ベンチマーク問題とロバスト・デントン法

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2014年1月20日

概要

月次・四半期データと年次データとの非整合性を調整する操作をベンチマーキング (benchmarking) と呼び、特に官庁統計の作成において標準的に行われている。本稿では、ベンチマーキング手法として最も広く使用されているであろうデントン (Denton) 法を解説するとともに、新しいベンチマーキング法、ロバスト・デントン法 (robust Denton method)、を提案する. また、提案する手法が実務上望ましい性質を持つことを議論し、実データを用いた比較を行う.

1 はじめに

官庁統計などにおいて、しばしば、同種のデータに対して集計頻度が異なる複数の系列 (月次、四半期、年次など)が作成されることがある。典型的には、集計頻度の低いデータ (例えば年次データ)は、集計頻度の高いデータ (例えば月次や四半期データ)よりも精度 の高いデータとみなされることが多い。ここで問題となるのは、例えば、四半期ごとに集計されたデータの合計が、年次データと必ずしも一致しない、ということが起こりうると いう点である。日本の GDP 統計を例にとると、「速報」として四半期データが公表され、しばらくして「確報」として年次データが公表されるが、実は「速報」と「確報」には、推計手法・基礎総計などに大きな違いがあり、従って、「速報」の四半期データを合計しても、「確報」の年次データに一致しない (得能、2007)。このような非整合を調整するために、通常、より精度の高いとされる年次データを「ベンチマーク (benchmark)」として、月次・四半期データを年次データと整合的になるように調整することが行われ、そのような調整のことを「ベンチマークキング (benchmarking)」と呼ぶ。

ベンチマーク問題をより正確に述べると、いま、1 年を s 期に分け、n 年のデータが利用可能であるとする (s と n は正の整数とする). 四半期データを扱う場合は、s=4 であり、月次データを扱う場合は、s=12 である. T=ns とおく、各 $t(=1,\ldots,T)$ 期にお

いて、データ I_t が利用可能であり (I_t は月次・四半期データを想定している)、同時に、各 $k(=1,\ldots,n)$ 年において、年次データ A_k が利用可能であるとする。このとき、ある $k=1,\ldots,n$ において、

$$\sum_{i=1}^{s} I_{s(k-1)+i} \neq A_k,$$

なる非整合が生じることをベンチマーク問題と呼び、原系列 I_1,\ldots,I_T を適当に調整して、

$$\sum_{i=1}^{s} X_{s(k-1)+i} = A_k, \ k = 1, \dots, n,$$
(1)

なる調整済み系列 X_1, \ldots, X_T を作成することをベンチマーキングと呼ぶ.

ベンチマーキング法として最も広く使用されている手法は、デントン (Denton) 法であろう (Denton, 1971)*1. デントン法は例えば、日本の官庁統計において季節調整法として標準的に使用されている X-12ARIMA にオプションとして装備されている (X-12ARIMA に関しては、国友、2004、を参照). また、日本の GDP 統計の作成においても、従来はより素朴な (しかし問題点も指摘されている) プロ・ラタ (Pro-Rata) 法が使用されてきたが、最近では、デントン法が使用されるようになっている (内閣府、2011). デントン法の正確な定義は 2 節で与えるが、直感的には、ベンチマーク制約 (1) の下で、短期の変動をなるべく保存するように調整済み系列を作成する一つの手法と理解することができる.

本稿の目的はデントン法を紹介するとともに、デントン法の一つの代替法として、ロバスト・デントン法なるベンチマーキング法を提案することである。提案するロバスト・デントン法は、デントン法の目的関数 (2 次関数) を絶対値関数に置き換える、という一見単純なものであるが、次の特徴を持つことが示される (2 節を参照):

- 最適化問題が線形計画法として定式化できる. そのため, 追加的な (線形) 制約を入れて最適化を実行する, といったことなどが容易にできる.
- ロバスト・デントン法によって作成された調整済み系列 X_1, \ldots, X_T に対して, $X_t \neq 0, t = 1, \ldots, T$ なら,傾き X_t/X_{t-1} のうち,少なくとも (T-n) 個は原系列の傾き I_t/I_{t-1} に一致する $(I_t \neq 0, k = 1, \ldots, T$ は仮定している).

ベンチマーク制約(1) は X_1,\ldots,X_T に関して線形の制約であり、従って、目的関数を線形 (絶対値関数) にすることは最適化の観点から自然な発想と思われるが、いままでこの

^{*1} 本稿のデントン法とは,修正デントン法 (modified Denton method), ないし,比例デントン法 (Denton proportional method) とも呼ばれる. デントン法には様々なバリエーションがあるが,本稿では,2節で定義する最も標準的なものを考察する.

ような提案は (少なくとも筆者の知る限り) なされてこなかったようである. 言うまでもなく, 今では, 多くの標準的な数値計算ソフトウェア上で線形計画法を解くパッケージが利用可能であり, 従って, 手軽にロバスト・デントン法を実行することができる*2.2番目の特徴は, ロバスト・デントン法が短期の変動をかなりの部分厳密 (exact) に保存することを保証しており, デントン法にはない実務上の利点といえる. ここで, ロバスト・デントン法は, デントン法と類似の目的関数を最小化していることから, (プロ・ラタ法とは異なり) 年次が変わるところでも変動が原系列のそれとなるべく乖離しないように調整している, ということに注意すべきである.

ベンチマーク問題はデータ集計に関する基本的な話題であり、古くから研究が行われている。本稿では歴史的な考察は控えるが、ベンチマーキング法を体系的に紹介している文献として、Bloem et al. (2001) と Dagum and Cholette (2006) を挙げておく。なお、本稿では主に経済時系列におけるベンチマーク問題を念頭に置いているが、近年、小地域推定におけるベンチマーク問題が統計学の文献において関心を集めている。この方面への参考文献として、久保川 (2012) を挙げておく。

本稿では、線形計画法の一般論をしばしば用いる。本稿で用いる程度の一般論は、大抵の教科書ならカバーしているものであるが、線形計画法に詳しくない読者を想定して、必要な事実を付録にまとめておく。また、線形計画法の日本語での標準的な入門書として、今野 (1987) を挙げておく。

記号:本稿で用いる記号は標準的なものであるが、いくつかあらかじめ説明しておく、ベクトル・行列は太字で表し、ベクトルは列ベクトルとする。転置は ' で表すとする。正の整数 m に対して、 $\mathbf{0}_m, \mathbf{1}_m$ はそれぞれ 0 と 1 を m 個並べたベクトルとする。また、 $m \times m$ の単位行列は \mathbf{I}_m と書く (原系列 $\mathbf{I}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{I}_T$ と混同しないこと)。

2 デントン法とロバスト・デントン法

本節では、まずデントン法を紹介し、続いて提案するロバスト・デントン法を紹介する. 記号は1節のものを踏襲するとする.また、

$$I_t \neq 0, \ t = 1, \dots, T$$

を以降特に言及することなく常に仮定する.

^{*&}lt;sup>2</sup> 例えば, Matlab 上では linprog, R 上では lpSolve などが利用可能である.

2.1 デントン法

デントン法は,目的関数

$$\sum_{t=2}^{T} \left(\frac{X_t}{I_t} - \frac{X_{t-1}}{I_{t-1}} \right)^2 \tag{2}$$

をベンチマーク制約 (1) の下で最小化する X_1,\ldots,X_T を調整済み系列として用いる手法である。ベクトル・行列を用いてデントン法の最適化問題を記述してみよう。いま, $\mathbf{x}=(X_1,\ldots,X_T)',\mathbf{b}=(A_1,\ldots,A_n)'$ とし, $(T-1)\times T$ 行列 \mathbf{P} と, $n\times T$ 行列 \mathbf{Q} を

$$m{P} = egin{pmatrix} -1/I_1 & 1/I_2 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \ 0 & -1/I_2 & 1/I_3 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \ dots & & \ddots & & \ 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 & -1/I_{T-1} & 1/I_T \end{pmatrix}, \ m{Q} = m{I}_n \otimes m{1}_s' = egin{pmatrix} 1 & \dots & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & \dots & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & \dots & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

で定める. ただし, ⊗ はクロネッカー積を表す*3. すると, デントン法の最適化問題は

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{(D-1)} & \min_{\boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^T} \boldsymbol{x}' \boldsymbol{P}' \boldsymbol{P} \boldsymbol{x} \\ & \text{s.t. } \boldsymbol{Q} \boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{b}. \end{array}$$

と書き直すことができる.この問題は 2 次計画問題であるが,国友・川崎 (2011) で示唆されているように,n>1,s>1 のとき,ある技術的な仮定 (下記 (4) 式) の下で,問題 (D-1) は一意な最適解を持ち,かつ最適解は明示的な表現を持つ.

以下,デントン法の最適解を,国友・川崎 (2011),定理1に従って明示的に導出してみ

$$m{A} \otimes m{B} = egin{pmatrix} a_{11} m{B} & \dots & a_{1n} m{B} \ dots & \ddots & dots \ a_{m1} m{B} & \dots & a_{mn} m{B} \end{pmatrix}$$

で定義される.

 $^{^{*3}}$ $m \times n$ 行列 $m{A} = (a_{ij})$ と $k \times l$ 行列 $m{B}$ のクロネッカー積は $mk \times nl$ 行列

よう. まず、上で述べた「ある技術的な仮定」を正確に述べる. $s \times (s-1)$ 行列

$$J_{s-1} = \begin{pmatrix} I_{s-1} \\ -\mathbf{1}'_{s-1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 1 \\ -1 & \dots & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$
(3)

を用意し,

$$\begin{pmatrix} I_1 \\ \vdots \\ I_T \end{pmatrix} \notin \operatorname{Im}(\boldsymbol{I}_n \otimes \boldsymbol{J}_{s-1}) \tag{4}$$

を仮定する. ただし、右辺は、 $T \times (T-n)$ 行列 $I_n \otimes J_{s-1}$ の (T-n) 個の列ベクトルが 張る、 \mathbb{R}^T の部分ベクトル空間である. 仮定 (4) は、例えば原系列 I_1, \ldots, I_T がすべて非 負ならみたされるので、経済時系列への応用を考える場合、制約的な仮定ではないと思われる. 仮定 (4) の下で、国友・川崎 (2011)、定理 1 の主張を示してみよう*4.

基本的なアイデアは、デントン法の制約付き最小化問題を、変数 x に適当な正則変換をかけることで、(T-n) 変数の制約なしの最小化問題に帰着させることである。いま、B=P'P とおき、 $T\times T$ 行列

$$oldsymbol{R} = egin{pmatrix} oldsymbol{Q} \ oldsymbol{I}_n \otimes [oldsymbol{I}_{s-1} \ oldsymbol{0}_{s-1}] \end{pmatrix}$$

を考える. 簡単に確認できるように、この行列 R は正則であり、

$$oldsymbol{y} = egin{pmatrix} oldsymbol{y}_1 \ oldsymbol{y}_2 \end{pmatrix} = oldsymbol{R}oldsymbol{x}, \quad (oldsymbol{y}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^n, oldsymbol{y}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{T-n}),$$

と変換すると, $Qx = b \Leftrightarrow y_1 = b$ であるから, (D-1) は (T - n) 変数の制約なしの最小化問題

$$\text{(D-2)} \ \min_{\boldsymbol{y}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{T-n}} (\boldsymbol{b}', \boldsymbol{y}_2')' \boldsymbol{R}'^{-1} \boldsymbol{B} \boldsymbol{R}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{b} \\ \boldsymbol{y}_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

に帰着される. さらに,

$$\mathbf{R}^{-1} = [\mathbf{R}_{(1)} \ \mathbf{R}_{(2)}], \ \mathbf{R}_{(1)} : T \times n, \ \mathbf{R}_{(2)} : T \times (T - n)$$

と分割すると, (D-2) の目的関数は

$$m{y}_2'[m{R}_{(2)}'Bm{R}_{(2)}]m{y}_{(2)} + 2m{y}_2'[m{R}_{(2)}'Bm{R}_{(1)}]m{b} + m{b}'[m{R}_{(1)}'Bm{R}_{(1)}]m{b}$$

 $^{^{*4}}$ 細かい点であるが,国友・川崎 (2011),定理 1 では仮定 (4) が抜けていることに注意する.仮定 (4) が成立しないとき,(5) 式において行列 $m{R}'_{(2)}m{B}m{R}_{(2)}$ が正則にならないので,最適解の一意性が成立しない.

と書けるから、これを最小にする y_2 は

$$m{y}_2^* = -[m{R}_{(2)}'m{B}m{R}_{(2)}]^{-1}[m{R}_{(2)}'m{B}m{R}_{(1)}]m{b}$$

で一意に与えられる.ここで,仮定 (4) の下で右辺の逆行列は存在する (後述).もともとの変数に直すと,(D-1) の最適解が,

$$x^* = R^{-1}y^* = (I_T - R_{(2)}[R'_{(2)}BR_{(2)}]^{-1}R'_{(2)}B)R_{(1)}b$$
 (5)

で一意に与えられることがわかる。さらに、国友・川崎 (2011)、補題 1 より、 $s \times 1$ ベクトル $e_s = (0, \ldots, 0, 1)'$ 、と (3) 式で与えた $s \times (s-1)$ 行列 J_{s-1} を用いると、 $\mathbf{R}_{(1)}$ と $\mathbf{R}_{(2)}$ は

$$\mathbf{R}_{(1)} = \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{e}_s, \ \mathbf{R}_{(2)} = \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{J}_{s-1}, \tag{6}$$

と明示的に表現できる $(\mathbf{R}[\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{e}_s \ \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{J}_{s-1}] = \mathbf{I}_T$ を確認すればよい). (6) 式と (5) 式を合わせて、デントン法の最適解が完全に明示的に計算できることが確認できた.

