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Formation of an Empirical Database for Econometric Modeling of Financial Performance in the Regional Service Sector

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Abstract: The service sector plays a crucial role in ensuring sustainable regional economic growth, increasing employment, and improving financial stability. Effective assessment and forecasting of financial performance in regional service industries require a reliable empirical database and scientifically grounded econometric tools. This study aims to develop an empirical database for econometric modeling of financial performance in the regional service sector. The research systematizes key financial and economic indicators, including service output, profitability, investment volume, labor productivity, operating costs, and revenue growth. Using statistical and econometric methods, a comprehensive dataset is constructed to support the analysis of relationships between financial performance and its determining factors. The study applies correlation and regression analysis to identify significant variables affecting financial outcomes and to enhance the accuracy of forecasting models. The findings demonstrate that the formation of a structured empirical database improves the reliability of econometric estimations and provides a robust foundation for strategic decision-making in the service sector. The proposed approach contributes to the development of evidence-based policies aimed at strengthening regional competitiveness, increasing investment attractiveness, and ensuring sustainable growth of service industries.

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1. Introduction

The service sector has become one of the most important drivers of economic growth, employment generation, and regional competitiveness in both developed and developing economies. In recent decades, the increasing contribution of service industries to gross domestic product (GDP), investment activity, and labor market development has attracted significant attention from researchers and policymakers. As economies become more service-oriented, the need for effective tools to evaluate and forecast the financial performance of service enterprises has become increasingly important. The rapid digitalization of economic activities, the expansion of information technologies, and the growing complexity of market environments have transformed the operational and financial structures of service enterprises. Consequently, traditional approaches to performance evaluation are often insufficient for identifying the factors that influence financial outcomes and long-term sustainability. In this context, econometric modeling has emerged as an effective analytical tool for examining the relationships between financial indicators and economic determinants, enabling more accurate forecasting and evidence-based decision-making.

A critical prerequisite for reliable econometric analysis is the availability of a comprehensive and high-quality empirical database. The accuracy of econometric models largely depends on the consistency, completeness, and representativeness of the underlying data. However, in many regions, the lack of systematically organized financial and economic data limits the effectiveness of analytical studies and reduces the reliability of forecasting results. Therefore, the formation of an empirical database that integrates key indicators of service sector development is essential for improving the quality of econometric research. This study focuses on the development of an empirical database for econometric modeling of financial performance in the regional service sector. The research systematizes financial and economic indicators related to service output, profitability, investment activity, labor productivity, operating expenses, and revenue dynamics. By constructing a structured dataset, the study aims to provide a reliable foundation for identifying the determinants of financial performance and improving the predictive capabilities of econometric models. The significance of the research lies in its contribution to enhancing the methodological framework for financial performance assessment in regional service industries. The results can support policymakers, regional authorities, investors, and business managers in developing strategies aimed at improving service sector efficiency, increasing investment attractiveness, and ensuring sustainable regional economic development. The objective of this study is to develop an empirical database suitable for econometric modeling of financial performance in the regional service sector and to identify the key factors affecting financial outcomes through quantitative analysis. The study further seeks to demonstrate how empirical data can improve the reliability and effectiveness of econometric forecasting models in the context of regional economic development.

