







# Introduction to time series analysis and forecasting

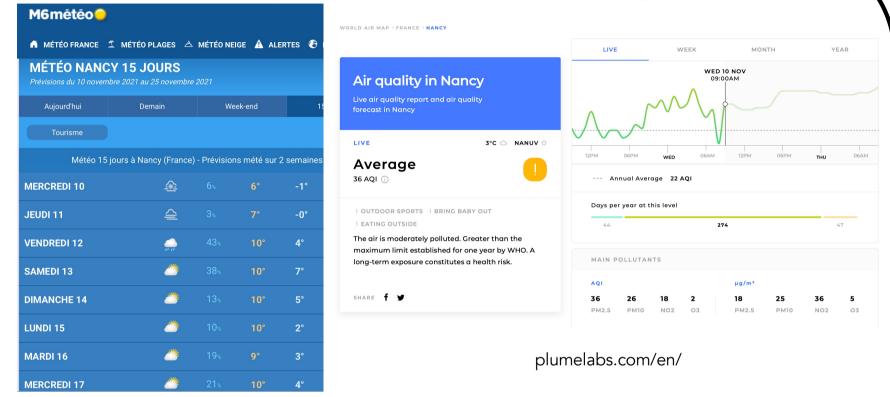
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# We rely on forecasts in our daily life

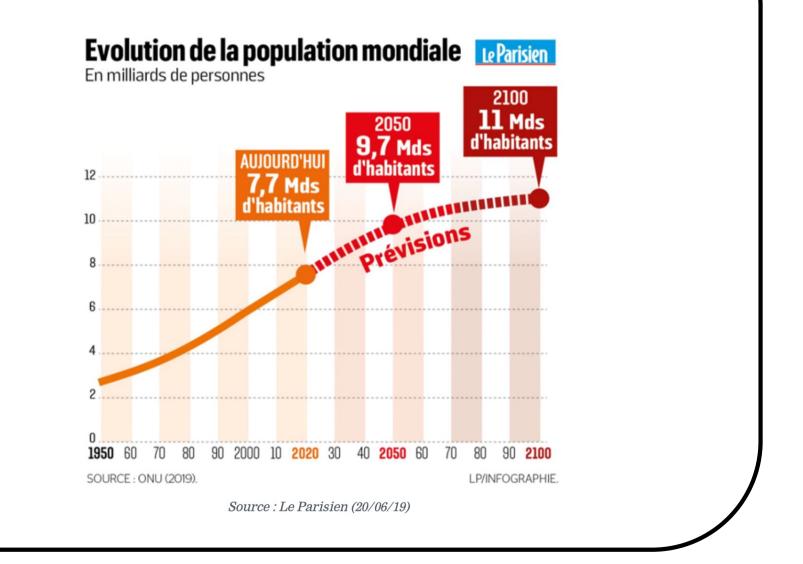


- Weather forecasts help you decide if you should bring an umbrella before leaving home
- Pollution forecasts help you decide to better plan your sport activities or take adequate measures to reduce exposure (Air pollution costs every human an average 2 years life expectancy...)





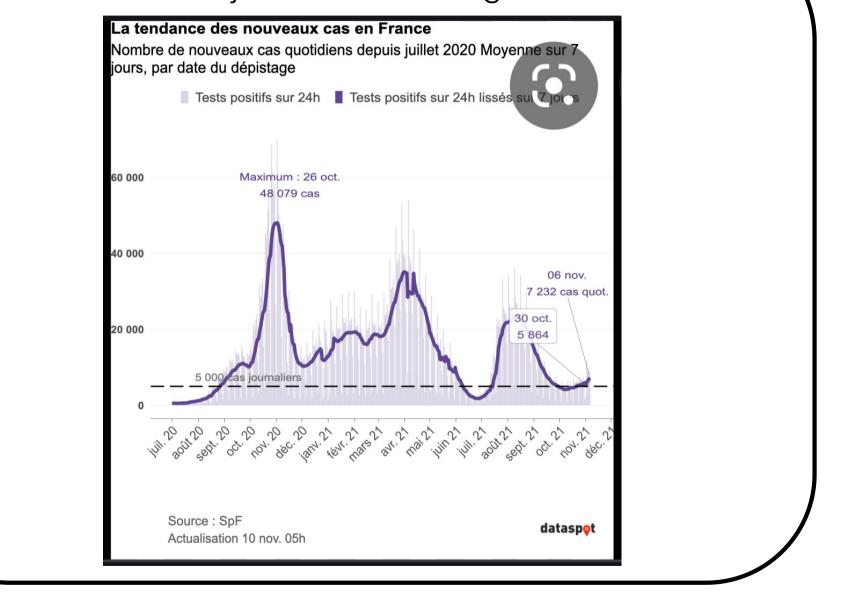
# We rely on forecasts in our daily life Forecasting is a natural part of human behaviour







## Time series modelling & forecasting methods: A major decision-making tool







# Course organization and prerequisites

- Organization
  - 6h00 of lecture
  - 10h00 of tutorials
- Skill assessments
  - Team project where you will work on a forecasting problem using real-life data
  - Oral presentation of your time series analysis and forecasting
- Prerequisites
  - A sound knowledge about probability and statistics
  - Regression analysis
  - Basic programming proficiency in Matlab





# Time series: definition

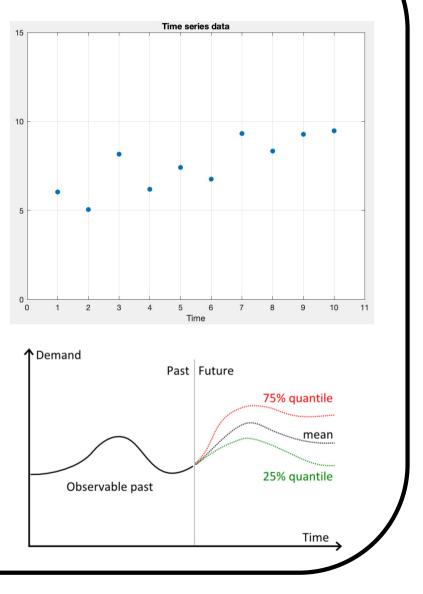
- A time series is
  - a series of data points indexed in time order
  - a sequence taken at successive equally spaced points in time
  - it is a sequence of discrete time data

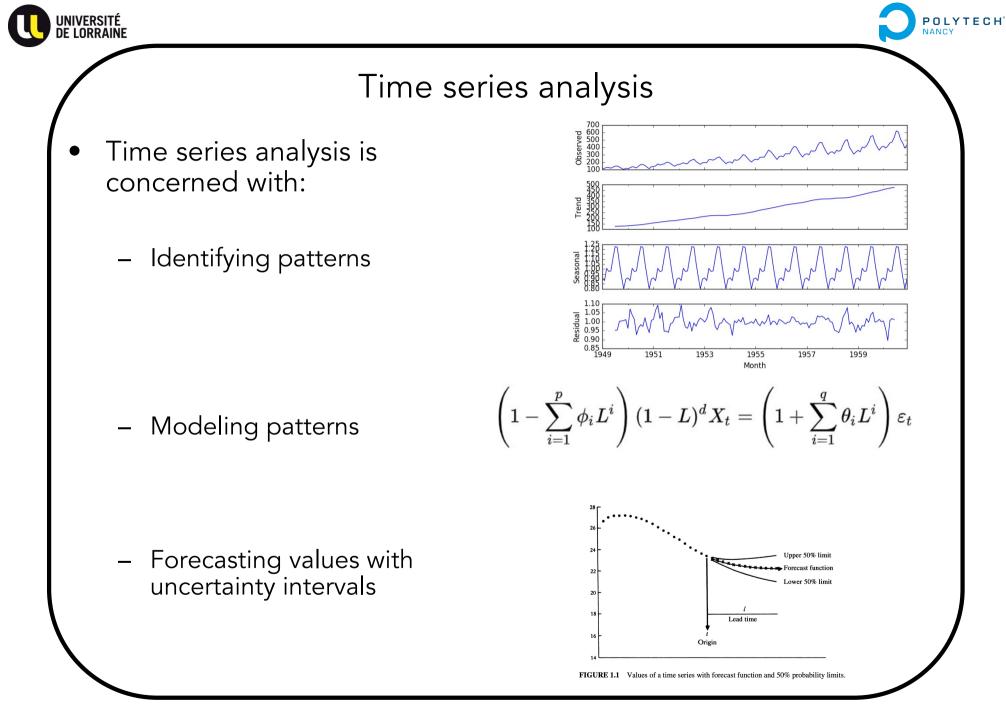
$$x_t = (x_1, \dots, x_N)$$

where *t* represents time in second, hour, day, month, quarter, year,...

• The main goal is to forecast the future values of the time series

 $x_{N+1}, x_{N+2} \dots$ 









# Time series analysis: fields of application

- Until recently, the use of time series data was mainly related to fields of science, such as
  - economics
  - finance
  - astronomy
  - industry
- However, in recent years, as the ability to collect data improved with the use of digital devices such as computers, mobiles, sensors, or satellites
- Time series data analysis is now exploited everywhere !





# Historical developments for time series analysis

- Tools available find their sources in four historical phases:
  - Graphic representation method: diagrams appeared in Astronomy, the oldest known dating back to the 10th century
  - **Deterministic methods**: they appeared in the 18th and 19th centuries, there are two very important ways:
    - frequency analysis of a time series (Fourier analysis)
    - decomposition of a time series into trend, cyclical, seasonal and accidental components
  - Model-based stochastic methods: they emerge in the middle of the 20th century, as for example
    - the ARIMA model method
  - Data-based methods: they emerge in the beginning of the 21st century with the deluge of data collected every day. It goes beyond our ability to observe, analyze, and exploit them
    - the machine learning and deep learning methods





# An overview of 8 different time series analysis methods



11 mn





# Introduction to time series analysis and forecasting Course outline

Before exploring recent machine learning and deep learning methods, it is good idea to ensure you have tried classical and statistical time series forecasting methods. These methods are still performing well on a wide range of problems when the number of data is relatively limited

### Course outline

- I. Main characteristics of time series data
- II. Time series decomposition
- III. Basic time series modelling and forecasting methods
- IV. Stochastic time series modelling and forecasting: ARIMA method





## Software requirements for the course

### We will make extensive use of Matlab and of the Econometrics Toolbox

### All Examples Functions Apps

### **Econometrics Toolbox**

Model and analyze financial and economic systems using statistical methods

Econometrics Toolbox<sup>™</sup> provides functions for analyzing and modeling time series data. It offers a wide range of visualizations and diagnostics for model selection, including tests for autocorrelation and heteroscedasticity, unit roots and stationarity, cointegration, causality, and structural change. You can estimate, simulate, and forecast economic systems using a variety of modeling frameworks. These frameworks include regression, ARIMA, state-space, GARCH, multivariate VAR and VEC, and switching models. The toolbox also provides Bayesian tools for developing time-varying models that learn from new data.

