



ROBUST PARAMETER ESTIMATION FOR RANDOM EFFECT PANEL DATA MODEL IN THE PRESENCE OF HETEROSCEDASTICITY AND INFLUENTIAL OBSERVATIONS

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ABSTRACT

Panel data estimators can strongly be biased and inconsistent in the presence of heteroscedasticity and anomalous observations called influential observations (IOs) in Random effect (RE) panel data model. The existing methods (LWS, WLSF, WLSDRGP) address only the problem of IO but fail to remedy the combine problem of heteroscedasticity and IOs. Therefore, in this research we develop a method that will remedy the combine problem of heteroscedasticity and IOs based on robust heteroscedasticity consistent covariance matrix (RHCCM) estimator and fast improvised influential distance (FIID) weighting method denoted by WLSFIID. The simulation and numerical evidences show that our proposed estimation method is more efficient than the existing methods by providing smallest bias, and smallest standard error of HC4 and HC5.

Keywords: Heteroscedasticity; Influential observations; Panel Data; Random Effect Model; RHCCM; Weighted Least Square

INTRODUCTION

Panel data is a data that has two dimensionalities (time series and cross-section dimensions). It is usually used in the field of economics and finance to analyze a number of questions that cannot possibly be analyze using cross-sectional or time series analysis (Baltagi, 2005). The panel data model given by Muhammad et al. (2019) is;

$$y_{it} = u_i + x'_{it}\beta + \varepsilon_{it}, \ i = 1, 2, ..., n \text{ and } t = 1, 2, ..., T$$

where, y_{it} are the response variables, x_{it} is the kth explanatory variables, u_i is the unobserved time-invariant effects and ε_{it} is the error term (idiosyncratic error) that is assumed to be normal, uncorrelated across individual units and time.

Panel data estimators can strongly be biased and inconsistent in the presence of heteroscedasticity and influential observations (Bramati and Croux, 2007). Rousseeuw and Zomeren (1990) pointed out that in panel data influential observations usually occur in y-axis (vertical outlier) or in x-axis (high leverage point). The most dangerous type of influential observation (IO) is the high leverage points (HLPs). There are two major models for analyzing a panel data, which are random effect (RE) and fixed effect (FE). The major difference between these two models is the assumption of the time invariant effect.

The random effect (RE) model estimation technique is the same as FE model estimation except in the data transformation. In RE model there is no correlation between unobserved time invariant effect and regressor i.e. $cov(x_{it}, u_i) = 0$. The RE model uses partially demeaned transformation instead of demeaned transformation used in FE model. The estimation

technique in RE model is to apply OLS to the partially demeaned transformed data (Crowder and Hand, 1990).

Indeed, the OLS approach is known to be very sensitive to HLPs which causes bias in the parameter estimates. The problem of heteroscedasticity was addressed by many researchers in linear regression (Habshah et al., 2017; Furno, 1996; Rana et al., 2012). In recent years, researchers developed robust estimators in panel data regression models in order to provide more consistent and efficient estimator (Muhammad et al., 2019; Maronna et al., 2006; Bramati and Croux, 2007; Baltagi, 2008; Baltagi et al., 2009; Verardi and Wagner, 2011; Mazlina and Habshah, 2015, Habshah and Sani, 2018). Nevertheless, their techniques do not take into consideration the combined problem of heteroscedasticity and IO.

Recently, Visek (2015) used the least weighted squares (LWS) to estimate the parameters of the FE and RE models in panel data by employing classical centering method (mean centering) to transform the data and apply LWS, where the weight is defined by the residual order statistic. The limitation of this method is that, when there exist heteroscedasticity of unknown structure it is inefficient and produces large variances which lead to inconsistency of the Variance-covariance matrix. Moreover, the mean centering used by Visek (2015) is easily affected by the presence of IO. These shortcomings motivated us to propose a new estimation technique for RE panel data model based on fast improvised influential distance (FIID) of Habshah et al., (2021) and robust heteroscedasticity consistent covariance matrix (RHCCM).

