

The Impact of Financial Support on Innovation Efficiency of Government Subsidies From the Perspective of DEA-Tobit—An Empirical Study Based on Chinese New Energy Vehicle Enterprises

Sha Zhang

Central South University of Forestry and Technology

Fang Chen (✉ 1506333599@qq.com)

Central South University of Forestry and Technology

Research Article

Keywords: Financial support, DEA-Tobit perspective, Government subsidies, Innovation efficiency, New energy vehicle enterprises

Posted Date: September 27th, 2021

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-829271/v1>

License: © ⓘ This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.

[Read Full License](#)

38 the use frequency of vehicles increases and the pollution to the environment increases. The
39 traditional vehicle exhaust pollution has become a worldwide public hazard, and its proportion to
40 the increase of greenhouse gas concentration cannot be ignored. Therefore, the new energy
41 vehicle industry is gradually raised to a strategic height. New energy has the advantages of
42 pollution-free and renewable. The vehicle fueled by new energy is in line with the development
43 trend of "carbon neutralization" in China. Its concept of green, low-carbon and energy saving has
44 also been favored by more and more consumers in the world.

45 As a strategic emerging industry in China, the development of new energy vehicles is the key
46 to the transformation and upgrading of China's automobile industry. In order to promote the high-
47 quality development of new energy vehicle industry, the general office of the State Council issued
48 the development plan for new energy vehicle industry (2021-2035) on November 2, 2020. The
49 government promotes the development of new energy vehicle industry, first, to improve the
50 increasingly serious environmental problems, second, to solve the problem of resource shortage,
51 and third, to promote the technology of pillar industries such as automobiles to reach the
52 international leading level. In this context, the government uses a variety of policies to stimulate
53 the development of new energy vehicle industry. Due to the policy support, the development
54 speed of China's new energy vehicle industry is amazing, and the new energy vehicle industry has
55 become one of China's sunrise industries.

56 However, at present, China's new energy vehicle industry is still facing some problems, such
57 as the core technology is not advanced enough, the quality assurance is not perfect enough, the
58 infrastructure is not comprehensive enough, and the market competitiveness is not large enough.
59 Innovation is the first driving force leading the development of science and technology. Esther and
60 Desiderio (Esther and Desiderio 2016) believed that the key for high-tech enterprises to realize
61 transformation and upgrading is to master core technology and seek long-term competitive
62 advantage through innovation. Innovation is also the core source for countries and enterprises to
63 improve their competitiveness. Because of its strategic height, the importance of innovation is
64 becoming more and more prominent. Guo (Guo 2018) said that for enterprises with immature
65 technology, R&D activities are risky, requiring high R&D expenses and high-level R&D risks.
66 Moreover, some scholars (Baker et al. 2005; Hannu and Janne 2015) also believes that immature
67 enterprises have high uncertainty and information asymmetry, and it is more difficult for them to
68 obtain external financing than ordinary enterprises, and government subsidies help to solve the
69 market failure caused by the positive external effects of innovation, improve the innovation
70 enthusiasm of new enterprises and alleviate the problem of lack of resources. As the existing
71 academic research has not reached a consistent conclusion on the effect of government subsidies,
72 it is necessary to further explore the impact mechanism of government subsidies on the innovation
73 output efficiency of new energy vehicle enterprises.

74 In addition, with the acceleration of the process of global economic financialization, the
75 development of new energy vehicle enterprises is affected by the financial market. Du (Du et al.
76 2017) believes that financial support has two sides for new energy vehicle enterprises, one is the
77 "reservoir" effect of financial support, and the other is the crowding out effect of financial support.
78 "Reservoir" effect means that new energy vehicle enterprises can alleviate the current situation of
79 capital shortage by increasing financing channels and improving financing capacity. Crowding out

80 effect means that too much financial support will reduce the funds used for production investment,
81 which is unfavorable to the R&D and innovation of new energy vehicle enterprises. Financial
82 support can provide more possibilities for the financing of new energy vehicle enterprises, but
83 there are few studies on the impact of corporate financial support on the R&D efficiency of new
84 energy vehicle enterprises under the government subsidy policy. With the deepening of financial
85 support, new energy vehicle enterprises need to consider how to reasonably allocate and make
86 use of financial support in the process of innovation and development, so as to make government
87 subsidies play a better role. At present, there are too few studies on the role of financial support
88 on new energy vehicle enterprises, and we cannot accurately understand the impact of financial
89 support on government subsidies. Therefore, it is necessary to explore the impact of financial
90 support on the innovation R&D efficiency of government subsidies for new energy vehicle
91 enterprises.

92

2 Literature summarize

93 2.1. Research on the effect of government subsidies on new energy vehicle 94 enterprises

95 R&D activities have risks and externalities, and there is also the possibility of market failure,
96 but R&D activities are the most direct source of technological innovation, which provides
97 theoretical support for government subsidies to promote enterprises to carry out R&D. The
98 purpose of government subsidies is to solve the capital problem of enterprises by providing
99 subsidies or reducing taxes, so as to promote enterprises to carry out independent R&D activities
100 without worries, and drive the technological innovation of the whole industry. In recent years, with
101 the increase of government subsidies and enterprise R&D investment, the relationship between
102 government subsidies and enterprise R&D investment has become a hot topic in academic circles.
103 On the one hand, the government subsidy policy can effectively make up for the lack of funds and
104 increase the R&D investment of enterprises, so as to improve the innovation of enterprises and
105 increase the R&D output of enterprises; On the other hand, the biased selection of government
106 subsidy objects makes enterprises squeeze out the original R&D investment, resulting in rent-
107 seeking, arbitrage and other behaviors.

108 Zhao and Xie believes (Zhao and Xie 2017) that government R&D subsidies solve the problem
109 of enterprise funds. Coupled with the orientation of the use of government subsidy funds,
110 enterprises are bound to increase R&D expenditure. Scholars (Yu et al. 2019; Bronzini and Piselli
111 2016) believe that government subsidies not only improve the innovation quality and efficiency of
112 enterprises as a whole, but also subsidized enterprises can launch more new products and even
113 apply for more patents. Early researchers (Almus and Czarnitzki 2003) also accurately calculated
114 through the model: in the case of government subsidies, the innovation activities of enterprises
115 increased by about 4 percentage points. Peng and Mao (Peng and Mao 2017) found that
116 government R&D subsidies can promote the growth of industry scale and the growth of upstream
117 and downstream industries by promoting enterprise innovation and increasing the technological
118 competitiveness among enterprises.

119 However, some scholars (Qin 2017; Liu et al. 2019; Xiao and Lin 2014; Zhang and Sun 2018;
120 Xia 2020) believe that in practice, government subsidy investment is ineffective in promoting R&D
121 activities of some enterprises, even contrary to the expected effect-Government R&D subsidy has

122 a negative impact on enterprise technological innovation efficiency, that is, crowding out effect.
123 Wallsten and other scholars (Wallsten 1999; Catozzella and Vivarelli 2016; Bond et al. 2003; Lach
124 2002; Levy 1990; Garcia 2004) have studied the United States, Italy, Britain, Israel and OECD and
125 found that government R&D subsidies have a significant inhibitory effect on enterprises' R&D
126 activities. At the beginning of government subsidy investment, it really made up for the lack of
127 funds of enterprises. However, Zhang and Chen (Zhang and Chen 2016) believe that once
128 enterprises accept excessive government R&D subsidies, the further increase of government
129 subsidies will not increase the R&D investment of enterprises, but will squeeze out other capital
130 investment for R&D, which cannot promote enterprise innovation, and even lead to excessive
131 investment, increase employee redundancy and the formation of arbitrage space. Dai and Cheng
132 (Dai and Cheng 2015) found that subsidies may also induce excessive purchase behavior of
133 enterprises. The purchase cost of subsidized enterprises is higher than that of non-subsidized
134 enterprises. The higher the subsidy intensity, the higher the purchase cost. In addition, scholars (Yu
135 and Li 2016; Xiao and Xie 2011) have found that unreasonable subsidy policies lead to frequent
136 "subsidy fraud" and weaken the competitiveness of China's new energy vehicle industry, and
137 although government subsidies improve the efficiency of enterprise innovation and R&D, they also
138 help listed companies whitewash their performance. Some scholars (Zhou et al. 2015; Zhang and
139 Yan 2020) believe that there is an inverted U-shaped relationship between Government R&D
140 subsidies and enterprise R&D activities. At the initial stage of industrial development, government
141 subsidies can bring profit advantages to emerging industries, but after industrial expansion,
142 government support is difficult to effectively encourage enterprises to increase R&D investment,
143 indicating that the relationship between Government R&D subsidies and enterprise R&D
144 investment may be promoted first and then restrained.

