

Time Series Regression - Part III

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Outline

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2 Differencing

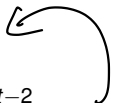
- The Backshift Operator
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 - Example - Global Temperature Deviations
- Random Walk
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Differencing

- Order 1 Differencing (useful for non-seasonal data)

$$\underline{\underline{\nabla X_t = X_t - X_{t-1}}}$$

- Occasionally second-order differencing is required

$$\underline{\underline{\nabla^2 X_t = \nabla(\nabla X_t) = \nabla X_t - \nabla X_{t-1} = X_t - 2X_{t-1} + X_{t-2}}}$$


- We may also use seasonal differencing. $(X_t - X_{t-1}) - (X_{t-1} - X_{t-2})$

The Backshift Operator ^{lag operator}

- Define the backshift operator B as

$$\underline{BX_t = X_{t-1}}$$

- Similarly, $B^2 X_t = X_{t-2}$, and in general,

$$\underline{B^k X_t = X_{t-k}}$$

$$B(BX_t) = X_{t-2}$$

- The inverse of the backshift operator is the forward-shift operator B^{-1} , such that

$$\underline{B^{-1} X_{t-1} = X_t, \text{ and } B^{-1} BX_t = X_t.}$$

$$\underline{B^{-1} X_{t-1} = X_t.}$$

Backshift Algebra

1) If X_t and Y_t are 2 time series.

$$\begin{aligned} B(X_t + Y_t) &= BX_t + BY_t \\ &= X_{t-1} + Y_{t-1} \end{aligned}$$

2) If $X_t = c$, c : constant.

$$BX_t = X_{t-1} = c$$

3) c : constant

$$B(cX_t) = c BX_t = cX_{t-1}$$

①

$$X_t = \mu + 0.6 X_{t-1} + w_t$$

$$= \mu + 0.6 B X_t + w_t$$

②

$$X_t = w_t + 0.6 w_{t-1} + 0.3 w_{t-2} \quad : \text{MA}(2)$$

$$= [1 + 0.6 B + 0.3 B^2] w_t$$

③

$$X_t = 0.6 X_{t-1} + w_t + 0.4 w_{t-1}$$

$$X_t - 0.6 X_{t-1} = w_t + 0.4 w_{t-1}$$

$$(1 - 0.6 B) X_t = (1 + 0.4 B) w_t$$

The Backshift Operator and Differencing

- The first difference operator ∇ can be expressed as

$$\nabla X_t = (1 - B)X_t$$

Handwritten notes: A red arrow points to the ∇ operator. A red bracket is above the $(1 - B)$ term. To the right, the expression $X_t - X_{t-1}$ is written in red, with a red arrow pointing from it to the $(1 - B)X_t$ expression.

- The second difference is simply

$$\nabla^2 X_t = (1 - B)^2 X_t = X_t - 2X_{t-1} + X_{t-2}$$

- In general,

$$\nabla^d X_t = (1 - B)^d X_t$$

$$(1 - B)^2 X_t = (1 - 2B + B^2) X_t = X_t - 2X_{t-1} + X_{t-2}$$

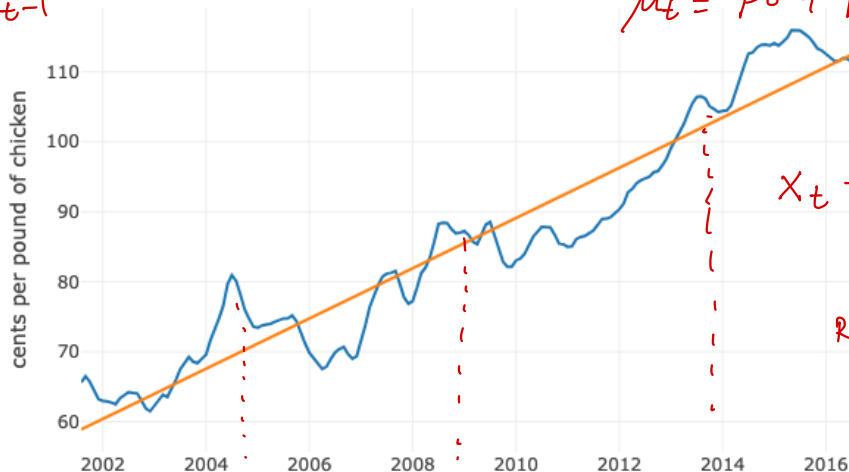
Handwritten note: The equation above is written in red.

