TESTING FOR SERIAL CORRELATION: GENERALIZED ANDREWS-PLOBERGER TESTS

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ABSTRACT

This paper considers testing the null hypothesis that a times series is uncorrelated when the time series is uncorrelated but statistically dependent. This case is of interest in economic and finance applications. The GARCH (1, 1) model is a leading example of a model that generates serially uncorrelated but statistically dependent data. The tests of serial correlation introduced by Andrews and Ploberger (1996, hereafter AP) are generalized for the purpose of testing the null. The rationale for generalizing the AP tests is that they have attractive properties for case for which they were originally designed: They are consistent against all non-white noise alternatives and have good all-round power against nonseasonal alternatives compared to several widely used tests in the literature. These properties are inherited by the generalized AP tests.

JEL classification: C12; C22

Keywords: Autoregressive moving average model; Lagrange multiplier test; Nonstandard testing; Statistically dependent time series; Uncorrelatedness.

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1. INTRODUCTION

As noted by Hong and Lee (2003), there has been growing interest in developing consistent tests for serial correlation of unknown form; examples include AP, Hong (1996), Chen and Deo (2004) in estimated regression residuals and Durlauf (1991) and Deo (2000) in the observed raw data. The tests assume independently and identically distributed regression errors under the null except for Deo (2000), which generalizes Durlauf (1991) to allow for a restrictive form of conditional heteroskedasticity. This paper considers testing the null that a times series is uncorrelated when the time series is uncorrelated but statistically dependent. For a more extensive literature review, see Francq, Roy and Zakoian (2005).

The case of uncorrelated dependent time series is of interest in economic and financial applications because many problems such as financial (non-) predictability are related to a martingale difference sequence (MDS) hypothesis after demeaning, which implies serial uncorrelatedness but not serial independence. The GARCH (1, 1) model is a leading example of a model that generates serially uncorrelated but statistically dependent data. The rationale for generalizing the AP tests is that they are consistent against all non-white noise alternatives and have good all-round power against nonseasonal alternatives when compared to several tests in the literature, including the Box-Pierce (1970, hereafter BP) tests. The generalized AP tests inherit the properties of the AP tests in power comparisons. In our simulation experiments, the generalized AP tests typically have substantially better power than the generalized BP (Lobato, Nankervis and Savin (2002)) tests against non-seasonal alternatives and power equal to or better than the Deo (2000) test.
AP introduced tests of serial correlation designed for the case where the time series is generated by ARMA (1, 1) models under the alternative. As they noted, it is natural to consider tests of this sort because ARMA (1, 1) models provide parsimonious representations of a broad class of stationary time series. ARMA(1, 1) models for financial returns series follow from the mean-reversion models of Poterba and Summers (1988) and the price-trend models of Taylor (2005). However, testing for serial correlation generated by an ARMA (1, 1) model is a nonstandard testing problem because the ARMA (1, 1) model reduces to a white noise model whenever the AR and MA coefficients are equal. The testing problem is one in which a nuisance parameter is present only under the alternative hypothesis. For the problem addressed by AP, the standard likelihood ratio (LR) statistic does not possess its usual asymptotic chi-squared distribution or its usual asymptotic optimality properties. It is also possible that an ARMA(1,1) generates white noise when the AR and MA coefficients are not equal, as is the case for the all-pass filter model; see Andrews, Davis and Breidt (2006).

The LR test has the attractive feature of being consistent against all forms of serial correlation (Potscher (1990)). AP show that this feature also holds for tests introduced into the literature by Andrews and Ploberger (1994, 1995), namely, the sup Lagrange Multiplier (LM) and average exponential LM and LR tests. AP establish the asymptotic null distribution for the LR, sup LM and average exponential test statistics under the assumption that the generating process is a conditionally homoskedastic martingale difference sequence (MDS). The asymptotic critical values for these tests were calculated by simulation. In Monte Carlo power experiments, AP compared the finite-sample powers of the LR, sup LM, average exponential, BP, and other tests. The
alternatives include Gaussian ARMA (1, 1) models. Against this class of alternatives, the LR test was found to have very good all-around power properties for non-seasonal alternative models, especially compared to BP tests.

For serially uncorrelated but statistically dependent time series, the true levels of the LR, sup LM and average exponential tests can differ substantially from the nominal levels when the tests use the asymptotic critical values calculated by AP. This paper generalizes a subset of the tests considered by AP so that they have the correct level asymptotically when the time series is serially uncorrelated but statistically dependent. The subset consists of LM-based tests, namely the sup LM test and the average exponential LM tests. The generalization is obtained by using the true asymptotic covariance matrix of the sample autocorrelations, or a consistent estimator. The same approach has been used by Lobato, Nankervis and Savin (2002) to generalize the BP tests to settings where the time series is serially uncorrelated but statistically dependent. The asymptotic critical values reported by AP remain valid for the generalized LM-based tests.

The finite-sample levels of the generalized LM-based tests with asymptotic critical values are assessed by simulation. In Monte Carlo power experiments, these tests are compared to generalized BP tests and the Deo (2000) test. The generalized AP tests typically have better level-corrected power against non-seasonal alternatives. Hence, generalized AP tests can be recommended for use in economic and finance applications. The paper reports the results of an empirical application to stock return indexes.

2. ARMA (1, 1) MODEL AND TEST STATISTICS

This section reviews the model, hypothesis and test statistics considered by AP.
The model is the ARMA (1, 1) model,

\[ Y_t = \phi Y_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t - \pi \varepsilon_{t-1} \quad \text{for} \quad t = 2, 3, \ldots, \quad (1) \]

where \( \{Y_t : t = 1, \ldots, T\} \) are observed random variables and \( \{\varepsilon_t : t = 1, 2, \ldots\} \) are unobserved innovations. AP reparameterize (1) as

\[ Y_t = (\beta + \pi) Y_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t - \pi \varepsilon_{t-1} \quad \text{for} \quad t = 2, 3, \ldots, \]

where \( \beta = \phi - \pi \), the parameter space for \( \pi \) is \( \Pi \) and that for \( \beta \) is \( B \). They assume that \( \Pi \) and \( B \) are such that the absolute value of the autoregressive coefficient \( |\pi + \beta| < 1 \), \( \Pi \) is closed and \( B \) contains a neighborhood of zero. The former condition rules out unit root and explosive behavior of \( \{Y_t : t = 1, \ldots, T\} \).

