

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE EFFICIENCIES ON METHODS OF HANDLING MULTICOLLINEARITY IN REGRESSION ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT: This paper considers three different approaches of handling multicollinearity in regression analysis using economic data. These techniques were applied to study determinants of money supply of the sector of the economy. The goal is to determine which of the economic variables included in the factors that influence money supply (either in the broad ‘M1’ or the narrow ‘M2’ sense) is not actually contributing to the effect of money supply by monetary authority of the sector of the economy. A comparative analysis of the three methods using the adjusted R^2 , Mean Square Error and Root Mean Error, as the statistics criteria, revealed that the result obtained from the Ridge Regression gave the outstanding performance as compared with the other two techniques. On the overall, it was found that the Ridge Regression performed best, followed by Principal Component Regression, while Latent Root Regression performed least.

KEYWORDS: Multicollinearity, Ordinary Least Squares, Principal Component Regression, Latent Root Regression and Ridge Regression.

1. INTRODUCTION

When two or more independent variables in a regression model are interrelated (correlated), one of them is bound to be redundant. Multicollinearity exists when independent variables in a regression model are related. When this situation exists, the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) method becomes inappropriate because the regression coefficients are inefficient (with large variances), thus result to biased regression methods. Gujarati and Porter ([GP09]) gave an exact relation for k - variable regression as

$$\lambda_1 X_1 + \lambda_2 X_2 + \dots + \lambda_k X_k = 0$$

Where $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k$ are constants such that not all of them are zero.

The presence of multicollinearity in least squares regression can cause large variances of parameter estimates which mean that the estimates of the parameters tend to be less precise. As a result, Johnston ([Joh03]) argued that the model will have

insignificant parameters and wide confidence interval.

Therefore, the more the multicollinearity, the less interpretable are the parameters. Multicollinearity among the regressor variables is a serious problem which may dramatically impair the usefulness of a regression model. Since the regressors are the columns of the X - matrix, an exact linear dependent would result in a singular $X'X$. When their exact dependencies between columns of the X matrix, that is when one or more columns can be exactly expressed as a linear combination of other columns, $\det(X'X) = 0$. This may either mean that the model is over specified i.e. more parameters are postulated than are needed to express the data or the data are not adequate to estimate the model set down.

Correlation matrix, Variance inflation factor (VIF) are used to detect multicollinearity. ([MS70]) is of the opinion that VIF greater than 10 indicates multicollinearity.

We can also remedy data from multicollinearity situation by the use of “ratio of parameter” (by transformation).

After this transformation, we then go ahead using least square method to estimate the parameter.

Some controversies surrounding whether the regressor and the response should be centered and scaled so the $X'X$ and $X'Y$ are in correlation form which result in an artificial removal of the intercept from the model. The intercept in the ridge regression model is estimated by y . According Marquardt and Snee ([MS75]), centering tend to minimize an ill conditioning when fitting polynomials. Belsley, Kuh and Welseh ([WBK80]), do not support centering of the regressor too, so that the role of the in any near linear dependencies may be diagnosed. Centering and scaling allows the analyst to think of the parameter estimates as standardized regression coefficient, which is often appealing. Furthermore centering and scaling remove ill conditioning thereby reducing variance inflation in the parameter estimates. In the study of the predictor variables, the mean is subtracted from each of the variables

variation within the p variate structure into y_i variate. The second vector a_2 is chosen so that the resulting y_2 is dependent of y_1 and incorporate as much as the remaining variation. In such a way, a total of k independent linear combinations can be chosen which extract as much variation as possible. Suppose now that the random variable $X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots, X_p$ have a p variate normal distribution with mean vector μ and co-variance matrix Σ . Let $\lambda_i : i = 1, 2, \dots, p$ be the characteristic root (Latent Root) of Σ and let λ_i 's be ordered so that $\lambda_i \geq \lambda_{i+1}$. Let a_i be the associated normalized eigenvector so that $a_i' a_i = 1$ (restriction). Thus a_1 is the normalized eigenvector corresponding to the largest eigenvalue λ_1 , and a_2 is the normalized eigenvector corresponding to the second largest eigenvalue (characteristic root) λ_2 and so on. Then $y_i = a_i' X$ is then linear compound.

$$a_{11}X_1 + a_{12}X_2 + \dots + a_{1p}X_p$$

of the responses is called the first Principal Component of X and in general, $y_i = a_i' X$ is called the i th Principal Component of X .

