Package: synthdid (via r-universe)

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Title Synthetic Difference-in-Difference Estimation Version 0.0.9 Author Dmitry Arkhangelsky [aut] Susan Athey [aut] David A. Hirshberg [aut, cre] Guido W. Imbens [aut] Stefan Wager [aut] Maintainer David A. Hirshberg <david.a.hirshberg@gmail.com> Description Estimate average treatment effects in panel data. Currently provides methods only for the case that all treated units adopt treatment at the same time. **Depends** R (>= 3.4) Imports mvtnorm **License** GPL (>= 2) | BSD_3_clause + file LICENSE **Encoding** UTF-8 LazyData true **Roxygen** list(markdown = TRUE) RoxygenNote 7.1.1 Suggests testthat, ggplot2, CVXR URL https://github.com/synth-inference/synthdid BugReports https://github.com/synth-inference/synthdid/issues Repository https://skranz.r-universe.dev RemoteUrl https://github.com/skranz/synthdid **RemoteRef** master **RemoteSha** a05029b97d7118bd698c4b5aeea8516c46b4901e

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```
ar2_correlation_matrix
```

compute the correlation matrix of a time series generated by an ar2 model

Description

compute the correlation matrix of a time series generated by an ar2 model

Usage

```
ar2_correlation_matrix(ar_coef, T)
```

Arguments

ar_coef	the coefficients of the ar2 model: c(lag-1-coefficient, lag-2-coefficient)
Т	the length of the time series

Value

the correlation matrix

Description

A dataset containing per-capita cigarette consumption (in packs). In year 1989 California imposed a Tobacco tax. The column treated is 1 from then on for California.

Usage

```
data(california_prop99)
```

Format

A data frame with 1209 rows and 4 variables:

State US state name, character string

Year Year, integer

PacksPerCapita per-capita cigarette consumption, numeric

treated the treatmed indicator 0: control, 1: treated, numeric

Source

Abadie, Alberto, Alexis Diamond, and Jens Hainmueller. "Synthetic control methods for comparative case studies: Estimating the effect of California's tobacco control program." Journal of the American statistical Association 105, no. 490 (2010): 493-505.

Examples

```
# Load tobacco sales in long panel format.
data("california_prop99")
# Transform to N*T matrix format required for synthdid,
# where N is the number of units and T the time periods.
setup <- panel.matrices(california_prop99)</pre>
```

CPS

CPS

Description

CPS

Usage

data(CPS)

Format

A data frame with 2000 rows and 8 variables.

state state
year year
log_wage log_wage
hours hours
urate urate
min_wage min_wage
open_carry open_carry
abort_ban abort_ban

decompose_Y	Decompose Y into components F, M, and E as described in Section
	3.1.1 also computes a set of 'unit factors': the first rank left singular
	vectors from SVD(Y)

Description

Decompose Y into components F, M, and E as described in Section 3.1.1 also computes a set of 'unit factors': the first rank left singular vectors from SVD(Y)

Usage

decompose_Y(Y, rank)

Arguments

Υ	the outcomes
rank	the assumed rank of the signal component L=F+M

Value

a list with elements F, M, E, and unit_factors

did_estimate

synthdid_estimate for diff-in-diff estimates. Takes all the same parameters, but by default, passes options to use the diff-in-diff estimator

Description

synthdid_estimate for diff-in-diff estimates. Takes all the same parameters, but by default, passes options to use the diff-in-diff estimator

Usage

did_estimate(Y, N0, T0, ...)

Arguments

Υ	the observation matrix.
NØ	the number of control units. Rows 1-N0 of Y correspond to the control units.
ТØ	the number of pre-treatment time steps. Columns 1-T0 of Y correspond to pre-treatment time steps.
	additional options for synthdid_estimate

Value

an object like that returned by synthdid_estimate

estimate_dgp	Estimates the DGP parameters used in the placebo studies in Sections
	<i>3</i> and <i>5</i> of the synthetic difference in differences paper. Described there in Section 3.1.1.

Description

Estimates the DGP parameters used in the placebo studies in Sections 3 and 5 of the synthetic difference in differences paper. Described there in Section 3.1.1.

Usage

estimate_dgp(Y, assignment_vector, rank)

Arguments

Y an NxT matrix of outcomes assignment_vector an Nx1 vector of treatment assignments rank the rank of the estimated signal component L

Value

a list with elements F, M, Sigma, pi as described in Section 3.1.1 and an element ar_coef with the AR(2) model coefficients underlying the covariance Sigma

f	÷	+	2	r2
	т	ι	_d	1 4

Estimate ar2 coefficients from iid time series

Description

Estimate ar2 coefficients from iid time series

Usage

fit_ar2(E)

Arguments E

a matrix with those time series as rows

Value

a vector of ar2 coefficients: c(lag-1-coefficient, lag-2-coefficient)

format.synthdid_estimate

Format a synthdid object

Description

Format a synthdid object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'synthdid_estimate'
format(x, ...)
```

