
Machine Learning: Advanced

Introduction to Time-series modeling, forecasting

SUVRIT SRA

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What is a time series?

- Collection of observations x_1, \dots, x_n
indexed by time

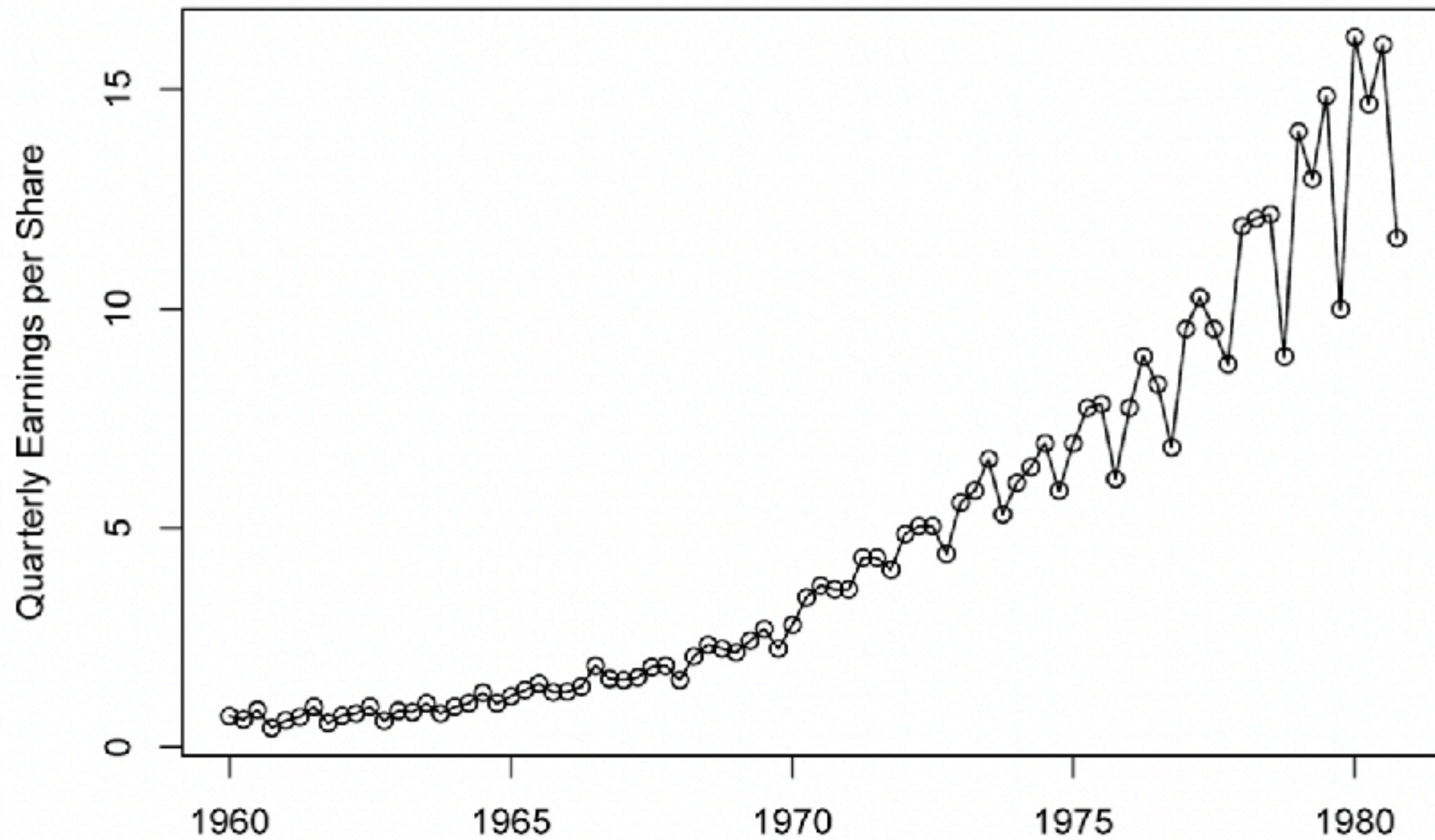
What is a time series?

- Collection of observations x_1, \dots, x_n indexed by time
- Come up in
 - ✦ economics, finance
 - ✦ social sciences
 - ✦ epidemiology
 - ✦ fMRI/neuroscience
 - ✦ environmental measurements
 - ✦ speech analysis ...

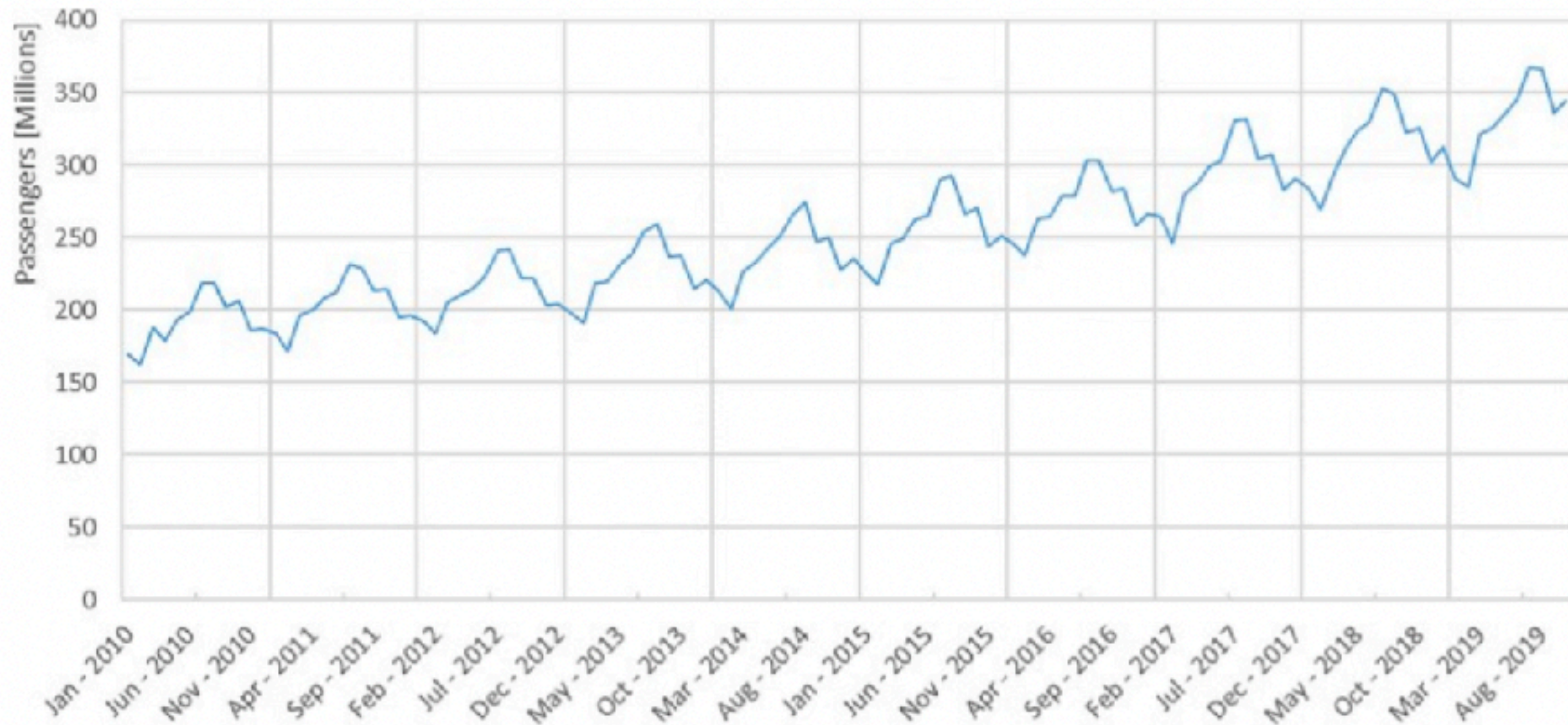
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- What do time series look like?