最後に (T-n) × (T-n) 行列 $\mathbf{R}'_{(2)}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{R}_{(2)}$ が正則であることを確認しよう. $\mathbf{R}'_{(2)}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{R}_{(2)}=(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{R}_{(2)})'(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{R}_{(2)})$ なので、行列 $\mathbf{P}\mathbf{R}_{(2)}$ の定める \mathbb{R}^{T-n} から \mathbb{R}^{T} への線形 写像が単射であること、すなわち、

$$Ker(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{R}_{(2)}) = \{\mathbf{0}_{T-n}\}\tag{7}$$

を確認すればよい. $\operatorname{rank} \boldsymbol{P} = T-1$ と次元定理から、 $\dim(\operatorname{Ker} \boldsymbol{P}) = 1$ であり、従って、簡単な計算から、

$$\operatorname{Ker} \boldsymbol{P} = \left\{ c \begin{pmatrix} I_1 \\ \vdots \\ I_T \end{pmatrix} : c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

であることがわかる. この事実と仮定 (4) より, (7) 式が従うことがわかる。実際は、もう少し強い主張

$$(4)\Leftrightarrow oldsymbol{R}'_{(2)}oldsymbol{B}oldsymbol{R}_{(2)}$$
 が正則

も従う. 以上の事実をまとめて, 次の補題を得る.

補題 **1** (国友・川崎 (2011),定理 1 の修正)。s>1,n>1 とする.仮定 (4) の下で,デントン法は一意な最適解 (5) を持つ.ここで, $T\times n$ 行列 $\mathbf{R}_{(1)}$ と $T\times (T-n)$ 行列 $\mathbf{R}_{(2)}$ は (6) 式で与えられる.

デントン法の直感的な意味として、ベンチマーク制約(1)の下で、なるべく

$$rac{X_t}{I_t}pproxrac{X_{t-1}}{I_{t-1}}$$
, すなわち, $rac{X_t}{X_{t-1}}pproxrac{I_t}{I_{t-1}}$,

となるように調整済み系列を作成する手法と解釈することができる。つまり、デントン法はベンチマーク制約 (1) の下で、短期的な変動 (X_t/X_{t-1}) をなるべく原系列のそれ (I_t/I_{t-1}) に近いように調整する手法と解釈できる。GDP 統計を例にとると、GDP そのものの値 (X_t) より、成長率

$$\frac{X_t - X_{t-1}}{X_{t-1}} = \frac{X_t}{X_{t-1}} - 1$$

に興味があるケースが多いので、短期の変動をなるべく保存するということは実務上望ま しい性質といえるであろう.

注意 1. Denton (1971) はもともと、(2) ではなく、原系列の初期値 I_0 が利用可能として、目的関数

$$\sum_{t=1}^{n} \left(\frac{X_t}{I_t} - \frac{X_{t-1}}{I_{t-1}} \right)^2,$$

をベンチマーク制約 (1) と初期値制約 $X_0 = I_0$ の下で最小化することを提案した.本節で紹介したデントン法は、正確には Cholette (1984) による修正デントン法である. Cholette (1984) は初期値制約が調整済み系列にゆがみを生じさせることを指摘し、初期制約を取り除き、t=1 を目的関数の和から取り除いた修正法を提案した.

2.2 ロバスト・デントン法

本稿で提案するロバスト・デントン法は、デントン法の一種の変形と考えることができる。形式的には、デントン法の目的関数を絶対値関数に変えた

$$\sum_{t=2}^{T} \left| \frac{X_t}{I_t} - \frac{X_{t-1}}{I_{t-1}} \right| \tag{8}$$

をベンチマーク制約 (1) の下で最小化する X_1, \ldots, X_T を調整済み系列として用いる手法と定義される。ロバスト・デントン法も、デントン法と同様に、ベンチマーク制約 (1) の下で、短期的な変動 (X_t/X_{t-1}) をなるべく原系列のそれ (I_t/I_{t-1}) に近いように調整する手法と解釈できる。ただし、ロバスト・デントン法は詳細においてデントン法とは異なる性質を持つので、その点を見てみよう。

まず、ロバスト・デントン法の最適化問題は、線形制約の下で線形関数を最小化する問題なので、線形計画問題として定式化できる。前節で導入したベクトル・行列を用いると、ロバスト・デントン法の最適化問題は、次の線形計画問題として定式化できる:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{(RD-1)} & \min_{\boldsymbol{u},\boldsymbol{v} \in \mathbb{R}^{T-1}, \boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^T} \mathbf{1}_{T-1}' \boldsymbol{u} + \mathbf{1}_{T-1}' \boldsymbol{v} \\ & \text{s.t. } \boldsymbol{u} - \boldsymbol{v} = \boldsymbol{P} \boldsymbol{x}, \ \boldsymbol{Q} \boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{b}, \\ & \boldsymbol{u} \geq \mathbf{0}_{T-1}, \ \boldsymbol{v} \geq \mathbf{0}_{T-1}. \end{array}$$

ただし、不等式 $u \geq \mathbf{0}_{T-1}, v \geq \mathbf{0}_{T-1}$ は成分ごとの不等式と了解する. さらに、

$$oldsymbol{w} = (oldsymbol{u}', oldsymbol{v}', oldsymbol{x}')', \; oldsymbol{c} = (oldsymbol{1}'_{T-1}, oldsymbol{1}'_{T-1}, oldsymbol{0}_T)', \; oldsymbol{A} = egin{pmatrix} oldsymbol{I}_{T-1} & -oldsymbol{I}_{T-1} & oldsymbol{P} \ oldsymbol{O} & oldsymbol{O} & oldsymbol{Q} \end{pmatrix}$$

とおくと, 線形計画問題 (RD-1) は

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{(RD-2)} & \min_{\boldsymbol{w}=(\boldsymbol{u}',\boldsymbol{v}',\boldsymbol{x}')'\in\mathbb{R}^{3T-2}}\boldsymbol{c}'\boldsymbol{w} \\ \text{s.t. } \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{w}=(\boldsymbol{0}_{T-1}',\boldsymbol{b}')', \ \boldsymbol{u}\geq\boldsymbol{0}_{T-1}, \ \boldsymbol{v}\geq\boldsymbol{0}_{T-1} \end{array}$$

と書き直すことができる. 制約行列 \boldsymbol{A} のサイズは $(T-1+n)\times(3T-2)$ であり、容易にわかるように、

$$rank \mathbf{A} = T - 1 + n$$

である. (RD-2) において,集合

$$\{ \boldsymbol{w} = (\boldsymbol{u}', \boldsymbol{v}', \boldsymbol{x}')' \in \mathbb{R}^{3T-2} : \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{w} = (\boldsymbol{0}'_{T-1}, \boldsymbol{b}')', \ \boldsymbol{u} \ge \boldsymbol{0}_{T-1}, \ \boldsymbol{v} \ge \boldsymbol{0}_{T-1} \}$$

は実行可能集合と呼ばれるが、実行可能集合は自明に非空であり、また、目的関数は実行可能集合上で下に有界である(目的関数は非負であるから).従って、線形計画法の一般論から、次の補題が従う.

補題 2. 線形計画問題 (RD-2) は最適解を持つ. 従って,ロバスト・デントン法は必ず最適解を持つ.

ロバスト・デントン法は、デントン法とは異なり、最適解の明示的な表現は得られないが、最適化問題が線形計画問題として定式化できるので、その実行は容易である。また、ロバスト・デントン法は、デントン法にはない、実務上興味深い性質を持つ。この点を見ていこう。いま、(RD-2) を単体法を用いて解くことを考え、最適な基底解 w^* が得られたとする。 w^* の u 成分、v 成分、x 成分をそれぞれ u^* 、 v^* 、 v^* 、 v^* とおく。いま、 v^* の各成

分は非ゼロであると仮定すると、 u^*, v^* に含まれる変数のうち基底変数となるものはちょうど (n-1) 個である.ここで、

$$\boldsymbol{x}^* = (X_1^*, \dots, X_T^*)', \boldsymbol{u}^* = (u_1^*, \dots, u_{T-1}^*)', \ \boldsymbol{v}^* = (v_1^*, \dots, v_{T-1}^*)'$$

と書いて、 u_t^* と v_t^* がともに非基底変数であるとすると、 $u_t^*=v_t^*=0$ であって、線形制 約 $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{w}=(\mathbf{0}_{T-1}',\mathbf{b}')'$ の第 t 式に注目すると、

$$-\frac{X_{t-1}^*}{I_{t-1}} + \frac{X_t^*}{I_t} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{X_t^*}{X_{t-1}^*} = \frac{I_t}{I_{t-1}}$$

となることがわかる. u_t^* と v_t^* がともに非基底変数であるような t はちょうど (T-n) 個あるから $(u_t^*$ と v_t^* が同時に基底変数になることはないから),次の補題が示された.

補題 **3.** (RD-2) の基底解に対応するロバスト・デントン法の最適解を X_1^*,\ldots,X_T^* とする. いま, $X_t^* \neq 0, t=1,\ldots,T$ ならば, 少なくとも (T-n) 個の $t\in\{2,\ldots,T\}$ に対して,

$$\frac{X_t^*}{X_{t-1}^*} = \frac{I_t}{I_{t-1}},$$

が成立する.

注意 2. 補題 3 はロバスト・デントン法が短期の変動をかなりの部分厳密 (exact) に保存すること示している。このような性質はデントン法にはないものであり、実務上利点があるものと思われる。ここで、ロバスト・デントン法は、デントン法と類似の目的関数を最小化していることから、(プロ・ラタ法とは異なり) 年次が変わるところでも変動が原系列のそれとなるべく乖離しないように調整している、ということに注意すべきである。

注意 3. デントン法と同様に、目的関数 (8) に非負のウェイト $d_t \ge 0, t = 2, ..., T$ をつけて、

$$\sum_{t=2}^{T} d_t \left| \frac{X_t}{I_t} - \frac{X_{t-1}}{I_{t-1}} \right|,\,$$

をベンチマーク制約 (1) の下で最小化することも考えられる. ただし、ウェイトの選び方は自明な問題ではない. 本稿では (簡単のため) 一貫して定数ウェイト $d_t \equiv 1$ を考える.

注意 4. ロバスト・デントン法という名称は、ロバスト統計から拝借したものである. しばしば指摘されるように、線形回帰モデルの係数ベクトルの推定問題において、最小二乗推定値は誤差項の外れ値に大きく影響される. 外れ値に大きく影響されないような推定法(そのような推定法をしばしばロバストな推定法と呼ぶ)の一つとして、最小絶対偏差推定

(least absolute deviation estimation) が知られおり、これは最小二乗推定の目的関数を絶対値関数に置き換えた推定法である (最小絶対偏差推定については Koenker, 2005, が参考になる).

以下, ロバスト・デントン法に関して, 補助的な議論を行う.

2.2.1 原系列が非負であるとき

特に経済時系列の場合,原系列が非負であることが多い.そのような場合,調整済み系列も非負であることが望まれる.目的関数 (8) をベンチマーク制約 (1) と非負制約 $X_t \geq 0, t = 1, \ldots, T$ の下で最小化する X_1, \ldots, X_T を調整済み系列として用いる手法を便宜的に非負制約付きロバスト・デントン法と呼ぶことにする.非負制約付きロバスト・デントン法の最適化問題は,(RD-2) において非負制約 $x \geq \mathbf{0}_T$ を加えた次の線形計画問題に帰着する*5:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{(RD-3)} & \min_{\boldsymbol{w}=(\boldsymbol{u}',\boldsymbol{v}',\boldsymbol{x}')'\in\mathbb{R}^{3T-2}}\boldsymbol{c}'\boldsymbol{w} \\ \text{s.t. } \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{w}=(\boldsymbol{0}_{T-1}',\boldsymbol{b}')', \ \boldsymbol{w}\geq \boldsymbol{0}_{3T-2}. \end{array}$$

補題 2 と 3 は次のように変更される. 証明は、補題 2 と 3 の証明よりほとんど自明であるので、省略する.

補題 4. 線形計画問題 (RD-3) は最適解を持つ. 従って, 非負制約付きロバスト・デントン法は必ず最適解を持つ.

補題 5. (RD-3) の基底解に対応する非負制約付きロバスト・デントン法の最適解を X_1^*,\ldots,X_T^* とする. いま, $X_t^*>0,t=1,\ldots,T$ ならば, 少なくとも (T-n) 個の $t\in\{2,\ldots,T\}$ に対して,

$$\frac{X_t^*}{X_{t-1}^*} = \frac{I_t}{I_{t-1}}$$

が成立する*6.

注意 5. もちろん、実務上、非負制約を明示的に入れなくても、自動的に非負制約がみた される場合も多いであろう. その様な場合、非負制約を入れるか入れないかは本質的では

 $^{^{*5}}$ むしろ (RD-3) の方が標準形である分,(RD-2) よりある意味で簡単である,ともいえる.

^{*6} あくまでも数学的な注意であるが, $X_t^*>0, t=1,\ldots,T$ という仮定から,右辺が負の値になるケースは自動的に排除されている.補題では $I_t>0, t=1,\ldots,T$ とは仮定していないことに注意せよ (もちろん非負制約付きロバスト・デントン法を用いるのは, $I_t>0, t=1,\ldots,T$ となるときであろうから,この注意はあくまで数学的な注意である).

ない. しかしながら, 重要であるのは, ロバスト・デントン法が, 必要ならば非負制約を容易に計算に組み込むことができる, というオプションを与えていることにある. 例えば, デントン法では非負制約を明示的に入れることはそれほど自明でないことと思われる.

2.2.2 双対問題

線形計画問題 (RD-2) と (RD-3) を解くには、対応する双対問題を解けばよいことは線形計画法の一般論の教えるところである。本節では、これら線形計画問題の双対問題を見てみる。簡単のため、(RD-3) の双対問題を見てみる:

(Dual of RD-3)
$$\max_{\boldsymbol{z} \in \mathbb{R}^{T-1+n}} (\boldsymbol{0}_{T-1}', \boldsymbol{b}') \boldsymbol{z}$$

s.t. $\boldsymbol{A}' \boldsymbol{z} \leq \boldsymbol{c}$.

