GROUP-LASSO ESTIMATION IN HIGH-DIMENSIONAL FACTOR MODELS WITH STRUCTURAL BREAKS

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GROUP-LASSO ESTIMATION IN HIGH-DIMENSIONAL FACTOR MODELS WITH STRUCTURAL BREAKS

by

Yujie Song

A Major Research Paper
Submitted to the Faculty of Graduate Studies
through the Department of Mathematics and Statistics
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
the Degree of Master of Science at the
University of Windsor

Windsor, Ontario, Canada

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GROUP-LASSO ESTIMATION IN HIGH-DIMENSIONAL

FACTOR MODELS WITH STRUCTURAL BREAKS

by

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September 19, 2018
Author’s Declaration of Originality

I hereby certify that I am the sole author of this major paper and that no part of this major paper has been published or submitted for publication.

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Abstract

In this major paper, we study the influence of structural breaks in the financial market model with high-dimensional data. We present a model which is capable of detecting changes in factor loadings, determining the number of factors and detecting the break date. We consider the case where the break date is both known and unknown and identify the type of instability. For the unknown break date case, we propose a group-LASSO estimator to determine the number of pre- and post-break factors, the break date and the existence of instability of factor loadings when the number of factor is constant. We also present the asymptotic properties of penalized least square estimator with both the cross-sections and the time dimensions tend to infinity.

Further, we develop a cross-validation procedure to obtain the tuning parameters to fine-tune the penalty terms and use the least square approach to estimate the break date after the number of factors is obtained. We also present a Monte Carlo simulation to evaluate the performance of the proposed procedure and analyze real data from 2007-09 Great Recession. The proposed procedure generally detects the break date correctly during the Great Recession while the procedure performs relatively poorly in estimating the number of factors in the pre- and post-break date case.
To my loving parents

Yifan Song and Minglin Li
I would like to thank my supervisor Dr. Séverien Nkurunziza for all his constant support and guidance during my graduate study since I started my M.Sc. program, especially in every stage of this major paper. During my program, he never hesitated to provide me suggestions whenever I had difficulties in study and research. These support and suggestions made me finally succeed in this work.

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Background and Motivation

This major paper studies the influence of structural breaks in the financial market model with high-dimensional data. In classical economic data sets, statistical models are considered in a low-dimensional data setting since the number of records is larger than the number of covariates. Thus, the classical statistic techniques are only applicable for low-dimensional data. Briefly, high-dimensional statistical analysis refers to the situation where the number of unknown parameters is larger than the number of samples in the data (Peter Bühlmann et al. 2011)[9]. As explained in Sunil Sapra (2015)[22], modern data in economics involves millions of records on individuals. Therefore, the high-dimensional data models have become a necessity in the financial market to analyze data on the massive amount of features for a limited number of individuals.
On top of the high-dimensional data setting, we also consider the scenario where the data have the structural breaks. Indeed, in macroeconomics, the structural breaks demonstrate themselves in time series data for various reasons, for instance, economic crises, policy changes, and regime shifts (S. Chancharat et al. 2007)[14]. We apply the model to panel data in the 2007-2009 Great Recession. The panel data used widely in economics also offers an application of high-dimensional data analysis (Sunil Sapra 2015)[22]. Perron (1989)[20] argues that if the structural breaks are not specified appropriately, we may obtain the spurious results. Indeed, ignoring the break points often leads to unexpected consequences. First, the number of pre- and post-break factors will be overestimated. Second, this action will misinterpret the later analysis on economy associated with the number of factors. Although there exists some work that is related to this topic, our study involves in-depth analysis of structural breaks.

1.2 Existing Studies and Their Limitations

In this subsection, we indicate the limitations of existing studies, which include locating the break date, detecting the change in loadings, determining the number of factors. First, existing methods could determine the number of factors as given in Bai and Ng (2002)[4], Onatski (2010)[19], but the break date is required and the methods are unable to detect the change in loadings. Second, the work of Breitung and Eickmeier (2011)[8] does not provide the estimation of some pre- and post-break factors and is unable to detect a change in the number of factors. Also, we quote the work of Bai (1997)[5] which requires the number of factors to determine the break
CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

date by using residual-based procedures. Third, a limitation of the method given in Bai and Ng (2002)[4] is that we have to know the break date. However, if the break date is unknown, the number of factors will be overestimated when applying those methods. Fourth, in the recent work of Bai and Liao (2015)[6], and Caner and Han (2014)[10], they use shrinkage methods to estimate the stable models and detect structural breaks in the model.

The work of Cheng et al. (2016)[13] improves the approach to cope with the unknown break date case compared with the work mentioned above. Assuming that the break date is unknown, the proposed methods simultaneously estimate the number of pre- and post-break factors, and determine changes in factor loading if the number of factors stays constant. Meanwhile, this work does not require the knowledge of the number of pre- and post-break factors for detecting the instability.

Moreover, we show that a structural change is recognizable if the factor loading changes. We determine the break point by the dimensionality of the factor model. As a result, the total number of pre- and post-break factors is minimized when the break date is specified precisely. We also show that as long as the number of pre- and post-break factors have been determined, the location of the break date can be estimated by using sum-of-square residuals criterion.

As mentioned in Cheng et al. (2016)[13], the proposed estimator is developed by minimizing the penalized least square (PLS) criterion function. Then, we apply the Group-Least Absolute Shrinkage and Selection Operator (Group-LASSO) penalties
in pre-break factor loadings and changes in factor loadings. The number of non-zero columns in the loading matrices is equal to the number of pre- and post-break factors. When a column of zero in loading matrices becomes non-zero after the break, a new factor appears. We assume that the number of factors is fixed as the sample size increases, and we also assume that the breaks in the loadings do not shrink with the sample size.

1.3 Main Contribution

The main contribution of this major paper is to present an econometric model, which is capable of detecting the type of instability, determining the number of pre- and post-break factors, and detecting the break date simultaneously. We consider the type of factor model instability: changes in the number of strong factors. Indeed, in an economic environment, the break date is usually unknown.

According to Zou (2006)[28], the LASSO is a regularization technique for simultaneous estimation and variable selection. Cheng et al. (2016)[13] extends the results in Zou (2006)[28] in the following way. First, they use a two-step procedure to determine LASSO penalty. Second, they construct the penalty terms for the unknown break date case. The method consists in taking the average of the penalties computed by each potential break date. Third, they develop a cross-validation procedure to fine-tune the LASSO penalties and propose the shrinkage estimation via LASSO. The PLS estimator is a shrinkage estimator because it sets small coefficient estimates equal to zero.
1.4 Organization of the Major Paper

The remainder of this major paper is organized as follows. Chapter 2 describes the statistical models and conditions for the instability. Chapter 3 presents the shrinkage estimation and introduces the model selection. This chapter also addresses the asymptotic theory for the estimator as well as the implementation of the parameter estimation and algorithm. The content presented in Chapter 4 is similar to Chapter 3 but the break date is unknown. Chapter 5 presents the numerical results from the Monte Carlo simulation and the real data set of the Great Recession in the U.S.. The results and interpretation on the finite-sample performance of Group-LASSO estimator and Bootstrap data report are included in this chapter. Finally, Chapter 6 concludes.
Chapter 2

Model Specifications

This chapter introduces the statistical models, notations, and instability with the structural break. It is subdivided into two sections. In Section 2.1, we introduce the statistical model with structural break date changes. In Section 2.2, we identify the existence of instability.

2.1 Statistical Model and Notations

In this section, we introduce the models with respect to the factors and loadings. Consider that we observe the panel data \( \{ X_{it} \in R : i = 1, \cdots, N, t = 1, \cdots, T_0, \cdots, T \} \). Let \( X_t = (X_{1t}, \cdots, X_{Nt})' \in R^{N \times 1} \) be the observations at time \( t \), with \( t \in \{1, \cdots, T_0, \cdots, T \} \) where \( T_0 \) denotes the break point. Usually, \( T_0 \) is unknown. Before \( T_0 \), there are \( r_a \) unobserved pre-break factors. After \( T_0 \), there are no further breaks. We write
the pre-break statistical model in matrix notation as

$$ X_a = F_a \Lambda^0' + e_a, \quad (2.1) $$

where $\Lambda^0 \in R^{N \times r_a}$ is the matrix of factor loadings, $X_a = (X_1, \cdots, X_{T_0})' \in R^{T_0 \times N}$, $F_a = (F^0_1, \cdots, F^0_{T_0})' \in R^{T_0 \times r_a}$, and $e_a = (e_1, \cdots, e_{T_0})' \in R^{T_0 \times N}$. Both matrices $F_a$ and $\Lambda^0$ are unknown. The post-break statistical model is given by

$$ X_b = F_{b,1}(\Lambda^0 + \Gamma^0_1)' + F_{b,2}\Gamma^0_2 + e_b, \quad (2.2) $$

where $X_b = (X_{T_0+1}, \cdots, X_T)' \in R^{T_1 \times N}$ and $T_1 = T - T_0$, $F_{b,1} = (F^0_{T_0+1}, \cdots, F^0_T)' \in R^{T_1 \times r_a}$, $F_{b,2} = (F^*_1, \cdots, F^*_T)' \in R^{T_1 \times (r_b - r_a)}$, and $e_b = (e_{T_0+1}, \cdots, e_T)' \in R^{T_1 \times N}$.

Here, the matrix $F_{b,1}$ spreads the factor in pre-break period to post-break period, and the matrix $F_{b,2}$ collects new factors in post-break period. The matrices $\Gamma^0_1$ and $\Gamma^0_2$ denote the change in loadings of $F^0_t$ and loading for new factors $F^*_t$ respectively. Let $\Gamma^0 = (\Gamma^0_1, \Gamma^0_2)$. If the loading for factors doesn’t change, then $\Gamma^0_1 = 0$. While if there are no new factors, then $\Gamma^0_2 = 0$. Also, we rewrite the model in (2.2) as

$$ X_b = F_b \Psi^0' + e_b, \quad (2.3) $$

where $F_b = (F_{b,1}, F_{b,2}) \in R^{T_1 \times r_b}$ and $\Psi^0 = (\Lambda^0 + \Gamma^0_1, \Gamma^0_2) \in R^{N \times r_b}$. In (2.1) and (2.2), the product of factors and their loadings are identifiable. However, each term is not identifiable. Thus, we impose normalization restrictions for the factor model. We
rewrite the statistical model as

\[ X_a = (F_a R_a)(R_a^{-1} \Lambda_0') + e_a = F_R^a \Lambda^{R'} + e_a, \]
\[ X_b = (F_b R_b)(R_b^{-1} \Psi_0') + e_b = F_R^b \Psi^{R'} + e_b, \]

(2.4)

where \( F_R^a = F_a R_a \) and \( F_R^b = F_b R_b \). The \( R_a \) and \( R_b \) are transformation matrices.

### 2.2 Identification of Instability

In this section, we introduce the structural instability and identify it when the break date is known or unknown. We assume that the number of pre-break factors is smaller than the number of post-break factors: \( r_a < r_b \). This is called the instability. Under this instability, the new factors appear in the model after the break point \( T_0 \). In the mean time, the old factors in the loadings may change. We consider two cases when the break date \( T_0 \) is known and unknown, and identify the instability for each case in Chapter 3 and 4.

Breitung and Eickmeier (2011)[8] explain that the subsample of pre- and post-break observations will have one or more additional factors if the break date is misspecified. Specifically, to estimate the break date, we can adjust the potential break date \( \pi \) to minimize the sum of the numbers of pre- and post-break factors.
Chapter 3

Estimation and Modeling in Known Break Date Case

In this chapter, we assume that the break date is known. As mentioned in Tibshirani (1996)[26], the ordinary least squares (OLS) estimators are obtained by minimizing the residual squared error. On the one hand, the OLS estimators often have large variance but low bias. The prediction accuracy can be improved by shrinking the coefficients to zero. On the other hand, with the large number of predictors, we determine a smaller subset which has significant effects. Therefore, we propose the shrinkage estimation via LASSO. It shrinks some coefficients and sets other elements to zero. Then, we determine the number of pre- and post-break factors by the shrinkage estimator. Next, we explain the detailed asymptotic properties of PLS estimator. Finally, we apply a two-step estimation method to improve the finite sample performance with the adjusted penalty weights.
CHAPTER 3. *ESTIMATION AND MODELING IN KNOWN BREAK DATE CASE*

In Section 3.1, we introduce the shrinkage estimator. In Section 3.2, we select the proper model. Section 3.3 describes the post model selection estimation by using the least square method. In Section 3.4, we study the asymptotic theory for the proposed shrinkage estimator and demonstrate related theorems and assumptions. Sections 3.5, 3.6, and 3.7 explain the techniques which are applied on weights and tuning parameters. In real-world applications, the break date is always unknown. We will extend the results to unknown break date case in the next chapter.

### 3.1 Shrinkage Estimator

The shrinkage estimators dominate the classical estimators in terms of mean squared error (MSE) for a host of statistical models. Ahmed (2014)[1] explains that the shrinkage estimation strategy can be used for both model selection and post estimation. In this section, we introduce the strategy to construct the shrinkage estimator. To give another reference about shrinkage and LASSO estimator, we also quote Nkurunziza et al. (2016)[18] and references there in.

Cheng et al. (2016)[13] rewrite the statistical model in (2.4) as augmented system, because the criterion function needs to be motivated in the shrinkage estimation. Suppose that \( r_a \) and \( r_b \) are unknown, we choose a upper bound \( k \) such that \( r_a + r_b \leq k \).
CHAPTER 3. ESTIMATION AND MODELING IN KNOWN BREAK DATE CASE

We rewrite statistical model in (2.4) as augmented system

\[
X_a = \begin{bmatrix}
F_R^{a,1} & F_R^{a,2}
\end{bmatrix}
\left[
\begin{array}{c}
\Lambda^R' \\
0_{(r_b-r_a) \times N}
\end{array}
\right] + e_a = F_a^{R+}(\Lambda^R')' + e_a,
\]

\[
X_b = \begin{bmatrix}
F_R^{b,1} & F_R^{b,2}
\end{bmatrix}
\left[
\begin{array}{c}
\Lambda^R' + \Gamma_1^R' \\
\Gamma_2^R' \\
0_{(k-r_b) \times N}
\end{array}
\right] + e_b = F_b^{R+}(\Lambda^R+ \Gamma^R')' + e_b.
\]

(3.1)

Here, \(F_R^{a,1} = (F_{a,1}^{R,1}, F_{a,2}^{R,1})\) and \(F_R^{b,1} = (F_{b,1}^{R,1}, F_{b,2}^{R,1})\). \(F_R^{a,1} \in R^{T_0 \times (r_b-r_a)}\) and \(F_R^{a,2} \in R^{T_0 \times (k-r_b)}\) are sub-matrices of \(F_R^{a} \in R^{T_0 \times r_a}\). \(F_R^{a}\) denotes the orthogonal complement of \(F_R \in R^{T_0 \times r_a}\). Similarly, \(F_R^{b,1}\) denotes the orthogonal complement of \(F_R^{b} \in R^{T_0 \times r_b}\). \(\Lambda^R+\) and \((\Lambda^R+ + \Gamma^R+)\) are the factor loadings in pre- and post-break respectively. \(F_a^{R+}\) and \(F_b^{R+}\) are augmented matrices. Recall that the number of non-zero columns in the loading matrices is equal to the number of pre- and post-break factors. Thus, \(r_a\) and \(r_b\) can be estimated. Moreover, the instability can be detected. Note that with the existence of the instability, \(r_b > r_a\). We first assume that the break date is known and let \(T_a = T_0\). In the following, we introduce the shrinkage estimator.

