

1. Consider an ARMA(1,1)

$$y_t = \varphi_0 + \varphi_1 y_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1}.$$

- (a) Precisely describe the two types of stationarity.
- (b) Why is stationarity a useful property?
- (c) What is a minimal set of assumptions sufficient to ensure $\{y_t\}$ is covariance stationary if $\{\varepsilon_t\}$ is a white noise sequence?
- (d) What are the values of the following quantities? You may assume that y_t is weakly stationary (for this question only). \mathcal{I}_t denotes the information set available at time t .
 - i. $E[y_{t+1}]$
 - ii. $E_t[y_{t+1}] = E[y_{t+1}|\mathcal{I}_t]$
 - iii. $V[y_{t+1}]$
 - iv. $V_t[y_{t+1}] = \text{Var}[y_{t+1}|\mathcal{I}_t]$
- (e) Suppose you were trying to differentiate between an AR(1) and an MA(1) but could not estimate any regressions. What information would you try to obtain?
- (f) Now suppose that $\varphi_1 = 1$. What can you say about $E_t[y_{t+h}]$ and $V_t[y_{t+h}]$ for $h > 2$?

2. **The timing of expectations in forward looking models with an emphasis in monetary policy** as presented in Clarida, Galí and Gertler (Journal of Economic Literature, 1999).

The model of interest is the so-called new Keynesian Phillips curve

$$\pi_t = \beta \pi_{t+1}^e + x_t \quad (1)$$

where π_t denote inflation at time t , x_t is some measure of activity (say the output gap, unemployment or the share of labor in aggregate output) and π_{t+1}^e denotes a representative agent's expectation of future inflation at time $t+1$. The question of interest here relates to the timing of this expectation. We consider two possibilities, and denote them by $\pi_{t+1|t}^e$ and $\pi_{t+1|t-1}^e$ respectively. These are defined as

$$\text{model CI: } \pi_{t+1|t}^e = E(\pi_{t+1}|\mathcal{I}_t), \text{ and}$$

$$\text{model LI: } \pi_{t+1|t-1}^e = E(\pi_{t+1}|\mathcal{I}_{t-1})$$

where $E(\cdot|\mathcal{I})$ denotes the expectation conditional on information \mathcal{I} . Hence $\pi_{t+1|t}^e$ denotes the expectation conditional on contemporaneous information (CI) available to the agent at time t and $\pi_{t+1|t-1}^e$ denotes the expectation conditional on lagged information (LI) available at time $t-1$. We consider the forward solutions to expression (1) both under model CI and LI. We assume first $\beta \in (-1, 1)$.

Expression (1) can be solved as

$$\pi_t = E \left[\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \beta^j x_{t+j} \middle| \mathcal{I}_{t-\delta} \right] \quad (2)$$

where $\delta = 0$ for model CI and $\delta = 1$ for model LI.

- (a) What assumptions do you need to make on the long run conditional expectations of π_{t+k} as $k \rightarrow \infty$ to obtain (2)?
- (b) We make in turn the following assumptions on the dynamics of x_t :

$$(i) \quad x_t = \mu + \varepsilon_t + \theta\varepsilon_{t-1}$$

$$(ii) \quad x_t = \rho x_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t$$

where $\mu \neq 0$, $\theta \in (-1, 1)$, $\rho \in \mathbb{R}$, and $\varepsilon_t \sim \text{NID}(0, \sigma_\varepsilon^2)$. We assume that \mathcal{I}_t consists of all the information available at time t regarding the processes $\pi_{t'}$, $x_{t'}$ and $\varepsilon_{t'}$ for $t' \leq t$; \mathcal{I}_{t-1} is similarly defined.

- i. For each of (i) and (ii) above, compute the conditional expectations of future $x_{t'}$ for $t' \geq t$ and solve expression (2) for π_t under models CI and LI.
- ii. What conditions do β and ρ need to satisfy for (2) to provide a valid solution to expression (1)?
- iii. Under what conditions are π_t and x_t integrated and cointegrated?