ここで, $z = (z_1', z_2')', z_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{T-1}, z_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ と分割すると,

$$egin{aligned} oldsymbol{A'z} &= egin{pmatrix} oldsymbol{I_{T-1}} & oldsymbol{O} \ -oldsymbol{I_{T-1}} & oldsymbol{O} \ oldsymbol{P'} & oldsymbol{Q'} \end{pmatrix} egin{pmatrix} oldsymbol{z}_1 \ oldsymbol{z}_2 \end{pmatrix} = egin{pmatrix} oldsymbol{z}_1 \ -oldsymbol{z}_1 \ oldsymbol{P'z}_1 + oldsymbol{Q'z}_2 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

であるから,

$$A'z \le c \Leftrightarrow -1_{T-1} \le z_1 \le 1_{T-1}, \ P'z_1 + Q'z_2 \le 0_T.$$

従って、結局、(Dual of RD-3) は

$$egin{aligned} \max_{m{z}=(m{z}_1',m{z}_2')'\in\mathbb{R}^{T-1+n}} m{b}'m{z}_2 \ \mathrm{s.t.} \ m{P}'m{z}_1+m{Q}'m{z}_2 \leq m{0}_T, \ -m{1}_{T-1} \leq m{z}_1 \leq m{1}_{T-1} \end{aligned}$$

と書き直すことができる. zを-zと取り換えると,

$$\min_{m{z}=(m{z}_1',m{z}_2')'\in\mathbb{R}^{T-1+n}}m{b}'m{z}_2 \ ext{s.t.} \ m{P}'m{z}_1+m{Q}'m{z}_2 \geq m{0}_T, \ -m{1}_{T-1} \leq m{z}_1 \leq m{1}_{T-1}$$

とも書き直すことができる.

付録 A 線形計画法速習

本節では、線形計画法に詳しくない読者を想定して、本稿で用いた線形計画法の基本的な事実を(多くは証明抜きで)紹介する.日本語での標準的な線形計画法の教科書として

今野 (1987) を挙げておく、線形計画問題とは、目的関数と制約が変数に関して線形であるような最適化問題である。n 変数と m 制約を持つ標準形の線形計画問題

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{(P-1)} \ \min_{\boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \boldsymbol{c}' \boldsymbol{x} \\ \text{s.t.} \ \boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{b}, \ \boldsymbol{x} \geq \boldsymbol{0} \end{array}$$

を考えてみよう. ここで, c, A, b はそれぞれ, $n \times 1$ ベクトル, $m \times n$ 行列, $m \times 1$ ベクトルである. c, A, b はすべて既知である. 一般性を失うことなく

$$rank \mathbf{A} = m \tag{9}$$

を仮定する (rank A < m ということは線形制約の中に "無駄な" ものがあるということであり、そういうものはあらかじめ排除しておく、ということである). 不等式の線形制約や、x(0-m) に非負制約がない場合も、適当なスラック変数を導入することで、上記の標準形に変形できるので (例えば、x に非負制約がないときは、 $x = x_+ - x_-, x_+ \ge 0, x_- \ge 0$ として、新しく非負変数 x_+ と x_- を導入すればよい)、以下、問題 (P-1) を考える.

1. 基本定理. 問題 (P-1) において、制約をみたす変数の集合

$$S = \{ \boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{b}, \boldsymbol{x} > \boldsymbol{0} \}$$

を実行可能集合と呼ぶ. S が空集合でないとき、(P-1) は実行可能と呼び、S に属するベクトルを実行可能解と呼ぶ. 次の定理は基本的である.

定理 1. (P-1) が実行可能で目的関数が S 上で下に有界ならば、最適解が存在する.

この定理より、線形計画問題 (P-1) に対して、次の 3 ケースのみが起こりうることがわかる.

- (i) (P-1) は実行不可能である、つまり、S は空集合である。
- (ii) (P-1) は実行可能であるが、S上でいくらでも目的関数を小さくできる.
- (iii) (P-1) は実行可能で、最適解が存在する.
- 2. 単体法.以下,(P-1) は少なくとも実行可能と仮定する.ところで,(9) より $m \le n$ であるが,m=n のときは実行可能集合が高々 1 点となるのでおもしろくない.よって,少なくとも m < n を仮定する.A から任意に m 列を選んでそれらを並べた $m \times m$ 行列を B と書き,便宜的に A を

$$\boldsymbol{A} = [\boldsymbol{B} \ \boldsymbol{N}]$$

と分割する. ここで, $m{N}$ は $m \times (n-m)$ 行列である. この分割に対応して, ベクトル $m{c}$ と $m{x}$ を

$$c = (c'_B, c'_N)', \ x = (x'_B, x'_N)'$$

と分割する. いま, 行列 B は正則であると仮定すると,

$$Ax = b \Leftrightarrow x_B = B^{-1}b - B^{-1}Nx_N$$

であるから, 問題 (P-1) は

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{(P-2)} \ \min_{\boldsymbol{x}=(\boldsymbol{x}_B',\boldsymbol{x}_N')'\in\mathbb{R}^n} \boldsymbol{c}_B' \boldsymbol{B}^{-1} \boldsymbol{b} + [\boldsymbol{c}_N - \boldsymbol{N}'(\boldsymbol{B}')^{-1} \boldsymbol{c}_B]' \boldsymbol{x}_N \\ \text{s.t.} \ \boldsymbol{x}_B = \boldsymbol{B}^{-1} \boldsymbol{b} - \boldsymbol{B}^{-1} \boldsymbol{N} \boldsymbol{x}_N, \ \boldsymbol{x}_B \geq \boldsymbol{0}, \boldsymbol{x}_N \geq \boldsymbol{0} \end{array}$$

と変形できる.このとき, $m{B}$ を基底行列, $m{N}$ を非基底行列,変数 $m{x}_B$ を基底変数,変数 $m{x}_N$ を非基底変数,

$$\boldsymbol{x}_B = \boldsymbol{B}^{-1} \boldsymbol{b}, \ \boldsymbol{x}_N = \boldsymbol{0} \tag{10}$$

を基底解と呼ぶ. 基底解が実行可能であるとき, すなわち,

$$\boldsymbol{B}\boldsymbol{b}^{-1} \geq \boldsymbol{0}$$

のとき、(10) を実行可能基底解と呼ぶ.実は (P-1) を解くためには、基底解の中から最適解を見つければよい.

定理 2. (P-1) が最適解をもつならば、基底解の中に最適解が存在する.

最適な基底解をうまく探すアルゴリズムとして、単体法 (simplex method) が知られている。ところで、(10) が実行可能であって、(P-2) において

$$ar{oldsymbol{c}} := oldsymbol{c}_N - oldsymbol{N}'(oldsymbol{B}')^{-1}oldsymbol{c}_B \geq oldsymbol{0}$$

であるなら、 x_N の各成分を 0 から増加させると、目的関数の値が増加するので、基底解 (10) が最適解となる。単体法とは、初期実行可能基底解から出発して、 $\bar{c} \geq 0$ となる基底変数の組 x_B を見つけるアルゴリズムと理解できる。具体的には、以下のステップからなる。

単体法

Step 1. 実行可能基底解 (10) を入力する.

Step 2. $\bar{c} \geq 0$ なら現在の基底解が最適解. そうでないなら, (P-2) において負の係数を持つ非基底変数 x_s を一つ選ぶ.

Step 3. 非基底変数のうち、 x_s だけ増加させて、最初に 0 となる基底変数 x_r を求める (基底変数と非基底変数の間には $x_B = B^{-1}b - B^{-1}Nx_N$ なる関係は成立していることに注意). このような x_r が存在するときは、 x_s を新しく基底変数に、 x_r を新しく非基底変数に入れ、Step 2 に戻る。そうでないときは、いくらでも x_s を大きくすることで、いくらでも目的関数を小さくすることができるので、最適解は存在しない。

Step 3 において基底変数の入れ替えをピボットという。ピボットによって B も変わるが,正則であることは保たれる。単体法はピボット規則の分だけ任意性があるが,Blandの最小添え字規則なるピボット規則を用いると,必ず有限回で収束することが示される。

ところで、幾何学的な観点からは、単体法は多面集合である実行可能集合の頂点の中から最適解を探すアルゴリズムと解釈できる。単体法とは異なるアプローチとして、実行可能集合の内部を経由して最適解を探す内点法 (interior point method) も知られているが、本節では触れない。今野 (1987) の 14 章、または小島ほか (2001) を参照せよ。

3. 双対理論. (P-1) の双対問題とは

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{(D-1)} & \max_{{\boldsymbol y} \in \mathbb{R}^m} {\boldsymbol b}' {\boldsymbol y} \\ & \text{s.t. } {\boldsymbol A}' {\boldsymbol y} \leq {\boldsymbol c} \end{array}$$

なる線形計画問題である。もとの問題 (P-1) のことを主問題と呼ぶ。ところで、x と y を それぞれ (P-1) と (D-1) の実行可能解とすると、

$$b'y = (Ax)'y = (Ay)'x \le c'x$$

が成り立つ. ここで、最後の不等式は、Ay < cとx > 0から従う.

定理 $\mathbf{3}$ (弱双対定理). \mathbf{x} と \mathbf{y} をそれぞれ (P-1) と (D-1) の実行可能解とすると, $\mathbf{b}'\mathbf{y} \leq \mathbf{c}'\mathbf{x}$.

いま、単体法を実行して、(P-1) の最適な基底解 x^* が得られたとし、対応する基底行列と非基底行列をそれぞれ B と N と書くことにする.このとき, $c_N \geq N'(B')^{-1}c_B$ となっていることに注意する.ここで、

$$\boldsymbol{y}^* = (\boldsymbol{B}')^{-1}\boldsymbol{c}_B$$

とおくと.

$$oldsymbol{A}'oldsymbol{y}^* = oldsymbol{A}'(oldsymbol{B}')^{-1}oldsymbol{c}_B = egin{pmatrix} oldsymbol{B}' \ oldsymbol{N}'(oldsymbol{B})^{-1}oldsymbol{c}_B \end{pmatrix} \leq oldsymbol{c}$$

であるから、 y^* は (D-1) の実行可能解であり、

$$\boldsymbol{b}'\boldsymbol{y}^* = \boldsymbol{c}_B'\boldsymbol{B}^{-1}\boldsymbol{b} = \boldsymbol{c}'\boldsymbol{x}^*$$

であるから、弱双対定理より、 y^* は (D-1) の最適解となることがわかる. 以上の議論をまとめると、次の定理を得る.

定理 4. (P-1) の最適な基底解 x^* が得られたとし、対応する基底行列 B と書く. すると、 $y^*=(B')^{-1}c_B$ は (D-1) の最適解となる.

とくに、(P-1) が最適解を持てば最適な基底解をもつので、(D-1) の最適解が存在し、(P-1) と (D-1) の最適値は一致する。また、(D-1) をスラック変数を用いて標準系に変形し、双対問題を考えると、主問題 (P-1) に一致することが確認できる (D-1) の最適解が存在し、(D-1) と (D-1) の最適値は一致する。

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ON OFFICIAL SEASONAL ADJUSTMENTS IN JAPAN

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INTRODUCTION

- Many of Japan's official statistics are seasonally adjusted using the X-12-ARIMA software suite developed by the United States Census Bureau.
- Today's talk is about the relationship between seasonally adjusted series revisions and X-12-ARIMA model selection in Japan.

OUTLINE

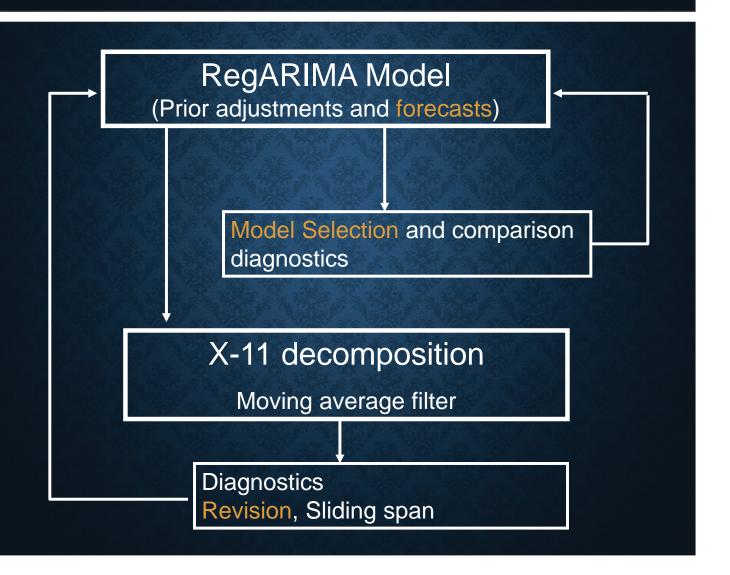
- Basic X-12-ARIMA concepts
- Seasonal adjustment revisions
- Overview of current practices in Japan
 - The case of Financial Statements Statistics of Corporations by Industry (Ministry of Finance)
- Some simulation results
- Concluding remarks

X-12-ARIMA

- Seasonal adjustments in X-12-ARIMA proceed in the following order
 - (1) Prior adjustments: RegARIMA model
 - (2) X-11 decomposition
 - (3) Diagnostics

REGARIMA MODEL

- Detects and adjusts for outliers in order to improve the forecasts and seasonal adjustments
- Estimates missing data
- Detects and directly estimates trading day effects and other effects
- Extends the series with forecasts



STABILITY OF SEASONAL ADJUSTMENTS

Revisions associated with continuous seasonal adjustments over a period of years.

Yt: Unadjusted series

 $A_{t|s}$: Seasonally adjusted value at time t given observations up to and including at time s

 $R_{t|s}$: Percent change at time t given observations up to and including at time s

$$R_{s|t} = \frac{A_{s|t} - A_{s-1|t}}{A_{s-1|t}} \times 100 \quad (s \le t)$$

 $R_{t|t}$: Concurrent percent change

STABILILTY OF THE SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT(2)

• If the differences among $R_{t|t}$, $R_{t|t+1}$, $R_{t|t+2}$, \cdots are small, the seasonal adjustment is stable.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT REVISIONS

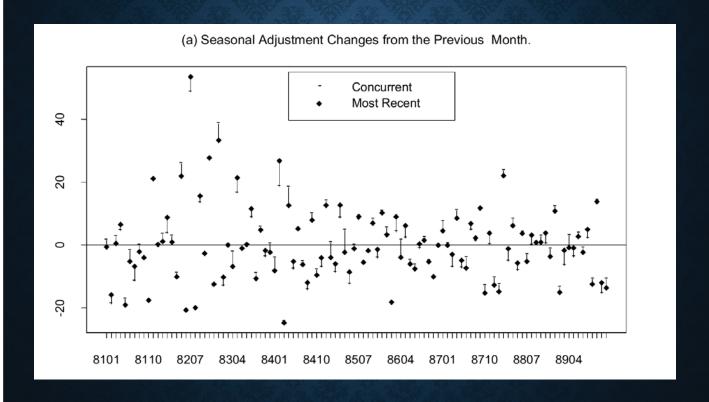
- All forecasts generated from the estimated RegARIMA model contain statistical uncertainties.
- If, as a result, the forecasts are close to the observed value, the seasonal adjustment revision is small.
- Revisions are inevitable within the X-12-ARIMA framework, but choosing the most appropriate settings can reduce them.