#### **Get Started**

Learn the basics of Econometrics Toolbox

**Data Preprocessing** Format, plot, and transform time series data

Model Selection Specification testing and model assessment

**Time Series Regression Models** Bayesian linear regression models and regression models with nonspherical disturbances

Conditional Mean Models Autoregressive (AR), moving average (MA), ARMA, ARIMA, ARIMAX, and seasonal models

### Conditional Variance Models GARCH, exponential GARCH (EGARCH), and GJR models

#### **Multivariate Models**

Cointegration analysis, vector autoregression (VAR), vector error-correction (VEC), and Bayesian VAR models

### Markov Models

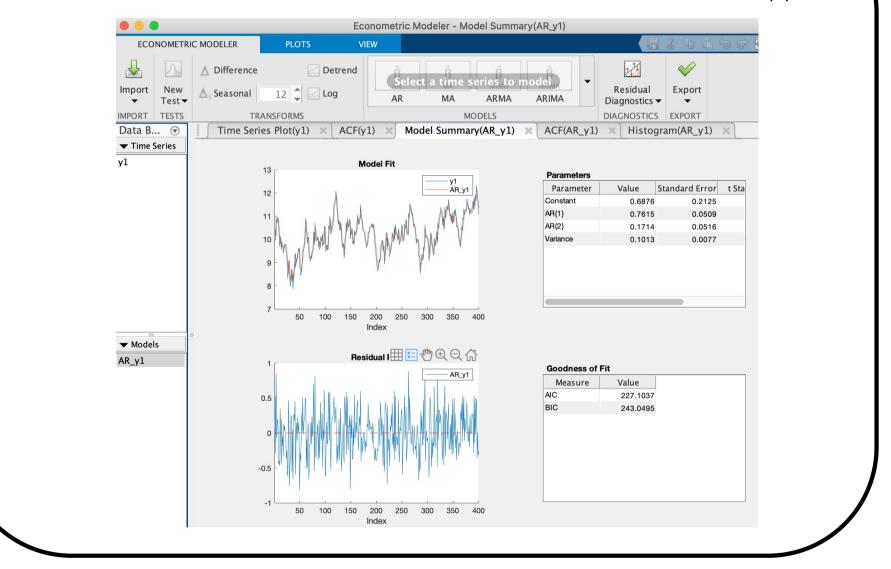
Discrete-time Markov chains, Markov-switching autoregression, and state-space models





# Software requirements for the course

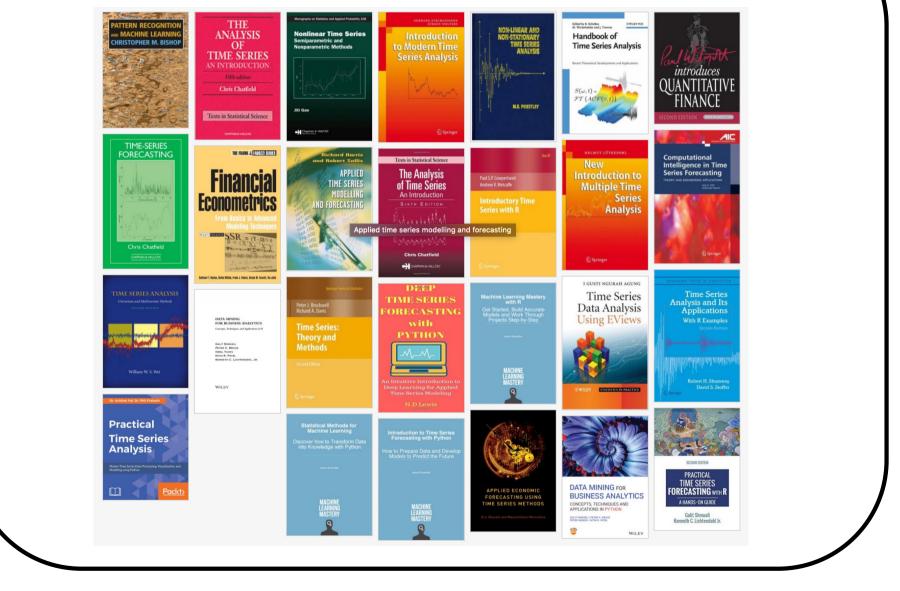
We will also make use of the recent Econometrics Modeller App







There is a wealth of books on time series !!! (most are focused on using the R platform)

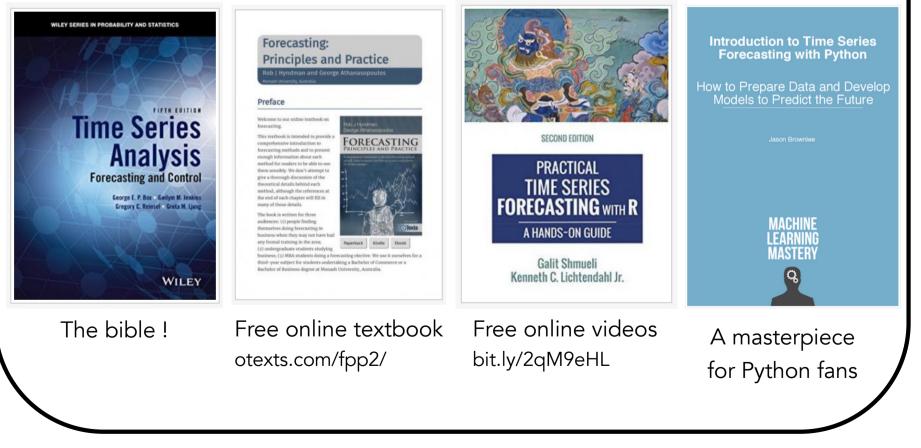






# Course website & recommended textbooks

- Website of the course
  - w3.cran.univ-lorraine.fr/hugues.garnier/?q=content/teaching
- Recommended textbooks







