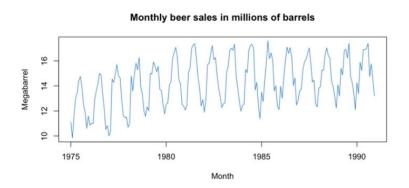
Time series Analysis

What is a time series

- Complex topic :
 - information theory
 - signal
 - probability/statistics
 - artificial intelligence/machine learning
 - optimization
 - Computer science (python)
 - Financial mathematics
- http://www.laurentoudre.fr/ast.html
- http://www.laurentoudre.fr/signalml.html
- https://scikit-learn.org/stable/
- https://github.com/fastai/course22
- https://christian-fries.de/finmath/
- Continuous value (no sequence, discrete time data)
- Multivariate vector time series (brain signals ECG, multiple stocks)



Modeling vs Predicting : narrowing down the determinism

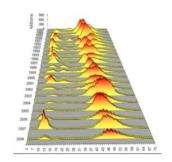
A framework which encompasses AI and econometry

$$y_t = f(y_{t-1}, ..., y_{t-p}; \theta) + \varepsilon_t$$

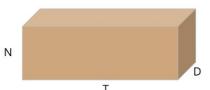
- Gives a functional form to your time series
- Gives you insight into the behavior of the time series
- "Why is the time series mean-reverting?"
- "Why does the time series grow unbounded?"
- "Is the time series predictable?"
- Someone who doesn't know how to model might waste their time trying to predict something which is unpredictable! (e.g. a coin flip)

Dataframe (R, Pandas, PyTorch/TensorFlow tensors)

	New York City	London	Tokyo	Paris
1990-01-01	1	2	3	4
1990-01-02	5	6	7	8
1990-01-03	9	10	11	12
1990-01-04	13	14	15	16



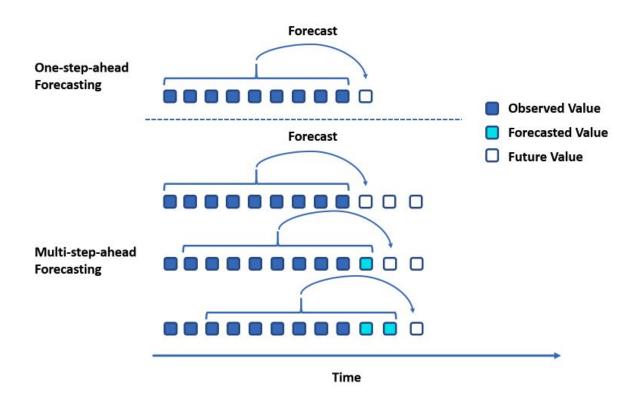
- N x T x D (a box in 3-D space)
- Automatically think of this, whenever you see / hear "N x T x D"
- It really helps, and makes it less abstract



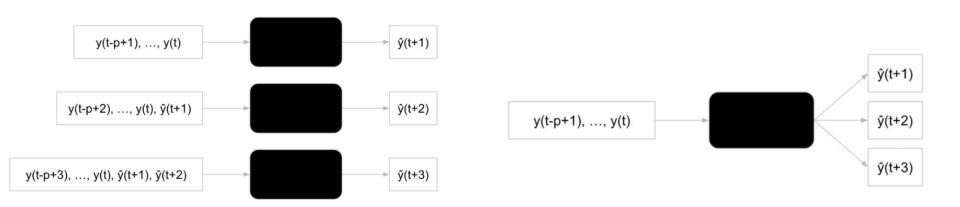
Generate random tensors/time series

- np.random.randn(3,3,3)
- Generate from different probability distributions
- Distribution fitting with scikit-learn

1-step forecast versus multi-steps forecast



Incremental multi-steps forward versus multi-output



Common transformations : analog to features engineering in artificial intelligence

• Power transform
$$y'(t) = y(t)^{\gamma}$$

• Log transform
$$y'(t) = \log y(t)$$
 or $\log (y(t) + 1)$

Box-Cox transform

$$y'(t) = \frac{y(t)^{\lambda} - 1}{\lambda} \quad \text{if } \lambda \neq 0$$
$$y'(t) = \log y(t) \quad \text{if } \lambda = 0$$

