

Unit Root Testing: History and Modern Applications

IAA September 2023

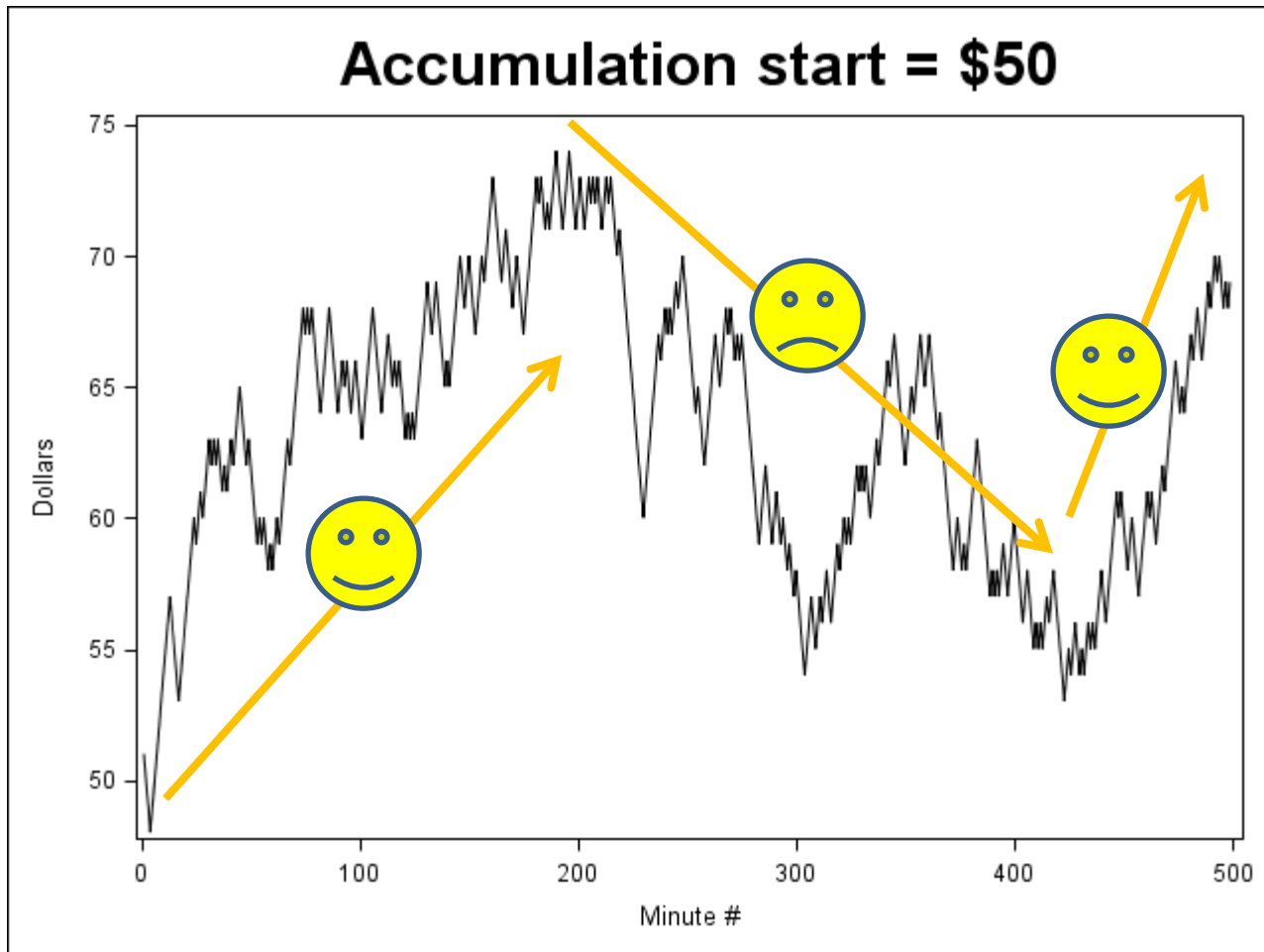
David A. Dickey – NC State University



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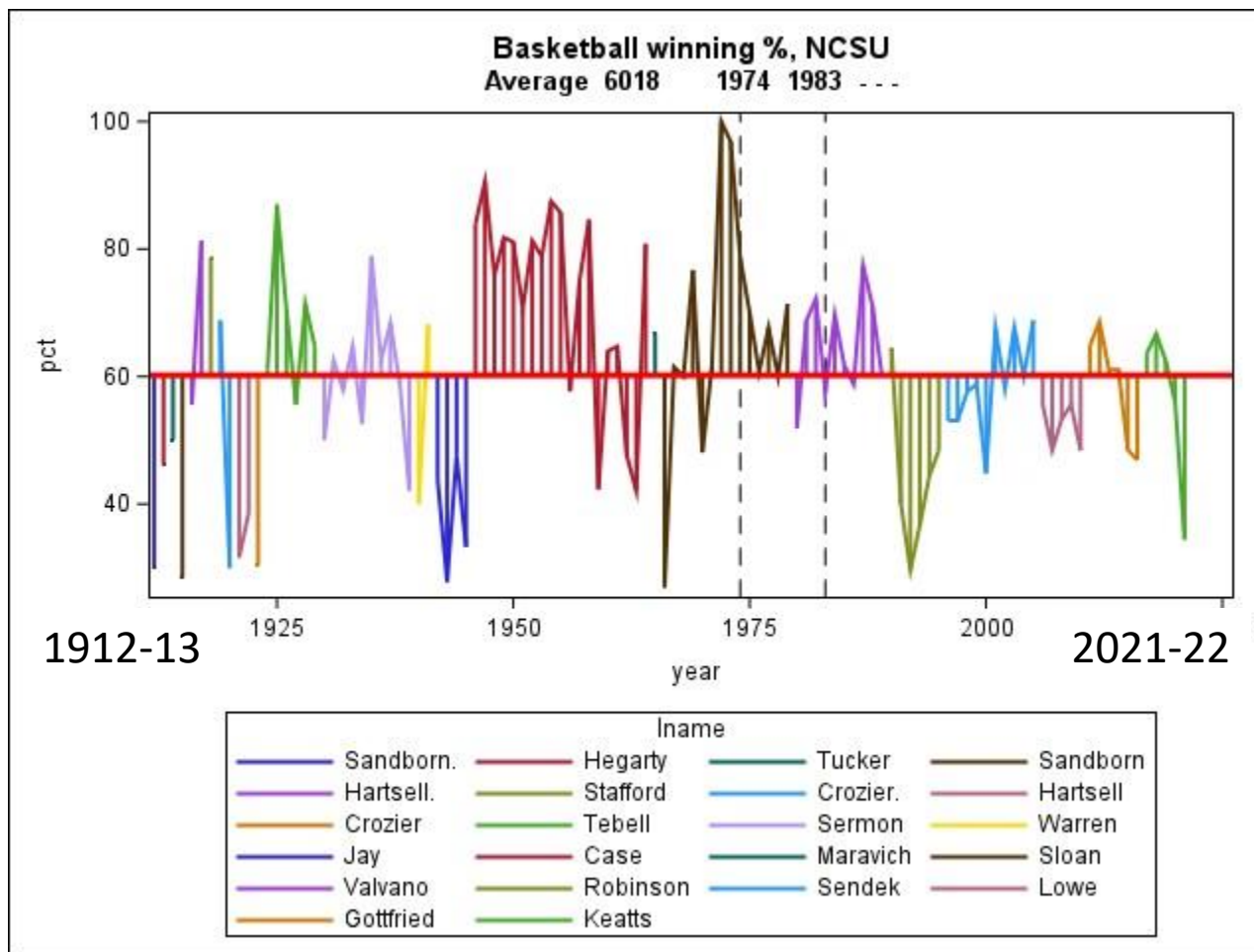
Stock price per minute for Unit Roots Inc.* 😊



Winning



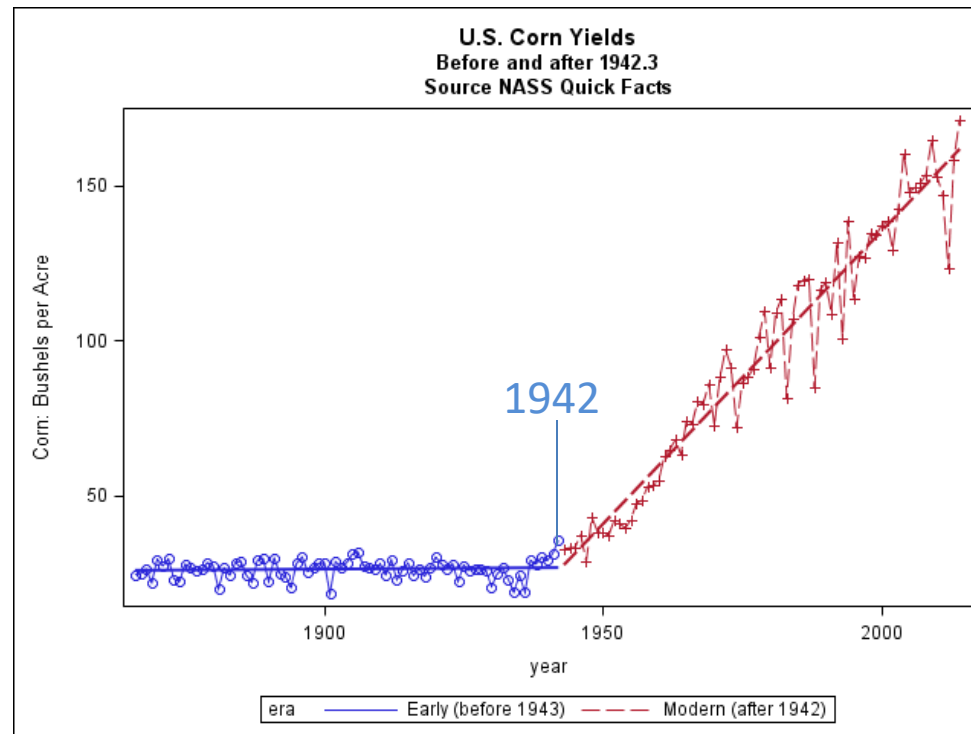
Percentages



Corn Yields (BPA)

Natl. Ag. Stat. Serv.

2014

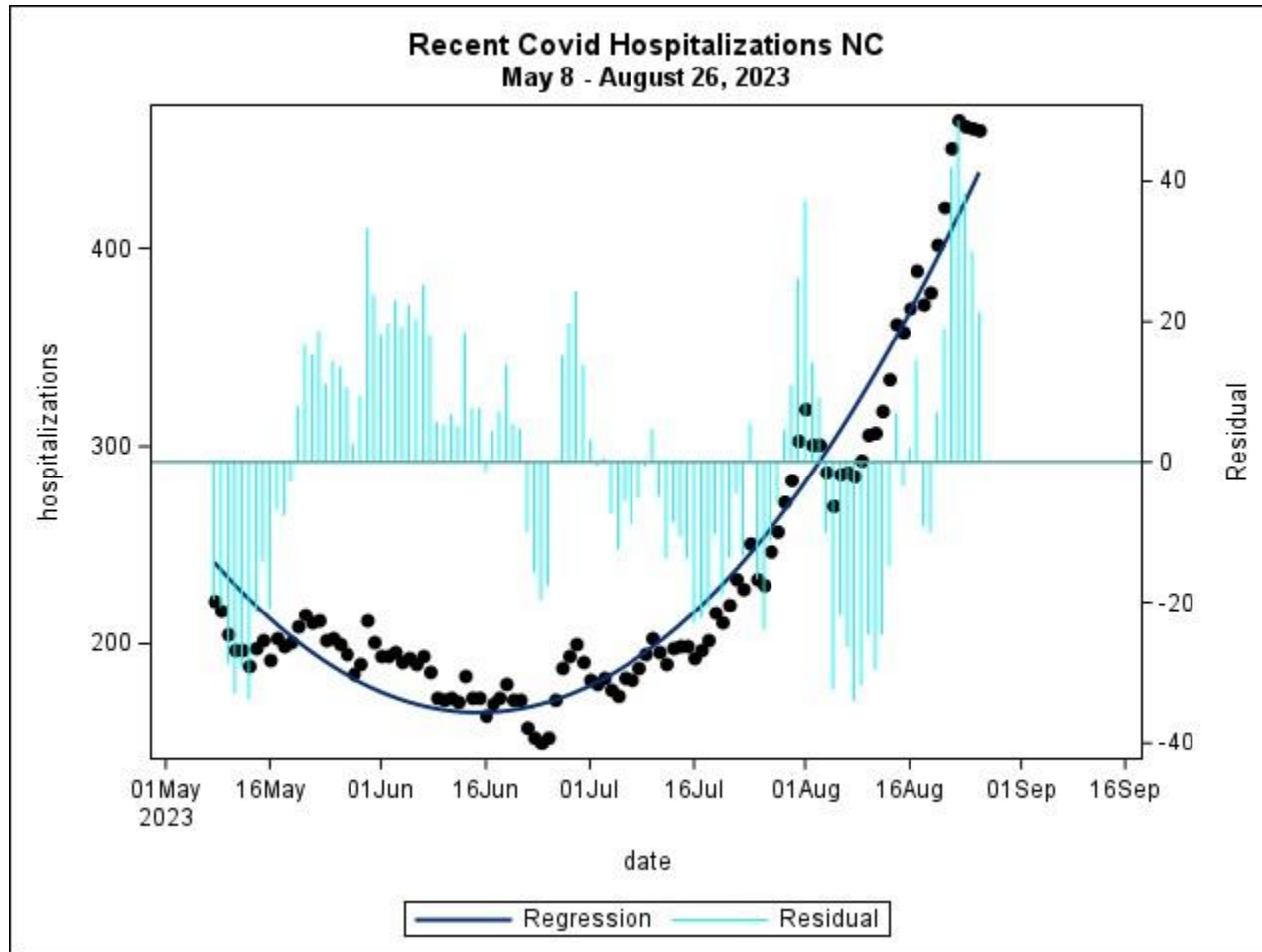
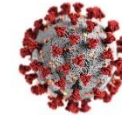


