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REVIEW OF LITERATURE

NEED/IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

OBJECTIVES

HYPOTHESES

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

FINDINGS

RECOMMENDATIONS/SUGGESTIONS

CONCLUSIONS

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THE MACROECONOMIC IMPACT OF TRADE ON ECONOMIC GROWTH OF NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

It is generally believed in literature that trade plays a vital role in promoting and restructuring economic growth. The theoretical and empirical nexus between economic growth and trade have been discussed in economics for a long time following the theory; that sustainable trade is the main driver of economic growth. This paper examines the impact of trade on economic growth in Nigeria. It uses annual data for the period 1980–2010, employing OLS analysis with e-views 7.0 software. The result of the analysis is intuitive showing that that real gross domestic product, Export, Import, Exchange Rate and the degree of Economic Openness are significant in economic growth determination of the Nigerian economy. The empirical results of this study clearly emphasize the significance of trade on economic growth in Nigeria. The results also provide a theoretical justification of the model and observed data. The policy implication of this is that the government should have a change in the orientation of her policies as far as trade is concerned and should rigorously embrace more export promotion strategies.

JEL CODES

047, 049.

KEYWORDS

Exchange rate, Export promotion Globalisation, Macroeconomics, Trade, liberalisation.

INTRODUCTION

Trade has been regarded as the major driver of growth which can lead to steady improvement in human status by expanding the range of people's standard and preference. Since no country has grown without trade, it can therefore be said that it plays a vital role in restructuring economic and social attributes of countries around the world, particularly, the less developed countries (Adewuyi, 2002).

Trade is believed to stimulate economic growth due to its influence in integrating world economies and generating better markets. Nigeria, a typical developing country is lagging behind in reaping the benefits of trade, especially, the international trade judging by the degree of openness of the economy. Since the SAP era in 1986, government policies have been centered on increasing trade and increasing granting of flow of foreign capital to the domestic economy all with a view to foster fast economic growth and attainment of development. Unfortunately, oil and gas have been major sources of commodity sales in the international market while non-oil products especially agricultural and finished outputs have no significant contribution. This consequently is the motivation of this study analyzed.

Vicious circle of poverty has been a common phenomenon in the nation since the SAP era in the mid-1980s and more than 30 years after that; there has not been any significant reduction in spite of various government policies. The nation's gross domestic products (GDP) as well as real per capita income are also subject of concern as these are far less than what can cause considerable economic progress. In addition, diversification of the economy, development of the non-oil sector, especially agriculture has been a hard nut to crack and yet, government policies aimed at arresting the situation and proffering lasting solutions have proved abortive. The study focuses on the empirical review of literatures, methodology, presentation of empirical results and finally gives summary, conclusions and policy recommendations.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Conventional trade relates trade patterns to comparative advantage, and suggests that for nations that engage in trade, each will specialize in the production of goods in which it has a comparative advantage, i.e., in production processes with lower opportunity costs prior to trade than the other country. Each country thus exports goods in which it has a comparative advantage. Usually, comparative advantage is assumed to be derived from either exogenous technological differences (the classical Ricardian model) or different factor endowments (the Heckscher-Ohlin model). Hence, conventional trade theory associates international trade with a reallocation of resources within the national borders determined by exogenous differences across countries. This reallocation of resources generates efficiency gains that increase the level of aggregate national income.

It is, however, believed that higher degree of openness ensures better flow of foreign investment from developed countries to their developing counterparts. It is equally evident that the latter, especially the ECOWAS member states have not fully aligned their economies to allow the investment to stimulate satisfactory growth. This has being attributed to such factors as inability of West African countries to formulate investment friendly policies, political and social unrest, reliance on primary products for exports, institutional and structural imbalances, and weak infrastructural base (Fosu, 1990; Obadan, 2004; Aluko, 2003).

The conceptual relevance of trade to the Nigerian economy was emphasized by Loto (2002), where the Mundel-Flemming model of open economy was adopted to examine the impact of globalization on the Nigerian economy. Openness indicator was defined as the total volume of trade divided by the GDP. It was identified significantly that Nigerian's volume of trade was too low and for the nation to benefit immensely from globalization, a shift from production and export of mono-product type of commodity (oil and gas) to non-oil mineral resources and other products of international standard must be thoroughly pursued. Consequently, according to Aremu (2005) and Briggs (2005), international market failures such as asymmetric information and perception problems, market segmentation and marginalization owing to the relatively small transaction size of the Nigerian economy shows that a sound principle of commercial policy would be to strike some balances between the need for rapid expansion of liberalization with some certain or sequential approach to liberalization.

IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

Conducting a study on the effects of trade on economic growth is of great significance in this globalized era. It helps policymakers map out appropriate policies by determining the source of economic growth with respect to trade liberalization. The research will help to evaluate the performance of different trade policies that the Nigerian government has adopted. Empirical analyses of the connection between trade and growth in Nigeria is not conclusive; hence this study intends to extend the frontier of knowledge in that regard. It will also assist in providing the framework of where work has been done by earlier researchers by which further research in foreign trade could be carried out.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Although Nigeria is blessed with abundant human and natural resources and should be flowing in mass of wealth, but the paradox presented by sub-Saharan Africa growth experience is best exemplified by Nigeria. The economy has severally been described as a difficult environment for business. With a population growth of about 3 per cent, it has been acknowledge that the current average output growth rate of less than 4 per cent will see the country been poorer in the

next decade. A major challenge facing policy makers in the country is subsumed in the questions concerning the place and effectiveness of complementary macroeconomic and trade measures needed to put the economy on the path of sustainable growth.

In the past three decades, the trend of trade beyond the domestic border in Nigeria has risen to a considerable extent, but there has not been commensurable economic growth and development. In fact, Nigeria's benefit in international trade and globalization has been comparatively lower than other emerging economies. This study sets out to examine the effect of trade on the economic growth of Nigeria and assess the extent to which trade have impacted on the growth process of the Nigerian economy.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

This study specifically seeks to:

1. Assess the extent to which trade have impacted on the growth process of the Nigerian economy.
2. Examine the relationship between trade and economic growth.

HYPOTHESES

H₁₀: Trade does not contribute to the growth of Nigerian economy.

H₁₁: Trade contributes to the growth of Nigerian economy.

H₂₀: There is no relationship between trade and economic growth in Nigeria.

H₂₁: There is relationship between trade and economic growth in Nigeria.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The theoretical framework in support of trade originates from the classical economic theory of international trade. The classical economists advocated trade among nations of the world to promote economic growth and development. Historically, the concept of trade across domestic borders had been emphasized by the mercantilists in the 15th to 18th century. It was further advocated by Adam Smith (1723-1790) and David Ricardo (1772-1823) in absolute advantage theory and comparative advantage theory respectively. The classical economists and their successors believed international trade and interrelations among nations are essential for economic progress, especially in a fast developing nation like Nigeria. The gains from trade could speed the pace of growth and attainment of sustainable development.

The theory of comparative advantage as propounded by David Ricardo (1820) buttresses the study of international trade. This theory is useful in the justification of exchange of goods, services and knowledge among different nations in the era of globalization. Specialization was specifically emphasized by Adam Smith. The principle of comparative advantage asserts that a country should, and under competitive condition will, specialize in the export of the products that it can produce at the lowest relative cost. This principle has been applied by economists to the exchange of goods (and services) among individual nations.

The neoclassical counterrevolution postulated that "by permitting market to flourish, privatizing state-owned enterprises, promoting free trade and export expansion, welcoming investors from other countries and eliminating government's regulations and price distortions in factors, product, and financial markets, both economic efficiency and economic growth will be stimulated" (Todaro, 2008). In other words, the theory emphasized the allowance of invisible hand of the market advocated by Adam Smith to be the dominant regulator of the economy that will boost international trade, invites foreign investors, and consequently, increase economic growth.

In Heckscher-Ohlin models, the comparative advantage takes the form of differences in resource endowment. The result obtained from the neoclassical models is that a country will have gains from trade liberalization with an increase in allocative efficiency. By lowering trade barriers, a country faces the international relative prices that induce the efficient allocation of domestic resources to sectors with comparative advantage, increasing aggregate welfare. However, Rodrik (1998), Devarajan and Rodrik (1999) and Rodrik and Krugman (1994) have challenged these results, arguing that the neoclassical models only capture increases in the level of income and that therefore trade liberalization may not lead to a persistent increase in the growth rate. They argue that, under conditions of economies of scale and imperfect competition, the welfare impact of trade liberalization can be negative.