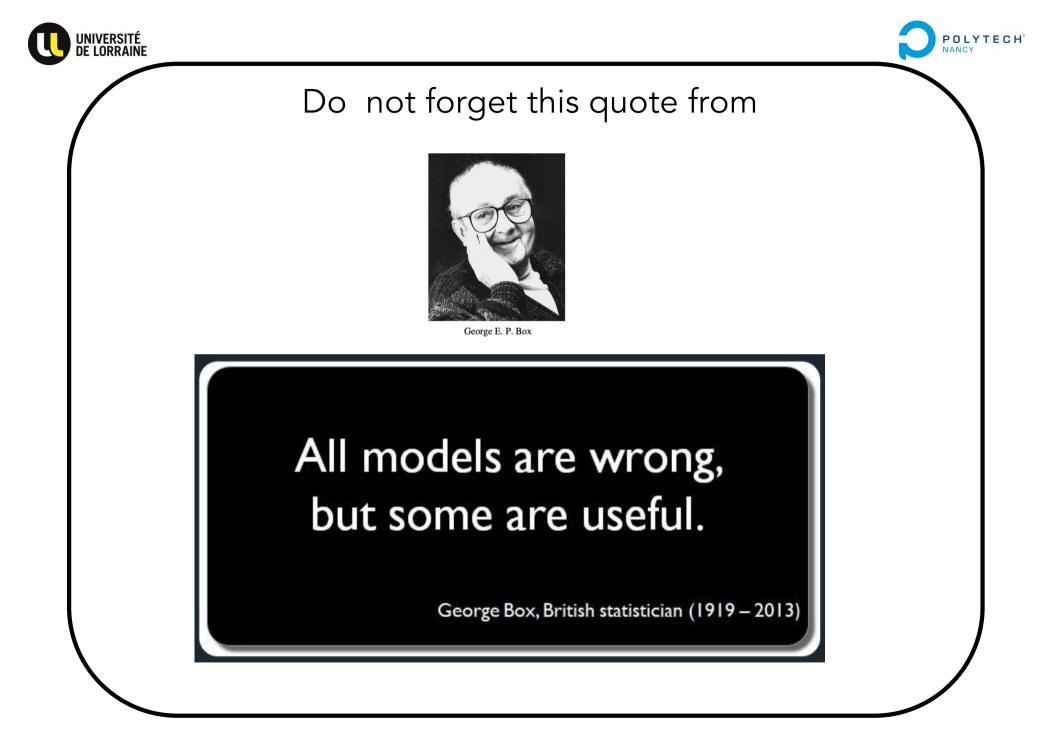
# Key takeaways from the course

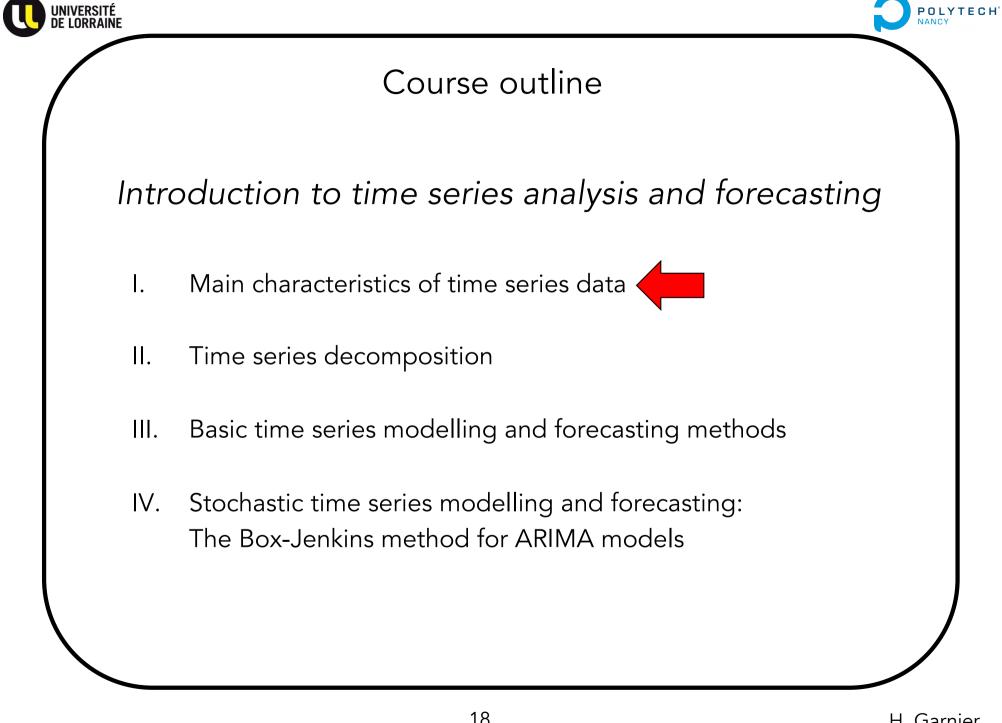
- Introduction to classical time series analysis methods along with implementation on real-life data examples
  - Understand the importance of forecasting for planning and decision making
  - Have a basic knowledge of the main fields where forecasting is used
  - Be familiar with the difference between descriptive and forecasting goals
  - Know how to visualize time series data for discovering their main components
  - Be familiar with the concepts of stationarity and autocorrelation
  - Know ARIMA methods and be able to choose adequate methods for different types of data
  - Understand how different models and methods can be used for forecasting
  - Know how to evaluate and compare the performance of forecasting methods

Time series modelling & forecasting

is a discipline of <u>Data Science</u>

that requires practical skills and experience

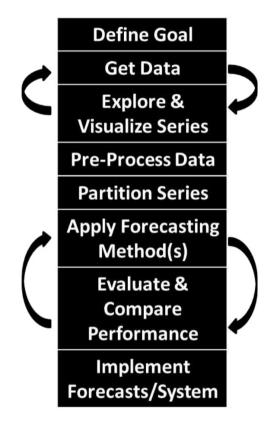








# Steps in the statistical iterative modeling process



From Galit Schmueli Practical time series forecasting with R





## Description

Define Goa

Get Data Explore & Visualize Series Pre-Process Data Partition Series Apply Forecasting

Method(s) Evaluate & Compare Performance Implement Eorecasts/Syste

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• Determine the main features of the series: trend, seasonal, cyclical patterns

## Explanation

• Understand the mechanism generating the series. Find a model to describe the time dependence in data, assess the impact of an event

## Forecasting

• Forecast the future value(s) based on the past

## Control

• of the process producing the time series

## Predictive maintenance

• to predict when equipment failure might occur and to prevent its occurrence by performing maintenance



- The first thing to do is to make a time plot and look for patterns
- The following may be observed:

Define Goal

Get Data Explore & /isualize Series

Partition Series

Method(s) **Evaluate &** Compare

Performance Implement Forecasts/Syste

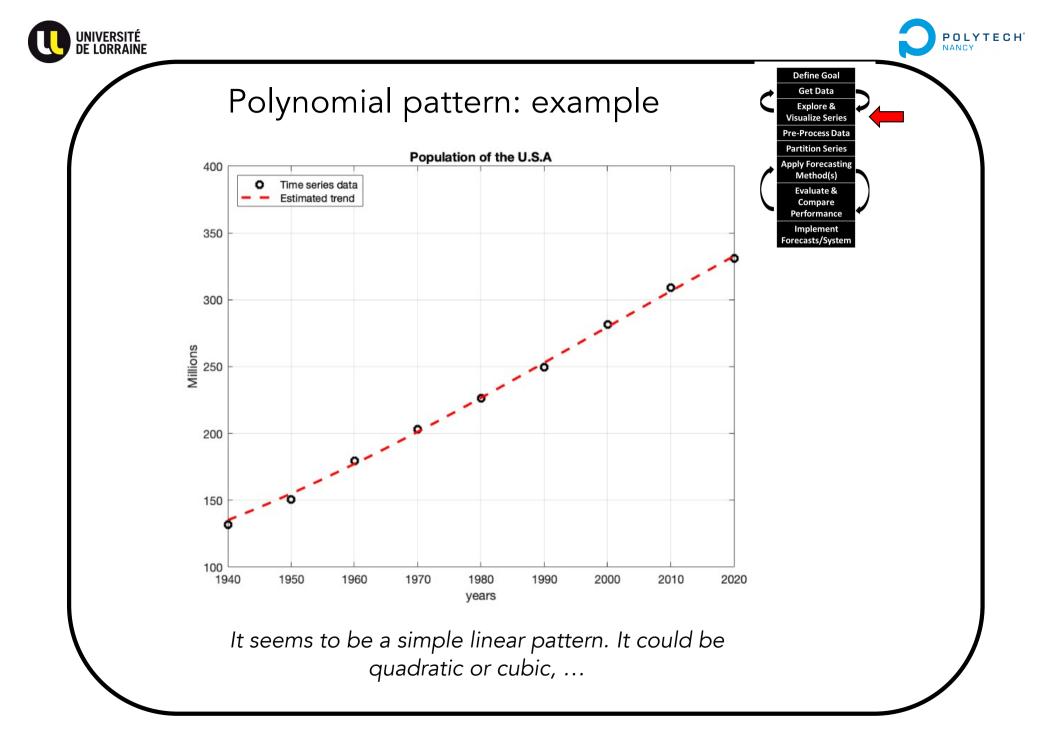
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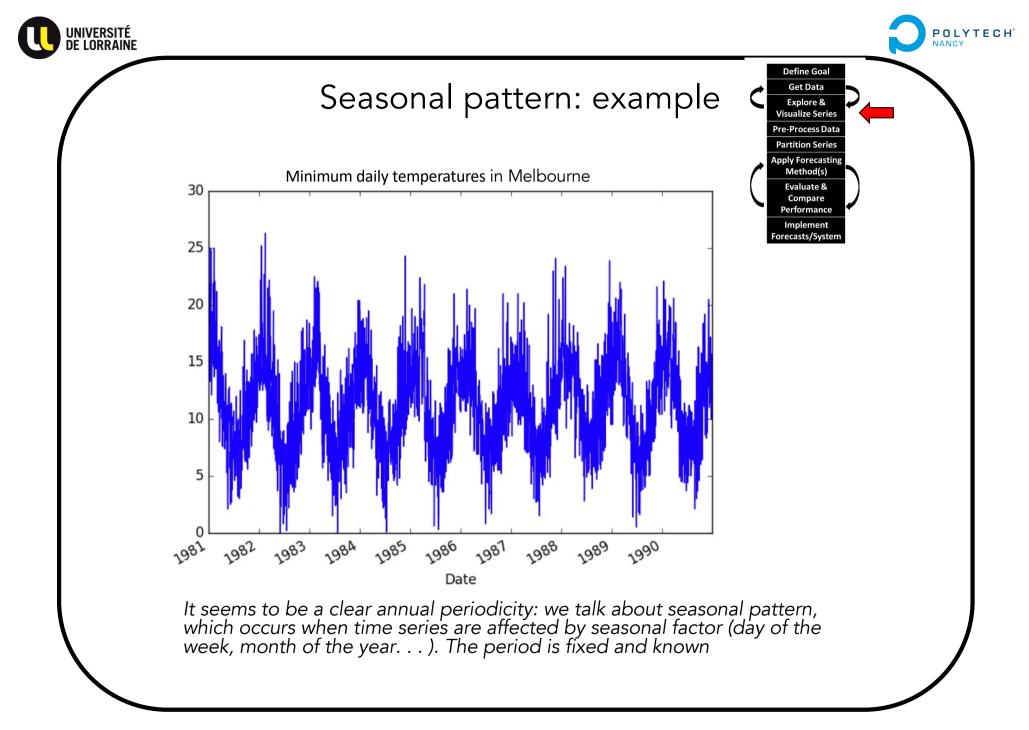
- 01-Jan-1950 a trend pattern, which is a long term increase or decrease in the variable of interest
- a *seasonal/periodic pattern* appears when a time series is affected by seasonal factors such as time of the year or the day of the week
- a cyclical pattern, which is one where there are rises and falls but not of regular period, generally thought of as longer in time, e.g., several years
- no special or random pattern, the irregular variation seems to be stochastic

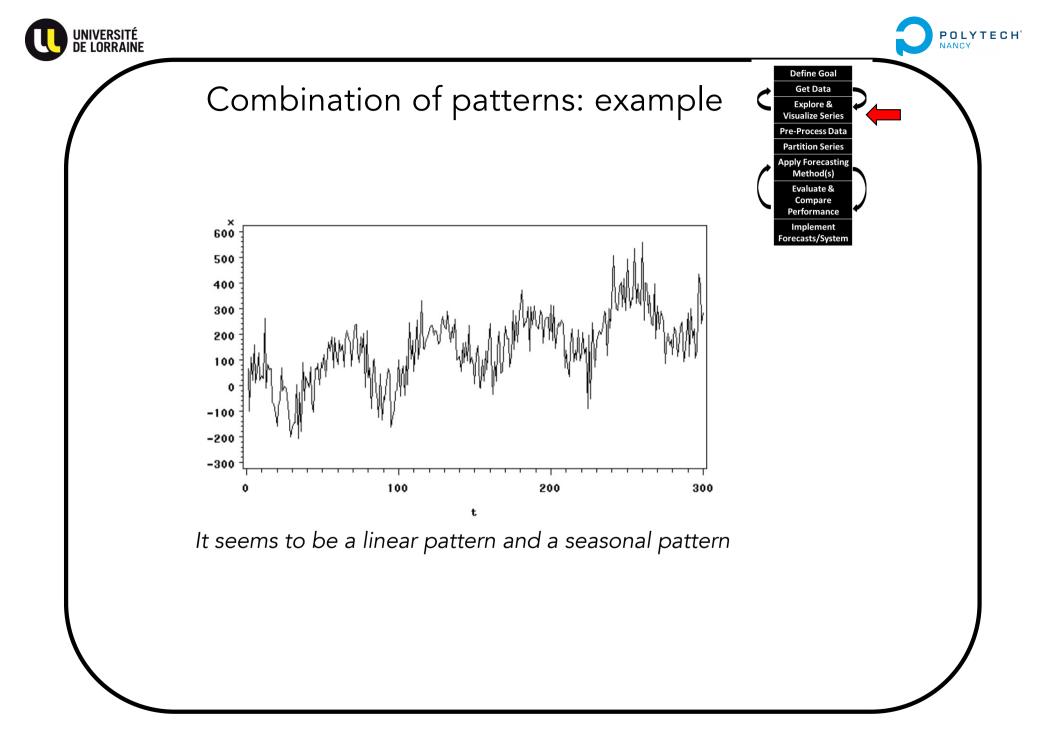
Combinations of the above first three types of pattern occur frequently

