

ECN 7310 Project #2

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Introduction

This Project will seek to highlight and further examine some of the work being done on research concerning the economic impact of Renewable Portfolio Standards implemented at the state level. Commissioned by Strata Policy and now supported by the Center for Growth and Opportunity, the RPS project has held profound significance for both researchers and policy makers involved in it. The State of Kansas recently changed their RPS legislation from a requirement to a goal, thanks in part to the work of Strata. Now, a new model is being built. Formerly, Dr. Tyler Brough designed a model to fit panel data in order to estimate the *average* effect of implementing a RPS in a state. The current model under development seeks to estimate the effect of this legislation on an individual state basis. Although different from that project, this exercise builds off some concerns which have come up in the modeling process. This work is unique and done especially for this Econometrics class.

Five economic variables were originally selected to be fit in a VAR-X model, or a multivariate time series model with an exogenous variable(s). Recent adaptations of the model, whose work is the creation of Dr. Tyler Brough, limited the VAR-X to three variables to improve the overall degrees of freedom. With 3 lags, the model would need 125 parameter (25 variables per lag) estimates for roughly 200 observations assuming all variables were used. Additionally, the effect of cointegration may be present if all variables are used. Therefore, of the five variables including average weekly hours worked in manufacturing, nonfarm employment, unemployment rate, total personal income minus transfer payments, and industrial electricity sales, only the latter three were used in the most recent analysis.

The goal of this project will be to further explore the potential presence and effect of cointegrating relationships with the inclusion of one of the omitted variables. For the sake of simplicity, the eventual VAR and VECM will be fit with three variables. I will choose ones that have the highest degree of cointegrating relationships. Then, I will fit these variables to both a VAR and a VECM to see how much the inclusion of the error correction component makes. Such exploration is important because our own Bayesian Vector Autoregression incorporates no error correction, even in wake of some potential cointegrating relationships among the three variables listed above which the model includes. Omitting the cointegrating term when a series is cointegrated could result in large model misspecification.

Data

Following the example of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia¹ in measuring the strength of a regional economy, this project employs seasonally adjusted monthly state unemployment rates, monthly industrial electricity sales, and quarterly state personal income minus transfer payments beginning in January of 2001 and ending on April 2017 for the state of Ohio.

Industrial Electricity Sales are used as a measure of a state's industrial production and activity. These sales numbers are reported in millions of kilowatthours by the US Department of Energy. These data were obtained from the US Energy Information Administration. Unemployment data for each state was collected from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, as was average weekly hours worked in Manufacturing, and nonfarm employment in thousands of persons. Lastly, quarterly state personal income and transfer payments were gathered from the Bureau of Economic Analysis and reported in thousands of dollars.

¹<https://www.philadelphiafed.org/-/media/research-and-data/publications/business-review/2000/november-december/brnd00tc.pdf?la=en>

Because state personal income is reported quarterly rather than monthly, cubic spline interpolation was used to estimate monthly points between each quarter after subtracting out transfer payments from the total state income. A common practice used in econometrics, spline interpolation does not generate new data points but rather estimates data between observed data points. The interpolated data and the observed data on state personal income were not adjusted for inflation. Using the consumer price index available from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the income data were set to September 2017 US Dollars.

Methods

I will test for the presence of cointegration according to the method of Engle-Granger². This is done by first testing each series for the presence of a unit root using the Augmented Dickey Fuller Test and the Zivot Andrews Test. If they are integrated of order 1, or stationary after differencing once, the series are regressed on each other using ordinary least squares estimates. The residuals from this model are then tested for stationarity. If stationary, then the series are cointegrated.

Models will be fit using the R package `vars` and `tsDyn`. This package will fit a VAR and VECM model using ordinary least squares and maximum likelihood estimation. In order to conserve degrees of freedom, I will assume a lag length of 2 for both models.

Lastly, in addition to the aforementioned variables, a dummy variable represent the Great Recession beginning on December 2007 and ending on June 2009 will be included to account for the great shock occurring in the data during that time. Additionally an RPS dummy variable set to 1 when a standard is enacted will also be included.

To investigate the difference the error correction term makes, I will compare the results of the both fitted models to see how the inclusion of an error correction term affects what variables are significant. This is one way of assessing the impact of failing to include an error correction term. It will be shown that at least two variables are cointegrated. Deliberately fitting a VAR instead of a VECM when two processes are cointegrated should yield quite different results.

Augmented Dickey-Fuller Test

First stationarity is examined among the variables using the ADF Test.

The Augmented Dickey Fuller Test specifies as a null hypothesis that a time series is a unit root process. In other words, a the null hypothesis assumes the series is not stationary. Let:

$$\Delta y_t = \beta_1 + \beta_2 t + \pi y_{t-1} + \sum_{j=1}^k \gamma_j \Delta y_{t-j} + u_i$$

where β_1 is a drift term, β_2 is a trend, and $\rho = 1$ is the unit root and $\pi = \rho - 1$. Hence, the null hypothesis is specified as $H_0 : \pi = 0$ and therefore unit root $\rho = 1$. However, applying the ADF test to a series that is possibly trend stationary may not reject H_0 and consequently not reject the presence of a unit root. For this reason, other test statistics need to be examined to ensure whether or not $\beta_1 = 0$ and $\beta_2 = 0$. Using the regression result from the equation above, the following test statistics will be evaluated for significance:

$$\tau_3 : \pi = 0$$

$$\phi_3 : \pi = \beta_2 = 0$$

$$\phi_2 : \pi = \beta_1 = \beta_2 = 0$$

²<https://www.philadelphiafed.org/-/media/research-and-data/publications/business-review/2000/november-december/brnd00tc.pdf?la=en>

A similar process will be conducted for the following regressions to ensure no presence of trend or drift:

$$\Delta y_t = \beta_1 + \pi y_{t-1} + \sum_{j=1}^k \gamma_j \Delta y_{t-j} + u_i$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_2 : \pi &= 0 \\ \phi_1 : \pi &= \beta_1 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\Delta y_t = \pi y_{t-1} + \sum_{j=1}^k \gamma_j \Delta y_{t-j} + u_i$$

with

$$\tau_1 : \pi = 0$$

Rejecting any one of the ϕ null hypotheses implies that at least one term is not equal to zero. One must begin with assuming both trend and drift are present and work down from there. A rejection of τ at any level implies that the series does not have a unit root.

