Abstract

Will technological progress increase unemployment? Despite numerous attempts by researchers to answer this question, a consensus has yet to be reached since the findings provide contradicting results. To address this issue, we collect 516 estimates from 43 different studies and distinguish them on 31 characteristics to find the true net effect of technology advancements on employment. We observe almost negligible underlying effect based on multiple linear tests while discovering strong negative publication bias. Moreover, based on the Bayesian Model Averaging method, we identify eight factors significantly influencing the estimates of the effect - instrumental variable regression, group of other technology indicators, regional data, trends, journal impact, developed country, manufacturing and high-skill labour.