

Analysis of Regional Economic Integration Development and Establishment of New Government Assessment Mechanism: Taking the Yangtze River Delta as an Example

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Abstract

The epidemic of the new crown epidemic has profoundly revealed the fact that all countries share the same fate in the context of globalization, so under China's new development pattern of “double cycle”, the coordinated development of domestic regional integration is particularly important, and reform and innovation are imminent. Taking the Yangtze River Delta as an example, this paper summarizes the key issues in the economic integration of the Yangtze River Delta region through the comparative analysis of subjective and objective data, as well as the research methods of online questionnaire and data collection. Based on the analysis and reference of typical cases at home and abroad, relevant innovative suggestions are put forward to the current government performance evaluation mechanism and cadre assessment mechanism in China.

Keywords: Yangtze River Delta, regional economic integration, assessment mechanism innovation

1. Introduction

As the most economically developed, innovative, urbanized and open economic zone in China, the Yangtze River Delta region accounts for only 3.7% of China's land area, concentrating 1/4 of China's total economic output, and is an important engine of China's economic development. In 2021, the total GDP of the three provinces and one city in the Yangtze River Delta will exceed 27 trillion yuan, accounting for about 24.13% of the national total, of which Shanghai accounts for about 3.78%, Jiangsu accounts for 10.17%, Zhejiang accounts for 6.43%, and Anhui accounts for 3.76% (Qin, 2022). In 2020, the global economy under the impact of the epidemic fell into recession, and China, as the only economy to achieve positive economic growth, attracted global attention. As the leader of China's economy, the Yangtze River Delta region has taken the lead in resuming work and production in many regions, and the economic momentum has returned to strong, but while GDP has increased, it has also exposed the imbalance of regional integration. Among them, the most important problems are: the lack of a strong administrative coordination mechanism, an administrative management system, a government evaluation mechanism and a cadre evaluation mechanism. Under the surging wave of globalization, regional integration and economic globalization are the general trend, so it is of great practical significance to analyse regional economic integration development and establishment of new government assessment mechanism of the development of regional economic integration in the Yangtze River Delta.

2. Literature Review

The development process of regional integration has a distinctive characteristic of the times. With the change of China's role in the world economy, national governance has entered a new stage, and regional integration has new requirements in the new environment.

A large number of literature shows that the previous research on regional economic integration focused on the reform of macroeconomic management integration path and the coordinated planning of industries, Song (2003) studied the industrial convergence, factor flow obstruction and development positioning in the Yangtze River Delta region under the background of China's accession to the WTO, and put forward the solution idea of focusing on the development of basic industries and urban point axis development. Wang et al. (2011) summarized the evolution of economic integration in the Yangtze River Delta, pointed out the bottlenecks in the development of the Yangtze River Delta industrial structure cooperation mechanism that has not yet matured, and suggested that the Yangtze River Delta should focus on regional overall linkage and policy integration innovation in the future. Guo and Deng (2019) summarized the development characteristics and development experience of the Yangtze River Delta from 1991 to 2017 based on the background of the integrated development of the Yangtze River Delta region as a national strategy, and believed that under the background of the new normal, the government should clarify the responsibilities and division of labor of the market, promote institutional reform, and encourage scientific and technological innovation and equal competition. Hua and Han (2021) first clarified the

importance of economic integration in the Yangtze River Delta, followed by elaborating on the problems of industrial homogenization, imbalance in resource allocation, and conflicts of interest in various regions faced in the process of integration, and finally proposed specific solutions such as optimizing the strategic and market environment, promoting the construction of people's livelihood projects, and protecting the ecological environment.

In summary, we found that in the existing literature, there is a lack of research that not only establishes a specific mechanism for regional integration in the Yangtze River Delta, but also has the feedback evaluation of the masses. The literature that studies the regional coordination mechanism generally does not have the current “double cycle” background for a long time, and the literature with the “double cycle” background lacks specific research and mass feedback on the creation of new mechanisms.

3. Research Method

This paper uses a comparative method combining subjective and objective data to calculate the coefficient of variation of the economic growth rate of each region in the Yangtze River Delta, and through comparative argumentation, it is concluded that the urban agglomeration in the Yangtze River Delta region does have the characteristics of steady improvement in the quality of integrated development in the early stage. However, after the regional economic integration of the Yangtze River Delta rose to a national strategy, the fluctuation of the coefficient of variation further increased, which shows that while the regional economy is developing rapidly, many imbalances and uncertainties have arisen accordingly.

Secondly, through the method of online questionnaire survey, this paper collects the feelings of people from 33 provinces and 22 different industries in the country on regional economic integration, explores the subjective impressions of the people on the implementation of regional integration, and puts forward relevant policy suggestions for the problems reflected by the people.