In this paper, we used a numerical data and Monte Carlo simulation studies to assess the performance of the proposed estimation technique (WLS_{FIID}) and the existing methods;

Least weighted squares (LWS), Furno's weighting method (F) method (DRGP) for RE panel data model. and Diagnostic Robust Generalize Potential's weighting

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The partially demeaned centering transforms a panel data within each time series by subtracting some component of the average in each time series. As mentioned earlier, RE model assumed that $cov(x_{it}, u_i) = 0$ and u_i is part of the error term for all i = 1, 2, ..., n, t = 1, 2, ..., T. i.e. $\tau_{it} = u_i + \varepsilon_{it}, E(\tau_{it}) = 0, E(\tau_{it}^2) = \sigma_u^2 + \sigma_{\varepsilon}^2$ and

$$E(\tau_{it}, \tau_{is}) = var(u_i) = \sigma_u^2$$
 for all $t \neq s$ (see Judge et al., 1985; Baltagi, 2001).

Proposed Demeaned Centering based on MM estimator

The MM centering for RE model based on partially demeaned transformation has the same procedure as that of partially demeaned transformation based on OLS method. The only difference is that, the demeaned transformed data within each time series by MM centering which is now given as:

$$y_{it} - \hat{\theta} \cdot \hat{\mu}_{mm} \{ y_{it} \} = \left(x_{it}^{(j)} - \hat{\theta} \cdot \hat{\mu}_{mm} \{ x_{it}^{(j)} \} \right) \beta + \varepsilon_{it}$$
(2)
for $1 \le t \le T, 1 \le i \le n_{\text{and}} 1 \le j \le k$, where $x^{(j)}$ is the j^{th} explanatory variables.

1) Proposed Robust RE Estimation Method

The new estimation method was design to remedy the effect of heteroscedasticity of unknown structure and IO based on robust HCCM estimator and detection measure (FIID). The algorithm of the proposed technique is summarized as follows:

Step 1. Use partially demeaned centering based on MM-centering method to transform the data.

Step 2. Compute the weight function w_i based on FIID method.

Step 3. Fit a weighted least square (WLS) to the transformed data in Step1 using weight w_i obtained in Step2, calculate the residuals (r_i) and coefficient of estimates.

Step 4. Compute the RHCCM estimator using the residuals (n) obtained in Step3.

a) Monte Carlo Simulation Study

We employed a simulation technique of Visek (2015) and Lima et. al. (2009) to assess the performances of the new proposed weighting method (WLS_{FIID}) in RE panel data model. Let consider the following RE panel data model,

$$y_{it} = u_i + x'_{it}\beta + \varepsilon_{it}, i = 1, 2, ..., n \text{ and } t = 1, 2, ..., T$$
 (3)

Three explanatory variables $(x_{it1}, x_{it2}, x_{it3})$ and u_i were generated from normal distribution. We set the true parameters $b_0 = b_1 = b_2 = b_3 = 1$, $\varepsilon_{it} \sim N(0, \sigma_{\varepsilon}^2)$. Three sample sizes n = 5, 10 and 15 with the corresponding t = 10, 15 and 20 were replicated twice to form n = 10, 20, 30 and t = 20, 30, 40 respectively, in order to create heteroscedasticity. The degree of heteroscedasticity is assess by $\lambda = \max(\sigma_{\varepsilon}^2) / \min(\sigma_{\varepsilon}^2)$. The skedastic function was set based on Lima et al., (2009) as $\sigma_{\varepsilon}^2 = \exp\{c_1 x_{it1}\}$, where $c_1 = 0.75$ which gives the value of $\lambda \approx 42.8$ and will be constant for all the sample sizes considered. The value of λ indicate the level of heteroscedasticity present in the data, whereby for homoscedasticity, $\lambda = 1$. Regular data points in both response and explanatory variables were replaced with data points generated from k-variate normal distribution N(10,1) at 0%, 5% and 10% contamination level for all the sample sizes considered at an average of 1000 replications.

