#### **ARIMA Models**

### **Processos Lineares Estacionários**

**Teorema**(Wold): Todo processo estacionário de segunda ordem, puramente não-determinístico, pode ser escrito como

$$X_t = \mu + \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \psi_j a_{t-j}, \quad \psi_0 = 1,$$
 (1)

com  $\{\varepsilon_t\}$  uma seqüência de v.a. não correlacionadas, de média zero e variância  $\sigma^2$  constante (ruído branco)

$$\bullet$$
  $E(X_t) = \mu$ 

• 
$$Var(X_t) = \sigma^2 \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \psi_j^2$$

• 
$$\gamma_k = \sigma^2 \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \psi_j \psi_{j+k}, \quad \sum \psi_j^2 < \infty.$$

$$\bullet \ \rho_k = \frac{\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \psi_j \psi_{j+k}}{\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \psi_j^2}$$

Notação: Xt com média zero.

Podemos escrever a série  $X_t$  em uma forma alternativa, como soma de valores passados  $X_{t-1}$ ,  $X_{t-2}$ , mais um ruído  $w_t$ :

$$X_t = \pi_1 X_{t-1} + \pi_1 X_{t-1} + ... + w_t$$

ou

$$\Pi(B)X_t = w_t$$

# Proposição:

um processo linear será estacionário se  $\Psi(B)$  convergir para  $|B| \le 1$  e será invertível se  $\Pi(B)$  convergir para  $|B| \le 1$ .

# **Autoregressive Moving Average Models**

# 1. Autoregressive Models

Autoregressive models are based on the idea that the current value of the series,  $x_t$ , can be explained as a function of p past values,  $x_{t-1}, x_{t-2}, \ldots, x_{t-p}$ , where p determines the number of steps into the past needed to forecast the current value. As a typical case, recall Example 1.10 in which data were generated using the model

$$x_t = x_{t-1} - .90x_{t-2} + w_t,$$

where  $w_t$  is white Gaussian noise with  $\sigma_w^2 = 1$ . We have now assumed the current value is a particular linear function of past values. The regularity that persists in Figure 1.9 gives an indication that forecasting for such a model might be a distinct possibility, say, through some version such as

$$x_{n+1}^n = x_n - .90x_{n-1},$$

where the quantity on the left-hand side denotes the forecast at the next period n + 1 based on the observed data,  $x_1, x_2, ..., x_n$ . We will make this notion more precise in our discussion of forecasting (§3.5).

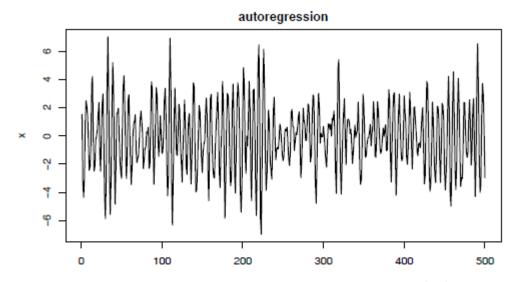


Fig. 1.9. Autoregressive series generated from model (1.2).

Definition 3.1 An autoregressive model of order p, abbreviated AR(p), is of the form

$$x_t = \phi_1 x_{t-1} + \phi_2 x_{t-2} + \dots + \phi_p x_{t-p} + w_t, \tag{3.1}$$

where  $x_t$  is stationary, and  $\phi_1, \phi_2, \ldots, \phi_p$  are constants  $(\phi_p \neq 0)$ . Although it is not necessary yet, we assume that  $w_t$  is a Gaussian white noise series with mean zero and variance  $\sigma_w^2$ , unless otherwise stated. The mean of  $x_t$  in (3.1) is zero. If the mean,  $\mu$ , of  $x_t$  is not zero, replace  $x_t$  by  $x_t - \mu$  in (3.1),

$$x_t - \mu = \phi_1(x_{t-1} - \mu) + \phi_2(x_{t-2} - \mu) + \dots + \phi_p(x_{t-p} - \mu) + w_t,$$

or write

$$x_t = \alpha + \phi_1 x_{t-1} + \phi_2 x_{t-2} + \dots + \phi_p x_{t-p} + w_t,$$
 (3.2)

where  $\alpha = \mu(1 - \phi_1 - \dots - \phi_p)$ .

$$(1 - \phi_1 B - \phi_2 B^2 - \dots - \phi_p B^p) x_t = w_t,$$
 (3.3)

or even more concisely as

$$\phi(B)x_t = w_t$$
. (3.4)

The properties of  $\phi(B)$  are important in solving (3.4) for  $x_t$ . This leads to the following definition.

