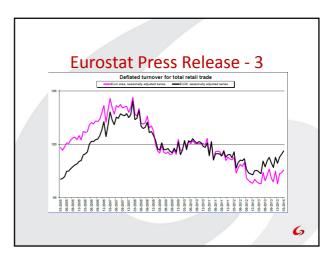


## Scope of the course Conduct a training course in seasonal adjustment With the Purpose 1. To train the DoS staff in seasonal adjustment methodologies 2. To discuss software solutions for the seasonal adjustment Reaching the output 1. Knowledge gained on the state of the art of seasonal adjustment methods: methodology (X-12-Arima and Tramo-Seats) and software (JDemetra+) 2. Transfer the European Union, experience in seasonal adjustment 3. Recommendations prepared on how to implement seasonal adjustment calculations in DoS.







### Roberto Iannaccone

- Currently in charge of the Survey on Indices of Turnover in Service Sector (from sampling to estimation methods) and the quarterly press release. Coordinator of Istat Center of Competence for seasonal adjustment
- Short-Term Statistics Coordinator for Italy and Member of the Eurostat Task Force on Index of Services production
- Participation to several twinning projects (e.g. Course on Seasonal Adjustment in Sarajevo)
- Time series Analysis (business cycle analysis) and estimation methods for short term statistics (calibration techniques)

### **Nigel Stuttard**

- Retired
- Previously with ONS for 25 years working on retail prices, labour market and national accounts.
- 3. Head of Time Series Analysis branch from 2004-2012
- Member of Eurostat Steering Group on Seasonal Adjustment and co-author of EU Guidelines on Seasonal Adjustment.
- 5. Participation in twinning project in Lebanon

6

### Organisation of the course

- 1. Overview of time series analysis
- 2. Why to seasonally adjust time series
- 3. How to carry out seasonally adjust time series:
  - ➤ Methodology: X12-Arima and Tramo-Seats
  - Software: JDemetra+
- Using JDemetra+:
  - How to create input
  - How to read output
- 5. Recommendations

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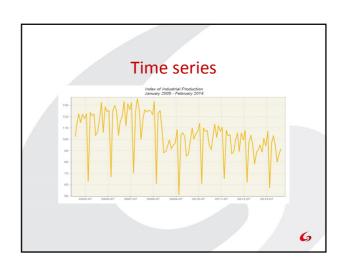
## Part 1 Time series Analysis

- 1. Basic Knowledge (Mean, Variance and Correlation)
- 2. Typical Plots for time series analysis
- 3. How to read a time series analysis
- L. Operators for time series analysis

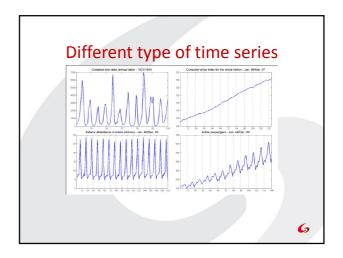
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### Data types

- 1. Cross-section:
  - N Observations for N individuals
  - (Height of students in the classroom)
- 2. Time series
- T Observations collected at different fixed points in a time span (Monthly arrival of tourists)
- 3. Panel data
- Dataset of dimension N x T



## Important features of time series Memory or persistence Sequential observations non-interchangeable Observed times series: a sample realisation A sample of T successive observations in time is not a realisation of T different random variables but the realisation of a single stochastic process, the memory of which is given by the degree of dependency between the composing random variables

