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# Medium and High-Tech Enterprises of Kazakhstan: Factors of Organization and Development of Innovation

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### ABSTRACT

*The research of innovation activity of enterprises is found at the nexus of management, economics, public administration, psychology, sociology, and technical sciences. That is because the involvement of people in this process implies a comprehensive assessment of interdependent factors operating at the level of states, industries, regions, enterprises, social groups, and individuals. In the following paper we study the influence of various factors on organization and development of innovation activities at medium and high-tech enterprises of the manufacturing industry of Kazakhstan. The purpose of this study is to analyze the factors affecting the organization and development of innovation at medium and high-tech enterprises in Kazakhstan. Based on correlation and regression analysis we study the following factors: economic development; availability of human capital; quality of the investment environment; features of the economic structure; quality of human capital; innovative development of manufacturing enterprises; scientific potential; quality of the legal environment; availability of financing; state support. We conclude that econometric modeling of innovation at enterprises in Kazakhstan is never a simple task. The study reveals that labor productivity positively affects innovation and competitiveness of enterprises, and that a human capital turns out to be a more important factor of innovation activity of enterprises in Kazakhstan than research and development costs due to their inefficiency.*

## INTRODUCTION

In the context of globalization and high uncertainty of prices for raw materials, the key driver of socio-economic development is the effective innovative activity. Innovative activity allows enterprises to strengthen their positions and enter new markets. Development of innovative activities can bring additional competitive advantages to enterprises and contribute to the introduction of manufactured products to foreign markets in conditions when the scale of production in the domestic market is limited.

Undoubtedly, the performance of innovative activity largely depends on effective management and organization of this process. State support and measures to stimulate innovation in Kazakhstan have increased over the past decade. However, innovative production still remains low. All this points to the inefficiency of the applied methods and tools for managing and organizing innovation at medium and high-tech manufacturing enterprises in Kazakhstan, which determines the need to find ways to improve them based on the study of factors affecting this process.

The purpose of this study is to analyze the factors affecting the organization and development of innovation at medium and high-tech enterprises in Kazakhstan.

## 1. LITERATURE REVIEW

Innovative activity of enterprises is an integral part of the socio-economic development of the state and its industries. In this regard, the issue of studying the factors of organization and development of innovation at medium and high-tech enterprises of Kazakhstan appears relevant.

Numerous empirical studies (see Table 1) confirm the importance of the following factors for the organization of innovation activity: the level of economic diversification, research and development costs, the knowledge spillover, the level of human capital.

**Table 1.** Results of research on factors of innovative activity

| <i>Research</i>               | <i>The applied method</i> | <i>Dependent variable</i>                        | <i>Level of economic diversification</i> | <i>Research and development costs</i> | <i>Knowledge spillover</i> | <i>Level of human capital</i> | <i>Results</i>  |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| 1                             | 2                         | 3  | 4  | 5                                     | 6                          | 7                             | 8   |
| Jaffe, 1989                   | Regression                | Number of patent applications                    |  | +                                     | +                          |                               | Proves the positive influence of the location of both private and public research centers (knowledge spillover), the key role of research costs |
| Feldman, Florida, 1994        | Regression                | New products                                     | +  | +                                     | +                          |                               | Proves the effectiveness of PPP in innovation funding   |
| Bottazzi, Peri 2003           | Regression                | Number of patents per one involved in innovation | +  | +                                     | +                          |                               | Reveals the reduction of R&D costs in neighboring regions, the distance between which exceeds 300 km  |
| Shterzer, 2005                | Regression                | Number of patent applications                    | +  | +                                     |                            | -                             | Positive impact of R&D costs  |
| Leslie, B Ó hUallacháin, 2007 | Regression, Least Squares | Number of patents                                | +  | +                                     | +                          | +                             | Confirms the importance of human capital compared to the R&D costs  |

|  |                                |  |   |   |   |   |  |
|--|--------------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| Suslov, 2007                           | Regression                     | Share of innovative enterprises                                |   |   | - | + | Reveals the dependence of patent activity on the number of researchers   |
| Mariyev, Savin, 2010                   | Generalized Method of Moments  | Innovative output volume                                       |   | + | - |   | Reveals the tendency to regional concentration of innovation, the positive impact of FDI   |
| Arkhipova, Karpov, 2012                | Simultaneous equation modeling | Share of innovative enterprises and number of patents          |   | + | + |   | Reveals the correlation between the level of innovation and patent activity, confirms the importance of research costs                     |
| Crescenzi, Jaax, 2015                  | Regression                     | International patent applications                              | + | + | + | + | Reveals the dependence of patent activity on R&D costs   |
| Zemtsov, Muradov, Wade, Barinova, 2016 | Regression                     | Number of commercialized patents, real internal research costs | + | + | + | + | Confirms the dependence of the number of commercialized patents on the quality of human capital, reveals the significance of the R&D costs |

Note: Compiled by the authors based on the source (Zemtsov et al., 2016)

Research shows that innovation performance is positively influenced by the R&D costs, level of human capital, level of economic diversification, and the knowledge spillovers. Let us consider other factors affecting innovation performance. The scientific literature has revealed a link between the level of economic development and the level of innovation. However, it is definitely impossible to draw conclusions about its direction. The development of innovative entrepreneurship is facilitated by the growth of GDP and, in particular, GDP per capita as an indicator of the volume of consumer markets, the population solvency and the living standards (Reynolds et al., 1994). A number of studies have revealed that startup activity affects the GDP per capita (Audretsch and Keilbach, 2004; Fritsch and Storey, 2014).