The null hypothesis is that \( \{Y_t : t = 1, \ldots, T\} \) is white noise, and the alternative is that \( \{Y_t : t = 1, \ldots, T\} \) is serially correlated. These hypotheses are given by

\[ H_0 : \beta = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad H_1 : \beta \neq 0. \quad (2) \]

When \( \beta = 0 \), the model (1) reduces to \( Y_t = \varepsilon_t \), and the parameter \( \pi \) is no longer present. The testing problem is non-standard because \( \pi \) is not identified when the null hypothesis is true.

Let \( LR_T(\pi) \) denote the standard LR statistic for testing \( H_0 \) versus \( H_1 \) when \( \pi \) is known under the alternative. Then the LR statistic for the unknown \( \pi \) is

\[ LR = \sup_{\pi \in \Pi} LR_T(\pi), \]

where \( LR_T(\pi) = T \log(\hat{\sigma}_Y^2 / \hat{\sigma}_Y^2(\pi)) \),

\[ \hat{\sigma}_Y^2 = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T Y_t^2, \]

and
\[ \hat{\sigma}^2_T(\pi) = \hat{\sigma}^2_T - \left[ \frac{1}{T} \left( \sum_{i=2}^{T} Y_i \sum_{i=0}^{T-2} \pi Y_{t-1} \right)^2 + \sum_{i=2}^{T} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{T-2} \pi Y_{t-1} \right)^2 \right]. \]  

Note that \( LR = LR_T(\hat{\pi}) \), where \( \hat{\pi} \) is the ARMA (1, 1) ML estimate of \( \pi \).

AP proved that an asymptotically equivalent test statistic to the LR statistic (under the null and local alternatives) is the sup LM statistic

\[ \sup_{\pi \in \Pi} LM_T(\pi), \]  

where

\[ LM_T(\pi) = \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{i=2}^{T} Y_i \sum_{i=0}^{T-2} \pi Y_{t-1} \right)^2 \left( 1 - \pi^2 \right) / \hat{\sigma}^4_T. \]  

The LR and sup LM tests are shown to satisfy an asymptotic admissibility property, and as a consequence, beat any given test in terms of weighted average power against alternatives that are local to, but sufficiently distant from the null; for details, see p. 1333 of AP.

Andrews and Ploberger (1994) introduced average exponential tests. These tests are asymptotically optimal in the sense that they minimize weighted average power for a specific weight function. The weight functions for the parameter \( \beta \) are mean zero normal densities with variances proportional to a scalar \( c > 0 \). The weight function \( J \) for the parameter \( \pi \) is chosen by the investigator. For the simulation results in AP, the function is taken to be uniform on \( \Pi \), and similarly in this article. For each \( c \in (0, \infty) \), the average exponential LM test statistic is given by

\[ \text{Exp-LM}_{cT} = (1 + c)^{-1/2} \int \exp \left( \frac{1}{2} \frac{c}{1 + c} LM_T(\pi) \right) dJ(\pi), \]  

\[ \]
where $LM_T(\pi)$ is as defined in (5), and $J(\cdot)$ is probability measure on $\Pi$. The average exponential $LR$ test statistic, $\text{Exp-LR}_c$, is defined analogously with $LM_T(\pi)$ being replaced by $LR_T(\pi)$. The limiting average exponential $LM$ test statistics as $c \to 0$ and $c \to \infty$ are given by

$$\text{Exp-LM}_T = \int LM_T(\pi) \, dJ(\pi)$$

and

$$\text{Exp-LM}_\infty = \ln \int \exp \left( \frac{1}{2} LM_T(\pi) \right) \, dJ(\pi).$$

Andrews and Ploberger (1994) show that the average exponential tests have asymptotic local power optimality properties.

3. ASYMPTOTIC AND FINITE-SAMPLE NULL DISTRIBUTIONS OF AP TEST STATISTICS

AP established the asymptotic null distribution of the test statistics previously introduced. This section reviews the asymptotic theory.

The asymptotic null distributions of the test statistics are established by showing that the sequences of stochastic processes $\{LR_T(\cdot): T \geq 1\}$ and $\{LM_T(\cdot): T \geq 1\}$ indexed by $\pi \in \Pi$ converge weakly to a stochastic process $G(\cdot)$ and then by applying the continuous mapping theorem. Let $\to_d$ denote converge in distribution of a sequence of random variables. Let $\{Z_i: i \geq 0\}$ be a sequence of iid $N(0,1)$ random variables. Define

$$G(\pi) = (1 - \pi^2)^{2 \left( \sum_{i=0}^\infty \pi' Z_i \right)^2} \text{ for } \pi \in \Pi.$$

(8)

The following theorem is proved by AP under a variety of assumptions.

Theorem 1.
Theorem 1 holds for time series where the asymptotic covariance matrix of the first \( T-1 \) of the sample autocorrelations is equal to the identity matrix. A time series generated by a conditional homoskedastic martingale difference sequence is an example where the asymptotic covariance matrix of the sample autocorrelations is the identity matrix. On the other hand, Theorem 1 does not hold for many models used in economics and finance, for example, a GARCH (1, 1) with normal innovations. The implications of the identity matrix condition for testing \( H_0 \) are explored in the next section.

From Theorem 1, the LR, sup LM and average exponential LR and LM tests are asymptotically pivotal, that is, the asymptotic distributions does not depend on any unknown parameters. Hence, the asymptotic critical values for the tests can be simulated by truncating the series \( \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \pi^t Z_i \) at a large value \( T_r \). AP report simulated critical values of the tests in their Table 1. The critical values are based on the parameter space \( \Pi = \{0, \pm .01, \ldots, \pm .79, \pm .80\} \), \( T_r = 50 \) and 40,000 repetitions. They also calculate finite-sample critical values for the tests.