REVISION HISTORY FUNCTION OF X-12-ARIMA

 X-12-ARIMA includes two types of stability diagnostics, sliding spans and revision histories

 $R_{t|N}-R_{t|t}\;(t=1\ldots N)$: Revision from the concurrent and the most recent percent change for time t

Revision function built into X-12-ARIMA can be used to select an option with high stability.



PROBLEMS IN PRACTICE

- In practice, it is not always easy to integrate X-12-ARIMA revision history results into settings.
- If the statistical properties of the data are not stable, setting changes are often necessary.
- Capturing the statistical properties around the most recent data is important for short-term predictions.

PROBLEMS IN PRACTICE (2)

- In the X-12-ARIMA revision history, revisions due to model reselection are not considered.
- In situations where data increases sequentially, it is desirable to check models periodically.
- Most agencies let the software choose the options, and then fix the settings for production.

OFFICIAL STATISTICS IN JAPAN

- In major official statistics released by Japan, X-12-ARIMA spec-files are published.
- In some statistics, the revision policy (model selection policy) is also published.
- In several official statistics released by Japan, AIC is used for model selection in X-12-ARIMA.

National Accounts, Financial Statements Statistics of Corporations, etc.

Information of statistics whose revision policy is published are summarized in these three tables.
As shown in these tables, model selection policy and treatment of outliers seem to be different little by little.

Ministry and Agency	Title	Software	ARIMA Model	Outlier
	Explanation of Orders Received for Machinery	X-12-ARIMA	(1)AIC, (2)MAPR	Auto Detection(AO,TC
Cabinet Office	Consumer Confidence Survey	X-12-ARIMA	(1)AIC, (2)MAPR	Auto Detection(AO,TC
	Indexes of Business Conditions	X-12-ARIMA	(1)AIC, (2)MAPR	Auto Detection(AO,TC
	Quarterly Estimates of GDP	X-12-ARIMA	AIC (chose among 81 models {(010)(010)-(212)(212)})	Examine individually
Ministry of	Labour Force Survey	X-12-ARIMA	AIC (chose among 81 models {(010)(010)-(212)(212)})	AO,LS, Ramp
Internal Affairs and Communicati ons (MIC)	Family Income and Expenditure Survey	X-12-ARIMA	AIC (chose among 81 models {(010)(010)-(212)(212)})	Auto Detection
	Consumer Price Index	X-12-ARIMA	AIC	Auto Detection

Ministry and Agency	Title	Software	ARIMA Model	Outlier
	Financial Statements Statistics of Corporations by Industry	X-12-ARIMA	Penalized AIC (chose among 81 models {(010)(010)-(212)(212)})	AO, Ramp
Ministry of Finance	Trade Statistics	X-12-ARIMA	AIC (chose among 81 models {(010)(010)-(212)(212)})	AO, Ramp
	Balance of Payments	X-12-ARIMA	AIC (chose among 81 models {(010)(010)-(212)(212)})	Auto Detection
Minister of	Indices of Industrial Production	X-12-ARIMA	AIC (chose among 57 models)	
Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry	Indices of Tertiary Industry Activity	X-12-ARIMA	BIC (chose among 57 models)	
	Indices of All Industry Activity	X-12-ARIMA	BIC (chose among 57 models)	
			A STREET OF STREET ASSESSMENT	

Ministry and Agency	Title	Software	ARIMA Model	Outlier
Ministry of Land,	Building Starts	X-12-ARIMA	AIC (chose among 81 models {(010)(010)-(212)(212)})	Auto Detection(AO,TC)
Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	Current Survey on Orders Received for Construction	X-12-ARIMA	AUTOMDL, AIC	
	Money Stock	X-12-ARIMA	ACF, PACF, AIC, Ljung-Box Q-test	Auto Detection(AO,TC) LS, Ramp
Bank of Japan	Monetary Base	X-12-ARIMA	ACF, PACF, AIC, Ljung-Box Q-test	Auto Detection(AO,TC) LS, Ramp
	Real Exports and Real Imports	X-12-ARIMA	ACF, PACF, AIC, Ljung-Box Q-test	Auto Detection(AO,TC) LS, Ramp

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS STATISTICS OF CORPORATIONS BY INDUSTRY (MINISTRY OF **FINANCE)**

(Reference) Percent changes (seasonally adjusted, Sales)

					(%)
Classification	JulSep. 2012	OctDec.	JanMar. 2013	AprJun.	JulSep.
All Industries	-0.3	-1.3	0.5	0.8	0. 9
Manufacturing	-1.7	-1.3	0. 4	-0.5	1. 6
Non-Manufacturing	0.3	-1.3	0.5	1.4	0.6

Notes 1: Percent change is compared with the previous quarter.
2: All Industries and Non-Manufacturing don't include Finance and Insurance.

(Reference) Percent changes (seasonally adjusted, Ordinary profits)

					(%)
Classification	JulSep. 2012	OctDec.	JanMar. 2013	AprJun.	JulSep.
All Industries	1.1	5. 0	7.0	9. 6	-1.6
Manufacturing	4. 2	15. 4	17. 2	10.3	-5. 2
Non-Manufacturing	-0. 2	0. 4	1.8	9. 2	0. 4

Notes 1 : Percent change is compared with the previous quarter.
2 : All Industries and Non-Manufacturing don't include Finance and Insurance.

(Reference) Percent changes (seasonally adjusted, excluding investment in software)

					(%)
Classification	JulSep. 2012	OctDec.	JanMar. 2013	AprJun.	JulSep.
All Industries	-2. 2	0.7	0.1	2. 7	-0.5
Manufacturing	-3. 4	-4. 1	-0.9	-1.0	-0.7
Non-Manufacturing	-1.5	3. 5	0.7	4. 6	-0. 4

Notes 1: Percent change is compared with the previous quarter.
2: All Industries and Non-Manufacturing don't include Finance and Insurance

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT POLICY

- Seasonal adjustment practices are applied
 - Models are kept fixed for one year, but their parameters are re-estimated in each calculation round.
 - Models used are checked once each year.
 - The model that has the lowest AIC is selected from 81 candidates.

Candidates										
AR D MA ARS SD SMA										
Order	0 - 2	1	0 - 2	0 - 2	1	0 - 2				

 $3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3 = 81$

	Model		R _{t-3 t} 10/10-12	R _{t-2 t} 11/1-3		R _{t t} 11/7-9
Sales (Manufacturing)	CURRENT	-6.62	0.54	1.71	-8.25	4.85
(NEW	-6.89	0.40	2.43	-8.45	4.43
Sales	CURRENT	-9.82	1.84	-0.50	-3.42	0.72
(Non-manufacturing)	NEW	-10.42	2.49	-0.77	-3.00	-0.24
Ordinary profits (Manufacturing)	CURRENT	2.85	0.67	-4.71	-11.93	-0.78
, 3,	NEW	3.08	0.32	-8.17	-7.88	-1.12
Ordinary profits	CURRENT	-5.27	12.21	-7.77	-11.01	5.75
(Non-manufacturing)	NEW	-4.86	12.00	-7.48	-11.65	6.51
Capital investment	CURRENT	4.50	4.06	0.67	-9.77	2.99
(Manufacturing)	NEW	5.05	3.45	1.54	-10.67	3.82
Capital investment	CURRENT	-1.22	-2.90	-3.60	-4.32	-5.84
(Non-manufacturing)	NEW	-1.22	-2.90	-3.60	-4.32	-5.84

PENALTY OF REVISION

$$AR_{m}^{(k)} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \left| R_{t-j|t}^{c} - R_{t-j|t}^{(k)} \right| \qquad (1 \le k \le K)$$

 $AR_m^{(k)}$ is the average revision of model k percent change . The model that minimizes $AR_m^{(k)}$ is the current model.

 $A_{s|t}^c$: Seasonally adjusted value calculated using the current model

 $R_{s|t}^c$: Percent change of $A_{s|t}^c$

$$R_{s|t}^{c} = \frac{A_{s|t}^{c} - A_{s-1|t}^{c}}{A_{s-1|t}^{c}} \times 100 \quad (s \le t)$$

K: Number of candidate models

 $A_{s|t}^{(k)}$ $(k = 1, \dots, K)$: Seasonally adjusted value calculated using model k

 $R_{s|t}^{(k)}$: Percent change of $A_{s|t}^{(k)}$

$$R_{s|t}^{(k)} = \frac{A_{s|t}^{(k)} - A_{s-1|t}^{(k)}}{A_{s-1|t}^{(k)}} \times 100 \quad (s \le t)$$

PENALIZED MODEL SELECTION PROCEDURE

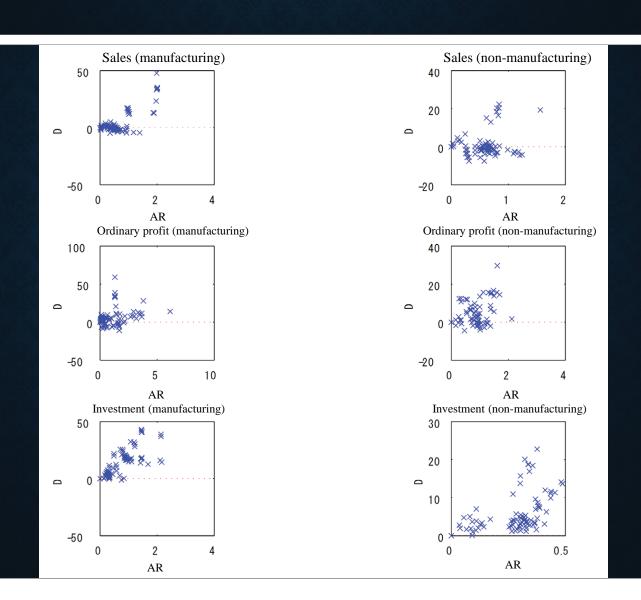
For threshold value $\alpha > 0$, the best model is given as

$$\hat{k} = \underset{k}{\operatorname{arg \, min}} A I C^{(k)}$$
 subject to $SR_m^{(k)} \leq \alpha$,

where $AIC^{(k)}$ is AIC of the model k

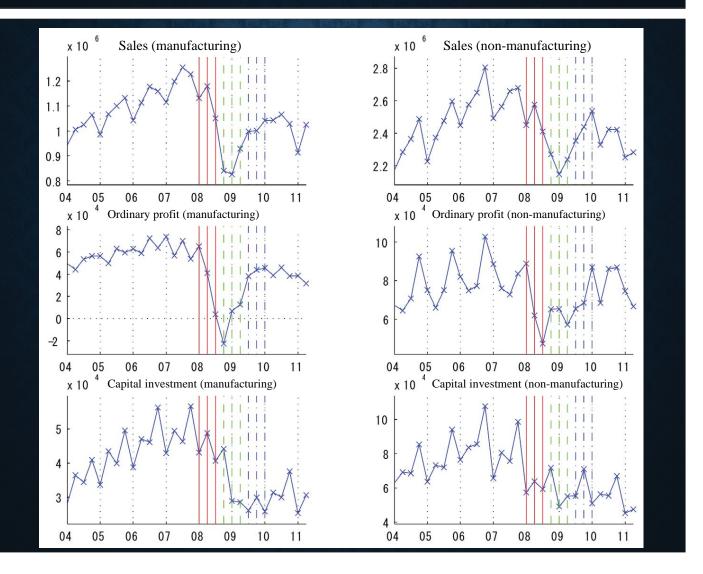
- (1) Calculate AIC and SR of all candidate models.
- (2) Exclude models with SR that is larger than α .
- (3) Chose the model that minimizes AIC form the rest of the models.

$$D = AIC^{(k)} - AIC^{C}$$



OUTLIER SETTINGS

- Impact of the collapse of Lehman Brothers
 - Between 2008 to 2009, a large decline occurred.
 - After a major drop, several series recovered rapidly.
- Most other agencies use the automatic outlier selection procedure.



