

estat roots — Check the stability condition of ARIMA estimates

Description	Quick start	Menu for estat	Syntax
Options	Remarks and examples	Stored results	Methods and formulas
Reference	Also see		

Description

`estat roots` checks the eigenvalue stability condition after estimating the parameters of an ARIMA model using `arima`. A graph of the eigenvalues of the companion matrices for the AR and MA polynomials is also produced.

`estat roots` is available only after `arima`; see [TS] [arima](#).

Quick start

Verify that all eigenvalues of the autoregressive polynomial lie inside the unit circle after `arima`

```
estat roots
```

Same as above, but suppress the graph

```
estat roots, nograph
```

Label each plotted eigenvalue with its distance from the unit circle

```
estat roots, dlabel
```

Menu for estat

Statistics > Postestimation

Syntax

```
estat aroots [ , options ]
```

<i>options</i>	Description
<code>nograph</code>	suppress graph of eigenvalues for the companion matrices
<code>dlabel</code>	label eigenvalues with the distance from the unit circle
<code>modlabel</code>	label eigenvalues with the modulus
Grid	
<code>nogrid</code>	suppress polar grid circles
<code>pgrid([...])</code>	specify radii and appearance of polar grid circles; see Options for details
Plot	
<code>marker_options</code>	change look of markers (color, size, etc.)
Reference unit circle	
<code>rlopts(<i>cline_options</i>)</code>	affect rendition of reference unit circle
Y axis, X axis, Titles, Legend, Overall	
<code>twoway_options</code>	any options other than by() documented in [G-3] twoway_options

collect is allowed; see [\[U\] 11.1.10 Prefix commands](#).

Options

`nograph` specifies that no graph of the eigenvalues of the companion matrices be drawn.

`dlabel` labels each eigenvalue with its distance from the unit circle. `dlabel` cannot be specified with `modlabel`.

`modlabel` labels the eigenvalues with their moduli. `modlabel` cannot be specified with `dlabel`.

Grid

`nogrid` suppresses the polar grid circles.

`pgrid([numlist] [, line_options])` determines the radii and appearance of the polar grid circles.

By default, the graph includes nine polar grid circles with radii 0.1, 0.2, . . . , 0.9 that have the `grid` line style. The *numlist* specifies the radii for the polar grid circles. The *line_options* determine the appearance of the polar grid circles; see [\[G-3\] line_options](#). Because the `pgrid()` option can be repeated, circles with different radii can have distinct appearances.

Plot

marker_options specify the look of markers. This look includes the marker symbol, the marker size, and its color and outline; see [\[G-3\] marker_options](#).

Reference unit circle

`rlopts(cline_options)` affect the rendition of the reference unit circle; see [\[G-3\] cline_options](#).

Y axis, X axis, Titles, Legend, Overall

`twoway_options` are any of the options documented in [G-3] [twoway_options](#), except `by()`. These include options for titling the graph (see [G-3] [title_options](#)) and for saving the graph to disk (see [G-3] [saving_option](#)).

Remarks and examples

[stata.com](http://www.stata.com)

Inference after `arima` requires that the variable y_t be covariance stationary. The variable y_t is covariance stationary if its first two moments exist and are time invariant. More explicitly, y_t is covariance stationary if

1. $E(y_t)$ is finite and not a function of t ;
2. $\text{Var}(y_t)$ is finite and independent of t ; and
3. $\text{Cov}(y_t, y_s)$ is a finite function of $|t - s|$ but not of t or s alone.

The stationarity of an ARMA process depends on the autoregressive (AR) parameters. If the inverse roots of the AR polynomial all lie inside the unit circle, the process is stationary, invertible, and has an infinite-order moving-average (MA) representation. Hamilton (1994, chap. 1) shows that if the modulus of each eigenvalue of the matrix $\mathbf{F}(\rho)$ is strictly less than 1, the estimated ARMA is stationary; see [Methods and formulas](#) for the definition of the matrix $\mathbf{F}(\rho)$.

The MA part of an ARMA process can be rewritten as an infinite-order AR process provided that the MA process is invertible. Hamilton (1994, chap. 1) shows that if the modulus of each eigenvalue of the matrix $\mathbf{F}(\theta)$ is strictly less than 1, the estimated ARMA is invertible; see [Methods and formulas](#) for the definition of the matrix $\mathbf{F}(\theta)$.

► Example 1

In this example, we check the stability condition of the SARIMA model that we fit in [example 3](#) of [TS] `arima`. We begin by reestimating the parameters of the model.

```
. use https://www.stata-press.com/data/r18/air2
(TIMESLAB: Airline passengers)
. generate lnair = ln(air)
```

4 estat aroots — Check the stability condition of ARIMA estimates

```
. arima lnair, arima(0,1,1) sarima(0,1,1,12) noconstant
(setting optimization to BHHH)
Iteration 0: Log likelihood = 223.8437
Iteration 1: Log likelihood = 239.80405
Iteration 2: Log likelihood = 244.10265
Iteration 3: Log likelihood = 244.65895
Iteration 4: Log likelihood = 244.68945
(switching optimization to BFGS)
Iteration 5: Log likelihood = 244.69431
Iteration 6: Log likelihood = 244.69647
Iteration 7: Log likelihood = 244.69651
Iteration 8: Log likelihood = 244.69651
```

