

Variance Estimation in Stratified Random Sampling in the Presence of Two Auxiliary Random Variables

Esubalew Belay Sidelel¹, George Otieno Orwa², Romanus Odhiambo Otieno³

¹Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Basic Science, Technology and Innovation, Pan African University, JKUAT, Kenya

²Statistics and Actuarial Science Department, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), Kenya

³Statistics and Actuarial Science Department, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), Kenya

Abstract: *The objective of this paper is to develop an improved population variance estimators in the presence of two auxiliary variables in stratified random sampling adapting the family of estimators proposed by Koyunchu and Kadilar (2009) for the estimation of population mean in stratified random sampling using prior information of the two auxiliary variables. In this paper, we proposed ratio-product type estimators and derived their mean square errors using first order approximation of Taylor series method. Efficiency comparisons of proposed estimators with respect to their mean square errors have been discussed and achieved improvement under certain conditions. Results are also supported by numerical analysis. Based on results, the proposed ratio- type variance estimators may be preferred over traditional ratio-type and sample estimator of population variance for the use in practical applications.*

Keywords: Variance estimator; Ratio-product type estimators, Mean square error, Auxiliary information; Efficiency; Stratified random sampling

1. Introduction

In sample surveys, it is well known that to use information of auxiliary variable(s) to estimate unknown population parameter(s) in various sampling designs. In sampling literature, many Authors have used information of auxiliary variables such as population mean, variance, kurtosis, skewness, etc to estimating population mean and variance of the study variable. Many authors who done important work in this area, were Das and Tripathi (1978), Srivastava et al and Jhaji (1980,1983,1995), Isakietal (1983,2000), Singh and Kataria (1990), Prasad and Singh (1990,1992), Ahmed et al.(2000,2003), Gupta and Shabbir (2006). Kadilar and Cingi (2006) studied population variance of interest variable using population mean, variance, kurtosis and coefficient of variation of auxiliary variable in simple and stratified random sampling. Recently Olufadi and Kadilar (2014) estimated the population variance of interest variate in simple and two-phase sampling by using the variance of auxiliary variables and got interesting results. This paper mainly focuses on population variance estimators using prior knowledge of two auxiliary variables in stratified sampling design.

Consider a finite population $P = \{P_1, P_2, P_3, \dots, P_N\}$ of N units. Let the study and two auxiliary variables are denoted by Y , X and Z associate with each P_j ($j=1,2,\dots,N$) of the population respectively. Let the population is stratified in to K strata with h^{th} stratum containing N_h units, where $h=1,2,3,\dots,K$ such that $\sum_{h=1}^k N_h = N$ and from the h^{th} stratum, a sample n_h is drawn by simple random sampling without replacement such that $\sum_{h=1}^k n_h = n$. Let (y_{hi}, x_{hi}, z_{hi}) denote the observed values of Y , X , and Z on the i^{th} unit of the h^{th} stratum where $i=1,2,\dots,N_h$. The population variance of the study variable (y) and the auxiliary variables are defined as follows.

$$(N-1)S_{st,y}^2 = \sum_{h=1}^k \sum_{i=1}^{N_h} (y_{hi} - \bar{Y})^2 = \sum_{h=1}^k \sum_{i=1}^{N_h} [(y_{hi} - \bar{Y}_h) + (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y})]^2$$

Where \bar{Y}_h the population is mean of the variate of interest in stratum h , and y_{hi} is the value of the i^{th} observation of interest variate in stratum h . For large sample size, assuming that $N \cong N-1$ and $N_h \cong N_h-1$, then $S_{st,y}^2 \cong \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h S_{yh}^2 + \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y})^2$

$$\bar{y}_h = \frac{1}{n_h} \sum_{i=1}^{n_h} y_{hi} - \text{sample mean of } h^{th} \text{ stratum.}$$

$\bar{y}_{st} = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \bar{y}_h$ - is the sample estimator of population mean of the study variable.

$$\bar{Y}_h = \frac{1}{N_h} \sum_{i=1}^{N_h} y_{hi} - \text{population mean of } h^{th} \text{ stratum.}$$

$S_{yh}^2 = \frac{1}{N_h-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N_h} (y_{hi} - \bar{Y}_h)^2$ - population variance of h^{th} stratum.

$s_{yh}^2 = \frac{1}{n_h-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n_h} (y_{hi} - \bar{y}_h)^2$ - sample estimator of population variance in the h^{th} stratum. Similar expression are defined for the auxiliary variables x and z .

2. Adapted estimators

Koyuncu and Cem Kadilar (2009), defined the classical ratio estimator to estimate the population mean of the study variable Y in the stratified random sampling when there are two auxiliary variables as follows:

$$\bar{y}_t = \bar{y}_{st} \left(\frac{\bar{X}}{\bar{x}_{st}} \right) \left(\frac{\bar{Z}}{\bar{z}_{st}} \right) \text{----- (1)}$$

Where \bar{X} and \bar{Z} are the population mean of the two auxiliary variables and $\bar{x}_{st}, \bar{z}_{st}$ and \bar{y}_{st} are sample estimate of the population mean in stratified random sampling scheme. The regression estimator of the population mean \bar{Y} also defined as:

$$\bar{Y}_{reg} = \bar{y}_{st} + \beta_1 (\bar{X} - \bar{x}_{st}) + \beta_2 (\bar{Z} - \bar{z}_{st}) \text{----- (2)}$$

Where $\beta_1 = \frac{s_{yx}}{s^2_x}$ and $\beta_2 = \frac{s_{yz}}{s^2_z}$. Adapting the estimator given in (1) and (2) to the estimator for the population variance of the study variable y and assuming the population variance of the two auxiliary variables in each stratum is known, we

develop the following ratio -product type and regression estimators:

$$s^2_t = s^2_{st,y} \left(\frac{s^2_x}{s^2_{st,x}} \right) \left(\frac{s^2_z}{s^2_{st,z}} \right) \text{-----} (3)$$

$$s^2_{reg} = s^2_{st,y} + \beta_1 (S^2_x - S^2_{st,x}) + \beta_2 (S^2_z - S^2_{st,z}) \text{-----} (4)$$

