





Time Series Analysis

Models for Stationary Time Series

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Models for Stationary Time Series

General Linear Processes

General linear processes

Remarks: In the following

- $\{Y_t\}$ observed series,
- $\{e_t\}$ unobserved white noise, mean 0 and variance σ_e^2 ,
- $\{e_t\}$ i.i.d. assumed for simplicity (although most results also hold for weakly stationary white noise).

Definition: A general linear process $\{Y_t\}$ is a weighted linear combination of present and past white noise terms

$$Y_t = e_t + \psi_1 e_{t-1} + \psi_2 e_{t-2} + \dots$$

= $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \psi_i e_{t-i}$,

where $\psi_0 = 1$ and

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \psi_i^2 < \infty.$$

General linear processes

Example:
$$\psi_i = \phi^i$$
 with $-1 < \phi < 1$. Then
$$Y_t = e_t + \phi e_{t-1} + \phi^2 e_{t-2} + \dots$$

$$E(Y_t) = E(e_t + \phi e_{t-1} + \phi^2 e_{t-2} + \dots) = 0$$

$$Var(Y_t) = Var(e_t + \phi e_{t-1} + \phi^2 e_{t-2} + \dots)$$

$$= Var(e_t) + \phi^2 Var(e_{t-1}) + \phi^4 Var(e_{t-2}) + \dots$$

$$= \sigma_e^2 (1 + \phi^2 + \phi^4 + \dots) = \frac{\sigma_e^2}{1 - \phi^2}$$

$$Cov(Y_t, Y_{t-1}) = Cov(e_t + \phi e_{t-1} + \dots, e_{t-1} + \phi e_{t-2} + \dots)$$

$$= Cov(\phi e_{t-1}, e_{t-1}) + Cov(\phi^2 e_{t-2}, \phi e_{t-2}) + \dots$$

$$= \phi \sigma_e^2 + \phi^3 \sigma_e^2 + \phi^5 \sigma_e^2 + \dots$$

$$= \phi \frac{\sigma_e^2}{1 - \phi^2}$$

$$Cor(Y_t, Y_{t-1}) = \phi$$

General linear processes

Similarly: Cor(Y_t, Y_{t-k}) = ϕ^k .

More generally: For general linear processes

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \mathsf{E}(\mathsf{Y}_t) & = & 0 \\ \\ \mathsf{Var}(\mathsf{Y}_t) & = & \sigma_{\mathsf{e}}^2 \, \sum_{i=0}^\infty \psi_i^2 \\ \\ \mathsf{Cov}(\mathsf{Y}_t,\mathsf{Y}_{t-k}) & = & \sigma_{\mathsf{e}}^2 \, \sum_{i=0}^\infty \psi_i \psi_{i+k} \end{array}$$

Remark: Zero mean does not influence covariance properties. Hence, assumed for discussing theory.

Models for Stationary Time Series

Moving Average Processes

Moving average processes

Definition: A moving average of order q, MA(q) for short, is defined as

$$Y_t = e_t - \theta_1 e_{t-1} - \theta_2 e_{t-2} - \dots - \theta_q e_{t-q}.$$

Remarks:

- Special case of general linear process with finite number of non-zero weights.
- First considered by Slutsky (1927) and Wold (1938).
- Sometimes defined with + instead of signs.
- Not unified across software packages: R employs + signs!

Example: MA(1) with $\theta_1 = \theta$.

