

# Interpretable Time Series Autoregression

arXiv:2506.22895

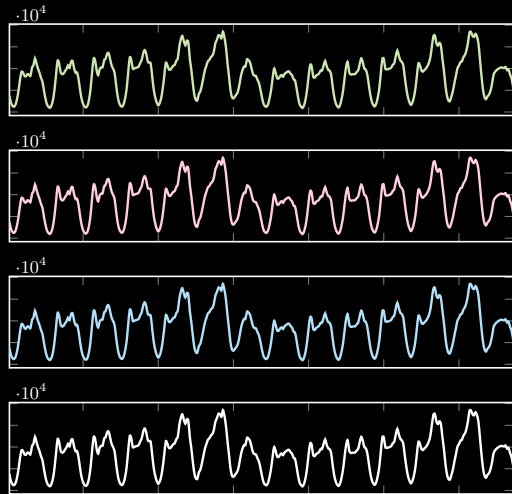
Xinyu Chen, MIT

Vassilis Digalakis Jr, BU

Lijun Ding, UCSD

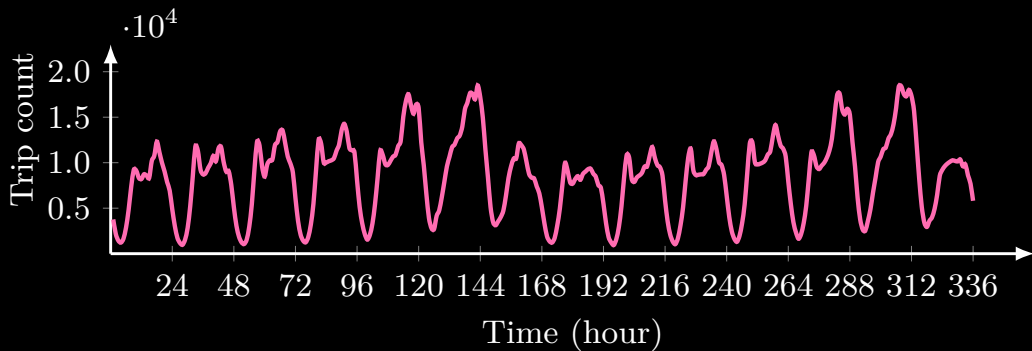
Dingyi Zhuang, MIT

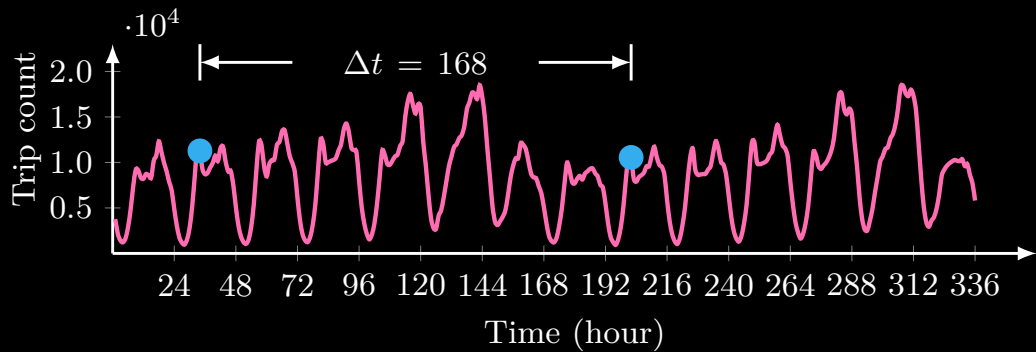
Jinhua Zhao, MIT