The above discussion is made clearer with this illustration using matrix notations. Assume we have n observations on k variables arranged in an $n \times k$ matrix of X (as shown above). If we have one single variable having n - values arranged in a column vector p (p is not yet determined). Assume it were, if all the variables have proportionally each column of X equal to some scalar multiple of p hence we say $X = pa'$ where a' is the k element row vector consisting of the scalar multiple. One of each column of $X \cdot X' = pa' p'$ will in general hold exactly hence, there will be a non - zero error matrix $X - pa'$ for all vector p and a .We now select these vectors such that the sum of square of all kn errors (loss of information) is minimized. The sum of squares of all elements a_{ij}^2 of the $m \times n$. A matrix can be written as the trace of $A'A$.

$$tr A'A = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n a^2_{ij}$$

We therefore seek to minimize:

$$tr(X - pa')'(X - pa') = tr(X'X) - tr(ap'X) - tr(X'pa) + tr(ap'ap') \text{ but}$$

$$tr(ap'X) = tr(p'pa'a) = p'pa'a = a'a$$

for uniqueness we have to impose the condition $p'p = 1$.

This implies that

$$tr(X - pa')'(X - pa') = tr(X'X) - 2p'Xa + a'a \quad (1)$$

Now to minimize (1) above we differentiate it partially with respect to a given p and equate the result to zero.

$$\text{Let } \tau = tr(X - pa')'(X - pa')$$

$$\therefore \frac{\delta \tau}{\delta a} = -2p'X + 2a,$$

if

$$\frac{\delta \tau}{\delta a} = 0$$

then,

$$a - X'p = 0 \Rightarrow a = X'p \quad (2)$$

Substituting (2) into (1)

$$tr(X'X) - 2p'X'Xp + p'XX'p = tr(X'X) - p'XX'p$$

This shows that we maximize $p'X'Xp$ the variance of y for variation in p subject to our restriction $p'p = 1$. To do this, we employ the lagrangian expression

$$\phi = p'XX'p - \lambda(p'p - 1)$$

where λ is the lagrangian multiplier.

Differentiating with respect to p :

$$\frac{\delta \phi}{\delta p} = 2pXX' - 2\lambda p$$

$$\text{Setting } \frac{\delta \phi}{\delta p} = 0,$$

then,

$$pXX' - \lambda p = 0$$

$$pXX' - \lambda p \text{ or } (XX' - \lambda I)p = 0 \quad (3)$$

p is the characteristic vector of $n \times n$ positive semi-definite matrix XX' corresponding to root λ , (i.e. p is the eigenvector of XX' corresponding to root λ).

The largest root XX' would be taken since we are maximizing $p'XX'p$. Therefore, we pre - multiply (3) by p'

$$p'(XX' - \lambda I)p = 0$$

$$= p'XX'p - \lambda p'p = \lambda$$

Also pre - multiply (3) by X' we have

$$X'(XX' - \lambda I)p = 0 \Rightarrow (XX' - \lambda I)X'p = 0$$

$$\text{Recall from (2) } X'p = a: (XX' - \lambda I)a = 0$$

The coefficient vector a is hence the characteristics vector of XX' matrix which corresponds to the largest root (though un-normalized to have unit length).

From (3) $\lambda p = X(X'P) = Xa$

$$\therefore p = 1/\lambda Xa \quad (3a)$$

The vector p thus derived is referred to as the first principal component of the k – variable represented in X . It gives the best linear description of the X -column in the least square sense.

