196	-0.0969	-0.1266	-0.7172
2016	0.0052	0.1271	0.1004				0.0382		5.2492
Average	-0.0073	-0.0014	-0.0108	0.0105	-0.0108	0.0064	0.0264	0.0110	1.1508
STD	0.1000	0.0908	0.0970	0.1054	0.0831	0.1014	0.1346	0.0876	5.7371

2.2. Correlations

The following tables provide correlations among selected variables of these four countries. It is clear that in all four countries, the GDP_M and GDP are very highly correlated. This is obvious since a country's manufacturing and its total economy are usually co-integrated. In China, $EXPORT_M$ has the second highest correlation; in USA, $INVEST_M$ and $EXPORT_M$ have high correlations with the GDP_M . In Germany, $EXPORT_M$ and $PRODUCT_M$ have high correlations; and in Japan, $INVEST_M$ and $PRODUCT_M$ have high correlations with its GDP_M .

Table 5. China Variables Correlations

	GDP_M	GDP	$INVEST_M$	$PRODUCT_M$	GDP_F	GDP_R	$EXPORT_M$	$R\&D$	FDI
GDP_M	1.000	0.967	0.445	0.309	0.212	0.564	0.602	0.484	0.122
GDP	0.967	1.000	0.358	0.339	0.268	0.490	0.511	0.497	-0.003
$INVEST_M$	0.445	0.358	1.000	-0.501	-0.591	0.173	0.653	0.240	0.142
$PRODUCT_M$	0.309	0.339	-0.501	1.000	0.825	0.176	-0.288	0.243	-0.261
GDP_F	0.212	0.268	-0.591	0.825	1.000	0.209	-0.459	0.274	-0.237
GDP_R	0.564	0.490	0.173	0.176	0.209	1.000	0.252	-0.159	0.619
$EXPORT_M$	0.602	0.511	0.653	-0.288	-0.459	0.252	1.000	0.362	0.309
$R\&D$	0.484	0.497	0.240	0.243	0.274	-0.159	0.362	1.000	-0.310
FDI	0.122	-0.003	0.142	-0.261	-0.237	0.619	0.309	-0.310	1.000

Table 6. USA Variables Correlations

	GDP_M	GDP	$INVEST_M$	$PRODUCT_M$	GDP_F	GDP_R	$EXPORT_M$	$R\&D$	FDI
GDP_M	1.000	0.783	0.661	0.315	0.208	0.097	0.789	0.359	0.643
GDP	0.783	1.000	0.534	0.110	0.332	0.550	0.689	0.611	0.502
$INVEST_M$	0.661	0.534	1.000	-0.336	-0.079	-0.094	0.760	0.549	0.474
$PRODUCT_M$	0.315	0.110	-0.336	1.000	0.043	-0.007	0.167	-0.237	0.159
GDP_F	0.208	0.332	-0.079	0.043	1.000	0.188	-0.124	-0.017	-0.070
GDP_R	0.097	0.550	-0.094	-0.007	0.188	1.000	0.134	0.403	-0.105
$EXPORT_M$	0.789	0.689	0.760	0.167	-0.124	0.134	1.000	0.445	0.467
$R\&D$	0.359	0.611	0.549	-0.237	-0.017	0.403	0.445	1.000	0.341
FDI	0.643	0.502	0.474	0.159	-0.070	-0.105	0.467	0.341	1.000