Sample Code implementing ADF Test for Average Manufacturing Hours

```
summary(ur.df(manHours.ts, type = 'trend', lags = 3))

##
## #####
## # Augmented Dickey-Fuller Test Unit Root Test #
## #####
##
## Test regression trend
##
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = z.diff ~ z.lag.1 + 1 + tt + z.diff.lag)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -2.40165 -0.17856  0.04291  0.23781  1.29171
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)  2.8289163   1.4460703   1.956   0.052 .
## z.lag.1      -0.0692363   0.0353929  -1.956   0.052 .
## tt           0.0004979   0.0005788   0.860   0.391
## z.diff.lag1  -0.3215530   0.0767253  -4.191 4.32e-05 ***
## z.diff.lag2  -0.1548882   0.0788587  -1.964   0.051 .
## z.diff.lag3  -0.0637775   0.0744923  -0.856   0.393
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

```
##
## Residual standard error: 0.4097 on 183 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.1411, Adjusted R-squared: 0.1176
## F-statistic: 6.01 on 5 and 183 DF, p-value: 3.561e-05
##
##
## Value of test-statistic is: -1.9562 1.3766 1.9398
##
## Critical values for test statistics:
##      1pct  5pct 10pct
## tau3 -3.99 -3.43 -3.13
## phi2  6.22  4.75  4.07
## phi3  8.43  6.49  5.47
summary(ur.df(manHours.ts, type = 'drift', lags = 3))

##
## #####
## # Augmented Dickey-Fuller Test Unit Root Test #
## #####
##
## Test regression drift
##
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = z.diff ~ z.lag.1 + 1 + z.diff.lag)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -2.41751 -0.18403  0.05543  0.22938  1.28504
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)   2.46363    1.38135   1.783  0.0762 .
## z.lag.1       -0.05922    0.03340  -1.773  0.0779 .
## z.diff.lag1   -0.32759    0.07635  -4.291 2.88e-05 ***
## z.diff.lag2   -0.15806    0.07872  -2.008  0.0461 *
## z.diff.lag3   -0.06539    0.07442  -0.879  0.3807
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 0.4094 on 184 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.1376, Adjusted R-squared: 0.1188
## F-statistic: 7.338 on 4 and 184 DF, p-value: 1.666e-05
##
##
## Value of test-statistic is: -1.7731 1.6972
##
## Critical values for test statistics:
##      1pct  5pct 10pct
## tau2 -3.46 -2.88 -2.57
## phi1  6.52  4.63  3.81
```

```
summary(ur.df(manHours.ts, type = 'none', lags = 3))

##
## #####
## # Augmented Dickey-Fuller Test Unit Root Test #
## #####
##
## Test regression none
##
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = z.diff ~ z.lag.1 - 1 + z.diff.lag)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -2.42930 -0.19208  0.05639  0.22006  1.31377
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## z.lag.1          0.0003331  0.0007248   0.460  0.6464
## z.diff.lag1 -0.3677594  0.0733807  -5.012 1.26e-06 ***
## z.diff.lag2 -0.1897690  0.0771335  -2.460  0.0148 *
## z.diff.lag3 -0.0871278  0.0738428  -1.180  0.2396
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 0.4118 on 185 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared:  0.1232, Adjusted R-squared:  0.1042
## F-statistic: 6.498 on 4 and 185 DF,  p-value: 6.488e-05
##
##
## Value of test-statistic is: 0.4595
##
## Critical values for test statistics:
##      1pct  5pct 10pct
## tau1 -2.58 -1.95 -1.62
```

As can be seen in every case, the unit root null hypothesis cannot be rejected. Furthermore, there is no presence of drift nor trend. The results of the other variables can be seen below.

Table 1: Results of the Augmented Dickey Fuller Test on the Ohio Data

Variable	ADF result
Avg. Manufacturing Hours	Unit Root Present
Nonfarm Employment	Unit Root Present
Industrial Electricity Sales	Stationary
Total Income	Unit Root Present
Unemployment Rate	Unit Root Present

Where there is a unit root present, log first differencing is used to check and see if the process is integrated of order 1, $I(1)$.

Sample Code with Log First Differencing on Average Manufacturing Hours

```
manHours.ln <- diff(log(manHours.ts))
summary(ur.df(manHours.ln, type = 'trend', lags = 3))