X-12-ARIMA OUTLIER

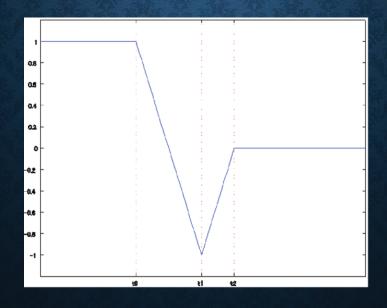
Ramps

- Series start at one level, slowly shift to others, and continue on at their new levels.
- Ramps have a start date (t₀) and an end date (t₁).

$$rp_{[t_0,t_1]}(t) = egin{cases} -1 & t \leq t_0 \ rac{t-t_0}{t_1-t_0} -1 & t_0 < t < t_1 \ 0 & t \geq t_1 \end{cases}$$

RAMP COMBINATION

$$rp_{[t_0,t_1,t_2]}(t) = \alpha_1 rp_{[t_0,t_1]}(t) + \alpha_2 rp[t_1,t_2](t)$$



CHANGE POINT DETECTION

Pick out change point candidates from the graph

 t_0 : 2008.4-6 2008.7 - 9 2008.10 - 12

 t_1 : 2009.1-3 2009.4 - 6 2009.7 - 9

 t_2 : 2009.10-12 2010.1-3 2010.4-6

Three types of dummy variables

(1) No Ramps 1

(2) $rp[t_0, t_1]$ 3 * 3 = 9

(3) $rp[t_0, t_1, t_2]$ 3*3*3 = 27

All combinations : (1+9+27)*81=2997

RESULTS OF PENALIZED MODEL SELECTION

	Model	10/7-9	10/10-12	11/1-3	11/4-6	11/7-9
	Current	-6.62	0.54	1.71	-8.25	4.85
Sales	$\alpha = 1.0$	-7.97	1.37	2.11	-7.99	3.10
(Manufacturing)	$\alpha = 2.0$	-6.75	-1.24	-0.86	-3.68	4.03
(9)	$\alpha = 3.0$	-6.75	-1.24	-0.86	-3.68	4.03
	$\alpha = \infty$	-6.75	-1.24	-0.86	-3.68	4.03
	Current	-9.82	1.84	-0.50	-3.42	0.72
Sales	$\alpha = 1.0$	-10.20	1.82	-2.00	-1.50	-0.20
(Non-manufacturing)	$\alpha = 2.0$	-10.48	1.96	-2.67	-0.41	-0.83
($\alpha = 3.0$	-10.48	1.96	-2.67	-0.41	-0.83
	$\alpha = \infty$	-10.48	1.96	-2.67	-0.41	-0.83

RESULTS OF PENALIZED MODEL SELECTION (2)

	Model	10/7-9	10/10-12	11/1-3	11/4-6	11/7-9
	Current	2.85	0.67	-4.71	-11.93	-0.78
Ordinary profit	$\alpha = 1.0$	2.41	2.48	-5.62	-12.76	0.03
	$\alpha = 2.0$	4.52	-3.77	-4.88	-10.30	0.12
(Manufacturing)	$\alpha = 3.0$	4.88	-4.58	-6.61	-7.91	0.59
	$\alpha = \infty$	8.08	0.62	-16.56	-5.28	3.87
	Current	-5.27	12.21	-7.77	-11.01	5.75
Ordinary profit	$\alpha = 1.0$	-5.04	10.44	-7.32	-10.50	6.34
(Non-	$\alpha = 2.0$	-6.06	11.27	-9.15	-9.57	7.31
manufacturing)	$\alpha = 3.0$	-6.06	11.27	-9.15	-9.57	7.31
	$\alpha = \infty$	-6.06	11.27	-9.15	-9.57	7.31

RESULTS OF PENALIZED MODEL SELECTION (3)

	Model	10/7-9	10/10-12	11/1-3	11/4-6	11/7-9
Capital	Current	4.50	4.06	0.67	-9.77	2.99
investment	$\alpha = 1.0$	4.32	3.17	0.62	-8.54	2.33
	$\alpha = 2.0$	2.45	3.26	1.02	-7.25	0.57
(Manufacturing)	$\alpha = 3.0$	2.45	3.26	1.02	-7.25	0.57
	$\alpha = \infty$	2.45	3.26	1.02	-7.25	0.57
Conital	Current	-1.22	-2.90	-3.60	-4.32	-5.84
Capital investment	$\alpha = 1.0$	-0.90	-3.43	-3.38	-4.34	-5.24
	$\alpha = 2.0$	-0.90	-3.43	-3.38	-4.34	-5.24
(Non- manufacturing)	$\alpha = 3.0$	-0.90	-3.43	-3.38	-4.34	-5.24
	$\alpha = \infty$	-0.90	-3.43	-3.38	-4.34	-5.24

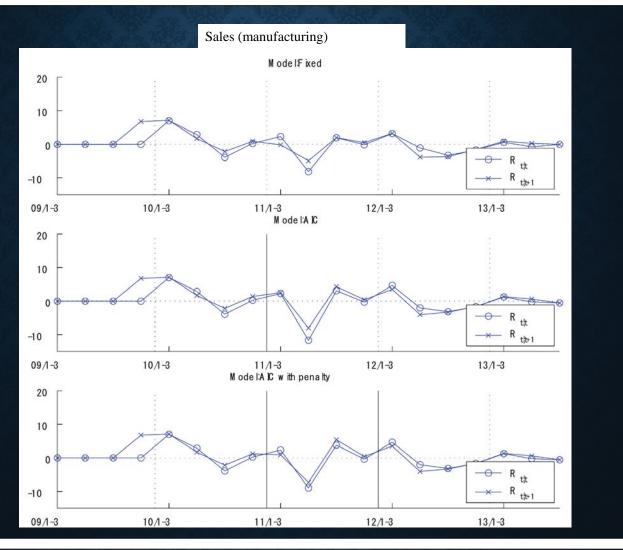
MODEL USED FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THE 2011 FOURTH QUARTER

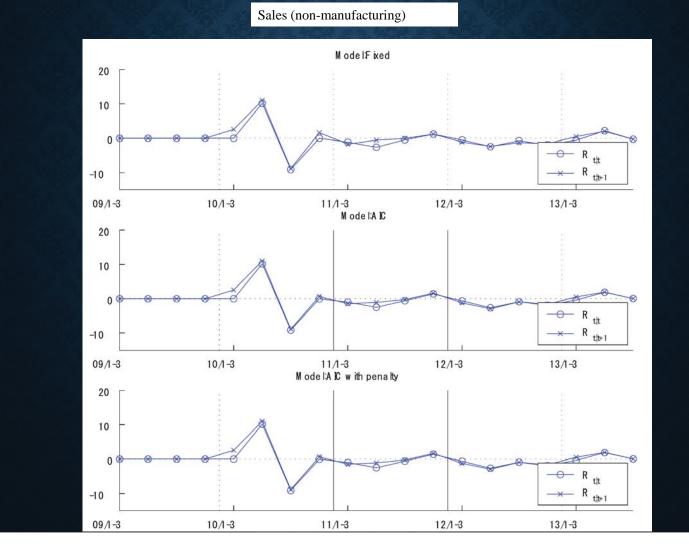
	α	ARIMA	t_0	t_1	t_2
Sales (Manufacturing)	1.00	(2 1 2)(2 1 0)	08/4-6	09/4-6	10/1-3
Sales (Non-manufacturing)	1.00	(0 1 2)(1 1 0)	08/7-9	09/1-3	10/4-6
Ordinary profits (Manufacturing)	2.00	(0 1 0)(0 1 1)	08/7-9	09/1-3	10/1-3
Ordinary profits (Non-manufacturing)	1.00	(2 1 2)(1 1 1)	08/4-6	09/1-3	10/4-6
Capital investment (Manufacturing)	1.00	(1 1 2)(1 1 2)	08/7-9	09/1-3	09/10-12
Capital investment (Non-manufacturing)	1.00	(1 1 0)(1 1 2)	08/4-6	09/4-6	10/4-6

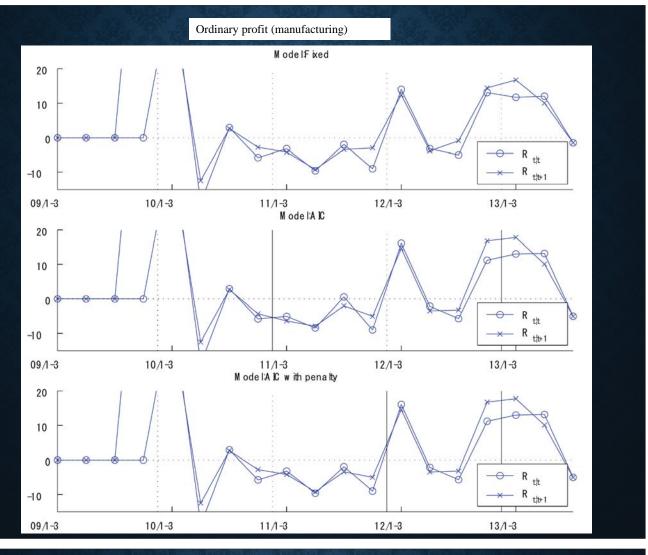
SIMULATION SETTINGS

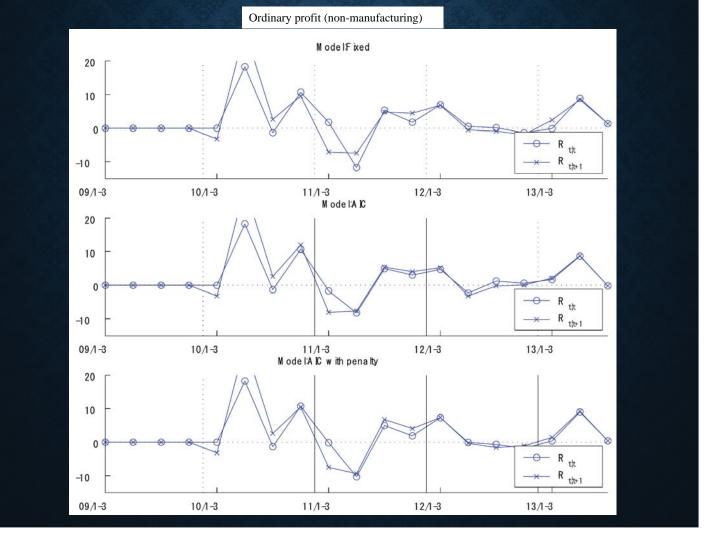
Compare selection procedure for three models:

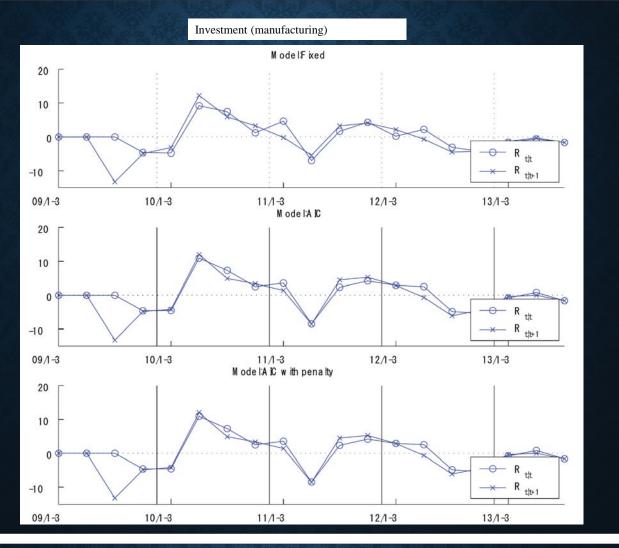
- (1) Fixed model
- (2) Select by AIC
- (3) Penalized selection
- •Assume that the data are going to be added sequentially, by period, starting from the 1st quarter of 2009.
- •Model selection is performed every four periods.
- •In the estimates for each series, a ramp-dummy corresponding to the collapse of Lehman Brothers is used.

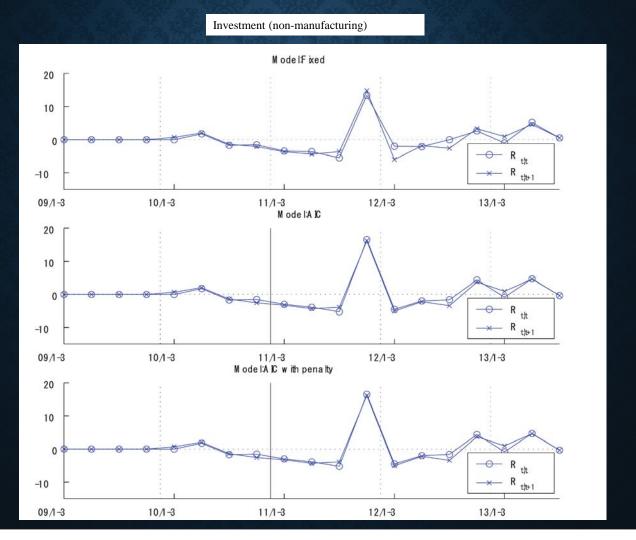












AVERAGE REVISION

The average of $|R_{t|t+1} - R_{t|t}|$

	Sales (Manufacturing)	Sales (Non- manufacturing)	Ordinary profits (Manufacturing)	Ordinary profits (Non- manufacturing)	Capital investment (Manufacturing)	Capital investment (Non- manufacturing)
Fixed	1.135	0.578	6.673	2.165	1.944	0.839
AIC	1.108	0.474	6.787	1.656	1.596	0.518
AIC with penalty	1.077	0.474	6.786	1.772	1.596	0.518

CONCLUDING REMARKS

- Penalized Model Selection Procedure
 - The penalized model selection procedure adopted in the Financial Statements Statistics of Corporations was explained.
- Simulation results
 - In general, the re-selection of models will reduce the revisions required for the seasonally adjusted series.
 - The impact of the penalized selection method was not clearly observed.
- Balance Between Accuracy and Stability
 - It is possible that a trade-off occurs between the model optimality and the seasonal adjustment stability.
 - More detailed examination of this possibility may be required.

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Seasonal Adjustment of CPS Labor Force Series During the Great Recession¹

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Key Words: Time Series; Level Shifts; Ramps

Introduction

The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a monthly household survey that collects information on labor force characteristics for the United States. The seasonally adjusted monthly levels of employment, unemployment and unemployment rate are key indicators of the health of the economy. Recent economic turbulence related to the Great Recession has raised public interest in how the CPS series are seasonally adjusted. The most widely used approaches to seasonal adjustment apply weighted moving averages to the original data to separate the seasonal from the nonseasonal components of the data. These weights may be derived from a model fit to each series or from a non-parametric method using pre-determined filters. These methods have been successful because of their flexibility in accommodating stochastic changes in seasonal patterns. The presence of stochastic seasonality, however, creates conceptual and statistical difficulties in separating seasonal from the nonseasonal components. The difficulties are compounded during periods of rapid economic change.

The national CPS data are adjusted using X-12-ARIMA (Findley, et al., 1998) which is a nonparametric approach. This method has a long history of development and refinement and is currently used by statistical agencies throughout the world. This paper reviews how well this method was designed to handle changes in trend-cycle and seasonality during both economic expansions and contractions, what tools are available to adjust for major economic shocks, and how the method has performed in the last recession.

The original X-11 filtering algorithm that performs seasonal adjustment remains at the core of the X-12 process (Shiskin, Young, and Musgrave, 1967). The X-11 part of X-12 has a broad range of seasonal and trend-cycle filters. The symmetric Henderson trend filter reproduces third-degree polynomials within the span of the filter which can be as short as one to two years. Thus, the trend filter is flexible enough to follow rapid changes in growth rates as well as quickly occurring turning points in the trend-cycle. Towards the end of the series less adaptive asymmetric filters must be used. Although the one-sided Henderson filter is less flexible, it can still track a local linear trend and with ARIMA forecasting so more adaptive filters are produced for the end points (Dagum 1983).

A well-known problem with seasonal adjustment is that moving averages are highly vulnerable to sudden strong atypical changes or outliers. For example, sudden shocks to the trend-cycle can be absorbed into the seasonal factor estimates and erroneously removed from the seasonally adjusted series. A second potential source of distortion is a break in the seasonal pattern which some analysts argue is likely to occur during recessions. Either type of shock may lead to distorted seasonally adjusted estimates in later years following the recession.

