

# Complex-valued Econometrics with Examples in R

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# Introduction

The theory of complex variables functions is actively used in a variety of disciplines, including modern physics, engineering sciences (Mandic et al., 2007; Jia and Yang, 2016), information theory (Eriksson and Koivunen, 2006), signal processing (Arens, 1957; Brown and Crane, 1969; Gardner, 1993; Chargé et al., 2001; Gerstacker et al., 2003; Delmas, 2004; Chevalier and Pipon, 2006; Buzzi et al., 2006; Percival, 2006; Tauböck, 2007; Rubin-Delanchy and Walden, 2007; Adali et al., 2008) and others (e.g. Kociuba and Rowe, 2016). It is relatively easy to describe the complex phenomena that are studied in these areas of science using the models and methods of this branch of mathematics. Social sciences, being much more complicated due to the unpredictability of human behaviour, tend to use simpler instruments for modelling complex processes, such as linear regression, ARIMA, ETS etc. For example, there are only few papers in which methods and models of the theory of complex variables functions would be used in economics, and they are typically used as instruments for diagnostics or statistical tests (for example, for the unit root test, such as ADF from Dickey and Fuller, 1979) rather than in proper modelling.

In 2012, Springer published the monograph “Complex-valued Modeling in Economics and Finance” (Svetunkov, 2012), which presented the theory and methodology of modelling using complex variables in economics. Svetunkov (2012) summarised the main principles of using complex variables in economics and business, and discussed how to estimate some of those models. Before him, the monograph more focused on economics was written by Tamari (1997). The author first introduced Wealth as a complex variable consisting of Output (real part) and Money (imaginary part) and showed how modelling can be done efficiently in the area of economics even with such a simple representation. Unfortunately, this work has gone unnoticed in scientific world. We became aware of this work only in 2016, when Ben Tamari himself kindly sent Sergey Svetunkov his monograph.

Since 2012, there has been some developments in the area of modelling using complex variables in business and economics, notably a paper by Svetunkov et al. (2022) on Complex Exponential Smoothing and Kourentzes et al. (2021) on an error measure based on the idea of complex numbers. Up until now, the modelling with complex variables has been mainly picked up by academics

working in the areas of engineering and signal processing. The latter group has been using complex autoregressions for a couple of decades, modelling and predicting signals. In other disciplines, complex variables are not used directly for model building. The probable reason for this is the lack of the communication between the disciplines, poor development of theory of complex-valued modelling and the inherited inertia of academia.

In a try to speed up the adoption of the new instrument, we have written this monograph, summarising the main principles in statistics and econometrics of complex variables. We hope that the theory explained in this monograph will help statisticians, econometricians and forecasters in using complex-valued models for a wider variety of problems.

Chapter 1 discusses the theory of complex numbers, random complex variables, conventional and complex-valued statistics. Chapter 2 moves to the discussion of the simple complex-valued linear regression and how it can be estimated in sample. We then move to Chapter 3 to discuss correlation analysis of complex variables and then extend the material from Chapter 2 to multiple complex linear regression in Chapter 4. After that, we discuss assumptions of complex-valued models and what issues can their violation cause. We finally move to the dynamic complex-valued models in Chapter 6, showing how complex ARIMA can be estimated and what properties it has. Last but not least, we provide two examples of application of complex-valued models, on two datasets, focusing on dynamic and on the regression complex-valued models in Chapter 7. All of this material is supported by examples in R, which will rely heavily on the package **complex**, developed specifically to support this monograph. This means that anyone can then use the proposed models for purposes of time series analysis and forecasting.

This monograph uses the **complex** package for R. Many of the examples in R will use functions from this package, so make sure to install it from CRAN before running any R code (Svetunkov, 2024):

```
install.packages("complex")
```

We will also need several other packages for our analysis, including the following:

```
library(mvtnorm)
library(tseries)
library(greybox)
```

## Who is this monograph for?

This monograph will be useful for PhD students and academics working with multivariate models, such as vector autoregressive models and/or multivariate regression. The models discussed here can in general be applied to many real life problems where a pair of response variables needs to be or can be modelled

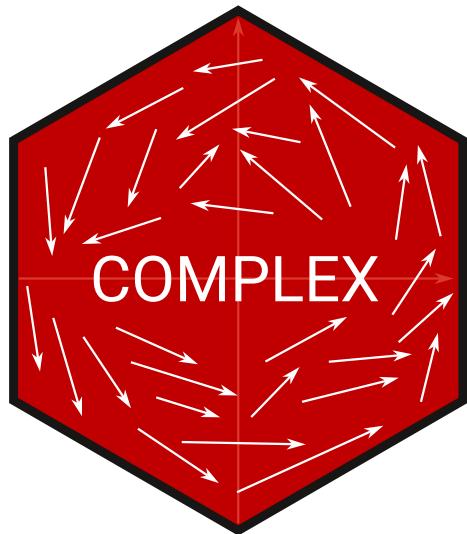


Figure 1: Hex-sticker of the complex package in R.

and/or predicted.



# Chapter 1

## Introduction to theory of complex variables

Before we move to the complex-valued models, we need to recap the basics. In this chapter, we discuss the basics of complex numbers theory and move from it to more complicated topics of complex variables, their functions and basics of statistics with complex variables. We finish the chapter with an important section of Complex-valued Modelling, where we discuss how the models of complex variables can be constructed in principle. All of these are the building blocks for the models and instruments that we will discuss in the next chapters.

### 1.1 Theory of complex numbers

#### 1.1.1 Historical context

This section sets out the basic concepts of the Theory of Complex Variables Functions with some historical overlook of the idea of complex numbers. Hopefully, this will help in understanding the main idea that we will use extensively in the following chapters.

The theory of complex numbers originates in 1572 in Bologna. It was in that place and precisely that year that the manuscript of an Italian mathematician Rafael Bombelli was published (Bombelli, 1572). The book was called “Algebra”. In it, Rafael Bombelli showed how to solve the following cubic equation:

$$x^3 = 15x + 4. \quad (1.1)$$

The root of cubic equations at that time was calculated using the formula of Scipione del Ferro. With regards to the task at hand, finding the root should

have been carried out as follows:

$$x = \sqrt[3]{\frac{4}{2} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{4}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{15}{3}\right)^3}} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{4}{2} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{4}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{15}{3}\right)^3}} = \\ \sqrt[3]{2 + \sqrt{-121}} + \sqrt[3]{2 - \sqrt{-121}}. \quad (1.2)$$

As can be seen from equation (1.2), there are several square roots, and it follows directly from the right hand side of this equation that to calculate the roots of equation (1.1), we need to extract the square root from the negative number, -121. This means that it will not be possible to find a solution to this equation in the domain of real numbers.

This does not mean that equation (1.1) does not have a solution. If you represent the problem graphically on a plane then it is easy to see that there is one. But it is impossible to find it arithmetically using the Scipione del Ferro formula, because there is a negative number in the expression on the right-hand side of (1.2), and back then, mathematicians were sure that the square root of a negative number does not exist.

Rafael Bombelli suggested to ignore the negative sign in the expression. After all, the number -121 can be represented as a product of two numbers: -1 and 121. Then the square root of this number can be written as  $\sqrt{-1} \times 11$ . So, formula (1.2) becomes:

$$x = \sqrt[3]{2 + 11\sqrt{-1}} + \sqrt[3]{2 - 11\sqrt{-1}}. \quad (1.3)$$

Now it is possible to get a solution of the problem, and the root of the cubic equation is  $x = 4$ .

For a long time, Bombelli's approach was considered by scientists as a convenient mathematical trick. And the square root of minus one was called "magic unit", "vanishing unit", etc. Finally, the term "imaginary unit" was established by René Descartes in 1637, and any number multiplied by the imaginary unit would be called "imaginary number". Merging a real number with an imaginary number gives another number, which can be considered as a more general to the two, which is called "complex". It can be written as:

$$\underline{z} = x + iy, \quad (1.4)$$

where  $x$  is the real part,  $iy$  is the imaginary part of a complex number,  $x$  and  $y$  are real numbers and  $i$  is the imaginary unit that satisfies the equality:

$$i^2 = -1. \quad (1.5)$$

In this monograph, we use the underline symbol  $\underline{z}$  to denote a complex number and to distinguish it from the real one.

With complex numbers, one can perform almost all operations as with the real ones. However, taking into account the properties of the imaginary unit, these

operations can lead to results that are not common in the domain of real numbers. For example, non-linear transformations (discussed later in this chapter) can lead to non-standard results in comparison with the real domain.

The main problem that analysts face when trying to understand a complex number is the challenge in the interpretation of the imaginary part. The typical question in this case can be formulated as: “Where do imaginary numbers appear in practice?” and “what is the practical meaning of the imaginary unit?” We have heard questions like that many times, and while they are valid, we think that they do not have appropriate answers and divert analysts from what the modelling with complex variables brings.

We argue that the imaginary unit does not need to have any practical meaning: neither in economics, nor in sociology, nor in engineering, nor in physics. The imaginary unit is a mathematical rule, and that is all. It is a mathematical abstraction that has useful properties. A number  $\sqrt{2}$  or  $\ln 3$  do not have practical meaning either, but they are useful for modelling purposes and solving applied problems in a variety of disciplines. Similarly, the imaginary unit is convenient for solving a whole class of problems in different areas of application. With the help of the rules specified by conditions (1.4) and (1.5), it is possible to simplify some mathematical operations and create more appropriate mathematical models.

Imaginary and complex numbers are just instruments that can help in describing a real-life phenomenon. If a researcher decides to use complex variables for modelling of real processes, they will need to define some rules according to which one component of a complex process is attributed to the real part, and another one is attributed to the imaginary part of the complex variable. These rules might seem arbitrary, because there is no “true” recipe, according to which the assignment should be done. The main motivation for them is the efficiency of modelling (such as goodness of fit or forecasting accuracy) and nothing else. We discuss this aspect in more detail later in this chapter, in Section 1.4. To understand better how the modelling with complex variables can be done, we need first to understand how complex variables can be represented and interpreted.

### 1.1.2 Properties of complex numbers

We start with the basics. A real number represents visually a certain segment on the numerical axis, which has a zero point and a multitude of potential values from minus infinity to infinity. Any real number is characterized by the distance from zero to the value of that number. Negative numbers are located to the left of zero, while the positive ones are located to the right of it.

A complex number consists of two parts, and can be visualised on the plane with two perpendicular axes, where the real numbers are usually placed on the horizontal line (x-axis), while the imaginary ones are on the vertical one (y-axis). This is shown visually in Figure 1.1 with a complex number  $z = x + iy$ .

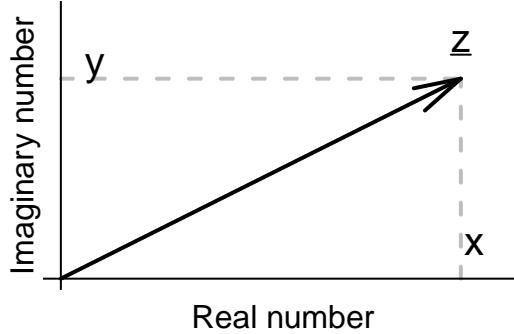


Figure 1.1: Visual presentation of a complex number on the complex plane.

Any point lying on the complex plane in Figure 1.1 characterises a complex number, even if that point lies on the axis of real numbers. In that specific case, we would be talking about a complex number with a zero imaginary part, i.e.  $\underline{z} = x + i0$ .

Given that complex numbers can be represented on a plane (so called Cartesian coordinates), the number (1.4) can be represented in a form of a vector that starts in the origin of coordinates and ends at the point  $(x, y)$ . Based on that, any complex number can also be represented in a polar coordinates form using the magnitude of the vector and its polar angle:

$$\underline{z} = x + iy = r(\cos \phi + i \sin \phi), \quad (1.6)$$

where  $r = |\underline{z}|$  is the magnitude, which is calculated as a Euclidean distance from the origin to the point  $(x, y)$  on the plane:

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}, \quad (1.7)$$

and  $\phi = \text{Arg}(\underline{z})$  is the angle (or the argument of a complex number), which equals to:

$$\phi = \arctan \frac{y}{x} + 2\pi l, \quad (1.8)$$

where  $l$  is an integer number. While depending on a task,  $l$  can be set to a positive, a negative number, or zero, for convenience, we will restrict it to  $l = 0$ , because all the other values will not be useful for the inference in this monograph.

Using the magnitude and the polar angle, we can also represent any complex number in the exponential form, which was first proposed in 1748 by Euler, in his book “Introduction to the Infinitesimal Analysis” (Euler, 1748):

$$\underline{z} = re^{i\phi}, \quad (1.9)$$

where  $e$  is the Euler’s constant. Equation (1.9) is nowadays also called “Euler’s formula”. Comparing (1.6) with (1.9), we can conclude that:

$$e^{i\phi} = \cos \phi + i \sin \phi, \quad (1.10)$$

which gives the connection between the linear, trigonometric and exponential forms of a complex number. In the exponential form (1.9), a positive real number has  $\phi = 0$ , while a negative one has  $\phi = \pi$ , and all imaginary numbers have an angle dividable by  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ . So, for example:

$$\begin{aligned} 41 &= 41e^{i0} \\ i41 &= 41e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}} \\ -41 &= 41e^{i\pi} \\ -i41 &= 41e^{i\frac{3\pi}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

In fact, multiplication of any complex number by the imaginary unit implies the rotation of complex vector by  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ , as shown in Figure 1.2, where a complex number  $\underline{z}_1 = x_1 + iy_1$  becomes  $\underline{z}_2 = \underline{z}_1 \times i = x_2 + iy_2$  etc.

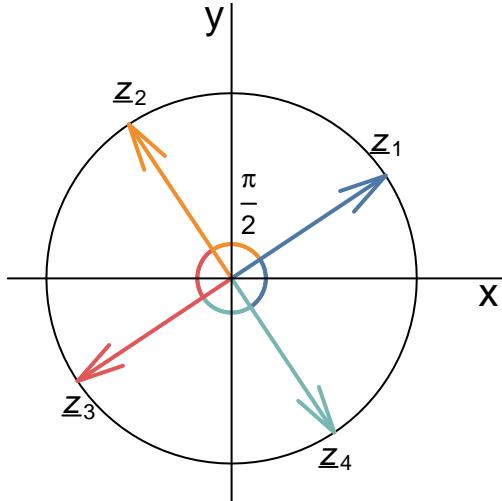


Figure 1.2: Multiplication of a complex number by  $i$  implies the rotation of it by  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ .

In a way, any mathematical operation with a complex number implies a change in magnitude and angle of the number, while the multiplication and division by a number with non-zero imaginary part will always lead to the rotation of the vector. Operations of addition and subtraction are simpler in the linear form than in the trigonometric or exponential one:

$$\underline{z}_3 = \underline{z}_1 + \underline{z}_2 = x_1 + x_2 + i(y_1 + y_2),$$

while operations of multiplication and division are easier to do in either the exponential or the trigonometric forms of complex numbers:

$$\underline{z}_3 = \underline{z}_1 \times \underline{z}_2 = r_1 r_2 e^{i\phi_1 + \phi_2}$$

or:

$$\underline{z}_3 = r_1 r_2 (\cos(\phi_1 + \phi_2) + i \sin(\phi_1 + \phi_2)).$$

Furthermore, given that any complex number can be represented in the exponential form (1.9), it can also be visualised on a polar coordinates plane, where the magnitude is placed on the x-axis, and the polar angle is assigned to the y-axis. This is shown visually in Figure 1.3.

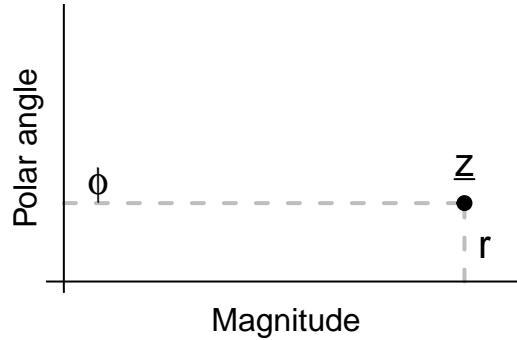


Figure 1.3: Visual presentation of a complex number in the polar coordinates.

The usefulness of the polar coordinates presentation becomes apparent when a set of complex numbers is considered, because then in some cases it becomes possible to see some relations that are not obvious on the Cartesian plane. Figure 1.4 shows an example of a set of complex random numbers, for which the real and imaginary parts do not seem to have any obvious relation, but the magnitude and the angle have a negative one.

In this case, modelling can be done in the exponential form of complex numbers, which might allow capturing complicated non-linear relations between variables.

When it comes to comparing complex numbers, mathematically we will say that two complex numbers  $\underline{z}_1 = x_1 + iy_1$  and  $\underline{z}_2 = x_2 + iy_2$  are equal to each other if and only if their real and imaginary parts are equal:

$$\underline{z}_1 = \underline{z}_2 \iff \begin{cases} x_1 = x_2 \\ y_1 = y_2 \end{cases},$$

which is equivalent to saying that their magnitudes and polar angles are equal:

$$\underline{z}_1 = \underline{z}_2 \iff \begin{cases} |\underline{z}_1| = |\underline{z}_2| \\ \text{Arg}(\underline{z}_1) = \text{Arg}(\underline{z}_2) \end{cases}.$$

Unfortunately, given that complex numbers are two dimensional, it is not possible to say in general whether one number is greater or less than the other. However, we could use magnitude to compare complex numbers, to say which one lies

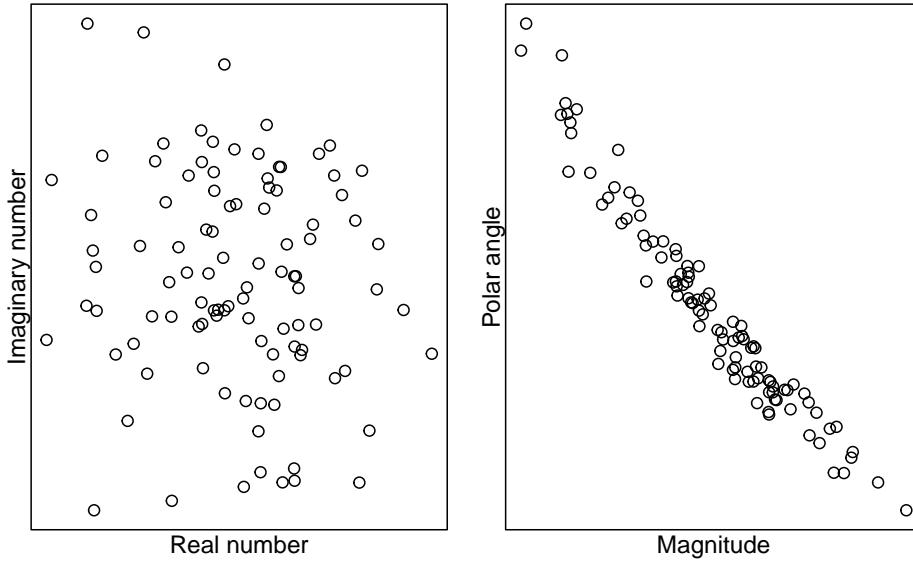


Figure 1.4: Visualisation of a set of complex numbers on Cartesian and on polar coordinates planes.

further away from the origin than the other. In that case, the number with a larger magnitude could be considered as a greater than the one with the smaller magnitude. The main problem arises in situations, when magnitudes are equal, but the arguments are not. While we could compare them as well, the comparison would be arbitrary, because the angles are not uniquely defined (e.g. the angle  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  is equivalent to  $\frac{5\pi}{2}$ ), and the fact that one angle is higher than the other only means that one number is rotated further than the other one, thus not giving any meaningful information about the comparison of numbers. So, two complex numbers in Figure 1.5 would have the same magnitude, but will have different angles, and it is not possible to say whether one number is greater than the other in this case. In order to make a solid conclusion, we would need to devise additional criteria for comparison of numbers (e.g. positive numbers are “better” than the negative ones, thus  $\phi_1 = \pi$  and  $\phi_1 = -\pi$  is “worse” than  $\phi_2 = 0$ ), but inevitably they will be arbitrary.

Continuing the discussion of different forms of a complex number, its magnitude can be represented in exponential form:

$$r = e^{\ln(r)},$$

where  $\ln$  is the natural logarithm. This can then be used to rewrite the exponential form of a complex number as:

$$\underline{z} = e^{\ln r + i\phi}, \quad (1.11)$$

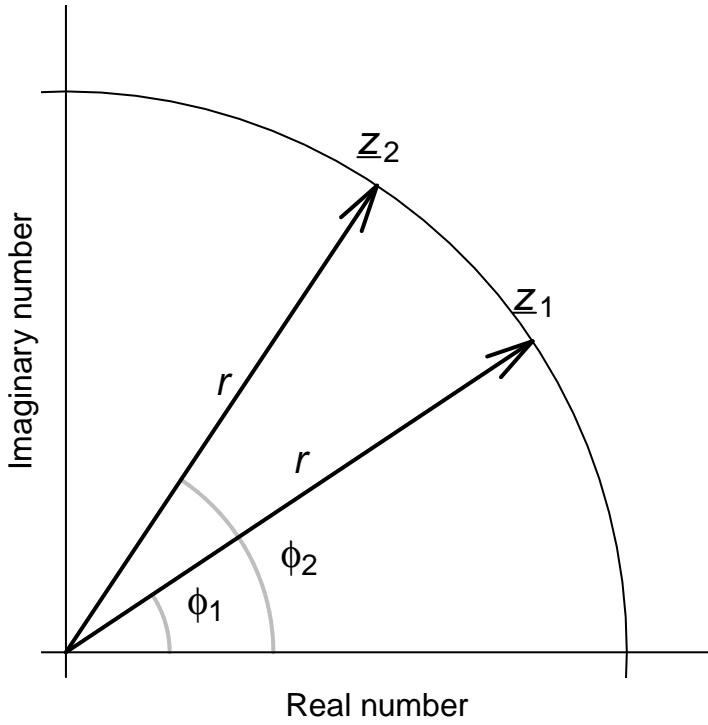


Figure 1.5: Comparison of two complex numbers  $\underline{z}_1$  and  $\underline{z}_2$  that have the same magnitude  $r$ , but different angles  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ .

And this form allows calculating logarithms of a complex number:

$$\ln \underline{z} = \ln(e^{\ln r + i\phi}) = \ln r + i\phi. \quad (1.12)$$

This operation will become useful when we discuss transformations of complex-valued functions, but it also shows that a logarithm of a negative real number is a complex number, because in that case  $\phi = \pi$ . This demonstrates that the field of complex numbers is complete: any mathematical operation of a complex number will give another complex number.

Given that we now deal with two-dimensional entities, complex numbers have additional instruments that do not have any role in the real-valued domain. One of these instruments is the conjugate complex number. It is the number, for which the imaginary part has the sign opposite to the one of the original variable. For example, the conjugate of the complex variable  $\underline{z} = x + iy$  is  $\tilde{\underline{z}} = x - iy$ . These numbers are useful because the multiplication of a complex number by its conjugate gives a real number:

$$\underline{z} \times \tilde{\underline{z}} = (x + iy)(x - iy) = x^2 + y^2, \quad (1.13)$$

which is the square of the magnitude (1.7) of either complex variable  $\underline{z}$ , or  $\tilde{\underline{z}}$ . Conjugation is distributive over addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, meaning that:

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{x+y} &= \tilde{x} + \tilde{y} \\ \widetilde{x-y} &= \tilde{x} - \tilde{y} \\ \widetilde{x \times y} &= \tilde{x} \times \tilde{y} \\ \widetilde{\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)} &= \frac{\tilde{x}}{\tilde{y}}. \end{aligned} \quad (1.14)$$

These properties become especially useful when we work with complex-valued functions, and we will use them extensively in the following chapters of this monograph.

Finally, given that any complex number can be represented as a vector, we can write it mathematically either like a vector:

$$\underline{z} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.15)$$

or like a matrix (Halliwell, 2015, provides some examples based on these presentations):

$$\underline{z} = \begin{pmatrix} x & -y \\ y & x \end{pmatrix}, \quad (1.16)$$

where the symbol  $\sim$  below the letter denotes a matrix presentation of a complex number to distinguish matrix form from the vector one. The matrix notation might be not as straightforward as the vector one, so to better understand it,

consider multiplication of two complex numbers:  $\underline{a} = 2 + 3i$  and  $\underline{b} = 1 + 4i$ . In the arithmetic form, we will have:

$$\underline{a} \times \underline{b} = (2 + 3i) \times (1 + 4i) = 2 - 12 + (8 + 3)i = -10 + 11i.$$

In the matrix notations, we get:

$$\underline{a} \times \underline{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 \\ 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 - 12 & -8 - 3 \\ 3 + 8 & -12 + 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -10 & -11 \\ 11 & -10 \end{pmatrix}.$$

As we see, the operation in the matrix notation gives the same result as in the arithmetic one. Furthermore, we will get the same result if we multiply a complex number in the matrix form by another one in the vector form:

$$\underline{a} \times \underline{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 - 12 \\ 3 + 8 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ 11 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In the matrix notation, any real number can be represented as a diagonal matrix, while any imaginary one is a matrix with zero diagonal:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x & 0 \\ 0 & x \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -y \\ y & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The vector and matrix representations become especially useful when we work with complex variables to construct complex-valued models. All the mathematical operations done with the vector and matrix representations would correspond to the ones for the conventional complex numbers. Furthermore, the multiplication by the transpose of the original object in both of these cases is equivalent to the multiplication by the complex conjugate (1.13). For the vector:

$$\mathbf{z}'\mathbf{z} = (x \ y) \times \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = (x^2 + y^2) \quad (1.17)$$

and for the matrix:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{z}}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}} = \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ -y & x \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} x & -y \\ y & x \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 + y^2 & 0 \\ 0 & x^2 + y^2 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.18)$$

These transpositions will be called in this monograph “conjugate transpositions”. Finally, in case of matrix form, it is possible to multiply complex variable by itself without the conjugation, which results in:

$$\mathbf{z}\mathbf{z} = \begin{pmatrix} x & -y \\ y & x \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} x & -y \\ y & x \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 - y^2 & -2xy \\ 2xy & x^2 - y^2 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.19)$$

In this monograph, we will call the multiplications (1.18) and (1.19) “conjugate” and “direct” respectively.

### 1.1.3 Complex variables

Similarly to any other variable, complex variable is a placeholder for some values, with the difference that it represents two parts of a number instead of one. Given the properties of complex numbers discussed above, any complex variable can be represented in the linear, trigonometric and exponential forms. But in addition, it can also be represented in the form of a set of equations. For example, if  $y_r + iy_i = 3 + 2i$  then:

$$\begin{aligned} y_r &= 3 \\ y_i &= 2 \end{aligned} \quad (1.20)$$

where the subscripts  $r$  or  $i$  refer to the respective real and imaginary parts of the complex number. In fact, any function of a complex variable can be represented as system of two equations, so that for a function

$$y_r + iy_i = f(x_r + ix_i) \quad (1.21)$$

we have:

$$\begin{aligned} y_r &= \mathcal{R}(f(x_r + ix_i)) \\ y_i &= \mathcal{I}(f(x_r + ix_i)) \end{aligned} \quad (1.22)$$

where  $\mathcal{R}()$  and  $\mathcal{I}()$  are respectively the real and the imaginary parts of a resulting complex variable. For example, a simple linear function:

$$y_r + iy_i = a_{0,r} + ia_{0,i} + (a_{1,r} + ia_{1,i})(x_{1,r} + ix_{1,i}),$$

which can be written after opening the brackets and regrouping elements as:

$$y_r + iy_i = a_{0,r} + a_{1,r}x_{1,r} - a_{1,i}x_{1,i} + i(a_{0,i} + a_{1,i}x_{1,r} + a_{1,r}x_{1,i})$$

is equivalent to the system of the following two equations:

$$\begin{aligned} y_r &= a_{0,r} + a_{1,r}x_{1,r} - a_{1,i}x_{1,i} \\ y_i &= a_{0,i} + a_{1,i}x_{1,r} + a_{1,r}x_{1,i} \end{aligned}$$

Given the vector and matrix representations of complex variables, the same linear function can be written as:

$$\begin{pmatrix} y_r \\ y_i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{0,r} \\ a_{0,i} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} a_{1,r} & -a_{1,i} \\ a_{1,i} & a_{1,r} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_{1,r} \\ x_{1,i} \end{pmatrix},$$

which is useful for some derivations that we will discuss in following chapters. Presenting the system of equations (1.22) in the linear form (1.21) is often convenient. In fact, any function of complex variables can be represented as a system of two functions. Even if the real or the imaginary part of the output complex variable  $y_r + iy_i$  is equal to zero, we can still use a system of two equations, where one of the equations becomes a constraint for the function. For example, if we assume that  $y_i = 0$ , then the system (1.22) becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} y_r &= \mathcal{R}(f(x_r + ix_i)) \\ \mathcal{I}(f(x_r + ix_i)) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

This property becomes especially useful if one needs to construct a model with linear relations between the input variables (this is discussed in Chapter 5 of Svetunkov, 2012).

Given the discussion of the vector and matrix forms of complex numbers, the system of equations (1.22) can be written as:

$$\begin{pmatrix} y_r \\ y_i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{R}(f(x_r + ix_i)) \\ \mathcal{I}(f(x_r + ix_i)) \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.23)$$

or:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{R}(f(x_r + ix_i)) & -\mathcal{I}(f(x_r + ix_i)) \\ \mathcal{I}(f(x_r + ix_i)) & \mathcal{R}(f(x_r + ix_i)) \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.24)$$

The presentations (1.21), (1.22), (1.23) and (1.24) are equivalent and can be used interchangeably depending on the task at hand.

Finally, in terms of definitions, the function (1.21) is often referred to as a “complex-valued” function. It maps a certain values of the input variable  $x_r + ix_i$  with a specific value of the output variable  $y_r + iy_i$ . If there is only one-to-one relation between the input and output variables then such function is called “univalent”. When several different values of the input variable leads to one and the same value of the output variable then the function is called “multivalent”. An example of the former is the linear function:

$$y_r + iy_i = (a_r + ia_i)(x_r + ix_i),$$

while for the latter, an example is

$$y_r + iy_i = (a_r + ia_i)(x_r + ix_i)^2,$$

where two different input complex numbers (for example  $0+i$  and  $0-i$ ) correspond to the same output number  $(-1+i0)$ . While there are examples of functions like that in the real domain, in the complex one, they appear more often due to the rotation property discussed in the previous subsection.

Another important function of complex variables that will be useful in the following chapters is the power function of the form:

$$y_r + iy_i = (x_r + ix_i)^{a_r + ia_i}. \quad (1.25)$$

In this function, the complex variable  $x_{1,r} + ix_{1,i}$  is transformed non-linearly by taking the complex power of it. To better understand how the response variable is connected with the input one in this case, the function (1.25) can be linearised using natural logarithm:

$$\ln(y_r + iy_i) = (a_r + ia_i) \ln(x_r + ix_i),$$

which can then be represented in logarithms of exponential form:

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln(y_r^2 + y_i^2) + i \operatorname{Arg}(y_r + iy_i) = (a_r + ia_i) \left( \frac{1}{2} \ln(x_r^2 + x_i^2) + i \operatorname{Arg}(x_r + ix_i) \right).$$

Opening the brackets on the right hand side, we finally get:

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln(y_r^2 + y_i^2) + i\text{Arg}(y_r + iy_i) = \frac{a_r}{2} \ln(x_r^2 + x_i^2) - a_i \text{Arg}(x_r + ix_i) + i \left( \frac{a_i}{2} \ln(x_r^2 + x_i^2) + a_r \text{Arg}(x_r + ix_i) \right)$$

This equation can be represented as a set of two equations, showing how the magnitude and how the argument of the response complex variable are connected with the magnitude and the argument of the input variable:

$$\begin{aligned} (y_r^2 + y_i^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} &= (x_r^2 + x_i^2)^{\frac{a_r}{2}} e^{-a_i \text{Arg}(x_r + ix_i)} \\ \text{Arg}(y_r + iy_i) &= \frac{a_i}{2} \ln(x_r^2 + x_i^2) + a_r \text{Arg}(x_r + ix_i) \end{aligned} \quad (1.26)$$

In the set of equations (1.26), we see that the parameter  $a_r$  connects directly the magnitude and the argument of  $\underline{x} = x_r + ix_i$  with the magnitude and the argument of  $\underline{y} = y_r + iy_i$ : the magnitude is expanded by the power of  $a_r$ , while the argument is rotated by the same value. On the other hand,  $a_i$  captures the cross-connections between the variables: the higher it is, the lower the impact of the argument of  $\underline{x}$  on the magnitude of  $\underline{y}$  and the higher is the impact of the magnitude of  $\underline{x}$  on the argument of  $\underline{y}$ . The two parts of the complex parameter  $a_r + ia_i$  have some similarities with the coefficient of elasticity/marginal effect in conventional econometrics, where:

1.  $a_r$  shows the percentage change of the magnitude of  $\underline{y}$  with the increase of the magnitude of  $\underline{x}$  by 1%;
2.  $a_r$  at the same time shows by how many radians the argument of  $\underline{y}$  changes with the increase of the argument of  $\underline{x}$  by one radian, i.e. it reflects how fast the rotation of the vector happens (the angle increases);
3. The magnitude of  $\underline{y}$  changes roughly by  $-a_i \times 100$  percent with the increase of the argument of  $\underline{x}$  by one radian (this interpretation implies that  $a_i$  is close to zero);
4. The argument of  $\underline{y}$  will change approximately by  $\frac{a_i}{200}$  radians with the increase of the magnitude of  $\underline{x}$  by 1% (this interpretation also relies on the assumption that  $a_i$  is close to zero).

If the explanatory variable  $\underline{x}$  was a real positive rather than complex, the set of equations (1.26) would simplify to:

$$\begin{aligned} (y_r^2 + y_i^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} &= (x)^{\frac{a_r}{2}} \\ \text{Arg}(y_r + iy_i) &= \frac{a_i}{2} \ln(x) \end{aligned} \quad (1.27)$$

In this case, the  $a_r$  has only the interpretation (1) (substituting the magnitude percentage increase by the percentage increase of  $x$ ), while the  $a_i$  maintains the interpretation (4), which simplifies the whole interpretation substantially.

While there are many other potential non-linear transformations of complex variables, we only discuss the ones above which are typically important in econometrics.

### 1.1.4 Vectors of complex variables

Last but not least, for what follows, we introduce vectors and matrices of complex variables. There are different ways how one can represent a vector of complex variables. The simplest and most direct one is:

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{x}_1 \\ \underline{x}_2 \\ \underline{x}_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_{r,1} + ix_{i,1} \\ x_{r,2} + ix_{i,2} \\ x_{r,3} + ix_{i,3} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (1.28)$$

where the index in subscript (1, 2, 3) represents the observed first, second and third values of the complex variable. Alternatively, given that any complex variable can be represented as a vector (1.15), the same complex vector can be written as a matrix:

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_{r,1} & x_{i,1} \\ x_{r,2} & x_{i,2} \\ x_{r,3} & x_{i,3} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (1.29)$$

Finally, given the connection of complex numbers and matrices (1.16), the same complex vector  $x$  can be written as a matrix:

$$\mathbf{x} \underset{\sim}{=} \begin{pmatrix} x_{r,1} & -x_{i,1} \\ x_{i,1} & x_{r,1} \\ x_{r,2} & -x_{i,2} \\ x_{i,2} & x_{r,2} \\ x_{r,3} & -x_{i,3} \\ x_{i,3} & x_{r,3} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.30)$$

We use the symbol  $\sim$  below a character to denote the complex variable in the matrix form. Each of the forms (1.28), (1.29) and (1.30) might be useful in different circumstances, their usage should be dictated by the modelling purpose.

Finally, note that the transposition of these three forms will imply different things. As discussed earlier, in vector and matrix forms transposition of a complex number implies the conjugation. However, transposing (1.28) will not have the same effect - it will only switch rows and columns of the complex vector:

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}^\top = (x_{r,1} + ix_{i,1} \quad x_{r,2} + ix_{i,2} \quad x_{r,3} + ix_{i,3}), \quad (1.31)$$

If we then switch to either the form (1.15) or (1.16), we will not get the vector of conjugate complex numbers, but rather an object of the original complex variables with the switched rows and columns:

$$\mathbf{x}^\top = \begin{pmatrix} x_{r,1} & x_{r,2} & x_{r,3} \\ x_{i,1} & x_{i,2} & x_{i,3} \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.32)$$

and

$$\mathbf{x}^\top \underset{\sim}{=} \begin{pmatrix} x_{r,1} & -x_{i,1} & x_{r,2} & -x_{i,2} & x_{r,3} & -x_{i,3} \\ x_{i,1} & x_{r,1} & x_{i,2} & x_{r,2} & x_{i,3} & x_{r,3} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.33)$$

We will denote the operation of transposition above with the symbol  $\top$  and will call it just “transposition”. The transposition that produces the conjugate complex numbers is called “conjugate transposition” and will be denoted with the symbol  $\prime$  in this monograph. For the three examples above, the conjugate transposition will be:

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}' = (x_{r,1} - ix_{i,1} \quad x_{r,2} - ix_{i,2} \quad x_{r,3} - ix_{i,3}), \quad (1.34)$$

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} x_{r,1} & x_{r,2} & x_{r,3} \\ -x_{i,1} & -x_{i,2} & -x_{i,3} \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.35)$$

and

$$\mathbf{x}'_{\sim} = \begin{pmatrix} x_{r,1} & x_{i,1} & x_{r,2} & x_{i,2} & x_{r,3} & x_{i,3} \\ -x_{i,1} & x_{r,1} & -x_{i,2} & x_{r,2} & -x_{i,3} & x_{r,3} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.36)$$

## 1.2 Complex random variables

In statistics, a random variable is a variable, the value of which depends on random events. For example, for the classical coin tossing experiment,  $x$  would be considered as a random variable if it is equal to one in case of heads and zero otherwise. In case of complex random variables (c.r.v.), the logic is similar, but we would typically deal with two-dimensional cases (e.g. tossing two coins simultaneously). We should acknowledge that in some cases, some parts of the c.r.v. might become non-random (e.g. the real part becomes equal to some fixed number). As such, we would be saying that  $x = x_r + ix_i$  is a complex random variable if at least one part of it is random. Furthermore, while random variables can be measured in a variety of scales (coin tossing represents the nominal scale), in this monograph we focus the discussion on continuous numerical variables.

As any other random variable, c.r.v. can be characterised by its moments (see, for example, Reed, 1962). However, some of its moments differ from the conventional ones for real variables and are based on the properties of complex numbers discussed in the previous section.

### 1.2.1 First moment

The first moment of any c.r.v. is relatively straightforward. For the variable  $\underline{x} = x_r + ix_i$  it is:

$$\underline{\mu} = E(\underline{x}) = E(x_r + ix_i) = E(x_r) + iE(x_i) = \mu_r + i\mu_i, \quad (1.37)$$

due to the law of total expectation and because  $i$  is a constant. In (1.37),  $E(\cdot)$  is the expectation of a variable,  $\underline{\mu}$  is the first moment of a complex variable and  $\mu_r$  and  $\mu_i$  are the respective real and imaginary parts of the first moment. In sample, this moment can be calculated as:

$$\hat{\underline{\mu}} = \hat{\mu}_r + i\hat{\mu}_i = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n x_{r,j} + i \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n x_{i,j}, \quad (1.38)$$

where  $n$  is the sample size and  $\hat{\mu}$  is the estimate of  $\mu$ . The properties of the first moment of c.r.v. are similar to the properties of any other random variable. The only thing to note is that the moment can also be represented in a vector or a matrix form (see Subsection 1.1.3):

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_r \\ \mu_i \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.39)$$

or

$$\underline{\boldsymbol{\mu}} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_r & -\mu_i \\ \mu_i & \mu_r \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.40)$$

In R, the first moment can be obtained via the `mean()` function from `stats` package:

```
# Random seed for reproducibility
set.seed(41)
# Create a random variable
x <- complex(real=rnorm(100, mean=50, sd=10),
              imaginary=rnorm(100, mean=100, sd=10))
# Calculate the first moment
mean(x)

## [1] 51.90313+99.91763i
```

## 1.2.2 Second moment

While there are raw moments for c.r.v., here we will focus on the centred ones, i.e. moments for  $\underline{x} - \bar{x}$ . There are several instruments related to the second moment that could characterise a complex random variable. The first one is variance and is based on the multiplication of a complex variable by its conjugate (Panchev, 1971). So for the c.r.v.  $x_r + ix_i$  the variance is:

$$\begin{aligned} V(\underline{x}) = \sigma_{\underline{x}}^2 &= E((\underline{x} - \underline{\mu})(\bar{x} - \bar{\mu})) = \\ &E(((x_r - \mu_r) + i(x_i - \mu_i))((x_r - \mu_r) - i(x_i - \mu_i))) = \\ &E((x_r - \mu_r)^2) + E((x_i - \mu_i)^2) \end{aligned} \quad (1.41)$$

or taking  $\sigma_{x_r}^2$  and  $\sigma_{x_i}^2$  to be variances of the real and the imaginary parts respectively:

$$\sigma_{\underline{x}}^2 = \sigma_{x_r}^2 + \sigma_{x_i}^2. \quad (1.42)$$

Multiplication by a conjugate in (1.41) allows keeping the size of variability for both real and imaginary parts, but at the same time masks the individual contribution of each part in the overall variance and removes the covariance between them. The resulting value shows in a way the overall variability of a c.r.v. as a hypotenuse of a triangle shown in Figure 1.6.

Figure 1.6 demonstrates graphically the relation between standard deviations of real, imaginary and the overall variances of a complex variable according to the formula (1.42).

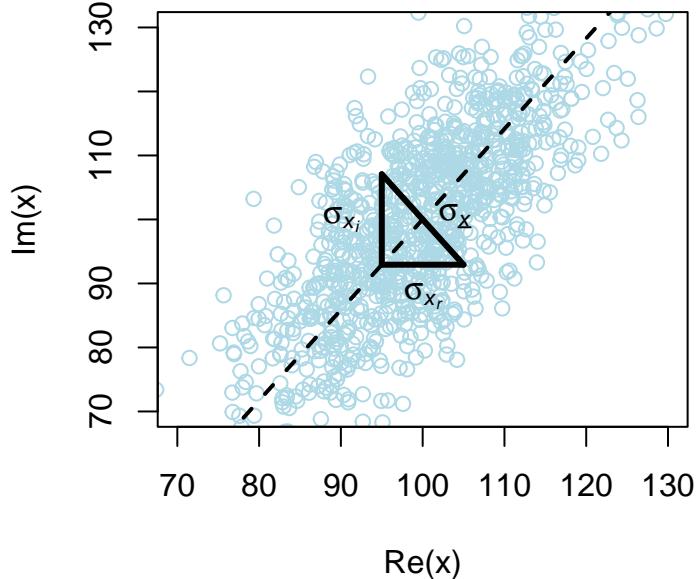


Figure 1.6: Visual representation of variance of a complex random variable.

Picinbono and Bondon (1997) note that the moment (1.42) is not sufficient to entirely describe the second order statistics of a c.r.v. This is because it ignores the potential covariance between the parts of a variable and only describes their average variability. To address this issue, another measure of variability of a complex random variable is used. In the literature (especially in signal processing, for example, in Javidi et al., 2011), it is called “pseudo-variance” and can be obtained by applying the conventional formula of variance directly to the c.r.v. without the multiplication by conjugate (e.g., Tramitsch, 2013):

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{V}(\underline{x}) = \zeta_{\underline{x}}^2 &= \text{E}((\underline{x} - \underline{\mu})^2) = \text{E}(((x_r - \mu_r) + i(x_i - \mu_i))^2) = \\ &= \text{E}((x_r - \mu_r)^2) - \text{E}((x_i - \mu_i)^2) + i2\text{E}((x_r - \mu_r)(x_i - \mu_i))\end{aligned}\quad (1.43)$$

or using the notation  $\sigma_{x_r, x_i}$  for covariance between the real and imaginary parts:

$$\zeta_{\underline{x}}^2 = \sigma_{x_r}^2 - \sigma_{x_i}^2 + i2\sigma_{x_r, x_i}. \quad (1.44)$$

The name pseudo-variance is used, because it does not measure the variability of a variable, but rather gives a different information: it shows whether the real and imaginary variances are similar and what the covariance between them is. If both real and imaginary parts of (1.44) are equal to zero then it is said that the distribution of the complex variable  $\underline{x}$  is spherical (Neeser and Massey, 1993), i.e. the variances are similar and the real and imaginary parts are not linearly related. Furthermore, we should point out that while minimising (1.42) implies minimising both variances of the real and imaginary parts of  $\underline{x}$  (ignoring the covariance between them), minimising (1.44) is not as straightforward. At very

least, we could tell that it implies making the distribution of  $\underline{x}$  closer to the spherical one, but it is not possible to provide any thorough insight about this.

We should note that both measures can be considered as complex, and the main distinction between them is the multiplication by either the same c.r.v, or by its conjugate. As such, we propose to call them respectively “conjugate variance” and “direct variance” to reflect how they are obtained.

Having calculated the two variances, we can then extract variances of real and imaginary parts and the covariance between them via formulae (which follows directly from (1.42) and (1.44)):

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{x_r}^2 &= \frac{\mathcal{R}(\sigma_{\underline{x}}^2) + \mathcal{R}(\zeta_{\underline{x}}^2)}{2} \\ \sigma_{x_i}^2 &= \frac{\mathcal{R}(\sigma_{\underline{x}}^2) - \mathcal{R}(\zeta_{\underline{x}}^2)}{2} \\ \sigma_{x_r, x_i} &= \frac{\mathcal{I}(\zeta_{\underline{x}}^2)}{2}\end{aligned}\quad (1.45)$$

These individual real-valued moments might be useful in case of hypothesis testing or constructing confidence intervals for each of the parts of a c.r.v. independently.

