8 Unit Root (単位根) and Cointegration (共和分)

8.1 Unit Root (単位根) Test (Dickey-Fuller (DF) Test)

1. Why is a unit root problem important?

   (a) Economic variables increase over time in general.

   One of the assumptions of OLS is stationarity on y_t and x_t.

   This assumption implies that $\frac{1}{T}X'X$ converges to a fixed matrix as T is large.

   That is, asymptotic normality of OLS estimator goes not hold.

   (b) In nonstationary time series, the unit root is the most important.

   In the case of unit root, OLSE of the first-order autoregressive coefficient is consistent.

   OLSE is $\sqrt{T}$-consistent in the case of stationary AR(1) process, but OLSE is

T-consistent in the case of nonstationay AR(1) process.

(c) A lot of economic variables increase over time.

It is important to check an economic variable is trend stationary (i.e., $y_t = a_0 + a_1 t + \epsilon_t$) or difference stationary (i.e., $y_t = b_0 + y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t$).

Consider k-step ahead prediction for both cases.

$$\text{(Trend Stationarity)} \qquad y_{t+k|t} = a_0 + a_1(t+k)$$

$$\text{(Difference Stationarity)} \qquad y_{t+k|t} = b_0 k + y_t$$

2. **The Case of $|\phi_1| < 1$:**

$$y_t = \phi_1 y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t, \qquad \epsilon_t \sim \text{i.i.d. } N(0, \sigma^2), \qquad y_0 = 0, \qquad t = 1, \cdots, T$$

Then, OLSE of ϕ_1 is:

$$\hat{\phi}_1 = \frac{\displaystyle\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1} y_t}{\displaystyle\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}^2}.$$

In the case of $|\phi_1| < 1$,

$$\hat{\phi}_1 = \phi_1 + \frac{\displaystyle\frac{1}{T}\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}\epsilon_t}{\displaystyle\frac{1}{T}\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}^2} \longrightarrow \phi_1 + \frac{\mathrm{E}(y_{t-1}\epsilon_t)}{\mathrm{E}(y_{t-1}^2)} = \phi_1.$$

Note as follows:

$$\frac{1}{T}\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}\epsilon_t \longrightarrow \mathrm{E}(y_{t-1}\epsilon_t) = 0.$$

By the central limit theorem,

$$\frac{\overline{y\epsilon} - \mathrm{E}(\overline{y\epsilon})}{\sqrt{\mathrm{V}(\overline{y\epsilon})}} \longrightarrow N(0,1)$$

where

$$\overline{y\epsilon} = \frac{1}{T}\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}\epsilon_t.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{E}(\overline{y\epsilon}) &= 0, \\
\mathrm{V}(\overline{y\epsilon}) &= \mathrm{V}(\frac{1}{T}\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}\epsilon_t) = \mathrm{E}\Big((\frac{1}{T}\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}\epsilon_t)^2\Big) \\
&= \frac{1}{T^2}\mathrm{E}\Big(\sum_{t=1}^{T}\sum_{s=1}^{T} y_{t-1}y_{s-1}\epsilon_t\epsilon_s\Big) = \frac{1}{T^2}\mathrm{E}\Big(\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}^2\epsilon_t^2\Big) = \frac{1}{T}\sigma^2\gamma(0).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{\overline{y\epsilon}}{\sqrt{\sigma^2\gamma(0)/T}} = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{\gamma(0)}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{T}}\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}\epsilon_t \longrightarrow N(0,1),$$

which is rewritten as:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}\epsilon_t \longrightarrow N(0, \sigma^2\gamma(0)).$$

Using $\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}^2 \longrightarrow \mathrm{E}(y_{t-1}^2) = \gamma(0)$, we have the following asymptotic distribution:

$$\sqrt{T}(\hat{\phi}_1 - \phi_1) = \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}\epsilon_t}{\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}^2} \longrightarrow N\left(0, \frac{\sigma^2}{\gamma(0)}\right) = N\left(0, 1 - \phi_1^2\right).$$

Note that $\gamma(0) = \frac{\sigma^2}{1 - \phi_1^2}$.

3. In the case of $\phi_1 = 1$, as expected, we have:

$$\sqrt{T}(\hat{\phi}_1 - 1) \longrightarrow 0.$$

That is, $\hat{\phi}_1$ has the distribution which converges in probability to $\phi_1 = 1$ (i.e., degenerated distribution).

Is this true?