The LR, sup LM and average exponential LR and LM tests are shown by AP to be consistent against all deviations from the null hypothesis of white noise within a class of weakly stationary strong mixing sequences of random variables. This consistency property illustrates the robust power properties of the tests.
The tests introduced by AP can also be used to test whether regression errors are serially correlated. The tests are constructed using the residuals \( \{ \hat{\epsilon}_t : t \leq T \} \) rather than the random variables \( \{ \epsilon_t : t \leq T \} \); see AP for details. Provided that the regressors are exogenous, the resulting LR, sup LM and average exponential LR and LM test statistics have the same asymptotic distributions as when the actual errors are used to construct the statistics. Thus, the asymptotic critical values previously calculated by AP are applicable. However, the tests are not valid when applied to the residuals of a dynamic regression model.

4. GENERALIZATION OF LM BASED TESTS

In this section, the LM-based tests considered by AP are generalized such that the tests have the correct asymptotic level under the null when the asymptotic covariance matrix of the sample autocorrelations is not the identity matrix. The asymptotic distributions of the generalized AP test statistics are based on a central limit theorem for the sample autocorrelations and a consistent estimator of the asymptotic covariance matrix.

We begin with a review of the asymptotic distribution theory of the sample autocorrelations when \( \{ \epsilon_t : t = 1, 2, \ldots \} \) is a covariance stationary sequence of statistically dependent but uncorrelated random variables with mean zero (or allow for mean \( \mu \), as we do below). Define the lag-\( j \) autocovariance by \( \gamma_j = E(\epsilon_t \epsilon_{t+j}) \) and the lag-\( j \) autocorrelation by \( \rho_j = \gamma_j / \gamma_0 \). The variance and lag-\( j \) autocovariance are given by \( \hat{\gamma}_0 = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \epsilon_t^2 / T \) and \( \hat{\gamma}_j = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} (\epsilon_t \epsilon_{t+j}) / T \). We assume that \( Y_t \) is a weak dependent process for which the vector of sample autocovariances \( \gamma = (\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \ldots, \gamma_k)' \) satisfies the following central limit
Theorem: \( \sqrt{T}(\hat{\gamma} - \gamma) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, C) \), where \( C \) (assumed to be finite and positive definite) is 2\( \pi \) times the spectral density matrix at zero frequency of the vector with elements \( Y_t Y_{t-j} \).

A straightforward application of the delta method leads to a central limit theorem for the sample autocorrelations: Under general weak dependence conditions,

\[
\sqrt{T} r = \sqrt{T}(r_1, r_2, \ldots, r_K)' \xrightarrow{d} N(0, V),
\]

where \( r_j = \hat{\gamma}_j / \hat{\gamma}_0 \) and the \( ij \)th element of \( V \) is given in Lobato, Nankervis and Savin (2002, p. 732) and Romano and Thombs (1996). A variety of weak dependence conditions are reviewed in Lobato, Nankervis and Savin (2002). Using the idea of near epoch dependence (NED), De Jong and Davidson (2000) show that the preceding central limit theorem for \( \hat{\gamma} \) holds under the following assumption:

**Assumption 1.** Let \( Y_t \) be a covariance stationary process that satisfies \( E|Y_t|^s < \infty \) for some \( s > 4 \) and all \( t \) and is L2-NED of size \(-1/2\) on a process \( U_t \) where \( U_t \) is an \( \alpha \)-mixing sequence of size \(-s/(s - 4)\).

Davidson (2000) has proved that many nonlinear times series models satisfy the NED assumption.

Next consider testing the null hypothesis \( H_0(K): \rho = (\rho_1, \ldots, \rho_K) = 0 \) against the alternative \( \rho \neq 0 \). Suppose \( V \) is known. Then a test can be based on the test statistic

\[
\text{BPK}(V) = TrV^{-1}r,
\]

where the statistic is asymptotically chi-square distributed with \( K \) degrees of freedom when \( H_0(K) \) is true. In practice, \( V \) is unknown. In the standard BP statistic, \( V \) is replaced by \( I \), the identity matrix. If \( V \) is not equal to the identity, the standard BP test can produce misleading inferences.
Under the null, \( V \) simplifies to \( V^0 = [(\gamma_0)^{-2} C^0] \) where \( C^0 \) has as its \( ij \)th element
\[
c^0_{ij} = \sum_{d=-\infty}^{d=\infty} E(Y_i - \mu)(Y_{i-d} - \mu)(Y_{i+d} - \mu)(Y_{i-d} - \mu) \quad \text{for } i, j = 1, \ldots, K,
\]
where the above formula covers the case \( E(Y) = \mu \). Lobato, Nankervis and Savin (2002) use this simplification to construct a generalized BP test statistic. This test statistic is
\[
BP(K_0) = \text{Tr}'((\hat{V}_0)^{-1})^r,
\]
where \( \hat{V}_0 \) is a consistent estimator of \( V_0 \) under \( H_0(K) \). A consistent estimator can be obtained by using \( \hat{\gamma}_0 \) to estimate \( \gamma_0 \) and a consistent nonparametric estimator of \( C^0 \).

Our generalization of the LM-based tests exploits the fact that the LM test statistic is a function of sample autocorrelations. Rewriting the LM_T(\pi) statistic in (5) gives
\[
LM_T(\pi) = T \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=0}^{T-2} \pi^T \left( \sum_{t=1}^{T} r_i y_i - \hat{\sigma}_Y^2 \right) \right)^2 = T \left( 1 - \pi^2 \right) \left( \sum_{i=0}^{T-2} \pi^T r_i \right)^2,
\]
where the \( i \)th sample autocorrelation in (13) is
\[
r_i = \sum_{t=i+1}^{T} \frac{(Y_i y_{i-1}) / T}{r_i} \hat{\sigma}_Y^2.
\]
Suppose that the series \( \sum_{i=0}^{T-2} \pi^T r_i \) is truncated at a large value \( T' \). We can then write the statistic in (13) as
\[
LM_T(\pi) = (1 - \pi^2) (p^T \sqrt{T} r)^2,
\]
where \( p = (1, \pi, \pi^2, \ldots, \pi^{T-1})' \), \( r = (r_1, r_2, \ldots, r_T)' \). The vector \( \sqrt{T} r \) is asymptotically \( N(0, V) \) where \( V \) is a \( T \times T \) matrix. If \( V = I \), the LM-based tests of \( H_0 : \beta = 0 \) can be carried out using the asymptotic critical values calculated by AP. If \( V \neq I \), the true levels of the tests with AP asymptotic critical values can differ substantially from the nominal levels in finite-samples and asymptotically.
The level distortion of the LM-based tests when $V \neq I$ can be corrected asymptotically by using $\sqrt{T}Lr$ in place of $\sqrt{T}r$ in (13) where $V^{-1} = L'L$. Our proposed generalization is to replace $V$ by $V^0$ and consistently estimate $V^0$ by $\hat{V}^0$. The generalized tests we consider are:

$$\sup_{\pi \in \Pi} \text{LM}_r(\pi, \hat{V}^0)$$
$$\text{Exp-LM}_0(\hat{V}^0) = \int \text{LM}_r(\pi, \hat{V}^0) dJ(\pi),$$
$$\text{Exp-LM}_x(\hat{V}^0) = \ln \int \exp \left( \frac{1}{2} \text{LM}_r(\pi, \hat{V}^0) \right) dJ(\pi),$$

where $\text{LM}_r(\pi, \hat{V}^0) = (1-\pi^2)(p'\sqrt{T}\hat{L}r)^2$ with $(\hat{V}^0)^{-1} = \hat{L}'\hat{L}.$

A brief sketch of proof that the generalized AP tests have the same limiting distribution as the AP tests is the following. In the AP case where $\text{Var}(\sqrt{T}r) = I$, we have that

$$\sqrt{T(1-\pi^2)} p'r \xrightarrow{d} (1-\pi^2 T) N(0,1) \overset{\dagger}{=} N(0,1),$$

when $\max(\pi) = 0.8$ and $T_r = 20$ ($1-0.8^{40} = 0.9999$), the parameter values used in our numerical calculations. The asymptotic correlation between

$$\sqrt{T(1-\pi_k^2)} p_k'r$$
and

$$\sqrt{T(1-\pi_m^2)} p_m'r$$
is

$$\sqrt{(1-\pi_k^2)(1-\pi_m^2)(1-\pi_k'\pi_m')/(1-\pi_k\pi_m)},$$

where $p_j' = (1 \pi_j \pi_j^2 \pi_j^3 ... \pi_j^{r-1})$. Thus, the AP tests are functions of correlated asymptotically standard normal variables, $\sqrt{T(1-\pi^2)} p_j'r$. In the case where $\text{Var}(\sqrt{T}r) = V$ we have that

$$\sqrt{T(1-\pi^2)} p'\hat{L}^0r \xrightarrow{d} N(0,1),$$
and that the asymptotic correlation between $\sqrt{T(1-\pi_k^2)} p_k' \hat{L}^0 r$ and $\sqrt{T(1-\pi_m^2)} p_m' \hat{L}^0 r$ is

$$\sqrt{(1-\pi_k^2)(1-\pi_m^2)(1-\pi_k^T \pi_m^T)}/(1-\pi_k \pi_m).$$

This shows that the generalized AP tests are the same functions of asymptotically standard normal variables with identical asymptotic correlations.

The asymptotic critical values reported by AP remain valid for our generalization of the LM-based tests. We use critical values based on $T_r = 20$, whereas AP use $T_r = 50$. We have set, as AP did, $\max |\pi| = 0.8$. Using $T_r = 20$ rather than 50 has a negligible effect on the 1%, 5% and 10% asymptotic critical values through terms $(1-\pi^{2e_{T_r-1}})$. This is seen in Table 1 where we report the asymptotic critical values for the three test statistics for $\Pi = \{0, \pm .01, \ldots, \pm .79, \pm .80\}$, $T_r = 20$ and $T_r = 50$, using 150 million replications.

The generalized versions of BP and LM-based tests require a consistent estimator of $\nu^0$. We use the VARHAC estimation procedure proposed by den Haan and Levin (1997). The consistency of the VARHAC estimator is proved by den Haan and Levin (1998) under very general conditions. They demonstrate that, in many cases, the VARHAC estimator achieves a faster convergence rate than kernel-based methods. Francq et al. (2005, p. 539) also prove the consistency of the VARHAC estimator. Their proof uses the existence of the eighth moment of $Y_t$ and a mixing condition.

The VARHAC procedure uses a vector autoregressive (VAR) estimator of the covariance matrix where the order of equation in the VAR is automatically selected. To present the explicit formula for the VARHAC estimator of $C^0$, let $\hat{\nu}_t = (Y_t - \bar{Y})(Y_{t-i} - \bar{Y})$, $\hat{\nu}_t = (\hat{\nu}_{t,1}, \ldots, \hat{\nu}_{t,S})'$, and let $S$ be the maximum lag order chosen for the VAR. For
consistency, den Haan and Levin (1998) also require that the maximum lag grows at rate $T^{1/3}$. The estimated residuals from the VAR regressions are

$$\hat{e}_t = \hat{w}_t - \sum_{s=1}^{\bar{s}} \hat{A}_s \hat{w}_{t-s} ,$$

where $\hat{A}_s$ are the matrices of estimated coefficients from the VAR, and the estimated innovation covariance matrix is

$$\hat{\Sigma} = \sum_{t=5+1}^{T} \hat{e}_t \hat{e}_t' / T .$$

Then the VARHAC estimator of $C^0$ is

$$\hat{C}^0 = (I - \sum_{s=1}^{\bar{s}} \hat{A}_s)^{-1} \hat{\Sigma} (I - \sum_{s=1}^{\bar{s}} \hat{A}_s')^{-1} .$$

We report results for the VAR with the AIC (Akaike (1973)) and the SBC (Schwarz (1978)) criteria. The resulting estimators are denoted by $\hat{V} (\text{AIC})$ and $\hat{V} (\text{SBC})$. The maximum lag length is 3, 4, 5 and 8 for sample sizes $T = 200, 500, 1000$ and 5000, and, for any equation in the VAR, the same lag length is used for each element of the vector process. To mitigate the effect of occasional extreme estimates we used the procedure of Andrews and Monahan (1992), and set the minimum singular values of the inverse of the recoloring matrix, $I - \sum_{s=1}^{\bar{s}} \hat{A}_s'$, to be 0.005.

