

# Topic: TESTING FOR CORRELATION

## Exercise 3.1

a) THE VALUES OF SAMPLE AUTOCORRELATION FUNCTION:  
AT LAGS 1, 2, ..., 10 ARE:

0.16; 0.15; 0.05; 0.12; 0.1; 0.05; 0.01; 0.011; 0.009;  
0.04

TEST FOR NO CORRELATION IN THIS TIME SERIES  
AT 5% SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL

↓

$H_0: \rho_k = 0$  (correlation not significant at lag  $k$ )

$H_1: \rho_k \neq 0$  (correlation significant at lag  $k$ ,  
so correlation is statistically different  
from zero at lag  $k$ )

where  $k = 1, 2, \dots, 10$

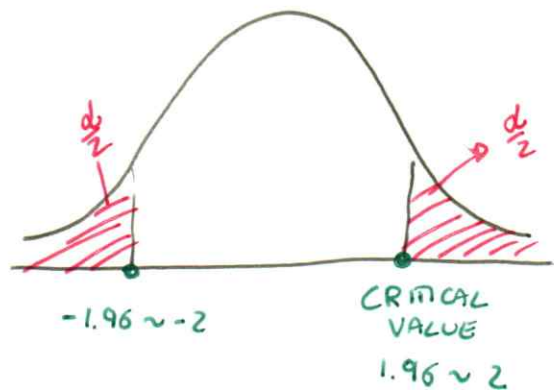
## • TEST STATISTIC

IF  $X_t$  ARE iid VARIABLES, THEN THE STATISTIC

$$t = \sqrt{n} \hat{\rho}_k \sim N(0, 1)$$

THIS TEST STATISTIC IS USED TO CONDUCT SIGNIFICANCE TESTS FOR AUTOCORRELATION COEFFICIENTS BY CONSTRUCTING A NON-REJECTION REGION (LIKE A CONFIDENCE INTERVAL) FOR AN ESTIMATED AUTOCORRELATION COEFFICIENT

## • REJECTION RULE



WE REJECT  $H_0$  AT 5% SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL

IF  $|t| > Z_{\alpha/2}$

IF  $\alpha = 5\%$  THEN  $Z_{\alpha/2} = 1.96$

$$|t| > 1.96 \sim 2$$

$$|\sqrt{n} \hat{\rho}_k| > 2$$

$$|\hat{\rho}_k| > \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}}$$

→ this is the rejection rule

SO :

WE REJECT  $H_0$  IF  $|\hat{\rho}_k| > \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}}$

WE DO NOT REJECT  $H_0$  IF  $|\hat{\rho}_k| \leq \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}}$

Alternative way :

THE DECISION RULE IS TO REJECT THE NULL HYPOTHESIS OF ZERO CORRELATION AT ANY LAG IF THE SAMPLE CORRELATION COEFFICIENT LIES OUTSIDE THE RANGE

$$\left[ -\frac{2}{\sqrt{n}} , \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}} \right]$$

IN OUR CASE

WE HAVE  $n = 100$  OBSERVATIONS AND  
WE WANT TO TEST:

$$H_0: \rho_k = 0$$

$$H_1: \rho_k \neq 0$$

REJECTION RULE:

WE REJECT  $H_0$  IF:

$$|\hat{\rho}_k| > \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{100}} = \frac{2}{10} = 0.2$$