Yuan and Lin (2006)[27] explain that the shrinkage estimator can be obtained by minimizing the penalized least square (PLS) objective function with group-LASSO penalty, which is defined in terms of the \(\ell\)-th column of the norm of \(\Lambda\) and \(\Gamma\). A group-LASSO estimator either sets all elements in group equal to zero or estimates those elements as nonzero (Cheng et al. (2016))[13]. We use the group-LASSO for
large-scale factor models because the irrelevant factors have zero factor loadings for all series. To estimate the upper bound $k$, we need to know each principle component estimator in subsample. In particular, assume $j \in \{a, b\}$, let $\tilde{F}_j \in \mathbb{R}^{T_j \times k}$ denote the orthonormalized eigenvectors of $(NT_j)^{-1}X_jX_j'$ with the first $k$ largest eigenvalues. Let $I_A$ denote the indicator function of the event $A$. In each subsample, we estimate an over-fitted model with $k$ factors, then we have the unrestricted least square estimators of the factor loading $\tilde{\Lambda}_{LS} = T_a^{-1}X'_a\tilde{F}_a$, $\tilde{\Psi}_{LS} = T_b^{-1}X'_b\tilde{F}_b$ and $\tilde{\Gamma}_{LS} = \tilde{\Psi}_{LS} - \tilde{\Lambda}_{LS}$. Now, we propose the shrinkage estimator of $\Lambda^{R+}$ and $\Gamma^{R+}$ by minimizing the penalized least square (PLS) objective function

$$
(\hat{\Lambda}, \hat{\Gamma}) = \arg\min_{\Lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times k}, \Gamma \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times k}} [M(\Lambda, \Gamma) + P_1(\Lambda) + P_2(\Gamma)],
$$

where

$$
M(\Lambda, \Gamma) = (NT)^{-1}\left[\|X_a - \tilde{F}_a(\pi)\Lambda\|^2 + \|X_b - \tilde{F}_b(\Lambda + \Gamma)\|^2\right],
$$

$$
P_1(\Lambda) = \alpha_{NT} \sum_{\ell=1}^{k} \omega^\Lambda_{\ell} \|\Lambda_{\ell}\| \quad \text{and} \quad P_2(\Gamma) = \beta_{NT} \sum_{\ell=1}^{k} \omega^\Gamma_{\ell} \|\Gamma_{\ell}\|,
$$

where $\tilde{F}_a$ and $\tilde{F}_b$ are given terms, $\Lambda_{\ell}$ and $\Gamma_{\ell}$ are the $\ell$-th column of $\Lambda$ and $\Gamma$ respectively. Either $\alpha_{NT}$ or $\beta_{NT}$ are two coefficients of positive real number which depend on $N$ and $T$. $\omega^\Lambda_{\ell}$ and $\omega^\Gamma_{\ell}$ are weights defined as

$$
\omega^\Lambda_{\ell} = \left(\frac{N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Lambda}_{\ell}\|^2 I_{\{\tilde{\Lambda}_{\ell} \neq 0_{N \times 1}\}} + N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Lambda}_{\ell,LS}\|^2 I_{\{\tilde{\Lambda}_{\ell,LS} = 0_{N \times 1}\}}}{N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Lambda}_{\ell}\|^2 I_{\{\tilde{\Lambda}_{\ell} \neq 0_{N \times 1}\}} + N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Lambda}_{\ell,LS}\|^2 I_{\{\tilde{\Lambda}_{\ell,LS} = 0_{N \times 1}\}}}\right)^{-2},
$$

$$
\omega^\Gamma_{\ell} = \left(\frac{N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Gamma}_{\ell}\|^2 I_{\{\tilde{\Gamma}_{\ell} \neq 0_{N \times 1}\}} + N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Gamma}_{\ell,LS}\|^2 I_{\{\tilde{\Gamma}_{\ell,LS} = 0_{N \times 1}\}}}{N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Gamma}_{\ell}\|^2 I_{\{\tilde{\Gamma}_{\ell} \neq 0_{N \times 1}\}} + N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Gamma}_{\ell,LS}\|^2 I_{\{\tilde{\Gamma}_{\ell,LS} = 0_{N \times 1}\}}}\right)^{-2},
$$
CHAPTER 3. ESTIMATION AND MODELING IN KNOWN BREAK DATE CASE

where $\tilde{\Lambda} \in R^{N \times K}$ and $\tilde{\Gamma} \in R^{N \times K}$ are preliminary estimators of factor loading $\Lambda^+$ and $\Gamma^+$. The weights are used to distinguish the zero and nonzero columns in the loading matrices $\Lambda^{R+}$ and $\Gamma^{R+}$. (Cheng et al. (2016))

3.2 Model Selection Estimator

In this section, we apply the shrinkage estimator defined in Section 3.1 to determine the number of pre- and post-break factors. When the break date $T_0$ is known, $r_a$ and $r_b$ are known as well. We assume that the inequality $r_b > r_a$ holds, this condition identifies the instability on statistical model. We also detect the existence of the instability by using the shrinkage estimator. Let the break indicator $B_0 \in \{0, 1\}$. If there is no structural break, then $B_0=0$. With the existence of the instability, $B_0=1$ and $r_a < r_b$. Here, the estimation of $B$, $r_a$ and $r_b$ happens in the mean time (Cheng et al. 2016). Since $\Gamma^0 = (\Gamma_1^0, \Gamma_2^0) = 0$ if and only if $\Gamma^R = (\Gamma_1^R, \Gamma_2^R) = 0$, we rewrite post-break statistical models in (2.4) to determine $B_0$ as

$$X_b = F^R_b \Psi^R + e_b = F_{b,1}^R (\Lambda^R + \Gamma_1^R) + F_{b,2}^R \Gamma_2^R + e_b,$$

where $F_b^R = (F_{b,1}^R, F_{b,2}^R)$, $\Psi^R = (\Lambda^R + \Gamma_1^R, \Gamma_2^R)$ and $\Gamma^R = (\Gamma_1^R, \Gamma_2^R)$.

We need to know the column norm of $\tilde{\Lambda}$ and $\tilde{\Gamma}$ to estimate $B$, $r_a$ and $r_b$. The estimator of $B_0$ is defined as

$$\tilde{B} = I_{\{\|\tilde{\Gamma}\|>0\}}.$$
CHAPTER 3. ESTIMATION AND MODELING IN KNOWN BREAK DATE CASE

The estimators of $r_a$ and $r_b$ are given by

$$\hat{r}_a = \min \{ j \geq 1 \text{ and } j : \| \hat{\Lambda}_\ell \| = 0 \text{ for all } \ell > j \},$$

$$\hat{r}_b = \max \left( \hat{r}_a, \min \{ j : \| \hat{\Gamma}_\ell \| = 0 \text{ for all } \ell > j \} \right).$$

On the one hand, the method can be used to detect a structural break and determine the instability. On the other hand, to detect the structural break in the factor loadings, the method does not require the knowledge of number of pre- and post-break factors.

3.3 Post Model Selection Estimation

In this section, we demonstrate that the shrinkage estimator can provide a estimation of loading matrices $\Lambda$ and $\Gamma$. However, the penalty terms do not estimate the non-zero coefficients. Thus, we propose to re-estimate the loading matrices by using least squares conditional on the estimators $\hat{\mathbf{B}}, \hat{r}_a$ and $\hat{r}_b$. The estimator for the post model selection is named PMS estimator.

If $\hat{\mathbf{B}} = 0$, which means that there is no structural break, we can re-estimate the factor model on the full sample. Specifically, let $\bar{\mathbf{F}} \in R^{T \times k}$ denote the orthonormalized first $k$ principle components constructed from the full sample. Let $\bar{\Lambda}$ denote the first $\hat{r}_a$ columns of the full sample least square estimator $\hat{\Lambda}_{LS}$, where $\bar{\Lambda}_{LS} = T^{-1} \mathbf{X}' \bar{\mathbf{F}}$. Therefore, we set $\Psi = \bar{\Lambda}$, since the columns of $\bar{\mathbf{F}}$ are constructed to be orthogonal, $\bar{\Lambda}$ is identical to the OLS estimator obtained by regressing $\mathbf{X}$ on the first $\hat{r}_a^*$ columns of
If $\hat{B} = 1$, then we need to re-estimate the subsample of factors and loadings. Let $\tilde{F}_a$ and $\tilde{F}_b$ denote the factor estimates for the subsample of factors and loadings respectively. In addition, let $\tilde{\Lambda}$ denote the first $\hat{r}_a$ columns of the least square estimator $\tilde{\Lambda}_{LS} = T^{-1}X'_a \tilde{F}_a$. Let $\tilde{\Psi}$ denote the first $\hat{r}_b$ columns of the least square estimator $\tilde{\Psi}_{LS} = T^{-1}X'_b \tilde{F}_b$. The PMS estimators are defined as

$$\hat{\Lambda}_{PMS} = (\Lambda, 0) \text{ and } \hat{\Psi}_{PMS} = (\Psi, 0), \quad (3.8)$$

where $0$ is the zero matrix.

### 3.4 Asymptotic Properties

In this section, we present the asymptotic properties of PLS estimator, the instability and the break date. Bai and Ng (2002)[4] explains that penalty for overfitting must be a function of both the cross-sections ($N$) and the time dimensions ($T$) in order to estimate the number of factors. However, the function of $N$ or $T$, such as AIC or BIC, do not work because both dimensions of the panel data are large. As discussed in Bai and Ng (2002)[4], this major paper assumes that both $N$ and $T$ converge to infinity under empirical application to maintain flexibility. We present some assumptions and theorems on the large sample properties of the preliminary estimators $\tilde{\Lambda}$ and $\tilde{\Gamma}$ and the convergence rates of the sequences $\alpha_{NT}$ and $\beta_{NT}$ below.

Recall that the notation of $X_n = O_p(a_n)$ means the set of values $x_n/a_n$ is stochas-
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tically bounded. More specifically, for any \( \epsilon > 0 \), there exists a finite \( M > 0 \) and a finite \( N > 0 \), such that \( \Pr(|X_n/a_n| > M) < \epsilon, \forall n > N \). The following Theorem 3.1 and 3.2 have restricted the preliminary estimators \( \tilde{\Lambda} \) and \( \tilde{\Gamma} \) on stochastic order, which may change the data-dependent weights \( \omega_\lambda^\ell \) and \( \omega_\gamma^\ell \) in (3.4). We define \( C_{NT} = \min(T^{1/2}, N^{1/2}) \), where \( C_{NT} \) is the convergence rate of the unrestricted least square estimator.

Theorem 3.1. As \( N, T \to \infty \) with \( \sqrt{T}/N \to 0 \), the preliminary estimators \( \tilde{\Lambda} \) and \( \tilde{\Gamma} \) satisfy

(i) \( \Pr(N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Lambda}_\ell\|^2 \geq C) \to 1 \) for \( \ell = 1, \ldots, r_a \),
\( N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Lambda}_\ell\|^2 = O_p(C_{NT}^{-2}) \) for \( \ell = r_a + 1, \ldots, k \);

(ii) If \( \Gamma^0 \neq 0 \), \( \lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Gamma}_\ell\|^2 \geq C) = 1 \) for \( \ell = 1, \ldots, r_b \),
\( N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Gamma}_\ell\|^2 = O_p(C_{NT}^{-2}) \) for \( \ell = r_b + 1, \ldots, k \);

(iii) If \( \Gamma^0 = 0 \), \( N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Gamma}_\ell\|^2 = O_p(C_{NT}^{-2}) \) for \( \ell = 1, \ldots, k \).

The proof of this theorem follows from the main results in Cheng et al. (2016)[13]. In Theorem 3.1, we separate the column of the preliminary estimators \( \tilde{\Lambda} \) and \( \tilde{\Gamma} \) into two parts. In the first part, \( \lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Lambda}_\ell\|^2 \geq C) = 1 \) and \( \lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Gamma}_\ell\|^2 \geq C) = 1 \) such that the data-dependent weights \( \omega_\lambda^\ell \) and \( \omega_\gamma^\ell \) are stochastically bounded. In the second part, \( N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Lambda}_\ell\|^2 = O_p(C_{NT}^{-2}) \) and \( N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Gamma}_\ell\|^2 = O_p(C_{NT}^{-2}) \) imply that \( \omega_\lambda^\ell \) and \( \omega_\gamma^\ell \) diverge in probability faster than \( C_{NT}^{-4} \).

Theorem 3.2. As \( N, T \to \infty \) with \( \sqrt{T}/N \to 0 \), the preliminary estimators \( \tilde{\Lambda}_{LS} \) and \( \tilde{\Gamma}_{LS} \) satisfy
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(i) \( \Pr(N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Lambda}_{LS,\ell}\|^2 \geq C) \to 1 \) for \( \ell = 1, \cdots, r_a \), \( N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Lambda}_{LS,\ell}\|^2 = O_p(C_{NT}^{-2}) \)
for \( \ell = r_a + 1, \cdots, k \);
(ii) If \( \Gamma^0 \neq 0 \), \( \Pr(N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Gamma}_{LS,\ell}\|^2 \geq C) \to 1 \) for \( \ell = 1, \cdots, r_b \), \( N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Gamma}_{LS,\ell}\|^2 = O_p(C_{NT}^{-2}) \)
for \( \ell = r_b + 1, \cdots, k \);
(iii) If \( \Gamma^0 = 0 \), \( N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Gamma}_{LS,\ell}\|^2 = O_p(C_{NT}^{-2}) \) for \( \ell = 1, \cdots, k \). \( \square \)

The proof of this theorem is given in Cheng et al. (2016)[13]. In Theorem 3.2, if \( \tilde{\Lambda} \) or \( \tilde{\Gamma} \) has zero columns, the data-dependent weights \( \omega^\lambda_\ell \) and \( \omega^\gamma_\ell \) depend on \( \tilde{\Lambda}_{LS} \) and \( \tilde{\Lambda}_{LS} \). Note that \( \tilde{\Lambda}_\ell = 0 \) is a special case of \( N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Lambda}_\ell\|^2 = O_p(C_{NT}^{-2}) \) in Theorem 3.1, so does \( \tilde{\Gamma}_\ell \). The data-dependent weights \( \omega^\lambda_\ell \) and \( \omega^\gamma_\ell \) determine the relative penalties of different columns in the factor loadings. The tuning parameters \( \alpha_{NT} \) and \( \beta_{NT} \) determine the overall penalization. As the tuning parameters vanish asymptotically, we make Assumption 1 for the rates.

**Assumption 1.** The tuning parameters \( \alpha_{NT} \) and \( \beta_{NT} \) satisfy

(i) \( \alpha_{NT} = O(N^{-1/2}C_{NT}^{-1}) \) and \( \beta_{NT} = O(N^{-1/2}C_{NT}^{-1}) \)
(ii) \( N^{-1/2}C_{NT}^{-5} = o(\alpha_{NT}) \) and \( N^{-1/2}C_{NT}^{-5} = o(\beta_{NT}) \). \( \square \)

In Assumption 1, the boundaries on the tuning parameters \( \alpha_{NT} \) and \( \beta_{NT} \) control the magnitudes of the overall penalization. In Assumption 1(i), we introduce the upper bound to ensure that the penalties on the nonzero columns are small when the weights \( \omega^\lambda_\ell \) and \( \omega^\gamma_\ell \) are stochastically bounded. Also, we propose to shrink the estimators of zero columns to zero. Assumption 1(ii) requires the tuning parameters \( \alpha_{NT} \) and \( \beta_{NT} \) converge to zero slowly with the lower bound.

