

Major issue

(1) The authors use data only from 2010 to 2014. There is no real justification given for this choice. The only justification is that they want to explore the post Doucouliagos and Stanley (2009) period. It is a rather strange choice and in so many ways goes against the grain of meta-analysis. Why commence from 2010 and not 2009? Why not 2008? Why exclude all the prior evidence? With such a selected sample, the skeptical reader will have no confidence in the estimation and interpretation.

(2) The authors also use regression coefficients in their meta-analysis. Some of these are surely suspect as can be seen clearly from Figure 2; see the estimates with extreme high precision.

(3) Table 4, Column 1 reports results using OLS. It is ok to present these for robustness but they should not be used for interpretation. Columns 2 and 6 are labelled robust and the note says "robust regression". Is this robust regression or robust standard errors? It is strange that the coefficients are identical in OLS and 'robust' regressions, which makes me suspect that this is robust standard errors. Please clarify. Is Column 3 and 7 random effects? Please clarify. There is something really strange with the coefficient results. Please check the data and analysis. Perhaps focus only on the elasticity estimates. It is not obvious that anything is gained by also exploring a small sub-set of regression coefficients.

Minor issues

(1) In the abstract, the authors state: "This result contradicts the neoclassical theory and gives a Keynesian perspective which suggests that changes in minimum wages are not related with positive or negative employment effects."

I didn't quite follow what this sentence was trying to say. Moreover, the findings from Doucouliagos and Stanley (2009) are not necessarily at odds with neoclassical theory. Indeed, they are consistent with it if one allows for adjustments to occur elsewhere (e.g. consumer prices or work intensity), if the minimum wage is non-binding or if the primary econometric studies are deficient.

(2) Belman and Wolfson also completed a meta-analysis for the US?

(3) please describe what standard errors you are using in Tables 6 and 7.