

Editor's Comment:

Editorial decision manuscript number 2023/SAJSSE/112560

South Asia Journal of Social Studies and Economics.

Title: Testing Fractional Persistence and Nonlinearity in Infant Mortality Rates of Asia Countries

My editorial decision is to publish as is with minor corrections.

I suggest revised title: "Econometric study: Testing Fractional Persistence and Nonlinearity in Infant Mortality Rates of Asia Countries ?"

The article is an impressive research article. The article is well-written, most interesting and important. The authors' main conclusions make good common sense to me.

The present paper investigates infant mortality rates (IMR) in 45 Asian countries by examining time-series persistence and nonlinearity features in the IMRs. The analysis is conducted in fractional I(d) setup, which is more flexible and appealing than the standard methods of integer time series differencing. Chebyshev polynomial in time is used to mimic the nonlinear dynamics of mortality rate series, and the results show evidence of nonlinearity of IMR except in few cases including Bahrain, India, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Qatar, Syria, Thailand and Turkmenistan. IMR persists strongly, with persistence estimates all greater than one, reaching two in many cases, except for Armenia where this is found to be less than one. Further probing into the mortality rate estimation leads to the computation of the growth rate to check if growths of the mortality rate would indicate varying persistence levels. The results find evidence of mean reversion in the growth of IMR in Armenia, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kuwait, Myanmar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and UAE. At the same time, the remaining 35 Asian countries will continue to experience consistent decline/negative growth in their IMRs over the years, given the current health management strategy in those Asian countries.

Editor's Details:

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