

# Comparison of Collinearity Indices for Linear Models in Agricultural Trials

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**Abstract:** The deleterious consequences of collinearity in linear regression on the precision of estimators of regression coefficients and the interpretability of the fitted model are widely recognized. In this study, we compare several methodologies for assessing collinearity in linear models and explore the effect of outliers on collinearity. The robustness of collinearity measures (individual and overall) is validated through two detailed Monte Carlo simulation study which also considers the effect of outliers on collinearity indices. The methods are illustrated with two real-world agricultural and fish morphology l data sets to show potential applications. The results do not provide any evidence for an effect from outliers on collinearity identification using the collinearity indices (individual and overall). The  $F_G$  and  $F_j$  collinearity indices more robust as both sample size and collinearity degree increase. The VIF (individual measure) had a better performance on the fitted model with a greater number of parameters.

**Keywords:** Multicollinearity, Overall Some Individual Indices, Monte Carlo Simulation, Mctest Package

## Introduction

In the context of multiple regression analysis, multicollinearity refers to a scenario where there is a pronounced interconnection among the explanatory variables (Wondola *et al.*, 2020). The presence of collinearity indicates that a substantial part of the information in one or more of these covariates is redundant. Habshah *et al.* (2009) pointed out that collinearity, or non-orthogonality of the design matrix, is an almost linear dependence between two or more covariates. According to Silvey (1969); Belsley *et al.* (1980), in cases where the variables exhibit linear correlations, it is possible for one or more eigenvalues of the model  $X'X$  to be relatively tiny. The presence of collinearity causes difficulties in the estimation of model parameters, variable selection and model interpretation. When covariates in a regression model are not orthogonal, inference based on estimates of model parameters can be invalid. Multicollinearity leads to increased variances in the estimated parameters, which might result in the individual predictors appearing statistically insignificant despite the overall model being significant. When multicollinearity is present, it can complicate the estimation of the beta coefficients and their interpretation. As multicollinearity intensifies, the confidence intervals for the regression coefficients become wider and the t-statistics shrink in value. For coefficients to be deemed statistically significant under these conditions, they must be larger, implying that rejecting the null hypothesis becomes more challenging when multicollinearity exists. However, it's important to note that large standard errors can arise from factors other than multicollinearity (Oke *et al.*, 2019).

While the model's predictive performance may remain unaffected. When the focus of the investigation is to determine how the covariates' independent effects differ from one another, the existence of collinearity presents a substantial obstacle. The reason for this phenomenon is that when collinearity is present, the estimates of regression coefficients become less stable, resulting in larger Standard Errors (SEs) for these coefficients. In addition to the collinearity problem, although multiple linear models are widely used, it is well known that atypical observations can have a high impact on parameter estimates, predicted values and estimates of the covariance matrix; Cook (1977). Although there are many procedures used to detect collinearity, they are generally based on ad-hoc practical rules and are often unreliable with unquantifiable error rates. These procedures can be categorized as those based on three key aspects to consider in this study: (i) The correlation among covariates, (ii) The structure of the design matrix and

(iii) Descriptive indices such as the condition index discovered by Belsley *et al.* (1980) and the factor of inflation variance (VIF) as discussed in Kutner *et al.* (2005); Fox and Monette (1992); Hair *et al.* (2014).

It is important to note that even these descriptive indices are not without their critics (for example, Gunst, 1984; O'Brien, 2007) and new qualitative measures continue to be recommended; see, for example, Chennamaneni *et al.* (2016). Farrar and Glauber (1967) introduced an inferential technique for evaluating collinearity in linear models by examining deviations from orthogonality in the design matrix. However, this method has faced significant criticism from researchers such as O'Hagan and McCabe (1975); Wichers (1975); Haitovsky (1969). Based on the current state of knowledge, it appears that there are no alternative methodologies currently accessible for assessing collinearity in linear models. Subjective diagnostics have become increasingly prevalent in contemporary research. A notable example is the R package *mctest*, which was introduced by Imdadullah *et al.* (2016). In general, the user is left to rely upon rule-of-thumb criteria to judge the severity of collinearity. Furthermore, if an observation in a linear model has a large value on two or more covariates, artificial collinearity may be induced. The effect of such collinearity in regression models, especially in biological science where covariates are strongly correlated is not totally studied. The aforementioned literature, including Sengupta and Bhimasankaram (1997); Walker and Birch (1988); Mason and Gunst (1985), demonstrates that there exists a resemblance between the outcome and an estimated linear relationship.

The objectives of this study are: (i) To evaluate how the diagnostic measures (individual and overall) are affected by atypical observations; (ii) To assess the performance of the collinearity indices by simulations; (iii) To apply the new indices to real-world morphological and agricultural data sets with different collinearity structures and atypical cases. All numerical evaluations carried out in this study were implemented in the R software (Core Team, 2016).

## Materials and Methods

### *Collinearity Indices*

The collinearity diagnostic measures used and implemented in R with the *mctest* package proposed by (Imdadullah *et al.*, 2016), are described by these authors as detailed below.

### *Overall Collinearity Diagnostic Measures*

#### *Determinant*

The matrix  $X'X$  will exhibit singularity if it possesses linearly dependent columns or rows. Hence, the

determinant of the normalized correlation matrix  $R$ , which is obtained by multiplying the transpose of matrix  $X$  with  $X$  and excluding the intercept term, might serve as an indicator for the presence of collinearity among the regressors. Nevertheless, it is remarkable to note that the determinant of a matrix does not offer insights into the dependency between regressors. Instead, it merely indicates the singularity or departure from orthogonality of a correlation matrix. According to Cooley and Lohnes (1971), the value of  $X'X$  on the scale falls within the range of  $0 \leq |X'X| \leq 1$ . According to Asteriou and Hall (2007), if the determinant of the value  $X'X$  is around zero, it indicates a presence of collinearity among the regressors.