2.2 Latent Root

Webster et al. ([W+76]), Latent root regression follows the same principle as the Principal Component Regression. In fact, it can be rightly referred to as an extension of Principal Component for examining alternative prediction equation and for the elimination of predictor variables. It was first proposed by Webster, Gunst and Mason ([W+76]) – Latent Root regression attempts to identify and eliminate multicollinearity. It will be noted that it is reduced to the Least Squares when no terms are actually deleted from the original data. Gunst et al. ([W+76]) and Gunst and Mason ([GM77]), indicate that Latent Root Regression may provide considerable improvement in the Mean Square Error (MSE) over Least Squares. Gunst and Mason ([GM80]), points out that it can produce regression coefficients that are very similar to those found by Principal Component Regression, particularly when there are only one or two strong multicollinearity in X data.

Webster and his co-workers augmented the data matrix of the centered and scaled predictor variables with the centered and scaled response variable, placing the latter first in order to provide $Z^j = (y, Z)$ where Z is the centered and scaled “ x matrix,”

$$y = (Y - I\bar{Y}) / S^{1/2} yy$$

and

$$Syy = \Sigma(Y - \bar{Y})^2$$

It follows that $Z'Z$ is the augmented correlation matrix. As in the Principal Component analysis method, the Latent Roots or characteristics roots or eigenvalues, and their corresponding Latent vectors are calculated, but here the first element (the “ Y coefficient”) of each of the latent vectors is used as a measure of the predictability of the response by the latent vectors. The larger the size of the first element of the latent vector the more useful is that vector in predicting the response and vice versa.

The presence of small Latent Root indicates potential linear dependence among the predictor

variables. The smaller the Latent Root the more pronounced is the dependence. The Least Squares equation for a given model is the best (in Least Squares sense) linear combination of all these latent vectors. By dropping out latent vectors whose latent roots and corresponding first element of the latent vectors are small, a modified Least Squares estimation equation is obtained. This modified procedure leads to biased estimators.

Expressing theoretically the working of this procedure, we first obtain the augmented correlation matrix from the original data.

$$Y \begin{pmatrix} Y & Z_1 & Z_2 & \dots & Z_n \\ 1 & r_{yz1} & r_{yz2} & \dots & r_{yzn} \\ Z_1 & 1 & r_{z1z2} & \dots & r_{z1zn} \\ Z_2 & & 1 & \dots & \\ \cdot & & & \dots & \\ Z_n & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

It will be a symmetric matrix where all the diagonal elements are 1 (unit) since each is the correlation between $Z_j Z_j$ i.e $r_{jj} = 1$

The Latent Root λ_j of the augmented matrix and their corresponding latent vector r_j are next to be determined. In the display below a Latent Root λ_j is at the left of each row while the remainder of the row being the vector corresponding to that Latent Root.

Latent root	Y	Z_1	Z_2	\cdot	\cdot
\cdot	Z_j				
λ_j	γ_{0j}	γ_{1j}	γ_{2j}		
	γ_{nj}				
γ_p	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot
\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot
γ_{p-1}	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot
\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot	\cdot
γ_0	γ_{00}	γ_{01}	γ_{02}	\cdot	\cdot
\cdot	γ_{0p}				

Next is to examine the Latent Roots λ_j , and their corresponding γ_{0j} values. If for any j , both these values are small, near singularity in that data and poor response predictability are indicated. The guidelines for smallness proposed by Webster et al. ([W+74]), are $\lambda_j \leq 0.05$ and $\lambda_{0j} \leq 0.10$ such vector should be removed from consideration.

Here, we now perform the estimation procedure. Firstly, we decide via step three which vector we wish to retain. Then the vector of the modified Least Squares coefficient is given by the formula.

$$b^j = \begin{pmatrix} b_1^j \\ b_2^j \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ b_r^j \end{pmatrix} = CZ^j_j \gamma_{0j} \lambda_j^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_{1j} \\ \gamma_{2j} \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \gamma_{rj} \end{pmatrix}$$

Where c is the constant defined as:

$$\left\{ \sum_j^f \gamma_{0j}^2 \lambda_j^{-1} \right\}^{-1} \left\{ \sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2 \right\}^{1/2}$$

and where \sum^f denotes the summation over only those values, of I whose vectors have been retained in the procedure above. Suppose for example, we retain all the vectors, the first element of b^f is infant the Least Squares coefficient.