Since: $\lim_{\lambda \to 0} \frac{x^{\lambda} - 1}{\lambda} = \ln x$

Why the log transform is fundamental

- Watch fast.ai on random forest : log uniformises large tail distributions
- In more standard econometrics, it is all about stationarity
- Rescaling data to more linear trends (decibels are the best example)

Forecasting metrics (like regression)

• Sum of squared errors (max likelihood when the errors are normally $E = \sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2$ distributed)

Mean squared error

$$E = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 \approx E((y - \hat{y})^2)$$

• Root mean squared error (same unit)

$$E = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}$$

Mean absolute error

$$E = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} |y_i - \hat{y}_i|$$

R squared

- Not an error we want it to be bigger, not smaller
- If your model makes perfect predictions, then MSE=0, R²=1
- R²=0 means your model does no better than predicting ȳ

$$E = 1 - \frac{SSE}{SST} = 1 - \frac{MSE}{Var(Y)}$$

where
$$SST = \sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_i - \bar{y})^2$$
, $Var(Y) = \frac{1}{N}SST$

Scikit-learn

- For classification models: model.score(X, Y) returns accuracy
- For regression models: model.score(X, Y) returns R²



Problems of relativity

Accuracy is not the best metrics for an imbalanced classifier

sMAPE

$$E = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left| \frac{y_i - \hat{y}_i}{y_i} \right|$$

$$E = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{|y_i - \hat{y}_i|}{(|y_i| + |\hat{y}_i|)/2}$$

Stochastic processes in a nutshell

- Stochastic processes are processes that proceed randomly in time.
- Rather than consider fixed random variables X, Y, etc. or even sequences of i.i.d random variables, we consider sequences X₀, X₁, X₂, Where X_t represent some random quantity at time t.
- In general, the value X_t might depend on the quantity X_{t-1} at time t-1, or even the value X_s for other times s < t.
- · Example: simple random walk.

Going more into maths:

- Markov process
- Martingale
- Discretization of continuous processes

Given an Itô process

$$dX(t) = \mu(t,X(t)) dt + \sigma(t,X(t)) dW(t),$$

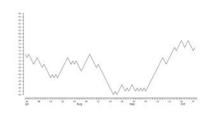
and a time discretization $\{t_i \mid i = 0, ..., n\}$ with $0 = t_0 < ... < t_n$, then the time-discrete stochastic process \tilde{X} defined by

$$\tilde{X}(t_{i+1}) = \tilde{X}(t_i) + \mu(t_i, \tilde{X}(t_i)) \Delta t_i + \sigma(\tilde{t}_i, \tilde{X}(t_i)) \Delta W(t_i)$$

is called an *Euler-Maruyama scheme* of the process X (where $\Delta t_i := t_{i+1} - t_i$ and $\Delta W(t_i) := W(t_{i+1}) - W(t_i)$).

Random walk for instance

Drunken man walk



$$p_0$$
 = some initial value

$$p_1 = p_0 + e_1$$
, where $e_1 \in \{-1, +1\}$
 $p_2 = p_1 + e_2$

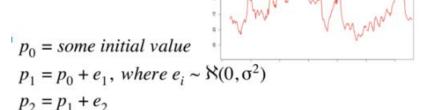
- 2

Imagine yourself walking - you take one step left or right based on a coin flip - that's this random walk!

Can't predict the future (50% chance of being correct)



Gaussian random walk



...

