



## Influence Factors Analysis and Generation Prediction of Beijing Municipal Solid Waste

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**Abstract:** This paper analyzes 23 selected indicators of influencing the generation of Beijing municipal solid waste by adopting principal component analysis, and finally divides the factors into 3 principal components, i.e. urban development degree, price index indicator and liquefied petroleum gas sales volume. The paper calculates the correlation among various indicators and Beijing municipal solid waste generation through the calculation of correlation coefficient, and classifies various indicators into three types, i.e. high linear correlation, significant correlation and low linear correlation. In addition, this paper also conducts multivariate regression analysis to various indicators through statistical software after dimensionless method and finally obtains the multivariate regression equation of Beijing municipal solid waste generation, and verifies the multivariate regression equation with absolute error, relative error, and goodness-of-fit, etc, indicating that this equation has a high goodness-of-fit and can be used for predicting Beijing municipal solid waste generation.

**Keywords:** Beijing, solid waste, influence factor, generation, prediction

### 1 Introduction

With the acceleration of urbanization process and the improvement of living standard, the municipal solid waste presents a fast growing trend in quantity, which becomes an important problem of polluting the environment and affecting urban sustainable development, and also receives more and more concerns<sup>[1]</sup>. The influence factors of municipal solid waste generation are complex and changeful, and the change is the result of combined action of influence factors, and the ways and degrees of various influence factors are different<sup>[2]</sup>. The scientific and accurate prediction of

municipal solid waste generation and the analysis of its influence factors can provide scientific basis for implementing scientific and effective urban environment management and the future development planning of urban, which is an important foundational work to manage the municipal solid waste<sup>[3]</sup>. As the capital of our country, the problem of domestic waste in Beijing is prominent. The analysis of component of Beijing municipal solid waste, the discussion on the influence factors of Beijing municipal solid waste generation and the prediction of Beijing municipal solid waste generation for years to come will provide important basis for the project construction, the collection and transportation, disposal, development planning and urban development planning of Beijing municipal solid waste, which is the valuable data of urban construction and management.

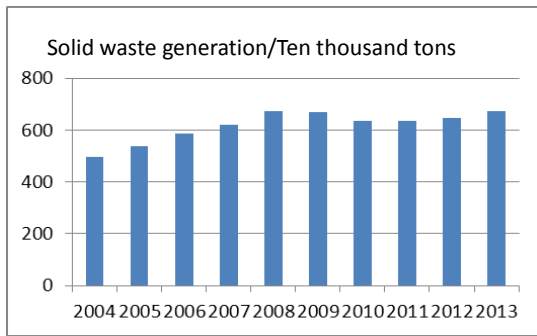
### 2 Beijing municipal solid waste component and the change trend of its generation

Generally, the solid waste can be defined as solid and self-solid waste which are discarded or generated in daily life, work or production such as household waste, road sweeping waste, commercial waste, waste from unit and organization and transport waste, etc.<sup>[4]</sup>. By physical components, the municipal solid waste in China can be classified into kitchen organics, paper, plastic rubber, glass, metal, wood and bamboo, dust, tile and brick, and ceramics, etc<sup>[5]</sup>, please refer to Tab.1.

In the field of domestic waste generation, the solid waste of Beijing increases to 6,728,200 ton in 2008 from 4,954,600 ton in 2004, with the average annual growth rate of 6.31%. Since 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, the

**Tab.1 Physical components of municipal solid waste**

		Recoverable matters				Inorganic matters		Kitchen organic matters	
paper	Plastic, rubber	Textile fabrics	Glass	Metal	Wood and bamboo	Dust	Brick and tile, ceramics	Animal	Plant



**Fig.1 Change chart of Beijing municipal solid waste generation**

increase of environment protection intensity and a series of measures for waste reduction partly restrain the growth of waste generation, and the waste generation presents a negative growth from 2009 to 2011. By 2011, Beijing municipal solid waste generation is 6,343,500 ton. However, the waste generation between 2011 and 2013 presents a rising trend again, please refer to Fig.1.