145 2.2. Impact of financial support on R&D Efficiency

146 On the one hand, non-financial enterprises can alleviate financing constraints and reduce
147 business risks through financial support; On the other hand, the return on investment of financial
148 assets gradually exceeds the profit margin of entity operation, resulting in non-financial enterprises
149 more and more inclined to invest funds in financial assets rather than R&D and fixed assets, which
150 makes the virtual economy that should serve the real economy focus on the opposite, and the
151 inversion of the principal and the end will inevitably inhibit the innovative development of the real
152 economy. Therefore, enterprise financial support has two aspects: reservoir effect and crowding
153 out effect.

154 The "reservoir" effect can play a "pull effect" on the technological innovation input and
155 technological innovation output of enterprises (Xu and Liu 2019). Financial support helps to ease
156 the financing constraints faced by enterprises, so as to promote the R&D and innovation activities
157 of enterprises (Ju et al. 2013). Financial support can obtain income in the short term and enrich
158 the endogenous cash flow of the enterprise (Denis and Sibilkov 2009), so it can prevent the
159 shortage of funds for main business to a certain extent (Baud and Durand 2011). Financial support
160 can enrich enterprise financing channels, enhance risk resistance (Cato and Matsumura 2013), and
161 solve the problems of information asymmetry and lack of funds faced by enterprises (Soener 2015).

162 However, financial support has a certain crowding out effect on enterprise innovation.
163 Allocating more financial assets means reducing enterprise R&D innovation. Financial support

164 largely reflects the excessive capitalization of real production, which will lead to the transformation
165 of economic operation from production and consumption market to speculative and profitable
166 market (Zhang et al. 2014), slow down the economic growth rate and possibly increase the
167 unemployment rate (Ignacio and Hector 2014). Although holding financial support can help
168 enterprises avoid risks, it may also bring additional risks (Song and Lu 2015). This is reflected in the
169 high return of financial support, which will promote enterprises to allocate more financial support,
170 play a substitute role for the main business investment of non-financial enterprises (Orhangazi
171 2008), crowd out funds for physical investment and R&D innovation, inhibit enterprises' industrial
172 investment and hinder the development of enterprises' main business (Tori and Onaran 2018).
173 Especially when the profitability of the enterprise's main business is insufficient, financial support
174 is easier to exert a crowding effect on the enterprise's innovation investment. Moreover, the
175 stronger the market arbitrage motivation of non-financial enterprises to improve the level of
176 financial support, the more likely it is to inhibit the driving force of enterprise technological
177 innovation (Wang et al. 2017).

178 2.3 Literature review

179 By combing the relevant literature on the relationship between government subsidies,
180 financial support and enterprise innovation and R&D efficiency and the research on the
181 development effect of government policies on new energy vehicle enterprises, there are mainly
182 four research deficiencies in terms of the actual needs and theoretical research of new energy
183 vehicle enterprises: First, there are disputes about the promotion effect of Government R&D
184 subsidies. There are three existing conclusions: first, government R&D subsidies promote
185 enterprise innovation R&D efficiency, second, government R&D subsidies inhibit enterprise
186 innovation R&D efficiency, and third, there is an optimal amount between Government R&D
187 subsidies and enterprise innovation R&D efficiency; Second, the existing research mainly analyzes
188 the impact of Government R&D subsidies on the efficiency of enterprise R&D activities from the
189 overall analysis of the whole listed manufacturing enterprises. There is less research on accurately
190 positioning new energy vehicles. The innovation efficiency of Government R&D subsidies for new
191 energy enterprises is still a direction that needs in-depth research; Third, in the existing research,
192 scholars mainly take enterprise R&D expenses as the measurement standard, while ignoring
193 government subsidies will increase the proportion of enterprise R&D personnel, and the expansion
194 of R&D team will increase the efficiency of innovation output; Fourth, the impact of financial
195 support on the relationship between government subsidies and innovation R&D efficiency of new
196 energy vehicle enterprises is uncertain.

197 Based on the above analysis, the research object of this paper selects the data of new energy
198 vehicle enterprises disclosed on official websites such as Shenzhen Stock Exchange and Shanghai
199 Stock Exchange from 2015 to 2020, discusses the efficiency of Government R&D subsidies on the
200 innovation of new energy vehicle enterprises, and reveals the impact of financial support on the
201 innovation efficiency of Government R&D subsidies. The research conclusion is helpful for new
202 energy vehicle enterprises to reasonably allocate assets with government subsidies; At the same
203 time, it helps to enrich the theoretical research on the impact mechanism of government subsidies
204 on the innovation and R&D efficiency of new energy vehicle enterprises; It can also provide
205 enlightenment for the formulation of government subsidy policies and the innovation practice of

206 new energy vehicle enterprises.

207

3 Research design

208 3.1 Data sources

209 The research object of this paper is the new energy vehicle enterprises that disclosed financial
210 data on the official websites of Shenzhen Stock Exchange and Shanghai Stock Exchange from 2015
211 to 2020. Panel data on Government R&D subsidies, enterprise R&D expenditure, number of
212 enterprise R&D personnel, financial support, main business income and other research objects
213 were collected through the wind database, and the practical patent applications of each enterprise
214 from 2015 to 2020 were manually collected through the State Intellectual Property Office. The data
215 are processed as follows: (1) due to the lack of data of some enterprises, in order to ensure the
216 accuracy of the research results, enterprises lacking some age data and enterprises listed after
217 2015 are deleted. (2) Since some enterprises do not carry out R & D activities themselves,
218 enterprises without R & D personnel, R & D expenditure and patent applications are deleted. (3)
219 Due to the continuous loss of some enterprises and the risk of delisting, ST and ST * enterprises
220 are deleted. Thus, 45 enterprises were collected.

221 3.2 Select measurement model

222 3.2.1 Data envelopment analysis

223 Data envelopment analysis was proposed by A. Charnel and W. W. Cooper in 1978. This
224 method is based on the concept of relative efficiency and has strong objectivity. It is widely used
225 in the study of efficiency in various situations. There are many models in DEA, and BCC is one of
226 the classical models. BCC model analyzes the efficiency of decision-making unit under the
227 condition of variable return to scale, and decomposes the overall comprehensive technical
228 efficiency value into pure technical efficiency and scale efficiency. There is the following
229 relationship between the three: comprehensive technical efficiency is equal to pure technical
230 efficiency multiplied by scale efficiency. In this model, we can further analyze whether the non DEA
231 efficiency is caused by improper input-output allocation or inappropriate scale of decision-making
232 unit.

233 Suppose there are N decision units (DMUs). For any DMU_j (j = 1, 2, ..., n), m inputs X_{ij} (i = 1, 2, ...,
234 m) are used to produce s outputs Y_{rj} (r = 1, 2, ..., s). The DEA-CCR model can be expressed as:

$$235 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \max h_{j_0} = \frac{\sum_{r=1}^s u_r y_{rj_0}}{\sum_{i=1}^m v_i x_{ij_0}} \\ s. t. \frac{\sum_{r=1}^s u_r y_{rj}}{\sum_{i=1}^m v_i x_{ij}} \leq 1, j = 1, 2, \dots, n \\ u \geq 0, v \geq 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, m; r = 1, 2, \dots, s; j = 1, 2, \dots, n. \end{array} \right. \quad (3.1)$$

236 The above planning model is a fractional programming, which uses Charnes Cooper change
237 to make:

$$238 t = \frac{1}{v^T x_0}, w = tv, \mu = tu \quad t = \frac{1}{v^T x_0} \rightarrow = 1 \quad (3.2)$$

239 It can be transformed into the following linear programming model P:

$$240 \quad (P) \quad \begin{cases} \max h_{j_0} = \mu^t y_0 \\ s. t. w^t x_j - \mu^t y_j \geq 0, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n \\ w^t x_0 = 1 \\ w \geq 0, \quad \mu \geq 0 \end{cases} \quad (3.3)$$

