



3 Time Series Models

Recall that B is the backshifting operator in the sense that $B^k X_t = X_{t-k}$ for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

3.1 Identification of Models

Common Linear Time Series Model

Definition 1. Let $\{Y_t\}$ be a time-series and $\{Z_t\} \sim \text{WN}(0, \sigma^2)$. Then we say

1. **(Autoregressive Model)** $\{Y_t\} \sim \text{AR}(\mathbf{p})$ if $\phi(B)Y_t = Z_t$, i.e.

$$Y_t = \phi_1 Y_{t-1} + \cdots + \phi_p Y_{t-p} + Z_t,$$

where $\phi(x) := 1 - \phi_1 x - \phi_2 x^2 - \cdots - \phi_p x^p$ is the **AR characteristic polynomial**.

2. **(Moving Average Model)** $\{Y_t\} \sim \text{MA}(\mathbf{q})$ if $Y_t = \theta(B)Z_t$, i.e.

$$Y_t = Z_t - \theta_1 Z_{t-1} - \cdots - \theta_q Z_{t-q},$$

where $\theta(x) := 1 - \theta_1 x - \theta_2 x^2 - \cdots - \theta_q x^q$ is the **MA characteristic polynomial**.

3. **(ARMA)** $\{Y_t\} \sim \text{ARMA}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$ if $\phi(B)Y_t = \theta(B)Z_t$, i.e.

$$Y_t - \phi_1 Y_{t-1} - \cdots - \phi_p Y_{t-p} = Z_t - \theta_1 Z_{t-1} - \cdots - \theta_q Z_{t-q},$$

where (i). $\phi(1) \neq 0$, (ii). $\phi(\cdot)$ and $\theta(\cdot)$ have NO common root.

4. **(ARIMA)** $\{Y_t\} \sim \text{ARIMA}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{q})$ if

$$\phi(B)(1 - B)^d Y_t = \theta(B)Z_t,$$

where (i). $\phi(1) \neq 0$, (ii). $\phi(x)(1 - x)^d$ and $\theta(x)$ have NO common root.

5. **(SARIMA)** $\{Y_t\} \sim \text{SARIMA}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{q}) \times (\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{D}, \mathbf{Q})_s$ if

$$\phi(B)\Phi_P(B^s)(1 - B)^d(1 - B^s)^D Y_t = \theta(B)\Theta_Q(B^s)Z_t,$$

where $s > 1$,

$$\Phi_P(B^s) = 1 - \Phi_1 B^s - \cdots - \Phi_P B^{sP} \quad \text{and} \quad \Theta_Q(B^s) = 1 - \Theta_1 B^s - \cdots - \Theta_Q B^{sQ},$$

(i). $\phi(1)$ and $\Phi_P(1)$ are non-zero, (ii). $\phi(x)\Phi_P(x^s)(1 - x)^d(1 - x^s)^D$ and $\theta(x)\Theta_Q(x^s)$ have NO common root.

Remark 1. There are several remarks on the identification of models

- If there is common factor(s) in $\phi(\cdot)$ and $\theta(\cdot)$ [or in $\Phi_P(\cdot)$ and $\Theta_Q(\cdot)$], i.e. say $\phi(x) = (1 - c)\phi'(x)$ and $\theta(x) = (1 - c)\theta'(x)$, we should cancel them out and consider the $\phi'(\cdot)$ and $\theta'(\cdot)$ as the true AR and MA characteristic polynomial instead.
- SARIMA model can be expressed as high-order ARIMA model. However, you are required to write a more informative representation for the assessment. See part b of exercise 1.

The following flowchart summarizes the relationship among the models mentioned above.

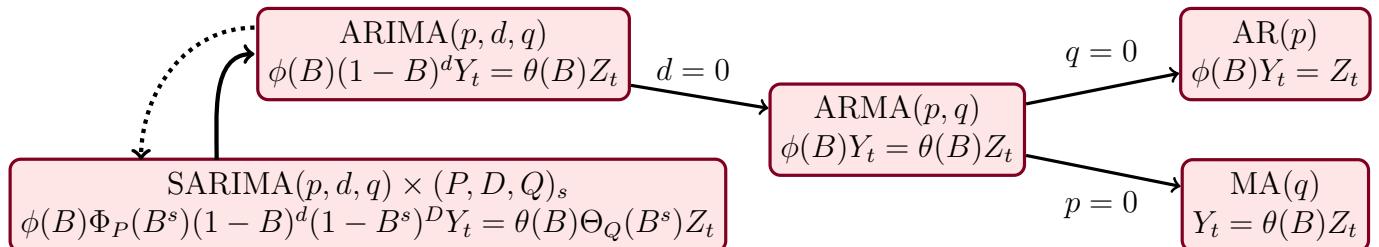


Figure 1: Relationship among models

General Guidance in Identification of Models

For the SARIMA model, we have to notice if there is a common pattern lag among Y'_t s or Z'_t s (eg: $Y_t - 4Y_{t-3} = Z_t + 2Z_{t-3} + 0.5Z_{t-6}$) within the model. If such a lag is not observed, it should be an ARIMA instead. The general strategy for identifying an ARIMA model is as follows:

1. Rearrange the time series model such that it could be written in the form of $\phi_0(B)Y_t = \theta_0(B)Z_t$.
2. **(Identifying MA polynomial θ)** Cancel out common factors of $\phi_0(x)$ and $\theta_0(x)$ (if any) to obtain $\phi_1(x)$ and $\theta(x)$. Then we have $\phi_1(B)Y_t = \theta(B)Z_t$.
3. **(Identifying AR polynomial ϕ)** Write $\phi_1(x) = (1 - x)^d\phi(x)$, where $\phi(1) \neq 0$.

Then the time series $\{Y_t\} \sim \text{ARIMA}(p, d, q)$, where $p = \deg(\phi)$ and $q = \deg(\theta)$.

(★★☆) Identification of Models

Exercise 1. Identify the time-series model below. Let $\{Y_t\}$ be a time-series and $\{Z_t\} \sim \text{WN}(0, \sigma^2)$.

- (a) $Y_t - 4Y_{t-1} + 5Y_{t-2} - 2Y_{t-3} = Z_t - \frac{8}{3}Z_{t-1} + \frac{4}{3}Z_{t-2}$.
- (b) $Y_t - Y_{t-1} + 0.5Y_{t-4} - 0.5Y_{t-5} = Z_t + 0.25Z_{t-4} + 0.6Z_{t-8}$

Attempt

3.2 Causality and Invertibility of Models

Causality and Invertibility

Definition 2. Let $\{Y_t\}$ be a time-series and $\{Z_t\} \sim \text{WN}(0, \sigma^2)$. Then we say

1. A model is **causal** if there exists a sequence $\{\psi_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ such that $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |\psi_k| < \infty$ with

$$Y_t = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \psi_k Z_{t-k},$$

2. A model is **invertible** if there exists a sequence $\{\psi_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ such that $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |\psi_k| < \infty$ with

$$Z_t = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \psi_k Y_{t-k},$$

Verification for Causality and Invertibility

Theorem 1. An ARMA(p, q) process $\phi(B)Y_t = \theta(B)Z_t$ is

1. **Causal** if and only if roots of $\phi(x) = 0$ are ALL outside the unit circle.
2. **Invertible** if and only if roots of $\theta(x) = 0$ are ALL outside the unit circle.

where the term "x out of the unit circle" means that $|x| > 1$, and for all $x \in \mathbb{C}$, $|x|^2 := \text{Re}(x)^2 + \text{Im}(x)^2$.

(★☆☆) Causality and Invertibility of Models

✉ **Exercise 2.** Let $\{Z_t\} \sim \text{WN}(0, \sigma^2)$. Show if the following time/series are causal or invertible.

- (a) $Y_t + 3Y_{t-1} = 2Z_t - Z_{t-1}$.
- (b) $1.5Y_t - Y_{t-1} = 2Z_t + 3Z_{t-1}$.
- (c) $Y_t = 4Y_{t-1} - 4Y_{t-2} + Z_t - 5Z_{t-1} + 6Z_{t-2}$.

Attempt

Consider the ARMA(p, q) process $\phi(B)Y_t = \theta(B)Z_t$. You might be asked to show whether a model is causal/invertible and write down the corresponding representation.

1. If a model is causal, then we can write the **MA/causal representation** as $Y_t = \phi(B)^{-1}\theta(B)Z_t$.
2. If a model is invertible, then we can write the **AR representation** as $Z_t = \theta(B)^{-1}\phi(B)Y_t$.

In order to evaluate $\phi(B)^{-1}$ or $\theta(B)^{-1}$ explicitly, recall for $|r| < 1$,

$$\frac{a}{1 - r} = a \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} r^k$$

and by the fundamental theorem of algebra, we can write any degree- p polynomial $P(x)$ as $P(x) = c \prod_{k=1}^p (x - \xi_k)$ for some $c, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_p \in \mathbb{C}$. Sometimes, the method of partial fraction can help further simplify the calculation. For example, see exercise 8.