Table 7. Germany Variables Correlations

	GDP_M	GDP	$INVEST_M$	$PRODUCT_M$	GDP_F	GDP_R	$EXPORT_M$	$R\&D$	FDI
GDP_M	1.000	0.900	0.130	0.964	0.475	0.755	0.924	0.861	-0.038
GDP	0.900	1.000	0.158	0.917	0.663	0.947	0.772	0.947	-0.041
$INVEST_M$	0.130	0.158	1.000	0.151	0.157	0.165	0.223	0.132	-0.101
$PRODUCT_M$	0.964	0.917	0.151	1.000	0.533	0.820	0.882	0.848	0.026
GDP_F	0.475	0.663	0.157	0.533	1.000	0.592	0.301	0.635	-0.161
GDP_R	0.755	0.947	0.165	0.820	0.592	1.000	0.629	0.844	0.014
$EXPORT_M$	0.924	0.772	0.223	0.882	0.301	0.629	1.000	0.740	0.093
$R\&D$	0.861	0.947	0.132	0.848	0.635	0.844	0.740	1.000	-0.108
FDI	-0.038	-0.041	-0.101	0.026	-0.161	0.014	0.093	-0.108	1.000

Table 8. Japan Variables Correlations

	GDP _M	GDP	INVEST _M	PRODUCT _M	GDP _F	GDP _R	EXPORT _M	R&D	FDI
GDP _M	1.000	0.918	0.916	0.980	0.728	0.819	0.840	0.875	-0.429
GDP	0.918	1.000	0.909	0.944	0.822	0.973	0.633	0.965	-0.443
INVEST _M	0.916	0.909	1.000	0.880	0.657	0.820	0.741	0.918	-0.397
PRODUCT _M	0.980	0.944	0.880	1.000	0.799	0.866	0.786	0.893	-0.437
GDP _F	0.728	0.822	0.657	0.799	1.000	0.797	0.496	0.787	-0.410
GDP _R	0.819	0.973	0.820	0.866	0.797	1.000	0.490	0.937	-0.425
EXPORT _M	0.840	0.633	0.741	0.786	0.496	0.490	1.000	0.647	-0.241
R&D	0.875	0.965	0.918	0.893	0.787	0.937	0.647	1.000	-0.409
FDI	-0.429	-0.443	-0.397	-0.437	-0.410	-0.425	-0.241	-0.409	1.000

III. The Econometric model, hypotheses, and regression outcomes

3.1. Econometric model:

$$GDP_M = a + b * INVEST_M + c * PRODUCT_M + d * GDP_F + e * GDP_R + f * EXPORT_M + g * R\&D + h * FDI$$

where all variables are as explained before; a, b, c, d, e, f, g, and h are coefficients to be estimated.

Besides INVEST_M, PRODUCT_M, GDP_F, GDP_R, and EXPORT_M, two control variables—R& D and FDI are included. An economy's R & D spending may directly affect its growth; since the R& D spending in manufacturing is not available, the total R&D spending in the country is used. The annual growth rate of total R&D spending in a country should be considered as the proxy for the annual growth of R & D in manufacturing. Also, FDI may directly influence an economy's development. Similarly, the annual growth rates of the total FDI are used, instead of the annual growth rate of FDI in manufacturing.

3.2. Hypotheses

Hypothesis one—the effect of the financial industry on the manufacturing industry. The null hypothesis is no significant relation between the GDP_F and GDP_M or

$d=0$; and the alternative hypothesis is $d \neq 0$;

Hypothesis two—the effect of the real estate industry on the manufacturing industry. The null hypothesis is no significant relation between the GDP_R and GDP_M or

$e=0$; and the alternative hypothesis is $e \neq 0$;

Hypothesis three—the effect of manufacturing productivity on its growth. The null hypothesis is no significant relation between the PRODUCT_M and GDP_M or

$c=0$; and the alternative hypothesis is $c \neq 0$;

Hypothesis four—the effect of manufacturing export on its growth. The null hypothesis is no significant relation between the EXPORT_M and GDP_M or

$f=0$; and the alternative hypothesis is $f \neq 0$.

Besides Hypotheses one and two, Hypothesis three is added because the productivity of the sector may affect its growth and attractiveness to the investors as previous studies indicated. Hypothesis four also is added because for export-oriented economy like China or Germany, its export change should be crucial to its manufacturing growth.

3.3. Regression outcomes

The following table is the summary of model regressions for China, USA, Germany and Japan.

