

# ISMT S-136 Time Series Analysis with Python

Harvard Summer School

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Summer 2021  
Lecture 1

# Contents

## 1 Course Information

- Prerequisites and Textbooks
- Grading: Assignments, Quizzes, Exams
- Dates of Interest

## 2 Basic Concepts of Probability Theory

- Events and Probability
  - Definition of Probability
  - Properties of Probability
  - Conditional Probability
- Random Variables
  - Random Variables: Definition
  - Distribution Functions (cdf, pdf)
  - Joint Distributions

## 3 Introduction to Time Series

- Definition of Time Series
- Autocorrelation Function (ACF)
- Stationarity
  - Autocovariance & Autocorrelation Functions of a Stationary Time Series
  - Sample ACF of a Stationary Time Series

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# Textbooks

## Required text:

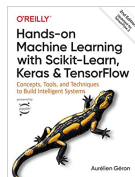
Robert H. Shumway and David S. Stoffer,  
*Time Series Analysis and Its Applications: With R Examples*,  
Springer Texts in Statistics, 4th ed., 2017  
ISBN: 978-3-319-52451-1

Electronic copy of the book is available at:  
<https://www.stat.pitt.edu/stoffer/tsa4/tsa4.pdf>



## Required text:

Aurélien Géron,  
*Hands-On Machine Learning with Scikit-Learn, Keras, and TensorFlow: Concepts, Tools, and Techniques to Build Intelligent Systems*,  
O'Reilly Media, 2nd ed., 2019  
ISBN: 978-1-492-03264-9



# Prerequisites

## Multivariate Calculus

Multivariate calculus equivalent to MATH E-21:

- Derivatives
- Chain Rule
- Partial derivatives
- Multivariate Chain Rule
- Geometric series
- Integrals etc.

# Prerequisites

## Probability and Statistics

Probability and statistics equivalent to STAT E-110:

- Random variables
- Probability distributions
- Expectations
- Joint distributions
- Conditional expectations etc.

# Prerequisites

## Python

Python programming equivalent to CSCI E-7:

- Data types
- For loops
- If...elif...else
- Functions
- Classes/Objects etc.

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# Grading

## Assignments, Quizzes, Exams

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Grade} = & 0.25 \cdot \text{Homework (two per week, starting June 25)} \\ & + 0.20 \cdot \text{Quizzes (two per week, starting June 23)} \\ & + 0.25 \cdot \text{Midterm (due TBA, 11:59 pm ET)} \\ & + 0.30 \cdot \text{Final (due August 6, 11:59 pm ET)}\end{aligned}$$

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# Dates of Interest

- Harvard Extension School classes begin, June 21
- Pretest is due, June 22
- Last day to change the credit status, June 23
- Course drop deadline for full-tuition refund, June 23
- Quiz 1 is due, June 23
- Assignment 1 is due, June 25
- Course drop deadline for half-tuition refund, June 30
- **Midterm Exam** is due, **TBA**, 11:59 pm (Eastern Time)
- Withdrawal deadline, July 23
- **Final Exam** is due, **August 6**, 11:59 pm (Eastern Time)

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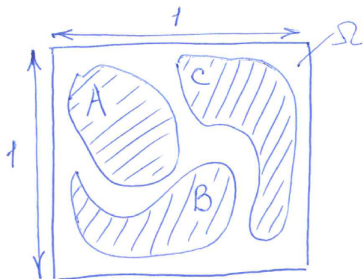
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# Events and Probability: Example

Ex.:



1.  $P(A) = \underline{\text{area of } A} \geq 0$

2.  $P(\Omega) = 1$

3.  $P(A \cup B \cup C) = P(A) + P(B) + P(C)$   
if  $A, B, C$  are pairwise disjoint

# Axioms of Probability

Def.

Let  $\Omega$  be a set (called *sample space*) of all possible outcomes  $\omega$ . Probability  $P$  is a function defined on subsets (called *events*) of  $\Omega$  such that

- 1 For any event  $A \subseteq \Omega$ ,  $P(A) \geq 0$ .
- 2  $P(\Omega) = 1$ .
- 3 If events  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  are pairwise disjoint, then<sup>1</sup>

$$P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots) = P(A_1) + P(A_2) + \dots$$

---

<sup>1</sup>Events  $A$  and  $B$  are called *disjoint* if  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .

# Properties of Probability

## Properties:

①  $P(\emptyset) = 0$

Proof: Let  $A_1 = \Omega, A_2 = \emptyset, A_3 = \emptyset, \dots$ , then by Axiom 3:

$$P(\underbrace{\Omega \cup \emptyset \cup \emptyset \cup \dots}_{=\Omega}) = P(\Omega) + P(\emptyset) + P(\emptyset) + \dots$$

because  $\Omega, \emptyset, \emptyset, \dots$  are pairwise disjoint.

