

Measuring Dispersion and Serial Dependence in Ordinal Time Series based on Cumulative Paired ϕ -Entropy



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Dispersion & Serial Dependence in Ordinal Time Series

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Introduction

Random variable X **ordinal**

if bounded qualitative range with natural order:

$\mathcal{S} = \{s_0, s_1, \dots, s_m\}$ with $m \in \mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, \dots\}$ and $s_0 < \dots < s_m$.

Realized data: x_1, \dots, x_n with $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

either from independent and identically distributed (i. i. d.)

replications of X (ordinal **random sample**),

or from stationary ordinal process $(X_t)_{\mathbb{Z}=\{\dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots\}}$

(ordinal **time series**).

(Agresti, 2010; Weiß, 2018)

Variance or mean absolute deviation only for *quantitative* data.

Therefore, several tailor-made measures for ordinal dispersion in the literature, see Kiesl (2003), Kvålseth (2011), and others.

All measures rely on cumulative distribution function (CDF), i. e., on $\mathbf{f} = (f_0, \dots, f_{m-1})^\top$ with $f_i = P(X \leq s_i)$.

They classify any one-point distribution on \mathcal{S} as a scenario of **minimal dispersion** (maximal consensus):

$$\mathbf{f}_{\text{one}} \in \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \dots, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

Maximal dispersion iff extreme two-point distribution,

$$\mathbf{f}_{\text{two}} = \left(\frac{1}{2}, \dots, \frac{1}{2}\right)^\top \text{ (maximal dissent).}$$

Ordinal **dependence measures** defined in analogy to autocorrelation function (ACF) for quantitative time series, namely using bivariate CDF $f_{ij}(h) = P(X_t \leq s_i, X_{t-h} \leq s_j)$ for time lags $h \in \mathbb{N}$ as their base.

In particular, measures related to **Cohen's** κ distinguish positive and negative forms of serial dependence, i. e., extent of (dis)agreement between lagged observations.

(Weiß, 2020)

Klein et al. (2016) showed that many ordinal dispersion measures belong to family of “cumulative paired ϕ -entropies”, abbreviated as CPE_{ϕ} .

Task 1: derive asymptotic distribution of sample version \widehat{CPE}_{ϕ} for time series data.

Task 2: for given CPE_{ϕ} , identify related measure of serial dependence \Rightarrow novel family of $\kappa_{\phi}(h)$ measures.

Task 3: asymptotics of $\widehat{\kappa}_{\phi}(h)$ under null of i. i. d. time series.

Check finite-sample performance by simulations, illustrative real-world data example.



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The Family of Cumulative Paired ϕ -Entropies

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Definition & Examples

Klein et al. (2016): (normalized) **cumulative paired ϕ -entropy**

$$\text{CPE}_{\phi}(f) = \frac{1}{2 m \phi(1/2)} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left(\phi(f_i) + \phi(1 - f_i) \right),$$

where **entropy generating function** (EGF) ϕ defined on $[0; 1]$, satisfies $\phi(0) = \phi(1) = 0$, and concave on $[0; 1]$.

Example: If q -entropies $\phi_q(z) = 1 - |2z - 1|^q$,

then $q = 2$, i. e., $\phi(z) = z(1 - z)$, leads to

index of ordinal variation (Kiesl, 2003):

$$\text{IOV} = \frac{4}{m} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} f_i(1 - f_i) = 1 - \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} (2f_i - 1)^2.$$

