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A Gaussian Test for Cointegration

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Abstract

We use a mixed-frequency regression technique to develop a test for cointegration under the null of stationarity of the deviations from a long-run relationship. What is noteworthy about this MA unit root test, based on a variance-difference, is that, instead of having to deal with non-standard distributions, it takes testing back to the normal distribution and offers a way to increase power without having to increase the sample size substantially. Monte Carlo simulations show minimal size distortions even when the AR root is close to unity and that the test offers substantial gains in power against near-null alternatives in moderate size samples. An empirical exercise illustrates the relative usefulness of the test further.

Key words: Null of stationarity, MA unit root, mixed-frequency regression, variance difference, normal distribution, power.

JEL: C12, C22

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1. Introduction

Non-standard distributions are a common feature of many tests for unit-roots and cointegration that are currently available.¹ The main problem with non-standard distributions is that when the true data generating process is unknown, which is the case in general, it is not easy to engage in a specification search because the distribution changes as the specification changes, especially with respect to deterministic components. As Cochrane (1991, p. 202) expressed: “To a humble *macroeconomist* it would seem that an edifice of asymptotic distribution theory that depends crucially on unknown quantities must be pretty useless in practice.” Some reprieve to this has been offered by Phillips (1998, 2002) who showed that the limiting forms of autoregressive unit root processes can be expressed entirely in terms of deterministic trend functions. The implication of this finding is that “one might mistakenly ‘reject’ a unit root model in favour of a trend ‘alternative’ when in fact the alternative model is nothing other than an alternative representation of the unit root process itself.” (Phillips, 2002, p.324). Considering the complexities involved in the specification of deterministic trend models his recommendation is, especially on grounds of parsimony and forecasting, to use pure autoregressions. Nevertheless, economic reasoning may necessitate some deterministic components in the model that will take us back to the same problem of multitude of non-standard distributions.²

¹ See Maddala and Kim (1998) for an extensive survey of the unit root literature.

² See for example, Hamilton and Flavin (1986) for a deterministic term of the form $(1+r)^t$ where r is a constant real interest rate.

In this exercise we re-visit the problem with the objective of presenting a test for cointegration based on the null of stationarity of the deviations from a long-run relationship. The test brings the distribution back to the normal distribution and at the same time offers a substantial improvement in power. The importance of tests based on the null of stationarity need not be overemphasized. Although a disproportionate amount of research has gone into I(1) processes, the I(1) characterization of economic time series may be too restrictive in many practical situations. What is of general interest is whether the regression provides stable parameters with stationary residuals regardless of the nature of the non-stationarity of the individual series. For example, two variables which are causally related may have structural breaks in them and the usual unit root tests may perceive them to be I(1) processes. In a regression relationship, however, the structural break may disappear and the regression may deliver stationary residuals. Moreover, economic theory leads us to using many ratios like consumption share of income, investment share of GDP and the average tax rate; the meaning of a unit root in them is not very clear. Therefore, forming a null of stationarity will allow us to test it against different alternatives such as autoregressive (AR) unit roots, fractional integration, structural breaks and policy interventions. The relevant alternative has to depend on the particular empirical analysis carried out. In this exercise we consider only the AR unit root alternative and defer the evaluation of other alternatives to future work.

The test presented here focuses on a moving average (MA) unit root. Although the idea of testing for an MA unit root is not new (see Table A.1) the importance of such tests need to be re-emphasized. Being a behavioral outcome an AR unit root could be

somewhat illusive (Hamilton, 1994, Sec. 15.4) whereas an MA unit root can be created by over-differencing a stationary process, therefore, easier to pin down. The basic idea underlying our test procedure emanated from a mixed-frequency regression presented in Abeysinghe (1998, 2000) and temporal aggregation and dynamic relationships studied in Rajaguru and Abeysinghe (2002, 2008) and Rajaguru (2004). The test procedure involves a simple data transformation to obtain a mixed frequency regression and focuses on the difference in error variances of the original model and the transformed model.

2. Power of Existing Unit Root Tests

As can be seen later in a Monte Carlo simulation, our proposed test entails substantial gains in power at near null alternatives. For comparison Table A.1 in Appendix provides a non-exhaustive summary, extracted from the cited studies, of the power of both AR and MA unit root tests near the null at a sample size 100 (or 200 in a few cases). Panel (a) in the table is for the non-stationary null (AR unit root) and panel (b) for the stationary null (MA unit root or its variants). Panel (a) also includes a representative citation of power under structural breaks. The literature on unit roots under structural breaks has also grown rapidly and we do not digress into this literature. The reference model given in the table involves an over-simplification for some simulation exercises. A general specification of the stationary null is given in models (1) and (2) of the paper.

The summary in Table A.1 highlights the low power of unit root tests in general although some test procedures produce reasonably large power at a sample of size 100.³ As stated earlier, most of these tests have to deal with non-standard distributions and increasing the power requires increasing the sample size. These are the problems that we try to address by the proposed test procedure.

3. Methodology

Consider the following model that Leybourne and McCabe (1994) extended from Harvey (1989) and Kwiatkowski et al. (1992) to test the null of stationarity against an alternative of difference stationarity:

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(L)y_t &= \alpha_t + \beta t + \varepsilon_t \\ \alpha_t &= \alpha_{t-1} + \eta_t, \quad \alpha_0 = \alpha\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

where $\varepsilon_t \sim iid(0, \sigma_\varepsilon^2)$, $\eta_t \sim iid(0, \sigma_\eta^2)$, both of which are independent of each other, and

$\phi(L) = 1 - \phi_1 L - \dots - \phi_p L^p$ with roots outside the unit circle. This has the following

ARIMA(p,1,1) representation:

$$\Delta y_t = \beta + \phi_1 \Delta y_{t-1} + \dots + \phi_p \Delta y_{t-p} + u_t - \theta u_{t-1}\tag{2}$$

where $u_t \sim iid(0, \sigma^2)$ with $\sigma^2 = \sigma_\varepsilon^2 / \theta$, $\theta = (\lambda - (\lambda^2 + 4\lambda)^{1/2} + 2) / 2$ and $\lambda = \sigma_\eta^2 / \sigma_\varepsilon^2$ is

the signal-to-noise ratio. The so-called hyper-parameter σ_η^2 is a measure of the size of the

random walk in (1). If $\sigma_\eta^2 = \lambda = 0$, $\theta = 1$ and model (2) collapses to a stationary AR(p)

