

Internet data sources for real estate market statistics

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- 2 Data sources for statistics
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The motto

The motto for the presentation

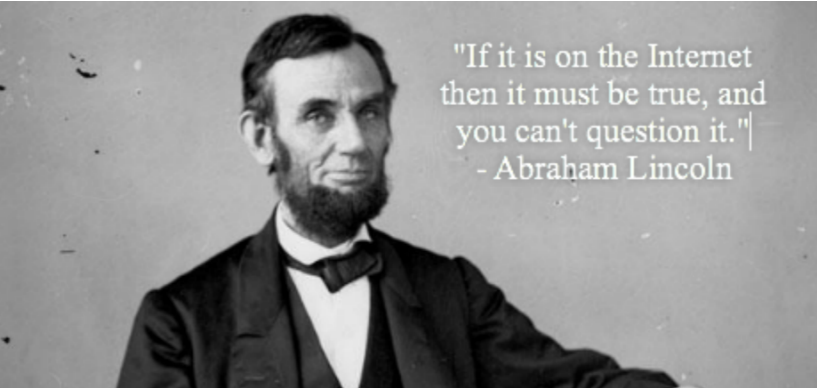
Statistics has value for its accuracy; without this essential quality it becomes null, even dangerous as it leads to error (Quetelet, 1846)

Like Olympic athletes, national statistical systems face unrelenting pressure for greater achievement, but unlike the Olympic motto—“Citius, Altius, Fortius”—the statistical challenge has rather more dimensions. The range of statistics needed grows ever wider, the level of geographical and other detail ever deeper, the timeliness ever quicker, and the demand for higher quality ever. All this, of course, and – with the relentless demand for greater efficiency – ever cheaper. (Holt, 2007)



The motto

The motto for the presentation



Outline

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- 2 Data sources for statistics
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 - Two main groups
 - Official Statistics and new data sources
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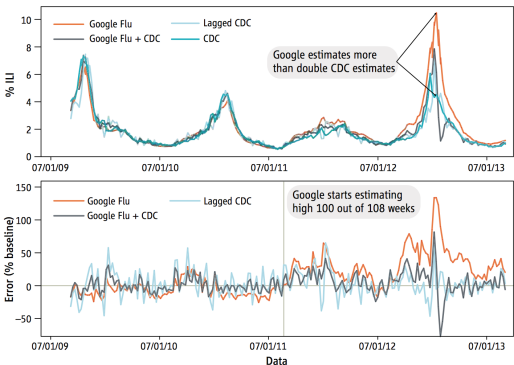
Official Statistics and new data sources

- Sensors and the Internet of Things.
- Mobile phone data (for tourism, population flows).
- Social media (Twitter postings).
- Web-scraping of prices to create price indexes.
- Use of Google Trends to predict official data (unemployment, tourism).

Selected research on new data sources

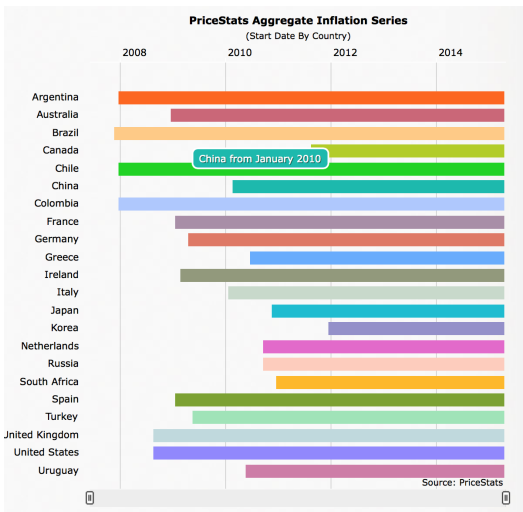
- **Predicting unemployment** - Fondeur & Karamé (2013), Xu, Li, Cheng, & Zheng (2012), Vicente, López-menéndez, & Pérez (2015)
- **Opinions / Sentiment analysis** - P. Daas, Roos, Ven, & Neroni (2012), P Daas & Puts (2014b), Miller (2011)
- **Indexes** - Vosen & Schmidt (2011), Cavallo (2012), Cavallo (2013)
- **Representativeness and quality** - Buelens, Daas, Burger, Puts, & Brakel (2014), P Daas & Puts (2014b)
- **Source of information for small area estimation** - Pratesi et al. (2013), Pratesi et al. (2014), Porter, Holan, Wikle, & Cressie (2013)
- **General on new data sources** - Choi & Varian (2012), Daas et al. (2011), P Daas & Puts (2014a), Hoekstra, Bosch, & Harteveld (2012), Ginsberg et al. (2008), Citro (2014), Ann Keller, Koonin, & Shipp (2012), Japiec, Biemer, Decker, & Lane (2015)

Examples – Google Flu



GFT overestimation. GFT overestimated the prevalence of flu in the 2012–2013 season and overshoot the actual level in 2011–2012 by more than 50%. From 21 August 2011 to 1 September 2013, GFT reported overly high flu prevalence 100 out of 108 weeks. **(Top)** Estimates of doctor visits for ILI. "Lagged CDC" incorporates 52-week seasonality variables with lagged CDC data. "Google Flu + CDC" combines GFT, lagged CDC estimates, lagged error of GFT estimates, and 52-week seasonality variables. **(Bottom)** Error [as a percentage $\{(\text{Non-CDC estimate}) - (\text{CDC estimate})\} / (\text{CDC estimate})$]. Both alternative models have much less error than GFT alone. Mean absolute error (MAE) during the out-of-sample period is 0.486 for GFT, 0.311 for lagged CDC, and 0.232 for combined GFT and CDC. All of these differences are statistically significant at $P < 0.05$. See SM.

