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Letter from Editors

The fourth issue of volume 4 is again devoted to modelling macroeconomic and financial phenomena, this time with special focus on variables integrated of order 2, cointegration and related issues. Two papers deal with macroeconometric methodology, while the third is focused on financial processes.

The aim of the first paper, written by Michał Majsterek, is to analyse both statistical and economic aspects of models with I(2) variables. The statistical foundations of such models as well as the economic interpretation of both VECM parameters and common stochastic trends is considered. The paper concludes with empirical example.

In the second paper, Justyna Wróblewska presents Bayesian analysis of weak form polynomial serial correlation common features together with cointegration. In the VEC model the serial correlation common feature leads to an additional reduced rank restriction imposed on the model parameters. The approach is illustrated by a price-wage model for the Polish economy.

The third paper, by Piotr Płuciennik, is devoted to the swap spread, i.e. the difference between the rate of an interest rate swap and the yield of the treasury with the same maturity. The swap spread is interpreted as the effective proxy of bank liquidity and the credit spread indicator. The main goal of the paper is to assess how Polish swap spreads and their conditional variances reacted to the subprime crisis and crisis of confidence in the Polish interbank market.