³ It should be noted that Monte Carlo results by Gonzalo and Lee (1996) show that the size and power properties of Dickey-Fuller type unit root tests in many situations are better than the standard t-tests for stationary roots of autoregressive processes.

process. Alternatively, Δy_t in (2) has a non-invertible ARMA(p,1) representation. To test the null of stationarity a number of researchers formulated tests based on $H_0 : \sigma_\eta^2 = 0$ vs $H_1 : \sigma_\eta^2 > 0$. These are in effect tests of an MA unit root and the distributions involved are in general non-standard. As λ increases, θ approaches zero and we get a standard unit root autoregression. In this exercise the ARIMA model in (2) forms the basis of our test.

3.1 Null of Stationarity (MA Unit Root)

As stated earlier our test is based on a mixed frequency regression procedure (Abeysinghe, 1998, 2000) that helps in increasing the power of the test at a given sample size. To illustrate the idea, (2) can be written as

$$u_t = \theta u_{t-1} - \beta + \phi(L)\Delta y_t. \quad (3)$$

If u_t is assumed to be observed at intervals $t = m, 2m, \dots, T$, where $m \geq 2$ is a positive integer, and Δy_t is observed at intervals $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$, the basic idea of the mixed frequency regression is to transform u_{t-1} in (3) to u_{t-m} such that all the observations of Δy_t are retained in the regression. This transformation is easily obtained by multiplying (3) through by the polynomial $\theta(L) = 1 + \theta L + \dots + \theta^{m-1} L^{m-1}$. The transformed model can be written as

$$\theta(L)\phi(L)\Delta y_t = \theta(1)\beta + V_t \quad (4)$$

where $V_t = \theta(L)(1 - \theta L)u_t = u_t - \theta^m u_{t-m}$.

Now note that under the null $H_0 : \theta = 1$, $Var(V_t) = 2\sigma^2$ and under the alternative $H_1 : |\theta| < 1$, $Var(V_t) = (1 + \theta^{2m})\sigma^2 < 2\sigma^2$. Therefore, $Var(V_t) - 2\sigma^2$ forms the basis of our test. By transforming the test of θ into a test of $Var(V_t)$ we can arbitrarily increase the distance between the null and the alternative simply by increasing m whereby extra gains in power is made possible. For example, a test of $\theta = 1$ when $\theta = 0.9$ translates into comparing $2\sigma^2$ against $Var(V_t) = 1.43\sigma^2$ for $m=4$ and $Var(V_t) = 1.08\sigma^2$ for $m=12$. This transformation allows us to formulate a number of test statistics that follow standard distributions.

We denote $Var(V_t)$ by σ_m^2 to indicate its dependence on m . Given that we can obtain consistent estimates of the parameters in (2), we can compute $\hat{\sigma}^2$ and $\hat{\sigma}_m^2$ (see below and also Appendix) and then form the test statistic $\sqrt{T}(\hat{\sigma}_m^2 - 2\hat{\sigma}^2)$ to test $\theta = 1$ against $|\theta| < 1$. Using the subscript T to indicate the dependence on the sample size, the following theorem establishes the asymptotic distribution of the test statistic.

Theorem

Given that $u_t \sim iid(0, \sigma^2)$ and assuming $E(u_t^4) = \mu_4 < \infty$, under the null hypothesis of $\theta = 1$, $\sqrt{T}(\hat{\sigma}_{m,T}^2 - 2\hat{\sigma}_T^2) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 4\sigma^4)$.

Proof: see Appendix.

The test procedure in practice is the following. Assuming $p+1$ pre-sample values y_{-p}, \dots, y_0 are available, estimate the ARMA(p,1) for Δy_t in (2) by ML and obtain $\hat{\theta}$

and $\hat{\sigma}^2 = \sum_{t=1}^T \hat{u}_t^2 / (T - p - 2)$ (these are provided by standard computer software procedures). Then obtain $\hat{V}_t = \hat{u}_t - \hat{\theta}^m \hat{u}_{t-m}$ and $\hat{\sigma}_m^2 = \sum_{t=m+1}^T (\hat{V}_t - \bar{\hat{V}})^2 / (T_a - 1)$, where $T_a = T - m$ is the effective sample size and $\bar{\hat{V}}$ is the sample mean of \hat{V}_t . (Note that the subtraction of $\bar{\hat{V}}$ is not essential in large samples.) Then compute $z = \sqrt{T}(\hat{\sigma}_m^2 - 2\hat{\sigma}^2) / 2\hat{\sigma}^2$ and reject the null hypothesis $\theta = 1$ if $z \leq c$ where c is a left-hand critical value from the standard normal distribution.⁴ We term this z(MA) test to differentiate it from a z(AR) test that can be obtained by extending our test procedure to the AR unit root case.⁵

Although the ML estimator of θ under the null is T-consistent (see Davis and Dunmuir, 1996, and reference therein) there are two problems in relation to using estimated θ in the test statistic that we have to be concerned about. One is the well known pile-up problem of the ML estimator at the invertibility boundary (see Breidt et al., 2006, for references). The pile-up problem is an issue that is being addressed by a number of researchers. In particular Davis and Dunmuir (1996) have explored the possibility of using a Laplace likelihood with a local maximizer to estimate an MA(1) model with a unit root or a near unit root. It is very likely that an estimator of θ that will overcome the pile-up problem will emerge in due course. From a practical point of view, the pile-up

⁴ We obtained a small sample version of the variance of the test statistic that depends on m , but Monte Carlo simulations showed that there was no much gain in using such an elaborate formula.