Example - Chicken Prices

$$X_t - X_{t-1}$$

Spot price · $X_t = \mu_t + \varepsilon_t$

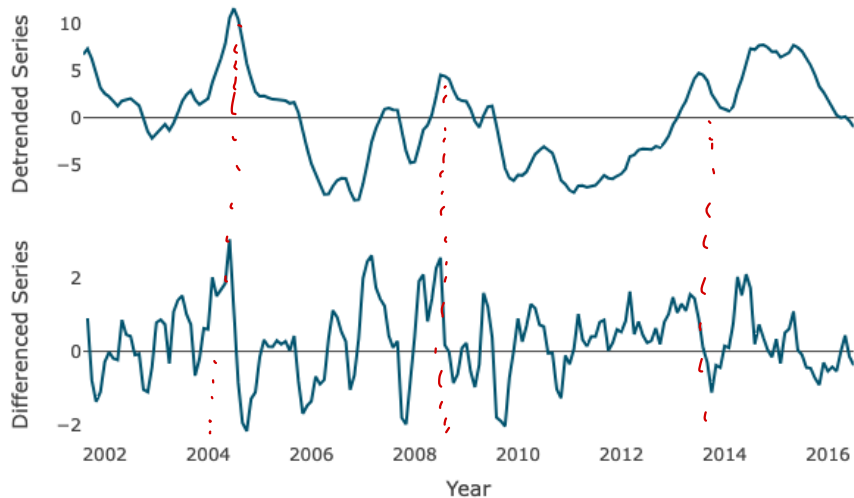
$$\mu_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 t$$



$$X_t - \mu_t = \varepsilon_t$$

Residuals ·

Chicken Price - Detrending vs Differencing

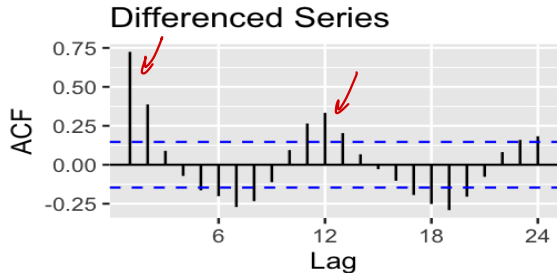
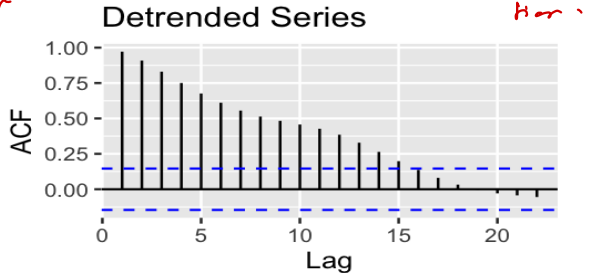
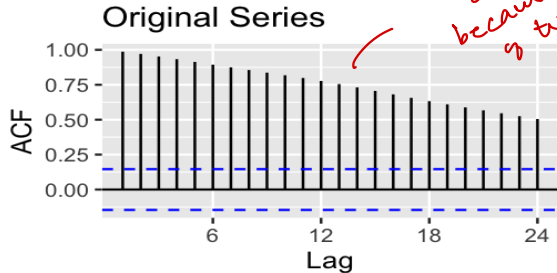


