THE GENERALIZED VARIANCE OF A STATIONARY AUTOREGRESSIVE PROCESS

BY

T. W. ANDERSON and RAUL P. MENTZ

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The Generalized Variance of a Stationary Autoregressive Process

bу

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An autoregressive process $\{y_t^{}\}$ of order p with mean 0 is defined by

(1)
$$y_t + \beta_1 y_{t-1} + \dots + \beta_p y_{t-p} = u_t$$
, $t = \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots$,

where the u_t are independent random variables with $u_t = 0$, $u_t^2 = \sigma^2$, $0 < \sigma^2 < \infty$. The stochastic process is stationary and v_t is independent of u_{t+1} , u_{t+2} , ... if and only if the β_j are such that the associated polynomial equation

(2)
$$b(w) = \sum_{j=0}^{p} \beta_{j} w^{p-j} = 0,$$

where β_0 = 1, has roots w_1 , ..., w_p less than 1 in absolute value. The purpose of this paper is to show that the generalized variance of the process is a power of the variance of u_t times $\Pi^p_{i,j=1}(1-w_iw_j)^{-1}$.

The covariance sequence of the process is composed of $\sigma_s = \xi_{y_t y_{t+s}} = \sigma_{-s}, \ s = 0,1,\dots \ .$ Consider a sequence of observations $y_1, \dots, y_T \quad \text{for} \quad T \geq p \quad \text{constituting a sample vector} \quad y_T = (y_1,\dots,y_T)'.$

The covariance matrix of the sample vector is

(3)
$$\boldsymbol{\xi}_{\boldsymbol{y}_{T}\boldsymbol{y}_{T}^{\prime}}^{\prime} = (\sigma_{i-j}) \equiv \Sigma_{T} \equiv \sigma^{2} \mathbb{Q}_{T}.$$

The determinant $|\Sigma_T| = (\sigma^2)^T |\Omega_T|$ is the generalized variance of Σ_T . In the Gaussian case the joint density of Σ_p and Σ_{p+1} , ..., Σ_T (Σ_T) is

(4)
$$\frac{|Q_{p}^{-1}|^{\frac{1}{2}}}{(2\pi)^{T/2} \sigma^{T}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^{2}} \left[y_{p}^{'} Q_{p}^{-1} y_{p} + \sum_{t=p+1}^{T} u_{t}^{2} \right] \right\}$$

Since the Jacobian of the transformation from y_p , u_{p+1} , ..., u_T to y_T is 1, the constant of the density of y_T is the same as of (4) and hence $|Q_p^{-1}| = |Q_T^{-1}|$, $T \ge p$. (See Walker (1961) and Siddiqui (1958),) Since $|Q_T| = |Q_p|$ for $T \ge p$, we call $|Q_p|$ the <u>normalized generalized variance</u> of the process.

For $T\geq p$ substitution for u_t from (1), $t=p+1,\ldots,T$, into (4) to obtain the density of y_T yields the quadratic form y_T Q_T^{-1} y_T , showing that every element of Q_T^{-1} is a second degree polynomial in β_1,\ldots,β_p except possibly elements of Q_p^{-1} . However, since the density of y_1,\ldots,y_T is identical to the density of y_T,\ldots,y_1 , the elements of Q_p^{-1} must be second degree polynomials in β_1,\ldots,β_p . The components of Q_p^{-1} are therefore polynomials in the roots w_1,\ldots,w_p of degree at most 2p. Hence, the determinant $|Q_p^{-1}|$ is a polynomial in w_1,\ldots,w_p of degree at most $(2p)^p$.

Lemma 1, If

then

(6)
$$|C| = \prod_{i \le j} (h_j - h_i)$$

and

(7)
$$C_{lk} = (-1)^{k-l} \left(\prod_{i \neq k} h_i \right) \prod_{\substack{i < j \\ i \neq k \neq j}} (h_j - h_i),$$

where c_{lk} denotes the cofactor of c_{lk} in $\overset{\circ}{\sim}$.