⁵ We extended the test procedure to the AR unit root case, which provides a generalization to the variance-ratio test developed by Lo and MacKinlay (1988, 1989). Although the extension works very well (better power) in the AR(1) case, we still need further work on the AR(p) case.

problem of the Gaussian likelihood may not be a serious problem. Although over-differenced stationary series produce $\theta = 1$, AR unit-root series are likely to produce a θ well away from unity. Many empirical estimates of θ from non-stationary series hardly exceed 0.9 and do not exhibit the presence of the pile-up problem. As we shall see, our test offers sufficient power against the alternative of $\theta=0.9$ in moderate-sized samples.

The other difficulty is the near common factor problem; an AR factor with a root close to unity may render a highly unreliable estimate of θ in certain samples. The near common factor problem can easily be spotted by fitting an AR(p) model to y_t and ARMA(p,1) to Δy_t (see the application in Section 4). If y_t is stationary with an AR root near unity and if it is not well estimated in the ARMA model then it is important to re-estimate the model using different starting values for θ including $\theta=1$.

3.2 Monte Carlo Results

In this section we present the results of a Monte Carlo experiment to highlight the size and power properties of the test under near unit root alternatives. Since our primary interest is in cointegrating relationships we use the following model for the simulation exercise.

$$\begin{aligned} y_t &= \delta_0 + \delta_1 x_t + z_t \\ x_t &= x_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t. \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

$$(1 - \phi_1 L) \Delta z_t = \beta + (1 - \theta L) u_t \tag{6}$$

where u_t and ε_t are generated from independent $N(0,1)$ distributions. If δ_1 is known then (6) represents the case of testing for the stationarity of a known long run

relationship. If δ_0 and δ_1 are estimated then (6) represents the case of testing for the stationarity of regression residuals. The size of the test is obtained when $\theta = 1$. For this we set $\phi_1 = 0.5, 0.9, 0.95$. For power, we use $\theta = 0.8, 0.9$ with $\phi_1 = 0.5$. In the case of known z_t , $\beta = 1$ and when z_t is estimated residuals $\beta = 0$ and $\delta_0 = \delta_1 = 1$. We obtained the simulation results for $m=2,4,6,8,10,12$ and the size and power of the test are reported in Tables 1 and 2 respectively. We exclude the results for $m=10,12$ from the tables because they do not add much new information. When $\theta = 1$ and ϕ_1 large, it was difficult to get the computer program running due to convergence problems in small samples, so we obtained only the large sample results for these cases in Table 1.

Table 1 shows that some size distortions occur as m increases especially when regression residuals are involved. Nevertheless, these distortions are rather minimal. Although the test relies on the T-consistency of $\hat{\theta}$, the use of estimated θ tends to produce size distortions when m increases. We observe that such size distortions do not occur if we set $\theta=1$ in the computation of $\hat{\sigma}_m^2$ from residuals obtained from a pure AR fit. Careful examination of individual replications showed that the problem emanates from non-convergence of $\hat{\theta}$ in some replications even after 200 iterations.⁶

Table 2 shows that the power of the test is quite impressive in relation to those reported in Table A.1. However, the gain in power when m increases beyond 4 is rather small. Therefore, based on both size and power properties an $m=4$ seems to be an optimal

⁶ We used SAS proc arima procedure for model estimation by removing the default boundary constraint. Although we can address the problem of non-convergence by modifying the computer program to exclude all the non-convergent cases, we find that our program is extremely time consuming and we stopped using it after a few test runs.

choice. We also examined the results by over-fitting the AR order upto $p=3$; the results remain very much unaffected by this over-fitting.

It is worth making a comparison of the results in Tables 1 and 2 with the variance-difference (VD) test that Breitung (1994) developed. This asymptotically normal VD test, derived based on the assumption of an MA(q) process, produces desirable small-sample size and power properties for finite order MA processes. However, when the process involved was an ARMA(1,1) that needed to be approximated by a finite order MA process, Breitung observed substantial size distortions. For example, when $\phi_1=0.9$ ($\theta=1$), $T=100$, $\alpha=5\%$, Breitung reported empirical size of 0.907 for MA(4) approximation and 0.215 for MA(12) approximation. This problem does not arise in our test as we can see in Table 1. The table also shows that near AR unit root cases which manifest with low power in AR unit root tests come under the control of type I error in this MA unit root test.

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 Insert Table 1, Table 2
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We also considered an alternative formulation of the test that avoids using estimated θ in the estimation of $Var(V_t)$. Note that under the null ($\theta = 1$) model (4) can be written as $\phi(L)\Delta_m y_t = m\beta + u_t - u_{t-m}$. Therefore, we can fit an ARMA(p,1) model to Δy_t as before and obtain $\hat{\phi}(L)$, $\hat{\beta}$, $\hat{\sigma}^2$ (ignore $\hat{\theta}$) and obtain

$$\hat{V}_t = \hat{\phi}(L)\Delta_m y_t - m\hat{\beta} \tag{7}$$

and compute the test statistic. Note that under the alternative, model (4) changes to $\phi(L)\Delta_m y_t = m\beta + \theta(L)^{-1}(1+L+\dots+L^{m-1})(1-\theta^m L^m)u_t = m\beta + \varphi(L)u_t$, where $V_t = \varphi(L)u_t$ and $\varphi(L) = (1+\varphi_1 L + \varphi_2 L^2 + \dots)$. Therefore, $Var(V_t)$ could be on either side of $2\sigma^2$ depending on m and the test has to be a two-tailed test. We observe that this formulation of the test does not create the size distortion problem that we discussed earlier but it does not do well in terms of power. For example, when $\phi_1 = 0.5$, $\theta = 0.8$, $m=4$, and $T=100$ the power of this test is about 1/3 of that of our main $z(MA)$ test.

4. Some Empirical Results

As empirical illustrations, we present two sets of results. The first is a representative group of variables from Abeyasinghe and Choy (2007) who present a 62-equation macroeconometric model (ESU01 model) of the Singapore economy and the second is a test of stationarity of the average propensity to consume (APC) in OECD countries.