Artificial heteroscedastic RE panel data

An artificial heteroscedastic RE panel data set with n=6 and t=20 number of observations was generated. The independent and response variable were generated from N(10,1) and $y_{it} = 1 + x_{it1} + x_{it2} + x_{it3} + \varepsilon_{it}$, respectively. The heteroscedasticity was created as in the Monte Carlo Simulation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Tables 1-3 shows the performance of the proposed method (WLS_{FIID}) and the existing methods (LWS, WLS_F and WLS_{DRGP}), in a simulated heteroscedastic random effect panel data with different sample sizes and IO contamination level. The results show that the new proposed method WLS_{FIID} is more efficient than the existing methods, by providing less standard error of the estimates, less variances of HC4 and HC5, and also produce the coefficient of estimates that is closed to the true parameter coefficient. Justification using standard error of the estimates here is inappropriate and inefficient, as the form of heteroscedasticity is unknown. Therefore, the estimation will be based on HC4 and HC5 method employed. Figure 1 clearly shows the performance of all the methods at different sample sizes, where WLS_{FIID} is the best followed by WLS_{DRGP}, WLS_F, and finally LWS.



Figure 1: Plot of variance of HC5 for 10% HLPs contamination level with different sample sizes

Table 1: Simulation result of RE panel data estimates for n = 10, t=20

Con. Level	Level Estimator		Coeff. of Standard error		Variance	
			Estimates	of Estimates	HC4	HC5
	LWS	Â	1.0004	0.1180	0.0148	0.0148
		Ĝ.	0.9999	0.1075	0.0214	0.0214
		Â	0.9918	0.1081	0.0115	0.0115
		β ₂	1.0000	0.1082	0.0122	0.0122
	WLS _F	Â	1.0003	0.1039	0.0111	0.0111
		Ĝ.	0.9809	0.0979	0.0126	0.0126
		Ĝ	0.9888	0.0976	0.0090	0.0090
0 % HLPS		Ê2	0.9920	0.0981	0.0091	0.0091
	WLS _{DRGP}	β ₀	1.0002	0.1041	0.0112	0.0112
		Â,	0.9814	0.0960	0.0130	0.0130
		Ê.	0.9896	0.0956	0.0091	0.0091
		Â,	0.9920	0.0959	0.0092	0.0092
	WLS _{FIID}	$\hat{\beta}_0$	1.0000	0.0641	0.0102	0.0102
		Â,	0.9917	0.0960	0.0141	0.0141
		Ê.	0.9895	0.0890	0.0090	0.0090
		Â,	0.9890	0.0956	0.0091	0.0091
	LWS	β ₀	0 8989	0.2859	0.0524	0.0524
		Â,	0.9864	0.2519	0.0403	0.0403
		Ê.	0.9548	0.2537	0.0383	0.0383
		Ê.	0.9320	0.2529	0.0385	0.0385
	WLSF	Ĝ.	0.0748	0.2593	0.0218	0.0216
		Â.	0.9748	0.2395	0.0219	0.0216
		Â	0.9029	0.2426	0.0226	0.0226
5% HLPs		Ê.	0.9453	0.2362	0.0219	0.0219
	WLS _{DRGP}	β	0.9982	0.2213	0.0178	0.0183
		Ĝ.	0.9888	0.2145	0.0174	0.0177
		Ĝ	0.9966	0.2165	0.0171	0.0174
		Â,	0.9835	0.2134	0.0171	0.0174
	WLS _{FIID}	$\hat{\beta}_0$	0.9993	0.1906	0.0122	0.0122
		Â1	0.9896	0.1901	0.0166	0.0166
		Ê.	0.9950	0.1897	0.0165	0.0165
		β _a	0.9958	0.1891	0.0171	0.0171
	LWS	$\hat{\beta}_0$	0.8365	0.2913	0.0503	0.0503
		β ₁	0.9312	0.2523	0.0756	0.0756
		Ê,	0.9335	0.2531	0.0709	0.0709
		βa	0.9375	0.2523	0.0634	0.0634
	WLS _F	β ₀	0.9566	0.2832	0.0327	0.0327
10% HLPs	1	Â.	0.9184	0.2534	0.0235	0.0235
		Ê.	0.9292	0.2542	0.0250	0.0250
		β ₂	09374	0.2510	0.0195	0.0195
	WLS _{DRGP}	$\hat{\beta}_0$	0.9901	0.2479	0.0220	0.0220
		Â.	0.9776	0.2248	0.0164	0.0164
	1	Ê.	0.9836	0.2267	0.0176	0.0176
		β ₂	0.9871	0.2212	0.0147	0.0147
	WLS _{FIID}	β ₀	0.9982	0.1806	0.0132	0.0132
	1	β ₁	0.9876	0.1900	0.0134	0.0134
		Ê,	0.9960	0.1797	0.0141	0.0141
		Â,	0.9952	0.1792	0.0115	0.0115
L	1	r 6			1	