241 The dual programming of programming p is programming D:

$$242 \quad (D) \quad \begin{cases} \min \theta \\ s. t. \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j x_j \leq \theta x_0 \\ \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j x_j \geq y_0 \\ \lambda_j \geq 0, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n \\ \theta \text{ Unconstrained} \end{cases} \quad (3.4)$$

243 For the convenience of calculation and application, the relaxation variable s^+ and residual
244 variable s^- are further introduced to change the above inequality constraints into equality
245 constraints, which can become:

$$246 \quad (D) \quad \begin{cases} \min \theta \\ s. t. \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j x_j + s^+ = \theta x_0 \\ \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j x_j - s^- = \theta y_0 \\ \lambda_j \geq 0, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n \\ \theta \text{ Unconstrained}, \quad s^+ \geq 0, \quad s^- \geq 0 \end{cases} \quad (3.5)$$

247 The above programming (D) is directly defined as the dual programming of programming (P).

248 Determine whether the BCC model is both technically effective and scale effective:

249 $\theta^*=1$, and $s^{*+}=0$, $s^{*-}=0$. Then the decision-making unit j_0 is DEA effective, and the economic
250 activities of the decision-making unit are both technology effective and scale effective;

251 $\theta^*=1$, but at least one input or output is greater than 0. Then the decision-making unit j_0 is
252 weak DEA efficient, and the economic activities of the decision-making unit are not the best
253 technical efficiency and the best scale at the same time;

254 3) $\theta^*<1$. The decision-making unit J_0 is not DEA effective, and the economic activity is neither
255 the best technical efficiency nor the best scale.

256 3.2.1 Tobit model

257 Tobit model refers to a kind of model in which the dependent variable is approximately
258 continuously distributed on the positive value, but contains some observations with a positive
259 probability of 0. For example, in any given year, a considerable number of families' medical
260 insurance expenditure is 0. Therefore, although the overall distribution of annual family
261 medical insurance expenditure is scattered in a large positive range, it is quite concentrated in
262 the number 0. The classic Tobit model is a generalization of probit regression by James Tobin
263 when analyzing the expenditure of household durable goods. Later, it was extended to a
264 variety of situations. Amemiya summarized it into type I to type V Tobit models. The standard
265 type I Tobit regression model is as follows:

$$266 \quad y^* = \beta' x_i + u_i \\ 267 \quad y_i^* = y_i \quad y_i^* > 0 \\ 268 \quad y_i^* = 0 \quad y_i^* \leq 0 \quad (3.6)$$

269 In the above formula, y_i^* is the potential strain, which is observed when the potential
270 variable is greater than 0, and the value is y_i , Truncate at 0 when less than or equal to 0, x_i is

271 the independent variable vector, β is the coefficient vector, the error term u_i independent and
272 normal distribution: $u_i \sim N(0, \delta^2)$. The model can also be simplified as follows:

$$273 \quad y = \max (0, \beta' x_i + u_i) \quad (3.7)$$

274 Using the least square method to estimate the model parameters with censored data will
275 produce deviation, and the estimators are inconsistent. Under certain assumptions, its parameters
276 can be estimated by maximum likelihood method.

277 3.3. Select indicators

278 3.3.1 Construction of input index and output index

279 According to the research purpose of this paper and considering the availability of data, six
280 consecutive years of the national Shenzhen Stock Exchange and Shanghai Stock Exchange from
281 2015 to 2020 are selected as the decision-making unit (DMU). Three input indicators and two
282 output indicators are selected to measure the innovation efficiency of new energy vehicle
283 enterprises. The relevant index data are obtained from wind database and the State Intellectual
284 Property Office. See Table 1 for the selection of specific indicators. The reasons for the selection of
285 indicators are as follows:

286 Input index: ① Government subsidy. Government subsidies can solve the financing
287 difficulties of new energy vehicle enterprises. Sufficient funds can promote enterprises to pay more
288 attention to the improvement of technology, accelerate the innovative development of enterprises
289 and increase the innovative output. ② Proportion of R&D expenses in operating revenue. The
290 input of R&D funds is the basic premise for enterprises to carry out innovation activities and obtain
291 innovation output. R&D expenses most intuitively reflect the amount of R&D investment of an
292 enterprise, and R&D expenditure will be affected by the amount of enterprise profits. Through the
293 proportion of R&D expenditure in operating revenue, we can see the R&D intensity of an enterprise
294 from the opposite side. ③ Ratio of R & D personnel to total employees. The proportion of scientific
295 research personnel is regarded as one of the important indicators in the identification standards of
296 high-tech enterprises in China. For example, in the qualification identification of high-tech
297 enterprises, it is stipulated that the proportion of scientific and technological personnel with
298 college degree or above in the total number of employees of enterprises shall be greater than or
299 equal to 30%, and the proportion of R&D personnel to the total number of employees of
300 enterprises shall be greater than or equal to 10%. Therefore, the investment of R&D personnel of
301 enterprises shall be analyzed from the perspective of relativity.

302 Output index: ① Operating revenue. Operating revenue is the source of funds for enterprises
303 to compensate production and operation expenses. The realization of operating revenue is related
304 to the normal progress of enterprise reproduction activities. Strengthening operating revenue
305 management can reasonably compensate various expenses of enterprises, which is conducive to
306 the smooth progress of reproduction activities. Operating revenue is an important guarantee for
307 enterprises to obtain profits. The acquisition of profits is the guarantee for enterprises to carry out
308 R&D activities. ② Number of practical patent applications. Patents are divided into three categories:
309 invention, utility model and design. Design does not promote technological progress and does not
310 belong to the core technology of the enterprise. Therefore, the sum of invention and utility model
311 patents is selected as the number of practical patent applications. Patents are the most direct result
312 of enterprise technological innovation.

313

Index type	Index code	Index definition
Input index	X1	Government subsidies (million yuan)
	X2	Proportion of total R&D expenditure to operating revenue
	X3	Proportion of R&D personnel in total employees
Output index	Y1	Operating revenue (million yuan)
	Y2	Number of practical patent applications

314 3.3.2 Description of regression model variables

315 The explanatory variable is innovation efficiency (IE). Three efficiency values are obtained
 316 through DEA model, and the comprehensive technical efficiency value is selected as the explained
 317 variable.

318 The explanatory variable is enterprise annual financial support (Fa). By referring to other
 319 literature (He et al. 2021), this paper defines the financial support allocated by enterprises as the
 320 sum of trading financial assets, derivative financial assets, net loans and advances, net financial
 321 assets available for sale, net held to maturity investment and net investment real estate.
 322 Considering the nonlinear and complex impact of financial support on the innovation efficiency of
 323 new energy vehicle enterprises under government subsidies, this paper also includes the square
 324 item of annual financial support.

325 Control variables: after referring to the literature of relevant scholars at home and abroad,
 326 the following control variables are selected: annual salary of management, enterprise nature,
 327 enterprise scale, enterprise age, total asset turnover rate, business cycle, equity concentration and
 328 profit margin.

329 (1) Annual salary of management (AMS). The decisions made by senior executives have a
 330 significant impact on the development of listed companies. Senior executives, that is, senior
 331 managers of enterprises, hold the management and decision-making power of enterprises.
 332 Therefore, the governance of enterprise senior management team has become the basis of
 333 corporate governance, and enterprise growth is the most direct and effective reflection of the level
 334 of corporate governance. Therefore, in order to improve the sustainable growth ability of
 335 enterprises and attract more investors, Enterprises need to formulate a reasonable executive
 336 compensation incentive mechanism. Therefore, the per capita annual salary of management is
 337 selected to measure the impact of enterprise management on enterprise innovation efficiency.

338 (2) The nature of the enterprise (Owner). Different nature of enterprises will lead to different
 339 governance efficiency, resulting in differences in business performance. Therefore, enterprises of
 340 different nature have different degrees of investment in innovative R&D activities. The actual
 341 controllers of enterprises of different nature are different. The actual controllers of state-owned
 342 enterprises are generally the government, and the actual controllers of private listed enterprises
 343 are mostly natural persons or families. Therefore, they will have different decisions on enterprise
 344 strategy. The nature of the enterprise is a virtual variable. The central state-owned enterprises and
 345 local state-owned enterprises are taken as 1, and other types of enterprises are taken as 0.

