

CLASS EXERCISE, March 21, 2023

1. Consider the process $D_t = 100 - \epsilon_{t-1}/2 + \epsilon_t$ where ϵ_t are i.i.d with mean zero and variance σ^2 . Which of the following is true?

- (a) 1-lag AC is negative : True. We have an MA(1) process: $D_t = \theta_0 + \theta_1 \epsilon_{t-1} + \epsilon_t$. The AC at lag 1 has the same sign as the coefficient θ_1 (and $\theta_1 = -1/2$).
- (b) 1-lag AC is positive : False
- (c) The theoretical value of the one-lag AC is -1/2: False. The first lag AC for the MA(1) case is given by:

$$\rho_1 = \frac{\theta_1}{1 + \theta_1^2} = -2/5$$

- (d) 2-lag AC is negative: This is false. For an MA(1) process, the second lag AC equals 0. In fact, the AC equals zero at all higher lags than one.
- (e) 2-lag AC is zero: True.
- (f) If D_{t-1} is below average, then D_t is more likely to be above average: True because of negative correlation at lag 1.
- (g) If D_{t-2} is below average, then D_t is more likely to be above average: False, D_{t-2} and D_t are independent.

2. Consider the data from the slides. Which of the following are true?

- (a) The data may come from an i.i.d process: False. The ACF and PACF show that there is clear auto-correlation at multiple lags.
- (b) The data may come from an AR(1) process: False. The ACF does not have a geometrically decreasing pattern and the PACF has spikes at multiple lags. In an AR(1) process, in the PACF we would see a single spike on the first lag only.
- (c) The data may come from an MA(1) process: False. With an MA(1) we would see a single spike at lag 1 on the ACF.

- (d) The spikes on the PACF for the first two lags may correspond to AR terms on the first two lags: This may be true and the PACF should show single spikes corresponding to each AR term and this is the case here.
- (e) The first spike on the PACF may correspond to a positive AR coefficient on the first term: True
- (f) The first spike on the PACF may correspond to a positive AR coefficient on the first term: True
- (g) The data may come from an AR(2) process with a positive coefficient at the first lag and a negative coefficient at the second lag: True. We can combine the above evidence to conclude that an AR(2) model would be a good fit.

