

Detecting infinitesimal lead-lag effects from noisy high-frequency data

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Outline

- Introduction
- Model
- Formulation of the problem
- Main results
- Simulation study
- Conclusions

Introduction

- Lead-lag effect
 - One process (“leader”) is correlated with another process (“lagger”) at later times
- The investigation of such a relationship has a long history in economics
- Classically, it has been examined at moderate frequencies (day, week, month, quarter, . . .) using the statistics for discrete-time (stationary) processes
 - Ex. spectral analysis (cf. Granger & Hatanaka, 1964), distributed lags (cf. Griliches, 1967), cross-autocorrelations (cf. Campbell *et al.*, 1997), . . .

Introduction

- Recently, lead-lag effects at (ultra) high-frequencies have begun to attract notice (e.g. Huth & Abergel, 2014)
- For high-frequency data, discrete-time process modeling tends to be poor; a discretely observed continuous-time process is often more appropriate
- However, there are not many theoretical results on the statistical inference for lead-lag effects in such a setting
- The aim of this talk is to contribute to this area

Introduction

- There are a few approaches to express lead-lag effects
 - Hoffmann, Rosenbaum & Yoshida (2013)
Model: continuous semimartingale
Estimation: Hayashi-Yoshida estimator
 - Robert & Rosenbaum (2010)
Model: continuous Gaussian martingale
Estimation: random matrix theory
 - Bacry, Delattre, Hoffmann & Muzy (2013)
Model: Hawkes process
Estimation: parameter estimation

Introduction

- This talk focuses on the Hoffmann-Rosenbaum-Yoshida model and investigates
 - how to deal with observation noise
 - how to detect “small” lags
- In particular, we will provide a simple but effective hypothesis testing procedure to detect a small lead-lag effect
- We only consider a simple model; an extension to the general case would be possible (in progress)

Model

- $(X_t^1 \ X_t^2)_{t \in [0, 1]}$: bivariate Brownian motion with a lead-lag effect

$$X_t^1 = \int_0^t B_s^1 \quad X_t^2 = \int_{t-\tau}^t B_s^2$$

- $B_t = (B_t^1 \ B_t^2)$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$: two-sided bivariate standard Brownian motion with correlation $\rho \neq 0$ such that $B_0 = 0$
- $\tau \geq 0$; $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$ is the lag parameter

- We observe X at equidistant times with noise: $Y_0^p = 0$ and

$$Y_i^p = X_{t_i}^p + \epsilon_i^p \quad t_i = i/n \quad (i = 1, \dots, n) \quad (1)$$

- $\epsilon_i^p \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \Upsilon_p)$ and ϵ^1 and ϵ^2 are mutually independent

Model

- We are interested in the inference for the parameter
- We restrict our attention to the situation where the lag is nearly zero
 - ⇒ We consider the local asymptotics such that $\tau_n := \tau_n = c\eta_n$ for some $c \in [-\delta_c, \delta_c]$ and $\eta_n \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$
- Empirically, the sizes of lags are usually comparable with the sampling frequency, so such a setting is meaningful
- We assume $\eta_n = o(n^{-\frac{1}{2}})$; we show that this setting allows us to construct a simple, feasible and rate-optimal test for the absence of a lead-lag effect

Formulation of the problem

- We consider the following hypothesis testing problem:

$$H_0 : c = 0 \quad \text{vs.} \quad H_1 : c \neq 0 \quad (2)$$

- To discuss the rate optimality problem, we employ the minimax approach of Ingster (1993)
- Namely, we seek the fastest rate $r_n \rightarrow 0$ such that the hypothesis testing problem

$$H_0 : c = 0 \quad \text{vs.} \quad H_1(r_n) : c \in \mathcal{C}(r_n) \quad (3)$$

permits a uniformly consistent test, where

$$\mathcal{C}(r_n) = \{c : r_n \leq |c| \leq \delta_c\}$$

Formulation of the problem

- In terms of τ , (3) can be rewritten as

$$H_0 : \tau = 0 \quad \text{vs.} \quad H_1(r_n) : r_n \eta_n \leq |\tau| \leq \delta_c \eta_n$$

\Rightarrow Therefore, our aim corresponds to seeking the fastest rate r_n such that the lag $\tau = r_n \eta_n$ is distinguishable from 0