In R, the conjugate and direct variances are available in `cvar()` function of the `complex` package.

```
# Random seed for reproducibility
set.seed(41)
# Create a random variable
x <- complex(real=rnorm(100, mean=50, sd=5),
              imaginary=rnorm(100, mean=100, sd=10))
# Calculate the conjugate variance
cvar(x, method="conjugate") |>
  setNames("Conjugate variance")

## Conjugate variance
## 113.0543+0i

# Calculate the direct variance
cvar(x, method="direct") |>
  setNames("Direct variance")

## Direct variance
## -60.19156-5.69425i
```

As we see from the output above, the direct variance has the negative real part, which indicates that the imaginary part has higher variance than the real one. The imaginary part of the direct variance shows the double covariance between the real and imaginary parts. Finally, the conjugate variance should

be  $5^2 + 10^2 = 125$ , but due to small sample (100 observations in the generated random variable above), it is not exactly that number, but instead is close to it.

Given that any complex variable can be represented in a vector form, the c.r.v.  $\underline{x}$  can be treated as a bivariate random variable, for which a covariance matrix can be calculated via:

$$\Sigma_{\underline{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{x_r}^2 & \sigma_{x_r, x_i} \\ \sigma_{x_r, x_i} & \sigma_{x_i}^2 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.46)$$

In R, the calculation of the covariance matrix is implemented in `covar()` function from the `complex` package:

```
covar(x)
```

```
##           x_r         x_i
## x_r 26.431373 -2.847127
## x_i -2.847127 86.622930
```

The minimisation of the matrix (1.46) does not make sense, but instead it is possible to minimise the determinant of that matrix, which is called “Generalised Variance” (GV):

$$GV = |\Sigma_{\underline{x}}| = \sigma_{x_r}^2 \sigma_{x_i}^2 - \sigma_{x_r, x_i}^2. \quad (1.47)$$

This becomes relevant to estimation of complex-valued models using likelihood (see discussion in Section 2.2.3). The minimisation of GV, as can be seen from the formula (1.47), implies the simultaneous minimisation of variances of real and imaginary parts and maximisation of the square of covariance between them, making the resulting distribution compacter and emphasising the potential relations between the real and imaginary parts of a c.r.v. For our example in R, the GV equals to:

```
covar(x) |> det()
```

```
## [1] 2281.457
```

All the three moments discussed in this subsection rely on variances of real and imaginary parts of a c.r.v. and on a covariance between them. These moments in turn can be calculated in sample using the conventional formulae, correcting for the potential small sample bias (Svetunkov, 2022):

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 &= \frac{1}{n-k} \sum_{j=1}^n (x_{r,j} - \bar{x}_{r,j})^2 \\ \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2 &= \frac{1}{n-k} \sum_{j=1}^n (x_{i,j} - \bar{x}_{i,j})^2 \\ \hat{\sigma}_{x_r, x_i} &= \frac{1}{n-k} \sum_{j=1}^n (x_{r,j} - \bar{x}_{r,j})(x_{i,j} - \bar{x}_{i,j}), \end{aligned} \quad (1.48)$$

where  $k$  is the number of estimated parameters in a model.

Finally, similar to the variance it is possible to calculate second moments between two complex random variables  $\underline{x} = x_r + ix_i$  and  $\underline{y} = y_r + iy_i$  (Picinbono and Bondon, 1997). The “conjugate” covariance is calculated similarly to (1.41) via the multiplication of a complex variabl by its conjugate (Neeser and Massey, 1993):

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{\underline{x}, \underline{y}} &= E((\tilde{\underline{x}} - \tilde{\mu}_{\underline{x}})(\underline{y} - \mu_{\underline{y}})) = \\ &E(((x_r - \mu_{x,r}) - i(x_i - \mu_{x,i}))((y_r - \mu_{y,r}) + i(y_i - \mu_{y,i}))) = \\ &E((x_r - \mu_{x,r})(y_r - \mu_{y,r})) + E((x_i - \mu_{x,i})(y_i - \mu_{y,i})) + \\ &i(E((x_r - \mu_{x,r})(y_i - \mu_{y,i})) - E((x_i - \mu_{x,i})(y_r - \mu_{y,r})))\end{aligned}\quad (1.49)$$

where  $\mu_{\underline{x}}$  and  $\mu_{\underline{y}}$  are the respective first moments of c.r.v.  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$ . Using the notations above, the same covariance can be rewritten as:

$$\sigma_{\underline{x}, \underline{y}} = \sigma_{x_r, y_r} + \sigma_{x_i, y_i} + i(\sigma_{x_r, y_i} - \sigma_{x_i, y_r}), \quad (1.50)$$

which similarly to the variance (1.42) combines the moments of the real and imaginary parts of the two random variables. Note though that if the conjugate of  $\underline{y}$  is used instead of the conjugate of  $\underline{x}$ , the imaginary part of the covariance (1.50) will change to  $\sigma_{x_i, y_r} - \sigma_{x_r, y_i}$ , giving potentially different information about the relation between the variables. This means that the choice of the conjugate is important for the conjugate covariance.

To have more information about a c.r.v., we also need to consider the “direct” covariance, which is also known in the signal processing literature as pseudo-covariance (Neeser and Massey, 1993, Gao et al. (2019)), which is equal to:

$$\varsigma_{\underline{x}, \underline{y}} = \sigma_{x_r, y_r} - \sigma_{x_i, y_i} + i(\sigma_{x_i, y_r} + \sigma_{x_r, y_i}). \quad (1.51)$$

Note that none of these moments gives enough information about the relation between two complex variables on its own, so they need to be used jointly. Alternatively, using vector representation, a covariance matrix between the two c.r.v. can be used to get a better understanding about the relations between them:

$$\Sigma_{\underline{x}, \underline{y}} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{x_r}^2 & \sigma_{x_r, x_i} & \sigma_{x_r, y_r} & \sigma_{x_r, y_i} \\ \sigma_{x_r, x_i} & \sigma_{x_i}^2 & \sigma_{x_i, y_r} & \sigma_{x_i, y_i} \\ \sigma_{x_r, y_r} & \sigma_{x_i, y_r} & \sigma_{y_r}^2 & \sigma_{y_r, y_i} \\ \sigma_{x_r, y_i} & \sigma_{x_i, y_i} & \sigma_{y_r, y_i} & \sigma_{y_i}^2 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.52)$$

In R, the complex covariances are implemented in `ccov()` function from the `complex` package:

```
# Random seed for reproducibility
set.seed(41)
# Create a random variable x
x <- complex(real=rnorm(100, mean=50, sd=5),
              imaginary=rnorm(100, mean=100, sd=10))
```

```

# Create a random variable y
y <- (1.5 + 3i) + (0.5 - 0.75i) * x +
    complex(real=rnorm(100, mean=0, sd=10),
            imaginary=rnorm(100, mean=0, sd=10))
# Calculate the conjugate variance
ccov(x, y, method="conjugate") |>
    setNames("Conjugate covariance")

## Conjugate covariance
## 70.4003-101.2452i

# Calculate the direct variance
ccov(x, y, method="direct") |>
    setNames("Direct covariance")

## Direct covariance
## -51.28506+50.8207i

```

The functions `cvar()` and `ccov()` also accept a matrix instead of vector `x`, in which case they will produce a matrix of moments with complex variances on diagonal and complex covariances on the off-diagonals.

```

ourData <- cbind(x,y)
cvar(ourData, method="direct")

##           x             y
## x -60.19156- 5.69425i -51.28506+50.82070i
## y -51.28506+50.82070i  12.71148+48.05904i

```

While there exist higher order moments for complex random variables (see, for example, Javidi et al., 2011), we do not discuss them in this book, because they lie outside of its scope.

### 1.3 Parametric Distributions of c.r.v.

Similarly to the real valued random variables, complex random variables can follow some parametric distributions. In this section, we discuss several simple ones, some of which will be used later in this monograph.

In general, it is reasonable to assume that a c.r.v. has a distribution of a shape of a circle or ellipse on the complex plane. This becomes more apparent if we consider the exponential form of a c.r.v. (1.9) and consider both magnitude and the angle as random variables. In the simplest case, when they are not correlated, and we consider a variable that is centred around the origin, the randomness coming from both of these components will result in a circle on the complex plane, as shown in the following example in R (Figure 1.7):

```
# Random seed for reproducibility
set.seed(41)
# Generate magnitudes from the uniform distribution
R <- runif(1000,min=0,max=10)
# Generate angles from the uniform distribution
phi <- runif(1000,min=-pi,max=pi)
# Create c.r.v in exponential form
x <- R * exp(complex(imaginary=phi))
# Plot the variable
plot(x)
```

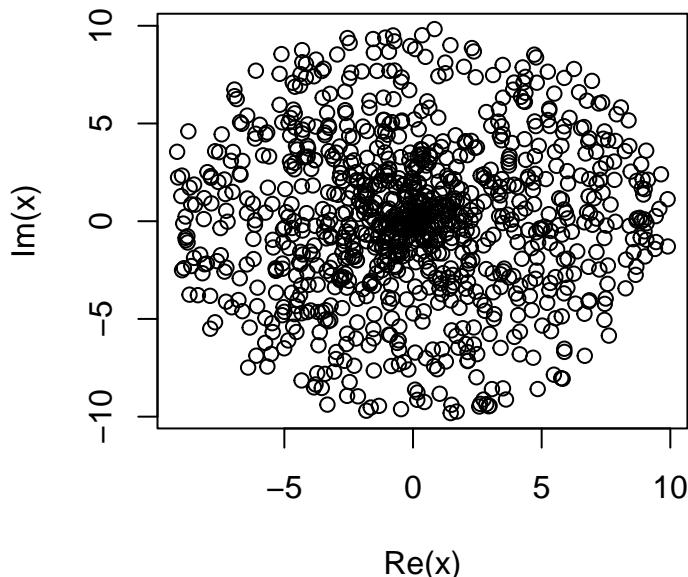


Figure 1.7: C.r.v. generated from a uniform distribution.

The example in Figure 1.7 demonstrates how a c.r.v. with uncorrelated real and imaginary parts looks on the complex plane. If there is a relation between the parts then the circle transforms into ellipse. So, it is only logical to consider the distributions that rely on a circle or an ellipse for the c.r.v. instead of any other geometric shapes.

When it comes to distribution functions of c.r.v., in general we should consider the joint bivariate distribution, thus all the probability density and cumulative distribution functions will be plotted in 3D with the density/probability on z-axis and the real and imaginary parts of the complex variable on x and y axes.

### 1.3.1 Complex Normal distribution

One of the most popular distributions in statistics is the Normal distribution. It is used extensively in modelling and is preferred for its simplicity and due to it being the limiting distribution according to Central Limit Theorem. There exists a complex counterpart of that distribution, which has the following probability density function (Wooding, 1956):

$$f(\underline{x}) = \frac{1}{\pi^2 \sqrt{\sigma_{\underline{x}}^4 - \zeta_{\underline{x}}^2 \tilde{\zeta}_{\underline{x}}^2}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} (\tilde{\underline{x}} - \tilde{\mu}) \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{\underline{x}}^2 & \zeta_{\underline{x}}^2 \\ \tilde{\zeta}_{\underline{x}}^2 & \sigma_{\underline{x}}^2 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} (\underline{x} - \mu) \right), \quad (1.53)$$

where  $\mu$  is the first moment of the c.r.v.  $\underline{x}$  and  $\sigma_{\underline{x}}^2$  and  $\zeta_{\underline{x}}^2$  are the conjugate and direct variances as defined in Section 1.2. The variable that follows this distribution can be denoted as  $\underline{x} \sim \mathcal{CN}(\mu, \sigma_{\underline{x}}^2, \zeta_{\underline{x}}^2)$ . Note that both  $\sigma_{\underline{x}}^2$  and  $\zeta_{\underline{x}}^2$  are important in the PDF (1.53) to define the shape of the distribution. For the real-valued variables, the conventional standard deviation  $\sigma_{\underline{x}}$  characterises the dispersion of the random variable, and in case of the normal distribution shows how many z-scores away the random variable can lie from its centre. For the c.r.v.,  $\sigma_{\underline{x}}$  plays a similar role, but not in terms of units along the x axis, but rather in terms of radii from the centre. The direct variance  $\zeta_{\underline{x}}^2$ , on the other hand characterises the shape of the distribution itself: its real part shows whether the ellipse of the normal distribution should be wide (positive numbers) or narrow (negative numbers), while the imaginary part shows how close the points should be to the line drawn through them. These moments are shown visually in Figure 1.8.

The overall conjugate standard deviation  $\sigma_{\underline{x}}$  represents the radius of the unit circle in Figure 1.8, while the imaginary part of  $\zeta_{\underline{x}}^2$  (i.e.  $2\sigma_{x_r, x_i}$ ) is shown with a green line. The real part of  $\zeta_{\underline{x}}^2$  is not visualised, but for this plot it will be negative, showing that the distribution is narrower along the x-axis than along the y-axis.

Figure 1.9 shows the PDF of  $\underline{x} \sim \mathcal{CN}(100 + 100i, 100, -20 + i30)$ , while Figure 1.10 shows the heatmap of the same PDF. The brighter areas in both figures correspond to the higher values of PDF. For each specific value of density, there is a multitude of values of  $\underline{x}$ , forming an ellipse of a specific length.

One special case of a Complex Normal distribution is a so called “Circular Symmetric” Complex Normal distribution (Neeser and Massey, 1993). It is a distribution for which the direct variance equals to zero, which implies that the variances of the real and the imaginary parts are equal and that the covariance between them is zero (Amblard et al., 1996, studied its properties in more detail). This specific distribution is used extensively in signal processing literature and also relates to the so-called “propriety” property, meaning that the direct covariance of the complex variables is zero (Walden and Rubin-Delanchy, 2009; Adali et al., 2011).

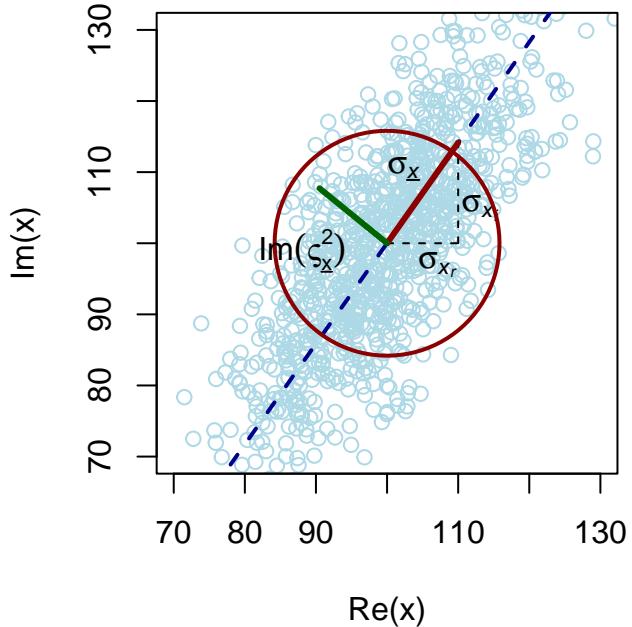


Figure 1.8: Visual representation of variances for a c.r.v. that follows Complex Normal distribution.

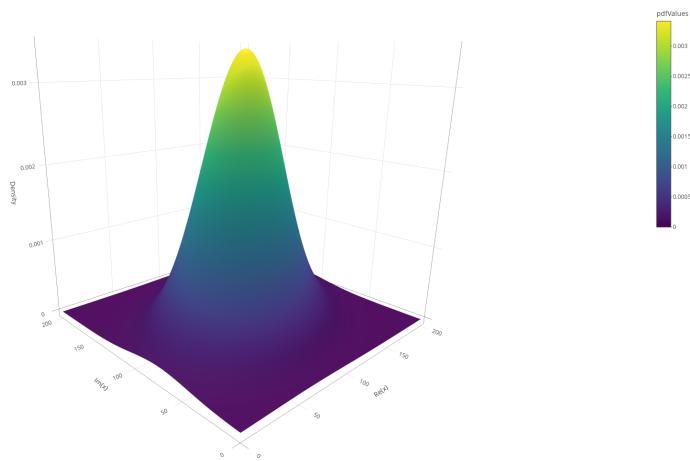


Figure 1.9: Plot of the probability density function of a c.r.v following the normal distribution.

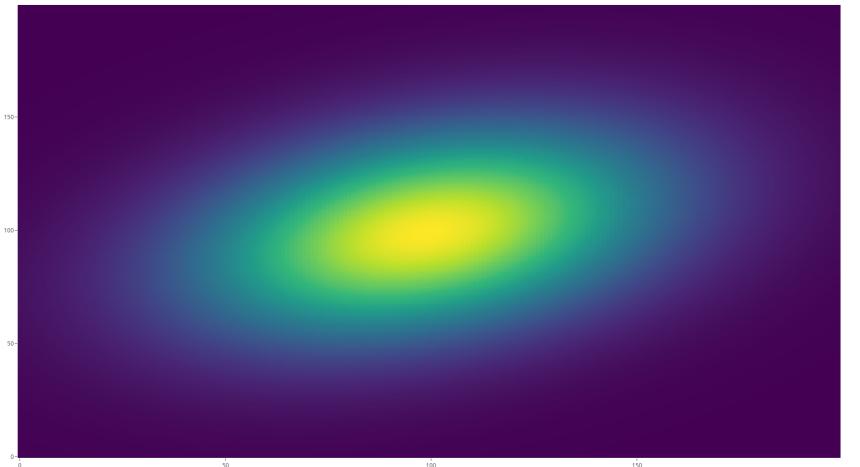


Figure 1.10: Heatmap of density of the Complex Normal distribution.

The functions of the Complex Normal distribution are implemented as `dcnorm()`, `pcnorm()`, `qmcnorm()` and `rmcnorm()` in the `complex` package in R.

The Complex Normal distribution can be used for the joint estimation of parameters of a complex-valued model and for generation of prediction intervals from it. However, in some cases it might be more convenient to consider a c.r.v. model as a bivariate vector model based on (1.23) and thus to revert to the multivariate normal distribution.

### 1.3.2 Multivariate Normal distribution

The same normal distribution for a complex variable can be reparametrised via a covariance matrix  $\Sigma$  from (1.46) instead of the conjugate and direct variances  $\sigma_{\underline{x}}^2$  and  $\zeta_{\underline{x}}^2$ . In general, the Probability Density Function for a vector of  $n$  variables can be written as:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}} \sqrt{|\Sigma|}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^\top \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \right). \quad (1.54)$$

For the bivariate case of a c.r.v. represented in a form of a vector,  $n = 2$  and the covariance matrix  $\Sigma$  has dimensionality of  $2 \times 2$ . In that case the PDF will be the same as for the Complex Normal distribution. In fact, it is possible to recreate the covariance matrix based on the values of conjugate and direct variances:

$$\Sigma = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{R}(\sigma_{\underline{x}}^2) + \mathcal{R}(\zeta_{\underline{x}}^2) & \mathcal{I}(\zeta_{\underline{x}}^2) \\ \mathcal{I}(\zeta_{\underline{x}}^2) & \mathcal{R}(\sigma_{\underline{x}}^2) - \mathcal{R}(\zeta_{\underline{x}}^2) \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.55)$$

When it comes to constructing confidence regions from the multivariate normal distribution then the following inequality can be used to determine values of the

vector of quantiles  $\mathbf{q}$ :

$$(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{q})^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{q}) \leq \chi^2(n, p), \quad (1.56)$$

where  $p$  is the confidence level. For the case of c.r.v., when  $n = 2$ , the  $\chi^2(n, p)$  transforms into the exponential distribution  $\mathcal{E}(0.5)$ .

Note however that working with confidence regions is challenging, because there is an infinite number of values of the vector  $\mathbf{q}$  that give the same critical value  $\chi^2(n, p)$ . So, in order to make it practical, unconditional prediction intervals can be constructed for each of the parts, dropping the other one. In this case, the classical formula for the intervals can be used, for example for the real part of the c.r.v.:

$$x_r \in \left( \mu_{x_r} + \sigma_{x_r} z\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right), \mu_{x_r} + \sigma_{x_r} z\left(\frac{1+\alpha}{2}\right) \right), \quad (1.57)$$

where  $z\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)$  and  $z\left(\frac{1+\alpha}{2}\right)$  are the respective lower and upper quantiles of the standard normal distribution.

Another distribution related to the multivariate normal one is the multivariate complex normal. It was proposed and studied by Goodman (1963) and then extended by van den Bos (1995). We do not use it in what comes in the monograph and mention it only for completeness.

### 1.3.3 Hotelling's T-squared distribution

When it comes to distribution of complex variables statistics, one of the most important ones is the distribution of a mean of a complex variable. In the case of real variables, it is well known that if the Central Limit Theorem (CLT) holds then the sample mean will follow Normal distribution, and confidence interval for the mean can be constructed using Student's t distribution (when the population variance is unknown, i.e. in reality). For a c.r.v., the situation is similar: when CLT holds, the c.r.v. follows Complex Normal distribution, but instead of Student's t distribution, we need to use its multivariate counterpart, which is called "Hotelling's T-squared" distribution. It is more convenient to consider the statistics for a c.r.v in a vector form (i.e. treat it as bivariate). If we estimate the sample mean  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_x$  and a sample covariance matrix of the mean  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\mu_x}$  then the following holds (if CLT holds):

$$(\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_x - \boldsymbol{\mu}_x)' \hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\mu_x}^{-1} (\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_x - \boldsymbol{\mu}_x) \sim T^2(2, n - 1) = \frac{2(n - 1)}{n - 2} F(2, n - 2), \quad (1.58)$$

where  $T^2(2, n - 1)$  is a T-squared Hotelling's statistics with 2 and  $n - 1$  degrees of freedom, and  $F(2, n - 2)$  is the Fisher's distribution statistics with 2 and  $n - 2$  degrees of freedom. Equation (1.58) can be used to construct confidence interval for a multivariate mean or for testing statistical hypotheses. One of the possible hypotheses that might make sense in the context of c.r.v. and can be tested

based on (1.58) is the following:

$$\begin{aligned} H_0 : \boldsymbol{\mu}_x &= 0 \\ H_1 : \boldsymbol{\mu}_x &\neq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (1.59)$$

or equivalently:

$$\begin{aligned} H_0 : \mu_{x_r} = \mu_{x_i} &= 0 \\ H_1 : \mu_{x_r} \neq 0 \vee \mu_{x_i} &\neq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (1.60)$$

However, testing the joint hypothesis (1.60) might not be very practical. Instead, testing the classical hypotheses from the univariate context based on Student's t distribution for each part of c.r.v. might provide more detailed information, i.e. whether the specific real or imaginary part of the variable equals to zero or not. In contrast, in case of the hypothesis (1.60), rejecting the null hypothesis implies that something is not equal to zero, but it is not clear, what specifically.

## 1.4 Complex-valued Modelling

Now that we have discussed basics of complex variables theory, we can discuss the modelling aspects. It might not be straightforward, what should be included in the real and the imaginary parts of a complex variable. And there are two philosophical views on complex-valued modelling:

1. You need to find processes, where complex variables arise naturally;
2. You can model anything with complex variables as long as you follow some rules.

If you follow the former school of thought, you need to find some variables that form two parts of the whole that work together. An example of this is the wind power and direction forecasting (Goh et al., 2004; Javidi et al., 2008; Knight and Nunes, 2019). The two variables in this case will be naturally represented in the exponential form:

$$\underline{y} = r e^{i\phi},$$

where  $r$  is the power of wind and  $\phi$  is its direction. In this formulation, we can then model, for example, how the two characteristics of wind on some observation  $t$  depend on the previous values and some external information:

$$\underline{y}_t = f(\underline{y}_{t-1}, \underline{y}_{t-2}, \dots, \underline{y}_{t-p}, \underline{x}_t, \varepsilon_t),$$

where  $t$  is the index of the observation,  $p$  is the maximum lag to take,  $\underline{x}_t$  is the vector of all explanatory complex variables under consideration and  $\varepsilon_t$  is the error term. Some aspects of such a model are discussed in Chapter 4 of this book, while the others are covered in Chapter 6.

However, it might be hard to find examples like the one with the wind above in economics and business domains. Trying to find something analogous (power and direction) might lead us to a dead end. This is why the second philosophical

view exists. Svetunkov (2012) argues that any two variables can be united in a complex variable (in the arithmetic form) as long as:

1. They reflect two sides of a process/phenomenon;
2. They have the same scale.

The second condition implies that some sort of scaling is required if the variables have different scales. If this condition is not satisfied then the operations with complex variables might lead to meaningless results. For example, if we consider a variable of sales quantity and product price,  $q + ip$ , then its magnitude  $R = \sqrt{p^2 + q^2}$  does not have any meaning, because it is based on the addition of currency squared to the squared number of units. Furthermore, if we multiply this complex variable by a complex parameter  $a_r + ia_i$ , we get a complex variable that has a strange combination in it:

$$\underline{z} = (q + ip)(a_r + ia_i) = qa_r - pa_i + i(qa_i + pa_r). \quad (1.61)$$

In the equation (1.61), the resulting real part includes the multiplication of the number of units sold by the parameter  $a_r$ , while the imaginary part has the price (e.g. in U.S. dollars) times the same parameter  $a_r$ . If the both parts of the variable were scaled the parameter  $a_r$  would act as a transformer from one value to another. But if both parts are not scaled then in one case the parameter acts as a transformer from units sold, while in the other as a transformer from the U.S. dollars, which does not make much sense. This example shows why the condition (2) above is important in the complex-valued modelling.

The scaling itself can be done using one of the conventional ways:

- a. **Normalisation:** subtract the minimum value from all the values and then divide by the range. This way the normalised variable will lie between 0 and 1;
- b. **Standardisation:** subtract the mean and divide the variable by its standard deviation. This way we centre the variable and get rid of scale;
- c. Any other form of scaling, where the division is done by the value of the variable, thus making it unitless.

If we deal with time series data, an additional operation might be important - taking differences to make the data stationary (this is discussed in Section 6.4). If we do not do that, the new values of the variable might lie outside of the range defined by the scaling.

Incidentally, the example with the wind power above abides to these two conditions, because the variable itself is represented in the exponential form, thus the condition will be satisfied automatically when we use formula (1.6) to move to the arithmetic one. This variable does not require any additional transformations and can be treated as is.

One of examples of application of complex variables in economics is the production functions of complex variables (Chapter 6 of Svetunkov, 2012). In economics, a variety of indicators is used for analysis. Many of them are related to estimating

efficiency. Profitability is one of such indicators, and one of ways of defining it is as the ratio of gross profit to gross expenses:

$$\phi_1 = \frac{G}{C}.$$

This relation can be also considered as a cotangent of a polar angle of the following complex variable:

$$G + iC. \quad (1.62)$$

This complex variable characterises the output of a system, because the sum of its real and imaginary parts is the quantity of the product produced measured in price units (i.e. Income):

$$Q = G + C.$$

Another well known economic indicator is the capital-labour ratio, which represents the ratio of capital employed  $K$  to the overall labour  $L$  involved in production:

$$\phi_2 = \frac{K}{L}.$$

This is related to another complex variable (in a similar way as the profitability index):

$$K + iL. \quad (1.63)$$

If we now estimate a function of the complex variable (1.62) from (1.63), we will model complex interactions between labour, capital, expenses and profit, including the interactions between the capital-labour ration and the profitability. This setting provides an example of motivation of modelling economic process using complex variables.

Finally, based on the discussion in Subsection 1.1.4, we can note that the complex-valued models share some structural similarities with vector models, such as Vector Autoregression, when they are applied to two variables. From this angle, the complex-valued models can be considered as special cases of the vector ones, when some restrictions are imposed on the matrix of parameters. This important property gives the complex-valued models their power: they need fewer parameters to estimate in comparison with their vector counterparts and (because of that) are arguably easier to work with. Moreover, this means that some tools developed for VAR can also be used for complex-valued models.



## Chapter 2

# Simple Complex Linear Regression

We start with the simplest complex-valued model, a special case of a Complex Linear Regression (cLR; we use the small letter “c” to denote complex-valued models to avoid conflicts in names with real-valued ones), which we call “simple”, analogous to how it is done in the real-valued domain, because it captures the relation between two variables. The main difference from the conventional Simple Linear Regression is that each of the variables is complex. This makes the model more complicated than the one in real-valued domain. Yes, we are aware of the oxymoron in the “Simple Complex Linear Regression”, and we have done it on purpose.

We start the discussion with the definition of the ScLR, then move to the question of its estimation and finish with the comparison of properties of the estimators.

### 2.1 Model formulation

The simple Complex Linear Regression can be written as:

$$\underline{y}_j = \underline{\beta}_0 + \underline{\beta}_1 \underline{x}_j + \underline{\epsilon}_j, \quad (2.1)$$

where  $j$  is the index for the observation and every parameter and variable is a complex number, i.e.  $\underline{y}_j = y_{r,j} + iy_{i,j}$  is the complex response variable,  $\underline{x}_j = x_{r,j} + ix_{i,j}$  is the complex explanatory variable,  $\underline{\beta}_l = \beta_{l,r} + i\beta_{l,i}$  is the  $l$ -th complex parameter and  $\underline{\epsilon}_j = \epsilon_{r,j} + i\epsilon_{i,j}$  is the error term. For now, we do not make any specific assumptions about the distribution of the complex error term, we will come back to this later in this chapter. Inserting the values above in (2.1) leads to:

$$y_{r,j} + iy_{i,j} = (\beta_{0,r} + i\beta_{0,i}) + (\beta_{1,r} + i\beta_{1,i})(x_{r,j} + ix_{i,j}) + (\epsilon_{r,j} + i\epsilon_{i,j}), \quad (2.2)$$

which is in fact a multivariate model, capturing how the change of values in pair of variables  $x_r$ ,  $x_i$  leads to the change in the pair of variables  $y_r$  and  $y_i$ . Given that any complex-valued equation can be represented as a system of two equations, the model (2.2) can be represented as a system of two linear regressions:

$$\begin{aligned} y_{r,j} &= \beta_{0,r} + \beta_{1,r}x_{r,j} - \beta_{1,i}x_{i,j} + \epsilon_{r,j} \\ y_{i,j} &= \beta_{0,i} + \beta_{1,r}x_{i,j} + \beta_{1,i}x_{r,j} + \epsilon_{i,j} \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

This model captures a very specific dynamics between the real and imaginary parts, given that they share the same set of parameters for the slope. But most importantly it shows how each complex variable  $\underline{y}$  relates to variable  $\underline{x}$  in a four dimensional space. Note that the real and imaginary parts of  $\underline{y}$  can be exchanged without a serious impact on the model: in that case the values of parameters would change, but the relation between  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$  would stay the same. Similarly, changing  $x_r$  with  $x_i$  would only lead to different estimates of parameters, the general relation would hold.

Given that we deal with a sample of values, the model (2.1) can be represented in a vector form for all observations  $j$  from 1 to  $n$  (based on discussion in Subsection 1.1.4):

$$\underline{y} = \underline{\mathbf{X}}\underline{\beta} + \underline{\epsilon}, \quad (2.4)$$

where  $\underline{y} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{y}_1 \\ \underline{y}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \underline{y}_n \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\underline{\mathbf{X}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \underline{x}_1 \\ 1 & \underline{x}_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & \underline{x}_n \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\underline{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\underline{\epsilon} = \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_1 \\ \epsilon_2 \\ \vdots \\ \epsilon_n \end{pmatrix}$  and each element of these objects is a complex number.

Going even further, using the vector and matrix representations of complex variables, the same system of equations (2.3) can be rewritten as:

$$\begin{pmatrix} y_{r,j} \\ y_{i,j} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_{0,r} \\ \beta_{0,i} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} x_{r,j} & -x_{i,j} \\ x_{i,j} & x_{r,j} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \beta_{1,r} \\ \beta_{1,i} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_{r,j} \\ \epsilon_{i,j} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.5)$$

or uniting all the parameters in one vector:

$$\begin{pmatrix} y_{r,j} \\ y_{i,j} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & x_{r,j} & -x_{i,j} \\ 0 & 1 & x_{i,j} & x_{r,j} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \beta_{0,r} \\ \beta_{0,i} \\ \beta_{1,r} \\ \beta_{1,i} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_{r,j} \\ \epsilon_{i,j} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.6)$$

This form can then be represented in a classical matrix notations:

$$\mathbf{y}_j = \mathbf{X}_j \underline{\beta} + \underline{\epsilon}_j. \quad (2.7)$$

And if we stack each of the vectors and matrices for each  $j = 1 \dots n$  we get even more compact form:

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{\tilde{X}} \underline{\beta} + \mathbf{E}, \quad (2.8)$$

where  $\mathbf{Y} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{y}_1 \\ \mathbf{y}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{y}_n \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}_1 \\ \tilde{\mathbf{X}}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \tilde{\mathbf{X}}_n \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{E} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_1 \\ \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_n \end{pmatrix}$ . The form (2.8) shows the

connection between the complex regression and the conventional real valued one and can be used in model estimation using the conventional methods.

Both representations (2.4) and (2.8) can be used for model estimation with the only difference that the former uses complex variables explicitly, while the latter avoids them, substituting them with real-valued matrices.

## 2.2 Estimation

Whenever we estimate a model, its formula needs to be amended to “true” parameters by their sample estimates. So, for the cLR, the model applied to the data should be written as:

$$\underline{y}_j = \underline{b}_0 + \underline{b}_1 x_j + \underline{e}_j, \quad (2.9)$$

or

$$y_{r,j} + iy_{i,j} = (b_{0,r} + ib_{0,i}) + (b_{1,r} + ib_{1,i})(x_{r,j} + ix_{i,j}) + (e_{r,j} + ie_{i,j}), \quad (2.10)$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} y_{r,j} &= b_{0,r} + b_{1,r}x_{r,j} - b_{1,i}x_{i,j} + e_{r,j} \\ y_{i,j} &= b_{0,i} + b_{1,r}x_{i,j} + b_{1,i}x_{r,j} + e_{i,j} \end{aligned} \quad (2.11)$$

or equivalently in matrix notations:

$$\mathbf{y}_j = \tilde{\mathbf{X}}_j \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{e}_j, \quad (2.12)$$

where  $\underline{b}_l$ ,  $b_{l,r} + ib_{l,i}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  are the estimates of respective  $\beta_l$ ,  $\beta_{l,r} + i\beta_{l,i}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  and  $\underline{e}_j$ ,  $e_{r,j} + ie_{i,j}$  and  $\mathbf{e}_j$  are the residuals of the model. There are many approaches for estimation of parameters of mathematical models. In this monograph, we focus only on the three of them: Ordinary Least Squares (OLS), Complex Least Squares (CLS), and Likelihood.

### 2.2.1 Ordinary Least Squares

We start with the conventional Ordinary Least Squares (OLS), which relies on the multiplication by conjugate number. To our knowledge, van den Bos (1994) was the first paper that discussed it in the complex-valued domain. For the simple cLR, it comes to minimising the following loss based on the residuals:

$$\sum_{j=1}^n (\underline{e}_j \tilde{e}_j) = \sum_{j=1}^n (e_{r,j}^2 + e_{i,j}^2). \quad (2.13)$$

The residuals can be substituted as:  $\underline{e}_j = \underline{y}_j - \underline{b}_0 - \underline{b}_1 \underline{x}_j$  and  $\tilde{\underline{e}}_j = \tilde{\underline{y}}_j - \tilde{\underline{b}}_0 - \tilde{\underline{b}}_1 \tilde{\underline{x}}_j$  to get:

$$\sum_{j=1}^n (\underline{y}_j - \underline{b}_0 - \underline{b}_1 \underline{x}_j)(\tilde{\underline{y}}_j - \tilde{\underline{b}}_0 - \tilde{\underline{b}}_1 \tilde{\underline{x}}_j), \quad (2.14)$$

which after opening the brackets becomes:

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \left( \underline{y}_j \tilde{\underline{y}}_j - \underline{y}_j \tilde{\underline{b}}_0 - \underline{y}_j \tilde{\underline{b}}_1 \tilde{\underline{x}}_j - \underline{b}_0 \tilde{\underline{y}}_j + \underline{b}_0 \tilde{\underline{b}}_0 + \underline{b}_0 \tilde{\underline{b}}_1 \tilde{\underline{x}}_j - \underline{b}_1 \underline{x}_j \tilde{\underline{y}}_j + \underline{b}_1 \underline{x}_j \tilde{\underline{b}}_0 + \underline{b}_1 \underline{x}_j \tilde{\underline{b}}_1 \tilde{\underline{x}}_j \right). \quad (2.15)$$

In order to minimise the sum of squared errors (2.13), we need to take derivative of (2.15) with respect to each of the parameters  $b_{0,r}$ ,  $b_{0,i}$ ,  $b_{1,r}$  and  $b_{1,i}$  and equate each of the resulting formulae to zero to find the extrema:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d \sum_{j=1}^n (\underline{e}_j \tilde{\underline{e}}_j)}{db_{0,r}} &= 0 \\ \frac{d \sum_{j=1}^n (\underline{e}_j \tilde{\underline{e}}_j)}{db_{0,i}} &= 0 \\ \frac{d \sum_{j=1}^n (\underline{e}_j \tilde{\underline{e}}_j)}{db_{1,r}} &= 0 \\ \frac{d \sum_{j=1}^n (\underline{e}_j \tilde{\underline{e}}_j)}{db_{1,i}} &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (2.16)$$

to get:

$$\begin{aligned} - \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{y}_j - \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{\underline{y}}_j + 2nb_{0,r} + \tilde{\underline{b}}_1 \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{\underline{x}}_j + \underline{b}_1 \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j &= 0 \\ i \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{y}_j - i \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{\underline{y}}_j + 2nb_{0,i} + i\tilde{\underline{b}}_1 \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{\underline{x}}_j - i\tilde{\underline{b}}_1 \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j &= 0 \\ - \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{y}_j \tilde{\underline{x}}_j + \underline{b}_0 \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{\underline{x}}_j - \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j \tilde{\underline{y}}_j + \tilde{\underline{b}}_0 \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j + 2b_{1,r} \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j \tilde{\underline{x}}_j &= 0 \\ i \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{y}_j \tilde{\underline{x}}_j - i\tilde{\underline{b}}_0 \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{\underline{x}}_j - i \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j \tilde{\underline{y}}_j + i\tilde{\underline{b}}_0 \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j + 2b_{1,i} \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j \tilde{\underline{x}}_j &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.17)$$

Solving the system of equations (2.17) gives the following formulae for the parameters of the model (Svetunkov, 2012):

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{b}_1 &= \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n (\underline{y}_j - \hat{\underline{b}}_y)(\tilde{\underline{x}}_j - \hat{\underline{b}}_x)}{\sum_{j=1}^n (\underline{x}_j - \hat{\underline{b}}_x)(\tilde{\underline{x}}_j - \hat{\underline{b}}_x)} \\ \underline{b}_0 &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{y}_j - \underline{b}_1 \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j, \end{aligned} \quad (2.18)$$

which can also be written in terms of conjugate moments as:

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{b}_1 &= \frac{\hat{\sigma}_{\underline{x}, \underline{y}}}{\hat{\sigma}_{\underline{x}}^2} \\ \underline{b}_0 &= \hat{\mu}_{\underline{y}} - \underline{b}_1 \hat{\mu}_{\underline{x}},\end{aligned}\tag{2.19}$$

or after expanding the moments (based on formulae from Section 1.2.2) as:

$$\underline{b}_1 = \frac{\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, y_r} + \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, y_i} + i(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, y_r} - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, y_r})}{\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2}.\tag{2.20}$$

As we can see, the formula (2.19) is similar to the one that is typically used for the conventional simple linear regression with the only difference that the parameters in (2.19) are complex and that each of the moments in (2.19) is a moment for respective complex variable.

It is apparent what the estimates of parameters (2.19) give: they minimise the loss (2.13), thus in the case, when  $E(e_j) = 0$  they minimise variances of real and imaginary parts of the complex residuals. Coming back to Figure 1.6 from Subsection 1.2.2, this also implies that they minimise the hypotenuse in the figure, thus moving the residuals closer to the middle line. So, if the real and imaginary parts of the residuals are correlated in the “true” model, the OLS will automatically take care of this situation, emphasising the correlation. However, it is worth noting that the OLS ignores the potential covariance between the real and imaginary parts, which in some cases might be a desirable property, but in the others might cause issues.

In terms of properties of the estimator, it can be shown that  $\underline{b}_1$  equals to:

$$\underline{b}_1 = \frac{\text{cov}(\tilde{\underline{x}}, \underline{y})}{\text{cov}(\tilde{\underline{x}}, \underline{x})} = \frac{\text{cov}(\tilde{\underline{x}}, \beta_0 + \beta_1 \underline{x} + \epsilon)}{\text{cov}(\tilde{\underline{x}}, \underline{x})} = \frac{\text{cov}(\tilde{\underline{x}}, \beta_0) + \text{cov}(\tilde{\underline{x}}, \beta_1 \underline{x}) + \text{cov}(\tilde{\underline{x}}, \epsilon)}{\text{cov}(\tilde{\underline{x}}, \underline{x})},\tag{2.21}$$

which then simplifies to:

$$\underline{b}_1 = \beta_1 + \frac{\text{cov}(\tilde{\underline{x}}, \epsilon)}{\text{cov}(\tilde{\underline{x}}, \underline{x})} = \beta_1 + \frac{\hat{\sigma}_{\underline{x}, \epsilon}}{\hat{\sigma}_{\underline{x}}^2},\tag{2.22}$$

or:

$$\underline{b}_1 = \beta_1 + \frac{\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, \epsilon_r} + \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, \epsilon_i} + i(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, \epsilon_r} - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, \epsilon_r})}{\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2}.\tag{2.23}$$

On small samples, the covariance between the true error and the available  $\underline{x}$  can be non-zero, implying that the value of the estimated parameter would differ from the true one. If the basic regression assumptions hold, in the population estimated covariances will converge to their true values and then  $\sigma_{x_r, \epsilon_r} = \sigma_{x_i, \epsilon_i} = \sigma_{x_r, \epsilon_i} = \sigma_{x_i, \epsilon_r} = 0$ , which implies that the expectation of  $\underline{b}_1$  is:

$$E(\underline{b}_1) = \beta_1.\tag{2.24}$$

This implies that OLS gives unbiased estimates of the slope parameter. The same property can be shown to hold for the intercept  $\underline{b}_0$ .

The same formula (2.23) can be rewritten separately for the real and imaginary parts of the parameter:

$$\begin{aligned} b_{1,r} &= \beta_{1,r} + \frac{\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, \epsilon_r} + \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, \epsilon_i}}{\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2} \\ b_{1,i} &= \beta_{1,i} + \frac{\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, \epsilon_i} - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, \epsilon_r}}{\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.25)$$

which shows what specific covariances impact different parts of the slope parameter.

As for the variance of  $b_1$ , for the real part of the parameter, it can be shown to be equal to:

$$V(b_{1,r}) = V\left(\frac{\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, \epsilon_r} + \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, \epsilon_i}}{\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2}\right). \quad (2.26)$$

The variance for the imaginary part will be similar. We will need this variance to understand how efficient the estimators are. But we do not expand it further, because the formula (2.26) is sufficient for the comparison of OLS with other estimators.

### 2.2.2 Complex Least Squares

An alternative estimation technique involves the minimisation of a rather exotic loss function:

$$\sum_{j=1}^n (\underline{e}_j \underline{e}_j) = \sum_{j=1}^n (e_{r,j}^2 - e_{i,j}^2 + i2e_{r,j}e_{i,j}), \quad (2.27)$$

for which in case of  $E(\underline{e}_j) = 0$ , the real part corresponds to the difference between the variances of the real and imaginary parts of the residuals, while the imaginary part corresponds to the covariance between them. This loss can be considered exotic, because its value is a complex number. It is difficult to explain how one can minimise a complex number, but from what follows, we show that the estimation technique has some meaning, works and gives adequate estimates of parameters.