Con. Level	Estimator		Coeff. of Standard		Variance	
			Estimates	error of	HC4	HC5
				Estimates		
	LWS	β _o	1.0044	0.1095	0.0200	0.0200
		$\hat{\beta}_1$	0.9882	0.1099	0.0340	0.0340
		Ê.	1.0178	0.0999	0.0170	0.0170
		β.	0.9884	0.1099	0.0221	0.0221
	WLSE	Ĝ	1.0008	0.0972	0.0092	0.0092
		Â.	1.0090	0.0993	0.0129	0.0129
		Â	0.9968	0.0956	0.0091	0.0091
$0.0/111 D_{\odot}$		<u><u><u></u></u><u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u></u></u>	0.9925	0.1016	0.0100	0.0100
0 70 IILF S	WI Space	R R	1 0008	0.0977	0.0094	0.0094
	W LODRGP	Ê	1.0092	0.0974	0.0136	0.0136
		P1	0.9915	0.0940	0.0094	0.0094
		P2	0.9980	0.0995	0.0100	0.0100
	NUL C	P3	1 0007	0.0072	0.0000	0.0000
	WLSFIID	Po	1.0007	0.0973	0.0090	0.0090
		^B 1	0.0060	0.09/1	0.0129	0.0129
		β_2	0.9947	0.0942	0.0091	0.0091
		β	0.7774	0.0775	0.0105	0.0103
	LWS	β ₀	0.8789	0.2859	0.0524	0.0524
		β_{1}	0.8864	0.2519	0.0403	0.0403
		β_{2}	0.8648	0.2537	0.0383	0.0383
		β_3	0.9020	0.2529	0.0385	0.0385
	WLS _F	β̂ο	0.9072	0.2519	0.0231	0.0223
		$\hat{\beta}_1$	0.9251	0.2322	0.0211	0.0210
		Â.	0.9350	0.2324	0.0211	0.0211
5% HLPs		β.	0.9213	0.2320	0.0211	0.0210
	WLSDRGP	Ĝ	0.0748	0.1445	0.0187	0.0187
	Ditor	Â.	0.9748	0.1351	0.0127	0.0127
		Â.	0.9895	0.1354	0.0126	0.0126
		Â.	0.9955	0.1351	0.0126	0.0126
	WL SEIID	Ê.	0.9995	0.1385	0.0100	0.0100
	II LOFIID	Â.	0.9927	0.1258	0.0101	0.0101
		Â.	0.9900	0.1260	0.0118	0.0118
		Ř.	0.9910	0.1263	0.0109	0.0109
	LWS	Ê.	0.8365	0.2913	0.0503	0.0503
		Â.	0.7712	0.2523	0.0756	0.0756
		Â.	0.8135	0.2530	0.0709	0.0609
		R2	0.8075	0.2522	0.0634	0.0604
	WI S-	ê	0.8901	0.2644	0.0275	0.0275
	WLOF	Po ô	0.9134	0 2352	0.0273	0.0275
10% HLPs		P1	0.9086	0.2349	0.0180	0.0180
10/0 11213		P2	0.9047	0.2343	0.0178	0.0178
	WIG	P3	0.0727	0.1522	0.0201	0.0201
	WL3DRGP	Po	0.9/3/	0.1332	0.0201	0.0201
		P ₁	0.9877	0 1419	0.0137	0.0137
		B 2	0.9710	0.1425	0.0134	0.0134
		₿ ₃	0.0000	0.1245	0.0112	0.0110
	WLS _{FIID}	β_0	0.9998	0.1347	0.0113	0.0113
		β_{1}	0.9948	0.1342		
		β_{2}	0.9922 0.0047	0.1339	0.0096	0.0090
		β_3	0.9907	0.1240	0.0090	0.0090

Table 2: Simulation result of RE panel data estimates for n = 20, t=30

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Table 3: Simulation result of RE panel data estimates for n = 30, t=40