- The formal formulation of the problem is given in the next slides:

□ Notation

- $\mathcal{E}_n = (\mathcal{X}_n, \mathcal{A}_n, (P_{n,c})_{c \in [-\delta_c, \delta_c]})$: our statistical experiments
- Ψ_n : the set of all tests at the stage n , i.e.

$$\psi \in \Psi_n \Leftrightarrow \psi : \mathcal{X}_n \rightarrow \{0, 1\} \text{ is } \mathcal{A}_n\text{-measurable}$$

- $\psi = 0 \Rightarrow H_0$ is accepted
- $\psi = 1 \Rightarrow H_0$ is rejected
- $\alpha_n(\psi) = P_{n,0}(\psi = 1)$: type I error probability for (3)
- $\beta_n(\psi, r_n) = \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}(r_n)} P_{n,c}(\psi = 0)$: maximal type II error probability for (3)
- $\gamma_n(r_n) = \inf_{\psi \in \Psi_n} \{\alpha_n(\psi) + \beta_n(\psi, r_n)\}$: minimax total error probability for (3)

Definition 1 (Ingster, 1993; Spokoiny, 1996)

A sequence r_n^* is called the **minimax rate of testing** if $r_n^* \rightarrow 0$ and

- (i) For any sequence r_n such that $r_n = o(r_n^*)$ we have $\gamma_n(r_n) \rightarrow 1$,
- (ii) For any $\alpha, \beta > 0$, there is a constant $K > 0$ and a sequence $\psi_n \in \Psi_n$ of tests such that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n(\psi_n) \leq \alpha \quad \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n(\psi_n, Kr_n^*) \leq \beta$$

Warm-up: an idealized case

- As a warm-up, we consider the idealized situation such that $\Upsilon_1 = \Upsilon_2 = 1$ and ρ is known
- We start with the case that the noise is absent

Proposition 1

If $\Upsilon_1 = \Upsilon_2 = 0$ and $|\rho| < 1$, the minimax rate of testing for (2) is $r_n^* = n^{-\frac{3}{2}} \eta_n^{-1}$, provided that $r_n^* \rightarrow 0$

- If $\rho = 1$ (resp. $\rho = -1$), H_0 is equivalent to saying $X_t^1 = X_t^2$ (resp. $X_t^1 = -X_t^2$) for all t , so any lag is detectable

- A rate-optimal test is constructed based on the fact that lead-lag effects cause the Epps effects
- More formally, if $\rho \neq 0$ and it does not depend on n , the realized covariance $U_n = \sum_{i=1}^n (X_{t_i}^1 - X_{t_{i-1}}^1)(X_{t_i}^2 - X_{t_{i-1}}^2)$ tends to 0 as $n \rightarrow \infty$
- On the other hand, $\sqrt{n}(U_n - \rho) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1 + \rho^2)$ if $\rho = 0$
- This suggests the test rejecting H_0 if $|T_n| \geq z_{1-\alpha/2}$, where

$$T_n = \sqrt{n} \frac{U_n - \rho}{\sqrt{1 + \rho^2}}$$

and $z_{1-\alpha/2}$ is the $(1 - \alpha/2)$ -quantile of $N(0, 1)$

- The following proposition due to Hoffmann *et al.* (2013) ensures that the above test indeed satisfies condition (ii) of Definition 1:

Proposition 2 (Hoffmann *et al.*, 2013, Proposition 1)

Assume $\Upsilon_1 = \Upsilon_2 = 0$. Then we have

$$U_n = \rho \psi(n) + n^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sqrt{1 + \rho^2 \psi(n)} \cdot \eta_n$$

under P_{nc} for all $n \geq c$, where $\psi(t) = (1 - |t|)1_{\{|t| \leq 1\}}$ and η_n is a random variable with zero mean and unit variance and converges in law to $N(0, 1)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ (under P_{nc} for all $n \geq c$).

