

```
rdmse_cct2014 depvar runvar [if] [in] [, c(#) p(#) deriv(#)]
```

Title

rdmse — Mean Squared Error Estimation for Local Polynomial Regression Discontinuity and Regression Kink Estimators.

Syntax

```
rdmse depvar runvar [if] [in] [, c(#) p(#) deriv(#) fuzzy(fuzzyvar)  
kernel(kernelfn) h(#) b(#) scalepar(#) twosided pl(#) pr(#)  
hl(#) hr(#) bl(#) br(#) ]
```

```
rdmse_cct2014 depvar runvar [if] [in] [, c(#) p(#) deriv(#)  
fuzzy(fuzzyvar) kernel(kernelfn) h(#) b(#) scalepar(#) ]
```

Description

rdmse computes the (asymptotic) mean squared error (MSE) of a local polynomial RD/RK estimator as proposed in Pei, Lee, Card, Weber (2022). It displays and returns the estimated MSE for the conventional estimator and its bias corrected counterpart as defined in Calonico, Cattaneo, Titiunik (2014a).

rdmse_cct2014 computes the (A)MSE for a conventional RD/RK estimator by gathering the relevant quantities calculated by the 2014 implementation of **rdrobust**, **rdrobust_2014** by Calonico, Cattaneo and Titiunik. It does not estimate the (A)MSE for the bias corrected estimator because some of the quantities required for the calculation are not computed by **rdrobust_2014** (nor **rdrobust**). For the conventional estimator, **rdmse_cct2014** and **rdmse** implement variance estimation slightly differently. Both commands employ a nearest neighbor estimator and set the number of neighbors to three. However, in the event of a tie **rdmse_cct2014** selects all of the closest neighbors following **rdrobust_2014**. In contrast, **rdmse** randomly selects three neighbors and speeds up the computation in doing so.

Options

c(#) specifies the RD cutoff in *runvar*. Default is **c(0)**.

p(#) specifies the order of the local polynomial. Default is **p(1)** (local linear regression). Consistent with the implementation in **rdrobust**, the maximum value allowed for **p()** is 8. A local polynomial of order (*p*+1) is used to estimate the bias of the estimator.

deriv(#) specifies the order of the derivative of the regression functions to be estimated. Default is **deriv(0)** (RD estimator). Use **deriv(1)** for an RK estimator.

fuzzy(fuzzyvar) specifies the treatment variable in a fuzzy RD/RK design. Leave the option unspecified if the underlying design is sharp.

kernel(kernelfn) specifies the kernel function used to construct the local polynomial estimator. Options are **triangular** or **uniform**.

h(#) specifies the main bandwidth used to construct the RD/RK estimator. The user has to specify this bandwidth.

b(#) specifies the bias bandwidth for estimating the bias of the RD/RK estimator. The user has to specify this bandwidth.

scalepar(#) specifies a scaling factor for the RD/RK parameter of interest. The same option is available in **rdrobust** as per Calonico, Cattaneo, Titiunik (2014b). Default is **scalepar(1)**.

twosided. If specified, the program looks for separate polynomial orders and bandwidths on two sides of the threshold, which need to be specified in **pl()**, **pr()**, **hl()**, **hr()**, **bl()**, and **br()**. The program estimates the mean squared error for the conventional and bias-corrected estimator of the left and right derivatives of order **deriv**, respectively. The two-sided bandwidths can be obtained by specifying the **bwselect(msetwo(cmd:))** in **rdrobust**. The **twosided** option can only be used in a sharp RD/RK design (more in Additional Notes below). See Calonico, Cattaneo, Farrell, Titiunik (2017, 2019) for details.

pl(#) and **pr(#)** specify the orders of the local polynomials on the left and right sides of the threshold, respectively. Default is **pl(1)** and **pr(1)** (local linear regressions). Consistent with the estimation in **rdrobust**, the maximum value allowed is 8 for both orders. Local polynomials of order $(pl+1)$ and $(pr+1)$ are used to estimate the biases of the left- and right-side estimators.

hl(#) and **hr(#)** specify the main bandwidths used to construct the estimators of the left and right derivatives of order **deriv**. The user has to supply these bandwidths if the option **twoside** is specified.

bl(#) and **br(#)** specify the bias bandwidths used to estimate the biases of the left- and right-side estimators. The user has to supply these bandwidths if the option **twoside** is specified.