#### Definition 3.2 The autoregressive operator is defined to be

$$\phi(B) = 1 - \phi_1 B - \phi_2 B^2 - \dots - \phi_p B^p.$$
 (3.5)

We initiate the investigation of AR models by considering the first-order model, AR(1), given by  $x_t = \phi x_{t-1} + w_t$ . Iterating backwards k times, we get

$$x_{t} = \phi x_{t-1} + w_{t} = \phi(\phi x_{t-2} + w_{t-1}) + w_{t}$$

$$= \phi^{2} x_{t-2} + \phi w_{t-1} + w_{t}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$= \phi^{k} x_{t-k} + \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \phi^{j} w_{t-j}.$$

This method suggests that, by continuing to iterate backward, and provided that  $|\phi| < 1$  and  $x_t$  is stationary, we can represent an AR(1) model as a linear process given by<sup>1</sup>

$$x_{t} = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \phi^{j} w_{t-j}.$$
 (3.6)

Note that  $\lim_{k\to\infty} E\left(x_t - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \phi^j w_{t-j}\right)^2 = \lim_{k\to\infty} \phi^{2k} E\left(x_{t-k}^2\right) = 0$ , so (3.6) exists in the mean square sense (see Appendix A for a definition).

The AR(1) process defined by (3.6) is stationary with mean

$$E(x_t) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \phi^j E(w_{t-j}) = 0,$$

and autocovariance function,

$$\gamma(h) = \text{cov}(x_{t+h}, x_t) = E\left[\left(\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \phi^j w_{t+h-j}\right) \left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \phi^k w_{t-k}\right)\right]$$

$$= E\left[\left(w_{t+h} + \dots + \phi^h w_t + \phi^{h+1} w_{t-1} + \dots\right) \left(w_t + \phi w_{t-1} + \dots\right)\right] (3.7)$$

$$= \sigma_w^2 \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \phi^{h+j} \phi^j = \sigma_w^2 \phi^h \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \phi^{2j} = \frac{\sigma_w^2 \phi^h}{1 - \phi^2}, \quad h \ge 0.$$

Recall that  $\gamma(h) = \gamma(-h)$ , so we will only exhibit the autocovariance function for  $h \ge 0$ . From (3.7), the ACF of an AR(1) is

$$\rho(h) = \frac{\gamma(h)}{\gamma(0)} = \phi^h, \quad h \ge 0,$$
(3.8)

and  $\rho(h)$  satisfies the recursion

$$\rho(h) = \phi \rho(h-1), \quad h = 1, 2, \dots$$
 (3.9)

We will discuss the ACF of a general AR(p) model in §3.4.

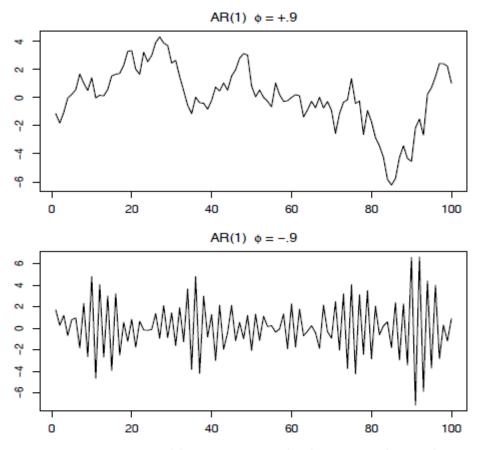


Fig. 3.1. Simulated AR(1) models:  $\phi = .9$  (top);  $\phi = -.9$  (bottom).