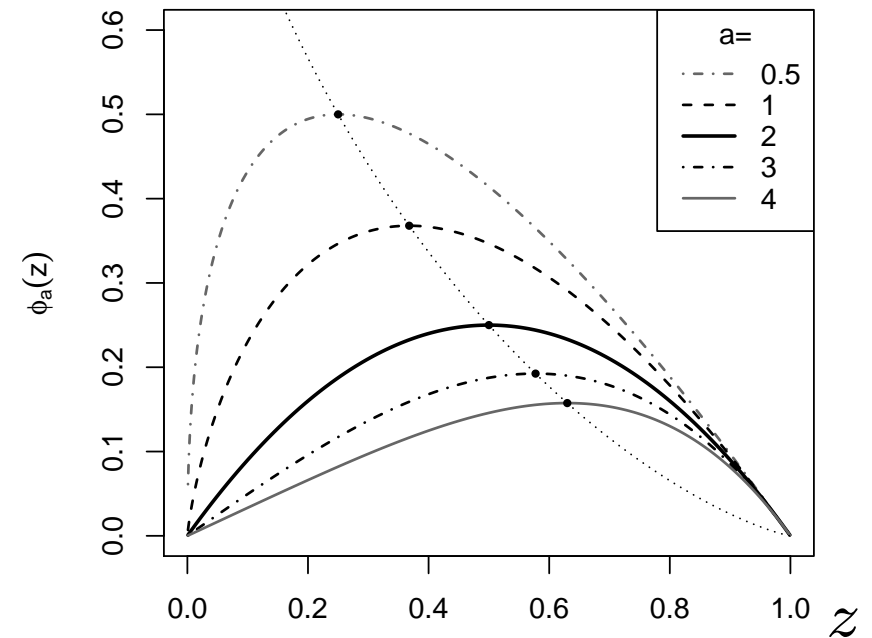
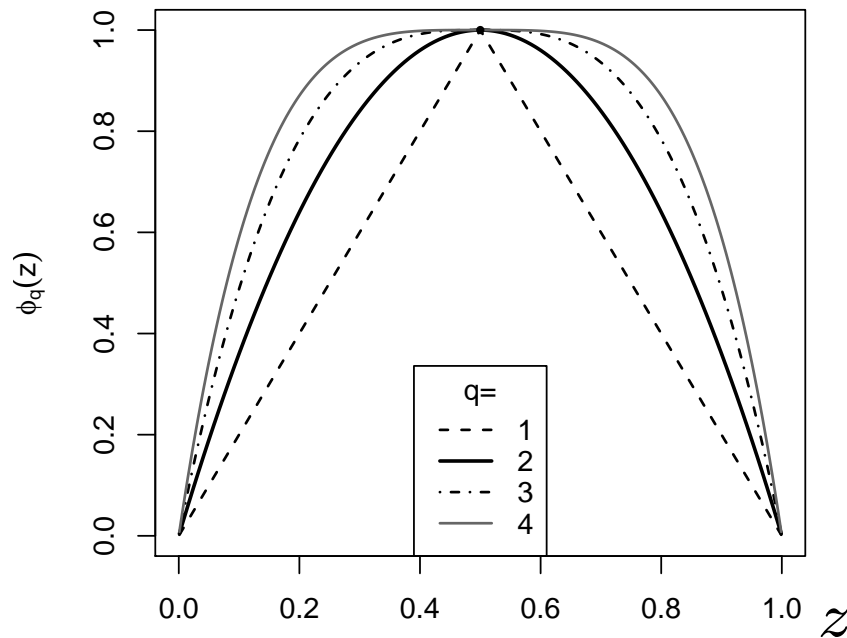
Example: If a -entropies $\phi_a(z) = \frac{z - z^a}{a - 1}$, $a > 0$ and $a \neq 1$ (Havrda & Charvát, 1967), then

$$\text{CPE}_a = \frac{2^{a-1}}{m(2^{a-1}-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left(1 - f_i^a - (1 - f_i)^a\right).$$

Boundary case $a \rightarrow 1$, i. e., $\phi(z) = -z \ln z$, leads to **cumulative paired (Shannon) entropy** (Vogel & Dobbener, 1982):

$$\text{CPE} = \frac{-1}{m \ln 2} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left(f_i \ln f_i + (1 - f_i) \ln(1 - f_i)\right).$$

