

OVERHEADs Cointegration Lecture, copyright H.D. Vinod, all rights reserved, 3/29/99

If  $y_t$  has a stationary invertible ARMA representation after differencing  $d$  times, it is said to be integrated of order  $d$ , denoted by  $y_t \sim I(d)$  if  $(1 - L)^d y_t$  is stationary or  $I(0)$ .

Note the root of the polynomial  $(1 - L)^d$  in  $L$  is 1, unit root! There are  $d$  roots each = 1.

If  $d=0$  we have  $I(0)$   $\hat{=}$  levels are stationary, e.g. white noise from  $N(0, \Sigma)$ .

Random walk processes exhibit long memory innovations are permanent and  $\sum_k \Delta^2$  for all  $k$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Variance of  $I(1)$  is infinite.

If  $y_t \sim I(1)$  and if  $x_t \sim I(0)$ , then the linear combination  $z_t \propto x_t + y_t \sim I(1)$ , (4)

If  $y_t \sim I(d)$  and  $a$  and  $b$  are constants, then the linear transformation  $(a y_t + b) \sim I(d)$ , (5)

To verify (4) note that the infinite variance of  $I(1)$  series will eventually dominate. We would also expect that:

If  $y_t \sim I(1)$  and if  $x_t \sim I(1)$ , then the linear combination  $z_t \propto a x_t + b y_t \sim I(1)$  (6)

If  $y_t \sim I(d)$  and if  $x_t \sim I(d)$ , then the linear combination  $z_t \propto a x_t + b y_t \sim I(d)$  (7)

### Co-integration

short and long term interest rates, household incomes and expenditures, commodity prices (gold) in geographically separated markets, capital appropriations and expenditures by business. Adam Smith showed that the invisible hand of the market forces will tend to force the excess demand,  $z_t = (q_d - q_s) \hat{=} 0$  in the dynamic sense implied by  $z_t \sim I(0)$  or  $N(0, \Sigma)$ , then mean is zero! hover around zero stochastically!

The joint trending of the two variables may mean that the long-run components cancel each other in some sense.  $q_d$  is  $I(1)$ ,  $q_s$  is  $I(1)$  but  $(q_d - q_s)$  is  $I(0)$  so cointegrated!

DEFINITION of Co-integration: The components of a  $k \times 1$  vector  $y_t$  with  $k \geq 2$  time series are said to be co-integrated of order  $(d, b)$  denoted by  $y_t \sim CI(d, b)$  if  $y_t \sim I(d)$  and there exist  $r$

1 "co-integrating vectors"  $\alpha_i (\hat{=} 0)$  of dimension  $k \times 1$  defining  $r$  linear combinations which are integrated of order  $d - b$ , or

$$z_{it} \propto \sum_i \alpha_i y_{it} \sim I(d - b), \quad b > 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, r, \text{ where } d > b > 0 \quad (1)$$

where the elements of  $y_t$  are denoted by  $y_{jt}$  with  $j=1, 2, \dots, k$ .

Multivariate ARMA models for  $y_t$  can be used to write the following matrix equation.

$$\Phi(L) y_t \propto G(L) a_t \quad (2)$$

where  $a_t$  denotes a white noise process. Engle and Granger(1987) show that when the elements of  $y_t$  are co-integrated, the matrix  $G(1)$  obtained by simply replacing the operator  $L$  by unity does not have a full rank. Hence the following multivariate (Wold) decomposition is plausible:

$$y_t \propto \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} G_j a_{t-j}, \quad G_0 \propto I \quad (3)$$

where  $G_j$  are called Green's function matrices of dimension  $k \times k$  each. It is shown in the literature that the representation (3) is unique under certain regularity conditions. The novel feature in the present context of co-integration is that we have  $\Phi(L) y_t$  instead of  $y_t$  on the left side of (3).

vector autoregressive (VAR) models

$$F(L) y_t \propto (I_k - \sum_{j=1}^p F_j L^j) y_t \propto a_t \quad (8)$$

Observe that  $F(L)$  is also a  $k \times k$  matrix whose elements are polynomials in the lag operator  $L$ . If we try a VAR representation of the differenced data we have

$$F^*(L) (1 - L) y_t \propto a_t \quad (9)$$

where the star notation  $F^*(L) = (I_k \bullet D_{j=1}^{p-1} F_j L^j)$  and  $F_j^* = \bullet D_{m=j+1}^p F_m$

Gonzalo (1994, J of Etr. Vol. 60, p. 203) compares five methods of estimating cointegration: OLS, NLS, Maximum Likelihood in an Error Correction model (MLECM), Principal Components (PC) and Canonical Correlation (CC). He finds that Johansen's MLECM is the best.

Error correction model (ECM) relates  $\Delta y_t$ , the change in one variable is a function of past equilibrium errors ( $u_t$ ) and past changes in both variables:

$$\Delta x_t = \alpha_1(y_{t-1} \bullet \beta x_{t-1}) + \text{p-lags of } \Delta x_t \text{ and } \Delta y_t + \text{white noise errors}$$

$$\Delta y_t = \alpha_2(y_{t-1} \bullet \beta x_{t-1}) + \text{p-lags of } \Delta x_t \text{ and } \Delta y_t + \text{white noise errors}$$

where the errors may be correlated. The terms  $(y_{t-1} \bullet \beta x_{t-1})$  are called error correction terms, which are  $I(0)$  if the variables are cointegrated.

Engle and Granger (1987, Etrica p254) if at least one unit root

$$A(L) (1-L) y_t = \beta z_{t-1} + u_t,$$

where  $u_t$  is stationary multivariate disturbance, and there are exactly  $r$  cointegrating relations (equilibria) satisfying  $z_r = \beta y_r$ . This is a multivariate representation without assuming a subset of variables to be (weakly) exogenous. Also,  $\beta$  need not be a set of constants arising from economic theory. It is treated as a parameter. Harvey (1990, p. 290) presents another way of thinking about this in terms of a special case:

$$\Delta y_t = a_0 + a_1 \Delta y_{t-1} + b_0 \Delta x_t + b_1 \Delta x_{t-1} + (\beta - 1) \left\{ y_{t-1} \bullet \frac{1}{1-L} x_{t-1} \right\} + u_t$$

If  $\beta$  is close to 1, one may concentrate on the short-run and ignore the long-run term  $\{.\}$ . When  $\beta < 1$  the *level* terms play the crucial role of *error correction* in the following manner. If a shock causes  $y_{t-1}$  to become too large to ensure equilibrium, the  $\{.\}$  term becomes positive, but the presence of  $(\beta - 1)$  which is negative for  $\beta < 1$  will bring down the left side  $\Delta y_t$  and slow down the short-run growth in  $y$ .