Econometrics

Lecture: CDS and Z-spread cointegration

In this laboratory we analyse the nexus between CDS spread and Z-spread within the 2009-2023 period. The file "Italy cds zspread monthly.xlsx" is composed by 171 monthly closing value observations both for Italian CDS spread and Z-spread. Data go from 30^{th} January 2009 to 31^{st} March 2023.

- 1. Import data and plot monthly observations for both time series.
- 2. Perform OLS linear regression considering both time series as explanatory variable of the other one. Check the OLS assumptions.
- 3. Check stationarity for the time series and for the first difference time series.
- 4. Plot first difference time series.
- 5. Check for possible breaking points for each time series.
- 6. Select the number of lags to be included in the model.
- 7. Perform a cointegration test and estimate the cointegratation relationship between the two time series.
- 8. Perform an unrestricted VEC model.
- 9. Perfrom a VAR model.
- 10. Analyse the impulse response function for the VAR models.
- 11. Perform a Granger causality test.