This research was carried out to identify the firm productivity measures and to investigate productivity determinants in Vietnam by using different methodologies and exploiting large firm-level panel datasets, including both firms in agriculture and other sectors in Vietnam.

The thesis includes five Chapters. Chapter 1 introduces the study including thesis background and motivations, thesis objectives, thesis methodologies, thesis contributions and thesis structure. Chapter 2 examines the firm productivity and its determinants by exploiting a large panel dataset of 420 enterprises operating in the agricultural sector in Vietnam from 2000 to 2009. Chapter 3 investigates the relationship between the investment climate and firm productivity by exploring a unique panel dataset of 1310 enterprises operating in the manufacturing sector in Vietnam. Chapter 4 identifies the causal relationship between financial accessibility and productivity implications on Vietnamese small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Chapter 5 demonstrates conclusions of the thesis findings in summary, and thus, suggests basis for further researches in the future.

It is found that firms with more than 200 workers were more productive than the very small and small sizes (less than 200 employees), of which enterprises >300 workers were the most productive ones in the Vietnamese agricultural sector. From achievements of her research, the applicant Mai Huong Giang has published two papers indexed in Web of Science, including Economics (ESCI) and Sustainability (IF: 2.592). After carefully examined the results from presentation, graduate thesis, achievements, and the responses on the questions raise from the examiners. The judged committee has agreed that the applicant passed the exam.