Chicken Price - Observations

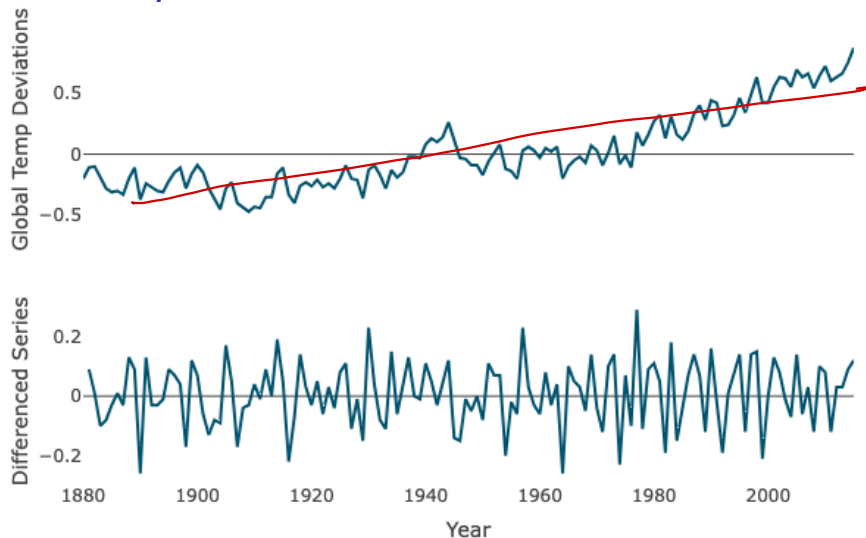
diff(x, order=)

- The original series showed (sort of) linear, positive trend.
- The de-trended series (residuals from lm model) and differenced series (first order) are plotted:
 - ▶ The de-trended series is smoother and shows a 5 year cycle which the differenced series does not capture.
- The sample ACFs are plotted on the next slide:
 - ▶ The original and de-trended series show a slow decay that is reflective of the trend.
 - ▶ The differenced series shows probable 1 year cycle.

Chicken Price - ACF

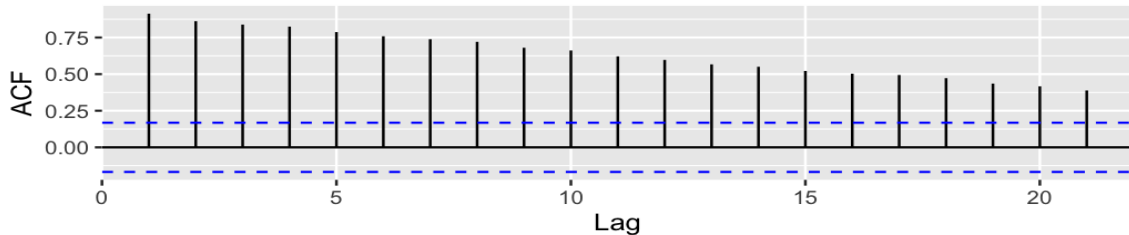


Example - Temperature Deviations

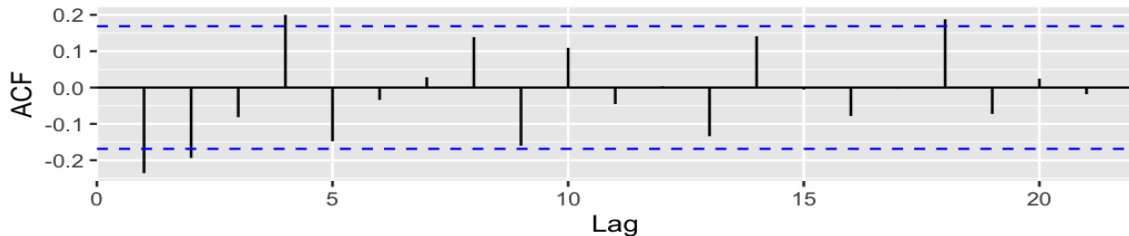


Example - Temperature Deviations

Original Series



Differenced Series



RW without drift -

$$X_t = X_{t-1} + w_t$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^t w_i$$

