This article first studies the non-stationarity of the first-order double AR model, which is defined by the random recurrence equation

\[ y_t = \phi_0 y_{t-1} + \eta_t \sqrt{\gamma_0 + \alpha_0 y_{t-1}^2}, \]

where \( \phi_0 > 0 \), \( \alpha_0 \geq 0 \), and \( \{ \eta_t \} \) is a sequence of i.i.d. symmetric random variables. It is shown that the double AR(1) model is explosive under the condition \( \mathbb{E} \log \left( \phi_0 + \sqrt{\gamma_0 + \alpha_0 y_{t-1}^2} \right) > 0 \). Based on this, it is shown that the quasi-maximum likelihood estimator of \( \{ \phi_0, \alpha_0 \} \) is consistent and asymptotically normal so that the unit root problem does not exist in the double AR(1) model. Simulation studies are carried out to assess the performance of the quasi-maximum likelihood estimator in finite samples.

Keywords: Double AR model; non-stationarity; quasi-maximum likelihood estimation; JEL. C13; C22.

1. INTRODUCTION

The autoregressive conditional heteroskedasticity (ARCH) model was first proposed by Engle (1982) for modelling UK inflation rates and was generalized to GARCH model by Bollerslev (1986). Since then, it has been widely used to model the volatility of economic and financial time series and extended in many directions. Now, there are many variants of ARCH/GARCH models. A Wikipedia search reveals a vastly extended family with members carrying acronyms such as EGARCH, fGARCH, GARCH-M, GJR-GARCH, IGARCH, NGARCH, QGARCH, TGARCH, and ARFIMA-GARCH. (The list is probably incomplete.) Each acronym corresponds to an attempt to extend the basic ARCH model to cope with different practical demands. Weiss (1984) introduced a class of ARCH models, defined as

\[ y_t = \mu(y_{t-1}, \ldots, y_{t-p}) + \eta_t \sigma(y_{t-1}, \ldots, y_{t-q}), \]

where \( \mu(\cdot) \) is measurable in its arguments and \( \sigma(\cdot) \) is positive and measurable. Such type of models is different from Engle’s model. Both conditional mean and volatility functions are an immediate regression on the observed process itself. This model was investigated by many researchers. It is also useful in modelling the volatility of economic and financial time series. One important reason is that it inherits merits of both AR models and ARCH models. Given the past information \( \{ y_s, s < t \} \), the conditional mean function \( \mu(\cdot) \) describes the prediction values, and the conditional variance \( \sigma^2(\cdot) \) measures the volatility of the prediction.

Borkovec and Klüppelberg (2001), abbreviated to BK (2001), and Ling (2004) considered the first-order double AR model (DAR(1)), a special Weiss-type model, defined by

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where the notations are the same as in (1) and the initial value \( y_0 > 0, \alpha_0 \geq 0 \), the innovation \( \{ \eta_t \} \) is a sequence of i.i.d. random variables and \( \eta_t \) is independent of \( \{ y_s : s < t \} \). The higher-order DAR model was studied by Weiss (1984), Lu (1998), Ling (2007), Zhu and Ling (2013), and others.

For model (1), Guégan and Diebolt (1994) showed that a sufficient condition for weak stationarity is \( \phi_0^2 + \alpha_0 < 1 \). BK (2001) proved that this condition is necessary for weak stationarity as well and gave a weaker sufficient condition for strict stationarity, which is \( \mathbb{E} \log |\phi_0 + \eta_t \sqrt{\alpha_0}| < 0 \); see also Cline and Pu (2004). When \( \eta_t \) is normal, Ling (2004) showed that this condition is also almost necessary. However, when \( \eta_t \) is not normal, it is not clear whether BK’s condition is (almost) necessary for strict stationarity or not. Our first aim is to study the condition for non-stationarity of the DAR(1) model.

In the stationary case, Weiss (1984) studied the quasi-maximum likelihood estimation (QMLE) of the model (1) and proved its asymptotic normality under \( \mathbb{E} y_t^4 < \infty \); see also Tsay (1987). Ling (2004, 2007) showed that the QMLE of (\( \phi_0, \gamma_0, \alpha_0 \)) is still consistent and asymptotically normal under the weaker condition \( \mathbb{E} \log |\phi_0 + \eta_t \sqrt{\alpha_0}| < 0 \). Chan and Peng (2005) and Zhu and Ling (2013) discussed the least absolute deviation estimator.

All these papers need a minimal requirement that the process \( \{ y_t \} \) is stationary and ergodic so that laws of large numbers do work. On the other hand, Ling and Li (2008) proved that the QMLE of (\( \phi_0, \alpha_0 \)) is consistent and asymptotically normal under \( \mathbb{E} \log |\phi_0 + \eta_t \sqrt{\alpha_0}| > 0 \) when \( \eta_t \) is normal. However, when \( \eta_t \) is not normal, asymptotic properties of the QMLE in model (1) have not been established up to now in the non-stationary case. In this article, we shall establish the consistency and asymptotic normality of the QMLE of (\( \phi_0, \alpha_0 \)) so that the unit root problem does not exist in DAR(1) models. When \( \phi_0 = 0 \), (1) reduces to an ARCH(1) model and the related results can be available in Nelson (1990), Jensen and Rahbek (2004a, 2004b), and Francq and Zakoïan (2012). As \( \alpha_0 = 0 \), (1) reduces to an AR(1) process, which is studied by Anderson (1959).

