

Please note that these are practice questions. The actual final exam questions will be different.

- [1] Let  $(Z_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  be a sequence of independent zero mean normal random variables with variance  $\sigma^2$  and let  $a, b$  and  $c$  be constants. Which of the following processes are weakly stationary? For each weakly stationary process specify the mean and the ACVF.

(a)  $X_t = a + bZ_t + cZ_{t-1}$ ;

(b)  $X_t = Z_t \cos(ct) + Z_{t-1} \sin(ct)$ ;

(c)  $X_t = a + bZ_0$ ;

(d)  $X_t = Z_t Z_{t-1}$ .

- [2] Let  $(X_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  be a stochastic process given by the equations

$$X_t = b_0 + b_1 t + Z_t, \quad t \in \mathbb{Z},$$

where  $b_0, b_1$  are fixed constants and  $(Z_t: t \in \mathbb{Z}) \sim \text{IID}(0, \sigma^2)$ .

- (a) Show that  $(X_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  is a nonstationary process.  
 (b) Show that the differenced sequence  $(\nabla X_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  is weakly stationary. Compute its ACVF  $\gamma_{\nabla X}$ .  
 (c) Repeat part (b) if  $(Z_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  is replaced by a general weakly stationary process  $(Y_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  with mean  $\mu$  and ACVF  $\gamma_Y$ .
- [3] Download the file `jj.dat` from the course website. It contains 84 quarterly earnings per share for the U.S. company Johnson & Johnson collected from 1960 until 1980. Interpret these values as observations of the random variables

$$V_t = \text{earnings per share in quarter } t, \quad t = 1, \dots, 84,$$

and set  $X_t = \ln V_t, t = 1, \dots, 84$ .

- (a) Plot the data.  
 (b) Fit the regression model

$$X_t = bt + a_1 Q_1(t) + a_2 Q_2(t) + a_3 Q_3(t) + a_4 Q_4(t) + Z_t \quad (1)$$

to the data, where  $Q_i(t) = 1$  if time  $t$  corresponds to quarter  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , and zero otherwise.

- (c) What is the interpretation of the parameters  $b, a_1, \dots, a_4$ ? What happens if you include an intercept term into the model specified by (1)?

(d) Plot the residuals

$$\hat{Z}_t = X_t - \hat{b}t + \hat{a}_1 Q_1(t) + \hat{a}_2 Q_2(t) + \hat{a}_3 Q_3(t) + \hat{a}_4 Q_4(t).$$

Comment on the quality of the fitted model.

[4] Consider the two-sided moving average filter

$$W_t = \frac{1}{2q+1} \sum_{j=-q}^q X_{t+j}, \quad t \in \mathbb{Z},$$

where  $q \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , and apply it to a stochastic process  $(X_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  given by letting  $X_t = m_t + Y_t$ .

- (a) If  $m_t = b_0 + b_1 t$ , show that an application of  $W_t$  passes  $m_t$  undistorted.
- (b) If, moreover,  $(Y_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  is an independent sequence with mean zero and variance  $\sigma^2$ , compute  $E[W_t]$  and  $\text{Var}(W_t)$ . Compare these quantities with  $E[X_t]$  and  $\text{Var}(X_t)$ .

[5] Simulate 200 values  $x_1, \dots, x_{200}$  of the stochastic process

$$X_t = \sin\left(\frac{t}{20}\right) + Z_t, \quad t \in \mathbb{Z},$$

where  $(Z_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  is a sequence of independent identically distributed random variables with mean zero and variance .25. In all tests below use a significance level  $\alpha = .05$ .

- (a) Plot the simulated data.
- (b) Check the data for whiteness using the sample ACF (Method 1).
- (c) Check the data for whiteness using a version of the Portmanteau test (Method 2). In R, you may apply the command `Box.test` with `type="Ljung"` and `lag=20`.
- (d) Check the data for normality using the qq plot (Method 4). The critical value for the test statistic  $R^2$  can be obtained from  $P(R^2 < .987) = .05$ .

[6] Download the files `prob6a.dat` and `prob6b.dat` from the course website. Each file contains 200 simulated values obtained from two different stochastic processes.

- (a) Plot both data sets.
- (b) Utilize qq plots to decide which of the two data sets is obtained from a normal distribution (visual inspection of the plots suffices).
- (c) Estimate the mean and variance of both processes. Is there correlation in the data?

[7] Download the file `prob7.dat` from the course website. It contains 100 simulated values of some stochastic process.

- (a) Use the rank test (Method 3) to decide whether there is a linear trend in the data.
- (b) Remove the trend and test the resulting residuals for whiteness with a method of your choice.

[8] Let  $(X_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  be a stochastic process given by the equations

$$X_t = 3 + Z_t + .5Z_{t-1}, \quad t \in \mathbb{Z},$$

where  $(Z_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  are independent, identically distributed normal random variables with zero mean and unit variance.