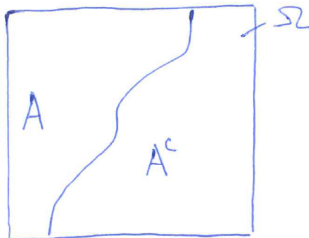
# Properties of Probability

## Properties (continued):

②  $P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$ .

Proof: We notice that  $\Omega = A \cup A^c$  with  $A \cap A^c = \emptyset$ , then

$$\underbrace{\underbrace{P(A \cup A^c)}_{=\Omega}}_{=1} = P(A) + P(A^c).$$





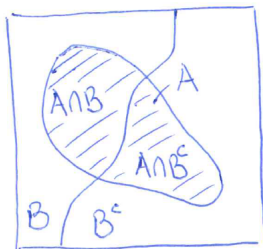
# Properties of Probability

## Properties (continued):

- ③ For any events  $A$  and  $B$ ,  $P(A) = P(A \cap B) + P(A \cap B^c)$ .

Proof: We notice that  $A = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap B^c)$  with  $(A \cap B) \cap (A \cap B^c) = \emptyset$ , then

$$P(\underbrace{(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap B^c)}_{=A}) = P(A \cap B) + P(A \cap B^c).$$



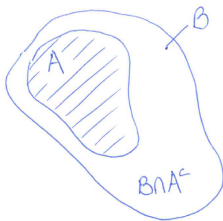
# Properties of Probability

## Properties (continued):

④ If  $A \subseteq B$ , then  $P(A) \leq P(B)$ .

Proof: Notice that  $B = A \cup (B \cap A^c)$  with  $A \cap (B \cap A^c) = \emptyset$ , then

$$P(\underbrace{A \cup (B \cap A^c)}_B) = P(A) + P(B \cap A^c) \geq P(A).$$



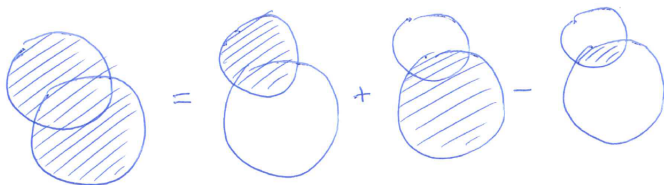
# Properties of Probability

## Properties (continued):

- 5 For any events  $A$  and  $B$ ,  $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$ .

Proof: We notice that  $A \cup B = A \cup (B \cap A^c)$  with  $A \cap (B \cap A^c) = \emptyset$ , then

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B \cap A^c) \stackrel{\text{by 3.}}{=} P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$

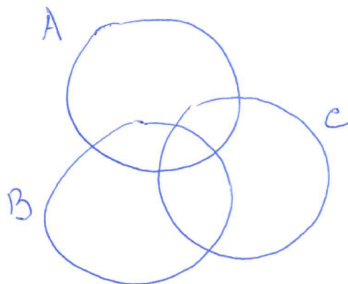


# Properties of Probability

## Properties (continued):

- ⑥ For any events  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}P(A \cup B \cup C) = & P(A) + P(B) + P(C) \\& - P(A \cap B) - P(A \cap C) - P(B \cap C) \\& + P(A \cap B \cap C).\end{aligned}$$



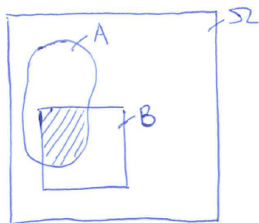
# Conditional Probability: Definition

Def.

Let  $B \subseteq \Omega$  be an event with  $P(B) > 0$ .

Conditional probability of  $A$ , given  $B$ , is defined as:

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}.$$



# Properties of Conditional Probability

## Claim

Given  $B \subseteq \Omega$  with  $P(B) > 0$ ,  
conditional probability  $P(\cdot|B)$  is a probability.

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Given  $B \subseteq \Omega$  with  $P(B) > 0$ ,  
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## Proof:

We just need to show that all Axioms of Probability hold:

$$(1) P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} \geq 0 \text{ for any } A \subseteq \Omega.$$

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Given  $B \subseteq \Omega$  with  $P(B) > 0$ ,  
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$$(1) P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} \geq 0 \text{ for any } A \subseteq \Omega.$$

$$(2) P(\Omega|B) = \frac{P(\Omega \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(B)}{P(B)} = 1$$



# Properties of Conditional Probability

## Claim

Given  $B \subseteq \Omega$  with  $P(B) > 0$ ,  
conditional probability  $P(\cdot|B)$  is a probability.

## Proof:

We just need to show that all Axioms of Probability hold:

(1)  $P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} \geq 0$  for any  $A \subseteq \Omega$ .