##
## #####
## # Augmented Dickey-Fuller Test Unit Root Test #
## #####
##
## Test regression trend
##
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = z.diff ~ z.lag.1 + 1 + tt + z.diff.lag)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -0.059868 -0.004718  0.001382  0.005270  0.033083
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) -8.026e-05  1.519e-03  -0.053   0.958
## z.lag.1      -1.618e+00  2.017e-01  -8.019 1.25e-13 ***
## tt           4.106e-06  1.362e-05   0.301   0.763
## z.diff.lag1  2.594e-01  1.688e-01   1.536   0.126
## z.diff.lag2  8.018e-02  1.255e-01   0.639   0.524
## z.diff.lag3 -2.603e-04  7.480e-02  -0.003   0.997
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 0.01012 on 182 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared:  0.6592, Adjusted R-squared:  0.6498
## F-statistic: 70.41 on 5 and 182 DF,  p-value: < 2.2e-16
##
##
## Value of test-statistic is: -8.0192 21.4369 32.1552
##
## Critical values for test statistics:
##      1pct  5pct 10pct
## tau3 -3.99 -3.43 -3.13
## phi2  6.22  4.75  4.07
## phi3  8.43  6.49  5.47
```

Table 2: Results of the Augmented Dickey Fuller Test on the Differenced Ohio Data

Variable	Log First Difference ADF
Avg. Manufacturing Hours	Stationary
Nonfarm Employment	Unit Root Present
Total Income	Stationary
Unemployment Rate	Stationary

Nonfarm Employment may be $I(2)$ or perhaps of a higher order of integration. For sake of simplicity and demonstration, we will continue without it as mentioned before. However, all other variables are $I(1)$.

Zivot-Andrews Test

Failing to account for structural breaks may threaten the result, be it a rejection or failure of rejection of a null, gathered from the Augmented Dickey-Fuller. Because this data encapsulates the Great Recession, it may make sense to consider another test which takes into account the presence of a structural break. The Zivot-Andrews Test examines the presence of a unit root in a time series with a structural break by endogenously determining a potential break. This is done by selecting the break at the point in the series that minimizes the t-statistic which gives the greatest evidence against the null hypothesis. The Zivot-Andrews test, upon rejecting a null hypothesis of a unit root, allows for one to conclude that a time series process may be stationary with one break in trend or intercept.

As with Dickey-Fuller, H_0 entails that a unit root is present.

In the output below, `du` is the coefficient of a dummy variable that allows for a one time shift in the levels of the series. Also, `dt` represents the coefficient of a dummy variable that allows for change in rate of growth.

The test will be run with both a potential break in intercept as well as trend to account for any form by which the recession may have effected the data.

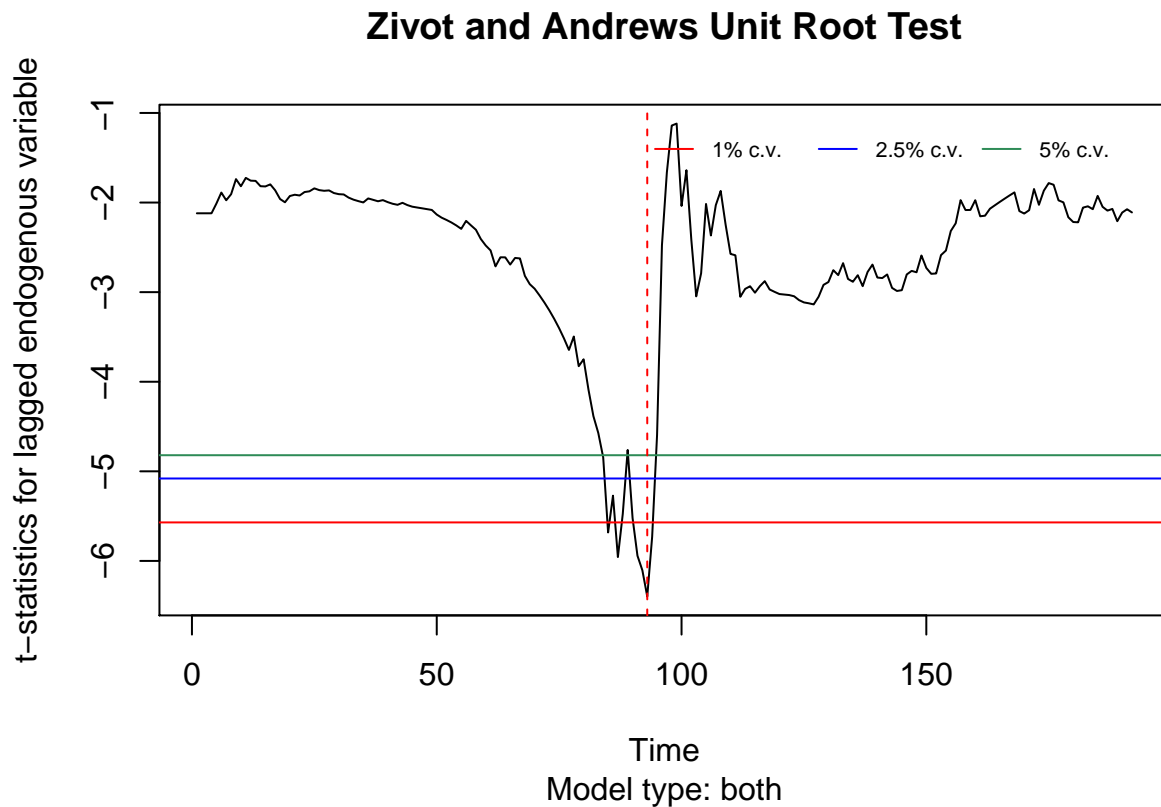
Sample Code and Plots for Zivot-Andrews Test Using Unemployment

```
unemp.za <- ur.za(unemp.ts, model = 'both', lag = 3)
summary(unemp.za)

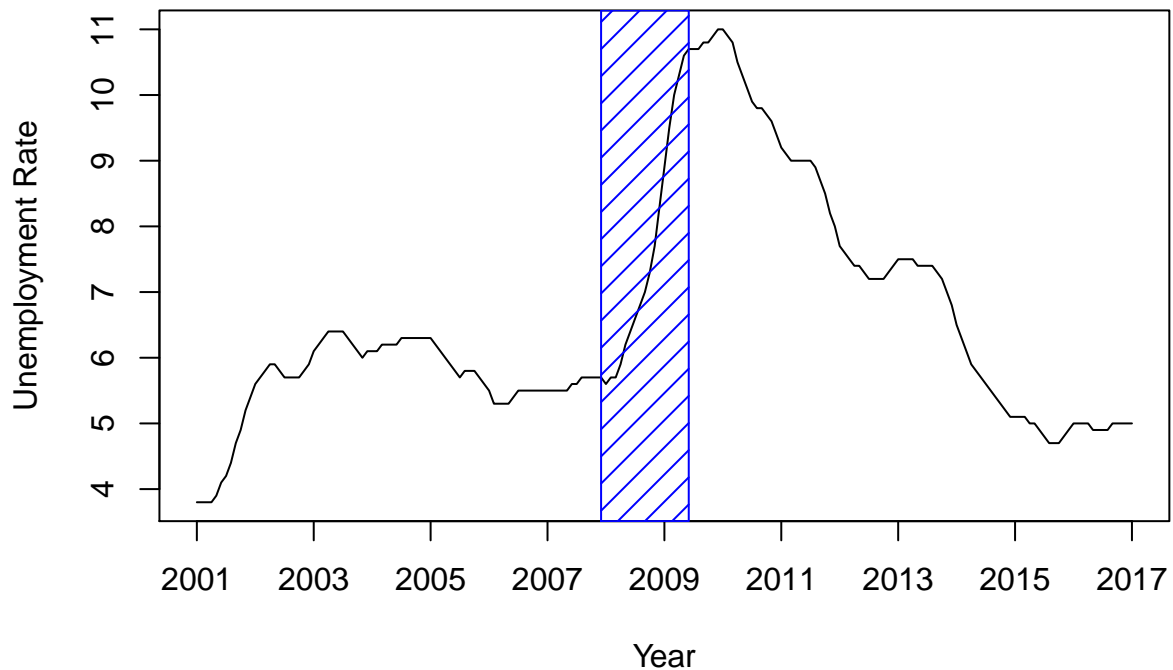
##
## #####
## # Zivot-Andrews Unit Root Test #
## #####
##
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = testmat)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -1.508e-03 -4.444e-04 -8.704e-05  4.039e-04  1.834e-03
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)  2.810e-03  4.552e-04   6.174 4.27e-09 ***
## y.l1         9.508e-01  7.690e-03 123.642 < 2e-16 ***
```