Minimax optimality in the noisy case

- We turn to the noisy case

Theorem 1

The minimax rate of testing for (2) is $r_n^* = n^{-\frac{3}{4}}\eta_n^{-1}$, provided that $r_n^* \rightarrow 0$

- This result is “canonical” in the sense that the smallest detectable lag $r_n^*\eta_n = n^{-\frac{3}{4}} (= (\sqrt{n})^{-\frac{3}{2}})$ coincides with the one in the non-noisy case with the sample size \sqrt{n} (cf. Gloter & Jacod, 2001)

Construction of a rate-optimal test

- A natural idea is to consider a pre-averaged version of T_n (cf. Podolskij & Vetter, 2009; Vetter & Dette, 2012)
- Namely, we replace U_n with $\bar{U}_n = \frac{1}{k_n} \sum_{i=0}^{n-k_n+1} \bar{Y}_i^1 \bar{Y}_i^2$, where $\bar{Y}_i = \frac{1}{k_n} \left(\sum_{p=0}^{k_n/2-1} Y_{i+p+k_n/2} - \sum_{p=0}^{k_n/2-1} Y_{i+p} \right)$ and

$$\bar{Y}_i = \frac{1}{k_n} \left(\sum_{p=0}^{k_n/2-1} Y_{i+p+k_n/2} - \sum_{p=0}^{k_n/2-1} Y_{i+p} \right)$$

with k_n being a positive even integer s.t. $k_n = \theta \sqrt{n} + o(n^{1/4})$ for some $\theta > 0$

Construction of a rate-optimal test

- According to Theorem 2 of Christensen, Kinnebrock & Podolskij (2010), $n^{1/4}(\bar{U}_n - \rho) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \Gamma)$ for some constant $\Gamma > 0$ if $\rho = 0$
- Indeed, \bar{U}_n is “too stable” for our purpose:

Proposition 3

If $\rho = o(n^{-5/8})$, $n^{1/4}(\bar{U}_n - \rho) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \Gamma)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$

- The proposition implies that the tests based on the statistic $n^{1/4}(\bar{U}_n - \rho) / \sqrt{\Gamma}$ cannot detect lags smaller than $n^{-5/8}$

Construction of a rate-optimal test

- We suppose $\tau \in \{k/n : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ for simplicity
- Fourier coefficients of dX (cf. Malliavin & Mancino, 2009):

$$c_f(dX) = \sum_{i=1}^n \exp(-2\pi i f \sqrt{-1} t_i) (X_{t_i} - X_{t_{i-1}})$$

- Since $E[(X_{t_i}^1 - X_{t_{i-1}}^1)(X_{t_j}^2 - X_{t_{j-1}}^2)] = \rho/n$ if $t_j - t_i = \tau$ and it vanishes otherwise, we have

$$E[c_f(dX^1)c_{-f}(dX^2)] = \exp(2\pi i f \sqrt{-1} \tau) \rho$$

ignoring the end effects

- This suggests that (a functional of) $c_f(dX^1)c_{-f}(dX^2)$ would be estimated by smoothing $c_f(dX^1)c_{-f}(dX^2)$ in the frequency domain
- However, this is not a good idea in the presence of noise:
 - The variance of $c_f(dX^1)c_{-f}(dX^2)$ due to the noise increases as f increases (cf. Mancino & Sanfelici, 2008)
 - The end effect due to the noise is crucial
- For these reasons
 - We consider “localized” Fourier coefficients and smooth them in the time domain
 - We only use Fourier sine coefficients; they do not suffer from the end effect because $\sin(0) = \sin(2\pi) = 0$

Construction of a rate-optimal test

- This results in considering *spectral statistics* of Bibinger, Hautsch, Malec & Reiß (2014) (with the lowest frequency):
 - Split $[0, 1]$ into blocks $[kh_n, (k+1)h_n)$ ($k = 0, 1, \dots, h_n^{-1} - 1$)
 - ▽ h_n is the width of the blocks and chosen so that $h_n^{-1} \in \mathbb{N}$ and $h_n \asymp n^{-\frac{1}{2}}$
 - Define

$$S_k = \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - Y_{i-1}) \Phi_k(\bar{t}_i) \quad \bar{t}_i = \frac{t_{i-1} + t_i}{2}$$

where $\Phi_k(t) = \sin\left(\pi h_n^{-1}(t - kh_n)\right) 1_{[kh_n, (k+1)h_n)}(t)$

