

Cointegration

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Introduction

- Most macroeconomic and many financial variables are nonstationary
- They drift upwards over time and often exhibit characteristics of a stochastic trend
- Engle & Granger proposed that the combined integration order of several variables may be lower than their individual integration order
- Allows for the analysis of nonstationary data, where we are able to retain information relating to the level
- Facilitates an equilibrium analysis, where variables exhibit departures from nonstationary trend (steady-state)

Introduction

- Granger received a Noble Prize for this idea in 2003 "for methods of analysing economic time series with common trends"
- He had long been puzzling over the problem of integrated variables and at a seminar Hendry mentioned that the "difference between integrated series might be stationary"
- Granger did not believe him: My response was that it could be proved that he was wrong, but in attempting to do so, I showed that he was correct, and generalised it to cointegration...

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Cointegration defined

- ullet In most cases, when the variables $y_{1,t}$ and $y_{2,t}$ are nonstationary I(1) variables, a linear combination of these variables will also be nonstationary
- However, in a few cases the linear combination of the variables can be stationary
- This occurs when the variables share the same stochastic trend
- The effect of the common stochastic trend may be contained when the variables are combined
- In these cases, we say that the variables are cointegrated

Cointegration defined

- ullet If both $y_{1,t}$ and $y_{2,t}$ are I(1), they have stochastic trends
- We could rearrange the linear regression model, such that

$$u_t=y_{1,t}-\beta_1 y_{2,t}$$

- ullet If u_t is I(0), then by definition the combined $y_{1,t}-eta_1 y_{2,t}$ is also stationary
 - \circ While both $y_{1,t}$ and $y_{2,t}$ have stochastic trends
 - \circ We say that the variables $y_{1,t}$ and $y_{2,t}$ are cointegrated
 - \circ These stochastic trends are related through eta_1 , which contains this feature of the data
- If u_t is I(1), then $y_{1,t}$ and $y_{2,t}$ are not cointegrated and regressing $y_{2,t}$ on $y_{1,t}$ will yield a spurious result

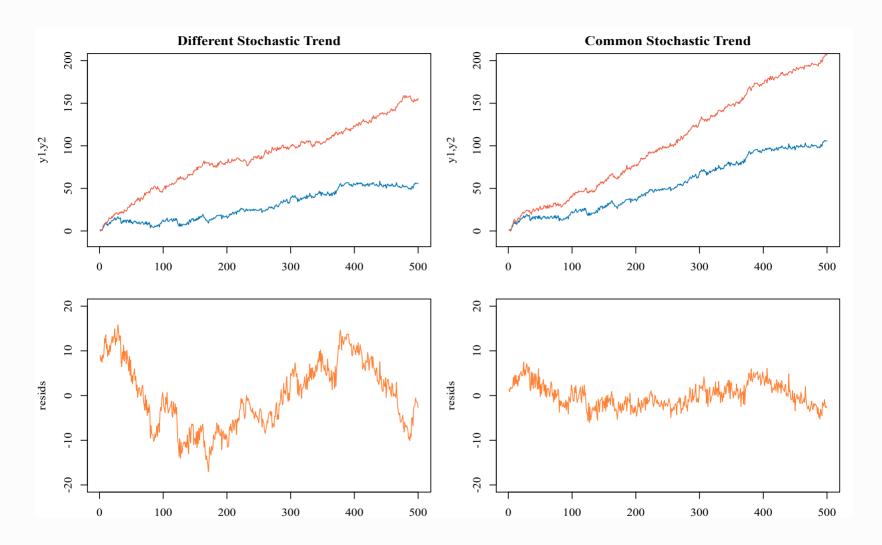


Figure : Unit roots, spurious relations & common stochastic trends $y_{1,t}=0.1+\mu_{y,1t}+v_{y1t}$ and $y_{2,t}=0.3+\mu_{y,2t}+v_{y2t}$