Example: Cattaneo, Frandsen and Titiunik (2015) Incumbency Data

This is the same demo dataset as that included in the **rdrobust** package.

```
Load data
. use rdrobust_senate.dta
```

MSE estimation for local linear sharp RD estimator with uniform kernel and CCT bandwidths (Calonico, Cattaneo, Titiunik 2014a, 2014b)

```
First estimate the CCT bandwidths using altrdbwselect included in the
package
. altrdbwselect vote margin, c(0) deriv(0) p(1) q(2) kernel(uniform)
  bwselect(CCT)
```

```
. local bw_h=r(h_CCT)
. local bw_b=r(b_CCT)
```

Then estimate the MSE by passing the CCT bandwidths as arguments

```
. rdmsc vote margin, deriv(0) c(0) p(1) h(`bw_h`) b(`bw_b`)
  kernel(uniform)
```

Estimate the MSE of a sharp local linear RD estimator with manual bandwidths

```
. rdmsc vote margin, deriv(0) c(0) p(1) h(10) b(20) kernel(uniform)
```

Estimate the MSEs of the left- and right- intercept estimators constructed with different polynomial orders and bandwidths on two sides of the threshold

```
. rdmsc vote margin, c(0) deriv(0) twosided pl(1) pr(2) hl(10) hr(15)
  bl(20) br(30) kernel(uniform)
```

Generic Examples:

Let **Y** be the outcome variable and **x** the running variable:

Estimate the MSE of a sharp local linear RK estimator
. **rdmse** *Y x*, **deriv**(1) **c**(0) **p**(1) **h**(10) **b**(20) **kernel**(uniform)

Let **T** be the treatment variable.

MSE estimation for local linear fuzzy RD estimator with uniform kernel and "fuzzy CCT" bandwidths (Card, Lee, Pei, Weber 2015)

First estimate the fuzzy CCT bandwidths using **altfrdbwselect** included in the package

```
. altfrdbwselect Y x, c(0) fuzzy(T) deriv(0) p(1) q(2) kernel(uniform)
bwselect(CCT)
local fbw_h=r(h_F_CCT)
local fbw_b=r(b_F_CCT)
```

Then estimate the MSE by passing the "fuzzy CCT" bandwidths as arguments

```
. rdmse Y x, c(0) fuzzy(T) deriv(0) p(1) h(`fbw_h`) b(`fbw_b`)
kernel(uniform)
```

Estimate the MSE of a fuzzy local linear RD estimator with manual bandwidths

```
. rdmse Y x, fuzzy(T) deriv(0) c(0) p(1) h(10) b(20) kernel(uniform)
```

Estimate the MSE of a fuzzy local linear RK estimator

```
. rdmse Y x, fuzzy(T) deriv(1) c(0) p(1) h(10) b(20) kernel(uniform)
```

Saved results

If **fuzzy()** and **twosided** are unspecified, **rdmse** saves the scalars:

```
r(amse_cl)           estimated (asymptotic) MSE of the
                      conventional sharp estimator
r(amse_bc)           estimated (asymptotic) MSE of the
                      bias-corrected sharp estimator
```

If **twosided** is specified, **rdmse** saves the scalars:

```
r(amse_l_cl)        estimated (asymptotic) MSE of the
                      conventional left-side estimator
r(amse_l_bc)        estimated (asymptotic) MSE of the
                      bias-corrected left-side estimator
r(amse_r_cl)        estimated (asymptotic) MSE of the
                      conventional right-side estimator
r(amse_r_bc)        estimated (asymptotic) MSE of the
                      bias-corrected right-side estimator
```

If **fuzzy()** is specified, **rdmse** saves the scalars:

```
r(amse_F_cl)        estimated (asymptotic) MSE of the
                      conventional fuzzy estimator
r(amse_F_bc)        estimated (asymptotic) MSE of the
                      bias-corrected fuzzy estimator
```

Since **rdmse_cct2014** only estimates the (asymptotic) MSE of the conventional estimator, it returns **r(amse_cl)** in the sharp case and **r(amse_F_cl)** in the fuzzy case.

Additional Notes

altfrdbwselect is an alternative implementation of the CCT bandwidth selector from Calonico, Cattaneo, Titiunik (2014a). As with **rdmse**, it speeds up the computation in Calonico, Cattaneo, Titiunik (2014b) by adopting a random tie breaking scheme in variance estimation. The syntax is the same as **rdbwselect** in Calonico, Cattaneo, Titiunik (2014b).

In the current implementation of `rdrobust`, the two-sided bandwidths in a fuzzy design are optimal for estimating the left and right derivatives of order `deriv` in the the reduced-form relationship between the outcome variable and ning variable. In this spirit, we do not allow `twosided` to be specified in conjunction with `fuzzy()`, and the user should apply the `twosided` option to the reduced-form only by treating it as a sharp design.

References

- Calonico, S., M. D. Cattaneo, and R. Titiunik. 2014a. Robust Nonparametric Confidence Intervals for Regression Discontinuity Designs. *Econometrica* 82(6): 2295-2326. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.3982/ECTA11757> .
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