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \mathsf{Y}_t &=& \mathsf{e}_t \, - \, \theta \mathsf{e}_{t-1} \\ \mathsf{E}(\mathsf{Y}_t) &=& 0 \\ \mathsf{Var}(\mathsf{Y}_t) &=& \sigma_e^2 \, (1 + \theta^2) \\ \mathsf{Cov}(\mathsf{Y}_t, \mathsf{Y}_{t-1}) &=& \mathsf{Cov}(\mathsf{e}_t - \theta \mathsf{e}_{t-1}, \mathsf{e}_{t-1} - \theta \mathsf{e}_{t-2}) \\ &=& \mathsf{Cov}(-\theta \mathsf{e}_{t-1}, \mathsf{e}_{t-1}) \, = \, -\theta \, \, \sigma_e^2 \\ \mathsf{Cov}(\mathsf{Y}_t, \mathsf{Y}_{t-2}) &=& \mathsf{Cov}(\mathsf{e}_t - \theta \mathsf{e}_{t-1}, \mathsf{e}_{t-2} - \theta \mathsf{e}_{t-3}) \\ &=& 0 \\ \mathsf{Cov}(\mathsf{Y}_t, \mathsf{Y}_{t-k}) &=& 0 \quad (k > 1) \end{array}$$

In summary:

$$\mu_t = 0$$

$$\gamma_0 = \sigma_e^2 (1 + \theta^2)$$

$$\gamma_1 = -\theta \sigma_e^2$$

$$\varrho_1 = -\frac{\theta}{1 + \theta^2}$$

$$\varrho_k = \gamma_k = 0 \quad (k > 1)$$

Remarks:

- ϱ_1 is maximal for $|\theta|=1$.
- $\varrho_1(\theta) = \varrho_1(1/\theta)$.
- Thus, θ cannot be uniquely determined from ϱ_1 , unless $-1 \le \theta \le 1$.

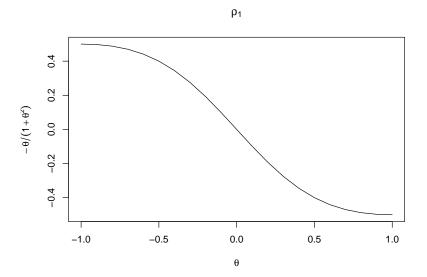
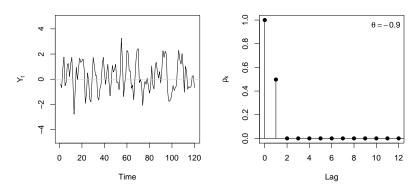
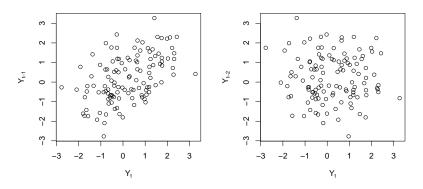
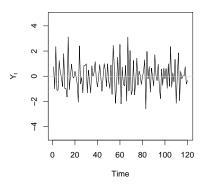


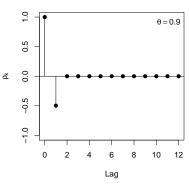
Illustration:

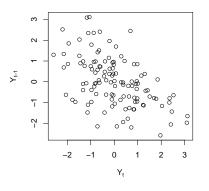
- Simulated MA(1) processes with standard normal white noise.
- Employ $\theta = -0.9$ and $\theta = 0.9$.
- In R: arima.sim() with reversed signs.
- Display simulated series, theoretical ACF, scatterplots of Y_t against Y_{t-1} and Y_{t-2} .

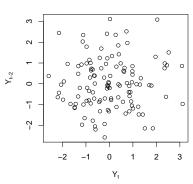












Example: MA(2).