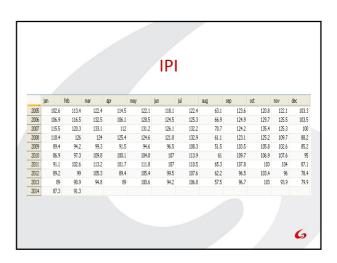


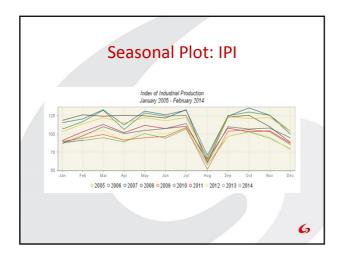
Time series: graphical representation

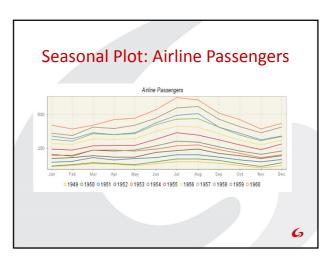
1. Seasonal Plot

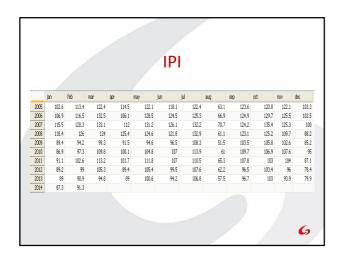
2. Sub-series Plot

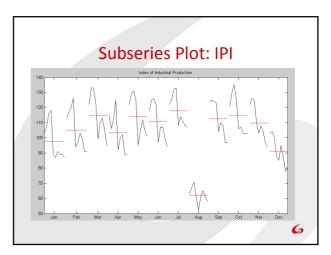
3. Correlogram

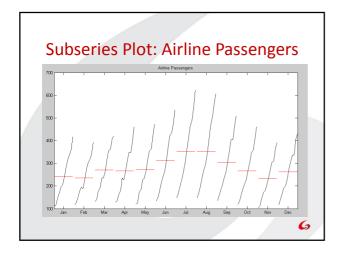


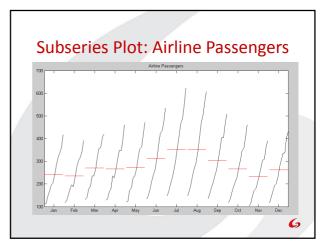












### Time series: some formulas

1. Mean

$$u = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{T} x_t}{T}$$

2. Variance 
$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{T} (x_t - \mu_t)^2}{T}$$

3. Autocorrelation  $\gamma_k = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{T} (x_t - \mu_t)(x_{t-k} - \mu_t)}{\sigma^2}$ 

### Autocorrelation

Autocorrelation: refers to the correlation of a time series with its own past and future values. Positive autocorrelation might be considered a specific form of "persistence", a tendency for a system to remain in the same state from one observation to the next.

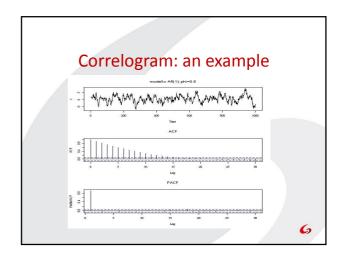
$$\gamma_{1} = \frac{\sum_{t=2}^{T} (x_{t} - \mu)(x_{t-1} - \mu)}{\sigma^{2}}$$

### Correlogram

An important guide to the persistence in a time series is given by the series of quantities called the sample autocorrelation coefficients, which measure the correlation between observations at different times.

The set of autocorrelation coefficients arranged as a function of separation in time is the sample autocorrelation function or the acf.

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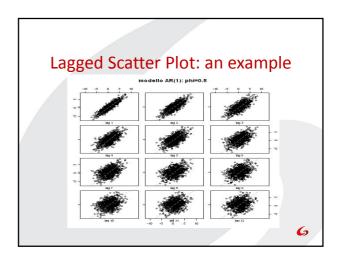


### **Lagged Scatter Plot**

The simplest graphical summary of autocorrelation in a time series is the lagged scatterplot, which is a scatterplot of the time series against itself offset in time by one (k=1) to several time steps (k=12)

A random scattering of points in the lagged scatterplot indicates a lack of autocorrelation.

6



### **Stationarity**

Chapman (2004) introduces the idea of stationarity from an intuitive point of view:

"Broadly speaking, a time series is said to be stationary if there is no systematic change in mean (no trend), if there is no systematic change in variance and if strictly periodic variations have been removed. In other words, the properties of one section of the data are much like those of any other section."