The logic for the derivation of CLS is similar to OLS. We expand (2.27) to:

$$\sum_{j=1}^n (\underline{e}_j \underline{e}_j) = \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{y}_j^2 + nb_0^2 + b_1^2 \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j^2 - 2b_0 \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{y}_j - 2b_1 \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j \underline{y}_j + 2b_0 b_1 \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j \quad (2.28)$$

and then take derivatives of (2.28) with respect to parameter  $\underline{b}_0$  and  $\underline{b}_1$  and then

equate the resulting formulae to zero:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d \sum_{j=1}^n (\underline{e}_j^2)}{d \underline{b}_0} &= 0 \\ \frac{d \sum_{j=1}^n (\underline{e}_j^2)}{d \underline{b}_1} &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.29)$$

The derivatives (2.29) give the following system of complex equations:

$$\begin{aligned} 2n\underline{b}_0 - 2 \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{y}_j + 2\underline{b}_1 \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j &= 0 \\ 2\underline{b}_1 \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j^2 - 2 \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j \underline{y}_j + 2\underline{b}_0 \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.30)$$

The solution for this system of equations, as it was shown by Svetunkov (2012), is:

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{b}_1 &= \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n (\underline{y}_j - \hat{\mu}_{\underline{y}})(\underline{x}_j - \hat{\mu}_{\underline{x}})}{\sum_{j=1}^n (\underline{x}_j - \hat{\mu}_{\underline{x}})^2} \\ \underline{b}_0 &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{y}_j - \underline{b}_1 \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{x}_j, \end{aligned} \quad (2.31)$$

or in terms of direct moments for complex random variables:

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{b}_1 &= \frac{\hat{\zeta}_{\underline{x}, \underline{y}}}{\hat{\zeta}_{\underline{x}}^2} \\ \underline{b}_0 &= \hat{\mu}_{\underline{y}} - \underline{b}_1 \hat{\mu}_{\underline{x}}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.32)$$

or after inserting the values for direct variance and covariance (from Section 1.2.2):

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{b}_1 &= \frac{\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, y_r} - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, y_i} + i(\hat{\sigma}_{x_i, y_r} + \hat{\sigma}_{x_r, y_i})}{\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2 + i2\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, x_i}} \\ \underline{b}_0 &= \hat{\mu}_{\underline{y}} - \underline{b}_1 \hat{\mu}_{\underline{x}}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.33)$$

Similarly to how it was done with OLS estimate of the slope, we can consider the estimate  $\underline{b}_1$ , expanding the covariance in the numerator of (2.32):

$$\underline{b}_1 = \frac{\text{cov}(\underline{x}, \underline{y})}{V(\underline{x})} = \frac{\text{cov}(\underline{x}, \beta_0 + \beta_1 \underline{x} + \underline{\epsilon})}{V(\underline{x})}, \quad (2.34)$$

which after some simplifications becomes:

$$\underline{b}_1 = \underline{\beta}_1 + \frac{\text{cov}(\underline{x}, \underline{\epsilon})}{V(\underline{x})}, \quad (2.35)$$

which can be expanded to:

$$\underline{b}_1 = \underline{\beta}_1 + \frac{\text{cov}(x_r, \epsilon_r) - \text{cov}(x_i, \epsilon_i) + i(\text{cov}(x_r, \epsilon_i) + \text{cov}(x_i, \epsilon_r))}{V(x_r) - V(x_i) + 2i\text{cov}(x_r, x_i)}. \quad (2.36)$$

Note that both numerator and denominator of (2.36) are complex numbers. In order to have a proper split into real and imaginary parts we need to multiply the ratio by the complex number conjugate to the denominator:

$$\underline{b}_1 = \underline{\beta}_1 + \frac{(\text{cov}(x_r, \epsilon_r) - \text{cov}(x_i, \epsilon_i) + i(\text{cov}(x_r, \epsilon_i) + \text{cov}(x_i, \epsilon_r)))(V(x_r) - V(x_i) - 2i\text{cov}(x_r, x_i))}{(V(x_r) - V(x_i))^2 + 4\text{cov}(x_r, x_i)^2}. \quad (2.37)$$

This then can be split into two parts:

$$\begin{aligned} b_{1,r} &= \beta_{1,r} + \frac{(\text{cov}(x_r, \epsilon_r) - \text{cov}(x_i, \epsilon_i))(V(x_r) - V(x_i)) - 2\text{cov}(x_r, x_i)(\text{cov}(x_r, \epsilon_i) + \text{cov}(x_i, \epsilon_r))}{(V(x_r) - V(x_i))^2 + 4\text{cov}(x_r, x_i)^2} \\ b_{1,i} &= \beta_{1,i} + \frac{(\text{cov}(x_r, \epsilon_i) + \text{cov}(x_i, \epsilon_r))(V(x_r) - V(x_i)) + 2\text{cov}(x_r, x_i)(\text{cov}(x_i, \epsilon_i) - \text{cov}(x_r, \epsilon_r))}{(V(x_r) - V(x_i))^2 + 4\text{cov}(x_r, x_i)^2} \end{aligned} \quad (2.38)$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} b_{1,r} &= \beta_{1,r} + \frac{(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, \epsilon_r} - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, \epsilon_i})(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2) - 2\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, x_i}(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, \epsilon_i} + \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, \epsilon_r})}{(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2)^2 + 4\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, x_i}^2} \\ b_{1,i} &= \beta_{1,i} + \frac{(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, \epsilon_i} + \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, \epsilon_r})(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2) + 2\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, x_i}(\hat{\sigma}_{x_i, \epsilon_i} - \hat{\sigma}_{x_r, \epsilon_r})}{(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2)^2 + 4\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, x_i}^2} \end{aligned} \quad (2.39)$$

If we now consider the properties of  $b_{1,r}$ , we can see that it is an asymptotically unbiased estimate of  $\beta_{1,r}$  when the basic regression assumptions hold (i.e.  $\sigma_{x_r, \epsilon_r} = \sigma_{x_i, \epsilon_i} = \sigma_{x_r, \epsilon_i} = \sigma_{x_i, \epsilon_r} = 0$ ). Similar holds for the  $b_{1,i}$ .

The variance of  $b_{1,r}$  can be written as:

$$V(b_{1,r}) = V\left(\frac{(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, \epsilon_r} - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, \epsilon_i})(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2) - 2\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, x_i}(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, \epsilon_i} + \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, \epsilon_r})}{(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2)^2 + 4\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, x_i}^2}\right). \quad (2.40)$$

We will come back to this variance, when comparing the efficiency of OLS and CLS estimators in Section 2.3.

In order to better understand what is specifically minimised, when the formulae (2.32) are used for the estimation of parameters, we conduct a small experiment in R with the following code:

```
# Random seed for reproducibility
set.seed(41)
# Create real part of a c.r.v. x
xr <- rnorm(1000, 0, 10)
# Create a c.r.v. x
x <- complex(real=xr, imaginary=1.5*xr+rnorm(1000, 0, 10))
# Create a c.r.v. y
y <- (1.5 + 1.2i) * x +
```

```

complex(real=rnorm(1000,0,10), imaginary=rnorm(1000,0,10))

# Define number of iterations and the matrix with the values
nsim <- 10000
clsValues <- matrix(NA, nsim, 4,
                      dimnames=list(NULL,
                                    c("b1r","b1i","CLSr","CLSi")))

# CLS loss function
clsLoss <- function(y, yHat){
  return(sum((y - yHat)**2))
}

# Loop for values of b1r from 0.52 to 2.5 and
# for b1i from 0.22 to 2.2
l <- 1
for(i in 1:(nsim/100)){
  for(j in 1:(nsim/100)){
    b <- complex(real=i/100*2+0.5, imaginary=j/100*2+0.2)
    yHat <- (10 + 15i) + b * x
    clsResult <- clsLoss(y, yHat)
    clsValues[l,1] <- Re(b);
    clsValues[l,2] <- Im(b);
    clsValues[l,3] <- Re(clsResult);
    clsValues[l,4] <- Im(clsResult);
    l <- l+1;
  }
}

# Estimate b1 using CLS
bOptimal <- ccov(x, y, method="direct") /
  cvar(x, method="direct")
# Produce fitted values
yHat <- bOptimal * x
# Calculate the loss
clsResult <- clsLoss(y, yHat)

```

In this experiment we generate complex variables  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$  and then calculate values of the complex loss function based on a combination of values of the complex slope  $b_1$  (which we call just  $b$  in the code). After running the code above we end up with 10,000 values of the loss function and one additional, which corresponds to the optimal point according to (2.32). We can then produce several plots to better understand what is happening.

Figure 2.1 shows a scatterplot of values of the complex loss (2.27). The red point close to the origin corresponds to the estimate obtained using (2.32). As we

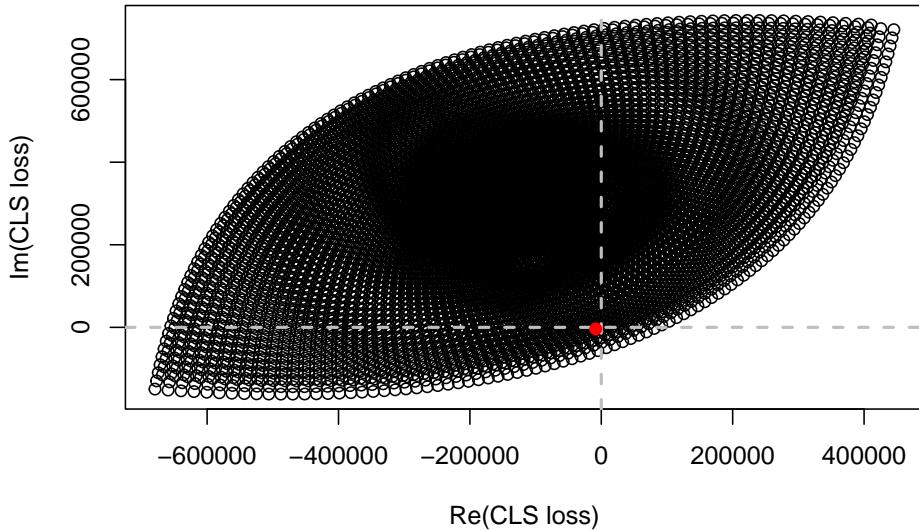


Figure 2.1: Variety of CLS loss function values for different values of  $\underline{b}_1$ .

can see, it is close to the origin, which implies that the minimisation of the loss (2.27) is equivalent to making both real and imaginary parts of it close to zero. This means that CLS makes variances of real and imaginary residuals similar and shrinks the covariance between them to zero.

Another way of looking at how CLS works is to reduce its dimensionality via the Multidimensional Scaling (see, for example, Borg and Groenen, 2005) and then visualise it. The R code below is relatively slow but produces a solution for this task.

```
# Calculate distance matrix for all losses
# (including the CLS point)
clsMDSDistance <- dist(rbind(clsValues[,3:4],
                                c(Re(clsResult), Im(clsResult))))  
  

# Do Multidimensional scaling
clsMDS <- cmdscale(clsMDSDistance, k=1)  
  

# Create a data frame with the coordinates
clsMDSValues <- data.frame(z=clsMDS,
                            x=c(clsValues[,1], Re(bOptimal)),
                            y=c(clsValues[,2], Im(bOptimal)))  
  

# Create a matrix with loss values for 3d plotting
clsMDSValuesZ <- matrix(clsMDSValues$z[-10001], 100, 100)
```

Then, to produce the 3d surface on the plane of  $(\text{loss}, b_{1,r}, b_{1,i})$ , we can use

functions from the `plotly` package in R as shown in the code below:

```
plot_ly(z=clsMDSValues$Z,
        x=unique(clsMDSValues$x[-10001]),
        y=unique(clsMDSValues$y[-10001])) |>
  plotly::layout(scene=list(xaxis = list(title = "Re(b1)",
                                         yaxis = list(title = "Im(b1)",
                                                       zaxis = list(title = "MDS of CLS loss")))) |>
  add_surface() |>
  add_trace(data = tail(clsMDSValues, 1),
             x = ~x,
             y = ~y,
             z = ~z,
             mode = "markers",
             type = "scatter3d",
             marker = list(size = 10))
```

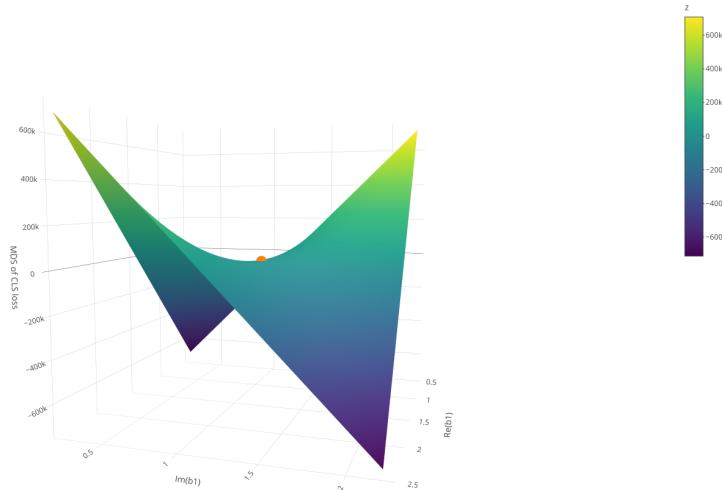


Figure 2.2: Plot of the 3d surface for the MDS of the CLS loss.

Figure 2.2 demonstrates how the projection of the two-dimensional loss behaves for a variety of parameters of the regression. The orange dot in the middle corresponds to the one obtained via CLS. We can see that it corresponds to the loss being close to zero, and represents a 2-dimensional inflection point, where the surface bends in different directions.

Concluding this brief demonstration, we can see that despite being counter-intuitive, the CLS produces the estimates of parameters that lead to the residuals being close to spherical (normal if we assume normality), because the variances

of real and imaginary parts of the residuals become closer to each other, while the covariance between them becomes close to zero.

### 2.2.3 Likelihood

Finally, another way of estimating the simple cLR is by assuming a distribution of the residuals and maximising the respective likelihood (van den Bos, 1994). Given the connection between the linear and the vector forms of the complex regression, we can assume that the error term follows a bivariate normal distribution with a covariance matrix:

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\epsilon = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{\epsilon_r}^2 & \sigma_{\epsilon_r, \epsilon_i} \\ \sigma_{\epsilon_r, \epsilon_i} & \sigma_{\epsilon_i}^2 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.41)$$

The log-likelihood in this case can be written as:

$$\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\epsilon | \mathbf{Y}) = -\frac{n}{2} (2 \log(2\pi) + \log |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\epsilon|) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^n (\boldsymbol{\epsilon}'_j \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\epsilon^{-1} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_j), \quad (2.42)$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  is the vector of estimated parameters and  $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_j = \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_{r,j} \\ \epsilon_{i,j} \end{pmatrix}$  is the two dimensional error term. This likelihood is maximised when the covariance matrix (2.41) is estimated via:

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_\epsilon = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_j \boldsymbol{\epsilon}'_j. \quad (2.43)$$

It can be shown that if the (2.43) is inserted in (2.42) then the following concentrated log-likelihood can be obtained (see, for example, Snyder et al., 2017; Svetunkov et al., 2023):

$$\ell^*(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_\epsilon | \mathbf{Y}) = -\frac{n}{2} \left( 2 \log(2\pi e) + \log |\hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_\epsilon| \right). \quad (2.44)$$

It is obvious that the maximisation of the log-likelihood (2.44) is equivalent to minimising the generalised variance of the complex error term (as discussed in Subsection 1.2.2):

$$GV = |\hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_\epsilon| = \sigma_{\epsilon_r}^2 \sigma_{\epsilon_i}^2 - \sigma_{\epsilon_r, \epsilon_i}^2. \quad (2.45)$$

The minimisation of GV in its turn implies the joint minimisation of variances of the real and imaginary parts of the residuals and a maximisation of the square of the covariance between them, thus making the residuals more linearly related. This loss function might be especially useful if we indeed can assume that the real and imaginary parts of the residuals are linearly related, and we want to use this information in the estimation.

The main difference between the Likelihood and the other two estimators discussed in this section is that the former can only be maximised via a numeric optimisation - there is no analytical solution for estimates of parameters via likelihood.

## 2.3 Comparing different estimators for cLR

Arguably, all three estimators discussed in this Section give adequate estimates of parameters, but inevitably they will have different efficiency and would be appropriate in different situations. In this subsection, we explore the behaviour of estimators with the increase of sample size.

First, comparing variances of OLS and CLS estimates of  $b_{1,r}$  (2.40) with (2.26):

$$\begin{aligned} V(b_{1,r}^{\text{OLS}}) &= V\left(\frac{\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, \epsilon_r} + \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, \epsilon_i}}{\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2}\right) \\ V(b_{1,r}^{\text{CLS}}) &= V\left(\frac{(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, \epsilon_r} - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, \epsilon_i})(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2) - 2\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, x_i}(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, \epsilon_i} + \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, \epsilon_r})}{(\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 - \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2)^2 + 4\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, x_i}^2}\right), \end{aligned}$$

we can conclude that there are some situations, when the estimates of parameters via CLS are less **efficient** than the OLS estimates - the variance (2.40) would be much higher than (2.26) under some circumstances. For example, when the real and imaginary parts of  $\underline{x}$  are not correlated (i.e.  $\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, x_i} = 0$ ) and when the variances of the real and imaginary parts of  $\underline{x}$  are equal, the variance of  $b_{1,r}$  explodes. On the other hand, there are also some cases, when CLS estimates are more efficient than the OLS ones. For example, when  $\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, \epsilon_i} = \hat{\sigma}_{x_i, \epsilon_r}$  and  $\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, x_i} = 0$ , the variance (2.26) will be equal to zero, while the variance (2.40) will be greater than zero. So, in general, we cannot conclude that one of the estimators will be consistently more efficient than the other.

We cannot compare the efficiency of the likelihood estimator directly with the OLS and CLS, but we know from the statistics literature (Wald, 1949) that likelihood gives consistent and asymptotically efficient estimates of parameters.

**In terms of consistency**, in one specific situation, when  $\hat{\sigma}_{x_r}^2 = \hat{\sigma}_{x_i}^2$  and  $\hat{\sigma}_{x_r, x_i} = 0$ , CLS might produce non-consistent estimates of parameters. This means that if we deal with explanatory variables with these properties, we should use either OLS or Likelihood.

Similar analysis can be done for the estimate of parameter  $\beta_{1,i}$ , with the conclusions similar to the above, so we skip this discussion.

### 2.3.1 Simulation experiment

In order to do a more thorough comparison of the three estimators, we set up a simulation experiment based on the following simple cLR:

$$y_r + iy_i = 10 + 15i + (2 - 1.5i)(x_r + ix_i) + (\epsilon_r + i\epsilon_i)$$

and several scenarios, parameters for which are shown in Table 2.1. They covered several important situations: when  $x_r$  and  $x_i$  are not correlated, have medium correlation and perfectly correlated, when their variances are similar or different, and then when the real and imaginary parts of the error term are not correlated,

Table 2.1: Several scenarios for the comparison of estimators.

	$\text{cor}(x_r, x_i)$	std.dev. of $x_r$ and $x_i$	$\text{cor}(\epsilon_r, \epsilon_i)$	std.dev. of $\epsilon_r$ and $\epsilon_i$
Scenario 1	0	$\sigma_{x_r} = 10, \sigma_{x_i} = 20$	0	$\sigma_{\epsilon_r} = \sigma_{\epsilon_i} = 1.5$
Scenario 2	1	$\sigma_{x_r} = 10, \text{ while } \sigma_{x_i} = 15$	0	$\sigma_{\epsilon_r} = \sigma_{\epsilon_i} = 1.5$
Scenario 3	0	$\sigma_{x_r} = \sigma_{x_i} = 20$	0	$\sigma_{\epsilon_r} = \sigma_{\epsilon_i} = 1.5$
Scenario 4	medium	$\sigma_{x_r} = 10, \sigma_{x_i} = 15$	NA	$\sigma_{\epsilon_r} = \sigma_{\epsilon_i} = 0$
Scenario 5	medium	$\sigma_{x_r} = 10, \sigma_{x_i} = 15$	medium	$\sigma_{\epsilon_r} = 10, \sigma_{\epsilon_i} = 8$
Scenario 6	medium	$\sigma_{x_r} = 10, \sigma_{x_i} = 15$	0	$\sigma_{\epsilon_r} = \sigma_{\epsilon_i} = 100$

have medium correlation, or are equal to zero, and when their variances have high or low values.

These six scenarios in Table 2.1 cover different theoretically possible situations and show how the three estimators behave in these conditions. The sample size was first set to 20 observations and then was increased iteratively by one observation until reaching 10,000. This should give us an understanding of how the estimators behave on small samples and asymptotically. While we recorded both values of estimated intercept and slope, we are mainly interested in the latter, and the plots shown below focus on how the complex parameter  $b_1$  is estimated. The experiments were done using `c1m()` function from the `complex` package with `method` parameter equal to “OLS”, “CLS” and “likelihood” for each of the respective estimators. A sample of the script used in the experiments is shown below (Scenario 1):

```
# Random seed for reproducibility
set.seed(41)
# Number of observations
obs <- 10000
x0 <- rnorm(obs, 10, 10)
x <- complex(real=x0, imaginary=rnorm(obs, 0, 20))

# Parameters of the model
b0 <- 10 + 15i
b1 <- 2-1.5i
# Response variable
y <- b0 + b1 * x + 1.5*complex(real=rnorm(obs, 0, 1),
                                    imaginary=rnorm(obs, 0, 1))

# Form a matrix of variables
complexData <- cbind(y, x)

# Number of iterations and an array for parameters
nsim <- 9980
parametersValues <-
array(NA, c(nsim, 3, 2),
```

```

  dimnames=list(NULL,
                c("CLS", "OLS", "Likelihood"),
                c("b0", "b1")))

# The loop with CLR estimated with CLS, OLS and Likelihood
for(i in 1:nSim){
  test <- clm(y~x, complexData, loss="CLS",
               subset=sample(c(1:obs), 20+i))
  parametersValues[i,1,] <- coef(test)
  test <- clm(y~x, complexData, loss="OLS",
               subset=sample(c(1:obs), 20+i))
  parametersValues[i,2,] <- coef(test)
  test <- clm(y~x, complexData, loss="likelihood",
               subset=sample(c(1:obs), 20+i))
  parametersValues[i,3,] <- coef(test)
}

```

Figure 2.3 demonstrates how estimates of parameters change with the increase of sample size in Scenario 1.

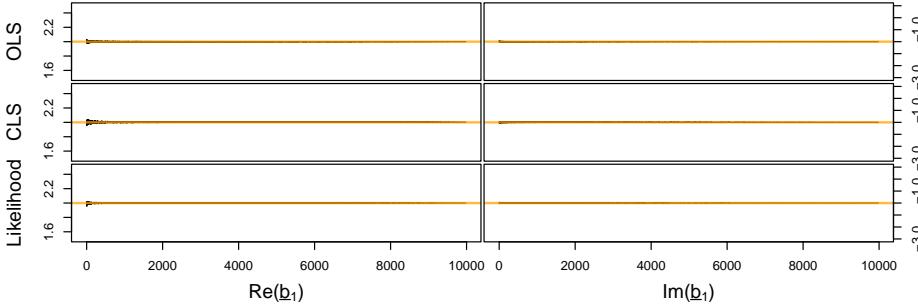


Figure 2.3: Estimation of parameters using OLS, CLS and likelihood and their convergence to the true value of  $\beta_1 = 2 - 1.5i$  (orange horizontal lines on the plot). Scenario 1.

Apparently, all three estimators produce very similar estimates of parameters in this case and converge to the true values quite fast. A similar behaviour is observed for the Scenario 2, shown in Figure 2.4. The difference between the three estimators does not look substantial.

In both Scenarios 1 and 2 the error term has a small variance. In Scenario 2,  $x_r$  and  $x_i$  are perfectly correlated, transforming the original model into:  $y_r + iy_i = 10 + 15i + (2 - 1.5i)(1 + 1.5i)x_r + (\epsilon_r + i\epsilon_i)$ .

The Scenario 3 demonstrates an exotic case, when the variances of  $x_r$  and  $x_i$  are the same (as shown in Figure 2.5).

In this scenario, OLS and Likelihood produce efficient, unbiased and consistent

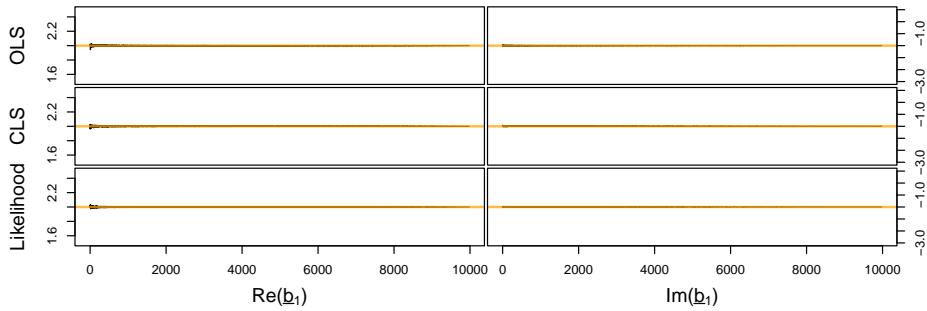


Figure 2.4: Estimation of parameters using OLS, CLS and likelihood and their convergence to the true value of  $\beta_1 = 2 - 1.5i$  (orange horizontal lines on the plot). Scenario 2.

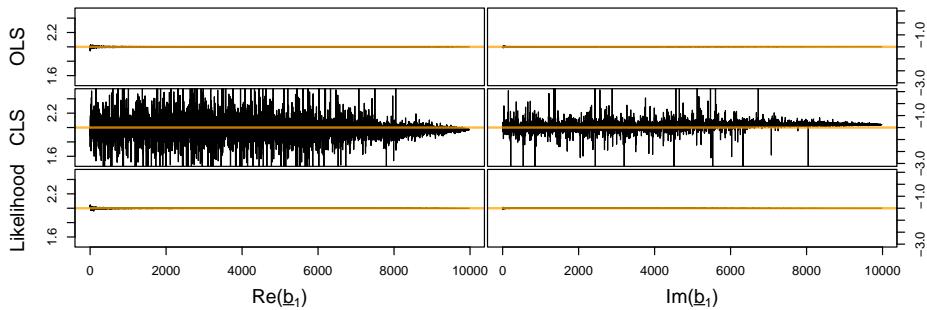


Figure 2.5: Estimation of parameters using OLS, CLS and likelihood and their convergence to the true value of  $\beta_1 = 2 - 1.5i$  (orange horizontal lines on the plot). Scenario 3.

estimates of parameters, which cannot be said about the CLS. The behaviour of CLS is explainable because for this specific scenario, the direct variance of the complex variable  $x_r + ix_i$  becomes close to zero. As a result, the direct covariance in (2.33) is divided by zero, and the estimate of the parameter becomes unstable. Scenarios 1 and 3 could be considered as two special cases of the spectrum of values, showing that the closer the variances of the real and imaginary parts of  $x$  are, the less consistent, efficient and unbiased estimates of parameters are produced by CLS. Scenario 2 is complimentary, because it shows that if the real and imaginary parts are correlated, the CLS estimates of parameters become as good (in statistical terms) as the estimates of OLS and/or Likelihood. So, the CLS becomes unreliable in a special case, when  $\sigma_{x_r}^2 = \sigma_{x_i}^2$  and  $\sigma_{x_r, x_i} = 0$ .

Next, the three estimators give the same estimates of parameters in Scenario 4 of functional relation between  $x$  and  $y$ , which is shown in Figure 2.6.

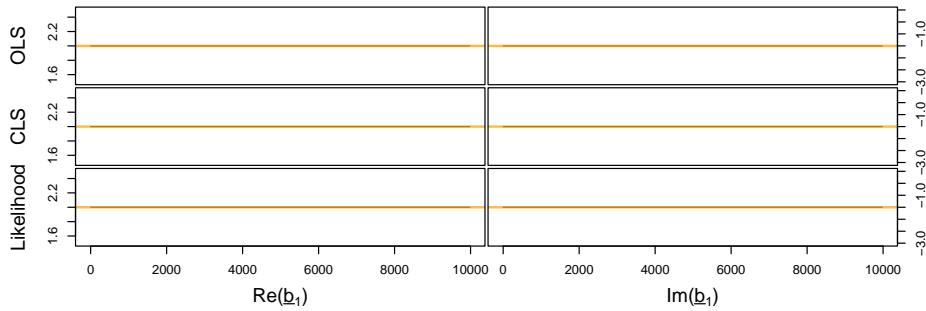


Figure 2.6: Estimation of parameters using OLS, CLS and likelihood and their convergence to the true value of  $\beta_1 = 2 - 1.5i$  (orange horizontal lines on the plot). Scenario 4.

The main difficulty for the estimators appears when the variance of the error term increases. Figure 2.7 shows how the three perform in case of a high variance of the error term in Scenario 5.

It becomes apparent that OLS and Likelihood produce more efficient estimates of parameters than CLS on small samples. This is because the variability of estimates of parameter is higher for CLS than for the other two on small samples.

The situation worsens for the three estimators when we consider Scenario 6, when the variance of the error term become much higher than before, which is shown in Figure 2.8.

In addition to being less efficient, the real parts of estimates of parameters exhibit a bias, which is diminished with the increase of sample size. Comparing the three estimators, it appears that CLS produces less efficient and more biased estimates of parameters than OLS or Likelihood in Scenario 6.

These six scenarios show a variety of situations in which the three estimators produce different estimates of parameters. Arguably, OLS and Likelihood could

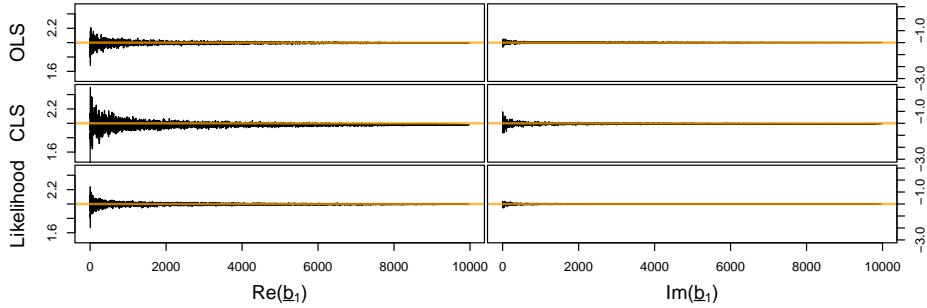


Figure 2.7: Estimation of parameters using OLS, CLS and likelihood and their convergence to the true value of  $\beta_1 = 2 - 1.5i$  (orange horizontal lines on the plot). Scenario 5.

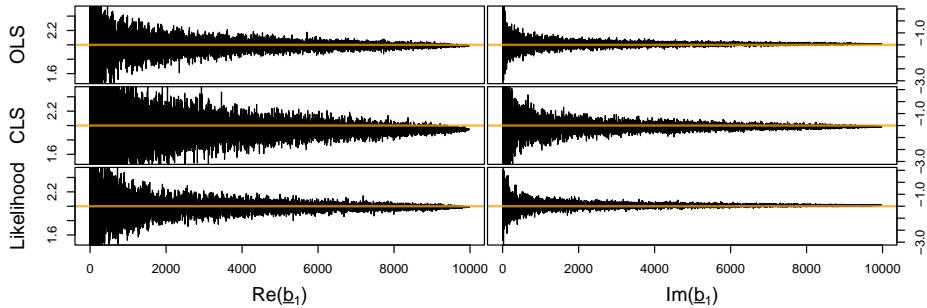


Figure 2.8: Estimation of parameters using OLS, CLS and likelihood and their convergence to the true value of  $\beta_1 = 2 - 1.5i$  (orange horizontal lines on the plot). Scenario 6.

be considered as robust alternatives, but all the three estimators seem to perform well in several sensible situations.



## Chapter 3

# Correlation analysis of complex random variables

When it comes to measuring associations between variables, most frequently analysts use coefficient of correlation. While it is straightforward for real-valued variables, for complex variables this become challenging, because each c.r.v. has two parts, so the correlation needs to take them both into account.

For modelling purposes, it might be useful to have the information about all possible correlations between the two c.r.v. This comes to analysing the following covariances for variables  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$ :

1.  $\sigma_{x_r, x_i},$
2.  $\sigma_{y_r, y_i},$
3.  $\sigma_{x_r, y_r},$
4.  $\sigma_{x_i, y_i},$
5.  $\sigma_{x_r, y_i},$
6.  $\sigma_{y_r, x_i}.$

We start with the visual analysis of relations, then move to the discussion of different types of correlation coefficients, sequentially discussing the conjugate, direct, Pearson's coefficients and finish the chapter with the discussion of correlation matrix of complex variables.

### 3.1 Visualisation of relations

To better understand what correlations between c.r.v. imply, we need to understand how to visualise them first. The conventional way of doing that is using scatterplots. While in case of two real variables it is straightforward (a variable per axe), in complex-valued domain, this task has several potential solutions. The first one is to consider a set of scatterplots as shown in Figure 3.1

for two complex random variables  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$ , created using `cplot()` function from `complex` package in R.

```
# Random seed for reproducibility
set.seed(41)
# Create real part of a c.r.v. x
xr <- rnorm(1000,0,10)
# Create a c.r.v. x
x <- complex(real=xr, imaginary=1.5*xr+rnorm(1000,0,10))
# Create a c.r.v. y
y <- (10 + 15i) + (1.5 + 1.2i) * x +
    complex(real=rnorm(1000,0,10), imaginary=rnorm(1000,0,10))
# Produce the plot
cplot(x, y, which=1)
```

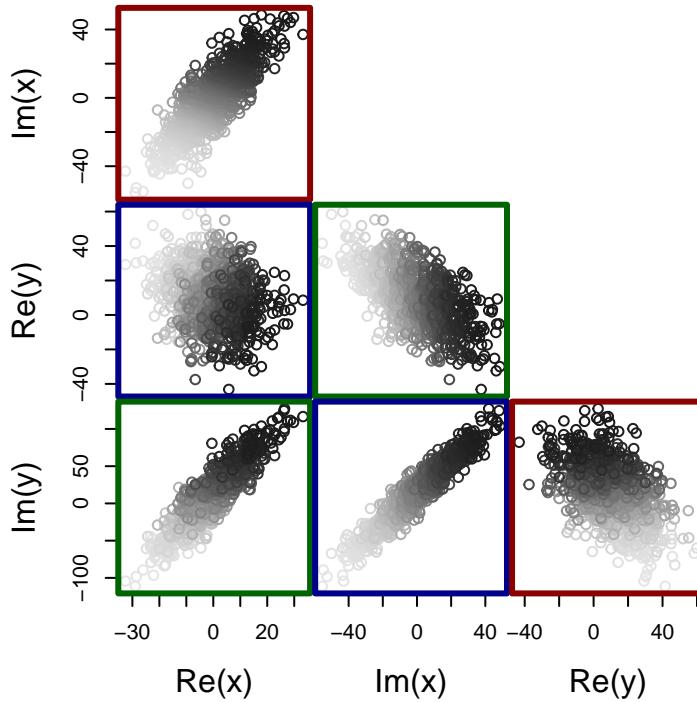


Figure 3.1: Visualisation of relations between two complex variables

This scatterplot has several important elements in it:

- It shows relations between real and imaginary parts of each variable (e.g. the two scatterplots in the bold dark red frame),
- It shows cross-relations between parts of one variable and parts of the other one (e.g. the rest four plots),
- The blue frame shows relation between real parts and between imaginary

parts of two variables;

- Green frame depicts cross-relations, i.e. between a real part of one variable and the imaginary of the other one;
- The intensity of the colour of dots in the plot shows ordering of the original variable  $\underline{x}$  with dark colours corresponding to points with higher magnitude and light ones being closer to zero. This way, we can see what the original points in  $\underline{x}$  correspond to in  $\underline{y}$ .

The plots are positioned to satisfy two rules:

1. When a scatterplot for a c.r.v. is produced, the real part should be in x-axis, while the imaginary should be in the y-axis;
2. When parts of variables  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$  are compared, the part for  $\underline{x}$  should be in x-axis, while the part for  $\underline{y}$  should be in y-axis, which should reflect the idea that  $\underline{x}$  is an explanatory variable for  $\underline{y}$ ;

Thus, plots in red frames are complimentary showing additional information about each separate variable. While a simple scatterplot matrix could have been constructed instead of Figure 3.1, we argue that the latter has a logical grouping and should be preferred for analysis of complex variables. For example, based on the plots in Figure 3.1 we can conclude that:

- There is a positive linear relation between the real and imaginary parts of  $\underline{x}$ ;
- There is a negative linear relation between the real and imaginary parts of  $\underline{y}$ ;
- Real parts of  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$  do not exhibit a strong linear relation, although there seems to be a mild negative one;
- The respective imaginary parts of  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$  have a strong positive linear relation between them;
- Finally, we see that with the increase of real and imaginary parts of  $\underline{x}$ , the real part of  $\underline{y}$  decreases, while the imaginary one increases. This sort of behaviour implies positive complex slope in the potential linear regression (discussed in Section 2).

We think that this visualisation is useful when analysing relations between two complex random variables. But it also shows how complicated it is to capture the relation between them and how many aspects need to be considered.

So, as an alternative to the plot above, it is also possible to use some dimensionality reduction techniques to plot complex variables on a two dimensional plot. For example, we can use Multidimensional Scaling for this (MDS, Borg and Groenen, 2005) to create a projections of one complex variable on x-axis and another one on the y-axis. In R, we can use the `cmdscale()` function from the `stats` package for this (in the example below, we use euclidean distance for the dissimilarities matrix via `dist()` function from `stats`, and we use the `complex2vec()` function from the `complex` package to transform complex variable to a collection of vectors):

```
complex2vec(x) |> dist() |> cmdscale(k=1) -> xScaled
complex2vec(y) |> dist() |> cmdscale(k=1) -> yScaled
plot(xScaled,yScaled)
```

The same code is implemented in `cplot()` function from the `complex` package in R (result is shown in Figure 3.2):

```
cplot(x, y, which=2, main="")
```

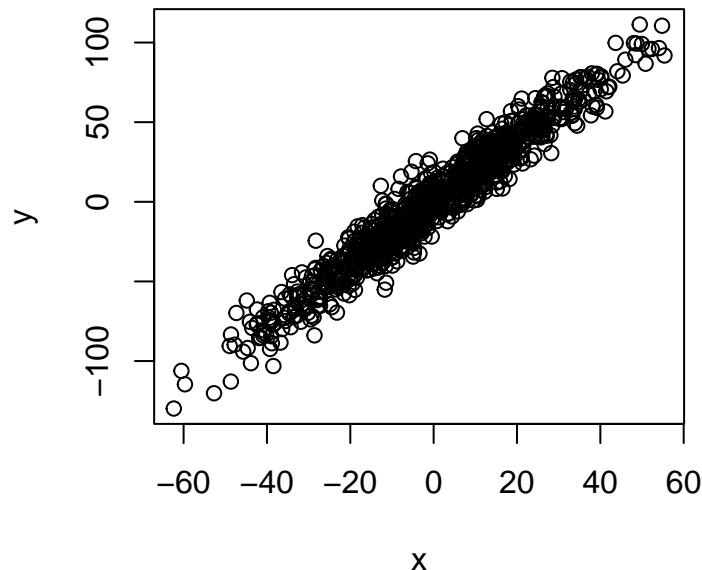


Figure 3.2: Scatterplot of MDS of two complex variables.

The plot in Figure 3.2 is much easier to read than the collection of scatterplots in Figure 3.1, and in our example, we can conclude that the two complex variables exhibit strong linear relation. The only thing to note is that due to the nature of MDS, projections to axes might differ depending on the settings of the optimiser and there is a danger that the direction of the relation might be lost during scaling.

## 3.2 Types of correlation coefficients

The scientific literature knows two main correlation coefficients for complex variables (Schreier and Scharf, 2010): the conjugate and the direct correlation (the former is typically just called “correlation”, while the latter is known in the literature as “pseudo-correlation”, see, for example, Chung, 2020). Their formulae are based on the respective conjugate and direct covariances and variances (discussed in Subsection 1.2.2).

1. Conjugate correlation:

$$\rho_{x,y} = \frac{\sqrt{\sigma_{x,y}\sigma_{y,x}}}{\sigma_x\sigma_y}, \quad (3.1)$$

2. Direct correlation:

$$\varrho_{x,y} = \frac{\varsigma_{x,y}}{\varsigma_x\varsigma_y}. \quad (3.2)$$

Note that we define the conjugate correlation slightly differently than it is typically done in the literature - in our case it has the geometric mean of standard deviations in the numerator. This is needed because of the issue with the conjugate covariance (its value changes with the change of conjugate number as discussed in Subsection 1.2.2). If we use only one of covariances (as done, for example, by Panchev, 1971) then the value of correlation coefficient will be ambiguous, implying that the correlation between  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$  differs from the correlation between  $\underline{y}$  and  $\underline{x}$ . Furthermore, such correlation coefficient would not work as intended. For example, if we have a positive functional linear relation between  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$ , the coefficient should be equal to one. But as an R example below demonstrates this value is obtained only if we have the geometric mean of covariances.

```
# Random seed for reproducibility
set.seed(41)
# Generate the explanatory variable
x <- complex(real=rnorm(100,0,10), imaginary=rnorm(100,0,10))
y <- (10 + 15i) + (1 + 1i) * x
# Variant 1
ccov(y,x,method="conj") /
  sqrt(cvar(x,method="conj")*cvar(y,method="conj"))
```

```
## [1] 0.7071068-0.7071068i
```

```
# Variant 2
ccov(x,y,method="conj") /
  sqrt(cvar(x,method="conj")*cvar(y,method="conj"))
```

```
## [1] 0.7071068+0.7071068i
```

As we see, the two correlation coefficients above are symmetric, but have different signs for the imaginary part and are not equal to one. The situation changes if we take the geometric mean:

```
# Variant 3 (correct conjugate correlation)
sqrt(ccov(y,x,method="conj")*ccov(x,y,method="conj")) /
  sqrt((cvar(x,method="conj")*cvar(y,method="conj")))
```

```
## [1] 1+0i
```

The same result will be achieved if we use the `ccor()` function from the `complex` package in R:

```
# Same thing using the ccor() function
ccor(x,y,method="conjugate")
```

All above also means that the conjugate correlation coefficient is always positive, only showing the average strength of the relation between variables, but not its direction. We note that the first who acknowledged this issue was Schreier and Scharf (2010). He discussed the properties of the coefficient and its derivatives in more detail.

The formulae (3.1) and (3.2) are derived based on the original definition of Pearson's correlation coefficient (Pearson, 1905). It follows from the idea that the correlation coefficient equals to the geometric mean of slopes of two regression lines:

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{y} &= \underline{\beta}_0 + \underline{\beta}_1 \underline{x} + \underline{\epsilon} \\ \underline{x} &= \underline{\alpha}_0 + \underline{\alpha}_1 \underline{y} + \underline{v},\end{aligned}\tag{3.3}$$

where  $\underline{\alpha}_0$  and  $\underline{\beta}_0$  are the intercepts,  $\underline{\alpha}_1$  and  $\underline{\beta}_1$  are the slopes of the regression lines and  $\underline{\epsilon}$  and  $\underline{v}$  are the residuals of the models. Note that all of these variables and parameters in our case are complex. As discussed in Section 2, the parameters of slope can be estimated using either Ordinary Least Squares, or the Complex Least Squares. For the OLS, the formulae for the slopes are:

$$\begin{aligned}b_1 &= \frac{\hat{\sigma}_{x,y}}{\hat{\sigma}_x} \\ \underline{a}_1 &= \frac{\hat{\sigma}_{y,x}}{\hat{\sigma}_y}.\end{aligned}\tag{3.4}$$

Taking their geometric means gives:

$$\hat{\rho}_{x,y} = \sqrt{\underline{a}_1 b_1},\tag{3.5}$$

which then leads to the formula (3.1). Similarly, for CLS estimated regressions, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{b}_1 &= \frac{\hat{\varsigma}_{x,y}}{\hat{\varsigma}_x} \\ \underline{a}_1 &= \frac{\hat{\varsigma}_{y,x}}{\hat{\varsigma}_y},\end{aligned}\tag{3.6}$$

which after taking the same geometric means leads to (3.2). Note that the estimates of the slope parameters will differ between the OLS and the CLS and thus the direct and conjugate correlations will differ as well. There are other ways to estimate correlation coefficients (e.g., Miyabe et al., 2015) and there are other formulae of coefficients (Schreier and Scharf, 2010), but they lie outside of the scope of this monograph.

### 3.3 Conjugate correlation

When it comes to the interpretation of the coefficients, as discussed above, the conjugate one is a real number. It can be written as:

$$\rho_{x,y} = \frac{\sqrt{(\sigma_{x_r,y_r} + \sigma_{x_i,y_i})^2 + (\sigma_{x_i,y_r} - \sigma_{x_r,y_i})^2}}{\sqrt{(\sigma_{x_r}^2 + \sigma_{x_i}^2)(\sigma_{y_r}^2 + \sigma_{y_i}^2)}}. \quad (3.7)$$

As can be seen from the formula (3.7), the coefficient shows the average strength of linear relation between two complex variables  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$  based on their magnitudes, ignoring the arguments. The coefficient will be equal to zero, when there are no linear relations between the respective real and imaginary parts of complex variables  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$  and when the cross-covariances are equal (i.e.  $\sigma_{x_r,y_r} = \sigma_{x_i,y_i} = 0$  and  $\sigma_{x_i,y_r} = \sigma_{x_r,y_i}$ ). A special case of this condition is when all the covariances are equal to zero. Another condition leading to zero conjugate correlation coefficient is  $\sigma_{x_r,y_r} = -\sigma_{x_i,y_i}$  and  $\sigma_{x_i,y_r} = \sigma_{x_r,y_i}$ . All of this implies that if the coefficient equals to zero, then this does not necessarily mean that there is no linear relation between two complex variables.

On the other hand, the coefficient will be close to one if the complex relation between variables  $\underline{y}$  and  $\underline{x}$  is close to the linear, i.e.  $\underline{a}_1 = \frac{1}{\underline{b}_1}$ . However, it does not show the direction of the relation, because it cannot be negative due to the calculation of the magnitude in the numerator of (3.7).

To better understand what the conjugate correlation means, we expand the formula (3.5) by substituting  $\underline{b}_1 = b_{1,r} + ib_{1,i}$  and  $\underline{a}_1 = a_{1,r} + ia_{1,i}$ :

$$\hat{\rho}_{x,y} = \frac{\sqrt{(a_{1,r} + ia_{1,i})(b_{1,r} + ib_{1,i})}}{\sqrt{a_{1,r}b_{1,r} - a_{1,i}b_{1,i} + i(a_{1,r}b_{1,i} + a_{1,i}b_{1,r})}}, \quad (3.8)$$

or in the exponential form:

$$\hat{\rho}_{x,y} = R^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{i\frac{1}{2}\phi}, \quad (3.9)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \sqrt{(a_{1,r}b_{1,r} - a_{1,i}b_{1,i})^2 + (a_{1,r}b_{1,i} + a_{1,i}b_{1,r})^2} \\ \phi &= \arctan \left( \frac{a_{1,r}b_{1,i} + a_{1,i}b_{1,r}}{a_{1,r}b_{1,r} - a_{1,i}b_{1,i}} \right), \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

As can be seen from (3.10), there is a multitude of combinations of parameters of the model that can give the unity magnitude  $R$ . For example, if  $a_{1,r} = 0.5$ ,  $b_{1,r} = 1$ ,  $a_{1,i} = -0.5$  and  $b_{1,i} = 1$ ,  $R$  would be equal to one.