Nevertheless, in a rather divergent view, models of endogenous growth suggest an active role for public policy in promoting economic development through the encouragement of foreign private investment in knowledge-intensive industries such as computer software and telecommunication.

The model of this study is adapted from earlier studies by Edwards (1998) and Obadan (2008) with some modifications. Real gross domestic product at constant prices is the dependent variable, while the explanatory variables are export value, import value, foreign exchange rate and economic openness. Economic openness is used as one of the variables to represent trade intensity and this shows the extent in which goods and services are allowed in a particular economy. The data employed in this analysis are secondary drawn from various issues of the Central Bank of Nigeria Statistical Bulletin over the period of 1980 to 2010.

MODEL SPECIFICATION

$$RGDP = f(EX, IM, EXRT, ECOP) \quad (1)$$

Where:

RGDP= Real Gross Domestic Product

EX= Export Value

IM= Import Value

EXRT= Exchange Rate

ECOP= Economic Openness

The model is logged to show consistency, elasticity and degree of responsiveness as follows:

$$\text{LogRGDP} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{Log EX} + \beta_2 \text{Log IM} + \beta_3 \text{Log EXRT} + \beta_4 \text{Log ECOP} + \mu \quad (2)$$

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

TABLE 1: ORDINARY LEAST SQUARE TEST RESULTS

Variable	Coefficient	Std Error	T Statistics	Probability
Log (import)	0.405118	0.008612	47.04368	0.0000
Log (openness)	-1.030277	0.009229	-111.6308	0.0000
Exchange_rate	-0.171344	0.060006	-2.855451	0.0087
Log (export)	0.625763	0.011958	52.32925	0.0000
D01	-0.155144	0.045658	-3.397961	0.0024
C	0.471994	0.081200	5.812716	0.0000
Exchange_rate*D01	0.171147	0.05981	2.853373	0.0088
R-squared	0.999656	Mean dependent var		12.61564
Adjusted R-squared	0.999570	S.D. dependent var		0.604578
S.E. of regression	0.012539	Akaike info criterion		-5.724275
Sum-squared resid	0.003773	Schwarz criterion		-5.400471
Log likelihood	95.72626	Hannan-Quinn criterion		-5.618723
F-statistic	11619.93	Dubin Watson stat		1.712761
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000			

SOURCE: Author's computation with E-views 7.0

Estimated values are imputed into equation 2 to become equation 3 as specified below:

$$\text{LRGDP} = 0.47 + 0.41\text{IMPORT} - 1.03\text{LOPENNESS} - 0.17\text{EXR} + 0.62\text{LEXP} - 0.156\text{D01} + 0.17\text{EXR}*\text{D01} \quad (3).$$

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dummy variables are added to equation (2) to represent different exchange rate regimes (pre-sap and post-sap) before arriving at the above estimated model (3). The relationship between import and the gross domestic product is found to be positive. Therefore, a percent increase in importation will bring about 0.41% increase in the real gross domestic product value. Also, the import elasticity is found to be positive (0.41); though the result did not justify the a priori since import is found to be larger than export in Nigeria. Also, the relationship between openness and the real gross domestic product is negative. Therefore, a percent increase in openness in Nigeria will bring about 1.03 percent decreases in the real gross domestic product. The result shows that exchange rate impacts negatively on real gross domestic product in Nigeria with the value 0.17 thereby not satisfying the apriori expectation which may be due to the passivity of the productive sector. Nevertheless, the relationship between export and real gross domestic product is found to be positive. Thus, a percent increase in exportation will bring about 0.62 percent increase in the gross domestic product. The dummy variable shows that the stable exchange rate period (pre-sap) has a negative impact on the growth of the economy with the value 0.156. This shows undervaluation of the gross domestic product which could have increased if the exchange rate was left to be determined by the market forces.

The interactive term between the dummy variable and exchange rate captures the effect of post-sap period on the economy. The positive relationship between the post-sap exchange rate and the gross domestic product in the result implies that an increase in the exchange rate will bring about 0.17 increases in the real gross domestic product. A priori expectation is that it should be a negative relationship but since post-sap era, the GDP has been on the increase because of the large exportation of crude oil to the extent that crude oil export constitutes about 95% component of Nigerian export.