Examples – The Billion Price Project MIT (1)



Examples of new data sources

Examples – Twitter and Sentiment Analysis at Statistics Netherlands

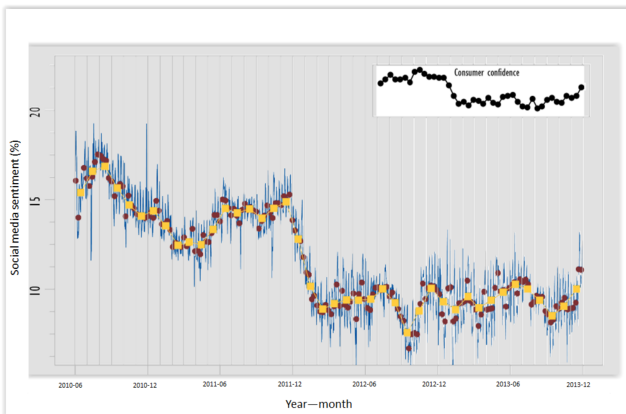


Figure 3. Social media sentiment (daily, weekly and monthly) in the Netherlands, June 2010 - November 2013. The development of consumer confidence for the same period is shown in the insert (Daas and Puts 2014).

Basic information on data sources - number of observations

Table 1: Number of observations in selected IDS

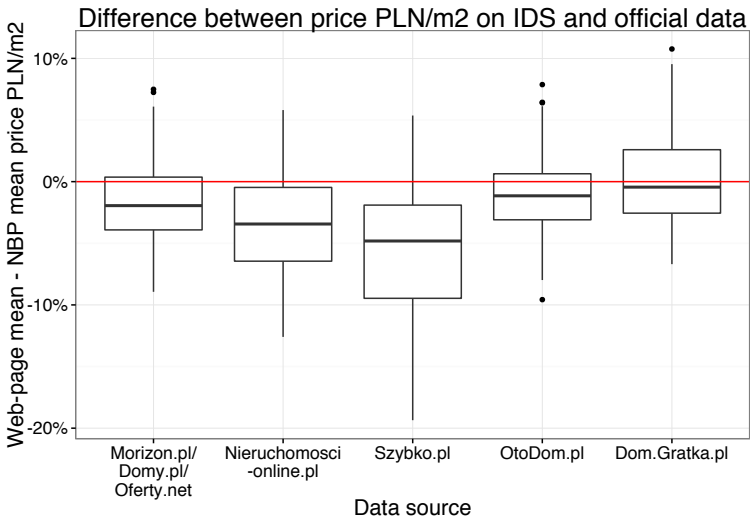
Quarter	Dom.Gratka	NieOnline	OtoDom
2011-1		10895	822597
2011-2		9229	807401
2011-3		8050	781936
2011-4		10686	808392
2012-1	685159	13955	856766
2012-2	683660	15135	847714
2012-3	689351	19946	864338
2012-4	692883	24448	956377
2013-1	661946	36312	994039
2013-2	503056	38171	967955
2013-3	610992	34459	904358
2013-4	565043	41585	872378
2014-1	531566	153562	890992
2014-2	518673	112121	1007559
2014-3	517590	58374	974099
2014-4	497451	98740	776500

Basic information on data sources - number of observations

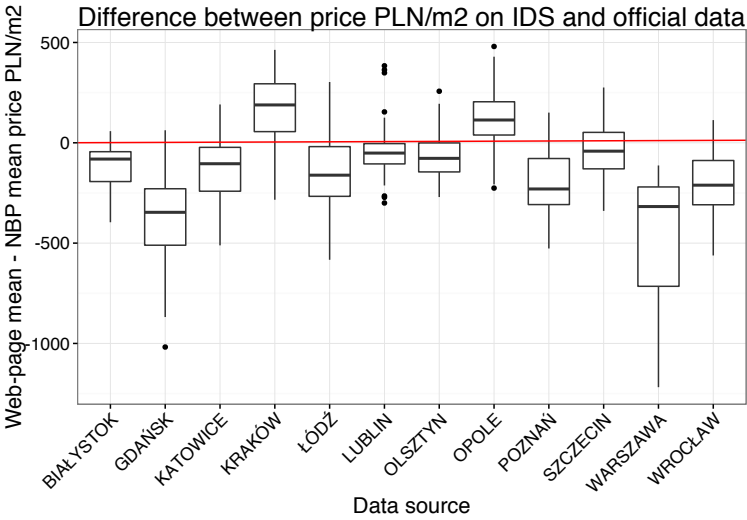
Table 2: Monthly distribution of number of observations for selected cities in Gratka, Otodom and Nieruchomosci-online

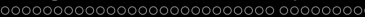
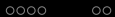
city	Min	Median	Mean	Max
BIAŁYSTOK	2	1232	2926	28705
GDAŃSK	46	7080	7285	22632
KATOWICE	21	1344	2643	12232
KRAKÓW	278	18561	19202	60007
LUBLIN	4	2282	3002	15054
OLSZTYN	9	1146	1754	6855
OPOLE	4	307	1026	5316
POZNAŃ	115	5678	7840	36600
SZCZECIN	75	5532	5684	16784
WARSZAWA	40	60623	53967	207395
WROCŁAW	112	13612	14618	52238
ŁÓDŹ	12	2662	4919	22821