Where $s^2_{st,x} = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h s^2_{xh} + \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h (\bar{x}_h - \bar{x}_{st})^2$, $s^2_{st,y} = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h s^2_{yh} + \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h (\bar{y}_h - \bar{y}_{st})^2$, and $s^2_{st,z} = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h s^2_{zh} + \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h (\bar{z}_h - \bar{z}_{st})^2$, are the sample estimator of population variance of each variables in stratified sampling scheme when neglecting population correction factor of each stratum. The mean square error of the variance estimator, given in (3) and (4), is obtained as follows:

$$MSE(s^2_t) \cong \frac{s^4_x s^4_z}{v^2_1 v^2_2} [H_1 + H_2] \text{-----} (5)$$

$$MSE(s^2_{reg}) \cong [H_1 + H_3] \text{-----} (6)$$

[see Appendix (A. 3) and (B. 1)]

3. The Proposed Estimators

In this section some variance estimators are proposed using the variance of two auxiliary variables, population kurtosis, coefficient of variation and their combination. Motivated by Cingi and Kadilar (2005a, 2006b) and Koyuncu and Kadilar (2009), the following population variance estimators are proposed in the stratified random sampling:

$$s^2_{pr_1} = s^2_{st,y} \frac{(s^2_x + \beta_2(x))(s^2_z + \beta_2(z))}{(s^2_{st,x} + \beta_2(x))(s^2_{st,z} + \beta_2(z))} \text{-----} (7)$$

$$s^2_{pr_2} = s^2_{st,y} \frac{(s^2_{xC_x} + \beta_2(x))(s^2_{zC_z} + \beta_2(z))}{(s^2_{st,xC_x} + \beta_2(x))(s^2_{st,zC_z} + \beta_2(z))} \text{-----} (8)$$

The MSE of the estimators, given in (7) and (8) is found using the first degree approximation of Taylor series method as follows:

$$MSE(s^2_{pr_1}) \cong \frac{((s^2_x + \beta_2(x))(s^2_z + \beta_2(z)))^2}{((v_1 + \beta_2(x))(v_2 + \beta_2(z)))^2} \{H_1 + H_4\} \text{---} (9)$$

$$MSE(s^2_{pr_2}) \cong \frac{((s^2_{xC_x} + \beta_2(x))(s^2_{zC_z} + \beta_2(z)))^2}{((v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z)))^2} \{H_1 + H_5\} \text{---} (10)$$

(See Appendix C and D) where C_x and C_z - are population coefficient of variation of the auxiliary variables (X) and (Z) respectively. $\beta_2(x)$ and $\beta_2(z)$ are the population kurtosis of the auxiliary variables (X) and (Z) respectively. The detail derivations of all the mean square error of the estimators

considered in this paper was presented in appendix at the end of the paper.

4. Efficiency Comparison of the Estimators

In this section, we compare the performance of the proposed estimators with other estimators considered here and some efficiency comparison condition is carry out under which the proposed estimators are more efficient than the usual sample estimator of population variance and the adapted variance estimators considered in this paper. These conditions are given as follows:

$$MSE(s^2_t) - MSE(s^2_{st,y}) < 0 \text{ if } H_1 < - \frac{H_2 s^4_x s^4_z}{s^4_x s^4_z - v^2_1 v^2_2} \text{---} (11)$$

$$MSE(s^2_{reg}) - MSE(s^2_{st,y}) < 0 \text{ if } H_3 < 0 \text{-----} (12)$$

$$MSE(s^2_{pr_1}) - MSE(s^2_{st,y}) < 0 \text{ if } H_1 < - \frac{H_4 ((s^2_x + \beta_2(x))(s^2_z + \beta_2(z)))^2}{((s^2_x + \beta_2(x))(s^2_z + \beta_2(z)))^2 - ((v_1 + \beta_2(x))(v_2 + \beta_2(z)))^2} \text{---} (13)$$

$$MSE(s^2_{pr_2}) - MSE(s^2_{st,y}) < 0 \text{ if}$$

$$H_1 < - \frac{H_5 ((s^2_{xC_x} + \beta_2(x))(s^2_{zC_z} + \beta_2(z)))^2}{((s^2_{xC_x} + \beta_2(x))(s^2_{zC_z} + \beta_2(z)))^2 - ((v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z)))^2} \text{---} (14)$$

Where H_i for $i=2,3,4,5$ - is the term of each mean square error with out the common multiplier of all terms and H_1 . The other method which is used to compare the performance of the proposed estimators over s^2_t is Percent Relative Efficient (PRE). The Percent Relative Efficiencies (PREs) of the different estimators are computed with respect to the adapted estimator s^2_t using the formula:

$$PRE(s^2_t, s^2_{pr_i}) = \frac{MSE(s^2_t)}{MSE(s^2_{pr_i})} \times 100 \text{ for } i=1, 2 \text{-----} (15)$$

5. Empirical Study

In this section, the performance of the suggested estimators have been analyzed with respect to the estimators considered in this paper. To achieve this, the data set of state wise area, production and productivity of major spices in India was used. In this data set, the study variable (Y) is productivity in metric tons , the first auxiliary variable (X) is area in thousand hectares , and the second auxiliary variable (Z) is production in thousand tons. From each stratum 12 states are selected. The summary of the data is given in the following tables.

Table 1: Data statistics

| N_h | n_h | \bar{X}_h | \bar{Y}_h | \bar{Z}_h | C_{xh} | C_{yh} | C_{zh} | $\beta_2(x_h)$ | $\beta_2(y_h)$ | $\beta_2(z_h)$ |
|-------|-------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 29 | 12 | 90.2534 | 2.2252 | 150.23 | 1.524 | 0.745 | 1.502 | 6.72 | 2.411 | 12.383 |
| 29 | 12 | 90.6693 | 2.3486 | 142.95 | 1.515 | 0.781 | 1.722 | 6.23 | 2.476 | 13.564 |
| 29 | 12 | 84.9562 | 2.3434 | 138.48 | 1.443 | 0.766 | 1.669 | 5.361 | 2.584 | 14.257 |

Table 2: Data statistics of parameters

| Parameters | Stratum I | Stratum II | Stratum III |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| $\theta_h(yx)$ | 1.643×10^{-5} | 1.42×10^{-5} | 1.819×10^{-6} |
| $\theta_h(yz)$ | 5.6047×10^{-6} | 3.9563×10^{-6} | 4.2985×10^{-6} |
| $\theta_h(xz)$ | 2.774×10^{-9} | 2.782×10^{-9} | 4.4645×10^{-6} |

| | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| S_{yx} | 50.5266 | 72.5386 | 60.66 |
| S_{yz} | 24 | 2.532 | 0.927 |
| S_{xz} | 25758.621 | 23551.724 | 20482.7586 |