with drift -

$$X_t = \delta + X_{t-1} + w_t$$

$$= \delta t + \sum_{i=1}^t w_i$$

$$\nabla X_t = X_t - X_{t-1}$$

$$= \delta_t + \sum_{i=1}^t w_i$$

$$- \delta(t-1) - \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} w_i$$

$$= \delta + \sum_{i=1}^t w_i - \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} w_i$$

$$E[\nabla X_t] = \delta$$

Example - Temperature Deviations

- The global temperature deviations show an upward trend. Possible models?
- Consider the differenced series:
 - ▶ The differenced series plot looks like a stationary series (potentially a white noise).
 - ▶ The ACF for the differenced series shows minimal auto-correlation.
- This indicates that the temperature deviations data may be modeled with a random walk with drift

$$X_t = \delta + X_{t-1} + W_t = \delta t + \sum_{j=1}^t W_j$$

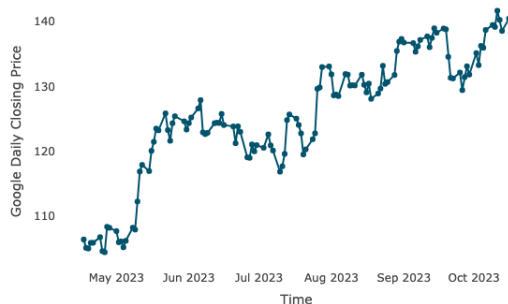
- The value of δ can be found as the mean of the differenced series ($\delta = 0.008$).

Random Walk *with drift*

- Random walk models are widely used for non-stationary data, particularly financial and economic data.
- Random walks typically have:
 - ▶ long periods of apparent trends up or down
 - ▶ sudden and unpredictable changes in direction.
- Example: for a stock price data random-walk theory asserts that there is no pattern to stock-price changes. *jagged*
← w_t
 - ▶ In particular, past stock-price changes do not enable one to predict future price changes.

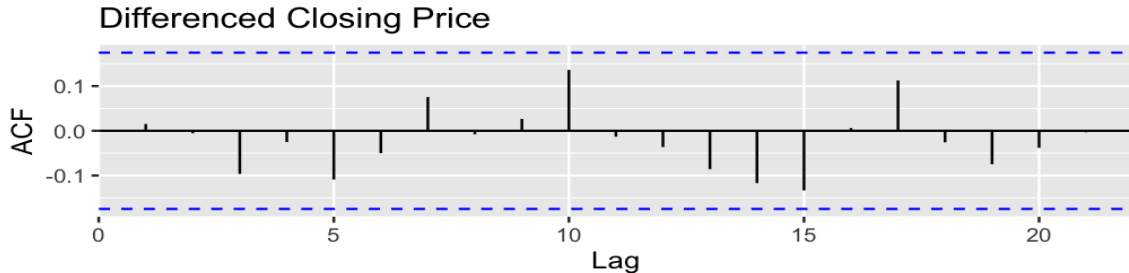
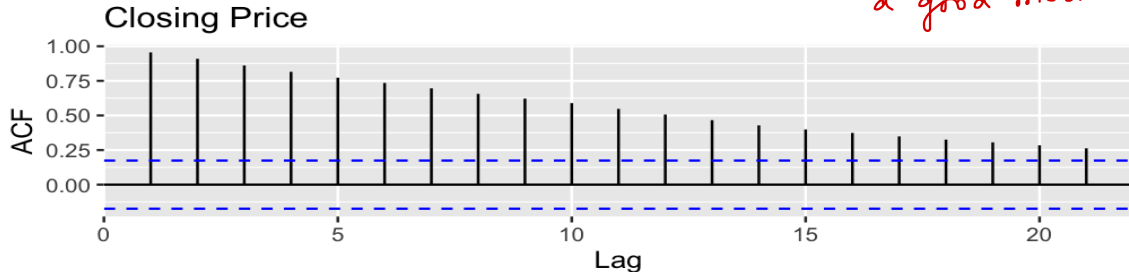
Example - Google