4. Analysis on the Development of Regional Economic Integration in Yangtze River Delta

4.1. Data Analysis

In November 2018, the regional integration development of the Yangtze River Delta was officially elevated to a national strategy, and since then, the region has carried an extraordinary national mission, continuously made new breakthroughs in economic construction, and handed over a “report card” with remarkable results.

4.1.1. The Trend of Regional Homogenization and Multi-city Center Development (Ye et al., 2016)

According to Table 1, from a horizontal point of view, in 1991, the total economic volume of Shanghai in China was about 3.92 times that of Hangzhou, 4.80 times that of Nanjing, 14.97

times of Hefei, 5.26 times of Ningbo, 3.81 times of Suzhou, and 4.84 times of Wuxi; After 30 years, the ratio becomes 2.39 times, 2.64 times, 3.79 times, 2.96 times, 1.90 times, and 3.09 times. From a vertical point of view, the GDP of Shanghai, Hangzhou, Nanjing, Hefei, Ningbo, Suzhou and Wuxi in 2021 is 49 times, 79 times, 88 times, 191 times, 86 times, 97 times and 76 times that of them in 1991.

This shows that after more than 30 years of reform and practice, the gap between the Shanghai Economic Zone and the economic circles of the core cities in the Yangtze River Delta

region is gradually decreasing, and there is a trend towards the development of regional homogenization and multi-city centers.

Table 1: GDP ratio between Shanghai and the core cities of the Yangtze River Delta by year

Years	Shanghai: Hangzhou	Shanghai: Nanjing	Shanghai: Hefei	Shanghai: Ningbo	Shanghai: Suzhou	Shanghai: Wuxi
1991	3.92:1	4.80:1	14.97:1	5.26:1	3.81:1	4.84:1
1995	3.30:1	4.31:1	15.03:1	4.18:1	2.79:1	3.33:1
2000	3.48:1	4.48:1	14.82:1	4.21:1	3.12:1	4.09:1
2005	3.18:1	3.81:1	10.97:1	3.83:1	2.26:1	3.30:1
2010	2.92:1	3.40:1	6.45:1	3.36:1	1.89:1	3.02:1
2015	2.55:1	2.64:1	4.53:1	3.20:1	1.76:1	2.95:1
2016	2.49:1	2.68:1	4.49:1	3.24:1	1.82:1	3.01:1
2017	2.40:1	2.57:1	4.17:1	3.06:1	1.74:1	2.86:1
2018	2.52:1	2.81:1	4.18:1	3.22:1	1.94:1	3.15:1
2019	2.47:1	2.71:1	4.05:1	3.17:1	1.97:1	3.21:1
2020	2.40:1	2.61:1	3.85:1	3.19:1	1.92:1	3.13:1
2021	2.39:1	2.64 : 1	3.79:1	2.96:1	1.90:1	3.09:1

Before the implementation of the Development Strategy of the Yangtze River Delta Urban Agglomeration, the economic foundation of each city was different from each other. However, after the implementation of the development strategy, many cities have developed tremendously. For example, after Hefei was integrated into the development strategy of the Yangtze River Delta urban agglomeration, the total economic volume increased by 191 times compared with 1991.

In order to eliminate the impact caused by the different economic bases of cities in various regions of the Yangtze River Delta, we introduce a coefficient of variation of regional economic growth rate, which is used to directly measure the probability distribution and degree of discretization of an economic variable. Since the coefficient of variability is a normalized measure and has no statistical schema, we can measure relatively objectively how dispersed an economic variable is over multiple statistical periods. The greater the absolute value of the coefficient of variation, the greater the difference in the rate of economic growth between different regions in the region, and the lower the relative synchronization of economic development; Conversely, the smaller the coefficient of variation value, the stronger the mutual convergence of economic growth rates between various regions in the region, and the

higher the intensity of achieving the strategic development goals of regional economic integration. The calculation formula is as follows:

$$c = \sigma / \mu$$

The standard deviation of the economic growth rate of each city μ : the average of the economic growth rate of each city

Based on the economic growth rate indicators of the Yangtze River Delta urban agglomeration from 1991 to 2021, we obtained the coefficient of variation of the economic growth rate of the total plate, and divided it horizontally into Zhejiang plate, Anhui plate and Jiangsu plate; It can be seen from the data in Table 3 and Figure 4 that from 1991 to 2017, the coefficient of variation of the overall economic growth rate of the Yangtze River Delta urban agglomeration was basically stable, and the overall trend of steady decline showed a steady decline, which shows that the economic growth rate of the Yangtze River Delta regional urban agglomeration has the characteristics of integrated and balanced development.