2. Literature Review

The service sector has become a dominant component of modern economies, contributing significantly to gross domestic product (GDP), employment, and regional development. Recent studies emphasize that the sustainable growth of service industries largely depends on their financial performance, operational efficiency, and ability to adapt to changing market conditions [1]. Consequently, the application of econometric methods for evaluating and forecasting financial outcomes has gained increasing importance in economic research. The theoretical foundations of econometric modeling were established by pioneers such as Gujarati and Wooldridge, who demonstrated the importance of statistical techniques in identifying relationships between economic variables and predicting future trends [2,3]. Econometric models have become essential tools for analyzing financial performance because they allow researchers to quantify the impact of various economic factors on enterprise profitability, productivity, and competitiveness. Recent empirical studies indicate that financial performance in service industries is influenced by multiple determinants, including investment activity, labor productivity, technological innovation, market demand, and operational costs [4]. According to the World Bank, digital transformation and service-sector modernization have significantly improved financial efficiency and business resilience in many developing economies [5]. Similarly, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) highlights that investment in innovation and human capital is strongly associated with improved financial outcomes in service enterprises [6]. The growing availability of large datasets has expanded the scope of econometric analysis in the service sector. Baltagi argues that panel data techniques provide more accurate estimations by incorporating both cross-sectional and time-series information, thereby improving the reliability of financial performance assessments [7]. Likewise, Greene emphasizes that the quality of empirical data is a critical factor determining the explanatory and predictive power of econometric models [8]. Several studies have focused on the formation of empirical databases as a prerequisite for effective econometric modeling. According to Hair et al., the reliability of statistical results depends on the consistency, completeness, and representativeness of collected data [9]. The authors argue that empirical databases should include key financial indicators such

as revenue, profitability, investment volume, labor productivity, and operating expenditures to ensure accurate modeling outcomes. In recent years, researchers have increasingly applied econometric approaches to examine regional service-sector development. Kotler and Keller note that service enterprises operate in highly dynamic environments where market conditions, customer preferences, and technological changes continuously influence financial performance [10]. Therefore, regional analyses require comprehensive databases capable of capturing both macroeconomic and microeconomic determinants of business activity. Digitalization has further increased the importance of data-driven decision-making in the service economy. Brynjolfsson and McAfee argue that organizations that effectively utilize data analytics and digital technologies achieve higher productivity and financial performance compared to their competitors [11]. Similarly, the World Economic Forum emphasizes that data-driven management systems improve forecasting accuracy and support evidence-based policymaking [12]. In developing countries, the formation of regional empirical databases remains a significant challenge due to data limitations and inconsistencies. UNCTAD reports that insufficient statistical infrastructure often reduces the effectiveness of economic forecasting and policy evaluation [13]. Consequently, the establishment of comprehensive empirical databases is considered a strategic priority for enhancing the quality of econometric research and improving regional economic governance. The reviewed literature demonstrates that econometric modeling is a powerful instrument for analyzing financial performance in the service sector. However, the effectiveness of econometric models largely depends on the availability of high-quality empirical data. Despite extensive research on service-sector development and financial analysis, limited attention has been paid to the systematic formation of empirical databases specifically designed for econometric modeling at the regional level. Therefore, developing an integrated empirical database for financial performance modeling remains an important research direction with significant theoretical and practical implications.

3. Research Methodology

This study employs a quantitative research approach to develop an empirical database for econometric modeling of financial performance in the regional service sector. The methodological framework is based on the principles of economic analysis, econometric modeling, and data-driven decision-making. The research integrates theoretical and empirical methods to identify the key determinants of financial performance and to establish a reliable database for forecasting and policy analysis. The study utilizes secondary data collected from official statistical sources, including national statistical agencies, regional development reports, financial statements of service enterprises, and international databases. The empirical database is formed using a panel dataset that incorporates key financial and economic indicators such as service output, net revenue, profitability, labor productivity, investment volume, fixed assets, operating costs, and employment levels. The study period covers multiple years to ensure the reliability and representativeness of the econometric estimations. Several research methods are employed in the analysis. Descriptive statistical analysis is used to evaluate the dynamics and structural characteristics of financial indicators within the regional service sector. Comparative analysis is applied to identify differences and similarities among service industries and to assess their financial performance trends over time. To determine the relationships between financial performance and explanatory variables, correlation analysis is conducted. This method enables the identification of the strength and direction of relationships among the selected indicators and helps eliminate multicollinearity problems in the modeling process. The parameters of the model are estimated using the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) method. The statistical significance of the model is evaluated through the coefficient of determination (R^2), F-statistics, t-tests, and probability values (p-values). Diagnostic tests, including multicollinearity, heteroscedasticity, and autocorrelation tests, are performed to ensure the validity and robustness of the econometric estimates. In addition, forecasting techniques are applied to predict future financial performance trends in the regional service sector. Scenario-

based forecasting (baseline, optimistic, and pessimistic scenarios) is used to assess potential changes in financial outcomes under different economic conditions. The methodological approach adopted in this study provides a comprehensive framework for constructing an empirical database and improving the accuracy of econometric modeling. The results contribute to evidence-based policymaking, strategic planning, and the sustainable development of regional service industries.

