

# MGMT 675

## AI-ASSISTED FINANCIAL ANALYSIS



**RICE | BUSINESS**  
Jones Graduate School of Business



# AUTOREGRESSION

A futuristic robot with a white and blue metallic body stands in the center of the frame, facing right. It has a humanoid form with visible joints and a head with a glowing blue sensor. The background is a complex digital interface with various data visualizations. On the left, there's a large screen showing a world map and a line graph. Below it, two circular gauges with 'X' and '\$' symbols are visible. On the right, a large screen displays a globe and several bar and line charts. The overall color scheme is blue and white, giving it a high-tech, digital feel.

# OVERVIEW

- We want to forecast a time series.
  - returns, interest rates, oil price, cash flows, ...
- Possible models:
  - ARIMA (autoregressive integrated moving average)
  - exponential smoothing
  - neural networks
- We'll do AR models.

# AUTOCORRELATIONS

- Autocorrelation = correlation of a variable with its lagged value
- First-order autocorrelation =  $\text{corr}(x_t, x_{t+1})$
- $p$ -th order autocorrelation =  $\text{corr}(x_t, x_{t+p})$ 
  - E.g.,  $p = 12$  in monthly data or  $p = 4$  in quarterly data because of seasonality

# AUTOCORRELATION OF HML

- Ask Julius to use pandas-datareader to download the monthly Fama-French factors from Ken French's data library.
- Ask Julius to produce a plot of the autocorrelation function (acf) for HML.

# AUTOREGRESSIONS

- An autoregression is a regression of a variable on its own lags:

$$x_t = \alpha + \beta_1 x_{t-1} + \cdots + \beta_p x_{t-p} + \varepsilon_t$$

- Ask Julius to fit an AR(1) for HML.
- Ask Julius to use the AR(1) model to forecast HML for the next 12 months and to plot the last 2 years and the forecasts.

# MORE EXAMPLES

Ask Julius to plot the ACF, fit an AR model, and forecast the following:

- Percent change in crude price: Ask Julius to use pandas-datareader to download crude oil prices starting in 1980 from FRED, to downsample to end-of-month, and to compute percent changes.
- Change in Treasury yields: Ask Julius to use pandas-datareader to download 10-year Treasury yields starting in 1980 from FRED, to downsample to monthly, and to compute changes.

# VECTOR AUTOREGRESSION

- Forecast related variables based on their mutual lags
- Example: does this month's SMB return forecast next month's HML return?
- Ask Julius to run a VAR(1) on the Fama-French factors and provide a summary of the results.