Construction of a rate-optimal test

- To make use of Fourier cosine coefficients, we rely on the same trick as in Bibinger & Winkelmann (2015)
 - We consider the spectral statistics on the shifted blocks $[(k - \frac{1}{2})h_n, (k + \frac{1}{2})h_n)$ as well, i.e. $S_{k-\frac{1}{2}} (k = 1, \dots, h_n^{-1} - 1)$
 - Bibinger & Winkelmann (2015) use these statistics to handle jumps in their spectral covariance estimators
- The following formula plays a key role:

$$\Phi_{k-1}(t) - \Phi_k(t) = \cos\left(\pi h_n^{-1} (t - (k - \frac{1}{2}) h_n)\right) 1_{[(k-1)h_n, (k+1)h_n)}(t)$$

- Therefore, noting that $| \cdot | \leq h_n / 2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& E \left[\left(S_{k-1}^1 - S_k^1 \right) S_{k-\frac{1}{2}}^2 - S_{k-\frac{1}{2}}^1 \left(S_{k-1}^2 - S_k^2 \right) \right] \\
&= \frac{\rho}{n} \sum_{(k-\frac{1}{2})h_n \leq \bar{t}_i < (k+\frac{1}{2})h_n} \left\{ \cos \left(\pi h_n^{-1} (\bar{t}_i - (k-1/2)h_n) \right) \sin \left(\pi h_n^{-1} (\bar{t}_i + (k-1/2)h_n) \right) \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \sin \left(\pi h_n^{-1} (\bar{t}_i - (k-1/2)h_n) \right) \cos \left(\pi h_n^{-1} (\bar{t}_i + (k-1/2)h_n) \right) \right\} \\
&= \rho h_n \sin \left(\pi h_n^{-1} \cdot \right)
\end{aligned}$$

due to the formula $\sin(y - x) = \cos(x) \sin(y) - \sin(x) \cos(y)$

- This motivates us to consider the following moment-type estimator:

$$\bar{\Xi}_n = \frac{1}{h_n^{-1} - 1} \sum_{k=1}^{h_n^{-1}-1} \left\{ \left(S_{k-1}^1 - S_k^1 \right) S_{k-\frac{1}{2}}^2 - S_{k-\frac{1}{2}}^1 \left(S_{k-1}^2 - S_k^2 \right) \right\}$$

Theorem 2

Suppose that $\sqrt{nh_n} \rightarrow \kappa$ for some $\kappa > 0$. For model (1), we have

$$h_n^{-\frac{3}{2}} \left(\Xi_n - \rho h_n \sin(\pi h_n^{-1}) \right) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, V)$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$, where

$$V = \left\{ \left(\frac{2}{1} + \pi^2 \kappa^{-2} \Upsilon_1 \right) \left(\frac{2}{2} + \pi^2 \kappa^{-2} \Upsilon_2 \right) - (1 - 2\rho)^2 \right\} \\ + \pi^{-2} \left\{ \left(\frac{2}{1} - \pi^2 \kappa^{-2} \Upsilon_1 \right) \left(\frac{2}{2} - \pi^2 \kappa^{-2} \Upsilon_2 \right) - (1 - 2\rho)^2 \right\}$$

Construction of a rate-optimal test

- Theorem 2 suggests the test rejecting H_0 if $|T_n^{\text{sp}}| \geq z_{1-\alpha/2}$, where $T_n^{\text{sp}} = h_n^{-\frac{3}{2}} \Xi_n \sqrt{V}$
- $h_n^{-\frac{3}{2}} \asymp n^{\frac{3}{4}}$ and $h_n \sin(\pi h_n^{-1}) \asymp$ (because $\sin(\pi h_n^{-1}) = o(h_n)$) and we can directly check

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{|c| \leq \delta_c} E_n \left[\left| h_n^{-\frac{3}{2}} \left(\Xi_n - \rho h_n \sin(\pi h_n^{-1}) \right) \right|^r \right] < \infty$$

for all $r > 1$ (because Ξ_n is moment-type), so the test based on T_n^{sp} is indeed rate-optimal

Construction of a feasible test

- The test T_n^{sp} is infeasible in practice because V contains the parameters $\rho, \Upsilon_1, \Upsilon_2$ which are usually unknown
- However, a feasible test can be obtained once we construct a consistent estimator for V , and it is an easy task: Set

$$\widehat{\Upsilon}_p^n = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (Y_i^p - Y_{i-1}^p)(Y_{i+1}^p - Y_i^p)$$

$$\widehat{\Sigma}_{pq}^n = \sum_{k=1}^{h_n^{-1}-1} (S_k^p S_k^q + S_{k-1}^p S_{k-1}^q) - \frac{1}{nh_n^2} \widehat{\Upsilon}_p^n 1_{\{p=q\}}$$