According Webster et al. ([W+74]), the residual sum of squares for the modified Least Squares equation can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Residual sum of square (SSE)} : \\ &= \left\{ \sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2 \right\} \left\{ \sum_j^f \gamma_{0j}^2 \lambda_j^{-1} \right\}^{-1} \\ &= C \left\{ \sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2 \right\}^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

Apply this to the Least Squares solution as a check, we would find out that the result is true. Again, if we perform the parallel equation when the vector corresponding to the smallest Latent Root dropped, we will observe that there are considerable changes in the coefficient of the unbiased Least Squares values. However, the residual sum of squares (SSE) will usually increase a bit from its minimum value (attained by OLS). Thus the modified least equation can be represented in the sense of at least, as being nearly as good as the Least Squares equation.

A backward elimination procedure suggested by Webster et al. ([W+74]), especially formula 6.1 can now be adopted. The residual sum of squares that results from deletion of unwanted data X_l , $l = 1, 2, \dots, r$ from the modified Least Squares equation can be evaluated as:

$$\left\{ \sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2 \right\} \left\{ t_{00} - t_{io}^2 / t_{ij} \right\}^{-1}$$

Where, $t_{pq} = \sum_j^f (\gamma_{pj} \lambda_{qj} / \gamma_j)$

And again where \sum^f denotes the summation over entries retained in the modified least square calculation. According to Webster et al. ([W+74]), "The key advantage of this method is that, by unmasking the effect of the non – predictive near singularities, the true influences of the independent variables on the dependent variable are more clearly represented."

2.3 Ridge Regression Analysis

Among the numerous methods developed for obtaining biased estimator is the Ridge Regression which is obtained by solving a slightly modified version of the normal equation.

To calculate the Ridge estimate of the parameter in the model:

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \dots + \beta_p X_{ip} + \varepsilon_i$$

we first consider the standardize regression model:

$$y_i' = \beta_1' X_i + \dots + \beta_p' X'_{ip} + \varepsilon_i'$$

This model does not employ an intercept term; this is because the least square calculations would always yield an estimated intercept of zero if any intercept parameter were used. The new parameters $\beta_1', \beta_2', \dots, \beta_p'$ are related to those in the original model $\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_p$. Also

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_j &= (S_y / S_{x_j}) \beta_j', j = 1, 2, 3, \dots, p \\ \text{and} \\ y_i' &= 1 / (\sqrt{n-1}) [(y_i - \bar{y}) / S_y] \\ x'_{ij} &= 1 / (\sqrt{n-1}) [(x_{ij} - \bar{x}_j) / S_{x_j}] \end{aligned}$$

In matrix form

$$y = \begin{pmatrix} y_1' \\ y_2' \\ \vdots \\ y_n' \end{pmatrix} \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} X'_{11} & X'_{12} & \dots & X'_{1p} \\ X'_{21} & X'_{22} & \dots & X'_{2p} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ X'_{n1} & X'_{n2} & \dots & X'_{np} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X'X = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & r_{x1x2} & r_{x1x3} & \dots & r_{x1xp} \\ r_{x2x1} & 1 & r_{x2x3} & \dots & r_{x2xp} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ r_{xpx1} & r_{xpx2} & \dots & \dots & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X'Y = \begin{pmatrix} r_{yx1} \\ r_{yx2} \\ \vdots \\ r_{yxp} \end{pmatrix}$$

The ridge point estimate of the parameter $\beta_1', \beta_2', \dots, \beta_p'$ of the standardized regression model is denoted by:

$$b'_{j.R} = \begin{pmatrix} \beta'_{1.R} \\ \beta'_{2.R} \\ \vdots \\ \beta'_{p.R} \end{pmatrix} = (X'X + kI)^{-1} X'Y \quad (4)$$