### R-Squared

$R^2$  is obtained by doing a regression analysis of all  $x$  variables on  $y$ . According to Stock and Watson (2010),  $R^2$  exhibits a monotonically non-decreasing relationship with the number of regressors incorporated into the model. In other words,  $R^2$  serves as an indicator of the extent to which the regression accurately captures the data. Conversely, when the  $R^2$  values increase, there is a greater likelihood of the regressors being affected by multicollinearity, as the  $R^2$  is influenced by the regressors sharing their variances (Asteriou and Hall, 2007).

### Farrar $\chi^2$

It is the Chi-square test for detecting the strength of collinearity over the complete set of regressors.  $\chi^2 = -\left[n - 1 - \frac{1}{6(2p+5)}\right] \times \log_e [X'X] \sim \psi^2_{v=\frac{1}{2}p(p-1)}$ .

Collinearity exists among regressors if  $\chi^2 > \chi^2_{\frac{1}{2}p(p-1)}$  (Farrar and Glauber, 1967).

### Condition Index

$$CI_j = \sqrt{\frac{\max(\lambda_j)}{\lambda_j}} \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, p; \quad \lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_p$$

Collinearity exists if any of  $CI_j > 10, 15$  or  $30$  (Belsley *et al.*, 1980; Chatterjee and Hadi, 2013).

### Sum of Reciprocal of Eigenvalues

In an orthogonal system  $\sum_{j=1}^p \frac{1}{\lambda_j} = p$ , therefore, for a sample based correlation matrix  $R$  with eigenvalues  $\lambda_j$ , comparing  $p$  with  $\sum_{j=1}^p \frac{1}{\lambda_j}$  can be used to indicate collinearity. If  $\sum_{j=1}^p \frac{1}{\lambda_j}$  is (say) five times larger than the number of regressors used in the model then collinearity exists among regressors (Chatterjee and Price, 1977; Dillon and Goldstein, 1984).

### Theil's Indicator

Theil (1971) proposed a measure of collinearity based on an incremental contribution ( $R^2 - R_j^2$ ) to the squared multiple correlation, where  $R_j^2$  is the  $R^2$  from auxiliary regression of regressors:

$$m = R^2 - \sum_{i=1}^p (R^2 - R_i^2)$$

If  $m = 0$  then all  $X$ 's are mutually uncorrelated (no redundancy exists) as the incremental contribution all add up to  $R^2$ . However, if  $m \sim 1$  then Collinearity exists among regressors.

### Red Indicator

In their study, Kovács *et al.* (2005) introduced a novel and synthetic normalized indicator for diagnosing collinearity. This indicator leverages eigenvalues or quantifies the average correlation of the data:

$$Red = \frac{\sqrt{\frac{\sum_{j=1}^p (\lambda_j - 1)^2}{p}}}{\sqrt{p-1}}$$

In the event that the value of the *Red* indicator is zero ( $Red = 0$ ), it signifies the lack of redundancy, while a value close to 1 ( $Red \sim 1$ ) indicates the presence of maximal redundancy.

### Individual Collinearity Diagnostic Measures

#### Klein's Rule

If the value of  $R_j$  obtained from the auxiliary regression exceeds the total  $R^2$  obtained from the regression of  $y$  on all the regressors, it suggests the presence of potential issues with multicollinearity. The decision rule for the discovery of collinearity is.,  $R^2_{x_j, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p} > R^2_{y, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p}$  (Klein, 1969).

#### VIF and Tol

The Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) quantifies the extent to which the variances of the predicted regression coefficients are amplified when there is no connection among the  $p$  regressors. The significance of the diagonal elements in the  $((X'X)^{-1})$  matrix for identifying multicollinearity is widely recognized:

$$VIF_j = (X'X)_{jj}^{-1} = \frac{1}{1-R_j^2} \text{ and } Tol_j = \frac{1}{VIF_j} = 1 - R_j^2$$

The criticism on *VIF* is that  $var(\hat{\beta}_j) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum x_j^2} VIF$  depends on  $\sigma^2$ ,  $\sum x_j^2$  and *VIF*, which shows that a high *VIF* can be counterbalanced by a low  $\sigma^2$  or high  $\sum x_j^2$ . So a high *VIF* is neither a necessary nor a sufficient measure of

multicollinearity. The value of VIF >3, 5, 10 or value of  $Tol \sim 0$  indicates existence of collinearity among regressors (Neter *et al.*, 2004).

### Eigenvalues

Kendall (1957); Silvey (1969) proposed use the eigenvalues of the correlation matrix ( $X'X$ ) as a means to assess the existence of multicollinearity. They established that small eigenvalues, which are close to zero, serve as an indication of high collinearity. However, they did not specify the precise threshold for determining the degree of smallness. The presence of one or more lower eigenvalues in the matrix  $X'X$  or its corresponding correlation matrix is indicative of collinearity.

### CVIF

Curto and Pinto (2011) introduced a novel metric for assessing multicollinearity, which aims to quantify the influence of intercorrelation among independent variables on the variance of the Ordinary Least Squares Estimators (OLSEs):

$$CVIF_j = VIF_j \times \frac{1 - R^2}{1 - R_0^2}$$

where,  $R_0^2 = R_{yx1}^2 + R_{yx2}^2 + \dots + R_{yxp}^2$ . Collinearity exists if  $CVIF_j \geq 10$ .

