

Session Theme: (606) Migration in Developing Countries
Title: Internal migration in Indonesia:
Mobility behaviour in
the 1993 Indonesian Family Life Survey
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Abstract

The main objective of this paper is to assess the level and the direction of internal migration in Indonesia. In the context of individual decision-making process, migration level is used to measure the chance to migrate across individuals. These individuals are differentiated by sex, education level, and cohort. Migration direction is seen as the choice of place made in the context of action space, which is the range of probable destinations perceived by potential migrants that influences the choice of destination and the distance. The motivation component in decision-making process is measured on how the different purposes of migration occur as the drive in determining the choice of place. This paper uses the 1993 Indonesian Family Life Survey by applying the logistic regression method. As the data provides migration history of individuals, the debate is on the method and measurement applied, whether they are sufficient for this study objective.

Theoretical framework

Migration decision-making can be distinguished into the decision to move and the choice of place. The migration decision is assumed as a *bounded* rational decision-making based on the contextual information gathered and the ability to process this information (De Bruijn 1999). This decision is driven by motivations, which are goals/values (preferences) and the expectation of meeting these goals (resources, opportunities, and constraints) (De Jong and Gardner 1981, Mulder 1993). The choice of place in terms of distance or scale is made based on the probable range of destination or the action space considered by individuals by taking into consideration the daily activity space and the motivations components (Wolpert 1965 cf. Boyle et al 1998, Mulder 1993). The choice of place in terms of direction is influenced by the push-pull factors or place related macro factors (Gardner 1981, Boyle et al 1998). They enter individual decision-making as they influence the components of motivations.

In a dynamic context, differences across stages of life course, which is marked by age, are viewed as driven by differences in motivations according to the temporal dimensions and locational properties of age (Elder 1975, Mulder 1993). Different migration behaviours across cohorts are also perceived as resulted from differences in motivations' components that are shaped by the social change. The context influences individuals' migration behaviour through the components of motivations directly on the individuals or through the family structure. Differences in sex roles within a family influence the motivations for migration, which is viewed as the reflection of patriarchy structure in the society (Harbison 1981, Chant and Radcliff 1992). The forms of institution that influences migration behaviour are the community ties, village norms, and village ethnic and social networks (Hugo 1981, De Bruijn 1999). They influence individuals' migration behaviour through the components of motivation.

The basic features of conceptual model that will be used for this study are limited into the motivations (values and expectancy), the ability and information, the action space and daily activity space, birth cohorts, place related (push-pull) factors, sex roles, and the community ties. They are working in the model for decisions to move and making choice of place. Thus, an individual decides to migrate by evaluating the motivations to migrate within the context of the community ties and sex roles. This decision depends on the ability and information that further form the action space considered by taking into account whether daily activity space needs to be changed or to be maintained. This process is ongoing in a dynamic context and considering change across cohort that shapes the process.

Data

The data used for this study is secondary data: the 1993 Indonesian Family Life Survey (1993 IFLS). This data was collected retrospectively to represent 83 percent of Indonesian population in 13 provinces of Indonesia. It contains migration history since the respondents were 12 years old. The sample is selected from the adult respondents among the household members. It records the migration timing since the respondents were 12 years old, the destination specified from village level up to province level, and the main reason for migration. There are 12,695 adult respondents from migration section used for this study, which consists of 6,647 ever migrated respondents and 6,048 never migrated respondents.

Method

The level of internal migration can be measured by the probability of moving and the probability to move from the origin to the destination. The choice of model is logistic regression model with the dependent variables representing level and direction: total migration, inter-provincial migration, and intra-provincial migration. The educational level is distinguished between no school, elementary school, and higher than elementary school. The cohorts are divided into those who were born before 1941, 1941-1950, 1951-1960, and 1961 and after. For the choice of place, the provinces are grouped into 8 regions, and by urban-rural origins and destinations. Based on the purpose of migration, the reasons of migration are grouped into five reasons: work-related reasons, educational reason, marriage, other family reasons, and others. To measure the role of context, variable duration of staying within an area prior to the move as the proxy of ties to community is also introduced in the regression. The analysis is mainly based on odds ratio values. In addition, the goodness of fit tests is performed and predicted probabilities are also calculated.

Results

The level and direction of internal migration in Indonesia can be described as follows. Concerning the sex patterns, the overall migration model shows that males have the same chance to move as females, but they are different in terms of the choice of place. Males are more likely to move inter-provincially compared to females. In addition, females have higher chance to move within province than their male counterparts. Thus, the migration behaviour is not different between males and females in terms of decision to move, but it is different in terms of the spatial scale of the movement.

