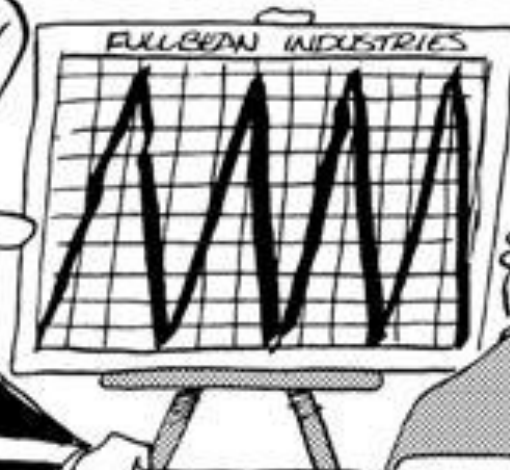


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Extending the Volatility Concept to Point Processes

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$2\pi \neq 1$

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Last Updated: Friday, 27 July 2007, 20:41 GMT 21:41 UK

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US stock markets have dropped sharply, extending a global share sell-off amid fears about the effect of higher interest rates on the world economy.

There are concerns that higher rates will hit corporate profits and takeover deals, and dent consumer spending.

European markets were also jittery, with London's share index closing down for a fourth day and ending at its lowest level since the middle of March.

Analysts have warned that markets could remain volatile for a number of weeks.

"I think you've got bargain hunters out there for sure and I think you've got some people who are still scared," said Randy Frederic of Charles Schwab & Co.

"We're seeing the convergence of a whole host of sort of



There are concerns that the drop in share prices could be severe

MARKET DATA - 14:35 UK

FTSE 100	6215.2 ▼	-36.00
Dax	7451.7 ▼	-57.28
Cac 40	5644.0 ▼	-31.09
Dow Jones	13265.5 ▼	-208.10
Nasdaq	2562.2 ▼	-37.10
S&P 500	1459.0 ▼	-23.71
BBC Global 30	5723.3 ▼	-47.66

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Volatility sweeps global markets

Oil price near record close in US

Introduction

Is there a useful extension of the concept of volatility to point processes?

A number of data analyses will be presented

Why bother with an extension to point processes?

- a) Perhaps will learn more about time series case
- b) Pps are an interesting data type
- c) Pps are building blocks
- d) Volatility often considered risk measure for time series.

27 July Guardian.

“Down nearly 60 points at one stage, the FTSE recovered and put on the same amount again. But by the close it had slipped back, down 36.0 points.”

“inject billions into the banking system”

Volatility

When is something volatile?

When values shifting/changing a lot

Vague concept

Can be formalized in various ways

There are empirical formulas as well as models

Merrill Lynch.

“Volatility.

A measure of the fluctuation in the market price of the underlying security.

Mathematically, volatility is the annualized standard deviation of returns.

A - Low; **B** - Medium; and **C** - High.”

Financial time series.

P_t price at time t

“Return” data, $Y_t = (P_t - P_{t-1})/P_{t-1}$

Empirical formula

Realized volatility

$$\text{mean}\{|Y_s - Y_{s-1}|^p \mid s \text{ near } t\}, \quad p = 1 \text{ or } 2$$

Model based formula. GARCH

$Y_t = \mu_t + \sigma_t \varepsilon_t$, ε zero mean, unit variance, t discrete

$$\sigma_t^2 = \alpha_0 + \sum \alpha_i [Y_{t-i} - \mu_{t-i}]^2 + \sum \beta_j \sigma_{t-j}^2 \quad \alpha's, \beta's > 0$$

Volatility σ_t^2

For μ_s , σ_s smooth

$$\text{mean}\{[Y_s - Y_{s-1}]^2 \mid s \text{ near } t\} \sim \sigma_t^2 (\varepsilon_t - \varepsilon_{t-1})^2$$

Crossings based.

$$E\{[Y(t) - Y(t-h)]^2\} = 2[c(0) - c(h)] \approx -2c''(0)h^2$$

Recognize as

$$2c(0) \pi^2 [E(\#\{\text{crossings of mean}\})]^2$$

for stationary normal

Consider

$$s \#\{\text{crossings of mean} \mid \text{near } t\}$$

as volatility measure

Example. Standard & Poors 500.