1866



Covid Hospitalizations

May 8, 2023– August 26 2023



Basic Model:

$$Y_t - f(t) = \rho(Y_{t-1} - f(t-1)) + e_t$$

$$Y_t - \mu = \rho(Y_{t-1} - \mu) + e_t$$

$$H_0: \rho = 1$$

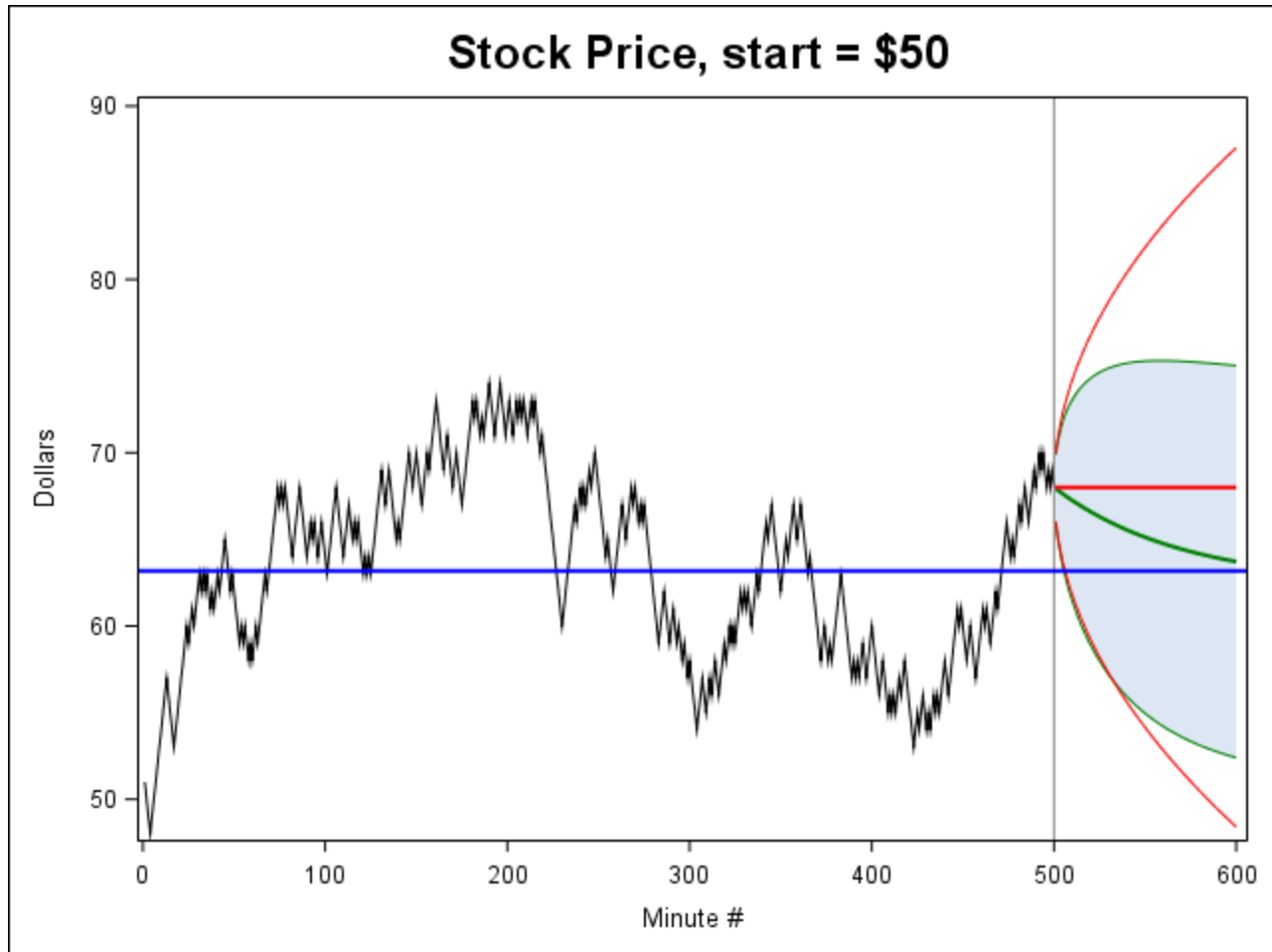
$$Y_t - \cancel{\mu} = Y_{t-1} - \cancel{\mu} + e_t$$

then $Y_t = Y_{t-1} + e_t$ (random walk)

Two forecasts:

ρ estimated (0.9778)

$\rho = 1$

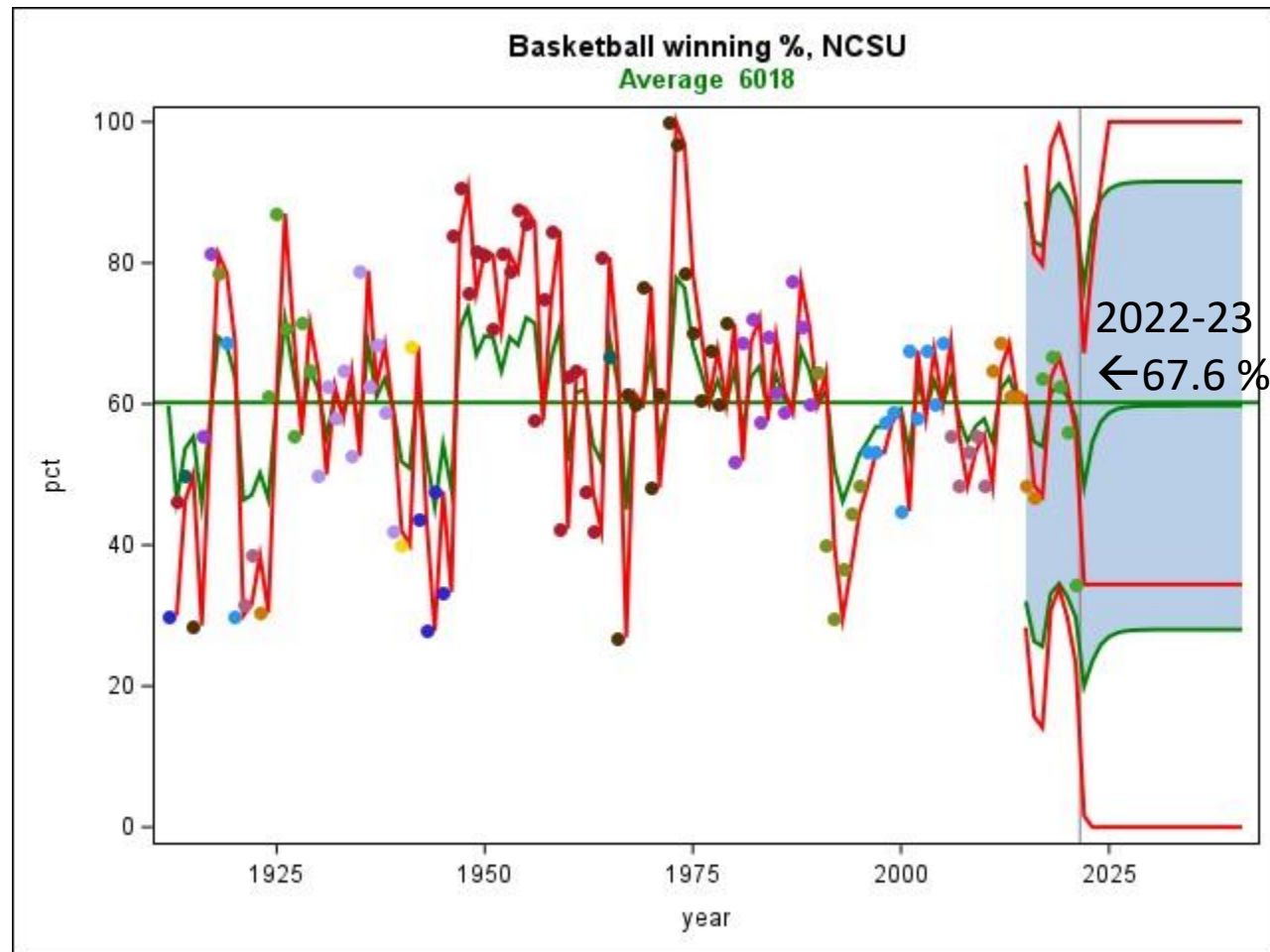


Winning



Proportions

Random Walk ($\rho=1$) and AR(1) ($\rho=0.45$)





Where are
my clothes?

Basic Model, $f(t) = \mu$

$$\frac{Y_t - \mu}{-(Y_{t-1} - \mu)} = \rho \frac{Y_{t-1} - \mu}{-(Y_{t-1} - \mu)} + e_t$$

$$\frac{Y_t - Y_{t-1}}{\nabla Y_t} = (\rho - 1)(Y_{t-1} - \mu) + e_t$$

$$H_0: \rho - 1 = 0$$

Regress ∇Y_t on $1, Y_{t-1}$
t-stat



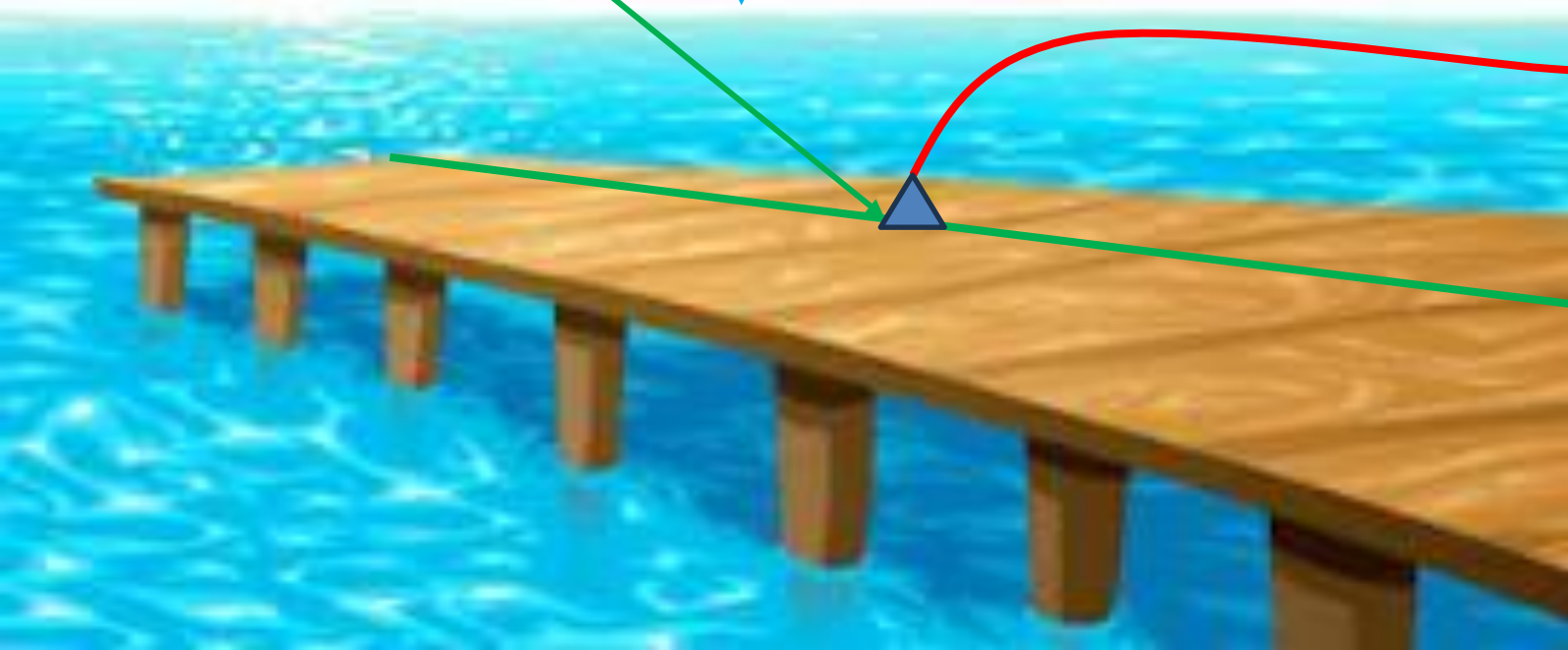
$$Y_t - Y_{t-1} = (\rho - 1)(Y_{t-1} - \mu) + e_t$$

Dock is μ

waves= e_t =white noise

Bungee elasticity ρ pullback is $\rho - 1$

Boat position Y_t is AR(1)



Basic Model:

$$Y_t - f(t) = \rho(Y_{t-1} - f(t-1)) + e_t$$

$$Y_t - \mu = \rho(Y_{t-1} - \mu) + e_t$$

$$H_0: \rho = 1$$

$$Y_t - \cancel{\mu} = Y_{t-1} - \cancel{\mu} + e_t$$

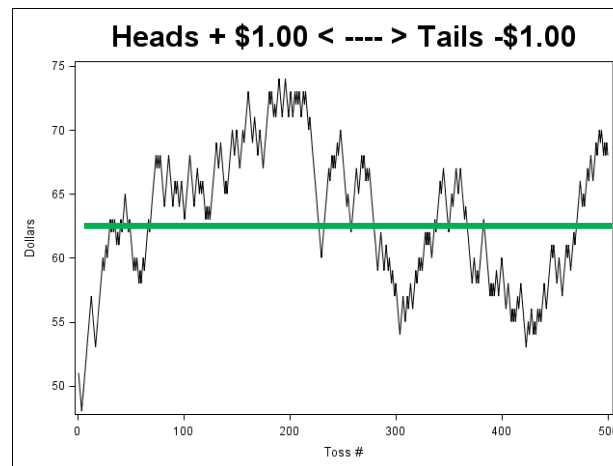
then $Y_t = Y_{t-1} + e_t$ (random walk)



+ \$1



- \$1



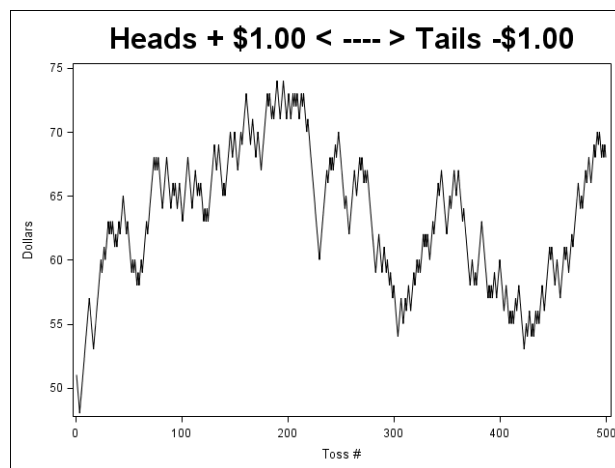
Parameter Estimates



Variable	DF	Parameter	Standard	t Value	Pr > t
		Estimate	Error		
Intercept	1	0.32618	0.11908	2.74	0.0064
Lsum	1	-0.02219	0.00839	-2.64	0.0084

Reject $H_0: \rho=1$

But we KNOW that $\rho=1$

????