A whole multitude of scientific papers confirm the ambiguity of the impact of unemployment on the entrepreneurial and innovative activity of enterprises (Verheul, 2002; Fritsch and Falck, 2007). Most studies consider unemployment and indicators of foreign and domestic trade as control variables (Dobrynskaia and Turkisch, 2010). For instance, on the one hand, high unemployment may indicate the deterioration of socio-economic conditions and a high failure risk for a startup, and on the other hand, the presence in the economy of a large number of free human resources to engage in forced entrepreneurship. A number of empirical studies conclude that investments have a positive impact on innovation. Global technology giants (Samsung, HP, Apple, Huawei, Google, etc.) invest heavily in R&D, support startups, have research units, and carry out joint innovative projects.

A study of innovation activity in Kazakhstan's conditions requires taking into account peculiarities of the economic structure. In some regions, the share of a raw materials sector is high; these are known as "raw materials regions." The dominance of the extractive industry in the economic structure, on the one hand, can cause a "Dutch disease:" a decrease in the economic activity of enterprises and monospecialization leading to a decrease in the level of entrepreneurial and innovative activity (Raposo and Do Paço, 2011). On the other hand, regions with a raw-material economy enjoy higher incomes of the population, which means a higher purchasing power, ultimately contributing to the growth of mass entrepreneurship in the service sector.

The indicator of concentration and quality of human capital is the level of education of the population. This indicator also demonstrates informal rules and norms in society. Through the education system, the government can affect the development of creative entrepreneurship and innovative activity (Djankov, 2009). Training and introduction of advanced training courses for the population contribute to the acquisition by individuals of necessary competencies to engage in innovative entrepreneurship (Nielsen, 2014; Lee et al., 2004; Anokhin and Schulze, 2008). This is why the study needs to consider this

indicator. Legal environment has a direct impact on innovation activity. Level of corruption, level of consumer and producer rights protection, and the number of economic crimes have a direct impact on the safety of innovative entrepreneurship (Xheneti and Bartlett, 2012; Yakovlev and Zhuravskaya, 2013; Aparicio et al., 2015).

The high bank interest rate is one of the main reasons for limiting the access to funding of innovative projects (EBRD, 2014). Aparicio's research shows the positive impact of simplified access to loans on startup activities of enterprises. A 2014 EBRD study reveals a negative correlation between innovation activity and limited access to bank loans (Seitzhanov et al, 2020). We conclude that a negative correlation does not necessarily mean that restricting access to bank loans leads to a decrease in innovation. Such a causal relationship between credit restrictions and innovation activity takes the opposite direction: commercial banks more willingly fund innovation activities and reduce credit restrictions if this process is successful (as in innovation emerges). Thus, the review of scientific literature has revealed a number of factors of innovation, which we shall be further investigating in detail to build an econometric model:

- Economic development (GDP, GDP per capita, inflation rate, exports, imports, salaries, labor productivity, exchange rate);
- Availability of human capital (population, employed population, unemployment rate);
- Quality of investment environment (investments in fixed assets, investments in the manufacturing industry, direct investment);
- Features of the economic structure (the share of extractive industry in GDP, professional, scientific and technical activities);
- Quality of human capital (life expectancy of the population at birth, the average expected duration of education during the coming life);
- Innovative development of manufacturing enterprises (innovative sales volume, innovation costs);
- Scientific potential (internal R&D costs, number of organizations engaged in R&D, number of employees engaged in R&D);
- Quality of legal environment (crime rate);
- Availability of funding (bank lending to the economy, loans issued to processing enterprises through STBs, the amount of loans issued by Damu EDF to processing enterprises, the weighted average interest rate of banks on loans issued);
- State support (the amount of funding of industrial and innovative development program documents.)

In accordance with the purpose of the study and based on the analysis of scientific literature, we have formulated the following hypotheses on the influence of factors on the organization and development of innovation activities of medium and high-tech manufacturing enterprises in Kazakhstan.

- *H1. Innovation of enterprises in Kazakhstan resists econometric modelling.*
- *H2. Labor productivity has a positive impact on innovation and competitiveness of enterprises.*
- *H3. Human capital is a more important factor of innovation in Kazakhstan than the R&D costs due to their inefficiency.*

## 2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

For the purposes of this paper, we selected small and medium-sized enterprises of medium and high-tech manufacturing industries as the object of research. We used the OECD methodology to determine medium and high-tech enterprises. According to the OECD, manufacturing enterprises are profiled according to the intensity of research and development costs, that is, according to the ratio of R&D costs to value added. We have identified the following groups of manufacturing enterprises: high, medium, and low-tech industries. Currently, the OECD classification is widely recognized and used in most international

organizations and countries, including the Bureau of National Statistics of Kazakhstan for statistical observation. High-tech manufacturing enterprises include the following types of activities:

- Production of computers, electronic and optical products;
- Production of other vehicles;
- Production of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers;
- Repair and installation of machinery and equipment;
- Production of machinery and equipment;
- Production of chemical industry products;
- Production of electrical equipment.

Medium-tech industries include the following types of activities:

- Production of rubber and plastic products;
- Production of finished metal products;
- Production of other non-metallic mineral products;
- Metallurgical industry;
- Production of coke and refined petroleum products;
- Production of basic pharmaceutical products.

Based on the analysis of scientific literature, we are to select the innovative output volume as the effective indicator of innovation in medium and high-tech manufacturing industries. As benchmarks, the study uses an extensive list of factors that can affect innovation: economic development, quality of the investment environment, quality of the legal environment, features of the economic structure. Table 2 shows the main factors and variables of economic and mathematical model. To assess the factors of organization and development of innovation in medium and high-tech manufacturing industries, we shall use correlation and regression analysis as our main method of research.