346 (3) Enterprise size (lnSize). Enterprises need to spend a lot of human and material resources
347 to master core technologies for innovation, and enterprises of different sizes have different
348 enthusiasm. Large enterprises have resource advantages, capital and team. They also hope to
349 improve their competitiveness by mastering core technologies. Their R&D enthusiasm is higher
350 than that of small-scale enterprises. Therefore, the enterprise scale is measured by the natural
351 logarithm of total assets.

352 (4) Enterprise age (Age). Enterprise R&D activities cannot be completed overnight, which
353 often takes a lot of time. Small and medium-sized enterprises are often established for a short
354 period of time and lack of experience. Therefore, such enterprises may invest funds in the capital
355 market to make up for the lack of funds. The age of the enterprise is expressed by the year of the
356 enterprise minus the year of establishment of the company.

357 (5) Total asset turnover (TAT). The total asset turnover rate is the ratio of net sales revenue to
358 average total assets. The higher the ratio, the stronger the enterprise's sales capacity and the better
359 the benefit of asset investment, reflecting the management quality and utilization efficiency of all
360 assets of the enterprise. The total asset turnover rate can reflect the operation efficiency and
361 changes of the total assets of the enterprise in this year and previous years, find the gap in asset
362 utilization between the enterprise and similar enterprises, and promote the enterprise to tap the
363 potential, actively generate income, improve the product market share and improve the asset
364 utilization efficiency. Therefore, the total asset turnover rate is selected as one of the control
365 variables.

366 (6) Operating cycle (lnOC). The operating cycle refers to the period from the payment
367 obligation of outsourcing to the recovery of accounts receivable arising from the sale of goods or
368 the provision of services. The operating cycle is the sum of inventory turnover days and accounts
369 receivable turnover days. The length of operating cycle is an important factor determining the
370 company's current asset demand. The short operating cycle indicates the effective management
371 of accounts receivable and inventory. Generally, the operating cycle is short, which means that the
372 capital turnover is fast and there is sufficient capital for R&D. The long operating cycle indicates
373 that the capital turnover speed is slow. It is necessary to reserve funds to maintain the operation
374 of the enterprise, which will naturally reduce the R&D investment of the enterprise. Therefore, the
375 logarithm of the operating cycle is taken as the surrogate variable to eliminate the differences
376 caused by different operating cycles.

377 (7) Equity concentration (Top1). Ownership concentration is not only the main indicator to
378 measure the ownership distribution status of the company, but also an important indicator to
379 measure the stability of the company, but also an important indicator to measure the company
380 structure. The degree of equity concentration will affect the judgment of enterprise owners on the
381 future development direction of the enterprise. In order to eliminate the influence of
382 heteroscedasticity, the equity concentration is measured by the proportion of the shares held by
383 the largest shareholder in the total shares of the company.

384 (8) Profit margin (ROA). Profit margin shows the ability of an enterprise to earn profits. The
385 ultimate goal of an enterprise is to have a better profit margin. The higher the profit margin, the
386 higher the return to shareholders and the greater the enterprise value. At the same time, the
387 higher the profit margin, the more cash flow and the faster the cash return, the greater the amount

388 of R&D investment. Therefore, the ratio of total profit to operating income is taken as the surrogate
 389 variable of profit margin for control.

390 **Table 2** **List of variables**

Variable	Variable name	Variable symbol	Variable definition
Explained variable	Innovation efficiency	IE	Innovation efficiency measured by DEA method
	Financial support	Fa	Sum of financial assets of various enterprises
Explanatory variable	Square of financial support	Fa__sq	Square of the sum of financial assets of various enterprises
	Annual salary of management	AMS	Per capita annual salary of management
	The nature of the enterprise	Owner	Dummy variable, 1 for state-owned enterprises and 0 for others
Controlled Variable	Enterprise size	lnSize	Natural logarithm of total assets
	Enterprise age	Age	Year of study minus year of establishment
	Total asset turnover	TAT	Ratio of net sales revenue to average total assets
	Operating cycle	LnOC	Inventory turnover days plus accounts receivable turnover days
	Equity concentration	Top1	Shareholding proportion of the largest shareholder
	Profit margin	ROA	Ratio of total profit to operating income

391 **4 Empirical results and analysis**

392 **4.1 DEA results and analysis**

393 Using deap2.1 software, calculate the comprehensive technical efficiency value (crste), pure
 394 technical efficiency value (vrste) and scale efficiency value (scale) of the upgrading of new energy
 395 vehicle listed enterprises from 2015 to 2020. In DEA evaluation, if the efficiency is 1, it means that
 396 the production of the enterprise is efficient, and if it is 0, it is invalid; An efficiency value close to 1
 397 is more effective. The specific efficiency value is shown in Table 3, and the average enterprise
 398 efficiency value is shown in Figure 1.

399 **Table 3 Efficiency values of 45 listed new energy vehicle enterprises from 2015 to 2020**

DUM	2015			2016			2017		
	crste	vrste	scale	crste	vrste	scale	crste	vrste	scale
1	0.271	0.28	0.965	0.57	1	0.57	0.339	0.342	0.994
2	0.022	0.141	0.158	0.153	0.184	0.83	0.321	0.321	1
3	0.065	0.194	0.335	0.234	0.246	0.953	0.083	0.175	0.473
4	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.895	1	0.895
5	0.304	0.805	0.377	0.553	0.667	0.829	0.884	1	0.884

6	0.049	0.148	0.33	0.039	0.171	0.225	0.028	0.154	0.183
7	0.067	0.089	0.759	0.271	0.32	0.845	0.185	0.209	0.885
8	0.122	0.249	0.49	0.602	0.66	0.912	0.184	1	0.184
9	1	1	1	0.469	1	0.469	0.239	0.406	0.589
10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
11	0.042	1	0.042	0.264	0.28	0.942	0.335	0.405	0.827
12	0.127	0.329	0.385	0.132	0.227	0.583	0.177	0.228	0.778
13	0.301	0.59	0.511	1	1	1	1	1	1
14	0.094	0.099	0.949	0.398	0.427	0.934	0.283	0.311	0.908
15	0.126	0.14	0.898	0.28	0.374	0.75	0.106	0.255	0.416
16	0.144	0.458	0.315	0.274	0.345	0.794	0.039	0.511	0.077
17	0.043	0.19	0.226	0.167	0.174	0.959	0.276	0.285	0.966
18	0.03	0.422	0.07	0.214	0.272	0.785	0.333	0.624	0.533
19	0.123	0.131	0.939	0.089	0.094	0.947	0.145	0.323	0.448
20	0.274	0.765	0.358	0.934	0.943	0.991	0.029	0.598	0.049
21	0.224	0.913	0.245	1	1	1	0.96	1	0.96
22	0.334	0.339	0.984	0.074	0.434	0.17	0.288	0.443	0.651
23	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
24	0.311	0.312	0.998	0.165	0.305	0.541	0.088	0.1	0.875
25	0.166	0.21	0.791	0.183	0.516	0.355	0.363	1	0.363
26	1	1	1	0.437	0.498	0.877	0.571	0.706	0.809
27	0.21	0.36	0.582	0.123	0.346	0.355	0.222	0.689	0.322
28	0.156	0.388	0.402	0.179	0.212	0.845	0.182	0.184	0.99
29	0.012	0.23	0.054	0.072	0.246	0.293	0.043	0.157	0.273
30	0.209	0.293	0.715	0.213	0.454	0.468	0.551	1	0.551
31	1	1	1	0.323	0.41	0.787	1	1	1
32	1	1	1	0.254	0.57	0.446	0.237	0.746	0.317
33	0.15	0.476	0.314	0.405	0.801	0.506	0.336	0.417	0.806
34	0.64	0.68	0.941	0.281	0.5	0.563	0.701	0.737	0.95
35	0.481	1	0.481	0.243	0.255	0.954	0.033	0.188	0.177
36	0.008	0.27	0.031	0.067	0.201	0.331	0.212	0.545	0.388
37	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
38	0.187	0.189	0.989	0.136	0.156	0.874	0.305	0.329	0.93
39	0.325	0.524	0.62	0.647	0.832	0.778	0.466	0.686	0.679
40	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
41	0.465	0.71	0.655	0.072	0.228	0.315	0.069	0.191	0.361
42	0.118	0.185	0.636	0.742	0.823	0.902	1	1	1
43	0.531	0.731	0.726	1	1	1	1	1	1
44	1	1	1	0.56	1	0.56	0.044	0.339	0.131
45	0.155	0.18	0.861	0.094	0.23	0.408	0.309	0.519	0.596
DUM	2018			2019			2020		