### Leamer's Methods

Leamer in Greene (2002) suggested a measure of the effect of multicollinearity for the  $j^{\text{th}}$  variable:

$$C_j = \left\{ \frac{\left( \sum_{i=1}^n (X_{ij} - \bar{X}_j)^2 \right)^{-1}}{(X'X)_{jj}^{-1}} \right\}^{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}$$

This measure is the square root of the ratio of variances of estimated coefficients ( $\hat{\beta}_j$ ) when estimated without and with the other regressors. If  $X_j$  is uncorrelated with the other regressors  $C_j$  would be 1 otherwise will be equal to  $(1 - R_j^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ , i.e.,  $C_j \sim 0$  indicates existence of collinearity among regressors.

### F and R<sup>2</sup> Relation

The relationship of F-test and  $R^2$  from regressing  $X_j$  on the other remaining regressors can be used to detect multicollinearity. The relationship is described as:

$$F_j = \frac{\frac{R_{x_j, x_1, \dots, x_p}^2}{p-2}}{1 - \frac{R_{x_j, x_1, \dots, x_p}^2}{n-p+1}} \sim F_{(p-2, n-p+1)}$$

where,  $F^* = F_{p-2, n-p+1}$ . If  $F_j > F^*$ , then it means that the regressor  $X_j$  is collinear with other regressors and it should be dropped from the model (Gujarati and Porter, 2003).

### Farrar w

It is an F-test for locating the regressors which are collinear with others and it makes use of multiple correlation coefficients among regressors:

$$w_j = \frac{R_j^2}{1 - R_j^2} \left( \frac{n-p}{p-1} \right) \sim F_{(n-p, p-1)}$$

If  $w_j > F_{(n-p, p-1)}$ , there is indication of considerable collinearity (Farrar and Glauber, 1967).

Most of the overall and individual measures to detect multicollinearity described above are included in the *R* mctest package, which mainly implements functions for detecting multicollinearity between covariates using the *omcdiag* () functions in the case of general measures and *imcdiag* () for individual measurements (Imdadullah *et al.*, 2016).

### Simulation Studies

#### Simulation I

The primary objective of the initial Monte Carlo simulation study is to accomplish the following: (a) Demonstrate the application of collinearity tests; (b) Determine the accuracy rate of correctly identifying collinearity cases using collinearity indices; (c) Compute the Mean Squared Error (MSE) of the regression coefficient estimators; and (d) Compare various widely-used overall and individual collinearity measures. The commonly utilized comprehensive measures include the Farrar-Glauber (FG) test, Determinant of the matrix  $X'X$  (DE), Red Indicator (RI), Sum of Reciprocals of eigenvalues (SR), Theil Indicator (TI) and Condition Number (CN). On the other hand, the prevalent individual measures consist of VIF, Tolerance Limit (TL), *WI* and *FI* statistics, Leamer Indicator (LI), Corrected VIF (CVIF) and Klein Indicator (KI). It should be noted that the standard indices mentioned are implemented in the *R* package mctest. For more comprehensive information, please refer to the study conducted by Imdadullah *et al.* (2016) and the references provided therein. The simulation is grounded on the linear regression model, which is formally stated as:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \varepsilon$$

where the random error  $\varepsilon$  is generated from the  $N(0,1)$  distribution.

Three covariates  $X_1, X_2$  and  $X_3$ , where  $X_3 = kX_2$ , with  $k \in \{1/4, 2\}$  were considered. Three distributions are used to generate  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ : uniform, normal and exponential. We set  $\beta_0 = 0$ ,  $\beta_1 = 1$ ,  $\beta_2 = 1$  and  $\beta_3 = 1$ , considering

10000 simulations and six sample sizes:  $n \in \{7, 10, 20, 30, 50, 100\}$ . Furthermore, we assume the linear model with heteroscedastic and homoscedastic errors.

### Simulation II

A second simulation study is conducted to consider the effects of outlier contamination on the percentage of correctly identified collinearity cases by two of the current indicators, overall measure *FG* and individual measure *FI*.

In the scenario, a linear model includes three covariates, labeled  $X_1, X_2$  and  $X_3$ . The first two covariates,  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ , originate from a normal distribution. The third covariate,  $X_3$ , is defined as a multiple of  $kX_2$ , specifically with  $k \in \{1/4, 2\}$  were considered.

The random errors  $\varepsilon$ , are generated from the  $N(0,1)$  distribution but are contaminated at random with 5, 10, 15 and 20% of outliers which are generated from the  $N(0,4)$  distribution. The simulations are carried out for sample size  $n \in \{7, 10, 20, 30, 50, 100\}$ .

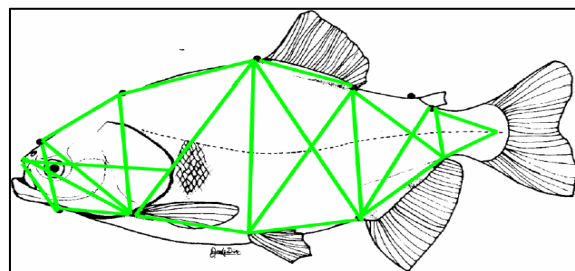
### Application to Real-World Data Sets

#### Corn Data

To manage corn production, it is important to estimate the yield potential. To do this, the grain yield, *Y*, is considered as a function of the covariates: Distance between rows,  $X_1$ , number of corncobs per  $m^2$ ,  $X_2$  and number of grains per corncob,  $X_3$ . The objective is to build a model with the yield of corn as the response and using the other measurements as covariates. The fitted model can then be used to predict corn yield in future years.