WE FIND THAT FOR ALL LAGS  $k = 1, 2, \dots, 10$

$$|\hat{\rho}_k| < 0.2$$

WHICH MEANS THERE IS NO CORRELATION AT  
LAGS 1 TO 10

$$\text{if } k=1 \rightarrow \hat{\rho}_1 = 0.15 < 0.2$$

$$\text{if } k=2 \rightarrow \hat{\rho}_2 = 0.15 < 0.2$$

$$\text{if } k=3 \rightarrow \hat{\rho}_3 = 0.05 < 0.2$$

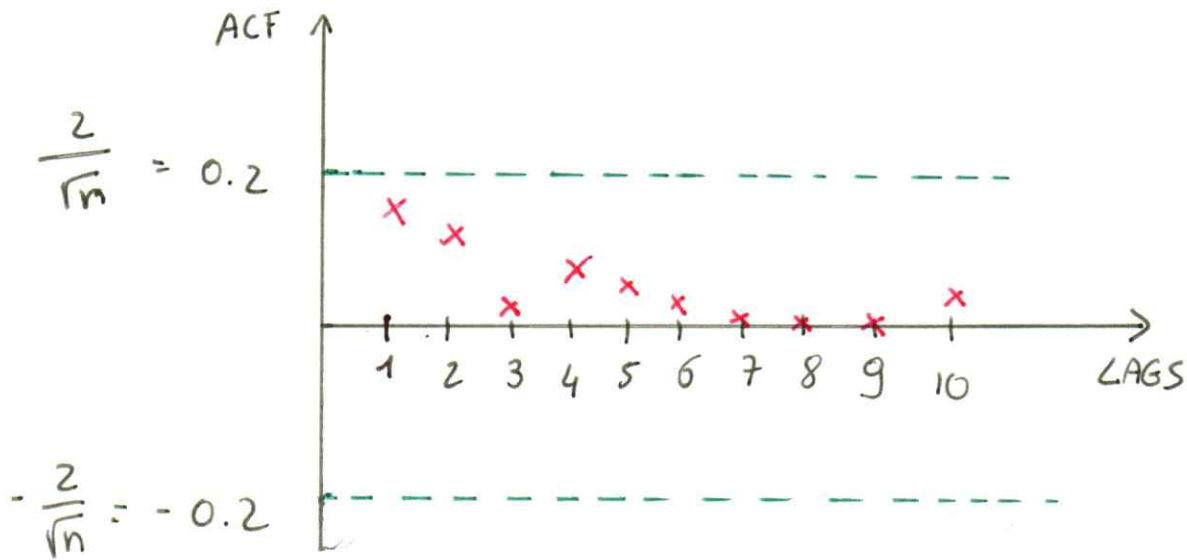
$\vdots$

$\vdots$

THEREFORE WE CANNOT REJECT THE HYPOTHESIS  
THAT THE TIME SERIES IS A WHITE NOISE

Alternative way of testing

$$\left[-\frac{2}{\sqrt{n}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}}\right] = \left[-\frac{2}{\sqrt{100}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{100}}\right] = [-0.2, 0.2]$$



WE DO NOT REJECT  $H_0$

→ WE ALSO KNOW THAT Q-STATISTIC  $Q(8)$   
HAS A P-VALUE OF 0.60

THE Q STATISTIC IS ALSO CALLED Ljung-Box  
STATISTIC CAN BE USED TO TEST FOR CORRELATION  
NOT AT ONE LAG, BUT AT FEW LAGS SIMULTANEOUSLY.

AS FOR ANY JOINT HYPOTHESIS TEST, ONLY ONE  
AUTOCORRELATION COEFFICIENT NEEDS TO BE  
STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT FOR THE TEST TO  
RESULT IN A REJECTION.

$$Q(m) \quad H_0: \rho_1 = \rho_2 = \rho_3 = \dots = \rho_m = 0$$
$$H_1: \rho_1 \neq 0 \text{ OR } \dots \text{ OR } \rho_m \neq 0$$

IN OUR CASE

$$m = 8 \quad H_0: \rho_1 = \rho_2 = \dots = \rho_8 = 0$$
$$H_1: \rho_1 \neq 0 \text{ OR } \rho_2 \neq 0 \text{ OR } \dots \text{ OR } \rho_8 \neq 0$$

REJECTION RULE:

IF P-VALUE  $< \alpha$  → REJECT  $H_0$

IF P-VALUE  $\geq \alpha$  → DO NOT REJECT  $H_0$

SINCE P-VALUE = 0.60  $> \alpha = 0.05$   
THEN WE DO NOT REJECT  $H_0$  (no autocorrelation)