Table 3: Values of parameters

$$V_0 = 3.378592 \quad V_1 = 18960.84 \quad V_2 = 64358.93$$

$$S^2_{x=4400} \quad S^2_{z=14945.833}$$

$$\beta_2 = 5.24 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$\beta_1^* = 9.61 \times 10^{-6} \quad \beta_2^* = 4.12 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$\beta_1 = 3.11 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$C_z = 1.631 \quad C_x = 1.5 \quad \beta_2(x) = 6.5522 \quad \beta_2(z) = 14.4724$$

Table 4: Summary of μ_{rsth}

| μ_{rsth} | Stratum I | Stratum II | Stratum III |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| μ_{300h} | 2.890 | 4.771 | 4.506 |
| μ_{210h} | -103.789 | -127.5024 | -121.621 |
| μ_{201h} | -135.134 | -197.1155 | -194.107 |
| μ_{120h} | -10344.828 | -12896.552 | -8379.31 |
| μ_{102h} | 55517.241 | 52034.483 | 41034.483 |
| μ_{030h} | 4827586.207 | 4620689.655 | 2965517.24 |
| μ_{021h} | 5413793.103 | 4620689.655 | 3551724.138 |
| μ_{012h} | 12206896.552 | 11068965.517 | 9413793.103 |
| μ_{003h} | 46551724.138 | 44827586.207 | 37586206.897 |

Table 5: PRE of the different estimators with respect to

$$S^2_t$$

| Estimators | $S^2_{st,y}$ | S^2_t | S^2_{reg} | $S^2_{pr_1}$ | $S^2_{pr_2}$ |
|------------|--------------|---------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| PRE | 4.52 | 100 | 4.3458 | 107.163 | 113.5684 |

Table 6: Estimators with their MSE values

| Estimators | $S^2_{st,y}$ | S^2_t | S^2_{reg} | $S^2_{pr_1}$ | $S^2_{pr_2}$ |
|------------|--------------|---------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| MSE values | 0.420353 | 0.019 | 0.4372 | 0.01772 | 0.01673 |

6. Conclusion

Table 5 reveals that the suggested estimators $S^2_{pr_i}$, for $i = 1, 2$ has the highest PRE among other estimators considered in this paper. So that the suggested estimators in stratified random sampling provides a sufficient

improvement in variance estimation compared to the S^2_t .

It is also observed from Table 5 that the sample and regression estimators are less efficient than S^2_t . Table

6 shows that the proposed estimators of S^2_y is more

efficient than the traditional estimator of population variance of interest variable in stratified random sampling according to the data set of a population considered in this paper. Theoretically, it has been established that, in general, the regression type estimator is more efficient than the ratio-type estimators. However, in this paper the regression estimator of S^2_y is not efficient than the sample estimator

and the proposed ratio-type estimators of population variance of interest variable. From the above results and discussion it is observed that incorporating prior information's obtained from the two auxiliary variables improves population variance of interest variable in stratified random sampling scheme. As a recommendation based on results, the proposed ratio-type variance estimators may be preferred over traditional ratio-type and sample estimator of population variance for the use in practical applications. This paper can be improved by adding higher order Taylor series terms. In forthcoming studies, we recommended to develop improved variance estimators by adapting the estimators of Rajesh Singi and Mukesh Kumar (2012).

References

- [1] Agarwal, S. K., Two auxiliary variates in ratio method of estimation. *Biometrical Journal*, 22, 569-573 (1980).
- [2] Ahmed, M. S., Raman, M. S. and Hossain, M. I., Some competitive estimators of finite population variance using multivariate auxiliary information, *Information and Management Sciences*, 11(1), 49-54, (2000).
- [3] Ahmed, M. S., Walid, A. D. and Ahmed, A. O. H. Some estimators for finite population variance under two-phase sampling, *Statistics in Transition*, 6(1), 143-150, (2003).
- [4] Al-Jararha, J. and Ahmed, M. S. The class of chain estimators for a finite population variance using double sampling, *Information and Management Sciences*, 13(2), 13-18, (2002).
- [5] Arcos, A., et al. Incorporating the auxiliary information available in variance estimation. *Applied Mathematics and Computation*, 160, 387-399, (2005).
- [6] Chand, L. "Some ratio type estimators based on two or more auxiliary variate", Ph.D. Dissertation, Iowa State university, Ames, IOWA, USA, (1975)
- [7] Das, A. K. and Tripathi, T. P., Use of auxiliary information in estimating the finite population variance, *Sankhya*, C, 40, 139-148 (1978).
- [8] Gupta, S and Shabbir, J., Variance estimation in simple random sampling using auxiliary information, *Haceteppe Journal of mathematics and Statistics*, 37, 57-67 (2008).
- [9] H. S. Jhaji and G.S. Walia, A Generalized Difference-cum-Ratio Type Estimator for the Population Variance

in Double Sampling, IAENG International Journal of Applied Mathematics, 41:4, IJAM 41_4_01 (Advance online publication: 9 November 2011).

[13] Isaki, C. T., Variance estimation using auxiliary information, Journal of American Statistical Association, 78, 117-123 (1983).

[14] J. Subramani G. Kumarapandiyam, Estimation of Variance Using Known Coefficient of Variation and Median of an Auxiliary Variable, Journal of Modern Applied Statistical Methods May 2013, Vol. 12, No. 1, 58-64

[15] Kadilar, C and Cingi, H, Ratio estimators for the population variance in simple and stratified random sampling, Applied Mathematics and Computations (2005a)

[16] Kadilar, C. and Cingi, H. A new estimator using two auxiliary variables, Applied Mathematics and Computation 162, 901-908, (2005b).

[17] Kadilar, C. and Cingi, H. A new ratio estimator in stratified random sampling, Communications in Statistics: Theory and Methods 34, 597-602, (2005c).

[18] Kadilar, C. and Cingi, H. Ratio estimators in stratified random sampling, Biometrical Journal 45, 218-225, 2003.

[19] Kadilar, C. and Cingi, H., Improvement in variance estimation using auxiliary information, Hacettepe Journal of mathematics and Statistics, 35, 111-115 (2006a).

[20] Kadilar, C. and Cingi, H., Ratio estimators for population variance in simple and Stratified sampling, Applied Mathematics and Computation, 173, 1047-1058 (2006b).

[21] Kendall, M. and Stuart, A. The Advanced Theory of Statistics: Distribution Theory, (Volume1) (Griffin, London, 1963).