POLYTECH

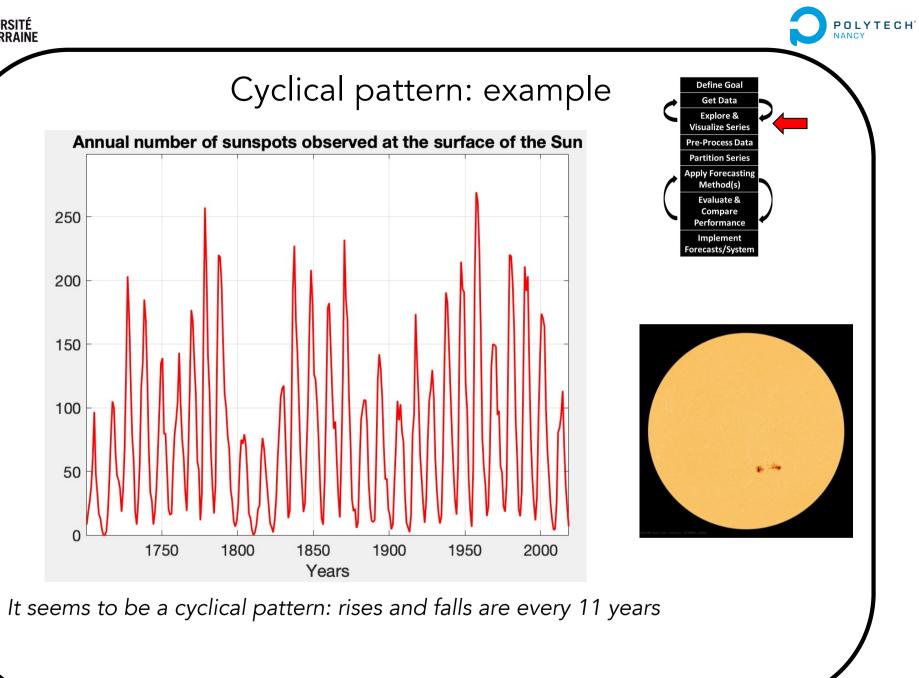
Time Series Plot:AirlinePassen

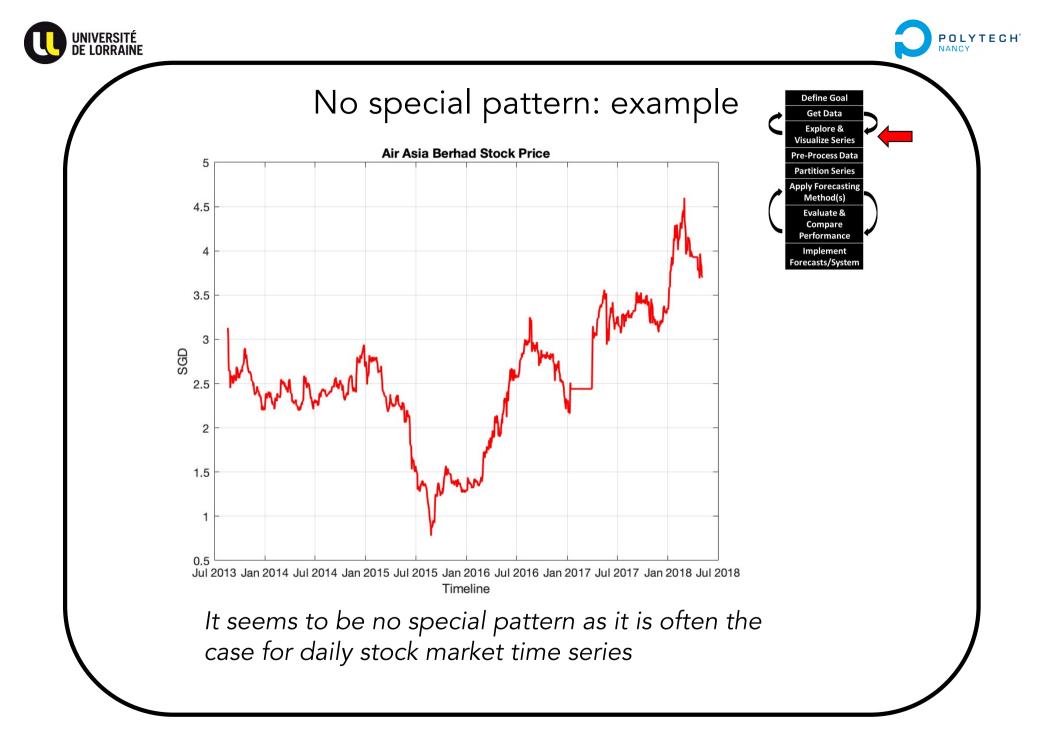










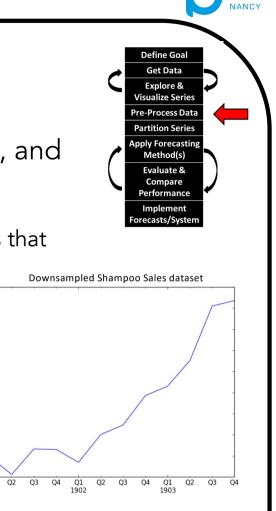




# Pre-process data

Time series data often requires cleaning, scaling, and even transformation. For example:

- Outliers
  - data can be corrupted or extreme outlier values that need to be detected and handled
- Missing
  - Data can have gaps or missing data that need to be interpolated or imputed
- Baseline (offset) removing
- Pattern removing
- Smoothing
- Filtering
- Resampling
  - Data can be provided at a frequency that is too high to model or is unevenly spaced through time requiring downsampling for use in some models or methods



600 550

500

450

400 350

300

250 200

150 Q1 1901 Partition the time series data

 To address the problem of overfitting, an important preliminary step before applying any forecasting method is data partitioning where the series is split into two periods

Define Goal

Get Data Explore & Visualize Series

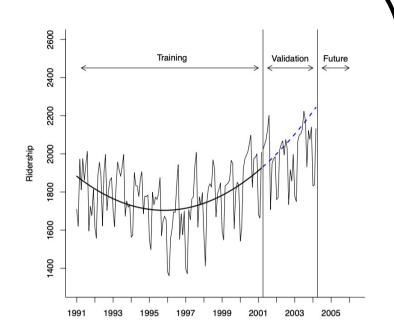
Pre-Process Data Partition Series Apply Forecasting Method(s) Evaluate & Compare

Performance

Implement

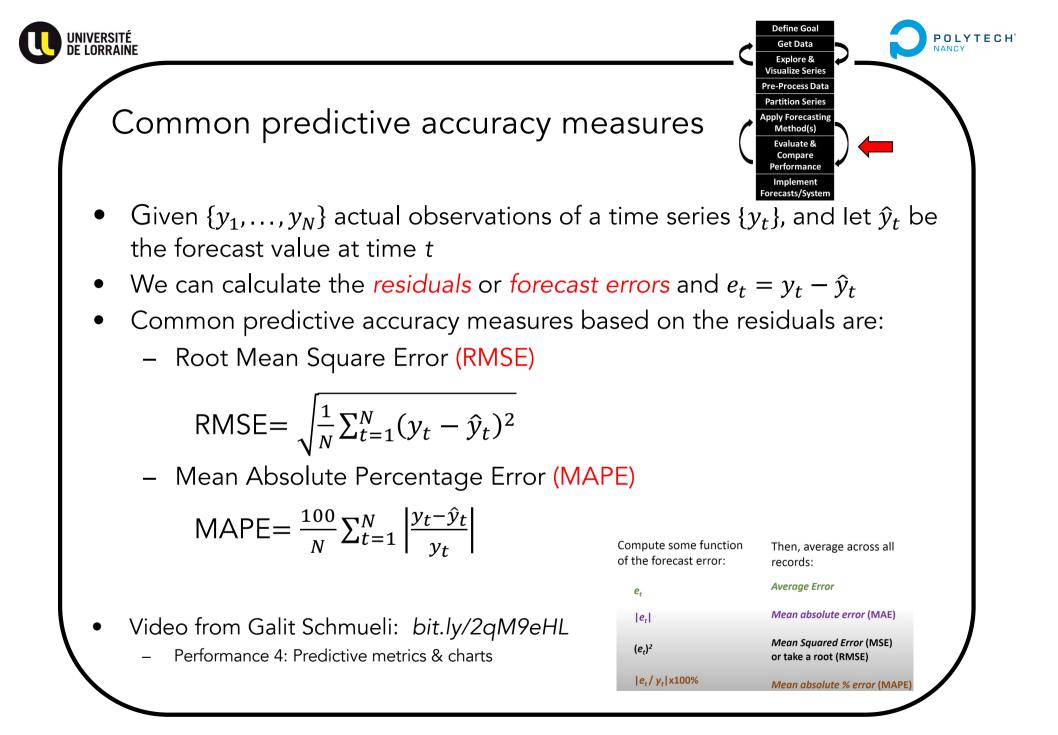
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- The model is learned using the training dataset only
- The estimated model is used to make predictions on the validation dataset and see how it performs
- The evaluation of these predictions will provide a good indication for how the model will perform when it will be used operationally (in the future)