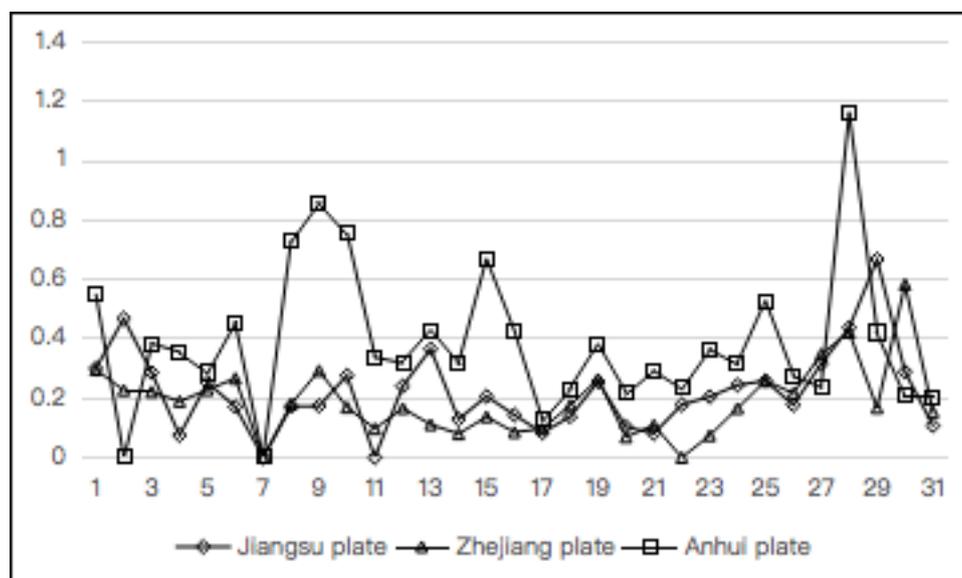
Table 2: Coefficients of variation of economic growth rates of the Yangtze River Delta total plate and different plates

Year	Total Plate	Zhejiang Plate	Anhui Plate	Jiangsu Plate
1991	0.4262	0.2963	0.5482	0.3003
1992	0.4556	0.2269	0.425 3	0.4684
1993	0.3008	0.2214	0.3833	0.2863
1994	0.2319	0.1892	0.3548	0.0752
1995	0.2531	0.2281	0.287	0.2526
1996	0.3774	0.2668	0.4568	0.1709
1997	0.4749	0.333 5	0.566 3	0.220 3
1998	0.3874	0.1802	0.7301	0.1728
1999	0.4485	0.2929	0.8597	0.1741
2000	0.4142	0.1692	0.7547	0.2763
2001	0.2542	0.0973	0.3385	0.227 1
2002	0.2666	0.1658	0.3196	0.241
2003	0.3259	0.1111	0.426	0.3656
2004	0.2128	0.0798	0.3143	0.129
2005	0.4256	0.1373	0.666	0.2062
2006	0.2653	0.0852	0.4233	0.1437
2007	0.1274	0.0969	0.126	0.0836
2008	0.2198	0.176	0.2309	0.1379
2009	0.4613	0.2641	0.3789	0.2557
2010	0.2053	0.0689	0.2159	0.1033
2011	0.2621	0.1094	0.2944	0.0812
2012	0.2630	0.1993	0.2334	0.178
2013	0.2719	0.0743	0.3657	0.2047
2014	0.2609	0.1658	0.3157	0.2443
2015	0.3681	0.2586	0.5247	0.2587
2016	0.2225	0.2167	0.2747	0.1771

Year	Total Plate	Zhejiang Plate	Anhui Plate	Jiangsu Plate
2017	0.3408	0.3487	0.2379	0.3162
2018	1.0336	0.4218	1.16	0.4379
2019	0.4633	0.1675	0.4216	0.6681
2020	0.3951	0.5837	0.2101	0.289
2021	0.1682	0.1536	0.2027	0.1076

The figure below (Figure 1) shows the changes and trends of the coefficient of variation of the economic growth rate of different urban plates in the Yangtze River Delta urban agglomeration. Compared with the Zhejiang Plate and the Jiangsu Plate, the overall economic growth rate variation coefficient and fluctuation range of the Anhui City Plate are the largest. Since 1991, for most of the time, the coefficient of variation of the economic growth rate between the entire Anhui urban plate has been higher than that of the Zhejiang and Jiangsu plates. Its high coefficient of variation of the rate of economic growth and greater volatility reflect to a certain extent the problems in the process of coordinated development of the regional economy. At the same time, the coefficient of variation of the economic growth rate of the Anhui plate often returns to the same level as other sections, indicating that the quality of the coordinated development of the overall economy is gradually improving after Anhui has participated in a series of major economic strategies and implementation plans such as regional economic integration in the Yangtze River Delta and national reform and development.

Figure 1: Trends in coefficients of variation of economic growth rates by cities in different segments of the Yangtze River Delta, 1991-2021



4.1.2. Huge Fluctuations in the Deepening of the All-in-one Strategy

From the comparison of Figure 2 and Figure 3, it can be seen that the coefficient of variation of the overall economic growth rate of the Yangtze River Delta urban agglomeration in 2018 has fluctuated greatly, and has stabilized after 2019.