<u>Proof.</u> C is a Vandermonde matrix, and |C| and |C| are given, for example, by Hamming (1962), Sections 8.2 and 10.3. A direct proof of (7) using (6) is as follows: to form C_{lk} delete row 1 and column |C|; in the cofactor, factor |C| out of the i-th column (i\neq k) to obtain a Vandermonde determinant of order p-1. Q.E.D.

Lemma 2. The determinant of order p,

(8)
$$D_{p} \equiv \left| \frac{1}{a_{i} + b_{j}} \right| = \frac{\prod_{i < j} (a_{j} - a_{i})(b_{j} - b_{i})}{\prod_{i,j=1} (a_{i} + b_{j})} .$$

Proof. This is Cauchy's determinant; see, for example, Bellman (1960), Section 11.6, Exercise 1. A direct proof is as follows: To convert into 0 each element in the first column, except for that in the first row, we subtract from each row an appropriate multiple of its first row. The i,j-th element is thus converted into

(9)
$$\frac{1}{a_{i}+b_{j}} - \frac{1}{a_{1}+b_{j}} \frac{a_{1}+b_{1}}{a_{i}+b_{1}} = \frac{a_{i}-a_{1}}{a_{i}+b_{1}} \frac{b_{j}-b_{1}}{a_{1}+b_{j}} \frac{1}{a_{i}+b_{j}} , \quad i,j = 2, ..., p.$$

The first factor on the right-hand side is common to the i-th row and the second to the j-th column. Hence,

(10)
$$D_{p} = \frac{1}{a_{1}+b_{1}} \begin{pmatrix} p & a_{1}-a_{1} \\ II & a_{1}+b_{1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p & b_{1}-b_{1} \\ II & a_{1}+b_{1} \end{pmatrix} D_{p-1} ,$$

and the result follows. Q.E.D.

Theorem. For β_1 , ..., β_p such that the roots of (2) are less than 1 in absolute value for $T \geq p$

(11)
$$\left| \sum_{T} \right| = (\sigma^2)^T \prod_{i,j=1}^p (1 - w_i w_j)^{-1} .$$

<u>Proof.</u> We first consider the case where w_1, \ldots, w_p are different and different from 0 . If $h_i = w_i^{-1}$, then in (5) $|C| \neq 0$. Anderson (1971) in (24) of Section 5.3 gives an expression for the elements of \sum_p in terms of w_1, \ldots, w_p . (See also Problem 19 of Chapter 5.) Then

(12)
$$|Q_p| = \frac{c_{11}^2 \dots c_{1p}^2}{|c|^{2p-2}} |V|,$$

where

$$|V| = \left| \frac{1}{1 - w_{i}w_{j}} \right| = \left| \frac{w_{i}^{-1}}{w_{i}^{-1} + (-w_{j})} \right| = \frac{1}{\prod_{i=1}^{p} w_{i}} \left| \frac{1}{w_{i}^{-1} + (-w_{j})} \right|$$

$$= \frac{1}{\prod_{i=1}^{p} w_{i}} \frac{\frac{\prod_{i < j} (w_{j}^{-1} - w_{i}^{-1})(w_{i} - w_{j})}{\prod_{i,j=1}^{p} (w_{i}^{-1} - w_{j})}$$

$$= \left(\prod_{i=1}^{p} w_{i} \right)^{p-1} \frac{\prod_{i < j} (w_{i} - w_{j})^{2} w_{i}^{-1} w_{j}^{-1}}{\prod_{i,j=1}^{p} (1 - w_{i}w_{j})} = \frac{\prod_{i < j} (w_{i} - w_{j})^{2}}{\prod_{i,j=1}^{p} (1 - w_{i}w_{j})}$$

Further,

$$(14) \quad \frac{c_{11}^{2} \dots c_{1p}^{2}}{\left|\frac{c}{c}\right|^{2p-2}} = \left[\frac{\left(\prod_{i=1}^{p} h_{i}^{p-1}\right) \prod_{i < j} (h_{j} - h_{i})^{p-2}}{\prod_{i < j} (h_{j} - h_{i})^{p-1}}\right]^{2}$$

$$= \frac{\prod_{i=1}^{p} h_{i}^{2p-2}}{\prod_{i < j} (h_{j} - h_{i})^{2}} = \frac{1}{\prod_{i < j} (w_{i} - w_{j})^{2}},$$

and (11) follows for the roots different and nonzero. The determinant $|Q_p^{-1}|$ is the polynomial $\Pi_{i,j=1}^p(1-w_iw_j)$, which holds for all w_j such that $|w_j|<1$, j=1, ..., p. Q.E.D.

