

**Lecture Notes of Bus 41202 (Spring 2006)**  
**Analysis of Financial Time Series**  
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**Simple AR models** (regression ?)

AR(1) model:

1. Form:  $r_t = \phi_0 + \phi_1 r_{t-1} + a_t$ , where  $\phi_0$  and  $\phi_1$  are real numbers, which are referred to as “parameters” (to be estimated from the data in an application). For example,

$$r_t = 0.005 + 0.2r_{t-1} + a_t$$

2. Stationarity: necessary and sufficient condition  $|\phi_1| < 1$ . Why?
3. Mean:  $E(r_t) = \frac{\phi_0}{1-\phi_1}$
4. Variance:  $\text{Var}(r_t) = \frac{\sigma_a^2}{1-\phi_1^2}$ .
5. Autocorrelations:  $\rho_1 = \phi_1, \rho_2 = \phi_1^2$ , etc. In general,  $\rho_k = \phi_1^k$  and ACF  $\rho_k$  decays exponentially as  $k$  increases,
6. Forecast (minimum squared error):

- (a) 1-step ahead forecast at time  $n$ , the forecast origin:

$$\hat{r}_n(1) = \phi_0 + \phi_1 r_n$$

- (b) 1-step ahead forecast error:

$$e_n(1) = r_{n+1} - \hat{r}_n(1) = a_{n+1}$$

Thus,  $a_{n+1}$  is the *un-predictable* part of  $r_{n+1}$ . It is the shock at time  $n + 1$ !

(c) Variance of 1-step ahead forecast error:

$$\text{Var}[e_n(1)] = \text{Var}(a_{n+1}) = \sigma_a^2.$$

(d) 2-step ahead forecast:

$$\hat{r}_n(2) = \phi_0 + \phi_1 \hat{r}_n(1)$$

(e) 2-step ahead forecast error:

$$e_n(2) = r_{n+2} - \hat{r}_n(2) = a_{n+2} + \phi_1 a_{n+1}$$

(f) Variance of 2-step ahead forecast error:

$$\text{Var}[e_n(2)] = (1 + \phi_1^2)\sigma_a^2$$

which is greater than or equal to  $\text{Var}[e_n(1)]$ , implying that uncertainty in forecasts increases as the number of steps increases.

(g) Behavior of multi-step ahead forecasts.

7. A compact form:  $(1 - \phi_1 B)r_t = \phi_0 + a_t$ .

AR(2) model:

1. Form:  $r_t = \phi_0 + \phi_1 r_{t-1} + \phi_2 r_{t-2} + a_t$ , or

$$(1 - \phi_1 B - \phi_2 B^2)r_t = \phi_0 + a_t.$$

2. Stationarity condition: (factor of polynomial)

3. Characteristic equation:  $(1 - \phi_1 x - \phi_2 x^2) = 0$

4. Mean:  $E(r_t) = \frac{\phi_0}{1 - \phi_1 - \phi_2}$

5. ACF:  $\rho_0 = 1, \rho_1 = \frac{\phi_1}{1 - \phi_2},$

$$\rho_\ell = \phi_1 \rho_{\ell-1} + \phi_2 \rho_{\ell-2}, \quad \ell \geq 2.$$

6. Stochastic business cycle: if  $\phi_1^2 + 4\phi_2 < 0$ , then  $r_t$  shows characteristics of business cycles with average length

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\cos^{-1}[\phi_1 / (2\sqrt{-\phi_2})]},$$

where the cosine inverse is stated in radian. If we denote the solutions of the polynomial as  $a \pm bi$ , where  $i = \sqrt{-1}$ , then we have  $\phi_1 = 2a$  and  $\phi_2 = -(a^2 + b^2)$  so that

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\cos^{-1}(a / \sqrt{a^2 + b^2})}.$$

In R or S-Plus, one can obtain  $\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$  using the command **Mod**.

