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Econometrics - Lecture 4

# Heteroskedasticity and Autocorrelation

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# Contents

- Violations of  $V\{\varepsilon\} = \sigma^2 I_N$ : Illustrations and Consequences
- Heteroskedasticity
- Tests against Heteroskedasticity
- GLS Estimation
- Autocorrelation
- Tests against Autocorrelation
- Inference under Autocorrelation

# Gauss-Markov Assumptions

Observation  $y_i$  is a linear function

$$y_i = x_i' \beta + \varepsilon_i$$

of observations  $x_{ik}$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, K$ , of the regressor variables and the error term  $\varepsilon_i$

for  $i = 1, \dots, N$ ;  $x_i' = (x_{i1}, \dots, x_{iK})$ ;  $X = (x_{ik})$

A1	$E\{\varepsilon_i\} = 0$ for all $i$
A2	all $\varepsilon_i$ are independent of all $x_i$ (exogeneous $x_i$ )
A3	$V\{\varepsilon_i\} = \sigma^2$ for all $i$ (homoskedasticity)
A4	$\text{Cov}\{\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_j\} = 0$ for all $i$ and $j$ with $i \neq j$ (no autocorrelation)

In matrix notation:  $E\{\varepsilon\} = 0$ ,  $V\{\varepsilon\} = \sigma^2 I_N$

# OLS Estimator: Properties

Under assumptions (A1) and (A2):

1. The OLS estimator  $b$  is unbiased:  $E\{b\} = \beta$

Under assumptions (A1), (A2), (A3) and (A4):

2. The variance of the OLS estimator is given by

$$V\{b\} = \sigma^2(\sum_i x_i x_i')^{-1} = \sigma^2(X' X)^{-1}$$

3. The sampling variance  $s^2$  of the error terms  $\varepsilon_i$ ,

$$s^2 = (N - K)^{-1} \sum_i e_i^2$$

is unbiased for  $\sigma^2$

4. The OLS estimator  $b$  is BLUE (best linear unbiased estimator)

# Violations of $V\{\varepsilon\} = \sigma^2 I_N$

Implications of the Gauss-Markov assumptions for  $\varepsilon$ :

$$V\{\varepsilon\} = \sigma^2 I_N$$

Violations:

- Heteroskedasticity

$$V\{\varepsilon\} = \text{diag}(\sigma_1^2, \dots, \sigma_N^2)$$

with  $\sigma_i^2 \neq \sigma_j^2$  for at least one pair  $i \neq j$ , or using  $\sigma_i^2 = \sigma^2 h_i^2$ ,

$$V\{\varepsilon\} = \sigma^2 \Psi = \sigma^2 \text{diag}(h_1^2, \dots, h_N^2)$$

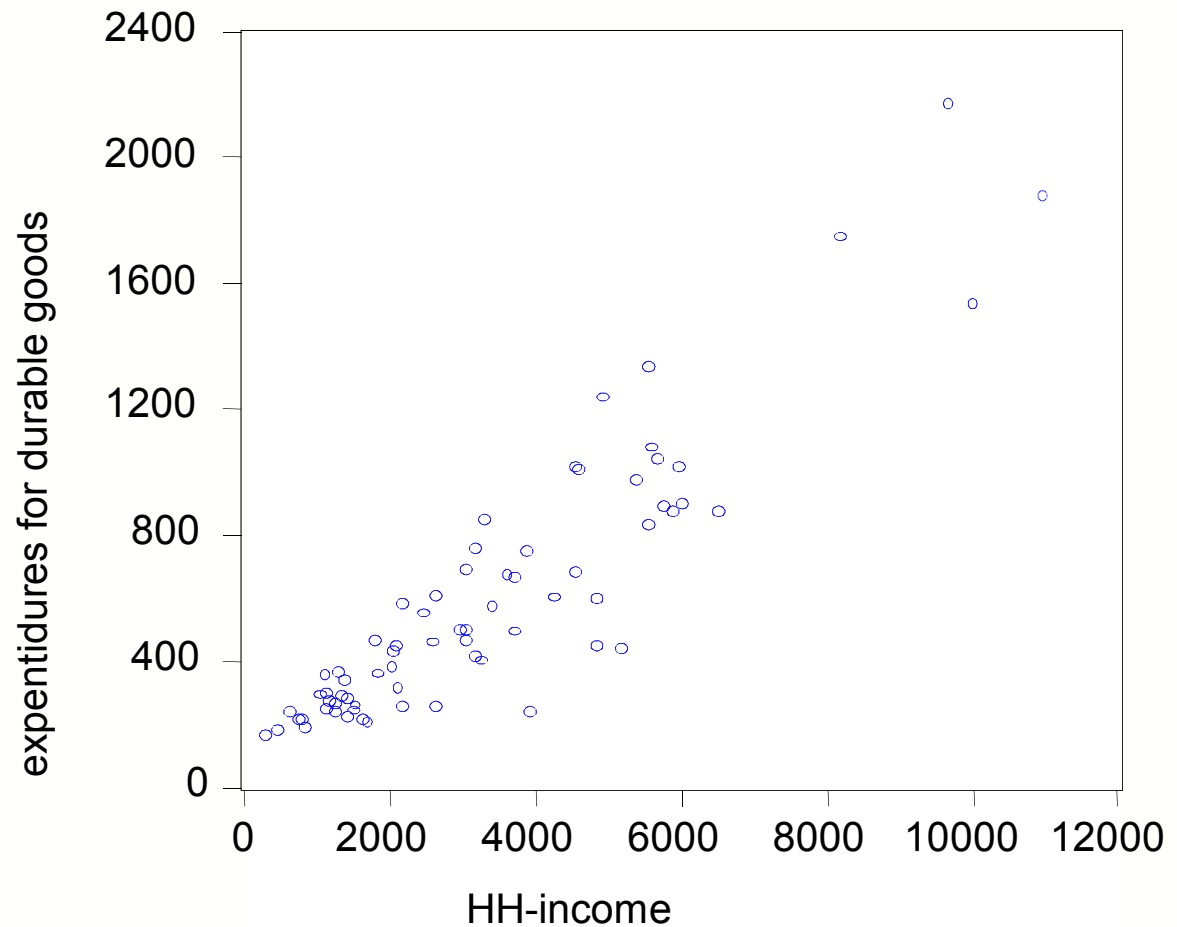
- Autocorrelation:  $V\{\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_j\} \neq 0$  for at least one pair  $i \neq j$  or

$$V\{\varepsilon\} = \sigma^2 \Psi$$

with non-diagonal elements different from zero

# Example: Household Income and Expenditures

70 households (HH):  
monthly HH-  
income and  
expenditures for  
durable goods



# Household Income and Expenditures, cont'd

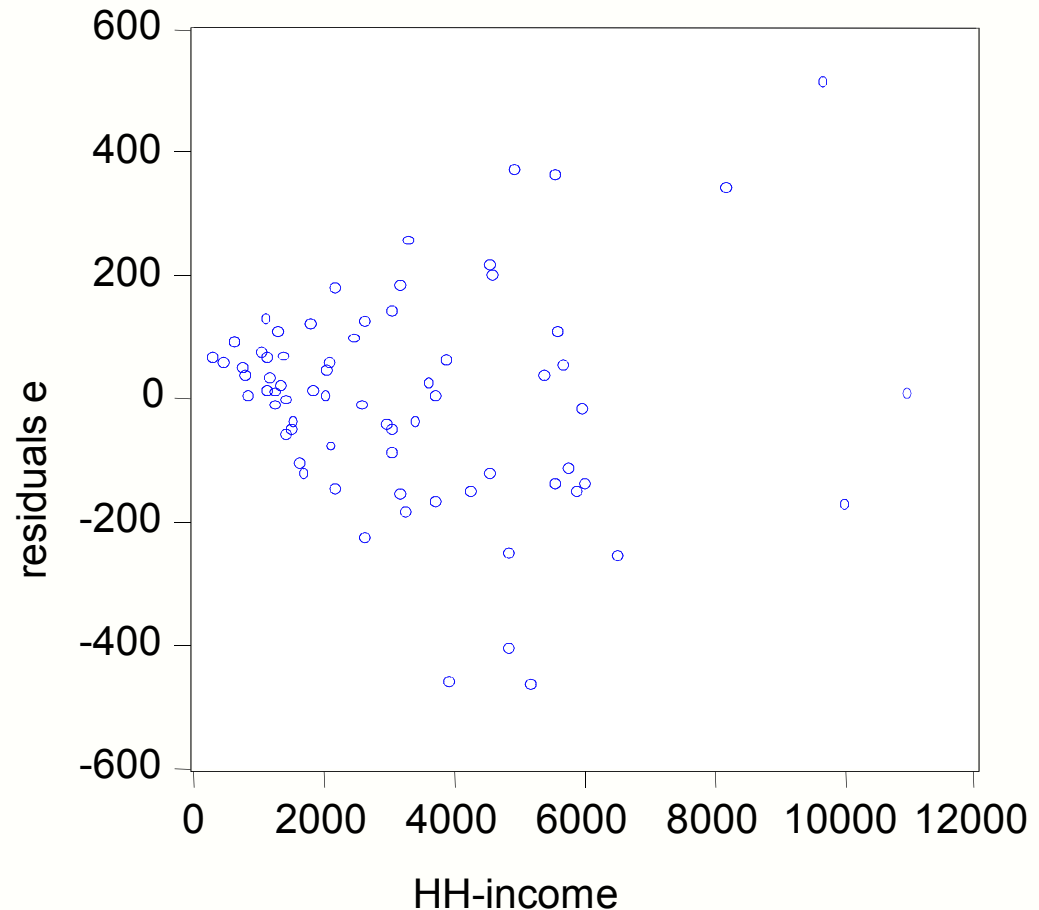
Residuals  $e = y - \hat{y}$  from

$$\hat{Y} = 44.18 + 0.17 X$$

$X$ : monthly HH-income

$Y$ : expenditures for durable goods

the larger the income, the more scattered are the residuals



# Typical Situations for Heteroskedasticity

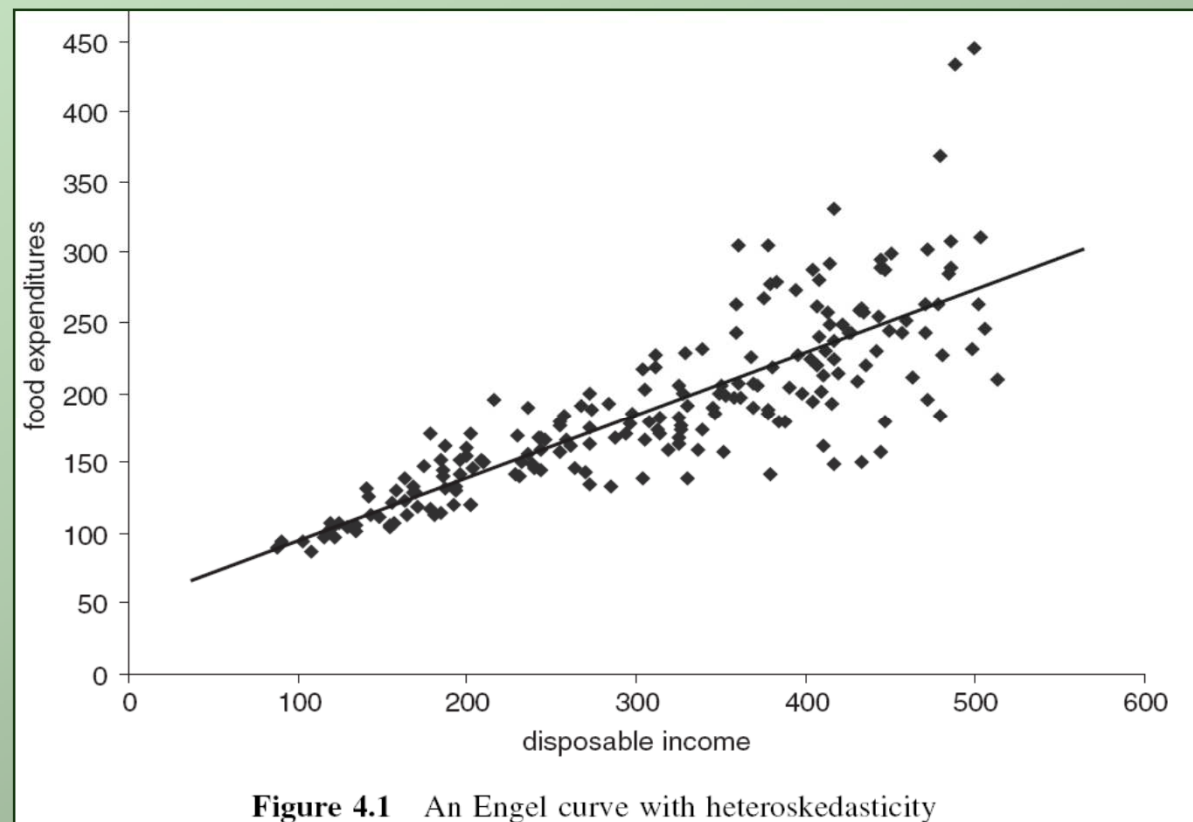
Heteroskedasticity is typically observed

- in data from cross-sectional surveys, e.g., surveys in households or regions
- in data with variance that depends of one or several explanatory variables, e.g., variance of the firms' turnover depends on firm size
- in data from financial markets, e.g., exchange rates, stock returns



# Example: Household Expenditures

Variation of expenditures, increasing with growing income; from Verbeek, Fig. 4.1