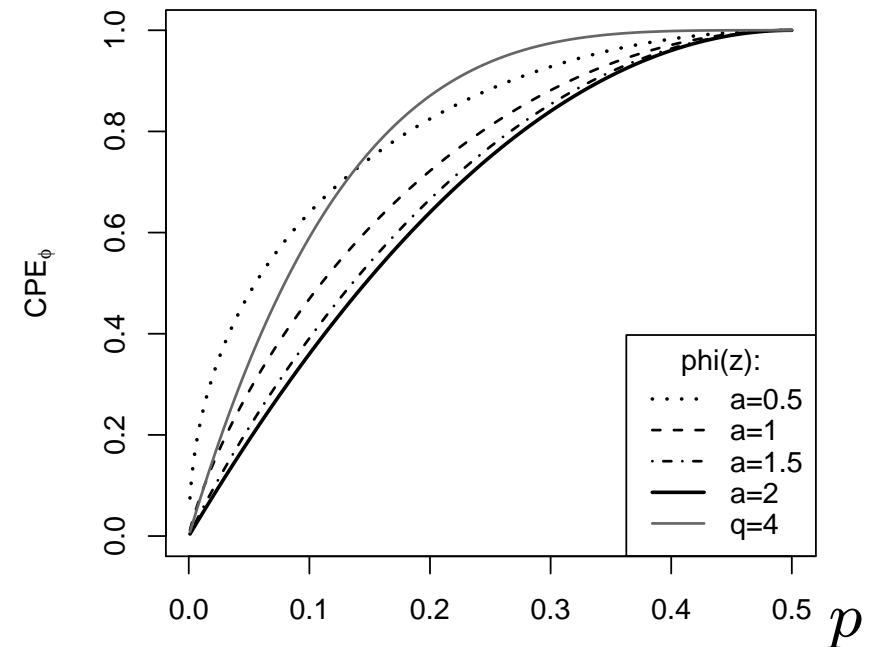
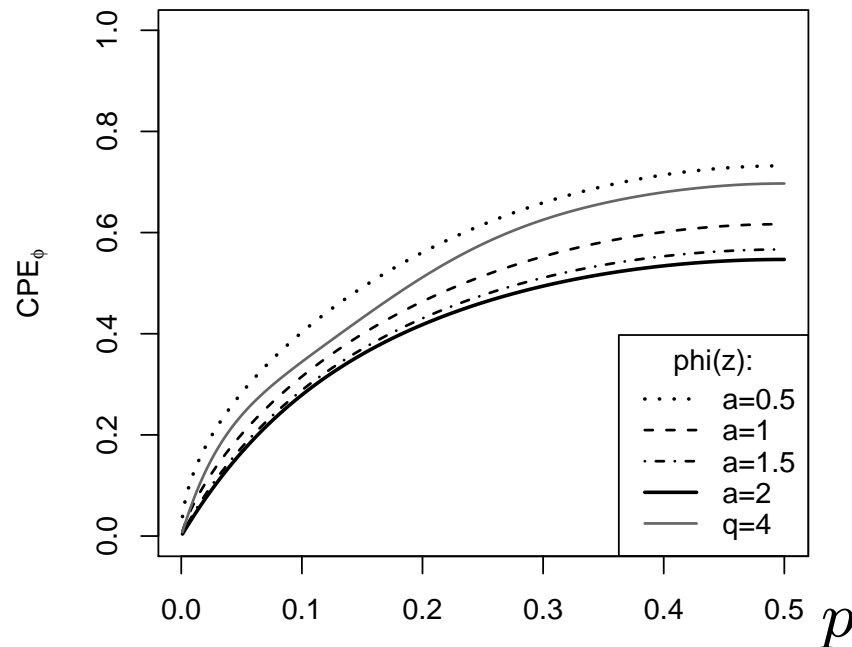
Plot of EGFs $\phi(z)$ against z :



Left: $\phi_q(z) = 1 - |2z - 1|^q$; right: $\phi_a(z) = (z - z^a)/(a - 1)$.

Plot of CPE_ϕ against p for specific cases of

$$\phi_a(z) = (z - z^a)/(a - 1) \text{ and } \phi_q(z) = 1 - |2z - 1|^q$$



Left: Bin(4, p)-distribution; right: two-point distr. with $f_0 = p$.



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Asymptotic Distribution of Sample CPE_ϕ

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Derivation & Examples

Sample version of CPE_ϕ :

$\widehat{CPE}_\phi = CPE_\phi(\widehat{\mathbf{f}})$, where sample CDF $\widehat{\mathbf{f}}$ is vector of cumulative relative frequencies computed from X_1, \dots, X_n .