The rest of the article is organized as follows. Section 2 gives a condition for non-stationarity of model (1). Section 3 establishes asymptotic properties of the QMLE. Simulation studies are carried out in Section 4. All proofs of results are given in the Appendix.

### 2. A CONDITION FOR NON-STATIONARITY OF DAR(1) MODEL

Let \( \eta \) be a generic random variable with the same distribution as \( \eta_t \). For strict stationarity of model (1), BK (2001) established a sufficient condition, which is \( \mathbb{E} \log |\phi_0 + \eta \sqrt{\alpha_0}| < 0 \), when \( \eta \) is symmetric and has a positive and continuous density on the real line \( \mathbb{R} \) with \( \mathbb{E} \eta^2 < \infty \). Here, we will prove that under \( \mathbb{E} \log |\phi_0 + \eta \sqrt{\alpha_0}| > 0 \) model (1) is explosive for general symmetric innovations, which implies that it is non-stationary.

We first define an auxiliary process \( \{ x_t \} \) by the random recurrence equation

\[
x_t = \phi_0 x_{t-1} + \eta_t \sqrt{\gamma_0 + \alpha_0 x_{t-1}^2}, \quad t \in \mathbb{N},
\]

where the notations are the same as in (1) and the initial value \( x_0 = |\gamma_0| \) a.s. Because of the symmetry of \( \{ \eta_t \} \), the independence of \( \eta_t \) and \( y_{t-1} \) in (1) and the homogeneous Markov structures of \( \{ x_t \} \) and \( \{ y_t \} \), it is readily seen that \( \{ x_t, t \in \mathbb{N} \} \) is independent from \( \{ y_t, t \in \mathbb{N} \} \); see Borkovec (2000), BK (2001), and others.

Let \( w_t = |\phi_0 x_{t-1} + \eta_t \sqrt{\gamma_0 + \alpha_0 x_{t-1}^2} - |\phi_0 + \eta_t \sqrt{\alpha_0}| x_{t-1} \). From (2), it follows that for \( t \geq 1 \),

\[
x_t = |\phi_0 + \eta_t \sqrt{\alpha_0}| x_{t-1} + w_t = \cdots = \sum_{j=0}^{t-1} \left( \prod_{l=0}^{j-1} |\phi_0 + \eta_{t-l} \sqrt{\alpha_0}| \right) w_{t-j} + \left( \prod_{l=0}^{t-1} |\phi_0 + \eta_{t-l} \sqrt{\alpha_0}| \right) x_0
\]

where \( \gamma_0 > 0, \alpha_0 \geq 0 \).
NON-STATIONARY DOUBLE AR MODEL

with the convention $\prod_{i=0}^{t-1} \equiv 1$. Thus,

$$\left( \prod_{k=1}^{t} |\phi_0 + \eta_k \sqrt{\alpha_0}| \right)^{-1} x_t = x_0 + \sum_{j=1}^{t} \left( \prod_{k=1}^{j} |\phi_0 + \eta_k \sqrt{\alpha_0}| \right)^{-1} w_j.$$  

Note that $|w_j| \leq \sqrt{\alpha_0} |\eta_j|$. If $E \log |\phi_0 + \eta \sqrt{\alpha_0}| > 0$, then we can show that

$$\left( \prod_{k=1}^{t} |\phi_0 + \eta_k \sqrt{\alpha_0}| \right)^{-1} x_t \rightarrow x_0 + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \left( \prod_{k=1}^{j} |\phi_0 + \eta_k \sqrt{\alpha_0}| \right)^{-1} w_j$$  

as $t \to \infty$. Note that $|W| \leq \sqrt{\alpha_0} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \left( \prod_{k=1}^{j} |\phi_0 + \eta_k \sqrt{\alpha_0}| \right)^{-1} |\eta_j| < \infty$ a.s., and hence, it is well defined.

Summarizing the aforementioned discussion, we have the following result.

**Theorem 1.** If $\{\eta_t\}$ is a sequence of i.i.d. symmetric random variables with $E \log |\phi_0 + \eta \sqrt{\alpha_0}| > 0$ and $P(|\eta_0| + W = 0) = 0$, then $\rho^{-t}|\eta_t| \to \infty$ a.s. for all $1 < \rho < \exp\{E \log |\phi_0 + \eta \sqrt{\alpha_0}|\}$, as $t \to \infty$.

Unlike BK (2001) in which $\eta$ has a positive and continuous density on $\mathbb{R}$ with $E \eta^2 < \infty$, we weaken this condition and allow it in particular not to have any fractional moments. Here, the unique condition for $\eta$ is its symmetry. The condition is rather weak, which is met by the most commonly used random variables, for example, normal, double exponential (also sometimes called the Laplace distribution), Student’s $t_v$, and symmetric stable distributions.