Cointegration defined

- ullet Using matrix algebra, if we let $m{y}_t=(y_{1,t},y_{2,t})'$ denote a (2 imes 1) vector of I(1) variables, and $m{eta}=(1,-m{eta}_1)'$
- ullet It follows that the relationship $eta'oldsymbol{y}_t=y_{1,t}-eta_1y_{2,t}$
- ullet Then the system is cointegrated when $eta'oldsymbol{y}_t\sim I(0)$
- ullet In this case the variables in the $oldsymbol{y}_t$ vector share a common stochastic trend and will drift together in long-run equilibrium
- The vector β is termed a cointegrating vector
- When components of $m{y}_t$ are integrated of order d and the reduction in the order of the combined variables is b, then we note that $m{y}_t \sim CI(d,b)$

• Stock & Watson (1988) propose the following decomposition for the I(1) variables

$$y_{1,t} = \mu_{y_{1,t}} + v_{y_{1,t}} \;\;,\;\; y_{2,t} = \mu_{y_{2,t}} + v_{y_{2,t}}$$

where μ_{it} is the random walk component representing the trend in variable $m{y}_t$, and v_{it} is the stationary component

• We are then able to multiply $y_{1,t}$ by β_1 and $y_{2,t}$ by β_2 to yield

$$eta_1 y_{1,t} = eta_1 \mu_{y_{1,t}} + eta_1 v_{y_{1,t}} \;\;,\;\; eta_2 y_{2,t} = eta_2 \mu_{y_{2,t}} + eta_2 v_{y_{2,t}}$$

• If these variables are CI(1,1) a linear combination of these variables yields;

$$egin{aligned} eta_1 y_{1,t} + eta_2 y_{2,t} &= eta_1 (\mu_{y_{1,t}} + v_{y_{1,t}}) + eta_2 (\mu_{y_{2,t}} + v_{y_{2,t}}) \ &= (eta_1 \mu_{y_{1,t}} + eta_2 \mu_{y_{2,t}}) + (eta_1 v_{y_{1,t}} + eta_2 v_{y_{2,t}}) \end{aligned}$$

- ullet If the errors, $(eta_1 v_{y_{1,t}} + eta_2 v_{y_{2,t}})$ are stationary
- ullet And the linear combination of the variables are stationary $eta_1 y_{1,t} + eta_2 y_{2,t}$
- ullet Then the stochastic trends $(eta_1\mu_{y_{1,t}}+eta_2\mu_{y_{2,t}})$ must vanish
- ullet Hence, for $y_{1,t}$ and $y_{2,t}$ to be CI(1,1), $\mu_{y_{1,t}}=rac{-eta_2\mu_{y_{2,t}}}{eta_1}$
- This implies that they must have the same stochastic trend up to the scalar $\frac{-\beta_2}{\beta_1}$

- Stock & Watson's essential insight is that the parameters in the cointegrating vector must purge the trend from the linear combination
- Such a cointegrating vector is unique up to the scalar $\frac{-\beta_2}{\beta_1}$
- This can also be extended to the n variable case

$$oldsymbol{y}_t = \mu_t + oldsymbol{u}_t$$

• where y_t is a vector $\{y_{1_t}, y_{2_t}, \ldots, y_{n_t}\}$ containing various I(1) variables and μ_t is a vector of stochastic trends $(\mu_{1_t}, \mu_{2_t}, \ldots, \mu_{n_t})$, and u_t is an $n \times 1$ vector of irregular components

 \bullet If we can then express one trend as a linear combination of other trends it means that there exists a vector β such that

$$eta_1 \mu_{1_t} + eta_2 \mu_{2_t} + \ldots + eta_n \mu_{n_t} = 0$$

- ullet where we once again multiply though by eta to get $eta oldsymbol{y}_t = eta \mu_t + eta oldsymbol{u}_t$
- since the linear combination of all $\beta\mu_t=0$
- ullet we are left with $eta oldsymbol{y}_t = eta oldsymbol{u}_t$, where both sides are stationary