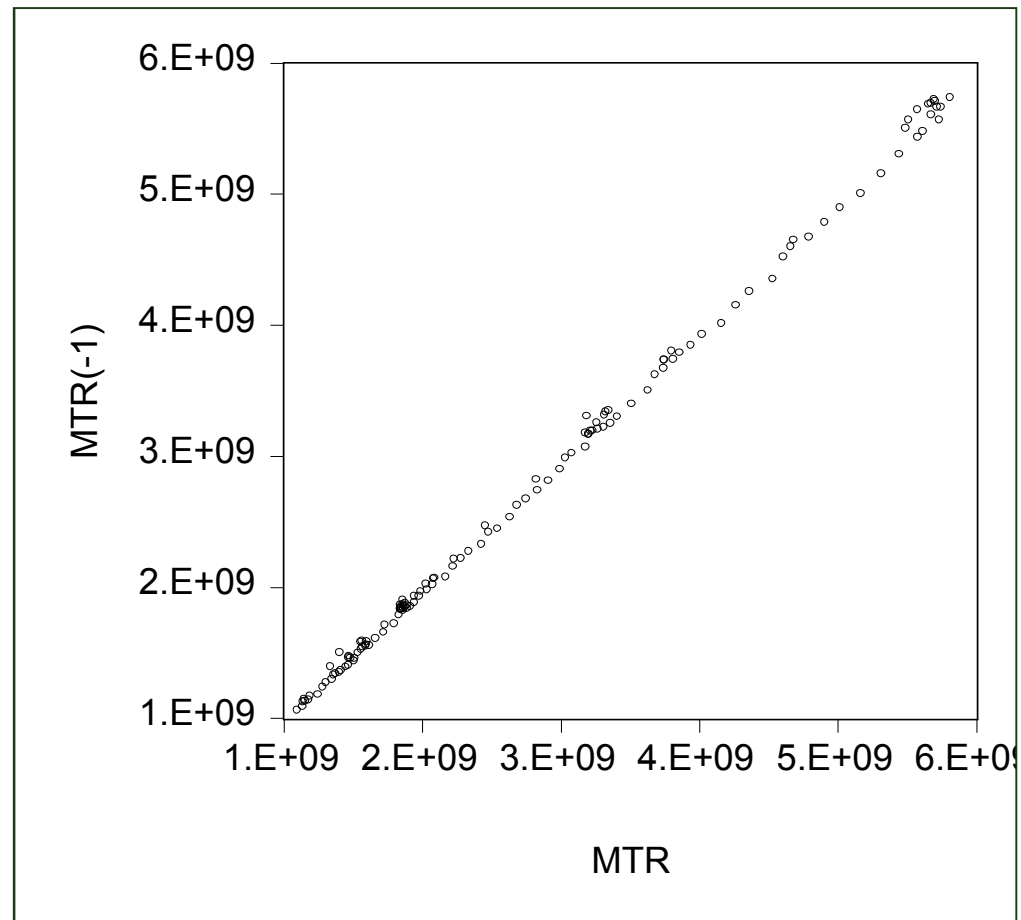
# Autocorrelation of Economic Time-series

- Consumption in actual period is similar to that of the preceding period; the actual consumption „depends“ on the consumption of the preceding period
- Consumption, production, investments, etc.: to be expected that successive observations of economic variables correlate positively
- Seasonal adjustment: application of smoothing and filtering algorithms induces correlation of the smoothed data

# Example: Imports

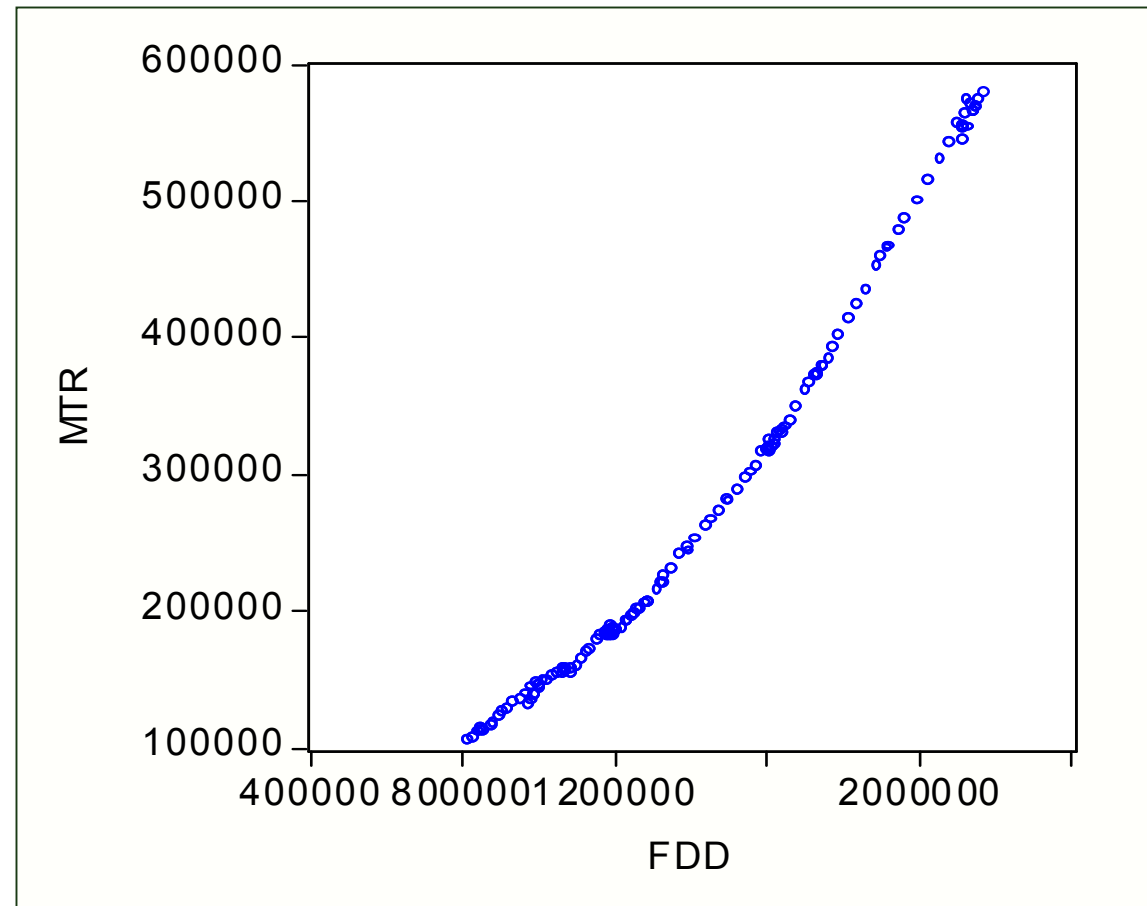
Scatter-diagram of by one period lagged imports [MTR(-1)] against actual imports [MTR]

Correlation coefficient between MTR und MTR(-1): 0.9994



# Example: Import Function

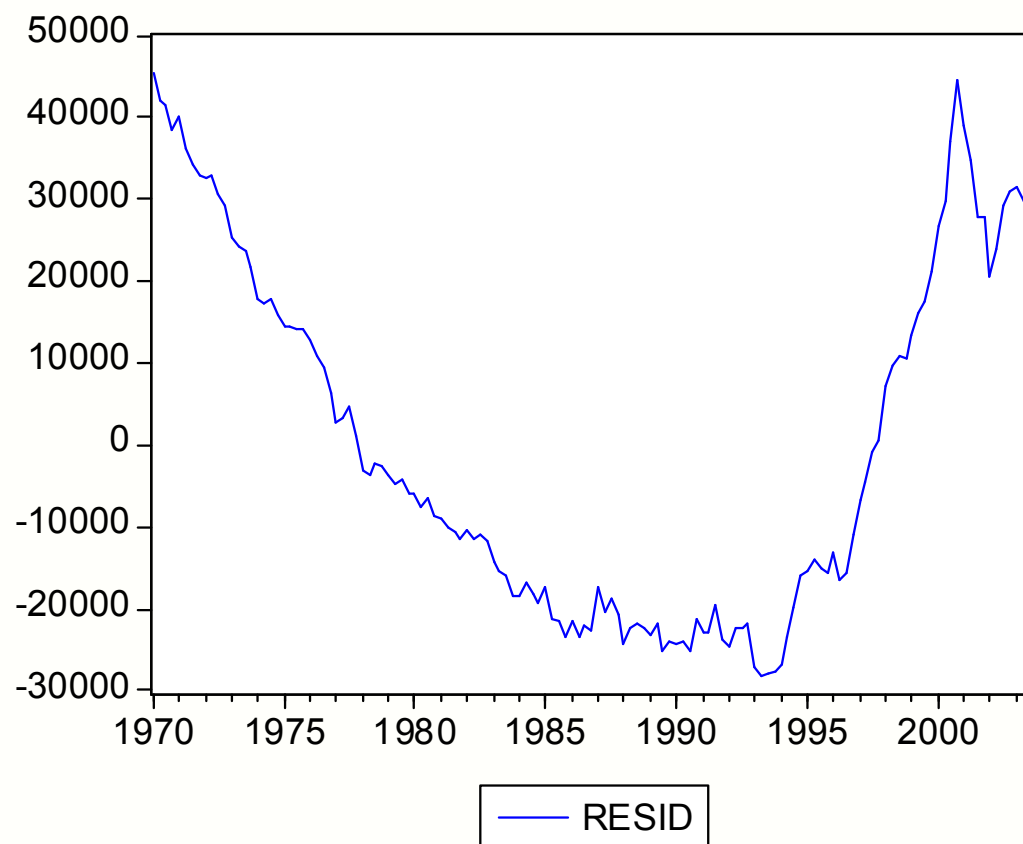
MTR: Imports  
FDD: Total Demand  
(from AWM-database)



Import function:  $MTR = -227320 + 0.36 FDD$   
 $R^2 = 0.977$ ,  $t_{FDD} = 74.8$

# Import Function, cont'd

MTR: Imports  
FDD: Total Demand  
(from AWM-database)

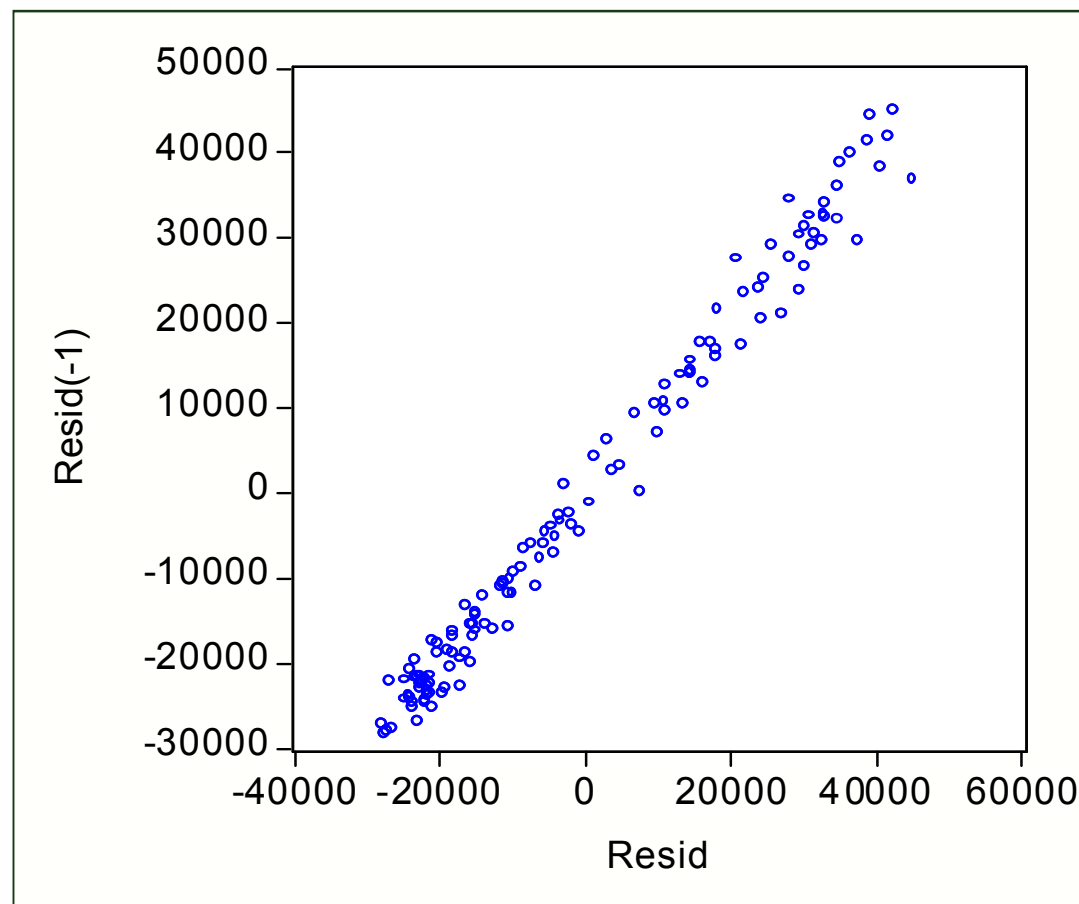


$$\text{RESID: } e_t = \text{MTR} - (-227320 + 0.36 \text{ FDD})$$

# Import Function, cont'd

Scatter-diagram of by one period lagged residuals [Resid(-1)] against actual residuals [Resid]

Serial correlation!



# Typical Situations for Autocorrelation

Autocorrelation is typically observed if

- a relevant regressor with trend or seasonal pattern is not included in the model: miss-specified model
- the functional form of a regressor is incorrectly specified
- the dependent variable is correlated in a way that is not appropriately represented in the systematic part of the model

Warning! Omission of a relevant regressor with trend implies autocorrelation of the error terms; in econometric analyses, autocorrelation of the error terms is always to be suspected!

