# Time Series: A First Course with Bootstrap Starter

## Lesson 3-1: Nonparametric Smoothing

• The filtering of time series uses some concepts from nonparametric smoothing.

#### Nonparametric Regression

- We might think of the time series mean  $\mu_t = \mathbb{E}[X_t]$  as an arbitary, smoothly varying function.
- A very simple case:

$$X_t = \mu_t + Z_t$$

with  $Z_t \sim i.i.d.(0, \sigma^2)$ .

• We may estimate  $\mu_t$  via averaging over neighboring values, e.g.,

$$\widehat{\mu}_t = \frac{1}{2m+1} \sum_{k=-m}^{m} X_{t-k}.$$

This works because

$$\widehat{\mu}_t = \frac{1}{2m+1} \sum_{k=-m}^m \mu_{t-k} + \frac{1}{2m+1} \sum_{k=-m}^m Z_{t-k},$$

and the first term is approximately equal to  $\mu_t$  if m is small and the mean is smooth (not changing too much over time). Also, the second term has mean zero and variance  $\sigma^2/(2m+1)$ , which tends to zero as m increases to  $\infty$ .

• So bias is lower for small m, but variance is lower for large m, creating a tension.

#### Kernel and Bandwidth

- Above, we have equal weights on the observations. We can have unequal weights, through the device of a *kernel*, which is a function that weights the data.
- The bandwidth m defines a neighborhood of values around time t, for which we use the kernel's weights.
- Large bandwidth yields more smoothing, with suppression of local features.
- Small bandwidth yields less smoothing, with higher variability.

#### Edge Effects

- We can only compute  $\hat{\mu}_t$  for  $t = m+1, \ldots, n-m$ . So the values for  $t = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $t = n-m+1, \ldots, n$  are "missing".
- Sometimes this so-called "edge effect" is addressed by designing asymmetric smoothing at the boundaries.
- Often the edge effects are ignored, when we are interested in the interior of the time series sample.

#### Nonparametric Regression for Population

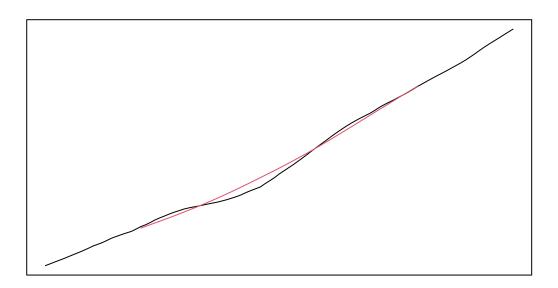
- Apply the nonparametric regression technique with m=20 to U.S. population data.
- First, we write a function to do local averaging.

```
U.S. Population
```

```
simple.ma <- function(x,m)
{
    weights <- rep(1,2*m+1)/(2*m+1)
    n <- length(x)
    trend <- NULL
    for(t in (m+1):(n-m))
    {
        trend <- c(trend,sum(x[(t-m):(t+m)]*weights))
    }
    trend <- c(rep(NA,m),trend,rep(NA,m))
    return(trend)
}</pre>
```

• Then we apply this to the data.

```
pop <- read.table("USpop.dat")
pop <- ts(pop, start = 1901)
m <- 20
pop.trend <- simple.ma(pop,m)
plot(pop,xlab="Year",ylab="U.S. Population",col=1,lwd=1,yaxt="n",xaxt="n")
lines(ts(pop.trend,start=1901,frequency=1),lty=1,lwd=1,col=2)</pre>
```



Year

#### Lesson 3-2: Linear Filters

• A linear filter maps an input time series  $\{X_t\}$  to an output time series  $\{Y_t\}$  by taking a linear combination of past, present, and future observations:

$$Y_t = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \psi_k \, X_{t-k}.$$

The filter coefficients (or filter weights) are  $\{\psi_k\}$ . Note the convention that  $\psi_k$  weights an observation occurring k time points in the past (viewing time t as the present).

#### Example 3.2.5. Simple Moving Average

• Recall from nonparametric regression, we may estimate a slowly-changing mean via averaging over neighboring values:

$$\frac{1}{2m+1} \sum_{k=-m}^{m} X_{t-k}.$$

This weights the past m and the future m observations equally, and is an example of a linear filter. It also called a *moving average*, because the observations are averaged (over a window of 2m + 1 time points) in a way that moves over the time series. A *simple moving average* has equal weights (a general moving average could have unequal weights).