Johnson & Johnson quarterly earnings per share



Global Airline Passengers

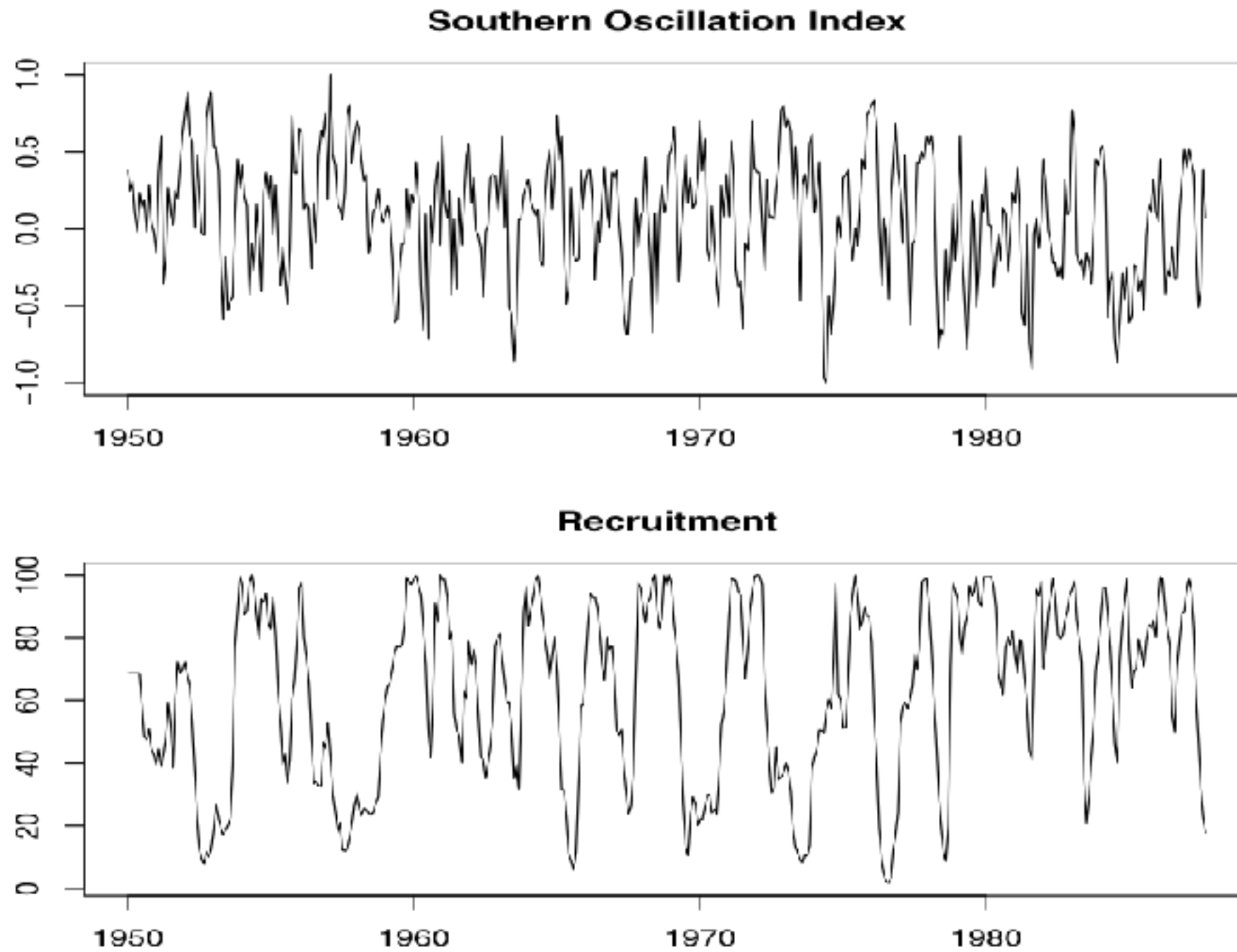


source: S. M. Iacus, F. Natale, C. Santamaria, S. Spyratos, M. Vespe. Estimating and projecting air passenger traffic during the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak and its socio-economic impact. *Safety Science* vol 129, 2020.

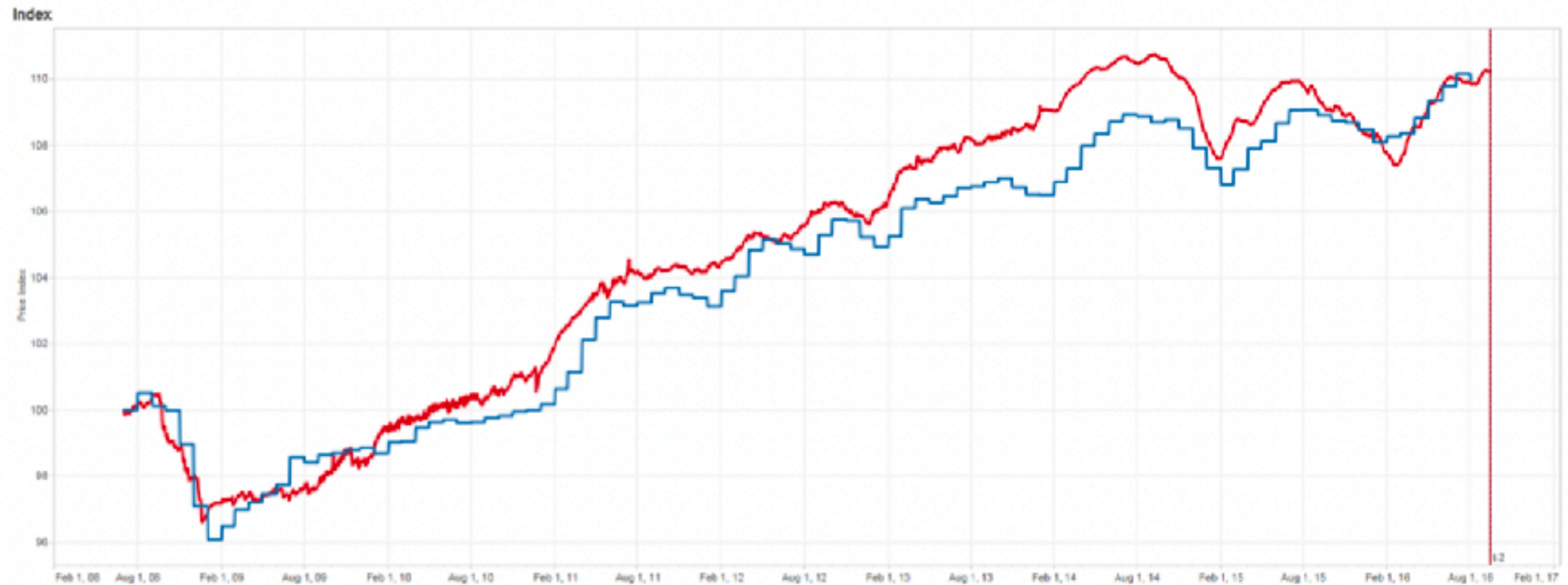
Exchange Rate GBP to \$NZ



Air Pressure & Fish Population



Price-index USA



2008

2017

source: Roberto Rigobon

Objective of TS analysis

Time series: collection of random variables X_0, \dots, X_n indexed by time

- Descriptive analysis (visualization, components, dependencies)
- Modeling
- Forecasting
- Time Series Regression
- Control
- ...