b) ASSUME  $n = 100$  AND THE SAMPLE AUTOCORRELATION FUNCTION IS

$-0.4, 0.12, -0.05, 0.2, 0.1, 0.05, 0.01, 0.011, 0.009, 0.04$

AND Ljung-Box STATISTIC  $Q(10)$  HAS  
P-VALUE = 0.02

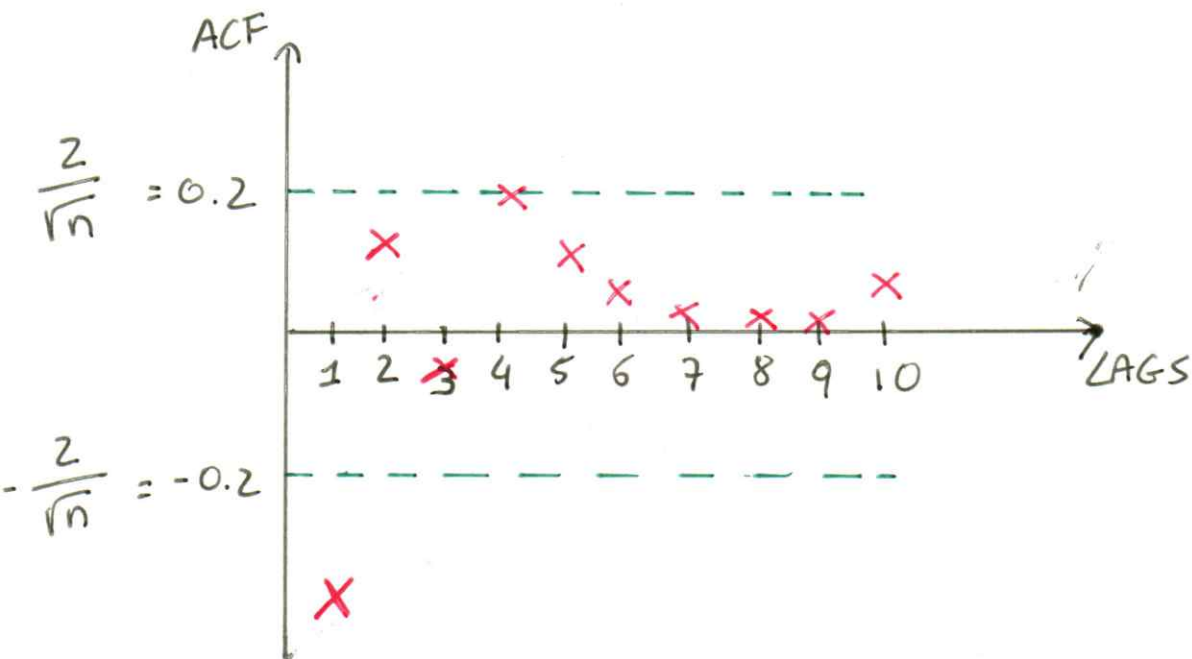
TEST AT 5% SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL, THAT THE  
TIME SERIES IS A WHITE NOISE.

↓

$$H_0: \rho_k = 0$$

$$H_1: \rho_k \neq 0$$

$$\left[-\frac{2}{\sqrt{n}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}}\right] = \left[-\frac{2}{\sqrt{100}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{100}}\right] = [-0.2, 0.2]$$



CORRELATION AT LAG 1 IS SIGNIFICANT

IN FACT

$$|\hat{\rho}_1| = 0.4 > \frac{z}{\sqrt{n}} = 0.2$$

WE CAN CONCLUDE THAT TIME SERIES IS NOT  
A WHITE NOISE

→ Q-statistic

$$H_0: \rho_1 = \rho_2 = \dots = \rho_{10} = 0$$

$$H_1: \rho_1 \neq 0 \text{ OR } \rho_2 \neq 0 \text{ OR } \dots \text{ OR } \rho_{10} \neq 0$$

$$P\text{-VALUE} = 0.02$$

$$\alpha = 0.05$$

SINCE  $P\text{-VALUE} < \alpha$  THEN WE REJECT  $H_0$

THE TEST SHOWS THAT THERE IS CORRELATION,  
SO THE TIME SERIES IS NOT A WHITE NOISE



## Exercise 3.2

a) test for autocorrelation in  $r_t$

TO PLOT CORRELOGRAM IN EIEWS

open file in Eviews

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double click on variable `ibmrtn`

↓

VIEW

↓

CORRELOGRAM

lags to include : 7

A GOOD RULE OF THUMB TO SELECT THE NUMBER OF LAGS IS TAKING  $\ln(n)$ .

IT IS IMPORTANT TO SELECT THE CORRECT NUMBER OF LAGS BECAUSE OTHERWISE OUR RESULTS COULD BE MISLEADING.