Weighted average of prices of 500 large companies in US stock market

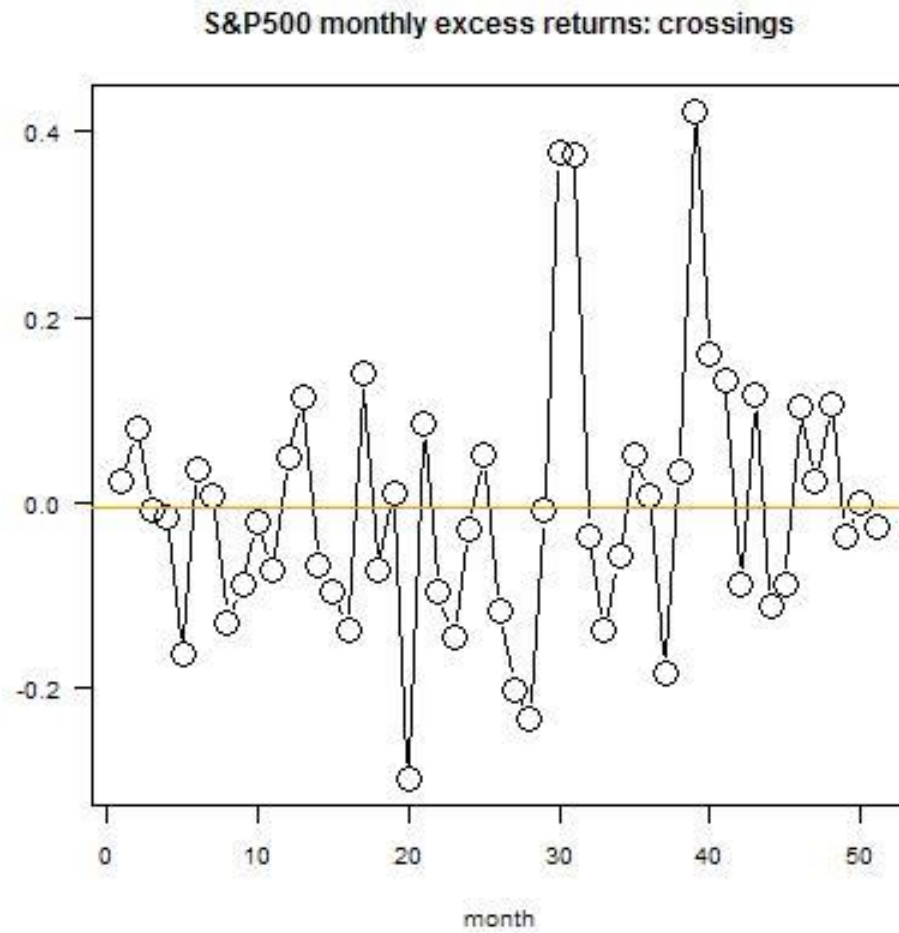
Events

Great Crash Nov 1929

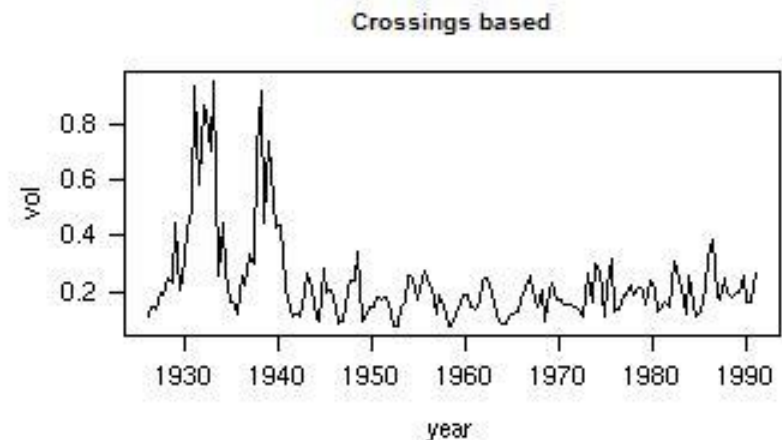
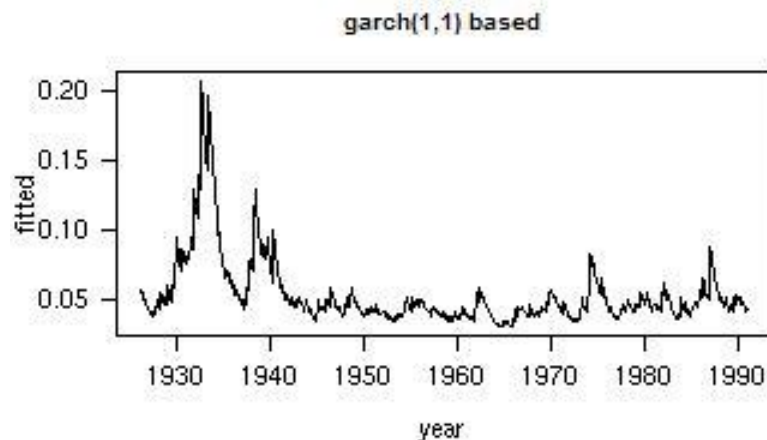
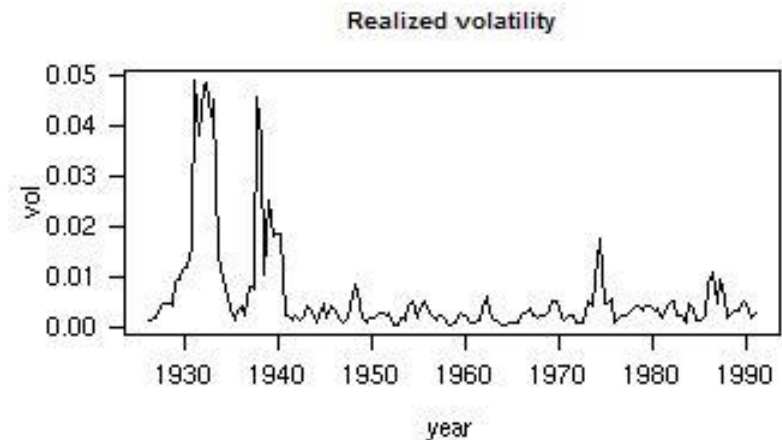
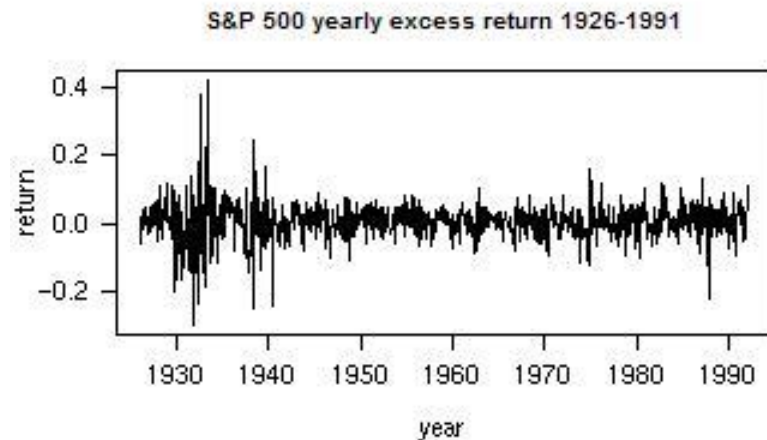
Asian Flu (Black Monday) Oct 1997

Other “crashes”: 1932, 1937, 1940, 1962, 1974, 1987

Zero crossings



S&P 500: realized volatility, model based, crossing based



Point process case.

locations along line: $T_1 < T_2 < T_3 < T_4 < \dots$

$$N(t) = \#\{T_j \leq t\}$$

Intervals/interarrivals $X_j = T_{j+1} - T_j$

Stochastic point process.

Probabilities defined

Characteristics: rate, autointensity, covariance density, conditional intensity, ...

