

ECONOMICS 6002 CLASS 17  
SERIAL CORRELATION

1. Effects of serial correlation in residuals
  - a. Covariance matrix of residuals  $\Sigma = \sigma^2 \Omega$  is not diagonal
  - b. OLS is not BLUE
  - c. GLS is BLUE, but requires knowledge of  $\Omega$
  - d. If  $\Omega$  is *not* known, but a consistent estimate is available, FGLS is consistent and asymptotically efficient, but is not BLUE.
  - e. OLS standard errors are invalid, but a consistent estimate of the asymptotic covariance matrix has been derived by Newey-West.
  - f. Two common processes analysed
    - i. Autoregressive processes (long-memory)
    - ii. Moving-average processes (short-memory)
2. Properties of OLS estimator with serial correlation
  - a. Normally unbiased, but inefficient
  - b. Covariance matrix incorrectly computed
    - i. A consistent estimator (by Newey-West) is available
  - c. OLS is biased and inconsistent when a lagged dependent variable is present in the equation
3. Testing for serial correlation
  - a. Durbin-Watson exact test
  - b. Durbin  $h$ -test (when lagged dependent variable present)
  - c. LM test (Breusch-Godfrey)
4. OLS estimation in the presence of autocorrelation
  - a. Loss of efficiency can be significant
  - b. The Newey-West covariance matrix is a consistent estimate of the OLS covariance matrix, but a truncation parameter must be specified.
5. Correcting for serial correlation
  - a. GLS is BLUE because it transforms the disturbance so that it is no longer autocorrelated. This requires knowledge of the covariance matrix of the disturbances  $\Omega$ .
  - b. FGLS is based on a consistent estimate of  $\Omega$ .
    - i. The Cochrane-Orcutt method is a back-and-forth two-step method that estimates the first-order autocorrelation coefficient from the equation residuals.
    - ii. The Hildreth-Lu method is a grid-search method.
    - iii. Higher-order autocorrelation models are typically estimated by non-linear methods.
6. Autoregressive Conditional Heteroskedasticity (ARCH) models