```
## trend      2.364e-06  2.880e-06  0.821  0.41291
## y.dl1      5.978e-01  7.011e-02  8.527  5.82e-15 ***
## y.dl2      2.696e-01  8.100e-02  3.329  0.00106 **
## y.dl3     -8.947e-02  6.784e-02 -1.319  0.18893
## du         2.311e-03  4.186e-04  5.520  1.16e-07 ***
## dt        -3.670e-05  6.644e-06 -5.524  1.14e-07 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 0.0006873 on 181 degrees of freedom
## (4 observations deleted due to missingness)
## Multiple R-squared:  0.9985, Adjusted R-squared:  0.9985
## F-statistic: 1.742e+04 on 7 and 181 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
##
##
## Teststatistic: -6.3969
## Critical values: 0.01= -5.57 0.05= -5.08 0.1= -4.82
##
## Potential break point at position: 93
```

```
plot(unemp.za)
```



Ohio Unemployment Rate with Recession



In this instance of the Zivot-Andrews Test testing the unemployment variable, it can be seen that there is a suggested break point at position 93 which corresponds to the date of September 2008 in the middle of the Great Recession. Therefore, it can be concluded that this series is stationary with either a break in trend or intercept or both.

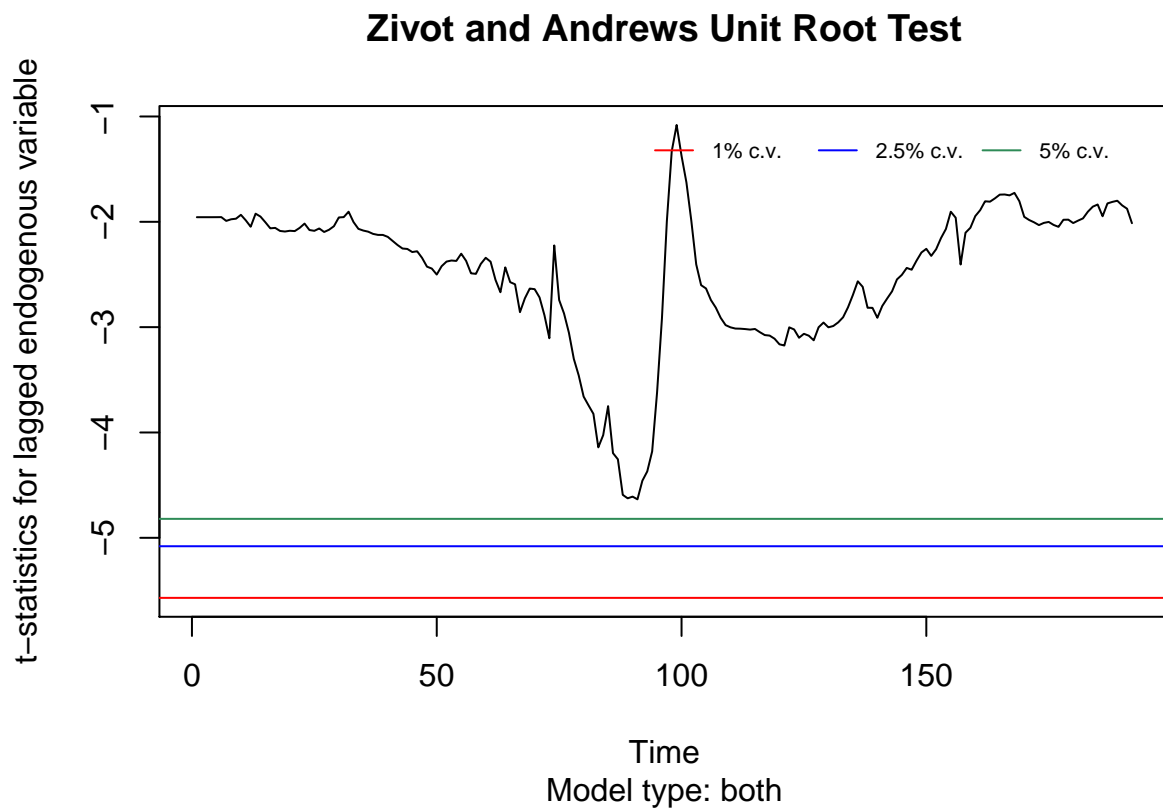
Sample Code for the Zivot-Andrews Test Using Average Hours Worked in Manufacturing

```
manHours.za <- ur.za(manHours.ts, model = 'both', lag = 3)
summary(manHours.za)
```

```
##
## #####
## # Zivot-Andrews Unit Root Test #
## #####
##
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = testmat)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -2.35250 -0.17896  0.02317  0.24079  1.13723
##
```

```
## Coefficients:
##               Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) 12.3198811  2.6449497   4.658 6.17e-06 ***
## y.l1         0.7023111  0.0642302  10.934 < 2e-16 ***
## trend        0.0002069  0.0017077   0.121 0.903697
## y.dl1        -0.1854404  0.0806674  -2.299 0.022657 *
## y.dl2        -0.0690167  0.0784821  -0.879 0.380354
## y.dl3        -0.0170906  0.0723115  -0.236 0.813431
## du           -0.6075971  0.1784567  -3.405 0.000816 ***
## dt           0.0112228  0.0029023   3.867 0.000154 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 0.3926 on 181 degrees of freedom
## (4 observations deleted due to missingness)
## Multiple R-squared:  0.8355, Adjusted R-squared:  0.8291
## F-statistic: 131.3 on 7 and 181 DF,  p-value: < 2.2e-16
##
##
## Teststatistic: -4.6347
## Critical values: 0.01= -5.57 0.05= -5.08 0.1= -4.82
##
## Potential break point at position: 91
```