[22] Koyuncu. N and Kadilar.C (2009)' Family of Estimators of Population Mean Using Two Auxiliary Variables in Stratified Random Sampling', Communications in Statistics - Theory and Methods, 38:14, 2398 — 2417

[23] Liu, T. P, A general unbiased estimator for the variance of a finite population, Sankhya

[24] C, 36(1), 23-32 (1974)

[25] Murthy, M. N., Sampling Theory and Methods, Statistical Publishing Society Calcutta, India, (1967).

[26] Prasad, B. and Singh, H.P. Some improved ratio-type estimators of finite population variance in sample surveys, Communications in Statistics: Theory and Methods 19, 1127-1139, 1990.

[27] Prasad B, Singh HP. Unbiased estimators of finite population variance using auxiliary information in sample surveys, Communication in Statistics: Theory and Methods, Vol. 21(5): pp.1367-1376, 1992

[28] Rajesh Singh and Mukesh Kumar, Improved Estimators of Population Mean Using Two Auxiliary Variables in Stratified Random Sampling , Vol.8, 65-72 (2012)

[29] Shabbir, J. and Yaab, M. Z. Improvement over transformed auxiliary variable in estimating the finite population mean, Biometrical Journal 45, 723-729, 2003.

[30] Singh, D. and Chaudhary, F. S., Theory and analysis of sample survey designs, New -Age International Publisher,(1986).

[31] Singh, S. and Kataria, P. (1990), "An estimator of finite population variance", Journal of The Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics, 42(2), 186-188.

[32] Singh HP and Singh R , Improved ratio-type estimator for variance using auxiliary information, Journal of The Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics , 54(3): 276-287, (2001).

[33] Singh, H. P., Tailor, R. and Kakran, M. S., An improved estimator of population mean using power transformation, Journal of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics, 58, 223-230 (2004).

[34] Srivastava, S. K. and Jhaji, H. S., A class of estimators using auxiliary information for estimating finite population variance, Sankhya, C, 42, 87-96 (1980).

[35] Srivastava, S. K. and Jhaji, H. S. Classes of estimators of finite population mean and

[36] Variance using auxiliary information, Journal of Indian Social and Agri. Statist., 47(2), 119-128,(1995)

[37] Subramani, J. and Kumarapandiyam, G., Variance estimation using quartiles and their functions of an auxiliary variable, International Journal of Statistics and Applications, 2, 67-72 (2012).

[38] Upadhyaya, L. N. and Singh, H. P., Use of auxiliary information in the estimation of population variance, mathematical forum, 4, 33-36 (1983)

[39] Wolter, K. M. Introduction to Variance Estimation (Springer-V erlag, 1985).

Appendixes

Appendix A

The MSE of the ratio type variance estimator in the stratified random sampling in the presence of two auxiliary variables can be obtained using the first degree approximation in the Taylor series method defined by

$$MSE(s^2_t) \cong \sum_{h=1}^k d_h \Sigma_h d'_h \text{-----} (A.1) \text{ Where}$$

$$d_h = [d_1 \ d_2 \ d_3 \ d_4 \ d_5 \ d_6 \ d_7 \ d_8 \ d_9] \text{ such that}$$

$$d_1 = \frac{\partial}{\partial a} h(a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i) |_{S^2_{yh}, \bar{Y}_h, \bar{Y}, S^2_{xh}, \bar{X}_h, \bar{X}, S^2_{zh}, \bar{Z}_h, \bar{Z}} \quad d_2 = \frac{\partial}{\partial b} h(a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i) |_{S^2_{yh}, \bar{Y}_h, \bar{Y}, S^2_{xh}, \bar{X}_h, \bar{X}, S^2_{zh}, \bar{Z}_h, \bar{Z}}$$

$$d_3 = \frac{\partial}{\partial c} h(a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i) |_{S^2_{yh}, \bar{Y}_h, \bar{Y}, S^2_{xh}, \bar{X}_h, \bar{X}, S^2_{zh}, \bar{Z}_h, \bar{Z}}$$

$$d_4 = \frac{\partial}{\partial d} h(a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i) |_{S^2_{yh}, \bar{Y}_h, \bar{Y}, S^2_{xh}, \bar{X}_h, \bar{X}, S^2_{zh}, \bar{Z}_h, \bar{Z}}$$

$$d_5 = \frac{\partial}{\partial e} h(a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i) |_{S^2_{yh}, \bar{Y}_h, \bar{Y}, S^2_{xh}, \bar{X}_h, \bar{X}, S^2_{zh}, \bar{Z}_h, \bar{Z}}$$

$$d_6 = \frac{\partial}{\partial f} h(a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i) |_{S^2_{yh}, \bar{Y}_h, \bar{Y}, S^2_{xh}, \bar{X}_h, \bar{X}, S^2_{zh}, \bar{Z}_h, \bar{Z}}$$

$$d_7 = \frac{\partial}{\partial g} h(a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i) |_{S^2_{yh}, \bar{Y}_h, \bar{Y}, S^2_{xh}, \bar{X}_h, \bar{X}, S^2_{zh}, \bar{Z}_h, \bar{Z}}$$

$$d_8 = \frac{\partial}{\partial h} h(a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i) |_{S^2_{yh}, \bar{Y}_h, \bar{Y}, S^2_{xh}, \bar{X}_h, \bar{X}, S^2_{zh}, \bar{Z}_h, \bar{Z}}$$

$$d_9 = \frac{\partial}{\partial i} h(a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i) |_{S^2_{yh}, \bar{Y}_h, \bar{Y}, S^2_{xh}, \bar{X}_h, \bar{X}, S^2_{zh}, \bar{Z}_h, \bar{Z}} \text{ and}$$