Figure 1 exhibits the stationary and non-stationary regions of process (1) when $\eta$ is $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$, $\mathcal{U}[-\sqrt{3}, \sqrt{3}]$, the double exponential distribution with the diversity $1/\sqrt{2}$ and standardized Student’s $t_4$-distribution respectively. It

![Figure 1](https://wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/jtsa)
is well known that the stationary region of AR(1) model is $|\phi_0| < 1$. From Figure 1, we can see that model (1) may be stationary even if $|\phi_0| \geq 1$.

Furthermore, in Theorem 1, $\eta$ is allowed to be discrete random variables. This makes a sharp difference with the stationary case studied in Borkovec (2000), BK (2001), and others in literature. Figure 2 shows the non-stationary region of process (1) when $\eta$ is the Rademacher distribution and a four-point discrete distribution (FPDD), which is defined as

$$
\mathbb{P} \left( \eta = \pm \sqrt{2/5} \right) = \mathbb{P} \left( \eta = \pm 2 \sqrt{2/5} \right) = 1/4
$$

respectively.

In Theorem 1, we need to choose an initial value $y_0$ (or $x_0$) such that $\mathbb{P}( |y_0| + W = 0 ) = 0$. A similar condition is used in Berkes et al. (2009) (Thm 5) when they investigated the growth of a non-stationary random coefficient autoregressive model. Borkovec (2000) also used the assumption that $y_0$ is large enough when he studied the extremal behaviour of DAR(1) models. From the expression of $W$, it seems to be very difficult to obtain the closed form of the distribution of $W$ since it heavily depends on the process $\{x_t\}$. However, we can simulate the density or distribution of $\mathbb{P}( |y_0| + W = 0 ) = 0$ is not unreasonable.

It should be mentioned that, for the case $\mathbb{E} \log |\phi_0 + \eta^\alpha y_0| = 0$, we conjecture that model (1) is still non-stationary and its asymptotic behaviour is more complicate. It needs a further study in the future research. A similar technical difficulty was encountered in Francq and Zakoian (2012, 2013) when they studied the asymptotic behaviour of GARCH model on the boundary curve of the parameter space.

3. QUASI-MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD ESTIMATION

Assume that the sample $\{y_0, \ldots, y_n\}$ is from model (1). Denote by $(\gamma, \theta')' = (\gamma, \phi, \alpha)'$ the DAR(1) parameter and define the QMLE $(\hat{\gamma}_n, \hat{\theta}_n')'$ as any measurable solution of

$$
L_n(\gamma, \theta) = \sum_{t=1}^{n} \ell_t(\gamma, \theta), \quad \ell_t(\gamma, \theta) = - \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \log(\gamma + \alpha y_{t-1}^2) + \frac{(y_t - \phi y_{t-1})^2}{\gamma + \alpha y_{t-1}^2} \right\}.
$$

Figure 2. The non-stationary region (NR) with $\mathbb{E} \log |\phi + \eta^\sqrt{\alpha}| > 0$ when $\eta$ is the Rademacher distribution and the four-point discrete distribution in (4) respectively.
that is,

$$(\hat{\gamma}_n, \hat{\theta}_n)' = \arg \max_{\Gamma \times \Theta} L_n(\gamma, \theta),$$

where $\Gamma \times \Theta$ is a compact subset of $\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+$ with $\mathbb{R}_+ \equiv (0, \infty)$ that contains the true value $(\gamma_0, \theta_0)' = (\gamma_0, \phi_0, \alpha_0)'$. Here, the case $\alpha_0 = 0$ is excluded. Ideally, we should study asymptotic properties of $(\hat{\gamma}_n, \hat{\theta}_n)'$. Unfortunately, as $\{\eta_t\}$ is explosive, $\gamma$ is absent from the limit of $L_n(\gamma, \theta)/n$; see Lemma 2. A similar phenomenon was observed in Jensen and Rahbek (2004a) when they studied the non-stationary ARCH(1) model and in Ling and Li (2008) when $\eta$ is normal; see also Francq and Zakoian (2012). Thus, intuitively, there does not have any consistent estimator of $\gamma_0$. This point can be seen from the proof of Theorem 2 that the log-likelihood is completely flat in the direction where $(\phi_0, \alpha_0)'$ is fixed and $\gamma_0$ varies. More specifically, for any real sequence $\lambda_n$ going to zero as $n \to \infty$, we have

$$\Lambda_n \left( \frac{\partial L_n(\gamma, \theta)}{\partial \gamma}, \frac{\partial L_n(\gamma, \theta)}{\partial \theta} \right) \overset{d}{\to} \mathcal{N}(0, \text{diag}(0, 1/\alpha_0, (\mathbb{E} \eta^4 - 1)/(4\alpha_0^2))),$$

where $\Lambda_n = \text{diag}(\lambda_n, 1/\sqrt{n}, 1/\sqrt{n})$. For deeper insights on asymptotic behaviour of $\hat{\gamma}_n$, one can consult Francq and Zakoian (2012). The inconsistency of $\hat{\gamma}_n$ is illustrated via simulation studies in Section 4.