```
plot(manHours.za)
```



In contrast, it can be seen that average hours worked in manufacturing does not reject the unit root hypothesis, despite the presence of a potential break. For this process, it can be concluded that a unit root is present, consistent with the Augmented Dickey Fuller results above.

Table 3: Results of the Zivot-Andrews Test

Variable	Zivot Andrews Results
Avg. Manufacturing Hours	Unit Root Present
Nonfarm Employment	Stationary
Total Income	Unit Root Present
Unemployment Rate	Stationary

In theory, there is no need to test the first differences of the processes using the Zivot-Andrews test because any big changes will be taken care of through differencing. The results of the ADF Test should suffice.

Cointegration

Given that the series are integrated of order 1, we proceed to test for any cointegrated relationships. This is done using the method of Engle-Granger³.

Given 2 different $I(1)$ time series:

$$y_t = \alpha_0 + \beta_y y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t$$

$$x_t = \alpha_1 + \beta_x x_{t-1} + \nu_t$$

Let:

$$y_t = \beta_0 + \gamma_1 x_t + z_t$$

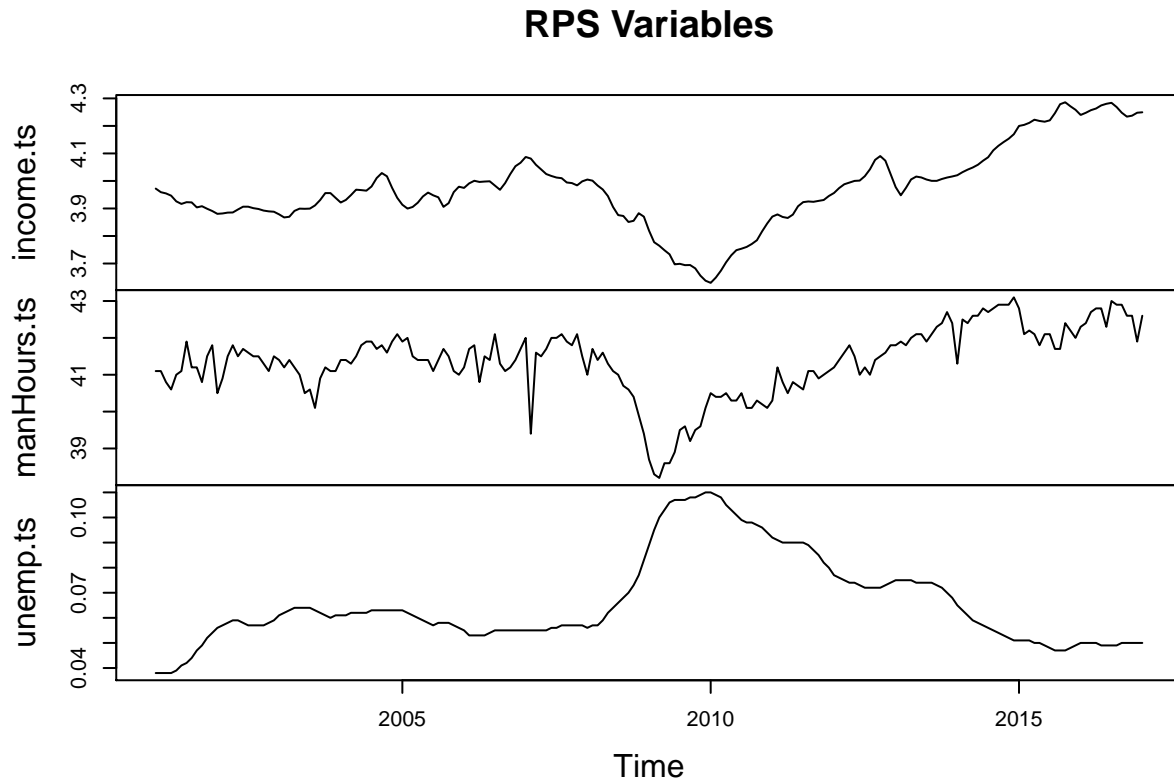
be the linear combination of the time series. Through linear regression, the residuals z_t can be generated. If this new series $z_t = \gamma_0 y_t - \gamma_1 x_t$ is $I(0)$, then there exists a cointegrated relationship.

Cointegration is evident visually by observing two or more series following a similar long term trend. This can be seen in the plot below with income and manufacturing hours. They follow the same path with the exception of short term deviations. Error correction components essentially act as the tie between two series such that no one series deviates far from the other.

Here, income and manufacturing hours will be tested for a cointegrating relationship since they are both $I(1)$ according to the ADF Test and the Zivot-Andrews Test, along with visual evidence of cointegration.

³ *Ibid.*

Plots

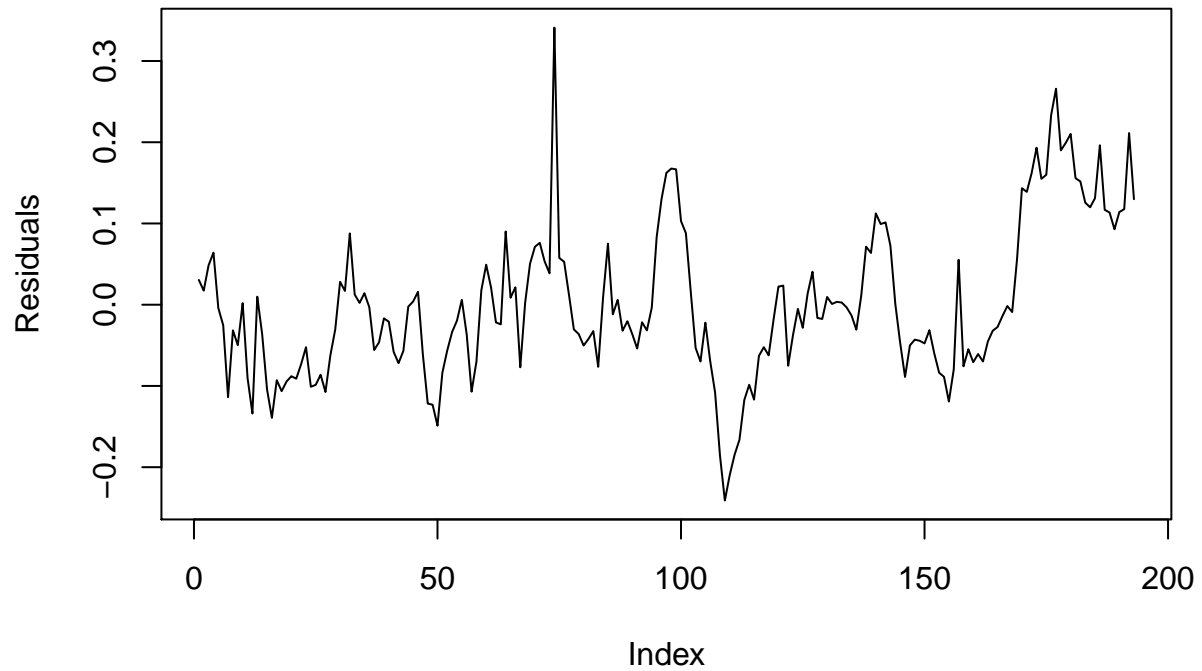


Sample Code regressing average hours worked in manufacturing with income

