

# Autocorrelation

$$y_t = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x_t + u_t$$

$$\text{Cov}(u_t, u_s) \neq 0 \quad t \neq s$$

First-order AC:

$$u_t = \rho u_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t$$

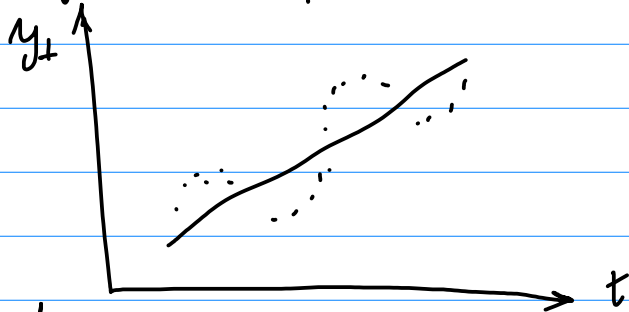
$\rho$  - 1<sup>st</sup> order autocor. coef.

satisfies GN cond:

- $E(\varepsilon_t) = 0$
- $E(\varepsilon_t^2) = \sigma_\varepsilon^2$
- $E(\varepsilon_t, \varepsilon_s) = 0, t \neq s$

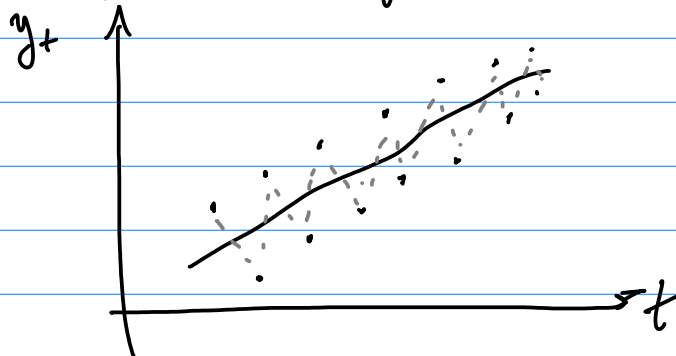
i.d.  $\rho > 0$

pos. AC



i.d.  $\rho < 0$

neg. AC

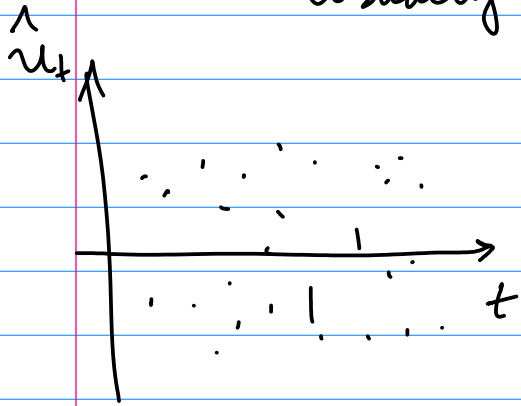


Second-order AC:

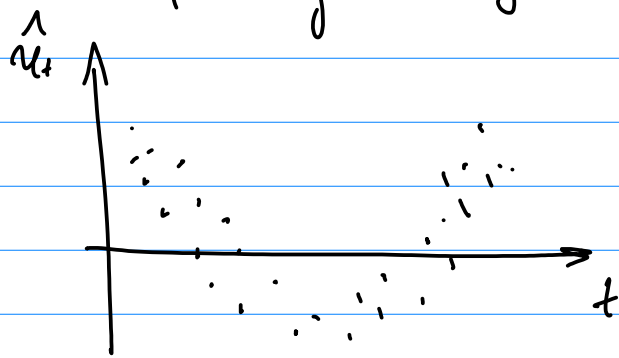
$$u_t = \rho_1 u_{t-1} + \rho_2 u_{t-2} + \varepsilon_t$$