One striking feature of internal migration based on this data is the educational patterns. Although the results supports suggestion that education attended plays a role

to increase the likelihood of migration, this is not the case for inter-provincial migration. The estimates for education variables show that there are no significant differences in chances of moving *inter-provincially* between people with different levels of education. These results suggest that people with any levels of education have the same chance of moving inter-provincially. Furthermore, among migrants themselves, the low and middle educated ones are *more likely* to move inter-provincially than the high educated ones, which indicates that lower educated have wider spatial scale.

There can be two explanations on this result. The first explanation is that the higher educated people have more opportunities—i.e. one components of motivations—within smaller scale, thus there are not much left for the non educated that triggers them to seek opportunities elsewhere. The second explanation is that the high educated people have *already* lived in the places that contain with the factors they *perceive* as match their values/goals and expectancy (e.g. having a high income, having fun and excitement, obtaining a good education). But it might not be the case for lower educated people and that is why they moved out of their provinces of origin.

For the cohort variable, the result shows that the older cohorts in general have higher chance to move, and they also have higher chance to conduct inter-provincial move, compared to younger cohorts. However, there is no difference in chances between cohorts to move inter-provincially or to move intra-provincially among migrants. Thus, the older cohorts have higher chance to move inter-provincially, but among migrants, the older and the younger cohorts have the same spatial scale. One explanation to this is that we can think of cohort as the marking of historical time. Thus, at the same point of time, among migrants, the spatial scale of the older cohorts reflects the exposure to risk of migration, while the spatial scale of the younger cohorts reflects change in creating more opportunities to migration, for instance, the advancement of transportation and communication technology.

As a variable describing the context of migration decision, duration of staying within an area *before* moving is an indicator of community ties to the area of origin. The result indicates that an additional year of duration of staying within a province is expected to decrease the likelihood of moving out of that province. Among migrants, the result shows that the longer duration, the *more likely that a person moves intra-provincially than to move inter-provincially*. A person is more likely to move within a province within which one has stayed longer than to move out of that province. This result confirms the result for inter-provincial migration.

When the directions are concerned, the results indicate that people from urban origin are *less* likely to move intra-provincially than inter-provincially. It implies that people from rural areas are more likely to move intra-provincially. It might be related to the wider spatial scale or longer distance considered by urban respondents than by the rural respondents. Thus, the most sending areas are urban for all moves and for inter-moves. The destinations of these movements are also mostly urban areas. Rural areas are more likely to be the origin and the destination of intra-provincial migration than the destination inter-moves.

The results suggest that chance of conducting migration is mostly similar for the people living in all over Indonesia except for people originally living in several parts

of Indonesia such as Southern Sumatra, West Java, and Central Java that have lower chance of moving. For inter-provincial migrations, Southern Sumatra and West Java are the least likely to be the sending areas. The rest of the regions have almost similar levels of inter-provincial migrations. The destinations of inter (-provincial) moves are mostly to DKI Jakarta and the provinces in Southern part of Sumatra. The least likely to be the destination of inter-moves is East Java. The other regions have almost similar chances to be the destination of inter-moves. In general, most migrations are intra-moves. All of the regions' migrations are dominated by intra-moves. The exceptions are for DKI Jakarta and DI Yogyakarta where the people conducted more inter-moves than intra-moves. In terms of destinations, DKI Jakarta and Southern Sumatra have the highest chances to be the destinations for inter-moves.

Concerning the drive of migration decision-making, the motivations for migration are differentiated according to the spatial scale of the movements: inter-moves or intra-moves. The results suggest that people who move for work and education (wealth and status) are more likely to move inter-provincially compared to other kinds of reasons. People who move for marriage and other kinds of family reasons (affiliation) are more likely to move intra-provincially compared to move for work and education. The spatial scale considered for wealth and status is wider than the spatial scale considered for affiliation.

Conclusions and discussions

In this paper, I assess the patterns the internal migration in Indonesia. Some results supporting the theories of migration decision-making, such as the sex, education, and cohort patterns for the overall migrations. However, others results needs to be assessed further. For instance, the fact that lower educated people have wider spatial scale is one finding that needs to be investigated further. In addition, the same chances between cohorts to migrate within smaller or wider spatial scale are also a feature that needs further analysis. In this consideration, the fact that Indonesia has different sizes of provinces might be needed to be included in the analysis to understand the migration behaviour through the 1993 Indonesian Family Life Survey.

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