Basic information on data sources (DS) - relative bias in price m2

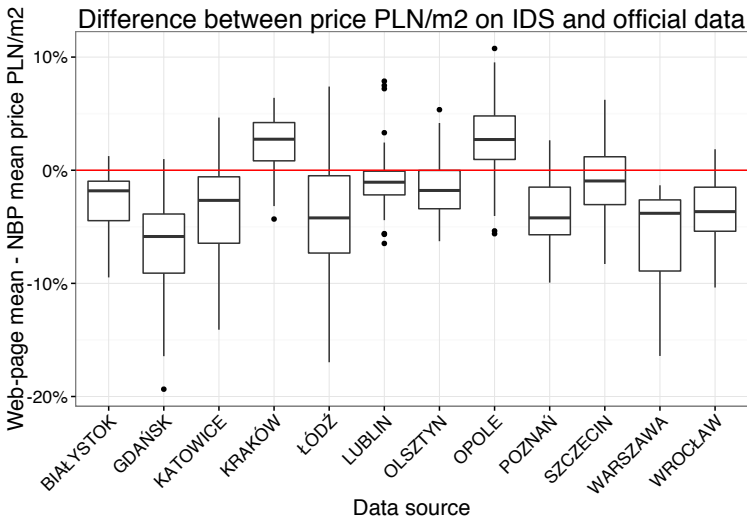


Basic information on data sources (DS) - bias in price m2 for cities

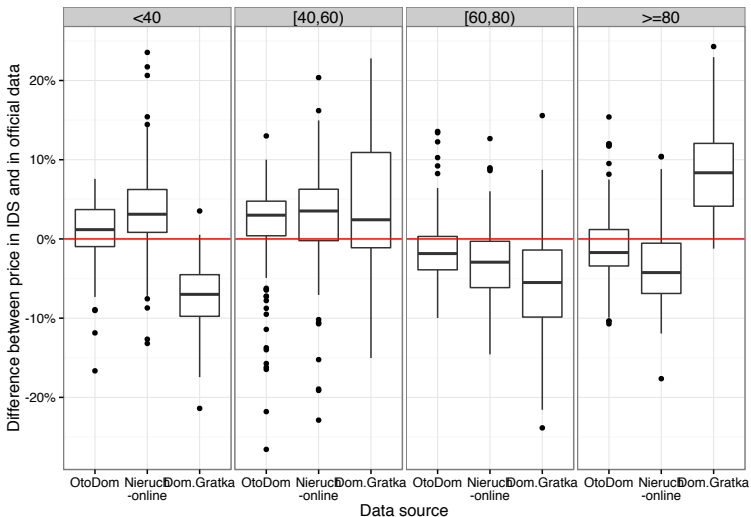




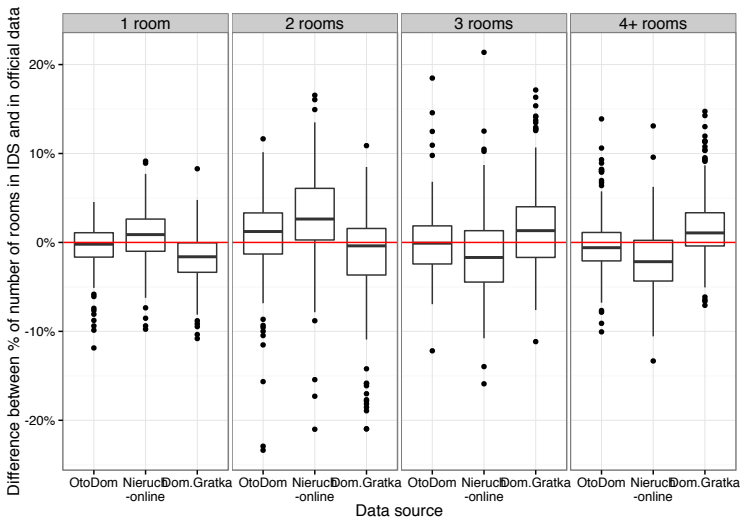
Basic information on data sources (DS) - relative bias in price m² for cities



Basic information on DS - bias in % floor area (m2)

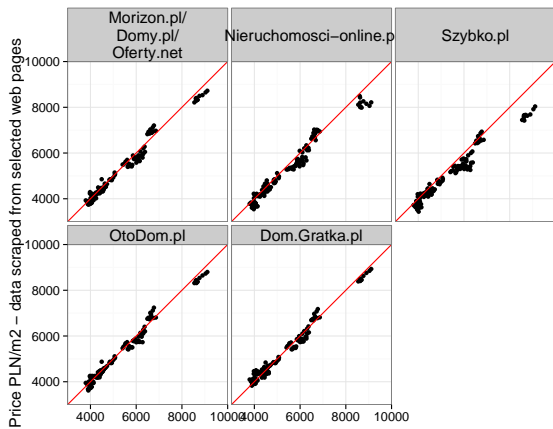


Basic information on DS - bias in % rooms



Basic information on data sources – price m2

Comparison of quarterly price PLN/m2 from NBP/GUS, Morizon.pl (Domy.pl, Oferty.net), Nieruchomosci-online.pl, Szybko.pl and OtoDom.pl



Price PLN/m2 – data published by NBP/CSO in Poland

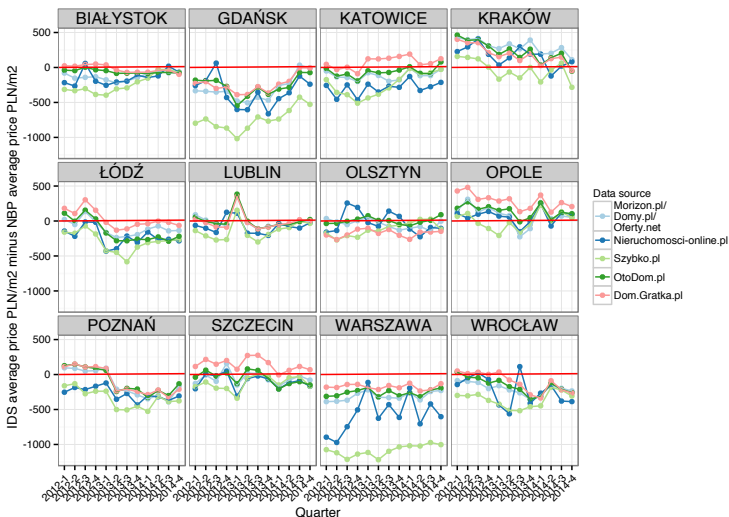
Basic information on data sources – price m2 (correlations)