$$\Sigma_h = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma^2_1 & \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{13} & \sigma_{14} & \sigma_{15} & \sigma_{16} & \sigma_{17} & \sigma_{18} & \sigma_{19} \\ \sigma_{21} & \sigma^2_2 & \sigma_{23} & \sigma_{24} & \sigma_{25} & \sigma_{26} & \sigma_{27} & \sigma_{28} & \sigma_{29} \\ \sigma_{31} & \sigma_{32} & \sigma^2_3 & \sigma_{34} & \sigma_{35} & \sigma_{36} & \sigma_{37} & \sigma_{38} & \sigma_{39} \\ \sigma_{41} & \sigma_{42} & \sigma_{43} & \sigma^2_4 & \sigma_{45} & \sigma_{46} & \sigma_{47} & \sigma_{48} & \sigma_{49} \\ \sigma_{51} & \sigma_{52} & \sigma_{53} & \sigma_{54} & \sigma^2_5 & \sigma_{56} & \sigma_{57} & \sigma_{58} & \sigma_{59} \\ \sigma_{61} & \sigma_{62} & \sigma_{63} & \sigma_{64} & \sigma_{65} & \sigma^2_6 & \sigma_{67} & \sigma_{68} & \sigma_{69} \\ \sigma_{71} & \sigma_{72} & \sigma_{73} & \sigma_{74} & \sigma_{75} & \sigma_{76} & \sigma^2_7 & \sigma_{78} & \sigma_{79} \\ \sigma_{81} & \sigma_{82} & \sigma_{83} & \sigma_{84} & \sigma_{85} & \sigma_{86} & \sigma_{87} & \sigma^2_8 & \sigma_{89} \\ \sigma_{91} & \sigma_{92} & \sigma_{93} & \sigma_{94} & \sigma_{95} & \sigma_{96} & \sigma_{97} & \sigma_{98} & \sigma^2_9 \end{bmatrix} \text{-----[A.2]}$$

Here $h(a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i) = h(S^2_{yh}, \bar{Y}_h, \bar{Y}, S^2_{xh}, \bar{X}_h, \bar{X}, S^2_{zh}, \bar{Z}_h, \bar{Z})$ and Σ_h is the variance-covariance matrixes of $h(a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i)$. Note that $\bar{X}_{st} = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \bar{X}_h = \bar{X}$,

$\bar{Y}_{st} = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \bar{Y}_h = \bar{Y}$ and $\bar{Z}_{st} = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \bar{Z}_h = \bar{Z}$. According to equation (A.2), we obtain d_h for the estimator, s^2_t as follows,

$$\text{Let } V_0 = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h S^2_{yh} + \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y})^2$$

$$V_1 = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h S^2_{xh} + \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})^2$$

$$V_2 = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h S^2_{zh} + \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})^2, \text{ then we have}$$

$$d_h = \frac{S^2_{xh} S^2_{zh}}{v_1 v_2} \left[\begin{array}{l} \omega_h 2\omega_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) - 2\omega_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) - \frac{v_0 \omega_h}{v_1} - \frac{2v_0 \omega_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})}{v_1} \frac{2v_0 \omega_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})}{v_1} - \frac{v_0 \omega_h}{v_2} \\ - \frac{2v_0 \omega_h (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})}{v_2} \frac{2v_0 \omega_h (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})}{v_2} \end{array} \right]$$

We obtain the MSE of s^2_t using (A.1), as

$$MSE(s^2_t) \cong \frac{S^4_x S^4_z}{v^2_1 v^2_2} [H_1 + H_2] \text{----- (A.3)}$$

Where $H_1 = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h V(s^2_{yh}) + 4 \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) \left[COV(\bar{y}_h, s^2_{yh}) - COV(\bar{y}_{st}, s^2_{yh}) \right] + 4$

$$\sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y})^2 \left[V(\bar{y}_h) - 2COV(\bar{y}_h, \bar{y}_{st}) + V(\bar{y}_{st}) \right]$$

$$H_2 = -4 \sum_{h=1}^k v_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) \left[\frac{1}{v_1} (cov(\bar{y}_h, s^2_{xh}) - cov(\bar{y}_{st}, s^2_{xh})) + \frac{1}{v_2} (cov(\bar{y}_h, s^2_{zh}) - cov(\bar{y}_{st}, s^2_{zh})) \right] -$$

$$2 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 \omega^2_h}{v_1} cov(s^2_{xh}, s^2_{yh}) -$$

$$4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})}{v_1} \left[cov(\bar{x}_h, s^2_{yh}) - cov(\bar{x}_{st}, s^2_{yh}) - \frac{v_0}{v_1} (cov(\bar{x}_h, s^2_{xh}) - cov(\bar{x}_{st}, s^2_{xh})) - \frac{v_0}{v_2} (cov(\bar{x}_h, s^2_{zh}) -$$

$$cov(\bar{x}_{st}, s^2_{zh})) \right] - 2 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 \omega^2_h}{v_2} cov(s^2_{zh}, s^2_{yh}) - 8 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{1}{v_1} v_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X}) [cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{x}_h) - cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{x}_{st}) -$$

$$cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{x}_h) + cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{x}_{st})] - 8 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})}{v_2} [cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{z}_h) - cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{z}_{st}) - cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{z}_h) + cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{z}_{st})] +$$

$$\sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v^2_0 \omega^2_h}{v^2_1} v(s^2_{xh}) + 2 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v^2_0 \omega^2_h}{v_1 v_2} cov(s^2_{xh}, s^2_{zh}) + 4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v^2_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})^2}{v^2_1} [v(\bar{x}_h) - 2cov(\bar{x}_h, \bar{x}_{st}) + v(\bar{x}_{st})] +$$

$$\sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v^2_0 \omega^2_h}{v^2_2} v(s^2_{zh}) - 8 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X}) (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})}{v_1 v_2} [cov(\bar{x}_h, \bar{z}_{st}) - cov(\bar{x}_h, \bar{z}_h) + cov(\bar{x}_{st}, \bar{z}_h) - cov(\bar{x}_{st}, \bar{z}_{st})] +$$

$$4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v^2_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})^2}{v^2_2} [v(\bar{z}_h) - 2cov(\bar{z}_h, \bar{z}_{st}) + v(\bar{z}_{st})] - 4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})}{v_2} [cov(\bar{z}_h, s^2_{yh}) - cov(\bar{z}_{st}, s^2_{yh}) -$$

$$\frac{v_0}{v_1} (cov(\bar{z}_h, s^2_{xh}) - cov(\bar{z}_{st}, s^2_{xh})) - \frac{v_0}{v_2} (cov(\bar{z}_h, s^2_{zh}) - cov(\bar{z}_{st}, s^2_{zh}))]$$