The best way to detect and correct for sudden disturbances is with prior information on their source, time of occurrence, magnitude, and duration. The original X-11 developers added an option for users to

¹ Disclaimer: Any opinions expressed in this paper are those of the authors and do not constitute policy of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

supply adjustment factors to the original data to remove the effects of shocks prior to seasonal adjustment. Users, however, had to develop these prior adjustments outside of the software. This is hardly feasible to do when there are hundreds or thousands of series to seasonally adjust. With the addition of the RegARIMA modeling capabilities in X-12 (Findley, et al., 1998), it became standard practice to utilize the automatic outlier detection routine prior to the seasonal adjustment step. RegARIMA also allows users to specify their own outlier models.

Currently, there are 144 CPS national series that are directly seasonally adjusted. One hundred and thirty-nine of these series are released monthly and the others quarterly. Many more are indirectly seasonally adjusted based on the directly-adjusted series. See Tiller and Evans (2013) for more details.

The focus of this paper is on eight CPS series that make up the national unemployment rate:

Employment (EM) ages 16-19 by gender Employment ages 20+ by gender Unemployment (UN) ages 16-19 by gender Unemployment ages 20+ by gender

The eight series are directly seasonally adjusted and then used to derive the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate (UR). The official national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate is plotted over time in Figure 1. The trend for the unemployment rate (not officially published) appears in Figure 2. Both series rise sharply in the 2008-2009 period. Commentary from Wall Street analysts and other members of the press suggested that the sharp rise (fall) in UN (EM) from the fourth quarter of 2008 to the first quarter of 2009 was absorbed into the seasonal component and this caused seasonal adjustment to overestimate recent economic growth in those quarters (a decline in UN or a rise in EM) and underestimate in the second and third quarters.

Testing for Trend-Cycle and Seasonal Breaks with RegARIMA Models

To investigate the claims of distortions to the seasonal adjustment process, we use RegARIMA models to test for the presence of recession effects due to trend-cycle and seasonal breaks. For seasonal breaks we also use a graphical analysis of X-11 seasonal-irregular (SI) sub-plots by month which will be described in more detail below.

The RegARIMA model may be represented as,

$$y_t = X_t' \beta + Z_t$$

where X_t is a vector of fixed regressors and Z_t follows a seasonal ARIMA model. The parameters of the ARIMA model implicitly determine the stochastic properties of seasonality as well as trend-cycle and other components of the series without having to specify specific models for these components. The variables of the regression part of the model provide the basis for testing for the presence of exogenous effects, such as trend and seasonal breaks that we wish to estimate and remove from the series prior to seasonal adjustment to prevent distortions to the X-11 seasonal adjustment process.

Trend breaks can be handled by modeling level shifts (LS), temporary changes (TC), and ramps which are briefly described below and the form of the regression variables for testing for each effect are shown in Table 1. These variables are part of a large set of built-in regressors available in RegARIMA.

LS: A permanent abrupt shift in level.

TC: An abrupt change in level followed by a gradual return to normal.

Ramp: A change to a new level with a user specified start (t_0) and end date (t_1) and a fixed rate of change per period $(1/(t_1-t_0))$.

To test for the presence of seasonal breaks we use the partial change in regime test which is another predefined option available in RegARIMA. An exogenous shift in the seasonal factors occurring prior to the change point (t_0) is modeled in terms of the s-1 seasonal dummy variables ($M_{j,t}$) shown in Table 1. This effect is referred to as a partial change of regime since it is estimated for only the early span and set to zero for the complementary span (U.S. Census Bureau, 2013).

LSs and TCs are usually detected during the automatic outlier detection option of RegARIMA. This option assumes no prior knowledge of the timing or type of outliers. The procedure identifies additive outliers (AOs), level, and TCs. The setting of the critical value is always an issue since it involves multiple testing (type 1 errors are inflated) and because the outliers may have no economic explanation. To reduce the number of spurious outliers, critical values for the outlier T-values (nonstandard distributions) are adjusted for the number of observations (see Findley, et al., 1998).

Table 1: RegARIMA Outlier Variables

Regression Effect	Variable definition
Additive	$X_t^{AO} = \begin{cases} 1 & t = t_0 \\ 0 & t \neq t_0 \end{cases}$
Level shift	$X_{t}^{LS} = \begin{cases} -1 & t < t_{0} \\ 0 & t \ge t_{0} \end{cases}$
Temporary change	$X_{t}^{TC} = \begin{cases} 0 & t < t_{0} \\ \alpha^{t-t_{0}} & t \ge t_{0} \end{cases}$
Temporary Ramp	$X_{t}^{Rp} = \begin{cases} -1 & t \leq t_{0} \\ (t - t_{0}) / (t_{1} - t_{0}) - 1 & t_{0} < t < t_{1} \\ 0 & t \geq t_{1} \end{cases}$
Partial change of regime in seasonality	$X_{j,t}^{E} = \begin{cases} M_{j,t} & t < t_{0} \\ 0 & t \ge t_{0} \end{cases}; M_{j,t} = \begin{cases} 1 & t = j + ks \\ -1 & t = s \\ 0 & t \ne j + ks \end{cases}$
	for $j = 1,, s - 1$; $k = 0, 1, 2, 3$; $s = 12$

Since the automatic outlier identification procedure is run at the end of each year, we make no attempt to identify LSs in real time. During the recession period, we identified two LSs: May 2008 for (UN) teen males and UN teen females. Note that the original t-value for the teen females LS was originally only 3.8, even though the default critical value $\cong 4.0$ (it varies by series length). Occasionally, an outlier with a slightly lower T-value may be added to a series if it is believed that doing so will be helpful or if the effect is known in advance. Should we reduce the critical value during a recession period? An examination of the "almost" critical outliers identified by the program confirmed our suspicion that lowering the default critical value would have introduced too many spurious outliers.

Table 2 shows the RegARIMA estimates for the two level shifts. Both LSs have large relative level increases. Notice that the LS for UN teen females is no longer as significant as additional data lowered the t-values further below the critical value. An obvious question is whether the LSs for UN teens affected the seasonally adjusted values? The surprising answer is no, but they did have strong effects on the trend and irregular components. If we just examined the seasonal factors, we might conclude that no recession-related LS effects occurred. This point is clearly seen in Figures 3 and 4. However, it is also important to examine the trend and irregular components for interpreting what happened. The trend in Figure 5 shows a different story in which the break is clearly noticeable. Without accounting for an LS, the trend over smoothes the recession effects, and the irregular component (Figure 6) compensates for the LS. The plot for UN teen females is in Figure 7.

Table 2: RegARIMA Estimates for Level Shifts

	Level Shifts from Automatic Outlier Detection						
Series	Series Date Coef (exp) ² T-Value AICC ³ AICC w/o AICC						
	w/LS LS Difference						
UN M 16-19	May 2008	1.26	4.4	10,343	10,360	-16.5	
UN F 16-19	May 2008	1.17	3.1	10,236	10,243	-6.8	

If the LSs were ignored for the UN teen series, the large upward shifts in May would be interpreted as a random deviation from normal as opposed to a fundamental level shift. Data users would see no noticeable effect on the seasonally adjusted series since the seasonal patterns are not affected by the LS.

After testing for LSs, we moved to experimenting with ramps. Ramps have not been used for CPS series and are not commonly used in other applications of seasonal adjustment. Examples of the use of ramps are given by Buszuwski and Scott (1993), Maravall and Perez (2011), and (Lytras and Bell 2013).

The specification of a ramp is not automated and requires the user to specify beginning and end points for the adjustment period. This leads to the problem of how to select t_0 and t_1 . Since there is not much guidance without prior information, we can visually look for segments of series where the change appears to be relatively constant. Another problem is that in this process it can be fairly easy to achieve "better" fits but they may be spurious. We try to determine this by utilizing the AICC goodness-of-fit criterion.

Test results appear in Tables 3 and 4 below. In Table 3, the exponentiated coefficients show small effects even though the T-values appear significant. Revisions between the concurrent and most recent seasonally adjusted values with and without ramps (Table 3) show little differences, yet the AICC tests seem to indicate a preference for including the ramps as regressors in the model. As the testing is not conclusive, we examine plots. The seasonally adjusted results for EM 20+ with and without ramps are plotted in Figure 8. As the coefficient value close to one implies, the addition of the ramp makes almost no difference. Using the three series with tested ramps to derive the national UR in Figure 9 also shows only very small differences.

Table3: Ramp Results

Series	Ramp Start	Ramp End	Ramp Coef (exp)	T-Value
EM M 20+	Nov 2008	Mar 2009	0.99	-5.66
UN M 20+	Apr 2008	Feb 2009	1.06	4.92
UN F 20+	Apr 2008	Feb 2009	1.04	4.79

² Coefficients in the tables are exponentiated from logs to levels.

³ See U.S. Census Bureau (2013) for a detailed explanation of the AICC and model-selection criteria in RegARIMA. Models with minimum AICC are usually preferred.

Table 4: Seasonal Adjustment Revisions due to Ramps and AICC Comparisons

Series		edians, Average ute %	AICC	AICC	AICC Difference	
	Official	With Ramp		w/Ramp	Difference	
EM M 20+	0.07	0.08	11,511.45	11,484.39	-27.06	
UN M 20+	0.78	0.81	6,822.91	6,805.60	-17.32	
UN F 20+	0.83	0.81	6.732.70	6,713.66	-19.04	

The partial change of regime test for a break in the seasonal pattern is shown in Table 5. While we tested other months, October 2008 makes sense as a potential breakpoint, yet the AICC criterion rejects the presence of a deterministic break for all 8 series.

Table 5: AICC Results for Seasonal Breaks for October 2008

	AICC				
Series	No Break	With Break	Difference		
EM M 16-19	10,698.7	10,711.3	12.7		
EM F 16-19	10,672.0	10,685.4	13.3		
EM M 20+	11,511.5	11,517.7	6.2		
EM F 20+	11,525.6	11,527.9	2.2		
UN M 16-19	10,343.3	10,348.6	5.3		
UN F 16-19	10,235.7	10,257.7	22.0		
UN M 20+	6,822.9	6,829.9	7.0		
UN F 20+	6,732.7	6,748.4	15.7		

We further explore the possibility of a seasonal break with a visual examination of X-11 SI sub-plots for each series. The SI is the de-trended series produced in the X-11 part of the procedure. The trend-cycle is estimated by the Henderson filter and removed from the original series. The seasonal factors are later derived by smoothing the SIs by month, usually with a 3x5 moving average. These SI sub-plots by months are useful for identifying potential breaks in seasonality. However, our examination found no apparent breaks for any of the eight series. An example of an SI sub-plot is shown in Figure 10.

Performance of Post-Recession Seasonal Adjustment

The NBER dates the Great Recession as lasting from December 2007 to June 2009. We use the period January 2008-December 2009 as a more relevant recession period for the labor market since the unemployment rate doubled and then began to decline around January 2010. Largely because NBER dating procedures depend heavily on real product and income measures, it is not unusual for labor market recovery to lag the end of NBER designated recessions.

In order to examine the effect of the recession data (January 2008-December 2009) on the January 2010-March 2012 period for the national UR, we treated the recession data as missing. When observations are set to zero, RegARIMA automatically adds AO regressors to produce forecasts based on pre-recession data. The original series with forecasted values for the recession period was seasonally adjusted with a January 2010 level shift added to the model. Since unemployment is still much higher in 2012 compared to pre-recession levels, we use the term "post-recession" advisedly.

The officially seasonally adjusted national UR series is plotted against the seasonally adjusted series with recession data replaced with forecasts in Figure 12. Note how the seasonally adjusted series with the recession data forecasted ignores the actual rise due to the recession. Starting in 2010, the two series

become very close again which indicates that the recession data does not affect the post-recession seasonal adjustment much.

In November 2010, an upward blip occurs in the seasonally adjusted national UR series (see Figure 12). Various sources have attributed this movement to seasonal bias (for example, see Zentner, et al., 2011). Actually, the blip is due to variation in the irregular component that was eliminated by the trend filter. In short, we see no evidence of seasonal bias during the post-recession period in question.

Summary

Our overall analysis of the performance of the seasonal adjustment for the CPS national unemployment rate is that there is no evidence of trend or seasonal breaks that biased the adjustments during the post-recession period. The major findings are:

- Six of the eight series analyzed need no outlier adjustments during the recession.
- Recessionary level shifts were identified in the normal way for UN male and female teenagers. This reduced the irregular variation but had little effect on the seasonally adjusted series.
- Fitting ramps models had little effect.
- Removing the recession data had little effect.
- The standard X-11 symmetric filters appear to perform well during and after the 2008-2009 recession.