- (a) Show that  $(X_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  is strictly stationary.
- (b) Construct a 95% confidence interval for  $E[X_t]$ .
- (c) Simulate 200 values of  $(X_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  with the R command

```
arima.sim(list(order=c(0,0,1), ma=.5), n=200)
```

and compute the sample mean  $\bar{x}$ . (Don't forget to incorporate that the mean is equal to 3.)

- (d) Fit a model to the mean-corrected data  $y_t = x_t - \bar{x}$ ,  $t = 1, \dots, 200$ , with the R command `arima(yt, order=c(0,0,1))`.
- (e) Use the estimated coefficients to calculate the 95% confidence interval for the simulated data.

[9] Reconsider the stochastic process  $(X_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  from Problem 8.

- (a) Compute the ACF  $\rho(h)$  of  $(X_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$ .
- (b) Compute a 95% confidence interval for  $\rho(3)$  using the theoretical values.

[10] Identify the following models as ARMA( $p, q$ ) models, and determine whether they are causal and/or invertible:

- (a)  $X_t = .80X_{t-1} - .15X_{t-2} + Z_t - .30Z_{t-1}$ .
- (b)  $X_t = X_{t-1} - .50X_{t-2} + Z_t - Z_{t-1}$ .

[11] Let  $(X_t)_{t \in \mathbb{N}_0}$  be a stochastic process given by the equations

$$X_0 = Z_0, \quad X_t = \phi X_{t-1} + Z_t, \quad t \in \mathbb{N},$$

where  $(Z_t: t \in \mathbb{N}_0) \sim \text{WN}(0, \sigma^2)$ .

- (a) Find the mean and the variance of  $X_t$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . Is the process weakly stationary?
- (b) Show that

$$\text{Corr}(X_{t+h}, X_t) = \phi^h \sqrt{\frac{\text{Var}(X_t)}{\text{Var}(X_{t+h})}}, \quad h \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

- [12] Download the file `recruit.dat` from the course website. It contains the 453 data points of monthly recruitment discussed in Example 3.3.5.
- (a) Use the R command `predict` to forecast the recruitment for the next 24 months;
  - (b) Use only the last 100 observations to refit the AR(2) model and to forecast the next 24 months of recruitment;
  - (c) Compare the results.

- [13] Download the file `soi.dat` from the course website. Analyze the data repeating the steps performed in Example 3.3.5 and the previous problem.

- [14] Generate  $n = 500$  observations from the ARMA model

$$X_t = .9X_{t-1} + Z_t - .9Z_{t-1}, \quad t \in \mathbb{Z},$$

where  $(Z_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  denotes a sequence of independent standard normal random variables.

- (a) Plot the simulated data and compute the sample ACF and PACF.
  - (b) Fit an ARMA(1,1) model to the data. What happened and how do you explain the results?
- [15] Consider Wölfer's sunspot numbers which can be found as `sunspots.dat` on the course webpage.
- (a) Assuming an AR(2) model, find the Yule-Walker estimates of  $\phi_1$ ,  $\phi_2$  and  $\sigma^2$ .
  - (b) Provide 95% confidence intervals for  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ .
- [16] Consider the cardiovascular mortality series `mort.dat` discussed in Problem 18.
- (a) Fit an AR(2) model to the data using Yule-Walker and compare the parameter estimates with the ones obtained in Problem 18.
  - (b) Compare the corresponding standard errors.

- [17] The model fitted to a data set  $x_1, \dots, x_{100}$  is  $X_t + .4X_{t-1} = Z_t$ , where the  $Z_t$  are uncorrelated with zero mean and unit variance. The sample ACF and PACF of the residuals are given in the table below.
- (a) Are these values compatible with whiteness of the residuals?
  - (b) If not, suggest a better model for the  $X_t$  and give estimates of the parameters.

Lag	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
ACF	.799	.412	.025	-.228	-.316	-.287	-.198	-.111	-.056	-.009	.048	.133
PACF	.799	-.625	-.044	.038	-.020	-.077	-.007	-.061	-.042	.089	.052	.125

[18] Let  $(X_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  be a first-order autoregressive process with autoregressive parameter  $\phi = .8$ .

- (a) Compute and plot the spectral density  $f_X(\omega)$  of  $(X_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$ .
- (b) Generate an AR(1) process of length  $n = 200$  in R and compute the periodogram.
- (c) Repeat the previous steps with  $\phi = -.8$ .

[19] Download the file `sunspots.dat` from the course website. It contains the sunspot numbers recorded for the years 1770–1869.

- (a) Perform a periodogram analysis of the sunspot data identifying the predominant periods.
- (b) Obtain confidence intervals for the identified periods and interpret your findings.

[20] Use the spectral densities derived in Examples 4.2.1–4.2.3 to compute the ACVF of

- (a) a white noise process  $(Z_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$ ;
- (b) the moving average process  $(X_t: t \in \mathbb{Z})$  given by  $X_t = \frac{1}{2}(Z_t + Z_{t-1})$ ;
- (c) an AR(2) process.