The following Assumptions 2 and 3, respectively, are analogous to Assumptions A
and B in Bai and Ng (2002)]. For $t > T_0$, let $F^0_t = (F^0_t, F^*_t)' \in R^{r_b}$ denote $r_b$ factors in the post-break period and $C \in \mathbb{R}$ denotes a generic positive constant.

**Assumption 2.** (i) $E[\|F^0_t\|^4] \leq C$, $E[\|\tilde{F}^0_t\|^4] \leq C$ and there exists positive definite nonrandom matrices $\Sigma_F$ and $\Sigma_{\tilde{F}}$ such that $T_0^{-1} \sum_{t=1}^{T_0} F^0_t F^0_t' = \Sigma_F + O_p(T_0^{-1/2})$ and $T_1^{-1} \sum_{t=T_0+1}^{T} F^0_t \tilde{F}^0_t = \Sigma_{\tilde{F}} + O_p(T_1^{-1/2})$.

(ii) The positive definite matrices $\Sigma_F$ and $\Sigma_{\tilde{F}}$ are both not related to $N$ and $T$.  

**Assumption 3.** (i) $\|\lambda^0_i\| \leq C$, $\|\psi^0_i\| \leq C$ and there exists nonrandom matrices $\Sigma_{\Lambda}$, $\Sigma_{\Psi}$ and $\Sigma_{\Lambda\Psi}$ such that $\|\Lambda^0 \Lambda^0 / N - \Sigma_{\Lambda}\| \to 0$, $\|\Psi^0 \Psi^0 / N - \Sigma_{\Psi}\| \to 0$ and $\|\Lambda^0 \Psi^0 / N - \Sigma_{\Lambda\Psi}\| \to 0$ as $N \to \infty$, where $\Sigma_{\Lambda}$ and $\Sigma_{\Psi}$ are positive definite matrices and are both not related to $N$ and $T$.

(ii) The matrices $\Sigma_{\Lambda} \Sigma_F$ and $\Sigma_{\Psi} \Sigma_{\tilde{F}}$ both have distinct eigenvalues.  

Here, $\Lambda^0 = (\Lambda^0_1, \cdots, \Lambda^0_N)'$, where $\Lambda^0_i \in R^{r_a \times 1}$ denotes the factor loading for series $i$ before the structural break. Similarly, $\Psi^0 = (\psi^0_1, \cdots, \psi^0_N)'$, where $\psi^0_i \in R^{r_b \times 1}$ denotes the factor loading for series $i$ after the structural break. We state the following assumptions for additional factors and the changes of factor loadings at $T_0$.

Suppose $T_0/T \to \tau_0$, $\tau_0 \in (0, 1)$ as $T \to \infty$. We extend Assumptions 2 and 3 to Assumptions 4 and 5. Let $e = [e_1, \cdots, e_T] \in R^{N \times T}$ denote the matrix of error terms and $e_{it}$ denote the element of $e$ with series $i$ in period $t$.

**Assumption 4.** (i) $E[e_{it}] = 0$, $E[|e_{it}|] \leq C$;

(ii) $E[N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} e_{is} e_{it}] = \sigma_N(s, t)$, $|\sigma_N(s, s)| \leq C$ for all $s$,

$T^{-1} \sum_{s=1}^{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} |\sigma_N(s, t)| \leq C$;

(iii) $E[e_{it} e_{jt}] = \tau_{ij,t}$ with $|\tau_{ij,t}| \leq |\tau_{ij}|$ for some $\tau_{ij}$ and for all $t$, and
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\[ N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} |\sigma_N(s,t)| \leq C; \]

(iv) \( \mathbb{E}[e_{it}e_{js}] = \tau_{ij,ts} \)

\[ (NT)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \sum_{t=1}^{N} \sum_{s=1}^{N} |\tau_{ij,ts}| \leq C; \]

(v) For every \((t,s)\), \( \mathbb{E}[|N^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (e_{it}e_{is} - \mathbb{E}[e_{is}e_{it}])|^4] \leq C; \)

Assumption 5. \( \mathbb{E}[N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \|T^{-1/2}(\sum_{t=1}^{T_0} F^0_t e_{it} + \sum_{t=T_0+1}^{T} F^0_t e_{it})\|^2] \leq C. \)

Assumption 4 models for time-series and cross-sectional weak dependence in the error terms. Assumption 5 models the weak dependence between the factors and error terms. Those assumptions are analogous to Assumptions C and D in Bai and Ng (2002)[4] respectively. With the knowledge of the above theorems and assumptions, we state the asymptotic limits of the PLS estimators \( \hat{\Lambda} \) and \( \hat{\Gamma} \) in the following theorem. Those PLS estimators converge to the coefficients in (2.4). Let the subscript \( \ell \) denote the \( \ell \)-th column of a matrix.

**Theorem 3.3.** Suppose that Assumptions 1 to 5 hold. Then,

(i) Pre-break loadings of relevant factors: \( N^{-1} \|\hat{\Lambda}_\ell - \hat{\Lambda}_R^\ell\|^2 = O_p(C_{NT}^{-2}) \) for \( \ell = 1, \ldots, r_a; \)

(ii) Pre-break loadings of irrelevant factors:

\[ \lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\|\hat{\Lambda}_\ell\|^2 = 0 \text{ for } \ell = r_a + 1, \ldots, k) = 1; \]

(iii) Post-break changes in loadings of relevant factors: If \( \Gamma^0 \neq 0, \)

\( N^{-1} \|\hat{\Gamma}_\ell - \Gamma^R_\ell\|^2 = O_p(C_{NT}^{-2}) \) for \( \ell = 1, \ldots, r_b; \)

(iv) No-break: If \( \Gamma^0 = 0, \lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\|\hat{\Gamma}_\ell\|^2 = 0 \text{ for } 1, \ldots, r_b) = 1; \)

(v) Post-break changes in loadings of irrelevant factors:

\[ \lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\|\hat{\Gamma}_\ell\|^2 = 0 \text{ for } \ell = r_b + 1, \ldots, k) = 1. \]

The proof of this theorem follows from the results in Cheng et al. (2016)[13]. In The-
OREM 3.3 part (i) and (ii), the factor loadings of the irrelevant factors are estimated to zero with probability approaching to one due to the penalization. For \( \ell = 1, \cdots, r_a \), the PLS estimators \( \hat{\Lambda}_\ell \) and \( \hat{\Gamma}_\ell \) converge in probability to the factor loadings \( \Lambda^R_\ell \) and \( \Gamma^R_\ell \) of the transformed statistical models in (3.1) respectively. Parts (iii) and (v) detect the structural instability. Without the structural instability, as in part (iv), the PLS estimators \( \hat{\Gamma}_\ell \) of change in loadings equal to zero with probability approaching to one. Otherwise, part (v) only applies for \( \ell = r_b + 1, \cdots, k \) and ensures the post-break number of factors.

Briefly, the factor loadings of the irrelevant factors are estimated with probability approaching to 1. In addition, without any instability, the changes in loadings of relevant factors are estimated with probability approaching to one as well.

As mentioned in Cheng et al. (2016)[13], to build the model selection for the PLS estimation, it is sufficient to show that the asymptotic limits of \( N^{-1} \| \Lambda^R_\ell \|^2 \) and \( N^{-1} \| \Gamma^R_\ell \|^2 \) in Theorem 3.3 part (i) and (iii) are bounded away from zero. We introduce Assumption 6, Lemma 3.1, and the following theorem provides the asymptotic result of \( \hat{B}, \hat{r}_a \) and \( \hat{r}_b \).

**Assumption 6.** One of the following two conditions holds:

(i) \( \text{rank}(\Sigma^+_A \Psi) \geq r_a \);

(ii) \( \rho(\Sigma_F \Sigma_A) \neq \rho(\Sigma_F \Sigma_\Psi) \) for some \( \ell \leq r_a \).

**Lemma 3.1.** Suppose Assumption 2-5 hold. Then,

(i) Pre-break factors: \( N^{-1} \| \Lambda^R_\ell \|^2 = \rho(\Sigma_A \Sigma_F) + o(1) \) for \( \ell = 1, \cdots, r_a \);

(ii) New factors: If \( r_b > r_a \), \( N^{-1} \| \Gamma^R_\ell \|^2 = \rho(\Sigma_\Psi \Sigma_F) + o(1) \) for \( \ell = r_a + 1, \cdots, r_b \).
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The proof of this lemma is given in Appendix A. Note that Lemma 3.1 provides the connection between the Assumption 6 and the statistical model determination.

**Theorem 3.4.** Suppose that Assumptions 1-6 hold with the existence of the instability. Then,

\[
\lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\hat{\gamma}_a = \gamma_a) = 1; \quad \lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\hat{\gamma}_b = \gamma_b) = 1; \quad \lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\hat{B} = B) = 1.
\]  

(3.9)

The proof of this theorem is given in Appendix A. The model selection procedure holds for any set of preliminary estimators that satisfy Theorem 3.1 and 3.2. Due to Step 1.5 in Algorithm 1 making a transformation of the estimators, we define

\[
\mathcal{Z} = \{\ell : N^{-1}\|\Gamma^R_\ell\|^2 = N^{-1}\|\Psi^R - \Lambda^R_\ell\|^2 \geq C\}. \tag{3.10}
\]

We make the following additional assumption.

**Assumption 7.** If \( r_a = r_b \), then \( \inf_{\|W\| = 1} N^{-1}\|\Psi^R W - \Lambda^R_\ell\|^2 \geq C \) for \( \ell \in \mathcal{Z} \). \( \Box \)

Assumption 7 holds as long as \( \Lambda^R_\ell \) is not in the column space of \( \Psi^R \). Under this assumption, some of the structural factor loadings in unnormalized statistical model (2.2) and (2.3) remain constant, while others change. Moreover, without structural instability, \( \mathcal{Z} \) is empty and Assumption 7 is not necessary. The result in Theorem 3.4 can be generalized to the two-step estimation algorithm in later section.
3.5 On Estimation of the Penalty Weights

In this section, we present a practical procedure to choose the tuning parameters $\alpha_{NT}$ and $\beta_{NT}$. The penalty functions $P_1(\Lambda)$ and $P_2(\Gamma)$ depend on the weights $\omega^\lambda_\ell$ and $\omega^\gamma_\ell$, they are determined by the tuning parameters $\alpha_{NT}$ and $\beta_{NT}$. $\alpha_{NT}$ and $\beta_{NT}$ which are the penalty weights on the coefficients with respect to $X_a$ and $X_b$ respectively. The tuning parameters are important as they are applied in the two-step shrinkage estimation procedure. They are defined as

$$
\alpha_{NT} = \kappa_1 N^{-1/2} C_{NTa}^{-3} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta_{NT} = \kappa_2 N^{-1/2} C_{NTb}^{-3},
$$

where $C_{NTa} = \min (N^{1/2}, T_a^{1/2})$, and $C_{NTb} = \min (N^{1/2}, T_b^{1/2})$. Particularly, as mentioned in Cheng et al. (2016)[13], we choose $\alpha_{NT}$ and $\beta_{NT}$ to fine-tune these two rates and replace the sample size $T$ by the subsample sizes $T_a$ and $T_b$. $\kappa_1$ and $\kappa_2$ are based on the PLS estimators with zero solution for some columns in $\Lambda$ and $\Gamma$. Cheng et al. (2016)[13] explains that the criterion function in (3.2) is minimized at 0 if the marginal penalty for deviating from 0 is larger than the marginal gain on the least square criterion function. As mentioned in Bühlmann and van de Geer (2011)[8], $\|\hat{\Lambda}_\ell\| = 0$ for $\ell > r_a$ if

$$
\|e'_a(\hat{\Lambda})\tilde{F}_{a,\ell} + e'_b(\hat{\Lambda} + \hat{\Gamma})\tilde{F}_{b,\ell}\| < NT\alpha_{NT}\omega^\lambda_\ell/2,
$$

where

$$
e_a(\Lambda) = X_a - \tilde{F}_a\Lambda' \quad \text{and} \quad e_b(\Lambda + \Gamma) = X_b - \tilde{F}_b(\Lambda + \Gamma)'.
$$
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The reasonable choice of $\kappa_1$ is

$$
\kappa_1 = \left\{ (NT_a)^{-1/2} \left\| e_a(\tilde{\Lambda}) \right\| + (NT_b)^{-1/2} \left\| e_b(\tilde{\Lambda} + \tilde{\Gamma}) \right\| \right\},
$$

(3.14)

To choose $\kappa_2$, we have

$$
\kappa_2 = (NT_b)^{-1/2} \left\| e_b(\tilde{\Lambda} + \tilde{\Gamma}) \right\|
$$

(3.15)

where $\tilde{\Lambda}$ and $\tilde{\Gamma}$ are preliminary estimators and the residual matrices $e_a(\Lambda)$ and $e_b(\Lambda + \Gamma)$ are defined as

$$
e_a(\Lambda) = X_a - \tilde{F}_a \Lambda' \text{ and } e_b(\Lambda + \Gamma) = X_b - \tilde{F}_b (\Lambda + \Gamma)'.
$$

(3.16)

We set the constants $c_1$ and $c_2$ both equal to 1 as a default. However, we develop a cross-validation procedure to fine-tune these constants over a fixed interval in finite samples.

3.6 Two-Step Estimation Method

In this section, we introduce the two-step estimation procedure, which is designed by Cheng et al. (2016)[13]. Overall, this procedure improves the finite sample performance in two perspective. The tuning parameters $\alpha_{NT}$ and $\beta_{NT}$ are more precise in the second step. The reason for this is that we obtain $\tilde{\Lambda}$ and $\tilde{\Gamma}$ in the first-step model selection; thus, the residual matrices $e_a(\Lambda)$ and $e_b(\Lambda + \Gamma)$ are more accurate. The preliminary estimators $\tilde{\Lambda}$ and $\tilde{\Gamma}$ we obtained come from the the rotation of loading matrices $\Lambda^R$ and $\Gamma^R$ respectively. Let $i=1$ and 2 denote the first-step and second-
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step estimation method respectively. Let \( \tilde{\Lambda}^{(i)} \), \( \tilde{\Gamma}^{(i)} \) and \( \tilde{\Psi}^{(i)} \) denote the preliminary estimators in step \( i \). Let \( \hat{\Lambda}^{(i)} \), \( \hat{\Gamma}^{(i)} \) and \( \hat{\Psi}^{(i)} \) denote the penalty least square (PLS) estimators in step \( i \). Let \( \hat{\Lambda}_{PMS}^{(i)} \), \( \hat{\Gamma}_{PMS}^{(i)} \) and \( \hat{\Psi}_{PMS}^{(i)} \) denote the post model selection (PMS) estimators in step \( i \). The two-step estimation procedures are performed in the following algorithm.