- The jagged appearance of the graph suggests that this may be a random walk.
- As the price change at one moment is uncorrelated with past price changes, the incessant up-and-down movement makes the graph jagged.
- What if the graph was smooth?



Example - Google

→ random walk with drift is a good model.



Notes

- Differencing can help stabilise the mean of a time series by removing changes in the level of a time series, and therefore eliminating (or reducing) trend and seasonality.
- Transformations such as logarithms can help to stabilise the variance of a time series.
- As well as looking at the time plot of the data, the ACF plot is also useful for identifying non-stationary time series.
 - ▶ For a stationary time series, the ACF will drop to zero relatively quickly, while the ACF of non-stationary data decreases slowly.
 - ▶ Also, for non-stationary data, the value of autocorrelation at lag 1 is often large and positive.

Seasonal Differencing

- A seasonally differenced series is obtained by taking the difference between an observation and the previous observation from the same season

t

$$X_t - X_{t-m}$$

$$(1 - B^m) X_t$$

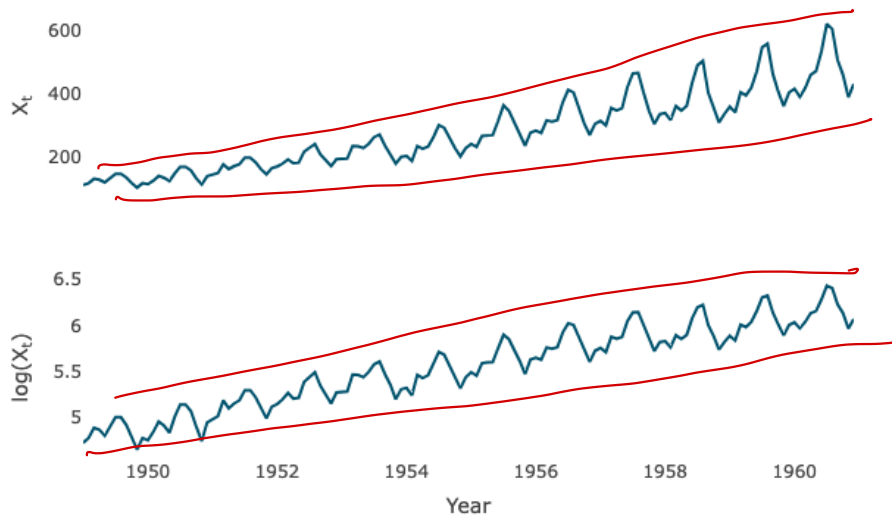
where m is the seasonality period.

- These are also called “lag- m differences”.
- If seasonally differenced data appear to be white noise, then an appropriate model for the original data is

