

Quantitative Economics Problem Set 7

$$\begin{aligned} 1a \quad X_{s+t} &= \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{s+t-1} + \varepsilon_{s+t} \\ &= \beta_0 + \beta_1 (\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{s+t-2} + \varepsilon_{s+t-1}) + \varepsilon_{s+t} \\ &\vdots \\ &= \beta_0 + \beta_1 \beta_0 + \dots + \beta_1^{t-1} \beta_0 \\ &\quad + \beta_1^t X_{s+1} + \varepsilon_{s+t} + \beta_1 \varepsilon_{s+t-1} + \dots + \beta_1^{t-1} \varepsilon_{s+1} \\ &= \beta_0 \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \beta_1^i + \beta_1^t X_s + \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \beta_1^i \varepsilon_{s+t-i} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{For } s=0, X_{s+t} = X_t = \beta_0 \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \beta_1^i + \beta_1^t X_0 + \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \beta_1^i \varepsilon_{t-i}$$

$$\text{Cor}(X_t, \varepsilon_{t-i}) =$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cor}(X_t, \varepsilon_{t-i}) &= \beta_1^i \text{Var}(\varepsilon_{t-i}) \\ &= \beta_1^i \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \end{aligned}$$

Given that X_0 is independent of ε_t for all $t \geq 1$, and that $\{\varepsilon_t\}$ is iid hence each ε_t is independent of every $\varepsilon_{t'}$ where $t \neq t'$, X_t , which is a function of X_0 and $\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_t$ is independent of $\varepsilon_{t+1}, \varepsilon_{t+2}, \dots$.

$$\begin{aligned} b \quad X_t &= \beta_0 \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \beta_1^i + \beta_1^t X_0 + \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \beta_1^i \varepsilon_{t-i} \\ E X_t &= \beta_0 \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \beta_1^i + \beta_1^t E X_0 + \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \beta_1^i E \varepsilon_{t-i} \\ &= \beta_0 (1 - \beta_1^t) / (1 - \beta_1) + \beta_1^t \beta_0 / (1 - \beta_1) \\ &= \beta_0 / (1 - \beta_1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X_t) &= \text{Var}(\beta_1^t X_0 + \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \beta_1^i \varepsilon_{t-i}) \\ &= \beta_1^{2t} \text{Var}(X_0) + \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \beta_1^{2i} \text{Var}(\varepsilon_{t-i}) \\ &= \beta_1^{2t} \sigma_\varepsilon^2 / (1 - \beta_1^2) + \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \beta_1^{2i} \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \\ &= \beta_1^{2t} \sigma_\varepsilon^2 / (1 - \beta_1^2) + (1 - \beta_1^{2t}) \sigma_\varepsilon^2 / (1 - \beta_1^2) \\ &= \sigma_\varepsilon^2 / (1 - \beta_1^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Cor}(X_s, X_{s+t}) =$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cor}(X_s, X_{s+t}) &= \text{Cor}(X_s, \beta_1^t X_s) \\ &= \beta_1^t \text{Var}(X_s) \\ &= \beta_1^t \sigma_\varepsilon^2 / (1 - \beta_1^2) \end{aligned}$$

where the first equality follows by the independence of X_s from $\varepsilon_{s+1}, \dots, \varepsilon_{s+t}$.

For all t , $E X_t = \beta_0 / (1 - \beta_1)$, $\text{Var}(X_t) = \sigma_\varepsilon^2 / (1 - \beta_1^2)$, and for all h , $\text{Cor}(X_t, X_{t+h}) = \beta_1^h \sigma_\varepsilon^2 / (1 - \beta_1^2)$. These parameters are time invariant, so X_t is weakly stationary.

$$\begin{aligned} c \quad X_t &= t\beta_0 + \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \varepsilon_{t-i} \\ &= t\beta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^t \varepsilon_i \\ E X_t &= t\beta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^t E \varepsilon_i \\ &= t\beta_0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X_t) &= \text{Var}(\sum_{i=1}^t \varepsilon_i) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^t \text{Var}(\varepsilon_i) \\ &= t\sigma_\varepsilon^2 \end{aligned}$$

Each of $E X_t$ and $\text{Var}(X_t)$ is increasing in t and not independent of t , hence X_t is not weakly stationary.