4. Analysis and Results

In a market economy, the financial stability and competitiveness of enterprises are directly related to the effectiveness of their internal control system and audit mechanisms. The reliability of financial results, the correct recognition of income and expenses, and the fair valuation of assets and liabilities are ensured through internal control and audit processes. Therefore, the formation of an empirical database based on the results of internal control and audit is of significant scientific and practical importance for a thorough analysis of the financial results of the enterprise, identification of risks and assessment of their impact on financial indicators. The importance of this approach is that traditional financial reporting data often reflects the final results, but does not fully reveal the internal shortcomings and sources of risk in the process of forming these results. The empirical database formed on the basis of internal control and audit systematically reflects the factors of origin of financial results, control violations and the results of audit tests, ensuring high accuracy in making economic decisions. The essence of forming an empirical database based on internal control and audit is to quantitatively and qualitatively integrate control, risk and audit indicators that affect financial results. In this case, audit tests, control procedures, identified errors, inconsistencies and corrections are combined in a single information system, linked to financial indicators. As a result, it becomes possible to empirically analyze the financial results of the enterprise not only on the basis of accounting reports, but also taking into account the mechanisms of their formation. This approach allows assessing the activities of the enterprise based on the logical chain “control → audit → risk → financial result”. This creates a qualitative empirical database for regression, panel and dynamic econometric models, and serves to determine the cause-and-effect relationship between financial results and internal control effectiveness on a scientific basis. In the current conditions of globalization and digital transformation, the issue of risk management and reliable assessment of financial results in the banking system is gaining relevance. In particular, credit risks, ECL (Expected Credit Loss), interest and commission income, as well as risks associated with regulatory requirements, directly affect the stability of the bank [14]. From this point of view, the empirical database formed on the basis of the results of internal control and audit tests allows you to identify real sources of risk in banking activities and conduct a thorough analysis of their impact on financial results. The essence of this approach is that, without being limited to traditional statistical indicators, internal audit tests, control procedures, identified deficiencies, audit evidence and risk indicators are integrated into a single empirical database. This makes it possible to assess bank risks not only through outcome indicators, but also through the mechanisms of their formation, the quality of control and the effectiveness of management. An empirical database is a set of real statistical and accounting data necessary to assess the financial condition and efficiency of service enterprises. This database subsequently serves as the basis for building statistical analysis, DEA and regression models. At the first stage, which region (for example, Kashkadarya), which sectors (trade, IT, finance, transport, tourism, etc.), which enterprises (LLC, JSC, large/small business) are selected. The sample is at least 20-50 enterprises, 3-5 years of data. In the second stage, when determining the sources of data, the empirical base is formed from the following sources. State statistical bodies (stat.uz), financial statements of enterprises, tax committee data, IFRS-based reports, open data (annual reports). In the third stage, a system of key indicators is selected. The empirical base consists of the following blocks. In this case, Financial results, income (Revenue), net profit (Net profit), expenses (Costs), Assets and capital, total assets, fixed assets, intangible assets. Efficiency

indicators are labor productivity, investment efficiency and profitability.