Table 3: Correlations for price m2 between data sources

	nbp	morizon	nieonline	szybko	otodom	gratka_2
nbp	1.00	0.99	0.99	0.98	0.99	0.99
morizon	0.99	1.00	0.99	0.99	1.00	1.00
nieonline	0.99	0.99	1.00	0.99	0.99	0.99
szybko	0.98	0.99	0.99	1.00	0.99	0.99
otodom	0.99	1.00	0.99	0.99	1.00	1.00
gratka_2	0.99	1.00	0.99	0.99	1.00	1.00

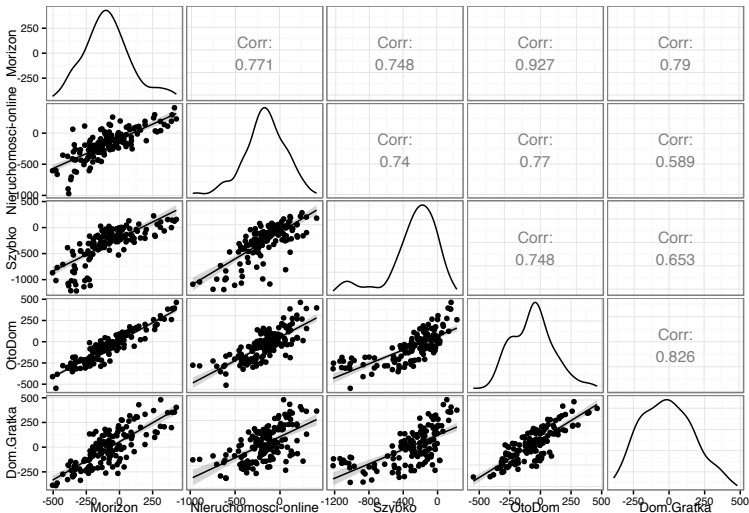
Where morizon = Morizon.pl/Domy.pl/Oferty.net, nieonline = Nieruchomosci-online.pl, szybko = Szybko.pl, otodom = OtoDom.pl and gratka_2 = Dom.gratka.pl

Basic information on data sources – differences between price m² in IDS and in official data



The research

Basic information on data sources – correlation between data sources and bias for price m2



Why there are differences?

Table 4: Descriptive statistics of sample sizes from NBP/CSO

City	Min	Mean	Median	Max
Warszawa	776	4912	5299	7909
Gdańsk	754	1423	1160	2493
Białystok	646	923	899	1164
Poznań	16	871	874	2383
Lublin	315	698	541	1668
Olsztyn	95	598	313	1692
Kraków	111	444	430	809
Wrocław	284	383	368	525
Łódź	81	375	155	1423
Szczecin	165	362	341	593
Katowice	114	170	169	240
Opole	15	32	33	51

Why there are differences?

- The NBP/CSO conduct a survey of brokers, who may give more information flats on offer.
- The most expensive flats are rarely placed on the Internet.
- Szybko.pl is not as popular as OtoDom or Morizon.
- Prices on secondary market in Warsaw are higher than on primary market which may indicate that offers placed on Szybko.pl may include misclassified units.

NBP/CSO reports on: mean price m^2 , hedonic price index, flats by number of rooms and floor area, both on primary and secondary market (offers and transactions)

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Why to model bias?

Why to model bias?

- Evaluate what is the systematic bias across all data sources (the IDS-based bias).
- Takes into account uncertainty of IDS-based statistics and survey based statistics, especially in case of small sample size.
- Include the estimated model-based bias in MSE of IDS-based statistics.

We extend approach proposed by Fosen & Zhang (2011) and L.-C. Zhang (2012) by taking into account time series, multiple data sources and we adopt the approach for the Internet data sources (which could also be useful for big data).

Modelling bias – notation

- U denotes the target population, ${}_R U$ denotes population U observed in the the administrative records (and we assume ${}_R U \subseteq U$), ${}_s U$ denotes population U observed in sample s and ${}_{IDS} U$ denote population U observed in the IDS. We assume ${}_{IDS} U \subset U$ where , $n_{s,t} \ll n_{IDS,t} < N_{U,t}$ where $n_{s,t}$ denotes sample size in time t , $n_{IDS,t}$ sample size for IDS in time t and $N_{U,t}$ denotes the population size in time t .
- $y, y_t, y_{d,t}$ – denote the target variable of interest (continuous, binary, ordinal etc.),
- $z, z_t, z_{d,t}$ – denote the IDS-based variable of interest ($z = y$) or proxy variable with similar definition as $y, y_t, y_{d,t}$,
- $v, v_t, v_{d,t}$ – denote register-based variable or proxy variable with similar definition as $y, y_t, y_{d,t}$,

Modelling bias – notation

- We assume that for $y_t, y_{d,t}$ we have $z_t, z_{d,t}$ and $v_t, v_{d,t}$,
- $x_t, x_{d,t}$ – denote auxiliary variables that are found in all data sources (e.g. age, sex, floor area).
- $p_U(x_t, y_t)$ is the empirical cumulative distribution function (ECDF) of variable of interest in population at t
- $p_{RU}(x_t, v_t)$ is the ECDF based on the administrative sources which could be used for adjusting the $p_s(x_t, y_t)$ or $p_{IDS}(x_t, z_t)$.
- $p_s(x_t, y_t)$ is the ECDF based on the sample data in time,
- $p_{IDS}(x_t, z_t)$ is the ECDF based on the IDS,
- θ_t denotes the target characteristic of y in time t (e.g. mean, median, proportion, count).