Cointegration and Equilibrium

- A cointegration model may make use of the term *equilibrium* which refers to the existence of a long-run relationship
- This can only occur if there is a common stochastic trend amongst the variables
 i.e. two variables share a common equilibrium path
- These variables will periodically move away from the equilibrium path, but the effect of this will not be permanent (i.e. the errors are stationary)
- The variables return towards the equilibrium path over time
- The residuals from the cointegrated model are then described as equilibrium errors

- A cointegrating relationship defines an equilibrium relationship
- Time paths of cointegrated variables are influenced by the extent of any deviation from long run equilibrium
- In a cointegrated model variables return to the equilibrium value
 - Cointegrated system has an error correction representation
- Engle & Granger formalised the connection between this dynamic response to the errors and co-integration in the Engle-Granger representation theorem

- ullet For example, if P_1 and P_2 are cointegrated share prices
- Assume:
 - o gap between the prices is relatively large when compared to the long run equilibrium values (i.e. some dis-equilibria)
 - \circ the low priced share P_2 must rise relative to the high priced share P_1 .
- This may be accomplished by:
 - $\circ \uparrow$ in P_2 or \downarrow in P_1
 - $\circ \uparrow$ in P_1 with larger \uparrow in P_2
 - $\circ \downarrow$ in P_1 with smaller \downarrow in P_2

• The OLS regression then takes the form,

$$P_{1,t} = \beta_1 P_{2,t} + u_t$$

• When the errors are stationary they may be expressed as,

$$u_t = \phi_1 u_{t-1} + arepsilon_t \quad ext{with} \quad |\phi_1| < 1$$

ullet Hence combining the two where, $u_t=P_{1,t}-eta_1P_{2,t}$,

$$P_{1,t} - eta_1 P_{2,t} = \phi_1 (P_{1,t-1} - eta_1 P_{2,t-1}) + arepsilon_t \ P_{1,t} = eta_1 P_{2,t} + \phi_1 (P_{1,t-1} - eta_1 P_{2,t-1}) + arepsilon_t$$

ullet Adding and subtracting $P_{1,t-1}$ and $P_{2,t-1}$ on both sides

$$egin{aligned} \Delta P_{1,t} &= -(1-\phi_1)(P_{1,t-1}-eta_1P_{2,t-1}) + (eta_1\Delta P_{2,t} + arepsilon_{1,t}) \ &= lpha(P_{1,t-1}-eta_1P_{2,t-1}) + arepsilon_{1,t} \end{aligned}$$

where $lpha=-(1-\phi_1)$, while $\Delta P_{2,t}$ is stationary and $arepsilon_{1,t}=(eta_1\Delta P_{2,t}+arepsilon_{1,t})$

 Note that large persistence in the autoregressive error would imply a slow speed of adjustment

- To describe the manner in which the variables return to equilibria use an ECM
- Illustrates how the variables are influenced by deviations from equilibrium
- If we assume that both share prices are I(1) and;

$$egin{aligned} \Delta P_1 &= lpha_1 (P_{2,t-1} - eta_1 P_{1,t-1}) + arepsilon_{1,t} \ \Delta P_2 &= lpha_2 (P_{2,t-1} - eta_1 P_{1,t-1}) + arepsilon_{2,t} \end{aligned}$$

- ullet Long term equilibrium described by $(P_2-eta_1P_1)$, which is stationary when variables are CI(1,1)
- If P_1 is I(1) then ΔP_1 is stationary
- ullet When variables are CI(1,1), the term $arepsilon_{1,t}$ is stationary

- Hence the two share prices must be cointegrated with the vector $(1, -\beta_1)'$, when they are of the order CI(1,1)
- The parameters α_1 and α_2 are speed of adjustment parameters that describe how changes to share prices react to past deviations from the equilibrium path in the respective share prices
- ullet Small values of $lpha_i$ imply a relatively unresponsive relationship, where it would take a long time to return to equilibrium