An R example of a conjugate correlation (via `ccor()` function from `complex` package) with the aforementioned values of parameters is shown below and in Figure 3.3.

```
# Set seed for reproducibility
set.seed(41)
# Create a c.r.v. x
x <- complex(real=rnorm(100,0,10), imaginary=rnorm(100,0,10))
# Create a c.r.v. y
y <- (10 + 15i) + (1 + 1i) * x +
    complex(real=rnorm(100,0,1), imaginary=rnorm(100,0,1))
# Produce the plot
cplot(x, y, main="")
```

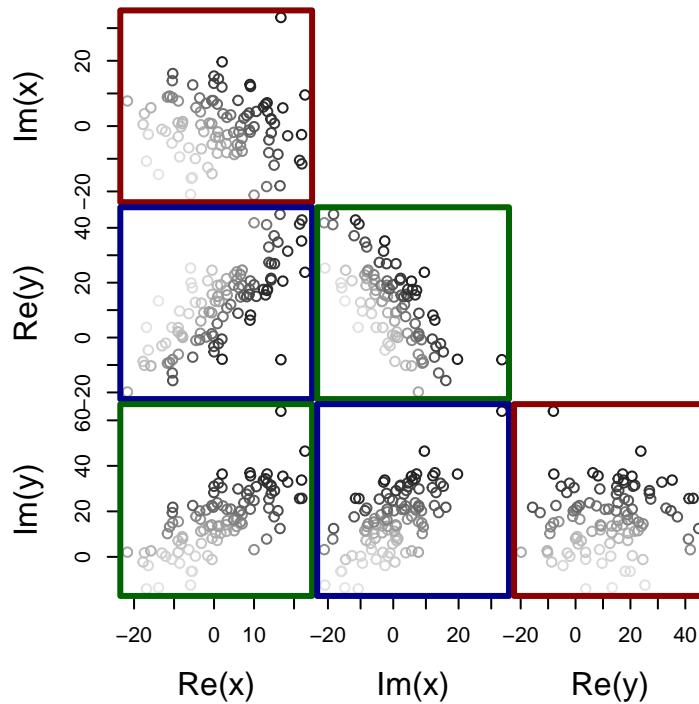


Figure 3.3: Two complex variables with conjugate correlation being close to one.

As can be seen from the Figure 3.3, there is a relation between the two complex variables  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$ . The conjugate correlation coefficient in our example is:

```
# Conjugate correlation
ccor(x, y, method="conjugate")
```

```
## [1] 0.997059
```

It shows that there is a strong linear relation between the variables. While it might be challenging to analyse the strength of the overall relation visually using the scatterplots in Figure 3.3, the MDS plot might be easier to analyse (Figure 3.4):

```
cplot(x, y, which=2, main="")
```

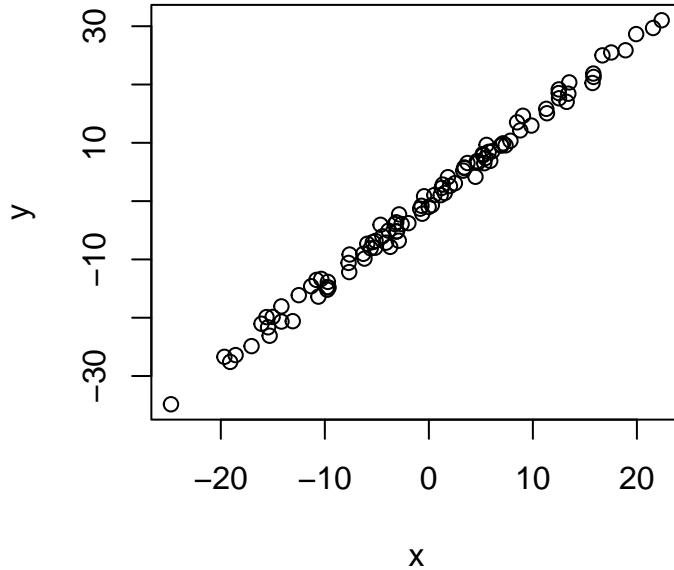


Figure 3.4: Visualisation of relations between two complex variables

As can be seen from the plot in Figure 3.4, it seems that the variables indeed exhibit a strong linear relation. So, the conjugate correlation has provided an adequate information about it.

### 3.4 Direct correlation

The direct correlation coefficient can be expanded to:

$$\varrho_{x,y} = \frac{\sigma_{x_r,y_r} - \sigma_{x_i,y_i} + i(\sigma_{x_i,y_r} + \sigma_{x_r,y_i})}{\sqrt{(\sigma_{x_r}^2 - \sigma_{x_i}^2 + i2\sigma_{x_r,x_i})(\sigma_{y_r}^2 - \sigma_{y_i}^2 + i2\sigma_{y_r,y_i})}}. \quad (3.11)$$

Note that the coefficient maintains the information not only about the magnitude, but also about the angle of the two complex variables. Given that it contains a complex number in the denominator, it is more challenging to interpret than the conjugate one. But it has several apparent properties:

1. The magnitude of the coefficient will be equal to zero (and thus the coefficient will be equal to zero) only when  $\sigma_{x_i,y_r} = \sigma_{x_r,y_i} = 0$  and  $\sigma_{x_r,y_r} = \sigma_{x_i,y_i}$ . One of the special cases of this is when all cross-covariances between the real and imaginary parts of  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$  are equal to zero;
2. When the complex variables  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$  have functional relation between them, so that  $a_1 = \frac{1}{b_1}$ , the coefficient will be equal to one;

3. Due to division by a complex number, the coefficient might become greater than one;

Note also that due to the same division by a complex number, the value of 1 can in theory also be obtained due to the values of direct variance of variables  $\underline{x}$  and/or  $\underline{y}$ .

To get other insights about the direct correlation coefficient, we express its denominator in the exponential form:

$$\sqrt{(\sigma_{x_r}^2 - \sigma_{x_i}^2 + i2\sigma_{x_r, x_i})(\sigma_{y_r}^2 - \sigma_{y_i}^2 + i2\sigma_{y_r, y_i})} = R_1^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{i\frac{\phi_1}{2}}, \quad (3.12)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} R_1 &= \sqrt{((\sigma_{x_r}^2 - \sigma_{x_i}^2)(\sigma_{y_r}^2 - \sigma_{y_i}^2) - 4\sigma_{x_r, x_i}\sigma_{y_r, y_i})^2 + 4((\sigma_{x_r}^2 - \sigma_{x_i}^2)\sigma_{y_r, y_i} + (\sigma_{y_r}^2 - \sigma_{y_i}^2)\sigma_{x_r, x_i})^2} \\ \phi_1 &= \arctan\left(\frac{2((\sigma_{x_r}^2 - \sigma_{x_i}^2)\sigma_{y_r, y_i} + (\sigma_{y_r}^2 - \sigma_{y_i}^2)\sigma_{x_r, x_i})}{(\sigma_{x_r}^2 - \sigma_{x_i}^2)(\sigma_{y_r}^2 - \sigma_{y_i}^2) - 4\sigma_{x_r, x_i}\sigma_{y_r, y_i}}\right), \end{aligned} \quad (3.13)$$

which are obtained by opening the brackets inside the square root of (3.12). If we now insert (3.12) in (3.11) and multiply both numerator and denominator by conjugate number to the (3.12) we will get:

$$\varrho_{x,y} = \frac{(\sigma_{x_r, y_r} - \sigma_{x_i, y_i} + i(\sigma_{x_i, y_r} + \sigma_{x_r, y_i})) e^{-i\frac{\phi_1}{2}}}{R_1^{\frac{1}{2}}}. \quad (3.14)$$

Representing the  $\sigma_{x_r, y_r} - \sigma_{x_i, y_i} + i(\sigma_{x_i, y_r} + \sigma_{x_r, y_i})$  as  $R_2 e^{i\phi_2}$ , where  $R_2 = \sqrt{(\sigma_{x_r, y_r} - \sigma_{x_i, y_i})^2 + (\sigma_{x_i, y_r} + \sigma_{x_r, y_i})^2}$  and  $\phi_2 = \arctan\left(\frac{\sigma_{x_i, y_r} + \sigma_{x_r, y_i}}{\sigma_{x_r, y_r} - \sigma_{x_i, y_i}}\right)$ , and inserting these values in (3.14) we get:

$$\varrho_{x,y} = \frac{R_2}{\sqrt{R_1}} e^{i(\phi_2 - \frac{\phi_1}{2})}. \quad (3.15)$$

or in an even shorter exponential form  $\varrho_{x,y} = |\varrho_{x,y}| e^{i \arg(\varrho_{x,y})}$ , where:

$$|\varrho_{x,y}| = \frac{R_2}{\sqrt{R_1}} = \sqrt{\frac{(\sigma_{x_r, y_r} - \sigma_{x_i, y_i})^2 + (\sigma_{x_i, y_r} + \sigma_{x_r, y_i})^2}{\sqrt{((\sigma_{x_r}^2 - \sigma_{x_i}^2)(\sigma_{y_r}^2 - \sigma_{y_i}^2) - 4\sigma_{x_r, x_i}\sigma_{y_r, y_i})^2 + 4((\sigma_{x_r}^2 - \sigma_{x_i}^2)\sigma_{y_r, y_i} + (\sigma_{y_r}^2 - \sigma_{y_i}^2)\sigma_{x_r, x_i})^2}}} \quad (3.16)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \arg(\varrho_{x,y}) &= \phi_2 - \frac{1}{2}\phi_1 = \arctan\left(\frac{\sigma_{x_i, y_r} + \sigma_{x_r, y_i}}{\sigma_{x_r, y_r} - \sigma_{x_i, y_i}}\right) - \\ &\quad \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{2((\sigma_{x_r}^2 - \sigma_{x_i}^2)\sigma_{y_r, y_i} + (\sigma_{y_r}^2 - \sigma_{y_i}^2)\sigma_{x_r, x_i})}{(\sigma_{x_r}^2 - \sigma_{x_i}^2)(\sigma_{y_r}^2 - \sigma_{y_i}^2) - 4\sigma_{x_r, x_i}\sigma_{y_r, y_i}}\right). \end{aligned} \quad (3.17)$$

Analysing (3.16) (3.17), we can identify several conditions that lead to specific values of the direct correlation coefficient:

1. It becomes pure real valued, when all covariances are zero, i.e. there is no linear relation between parts of variables;

2. Another situation with real valued direct correlation is when cross-covariances are zero and variances of respective real and imaginary parts are equal. This is a more exotic case than (1);
3. In general, the number will be real when  $\phi_2 = \frac{\phi_1}{2}$ , which assumes that there is a multitude of combinations of covariances and variances that will satisfy the condition. Analysing all of them becomes close to impossible due to the non-linearity in the condition (3.17).

In the case (1), the magnitude of the coefficient,  $\frac{R_2}{\sqrt{R_1}}$  will be equal to zero as well, which agrees with what we discussed earlier. In addition, the analysis of the magnitude (3.16) shows that in an exotic case of  $\sigma_{x_r, y_r} = \sigma_{x_i, y_i}$  and  $\sigma_{x_i, y_r} = -\sigma_{x_r, y_i}$ , the value of the coefficient of the direct correlation will also be equal to zero. All of this means that in general, making solid conclusions just based on the direct correlation coefficient might not be possible - we need to calculate both the direct and the conjugate correlations to get a full picture about the relations between two complex variables.

For the same example as above, the direct correlation coefficient is:

```
ccor(x, y, method="direct")
```

```
## [1] 1.004573+0.000395i
```

The fact that the coefficient is close to one, means that the relation between the two complex variables is close to linear. On the other hand, the imaginary part being close to zero implies that the real and imaginary parts of the variables  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$  are close to each other (this is how we generated the data). The fact that the real part is slightly above one only means that either  $\underline{x}$  or  $\underline{y}$  has real variance close to the imaginary one.

As we see, the direct correlation gives additional information that the conjugate one does not provide. This demonstrates that they should be used in the analysis of relations jointly.

## 3.5 Pearson's correlation

Finally, we can also use MDS to analyse the projections of complex variables on x- and y- axes, similar to how we have done that in Subsection 3.1. In that case, we can calculate Pearson's correlation coefficient:

```
# Create projections of two complex variables onto axes
complex2vec(x) |> dist() |> cmdscale(k=1) -> xScaled
complex2vec(y) |> dist() |> cmdscale(k=1) -> yScaled
# Calculate the correlation coefficient
cor(xScaled,yScaled)

##          [,1]
## [1,] 0.9969845
```

Or using the `ccor()` function with `method="pearson"`, which does exactly the same thing in one line of code:

```
ccor(x, y, method="pearson")
```

The interpretation of the coefficient is straightforward and follows the conventional interpretation taught in any Statistics module. Note however that in general in the optimisation phase of MDS, it might converge to a local optimum, not being able to produce adequate projections. As a result, the sign of the correlation might not represent the real relation between the two complex variables and in general should be ignored. Furthermore, inevitably when we move from four dimensions to two, we loose some information, so this approach is prone to possible mistakes and should be used with care. Finally, MDS is computationally expensive, especially on the large samples of data. This means that in some cases it might take plenty of computational time before we get the Pearson's correlation value. Nonetheless, this is yet another way of analysing relations between complex variables.

### 3.6 Correlation matrix

Finally, as discussed in Subsection 1.2.2, it is possible to calculate the covariance matrix between two c.r.v. Based on that matrix, we can calculate the correlation matrix, which will summarise all the relations between the real and imaginary parts of  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$ . This is done by dividing each element of the covariance matrix by geometric means of variances of the variables under consideration. In R, this can be done using `covar()` function from the `complex` package and `cov2cor()` function from the `stats` package:

```
cbind(x,y) |> covar() |> cov2cor() |> round(3)
```

```
##          x_r     x_i     y_r     y_i
## x_r  1.000 -0.060  0.761  0.712
## x_i -0.060  1.000 -0.689  0.654
## y_r  0.761 -0.689  1.000  0.091
## y_i  0.712  0.654  0.091  1.000
```

This matrix will not tell us how the variables  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$  are related overall, but it will contain information about each of their individual elements, which will correspond to the scatterplots we produced in Section 3.1.

## Chapter 4

# Multiple Complex Linear Regression

We now move to the discussion of the multiple cLR, the model that captures relations between one complex random variable,  $y_r + iy_i$  and a set of explanatory complex random variables. In this chapter, after discussing the model formulation we will move to the question of estimation, then to inference based on cLR, discuss how to correctly capture uncertainty in the model and finally how to include dummy variables in it.

### 4.1 Model formulation

Similarly to how the conventional multiple linear regression is formulated for real valued variables, the multiple complex linear regression can be written as:

$$y_j = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \underline{x}_{1,j} + \beta_2 \underline{x}_{2,j} + \cdots + \beta_{k-1} \underline{x}_{k-1,j} + \epsilon_j, \quad (4.1)$$

where  $k - 1$  is the number of explanatory complex variables. Similarly to how it was done with ScLR in (2.3), we can expand the formula (4.1) as a system of two equations, taking that every parameter and every variable in (4.1) is complex:

$$\begin{aligned} y_{r,j} &= \beta_{0,r} + \beta_{1,r}x_{1,r,j} - \beta_{1,i}x_{1,i,j} + \cdots + \beta_{k-1,r}x_{k-1,r,j} - \beta_{k-1,i}x_{k-1,i,j} + \epsilon_{r,j} \\ y_{i,j} &= \beta_{0,i} + \beta_{1,r}x_{1,i,j} + \beta_{1,i}x_{1,r,j} + \cdots + \beta_{k-1,r}x_{k-1,i,j} + \beta_{k-1,i}x_{k-1,r,j} + \epsilon_{i,j}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.2)$$

As can be seen from (4.2), the multiple cLR captures more complex dynamics than the conventional multiple linear regression. Both parts of the system use the same set of parameters and explanatory variables, but in different combinations, resulting in a versatile modelling framework.

The model (4.1) can be represented in a more compact form, similar to (2.4):

$$\underline{\mathbf{y}} = \underline{\mathbf{X}}\underline{\boldsymbol{\beta}} + \underline{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}, \quad (4.3)$$

where now  $\underline{\mathbf{X}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \underline{x}_{1,1} & \dots & \underline{x}_{k-1,1} \\ 1 & \underline{x}_{1,2} & \dots & \underline{x}_{k-1,2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & \underline{x}_{1,n} & \dots & \underline{x}_{k-1,n} \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\underline{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{\beta}_0 \\ \underline{\beta}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \underline{\beta}_{k-1} \end{pmatrix}$ , where each of the elements in the matrices and vectors above is a complex number.

Furthermore, the system (4.2) can also be used to represent the multiple cLR in a compact form using vector and matrix notations, avoiding complex numbers:

$$\mathbf{y}_j = \mathbf{X}_j \underline{\beta} + \underline{\epsilon}_j, \quad (4.4)$$

where  $\mathbf{y}_j = \begin{pmatrix} y_{r,j} \\ y_{i,j} \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{X}_j = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & x_{1,r,j} & -x_{1,i,j} & \dots & x_{k-1,r,j} & -x_{k-1,i,j} \\ 0 & 1 & x_{1,i,j} & x_{1,r,j} & \dots & x_{k-1,i,j} & x_{k-1,r,j} \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\underline{\beta}' = (\beta_{0,r} \ \beta_{0,i} \ \beta_{1,r} \ \beta_{1,i} \ \dots \ \beta_{1,k-1} \ \beta_{1,k-1})$  and  $\underline{\epsilon}'_j = (\epsilon_{r,j} \ \epsilon_{i,j})$ . This can be then represented in the even more compact form, using the same principles as discussed in Section 2.1 in formula (2.8):

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X} \underline{\beta} + \mathbf{E} \quad (4.5)$$

where  $\mathbf{Y} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{y}_1 \\ \mathbf{y}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{y}_n \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}_1 \\ \mathbf{X}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{X}_n \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{E} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{\epsilon}_1 \\ \underline{\epsilon}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \underline{\epsilon}_n \end{pmatrix}$ . Formula (4.5) becomes

especially useful for multiple cLR for the model estimation via OLS, CLS or Likelihood in the matrix form. The form (4.5) sidesteps complex numbers all together, representing the set of equations in matrices and vectors, containing real numbers only. This is convenient for many purposes and in inference.

## 4.2 Estimation

In order to estimate the parameters of the model (4.3), we can use the same methods as in the Chapter 2: OLS, CLS and Likelihood. We will write the estimated model as:

$$\underline{\mathbf{y}} = \underline{\mathbf{X}} \underline{\mathbf{b}} + \underline{\mathbf{e}}, \quad (4.6)$$

where  $\underline{\mathbf{b}}$  is the estimate of  $\underline{\beta}$  and  $\underline{\mathbf{e}}$  is the estimate of  $\underline{\epsilon}$ . And in case of matrix notations, instead of (4.5) we will have:

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X} \underline{\mathbf{b}} + \hat{\mathbf{E}}, \quad (4.7)$$

where  $\hat{\mathbf{E}}$  is the estimate of  $\mathbf{E}$ .

### 4.2.1 Ordinary Least Squares

The OLS criterion for multiple cLR can be written as:

$$\min S^{\text{OLS}}(\underline{\mathbf{b}}) = \min (\underline{\mathbf{e}}' \underline{\mathbf{e}}), \quad (4.8)$$

which can be expanded to:

$$\begin{aligned} S^{\text{OLS}}(\underline{\mathbf{b}}) &= (\underline{\mathbf{y}} - \underline{\mathbf{X}}\underline{\mathbf{b}})' (\underline{\mathbf{y}} - \underline{\mathbf{X}}\underline{\mathbf{b}}) = \\ &\underline{\mathbf{y}}'\underline{\mathbf{y}} - \underline{\mathbf{y}}'\underline{\mathbf{X}}\underline{\mathbf{b}} - \underline{\mathbf{b}}'\underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{y}} + \underline{\mathbf{b}}'\underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{X}}\underline{\mathbf{b}}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.9)$$

Taking derivative of (4.9) with respect to  $\underline{\mathbf{b}}$  and equating it to zero results in the following system of normal equations:

$$\underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{X}}\underline{\mathbf{b}} = \underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{y}},$$

which then gives the classical formula for the estimation of parameters of the model (4.5):

$$\underline{\mathbf{b}} = (\underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{y}} \quad (4.10)$$

Given that (4.10) corresponds to the classical OLS, it will maintain all of its conventional properties, i.e. its estimates being unbiased, efficient and consistent. Note that, as discussed in Subsection 1.1.3, the operator  $'$  denotes conjugate transposition, which means that for the special case of a simple cLR, the formula (4.10) will become (2.19).

Finally, using the same logic, we can show that the estimates of parameters can also be obtained if we use the form (4.7) instead of the vectors of complex variables:

$$\underline{\mathbf{b}} = \left( \tilde{\underline{\mathbf{X}}} \tilde{\underline{\mathbf{X}}} \right)^{-1} \tilde{\underline{\mathbf{X}}} \tilde{\underline{\mathbf{Y}}}. \quad (4.11)$$

The form (4.11) becomes especially useful for inference if we want to avoid complex variables.

### 4.2.2 Complex Least Squares

As discussed in Section 2.2, there is also an alternative approach to estimation of cLR, the Complex Least Squares. In order to get the estimates based on it, we need to apply the same principles as with OLS, but directly to the form (4.3), i.e. minimise the criterion (which is the same as the one discussed in Subsection 2.2.2):

$$\min S^{\text{CLS}}(\underline{\mathbf{b}}) = \min (\underline{\mathbf{e}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{e}}). \quad (4.12)$$

Using the same logic as with OLS, it can be shown that the minimisation of this criterion implies the solution of the following system of normal equations:

$$\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{X}}\underline{\mathbf{b}} = \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{y}},$$

which then results in the following formula for the CLS estimate of parameters:

$$\underline{\mathbf{b}} = \left( \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{X}} \right)^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{y}}. \quad (4.13)$$

This formula visually looks similar to (4.10) obtained for OLS, but with the main difference being that we use the direct transposition in (4.13) instead of the conjugate one.

For the simple cLR, the formula (4.13) becomes equivalent to (2.31).

Finally, based on the form (4.7), it can be shown that the same estimates (but in a form of real-valued vector) can be obtained via:

$$\mathbf{b} = \left( \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{X}} \right)^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top \mathbf{Y}. \quad (4.14)$$

The two formulae (4.13) and (4.14) result in exactly the same values of parameters, but will be useful for inference in the following sections.

### 4.2.3 Issues with OLS and CLS

Note that both OLS and CLS imply that the individual contributions of the real and imaginary parts of the error term are lost, and that the estimates of parameters are obtained for an overall variance of the complex error. In case of the OLS, this can be seen from the criterion (4.8), the minimisation of which is equivalent to the minimisation of the sum of variances:

$$\min S^{\text{OLS}}(\underline{\mathbf{b}}) = \min (\underline{\mathbf{e}}' \underline{\mathbf{e}}) \iff \min (\hat{\sigma}_{e_r}^2 + \hat{\sigma}_{e_i}^2), \quad (4.15)$$

where  $\hat{\sigma}_{e_r}^2$  and  $\hat{\sigma}_{e_i}^2$  are the variances of the real and imaginary parts of the error term respectively. The connection becomes apparent if we recall that the main assumption of a regression model is that the expectation of the error term equals to zero. Because of that, the estimates of OLS lead to averaged out values, ignoring the individual contributions of real and imaginary parts of the c.r.v. and the covariance between them.

When it comes to CLS, the criterion (4.12) implies that:

$$\min S^{\text{CLS}}(\underline{\mathbf{b}}) = \min (\underline{\mathbf{e}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{e}}) \iff \min (\hat{\sigma}_{e_r}^2 - \hat{\sigma}_{e_i}^2 + 2i\hat{\sigma}_{e_r, e_i}), \quad (4.16)$$

which now takes the covariance into account but ignores the sizes of the individual variances of the real and imaginary parts of the complex residuals and only focuses on their similarity.

In order to take the individual variances and the covariance into account, we need to use a different criterion and, as a result, a different estimator, for example, Maximum Likelihood Estimator (MLE).

#### 4.2.4 Likelihood

Similarly to how it was done in Subsection 2.2.3, we can make an assumption about the distribution of the error term of the cLR. The conventional one is that it follows a normal distribution. If we formulate the model in the vector form (4.4) then after being estimated it becomes:

$$\mathbf{y}_j = \mathbf{X}_j \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{e}_j. \quad (4.17)$$

The concentrated log-likelihood for the complex regression model (4.17) will be exactly the same as for the simple cLR:

$$\ell^*(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \hat{\Sigma}_\epsilon | \mathbf{Y}) = -\frac{n}{2} \left( 2 \log(2\pi e) + \log |\hat{\Sigma}_\epsilon| \right),$$

where (as a reminder)

$$\hat{\Sigma}_\epsilon = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{e}_j \mathbf{e}'_j.$$

Maximising this likelihood, as discussed in Subsection 2.2.3, implies minimising Generalised Variance and guarantees that the estimates of parameters are efficient and consistent.

As a side note, Lütkepohl (2005) shows that the maximum of the likelihood for multivariate models gives the same estimates of parameters as the OLS as long as the Multivariate Normal distribution with **zero covariance** is assumed for the error term. The results might differ for the other distributions or for the case, when the covariance in  $\hat{\Sigma}_\epsilon$  is not zero.

### 4.3 Inference

It is possible to calculate the variance of estimates of parameters, using the same approach as in the conventional OLS for the real-valued regression, substituting the formula for parameters with either (4.10) or (4.13). In fact, in case of c.r.v., we need to calculate both direct and conjugate covariance matrices of parameters to get the full information about the parameter uncertainty. These variances can then be used in hypothesis testing or confidence interval construction (their distribution was studied by Tavares and Tavares, 2007). To do that, we need to replace the actual value  $\underline{\mathbf{y}}$  with  $\underline{\mathbf{X}}\underline{\beta} + \underline{\epsilon}$  in the OLS formula (4.10):

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\mathbf{b}}^{\text{OLS}} &= (\underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{y}} = \\ &= (\underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}'(\underline{\mathbf{X}}\underline{\beta} + \underline{\epsilon}) = \\ &= (\underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{X}}\underline{\beta} + (\underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\epsilon} = \\ &= \underline{\beta} + (\underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\epsilon}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.18)$$

One thing that becomes apparent from this expansion is that the OLS estimates of parameters for a multiple complex linear regression will be unbiased as long

as the expectation of the error term  $\underline{\epsilon}$  is zero and it is not correlated with the explanatory variables. It is easy to show that the same holds for the CLS estimates as well based on the following expanded formula:

$$\underline{b}^{\text{CLS}} = \underline{\beta} + (\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\epsilon}. \quad (4.19)$$

This is a standard result from the real-valued regression analysis, but it is useful to know that it holds for both estimation methods in complex-valued regression as well.

Based on (4.18), we can calculate the conjugate variance to get conjugate covariance matrix of parameters:

$$V(\underline{b}^{\text{OLS}}) = V(\underline{\beta} + (\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\epsilon}). \quad (4.20)$$

In the formula (4.20), the true estimates of parameters  $\underline{\beta}$  will be independent of the explanatory variables and the error term, so the formula can be represented as a sum of variances. Furthermore, we assume that the true parameters do not have any uncertainty, i.e.  $V(\underline{\beta}) = 0$ , meaning that the formula (4.20) can be transformed into:

$$\begin{aligned} V(\underline{b}^{\text{OLS}}) &= V((\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\epsilon}) = \\ &= E\left((\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\epsilon} \left( (\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\epsilon} \right)^\top\right). \end{aligned} \quad (4.21)$$

We switch from the variance to the expectation in (4.21), dropping the expectation of the term in the brackets from the formula because it will be equal to zero as long as the explanatory variables and the error term are uncorrelated (one of the classical assumptions of the regression model). The tilde over the second term in (4.21) shows that this is the conjugate of the original complex variable. Recalling distributive properties of the conjugation (1.14), the same formula can be rewritten as:

$$V(\underline{b}^{\text{OLS}}) = E\left((\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\epsilon} \left( \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\underline{\mathbf{X}}} \right)^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\underline{\epsilon}}\right), \quad (4.22)$$

which uses the property:  $\tilde{\underline{\mathbf{X}}}^\top = \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top$ . The expectation of the product in (4.22) can be rewritten as a product of expectations plus a covariance between the terms:

$$\begin{aligned} V(\underline{b}^{\text{OLS}}) &= E\left((\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\epsilon}\right) E\left(\left(\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\underline{\mathbf{X}}} \right)^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\underline{\epsilon}}\right) + \\ &\quad \text{cov}\left((\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\epsilon}, \left(\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\underline{\mathbf{X}}} \right)^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\underline{\epsilon}}\right) = \\ &= (\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \tilde{\underline{\mathbf{X}}} \left( \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\underline{\mathbf{X}}} \right)^{-1} \text{cov}(\underline{\epsilon}, \tilde{\underline{\epsilon}}) = \\ &= (\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \tilde{\underline{\mathbf{X}}} \left( \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\underline{\mathbf{X}}} \right)^{-1} \sigma_{\underline{\epsilon}}^2, \end{aligned} \quad (4.23)$$

where  $\sigma_{\epsilon}^2$  is the conjugate variance of the error term. The expectations of each term in (4.23) are equal to zero as long as the classical regression assumptions hold. Using the same logic, it can be shown that the direct variance of OLS parameters can be calculated as:

$$\mathcal{V}(\underline{\boldsymbol{b}}^{\text{OLS}}) = (\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \varsigma_{\epsilon}^2. \quad (4.24)$$

Finally, in a similar fashion, conjugate and direct covariance matrices of parameters can be calculated for the CLS:

$$\mathbf{V}(\underline{\boldsymbol{b}}^{\text{CLS}}) = (\underline{\mathbf{X}}^T \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}^T \tilde{\underline{\mathbf{X}}} (\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \tilde{\underline{\mathbf{X}}})^{-1T} \sigma_{\epsilon}^2. \quad (4.25)$$

and

$$\mathcal{V}(\underline{\boldsymbol{b}}^{\text{CLS}}) = (\underline{\mathbf{X}}^T \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \varsigma_{\epsilon}^2. \quad (4.26)$$

Having both direct and conjugate variances for OLS and CLS, we can calculate individual variances for each of the parameters and covariances between them to form a classical covariance matrix. The general formula for this would be:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{V}_{\boldsymbol{b}_r} &= \frac{\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{V}(\underline{\boldsymbol{b}})) + \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{V}(\underline{\boldsymbol{b}}))}{2} \\ \mathbf{V}_{\boldsymbol{b}_i} &= \frac{\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{V}(\underline{\boldsymbol{b}})) - \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{V}(\underline{\boldsymbol{b}}))}{2}, \\ \mathbf{V}_{\boldsymbol{b}_{r,i}} &= \frac{\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{V}(\underline{\boldsymbol{b}}))}{2} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbf{V}_{\boldsymbol{b}_r}$  is the part of the covariance matrix of real values of parameters,  $\mathbf{V}_{\boldsymbol{b}_i}$  is the part of the covariance matrix of imaginary values of parameters and  $\mathbf{V}_{\boldsymbol{b}_{r,i}}$  is the part of the covariance matrix between the real and imaginary parts of parameters. The final covariance matrix can be formed as:

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{V}_{\boldsymbol{b}_r} & \mathbf{V}_{\boldsymbol{b}_{r,i}} \\ \mathbf{V}_{\boldsymbol{b}_{r,i}} & \mathbf{V}_{\boldsymbol{b}_i} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.27)$$

Finally, in case of the MLE, the covariance matrix of parameters cannot be calculated analytically, but can be obtained numerically via the Hessian calculation. Given the formulation in this case, there is no need to do any additional transformations, the matrix will contain the variances and covariances of each individual parameter of the model.

### 4.3.1 Demonstration in R

In R, the estimation of the cLR can be done using the `cLm()` function from the `complex` package. The specific estimation method can be selected using the `loss` parameter. For demonstration purposes, we will create an artificial data and see how the estimators work.

```

set.seed(41)
# Sample size
obs <- 100
# Generate parameters
b0 <- 100 - 150i
b1 <- 2.5 + 1.5i
b2 <- 1.5 - 0.75i
# Create the explanatory variables
x1 <- rcnorm(obs, mu=100+150i, sigma2=200, varsigma2=100)
# Create the explanatory variables
x2 <- rcnorm(obs, mu=150+100i, sigma2=200, varsigma2=150)
# Generate error term from the complex normal distribution
e <- rcnorm(obs, mu=0, sigma2=200, varsigma2=80+150i)
# Generate the response variable
y <- b0 + b1 * x1 + b2 * x2 + e
# Form a data frame with the variables
dataArtificial <- data.frame(y=y, x1=x1, x2=x2)

```

The data generated using the code above will have the same variances of the real and imaginary parts of  $x_1$  and the different ones for the  $x_2$ . Furthermore, it will have error term with correlated real and imaginary parts. We expect that in this situation the likelihood would be more appropriate than either OLS, or CLS.

We start by estimating the model using OLS:

```

clm(y~., dataArtificial, loss="OLS") |>
  summary()

```

```

## Complex Linear Regression estimated via clm()
## Response variable: y
## Loss function used in estimation: OLS
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r 103.7956   16.7547   70.5421  137.0491 *
## (Intercept)_i -151.3386   12.1603  -175.4735 -127.2037 *
## x1_r           2.4161    0.0724    2.2724   2.5597 *
## x1_i           1.4877    0.0525    1.3834   1.5919 *
## x2_r           1.5625    0.0632    1.4371   1.6879 *
## x2_i          -0.6895    0.0459   -0.7805  -0.5985 *
##
## Error covariance matrix:
##      e_r     e_i
## e_r 96.1432 52.0283
## e_i 52.0283 50.6449
##
## Sample size: 100

```

```
## Number of estimated parameters: 3
## Number of degrees of freedom: 97
```

As we see from the output above, the estimates of parameters are reasonable and close to the ones used in the data generation, while the 95% confidence intervals include the true values of parameters. While it does not mean that this will always be the case universally, this shows how the OLS works and how the confidence intervals of parameters (based on the standard errors) can be calculated by the `clm()` function.

Keeping in mind that the MLE should give similar (if not the same) estimates of parameters, we expect that the command below would produce a very similar output to the one above:

```
clm(y~., dataArtificial, loss="likelihood") |>
  summary()

## Complex Linear Regression estimated via clm()
## Response variable: y
## Loss function used in estimation: likelihood
## Coefficients:
##             Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r 103.7631   16.8860    70.2424   137.2838 *
## (Intercept)_i -151.3386   12.2552   -175.6666  -127.0107 *
## x1_r           2.4169    0.0729    2.2721    2.5616 *
## x1_i           1.4877    0.0529    1.3826    1.5927 *
## x2_r           1.5625    0.0637    1.4361    1.6889 *
## x2_i           -0.6895   0.0462   -0.7812   -0.5977 *
##
## Error covariance matrix:
##      e_r     e_i
## e_r 97.6559 52.8591
## e_i 52.8591 51.4379
##
## Sample size: 100
## Number of estimated parameters: 4.5
## Number of degrees of freedom: 95.5
## Information criteria:
##      AIC      AICc      BIC      BICc
## 1338.345 1338.869 1350.069 1351.275
```

While the estimates of parameters are not exactly the same, they are very similar. The difference arises from the estimation routine in the two methods: the OLS has analytical formulae for the estimates of parameters, while the likelihood has to rely on a numerical optimisation. Note that the error covariance matrix estimated using likelihood is slightly different than the one from OLS. One of the reasons for this is because the maximisation of the likelihood implies in addition to the minimisation of variances also the maximisation of the covariance between

the real and imaginary parts of the complex residuals. Note however that the difference is not substantial, both methods produced very similar results.

The CLS, on the other hand, will give other estimates of parameters:

```
clm(y~., dataArtificial, loss="CLS") |>
  summary()

## Complex Linear Regression estimated via clm()
## Response variable: y
## Loss function used in estimation: CLS
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r 74.8585   22.6298   29.9447  119.7723 *
## (Intercept)_i -131.4084   31.7400  -194.4036  -68.4132 *
## x1_r           2.3853    0.1567    2.0743   2.6964 *
## x1_i           1.2779    0.1384    1.0031   1.5527 *
## x2_r           1.5833    0.0823    1.4198   1.7467 *
## x2_i          -0.6633    0.0613   -0.7850  -0.5416 *
##
## Error covariance matrix:
##      e_r     e_i
## e_r 102.1875 51.3523
## e_i  51.3523 53.2803
##
## Sample size: 100
## Number of estimated parameters: 3
## Number of degrees of freedom: 97
```

The estimates of parameters in the output above are less efficient (have higher standard errors) than the ones from OLS/likelihood (as expected), but they are still not far from the true values of parameters. Notably, the CLS produced the lowest covariance between the real and imaginary parts of the complex residuals, which makes sense given how the CLS loss is formulated.

This demonstration shows how simple it is to estimate a cLR on data and how its outputs can be analysed. As one can see, the outputs do not differ substantially from the ones of the real-valued models.

## 4.4 Capturing uncertainty in the multiple cLR

Having both direct and conjugate variances for OLS and CLS (or a covariance matrix of parameters in MLE), it is possible to do several things:

1. Construct confidence intervals for parameters;
2. Construct a confidence ellipse for each complex parameter;
3. Test hypothesis about each of parameters (univariate distribution);
4. Test hypothesis for each complex parameter (joint distribution);

5. Produce confidence intervals for the conditional expectation from the model (for fitted values and point forecasts);
6. Produce prediction intervals for the actual values.

The elements (1) and (3) can be done assuming that the Central Limit Theorem works and thus the estimates of parameters follow Normal distribution. This can be done using Student's t-statistics (for example, as discussed in Section 6.4 and 8.1 of Svetunkov, 2022). The elements (2) and (4) rely on a different distribution and can be done using Hotelling's T<sup>2</sup> statistics, discussed in Subsection 1.3.3. When it comes to elements (5) and (6), we need to impose some assumptions on the complex error term of the model  $\underline{\epsilon}_j$ . The most popular assumption in statistics is that  $\underline{\epsilon}_j \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_\epsilon)$ , where  $\mathbf{0}$  is the two-dimensional vector of zeroes and  $\Sigma_\epsilon$  is the square two-by-two covariance matrix. The estimate of this matrix is typically obtained via the formula:

$$\hat{\Sigma}_\epsilon = \frac{1}{n - \frac{k}{2}} \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{e}_j \mathbf{e}'_j,$$

where  $k$  is the number of estimated parameters and  $n - \frac{k}{2}$  is the number of degrees of freedom per part of the model, division by which reduces the bias in the estimation of the covariance matrix. The division of  $k$  by 2 is required to reflect the fact that the complex response variable consists of two parts and the whole complex-valued equation can be represented in a form of a system of two equations, where the same parameters are used in both parts. To make this clearer, consider the following model:

$$y_{r,1} + iy_{i,1} = (a_{r,1} + ia_{i,1})(x_{r,1} + ix_{i,1}) + \epsilon_{r,1} + i\epsilon_{i,1}.$$

It can be estimated on one observation and in that case will have zero degrees of freedom (i.e.  $1 - \frac{2}{2} = 0$ ). Another way to look at this is to calculate the number of degrees of freedom per series, which in case of complex-valued model comes to two series, resulting in the same  $n - \frac{k}{2}$ .

To calculate prediction intervals, we need to calculate the variance of the conditional mean of a complex linear model. In case of complex variables, we need both direct and conjugate variances conditional on the values of the available explanatory variables to get the full information about the distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} V(\underline{y}_j | \underline{x}_{1,j}, \dots, \underline{x}_{k-1,j}) &= V(b_0 + b_1 \underline{x}_{1,j} + b_2 \underline{x}_{2,j} + \dots + b_{k-1} \underline{x}_{k-1,j} + \underline{\epsilon}_j) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \underline{x}_{i,j} \tilde{\underline{x}}_{i,j} V(b_i) + 2 \sum_{i \neq l} \underline{x}_{i,j} \tilde{\underline{x}}_{l,j} \text{cov}(b_i, b_l) + \sigma_{\underline{\epsilon}}^2, \end{aligned} \quad (4.28)$$

where  $\text{cov}(\cdot)$  is the conjugate covariance between the variables and  $\underline{x}_{0,j} = 1 + i$ . Similarly, we can calculate the direct conditional variance:

$$V(y_j | \underline{x}_{1,j}, \dots, \underline{x}_{k-1,j}) = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \underline{x}_{i,j} \tilde{\underline{x}}_{i,j} V(b_i) + 2 \sum_{i \neq l} \underline{x}_{i,j} \tilde{\underline{x}}_{l,j} \text{cov}(b_i, b_l) + \zeta_{\underline{\epsilon}}^2, \quad (4.29)$$

where  $cov(\cdot)$  is the direct covariance. The formulae (4.28) and (4.29) can then be used to calculate the conditional variances of real and imaginary parts of the response variable together with a conditional covariance between them. We can then either form a covariance matrix and produce a predictive ellipse using formulae discussed in Subsection 1.3.2 or consider each of the parts independently and create prediction intervals (also discussed in Subsection 1.3.2). Arguably, the latter is easier to work with and easier to interpret than the former.

Finally, to produce confidence intervals, we can use the formulae (4.28) and (4.29), dropping the  $V(\varepsilon_j)$  and  $\mathcal{V}(\varepsilon_j)$ , which will then give us direct and conjugate conditional variances of the predicted value.

#### 4.4.1 Demonstration in R

Building on the same example of artificial data from the previous section, we will show how predictions from the cLR can be made. To that extent, we will use the first 80 observations to estimate cLR using likelihood and then use the last 20 for prediction (while we can use any loss function, here we demonstrate what happens in case of MLE):

```
CLRArtificial <- clm(y~, dataArtificial,
                        loss="likelihood", subset=c(1:80))
```

After estimating the model, we produce forecasts with a 95% prediction interval (see Figure 4.1):

```
par(mfcol=c(2,1), mar=c(2,2,3,1))
predict(CLRArtificial, tail(dataArtificial, 20),
        interval="prediction") |>
  plot()
```

If the confidence interval for the conditional mean is needed, then this can be switched with `interval="confidence"` parameter in the `predict()` method above.

## 4.5 Dummy variables

In the real-valued regression analysis, dummy variables appear when a feature of an object can be measured only in a categorical scale. For example, we might be interested in sales of a red medium size t-shirt vs the sales of a blue small size one. In this case, the colour would be one of such characteristics (measured in the nominal scale), while the size would be the other one (in ordinal scale). To include such information in the regression model, a set of dummy variables is typically created. A dummy variable is the variable that equals to one, when the feature exists and zero otherwise. So, in our example, we would create dummy variables `colourRed`, `colourBlue`, and `colourGreen` to denote the first feature and `sizeSmall`, `sizeMedium`, and `sizeLarge` for the second one. These

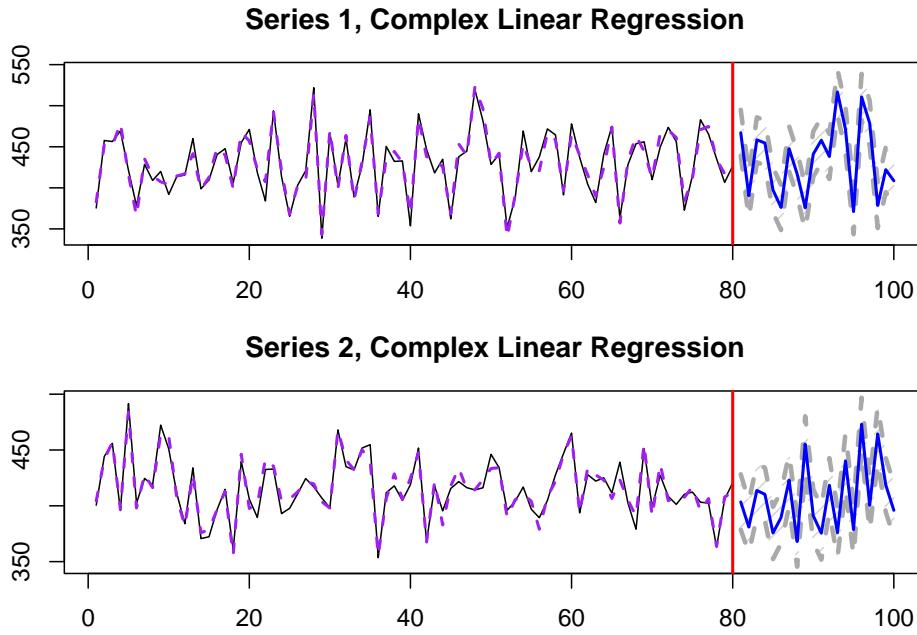


Figure 4.1: Forecasts from cLR for the artificial data, given the values of explanatory variables in the holdout set.

variables would be equal to one for the specific observations (t-shirts) in our data. And for obvious reasons, the t-shirt cannot be both red and blue or small and medium at the same time, so the respective variables will be self-exclusive (Svetunkov, 2022, provides more information about this).