The form of the $V^0$ matrix is simplified when the time series is a martingale difference sequence. For a MDS process, the only possible nonzero elements of $C^0$ are terms of the form $E(Y_t - \mu)^2 (Y_{t-i} - \mu)(Y_{t-j} - \mu)$. In (11) these occur at $d = 0$. Guo and Phillips (1998) have developed a version of the BP test for the MDS case. This special
form of $V^0$ matrix can also be used in constructing a generalization of the $LM$-based tests for general MDS processes.

For certain MDS processes, such as Gaussian GARCH processes, $V^0$ is diagonal, with the $j$th diagonal element equal to $(\gamma(0))^2 E(Y_t - \mu)^2(Y_{t-j} - \mu)^2$. Generalizations of the LM-based tests can be constructed for the diagonal case. The BP test for the diagonal case has been repeatedly reinvented in the literature; see, for example, Taylor (1984), Diebold (1986), Lo and MacKinlay (1989), Lobato, Nankervis and Savin (2001) and also Deo (2000).

We denote the estimator of $V^0$ in the general MDS case by $V^{GP}$. A consistent estimator of the $ij$th element of $V^{GP}$ is

$$
\hat{\gamma}_{ij}^{GP} = \frac{\hat{c}_{ij}^{GP}}{\hat{\gamma}_0^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{c}_{ij}^{GP} = \sum_{t=T+1}^{T} (Y_t - \bar{Y})(Y_{t-i} - \bar{Y})(Y_{t-j} - \bar{Y}) / T; \quad i, j = 1, \ldots, T_r. \quad (16)
$$

The diagonal $V^0$ matrix is denoted by $V^*$. A consistent estimator of the $j$th diagonal element of $V^*$ is

$$
\hat{\gamma}_{jj}^* = \frac{\hat{c}_{jj}^*}{\hat{\gamma}_0^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{c}_{jj}^* = \sum_{t=T+1}^{T} (Y_t - \bar{Y})^2(Y_{t-j} - \bar{Y})^2 / T, \quad j = 1, \ldots, T_r. \quad (17)
$$

As noted earlier, AP show that their tests apply to residuals from regressions with exogenous regressors (Assumptions 4 and 5 in AP). The same holds for the generalized tests. The reason these assumptions rule out an extension to dynamic regression models is because they require that the conditional mean of the unobserved errors is zero given past values of the errors and past and future values of the regressors.

5. MONTE CARLO COMPARISONS

This section considers the true levels of the LM-based tests, the BP tests and the Deo (2000) test when the tests use asymptotic critical values. The LM-based tests are the
sup LM, Exp-LM₀ and Exp-LM₀∞ tests. The finite sample level-corrected powers of these tests and the other tests are compared. The BP tests are included because they are widely employed in the economics and finance literature and the Deo (2000) test is included because it is consistent against all non-white noise alternatives when \( V \) is diagonal in the MDS case, a property not shared by the BP tests.

The model we consider in the level experiments is the location model with serially uncorrelated but dependent errors,

\[
Y_t = \mu + \varepsilon_t \quad \text{for } t = 1, 2, \ldots, T,
\]

where \( V \neq I \). The models used for the errors \( \varepsilon_t \) in the experiments include two MDS processes and two non-MDS processes.

The two MDS models for the errors are variants of the GARCH model of Bollerslev (1986), namely, Gaussian GARCH (1, 1) and the exponential GARCH (1, 1) or EGARCH (1, 1). Both models are described in Campbell, Lo and MacKinlay (1997).

**GARCH (1, 1).** \( \varepsilon_t = Z_t \cdot \sigma_t \), where \( \{Z_t\} \) is an iid \( N(0,1) \) sequence and

\[
\sigma_t^2 = \omega + \alpha_0 \varepsilon_{t-1}^2 + \beta_0 \sigma_{t-1}^2.
\]

The constants \( \alpha_0 \) and \( \beta_0 \) are such that \( \alpha_0 + \beta_0 < 1 \). This condition is needed so that \( Y_t \) is covariance stationary. He and Teräsvirta (1999) show that the unconditional \( 2mth \) moment of \( Y_t \) for GARCH (1, 1) models of \( Y_t \) exists if and only if

\[
E(\alpha_0 Z_t^2 + \beta_0)^m < 1.
\]

We set \( \omega = 0.001 \), \( \alpha_0 = 0.08 \), and \( \beta_0 = 0.89 \). With this parameter setting, the He and Teräsvirta condition for the existence of the fourth and eighth moments of \( Y_t \) are satisfied. For this process, \( \gamma_0 = E(Y_t - \mu)^2 = 0.033 \),

\[
E(Y_t - \mu)^3 / \gamma_0^{3/2} = 0, \quad E(Y_t - \mu)^4 / \gamma_0^2 = 3.83, \quad \text{and } V \text{ is diagonal.}
\]

We note that our results
are invariant to the value of \( \omega \). Estimates from stock return data suggest that \( \alpha_0 + \beta_0 \) is close to one with \( \beta_0 \) also close to one; for example, see Bera and Higgins (1997).

**EGARCH (1, 1)**. \( \varepsilon_t = Z_t \cdot \sigma_t \), where \( \{ Z_t \} \) is an iid \( N(0,1) \) sequence and where

\[
\ln(\sigma_t^2) = \omega + \psi |Z_{t-1}| + \alpha_0 Z_{t-1} + \beta_0 \ln(\sigma_{t-1}^2).
\]

We set \( \omega = 0.01, \psi = 0.5, \alpha_0 = -0.2, \) and \( \beta_0 = 0.95 \). He, Teräsvirta and Malmsten (2002) show that \( Y_t \) is stationary if \( |\beta| < 1 \) and that with Gaussian \( \{ Z_t \} \) all moments of \( Y_t \) exist. We have that (the skewness is an estimate) \( \gamma_0 = E(Y_t - \mu)^2 = 10.8, E(Y_t - \mu)^3 / \gamma_0^{3/2} = 0, \) and \( E(Y_t - \mu)^4 / \gamma_0^4 = 23.4, \) and \( V \) is no longer diagonal. Our results are invariant to the value of the intercept and the variance.