For convenient statements, we first give assumptions on $\{\eta_t\}$ and the parameter space:

**Assumption 1.** The innovation $\{\eta_t\}$ is a sequence of i.i.d. symmetric random variables with zero mean and unit variance.
Assumption 2. The true parameter $\theta_0 \in \Theta$ satisfies $\mathbb{E} \log |\phi_0 + \eta \sqrt{\alpha_0}| > 0$ and $\mathbb{P}(|y_0| + W = 0) = 0$. Both $\Gamma$ and $\Theta$ are compact.

So as to obtain asymptotic properties of $\hat{\theta}_n$, the rate of divergence of $|y_t|$ to infinity is needed, which is guaranteed by Theorem 1. The following theorem states consistency and asymptotic normality of $\hat{\theta}_n$.

**Theorem 2.** If Assumptions 1 and 2 hold, then as $n \to \infty$

(i) $\hat{\theta}_n \to \theta_0$ in probability;
(ii) If $\kappa = \mathbb{E} \eta^4 < \infty$ and $\theta_0$ is an interior point of $\Theta$, then

$$\sqrt{n} \left( \hat{\theta}_n - \theta_0 \right) \xrightarrow{D} \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma),$$

where $\Sigma = \text{diag}\{\alpha_0, (\kappa - 1)\alpha_0^2\}$.

Combining with the results in Ling (2004) for the stationary case produces asymptotic normality of the QMLE of $(\phi_0, \alpha_0)$ with a root-$n$ rate of convergence for any $\phi_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ and any $\alpha_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+_+$, with $\mathbb{E} \log |\phi_0 + \eta \sqrt{\alpha_0}| \neq 0$. In the stationary case, the estimator of $\gamma_0$ is consistent and asymptotically normal; see Ling (2004). In the explosive case, however, $\gamma_0$ is not estimable so that we cannot obtain a consistent estimator, but this does not affect asymptotic properties of the QMLE of $(\phi_0, \alpha_0)$. Ling and Li (2008) presented an asymptotically unbiased estimator for $\gamma_0$, but it is not consistent. Comparing with the results for the classical AR(1) model, the unit root problem does not exist in model (1); see Rmks 1–3 in Ling and Li (2008).

So as to construct confidence intervals for $\theta_0$, estimating $\kappa$ is needed. To this end, we consider the residual $\{\hat{\eta}_t\}$, where

$$\hat{\eta}_t = \frac{y_t - \hat{\phi}_n y_{t-1}}{\sqrt{\hat{\gamma}_n^2 + \hat{\alpha}_n y_{t-1}^2}},$$

and define the estimator of $\kappa$ as $\hat{\kappa}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n \hat{\eta}_t^4$. Under Assumptions 1 and 2, we can prove that if $\kappa < \infty$, then $\hat{\kappa}_n = \kappa + o_p(1)$. That is, $\hat{\kappa}_n$ is a consistent estimator of $\kappa$.

4. SIMULATION STUDIES

Monte Carlo experiments are carried out to assess the performance of the QMLE of $\theta_0$ in finite samples. When $\eta \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$, the simulation results can be found in Ling and Li (2008). We only report the results when $\eta$ takes, respectively, the following distributions:

- $U[-\sqrt{3}, \sqrt{3}]$.
- Double exponential distribution (Dexp$(1/\sqrt{2})$) with the density
  $$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \exp\left(-\sqrt{2}|x|\right), \ x \in \mathbb{R}.$$
- Standardized Student’s $t_6$ ($\sqrt{2/3} \ t_6$) with the density
  $$f(x) = \frac{15}{32} \left(1 + \frac{x^2}{4}\right)^{-\frac{3}{2}}, \ x \in \mathbb{R}.$$
• Rademacher distribution, that is, $\mathbb{P}(\eta = \pm 1) = 1/2$.
• An FPDD defined in (4).

Simulations are carried out with the sample size $n = 100$ and 200. A total of 1000 replications are used. In all simulation studies, we set $\gamma_0 = 1$. Each table includes the empirical mean (EM), empirical standard deviation (ESD), and asymptotic standard deviation (ASD).

### Table I. Simulation studies for $\eta \sim U[-\sqrt{3}, \sqrt{3}]$

<table>
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<th>$\phi_0$</th>
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<th>$\hat{\phi}_n$</th>
<th>$\hat{\sigma}_n$</th>
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<th>$\hat{\phi}_n$</th>
<th>$\hat{\sigma}_n$</th>
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<td>0.1789</td>
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$\psi_0$, empirical mean; ESD, empirical standard deviation; ASD, asymptotic standard deviation.

### Table II. $\eta \sim \text{Dexp}(1/\sqrt{2})$

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<tr>
<th>$\phi_0$</th>
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<th>$\hat{\phi}_n$</th>
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<td>EM</td>
<td>2.8904</td>
<td>-2.0038</td>
<td>3.9575</td>
<td>8.1028</td>
<td>-2.0039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ESD</td>
<td>16.777</td>
<td>0.2013</td>
<td>0.9155</td>
<td>178.67</td>
<td>0.1399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ASD</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.2000</td>
<td>0.8944</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.1414</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$\psi_0$, empirical mean; ESD, empirical standard deviation; ASD, asymptotic standard deviation.
(ESD), and asymptotic standard deviation (ASD) of the QMLE of \((\gamma_0, \phi_0, \alpha_0)\). The ASD is obtained from the asymptotic covariance matrix \(\Sigma\) in Theorem 2. Since \(\gamma_0\) is inestimable, its ASDs are not available in all tables. The simulation results are reported in Tables I–V.