In case of complex linear regression, it is possible to introduce dummy variables in the same way as in the conventional model, by adding real-valued variables. The model in this case becomes:

$$\underline{y}_j = \underline{\beta}_0 + \underline{\beta}_1 \underline{x}_{1,j} + \cdots + \underline{\beta}_{k-1} \underline{x}_{k-1,j} + \underline{\gamma}_1 d_{1,j} + \cdots + \underline{\gamma}_m d_{m,j} + \epsilon_j, \quad (4.30)$$

where  $\underline{\gamma}_i$  is the complex parameter,  $d_{i,j}$  is the  $i$ -th real-valued dummy variable and  $m$  is the number of dummy variables. In this case, each variable  $d_{i,j}$  is multiplied by a complex coefficient, capturing the dummy effect of it on each part of the complex response variable. The effect of dummy variables on the response one is exactly the same as in the conventional real-valued regression - the intercept of the model,  $\underline{\beta}_0$  will change by the value of  $\underline{\gamma}_i$ , when the variable  $d_{i,j}$  equals to one.

It is also theoretically possible to encode a complex dummy variable, which would have two features in it at the same time, e.g. `colourRed` +  $i \times \text{sizeSmall}$ , where both `colourRed` and `sizeSmall` are dummy variables. The issue with this is that this encoding assumes very specific dynamic between the features and the

response variable. In the example above, the sales of the first product will have  $\gamma_{1,j} \times \text{colourRed}_j - \gamma_{2,j} \times \text{sizeSmall}_j$ , while the sales of the second one will have:  $\gamma_{1,j} \times \text{sizeSmall}_j + \gamma_{2,j} \times \text{colourRed}_j$ . This means that the red colour should have exactly the same impact on sales of product one, as the small size has on the product two, while the effect of small size on product one is opposite to the effect of the red colour on the second product. It is difficult to find situations, where such effects would be meaningful, so we do not recommend that. Still, it is possible to formulate such a model and capture the qualitative features in a parsimonious way (in comparison with introduction of many variables to each equation).

Finally, if an interaction effect is needed (e.g. how the change of price on red product impacts its sales), this can be done in a similar way to the conventional real-valued regression. For example, here how it can be done for a variable  $\underline{x}_{1,j}$ :

$$\underline{y}_j = \underline{\beta}_0 + \underline{\beta}_1 \underline{x}_{1,j} + \cdots + \underline{\beta}_{k-1} \underline{x}_{k-1,j} + \underline{\gamma}_1 \underline{x}_{1,j} d_{1,j} + \epsilon_j. \quad (4.31)$$

In this case, the specific complex effect of  $\underline{x}_{1,j}$  on  $\underline{y}_j$  will change when the dummy variable equals to one. The interaction effect between a complex variable  $\underline{x}_{1,j}$  and a complex dummy variable  $\underline{d}_{1,j}$  is also possible, but it will have a similar dilemma to the direct introduction of a dummy variable in a model discussed above.

#### 4.5.1 Demonstration in R

The `clm()` function in the `complex` package in R supports categorical variables in a form of either a character vector, or a factor. Here is an example based on the same artificial data we used in Section 4.3:

```
set.seed(42)
# Create an artificial categorical variable
x3 <- rbinom(obs, 2, 0.5)
colour <- vector("character", obs)
colour[x3==0] <- "Red";
colour[x3==1] <- "Green";
colour[x3==2] <- "Blue";
# Add it to the data frame
# Note that it does not need to be transformed via factor()
dataArtificial <- data.frame(y=y, x1=x1, x2=x2, colour=colour)
```

We can then estimate the model using the same command as before:

```
clm(y~x1+x2+colour, dataArtificial, loss="likelihood") |>
  summary()
```

```
## Complex Linear Regression estimated via clm()
## Response variable: y
## Loss function used in estimation: likelihood
```

```

## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r 103.5161   17.1840   69.3946  137.6377 *
## (Intercept)_i -157.3312  12.5342 -182.2198 -132.4425 *
## x1_r           2.4141    0.0729   2.2693   2.5590 *
## x1_i           1.4995    0.0532   1.3939   1.6052 *
## x2_r           1.5754    0.0643   1.4478   1.7030 *
## x2_i           -0.6765   0.0469  -0.7695  -0.5834 *
## colourGreen_r  3.2016    2.4187  -1.6012   8.0044
## colourGreen_i  2.7011    1.7642  -0.8021   6.2043
## colourRed_r   -0.1795   2.7961  -5.7317   5.3727
## colourRed_i   1.9735    2.0395  -2.0763   6.0234
##
## Error covariance matrix:
##      e_r     e_i
## e_r 96.8123 52.4929
## e_i 52.4929 51.5081
##
## Sample size: 100
## Number of estimated parameters: 6.5
## Number of degrees of freedom: 93.5
## Information criteria:
##      AIC      AICc      BIC      BICc
## 1338.163 1339.217 1355.097 1357.524

```

The output above shows that R expanded the colour into a set of dummy variables and dropped one of them (“blue”). The complex coefficients for the dummy variables are all not significant on the 5% level, which in our case means that we cannot detect any strong relation between them and the response variable. This is expected because we did not use the variable in the data generation.



## Chapter 5

# Assumptions of Complex Linear Models

Similar to how it is done for the conventional real-valued regression, we should discuss what assumptions are imposed on complex linear regression estimated using one of the methods discussed in the Section 4.2. We will group all regression assumptions to three parts (similar to how it was done by Svetunkov, 2023):

1. Model is correctly specified;
2. Residuals are independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.);
3. Explanatory variables are not correlated with anything but the response variable.

While the first two groups directly relate to the so called “true model”, the last one refers to the estimation approaches discussed in the previous chapter: if the latter are violated then the estimation procedure will lead to issues in estimates of parameters. We should also point out that many of the assumptions discussed in this Chapter are very similar to the assumptions in the conventional regression, which is why we do not plan to cover them in this monograph in detail, but rather to focus on their implications for complex-valued models. A reader interested in assumptions for the real-valued models is advised to read Chapter 15 of Svetunkov (2022).

**Disclaimer:** although in conventional econometrics, statistical tests are often used to check hypotheses about the violation of specific assumptions, in this monograph we focus on the visual diagnostics. While tests might give ambiguous results and rely on a selected significance level, the visual inspection comes to expert judgment of an analyst. Yes, in some situations the subjectivity impacts the diagnostics, but at least it is not hidden behind p-values and a variety of outputs that sometimes give contradictory results.

## 5.1 Model is correctly specified

This is one of the most general and most important groups of assumptions. It includes the following:

1. Model does not omit any important variables;
2. Model does not have redundant variables;
3. Variables are included in the model with appropriate transformations;
4. Residuals of the model do not contain outliers.

We briefly discuss all of them in this section.

### 5.1.1 Model does not omit any important variables

This assumption implies that we have all the variables that can substantially impact our response variable, and that we have included them in the model. If we do not do that then the estimates of parameters are known to be biased. In practice we always omit a lot of different variables that might potentially impact the response one, but do not have a large effect on it. Not including these variables is known not to cause serious issues in the estimation (Hanck et al., 2022).

Formally speaking, the omitted variables should not be correlated with the ones that we include in the model, because otherwise the impact of the latter will not be captured correctly, causing bias in the estimates of parameters. It is not possible to test this assumption, so it can only be checked based on judgment of an analyst.

When it comes to complex-valued models, the relations become much more complicated and potentially non-linear than in the conventional ones. The problem becomes then manifolds: we need to include the correct variables in the model, but also they need to be included correctly, because now any variable can be included in the real or in the imaginary part. Furthermore, the correlation in complex-valued models can be measured differently and implies a variety of effects between two variables.

Practically speaking, we consider two situations with omitted variables:

1. The model is estimated using OLS;
2. The model is estimated using CLS.

For the both cases, we assume that the true model is of the form:

$$\underline{\mathbf{y}} = \underline{\mathbf{X}}\underline{\boldsymbol{\beta}} + \underline{\mathbf{Z}}\underline{\boldsymbol{\gamma}} + \underline{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}, \quad (5.1)$$

where the matrix  $\underline{\mathbf{Z}}$  contains the variables omitted in the applied model and the vector  $\underline{\boldsymbol{\gamma}}$  is the vector of the parameters for these variables in the true model.

We start with the effect of the omitted variables on the estimates of parameters using OLS. We refer to the derivations (4.18), which given (5.1) can be substituted

to:

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{\boldsymbol{b}}^{\text{OLS}} &= (\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{y}} = \\ &(\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' (\underline{\mathbf{X}} \underline{\boldsymbol{\beta}} + \underline{\mathbf{Z}} \underline{\boldsymbol{\gamma}} + \underline{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}) = \\ &(\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}} \underline{\boldsymbol{\beta}} + (\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{Z}} \underline{\boldsymbol{\gamma}} + (\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}} = \\ &\underline{\boldsymbol{\beta}} + (\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{Z}} \underline{\boldsymbol{\gamma}} + (\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}.\end{aligned}\tag{5.2}$$

Taking the expectation of (5.2), we get:

$$E(\underline{\boldsymbol{b}}^{\text{OLS}}) = \underline{\boldsymbol{\beta}} + E((\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{Z}} \underline{\boldsymbol{\gamma}}) + 0,\tag{5.3}$$

with zero appearing because of the one of fundamental assumptions that the explanatory variables are not correlated with the error term in the true model. The expectation above shows that the estimates of the OLS parameters will be biased in case of omitted variables, and the bias will be proportional to the size of the  $\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{Z}}$  matrix, which consists of the covariances between the included and the omitted variables. The higher the correlation between these variables, the higher the bias will be. This agrees with the similar findings in the conventional real-valued econometrics.

When it comes to CLS, the logic is similar to the above. Based on the equations (4.19) and (5.1) we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{\boldsymbol{b}}^{\text{CLS}} &= (\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{y}} = \\ &(\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top (\underline{\mathbf{X}} \underline{\boldsymbol{\beta}} + \underline{\mathbf{Z}} \underline{\boldsymbol{\gamma}} + \underline{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}) = \\ &\underline{\boldsymbol{\beta}} + (\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{Z}} \underline{\boldsymbol{\gamma}} + (\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}\end{aligned}\tag{5.4}$$

which simplifies (using similar logic as above) to:

$$E(\underline{\boldsymbol{b}}^{\text{CLS}}) = \underline{\boldsymbol{\beta}} + E((\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{Z}} \underline{\boldsymbol{\gamma}}),\tag{5.5}$$

and also shows that the bias will increase with the increase of the values of the matrix  $\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{Z}}$ . The main difference between the real-valued and the complex-valued econometrics is that the aforementioned matrices are complex and the covariances in OLS and CLS are respectively conjugate and direct. This means that:

1. If an omitted complex variable has high *direct correlation* with the included one but has the zero *conjugate correlation*, the OLS should give unbiased estimates of parameters, while the CLS would give the biased ones;
2. If an omitted complex variable has zero *direct correlation* with the included one but has high *conjugate correlation*, the CLS should give unbiased estimates of parameters, while the OLS would give the biased ones.

This property can be used in deciding which of the estimation methods to use if the researcher has some insights about the relation between the included and the omitted complex variables.

Furthermore, we can also see what happens with the direct and conjugate covariance matrices of parameters in case of omitted variables. In the case of the omitted variables the residuals become  $\underline{v} = \underline{Z}\underline{\gamma} + \underline{\epsilon}$ , implying that we estimate the following model instead of (5.1):

$$\underline{y} = \underline{X}\underline{\beta} + \underline{v}, \quad (5.6)$$

which means that we then make inference based on:

$$\underline{y} = \underline{X}\underline{b} + \hat{\underline{v}}. \quad (5.7)$$

The covariance matrix of the estimates of the parameter  $\underline{\beta}$  in this case comes to formulae discussed in Section 4.3:

$$\begin{aligned} V(\underline{b}^{\text{OLS}}) &= (\underline{X}'\underline{X})^{-1} \underline{X}'\tilde{\underline{X}} (\underline{X}^\top\tilde{\underline{X}})^{-1'} \sigma_{\underline{v}}^2 \\ V(\underline{b}^{\text{OLS}}) &= (\underline{X}'\underline{X})^{-1} \varsigma_{\underline{v}}^2 \\ V(\underline{b}^{\text{CLS}}) &= (\underline{X}^\top\underline{X})^{-1} \underline{X}^\top\tilde{\underline{X}} (\underline{X}'\tilde{\underline{X}})^{-1\top} \sigma_{\underline{v}}^2 \\ V(\underline{b}^{\text{CLS}}) &= (\underline{X}^\top\underline{X})^{-1} \varsigma_{\underline{v}}^2, \end{aligned} \quad (5.8)$$

where  $\sigma_{\underline{v}}^2$  is the conjugate and  $\varsigma_{\underline{v}}^2$  is the direct variances of the residuals  $\underline{v}$ . To better understand the effect of omitted variables on the covariance matrix of parameters, we should consider two situations:

1. Some parts of  $\underline{Z}$  are correlated with  $\underline{X}$ , in which case applying the model (5.7) to the data will lead to the biased estimates of parameters, but would not have a large impact on the variance of the residuals of the model. The higher the correlation is, the lower the variances become in (5.8);
2.  $\underline{Z}$  is uncorrelated with  $\underline{X}$ , which means that the effect of the omitted variable is not captured by the model and as a result the variance of the residual  $\hat{\underline{v}}$  will be inflated, increasing the standard errors of the estimates of parameters.

The case (1) corresponds to the classical problem of the omitted variables in econometrics, while the case (2) shows how the uncertainty about the estimates of parameters increases with omitted variables and might lead to the wider than expected confidence intervals for the parameters.

### 5.1.2 Model does not have redundant variables

This is the situation opposite to the first one. It implies that we have included something that should not be there. Mathematically it can be represented by

two sets of equations, for the true and the applied models:

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{\mathbf{y}} &= \underline{\mathbf{X}}\underline{\boldsymbol{\beta}} + \underline{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}} \\ \underline{\mathbf{y}} &= \underline{\mathbf{X}}\underline{\mathbf{b}} + \underline{\mathbf{X}}_{red}\underline{\mathbf{b}}_{red} + \underline{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}},\end{aligned}\tag{5.9}$$

where  $\underline{\mathbf{b}}_{red}$  is the vector of the estimates of parameters for the redundant variables  $\underline{\mathbf{X}}_{red}$  on a sample. It will not be zero in sample, because the values of  $\underline{\mathbf{X}}_{red}$  can explain some randomness in  $\underline{\mathbf{y}}$ , thus reducing the size of variance of the residuals  $\underline{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}$  in comparison with the estimation of the correct model. This leads to the effect known as “overfitting” in forecasting.

The second equation in (5.9) can also be written in a compact form:

$$\underline{\mathbf{y}} = \underline{\mathbf{Z}}\underline{\mathbf{c}} + \underline{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}},\tag{5.10}$$

where  $\underline{\mathbf{Z}} = (\underline{\mathbf{X}} \quad \underline{\mathbf{X}}_{red})$  is the matrix that contains all variables under consideration, and  $\underline{\mathbf{c}} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{\mathbf{b}} \\ \underline{\mathbf{b}}_{red} \end{pmatrix}$ . While it is hard to show explicitly using formulae of OLS and CLS, it is well known in statistics that the estimates of parameters in such model are unbiased, because the true  $\underline{\mathbf{b}}_{red}$  is zero. At the same time, the inclusion of redundant variables increases the standard errors of parameters because the covariance matrices from Section 4.3 would rely on different combinations of  $\underline{\mathbf{Z}}$  and its transposition (direct and conjugate), which means that the final variances would be impacted by the variability of redundant variables  $\underline{\mathbf{X}}_{red}$ . The exact effect is difficult to capture and might depend on the direct/conjugate correlations between variables. We leave this task for future research.

### 5.1.3 Variables transformation

While the first two assumptions are universal for any statistical model, the third one has some special implications in case of cLR. This is because of the effect they have on the variables: transformations of separate parts of a complex variable are not equivalent to the transformations of the whole variable. For example, the logarithm of a complex variable  $\underline{z}$  as shown in (1.12) is:

$$\ln \underline{z} = \ln r + i\phi,$$

which is not equivalent to the complex variable  $\ln x_r + i \ln x_i$ . In fact, there is no known transformation from  $x_r + x_i$  to  $\ln x_r + i \ln x_i$  except for transforming separately the real and imaginary parts of the variable. Still, logarithms can be used to linearise a non-linear complex model to simplify its estimation. For example, the following multiplicative model (based on discussion in Subsection 1.1.3):

$$\begin{aligned}y_r + iy_i &= (\beta_{0,r} + i\beta_{0,i}) \times (x_{1,r} + ix_{1,i})^{\beta_{1,r} + i\beta_{1,i}} \times \cdots \times \\ &\quad (x_{k-1,r} + ix_{k-1,i})^{\beta_{k-1,r} + i\beta_{k-1,i}} \times (\epsilon_r + i\epsilon_i)\end{aligned}$$

can be linearised using natural logarithm to:

$$\begin{aligned}\ln(y_r + iy_i) &= \ln(\beta_{0,r} + i\beta_{0,i}) + (\beta_{1,r} + i\beta_{1,i}) \ln(x_{1,r} + ix_{1,i}) + \cdots + \\ &\quad (\beta_{k-1,r} + i\beta_{k-1,i}) \ln(x_{k-1,r} + ix_{k-1,i}) + \ln(\epsilon_r + i\epsilon_i),\end{aligned}$$

which can then be estimated using OLS, CLS or likelihood maximisation as discussed in Section 4.2. On its own, the multiplicative models of complex variables have useful features, because they allow modelling highly non-linear processes due to the rotation as discussed in Section 1.1. For example, here how the linear increase of real and imaginary parts of a complex variable  $\underline{x}$  leads to a non-linear transform of a variable  $y = \underline{x}^{0.5+0.5i}$ :

```
x <- 1:100 + 1:100*1i
y <- x**(0.5+0.5i)
cplot(x, y)
```

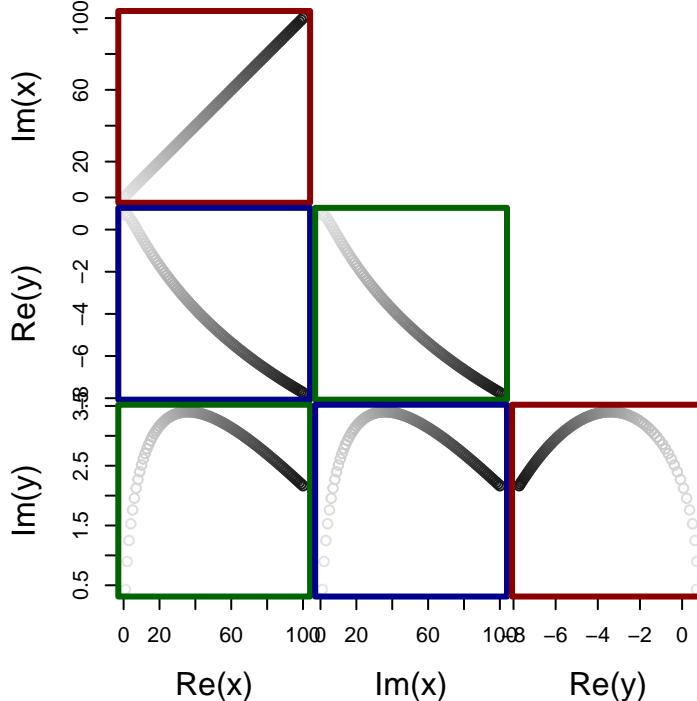


Figure 5.1: Non-linear transformation of a complex variable that changes linearly.

Even if the imaginary part of  $\underline{x}$  is zero (and as a result we deal with a real number, not a complex one), the complex power leads to highly non-linear transformation of the variable. This is a useful feature if the non-linearity is suspected in the data.

The diagnostics of correct transformations in cLR is challenging, but can be done by analysing the residuals. Consider the following example in R (using functions from the `complex` package in R):

```
# Set random seed for reproducibility
set.seed(41)
```

```

# Sample size
obs <- 1000
# Create the explanatory variable
x <- complex(real=rnorm(obs,100,10), imaginary=rnorm(obs,50,5))
# Generate parameters
b0 <- 1 - 1.5i
b1 <- 2.5 + 1.5i
# Generate error term from the complex normal distribution
e <- rcnorm(obs, 0, sigma2=0.25, varsigma2=0.16+0.09i)
# Generate the data using non-linear model
y <- exp(b0 + b1 * log(x) + e)
# Merge it to the matrix
complexData <- data.frame(y=y, x=x)

```

For demonstration purposes, we will first use a complex linear regression model on the data that was generated using a non-linear one:

```

# Apply a linear model
complexModel <- clm(y~x, complexData)

```

The issues of the model can be diagnosed using various plots. For example, here how the standardised residuals vs fitted would look for the model above (see Figure 5.2):

```

par(mfcol=c(1,2), mar=c(2,2,3,1))
plot(complexModel, which=2, main="")

```

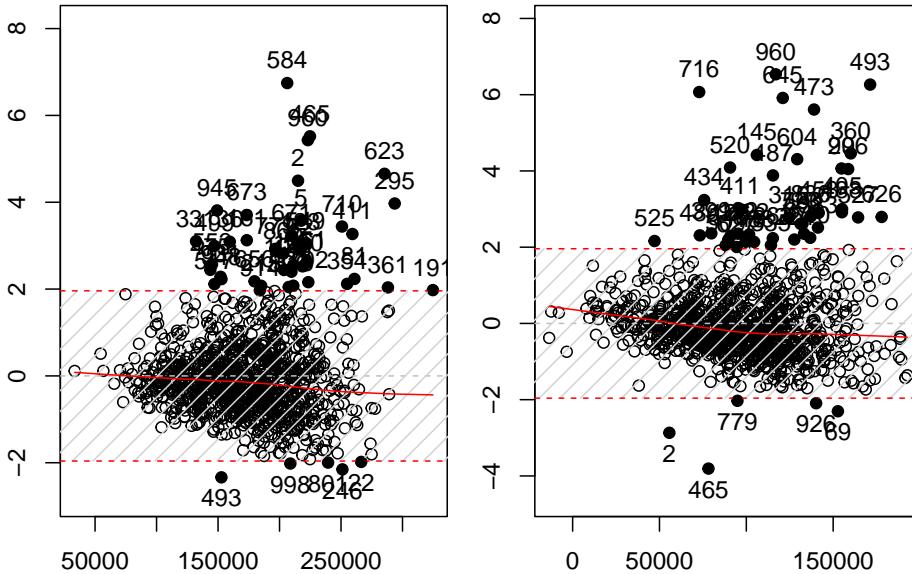


Figure 5.2: Standardised residuals vs Fitted for the cLR on non-linear data.

The plots above demonstrate that there is a slight non-linear pattern in the residuals (especially for the real part of the model) and that their variances might not be constant. These are the indicators of a possible non-linearity in the data. In order to capture it correctly, we would need to transform both response and the explanatory complex variables and estimate the model in logarithms:

```
# Apply a model to log data
complexModelLogs <- clm(log(y)~log(x), complexData)
```

After which the same plot will look more reasonable, with residuals not exhibiting a strong u-shape anymore (see Figure 5.3):

```
par(mfcol=c(1,2), mar=c(2,2,3,1))
plot(complexModelLogs, which=2, main="")
```

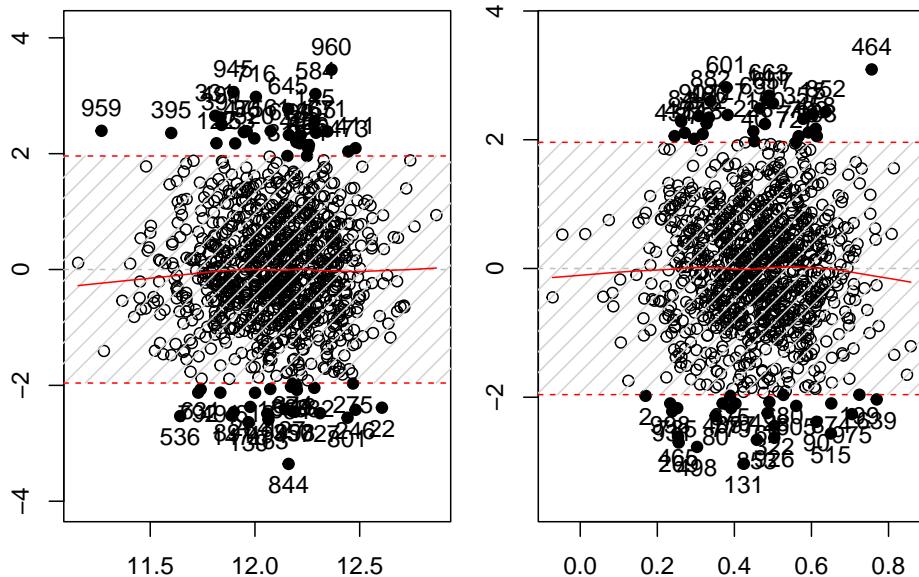


Figure 5.3: Standardised residuals vs Fitted for the log-log cLR on non-linear data.

Finally, the `complex` package in R has `clog()` and `cexp()` functions, that support logarithmic and exponential transforms respectively for the separate real and imaginary parts of the complex variable. In this case, the functions require for both parts of the complex variable to be strictly positive. Here is an example of how they work:

```
# Generate data using exponent
y <- complex(real=exp(3 -0.02* c(1:100) + rnorm(100,0,0.1)),
              imaginary=exp(4 + 0.02* c(1:100) + rnorm(100,0,0.2)))

# Plot the data to see how it looks
```

```

layout(matrix(c(1,2,1,3),2,2))
par(mar=c(4,4,1,1))
plot(y)
plot(Re(y), type="l", xlab="Time")
plot(Im(y), type="l", xlab="Time")

```

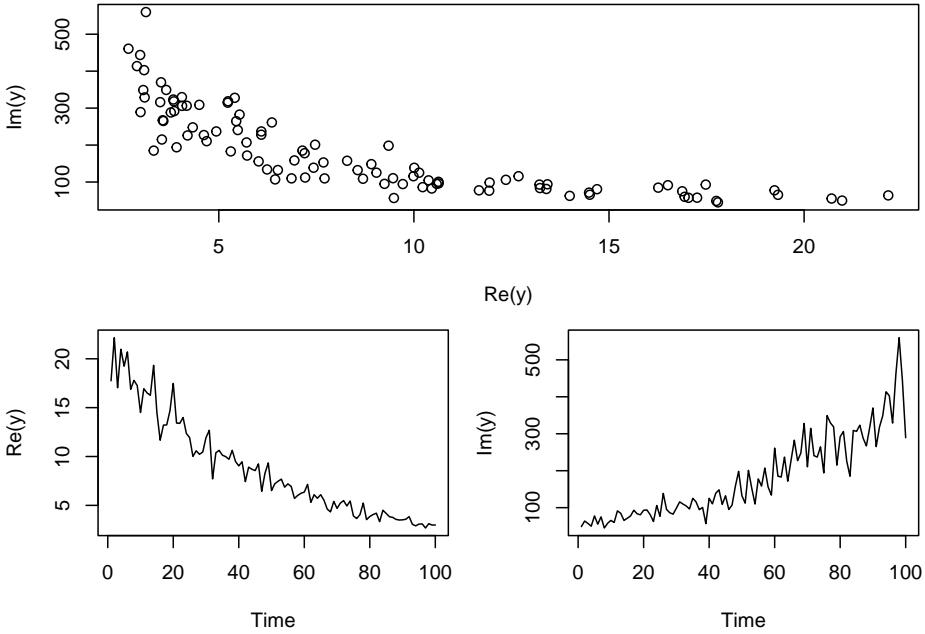


Figure 5.4: Plot of the original non-linear data.

Figure 5.4 shows the generated data, which exhibits exponential trajectories (by design). After taking logarithms for individual real and imaginary parts we get (Figure 5.5):

```

yLog <- clog(y)

layout(matrix(c(1,2,1,3),2,2))
par(mar=c(4,4,1,1))
plot(yLog)
plot(Re(yLog), type="l", xlab="Time")
plot(Im(yLog), type="l", xlab="Time")

```

We see that the tendencies in the data became linear. Compare this with the conventional logarithm of a complex variable (Figure 5.6):

While there are many other possible transformations of complex variable, in this monograph we do not go beyond logarithms, because they do not have a straightforward application.

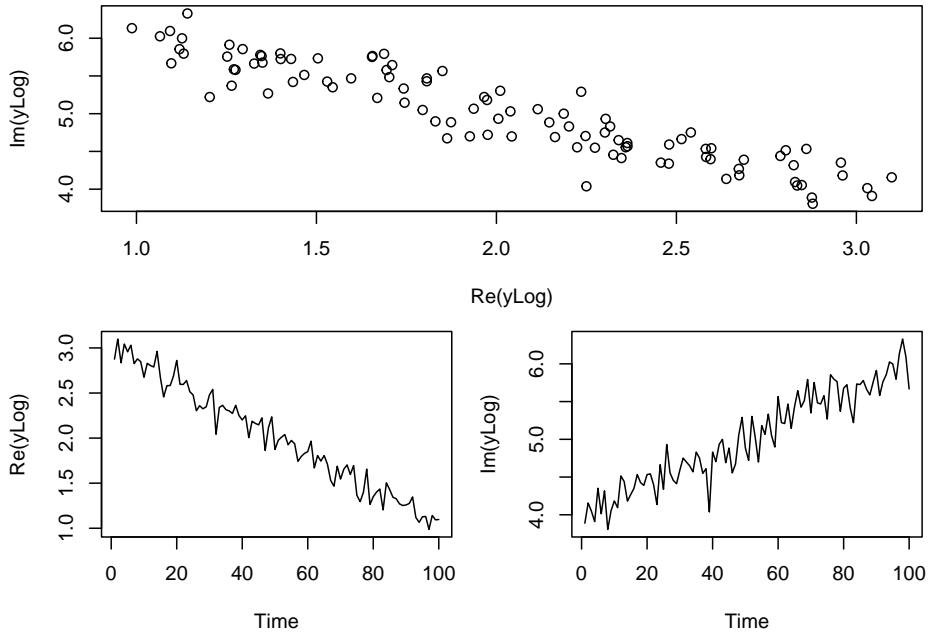


Figure 5.5: Plot of the data in logarithms.

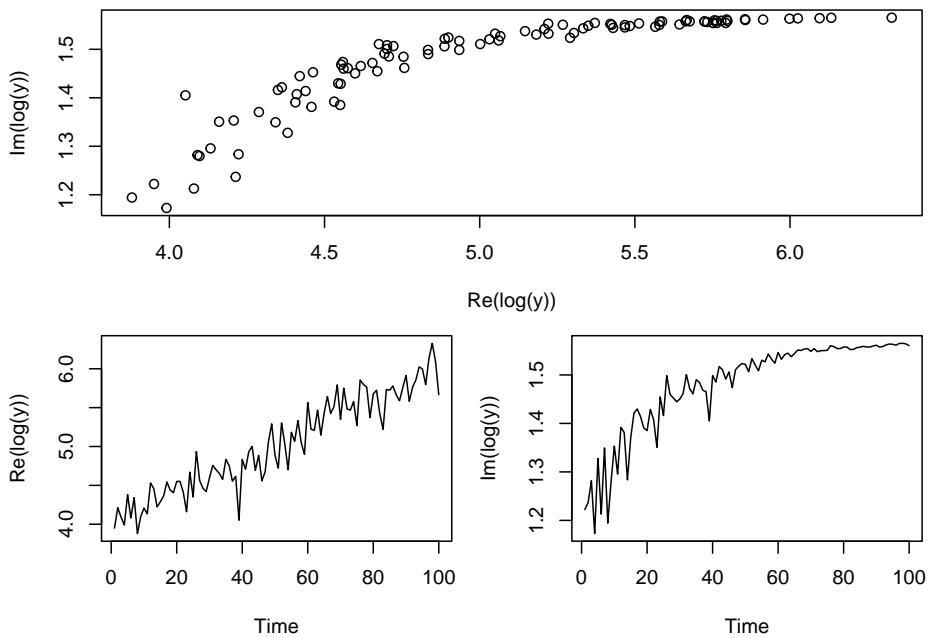


Figure 5.6: Plot of the data in logarithms.

### 5.1.4 No outliers

Finally, the presence of outliers in the residuals typically implies that either there is an error in the data recording, or the model omits an important variable (e.g. a dummy variable for an external event). In that case the effect on estimates of parameters will be similar to the one discussed in Subsection 5.1.1: the estimates of parameters will be in general biased with some specific effects depending on the direct/conjugate correlation and the estimation method used.

The simplest way to detect outliers is to produce a diagnostic plot of fitted vs standardised residuals (similar to the one in Figure 5.3) and analyse those values that lie outside of the constructed confidence interval. If the value of an outlier cannot be explained (e.g. this is not a calendar event, this is not a promotion, etc) then it can simply be removed or interpolated. In that case, creating a dummy variable (see Section 4.5) that equals to one on that specific observation and to zero on all the others is one of the simplest way of incorporating the outlier in the model.

## 5.2 Residuals are i.i.d.

The next group of assumptions has five elements in it:

1. Residuals are homoscedastic;
2. No autocorrelation in residuals;
3. Expectation of residuals is zero (no matter what);
4. Residuals follow an assumed distribution;
5. Residuals follow a circular distribution.

Some of these assumptions are universal for statistical models, while the others (e.g. the last one) are specific to cLR.

### 5.2.1 Homoscedastic residuals

The first assumption implies that both direct and conjugate variances of the residuals are constant and do not change with any changes of variables. This follows directly from the formulae for the direct and conjugate covariance matrices from Section 4.3: if either of the covariances is not constant, and we use the formulae for calculating the standard errors of parameters, we will obtain averaged-out values, that would be lower than needed for some observations and higher than needed for the others.

In case of the formulation of cLR as a vector model and the likelihood estimation, the assumption implies that the covariance matrix of residuals  $\Sigma_\epsilon$  stays the same no matter what. This assumption aligns well with a similar assumption of conventional multivariate models, such as VAR (Lütkepohl, 2005) or VETS (Svetunkov et al., 2023).

The homoscedasticity assumption can be typically diagnosed visually by producing the plot of absolute residuals vs fitted. In case of the cLR, this can be modified to producing plots for each part of the complex residuals. Figure 5.7 shows how the residuals of the linear model applied to the non-linear data (example from Subsection 5.1.3) look:

```
par(mfcol=c(1,2), mar=c(2,2,3,1))
plot(complexModel, which=4, main="")
```

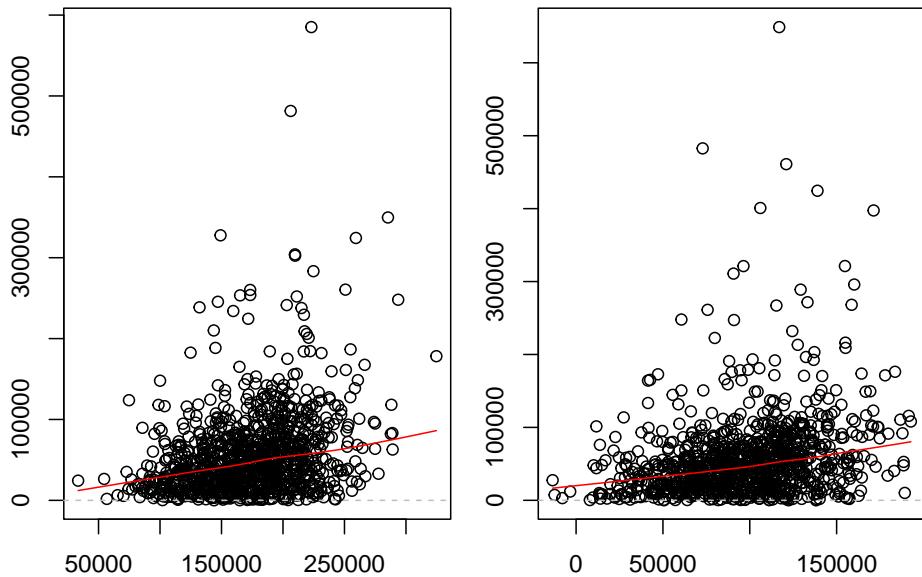


Figure 5.7: Absolute residuals vs fitted.

The plots in Figure 5.7 show that the variability of residuals (and the local mean) increases with the increase of fitted values. This is a signal of the heteroscedasticity in the data. Some non-linear transformations (e.g. taking logarithm) typically resolve the issue.

### 5.2.2 No autocorrelation in residuals

This assumption only applies to time series data. In case of the real-valued models, it means that the residuals in the past should not impact the ones in the future. Typically, this effect appears because of the wrong specification of the model (e.g. the appropriate transformations are not done, or some autoregressive elements are missing). In case of the cLR, the idea is very similar, but now we are talking about complex relations between the residuals, which could arise, again, because of the wrong transformations or because of missing elements (e.g. complex autoregression, discussed in Chapter 6).

To diagnose this, we can analyse the autocorrelation functions. In the real-valued

domain, Autocorrelation Function (ACF) and the Partial Autocorrelation Function (PACF) are typically used. In the complex-valued domain, these transform to the direct and conjugate complex ACF/PACF (or cACF/cPACF, based on the correlations discussed in Chapter 3), giving an analyst four instruments instead of two (Yao et al., 2010; Yao and Lu, 2011; Zhang et al., 2022). Furthermore, using the idea with correlation on MDS (see Section 3.5), we can calculate ACF/PACF based on Pearson's correlation between the projections of complex variables.

In general, the idea with direct and conjugate ACF/PACF for complex variables is similar to the one for the conventional ACF/PACF for the real ones. The complex ACF measures the correlations between the variable on observation  $t$  and the one with lag  $\tau = \{1, \dots, T\}$ , where  $T$  is the maximum lag we calculate the correlation for. If we calculate the conjugate correlations, we obtain a vector of values  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_T$  (specific formulae are discussed in Section 3.3). In case of the direct one (see Section 3.4), we get a vector  $\varrho_1, \dots, \varrho_T$ . In both cases the index  $j$  in subscription refers to the specific lag, so, for example,  $\rho_1$  will measure the conjugate autocorrelation for lag 1, i.e. conjugate correlation between  $\underline{y}_t$  and  $\underline{y}_{t-1}$ .

When it comes to PACF, the logic is in estimating recursively regression models of the  $\underline{y}_t$  from all the previous  $\underline{y}_{t-j}$  for  $j = \{1, \dots, J\}$  for each  $J$  from 1 to  $T$  and collecting respective estimates of parameters for  $\underline{y}_{t-J}$ . This way, the coefficients are clear of the interim effects and we get a clear correlation between  $\underline{y}_t$  and  $\underline{y}_{t-J}$ . In case of the direct complex PACF, we use the CLS, for the conjugate one we use OLS and for the Pearson's, we do MDS and then calculate the conventional PACF (see Chapter 3 for discussion of different correlation coefficients).

In R, these functions are implemented in `cacf()` and `cpacf()` in the `complex` package. The functions have a parameter `method` specifying, which of the correlations to calculate. To demonstrate how they work, we generate a data from a complex autoregressive model of order one and apply it to the data (note that for diagnostic purposes, the functions below should be applied to the residuals of the model):

```
# Generate complex data with an autocorrelation of order 1
# Random seed for reproducibility
set.seed(41)
# Number of observations
obs <- 100
# Vector of the final variable
y <- vector("complex", obs)
# Initial values for the first observation
y[1] <- 300 + 250i
for(i in 2:obs){
  y[i] <- 100 + 200i + (0.5 - 0.25i) * y[i-1] +
    complex(real=rnorm(1,0,10), imaginary=rnorm(1,0,5))
```

```
}
```

The conjugate ACF (due to its nature) is represented by a set of real values (Figure 5.8):

```
cacf(y, method="conjugate", plot=TRUE, main="")
```

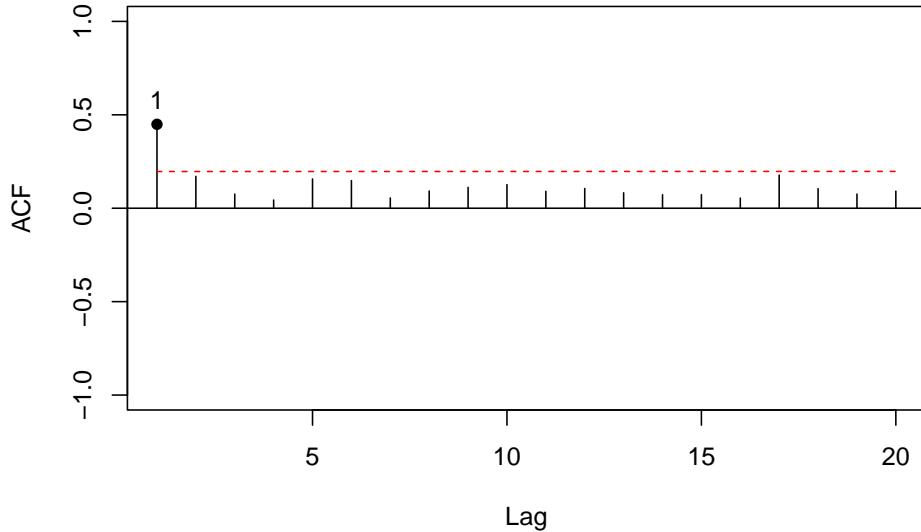


Figure 5.8: Conjugate complex autocorrelation function

The plot in Figure 5.8 shows that the autocorrelation for lag one is statistically different from zero on the 5% significance level (the latter is regulated by `level` parameter in the function). The non-rejection region on the plot is constructed based on the Folded t-distribution (which is an approximation of the square root of convolution of two Fisher distributions) and helps testing the null hypothesis that autocorrelation coefficient for each lag equals to zero (with the alternative being not equal). The value of the coefficient itself does not provide any specific information about the autoregressive relation in the data, but merely shows that the correlation between variables is moderate.

In contrast, the conjugate PACF provides more details and shows the specific values for the real and the imaginary parts of the coefficient in the process (see Figure 5.9):

```
cpacf(y, method="conjugate", plot=TRUE, main="")
```

Figure 5.9 shows three plots: real vs imaginary complex ACF plot at the top and two separate plots for the real and the imaginary parts of the complex PACF at the bottom. As shown in the plots both the real and the imaginary parts of the complex coefficient are statistically different from zero on the 5% significance level for the first lag and not significant for the rest of the lags. This agrees

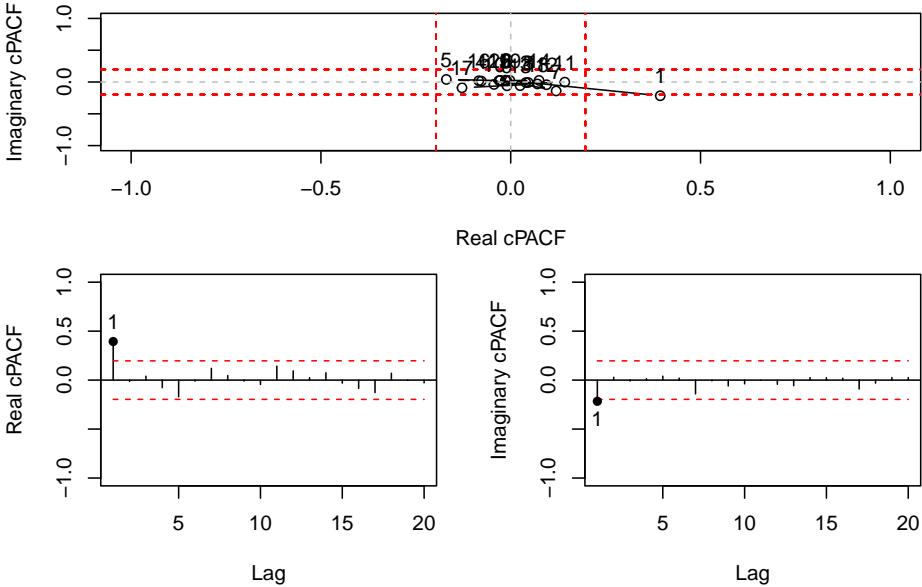


Figure 5.9: Conjugate complex partial autocorrelation function

with the data generated process that we used. Furthermore, the real part of the cPACF is close to the true value of 0.5, while the imaginary one is close to the -0.25, which were used in the data generation.

Similarly, we can analyse the direct complex ACF of a variable, which will generate a plot similar to the ones in Figure 5.9 (see Figure 5.10):

```
cacf(y, method="direct", plot=TRUE, main="")
```

While the dynamics of direct cACF is similar to the one of the conjugate cPACF, it shows different things: the latter is clear of the interim relations between variables, while the former shows the specific correlations between the actual value and each of its lags. Similarly to how we did that before, we can also produce the direct cPACF (Figure 5.11):

```
cpacf(y, method="direct", plot=TRUE, main="")
```

Because we generated the data from the complex autoregressive model of order one, the cACF and cPACF give us roughly the same message: the lag one is significant on the 5% level, while the rest of values are not. Note however that the direct cACF/cPACF shows that there are other lags that are significantly different from zero. This appears by chance and should be ignored.