How can we model a time series?

usually: local models, e.g. Autoregressive of order p, AR(p)

$$X_t = \theta_1 X_{t-1} + \theta_2 X_{t-2} + \dots + \theta_p X_{t-p} + W_t$$

“linear regression in time”

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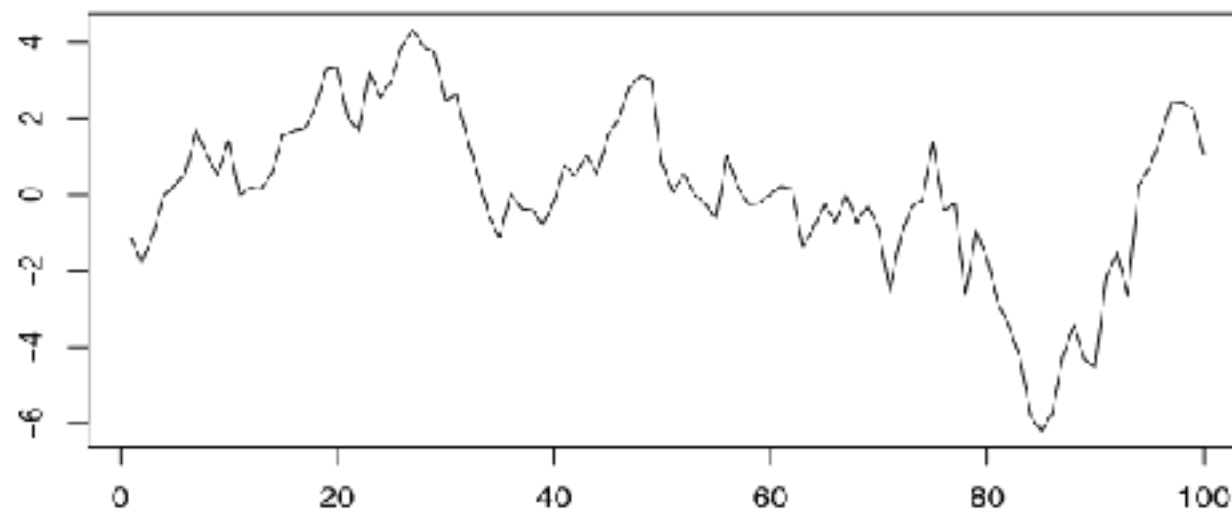
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AR(1) examples

$$X_t = 0.9X_{t-1} + W_t$$



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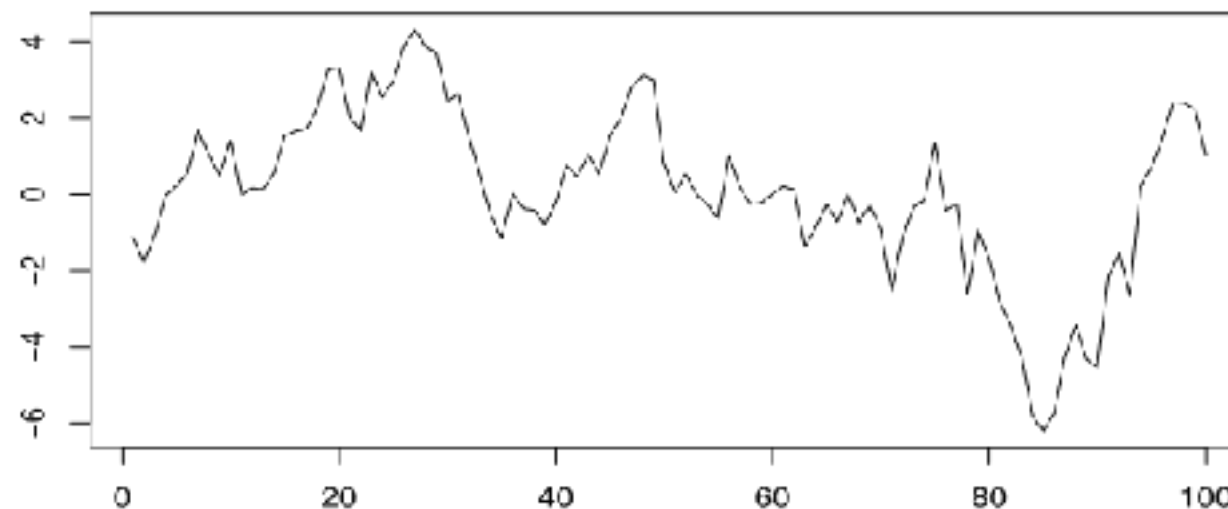
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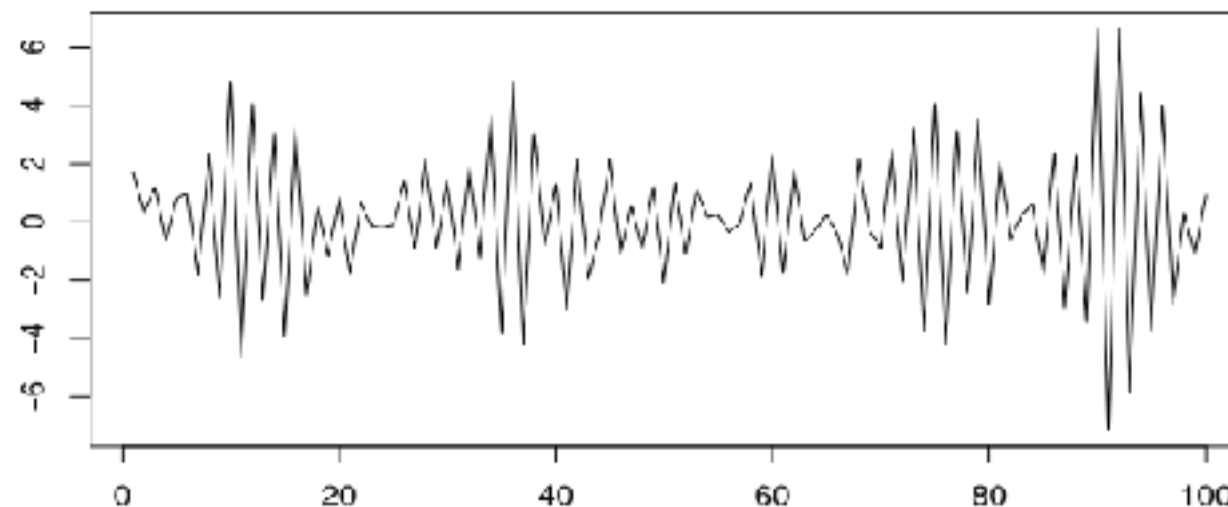
AR(1) examples

$$X_t = 0.9X_{t-1} + W_t$$



AR(1) $\phi = 0.9$

$$X_t = -0.9X_{t-1} + W_t$$



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“linear regression in time”

- assume the same model applies everywhere in time

How can we model a time series?