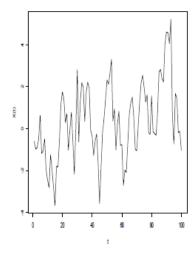


Figura 2.6: Processo AR(1) simulado,  $\phi=0,8$ 

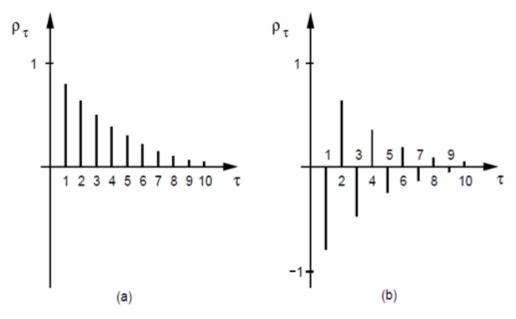


Figura 2.5: F.a.c. de um processo AR(1) (a)  $\phi = 0.8$  (b)  $\phi = -0.8$ 

#### Example 3.2 Explosive AR Models and Causality

In Example 1.18, it was discovered that the random walk  $x_t = x_{t-1} + w_t$  is not stationary. We might wonder whether there is a stationary AR(1) process with  $|\phi| > 1$ . Such processes are called explosive because the values of the time series quickly become large in magnitude. Clearly, because  $|\phi|^j$  increases without bound as  $j \to \infty$ ,  $\sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \phi^j w_{t-j}$  will not converge (in mean square) as  $k \to \infty$ , so the intuition used to get (3.6) will not work directly. We can, however, modify that argument to obtain a stationary model as follows. Write  $x_{t+1} = \phi x_t + w_{t+1}$ , in which case,

$$x_{t} = \phi^{-1}x_{t+1} - \phi^{-1}w_{t+1} = \phi^{-1}\left(\phi^{-1}x_{t+2} - \phi^{-1}w_{t+2}\right) - \phi^{-1}w_{t+1}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$= \phi^{-k}x_{t+k} - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1}\phi^{-j}w_{t+j},$$
(3.10)

by iterating forward k steps. Because  $|\phi|^{-1} < 1$ , this result suggests the stationary future dependent AR(1) model

$$x_t = -\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \phi^{-j} w_{t+j}.$$
 (3.11)

know the future to be able to predict the future. When a process does not depend on the future, such as the AR(1) when  $|\phi| < 1$ , we will say the process is causal. In the explosive case of this example, the process is stationary, but it is also future dependent, and not causal.

# Consider the AR(1) model in operator form

$$\phi(B)x_t = w_t, \tag{3.12}$$

where  $\phi(B) = 1 - \phi B$ , and  $|\phi| < 1$ . Also, write the model in equation (3.6) using operator form as

$$x_t = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \psi_j w_{t-j} = \psi(B) w_t,$$
 (3.13)

where  $\psi(B) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \psi_j B^j$  and  $\psi_j = \phi^j$ . Suppose we did not know that  $\psi_j = \phi^j$ . We could substitute  $\psi(B)w_t$  from (3.13) for  $x_t$  in (3.12) to obtain

$$\phi(B)\psi(B)w_t = w_t. \tag{3.14}$$

The coefficients of B on the left-hand side of (3.14) must be equal to those on right-hand side of (3.14), which means

$$(1 - \phi B)(1 + \psi_1 B + \psi_2 B^2 + \dots + \psi_j B^j + \dots) = 1.$$
 (3.15)

Reorganizing the coefficients in (3.15),

$$1 + (\psi_1 - \phi)B + (\psi_2 - \psi_1 \phi)B^2 + \dots + (\psi_j - \psi_{j-1} \phi)B^j + \dots = 1,$$

we see that for each j = 1, 2, ..., the coefficient of  $B^j$  on the left must be zero because it is zero on the right. The coefficient of B on the left is  $(\psi_1 - \phi)$ , and equating this to zero,  $\psi_1 - \phi = 0$ , leads to  $\psi_1 = \phi$ . Continuing, the coefficient of  $B^2$  is  $(\psi_2 - \psi_1 \phi)$ , so  $\psi_2 = \phi^2$ . In general,

$$\psi_i = \psi_{i-1}\phi,$$

with  $\psi_0 = 1$ , which leads to the solution  $\psi_j = \phi^j$ .