Log Prices

• Consider a random walk with drift

$$p_t = p_{t-1} + \mu + e_t, \ e_t \sim \aleph(0, \sigma^2)$$

• Take p(t-1) to the LHS - this is now the log return

$$r_t = p_t - p_{t-1} = \mu + e_t$$

• The log return is therefore distributed as follows

$$r_t \sim \aleph(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

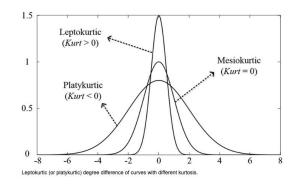
Stylized facts about financial time-series which invalidate the random walk hypothesis

Volatility clustering

Shock asymmetry

Leptokurtic residuals





Markov property

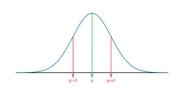
$$p(w_t \mid w_{t-1}, w_{t-2}, ..., w_0) = p(w_t \mid w_{t-1})$$

Gaussian random walk

$$x(t) = x(t-1) + e(t), \ e(t) \sim \aleph(0, \sigma^2)$$
$$x(t) \sim \aleph(x(t-1), \ \sigma^2)$$

Square root of time growing confidence interval Central limit theorem:

Converges to a gaussian



$$var\{ \ x(t+\tau) \ \} \ = \ ?$$

$$x(t+1) = x(t) + e(t+1)$$

$$x(t+2) = x(t+1) + e(t+2) = x(t) + e(t+1) + e(t+2)$$
...
$$x(t+\tau) = x(t) + e(t+1) + ... + e(t+\tau)$$

$$x(t+\tau) = x(t) + e(t+1) + ... + e(t+\tau)$$

If
$$var\{e(t)\} = \sigma^2$$
, then $var\sum_{k=1}^{\tau} e(t+k) = \tau\sigma^2$, or $sd\{x(t+\tau)\} = \sqrt{\tau}\sigma$

Naive forecast

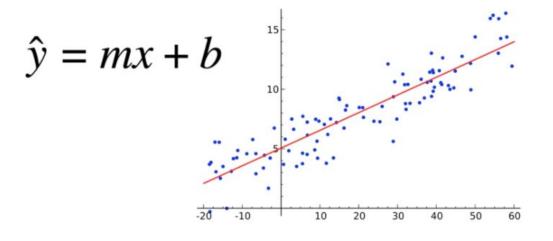
SMA

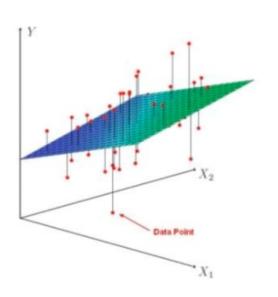
ARIMA vs Exponential smoothing

- Exponential smoothing is very specific (linear trends, seasonality)
- ARIMA imposes no such structure
- It is more "machine learning"-like

Autoregressive models

$$\hat{y} = w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 + b$$





AR(p): auto-regressive processus

$$\hat{y}_t = b + \varphi_1 y_{t-1} + \varphi_2 y_{t-2} + \dots + \varphi_p y_{t-p}$$

- Suppose our data is: y₁, y₂, ..., y₁₀
- In ML, we say X has shape N x D, but for ARIMA we'll stick with D == p

y1	y2	у3
y2	у3	y4
у3	y4	y5
y4	у5	у6
у5	у6	у7
у6	у7	у8
у7	у8	у9

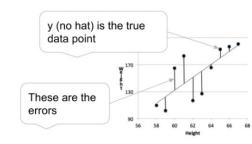
This is our "X"

y4]
у5	1
у6	
у7	This is our "Y"
у8	
у9	
y10	

 $y_t = b + \varphi_1 y_{t-1} + \varphi_2 y_{t-2} + \dots + \varphi_p y_{t-p} + \varepsilon_t$

$$\varepsilon_t \sim \aleph(0, \sigma^2)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}}_t = E(\mathbf{y}_t)$$