E.g. Poisson, doubly stochastic Poisson

0-1 valued time series.

$$Z_t = 0 \text{ or } 1$$

Realized volatility

$$\text{ave}\{ [Z_s - Z_{s-1}]^2 \mid s \text{ near } t \}$$

Connection to zero crossings.

$$Z_t = \text{sgn}(Y_t), \{Y_t\} \text{ ordinary t.s.}$$

$$\sum [Z_s - Z_{s-1}]^2 = \#\{\text{zero crossings}\}$$

Connecting pp and 0-1 series. Algebra

$$T_j = \langle T_j/h \rangle \quad \langle . \rangle \text{ nearest integer, embed in } 0\text{'s}$$

h small enough so no ties

$$Y(t) = N(t+h) - N(t) = \int_t^{t+h} dN(u)$$

Stationary case \int

$$E\{Y(t)\} = p_N h$$

$$\text{cov}\{Y(t+u), Y(t)\} = \int_{t+u}^{t+u+h} \int_t^{t+h} \text{cov}\{dN(r), dN(s)\}$$

$$\sim p_N \delta\{u\}h + q_{NN}(u)h^2$$

$$\int \int$$

$$\text{as } \text{cov}\{dN(r), dN(s)\} = [p_N \delta(r-s) + q_{NN}(r-s)]dr ds,$$

rate, p_N , covariance density, $q_{NN}(\cdot)$, Dirac delta, $\delta(\cdot)$

Parametric models.

Bernoulli ARCH. Cox (1970)

$$\text{Prob}\{Z_t = 1 | H_t\} = \pi_t$$

$$\text{logit } \pi_t = \sum \alpha_i Z_{t-i}$$

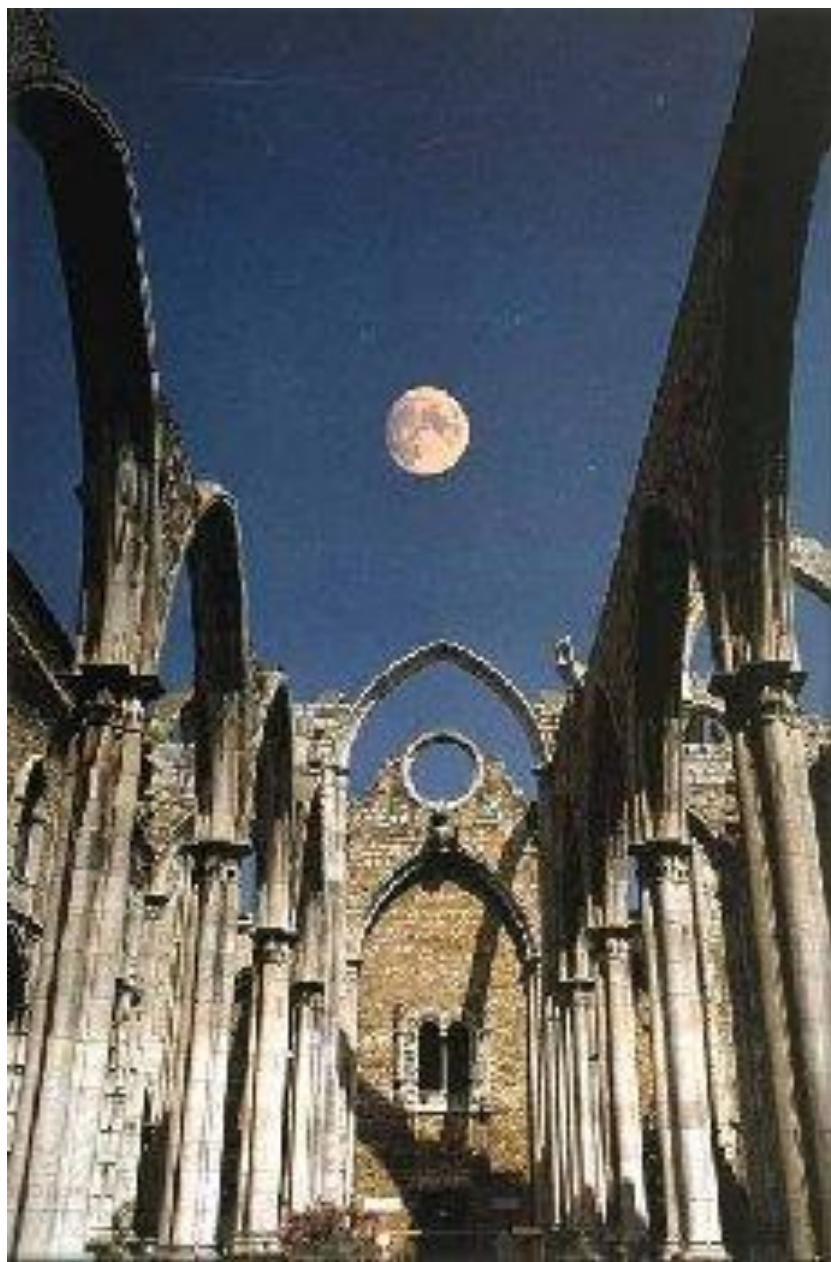
H_t history before t

Fitting, assessment, prediction, ... via `glm()`

Bernoulli GARCH.