Con. Level	Con. Level Estimator		Coeff. of Standard		Variance	
		Estimates	error of	HC4	HC5	
			Estimates			
	LWS 🔒	1.0010	0.1190	0.0208	0.0208	
	Â	0.9897	0.1085	0.0262	0.0262	
	Ê	0.9918	0.1091	0.0165	0.0165	
	P	1.0020	0.1092	0.0170	0.0170	
		1 0012	0.1040	0.0112	0.0112	
	WLSF B	0 0800	0.1049	0.0115	0.0115	
	ß	1 0.9809	0.0985	0.0110	0.0110	
0 % HLPs	β	2 0.9920	0.0980	0.0080	0.0081	
	β	0.7720	0.0991	0.0001	0.0001	
	WLS _{DRGP}	1.0002	0.1052	0.0102	0.0102	
	β	0.9914	0.0971	0.0127	0.0127	
	β	0.9996	0.0966	0.0083	0.0083	
	β	0.9920	0.0959	0.0086	0.0086	
	WLS _{FIID}	1.0000	0.0929	0.0075	0.0075	
	Ĝ	0.9970	0.0858	0.0151	0.0151	
	Â	0.9948	0.0955	0.0070	0.0070	
	Ê	0.9970	0.0954	0.0068	0.0068	
	LWS R	0.0047	0.2168	0.0182	0.0182	
		0.9046	0.1965	0.0157	0.0157	
	P Â	0.9144	0.1965	0.0146	0.0146	
	P ô	2 0.9116	0.1969	0.0146	0.0146	
	WIS 0	0.9156	0.1403	0.0040	0.0040	
	WLSF P	0.9381	0.1403	0.0040	0.0040	
5% HI Ps	P	1 0.9426	0.1581	0.0039	0.0039	
570 1124 5	A B	2 0.9431	0.1582	0.0039	0.0039	
	β	0.9415	0.1302	0.003/	0.0039	
	WLS_{DRGP}	0.9632	0.1235	0.0024	0.0023	
	β	0.9750	0.1295	0.0022	0.0022	
	β	0.9665	0.1294	0.0020	0.0020	
	β	0.9604	0.1194	0.0021	0.0021	
	WLS _{FIID}	0.9846	0.1163	0.0012	0.0012	
	β	0.9950	0.1264	0.0015	0.0015	
	β	0.9947	0.1153	0.0014	0.0014	
	Â	0.9942	0.1155	0.0015	0.0015	
	LWS β	0 8584	0.1906	0.0167	0.0167	
	B	0 7932	0.1735	0.0129	0.0129	
	Â	0.8835	0.1734	0.0120	0.0120	
	Â	0.8840	0.1741	0.0122	0.0122	
	WLSE R	0.0404	0.1800	0.0094	0.0094	
	R AND	0.9404	0.1682	0.0081	0.0081	
10% HLPs	Pâ	0.9460	0.1679	0.0087	0.0087	
	P ô	0.9404	0.1686	0.0087	0.0087	
	WIS 0	-	0 1776	0.000	0 0000	
	WLODRGP	0.9765	0.1634	0.0090	0.0090	
	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	1 0.9883	0 1622	0.0073	0.0073	
	ן גע	2 0.9897	0.1614	0.0072	0.0072	
		0.9993	0.1700	0.0001	0.0001	
	WLS_{FIID}	0 0.9844	0.1728	0.0081	0.0081	
	β		0.1550	0.0000	0.0000	
	ß	2 0.9957	0.1304	0.0000	0.0000	
	β	0.9907	0.1398	0.0059	0.0059	

b) Real Data Example (Artificial Data set)

Figure 2 shows that there is presence of heteroscedasticity in the artificial data set by producing a systematic funnel shape in the plot and Figure 3 shows the presence of IO, in which observation 73 is declared as IO, while observations 41, 42, 67, 68 and 74 are declared as GLO.



Figure 2: Plot of pooled OLS residuals versus fitted values for the artificial data set



Table 4 presents the result of the artificial data set, which clearly shows that with the effect of only one IO the proposed (WLS_{FIID}) outperformed all the other methods by producing the smallest variances of HC4 and HC5, lowest values of standard error of the estimate.