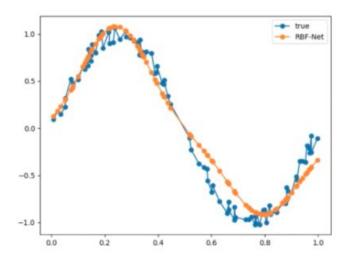


Machine Learning is the next step

- Linear models aren't that powerful (only lines or planes)
- Why stick to linear regression?
- ARIMA helps us understand the modeling and statistical properties

```
model = NeuralNetwork()
model.fit(X, Y)

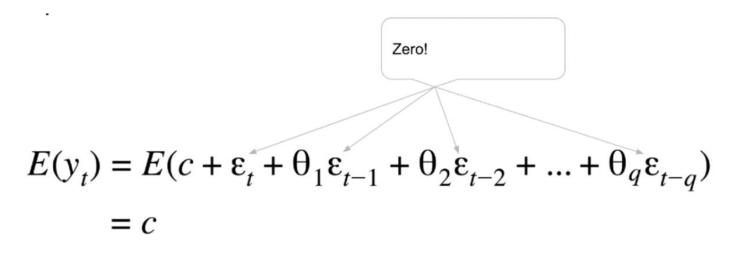
model = RandomForest()
model.fit(X, Y)
```



MA(q)

$$y_t = c + \varepsilon_t + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} + \theta_2 \varepsilon_{t-2} + \dots + \theta_q \varepsilon_{t-q}$$

Moving around the average c:



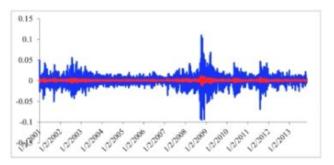
ARMA(p,q)

• ARMA(p, q) = AR(p) + MA(q)

$$y_t = b + \varphi_1 y_{t-1} + \ldots + \varphi_p y_{t-p} + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} + \ldots + \theta_q \varepsilon_{t-q} + \varepsilon_t$$

Differencing: detrending

- Where have we seen this?
 - Log returns the difference of log prices: $r_t = p_t p_{t-1}$
 - Holt's Linear Trend Model: $b_t = \beta(l_t l_{t-1}) + (1-\beta)b_{t-1}$



Given:
$$\{y_t\} = \{y_1, y_2, ..., y_T\}$$
 (some time series)

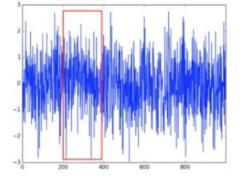
Differenced Series:
$$\Delta y_t = y_t - y_{t-1}$$

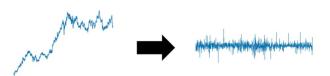
ARMA modelling needs stationary time series

- When fitting an ARMA model, we want the data to be close to stationary
- Stationary = Does not change over time
- Stationarity is nice: mean, variance, autocorrelation, ... will be constant over time
 - Recall: linear models fit well when there is strong correlation between inputs / output

Each "window" of the time series is like a "training point" for fitting the

model



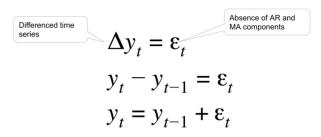


I(d) and ARIMA(p,d,q)

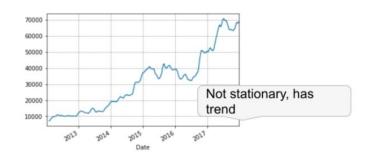
- An I(d) process is a process that is stationary after differencing d times
- We say it's integrated to order d
- ARIMA(p, d, q) is just a model where we've differenced d times before applying ARMA(p, q)
- ARIMA(p, 0, 0) is AR(p)
- It's also ARMA(p, 0)
- ARIMA(0, 0, q) is ARMA(0, q) and MA(q)
- ARIMA(0, d, 0) is I(d)

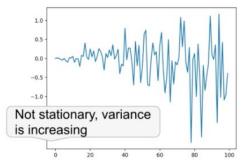
Random Walk

• ARIMA(0, 1, 0) is I(1) and this is a random walk

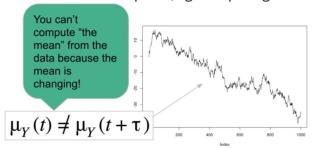


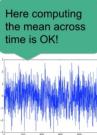
Stationarity





- Loosely, the distribution of the random variables in the time series does not change over time
- E.g. mean and variance will always be the same
 - If a time series is nonstationarity, then you might need different models at different points in time!
 - For nonstationary time series, you can't treat data points at different times like "samples" (e.g. computing the mean, variance)