### 3 Influence factors analysis of municipal solid waste

In our country, there are many factors of influencing municipal solid waste generation and component, which can be classified into 4 types [6]: 1. internal factor, it refers to the factor which can directly cause the change of the generation and component, such as population, urban economic development, living standard and urban construction level, etc [7-8]; 2. Natural factor, it refers to the influence of region, season, such as geographical location and climate, etc [9-10]; 3. Individual factor, it mainly refers to individual behavior, living style, education level, etc. of waste generation [11-12]; 4. social factor, it refers to social behavior standard, rules and regulations, etc, an external factor of restricting internal factor and individual behavior, which externally influences the generation and component of municipal solid waste through resource recovery, reduction, etc [13]. In the four types of influence factors, the internal factor holds a dominant position. As a rule, the larger the urban size, the more the population, and the more the domestic waste generated. In addition, the improvement of living standard and the change of urban energy structure significantly influence the component and generation of domestic waste. The natural factor is an external factor, reflected in the influence of natural environment and seasonal change on the generation and component of domestic waste, and the influence degree is related to urban energy structure and other internal factors. The influence of individual factor and social factor are mainly reflected in waste reduction, recovery, recycling, and other measures and regulations. The individual factor and social factor are the main control factors to regulate and control the municipal solid waste.

## 4 Generation prediction of Beijing municipal solid waste

### 4.1 Principle and method

The generation of municipal solid waste is influenced by many factors; multi-index evaluation will not only increase the workload, but also lower the function of main indicators. For this, some primary and typical indicators should be selected from several indicators. However, the considered indicators inevitably have subjectivity, causing the loss of valuable information and producing large error and mistake. Therefore, it is necessary to process the considered indicators with mathematical method to make them become a few mutually independent aggregative indicators, and then further analyze the main influence factors of the generation of solid waste according to these indicators. Principal component analysis is an objective multivariate statistical method, which provides a very effective mathematical method for achieving this thinking. The determination of closeness degree of correlation among various influence factors is completed mainly through the calculation and inspection of correlation analysis and regression analysis to correlation data and regression equation.

The principal component analysis can be researched on the basis of original data or standardized data, namely sample covariance matrix or sample correlation matrix [11-15].

The correlation analysis to data and influence factors aims at resolving the following problems in proper order [15-26].

The determination of correlation coefficient: The correlation coefficient is a value of representing linear correlation degree among variables. larger the correlation coefficient, the higher the linear correlation degree; the less the correlation coefficient, the lower the linear correlation degree among variables. For factor x, y, if the sample values are respectively  $x_i, y_i (i=1,2,\dots,n)$ , the correlation coefficient is

$$r_{xy} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2}} \quad (1)$$

In the above formula,  $\bar{x}$  and  $\bar{y}$  respectively denote the average values of two factor sample values, namely

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i, \bar{y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \quad (2)$$

$r_{xy}$  is the value of correlation coefficient between x and y, with the value within [-1,1].  $r_{xy} > 0$  is positive

**Tab.2 Generation and relevant indicator data of Beijing municipal solid waste**

Year	Solid waste generation/ten thousand tons	Permanent population/ten thousand person	Gross regional production/100 million Yuan	Per capita gross regional production /Yuan	Urban per capita household income /Yuan	Urban per capita disposable income /Yuan	Urban per capita nonproductive expenditure /Yuan	Urban per capita housing construction area /m2	Resident consumption level/ Yuan	Total Electricity Consumption/ten thousand kWh	Year-end park greenbelt/hectare	Per capita park greenbelt /m2
	Y	X1	X2	X3	X4	X5	X6	X7	X8	X9	X10	X11
2004	495.46	1492.7	6033.2	40916	17116.5	15637.8	12200.4	21.49	13425	5131804	10446	11.45
2005	536.93	1538	6969.5	45993	19533.3	17653	13244.2	22.03	14662	5705364	11365	12
2006	585.13	1601	8117.8	51722	22417	19978	14825	23.65	16487	6115719	11788	12
2007	619.49	1676	9846.8	60096	24576	21989	15330	24.77	18553	6670089	12101	12.6
2008	672.82	1771	11115	64491	27678	24725	16460	26.9	20113	6897189	12316	13.6
2009	669.13	1860	12153	66940	30674	26738	17893	27.69	22023	7391465	18070	14.5
2010	634.86	1961.9	14114	73856	33360	29073	19934	28.94	24982	8099029	19020	15
2011	634.35	2018.6	16252	81658	37124	32903	21984	29.38	27760	8217055	19728	15.3
2012	648.31	2069.3	17879	87475	41103	36469	24046	29.26	30350	8742835	21178	15.5
2013	671.69	2114.8	19501	93213	45274	40321	26275	31.31	33337	9131113	22215	15.7