From each table, we see that all biases of the estimates of \((\phi_0, \alpha_0)\) are very small and the differences between the ESDs and ASDs are very small. The larger the sample size \(n\), the smaller the ESDs. For the same sample size \(n\), the larger \(\alpha_0\), the larger all ESDs and ASDs. All results show that the QMLE of \((\phi_0, \alpha_0)\) performs well in the finite samples. However, the QMLE of \(\gamma_0\) has a larger bias and a quite larger empirical standard deviation for some cases, for example, \(\eta \sim \text{Dexp}(1/\sqrt{2})\). This is caused by the inestimability of \(\gamma_0\).

### Table III. \(\eta \sim \text{standardized Student's } t_6\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(\phi_0)</th>
<th>(\alpha_0)</th>
<th>(\hat{\gamma}_n)</th>
<th>(\hat{\phi}_n)</th>
<th>(\hat{\alpha}_n)</th>
<th>(\bar{\gamma}_n)</th>
<th>(\bar{\phi}_n)</th>
<th>(\bar{\alpha}_n)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>EM</td>
<td>3.6877</td>
<td>1.0078</td>
<td>4.9581</td>
<td>2.6544</td>
<td>1.0012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ESD</td>
<td>35.719</td>
<td>0.2338</td>
<td>1.2439</td>
<td>14.339</td>
<td>0.1649</td>
<td>0.8822</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ASD</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.2236</td>
<td>1.1180</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.1581</td>
<td>0.7906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>EM</td>
<td>3.7313</td>
<td>1.0092</td>
<td>5.9565</td>
<td>4.1232</td>
<td>1.0008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ESD</td>
<td>36.030</td>
<td>0.1792</td>
<td>0.9822</td>
<td>41.095</td>
<td>0.1738</td>
<td>0.9106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ASD</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.2449</td>
<td>1.3416</td>
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<td>0.1732</td>
<td>0.9487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>EM</td>
<td>2.7431</td>
<td>2.0048</td>
<td>1.9667</td>
<td>2.7161</td>
<td>2.0029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ESD</td>
<td>16.908</td>
<td>0.1402</td>
<td>0.4351</td>
<td>16.233</td>
<td>0.0983</td>
<td>0.3110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ASD</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.1414</td>
<td>0.4472</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.1000</td>
<td>0.3162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>EM</td>
<td>36.942</td>
<td>2.0001</td>
<td>3.9605</td>
<td>2.6050</td>
<td>2.0013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ESD</td>
<td>1082.2</td>
<td>0.2009</td>
<td>0.8896</td>
<td>13.976</td>
<td>0.1938</td>
<td>1.1228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ASD</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.2000</td>
<td>0.8944</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.1414</td>
<td>0.6325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-2.0</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>EM</td>
<td>2.8831</td>
<td>-2.0093</td>
<td>6.9523</td>
<td>6.6976</td>
<td>-2.0085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ESD</td>
<td>24.584</td>
<td>0.2678</td>
<td>1.6144</td>
<td>94.661</td>
<td>0.1938</td>
<td>1.1228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ASD</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.2646</td>
<td>1.5652</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.1871</td>
<td>1.1068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-2.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>EM</td>
<td>8.7821</td>
<td>-2.0043</td>
<td>4.9297</td>
<td>6.0257</td>
<td>-1.9934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ESD</td>
<td>212.81</td>
<td>0.2315</td>
<td>1.1189</td>
<td>97.151</td>
<td>0.1579</td>
<td>0.7618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ASD</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.2236</td>
<td>1.1180</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.1581</td>
<td>0.7906</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EM, empirical mean; ESD, empirical standard deviation; ASD, asymptotic standard deviation.

### Table IV. \(\eta \sim \text{Rademacher distribution}\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(\phi_0)</th>
<th>(\alpha_0)</th>
<th>(\hat{\gamma}_n)</th>
<th>(\hat{\phi}_n)</th>
<th>(\hat{\alpha}_n)</th>
<th>(\bar{\gamma}_n)</th>
<th>(\bar{\phi}_n)</th>
<th>(\bar{\alpha}_n)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>EM</td>
<td>1.0074</td>
<td>0.9974</td>
<td>3.9543</td>
<td>0.9994</td>
<td>0.9970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ESD</td>
<td>0.0501</td>
<td>0.2140</td>
<td>0.0628</td>
<td>0.0281</td>
<td>0.1384</td>
<td>0.0261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ASD</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.2000</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.1414</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>EM</td>
<td>1.0025</td>
<td>2.0064</td>
<td>0.9887</td>
<td>0.9968</td>
<td>1.9991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ESD</td>
<td>0.0504</td>
<td>0.1056</td>
<td>0.0151</td>
<td>0.0359</td>
<td>0.0712</td>
<td>0.0070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ASD</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.1000</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.0707</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-1.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>EM</td>
<td>1.0025</td>
<td>-0.9970</td>
<td>4.9478</td>
<td>1.0016</td>
<td>-1.0088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>ESD</td>
<td>0.0367</td>
<td>0.2286</td>
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<td>0.0250</td>
<td>0.1617</td>
<td>0.0356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>ASD</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.2236</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.1581</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-2.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>EM</td>
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<td>-1.9981</td>
<td>0.9893</td>
<td>0.9981</td>
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<td>&amp;</td>
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<td>0.0503</td>
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<td>0.0155</td>
<td>0.0358</td>
<td>0.0700</td>
<td>0.0070</td>
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<tr>
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<td>ASD</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.1000</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.0707</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EM, empirical mean; ESD, empirical standard deviation; ASD, asymptotic standard deviation.
NON-STATIONARY DOUBLE AR MODEL