• This can be generalised to include lagged changes of both equations,

$$egin{aligned} \Delta y_{1,t} &= \gamma_0 + lpha_1 \left[y_{1,t-1} - eta_1 y_{2,t-1}
ight] + \sum_{i=1}^K \zeta_{1,i} \Delta y_{1,t-1} + \sum_{j=1}^L \zeta_{2,j} \Delta y_{2,t-1} + arepsilon_{y_1,t} \ \Delta y_{2,t} &= \eta_0 + lpha_2 \left[y_{1,t-1} - eta_1 y_{2,t-1}
ight] + \sum_{i=1}^K \xi_{1,i} \Delta y_{2,t-1} + \sum_{j=1}^L \xi_{2,j} \Delta y_{1,t-1} + arepsilon_{y_2,t} \end{aligned}$$

- This is a representation for a VECM
- If both α_1 and α_2 equal zero there is:
 - o no equilibrium relationship
 - no error-correction
 - no cointegration

Autoregressive distributed lag model

- The error correction model may also be represented by an autoregressive distributed lag (ARDL) model
- Consider the example,

$$y_{1,t} = \phi_1 y_{1,t-1} + \phi_2 y_{2,t} + \varepsilon_t$$

• Subtract $y_{1,t-1}$ and $\phi_2 y_{2,t-1}$ from both sides,

$$egin{align} \Delta y_{1,t} &= \phi_2 \Delta y_{2,t} - (1-\phi_1) y_{1,t-1} + \phi_2 y_{2,t-1} + arepsilon_t \ &= \phi_2 \Delta y_{2,t} - (1-\phi_1) (y_{1,t-1} - rac{\phi_2}{1-\phi_1} y_{2,t-1}) + arepsilon_t \ \end{aligned}$$

Autoregressive distributed lag model

ullet Note that the long-term steady-state, with $y_{1,t}=y_{1,t-1}=ar{y}_1$, may then be described as,

$${ar y}_1 = \phi_1 {ar y}_1 + \phi_2 {ar y}_2$$

• Such that,

$${ar y}_1=rac{\phi_2}{1-\phi_1}{ar y}_2$$

- ullet Hence the relationship between y_1 and y_2 is described by $rac{\phi_2}{1-\phi_1}$
- This is equivalent to the ECM that we derived earlier

Worthwile Noting ...

- Cointegration refers to linear combinations of non-stationary variables
 - It's possible that there are nonlinear cointegrating relationships, but we don't know how to test for this.
 - We can however model regime-switching cointegrating relationships (Balke & Fomby, 1997)
 - \circ Cointegrating vectors are unique up to a scalar, for every β_1, β_2, \ldots there exists $\lambda \beta_1, \lambda \beta_2, \ldots$, where λ is the scalar
- All variables must be integrated of the same order
 - \circ usually a set of I(d) variables are not cointegrated
 - when two variables are integrated of different orders they cannot be cointegrated
 - \circ it is possible to have multicointegration (i.e. b=2)

Worthwile Noting ...

- If $oldsymbol{y}_t$ has n nonstationary components there may be n-1 linear cointegrating vectors
 - \circ If $oldsymbol{y}_t$ has two variables then there can only be one cointegrating vector
 - The number of cointegrating vectors is called the cointegrating rank
- If you have three variables and two are I(2) and one is I(1):
 - \circ The two I(2) variables may be CI(2,1)
 - \circ The remaining I(1) variable may share a common stochastic trend with other two variables, whereupon the system will be stationary
 - The chance of this occurring are very small
- ullet Most of the literature focuses on CI(1,1) cases but many other possibilities exist

- ullet Suppose $y_{1,t}$ and $y_{2,t}$ are possibly I(1) and you want to know whether they are cointegrated
 - Pretest the variables for their order of integration
- Use Augmented Dickey Fuller or similar test
- If both are stationary there is no cointegrating vector
- If variables of different orders there is no cointegrating vector
- For three or more variables they can be of different orders
 - $\circ\,$ A group could be C(2,1) and this group may be cointegrated with a further set of I(1) variables.

