

## Computational Approach to Estimating AR(1) Process with SMM:

### 1. Housekeeping:

- Initialize the algorithm. Set appropriate parameters (true values of  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$ ,  $T$ ,  $H$ ).
- Simulate data under “true” parameters. Set a seed. Using true values of  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$ , simulate a time series of data of length  $T$ . Calculate moments from the time series. These are your “data” moments.
- Draw and store a set of shocks that are of  $H$  vectors of length  $T$ . Just like the Krusell-Smith problem set, we want to make sure we are using the *same* shocks when we simulate our model.

### 2. 1st Step Estimate of Parameters: The parameters that minimize your objective function $J$ are your first step estimates.

- Set the weight matrix to be the identity matrix.
- Define an objective function  $J$  to minimize. This will be a function of your parameters that compares simulated moments to the “data” moments computed in (1).
- Calculate standard errors.

### 3. 2nd Step Estimate of Parameters:

- Calculate optimal weight matrix using Newey-West.
- Minimize the same objective function defined in (2) using the new weight matrix.
- Calculate standard errors. Confirm that the standard are smaller under the optimal weight matrix.

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**Algorithm 1** Estimate AR(1) Model via SMM

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1: procedure SMM
2:   call GETMOMENTS( $\rho_0, \sigma_0, T, H = 1$ )
3:   return  $m(\rho_0, \sigma_0)$ 

4:    $W = I$ 
5:   call MINOBJFUNC( $W, \tilde{\rho}, \tilde{\sigma}, m(\rho_0, \sigma_0)$ )            $\triangleright \{\tilde{\rho}, \tilde{\sigma}\}$  is some initial guess
6:   return  $\hat{\rho}_1, \hat{\sigma}_1$                                     $\triangleright$  First Step Estimator

7:   call COMPUTESE( $\hat{\rho}_1, \hat{\sigma}_1$ )
8:   return  $diag(\Sigma_1(\hat{\rho}_1, \hat{\sigma}_1))$                     $\triangleright$  See equation (8)

9:   call NEWEYWEST( $m(\rho_0, \sigma_0), m(\hat{\rho}_1, \hat{\sigma}_1)$ )
10:  return  $S$ 

11:   $W^* = S^{-1}$ 
12:  call MINOBJFUNC( $W^*, \tilde{\rho}, \tilde{\sigma}, m(\rho_0, \sigma_0)$ )
13:  return  $\hat{\rho}_2, \hat{\sigma}_2$                                     $\triangleright$  Second Step Estimator

14:  call COMPUTESE( $\hat{\rho}_2, \hat{\sigma}_2$ )
15:  return  $diag(\Sigma_2(\hat{\rho}_2, \hat{\sigma}_2))$ 

16: end procedure
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**function** GETMOMENTS( $\rho, \sigma, T, H$ )

- Simulate  $H$  AR(1) processes of length  $T$ .
  - Compute appropriate moments for each of the  $T$  simulations.
  - Average across  $H$  individual moments:  $m(\rho, \sigma) = 1/H \sum_H m_h(\rho, \sigma)$
- return**  $m(\rho, \sigma)$

**end function**

**function** MINOBJFUNC( $W, \hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma}, m(\rho_0, \sigma_0)$ )

**minimize** OBJFUNC( $W, \hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma}, m(\rho_0, \sigma_0)$ )

**return**  $\{\hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma}\}$

**end function**

**function** OBJFUNC( $W, \hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma}, m(\rho_0, \sigma_0)$ )

GETMOMENTS( $\hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma}, T, H$ ) **return**  $m(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma})$

$J = [m(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma}) - m(\rho_0, \sigma_0)]' W [m(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma}) - m(\rho_0, \sigma_0)]$

**return**  $J$

**end function**

**function** COMPUTESE( $\hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma}$ )

$\varepsilon = 1e^{-10}$

GETMOMENTS( $\hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma}, T, H$ ) **return**  $m(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma})$

GETMOMENTS( $\hat{\rho} - \varepsilon, \hat{\sigma}, T, H$ ) **return**  $m(\hat{\rho} - \varepsilon, \hat{\sigma})$

GETMOMENTS( $\hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma} - \varepsilon, T, H$ ) **return**  $m(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma} - \varepsilon)$

$\nabla_\rho = [m(\hat{\rho} - \varepsilon, \hat{\sigma}) - m(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma})]/\varepsilon$  and  $\nabla_\sigma = [m(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma} - \varepsilon) - m(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma})]/\varepsilon$

$\nabla_b = [\nabla_\rho, \nabla_\sigma]$

**return**  $diag(\Sigma(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma}))$

▷ See equation (8)

**end function**

**function** NEWWEYWEST( $m(\rho_0, \sigma_0), m(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma})$ )

See HelpfulFunction.jl

**return**  $S$

**end function**

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