**Table 2.** Factors and variables of economic and mathematical model

| <i>Factors</i>                        | <i>Legend</i>   | <i>Variables</i>   | <i>Source</i> |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--|---------------|
| <i>1</i>                              | <i>2</i>        | <i>3</i>   | <i>4</i>      |
| Economic development                  | GDP             | Gross domestic product by production method, million tenge               | BNS           |
|                                       | GDP_capita      | GDP per capita, tenge  |               |
|                                       | Infl            | Inflation, %   | BNS           |
|                                       | Export          | Turnover in foreign currency (export), million US dollars                | BNS           |
|                                       | Export_products | Export of non-raw (processed) products, million US dollars               | BNS           |
|                                       | Import          | Turnover in foreign currency (import), million US dollars                | BNS           |
|                                       | Salary          | Average monthly salary of the core staff, thousand tenge                 | BNS           |
|                                       | Labor_product   | Labor productivity, thousand tenge                                       | BNS           |
|                                       | Exchange_rate   | Average annual exchange rate of the US dollar                            | NB RK         |
| Availability of human capital         | Popul           | Population at the end of the period (year), thousand people              | BNS           |
|                                       | Employed_pop    | Employed population, thousand people                                     | BNS           |
|                                       | Unempl          | Unemployment rate, %   | BNS           |
| Quality of the investment environment | Invest          | Investments in fixed assets, million tenge                               | BNS           |
|                                       | Manufact_invest | Investments in fixed assets of the manufacturing industry, billion tenge | BNS           |
|                                       | Direct_invest   | Direct investments, million US dollars                                   | NB RK         |
| Features of the economic structure    | Industry_GDP    | Share of the extractive industry in GDP, %                               | BNS           |
|                                       | Prof_activ      | Professional, scientific and technical activities, %                     | BNS           |

|   |                |   |                 |
|---|----------------|---|-----------------|
| Quality of human capital                            | Life_expect    | Life expectancy of the population at birth, years   | BNS             |
|   | School_expect  | Average expected duration of training during the coming life                                | UN HDI          |
| Innovative development of manufacturing enterprises | Sold_innovprod | Innovative sales volume, million tenge  | BNS             |
|   | Cost_innov     | Innovation costs, million tenge   | BNS             |
| Scientific potential                                | R&D_costs      | Internal R&D costs, million tenge   | BNS             |
|   | Enterp_num     | Number of organizations (enterprises) engaged in R&D, units                                 | BNS             |
|   | Employees_num  | Number of employees engaged in R&D, people  | BNS             |
| Quality of the legal environment                    | Crime_level    | Crime rate (per 10,000 people)  | BNS             |
| Availability of funding                             | Bank_lend      | Bank lending to the economy, million tenge  | NB RK           |
|   | Loans          | Loans issued to processing enterprises through STBs, billion tenge                          | Damu EDF        |
|   | Loans_Damu     | Amount of loans issued by Damu EDF to processing enterprises, total                         | Damu EDF        |
|   | Interest_rate  | Weighted average interest rate of banks on loans issued                                     | NB RK           |
| State support                                       | Funding        | Amount of funding of industrial and innovative development program documents, billion tenge | SPFIID, SPIID-1 |

Notes:

- Compiled by the authors.
- BNS: Bureau of National statistics, Agency for Strategic planning and reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- NB RK: National Bank of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- HDI UN: the UN's Human Development Index
- Damu EDF: Damu Entrepreneurship Development Fund JSC
- SPFIID, SPIID-1: State programs of (forced) industrial and innovative development

Accordingly, a set of factors and indicators of the object of research development in modern conditions, a comprehensive analysis using qualitative and quantitative methods of scientific research and logical conclusions are the important elements of assessing the factors of organization and development of innovation in medium and high-tech manufacturing industries.

### 3. RESULTS

At the initial stage of our study, we chose the indicator Level of innovation activity of enterprises of medium and high-tech manufacturing industries as a dependent variable. We have built a correlation matrix in SPSS Statistics. The subsequent analysis of the correlation matrix showed that the level of innovation in medium and high-tech manufacturing industries has a correlation relationship with only two following variables: a) With an indicator of the number of organizations (enterprises) engaged in R&D (0.82), and b) With the crime rate indicator (0.78). We have also established a weak correlation with the rest of the variables selected for analysis. To further model the processes of innovation in medium and high-tech manufacturing industries, we chose the innovative output volume as a dependent variable. We chose the following factors and their variables as independent indicators affecting the dynamics of innovation activity indicators of medium and high-tech manufacturing enterprises:

- Economic development with indicators: GDP, GDP per capita, inflation rate, exports, imports, salaries, labor productivity, exchange rate.
- Availability of human capital: population, employed population, unemployment rate.
- Quality of the investment environment: investments in fixed assets, investments in the manufacturing industry, direct investment.
- Features of the economic structure: the share of the extractive industry in GDP, professional, scientific and technical activities.

- Quality of human capital: life expectancy of the population at birth, average expected duration of education during the coming life.
- Innovative development of manufacturing enterprises: innovative sales volume, innovation costs.
- Scientific potential: internal R&D costs, number of organizations engaged in R&D, number of employees engaged in R&D.
- Quality of the legal environment: crime rate.
- Availability of funding: bank lending to the economy, loans issued to processing enterprises through STBs, amount of loans issued by Damu EDF to processing enterprises, the weighted average interest rate of banks on loans issued.
- State support: the amount of funding of program documents of industrial and innovative development.

Statistical data on selected indicators is available, previously studied as part of the scientific project AP09058009 “Assessment and development of mechanisms for stimulating innovation activity of manufacturing enterprises in Kazakhstan based on the methodology of foresight and technological road mapping.” For a more comfortable calculation, we have coded the selected indicators appropriately (Table 2). Table 3 shows descriptive statistics of the variables taken for analysis.