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### Stationarity: in other terms

Weakly stationarity:

- >Mean independent of time
- >Variance independent of time
- > Covariance dependent only on the difference between lags and not from time t

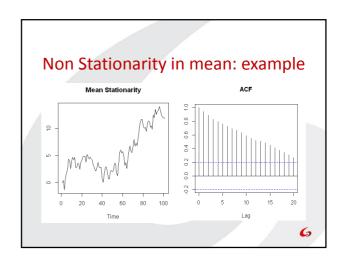
Transformation inducing stationarity

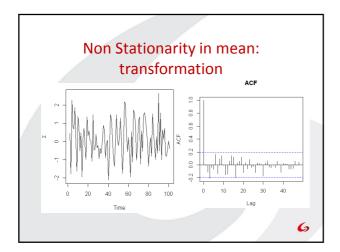
Mean independent of time:

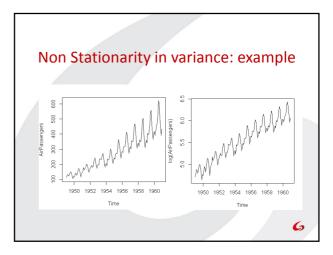
• Regular difference: Z<sub>i</sub>=X<sub>i</sub>-X<sub>i-1</sub>

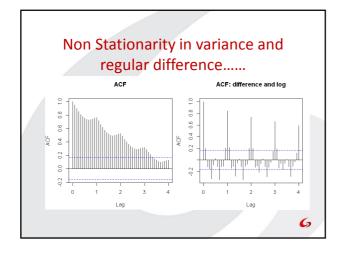
• Seasonal difference: Z<sub>i</sub>=X<sub>i</sub>-X<sub>i-s</sub>
s=4 (quarterly series) or s=12 (monthly series) to deal with non stationarity in seasonal time series

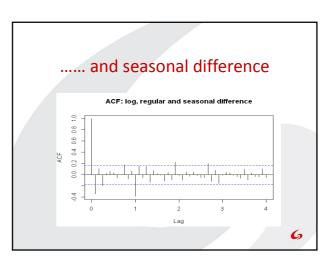
➤ Variance independent of time
Logarithm: Z<sub>i</sub>=ln(X<sub>i</sub>)











### **Backshift notation**

$$BX_{t} = X_{t-1}$$

• Backshift operator  $B^2X_t = B(BX_t) = BX_{t-1} = X_{t-2}$ 

Regular Difference

$$B^{s}X_{t} = X_{t-s}$$

 $X_t - X_{t-1} = X_t - BX_t = (1-B)X_t = \nabla X_t$  • Second Order Difference

$$\nabla^2 X_t = (1 - B)^2 X_t$$

Second Difference

$$(1-B^2)X_t$$

• Seasonal difference:  $(1-B^s)X_t = \nabla_s X_t$ 

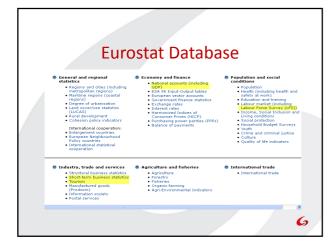
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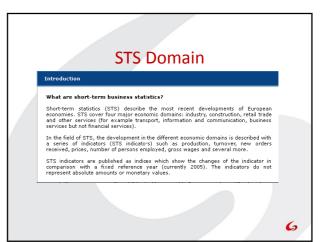
### Part 2

Transfer the European Union experience in seasonal adjustment:

- STS Regulation
- Eurostat Guidelines on Seasonal Adjustment Method

6





### Regulation

Regulation No 1158/2005 of the European Parliament and of the council amending Council Regulation No 1165/98

- Collection of data
- Periodicity
- Level of detail
- Processing
- Transmission and Form
- Treatment of confidential data

**Form** 

Form

6

The text under heading (d) (Form) is replaced by the following:

- 1. All of the variables are to be transmitted in unadjusted form, if available
- 2. In addition, the production variable (No 110) and the hours-worked variable (No 220) are to be transmitted in working-day adjusted form. Wherever other variables show working-day effects, Member States may also transmit those variables in working-day adjusted form. The list of variables to be transmitted in working-day adjusted form may be amended in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 18.
- In addition, Member States may transmit the variables seasonally adjusted and may also transmit the variables in the form of trend cycles. Only if data are not transmitted in these forms, may the Commission (Eurostat) produce and publish seasonally adjusted and trend-cycle series for these variables.