#### Linear Time Series

- A time series  $\{Y_t\}$  is said to be *linear* if it is defined as the output of a linear filter (with coefficients  $\{\psi_k\}$ ) applied to  $\{X_t\}$ , and  $X_t \sim i.i.d.(\mu, \sigma^2)$ .
- The mean of  $Y_t$  is

$$\mathbb{E}[Y_t] = \mu \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \psi_k.$$

• The autocovariance of  $\{Y_t\}$  is

$$\operatorname{Cov}[Y_t, Y_{t-h}] = \sum_{j,k \in \mathbb{Z}} \psi_j \psi_k \operatorname{Cov}[X_{t-j}, X_{t-h-k}] = \sigma^2 \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \psi_k \psi_{k+h}.$$

This calculation is obtained by seeing that  $Cov[X_{t-j}, X_{t-h-k}]$  is zero unless j = k + h, in which case it equals  $\sigma^2$ .

#### Smoothing of Population

- We apply a simple moving average to U.S. Population, using the R filter function.
- Overlay different choices of m.

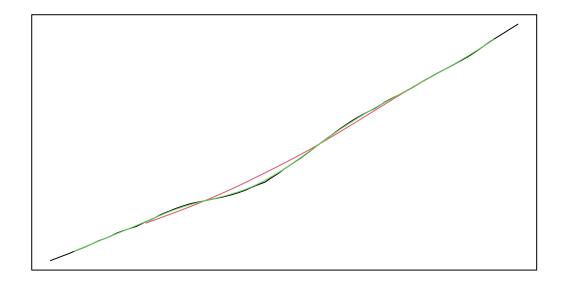
```
pop <- read.table("USpop.dat")
pop <- ts(pop, start = 1901)

m <- 20
ma.weights <- rep(1,2*m+1)/(2*m+1)
pop.trend1 <- stats::filter(pop,ma.weights,method="convolution",sides=2)

m <- 5
ma.weights <- rep(1,2*m+1)/(2*m+1)
pop.trend2 <- stats::filter(pop,ma.weights,method="convolution",sides=2)

plot(pop,xlab="Year",ylab="U.S. Population",col=1,lwd=1,yaxt="n",xaxt="n")
lines(ts(pop.trend1,start=1901,frequency=1),lty=1,lwd=1,col=2)
lines(ts(pop.trend2,start=1901,frequency=1),lty=1,lwd=1,col=3)</pre>
```





Year

## Lesson 3-3: Examples of Filters

• We explore smoothers, differencing, and the backshift operator.

#### Paradigm 3.3.1. Smoother

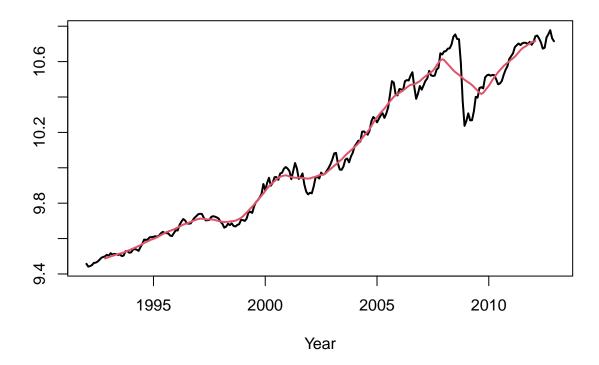
- Linear filters that suppress oscillations and reveal long-term trends are called *smoothers*.
- A simple moving average is an example of a smoother.

#### Example 3.3.2. Smoothers Applied to Gasoline Sales

• We apply a simple moving average with m = 10 to the logged seasonally adjusted gasoline series.

```
gassa <- read.table("GasSA_2-11-13.dat")
gassa.log <- ts(log(gassa), start=1992, frequency=12)

h <- 10
simple.ma <- rep(1,2*h+1)/(2*h+1)
gas.trend <- stats::filter(gassa.log, simple.ma, method="convolution", sides=2)
gas.trend <- ts(gas.trend, start=1992, frequency=12)
plot(ts(gassa.log, start=1992, frequency=12), col=1, ylab="", xlab="Year", lwd=2)
lines(ts(gas.trend, start=1992, frequency=12), col=2, lwd=2)</pre>
```



• We can run a visualization in the notebook.

