

8. Testing residuals

Thursday, January 20, 2022

7:58 PM

§1.6 in book

Our question: as we continue to process our data $\{x_t\}$, we get

$$x_t = m_t + y_t \quad \leftarrow \text{residual}$$

↑
some model (trend, seasonality, ARMA process, ...)

and we want to know if we've captured all the signal/structure

i.e., is y_t white noise?

"noise" is vague — could have "structure"

"white noise" means it has no easy to obtain structure

"iid" means nothing useful at all

Warmup

We're going to ask if $y_t \sim \text{WN}(0, \sigma^2)$

pairs are uncorrelated

Let's ask something you may have seen in another class:

if I think $\{X_i\}_{i=1}^n$ are iid $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$, $\{H_0$

how can I check?

Sometimes known, sometimes not

• χ^2 : sample variance \hat{S}^2 satisfies (under H_0)

$$\frac{(n-1)}{\sigma^2} \hat{S}^2 \sim \chi_{n-1}^2 \quad \text{and use CDF of } \chi^2$$

• plot histogram (play w/ # bins as needed)

Does it look Gaussian?

$$e^{-x^2/\sigma^2 \cdot 1/2}$$

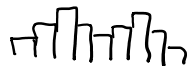
Don't need to know μ nor σ^2 Nice!



} plausible (how stringent we are depends on how large n is)



} seems inconsistent



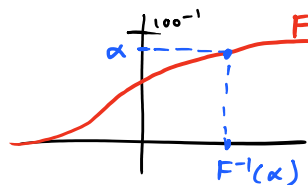
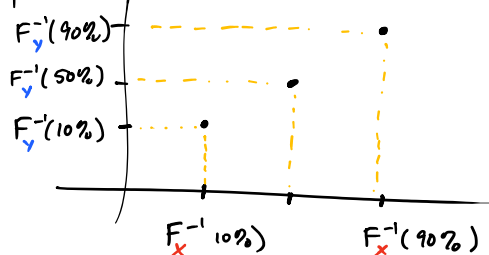
} seems inconsistent

• QQ plot

Take 2 CDFs, F_X and F_Y

Pick a sequence of quantiles, say (10%, 50%, 90%)

plot



If $X \sim Y$ then data should lie on a straight line
(since $F_X = F_Y$ so $F_X^{-1} = F_Y^{-1}$)

How to use it?

For Y use the empirical data } for length n , we have n quantiles to plot
(find F_Y and F_Y^{-1} via sorting)

For X use theoretical distribution
(by default, usually $X \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$)

Advantage: for reference distr, say $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$,
what if we don't know μ or σ^2 ?

Plot should still be a straight line ($y = mx + b$)
just maybe not $y = x$ line. No problem

Two ways to use:
① visually
② fit a line, run hypothesis test via R^2

= see R demos = Note: No test is sufficient by itself.
The more you try, the better.

Back to testing if $Y_t \sim \text{WN}(0, \sigma^2)$

First, check if sample mean and sample variance are consistent
w/ 0 and σ^2 . "basic"

Now, we'll investigate if it has correlation

so primary tool is sample autocovariance $\hat{\rho}$

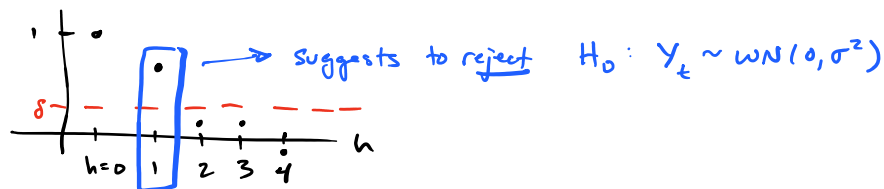
As $n \rightarrow \infty$, expect $\hat{\rho}(h) \sim N(0, 1/n)$ iid if it really was $\text{WN}(0, \sigma^2)$

So

Not rigorous since asymptotic.

test 1

Check if $|\hat{\rho}(h)| < \delta$, eg. $\delta = \frac{1.96}{\sqrt{n}}$ for 95% Conf. Interval for $h \neq 0$



Downsides: ① not rigorous since $\hat{\rho}$ not exactly iid $N(0, 1/n)$ (more of a problem if n is small)

② If we set $\delta = 95\%$ C.I. threshold, and check if $|\hat{\rho}(h)| > \delta$ for $h = 1, 2, \dots, 100$ then **by pure luck alone** even under H_0 , we'd expect a violation

So could do a **Bonferroni Correction** but that's pessimistic and you lose power

test 2 portmanteau test

- 1) French for contract
- 2) merging words: "ginormous" = gigantic + enormous
- 3) H_0 specified, H_1 a bit vague

$$\text{Set } \hat{Q} = n \cdot \sum_{j=1}^h \hat{\rho}^2(j) \sim \chi^2_h$$

↑ if $\hat{\rho}(h)$ iid $N(0, 1/n)$

So check $\hat{Q} > \chi^2_{1-\alpha}(h)$

Turns out for small n , we can do slightly better than estimating $\hat{\rho}(h) \sim N(0, 1/n)$ iid **Ljung + Box '78**

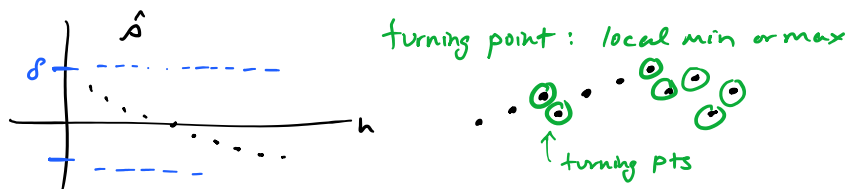
See book (p.31) for details

This complements some of the issues from the 1st test

tests 3 and 4

turning point and difference-sign tests

See book for details. Idea:



if $\{y_t\}$ is iid of length n , we expect
a lot of turning pts: about $\frac{2}{3}n$
Each $|\hat{\rho}|$ is small so it might pass tests 1 and 2
but would fail turning pt. test

Differenced sign is similar, but counts how
often $y_{t+1} > y_t$. Should happen $\frac{1}{2}$ the time

Related: if all $\hat{\rho}(h) > 0$ (or all $\hat{\rho}(h) < 0$)
(and n is large), this is suspicious!

other tests: see book

special case: $H_0: \{y_t\} \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$ iid

then do normality tests: eg QQ plot