In January 2018, the Shanghai Municipal Government issued the “Shanghai Municipal Master Plan (2017-2035)”, which clearly stated that the new Yangtze River Delta should actively integrate and increase cooperation to build a world-class manufacturing industry cluster; in March, the National Development and Reform Commission issued the “Notice of the National Development and Reform Commission on implementing the key tasks of promoting the construction of new urbanization in 2018”, and in 2018, it will accelerate the implementation of the Yangtze River Delta urban agglomeration plan to form an optimized layout of the “one core, five circles and four belts” network; General Secretary Xi Jinping made important instructions on the integration of the Yangtze River Delta, asking Shanghai to play a leading role in promoting the development of the Yangtze River Delta to achieve higher quality integrated development, better lead the development of the Yangtze River Economic Belt, and better serve the overall development of the country; in November, General Secretary Xi Jinping announced at the first China International Import Expo that it would “support the regional integration development of the Yangtze River Delta and elevate it to a national strategy”.

The focus of the national strategy will inevitably have an impact on the overall economy of the Yangtze River Delta region and bring new opportunities for the integrated development of the Yangtze River Delta region. After the rise to the national strategy, the advantages of coordinated economic development in the Yangtze River Delta region will undoubtedly be further strengthened, but the shortcomings reflected in the large fluctuation of the coefficient of variation in the economic growth rate will also be magnified: the imbalance of regional economic development, the uncoordinated government mechanism and market mechanism, and the lack of coordination and linkage between cities still need to be further solved. Moreover, the development strategy of China's regional economic integration no longer only emphasizes economic development, but only by adhering to the new regional development concept of “innovation, coordination, green, openness and sharing” can we promote integrated high-quality development. As a result, a single economic indicator can no longer measure the full utility of a new regional development strategy.

Figure 2: Trend of coefficient of variation of economic growth rate of cities in Yangtze River Delta, 1991-2017

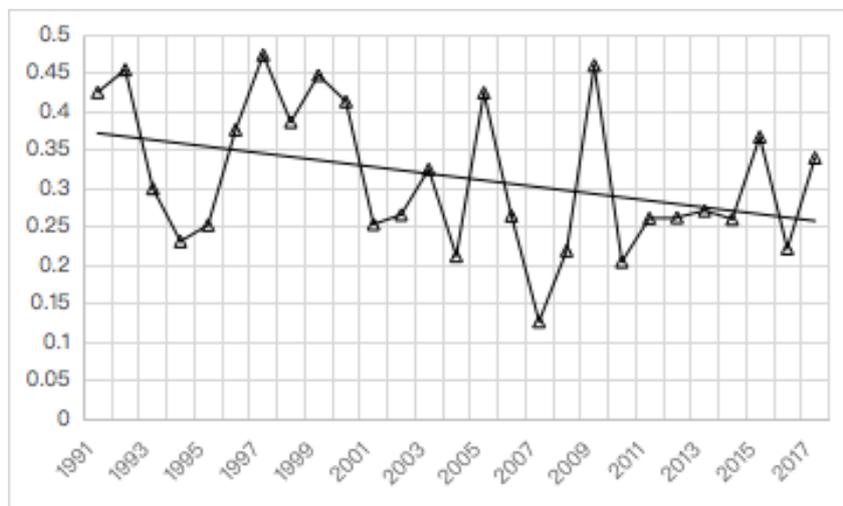
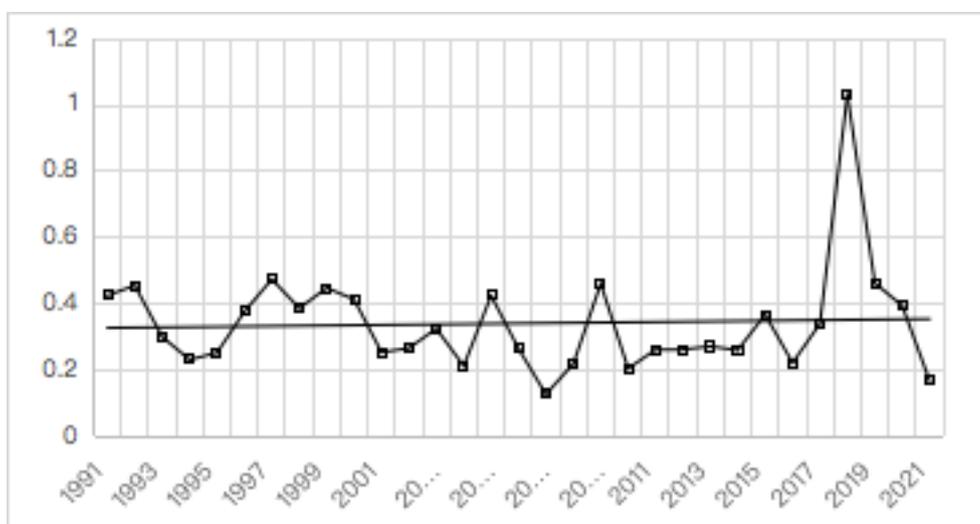