$$\begin{array}{rcl} Y_t & = & e_t \, - \, \theta_1 e_{t-1} \, - \, \theta_2 e_{t-2} \\ \gamma_0 & = & \operatorname{Var}(Y_t) \, = \, \operatorname{Var}(e_t - \theta_1 e_{t-1} - \theta_2 e_{t-2}) \\ & = & \left(1 + \theta_1^2 + \theta_2^2\right) \, \sigma_e^2 \\ \gamma_1 & = & \operatorname{Cov}(Y_t, Y_{t-1}) \\ & = & \operatorname{Cov}(e_t - \theta_1 e_{t-1} - \theta_2 e_{t-2}, e_{t-1} - \theta_1 e_{t-2} - \theta_2 e_{t-3}) \\ & = & \operatorname{Cov}(-\theta_1 e_{t-1}, e_{t-1}) \, + \, \operatorname{Cov}(-\theta_2 e_{t-2}, -\theta_1 e_{t-2}) \\ & = & \left[-\theta_1 + \left(-\theta_1\right)\left(-\theta_2\right)\right] \, \sigma_e^2 \\ & = & \left(-\theta_1 + \theta_1 \theta_2\right) \, \sigma_e^2 \\ \gamma_2 & = & \operatorname{Cov}(Y_t, Y_{t-2}) \\ & = & \operatorname{Cov}(e_t - \theta_1 e_{t-1} - \theta_2 e_{t-2}, e_{t-2} - \theta_1 e_{t-3} - \theta_2 e_{t-4}) \\ & = & \operatorname{Cov}(-\theta_2 e_{t-2}, e_{t-2}) \\ & = & -\theta_2 \, \sigma_e^2 \end{array}$$

Thus:

$$\varrho_{1} = \frac{-\theta_{1} + \theta_{1}\theta_{2}}{1 + \theta_{1}^{2} + \theta_{2}^{2}}$$

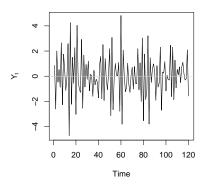
$$\varrho_{2} = \frac{-\theta_{2}}{1 + \theta_{1}^{2} + \theta_{2}^{2}}$$

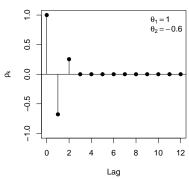
$$\varrho_{k} = 0 \quad (k > 2)$$

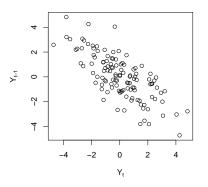
Illustration: MA(2) $Y_t = e_t - e_{t-1} + 0.6e_{t-2}$, i.e., with $\theta_1 = 1$ and $\theta_2 = -0.6$.

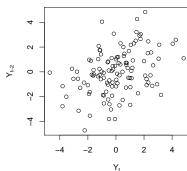
$$\varrho_1 = \frac{-1.6}{2.36} \approx -0.678$$

$$\varrho_2 = \frac{0.6}{2.36} \approx 0.254$$









More generally: MA(q) $Y_t = e_t - \theta_1 e_{t-1} - \cdots - \theta_q e_{t-q}$.

Variance:

$$\gamma_0 = (1 + \theta_1^2 + \theta_2^2 + \dots + \theta_q^2) \sigma_e^2.$$

Autocorrelation for $k = 1, \dots, q$:

$$\varrho_k = \frac{-\theta_k + \theta_1 \theta_{k+1} + \theta_2 \theta_{k+2} + \dots + \theta_{q-k} \theta_q}{1 + \theta_1^2 + \theta_2^2 + \dots + \theta_q^2}$$

Autocorrelation for k > q: $\varrho_k = 0$.

Remark: Very flexible parametrization of ACFs that "cut off" after lag q.

Models for Stationary Time Series

Autoregressive Processes

Autoregressive processes

Definition: An autoregressive process of order p, AR(p) for short, is defined as

$$Y_t = \phi_1 Y_{t-1} + \phi_2 Y_{t-2} + \ldots + \phi_p Y_{t-p} + e_t.$$

Remarks:

- Y_t is linear combination of p previous values plus "innovation".
- For each t, e_t is assumed to be independent of Y_{t-1}, Y_{t-2}, \dots
- First studied by Yule (1926).

Example: AR(1) with $\phi_1 = \phi$, assumed to be stationary.