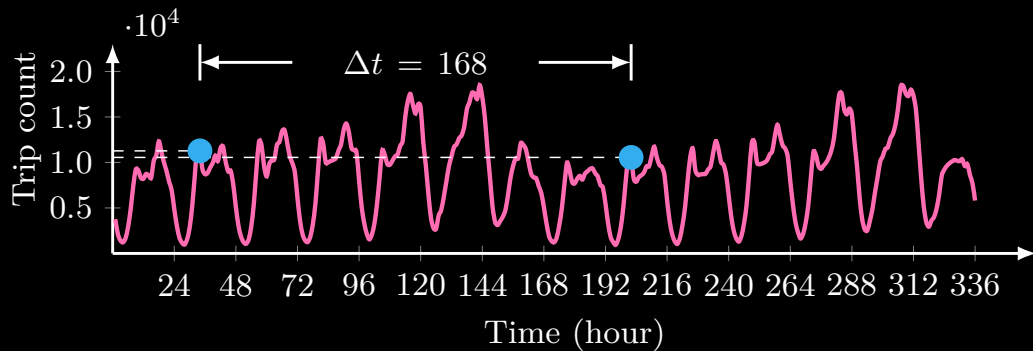
Annotate Ridesharing Trip Time Series

Chicago ridesharing trip time series  $x_t, t = 1, \dots, 336$

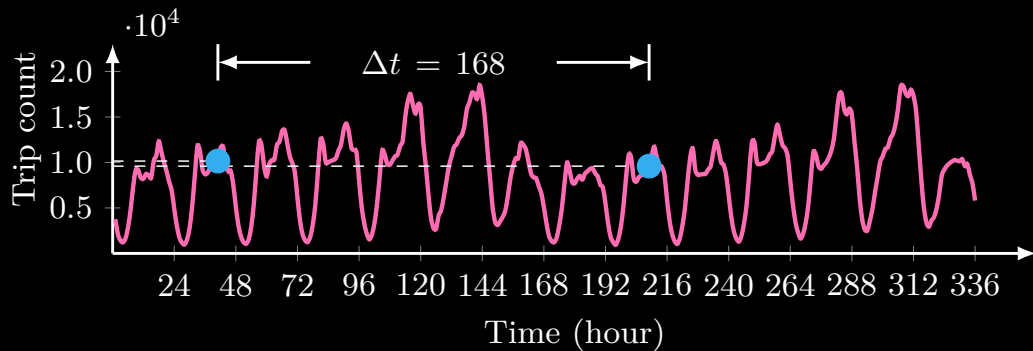




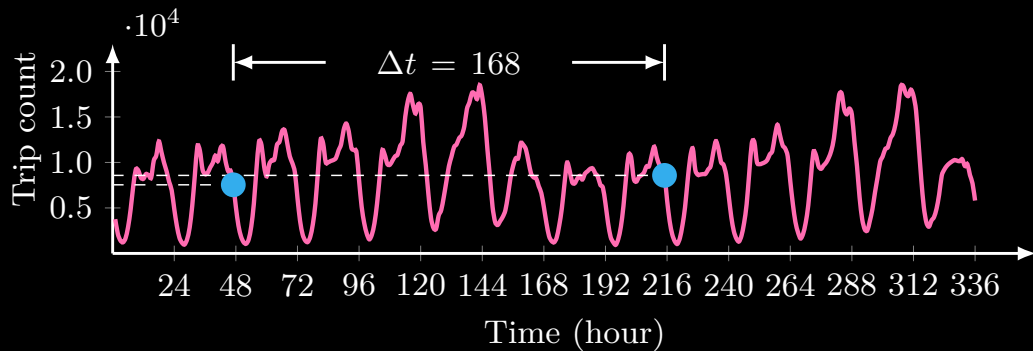
Weekly periodicity at  $t_0 = 34$



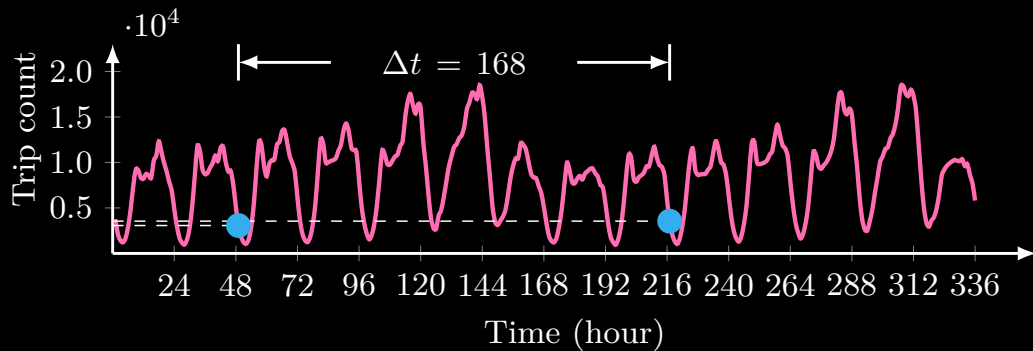