Figure 3: Trend of coefficient of variation of economic growth rate by cities in Yangtze River Delta, 1991-2021



4.2. Questionnaire Survey

A total of 483 questionnaires were distributed in this survey, 39 invalid questionnaires were excluded, and 444 valid questionnaires were valid, with an effective rate of 91.93%. Among the surveyed people, 36.04% of the respondents were located in the Yangtze River Delta region, and the proportion of 19-50 years old was the largest, accounting for 79.95% of the total number of respondents.

4.2.1. The Diffusion and Implementation of Regional Economic Integration Needs to be Improved

The results of the questionnaire show that only 20.95% of people know a lot about regional economic integration, and 8.33% of people have never heard of it (see Figure 1), and most people have only heard of this concept but do not understand it. In the face of the problem of “you think that your region does not attach importance to regional integration”, 30.41% chose “very important”, 53.83% chose “general attention”, and 15.77% chose not to pay attention (See Figure 2). And of the 135 people who chose to “attach great importance to it”, 82 people were from the Yangtze River Delta region, accounting for 60.74% of the total number. At the same time, in terms of whether regional integration has brought changes to public life, 25.23% of people feel strongly, 56.76% feel average, and 18.02% do not feel it (see Figure 3).

It can be concluded that the concept of regional economic integration is not highly popular among the national public, the publicity is small, and it has not yet penetrated into urban daily life. Cities should clarify their positioning in the development of regional integration and enhance the public's sense of identity and acquisition of integration. As far as the Yangtze River Delta region is concerned, most people can strongly feel the government's emphasis on integration, but from the data displayed in the questionnaire, the development momentum of various regions in the region in public services, social security, education and health, social security and other public concerns is lacking, the growth rate is lacking in quality, the improvement of residents' lives is not obvious, and the specific implementation of integration needs to be improved.

Figure 4: Knowledge of regional economic integration

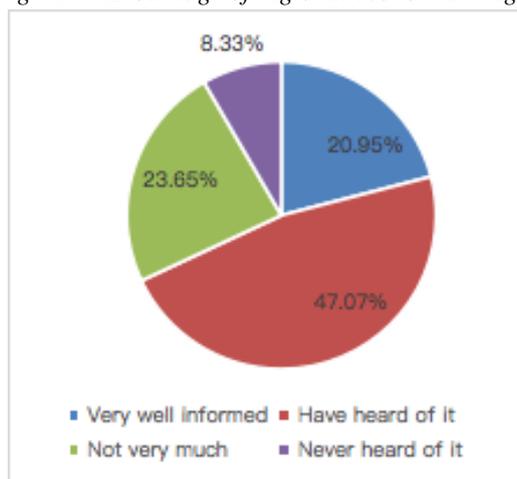


Figure 5: Whether the region attaches importance to regional integration

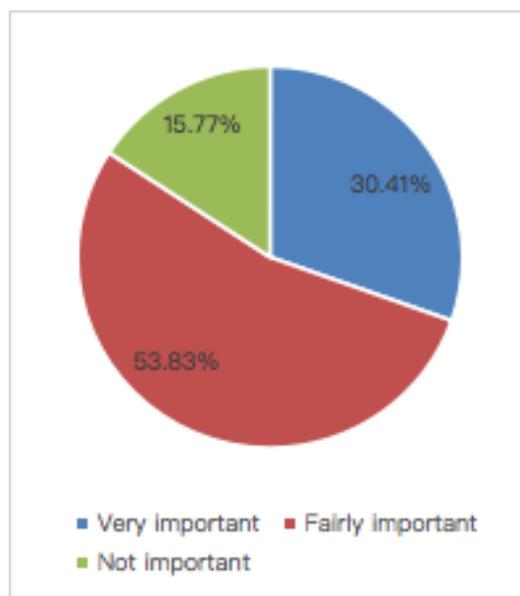
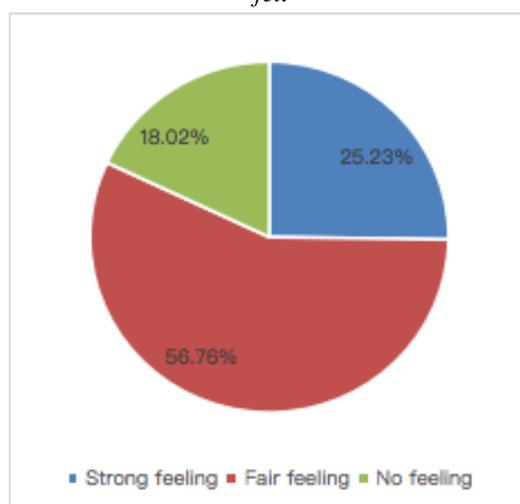


Figure 6: Whether the changes in residents' lives brought by the development of regional integration can be felt



4.2.2. Uneven Development of Regional Integration Prevails

According to the questionnaire survey data, 77.25% of the people generally believe that there is an imbalance in the current integrated development (see figure 4).