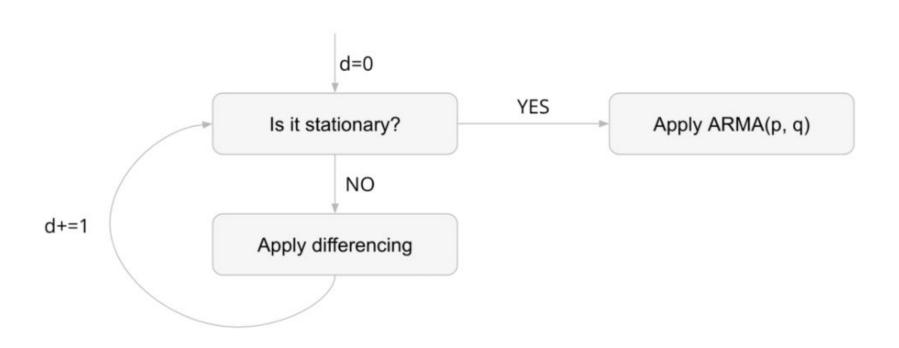


Testing for stationarity

- We use the Augmented Dickey-Fuller Test (ADF Test)
- Think of it like an API:
 - Given: null hypothesis, alternative hypothesis
 - Input: time series, Output: p-value
 - Action: accept or reject the null hypothesis
- For ADF test:
 - Null: time series is non-stationary
 - Alternative: time series is stationary



How to use ADF test in selecting d in ARIMA



Strong vs Weak

• Strong: the entire distribution does not change over time

$$F_Y(y_{t_1+\tau}, y_{t_2+\tau}, ..., y_{t_n+\tau}) = F_Y(y_{t_1}, y_{t_2}, ..., y_{t_n}), \ \forall \tau, t_1, t_2, ..., t_n$$

- Weak: First order (mean) and second-order statistics (covariance) stay the same
 - The mean does not change over time

$$\mu_{Y}(t) = \mu_{Y}(t+\tau) for \ all \ \tau$$

• The autocovariance does not change over time

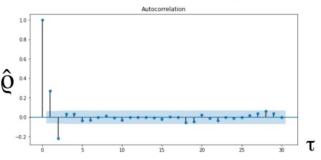
$$K_{YY}(t_1, t_2) = K_{YY}(t_1 - t_2, 0)$$
 for all t_1, t_2

Autocorrelation function

Autocorrelation:
$$\frac{cov(Y_{t_1}, Y_{t_2})}{\sigma_Y(t_1)\sigma_Y(t_2)}$$

Stationary:
$$\varrho(Y(t_1), Y(t_2)) = \varrho(t_1 - t_2) = \varrho(\tau)$$

- Also known as correlogram
- Autocorrelation is to autocovariance as correlation is to covariance
- Auto = Self (both RVs come from the same time series)



How to determine q in MA(q)

- Assign q to be the maximum non-zero lag
- E.g. in below chart, q = 2
- Usually, the ACF for lags < q are also non-zero

Why does it work?

- This can be derived mathematically! (we won't do it right now)
- For MA(1):

$$y_t = c + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t, \text{ where } \varepsilon_t \sim \aleph(0, \sigma^2)$$
$$\varrho(1) = \frac{\theta_1}{1 + \theta_1^2}, \ \varrho(\tau) = 0 \text{ for } \tau > 1$$

For MA(2):

$$\varrho(1) = \frac{\theta_1 + \theta_1 \theta_2}{1 + \theta_1^2 + \theta_2^2}, \ \varrho(2) = \frac{\theta_2}{1 + \theta_1^2 + \theta_2^2}, \ \varrho(\tau) = 0 \ for \ \tau > 2$$

PACF of order p of AR(p)

• Definition: The PACF at lag τ is the autocorrelation between Y(t) and Y(t+ τ), conditioned on Y(t+1), Y(t+2), ..., Y(t+ τ -1)



$$\varphi(\tau,\tau) = corr(Y_{t+\tau} - \hat{Y}_{t+\tau}, Y_t - \hat{Y}_t)$$

$$\hat{Y}_{t+\tau} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Y_{t+1} + \beta_2 Y_{t+2} + ... \beta_{\tau-1} Y_{t+\tau-1}$$

$$\hat{Y}_t = \beta_0' + \beta_1' Y_{t+1} + \beta_2' Y_{t+2} + ... \beta_{\tau-1}' Y_{t+\tau-1}$$