```
coint.lm <- lm(income.ts ~ manHours.ts)
summary(coint.lm)

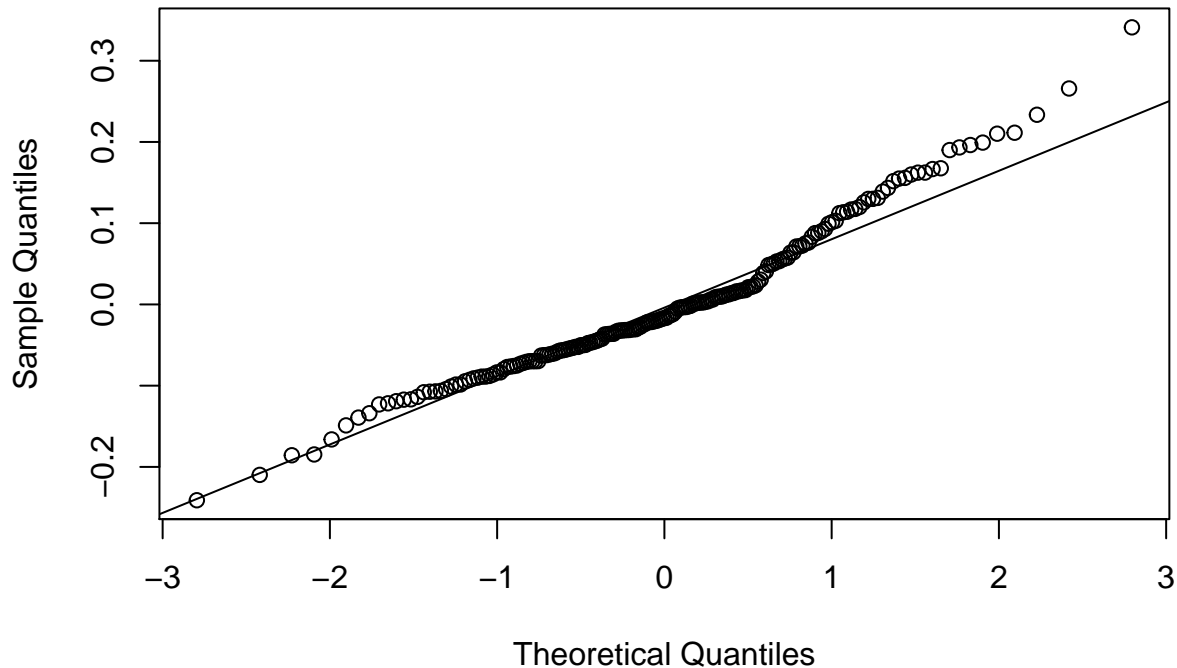
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = income.ts ~ manHours.ts)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -0.24104 -0.06077 -0.01686  0.05284  0.34108
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) -0.93067    0.29704  -3.133   0.002 **
## manHours.ts  0.11855    0.00718  16.511 <2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 0.09377 on 191 degrees of freedom
```

```
## Multiple R-squared:  0.588, Adjusted R-squared:  0.5859  
## F-statistic: 272.6 on 1 and 191 DF,  p-value: < 2.2e-16  
plot(coint.lm$residuals, type='l', ylab = 'Residuals')
```



```
qqnorm(coint.lm$residuals)  
qqline(coint.lm$residuals)
```

Normal Q-Q Plot



```
skew <- skewness(coint.lm$residuals)
kurt <- kurtosis(coint.lm$residuals)
```

Overall, the residuals seem to follow roughly stationary trend according to the plot above. The Normal QQ Plot shows a bit of a flattening towards the middle and is concave up, indicating a positive skew. In fact, the exact amount of skewness and kurtosis is 0.6517198 and 3.6490306 respectively. As such, the skewness is rather low, but the kurtosis may be a little high due to the outliers found at the end of the upper tail on the QQ plot. This can be attributed in the residual time series plot to what appears to be a change in regime towards the end of the series. Overall, this data looks okay to complete reliable further analysis.

Implementing the Augmented Dickey Fuller Test yields the following result:

Results of ADF Test on Residuals

```
##
## #####
## # Augmented Dickey-Fuller Test Unit Root Test #
## #####
##
## Test regression none
##
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = z.diff ~ z.lag.1 - 1 + z.diff.lag)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -0.194861 -0.028319 -0.000053  0.026100  0.305830
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## z.lag.1      -0.14020     0.04239  -3.307  0.00113 **
## z.diff.lag  -0.13492     0.07322  -1.843  0.06693 .
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 0.05192 on 189 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared:  0.09612,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.08655
## F-statistic: 10.05 on 2 and 189 DF,  p-value: 7.12e-05
##
##
## Value of test-statistic is: -3.3071
##
## Critical values for test statistics:
##      1pct  5pct 10pct
## tau1 -2.58 -1.95 -1.62
```

The test statistic is very significant and the unit root null hypothesis is rejected in favor of stationarity. It is concluded that the residuals of the linear combination of the two series constituting average hours worked in manufacturing and income is stationary and thus the series are cointegrated.

Model Fitting

Now that it is certain that two of the three variables are cointegrated, I will compare the model fitting of these variables in a vector autoregressive model and a vector error correction model.

VAR Model