### **Eurostat activities**

### Seasonal adjustment

- Revised ESS guidelines on seasonal adjustment
- > Handbook on seasonal adjustment
- JDemetra +

6

### **Guidelines revision**

2009 guidelines on seasonal adjustment widely accepted and implemented at ESS level

A recognised international reference for

- a) Statistical officer apprentices in the field
- b) Experts of seasonal adjustment
- c) Researchers

6

### **New Needs**

Need of going into more details concerning both the pre-treatment and the seasonal adjustment for the sake of clarity and completeness

Need for a clearer distinction between methods and software incorporating the recent changes related to methods and software for seasonal adjustment

6

### Structure

Guidelines structured in 7 sections

Covering all phases of seasonal adjustment
 Each section of the guidelines structured in a number of items

Covering various steps within a given phase
 Items presented within an harmonised
 template

6

### **Items Structure**

**Description**: synthetic presentation of the topic addressing main relevant issues

Options: bulleted list of possible options to

be used

Alternatives: ranked alternatives

- a) most recommended
- b) acceptable
- c) to be avoided

6

### Graphical analysis of the series

Detailed graphical analysis in time domain based on basic graphs and autocorrelograms previous to perform seasonal adjustment

To be used in the pre-treatment of time series to individuate outlier and calendar effects

6

## Choice of seasonal adjustment approach

TRAMO-SEATS and X-12-ARIMA choice can be based on past experience subjective appreciation and characteristics of time series

6

### Key issues: revision

<u>Revision policies</u> of seasonally adjusted data due to revisions of the unadjusted data (raw) and to a better estimate of seasonal pattern after new information is available

Well defined and publically available revision policy and release calendar

Revision period of the seasonally adjusted data must at least cover the extent of the raw data revision period

6

### Key issues: quality

Use a detailed set of graphical, descriptive, non-parametric and parametric criteria to validate the seasonal adjustment.

Re-do the seasonal adjustment with a different set of options in case of non-acceptance of results.

6

### Key issues: quality and JDemetra+

Particular attention must be paid to the following suitable characteristics of seasonal adjustment series:

- absence of residual seasonality
- absence of residual calendar effects
- absence of an over-adjustment of seasonal and calendar effects
- absence of significant and positive autocorrelation for seasonal lags in the irregular component
- stability of the seasonal component

6

## Part 3 Why seasonally adjustment?

- 1. Growth rates
- 2. Unobserved components
- 3. Deterministic effects

### **Growth rates**

In short-term statistics two growth rates are considered

-On the same period of the previous year:  $G_{\rm y} = 100 \, \frac{X_{\rm r} - X_{\rm r-12}}{X_{\rm r}}$ 

$$G_{y} = 100 \frac{X_{t} - X_{t-1}}{X_{t}}$$

-On the previous period 
$$G_{m} = 100 \frac{X_{t} - X_{t-1}}{X_{t}}$$

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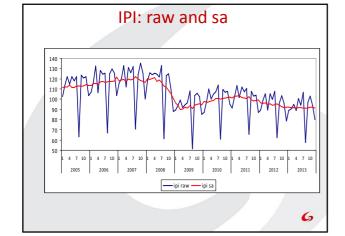
G	Grow	th ra	tes:	IPI	
	Rav				
Month	2012	2013	G_y	G_m	
jan	89,2	89	-0,2%	13,5%	
feb	99	90,9	-8,2%	2,1%	
mar	105,3	94,8	-10,0%	4,3%	
apr	89,4	89	-0,4%	-6,1%	
may	105,4	100,6	-4,6%	13,0%	
jun	99,5	94,2	-5,3%	-6,4%	
jul	107,6	106,8	-0,7%	13,4%	
aug	62,2	57,5	-7,6%	-46,2%	
sep	96,5	96,7	0,2%	68,2%	
oct	103,4	103	-0,4%	6,5%	
nov	96	93,9	-2,2%	-8,8%	
dec	78,4	79,9	1,9%	-14,9%	6

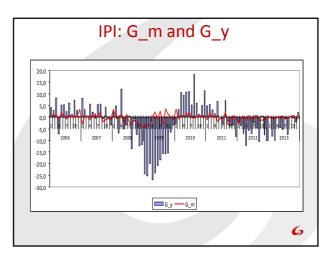
Gro	owt	n ra	tes	: IPI	rav	v and	d wo	a
Month	Ra	w	w	da	Work	ing days	G_y	G_y
Wonth	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	raw	wda