H_0 : 
 H_1 : 



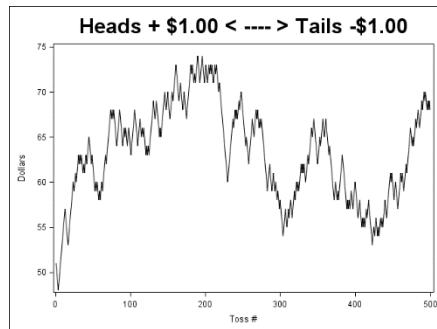
Testing a hypothesis



H_0 : Innocence
 H_1 : Guilt



Beyond reasonable
 doubt
 $P < 0.05$



Truth: random walk.
 (not "stationary")

$H_0: \rho = 1$
 (random walk)
 $H_1: |\rho| < 1$
 (stationary)



Conclusion: ($p = 0.0084$) -> stationary

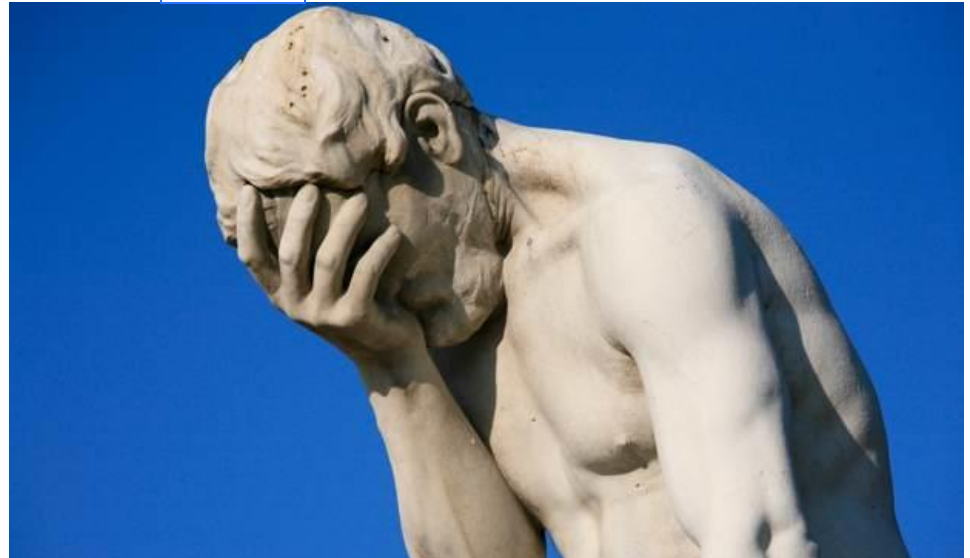
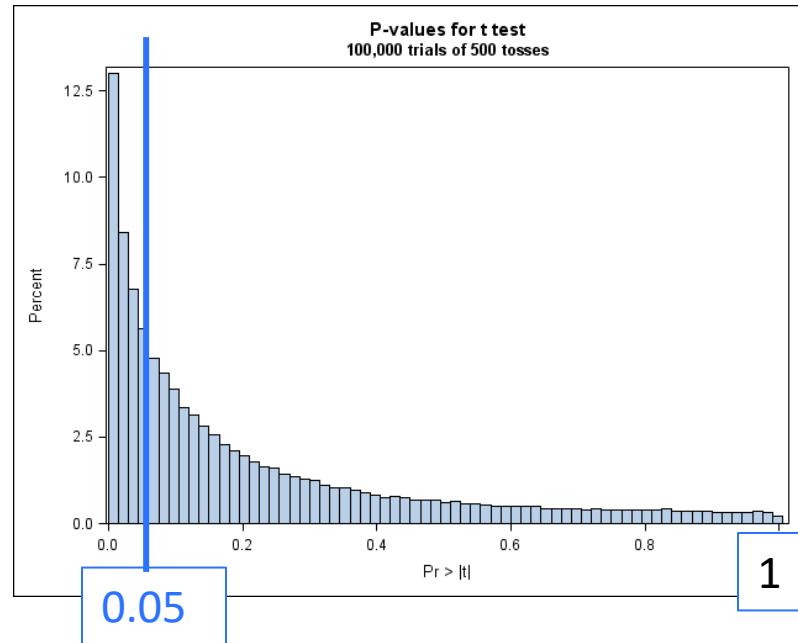
Mistrial?

100,000 coin flip trials
of 500 tosses each

Reject $H_0: \rho=1$ in 30%

But we KNOW that $\rho=1$
(nominal $\alpha=0.05$)

100,000 p-values \rightarrow



What's Wrong?



$$Y_t - \mu = \rho(Y_{t-1} - \mu) + e_t$$

$$Y_t = \mu(1 - \rho) + \rho Y_{t-1} + e_t$$

$$Y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Y_{t-1} + e_t$$

Linear model – **yes!**

$e_t \sim (0, \sigma^2)$ independently – **yes!**

Regressors fixed and known





Wilbur
Wright

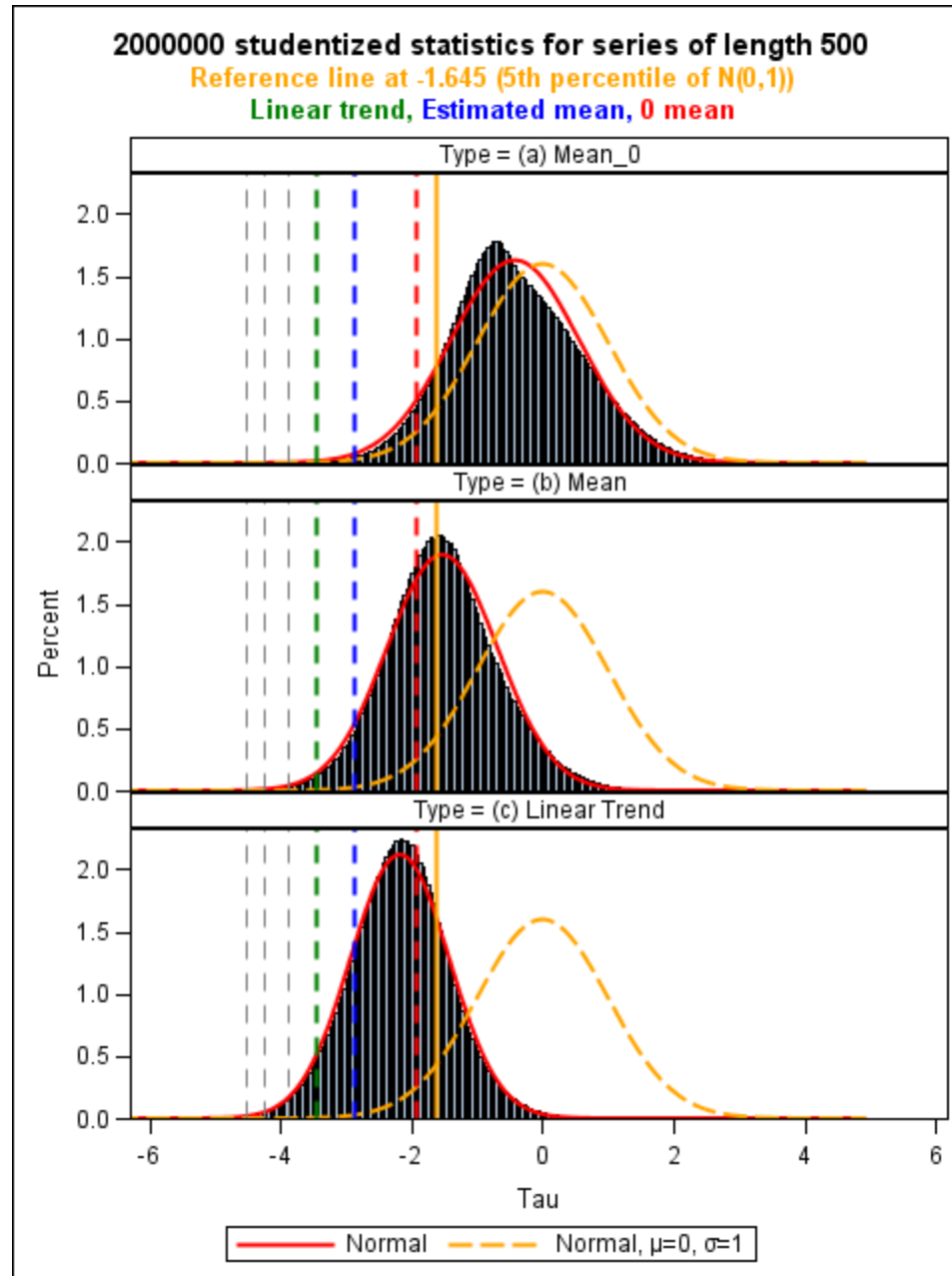
"I confess that in 1901
I said to my brother
Orville that man would
not fly for fifty years."
(first flight Dec. 1903)

Lesson 1:



Jim Valvano NCSU basketball coach

Let's Take A Look



$$f(t)$$

Mean=0
← -1.95

Mean
Estimated
← -2.86

Linear
Trend
← -3.41

Lesson 1: Check your assumptions

```
PROC REG Data=cointoss;  
MODEL difference = Lsum;
```

COIN TOSS

	Parameter	Standard			
Variable	DF	Estimate	Error	t Value	Pr> t
Intercept	1	0.32618	0.11908	2.74	0.0064
Lsum	1	-0.02219	0.00839	-2.64	0.0084 ??

Mean
Estimated
← -2.86

Commercial Products include SASTM and others

```
PROC ARIMA Data=cointoss;  
Identify var=sum stationarity=(Dickey=(0));
```

Dickey-Fuller Unit Root Tests

Type	Lags	Rho	Pr<Rho	Tau	Pr<Tau
Zero Mean	0	-0.4367	0.5838	-0.28	0.5861
Single Mean	0	-11.0708	0.1030	-2.64	0.0852 !!
Trend	0	-11.8969	0.3173	-2.80	0.1996

Mathematical Results:



Regress $Y_t - Y_{t-1}$ on Y_{t-1}
where $Y_t = \mathbf{1}Y_{t-1} + e_t$

$$n(\hat{\rho} - 1) = \frac{\frac{1}{n} \sum Y_{t-1} e_t}{\frac{1}{n^2} \sum Y_{t-1}^2} = \frac{N}{D} \rightarrow \frac{\left(\sum_0^\infty \gamma_i Z_i \right)^2 - 1/2}{\sum_0^\infty \gamma_i^2 Z_i^2} = \frac{\int B(t) dB(t)}{\int B^2(t) dt}$$

$$\gamma_i = \frac{2(-1)^{i+1}}{(2i-1)\pi}$$

$B(t)$: Brownian Motion on $[0,1]$
 $Z_i \sim N(0,1)$, independently

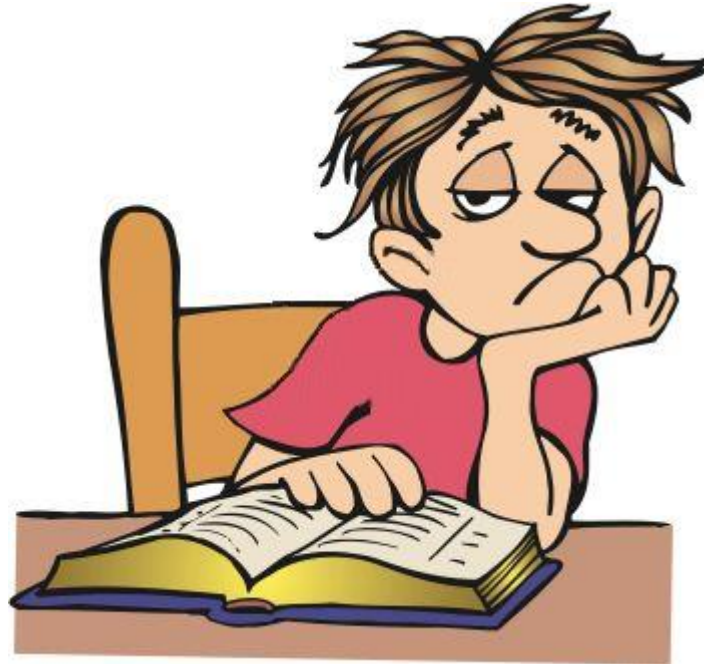


WARNING:

Algebra like this has been known to cause headache, nausea,
and lack of sleep, especially in MSA students.

Interesting formula!

Got more?



Part 2, the studentized test statistic (τ)



Regress $Y_t - Y_{t-1}$ on Y_{t-1}

$$Y_t = \textcolor{red}{1}Y_{t-1} + e_t$$

Mathematical Results:

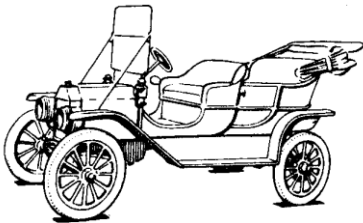
$$\tau = \frac{\hat{\rho} - 1}{\sqrt{s^2 / \sum Y_{t-1}^2}} \Rightarrow \frac{\left(\sum_0^\infty \gamma_i Z_i \right)^2 - 1/2}{\sqrt{\sum_0^\infty \gamma_i^2 Z_i^2}} = \frac{\int B(t) dB(t)}{\sqrt{\int B^2(t) dt}}$$

Lesson 2: Attitude matters



Whether you think you can, or you think you can't--you're right.

Henry Ford



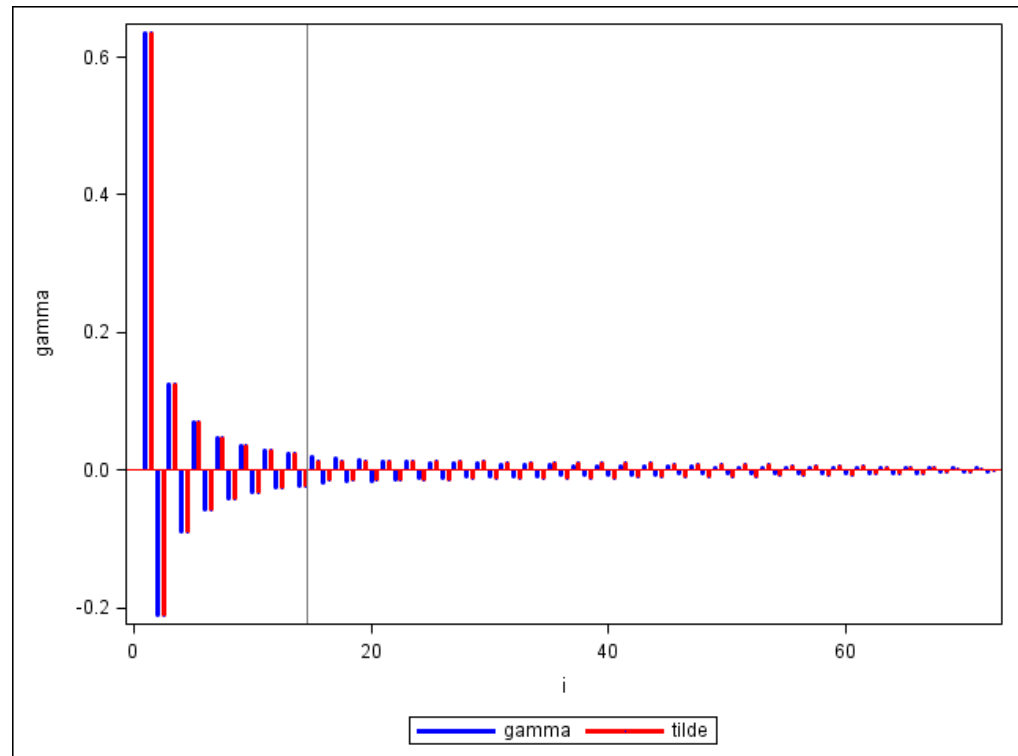
Numerator: $\left(\sum_0^\infty \gamma_i Z_i\right)^2 - 1/2 \approx \left(\sum_0^{72} \tilde{\gamma}_i Z_i\right)^2 - 1/2$

Denominator: $\sum_0^\infty \gamma_i^2 Z_i^2 \approx \sum_0^{72} \tilde{\gamma}_i^2 Z_i^2$

(1) $\tilde{\gamma}_i = \gamma_i = \frac{(-1)^{i+1} 2}{(2i-1)\pi}, i = 1, 2, \dots, 14$

(2) $\sum_0^\infty \gamma_i^2 = \sum_0^{72} \tilde{\gamma}_i^2$

Lesson 3 :
Knowing a little
math can help



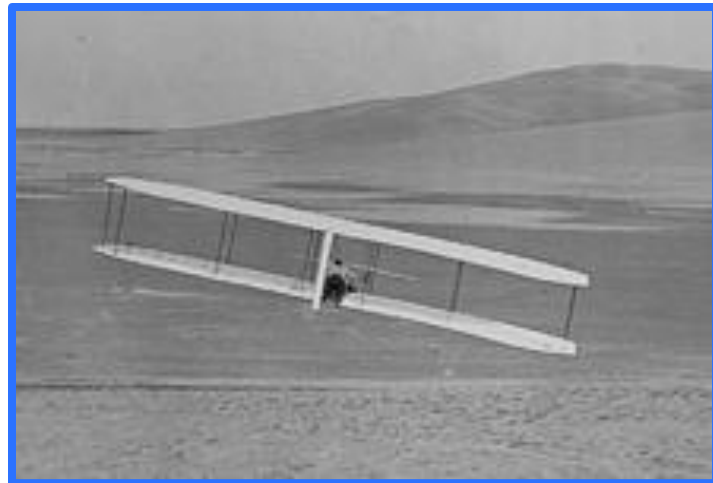
Winning idea:

- (1) Large simulations for finite sample size
- (2) Simulate from limit approximation



Jimmy V
@NCSU

$$\tau \rightarrow \frac{\left(\sum_0^m \tilde{\gamma}_i Z_i\right)^2 - 1/2}{\sqrt{\sum_0^m \tilde{\gamma}_i^2 Z_i^2}}$$



Wright glider Oct. 24, 1902

[illegible]

n	P1	P5	P10	P25	P50	mean	P75	P90	P95	P99
---	----	----	-----	-----	-----	------	-----	-----	-----	-----

$f(t)=0$

25	-2.67	-1.96	-1.61	-1.07	-0.47	-0.40	0.25	0.93	1.34	2.14
50	-2.61	-1.94	-1.61	-1.08	-0.49	-0.41	0.23	0.91	1.31	2.08
100	-2.59	-1.94	-1.62	-1.09	-0.49	-0.42	0.23	0.90	1.30	2.04
250	-2.58	-1.94	-1.62	-1.09	-0.50	-0.42	0.22	0.89	1.29	2.02
500	-2.57	-1.94	-1.61	-1.09	-0.50	-0.42	0.22	0.89	1.29	2.02
1000	-2.57	-1.94	-1.62	-1.09	-0.50	-0.42	0.22	0.89	1.28	2.02

$f(t)=\mu$

25	-3.74	-2.99	-2.64	-2.09	-1.53	-1.52	-0.96	-0.37	0.00	0.72
50	-3.57	-2.92	-2.60	-2.09	-1.55	-1.53	-0.99	-0.40	-0.04	0.66
100	-3.50	-2.89	-2.58	-2.09	-1.56	-1.53	-1.00	-0.42	-0.06	0.64
250	-3.46	-2.87	-2.57	-2.09	-1.56	-1.53	-1.01	-0.43	-0.07	0.61
500	-3.44	-2.87	-2.57	-2.09	-1.56	-1.53	-1.01	-0.44	-0.08	0.61
1000	-3.44	-2.87	-2.57	-2.09	-1.57	-1.53	-1.01	-0.44	-0.08	0.61

$f(t)=\alpha+\beta t$

25	-4.40	-3.61	-3.24	-2.69	-2.14	-2.17	-1.63	-1.14	-0.82	-0.17
50	-4.16	-3.51	-3.18	-2.68	-2.16	-2.18	-1.67	-1.20	-0.88	-0.25
100	-4.05	-3.46	-3.15	-2.67	-2.17	-2.18	-1.69	-1.22	-0.91	-0.29
250	-4.00	-3.43	-3.14	-2.67	-2.18	-2.18	-1.70	-1.23	-0.93	-0.31
500	-3.98	-3.42	-3.13	-2.67	-2.18	-2.18	-1.70	-1.24	-0.94	-0.32
1000	-3.97	-3.41	-3.13	-2.67	-2.18	-2.18	-1.70	-1.24	-0.94	-0.32

(2 million runs each. n=1000 took < 3 min. in SAS)

Winning



Percentages

Augmented Dickey-Fuller Unit Root Tests

Type	Lags	Tau	Pr < Tau
Zero Mean	0	-1.39	0.1519
	1	-1.11	0.2408
	2	-0.77	0.3798
Single Mean	0	-6.50	<.0001
	1	-5.64	<.0001
	2	-4.33	0.0007
Trend	0	-6.46	<.0001
	1	-5.61	<.0001
	2	-4.32	0.0044

Reject
H0: Unit Root

Definition: Power

The probability of rejecting a null hypothesis when you should ($\Pr\{\text{reject}\}$)

Modified Definition:

Parzen Power

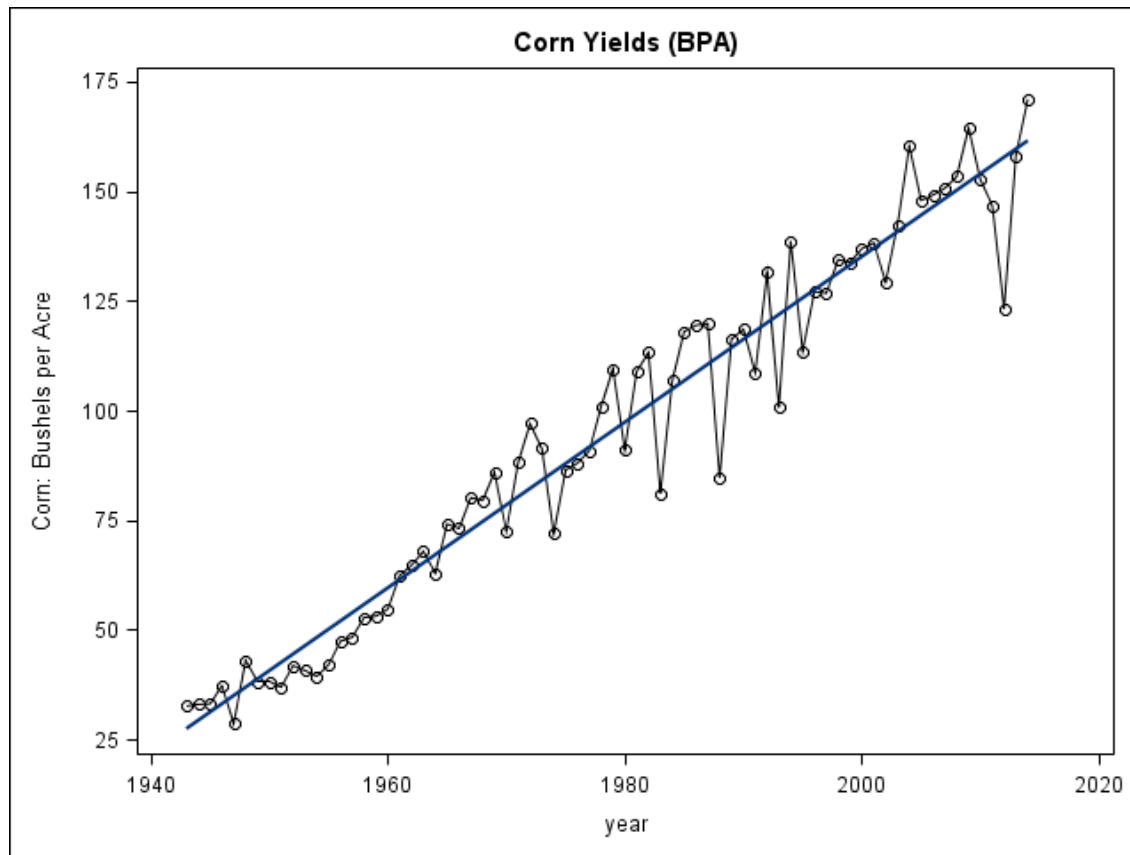
$\Pr\{\text{reject}\} * \Pr\{\text{use}\}$

Dr. Emanuel Parzen, Distinguished Professor
Emeritus of Statistics, Texas A&M University
(1929 – 2016)



Basic Model 2: $f(t) = \alpha + \beta t$

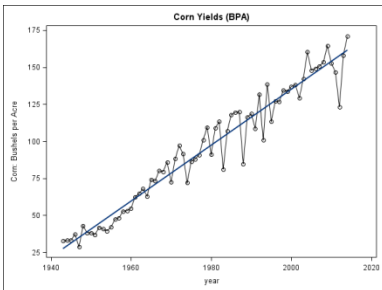
$$Y_t - (\alpha + \beta t) = \rho(Y_{t-1} - (\alpha + \beta(t-1))) + e_t$$



(1943 - 2014)

$$\begin{aligned}
 Y_t - (\alpha + \beta t) &= \rho(Y_{t-1} - (\alpha + \beta(t-1))) + e_t \\
 - (Y_{t-1} - (\alpha + \beta(t-1))) &- (Y_{t-1} - (\alpha + \beta(t-1))) \\
 Y_t - Y_{t-1} - \beta &= (\rho - 1)(Y_{t-1} - (\alpha + \beta t - \beta)) + e_t
 \end{aligned}$$

$$Y_t - Y_{t-1} = (\beta - (\rho - 1)(\alpha - \beta)) + (\rho - 1)\beta t + (\rho - 1)Y_{t-1} + e_t$$


 β_0
 $\beta_1 t$

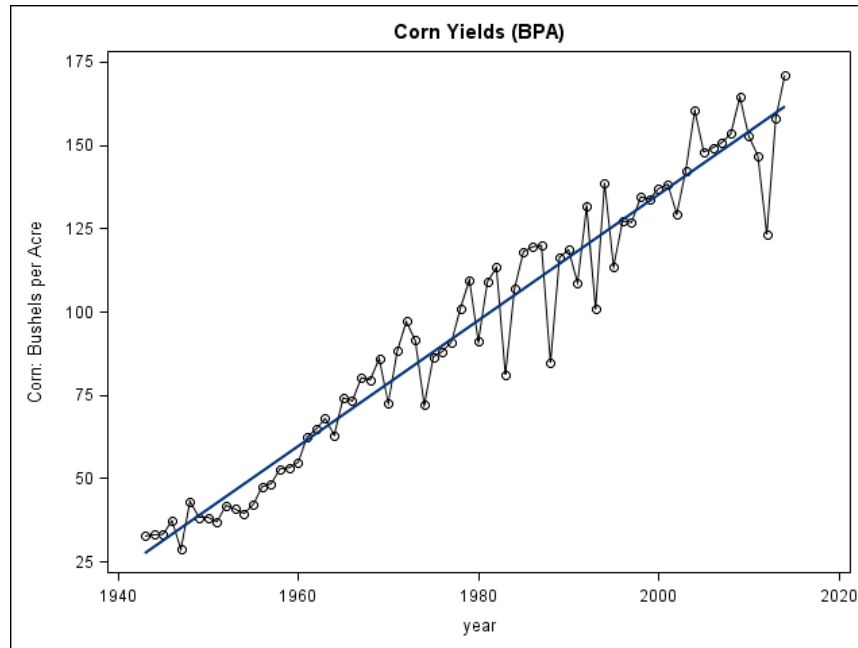

$$H_0: \rho - 1 = 0$$

Regress $Y_t - Y_{t-1}$ on $1, t, Y_{t-1}$
t-stat

$$Y_t - (\alpha + \beta t) = \rho(Y_{t-1} - (\alpha + \beta(t-1))) + e_t$$

If $H_0: \rho = 1$ is true then $Y_t = Y_{t-1} + \beta + e_t$

random walk with drift β





Corn yields, after 1942

Dickey-Fuller Unit Root Tests

Type	Lags	Rho	Pr<Rho	Tau	Pr<Tau
Zero Mean	0	0.7047	0.8515	0.61	0.8454
Single Mean	0	-3.6170	0.5739	-1.23	0.6559
Trend	0	-74.8033	0.0002	-8.65	<.0001

Autocorrelation Check of Residuals

(from linear trend plus white noise)

To	Chi-	Pr >							
Lag	Square	DF	ChiSq	-----	Autocorrelations	-----			
6	4.27	6	0.6403	-0.053	-0.042	-0.060	-0.022	0.204	-0.061
12	10.82	12	0.5445	-0.017	-0.087	-0.053	0.126	-0.205	-0.083
18	15.54	18	0.6247	0.029	0.020	-0.019	-0.200	0.041	-0.079
24	22.43	24	0.5535	0.188	-0.076	-0.109	0.006	0.076	0.090

Lesson 4: Just because a series is trending up does not mean you need to difference!

Lesson 4: Just because a series is trending up does not mean you need to difference!



Powered flight
Kill Devil Hills NC, Dec. 1903

If we all worked on the assumption that what is accepted as true is really true, there would be little hope of advance. (Orville Wright)



Corn yields, before 1943

Dickey-Fuller Unit Root Tests

Type	Lags	Rho	Pr < Rho	Tau	Pr < Tau
Zero Mean	0	-0.4836	0.5712	-0.35	0.5569
Single Mean	0	-67.4004	0.0007	-7.26	0.0001
Trend	0	-67.4900	0.0002	-7.23	<.0001

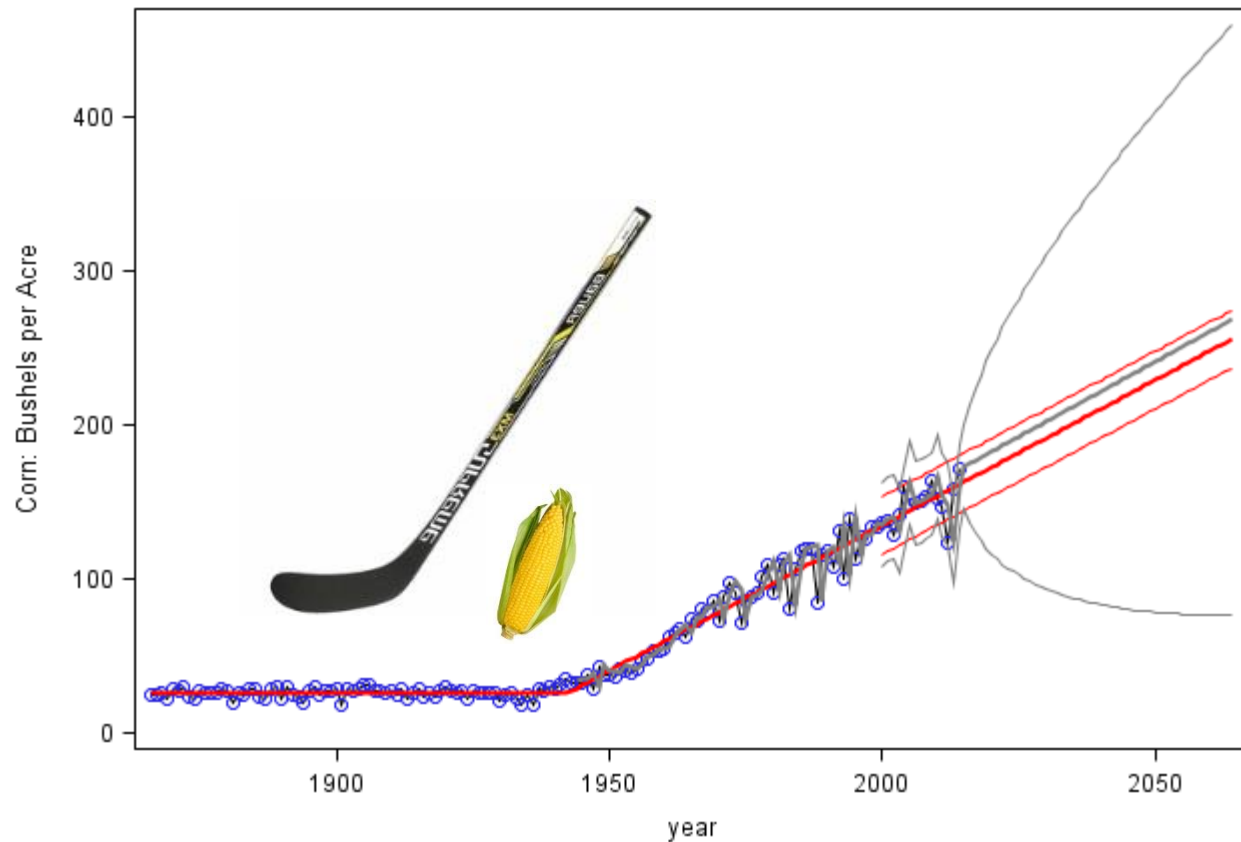
Maximum Likelihood Estimation

Parameter	Standard Estimate	Error	Approx t Value	Pr > t
MU	26.17532	0.36683	71.35	<.0001