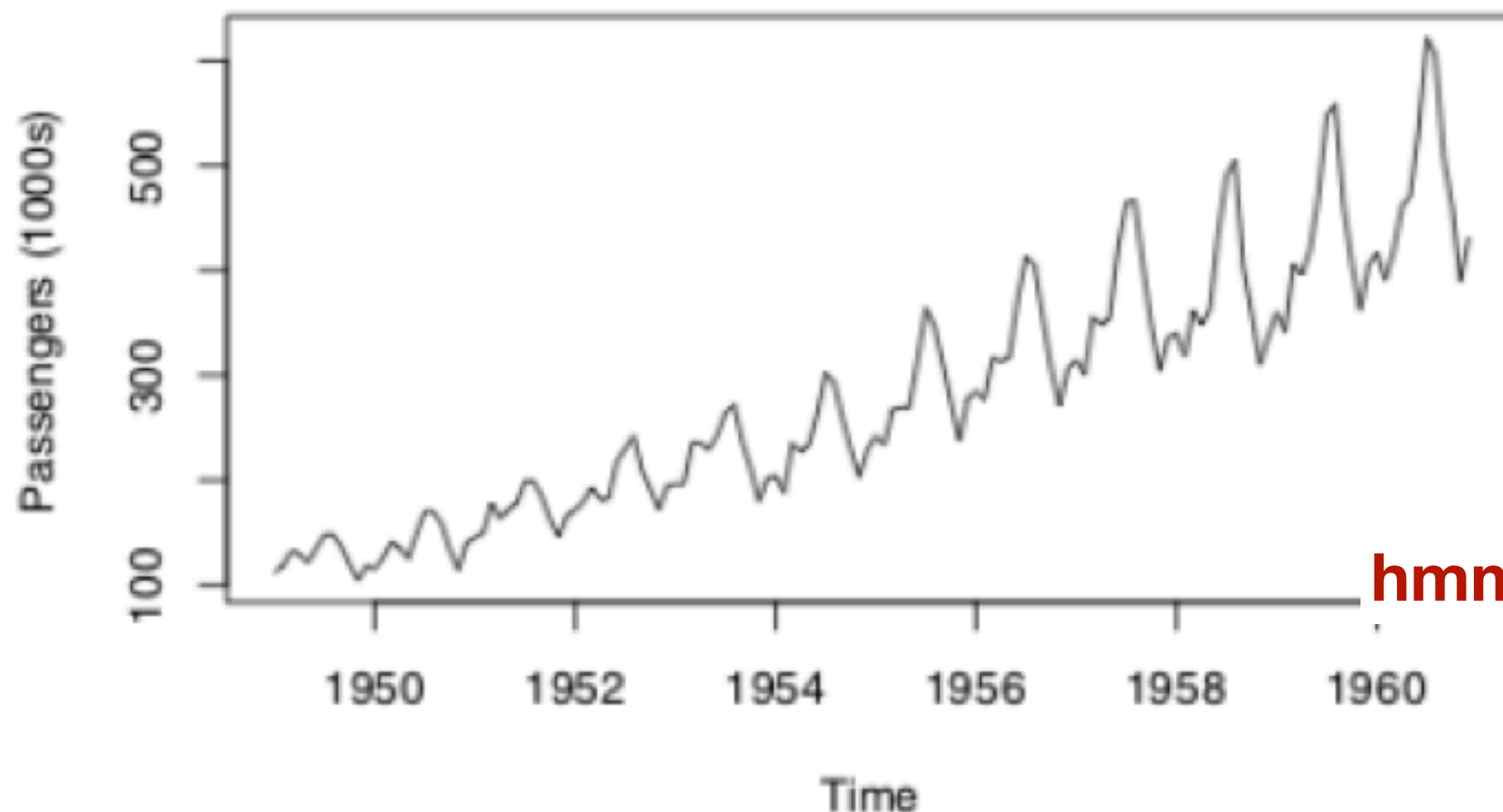
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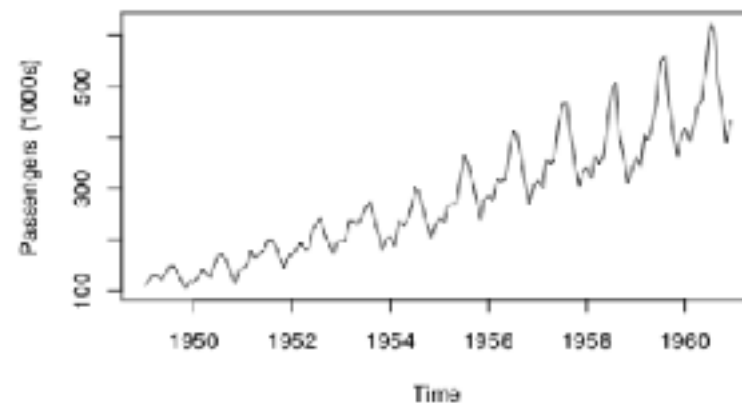
hmmmm.....??????

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- usually: local models, e.g. Autoregressive of order p :

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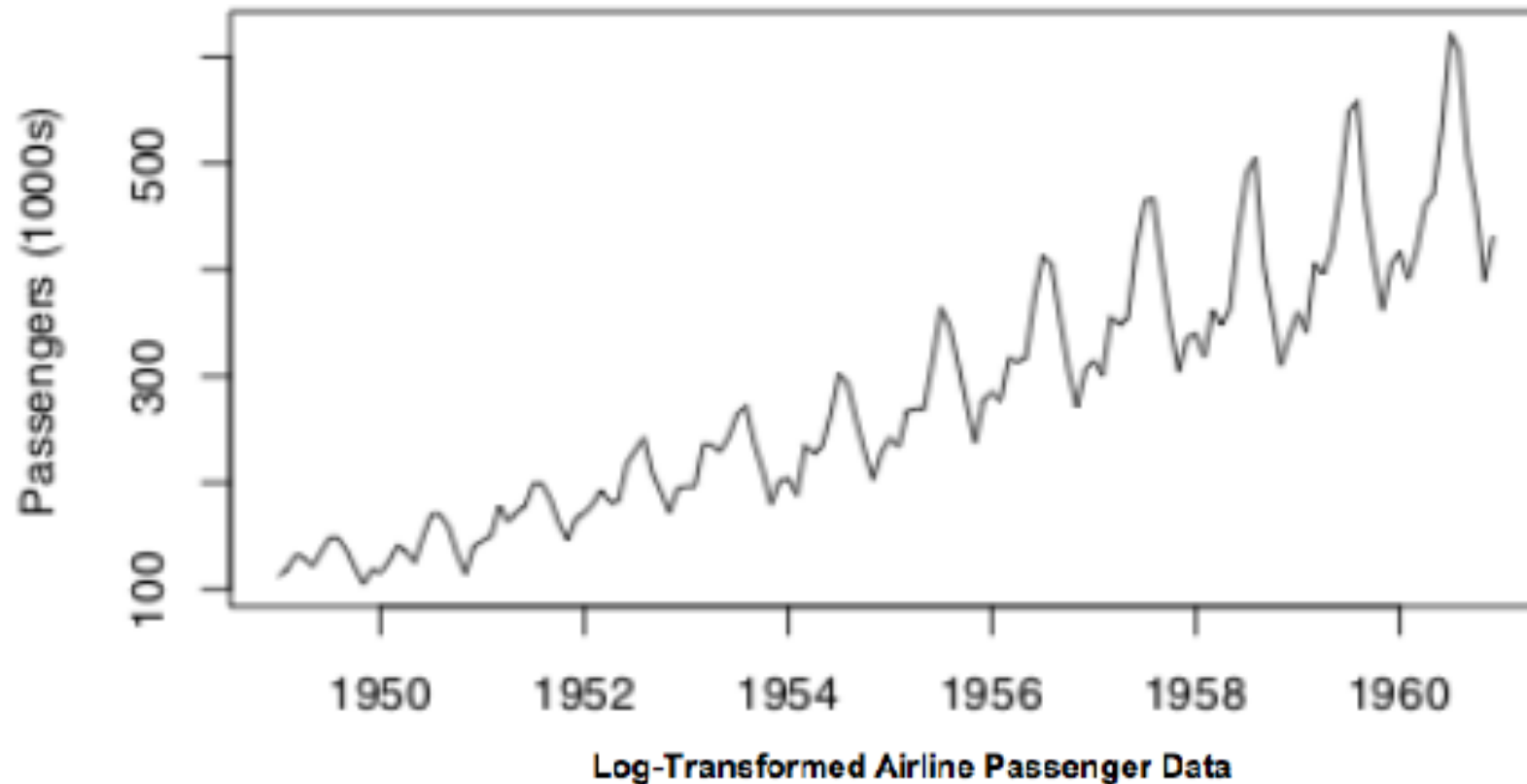
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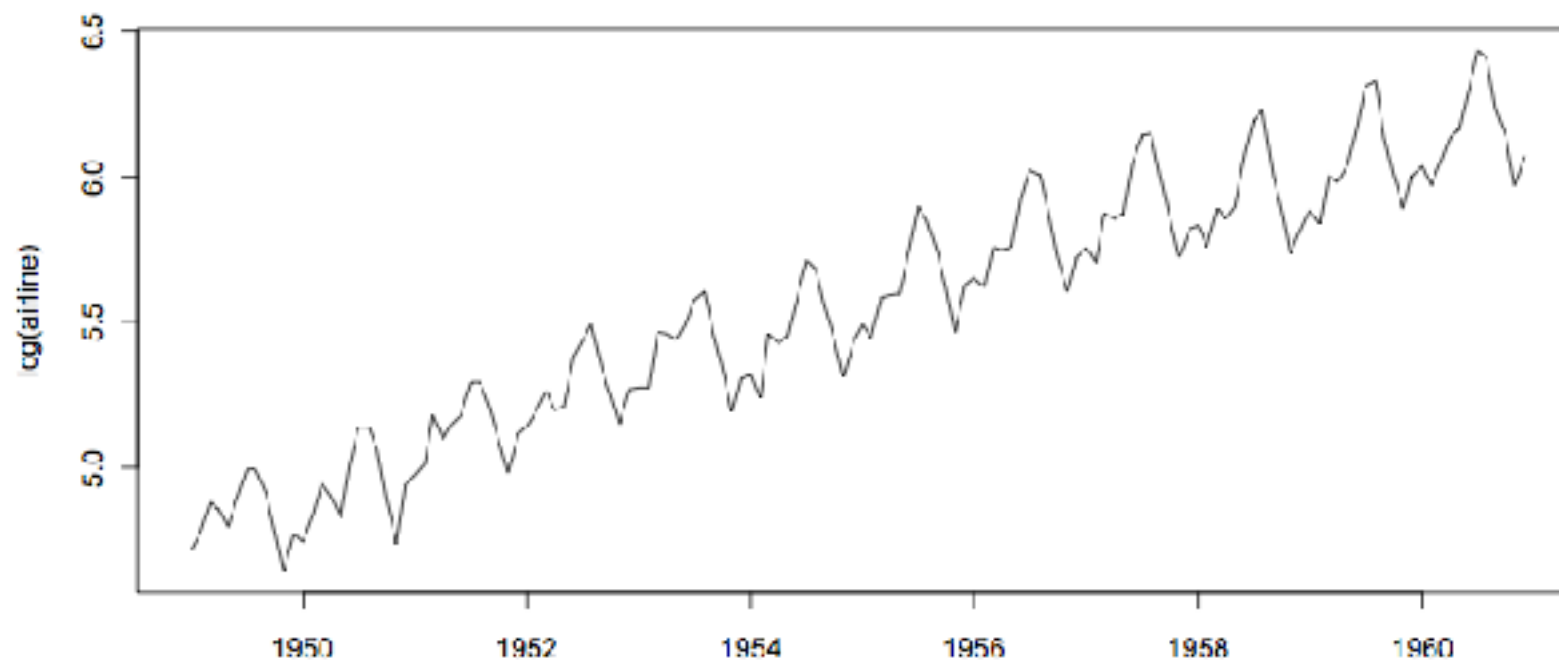
- ➡ need series to be “locally invariant”: same average value & local relationships, independent of time
(*weak stationarity*: same mean and covariances)
first transform to be weakly stationary