7. Forecasts: Similar to AR(1) models

## Building an AR model

- Order specification

1. Partial ACF: (naive, but effective)

- Use consecutive fittings

- See Text (p. 36) for details

- Key feature: PACF cuts off at lag  $p$  for an  $AR(p)$  model.
- Illustration

## 2. Akaike information criterion

$$AIC(\ell) = \ln(\tilde{\sigma}_\ell^2) + \frac{2\ell}{T},$$

for an  $AR(\ell)$  model, where  $\tilde{\sigma}_\ell^2$  is the MLE of residual variance.

Find the AR order with *minimum* AIC for  $\ell \in [0, \dots, P]$ .

## 3. BIC criterion:

$$BIC = \ln(\tilde{\sigma}_\ell^2) + \frac{\ell \ln(T)}{T}.$$

- Needs a constant term? Check the sample mean.
- Estimation: least squares method or maximum likelihood method
- Model checking:
  1. Residual: obs minus the fit, i.e. 1-step ahead forecast errors at each time point.
  2. Residual should be close to white noise if the model is adequate. Use Ljung-Box statistics of residuals, but degrees of freedom is  $m - g$ , where  $g$  is the number of AR coefficients used in the model.
- Many software packages available, e.g. SCA, Splus, Eviews, SAS, SPSS, etc.

## Example: US GNP growth rate series revisited. R demonstration:

```
> setwd("C:/teaching/bs41202")
> library(fSeries)
Loading required package: fBasics

> da=read.table("dgnp82.dat")
> x=da[,1]
> plot(x,type='l') % Plot not shown in this handout.
> title(main='Growth rate of U.S. GNP: 1947-1991') % title of plot.
> acf(x,lag.max=12) % Compute ACF (not shown in this handout)
> pacf(x,lag.max=12) % Compute PACF (not shown in this handout)
> Box.test(x,lag=10,type='Ljung')
```

Box-Ljung test

```
data: x
X-squared = 43.2345, df = 10, p-value = 4.515e-06

> m1=ar(x,method='mle') % Automatic AR fitting using AIC criterion.
> m1
```

Call:

```
ar(x = x, method = "mle")
```

Coefficients:

```
      1      2      3      % An AR(3) is specified.
0.3480  0.1793 -0.1423
```

Order selected 3 sigma<sup>2</sup> estimated as 9.427e-05

```
> names(m1)
 [1] "order"      "ar"          "var.pred"    "x.mean"      "aic"
 [6] "n.used"     "order.max"   "partialacf"  "resid"       "method"
[11] "series"     "frequency"   "call"        "asy.var.coef"
```

```
> plot(m1$resid,type='l') % Plot residuals of the fitted model (not shown)
> Box.test(m1$resid,lag=10,type='Ljung') % Model checking
```

Box-Ljung test

```
data: m1$resid
X-squared = 7.0808, df = 10, p-value = 0.7178

> m2=arima(x,order=c(3,0,0)) % Another approach with order given.
```

```

> m2

Call:
arima(x = x, order = c(3, 0, 0))

Coefficients:
      ar1      ar2      ar3  intercept  % Fitted model is
    0.3480  0.1793 -0.1423    0.0077  % y(t)=0.348y(t-1)+0.179y(t-2)
s.e. 0.0745  0.0778  0.0745    0.0012  %      -0.142y(t-3)+a(t),
                                     % where y(t) = x(t)-0.0077

sigma^2 estimated as 9.427e-05:  log likelihood = 565.84,  aic = -1121.68
> names(m2)
 [1] "coef"      "sigma2"     "var.coef"  "mask"      "loglik"    "aic"
 [7] "arma"      "residuals" "call"      "series"    "code"      "n.cond"
[13] "model"

> Box.test(m2$residuals,lag=10,type='Ljung')

      Box-Ljung test

data:  m2$residuals
X-squared = 7.0169, df = 10, p-value = 0.7239

> plot(m2$residuals,type='l') % Residual plot

>tsdiag(m2) % obtain 3 plots of model checking (not shown in handout).

>
> p1=c(1,-m2$coef[1:3]) % Further analysis of the fitted model.
> roots=polyroot(p1)
> roots
 [1] 1.590253+1.063882e+00i -1.920152-3.530887e-17i 1.590253-1.063882e+00i
> Mod(roots)
 [1] 1.913308 1.920152 1.913308

> k=2*pi/acos(1.590253/1.913308)
> k
 [1] 10.65638

> predict(m2,8) % Prediction 1-step to 8-step ahead.
$pred
Time Series:
Start = 177
End = 184
Frequency = 1