- Autocorrelation of the error terms indicates deficiencies of the model specification
- Tests for autocorrelation are the most frequently used tool for diagnostic checking the model specification

# Import Functions

- Regression of imports (MTR) on total demand (FDD)

$$\text{MTR} = -2.27 \times 10^9 + 0.357 \text{ FDD}, t_{\text{FDD}} = 74.9, R^2 = 0.977$$

Autocorrelation (of order 1) of residuals:

$$\text{Corr}(e_t, e_{t-1}) = 0.993$$

- Import function with trend (T)

$$\text{MTR} = -4.45 \times 10^9 + 0.653 \text{ FDD} - 0.030 \times 10^9 T$$

$$t_{\text{FDD}} = 45.8, t_T = -21.0, R^2 = 0.995$$

Multicollinearity?  $\text{Corr}(\text{FDD}, T) = 0.987!$

- Import function with lagged imports as regressor

$$\text{MTR} = -0.124 \times 10^9 + 0.020 \text{ FDD} + 0.956 \text{ MTR}_{-1}$$

$$t_{\text{FDD}} = 2.89, t_{\text{MTR}(-1)} = 50.1, R^2 = 0.999$$



# Consequences of $V\{\varepsilon\} \neq \sigma^2 I_N$ for OLS estimators

OLS estimators  $b$  for  $\beta$

- are unbiased
- are consistent
- have the covariance-matrix

$$V\{b\} = \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1} X'\Psi X (X'X)^{-1}$$

- are not efficient estimators, not BLUE
- follow – under general conditions – asymptotically the normal distribution

The estimator  $s^2 = e'e/(N-K)$  for  $\sigma^2$  is biased

# Consequences of $V\{\varepsilon\} \neq \sigma^2 I_N$ for Applications

- OLS estimators  $b$  for  $\beta$  are still unbiased
- Routinely computed standard errors are biased; the bias can be positive or negative
- $t$ - and  $F$ -tests may be misleading

## Remedies

- Alternative estimators
- Corrected standard errors
- Modification of the model

Tests for identification of heteroskedasticity and for autocorrelation are important tools

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# Example: Labor Demand

Verbeek's data set "labour2": Sample of 569 Belgian companies (data from 1996)

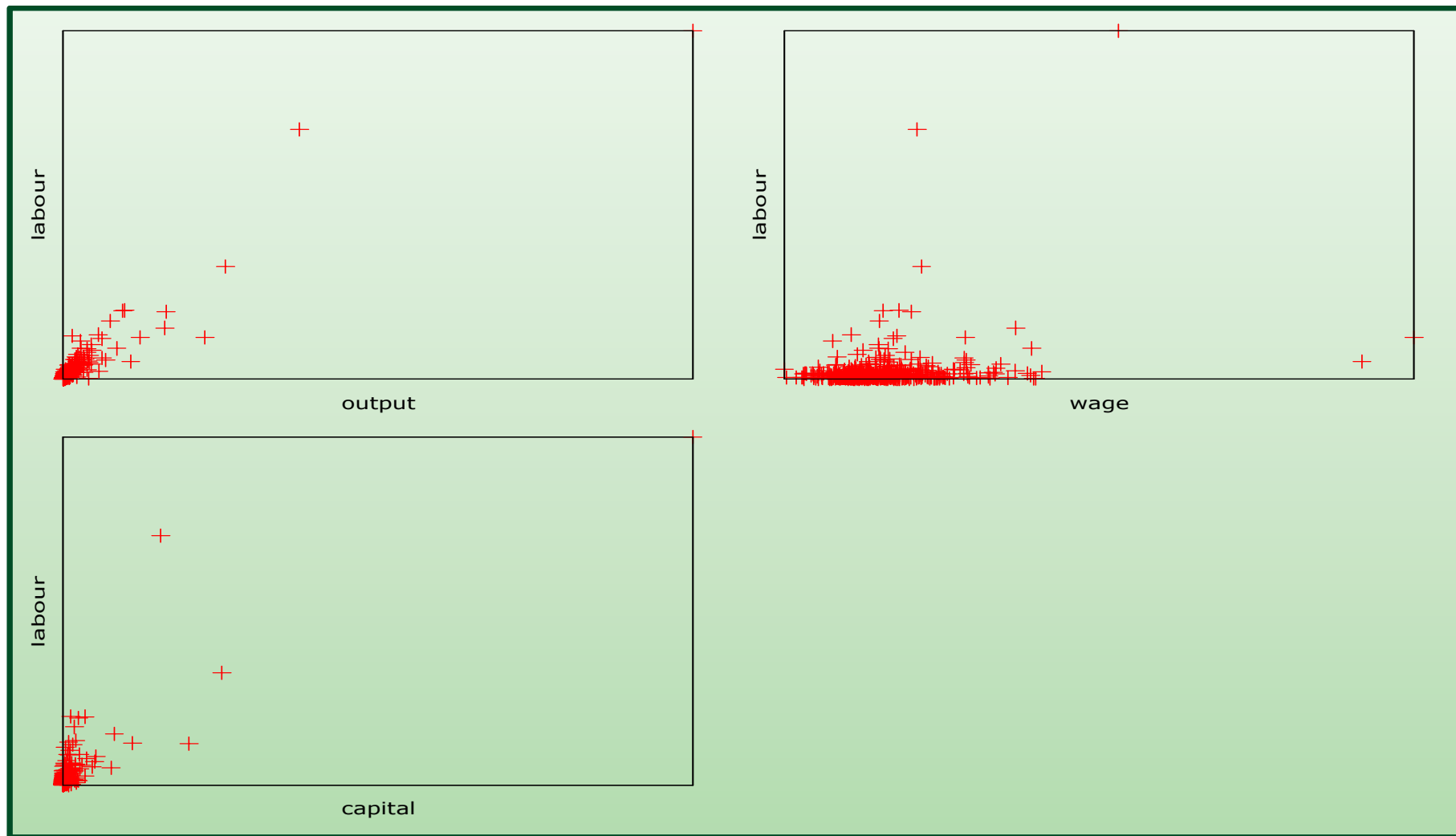
## ■ Variables

- ❑ *labour*: total employment (number of employees)
- ❑ *capital*: total fixed assets
- ❑ *wage*: total wage costs per employee (in 1000 EUR)
- ❑ *output*: value added (in million EUR)

## ■ Labour demand function

$$labour = \beta_1 + \beta_2 * wage + \beta_3 * output + \beta_4 * capital$$

# Labor Demand and Potential Regressors



# Inference under Heteroskedasticity

Covariance matrix of  $b$ :

$$V\{b\} = \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1} X'\Psi X (X'X)^{-1}$$

with  $\Psi = \text{diag}(h_1^2, \dots, h_N^2)$

Use of  $\sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1}$  (the standard output of econometric software) instead of  $V\{b\}$  for inference on  $\beta$  may be misleading

Remedies

- Use of correct variances and standard errors
- Transformation of the model so that the error terms are homoskedastic

# The Correct Variances

- $V\{\varepsilon_i\} = \sigma_i^2 = \sigma^2 h_i^2, i = 1, \dots, N$ : each observation has its own unknown parameter  $h_i$
- $N$  observation for estimating  $N$  unknown parameters?

To estimate  $\sigma_i^2$  – and  $V\{b\}$

- Known form of the heteroskedasticity, specific correction
  - E.g.,  $h_i^2 = z_i' \alpha$  for some variables  $z_i$
  - Requires estimation of  $\alpha$
- White's heteroskedasticity-consistent covariance matrix estimator (HCCME)

$$\tilde{V}\{b\} = \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1} (\sum_i \hat{h}_i^2 x_i x_i') (X'X)^{-1}$$

with  $\hat{h}_i^2 = e_i^2$

- Denoted as  $HC_0$
- Inference based on  $HC_0$ : “heteroskedasticity-robust inference”

# White's Standard Errors

White's standard errors for  $b$

- Square roots of diagonal elements of HCCME
- Underestimate the true standard errors
- Various refinements, e.g.,  $HC_1 = HC_0[N/(N-K)]$

In **GRET**L:  $HC_0$  is the default HCCME,  $HC_1$  and other modifications are available as options



# Labor Demand Function

For Belgian companies, 1996; Verbeek's "labour2"

**Table 4.1** OLS results linear model

Dependent variable: *labour*

Variable	Estimate	Standard error	<i>t</i> -ratio
constant	287.72	19.64	14.648
<i>wage</i>	-6.742	0.501	-13.446
<i>output</i>	15.40	0.356	43.304
<i>capital</i>	-4.590	0.269	-17.067

$s = 156.26$     $R^2 = 0.9352$     $\bar{R}^2 = 0.9348$     $F = 2716.02$

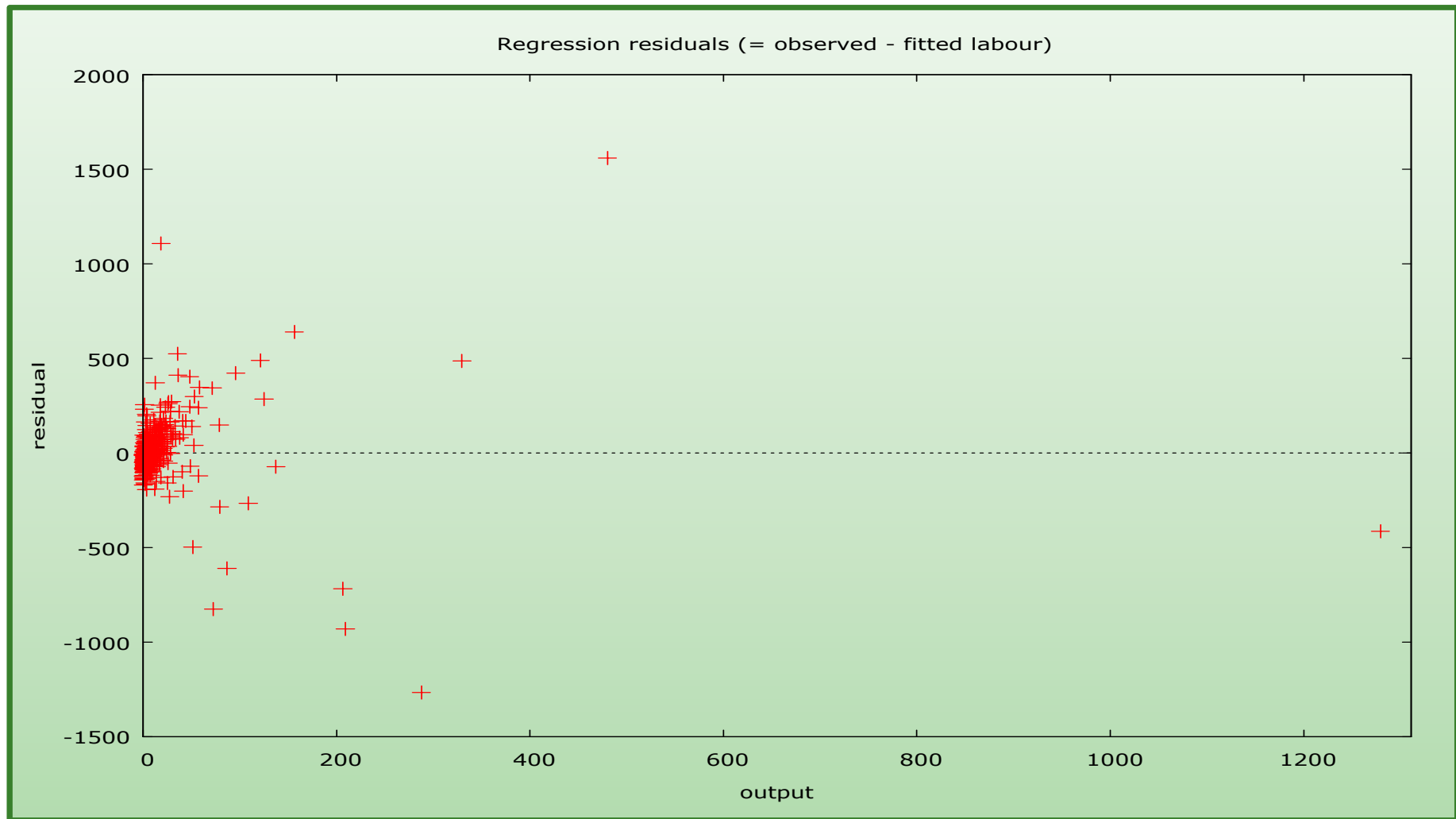
$$labour = \beta_1 + \beta_2 * wage + \beta_3 * output + \beta_4 * capital$$

# Labor Demand Function, cont'd

Can the error terms be assumed to be homoskedastic?

- They may vary depending on the company size, measured by, e.g., size of output or capital
- Regression of squared residuals on appropriate regressors will indicate heteroskedasticity

# Labor Demand Function: Residuals vs *output*



# Labor Demand Function, cont'd

Auxiliary regression of squared residuals, Verbeek

**Table 4.2** Auxiliary regression Breusch–Pagan test

Dependent variable: $e_i^2$			
Variable	Estimate	Standard error	$t$ -ratio
constant	-22719.51	11838.88	-1.919
<i>wage</i>	228.86	302.22	0.757
<i>output</i>	5362.21	214.35	25.015
<i>capital</i>	-3543.51	162.12	-21.858

$s = 94182$     $R^2 = 0.5818$     $\bar{R}^2 = 0.5796$     $F = 262.05$

Indicates dependence of error terms on *output*, *capital*, not on *wage*

# Labor Demand Function, cont'd

With White standard errors: Output from **GRETL**

Dependent variable : LABOR  
Heteroskedastic-robust standard errors, variant HC0,

	coefficient	std. error	t-ratio	p-value
const	287,719	64,8770	4,435	1,11e-05 ***
WAGE	-6,7419	1,8516	-3,641	0,0003 ***
CAPITAL	-4,59049	1,7133	-2,679	0,0076 ***
OUTPUT	15,4005	2,4820	6,205	1,06e-09 ***
Mean dependent var		201,024911	S.D. dependent var	611,9959
Sum squared resid		13795027	S.E. of regression	156,2561
R- squared		0,935155	Adjusted R-squared	0,934811
F(2, 129)		225,5597	P-value (F)	3,49e-96
Log-likelihood		455,9302	Akaike criterion	7367,341
Schwarz criterion		-3679,670	Hannan-Quinn	7374,121

# Labor Demand Function, cont'd

Estimated function

$$labour = \beta_1 + \beta_2 * wage + \beta_3 * output + \beta_4 * capital$$

OLS estimates and standard errors: without (s.e.) and with White correction (White s.e.) and GLS estimates with  $w_i = 1/(e_i^2)$

	$\beta_1$	$\beta_2$	$\beta_3$	$\beta_4$
Coeff OLS	287.19	-6.742	15.400	-4.590
s.e.	19.642	0.501	0.356	0.269
White s.e.	64.877	1.852	2.482	1.713
Coeff GLS	321.17	-7.404	15.585	-4.740
s.e.	20.328	0.506	0.349	0.255

The White standard errors are inflated by factors 3.7 (*wage*), 6.4 (*capital*), 7.0 (*output*) with respect to the OLS s.e.

