Under the background of global economy, urban growth considering the city center as basic
development point has expanded all around the world, small cities began to expand to outside as big
cities and metropolitans. At the same time, population migration has become more and more popular.
People try to move to other regions for jobs and opportunities. Sustainable, high-speed, ultra-
conventional development of the social economy accelerated China's urbanization, most of Chinese
cities witnessed rapid development period with the characteristic of urban expansion and population
migration.

These gradually increased built-up areas offered spaces for migration and the development of
industries and offices. In turn, growth of the population and social economy promoted the extension of
the city areas. As a result, we can put forward the hypothesis that population migration is essential for
urban expansion, they are in close contact with each other.

The main purpose of this article is trying to take Shanghai for example to investigate the inside
relationship between population migration and urban expansion in order to determine the right way for
urbanization and try to find out some ideas and suggestions for strengthening the managements of
floating population and help the governments for better population policies. These can help to master
the substance for the city development and lay the function for the harmonious development of cities
and population.

Shanghai sits at the mouth of the Yangtze River in the middle portion of the Chinese coast. It is
administratively equal to a province and is divided into 17 county-level divisions: 16 districts and one
county. With the size of 6340 km², Shanghai has the population of 23.47 million, its density reaches
3780 persons/km². Since 1949, the population presents a linear growth from the establishment of
China, and this tendency is steady. Before 1978 (the reform and opening-up of China), the out-
migration, in-migration and mechanical growth fluctuated, and there wasn’t any regularity; but from
1978 to now, gradually decreased out-migration and steadily increased in-migration dominant the
tendency, and the mechanical growth was positive. When it comes to the urban expansion, prior to the
reform and opening-up policy of China, main development of Shanghai was defined by the
Concession; after, governments and administrations expanded the development areas, mainly
changed some counties nearby into districts, constructed satellite towns; right now, governments and
citizens began to realize the importance of "Preservation" and "Conservation" as well as utilization of
underground space.

In this thesis, I want to summarize and generalize theories and models of population migration and
urban expansion as well as some articles relating to the connections between them to get extended
models and theories. Besides, we will analyze historical evolution of migration and expansion process
in Shanghai, using the theories and models before to research qualitatively and quantitatively on their
relationships and connections, it is helpful in determining rational size for the urban expansion for a
city and making policies and managements for the population migration which can feedback for the
promotion of the development of the theories and models.