Weekly periodicity at  $t_0 = 41$



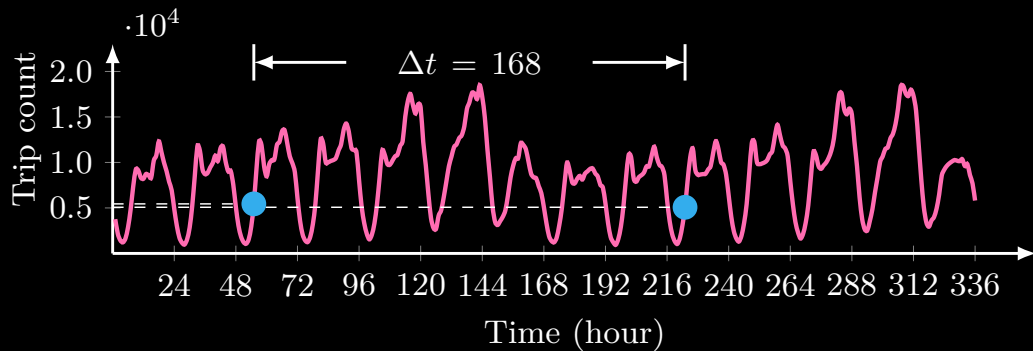
Weekly periodicity at  $t_0 = 47$



Weekly periodicity at  $t_0 = 49$



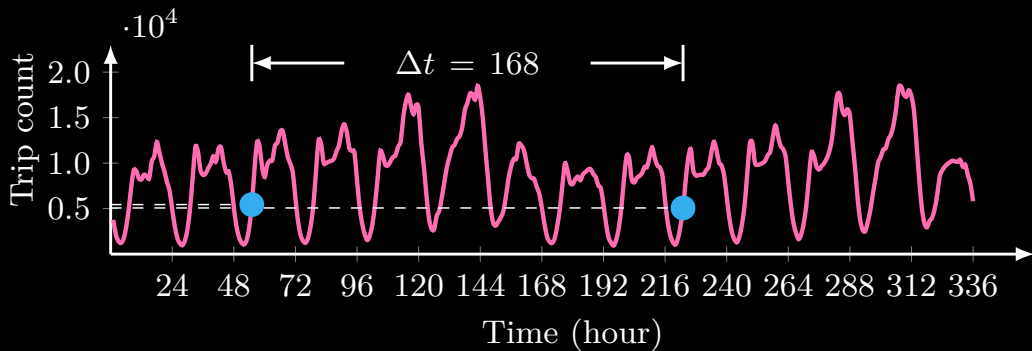
Weekly periodicity at  $t_0 = 55$



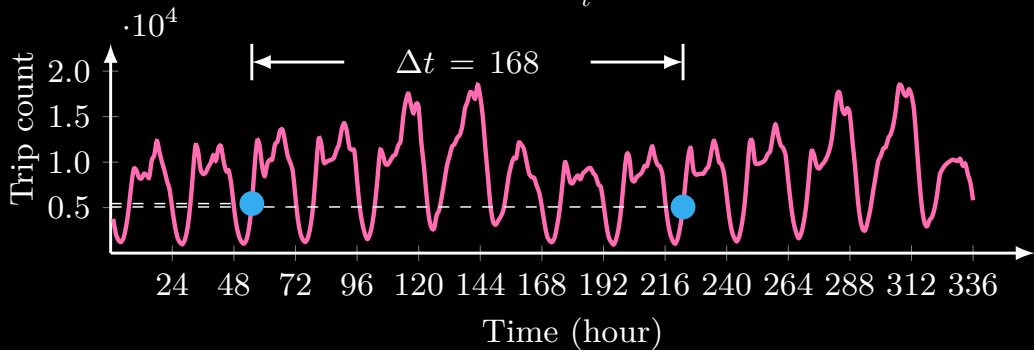


Auto-correlations.