POLYTECH







# Course outline

Introduction to time series analysis and forecasting

- I. Main characteristics of time series data
- II. Time series decomposition
- III. Basic time series modelling and forecasting methods
- IV. Stochastic time series modelling and forecasting: The Box-Jenkins method for ARIMA models





# Time series: basic characteristics

- Trend component
  - long-term increase or decrease in the data over time
- Seasonal component
  - influenced by seasonal factors (e.g. quarter of the year, month, or day of the week)
  - exact repetition in regular pattern (seasonal series often called periodic, although they do not exactly repeat themselves)
- Cyclical component
  - data exhibit rises and falls that are not of a fixed period
- Random or stochastic component
  - irregular variation data without any special pattern
- Correlation between the series and its past value
  - we need to build a model that is able to deal with such dependencies





## Time series: standard decomposition model

- **Data**:  $y_t$  where t indexes time, e.g. hour, day, month, year
- Standard model:  $y_t = f(m_t, s_t, x_t)$ 
  - $m_t$  is a trend-cycle component
  - $s_t$  is a seasonality component
  - $x_t$  is a stationary random component
- Standard functional forms for  $\boldsymbol{f}$ 
  - Additive (linear):  $y_t = m_t + s_t + x_t$
  - Multiplicative (non linear):  $y_t = m_t \times s_t \times x_t$
  - Mixed (non linear):  $y_t = m_t \times s_t + x_t$





# Time series: standard decomposition model

• Additive model

 $y_t = m_t + s_t + x_t$ 

- assumes constant variability of the time series

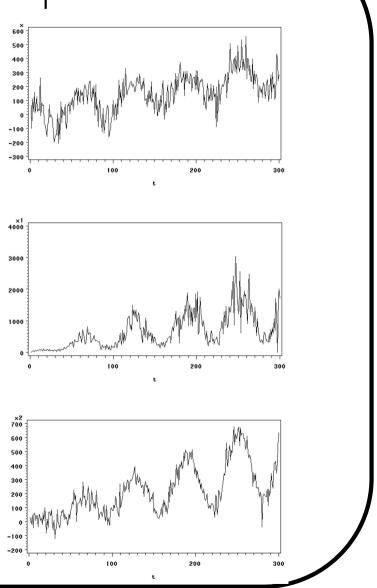
• Multiplicative model

 $y_t = m_t \times s_t \times x_t$ 

- assumes that variability (seasonal and random) is amplified with trend
- Mixed model

 $y_t = m_t \times s_t + x_t$ 

 assumes that variability is amplified with trend but the random component remains constant over time

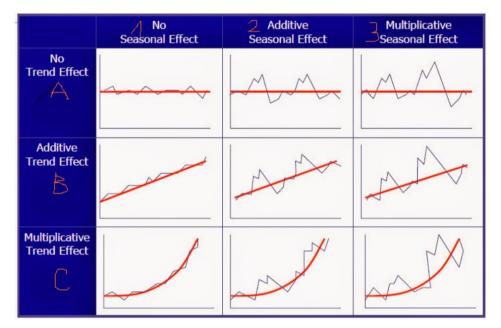






# Guide to choose the model form

 Visual inspection can help to decide whether the model should be additive or multiplicative is given by the patterns below, suggested first by Pegels in 1969



- The additive model assumes constant variability of the time series
- The multiplicative model assumes that variability is amplified with trend





Time series analysis:

The standard decomposition procedure

- The primary goal of time series decomposition is to provide the analyst with a better understanding of the underlying behavior and patterns of the time series
- Usual assumption: additive model

$$y_t = m_t + s_t + x_t$$

- If the model is multiplicative, apply first a log transformation on the data  $Y_t = \log(y_t)$
- Standard parametric decomposition procedure
  - $m_t$  and  $s_t$  are first estimated
  - they are subtracted from  $y_t$  to have left the stationary process  $x_t$
  - x<sub>t</sub> can be further analyzed and modelled using time series modeling approaches if necessary





 $y_t = f(m_t, s_t, x_t)$ 

# Modelling the trend component

- Polynomial model (in t)

$$m_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 t + \beta_2 t^2 + \dots + \beta_p t^p$$

- Which polynomial order to select ?
  - Use model selection to select among the predicting variables  $(t, t^2, ..., t^p)$
  - Cautious! Strong correlation among the predicting variables
- Commonly used small order polynomial (p=1 or 2)
  - linear:  $m_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 t$
  - quadratic:  $m_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 t + \beta_2 t^2$
- Parameters
  - Estimated by using linear regression where the predicting variables are  $(t, t^2, ..., t^p)$
- Exponential model (in t)

$$m_t = m_0 e^{at}$$

- Parameters
  - Estimated by using linear regression where the predicting variables are  $(t, t^2, ..., t^p)$ after the use of the log for the exponential case





- Single periodic component

$$s_t = s_{t+d}$$

- How to determine the period *d* ?
  - Visual inspection
  - Fourier analysis (see course on digital signal processing from last year)
- Harmonic seasonal model
  - uses of sine and cosine functions to describe the pattern of fluctuations seen across period

$$s_t = \sum_{i=1}^{S/2} a_i \cos\left(\frac{2\pi i t}{S}\right) + b_i \sin\left(\frac{2\pi i t}{S}\right)$$

• S is the number of seasons,  $a_i$  and  $b_i$  are the parameters to be estimated

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 $y_t = f(m_t, s_t, x_t)$ 





Modelling the random componentStationarity assumption $y_t = f(m_t, s_t, x_t)$ 

- $x_t$  is modelled as a realization of a stochastic process  $X_t$
- A stochastic process is a collection of random variables  $\{X_t, t \in T\}$  defined on a probability space  $(\Omega, F, P)$
- The stochastic process  $X_t$  is assumed to be stationary
  - Its probability distribution does not change when shifted in time
  - Realizations of a stationary stochastic process, vary over time in a stable manner about a fixed mean
  - It is (weakly) stationary if it can be described by its first two moments only
    - Mean, variance
    - AutoCorrelation Function (ACF)
      - ACF is also very useful for describing/testing the stationary property of a random component





#### Some intuitions for (weak) stationary time series

- The properties of one section of a data are much like the properties of the other sections of the data
  - no systematic change in the mean *i.e.*, no trend
  - no systematic change in variation
  - no periodic fluctuations
- For non-stationary time series, some transformations (such as differencing, decomposition or logarithm, ...) can be applied to get stationary time series





# Moments of a probability distribution A brief review

- Moments of a random variable X with density  $f_X(x)$ :
  - *l*-th moment

$$m'_l = \mathbb{E}[X^l] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^l f_X(x) \, dx$$

- *l*-th central moment

$$m_l = E[(X - \mu)^l] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu)^l f_X(x) dx$$

- Examples of low-order moments
  - Expectation:  $m_1 = \mu = E[X]$
  - Variance:  $m_2 = \sigma^2 = E[(X \mu)^2]$





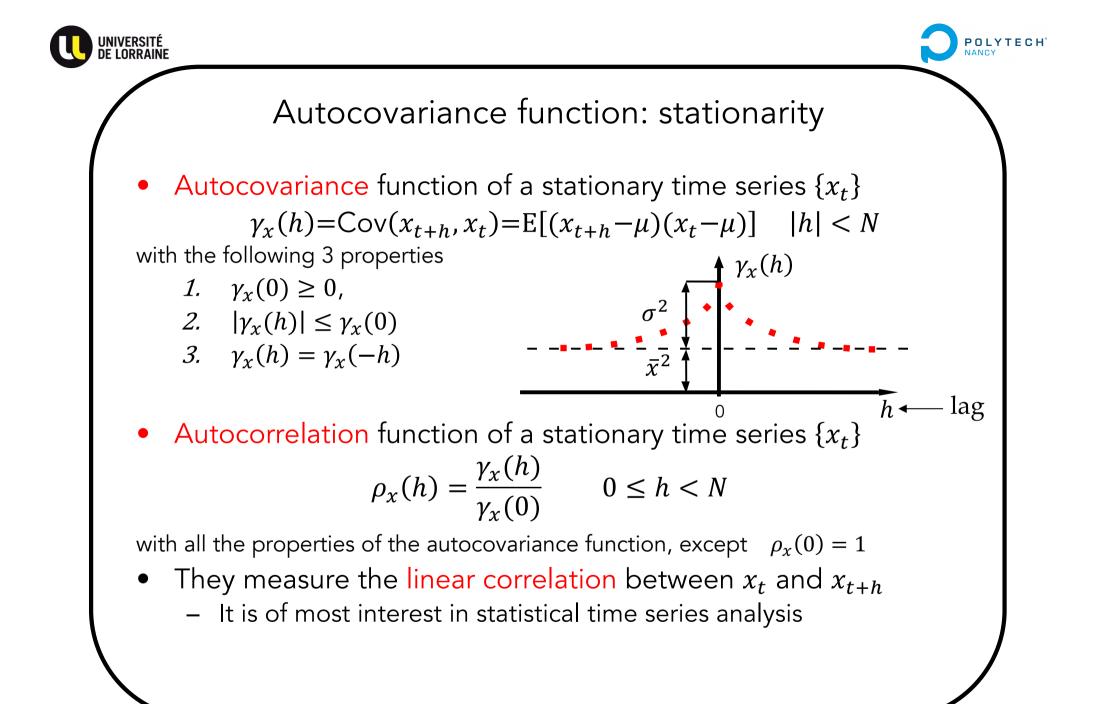
### Autocorrelation function (or correlogram)

# Autocorrelation (serial correlation)

Correlation between the series and its past values

Correlation between pairs of values at a certain lag Lag-1 autocorrelation: between  $y_t$  and  $y_{t-1}$ 