Autocorrelation Check of Residuals

To Lag	Chi-Square	Pr > DF	ChiSq	-----Autocorrelations-----
6	3.25	6	0.7764	0.100 0.070 0.034 0.029 -0.111 -0.098
12	7.07	12	0.8532	0.037 -0.111 -0.096 -0.067 -0.103 -0.064
18	8.76	18	0.9651	-0.033 0.014 -0.049 -0.018 0.102 -0.048
24	14.92	24	0.9232	-0.019 0.120 0.105 -0.134 0.041 -0.103

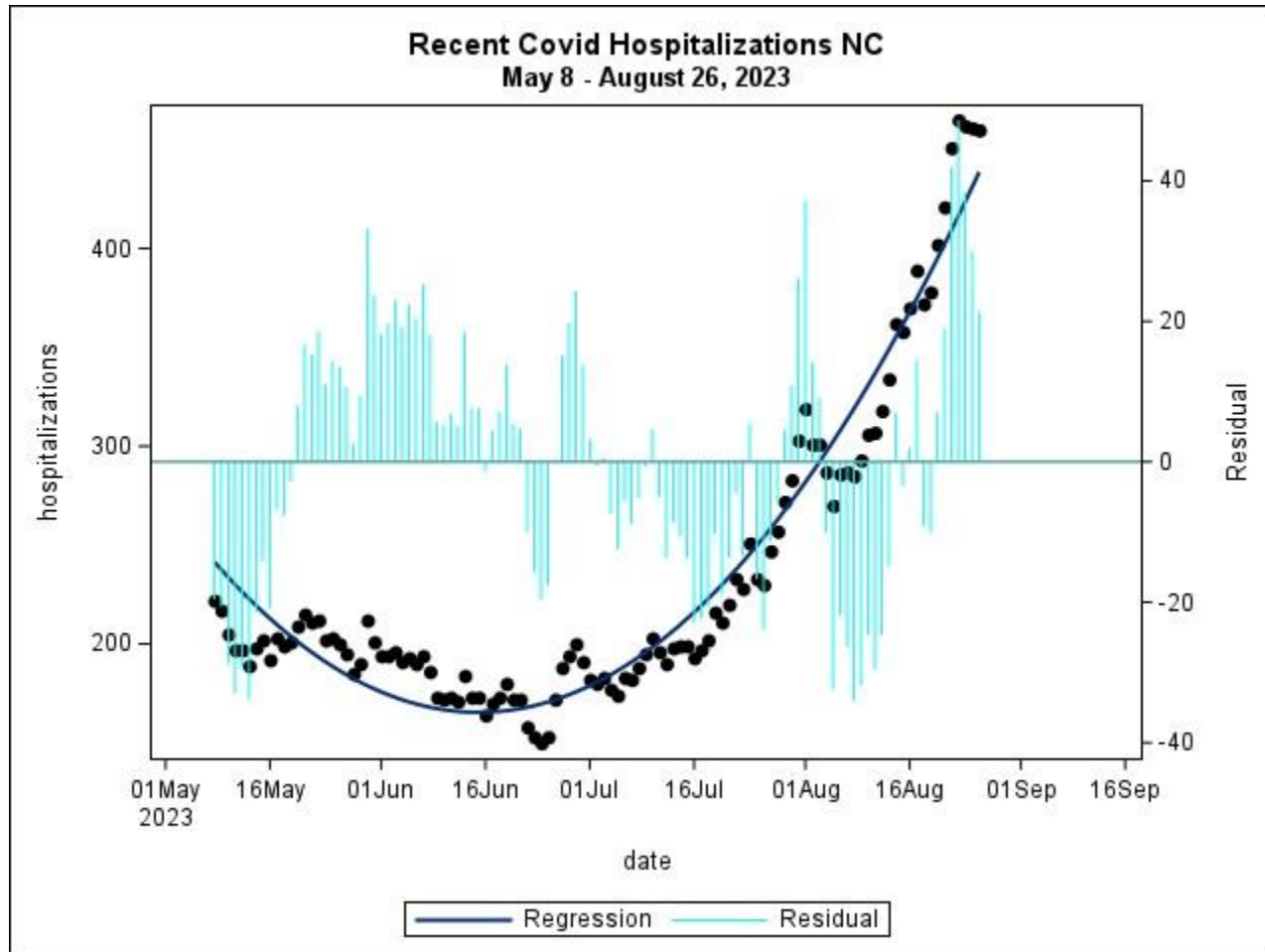
Random Walk with Drift vs. **Trend stationary**
Model uses data after 1942



Covid Hospitalizations

May 8, 2023– August 26 2023

Quadratic residuals stationary??



```
proc arima data=covid;  
  identify var=Hospitalizations  
  stationarity=(dickey);
```

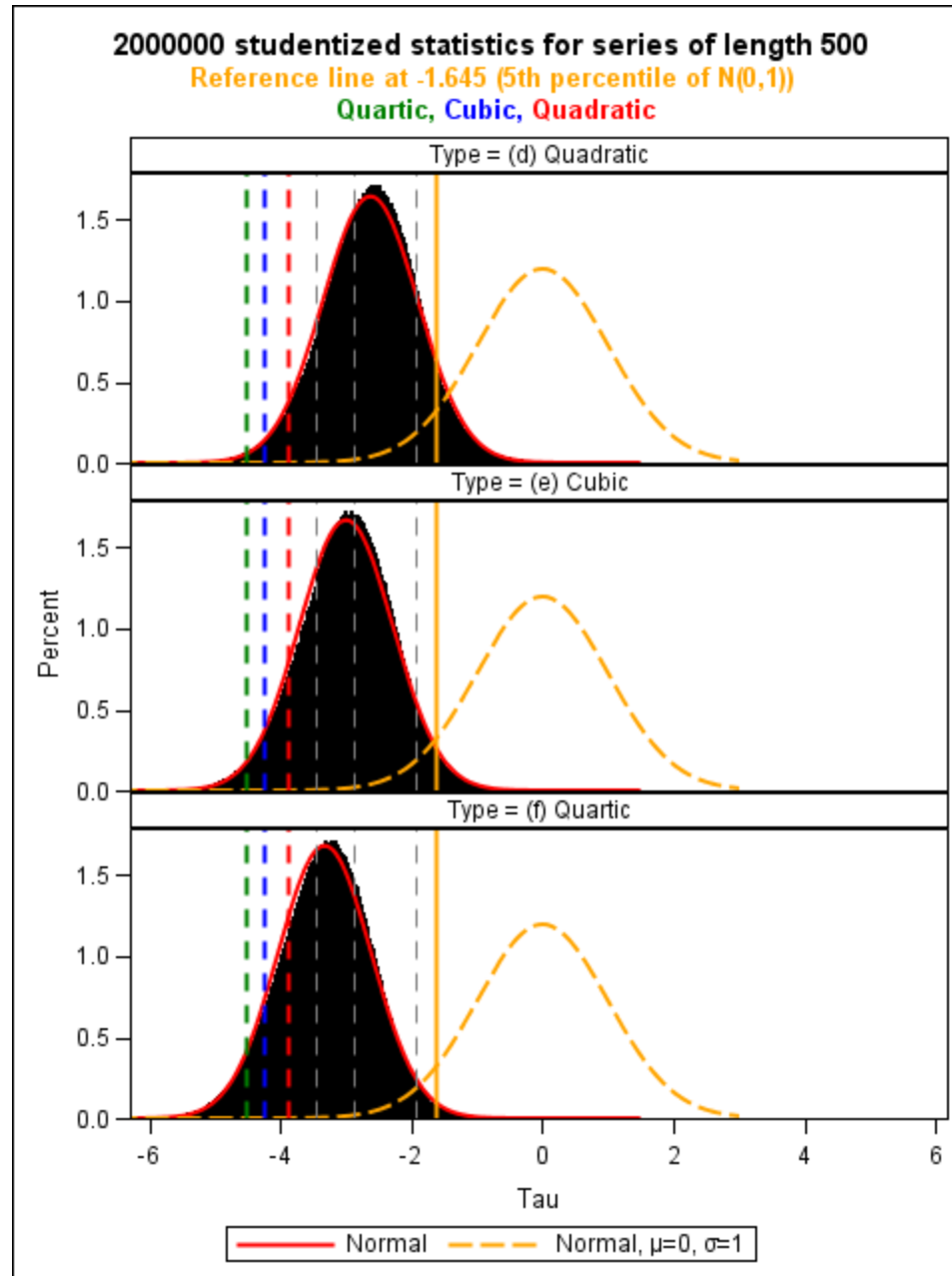
Augmented Dickey-Fuller Unit Root Tests

Type	Lags	Tau	Pr < Tau
Zero Mean	0	2.87	0.9990
	1	2.37	0.9957
Single Mean	0	2.49	0.9999
	1	3.28	0.9997
Trend	0	-0.13	0.9937
	1	-0.25	0.9912

Conclusion: Neither 0, mean, nor trend can make residuals stationary!

How about quadratic?

Let's Take A Look



$f(t)$

Quadratic

← -3.84

Cubic

← -4.21

Quartic

← -4.53

Regression slope

No mean (intercept) $\frac{\sum X_t Y_t}{\sum X_t^2} = \frac{N}{D}$

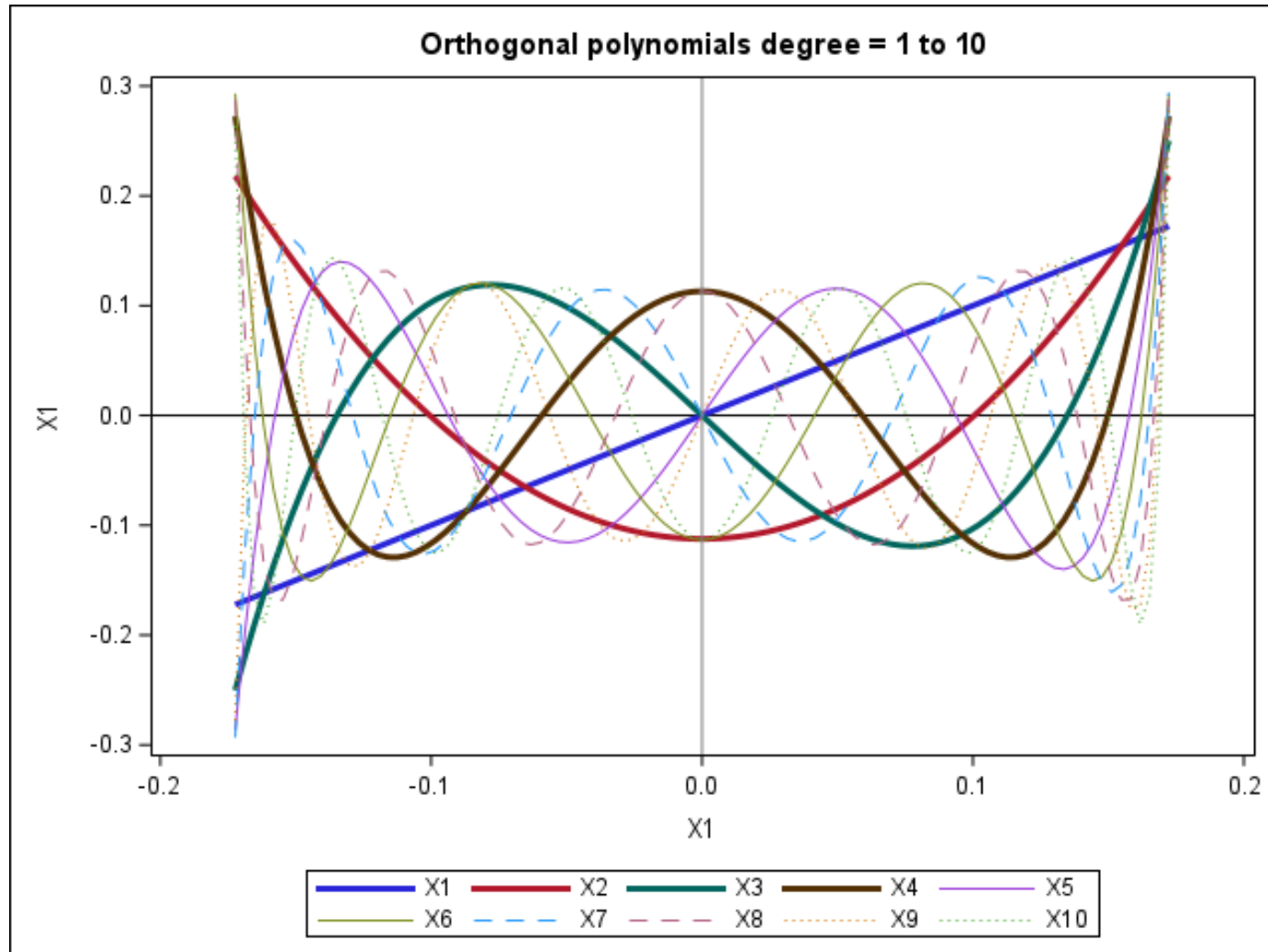
With mean $\frac{\sum (X_t - \bar{X})(Y_t - \bar{Y})}{\sum (X_t - \bar{X})^2} = \frac{\sum X_t Y_t - n \bar{X} \bar{Y}}{\sum X_t^2 - n \bar{X}^2} = \frac{N - N_1}{D - D_1}$

	int	linear	quadratic
“Orthogonal”	1	(t-3)	(t-3) ² -2

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad X'X = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 10 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 14 \end{bmatrix}$$