ARIMA regression

```
Sample: 14 thru 144                                Number of obs   =      131
Log likelihood = 244.6965                          Wald chi2(2)    =      84.53
                                                    Prob > chi2     =      0.0000
```

DS12.lnair	OPG				
	Coefficient	std. err.	z	P> z	[95% conf. interval]
ARMA					
ma					
L1.	-.4018324	.0730307	-5.50	0.000	-.5449698 - .2586949
ARMA12					
ma					
L1.	-.5569342	.0963129	-5.78	0.000	-.745704 - .3681644
/sigma	.0367167	.0020132	18.24	0.000	.0327708 .0406625

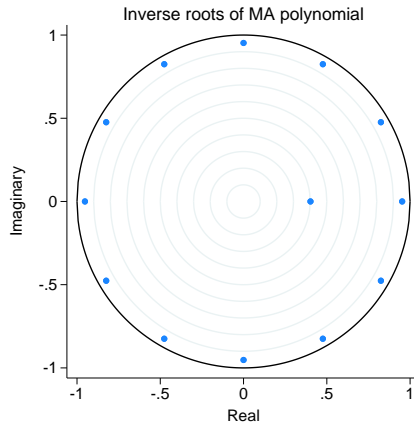
Note: The test of the variance against zero is one sided, and the two-sided confidence interval is truncated at zero.

We can now use estat aroots to check the stability condition of the MA part of the model.

```
. estat aroots
Eigenvalue stability condition
```

Eigenvalue	Modulus
.824798 + .4761974i	.952395
.824798 - .4761974i	.952395
.9523947	.952395
-.824798 + .4761974i	.952395
-.824798 - .4761974i	.952395
-.4761974 + .824798i	.952395
-.4761974 - .824798i	.952395
2.776e-16 + .9523947i	.952395
2.776e-16 - .9523947i	.952395
.4761974 + .824798i	.952395
.4761974 - .824798i	.952395
-.9523947	.952395
.4018324	.401832

All the eigenvalues lie inside the unit circle.
MA parameters satisfy invertibility condition.



Because the modulus of each eigenvalue is strictly less than 1, the MA process is invertible and can be represented as an infinite-order AR process.

The graph produced by `estat aroots` displays the eigenvalues with the real components on the x axis and the imaginary components on the y axis. The graph indicates visually that these eigenvalues are just inside the unit circle.



Stored results

`estat aroots` stores the following in `r()`:

Matrices

<code>r(Re_ar)</code>	real part of the eigenvalues of $F(\rho)$
<code>r(Im_ar)</code>	imaginary part of the eigenvalues of $F(\rho)$
<code>r(Modulus_ar)</code>	modulus of the eigenvalues of $F(\rho)$
<code>r(ar)</code>	$F(\rho)$, the AR companion matrix
<code>r(Re_ma)</code>	real part of the eigenvalues of $F(\theta)$
<code>r(Im_ma)</code>	imaginary part of the eigenvalues of $F(\theta)$
<code>r(Modulus_ma)</code>	modulus of the eigenvalues of $F(\theta)$
<code>r(ma)</code>	$F(\theta)$, the MA companion matrix

Methods and formulas

Recall the general form of the ARMA model,

$$\rho(L^p)(y_t - \mathbf{x}_t\boldsymbol{\beta}) = \theta(L^q)\epsilon_t$$

where

$$\rho(L^p) = 1 - \rho_1L - \rho_2L^2 - \dots - \rho_pL^p$$

$$\theta(L^q) = 1 + \theta_1L + \theta_2L^2 + \dots + \theta_qL^q$$

and $L^j y_t = y_{t-j}$.

`estat roots` forms the companion matrix

$$\mathbf{F}(\boldsymbol{\gamma}) = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_1 & \gamma_2 & \cdots & \gamma_{r-1} & \gamma_r \\ 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where $\boldsymbol{\gamma} = \boldsymbol{\rho}$ and $r = p$ for the AR part of ARMA, and $\boldsymbol{\gamma} = -\boldsymbol{\theta}$ and $r = q$ for the MA part of ARMA. `roots` obtains the eigenvalues of \mathbf{F} by using `matrix eigenvalues`. The modulus of the complex eigenvalue $r + ci$ is $\sqrt{r^2 + c^2}$. As shown by [Hamilton \(1994, chap. 1\)](#), a process is stable and invertible if the modulus of each eigenvalue of \mathbf{F} is strictly less than 1.

Reference

Hamilton, J. D. 1994. *Time Series Analysis*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Also see

[TS] [arima](#) — ARIMA, ARMAX, and other dynamic regression models

Stata, Stata Press, and Mata are registered trademarks of StataCorp LLC. Stata and Stata Press are registered trademarks with the World Intellectual Property Organization of the United Nations. StataNow and NetCourseNow are trademarks of StataCorp LLC. Other brand and product names are registered trademarks or trademarks of their respective companies. Copyright © 1985–2023 StataCorp LLC, College Station, TX, USA. All rights reserved.



For suggested citations, see the FAQ on [citing Stata documentation](#).