The standard error is used to test the statistical significance of the parameters of the estimates, and the rule of thumb asserts that the standard error of the parameter estimates must be less than half of the coefficient of export. This implies that for the standard error of a parameter to be significant, $S.E(b_0) > b_0/2$ etc. From the results above, it was observed that all the variables are significantly different from zero. Using the t-test to ascertain the statistical significance of the parameter estimates, it was found that export and import are statistically significant at 1% while openness and exchange rate are not statistically significant at 1% but at 10% indicating that in Nigeria; export, import, openness and exchange rate are the major determinants of gross domestic product.

Both estimated R^2 and adjusted R-squared at 99% (very high) show that the model has a good fit, with approximately 99% of the real gross domestic product, being explained by import, export, openness and exchange rate while the remaining percentage (1%) is explained by factors not captured in the model. The F-statistics of 11619 reveals the overall significance of the explanatory variables at 1% level of significance, thereby suggesting that import, export, openness, exchange rate jointly determine the gross domestic product in Nigeria. The Durbin Watson statistics shows that there is no evidence of the error term being serially correlated; indicating that the models are free from autocorrelation, meaning that the estimated models are well specified and the results are well behaved.

TABLE 2: DIAGNOSTIC TESTS

Test statistics	Test Name	F-statistics
A. Serial Correlation	Bruesch Godfrey LM	0.19
B. Functional Form	Ramsey Test	2.85
C. Heteroscedascity	White test	4.83
D. Normality	Jarque Bera	1.93

SOURCE: Author's computation with E-views 7.0

Testing for the robustness of the results necessitated diagnostic tests to validate the classical regression assumptions.

From the above, the Bruesch Godfrey LM test implies that there is no presence of serial correlation in the model estimated above which was affirmed by the Durbin Watson test statistic. The Ramsey Specification test also implies that the above model specification is suitable for the study because the F-statistics is 0.19 meaning that the model is correctly specified. In addition, the heteroscedascity assumption is not violated using the White test giving F-stat to be 4.83. The Jarque Bera test also shows that the data follow the normal distribution criteria.

CONCLUSION AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The empirical results of this study clearly emphasize the significance of trade on economic growth in Nigeria. The analysis indicates that real gross domestic product, Export, Import, Exchange Rate and the degree of Economic Openness are significant in economic growth determination of the Nigerian economy. The results provide a theoretical justification of the model and observed data. Based on the findings of this research work, it is necessary to provide a set of policy recommendations that would be applicable to the Nigerian economy in the area of trade policies and implementation.

The government should encourage export diversification. Non-oil sector exports should be encouraged and concentration on oil sector export should be minimal. Nigerian government should also intensify efforts at diversifying her export base by using proceeds from oil revenue judiciously for this purpose. While she should strive to position herself more favourably in the oil market, conscious efforts must be made to revamp the commodity export's sector and harness the solid minerals for exports. In addition, the government should discourage the people from consuming foreign goods excessively by implementing the import substitution strategy and by encouraging the manufacturing industries to improve on their production so that their outputs would be competitive in the global market. Only the importation of capital goods that are essential should be encouraged since not all importations are necessary for economic growth in the Nigerian economy.

For now, devaluation of the naira should be de-emphasized. As much as the low exchange value of the naira would promote export and discourage import, it should be noted that not until the nation's exports become like those industrial goods and services whose foreign demand and domestic supply are elastic, the nation's economy stand little chance of gaining from an unguided exchange rate deregulation policy. This remains true so long as the economy depends on primary products whose foreign demand and domestic supply are inelastic. The government should put measures in place to stabilize our currency.

From the period under review, it is discovered that economic openness is negative, which implies that the nation observed more of import than export. The policy implication of this is that the government should have a change in the orientation of the policies as far as trade issue is concerned, and they should embrace more export promotion strategies. Lastly, Nigeria as Africa's giant should rise up to the challenge of "ever developing" by annexing all opportunities to combat underdevelopment. To this end, there must be co operation among the government, private sector and the people. Government functionaries also should be more transparent in policies formulation and implementations.