• If both are I(1) estimate LR relationship;

$$y_{1,t} = eta_0 + eta_1 y_{2,t} + u_t$$

- ullet If the variables are cointegrated OLS yields a super consistent estimate of eta_0 and eta_1
 - \circ The variables are cointegrated when \hat{u}_t is stationary
- To test for stationarity construct an Augmented Dickey Fuller test

$$\Delta \hat{u}_t = \pi_1 \hat{u}_{t-1} + \sum_{j=1}^k \gamma_j \Delta \hat{u}_{t-j} + arepsilon_t$$

where $\pi_1 = (1 - \phi)$

- ullet If we cannot reject $\pi_1=0$ then they are not cointegrated
- ullet If we can reject $\pi_1=0$ then they are cointegrated

- Use tables from Engle & Granger (1987) or Engle & Yoo (1987)
- If the OLS regression includes a constant then do not include a constant in the ADF regression, and vice versa

• Estimate the error-correction model - if the variables are cointegrated use the residuals to estimate the error correction model

$$egin{aligned} \Delta y_{1,t} &= \gamma_0 + lpha_1 \left[y_{1,t-1} - eta_1 y_{2,t-1}
ight] + \dots \ &\sum_{i=1}^K \zeta_{1,i} \Delta y_{1,t-1} + \sum_{j=1}^L \zeta_{2,j} \Delta y_{2,t-1} + arepsilon_{y_1,t} \ \Delta y_{2,t} &= \eta_0 + lpha_2 \left[y_{1,t-1} - eta_1 y_{2,t-1}
ight] + \dots \ &\sum_{i=1}^K \xi_{1,i} \Delta y_{2,t-1} + \sum_{j=1}^L \xi_{2,j} \Delta y_{1,t-1} + arepsilon_{y_2,t} \end{aligned}$$

- where β_1 is the cointegrating vector, $\varepsilon_{y_1,t}$ and $\varepsilon_{y_2,t}$ are white noise, while α_1 and α_2 are the speed of adjustment parameters
- ullet We can substitute $(y_{1,t-1}-eta_1y_{2,t-1})$ with \hat{u}_{t-1}
- ullet OLS provides efficient estimates, t and F test statistics are appropriate

- To assess model adequacy
- Check residuals $\varepsilon_{1,t}$ and $\varepsilon_{2,t}$ to make sure they are white noise
- If there is a problem then consider changing the lag length
- Speed of adjustment α_1 and α_2 describe dynamics
- ullet Large value of $lpha_2$ is associated with a large $\Delta y_{2,t}$
- ullet If $lpha_2=0$ and $\xi_{2,j}=0$ then $\Delta y_{1,t}$ can not Granger-cause $\Delta y_{2,t}$
- If both $\alpha_1=0$ and $\alpha_2=0$ then there is no cointegration or error correction
- α_1 and α_2 should also not be too big since they should converge to the LR values over time (i.e. not immediately, or over-correct too drastically)

Problems with Engle Granger procedure

- Has several important limitations
- Need to specify left-hand side variables up front

$$y_{1,t} = eta_1 y_{2,t} + v_{y1,t} \ y_{2,t} = eta_2 y_{1,t} + v_{y2,t}$$

- $v_{y1,t}$ may be stationary but $v_{1,t}$ not?
- reversing the order may give different results
 - Can't identify multiple cointegrating vectors (or their form)
 - o Reliance on a two-step procedure
- first step generates residuals
- ullet second step uses these in a regression to obtain, $lpha_1$ with ECM
- an error in step 1 is carried over to step 2 (i.e. we may incorrectly including a constant in step 1)

Cointegration in a multivariate setting

- Multivariate cointegration makes use of a VAR structure
- ullet Consider a first order VAR(1) for the n imes 1 vector $oldsymbol{y}_t = [y_{1,t}, y_{2,t}, \dots, y_{n,t}]'$,

$$oldsymbol{y}_t = \mu + \Pi_1 oldsymbol{y}_{t-1} + oldsymbol{u}_t$$

- where $\mu = [\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n]'$ is a vector of constants
- $oldsymbol{u}_t = [u_{1,t}, u_{2,t}, \dots, u_{n,t}]'$ is a vector of error terms
- Π_1 is a (n imes n) matrix of coefficients

ullet The stability of the VAR model is determined by the eigenvalues of Π_1 that are obtained by solving the characteristic equation

$$\mid \Pi_1 - I \mid = 0$$

• If all eigenvalues are modulus less than 1, the VAR is stable

Vector error correction model (VECM)