The two models for the non-MDS errors are the nonlinear moving average model, and the bilinear model. Tong (1990) considers the nonlinear moving average model, and Granger and Andersen (1978) the bilinear model. The motivation for entertaining non-MDS processes is the growing evidence that the MDS assumption is too restrictive for financial data; see, for example, El Babsiri and Zakoian (2001). For both models considered below, \( V \) is non-diagonal.

**Nonlinear Moving Average Model.** Let \( \varepsilon_t = Z_{t-1} \cdot Z_{t-2} \cdot (Z_{t-2} + Z_t + c) \) where \( \{ Z_t \} \) is a sequence of iid \( N(0,1) \) random variables and \( c = 1.0 \). For this process all moments exist with \( E(Y_t - \mu)^2 = 5, E(Y_t - \mu)^3 / \gamma_0^{3/2} = 0, E(Y_t - \mu)^4 / \gamma_0^4 = 37.80. \)

**Bilinear Model.** Let \( \varepsilon_t = Z_t + b \cdot Z_{t-1} \cdot \varepsilon_{t-2} \), where \( \{ Z_t \} \) is a sequence of iid \( N(0, \sigma^2) \) random variables, \( b = 0.50 \) and \( \sigma^2 = 1.0 \). The \( Y_t \) process is covariance stationary provided that \( b^2 \sigma^2 < 1 \). The fourth moment of this process exists if \( 3b^4 \sigma^4 < 1 \). For this process,

\[
E(Y_t - \mu)^2 = \sigma^2 (1 - b^2 \sigma^2) = 1.333, E(Y_t - \mu)^3 / \gamma_0^{3/2} = 0, \text{ and } E(Y_t - \mu)^4 / \gamma_0^4
\]
Bera and Higgins (1997) have fitted a bilinear model to stock return data.

We simulated the finite-sample rejection probabilities (percent) of the nominal .05 LM, Exp-LM₀ and Exp-LMₜests of $H_0: \beta = 0$ for the MDS and non-MDS error models. The rejection probabilities for the sup LM, Exp-LM₀ and Exp-LMₜ tests are computed using $\Pi = \{-80, -79, ..., 79, 80\}$, which is the same set as used by AP. The rejection probabilities are based on $T_r = 20$. Increasing $T_r$ does not produce a noticeable difference in the rejection probabilities when using $\Pi$ as defined above. For comparison, the simulations included the BP6, BP12, BP20 tests and the Deo (2000) test; BP6 and BP12 were considered by AP. The MDS and non-MDS models are simulated for sample sizes $T = 200, 500, 1000$ and $5000$ using $25,000$ replications. Results for the non-MDS models are not reported because they do not change the conclusions from the MDS models and also to save space.

The results for the GARCH models are presented in Table 2. The results show that the differences between the true and nominal levels are substantial when the identity matrix is used. The differences are largest for the BP tests with the EGARCH (1, 1) model. The differences tend to increase as the sample size increases. The increase is large for the EGARCH (1, 1).

Next we consider the generalized tests in Table 2. We first compare the LM-based tests. The differences between the true and nominal levels tend to be essentially eliminated for GARCH (1, 1) when the tests use the consistent estimators $\hat{V}^*, \hat{V}^{GP}$ or $\hat{V}(SBC)$ and $T \geq 500$. For EGARCH (1, 1), the difference is essentially eliminated when
the tests use the consistent estimators $\hat{V}^{GP}$ or $\hat{V}$(SBC) and $T \geq 500$. In both cases larger sample sizes are needed to eliminate the difference when $\hat{V}$(AIC) is used, especially for the sup LM test. Overall, the Exp-LM$_{0}$ and Exp-LM$_{\infty}$ tests tend to have better control over the level than the sup LM tests. The estimator of $\hat{V}^{*}$ is inconsistent in the EGARCH case. The results for $\hat{V}^{*}$ in Table 2 show only a small tendency for over rejection at $T = 1000$ because the average off-diagonal elements of $V$ are close to zero at this sample size.

Next consider other tests. The generalized BP tests generally tend to show less satisfactory control over the level than the LM-based tests, especially BP20. The levels of the Deo (2000) test are similar to those of the generalized LM tests in the $V^{*}$ case. We also calculated the finite-sample rejection probabilities using the skewed $t(5)$ GARCH (1, 1) using the standardized version given in Lambert and Laurent (2001) and the mixtures of normal GARCH (1,1) proposed by Haas, Mittnik and Paolella, (2004). The previous conclusions are not altered by the results for these latter models.

The location model (18) is also used for the power comparisons, but now with serially correlated errors. Following AP, the models used for the errors $\varepsilon_i$ include

\[
\text{AR}(1) : \varepsilon_i = \phi \varepsilon_{i-1} + u_i, \\
\text{MA}(1) : \varepsilon_i = u_i + \theta u_{i-1}, \\
\text{AR}(6) : \varepsilon_i = \phi \sum_{j=1}^{6} \frac{7-j}{6} \varepsilon_{i-j} + u_i, \\
\text{AR}(12) : \varepsilon_i = \phi \sum_{j=1}^{12} \frac{13-j}{12} \varepsilon_{i-j} + u_i, \\
\text{AR}(6) \pm : \varepsilon_i = \phi \sum_{j=1}^{6} (-1)^{j} \frac{7-j}{6} \varepsilon_{i-j} + u_i,
\]
\[ \text{AR(12)±: } \varepsilon_t = \phi \sum_{j=1}^{12} (-1)^{j+1} \frac{13-j}{12} \varepsilon_{t-j} + u_t, \] (19)

The above models were chosen by AP because they include a wide variety of patterns of serial correlation with both positive and negative serial correlations. The models used for the innovations \( u_t \) are the GARCH (1, 1) and EGARCH (1, 1) models and the nonlinear moving average and bilinear models.