**Fig. 1:** Cachama (*Colossoma macropomum*)



**Fig. 2:** Landmarks used for extracting truss measurements from *C. macropomum*

**Table 1:** Truss measurements from *C. macropomum* specimens

Tip of snout to end of epiphyseal sulcus
Tip of snout to insertion of pectoral fin
Anterior edge of the epiphyseal sulcus to the end of the epiphyseal sulcus
Anterior edge of the epiphyseal sulcus at the insertion of the pectoral fin
Anterior edge of the epiphyseal sulcus when articulating
Articulate to insertion of pectoral fin
Posterior edge of epiphyseal sulcus to end of dorsal fin
Posterior edge of the epiphyseal sulcus at the insertion of the pelvic fin
Posterior edge of the epiphyseal sulcus to the insertion of the pectoral fin
Posterior edge of the epiphyseal groove when articulating
Insertion of pectoral fin to insertion of pelvic fin
Dorsal fin base
Anterior edge of dorsal fin to anterior edge of anal fin
Anterior edge of dorsal fin to insertion of pelvic fin
Anterior edge of dorsal fin to insertion of pectoral fin
Insertion of pelvic fin to end of anal fin
Posterior edge of dorsal fin to the fatty fin
Posterior edge of dorsal fin to posterior edge of anal fin
Posterior edge of dorsal fin to anterior edge of anal fin
Posterior edge of dorsal fin to insertion of pelvic fin
Anal fin base
Posterior edge of the fatty fin to the last scale of the lateral line
Posterior edge of fatty fin to posterior edge of anal fin
Posterior edge of the fatty fin to the anterior border of the anal fin
Posterior edge of the fatty fin to the anterior border of the anal fin
Eye diameter
Head length
Fat fin base

### Fish Morphology

The present study involved the analysis of 92 specimens of *Colossoma macropomum* (refer to Fig. 1) obtained from artificial ponds located at the Papelón fish station in Venezuela. The specimens had an average weight of 600 g. The study employed the "Truss protocol" or "trusses" approach proposed by Strauss and Bookstein (1982). This method enables a comprehensive reconstruction of the shape by utilizing the distances between homologous anatomical landmarks, as presented in Table 1 and Fig. 2. The landmarks are connected by distances that create a sequence of uninterrupted quadrilaterals, each with its own internal diagonals (refer to Fig. 2). This arrangement enables the identification of variations in shape along the vertical, horizontal and oblique orientations.

## Results and Discussion

### Simulation I

Tables 2-7 report the percentage of correctly identified collinearity cases for the overall and individual collinearity measures, whereas Table 8 presents the empirical mses of the estimators for the regression coefficients. From Tables 2-7, using uniform, normal and exponential distributions for  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  and with heteroscedastic and homoscedastic errors, note that for the *FG* (overall) and *Fi* (individual) collinearity indices, the percentage of cases of collinearity correctly identified exceeds the values for all the other measures and that the percentage increases as  $n$  increases.

In Table 8, using uniform, normal and exponential distributions for  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ , observe that the empirical MSE of the estimators of the regression coefficients

decreases as the sample size increases, which shows the empirical consistency of the OLS estimators of the regression coefficients. The three scenarios considered (uniform, normal and exponential distributions) produce very particular results in relation to the empirical MSE of  $\hat{\beta}_3$ , which measures the effect of the covariate  $X_3$ , expressed as a linear combination of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ . This estimator ( $\hat{\beta}_3$ ) has an MSE close to zero, in addition to being the smallest in comparison to the MSE of the other three estimators ( $\hat{\beta}_0$ ,  $\hat{\beta}_1$  and  $\hat{\beta}_2$ ). In summary, this simulation study quantifies the effect of the degree of collinearity on the collinearity measures. In particular, the *FG* and *Fi* collinearity indices more robust as both sample size and collinearity degree increase. This is a major advantage since collinearity is a matter of degree and not simply presence or absence of collinearity. Likewise, the results show the superiority of these indices compared to the other used measures.

**Table 2:** Percentage of correctly identified Collinearity cases, for various values of  $k$  and  $n$ , where  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  follow uniform distributions,  $X_3 = kX_2$  and with heteroscedastic errors

$X_3$ = $kX_2$	Collinearity measurement	Index or test	% of correct collinearity					
			$n = 7$	$n = 10$	$n = 20$	$n = 30$	$n = 50$	$n = 100$
$k = 1/4$	Overall	FG	0.0057	0.0353	0.1527	0.2677	0.4821	0.8385
		Det	0.0005	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
		Red Ind	0.2621	0.1148	0.0125	0.0013	0.0000	0.0000
		Sum lambda	0.0494	0.0061	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
		Theil	0.0422	0.0066	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
		CN	0.0687	0.0161	0.0003	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
		Individual	VIF	0.0105	0.0009	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
	TOL	0.0105	0.0009	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
	Wi	0.0095	0.0037	0.0009	0.0006	0.0013	0.0082	
	Fi	0.2411	0.3411	0.6017	0.7543	0.9132	0.9940	
	Leamer	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
	CVIF	0.0132	0.0168	0.0295	0.0356	0.0441	0.0495	
	Klein	0.0152	0.0024	0.000	0.0441	0.0495	0.0000	
	$k = 2$	Overall	FG	0.3348	0.9734	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Det			0.0581	0.0078	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Red Ind			0.9822	0.9888	0.9883	0.9997	1.0000	1.0000
Sum lambda			0.8534	0.8452	0.8698	0.8819	0.9296	0.9737
Theil			0.1886	0.0621	0.0022	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
CN			0.9970	0.9989	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Individual			VIF	0.6819	0.6281	0.5488	0.5065	0.4552
TOL		0.6819	0.6281	0.5488	0.5065	0.4552	0.3862	
Wi		0.6536	0.8497	0.9990	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	
Fi		0.9943	0.9999	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	
Leamer		0.0295	0.0037	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
CVIF		0.0009	0.0002	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
Klein		0.1386	0.1052	0.0356	0.0130	0.0013	0.0000	