Construction of a feasible test

- We have $\widehat{\Upsilon}_p^n \xrightarrow{p} \Upsilon_p$, $\widehat{\Sigma}_{pp}^n \xrightarrow{p} \frac{2}{p}$ and $\widehat{\Sigma}_{12}^n \xrightarrow{p} 1 - 2\rho$
 \implies Setting $\widehat{\Sigma}_{p\pm}^n = \widehat{\Sigma}_{pp}^n \pm (\kappa^2 nh_n^2) \widehat{\Upsilon}_p^n$ and

$$\widehat{V}^n = \widehat{\Sigma}_{1+}^n + \widehat{\Sigma}_{2+}^n + \kappa^{-2} \widehat{\Sigma}_{1-}^n - \widehat{\Sigma}_{2-}^n - (1 + \kappa^{-2}) (\widehat{\Sigma}_{12}^n)^2$$

we have $\widehat{V}^n \xrightarrow{p} V$

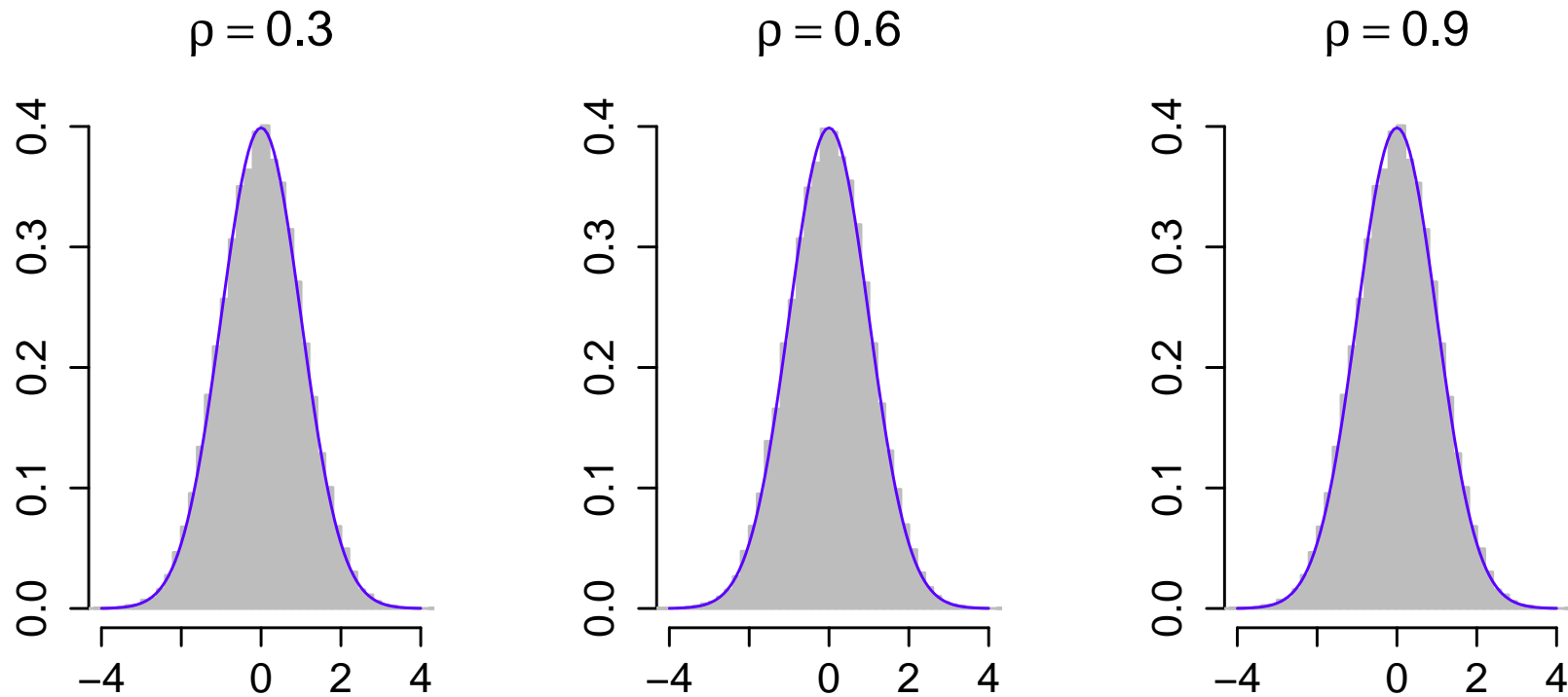
- Consequently, we obtain a feasible test statistic