#### Paradigm 3.3.3. Difference Filter

• To suppress long-term dynamics, we can difference:

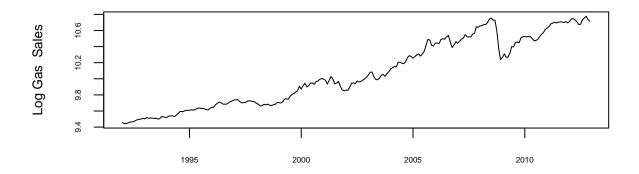
$$Y_t = X_t - X_{t-1}.$$

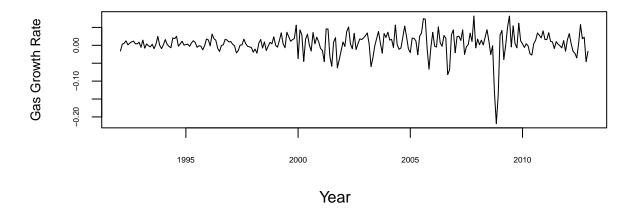
This is a filter with weights  $\psi_0 = 1$ ,  $\psi_1 = -1$ , and zero otherwise. It is called the *differencing filter*. This filter reduces polynomials in time by one degree; lines are reduced to constants.

#### Example 3.3.4. Differencing Applied to Gasoline Sales

• We apply differencing to logged seasonally adjusted gasoline sales. The result can be interpreted as a growth rate.

```
gas.diff <- diff(gassa.log)
par(oma=c(2,0,0,0),mar=c(2,4,2,2)+0.1,mfrow=c(2,1),cex.lab=.8)
plot(gassa.log,xlab="",ylab="Log Gas Sales",yaxt="n",xaxt="n")
axis(1,cex.axis=.5)
axis(2,cex.axis=.5)
plot(gas.diff,xlab="",ylab = "Gas Growth Rate",yaxt="n",xaxt="n")
axis(1,cex.axis=.5)
axis(2,cex.axis=.5)
mtext(text="Year",side=1,line=1,outer=TRUE)</pre>
```





#### The Backward Shift

• We define the  $backward\ shift\ (or\ lag)$  operator B, which shifts a time series back one time unit. This is a linear filter that lags time by one unit:

$$Y_t = X_{t-1}.$$

So the filter weights are  $\psi_1 = 1$  and zero otherwise. Informally we write  $BX_t = X_{t-1}$ .

#### Powers of Backward Shift

• Then  $X_{t-k} = B^k X_t$ , and a general filter is expressed as

$$Y_t = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \psi_k X_{t-k} = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \psi_k B^k X_t,$$

so we write the filter as  $\sum_{k\in\mathbb{Z}}\psi_kB^k$ . Call this  $\Psi(B)$ . (Mathematically,  $\Psi(z)$  is a Laurent series.)

#### Simple Moving Average Filter

• Expressed as  $\Psi(B) = (2m+1)^{-1} \sum_{k=-m}^{m} B^{k}$ .

#### Differencing Filter

• Expressed as  $\Psi(B) = 1 - B$ .

#### Lesson 3-4: Trends

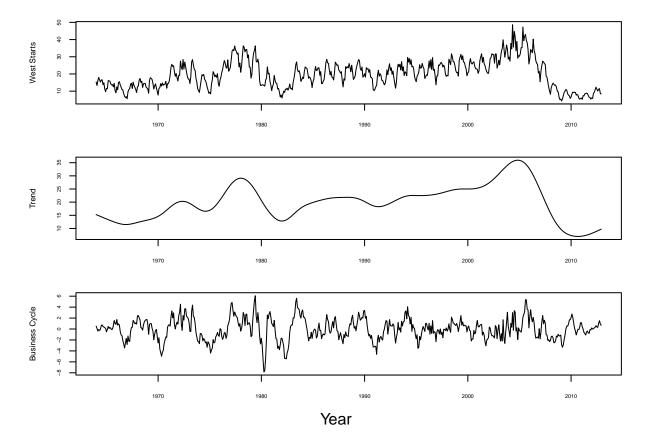
- Trends measure the long-term behavior of a time series.
- Trends are steady movements in the level of a time series.
- We can use smoothers to estimate trends.
- Removing a trend by subtraction allows us to see other features.