Starting point: If DGP $(X_t)_{\mathbb{Z}}$ satisfies mixing conditions, e. g., α -mixing with exponentially decreasing weights, then Weiß (2020) showed the CLT

$$\sqrt{n}(\widehat{\mathbf{f}} - \mathbf{f}) \xrightarrow{d} N(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma) \quad \text{with } \Sigma = (\sigma_{ij})_{i,j=0,\dots,m-1}, \quad \text{where}$$

$$\sigma_{ij} \stackrel{a}{=} f_{\min\{i,j\}} - f_i f_j + \sum_{h=1}^{\infty} (f_{ij}(h) + f_{ji}(h) - 2 f_i f_j).$$

Finite (co-)variances if $\sum_{h=1}^{\infty} (f_{ij}(h) - f_i f_j) < \infty$ (“short memory”).

Assuming ϕ twice differentiable, then partial derivatives

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial f_k} CPE_\phi(\mathbf{f}) &= \frac{1}{2^m \phi(1/2)} \left(\phi'(f_k) - \phi'(1 - f_k) \right) =: d_k, \\ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial^2 f_k} CPE_\phi(\mathbf{f}) &= \frac{1}{2^m \phi(1/2)} \left(\phi''(f_k) + \phi''(1 - f_k) \right) =: h_{kk}, \\ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial f_k \partial f_l} CPE_\phi(\mathbf{f}) &= 0 \quad \text{for } k \neq l.\end{aligned}$$

Thus, Hessian $\mathbf{H} = \text{diag}(h_{00}, \dots, h_{m-1, m-1})$ diagonal matrix.

Now, second-order Taylor expansion

$$CPE_\phi(\hat{\mathbf{f}}) \approx CPE_\phi(\mathbf{f}) + \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} d_k (\hat{f}_k - f_k) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} h_{kk} (\hat{f}_k - f_k)^2.$$

Under above mixing assumptions, if ϕ twice differentiable, and if $\mathbf{D} = (d_0, \dots, d_{m-1})$ does not vanish, it holds that ...

Theorem 1: ... it holds that

$$\sqrt{n} \left(\text{CPE}_\phi(\hat{\mathbf{f}}) - \text{CPE}_\phi(\mathbf{f}) \right) \xrightarrow{d} \text{N}(0, \sigma_\phi^2),$$

$$\sigma_\phi^2 = \sigma_{\phi, \text{iid}}^2 \left(1 + 2 \sum_{h=1}^{\infty} \vartheta_\phi(h) \right)$$

with $\sigma_{\phi, \text{iid}}^2 = \sum_{i,j=0}^{m-1} d_i d_j (f_{\min\{i,j\}} - f_i f_j)$

and $\vartheta_\phi(h) = \frac{\sum_{i,j=0}^{m-1} d_i d_j (f_{ij}(h) - f_i f_j)}{\sum_{i,j=0}^{m-1} d_i d_j (f_{\min\{i,j\}} - f_i f_j)}$.

(...)

Theorem 1: (continued)

In addition, bias-corrected mean of $\text{CPE}_\phi(\hat{\mathbf{f}})$ is

$$E[\text{CPE}_\phi(\hat{\mathbf{f}})] \approx \text{CPE}_\phi(\mathbf{f}) + \frac{1}{2n} \left(\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} h_{ii} f_i(1-f_i) \right) \left(1 + 2 \sum_{h=1}^{\infty} \kappa_\phi(h) \right),$$

where
$$\kappa_\phi(h) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} h_{ii} (f_{ii}(h) - f_i^2)}{\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} h_{ii} f_i(1-f_i)}.$$

As second-order derivatives negative due to concavity of ϕ , $\text{CPE}_\phi(\hat{\mathbf{f}})$ exhibits negative bias.

Bias of $CPE_\phi(\hat{\mathbf{f}})$ affected by serial dependence via $\kappa_\phi(h)$,
i. e., κ -type measure reflecting
extent of (dis)agreement between lagged observations.

$$\kappa_\phi(h) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} h_{ii} (f_{ii}(h) - f_i^2)}{\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} h_{ii} f_i (1 - f_i)}$$

is weighted type of $\kappa_{\text{ord}}(h)$,

where weights h_{ii} depend on choice of ϕ .