**Table 3:** Percentage of correctly identified Collinearity cases, for various values of  $k$  and  $n$ , where  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  follow uniform distributions,  $X_3 = kX_2$  and with homoscedastic errors

$X_3 =$ $kX_2$	Collinearity measurement	Index or test	% of correct collinearity						
			n = 7	n = 10	n = 20	n = 30	n = 50	n = 100	
$k = 1/4$	Overall	FG	0.0052	0.0242	0.0862	0.1361	0.2369	0.5006	
		Det	0.0002	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
		Red Ind	0.2202	0.0836	0.0067	0.0009	0.0000	0.0000	
		Sum lambda	0.0421	0.0047	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
		Theil	0.0518	0.0119	0.0002	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
		CN	0.0192	0.0024	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
		Individual	VIF	0.0073	0.0006	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
			TOL	0.0073	0.0006	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
			Wi	0.0065	0.0027	0.0002	0.0000	0.0002	0.0001
			Fi	0.1939	0.2541	0.4412	0.5643	0.7347	0.9196
			Leamer	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
			CVIF	0.0177	0.0214	0.0324	0.0388	0.0449	0.0619
			Klein	0.0230	0.0060	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
		$k = 2$	Overall	FG	0.1401	0.8255	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Det	0.0177			0.0017	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
Red Ind	0.9157			0.9084	0.9085	0.9122	0.9331	0.9684	
Sum lambda	0.5979			0.4828	0.2997	0.2087	0.1133	0.0313	
Theil	0.1618			0.0555	0.0023	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
CN	0.8662			0.8411	0.8365	0.8374	0.8769	0.9214	
Individual	VIF			0.3787	0.2427	0.0702	0.0292	0.0040	0.0000
	TOL			0.3787	0.2427	0.0702	0.0292	0.0040	0.0000
	Wi			0.3506	0.4866	0.9282	0.9963	1.0000	1.0000
	Fi			0.9641	0.9970	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
	Leamer			0.0077	0.0004	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
	CVIF			0.0063	0.0025	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
	Klein			0.1274	0.0935	0.0286	0.0097	0.0008	0.0000

**Table 4:** Percentage of correctly identified Collinearity cases, for various values of  $k$  and  $n$ , where  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  follow normal distributions,  $X_3 = kX_2$  and with heteroscedastic errors

$X_3 =$ $kX_2$	Collinearity measurement	Index or test	% of correct collinearity						
			n = 7	n = 10	n = 20	n = 30	n = 50	n = 100	
$k = 1/4$	Overall	FG	0.0248	0.2409	0.8410	0.9745	0.9994	1.0000	
		Det	0.0032	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
		Red Ind	0.5676	0.4372	0.2055	0.1054	0.0296	0.0008	
		Sum lambda	0.1798	0.0635	0.0031	0.0006	0.0000	0.0000	
		Theil	0.0531	0.0074	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
		CN	0.0002	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
		Individual	VIF	0.0724	0.0180	0.0003	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
			TOL	0.0724	0.0180	0.0003	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
			Wi	0.0663	0.0574	0.1277	0.2829	0.7156	0.9984
			Fi	0.6328	0.8448	0.9920	0.9998	1.0000	1.0000
			Leamer	0.0013	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
			CVIF	0.0030	0.0018	0.0008	0.0002	0.0001	0.0000
			Klein	0.0049	0.0002	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
		$k = 2$	Overall	FG	0.9335	0.9998	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Det	0.5883			0.4866	0.2877	0.0230	0.0991	0.0245	
Red Ind	0.9997			0.9999	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	
Sum lambda	0.9974			0.9995	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	
Theil	0.2354			0.0804	0.0027	0.0002	0.0000	0.0000	
CN	0.2376			0.1287	0.0275	0.0067	0.0003	0.0000	
Individual	VIF			0.9970	0.9977	0.9999	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
	TOL			0.9970	0.9977	0.9999	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
	Wi			0.9895	0.9995	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
	Fi			0.9998	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
	Leamer			0.4959	0.4111	0.2436	0.1746	0.0842	0.0219
	CVIF			0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
	Klein			0.1533	0.1063	0.0370	0.0168	0.0014	0.0000

**Table 5:** Percentage of correctly identified Collinearity cases, for various values of  $k$  and  $n$ , where  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  follow normal distributions,  $X_3 = kX_2$  and with homoscedastic errors

$X_3 =$ $kX_2$	Collinearity measurement	Index or test	% of correct collinearity							
			n = 7	n = 10	n = 20	n = 30	n = 50	n = 100		
$k = 1/4$	Overall	FG	0.0043	0.0234	0.0844	0.1374	0.2411	0.4974		
		Det	0.0003	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		Red Ind	0.2238	0.0833	0.0059	0.0006	0.0000	0.0008		
		Sum lambda	0.0447	0.0034	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		Theil	0.0555	0.0130	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
	Individual	CN	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		VIF	0.0079	0.0004	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		TOL	0.0079	0.0004	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		Wi	0.0072	0.0014	0.0000	0.0003	0.0002	0.0004		
		Fi	0.1918	0.2526	0.4338	0.5633	0.7420	0.9201		
		Leamer	0.0002	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		CVIF	0.0195	0.0217	0.0319	0.0373	0.0418	0.0620		
		Klein	0.0277	0.0063	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		$k = 2$	Overall	FG	0.1396	0.7817	0.9994	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
				Det	0.0187	0.0011	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Red Ind	0.8805			0.8795	0.8773	0.8887	0.9102	0.9465		
Sum lambda	0.5559			0.4653	0.3052	0.2232	0.1305	0.0433		
Theil	0.1631			0.0532	0.0018	0.0002	0.0000	0.0000		
Individual	CN		0.0147	0.0011	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
	VIF		0.3514	0.2446	0.0912	0.0407	0.0081	0.0001		
	TOL		0.3514	0.2446	0.0912	0.0407	0.0081	0.0001		
	Wi		0.3277	0.4657	0.8842	0.9918	1.0000	1.0000		
	Fi		0.9385	0.9935	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000		
	Leamer	0.0090	0.0009	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000			
	CVIF	0.0081	0.0058	0.0012	0.0002	0.0000	0.0000			
	Klein	0.1293	0.0862	0.0261	0.0105	0.0008	0.0000			