Arguments

х	The object to format
	Additional arguments (currently ignored).

lindsey_density_estimate

Computes a density estimator by smoothing a histogram using Poisson regression. Implementation of "Lindsey's method", as described in Chapter 10 of "Computer age statistical inference: algorithms, evidence, and data science' by Bradley Efron and Trevor Hastie (2016).

Description

Computes a density estimator by smoothing a histogram using Poisson regression. Implementation of "Lindsey's method", as described in Chapter 10 of "Computer age statistical inference: algorithms, evidence, and data science' by Bradley Efron and Trevor Hastie (2016).

Usage

lindsey_density_estimate(x, K, deg)

Arguments

Х	 one-dimensional vector of data;
К	• number of bins in the histogram;
deg	• degree of natural splines used in Poisson regression;

Value

a list with 2 fields, centers and density, which are K-dimensional vectors containing the bin centers and estimated density within each bin respectively.

panel.matrices

Convert a long (balanced) panel to a wide matrix

Description

Converts a data set in panel form to matrix format required by synthid estimators. A typical long panel date set looks like [unit, time, outcome, treatment]. Synthid requires a balanced panel with simultaneous adoption of treatment: each unit must be observed at all times, and all treated units must begin treatment simultaneosly. This function creates num.units x num.time.periods matrices Y and W of outcomes and treatment indicators. In these matrices, columns are sorted by time, and by default (when treated.last=TRUE), rows for control units appear before those of treated units.

Usage

```
panel.matrices(
   panel,
   unit = 1,
   time = 2,
   outcome = 3,
   treatment = 4,
   treated.last = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

panel	A data.frame with columns consisting of units, time, outcome, and treatment indicator.
unit	The column number/name corresponding to the unit identifier. Default is 1.
time	The column number/name corresponding to the time identifier. Default is 2.
outcome	The column number/name corresponding to the outcome identifier. Default is 3.
treatment	The column number/name corresponding to the treatment status. Default is 4.
treated.last	Should we sort the rows of Y and W so treated units are last. If FALSE, sort by unit number/name. Default is TRUE.

Value

A list with entries Y: the data matrix, N0: the number of control units, T0: the number of time periods before treatment, W: the matrix of treatment indicators.

Examples

```
# Load tobacco sales in long panel format.
data("california_prop99")
# Transform to N*T matrix format required for synthdid,
# where N is the number of units and T the time periods.
setup <- panel.matrices(california_prop99, unit = 1, time = 2, outcome = 3, treatment = 4)
# Compute synthdid estimate
```

```
synthdid_estimate(setup$Y, setup$N0, setup$T0)
```

PENN

PENN

Description

PENN

8

plot.synthdid_estimate

Usage

data(PENN)

Format

A data frame with 3219 rows and 5 variables.

country country
year year
log_gdp log_gdp
dem dem
educ educ

plot.synthdid_estimate

Plot a synthdid object

Description

Plot a synthdid object

Usage

S3 method for class 'synthdid_estimate'
plot(x, ...)

Arguments

х	The object to plot
	Additional arguments (currently ignored).

print.synthdid_estimate

Print a synthdid object

Description

Print a synthdid object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'synthdid_estimate'
print(x, ...)
```

Arguments

х	The object to print	
	Additional arguments (currently ignored).	
randomize_tr	ment randomize treatment to n units with probability pi then if the number of treated units is zero, assign treatment to one unit uniformly at random	v

uniformly at random so it is exactly that cap

Description

randomize treatment to n units with probability pi then if the number of treated units is zero, assign treatment to one unit uniformly at random and if the number of treated units exceeds a cap, remove treatment uniformly at random so it is exactly that cap

and if the number of treated units exceeds a cap, remove treatment

Usage

randomize_treatment(pi, N, N1)