$$\widehat{T}_n^{\text{sp}} = h_n^{-\frac{3}{2}} \frac{\widehat{\Xi}_n}{(\widehat{V}^n)^{1/2}}$$

Simulation study

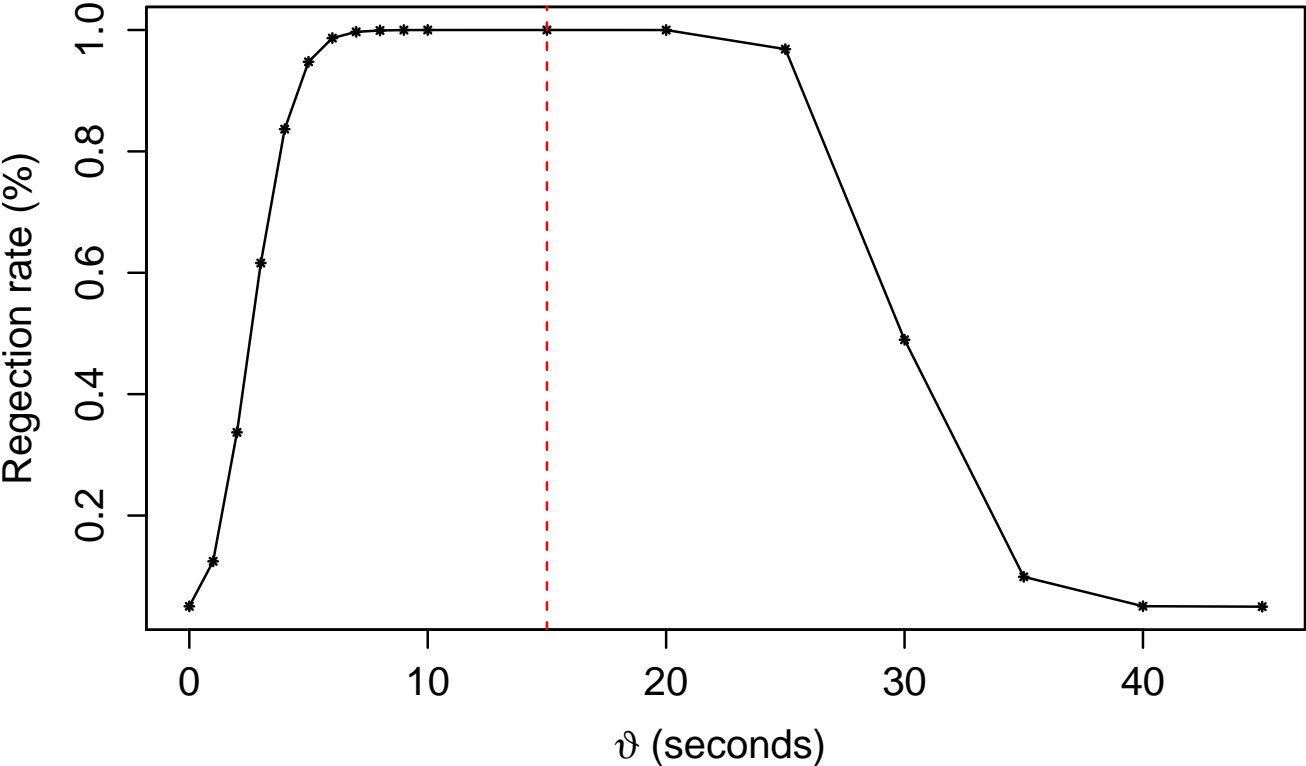
- We set $\rho = 1$, $\Upsilon_\rho = 0.001$ for $p = 1, 2$ and $\rho \in \{0.3, 0.6, 0.9\}$
 - The noise variance is 0.1% of the quadratic variation, reflecting the empirical finding of Hansen & Lunde (2006)
- $n = 3600$
- We regard $\frac{1}{n}$ as 1 second, so $[0, 1]$ corresponds to 1 hour
- $l = l/n$ and $l = 0, 1, 10, 15, 20, 45$
- $h_n = 30/n$; note that the consistency of the test is not ensured at the lags higher than $l = h_n/2 = 15/n$