4. **The Case of $\boldsymbol{\phi_1 = 1}$:** $\Longrightarrow$ Random Walk Process

$y_t = y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t$ with $y_0 = 0$ is written as:

$$y_t = \epsilon_t + \epsilon_{t-1} + \epsilon_{t-2} + \cdots + \epsilon_1.$$

Therefore, we can obtain:

$$y_t \sim N(0, \sigma^2 t).$$

The variance of y_t depends on time t. $\Longrightarrow$ y_t is nonstationary.

5. Remember that $\hat{\phi}_1 = \phi_1 + \dfrac{\sum y_{t-1}\epsilon_t}{\sum y_{t-1}^2}$.

(a) First, consider the numerator $\sum y_{t-1}\epsilon_t$.

We have $y_t^2 = (y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t)^2 = y_{t-1}^2 + 2y_{t-1}\epsilon_t + \epsilon_t^2$.

Therefore, we obtain:

$$y_{t-1}\epsilon_t = \frac{1}{2}(y_t^2 - y_{t-1}^2 - \epsilon_t^2).$$

Taking into account $y_0 = 0$, we have:

$$\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}\epsilon_t = \frac{1}{2}y_T^2 - \frac{1}{2}\sum_{t=1}^{T}\epsilon_t^2.$$

Divided by $\sigma^2 T$ on both sides, we have the following:

$$\frac{1}{\sigma^2 T}\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}\epsilon_t = \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{y_T}{\sigma\sqrt{T}}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}\frac{1}{T}\sum_{t=1}^{T}\epsilon_t^2.$$

From $y_t \sim N(0, \sigma^2 t)$, we obtain the following result:

$$\left(\frac{y_T}{\sigma\sqrt{T}}\right)^2 \sim \chi^2(1).$$

Moreover, the second term is derived from:

$$\frac{1}{T}\sum_{t=1}^{T}\epsilon_t^2 \longrightarrow \sigma^2.$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{1}{\sigma^2 T}\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}\epsilon_t = \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{y_T}{\sigma\sqrt{T}}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}\frac{1}{T}\sum_{t=1}^{T}\epsilon_t^2 \longrightarrow \frac{1}{2}(\chi^2(1)-1).$$

(b) Next, consider $\sum y_{t-1}^2$.

$$\mathrm{E}\left(\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}^2\right) = \sum_{t=1}^{T}\mathrm{E}(y_{t-1}^2) = \sum_{t=1}^{T}\sigma^2(t-1) = \sigma^2\frac{T(T-1)}{2}.$$

Thus, we obtain the following result:

$$\frac{1}{T^2}\mathrm{E}\left(\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}^2\right) \longrightarrow \text{a fixed value.}$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{1}{T^2}\sum_{t=1}^{T} y_{t-1}^2 \longrightarrow \text{ a distribution.}$$

6. Summarizing the results up to now, $T(\hat{\phi}_1 - \phi_1)$, not $\sqrt{T}(\hat{\phi}_1 - \phi_1)$, has limiting distribution in the case of $\phi_1 = 1$.

$$T(\hat{\phi}_1 - \phi_1) = \frac{(1/T)\sum y_{t-1}\epsilon_t}{(1/T^2)\sum y_{t-1}^2} \longrightarrow \text{ a distribution.}$$

The distributions of the t statistic: $\dfrac{\hat{\phi}_1 - 1}{s_\phi}$, where s_ϕ denotes the standard error of $\hat{\phi}_1$.

$\Longrightarrow$ Compare t distribution with (a) – (c).

$\Longrightarrow$ **Unit Root Test (単位根検定, or Dickey-Fuller (DF) Test)**

$$y_t = \phi_1 y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t.$$

Test $H_0:\ \phi_1 = 1$ against $H_1:\ \phi_1 < 1$.