# An Alternative Estimator for $b$

Idea of the estimator

1. Transform the model so that it satisfies the Gauss-Markov assumptions
2. Apply OLS to the transformed model

Results in an (at least approximately) BLUE

Transformation often depends upon unknown parameters that characterizing heteroskedasticity: two-step procedure

1. Estimate the parameters that characterize heteroskedasticity and transform the model
2. Estimate the transformed model

The procedure results in an approximately BLUE

# An Example

Model:

$$y_i = x_i' \beta + \varepsilon_i \quad \text{with } V\{\varepsilon_i\} = \sigma_i^2 = \sigma^2 h_i^2$$

Division by  $h_i$  results in

$$y_i/h_i = (x_i/h_i)' \beta + \varepsilon_i/h_i$$

with a homoskedastic error term

$$V\{\varepsilon_i/h_i\} = \sigma_i^2/h_i^2 = \sigma^2$$

OLS applied to the transformed model gives

$$\hat{\beta} = \left( \sum_i h_i^{-2} x_i x_i' \right)^{-1} \sum_i h_i^{-2} x_i y_i$$

This estimator is an example of the “generalized least squares” (GLS) or “weighted least squares” (WLS) estimator



# Weighted Least Squares Estimator

- A GLS or WLS estimator is a least squares estimator where each observation is weighted by a non-negative factor  $w_i > 0$ :

$$\hat{\beta}_w = \left( \sum_i w_i x_i' x_i \right)^{-1} \sum_i w_i x_i' y_i$$

- Weights  $w_i$  proportional to the inverse of the error term variance  $\sigma^2 h_i^2$ : Observations with a higher error term variance have a lower weight; they provide less accurate information on  $\beta$
- Needs knowledge of the  $h_i$ 
  - Is seldom available
  - Estimates of  $h_i$  can be based on assumptions on the form of  $h_i$
  - E.g.,  $h_i^2 = z_i' \alpha$  or  $h_i^2 = \exp(z_i' \alpha)$  for some variables  $z_i$
- Analogous with general weights  $w_i$
- White's HCCME uses  $w_i = e_i^{-2}$

# Labor Demand Function, cont'd

Regression of "l\_usq1", i.e.,  $\log(e_i^2)$

Dependent variable : l\_usq1

	coefficient	std. error	t-ratio	p-value
const	7,24526	0,0987518	73,37	2,68e-291 ***
CAPITAL	-0,0210417	0,00375036	-5,611	3,16e-08 ***
OUTPUT	0,0359122	0,00481392	7,460	3,27e-013 ***
Mean dependent var		7,531559	S.D. dependent var	2,368701
Sum squared resid		2797,660	S.E. of regression	2,223255
R- squared		0,122138	Adjusted R-squared	0,119036
F(2, 129)		39,37427	P-value (F)	9,76e-17
Log-likelihood		-1260,487	Akaike criterion	2526,975
Schwarz criterion		2540,006	Hannan-Quinn	2532,060

# Labor Demand Function, cont'd

Estimated function

$$labour = \beta_1 + \beta_2 * wage + \beta_3 * output + \beta_4 * capital$$

OLS estimates and standard errors: without (s.e.) and with White correction (White s.e.); and GLS estimates with  $w_i = e_i^{-2}$ , with fitted values for  $e_i$  from the regression of  $\log(e_i^2)$  on *capital* and *output*

	$\beta_1$	<i>wage</i>	<i>output</i>	<i>capital</i>
<b>OLS coeff</b>	<b>287.19</b>	<b>-6.742</b>	<b>15.400</b>	<b>-4.590</b>
s.e.	19.642	0.501	0.356	0.269
White s.e.	64.877	1.852	2.482	1.713
<b>FGLS coeff</b>	<b>321.17</b>	<b>-7.404</b>	<b>15.585</b>	<b>-4.740</b>
s.e.	20.328	0.506	0.349	0.255

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# Tests against Heteroskedasticity

Due to unbiasedness of  $b$ , residuals are expected to indicate heteroskedasticity

Graphical displays of residuals may give useful hints

Residual-based tests:

- Breusch-Pagan test
- Koenker test
- Goldfeld-Quandt test
- White test

# Breusch-Pagan Test

For testing whether the error term variance is a function of  $Z_2, \dots, Z_p$

Model for heteroskedasticity

$$\sigma_i^2/\sigma^2 = h(z_i'\alpha)$$

with function  $h$  with  $h(0)=1$ ,  $p$ -vectors  $z_i$  and  $\alpha$ ,  $z_i$  containing an intercept and  $p-1$  variables  $Z_2, \dots, Z_p$

Null hypothesis

$$H_0: \alpha = 0$$

implies  $\sigma_i^2 = \sigma^2$  for all  $i$ , i.e., homoskedasticity

Auxiliary regression of the squared OLS residuals  $e_i^2$  on  $z_i$  (and squares of  $z_i$ );

Test statistic:  $BP = N \cdot R^2$  with  $R^2$  of the auxiliary regression; BP follows approximately the Chi-squared distribution with  $p$  d.f.

# Breusch-Pagan Test, cont'd

Typical functions  $h$  for  $h(z_i'\alpha)$

- Linear regression:  $h(z_i'\alpha) = z_i'\alpha$
- Exponential function  $h(z_i'\alpha) = \exp\{z_i'\alpha\}$ 
  - Auxiliary regression of the log ( $e_i^2$ ) upon  $z_i$
  - “Multiplicative heteroskedasticity”
  - Variances are non-negative
- Koenker test: variant of the BP test which is robust against non-normality of the error terms
- **GRET**L: The output window of OLS estimation allows the execution of the Breusch-Pagan test with  $h(z_i'\alpha) = z_i'\alpha$ 
  - OLS output => Tests => Heteroskedasticity => Breusch-Pagan
  - Koenker test: OLS output => Tests => Heteroskedasticity => Koenker

# Labor Demand Function, cont'd

Auxiliary regression of squared residuals, Verbeek  
Tests of the null hypothesis of homoskedasticity

**Table 4.2** Auxiliary regression Breusch–Pagan test

Dependent variable: $e_i^2$			
Variable	Estimate	Standard error	$t$ -ratio
constant	-22719.51	11838.88	-1.919
<i>wage</i>	228.86	302.22	0.757
<i>output</i>	5362.21	214.35	25.015
<i>capital</i>	-3543.51	162.12	-21.858

$s = 94182$     $R^2 = 0.5818$     $\bar{R}^2 = 0.5796$     $F = 262.05$

Breusch-Pagan:  $BP = NR^2 = 5931.82$ ,  $p$ -value = 0

Koenker:  $LM = 331.04$ ,  $p$ -value =  $2.17E-70$



# Goldfeld-Quandt Test

For testing whether the error term variance has values  $\sigma_A^2$  and  $\sigma_B^2$  for observations from regime A and B, respectively,  $\sigma_A^2 \neq \sigma_B^2$

Regimes can be urban vs rural area, economic prosperity vs stagnation, etc.

Example (in matrix notation):

$$y_A = X_A \beta_A + \varepsilon_A, \quad V\{\varepsilon_A\} = \sigma_A^2 I_{N_A} \quad (\text{regime A})$$

$$y_B = X_B \beta_B + \varepsilon_B, \quad V\{\varepsilon_B\} = \sigma_B^2 I_{N_B} \quad (\text{regime B})$$

Null hypothesis:  $\sigma_A^2 = \sigma_B^2$

Test statistic:

$$F = \frac{S_A}{S_B} \frac{N_B - K}{N_A - K}$$

with  $S_i$ : sum of squared residuals for  $i$ -th regime; follows under  $H_0$  exactly or approximately the  $F$ -distribution with  $N_A - K$  and  $N_B - K$  d.f.

# Goldfeld-Quandt Test, cont'd

Test procedure in three steps:

1. Sort the observations with respect to the regimes A and B
2. Separate fittings of the model to the  $N_A$  and  $N_B$  observations; sum of squared residuals  $S_A$  and  $S_B$
3. Calculate the test statistic  $F$

# White Test

For testing whether the error term variance is a function of the model regressors, their squares and their cross-products; generalizes the Breusch-Pagan test

Auxiliary regression of the squared OLS residuals upon  $x_i$ 's, squares of  $x_i$ 's, and cross-products

Test statistic:  $NR^2$  with  $R^2$  of the auxiliary regression; follows the Chi-squared distribution with the number of coefficients in the auxiliary regression as d.f.

The number of coefficients in the auxiliary regression may become large, maybe conflicting with size of  $N$ , resulting in low power of the White test

# Labor Demand Function, cont'd

White's test for heteroskedasticity

OLS, using observations 1-569

Dependent variable:  $\hat{u}^2$

	coefficient	std. error	t-ratio	p-value	
-----					
const	-260,910	18478,5	-0,01412	0,9887	
WAGE	554,352	833,028	0,6655	0,5060	
CAPITAL	2810,43	663,073	4,238	2,63e-05	***
OUTPUT	-2573,29	512,179	-5,024	6,81e-07	***
sq_WAGE	-10,0719	9,29022	-1,084	0,2788	
X2_X3	-48,2457	14,0199	-3,441	0,0006	***
X2_X4	58,5385	8,11748	7,211	1,81e-012	***
sq_CAPITAL	14,4176	2,01005	7,173	2,34e-012	***
X3_X4	-40,0294	3,74634	-10,68	2,24e-024	***
sq_OUTPUT	27,5945	1,83633	15,03	4,09e-043	***

Unadjusted R-squared = 0,818136

Test statistic:  $TR^2 = 465,519295$ ,  
with p-value =  $P(\text{Chi-square}(9) > 465,519295) = 0$

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# Transformed Model Satisfying Gauss-Markov Assumptions

Model:

$$y_i = x_i' \beta + \varepsilon_i \text{ with } V\{\varepsilon_i\} = \sigma_i^2 = \sigma^2 h_i^2$$

Division by  $h_i$  results in

$$y_i/h_i = (x_i/h_i)' \beta + \varepsilon_i/h_i$$

with a homoskedastic error term

$$V\{\varepsilon_i/h_i\} = \sigma_i^2/h_i^2 = \sigma^2$$

OLS applied to the transformed model gives

$$\hat{\beta} = \left( \sum_i h_i^{-2} x_i x_i' \right)^{-1} \sum_i h_i^{-2} x_i y_i$$

This estimator is an example of the “generalized least squares” (GLS) or “weighted least squares” (WLS) estimator

# Properties of GLS Estimators

The GLS estimator

$$\hat{\beta} = \left( \sum_i h_i^{-2} x_i x_i' \right)^{-1} \sum_i h_i^{-2} x_i y_i$$

is a least squares estimator; standard properties of OLS estimator apply

- The covariance matrix of the GLS estimator is

$$V \{ \hat{\beta} \} = \sigma^2 \left( \sum_i h_i^{-2} x_i x_i' \right)^{-1}$$

- Unbiased estimator of the error term variance

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{N-K} \sum_i h_i^{-2} \left( y_i - x_i' \hat{\beta} \right)^2$$

- Under the assumption of normality of errors,  $t$ - and  $F$ -tests can be used; for large  $N$ , these properties hold approximately without normality assumption

# Generalized Least Squares Estimator

- A GLS or WLS estimator is a least squares estimator where each observation is weighted by a non-negative factor

- Example:

$$y_i = x_i' \beta + \varepsilon_i \quad \text{with } V\{\varepsilon_i\} = \sigma_i^2 = \sigma^2 h_i^2$$

- Division by  $h_i$  results in a model with homoskedastic error terms

$$V\{\varepsilon_i / h_i\} = \sigma_i^2 / h_i^2 = \sigma^2$$

- OLS applied to the transformed model results in the weighted least squares (GLS) estimator with  $w_i = h_i^{-2}$ :

$$\hat{\beta} = \left( \sum_i h_i^{-2} x_i x_i' \right)^{-1} \sum_i h_i^{-2} x_i y_i$$

- Transformation corresponds to the multiplication of each observation with the non-negative factor  $h_i^{-1}$

- The GLS estimator is a least squares estimator that weights the  $i$ -th observation with  $w_i = h_i^{-2}$ , so that the Gauss-Markov assumptions are satisfied



# Feasible GLS Estimator

Is a GLS estimator with estimated weights  $w_i = h_i^{-2}$

- Substitution of the weights  $w_i = h_i^{-2}$  by estimates  $\hat{h}_i^{-2}$

$$\hat{\beta}^* = \left( \sum_i \hat{h}_i^{-2} x_i x_i' \right)^{-1} \sum_i \hat{h}_i^{-2} x_i y_i$$

- Feasible (or estimated) GLS or FGLS or EGLS estimator
- For consistent estimates  $\hat{h}_i$ , the FGLS and GLS estimators are asymptotically equivalent
- For small values of  $N$ , FGLS estimators are in general not BLUE
- For consistently estimated  $\hat{h}_i$ , the FGLS estimator is consistent and asymptotically efficient with covariance matrix (estimate for  $\sigma^2$ : based on FGLS residuals)

$$V \{ \hat{\beta}^* \} = \hat{\sigma}^2 \left( \sum_i \hat{h}_i^{-2} x_i x_i' \right)^{-1}$$

- Warning: The transformed model is uncentered

# Multiplicative Heteroskedasticity

Assume  $V\{\varepsilon_i\} = \sigma_i^2 = \sigma^2 h_i^2 = \sigma^2 \exp\{z_i' \alpha\}$

- The auxiliary regression

$$\log e_i^2 = \log \sigma^2 + z_i' \alpha + v_i$$

provides a consistent estimator  $a$  for  $\alpha$

- Transform the model  $y_i = x_i' \beta + \varepsilon_i$  with  $V\{\varepsilon_i\} = \sigma_i^2 = \sigma^2 h_i^2$  by dividing through  $\hat{h}_i$  from  $\hat{h}_i^2 = \exp\{z_i' a\}$
- Error term in this model is (approximately) homoskedastic
- Applying OLS to the transformed model gives the FGLS estimator for  $\beta$

# FGLS Estimation

In the following steps ( $y_i = x_i' \beta + \varepsilon_i$ ):

1. Calculate the OLS estimates  $b$  for  $\beta$
2. Compute the OLS residuals  $e_i = y_i - x_i' b$
3. Regress  $\log(e_i^2)$  on  $z_i$  and a constant, obtaining estimates  $a$  for  $\alpha$

$$\log e_i^2 = \log \sigma^2 + z_i' \alpha + v_i$$

4. Compute  $\hat{h}_i^2 = \exp\{z_i' a\}$ , transform all variables and estimate the transformed model to obtain the FGLS estimators:

$$y_i / \hat{h}_i = (x_i / \hat{h}_i)' \beta + \varepsilon_i / \hat{h}_i$$

5. The consistent estimate  $s^2$  for  $\sigma^2$ , based on the FGLS-residuals, and the consistently estimated covariance matrix

$$\hat{V} \{ \hat{\beta}^* \} = s^2 \left( \sum_i \hat{h}_i^{-2} x_i x_i' \right)^{-1}$$

are part of the standard output when regressing the transformed model

# FGLS Estimation in GRET

Preparatory steps:

1. Calculate the OLS estimates  $b$  for  $\beta$  of  $y_i = x_i'\beta + \varepsilon_i$
2. Under the assumption  $V\{\varepsilon_i\} = \sigma_i^2 = \sigma^2 h_i^2$ , conduct an auxiliary regression for  $e_i^2$  or  $\log(e_i^2)$  that provides estimates  $\hat{h}_i^2$
3. Define  $wtvar$  as weight variable with  $wtvar_i = (\hat{h}_i^2)^{-1}$