Taking the Yangtze River Delta as an example, after the reform and opening up, Shanghai, as the central city of the Yangtze River Delta, has an urban polarization effect, which is bound to be tilted by policies in the process of development, so the surrounding economic resources are gathered in one direction towards Shanghai, the “leading city”, and the cities within the Yangtze River Delta are fiercely competitive with capital, talents, capital, information and other production factors, and there are conflicts of interest between local governments, and integration has not reached a high-quality coordinated development state (Xie & Jin, 2022).

Another example is northern Anhui, as an underdeveloped development area in the Yangtze River Delta, with a per capita GDP of about two-thirds of the level of Anhui Province in 2020, and the proportion of primary production in the three industrial structures is 4.6 percentage points higher than that of the province, and the urbanization rate is about 10 percentage points lower than that of the province. Compared with northern Jiangsu, where the regional area and permanent population are roughly equivalent, the total economic volume and per capita level of northern Anhui are only about half of the former.

Table 3: Do you think there is an imbalance in the development of regional integration in your area

Options	Total	Proportion
Exist	343	77.25%
Not Exist	101	22.75%

4.2.3. Strong Demand for Various Types of Integration

4.2.3.1. Medical Insurance, Social Security and Transportation are Integrated

The data of this questionnaire survey reflect the public's strong demand for regional economic integration and the yearning for a better, convenient and high-quality life. The multiple response frequency analysis table shows that the response rate and penetration rate of medical insurance and social security integration and transportation and travel integration are the highest. At present, Shanghai Qingpu, Suzhou Wujiang Zhejiang Jiashan three places have realized the Yangtze River Delta “medical insurance electronic voucher one code pass”, the insured in the demonstration area with medical insurance electronic voucher to 75 designated medical institutions door (emergency) clinic, off-site treatment can be directly settled. Moreover, as a region with a leading density and basic service level of the national transportation network, the Yangtze River Delta region has problems such as weak highway fast track capacity in some major urban agglomerations, saturation of highway and railway capacity in some sections of Beijing-Shanghai and Shanghai-Kunming, unclear functions of regional rail transit networks, and unsmooth handovers.

4.2.3.2. Integration of Ecological and Environmental Protection

Over the past few decades, China's economic development has made remarkable achievements, but at the same time it has also borne the corresponding cost of resources and environment. Tightening resource constraints and long-term environmental protection are long-term challenges facing high-quality development in the Yangtze River Delta region. The questionnaire data shows that the public's attention to the environment has increased with the development of society. Today's integration should pay attention to environmental protection while developing rapidly, uphold the development purpose of “green water and green mountains are golden mountains and silver mountains”, create a sound environmental governance system among local governments, introduce corresponding environmental protection policies according to the characteristics of regional development, optimize urban transportation structure and industrial structure, and strive to create a “green and beautiful Yangtze River Delta city cluster”.

4.2.3.3. Collaborative Innovation Integration

Shanghai can use its diffusion effect to provide advanced technical support to many regions and cities such as Jiangsu, Zhejiang, and Anhui, continue to export high-quality capital, attach importance to economic innovation, seek cross-regional industrial innovation and collaboration, and balance the commonalities and personalities of various cities. Cities deepen reform, innovate systems, complement each other's advantages, expand opening up, cross-regional industrial division of labor, and dislocate functions, build an integrated scientific and technological innovation platform, strive to promote the overall coordinated development of the region, and comprehensively enhance the core competitiveness of the region.

4.2.3.4. Integration of Investment and Trade

Establish and improve the institutional mechanism that conforms to the law of market trade, stimulate the vitality of domestic and foreign capital to the greatest extent, aggregate various types of regional resources, create a smart trade and open investment system, and promote a win-win situation of trade and investment at home and abroad.