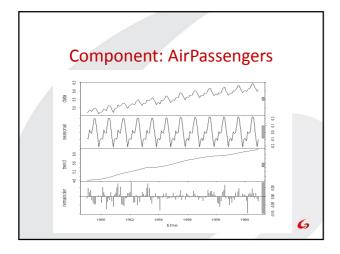
	Raw		Wda		Working days		G_y	G_y	
Month	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	raw	wda	
jan	89,2	89	88,9	86	21	22	-0,2%	-3,3%	
feb	99	90,9	96,4	92,1	21	20	-8,2%	-4,5%	
mar	105,3	94,8	104,9	98,8	22	21	-10,0%	-5,8%	
apr	89,4	89	93,2	88,6	19	20	-0,4%	-4,9%	
may	105,4	100,6	104,1	99,3	22	22	-4,6%	-4,6%	
jun	99,5	94,2	99,1	96,8	21	20	-5,3%	-2,3%	
jul	107,6	106,8	108,6	104,5	22	23	-0,7%	-3,8%	
aug	62,2	57,5	61,4	58,6	22	21	-7,6%	-4,6%	
sep	96,5	96,7	101,4	98,5	20	21	0,2%	-2,9%	
oct	103,4	103	101,2	100,8	23	23	-0,4%	-0,4%	
nov	96	93,9	95,6	96,5	21	20	-2,2%	0,9%	
dec	78,4	79,9	81,3	80,3	19	20	1,9%	-1,2%	

### Growth rates G m: IPI sa

	SA		
Month	2012	2013	G_m
jan	96,4	92,3	0,1%
feb	96,1	91,8	-0,5%
mar	96,4	91,5	-0,3%
apr	95,1	91,3	-0,2%
may	95,7	91,5	0,2%
jun	94,2	91,9	0,4%
jul	94,7	91,4	-0,5%
aug	95,4	91,1	-0,3%
sep	94	91,4	0,3%
oct	92,8	92	0,7%
nov	91,7	92,1	0,1%
dec	92,2	91,4	-0,8%







### Components:

-Trend: T

-Cycle: C

-Seasonal: S -Irregular: I

Additive components:

$$X_{t} = T_{t} + C_{t} + S_{t} + I_{t}$$

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### Trend-Cycle

- The trend is the long term evolution of the series that can be observed on several decades. Smooth component without sudden variations. Difficult to estimate due to the shortness of time series
- 2. The cycle is the smooth and recurrent movement that can usually be observed around the long term trend. Important for business cycle analysis

### Seasonal and Irregular

- 1. The seasonal component represents fluctuations observed during the year and which appears to repeat itself on a more or less regular basis from one year to other. Needed to be removed to interpret the short-term evolution.
- The irregular is composed of residual and random fluctuations that cannot be assigned to the other components and considered as residual (capturing remaining short-term fluctuations).

### Cause of seasonality

- 1. Seasonality and climate: due to the variations of weather
- 2. Habits and practices: social habits or administrative rules (school holidays, summer closing, christmas shopping, end-of-season sales)

6

### Seasonal Adjustment

- 1. Process of estimating and removing seasonal effects from a time series that happen at the same time and with similar magnitude
- 2. Can be applied only if data are collected at frequency less than annually
- 3. Improvement of comparability over time and across space

### Calendar effects

- 1. During the process of seasonal adjustment, if present, we remove calendar effects as well
- Trading day effect
- Moving Holiday effect
- Leap year

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### Trading day effect

- 1. Recurrent effects associated with individual days of week
- Some months have an excess of working days
- 3. Two different ways to model
  - Six variables counting the number of mondays, tuesdays, ecc
  - One variable considering the composition working days in the week

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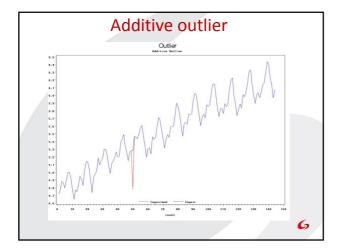
### **Moving Holiday Effect**

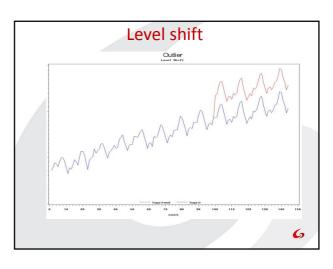
1. Effects from holidays that are not always on the same day of the month such as, for most of european countries, Easter. Easter moves between days but also can move between months since it can occur in March or April