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \mathbf{Y}_t &=& \phi \mathbf{Y}_{t-1} \,+\, \mathbf{e}_t \\ \operatorname{Var}(\mathbf{Y}_t) &=& \operatorname{Var}(\phi \mathbf{Y}_{t-1} + \mathbf{e}_t) \\ &=& \phi^2 \operatorname{Var}(\mathbf{Y}_{t-1}) \,+\, \operatorname{Var}(\mathbf{e}_t) \\ &=& \phi^2 \operatorname{Var}(\mathbf{Y}_t) \,+\, \sigma_{\mathrm{e}}^2 \\ &=& \frac{\sigma_{\mathrm{e}}^2}{1-\phi^2} \end{array}$$

which implies $\phi^2 < 1$ or equivalently $|\phi| < 1$. Furthermore

$$Cov(Y_t, Y_{t-k}) = Cov(\phi Y_{t-1} + e_t, Y_{t-k})$$

$$= \phi Cov(Y_{t-1}, Y_{t-k}) + Cov(e_t, Y_{t-k})$$

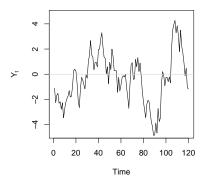
$$= \phi Cov(Y_t, Y_{t-k+1})$$

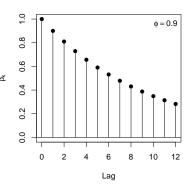
Therefore:

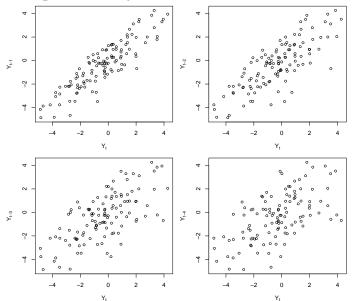
$$\gamma_k = \phi \gamma_{k-1}
= \phi^k \gamma_0
= \phi^k \frac{\sigma_e^2}{1 - \phi^2}
\varrho_k = \phi^k$$

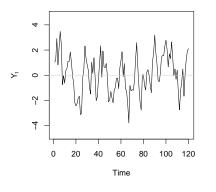
Illustration:

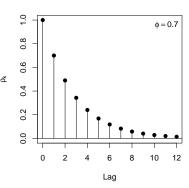
- Simulated AR(1) processes with standard normal white noise.
- Employ $\phi = 0.9, 0.7, 0.4, -0.5, -0.8$.
- In R: arima.sim().
- Display simulated series, theoretical ACF, scatterplots of Y_t against Y_{t-1}, Y_{t-2}, \ldots

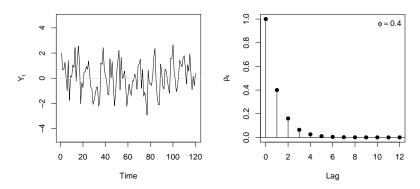


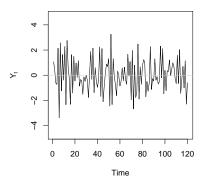


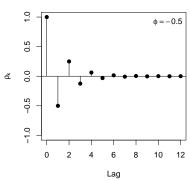


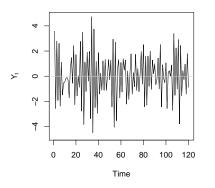


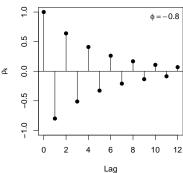












Remarks:

- ACF decays exponentially.
- Sign of ACF switches for negative ϕ .
- Large positive ϕ leads to smooth series, theoretical mean zero is rarely crossed.
- Large negative ϕ leads to jagged series, theoretical mean zero is often crossed.

Substitution:

$$Y_{t} = \phi Y_{t-1} + e_{t}$$

$$= \phi(\phi Y_{t-2} + e_{t-1}) + e_{t}$$

$$= e_{t} + \phi e_{t-1} + \phi^{2} Y_{t-2}$$

$$= e_{t} + \phi e_{t-1} + \phi^{2} e_{t-2} + \dots + \phi^{k-1} e_{t-k+1} + \phi^{k} Y_{t-k}$$

$$= e_{t} + \phi e_{t-1} + \phi^{2} e_{t-2} + \phi^{3} e_{t-3} + \dots$$

Thus: If $|\phi| < 1$, AR(1) process is general linear process with $\psi_i = \phi^i$. This could also be employed to derive ACF.

