

Problem Set 2 – Solutions

1. Hypothesis test

1. Consider the $MA(1)$ model

$$y_t = \varepsilon_t + \theta\varepsilon_{t-1}, \quad \varepsilon_t \sim iidN(0, \sigma^2), \quad t = 1, \dots, T, \quad \varepsilon_0 = 0$$

1. Derive the LM test of the null $\theta = 0$
2. What are the advantages of the LM test over the LR test in this case?

Answer. *ML estimation of θ is equivalent to non-linear least squares*

$$\min_{\theta} \sum_t \varepsilon_t(\theta)^2 \quad \text{where } \varepsilon_t(\theta) = y_t - \theta\varepsilon_{t-1}(\theta)$$

$$z_t = -\frac{\partial \varepsilon_t}{\partial \theta} = \varepsilon_{t-1} + \theta \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{t-1}}{\partial \theta}$$

$$FOC : \quad \sum_t z_t \varepsilon_t = 0.$$

Quite complicated to compute.

LM test. *Under the null, $\theta = 0$ and $y_t = \varepsilon_t$. So $z_t = \varepsilon_{t-1}$ and LM test is carried out by regressing ε_t on z_t , i.e. in this case by regressing y_t on y_{t-1} and*

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computing TR^2 . Since this is a one variable linear regression, R^2 is the square of the correlation coefficient, so

$$TR^2 = T \frac{(\sum y_t y_{t-1})^2}{(\sum y_t^2) (\sum y_{t-1}^2)} \sim \chi^2(1).$$

Therefore, the LM test is straightforward to compute in this case.

2. Consider the model

$$y_t = \beta_1 x_{1t} + \beta_2 \frac{(x_{2t} - \gamma)^{-2}}{2} + \varepsilon_t$$

where $\varepsilon_t \sim iidN(0, \sigma^2)$ and the regressors x_1 and x_2 are process independent of the errors.

1. Obtain the log likelihood of the model and outline how you would obtain the NLE of the parameters $\beta_1, \beta_2, \gamma, \sigma^2$.
2. Construct a LM test of the null $H_0 : \gamma = 0$.
3. Why is the LM test easier to carry out than the Likelihood ratio test?

Answer.

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_t &= y_t - \beta_1 x_{1t} - \beta_2 \frac{(x_{2t} - \gamma)^{-2}}{2} \\ \log L &= -\frac{T}{2} \log 2\pi - \frac{T}{2} \log \sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum \varepsilon_t^2. \end{aligned}$$

As this is nonlinear least squares maximize $\log L$ wrt $(\beta_1, \beta_2, \gamma)$ using derivations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \log L}{\partial \beta_1} \\ \frac{\partial \log L}{\partial \beta_2} \\ \frac{\partial \log L}{\partial \gamma} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum z_t \varepsilon_t \text{ where } z_t = - \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \varepsilon_t}{\partial \beta_1} \\ \frac{\partial \varepsilon_t}{\partial \beta_2} \\ \frac{\partial \varepsilon_t}{\partial \gamma} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{1t} \\ \frac{1}{2}(x_{2t} - \gamma)^{-2} \\ -\beta_2(x_{2t} - \gamma)^{-3} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Solving $\sum z_t \varepsilon_t = 0$ yields ML estimates of $(\beta_1, \beta_2, \gamma)$. $\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{T} \sum \hat{\varepsilon}_t^2$.

$H_0 : \gamma = 0$. Under H_0

$$\begin{aligned} y_t &= \beta_1 x_{1t} + \beta_2 \frac{1}{2x_{2t}^2} + \varepsilon_t \\ \varepsilon_t &= y_t - \beta_1 x_{1t} - \frac{\beta_2}{2x_{2t}^2}. \end{aligned}$$

ML estimation of restricted model is least squares regression of y_t on x_{1t} , x_{2t}^{-2} .

Then calculate

$$\hat{\varepsilon}_t = y_t - \hat{\beta}_1 x_{1t} - \hat{\beta}_2 \frac{1}{2x_{2t}^2}.$$

When $\gamma = 0$, $z_t = \begin{bmatrix} x_{1t} \\ \frac{1}{2x_{2t}^2} \\ -\frac{\beta_2}{x_{2t}^3} \end{bmatrix}$. LM test requires regressing $\hat{\varepsilon}_t$ on z_t , calculate TR^2 . Reject H_0 if $TR^2 > \chi_\alpha^2(1)$.

LM easier than LR as you do not have to do nonlinear least squares maximization.

2. Distributed lags and transformations

1. Rewrite the distributed lag

$$B(L)x_t = \beta_0 x_t + \beta_1 x_{t-1} + \dots + \beta_m x_{t-m}$$

in the form

$$\delta_0 x_t + \delta_1 \Delta x_t + \delta_2 \Delta x_{t-1} + \dots + \delta_m \Delta x_{t-m+1}$$

1. Show that $\delta_0 = B(1)$, the total effect. What is the relationship between the δ 's and the β 's?

Answer.