```

```
[1] 0.001236254 0.004555519 0.007454906 0.007958518
[5] 0.008181442 0.007936845 0.007820046 0.007703826
```

```
$se
```

```
Time Series:
```

```
Start = 177
```

```
End = 184
```

```
Frequency = 1
```

```
[1] 0.009709322 0.010280510 0.010686305 0.010688994
[5] 0.010689733 0.010694771 0.010695511 0.010696190
```

## S-Plus demonstration

```
> module(finmetrics)
```

```
> gnp=scan(file='dgnp82.dat')
```

```
> plot(gnp,type='l')
```

```
> acf(gnp,lag.max=12)
```

```
Call: acf(x = gnp, lag.max = 12) % Plot not shown in the handout.
```

```
Autocorrelation matrix:
```

	lag	gnp
1	0	1.0000
2	1	0.3769
3	2	0.2539
4	3	0.0125
5	4	-0.0859
6	5	-0.1071
7	6	-0.0575
8	7	-0.0182
9	8	-0.0772
10	9	-0.0702
11	10	0.0104
12	11	-0.0230
13	12	-0.0967

```
> acf(gnp,lag.max=12,type='partial') % Compute PACF
```

```
Call: acf(x = gnp, lag.max = 12, type = "partial")
```

```
Partial Correlation matrix:
```

	lag	gnp
1	1	0.3769
2	2	0.1304
3	3	-0.1421
4	4	-0.0988
5	5	-0.0199
6	6	0.0325
7	7	0.0120

```

8 8 -0.1106
9 9 -0.0415
10 10 0.0981
11 11 -0.0370
12 12 -0.1533
> ord=ar(gnp,order.max=10) % Perform order selection via AIC
> ord$aic
 [1] 27.5691310  2.6081086  1.5895550  0.0000000  0.2734771  2.2034466
 [7]  4.0171066  5.9916210  5.8264833  7.5230025  7.8223499
> ord$order
 [1] 3

> m1=arima.mle(gnp,model=list(order=c(3,0,0))) %This fit misses the mean.
> summary(m1)
Call: arima.mle(x = gnp, model = list(order = c(3, 0, 0)))
Method: Maximum Likelihood with likelihood conditional on 3 observations

ARIMA order: 3 0 0

          Value Std. Error t-value % No intercept because the program assumes it is zero.
ar(1)  0.45420    0.07597  5.9780
ar(2)  0.26680    0.08095  3.2960
ar(3) -0.03817    0.07597 -0.5024

Variance-Covariance Matrix:
          ar(1)          ar(2)          ar(3)
ar(1)  0.005771926 -0.002566306 -0.001441892
ar(2) -0.002566306  0.006552753 -0.002566306
ar(3) -0.001441892 -0.002566306  0.005771926

Estimated innovations variance: 0.0001

Optimizer has converged
Convergence Type: relative function convergence
AIC: -1085.0397

> x=gnp-mean(gnp) % Remove sample mean.
> m1=arima.mle(x,model=list(order=c(3,0,0)))
> summary(m1)
Call: arima.mle(x = x, model = list(order = c(3, 0, 0)))
Method: Maximum Likelihood with likelihood conditional on 3 observations

ARIMA order: 3 0 0

```

	Value	Std. Error	t-value	
ar(1)	0.3509	0.07523	4.664	% Fitted model is
ar(2)	0.1809	0.07863	2.301	% $x(t)=0.351x(t-1)+0.181x(t-2)-0.144x(t-3)+a(t)$ .
ar(3)	-0.1443	0.07523	-1.919	