GARCH theory

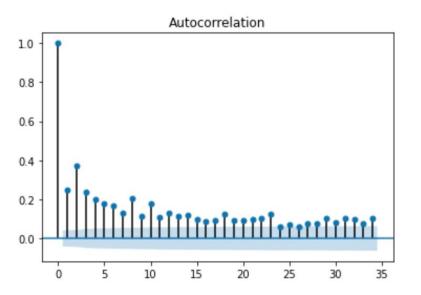
ARIMA: used to model time series mean (variance = 0)

$$y_t = f(y_{t-1}, ..., y_{t-p}; \theta) + \varepsilon_t$$

GARCH: used to model time series variance (mean = 0)

ACF of squared returns show autoregressivity in variance

- For stocks, log returns ACF shows randomness (I(1) is the best model)
- The ACF of squared log returns does not look random at all



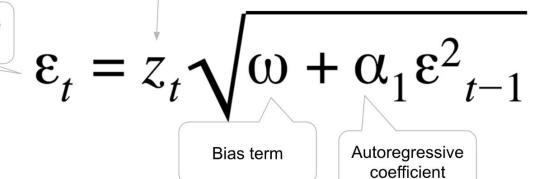
ARCH(1)

ARCH(1)

Could be N(0, 1), but not necessary

$$E\left[z_{t}\right] = 0, E\left[z_{t}^{2}\right] = 1$$

Time series we want to model



 $\mathbf{E}_t = \mathbf{Z}_t \mathbf{\sigma}_t$ => epsilon has variance sigma squared

$$\varepsilon_t^2 = z_t^2 (\omega + \alpha_1 \varepsilon_{t-1}^2)$$

$$\varepsilon_t = z_t \sigma_t$$

$$\frac{\varepsilon_t^2}{z_t^2} = \sigma_t^2 = \omega + \alpha_1 \varepsilon_{t-1}^2$$

There must be constraints, since variance cannot be negative

$$\varepsilon_t = z_t \sqrt{\omega + \alpha_1 \varepsilon_{t-1}^2}$$

General constraints

$$\omega > 0, 1 \ge \alpha_1 \ge 0$$

Constraint for stationarity and finite variance

$$\alpha_1 < 1$$

$$E\left[\varepsilon_{t}^{2} \mid \varepsilon_{t-1}, \, \varepsilon_{t-2}, \, ..., \, \varepsilon_{t-p}\right] = \sigma_{t}^{2}$$

$$E\left[\varepsilon_{t}^{2}\right] = ? (call \ it \ \sigma^{2})$$

 $(1 - \alpha_1)\sigma^2 = \omega$

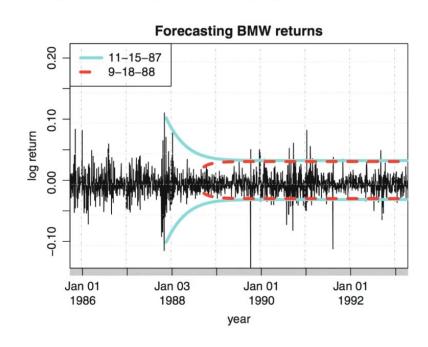
 $\sigma^2 = \frac{\omega}{1 - \alpha}$

$$E\left[\varepsilon_{t}^{2}\right] = E\left[z_{t}^{2}\right] E\left[\omega + \alpha_{1}\varepsilon_{t-1}^{2}\right]$$

$$\sigma^{2} = 1 \times (\omega + \alpha_{1}\sigma^{2})$$

Long term forecast converge to the unconditional variance

- Our forecast of variance will also converge to unconditional variance
- Meaning: ARCH and GARCH are useful for short-term forecasts
- Makes sense: we cannot predict Elon Musk making a tweet about Bitcoin, or some country banning a cryptocurrency exchange
- Obvious example: COVID-19
- Imagine if time series models could predict world-scale events! (of course, this is unreasonable)
- Aside from insider trading, you probably cannot predict these