Abeyasinghe and Choy (2007) estimated all the key behavioral equations in their model individually in the form of error correction models by crafting out the underlying long-run (cointegrating) relationships, paying careful attention to specific features of the Singapore economy, economic theory, and parameter stability. Table 3 presents test results for two groups of cointegrating relationships: (i) cointegrating regression residuals⁷ and (ii) relations with known coefficients. In the latter group, the oil price

⁷ Readers interested in the regression equations and data are referred to Abeyasinghe and Choy (2007).

equations were designed to check the extent of exchange rate pass-through.⁸ Relative unit business cost (RUBC) and the real exchange rate (RER) are both measures of competitiveness. Although the RER presented in the table is not a variable in the ESU01 model, we use it here for further illustration of the performance of the test.

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Insert Table 3

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In Table 3, all series except for RER clearly qualify as AR(1) processes and it is worth noting that the estimates of ρ from AR model and ARMA(1,1) model for the first differences are very close. Therefore, first estimating an AR(p) model provides a good check against the ARMA(p,1) estimation for the MA unit root test. It is also useful to note that when over-differencing is not involved as in the RER case (also those in Table 4 below) the MA root is likely to be a distance away from unity in many practical cases and as a result our test carries a lot of power against such alternatives.

The test results in Table 3 show that if we were to use the ADF test to test for cointegration only three equations (consumption, exports and oil export price) qualify as cointegrating relationships (the null of AR unit root is rejected). Our z(MA) test, on the other hand, does not reject the null of stationarity (and cointegration) in all the cases except the last one. The RER series with $\hat{\rho}=0.98$ clearly comes out as a non-stationary process. Since Abeysinghe and Choy (2007) have already studied these cointegrating

⁸ As the third largest oil refining center and trading hub in the world Singapore may have some price setting power on its oil market in which case the stationarity of the long-run relationship with unity restriction has to be rejected. Note that short-run pass through is well below unity.

relationships in detail, and the fact that the $z(\text{MA})$ test results concur with their findings represents a strong case in favor of the new test.

As a further illustration of the test, Table 4 presents the test results from three popular tests and the $z(\text{MA})$ test on APC for 21 OECD countries.⁹ Because of the non-availability of sufficiently long data series on non-durable consumption and disposable income we measure APC by the ratio of total consumption expenditure to GDP. Although the APC is expected to be stationary for developed economies on the grounds that long-run departures of consumption expenditure from income is less likely, some countries show local trends in their APCs over the sample period. This is reflected in large values of $\hat{\rho}$ (the sum of AR coefficients) in Table 4. This is where many tests may misconstrue the APC to be an $I(1)$ process.

As in Table 3, we notice in Table 4 the close correspondence between $\text{AR}(p)$ coefficients and $\text{ARMA}(p,1)$ coefficients in identifiable stationary cases. It is also worth noting that in stationary cases $\hat{\theta}$ turns out to be almost unity. This means that the size distortion we noticed in the Monte Carlo experiment resulting from under estimation of θ may not be a serious problem in practice.

Again the ADF test turns out to be the least powerful against near unit root alternatives, as it renders an $I(1)$ verdict for 18 of the 21 APC series. The KPSS test and the Johansen test fair better, recognizing eight cases as cointegrating relationships. Unfortunately the eight cases do not necessarily overlap. Our $z(\text{MA})$ test, on the other

⁹ Data for this exercise are from the IFS database except for France. IFS data for France show some irregularities; therefore, France data were taken from the OECD database which covers a shorter time span than the IFS database.

hand, takes 15 of the APC series to be stationary. It rejected stationarity only when $\hat{\rho} \geq 0.97$ and when the local trend dominated the series; see the cases of Canada and Korea for a comparison, both with $\hat{\rho} = 0.97$, while one is assessed to be I(0), the other I(1). Like many fast growing developing economies Korea experienced a falling APC till the mid 1980s before stabilizing to fluctuate around a constant mean. Rejecting the null of stationarity of APC is, therefore, an indication of the interplay of other variables that need to be considered instead of taking APC to be an I(1) process.

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Insert Table 4
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5. Conclusion

This exercise addresses three important issues. First, it highlights the importance of formulating tests based on the null of stationarity. Unfortunately the profession has not paid enough attention to this. What is of general importance is whether a regression relationship produces stationary residuals regardless of the nature of non-stationarities of the individual series. Moreover, an AR unit root in an individual series is hard to pin down because an apparent unit root could be a manifestation of some other forms of non-stationarity. We present an MA unit root test based on the null of stationarity. Unlike the AR unit root which is a behavioral outcome, the MA unit root is created by over-differencing and therefore easier to pin down.

Although testing for an MA unit root is not new to the literature the existing tests require non-standard distributions. The second important aspect of the exercise is that the

proposed test brings us back to the normal distribution and makes specifications searches easier. The third aspect of the exercise is that the test procedure entails a mechanism to increase power without necessarily having to increase the sample size. This addresses the problem of low power at near null alternatives of many AR unit root tests that are currently available.

An important objection one could raise against our test is the difficulty of estimating an MA root on or near the unit circle. Some researchers are actively working on this problem and a better estimation method is likely to emerge in due course. Nevertheless, as our empirical exercise highlights, the estimation problem may not be that serious in cases encountered in practice. An alternative would be to devise a method that avoids using estimated θ . One such alternative that we tried under the formulation in (7) did not improve power much. Therefore, based on size, power and simplicity the proposed test is quite promising.

Appendix

Proof of the Theorem

Here we derive the asymptotic distribution of $\sqrt{T}(\hat{\sigma}_{m,T}^2 - 2\hat{\sigma}_T^2)$ under the null hypothesis $\theta = 1$. Assuming $(p+m)$ pre-sample values are available we can run the model in (2) to obtain consistent estimates of the parameters, obtain the estimated residuals \hat{u}_t ,

and compute $\hat{\sigma}_T^2 = (1/T) \sum_{t=1}^T \hat{u}_t^2$, $\hat{V}_t = \hat{u}_t - \hat{\theta}^m \hat{u}_{t-m}$, $\hat{\sigma}_{m,T}^2 = (1/T) \sum_{t=1}^T \hat{V}_t^2$. We have to work on

the expression:

$$\sqrt{T}(\hat{\sigma}_{m,T}^2 - 2\hat{\sigma}_T^2) = \sqrt{T}[(\hat{\sigma}_{m,T}^2 - 2\sigma^2) - 2(\hat{\sigma}_T^2 - \sigma^2)]. \quad (\text{A1})$$

It is well established that $\sqrt{T}(\hat{\sigma}_T^2 - \sigma^2) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, (\mu_4 - \sigma^4))$. (See, for example, Hamilton, 1994, p. 212.) We can establish a similar result for $\sqrt{T}(\hat{\sigma}_{m,T}^2 - 2\sigma^2)$. However, since our interest is in the difference in (A1) we can derive its asymptotic distribution in a direct manner.