Finally, we can generate ACF/PACF for the variable after its MDS transformation (Figure 5.12):

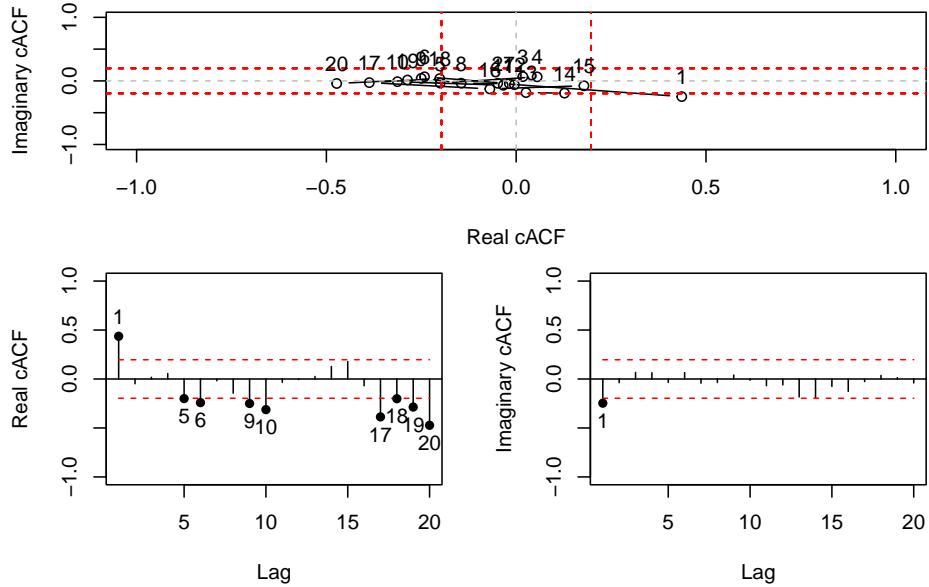


Figure 5.10: Direct complex autocorrelation function

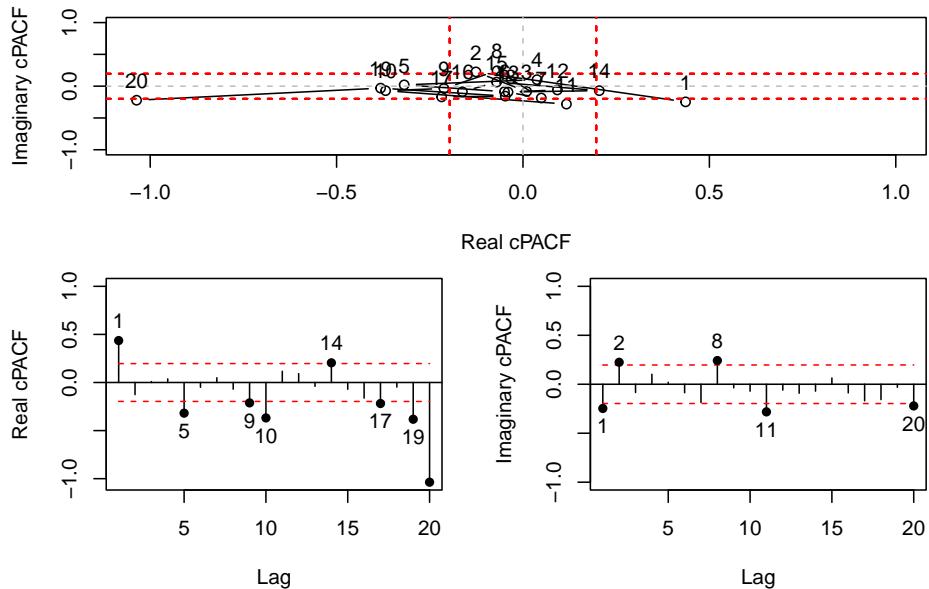


Figure 5.11: Direct complex partial autocorrelation function

```
par(mfcol=c(2,1), mar=c(2,2,2,1))
cacf(y, method="pearson", plot=TRUE)
cpacf(y, method="pearson", plot=TRUE)
```

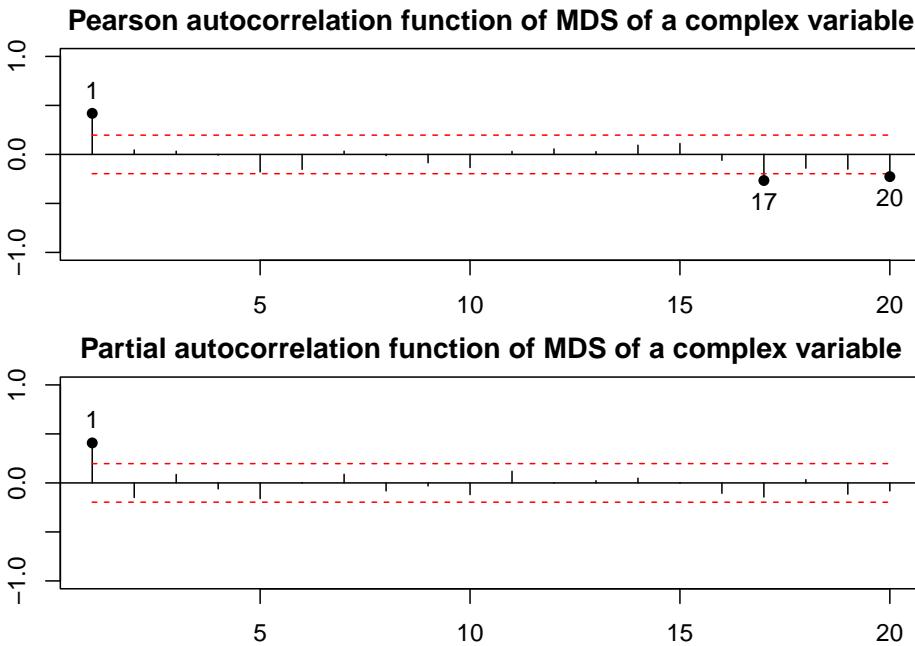


Figure 5.12: ACF and PACF of the complex variable after the MDS.

Similarly to the conjugate cACF, the plots in Figure 5.12 show that there is a significant spike for the lag one, implying that the variable is autocorrelated. However, they do not give any specific information about the value of the parameter (like conjugate and direct pACF do).

Furthermore, there is another presentation for complex ACF/PACF - in the polar coordinates one. In that case instead of plotting separate real and imaginary parts of the function, we produce the magnitude (absolute value) and the angle (argument) of the complex correlation coefficients. In that presentation, the higher the magnitude is, the higher overall the value of a complex correlation is. Figure 5.13 demonstrates how this looks for the conjugate cPACF:

```
cpacf(y, method="conjugate", plot=FALSE) |>
  plot(2)
```

The distribution of the absolute value of a bivariate normal complex variable follows Hoyt's distribution, which can be used for the confidence interval construction for the plot above. However, the derivations become complicated and we do not provide them here (we might provide them in the future editions of

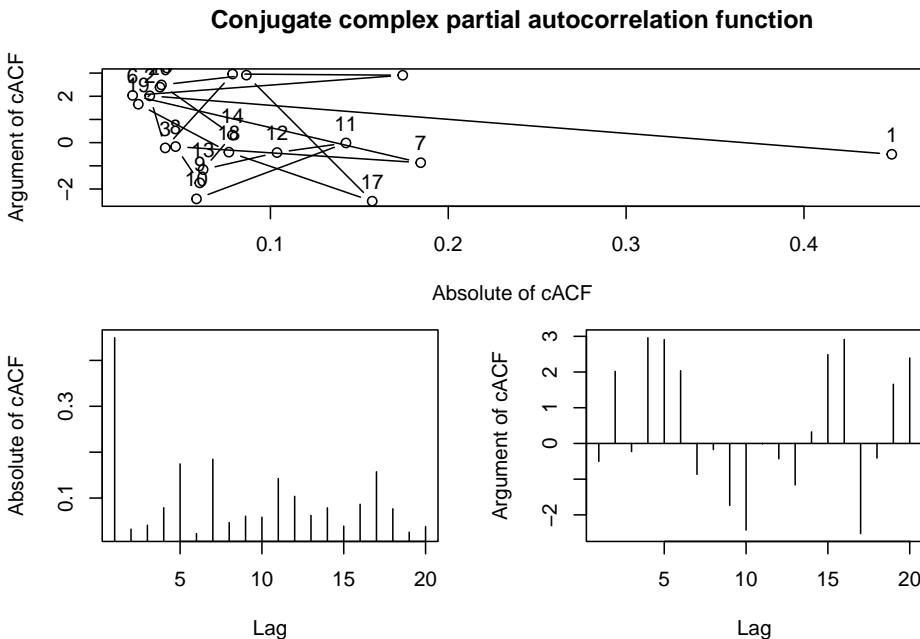


Figure 5.13: Complex ACF in polar coordinates.

this monograph).

Finally, one can analyse the ACF/PACF of the separate real and imaginary parts of the residuals, thus ignoring the potential dynamics between the parts of complex variables. The analysis in this case becomes trivial and has been discussed in many textbooks and monographs (for example, see Section 14.5 of Svetunkov, 2023). In R, if a model is estimated using the `cIm()` function from the `complex` package, the `plot()` method supports producing ACF/PACF for parts of the complex variable. For example, for the same model from the Subsection 5.1.3, we have (see Figure 5.13):

```
par(mfcol=c(2,2))
plot(complexModel, which=c(10,11))
```

The residuals of this model show that there are no important lags on the 5% significance level. The fact that there are some correlation coefficients with values lying outside of the non-rejection region can be explained by random chance. We should take such cases with a pinch of salt not to overcomplicate a model.

Moving back to the cLR, we can do a thorough diagnostics based on the complex ACF/PACF (as discussed above) for any complex-valued model. In that case we need to extract residuals and then apply `cacf()` or `cpacf()` functions. For example, using code like this:

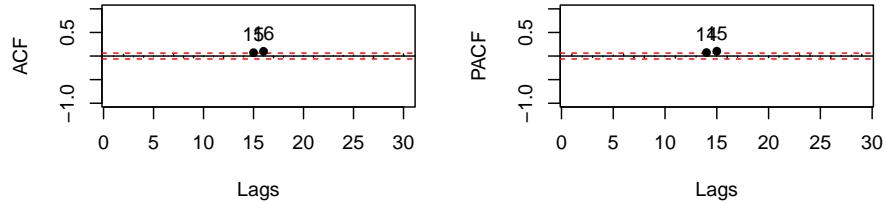
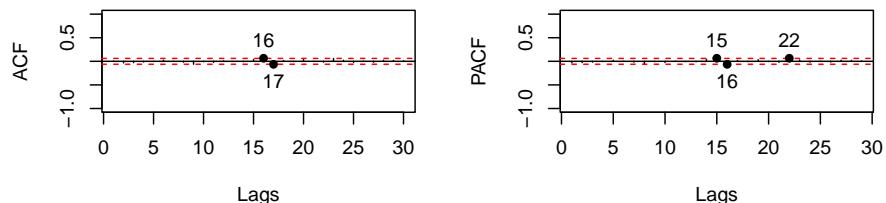
**Series 1, Autocorrelation Function of Resids 1, Partial Autocorrelation Function of R****Series 2, Autocorrelation Function of Resids 2, Partial Autocorrelation Function of R**

Figure 5.14: ACF/PACF for the real (Series 1) and imaginary (Series 2) parts of the complex residuals.

```
residuals(complexModel) |>
  cacf(method="direct")
```

After doing the diagnostics of the residuals of a cLR, we can change its form by introducing complex AR (autoregression) or MA (moving average) elements, depending on what lags seem significant on the selected level. The complex AR/MA models are discussed in detail in Chapter 6.

### 5.2.3 Expectation of residuals is zero

While many other assumptions can be diagnosed in one way or another, this assumption in many cases cannot be. For example, if we use OLS, the unconditional mean of the residuals will be equal to zero by design, which does not provide any useful information about the “true” model. However, this assumption can be analysed conditionally, e.g. conditional on the fitted values:

$$E(\varepsilon_j | \mathbf{x}_j) = 0, \quad (5.11)$$

meaning that the expectation of complex residual conditional on the values of explanatory variables should be equal to zero. If the conditional mean is not constant and not zero, then we can conclude that some important elements were omitted in the model. In a way, the assumption becomes similar to the assumption about the omitted variables, wrong transformations, and/or

autocorrelated residuals. To that extent, we do not discuss it in more detail here.

### 5.2.4 Residuals follow an assumed distribution

In the classical real-valued regression, this assumption is not considered to be crucial, and if a model is estimated using OLS, it typically comes to the “residuals follow the Normal distribution” mantra. In context of complex variables, the equivalent assumption would be that the complex residuals follow the Complex Normal distribution discussed in Subsection 1.3.1. If the model is formulated using matrix notations (4.5), the assumption transforms to “Multivariate Normal” one, discussed in Section 1.3.2. In statistics, this assumption is typically considered as not critical in comparison with the others. This is because it can be shown that in case of OLS/CLS even when the assumption does not hold, but all the others do, the estimates of parameters will still be unbiased, efficient and consistent. However, this assumption becomes essential when prediction interval needs to be generated from the model. In that case we want to capture the uncertainty about the data correctly, and if the residuals do not follow the Normal distribution, the prediction interval will be miscalibrated.

One of the simplest ways of checking the assumption is by producing QQ-plots for each part of the complex residuals. This approach ignores the multivariate nature of the residuals (e.g. ignores covariance), but given that each part of the c.r.v. following Complex Normal distribution is Normal as well, this should suffice for diagnostic purposes.

In R, this can be done using the following command (for the model discussed in Subsection 5.1.3, see Figure 5.15):

```
par(mfcol=c(1,2))
plot(complexModelLogs,which=6)
```

Similarly to the conventional diagnostics related to distributional assumptions, the QQ-plots in Figure 5.15 can be interpreted as follows. If all the points (empirical quantiles) lie on or are close to the lines (theoretical quantiles) then the empirical distribution looks similar to the theoretical one. In the example in Figure 5.15, we see that the points are indeed close to the lines for both real (called “Series 1”) and imaginary (called “Series 2”) parts of the residuals. There is a slight deviation in the right tail of the imaginary part, but it is not substantial. Based on this diagnostics we can conclude that the residuals look Normal or at least very close to it.

### 5.2.5 Residuals follow a circular distribution

Finally, in signal processing literature, there is an assumption that residuals follow so called “circular distribution”. This means that the covariance between the residuals equals to zero and that the variance of the real part is equal to the variance of the imaginary one. This also implies that the direct variance

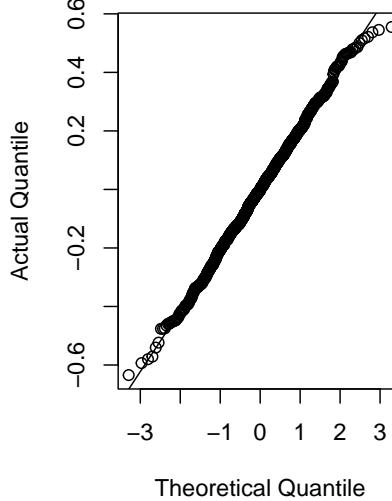
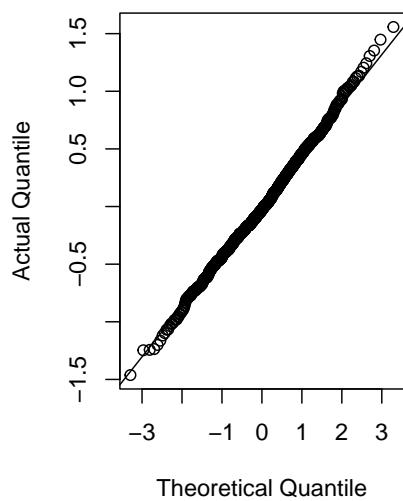
**Series 1, QQ plot of normal distribution**

Figure 5.15: QQ-plots for the real (Series 1) and imaginary (Series 2) parts of the residuals.

of residuals is equal to zero. While this might be a suitable assumption in signal processing, there is no good rationale for this to hold universally for all cLR models. In fact, the main advantages of the cLR come from different variances and potentially non-zero covariance between the real and imaginary parts of the residuals, because in that case the model can capture a complex dynamics between the parts of the complex variable. So, we suggest ignoring this assumption, especially given that it does not effect estimates of parameters of the forecasts from the model.

However, it is important to note that the used estimation methods might imply that some parts of this assumption hold. For example, OLS minimises the sum of squared residuals of the real and imaginary parts, completely neglecting the covariance between them (see Subsection 2.2.1). At the same time, the CLS (Subsection 2.2.2) ignores the specific sizes of the squared residuals and focuses on making their squares equal, minimising at the same time the covariance between them, which aligns better with this assumption. If we believe that the residuals might have a more complicated distribution (elliptic Normal) then MLE (Subsection 2.2.3) might be the best option for the model estimation.

### 5.3 Explanatory variables are not correlated with anything but the response variable

The two assumptions in this group relate to the estimation of model rather than anything else:

1. No endogeneity;
2. No multicollinearity.

The first assumption comes to the idea that a linear regression model can only capture a one-directional relation, where an explanatory variable impacts the response variable. If the relation in the real life is bi-directional then the estimates of parameters of a regression model will be biased. In that case, the relation needs to be somehow made one-directional, for example by substituting the explanatory variable that causes a problem with something similar that is not impacted by the response variable. In case of the complex linear regression, the situation would be similar to the one in the real-valued models. We do not discuss how to solve such problem in case of cLR in this monograph, but we argue that the methods from econometrics of real-valued models should be widely applicable here as well (e.g. using proxies or instrumental variables).

As for the multicollinearity issue, in the real-valued statistics, it arises when least squares or maximum likelihood is used for estimation. It is, in a way, a technical issue: if the explanatory variables are linearly related it becomes difficult to split the impact of each of them on the response variable and thus challenging to correctly capture the relations between them and the response variable.

In case of the OLS applied to a conventional real-valued regression model, the issue comes to inverting the matrix  $(\underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1}$ . If some of variables in  $\underline{\mathbf{X}}$  are strongly linearly related, the determinant of the matrix becomes close to zero and thus the inversion becomes challenging. Even if it is still possible to invert the matrix, the estimates of parameters become inefficient because small changes in the correlated explanatory variables may lead to substantial changes in the inverted matrix.

In case of cLR, the situation is similar, but with some specific features. First, it comes to the estimation methods used, with the following options (as discussed in Section 4.2):

- OLS:  $\underline{\mathbf{b}}^{OLS} = (\underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1}\underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{y}}$ ;
- CLS:  $\underline{\mathbf{b}}^{CLS} = (\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top\underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1}\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top\underline{\mathbf{y}}$ ;
- Likelihood: no analytical solution, comes to the minimisation of the Generalised Variance  $|\hat{\Sigma}_\epsilon|$ .

If the OLS is used for parameter estimation then a potential issue might arise from the inversion of  $(\underline{\mathbf{X}}'\underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1}$ . In one of the special cases, this comes to the conjugate covariance between variables. If it is too high in comparison to the conjugate variances, then we would face the multicollinearity issue, which would

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make the estimates of parameters inefficient. More generally speaking, if a complex linear regression between an explanatory variable and other explanatory variables estimated using OLS captures the relations between variables well (i.e. having a high coefficient of determination), then we might be facing a multicollinearity problem.

Similar problems might appear in case of CLS, but they come to a slightly different inversion,  $(\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1}$  and thus relates to direct covariances rather than the conjugate ones.

And when it comes to the likelihood, due to the model formulation, the conventional real-valued relations between explanatory variables should be considered when multicollinearity is suspected.

All of this means that the choice of an estimator can be dictated by the strength of the conventional Pearson's, direct and/or conjugate correlations (and more widely conventional linear model and/or complex linear model for explanatory variables estimated using likelihood/OLS/CLS).

In addition to the estimation issues, there might be some related to the calculation of the covariance matrix of parameters (discussed in Section 4.3), where we need both direct and conjugate covariance matrices (formulae provided as a reminder):

- OLS:
  - Conjugate covariance matrix:  $\mathcal{V}(\underline{\mathbf{b}}^{\text{OLS}}) = (\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}' \tilde{\mathbf{X}} (\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{X}})^{-1'} \sigma_\epsilon^2$
  - Direct covariance matrix:  $\mathcal{V}(\underline{\mathbf{b}}^{\text{OLS}}) = (\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \varsigma_\epsilon^2;$
- CLS:
  - Conjugate covariance matrix:  $\mathcal{V}(\underline{\mathbf{b}}^{\text{CLS}}) = (\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{X}} (\underline{\mathbf{X}}' \tilde{\mathbf{X}})^{-1\top} \sigma_\epsilon^2$
  - Direct covariance matrix:  $\mathcal{V}(\underline{\mathbf{b}}^{\text{CLS}}) = (\underline{\mathbf{X}}^\top \underline{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \varsigma_\epsilon^2;$
- Likelihood: no closed form, comes to calculating Hessian, which involves the inversion of a matrix of second derivatives, relying on the matrix of explanatory variables.

In this case, the linear relation between explanatory variables (in one form or the other) will impact the elements of the final covariance matrix inflating them and thus leading to the higher uncertainty of the estimates of parameters. Given that we need both direct and conjugate covariance matrices for the calculation of the standard errors of the individual parameters, the choice of estimation method would not resolve the multicollinearity issue. We can expect that the standard errors of parameters will be higher than in the situation without the multicollinearity, no matter what estimation method we use.

Note that the standard issues that arise in conventional regression analysis due to linear relation between variables, might not apply to the cLR. For example, if a real part of one variable is strongly correlated with either a real or an imaginary part of the other one, the model might still be estimable and would

not suffer from multicollinearity. The effect of multicollinearity in cLR is much more pronounced, when the complex variables, rather than their separate parts, are linearly related.

The diagnostics of the multicollinearity in cLR can be done by calculating the correlation matrix between the explanatory variables to see whether there is a strongly related couple of them. Given the nature of the model, this means that we might need to estimate and analyse the direct and conjugate correlation matrices together with the conventional one after transforming the complex variables to the vector of real ones.

### 5.3.1 Demonstration in R

For demonstration purposes we generate data from a model:

$$\underline{y} = \underline{\beta}_0 + \underline{\beta}_1 \underline{x}_1 + \underline{\beta}_2 \underline{x}_2 + \epsilon$$

for several scenarios:

1.  $\underline{x}_1$  is strongly correlated with  $\underline{x}_2$ ;
2.  $\mathcal{R}(\underline{x}_1)$  is strongly correlated with  $\mathcal{R}(\underline{x}_2)$ ;
3.  $\mathcal{R}(\underline{x}_1)$  is strongly correlated with  $\mathcal{I}(\underline{x}_2)$ .

These three cases should cover the main possible multicollinearity issues in the model, and we will see what different estimators give in terms of parameter estimates and their standard errors. We do not conduct a proper simulation experiment, but instead focus on a demonstration for one data series.

The R code below creates three datasets for the three respective scenarios (the coefficients have been selected arbitrarily):

```
set.seed(41)
# Sample size
obs <- 100
# Generate parameters
b0 <- 100 - 150i
b1 <- 2.5 + 1.5i
b2 <- 1.5 - 0.75i
a1 <- 1.3 + 1.5i
# Create the explanatory variables
x1 <- rcnorm(obs, mu=100+50i, sigma2=125, varsigma2=75)
# Generate error term from the complex normal distribution
e <- rcnorm(obs, mu=0, sigma2=40^2, varsigma2=-500)
# The second variable

## Scenario 1
x2 <- a1*x1 + rnorm(obs, 0, 1)
# Generate the response variable
y <- b0 + b1 * x1 + b2 * x2 + e
```

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```
# Form a data frame with the variables
data1 <- data.frame(y=y,x1=x1,x2=x2)

## Scenario 2
x2 <- complex(real=Re(x1)*Re(a1) + rnorm(obs,0,1),
               imaginary=rnorm(obs,10,5))
# Generate the response variable
y <- b0 + b1 * x1 + b2 * x2 + e
# Form a data frame with the variables
data2 <- data.frame(y=y,x1=x1,x2=x2)

## Scenario 3
x2 <- complex(real=rnorm(obs,10,5),
               imaginary=Re(x1)*Re(a1) + rnorm(obs,0,1))
# Generate the response variable
y <- b0 + b1 * x1 + b2 * x2 + e
# Form a data frame with the variables
data3 <- data.frame(y=y,x1=x1,x2=x2)
```

#### Scenario 1

First, we do diagnostics based on correlation matrices that we discussed earlier in this section, including conjugate, direct and MDS-based correlations and the conventional covariance matrix of parameters.

We start with the conjugate complex correlation matrix:

```
ccor(data1, method="conjugate") |> round(3)
```

```
##      y     x1     x2
## y  1.000 0.855 0.853
## x1 0.855 1.000 0.999
## x2 0.853 0.999 1.000
```

The output above shows that  $x_1$  is strongly correlated with  $x_2$  - the correlation coefficient between them is 0.999. This agrees with how we generated the data, and we can expect issues when estimating the model and/or generating the standard errors of parameters.

The second output is for the direct complex correlation matrix:

```
ccor(data1, method="direct") |> round(3)
```

```
##              y             x1             x2
## y  1.000+0.000i 1.001-0.081i  0.998-0.078i
## x1 1.001-0.081i 1.000+0.000i  1.000+0.002i
## x2 0.998-0.078i 1.000+0.002i -1.000+0.000i
```

While some correlation coefficients in the output above are hard to interpret

(because some of them are above one), the real part of the one between the explanatory variables equals to one (after rounding), which also indicates a strong relation between them.

We also calculate Pearson's correlation matrix for the MDS-transformed complex variables to get another look at the problem:

```
ccor(data1, method="pearson") |> round(3)
```

```
##      y     x1     x2
## y  1.000 0.897 0.895
## x1 0.897 1.000 0.999
## x2 0.895 0.999 1.000
```

And as we can see from the output above, the explanatory variables  $\underline{x}_1$  and  $\underline{x}_2$  are indeed strongly linearly related.

Finally, we calculate the covariance matrix of parameters between individual variables:

```
covar(data1) |> cov2cor() |> round(3)
```

```
##      y_r   y_i   x1_r   x1_i   x2_r   x2_i
## y_r  1.000 0.389  0.888 -0.211  0.856  0.719
## y_i   0.389 1.000  0.524  0.553  0.149  0.713
## x1_r  0.888 0.524  1.000 -0.017  0.850  0.905
## x1_i  -0.211 0.553 -0.017  1.000 -0.537  0.411
## x2_r  0.856 0.149  0.850 -0.537  1.000  0.547
## x2_i   0.719 0.713  0.905  0.411  0.547  1.000
```

If shows that there is a strong correlation between  $\mathcal{R}(\underline{x}_1)$  and  $\mathcal{R}(\underline{x}_2)$  and  $\mathcal{I}(\underline{x}_2)$ , while the correlation between the imaginary part of  $\underline{x}_1$  with the other variables is not as strong. As we see, on the individual level, the strength of correlation is diminished in comparison with the complex representation. However, there is an almost functional linear relation of  $\mathcal{R}(\underline{x}_1)$  from the combination of  $\mathcal{R}(\underline{x}_2)$  and  $\mathcal{I}(\underline{x}_2)$ , which still causes the issue. This can be seen if we analyse determination coefficients of linear regression of explanatory variables (`determination()` function from the `greybox` package in R):

```
complex2vec(data1[,-1,drop=FALSE]) |>
  determination() |> round(3)
```

```
## x1_r x1_i x2_r x2_i
##    1     1     1     1
```

All of the outputs above tell us that if we want to fit the cLR, we will face difficulties due to the strong multicollinearity caused by the strong correlation between the explanatory variables. We estimate the model using the three different methods and produce their summary outputs. We start with OLS:

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```
clm(y~., data1, loss="OLS") |>
  summary()

## Complex Linear Regression estimated via clm()
## Response variable: y
## Loss function used in estimation: OLS
## Coefficients:
##             Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r  81.2499   27.8800   25.9158  136.5840 *
## (Intercept)_i -162.3298  35.2247  -232.2410  -92.4185 *
## x1_r          4.2390    5.7400   -7.1532   15.6313
## x1_i          8.9223    7.2521   -5.4712   23.3157
## x2_r         -1.8366   2.8949   -7.5822   3.9091
## x2_i         -2.6157   3.6576   -9.8750   4.6436
##
## Error covariance matrix:
##      e_r      e_i
## e_r 687.7480 108.1091
## e_i 108.1091 1097.8374
##
## Sample size: 100
## Number of estimated parameters: 3
## Number of degrees of freedom: 97
```

The output above shows that the estimates of parameters are wrong: the complex parameter for the first variable should be  $2.5 + 1.5i$ , while for the second one should be  $1.5 - 0.75i$ . Furthermore, the standard errors of parameters are high, leading to the high uncertainty about the parameters, so that we cannot be sure whether the true effect in the estimated model is positive or negative.

The CLS gives a very similar picture:

```
clm(y~., data1, loss="CLS") |>
  summary()

## Complex Linear Regression estimated via clm()
## Response variable: y
## Loss function used in estimation: CLS
## Coefficients:
##             Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r  89.0089   54.0839  -18.3327  196.3505
## (Intercept)_i -198.3455  61.3562  -320.1206  -76.5704 *
## x1_r          4.3945    6.2816   -8.0728   16.8617
## x1_i          8.8479    6.8397   -4.7271   22.4228
## x2_r         -1.7130    2.9266   -7.5214    4.0955
## x2_i         -2.4582    3.6720   -9.7461   4.8297
##
```

```

## Error covariance matrix:
##      e_r      e_i
## e_r 696.9762 106.4108
## e_i 106.4108 1101.1012
##
## Sample size: 100
## Number of estimated parameters: 3
## Number of degrees of freedom: 97

```

We should note that in case of CLS, the standard errors of parameters are in some cases higher than in the OLS, but not everywhere. For example, the parameter for  $\mathcal{I}(x_1)$  estimated using CLS has a lower standard error than in the case of OLS. Nonetheless, the estimates of parameters are clearly biased and not efficient.

Finally, we estimate the model using likelihood:

```

clm(y~., data1, loss="likelihood") |>
  summary()

```

```

## Complex Linear Regression estimated via clm()
## Response variable: y
## Loss function used in estimation: likelihood
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r   81.2499   28.0973   25.4734   137.0263 *
## (Intercept)_i -161.9716   35.5009  -232.4450  -91.4981 *
## x1_r            4.2390    5.7847   -7.2443   15.7224
## x1_i            8.9223    7.3090   -5.5869   23.4314
## x2_r           -1.8383    2.9175   -7.6299   3.9533
## x2_i            -2.6157    3.6863   -9.9334   4.7020
##
## Error covariance matrix:
##      e_r      e_i
## e_r 698.5102 109.8689
## e_i 109.8689 1115.1225
##
## Sample size: 100
## Number of estimated parameters: 4.5
## Number of degrees of freedom: 95.5
## Information criteria:
##      AIC      AICc      BIC      BICc
## 1922.373 1922.897 1934.096 1935.303

```

Because we generated the data with the uncorrelated errors, the output of the likelihood is very similar to the one from the OLS. In the other situation it might have produced different estimates of parameters.

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All of the above happened because of the strong multicollinearity in the data: the complex variables  $\underline{x}_1$  and  $\underline{x}_2$  were strongly correlated by design, which caused the aforementioned issues.

The Scenario 1 demonstrates the behaviour of estimators as expected: we would not expect to estimate the model successfully, when the complex variables are so strongly correlated.

As a side note, in this scenario, we would not be able to get efficient and unbiased estimates of parameters for the individual real-valued models for  $\mathcal{R}(y)$  and  $\mathcal{I}(y)$  with this data either, because, as we have seen above, the parts of complex variables have linear relation with each other.

#### Scenario 2

In this scenario, we have strong correlation between real parts of explanatory variables, but not between the complex ones. We would expect the real-valued regression to fail in this case, but the cLR might still be estimable. We start the demonstration with the same set of outputs as before:

```
ccor(data2, method="conjugate") |> round(3)
```

```
##      y      x1      x2
## y  1.000  0.723  0.687
## x1 0.723  1.000  0.791
## x2 0.687  0.791  1.000
```

The conjugate correlation above shows that there is a linear relation between  $\underline{x}_1$  and  $\underline{x}_2$ , but it is not sever, so we should be able to estimate the model and get reasonable estimates of parameters.

```
ccor(data2, method="direct") |> round(3)
```

```
##      y          x1          x2
## y  1.000+0.000i 1.152-0.146i 1.219-0.062i
## x1 1.152-0.146i 1.000+0.000i 1.330+0.012i
## x2 1.219-0.062i 1.330+0.012i 1.000+0.000i
```

The direct correlation agrees with the conjugate one in general, but the fact that the correlation between  $\underline{x}_1$  and  $\underline{x}_2$  has the real part above one, implies that the relation between the variables is stronger than expected by the previous output.

```
ccor(data2, method="pearson") |> round(3)
```

```
##      y      x1      x2
## y  1.000  0.854  0.858
## x1 0.854  1.000  0.997
## x2 0.858  0.997  1.000
```

Pearson's correlations on the MDS variables shows that there is a very strong relation between  $\underline{x}_1$  and  $\underline{x}_2$ , although we cannot say for sure what causes it.

```
covar(data2) |> cov2cor() |> round(3)

##      y_r   y_i   x1_r   x1_i   x2_r   x2_i
## y_r  1.000 0.151  0.857 -0.135  0.861 -0.012
## y_i   0.151 1.000  0.161  0.337  0.163  0.112
## x1_r  0.857 0.161  1.000 -0.017  0.997 -0.016
## x1_i -0.135 0.337 -0.017  1.000 -0.015 -0.136
## x2_r  0.861 0.163  0.997 -0.015  1.000 -0.022
## x2_i -0.012 0.112 -0.016 -0.136 -0.022  1.000
```

Finally, as expected, the correlations between the specific parts of variables shows that  $\mathcal{R}(x_1)$  and  $\mathcal{R}(x_2)$  have almost functional relation. This might mean that we could face difficulties estimating the model.

The model estimated using OLS produces the following output:

```
clm(y~, data2, loss="OLS") |>
  summary()

## Complex Linear Regression estimated via clm()
## Response variable: y
## Loss function used in estimation: OLS
## Coefficients:
##                               Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r    58.7490    32.3010   -5.3596   122.8575
## (Intercept)_i   -182.8910    41.0770  -264.4174  -101.3646 *
## x1_r            2.7010     0.3975    1.9121    3.4900 *
## x1_i            0.9558     0.5055   -0.0475    1.9591
## x2_r            1.5106     0.3245    0.8666    2.1546 *
## x2_i           -0.1824     0.4126   -1.0014    0.6365
##
## Error covariance matrix:
##          e_r       e_i
## e_r 678.7893 108.4556
## e_i 108.4556 1097.7400
##
## Sample size: 100
## Number of estimated parameters: 3
## Number of degrees of freedom: 97
```

The parameters seem to be less efficient than they would have been without the strong correlation between parts of explanatory variables, but notably all signs are correct and the specific values are not too far from the ones used in the data generation ( $\beta_1 = 2.5 + 1.5i$ ,  $\beta_2 = 1.5 - 0.75i$ ). But it would be interesting to compare the output from OLS with the one from the CLS:

```
clm(y~, data2, loss="CLS") |>
  summary()
```

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```

## Complex Linear Regression estimated via clm()
## Response variable: y
## Loss function used in estimation: CLS
## Coefficients:
##             Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r 46.5476   37.5007  -27.8808   120.9760
## (Intercept)_i -175.9491   47.1085  -269.4465  -82.4518 *
## x1_r          2.8511    0.5146    1.8299    3.8724 *
## x1_i          0.9655    0.4235    0.1250    1.8059 *
## x2_r          1.4826    0.4179    0.6531    2.3120 *
## x2_i          -0.2975   0.3625   -1.0170    0.4221
##
## Error covariance matrix:
##           e_r     e_i
## e_r 681.2265 110.0717
## e_i 110.0717 1099.2501
##
## Sample size: 100
## Number of estimated parameters: 3
## Number of degrees of freedom: 97

```

The estimates of parameters in CLS are similar to the OLS, but there are several interesting observations:

1. The standard errors for the real parts of parameters in CLS are higher than the similar estimates in OLS;
2. The standard errors for the imaginary parts of parameters in CLS are lower than the respective ones in OLS;
3. The imaginary parts of the parameters are closer to the true ones for the CLS, while the real ones are closer to the true ones in OLS.

But overall, both methods produce slightly biased, potentially not too efficient, but reasonable estimates of parameters. This was not the case for the Scenario 1.

We skip the likelihood estimation, because for our DGP, it would produce estimates similar to the ones from OLS due to the zero correlation between the real and imaginary parts of the error term.

Finally, we should note that the conventional real-valued regression would produce biased estimates of parameters in this situation due to the high correlation between some parts of the variables. Here how it would look for the real part of the complex response variable:

```

# Transform the data into real-valued one
data2Real <- complex2vec(data2)
# Use alm() from the greybox for the estimation
alm(y_r~-y_i, data2Real) |>
  summary()

```

```

## Response variable: y_r
## Distribution used in the estimation: Normal
## Loss function used in estimation: likelihood
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept) 68.9164    40.0378   -10.5797    148.4125
## x1_r        -1.6877    3.6205    -8.8763     5.5010
## x1_i        -1.2543    0.5203    -2.2874    -0.2213 *
## x2_r         4.9409    2.8034    -0.6253    10.5071
## x2_i        -0.0802    0.5432    -1.1588    0.9984
##
## Error standard deviation: 26.1747
## Sample size: 100
## Number of estimated parameters: 6
## Number of degrees of freedom: 94
## Information criteria:
##      AIC      AICc      BIC      BICc
## 942.5592 943.4624 958.1902 960.2699

```

As we see from the output above, the estimates of parameters are far from the true ones and have very high standard errors. All of this is expected because, by design, the real part of  $\underline{x}_1$  is strongly correlated with the real part of  $\underline{x}_2$ . This simple example demonstrates the difference between the cLR and the real-valued linear regression.

### Scenario 3

As a reminder, in the Scenario 3 the real part of  $\underline{x}_1$  is strongly correlated with the imaginary one of  $\underline{x}_2$ . We skip the correlation coefficients because they provide the information similar to the one from Scenario 2, showing the strong correlation between  $\mathcal{R}(\underline{x}_1)$  and  $\mathcal{I}(\underline{x}_2)$  as intended.

The OLS estimate of the model gives:

```

clm(y~, data3, loss="OLS") |>
  summary()

```

```

## Complex Linear Regression estimated via clm()
## Response variable: y
## Loss function used in estimation: OLS
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r 51.9756    36.0017   -19.4778    123.4290
## (Intercept)_i -174.5119    45.5491   -264.9143    -84.1095 *
## x1_r           2.6536     0.3928     1.8740     3.4331 *
## x1_i           1.0941     0.4969     0.1078     2.0803 *

```

### 5.3. EXPLANATORY VARIABLES ARE NOT CORRELATED WITH ANYTHING BUT THE RESPONSE VARIABLE

```

## x2_r           1.9229    0.3179    1.2921    2.5538 *
## x2_i          -0.8264    0.4022   -1.6246   -0.0282 *
##
## Error covariance matrix:
##      e_r      e_i
## e_r 686.3546 114.530
## e_i 114.5300 1098.659
##
## Sample size: 100
## Number of estimated parameters: 3
## Number of degrees of freedom: 97

```

While the CLS one is:

```

clm(y~, data3, loss="CLS") |>
  summary()

## Complex Linear Regression estimated via clm()
## Response variable: y
## Loss function used in estimation: CLS
## Coefficients:
##                               Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r     49.5640    41.2109   -32.2282    131.3562
## (Intercept)_i   -168.4209    51.4915   -270.6172   -66.2247 *
## x1_r              2.6548    0.5073    1.6479    3.6616 *
## x1_i              1.0889    0.4179    0.2595    1.9184 *
## x2_r              1.8815    0.3543    1.1783    2.5847 *
## x2_i             -0.8449    0.4079   -1.6544   -0.0354 *
##
## Error covariance matrix:
##      e_r      e_i
## e_r 686.6725 114.6494
## e_i 114.6494 1098.7677
##
## Sample size: 100
## Number of estimated parameters: 3
## Number of degrees of freedom: 97

```

And again, we see similar picture to the Scenario 2: the real parts of parameters have lower standard errors in the model estimated using OLS than in the model estimated with CLS, while the imaginary parts have them the other way around. And similarly to the Scenario 2, we would expect the conventional real-valued regression to fail due to multicollinearity.

While these three scenarios showed how different types of correlations impact the estimates of parameters, they are here for demonstration purposes only. They show that multicollinearity in the cLR has its specificity in comparison with the conventional one in the real-valued models. In real life, we do not always have

variables that have close to functional relation (with correlation close to one), instead they might have strong relation and, as shown above, depending on the specific situation, different estimators will give different result.

In general, solving the multicollinearity issue is not a trivial task on its own. It can be done either by dropping some of the most correlated variables, or by applying some techniques for dimensionality reduction (such as Principle Components Analysis). These methods are standard, they lie outside of the scope of this monograph, and we do not discuss them here.

# Chapter 6

## Complex Dynamic Models

In this chapter we consider the application of complex linear models to time series data. There are different ways of doing that, and we only discuss a few of the straight forward options of how to construct dynamic models. We start with a model with a trend, which differs from the conventional real-valued trend models, then discuss complex Autoregression (cAR), move to the complex Moving Average (cMA) and complex Autoregression with Moving Average (cARMA). Finally, we finish the discussion with the model applied to differences of the data, cARIMA.

We acknowledge that cARIMA and its sub-models have a lot in common with the vector ARIMA models applied to two time series. The main difference between them is in the matrix of the parameters: in case of the vector models, it is estimated in full (four parameters per order for two time series), while the complex ARIMA contains two times fewer parameters to estimate. Many of the properties of the vector models can be transferred to cARIMA, and many of them have already been explained in detail by Lütkepohl (2005). Still, there are some of them that are specific to the complex models.

In this chapter, we will use index  $t$  instead of  $j$  NS  $T$  instead of  $n$  to denote that we are applying models to time series, not to the cross-sectional data.

### 6.1 Complex model with trend

One of the simplest ways to introduce dynamics in a complex model is to include a trend. In the real-valued domain this means adding an explanatory variable with the index of the observation:

$$y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1,t} + \beta_2 x_{2,t} + \cdots + \beta_{k-1} x_{k-1,t} + \gamma t + \epsilon_t, \quad (6.1)$$

where  $\gamma$  is the parameter for the trend and the rest of the equation is just a conventional real-valued regression. The trend in this situation is deterministic and linear, meaning that it starts from the beginning of the sample and increases or decreases (depending on the value of the parameter  $\gamma$ ) indefinitely. Adding such trend to the model allows capturing the deterministic trend and neglecting its effect on the values of the other parameters in the model. In cLR, the addition of the trend in the additive model is similar and has the same meaning - it will increase linearly indefinitely. Mathematically, cLR with trend can be written as:

$$\underline{y}_t = \underline{\beta}_0 + \underline{\beta}_1 \underline{x}_{1,t} + \cdots + \underline{\beta}_{k-1} \underline{x}_{k-1,t} + \underline{\gamma} t + \underline{\epsilon}_t, \quad (6.2)$$

where  $\underline{\gamma}$  is now a complex number. The more interesting case arises when a multiplicative cLR is considered, i.e. the model in logarithms (as discussed in Subsections 1.1.3 and 5.1.3):

$$\ln \underline{y}_t = \underline{\beta}_0 + \underline{\beta}_1 \ln \underline{x}_{1,t} + \cdots + \underline{\beta}_{k-1} \ln \underline{x}_{k-1,t} + \underline{\gamma} \ln t + \underline{\epsilon}_t, \quad (6.3)$$

which is equivalent to:

$$\underline{y}_t = \exp \underline{\beta}_0 \times \underline{x}_{1,t}^{\underline{\beta}_1} \times \cdots \times \underline{x}_{k-1,t}^{\underline{\beta}_{k-1}} \times t^{\underline{\gamma}} \times \exp \underline{\epsilon}_t. \quad (6.4)$$

The trend in (6.4) is now non-linear and depending on the specific values of the complex parameter  $\underline{\gamma}$  can exhibit exponential, trigonometric or inverse trajectories. Figure 6.1 shows several trajectories of the real and the imaginary parts of the response variable with different values of the parameter  $\underline{\gamma}$ .

As we can see, the non-linear transformation gives the cLR flexibility in capturing various types of trends in the data, making it a much more flexible instrument for modelling than the real-valued regressions. Furthermore, this flexibility in the trend can be used in the real-valued models as well, if we substitute all the complex variables and parameters (except for  $\underline{\gamma}$ ) by their real-valued counterparts. The model will then produce a complex response variable, the imaginary part of which can be dropped.

To better understand how the cLR model with the trend works, we can represent it in the exponential form:

$$t^{\underline{\gamma}} = \exp(\underline{\gamma} \ln t) = t^{\gamma_r} \exp(i \gamma_i \ln t), \quad (6.5)$$

where  $\underline{\gamma} = \gamma_r + i \gamma_i$ . The form (6.5) shows that the real part of the parameter  $\underline{\gamma}$  controls the magnitude of the resulting complex variable, while the imaginary one controls how fast the argument (angle) changes. So, the more stable trajectories (closer to the linear ones) will be obtained with  $\gamma_i$  close to zero, while the speed of the change in the trajectory is regulated by  $\gamma_r$ .

Another way to look at the complex-valued trend is to use the trigonometric form of complex variable:

$$t^{\underline{\gamma}} = t^{\gamma_r} (\cos(\gamma_i \ln t) + i \sin(\gamma_i \ln t)). \quad (6.6)$$

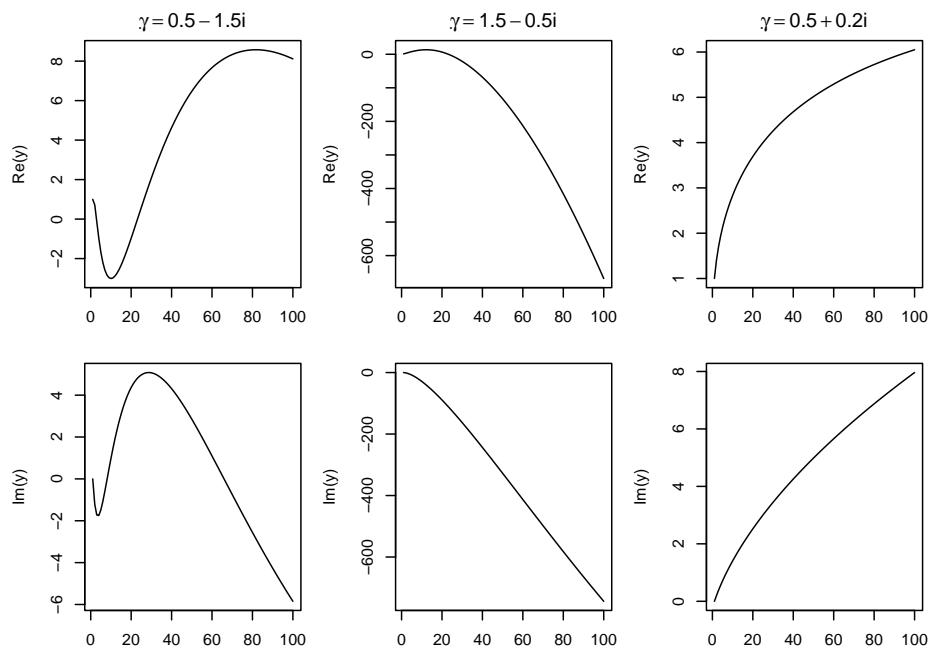


Figure 6.1: Different trajectories of trend with different values of the parameter  $\underline{\gamma}$ :  $0.5-1.5i$ ,  $1.5-0.5i$ , and  $0.5+0.2i$ .

This form tells us that fundamentally any trajectory from the complex-valued trend is trigonometric, but  $\gamma_i$  regulates the strength of the cosine/sine waves for the respective real and imaginary parts of the complex response variable.

### 6.1.1 Example in R

In R, the trend is supported in the `clm()` function from the `complex` package via the `formula`. Here is an example:

```
# Set random seed for reproducibility
set.seed(41)
# Sample size
obs <- 100
# Create an explanatory variable
x <- complex(real=rnorm(obs,100,10), imaginary=rnorm(obs,50,5))
# Generate parameters
b0 <- 2 + 1.5i
b1 <- 0.8 - 0.4i
b2 <- 0.5 + 0.2i
# Generate error term from the complex normal distribution
e <- rcnorm(obs, 0, sigma2=0.25, varsigma2=0.16+0.09i)
# Generate the data using non-linear model
y <- exp(b0 + b1 * log(x) + b2 * log(c(1:obs)) + e)
# Merge it to the matrix
complexData <- data.frame(y=y, x=x)
```

The code above will generate data with a slowly increasing trend (similar to the one shown in Figure 6.1), which is shown in Figure 6.2

Applying a complex linear regression to the data with the same formula as in the DGP gives us the following estimates of parameters:

```
# Apply a model with the trend in logarithms
clrModel <- clm(log(y)~log(x)+log(trend), complexData, subset=1:80)
summary(clrModel)

## Complex Linear Regression estimated via clm()
## Response variable: logy
## Loss function used in estimation: likelihood
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r  3.8248    2.7186   -1.5904   9.2400
## (Intercept)_i  5.6307    1.3591    2.9235   8.3380 *
## log(x)_r      0.3237    0.5685   -0.8087   1.4561
## log(x)_i     -1.2205    0.2842   -1.7867  -0.6544 *
## log(trend)_r   0.5124    0.0604    0.3921   0.6327 *
## log(trend)_i   0.1836    0.0302    0.1235   0.2437 *
```

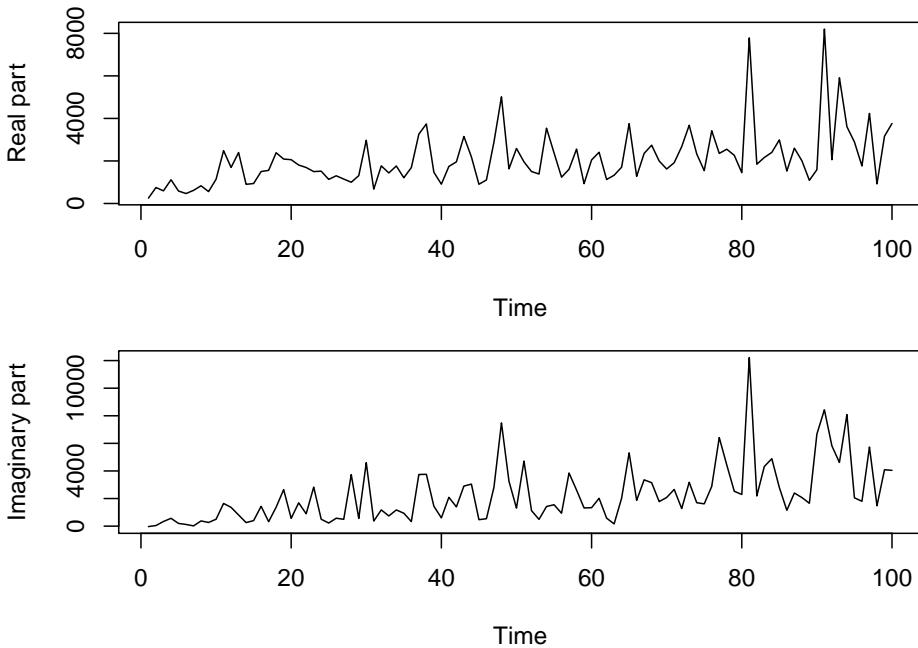


Figure 6.2: Generated time series with a trend.