• Now by writing the VAR(1) as a VECM,

$$egin{aligned} \Delta oldsymbol{y}_t &= \mu + (\Pi_1 - I) oldsymbol{y}_{t-1} + oldsymbol{u}_t \ &= \mu + \Pi oldsymbol{y}_{t-1} + oldsymbol{u}_t & ext{where } \Pi = (\Pi_1 - I) \end{aligned}$$

ullet With n variables, the number of of linear combinations of the variables in $oldsymbol{y}_t$ that are stationary will provide us with information on the number of cointegration vectors

- Three possibilities exist:
 - \circ Π has full rank n=r The VAR must be stable as there is no instability in the system of equations. This model of stationary variables should be estimated in levels.
 - \circ Π has rank $1 \leq r \leq n-1$ The number of linear combinations is smaller than the number of variables. Hence, some of the variables must be unstable and at least one combination of the variables is stable. The number of cointegrating vectors is given by r
 - \circ Π has rank r=0 (i.e. $\Pi=0$) There is evidence of instability and no combination of the variables is stable. The unstable VAR cannot be cointegrated and should be estimated in first differences.

- ullet As before, the VECM includes the coefficients lpha and eta
- ullet When cointegration exists, we can decompose Π as,

$$\Pi=lphaeta^{'}$$

- ullet where lpha and eta are both dimensions n imes r
- ullet is the cointegration matrix where the linear combination of $eta'oldsymbol{y}_t$ is stationary
- ullet each of the r rows of $eta' oldsymbol{y}_t$ is a cointegrated (long-run) relation that induces stability
- ullet lpha measures the speed of adjustment back to equilibrium

• Consider the bivariate case that was examined previously,

$$egin{bmatrix} \Delta y_{1,t} \ \Delta y_{2,t} \end{bmatrix} = egin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix} + egin{bmatrix} lpha_1 \ lpha_2 \end{bmatrix} egin{bmatrix} eta_1 eta_2 \end{bmatrix} egin{bmatrix} y_{1,t-1} \ y_{2,t-1} \end{bmatrix} + egin{bmatrix} u_{1,t} \ u_{2,t} \end{bmatrix}$$

• which can be written as,

$$egin{aligned} \Delta y_{1,t} &= \mu_1 + lpha_1 (eta_1 y_{1,t-1} + eta_2 y_{2,t-1}) + u_{1,t} \ \Delta y_{2,t} &= \mu_2 + lpha_2 (eta_1 y_{1,t-1} + eta_2 y_{2,t-1}) + u_{2,t} \end{aligned}$$

• and the cointegration relationship $\beta' oldsymbol{y}_t$ is given by,

$$eta' oldsymbol{y}_t = eta_1 y_{1,t} + eta_2 y_{2,t} \sim I(0)$$

which is what we had previously

ullet Now in the three variable case, we have n=3 and r=2

$$egin{bmatrix} \Delta y_{1,t} \ \Delta y_{2,t} \ \Delta y_{3,t} \end{bmatrix} = egin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \ \mu_2 \ \mu_3 \end{bmatrix} + egin{bmatrix} lpha_{11} & lpha_{12} \ lpha_{21} & lpha_{22} \ lpha_{31} & lpha_{32} \end{bmatrix} \ldots \ egin{bmatrix} eta_{11} & eta_{21} & eta_{31} \ eta_{12} & eta_{22} & eta_{32} \end{bmatrix} egin{bmatrix} y_{1,t-1} \ y_{2,t-1} \ y_{3,t-1} \end{bmatrix} + egin{bmatrix} u_{1,t} \ u_{2,t} \ u_{3,t} \end{bmatrix}$$