Stationarity condition: In fact, AR(1) process with $\sigma_e^2 > 0$ is stationary if and only if $|\phi| < 1$.

Remark: For $\phi = 1$, process is random walk (already shown to be nonstationary).

Example: AR(2).

$$Y_t = \phi_1 Y_{t-1} + \phi_2 Y_{t-2} + e_t$$

Definition: The AR(2) characteristic polynomial is

$$\phi(x) = 1 - \phi_1 x - \phi_2 x^2.$$

The corresponding AR(2) characteristic equation is

$$1 - \phi_1 x - \phi_2 x^2 = 0.$$

Recall: Quadratic equation has always two roots, possibly complex.

Stationarity condition: AR(2) process is stationary if and only if the roots of the AR characteristic equation exceed 1 in absolute value (modulus).

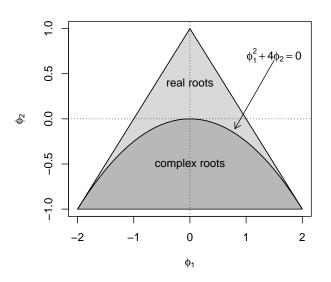
Equivalently: All roots must lie outside the unit circle in the complex plane.

Roots:

$$\frac{\phi_1 \ \pm \ \sqrt{\phi_1^2 \ + \ 4\phi_2}}{-2\phi_2}$$

It can be shown that this exceed 1 in absolute value if and only if:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \phi_1 \; + \; \phi_2 \; \; < \; \; 1 \\ \phi_2 \; - \; \phi_1 \; \; < \; \; 1 \\ & |\phi_2| \; \; < \; \; 1 \end{array}$$



Analogously to AR(1): Recursion holds for ACF.

$$\gamma_k = \phi_1 \gamma_{k-1} + \phi_2 \gamma_{k-2}
\varrho_k = \phi_1 \varrho_{k-1} + \phi_2 \varrho_{k-2}$$

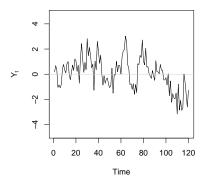
These are known as the *Yule-Walker equations*, especially for k = 1, 2.

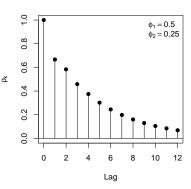
Using $\varrho_0 = 1$ and $\varrho_{-k} = \varrho_k$, recursion can be initialized:

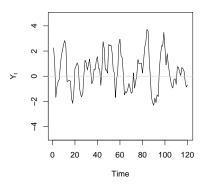
$$\varrho_{1} = \phi_{1} + \phi_{2}\varrho_{1}
= \frac{\phi_{1}}{1 - \phi_{2}}
\varrho_{2} = \phi_{1}\varrho_{1} + \phi_{2}
= \frac{\phi_{1}^{2} + \phi_{2}(1 - \phi_{2})}{1 - \phi_{2}}$$

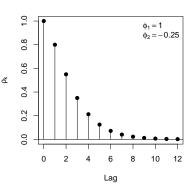
Remarks:

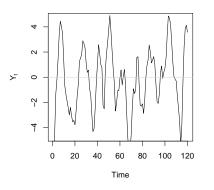
- ACF can assume wide variety of shapes.
- Magnitude of ϱ_k decays exponentially fast in lag k.
- In R: ARMAacf() for numerical computation.