Variance-Covariance Matrix:

	ar(1)	ar(2)	ar(3)
ar(1)	0.0056599161	-0.001877448	-0.0007529176
ar(2)	-0.0018774480	0.006182526	-0.0018774480
ar(3)	-0.0007529176	-0.001877448	0.0056599161

Estimated innovations variance: 0.0001

Optimizer has converged

Convergence Type: relative function convergence

AIC: -1104.1574

> names(m1)

```
[1] "model"      "var.coef"   "method"    "series"    "aic"
[6] "loglik"     "sigma2"    "n.used"    "n.cond"    "converged"
[11] "conv.type"  "call"
```

> names(m1\$model)

```
[1] "order" "ar"     "ndiff"
```

> m1\$model\$ar

```
[1] 0.3509107 0.1809056 -0.1443412
```

>

> arima.diag(m1) % Model checking, plots not shown.

> p1=c(1,-m1\$model\$ar) % Further analysis of the fitted model.

> roots=polyroot(p1)

> roots

```
[1] 1.582837+1.057071e+000i -1.912355-6.609277e-017i
[3] 1.582837-1.057071e+000i
```

> Mod(roots)

```
[1] 1.903359 1.912355 1.903359
```

> k=2\*pi/acos(1.582837/1.903359)

> k

```
[1] 10.67098
```

>

> arima.forecast(x,m1\$model,8) % prediction

\$mean:

```
[1] -0.00651901645 -0.00317061250 -0.00023632985 0.00028445018
[5] 0.00051471315 0.00026618912 0.00014546524 0.00002490612
```

\$std.err:

[1] 0.009779314 0.010363943 0.010782026 0.010784985 0.010785783  
[6] 0.010791060 0.010791857 0.010792592

## Moving-average (MA) model

Model with finite time lags of memory!

Some daily stock returns have minor serial correlations. Can be modeled as MA or AR models.

### MA(1) model

- Form:  $r_t = \mu + a_t - \theta a_{t-1}$
- Stationarity: always stationary.
- Mean (or expectation):  $E(r_t) = \mu$
- Variance:  $\text{Var}(r_t) = (1 + \theta^2)\sigma_a^2$ .
- Autocovariance:
  1. Lag 1:  $\text{Cov}(r_t, r_{t-1}) = -\theta\sigma_a^2$
  2. Lag  $\ell$ :  $\text{Cov}(r_t, r_{t-\ell}) = 0$  for  $\ell > 1$ .

Thus,  $r_t$  is not related to  $r_{t-2}, r_{t-3}, \dots$ .

- ACF:  $\rho_1 = \frac{-\theta}{1+\theta^2}$ ,  $\rho_\ell = 0$  for  $\ell > 1$ .

Finite memory! MA(1) models do not remember what happen two time periods ago.

- Forecast (at origin  $t = n$ ):

1. 1-step ahead:  $\hat{r}_n(1) = \mu - \theta a_n$ . Why? Because at time  $n$ ,  $a_n$  is known, but  $a_{n+1}$  is not.
2. 1-step ahead forecast error:  $e_n(1) = a_{n+1}$  with variance  $\sigma_a^2$ .
3. Multi-step ahead:  $\hat{r}_n(\ell) = \mu$  for  $\ell > 1$ .

Thus, for an MA(1) model, the multi-step ahead forecasts are just the mean of the series. Why? Because the model has memory of 1 time period.

4. Multi-step ahead forecast error:

$$e_n(\ell) = a_{n+\ell} - \theta a_{n+\ell-1}$$

5. Variance of multi-step ahead forecast error:

$$(1 + \theta^2)\sigma_a^2 = \text{variance of } r_t.$$

- Invertibility:

- Concept:  $r_t$  is a proper linear combination of  $a_t$  and the past observations  $\{r_{t-1}, r_{t-2}, \dots\}$ .
- Why is it important? It provides a simple way to obtain the shock  $a_t$ .

For an invertible model, the dependence of  $r_t$  on  $r_{t-\ell}$  converges to zero as  $\ell$  increases.

- Condition:  $|\theta| < 1$ .
- Invertibility of MA models is the dual property of stationarity for AR models.