Given the T-consistency of $\hat{\theta}$ under the null $\theta = 1$, in large samples the aggregation polynomial $\theta(L)$ can be written as $\theta(L) = (1 + L + \dots + L^{m-1})$ and model (4) can be written as

$$\Delta_m y_t = m\beta + \phi_1 \Delta_m y_{t-1} + \dots + \phi_p \Delta_m y_{t-p} + V_t \quad (\text{A2})$$

where $\Delta_m z_t = z_t - z_{t-m}$ and $V_t = u_t - u_{t-m}$. Now defining $\mathbf{x}_t = (1, \Delta y_{t-1}, \dots, \Delta y_{t-p})'$, $\mathbf{x}_{at} = (1, \Delta_m y_{t-1}, \dots, \Delta_m y_{t-p})'$ and $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\beta^+, \phi_1, \dots, \phi_p)'$, where $\beta^+ = m\beta$, we can write (A2) as $\Delta_m y_t = \mathbf{x}'_{at} \boldsymbol{\beta} + V_t$ or in full observation matrix format as

$$\mathbf{y}_a = \mathbf{X}_a \boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{V} \quad (\text{A3})$$

where \mathbf{y}_a is the observation vector of $\Delta_m y_t$ and the other terms defined conformably.

Now we can obtain

$$\hat{\mathbf{V}} = \mathbf{V} - \mathbf{X}_a (\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} - \boldsymbol{\beta}) \quad (\text{A3})$$

and using the subscript T to indicate the dependence on sample size we get

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\sigma}_{m,T}^2 &= (1/T) \hat{\mathbf{V}}_T' \hat{\mathbf{V}}_T = (1/T) \mathbf{V}_T' \mathbf{V}_T - (2/T) (\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_T - \boldsymbol{\beta})' \mathbf{X}'_{aT} \mathbf{V}_T \\ &\quad + (\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_T - \boldsymbol{\beta})' (\mathbf{X}'_{aT} \mathbf{X}_{aT} / T) (\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_T - \boldsymbol{\beta}) \quad (\text{A4}) \\ &\xrightarrow{p} 2\sigma^2. \end{aligned}$$

This result holds because $(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_T - \boldsymbol{\beta}) \xrightarrow{p} \mathbf{0}$ and it is assumed that $(\mathbf{X}'_{aT} \mathbf{X}_{aT} / T) \xrightarrow{p} \mathbf{Q}_a$, a finite positive definite matrix, and as shown below $\mathbf{X}'_{aT} \mathbf{V}_T / T \xrightarrow{p} \mathbf{c}$, a $((p+1) \times 1)$ vector of constants. This vector can be derived easily by noting $\mathbf{X}'_{aT} \mathbf{V}_T / T = T^{-1} \sum \mathbf{x}_{at} V_t = -T^{-1} \sum \mathbf{x}_{at} u_{t-m} + o_p(1)$ and $\Delta_m y_t = \phi(L)^{-1} V_t = \psi(L) V_t$, where $\phi(L)^{-1} = \psi(L) = 1 + \psi_1 L + \psi_2 L^2 + \dots$. The first term of $T^{-1} \sum \mathbf{x}_{at} u_{t-m}$ leads to $T^{-1} \sum u_{t-m} \xrightarrow{p} 0$. The p th term of $T^{-1} \sum \mathbf{x}_{at} u_{t-m}$ is $T^{-1} \sum \Delta_m y_{t-p} u_{t-m} = T^{-1} \sum \psi(L) (u_{t-1} - u_{t-m-1}) u_{t-m} = T^{-1} \sum \psi_{m-p} u_{t-m}^2 + o_p(1) \xrightarrow{p} \sigma^2 \psi_{m-p}$. If $p > m$, $\psi_{-p} = 0$.

Now consider $\sqrt{T}(\hat{\sigma}_{m,T}^2 - 2\sigma^2)$. Multiplying (A4) through by \sqrt{T} shows that the last term of (A4) converges in probability zero and provides

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{T}(\hat{\sigma}_{m,T}^2 - 2\sigma^2) &= \sqrt{T}(\mathbf{V}'_T \mathbf{V}_T / T - 2\sigma^2) - 2\sqrt{T}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_T - \boldsymbol{\beta})'(\mathbf{X}'_{aT} \mathbf{V}_T / T) \\ &= \sqrt{T}(\mathbf{V}'_T \mathbf{V}_T / T - 2\sigma^2) + o_p(1). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A5})$$

Note that $(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_T - \boldsymbol{\beta})$ is $o_p(1)$ and $(\mathbf{X}'_{aT} \mathbf{V}_T / \sqrt{T})$ is $O_p(1)$.

In a similar way we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{T}(\hat{\sigma}_T^2 - \sigma^2) &= \sqrt{T}(\mathbf{u}'_T \mathbf{u}_T / T - \sigma^2) - 2\sqrt{T}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_T - \boldsymbol{\beta})'(\mathbf{X}'_T \mathbf{u}_T / T) \\ &= \sqrt{T}(\mathbf{u}'_T \mathbf{u}_T / T - \sigma^2) + o_p(1) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A6})$$

Now from (A5) and (A6) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{T}(\hat{\sigma}_{m,T}^2 - 2\hat{\sigma}_T^2) &= (1/\sqrt{T}) \left(\sum (u_t - u_{t-m})^2 - 2\sum u_t^2 \right) + o_p(1) \\ &= (1/\sqrt{T}) \sum (-u_t^2 - 2u_t u_{t-m} + u_{t-m}^2) + o_p(1) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A7})$$