Year	Public transport commercial vehicle	public transport passenger capacity /ten thousand passenger	Consumer price index	Producer price index	Fixed asset investment price index	Central heating area/ten thousand m2	Quantity of tourists to Beijing/ten thousand person	Total Retail Sales of consumer goods/100 million Yuan	Commercial housing construction area/ten thousand m2	Liquefied petroleum gas sales volume/ton	Natural gas sales volume/ten thousand m3	total import and export value/ten thousand dollars
	X12	X13	X14	X15	X16	X17	X18	X19	X20	X21	X22	X23
2004	19343	499830	101	103	104.3	28150	12265.5	2626.6	9931.3	431660	250326	9457572
2005	19471	517769	101.5	101.3	100.7	31736	12862.9	2911.7	10748.5	356551	294279	12550643
2006	20489	468225	100.9	99.1	100.4	34977	13590.3	3295.3	10483.5	415268	389202	15803663
2007	20525	488138	102.4	99.7	102.8	37203	14715.5	3835.2	10438.6	319631	441327	19299976
2008	23221	592523	105.1	103.3	107.8	42501	14560	4645.5	10014.3	289576	578626	27169290
2009	23730	658785	98.5	94.4	97.1	44240	16669.5	5309.9	9719.1	332693	645356	21479103
2010	24011	689788	102.4	102.2	102.5	46715	18390.1	6229.3	10300.9	299392	677009	30166129
2011	24478	722552	105.6	102.3	105.7	50794	21404.4	6900.3	12065.4	394437	726229	38958314
2012	25831	761578	103.3	98.4	101.3	52555	23134.6	7702.8	13122.5	379371	883385	40810735
2013	27590	804775	103.3	97.4	99.9	54591	25189	8375.1	13886.9	453546	956852	42994169

correlation, and  $r_{xy} < 0$  is negative correlation. The closer to 1 of the absolute value of  $r_{xy}$ , the closer the relation between the two factors; the closer to 0, the less the relation. It can be generally divided by three levels:  $|r_{xy}| < 0.4$  is low linear correlation;  $0.4 \leq |r_{xy}| < 0.8$  is significant correlation;  $0.8 \leq |r_{xy}| < 1$  is high linear correlation.

Inspect the confirmed correlation coefficient.

Correlation coefficient is an important indicator of measuring the linear correlation degree among variables, and the significance test should be carried out to determine whether the size of this value is statistically significant. In mathematical statistics, the correlation test of correlation coefficient is mainly achieved through t-test and the difference test of sample correlation coefficient and total correlation coefficient. Under the hypothesis condition of total correlation coefficient of 0, the correlation coefficient follows t distribution with the