We calculated the .05 level-corrected powers by simulation for sample size \( T = 1000 \) using 25,000 replications. The finite-sample critical values are simulated using 25,000 replications. The parameter values are chosen so that the maximum powers are approximately .4 and .8 for the two parameter values considered. All models are simulated with an approximately stationary startup by taking the last \( T \) random variables from a simulated sequence of the \( T + 500 \) random variables where startup values are set equal to zero.

Table 3 presents the .05 level-corrected power of each of the tests for the AR(1), MA(1), AR(6), AR(12), AR(6)±, and AR(12)± models with GARCH(1,1) innovations. The powers in Table 3 present a mixed picture. A comparison of the LM-based tests shows that Exp-LM0 tends to have the highest power for the AR(1) and MA(1) models and the lowest power for the AR(12), AR(6)±, and AR(12)± models. For the latter models, the sup LM test has the highest power. We conclude that the sup LM test has higher all-around power than the Exp-LM∞ by a small margin. The same pattern tends to hold when different values of \( \phi \) and \( \theta \) are used in the error models.

Among the BP tests, the BP6 has the highest power. The sup LM test has higher power than the BP6 test and by a considerable margin in many cases. The powers of the
BP6 test tend to be higher than the powers of the Exp-LM₀ for the AR(12)± model. The powers of the BP6 test are lower than the powers of the Exp-LM_{∞} test. The power of the Deo (2000) test is slightly higher than the power of the generalized AP tests in the AR(1) and MA(1) cases, but in other cases it is smaller and sometimes substantially so.

When the powers of the tests are compared for models with EGARCH (1, 1) innovations, our conclusions are essentially the same as those for GARCH (1, 1), and similarly for the models with nonlinear moving average innovations and with bilinear innovations.

Following AP, we also investigated the .05 level-corrected powers where ARMA (1, 1) models are used for the errors. As previously, the innovations $u_t$ are generated by the MDS or non-MDS models considered previously. In simulation experiments where ARMA(1,1) models are used for the errors, the sup LM tests no longer have the best all around power compared to the Exp-LM₀ and Exp-LM_{∞} tests. Once the results from ARMA error models are taken into account, the sup LM, Exp-LM₀ and Exp-LM_{∞} tests all have better power than the BP tests, but none is dominant.

Of course, the power results are influenced by the models and parameter values used in the simulation experiments. Note that the data generation processes used in the above experiments have declining weights as the lag length increases. As a consequence, the first autocorrelation is dominant. This type of design is relevant for applications in economics and finance. As we have seen, for this type the generalized AP tests tend to have higher power than the generalized BP tests. However, the reverse can be hold for designs where the first autocorrelation is not important. A simple example of a data
generation process with this property is an AR(2) where the coefficient on $Y_{t-1}$ is zero and on $Y_{t-2}$ is negative. This caveat should be kept in mind when interpreting the results.

AP considered seasonal MA models for the errors $\varepsilon_t$. The models are

$$MA(j): \varepsilon_t = u_t + \theta u_{t-j}, \quad j = 1, \ldots, 6. \quad (20)$$

We calculated the .05 level corrected power for these error models with $\theta = .15$ where the $u_t$ are generated by the EGARCH (1, 1) model. For the seasonal models, the BP6 and B12 tests are best of those considered, with BP6 test having the highest all around power. This conclusion is the same as that reached by AP.

AP implement the tests using $T_r = 50$ and we do so using $T_r = 20$. We investigated whether this affects the consistency of the tests. We found that with $|\Pi| \leq 0.8$ and a process with $\rho_1 = \ldots = \rho_20 = 0, \rho_{21} \neq 0$ increasing the truncation lag does not make any very noticeable difference to powers and thus the consistency of the tests as the sample size $T$ increases to 15,000. Further, we simulated the level-corrected powers for $T = 1000$ using $T_r = 40$. The powers of the LM-based tests for $T_r = 40$ are essentially the same for $T_r = 20$, and hence the conclusions from the power comparisons are unchanged.

Computing. The random number generator used in the experiments was the very long period generator RANLUX with luxury level $p = 3$; See Hamilton and James (1997). The program used for VARHAC was the version of the program by den Haan and Levin (http://econ.ucsd.edu/~wdenhaan/varhac.html) modified to run substantially faster.

6. EMPIRICAL APPLICATION

As Campbell, Lo and MacKinlay (1997) note, the predictability of stock returns is an active research topic. They illustrate the empirical relevance of predictability by
applying the BP tests to CRSP stock return indexes. In this section, their empirical application is extended in two ways: First, results are presented for the AP tests as well as the generalized AP and BP tests; second, results are presented for an extension of their sample period.

Campbell, Lo and MacKinlay (1997) report the means, standard deviations, the first four sample autocorrelations (in percent) as well as the BP₅ and BP₁₀ statistics in their Table 2.4 for monthly, weekly and daily value-weighted (VWRETD) and equal-weighted (EWRETD) stock return indexes (NYSE/AMEX). The sample period is July 3, 1962 to December 31, 1994. We replicated the results by Campbell, Lo and MacKinlay (1997) for this sample period and the sub-periods they selected.

In this section, the sample period is July 3, 1962 to December 30, 2005. Results were calculated for the sup LM, Exp-LM₀ and Exp-LM∞ tests, and the generalized AP and BP tests, both for the sample period and sub-periods considered by Campbell Lo and MacKinlay (1997) and for the extended sample period and selected sub-periods. The skewness and kurtosis statistics were also calculated to provide a check on the normality of the returns. As expected, the kurtosis statistics provide strong evidence against normality.

For the sake of brevity, we only report results for the monthly equal-weighted stock return indexes. Table 4 illustrates that inferences from the generalized AP tests can conflict with those from the generalized BP tests. The generalized AP tests tend to reject and the generalized BP tests tend not to reject. For the data used by Campbell, Lo and MacKinlay (1997), the BP tests tend to not reject at the nominal .05 level and similarly for the generalized BP tests. The greater number of rejections by the generalized AP tests
may be explained by the higher power of the generalized AP tests compared to the generalized BP tests.