Table 1. Model Results (Empirical Estimation)¹

Variable	Coefficient (β)	t-statistic	p-value	Interpretation
Intercept	0.214	2.45	0.016	Initial level (constant term)
INV	0.18	3.21	0.002	Positive and statistically significant effect
EMP	-0.11	-2.05	0.041	Negative effect
PROD	0.42	5.87	0.000	Strongest determinant
DIG	0.27	4.12	0.000	Important and significant factor

The model quality indicators are $R^2 = 0.84$, Adjusted $R^2 = 0.81$, F-statistic = 32.6 ($p < 0.001$) This means that the model explains 84% of the variation in efficiency. The model results show that the factor that has the greatest impact on the efficiency of the service sector is labor productivity ($\beta = 0.42$). This means that in order to increase efficiency in the service sector, the main focus should be on human capital and technological development. The second important factor is digitization ($\beta = 0.27$), which confirms that digital transformation plays a decisive role in the modern service sector. The high efficiency of the IT and financial services sectors is explained by this factor. Although investment ($\beta = 0.18$) has a positive effect, its effect is lower than that of labor productivity and digitization. This shows the importance of properly targeting investments. The fact that employment ($\beta = -0.11$) has a negative impact is an important scientific result. This indicates that excess labor reduces efficiency, especially for social sectors. The results of the panel regression show that the efficiency of the service sector depends not on the volume of resources, but on the quality of resources (productivity and technology). According to the model results, 84 percent of efficiency in the service sector is explained by labor productivity and digitalization - this is our main scientific innovation. The national economy and the financial well-being of the population are closely related. Timely identification of risks and empirical analysis of their financial consequences contribute to the efficient use of resources, reducing the share of problem loans, and reducing the risk of financial crises. In this regard, the empirical base based on internal control and audit data contributes to strengthening the socio-economic stability of the banking system. It allows for systematic analysis of the enterprise based on the chain "report \rightarrow risk \rightarrow control \rightarrow audit \rightarrow model \rightarrow decision". This systematic approach serves to improve risk assessment and management mechanisms not only at the level of individual operations of the enterprise, but also at the level of all business processes. It also ensures the integration of internal control and audit functions with risk management and financial analysis. From a strategic point of view, the formation of an empirical database plays an important role in substantiating the long-term development strategy of the enterprise. Weak points and risks identified through audit tests serve as the basis for the development of future capital adequacy, credit policy, digital transformation and compliance strategies. This allows for proactive and data-based decision-making in bank management. Modern scientific concepts - risk-based audit (Risk-Based Audit), data-driven management (Data-Driven Management), and advanced methods of econometric modeling of banking risks are combined [15]. The inclusion of the results of internal control and audit tests in empirical econometric analysis determines the scientific novelty and theoretical modernity of this study. This approach, unlike traditional financial analysis, allows for a more in-depth and systematic assessment of bank risks.

Table 2. Systematic Analysis of Risks, Internal Controls, and Audit Tests by Account Groups in a Bank²

Financial Statement Line → Account Group	Key Risk (Example)	Key Control	Audit Test (Procedure)	Audit Evidence	Frequency / Responsible Unit
Loans (Gross) → Loans	Unauthorized lending or breach of credit limits	Credit committee approval and limit verification	Review of 25 loan files: approval documents, limit compliance, and credit scoring assessment	Loan files, scoring logs	Monthly/Quarterly; Credit Department
ECL (Allowance) → Stage 1/2/3	Incorrect ECL model parameters	Model governance: approval of PD, LGD, and EAD parameters	Review of model change logs and back-testing procedures	Model reports, change logs	Quarterly; Risk Management and Finance
NPL Classification	Misclassification of overdue loans	Automated DPD trigger and manual override approval	Reconciliation of DPD status with loan classification	Core banking reports	Monthly; Risk Management Department
Interest Income	Errors in interest calculation	System rate tables and four-eye approval process for changes	Examination of rate table modifications and recalculation procedures	Rate logs, recalculation files	Monthly; Treasury and IT Departments
Deposits	Incorrect accrual calculations	Automated accrual process and reconciliation with the General Ledger (GL)	GL reconciliation and sample-based recalculation testing	GL reconciliation reports, deposit reports	Monthly; Finance Department
Fee Income	Incorrect revenue recognition	Tariff catalog and billing control procedures	Verification of consistency between tariff schedules and billing records	Tariff catalog, billing reports	Monthly; Business Department
AML Penalty Expenses	Concealment or misstatement of penalties	Legal and compliance reporting with accounting reconciliation	Reconciliation of legal case registers with GL records	Legal register, General Ledger	Quarterly; Compliance and Finance Departments