Modelling bias – notation

- $\hat{\theta}_t(p_s(x_t, y_t); p_U(x_t, y_t))$ denotes the estimator of θ_t based on the sample data with the population data $p_U(x_t, y_t)$ as auxiliary information used for selecting the sample or adjusting weights (e.g. calibration).
- Now we consider the $\check{\theta}_t$ as the estimator of θ_t based on IDS. We can consider following settings for this estimator:
 - $\check{\theta}_t(p_{IDS}(x_t, z_t); p_s(x_t, y_t))$ – in the case when sample data $p_s(x_t, y_t)$ is used,
 - $\check{\theta}_t(p_{IDS}(x_t, z_t); p_U(x_t, y_t))$ – in the case when population data $p_U(x_t, y_t)$ is used,
 - $\check{\theta}_t(p_{IDS}(x_t, z_t); p_{U^*}(x_t, v_t))$ – in the case when administrative population data $p_{U^*}(x_t, v_t)$ is used,
 - $\check{\theta}_t(p_{IDS}(x_t, z_t))$ – in the case when purely IDS-based statistics are considered with IDS data $p_{IDS}(x_t, z_t)$.
- In addition, we remember that $cov(\hat{\theta}_t, \hat{\theta}_{t-1}) > 0$ and $cov(\check{\theta}_t, \check{\theta}_{t-1}) > 0$.

Modelling bias – bias

In general bias of $\check{\theta}_t$ can be written as

$$Bias(\check{\theta}_t) = E(\check{\theta}_t) - \theta_t, \tag{1}$$

- We assume $cov(Bias(\check{\theta}_t), Bias(\check{\theta}_{t-1})) > 0$,
- Following L.-C. Zhang (2012) we have conditional and unconditional bias,
- We assume unconditional bias $p_{IDS}(x_t)$ is being fixed and $p_{IDS}(z_t)$ is random,
- If we have an sample-based or bias-adjusted register-based estimator $\hat{\theta}$ the estimator of $Bias(\check{\theta}_t)$ is given by:

$$\widehat{Bias}(\check{\theta}_t) = \check{\theta}_t - \hat{\theta}_t, \tag{2}$$

- Estimator of MSE is given by $\widehat{MSE}(\check{\theta}_t) = (\check{\theta}_t - \hat{\theta}_t)^2 + V(\check{\theta}_t)$

Modelling bias – decomposition

We can decompose estimators $\check{\theta}_t$ and $\hat{\theta}_t$ into:
In the case of time series data

$$\check{\theta}_t = \underbrace{\theta_t}_{\text{True value}} + \underbrace{b_t}_{\text{bias}} + \zeta_t, \zeta_t \sim N(0, \sigma_{\zeta,t}^2) \quad (3)$$

$$\hat{\theta}_t = \theta_t + \epsilon_t, \epsilon_t \sim N(0, \sigma_{\epsilon,t}^2) \quad (4)$$

In the case of space-time data

$$\check{\theta}_{d,t} = \underbrace{\theta_{d,t}}_{\text{True value}} + \underbrace{b_{d,t}}_{\text{bias}} + \zeta_{d,t}, \zeta_{d,t} \sim N(0, \sigma_{\zeta,d,t}^2) \quad (5)$$

$$\hat{\theta}_{d,t} = \theta_{d,t} + \epsilon_{d,t}, \epsilon_{d,t} \sim N(0, \sigma_{\epsilon,d,t}^2) \quad (6)$$

Modelling bias – decomposition

In order to estimate bias we calculate u_t and $u_{d,t}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_t &= \check{\theta}_t - \hat{\theta}_t = \\
 &\theta_t + b_t + \zeta_t - (\theta_t + \epsilon_t) = b_t + \zeta_t - \epsilon_t = b_t + \zeta_t + e_t,
 \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_{d,t} &= \check{\theta}_{d,t} - \hat{\theta}_{d,t} = \\
 &\theta_{d,t} + b_{d,t} + \zeta_{d,t} - (\theta_{d,t} + \epsilon_{d,t}) = \\
 &b_{d,t} + \zeta_{d,t} - \epsilon_{d,t} = b_{d,t} + \zeta_{d,t} + e_{d,t},
 \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

where $e_t = -\epsilon_t$ and $e_{d,t} = -\epsilon_{d,t}$.

Modelling bias – decomposition

In the matrix notation we have

$$\check{\theta} - \hat{\theta} = \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{b} + \zeta + \mathbf{e} \quad (9)$$

Following and extending L.-C. Zhang (2012) we consider \mathbf{b} as mixed linear model which could be written as

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{X}\beta + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{v} + \xi \quad (10)$$

in result we have

$$\check{\theta} - \hat{\theta} = \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{X}\beta + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{v} + \xi + \zeta + \mathbf{e} \quad (11)$$

Modelling bias - I case

We start with a single data source with multiple domains. Let $\check{\theta}_d$ denote estimator of θ for d domain and $\hat{\theta}_d$ direct estimator for d domain. The model 11 will be:

$$u_d = \check{\theta}_d - \hat{\theta}_d = X_{i,d}\beta + \nu_d + \xi_d + \zeta_u + e_d \tag{12}$$

Which in case of no auxiliary variables reduces to random intercept model given by:

$$u_d = \check{\theta}_d - \hat{\theta}_d = \beta_0 + \nu_d + \xi_d + \zeta_d + e_d = \beta + \nu_d + \omega_d \tag{13}$$

where ν_d refers to domain effect. $\hat{\beta}$ could have interpretation as a systematic error caused by Internet data sources.