Arguments

pi	the randomization probabilities
Ν	the number of units
N1	the cap on the number of treated units

Value

a binary vector of length N, with ones indicating assignment to treatment

<pre>sc_estimate</pre>	synthdid_estimate for synthetic control estimates. Takes all the same
	parameters, but by default, passes options to use the synthetic control
	estimator By default, this uses only 'infinitesimal' ridge regularization
	when estimating the weights.

Description

synthdid_estimate for synthetic control estimates. Takes all the same parameters, but by default, passes options to use the synthetic control estimator By default, this uses only 'infinitesimal' ridge regularization when estimating the weights.

Usage

sc_estimate(Y, N0, T0, eta.omega = 1e-06, ...)

simulate_dgp

Arguments

Υ	the observation matrix.
NØ	the number of control units. Rows 1-N0 of Y correspond to the control units.
T0	the number of pre-treatment time steps. Columns 1-T0 of Y correspond to pre-treatment time steps.
eta.omega	determines the level of ridge regularization, zeta.omega = eta.omega * noise.level, as in synthdid_estimate.
	additional options for synthdid_estimate

Value

an object like that returned by synthdid_estimate

Simulates data from DGPs used in the placebo studies in Sections 3
and 5 of the synthetic difference in differences paper. Described there in Section 3.1.1.

Description

Simulates data from DGPs used in the placebo studies in Sections 3 and 5 of the synthetic difference in differences paper. Described there in Section 3.1.1.

Usage

```
simulate_dgp(parameters, N1, T1)
```

Arguments

parameters	a list of dgp parameters (F,M,Sigma,pi) as output by estimate.dgp
N1	a cap on the number of treated units,
T1	the number of treated periods.

Value

a list with 3 elements: the outcome matrix Y, the number of control units N0, and the number of control periods T0. The first N0 rows of Y are for units assigned to control, the remaining rows are for units assigned to treatment.

sparsify_function

A function mapping a numeric vector to a (presumably sparser) numeric vector of the same shape to be passed onto synthdid_estimate.

Description

A function mapping a numeric vector to a (presumably sparser) numeric vector of the same shape to be passed onto synthdid_estimate.

Usage

```
sparsify_function(v)
```

Arguments

v

a vector

summary.synthdid_estimate

Summarize a synthdid object

Description

Summarize a synthdid object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'synthdid_estimate'
summary(object, weight.digits = 3, fast = FALSE, ...)
```

Arguments

object	The object to summarize
weight.digits	The number of digits to use when displaying weights (omega, lambda)
fast	Be fast but less accurate, e.g. jackknife instead of bootstrap se estimate
	Additional arguments (currently ignored).

synthdid_controls	Outputs a table of important synthetic controls and their correspond- ing weights, sorted by weight. The table is truncated to exclude syn-
	thetic controls that do not matter for any estimate — for each estimate, the truncated controls may have total weight no larger that 1-mass.

Description

Outputs a table of important synthetic controls and their corresponding weights, sorted by weight. The table is truncated to exclude synthetic controls that do not matter for any estimate — for each estimate, the truncated controls may have total weight no larger that 1-mass.

Usage

```
synthdid_controls(estimates, sort.by = 1, mass = 0.9, weight.type = "omega")
```

Arguments

estimates	a list of estimates output by synthdid_estimate. Or a single estimate.
sort.by	the index of the estimate to sort by. Defaults to 1.
mass	which controls the length of the table. Defaults to 0.9.
weight.type	'omega' for units, 'lambda' for time periods

synthdid_effect_curve Outputs the effect curve that was averaged to produce our estimate

Description

Outputs the effect curve that was averaged to produce our estimate

Usage

```
synthdid_effect_curve(estimate)
```

Arguments

estimate as output by synthdid_estimate

synthdid_estimate

Description

See 'Synthetic Difference in Differences' by Arkhangelsky et al. This implements Algorithm 1.

Usage

