Modeling non-stationary and stationary mixed-frequency time series

Assertions (Stellingen)

accompanying the thesis

Modeling Non-Stationary and Stationary Mixed-Frequency Time Series

by Thomas Götz

1. Time series are inherently sampled at mixed frequencies, so models to forecast and methods to analyze such data should be part of the standard toolbox available to policymakers, professional forecasters, data analysts and decision makers.
   (Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6)

2. Due to its ability to guard against dynamic misspecification, error correction model-Mixed Data Sampling (ECM-MIDAS) constitutes an attractive choice compared to its competitors when it comes to forecasting non-stationary mixed-frequency time series data.
   (Chapter 2)

3. Since, for U.S. growth, model "horse races" are sensitive to the data release chosen, revision-process-robust (RPR) weights should be used for model combinations in order to incorporate revision process information into real-time studies.
   (Chapter 3)

4. In the presence of non-stationarities and common cycles, a properly transformed mixed-frequency vector autoregression (VAR) suffers neither from inefficiencies nor from an inability to detect potentially concealed common cyclical features.
   (Chapter 4)

5. Analyses of causal links between mixed-frequency variables should be based on the observable mixed-frequency VAR, within which reduced rank restrictions and Bayesian methods are promising parameter reduction techniques in case of large frequency discrepancies among the variables.
   (Chapters 5 and 6)

6. Different econometric models capture different aspects of reality. Hence, when publishing, analyzing, interpreting or, in general, using results from a specific model, one should keep in mind that it just remains a *model*.

7. Academic journals, especially in the field of applied econometrics, should ensure that the pressure to create innovative techniques does not cause a devaluation of well-reasoned and accurate applications of existing methodologies.

8. Econometricians studying non-stationary data deal with, i.a., a drunk guy, his loyal companion, a catapult and a more or less untalented seer. Hence, they require patience, courage and a certain craziness.

9. This Ph.D. thesis is to a knowledge-valorization summary as the assembly instruction for SVELVIK[1] is to the statement "What you just read is about building a bed; you can sleep on it".

10. Finding the last mistake in a thousand lines of code after weeks of searching leads to pure happiness. Like finding your lost wallet in a sofa crevice.

11. The number of English speaking movie title translators seems to be underrepresented among Germans. How else do you explain "96 Hours" (*Taken, 2008*), "Meine Frau, ihre Schwiegereltern und ich" (*Meet The Fockers, 2004*), "Bube, Dame, König, grAS" (*Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels, 1998*), "Stirb langsam" (*Die Hard, 1988*) or "Wenn die Gondeln Trauer tragen" (*Don't Look Now, 1973*)?

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