Equivalently,

$$\Delta y_t = \rho y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t.$$

Test $H_0:\ \rho = 0$ against $H_1:\ \rho < 0$.

t Distribution

T	0.010	0.025	0.050	0.100	0.900	0.950	0.975	0.990
25	−2.49	−2.06	−1.71	−1.32	1.32	1.71	2.06	2.49
50	−2.40	−2.01	−1.68	−1.30	1.30	1.68	2.01	2.40
100	−2.36	−1.98	−1.66	−1.29	1.29	1.66	1.98	2.36
250	−2.34	−1.97	−1.65	−1.28	1.28	1.65	1.97	2.34
500	−2.33	−1.96	−1.65	−1.28	1.28	1.65	1.96	2.33
∞	−2.33	−1.96	−1.64	−1.28	1.28	1.64	1.96	2.33

(a) $\boldsymbol{H_0 : y_t = y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t}$

$\boldsymbol{H_1 : y_t = \phi_1 y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t}$ **for** $\boldsymbol{\phi_1 < 1}$

T	0.010	0.025	0.050	0.100	0.900	0.950	0.975	0.990
25	−2.66	−2.26	−1.95	−1.60	0.92	1.33	1.70	2.16
50	−2.62	−2.25	−1.95	−1.61	0.91	1.31	1.66	2.08
100	−2.60	−2.24	−1.95	−1.61	0.90	1.29	1.64	2.03
250	−2.58	−2.23	−1.95	−1.62	0.89	1.29	1.63	2.01
500	−2.58	−2.23	−1.95	−1.62	0.89	1.28	1.62	2.00
∞	−2.58	−2.23	−1.95	−1.62	0.89	1.28	1.62	2.00

To test $H_0 : \rho = 0$ against $H_1 : \rho < 0$, estimate $\Delta y_t = \rho y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t$ and compare the t-value of ρ with the above table.

(b) $\boldsymbol{H_0 : \ y_t = y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t}$

$\boldsymbol{H_1 : \ y_t = \alpha_0 + \phi_1 y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t}$ **for** $\boldsymbol{\phi_1 < 1}$

T	0.010	0.025	0.050	0.100	0.900	0.950	0.975	0.990
25	−3.75	−3.33	−3.00	−2.63	−0.37	0.00	0.34	0.72
50	−3.58	−3.22	−2.93	−2.60	−0.40	−0.03	0.29	0.66
100	−3.51	−3.17	−2.89	−2.58	−0.42	−0.05	0.26	0.63
250	−3.46	−3.14	−2.88	−2.57	−0.42	−0.06	0.24	0.62
500	−3.44	−3.13	−2.87	−2.57	−0.43	−0.07	0.24	0.61
∞	−3.43	−3.12	−2.86	−2.57	−0.44	−0.07	0.23	0.60

To test $H_0 : \ \rho = 0$ against $H_1 : \ \rho < 0$, estimate $\Delta y_t = \alpha_0 + \rho y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t$ and compare the t-value of ρ with the above table.

(c) $H_0 : y_t = \alpha_0 + y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t$

$H_1 : y_t = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 t + \phi_1 y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t$ for $\phi_1 < 1$

T	0.010	0.025	0.050	0.100	0.900	0.950	0.975	0.990
25	−4.38	−3.95	−3.60	−3.24	−1.14	−0.80	−0.50	−0.15
50	−4.15	−3.80	−3.50	−3.18	−1.19	−0.87	−0.58	−0.24
100	−4.04	−3.73	−3.45	−3.15	−1.22	−0.90	−0.62	−0.28
250	−3.99	−3.69	−3.43	−3.13	−1.23	−0.92	−0.64	−0.31
500	−3.98	−3.68	−3.42	−3.13	−1.24	−0.93	−0.65	−0.32
∞	−3.96	−3.66	−3.41	−3.12	−1.25	−0.94	−0.66	−0.33

To test $H_0 : \rho = 0$ against $H_1 : \rho < 0$, estimate $\Delta y_t = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 t + \rho y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t$ and compare the t-value of ρ with the above table.

8.2 Unit Root (More Formally)

Consider $y_t = y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t$ and $y_0 = 0$.

$$y_t = \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2 + \cdots + \epsilon_t \sim N(0, t\sigma^2)$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} y_t = \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}}(\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2 + \cdots + \epsilon_t) \sim N(0, \frac{t}{T}\sigma^2) \longrightarrow N(0, r\sigma^2)$$

where $0 \le r \le 1$ and $r = \dfrac{t}{T}$.

Note that time interval $(1,\ T)$ is transformed into $(0,\ 1)$, divided by T.

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{T}\sigma} y_t = \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}\sigma}(\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2 + \cdots + \epsilon_t) \sim N(0, \frac{t}{T}) \longrightarrow N(0, r) \equiv W(r)$$

As T (t at the same time) goes to infinity keeping $r = \dfrac{t}{T}$, $W(r)$ results in a continuous function of r where r takes any number between zero and one.

$W(r)$ is a normal random variable with mean zero and variance r and it is called the **Brownian motion**.