ARCH(p)

$$\varepsilon_t = z_t \sqrt{\omega + \sum_{\tau=1}^p \alpha_\tau \varepsilon^2}_{t-\tau}$$

$$E\left[\varepsilon_{t} \mid \varepsilon_{t-1}, \varepsilon_{t-2}, ..., \varepsilon_{t-p}\right] = 0$$

$$E\left[\varepsilon_{t}\right]=0$$

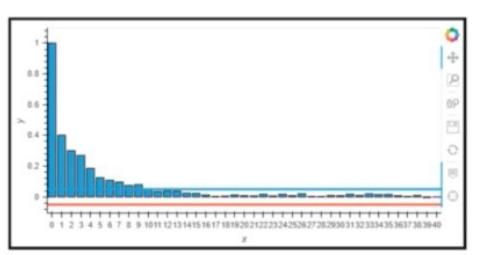
$$cov(\varepsilon_{t}, \varepsilon_{t-s}) = 0, \forall s \neq 0$$

$$\varepsilon_{t} \perp \varepsilon_{t-s} \rightarrow cov(\varepsilon_{t}, \varepsilon_{t-s}) = 0$$

$$cov(\varepsilon_{t}, \varepsilon_{t-s}) = 0 \not\rightarrow \varepsilon_{t} \perp \varepsilon_{t-s}$$

ACF of squared epsilons : geometric decay

$$\varrho_{\varepsilon^2}(h)=\alpha_1^{|h|}$$



- Unconditional mean is zero
- Conditional mean is zero
- ACF of series shows no correlation with lags (just like stock returns)
- ACF of squared series does show correlation (just like stock returns)
- Allows us to model volatility clustering

GARCH(p,q): persistent volatility, less HFT moves

ARCH(p) : AR(p)

GARCH(p,q): ARMA(p,q)

There are other ways to form this analogy, but I think you get the idea...

$$\sigma_t^2 = \omega + \sum_{k=1}^p \alpha_k \varepsilon_{t-k}^2 + \sum_{k=1}^q \beta_k \sigma_{t-k}^2$$

Persistent volatility

$$\varepsilon_t = z_t \sigma_t$$

$$\sigma_t^2 = \omega + \alpha_1 \varepsilon_{t-1}^2 + \beta_1 \sigma_{t-1}^2$$

- Consider a GARCH(1,1) for simplicity (actually, this is the most common)
- ϵ_{t-1} term is random, σ_{t-1} term is not random
- The "randomness" comes from z,
- Imagine $\beta_1 = 0.9$ then σ_+ would decay slowly over time

GARCH(1,1) as ARMA(1,1)

$$\sigma_{t}^{2} = \omega + \alpha_{1} \varepsilon_{t-1}^{2} + \beta_{1} \sigma_{t-1}^{2}$$

$$\sigma_{t}^{2} = \omega + \alpha_{1} \varepsilon_{t-1}^{2} + \beta_{1} (\varepsilon_{t-1}^{2} - \eta_{t-1})$$

$$\sigma_{t}^{2} = \omega + (\alpha_{1} + \beta_{1}) \varepsilon_{t-1}^{2} - \beta_{1} \eta_{t-1}$$

$$\sigma_{t}^{2} = \omega + (\alpha_{1} + \beta_{1}) \varepsilon_{t-1}^{2} - \beta_{1} \eta_{t-1} + \eta_{t}$$

$$\varepsilon_{t}^{2} = \omega + (\alpha_{1} + \beta_{1}) \varepsilon_{t-1}^{2} - \beta_{1} \eta_{t-1} + \eta_{t}$$

$$\varepsilon_{t}^{2} = \omega + (\alpha_{1} + \beta_{1}) \varepsilon_{t-1}^{2} - \beta_{1} \eta_{t-1} + \eta_{t}$$