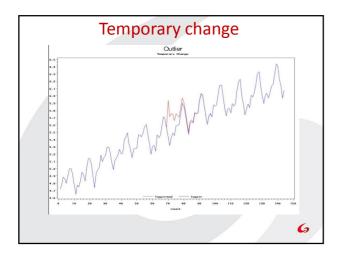
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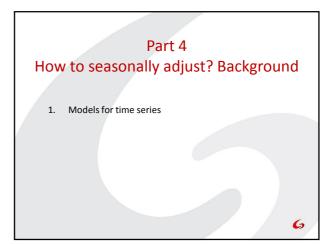
### Outlier

- 1. Further component
- 2. If there is some kind of unusual event the information is retained and kept. Outliers are included in the seasonally adjust series
- Additive
- Level Shift
- Temporary change



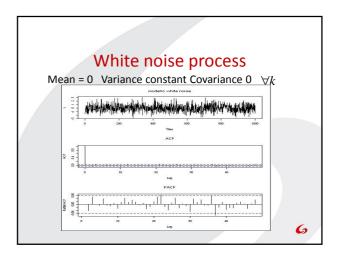


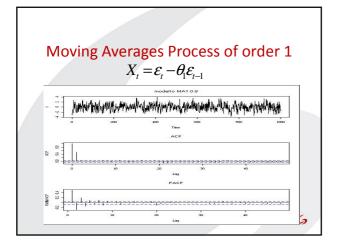


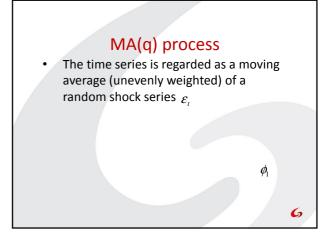


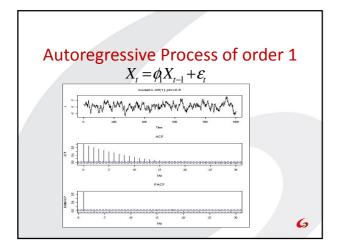
### Difference with classic statistics

- A time series is a set of observations ordered in time. We will consider only time series observed at a discrete set of evenly spaced time intervals
- 2. A statistical time series can be considered as resulting from some underlying statistical (also called stochastic) process. The process might be represented as a mathematical model. The time series can be considered a single realization of the generating process.



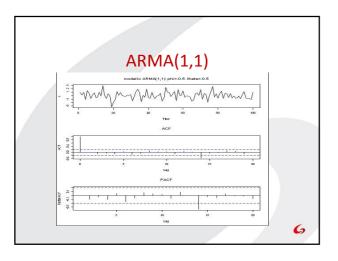






### AR(p) process

- 1. An AR model expresses a time series as a linear function of its past values .
- 2. The order of the AR model tells how many lagged past values are included
- 3. AR(1) model has the form of a regression model in which  $X_i$  is regressed on its previous value. In this form  $\phi_i$  is analogous to the regression coefficient and  $\varepsilon_i$  the regression residuals.



### ARMA(p,q) process

We have seen that the autoregressive model includes lagged terms on the time series itself, and that the moving average model includes lagged terms on the noise or residuals. By including both types of lagged terms, we arrive at what are called autoregressive —moving average or ARMA(p,q), models. The order of the ARMA model is included in parentheses as ARMA(p,q), where p is the autoregressive order and q the moving-average order.

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Model for non-stationary time series

ARIMA(p,d,q) process

AutoRegressive Integrated Moving Average of order p, d and q  $(1-\varphi_1B-\varphi_2B^2-...-\varphi_pB^p)(1-B)^dX_t = (1-\vartheta_1B-\vartheta_2B^2-...-\vartheta_qB^q) a_t$   $\varphi(B) (1-B)^dX_t = \vartheta(B)a_t$ 1.  $\varphi(B)$ : stationary
2.  $\vartheta(B)$ : invertible

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3. (1-B)d: unit (nonstationary) roots

### Differencing

ARIMA models are defined for stationary time series. Therefore, if you start off with a non-stationary time series, you will first need to 'difference' the time series until you obtain a stationary time series.

If you have to difference the time series d times to obtain a stationary series, then you have an ARIMA(p,d,q) model, where d is the order of differencing used.