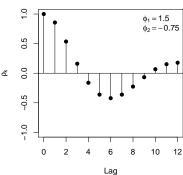


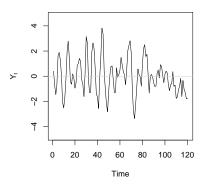


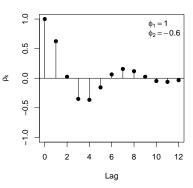












Similarly: Solve for variance using recursive equations.

$$\begin{array}{lll} \gamma_0 & = & (\phi_1^2 + \phi_2^2)\gamma_0 \, + \, 2\phi_1\phi_2\gamma_1 \, + \, \sigma_{\rm e}^2 \\ & = & \frac{(1-\phi_2)\sigma_{\rm e}^2}{(1-\phi_2)(1-\phi_1^2-\phi_2^2)-2\phi_2\phi_1^2} \\ & = & \frac{1-\phi_2}{1+\phi_2} \, \frac{\sigma_{\rm e}^2}{(1-\phi_2)^2-\phi_1^2} \end{array}$$

Furthermore: General linear process coefficients ψ_j can be found by recursive substitution of Y_{t-1}, Y_{t-2}, \ldots

$$\psi_0 = 1$$
 $\psi_1 - \phi_1 \psi_0 = 0$ $\psi_j - \phi_1 \psi_{j-1} - \phi_2 \psi_{j-2} = 0$ $(j \geq 2)$ yielding $\psi_0 = 1, \psi_1 = \phi_1, \psi_2 = \phi_1^2 + \phi_2, \dots$

General AR(p) process:

Model equation:

$$Y_t = \phi_1 Y_{t-1} + \phi_2 Y_{t-2} + \ldots + \phi_p Y_{t-p} + e_t.$$

AR characteristic polynomial:

$$\phi(x) = 1 - \phi_1 x - \phi_2 x^2 - \dots - \phi_p x^p.$$

AR characteristic equation:

$$1 - \phi_1 x - \phi_2 x^2 - \ldots - \phi_p x^p = 0.$$

Stationarity condition: All p roots of the AR characteristic polynomial must exceed 1 in absolute value (modulus), i.e., lie outside the complex unit circle. Necessary conditions:

$$|\phi_1 + \phi_2 + \dots + \phi_p| < 1$$

$$|\phi_p| < 1$$

Assuming stationarity and zero means, recursion holds for $k \ge 1$:

$$\varrho_k = \phi_1 \varrho_{k-1} + \phi_2 \varrho_{k-2} + \ldots + \phi_p \varrho_{k-p}.$$

For k = 1, ..., p and using $\varrho_0 = 1$ and $\varrho_{-k} = \varrho_k$, this yields the Yule-Walker equations:

$$\varrho_{1} = \phi_{1} + \phi_{2}\varrho_{1} + \phi_{3}\varrho_{2} + \dots + \phi_{p}\varrho_{p-1}
\varrho_{2} = \phi_{1}\varrho_{1} + \phi_{2} + \phi_{3}\varrho_{1} + \dots + \phi_{p}\varrho_{p-2}
\vdots
\varrho_{p} = \phi_{1}\varrho_{p-1} + \phi_{2}\varrho_{p-2} + \phi_{3}\varrho_{p-3} + \dots + \phi_{p}\varrho_{p-1}$$

This can be solved for $\varrho_1, \ldots, \varrho_p$ and ϱ_k for k > p can be obtained recursively.

Variance can be obtained using $Cov(Y_t, e_t) = \sigma_e^2$ and $\varrho_k = \gamma_k/\gamma_0$:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \gamma_{0} & = & \mathsf{Cov}(\mathsf{Y}_{t},\mathsf{Y}_{t}) \\ & = & \mathsf{Cov}(\mathsf{Y}_{t},\phi_{1}\mathsf{Y}_{t-1}+\phi_{2}\mathsf{Y}_{t-2}+\cdots+\phi_{p}\mathsf{Y}_{t-p}+e_{t}) \\ & = & \phi_{1}\gamma_{1}+\phi_{2}\gamma_{2}+\cdots+\phi_{p}\gamma_{p}+\sigma_{e}^{2} \\ & = & \frac{\sigma_{e}^{2}}{1-\phi_{1}\varrho_{1}-\phi_{2}\varrho_{2}-\cdots-\phi_{p}\varrho_{p}} \end{array}$$

Remarks:

- ϱ_k can be shown to be linear combination of exponentially decaying terms (corresponding to real roots) and damped sine waves (corresponding to complex roots).
- Assuming stationarity, general linear process form can again be found recursively.