This artificial data set was also modified by introducing more IOs, such that observations 10, 42 and 73 were inflated by 10 for x_1, x_2, x_3 . Table 4 presents the result of the modified data, where the WLS_{FIID} was found to be the best method as compared with the existing by providing the lowest values of variances of HC4 and HC5 and lowest values of standard error of the estimate. This is due to the fact that FIID only down weight the bad HLPs whereas, the DRGP down weight both good and bad HLPs. Consequently its efficiency decreases.

			Coeff. of	Standard	Varia	nce
	Estimator		Estimates	Error of		
				Estimates	HC4	HC5
	LWS	β̂ο	-41.29	2694.44	8577593.75	8577593.75
		Â,	-167.61	106.47	19618.99	19618.99
		Ĝ	-3.59	110.97	12035.53	12035.53
A artificial		$\hat{\beta}_{3}$	180.55	94.55	49105.40	49105.40
data	WLS _F	β̂ο	-1151.89	2413.67	5259038.35	5259038.35
uata		Â,	-74.59	96.61	7482.40	7482.40
		Ê.	65.29	109.41	9446.21	9446.21
		β̂a	93.34	98.24	12335.18	12335.18
	WLS _{DRGP}	β̂ο	-1517.43	2324.99	4754610.66	4754610.66
		Â,	-69.52	94.66	8002.45	8002.45
		Ê.	67.70	104.50	8265.38	8265.38
		$\hat{\beta}_3$	114.19	94.97	14091.77	14091.77
	WLS _{FIID}	$\hat{\beta}_0$	-1178.49	2212.55	4749616.14	4749616.14
		$\hat{\beta}_1$	-50.66	91.16	6755.11	6755.11
		$\hat{\beta}_2$	70.96	98.65	7869.05	7869.05
		$\hat{\beta}_3$	65.13	91.65	9171.87	9171.87
	LWS	$\hat{\beta}_0$	-65.07	2539.97	7222619.91	7222619.91
		$\hat{\beta}_1$	-186.66	105.22	23719.80	23719.80
		Â2	-4.10	109.38	11791.70	11791.70
Modified artificial data		β̂a	201.89	93.36	59439.83	59439.83
	WLS	β̂ο	-1272.01	2196.47	3888665.68	3888665.68
		Â,	-78.69	94.44	6999.69	6999.69
		Ê.	58.40	104.10	8047.03	8047.03
		β̂a	112.61	97.52	11115.67	11115.67
	WLS _{DRGP}	$\hat{\beta}_0$	-1416.04	2204.16	3834424.62	3834424.62
		$\hat{\beta}_1$	-82.85	93.91	7983.33	7983.33
		β ₂	57.54	103.61	7781.96	7781.96
		$\hat{\beta}_3$	129.09	94.99	13508.27	13508.27
	WLS _{FIID}	$\hat{\beta}_0$	-1179.39	1812.90	1768172.50	1768172.50
		$\hat{\beta}_1$	-51.75	89.51	7220.55	7220.55
		β ₂	69.95	90.98	5456.56	5456.56
		β̂a	65.66	92.01	10941.64	10941.64

Table 4: Regression estimates for the artificial and modified artificial RE banel data set	Table 4: Regressie	on estimates for th	e artificial and 1	modified artificial RE	panel data set
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CONCLUSION

This paper addresses the combine problem of Influential Observations (IO) and Heteroscedasticity in random effect (RE) panel data model. It is now evident that a very low level of contamination by means of high leverage points and heteroscedasticity in RE panel data set has an effect to the existing robust estimation techniques. The use of hat matrix weighting method in WLS_F suffers tremendous effects due to masking and swamping effect. More efficient robust method for HLPs or IOs detection is needed in order to reduce the effect of swamping and masking. The proposed robust estimation method for RE panel data model used residuals from weighted least square (WLS) based on IO detection measure (FIID) weighting methods in computing RHCCM estimator. The results based on both simulation and numerical

examples indicate that the proposed estimation methods outperformed the existing methods by providing smallest bias, smallest standard error of HC4 and HC5. The reason behind, is the good performance of FIID for not only allowing good HLPs to contribute in the estimation but also, the less swamping and masking effect of FIID. We conclude that FIID weighting method was found to be the best among all the method considered in this study.

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