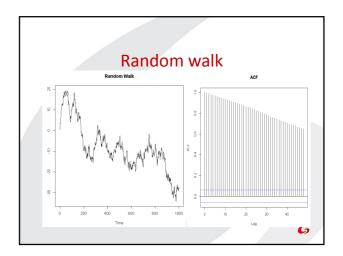
### Integration: random walk

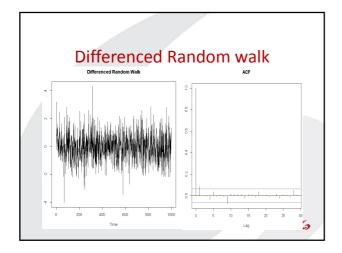
Two processes apparently similar:

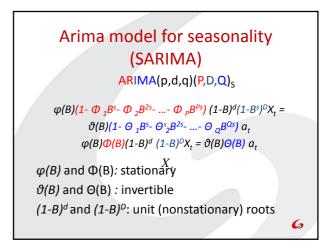
$$1) X_{t} = \phi_{1} X_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{t}$$

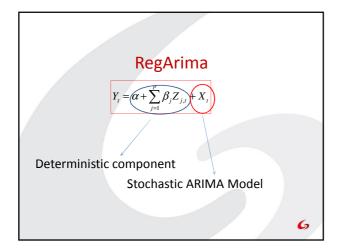
$$2)X_{t} = X_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{t}(\phi_{1} = 1)$$

When we consider the \*statistical behavior of the two processes by investigating the mean (the first moment), and the variance and autocovariance (the second moment), they are completely different. Although the two process belong to the same AR(1) class: (1) is a stationary process, while (2) is a nonstationary process

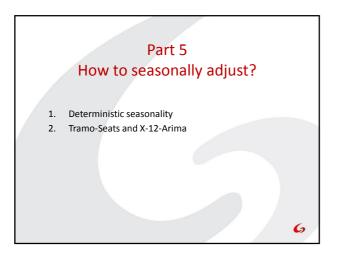


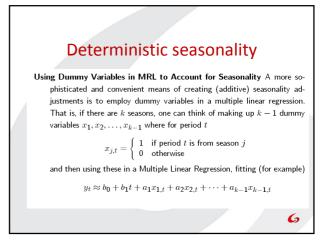


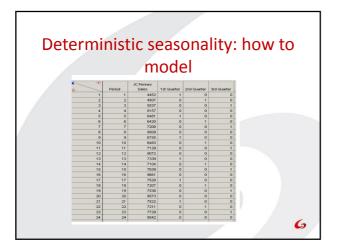


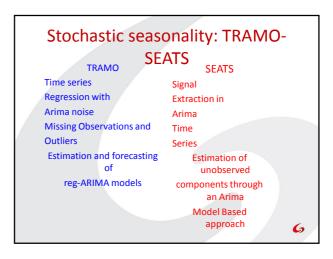


## RegArima: deterministic effects $Y_{t} = \alpha + \sum_{j=1}^{p} \beta_{j} Z_{j,t} + X_{t}$ $\alpha \quad \text{Constant}$ $Y_{t} \quad \text{Observed time series}$ $Z_{j,t} \quad \text{$j$-th regressor (Outlier, Trading Days, User)}$ $\beta_{j} \quad \text{$j$-th parameter}$ $X_{t} \quad \text{Residuals (autocorrelated!!)}$

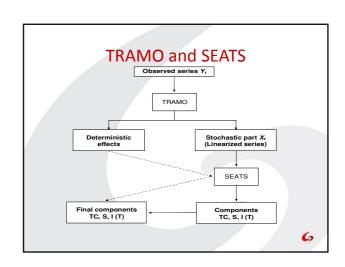


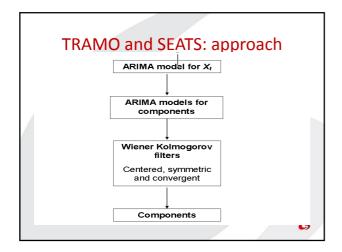






# TRAMO • performs a pretesting to decide between a log transformation and no transformation • identifies the ARIMA model through an automatic model identification procedure • pretests for the presence of trading-day, leapyear and Easter effects • interpolates missing values • detects outliers (AO, LS and TC) • estimates the model • computes forecasts





### SEATS

- decomposes the ARIMA models (canonical decomposition)
- · derives the WK filters
- estimates the components
- estimates the final components
- computes the forecasts for components and the respective standard error