Appendix B

The MSE of the regression estimator for the population variance in the stratified random sampling in the presence of two auxiliary variables can be obtained using the first degree approximation in the Taylor series method as follows:

$$d_h = [\omega_h 2\omega_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) - 2\omega_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) - \beta_1 \omega_h - 2\beta_1 \omega_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X}) 2\beta_1 \omega_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X}) - \beta_2 \omega_h - 2\beta_2 \omega_h (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z}) 2\beta_2 \omega_h (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})] \text{ and } \Sigma_h, \text{ using (A.1) and (A.2),}$$

$$MSE(s^2_{reg}) \cong [H_1 + H_3] \dots\dots\dots (B.1)$$

Where $H_3 =$

$$\begin{aligned} & -2\beta_1 \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h cov(s^2_{xh}, s^2_{yh}) + 4\beta_1 \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X}) [cov(\bar{x}_{st}, s^2_{yh}) - cov(\bar{x}_h, s^2_{yh}) + \beta_1 (cov(\bar{x}_h, s^2_{xh}) - \\ & cov(\bar{x}_{st}, s^2_{xh})) + \beta_2 (cov(\bar{x}_h, s^2_{zh}) - cov(\bar{x}_{st}, s^2_{zh}))] - 2\beta_2 \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h cov(s^2_{yh}, s^2_{zh}) \\ & + 4\beta_2 \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z}) [cov(\bar{z}_{st}, s^2_{yh}) - cov(\bar{z}_h, s^2_{yh}) + \beta_1 (cov(\bar{z}_h, s^2_{xh}) - cov(\bar{z}_{st}, s^2_{xh})) + \beta_2 (cov(\bar{z}_h, s^2_{zh}) - \\ & cov(\bar{z}_{st}, s^2_{zh}))] + 4 \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) [\beta_1 (cov(\bar{y}_{st}, s^2_{xh}) - cov(\bar{y}_h, s^2_{xh})) - \\ & \beta_2 (cov(\bar{y}_h, s^2_{zh}) + cov(\bar{y}_{st}, s^2_{zh}))] + 2\beta_1 \beta_2 \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h cov(s^2_{xh}, s^2_{zh}) + 8\beta_2 \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z}) [cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{z}_{st}) - \\ & cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{z}_h) + cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{z}_h) - cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{z}_{st})] + 8\beta_1 \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X}) [cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{x}_{st}) - cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{x}_h) + cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{x}_h) - \\ & cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{x}_{st})] + 8 \\ & \beta_1 \beta_2 \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X}) (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z}) [cov(\bar{x}_h, \bar{z}_h) - cov(\bar{x}_h, \bar{z}_{st}) - cov(\bar{x}_{st}, \bar{z}_h) + \\ & cov(\bar{x}_{st}, \bar{z}_{st})] + \beta^2_1 \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h v(s^2_{xh}) + 4\beta^2_1 \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})^2 [v(\bar{x}_h) - 2cov(\bar{x}_h, \bar{x}_{st}) + v(\bar{x}_{st})] \\ & + \beta^2_2 \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h v(s^2_{zh}) + 4\beta^2_2 \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})^2 [v(\bar{z}_h) - 2cov(\bar{z}_h, \bar{z}_{st}) + v(\bar{z}_{st})] \end{aligned} +$$

Appendix C

The MSE of the proposed estimator $s^2_{pr_1}$ and $s^2_{pr_2}$ for the population variance in the stratified random sampling in the presence of two auxiliary variables can be obtained using the first degree approximation in the Taylor series method as follows:

$$d_h = \frac{(s^2_x + \beta_2(x))(s^2_z + \beta_2(z))}{(v_1 + \beta_2(x))(v_2 + \beta_2(z))} \left[\omega_h 2\omega_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) - 2\omega_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) - \frac{v_0 \omega_h}{(v_1 + \beta_2(x))} - \frac{2v_0 \omega_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})}{(v_1 + \beta_2(x))} - \frac{2v_0 \omega_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})}{(v_1 + \beta_2(x))} - \frac{v_0 \omega_h}{(v_2 + \beta_2(z))} \right. \\ \left. - \frac{2v_0 \omega_h (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})}{(v_2 + \beta_2(z))} - \frac{2v_0 \omega_h (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})}{(v_2 + \beta_2(z))} \right] \text{ Using}$$

(A.1) and (A.2), we have

$$MSE(s^2_{pr_1}) \cong \frac{((s^2_x + \beta_2(x))(s^2_z + \beta_2(z)))^2}{((v_1 + \beta_2(x))(v_2 + \beta_2(z)))^2} \{H_1 + H_4\} \dots\dots\dots (C.1)$$

Where

$$\begin{aligned} H_4 = & \left\{ -4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y})}{(v_1 + \beta_2(x))} (cov(\bar{y}_h, s^2_{xh}) - cov(\bar{y}_{st}, s^2_{xh})) - 4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y})}{(v_2 + \beta_2(z))} (cov(\bar{y}_h, s^2_{zh}) - cov(\bar{y}_{st}, s^2_{zh})) - \right. \\ & 2 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 \omega^2_h}{(v_1 + \beta_2(x))} cov(s^2_{xh}, s^2_{yh}) - 4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})}{(v_1 + \beta_2(x))} \left[cov(\bar{x}_h, s^2_{yh}) - cov(\bar{x}_{st}, s^2_{yh}) - \frac{v_0}{(v_1 + \beta_2(x))} (cov(\bar{x}_h, s^2_{xh}) - \right. \\ & cov(\bar{x}_{st}, s^2_{xh})) - \frac{v_0}{(v_2 + \beta_2(z))} (cov(\bar{x}_h, s^2_{zh}) - cov(\bar{x}_{st}, s^2_{zh})) \left. \right] - 2 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 \omega^2_h}{(v_2 + \beta_2(z))} cov(s^2_{zh}, s^2_{yh}) - \\ & 8 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})}{(v_1 + \beta_2(x))} [cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{x}_h) - cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{x}_{st}) - cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{x}_h) + cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{x}_{st})] - \\ & 8 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})}{(v_2 + \beta_2(z))} [cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{z}_h) - cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{z}_{st}) - cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{z}_h) + cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{z}_{st})] + \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v^2_0 \omega^2_h}{(v_1 + \beta_2(x))^2} v(s^2_{xh}) + \\ & 2 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v^2_0 \omega^2_h}{(v_1 + \beta_2(x))(v_2 + \beta_2(z))} cov(s^2_{xh}, s^2_{zh}) + 4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v^2_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})^2}{(v_1 + \beta_2(x))^2} [v(\bar{x}_h) - 2cov(\bar{x}_h, \bar{x}_{st}) + v(\bar{x}_{st})] + \\ & \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v^2_0 \omega^2_h}{(v_2 + \beta_2(z))^2} v(s^2_{zh}) - 8 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X}) (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})}{(v_1 + \beta_2(x))(v_2 + \beta_2(z))} [cov(\bar{x}_h, \bar{z}_{st}) - cov(\bar{x}_h, \bar{z}_h) + cov(\bar{x}_{st}, \bar{z}_h) - cov(\bar{x}_{st}, \bar{z}_{st})] + \\ & 4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v^2_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})^2}{(v_2 + \beta_2(z))^2} [v(\bar{z}_h) - 2cov(\bar{z}_h, \bar{z}_{st}) + v(\bar{z}_{st})] - 4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 \omega^2_h (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})}{(v_2 + \beta_2(z))} \left[cov(\bar{z}_h, s^2_{yh}) - cov(\bar{z}_{st}, s^2_{yh}) - \right. \\ & \left. \frac{v_0}{(v_1 + \beta_2(x))} (cov(\bar{z}_h, s^2_{xh}) - cov(\bar{z}_{st}, s^2_{xh})) - \frac{v_0}{(v_2 + \beta_2(z))} (cov(\bar{z}_h, s^2_{zh}) - cov(\bar{z}_{st}, s^2_{zh})) \right] \left. \right\} \\ d_h = & \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{(s^2_{xC_x} + \beta_2(x))(s^2_{zC_z} + \beta_2(z))}{(v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z))} \left[\omega_h 2\omega_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) - 2\omega_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) - \frac{v_0 \omega_h C_x}{(v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))} - \frac{2v_0 \omega_h C_x (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})}{(v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))} - \frac{2v_0 \omega_h C_x (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})}{(v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))} - \frac{v_0 \omega_h C_z}{(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z))} \right. \\ \left. - \frac{2v_0 \omega_h C_z (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})}{(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z))} - \frac{2v_0 \omega_h C_z (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})}{(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z))} \right]$$