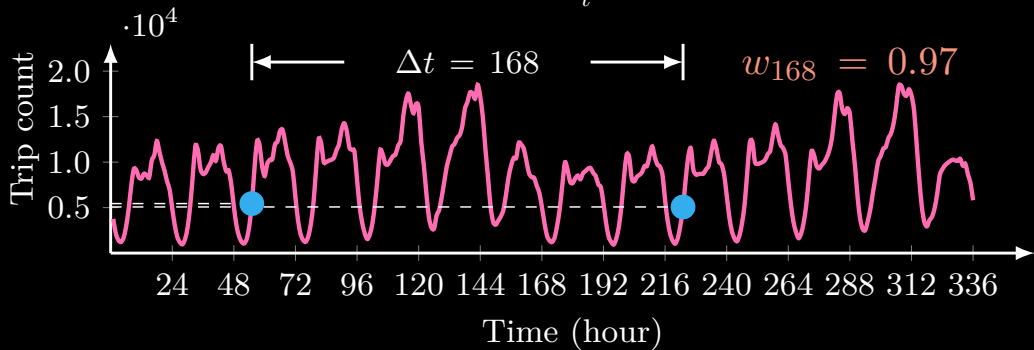
$$(x_t - w_{168}x_{t-168})^2$$



Auto-correlations.  $\min_{w_{168}} \sum_t (x_t - w_{168} x_{t-168})^2$



Auto-correlations.  $\min_{w_{168}} \sum_t (x_t - w_{168} x_{t-168})^2$



## Time Series Autoregression

$$\left(x_t - \sum_{k=1}^d w_k x_{t-k}\right)^2$$

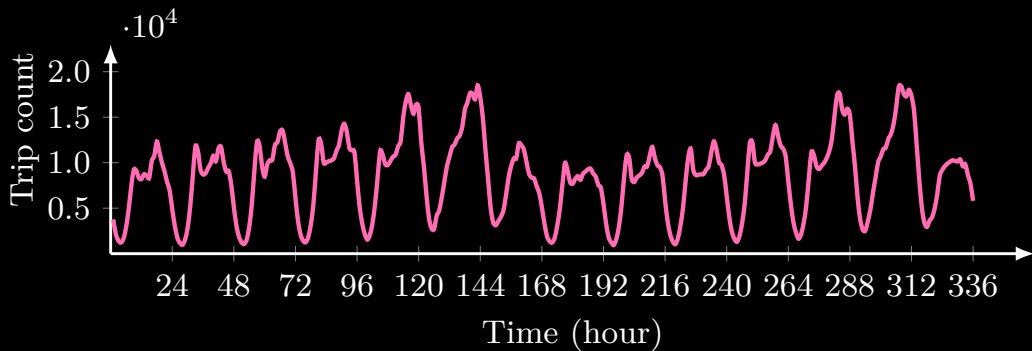
## Time Series Autoregression

$$f \triangleq \sum_t \left( x_t - \sum_{k=1}^d w_k x_{t-k} \right)^2$$

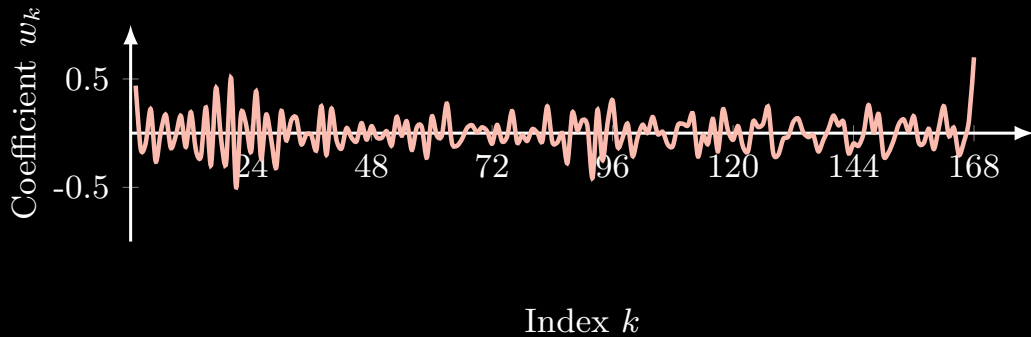
## Time Series Autoregression

$$\min_{w_1, \dots, w_d} f \triangleq \sum_t \left( x_t - \sum_{k=1}^d w_k x_{t-k} \right)^2$$