```

## Error covariance matrix:
##      e_r   e_i
## e_r 0.2416 0.0735
## e_i 0.0735 0.0604
##
## Sample size: 80
## Number of estimated parameters: 4.5
## Number of degrees of freedom: 75.5
## Information criteria:
##      AIC     AICc     BIC     BICc
## 78.6004 79.2649 89.3195 90.7753

```

The resulting model fit and the forecast for the next 20 observations are shown in Figure 6.3. They were produced using the following code:

```

# Extract fitted values and transform to the original scale
fitted(clrModel) |> exp() -> yFitted
yForecast <- predict(clrModel, newdata=tail(complexData, 20))

# Setup the canvas
par(mfcol=c(2,1), mar=c(4,4,1,1))
# Plot the real part
plot(Re(complexData$y), type="l",

```

```

xlab="Time", ylab="Real part")
lines(Re(yFitted), col="purple", lwd=2, lty=2)
exp(yForecast$mean) |> Re() |>
  lines(x=c(81:100), col="blue", lwd=2, lty=2)

# Plot the imaginary part
plot(Im(complexData$y), type="l",
      xlab="Time", ylab="Imaginary part")
lines(Im(yFitted), col="purple", lwd=2, lty=2)
exp(yForecast$mean) |> Im() |>
  lines(x=c(81:100), col="blue", lwd=2, lty=2)

```

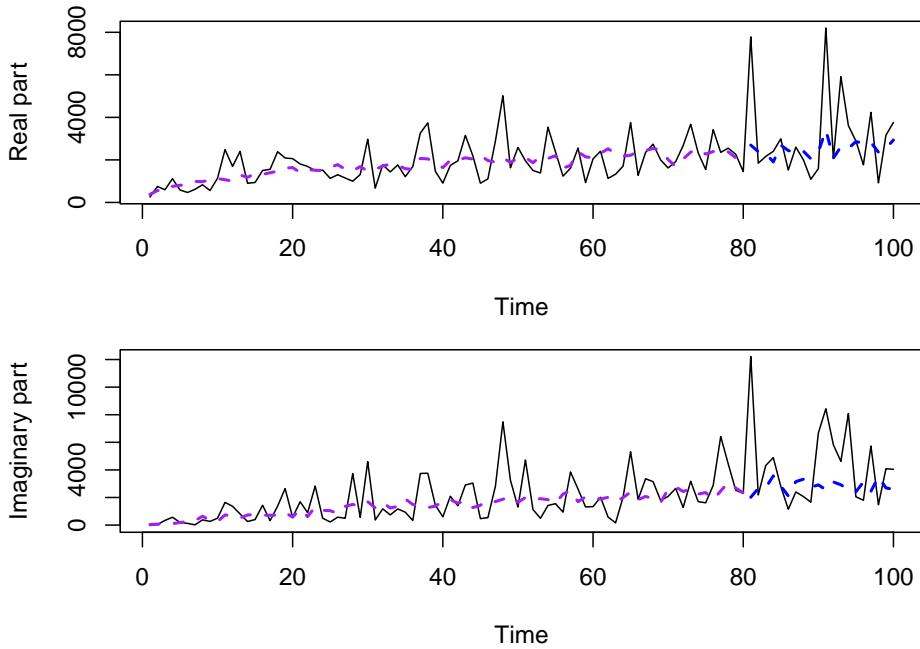


Figure 6.3: cLR applied to the generated data with a trend.

This example demonstrates how a non-linear trend can be estimated in a complex linear regression model and then used for forecasting.

## 6.2 Complex AR

One of the possible ways of modelling dynamics is by assuming that the future values of a variable depend on its past ones. Box and Jenkins (1976), who have developed a theory and methodology of so called “AutoRegressive Integrated Moving Average” (or ARIMA), provide an example of a series of CO<sub>2</sub> output

by a furnace with variable gas rate. In that situation the future amount of carbon dioxide will depend on the amount the furnace produced on the previous observations. This is one of examples of an AR process. An interested reader is directed to Chapter 8 of Svetunkov (2023), where the ARIMA model is discussed in more detail.

Mathematically the cAR model can be represented in a vector form, which will make it look more similar to vector AR rather than to the univariate one. However, the cAR model is restricted with just two time series and thus can be represented using complex variables (this is also discussed in Chandna, 2014):

$$\underline{y}_t = \underline{\beta}_0 + \underline{\phi}_1 \underline{y}_{t-1} + \cdots + \underline{\phi}_p \underline{y}_{t-p} + \underline{\epsilon}_t, \quad (6.7)$$

where  $\phi_j$  is the  $j$ -th parameter, and  $p$  is the order of the model, complex autoregression, cAR(p). The same model can be rewritten in the conventional polynomial form using a backshift operator  $B$ :

$$(1 - \underline{\phi}_1 B - \cdots - \underline{\phi}_p B^p) \underline{y}_t = \underline{\beta}_0 + \underline{\epsilon}_t. \quad (6.8)$$

This form is convenient for what follows, e.g. for the discussion of unit roots calculation. But also, if we add the already discussed static elements to the right-hand side of (6.7) or (6.8), namely  $\underline{\beta}_1 x_{1,t} + \cdots + \underline{\beta}_{k-1} x_{k-1,t}$ , then the model will transform into cARX(p), combining the properties of the cLR and cAR.

Similarly to the conventional AR, it can be shown how complex ACF/PACF (discussed in Subsection 5.2.2) behave for different orders of cAR. In this monograph, for simplicity, we only provide an example of cAR(1) without an intercept, noting that the logic for the higher orders is similar (Svetunkov, 2023, has similar derivations for the real-valued AR(p) in Section 8.3).

The cAR(1) model is defined as:

$$\underline{y}_t = \underline{\phi}_1 \underline{y}_{t-1} + \underline{\epsilon}_t. \quad (6.9)$$

The covariance between the most recent and the previous observations can be calculated as:

$$\text{cov}(\underline{y}_t, \underline{y}_{t-1}) = \text{cov}(\underline{\phi}_1 \underline{y}_{t-1} + \underline{\epsilon}_t, \underline{y}_{t-1}), \quad (6.10)$$

which given the basic assumptions of models (Section 5.2) equals to:

$$\text{cov}(\underline{y}_t, \underline{y}_{t-1}) = \underline{\phi}_1 \text{cov}(\underline{y}_{t-1}, \underline{y}_{t-1}). \quad (6.11)$$

Now, depending on the type of covariance we need, we get:

1. For the conjugate one:

$$\text{cov}(\underline{y}_t, \underline{y}_{t-1}) = \underline{\phi}_1 \sigma_{y_t}^2; \quad (6.12)$$

2. For the direct one:

$$\text{cov}(\underline{y}_t, \underline{y}_{t-1}) = \underline{\phi}_1 \zeta_{y_t}^2. \quad (6.13)$$

If we now insert (6.12) and (6.13) into the respective formulae for the conjugate and direct correlations (Section 3.2, equations (3.1) and (3.2)), we will get the values of the cACF for the first lag according to:

1. Conjugate correlation:

$$\rho(1) = \frac{\sqrt{\underline{\phi}_1^2 \sigma_{y_t}^2 \underline{\phi}_1 \sigma_{y_t}^2}}{\sigma_{y_t}^2} = |\underline{\phi}_1|; \quad (6.14)$$

2. Direct correlation:

$$\varrho(1) = \frac{\underline{\phi}_1 \zeta_{y_t}^2}{\zeta_{y_t}^2} = \underline{\phi}_1. \quad (6.15)$$

As we can see from the formula (6.14), the specific value of the cAR(1) parameter is lost because of the geometric mean in the formula: we end up with a magnitude of the complex variable instead of its real and imaginary parts. On the other hand, the direct cACF (6.15) keeps the information about the cAR(1) parameter. However, the two formulae above are calculated in terms of expectations and their sample estimates might be slightly different. Specifically, the direct correlation (6.15) relies on the sample estimate of the direct variance of the response variable  $y_t$ , which might become equal to zero if the variances of the real and the imaginary parts of the complex variable are similar (as discussed in Section 3.4). This means that in some situations the values of the direct cACF might become greater than one, leading to potential losses in information. But this also means that conjugate and direct cACFs should be used together for the analysis of complex time series: each of them has issues, but both of them give much clearer information about the potential process (Zhou and Pan, 2015, provide some arguments to support this claim).

If we calculate the covariance for the cAR(1) between the values  $y_t$  and  $y_{t-2}$ , we will get the following (the reader is encouraged to do the calculations manually to check the correctness of the final result, but also see Knight and Nunes, 2019):

1. Conjugate correlation:

$$\rho(2) = |\underline{\phi}_1^2|; \quad (6.16)$$

2. Direct correlation:

$$\varrho(2) = \underline{\phi}_1^2. \quad (6.17)$$

In principles, it can be shown that the main properties of real-valued AR discussed by Box and Jenkins (1976) hold widely for the cAR(p) processes: cACF will decline exponentially starting from the lag p. Note however that the direct cACF involves the power of a complex number, which means that in some situations,

for some values of the complex parameter  $\underline{\phi}_1$ , the cACF will decline harmonically rather than exponentially.

The more useful property of cAR(p) for analysis is the behaviour of the cPACF. This function shows the relations between specific lags without the effect of all the interim lags, i.e. cleaned from the autocorrelations between the neighbouring lags. One of ways of calculating the cPACF for a lag  $\tau$  is to estimate the following model:

$$\underline{y}_t = \underline{\phi}_1 \underline{y}_{t-1} + \cdots + \underline{\phi}_\tau \underline{y}_{t-\tau} + \underline{\epsilon}_t \quad (6.18)$$

and getting the coefficient  $\underline{\phi}_\tau$ . Repeating this procedure for all lags of interest, we get a cPACF. The model (6.18) can be estimated using OLS or CLS, which will result in respective conjugate and direct cPACF.

It can be shown that for the cAR(p) process, both conjugate and direct cPACF will drop to zero abruptly after the lag p and that both of them will produce complex numbers, reflecting the respective parts of the coefficients of the cAR(p) model. However, the direct cPACF might have issues similar to the ones the direct cACF has if the variances of the real and the imaginary parts of the response variable are close to each other.

As we see, the complex AR(p) has similar properties to the real-valued one, but it should be analysed using both conjugate and direct cACF/cPACF.

Finally, in Box-Jenkins methodology, it is important for the AR(p) processes to be stationary, otherwise they become explosive and cannot be efficiently identified at the model building stage. The stationarity condition for AR(p) in Box and Jenkins (1976) is that the roots of the polynomial formed from the parameters of the AR model should all lie outside the unit circle. For AR(1) this simplifies to  $|\underline{\phi}_1| < 1$ . The same conditions hold for the cAR(p) processes, implying that only the magnitudes of the complex parameters should be considered. For the cAR(1), the stationarity condition is  $|\underline{\phi}_1| < 1$ . But more widely, for cAR(p), it is that the roots of the following polynomial:

$$1 - \underline{\phi}_1 x - \underline{\phi}_2 x^2 - \cdots - \underline{\phi}_p x^p = 0 \quad (6.19)$$

should all lie outside the unit circle (be greater than one by absolute value).

### 6.2.1 Example in R

For demonstration purposes we consider the cAR(1) process to see how cACF/cPACF and the data will look

```
# Sample size
set.seed(41)
# Number of observations
obs <- 110
# Parameters
b0 <- 100+50i
```

```

phi1 <- 0.5 + 0.2i
# Complex white noise
e <- rcnorm(obs, 0, sigma2=25, varsigma2=16+9i)
y <- vector("complex", obs)
# Initial value
y[1] <- b0 + e[1]
# The cAR(1)
for(i in 2:obs){
  y[i] <- phi1 * y[i-1] + b0 + e[i]
}
# Drop the first 10 observations as a burn-in period
y <- y[-c(1:10)]

```

The conjugate cACF/cPACF are shown in Figures 6.4 and 6.5:

```
cacf(y, method="conjugate", main="")
```

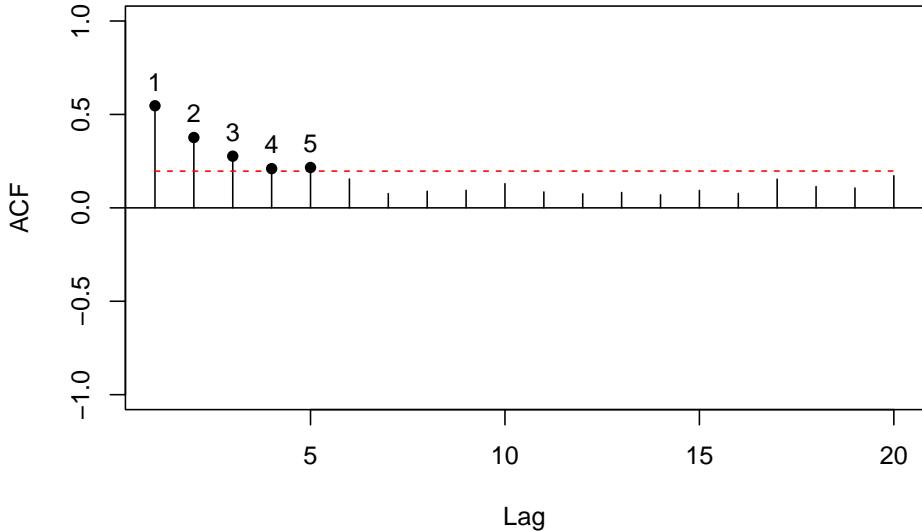


Figure 6.4: Conjugate cACF of the complex AR(1).

As we see from Figure 6.4, the cACF declines after the lag 1. Notably, the cACF for lag one equals to 0.546, being close to the true value of the magnitude of the parameter  $\phi_1 = 0.5 + 0.2i$ , which is 0.5385165.

```
cpacf(y, method="conjugate", main="")
```

The cPACF in Figure 6.5 demonstrates that both the real and the imaginary values drop to zero after the first observation, as expected for the AR(1) process. Notably, the value of the first cPACF is  $0.495+0.236i$ , which is close to the true value of the parameter.

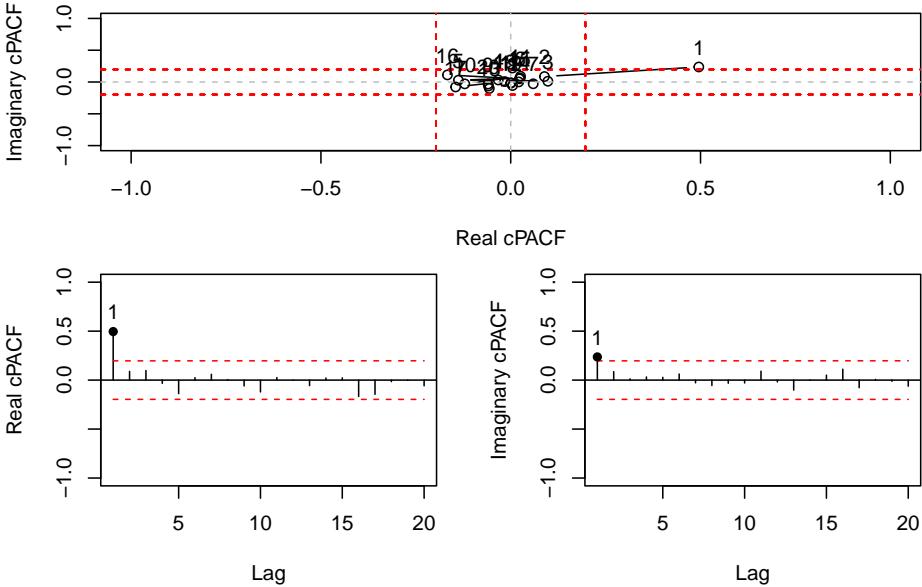


Figure 6.5: Conjugate cPACF of the complex AR(1).

The direct cACF and cPACF are shown in Figures 6.6 and 6.7, roughly giving the same information as their conjugate counterparts. We should note however that the direct cACF has the more detailed information about the dynamic relations in the data than the conjugate one.

Although, both plots contain values outside of the 95% non-rejection region, these could be considered as happening at random and can be neglected.

It is worth noting again that in both Figures 6.6 and 6.7 the first values of the cACF/cPACF are close to the true value of  $0.5 + 0.2i$ .

Finally, the plot in Figure 6.8 shows the generated data on the complex plane and the dynamics of both the real and the imaginary parts.

When it comes to applying a model and to forecasting, the same `clm()` function from the `complex` package in R can be used:

```
# Fit the model with intercept and AR(1)
cAR1Model <- clm(y~1, orders=c(1,0,0), subset=c(1:80))
# Generate the summary
summary(cAR1Model)

## cARIMA(1,0,0) estimated via clm()
## Response variable: y
## Loss function used in estimation: likelihood
## Coefficients:
```

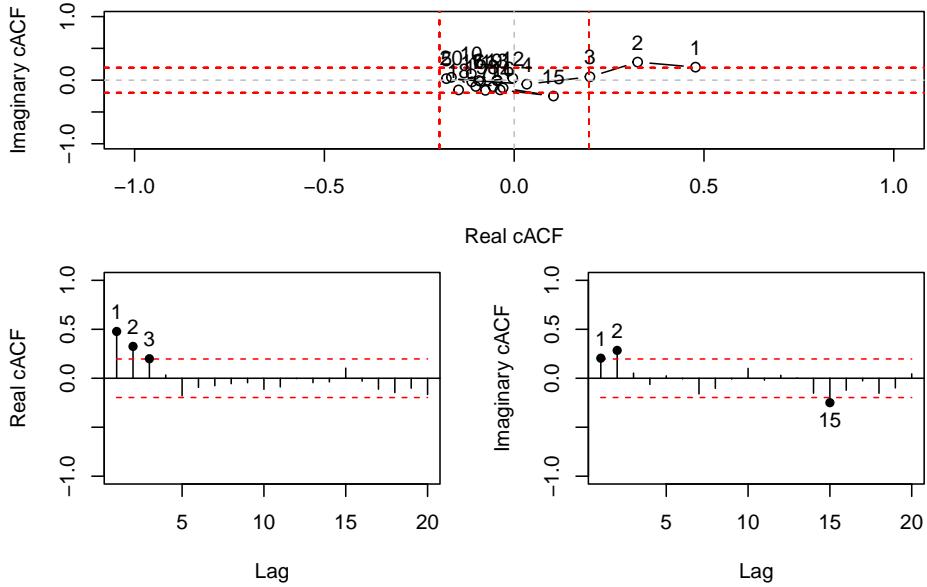


Figure 6.6: Direct cACF of the complex AR(1).

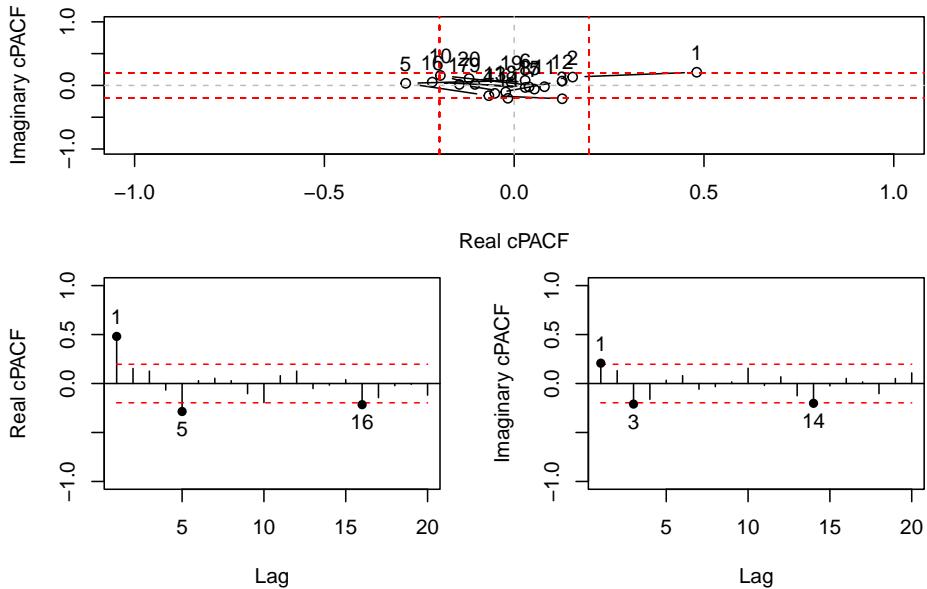


Figure 6.7: Direct cPACF of the complex AR(1).

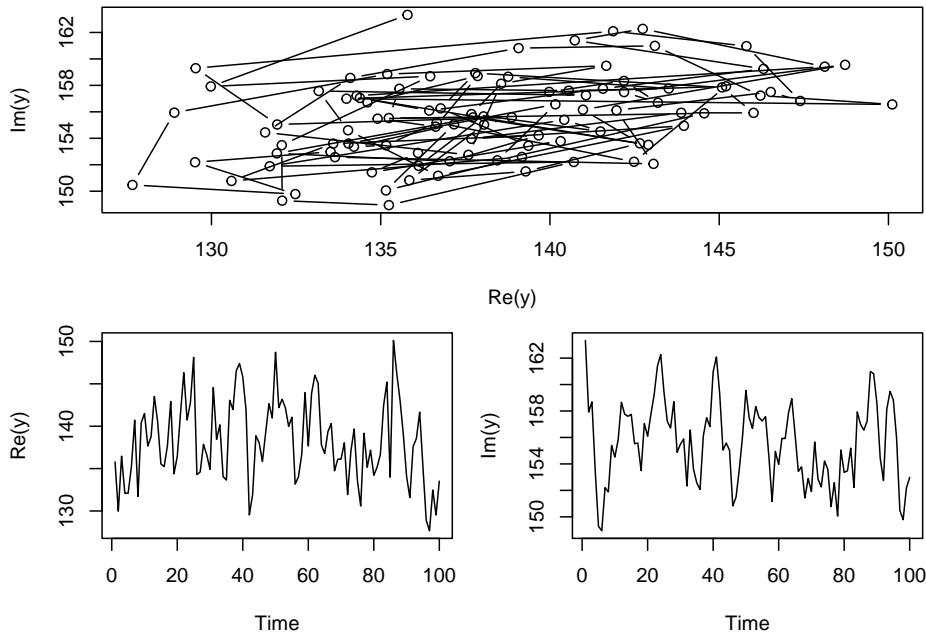


Figure 6.8: Visualisation of the cAR(1) process.

```

##               Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r 104.0038   17.8382   68.4797  139.5278 *
## (Intercept)_i  51.6885    9.1839   33.3991  69.9778 *
## yLag1_r        0.4825    0.0856   0.3122   0.6529 *
## yLag1_i        0.2075    0.0440   0.1198   0.2952 *
##
## Error covariance matrix:
##      e_r   e_i
## e_r 17.4734 4.1781
## e_i  4.1781 4.6316
##
## Sample size: 80
## Number of estimated parameters: 3.5
## Number of degrees of freedom: 76.5
## Information criteria:
##      AIC      AICc      BIC      BICc
## 785.9517 786.3689 794.2888 795.2029

```

The output above shows the estimates of parameters of the model, demonstrating that the likelihood produced estimates close to the true values of parameters (as expected). After that we can generate forecast for the next 20 observations:

```
# Dummy data. 20 rows tells the function what the horizon is
complexData20 <- matrix(rep(1,20),20,1)
# Produce forecasts for the next 20 steps
yForecast <- predict(cAR1Model, newdata=complexData20)
```

The only catch in the code above is to create a dummy `newdata` with the number of rows equal to the forecast horizon. This is a fix, needed because the `clm()` function focuses on explanatory variables. The forecasts from the function are shown in Figure 6.9.

```
# Produce the plot of the data and the forecasts
par(mfcol=c(2,1),mar=c(4,4,1,1))
plot(yForecast)
```

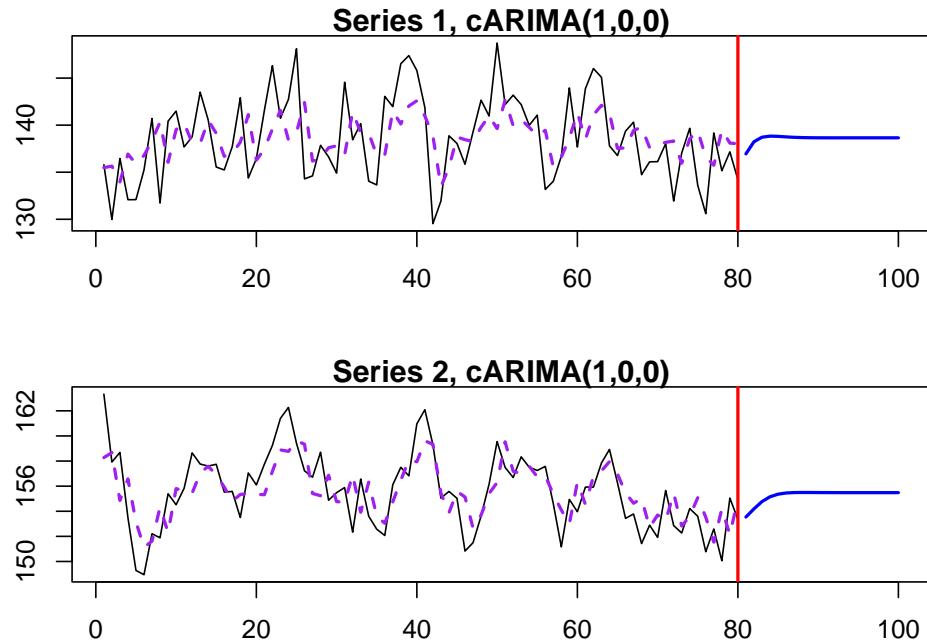


Figure 6.9: Forecasts for the cAR(1) process.

As we can see, the forecast trajectory from the cAR(1) model corresponds to the dampening line, which is a behaviour similar to the conventional real-valued AR(1) model (e.g. discussed in Subsection 8.1.1 of Svetunkov, 2023).

### 6.3 Complex MA

Another type of the dynamic model discussed by Box and Jenkins (1976), is called “Moving Average”. In case of complex variables, it can be formulated as:

$$\underline{y}_t = \underline{\beta}_0 + \underline{\theta}_1 \underline{\epsilon}_{t-1} + \cdots + \underline{\theta}_q \underline{\epsilon}_{t-q} + \underline{\epsilon}_t, \quad (6.20)$$

where  $\underline{\theta}_j$  is the  $j$ -th parameter, and  $q$  is the order of the complex MA( $q$ ) model. Similar to the cAR, it can be written via polynomials:

$$\underline{y}_t = \underline{\beta}_0 + (1 + \underline{\theta}_1 B + \cdots + \underline{\theta}_q B^q) \underline{\epsilon}_t. \quad (6.21)$$

The idea of this model is that the new actual observation is formed as a linear combination of the past white noise. Box and Jenkins (1976) continue the example with a CO<sub>2</sub> output, showing that some random disturbances in the system in the past can impact the volume of the carbon dioxide at the recent observation.

Using similar logic as in case of cAR, we will show how cACF and cPACF behave for cMA(1) without intercept, and then we will generalise their behaviour for cMA( $q$ ).

The cMA(1) model can be defined as:

$$\underline{y}_t = \underline{\theta}_1 \underline{\epsilon}_{t-1} + \underline{\epsilon}_t. \quad (6.22)$$

For the cACF, we need to calculate the covariance between the values on observations  $t$  and  $t - 1$ . Again, the formulae for the conjugate and the direct covariances will be similar at this stage:

$$\text{cov}(\underline{y}_t, \underline{y}_{t-1}) = \text{cov}(\underline{\theta}_1 \underline{\epsilon}_{t-1} + \underline{\epsilon}_t, \underline{\theta}_1 \underline{\epsilon}_{t-2} + \underline{\epsilon}_{t-1}). \quad (6.23)$$

If the basic assumptions discussed in Chapter 5 hold, the covariance is simplified to:

$$\text{cov}(\underline{y}_t, \underline{y}_{t-1}) = \underline{\theta}_1 \text{cov}(\underline{\epsilon}_{t-1}, \underline{\epsilon}_{t-1}). \quad (6.24)$$

Based on this, the conjugate and the direct covariances will be equal to respectively:

$$\text{cov}(\underline{y}_t, \underline{y}_{t-1}) = \underline{\theta}_1 \sigma_{y_t}^2 \quad (6.25)$$

and

$$\text{cov}(\underline{y}_t, \underline{y}_{t-1}) = \underline{\theta}_1 \varsigma_{y_t}^2. \quad (6.26)$$

Note that in the formulae above, we use the fact that the variance of the error term will coincide with the variance of the response variable  $\underline{y}_t$ , which becomes apparent from the original model formulation (6.22), assuming that the error term has a zero expectation. Inserting (6.25) and (6.26) in the formulae for the conjugate and direct correlations, the first lag of the cACF for the cMA(1) equals to:

1. Conjugate correlation:

$$\rho(1) = |\underline{\theta}_1|; \quad (6.27)$$

2. Direct correlation:

$$\varrho(1) = \underline{\theta}_1. \quad (6.28)$$

Similarly to how it was with the cAR(1) process, we see that the conjugate cACF is based on the magnitude of the complex parameter, while the direct one has the value itself in it. This comes with the same in-sample limitations as above with the direct correlation being sensitive to the similarity of the variances of the real and the imaginary parts of the response variable.

However, when it comes to the second lag of the cACF, the situation differs from the one with the cAR(1):

$$\text{cov}(\underline{y}_t, \underline{y}_{t-2}) = \text{cov}(\underline{\theta}_1 \underline{\epsilon}_{t-1} + \underline{\epsilon}_t, \underline{\theta}_1 \underline{\epsilon}_{t-3} + \underline{\epsilon}_{t-2}) = 0. \quad (6.29)$$

This agrees with the behaviour of the cACF in case of the conventional real-valued MA(q) processes (Box and Jenkins, 1976): it falls to zero abruptly right after the lag q.

When it comes to the cPACF of cMA(1), its behaviour becomes similar to the behaviour of cACF for AR(1). This is because the model (6.22) can be represented as an infinite cAR:

$$\underline{y}_t = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} -1^{j-1} \underline{\theta}_1^j \underline{y}_{t-j} + \underline{\epsilon}_t, \quad (6.30)$$

which is based on the fact that  $\underline{\epsilon}_t = \underline{y}_t - \underline{\theta}_1 \underline{\epsilon}_{t-1}$ . In this situation, both conjugate and direct cPACF will decline either exponentially or harmonically, depending on the specific value of the complex parameter. Ones again, this agrees with the behaviour of the conventional PACF in case of the real-valued MA(q) process.

As we see, the behaviour of both cACF and cPACF in case of cMA(q) model agrees with the behaviour of ACF/PACF in the real-valued models. Still, similarly to the cAR(p) process, conjugate and direct cPACF should be used for time series analysis jointly, because each one of them does not provide the full information about the process.

Continuing the similarities between the complex and the real-valued models, it can be shown that the property of the invertibility is easily transferable to the cMA(q) model from the conventional MA(q). The model will be invertible if all the roots of the following polynomial equation lie outside of the unit circle:

$$1 + \underline{\theta}_1 x + \underline{\theta}_2 x^2 + \cdots + \underline{\theta}_p x^p = 0. \quad (6.31)$$

When it comes to estimating the model on a sample of data, we face several restrictions: the cMA part needs to be constructed recursively, because the new

error from observation  $t$  is used on the next observations. This means that the analytical solutions according to OLS or CLS cannot be applied anymore, and we need to revert to the numeric optimisation. To that extent, CLS can no longer be used, because the standard solvers require the real-valued loss function, while the one from CLS is a complex one. So, when estimating cMA(q) model, we have to use either OLS or likelihood.

### 6.3.1 Example in R

Similarly to the cAR(p), we consider an R example, analysing how the cACF and cPACF behave in a special case of cMA(1) with an intercept:

```
# Sample size
set.seed(41)
# Number of observations
obs <- 110
# Parameters
b0 <- 100 + 50i
theta1 <- -0.8 + 0.2i
# Complex white noise
e <- rcnorm(obs, 0, sigma2=25, varsigma2=16+9i)
y <- vector("complex", obs)
# Initial value
y[1] <- b0 + e[1]
# The cAR(1)
for(i in 2:obs){
  y[i] <- theta1 * e[i-1] + b0 + e[i]
}
# Drop the first 10 observations as a burn-in period
y <- y[-c(1:10)]
```

Because we use the same random seed value as before and the same value of the parameter as in case of cAR(1), we get time series, which look similar to the one generated from cAR(1) (see Figure 6.10, compared to Figure 6.8).

However, when we analyse cACF of the time series, we will spot an important difference - its values drop to zero abruptly right after the first lag.

```
cacf(y, method="conjugate", main="")
```

As we see from Figure 6.11, the only statistically significant lag (on 5%) is the first one, all the others lie in the non-rejection region. We observe a similar behaviour in case of the direct cACF (Figure 6.12), although it is worth noting that the imaginary part of the direct cACF has all lags lying in the non-rejection region.

On the other hand, the conjugate and direct cPACF should decline exponentially, as discussed earlier. Figure 6.13 shows how the direct cPACF looks for the

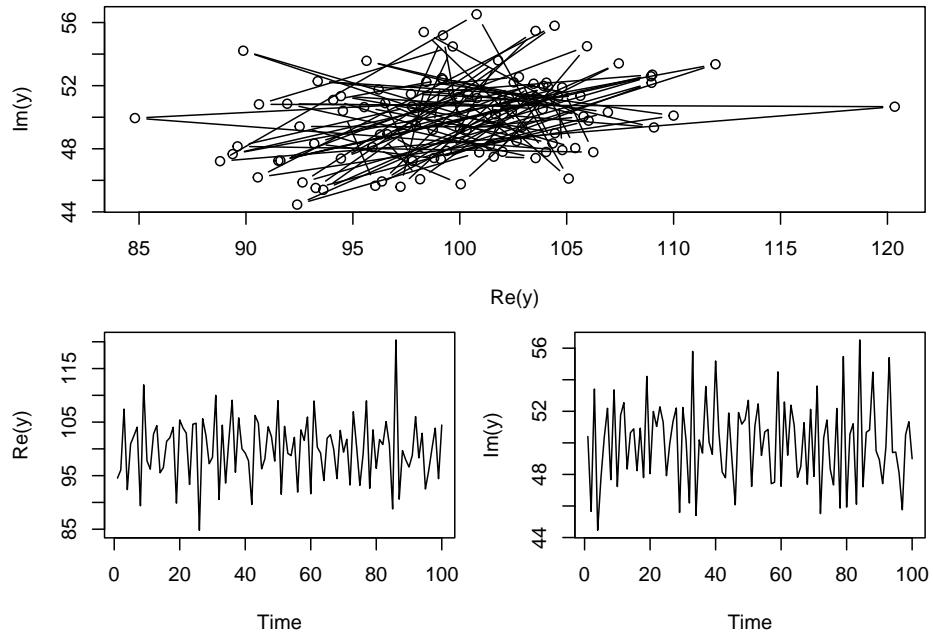


Figure 6.10: Visualisation of the cMA(1) process.

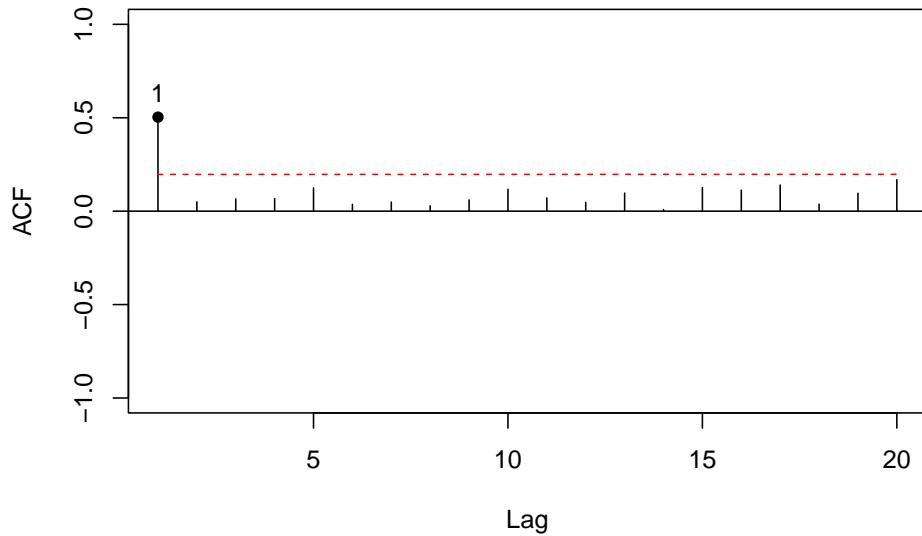


Figure 6.11: Conjugate cACF of the complex MA(1).

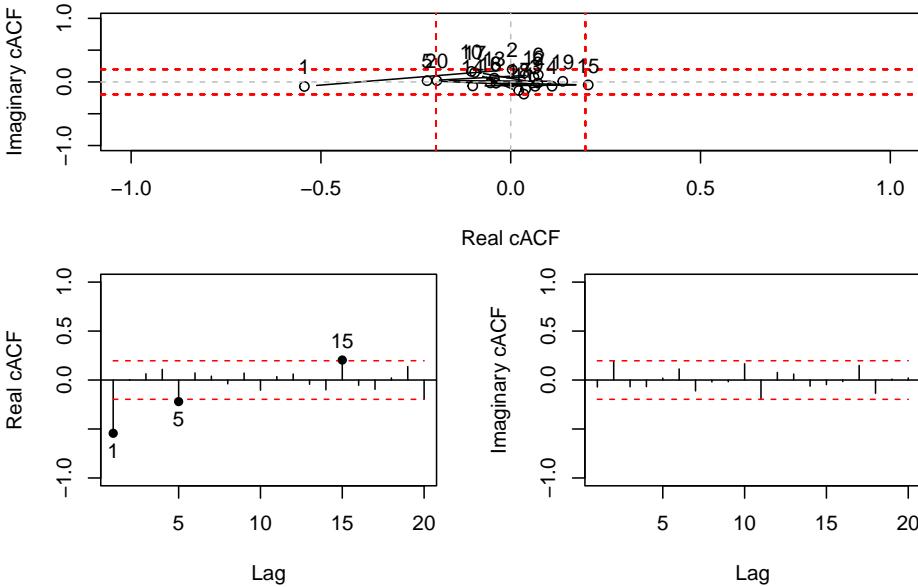


Figure 6.12: Direct cACF of the complex MA(1).

complex MA(1), while Figure 6.14 shows the conjugate one. While the specific values are different for the two functions, they give roughly the same message: the cPACFs decline over time.