Algorithm 1 (Two-Step Estimation Method)

1. First-Stage Shrinkage Estimation:
   1.1. Compute the unrestricted least square estimators \( \tilde{\Lambda}_{LS} \) and \( \tilde{\Gamma}_{LS} \).
   1.2. Set \( \tilde{\Lambda}^{(1)} = \tilde{\Lambda}_{LS} \) and \( \tilde{\Gamma}^{(1)} = \tilde{\Gamma}_{LS} \). Calculate \( \omega_{\ell}^\lambda \), \( \omega_{\ell}^\gamma \), \( \alpha_{NT} \) and \( \beta_{NT} \) from (3.4) and (4.8) with \( \tilde{\Lambda} = \tilde{\Lambda}^{(1)} \) and \( \tilde{\Gamma} = \tilde{\Gamma}^{(1)} \).
   1.3. Compute the shrinkage estimator \( \tilde{\Lambda}^{(1)} \) and \( \tilde{\Gamma}^{(1)} \) by minimizing the criterion function in (3.2).
   1.4. Estimate \( r_a \) and \( r_b \) from (3.7) with \( \hat{\Lambda} = \hat{\Lambda}^{(1)} \) and \( \hat{\Gamma} = \hat{\Gamma}^{(1)} \). Name the estimator as \( \hat{r}_a^{(1)} \) and \( \hat{r}_b^{(1)} \).
   1.5. Construct \( \hat{\Lambda}_{PMS}^{(1)} \) and \( \hat{\Psi}_{PMS}^{(1)} \) in (3.10). If \( \hat{r}_a^{(1)} = \hat{r}_b^{(1)} \), then the transformation of the columns of \( \hat{\Psi}^{(1)} \) is defined as follow. Let \( \bar{\Lambda}^{(1)} \hat{\Psi}^{(1)} = UDV' \) denote the singular value decomposition of \( \bar{\Lambda}^{(1)} \hat{\Psi}^{(1)} \). The transformed factor loading is defined as

\[
\hat{\Psi}_R^{(1)} = \hat{\Psi}_{(1)}Q, \tag{3.17}
\]

where \( Q = VU' \). The modified PMS estimator of \( \Psi \) is defined as

\[
\hat{\Psi}_{PMS-R}^{(1)} = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\Psi}_R^{(1)} \end{pmatrix} \in R^{N \times K}. \tag{3.18}
\]
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2. Second-Stage Shrinkage Estimation

2.1. Let
\[ \tilde{\Lambda}^{(2)} = \hat{\Lambda}_{PMS}^{(1)}, \tilde{\Gamma}^{(2)} = \tilde{\Psi}^{(2)} - \tilde{\Lambda}^{(2)}, \tilde{\Psi}^{(2)} = \hat{\Psi}_{PMS}^{(1)}, \]
also calculate \( \omega^\lambda, \omega^\gamma, \alpha_{NT}, \) and \( \beta_{NT} \) from (3.4) and (3.11) with \( \tilde{\lambda} = \tilde{\Lambda}^{(2)} \) and \( \tilde{\Gamma} = \tilde{\Gamma}^{(2)} \).

2.2. Compute the shrinkage estimators \( \hat{\Lambda}^{(2)} \) and \( \hat{\Gamma}^{(2)} \) by (3.2).

2.3. Compute \( B_0^{(2)}, \tilde{r}^a^{(2)}, \) and \( \tilde{r}^b^{(2)} \) from (3.7) with \( \tilde{\Lambda} = \tilde{\Lambda}^{(2)} \) and \( \tilde{\Gamma} = \tilde{\Gamma}^{(2)} \).

2.4. Construct the PMS estimator \( \hat{\Lambda}_{PMS}^{(2)} \) and \( \hat{\Psi}_{PMS}^{(2)} \) by definition in (3.10) conditional on \( B_0^{(2)}, \tilde{r}^a^{(2)}, \) and \( \tilde{r}^b^{(2)} \).

In this procedure, the preliminary estimator in step one is used to fine-tune the penalty terms in shrinkage estimator of step two. The preliminary estimator in step two is based on the PMS estimator in step one. In Step 1.5, the transformation increases the precision of locating the structural break when \( B_0 = 0 \). The transformation does not have an effect on the asymptotic approach. Specifically, we need to find the orthogonal matrix \( Q \) in Step 1.5 such that \( \| \tilde{\Lambda}^{(1)} - \Omega^{(1)} Q \| \) is minimized. The work of Schönenmann (1966)[23] proposes similar work and obtained the solution to the orthogonal matrix. We apply this method to Step 1.5 and we find the orthogonal matrix \( Q = UV' \). This leads to the sums of squares of the residual matrix \( (\tilde{\Lambda}^{(1)} - \hat{\Psi}^{(1)} Q) \) being minimized. It also minimizes the risk of locating an incorrect structural break date.
3.7 Cross Validation

Cross validation is proposed to adjust the constants $c = (c_1, c_2) \in \mathcal{C}$ in the penalty weights in (3.14 and 3.15). Applying the cross validation procedure, we obtain accurate tuning parameters $\alpha_{NT}$ and $\beta_{NT}$. In Section 3.5, we mentioned that we set the constants $c_1$ and $c_2$ equal to 1. Besides the time series dimension, we consider the sample in the cross-sectional dimension. The procedure is stated as follows: first, we consider the data in the cross-sectional dimension. We create the disjoint subsamples $X_{(-jN)}$ (N-regression) and $X_{jN}$ (N-prediction). Second, we apply the model selection procedure (Section 3.2) to this subsample $X_{(-jN)}$ with a given value of $c$. We obtain the estimation of the unobserved factors and the model selection estimators. Third, we partition the subsample $X_{jN}$ along the $T$ dimension into regression and prediction samples. If the structural break took place in the model, we need to construct the regression and prediction samples separately for the pre- and post-break periods. We consider the factor estimates from the $X_{(-jN)}$ sample as the observed regressors. Moreover, we estimate the factor loadings based on the regression sample using ordinary least square (OLS).

The cross-validation criterion in this major paper is built on the mean-squared forecast errors (MSFE). The tuning constants $\kappa_1$ and $\kappa_2$ are chosen to minimize the MSFE for given $c$. The minimization is performed over a bounded set $\mathcal{C}$.

As mentioned in Cheng et al. (2016)[13], given the estimates of the number of pre- and post-break factors and the loadings, we can generate pseudo-out-of-sample forecasts for the prediction sample. We apply separate rolling pseudo-out-of-sample forecasting
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schemes for the pre- and post-break samples on the model selection estimators.
Chapter 4

Estimation and Modeling in
Unknown Break Date Case

In the previous chapter, we introduced estimation and modeling in the known break case. In this chapter, we generalize the results to account for the unknown break date case. For the unknown break date case, we simply adopt *-superscripts and \((\pi)\)-arguments to distinguish from the known break date case.

In Section 4.1, we introduce the shrinkage estimator. The model selection is described in Section 4.2. In Section 4.3, we describe the post model selection estimation and estimate the break date by using the least square method. In Section 4.4, we study the asymptotic theory for the proposed shrinkage estimator and present related theorems and assumptions. Section 4.5 presents the method of choosing the tuning parameters and performing the two-step estimation in the unknown break date case.
CHAPTER 4. ESTIMATION AND MODELING IN UNKNOWN BREAK DATE CASE

4.1 Shrinkage Estimator

In this section, we extend the procedure in Section 3.1 to the unknown break date case. When the break date $T_0$ is unknown, let $T$ be the number of periods in the sample. We introduce a new parameter $\pi_0 = T_0 / T$, which denotes the true break date. We assume that $\pi_0 \in \Pi$, where $\Pi$ is some closed subset $[0,1]$. For any $\pi \in \Pi$, we split the full sample into pre- and post-break subsets $X_a(\pi) = (X_1, \cdots, X_{T_a})' \in \mathbb{R}^{T_a \times N}$ and $X_b(\pi) = (X_{T_a+1}, \cdots, X_T)' \in \mathbb{R}^{T_b \times N}$, where $T_a = \lfloor T \cdot \pi \rfloor$ denotes the integer part of $T \cdot \pi$ and $T_b = T - T_a$. To obtain the unknown break date $\pi_0$, we need to study the number of factors in $X_a(\pi)$ and $X_b(\pi)$. Here we denote $r_a(\pi)$ and $r_b(\pi)$ as number of factors in $X_a(\pi)$ and $X_b(\pi)$ respectively. $r_a(\pi)$ and $r_b(\pi)$ are defined as the number of non-vanishing eigenvalues of $(NT)^{-1}X_a(\pi)'X_a(\pi)$ and $(NT)^{-1}X_b(\pi)'X_b(\pi)$ as $N, T \to \infty$. We propose a range for the break dates such that $\pi \in [\bar{\pi}, \bar{\pi}]$, where $\bar{\pi} > 0$ and $\bar{\pi} < 1$.

In practice, the break dates are not supposed to be close to zero or one, because it is not convenient to analyses the factor model in a small time dimension. Cheng et al. (2016)[13] suggest to set $\bar{\pi} \geq 0.15$ and $\bar{\pi} \leq 0.85$ for better model estimation in unknown break date case. Let $\tilde{F}_a(\pi) \in \mathbb{R}^{T_a \times k}$ denote the orthonormalized eigenvectors of $(NT_a)^{-1}X_a(\pi)X_a(\pi)'$ with first $k$ largest eigenvalues. Similarly, let $\tilde{F}_b(\pi) \in \mathbb{R}^{T_b \times k}$ denote the orthonormalized left eigenvectors of $(NT_b)^{-1}X_b(\pi)X_b(\pi)'$ with first $k$ largest eigenvalues. The unrestricted estimators of the factor loadings are $\tilde{\Lambda}_{LS}(\pi) = T_a^{-1}X_a(\pi)'\tilde{F}_a(\pi)$ and $\tilde{\Psi}_{LS}(\pi) = T_b^{-1}X_b(\pi)'\tilde{F}_b(\pi)$. In addition, $\tilde{\Gamma}_{LS}(\pi) = \tilde{\Psi}_{LS}(\pi) - \tilde{\Lambda}_{LS}(\pi)$. 
CHAPTER 4. ESTIMATION AND MODELING IN UNKNOWN BREAK DATE CASE

We replace \( \pi_0 \) by \( \pi \) in Section 3.1. Then, we get a shrinkage estimator with adjusted break date \( \pi \in \Pi \) and consistent estimator of \( r_a(\pi) \) and \( r_b(\pi) \). Since the estimators of \( r_a(\pi) \) and \( r_b(\pi) \) are sensitive to \( \pi \), we construct the shrinkage estimator with averaging penalty to maintain a low sensitivity of \( \pi \) in the finite sample. The shrinkage estimator is defined as

\[
(\hat{\Lambda}(\pi), \hat{\Gamma}(\pi)) = \arg\min_{\Lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times k}, \Gamma \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times k}} [M(\Lambda, \Gamma; \pi) + P_1^*(\Lambda) + P_2^*(\Gamma)], \tag{4.1}
\]

where

\[
M(\Lambda, \Gamma; \pi) = (NT)^{-1} \left[ \left\| X_a(\pi) - \tilde{F}_a(\pi)\Lambda' \right\|^2 + \left\| X_b(\pi) - \tilde{F}_b(\pi)(\Lambda + \Gamma)' \right\| \right]. \tag{4.2}
\]

The averaging penalty functions \( P_1^*(\Lambda) \) and \( P_2^*(\Lambda) \) are defined as

\[
P_1^*(\Lambda) = \sum_{\ell=1}^k \mathbb{E}_\xi[\alpha_{NT}(\xi)\omega^{\lambda^*_\ell}(\xi)]\|\Lambda_{\ell}\| \quad \text{and} \quad P_2^*(\Gamma) = \sum_{\ell=1}^k \mathbb{E}_\xi[\beta_{NT}(\xi)\omega^{\gamma^*_\ell}(\xi)]\|\Gamma_{\ell}\|, \tag{4.3}
\]

where \( \mathbb{E}_\xi[\cdot] \) denotes the expectation with respect to \( \xi \). By definition,

\[
\mathbb{E}_\xi[\alpha_{NT}(\xi)\omega^{\lambda^*_\ell}(\xi)] = \int_\pi^{\bar{\pi}} \alpha_{NT}(\xi)\omega^{\lambda^*_\ell}(\xi) \frac{1}{\bar{\pi} - \pi} d\xi, \\
\mathbb{E}_\xi[\beta_{NT}(\xi)\omega^{\gamma^*_\ell}(\xi)] = \int_\pi^{\bar{\pi}} \beta_{NT}(\xi)\omega^{\gamma^*_\ell}(\xi) \frac{1}{\bar{\pi} - \pi} d\xi, \tag{4.4}
\]

where \( \pi \) and \( \bar{\pi} \) are lower and upper bounds on \( \Pi \) respectively. They all depend on \( N \) and \( T \). \( \alpha_{NT}(\pi) \) and \( \beta_{NT}(\pi) \) are named tuning parameters and denote the coefficients of constants which depend on \( N \) and \( T \) for every \( \pi \). The tuning parameters are not unique since \( \pi \) varies. For \( \pi \in \Pi \), let \( \bar{\Lambda}(\pi), \bar{\Psi}(\pi) \) and \( \bar{\Gamma}(\pi) \) denote some
preliminary estimators, then the adaptive weights $\omega_\ell^\lambda(\pi)$ and $\omega_\ell^\gamma(\pi)$ in terms of the above preliminary estimators are defined as:

$$
\omega_\ell^\lambda(\pi) = \left( N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Lambda}(\pi)\|^2\mathcal{I}_{\{\tilde{\Lambda}(\pi) \neq 0_{N \times 1}\}} + N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Lambda}\ell,LS(\pi)\|^2\mathcal{I}_{\{\tilde{\Lambda}(\pi) = 0_{N \times 1}\}} \right)^{-2},
$$

$$
\omega_\ell^\gamma(\pi) = \left( N^{-1}\min \left\{ \|\tilde{\Gamma}(\pi)\|^2, \|\tilde{\Psi}(\pi)\|^2 \right\}\mathcal{I}_{\{\tilde{\Gamma}(\pi) \neq 0_{N \times 1}\}} \right)^{-2} + \left( N^{-1}\min \left\{ \|\tilde{\Gamma}_{\ell,LS}(\pi)\|^2, \|\tilde{\Psi}_{\ell,LS}(\pi)\|^2 \right\}\mathcal{I}_{\{\tilde{\Gamma}(\pi) = 0_{N \times 1}\}} \right)^{-2}.
$$

As mentioned in Section 3.1, note that $\omega_\ell^\lambda(\pi_0) = \omega_\ell^\lambda$ but $\omega_\ell^\gamma(\pi_0) \neq \omega_\ell^\gamma$. When the break date is unknown, it is crucial to use $\omega_\ell^\gamma(\pi)$ for estimation of $\gamma_b$. Cheng et al. (2016)[13] explain that for $\pi > \pi_0$ and $\ell > r_b$, we have $N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Psi}_{\ell,LS}(\pi)\|^2$ converges in probability to zero when $n \to \infty$, but $N^{-1}\|\tilde{\Gamma}_{\ell,LS}(\pi)\|^2$ may not converge in probability to 0. Thus, the modified adaptive weights can deliver larger penalties, when needed.