Table 4: What integration would you most like to achieve

Multiple Choice Question Items	N (count)	Response rate (%)	Universal coverage (%)	X2	P
Integration of health insurance, social security, etc.	328	28.300	73.900	460.355	0.000***
Tax facilitation	140	12.100	31.500		
Integration of transportation and travel	295	25.500	66.400		
Integration of collaborative innovation	140	12.100	31.500		
Integration of ecological and environmental protection	159	13.700	35.800		
Integration of investment and trade	95	8.200	21.400		
Other	2	0.200	0.500		
Total	1159	100.000	261.036		

Note: ***, **, * represent 1%, 5%, 10% significance levels, respectively

4.2.4. Planning is Superficial, Despises Regional Cooperation, and Lacks a Complete Government Assessment Mechanism

According to the questionnaire survey, nearly half of the respondents believe that the integration planning of all regions of the country has different degrees of superficiality, has not been implemented, and has ignored the problem of regional cooperation because of the vigorous development of the local economy. Secondly, the lack of well-collected people's will, the lack of strong integrated management mechanisms and inadequate financial support are also commonly considered development problems. (See Table 3) As for how to solve these problems and how to optimize integrated development in the future, 60.6% believe that a government performance and cadre appraisal mechanism should be established, 50.5% believe that a complete financial support and financial coordination mechanism should be established,

and 48.0% believe that China should learn from and develop the integration experience of developed countries.

Table 5: What do you think are the main problems in the integration process in your region

Multiple-choice question items	N (count)	Response rate (%)	Universal coverage (%)	X2	P
Planning is superficial and not focused on implementation	202	19.300	45.500	275.025	0.000***
The government mainly vigorously develops the local economy and does not pay attention to regional cooperation	203	19.400	45.700		
Inadequate financial support	141	13.500	31.800		
Failure to collect people's will well	174	16.600	39.200		
Lack of strong integrated management mechanism	165	15.800	37.200		
No dedicated relevant departments or relevant departments do not act properly	98	9.400	22.100		
Insufficient power of relevant departments	61	5.800	13.700		
Other	2	0.200	0.500		
Total	1046	100.000	235.586		

Note: ***, **, * represent 1%, 5%, 10% significance levels, respectively

Table 6: What do you think our country should do to implement regional integration

Multiple Choice Questions	N (count)	Response rate (%)	Universal coverage (%)	X2	P
Learn and develop the experience of developed countries in regional integration	213	17.600	48.000	436.478	0.000***
Establish a complete financial support and financial coordination mechanism	224	18.500	50.500		
Establishing a government performance and cadre assessment mechanism	269	22.200	60.600		
Improve the distribution of power in relevant departments	133	11.000	30.000		
Insufficient power of relevant departments	61	5.000	13.700		
Legislative support	94	7.700	21.200		
Widely listen to the views of the public	126	10.400	28.400		
Increase the efforts of regional integration reform	91	7.500	20.500		
Others	2	0.200	0.500		
Total	1213	100.000	273.198		

Note: ***, **, * represent 1%, 5%, 10% significance levels, respectively

5. Comparison of Regional Economic Integration Development at Home and Abroad

In view of the problems reflected in the above discussion for the coordinated integration of the Yangtze River Delta region, it is concluded that the establishment of a pluralistic, multi-level, network-like and powerful regional administrative coordination organization is an indispensable part of the current integration process of the Yangtze River Delta, of which authority, decision-making power and implementation power are indispensable. Authority refers to the unified management from top to bottom, the decision-making power indicates that the institution has a certain regional governance capacity, the implementation power indicates

the need for the support of the relevant legal basis of the state, while strengthening the legislation should also have a permanent staffing and financial support and be effectively managed and supervised. However, considering that there is still a big gap between China's multi-party participation in regional governance and the positioning of developed countries, the public's understanding and influence of policies is still weak, and the diversified participation of various stakeholders cannot be guaranteed for the time being, in this case, different models of regional governance at home and abroad may provide reference experience for them.

5.1. External Research - A Reference to the Experience of Foreign Regional Economic Integration

In the process of regional integration in developed countries, many classic governance models have emerged, such as the two-tier governance model represented by the London metropolitan area; the close alliance model represented by the European Union; the authorized governance model represented by the Frankfurt Peripheral Environment Committee; the joint consultation model represented by the Washington metropolitan area; the special governance model represented by the New York metropolitan area; and the mixed governance model represented by the Japanese metropolitan administration.

5.1.1. European Union

Among them, the establishment of a regional non-governmental coordination organization adopted by the Washington Autonomous Region of the United States is most similar to the governance model currently adopted by China's Yangtze River Delta region, but because this model does not touch the current local administrative interests, it is relatively easy to operate, and the lack of authority makes decision-making insufficient, the organization is loose and only focuses on the development of the local economy, and the lack of regional-level executive institutions also leads to a great loss of execution. Although London's "two-tier" system of decentralization is more suitable for the current administrative system in the Yangtze River Delta, it makes it impossible for the opinions of various stakeholders to be fully expressed.