IN OUR CASE:

THE DATASET CONTAINS 996 OBSERVATIONS

so  $\ln(996) \sim 7$

WE WANT TO TEST:

$$H_0: \rho_k = 0$$

$$H_1: \rho_k \neq 0$$

WE REJECT  $H_0$  IF  $|\hat{\rho}_k| > \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}}$

$$|\hat{\rho}| > \frac{2}{\sqrt{996}} = 0.0634$$

• IF  $k=1 \rightarrow |\hat{\rho}_1| = 0.04 < 0.0634$  SO NO CORRELATION

$k=2 \rightarrow |\hat{\rho}_2| = 0.006 < 0.0634$  SO NO CORRELATION

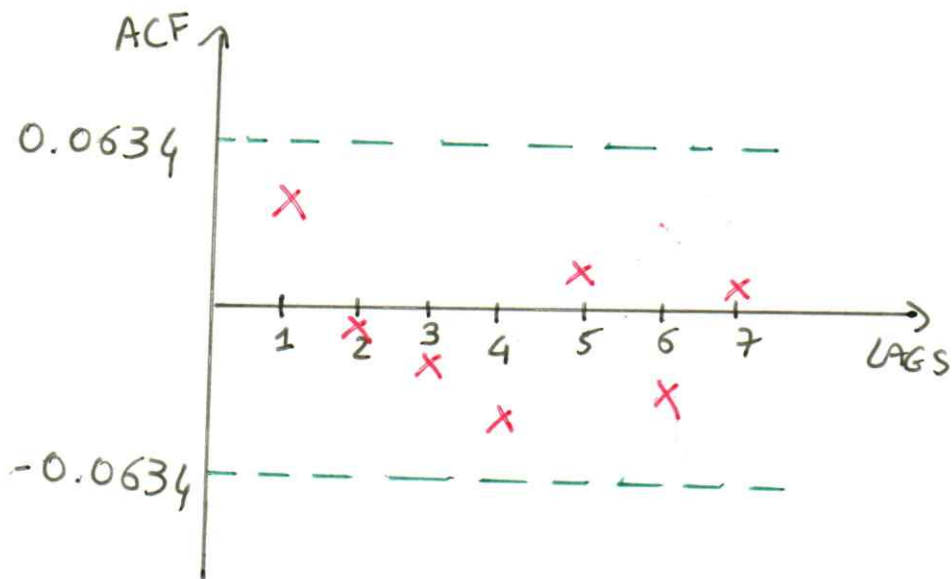
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$k=7 \rightarrow |\hat{\rho}_7| = 0.004 < 0.0634$  SO NO CORRELATION

↓

FOR ALL LAGS WE FAIL TO REJECT  $H_0$

SO IBM RETURNS IS A WHITE NOISE.



→ Q- STATISTIC

$$m=1 \quad H_0: \rho_1 = 0$$

$$H_1: \rho_1 \neq 0$$

$$Q(1) \rightarrow \text{P-VALUE} = \underline{\underline{0.207}} > 0.05 \quad [\text{do not reject}]$$

$$m=2 \quad H_0: \rho_1 = \rho_2 = 0$$

$$H_1: \rho_1 \neq 0 \text{ OR } \rho_2 \neq 0$$

$$Q(2) \rightarrow \text{P-VALUE} = \underline{\underline{0.442}} > 0.05 \quad [\text{do not reject}]$$

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$$m=7 \quad H_0: \rho_1 = \rho_2 = \dots = \rho_7 = 0$$

$$H_1: \rho_1 \neq 0 \text{ OR } \dots \text{ OR } \rho_7 \neq 0$$

$$Q(7) \rightarrow \text{P-VALUE} = \underline{\underline{0.655}} > 0.05 \quad [\text{do not reject}]$$

THEREFORE THE SERIES IS A WHITE NOISE

## Topic: MOVING AVERAGE MODELS

A MOVING AVERAGE MODEL IS SIMPLY A LINEAR COMBINATION OF WHITE NOISE PROCESSES, SO THAT  $X_t$  DEPENDS ON THE CURRENT AND PREVIOUS VALUES OF A WHITE NOISE DISTURBANCE TERM.