Another way to think about the operations we just performed is to consider the AR(1) model in operator form,  $\phi(B)x_t = w_t$ . Now multiply both sides by  $\phi^{-1}(B)$  (assuming the inverse operator exists) to get

$$\phi^{-1}(B)\phi(B)x_t = \phi^{-1}(B)w_t,$$

or

$$x_t = \phi^{-1}(B)w_t$$
.

We know already that

$$\phi^{-1}(B) = 1 + \phi B + \phi^2 B^2 + \dots + \phi^j B^j + \dots,$$

that is,  $\phi^{-1}(B)$  is  $\psi(B)$  in (3.13). Thus, we notice that working with operators is like working with polynomials. That is, consider the polynomial  $\phi(z) = 1 - \phi z$ , where z is a complex number and  $|\phi| < 1$ . Then,

$$\phi^{-1}(z) = \frac{1}{(1 - \phi z)} = 1 + \phi z + \phi^2 z^2 + \dots + \phi^j z^j + \dots, \quad |z| \le 1,$$

and the coefficients of  $B^j$  in  $\phi^{-1}(B)$  are the same as the coefficients of  $z^j$  in  $\phi^{-1}(z)$ . In other words, we may treat the backshift operator, B, as a complex number, z. These results will be generalized in our discussion of ARMA models. We will find the polynomials corresponding to the operators useful in exploring the general properties of ARMA models.

# 2. Moving Average Models

Definition 3.3 The moving average model of order q, or MA(q) model, is defined to be

$$x_t = w_t + \theta_1 w_{t-1} + \theta_2 w_{t-2} + \dots + \theta_q w_{t-q},$$
 (3.16)

where there are q lags in the moving average and  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_q$  ( $\theta_q \neq 0$ ) are parameters.<sup>2</sup> Although it is not necessary yet, we assume that  $w_t$  is a Gaussian white noise series with mean zero and variance  $\sigma_w^2$ , unless otherwise stated.

The system is the same as the infinite moving average defined as the linear process (3.13), where  $\psi_0 = 1$ ,  $\psi_j = \theta_j$ , for j = 1, ..., q, and  $\psi_j = 0$  for other values. We may also write the MA(q) process in the equivalent form

$$x_t = \theta(B)w_t, \tag{3.17}$$

using the following definition.

#### Definition 3.4 The moving average operator is

$$\theta(B) = 1 + \theta_1 B + \theta_2 B^2 + \dots + \theta_q B^q.$$
 (3.18)

Unlike the autoregressive process, the moving average process is stationary for any values of the parameters  $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_q$ ; details of this result are provided in §3.4.

#### Example 3.4 The MA(1) Process

Consider the MA(1) model  $x_t = w_t + \theta w_{t-1}$ . Then,  $E(x_t) = 0$ ,

$$\gamma(h) = \begin{cases} (1 + \theta^2)\sigma_w^2 & h = 0, \\ \theta \sigma_w^2 & h = 1, \\ 0 & h > 1, \end{cases}$$

and the ACF is

$$\rho(h) = \begin{cases} \frac{\theta}{(1+\theta^2)} & h = 1, \\ 0 & h > 1. \end{cases}$$

Note  $|\rho(1)| \le 1/2$  for all values of  $\theta$  (Problem 3.1). Also,  $x_t$  is correlated with  $x_{t-1}$ , but not with  $x_{t-2}, x_{t-3}, \ldots$ . Contrast this with the case of the AR(1)

Some texts and software packages write the MA model with negative coefficients; that is,  $x_t = w_t - \theta_1 w_{t-1} - \theta_2 w_{t-2} - \cdots - \theta_q w_{t-q}$ .

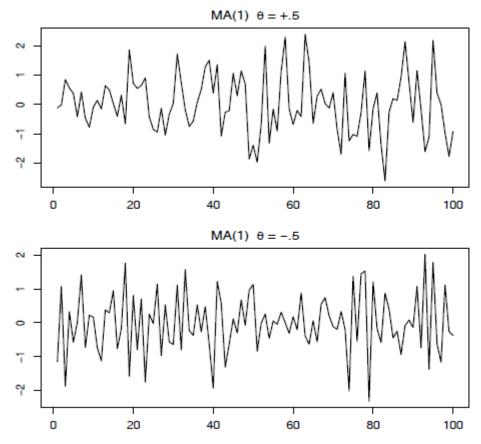


Fig. 3.2. Simulated MA(1) models:  $\theta = .5$  (top);  $\theta = -.5$  (bottom).