	crste	vrste	scale	crste	vrste	scale	crste	vrste	scale
1	0.226	0.439	0.514	0.402	0.447	0.899	0.394	1	0.394
2	0.148	0.248	0.598	0.548	0.599	0.915	0.381	0.729	0.523
3	0.106	0.211	0.499	0.231	0.291	0.792	0.444	0.807	0.551
4	0.33	0.939	0.352	0.959	1	0.959	0.678	1	0.678
5	0.191	0.409	0.467	0.203	0.258	0.784	0.091	0.273	0.333
6	0.191	0.415	0.461	0.082	0.287	0.285	0.378	0.496	0.762
7	0.058	0.147	0.397	0.257	0.264	0.972	0.188	0.192	0.98
8	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.403	0.429	0.941
9	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.502	1	0.502
10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
11	0.077	0.089	0.865	0.681	1	0.681	0.467	0.792	0.59
12	0.225	0.389	0.578	0.536	0.554	0.966	0.919	0.936	0.981
13	1	1	1	0.347	0.532	0.653	0.936	1	0.936
14	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
15	0.411	0.603	0.682	0.163	0.228	0.715	0.326	1	0.326
16	0.043	0.804	0.053	0.333	0.428	0.778	0.249	0.658	0.379
17	0.337	0.386	0.874	0.177	0.315	0.561	0.085	0.296	0.287
18	0.426	0.728	0.585	0.232	0.389	0.595	0.182	0.517	0.353
19	0.006	0.032	0.179	0.113	0.113	0.999	0.104	0.105	0.997
20	0.039	0.451	0.087	0.829	1	0.829	0.666	0.787	0.846
21	0.545	1	0.545	1	1	1	1	1	1
22	0.024	0.535	0.045	0.301	0.39	0.771	0.262	0.491	0.535
23	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
24	0.195	0.197	0.99	0.067	0.158	0.422	0.149	0.286	0.523
25	0.136	0.65	0.21	0.29	0.317	0.915	1	1	1
26	0.328	0.706	0.465	0.473	0.532	0.89	0.178	0.537	0.332
27	0.062	0.522	0.12	0.176	0.644	0.274	0.712	0.835	0.852
28	0.157	0.176	0.894	0.119	0.313	0.379	0.555	0.562	0.986
29	0.117	0.572	0.205	0.217	0.261	0.831	0.142	0.247	0.574
30	0.184	0.386	0.477	0.247	0.298	0.829	0.059	0.213	0.277
31	0.112	0.497	0.226	0.294	0.48	0.614	1	1	1
32	0.394	1	0.394	0.454	1	0.454	0.229	0.954	0.24
33	0.323	0.559	0.578	0.337	0.344	0.979	0.113	0.338	0.335
34	0.352	0.74	0.475	0.375	0.423	0.886	0.573	0.653	0.878
35	0.174	0.369	0.471	0.048	0.205	0.234	0.03	0.229	0.132
36	0.488	0.561	0.87	0.256	0.339	0.755	0.354	0.604	0.586
37	0.235	0.641	0.367	0.957	0.971	0.986	0.421	1	0.421
38	0.186	0.192	0.969	0.102	0.152	0.668	0.205	0.254	0.807
39	0.063	0.664	0.094	0.251	0.729	0.344	0.379	0.933	0.406
40	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

41	0.091	0.19	0.478	0.227	0.283	0.803	0.233	0.234	0.993
42	0.56	1	0.56	1	1	1	1	1	1
43	1	1	1	0.014	0.313	0.045	0.925	0.926	0.999
44	0.042	0.399	0.105	0.646	0.751	0.86	0.226	1	0.226
45	0.37	0.407	0.908	0.788	0.913	0.864	0.23	0.821	0.281

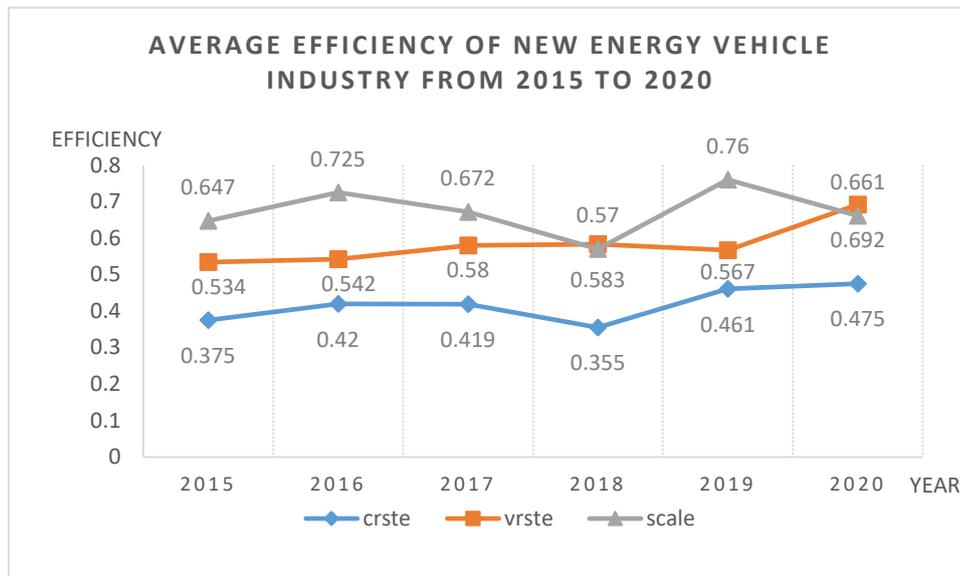


FIG 1 Average efficiency of new energy vehicle industry from 2015 to 2020

400

401

402

403

404

405

406

407

408

409

410

411

412

413

414

415

416

417

418

419

420

421

422

423

Comprehensive technical efficiency value is the product of pure technical efficiency value and scale efficiency value. It can be seen from table 3 that in addition to the comprehensive technical efficiency value, pure technical efficiency value and scale efficiency value of ten enterprises in 2015, only eight enterprises in the other five years are fully effective. Within six years, only the 10th, 23rd and 40th enterprises have maintained production efficiency, which indicates that the effective investment performance level of the other 42 listed new energy vehicle enterprises is unstable from 2015 to 2020. It can also be seen from table 3 that the scale efficiency is slightly higher than the pure technical efficiency, and the comprehensive technical efficiency is lower than 0.5, indicating that the overall efficiency of the new energy vehicle industry is low and there is much room for improvement. From the perspective of comprehensive technical efficiency, the rising trend of efficiency is basically maintained, and only decreased in 2018, which is caused by the sharp decline of scale efficiency. With the support of policies, a large amount of capital will flow into the new energy vehicle industry by 2018. Excessive development leads to certain problems in the industry, low industry concentration, and the problem of "small, scattered and chaotic" cannot be ignored. Before that, the phenomenon of "cheating compensation" by enterprises occurred frequently, which greatly damaged the market's trust in new energy vehicles. The fundamental reason for the reduction of comprehensive technical efficiency in 2018 lies in the implementation of two policies. First, on February 13, 2018, the Ministry of finance, the Ministry of industry and information technology, the Ministry of science and technology and the national development and Reform Commission jointly issued the notice on improving the financial subsidy policy for the promotion and application of new energy vehicles. In a word, the new subsidy policy is to subsidize and increase the endurance of new energy vehicles increased battery density. Second, the "double

424 points" policy for passenger cars was officially launched in July 2018. The so-called double points,
 425 in short, means that for automobile companies with sales of more than 30000 vehicles, both fuel
 426 vehicles and new energy vehicles will generate response points. The lower the fuel consumption
 427 of fuel vehicles, the higher the score. If the fuel consumption is very high, negative scores may be
 428 obtained. Normative policies have been introduced successively, forcing automobile enterprises to
 429 manufacture vehicles that meet consumer needs, preventing blind new enterprises and expanding
 430 production capacity, and promoting the healthy and sustainable development of new energy
 431 automobile industry. Therefore, to a certain extent, the production scale of new energy automobile
 432 enterprises has been reduced.