$$\begin{aligned} d \quad X_{s+h} &= \beta_0 \sum_{i=0}^{h-1} \beta_1^i + \beta_1^h X_s + \sum_{i=0}^{h-1} \beta_1^i \varepsilon_{s+h-i} \\ X_{s+h|s} &:= E[X_{s+h} | X_s, X_{s-1}, \dots] \\ &= E[\beta_0 \sum_{i=0}^{h-1} \beta_1^i + \beta_1^h X_s + \sum_{i=0}^{h-1} \beta_1^i \varepsilon_{s+h-i}] \\ &= \beta_0 \sum_{i=0}^{h-1} \beta_1^i + \beta_1^h X_s + \sum_{i=0}^{h-1} \beta_1^i E \varepsilon_{s+h-i} \end{aligned}$$

where the third equality follows from the independence of $\varepsilon_{s+1}, \dots, \varepsilon_{s+h}$ from X_s, X_{s-1}, \dots .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MSFE}(X_{s+h|s}) &:= E(X_{s+h} - X_{s+h|s})^2 \\ &= E(\sum_{i=0}^{h-1} \beta_1^i \varepsilon_{s+h-i})^2 \\ &= E(\sum_{i=0}^{h-1} \sum_{j=0}^{h-1} \beta_1^i \beta_1^j \varepsilon_{s+h-i} \varepsilon_{s+h-j}) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{h-1} \sum_{j=0}^{h-1} \beta_1^{i+j} \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \\ &= \sigma_\varepsilon^2 (\sum_{i=0}^{h-1} \beta_1^i)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{when } |\beta_1| < 1$$

$$\text{MSFE}(X_{s+h|s}) = [(1 - \beta_1^h) / (1 - \beta_1)]^2 \sigma_\varepsilon^2$$

As h becomes large, β_1^h converges to 0, $\text{MSFE}(X_{s+h|s})$ converges to $\sigma_\varepsilon^2 / (1 - \beta_1)^2$.

$$\text{when } \beta_1 = 1$$

$$\text{MSFE}(X_{s+h|s}) = h^2 \sigma_\varepsilon^2$$

As h becomes large, $\text{MSFE}(X_{s+h|s})$ increases exponentially with h , and approaches ∞ as h becomes large.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MSFE}(X_{s+h|s}) &:= E(X_{s+h} - X_{s+h|s})^2 \\ &= E(\sum_{i=0}^{h-1} \beta_1^i \varepsilon_{s+h-i})^2 \\ &= \text{Var}(\sum_{i=0}^{h-1} \beta_1^i \varepsilon_{s+h-i}) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{h-1} \beta_1^{2i} \text{Var}(\varepsilon_{s+h-i}) \\ &= \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \sum_{i=0}^{h-1} \beta_1^{2i} \\ &= \sigma_\varepsilon^2 (1 - \beta_1^{2h}) / (1 - \beta_1^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{when } |\beta_1| < 1 \quad \text{MSFE} = \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \sum_{i=0}^{h-1} \beta_1^{2i} = \sigma_\varepsilon^2 (1 - \beta_1^{2h}) / (1 - \beta_1^2)$$

$\text{MSFE}(X_{s+h|s})$ converges to $\sigma_\varepsilon^2 / (1 - \beta_1^2) = \text{Var}(X_t)$ as h becomes large because $X_{s+h|s}$ converges to $E X_t$.

$$\text{when } \beta_1 = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MSFE}(X_{s+h|s}) &= \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \sum_{i=0}^{h-1} 1 \\ &= h\sigma_\varepsilon^2 \end{aligned}$$

$\text{MSFE}(X_{s+h|s})$ increases in direct proportion to h . The series is a random walk with drift, so the forecast error is equal to the random walk component. This component is mean zero, so the MSFE is equal to its variance, which is $h\sigma_\varepsilon^2$ given that the random shocks are iid.