#### Example 3.4.1. Western Housing Starts Cycle

• We estimate and eliminate the trend in the Westing Housing Starts data, so that we can more clearly see the business cycle movements.

```
hpsa <- function(n,period,q,r)</pre>
    # hpsa
    #
           gives an HP filter for seasonal data
       presumes trend+seas+irreg structure
             trend is integrated rw
    #
             seas is seasonal rw
    #
             irreg is wn
       q is snr for trend to irreg
       r is snr for seas to irreg
# define trend differencing matrix
delta.mat <- diag(n)</pre>
temp.mat <- 0*diag(n)
temp.mat[-1,-n] \leftarrow -2*diag(n-1)
delta.mat <- delta.mat + temp.mat</pre>
temp.mat \leftarrow 0*diag(n)
temp.mat[c(-1,-2),c(-n,-n+1)] <- 1*diag(n-2)
delta.mat <- delta.mat + temp.mat</pre>
diff.mat <- delta.mat[3:n,]</pre>
# define seasonal differencing matrix
delta.mat <- diag(n)</pre>
temp.mat <- 0*diag(n)
inds <- 0
for(t in 1:(period-1))
    temp.mat <- 0*diag(n)
    temp.mat[-(1+inds),-(n-inds)] \leftarrow 1*diag(n-t)
    delta.mat <- delta.mat + temp.mat</pre>
```

```
inds <- c(inds,t)</pre>
}
sum.mat <- delta.mat[period:n,]</pre>
# define two-comp sig ex matrices
#trend.mat <- solve(diag(n) + t(diff.mat) %*% diff.mat/q)</pre>
\#seas.mat \leftarrow solve(diag(n) + t(sum.mat)) \% \% sum.mat/r)
trend.mat <- diag(n) - t(diff.mat) %*% solve(q*diag(n-2) + diff.mat %*%
    t(diff.mat)) %*% diff.mat
seas.mat <- diag(n) - t(sum.mat) %*% solve(r*diag(n-period+1) + sum.mat %*%
    t(sum.mat)) %*% sum.mat
# define three-comp sig ex matrices
trend.filter <- solve(diag(n) - trend.mat %*% seas.mat) %*%
    trend.mat %*% (diag(n) - seas.mat)
seas.filter <- solve(diag(n) - seas.mat %*% trend.mat) %*%</pre>
    seas.mat %*% (diag(n) - trend.mat)
irreg.filter <- diag(n) - (trend.filter + seas.filter)</pre>
filters <- list(trend.filter,seas.filter,irreg.filter)</pre>
return(filters)
}
Wstarts <- read.table("Wstarts.b1",skip=2)[,2]</pre>
Wstarts <- ts(Wstarts, start = 1964, frequency=12)</pre>
n <- length(Wstarts)</pre>
q < -.0001
r <- 1
hp.filters \leftarrow hpsa(n,12,q,r)
wstarts.trend <- hp.filters[[1]] %*% Wstarts
wstarts.seas <- hp.filters[[2]] %*% Wstarts
wstarts.cycle <- hp.filters[[3]] %*% Wstarts
wstarts.sa <- wstarts.trend + wstarts.cycle</pre>
comps <- ts(cbind(wstarts.trend,wstarts.seas,wstarts.cycle),start=1964,frequency=12)</pre>
trend <- ts(wstarts.trend,start=1964,frequency=12)</pre>
cycle <- ts(wstarts.cycle,start=1964,frequency=12)</pre>
par(oma=c(2,0,0,0), mar=c(2,4,2,2)+0.1, mfrow=c(3,1), cex.lab=.8)
plot(Wstarts, ylab="West Starts",xlab="",yaxt="n",xaxt="n")
axis(1,cex.axis=.5)
axis(2,cex.axis=.5)
plot(trend,xlab="",ylab = "Trend",yaxt="n",xaxt="n")
axis(1,cex.axis=.5)
axis(2,cex.axis=.5)
plot(cycle,xlab="",ylab = "Business Cycle",yaxt="n",xaxt="n")
axis(1,cex.axis=.5)
axis(2,cex.axis=.5)
mtext(text="Year",side=1,line=1,outer=TRUE)
```



#### Paradigm 3.4.12. Nonparametric Trend Estimation

• We consider trends  $\mu_t$  to be either a deterministic (but unknown) function of time, or are an unobserved stochastic process:

$$X_t = \mu_t + Z_t.$$

Here  $\mathbb{E}[X_t] = \mu_t$  and  $\{Z_t\}$  is a mean zero time series.

• A two-sided moving average is a linear filter that can be used to estimate trends:

$$\Psi(B) = \sum_{k=-m}^{m} \psi_k B^k.$$

When all the weights are equal, this is a simple moving average. It is two-sided because the moving average uses past and future data:

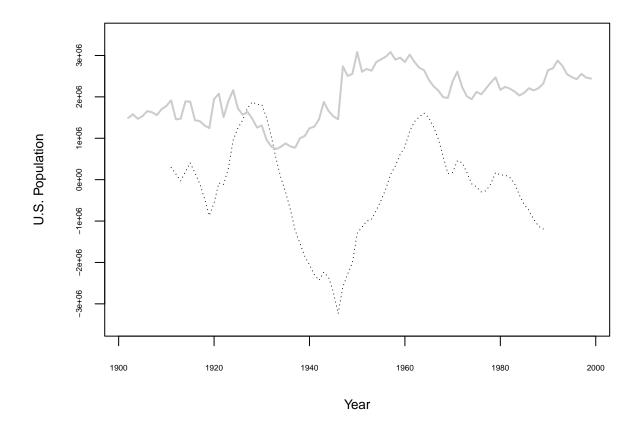
$$\widehat{\mu}_t = \Psi(B)X_t = \sum_{k=-m}^m \psi_k X_{t-k}.$$

- A symmetric moving average weights future and past equally, i.e.,  $\psi_k = \psi_{-k}$ .
- As an estimator  $\hat{\mu}_t$  of the unknown trend  $\mu_t$ , there is less bias if m is small, and less variance if m is large. This is a **Bias-Variance Dilemma**.

#### Paradigm 3.4.15. Trend Elimination

- We can remove a trend by subtracting off its estimate.
- We can also apply the differencing filter.

• Example with US population, detrended by a m=10 simple moving average and by the difference filter.



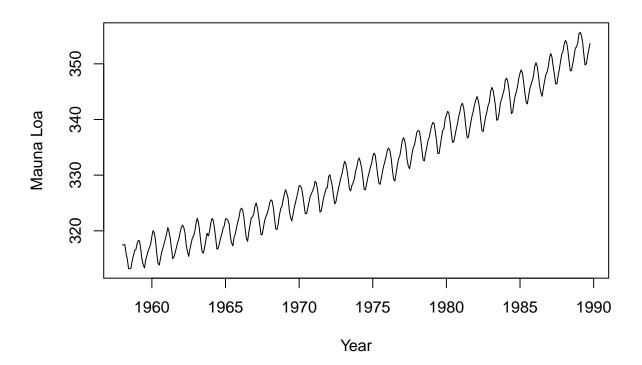
# Lesson 3-5: Seasonality

- Regular patterns of a periodic nature are called *seasonality*.
- The same notion as a *cycle*, but is associated with the calendar.
- We may wish to estimate and remove seasonality in order to see other patterns.

## Example 3.5.1. Mauna Loa Growth Rate

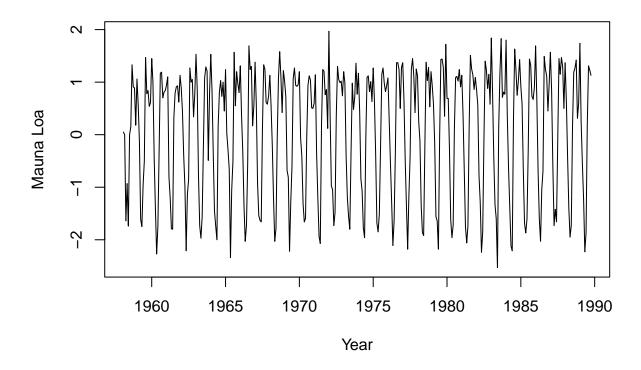
• We consider the Mauna Loa CO2 time series.

```
mau <- read.table("mauna.dat",header=TRUE,sep="")
mau <- ts(mau,start=1958,frequency=12)
plot(mau,xlab="Year",ylab="Mauna Loa")</pre>
```



- We can difference the series to eliminate the trend.
- A pronounced seasonal pattern is apparent; but it is not completely periodic.

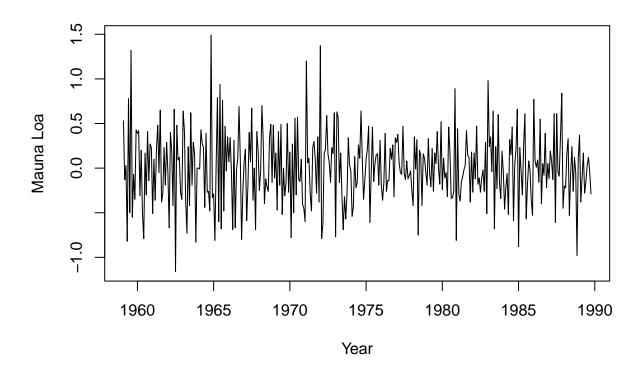
```
mau.diff <- diff(mau)
plot(mau.diff,xlab="Year",ylab="Mauna Loa")</pre>
```