**Table 6:** Percentage of correctly identified Collinearity cases, for various values of  $k$  and  $n$ , where  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  follow exponential distributions,  $X_3 = kX_2$  and with heteroscedastic errors

$X_3 =$ $kX_2$	Collinearity measurement	Index or test	% of correct collinearity							
			n = 7	n = 10	n = 20	n = 30	n = 50	n = 100		
$k = 1/4$	Overall	FG	0.0033	0.0175	0.0395	0.0462	0.0510	0.0675		
		Det	0.0003	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		Red Ind	0.1988	0.0582	0.0018	0.0002	0.0000	0.0008		
		Sum lambda	0.0389	0.0030	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		Theil	0.1004	0.0315	0.0012	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
	Individual	CN	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		VIF	0.0044	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		TOL	0.0044	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		Wi	0.0038	0.0007	0.0000	0.0000	0.0002	0.0004		
		Fi	0.1553	0.1682	0.2513	0.2881	0.3397	0.4255		
		Leamer	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		CVIF	0.0312	0.0268	0.0200	0.0101	0.0031	0.0002		
		Klein	0.0663	0.0294	0.0027	0.0000	0.0001	0.0000		
		$k = 2$	Overall	FG	0.0076	0.0608	0.2801	0.4617	0.7446	0.9763
				Det	0.0010	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Red Ind	0.3127			0.1548	0.0294	0.0073	0.0003	0.0000		
Sum lambda	0.0727			0.0106	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
Theil	0.1174			0.0411	0.0032	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000		
Individual	CN		0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
	VIF		0.0185	0.0015	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
	TOL		0.0185	0.0015	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
	Wi		0.0156	0.0061	0.0057	0.0087	0.0211	0.1567		
	Fi		0.3126	0.4388	0.7391	0.8787	0.9728	0.9996		
	Leamer	0.0002	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000			
	CVIF	0.0337	0.0405	0.0502	0.0553	0.0613	0.0676			
	Klein	0.0887	0.0534	0.0118	0.0034	0.0001	0.0000			



**Table 7:** Percentage of correctly identified Collinearity cases, for various values of  $k$  and  $n$ , where  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  follow exponential distributions,  $X_3 = kX_2$ , and with homoscedastic errors

$X_3 = kX_2$	Collinearity measurement	Index or test	% of correct collinearity							
			n = 7	n = 10	n = 20	n = 30	n = 50	n = 100		
$k = 1/4$	Overall	FG	0.0045	0.0250	0.0848	0.1368	0.2364	0.4937		
		Det	0.0004	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		Red Ind	0.2308	0.0791	0.0072	0.0009	0.0000	0.0000		
		Sum lambda	0.0467	0.0041	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		Theil	0.0576	0.0109	0.0002	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
	Individual	CN	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		VIF	0.0066	0.0002	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		TOL	0.0066	0.0002	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		Wi	0.0056	0.0012	0.0005	0.0002	0.0002	0.0008		
		Fi	0.2001	0.2490	0.4361	0.5461	0.7195	0.9141		
		Leamer	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		CVIF	0.0204	0.0229	0.0284	0.0360	0.0419	0.0579		
		Klein	0.0283	0.0069	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
		$k = 2$	Overall	FG	0.1465	0.6695	0.9901	0.9997	1.0000	1.0000
				Det	0.0253	0.0024	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Red Ind	0.8083			0.7887	0.7723	0.7793	0.8020	0.8554		
Sum lambda	0.4885			0.3990	0.2990	0.2527	0.1782	0.1022		
Theil	0.1611			0.0499	0.0026	0.0002	0.0000	0.0000		
Individual	CN		0.0028	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
	VIF		0.3219	0.2332	0.1287	0.0800	0.0314	0.0062		
	TOL		0.3219	0.2332	0.1287	0.0800	0.0314	0.0062		
	Wi		0.3030	0.3965	0.7696	0.9447	0.9992	1.0000		
	Fi		0.8621	0.9655	0.9998	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000		
	Leamer		0.0129	0.0011	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
	CVIF		0.0133	0.0092	0.0039	0.0020	0.0002	0.0000		
	Klein		0.1229	0.0870	0.0264	0.0095	0.0008	0.0000		

**Table 8:** Empirical MSE of the indicated parameter estimator in a regression model, using the specified  $n$  and a distribution for  $X_1$  and  $X_2$

$n$	Uniform				Normal				Exponential			
	$\hat{\beta}_0$	$\hat{\beta}_1$	$\hat{\beta}_2$	$\hat{\beta}_3$	$\hat{\beta}_0$	$\hat{\beta}_1$	$\hat{\beta}_2$	$\hat{\beta}_3$	$\hat{\beta}_0$	$\hat{\beta}_1$	$\hat{\beta}_2$	$\hat{\beta}_3$
7	1.94	0.64	0.69	0.17	2.45	0.70	0.34	0.15	0.81	0.78	1.11	0.14
10	1.35	0.58	0.62	0.12	1.88	0.37	0.28	0.11	0.55	0.41	0.82	0.11
20	0.78	0.35	0.35	0.06	1.10	0.21	0.16	0.06	0.36	0.23	0.47	0.06
30	0.59	0.28	0.27	0.05	0.83	0.16	0.13	0.05	0.27	0.18	0.34	0.05
50	0.45	0.20	0.22	0.04	0.67	0.12	0.10	0.03	0.20	0.13	0.25	0.03
100	0.23	0.09	0.10	0.02	0.46	0.03	0.06	0.01	0.14	0.02	0.14	0.01