```
series <- cbind(income.ts, manHours.ts, unemp.ts)
series <- ts(series, start = 2001, frequency = 12)

model.var <- VAR(series, p = 2, type = 'both', exogen = cbind(rec, rps))
summary(model.var)

##
## VAR Estimation Results:
## =====
## Endogenous variables: income.ts, manHours.ts, unemp.ts
## Deterministic variables: both
## Sample size: 191
```

```

## Log Likelihood: 1607.554
## Roots of the characteristic polynomial:
## 0.9206 0.7857 0.7721 0.7721 0.6014 0.2346
## Call:
## VAR(y = series, p = 2, type = "both", exogen = cbind(rec, rps))
##
##
## Estimation results for equation income.ts:
## =====
## income.ts = income.ts.l1 + manHours.ts.l1 + unemp.ts.l1 + income.ts.l2 + manHours.ts.l2 + unemp.ts.l2
##
##               Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## income.ts.l1   1.436e+00  6.115e-02  23.482 < 2e-16 ***
## manHours.ts.l1 -6.743e-04  2.392e-03  -0.282 0.778322
## unemp.ts.l1    -2.278e+00  9.687e-01  -2.352 0.019747 *
## income.ts.l2   -5.710e-01  6.158e-02  -9.272 < 2e-16 ***
## manHours.ts.l2  8.486e-05  2.378e-03   0.036 0.971577
## unemp.ts.l2    1.444e+00  9.588e-01   1.506 0.133783
## const          5.935e-01  1.537e-01   3.862 0.000157 ***
## trend          2.710e-04  8.185e-05   3.311 0.001122 **
## rec            -9.374e-03  4.106e-03  -2.283 0.023605 *
## rps            -4.812e-03  5.906e-03  -0.815 0.416303
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
##
## Residual standard error: 0.01255 on 181 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-Squared: 0.993, Adjusted R-squared: 0.9927
## F-statistic: 2856 on 9 and 181 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
##
##
## Estimation results for equation manHours.ts:
## =====
## manHours.ts = income.ts.l1 + manHours.ts.l1 + unemp.ts.l1 + income.ts.l2 + manHours.ts.l2 + unemp.ts.l2
##
##               Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## income.ts.l1   -2.847211   1.862355  -1.529 0.12805
## manHours.ts.l1  0.478940   0.072837   6.576 5.03e-10 ***
## unemp.ts.l1    -65.776842  29.501740  -2.230 0.02700 *
## income.ts.l2    2.804844   1.875419   1.496 0.13650
## manHours.ts.l2  0.168576   0.072432   2.327 0.02105 *
## unemp.ts.l2    56.663398  29.199083   1.941 0.05386 .
## const          15.120957   4.680570   3.231 0.00147 **
## trend          0.004316   0.002493   1.732 0.08506 .
## rec            -0.399583   0.125052  -3.195 0.00165 **
## rps            -0.258774   0.179854  -1.439 0.15193
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
##
## Residual standard error: 0.3822 on 181 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-Squared: 0.8449, Adjusted R-squared: 0.8372
## F-statistic: 109.5 on 9 and 181 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
##

```



```

##
## Estimation results for equation unemp.ts:
## =====
## unemp.ts = income.ts.l1 + manHours.ts.l1 + unemp.ts.l1 + income.ts.l2 + manHours.ts.l2 + unemp.ts.l2
##
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## income.ts.l1  -1.580e-03  3.510e-03  -0.450 0.653059
## manHours.ts.l1 -1.440e-04  1.373e-04  -1.049 0.295660
## unemp.ts.l1    1.644e+00  5.560e-02  29.570 < 2e-16 ***
## income.ts.l2   2.825e-03  3.535e-03   0.799 0.425291
## manHours.ts.l2 -6.243e-05  1.365e-04  -0.457 0.648019
## unemp.ts.l2   -6.613e-01  5.503e-02 -12.015 < 2e-16 ***
## const         5.041e-03  8.822e-03   0.571 0.568395
## trend        -8.668e-06  4.698e-06  -1.845 0.066689 .
## rec           8.522e-04  2.357e-04   3.616 0.000388 ***
## rps           8.740e-04  3.390e-04   2.578 0.010727 *
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
##
## Residual standard error: 0.0007203 on 181 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-Squared: 0.9984, Adjusted R-squared: 0.9983
## F-statistic: 1.268e+04 on 9 and 181 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
##
##
## Covariance matrix of residuals:
##              income.ts manHours.ts  unemp.ts
## income.ts    1.575e-04 -0.0002031 -1.461e-06
## manHours.ts  -2.031e-04  0.1460484 -1.780e-05
## unemp.ts     -1.461e-06 -0.0000178  5.188e-07
##
## Correlation matrix of residuals:
##              income.ts manHours.ts unemp.ts
## income.ts      1.00000    -0.04236 -0.16165
## manHours.ts   -0.04236     1.00000 -0.06466
## unemp.ts      -0.16165    -0.06466  1.00000

```

The fitted model with significant terms can be represented as follows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} i_t \\ h_t \\ u_t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.44 & 0 & -2.28 \\ 0 & 0.479 & -65.78 \\ 0 & 0 & 1.64 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i_{t-1} \\ h_{t-1} \\ u_{t-1} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -0.571 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.169 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.661 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i_{t-2} \\ h_{t-2} \\ u_{t-2} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -0.009374 \\ -0.399583 \\ -0.0008522 \end{bmatrix} \gamma \\
+ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0.000874 \end{bmatrix} \nu + \begin{bmatrix} 0.594 \\ 15.12 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 0.00027 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_1 \\ \epsilon_2 \\ \epsilon_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

where γ represents the exogenous recession variable and ν signifies the enactment of a RPS. The variables i , h , and u represent income, average weekly hours worked in manufacturing, and unemployment rate respectively.

VECM Model

```
model.vecm <- VECM(series, lag=2, r=1, include = 'both', estim = '2OLS', exogen = cbind(rec, rps))
summary(model.vecm)
```