(2)  $P(\Omega|B) = \frac{P(\Omega \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(B)}{P(B)} = 1$

(3) For any pairwise disjoint events  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots | B) &= \frac{P((A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots) \cap B)}{P(B)} && \text{(by def.)} \\ &= \frac{P((A_1 \cap B) \cup (A_2 \cap B) \cup \dots)}{P(B)} \\ &= \frac{P(A_1 \cap B) + P(A_2 \cap B) + \dots}{P(B)} && \text{(by Axiom 3.)} \\ &= P(A_1|B) + P(A_2|B) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

# Properties of Conditional Probability

## Corollary

All properties of  $P(\cdot)$  are applicable to conditional probability  $P(\cdot|C)$  (assuming the conditional probability is well defined, i.e.  $P(C) > 0$ ):

- ①  $P(\emptyset|C) = 0$
- ②  $P(A^c|C) = 1 - P(A|C)$ .
- ③  $P(A|C) = P(A \cap B|C) + P(A \cap B^c|C)$ .
- ④ If  $A \subseteq B$ , then  $P(A|C) \leq P(B|C)$ .
- ⑤  $P(A \cup B|C) = P(A|C) + P(B|C) - P(A \cap B|C)$ .

etc.

# Properties of Conditional Probability

Other Properties (assuming all conditional prob. below are well defined):

①  $P(A \cap B) = P(A|B)P(B)$

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$$① \quad P(A \cap B) = P(A|B)P(B)$$

$$② \quad P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)}$$

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$$① P(A \cap B) = P(A|B)P(B)$$

$$② P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)}$$

$$③ P(A) = P(A|B)P(B) + P(A|B^c)P(B^c)$$

# Properties of Conditional Probability

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$$② P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)}$$

$$③ P(A) = P(A|B)P(B) + P(A|B^c)P(B^c)$$

$$④ P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B|A)P(A) + P(B|A^c)P(A^c)}$$

# Properties of Conditional Probability

Other Properties (assuming all conditional prob. below are well defined):

①  $P(A \cap B) = P(A|B)P(B)$

②  $P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)}$

③  $P(A) = P(A|B)P(B) + P(A|B^c)P(B^c)$

④  $P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B|A)P(A) + P(B|A^c)P(A^c)}$

⑤ More generally:

let  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  be partition of  $\Omega$ , then

$$P(B) = P(B|A_1)P(A_1) + P(B|A_2)P(A_2) + \dots$$

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B|A_1)P(A_1) + P(B|A_2)P(A_2) + \dots}$$

# Independence: Definition

Def.

Events  $A$  and  $B$  are independent if  $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$ .



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Def.

Events  $A$  and  $B$  are independent if  $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$ .

Note: If  $A, B$  are independent, then  $P(A|B) = P(A)$ ,  
given the conditional prob. is defined.

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# Random Variables: Definition

Def.

A real-valued function  $X(\omega)$  from sample space  $\Omega$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  is called *random variable*.

# Cumulative Distribution Function

Def.

Given a random variable  $X$ ,

$$F_X(x) = P(X \leq x)$$

is called *cumulative distribution function* (cdf) of  $X$ .

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Def.

Given a random variable  $X$ ,

$$F_X(x) = P(X \leq x)$$

is called *cumulative distribution function* (cdf) of  $X$ .

Note:  $\{X \leq x\} = \{\omega : X(\omega) \leq x\}$  is an event (i.e. a subset of  $\Omega$ ).

# Cumulative Distribution Function

Def.

If there exists a non-negative function  $f(x)$  such that for any  $a \leq b$  the probability

$$P(a < X \leq b) = \int_a^b f(x)dx,$$

then  $f(x)$  is called the *probability density function* (pdf).

The random variable  $X$  in that case is called *continuous random variable*.

# Cumulative Distribution Function

Similarly to the cdf in the univariate case, we define the joint distribution of  $n$  random variables as follows:

Def.

Given random variable  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ ,

$$F_{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = P(X_1 \leq x_1, X_2 \leq x_2, \dots, X_n \leq x_n)$$

is called *joint cumulative distribution function* of  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ .

Def.

If there exists a non-negative function  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  such that for any  $a_1 \leq b_1, \dots, a_n \leq b_n$  the probability

$$\begin{aligned} P(a_1 < X_1 \leq b_1, \dots, a_n < X_n \leq b_n) \\ = \int_{a_n}^{b_n} \dots \int_{a_1}^{b_1} f(x_1, \dots, x_n) dx_1 \dots dx_n, \end{aligned}$$

then  $f(x)$  is called the *joint probability density function*.

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# Definition of Time Series

Def.

*Time series* is defined as a collection of jointly distributed random variables:  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ .

Def.

*Time series model* is a specification of the joint distribution of  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ .

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# Autocovariance Function

Def.