433 The DEA data analysis results will give the input and output redundancy respectively, in which
 434 the output redundancy value indicates how much less output, while the input redundancy value
 435 indicates how much more input. Deap2.1 software gives the calculation results of each decision-
 436 making unit, and gives the average value of 45 new energy vehicle listed enterprises from 2015 to
 437 2020, as shown in Table 4. Firstly, from the overall data, it is found that the annual R&D personnel
 438 investment redundancy of 45 listed new energy vehicle enterprises is low, and there is even no
 439 redundancy in 2019, indicating that enterprises should increase the construction of R&D teams. In
 440 addition, government subsidies and R&D expenses are redundant. The redundancy of government
 441 subsidies decreased rapidly in 2018, which is in line with the impact of the implementation of the
 442 two new policies in 2018 analyzed above. From the perspective of output, there is a serious
 443 shortage of patent applications, and the operating income is relatively good, indicating that the
 444 output of new energy vehicle enterprises in patent technology R&D is insufficient. On the whole,
 445 the input is redundant, but the output is seriously insufficient, indicating that the innovation
 446 efficiency of new energy vehicle enterprises is low. The redundancy value of patent application is
 447 too high, indicating that the innovation efficiency of the enterprise is low and there are few
 448 practical patents for invention. Government subsidies occupy the original R&D funds, but the
 449 original R&D funds are invested in the real estate market and capital market. Therefore,
 450 government subsidies do not promote the improvement of enterprise innovation efficiency, but
 451 inhibit enterprise innovation efficiency.

452 **Table 4 Average redundancy value of 45 new energy vehicle enterprises from 2015 to 2020**

Year	Y1	Y2	X1	X2	X3
2015	6.138	224.105	35.315	5.546	0.194
2016	5.808	203.452	130.534	35.54	0.071
2017	17.983	134.878	48.261	12.628	0.007
2018	32.95	162.891	17.401	12.505	0.006
2019	3.357	154.62	21.73	1.955	0
2020	16.412	84.058	85.826	11.347	0.021

453 **4.2 Regression analysis**

454 Firstly, this paper makes a static analysis of the production efficiency of China's listed new
 455 energy vehicle enterprises from 2015 to 2020 by using DEA model, and then uses panel Tobit model
 456 to calculate whether there is a positive relationship between financial support and innovation
 457 efficiency of new energy vehicle enterprises by using stata15.0 software. Taking comprehensive
 458 technical efficiency as the explanatory variable and financial support as the explanatory variable,

459 Tobit model is used for regression analysis. The results are shown in Table 5 and table 6.

460 **Table 5 Tobit 1 regression results of financial support and innovation efficiency of new**
 461 **energy vehicle enterprises from 2015 to 2020**

Variable	Coefficient	Standard error	z	P> z
Fa	4.11E-06	1.74E-06	2.37	0.018 ^{**}
AMS	0.009189	0.00313	2.94	0.003 ^{***}
Owner	0.14634	0.078385	1.87	0.062 [*]
lnSize	-0.13076	0.036206	-3.61	0 ^{***}
Age	0.011372	0.005608	2.03	0.043 ^{**}
TAT	-0.27179	0.107364	-2.53	0.011 ^{**}
LnOC	-0.14913	0.067998	-2.19	0.028 ^{**}
Top1	0.00108	0.002302	0.47	0.639
ROA	-0.00033	0.001128	-0.29	0.768
_cons	2.265449	0.57123	3.97	0

462 Note: *, **, *** respectively represent the significance levels of 10%, 5% and 1%

463 **Table 6 Tobit 2 regression results of financial support square term and innovation**
 464 **efficiency of new energy vehicle enterprises from 2015 to 2020**

Variable	Coefficient	Standard error	z	P> z
Fa	0.0000139	5.51E-06	2.52	0.012 ^{**}
Fa_sq	-5.64E-11	3.01E-11	-1.87	0.061 [*]
AMS	0.0090355	0.003123	2.89	0.004 ^{***}
Owner	0.1488463	0.078872	1.89	0.059 [*]
lnSize	-0.1430846	0.036804	-3.89	0 ^{***}
Age	0.0119745	0.005646	2.12	0.034 ^{**}
TAT	-0.2929202	0.108238	-2.71	0.007 ^{***}
LnOC	-0.1436981	0.068034	-2.11	0.035 ^{**}
Top1	0.0004113	0.002343	0.18	0.861
ROA	-0.0003022	0.001119	-0.27	0.787
_cons	2.37293	0.571092	4.16	0

465 Note: *, **, *** respectively represent the significance levels of 10%, 5% and 1%

466 It can be seen from table 5 that the total asset turnover rate has a negative correlation with
 467 innovation efficiency at the level of 5%, and the correlation coefficient is -0.27, indicating that the
 468 total asset turnover rate has the most significant impact on enterprise innovation efficiency. The
 469 larger the total asset turnover rate, the faster the capital turnover rate, while the R&D activities
 470 take a long time, which will occupy a large amount of working capital and reduce the total asset
 471 turnover rate of the enterprise. Therefore, enterprises with high total asset turnover rate need to
 472 ensure sufficient funds for operation, so as to occupy the funds for R&D. therefore, the innovation
 473 efficiency of enterprises is bound to be low.

474 Similarly, from the perspective of business cycle, there is a negative correlation with
 475 innovation efficiency at the level of 5%, and the correlation coefficient is -0.15. The business cycle
 476 is related to the enterprise's inventory turnover days and accounts receivable turnover days. For
 477 enterprises with short business cycle, less inventory turnover days means that the enterprise has

478 no stock, and the inventory can be quickly converted into circulating funds; Less days of accounts
479 receivable turnover indicates that enterprises have less bad debts and fast account recovery, which
480 can increase the expenditure of R&D funds. Therefore, there is a negative correlation between
481 business cycle and enterprise innovation efficiency.

482 From the perspective of enterprise nature, the impact of the nature of state-owned
483 enterprises on innovation efficiency is positive, and the correlation coefficient is about 0.15. State
484 owned enterprises are easier to obtain government subsidies than private enterprises, and the
485 innovation efficiency of state-owned enterprises is higher than that of private enterprises. R&D
486 activities are risky. The operation of many private enterprises is unstable. Some state-owned
487 enterprises do not use all government R&D subsidies for R&D and innovation. The proportion of
488 R&D investment is small, and the innovation efficiency is naturally lower than that of state-owned
489 enterprises.

490 The regression coefficient of enterprise scale to the innovation efficiency of new energy
491 vehicle enterprises is -0.13, which is significant at the level of 1%. It shows that enterprise scale has
492 a significant impact on innovation efficiency. With the increase of scale, enterprise innovation
493 efficiency is lower. Some studies have shown that (Liu 2019), on the whole, enterprise scale has a
494 significant inhibitory effect on the improvement of innovation quality, that is, when the enterprise
495 scale becomes larger, the innovation efficiency does not improve synchronously. The reason may
496 be that when the enterprise scale is large, it has certain monopoly power, loses market competition
497 vitality and lacks innovation ability.

498 Enterprise age is positively correlated with innovation efficiency at the level of 5%, and the
499 correlation coefficient is 0.01, indicating that enterprise innovation efficiency increases with the
500 growth of enterprise age, but the impact result is not significant, indicating that enterprise age is
501 not a key factor affecting the innovation efficiency of new energy vehicle enterprises.

502 The annual salary of the management is positively correlated with the innovation efficiency
503 at the level of 1%, indicating that the annual salary of the management is helpful to improve the
504 innovation efficiency of new energy vehicle enterprises to a certain extent. However, the
505 correlation coefficient of this factor is only 0.009. Compared with other factors, the annual salary
506 of management has little impact on the innovation efficiency of new energy vehicle enterprises.

507 There is a positive correlation between ownership concentration and innovation efficiency,
508 and a negative correlation between profit margin and innovation efficiency. Neither ownership
509 concentration nor profit margin has passed the significance test, indicating that ownership
510 concentration and profit margin are not significant factors affecting enterprise innovation
511 efficiency.