**Table 3.** Descriptive statistics

|                 | <i>Average</i> | <i>Standard deviation</i> | <i>N</i> |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------|
| Activ_level     | 18,436         | 3,7300                    | 11       |
| GDP             | 40667505,964   | 16413063,2458             | 11       |
| GDP_capita      | 2316130,345    | 835573,2606               | 11       |
| Infl            | 7,227          | 2,4113                    | 11       |
| Export          | 62616,745      | 18339,2134                | 11       |
| Export_products | 15844,301      | 2514,9162                 | 11       |
| Import          | 35619,317      | 7632,1453                 | 11       |
| Salary          | 130,645        | 46,1592                   | 11       |
| Labor_product   | 7985,255       | 3180,7948                 | 11       |
| Exchange_rate   | 230,841        | 97,0183                   | 11       |
| Popul           | 17394,641      | 779,3751                  | 11       |
| Employed_pop    | 8450,430       | 255,6742                  | 11       |
| Unempl          | 5,264          | ,5278                     | 11       |
| Invest          | 7245436,364    | 2650903,7237              | 11       |
| Manufact_invest | 746,909        | 269,1620                  | 11       |
| Direct_invest   | 23021,364      | 3463,6967                 | 11       |
| Industry_GDP    | 15,764         | 2,5208                    | 11       |
| Prof_activ      | 4,382          | ,3060                     | 11       |
| Life_expect     | 70,979         | 1,9308                    | 11       |
| School_expect   | 14,936         | ,3042                     | 11       |
| Innov_product   | 352245,373     | 277357,6030               | 11       |
| Sold_innovprod  | 396532,127     | 250324,2152               | 11       |
| Cost_innov      | 357734,273     | 340920,1754               | 11       |
| R&D_costs       | 59493,218      | 15481,1832                | 11       |
| Enterp_num      | 387,000        | 25,8147                   | 11       |
| Employees_num   | 21340,727      | 3209,3894                 | 11       |
| Crime_level     | 159,480        | 50,1335                   | 11       |
| Bank_lend       | 7777616,909    | 2345931,0454              | 11       |
| Loans           | 1038,636       | 471,5677                  | 11       |
| Loans_Damu      | 202,082        | 73,5013                   | 11       |
| Interest_rate   | 12,745         | 1,9460                    | 11       |
| Funding         | 486,733        | 384,1032                  | 9        |

Note: Compiled by the authors based on SPSS Statistics data

Table 3 shows the following average values for the sample:

- Innovative activity of enterprises of medium and high-tech manufacturing industries – 18.4%.
- Innovative output volume – 352,245 million tenge.
- Innovative sales volume – 396,532 million tenge.
- Innovation costs – 357,734 million tenge.
- GDP by production method – 40,667,505.9 million tenge.
- GDP per capita – 2,316,130.3 tenge.
- Labor productivity – 7,985.2 thousand tenge.
- Investments in fixed capital of the manufacturing industry – 746.9 billion tenge.
- Bank lending to the economy – 7,777,616.9 million tenge.

Average expected duration of education during the coming life is 14.9 years. To assess the degree of closeness between the dependent variable and the independent variables taken for analysis, we used the Pearson correlation coefficient. We have built a correlation matrix in SPSS Statistics (Table 4).

The analysis of the correlation matrix showed that the volume of innovative output by enterprises of medium and high-tech manufacturing industries in Kazakhstan has a very high correlation with the following variables:

- GDP (0.82).
- GDP per capita (0.82).
- Labor productivity (0.84).
- Employed population (0.80).
- Investments in fixed assets (0.83).
- Innovative sales volume (0.96).
- A high correlation with the following variables:
  - Inflation (0.68).
  - Average monthly salary of the core staff (0.77).
  - Population at the end of the period (year) (0.73).
  - Average annual exchange rate of the US dollar (0.70).
  - Investments in fixed assets of the manufacturing industry (0.78).
  - Average expected duration of education during the coming life (0.74).
  - Bank lending to the economy (0.75).

In addition, the analysis of the correlation matrix showed that the volume of innovative output by enterprises of medium and high-tech manufacturing industries has an average correlation with the following variables:

- Loans issued to manufacturing enterprises through second-tier banks (0.45).
- Crime rate (per 10,000 people) (0.59).
- Internal R&D costs (0.63).
- Life expectancy of the population at birth (0.66).

As for the rest of the selected variables, correlation is very weak and we shall not be considering them in further studies.