$$X_t = X_{t-m} + \epsilon_t$$

$$X_t - X_{t-m} = \epsilon_t$$

Example - Air Passengers Data

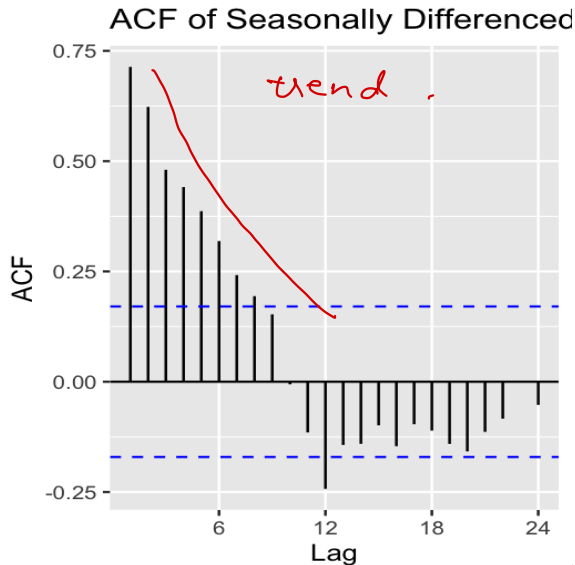
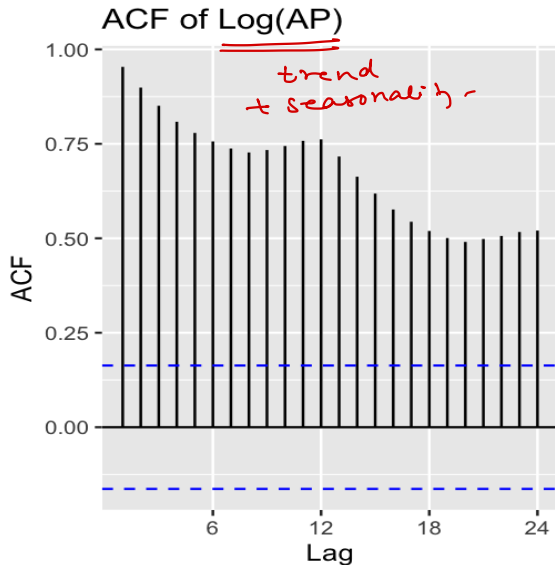


Example - Air Passengers Data

- The log transform stabilized the variance.
- Seasonally differencing the series should help in accounting for the seasonality but is it enough to get a stationary series?
- Sometimes, the data may require a first order differencing along with seasonal differencing (if there is a dominant trend).
- In such cases, the order of differencing is not important but it is preferred to start with seasonal differencing if there is a strong seasonal pattern.
- The big question - when should we stop differencing?
- Plot the ACFs at every step to see if the resulting series looks stationary.

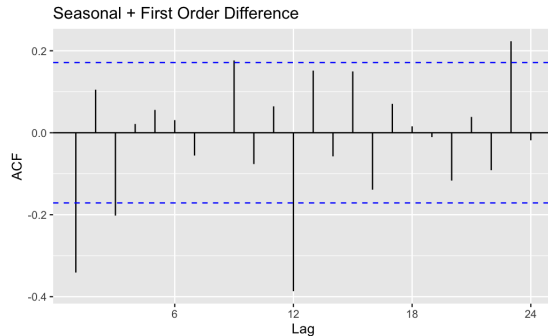
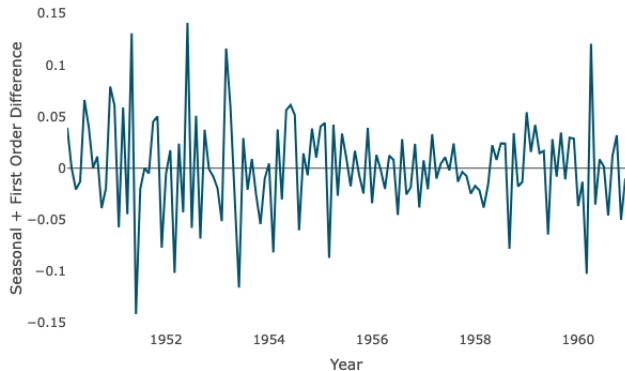
Example - Air Passengers Data

$$x_t - x_{t-12}$$



Example - Air Passengers Data

$$x_t - x_{t-12} = y_t$$
$$\nabla y_t$$



Differencing

$$x_t - x_{t-1}$$

- It is important that if differencing is used, the differences are interpretable.
- First order differences represent the change between subsequent observations.
- Seasonal differences represent changes from one year to the next.
- Other lags are unlikely to make much interpretable sense and should be avoided.