4.2 Model Selection Estimator

In this section, the model specification estimators $\hat{B}^*$, $\hat{r}_a^*$ and $\hat{r}_b^*$ are similar to Section 3.2 with *-superscripts and (\pi)-arguments are adopted. Those estimators can be obtained as follows. First, we let

$$
\hat{B}^* = \mathcal{I}_{\{\sup_{\pi} \|\tilde{\Gamma}(\pi)\| > 0\}}.
$$
CHAPTER 4. ESTIMATION AND MODELING IN UNKNOWN BREAK DATE CASE

Second, the estimators of number of pre- and post-break factors $r_a$ and $r_b$ are defined as

$$\hat{r}_a^* = \min_{\pi \in \Pi} \hat{r}_a(\pi) \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{r}_b^* = \max_{\pi \in \Pi} \hat{r}_b(\pi),$$

(4.7)

where $\hat{r}_a(\pi)$ and $\hat{r}_b(\pi)$ are defined as in (3.7). Here, we replace $\hat{\Lambda}$ and $\hat{\Gamma}$ by $\hat{\Lambda}(\pi)$ and $\hat{\Gamma}(\pi)$ respectively. The model specification estimators $\hat{B}^*$, $\hat{r}_a^*$ and $\hat{r}_b^*$ can detect instability effectively in a large number of time series for the unknown break date case.

4.3 Post Model Selection Estimation

In Section 3.3, we presented the PMS estimators in the known break date case. For the unknown break date case, the PMS estimators are similar. As mentioned in the beginning of this chapter, we simply adopt *-superscripts and (\pi)-arguments for the unknown break date case. The PMS estimators are defined as

$$\hat{\Lambda}_{PMS}(\pi) = (\hat{\Lambda}(\pi), 0) \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\Psi}_{PMS}(\pi) = (\hat{\Psi}(\pi), 0),$$

(4.8)

where 0 is zero matrix. (Cheng et al. (2016))[13]

Bai (1997)[5] explains that when $\hat{B}^* = 1$, one can use the least square objective function to estimate the break date $\pi_0$. Let

$$\hat{\pi} = \arg\min_{\pi \in \Pi} Q_{NT}(\pi; \hat{r}_a^*, \hat{r}_b^*),$$

(4.9)
where

\[ Q_{NT}(\pi; \widehat{r}_a^*, \widehat{r}_b^*) = (NT)^{-1} \left[ \left\| X_a(\pi) - \widehat{F}_a(\pi) \widehat{\Lambda}_{PMS}(\pi) \right\|^2 + \left\| X_b(\pi) - \widehat{F}_b(\pi) \widehat{\Psi}_{PMS}(\pi) \right\|^2 \right]. \tag{4.10} \]

\section{4.4 Asymptotic Properties}

In this section, we show that with the support of the averaging penalty in (4.3), the proposed shrinkage estimator with the averaging penalty can be extended to satisfy the unknown-break-date model. The tuning parameters and the two-step estimation method remain the same as in Sections 3.5 and 3.6. We propose the model specification estimators \( \widehat{B}^*, \widehat{r}_a^* \) and \( \widehat{r}_b^* \) directly without establishing the asymptotic behavior of the Group-LASSO estimator \( \widehat{\Lambda}(\pi) \) and \( \widehat{\Gamma}(\pi) \). The reason is that the shrinkage estimator with averaging penalty does not carry out the estimation of \( r_a(\pi) \) and \( r_b(\pi) \) for all \( \pi \). Although the averaging penalty leads to over-penalizing when \( \pi \neq \pi_0 \), the consistent estimation of \( r_a \) and \( r_b \) can be obtained eventually since \( r_a \leq r_a(\pi) \) and \( r_b \leq r_b(\pi) \).

We reinforce Assumption 7 with the averaging penalty in the unknown break date case. For any \( \pi \in \Pi \), we rewrite the normalized statistical model as

\[ X_a(\pi) = F_a^R(\pi) \Lambda^R(\pi)' + e_a(\pi), \]
\[ X_b(\pi) = F_b^R(\pi) \Psi^R(\pi)' + e_b(\pi), \tag{4.11} \]

where \( F_a^R(\pi) \in R^{T_a \times (r_a + r_b)} \) and \( \Lambda^R(\pi) \in R^{N \times (r_a + r_b)} \), and \( F_b^R(\pi) \in R^{T_a \times (r_a + r_b)} \) and \( \Psi^R(\pi) \in R^{N \times (r_a + r_b)} \).
Assumption 8. (i) If $r_a = r_b$, then $\inf_{\pi \in \Pi} N^{-1} \| \Psi_R(\pi) W - \Lambda_R^{\ell}(\pi) \| \geq C$ for $\ell \in \mathcal{Z}$; 
(ii) If $r_b > r_a$, then $\inf_{\pi > \pi_0} N^{-1} \| \Psi_R(\pi) W - \Lambda_R^{\ell}(\pi) \| \geq C$ for $\ell = r_b$. \hfill \Box

Assumption 8 is the reinforced version of Assumption 7. Part (i) is generalized from Assumption 7 by replacing the break date $\pi$ to $\pi_0$ with any $\pi \in \Pi$. Part (ii) is designed for the unknown break date case because $\Lambda_R^{\ell}(\pi_0) = 0$ for $\ell = r_b > r_a$. The following theorem indicates that in the unknown break date case, we can obtain the asymptotic result of the estimator of $r_a$, $r_b$, and $B$.

Assumption 9. $\mathbb{E}[\| F_0^t \| ^4] \leq C$, $\mathbb{E}[\| F_t^0 \| ^4] \leq C$ and there exist random positive definite nonrandom matrices $\Sigma_F$ and $\Sigma_{F^0}$ such that $T^{-1} \sum_{t=1}^{[T_n]} F_0^t F_t^{0\prime} = \pi \Sigma_F + O_p(T^{-1/2})$ for $\pi \leq \pi_0$ and $T^{-1} \sum_{t=[T_n]+1}^{T} F_t^0 F_t^{0\prime} = (1-\pi) \Sigma_{F^0} + O_p(T^{-1/2})$ for $\pi \geq \pi_0$, where both $O_p(T^{-1/2})$ terms are uniform over $\pi \in \Pi$. \hfill \Box

Assumption 10. Assumption 4 holds with $e_a$ and $e_b$ replaced by $e_a(\pi)$ and $e_b(\pi)$ and Assumption 4(vi) holds uniformly over $\pi \in \Pi$. \hfill \Box

Theorem 4.1. Suppose that Assumptions 3, 5, 6, 8-10 hold with the existence of the instability. Then,

$$\lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\hat{r}_a^* = r_a) = 1; \lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\hat{r}_b^* = r_b) = 1; \lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\hat{B}^* = \mathcal{B}) = 1. \quad (4.12)$$

The proof of this theorem is similar to that of Theorem 3.4. When we take into account for the difference between $\pi$ and $\pi_0$, the averaging penalty terms not only tend to over-penalize the loadings, but also set the loadings to zero for $\pi = \pi_0$. This brings
out a tendency of underestimating either \( r_a(\pi) \) or \( r_b(\pi) \) if the conjectured break point is not specified correctly. An estimation of the break date can be identified when we apply the estimates \( \hat{r}_a^* \) and \( \hat{r}_b^* \) to the least squares objective function in (4.9).

In Chapter 6, we conduct Monte Carlo simulation to evaluate the performance of the shrinkage estimators.

4.5 On Estimation of Parameters and Algorithm

In this section, we introduce the tuning parameters, extend the estimation algorithm to the unknown break date case, and adjust the constants in the penalty weights by cross validation procedure for unknown break date case. We choose to use the following tuning parameters

\[
\alpha_{NT}(\pi) = \kappa_1(\pi)N^{-1/2}C_{NTa}^{-3} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta_{NT}(\pi) = \kappa_2(\pi)N^{-1/2}C_{NTb}^{-3}
\]

where \( \kappa_1(\pi) \in [\kappa_1, \kappa_1] \) and \( \kappa_2(\pi) \in [\kappa_2, \kappa_2] \) for some \( \kappa_1, \kappa_2 < \infty \). Note that the parameters in (4.13) are similar to (3.11). Practically, we use the value of \( \kappa_1(\pi) \) and \( \kappa_2(\pi) \) as defined in (3.14 and 3.15) with \( \tilde{\Lambda} \) and \( \tilde{\Gamma} \) replaced by \( \tilde{\Lambda}(\pi) \) and \( \tilde{\Gamma}(\pi) \).

We perform the two-step estimation method as in Section 3.6 to the unknown break date case by plugging the notation \((\pi)\)-argument and *-subscript into the parameters. First, we set \( \tilde{\Lambda}^{(1)}(\pi) = \tilde{\Lambda}_{LS}(\pi) \), \( \tilde{\Psi}^{(1)}(\pi) = \tilde{\Psi}_{LS}(\pi) \) and \( \tilde{\Gamma}^{(1)}(\pi) = \tilde{\Gamma}_{LS}(\pi) \). Second, we replace \( \omega_{\ell}^{\lambda}, \omega_{\ell}^{\gamma}, \alpha_{NT} \) and \( \beta_{NT} \) by \( \omega_{\ell}^{\lambda*}(\pi), \omega_{\ell}^{\gamma*}(\pi), \alpha_{NT}(\pi) \) and \( \beta_{NT}(\pi) \). Third, we
replace the PLS criterion function in (3.2) by (4.1). Fourth, we use $\hat{r}_a$ and $\hat{r}_b$ defined in (4.7) to replace those in (3.7). According to the definition in (4.7), the first step number of factors $\hat{r}_a^{(1)}$ and $\hat{r}_b^{(1)}$ remains the same no matter how the value of $\pi$ changes. Thus, we obtain the first-step shrinkage estimators $\hat{\Lambda}^{(1)}(\pi)$ and $\hat{\Gamma}^{(1)}(\pi)$ for every $\pi \in \Pi$, and we obtain $\hat{r}_a^{(1)}$ and $\hat{r}_b^{(1)}$ in the first-step. Moreover, we obtain the estimators $\hat{\Lambda}^{(2)}(\pi)$ and $\hat{\Gamma}^{(2)}(\pi)$ for every $\pi \in \Pi$ in the second step. Finally, we obtain $\hat{r}_a^*$, $\hat{r}_b^*$, and $\hat{B}^*$ by the two step PLS estimators $\hat{\Lambda}^{(2)}(\pi)$ and $\hat{\Gamma}^{(2)}(\pi)$ following the results in Section 3.4.

According to Cheng et al. (2016)[13], the cross validation procedure introduced in Section 3.7 can be applied to the case of unknown break date. We take a common value of $c$ for all possible break dates. For every $\pi$, the subsamples $X_{(jN)}$ are constructed similarly as in Section 4.3; we replace $\pi_0$ by $\pi$. With the corresponding value of $c$, we obtain a selected model. Note that by definition, the selected model does not depend on $\pi$. For the cross validation subsample $X_{(jN)}$, we avoid the observations located outside of the conjectured break interval $\Pi$ and then we apply the Step 1.4 of Algorithm 2.

We need to take into account the following perspectives to obtain the proposed Group-LASSO estimator: first, the maximum number of potential factors $k$. According to Stock and Watson (2012)[24], $k$ is determined by the estimation of the number of factors. However, if the value of $k$ is overestimated, it brings out a large number of potential regressors and drops the efficiency of the shrinkage estimator. If $\hat{r}_b = k$, then the value of $k$ is set too small. Second, the break date interval $\Pi$. The interval
of Π is determined by the real world events. For instance, we could set the interval around the year 1984 if we study the breaks of the Great Moderation. In addition, the interval could be set around the year 2007 if we are interested in the Great Recession. Choosing a reasonable length of interval Π would increase the performance of the estimator. Finally, we choose a set of well-behaved $C$, $n_N$, and $n_T$ for the Monte Carlo study.
Chapter 5

Numerical Results

In this chapter, we present the Monte Carlo simulation and the results from the experiments. We also analyze the method with the empirical data set of the Great Recession.

5.1 Monte Carlo Simulation

Monte Carlo simulation relies on the repeated random sampling and statistical analysis to compute the results (Raychaudhuri, 2008)[21]. This type of simulation has been widely used for the solution of large, complex systems when analytical approximations are not easy to establish (Cruse, 1997)[15]. In this section, we present the Monte Carlo simulations to evaluate the performance of the proposed estimator $\hat{r}_a$, $\hat{r}_b$ and $B$, the mean squared errors (MSEs) of the proposed shrinkage estimators, and the PMS estimators in finite sample. Section 5.1 presents the statistical model and the estimators used in the experiment. Section 5.2 describes the results and explanation from the simulation.
CHAPTER 5. NUMERICAL RESULTS

5.1.1 Design of the Statistical Models

This section describes the design of the factor models and simulations. The statistical models of this major paper refer to the paper of Bates, Plagborg-Møller, Stock and Watson (2013)[3] with improvement on adjusting the structural instability and aiming on the large breaks. The factor models are stated as

$$
\begin{align*}
\text{Pre-break:} & \quad X_{it} = \lambda_i'F_t + e_{it}, \quad F_{t,\ell} = \rho_a F_{t-1,\ell} + u_{t,\ell}, \\
& \quad t = 1, \ldots, [T\pi_0], \quad \ell = 1, \ldots, r_a, \tag{5.1}
\end{align*}
$$

$$
\begin{align*}
\text{Post-break:} & \quad X_{it} = \psi_i'\overline{F}_t + e_{it}, \quad \overline{F}_{t,\ell} = \rho_b \overline{F}_{t-1,\ell} + u_{t,\ell}, \\
& \quad t = [T\pi_0] + 1, \ldots, T, \quad \ell = 1, \ldots, r_b,
\end{align*}
$$

where $i = 1, \ldots, N$, $F_t = (F_{t,1}, \ldots, F_{t,r_a})'$, $\overline{F}_t = (\overline{F}_{t,1}, \ldots, \overline{F}_{t,r_b})'$, and $\{u_{t,\ell} : \ell = 1, \ldots, r_b\}$ with $u_{t,\ell} \sim N(0,1)$. To take into account for the temporal and cross-sectional dependence of the idiosyncratic errors, consider that

$$
e_{it} = \alpha e_{it-1} + v_{it}, \quad v_{it} = (v_{1t}, \ldots, v_{NT})' \sim N(0, \Omega), \tag{5.2}
$$

where the $(i, j)$-th element of $\Omega$ is $\beta^{i-j}$. Note that the processes are mutually independent and are independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.) across $t$. Let $F_0$ and $e_0 = (e_{10}, \ldots, e_{N0})'$ denote the initial values of the factors and the idiosyncratic errors respectively, and they are drawn from their stationary distribution. If $r_b = r_a$, then $\overline{F}_{T_0} = F_{T_0}$. If $r_b > r_a$, then $\overline{F}_{T_0} = (F'_{T_0}, F_{T_0}')'$, where each element of $F_{T_0}'$ is drawn independently from the distribution of $F_{t,\ell}$. The parameters $\{N, T, \pi_0, r_a, r_b, \rho_a, \rho_b, \alpha, \beta\}$ are specified later.
To construct the pre-break factor loadings \( \{ \lambda_i : i = 1, \cdots, N \} \), let \( \lambda_i \sim N(0, \Sigma_i) \), where \( \Sigma_i \) is a diagonal matrix with distinct elements \( \sigma_i^2(1), \cdots, \sigma_i^2(r_a) \). The sum of these diagonal elements determines the population regression \( R^2 \) of \( X_{it} \) on the factors. To select \( R^2_i \) for \( i = 1, \cdots, N \), Bai and Ng (2002)[4] explain that \( R^2_i \) is homogeneous and set it equal to 0.5 and it also benchmarks the factor model for the simulations.