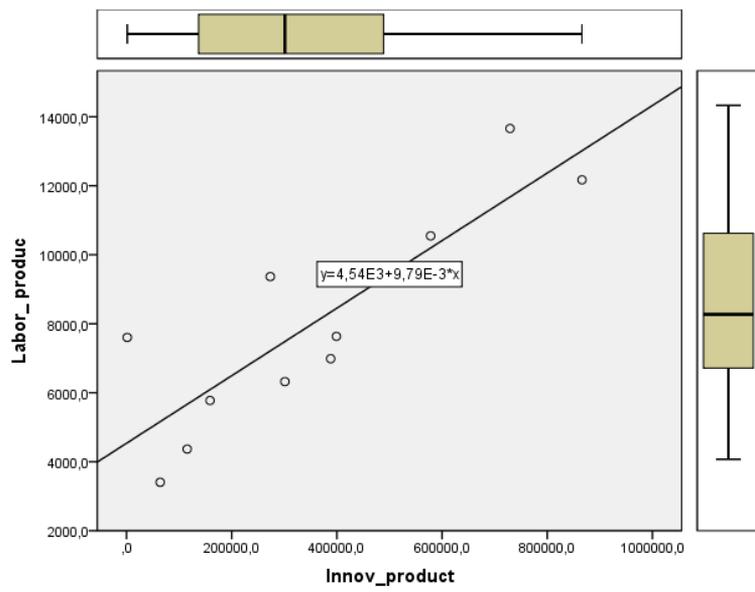
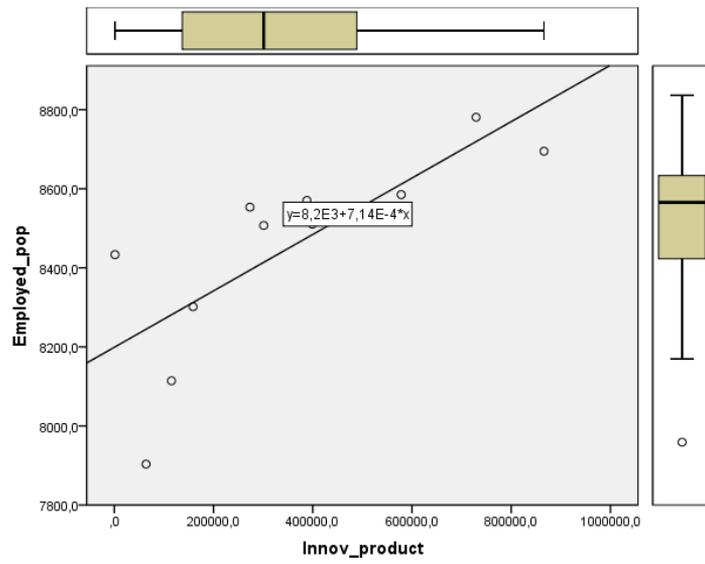
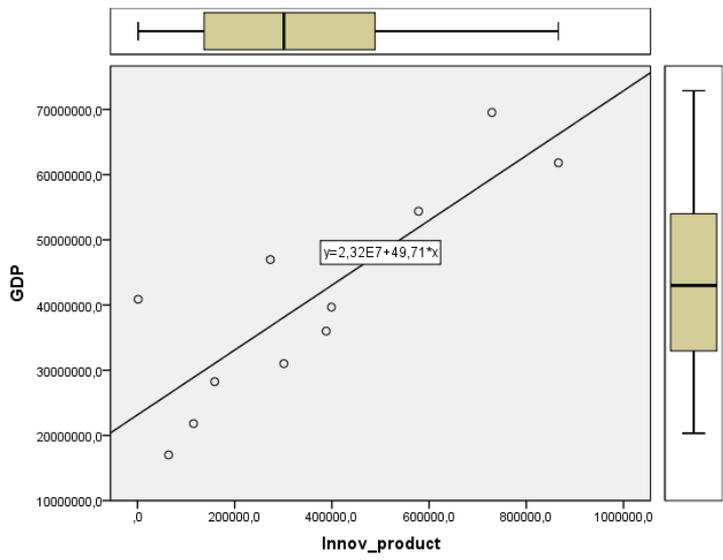
The simplest method of visualizing the relationship between selected variables is constructing scattering graphs (Figures 1).

Table 4. A correlation matrix

|                 | Innov_product | GDP   | GDP_capita | Infl  | Export | Export_products | Import | Salary | Labor_product | Exchange_rate | Popul | Employed_pop | Unempl | Invest | Manufact_invest | Direct_invest |
|-----------------|---------------|-------|------------|-------|--------|-----------------|--------|--------|---------------|---------------|-------|--------------|--------|--------|-----------------|---------------|
| Innov_product   | 1             | ,840  | ,840       | -,588 | ,089   | ,265            | ,229   | ,803   | ,854          | ,709          | ,764  | ,774         | -,605  | ,849   | ,812            | ,337          |
| GDP             | ,840          | 1     | ,999       | -,130 | -,212  | ,066            | -,003  | ,996   | ,998          | ,917          | ,975  | ,886         | -,820  | ,975   | ,948            | -,052         |
| GDP_capita      | ,840          | ,999  | 1          | -,128 | -,190  | ,090            | ,017   | ,994   | ,998          | ,908          | ,977  | ,899         | -,836  | ,968   | ,949            | -,042         |
| Infl            | -,588         | -,130 | -,128      | 1     | -,415  | -,361           | -,474  | -,073  | -,167         | -,051         | ,015  | -,175        | -,110  | -,195  | -,055           | -,758         |
| Export          | ,089          | -,212 | -,190      | -,415 | 1      | ,901            | ,886   | -,278  | -,199         | -,534         | -,291 | ,150         | -,106  | -,270  | -,249           | ,749          |
| Export_products | ,265          | ,066  | ,090       | -,361 | ,901   | 1               | ,807   | ,002   | ,086          | -,235         | -,007 | ,419         | -,391  | -,025  | ,002            | ,759          |
| Import          | ,229          | -,003 | ,017       | -,474 | ,886   | ,807            | 1      | -,051  | ,003          | -,352         | -,091 | ,353         | -,218  | -,047  | -,068           | ,650          |
| Salary          | ,803          | ,996  | ,994       | -,073 | -,278  | ,002            | -,051  | 1      | ,992          | ,933          | ,983  | ,871         | -,811  | ,971   | ,952            | -,113         |
| Labor_product   | ,854          | ,998  | ,998       | -,167 | -,199  | ,086            | ,003   | ,992   | 1             | ,921          | ,967  | ,886         | -,811  | ,976   | ,942            | -,006         |
| Exchange_rate   | ,709          | ,917  | ,908       | -,051 | -,534  | -,235           | -,352  | ,933   | ,921          | 1             | ,914  | ,691         | -,635  | ,918   | ,876            | -,199         |
| Popul           | ,764          | ,975  | ,977       | ,015  | -,291  | -,007           | -,091  | ,983   | ,967          | ,914          | 1     | ,880         | -,857  | ,921   | ,974            | -,182         |
| Employed_pop    | ,774          | ,886  | ,899       | -,175 | ,150   | ,419            | ,353   | ,871   | ,886          | ,691          | ,880  | 1            | -,939  | ,792   | ,854            | ,174          |
| Unempl          | -,605         | -,820 | -,836      | -,110 | -,106  | -,391           | -,218  | -,811  | -,811         | -,635         | -,857 | -,939        | 1      | -,686  | -,803           | ,001          |
| Invest          | ,849          | ,975  | ,968       | -,195 | -,270  | -,025           | -,047  | ,971   | ,976          | ,918          | ,921  | ,792         | -,686  | 1      | ,913            | -,044         |
| Manufact_invest | ,812          | ,948  | ,949       | -,055 | -,249  | ,002            | -,068  | ,952   | ,942          | ,876          | ,974  | ,854         | -,803  | ,913   | 1               | -,131         |
| Direct_invest   | ,337          | -,052 | -,042      | -,758 | ,749   | ,759            | ,650   | -,113  | -,006         | -,199         | -,182 | ,174         | ,001   | -,044  | -,131           | 1             |