```
## #####
## ###Model VECM
## #####
## Full sample size: 193      End sample size: 190
## Number of variables: 3    Number of estimated slope parameters 33
## AIC -4751.828      BIC -4638.182      SSR 27.36894
## Cointegrating vector (estimated by 2OLS):
##      income.ts manHours.ts unemp.ts
## r1          1 -0.09973907 2.315828
##
##
##
##      ECT                      Intercept
## Equation income.ts  -0.0401(0.0159)*  -0.0026(0.0027)
## Equation manHours.ts 2.0273(0.5286)*** 0.2909(0.0892)**
## Equation unemp.ts    0.0013(0.0010)    0.0002(0.0002)
##
##      Trend                      income.ts -1
## Equation income.ts    3.5e-05(4.0e-05)    0.7371(0.0658)***
## Equation manHours.ts -0.0035(0.0013)**    -3.5777(2.1928)
## Equation unemp.ts     -3.0e-06(2.6e-06)    -0.0053(0.0042)
##
##      manHours.ts -1          unemp.ts -1
## Equation income.ts  -0.0042(0.0023).    -4.4600(1.1944)***
## Equation manHours.ts -0.2865(0.0766)*** -68.6391(39.8037).
## Equation unemp.ts    3.0e-05(0.0001)    0.6328(0.0757)***
##
##      income.ts -2          manHours.ts -2
## Equation income.ts  -0.3594(0.0679)*** -0.0044(0.0022)*
## Equation manHours.ts -1.4518(2.2620)    -0.1415(0.0732).
## Equation unemp.ts    0.0079(0.0043).    8.1e-05(0.0001)
##
##      unemp.ts -2          rec
## Equation income.ts  2.6318(1.1998)*    -0.0064(0.0036).
## Equation manHours.ts -14.6643(39.9829) -0.2524(0.1191)*
## Equation unemp.ts    0.1311(0.0760).    0.0007(0.0002)**
##
##      rps
## Equation income.ts  0.0019(0.0036)
## Equation manHours.ts 0.1730(0.1200)
## Equation unemp.ts    7.3e-06(0.0002)
```

The VECM can be represented as follows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} i_t \\ h_t \\ u_t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.737 & 0 & -4.46 \\ 0 & -.287 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.633 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i_{t-1} \\ h_{t-1} \\ u_{t-1} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -.359 & -.0044 & 2.63 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i_{t-2} \\ h_{t-2} \\ u_{t-2} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -.2524 \\ .0007 \end{bmatrix} \gamma \\ + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \nu + \begin{bmatrix} -.0401 \\ 2.0273 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z_{i,t} \\ z_{h,t} \\ z_{u,t} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0.291 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -.0035 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_1 \\ \varepsilon_2 \\ \varepsilon_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

where γ represents the exogenous recession variable and ν signifies the enactment of a RPS. Each z represents the residuals from the linear combination of all three variables

Conclusions

As shown above, the error correction component with the values $[-.0401 \quad 2.0273 \quad 0]^T$ is significant. In fact, the significant terms correspond to the two series, income and average hours, that were suspected to be cointegrated. The positive and negative values are insightful as well. When one series gets far from another in a short term deviation, the error term “pulls” it back to follow the long term trend aligned with the other series.

Comparing the models shows quite a number of differences in model fit. Because it is known that the VECM model is the one to use, one can count the VAR as the “incorrect” model. Assuming a VAR a priori could result in a bad model in the end.

Table 4: Comparisons of Parameter Values between VAR and VECM Models

Parameter	VAR - Income	VECM - Income	VAR - Hours	VECM - Hours	VAR - Unemployment	VECM - Unemployment
Lag 1 Income	1.436	0.7371	0	0	0	0
Lag 1 Hours	0	-0.0042	0.478940	-0.2865	0	0
Lag 1 Unemp.	-2.278	-4.4600	-65.776842	0	1.644	0.6328
Lag 2 Income	-0.571	-0.3594	0	0	0	0
Lag 2 Hours	0	-0.0044	0.168576	0	0	0
Lag 2 Unemp.	0	2.6318	0	0	-0.6613	0
Constant	0.5935	0	15.120957	0.2909	0	0
Trend	0.000271	0	0	-0.0035	0	0
RPS Policy	0	0	0	0	0.000874	0
Recession	-0.009374	0	-0.399583	-0.2524	0.0008522	0.0007

In the VECM model, terms overall become more significant in terms of income. What was formerly left out of the VAR is now included in the VECM. However, the constant disappears, as well as the effect of the Recession. Perhaps the lost Recession term is gained in the new influence of lagged average manufacturing hours in the VECM not included in the VAR.

In terms of manufacturing hours, there is a lot of terms which become insignificant compared with its VAR counterpart. One striking example is the influence of first lagged unemployment. Formerly, it was at a significant -65.77. With the VECM, it becomes insignificant.

One other interesting effect is the loss of RPS significance. Enactment of a renewable portfolio standard demonstrated some effect in increasing unemployment in the VAR. However, it loses its significance in the VECM. This result should be important to note, given the overall goal of the project.

Unemployment seems to become solely determined by previous values of unemployment and the recession, which increases it as shown in the VECM. It's terms become a lot more succinct going from the VAR.

Overall, this is a simple analysis conducted to highlight some potential errors that may come in implementing a VAR with a cointegrated multivariate series. This is important to know for the greater RPS project. If a VAR, even a Bayesian estimated one, excludes cointegration, this may lead to faulty results when dynamic multiplier analysis is applied. Of course, this exercise is not a perfect representation. One ought to include all variables, not just three. Additionally, model fit might be improved if log differences were to be used, as they are in the regular RPS. For ease of interpretation and results, levels were used here. One final difference is that this project used maximum likelihood estimation instead of Bayesian for efficiency. A more thorough review may use Bayesian prior and posterior distributions to ascertain parameter estimates. Yet, this would be a complex and potentially confusing element of what seeks to be a short and intuitive exercise.

Although the new model does not consider the variables with strongly cointegrated relationships, the old one does. Thus, results from that model may be inaccurate and should probably not be used to argue for or against RPS policy. However, the newer model will supercede the older one, and this concern can be laid to rest. What can be concluded in the end, however, is that one ought to be watchful for cointegration and take appropriate action to address it should it be detected.