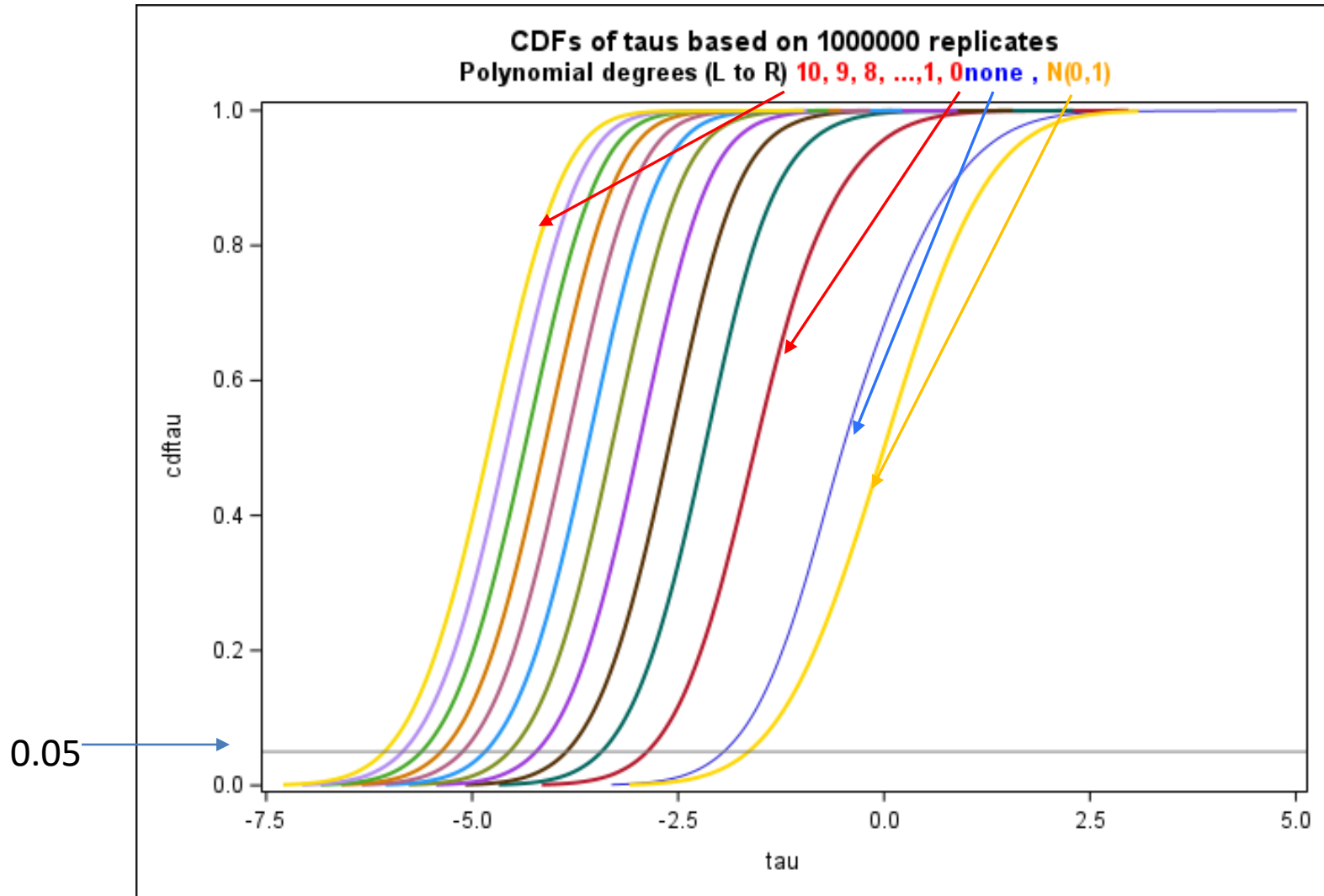
$$\text{Slope} = \frac{N - N_1 - N_2 - N_3}{D - D_1 - D_2 - D_3}$$

Use ORTHONORMAL polynomials for large simulations



One million series of length $n=100$

Empirical CDFs



Step 1: Fit quadratic and get residuals rQ

```
proc reg data=covid; model Hospitalizations = t t2;  
output out=out1 residual=R predicted=p; run;
```

Step 2: Regress $R(t) - R(t-1)$ on $\text{LagR} = R(t-1)$

Parameter Estimates

Parameter				
Variable	DF	Estimate	t Value	Pr > t
Intercept	1	0.34490	0.38	0.7036
LagR	1	-0.13972	-2.84	0.0054

Step 3: Use the right cutoff number

-3.84 < -2.84

Quadratic

← -3.84

Conclusion: H_0 : unit roots (is, is not) rejected
residuals (are, are not) shown to be stationary.
residuals (are, are not) shown to be nonstationary.

What Now? Difference!

$$\text{model } H_t = (at^2 + bt + c) + Z_t$$

$$\text{--- } f(t) \text{ ---} \quad \text{--- } f(t-1) \text{ ---}$$

$$(at^2 + bt + c) - (a(t^2 - 2t + 1) + b(t-1) + c) = 2at + b - a$$

$$\text{Model } H_t - H_{t-1} = (\underline{b-a}) + (\underline{2a})t + Z_t - Z_{t-1}$$

```
proc arima data=covid;  
  identify var=Hospitalizations(1) crosscor=(t)  
  stationarity=(adf=4);
```

Augmented Dickey-Fuller Unit Root Tests

Type	Lags	Tau	Pr < Tau
<u>Trend</u>	0	-9.65	<.0001

Trend test OK for differences $H_t - H_{t-1}$
 $Z_t - Z_{t-1}$ is stationary! →

Finishing - model the differences!

```
estimate input=(t) p=(4) ml;
```

Maximum Likelihood Estimation

Approx

Parameter	Estimate	t Value	Pr > t	Lag	Variable
-----------	----------	---------	---------	-----	----------

MU	-3.74522	-2.54	0.0112	0	hospitalizations	AR1,1	-0.26081	-2.76
0.0058	4	hospitalizations	NUM1	0.1076	4.64	<.0001	0	t

Autocorrelation Check of Residuals

To Chi- Pr >

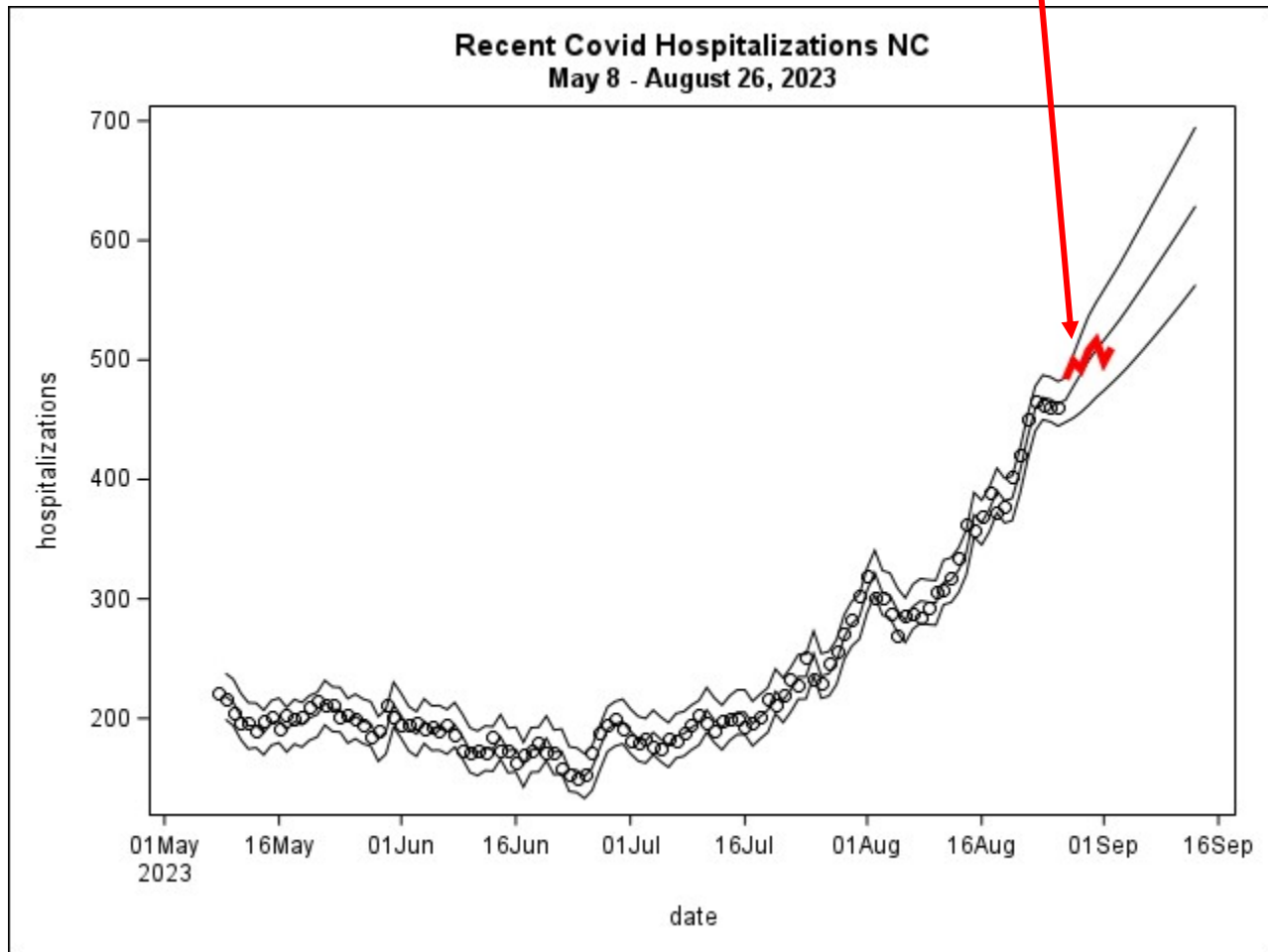
Lag Square DF ChiSq -----Autocorrelations-----

6	4.89	5	0.4292	0.039	-0.060	0.054	0.008	-0.170	-0.069
12	9.02	11	0.6204	-0.013	0.017	-0.052	0.075	-0.049	-0.148
18	16.15	17	0.5134	0.125	0.060	-0.100	0.010	-0.102	-0.121
24	22.37	23	0.4980	-0.044	-0.038	0.153	0.059	0.076	0.091

Conclusion linear plus AR(4) fits (stationary) differences well.

```
forecast lead=18 out=out2  
id=date;
```

New data released last week



Higher Order Models

stationary:

$$Y_t - \mu = 1.3(Y_{t-1} - \mu) - .4(Y_{t-2} - \mu) + e_t$$

$$\nabla Y_t = \boxed{-0.1}(Y_{t-1} - \mu) + .4(\nabla Y_{t-1}) + e_t$$

$$m^2 - 1.3m + 0.4 = (m - .5)(m - .8) = 0$$

“characteristic eqn.”
roots 0.5, 0.8 (< 1)

note: $-(1-.5)(1-.8) = -0.1$

nonstationary

$$Y_t - \mu = 1.3(Y_{t-1} - \mu) - .3(Y_{t-2} - \mu) + e_t$$

$$\nabla Y_t = \boxed{0.0}(Y_{t-1} - \mu) + .3(\nabla Y_{t-1}) + e_t, \quad \nabla Y_t = .3(\nabla Y_{t-1}) + e_t$$

$$m^2 - 1.3m + 0.3 = (m - .3)(\underline{m - 1})$$

“unit root!”

Tests



Regress:

∇Y_t on $(1, t)$ Y_{t-1}



$\rho-1$

(τ)

These coefficients \rightarrow normal!

$| \leftarrow \rightarrow |$

$\nabla Y_{t-1}, \nabla Y_{t-2}, \dots, \nabla Y_{t-p+1}$

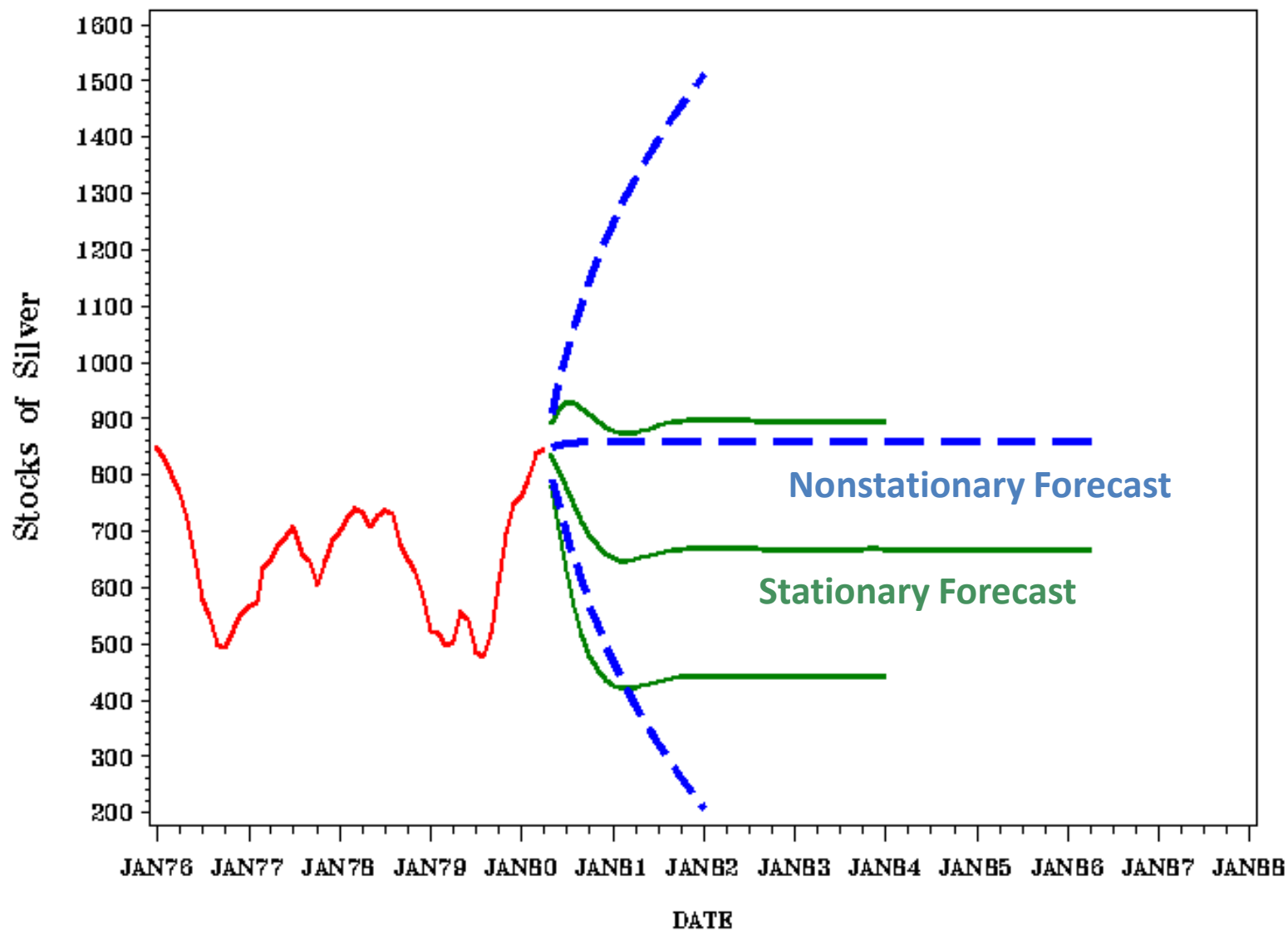
(augmenting terms)

\leftarrow augmenting affects limit distn.