Given a time series  $x_t$ ,

$$\gamma(s, t) = \text{Cov}(x_s, x_t) = \text{E}[(x_s - \mu_s)(x_t - \mu_t)]$$

is called *autocovariance function* of  $x_t$ .

# Autocorrelation Function (ACF)

Def.

Given a time series  $x_t$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\rho(s, t) &= \text{Corr}(x_s, x_t) \\ &= \frac{\text{Cov}(x_s, x_t)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(x_s)\text{Var}(x_t)}} \\ &= \frac{\gamma(s, t)}{\sqrt{\gamma(s, s)\gamma(t, t)}}\end{aligned}$$

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# Strict Stationarity

Def.

A time series  $x_t$  is said to be *strictly stationary* if the following two (ordered) collections of random variables

$$x_{t_1}, x_{t_2}, \dots, x_{t_k} \quad \text{and} \quad x_{t_1+h}, x_{t_2+h}, \dots, x_{t_k+h}$$

have identical joint distributions for all  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  and any choice of

$$t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k \quad \text{and} \quad h \in \{1, 2, \dots\}.$$

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have identical joint distributions for all  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  and any choice of

$$t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k \quad \text{and} \quad h \in \{1, 2, \dots\}.$$

## Remark

If  $x_t$  is strictly stationary, then for any  $h \in \{0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots\}$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \gamma(s+h, t+h) = \text{Cov}(x_{s+h}, x_{t+h}) = \text{Cov}(x_s, x_t) = \gamma(s, t) = \underbrace{\gamma(s-t, 0)}_{\text{"lag"}}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \rho(s+h, t+h) = \frac{\gamma(s+h, t+h)}{\sqrt{\gamma(s+h, s+h)\gamma(t+h, t+h)}} = \rho(s, t) = \underbrace{\rho(s-t, 0)}_{\text{"lag"}}$$

# (Weak) Stationarity

Def.

A time series  $x_t$  is said to be (*weakly*) *stationary* if

- i for all  $t$ ,

$$\mu_t \doteq \mathbb{E}(x_t) = \mu,$$

i.e. does not depend on  $t$

- ii for all  $s, t$ ,

$$\gamma(s, t) = \gamma(s - t, 0),$$

i.e. depends on the difference  $s - t$  only



# Autocovariance & Autocorrelation Functions of a Stationary Time Series

If a time series  $x_t$  is stationary, we can drop the second argument, that is,

(1)  $\gamma(h)$  will mean  $\gamma(t+h, t) = \gamma(h, 0)$

(2)  $\rho(h)$  will mean  $\rho(t+h, t) = \rho(h, 0)$

# Autocovariance & Autocorrelation Functions of a Stationary Time Series

If a time series  $x_t$  is stationary, we can drop the second argument, that is,

(1)  $\gamma(h)$  will mean  $\gamma(t+h, t) = \gamma(h, 0)$

(2)  $\rho(h)$  will mean  $\rho(t+h, t) = \rho(h, 0)$

We notice that

$$\gamma(h) = \gamma(t+h, t) = \text{Cov}(x_{t+h}, x_t) = E((x_{t+h} - \mu)(x_t - \mu))$$

$$\rho(h) = \rho(t+h, t) = \frac{\gamma(t+h, t)}{\sqrt{\gamma(t+h, t+h)\gamma(t, t)}} = \frac{\gamma(h)}{\gamma(0)}$$

# Sample Autocovariance Function

We notice that for any choice of real numbers  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \text{Var} \left( \sum_{j=1}^n a_j x_j \right) \\ &= \text{Cov} \left( \sum_{j=1}^n a_j x_j, \sum_{k=1}^n a_k x_k \right) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n a_j a_k \text{Cov}(x_j, x_k) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n a_j a_k \gamma(j - k), \end{aligned}$$

i.e.  $\gamma(j - k)$  is *non-negative definite*.

# Sample Autocovariance Function

In order ensure non-negative results for estimated variances, we then would need to get an estimate  $\hat{\gamma}(j - k)$  of the autocovariance function that is also non-negative definite:

$$0 \leq \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n a_j a_k \hat{\gamma}(j - k).$$

Thus, we define the sample autocovariance as follows:

Def.

Given a realization  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  of a stationary time series  $x_t$ , the sample autocovariance function is defined as follows:

$$\hat{\gamma}(h) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n-|h|} (x_{t+|h|} - \bar{x})(x_t - \bar{x})$$

for  $h = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$ .

# Sample Autocorrelation Function (Sample ACF)

Then the sample ACF is defined as follows:

Def.

Given  $\hat{\gamma}(h)$  for  $h = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$  for a realization  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  of a stationary time series  $x_t$ , the corresponding *sample ACF* is

$$\hat{\rho}(h) = \frac{\hat{\gamma}(h)}{\hat{\gamma}(0)}.$$