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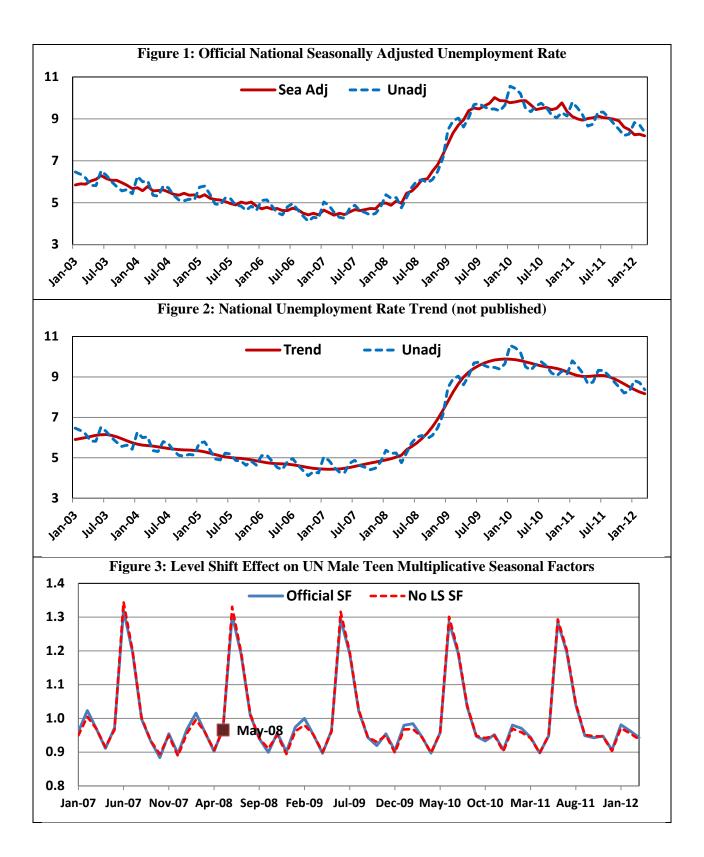
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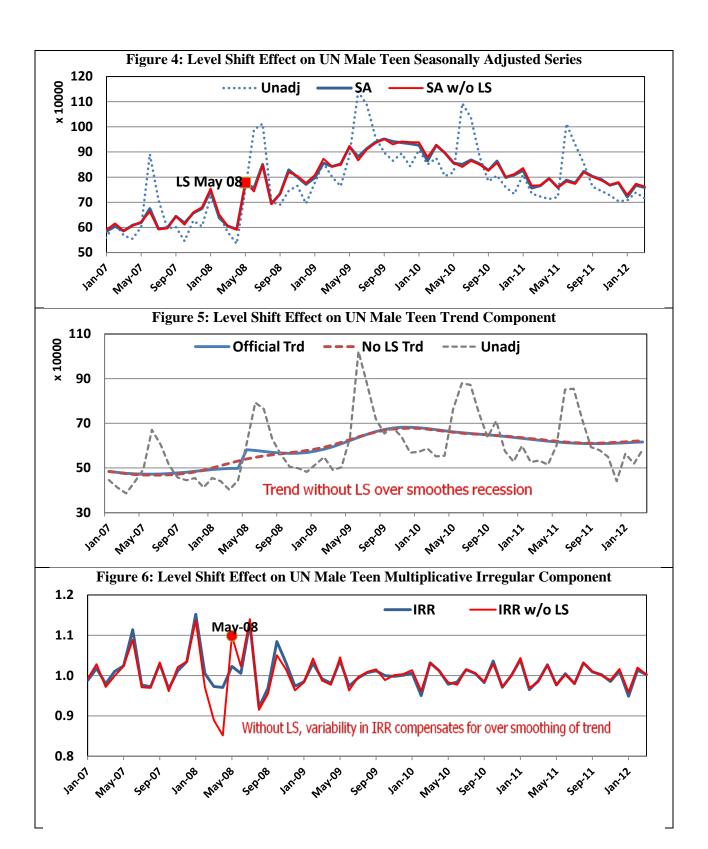
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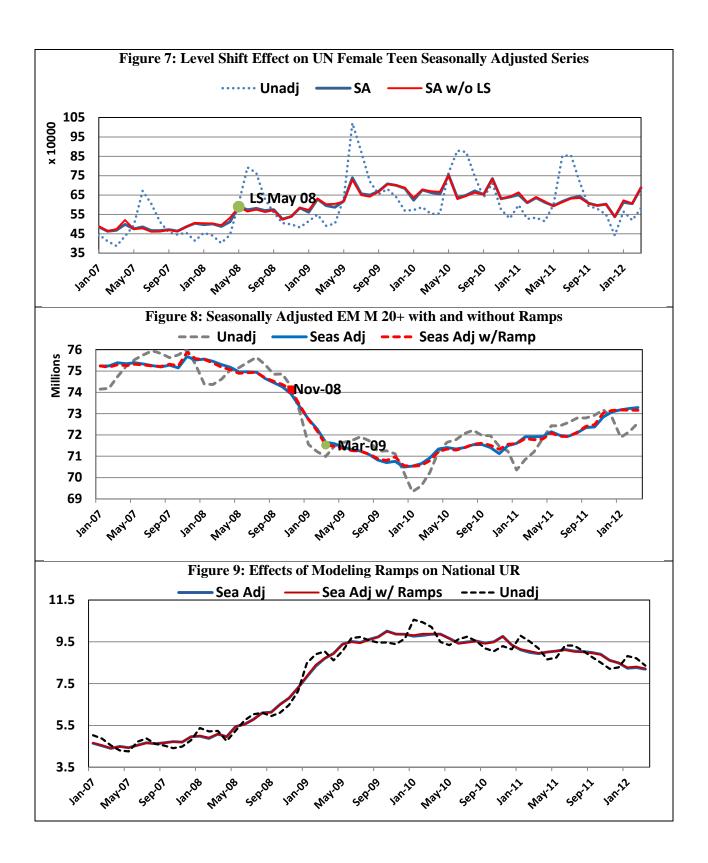
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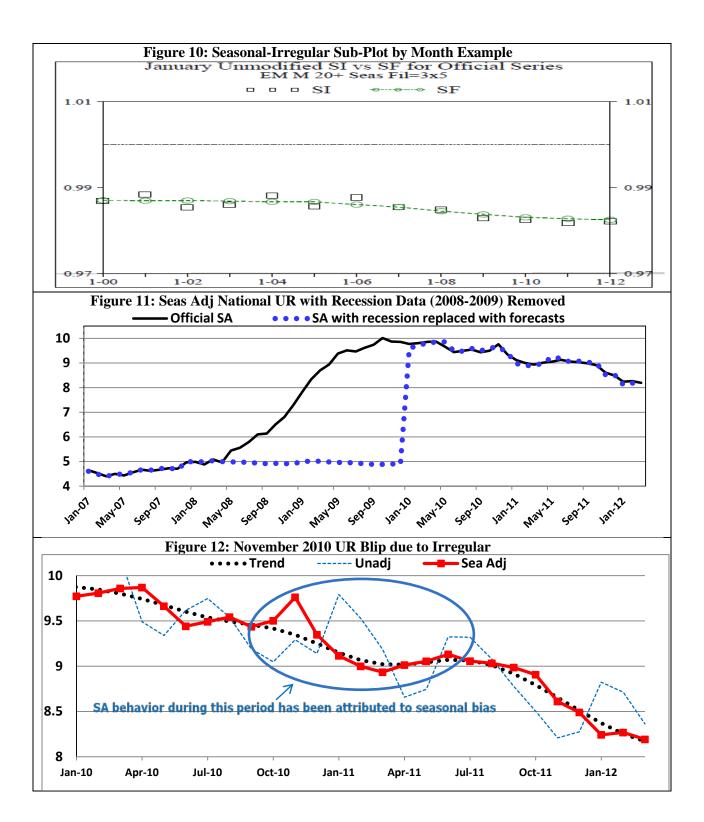
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Seasonal Adjustment of CPS Labor Force Series during the Great Recession

Thomas Evans Richard Tiller

Exploration of Mathematical Aspects of Economic/Official Statistics Conference Tokyo

Sanuary 31, 2014

www.bls.gov

Outline

- Quick Review of SA Method (extended versions of X-11 family)
- Seasonal Adjustment during recession
- Outlier Issues related to 2008-09 recession
- Results for key U.S. CPS series
- Summary

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New Research



X-12 (X-13ARIMA-SEATS)

RegARIMA Models

Automatic Outlier detection, other pre-adjustments, forecasts, ...

Seasonal Adjustment

Basic X-11

(with enhancements)



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Seasonal Adjustment during recession

- Are standard procedures used to estimate seasonal factors during nonrecession periods applicable to recession periods?
 - Do the standard trend & seasonal filters adequately reflect recessions?
 - Does the standard automated outlier detection need to be modified?
 - Reduce critical values for outlier identification
 - Introduce user-specified outlier types



Structural Change associated with recessions

- Trend breaks
- Seasonal breaks



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Types of Trend Breaks

- Level shift (LS)—permanent abrupt shift in level occurring from a single month onward
- Temporary change (TC)—abrupt change in level followed by gradual return to normal
- Ramp—a change to a new level with a start & end date and a fixed rate of change per period



Detection of Seasonal Breaks

- Analysis of SI plots for discontinuities
- Partial test of regime change for seasonal breaks with RegArima



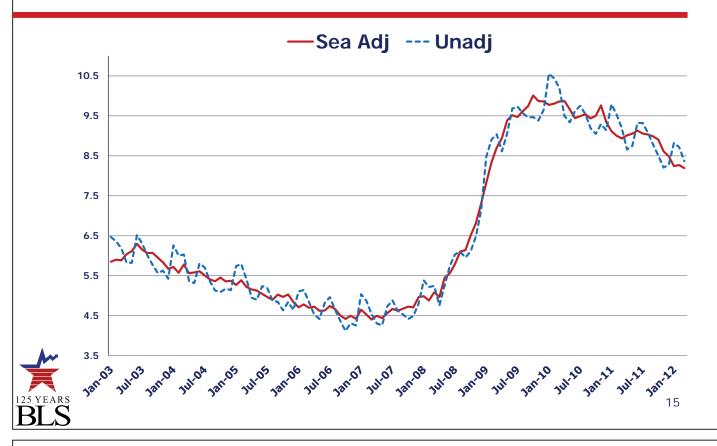
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National CPS Series

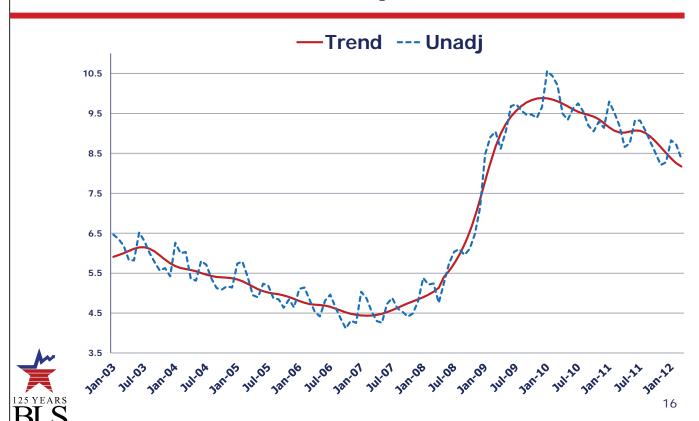
- Eight series: UN and EM adults and teens by gender
- These 8 series are used to derive the national unemployment rate



National SA Unemployment Rate (official)



National Trend Unemployment Rate (not published)



- Were there recession related breaks in trend and/or seasonal patterns that caused distortions to the seasonal adjustment process in the post-recession period?
- Was the sharp rise (fall) in unemp (emp) from the 4th quarter of 2008 into the 1st quarter of 2009 absorbed into the seasonal component?
 - ▶ Did this cause seasonal adjustment to over estimate recent economic growth in 4th & 1st quarters (decline in unemp, increase in emp.) & underestimate in 2nd and 3rd quarters (increase in unemp, decrease in emp.) ?



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Types of Diagnostic tests for recession effects

- Trend breaks:
 - Automatic outlier detection
 - Experiment with ramps
- Seasonal Breaks
 - Examine SI sub-plots by month for discontinuities during recession period
 - ► Partial change of regime regression test with change point = Oct 2008



Results for Level Shifts

- Automatic outlier identification run at the end of each year, no attempt to identify LS in real time
 - ▶ use default critical value ≈ 4.0
- Identified 2 LS's during recession period:
 - ► May 2008 LS for UN teen male
 - ► May 2008 LS for UN teen female (almost critical value = 3.8)
- Reduce critical value?
 - too many spurious outliers, examine "almost" critical outliers for borderline cases
 - prefer intervention analysis based on prior information, need justification, avoid fishing exercises



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RegArima estimates for Level Shifts

Level Shifts from Automatic Outlier Detection						
Series	Date	}	T- value	AICC w/LS	AICC w/o LS	Dif
UN M 16-19	May 08	1.26	4.4	10,343	10,360	-16.5
UN F 16-19	May 08	1.17	3.1	10,236	10,243	-6.8



UN F 16-19 LS identified with data where t-stat almost met the critical value. Additional data lowered t-value further below critical value

Large relative level increases

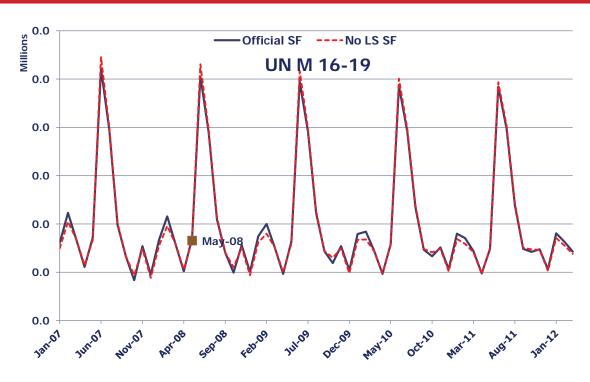
Did LS's for Unemp teenagers affect SA?

- Surprisingly no, but major effects on trend & irregular components
- If we just examined the seasonal factors would conclude no recession related LS effect occurred
- Trend & irregular components important for interpreting what happen



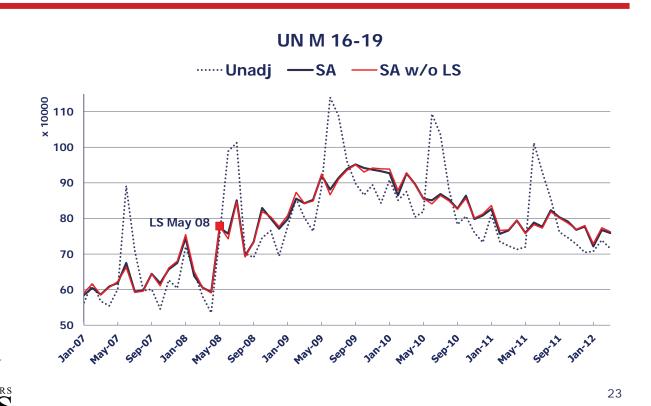
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LS had little affect on seasonal factors for male teens...

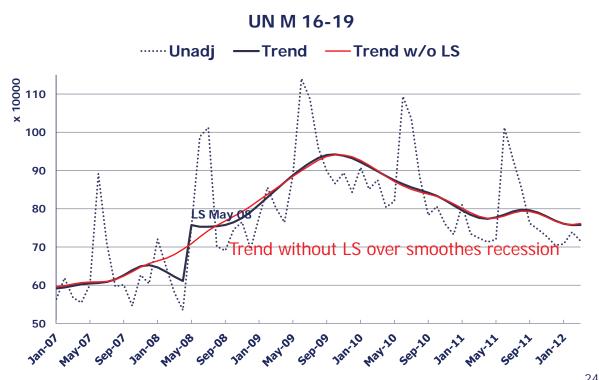




...which means little affect on SA series...