In contrast, the EUROPEAN Union, through the establishment of the EU structural fund to balance the interests of various localities, the establishment of a good benefit sharing and compensation mechanism, which also applies to the Yangtze River Delta, in the face of the imbalance in the coordinated development of various regions, "three provinces and one city" need to be in proportion to the annual fiscal revenue to hand over the funds, the establishment of a pool of funds. In particular, Shanghai, as the leader of the Yangtze River Delta region, should lead the Yangtze River Delta region to firmly seek development under the overall situation, focus on giving full play to the regional driving force to enhance core functions, take the initiative to make more efforts in fiscal and taxation issues to make up for the resource constraints of other regions, and issue special funds to encourage industrial adjustment, enterprise transfer and scientific and technological support.

5.1.2. Administration of Japan

The mixed governance model adopted by the Tokyo City Economic Circle, combined with the situation in Japan, adopts a mixture of various coordination models of various countries, such as entrusting affairs, setting up common institutions, regional development groups, agreements, etc. China can learn from this comprehensive governance model, break the boundaries of various administrative districts in the integrated region, form a reasonable industrial layout, professional division of labor, cross-regional cooperation, and complement each other's advantages. For example, Shanghai as an international financial center can provide services for the high-quality development of the Yangtze River Delta and participate in international competition, Jiangsu has a developed manufacturing industry, can be built into a science and technology industry innovation center and advanced manufacturing base with global influence; Zhejiang has a beautiful ecological environment, leading the digital economy, can become an important hub for China's opening up to the outside world and a new benchmark for green development; Anhui innovation is active and strong, and will be a source of scientific and technological innovation and emerging industry gathering place with important influence.

5.2. Internal Research: The Enlightenment of Regional Economic Integration in the Pearl River Delta to the Yangtze River Delta

Yangtze River Delta, Pearl River Delta and Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei as China's three well-known economic circles, of which the Pearl River Delta system competitiveness is the most superior, before 2018, the Yangtze River Delta region only established regional administrative district government consultation organizations, such as the Yangtze River Delta City Economic Coordination Council and the Yangtze River Delta Regional Cooperation and Development Joint Conference (special consultative organization), while the Pearl River Delta region has established coordination institutions and consultative organizations at the same time, of which "CEPA" and "Hong Kong-Shenzhen Metropolitan System" The establishment of the Yangtze River Delta has played a good role model.

6. New Countermeasures for the Coordinated Development of Regional Economic Integration in the Yangtze River Delta

According to the above chart, we conclude that the main problems in the integration of the Yangtze River Delta at present also include the government's main efforts to vigorously develop the local economy, resulting in a serious homogenization of the industrial structure, often "there are policies at the top and countermeasures at the bottom", and the planning is only superficial and has not been implemented. The reason is mainly related to the cadre assessment mechanism of the central and relevant local governments, the content requirements of the government evaluation index system are the direction of government officials, and the current way of measuring the performance of local governments by the GDP indicators of various

regions in China is obviously unscientific and incomplete. Here, we put forward suggestions for improving the special establishment of a government performance evaluation mechanism and a cadre appraisal mechanism.

6.1. Set Up Multi-dimensional Assessment Standards and Pay Attention to the “Big Picture view”

In addition to the performance of economic and social development, the government can also widely absorb the opinions of enterprises, institutions and the masses, and incorporate the coordinated contribution of the region to the development of other provinces and cities or the entire integrated region into the assessment mechanism, such as the contribution to the industrial transfer, ecological construction, watershed governance of the entire integrated region or the provision of pensions, services, and medical care for other regions (Zhuang & Zhu, 2007).

6.1.1. Introduce Enterprise ESG Concepts for Assessment

stands for Environmental, S stands for Social, G stands for Governance, as a new investment philosophy and evaluation criterion that focuses on corporate environmental, social, and

governance performance rather than financial performance, based on ESG evaluation, investors can evaluate the contribution of enterprises to promoting sustainable economic development, improving the environment, and fulfilling social responsibilities. Similarly, the indicator can also be applied to government performance appraisals.

6.1.2. Shift from Functional Government to Service-oriented Government

The government should be more of a provider and regulator of public goods in the city than a leader of the economy, less intervention in economic activities, and the construction of a priority government to ensure the people's demand for various types of integration.

7. Summary

This paper focuses on the collection and summary of the problems in the regional coordination and integration of the Yangtze River Delta in China, and the current situation of unbalanced development and single assessment indicators of the integration is shown by calculating the coefficient of variation of the regional economic growth rate, and the results of the questionnaire survey show that the popularization and implementation of regional economic integration need to be improved, and the public has a strong demand for various integrations. Based on the analysis of domestic and foreign development experience, he put forward unique views and insights on how to establish a government assessment mechanism. It further elaborated on how China, in the face of the serious obstruction of capital, technology and commodity flows in the post-epidemic era and the counter-development trend of

localization and regionalization on a global scale, how to cope with the “Thucydides” competition and play a national “chess game” to build a new system of open regional economic integration in the Yangtze River Delta at a higher level.

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