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APPENDICES

TABLE 3: HETEROSKEDASTICITY TEST: WHITE

F-statistic	4.858753	Prob. F(19,11)	0.0051
Obs*R-squared	27.69946	Prob. Chi-Square(19)	0.0894
Scaled explained SS	12.29678	Prob. Chi-Square(19)	0.8726
Test Equation:			
Dependent Variable: RESID^2			
Method: Least Squares			
Sample: 1980 2010			
Included observations: 31			
Collinear test regressors dropped from specification			
Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic
C	0.343348	0.164646	2.085370
LOG(IMPORT)	-0.029919	0.011686	-2.560348
(LOG(IMPORT))^2	0.001844	0.000427	4.314877
(LOG(IMPORT))*(LOG(OPENNESS))	-0.002629	0.001071	-2.455865
(LOG(IMPORT))*EXCHANGE_RATE	-0.000553	0.000202	-2.737135
(LOG(IMPORT))*(LOG(EXPORT))	-0.001002	0.000744	-1.346883
(LOG(IMPORT))*D01	0.000286	0.000860	0.332635
(LOG(IMPORT))*(EXCHANGE_RATE*D01)	0.000529	0.000200	2.652441
LOG(OPENNESS)	0.057979	0.029673	1.953947
(LOG(OPENNESS))^2	0.002681	0.001433	1.871009
(LOG(OPENNESS))*EXCHANGE_RATE	4.58E-05	2.03E-05	2.249378
(LOG(OPENNESS))*(LOG(EXPORT))	-0.002915	0.002220	-1.313159
(LOG(OPENNESS))*D01	0.005874	0.003086	1.903276
EXCHANGE_RATE	0.000528	0.000252	2.099892
EXCHANGE_RATE^2	2.68E-07	1.31E-07	2.043365
EXCHANGE_RATE*(LOG(EXPORT))	-2.33E-05	1.47E-05	-1.582437
LOG(EXPORT)	-0.033081	0.024413	-1.355053
(LOG(EXPORT))^2	0.002013	0.000954	2.109449
(LOG(EXPORT))*D01	-0.003057	0.001772	-1.725646
D01	0.035838	0.027249	1.315195
R-squared	0.893531	Mean dependent var	0.000122
Adjusted R-squared	0.709630	S.D. dependent var	0.000151
S.E. of regression	8.12E-05	Akaike info criterion	-15.74629
Sum squared resid	7.24E-08	Schwarz criterion	-14.82114
Log likelihood	264.0675	Hannan-Quinn criter.	-15.44471
F-statistic	4.858753	Durbin-Watson stat	2.840951
Prob(F-statistic)	0.005119		

SOURCE: Author's computation with E-views 7.0

TABLE 4: BREUSCH-GODFREY SERIAL CORRELATION LM TEST

F-statistic	0.193410	Prob. F(2,22)	0.8255
Obs*R-squared	0.535648	Prob. Chi-Square(2)	0.7650
Dependent Variable: RESID			
Method: Least Squares			
Sample: 1980 2010			
Included observations: 31			
Presample missing value lagged residuals set to zero.			
Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic
LOG(IMPORT)	-0.000356	0.009269	-0.038444
LOG(OPENNESS)	-0.000180	0.009669	-0.018572
EXCHANGE_RATE	0.006000	0.064858	0.092509
LOG(EXPORT)	0.000823	0.012538	0.065638
D01	0.003018	0.048275	0.062520
C	-0.008658	0.085234	-0.101583
EXCHANGE_RATE*D01	-0.006010	0.064833	-0.092698
RESID(-1)	0.118651	0.225099	0.527109
RESID(-2)	-0.087949	0.264565	-0.332428
R-squared	0.017279	Mean dependent var	-1.52E-15
Adjusted R-squared	-0.340074	S.D. dependent var	0.011215
S.E. of regression	0.012983	Akaike info criterion	-5.612672
Sum squared resid	0.003708	Schwarz criterion	-5.196354
Log likelihood	95.99642	Hannan-Quinn criter.	-5.476963
F-statistic	0.048353	Durbin-Watson stat	1.937980
Prob(F-statistic)	0.999922		