```
synthdid_estimate(
 Υ,
 NØ,
 Τ0,
 X = array(dim = c(dim(Y), 0)),
  noise.level = sd(apply(Y[1:N0, 1:T0], 1, diff)),
  eta.omega = ((nrow(Y) - N0) * (ncol(Y) - T0))^(1/4),
  eta.lambda = 1e-06,
  zeta.omega = eta.omega * noise.level,
  zeta.lambda = eta.lambda * noise.level,
  omega.intercept = TRUE,
  lambda.intercept = TRUE,
 weights = list(omega = NULL, lambda = NULL),
  update.omega = is.null(weights$omega),
  update.lambda = is.null(weights$lambda),
 min.decrease = 1e-05 * noise.level,
 max.iter = 10000,
 sparsify = sparsify_function,
 max.iter.pre.sparsify = 100
)
```

Arguments

Υ	the observation matrix.
NØ	the number of control units (N_co in the paper). Rows 1-N0 of Y correspond to the control units.
TØ	the number of pre-treatment time steps (T_pre in the paper). Columns 1-T0 of Y correspond to pre-treatment time steps.
Х	an optional 3-D array of time-varying covariates. Shape should be N X T X C for C covariates.
noise.level	an estimate of the noise standard deviation sigma. Defaults to the standard de- viation of first differences of Y.
eta.omega	determines the tuning parameter zeta.omega = eta.omega * noise.level. Defaults to the value $(N_tr T_post)^{(1/4)}$.
eta.lambda	analogous for lambda. Defaults to an 'infinitesimal' value 1e-6.

zeta.omega	if passed, overrides the default zeta.omega = eta.omega * noise.level. Depre- cated.
zeta.lambda	analogous for lambda.
omega.intercep	t
	Binary. Use an intercept when estimating omega.
lambda.interce	pt
	Binary. Use an intercept when estimating lambda.
weights	a list with fields lambda and omega. If non-null weights\$lambda is passed, we use them instead of estimating lambda weights. Same for weights\$omega.
update.omega	If true, solve for omega using the passed value of weights\$omega only as an initialization. If false, use it exactly as passed. Defaults to false if a non-null value of weights\$omega is passed.
update.lambda	Analogous.
min.decrease	Tunes a stopping criterion for our weight estimator. Stop after an iteration results in a decrease in penalized MSE smaller than min.decrease^2.
max.iter	A fallback stopping criterion for our weight estimator. Stop after this number of iterations.
sparsify	A function mapping a numeric vector to a (presumably sparser) numeric vector of the same shape, which must sum to one. If not null, we try to estimate sparse weights via a second round of Frank-Wolfe optimization initialized at sparsify(the solution to the first round).
<pre>max.iter.pre.s</pre>	parsify Analogous to max.iter, but for the pre-sparsification first-round of optimization. Not used if sparsify=NULL.

Value

An average treatment effect estimate with 'weights' and 'setup' attached as attributes. 'weights' contains the estimated weights lambda and omega and corresponding intercepts, as well as regression coefficients beta if X is passed. 'setup' is a list describing the problem passed in: Y, N0, T0, X.

synthdid_placebo	<i>Computes a placebo variant of our estimator using pre-treatment data only</i>

Description

Computes a placebo variant of our estimator using pre-treatment data only

Usage

```
synthdid_placebo(estimate, treated.fraction = NULL)
```

Arguments

estimate as output by synthdid_estimate

treated.fraction

the fraction of pre-treatment data to use as a placebo treatment period Defaults to NULL, which indicates that it should be the fraction of post-treatment to pre-treatment data

synthdid_placebo_plot For our estimator and a placebo, plots treated and synthetic control trajectories and overlays a 2x2 diff-in-diff diagram. Requires ggplot2

Description

For our estimator and a placebo, plots treated and synthetic control trajectories and overlays a 2x2 diff-in-diff diagram. Requires ggplot2

Usage

```
synthdid_placebo_plot(estimate, overlay = FALSE, treated.fraction = NULL)
```

Arguments

estimate	as output by synthdid_estimate.
overlay	binary, indicates whether plots should be overlaid or shown in different facets. Defaults to FALSE.
treated.fraction	
	as in synthdid_placebo

synthdid_plot	Plots treated and synthetic control trajectories and overlays a 2x2 diff- in-diff diagram of our estimator. In this overlay, the treatment effect is indicated by an arrow. The weights lambda defining our synthetic pre-treatment time period are plotted below. If a list of estimates is passed, plots all of them. By default, does this in different facets. To overlay estimates in the same facet, indicate a facet for each estimator in the group of the same facet.
	in the argument 'facet'.

Description

For SC estimates, i.e., if lambda is a vector of zeros, plots the trajectories and SC estimate of the effect, but no diagram.

synthdid_plot

Usage