Using (A.1) and (A.2), we have

$$MSE(s^2_{pr_2}) \cong \frac{((s^2_{xC_x} + \beta_2(x))(s^2_{zC_z} + \beta_2(z)))^2}{((v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z)))^2} \{H_1 + H_5\} \dots\dots\dots (C.2)$$

Where

$$\begin{aligned} H_5 = & -4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 C_x \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y})}{(v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))} (cov(\bar{y}_h, s^2_{xh}) - cov(\bar{y}_{st}, s^2_{xh})) - 4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 C_z \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y})}{(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z))} (cov(\bar{y}_h, s^2_{zh}) - \\ & cov(\bar{y}_{st}, s^2_{zh})) - 2 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{C_x v_0 \omega^2_h}{(v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))} cov(s^2_{xh}, s^2_{yh}) - 4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 C_x \omega^2_h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})}{(v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))} \left[cov(\bar{x}_h, s^2_{yh}) - cov(\bar{x}_{st}, s^2_{yh}) - \right. \\ & \frac{v_0 C_x}{(v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))} (cov(\bar{x}_h, s^2_{xh}) - cov(\bar{x}_{st}, s^2_{xh})) - \frac{v_0 C_z}{(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z))} (cov(\bar{x}_h, s^2_{zh}) - cov(\bar{x}_{st}, s^2_{zh})) \left. \right] - \\ & 2 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 C_z \omega^2_h}{(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z))} cov(s^2_{zh}, s^2_{yh}) - 8 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 C_x \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})}{(v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))} [cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{x}_h) - cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{x}_{st}) - cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{x}_h) + \\ & cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{x}_{st})] - \\ & 8 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 C_z \omega^2_h (\bar{Y}_h - \bar{Y}) (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})}{(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z))} [cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{z}_h) - cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{z}_{st}) - cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{z}_h) + cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{z}_{st})] + \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v^2_0 C_x^2 \omega^2_h}{(v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))^2} v(s^2_{xh}) + \end{aligned}$$

$$2 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{C_x C_z v^2 \omega^2 h}{(v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z))} cov(S^2_{xh}, S^2_{zh}) + 4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v^2_0 C_x^2 \omega^2 h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})^2}{(v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))^2} [v(\bar{X}_h) - 2cov(\bar{X}_h, \bar{X}_{st}) + v(\bar{X}_{st})] +$$

$$\sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v^2_0 C_z^2 \omega^2 h}{(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z))^2} v(S^2_{zh}) - 8 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 C_x C_z \omega^2 h (\bar{X}_h - \bar{X})(\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})}{(v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z))} [cov(\bar{X}_h, \bar{Z}_{st}) - cov(\bar{X}_h, \bar{Z}_h) + cov(\bar{X}_{st}, \bar{Z}_h) - cov(\bar{X}_{st}, \bar{Z}_{st})] +$$

$$4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v^2_0 C_z^2 \omega^2 h (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})^2}{(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z))^2} [v(\bar{Z}_h) - 2cov(\bar{Z}_h, \bar{Z}_{st}) + v(\bar{Z}_{st})] - 4 \sum_{h=1}^k \frac{v_0 C_z \omega^2 h (\bar{Z}_h - \bar{Z})}{(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z))} [cov(\bar{Z}_h, S^2_{yh}) - cov(\bar{Z}_{st}, S^2_{yh}) -$$

$$\frac{v_0 C_x}{(v_1 C_x + \beta_2(x))} (cov(\bar{Z}_h, S^2_{xh}) - cov(\bar{Z}_{st}, S^2_{xh})) - \frac{v_0 C_z}{(v_2 C_z + \beta_2(z))} (cov(\bar{Z}_h, S^2_{zh}) - cov(\bar{Z}_{st}, S^2_{zh}))]$$

Appendix D

$$\mu_{rsth} = \frac{1}{N_h} \sum_{h=1}^{N_h} (Y_{hi} - \bar{Y}_h)^r (X_{hi} - \bar{X}_h)^s (Z_{hi} - \bar{Z}_h)^t, \lambda_h = \frac{1}{n_h}, \omega_h = \frac{n_h - N_h}{n - N}$$

$$\theta_h(yx) = \frac{\mu_{220h}}{\mu_{200h}\mu_{020h}}, \theta_h(yz) = \frac{\mu_{202h}}{\mu_{200h}\mu_{002h}}, \theta_h(xz) = \frac{\mu_{022h}}{\mu_{020h}\mu_{020h}},$$

$\beta_2(y_h) = \frac{\mu_{400h}}{\mu_{200h}^2}$ - is the population kurtosis of the variate of interest in stratum h.