Discussion

l. If the process is Gaussian, the normalizing constant in the normal density of $\,y_T^{}\,$ is $\,(2\pi)^{-T/2}\,$ times

(15)
$$|\sum_{\mathbf{T}}|^{\frac{1}{2}} = (\sigma^2)^{-\mathbf{T}/2} \prod_{\mathbf{i},\mathbf{j}=1}^{\mathbf{p}} (1 - \mathbf{w_i} \mathbf{w_j})^{\frac{1}{2}} .$$

- 2. If one or more of the roots approaches 1 in absolute value, $|\Sigma_T^{-1}| \to 0$ and $|\Sigma_T| \to \infty$. These facts agree with the nonexistence of a nontrivial stationary process satisfying (1) if one or more roots are equal to 1 in absolute value.
- 3. Grenander and Szegö (1958) in effect showed that $\lim_{T\to\infty} |Q_T| = \prod_{i,j=1}^p (1-w_{i}w_{j})^{-1} \text{ by use of an integral of } |b(w)|^{-2},$ though they did not relate this result to the generalized variance of the autoregressive process. Walker (1961) noted that $|Q_T| = |Q_p| = 1/|Q_p^{-1}| \text{ for } T \geq p. \text{ An alternate proof of the theorem can be assembled from the results of Grenander and Szegö and Walker. (See also Finch (1960).)}$
 - 4. A moving average model of order q is defined by

(16)
$$x_t = v_t + \alpha_1 v_{t-1} + \dots + \alpha_q v_{t-q}$$
,

where the v_t are independent random variables with $v_t^2 = 0$, $v_t^2 = \tau^2$, $0 < \tau^2 < \infty$. The associated polynomial equation

(17)
$$z^{q} + \alpha_{1} z^{q-1} + \dots + \alpha_{q} = 0$$

has roots z_1, \ldots, z_q . Durbin (1959) conjectured that if $\tau^2 N_T$ is the covariance matrix of x_1, \ldots, x_T generated by (16), and if all roots of (2) are less than 1 in absolute value, then

(18)
$$\lim_{T \to \infty} \left| \underset{T}{\mathbb{N}}_{T} \right| = \left| \underset{Q}{\mathbb{Q}}_{n} \right| ,$$

for some n sufficiently large compared with p=q when $\alpha_j = \beta_j$, $j=1,\ldots,p$. Finch (1960) showed that

$$\lim_{T\to\infty} \left| \underset{T\to\infty}{\mathbb{N}}_{T} \right| = \lim_{T\to\infty} \left| \underset{T\to\infty}{\mathbb{Q}}_{T} \right|$$

by use of some results of Grenander and Szegö (1958) and gave explicitly the limiting value of the generalized variance for an autoregressive moving average process. Walker (1961) used more algebraic methods to show (18) for n=p=q. As an example, these results for p=q=1 are $Q_1=1/(1-\beta_1^2)$ and $\left| N_T \right| = (1-\alpha_1^{2T+2})/(1-\alpha_1^2) \rightarrow 1/(1-\alpha_1^2)$ as $T \rightarrow \infty$. Durbin (1959) considered the case p=q=2 in detail.

For further discussion, see the recent paper by Shaman (1976).

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For a stationary autoregressive process of order p and disturbance		
variance σ^2 it is shown that the determinant of the covariance of $T(\geq p)$		
consecutive random variables of the process is $(\sigma^2)^T \Pi_{i,j=1}^p (1 - w_i w_j)$,		
where w_1, \ldots, w_D are the roots of the associated polynomial equation.		