Achieving weak stationarity

- More uniform variation: nonlinear transformation, e.g. log



$\log(x_t)$

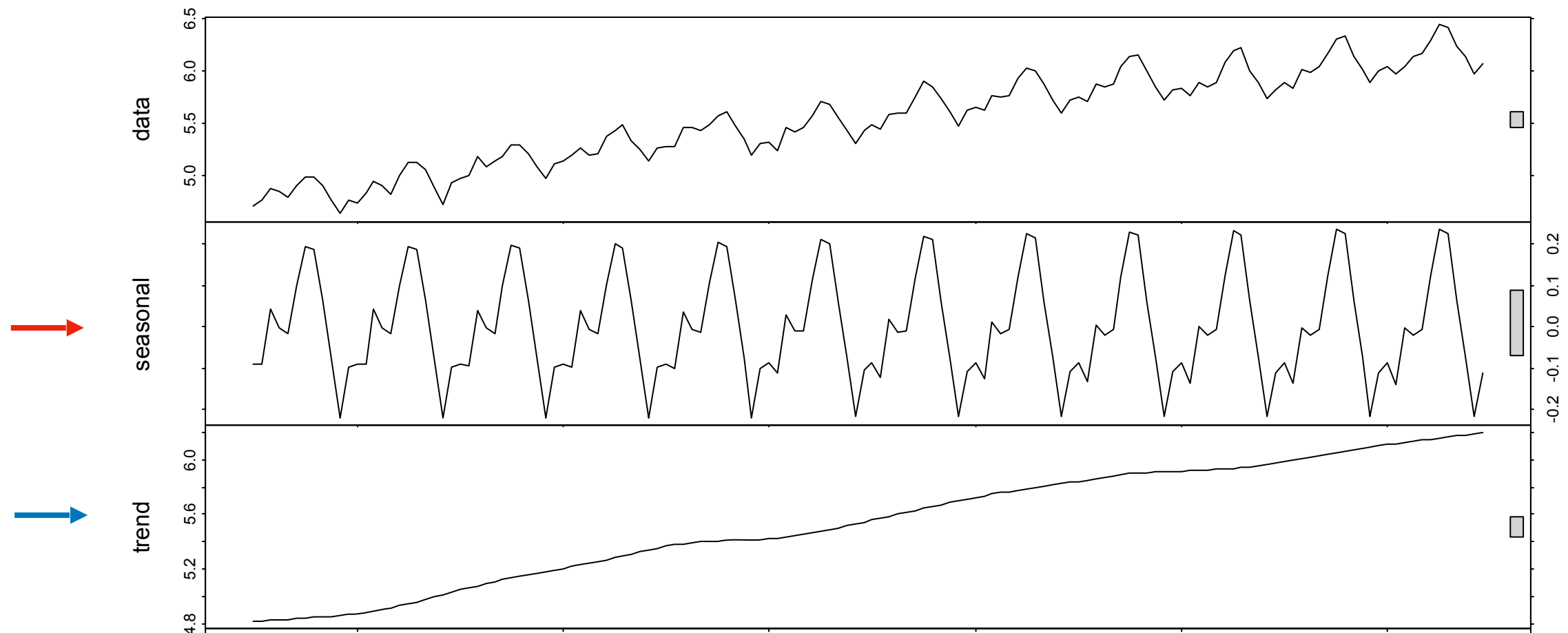


Achieving weak stationarity

- Decompose time series:

$$X_t = T_t + S_t + Z_t$$

Linear Trend Seasonal Component

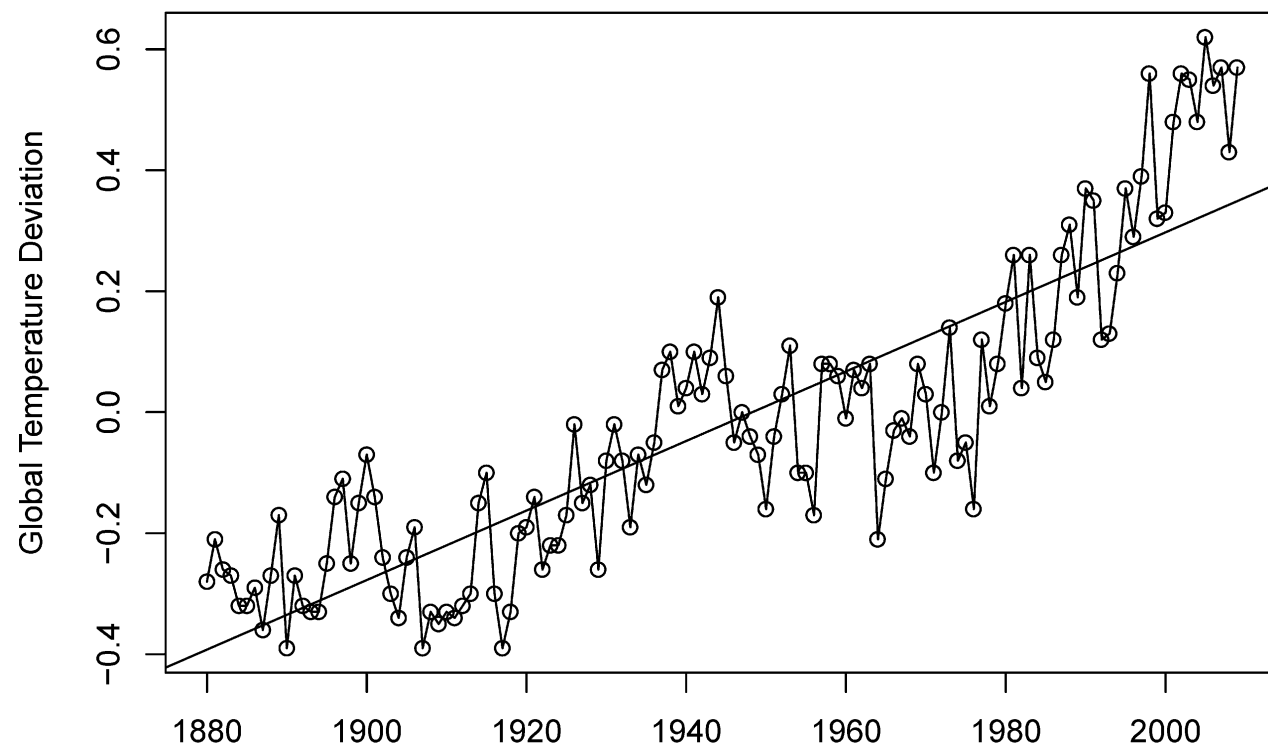


Achieving weak stationarity

- Decompose time series:

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- Linear trend: linear regression with time as the feature, subtract linear trend

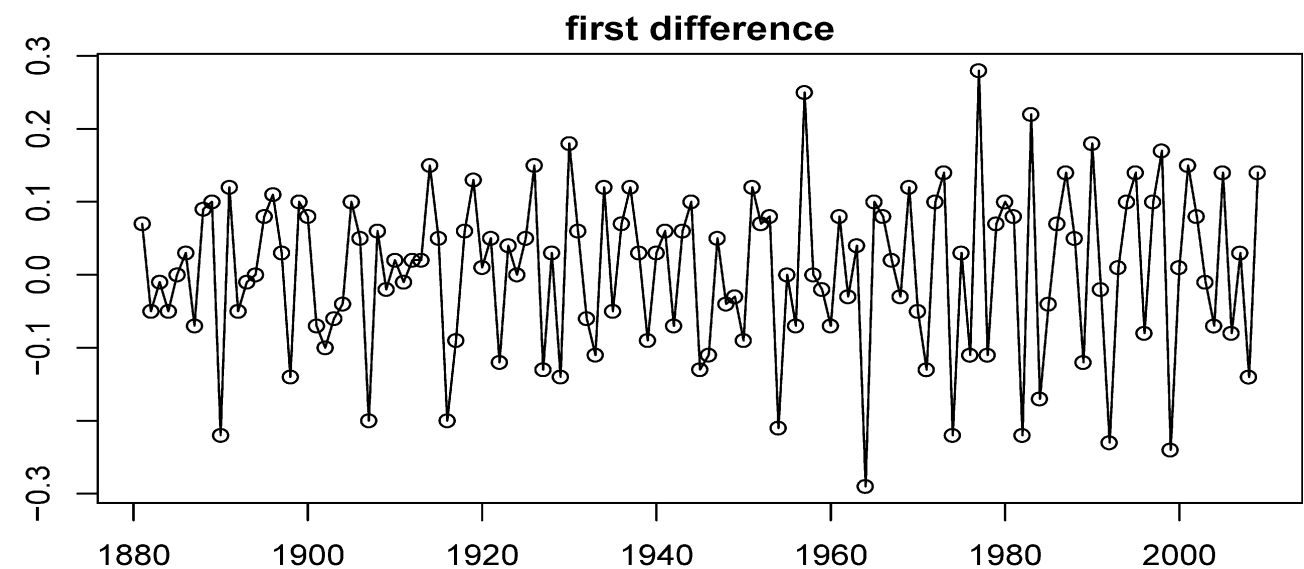
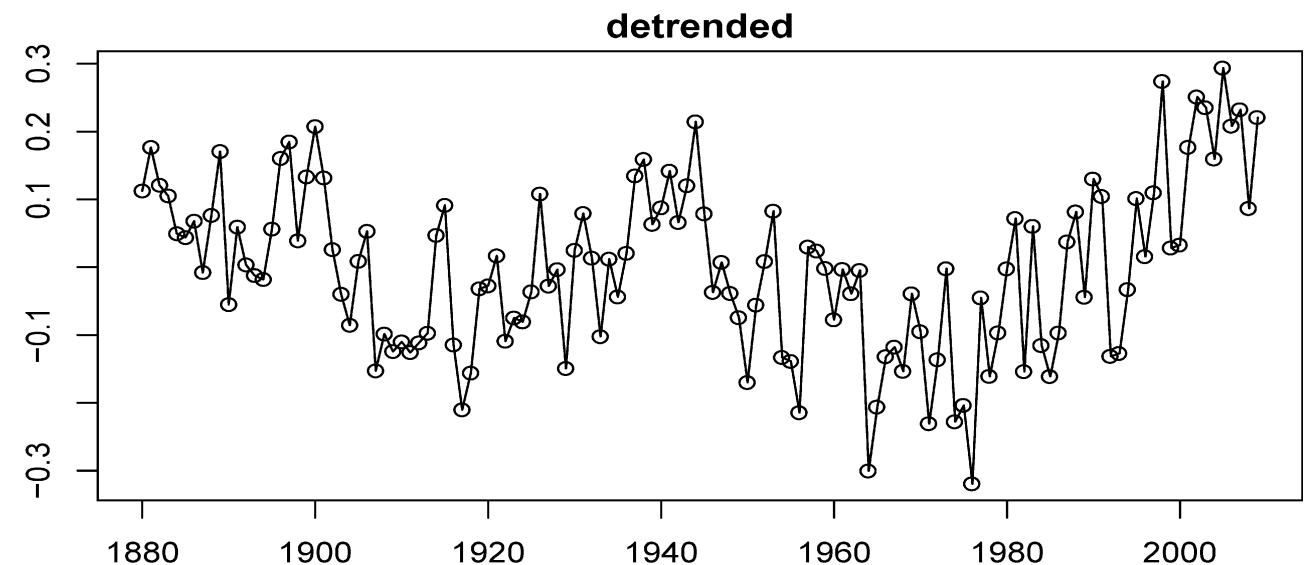
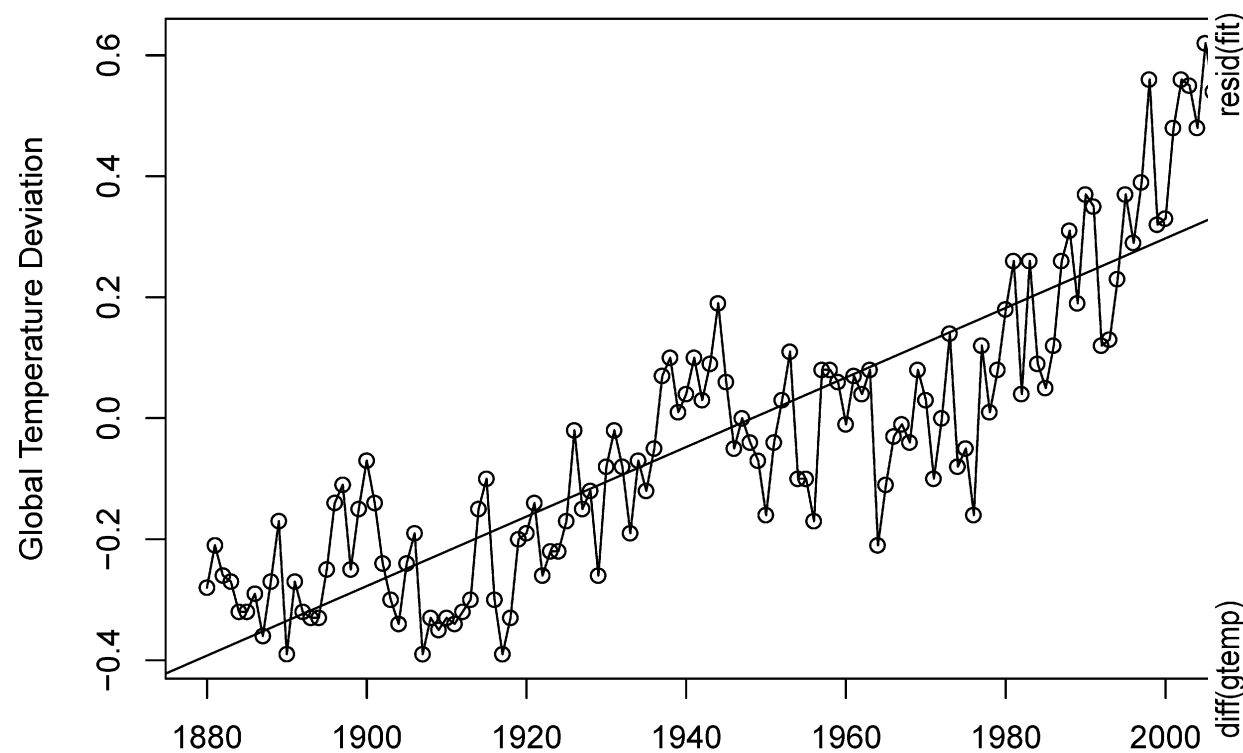