**Tab.3 Characteristic value and cumulative contribution rate**

Component	Initial characteristic value			Extraction quadratic sum load			Rotation quadratic sum load		
	Total	Variance %	Accumulation %	Total	Variance %	Accumulation %	Total	Variance %	Accumulation %
1	18.496	80.417	80.417	18.496	80.417	80.417	18.161	78.959	78.959
2	2.587	11.250	91.666	2.587	11.250	91.666	2.561	11.137	90.096
3	1.348	5.860	97.527	1.348	5.860	97.527	1.709	7.431	97.527
4	0.269	1.168	98.694						
5	0.162	0.706	99.400						
6	0.063	0.275	99.675						
7	0.039	0.171	99.846						
8	0.027	0.118	99.964						
9	0.008	0.036	100.000						
10	1.128E-15	4.904E-15	100.000						
11	5.563E-16	2.419E-15	100.000						
12	3.976E-16	1.729E-15	100.000						
13	3.576E-16	1.555E-15	100.000						
14	2.854E-16	1.241E-15	100.000						
15	2.071E-16	9.004E-16	100.000						
16	8.521E-17	3.705E-16	100.000						
17	2.515E-17	1.093E-16	100.000						
18	-3.081E-18	-1.340E-17	100.000						
19	-1.532E-16	-6.660E-16	100.000						
20	-2.891E-16	-1.257E-15	100.000						
21	-3.389E-16	-1.474E-15	100.000						
22	-4.016E-16	-1.746E-15	100.000						
23	-7.151E-16	-3.109E-15	100.000						

Extraction method: principal component analysis

freedom of  $n-2$ . When  $t > t_\alpha$ , it is considered that the correlation coefficient is significant.

Determination of regression model: firstly, suppose that the relation among many factors and variables is linear correlation. Next, establish regression model between factors and variables through multivariate statistical software. Confirm coefficient  $a$  through least square method to obtain multivariate regression equation.

Significance test of regression equation: in order to confirm whether the obtained regression equation is accidental or has statistic significance, it is necessary to test the regression equation.

$R^2$  is goodness-of-fit coefficient, the ratio of regression sum of squares and total dispersion square sum, denoting the percentage of linear variance of many factors and variables, with the value of  $0 \leq R^2 \leq 1$ . Use goodness-of-fit coefficient to conduct significance test to the equation. At significance level  $\alpha$ , if  $F < F_\alpha$ , the hypothesis that the total correlation coefficient is 0 should be affirmed, namely that regression equation is significant.

The above data analysis and calculating process are conducted by using SPSS17.0 statistical software [27-29].

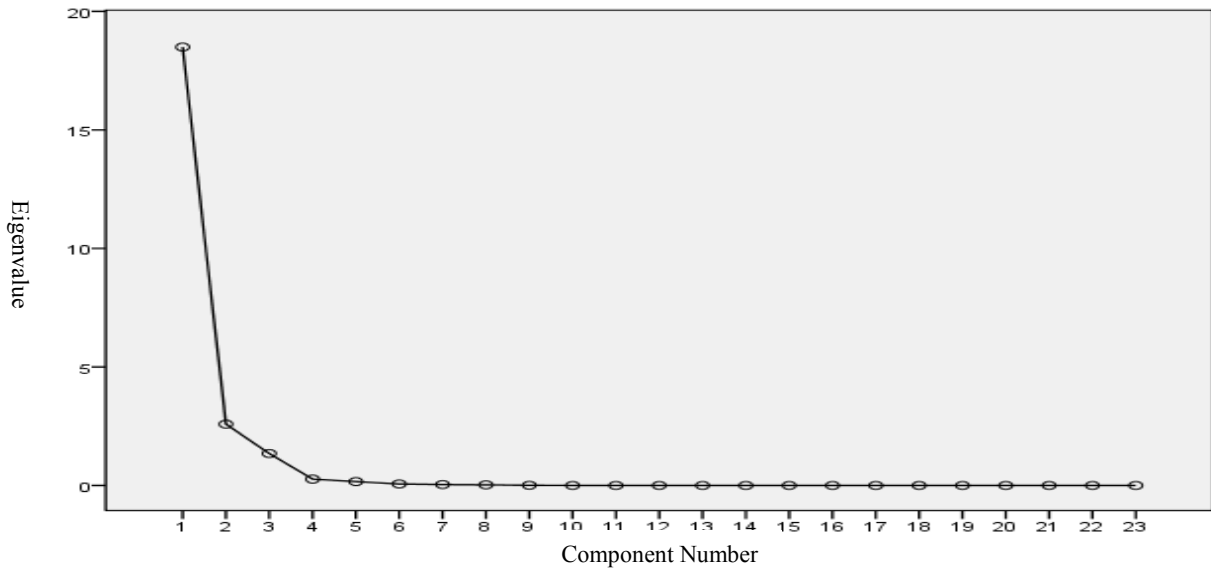
#### 4.2 Selection of principal component factor indicator