(★★☆) AR and MA representation

☞ **Exercise 3. (Continuation of Exercise 2)** Let $\{Z_t\} \sim \text{WN}(0, \sigma^2)$. Find the AR and MA representation (if possible) of the following model

- (a) $Y_t + 3Y_{t-1} = 2Z_t - Z_{t-1}$.
- (b) $1.5Y_t - Y_{t-1} = 2Z_t + 3Z_{t-1}$.

Attempt

☞ **Takeaway 1.** For a sequence $\{a_n\}$, $\sum_{k=L}^U a_k = \sum_{k=L-s}^{U-s} a_{k+s}$

3.3 Stationarity of Models

In this subsection, we will answer the following questions

1. How to check the stationarity of a given time-series model?
2. If a time-series is stationary, how to find its ACVF $\gamma(\cdot)$

We then answer the first question.

Stationarity of Models

Theorem 2. Consider a time series $\{Y_t\}$.

1. If $\{Y_t\} \sim \text{ARIMA}(p, d, q)$ with $d \geq 1$, then $\{Y_t\}$ is NOT weakly-stationary.
2. If $\{Y_t\} \sim \text{ARMA}(p, q)$, then $\{Y_t\}$ is weakly-stationary if NO root of $\phi(x) = 0$ is **on** the unit circle, i.e. if $\phi(x) = 0$, $|x| \neq 1$.

❶ **Remark 2.** There are several implications due to the theorem above.

- $\{Y_t\} \sim \text{MA}(q) \Rightarrow \text{Causal} \Rightarrow \text{Weakly-Stationary}.$
- For $\{Y_t\} \sim \text{ARMA}(p, q)$ being stationary, $E(Y_t) = 0$.

(★☆☆) Verification of Stationarity

❷ **Exercise 4.** Show whether the following time-series is weakly-stationary.

- (a) $Y_t + Y_{t-2} = 3Z_t - Z_{t-1}$.
- (b) $Y_t - Y_{t-1} = Z_t - 1.5Z_{t-1}$.
- (c) $Y_t = 0.5Y_{t-1} + 0.5Y_{t-2} + Z_t - 1.2Z_{t-1} + 0.2Z_{t-2}$.

Attempt

We then discuss the evaluation of ACVF $\gamma(\cdot)$. As the ARIMA(p, d, q) model with $d \geq 1$ is always non-stationary, we restrict our focus of study to be the ARMA(p, q) model. There are two common ways to complete the task. The first approach requires finding the MA representation of a time-series.

Evaluation of ACVF - Method (I) - MA representation

Theorem 3. For **causal** ARMA process $\phi(B)Y_t = \theta(B)Z_t$, we can write the MA representation $Y_t = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \psi_i Z_{t-i}$ with $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |\psi_i| < \infty$ and ACVF

$$\gamma(k) = \sigma^2 \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \psi_i \psi_{i+k}.$$

Remark 3. For **stationary** ARMA process (NOT necessarily causal), we can represent Y_t by $Y_t = \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} \psi_i Z_{t-i}$ with $\sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} |\psi_i| < \infty$ and ACVF $\gamma(k) = \sigma^2 \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} \psi_i \psi_{i+k}$.

(★☆☆) Application of Method I

✉ **Exercise 5.** Consider the process $Y_t = 0.8Y_{t-1} + Z_t$, where $\{Z_t\} \sim \text{WN}(0, \sigma^2)$.

- (a) Is the process $\{Y_t\}$ weakly stationary?
- (b) Find the mean and ACVF $\gamma(\cdot)$ of $\{Y_t\}$ by Theorem 3.

Attempt

Evaluation of ACVF - Method (II) - Yule-Walker Equations

Theorem 4. *The general procedure is as follow: For **stationary** ARMA(p, q) model*

1. Consider the set of linear equations (i.e. the Yule-Walker Equations)

$$\gamma(k) = \text{Cov}(Y_t, Y_{t-k}), \quad \text{for } k = 0, \dots, p$$

to solve for value of $\gamma(0), \dots, \gamma(p)$.

2. For $k > p$, compute $\gamma(k) = \text{Cov}(Y_t, Y_{t-k})$ based on value of $\gamma(0), \dots, \gamma(p)$.

Lemma 1. *The following are the Yule-Walker Equations of some particular models.*

1. For $\{Y_t\} \sim \text{AR}(p)$ being causal with $Z_t \sim \text{WN}(0, \sigma^2)$, the Yule-Walker Equations are

$$\begin{cases} \gamma(0) = \phi_1\gamma(1) + \phi_2\gamma(2) + \dots + \phi_p\gamma(p) + \sigma^2 \\ \gamma(1) = \phi_1\gamma(0) + \phi_2\gamma(1) + \dots + \phi_p\gamma(p-1) \\ \gamma(2) = \phi_1\gamma(1) + \phi_2\gamma(0) + \dots + \phi_p\gamma(p-2) \\ \vdots = \vdots \\ \gamma(p) = \phi_1\gamma(p-1) + \phi_2\gamma(p-2) + \dots + \phi_p\gamma(0). \end{cases}$$

and for $k > p$, $\gamma(k) = \phi_1\gamma(k-1) + \dots + \phi_p\gamma(k-p)$.