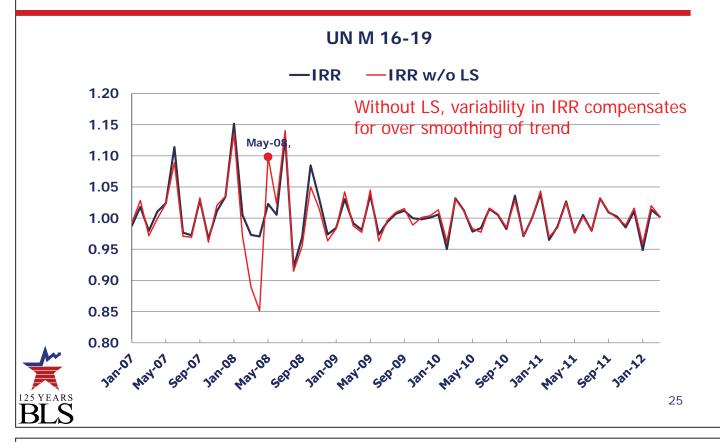
trend clearly shows LS...



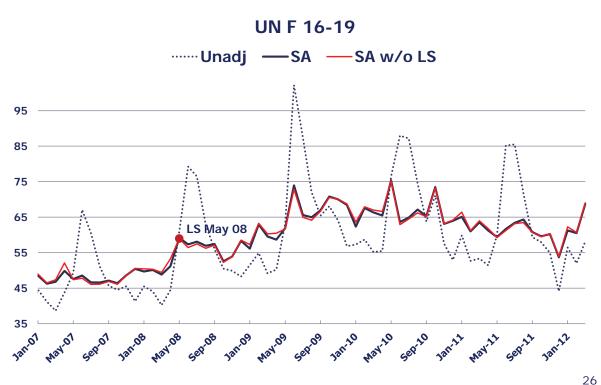


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...variability in IRR causes steep May08 rise in SA w/o LS



Same result for Female teens but less clear case for LS





Summary on Level Shifts

- Normal automatic outlier identification found recession related LS's for 2 out of 8 series
- If LS's ignored for unemp teens, large upward shift in May would be interpreted as a random deviation from normal as opposed to a fundamental level shift



Data users would see no noticeable effect on the SA series since seasonal patterns not affected by LS

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Experiment with Ramps

- Ramps:
 - ► Not used for CPS series
 - ► Early interest in ramps for BLS price indexes (Buszuwski and Scott, 1993)
 - ► Used in selected BLS producer and consumer price indexes
 - ▶ Recent interest in ramps (U.S. Bureau of Census, Bank of Spain)



Ramps

$$RP_{t} = \lambda x_{t}, \quad x_{t} = \begin{cases} 0 & t_{0} \leq t \\ \frac{t - t_{0}}{t_{1} - t_{0}} & t_{0} < t \leq t_{1} \\ 1 & t_{1} < t \end{cases}$$

- Constant rate of change $(1/(t_1 t_0))$ over interval t_o : t_1 to a new level (λ)
- Not automated, requires user to specify beginning & end points of adjustment period



How to select t₀ & t₁?

- Not much guidance in absence of prior information
- Visually look for segments of series where change appears to be relatively constant
- Fairly easy to achieve "better" fits but are they spurious?



Results for CPS Data

Ramps

Series	Ramp Start	Ramp End	Exp Ramp Coef	T-Value
EM M 20+	2008.Nov	2009.Mar	0.99	-5.66
UN M 20+	2008.Apr	2009.Feb	1.06	4.92
UN F 20+	2008.Apr	2009.Feb	1.04	4.79

Small effects

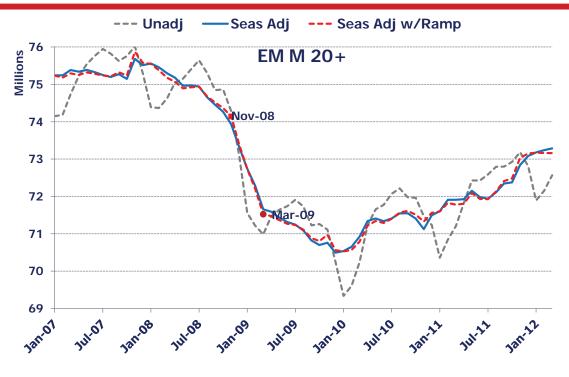
Revision Medians Avg Abs %						
	Official	With Ramps	AICC Official	AICC w/ Ramp	AICC Dif	
EM M 20+	0.07	0.08	11,511.45	11,484.39	-27.06	
UN M 20+	0.78	0.81	6,822.91	6,805.60	-17.32	
UN F 20+	0.83	0.81	6,732.70	6,713.66	-19.04	



Pass minimum AICC criterion?

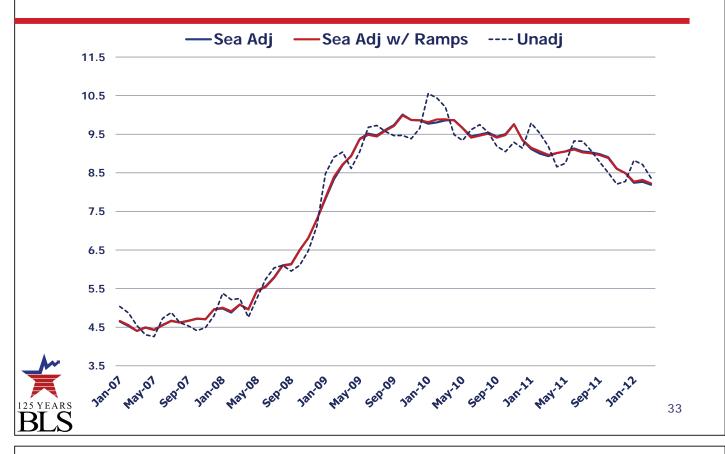
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Ramp coefficients imply small effect, illustrated with EM M 20+





Modeling ramps had little effect on National UR



Evidence on Seasonal breaks

- Seasonal Breaks Visual examination of SIs show no apparent breaks
- AICC test rejects presence of deterministic seasonal break in all 8 series, breakpoint = Oct 2008



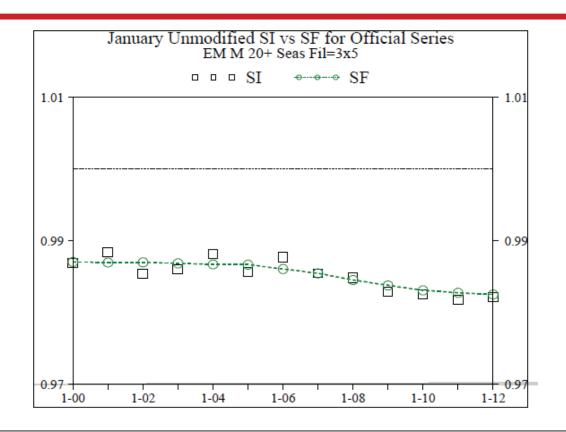
Seasonal-irregular (SI)

- De-trended series produced by X-11
 - ► Estimate & remove trend-cycle from original series using Henderson filter
 - seasonal factors are derived by smoothing SI's by month usually with a 3x5 MA
- SI sub-plots by month useful for identifying potential breaks in seasonality—found no evidence of breaks



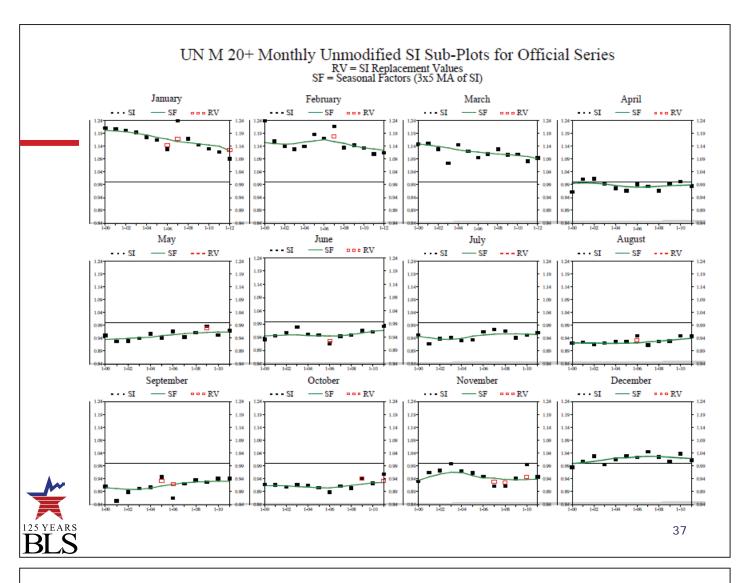
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Seasonal-Irregular sub-plots by month





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AICC criterion rejects Seasonal break in all 8 series

		AICC	
Series	Official	w/Break	Dif
EM M 16-19	10,698.7	10,711.3	12.7
EM F 16-19	10,672.0	10,685.4	13.3
EM M 20+	11,511,5	11,517.7	6.2
EM F 20+	11,525.6	11,527.9	2.2
UN M 16-19	10,343.3	10,348.6	5.3
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UN M 20+	6,822.9	6,829.9	7.0
UN F 20+	6,732.7	6,748.4	15.7



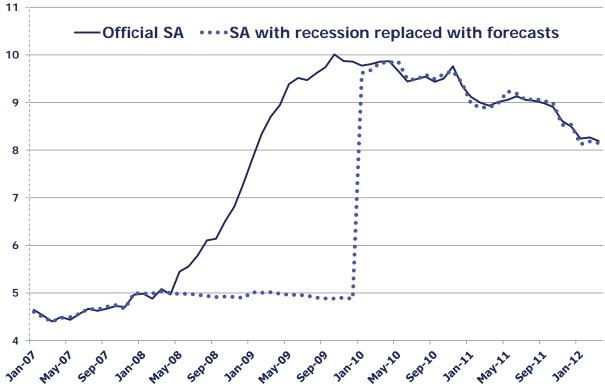
Performance of Post-Recession Seasonal Adjustment

- Examine by treating the recession data as missing (Jan 2008-Dec 2009) when seasonally adjusting Jan 2010-Mar 2012
 - ► Set recession values as missing, RegARIMA automatically adds AO regressors to produce forecasts based on pre-recession data
 - ► Original series with forecasted values for 2008-09 seasonally adjusted with Jan2010 level shift added
- Not very insightful exercise since unemployment still much higher than prerecession levels



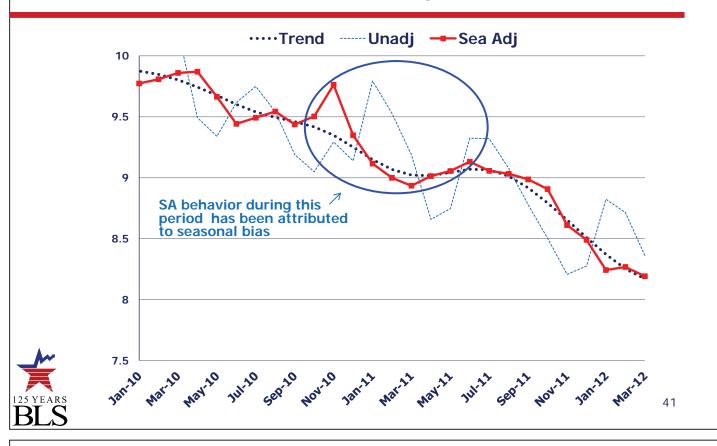
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SA UR with recession data removed (recession period 2008-09)





Nov 2010 blip due to IRR (not seasonal bias) eliminated by trend filter



Summary

- Six of eight series needed no outlier adjustments during recession
- Recessionary level shifts identified in normal way for unemp. male & female teenagers, reduced IRR variation, little effect on SA series
- Fitting ramp models had little effect
- Removing recession data had little effect
- Standard X-11 symmetric filters appear to perform well during & after 2008-09 recession



New Research

Seasonal Adjustment and the Great Recession: Implications for Statistical Agencies

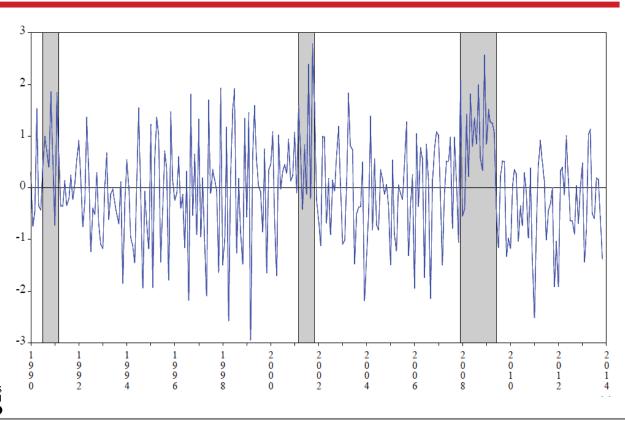
Richard B. Tiller and Thomas D. Evans
Bureau of Labor Statistics

to be presented at:



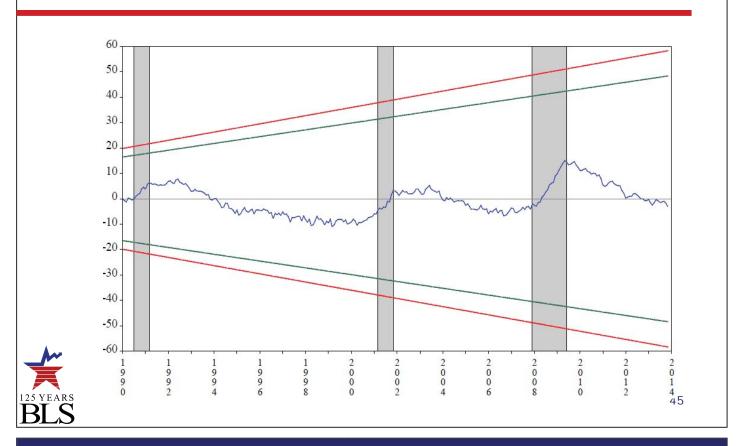
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UN M 20+ Standardized ARIMA Residuals





UN M 20+ Cusum of Standardized Residuals



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