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_0 x_t + \beta_1 x_{t-1} + \dots + \beta_m x_{t-m} &= \\ \delta_0 x_t + \delta_1 (x_t - x_{t-1}) + \delta_2 (x_{t-1} - x_{t-2}) + \dots + \delta_m (x_{t-m+1} - x_{t-m}) & \\ \therefore \beta_m = -\delta_m & \quad \delta_m = -\beta_m \\ \beta_{m-1} = \delta_m - \delta_{m-1} & \quad \delta_{m-1} = -(\beta_{m-1} + \beta_m) \\ \beta_{m-2} = \delta_{m-1} - \delta_{m-2} & \quad \delta_{m-2} = -(\beta_{m-2} + \beta_{m-1} + \beta_m) \\ \vdots & \\ \beta_1 = \delta_2 - \delta_1 & \quad \delta_1 = -(\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_m) \\ \beta_0 = \delta_0 + \delta_1 & \quad \delta_0 = \beta_0 + \beta_1 + \dots + \beta_m = B(1) \text{ total effect.} \end{aligned}$$

2. If you write the second form as

$$\delta_0^+ x_{t-1} + \delta_1^+ \Delta x_t + \delta_2^+ \Delta x_{t-1} + \dots + \delta_m^+ \Delta x_{t-m+1}$$

how are the δ^+ 's related to the β 's?

Answer.

$$\delta_0^+ x_{t-1} + \delta_1^+ (x_t - x_{t-1}) + \delta_2^+ (x_{t-1} - x_{t-2}) + \dots + \delta_m^+ (x_{t-m+1} - x_{t-m})$$

$$\beta_m = -\delta_m^+ \quad \therefore \delta_m^+ = -\beta_m$$

\vdots

$$\beta_2 = \delta_3^+ - \delta_2^+ \quad \therefore \delta_2^+ = -(\beta_2 + \dots + \beta_m)$$

$$\beta_0 = \delta_1^+ \quad \therefore \delta_1^+ = \beta_0$$

$$\beta_1 = \delta_0^+ - \delta_1^+ + \delta_2^+ \quad \therefore \delta_0^+ = \beta_1 + \beta_0 + \beta_2 + \dots + \beta_m = B(1)$$

Note: coeff. on levels variable unchanged (still total effect).

2. Consider the Autoregressive Distributed Lag Model

$$A(L)y_t = \lambda + B(L)x_t + \varepsilon_t$$

where

$$A(L) = 1 - \alpha_1 L - \dots - \alpha_m L^m$$

$$B(L) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 L + \dots + \beta_n L^n.$$

1. Show that you can rewrite this model in the error correction form

$$\Delta y_t = \lambda + \gamma_0 y_{t-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \gamma_i \Delta y_{t-i} + \delta_0 x_{t-1} + \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i \Delta x_{t-i+1} + \varepsilon_t.$$

What is the interpretation of γ_0 and δ_0 and hence of δ_0/γ_0 ? [Hint: use the results you derived in the first question of this section]

Answer.

$$\begin{aligned} (y_t - y_{t-1}) &= \lambda + \gamma_0 y_{t-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \gamma_i (y_{t-i} - y_{t-i-1}) \\ &\quad + \delta_0 x_{t-1} + \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i (x_{t-i+1} - x_{t-i}) + \varepsilon_t \end{aligned}$$

$$y_t = \lambda + (\gamma_0 + 1)y_{t-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \gamma_i (y_{t-i} - y_{t-i-1}) + B(L)x_t + \varepsilon_t$$

where $\delta_0 = B(1)$ and $\delta_1 = \beta_0$, $\delta_i = -\sum_{j=i}^n \beta_j$ from results above.

$$y_t - (1 + \gamma_0)y_{t-1} - \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \gamma_i(y_{t-i} - y_{t-i-1}) = \lambda + B(L)x_t + \varepsilon_t.$$

$$LHS = y_t - (1 + \gamma_0)y_{t-1} - \gamma_1(y_{t-1} - y_{t-2}) - \gamma_2(y_{t-2} - y_{t-3}) - \dots - \gamma_{m-1}(y_{t-m+1} - y_{t-m})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \quad & -\alpha_m = \gamma_{m-1} & \gamma_{m-1} &= -\alpha_m \\ & -\alpha_{m-1} = \gamma_{m-2} - \gamma_{m-1} & \gamma_{m-2} &= -(\alpha_{m-1} + \alpha_m) \\ & -\alpha_2 = \gamma_1 - \gamma_2 & \gamma_1 &= -(\alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_m) \\ & -\alpha_1 = -(1 + \gamma_0) - \gamma_1 & \gamma_0 &= -(1 - \alpha_1 - \alpha_2 - \dots - \alpha_m) \\ & & &= -A(1) \end{aligned}$$

$\frac{\delta_0}{\gamma_0} = -\frac{B(1)}{A(1)}$, this is minus the steady state effect of a change in x_t on y_t .

2. If you estimate the original model and the model in error correction form, what is the relationship between the two sets of estimates and the two sets of residuals?

Answer. *As these are non-singular linear transforms, the estimates have the same relationships as above and the residuals are the same.*