## MA(2) model

- Form:  $r_t = \mu + a_t - \theta_1 a_{t-1} - \theta_2 a_{t-2}$ . or

$$r_t = \mu + (1 - \theta_1 B - \theta_2 B^2)a_t.$$

- Stationary with  $E(r_t) = \mu$ .
- Variance:  $\text{Var}(r_t) = (1 + \theta_1^2 + \theta_2^2)\sigma_a^2$ .
- ACF:  $\rho_2 \neq 0$ , but  $\rho_\ell = 0$  for  $\ell > 2$ .
- Forecasts go to the mean after 2 periods.

## **Building an MA model**

- Specification: Use sample ACF

Sample ACFs are all small after lag  $q$  for an MA( $q$ ) series. (See test of ACF.)

- Constant term? Check the sample mean.
- Estimation: use maximum likelihood method

– Conditional: Assume  $a_t = 0$  for  $t \leq 0$

– Exact: Treat  $a_t$  with  $t \leq 0$  as parameters, estimate them to obtain the likelihood function.

Exact method is preferred, but it is more computing intensive.

- Model checking: examine residuals (to be white noise)

- Forecast: use the residuals as  $\{a_t\}$  (which can be obtained from the data and fitted parameters) to perform forecasts.

## Example: Daily log return of the value-weighted index R demonstration

```
> setwd("C:/teaching/bs41202")
> library(fSeries)
> da=read.table("d-ibmvew6202.txt")
> dim(da)
[1] 10194      4

> vw=log(1+da[,3])*100 % Compute percentage log returns of the vw index.
> acf(vw,lag.max=10) % ACF plot is not shon in this handout.
> m1=arima(vw,order=c(0,0,1)) % fits an MA(1) model
> m1
```

Call:

```
arima(x = vw, order = c(0, 0, 1))
```

Coefficients:

```
      ma1  intercept
      0.1465    0.0396 % The model is vw(t) = 0.0396+a(t)+0.1465a(t-1).
s.e.  0.0099    0.0100
```

sigma<sup>2</sup> estimated as 0.7785: log likelihood = -13188.48, aic = 26382.96

```
> tsdiag(m1)
> predict(m1,5)
$pred
Time Series:
Start = 10195
End = 10199
Frequency = 1
[1] 0.05036298 0.03960887 0.03960887 0.03960887 0.03960887
```

\$se

```
Time Series:
Start = 10195
End = 10199
Frequency = 1
[1] 0.8823290 0.8917523 0.8917523 0.8917523 0.8917523
```

## S-Plus demonstration

```
> vw=d6202[,3] % Identify the vw-index returns.
> lnvw=log(1+vw) % compute log returns.
```

```
> acf(lnvw,lag.max=10) % ACF plot is not shown in this handout.
Call: acf(x = lnvw, lag.max = 10)
```

```
Autocorrelation matrix:
```

```
   lag   lnvw
1    0 1.0000
2    1 0.1402
3    2 -0.0120
4    3 -0.0027
5    4 0.0029
6    5 0.0075
7    6 -0.0149
8    7 -0.0066
9    8 -0.0034
10   9 -0.0085
11  10 -0.0074
```

```
> length(lnvw)
```

```
[1] 10194
```

```
> x1=rep(1,10194) % Create a constant to handle non-zero mean
```

```
> m1=arima.mle(lnvw,xreg=x1,model=list(order=c(0,0,1)))
```

```
> summary(m1)
```

```
Call: arima.mle(x = lnvw, model = list(order = c(0, 0, 1)), xreg = x1)
```

```
Method: Maximum Likelihood with likelihood conditional on 0 observations
```

```
ARIMA order: 0 0 1
```