```
synthdid_plot(
 estimates,
  treated.name = "treated",
  control.name = "synthetic control",
  spaghetti.units = c(),
  spaghetti.matrices = NULL,
  facet = NULL,
  facet.vertical = TRUE,
  lambda.comparable = !is.null(facet),
  overlay = 0,
  lambda.plot.scale = 3,
  trajectory.linetype = 1,
  effect.curvature = 0.3,
  line.width = 0.5,
  guide.linetype = 2,
 point.size = 1,
  trajectory.alpha = 0.5,
  diagram.alpha = 0.95,
  effect.alpha = 0.95,
  onset.alpha = 0.3,
  ci.alpha = 0.3,
  spaghetti.line.width = 0.2,
  spaghetti.label.size = 2,
  spaghetti.line.alpha = 0.3,
  spaghetti.label.alpha = 0.5,
  se.method = "jackknife",
  alpha.multiplier = NULL
)
```

Arguments

estimates	a list of estimates output by synthdid_estimate. Or a single estimate.
treated.name	the name of the treated curve that appears in the legend. Defaults to 'treated'
control.name	the name of the control curve that appears in the legend. Defaults to 'synthetic control'
<pre>spaghetti.units</pre>	
	a list of units to plot individually. spaghetti.unit $\% in\%$ rownames(Y) must work. Defaults to the empty list.
<pre>spaghetti.matri</pre>	ces
	a list of matrices — one for each element of estimates — of trajectories to plot individually. The rows of these matrices should be the same length as the trajectories in Y and they must be named — set rownames(spaghetti.trajectories[[i]]) — so trajectories can be labeled in the plot.
facet	a list of the same length as estimates indicating the facet in which to plot each estimate. The values of the elements of the list are used to label the facets. If NULL, plot each estimate in a different facet. Defaults to NULL.

facet.vertical TRUE if facets should be stacked vertically. Defaults to FALSE (horizonal). lambda.comparable

TRUE if the weights lambda should be plotted in such a way that the ribbons have the same mass from plot to plot, assuming the treated curve is the same. Useful for side-by-side or overlaid plots. Defaults to FALSE if facet is not passed, TRUE if passed.

overlay a number in [0,1] defaulting to 0, can be used to shift the control trajectory toward the treated trajectory. When a nonzero value is passed, we plot the control after subtracting that fraction of the diff-in-diff style adjustment for the difference between lambda-weighted pre-treatment averages of the treated and control. With intercept of almost one, this makes it easier to assess parallel-ness by making trajectories closer With intercept of one, this essentially overlays the curves, and plotting a diagram is suppressed as in the case of a SC estimate. To use different values for different plots, pass these values as an attribute 'overlay' of each estimate. If a vector is passed, plots at different intercept levels indicated by the 'frame' aesthetic. ggplotly will interpret this as an animation.

lambda.pl	lot.scale
-----------	-----------

determines the scale of the plot of the weights lambda.

	. I I HELVDE
trajectory	• = = = = 5 = =

the linetype of the treated and synthetic control trajectories

effect.curvature

the curvature of the arrows indicating the treatment effect. Defaults to zero. Nonzero values help avoid overplotting when plotting multiple estimates in one facet.

- line.width the line width.
- guide.linetype determines the (ggplot) linetype of the vertical segments of the parallelogram
- point.size determines the size of the points of the parallelogram
- trajectory.alpha

determines transparency of trajectories

- diagram.alpha determines transparency of diff-in-diff diagram
- effect.alpha determines transparency of effect arrows
- onset.alpha determines transparency of vertical lines indicating onset of treatment
- ci.alpha determines transparency of the arrows illustrating upper and lower bounds of a 95% confidence interval for the effect
- spaghetti.line.width

determines the width of spaghetti trajectories

spaghetti.label.size

determines the size of spaghetti labels

spaghetti.line.alpha

determines transparency of spaghetti trajectories

spaghetti.label.alpha

determines transparency of spaghetti trajectory labels

se.method determines the method used to calculate the standard error used for this confidence interval. if 'none', don't show the interval alpha.multiplier

a vector of the same length as estimates, is useful for comparing multiple estimates in one facet but highlighting one or several. All plot elements associated with the estimate are displayed with alpha multiplied by the corresponding element of alpha.multiplier. Defaults to a vector of ones.

Details

Requires ggplot2 Due to differences between ggplot and ggplotly, this will warn about an unknown aesthetic frame.

<pre>synthdid_rmse_plot</pre>	A diagnostic plot for sc.weight.fw.covariates. Plots the objective func-
	tion, regularized RMSE, as a function of the number of Frank-Wolfe /
	Gradient steps taken. Requires ggplot2

Description

A diagnostic plot for sc.weight.fw.covariates. Plots the objective function, regularized RMSE, as a function of the number of Frank-Wolfe / Gradient steps taken. Requires ggplot2

Usage

synthdid_rmse_plot(estimates)

Arguments

estimates a list of estimates output by synthdid_estimate. Or a single estimate.

synthdid_se	Calculate the standard error of a synthetic diff in diff estimate. Depre-
	cated. Use vcov.synthdid_estimate.

Description

Calculate the standard error of a synthetic diff in diff estimate. Deprecated. Use vcov.synthdid_estimate.

Usage