Modelling bias - I case

In result $\widehat{Bias}_{eblup}(\check{\theta})$ will has the following form:

$$\widehat{Bias}_{eblup}(\check{\theta}_d) = \hat{\gamma}(\check{\theta}_d - \hat{\theta}_d) + (1 - \hat{\gamma})\hat{\beta} \quad (14)$$

where $\hat{\gamma} = \hat{\sigma}_v^2 / (\hat{\sigma}_v^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{\zeta,d}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{\epsilon,d}^2)$ where $\hat{\sigma}_{\zeta,d}^2$ denote estimator of variance for each $\check{\theta}_d$ and $\hat{\sigma}_{\epsilon,d}^2$ is estimated variance for each direct estimate $\hat{\theta}_d$.

Modelling bias - II case

Now, we consider multiple IDS denoted by k and for each we have information on d domain. In case of IDS we should note that $IDS_k U \cap IDS_{k-1} U \neq \emptyset$ therefore $cov(\check{\theta}_{k,d}, \check{\theta}_{k-1,d}) > 0$ which also leads to $cov(\check{\theta}_{k,d} - \hat{\theta}_d, \check{\theta}_{k-1,d} - \hat{\theta}_d) > 0$. In result, in case of no auxiliary variables, we obtain the following model

$$u_{k,d} = \check{\theta}_{k,d} - \hat{\theta}_d = \beta_0 + \nu_d + v_k + \xi_{k,d} + \zeta_{k,d} + e_d = \hat{\beta} + \nu_d + v_k + \omega_{k,d}, \quad (15)$$

where ν_d denotes random effect for domain and $\nu \sim N(0, \sigma_\nu^2)$, v_k denotes random for data source and $v \sim N(0, \sigma_v^2 \mathbf{D})$ and ω_d has the same interpretation as before.

Modelling bias - III case

β_0 is a overall constant that could be explained as overall bias of using Internet as a data source, x denotes trend ($x = (1, 2, \dots, t)^T$) and β_1 is a overall slope. β_1 can be interpreted as change in bias over time due to using Internet data sources.

Modelling bias - III case

$$\hat{\gamma} = (\hat{\sigma}_v^2 + \hat{\sigma}_u^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{vu}^2) / (\hat{\sigma}_v^2 + \hat{\sigma}_u^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{vu}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{\zeta,k,d,t}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{\epsilon,d,t}^2). \quad (19)$$

Where $\hat{\sigma}_v^2 = \hat{\sigma}_{v,int}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{v,slope}^2$, $\hat{\sigma}_u^2 = \hat{\sigma}_{u,int}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{u,slope}^2$ and $\hat{\sigma}_{vu}^2 = \hat{\sigma}_{vu,int}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{vu,slope}^2$. For $\hat{\sigma}_{\zeta,k,d,t}^2$ and $\hat{\sigma}_{\epsilon,d,t}^2$, we face similar situation as in the first case. EBLUP estimator of bias will be given by:

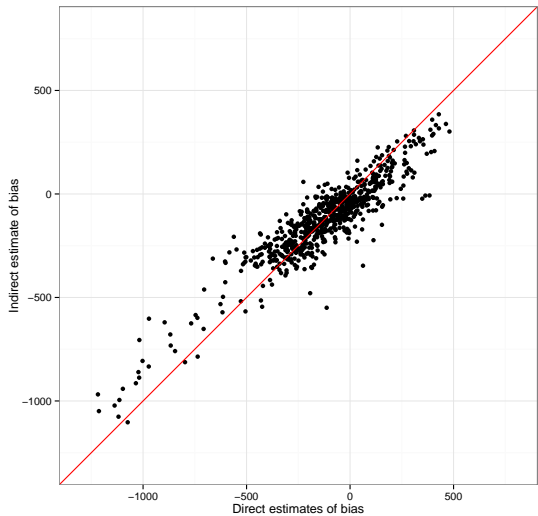
$$\widehat{Bias}_{eblup}(\check{\theta}_{k,d,t}) = \hat{\gamma}(\check{\theta}_{k,d,t} - \hat{\theta}_{k,d,t}) + (1 - \hat{\gamma})\hat{\beta}\mathbf{X}_t \quad (20)$$

where \mathbf{X}_t denotes matrix of $[\mathbf{1}x]$ where $x = (1, 2, \dots, t)^T$.

Results of estimation – model

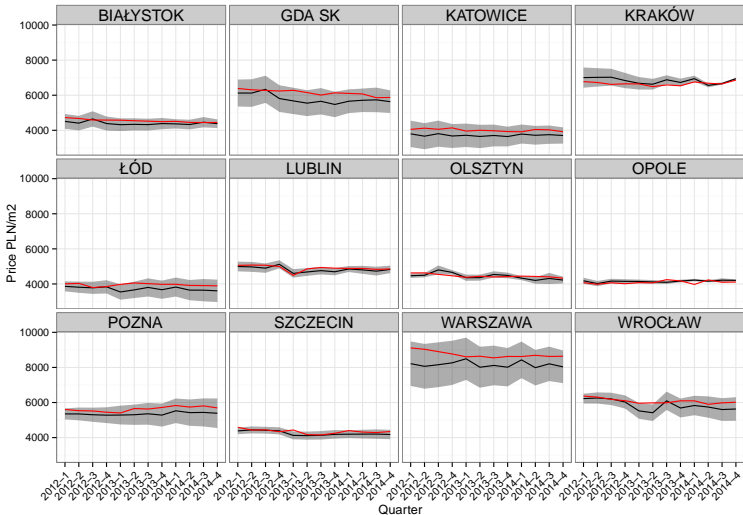
- $\hat{\beta} = -153.95678$
- $\hat{\sigma}_{v,city}^2 = \hat{\sigma}_{v,city,int}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{v,city,slope}^2 = 5.5167334 \times 10^4 + 262.0470513 = 5.5429381 \times 10^4$
- $\hat{\sigma}_{v,page:city}^2 = \hat{\sigma}_{v,page:city,int}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{v,page:city,slope}^2 = 3.9079008 \times 10^4 + 71.4689079 = 3.9150477 \times 10^4$
- $\hat{\sigma}_{\omega}^2 = 1.1535588 \times 10^4$
- $\hat{\gamma} = 0.8912921$ (when assuming constant $\hat{\sigma}_{v\nu}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{\zeta,k,d,t}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{\epsilon,d,t}^2 \approx \hat{\sigma}_{\omega}^2$)