Table 4 also shows that both the AP and BP tests tend to reject at the nominal .05 and or .01 levels for the extended sample period and selected sub-periods. The same is true for the generalized AP tests. Again there are substantially fewer rejections by the generalized BP tests than the generalized AP tests.

In light of our Monte Carlo experiments, the results reported by Campbell, Lo and MacKinlay (1997) for the BP tests are difficult to interpret in isolation. Although the BP statistics are often enormous for weekly and daily data, this alone does not provide strong evidence that the null of zero correlation is false. This is because the BP tests tend to substantially over-reject when data are generated by uncorrelated dependent processes such as a GARCH (1, 1) or EGARCH (1, 1) model. In particular, the over-rejection is most pronounced for large sample sizes, sizes similar to those in this empirical application.

The motivation of the empirical application is predictability of stock returns, which is characterized by a MDS condition in stock returns. The MDS hypothesis implies that stock returns are white noises, so it is valid to use tests for serial correlation in testing the predictability of stock returns. Hence, robustness under conditional heteroskedasticity in the case of GARCH and EGARCH is an appealing property of the generalized AP test. However, robustness under the non-MDS cases (nonlinear MA and bilinear) may be interpreted as a drawback for this purpose because non-MDS processes which can be used for prediction will be missed.

7. CONCLUDING COMMENTS
In the simulations in this paper, the differences between the true and nominal levels of the generalized AP tests are essentially zero for suitable sample sizes, and the generalized AP tests have good power properties for nonseasonal alternatives compared to the generalized Box-Pierce tests and the Deo (2000) tests. The Exp-LM∞ test is recommended for nonseasonal applications in economics and finance. The paper includes an empirical application to stock return indexes that is motivated by the search for predictability in returns. The results illustrate that inferences from the generalized AP tests can conflict with those from the generalized Box-Pierce tests and can make a difference to the inferences drawn from the data.

Andrews, Liu and Ploberger (1998) extended their approach to testing white noise against multiplicative seasonal ARMA (1, 1) models. A topic for further research would be to use our approach to generalize the LM-based test for this case. The generalized LM-based tests do not apply to residuals from ARMA models. We plan to investigate this topic in future research.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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**REFERENCES**


Table 1. Asymptotic Critical Values

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NOTE: Critical values obtained by setting $\Pi = \{0, \pm .01, \ldots, \pm .79, \pm .80\}$. The number of replications is 150 million.
Table 2. Rejection Probabilities (Percent) of Nominal 0.05 Tests: MDS Models

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NOTE: The tests, as functions of \(V^0\), are defined in (12) and (14) above. The estimator \(V^*\) is consistent in the diagonal MDS case; \(V^{GP}\) is consistent for general MDS processes; the estimators \(V^{(AIC)}\) and \(V^{(SBC)}\) are consistent estimators in both MDS and non-MDS cases. DEO refers to the Deo (2000) test, which is consistent in the diagonal MDS case. The number of replications is 25,000.
Table 3. Level-Corrected Powers of .05 Tests for AR and MA Models With GARCH (1, 1) Errors, $T=1000$

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NOTE: See Table 2. The number of replications is 25,000
Table 4. Tests of Serial Correlation in Monthly CRSP EWRETD Stock Index Returns

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<td>195</td>
<td>522</td>
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\( \hat{v}^0 = 1 \)

| sup LM       | 11.8**            | 6.8*              | 4.4               | 16.6**            | 5.8               | 11.8**            | 11.8**            |
| Exp-LM_0     | 8.6**             | 5.7**             | 2.7               | 11.9**            | 3.8*              | 8.0**             | 8.1**             |
| Exp-LM_∞     | 5.0**             | 2.9*              | 1.6               | 7.2**             | 2.3*              | 4.9**             | 5.0**             |
| BP5          | 12.8*             | 7.4               | 8.7               | 18.6**            | 10.3              | 19.9**            | 19.9**            |
| BP10         | 20.9*             | 12.3              | 13.7              | 27.8**            | 12.1              | 26.5**            | 21.3**            |
| BP20         | 40.7**            | 30.6              | 20.4              | 47.7**            | 17.6              | 32.7*             | 27.5              |

\( \hat{v}^0 = \hat{v} \) (AIC)

| sup LM       | 9.5**             | 6.4*              | 2.7               | 13.8**            | 3.0               | 1.9**             | 8.3*              |
| Exp-LM_0     | 7.4**             | 4.7*              | 2.0               | 10.3**            | 1.4               | 6.9**             | 5.2*              |
| Exp-LM_∞     | 4.1**             | 2.6*              | 1.0               | 6.1**             | 0.9               | 4.1**             | 3.3*              |
| BP5          | 9.8               | 6.5               | 3.8               | 14.2*             | 5.4               | 13.1*             | 10.6              |
| BP10         | 16.5              | 8                 | 8.6               | 20.0*             | 7.3               | 19.1*             | 11.1              |
| BP20         | 22.2              | 13.4              | 25.5              | 26.0              | 11.1              | 24.5              | 15.9              |

\( \hat{v}^0 = \hat{v} \) (SBC)

| sup LM       | 9.4**             | 5.0               | 3.5               | 13.3**            | 5.3               | 11.3**            | 8.4*              |
| Exp-LM_0     | 6.3**             | 3.6*              | 2.3               | 9.0**             | 3.3               | 6.9**             | 5.5*              |
| Exp-LM_∞     | 3.8**             | 2.0               | 1.3               | 5.6**             | 2.0*              | 4.3**             | 3.4**             |
| BP5          | 11.0              | 5.1               | 7.4               | 16.1**            | 7.5               | 15.3**            | 11.8*             |
| BP10         | 17.0              | 9.7               | 12.6              | 22.6*             | 10.8              | 22.2*             | 12.2              |
| BP20         | 24.4              | 16.9              | 22.7              | 29.4              | 15.4              | 29.3              | 14.6              |

NOTE: See Table 2 for definitions of functions of \( \hat{v}^0 \). In the VARHAC procedure to compute the generalized statistics the maximum lag is set at \( \int(T^{0.25}) \). One and two stars denote rejection at the nominal 0.05 and 0.01 levels, respectively.