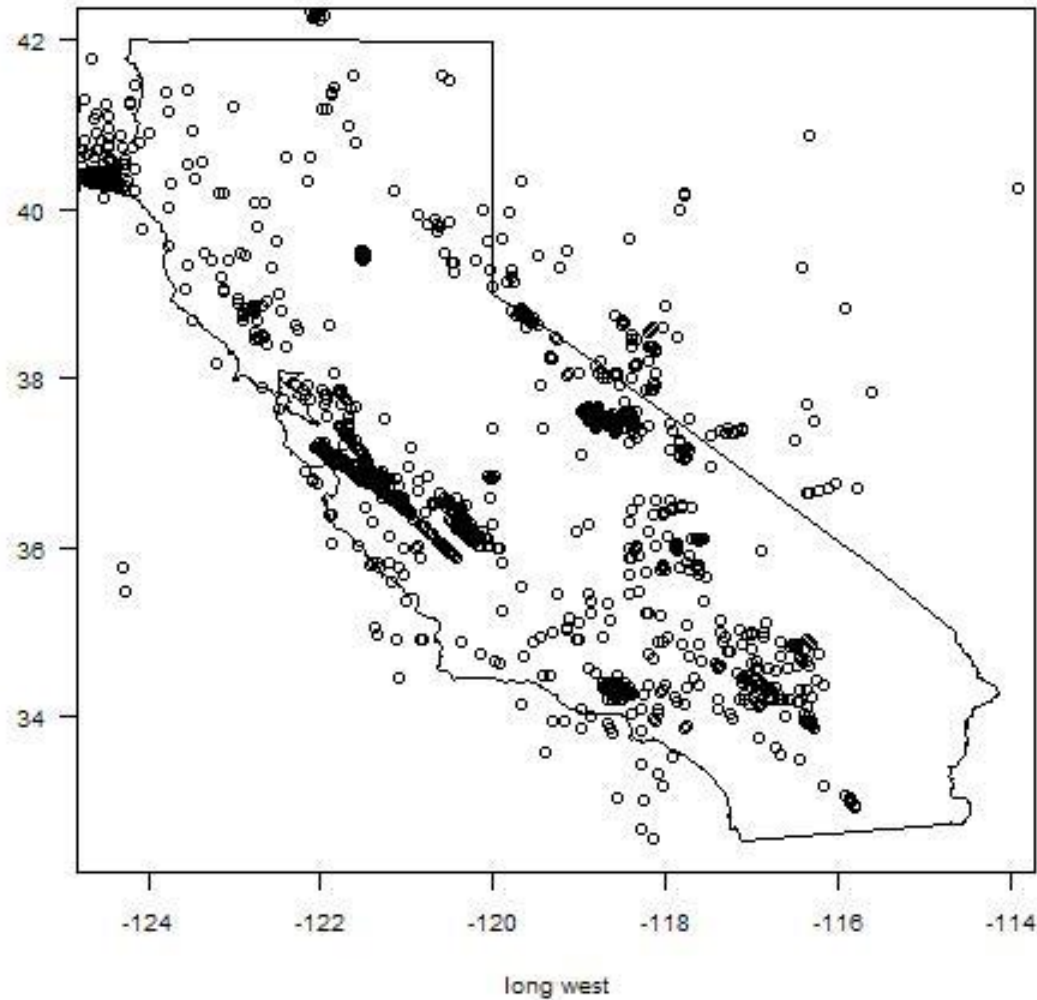
$$\text{logit } \pi_t = \sum \alpha_i Z_{t-i} + \sum \beta_j \text{logit } \pi_{t-j}$$

Volatility π_t or $\pi_t(1 - \pi_t)$?



Convento do Carmo

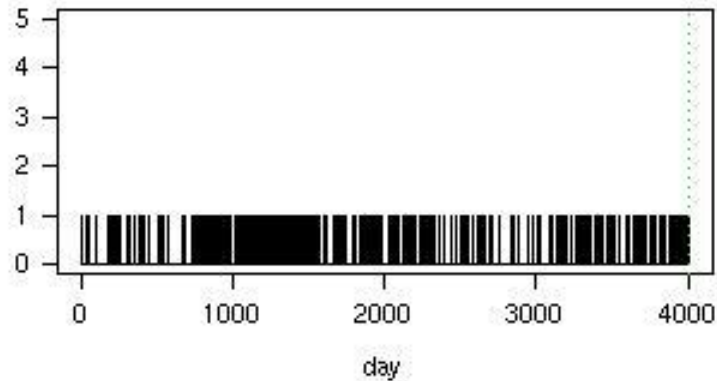
“California” earthquakes magnitude ≥ 4 , 1969-2003



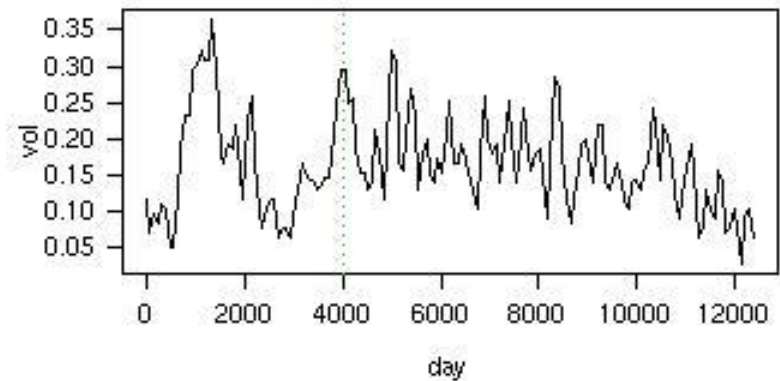
N=1805

Results of 0-1 analysis

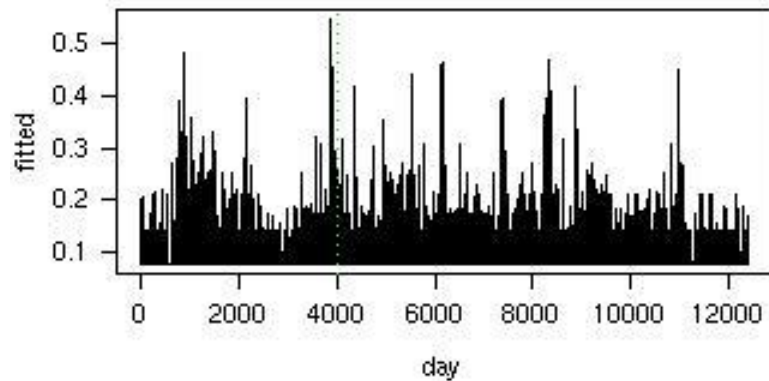
First third days California quakes mag ≥ 0



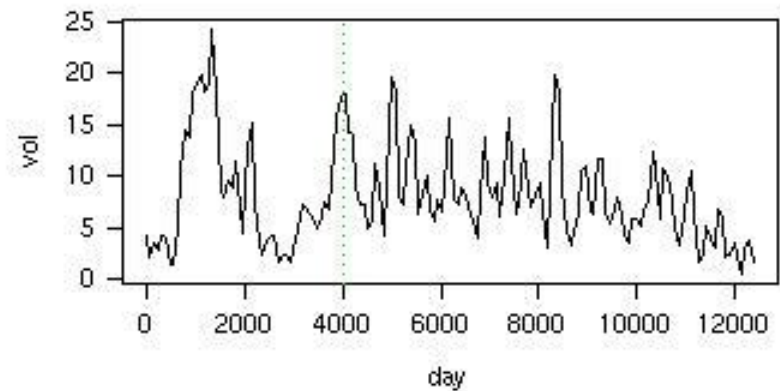
Realized volatility



arch(0,9) based



Crossings based



P.p. analysis.

Rate as estimate of volatility

Consider $\text{var}\{dN(t)\}$

$$\text{var}\{N(t)-N(t-h)\} \approx p_N h + q_{NN}(0)h^2$$

Estimate of rate at time t.