```
cpacf(y, method="conjugate", main="")
```

There are also some values outside of the 95% non-rejection region on the direct cPACF. However, they can be considered as happening at random (we expect them to lie outside in 5% cases anyway) and can be neglected.

Finally, we can apply the model to the data:

```
# Fit the model with intercept and MA(1)
cMA1Model <- clm(y~1, orders=c(0,0,1),
                     subset=c(1:80))
# Generate the summary
summary(cMA1Model)

## cARIMA(0,0,1) estimated via clm()
## Response variable: y
## Loss function used in estimation: likelihood
## Coefficients:
##             Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r 100.0041    0.4064   99.1947   100.8134 *
## (Intercept)_i  50.0262    0.2210   49.5862   50.4663 *
## eLag1_r       -0.2597    0.0418   -0.3429   -0.1764 *
```

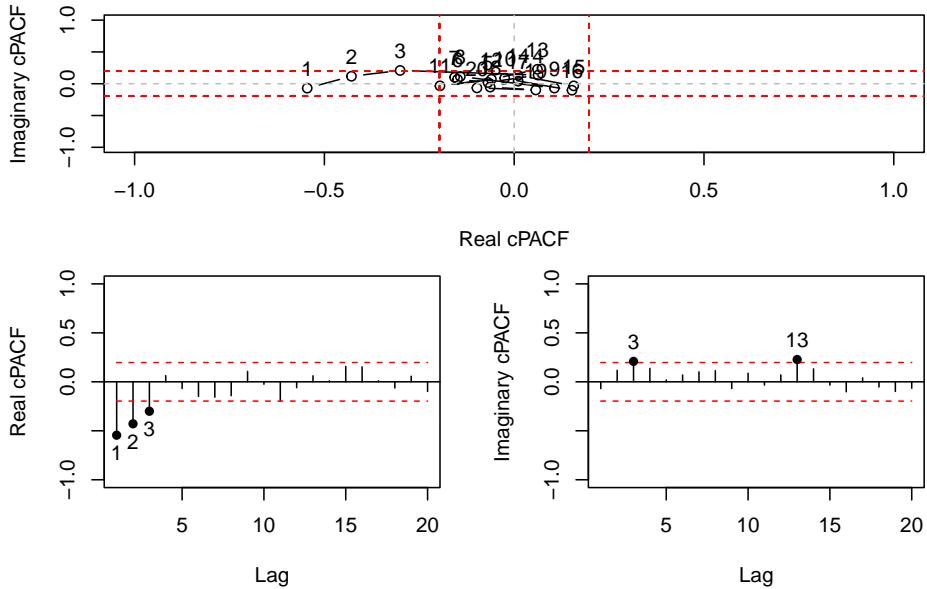


Figure 6.13: Direct cPACF of the complex MA(1).

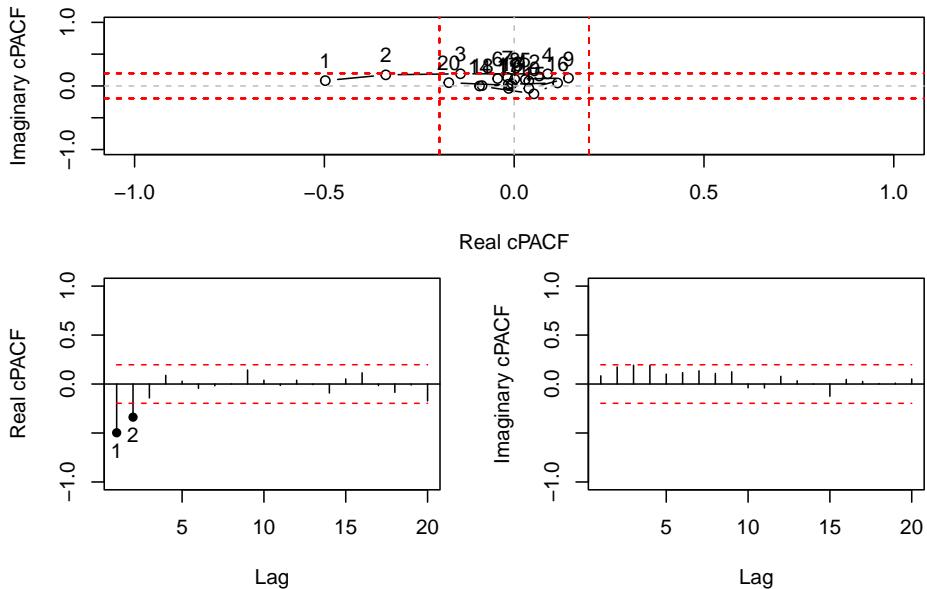


Figure 6.14: Conjugate cPACF of the complex MA(1).

```

## eLag1_i      -0.1278      0.0427     -0.2127     -0.0428 *
##
## Error covariance matrix:
##      e_r   e_i
## e_r 27.0792 3.0137
## e_i  3.0137 6.0300
##
## Sample size: 80
## Number of estimated parameters: 3.5
## Number of degrees of freedom: 76.5
## Information criteria:
##      AIC     AICc     BIC     BICc
## 856.9714 857.3886 865.3085 866.2226

```

In the code above, the default loss is likelihood, which we use because the parameters of cMA(q) cannot be estimated analytically, and likelihood, having good statistical properties (efficiency and consistency), is appropriate. Note that the estimates of parameters for the complex moving average are far from the true ones, which is due to the sample size and the specific random sample we selected. Asymptotically, the estimator should give parameters closer to the “true” ones.

Similarly to how we did it with cAR(1), we can produce forecasts from the model using the dummy data:

```

# Dummy data. 20 rows tells the function what the horizon is
complexData20 <- matrix(1, 20, 1)
# Produce forecasts for the next 20 steps
yForecast <- predict(cMA1Model, newdata=complexData20)

```

These forecasts are shown in Figure 6.15.

```

# Produce the plot of the data and the forecasts
par(mfcol=c(2,1), mar=c(4,4,1,1))
plot(yForecast)

```

As expected, the forecasts from the cMA(1) converge to the intercept value abruptly right after the  $h = 1$ . This behaviour is equivalent to the one of the real-valued MA(q) models.

## 6.4 Complex ARMA and ARIMA

Uniting the cAR(p) with cMA(q) gives us the CARMA(p,q) model, which can be written as (in the polynomial form):

$$\left(1 - \underline{\phi}_1 B - \cdots - \underline{\phi}_p B^p\right) \underline{y}_t = \underline{\beta}_0 + \left(1 + \underline{\theta}_1 B + \cdots + \underline{\theta}_q B^q\right) \epsilon_t. \quad (6.32)$$

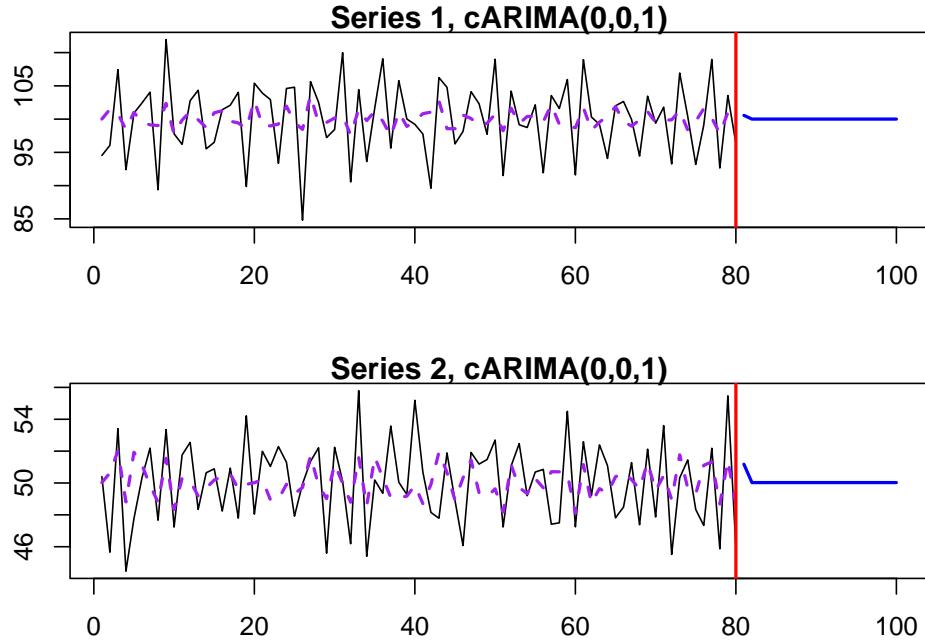


Figure 6.15: Forecasts for the cMA(1) process.

This model combines the properties of the both models, making it even more flexible. However, the cACF/cPACF become even more complicated than before for some cARMA models, because they show complex interactions between the cAR and cMA. We do not discuss specific examples here and leave them as a home task for an interested reader.

Furthermore, in order for cARMA model to be identifiable, we need to apply it to the stationary data - all the examples of cAR and cMA above assumed that implicitly. There are several ways of achieving this, including the addition of trend component as in Section 6.1 and taking differences of the original data. The latter implies the introduction of the difference polynomial giving us cARIMA(p,d,q), which is analogous to the real-valued ARIMA:

$$\left(1 - \underline{\phi}_1 B - \cdots - \underline{\phi}_p B^p\right) (1 - B)^d \underline{y}_t = \underline{\beta}_0 + (1 + \underline{\theta}_1 B + \cdots + \underline{\theta}_q B^q) \underline{\varepsilon}_t. \quad (6.33)$$

There are several ways how to construct such a model. First one is to take the differences of the original data and then apply cARMA. But this implies that we estimate the following model:

$$\Delta \underline{y}_t = (1 - B)^d \underline{y}_t = \underline{\beta}_0 + \left(\underline{\phi}_1 B + \cdots + \underline{\phi}_p B^p\right) \Delta \underline{y}_t + (\underline{\theta}_1 B + \cdots + \underline{\theta}_q B^q) \underline{\varepsilon}_t + \underline{\varepsilon}_t. \quad (6.34)$$

But working with this model might be challenging because in order to produce forecasts from it, one needs to take the inverse of differences to get back to the

original units. Instead, we argue that the following form (in principle) is easier to implement and use:

$$\underline{y}_t = \underline{\beta}'_0 + \frac{(1 + \underline{\theta}_1 B + \cdots + \underline{\theta}_q B^q)}{(1 - \underline{\phi}_1 B - \cdots - \underline{\phi}_p B^p)(1 - B)^d} \underline{\epsilon}_t, \quad (6.35)$$

where we now can produce future  $\hat{y}_t$  directly instead of  $\hat{\Delta}_{\underline{y}_t}$ . This formulation is implemented and used in the `c1m()` function from the `complex` package in R. The orders of cARIMA are regulated with the `orders` parameter.

When it comes to deciding whether to take the differences of the time series or not, the standard ADF (Dickey and Fuller, 1979) and KPSS (Kwiatkowski et al., 1992) tests can be applied independently to the real and imaginary parts to see whether they are stationary or not. This approach assumes that both parts contain variables that have similar dynamics in principle. But there might be some situations, when one part is stationary, while the other is not. In that case, the decision about the order of differencing might not be straight forward. A solution in this case is to take differences anyway, although this might lead to the overdifferencing one of the parts of the complex variable. The alternative approach is to apply the test to the two parts jointly, and a relatively simple solution in this case is to use the MDS to project the complex variable to the real-valued one. After that the conventional ADF/KPSS can be applied to determine whether the differences are needed to make the variable stationary “overall”.

When it comes to the selection of orders of cARIMA(p,d,q), using cACF/cPACF for this purpose becomes extremely difficult, because of all the possibilities for the behaviour of these functions depending on the order of the model and/or specific values of parameters. For example, in some situations cACF will decline harmonically for an AR(p) process, while cPACF will do the same for an MA(q) one. The combination of cAR and cMA might produce really puzzling cACF/cPACF, which might become useless for diagnostics or order selection. Furthermore, as discuss in Section 8.3 of Svetunkov (2023), the fact that some specific orders of cARMA(p,q) generate some specific shapes of cACF/cPACF does not mean that, if we observe that shape, then the data is generated from that specific model. After all, there can be many reasons why we observe the specific cACF/cPACF, and conclusions about the order of the appropriate cARMA model just based on them become unreliable. As a result, we recommend using other principles for the selection of the appropriate p and q. One of those is to do that based on the information criteria, such as AIC (Akaike, 1974) or BIC (Schwarz, 1978). Note however that in order to be able to do that, one needs to use likelihood for the model estimation.



# Chapter 7

## Examples of application

In this chapter we consider examples of application of cLR and cARIMA models to two separate problems. The first one is related to sales forecasting, while the second one focuses on the analysis of efficiency of policies.

### 7.1 cARIMA applied to Box-Jenkins Sales data

In this example, we consider the Box-Jenkins Sales data with a leading indicator. While typically the indicator is treated as an explanatory variable, we will treat the two as one joint complex variable. Separately, they have the dynamics shown in Figure 7.1.

As we can see they seem to change over time similarly, which is probably because the indicator drives the sales. But if we unite the two in one complex variable and plot their joint dynamics, we will see that not only the values change over time, but also the relation between the variables (see Figure 7.2).

While judgmentally we can conclude that both parts of this complex variable are non-stationary, we will conduct ADF and KPSS tests (which as a reminder have opposite null and alternative hypotheses) using `adf.test()` and `kpss.test()` functions from the `tseries` package after applying MDS to it. We will use 1% significance level in the hypotheses testing.

```
# Normalise the variables
complex(real=BJsales, imaginary=BJsales.lead) |>
  cscale(scaling="norm") -> y
# Scale the complex variable into the real-valued one
complex2vec(y) |> dist() |> cmdscale(k=1) -> yScaled
```

In the code above we use the `cscale()` function from the `complex` package to scale both parts of the complex variable to abide with the complex-valued

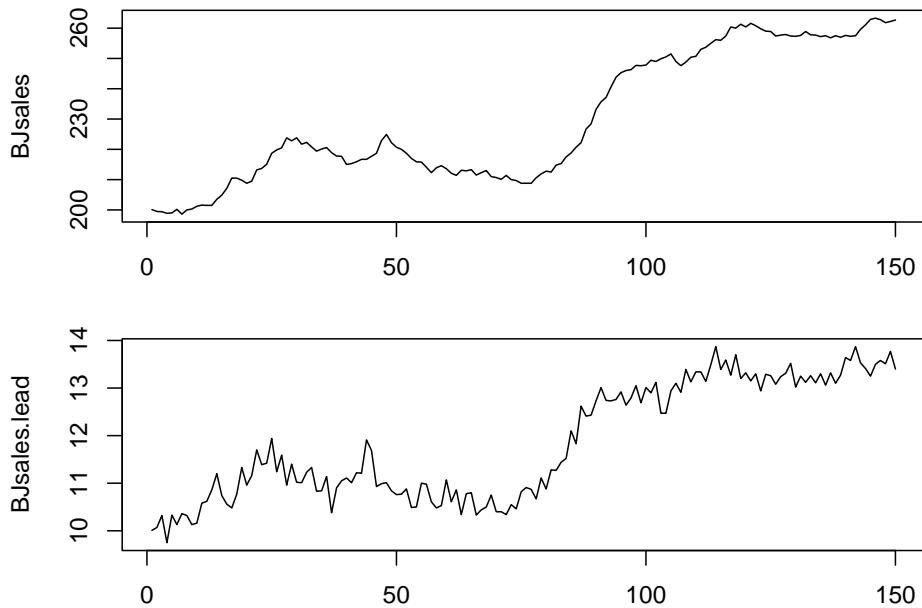


Figure 7.1: Box-Jenkins Sales data with a leading indicator.

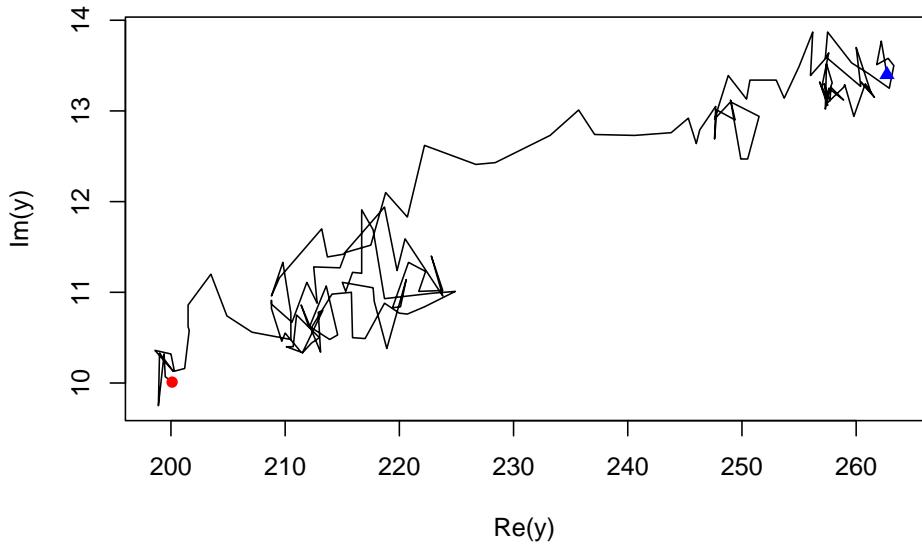


Figure 7.2: Box-Jenkins Sales data. Complex dynamics. The red circle depicts the first observation, while the blue trianlge is the last one.

modelling principles discussed in Section 1.4. We can then conduct the ADF test:

```
# Apply ADF test
tseries::adf.test(yScaled)

##
## Augmented Dickey-Fuller Test
##
## data: yScaled
## Dickey-Fuller = -2.1558, Lag order = 5, p-value = 0.5115
## alternative hypothesis: stationary
```

The output above shows that on 1% level we fail to reject the null hypothesis that the data is not stationary according to the ADF test. With KPSS, the final message is similar, because we reject the null hypothesis on the 1% significance level:

```
tseries::kpss.test(yScaled)

## Warning in tseries::kpss.test(yScaled): p-value smaller than printed p-value

##
## KPSS Test for Level Stationarity
##
## data: yScaled
## KPSS Level = 2.6339, Truncation lag parameter = 4, p-value = 0.01
```

If we take the first differences, the conclusions become contradictory:

```
diff(yScaled) |>
  tseries::adf.test()

##
## Augmented Dickey-Fuller Test
##
## data: diff(yScaled)
## Dickey-Fuller = -2.5661, Lag order = 5, p-value = 0.3406
## alternative hypothesis: stationary
```

In the ADF test, we still fail to reject the null hypothesis on the 1% level (see output above), while in the KPSS test, we now fail to reject the null as well. This means that the ADF detects non-stationarity in the data, while the KPSS does not.

```
diff(yScaled) |>
  tseries::kpss.test()

## Warning in tseries::kpss.test(diff(yScaled)): p-value greater than printed
## p-value
```

```
##  
## KPSS Test for Level Stationarity  
##  
## data: diff(yScaled)  
## KPSS Level = 0.13191, Truncation lag parameter = 4, p-value = 0.1
```

Given this contradiction, we plot the differences of the scaled data to make the conclusion judgmentally (Figure 7.3):

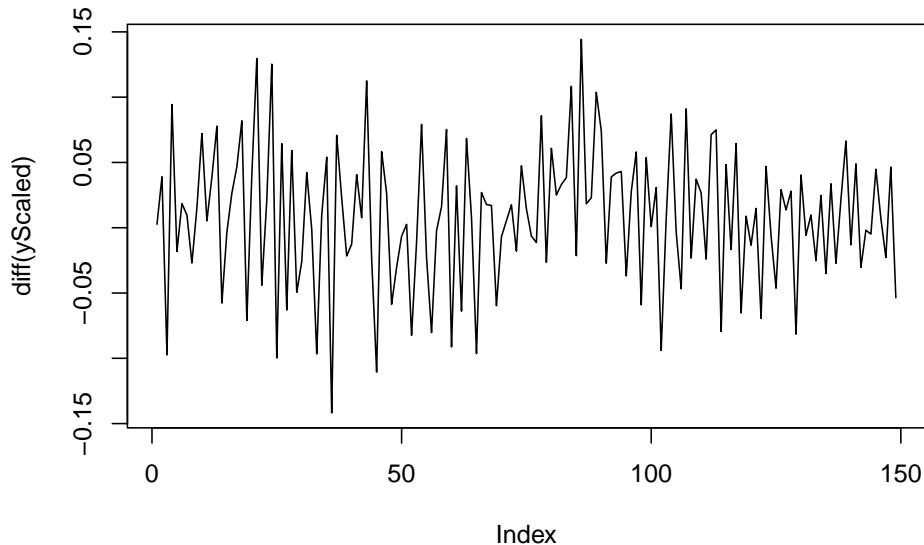


Figure 7.3: First differences of the MDS of the complex variable of the Box-Jenkins Sales data.

Analysing the series in Figure 7.3, it might be the case that either the data contains a strong AR component or that it is non-stationary. Using this information, we will construct two models: cARIMA(p,2,q) and cARIMA(p,1,q) - and see, which of them performs better. Note that while in general the models are not comparable if different orders  $d$  are applied due to the loss of the in-sample observations, the `cIm()` function takes care of potential missing values and extrapolates them back, making the models comparable.

Now we apply the cARIMA model to the newly constructed complex variable. We will try several special cases of cARIMA and choose the one that has the lowest information criterion. The code below shows how the process can be automated:

```
# Create all combinations of cARIMA orders to consider  
# Here, we set d={1, 2} based on the earlier data exploration  
expand.grid(c(0:3),c(1:2),c(0:3)) |>  
  as.matrix() -> orders  
colnames(orders) <- c("cAR","cI","cMA")
```

```

nModels <- nrow(orders)
# Prepare the list of all models under consideration
cARIMABJ <- vector("list",nModels)
names(cARIMABJ) <- paste0("cARIMA(",orders[,1],",",
                           orders[,2],",",orders[,3],")");

# Construct models
for(i in 1:nModels){
  cARIMABJ[[i]] <- clm(y~1, orders=orders[i,], subset=c(1:130))
}

```

The script above will produce 32 cARIMA models of different orders. To choose the best one based on an information criterion, we will use the `AICc()` function from the `greybox` package in R:

```

# Extract AICc values
cARIMABJAICc <- sapply(cARIMABJ, AICc)
# Fix names. Sometimes R makes silly things...
names(cARIMABJAICc) <- names(cARIMABJ)
# Record the index of the model with the lowest AICc
i <- which.min(cARIMABJAICc)

```

The summary of the best performing model is shown below:

```

summary(cARIMABJ[[i]])

## cARIMA(3,1,1) estimated via clm()
## Response variable: y
## Loss function used in estimation: likelihood
## Coefficients:
##                               Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r    0.0014    0.0026   -0.0038    0.0066
## (Intercept)_i    0.0047    0.0052   -0.0055    0.0149
## yLag1_r         0.3009    0.1564   -0.0087    0.6104
## yLag1_i        -0.1360    0.1925   -0.5171    0.2451
## yLag2_r         0.0989    0.2409   -0.3779    0.5757
## yLag2_i         0.0057    0.2198   -0.4293    0.4407
## yLag3_r         0.0823    0.0333    0.0163    0.1483 *
## yLag3_i        -0.2276    0.0688   -0.3638   -0.0913 *
## eLag1_r        -0.3726    0.0831   -0.5371   -0.2080 *
## eLag1_i         0.0946    0.0489   -0.0022    0.1914
##
## Error covariance matrix:
##      e_r   e_i
## e_r 0.0005 0.0006
## e_i 0.0006 0.0070
##
```

```

## Sample size: 130
## Number of estimated parameters: 6.5
## Number of degrees of freedom: 123.5
## Information criteria:
##      AIC      AICc      BIC      BICc
## -901.0591 -900.2632 -882.4202 -880.4831

```

The output above shows the name of the model and the standard statistics we have already seen before. The forecast from this model for the next 20 observations is shown in Figure 7.4.

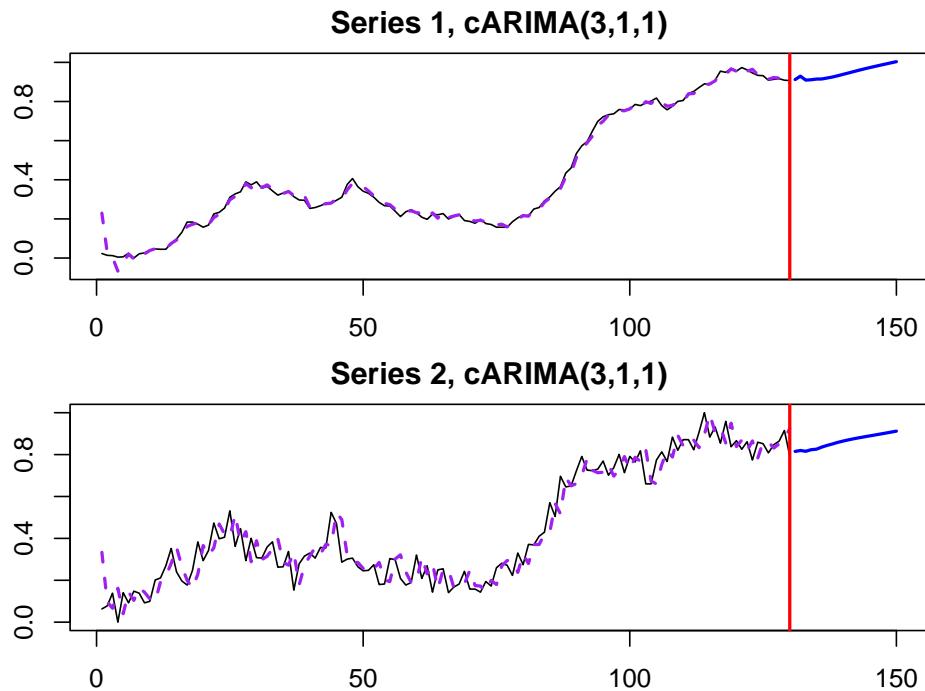


Figure 7.4: Forecast for the Box-Jenkins series.

As we see, the model managed to capture the dynamics of the original data well, producing reasonable point forecasts for both parts. If we want to return to the original scale, we can use the `cdescale()` function from the `complex` package:

```

yForecast <- predict(cARIMABJ[[i]],
                      newdata=matrix(NA, 20, 1))
cdescale(yForecast$mean,
          complex(real=BJsales, imaginary=BJsales.lead),
          scaling="norm")

```

This example demonstrates how appropriate cARIMA can be selected, applied to the data and used in forecasting.

## 7.2 Seatbelts law in Great Britain

In another example, we consider the time series data with several explanatory variables. This is the Road Casualties in Great Britain from 1969 to 1984, available in the `datasets` package in R. We do not need all the variables in the data, but we will use the following ones:

1. drivers - the number of car drivers killed or seriously injured;
2. killed - car drivers killed (from the `DriversKilled` variable);
3. injured - drivers injured (calculated as `drivers - DriversKilled`);
4. kms - distance driven by drivers;
5. PetrolPrice - average price of petrol in each month;
6. law - binary variable, indicating when the law for mandatory seatbelts was in effect.

The variables (2) and (3) will form our complex response variable, while (4), (5) and (6) will be used as explanatory ones. Note that in this setting we do not form complex variables from the explanatory ones and only have the complex response variable. The code below shows how this can be done:

```
# Form the data frame from the used variables
SeatbeltsData <- data.frame(killed=Seatbelts[,"DriversKilled"],
                             injured=Seatbelts[,"drivers"]-
                               Seatbelts[,"DriversKilled"],
                             kms=Seatbelts[,"kms"],
                             PetrolPrice=Seatbelts[,"PetrolPrice"],
                             law=Seatbelts[,"law"])

# Create a data frame with complex variables
SeatbeltsComplex <-
  data.frame(y=complex(real=SeatbeltsData$killed,
                       imaginary=SeatbeltsData$injured),
             kms=SeatbeltsData$kms,
             PetrolPrice=SeatbeltsData$PetrolPrice,
             law=SeatbeltsData$law)
```

Looking at the response variable, we would argue that a multiplicative model is needed, because the amplitude of seasonality in both variables changes when the seatbelts law is introduced (see Figure 7.5).

Taking logarithm of the complex response variable would not be reasonable in this situation, because that would not fix the issue with the amplitude of seasonality. So, we can use the `clog()` function from the `complex` package to take logarithms of real and imaginary parts independently. Furthermore, given that both the real and the imaginary parts of the response variable are in the same units (number of drivers), we do not need to scale them. The only additional thing we need to do is to introduce a variable for seasonality, which can be done using `temporaldummy()` function from the `greybox` package:

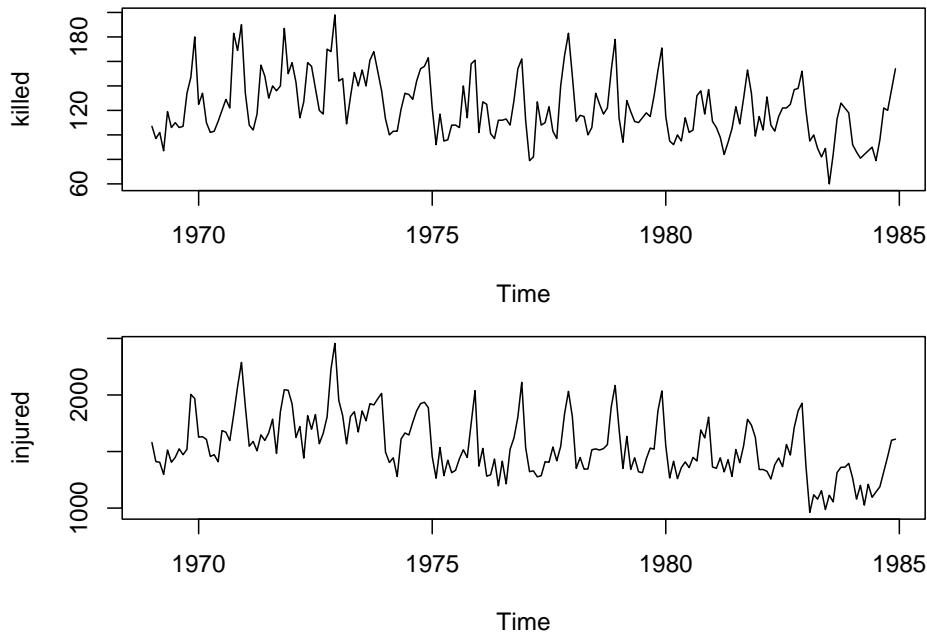


Figure 7.5: Dynamics of number of drivers killed and injured in the Great Britain.

```
SeatbeltsComplex$seasonal <-
  temporaldummy(SeatbeltsComplex[,1],
                 type="month", of="year", factors=TRUE)
```

We can then estimate a complex-valued model with real-valued explanatory variables, which should be equivalent to a multivariate linear regression. Note that we take logarithms of the numerical explanatory variables to capture the non-linearity correctly:

```
SeatbeltsCLR01 <-
  clm(I(clog(y))~log(kms)+log(PetrolPrice)+law+seasonal,
      SeatbeltsComplex)
summary(SeatbeltsCLR01)
```

```
## Complex Linear Regression estimated via clm()
## Response variable: Iclog(y)
## Loss function used in estimation: likelihood
## Coefficients:
##                               Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r            4.4941    0.7544    3.0052    5.9831 *
## (Intercept)_i            7.9841    0.4819    7.0331    8.9351 *
## log(kms)_r             -0.0802    0.0720   -0.2223    0.0618
```

```

## log(kms)_i      -0.1626    0.0460   -0.2533   -0.0719 *
## log(PetrolPrice)_r -0.4617    0.0891   -0.6374   -0.2859 *
## log(PetrolPrice)_i -0.3981    0.0569   -0.5104   -0.2859 *
## law_r          -0.1466    0.0357   -0.2170   -0.0762 *
## law_i          -0.1629    0.0228   -0.2079   -0.1180 *
## seasonal2_r     -0.1145    0.0465   -0.2063   -0.0226 *
## seasonal2_i     -0.1183    0.0297   -0.1770   -0.0596 *
## seasonal3_r     -0.0966    0.0474   -0.1902   -0.0030 *
## seasonal3_i     -0.0500    0.0303   -0.1098    0.0098
## seasonal4_r     -0.1059    0.0480   -0.2006   -0.0112 *
## seasonal4_i     -0.1241    0.0307   -0.1846   -0.0636 *
## seasonal5_r     -0.0583    0.0497   -0.1564    0.0398
## seasonal5_i     -0.0201    0.0318   -0.0828    0.0426
## seasonal6_r     -0.0053    0.0500   -0.1039    0.0933
## seasonal6_i     -0.0584    0.0319   -0.1214    0.0046
## seasonal7_r     -0.0026    0.0522   -0.1057    0.1005
## seasonal7_i     0.0087    0.0334   -0.0571    0.0746
## seasonal8_r     0.0007    0.0533   -0.1046    0.1060
## seasonal8_i     0.0223    0.0341   -0.0449    0.0896
## seasonal9_r     0.0653    0.0502   -0.0337    0.1643
## seasonal9_i     0.0372    0.0320   -0.0260    0.1005
## seasonal10_r    0.1836    0.0490   0.0868    0.2804 *
## seasonal10_i    0.1016    0.0313   0.0398    0.1634 *
## seasonal11_r    0.2453    0.0472   0.1521    0.3385 *
## seasonal11_i    0.1950    0.0302   0.1355    0.2545 *
## seasonal12_r    0.2856    0.0468   0.1933    0.3779 *
## seasonal12_i    0.2446    0.0299   0.1857    0.3036 *
##
## Error covariance matrix:
##      e_r      e_i
## e_r 0.0173 0.0068
## e_i 0.0068 0.0070
##
## Sample size: 192
## Number of estimated parameters: 16.5
## Number of degrees of freedom: 175.5
## Information criteria:
##      AIC      AICc      BIC      BICc
## -733.6622 -730.3528 -679.9136 -671.2138

```

The output above shows the estimates of parameters of the model, demonstrating how the model captured the relations in the data. We do not interpret the parameters of this model yet, because we need to make sure first that it does not violate any regression assumptions. The model fit is shown in Figure 7.6.

While the model has already captured the relations in the data well, there is still some structure left, which becomes apparent from the analysis of the ACF/PACF

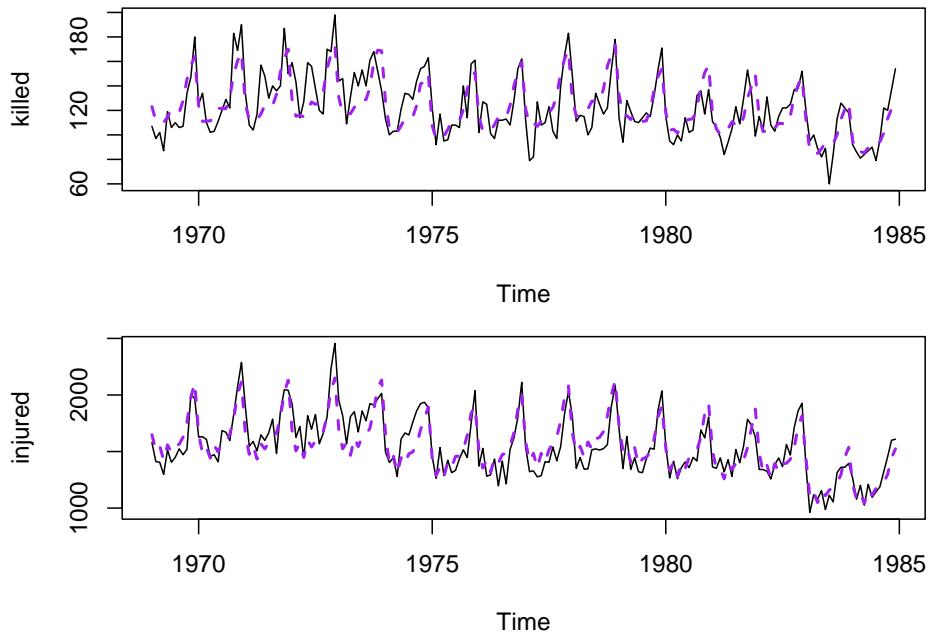


Figure 7.6: Number of drivers killed and injured and the fitted values.

in the residuals (Figure 7.7).

It is hard to understand what specifically is missing in the residuals, so we will fit several CARIMA models with maximum order of 1 for each p, d, and q:

```
# Create all possible orders
cARIMAOrders <- as.matrix(expand.grid(c(0,1),c(0,1),c(0,1)))
colnames(cARIMAOrders) <- c("AR","I","MA")
# Create a list for all models
SeatbeltsCLRList <- vector("list",nrow(cARIMAOrders))
names(SeatbeltsCLRList) <-
  paste0("ARIMA(",apply(cARIMAOrders, 1,
                        paste0, collapse=","),")")
# Loop to estimate models.
for(i in 1:nrow(cARIMAOrders)){
  SeatbeltsCLRList[[i]] <-
    clm(I(clog(y))~log(kms)+log(PetrolPrice)+law+seasonal,
        SeatbeltsComplex, orders=cARIMAOrders[i,])
}
```

After that we can see which of the models is more appropriate for the data based on the AICc:

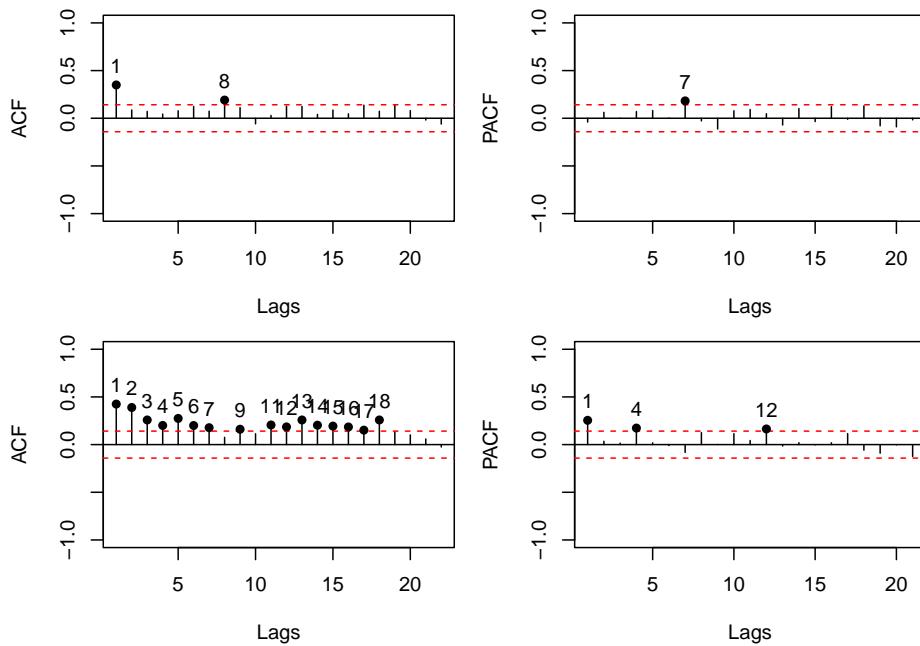


Figure 7.7: ACF/PACF of the residuals of the first model.

```

# Select the best model
iBest <- which.min(sapply(SeatbeltsCLRLList, AICc))
# Produce summary.
# We specify stepSize for the Hessian calculation
# to make sure that we get reasonable standard errors
summary(SeatbeltsCLRLList[[iBest]], stepSize=1e-6)

## cARIMAX(1,0,1) estimated via clm()
## Response variable: Iclog(y)
## Loss function used in estimation: likelihood
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error Lower 2.5% Upper 97.5%
## (Intercept)_r      3.0425   0.1210    2.8036    3.2814 *
## (Intercept)_i      5.0013   0.1351    4.7347    5.2679 *
## log(kms)_r     -0.0693   0.0282   -0.1250   -0.0136 *
## log(kms)_i     -0.1142   0.0354   -0.1841   -0.0444 *
## log(PetrolPrice)_r -0.2915   0.0221   -0.3351   -0.2479 *
## log(PetrolPrice)_i -0.2393   0.1077   -0.4519   -0.0268 *
## law_r            -0.0958   0.0744   -0.2425    0.0510
## law_i            -0.0982   0.0946   -0.2849    0.0884
## seasonal2_r      -0.0325   0.0885   -0.2072    0.1422
## seasonal2_i      -0.0389   0.0682   -0.1736    0.0958

```

```

## seasonal3_r      0.0275    0.0182   -0.0083    0.0634
## seasonal3_i      0.0704    0.0793   -0.0861    0.2268
## seasonal4_r      0.0164    0.0391   -0.0607    0.0936
## seasonal4_i     -0.0215    0.0362   -0.0930    0.0500
## seasonal5_r      0.0679    0.0507   -0.0322    0.1681
## seasonal5_i      0.1105    0.0020    0.1065    0.1145 *
## seasonal6_r      0.1044    0.1126   -0.1179    0.3267
## seasonal6_i      0.0344    0.0982   -0.1595    0.2282
## seasonal7_r      0.0872    0.0512   -0.0140    0.1883
## seasonal7_i      0.1126    0.0816   -0.0485    0.2737
## seasonal8_r      0.0941    0.0580   -0.0204    0.2086
## seasonal8_i      0.1064    0.0749   -0.0415    0.2542
## seasonal9_r      0.1596    0.0469    0.0669    0.2522 *
## seasonal9_i      0.1230    0.0059    0.1113    0.1346 *
## seasonal10_r     0.2532    0.0385    0.1771    0.3292 *
## seasonal10_i     0.1775    0.0578    0.0634    0.2917 *
## seasonal11_r     0.2691    0.0590    0.1525    0.3856 *
## seasonal11_i     0.2445    0.0594    0.1272    0.3618 *
## seasonal12_r     0.2864    0.1137    0.0620    0.5107 *
## seasonal12_i     0.2543    0.0788    0.0987    0.4099 *
## yLag1_r          0.3702    0.1162    0.1409    0.5996 *
## yLag1_i          0.0168    0.0263   -0.0352    0.0688
## eLag1_r         -0.1513    0.0435   -0.2372   -0.0655 *
## eLag1_i          0.0658    0.0159    0.0344    0.0973 *

##
## Error covariance matrix:
##      e_r     e_i
## e_r 0.0157 0.0050
## e_i 0.0050 0.0057
##
## Sample size: 192
## Number of estimated parameters: 18.5
## Number of degrees of freedom: 173.5
## Information criteria:
##      AIC      AICc      BIC      BICc
## -765.7492 -761.5665 -705.4855 -694.4905

```

The estimates of parameters in the output above have a clear interpretation:

1. With the increase of distance driven by 1%, the number of killed and injured drivers tends to decrease on average by 0.069% and 0.114% respectively;
2. The 1% increase in average petrol price leads to the decrease in the number of killed and injured drivers by 0.292% and 0.239% respectively;
3. The introduction of law on mandatory seatbelts has reduced the number of killed and injured drivers by approximately 10% each.

While we could fit two independent regression models instead of one complex-

valued, it would not be able to capture the cARIMA elements the way they are captured in the model above. Arguably, number of killed and injured drivers have a complex dynamic relation, which is captured by the cARIMA(1,0,1) part of the model.

Finally, we can see how the model fits the data and compare it with the previous one (Figure 7.8).

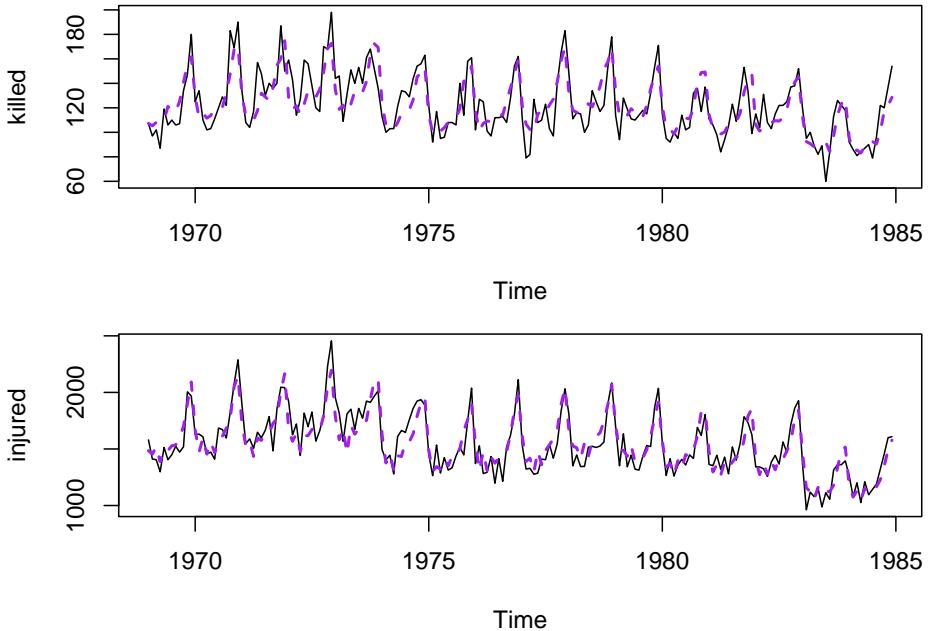


Figure 7.8: Number of drivers killed and injured and the fitted values from the cARIMAX(1,0,1) model.

Arguably, the model fit is better due to the capture of dynamic elements that were missing in the cLR before.

The two examples in this chapter demonstrate what additional flexibility the complex-valued models bring to analysts even if they do not use complex explanatory variables (as in Section 7.2).



# Conclusions

Now that we have reached the final chapter of this book, we want to discuss the main limitations and future work in the area of complex-valued statistics and econometrics. We focused this book on the technical side of modelling with complex-valued regressions, discussing the estimation methods, elements of correlation analysis and the main aspects of the regression analysis. We briefly discussed the complex ARIMA model, only touching on some of the important properties of it. But there is much more left outside.

For example, we mentioned that complex-valued models share some properties with the multivariate ones, such as Vector AR (VAR). This means that we can use the tools developed for those models for the complex-valued ones with minor modifications. For instance, we did not discuss how to calculate Impulse Response Function, which is widely used for analysis of effects based on VAR in Economics and Marketing Analytics. We expect that these tools can be transferred to the complex-valued models easily, but they lie outside of the scope of this monograph and can be considered as a future work.

Furthermore, a curious reader might wonder what to do when we are interested in modelling more than two variables at the same time. The first instinct would be to switch to the multivariate models, such as VAR( $p$ ). But the main issue of those models is the high dimensionality. For example, VAR( $p$ ) on 10 time series requires the estimation of  $p \times 10^2$  parameters, which is not a simple task. However, Svetunkov, S.G. (2023) developed a solution in this situation which involves complex variables. The model based on this is called vector cARIMA, VcARIMA( $p,d,q$ ) and involves stacking several complex response variables in a vector. This model is currently studied, and Sergey Svetunkov is preparing a paper explaining its properties, and showing how it can be used for time series analysis and in forecasting.

Moreover, as discussed in this book several times, some of the largest benefits of complex variables arise when a non-linear model is considered, e.g. a log-log model. We have discussed what happens with the cLR in this situation (Subsection 5.1.3 and Section 6.1), but we have not yet study how the cARIMA behaves in this situation. We expect that it should be able to capture non-linear dynamics, which would be beneficial when applied to large samples of data, such

as, for example, in energy domain.

Finally, we focused this monograph on complex-valued models that have two real valued variables in the complex response one. But this is not the only way of modelling using complex variables. Svetunkov (2012) discussed some other ways of modelling which lie outside of this monograph.

Overall, we think that complex-valued modelling enriches the instrumental base of analysts and forecasters and allows modelling complicated processes in a more compact way. The authors plan to continue working in this direction and if you find the models and the R code developed for this monograph useful, we would be glad to hear from you. You can visit our website [www.svetunkov.com](http://www.svetunkov.com) and get in touch with us using one of the ways you find convenient.

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