Results of estimation – fitted model

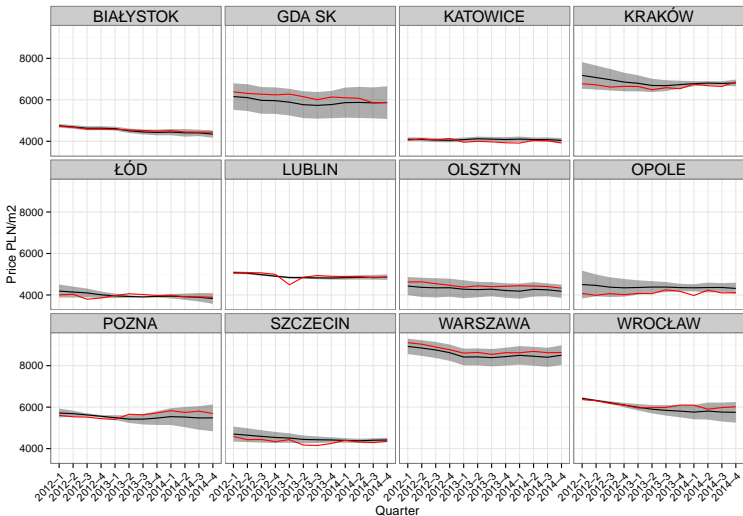




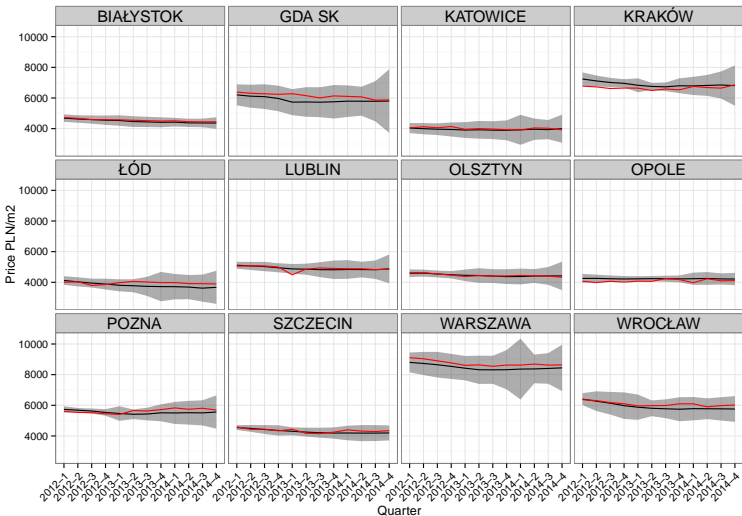
Results of estimation – model (nieruchomosci-online) CI



Results of estimation – model (gratka) CI



Results of estimation – model (otodom) CI



Outline

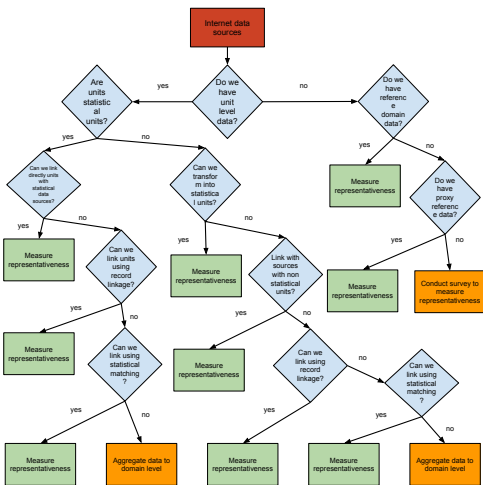
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Concept of representativeness

The definitions of representative sampling listed by (Kruskal & Mosteller, 1979a, 1979b, 1979c) include:

- a general statement about data,
- lack of selective forces,
- miniature of population,
- typical elements of the population/representatives,
- reflects the variation in the population,
- a term used without an explanation,
- refers to a particular sampling method,
- enables good estimation,
- suitable for a particular purpose.

Concept of trend representativeness - diagram flow

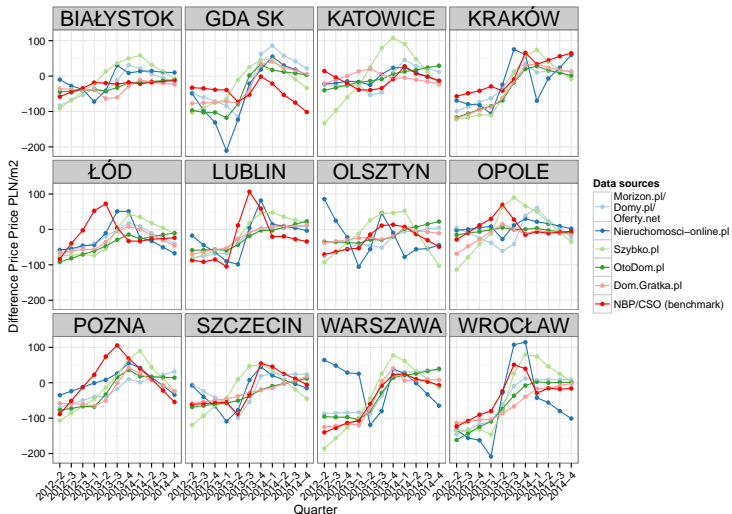


Representativeness - aggregated data

Due to bias of $\check{\theta}$ and high uncertainty of $\hat{\theta}$ we propose measuring representativeness by comparing estimated {trends} in IDS and reference data. To achieve this purpose we will follow these steps:

- If possible reweight (poststratify, calibrate) to known totals/structures from official data.
- Estimate trends in $\check{\theta}$ and $\hat{\theta}$ – method depends on the availability of data (how long is time series), we can use loess, STL or family of ARIMA/X11-ARIMA.
- Use temporal correlation and visual diagnostics to detect which time series correlate with official data.
- Use co-integration of trends to answer the question whether the trends are representative in time.