512 Financial support is positively correlated with innovation efficiency at the level of 5%, and
513 innovation efficiency increases with the increase of financial support. Tobit1 in Table 5 reports the
514 estimation results of the quadratic term variable FA sq, while tobit2 in Table 6 reports the
515 estimation results of the quadratic term variable FA sq. It can be seen that the coefficient of the
516 explanatory variable FA is positive at the statistical level of 5% and above, and the coefficient of
517 the square term FA sq is negative at the statistical level of 5%. This preliminarily verifies that there
518 is an inverted U-shaped relationship between financial support and innovation efficiency of new
519 energy vehicle enterprises under government subsidies. This also shows that a possible logical

520 relationship between financial support and the innovation efficiency of new energy vehicle
521 enterprises under government subsidies is that a certain degree of financial support can indeed
522 reduce enterprise risks and increase enterprise financing efficiency, resulting in a crowding in effect
523 on enterprise innovation investment activities; However, when the scale of financial support funds
524 is higher than a certain threshold, it will cause crowding out effect or substitution effect on
525 enterprise innovation investment.

526 **5 Main research conclusions and policy implications**

527 5.1 Research conclusion

528 Using the input-output data of national new energy vehicle enterprises from 2015 to 2020,
529 this paper studies and reveals the impact effect and internal mechanism of the innovation subsidy
530 policy actively used by the government on the innovation investment of new energy vehicle
531 enterprises. This paper draws the following conclusions:

532 First of all, on the whole, the comprehensive technical efficiency of listed enterprises of new
533 energy vehicles is low, and the pure technical efficiency and scale efficiency are low. In the R&D
534 process of listed new energy vehicle enterprises, technological innovation and technological
535 reform need to be further promoted, and the improvement of technical efficiency can directly
536 promote the improvement of comprehensive technical efficiency. The mismatch of input and
537 output in scale or technology is the fundamental factor leading to the failure of most listed new
538 energy vehicle enterprises to achieve effective upgrading. The results of DEA model show that the
539 R&D personnel input redundancy of 45 listed new energy vehicle enterprises is low every year, and
540 there is even no redundancy in 2019, indicating that enterprises should increase the construction
541 of R&D teams. There is a serious waste of government subsidies, insufficient output, and the input
542 is not proportional to the output.

543 Secondly, Tobit regression model shows that the innovation efficiency of government
544 subsidies of new energy vehicle enterprises is positively affected by the nature of state-owned
545 enterprises and the age of enterprises, and negatively affected by the total asset turnover rate,
546 business cycle and enterprise scale. Too fast total asset turnover rate and too long business cycle
547 may squeeze the R&D funds of enterprises and affect the innovation efficiency of enterprises. The
548 large scale of enterprises may also have a negative impact on the efficiency of R&D and innovation
549 because of the lack of competitive consciousness.

550 Finally, through Tobit model, this paper concludes that there is a significant inverted U-shaped
551 relationship between financial support and innovation efficiency of new energy vehicle enterprises
552 under government subsidies. This is an important discovery different from the existing research,
553 which reveals the complex and nonlinear incentive effect formed by the innovation efficiency of
554 new energy vehicle enterprises under financial support and government subsidies. The unique
555 meaning of this nonlinear incentive effect is that, to a certain extent, financial support produces a
556 "reservoir" effect on the innovation efficiency of new energy vehicle enterprises under government
557 subsidies, that is, crowding in effect; When the financial support reaches a certain level, the
558 financial support has a significant crowding out effect on the innovation efficiency of new energy
559 vehicle enterprises under government subsidies.

560 5.2 Research enlightenment

561 The Enlightenment of this study lies in: first, a comprehensive evaluation and Reflection on

562 the effectiveness of the government subsidy policy, and the implementation of effective
563 adjustment and Reform for this policy system is an important step to promote the healthy and
564 rapid development of the new energy vehicle industry. For new energy vehicle enterprises, we
565 should gradually reduce the scale and intensity of government innovation subsidies, adjust the
566 functions and standards of government subsidies, improve the fund use efficiency of government
567 subsidies, and shift the government innovation policy to encourage and guide enterprises in basic
568 research Cultivate independent innovation ability and improve innovation efficiency in applied
569 basic research and key core technology innovation breakthroughs. Second, for new energy vehicle
570 enterprises, attention should be paid to the negative impact of high turnover rate of total assets,
571 long business cycle and large enterprise scale on the innovation efficiency of R&D subsidies. While
572 paying attention to the short-term profits of enterprises, attention should be paid to the
573 investment in R&D activities, continuously improve their R&D ability and R&D success rate, and
574 master the core technology through R&D activities, In order to form the long-term competitive
575 advantage of the enterprise. Third, for over financialized enterprises, government R&D subsidies
576 should be cautious, and the subsidy should be inclined to new energy vehicle enterprises with low
577 financial support. New energy vehicle enterprises should clarify the financial investment
578 orientation and pay attention to innovation and development. Enterprises should position financial
579 investment to provide more abundant endogenous funds for business activities and R&D
580 innovation, "feed back" the main business with the help of financial activities, take the entity as
581 the foundation, and guard against the emergence of the phenomenon from reality to emptiness.
582

583
584
585
586
587
588
589
590
591
592
593
594
595
596
597
598
599
600
601
602
603
604
605
606
607
608
609
610
611
612
613
614
615
616
617
618
619
620
621
622

Ethical Approval

Ethical approval is not required for this article because it does not address ethical issues.

All authors consent to participate and Publish

Authors' contributions

1. Fang Chen: Planned the research design; Revise this paper.
2. Sha Zhang: Organize and analyze data; Write this paper.

Declaration of Interest Statement

On behalf of all the authors of this paper: **The impact of financial support on the innovation efficiency of government subsidies from the perspective of DEA Tobit -- Based on the empirical research on Chinese New Energy Vehicle Enterprises** (hereinafter referred to as "this manuscript"), I solemnly declare as follows:

Author's last name: Sha Zhang, Fang Chen

All the authors of the above articles agree to contribute to International Journal of Environmental Research. The first author and responsible author, on behalf of all the authors of the above articles, undertake the following:

1. Guarantee that the content of this manuscript has not been formally published, and no two manuscripts will be submitted.
2. Ensure that there are no political errors or leaks of political, military, scientific and technological information in the articles. In case of any of the above problems, the author and his unit shall take all responsibilities.
3. Guarantee that the authorship and ranking of all authors are undisputed, and there are no intellectual property disputes. In the course of revising the manuscript, if there is an increase or decrease of the author or change of the signature unit, the consent of all the authors, the first signature unit and the responsible author shall be issued a certificate.
4. The first author of the manuscript (or the corresponding author shall designate the person in charge when submitting the paper) shall be responsible for the revision, answering questions, proofreading, payment of the manuscript review and other publishing fees, handling of single copy and remuneration and other matters related to the manuscript.
5. Self-conceit. In case of any discrepancy with item 1~4, the author shall assume all responsibilities and compensate for the loss of the editorial department.
6. After the manuscript is published, the author shall transfer all publishing rights of the manuscript (including paper publishing rights, reproduction, distribution rights, and publishing rights of electronic media such as CD-ROM and Internet) to the Editorial department of Journal of Cleaner Production.
7. The first author and responsible author must carefully read the full text and pay attention to political errors such as borderless, correct academic views and text expression, standard terminology, and correct statistical processing.
8. Deliver the editorial department of Journal of Cleaner Production to collect the publication

623 fee of the article at that time
624 Please read the agreement carefully and sign it.
625 Corresponding author: Fang Chen
626 The first author: Sha Zhangu
627 September 13, 2021

Funding Project

- 629 1. One belt, one road project: the 2020 annual Hunan provincial social science achievement
630 evaluation committee project: "the research on the construction of green mineral resources
631 corridors along the belt and road" and the mechanism of interest sharing. The project number
632 is XSP20YBC223;
- 633 2. 2018 Hunan philosophy and Social Science Foundation Project "Research on safety evaluation
634 and management policy of China's metal resources under the new normal" (18y bq136);
- 635 3. Key project of youth fund of Central South University of forestry and technology in 2016:
636 "Research on supply side structural reform and optimization mechanism of metal resources
637 industrial structure in Hunan Province".
- 638 4. Project of Hunan social science achievement evaluation committee "Research on green
639 development evaluation and policy optimization of mining industry in Hunan Province"
640 (Project No.: xsp20ybz173).

641

Availability of data and materials

642
643 Data sets used or analyzed in the current study are available from corresponding authors upon
644 reasonable request.
645

Compliance with Ethical Standards

- 647 1. There is no potential conflict of interest in this article.
648 The author did not receive any organization's support for the submitted work.
649 No funds were received to assist in the preparation of the manuscript.
650 No funds were received for this study.
651 No funds, grants or other support were received.
- 652 2. This paper does not cover studies of human participants, human data or human tissues.
- 653 3. The author shall be responsible for misrepresentation or failure to comply with the above
654 standards.