$$\begin{split} &\eta_t = \varepsilon_t^2 - \sigma_t^2 \\ &\sigma_t^2 = \omega + \alpha_1 \varepsilon_{t-1}^2 \\ &\sigma_t^2 + \eta_t = \omega + \alpha_1 \varepsilon_{t-1}^2 + \eta_t \\ &\varepsilon_t^2 = \omega + \alpha_1 \varepsilon_{t-1}^2 + \eta_t \\ &\varepsilon_t^2 = \omega + \alpha_1 \varepsilon_{t-1}^2 + \eta_t \\ &y_t^2 = \omega + \alpha_1 y_{t-1}^2 + \eta_t, \ where \ y_t = \varepsilon_t \end{split}$$

A deep learning approach to GARCH

- 1) How does it make predictions? (i.e. go from input to output)
 Usually some equation involving model parameters (ω , α , β for GARCH)
- How do we find those model parameters?
 E.g. Deep Learning: "call fit" / "gradient descent"

- For deep learning, ARIMA, and many other ML models, the objective is based on the log-likelihood
- Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE): maximize the likelihood wrt model parameters - this is the "training process"
- Regression: typically minimize $\sum_{i} (y_i \hat{y}_i)^2$ (squared error)
- Equivalent to maximizing likelihood when errors are normal
- This requires another assumption! The variance of errors is constant

Maximum likelihood in case of homoscedasticity

Assumption:
$$y_t \sim \aleph(\hat{y}_t, \sigma^2)$$

Equivalent: $y_t = \hat{y}_t + \varepsilon_t$, where $\varepsilon_t \sim \aleph(0, \sigma^2)$
 $\hat{y}_t(\theta) = f(y_{t-1}, ..., y_{t-p}; \theta)$

$$L(\theta) = \prod_{t=1}^T \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \frac{(y_t - \hat{y}_t)^2}{\sigma^2}\right)$$

$$l(\theta) = \log L(\theta) = \sum_{t=1}^T \left\{-\frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2} \frac{(y_t - \hat{y}_t)^2}{\sigma^2}\right\}$$

$$\theta^* = \arg\max_{\theta} \sum_{t=1}^T \left\{-\frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2} \frac{(y_t - \hat{y}_t)^2}{\sigma^2}\right\}$$

$$\theta^* = \arg\max_{\theta} \sum_{t=1}^T \left\{-\frac{1}{2} \frac{(y_t - \hat{y}_t)^2}{\sigma^2}\right\}$$

$$\theta^* = \arg\max_{\theta} \sum_{t=1}^T \left\{-(y_t - \hat{y}_t)^2\right\}$$

$$\theta^* = \arg\min_{\theta} \sum_{t=1}^T \left\{(y_t - \hat{y}_t)^2\right\}$$

Max likelihood in case of hetero scedasticity

$$\theta^* = \arg \max_{\theta} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma_t^2) - \frac{1}{2} \frac{(y_t - \hat{y}_t)^2}{\sigma_t^2} \right\}$$

$$\theta^* = \arg \max_{\theta} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \log(\sigma_t^2) - \frac{1}{2} \frac{(y_t - \hat{y}_t)^2}{\sigma_t^2} \right\}$$

$$\theta^* = \arg \min_{\theta} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \left\{ \log(\sigma_t^2) + \frac{(y_t - \hat{y}_t)^2}{\sigma_t^2} \right\}$$

$$\theta^* = \arg \min_{\theta} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \left\{ \log(\sigma_t^2) + \frac{\varepsilon_t^2}{\sigma_t^2} \right\}$$

- Can plug into any stock optimizer (e.g. L-BFGS) see Scipy docs
- We also need to include constraints on ω , α , β
- Easy to plug in with any optimizer
- Note: Derivation based on normal, but similar steps can be done for t-distribution, skewed t-distribution, etc.

The deep learning way

- Why stick with GARCH? (a linear model)
- We can parameterize σ_{+} using a neural network
- Just need to know how to make custom loss functions in TF2/PyTorch/...
- How to constraint output to be positive?
- Use positive-only activation (e.g. softplus)