It is easily seen from (A7) that $\sqrt{T}(\hat{\sigma}_{m,T}^2 - 2\hat{\sigma}_T^2) \xrightarrow{p} 0$. To derive its variance,

$$\text{let } \xi_t = -u_t^2 - 2u_t u_{t-m} + u_{t-m}^2$$

and obtain

$$\text{Var}((1/\sqrt{T})\sum \xi_t) = (1/T)[E(\sum \xi_t)^2] = (1/T)[\sum_{t=1}^T E(\xi_t^2) + 2\sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^{t-1} E(\xi_t \xi_{t-k})]. \quad (\text{A8})$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(\xi_t^2) &= E[(-u_t^2 - 2u_t u_{t-m} + u_{t-m}^2)(-u_t^2 - 2u_t u_{t-m} + u_{t-m}^2)] \\ &= 2\mu_4 + 2\sigma^4. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A9})$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(\xi_t \xi_{t-k}) &= E[(-u_t^2 - 2u_t u_{t-m} + u_{t-m}^2)(-u_{t-k}^2 - 2u_{t-k} u_{t-k-m} + u_{t-k-m}^2)], \text{ for } k = m \\ &= -\mu_4 + \sigma^4, \text{ for } k = m \\ &= 0, \text{ for } k \neq m. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A10})$$

and

$$\text{Var}((1/\sqrt{T})\sum \xi_t) = (1/T)[2T(\mu_4 + \sigma^4) + 2T(-\mu_4 + \sigma^4)] = 4\sigma^4. \quad (\text{A11})$$

Therefore, from (A7) and A(11) we can see that $\text{Var}(\sqrt{T}(\hat{\sigma}_{m,T}^2 - 2\hat{\sigma}_T^2)) \xrightarrow{p} 4\sigma^4$.

Furthermore, above results show that $\sqrt{T}(\hat{\sigma}_{m,T}^2 - 2\hat{\sigma}_T^2)$ is a stationary ergodic process with covariance converging to $-\mu_4 + \sigma^4$ at lag m and to zero at other lags. Therefore, by the central limit theorem for stationary stochastic processes (Hamilton, 1994, Proposition 7.11, White, 2001, Section 5.3) we can establish that $\sqrt{T}(\hat{\sigma}_{m,T}^2 - 2\hat{\sigma}_T^2) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 4\sigma^4)$.

QED

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Table 1

Size of the z(MA) test for an MA unit root (2000 replications)

Known long-run relation or single series												
	m=2			m=4			m=6			m=8		
$\phi_1=0.5, \theta=1$												
T	1%	5%	10%	1%	5%	10%	1%	5%	10%	1%	5%	10%
100	0.010	0.028	0.058	0.022	0.048	0.087	0.027	0.050	0.088	0.030	0.052	0.085
200	0.008	0.030	0.055	0.020	0.042	0.076	0.028	0.056	0.086	0.031	0.059	0.091
300	0.008	0.028	0.068	0.017	0.050	0.096	0.032	0.076	0.121	0.038	0.066	0.103
500	0.002	0.030	0.068	0.013	0.054	0.095	0.022	0.060	0.096	0.027	0.061	0.104
$\phi_1=0.9, \theta=1$												
200	0.010	0.035	0.076	0.011	0.039	0.079	0.013	0.042	0.083	0.015	0.045	0.077
300	0.007	0.034	0.079	0.008	0.040	0.089	0.011	0.052	0.097	0.009	0.038	0.075
500	0.005	0.035	0.080	0.009	0.037	0.084	0.011	0.044	0.080	0.008	0.038	0.087
$\phi_1=0.95, \theta=1$												
300	0.009	0.044	0.090	0.005	0.040	0.082	0.008	0.038	0.087	0.005	0.047	0.101
500	0.006	0.038	0.078	0.006	0.048	0.089	0.008	0.040	0.095	0.011	0.049	0.097
Regression residuals												
$\phi_1=0.5, \theta=1$												
100	0.014	0.050	0.083	0.041	0.081	0.113	0.056	0.094	0.137	0.075	0.111	0.150
200	0.007	0.032	0.060	0.026	0.064	0.103	0.041	0.088	0.132	0.062	0.105	0.149
300	0.009	0.030	0.056	0.024	0.057	0.095	0.040	0.080	0.130	0.053	0.091	0.132
500	0.006	0.028	0.055	0.015	0.057	0.093	0.023	0.069	0.122	0.047	0.093	0.140
$\phi_1=0.9, \theta=1$												
200	0.019	0.059	0.099	0.035	0.085	0.130	0.055	0.103	0.149	0.074	0.118	0.163
300	0.012	0.048	0.096	0.025	0.073	0.117	0.051	0.100	0.145	0.062	0.118	0.165
500	0.009	0.037	0.084	0.016	0.054	0.106	0.033	0.082	0.137	0.037	0.085	0.142
$\phi_1=0.95, \theta=1$												
300	0.020	0.064	0.114	0.038	0.085	0.135	0.050	0.104	0.153	0.065	0.114	0.169
500	0.012	0.056	0.099	0.027	0.070	0.117	0.038	0.092	0.142	0.048	0.095	0.142

Table 2

Power of the z(MA) test for an MA unit root (2000 replications)