FGLS estimation:

4. Model  $\Rightarrow$  Other linear models  $\Rightarrow$  Weighted least squares
5. Use of variable  $wtvar$  as “Weight variable”: both the dependent and all independent variables are multiplied with the square roots  $(wtvar)^{1/2}$

# Labor Demand Function

For Belgian companies, 1996; Verbeek

**Table 4.5** OLS results loglinear model with White standard errors

Dependent variable:  $\log(\textit{labour})$

Variable	Estimate	Heteroskedasticity-consistent	
		Standard error	<i>t</i> -ratio
constant	6.177	0.294	21.019
$\log(\textit{wage})$	-0.928	0.087	-10.706
$\log(\textit{output})$	0.990	0.047	21.159
$\log(\textit{capital})$	-0.004	0.038	-0.098

$s = 0.465$     $R^2 = 0.8430$     $\bar{R}^2 = 0.8421$     $F = 544.73$

Log-transformation is expected to reduce heteroskedasticity

# Labor Demand Function, cont'd

Estimated function

$$\log(\textit{labour}) = \beta_1 + \beta_2 * \log(\textit{wage}) + \beta_3 * \log(\textit{output}) + \beta_4 * \log(\textit{capital})$$

The table shows: OLS estimates and standard errors: without (s.e.) and with White correction (White s.e.); FGLS estimates and standard errors

	$\beta_1$	<i>wage</i>	<i>output</i>	<i>capital</i>
<b>OLS coeff</b>	<b>6.177</b>	<b>-0.928</b>	<b>0.990</b>	<b>-0.0037</b>
s.e.	0.246	0.071	0.026	0.0188
White s.e.	0.293	0.086	0.047	0.0377
<b>FGLS coeff</b>	<b>5.895</b>	<b>-0.856</b>	<b>1.035</b>	<b>-0.0569</b>
s.e.	0.248	0.072	0.027	0.0216

# Labor Demand Function, cont'd

For Belgian companies, 1996; Verbeek

**Table 4.6** Auxiliary regression multiplicative heteroskedasticity

Dependent variable:  $\log e_i^2$

Variable	Estimate	Standard error	<i>t</i> -ratio
constant	-3.254	1.185	-2.745
$\log(\text{wage})$	-0.061	0.344	-0.178
$\log(\text{output})$	0.267	0.127	2.099
$\log(\text{capital})$	-0.331	0.090	-3.659

$s = 2.241$   $R^2 = 0.0245$   $\bar{R}^2 = 0.0193$   $F = 4.73$

Breusch-Pagan test:  $NR^2 = 66.23$ ,  $p$ -value: 1,42E-13

# Labor Demand Function, cont'd

For Belgian companies, 1996; Verbeek

Weights estimated assuming multiplicative heteroskedasticity

**Table 4.7** EGLS results loglinear model

Dependent variable:  $\log(\textit{labour})$

Variable	Estimate	Standard error	<i>t</i> -ratio
constant	5.895	0.248	23.806
$\log(\textit{wage})$	-0.856	0.072	-11.903
$\log(\textit{output})$	1.035	0.027	37.890
$\log(\textit{capital})$	-0.057	0.022	-2.636

$s = 2.509$     $R^2 = 0.9903$     $\bar{R}^2 = 0.9902$     $F = 14401.3$



# Labor Demand Function, cont'd

Estimated function

$$\log(\textit{labour}) = \beta_1 + \beta_2 * \log(\textit{wage}) + \beta_3 * \log(\textit{output}) + \beta_4 * \log(\textit{capital})$$

The table shows: OLS estimates and standard errors: without (s.e.) and with White correction (White s.e.); FGLS estimates and standard errors

	$\beta_1$	<i>wage</i>	<i>output</i>	<i>capital</i>
<b>OLS coeff</b>	<b>6.177</b>	<b>-0.928</b>	<b>0.990</b>	<b>-0.0037</b>
s.e.	0.246	0.071	0.026	0.0188
White s.e.	0.293	0.086	0.047	0.0377
<b>FGLS coeff</b>	<b>5.895</b>	<b>-0.856</b>	<b>1.035</b>	<b>-0.0569</b>
s.e.	0.248	0.072	0.027	0.0216

# Labor Demand Function, cont'd

Some comments:

- Reduction of standard errors in FGLS estimation as compared to heteroskedasticity-robust estimation, efficiency gains
- Comparison with OLS estimation not appropriate
- FGLS estimates differ slightly from OLS estimates; effect of capital is indicated to be relevant ( $p$ -value: 0.0086)
- $R^2$  of FGLS estimation is misleading
  - Model has no intercept, is uncentered
  - Comparison with that of OLS estimation not appropriate, explained variables are different

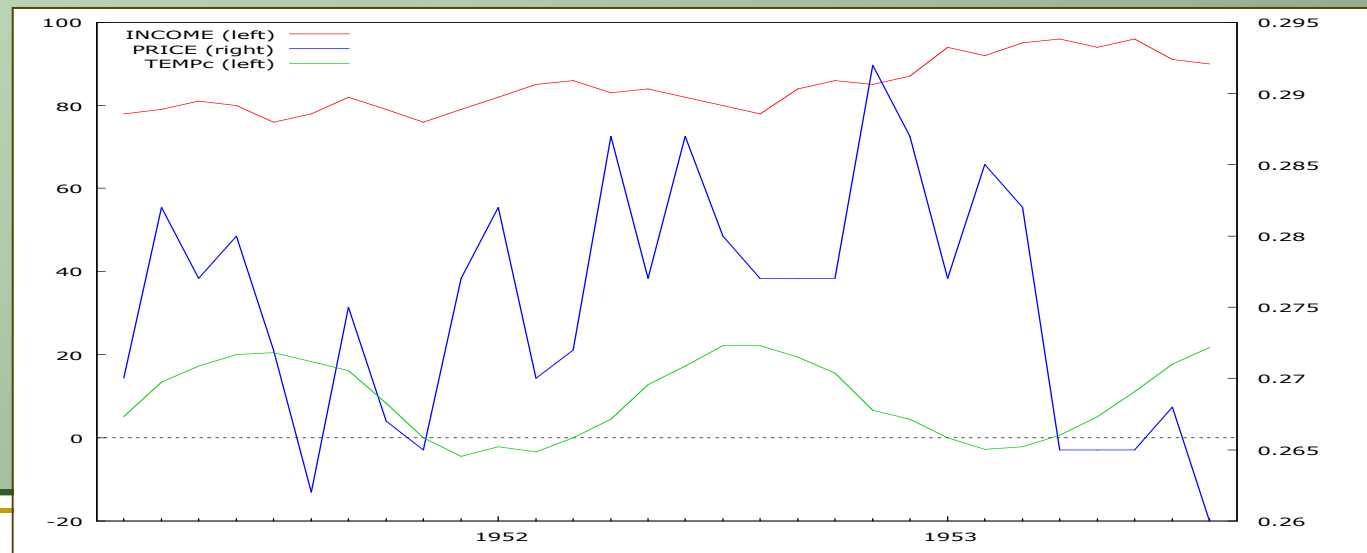
# Contents

- Violations of  $V\{\varepsilon\} = \sigma^2 I_N$ : Illustrations and Consequences
- Heteroskedasticity
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- **Autocorrelation**
- Tests against Autocorrelation
- Inference under Autocorrelation

# Example: Demand for Ice Cream

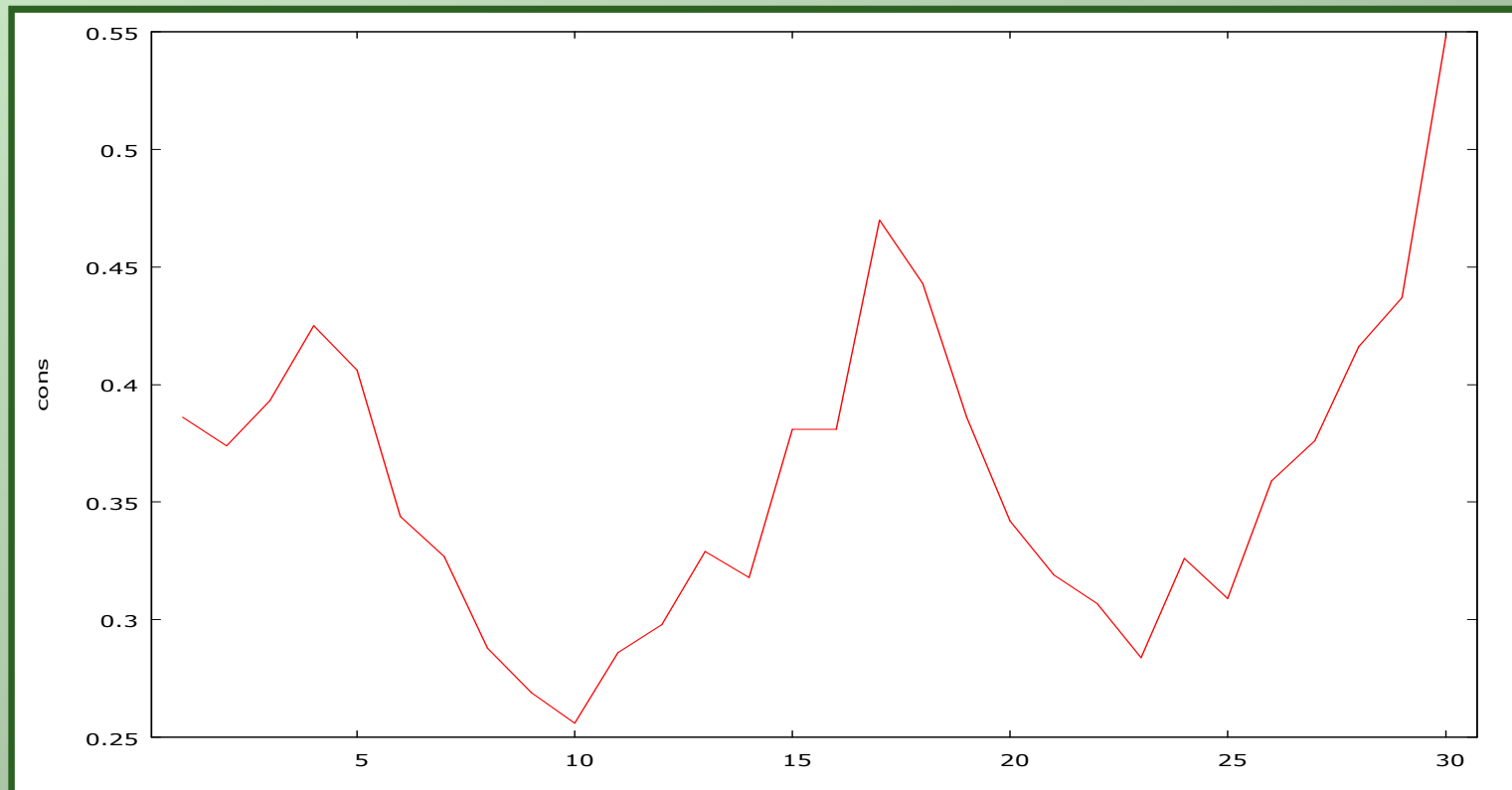
Verbeek's time series dataset "icecream"

- 30 four weekly observations (1951-1953)
- Variables
  - *cons*: consumption of ice cream per head (in pints)
  - *income*: average family income per week (in USD, red line)
  - *price*: price of ice cream (in USD per pint, blue line)
  - *temp*: average temperature (in Fahrenheit); *tempc*: (green, in °C)



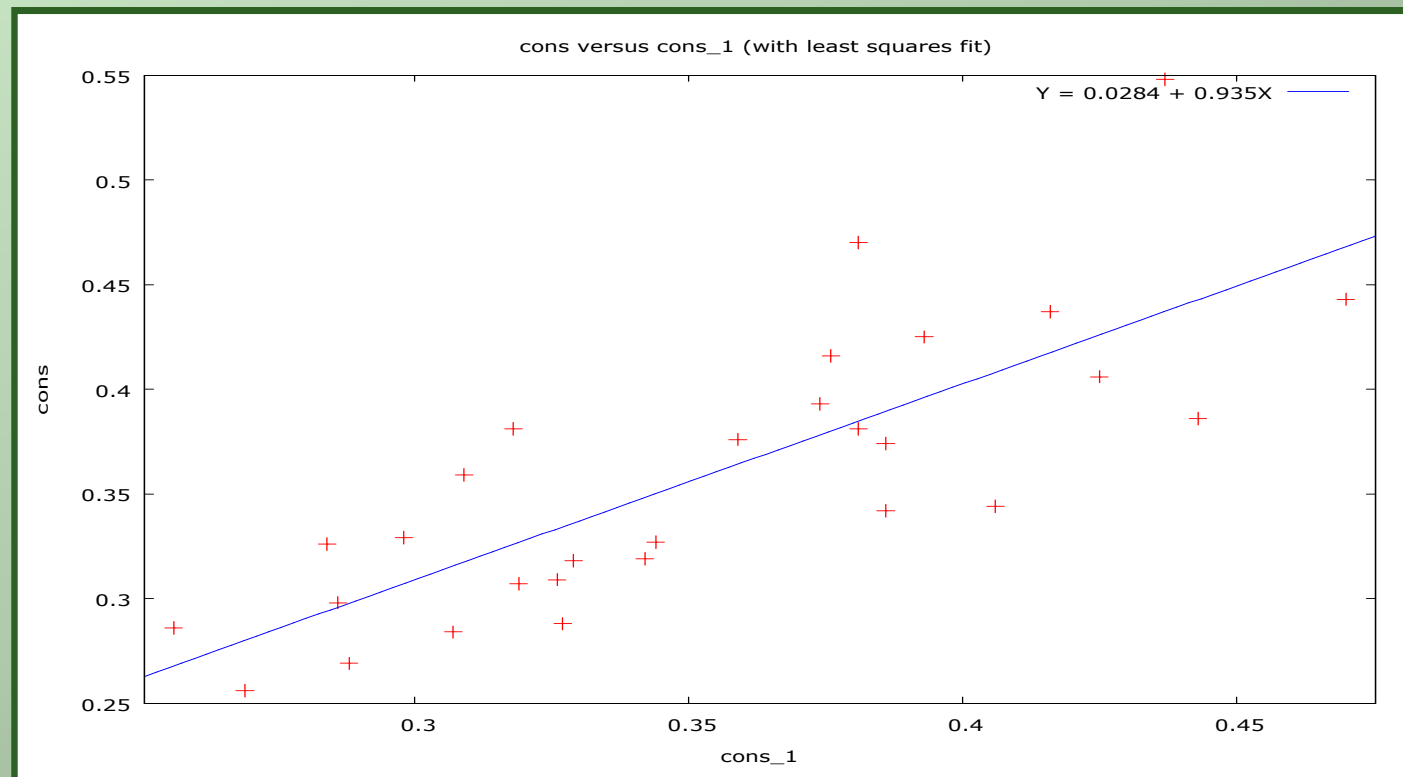
# Demand for Ice Cream, cont'd

Time series plot of consumption of ice cream per head (in pints), *cons*, over observation periods