|                 | Innov_product | Industry_GDP | Prof_activ | Life_expect | School_expect | Solid_innovprod | R&D_costs | Cost_innov | Enterp_numbr | Employees_numbr | Crime_level | Bank_lend | Loans | Loans_Damru | Interest_rate | Funding |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------|-------|-------------|---------------|---------|
| Innov_product   | 1             | -,391        | ,165       | ,710        | ,792          | ,965            | ,882      | ,255       | -,329        | ,357            | ,148        | ,782      | ,537  | ,376        | -,364         | -,434   |
| Industry_GDP    | -,391         | 1            | -,779      | -,887       | -,771         | -,579           | -,882     | -,689      | ,429         | -,865           | -,843       | -,834     | -,902 | -,803       | -,272         | ,766    |
| Prof_activ      | ,165          | -,779        | 1          | ,607        | ,566          | ,290            | ,563      | ,803       | -,346        | ,482            | ,631        | ,542      | ,697  | ,638        | ,180          | -,502   |
| Life_expect     | ,710          | -,887        | ,607       | 1           | ,896          | ,840            | ,959      | ,649       | -,309        | ,743            | ,587        | ,948      | ,928  | ,654        | ,221          | -,896   |
| School_expect   | ,792          | -,771        | ,566       | ,896        | 1             | ,893            | ,942      | ,409       | -,509        | ,688            | ,552        | ,972      | ,881  | ,709        | -,091         | -,716   |
| Solid_innovprod | ,965          | -,579        | ,290       | ,840        | ,893          | 1               | ,825      | ,315       | -,381        | ,516            | ,312        | ,899      | ,692  | ,490        | -,233         | -,584   |
| Cost_innov      | ,255          | -,689        | ,803       | ,649        | ,409          | ,315            | 1         | ,483       | -,104        | ,412            | ,465        | ,463      | ,625  | ,455        | ,354          | -,623   |
| R&D_costs       | -,682         | -,882        | ,563       | ,959        | ,942          | ,825            | ,483      | 1          | -,428        | ,805            | ,646        | ,978      | ,939  | ,731        | ,138          | -,830   |
| Enterp_numbr    | -,329         | ,429         | -,346      | -,309       | -,509         | -,381           | -,104     | -,428      | 1            | -,533           | -,668       | -,442     | -,342 | -,550       | ,483          | -,082   |
| Employees_numbr | ,357          | -,865        | ,482       | ,743        | ,688          | ,516            | ,412      | ,805       | -,533        | 1               | ,916        | ,749      | ,726  | ,876        | ,211          | -,611   |
| Crime_level     | ,148          | -,843        | ,631       | ,587        | ,552          | ,312            | ,465      | ,646       | -,668        | ,916            | 1           | ,578      | ,620  | ,832        | ,124          | -,297   |
| Bank_lend       | ,782          | -,834        | ,542       | ,948        | ,972          | ,899            | ,463      | ,978       | -,442        | ,749            | ,578        | 1         | ,912  | ,740        | -,010         | -,800   |
| Loans           | ,537          | -,902        | ,697       | ,928        | ,881          | ,692            | ,625      | ,939       | -,342        | ,726            | ,620        | ,912      | 1     | ,895        | ,232          | -,919   |
| Loans_Damru     | ,376          | -,803        | ,638       | ,654        | ,709          | ,490            | ,455      | ,731       | -,550        | ,876            | ,832        | ,740      | ,695  | 1           | -,011         | -,490   |
| Interest_rate   | -,364         | -,272        | ,180       | ,221        | -,091         | -,233           | ,354      | ,138       | ,483         | ,211            | ,124        | -,010     | ,232  | -,011       | 1             | -,662   |
| Funding         | -,434         | ,766         | -,502      | -,896       | -,716         | -,584           | -,623     | -,830      | -,082        | -,611           | -,297       | -,800     | -,919 | -,490       | -,662         | 1       |