Comparison of first differences from estimated LOESS trends



Trend representativeness - correlation of differences

We use correlation between first differences proposed by Chouakria & Nagabhushan (2007) given by

$$CORT(\mathbf{X}_t, \mathbf{Y}_t) = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{T-1} (X_{t+1} - X_t)(Y_{t+1} - Y_t)}{\sqrt{\sum_{t=1}^{T-1} (X_{t+1} - X_t)^2} \sqrt{\sum_{t=1}^{T-1} (Y_{t+1} - Y_t)^2}}.$$

CORT for price - overall

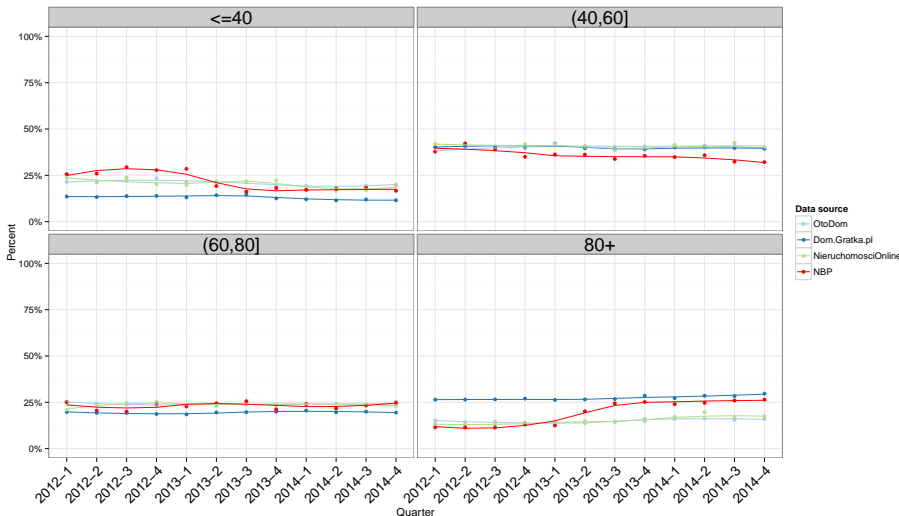
Table 6: Correlation between data sources

Morizon	Nieruchomosci	Szybko	OtoDom	Dom.Gratka	NBP
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.99
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.99	0.99
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.99	0.98
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.99
1.00	0.99	0.99	1.00	1.00	0.99
0.99	0.99	0.98	0.99	0.99	1.00



Trend representativeness

Trend comparison for % floor area (Poznań)

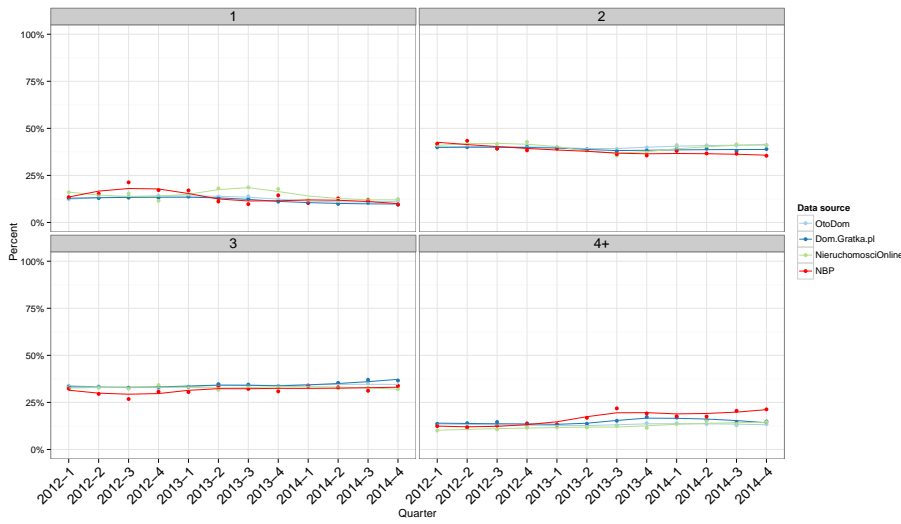


CORT for Poznań – % floor area

Table 8: CORT for floor area in Poznań

PANEL	OtoDom	Nieruchomosci	Dom.Gratka
≤ 40	-0.17	-0.03	-0.46
(40,60]	0.53	-0.09	0.35
(60,80]	0.22	0.11	0.30
80+	0.17	-0.13	0.30

Trend comparison for % number of rooms (Poznań)



Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Data sources for statistics
- 3 New data sources for statistics
- 4 Modelling bias in IDS
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Summary remarks

- Overall bias of estimation of average price m2 is $\hat{\beta} = -153.95678$ and slightly change over time.
- Modell based approach allowed to estimate MSE for selected IDS.
- The smallest bias can be observed in OtoDom and Dom.Gratka.pl, while the highest differences can be observed for Warsaw (~ -340 PLN/m2) and Kraków (~ 440).
- IDS are representative for price m2, however not representative for the fraction of flat area (4 groups) and number of rooms (4 groups).

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