	Value	Std. Error	t-value	
ma(1)	-0.1465000	0.009797	-14.96	
x1	0.0003962	NA	NA	% Model is $vw = .000396+a(t)+0.1465a(t-1)$

```
Variance-Covariance Matrix:
```

```
      ma(1)
ma(1) 0.00009599039
```

```
Estimated innovations variance: 0.0001
```

```
Optimizer has converged
```

```
Convergence Type: relative function convergence
```

```
AIC: -67509.2476
```

```
> arima.diag(m1) % Plots not shown in this handout.
```

```
> arima.forecast(lnvw,model=m1$model,6)
```

```
$mean:
```

```
[1] 0.0001581654 0.0000000000 0.0000000000 0.0000000000 0.0000000000
[6] 0.0000000000 % Need to add the constant 0.000396 to the forecast.
```

\$std.err:

[1] 0.008830056 0.008924361 0.008924361 0.008924361 0.008924361

[6] 0.008924361

**Mixed ARMA model:** A compact form for flexible models.

Focus on the ARMA(1,1) model for

1. simplicity
2. useful for understanding GARCH models in Ch. 3 for volatility modeling.

ARMA(1,1) model

- Form:  $(1 - \phi_1 B)r_t = \phi_0 + (1 - \theta B)a_t$  or

$$r_t = \phi_1 r_{t-1} + \phi_0 + a_t - \theta_1 a_{t-1}.$$

A combination of an AR(1) on the LHS and an MA(1) on the RHS.

- Stationarity: same as AR(1)
- Invertibility: same as MA(1)
- Mean: as AR(1), i.e.  $E(r_t) = \frac{\phi_0}{1-\phi_1}$
- Variance: given in the text
- ACF: Satisfies  $\rho_k = \phi_1 \rho_{k-1}$  for  $k > 1$ , but

$$\rho_1 = \phi_1 - [\theta_1 \sigma_a^2 / \text{Var}(r_t)] \neq \phi_1.$$

This is the difference between AR(1) and ARMA(1,1) models.

- PACF: does not cut off at finite lags.

## Building an ARMA(1,1) model

- Specification: use EACF or AIC
- What is EACF? How to use it? [See text].
- Estimation: cond. or exact likelihood method
- Model checking: as before
- Forecast: MA(1) affects the 1-step ahead forecast. Others are similar to those of AR(1) models.

## Three model representations:

- ARMA form: compact, useful in estimation and forecasting
- AR representation: (by long division)

$$r_t = \phi_0 + a_t + \pi_1 r_{t-1} + \pi_2 r_{t-2} + \dots$$

It tells how  $r_t$  depends on its past values.

- MA representation: (by long division)

$$r_t = \mu + a_t + \psi_1 a_{t-1} + \psi_2 a_{t-2} + \dots$$

It tells how  $r_t$  depends on the past shocks.

For a stationary series,  $\psi_i$  converges to zero as  $i \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus, the effect of any shock is transitory.

The MA representation is particularly useful in computing variances of forecast errors.

For a  $\ell$ -step ahead forecast, the forecast error is

$$e_n(\ell) = a_{n+\ell} + \psi_1 a_{n+\ell-1} + \cdots + \psi_{\ell-1} a_{n+1}.$$

The variance of forecast error is

$$\text{Var}[e_n(\ell)] = (1 + \psi_1^2 + \cdots + \psi_{\ell-1}^2) \sigma_a^2.$$

## Unit-root Nonstationarity

### Random walk

- Form  $p_t = p_{t-1} + a_t$
- Unit root? It is an AR(1) model with coefficient  $\phi_1 = 1$ .
- Nonstationary: Why? Because the variance of  $r_t$  diverges to infinity as  $t$  increases.
- Strong memory: sample ACF approaches 1 for any finite lag.
- Repeated substitution shows

$$p_t = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_{t-i} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \psi_i a_{t-i}$$

where  $\psi_i = 1$  for all  $i$ . Thus,  $\psi_i$  does not converge to zero. The effect of any shock is permanent.

### Random walk with drift

- Form:  $p_t = \mu + p_{t-1} + a_t$ ,  $\mu \neq 0$ .

- Has a unit root
- Nonstationary
- Strong memory
- Has a time trend with slope  $\mu$ . Why?

### differencing

- 1st difference:  $r_t = p_t - p_{t-1}$

If  $p_t$  is the log price, then the 1st difference is simply the log return. Typically, 1st difference means the “change” or “increment” of the original series.