Table V. \( \eta \sim \) four-point discrete distribution defined in (4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>( \phi_0 )</th>
<th>( \alpha_0 )</th>
<th>( n = 100 )</th>
<th>( n = 200 )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{\phi}_n )</td>
<td>( \hat{\phi}_n )</td>
<td>( \hat{\alpha}_n )</td>
<td>( \hat{\alpha}_n )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{\phi}_n )</td>
<td>( \hat{\phi}_n )</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EM, empirical mean; ESD, empirical standard deviation; ASD, asymptotic standard deviation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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REFERENCES


APPENDIX: PROOF OF THEOREM 2

Before the proof, we first give three lemmas.

Lemma 1. If Assumptions 1 and 2 hold, then

(a) \[
\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \sup_{y \in \Gamma} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \frac{\partial \ell_t(y, \theta)}{\partial \theta} \right| = O_p(1);
\]

(b) \[
\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \sup_{y \in \Gamma} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \frac{\partial^3 \ell_t(y, \theta)}{\partial \theta_i \partial \theta_j \partial \theta_k} \right| = O_p(1), \text{ where } \theta_1 = \phi, \theta_2 = \alpha, i, j, k = 1, 2.
\]

Proof

(a) Since the parameter space \( \Gamma \times \Theta \) is compact, there exist constants \( 0 < \alpha < \bar{\alpha} < \infty, 0 < \gamma < \bar{\gamma} < \infty \) and \( 0 < M < \infty \) such that \( |\phi| \leq M, y \in [\gamma, \bar{\gamma}] \) and \( \alpha \in [\alpha, \bar{\alpha}] \). By the expression of \( \ell_t(y, \theta) \), we have
\[
\frac{\partial \ell_t(y, \theta)}{\partial \phi} = \frac{y_{t-1}(y_t - \phi y_{t-1})}{\gamma + \alpha y_{t-1}^2}.
\]

By Theorem 1 and the law of large numbers, it follows that
\[
\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \sup_{y \in \Gamma} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \frac{\partial \ell_t(y, \theta)}{\partial \phi} \right| \leq \frac{2M}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \sqrt{\max\{\gamma_0, \alpha_0\}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} |\eta_t| = O_p(1).
\]

Similarly, we can show that
\[
\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \sup_{y \in \Gamma} \left| \frac{1}{n} \frac{\partial L_n(y, \theta)}{\partial \alpha} \right| = O_p(1).
\]

Thus, (a) holds.
Thus, it suffices to show that

\[ \frac{\partial^3 \ell_t(y, \theta)}{\partial \alpha^3} = \frac{3y_{t-1}^6(y_t - \phi y_{t-1})^2}{(y + \alpha y_{t-1}^2)^4} - \frac{y_{t-1}^6}{(y + \alpha y_{t-1}^2)^3}. \]

By Theorem 1 and the law of large numbers, we have

\[
\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \left| n \sum_{t=1}^{n} \frac{\partial^3 \ell_t(y, \theta)}{\partial \alpha^3} \right| \leq \frac{24M^2}{\alpha^4} + \frac{6\max\{\gamma_0, \alpha_0\}}{\alpha^3 \min\{\gamma, \alpha\}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \eta_t^2 = O_p(1).
\]

Similarly, we can show that other third-order mixed partial derivatives of \( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \ell_t(y, \theta) \) with respect to \( \theta \) are \( O_p(1) \). Thus, (b) holds.

\[ \square \]

**Lemma 2.** Let \( f(\theta) = \{ \log(\alpha_0/\alpha) + 1 - (\alpha_0/\alpha) - (\phi - \phi_0)^2/\alpha \}/2 \). If Assumptions 1 and 2 hold, then

\[
\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left[ \ell_t(y, \theta) - \ell_t(y_0, \theta_0) \right] - f(\theta) \right| = o_p(1).
\]

**Proof**

By the expression of \( \ell_t(y, \theta) \) and Theorem 1, we have

\[
\sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left[ \ell_t(y, \theta_0) - \ell_t(y_0, \theta_0) \right] \right| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{a.s. as } n \rightarrow \infty.
\]

Thus, it suffices to show

\[
\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left[ \ell_t(y, \theta) - \ell_t(y, \theta_0) \right] - f(\theta) \right| = o_p(1).
\]