On the basis of the thinking and basic requirements of principal component analysis, following the principles such as scientificity, systematicness, dynamics, feasibility, data acquisition, and considering the actual condition of Beijing, we select the urban development degree, living standard, industrialization level and total urban economy strength, etc. 23 factors related to Beijing municipal solid waste generation as independent variable group X, and select the generation of Beijing solid waste as independent variable group Y. For the specific data of various factors, see Tab.2. With 2004-2013 as the scope, the data comes from Beijing statistical yearbook [30].

#### 4.3 Principal component analysis

Analyze the original data in SPSS17.0 statistical software.

In view of the different units of selected influences factors, in order to eliminate the error and standardize the data, and then use the obtained correlation matrix to conduct principal component analysis to the influence factors of Beijing municipal solid waste generation to obtain characteristic value and cumulative contribution rate, please refer to Tab.3. In Tab.3, based on the principle that Kaiser selected characteristic value is



**Fig.2 Scree plot**

greater than 1, it can be known that the characteristic values of 3 principal components are greater than 1, and the cumulative contribution rates are close to 100%, meeting the analysis requirement. Therefore, many factors influencing the generation of Beijing municipal solid waste can be preliminary generalized into 3 principal components. At the same time, analyze the factor scree plot, see Fig.2. On the basis of the gradient degree of the line among various points, the steep line indicates that the difference value of characteristic value of factor corresponding to line breakpoint is large, and the flat line corresponds to the small difference value of characteristic value. From Fig. 2 we can see that the gradient of the line between the fourth factors is relatively steep, thus the difference value of characteristic value is large; while the gradient of line within fourth factor-30<sup>th</sup> factor is relatively flat, and as a result, the difference value of characteristic value of them is very small. This also certifies that 3 principal components can be extracted from 23 factors of influencing the generation of Beijing municipal solid waste to generalize most information.

From Tab.3 we can obtain the characteristic values of 3 extracted principal components to further get the load matrix of influence factors. Through varimax orthogonal rotation, minimize the variables with highest load on various factors to make the determination of public factor clearer. Use Varimax to conduct maximum rotation to initial factor load matrix, and then list the factor rotation information, see Tab.4. The rotated factor load matrix can better interpret various principal factors.

Tab.4 indicates that the influence factors of Beijing municipal solid waste generation can be divided in to 3 types.

The first type of factor is complex, including permanent population, gross regional production, urban per capita household income, urban per capita housing

construction area, resident consumption level, total electricity consumption, year-end park greenbelt, public transport commercial vehicle, total central heating area, quantity of tourists to Beijing, total retail sales of consumer goods, gas sales volume, total import and export value, etc. The above factors are the important indicator of showing the development degree of a city. Under normal conditions, the increase of urban permanent population will cause the increase of solid waste generation. Gross regional production and total import and export value can reflect the economic development level of a city, and urban per capita household income and resident consumption level can directly reflect the living standard. The quantity and types of consumer goods may increase due to the development of economy and the improvement of living standard, correspondingly the solid waste generation will increase. Year-end park greenbelt, public transport commercial vehicle and other factors can reflect the development degree of urban public utilities, and the urban public utilities development degree can partly affect the behavior and living style of resident, and also influence the solid waste generation. While the urban per capita housing construction area and total retail sales of consumer goods can directly reflect the behavior and living style of resident, and also affect the municipal solid waste generation. Total central heating area, natural gas sales volume, total electricity consumption can reflect the energy consumption. The increase of central heating area, natural gas and electricity consumption can substitute for wood, coal, and other traditional energies to reduce the generation of lime-ash and other solid wastes. The increase of quantity of tourists to Beijing will also cause the increase of municipal solid waste generation.