Another approach is that \( R^2_i \) is adjusted heterogeneously to match the distribution of \( R^2 \) values in the empirical data. To obtain the distribution of \( R^2 \), we consider the potential break date of the recent recession of data set before December 2007, and we regress each variable to obtain the empirical distribution of \( R^2 \). Then, we draw \( R^2_i \) for \( i = 1, \cdots, N \) independently from the empirical distribution to construct the pre-break factor loadings \( \lambda_i \).

With the existence of the structural instability, we construct the post-break factor loadings \( \psi_i \). \( \psi_i \) is similar to the proposed \( \lambda_i \), except that \( r_a \) is replaced by \( r_b \),

\[
\mathbb{E}[(\psi_i^T \mathbf{F}_t)^2] / \mathbb{E}[X_{it}^2] = R^2_i \quad \text{for } t > T_0, \text{ and } R^2_i \text{ is calibrated by post-December 2007 subsample heterogeneously.}
\]

The simulated time series are normalized to obtain zero mean and unit variance. Next, we use principal components analysis to extract a maximum of \( k = 8 \) potential factors from either the subsamples or the full sample. For experiments in the known break date case, the estimator \( \hat{r}_a, \hat{r}_b, \text{ and } \hat{B} \) are based on the two-step PLS estimator described in Algorithm 1 and we set \( n_N = 5 \) and choose \( n_T = 10 \). Normally, the cross-sectional division is a time consuming process because the model selection
procedure has to be performed on each cross-sectional regression sample. Given the selected model, the time-series rolling window forecast is the better choice (Cheng et al. 2016)[13].

For experiments in the unknown break date case, the estimation of the triple estimator depends on the adjusted version of Algorithms 1 described in Section 3.6. We consider Π as a discrete set Π_d and the grid size in Π_d is τ = 0.01, a shift by a quarter for a monthly data set of 300 periods, like the data set in the empirical application. Let Π_d = {π_c - 4τ, π_c - 3τ, ..., π_c, ..., π_c + 3τ, π_c + 4τ}, which spans a two-year interval and is symmetric around the true break point π_0. The post-break subsample for the PMS estimator is obtained by the least square estimator of the break point described in Section 4.3.

We compute the mean-squared errors (MSE) for out-of-sample forecasts (MSFE) generated by the selected model. We set the initial value of y_1 = X_{iT}. The series to be forecast is written as

Pre-break: \( y_{t+1} = \varphi_a' F_t + \epsilon_{t+1}, \quad t = 1, \cdots, T_a. \)

Post-break: \( y_{t+1} = \varphi_b' \vec{F}_t + \epsilon_{t+1}, \quad t = T_a + 1, \cdots, T_a + T_b. \)

Suppose that \( \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \cdots, \epsilon_{T_a+T_b} \) are iid as N(0,1) and independent with the processes \( u_{t, t} \) and \( v_{it} \), which are mentioned in Section 5.1.1. The loading vector is generated from the distribution \( \varphi_a \sim N(0, I_{r_a}). \) If there is no structural break, then we have \( \varphi_b = \varphi_a. \) Considering the existence of the instability, \( \varphi_b \) is drawn independently based on \( \varphi_b \sim N(0, I_{r_b}). \) To generate the MSFE, we present the model and the
factors based on the full sample $X$. In the pre-break case, we estimate $\varphi_b = \varphi_a$ on the full sample $t = 1, \cdots, T_a + T_b - 1$ and the evaluation of MSFE is based on the prediction of $y_{T_a+T_b+1}$. In the post-break date case, $\varphi_b$ is estimated on the subsample $t = T_a + 1, \cdots, T_a + T_b - 1$ and the evaluation of MSFE is based on the prediction of $y_{T_a+T_b+1}$.

$$
\text{MSFE}_{PMS}(\hat{y}_{T_a+T_b+1}) = \mathbb{E}\left[ (y_{T_a+T_b+1} - \hat{y}_{T_a+T_b+1})^2 \right] = \mathbb{E}\left[ (X_{\text{Forecast}} - \varphi_b^T F_{T_a+T_b+1})^2 \right]. \tag{5.4}
$$

The full-sample estimator is defined as the first $r$ columns of the full sample least squares estimator $\tilde{\Lambda}_{LS} = T^{-1}X'\tilde{F}$, where $r = r_a$ if $B_0 = 0$, which means no structural break and $r = r_a + r_b$ if $B_0 \neq 0$, which means there exists a structural break.

$$
\text{MSFE}_{Full}(\tilde{\Lambda}_{LS}) = \mathbb{E}\left[ (X_{\text{Forecast}} - \varphi_{\text{Full}}^T \tilde{F})^2 \right]. \tag{5.5}
$$

The relative MSFE depends on the MSFE of the predictor of PMS estimator to the MSFE of the predictor of the full-sample estimation. The calculation of the relative MSFE for full-sample and PMS estimator is summarized as follows:

$$
\text{Relative MSFE} = \frac{\text{MSFE}_{PMS}(\hat{y}_{T_a+T_b+1})}{\text{MSFE}_{Full}(\tilde{\Lambda}_{LS})} \tag{5.6}
$$

We expect the values of relative MSFE to be less than 1 because the proposed PMS estimator is more accurate. Moreover, the relative MSFE is less than 1 indicates that the PSM predictor dominates the full-sample predictor.
5.1.2 Results for Shrinkage Estimator

In this section, we illustrate the results from three different types of Monte Carlo experiments in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1: Monte Carlo Experiments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exp.</th>
<th>$\pi_0$</th>
<th>$\alpha$, $\beta$</th>
<th>Break Point</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>Known</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>Unknown, Known</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>Known</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the first experiment, the regression $R^2$ is homogeneous across all series, we assume that the break date is located at $\pi_0 = 0.5$ and cross-sectional correlation $\alpha = \beta = 0.2$. In the second experiment, we consider the known and unknown break date case. The regression $R^2$ is heterogeneous across the series and $\pi_0 = 0.8$ indicates that the break occurs at the end of the sample. The third experiment is similar to the first one but the cross-sectional correlation $\alpha = \beta = 0.5$. Overall, we set the temporal correlation to $\rho_a = \rho_b = 0.5$ and all results are based on averages over 1,000 Monte Carlo runs. (Cheng et al. (2016))[13]

First, we display the Monte Carlo results for Experiment 1 in Table 5.2.
Table 5.2: Known Break Point, Homogeneous $R^2$, $\pi_0 = 0.5$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model Configuration</th>
<th>Model Selection</th>
<th>Relative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$r_a$ $r_b$ $w$ $N$ $T$</td>
<td>$\Pr(\hat{B} = B)$</td>
<td>$\Pr(\hat{\tau}_a = r_a)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel A. No Break</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 3 0 115 115</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 3 0 160 160</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 3 0 190 190</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel B. Type 2-Instability</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 2 0 115 115</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 2 0 160 160</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 2 0 190 190</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 4 0 115 115</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 4 0 160 160</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 4 0 190 190</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Cross-sectional correlation $\alpha = \beta = 0.2$; temporal correlation $\rho_a = \rho_b = 0.5$.

Table 5.2 contains two panels, corresponding to no break and the instability. Under this instability, we consider the changes of the number of factors from 1 to 2 and 3 to 4, and $w = 0$. Various values of $N$ and $T$ are included in the experiment. We present the probability of correctly estimating $B$, $r_a$, $r_b$. The last column contains the MSFE of the predictor based on the PMS estimator relative to the predictor based on the full-sample least square estimator, where the number of factors is set to $r_a$ for Panel (A), and to $r_a + r_b$ for Panel (B). We expect values less than 1 among relative MSFE because the proposed PMS predictor is more accurate. If the break date is known, the procedure correctly detects the break date, as well as if the break date is located in the middle of the sample ($\pi_0 = 0.5$). We obtain that the probability of correctly estimating $B$, $r_a$ and $r_b$ equal to 1, which means that the procedure has generally no problem detecting the existence of the instability.

The last column of Table 5.2 shows the relative MSFEs. For the no-break date case,
the procedure of estimating $r_a$, $r_b$, and $B$ correctly with probability 1, which indicates that the PMS estimator is identical to the full-sample predictor. Due to the large number of estimated parameters, the predictor is slightly less accurate than the PMS predictor. The proposed PMS predictor is generally accurate since all the relative MSFE values are less than 1, except in the case of $N = T = 160$ in Panel B, where the value of MSFE is slightly greater than 1. Therefore, the PMS predictor weakly dominates the full-sample predictor.

We also give Monte Carlo results for Experiment 2 with unknown break point in Table 5.3.

Table 5.3: Unknown Break Point, Heterogeneous $R^2$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model Configuration</th>
<th>Model Selection</th>
<th>Relative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$r_a$ $r_b$ $w$ $N$ $T$</td>
<td>$Pr(\hat{B}^* = B)$</td>
<td>$Pr(\hat{r}_a^* = r_a)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel A. No Break</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 3 0 100 175</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 3 0 100 225</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 3 0 175 275</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel B. Instability</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 2 0 100 175</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 2 0 100 225</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 2 0 175 275</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 4 0 100 175</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 4 0 100 225</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 4 0 200 400</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Cross-sectional correlation $\alpha = \beta = 0.2$; temporal correlation $\rho_a = \rho_b = 0.5$.

Table 5.3 shows that the heterogeneous regression $R^2$ and the model selection procedure in the unknown break date case is less accurate. When the break date is unknown, the ranking of the PMS estimator and the full-sample predictor is unclear (Cheng et al. 2016[13]). In the no-break case, the procedure correctly determines $B$, 

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$r_a$ and $r_b$ for all sample sizes. Indeed, the shrinkage procedure correctly determines the absence of the break and the PMS estimator is the same as the full-sample predictor.

There is no trouble to detect the existence of instability in the procedure when the number of factors changes from 1 to 2 if the break date is unknown. However, when $N = 100$ and $T = 175$ and the number of factors changes from 3 to 4, the probability of estimating $B$ and $r_b$ are zero and for estimating $r_a$ is 0.5 in Panel B. Once we increase the sample size to $N = 200$ and $T = 400$, the probabilities increase to 1 eventually.

Next, we report the results for the known break date case of Experiment 2.

Table 5.4: Known Break Point, Heterogeneous $R^2$, $\pi_0 = 0.8$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model Configuration</th>
<th>Model Selection</th>
<th>Relative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$r_a$ $r_b$ $w$ $N$ $T$</td>
<td>$\Pr(\hat{B} = B)$</td>
<td>$\Pr(\hat{r}_a = r_a)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Panel A. No Break</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 3 0 100 175 1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 3 0 100 225 1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 3 0 175 275 1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Panel B. Instability</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 2 0 100 175 1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 2 0 100 225 1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 2 0 175 275 1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 4 0 100 175 0.50</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 4 0 100 225 0.50</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 4 0 180 330 1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Cross-sectional correlation $\alpha = \beta = 0.2$; temporal correlation $\rho_a = \rho_b = 0.5$.

Table 5.4 displays the heterogeneous regression $R^2$ and the model selection procedure in the known break date case is generally accurate. Under the no-break point case,
the results are equivalent to Experiment 1 and the PMS estimator is the same as the full-sample predictor.

There is no trouble to detect the existence of instability in the procedure when the number of factors changes from 1 to 2 if the break date is known. However, when the number of factors changes from 3 to 4, $N = 100$, $T = 175$ and $T = 225$, the probability of estimating $B$ and $r_b$ are 0.5 and for estimating $r_a$ is 1 in Panel B. Once we increase the sample size to $N = 180$ and $T = 330$, the probabilities increase to 1 eventually. Overall, $B$, $r_a$ and $r_b$ are correctly determined with probability 1. We conclude that the model selection procedure is generally accurate.

The last column of Table 5.4 presents the relative MSFEs. We notice that under the existence of instability, all the relative MSFEs are less than 1, which indicates that the PMS predictor weakly dominates the full-sample predictor. However, for the case of $N = 100$ and $T = 175$, as well as $N = 175$ and $T = 275$, the values of MSFEs are slightly greater than 1. Therefore, the procedure generally has no problem in detecting the existence of the instability if the break date is known and located in the end of the sample.

Finally, we present the results of Experiment 3, which is similar to Experiment 1 but with stronger cross-sectional correlation.
Table 5.5: Known Break Point, Homogeneous $R^2$, $\pi_0 = 0.5$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$r_a$</th>
<th>$r_b$</th>
<th>$w$</th>
<th>$N$</th>
<th>$T$</th>
<th>$\text{Pr}(\hat{B} = B)$</th>
<th>$\text{Pr}(\hat{r_a} = r_a)$</th>
<th>$\text{Pr}(\hat{r_b} = r_b)$</th>
<th>Relative MSFE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel A, No Break</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel B, Instability</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>0.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>0.67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Cross-sectional correlation $\alpha = \beta = 0.5$; temporal correlation $\rho_a = \rho_b = 0.5$.

Table 5.5 is similar to Table 5.1 with the same break date $\pi_0 = 0.5$ but different cross-sectional correlation $\alpha = \beta = 0.5$. The results in the no-break date case turn out to be identical to Experiment 1. However, when $N = T = 115$ and the number of factors changes from 3 to 4, the probability of estimating $B$ and $r_b$ are less than 1. The procedure has generally no problem detecting the existence of the instability if the break date is known and located in the middle of the sample.

The last column of Table 5.5 shows the relative MSFEs. For no-break date case, the probability of model selection equals to 1, which indicates that the PMS estimator is identical to the full-sample predictor. The proposed PMS predictor is generally accurate since half of the relative MSFE values are less than 1, the others are slightly greater than 1.
CHAPTER 5. NUMERICAL RESULTS

5.2 Real Data Set: the Great Recession

The Great Recession in the U.S. started in the winter of 2007, after 18 months of recession, growth returned to the U.S. economy in the summer of 2009. As of 2011, the recession was not officially over and kept affecting lives in the form of high employment rate, a host of associated labor-market problems, and ongoing threat of a double-dip recession (Grusky et al. 2011)[17]. It was the longest postwar recession and the associated labor-market dislocations were especially severe. From May 2007 to October 2009, the labor force lost over 7.5 million jobs, and the employment rate climbed from 4.4% to 10.1% (Grusky et al. 2011)[17]. Unlike many other postwar recessions, the disruption of borrowing and lending played an important role in the 2007-2009 recession (Cheng et al. 2016)[13].

We apply Group-LASSO method which developed in previous chapters to investigate the stability of factor loadings and the emergence of new factors. Section 5.2.1 describes the real data set we use for the empirical analysis. Section 5.2.2 presets the empirical results of detecting the break date of the Great Recession.

5.2.1 Some Preliminary Transformations

Stock and Watson (2012)[24] edited a set of 200 macroeconomic and financial indicators. Let $X_t$ denotes the observation of the macroeconomic and financial indicators $N_t$, observed over time periods $t = 1, \ldots, T$, where $T$ denotes the number of the months. For instance, those financial indicators are real personal consumption ex-
penditure or unemployment rate and level etc. The list of the description of those financial indicators are presented in the Appendix C.