**Table 9:** Percentage of correctly identified collinearity cases in a linear modelo contaminated with the indicated percentage of outliers, for various values of  $k$  and  $n$ , where  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  follow normal distributions,  $X_3 = kX_2$  and with homoscedastic errors

% Outlier	$X_3 = kX_2$	Collinearity measurement	Index or test	% of correct collinearity					
				n = 7	n = 10	n = 20	n = 30	n = 50	n = 100
5	$k = 1/4$	Overall	FG	0.0042	0.0244	0.0832	0.1427	0.2431	0.4933
		Individual	Fi	0.1986	0.2644	0.4361	0.5696	0.7460	0.9214
	$k = 2$	Overall	FG	0.1432	0.7867	0.9996	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
		Individual	Fi	0.9427	0.9937	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
10	$k = 1/4$	Overall	FG	0.0042	0.0244	0.0832	0.1427	0.2431	0.4933
		Individual	Fi	0.1986	0.2644	0.4361	0.5696	0.7460	0.9214
	$k = 2$	Overall	FG	0.1432	0.7867	0.9996	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
		Individual	Fi	0.9427	0.9937	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
15	$k = 1/4$	Overall	FG	0.0042	0.0244	0.0832	0.1427	0.2431	0.4933
		Individual	Fi	0.1986	0.2644	0.4361	0.5696	0.7460	0.9214
	$k = 2$	Overall	FG	0.1432	0.7867	0.9996	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
		Individual	Fi	0.9427	0.9937	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
20	$k = 1/4$	Overall	FG	0.0042	0.0244	0.0832	0.1427	0.2431	0.4933
		Individual	Fi	0.1986	0.2644	0.4361	0.5696	0.7460	0.9214
	$k = 2$	Overall	FG	0.1432	0.7867	0.9996	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
		Individual	Fi	0.9427	0.9937	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000

**Table 10:** Collinearity diagnostics in a linear model with corn data

Collinearity	Index or test	Value	p-value
Overall	FG	60.2073	< .000001
	Det	0.0197	NS
	Red Ind	0.8520	*
	Sum lambda	41.7184	*
	Theil	0.6679	*
	CN	7.0974	NS
Individual	F <sub>1</sub>	38.5740	.0058698
	F <sub>2</sub>	370.6573	.0002019
	F <sub>3</sub>	287.6991	.0002951

\* and p<.05 (Collinearity identified); ns (unidentified collinearity)

**Table 11:** Overall collinearity diagnosis in patterns of morphological covariance in *C. macropomum* species

Index or test	Collinearity diagnosis
Determinante	*
Farrar-Glauber	*
Red indicator	*
Suma de Lambda	*
Theil indicator	NS
Número de codición	*

\* (Collinearity identified); NS (unidentified collinearity)

**Table 12:** Individual collinearity diagnosis in patterns of morphological covariance in *C. macropomum* species

Landmarks	VIF	F <sub>j</sub>
Tip of snout to end of epiphyseal sulcus	*	*
Tip of snout to insertion of pectoral fin	*	*
Anterior edge of the epiphyseal sulcus to the end of the epiphyseal sulcus	*	*
Anterior edge of the epiphyseal sulcus at the insertion of the pectoral fin	*	*
Anterior edge of the epiphyseal sulcus when articulating	*	*
Articulate to insertion of pectoral fin	*	*
Posterior edge of epiphyseal sulcus to end of dorsal fin	*	*
Posterior edge of the epiphyseal sulcus at the insertion of the pelvic fin	*	*
Posterior edge of the epiphyseal sulcus to the insertion of the pectoral fin	NS	*
Posterior edge of the epiphyseal groove when articulating	*	*
Insertion of pectoral fin to insertion of pelvic fin	*	*
Dorsal fin base	*	*
Anterior edge of dorsal fin to anterior edge of anal fin	NS	*
Anterior edge of dorsal fin to insertion of pelvic fin	*	*
Anterior edge of dorsal fin to insertion of pectoral fin	NS	*
Insertion of pelvic fin to end of anal fin	NS	*
Posterior edge of dorsal fin to the fatty fin	*	*
Posterior edge of dorsal fin to posterior edge of anal fin	*	*
Posterior edge of dorsal fin to anterior edge of anal fin	NS	*
Posterior edge of dorsal fin to insertion of pelvic fin	*	*
Anal fin base	*	*
Posterior edge of the fatty fin to the last scale of the lateral line	NS	*
Posterior edge of fatty fin to posterior edge of anal fin	*	*
Posterior edge of the fatty fin to the anterior border of the anal fin	*	*
Posterior edge of the fatty fin to the anterior border of the anal fin	*	*
Eye diameter	*	*
Head length	*	*
Fat fin base	NS	*

\* (Collinearity identified); NS (unidentified collinearity)

## Simulations II

The results, shown in Table 9, do not provide any evidence for an effect from outliers on collinearity identification using the collinearity indices (individual and overall) since, as the proportion of outliers increases, the percentage of collinearity cases correctly identified remains stable. In summary, the results show the robustness of the *FG* (overall) and *Fi* (individual) collinearity indices in presence of outliers.