Figure 1: Histograms of $\widehat{T}_n^{\text{sp}}$ under H_0



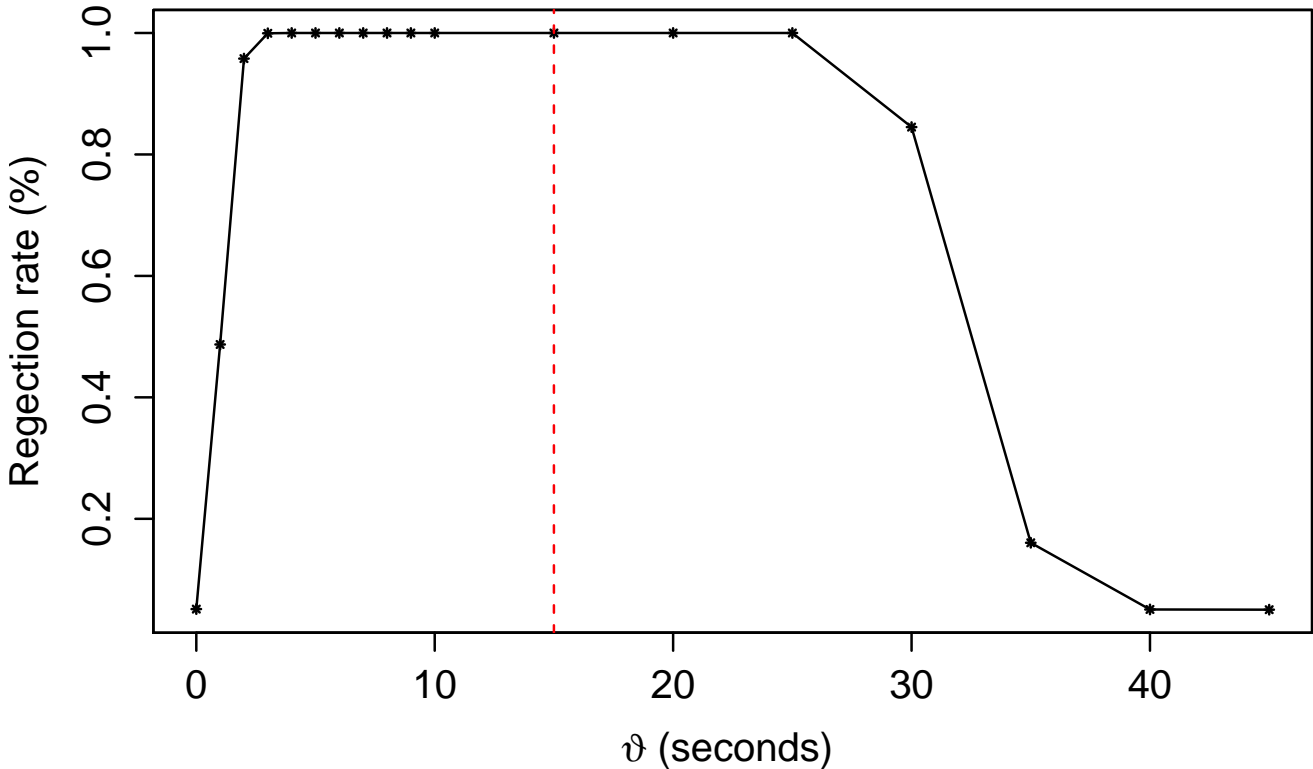
Note. Monte Carlo distribution of $\widehat{T}_n^{\text{sp}}$ under H_0 based on 50,000 repetitions (grey). Blue solid lines denote the $N(0, 1)$ density.