Lag-2 autocorrelation: between  $y_t$  and  $y_{t-2}$ 







### Sample or empirical statistics

- Given  $\{x_1, \ldots, x_N\}$  observations of a stationary time series  $\{x_t\}$ , estimate the sample mean, variance and autocovariance
  - Sample mean

$$\hat{\mu} = \bar{x} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i$$

- Sample variance

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_i - \hat{\mu})^2$$

- Sample autocovariance function

$$\hat{\gamma}_x(h) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N-h} (x_{j+h} - \bar{x}) (x_j - \bar{x}), \quad 0 \le h < N,$$

with 
$$\hat{\gamma}_x(h) = \hat{\gamma}_x(-h)$$
,  $-N < h \le 0$ 

Sample autocorrelation function

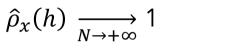
$$\hat{\rho}_x(h) = \frac{\hat{\gamma}_x(h)}{\hat{\gamma}_x(0)}, \qquad |h| < N$$

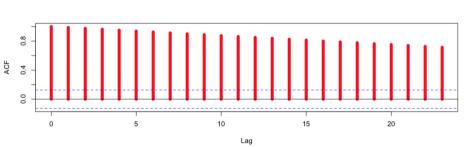




Autocorrelation function properties of basic trend and seasonal patterns

- If the time series  $\{x_t\}$ ,  $1 \le t \le N$ , is a deterministic pure linear trend
  - $x_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 t$ , then for all h





• If the time series  $\{x_t\}$ ,  $1 \le t \le N$ , is a deterministic pure seasonal pattern, as for example

• 
$$x_t = \cos\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T}\right)$$
, then for all  $h$   
 $\hat{\rho}_x(h) \xrightarrow[N \to +\infty]{} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi h}{T}\right)$ 

- The presence of basic trend and seasonal patterns is easily observable in the autocorrelation plot
  - It can also help to measure the value of the period of the seasonality

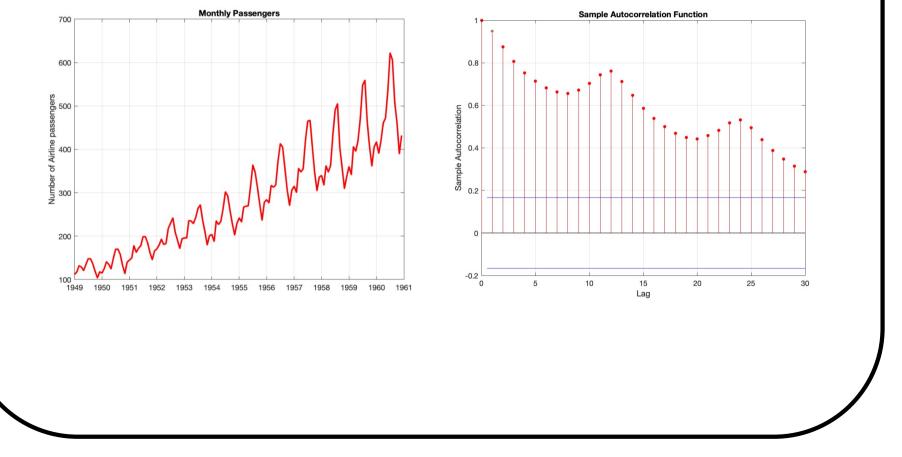
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## Testing for seasonality in a time series from the ACF plot

- If there is seasonality, the ACF at the seasonal lag will be large and positive
  - Annual seasonality in monthly data can be observed from the ACF where a large value will be seen at lag 12 and possibly also at lags 24, 36, . . .

