# INFORMATION OF DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

Doctoral dissertation title: The impact of metropolises on the economic structure of localities in Vietnam

Major:                   Economics               Major Code: 9310101

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## 1. DISSERTATION SUMMARY

It can be seen that the contributions of metropolises to the overall national economy are undeniable. However, up to now, studies on the impact of these metropolises on neighboring localities have mainly focused on analyzing the aspects of promoting growth and paying little attention to the effects of economic structure. Meanwhile, economic structural transformation plays an essential role in the sustainable development of the economy. Therefore, determining the impacts of metropolises on the structural transformation of neighboring localities is extremely necessary for helping policymakers have a basis for making effective decisions in promoting the appropriate direction of local structural transformation.

Using a combination of both qualitative and quantitative research methods, the thesis analyzed the influences of metropolises (Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City) on the structural transformation of neighboring localities in Vietnam. In particular, the qualitative research method systematically arranges related theories, thereby providing a scientific basis for judgments and assessments. Quantitative research method based on the Moran spatial correlation index (I) and LISA combined with a panel data spatial regression model with a data set of 33 localities over the ten years from 2010 to 2019 helps provide statistical evidence about changes in economic structure in localities as well as impacts from metropolises.

The results from the analysis process in the thesis have addressed three objectives. Firstly, regarding the relationship between regions in the economic structure, regions with a high proportion of non-agricultural sectors tend to concentrate around large cities and gradually expand to neighboring areas. Secondly, concerning the impact of metropolises on the economic structural transformation of neighboring regions, the research findings have reinforced some observations about the influence of metropolises on the economic structure of neighboring regions through their role in providing employment and capital, the consumer market for products, and the expansion of urban land. However, the thesis also points out that many expected impacts have yet to show clear effects in the case of Vietnam, including employment generation reflected in the unemployment rate, information spillover, and sectoral linkages. Thirdly, in terms of policy implications, based on the context of Vietnam, the policy implications derived from the research findings aim to promote the process of economic structural transformation, including policy groups specific to each region and policy groups related to linkages with metropolises.

## 2. THE NEW SCIENTIFIC FINDINGS

From a different approach compared to existing studies, the dissertation has also provided new discoveries in both theoretical and practical aspects. From a theoretical perspective, the dissertation has filled a significant scientific gap by exploring the multidirectional relationship between regions and analyzing the impact of metropolises on the economic structural transformation of rural areas, which has yet to be examined in previous studies. Additionally, the simultaneous consideration of multiple effects of metropolises in the same analytical framework, instead of examining individual impacts as in existing studies, helps accurately determine the significance of each effect. From a practical standpoint, the dissertation has also proposed specific policy implications that contribute to promoting the process of economic structural transformation in local regions within the particular context of Vietnam. These implications are built on reliable analytical data combined with spatial panel data regression models, which are considered quite innovative in Vietnam's research, thereby providing a more comprehensive and detailed perspective based on highly specific research results.

## 3. APPLICATIONS/ APPLICABILITY IN PRACTICE AND SUGGESTION FOR FURTHER STUDIES

In addition to the new discoveries and contributions, the dissertation highlights issues requiring further investigation in future studies. Firstly, due to limitations in data availability, this research only analyzes the economic structural transformation of regions at the industrial level rather than the detailed sub-industries. Therefore, it cannot comprehensively analyze the specific changes within these industries. Secondly, this study relies on spatial adjacency to construct the spatial weight matrix used in the analysis. Although this is the most commonly used method in spatial models, comparing the analytical results from two different matrix construction methods, particularly when the threshold of influence is determined, would provide detailed insights with higher certainty.

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