### Example 3.5 Non-uniqueness of MA Models and Invertibility

Using Example 3.4, we note that for an MA(1) model,  $\rho(h)$  is the same for  $\theta$  and  $\frac{1}{\theta}$ ; try 5 and  $\frac{1}{5}$ , for example. In addition, the pair  $\sigma_w^2 = 1$  and  $\theta = 5$  yield the same autocovariance function as the pair  $\sigma_w^2 = 25$  and  $\theta = 1/5$ , namely,

$$\gamma(h) = \begin{cases} 26 & h = 0, \\ 5 & h = 1, \\ 0 & h > 1. \end{cases}$$

Thus, the MA(1) processes

$$x_t = w_t + \frac{1}{5}w_{t-1}, \quad w_t \sim \text{iid } N(0, 25)$$

and

$$y_t = v_t + 5v_{t-1}, \quad v_t \sim \text{iid N}(0, 1)$$

are the same because of normality (i.e., all finite distributions are the same). We can only observe the time series,  $x_t$  or  $y_t$ , and not the noise,  $w_t$  or  $v_t$ , so we cannot distinguish between the models. Hence, we will have to choose only one of them. For convenience, by mimicking the criterion of causality for AR models, we will choose the model with an infinite AR representation. Such a process is called an invertible process.

To discover which model is the invertible model, we can reverse the roles of  $x_t$  and  $w_t$  (because we are mimicking the AR case) and write the MA(1) model as  $w_t = -\theta w_{t-1} + x_t$ . Following the steps that led to (3.6), if  $|\theta| < 1$ , then  $w_t = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (-\theta)^j x_{t-j}$ , which is the desired infinite AR representation of the model. Hence, given a choice, we will choose the model with  $\sigma_w^2 = 25$  and  $\theta = 1/5$  because it is invertible.

# 3. Autoregressive Moving Average Models

**Definition 3.5** A time series  $\{x_t; t = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, ...\}$  is ARMA(p,q) if it is stationary and

$$x_{t} = \phi_{1} x_{t-1} + \dots + \phi_{p} x_{t-p} + w_{t} + \theta_{1} w_{t-1} + \dots + \theta_{q} w_{t-q}, \tag{3.19}$$

with  $\phi_p \neq 0$ ,  $\theta_q \neq 0$ , and  $\sigma_w^2 > 0$ . The parameters p and q are called the autoregressive and the moving average orders, respectively. If  $x_t$  has a nonzero mean  $\mu$ , we set  $\alpha = \mu(1 - \phi_1 - \cdots - \phi_p)$  and write the model as

$$x_{t} = \alpha + \phi_{1}x_{t-1} + \dots + \phi_{p}x_{t-p} + w_{t} + \theta_{1}w_{t-1} + \dots + \theta_{q}w_{t-q}.$$
 (3.20)

$$\phi(B)x_t = \theta(B)w_t. \tag{3.21}$$

Before we discuss the conditions under which (3.19) is causal and invertible, we point out a potential problem with the ARMA model.

#### Example 3.6 Parameter Redundancy

Consider a white noise process  $x_t = w_t$ . Equivalently, we can write this as  $.5x_{t-1} = .5w_{t-1}$  by shifting back one unit of time and multiplying by .5. Now, subtract the two representations to obtain

$$x_t - .5x_{t-1} = w_t - .5w_{t-1},$$

or

$$x_t = .5x_{t-1} - .5w_{t-1} + w_t,$$
 (3.22)

which looks like an ARMA(1,1) model. Of course,  $x_t$  is still white noise; nothing has changed in this regard [i.e.,  $x_t = w_t$  is the solution to (3.22)], but we have hidden the fact that  $x_t$  is white noise because of the parameter redundancy or over-parameterization. Write the parameter redundant model in operator form as  $\phi(B)x_t = \theta(B)w_t$ , or

$$(1 - .5B)x_t = (1 - .5B)w_t.$$

Apply the operator  $\phi(B)^{-1} = (1 - .5B)^{-1}$  to both sides to obtain

$$x_t = (1 - .5B)^{-1}(1 - .5B)x_t = (1 - .5B)^{-1}(1 - .5B)w_t = w_t,$$

Examples 3.2, 3.5, and 3.6 point to a number of problems with the general definition of ARMA(p, q) models, as given by (3.19), or, equivalently, by (3.21). To summarize, we have seen the following problems:

- parameter redundant models,
- (ii) stationary AR models that depend on the future, and
- (iii) MA models that are not unique.