⇒ novel family of measures of signed serial dependence!

Examples: If $\phi(z) = z(1 - z)$, then $CPE_\phi(\mathbf{f}) = \text{IOV}$, and as $h_{ii} = -\frac{8}{m}$ constant,

$$\kappa_\phi(h) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} (f_{ii}(h) - f_i^2)}{\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} f_i(1 - f_i)} = \kappa_{\text{ord}}(h),$$

i. e., ordinary κ (Weiß, 2020). So pair $(\text{IOV}, \kappa_{\text{ord}}(h))$.

If $\phi(z) = -z \ln z$, then $CPE_\phi(\mathbf{f}) = \text{CPE}$, and

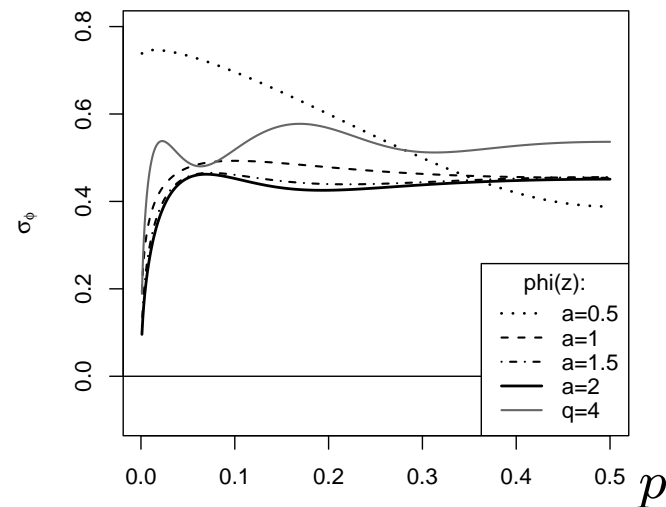
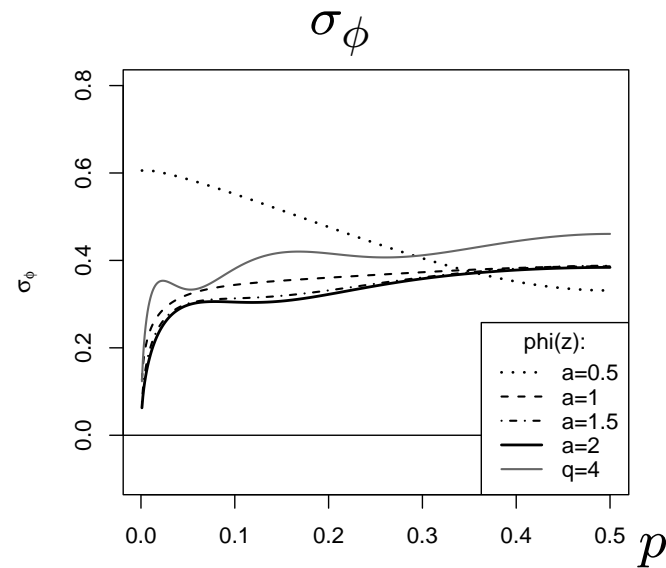
$$\kappa_\phi(h) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \frac{f_{ii}(h) - f_i^2}{f_i(1 - f_i)} =: \kappa_{\text{ord}}^*(h).$$

Thus, also $(\text{CPE}, \kappa_{\text{ord}}^*(h))$ belongs to $(CPE_\phi, \kappa_\phi(h))$ -family.