We use this data set for the empirical analysis. They eliminate 68 replicate indicators from 200 in total to avoid double counting of the data. The new data set is named SW132. We extend the series in the SW132 data set to 2012:M12, using May 2013 data vintages. The first four digits denote the year, the letter M and last two digits denote the certain month. For example, 2012:M12 means the break date is December of 2012. We replace the quarterly series in SW132 by the monthly counterparts, if available. This is possible for the consumption of nondurable, services, and durables; for nonresidential investment; and for 16 price series. We remove the remaining quarterly series for which no monthly observations are available. We add two statistical model components that are available at monthly frequency: change in private inventory and wage and salary disbursements. Following Stock and Watson (2012)[24], we remove local means from all series using a bi-weight kernel with a bandwidth of 100 months, the local means are approximately the same as the ones obtained by a centered moving average of ±70 months. After making these modifications, the data set consists of $N = 102$ series of monthly macroeconomic and financial indicators. The sample begins after the Great Moderation and ranges from 1985:M1 to 2013:M1 ($T = 337$).
5.2.2 Analyze the Results

The empirical analysis is considered in the unknown break date case. We apply the adjustments of the procedure described in Section 4.5. During the empirical analysis, we fix the number of potential factors to \( k = 8 \) and use the cross-validation procedure with \( n_N = 5 \) and \( n_T = 10 \) (Cheng et al. (2016))[13]. The model selection results are reported in Table 5.6.

Table 5.6: Model Selection, \( T_c=2012: \text{M}12 \)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interval Size</th>
<th>( \hat{r}_a )</th>
<th>( \hat{r}_b )</th>
<th>Break Dates</th>
<th>Least Sq.</th>
<th>Revised</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2007: \text{M}12</td>
<td>2007: \text{M}12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2007: \text{M}9</td>
<td>2007: \text{M}12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2007: \text{M}6</td>
<td>2007: \text{M}12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2007: \text{M}3</td>
<td>2007: \text{M}12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: We center the interval \( \Pi \) at 2007: \text{M}12 and use the averaging penalty functions \( P_1^*(\Lambda) \) and \( P_2^*(\Lambda) \) defined in (4.3) where the average is taken over the interval 2007: \text{M}12 ± Size.

Suppose that \( T_c \) is the beginning of the Great Recession according to the business cycle dating of the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). We select 4 different sets of potential break dates, which are located around the potential break date \( T_c = 2007: \text{M}12 \). For example, if Size = 0, the set \( \Pi \) corresponds to a single month of the potential break date 2007: \text{M}12. In this situation, we obtain 1-month period and consider the break date happens in that time. If Size = 3, the set of potential break dates are located in the range of 2007: \text{M}9 and 2008: \text{M}3. If Size = 6, the set of potential break dates are located in the range of 2007: \text{M}6 to 2008: \text{M}6. If Size = 9, the set of potential break dates are located in the range of 2007: \text{M}3 to 2008: \text{M}9.
For each choice of \( \Pi \), we obtain \( \hat{r}_a = r_a = 1 \) and either \( \hat{r}_b = r_b = 2 \) or \( \hat{r}_b = r_b = 3 \). Clearly, the procedure provides an evidence of a structural change in the number of factors. In the fourth column of Table 5.6, we present the least squares estimation of the break date by definition in (4.9). In addition, we minimize the least square criterion over the interval \( \Pi \), which is stated in the first column. It turns out that the minimum is always attained at the boundary of \( \Pi \) (Cheng et al. 2016)[13]. To make the result more precise, we consider the method in Section 2.2 by Breitung and Eickmeier (2011)[8]. They explain that the sum of pre- and post-break factors is minimized at the true break date. Thus, for each break date in a given \( \Pi \), we compute \( \hat{r}_a + \hat{r}_b \) and check whether the minimum over the given interval is attained at \( T_c = 2007:\text{M12} \). If the minimum is attained at \( T_c \), we set the revised break date equal to the potential break date \( T_c \). If the minimum is not attained at \( T_c \), we consider the revised break date as the date closest to the potential break date \( T_c \) and the minimum is attained. Overall, for all choices of \( \Pi \), the procedure detects the break date correctly so that there is no need to revise the potential break date \( T_c \).

Moreover, we consider another approach to obtain the probability of correctly estimating \( B, r_a \) and \( r_b \), as well as the value of relative MSFE. Specifically, the Bootstrap is a proposed method for the case of sampling from a finite population with replacement. It is shown that for a large number of practical situations, the proposed method works as a natural extension of standard bootstrap method. It turns out that bootstrap works for sample mean, sample quantile, t-statistics, empirical processes and some linear combinations of order statistics. (Chao and Lo 1985)[12]
We use the bootstrap method in Matlab R2018a to generate 500 data sets based on the original data set of SW132. Each of the data sets has the same properties as the data set of SW132. To obtain the value of \( r_a \) and \( r_b \), we take the average of both \( \hat{r}_a \) and \( \hat{r}_b \) we generated and round to the nearest integer respectively. Table 5.7 presents the bootstrap results.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model Configuration</th>
<th>Model Selection</th>
<th>Relative</th>
<th>MSFE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( N )</td>
<td>( T )</td>
<td>( \Pr(\hat{r}_a = r_a) )</td>
<td>( \Pr(\hat{r}_b = r_b) )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Table 5.7, the probability of correctly estimating \( r_a \) and \( r_b \) are less accurate, we obtain the probability only around 41% and 52% respectively. Although the probabilities of correctly estimating the number of factors are lower, the probability of correctly estimating the break date is higher and reaches around 85%. We expect the value of MSFE is less than 1 and obtain the value of MSFE is 0.85, thus, we conclude that the PMS predictor dominates the full-sample predictor. Overall, the procedure generally detects the break date correctly for unknown break date case.
Chapter 6

Concluding Remarks

In this major paper, we develop a high-dimensional econometric model, which is capable of estimating the number of pre- and post-break factors with the existence of the instability. The estimator we developed is robust to the instability when the break date is unknown. In addition, the Group-LASSO estimation procedure can detect the changes in the factor loadings when the number of factors is constant in the sample. We demonstrate that when the number of pre- and post-break factors are determined, the break date can be estimated by the least square approach.

Moreover, by the Monte Carlo simulation, we demonstrate that the Group-LASSO estimation procedure generally has no problem in detecting the existence of the instability. Also, the procedure is designed to determine the number of factors when there is no break in the sample and to detect the break in the factor loadings when the number of factor is known. When the break date is unknown, the procedure can estimate the break date correctly.
In the real data set of the Great Recession in the U.S., we estimate the potential break date precisely by minimizing the sum of the number of the pre- and post-break factors. Under unknown break date case, the break date can be estimated correctly in general. From what has discussed in the empirical analysis, the proposed procedure detects the increase in the number of factors, which provides an evidence of a structural change in the number of factors.
Appendix A

Some Statistical Background

In this appendix, we give some definitions and lemmas used in deriving the main results of this major paper.

Definition A.1 (Casella and Berger (2002)[11]). A sequence of random variables \( \{X_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \) converges in probability to a random variable \( X \) if, for every \( \epsilon > 0 \),
\[
\lim_{n \to \infty} \Pr(|X_n - X| \geq \epsilon) = 0.
\]
We denote it as \( X_n \xrightarrow{p} X \).

Definition A.2 (Bickel and Doksum (2001)[7]). A sequence of random vectors \( Z_n = (Z_{n1}, Z_{n2}, \cdots, Z_{nm})' \) converges in probability to \( Z = (Z_1, Z_2, \cdots, Z_m)' \) iff \( Z_{nj} \xrightarrow{n \to \infty} Z_j \) for \( 1 \leq j \leq m \). We denote it as \( Z_n \xrightarrow{p} Z \).

Lemma A.1 (Strawderman (1993)[25]). Let \( A_n \) be a random sequence of symmetric nonnegative definite \( k \times k \) matrices where \( k < \infty \). If a positive definite symmetric \( k \times k \) matrix \( A \) with finite elements exists such that \( A_n \xrightarrow{n \to \infty} A \) element-wise, then \( \|A_n - A\| \xrightarrow{n \to \infty} 0 \), where \( \| \cdot \| \) denotes any proper norm on \( \mathbb{R}^{k \times k} \).

The proof of this lemma is given in Lemma 1 of Strawderman(1999)[24].
Appendix B

Some Proofs

In this appendix, we give the proof of lemma and theorem used in the derivation of the major paper.

**Proof of Lemma 3.1.** Let $\Upsilon_a \in \mathbb{R}^{r_a \times r_a}$ be a matrix of orthonormal eigenvectors, note that $\Upsilon_a' \Upsilon_a = I_{r_a}$ implies that $\Upsilon_a' = \Upsilon_a^{-1}$. Let $\Sigma_a^{1/2}$ be the Cholesky factor of $\Sigma_a$, where $\Sigma_a = \Lambda^0 \Lambda^0 / N$. By definition,

$$\Upsilon_a' (\Sigma_a^{1/2})' \Sigma_F \Sigma_a^{1/2} \Upsilon_a = V_a. \quad (B.1)$$

Therefore, $V_a$ is a diagonal matrix of eigenvalues, ordered from largest to smallest. Let $\Lambda^R = \Lambda^0 R_a^{-1}$ and $\Psi^R = \Psi^0 R_b^{-1}$ and define the transformation matrix $R_a = \Sigma_a^{1/2} \Upsilon_a V_a^{-1/2}$ for pre-break date case. For post-break date case, let $\Sigma_b = \Psi^0 \Psi^0 / N \in \mathbb{R}^{r_b \times r_b}$, substitute $\Sigma_F$ in (B.2) by $\Sigma_F$, and replace a-subscripts by b-subscripts. Thus, the second transformation matrix for $R_b$ is defined as $R_b = \Sigma_b^{1/2} \Upsilon_b V_b^{-1/2}$. Then, we
have

\[
\frac{\Lambda^R \Lambda^R}{N} = V_a^{1/2} \Sigma_a^{-1/2} \Lambda^0 \Lambda^0 \Sigma_a^{-1/2} V_a^{1/2} = V_a \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\Psi^R \Psi^R}{N} = V_b
\]  

The \( \ell \)-th diagonal element of \( V_a \) is the \( \ell \)-th largest eigenvalue of \( \Sigma_a^{1/2} \Sigma_F \Sigma_a^{1/2} \). Let \( \rho^* \) denotes the eigenvalue of \( \Sigma_a^{1/2} \Sigma_F \Sigma_a^{1/2} \). One can verify that \( \rho^* \) is also the eigenvalue of \( \Sigma_a \Sigma_F \). Therefore, the \( \ell \)-th diagonal element of \( V_a \) is the same as the \( \ell \)-th largest eigenvalue of \( \Sigma_a \Sigma_F \). Recall that in Assumption 3, there exists a positive definite matrix \( \Sigma_a \in R^{r_a \times r_a} \) such that \( \| \Sigma_a - \Sigma_A \| \rightarrow 0 \) as \( N \rightarrow \infty \). Here, \( \Sigma_a \) is a sequence of symmetric positive definite matrix. By Lemma 1 in Strawderman (1993)[25], we have

\[
\Sigma_a \xrightarrow{p} N \rightarrow \infty \Sigma_A. \tag{B.3}
\]

Then, we have

\[
\Sigma_a \Sigma_F \xrightarrow{p} N \rightarrow \infty \Sigma_A \Sigma_F \tag{B.4}
\]

where \( \Sigma_F \in R^{r_a \times r_a} \) is positive definite matrix. Carl de Boor (2002)[16] proved that the convergence of matrices is entry-wise such that

\[
\left( \Sigma_a \Sigma_F \right)_{i,j} \xrightarrow{p} N \rightarrow \infty \left( \Sigma_A \Sigma_F \right)_{i,j} \quad \text{for all } i, j. \tag{B.5}
\]

In addition, Alexanderian (2013)[2] mentioned that the characteristic roots, which are eigenvalues, of a polynomial depend continuously on its entries. Then, we have

\[
\lambda_\ell(\Sigma_a \Sigma_F) \xrightarrow{p} N \rightarrow \infty \lambda_\ell(\Sigma_A \Sigma_F). \tag{B.6}
\]
Therefore, the $\ell$-th largest eigenvalue of $\Sigma_a\Sigma_F$ converges to the $\ell$-th largest eigenvalue of $\Sigma_A\Sigma_F$ as $N \to \infty$, denoted by $\rho_\ell(\Sigma_A\Sigma_F)$. Similarly, the $\ell$-th diagonal element of $V_b$ converges to the $\ell$-th largest eigenvalue of $\Sigma_\Phi \Sigma_F$ as $N \to \infty$, denoted by $\rho_\ell(\Sigma_\Phi \Sigma_F)$.

Let $a_\ell$ be a selection vector that selects the $\ell$-th column of a matrix, note that $a_\ell'$ selects the $\ell$-th row of a matrix. Part (i) holds because

$$N^{-1}\|\Lambda_\ell^R\|^2 = N^{-1}(\Lambda_\ell^R\Lambda_\ell^R) = a_\ell' \frac{\Lambda_\ell^R \Lambda_\ell^R}{N} a_\ell = a_\ell' V_a a_\ell = \rho_\ell(\Sigma_A \Sigma_F) + o(1). \quad (B.7)$$

To prove part (ii), note that for $r_a < \ell < r_b$, the $\ell$-th column of $\Gamma^R$ is equivalent to the $\ell$-th column of $\Psi^R$. Therefore,

$$N^{-1}\|\Gamma_\ell^R\|^2 = N^{-1}(\Psi_\ell^R \Psi_\ell^R) = a_\ell' \frac{\Psi_\ell^R \Psi_\ell^R}{N} a_\ell = a_\ell' V_b a_\ell = \rho_\ell(\Sigma_\Phi \Sigma_F) + o(1). \quad (B.8)$$

This completes the proof.

\[ \square \]

**Proof of Theorem 3.4.** First, we need to prove $\Pr(\hat{r}_a \geq r_a) \to 1$ as $N, T \to \infty$.

Theorem 3.3(i) and Lemma 3.1(i) indicate that

$$N^{-1/2}\|\hat{\Lambda}_\ell - \Lambda_\ell^R\| = O_p(C_{NT}^{-1}) \text{ for } \ell = r_a \quad (B.9)$$

and

$$N^{-1/2}\|\Lambda_\ell^R\| = [\rho_\ell(\Sigma_A \Sigma_F)]^{1/2} + o(1) \text{ for } \ell = 1, \ldots, r_a. \quad (B.10)$$

By the triangle inequality, we have

$$O_p(C_{NT}^{-1}) = N^{-1/2}\|\hat{\Lambda}_\ell - \Lambda_\ell^R\| \geq |N^{-1/2}\|\hat{\Lambda}_\ell\| - N^{-1/2}\|\Lambda_\ell^R\||. \quad (B.11)$$
Then, we get rid of the absolute value on the right hand side,

\[-N^{-1/2}\|\Lambda_\ell \| \leq N^{-1/2}\|\Lambda_\ell \| - N^{-1/2}\|\Lambda_\ell \|\]

\[N^{-1/2}\|\Lambda_\ell \| - N^{-1/2}\|\Lambda_\ell \| \leq N^{-1/2}\|\Lambda_\ell \|\]

\[\rho_\ell (\Sigma_\Lambda \Sigma F) \]^{-1/2} + o(1) \leq N^{-1/2}\|\Lambda_\ell \| + O_P(C_{NT}^{-1}). \tag{B.12} \]

Since $\Sigma_\Lambda$ and $\Sigma_F$ are positive definite matrices, we have

\[ \Pr(\|\Lambda_\ell \| > 0) \to 1 \text{ as } N,T \to \infty \text{ for } \ell = r_a. \tag{B.13} \]

Here, the $r_a$-th column of $\Lambda$ has value greater than 0 with probability approaching to 1. By definition of $\widehat{r}_a$ in (3.7), the $\widehat{r}_a$-th column is the largest column where the column of $\Lambda$ has the value not equal to 0. Therefore, \[ \Pr(\widehat{r}_a \geq r_a) \to 1 \text{ as } N,T \to \infty. \]

Second, we need to prove $\Pr(\widehat{r}_a \leq r_a) \to 1$ as $N,T \to \infty$.