• with r=2, there are two cointegration relationships, which we denote $\beta_1' \boldsymbol{y}_{t-1}$ and $\beta_2' \boldsymbol{y}_{t-1}$,

$$eta_1'oldsymbol{y}_t = eta_{11}y_{1,t} + eta_{21}y_{2,t} + eta_{31}y_{3,t} \sim I(0) \ eta_2'oldsymbol{y}_t = eta_{12}y_{1,t} + eta_{22}y_{2,t} + eta_{32}y_{3,t} \sim I(0)$$

• Hence, we have two linear relationships between the variables, y_1, y_2 and y_3 , which ensures that this combined system is stationary

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• The VAR(1) model can be generalized to a VAR(p),

$$egin{aligned} \Delta oldsymbol{y}_t &= \mu + lpha eta oldsymbol{y}_{t-1} + \Gamma_1 \Delta oldsymbol{y}_{t-1} + \Gamma_2 \Delta oldsymbol{y}_{t-2} + \dots \ &+ \Gamma_{p-1} \Delta oldsymbol{y}_{t-p-1} + oldsymbol{u}_t \end{aligned}$$

ullet where we have added p lags of the vector of variables

Johansen Approach

- \bullet Testing for cointegration in the multivariate case amounts to determining the rank of Π
- ullet Effectively, we need to determine the number of non-zero eigenvalues in Π
- Johansen's maximum likelihood approach suggests that one should order the eigenvalues, $\hat{\lambda}_1 > \hat{\lambda}_2 > \ldots > \hat{\lambda}_n$
- ullet Then test the null hypothesis that there are at most r cointegrating vectors, where

$$H_0: \hat{\lambda}_i = 0 \;\; ext{ for } \; i = r+1,\ldots,n$$

- ullet For example, if n=2 and r=1 as in the first example:
 - \circ First eigenvalue, $\hat{\lambda}_1
 eq 0$ (able to reject null)
 - \circ Second eigenvalue, $\hat{\lambda}_2=0$ (unable to reject null)

Johansen Approach

ullet The trace statistic specifies the null of hypothesis H_0 of r cointegration relations as,

$$\lambda_{trace} = -T \sum_{i=r+1}^n \log(1-\hat{\lambda}_i) ~~ r=0,1,2,\ldots,n-1$$

- ullet where the alternative hypothesis is that there are more than r cointegration relationships
- ullet The maximum eigenvalue statistic for the null hypothesis of at most r cointegration relations can be computed as,

$$\lambda_{max} = -T\log(1-\hat{\lambda}_{r+1}) \quad r=0,1,2,\ldots,n-1$$

ullet where the alternative hypothesis is that there are r+1 cointegration relations

Johansen Approach

- For both tests, the asymptotic distribution is nonstandard and depends upon the deterministic components included (constant and trend)
- Tabulated critical values can be found in Johansen (1988) or Osterwald-Lenum (1992)
- Calculated values must be greater than tables to reject null

Summary

- Single-equation modelling of nonstationary variables gives spurious results: unless the variables cointegrated
- Cointegration implies that the variables share a common trend
- Cointegration describes the long-run relationship between variables
- Often such relationships are given by economic theory
- To determine if variables share one or more cointegrating relationships we can do the following:
 - Determine whether the time series are stationary or nonstationary (graphical analysis, unit root testing)
 - If the series are stationary, proceed to estimate dynamic model in levels of the data
 - o If the series are nonstationary, proceed to test for cointegration

Summary

- To test for cointegration, two approaches can be used:
 - Single equation approach: Engel-Granger two-step procedure
 - Multivariate approach: Johansen test
 - Since cointegration is inherently a system property, the multivariate approach is usually preferred
- If we are able to reject the null hypothesis of no-cointegration, proceed to estimate an equilibrium correction model either by:
 - Single equation model: ECM or ARDL
 - Multivariate VECM
- If the null of no-cointegration cannot be rejected, proceed to estimate the model in first differences