655

Reference

- 656
657 Almus. M., Czarnitzki. D. The effects of public R&D subsidies on firms' innovation activities: the case
658 of Eastern Germany [J]. *Bus. Econ. Stat*, 2003,(21) 226–236.
- 659 Baud C.,Durand C.. Financialization , Globalization and the Making of Profits by Leading Retailers[J].
660 *Socio-Economic Review*.2011,10:241-266.
- 661 Beck T.,Demirgüç-Kunt A., Maksimovic V. Financial and Legal Constraints to Growth: Does Firm
662 Size Matter? [J]. *The Journal of Finance*,2005(60):137-177.
- 663 Bond S, Harhoff D, Van Reenen J. Investment, R&D and financial constraints in Britain and
664 Germany[J]. *Centre for Economic Performance Discussion Paper*, 2003,0595.
- 665 Bronzini, R., Piselli, P.. The impact of r&d subsidies on firm innovation [J]. *Res. Policy*, 2016,45 (2),
666 442–457.
- 667 Cato S,Matsumura T. Merger and entry-license tax[J]. *E-economics Letters*,2013,119(1):11-13.
- 668 Catozzella A, Vivarelli M. The possible adverse impact of innovation subsidies: Some evidence
669 from Italy[J]. *International Entrepreneurship and Management Journal*, 2016, (12): 351-368.
- 670 Dai X, Cheng L. The effect of public subsidies on corporate R&D investment: An application of the
671 generalized propensity score[J]. *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, 2015, 90(2): 410-
672 419.
- 673 Denis D.J., Sibilkov V. Financial Constraints , Investment , and the Value of Cash Holdings[J]. *The*
674 *Review of Financial Studies*.2009,23:247-992.
- 675 Du Yong, Zhang Huan, Chen Jianying. Impact of financial support on the future main business
676 development of real enterprises: promotion or inhibition [J]. *China industrial economy*, 2017 (12):
677 113-131.
- 678 Esther Hormiga,Desiderio Juan García-Almeida. Accumulated knowledge and innovation as
679 antecedents of reputation in new ventures[J]. *Journal of Small Business and Enterprise*
680 *Development*,2016,23(2).
- 681 Garcia-Quevedo. J. Do public subsidies complement business R&D? A meta-analysis of the
682 econometric evidence, *Kyklos* 57 (2004) 87–102.
- 683 Guo Yue. Signal transmission mechanism of government innovation subsidy and enterprise
684 innovation [J]. *China's industrial economy*,2018(09):98-116.
- 685 Hannu Karhunen,Janne Huovari. R&D subsidies and productivity in SMEs[J]. *Small Business*
686 *Economics*,2015,45(4).
- 687 He Lifen, Zhang Dan, Wang Qiaoyi. Enterprise financial support and earnings sustainability -- Also
688 on innovation and institutional investor effect [J]. *Monthly journal of Finance and accounting*, 2021
689 (13): 28-35.
- 690 Ignacio González,Hector Sala. Investment Crowding - Out and Labor Market Effects of
691 Financialization in the US[J]. *Scottish Journal of Political Economy*,2014,61(5):589-613.
- 692 Ju Xiaosheng, Lu Di, Yu Yihua. Financing constraints, working capital management and enterprise
693 innovation sustainability [J]. *Economic research*, 2013,48 (01): 4-16.
- 694 Lach, S. Do R&D subsidies stimulate or displace private R&D? Evidence from Israel [J]. *The Journal*
695 *of Industrial Economics*, 2002,4: 369–390.

696 Levy D M. Estimating the Impact of Government R&D[J]. *Economics Letters*, 1990, 32(2): 169-173.

697 Liu Jinru, Zeng Xianfeng, Zeng Qian. Impact of environmental regulation and government innovation
698 subsidies on enterprise green product innovation [J]. *Economic and management research*, 2019,40
699 (06): 106-118.

700 Liu Qiuming. Research on the impact of government subsidies on innovation quality from the
701 perspective of enterprise scale [D]. *Northeast University of Finance and economics*, 2019.

702 Orhangazi Ö. Financialisation and Capital Accumulation in the Non-Financial Corporate Sector:A
703 Theoretical and Em-pirical Investigation on the US Economy:1973-2003[J].2008,32:863-886.

704 Peng Hongxing, Mao Xinshu. Government innovation subsidies, company executives' background
705 and R & D Investment -- Empirical Evidence from China's high-tech industry [J]. *Finance and trade
706 economics*, 2017,38 (03): 147-161.

707 Qin Zixing. Analysis of government subsidy strategy for strategic emerging industries under
708 innovation driven mode [J]. *Operations research and management*, 2017,26 (10): 173-180.

709 Soener Matthew. Why do firms financialize? Meso-level evidence from the US apparel and footwear
710 industry, 1991–2005[J]. *Socio-Economic Review*,2015,13(3):549-573.

711 Song Jun, Lu min. U-shaped relationship between non monetary financial support and operating
712 return -- evidence of financial support from listed non-financial companies in China [J]. *Financial
713 research*, 2015 (06): 111-127.

714 Tori D., Onaran O. The Effects of Financialization on Investment:Evidence From Firm-Level Data for
715 the UK[J].*Cambridge Journal of Economics*, 2018,42:1393-1416.

716 Wallsten S J. Do government-industry R&D pro-grams increase private R&D? The case of the small
717 business innovation research program[M].Palo Alto: Stanford University Press, 1999: 82-100.

718 Wang Hongjian, Cao Yuqiang, Yang Qing, Yang Zheng. Does financial support of real enterprises
719 promote or inhibit enterprise innovation -- a study based on the experience of Listed Companies in
720 China's manufacturing industry [J]. *Nankai management review*, 2017,20 (01): 155-166.

721 Xia Ling. The impact of government subsidies on Enterprise R & D Investment -- An Empirical
722 Analysis Based on strategic emerging industries [J]. *Friends of accounting*, 2020 (24): 132-137.

723 Xiao Xingzhi, Xie Li. Empirical analysis on innovation efficiency of China's strategic emerging
724 industries [J]. *Economic management*, 2011,33 (11): 26-35.

725 Xiao Wen, Lin gaobang. Government support, R & D management and technological innovation
726 efficiency: An Empirical Analysis Based on China's industrial industry [J]. *Management world*, 2014
727 (4): 71-80.

728 Xu Shan, Liu Duchi. Empirical Study on the impact of enterprise financial support on technological
729 innovation [J]. *Scientific research management*, 2019,40 (10): 240-249.

730 Yu Bai,Siyi Song,Jianling Jiao,Ranran Yang. The impacts of government R&D subsidies on green
731 innovation: Evidence from Chinese energy-intensive firms[J]. *Journal of Cleaner
732 Production*,2019,233.

733 Yu Zuo, Li Xiang. We should speed up the fair competition review of subsidy policies for new energy
734 vehicles [J]. *China price regulation and antitrust*, 2016 (09): 29-31.

735 Zhang Caijiang, Chen Lu. Is the more government subsidies for enterprise innovation the better [J].
736 *Science of science and technology management*, 2016 (11): 11-19.

737 Zhang Chengsi, Liu Zehao, Luo Yu. China's commodity financial support stratification and inflation

738 driving mechanism [J]. Economic research, 2014,49 (01): 140-154.
739 Zhang Fan, Sun Wei. Micro mechanism of government innovation subsidy efficiency: superposition
740 effect of incentive effect and crowding out effect: theoretical explanation and test [J]. Financial
741 research, 2018 (4): 48-60.
742 Zhang Yong'an, Yan Jiaxin. Dynamic relationship between Government R & D funding, enterprise R
743 & D investment and innovation performance [J]. Research on science and technology management,
744 2020,40 (02): 1-10.
745 Zhao Kangsheng, Xie Shiyu. The impact of Government R & D subsidies on Enterprise R & D
746 Investment -- An Empirical Study Based on Chinese Listed Companies [J]. World economic journal,
747 2017 (02): 87-104.
748 Zhou Yahong, Pu Yulu, Chen Shiyi, Fang Fang. Government support and new industrial
749 development -- Taking new energy as an example [J]. Economic research, 2015,50 (06): 147-161.