THEN

$$X_t = \mu + \varepsilon_t + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} + \theta_2 \varepsilon_{t-2} + \dots + \theta_q \varepsilon_{t-q}$$

IS A  $q$ th ORDER MOVING AVERAGE MODEL, DENOTED AS MA (q)

THIS MODEL CAN BE ALSO EXPRESSED AS:

$$X_t = \mu + \sum_{i=1}^q \theta_i \varepsilon_{t-i} + \varepsilon_t$$

→ PLEASE NOTE THAT  $\varepsilon_t$  IS A WHITE NOISE PROCESS WITH  $E(\varepsilon_t) = 0$  AND  $\text{Var}(\varepsilon_t) = \sigma^2$

### Exercise 3.3.

CONSIDER THE MA(1) TIME SERIES:

$$X_t = \varepsilon_t + \theta \varepsilon_{t-1} \quad \text{where } \varepsilon_t \sim \text{WN}(0, \sigma_\varepsilon^2)$$

a) FIND  $E(X_t)$

WE KNOW THAT IF  $E(\varepsilon_t) = 0$ , THEN  $E(\varepsilon_{t-i}) = 0$   
FOR ALL  $i$ .

THEREFORE THE EXPECTED VALUE OF THE ERROR  
TERM IS ZERO FOR ALL TIME PERIODS.

$$\begin{aligned} E(X_t) &= E(\varepsilon_t + \theta \varepsilon_{t-1}) \\ &= E(\varepsilon_t) + E(\theta \varepsilon_{t-1}) \\ &= \underbrace{E(\varepsilon_t)}_{=0} + \theta \underbrace{E(\varepsilon_{t-1})}_{=0} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

BECAUSE  $\varepsilon_t$  IS A WHITE NOISE PROCESS

SO

$$E(X_t) = 0$$

b) FIND  $\text{Var}(X_t)$

$$\text{Var}(X_t) = E[(X_t - E(X_t))^2]$$

WE KNOW THAT  $E(X_t) = 0$  THEREFORE

$$\text{Var}(X_t) = E[(X_t - E(X_t))^2] = E[(X_t)^2]$$

$$= E\left[\underbrace{(\varepsilon_t + \theta \varepsilon_{t-1})^2}_{X_t}\right] =$$

$$= E[\varepsilon_t^2 + \theta^2 \varepsilon_{t-1}^2 + 2\theta \varepsilon_t \varepsilon_{t-1}] =$$

$$= \underbrace{E[\varepsilon_t^2]}_{\substack{|| \\ \sigma_\varepsilon^2}} + \theta^2 \underbrace{E[\varepsilon_{t-1}^2]}_{=\sigma_\varepsilon^2} + 2\theta \underbrace{E[\varepsilon_t \varepsilon_{t-1}]}_{=0}$$

THIS IS THE VARIANCE  
IN FACT

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}(\varepsilon_t) &= E[(\varepsilon_t - E(\varepsilon_t))^2] = \\ &= E(\varepsilon_t^2)\end{aligned}$$

IF  $\text{Var}(\varepsilon_t) = \sigma_\varepsilon^2$  THEN

$$\text{Var}(\varepsilon_{t-i}) = \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \quad \forall i$$

THIS IS THE  
AUTOCOVARANCE OF  $\varepsilon_t$ .

SINCE  $\varepsilon_t$  IS A  
WHITE NOISE PROCESS

THEN

$$\text{COV}(\varepsilon_t, \varepsilon_{t-i}) = E(\varepsilon_t \cdot \varepsilon_{t-i}) = 0$$

50

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}(X_t) &= \sigma_\varepsilon^2 + \theta^2 \sigma_\varepsilon^2 + 0 \\ &= (1 + \theta^2) \sigma_\varepsilon^2\end{aligned}$$

c) FIND THE AUTOCOVARANCE FUNCTION  $\gamma_k$

$$\text{COV}(X_t, X_{t-k}) = E[(X_t - E(X_t))(X_{t-k} - E(X_{t-k}))] =$$

$$= E[X_t \cdot X_{t-k}] =$$

$$= E[(\varepsilon_t + \theta \varepsilon_{t-1})(\varepsilon_{t-k} + \theta \varepsilon_{t-k-1})]$$

$$= E[\varepsilon_t \varepsilon_{t-k} + \theta \varepsilon_{t-1} \varepsilon_{t-k} + \theta \varepsilon_t \varepsilon_{t-k-1} + \theta^2 \varepsilon_{t-1} \varepsilon_{t-k-1}] =$$

$$= E[\varepsilon_t \varepsilon_{t-k}] + \theta E[\varepsilon_{t-1} \varepsilon_{t-k}] + \theta E[\varepsilon_t \varepsilon_{t-k-1}] + \theta^2 E[\varepsilon_{t-1} \varepsilon_{t-k-1}]$$