First, for each \( \theta \in \Theta \), we have

\[
\begin{align*}
\sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left[ \ell_t(y, \theta) - \ell_t(y, \theta_0) \right] - f(\theta) \right| & \leq \sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left[ \log \frac{\gamma + \alpha_0 y_{t-1}^2}{\gamma + \alpha y_{t-1}^2} - \log \frac{\alpha_0}{\alpha} \right] + \sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left[ \eta_t^2 \frac{\gamma_0 + \alpha_0 y_{t-1}^2}{\gamma + \alpha_0 y_{t-1}^2} - \frac{\gamma_0}{\gamma + \alpha y_{t-1}^2} \right] \\
& + \sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left[ \frac{(\phi - \phi_0)^2 y_{t-1}^2}{\gamma + \alpha y_{t-1}^2} - \frac{(\phi - \phi_0)^2}{\alpha} \right] \\
& + \sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left[ \frac{2(\phi - \phi_0) \eta_t y_{t-1} \sqrt{\gamma_0 + \alpha_0 y_{t-1}^2}}{\gamma + \alpha y_{t-1}^2} \right] \\
& := I_1 + I_2 + I_3 + I_4 + I_5.
\end{align*}
\]
For $I_1$, using the mean value theorem and Theorem 1,

$$I_1 \leq \frac{\tilde{a} \tilde{v} \sqrt{n}}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\gamma + \alpha y_{i-1}^2} = o_p(1).$$

As for $I_2$, by Theorem 1, we have

$$I_2 \leq \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \frac{\eta_i^2 - 1}{\alpha} \right) + \sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \left| \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\eta_i^2 \alpha y_0 - \alpha_0 y}{\alpha (\gamma + \alpha y_i^2)} \right|$$

$$\leq o_p(1) + \sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \left| \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\eta_i^2 \alpha y_0 - \alpha_0 y}{\alpha (\gamma + \alpha y_i^2)} \right|$$

$$\leq o_p(1) + M \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\eta_i^2}{\gamma + \alpha y_i^2} \right) = o_p(1).$$

Similarly, we can show that $I_3 = I_4 = o_p(1)$. For $I_5$, we have

$$I_5 \leq M \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \eta_i y_i - 1 \sqrt{y_0 + \alpha \gamma_{i-1}^2} \right|$$

$$+ M \sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \eta_i y_i - 1 \sqrt{y_0 + \alpha \gamma_{i-1}^2} \left\{ \frac{1}{\gamma + \alpha \gamma_{i-1}^2} - \frac{1}{\gamma + \alpha \gamma_{i-1}^2} \right\} \right|$$

$$\leq o_p(1) + M \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{|\eta_i|}{\gamma + \alpha y_i^2} \right) = o_p(1)$$

by Theorem 1. Thus, for each $\theta \in \Theta$,

$$\sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[ \ell_i(\gamma, \theta) - \ell_i(\gamma, \theta_0) \right] - f(\theta) \right| = o_p(1). \quad (A.1)$$

We next show that (A.1) holds uniformly in $\theta \in \Theta$. For any $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that $|f(\theta_1) - f(\theta_2)| < \varepsilon/3$ for any $\theta_1, \theta_2 \in \Theta$ with $\|\theta_1 - \theta_2\| < \delta$ because $f(\theta)$ is continuous uniformly on the compact set $\Theta$. For any $\eta \in (0, \delta)$, let $V_j = \{\theta : \|\theta - \theta_j\| < \eta\}$ for some $\theta_j \in \Theta$. Then, $\{V_j : \theta_j \in \Theta\}$ forms an open covering of $\Theta$. We can choose a finite number of $\{V_j, \theta_j \in \Theta\}$ covering $\Theta$, say, $\{V_j\}_{j=1}^{K}$. By Lemma 1(a), we have
\[ \sup_{\vartheta \in \Theta} \sup_{y \in \Gamma} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left[ \ell_t(y, \vartheta) - \ell_t(y, \vartheta_0) - f(\vartheta) \right] \right| \leq \max_{1 \leq j \leq K} \sup_{\theta' \in \mathcal{V}_j \cap \Theta} \sup_{y \in \Gamma} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left[ \ell_t(y, \theta') - \ell_t(y, \vartheta_0) - f(\vartheta) \right] \right] + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left[ f(\vartheta_j) - f(\vartheta) \right] \]

\[ \leq \max_{1 \leq j \leq K} \left\{ \sup_{\theta' \in \mathcal{V}_j \cap \Theta} \left\| \theta - \theta_j \right\| \sup_{y \in \Gamma} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \frac{\partial \ell_t(y, \theta)}{\partial \theta} \right] \right\} + \sup_{y \in \Gamma} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left[ \ell_t(y, \theta_j) - \ell_t(y, \vartheta_0) - f(\vartheta) \right] \right] \]

\[ \leq \eta O_p(1) + \max_{1 \leq j \leq K} \left\{ \sup_{y \in \Gamma} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left[ \ell_t(y, \theta_j) - \ell_t(y, \vartheta_0) - f(\vartheta) \right] \right] \right\} + \frac{\varepsilon}{3}. \]