- Seasonal difference:  $y_t = p_t - p_{t-s}$ , where  $s$  is the periodicity, e.g.  $s = 4$  for quarterly series and  $s = 12$  for monthly series.

If  $p_t$  denotes quarterly earnings, then  $y_t$  is the change in earning from the same quarter one year before.

### **Meaning of the constant term** in a model

- MA model: mean
- AR model: related to mean
- 1st differenced: time slope, etc.

Practical implication in financial time series

**Example:** Monthly log returns of General Electrics (GE) from 1926 to 1999 (74 years)

Sample mean: 1.04%,  $\text{std}(\hat{\mu}) = 0.26$

Very significant!

is about 12.45% a year

\$1 investment in the beginning of 1926 is worth

- annual compounded payment: \$5907
- quarterly compounded payment: \$8720
- monthly compounded payment: \$9570
- Continuously compounded?

### **Unit-root test** (for self study only)

Let  $p_t$  be the log price of an asset. To test that  $p_t$  is not predictable (i.e. has a unit root), two models are commonly employed:

$$p_t = \phi_1 p_{t-1} + e_t$$

$$p_t = \phi_0 + \phi_1 p_{t-1} + e_t.$$

The hypothesis of interest is  $H_o : \phi_1 = 1$  vs  $H_a : \phi_1 < 1$ .

Dickey-Fuller test is the usual  $t$ -ratio of the OLS estimate of  $\phi_1$  being 1. This is the DF unit-root test. The  $t$ -ratio, however, has a non-standard limiting distribution.

Let  $\Delta p_t = p_t - p_{t-1}$ . Then, the augmented DF unit-root test for an AR( $p$ ) model is based on

$$\Delta p_t = c_t + \beta p_{t-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{p-1} \phi_i \Delta p_{t-i} + e_t.$$

The  $t$ -ratio of the OLS estimate of  $\beta$  is the ADF unit-root test statistic. Again, the statistic has a non-standard limiting distribution.

**Example:** Consider the log series of U.S. quarterly real GDP series from 1947.I to 2005.IV. (Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis).

## R demonstration

```
> help(UnitrootTests) % See the tests available
> adfTest(gdp,lags=4,type=c("c")) % Assume an AR(4) model.
```

```
Title:
Augmented Dickey-Fuller Test
```

```
Test Results:
PARAMETER:
  Lag Order: 4
STATISTIC:
  Dickey-Fuller: -1.1199
P VALUE:
  0.6397 % Cannot reject a unit root.
```

```
*** A more careful analysis
> x=diff(gdp) % Take the first difference
> ord=ar(x) % Find AR models for x series.
> ord
```

```
Call:
ar(x = x)
```

```
Coefficients:
      1      2      3      4
0.3021  0.1311 -0.0856 -0.1060
```

```
Order selected 4 sigma^2 estimated as 8.592e-05
> adfTest(gdp,lags=5,type=c("c"))
```

```
Title:
Augmented Dickey-Fuller Test
```

```
Test Results:
PARAMETER:
  Lag Order: 5
STATISTIC:
```

```
Dickey-Fuller: -1.1339
P VALUE:
0.6345
```

## S-Plus demonstration

```
> da=read.table("r-gdp05.txt")
> dim(da)
[1] 236 4
> plot(da[,4],type='l')
> module(finmetrics)

> gdp=log(da[,4])
> plot(gdp,type='l')

> x=diff(gdp) % take the first difference

> ord=ar(x)
> ord
$order:
[1] 4

> adf=unitroot(gdp,trend='c',lags=5,method='adf')
> adf
```

Test for Unit Root: Augmented DF Test

Null Hypothesis: there is a unit root

Type of Test: t-test

Test Statistic: -1.12

P-value: 0.7083

Coefficients:

lag1	lag2	lag3	lag4	lag5	constant
-0.0012	0.2954	0.1358	-0.0864	-0.1108	0.0168

Degrees of freedom: 231 total; 225 residual

Residual standard error: 0.009283