Where k is a biasing constant $k \leq 0$, then the Ridge point estimate of parameter $\beta_1', \beta_2', \dots, \beta_p'$ in the original model are:

$$\begin{aligned} b_{j.R} &= [(S_y / S_{x_j})] b'_{j.R} \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, p \\ b_{0.R} &= \bar{y} - b_{1.R} \bar{x}_1 - b_{2.R} \bar{x}_2 - \dots - b_{p.R} \bar{x}_p \end{aligned}$$

A special note on k (the biasing constant) is that: when it is equal to zero the Ridge point estimates become the Least Squares point estimates. It thus follows from (4) that,

$$E(b_{j,R}) = E[(X'X + kI)^{-1} X'Y] = (X'X + kI)^{-1} X'E(Y)$$

Recall that $E(Y) = X\beta$, hence

$$E(b_{j,R}) = Var(X'X + kI)^{-1} X'Y$$

$$\sigma^2 (X'X + kI)^{-1} X'X (X'X + kI)^{-1} \text{ (covariance matrix of } b^{\hat{}})$$

The Ridge estimator is thus biased though it can be shown that the variance of the elements of $b_{j,R}$ are less than those of the least square estimator. According to Björkstom ([Bjö01]), Ridge Regressors is known to have favorable properties as shown by Hoerl and Kennard ([HK70]). $R \hat{\beta}$ has smaller mean square error (MSE) than the ordinary least squares estimator which provided k small enough and the standard regression model holds. Marquardt ([Mar70]) also pointed out that the Ridge regressors are known as shrinkage estimator.

The main problem centers on the selection of numerical value of the arbitrary k (the biasing constant). Recall that the Least Squares estimation procedure is unbiased i.e. $\mu_0 = \beta_j$. If $k > 0$ the Ridge Regression procedure is not unbiased i.e. $\mu_{bj,R} \neq \beta_j$. If we define the bias of the Ridge estimation procedure to be $\mu_{bj,R} - \beta_j$. Employing the mean square error (MSE), we can compare a biased and an unbiased procedure. We then define the bias of the ridge estimation procedure to be $\mu_{bj,R} - \beta$. The MSE of an estimation procedure is the average square deviation of different possible point estimates from the unknown parameter. This is equal to the sum of squared bias of the procedure and its variance.

If we denote the bias estimator of β by $b^{\hat{}}$ say: which has a smaller variance than the unbiased estimators, b , the total MSE of the Ridge estimator $b^{\hat{}}$ is defined as:

$$MSE(b^{\hat{}}) = E(b^{\hat{}} - \beta)^2 = var(b^{\hat{}}) + [E(b^{\hat{}}) - \beta]^2$$

$$= var(b^{\hat{}}) + (biased in $b^{\hat{}}$)^2$$

$$\sigma^2 Tr[(X'X + kI)^{-1} X'X (X'X + kI)^{-1}] + k^2 \beta' (X'X + kI)^{-2} \beta$$

$$\sigma^2 \sum \lambda_j / (\lambda_j + k)^2 + k^2 \beta' (X'X + kI)^{-2} \beta$$

Where $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_p$ are the eigenvalues of $X'X$

The variance here is the average of the square deviation of the different possible point estimates from the mean of all possible point estimates. If the procedure is unbiased, the mean of all estimates is the parameter being estimated. That is, when the bias is zero, the MSE and the variance of procedure are the same.

Therefore, the MSE of the unbiased Least Squares estimation procedure for testing β_j is the variance $\sigma_{bj}^2 var(b)$ while that of Ridge estimation procedure is

$$var(b) + (bias in b)^2 = \sigma_{bj,R}^2 + (\mu_{bj})^2$$

In general the Ridge point estimates are less affected by multicollinearity than the Least Squares.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Each method discussed in this paper was tested using data on measures of money supply. The performances of Principal Component Regression, Latent Root Regression and Ridge Regression on the data set are summarized in table below. This evaluation was done using MSE values, where the method that produced the smallest value was the best method, performance of all the methods are determined using an efficiency test to find out which method was the best in specified cases. The R - Square values show the models' capability to fit the present data using those methods.