The second type of factor covers consumer price index, producer price index, fixed asset price index.

These indexes can reflect the living standard and consumption habit, thus they will also affect the municipal solid waste generation.

The third type of factor is liquefied petroleum gas sales volume. In general, the community in which the liquefied petroleum is sold most is constructed early, and the resident behavior and habit, living style are different, thus it will affect the municipal solid waste generation.

#### 4.4 Determination of correlation coefficient

Select permanent population, gross regional production, and resident consumption level, etc. 23 factors related to municipal solid waste generation as independent variable X, with Beijing municipal solid waste generation as dependent variable Y, and for specific index of each factor, see Tab.2. With 2004-2013 as the scope, the data comes from Beijing statistical yearbook.

Firstly, on the basis of Beijing municipal solid waste generation Y and the linear regression model of 23 factors, and using SPSS17.0 statistical software to conduct correlation analysis, we can obtain that Pearson correlation coefficient is as shown in Tab.5.

From Tab.5 we can see that in many selected indicators of affecting Beijing municipal solid waste generation, most indicators highly correlate to Beijing municipal solid waste generation. Of which, gross regional production X3, per capita housing construction area X7, total electricity consumption X9, per capita park greenbelt X11, public transport commercial vehicle X12, total central heating area X17 and natural gas sales volume X22 are high linear correlation, i.e.

$0.8 \leq |r_{xy}| < 1$ ; permanent population X1, total regional production X2, urban per capita household income X4, urban per capita disposable income X5, urban per capita nonproductive expenditure X6, resident consumption level X8, year-end park greenbelt X10, public transport passenger capacity X13, producer price index X15, quantity of tourist to Beijing X18, total retail sales of consumer goods X19 and total import and export value X23 are significant correlation, i.e.  $0.4 \leq |r_{xy}| < 0.8$ .

Only consumer price index X14, fixed asset investment price index X16, commercial building construction area X20 and liquefied petroleum gas sale X21 are low linear correlation, i.e.  $|r_{xy}| < 0.4$ .

#### 4.5 Regression equation and its significance test

Conduct regression analysis to the influence factors of Beijing municipal solid waste generation after dimensionless method, finally obtain the regression equation.

$$y = e^{-0.561514 \ln x_{19} + 0.709761 \ln x_{22} + 1.817267}$$

Of which, Y represents the generation of Beijing municipal solid waste (ten thousand ton), X19 represents total retail sales of consumer goods (100 million Yuan),

and X22 represents natural gas sales (ten thousand m3).

**Tab.4 Rotated factor load matrix**

	Component		
	1	2	3
Permanent population X1	0.997	-0.008	0.022
Gross regional production X2	0.989	0.010	0.144
Per capita gross regional production X3	0.992	0.018	0.091
Urban per capita household income X4	0.987	-0.037	0.151
Urban per capita disposable income X5	0.983	-0.022	0.177
Urban per capita nonproductive expenditure X6	0.973	-0.027	0.224
Urban per capita housing construction area X7	0.988	-0.003	-0.060
Resident consumption level X8	0.984	-0.010	0.174
Total electricity consumption X9	0.994	-0.040	0.031
Year-end park greenbelt X10	0.954	-0.180	0.118
Per capita park greenbelt X11	0.989	-0.030	-0.063
Public transport commercial vehicle X12	0.978	-0.046	0.079
Public transport passenger capacity X13	0.957	-0.032	0.113
Consumer price index X14	0.454	0.859	0.092
Producer price index X15	-0.325	0.892	-0.063
Fixed asset price index X16	-0.086	0.964	-0.137
Total central heating area X17	0.996	0.009	0.015
Quantity of tourists to Beijing X18	0.949	-0.027	0.303
Total retail sales of consumer goods X19	0.989	-0.008	0.136
Commercial building construction area X20	0.715	0.055	0.640
Liquefied petroleum gas sales volume X21	0.009	-0.130	0.964
Gas sales volume X22	0.990	-0.061	0.072
Total import and export value X23	0.971	0.180	0.138

Extraction method: principal component analysis.