$$\begin{aligned} 2a \quad E X_t &= E(\varepsilon_t + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} + \dots + \theta_q \varepsilon_{t-q}) \\ &= E \varepsilon_t + \theta_1 E \varepsilon_{t-1} + \dots + \theta_q E \varepsilon_{t-q} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X_t) &= \text{Var}(\varepsilon_t + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} + \dots + \theta_q \varepsilon_{t-q}) \\ &= \text{Var} \varepsilon_t + \theta_1^2 \text{Var} \varepsilon_{t-1} + \dots + \theta_q^2 \text{Var} \varepsilon_{t-q} \\ &= (1 + \theta_1^2 + \dots + \theta_q^2) \text{Var}(\varepsilon_{t-q}) \\ &= (\sum_{i=0}^q \theta_i^2) \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{where } \theta_0 = 1$$

$$b \text{ cov}(x_t, x_{t-h})$$

$$= \text{cov}(\varepsilon_t + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} + \dots + \theta_q \varepsilon_{t-q}, \varepsilon_{t-h} + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-h-1} + \dots + \theta_q \varepsilon_{t-h-q})$$

$$= 0$$

for $h > q$, given that $\{\varepsilon_t\}$ is iid hence $\text{cov}(\varepsilon_t, \varepsilon_s) = 0$ for all $t \neq s$, by linearity of covariance.

$$c \text{ cov}(x_t, x_t) = \text{var}(x_t) = \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \sum_{i=0}^q \theta_i^2$$

$$\text{cov}(x_t, x_{t-1})$$

$$= \text{cov}(\varepsilon_t + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} + \dots + \theta_q \varepsilon_{t-q}, \varepsilon_{t-1} + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-2} + \dots + \theta_q \varepsilon_{t-1-q})$$

$$= \text{cov}(\theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} + \dots + \theta_q \varepsilon_{t-q}, \varepsilon_{t-1} + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-2} + \dots + \theta_q \varepsilon_{t-1-q})$$

$$= \text{cov}(\varepsilon_t + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} + \theta_2 \varepsilon_{t-2}, \varepsilon_{t-1} + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-2} + \theta_2 \varepsilon_{t-3})$$

$$= \text{cov}(\theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} + \theta_2 \varepsilon_{t-2}, \varepsilon_{t-1} + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-2})$$

$$= \theta_1 \text{var}(\varepsilon_{t-1}) + \theta_1 \theta_2 \text{cov}(\varepsilon_{t-1}, \varepsilon_{t-2})$$

$$= \theta_1 (1 + \theta_2) \sigma_\varepsilon^2$$

$$\text{cov}(x_t, x_{t-2})$$

$$= \text{cov}(\varepsilon_t + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} + \theta_2 \varepsilon_{t-2}, \varepsilon_{t-2} + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-3} + \theta_2 \varepsilon_{t-4})$$

$$= \theta_2 \text{var}(\varepsilon_{t-2})$$

$$= \theta_2 \sigma_\varepsilon^2$$

$$\text{cov}(x_t, x_{t-h}) = \begin{cases} \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \sum_{i=0}^q \theta_i^2 = (1 + \theta_1^2 + \theta_2^2) \sigma_\varepsilon^2 & \text{if } h=0 \\ \theta_1 (1 + \theta_2) \sigma_\varepsilon^2 & \text{if } h=1 \\ \theta_2 \sigma_\varepsilon^2 & \text{if } h=2 \\ 0 & \text{if } h>2 \end{cases}$$

By inspection, each of $\text{E}x_t$, $\text{var}(x_t)$ and $\text{cov}(x_t, x_{t-h})$ is independent of t , so x_t is weakly stationary.

$$d_i x_{t-h} = \varepsilon_{t-h} + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-h-1}$$

For $h \geq 1$, $\varepsilon_{t-h}, \varepsilon_{t-h-1} \neq \varepsilon_t$, then, given that $\{\varepsilon_t\}$ is iid, $\varepsilon_{t-h}, \varepsilon_{t-h-1} \perp \varepsilon_t$, then x_{t-h} , which is ~~an~~ entirely a function of $\varepsilon_{t-h}, \varepsilon_{t-h-1}$, is independent of ε_t .

$$ii \text{ } \varepsilon_t = x_t - \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1}$$

$$= x_t - \theta_1 (x_{t-1} - \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-2})$$

$$= x_t - \theta_1 x_{t-1} + (-\theta_1)^2 \varepsilon_{t-2}$$

$$= x_t - \theta_1 x_{t-1} + (-\theta_1)^2 x_{t-2} + (-\theta_1)^3 \varepsilon_{t-3}$$