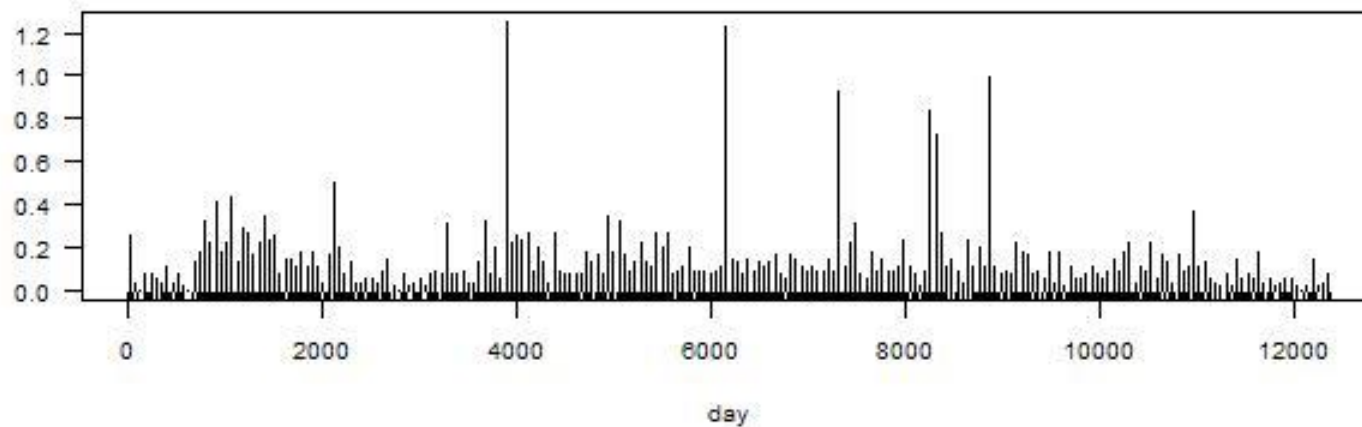
$$\int k(t-u)dN(u) / \int k(t-u)du$$

$k(\cdot)$ kernel

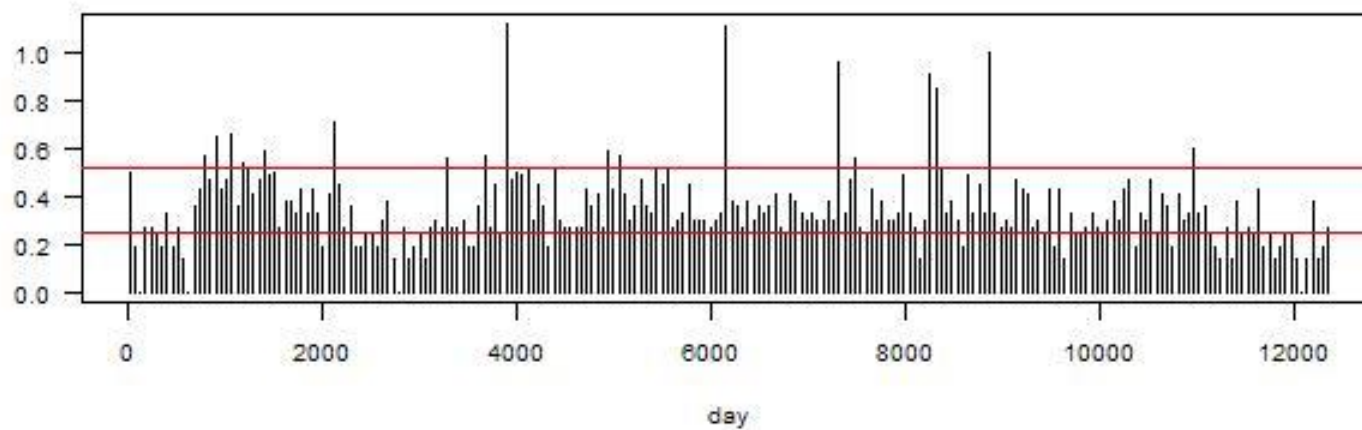
Variance, stationary case, $k(\cdot)$ narrow

$$p_N \int k(t-u)^2 du / [\int k(t-u)du]^2 + q_{NN}(0)$$

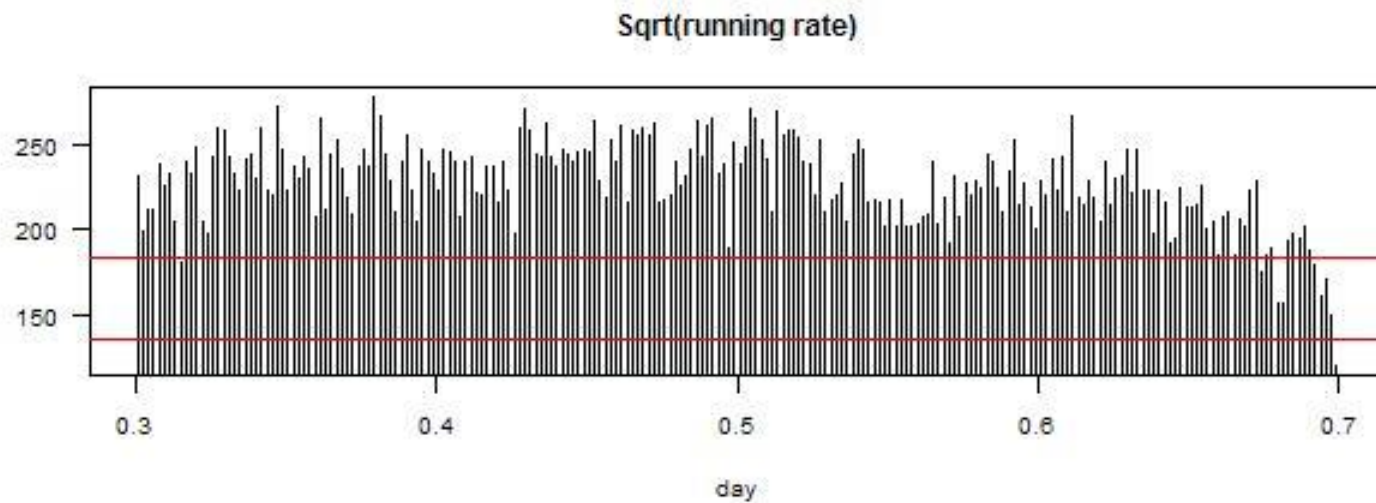
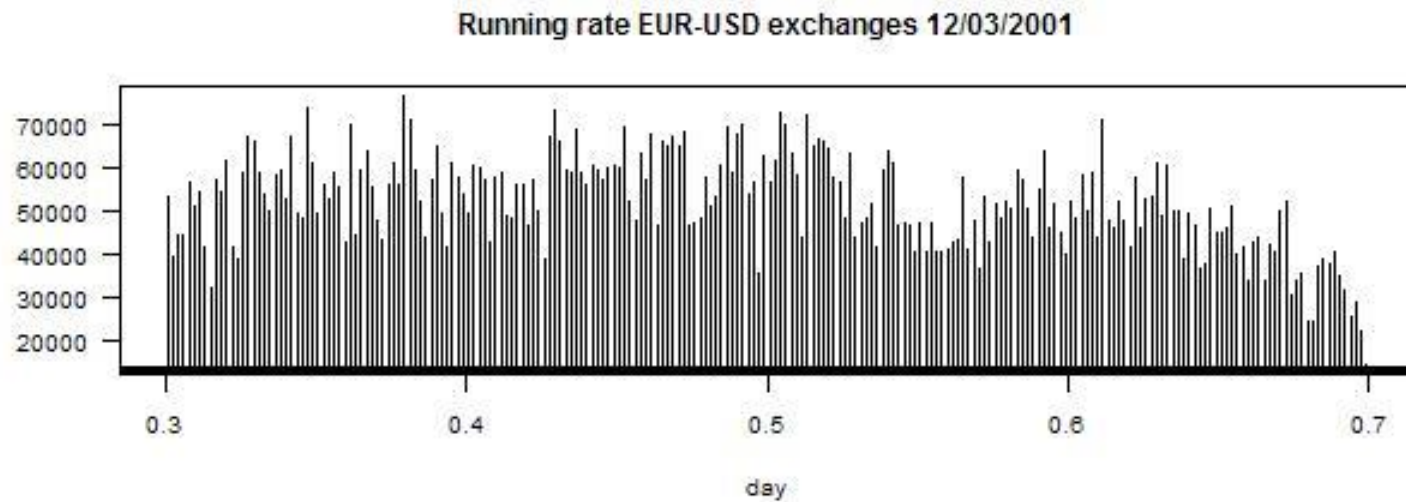
Running rate