## Application to Real-World Data Sets

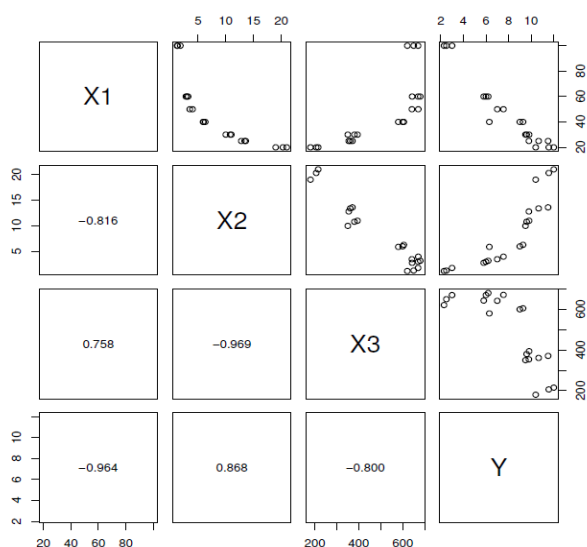
### Corn Data

Figure 3 displays scatter-plots for all the variables and their corresponding correlations. This figure indicates that *Y* has moderate or high correlation with each covariate, suggesting that a multiple linear regression model is suitable. However, high correlations are also found between some covariates, indicating the likely presence of collinearity. Table 10 shows the corresponding values of the collinearity diagnostics. We include the currently used general collinearity measures and an individual collinearity measure *F<sub>j</sub>*. The *FG* test, red indicator, sum lambda and Theil confirming the presence of collinearity. Similarly, since *F<sub>i</sub>* provides p<.01 for each covariate: *X<sub>1</sub>*, *X<sub>2</sub>* and *X<sub>3</sub>* it is assumed that these covariates are collinear, as indicated by Farrar and Glauber (1967). This allows us to infer that the three covariates are involved in one or more linear dependency relationships between them. When comparing the indices *FG* and *F<sub>i</sub>* with the other measures, note that are shown as powerful tools for the study of collinearity, since they verify the presence of collinearity and at the same time identify whether a covariate is collinear or not.

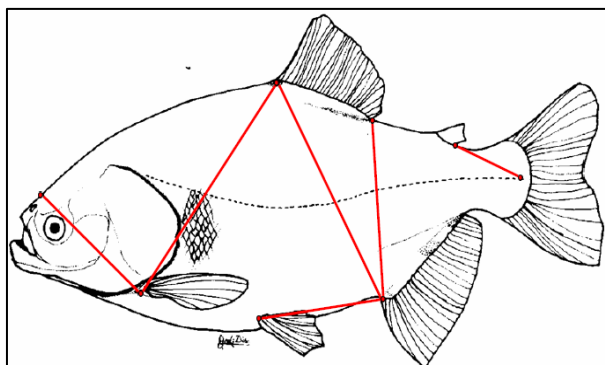
### Morphology Fish (*C. macropomun*)

Table 11, most of the diagnostic measures, except for the Theil indicator, identify that there are redundant characteristics associated with morphological covariation patterns in *C. macropomum* specimens, that is, there is multicollinearity, which can contribute to the entropy of the models used to identify patterns of morphological covariation of this species. Table 12, *VIFs* can modify most of the distances measured on the lateral profile of these examples are attributed to redundant morphological characteristics. Only morphological characteristics tales like; posterior edge of the epiphyseal sulcus at the insertion of the fin pectoral variables, anterior edge of the dorsal fin to the anterior edge of the anal fin, anterior edge of the dorsal

fin at the insertion of the pectoral fin, insertion of the pelvic fin at the anterior edge anal fin, posterior edge of dorsal fin to anterior edge of anal fin, posterior edge of fat fin to last scale of lateral line and base of fat fin not direct redundant morphological information, saber, not son causing multicollinearity (Fig. 4). These variables are associated with morphological covariation patterns that make the difference in the head area, in the area of the bases of the fins of the abdomen and in the anterior part of the fish. The results of the farra-glauber test (individual diagnostic measure of multicollinearity) do not perform well in relation to the identification of the origin of multicollinearity, since it is not capable of identifying non-redundant covariates associated with the morphology of the examples *C. macropomum*.



**Fig. 3:** Scatter-plots and their correlations for the indicated variables with corn data



**Fig. 4:** Non-redundant covariates (landmarks) in the truss protocol on *C. macropomum*

## Conclusion

The results do not provide any evidence for an effect from outliers on collinearity identification using the collinearity indices (individual and overall). The  $FG$  and  $F_i$  collinearity indices more robust as both sample size and collinearity degree increase. On the fitted models on corn data and fish morphology the most of overall collinearity indices confirmed the presence of collinearity. However, the  $VIF$  (individual measure) had a better performance on the fitted model on the morphology of *C. macropomum*. These results suggest an effect of the number of model parameters ( $p$ ) on the performance of the collinearity indices (individual and general), therefore a more exhaustive study that considers models with a greater number of parameters is recommended.

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## Author's Contributions

All authors equally contributed in this study.

## Ethics

All the protocols of ethical research conduct were strictly adhered to throughout the study and there are no conflicts of interest to report.

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## Appendix 1

*R* code for collinearity diagnosis (individual and overall) in agricultural trials.

---

```
> library('mctest')  
> x <- Data.morfometria[, -1]  
> y <- Data.morfometria[, 1]  
> omcdiag(x, y, detr = 0.001, red = 0.6, conf = 0.99,  
theil = 0.6, cn = 15)  
> omcdiag(x, y, Inter = FALSE)  
> omcdiag(x, y)  
> imcdiag(x, y, corr = TRUE)  
> imcdiag(x, y)
```

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