Models for Stationary Time Series

The Mixed Autoregressive Moving Average Model

Autoregressive moving average model

Idea: Combine autoregressive process with moving average innovations.

Definition: An autoregressive moving average process of orders p and q, ARMA(p, q) for short, is defined as

$$Y_t = \phi_1 Y_{t-1} + \ldots + \phi_p Y_{t-p} + e_t - \theta_1 e_{t-1} - \ldots - \theta_q e_{t-q}.$$

Remark: There should not be common factors in autoregressive and moving average polynomials. Otherwise the model actually has orders lower than p and q. E.g., for ARMA(1, 1) this means $\phi \neq \theta$.

ARMA(1, 1)

Example: ARMA(1, 1) with $\phi_1 = \phi$ and $\theta_1 = \theta$.

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \mathsf{Y}_t & = & \phi \mathsf{Y}_{t-1} \, + \, e_t \, - \, \theta e_{t-1} \\ \mathsf{Cov}(\mathsf{Y}_t, e_t) & = & \mathsf{E}(\mathsf{Y}_t e_t) \\ & = & \mathsf{E}[e_t \, (\phi \mathsf{Y}_{t-1} + e_t - \theta e_{t-1})] \\ & = & \sigma_e^2 \\ \mathsf{Cov}(\mathsf{Y}_t, e_{t-1}) & = & \mathsf{E}[e_{t-1} \, (\phi \mathsf{Y}_{t-1} + e_t - \theta e_{t-1})] \\ & = & \phi \sigma_e^2 \, - \, \theta \sigma_e^2 \\ & = & (\phi - \theta) \, \sigma_e^2 \end{array}$$

Set up Yule-Walker type equations:

$$\gamma_0 = \phi \gamma_1 + \sigma_e^2 - \theta (\phi - \theta) \sigma_e^2
\gamma_1 = \phi \gamma_0 - \theta \sigma_e^2
\gamma_k = \phi \gamma_{k-1} \quad (k \ge 2)$$

ARMA(1, 1)

Solving the first two equations gives

$$\gamma_0 = \frac{1 - 2\phi\theta + \theta^2}{1 - \phi^2} \sigma_e^2.$$

Solving the recursion then yields for $k \ge 1$:

$$\varrho_k = \frac{(1-\phi\theta)(\phi-\theta)}{1-2\phi\theta+\theta^2} \phi^{k-1}.$$

ACF decays exponentially with damping factor ϕ . Decay starts from ϱ_1 which also depends on θ .

ARMA(1, 1)

General linear process form can again by found by substitution:

$$Y_t = e_t + (\phi - \theta) \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \phi^{j-1} e_{t-j},$$

i.e., coefficients are $\psi_j = (\phi - \theta) \phi^{j-1}$ for $j \ge 1$.

Stationarity condition: Roots of AR characteristic equation $1 - \phi x = 0$ must exceed 1 in absolute value, i.e., $|\phi| < 1$.

ARMA(p, q)

More generally: Consider ARMA(p, q).

Stationarity condition: All roots of AR characteristic equation $\phi(x) = 0$ exceed unity in absolute value (modulus).

General linear process form: $Y_t = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \psi_j e_{t-j}$ with coefficients ψ_j following the recursion

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \psi_{0} & = & 1 \\ \psi_{1} & = & -\theta_{1} + \phi_{1} \\ \psi_{2} & = & -\theta_{2} + \phi_{2} + \phi_{1} \psi_{1} \\ & \vdots \\ \psi_{j} & = & -\theta_{j} + \phi_{p} \psi_{j-p} + \phi_{p-1} \psi_{j-p+1} + \dots + \phi_{1} \psi_{j-1} \end{array}$$

where $\psi_j = 0$ for j < 0 and $\theta_j = 0$ for j > q. The mapping $j \to \psi_j$ for j = 0, 1, 2, ... is also known as *impulse response function*.