2. For $\{Y_t\} \sim \text{ARMA}(p, q)$, i.e. $\phi(B)Y_t = \theta(B)Z_t$ with $Z_t \sim \text{WN}(0, \sigma^2)$, the Yule-Walker Equations are

$$\begin{cases} \gamma(0) = \phi_1\gamma(1) + \phi_2\gamma(2) + \dots + \phi_p\gamma(p) + \text{Cov}(Y_t, \theta(B)Z_t) \\ \gamma(1) = \phi_1\gamma(0) + \phi_2\gamma(1) + \dots + \phi_p\gamma(p-1) + \text{Cov}(Y_{t-1}, \theta(B)Z_t) \\ \gamma(2) = \phi_1\gamma(1) + \phi_2\gamma(0) + \dots + \phi_p\gamma(p-2) + \text{Cov}(Y_{t-2}, \theta(B)Z_t) \\ \vdots = \vdots \\ \gamma(p) = \phi_1\gamma(p-1) + \phi_2\gamma(p-2) + \dots + \phi_p\gamma(0) + \text{Cov}(Y_{t-p}, \theta(B)Z_t). \end{cases}$$

and for $k > p$, $\gamma(k) = \phi_1\gamma(k-1) + \dots + \phi_p\gamma(k-p)$.

! Remark 4. *The causality assumption is important for deriving the Yule-Walker equations. Recall that causality is equivalent to require $Y_t \perp\!\!\!\perp Z_{t+k}$ for all $k > 0$.*

- For the first equation in the Yule-Walker equation of causal AR(p) model, the term σ^2 arises as

$$\text{Cov}(Z_t, Y_t) = \text{Cov}(Z_t, \phi_1Y_{t-1} + \dots + \phi_pY_{t-p} + Z_t) = \text{Cov}(Z_t, Z_t) = \sigma^2.$$

However for non-causal model, $\text{Cov}(Y_{t-k}, Z_t) \neq 0$ in general for $k \geq 1$.

- The Yule-Walker equation derived for ARMA(p, q) does not require causality in general. However, the evaluation of the term $\text{Cov}(Y_{t-k}, \theta(B)Z_t)$ would be complicated.

Hence, please ensure whether the model is causal before applying the method of Yule-Walker equation.

(★★☆) Application of Method II

✉ Exercise 6. (*Continuation of Exercise 5*) Consider the process $Y_t = 0.8Y_{t-1} + Z_t$, where $\{Z_t\} \sim \text{WN}(0, \sigma^2)$. Find the mean and ACVF $\gamma(\cdot)$ of $\{Y_t\}$ by Theorem 4.

Attempt

3.4 Chapter Summary

In this subsection, we make a brief summary to this chapter

Model	Causality	Invertibility	Stationarity	ACVF
SARIMA	✗	$ \text{MA root} > 1$	✗	\
ARIMA	✗	$ \text{MA root} > 1$	✗	\
ARMA	$ \text{AR root} > 1$	$ \text{MA root} > 1$	$ \text{AR root} \neq 1$	Both OK
AR	$ \text{AR root} > 1$	✓	$ \text{AR root} \neq 1$	Yule-Walker
MA	YES	$ \text{MA root} > 1$	✓	MA-representation

3.5 Additional Exercises

(★★☆) ACF of AR(2) Model

☞ **Exercise 7.** Consider causal AR(2) model $Y_t = \phi_1 Y_{t-1} + \phi_2 Y_{t-2} + Z_t$, where $\{Z_t\} \sim \text{WN}(0, \sigma^2)$.

- (a) Find $\rho(1)$ and $\rho(2)$ in terms of ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 .
- (b) Express $\gamma(0)$ in terms of ϕ_1, ϕ_2 and σ^2 .

Attempt

(★★★) Comprehensive Exercise

✉ **Exercise 8.** Consider $Y_t - 3.5Y_{t-1} + 3Y_{t-2} = 2Z_t - Z_{t-1}$, where $\{Z_t\} \sim \text{WN}(0, \sigma^2)$.

- (a) Is the model causal or invertible? If yes, find its corresponding MA and AR representation.
- (b) Is the model stationary?
- (c) Write $Y_t = \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} \psi_i Z_{t-i}$. Find the ACVF of $\gamma(\cdot)$. (Optional!)

Attempt