```
synthdid_se(...)
```

Arguments

. . .

Any valid arguments for vcov.synthdid_estimate

synthdid_units_plot Plo wei esti

Plots unit by unit difference-in-differences. Dot size indicates the weights omega_i used in the average that yields our treatment effect estimate. This estimate and endpoints of a 95% CI are plotted as horizontal lines. Requires ggplot2

Description

Plots unit by unit difference-in-differences. Dot size indicates the weights omega_i used in the average that yields our treatment effect estimate. This estimate and endpoints of a 95% CI are plotted as horizontal lines. Requires ggplot2

Usage

```
synthdid_units_plot(
  estimates,
  negligible.threshold = 0.001,
  negligible.alpha = 0.3,
  se.method = "jackknife",
  units = NULL
)
```

Arguments

estimates	as output by synthdid_estimate. Can be a single one or a list of them.	
negligible.threshold		
	Unit weight threshold below which units are plotted as small, transparent xs instead of circles. Defaults to .001.	
negligible.alpha		
	Determines transparency of those xs.	
se.method	the method used to calculate standard errors for the CI. See vcov.synthdid_estimate. Defaults to 'jackknife' for speed. If 'none', don't plot a CI.	
units	a list of control units — elements of $rownames(Y)$ — to plot differences for. Defaults to NULL, meaning all of them.	

timesteps

Get timesteps from panel matrix Y

Description

timesteps are stored as colnames(Y), but column names cannot be Date objects. Instead, we use strings. If they are strings convertible to dates, return that

vcov.synthdid_estimate

Usage

timesteps(Y)

Arguments

Y a matrix

Value

its column names interpreted as Dates if possible

vcov.synthdid_estimate

Calculate Variance-Covariance Matrix for a Fitted Model Object

Description

Provides variance estimates based on the following three options

- The bootstrap, Algorithm 2 in Arkhangelsky et al.
- The jackknife, Algorithm 3 in Arkhangelsky et al.
- Placebo, Algorithm 4 in Arkhangelsky et al.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'synthdid_estimate'
vcov(
   object,
   method = c("bootstrap", "jackknife", "placebo"),
   replications = 200,
   ...
)
```

Arguments

object	A synthdid model
method	the CI method. The default is bootstrap (warning: this may be slow on large data sets, the jackknife option is the fastest, with the caveat that it is not recommended for SC).
replications	the number of bootstrap replications
	Additional arguments (currently ignored).

Details

The jackknife is not recommended for SC, see section 5 in Arkhangelsky et al. "placebo" is the only option that works for only one treated unit.

References

Dmitry Arkhangelsky, Susan Athey, David A. Hirshberg, Guido W. Imbens, and Stefan Wager. "Synthetic Difference in Differences". arXiv preprint arXiv:1812.09970, 2019.

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