Achieving weak stationarity

- Decompose time series:

$$X_t = T_t + S_t + Z_t$$

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Stationarity remarks

- remove trends and seasonal components: $X_t = T_t + S_t + Z_t$
 - deterministic trend T_t : linear regression
 - deterministic seasonal component S_t
 - remainder: stationary, mean zero

- differentiation

$$Y_t = \nabla X_t = X_t - X_{t-1} \quad \text{removes linear trend}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla^2 X_t &= \nabla X_t - \nabla X_{t-1} \\ &= X_t - 2X_{t-1} + X_{t-2} \quad \text{removes quadratic trend} \end{aligned}$$

Linear Time Series Models

- Autoregressive of order p

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- Moving average of order q

$$X_t = W_t + \theta_1 W_{t-1} + \theta_2 W_{t-2} + \dots + \theta_q W_{t-q}$$

Linear Time Series Models

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- ARMA(p,q): autoregressive plus moving average

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- ARMA(p,q): autoregressive plus moving average
- good for predicting short horizons, not long ones

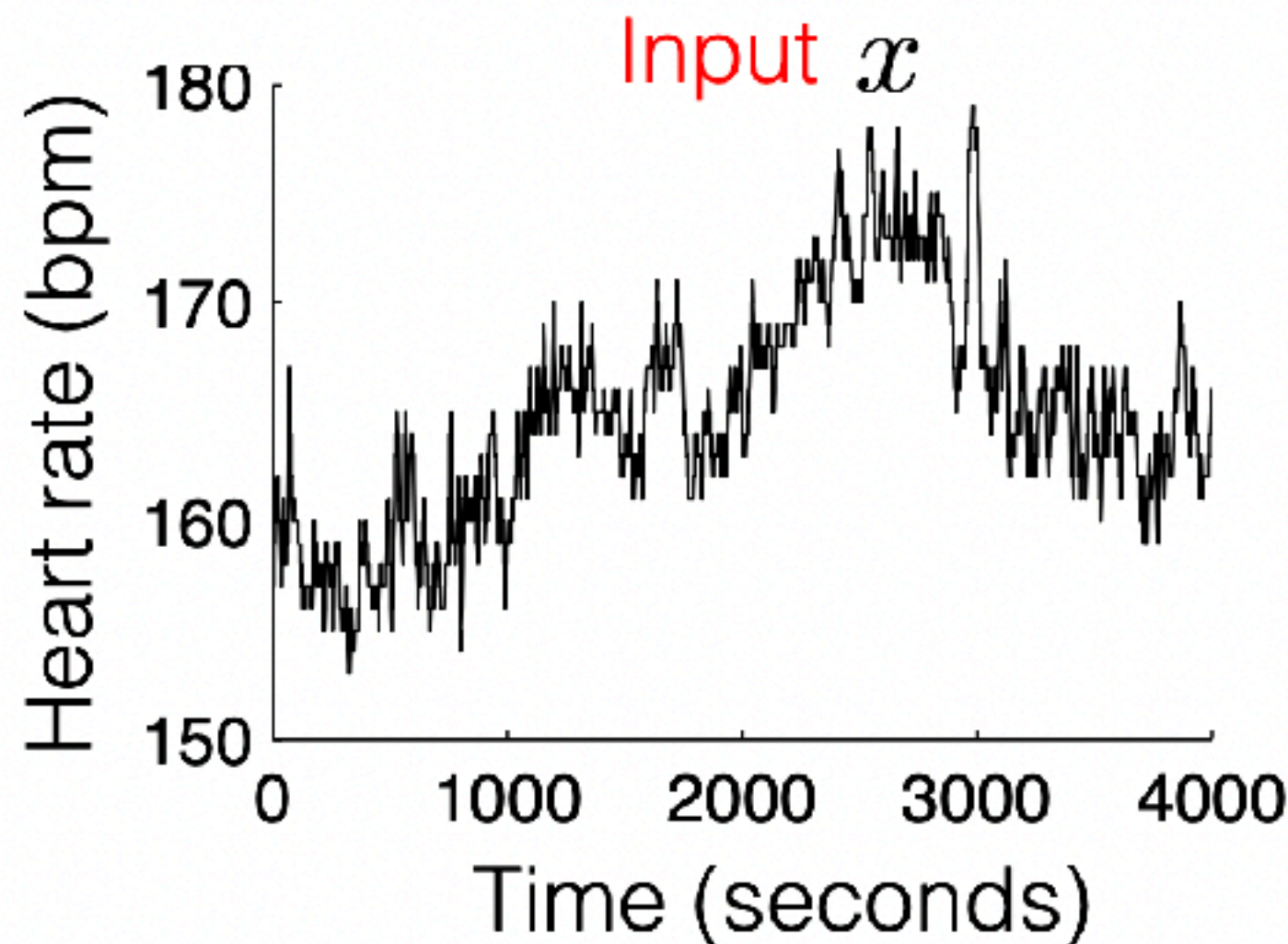
Time Series Models

- Decompose & transform for local invariance (weak stationarity)
- Linear Models: AR, MA, ARMA: short horizons
- More advanced models: “State space models”, neural network models (next)
- Caution about cross-validation in time series: data points are not independent!
Need to separate train and test/validation

A few remarks about direct supervised learning approach....

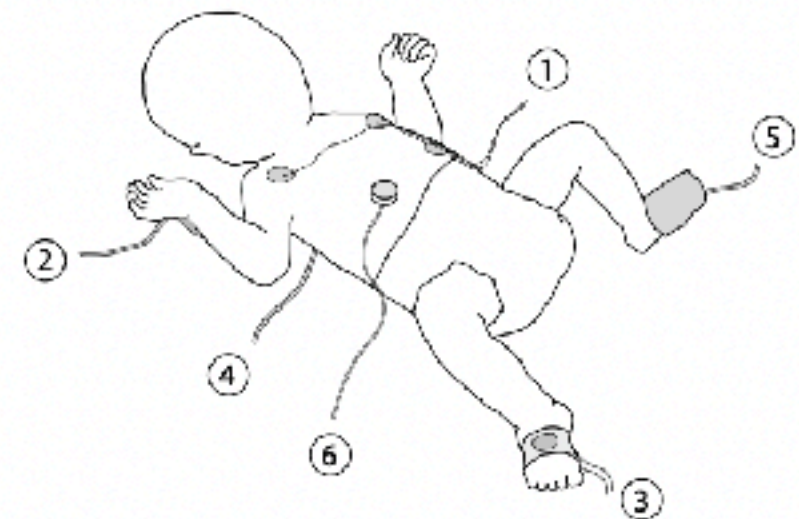
Temporal/sequence problems

- How to cast as a supervised learning problem?