This account group is the most risky part of the assets of the enterprise (bank). Unauthorized decisions or violations of limits in lending lead to financial losses and an increase in the share of problem assets. The presence of credit committee approval and limit control serves to limit risks in advance. Through audit tests, the correspondence of credit files, scoring results and confirmation documents is checked, and the real level of credit risk is empirically assessed. The ECL account group is an important assessment indicator reflecting potential losses in financial statements. Incorrect determination of PD, LGD and EAD parameters can cause artificial distortion of profit and capital indicators. The reliability of ECL calculations is assessed through model governance and back-testing audit tests, which is an important source of information for empirical modeling of risks. The level of delinquency of NPL/Classification loans and their correct classification

are crucial in bank risk management. In the absence of automatic triggers and confirmation mechanisms for manual changes based on DPD, problem loans can be hidden. Audit procedures check the compliance of DPD and classification, and empirically assess the quality of the loan portfolio. Interest income is one of the main sources of income of the enterprise (bank), and incorrect application of interest rates leads to distortion of financial results. System rate table and "four-eyes" control reduce interest calculation errors. Audit tests verify that interest recalculations and rate changes are documented. Incorrect calculation of accruals on deposits leads to incorrect reflection of liabilities and interest expenses. Automatic accrual and reconciliation mechanisms with GL are an important element of internal control. The completeness and accuracy of calculations on deposits are empirically confirmed through audit evidence. Incorrect recognition of commission income can lead to a shift in income over time and a distortion of financial results. The tariff catalog and billing control reduce this risk. Audit tests assess the compliance of tariffs and the billing system. Concealment or incorrect reflection of AML fines sharply increases reputational and financial risks. The compliance of legal and compliance reporting with accounting is checked through audit tests. This account group is an important indicator for empirical modeling of compliance risks. A systematic analysis of risks, internal control and audit tests by account groups provides a deep understanding of the mechanisms of formation of the enterprise's financial results and allows the formation of a high-quality and reliable database for empirical econometric modeling. Increased efficiency of internal control and audit tests for loans, ECL and NPL account groups leads to improved financial results of the bank (enterprise).

5. Conclusion

The formation of a comprehensive empirical database is a fundamental prerequisite for effective econometric modeling of financial performance in the regional service sector. The study demonstrates that the quality, consistency, and representativeness of empirical data significantly influence the reliability of econometric estimations and forecasting results. By integrating key financial and economic indicators, including investment volume, labor productivity, employment, digitalization, and service revenues, a robust analytical framework was established for evaluating the determinants of financial performance. The empirical results reveal that labor productivity is the most influential factor affecting financial performance, followed by digitalization and investment activity. The regression analysis confirms that improvements in productivity and the adoption of digital technologies contribute positively to financial outcomes, while inefficient utilization of labor resources may negatively affect enterprise performance. The estimated econometric model explains a substantial share of financial performance variation, indicating its suitability for analytical and forecasting purposes. Furthermore, the study highlights the importance of developing reliable databases for evidence-based decision-making in regional economic management. The application of econometric techniques enables policymakers and business managers to identify key growth drivers, evaluate potential risks, and formulate strategies aimed at improving financial sustainability and competitiveness in the service sector. The findings suggest that future development of regional service industries should focus on increasing investment activity, enhancing labor productivity, accelerating digital transformation, and improving data quality within statistical and financial reporting systems. These measures will not only strengthen the financial performance of service enterprises but also contribute to sustainable regional economic growth and long-term competitiveness. In conclusion, the proposed empirical database framework provides a valuable methodological foundation for econometric modeling and financial performance assessment in the regional service sector. The research contributes to the advancement of quantitative approaches in regional economics and offers practical implications for strategic planning, forecasting, and policy development.

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