Chicago ridesharing trip time series  $x_t$ ,  $t = 1, \dots, 336$

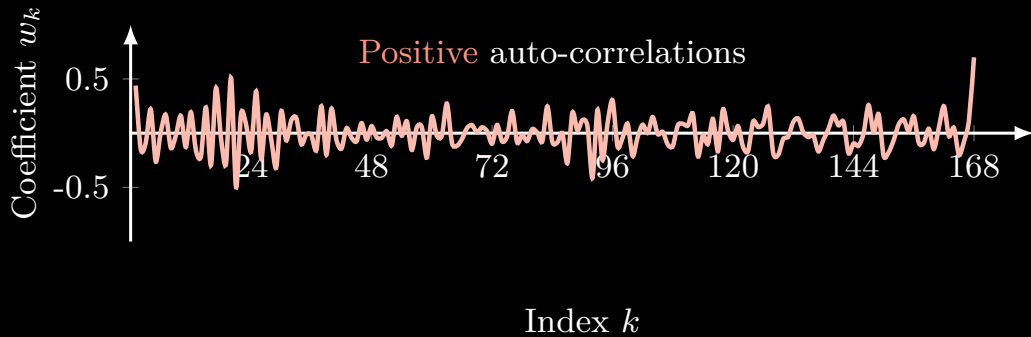


Order  $d = 168$

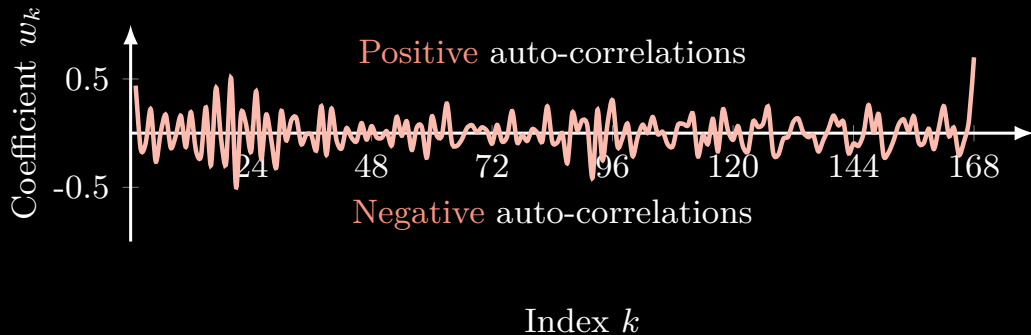




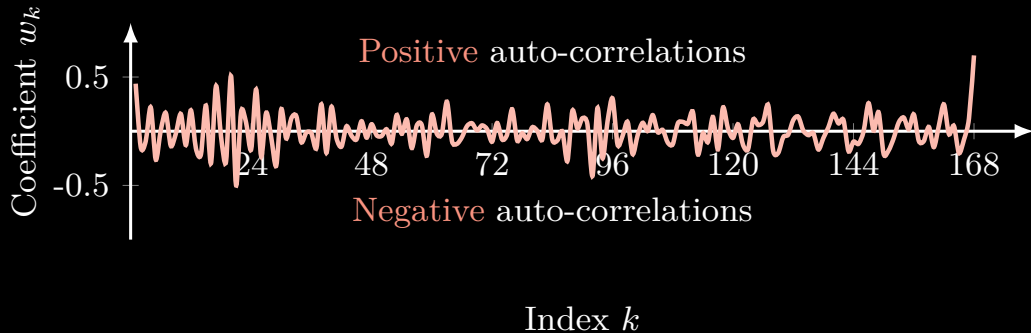
Order  $d = 168$