# Demand for Ice Cream, cont'd

Consumption of ice cream per head (in pints), *cons*: scatter diagramme of actual values *cons* over lagged values *cons*<sub>1</sub>



# Autocorrelation

- Typical for time series data such as consumption, production, investments, etc., and models for time series data
- Autocorrelation of error terms is typically observed if
  - a relevant regressor with trend or seasonal pattern is not included in the model: miss-specified model
  - the functional form of a regressor is incorrectly specified
  - the dependent variable is correlated in a way that is not appropriately represented in the systematic part of the model
- Autocorrelation of the error terms indicates deficiencies of the model specification such as omitted regressors, incorrect functional form, incorrect dynamic
- Tests for autocorrelation are the most frequently used tool for diagnostic checking the model specification

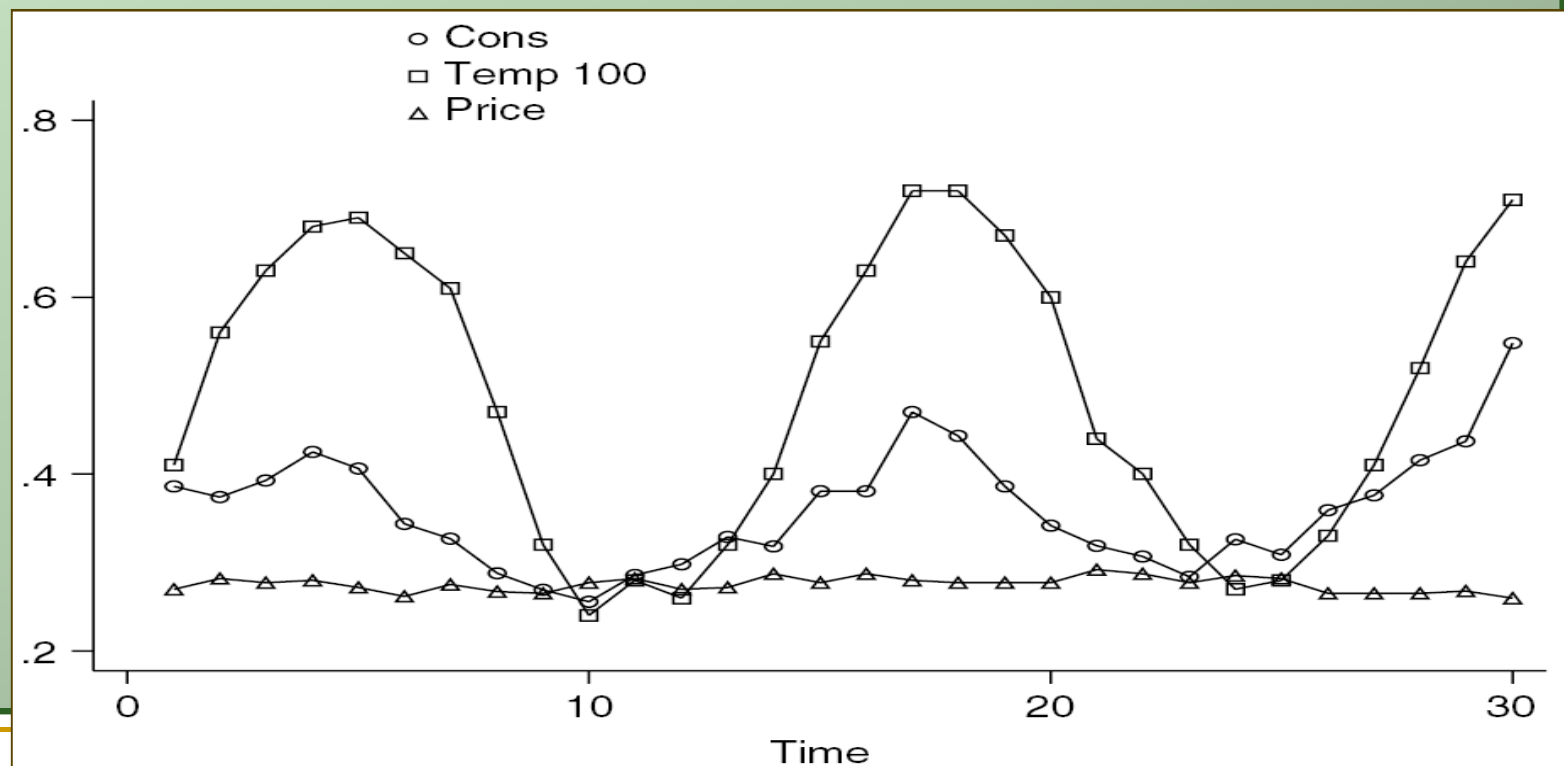
# Demand for Ice Cream, cont'd

Time series plot of

*Cons*: consumption of ice cream per head (in pints); mean: 0.36

*Temp/100*: average temperature (in Fahrenheit)

*Price* (in USD per pint); mean: 0.275 USD





# Demand for Ice Cream, cont'd

Demand for ice cream, measured by *cons*, explained by *price*, *income*, and *temp*

**Table 4.9** OLS results

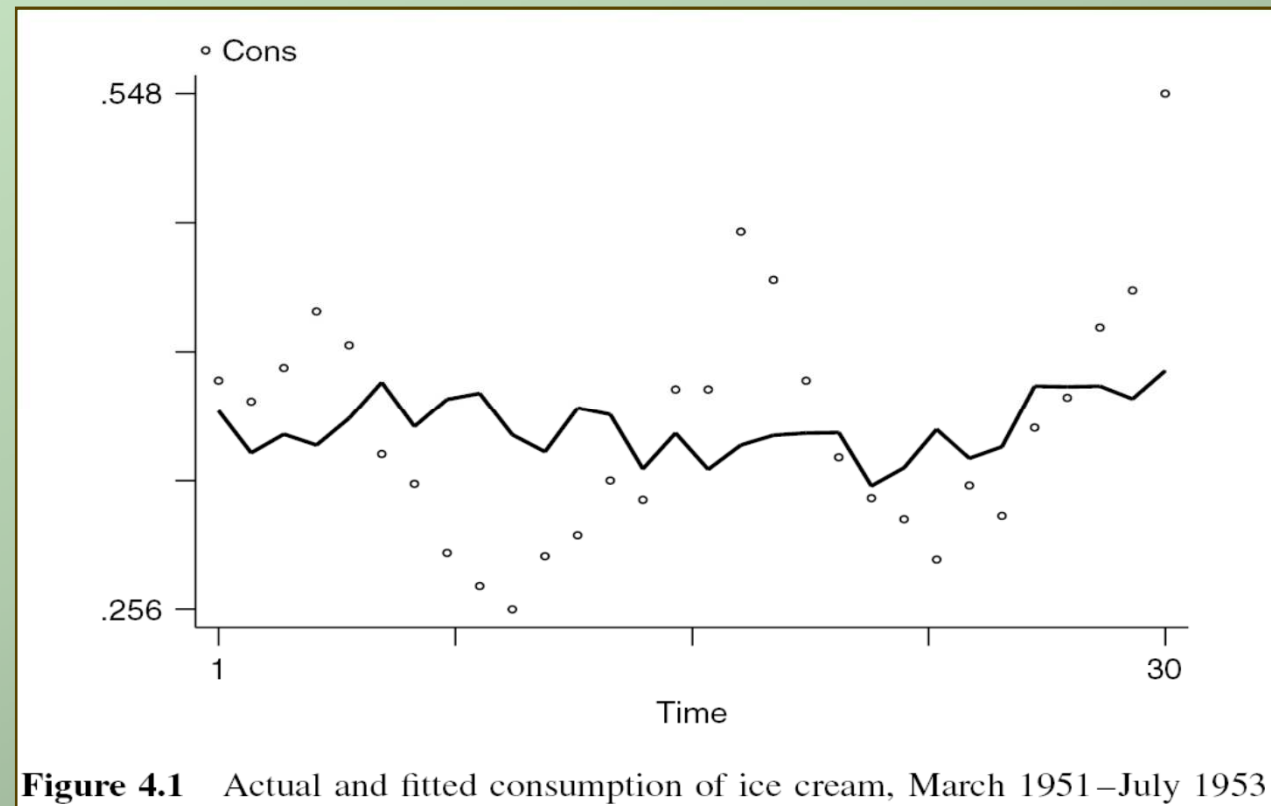
Dependent variable: *cons*

Variable	Estimate	Standard error	<i>t</i> -ratio
constant	0.197	0.270	0.730
<i>price</i>	-1.044	0.834	-1.252
<i>income</i>	0.00331	0.00117	2.824
<i>temp</i>	0.00345	0.00045	7.762

$s = 0.0368$     $R^2 = 0.7190$     $\bar{R}^2 = 0.6866$     $F = 22.175$   
 $dw = 1.0212$

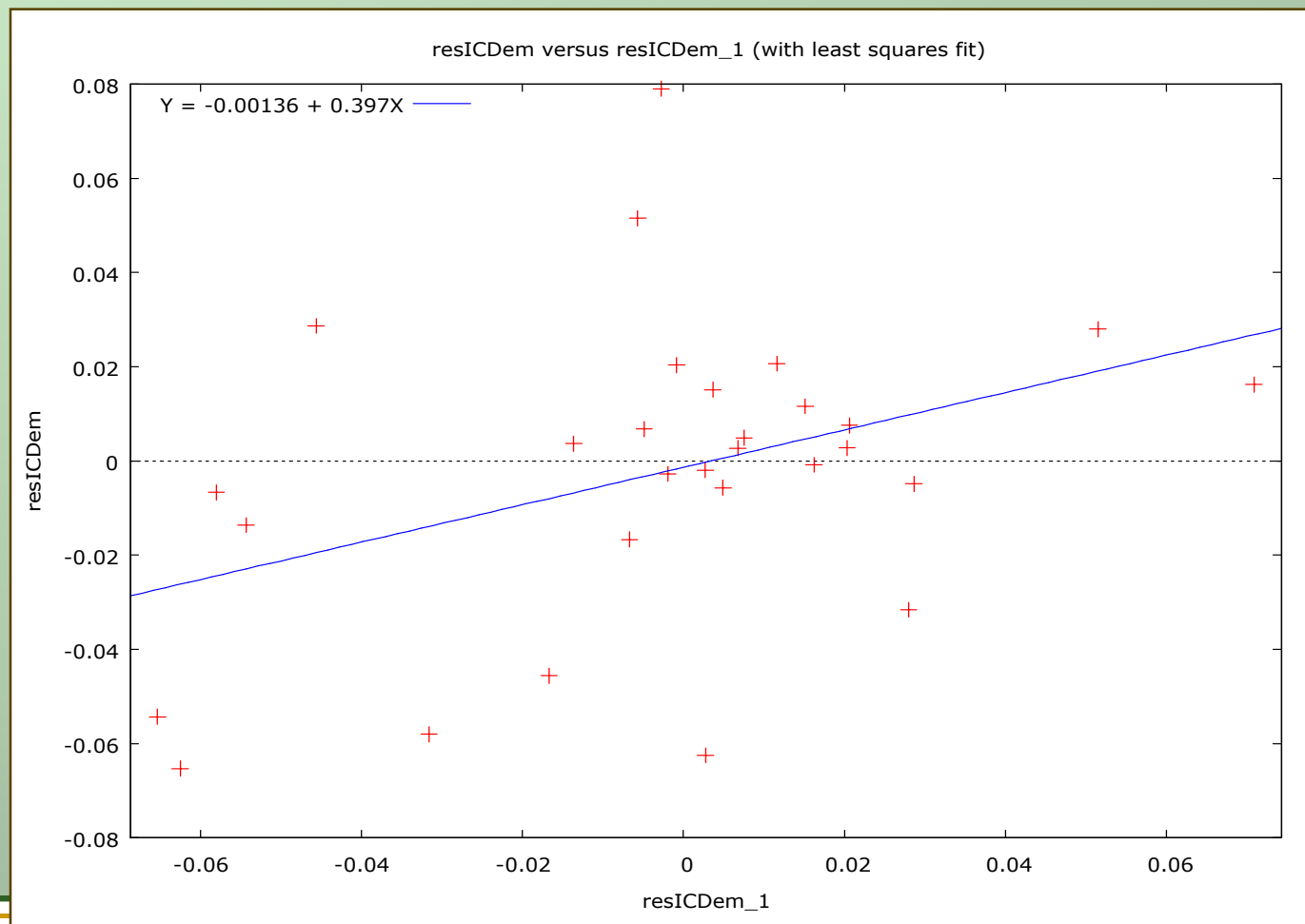
# Demand for Ice Cream, cont'd

Time series diagramme of demand for ice cream, actual values (o) and predictions (polygon), based on the model with income and price



# Demand for Ice Cream, cont'd

Ice cream model: Scatter-plot of residuals  $e_t$  vs  $e_{t-1}$  ( $r = 0.401$ )



# A Model with AR(1) Errors

Linear regression

$$y_t = x_t' \beta + \varepsilon_t \text{ } ^{1)}$$

with

$$\varepsilon_t = \rho \varepsilon_{t-1} + v_t \text{ with } -1 < \rho < 1 \text{ or } |\rho| < 1$$

where  $v_t$  are uncorrelated random variables with mean zero and constant variance  $\sigma_v^2$

- For  $\rho \neq 0$ , the error terms  $\varepsilon_t$  are correlated; the Gauss-Markov assumption  $V\{\varepsilon\} = \sigma_\varepsilon^2 I_N$  is violated
- The other Gauss-Markov assumptions are assumed to be fulfilled