## Seasonal Regression

- An exactly periodic effect would be  $X_t = X_{t-s}$  for seasonal period s (e.g., s = 12 for monthly time series), and any t.
- If this were true, we could use dummy regressors. Usually this works poorly; if the series were periodic, then the filter  $1 B^s$  would annihilate it.
- Example of Mauna Loa; seasonal differencing of the growth rate leaves a non-zero time series.

```
mau.diffs <- diff(mau.diff,lag=12)
plot(mau.diffs,xlab="Year",ylab="Mauna Loa")</pre>
```



#### Seasonal Moving Average

- A better way is to estimate seasonality using a seasonal moving average. This is a moving average filter where only coefficients with indices that are a multiple of s are non-zero.
- This means

$$\Psi(B) = \sum_{k=-ms}^{ms} \psi_k B^k = \sum_{j=-m}^{m} \psi_{js} B^{js}$$

is a seasonal moving average, because  $\psi_k = 0$  unless k = js for some integer j.

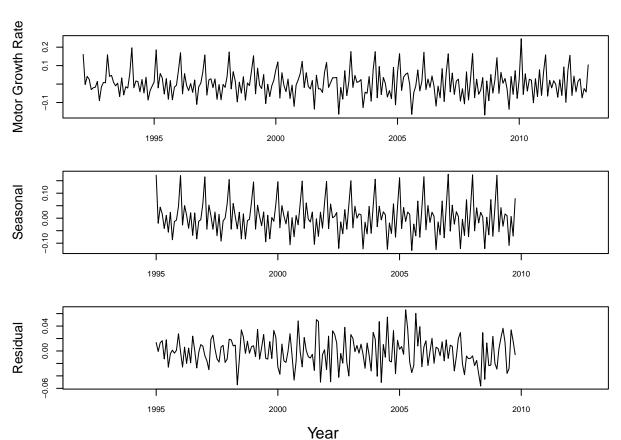
#### Example 3.5.8. Seasonal Moving Average for Motor Retail Sales

- We apply a seasonal moving average to the growth rate of the Motor Retail Sales data, with m=3.
- We plot the growth rate series, the estimated seasonality, and the residual after subtracting off the seasonal component.

```
Ret441 <- read.table("retail441.b1",header=TRUE,skip=2)[,2]
Ret441 <- ts(Ret441,start = 1992,frequency=12)
ret.diff <- diff(log(Ret441))

pseas <- 3
period <- 12
seas.smoother <- c(1,rep(0,period-1))
seas.smoother <- c(rep(seas.smoother,pseas),rep(seas.smoother,pseas),1)/(2*pseas+1)
seas.smooth <- stats::filter(ret.diff,seas.smoother,method="convolution")
seas.resid <- ret.diff - seas.smooth</pre>
```

```
par(oma=c(2,0,0,0),mar=c(2,4,2,2)+0.1,mfrow=c(3,1),cex.lab=1.2)
plot(ret.diff,ylab="Motor Growth Rate",xlab="",yaxt="n",xaxt="n")
axis(1,cex.axis=.8)
axis(2,cex.axis=.8)
plot(ts(seas.smooth,start=1992,frequency=12),xlab="",ylab="Seasonal",yaxt="n",xaxt="n")
axis(1,cex.axis=.8)
axis(2,cex.axis=.8)
plot(ts(seas.resid,start=1992,frequency=12),xlab="",ylab="Residual",yaxt="n",xaxt="n")
axis(1,cex.axis=.8)
axis(2,cex.axis=.8)
axis(2,cex.axis=.8)
mtext(text="Year",side=1,line=1,outer=TRUE)
```



#### Remark 3.5.9. Seasonal Adjustment

- Removal of seasonality is called seasonal adjustment.
- ullet The  $seasonal\ aggregation$  filter is defined as

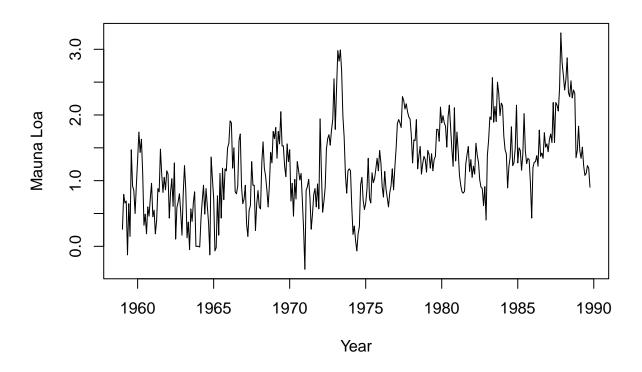
$$U(B) = 1 + B + B^2 + \dots + B^{s-1}$$
.

It annihilates any periodic pattern, and is a basic example of a seasonal adjustment filter.