To overcome these problems, we will require some additional restrictions on the model parameters. First, we make the following definitions.

#### Definition 3.6 The AR and MA polynomials are defined as

$$\phi(z) = 1 - \phi_1 z - \dots - \phi_p z^p, \quad \phi_p \neq 0,$$
 (3.23)

and

$$\theta(z) = 1 + \theta_1 z + \dots + \theta_q z^q, \quad \theta_q \neq 0, \tag{3.24}$$

respectively, where z is a complex number.

To address the first problem, we will henceforth refer to an ARMA(p,q) model to mean that it is in its simplest form. That is, in addition to the original definition given in equation (3.19), we will also require that  $\phi(z)$  and  $\theta(z)$  have no common factors. So, the process,  $x_t = .5x_{t-1} - .5w_{t-1} + w_t$ , discussed in Example 3.6 is not referred to as an ARMA(1,1) process because, in its reduced form,  $x_t$  is white noise.

To address the problem of future-dependent models, we formally introduce the concept of causality.

**Definition 3.7** An ARMA(p,q) model is said to be **causal**, if the time series  $\{x_t; t = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \ldots\}$  can be written as a one-sided linear process:

$$x_t = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \psi_j w_{t-j} = \psi(B) w_t,$$
 (3.25)

where  $\psi(B) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \psi_j B^j$ , and  $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} |\psi_j| < \infty$ ; we set  $\psi_0 = 1$ .

In Example 3.2, the AR(1) process,  $x_t = \phi x_{t-1} + w_t$ , is causal only when  $|\phi| < 1$ . Equivalently, the process is causal only when the root of  $\phi(z) = 1 - \phi z$  is bigger than one in absolute value. That is, the root, say,  $z_0$ , of  $\phi(z)$  is  $z_0 = 1/\phi$  (because  $\phi(z_0) = 0$ ) and  $|z_0| > 1$  because  $|\phi| < 1$ . In general, we have the following property.

### Property 3.1 Causality of an ARMA(p,q) Process

An ARMA(p,q) model is causal if and only if  $\phi(z) \neq 0$  for  $|z| \leq 1$ . The coefficients of the linear process given in (3.25) can be determined by solving

$$\psi(z) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \psi_j z^j = \frac{\theta(z)}{\phi(z)}, \quad |z| \le 1.$$

Another way to phrase Property 3.1 is that an ARMA process is causal only when the roots of  $\phi(z)$  lie outside the unit circle; that is,  $\phi(z) = 0$  only when |z| > 1. Finally, to address the problem of uniqueness discussed in Example 3.5, we choose the model that allows an infinite autoregressive representation.

**Definition 3.8** An ARMA(p,q) model is said to be invertible, if the time series  $\{x_t; t = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \ldots\}$  can be written as

$$\pi(B)x_t = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \pi_j x_{t-j} = w_t,$$
(3.26)

where  $\pi(B) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \pi_j B^j$ , and  $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} |\pi_j| < \infty$ ; we set  $\pi_0 = 1$ .

Analogous to Property 3.1, we have the following property.

# Property 3.2 Invertibility of an ARMA(p,q) Process

An ARMA(p,q) model is invertible if and only if  $\theta(z) \neq 0$  for  $|z| \leq 1$ . The coefficients  $\pi_j$  of  $\pi(B)$  given in (3.26) can be determined by solving

$$\pi(z) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \pi_j z^j = \frac{\phi(z)}{\theta(z)}, \quad |z| \le 1.$$

Another way to phrase Property 3.2 is that an ARMA process is invertible only when the roots of  $\theta(z)$  lie outside the unit circle; that is,  $\theta(z) = 0$  only when |z| > 1. The proof of Property 3.1 is given in Appendix B (the proof of Property 3.2 is similar and, hence, is not provided). The following examples illustrate these concepts.

