## Inference on Cycles or Periodicities

- The goal is to propose a parametric model for cycles.
- Bayesian Periodogram: marginal *log-likelihood* of the parametric model.
- Connection of this Bayesian periodogram with the standard or *raw* periodogram.
- Example with a CO2 time series. R code.
- Some properties of the classical periodogram.

## Basic model for cycles

- Assume we have a time series  $X_t$  observed at arbitrary times  $t_1, t_2, \ldots, t_n$ .
- Also assume that the time series lacks trend or that the trend has been previously removed by one of our detrending techniques (i.e. differencing, lowess, etc.).
- We wish to estimate periodicities in the data.
- Our basic model is a deterministic cyclical term defined by a cosine plus some noise term:

$$x_{t_i} = r \, \cos(\omega t_i + \phi) + \epsilon_i$$

- $\omega$  defines the fundamental frequency.
- The associated *cycle*, *periodicity* or *wavelength* is

$$\lambda = 2\pi/\omega.$$

- $\phi$  denotes the phase  $(0 < \phi < 2\pi)$ .
- r (r > 0) is the amplitude of the cosine curve.
- As usual the errors  $\epsilon_i$  are assumed i.i.d with a Normal distribution.  $\epsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$
- By applying a known trigonometric identity, we can rewrite the model as

$$x_{t_i} = a \cos(\omega t_i) + b \sin(\omega t_i) + \epsilon_i$$

- where a and b are model coefficients with  $a = r \cos(\phi)$ ;  $b = -r \sin(\phi)$ .
- both amplitude and phase can be rexpressed in terms of *a* and *b*.

- For the amplitude  $r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$ .
- For the phase  $\phi = tan^{-1}(-b/a)$ .
- For equally spaced times  $(t_1 = 1, t_2 = 2, ..., t_n = n)$  and fixed values of a, b and  $\sigma^2$ , the model is equivalent if we add a multiple of  $2\pi$  to  $\omega$ . (Why?)
- To avoid such redundancy, take  $\omega < 2\pi$ .
- Also, notice that if  $0 < \omega < \pi$ , we obtain the same model representation for the frequency  $2\pi \omega$  by setting b = -b.
- Then, we restrict  $\omega$  to be between 0 and  $\pi$ .

$$0 \le \omega \le \pi$$

• With this restriction, the periodocity  $\lambda$  is between 2 and  $\infty$ .

• Notice that if  $\omega$  is given (known) our basic model is a linear regression model of the form:

$$x_{t_i} = f_i'\beta + \epsilon_i$$

- The parameter vector is  $\beta = (a, b)$ ,
- The regressor vector is  $f'_i = (c_i, s_i)$  where  $c_i = cos(\omega t_i)$ and  $s_i = sin(\omega t_i)$ .

## Summary of Bayes results for the Linear Model

- For the linear model,  $\beta$  and  $\sigma^2$  are essentially location/scale parameters.
- The default non-informative prior for  $\beta$  and  $\sigma^2$  is:

 $p(\beta,\sigma^2) \propto 1/\sigma^2$ 

- With Bayes theorem the posterior distribution is given by  $p(\beta, \sigma^2 | x, F) \propto f(x | \beta, \sigma^2)(1/\sigma^2)$
- Under this prior, the posterior distribution for  $(\beta, \sigma^2)$  is a *Normal-Gamma* distribution.
- Conditional on  $\sigma^2$ , the posterior for  $\beta$  is a p-dimensional Normal with mean b and a covariance matrix  $\sigma^2 (F'F)^{-1}$

or  $\beta \sim N(b, \sigma^2(F'F)^{-1})$ .

- The marginal posterior distribution for  $\sigma^2$  is an Inverse Gamma with shape parameter n/2 and scale parameter R/2 or  $\sigma^2 \sim IG(n/2, R/2)$
- The product of this p-dimensional Normal and the Inverse Gamma defines the Normal/Gamma posterior.
- For the marginal posterior distribution of  $\beta$  we need

$$p(\beta|x,F) = \int p(\beta,\sigma^2|x,F)d\sigma^2$$

- After some algebraic manipulation, it can be shown that  $p(\beta|x,F) = c(n,p)|F'F|^{1/2}/(1+(\beta-b)'F'F(\beta-b)/ps^2)^{n/2}$
- Roughly, for n large  $p(\beta|x, F) \approx N(b, s^2(F'F)^{-1})$ .