# Higher-order AC (seasonal AC)

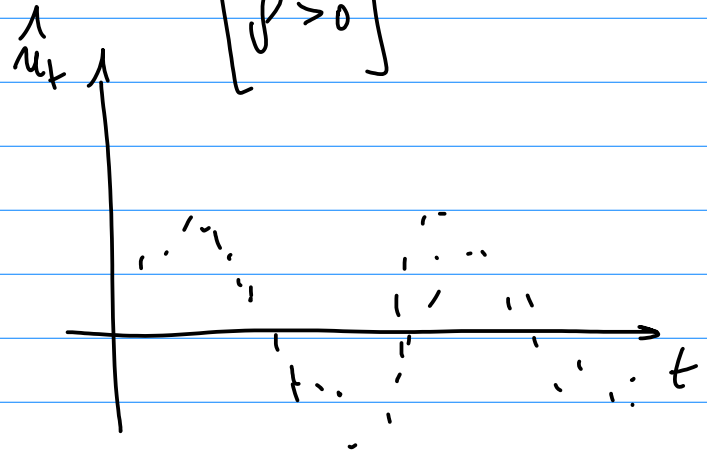
usually for quarterly / monthly data



$\rho = 0$



$[\rho > 0]$

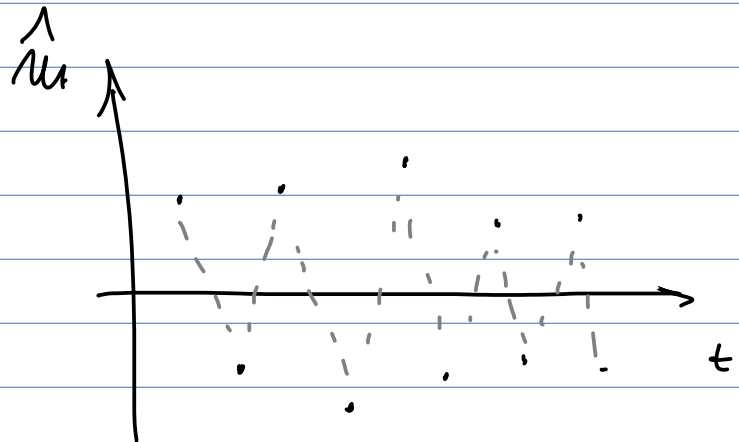


When dataset is small

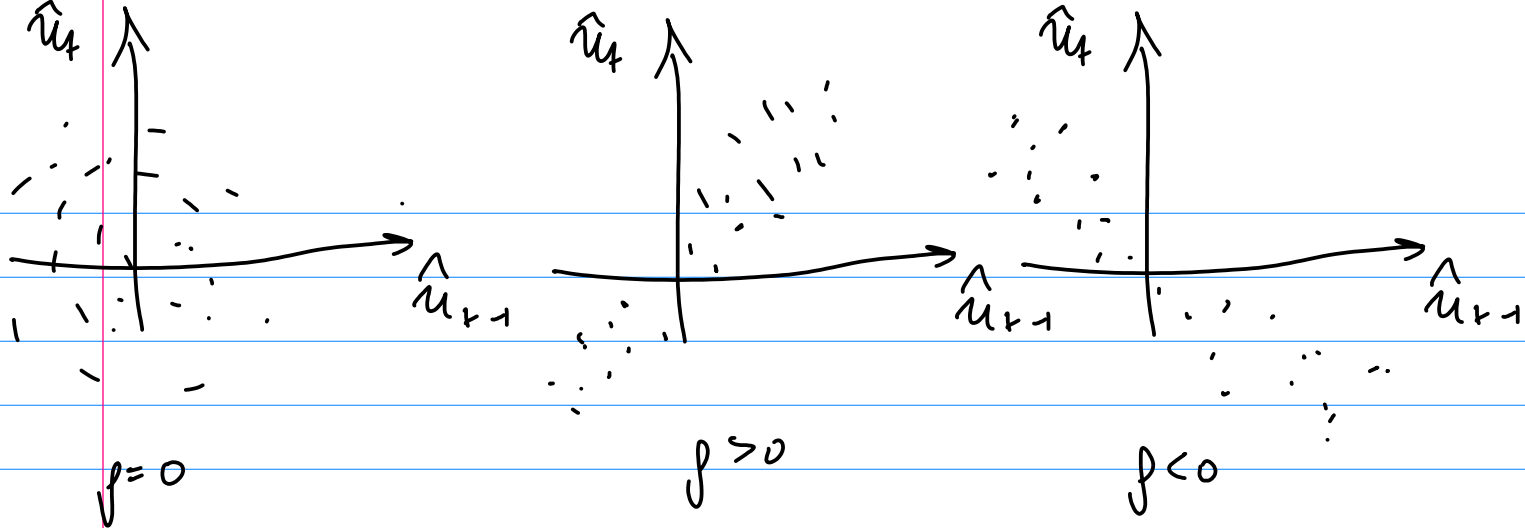
it's hard to

dist. between

$\rho < 0$  and  $\rho = 0$



$\rho < 0$



$$\hat{u}_t = \rho \hat{u}_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t$$

True AC

$$u_t = \rho u_{t-1} + \epsilon_t$$

(vs)

Autocor. caused  
by misspecification

① AC caused by omitted  
variable

$$\text{True: } y_t = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x_{1t} + \beta_3 x_{2t} + u_t$$

$$\text{Est: } y_t = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x_{1t} + u_t^*$$