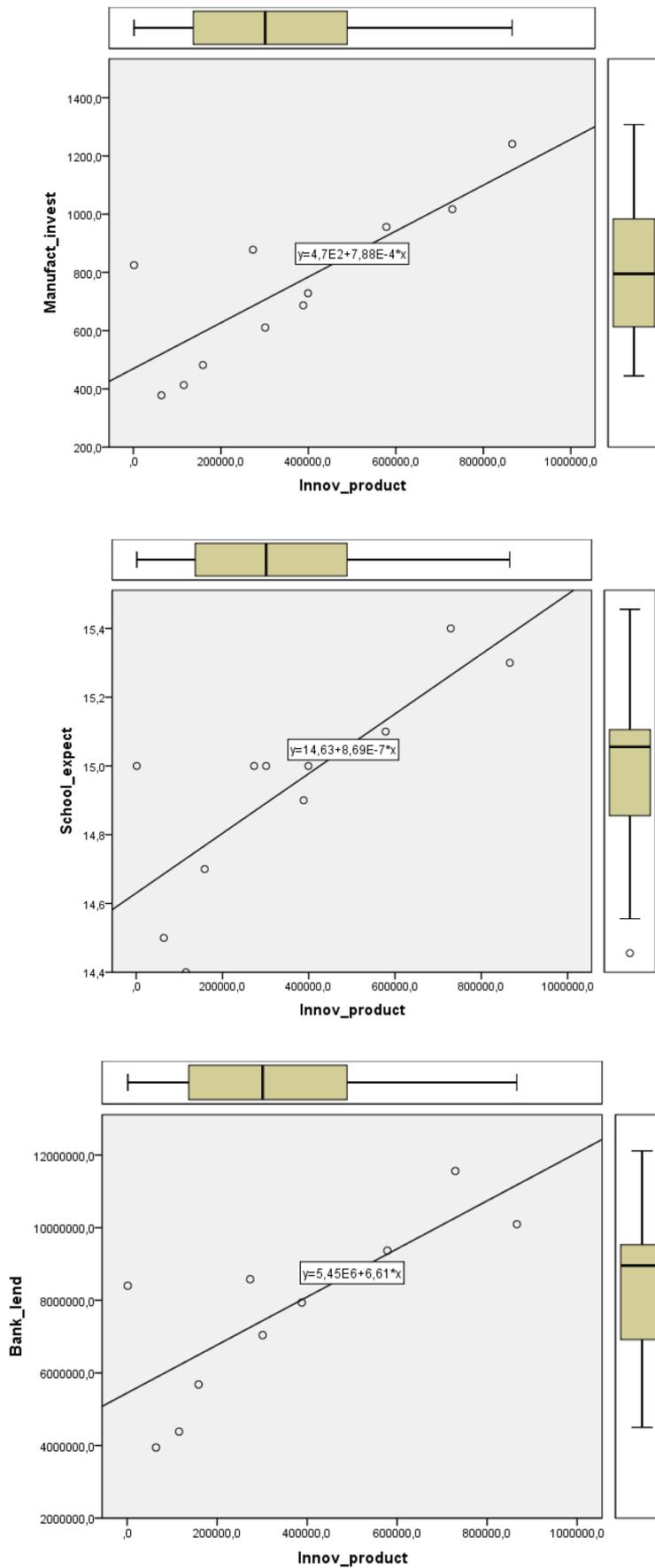


Figure 1. Scattering graphs between independent and dependent variables

A dependent variable Volume of innovative output has a positive correlation with the following indicators: GDP; GDP per capita; Labor productivity; Employed population; Investments in fixed assets; Innovative sales volume; Average monthly salary of core staff; Investments in fixed assets of manufacturing industry; Population at the end of the period; Bank lending to the economy; and Average expected duration of training during the coming life.

The correlation between variables Volume of innovative output by medium and high-tech manufacturing industries and Inflation is negative.

Both independent and dependent variables displayed on the scattering graphs have a linear type of dependence, which further allows us to construct a linear multiple regression equation.

The analysis of the correlation matrix (Table 4) showed a close correlation between the volume of innovative output by enterprises of medium and high-tech manufacturing industries with GDP and GDP per capita (multicollinearity), which excludes the possibility of including these two factors in the regression model. Indicators of a paired correlation of labor productivity and GDP have similar values, i.e. they depend on each other. In this regard, for the further construction of the regression model, we chose one factor - Labor\_product.

Next, using the statistical data analysis package within SPSS Statistics, we have calculated the parameters of correlation and regression analysis (Table 5).

**Table 5.** Results of correlation and regression analysis

| Model summary             |                   |                             |                   |                           |                      |              |                     |                     |                  |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Model                     | R                 | R-Square                    | R-Square adjusted | Standard estimation error | Variation statistics |              |                     |                     |                  |
|                           |                   |                             |                   |                           | R-Square variation   | F variation  | Degree of freedom 1 | Degree of freedom 2 | Sig. F variation |
| 1                         | ,951 <sup>b</sup> | ,904                        | ,880              | 96175,25<br>17            | ,904                 | 37,584       | 2                   | 8                   | ,000             |
| ANOVA <sup>a</sup>        |                   |                             |                   |                           |                      |              |                     |                     |                  |
| Model                     |                   | Sum of squares              |                   | Degree of freedom         | Mean square          | F            | Significance        |                     |                  |
| 1                         | Regression        | 695274967134,069            |                   | 2                         | 347637483567,035     | 37,584       | ,000 <sup>b</sup>   |                     |                  |
|                           | Excess            | 73997432317,493             |                   | 8                         | 9249679039,687       |              |                     |                     |                  |
|                           | Total             | 769272399451,562            |                   | 10                        |                      |              |                     |                     |                  |
| Coefficients <sup>a</sup> |                   |                             |                   |                           |                      |              |                     |                     |                  |
| Model                     |                   | Unstandardized coefficients |                   | Standardized coefficients | t                    | Significance | Correlations        |                     |                  |
|                           |                   | B                           | Standard error    | Beta                      |                      |              | Zeroth-order        | Partial             | Component        |
| 1                         | (Invariable)      | -237901,454                 | 81680,194         |                           | -2,913               | ,020         |                     |                     |                  |
|                           | Labor_product     | 138,844                     | 19,400            | 1,592                     | 7,157                | ,000         | ,854                | ,930                | ,785             |
|                           | Loans             | -499,265                    | 130,858           | -,849                     | -3,815               | ,005         | ,537                | -,803               | -,418            |
| Excess statistics         |                   |                             |                   |                           |                      |              |                     |                     |                  |
|                           |                   | Minimum                     | Maximum           | Mean                      | Standard deviation   | N            |                     |                     |                  |
| Projected value           |                   | 37347,762                   | 814556,250        | 352245,37                 | 263680,671           | 11           |                     |                     |                  |
| Excess                    |                   | -105641,835                 | 140687,843        | ,0000                     | 86021,7602           | 11           |                     |                     |                  |
| Standard projected value  |                   | -1,194                      | 1,753             | ,000                      | 1,000                | 11           |                     |                     |                  |
| Standard excess           |                   | -1,098                      | 1,463             | ,000                      | ,894                 | 11           |                     |                     |                  |