#### Example 3.5.10. Seasonal Adjustment of Mauna Loa Growth Rate

- We apply the seasonal aggregation filter to the growth rate of the Mauna Loa CO2 time series.
- This uses a trick: applying U(B) and 1-B together amounts to applying  $1-B^s$ , because

$$U(B)(1-B) = 1 - B^{s}$$
.



# Lesson 3-6: Trend and Seasonality Together

- We may want to extract both trend and seasonality from time series.
- This is more challenging than just extracting trend or seasonality alone.

#### Proposition 3.6.5

- Stable seasonality has an exactly periodic pattern.
- A trend extraction filter  $\Psi(B)$  eliminates stable seasonality if it can be written as

$$\Psi(B) = \Theta(B)U(B),$$

for some filter  $\Theta(B)$ , where U(B) is the seasonal aggregation filter.

#### Example 3.6.7. Trend Filters that Eliminate Seasonality

• For s even, consider the trend filter

$$\Psi(B) = \frac{1}{2s}B^{-s/2} + \frac{1}{s}B^{-s/2+1} + \ldots + \frac{1}{s}B^{s/2-1} + \frac{1}{2s}B^{s/2}.$$

• By polynomial multiplication, we can show that

$$\Psi(B) = \frac{1}{2s}U(B)(1+B)B^{-s/2}.$$

• Setting  $\Theta(B) = (1+B)B^{-s/2}/(2s)$ , we see that  $\Psi(B)$  eliminates stable seasonality.

#### Paradigm 3.6.8. Classical Decomposition from Trend Filtering

- Consider a time series with both trend and seasonal effects.
- We can design a trend filter that eliminates seasonality, obtaining  $\widehat{T}_t$ .
- Then apply a seasonal filter to  $X_t \widehat{T}_t$ , the de-trended data, obtaining  $\widehat{S}_t$ .
- Removing  $\widehat{S}_t$  from the de-trended data yields the irregular  $\widehat{I}_t$ .
- Then we have the classical decomposition

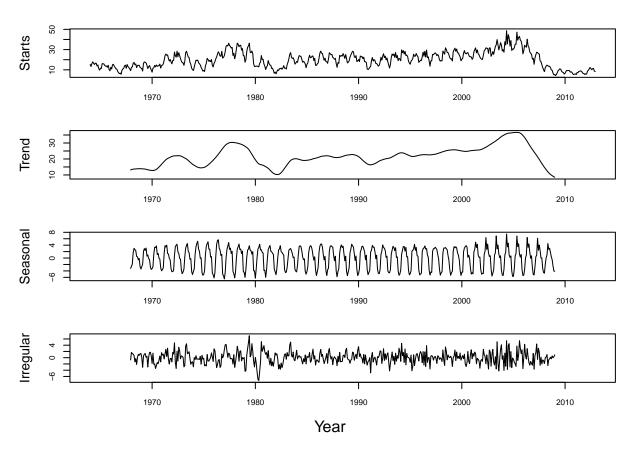
$$X_t = \widehat{T}_t + \widehat{S}_t + \widehat{I}_t.$$

# Example 3.6.13. Classical Decomposition of Western Housing Starts via Linear Filtering

- Consider the trend filter given in Example 3.6.7.
- We construct the classical decomposition, applied to Western Housing Starts

```
compSmooth <- function(data,period,pseas)</pre>
    # compSmooth
       Estimates trend, seasonal, and irregular from input data
    # using weighted moving averages.
    # data: an input time series
        period: observations per year
        pseas: odd integer giving number of years in seasonal moving average
    n <- length(data)
    trendfilter <- seq(1,period)</pre>
    trendfilter <- c(trendfilter[1:(period-1)],rev(trendfilter))/period^2</pre>
    seasfilter <- c(1,rep(0,period-1))</pre>
    seasfilter <- c(rep(seasfilter,pseas),rep(seasfilter,pseas),1)/(2*pseas+1)</pre>
    trend <- stats::filter(data,trendfilter,method="convolution",sides=2)</pre>
    trend <- trend[period:(n-period+1)]</pre>
    resid <- data[period:(n-period+1)] - trend</pre>
    seasonal <- stats::filter(resid, seasfilter, method="convolution", sides=2)</pre>
    seasonal <- seasonal[(pseas*period + 1):(length(resid) - pseas*period)]</pre>
    irreg <- resid[(pseas*period + 1):(length(resid) - pseas*period)] - seasonal</pre>
    return(cbind(trend[(pseas*period + 1):(length(resid) - pseas*period)],seasonal,irreg))
}
Wstarts <- read.table("Wstarts.b1",skip=2)[,2]</pre>
Wstarts <- ts(Wstarts, start = 1964, frequency=12)</pre>
pseas <- 3
comps <- compSmooth(Wstarts,12,pseas)</pre>
par(oma=c(2,0,0,0), mar=c(2,4,2,2)+0.1, mfrow=c(4,1), cex.lab=1.2)
plot(Wstarts,ylab="Starts",xlab="",yaxt="n",xaxt="n")
axis(1,cex.axis=.8)
axis(2,cex.axis=.8)
plot(ts(c(rep(NA,47),comps[,1],rep(NA,47)),start=1964,frequency=12),xlab="",ylab="Trend",yaxt="n",xaxt=
axis(1,cex.axis=.8)
axis(2,cex.axis=.8)
```

```
plot(ts(c(rep(NA,47),comps[,2],rep(NA,47)),start=1964,frequency=12),xlab="",ylab="Seasonal",yaxt="n",xa
axis(1,cex.axis=.8)
axis(2,cex.axis=.8)
plot(ts(c(rep(NA,47),comps[,3],rep(NA,47)),start=1964,frequency=12),xlab="",ylab="Irregular",yaxt="n",x
axis(1,cex.axis=.8)
axis(2,cex.axis=.8)
axis(2,cex.axis=.8)
mtext(text="Year",side=1,line=1,outer=TRUE)
```



