

## How to Go from Cointegrated VAR to VMA?

On p. 637, we stated that a VAR (10.2.12) is cointegrated of rank  $h$  if and only if  $\Phi(L)$  can be factored as  $\Phi(L) = \mathbf{U}(L)\mathbf{M}(L)\mathbf{V}(L)$ , where  $\mathbf{U}(L)$  and  $\mathbf{V}(L)$  are  $n \times n$  matrix lag polynomials with all their roots outside the unit circle and  $\mathbf{M}(L)$  is a matrix polynomial given by

$$\mathbf{M}(L) \equiv \begin{bmatrix} (1-L)\mathbf{I}_{n-h} & \mathbf{0}_{((n-h) \times h)} \\ \mathbf{0}_{(h \times (n-h))} & \mathbf{I}_h \end{bmatrix}.$$

It is true that the VMA representation  $\Delta \xi_t = \Psi(L)\varepsilon_t$  can be computed from  $\Phi(L)$  by (10.2.17), but there is a way to write  $\Psi(L)$  explicitly that exploits the above factorization. The derivation is as follows (I suppose the result to be shown below is due to Sam Yoo, but I follow Watson's (1994, pp. 2872-73) exposition). The VAR representation under the factorization is

$$\mathbf{U}(L)\mathbf{M}(L)\mathbf{V}(L)\xi_t = \varepsilon_t.$$

Multiply both sides from left by  $\mathbf{U}(L)^{-1}$  to obtain

$$\mathbf{M}(L)\mathbf{V}(L)\xi_t = \mathbf{U}(L)^{-1}\varepsilon_t. \quad (*)$$

(Both sides are well-defined because  $\mathbf{U}(L)^{-1}$  is absolutely summable by the vector version of Proposition 6.3.) Now define

$$\bar{\mathbf{M}}(L) \equiv \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I}_{n-h} & \mathbf{0}_{((n-h) \times h)} \\ \mathbf{0}_{(h \times (n-h))} & (1-L)\mathbf{I}_h \end{bmatrix}.$$

Multiplying both sides of (\*) from left by  $\bar{\mathbf{M}}(L)$  and noting that  $\bar{\mathbf{M}}(L)\mathbf{M}(L) = (1-L)\mathbf{I}_n$  and  $(1-L)\mathbf{V}(L) = \mathbf{V}(L)(1-L)$ , we obtain

$$\mathbf{V}(L)\Delta \xi_t = \bar{\mathbf{M}}(L)\mathbf{U}(L)^{-1}\varepsilon_t.$$

Multiply both sides of this from left by  $\mathbf{V}(L)^{-1}$ , which is absolutely summable, we obtain

$$\Delta \xi_t = \Psi(L)\varepsilon_t, \quad \text{with } \Psi(L) \equiv \mathbf{V}(L)^{-1}\bar{\mathbf{M}}(L)\mathbf{U}(L)^{-1}.$$