• The marginal density of x given F is,

$$p(x|F) = \int p(x|\beta, \sigma^2) p(\beta, \sigma^2) d\beta d\sigma^2 = c |F'F|^{-1/2} / R^{(n-p)/2}$$

• Due to the sum of squares factorization, we can establish that

$$p(x|F) \propto |F'F|^{-1/2} (1 - b'F'Fb/(x'x))^{(p-n)/2}$$

- If we think of F as a "parameter", p(x|F) is a likelihood that could be used to produce inferences on F or on quantities that determine F (marginal likelihood).
- Under orthogonality of the F matrix, the evaluation of p(x|F) becomes really easy.
- F orthogonal means that F'F = kI

- For the cyclical model we consider p(x|F) as  $p(x|\omega)$ . This defines the Bayesian Periodogram.
- Given a fixed value of  $\omega$ , the basic cyclical model is a linear model with two parameters.

• In the linear model notation,  $x = (x_{t_1}, x_{t_2}, \dots, x_{t_n})'$ ,  $p = 2, \beta = (a, b)'$ .

• 
$$f'_i = (c_i, s_i)$$
 is the *i*th row of *F*, where  $c_i = cos(\omega t_i)$ ,  
 $s_i = sin(\omega t_i); i = 1, ..., n.$ 

- Lets simply denote  $x_{t_i} = x_i$  and define  $C = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i^2$ ,  $S = \sum_{i=1}^n s_i^2$ ,  $K = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i s_i$  and  $D = SC - K^2$ .
- The MLE or LSE of  $\beta$ ,  $b = (\hat{a}, \hat{b})'$  is given by:

$$- \hat{a} = \frac{S}{D} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i c_i \right) - \frac{K}{D} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i s_i \right)$$

$$- \hat{b} = \frac{C}{D} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i c_i \right) - \frac{K}{D} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i s_i \right)$$

• If  $\omega$  is restricted to the values

$$\omega_j = 2\pi \ j/n; \quad j = 1, \dots n/2$$

we could use the trigonometric identities

$$-\sum_{i=1}^{n} \cos(\omega_{j}i) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sin(\omega_{j}i) = 0$$

$$-\sum_{i=1}^{n} \cos(\omega_{j}i) \cos(\omega_{l}i) = \begin{cases} 0, \ j \neq l \\ n, \ j = l = n/2 \\ n/2, \ j = l \neq n/2 \end{cases}$$

$$-\sum_{i=1}^{n} \sin(\omega_{j}i) \sin(\omega_{l}i) = \begin{cases} 0, \ j \neq l \\ 0, \ j = l = n/2 \\ n/2, \ j = l \neq n/2 \end{cases}$$

$$- \sum_{i=1}^{n} \cos(\omega_j i) \sin(\omega_l i) = 0 \text{ for all } j \text{ and } l$$

- These identities imply that for the equally spaced case  $t_1 = 1, t_2 = 2, \dots, t_n = n, F'F = (n/2)I_{p \times p}$ .
- The MLE of b for  $\omega_j \neq n/2$  is:

$$- \hat{a} = (2/n) \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i \cos(\omega_j i)$$

$$- \quad \hat{b} = (2/n) \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i \sin(\omega_j i)$$

- For n large  $C/D \approx S/D \approx (2/n)$  and  $K/D \approx 0$  when  $\omega$  is not close to zero.
- Under the same conditions  $(F'F)^{-1} \approx (2/n)I_{p \times p}$  and then

$$b'F'Fb \approx (n/2)(\hat{a}^2 + \hat{b}^2)$$

• This implies

$$p(x|F) \propto (1 - (\hat{a}^2 + \hat{b}^2)n/(2x'x))^{(2-n)/2}$$

- This last formula gives us an approximation for the marginal density p(x|F) or in other words an approximation for the Bayesian Periodogram.
- If we define

$$I(\omega) = (\hat{a}^2 + \hat{b}^2)/n$$

a plot of  $\omega$  vs.  $I(\omega)$  is known as the *Periodogram* 

- I(ω) is basically the MLE for the amplitude of the sin-cos function that defines our basic model.
- Traditionally, the periodogram is used to find values of  $\omega$  that produce a high estimated amplitude  $I(\omega)$ .

- With the Bayesian Periodogram we look for values of  $\omega$  that produce a high marginal likelihood  $p(x|\omega)$ .
- From the approximation, notice that

 $log(p(x|F)) \approx (2-n)/2log(1-I(\omega)/(x'x))$ 

- The Periodogram and the Bayesian Periodogram will contain similar information.
- Illustration with athmospheric concentrations of CO2.
- 468 monthly observations from 1959 to 1997.