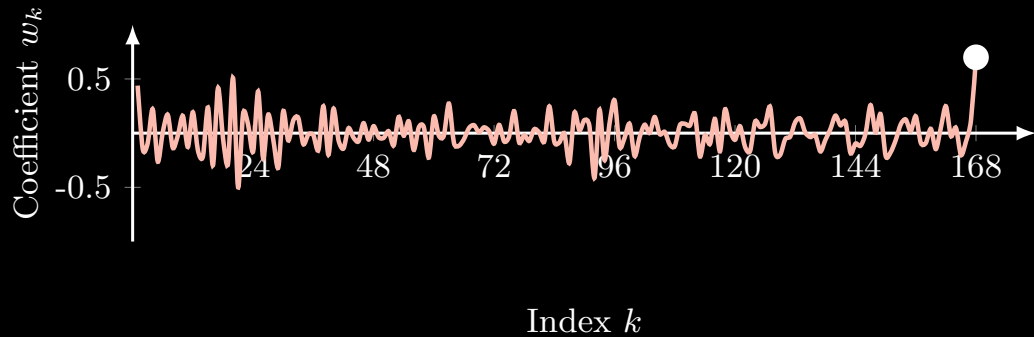


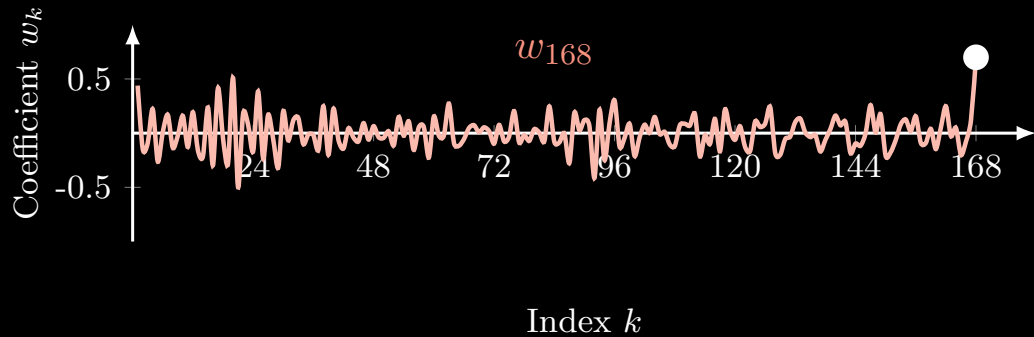
Order  $d = 168$

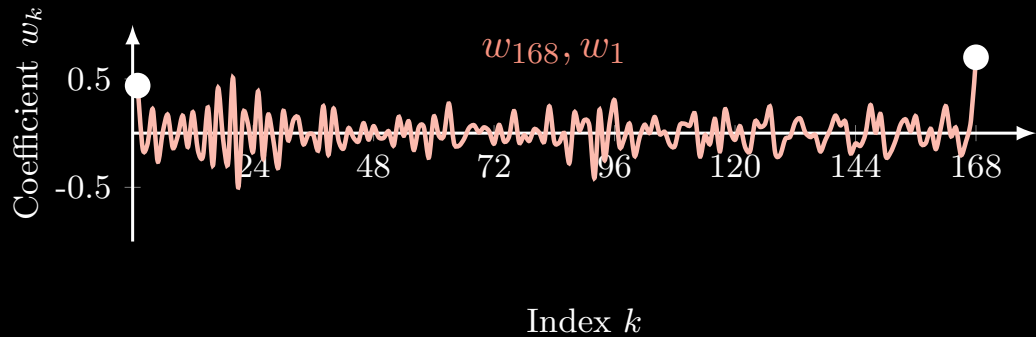


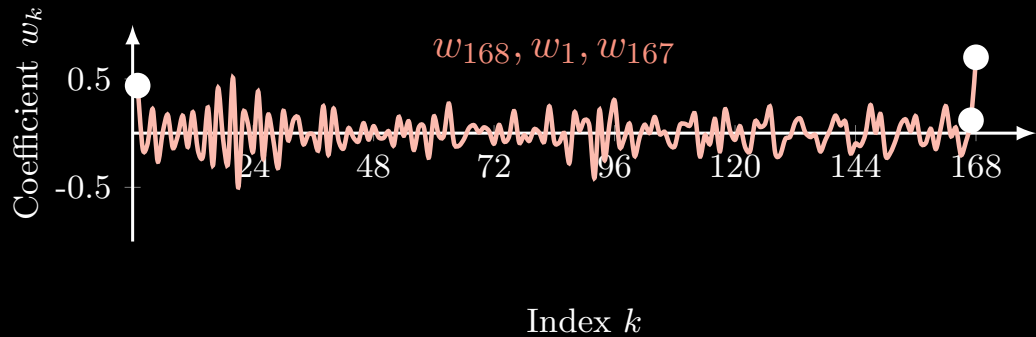
Which are the dominant coefficients in  $w_1, \dots, w_{168}$ ?