Note: Compiled by the authors based on SPSS Statistics data

a) Dependent variable: Innov\_product

b) Predictors: (invariable), Loans, Labor\_product

Table 5 shows that correlation coefficient  $R = 0.85$ . This indicates a close linear relationship between regression model variables. Coefficient of determination  $r^2 = 0.90$  shows that linear equation of multiple regression explains 90% of the variance of the influence of independent variables, and the volume of innovative output of enterprises of medium and high-tech manufacturing industries accounts for 10%.

A linear multiple regression equation can represent the general view of the model:

$$Innov\_product = -237901 + 138 Labor\_product - 499 Loans \quad (1)$$

where:

$Innov\_product$  is the volume of innovative output of enterprises of medium and high-tech manufacturing industries in million tenge;

$Labor\_product$  is labor productivity is thousand tenge;

$Loans$  are loans issued to manufacturing enterprises through STBs in billion tenge.

Evaluating the quality of the multiple regression equation using the Fisher criterion allows us to recognize the statistical significance of the equation:

$$F = 37,584; F_{table.} = 2,61 (F_{fact} > F_{table}) \quad (2)$$

Table 5 shows that the following actual values of t-statistics (Student's t-criterion):

$$t_a = -2,91; t_b = 7,15; t_c = -3,81 \quad (3)$$

demonstrate statistical significance of the regression model parameters and the indicator of the connection closeness (modulo  $t_a > t_{table}$ ,  $t_b > t_{table}$ ,  $t_c > t_{table}$ ).

The constructed regression model allows us to conclude the following:

- With an increase in labor productivity by each unit, the value of the variable innovative output volume increases by 138 units.
- A decrease in the indicator of loans issued to manufacturing enterprises through STBs by each unit will lead to an increase in the innovative output volume of enterprises of medium and high-tech manufacturing industries by 499 units.

## 4. RESULT DISCUSSIONS

Modeling the innovation processes did not allow to reject any of the suggested research hypotheses.

For the initial stage of our study, we chose the level of innovation activity of enterprises of medium and high-tech manufacturing industries as a dependent variable. However, it showed a correlation with only two variables: number of organizations (enterprises) engaged in R&D and crime rate. In this regard, for further modeling of the processes of organization and development of innovation, we chose the innovative output volume as a dependent variable.

Productivity is the defining concept of the phenomenon of competitiveness while improving national competitiveness appears impossible without productivity and innovation (Carayannis and Grigoroudis, 2016). Consequently, at both macro and micro levels, productivity is closely related to competitiveness and innovation, as it is a key factor in accumulation and increase of national income. Depending on the level of analysis, the strength of the relationship between competitiveness, productivity and innovation may vary, but the existence of such a relationship in economics is generally recognized (Carayannis and Campbell, 2010).

Previous studies (Kurmanov et al., 2016; 2019) have shown that significant amounts allocated from the republican budget for measures to support and stimulate innovation activities of manufacturing enterprises have zero effect. Innovation cost efficiency (2.7% in the best years) and the share of innovative

products in GDP (1.6%) remain extremely low. Kazakhstan still lags behind many developed and a number of developing countries in terms of innovative output and sales. In other words, performance of innovative activity of manufacturing enterprises still remains low. Our research also confirms the inefficiency of R&D costs.

Thuswise, we have confirmed the bigger importance of labor productivity in innovation and competitiveness of enterprises (H1), as well as a more positive impact of human capital than research and development costs (H1). We feel important to note that statistical data on medium and high-tech industries of Kazakhstan shows gaps associated with incomplete information. As a result, econometric modeling of innovation at enterprises in Kazakhstan is not easy (H3).

Our study reveals that a decrease in the indicator of loans issued to manufacturing enterprises through second-tier banks by each unit leads to an increase in the innovative output volume in enterprises of medium and high-tech manufacturing industries by 499 units. In this case, EBRD expert conclusions (EBRD, 2014) that restricting access to bank loans leads to a decrease in the innovation appear true. However, such a causal relationship between credit restrictions and innovation requires further research.

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A dynamic and successful innovation activity at knowledge-intensive enterprises requires a wide application of modern methods and technologies for organizing this process, including the coordinated and simultaneous use of scientific, technological, personnel, financial, and other policies.

The focus of most modern research is to create favorable conditions for innovation, as well as to study the management mechanisms of the organization of all stages of the innovation process: from the idea to the final innovative product. However, despite a fairly large number of studies devoted to innovation, it is necessary to note a gap in the methodology of organizing innovation in entrepreneurship, in particular, in the methodology for assessing the factors of organization and development of this process in Kazakhstan.

Numerous studies show that encouraging of innovation activity at the enterprise level requires a competent innovation policy contributing to a chain reaction of creation and implementation of innovations at macroeconomic level. The result of this process is an increase in competitiveness.

Further research will focus on identifying the causal relationship between credit restrictions and innovation activities of medium and high-tech manufacturing enterprises in Kazakhstan.

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