Sqrt(running rate)



Example. Euro-USA exchange rate



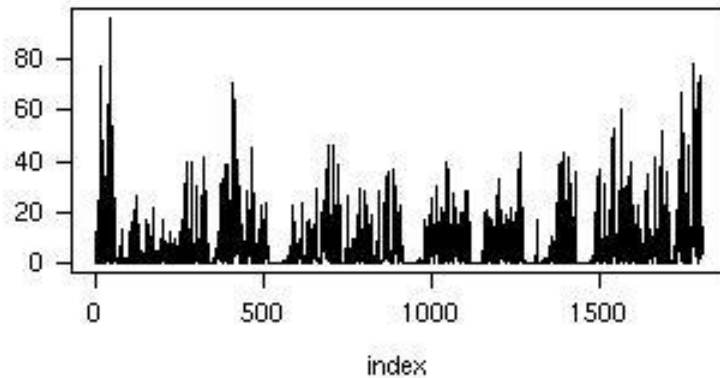
Interval analysis.

$$X_j = T_j - T_{j-1}$$

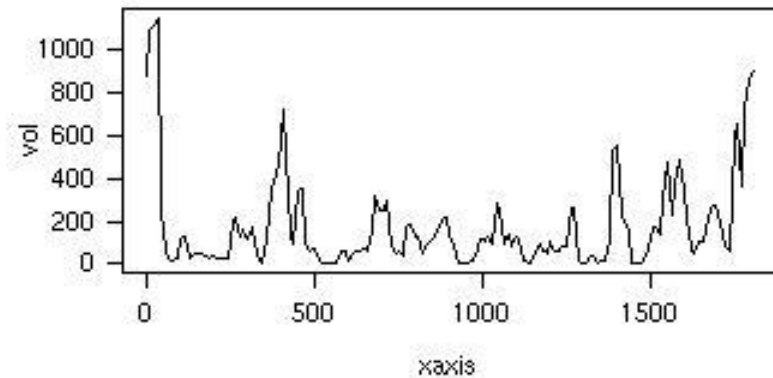
Also stationary

California earthquakes

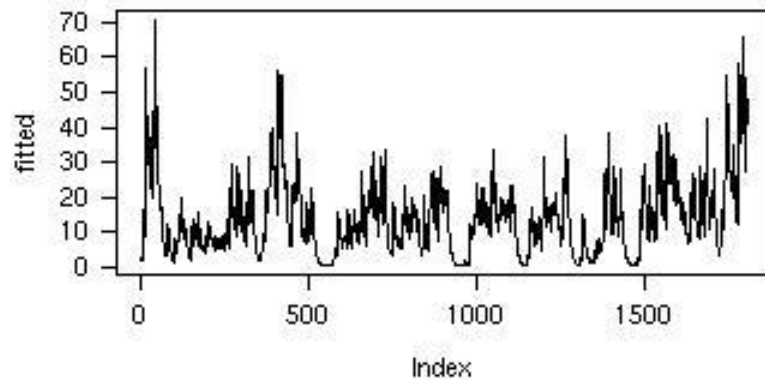
Cal quake intervals, mag ≥ 4



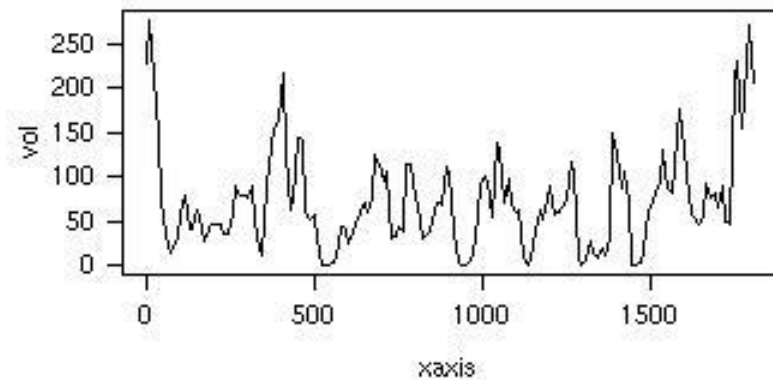
Realized volatility



garch(1,1) based



Crossings based



Risk analysis. *Time series case.*

Assets Y_t and probability p

VaR is the p -th quantile

$$\text{Prob}\{Y_{t+1} - Y_t \leq \text{VaR}\} = p$$

left tail

If approximate distribution of $Y_{t+1} - Y_t$ by

Normal($0, \sigma_t$)

volatility, σ_t , appears

Sometimes predictive model is built and fit to estimate VaR

Point process case.