$$u_t^* = \beta_3 x_{2t} + u_t$$

if  $x_{2t}$  autocor. variable

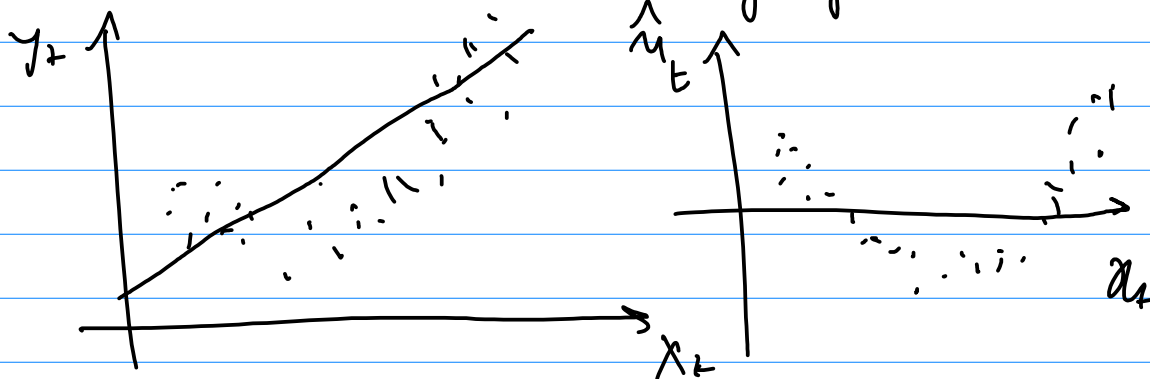
$u_t$  is relatively small

$\Rightarrow u_t^*$  - autocorrelation

② AC caused by wrong  
functional form

$$\text{True: } \ln y_t = \beta_1 + \beta_2 \ln x_t + u_t$$

$$\text{Est: } y_t = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x_t + u_t^*$$



# Consequences of AC (no lagged dep. var.)

- 1) True AC  $\Rightarrow$  no bias of reg. coeff.
- 2) Pos. AC  $\Rightarrow$  s.e. underestimated  
t-stats are inflated
- 3) test are invalid

## DW test

Assumptions : 1) for 1<sup>st</sup> order AC

2) for models with intercept

3) without lagged dep. variable

$\hookrightarrow$  Durbin h-test

$$DW = \frac{\sum (\hat{\epsilon}_t - \hat{\epsilon}_{t-1})^2}{\sum \hat{\epsilon}_t^2}$$

$\frac{COV(\epsilon_t, \epsilon_{t-1})}{Var(\epsilon_t)}$

$$DW = \frac{\sum (\hat{\epsilon}_t - \hat{\epsilon}_{t-1})^2}{\sum \hat{\epsilon}_t^2} = \frac{\sum \hat{\epsilon}_t^2}{\sum \hat{\epsilon}_t^2} - 2 \frac{\sum \hat{\epsilon}_t \hat{\epsilon}_{t-1}}{\sum \hat{\epsilon}_t^2} + \frac{\sum \hat{\epsilon}_{t-1}^2}{\sum \hat{\epsilon}_t^2}$$

$$\xrightarrow{P} 1 - 2\rho + 1 = 2 \cdot (1 - \rho)$$

$$\rho = 1$$

$$DW = 0$$

$$\rho = 0$$

$$DW = 2$$

$$\rho = -1$$

$$DW = 4$$

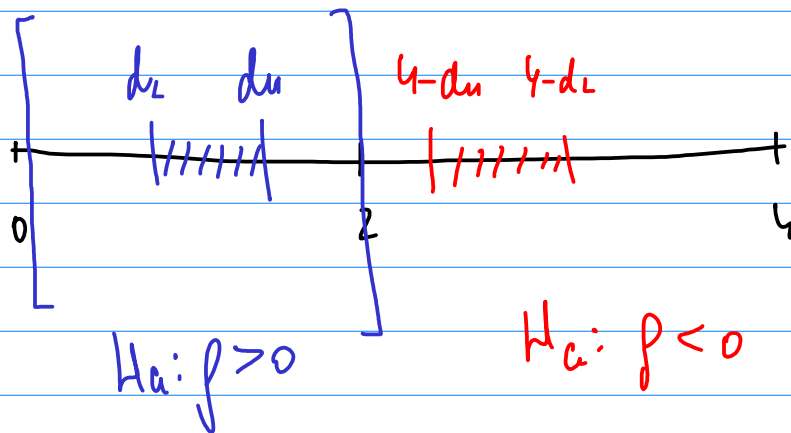
$$-1 < \rho < 1$$

$$0 < DW < 4$$

$$H_0: \rho = 0$$

$$H_a: \rho > 0 \quad (\rho < 0)$$

$$DW = \frac{\sum (\hat{\epsilon}_t - \hat{\epsilon}_{t-1})^2}{\sum \hat{\epsilon}_t^2}$$



$$Alt: DW^* = 4 - DW$$

$$DW > d_U \quad H_0 \text{ isn't rej} \Rightarrow \text{no AC}$$

$$DW < d_L \quad H_0 \text{ is rej} \Rightarrow \text{pos. AC}$$

$$d_L < DW < d_U \quad \text{can't rej / not rej } H_0$$

## Purkin. h - test

\* for test lagged explained variable

$$h = \hat{\rho} \sqrt{\frac{h}{1 - n \text{Var}(\hat{\beta}_{y,t-1})}} \sim N(0,1)$$

$$DW \rightarrow 2(1 - \rho)$$

$$\hat{\rho} = 1 - 0.5 \cdot DW \quad \text{Const. est}$$

$$\begin{cases} \hat{u}_t = \rho \hat{u}_{t-1} + \epsilon_t \end{cases} \quad \rho \text{ biased down.}$$

$$h = (1 - 0.5 DW) \sqrt{\frac{h}{1 - n S_{\hat{\beta}_{y,t-1}}^2}}$$

Limitations:

- 1) Only 1 lagged dep. variable
- 2) Only for 1<sup>st</sup> order AC
- 3) When there's neg. value  
under sq. root  $\Rightarrow$   
can't calculate