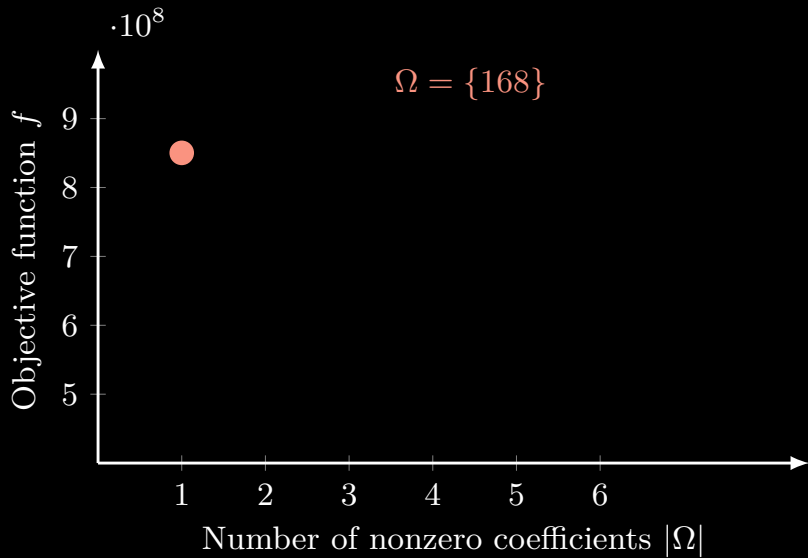


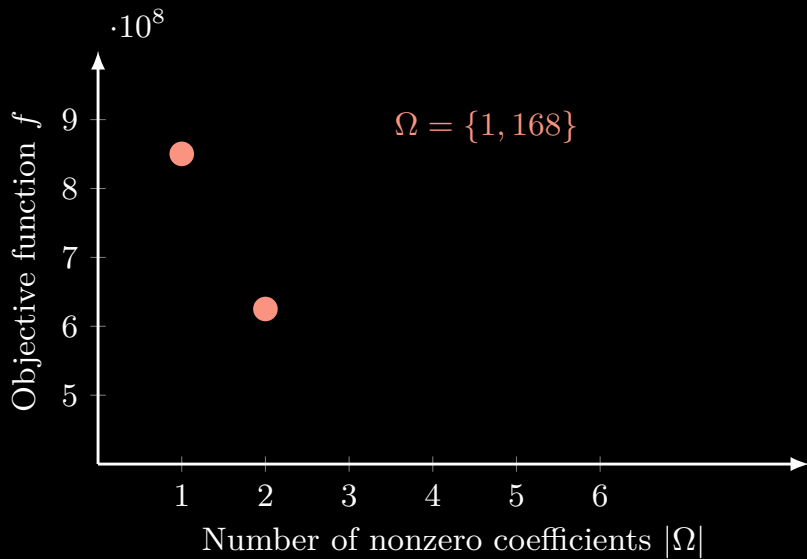


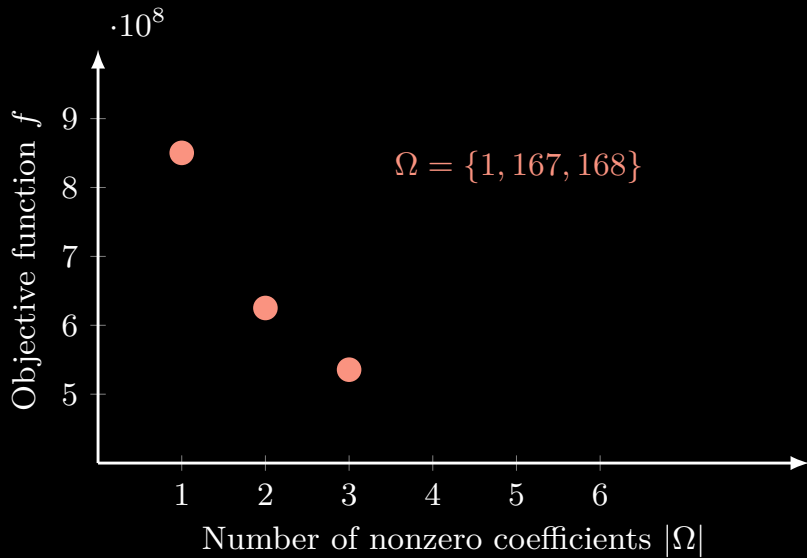
Select dominant coefficients  $w_k, k \in \Omega$

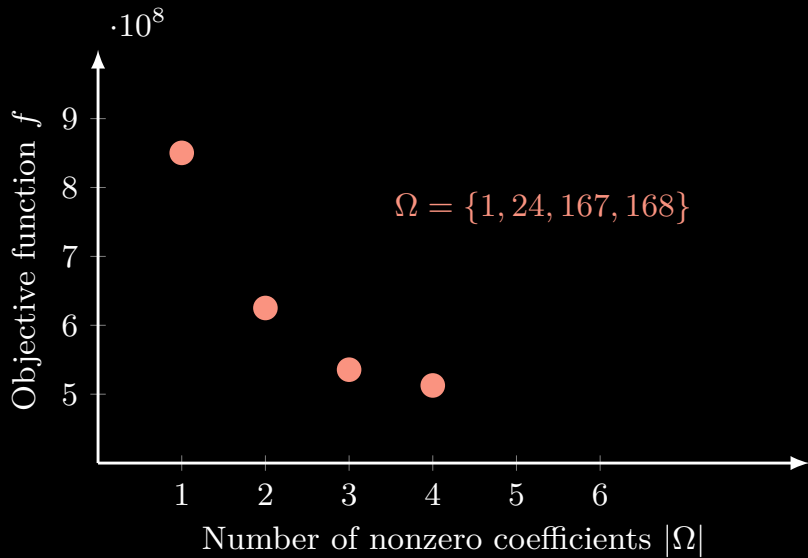
$$\min_{w_k, k \in \Omega} f \triangleq \sum_t \left( x_t - \sum_{k \in \Omega} w_k x_{t-k} \right)^2$$