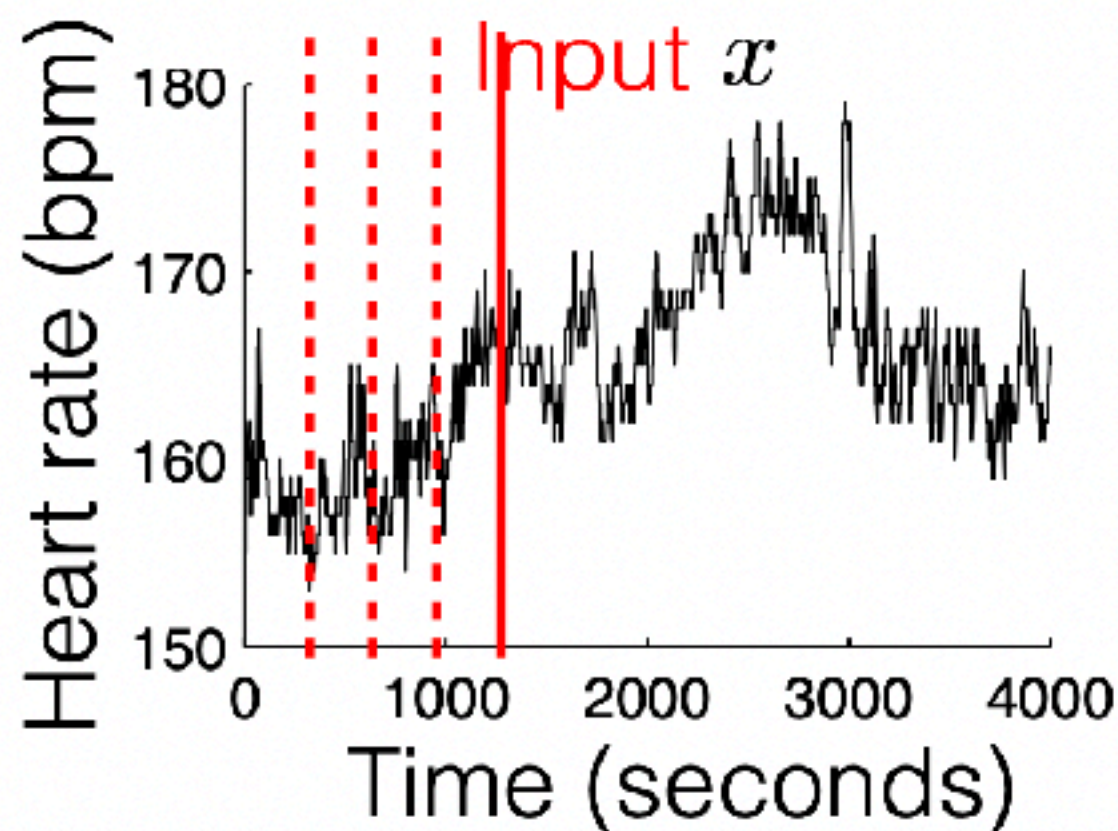
Output y

Likelihood of mortality?



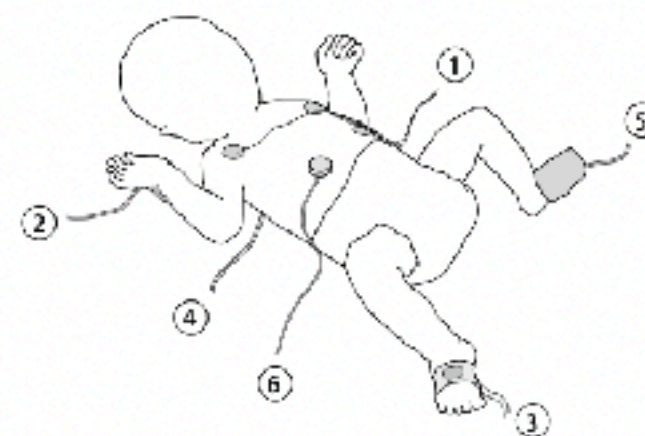
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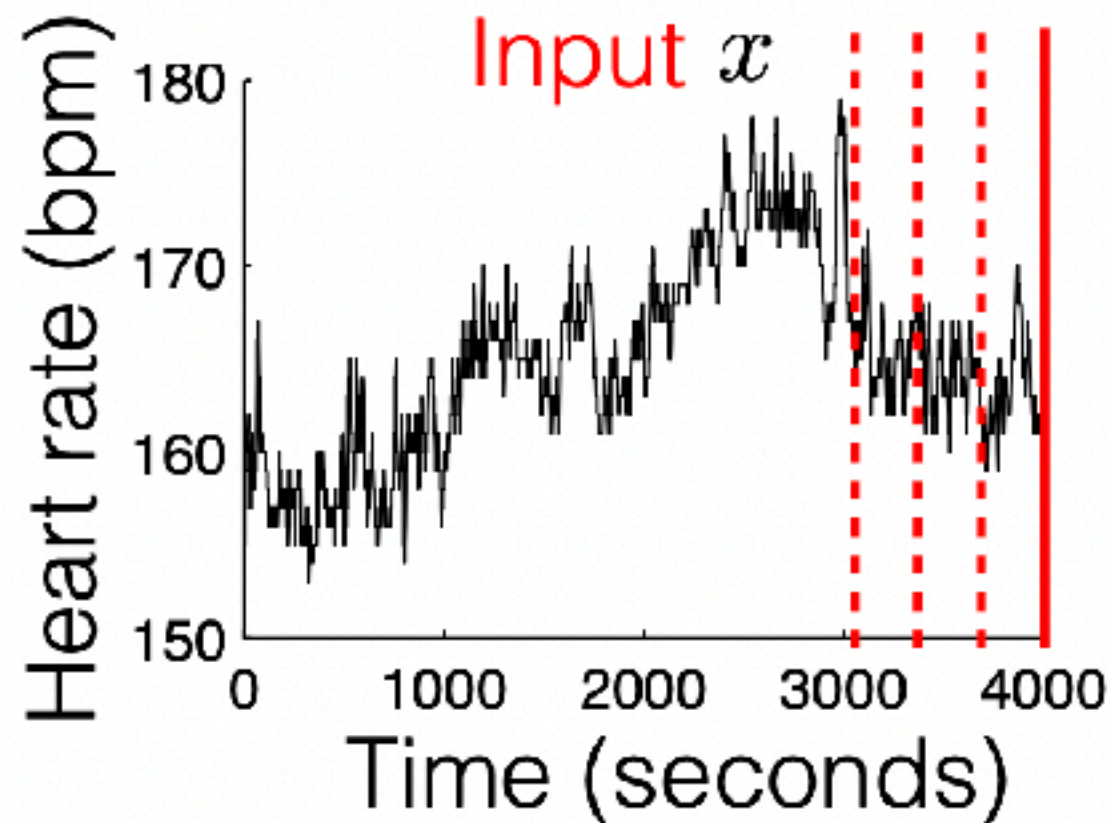
- Historical data can be broken down into feature vectors and target values (sliding window)

$$\langle 155, 160, 165, 167 \rangle$$
$$x^{(t)}$$

$$0.35$$
$$y^{(t)}$$

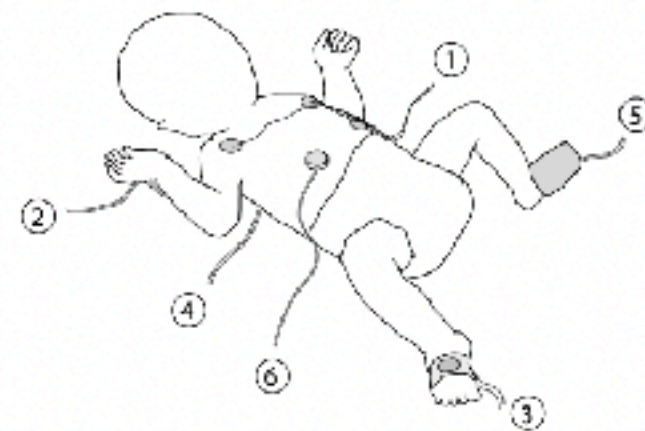
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$$\langle 170, 160, 155, 160 \rangle \quad 0.24$$
$$x^{(t)} \quad y^{(t)}$$