Pulses arriving close together can damage

Number of oscillations to break object (Ang & Tang)

Suppose all points have the same value (mark), e.g. spike train.

Consider VaR of

$$\text{Prob}\{N(t+u) - N(t) > \text{VaR}\} = 1-p$$

Righthand tail

Examples.

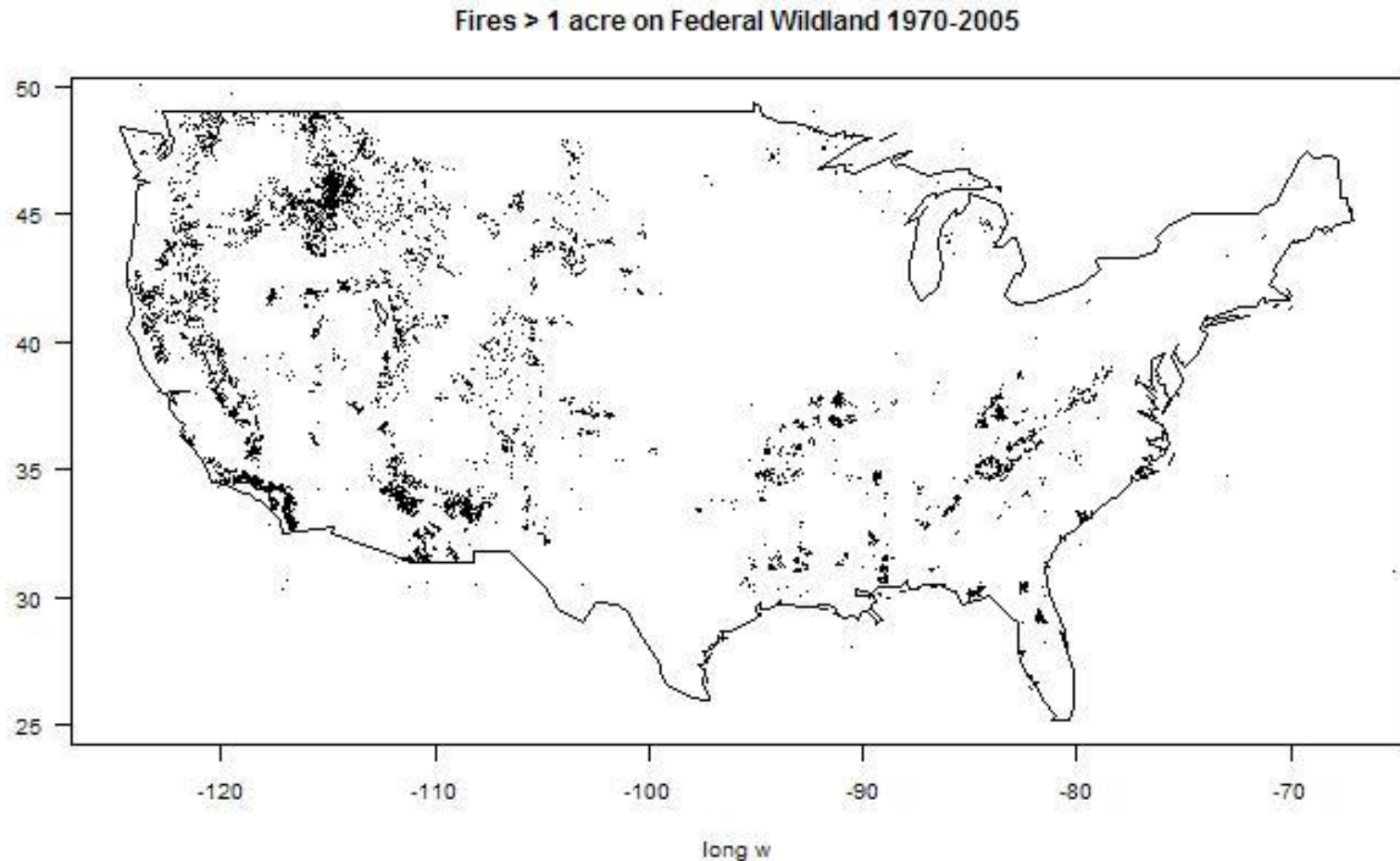
S&P500: $p=.05$ method of moments quantile