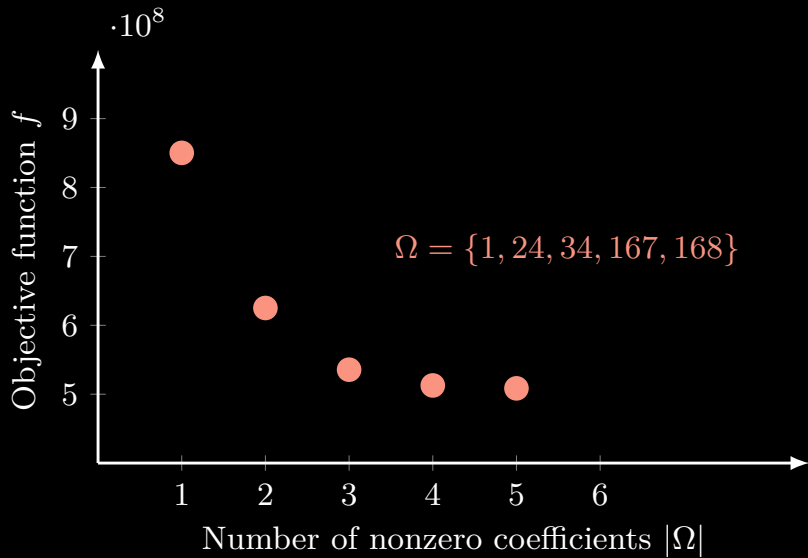


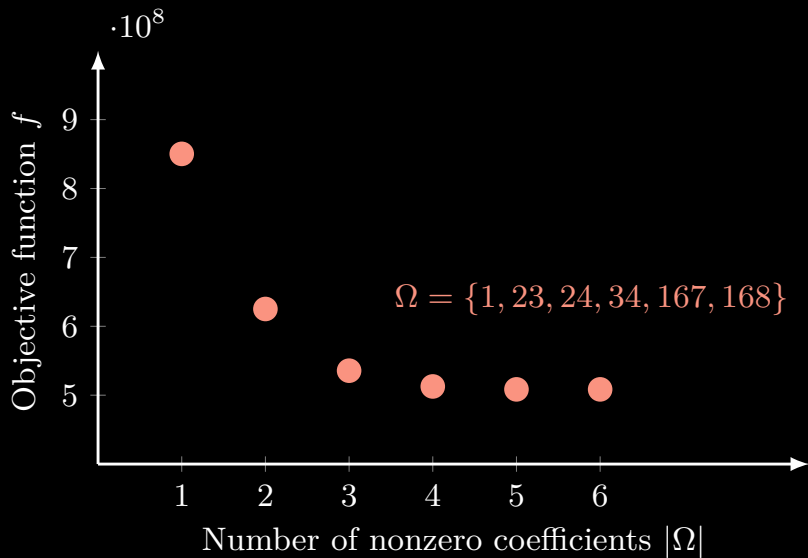


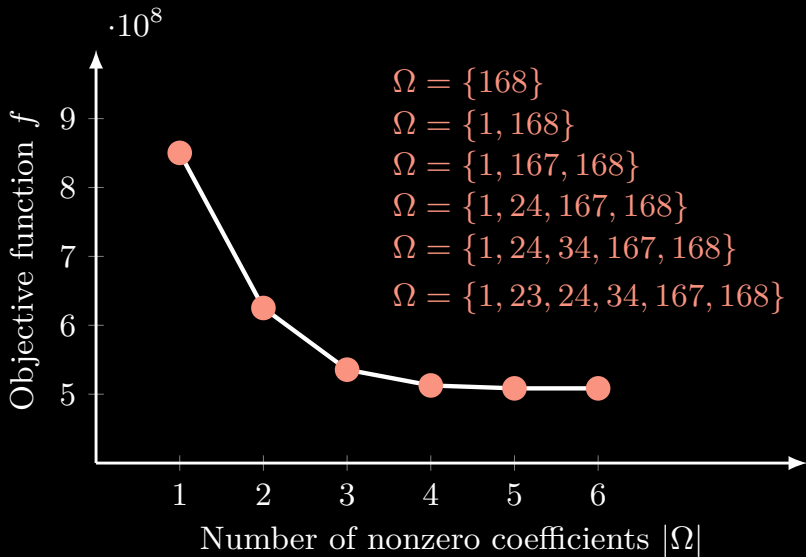












Select dominant coefficients via optimization

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{w_k, k \in \Omega} \quad & \sum_t \left( x_t - \sum_{k \in \Omega} w_k x_{t-k} \right)^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & |\Omega| \leq \tau, \tau = 1, 2, 3, \dots \end{aligned}$$