Theorem 3.3(ii) indicates that

\[ \Pr(\|\Lambda_\ell \| = 0 \text{ for } \ell = r_a + 1, \cdots, k) \to 1 \text{ as } N,T \to \infty. \tag{B.14} \]

Here, the $(r_a + 1)$-th to $k$-th column of $\Lambda$ have the value of 0 with probability approaching to 1. the definition of $\widehat{r}_a$ in (3.7), Then, we have $\Pr(\widehat{r}_a \leq r_a) \to 1$ as $N,T \to \infty$. Therefore, we have $\lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\widehat{r}_a = r_a) = 1$.

Third, we consider the case under the existence of the instability and we need to
prove \( \Pr(\hat{r}_b \geq r_b) \to 1 \) as \( N, T \to \infty \). The procedure is similar to the first step. With the existence of the instability where \( r_b > r_a \) and \( B = 1 \). Theorem 3.3(iii) for \( \ell = r_b \) and Lemma 3.1(ii) imply that \( \Pr(\|\hat{\Gamma}_\ell\| > 0) \to 1 \) as \( N, T \to \infty \) for \( \ell = r_b \), together with the definition of \( \hat{r}_b \) in (3.7), hence, \( \Pr(\hat{r}_b \geq r_b) \to 1 \) as \( N, T \to \infty \).

To prove \( \Pr(\hat{r}_b \leq r_b) \to 1 \) as \( N, T \to \infty \), the procedure is similar to the second step. Theorem 3.3 (v) and definition of \( \hat{r}_b \) in (3.7) imply that \( \Pr(\hat{r}_b \leq r_b) \to 1 \) as \( N, T \to \infty \), since with the existence of the instability, \( r_b > r_a \) and \( B = 1 \) imply \( \hat{r}_b > \hat{r}_a \) and \( \hat{B} = 1 \). Hence, \( \lim_{N,T\to\infty} \Pr(\hat{r}_b = r_b) = 1 \) for a the existence of the instability.

Now, we need to prove \( \Pr(\hat{B} = 1) \) as \( N, T \to \infty \) with the existence of the instability where \( r_b > r_a \). We have \( \lim_{N,T\to\infty} \Pr(\hat{r}_b = r_b) = 1 \) and \( \lim_{N,T\to\infty} \Pr(\hat{r}_a = r_a) = 1 \) proved in second step. By definition of \( \hat{r}_b \) in 3.7 and Theorem 3.3(v), we have

\[
\left\{\|\hat{\Gamma}_{r_b}\| > 0\right\} \subset \left\{\|\hat{\Gamma}\| > 0\right\},
\]

then, we have

\[
\Pr(\|\hat{\Gamma}_{r_b}\| > 0) \leq \Pr(\|\hat{\Gamma}\| > 0) \leq 1.
\]

Since the \( \hat{r}_b \)-th column is the largest column where the column of \( \hat{\Gamma} \) has value not equal to 0 and we proved that \( \Pr(\hat{r}_b \geq r_b) \to 1 \) as \( N, T \to \infty \), then, we have

\[
\Pr(\|\hat{\Gamma}_{r_b}\| > 0) \to 1 \text{ as } N, T \to \infty.
\]
Thus, the inequality in (B.16) can be written as

\[
\Pr(\|\hat{\Gamma}\| > 0) \to 1 \text{ as } N, T \to \infty. \tag{B.18}
\]

From (B.15), we also have

\[
\begin{align*}
\{ \mathcal{I}_{\|\hat{\Gamma}\|_r b} > 0 = 1 \} & \subset \{ \mathcal{I}_{\|\hat{\Gamma}\|} > 0 = 1 \}, \\
\Pr(\mathcal{I}_{\|\hat{\Gamma}\|_r b} > 0 = 1) & \leq \Pr(\mathcal{I}_{\|\hat{\Gamma}\|} > 0 = 1) \leq 1. \tag{B.19}
\end{align*}
\]

Consider the two events \(\{\|\hat{\Gamma}\| = 0\}\) and \(\{\|\hat{\Gamma}\| > 0\}\). We have

\[
\{\|\hat{\Gamma}\| = 0\} \cap \{\|\hat{\Gamma}\| > 0\} = \emptyset \text{ and } \Pr(\|\hat{\Gamma}\| = 0) + \Pr(\|\hat{\Gamma}\| > 0) = 1.
\]

By the law of total probability,

\[
\Pr(\mathcal{I}_{\|\hat{\Gamma}\|_r b} > 0 = 1) = \Pr(\{\mathcal{I}_{\|\hat{\Gamma}\|_r b} > 0 = 1\} \cap \{\|\hat{\Gamma}\| > 0\}) + \\
\Pr(\{\mathcal{I}_{\|\hat{\Gamma}\|_r b} > 0 = 1\} \cap \{\|\hat{\Gamma}\| = 0\}), \tag{B.20}
\]

then

\[
\Pr(\mathcal{I}_{\|\hat{\Gamma}\|_r b} > 0 = 1) = \Pr(\{\|\hat{\Gamma}\|_r b > 0\} \cap \{\|\hat{\Gamma}\| > 0\}) + \\
\Pr(\{\|\hat{\Gamma}\|_r b > 0\} \cap \{\|\hat{\Gamma}\| = 0\}),
\]

and then,

\[
\lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\mathcal{I}_{\|\hat{\Gamma}\|_r b} > 0 = 1) = \lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\|\hat{\Gamma}\|_r b > 0) + \\
\lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\{\|\hat{\Gamma}\|_r b > 0\} \cap \{\|\hat{\Gamma}\| = 0\}),
\]
this gives

\[
\lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\mathcal{I}_{\| \hat{\Gamma}_{rb} \| > 0} = 1) = \lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\| \hat{\Gamma}_{rb} \| > 0) + 0,
\]

together with (B.17), therefore,

\[
\lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\| \hat{\Gamma}_{rb} \| > 0 = 1) = 1.
\] (B.21)

Finally, in (B.19) we have

\[
\lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\mathcal{I}_{\| \hat{\Gamma} \| > 0} = 1) = 1 \leq \lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\mathcal{I}_{\| \hat{\Gamma} \| > 0} = 1) \leq 1,
\]

this gives,

\[
\lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\mathcal{I}_{\| \hat{\Gamma} \| > 0} = 1) = 1,
\] (B.22)

which implies that \( \lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\hat{B} = 1) = 1 \). Therefore, we complete the proof of Theorem 3.3.

Fourth, we need to prove \( \Pr(\hat{r}_b = r_b) \to 1 \) as \( N,T \to \infty \) and \( \Pr(\hat{B} = 0) \to 1 \) as \( N,T \to \infty \) in no break date case, \textit{i.e.}, \( r_a = r_b \) and \( B = 0 \). Together with the definition of \( \hat{r}_b \) in (3.7) and the fact that \( r_a = r_b \), we conclude that \( \Pr(\hat{r}_b = r_b) \to 1 \) as \( N,T \to \infty \).

By applying the same procedure from (B.19) to (B.22), we have

\[
\lim_{N,T \to \infty} \Pr(\mathcal{I}_{\| \hat{\Gamma} \| > 0} = 0) = 1.
\] (B.23)
Thus, by the definition of \( \hat{\mathcal{B}} \) in (3.6), we conclude that

\[
\Pr(\hat{\mathcal{B}} = \mathcal{B} = 0) \to 1 \text{ as } N, T \to \infty \tag{B.24}
\]

Therefore, we complete the proof of Theorem 3.3 in no break date case.

This completes the proof.
Appendix C

Supplemental Table for Empirical Analysis

In this appendix, we present a table of the macroeconomic and financial indicators that data series used from Cheng et al. (2016, see Supplemental Appendix Tables S3-S5)[13].

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Long Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cons: Dur</td>
<td>Real Personal Consumption Expenditures: Durable Goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cons: Svc</td>
<td>Real Personal Consumption Expenditures: Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cons: NonDur</td>
<td>Real Personal Consumption Expenditures: Non-durable Goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real InvtCh</td>
<td>Component for Change in Private Inventories, deflated by JCXFE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real WageG</td>
<td>Component for Government GDP: Wage and Salary Disbursements by Industry, Government, deflated by JCXFE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP: DurGds materials</td>
<td>Industrial Production: Durable Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP: NondurGds materials</td>
<td>Industrial Production: Nondurable Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP: DurConsGoods</td>
<td>Industrial Production: Durable Consumer Goods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table C.2: List of Financial Indicators-Part II

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Long Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IP: Auto</td>
<td>IP: Automotive products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP: NonDurConsGoods</td>
<td>Industrial Production: Nondurable Consumer Goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP: BusEquip</td>
<td>Industrial Production: Business Equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CapU Tot</td>
<td>Capacity Utilization: Total Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CapU Man</td>
<td>Capacity Utilization: Manufacturing (FRED past 1972)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: DurGoods</td>
<td>All Employees: Durable Goods Manufacturing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: Const</td>
<td>All Employees: Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: Edu &amp; Health</td>
<td>All Employees: Education &amp; Health Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: Finance</td>
<td>All Employees: Financial Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: Infor</td>
<td>All Employees: Information Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: Bus Serv</td>
<td>All Employees: Professional &amp; Business Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: Leisure</td>
<td>All Employees: Leisure &amp; Hospitality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: OtherSvcs</td>
<td>All Employees: Other Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: Mining/NatRes</td>
<td>All Employees: Natural Resources &amp; Mining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: Trade&amp;Trans</td>
<td>All Employees: Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: Retail</td>
<td>All Employees: Retail Trade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: Wholesal</td>
<td>All Employees: Wholesale Trade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: Gov(Fed)</td>
<td>All Employees: Government: Federal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: Gov (State)</td>
<td>All Employees: Government: State Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: Gov (Local)</td>
<td>All Employees: Government: Local Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URate: Age16-19</td>
<td>Unemployment Rate - 16-19 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URate: Age &gt; 20 Men</td>
<td>Unemployment Rate - 20 yrs. &amp; over, Men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URate: Age &gt; 20 Women</td>
<td>Unemployment Rate - 20 yrs. &amp; over, Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U: Dur &lt; 5wks</td>
<td>Number Unemployed for Less than 5 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U: Dur 5-14wks</td>
<td>Number Unemployed for 5-14 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U: Dur &gt; 15-26wks</td>
<td>Civilians Unemployed for 15-26 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U: Dur &gt; 27wks</td>
<td>Number Unemployed for 27 Weeks &amp; over</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U: Job Losers</td>
<td>Unemployment Level - Job Losers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U: LF Reentry</td>
<td>Unemployment Level - Reentrants to Labor Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U: Job Leavers</td>
<td>Unemployment Level - Job Leavers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U: New Entrants</td>
<td>Unemployment Level - New Entrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emp: SlackWk</td>
<td>Employment Level - Part-Time for Economic Reasons, All Industries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AWH Man</td>
<td>Average Weekly Hours: Manufacturing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AWH Privat</td>
<td>Average Weekly Hours: Total Private Industrie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AWH Overtime</td>
<td>Average Weekly Hours: Overtime: Manufacturing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPermits</td>
<td>New Private Housing Units Authorized by Building Permit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table C.3: List of Financial Indicators-Part III

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Long Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hstarts: MW</td>
<td>Housing Starts in Midwest Census Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hstarts: NE</td>
<td>Housing Starts in Northeast Census Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hstarts: S</td>
<td>Housing Starts in South Census Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hstarts: W</td>
<td>Housing Starts in West Census Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constr. Contracts</td>
<td>Construction contracts (mil. sq. ft.) (Copyright, McGraw-Hill)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ret. Sale</td>
<td>Sales of retail stores (mil. Chain 2000 $)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orders (DurMfg)</td>
<td>Mfrs new orders durable goods industries (bil. chain 2000 $)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orders (ConsumerGoods/Mat.)</td>
<td>Mfrs new orders, consumer goods and materials (mil. 1982 $)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UnfOrders (DurGds)</td>
<td>Mfrs unfilled orders durable goods indus. (bil. chain 2000 $)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orders (NonDefCap)</td>
<td>Mfrs new orders, nondefense capital goods (mil. 1982 $)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VendPerf</td>
<td>Index of supplier deliveries vendor performance (pct.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT Invent</td>
<td>Manufacturing and trade inventories (bil. Chain 2005 $)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCED-MotorVec</td>
<td>Motor vehicles and parts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCED-DurHousehold</td>
<td>Furnishings and durable household equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCED-Recreation</td>
<td>Recreational goods and vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCED-OthDurGds</td>
<td>Other durable goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCED-Food-Bev</td>
<td>Food and beverages purchased for off-premises consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCED-Clothing</td>
<td>Clothing and footwear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCED-Gas-Enrgy</td>
<td>Gasoline and other energy goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCED-OthNDurGds</td>
<td>Other nondurable goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCED-Housing-Utilities</td>
<td>Housing and utilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCED-HealthCare</td>
<td>Health care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCED-TransSvg</td>
<td>Transportation services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCED-RecServices</td>
<td>Recreation services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCED-FoodServ-Acc.</td>
<td>Food services and accommodations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCED-FIRE</td>
<td>Financial services and insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCED-OtherServices</td>
<td>Other services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPI: FinConsGds</td>
<td>Producer Price Index: Finished Consumer Goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPI: FinConsGds(Food)</td>
<td>Producer Price Index: Finished Consumer Foods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPI: IndCom</td>
<td>Producer Price Index: Industrial Commodities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPI: IntMat</td>
<td>Producer Price Index: Intermediate Materials: Supplies &amp; Components</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAPM ComPrice</td>
<td>NAPM COMMODITY PRICES INDEX (PERCENT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Price: NatGas</td>
<td>PPI: Natural Gas, deflated by PCEPILFE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Price: Oil</td>
<td>PPI: Crude Petroleum, deflated by PCEPILFE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FedFunds</td>
<td>Effective Federal Funds Rate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table C.4: List of Financial Indicators-Part IV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Long Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TB-3Mth</td>
<td>3-Month Treasury Bill: Secondary Market Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAA-GS10</td>
<td>BAA-GS10 Spread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRTG-GS10</td>
<td>Mortg-GS10 Spread</td>
</tr>
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<td>TB6m-TB3m</td>
<td>tb6m-tb3m</td>
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<td>GS1-TB3m</td>
<td>GS1-Tb3m</td>
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<tr>
<td>GS10-TB3m</td>
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<tr>
<td>CP-TB Spread</td>
<td>CP-Tbill Spread: CP3FM-TB3MS</td>
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<td>Consumer (Individual) Loans at All Commercial Banks Outlier Code because of change in data in April 2010 see FRB H8 ReleasDefl by PCEPILFE</td>
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<td>Consumer expectations NSA (Copyright, University of Michigan)</td>
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Bibliography


Vita Auctoris

Mr. Yujie Song was born in 1990, Xi’an, Shaanxi, China. He graduated from Georges Vanier Secondary School in 2011. From there he went to University of Toronto, where he obtained a Bachelor of Science with a double major in Economics and Statistics. He is currently a candidate for the Master of Science degree in Statistics at the University of Windsor. He hopes to graduate in August 2018.