\leftarrow “ does not affect “ “

[Exit](#)

Silver Series: Forecasts from 4 1/2 years



- Is AR(2) sufficient ? test vs. AR(5).
- `proc reg; model D = Y1 D1-D4; test D2=0, D3=0, D4=0;`
-

Source	df	Coeff.	t	Pr> t
Intercept	1	121.03	3.09	0.0035
Y_{t-1}	1	-0.188	-3.07	0.0038

$Y_{t-1}-Y_{t-2}$	1	0.639	4.59	0.0001
-------------------	---	-------	------	--------

$Y_{t-2}-Y_{t-3}$	1	0.050	0.30	0.7691
-------------------	---	-------	------	--------

$Y_{t-3}-Y_{t-4}$	1	0.000	0.00	0.9985
-------------------	---	-------	------	--------

$Y_{t-4}-Y_{t-5}$	1	0.263	1.72	0.0924
-------------------	---	-------	------	--------

$$F_{41}^3 = 1152 / 871 = 1.32 \quad \text{Pr}>F = 0.2803$$

X

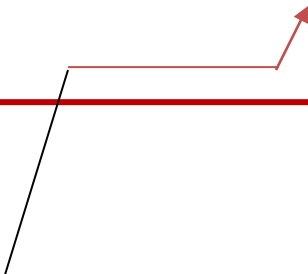


Fit AR(2) and do unit root test

Method 1: OLS output and tabled critical value (-2.86)

proc reg; model D = Y1 D1;

Source	df	Coeff.	t	Pr> t	
Intercept	1	75.581	2.762	0.0082	X
Y_{t-1}	1	-0.117	<u>-2.776</u>	0.0038	X
$Y_{t-1}-Y_{t-2}$	1	0.671	6.211	0.0001	😊



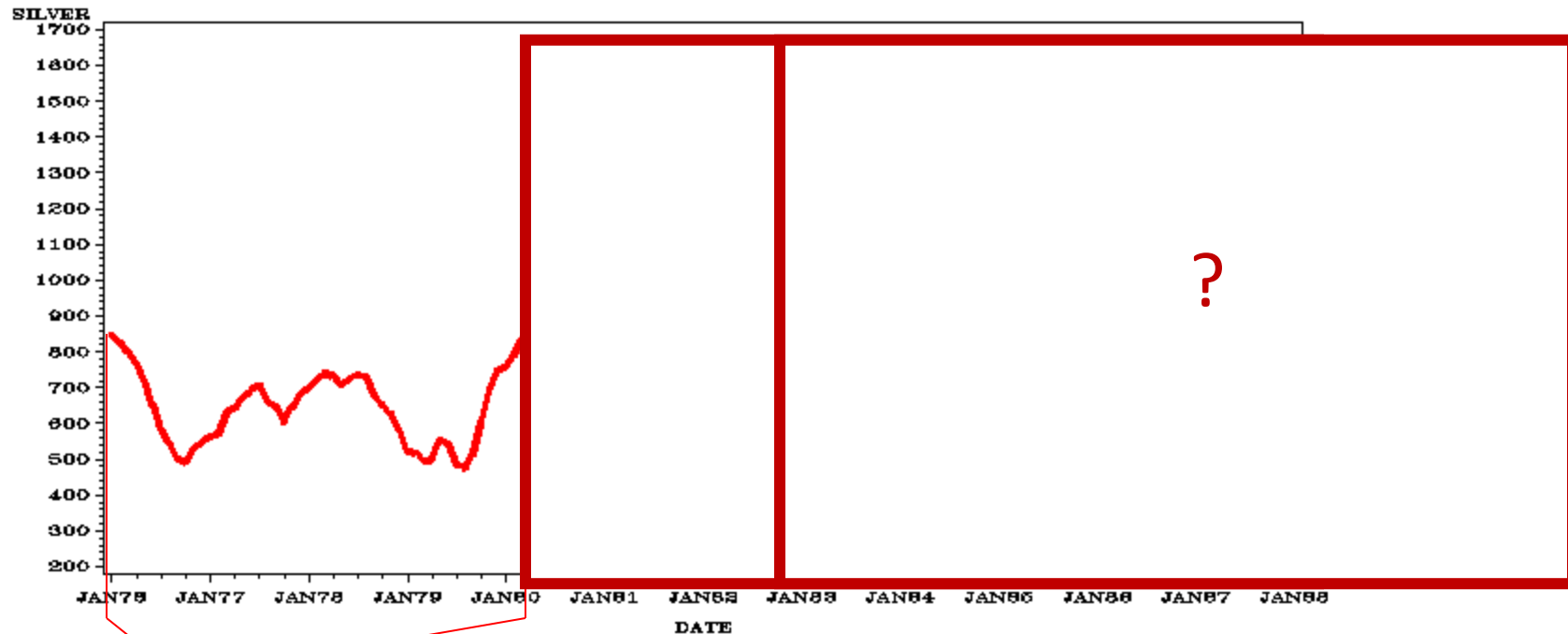
Method 2: OLS output and corrected p-values

proc arima; identify var=silver stationarity = (adf=(1));

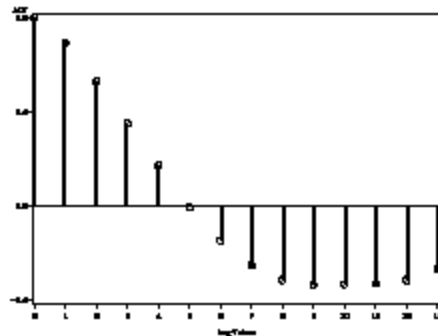
Augmented Dickey-Fuller Unit Root Tests

Type	Lags	t	Prob<t	
Zero Mean	1	-0.2803	0.5800	
Single Mean	1	-2.7757	0.0689	😊
Trend	1	-2.6294	0.2697	

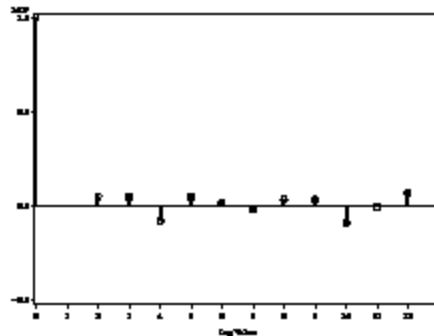
Silver Series – the rest of the story!



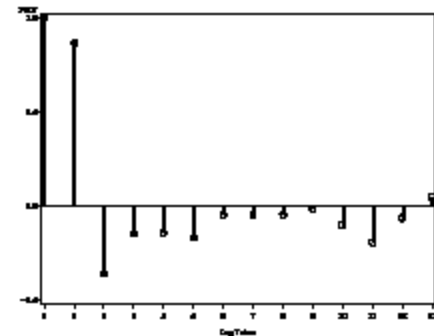
First part ACF



IACF



PACF





Your talk seems better now Grandpa!

Disclaimer: No babies ingested alcohol in the making of this slide.
(I personally made sure the bottle was empty).

Detecting overdifferencing

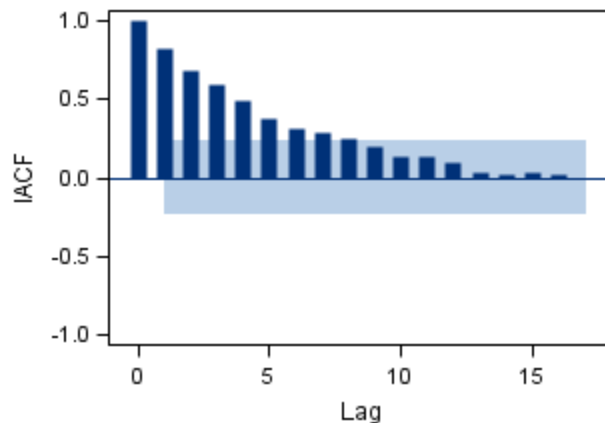
Generated Data $\rightarrow Y_t = \alpha + \beta t + e_t \quad e_t \sim \text{independent } N(0, \sigma^2)$

$$Y_{t-1} = \alpha + \beta(t-1) + e_{t-1}$$

Differences $\rightarrow \nabla Y_t = \beta + e_t - \theta e_{t-1} \quad \theta = 1$ (“Non-invertible moving average”)

Chang (1993) Moving average unit root (e.g. $\theta=1$) \rightarrow
slow decay in IACF (Inverse AutoCorrelation Function)

Inverse Autocorrelations \rightarrow
(of differences)



$$Y_t - \mu = \rho(Y_{t-1} - \mu) + e_t - \theta e_{t-1}$$

Autoregressive Moving Average

Model ($|\theta| < 1$)

(1) Inverse Autocorrelation Function (IACF) is autocorrelation function of

$$Y_t - \mu = \theta(Y_{t-1} - \mu) + e_t - \rho e_{t-1}$$

(2) Said E. Said*: With sufficient data and lagged differences, just treat this as autoregressive to test $H_0: \rho=1$.

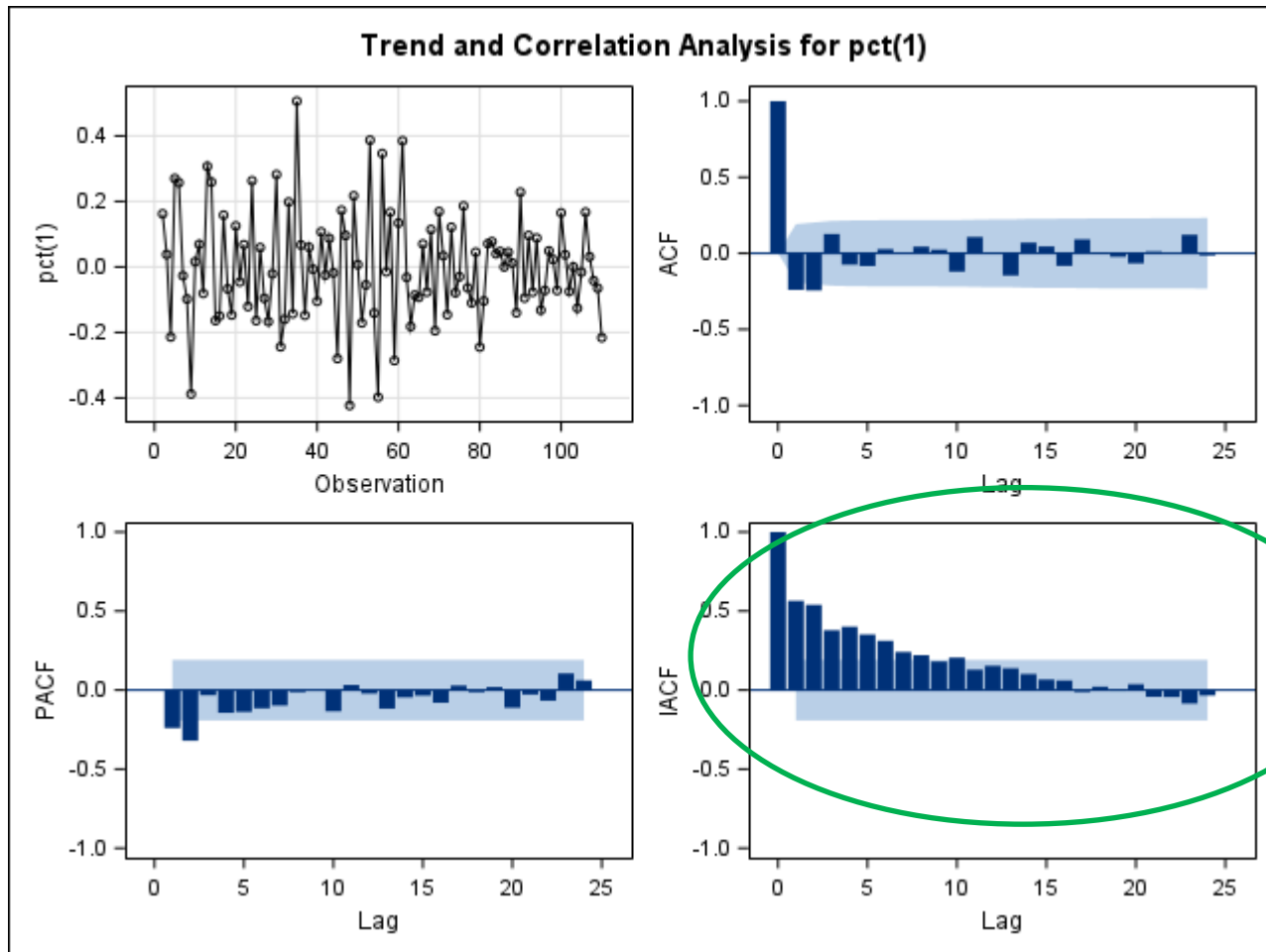
* Said S.E. and Dickey, D. A. (1984). "Testing for Unit Roots in Autoregressive-Moving Average Models of Unknown Order," Biometrika 71, 599-607.

Winning



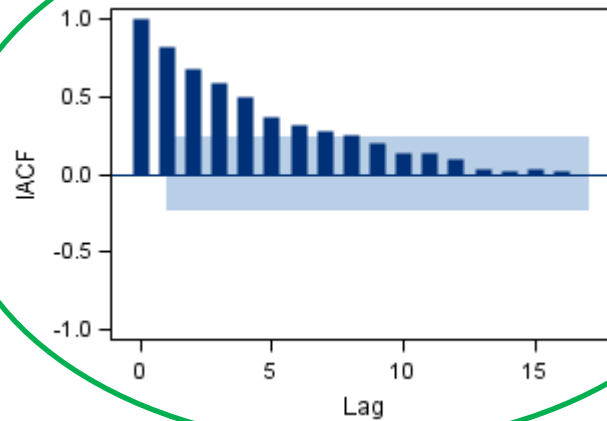
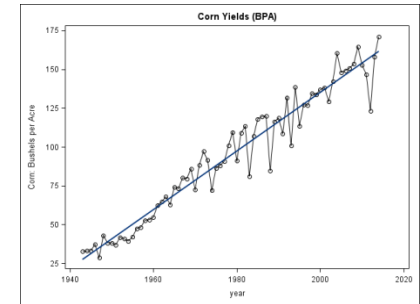
Percentages

Differences



IACF

Post 1942 Corn Yields (differenced)



IACF

(Time permitting)

58

Cointegration analogy: Drunk man walking a dog

■ Man – red path



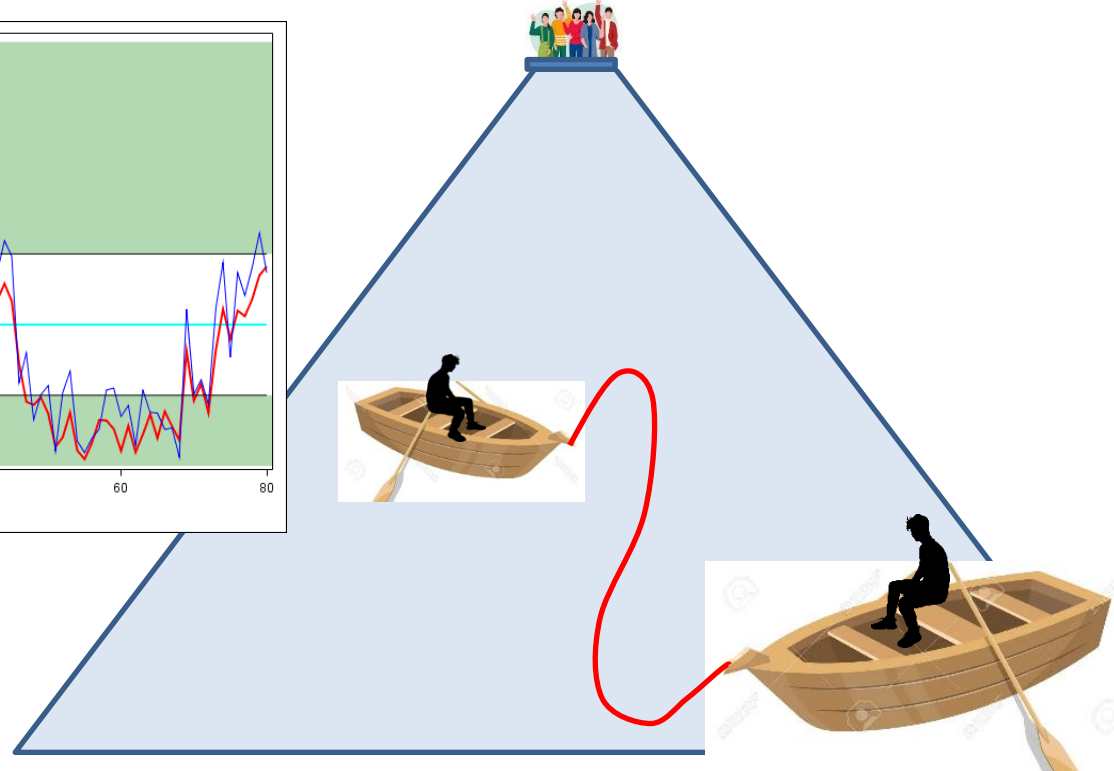
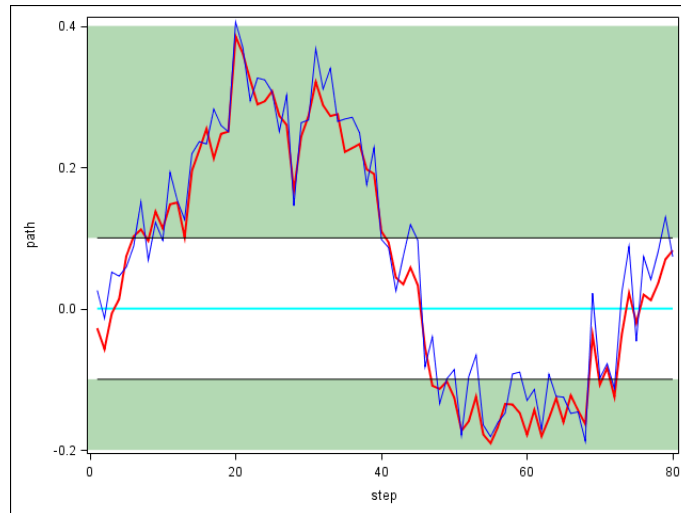
Man \rightarrow unit root process

Dog \rightarrow unit root process

Difference (man-dog) stationary!