Rotation method: varimax rotation with Kaiser standardization.

a. the rotation converges after the 4th iteration.

Conduct error analysis to the obtained regression equation, fit the data of 2004-2013 Beijing municipal solid waste generation with the obtained data calculated through the regression equation to obtain relative error and absolute error, see Tab.6. From Tab.6 we can see that

**Tab.5 Short form for Pearson correlation coefficient**

Influence factor	Correlation coefficient	Influence factor	Correlation coefficient	Influence factor	Correlation coefficient	Influence factor	Correlation coefficient	Influence factor	Correlation coefficient	Influence factor	Correlation coefficient
Permanent population X1	0.796	Urban per capita disposable income X5	0.76	Total electricity consumption X9	0.808	Public transport passenger capacity X13	0.678	Total central heating area X17	0.836	Liquefied petroleum sales volume X21	-0.338
Gross regional production X2	0.759	Urban per capita non-productive expenditure X6	0.718	Year-end park greenbelt X10	0.678	Consumer price index X14	0.327	Quantity of tourists to Beijing X18	0.646	Natural gas sales volume X22	0.821
Per capita gross regional production X3	0.802	Urban per capita housing construction area X7	0.863	Per capita park greenbelt X11	0.804	Producer price index X15	-0.428	Total retail sales of consumer goods X19	0.744	Total import and export value X23	0.75
Urban per capita household income X4	0.771	Resident consumption level X8	0.743	Public transport commercial vehicle X12	0.811	Fixed asset investment price index X16	-0.07	Commercial housing construction area X20	0.349		

**Tab.6 Table of error between actual value and analog value of Beijing municipal solid waste generation**

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Actual value/ten thousand ton	495.46	536.93	585.13	619.49	672.82	669.13	634.86	634.35	648.31	671.69
Analog value/ten thousand ton	502.16	531.59	604.74	607.17	660.79	662.38	626.51	621.75	671.69	678.24
Absolute error/ten thousand ton	6.7	-5.34	19.61	-12.32	-12.03	-6.75	-8.35	-12.6	23.38	6.55
Relative error/%	1.3523	-0.9945	3.3514	-1.9887	-1.788	-1.0088	-1.3153	-1.9863	3.6063	0.9752

the error between the actual value of Beijing municipal solid waste generation and the data calculated through regression equation is minor. Of which, the year of maximum relative error is 2012, only 3.6063%. Analyzing the data of 2004-2013, we can obtain that any relative error of each year is less than 4%, indicating the fitting of regression equation is favorable.

Through further verifying the regression equation, we obtain that the goodness-of-fit coefficient  $R^2$  is about 0.9567, indicating that the regression equation is significant. By the equation, we can predict that in 2015 Beijing municipal solid waste will be 692.44 ten thousand tons.

In conclusion, the fitting of this regression equation is favorable, which can better predict the generation of Beijing municipal solid waste.

## 5 Conclusions

In this paper, the influence factors of Beijing municipal solid waste generation can be roughly divided into 3 types, i.e. urban development degree, price index indicator and liquefied petroleum sales volume. By using

multivariate regression model to predict the generation of Beijing municipal solid waste, we obtain that the generation of Beijing municipal solid waste can be predicted through two factors, i.e. total retail sales of consumer goods and natural gas sales volume, the equation is

$$y = e^{-0.561514 \ln x_{19} + 0.709761 \ln x_{22} + 1.817267}$$

Of which, Y represents Beijing municipal solid waste generation (ten thousand ton), X19 represents total retail sales of consumer goods (100 million Yuan), and X22 is natural gas sales volume (ten thousand m3). The calculation of absolute error, relative error, goodness-of-fit coefficient shows that the fitting of this regression equation is favorable, which can provide some data with reference value to Beijing environmental management, planning, environment facilities construction. Certainly, the selected indicators are impossible to fully reflect all situations of Beijing municipal solid waste generation because certain subjectivity may exist in the selection of indicator, thus further study should be carried out.

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