$$\text{VaR} = \$0.0815$$

CA earthquakes: $u = 7$ days, $p=.95$ mom quantile

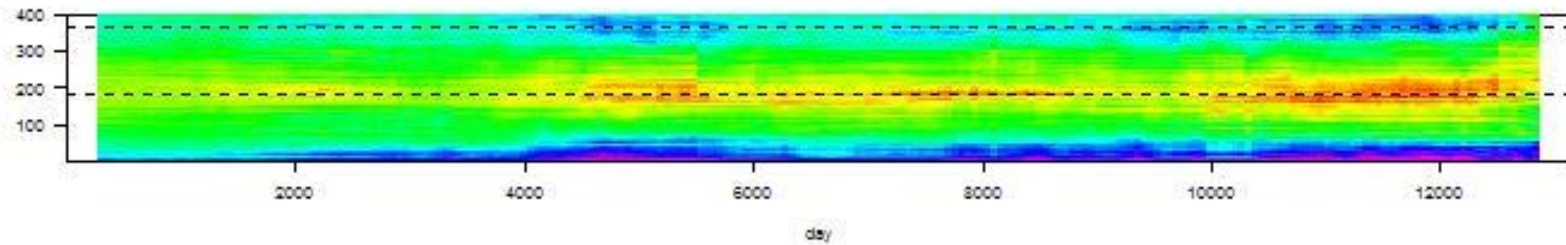
$$\text{VaR} = 28 \text{ events}$$

Case with seasonality – US Forest Fires 1970 - 2005

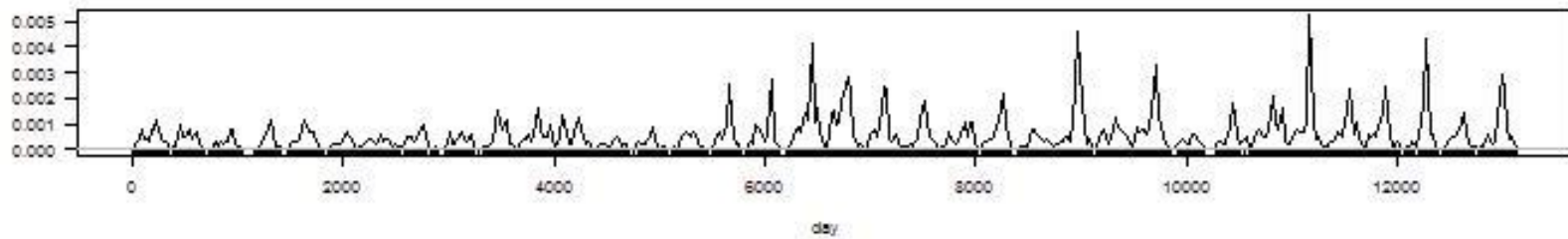


n=8481

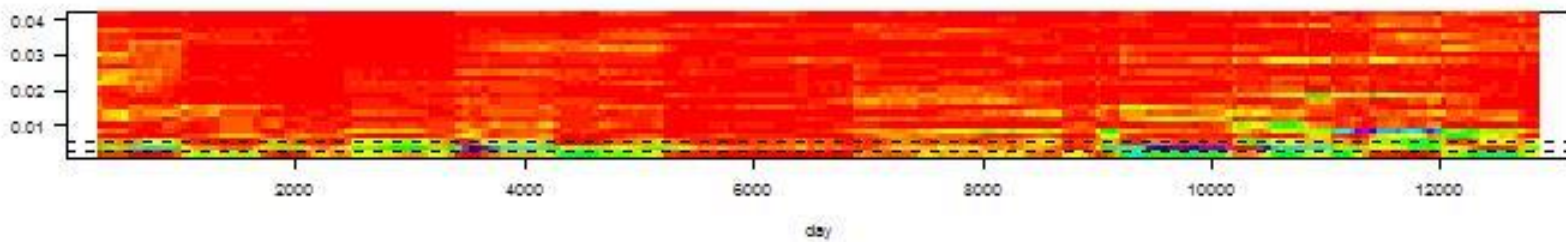
Dynamic autocovariance



Fires



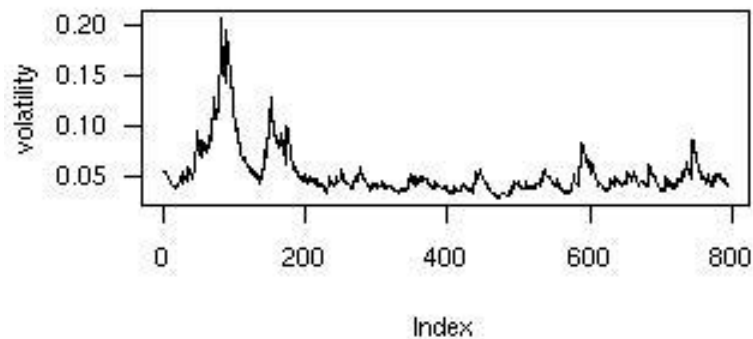
Dynamic spectrum



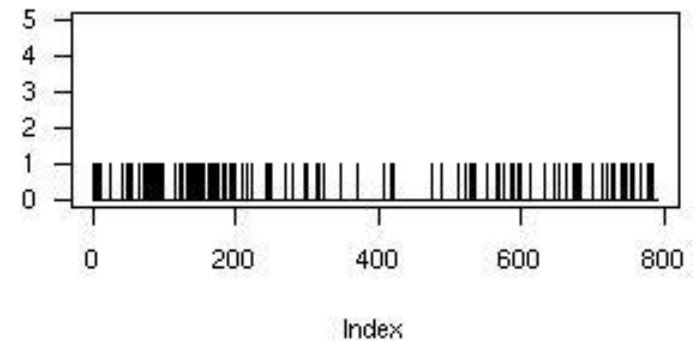
Dashed line ~ seasonal

Example. Volatility, simulate Poisson, recover volatility

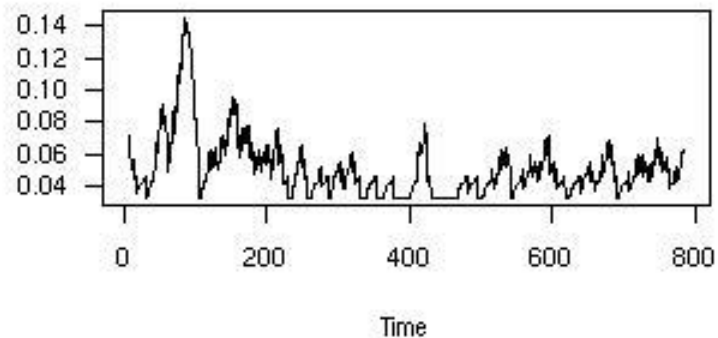
S & P 500 volatility



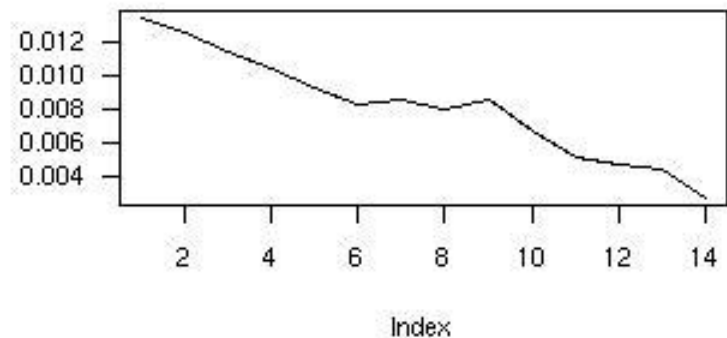
Simulated p.p.



Linear process



Impulse response



Conclusion.

Returning to the question, “Why bother with extension?”

- a) Perhaps will learn more about time series case
- b) Pps are an interesting data type
- c) Pps are building blocks
- d) Volatility often considered risk measure for time series.”

The volatility can be the basic phenomenon

Another question.

“Is there a useful extension of the concept of volatility to point processes?”

The running rate

Gets at local behavior (prediction)

Some references.

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Tsay, R. S. (2002). Analysis of Financial Time Series. Wiley