

Empirical Asset Pricing
Problem Set 3
due 12 hours before the class

Problems

1. We observe scalar data p_1, \dots, p_T , which are drawn from a data-generating process

$$p_t = \alpha + \beta p_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t, \quad \varepsilon_t \sim N(0, \sigma^2).$$

The ε 's are i.i.d. You can think of the data as log stock prices. Use Monte Carlo simulation to answer the following questions.

- (a) If the true model is $\alpha = 0, \beta = 1, \sigma = 0.2$,
- What is the bias in OLS estimates of these parameters for a sample of size 50? (Here I mean there are 51 data points and thus 50 observations for the regression.)
 - Does the answer to the above question depend on either the true values for α or σ ?
 - What are the 0.01 and 0.05 percentile values of the lower tail of the distribution of the t -statistic for testing $\beta = 1$?
 - Now, answer the previous question (iii.) with a sample size of 600.
- (b) If the true model is $\alpha = 0, \beta = 0.95, \sigma = 0.2$,
- What is the bias in the OLS estimates of these parameters for a sample size of 50?