ARMA(p, q)

Thus: The autocovariance can be written via

$$\begin{aligned} \mathsf{Cov}(\mathsf{Y}_t, \mathsf{e}_{t-k}) &= \mathsf{Cov}\left(\sum_{j=0}^\infty \psi_j \mathsf{e}_{t-j}, \mathsf{e}_{t-k}\right) \\ &= \psi_k \sigma_e^2 \\ \gamma_k &= \mathsf{Cov}(\mathsf{Y}_t, \mathsf{Y}_{t-k}) \\ &= \mathsf{Cov}\left[\left(\sum_{j=1}^p \phi_j \mathsf{Y}_{t-j} - \sum_{j=0}^q \theta_j \mathsf{e}_{t-j}\right), \mathsf{Y}_{t-k}\right] \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^p \phi_j \gamma_{k-j} - \sigma_e^2 \sum_{j=k}^q \theta_j \psi_{j-k} \end{aligned}$$

where $\theta_0 = -1$ and the second sum is absent for k > q.

ARMA(p, q)

Recursion: For computing ACF.

- **1** Compute ψ s from ϕ s and θ s.
- **2** Solve linear equations for $\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \ldots, \gamma_p$.
- **3** For k > p use recursion for γ_k .
- **4** Obtain ACF as $\varrho_k = \gamma_k/\gamma_0$.

In R:

- Algorithm is basis for ARMAacf().
- For step 1 only, ARMAtoMA() can be used.

Models for Stationary Time Series

Invertibility

Invertibility

Problem: For MA(1) process, ACF for coefficient θ is the same as for $1/\theta$. Similar issues in higher order MA(q) process.

Thus: Parameters cannot be inferred uniquely from ACF.

Solution: Related to another (seemingly unrelated) question.

Observation: AR(p) process can be thought of MA(∞) process. (By means of the general linear process representation.)

Question: Can MA(q) processes be written as AR(∞) processes?

Invertibility

Example: For MA(1) process $Y_t = e_t - \theta e_{t-1}$. If $|\theta| < 1$, an infinite recursive substitution leads to

$$e_{t} = Y_{t} + \theta e_{t-1}$$

$$= Y_{t} + \theta (Y_{t-1} + \theta e_{t-2})$$

$$= Y_{t} + \theta Y_{t-1} + \theta^{2} e_{t-2}$$

$$= Y_{t} + \theta Y_{t-1} + \theta^{2} Y_{t-2} + \dots$$

$$Y_{t} = -\theta Y_{t-1} - \theta^{2} Y_{t-2} - \theta^{3} Y_{t-3} - \dots + e_{t}$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \pi_{j} Y_{t-j} + e_{t}$$

where $\pi_i = -\theta^j$.

Definition: An MA process is called *invertible* if such an $AR(\infty)$ representation can be found.

Thus: If $|\theta| < 1$ the MA(1) process is invertible.

Invertibility

More generally: For MA(q) and ARMA(p, q) processes, the MA characteristic polynomial is defined as

$$\theta(x) = 1 - \theta_1 x - \theta_2 x^2 - \ldots - \theta_q x^q.$$

The corresponding MA characteristic equation is

$$1 - \theta_1 x - \theta_2 x^2 - \ldots - \theta_q x^q = 0.$$

Invertibility condition: The MA(q) model is invertible if and only if all roots of the MA characteristic equation exceed 1 in absolute value (modulus).

Furthermore: It may be shown that there is only one set of parameter values that yield an invertible MA process with a given ACF.

Hence: Restrict attention to stationary and invertible ARMA(p, q) processes.