# Lesson 3-7: Integrated Processes

- Sometimes non-stationarity arises in the mean function  $\mathbb{E}[X_t] = \mu_t$ .
- But the mean may not explain all the non-stationarity of a time series.
- Integrated Processes are stochastic processes that exhibit a type of non-stationarity.

#### Example 3.7.1. Random Walk

• We revisit the random walk  $\{X_t\}$ , where

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

for  $t \geq 1$ , and  $\{Z_t\}$  are i.i.d.  $(0, \sigma^2)$ .

- We can initialize with  $X_0 = 0$ .
- Note that differencing yields the increment:

$$(1-B)X_t = Z_t.$$

• Writing the recursion out yields

$$X_t = X_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{t} Z_k.$$

 $\bullet\,$  This is a cumulation, hence an  $integrated\ process.$ 

#### **Integrated Process**

• Suppose that  $\{X_t\}$  is a non-stationary stochastic process such that

$$(1-B)X_t = Z_t$$

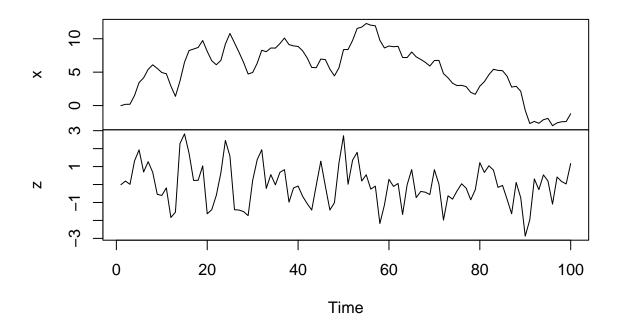
is stationary. Then it is called an *integrated process*.

• Differencing 1 - B cancels out the cumulation.

## Example of Integrated Moving Average

- Suppose that  $\{Z_t\}$  is an MA(1), and  $X_t = X_{t-1} + Z_t$ .
- We simulate a sample path.

```
set.seed(777)
n <- 100
eps <- rnorm(n+1)  # Gaussian input
theta <- .8
z <- eps[-1] + theta*eps[-(n+1)]
x <- cumsum(z)
plot(ts(cbind(x,z)),xlab="Time",ylab="",main="")</pre>
```



### Example 3.7.3. Unit Root Process

• The AR(1) process  $\{X_t\}$  satisfies

$$X_t = \phi X_{t-1} + Z_t,$$

and can be written as

$$(1 - \phi B)X_t = Z_t.$$

So when  $\phi = 1$ , the AR(1) is a random walk. The polynomial  $1 - \phi z$  has root  $1/\phi$ , and when this root equals one, the root is *unit*. Hence a random walk (and more generally, an integrated process) is sometimes called a *unit root process*.

• Consider a sample path of an AR(1) with high value of  $\phi$ .

```
n <- 100
for(i in 1:2)
{
    set.seed(123)
    z <- rnorm(n)
    x <- rep(0,n)
    phi <- .80+(i-1)*.199
    x0 <- 0
    x[1] <- x0 + z[1]
    for(t in 2:n) { x[t] <- phi*x[t-1] + z[t] }
    plot(ts(x),xlab="Time",ylab="")
}</pre>
```