• IF  $k = 1$  ( $\rightarrow$  LAG 1 AUTO COVARIANCE)

$$\gamma_1 = \text{COV}(X_t, X_{t-1}) =$$

$$= \underbrace{E(\varepsilon_t \varepsilon_{t-1})}_{=0} + \theta \underbrace{E(\varepsilon_{t-1} \varepsilon_{t-1})}_{=E(\varepsilon_{t-1}^2)} + \theta \underbrace{E[\varepsilon_t \varepsilon_{t-2}]}_{=0} + \theta^2 \underbrace{E[\varepsilon_{t-1} \varepsilon_{t-2}]}_{=0}$$

$$\begin{aligned}E(\varepsilon_{t-1}^2) &= \\ \text{Var}(\varepsilon_{t-1}) &= \sigma_\varepsilon^2\end{aligned}$$

$\varepsilon_t$  IS A WHITE NOISE  
SO NO AUTO COVARIANCE

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_1 &= 0 + \theta \sigma_\varepsilon^2 + 0 + 0 \\ &= \theta \sigma_\varepsilon^2\end{aligned}$$

• IF  $K = 2$

$$\delta_2 = \text{COV}(X_t, X_{t-2}) =$$

$$= \underbrace{E(\varepsilon_t \varepsilon_{t-2})}_{=0} + \theta \underbrace{E(\varepsilon_{t-1} \varepsilon_{t-2})}_{=0} + \theta \underbrace{E(\varepsilon_t \varepsilon_{t-3})}_{=0} + \theta \underbrace{E(\varepsilon_{t-1} \varepsilon_{t-3})}_{=0}$$

$$= 0$$

• IF  $K > 2$

$$\text{THEN } \delta_K = 0$$

WE CAN CONCLUDE THAT

$$\delta_1 = \theta \sigma_\varepsilon^2$$

$$\delta_2 = 0$$

$$\delta_3 = 0$$

⋮

} ALL COVARIANCES FOR THE MA(1) PROCESS WILL BE ZERO FOR ANY LAG LENGTH,  $K$ , GREATER THAN 1

↓

in general

ALL COVARIANCES FOR THE MA( $q$ ) PROCESS WILL BE ZERO FOR ANY LAG LENGTH,  $K$ , GREATER THAN  $q$



→ FIND THE AUTOCORRELATION FUNCTION  $\rho_k$

THE AUTOCORRELATION AT LAG 1 IS

$$\rho_1 = \text{Corr}(X_t, X_{t-1}) =$$

$$= \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_0}$$

where  $\delta_0 = \text{Var}(X_t)$

$$= \frac{\theta \sigma_\varepsilon^2}{(1 + \theta^2) \sigma_\varepsilon^2} =$$

$$= \frac{\theta}{1 + \theta^2}$$

• IF  $k \geq 2$  THEN

$$\rho_k = \text{Corr}(X_t, X_{t-k})$$

$$= \frac{\delta_k}{\delta_0}$$

$$= \frac{0}{\delta_0}$$

$$= 0$$

HENCE AUTOCORRELATION CUTS OFF TO ZERO  
AFTER LAG 1

2) IS  $X_t$  A COVARIANCE STATIONARY TIME SERIES?

$X_t$  IS A COVARIANCE STATIONARY TIME SERIES,

BECAUSE:

- IT HAS CONSTANT MEAN  $E(X_t) = 0$
- IT HAS CONSTANT VARIANCE  $\text{Var}(X_t) = (1 + \theta^2) \sigma_\epsilon^2$
- $\text{COV}(X_t, X_{t-k}) = \gamma_k$  DEPEND ONLY ON THE LAG  $k$