Table 9. Summaries of Model Regressions

	China	USA	Germany	Japan
Constant (a)	-0.0888	-0.0216	** -0.0205	* -0.0124
INVEST_M(b)	0.0447	*0.2208	-0.0059	*0.3053
PRODUCT_M(c)	0.4346	*0.5501	**0.5854	**0.7292
GDP_F(d)	0.4346	0.1399	-0.0179	-0.0003
GDP_R(e)	0.2948	3163	-0.0879	0.0530
EXPORT_M(f)	*0.3169	0.0373	*0.2927	0.0974
R & D (g)	0.0571	-0.1682	0.2285	-0.2156
FDI (h)	-0.033	0.0172	-0.0018	-0.0003
Number of Samples	23	18	22	21
F-statistic	**11.3144	**11.7759	**65.6856	**136.7099

* 5% significant and ** 1% significant

The above table shows that for Hypotheses one and two, both nulls are accepted; in other words, there are no significant relationships between the financial or real estate industry and the manufacturing industry in all these four countries or there is no evidence that the fast development of the financial industry or real estate sector will negatively affect the manufacturing growth.

For Hypothesis three, except China, alternative/research hypothesis is accepted. In other words, the manufacturing productivity growth significantly increased its manufacturing GDP growth in USA, Germany and Japan.

For Hypothesis four, the alternative/research hypothesis is accepted for both China and Germany, which means that the manufacturing export growth significantly raised its GDP growth in manufacturing in China and Germany. In addition, the above regression outcome indicates that the manufacturing investment growth significantly raised its manufacturing GDP growth in USA and Japan.

IV. Policy implications

Based on the data used and regression results, the developments of the financial and real estate sectors are not to be blamed for the slowing down of the manufacturing in all these countries. Instead, the productivity of the manufacturing industry is more important and significant to the change of the manufacturing industry. Therefore, one should focus more on improving the productivity of the industry by adopting advanced technologies, innovations, better employee training and decreasing of the operation and transaction costs.

Investment in the manufacturing industry is another factor, particularly in the USA and Japan. In order to maintain a stable growth of the industry, a country needs to continuously attract more investments. Then, less regulation or some deregulation by the governments will help the industry.

Also, for export-oriented countries like China and Germany, its global competitiveness of products and therefore increasing of exports will be essential to its manufacturing stability and growth. Thus, uniqueness, the intensity level of capital and technology, and brands/reputations of the products are important because loyalty of the consumers will be critical to the steady growth of the manufacturing industry.

Given its challenges and difficulties of manufacturing export, China should learn from USA and Japan and focus more on improving its productivity of the manufacturing sector and attracting more investments to the sector in order to stabilize and strengthen its manufacturing industry. Then, China should further open its door and deepen its reforms to better encourage entrepreneurship and innovations and attract more foreign investments in the manufacturing industry.

The paths toward a stable manufacturing industry and sustainable developments are different. Countries rely on its different and unique advantages to uphold its competitiveness. In addition, in its different development stage, a country needs to take a different path as explained above in the case of China.

V. Conclusions and future research

This paper studies the relationship of the manufacturing industry with the financial and real estate industry. Based on the data from China, USA, Germany, and Japan, it used the multiple regression model to identify factors/variables significantly affecting the manufacturing growth and concluded that there are no such direct relationships between the

manufacturing and financial or real estate sectors. On the other hand, the regression results indicated that the productivity and export of the manufacturing industry and investment in that industry have more significant effects on the manufacturing's sustainable growth. Then relevant policy implementations are further discussed.

The data used in this paper are limited. One may run a fix effect or random effect model if the needed panel data are available. In addition, one may use two-stage simultaneous regression models to analyze the effects of the relevant variables on the manufacturing growth.

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The data from the World Bank is at www.worldbank.org. China's investment data in manufacturing are from its National Bureau of Statistics at www.stats.gov.cn/english; USA from its Census Office at www.census.gov/programs-surveys/aces.html; Germany from sdw.ecb.europa.eu; and Japan from www.theglobaleconomy.com/Japan/capital_investment_dollars.

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