\vdots

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} (-\theta_1)^i x_{t-i} + (-\theta_1)^t \varepsilon_0$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} (-\theta_1)^i x_{t-i}$$

$$iii \text{ } x_{t+1|t}$$

$$:= \text{E}[x_{t+1} | x_t, x_{t-1}, \dots]$$

$$= \text{E}[\varepsilon_{t+1} + \theta_1 \varepsilon_t | x_t, x_{t-1}, \dots]$$

$$= \text{E}[\varepsilon_{t+1} | x_t, x_{t-1}, \dots] + \theta_1 \text{E}[\varepsilon_t | x_t, x_{t-1}, \dots]$$

$$= \text{E}[\varepsilon_{t+1}] + \theta_1 \text{E}[\sum_{i=0}^{t-1} (-\theta_1)^i x_{t-i} | x_t, x_{t-1}, \dots]$$

$$= \theta_1 \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} (-\theta_1)^i x_{t-i}$$

where the fourth equality follows by the fact that each of x_t, x_{t-1}, \dots is entirely a function of $\varepsilon_t, \varepsilon_{t-1}, \dots$, and the fact that ε_{t+1} is independent of $\varepsilon_t, \varepsilon_{t-1}, \dots$, hence also from x_t, x_{t-1}, \dots .

3a. Monthly excess returns. The time series has low persistence because it does not have a smooth trajectory, takes only short excursions from

the mean, and its autocorrelation decays to zero rapidly with increasing lags.

The early 1930s appear to constitute a different epoch from the subsequent range of periods. In the former, the time series appears to ~~exhibit much larger~~ have larger variance. It does not appear to ~~be~~ be non stationary otherwise.

No further transformation appears necessary for stationarity.

b. Dividend-price ratio. The series appears highly persistent. The plot of the series is ~~seen~~ relatively smooth and takes long excursions from the mean. Autocorrelation decays to zero ~~very~~ slowly with increasing lags.

The 1930s appear to constitute a different epoch from the subsequent range of periods. In the former range, dividend price ratio appears to have a higher mean and variance.

~~This series~~ Plausibly, differencing the series will yield a series that ~~is~~ is more approximately stationary hence more ~~appropriately~~ ~~estimated~~ appropriate for estimation by an autoregressive model.

c. USD-AUD exchange rate. The series appears to be highly persistent. The plot is relatively smooth and takes lengthy excursions from the mean. ~~Auto~~ Autocorrelation decays to zero slowly with increasing lags.

There appear to be at least three different epochs. First from 1930 to the early 2000s, then from the early 2000s to the early 2010s, then from the early 2010s ~~to~~ onward. Another source of non stationarity within each epoch is an apparent deterministic / stochastic trend.

Plausibly, differencing the series will yield a series that is more approximately stationary, hence more appropriate for approximation by an autoregressive model.

d. US real PCE quarterly growth rate. The series appears to have low persistence. The plot is not smooth and the series takes only short excursions from the mean. Autocorrelation decays to zero rapidly with increasing lags.

$$5a. Y_t = \beta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^p \beta_i Y_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^q \delta_i X_{t-i} + u_t.$$

$$\hat{\beta}_0 = \bar{Y} - \sum_{i=1}^p \hat{\beta}_i \bar{Y}_{t-i} - \sum_{i=1}^q \hat{\delta}_i \bar{X}_{t-i}$$

$$\hat{\beta}_i = \widehat{\text{cov}}(Y_t, Y_{t-i}) / \widehat{\text{var}}(Y_{t-i}) \text{ for } i \in \{1, \dots, p\}$$

$$\hat{\delta}_i = \widehat{\text{cov}}(Y_t, X_{t-i}) / \widehat{\text{var}}(X_{t-i}) \text{ for } i \in \{1, \dots, q\}$$

$$Y_t^* = \hat{\beta}_0^* + \sum_{i=1}^p \beta_i^* Y_{t-i}^* - \sum_{i=1}^q \delta_i^* X_{t-i}^* + u_t^*$$

$$\hat{\beta}_0^* = \bar{Y}^* - \sum_{i=1}^p \hat{\beta}_i^* \bar{Y}_{t-i}^* - \sum_{i=1}^q \hat{\delta}_i^* \bar{X}_{t-i}^*$$