Figure 2: Rejection rate of H_0 at the 5% level ($\rho = 0.6$)



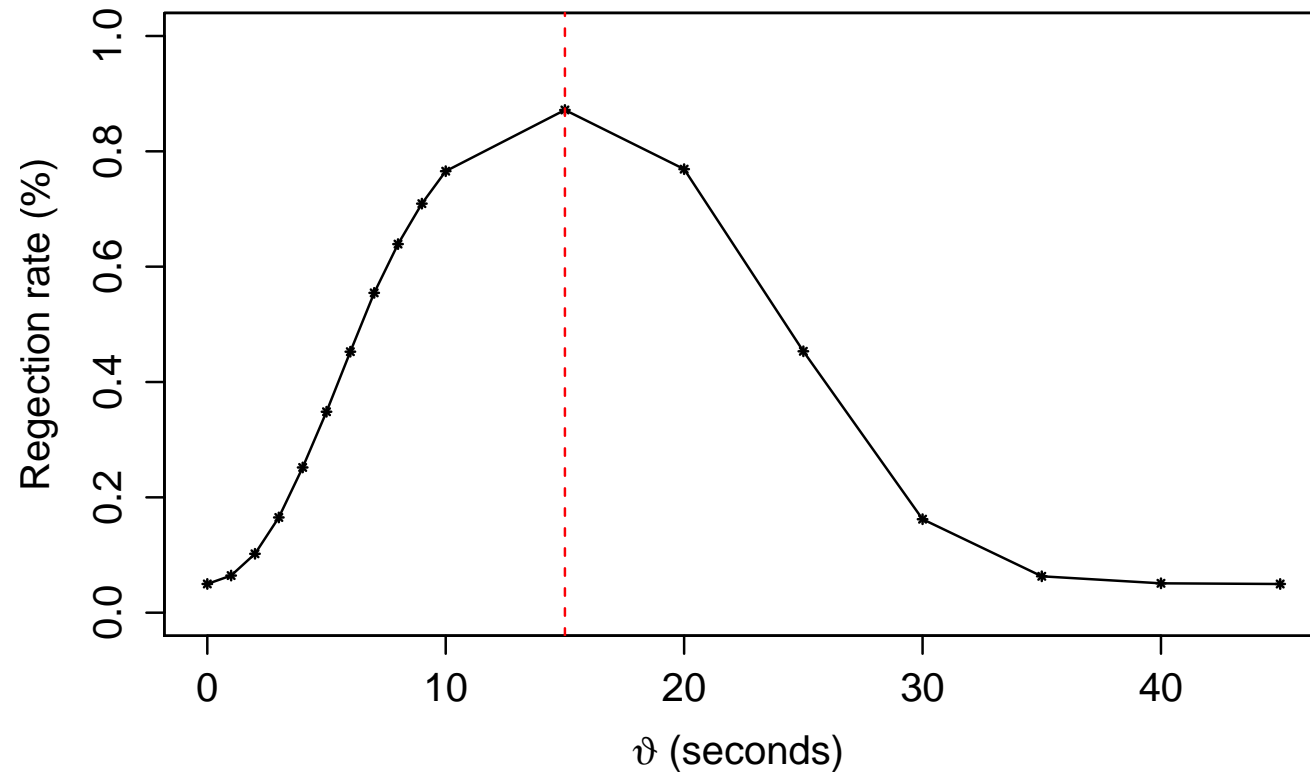
Note. Monte Carlo empirical rejection rate of H_0 at the 5% level based on 50,000 repetitions ($\rho = 0.6$). Red dash line denotes $\tau = h_n / 2$.

Figure 3: Rejection rate of H_0 at the 5% level ($\rho = 0.9$)



Note. Monte Carlo empirical rejection rate of H_0 at the 5% level based on 50,000 repetitions ($\rho = 0.9$). Red dash line denotes $\vartheta = h_n/2$.

Figure 4: Rejection rate of H_0 at the 5% level ($\rho = 0.3$)



Note. Monte Carlo empirical rejection rate of H_0 at the 5% level based on 50,000 repetitions ($\rho = 0.3$). Red dash line denotes $\vartheta = h_n/2$.

Conclusions

- Contributions of this study
 - For the Hoffmann-Rosenbaum-Yoshida model of lead-lag effects, lower bounds of detectable lags' rate have been provided both in the non-noisy case and the noisy case
 - In the noisy case, a simple feasible test that attains the optimal rate is proposed

- Future works
 - Extension of the model: stochastic volatility and non-synchronous observations (probably routine)
 - More general model of lags (e.g. time varying one)

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