$\beta_2(x_h) = \frac{\mu_{400h}}{\mu_{200h}^2}$ - is the population kurtosis of the first auxiliary variable (X) in stratum h.

$\beta_2(z_h) = \frac{\mu_{004h}}{\mu_{002h}^2}$ - is the population kurtosis of the second auxiliary variable (Z) in stratum h.

$$\sigma_1^2 = v(S^2_{yh}) = \lambda_h S^4_{yh} (\beta_2(y_h) - 1) \quad \sigma_2^2 = v(\bar{y}_h) = \lambda_h S^2_{yh} \quad \sigma_3^2 = v(\bar{y}_{st}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h \lambda_h S^2_{yh}$$

$$\sigma_4^2 = v(S^2_{xh}) = \lambda_h S^4_{xh} (\beta_2(x_h) - 1) \quad \sigma_5^2 = v(\bar{x}_h) = \lambda_h S^2_{xh} \quad \sigma_6^2 = v(\bar{x}_{st}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h \lambda_h S^2_{xh}$$

$$\sigma_7^2 = v(S^2_{zh}) = \lambda_h S^4_{zh} (\beta_2(z_h) - 1) \quad \sigma_8^2 = v(\bar{z}_h) = \lambda_h S^2_{zh} \quad \sigma_9^2 = v(\bar{z}_{st}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h \lambda_h S^2_{zh}$$

$$\sigma_{12} = \sigma_{21} = cov(\bar{y}_h, S^2_{yh}) = \lambda_h \mu_{300h} \quad \sigma_{13} = \sigma_{31} = cov(\bar{y}_{st}, S^2_{yh}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \lambda_h \mu_{300h}$$

$$\sigma_{14} = \sigma_{41} = cov(S^2_{xh}, S^2_{yh}) = \lambda_h S^2_{xh} S^2_{yh} (\theta_h(yx) - 1), \quad \sigma_{15} = \sigma_{51} = cov(\bar{x}_h, S^2_{yh}) = \lambda_h \mu_{210h}$$

$$\sigma_{16} = \sigma_{61} = cov(\bar{x}_{st}, S^2_{yh}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \lambda_h \mu_{210h}, \quad \sigma_{18} = \sigma_{81} = cov(\bar{z}_h, S^2_{yh}) = \lambda_h \mu_{201h}$$

$$\sigma_{17} = \sigma_{71} = cov(S^2_{yh}, S^2_{zh}) = \lambda_h S^2_{yh} S^2_{zh} (\theta_h(yz) - 1), \quad \sigma_{24} = \sigma_{42} = cov(\bar{y}_h, S^2_{xh}) = \lambda_h \mu_{120h}$$

$$\sigma_{19} = \sigma_{91} = cov(\bar{y}_{st}, S^2_{yh}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \lambda_h \mu_{201h}, \quad \sigma_{23} = \sigma_{32} = cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{y}_{st}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \lambda_h S^2_{yh}$$

$$\sigma_{25} = \sigma_{52} = cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{x}_h) = \lambda_h S_{yxh}, \quad \sigma_{27} = \sigma_{72} = cov(\bar{y}_h, S^2_{zh}) = \lambda_h \mu_{102h}$$

$$\sigma_{26} = \sigma_{62} = \sigma_{35} = \sigma_{53} = cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{x}_h) = cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{x}_{st}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \lambda_h S_{yxh}$$

$$\sigma_{28} = \sigma_{82} = cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{z}_h) = \lambda_h S_{yzh}, \quad \sigma_{29} = \sigma_{92} = \sigma_{38} = \sigma_{83} = cov(\bar{y}_h, \bar{z}_{st}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \lambda_h S_{yzh}$$

$$\sigma_{34} = \sigma_{43} = cov(\bar{y}_{st}, S^2_{xh}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \lambda_h \mu_{120h}, \quad \sigma_{36} = \sigma_{63} = cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{x}_{st}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h \lambda_h S_{yxh}$$

$$\sigma_{37} = \sigma_{73} = cov(\bar{y}_{st}, S^2_{zh}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \lambda_h \mu_{102h}, \quad \sigma_{39} = \sigma_{93} = cov(\bar{y}_{st}, \bar{z}_{st}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h \lambda_h S_{yzh}$$

$$\sigma_{45} = \sigma_{54} = cov(\bar{x}_h, S^2_{xh}) = \lambda_h \mu_{030h}, \quad \sigma_{46} = \sigma_{64} = cov(\bar{x}_{st}, S^2_{xh}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \lambda_h \mu_{030h}$$

$$\sigma_{47} = \sigma_{74} = cov(S^2_{xh}, S^2_{zh}) = \lambda_h S^2_{zh} S^2_{xh} (\theta_h(zx) - 1), \quad \sigma_{48} = \sigma_{84} = cov(\bar{z}_h, S^2_{xh}) = \lambda_h \mu_{021h}$$

$$\sigma_{49} = \sigma_{94} = cov(\bar{z}_{st}, S^2_{xh}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \lambda_h \mu_{021h}, \quad \sigma_{56} = \sigma_{65} = cov(\bar{x}_h, \bar{x}_{st}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \lambda_h S^2_{xh}$$

$$\sigma_{57} = \sigma_{75} = cov(\bar{x}_h, S^2_{zh}) = \lambda_h \mu_{012h} \quad \sigma_{58} = \sigma_{85} = cov(\bar{x}_h, \bar{z}_h) = \lambda_h S_{xzh}$$

$$\sigma_{59} = \sigma_{95} = \sigma_{68} = \sigma_{86} = cov(\bar{x}_h, \bar{z}_{st}) = cov(\bar{z}_h, \bar{x}_{st}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \lambda_h S_{xzh}$$

$$\sigma_{67} = \sigma_{76} = cov(\bar{x}_{st}, S^2_{zh}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \lambda_h \mu_{012h}, \quad \sigma_{69} = \sigma_{96} = cov(\bar{x}_{st}, \bar{z}_{st}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega^2_h \lambda_h S_{xzh}$$

$$\sigma_{78} = \sigma_{87} = cov(\bar{z}_h, S^2_{zh}) = \lambda_h \mu_{003h}, \quad \sigma_{79} = \sigma_{97} = cov(\bar{z}_{st}, S^2_{zh}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \lambda_h \mu_{003h}$$

$$\sigma_{89} = \sigma_{98} = cov(\bar{z}_h, \bar{z}_{st}) = \sum_{h=1}^k \omega_h \lambda_h S^2_{zh}$$