$$\hat{\beta}_i^* = \widehat{\text{cov}}(Y_t^*, Y_{t-i}^*) / \widehat{\text{var}}(Y_{t-i}^*)$$

$$= \widehat{\text{cov}}(aY_t, aY_{t-i}) / \widehat{\text{var}}(aY_{t-i})$$

$$= \widehat{\text{cov}}(Y_t, Y_{t-i}) / \widehat{\text{var}}(Y_{t-i})$$

$$= \hat{\beta}_i \text{ for } i \in \{1, \dots, p\}$$

$$\hat{\delta}_i^* = \widehat{\text{cov}}(Y_t^*, X_{t-i}^*) / \widehat{\text{var}}(X_{t-i}^*)$$

$$= \widehat{\text{cov}}(aY_t, bX_{t-i}) / \widehat{\text{var}}(bX_{t-i})$$

$$= a/b \hat{\delta}_i \text{ for } i \in \{1, \dots, q\}$$

$$\hat{\beta}_0^* = a\bar{Y}^* - \sum_{i=1}^p \hat{\beta}_i^* \bar{Y}_{t-i}^* - a \sum_{i=1}^q \hat{\delta}_i^* \bar{X}_{t-i}^*$$

$$\text{Then } \hat{u}_t^* = \frac{1}{a} a \hat{u}_t = \hat{u}_t$$

$$SSR_m^* = \sum_{t=1}^T \hat{u}_t^{*2} = \sum_{t=1}^T a^2 \hat{u}_t^2 = a^2 SSR_m$$

For $a > 1$, $a^2 > 1$, then $SSR_m^* > SSR_m$, and SSR_m^* decreases more rapidly with increasing m , hence $\ln SSR_m^* / T$ decreases more rapidly with increasing m , so the m such that IC^* is minimised is larger than the m such that IC is minimised. IC selects a larger model.

For $a < 1$, $a^2 < 1$, by an analogous argument, IC selects a smaller model.

b Denote the quantities for the smaller model with $p-1$ lags by $'$.

$$F = (n-k-1) \frac{SSR' - SSR}{SSR}$$

$$= (T-p-1) \frac{SSR' - SSR}{SSR}$$

$$= (T-p-1) \left(\frac{SSR'}{SSR} - 1 \right)$$

$$IC' = \ln SSR' / T - \frac{\eta_T}{T} (m-1) \eta_T / T$$

$$IC = \ln SSR / T - m \eta_T / T$$

$$IC' - IC = \ln(SSR' / SSR) - \eta_T / T$$

$$= \ln(1 + F / (T-p-1)) - \eta_T / T$$

$$= \ln(1 + t^2 / (T-p-1)) - \eta_T / T$$

c Given large T , $t^2 / (T-p-1)$ is small, then

$$IC' - IC \approx t^2 / (T-p-1) - \eta_T / T$$

$$IC' - IC \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow t^2 / (T-p-1) \geq \eta_T / T$$

$$\Leftrightarrow t^2 \geq (T-p-1) \eta_T \Leftrightarrow t \geq \sqrt{(T-p-1) \eta_T}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow t \geq \eta_T^{1/2} \text{ given large } T.$$

d Under H_0 , the probability that the short model is chosen is the probability that $IC' < IC$, $\Leftrightarrow IC' - IC < 0 \Leftrightarrow t < \eta_T^{1/2}$ is equal to $\Phi\left(\frac{t}{\eta_T^{1/2}}\right)$. If $\eta_T = \eta$ for all T , this probability is independent of T . If $\eta_T \rightarrow \infty$ as $T \rightarrow \infty$, this probability converges to 0 as $T \rightarrow \infty$.

e For AIC, $\eta_T = 2$, for BIC, $\eta_T = \ln T$, which approaches ∞ as T becomes large. Under the null, that $\beta_p = 0$, as T becomes large, the probability that BIC selects the $AR(p-1)$ model over the $AR(p)$ model converges to 1 whereas the probability that AIC does so remains ~~less than~~ ~~positive~~. ~~AIC is more conservative~~ ~~settling on the side of overfitting than BIC~~. AIC ~~selects a larger~~ ~~with~~ larger model than necessary with positive probability, even when T is large.