### Example 3.7 Parameter Redundancy, Causality, Invertibility Consider the process

$$x_t = .4x_{t-1} + .45x_{t-2} + w_t + w_{t-1} + .25w_{t-2},$$

or, in operator form,

$$(1 - .4B - .45B^2)x_t = (1 + B + .25B^2)w_t.$$

At first,  $x_t$  appears to be an ARMA(2,2) process. But, the associated polynomials

$$\phi(z) = 1 - .4z - .45z^2 = (1 + .5z)(1 - .9z)$$
  
$$\theta(z) = (1 + z + .25z^2) = (1 + .5z)^2$$

have a common factor that can be canceled. After cancellation, the polynomials become  $\phi(z) = (1 - .9z)$  and  $\theta(z) = (1 + .5z)$ , so the model is an ARMA(1,1) model,  $(1 - .9B)x_t = (1 + .5B)w_t$ , or

$$x_t = .9x_{t-1} + .5w_{t-1} + w_t.$$
 (3.27)

The model is causal because  $\phi(z) = (1 - .9z) = 0$  when z = 10/9, which is outside the unit circle. The model is also invertible because the root of  $\theta(z) = (1 + .5z)$  is z = -2, which is outside the unit circle.

To write the model as a linear process, we can obtain the  $\psi$ -weights using Property 3.1,  $\phi(z)\psi(z) = \theta(z)$ , or

$$(1 - .9z)(\psi_0 + \psi_1 z + \psi_2 z^2 + \cdots) = (1 + .5z).$$

Matching coefficients we get  $\psi_0 = 1$ ,  $\psi_1 = .5 + .9 = 1.4$ , and  $\psi_j = .9\psi_{j-1}$  for j > 1. Thus,  $\psi_j = 1.4(.9)^{j-1}$  for  $j \ge 1$  and (3.27) can be written as

$$x_t = w_t + 1.4 \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} .9^{j-1} w_{t-j}.$$

Similarly, the invertible representation using Property 3.2 is

$$x_t = 1.4 \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (-.5)^{j-1} x_{t-j} + w_t.$$

#### Example 3.8 Causal Conditions for an AR(2) Process

For an AR(1) model,  $(1-\phi B)x_t = w_t$ , to be causal, the root of  $\phi(z) = 1-\phi z$  must lie outside of the unit circle. In this case, the root (or zero) occurs at  $z_0 = 1/\phi$  [i.e.,  $\phi(z_0) = 0$ ], so it is easy to go from the causal requirement on the root,  $|1/\phi| > 1$ , to a requirement on the parameter,  $|\phi| < 1$ . It is not so easy to establish this relationship for higher order models.

For example, the AR(2) model,  $(1 - \phi_1 B - \phi_2 B^2)x_t = w_t$ , is causal when the two roots of  $\phi(z) = 1 - \phi_1 z - \phi_2 z^2$  lie outside of the unit circle. Using the quadratic formula, this requirement can be written as

$$\left| \frac{\phi_1 \pm \sqrt{\phi_1^2 + 4\phi_2}}{-2\phi_2} \right| > 1.$$

The roots of  $\phi(z)$  may be real and distinct, real and equal, or a complex conjugate pair. If we denote those roots by  $z_1$  and  $z_2$ , we can write  $\phi(z) = (1-z_1^{-1}z)(1-z_2^{-1}z)$ ; note that  $\phi(z_1) = \phi(z_2) = 0$ . The model can be written in operator form as  $(1-z_1^{-1}B)(1-z_2^{-1}B)x_t = w_t$ . From this representation, it follows that  $\phi_1 = (z_1^{-1} + z_2^{-1})$  and  $\phi_2 = -(z_1z_2)^{-1}$ . This relationship and the fact that  $|z_1| > 1$  and  $|z_2| > 1$  can be used to establish the following equivalent condition for causality:

$$\phi_1 + \phi_2 < 1, \quad \phi_2 - \phi_1 < 1, \quad \text{and} \quad |\phi_2| < 1.$$
 (3.28)

This causality condition specifies a triangular region in the parameter space. We leave the details of the equivalence to the reader (Problem 3.5).