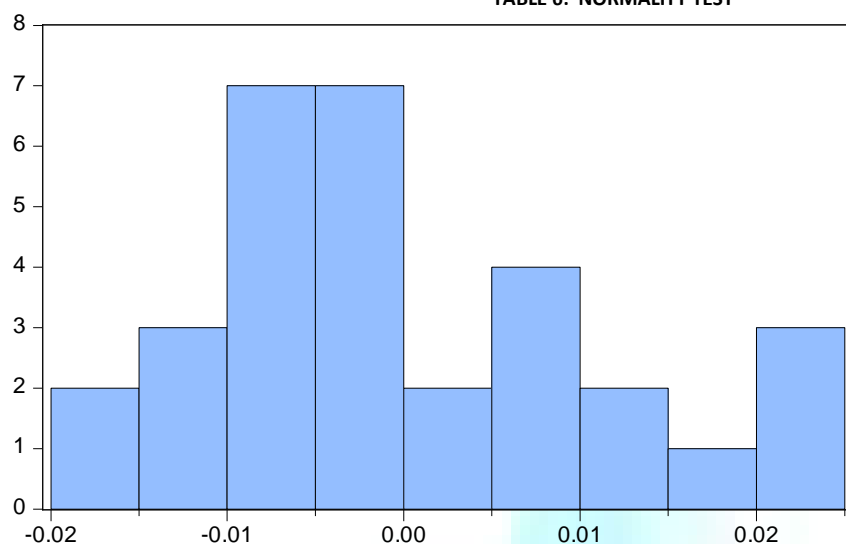
SOURCE: Author's computation with E-views 7.0

TABLE 5: RAMSEY RESET TEST

Specification: LOG(GDP) LOG(IMPORT) LOG(OPENNESS)				
EXCHANGE_RATE LOG(EXPORT) D01 C EXCHANGE_RATE*D01				
Omitted Variables: Powers of fitted values from 2 to 3				
	Value	df	Probability	
F-statistic	2.849178	(2, 22)	0.0794	
Likelihood ratio	7.140249	2	0.0282	
F-test summary:				
	Sum of Sq.	df	Mean Squares	
Test SSR	0.000776	2	0.000388	
Restricted SSR	0.003773	24	0.000157	
Unrestricted SSR	0.002997	22	0.000136	
Unrestricted SSR	0.002997	22	0.000136	
LR test summary:				
	Value	df		
Restricted LogL	95.72626	24		
Unrestricted LogL	99.29638	22		
Unrestricted Test Equation:				
Dependent Variable: LOG(GDP)				
Method: Least Squares				
Sample: 1980 2010				
Included observations: 31				
Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
LOG(IMPORT)	-1.613121	2.253860	-0.715715	0.4817
LOG(OPENNESS)	4.088827	5.734709	0.712996	0.4833
EXCHANGE_RATE	0.638885	0.966045	0.661341	0.5153
LOG(EXPORT)	-2.479076	3.487170	-0.710913	0.4846
D01	0.576373	0.870618	0.662027	0.5148
C	17.58827	19.72505	0.891672	0.3822
EXCHANGE_RATE*D01	-0.638052	0.965000	-0.661194	0.5154
FITTED^2	0.420664	0.459035	0.916409	0.3694
FITTED^3	-0.011793	0.012527	-0.941374	0.3567
R-squared	0.999727	Mean dependent var	12.61564	
Adjusted R-squared	0.999627	S.D. dependent var	0.604578	
S.E. of regression	0.011672	Akaike info criterion	-5.825573	
Sum squared resid	0.002997	Schwarz criterion	-5.409254	
Log likelihood	99.29638	Hannan-Quinn criter.	-5.689863	
F-statistic	10058.61	Durbin-Watson stat	2.364427	
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000			

SOURCE: Author's computation with E-views 7.0

TABLE 6: NORMALITY TEST



SOURCE: Author's computation with E-views 7.0

Series: Residuals
 Sample 1980 2010
 Observations 31

Mean	-1.52e-15
Median	-0.003118
Maximum	0.023867
Minimum	-0.018068
Std. Dev.	0.011215
Skewness	0.553466
Kurtosis	2.481327

Jarque-Bera	1.930165
Probability	0.380952

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