Table 1: The Comparative Statistics

	PCA		LRR		RR	
	X ₃	X ₄	X ₃	X ₄	X ₃	X ₄
R-Square	0.8952	0.9692	0.8023	0.9704	0.9814	0.9798
Adj. R²	0.8690	0.9615	0.8526	0.9614	0.9707	0.9680
MSE	2.0188E+011	3.0383E+011	2.8828E+011	2.9156E+011	58374892539	3.25958E11
RMSE	4.4931E+005	5.5121E+005	4.3391E+005	5.3997E+005	241609	570927

With the use of Principal Component Regression analysis only six variables were selected out of the eleven variables, whereas by the use of the Latent Root Regression seven variables were selected which include those six selected by the Principal Component approach. Using M1 (X₃) as the dependent variable it was found that 86.9% of the total variation in the dependent variable was explained by the fitted model. The use of the Latent

Root regression with X₃ as the dependent variable shows the adjusted R- square as 0.852552 implying that 85.3% of the total variation in the dependent variable is explained by the fitted model. While the use of Ridge Regression with X₃ as dependent variable six variables were selected by applying SAS (Statistical Analysis System) at the same time, all of the independent variables together explain 98.14% of the dependent variables can be seen through the

R- Square in table. One interesting thing is that the first six variables selected by this approach were also selected by Principal Component, this confirms the fact that the two approaches are possibly alike and that those six variables are actually good measures of money supply. With the R - Square value (0.9814) in the Ridge Regression which is larger than the R - Square value in the Principal Component 0.8952, is good evidence that the performance of the six variables selected by the Ridge Regression in measuring the variation in the dependent variable shows an improvement on the Principal Component approach.

Considering the values obtained in table which both has $M2(X_4)$ as the dependent variable. The earlier table shows the adjusted R- Square as 0.9615 which implies that 96.2% of the total variation in $M2(X_4)$ is explained by the stated model. This is on the consideration of the first six variables as the independent variable. While in the latter the adjusted R - Squared is 0.9614 implying that 96.14% of the total variation in the dependent variable $M2(X_4)$ is explained by the fitted model. Looking at these results, this further confirm that the addition of the variable have not contributed positively to the variation in the dependent variable. With the decrease in the Mean Square Error (MSE), the earlier fact has been confirmed.

This result is quite significant in that, for the first analysis, the comparative statistics show adjusted R- Square from the Principal Component Regression approach as higher than that of the Latent Root Regression approach. Ridge regression performed best compared to the other two methods with increase in the adjusted R - Square of 0.9707, the second analysis shows the same thing for $M2(X_4)$. In the three cases, it is found that there is decrease in the MSE of the Ridge Regression approach as compared to the other two approaches which signifies the efficiency of the a particular approach – Ridge Regression analysis.

This implies that, if all the three approaches are properly made use of , the Ridge Regression more efficient to the other two methods which gives $MSE = 58374892539$ for $M1(X_3)$ and $MSE = 3.25958e11$ for $M2(X_4)$ followed by Principal Component with $MSE = 2.0188E+011$ for $M1(X_3)$ and $MSE = 3.0383E+011$ for $M2(X_4)$ and Latent Root with $MSE = 2.8828E+011$ for $M1(X_3)$ and $MSE = 2.9156E+011$ for $M2(X_4)$ respectively. Ridge Regression method is considered the best since it shows the lowest MSE values for both $M1(X_3)$ and $M2(X_4)$. This MSE value indicates to what extent the slope and intercept are correctly estimated. So, the goal is to obtain an MSE value close to zero.

5. CONCLUSION

This paper has critically examined the three different methods of handling multicollinearity in economic data. The work has primarily established that, the Mean Square Error (MSE) of the Ridge Regression as the least of the three methods adopted, is the best compared with the others.

However, the observed adjusted R – Square for the approaches were found to be high i.e. 0.9680, 0.9615 and 0, 9614 in order of RR, PCA and LR which implies that the models were well fitted.

It is therefore recommended that the approach be used for removal of multicollinearity among independent variables.

For further exercises, it is recommended for any future research wishing to conduct a study in this area to try the use of the Partial Least Squares Regression (PLSR) analysis, which is another bias estimation technique to see if there exists any difference in the approach.

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