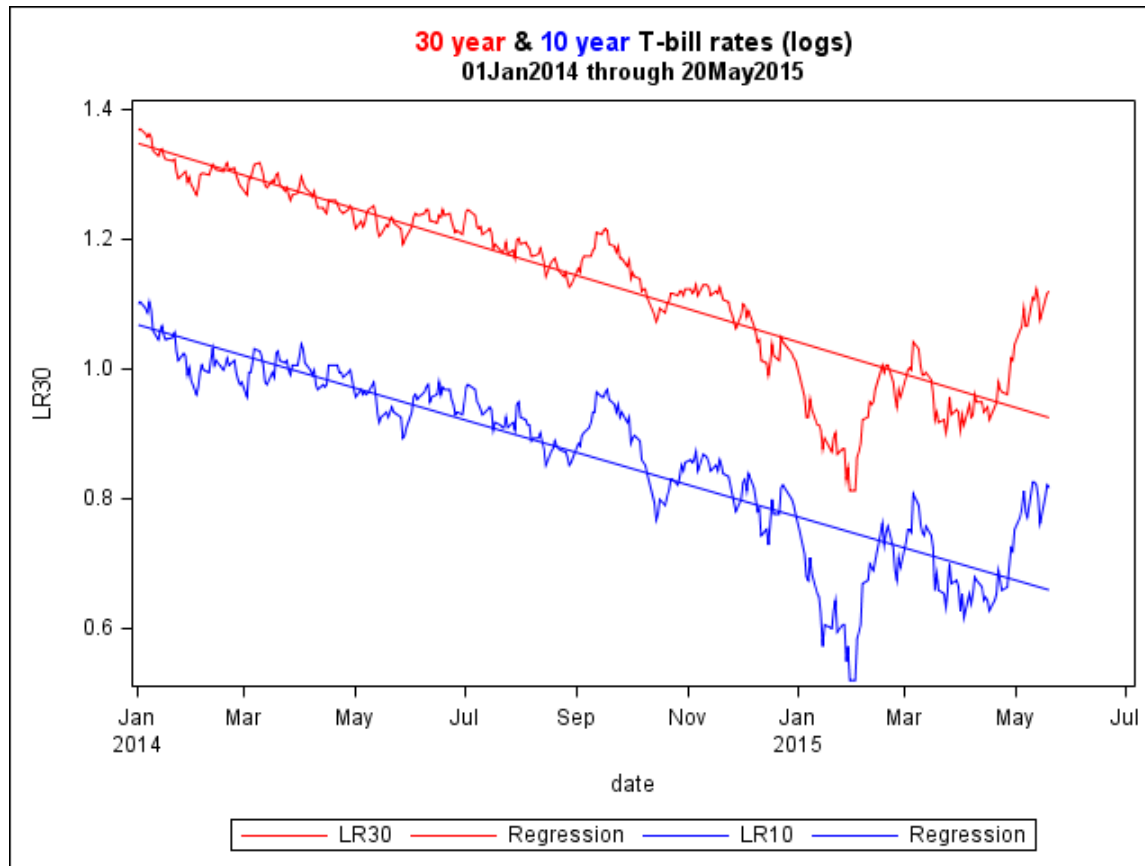
■ Dog – blue path

Sidewalk



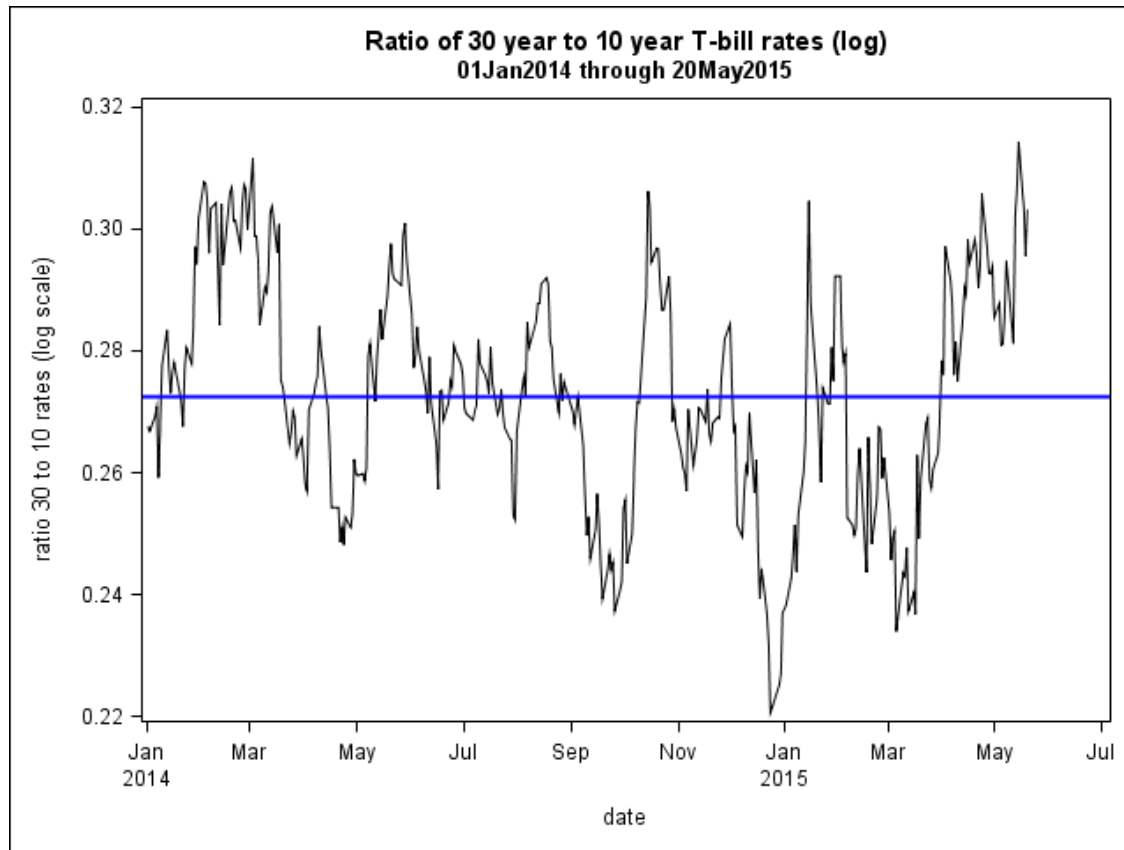
Exit

Data:
10 year t-bill yields
30 year t-bill yields
(in logarithms)



Log of Ratio

$$\text{Log of } \frac{\text{30 year t-bill yields}}{\text{10 year t-bill yields}} = \log(30 \text{ yr.}) - \log(10 \text{ yr.})$$



Check #1 both series are unit root types - yes

(10 year t-bills)

Augmented Dickey-Fuller Unit Root Tests

Type	Lags	Rho	Pr < Rho	Tau	Pr < Tau
Zero Mean	0	-0.4461	0.5815	-1.05	0.2635
	1	-0.4438	0.5820	-1.09	0.2491
	2	-0.4283	0.5854	-1.07	0.2573
Single Mean	0	-5.4449	0.3922	-1.96	0.3065
	1	-5.2415	0.4106	-1.95	0.3106
	2	-5.0587	0.4278	-1.89	0.3351
Trend	0	-16.6981	0.1292	-2.63	0.2652
	1	-15.9949	0.1482	-2.51	0.3207
	2	-16.1441	0.1440	-2.47	0.3421

Can't
Reject
Unit Root

(30 year t-bills)

Augmented Dickey-Fuller Unit Root Tests

Type	Lags	Rho	Pr < Rho	Tau	Pr < Tau
Zero Mean	0	-0.2652	0.6222	-1.09	0.2487
	1	-0.2662	0.6220	-1.13	0.2346
	2	-0.2595	0.6235	-1.08	0.2525
Single Mean	0	-3.5711	0.5870	-1.74	0.4082
	1	-3.5006	0.5953	-1.76	0.4013
	2	-3.5035	0.5950	-1.72	0.4194
Trend	0	-6.1699	0.7287	-1.24	0.9002
	1	-5.5451	0.7783	-1.12	0.9231
	2	-6.0531	0.7381	-1.17	0.9140

Can't
Reject
Unit Root

Check #2 Need more than one difference? – no

Tests on differenced data:

(10 year t-bills)

Augmented Dickey-Fuller Unit Root Tests

Type	Lags	Rho	Pr < Rho	Tau	Pr < Tau
Zero Mean	0	-359.430	0.0001	-19.34	<.0001
	1	-369.931	0.0001	-13.56	<.0001
	2	-321.229	0.0001	-10.38	<.0001
Single Mean	0	-360.041	0.0001	-19.35	<.0001
	1	-371.989	0.0001	-13.57	<.0001
	2	-324.886	0.0001	-10.39	<.0001
Trend	0	-360.919	0.0001	-19.37	<.0001
	1	-374.663	0.0001	-13.60	<.0001
	2	-328.854	0.0001	-10.43	<.0001

Reject
Unit roots in
differenced
data

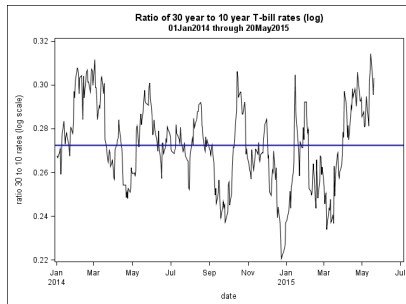
(30 year t-bills)

Augmented Dickey-Fuller Unit Root Tests

Type	Lags	Rho	Pr < Rho	Tau	Pr < Tau
Zero Mean	0	-355.741	0.0001	-19.13	<.0001
	1	-342.063	0.0001	-13.04	<.0001
	2	-288.960	0.0001	-10.00	<.0001
Single Mean	0	-356.585	0.0001	-19.15	<.0001
	1	-344.588	0.0001	-13.06	<.0001
	2	-293.062	0.0001	-10.02	<.0001
Trend	0	-358.485	0.0001	-19.23	<.0001
	1	-350.087	0.0001	-13.15	<.0001
	2	-301.163	0.0001	-10.11	<.0001

Reject
Unit roots in
differenced
data

Two unit root processes X_t and Y_t are cointegrated if some linear combination ($aX_t + bY_t$, e.g. $1X_t - 1Y_t$) is stationary.



We have 2 unit root processes

Are they “cointegrated?”

Can we use $a = 1$ and $b = -1$?

Is $\log(30 \text{ yr. rate}) - \log(10 \text{ yr. rate})$
 (= $\log(30 \text{ yr. rate}/10 \text{ yr. rate})$) stationary?

Augmented Dickey-Fuller Unit Root Tests

Type	Lags	Rho	Pr < Rho	Tau	Pr < Tau
Zero Mean	0	0.0028	0.6832	0.01	0.6844
	1	0.0243	0.6882	0.05	0.6991
	2	0.0324	0.6900	0.07	0.7060
	3	0.0204	0.6872	0.04	0.6970
Single Mean	0	-27.6337	0.0017	-3.69	0.0048
	1	-24.9002	0.0033	-3.42	0.0113
	2	-22.8252	0.0054	-3.19	0.0216
	3	-26.3394	0.0024	-3.36	0.0136
Trend	0	-28.5986	0.0100	-3.71	0.0227
	1	-25.8595	0.0186	-3.44	0.0486
	2	-23.7128	0.0298	-3.20	0.0866
	3	-27.6531	0.0124	-3.37	0.0574

Decision: Series are cointegrated!

Which row of the table should we have used?
 How many lagged differences do we need?

Regress

$$\Delta Y_t \text{ on } 1, Y_{t-1}, \underbrace{\Delta Y_{t-1}, \Delta Y_{t-2}, \dots, \Delta Y_{t-22}}_{\text{usual distributions (normal, t, F)}}$$

usual distributions (normal, t, F)

H_0 : No lagged differences needed

$$F_{322}^{22} = 1.16 \quad \Pr > F = 0.2807 > 0.05$$

Conclusion: Can use top (0 lagged differences) row

Single Mean 0 -27.6337 0.0017 -3.69 **0.0048**

Final model:

$\log(30 \text{ yr. rate}/10 \text{ yr. rate})$ is stationary with estimated mean 0.2805 and autoregressive order 1 structure with $\rho=0.92$

The full cointegration story:

How do we know that the stationary combination of Y_t and X_t is $S_t = 1(Y_t) - 1(X_t)$ rather than $S_t = 2(Y_t) - 7(X_t)$ or something else?

- (1) Estimate a and b in $S_t = a(Y_t) + b(X_t)$
- (2) Find the effect on the unit root test of estimating a, b

Solution: Engle and Granger (and others)

Result: Nobel Prize in Economics (2003)

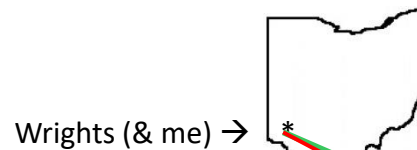


One Final Wilbur Wright Quote:



“If I were giving a young man advice as to how he might succeed in life, I would say to him, pick out a good father and mother, and begin life in Ohio.”

--Wilbur Wright, 1910

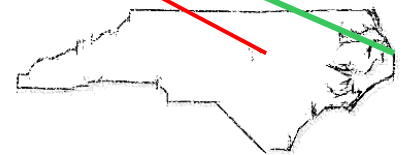


Wrights (& me) →



... and one from Clark Gable:

“I'm just a lucky slob from Ohio who happened to be in the right place at the right time.”





Lesson 8: Don't take yourself too seriously 😊