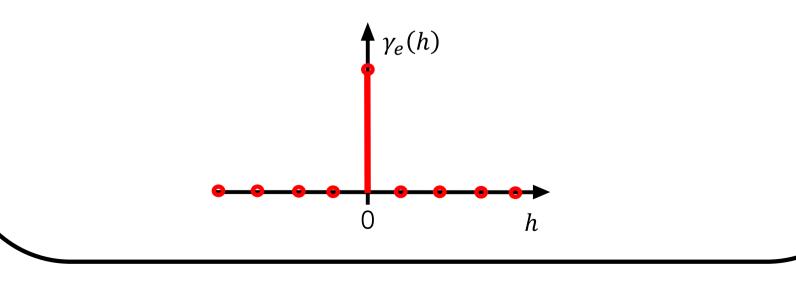


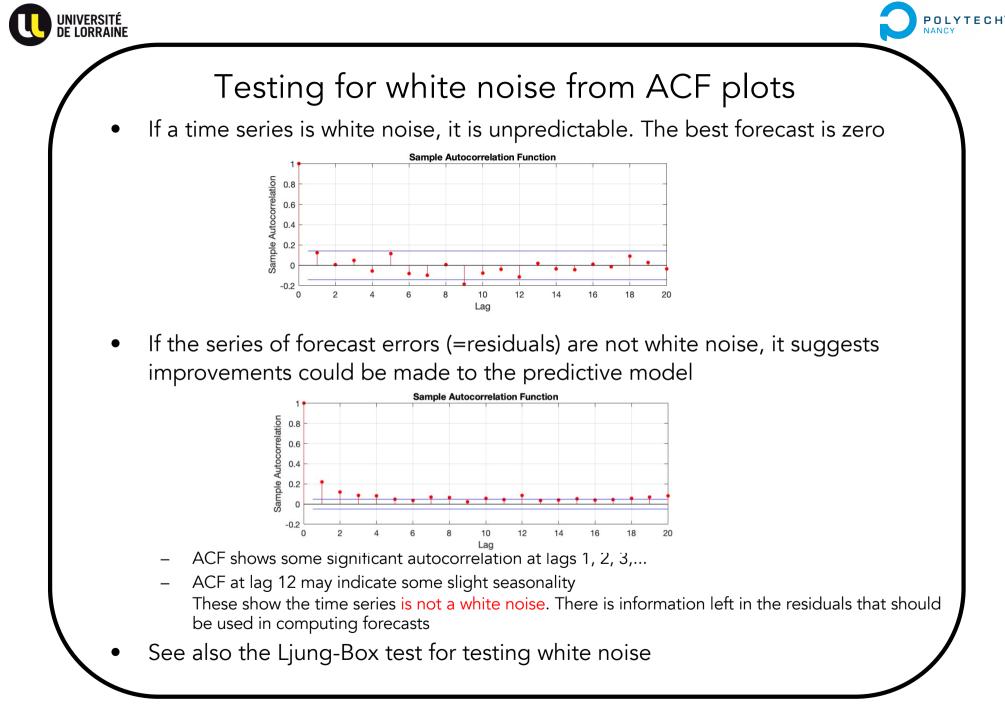


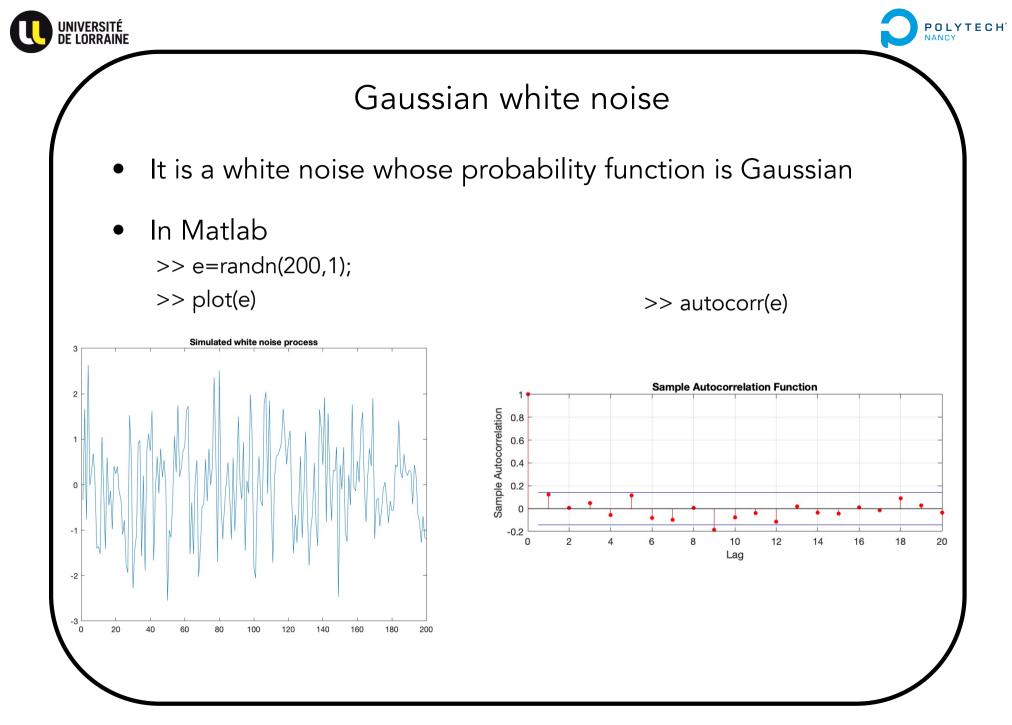


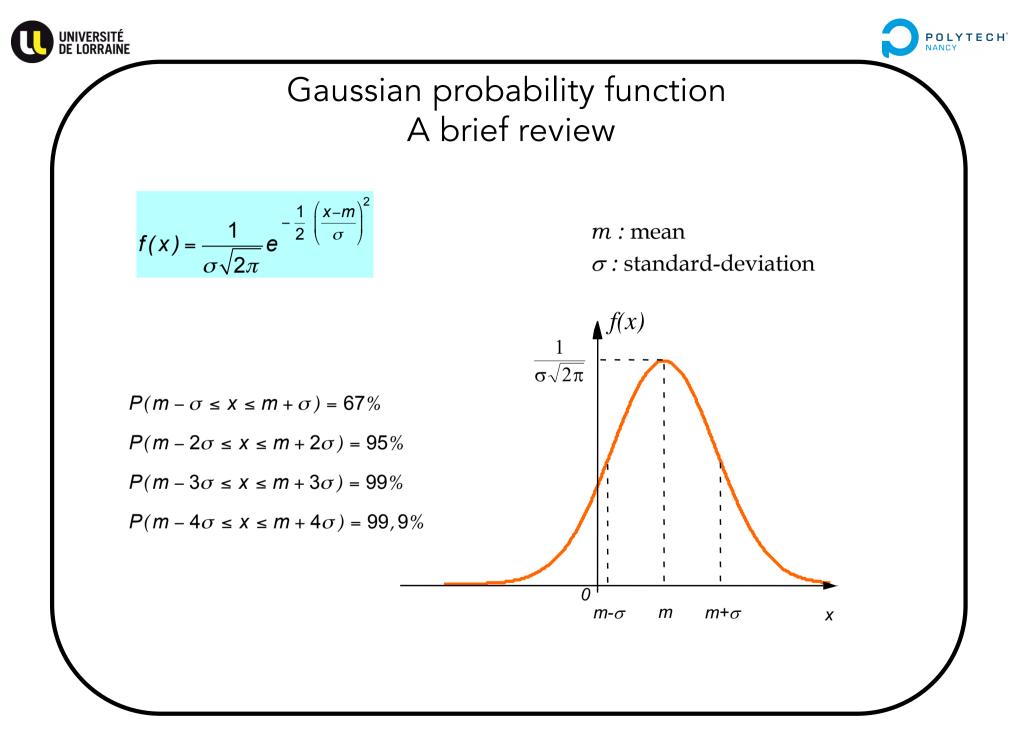
#### White noise

- The most fundamental example of a (weakly) stationary process is a sequence of independent and identically distributed random variables
  - Such a process may also be referred to as a white noise process
  - Its probability function can be uniform, Gaussian, ...
  - They are *uncorrelated*, have mean zero, and common variance
  - Because independence implies that its variables are uncorrelated at different times, its autocovariance function is simply a Kronecker impulse













# Gaussian probability function *Review*

- Important properties
  - Two Gaussian random signals  $x_k$  and  $x_l$  for  $k \neq l$  are uncorrelated (property of white noise) and therefore independent (property of Gaussian probability density)
  - The Gaussian probability density is the only law for which there is equivalence between non-correlation and independence
  - Gaussian laws preserve their Gaussian character in any linear operation: derivation, integration, convolution, filtering



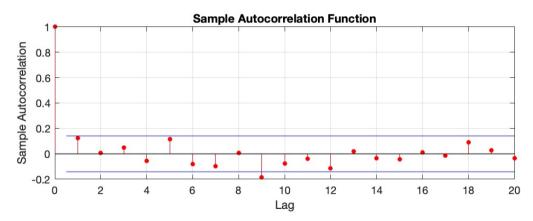


Sampling distribution of autocorrelations White noise case

- Sampling distribution of  $\gamma_e(h)$  for a white noise is asymptotically Gaussian N  $\left(0, \frac{1}{N}\right)$ 
  - 95% of all  $\gamma_e(h)$  must lie within  $\pm \frac{1.96}{\sqrt{N}}$
  - It is common to plot limit lines at  $\pm \frac{1.96}{\sqrt{N}}$  when plotting the ACF  $\gamma_e(h)$

- If this is not the case, the series is probably not WN

• Example: If N = 125, critical values at  $\pm \frac{1.96}{\sqrt{125}} = \pm 0.175$ 



 All ACF coefficients lie within these limits, confirming that the data are white noise (more precisely, the data cannot be distinguished from white noise)





# Example of non-stationary time series: The random walk

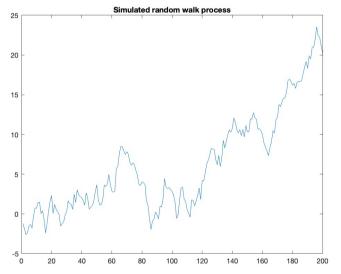
• A random walk  $\{z_t\}$  is the cumulative sum of a white noise  $\{x_t\}$  with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ 

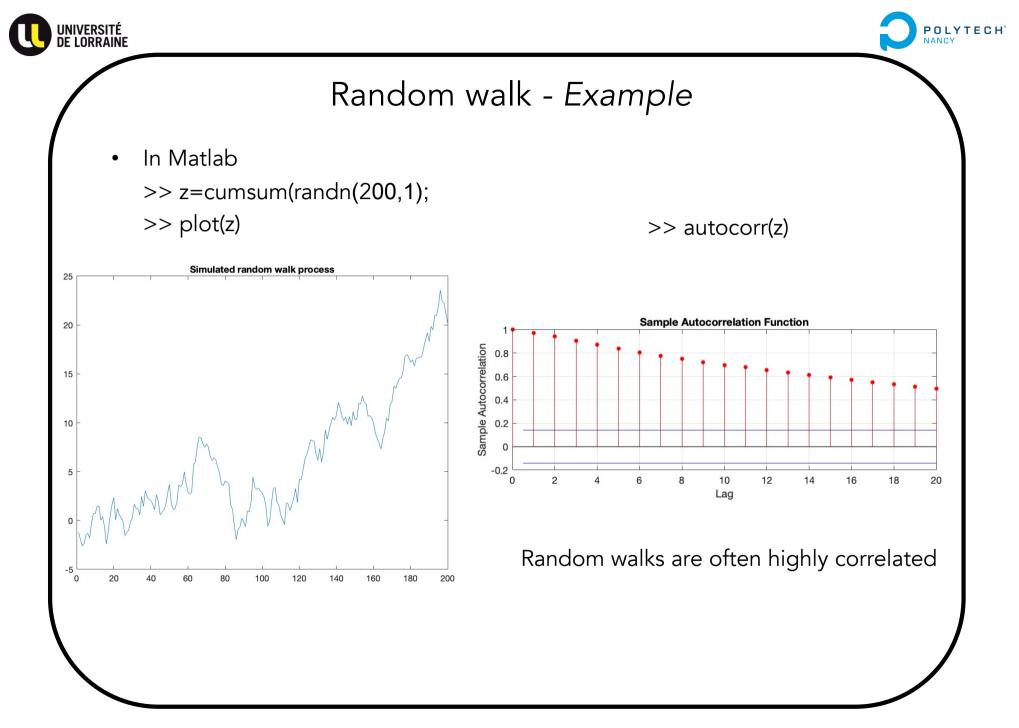
$$z_t = z_{t-1} + x_t$$

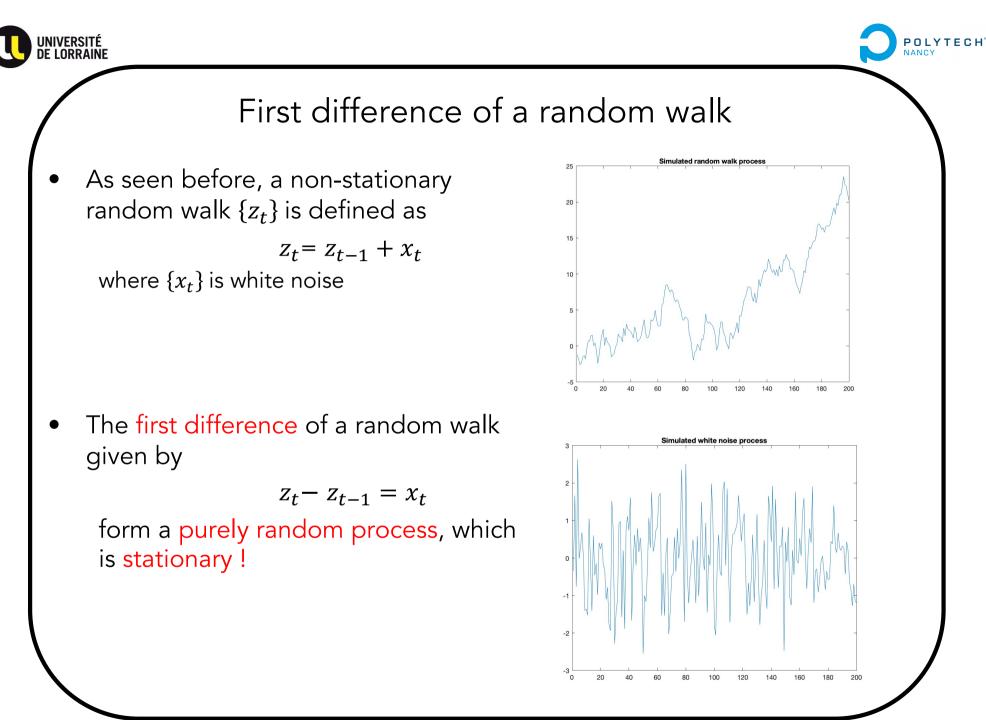
or

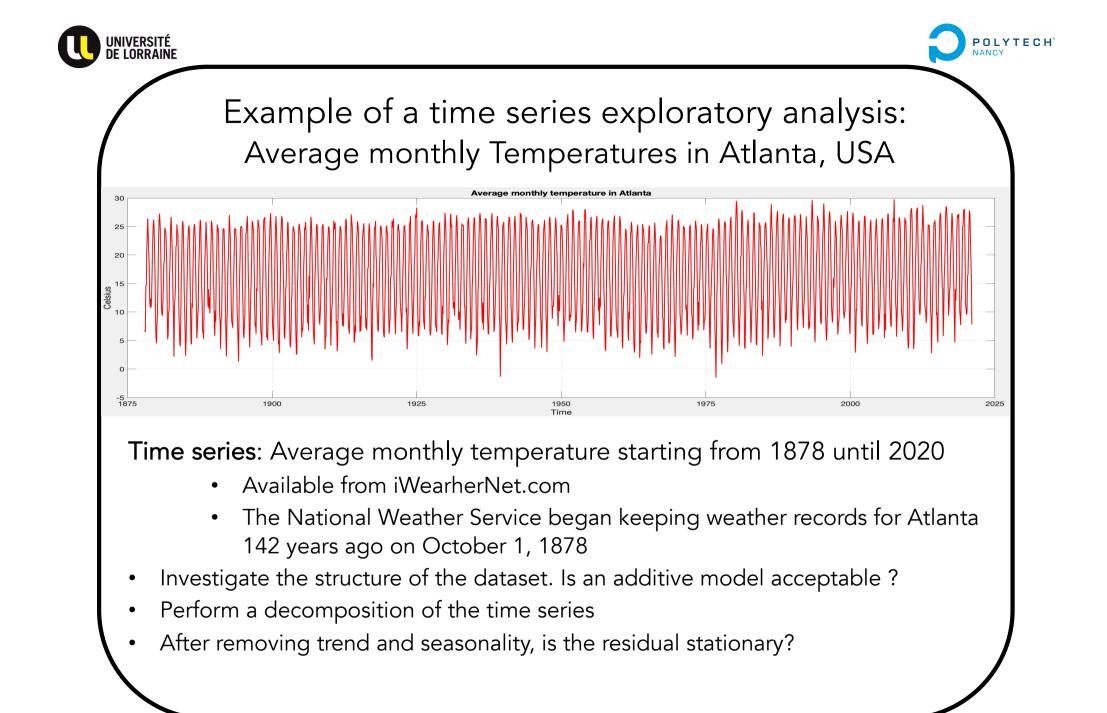
f 
$$x_0 = 0$$
,  $z_t = \sum_{j=1}^t x_j$ 