Known long-run relation or single series												
	m=2			m=4			m=6			m=8		
$\phi_1=0.5, \theta=0.8$												
T	1%	5%	10%	1%	5%	10%	1%	5%	10%	1%	5%	10%
100	0.432	0.518	0.553	0.556	0.595	0.618	0.579	0.604	0.630	0.582	0.600	0.624
200	0.756	0.826	0.851	0.867	0.885	0.893	0.881	0.888	0.897	0.887	0.892	0.899
300	0.911	0.946	0.957	0.969	0.973	0.977	0.972	0.974	0.976	0.972	0.974	0.977
500	0.988	0.994	0.994	0.997	0.997	0.997	0.996	0.997	0.997	0.998	0.998	0.998
$\phi_1=0.5, \theta=0.9$												
100	0.162	0.242	0.288	0.286	0.346	0.384	0.334	0.359	0.395	0.339	0.367	0.402
200	0.350	0.508	0.584	0.618	0.678	0.702	0.665	0.696	0.718	0.688	0.706	0.727
300	0.566	0.714	0.785	0.813	0.855	0.872	0.854	0.876	0.884	0.866	0.879	0.890
500	0.828	0.924	0.952	0.970	0.980	0.983	0.982	0.987	0.987	0.984	0.988	0.990
Regression residuals												
$\phi_1=0.5, \theta=0.8$												
100	0.421	0.494	0.530	0.529	0.558	0.581	0.546	0.559	0.581	0.550	0.568	0.589
200	0.732	0.790	0.809	0.817	0.837	0.852	0.829	0.843	0.856	0.834	0.845	0.856
300	0.888	0.927	0.937	0.942	0.951	0.955	0.948	0.953	0.959	0.950	0.955	0.960
500	0.988	0.993	0.994	0.995	0.996	0.996	0.995	0.996	0.996	0.995	0.995	0.996
$\phi_1=0.5, \theta=0.9$												
100	0.169	0.241	0.272	0.276	0.310	0.347	0.305	0.332	0.357	0.310	0.341	0.370
200	0.358	0.494	0.553	0.561	0.622	0.657	0.613	0.643	0.674	0.630	0.653	0.675
300	0.575	0.717	0.775	0.792	0.827	0.848	0.831	0.855	0.866	0.842	0.856	0.864
500	0.850	0.912	0.929	0.947	0.957	0.959	0.955	0.958	0.963	0.959	0.961	0.963

Table 3

Cointegration test for selected equations from the ESU01 model of the Singapore economy (Abeyasinghe and Choy, 2007)

Equation in the model	T	$\hat{\rho}$	ARMA(1,1)	ADF	z(MA)
(i) Regression Residuals					
Consumption	104	0.67	0.70, 0.99	-4.48*	-0.77
Exports (non oil domestic)	96	0.54	0.56, 0.99	-5.27*	0.63
Employment	96	0.86	0.88, 0.99	-2.41	0.51
Wages	96	0.89	0.87, 0.99	-2.94	0.49
CPI	96	0.93	0.95, 0.99	-2.01	0.05
(ii) Known coefficients (log form)					
Oil import price in S\$	104	0.89	0.85, 0.99	-2.43	-1.49
Oil export price in S\$	104	0.76	0.79, 0.99	-3.68*	0.42
RUBC	96	0.91	0.93, 0.99	-2.17	0.25
RER	336	0.98	0.00, -0.25	-2.39	-9.03*

RUBC=relative unit business cost. RER=real exchange rate (S\$/US\$, CPI based). Oil price relationships are: oil price in Singapore dollars equals oil price in US\$ times the Sin/US exchange rate. The first eight series are quarterly from 1978Q1 or 1980Q1 to 2003Q4. RER is monthly over 1975-2003. The null for z(MA) is stationarity (MA unit root) and that for ADF is non-stationarity (AR unit root). * significant at the 5% level (left-tail test).

Table 4
Cointegration test on APC

Country	Sample period (quarterly)	T	AR Lags	AR Coefficients	$\hat{\rho}$	ARMA(p,1)	ADF	Johansen VAR(4)	KPSS	z(MA) m=4
Australia	1960-2007	192	1	0.92	0.92	0.94, 0.99	-2.71	yes	0.21	0.39
Austria	1965-2007	172	1,2,3	0.55,0.18,0.18	0.91	0.56, 0.19, 0.20, 0.99	-2.33	no	0.14	0.34
Belgium	1980-2007	111	1	0.98	0.98	0.00, 0.12	-0.77	no	1.09*	-5.37*
Canada	1957-2007	204	1	0.97	0.97	0.97, 0.99	-1.97	no	0.73*	-0.30
Denmark	1978-2007	124	1,4	0.75, 0.21	0.96	0.75, 0.17, 0.99	-1.71	yes	1.02*	-0.57
Finland	1970-2007	152	1,4	0.71, 0.21	0.92	0.72, 0.19, 0.99	-2.21	no	1.00*	-1.41
France	1978-2007	120	1	0.94	0.94	0.97, 0.99	-2.1	yes	0.49*	0.48
Germany	1961-2007	188	1,3	0.71, 0.23	0.94	0.72, 0.23, 0.99	-1.99	yes	0.87*	-1.13
Italy	1970-2007	151	1,4	0.70, 0.12	0.82	0.66, 0.99	-2.98*	yes	0.95*	-0.5
Japan	1965-2007	172	1	0.94	0.94	0.95, 0.99	-2.45	no	0.18	-1.29
Korea, South	1965-2007	172	1	0.97	0.97	0.00, 0.20	-2.45	no	1.38*	-6.51*
Mexico	1981-2007	108	1	0.88	0.88	0.88, 0.99	-2.62	no	0.40	-0.14
Netherlands	1977-2007	124	1,2	0.51, 0.46	0.97	0.35, 0.25	-0.78	no	1.03*	-5.75*
New Zealand	1987-2007	82	1	0.72	0.72	0.75, 0.99	-3.69*	yes	0.09	0.58
Norway	1961-2007	188	1,2	0.75, 0.23	0.98	0.00, 0.25	-0.83	no	1.31*	-6.52*
Spain	1970-2007	152	1,4	0.79, 0.20	0.99	0.00, 0.24	-0.06	no	1.41*	-6.66*
Sweden	1980-2007	112	1,2,4	0.66, 0.39, -0.17	0.88	0.61, 0.41, -0.17, 0.99	-2.21	no	0.43	-0.81
Switzerland	1970-2007	152	1,2,3	0.60, 0.51, -0.18	0.94	0.59, 0.53, -0.16, 0.99	-1.81	no	0.16	-1.11
Turkey	1987-2007	83	1	0.62	0.62	0.57, 0.99	-4.23*	yes	0.49*	0.36
UK	1957-2007	204	1,3	0.73, 0.24	0.97	0.73, 0.25, 0.99	-1.55	yes	0.44	1.21
US	1957-2007	204	1,2	0.83, 0.17	1.00	0.00, 0.17	-0.18	no	1.62*	-7.29*

Note that some data series end in Q2 or Q3 in 2007. Tests are based on $\log(\text{APC}) = \log(\text{C}/\text{Y})$, where C is total consumption expenditure and Y is GDP, both in nominal terms and seasonally adjusted. For the Johansen test “yes” means acceptance of cointegration between $\log(\text{C})$ and $\log(\text{Y})$ with the cointegrating vector (1, -1). For the KPSS test the default settings in Eviews were used. * Significant at the 5% level.