The sequence  $\varepsilon_t$ ,  $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  which follows  $\varepsilon_t = \rho \varepsilon_{t-1} + v_t$  is called an autoregressive process of order 1 or AR(1) process

---

1) In the context of time series models, variables are indexed by „t“

# Properties of AR(1) Processes

Repeated substitution of  $\varepsilon_{t-1}$ ,  $\varepsilon_{t-2}$ , etc. results in

$$\varepsilon_t = \rho\varepsilon_{t-1} + v_t = v_t + \rho v_{t-1} + \rho^2 v_{t-2} + \dots$$

with  $v_t$  being uncorrelated and having mean zero and variance  $\sigma_v^2$ :

- $E\{\varepsilon_t\} = 0$
- $V\{\varepsilon_t\} = \sigma_\varepsilon^2 = \sigma_v^2(1-\rho^2)^{-1}$

This results from  $V\{\varepsilon_t\} = \sigma_v^2 + \rho^2\sigma_v^2 + \rho^4\sigma_v^2 + \dots = \sigma_v^2(1-\rho^2)^{-1}$  for  $|\rho| < 1$ ; the geometric series  $1 + \rho^2 + \rho^4 + \dots$  has the sum  $(1-\rho^2)^{-1}$  given that  $|\rho| < 1$

- for  $|\rho| > 1$ ,  $V\{\varepsilon_t\}$  is undefined
- $\text{Cov}\{\varepsilon_t, \varepsilon_{t-s}\} = \rho^s \sigma_v^2 (1-\rho^2)^{-1}$  for  $s > 0$

all error terms are correlated; covariances – and correlations

$\text{Corr}\{\varepsilon_t, \varepsilon_{t-s}\} = \rho^s (1-\rho^2)^{-1}$  – decrease with growing distance  $s$  in time

# AR(1) Process, cont'd

The covariance matrix  $V\{\varepsilon\}$ :

$$V\{\varepsilon\} = \sigma_v^2 \Psi = \frac{\sigma_v^2}{1-\rho^2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \rho & \cdots & \rho^{N-1} \\ \rho & 1 & \cdots & \rho^{N-2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \rho^{N-1} & \rho^{N-2} & \cdots & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- $V\{\varepsilon\}$  has a band structure
- Depends only of two parameters:  $\rho$  and  $\sigma_v^2$

# Consequences of $V\{\varepsilon\} \neq \sigma^2 I_T$

OLS estimators  $b$  for  $\beta$

- are unbiased
- are consistent
- have the covariance-matrix

$$V\{b\} = \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1} X'\Psi X (X'X)^{-1}$$

- are not efficient estimators, not BLUE
- follow – under general conditions – asymptotically the normal distribution

The estimator  $s^2 = e'e/(T-K)$  for  $\sigma^2$  is biased

For an AR(1)-process  $\varepsilon_t$  with  $\rho > 0$ , s.e. from  $\sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1}$  underestimates the true s.e.

# Inference in Case of Autocorrelation

Covariance matrix of  $b$ :

$$V\{b\} = \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1} X'\Psi X (X'X)^{-1}$$

Use of  $\sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1}$  (the standard output of econometric software) instead of  $V\{b\}$  for inference on  $\beta$  may be misleading

Identification of autocorrelation:

- Statistical tests, e.g., Durbin-Watson test

Remedies

- Use of correct variances and standard errors
- Transformation of the model so that the error terms are uncorrelated



# Estimation of $\rho$

Autocorrelation coefficient  $\rho$ : parameter of the AR(1) process

$$\varepsilon_t = \rho\varepsilon_{t-1} + v_t$$

Estimation of  $\rho$

- by regressing the OLS residual  $e_t$  on the lagged residual  $e_{t-1}$

$$r = \frac{\sum_{t=2}^T e_t e_{t-1}}{(T-K)s^2}$$

- estimator is
  - biased
  - but consistent under weak conditions

# Autocorrelation Function

Autocorrelation of order  $s$ :

$$r_s = \frac{\sum_{t=s+1}^T e_t e_{t-s}}{(T-k)s^2}$$

- Autocorrelation function (ACF) assigns  $r_s$  to  $s$
- Correlogram: graphical representation of the autocorrelation function

**GRET**L: Variable => Correlogram

Produces (a) the autocorrelation function (ACF) and (b) the graphical representation of the ACF (and the partial autocorrelation function)

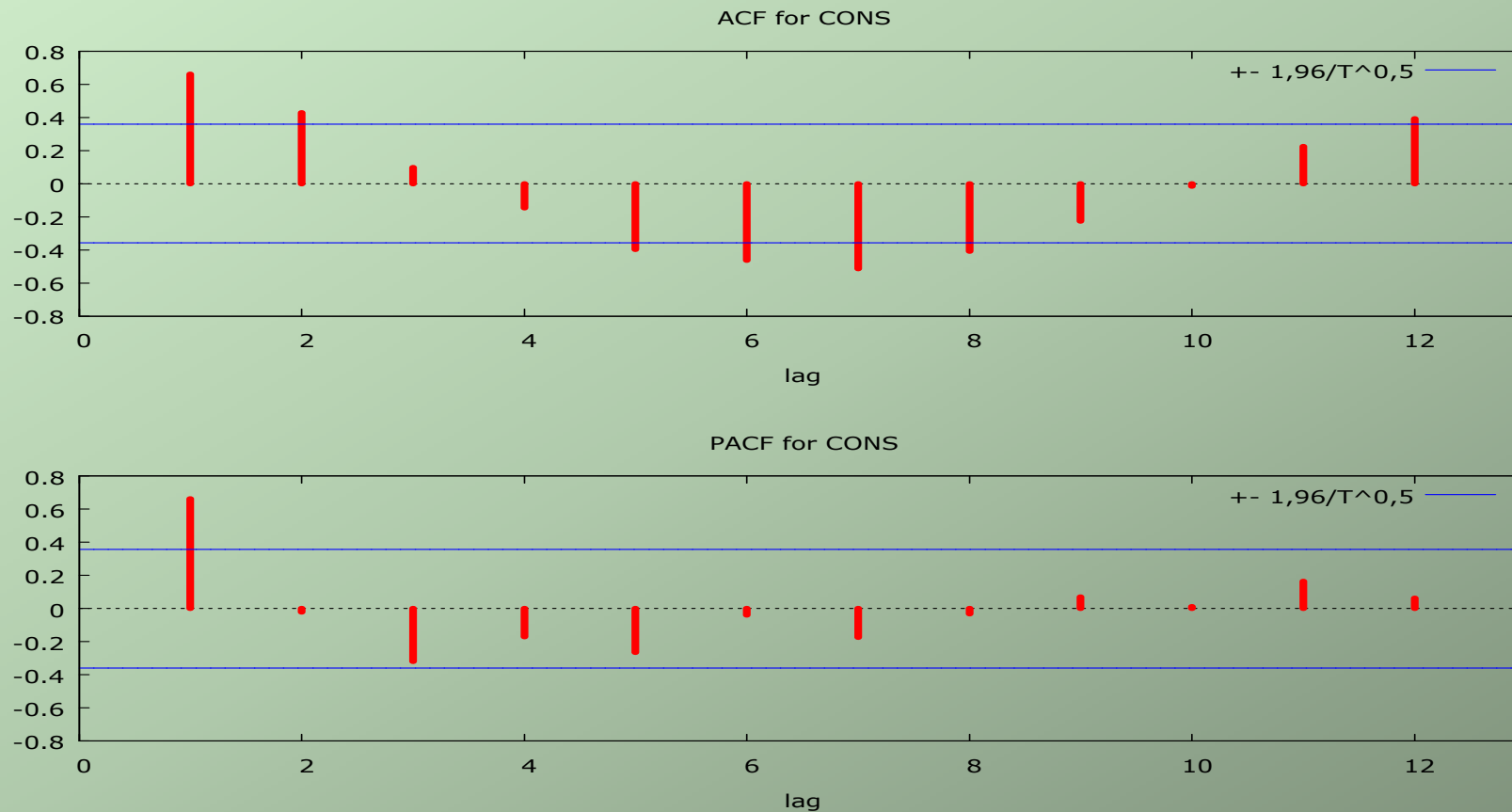
# Example: Ice Cream Demand

Autocorrelation function (ACF) of *cons*

LAG	ACF		PACF	Q-stat. [p-value]
1	0,6627 ***		0,6627 ***	14,5389 [0,000]
2	0,4283 **		-0,0195	20,8275 [0,000]
3	0,0982		-0,3179 *	21,1706 [0,000]
4	-0,1470		-0,1701	21,9685 [0,000]
5	-0,3968 **		-0,2630	28,0152 [0,000]
6	-0,4623 **		-0,0398	36,5628 [0,000]
7	-0,5145 ***		-0,1735	47,6132 [0,000]
8	-0,4068 **		-0,0299	54,8362 [0,000]
9	-0,2271		0,0711	57,1929 [0,000]
10	-0,0156		0,0117	57,2047 [0,000]
11	0,2237		0,1666	59,7335 [0,000]
12	0,3912 **		0,0645	67,8959 [0,000]

# Example: Ice Cream Demand

## Correlogram of *cons*



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# Tests for Autocorrelation of Error Terms

Due to unbiasedness of  $b$ , residuals are expected to indicate autocorrelation

Graphical displays, e.g., the correlogram of residuals may give useful hints

Residual-based tests:

- Durbin-Watson test
- Box-Pierce test
- Breusch-Godfrey test

# Durbin-Watson Test

Test of  $H_0: \rho = 0$  against  $H_1: \rho \neq 0$

Test statistic

$$dw = \frac{\sum_{t=2}^T (e_t - e_{t-1})^2}{\sum_{t=1}^T e_t^2} \approx 2(1-r)$$

- For  $\rho > 0$ ,  $dw$  is expected to have a value in  $(0,2)$
- For  $\rho < 0$ ,  $dw$  is expected to have a value in  $(2,4)$
- $dw$  close to the value 2 indicates no autocorrelation of error terms
- Critical limits of  $dw$ 
  - depend upon  $x_t$ 's
  - exact critical value is unknown, but upper and lower bounds can be derived, which depend upon  $x_t$ 's only via the number of regression coefficients
- Test can be inconclusive
- $H_1: \rho > 0$  may be more appropriate than  $H_1: \rho \neq 0$

# Durbin-Watson Test: Bounds for Critical Limits

Derived by Durbin and Watson

Upper ( $d_U$ ) and lower ( $d_L$ ) bounds for the critical limits and  $\alpha = 0.05$

T	K=2		K=3		K=10	
	$d_L$	$d_U$	$d_L$	$d_U$	$d_L$	$d_U$
15	1.08	1.36	0.95	1.54	0.17	3.22
20	1.20	1.41	1.10	1.54	0.42	2.70
100	1.65	1.69	1.63	1.71	1.48	1.87

- $dw < d_L$ : reject  $H_0$
- $dw > d_U$ : do not reject  $H_0$
- $d_L < dw < d_U$ : no decision (inconclusive region)



# Durbin-Watson Test: Remarks

- Durbin-Watson test gives no indication of causes for the rejection of the null hypothesis and how the model to modify
- Various types of misspecification may cause the rejection of the null hypothesis
- Durbin-Watson test is a test against first-order autocorrelation; a test against autocorrelation of other orders may be more suitable, e.g., order four if the model is for quarterly data
- Use of tables unwieldy
  - Limited number of critical bounds ( $K$ ,  $T$ ,  $\alpha$ ) in tables
  - Inconclusive region
- **GRET**L: Standard output of the OLS estimation reports the Durbin-Watson statistic; to see the  $p$ -value:
  - OLS output => Tests => Durbin-Watson  $p$ -value

# Asymptotic Tests

AR(1) process for error terms

$$\varepsilon_t = \rho\varepsilon_{t-1} + v_t$$

Auxiliary regression of  $e_t$  on  $x_t$  and  $e_{t-1}$ : produces

■  $R_e^2$

Test of  $H_0: \rho = 0$  against  $H_1: \rho > 0$  or  $H_1: \rho \neq 0$

1. Breusch-Godfrey test (**GRET**L: OLS output => Tests => Autocorr.)

- $R_e^2$  of the auxiliary regression: close to zero if  $\rho = 0$
- Under  $H_0: \rho = 0$ ,  $(T-1) R_e^2$  follows approximately the Chi-squared distribution with 1 d.f.
- Lagrange multiplier  $F$  (LMF) statistic:  $F$ -test for explanatory power of  $e_{t-1}$ ; follows approximately the  $F(1, T-K-1)$  distribution if  $\rho = 0$
- General case of the Breusch-Godfrey test: Auxiliary regression based on higher order autoregressive process

# Asymptotic Tests, cont'd

## 2. Box-Pierce test

- The  $t$ -statistic based on the OLS estimate  $r$  of  $\rho$  from  $\varepsilon_t = \rho\varepsilon_{t-1} + v_t$ ,

$$t = \sqrt{(T)} r$$

follows approximately the  $t$ -distribution,  $t^2 = T r^2$  the Chi-squared distribution with 1 d.f. if  $\rho = 0$

- Test based on  $\sqrt{(T)} r$  is a special case of the Box-Pierce test which uses the test statistic  $Q_m = T \sum_{s=1}^m r_s^2$

## 3. Similar the Ljung-Box test, based on

$$T(T-2) \sum_{s=1}^m \frac{r_s^2}{T-s}$$

follows the Chi-squared distribution with  $m$  d.f. if  $\rho = 0$

- **GRET**L: OLS output => Tests => Autocorrelation
- **GRET**L: OLS output => Graphs => Residual correlogram

# Asymptotic Tests, cont'd

- **GRET**L: Ljung-Box test is conducted by
  - OLS output => Tests => Autocorrelation (shows Ljung-Box statistic)
  - OLS output => Graphs => Residual correlogram (shows for lag = 1: Ljung-Box statistic and  $p$ -value)

## Remarks

- If the model of interest contains lagged values of  $y$  the auxiliary regression should also include all explanatory variables (just to make sure the distribution of the test is correct)
- If heteroskedasticity is suspected, White standard errors may be used in the auxiliary regression