- We cannot see any trend in the time plot !
- Its mean and variance vary with time
  - Mean:  $E[z_t] = \mu t$
  - Variance:  $Var[z_t] = \sigma^2 t$
- A random walk is a non-stationary process







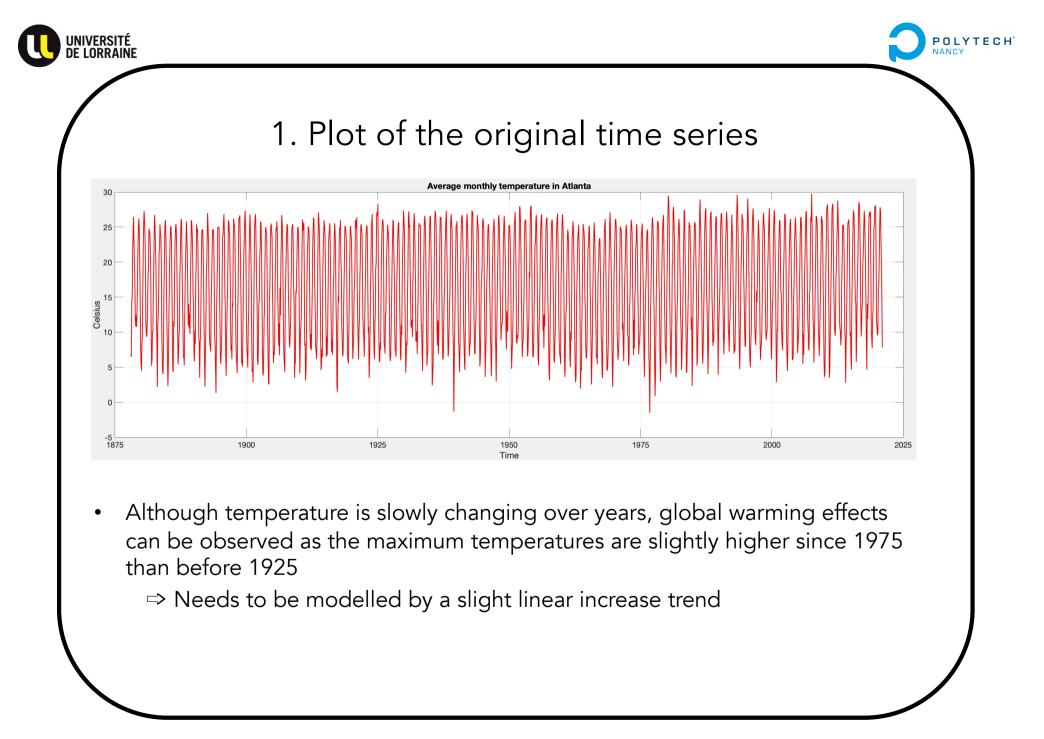


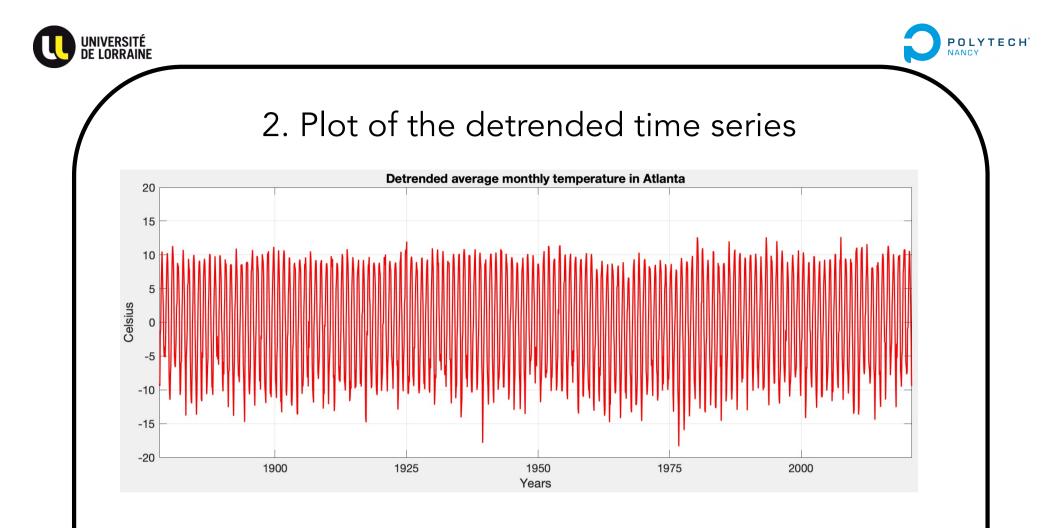




#### Time series exploratory analysis: general approach

- 1. Plot the series and check for a trend-cycle pattern, a seasonal component, any apparent sharp changes in behavior (accidental component), any outliers
- 2. Estimate the trend component and plot the detrended time series
- 3. Plot the sample autocorrelation function of the detrended time series and check for a seasonal and cyclical pattern
- 4. Estimate the seasonal component from the detrended time series. Deseasonalize the time series by substracting the seasonality component from the original time series
- 5. Compute and plot the estimated random component or residuals
- 6. Plot the sample autocorrelation function of the residuals and check for stationary residuals close to a white noise



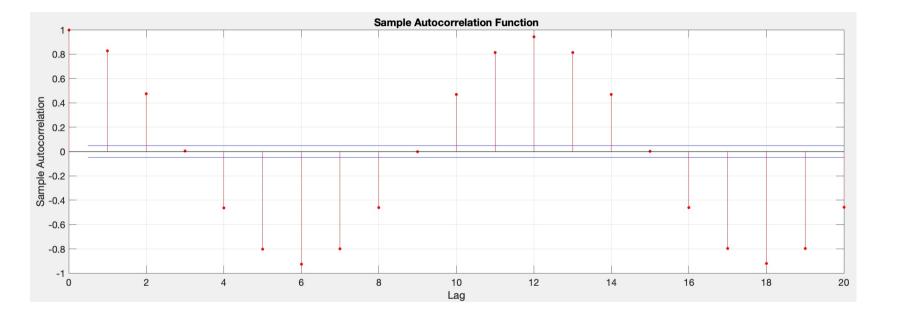


- The slight linear increase trend has been removed from the original time series
- There is still a clear and expected seasonal pattern of 1 year (12 months) which can be confirmed from the ACF of the detrended time series





# 3. Sample autocorrelation function of the detrended time series

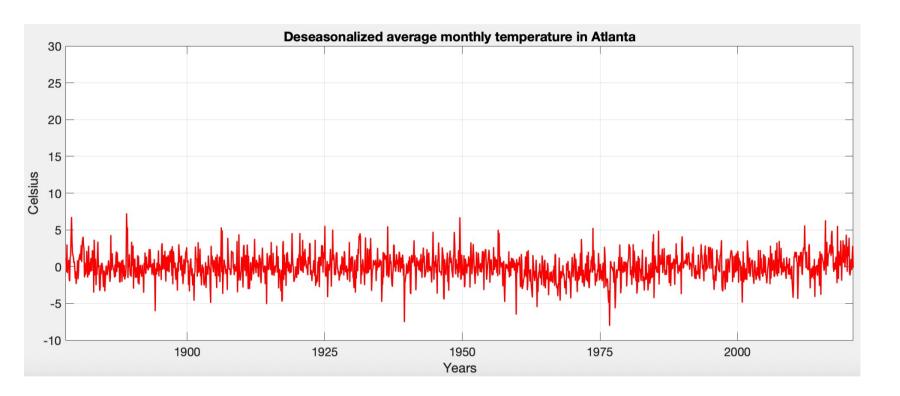


The seasonal pattern of 12 months is clearly observed from the ACF
 Needs to be modelled by a seasonal pattern of 1 year





# 4. Plot of the detrended and deseasonalized time series

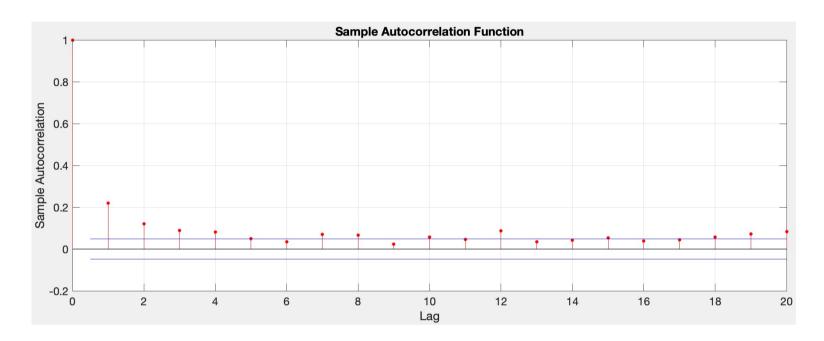


- The estimated trend and seasonal patterns (=estimate of the random component) have now been removed from the original time series
- There is no obvious cyclical pattern





# 5. Sample autocorrelation functions of the detrended and deseasonalized time series



- There is no more obvious trend, seasonal or cyclical patterns
- The ACF shows that the residuals have some stationarity but they would need further modelling to capture the remaining correlation in the time series
   ⇒ could be captured by an ARMA model (see next lectures)





## Time series decomposition Monthly average temperature in Atlanta