Table A.1

Power of unit root tests at the 5% level and T=100. Reference model: $y_t = \alpha + \beta t + \rho y_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t - \theta \varepsilon_{t-1}$, $\varepsilon_t \sim iid(0, \sigma^2)$
 (When T=100 is not available 200 is used and marked with an asterisk against author's name)

(a) Non-stationary null ($\rho = 1$)

Name of Authors	Year	Model Type	Test Type	$\rho = 0.80$	0.85	0.90	0.95	0.975	Remarks
Dicky & Fuller	1979	$\theta=0, \beta=0$	$\hat{\rho}$	0.86		0.30	0.10		DF test, AR(1) process
		$\theta=0, \beta=0$	t	0.73		0.18	0.06		
Bhargava	1986	$\theta=0, \beta=0$	DW	0.73	0.49	0.25	0.10		
Phillips & Perron	1988	$\theta=0, \beta=0$	t		0.47				ADF, Said & Dicky 1984
		$\theta=0.8, \beta=0$	t		0.30				ADF
		$\theta=0, \beta=0$	Z(t)		0.69				PP
		$\theta=0.8, \beta=0$	Z(t)		0.35				PP
Pantula & Hall*	1991	$\theta=0, \beta=0$	IV					0.09-0.33	Range of IV estimates. In general power > 0.05
		$\theta=0.8, \beta=0$	IV					0.01-0.35	
DeJong et al.	1992	$\theta=0, \beta \neq 0$	$\tau(\rho)$	0.75	0.49	0.24	0.10		For starting value 0. Power drops slightly as starting value increases.
			$F(\beta, \rho)$	0.65	0.39	0.19	0.08		
Blough	1992	$\theta=0, \beta=0$	ADF, IV						Graphical presentation. Power drops to 5% for $\rho > 0.5$.
Schmidt & Phillips	1992	$\theta=0, \beta \neq 0$	LM			0.27	0.108		Reported is highest power under different specifications
Choi	1992	$\theta=0, \beta \neq 0$	DH	0.97	0.84	0.54	0.24		Durbin-Hausman
Lee & Schimidt	1994	$\theta=0.8, \beta=0$	IV				0.22		Compares Hall-IV with SP-IV
Pantula et al.	1994	$\theta=0, \beta=0$	WS			0.602	0.261		Compares OLS, MLE as well.
Yap & Reinsel *	1995	$\theta=0, \beta=0$	LR	1.00		0.82	0.33		
		$\theta=0.8, \beta=0$	LR	-		0.74	0.56		
Leybourne	1995	$\theta=0, \beta=0$	DFmax	0.88		0.34			

Table A.1 continued

Name of Authors	Year	Model Type	Test Type	$\rho = 0.80$	0.85	0.90	0.95	0.975	Remarks
Park & Fuller	1995	$\theta=0, \beta=0$							Graphical. For intercept model: WS>SS>OLS. For interceptless model: OLS>SS>WS. (SS=simple symmetric, WS=weighted symmetric)
Perron & Ng *	1996	$\theta=0.8, \beta=0$	MZ(ρ) MSB MZ(t)			0.75 0.79 0.63	0.42 0.46 0.30		Modified PP
Elliot et al.	1996	$\theta=0.8, \beta=0$	t	0.51		0.30	0.15		Power at $\rho=0.95$ not very different across models
Hwang & Schmidt	1996	$\theta=0, \beta \neq 0$	GLS	0.28	0.18				Power is roughly similar across different tests reported

Non-stationary null: Structural breaks

Lanne & Lutkepohl	2002	Perron Perron & Vogelsang Amsler & Lee Schmidt & Phillips Lanne et al				0.21 0.14 0.12 0.09 0.23			Known break, level shift. Power is very similar for slope change. See the article for model specification.
Lanne et al.	2003	Test 1, drift Test 2, drift Test 3, trend Test 3, trend				0.28 0.20 0.23 0.18			Unknown break, level shift. Power is very similar for slope change. See the article for model specification.

Table A.1 continued

(b) Stationary null ($\rho = 1, \theta = 1$)

Name of Authors	Year	Model Type	Test Type	$\theta^* = 0.80$	0.85	0.90	0.95	0.975	Remarks
Park	1990		J1 test						No simulation results
Kwiatkowski et al.	1992	$\beta=0$	$\eta(\mu)$ 10			0.59		0.17	KPSS test. The test basically involves testing $\sigma_\eta^2 = 0$ in model (1) in Section 3.
		$\beta=0$	$\eta(\mu)$ 14			0.51		0.15	
		$\beta=0$	$\eta(\mu)$ 112			0.38		0.10	
		$\beta \neq 0$	$\eta(\tau)$ 10			0.35		0.05	
		$\beta \neq 0$	$\eta(\tau)$ 14			0.28		0.05	
		$\beta \neq 0$	$\eta(\tau)$ 112			0.17		0.04	
Saikkonen & Luukkonen	1993	$\beta=0$	R2	0.81	0.71	0.56	0.32		Authors also consider non-white errors.
Breitung	1994	$\beta=0$	Spectral	0.04		0.03	0.03		
			Var diff	0.87		0.43	0.16		
			Tanaka	0.86		0.62	0.32		
Leybourne and McCabe	1994	Extended KPSS	$s(\alpha)$ p=1			0.61		0.17	Show that KPSS is subject to severe size distortions in general ARIMA cases.
			$s(\alpha)$ p=2			0.59		0.17	
			$s(\alpha)$ p=3			0.56		0.16	
Choi	1994	$\beta=0$	w1 l=2	0.47					Power remains low for other lags on w2 test
			w1 l=3	0.38					
			w1 l=4	0.27					
			w1 l=5	0.06					
			w2 l=1	0.08					
		$\beta \neq 0$							

Note: * θ values given here are implicit of many of these models.