We first take \( \eta \in (0, \delta) \) small enough such that \( \mathbb{P}(\eta|O_p(1)| > \varepsilon/3) < \varepsilon/2 \) uniformly in \( n \). For this \( \eta, K \) is fixed and hence, by (A.1), the second term is \( o_p(1) \) as \( n \to \infty \). Thus, we can take an \( N \) large enough such that

\[ \mathbb{P} \left( \sup_{\vartheta \in \Theta} \sup_{y \in \Gamma} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left[ \ell_t(y, \vartheta) - \ell_t(y, \vartheta_0) - f(\vartheta) \right] \right| > \varepsilon \right) < \varepsilon, \]

as \( n > N \), that is, the conclusion holds.

\[ \Box \]

**Lemma 3.** If Assumptions 1 and 2 hold and \( \kappa < \infty \), then

(a) \( \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \frac{\partial \ell_t(y_0, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{D}} N(0, \Omega_1). \)

(b) \( \sup_{y \in \Gamma} \sup_{\vartheta \in \Theta} \left\| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left[ \frac{\partial \ell_t(y, \vartheta)}{\partial \theta} - \frac{\partial \ell_t(y_0, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta} \right] \right\| = o_p(1); \)

where \( \Omega_1 = \text{diag}(\alpha_0^{-1}, (\kappa - 1)/(4\alpha_0^2)). \)

**Proof**

(a) For any \( c = (c_1, c_2)' \in \mathbb{R}^2 \), by Theorem 1, we can show that

\[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( c \cdot \frac{\partial \ell_t(y_0, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta} \right)^2 | \mathcal{F}_{t-1} \right] \]

\[ = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left\{ \frac{c_1^2 y_{t-1}^2}{\gamma_0 + \alpha_0 y_{t-1}^2} + \frac{c_2^2 (\kappa - 1)y_{t-1}^4}{4(\gamma_0 + \alpha_0 y_{t-1}^2)^2} \right\} \]

\[ = \frac{c_1^2}{\alpha_0} + \frac{c_2^2 (\kappa - 1)}{4\alpha_0^2} + o_p(1) \]

\[ = c' \Omega c + o_p(1). \]
By the Cramér–Wold device and the martingale central limit theorem in Brown (1971), we have

\[
\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \frac{\partial \ell_t(y_0, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta} \overset{D}{\to} N(0, \Omega_1).
\]

Thus, (a) holds.

By Theorem 1, we can show that

\[
\sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left| \frac{\partial \ell_t(y, \theta)}{\partial \theta} - \frac{\partial \ell_t(y_0, \theta)}{\partial \theta} \right| \right\}
\leq M \sum_{t=1}^{n} \left( 1 + \eta_t^2 \right) \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{\gamma^2 + \alpha \gamma_t^2}} + \frac{1}{\gamma + \alpha \gamma_t^2} \right) = o_p(1).
\]

Thus, (b) holds.

**Proof of Theorem 2**

(i) Note that \( f(\theta) \) has a unique maximizer at \( \theta = \theta_0 \) on \( \Theta \). For any \( \varepsilon > 0 \), we have \( c \equiv \sup_{\|\theta_\theta\| \geq \varepsilon} f(\theta) < f(\theta_0) = 0 \). Thus, by Lemma 2,

\[
\mathbb{P} \left( \|\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_0\| \geq \varepsilon \right)
= \mathbb{P} \left( \|\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_0\| \geq \varepsilon, \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} [\ell_t(y_0, \hat{\theta}_n) - \ell_t(y_0, \theta_0)] \geq 0 \right)
\leq \mathbb{P} \left( \sup_{\|\theta_\theta\| \geq \varepsilon} \sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} [\ell_t(y, \theta) - \ell_t(y_0, \theta_0) - f(\theta)] + c \geq 0 \right)
\leq \mathbb{P} \left( \sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} [\ell_t(y, \theta) - \ell_t(y_0, \theta_0) - f(\theta)] \geq -c \right) \to 0.
\]

Thus, (i) holds.

(ii) By Taylor’s expansion, Lemmas 1(b) and 3(b), it follows that

\[
0 = \frac{\partial L_n(y_n, \hat{\theta}_n)}{\partial \theta}
= \frac{\partial L_n(y_0, \hat{\theta}_n)}{\partial \theta} + \left( \frac{\partial^2 L_n(y_0, \hat{\theta}_n)}{\partial \theta \partial \theta} - \frac{\partial L_n(y_0, \hat{\theta}_n)}{\partial \theta} \right)
= \frac{\partial L_n(y_0, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial^2 L_n(y_0, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta \partial \theta} + n \left( \hat{\theta}_n - \theta_0 \right) \left( \hat{\theta}_n - \theta_0 \right)^\top O_p(1) \left( \hat{\theta}_n - \theta_0 \right) + o_p(\sqrt{n}).
\]

Thus, (ii) holds by (i) of this theorem, Lemma 3(a), and

\[
\frac{1}{n} \frac{\partial^2 L_n(y_0, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta \partial \theta} = -\text{diag}(\alpha_0^{-1}, (2\alpha_0^2)^{-1}) + o_p(1).
\]