# Demand for Ice Cream, cont'd

OLS estimated demand function: Output from **GRET**L

Dependent variable : CONS

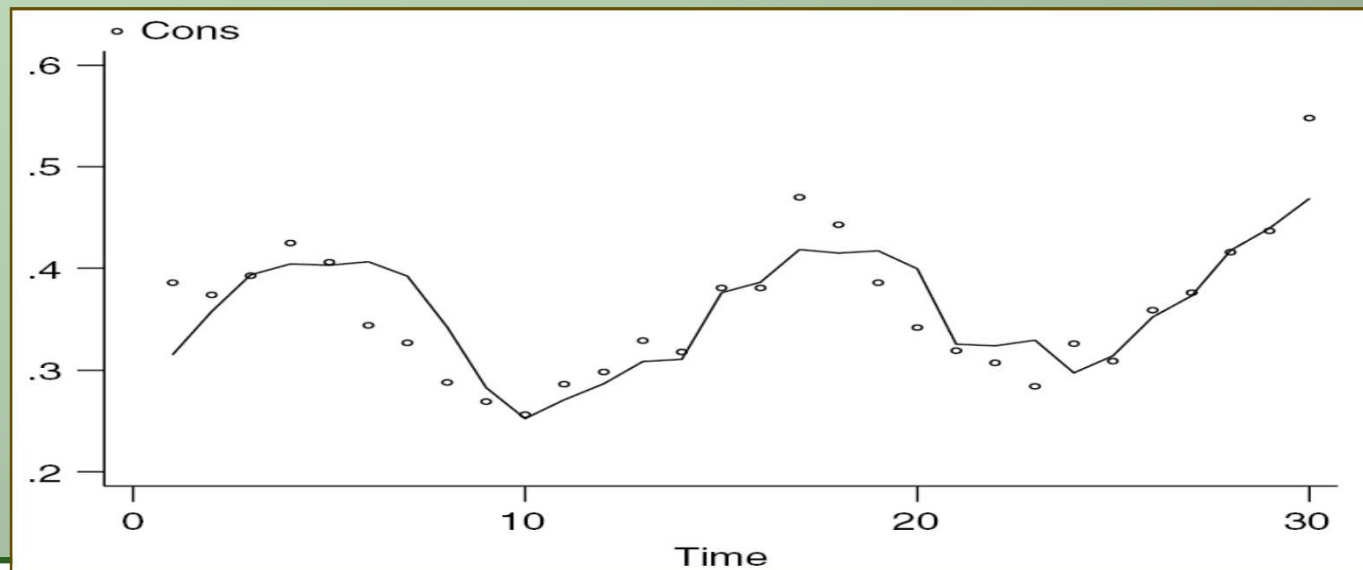
	coefficient	std. error	t-ratio	p-value
const	0.197315	0.270216	0.7302	0.4718
INCOME	0.00330776	0.00117142	2.824	0.0090 ***
PRICE	-1.04441	0.834357	-1.252	0.2218
TEMP	0.00345843	0.000445547	7.762	3.10e-08 ***
Mean dependent var		0.359433	S.D. dependent var	0,065791
Sum squared resid		0,035273	S.E. of regression	0,036833
R- squared		0,718994	Adjusted R-squared	0,686570
F(2, 129)		22,17489	P-value (F)	2,45e-07
Log-likelihood		58,61944	Akaike criterion	-109,2389
Schwarz criterion		-103,6341	Hannan-Quinn	-107,4459
rho		0,400633	Durbin-Watson	1,021170

# Demand for Ice Cream, cont'd

## Test for autocorrelation of error terms

- $H_0: \rho = 0, H_1: \rho \neq 0$
- $dw = 1.02 < 1.21 = d_L$  for  $T = 30, K = 4; p = 0.0003$  (in GRETL: 0.0003025); reject  $H_0$
- **GRETL** also shows the autocorrelation coefficient:  $r = 0.401$

Plot of actual (o) and fitted (polygon) values



# Demand for Ice Cream, cont'd

Auxiliary regression  $\varepsilon_t = \rho\varepsilon_{t-1} + v_t$ : OLS estimation gives

$$e_t = 0.401 e_{t-1}$$

with  $\text{s.e.}(r) = 0.177$ ,  $R^2 = 0.154$

Test of  $H_0: \rho = 0$  against  $H_1: \rho > 0$

## 1. Box-Pierce test:

- $t \approx \sqrt{(30)} 0.401 = 2.196$ ,  $p$ -value: 0.018
- $t$ -statistic: 2.258,  $p$ -value: 0.016

## 2. Breusch-Godfrey test

- $\text{LMF} = (T-1) R^2 = 4.47$ ,  $p$ -value: 0.035

Both reject the null hypothesis

**GRETl:** OLS Output => Tests => Autocorrelation: similar  $p$ -value for Box-Pierce (0.040) and Breusch-Godfrey test (0.053)

# Contents

- Violations of  $V\{\varepsilon\} = \sigma^2 I_N$ : Illustrations and Consequences
- Heteroskedasticity
- Tests against Heteroskedasticity
- GLS Estimation
- Autocorrelation
- Tests against Autocorrelation
- Inference under Autocorrelation



# Inference under Autocorrelation

Covariance matrix of  $b$ :

$$V\{b\} = \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1} X'\Psi X (X'X)^{-1}$$

Use of  $\sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1}$  (the standard output of econometric software) instead of  $V\{b\}$  for inference on  $\beta$  may be misleading

Remedies

- Use of correct variances and standard errors
- Transformation of the model so that the error terms are uncorrelated

# HAC-estimator for $V\{b\}$

Substitution of  $\Psi$  in

$$V\{b\} = \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1} X'\Psi X (X'X)^{-1}$$

by a suitable estimator

- Newey-West: substitution of  $S_x = \sigma^2(X'\Psi X)/T = (\sum_t \sum_s \sigma_{ts} x_t x_s')/T$  by

$$\hat{S}_x = \frac{1}{T} \sum_t e_t^2 x_t x_t' + \frac{1}{T} \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_t (1 - w_j) e_t e_{t-j} (x_t x_{t-j}' + x_{t-j} x_t')$$

with  $w_j = j/(p+1)$ ;  $p$ , the *truncation lag*, is to be chosen suitably

- The estimator

$$T (X'X)^{-1} \hat{S}_x (X'X)^{-1}$$

for  $V\{b\}$  is called *heteroskedasticity and autocorrelation consistent* (HAC) estimator, the corresponding standard errors are the HAC s.e.

# Demand for Ice Cream, cont'd

Demand for ice cream, measured by *cons*, explained by *price*, *income*, and *temp*, OLS and HAC standard errors

	coeff	s.e.	
		OLS	HAC
<i>constant</i>	0.197	0.270	0.288
<i>price</i>	-1.044	0.834	0.876
<i>income</i> *10 <sup>-3</sup>	3.308	1.171	1.184
<i>temp</i> *10 <sup>-3</sup>	3.458	0.446	0.411

# Cochrane-Orcutt Estimator

## GLS estimator

- With transformed variables  $y_t^* = y_t - \rho y_{t-1}$  and  $x_t^* = x_t - \rho x_{t-1}$ , also called “quasi-differences”, the model  $y_t = x_t' \beta + \varepsilon_t$  with  $\varepsilon_t = \rho \varepsilon_{t-1} + v_t$  can be written as

$$y_t - \rho y_{t-1} = y_t^* = (x_t - \rho x_{t-1})' \beta + v_t = x_t^{*'} \beta + v_t \quad (\text{A})$$

- The model in quasi-differences has error terms which fulfill the Gauss-Markov assumptions
- Given observations for  $t = 1, \dots, T$ , model (A) is defined for  $t = 2, \dots, T$
- Estimation of  $\rho$  using, e.g., the auxiliary regression  $\varepsilon_t = \rho \varepsilon_{t-1} + v_t$  gives the estimate  $r$ ; substitution of  $r$  in (A) for  $\rho$  results in FGLS estimators for  $\beta$
- The FGLS estimator is called Cochrane-Orcutt estimator

# Cochrane-Orcutt Estimation

In following steps

1. OLS estimation of  $b$  for  $\beta$  from  $y_t = x_t'\beta + \varepsilon_t, t = 1, \dots, T$
2. Estimation of  $r$  for  $\rho$  from the auxiliary regression  $\varepsilon_t = \rho\varepsilon_{t-1} + v_t$
3. Calculation of quasi-differences  $y_t^* = y_t - ry_{t-1}$  and  $x_t^* = x_t - rx_{t-1}$
4. OLS estimation of  $\beta$  from

$$y_t^* = x_t^*\beta + v_t, t = 2, \dots, T$$

resulting in the Cochrane-Orcutt estimators

Steps 2. to 4. can be repeated in order to improve the estimate  $r$  :  
iterated Cochrane-Orcutt estimator

**GRET**L provides the iterated Cochrane-Orcutt estimator:

Model => Time series => Autoregressive estimation

# Demand for Ice Cream, cont'd

Iterated Cochrane-Orcutt estimator

**Table 4.10** EGLS (iterative Cochrane–Orcutt) results

Dependent variable: *cons*

Variable	Estimate	Standard error	<i>t</i> -ratio
constant	0.157	0.300	0.524
<i>price</i>	−0.892	0.830	−1.076
<i>income</i>	0.00320	0.00159	2.005
<i>temp</i>	0.00356	0.00061	5.800
$\hat{\rho}$	0.401	0.2079	1.927

$s = 0.0326^*$     $R^2 = 0.7961^*$     $\bar{R}^2 = 0.7621^*$     $F = 23.419$   
 $dw = 1.5486^*$

Durbin-Watson test:  $dw = 1.55$ ;  $d_L = 1.21 < dw < 1.65 = d_U$

# Demand for Ice Cream, cont'd

Demand for ice cream, measured by *cons*, explained by *price*, *income*, and *temp*, OLS and HAC standard errors (se), and Cochrane-Orcutt estimates

	OLS-estimation			Cochrane-Orcutt	
	coeff	se	HAC	coeff	se
<i>constant</i>	0.197	0.270	0.288	0.157	0.300
<i>price</i>	-1.044	0.834	0.881	-0.892	0.830
<i>income</i>	3.308	1.171	1.151	3.203	1.546
<i>temp</i>	3.458	0.446	0.449	3.558	0.555

# Demand for Ice Cream, cont'd

Model extended by  $temp_{-1}$

**Table 4.11** OLS results extended specification

Dependent variable: *cons*

Variable	Estimate	Standard error	<i>t</i> -ratio
constant	0.189	0.232	0.816
<i>price</i>	-0.838	0.688	-1.218
<i>income</i>	0.00287	0.00105	2.722
<i>temp</i>	0.00533	0.00067	7.953
$temp_{t-1}$	-0.00220	0.00073	-3.016

$s = 0.0299$     $R^2 = 0.8285$     $\bar{R}^2 = 0.7999$     $F = 28.979$   
 $dw = 1.5822$

Durbin-Watson test:  $dw = 1.58$ ;  $d_L = 1.21 < dw < 1.65 = d_U$



# Demand for Ice Cream, cont'd

Demand for ice cream, measured by *cons*, explained by *price*, *income*, and *temp*, OLS and HAC standard errors, Cochrane-Orcutt estimates, and OLS estimates for the extended model

	OLS		Cochrane-Orcutt		OLS	
	coeff	HAC	coeff	se	coeff	se
<i>constant</i>	0.197	0.288	0.157	0.300	0.189	0.232
<i>price</i>	-1.044	0.881	-0.892	0.830	-0.838	0.688
<i>income</i>	3.308	1.151	3.203	1.546	2.867	1.053
<i>temp</i>	3.458	0.449	3.558	0.555	5.332	0.670
<i>temp</i> <sub>-1</sub>					-2.204	0.731

Adding *temp*<sub>-1</sub> improves the adj R<sup>2</sup> from 0.687 to 0.800

# General Autocorrelation Structures

Generalization of model

$$y_t = x_t' \beta + \varepsilon_t$$

$$\text{with } \varepsilon_t = \rho \varepsilon_{t-1} + v_t$$

Alternative dependence structures of error terms

- Autocorrelation of higher order than 1
- Moving average pattern

# Higher Order Autocorrelation

For quarterly data, error terms may develop according to

$$\varepsilon_t = \gamma\varepsilon_{t-4} + V_t$$

or - more generally - to

$$\varepsilon_t = \gamma_1\varepsilon_{t-1} + \dots + \gamma_4\varepsilon_{t-4} + V_t$$

- $\varepsilon_t$  follows an AR(4) process, an autoregressive process of order 4
- More complex structures of correlations between variables with autocorrelation of order 4 are possible than with that of order 1

# Moving Average Processes

Moving average process of order 1, MA(1) process

$$\varepsilon_t = v_t + \alpha v_{t-1}$$

- $\varepsilon_t$  is correlated with  $\varepsilon_{t-1}$ , but not with  $\varepsilon_{t-2}$ ,  $\varepsilon_{t-3}$ , ...
- Generalizations to higher orders

# Remedies against Autocorrelation

- Change functional form, e.g., use  $\log(y)$  instead of  $y$
- Extend the model by including additional explanatory variables, e.g., seasonal dummies, or additional lags
- Use HAC standard errors for the OLS estimators
- Reformulate the model in quasi-differences (FGLS) or in differences

# Your Homework

1. Use the data set “labour2” of Verbeek for the following analyses:
  - a) Estimate (OLS) the model for  $\log(labor)$  with regressors  $\log(output)$  and  $\log(wage)$ ; generate a display of the residuals which may indicate heteroskedasticity of the error term.
  - b) Compare (i) the OLS and (ii) the White standard errors with HC0 of the estimated coefficients.
  - c) Perform (i) the Breusch-Pagan test with  $h(z_i'\alpha) = \exp\{z_i'\alpha\}$  and (ii) the White test without interactions; explain the tests and compare the results; use  $z_i = (capital_i, output_i, wage_i)'$ .
  - d) Estimate (i) the model of a), using FGLS and weights obtained in the auxiliary regression of the Breusch-Pagan test in c); (ii) comment the estimates of the coefficients, the standard errors, and the  $R^2$  of this model and those of b)(i) and c)(ii).

# Your Homework, cont'd

2. Use the data set “icecream” of Verbeek for the following analyses:
  - a) Estimate the model where *cons* is explained by *income* and *temp*; show a diagramme of the residuals which may indicate autocorrelation of the error terms.
  - b) Use the Durbin-Watson and the Box-Pierce test against autocorrelation; state suitably  $H_0$  and  $H_1$ .
  - c) Compare (i) the OLS and (ii) the HAC standard errors of the estimated coefficients.
  - d) Repeat a), using (i) the iterative Cochrane-Orcutt estimation and (ii) OLS estimation of the model in differences; compare and interpret the result.
3. For the Durbin-Watson test: (a) show that  $dw \approx 2 - 2r$ ; (b) can you agree with the statement “The Durbin-Watson test is a misspecification test”.