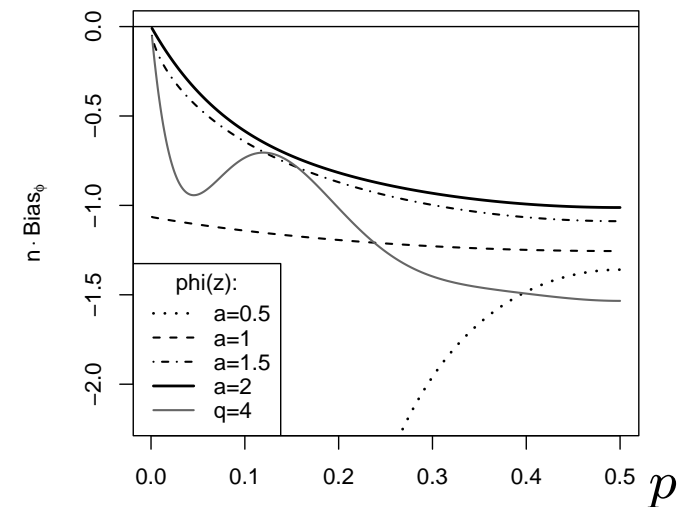
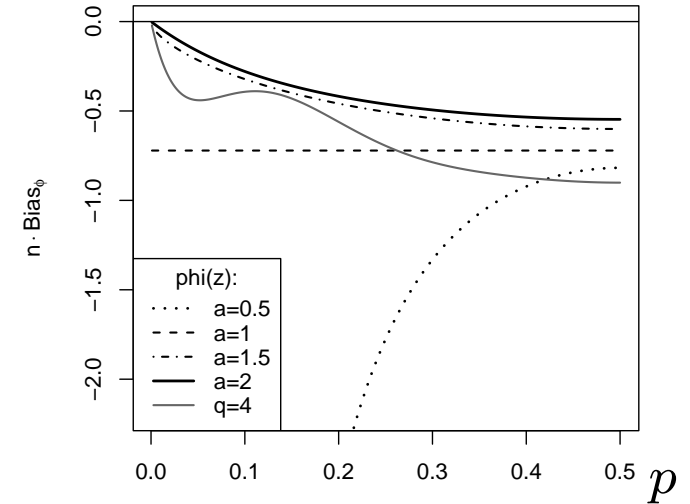
DGP:

i. i. d. $\text{Bin}(4, p)$

BAR(1)
with $\rho = 0.4$



$n \left(E \left[CPE_\phi(\hat{f}) \right] - CPE_\phi(f) \right)$





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Asymptotic Distribution of Sample $\kappa_{\phi}(h)$

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Derivation & Examples

Sample version $\hat{\kappa}_\phi(h)$ of

$$\kappa_\phi(h) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} (\phi''(f_i) + \phi''(1 - f_i)) (f_{ii}(h) - f_i^2)}{\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} (\phi''(f_i) + \phi''(1 - f_i)) f_i(1 - f_i)}$$

also depends on bivariate sample CDF $\hat{f}_{ii}(h)$.

Let $\mathbf{f}_{(h)} = (f_0, \dots, f_{m-1}, f_{00}(h), \dots, f_{m-1, m-1}(h))^\top$,

denote sample version by $\hat{\mathbf{f}}_{(h)}$.

CLT in Weiß (2020):

$$\sqrt{n} (\hat{\mathbf{f}}_{(h)} - \mathbf{f}_{(h)}) \xrightarrow{d} N(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma^{(h)}) \quad \text{with } \Sigma^{(h)} = (\sigma_{i,j}^{(h)})_{i,j=0,\dots,2m-1}.$$

Aim: use $\hat{\kappa}_\phi(h)$ to identify significant dependence in (X_t) .

Thus, to test null of independence (i. e., $\kappa_\phi(h) = 0$), asymptotics of $\hat{\kappa}_\phi(h)$ for i. i. d. (X_t) sufficient.

Simplified $\Sigma^{(h)}$ in Weiß (2020), with $i, j \in \{0, \dots, m - 1\}$:

$$\sigma_{i,j}^{(h)} = \sigma_{i,j} = f_{\min\{i,j\}} - f_i f_j,$$

$$\sigma_{i,m+j}^{(h)} = 2 f_j (f_{\min\{i,j\}} - f_i f_j),$$

$$\sigma_{m+i,m+j}^{(h)} = (f_{\min\{i,j\}} + 3 f_i f_j) (f_{\min\{i,j\}} - f_i f_j).$$

Use second-order Taylor expansion for $\hat{\kappa}_\phi(h)$. Higher-order derivatives of ϕ cancel out, still only derivatives of order 2.

Theorem 2: Under null hypothesis of i. i. d. data, i. e., if $\kappa_\phi(h) = 0$ for all lags $h \in \mathbb{N}$, and assuming EGF ϕ twice differentiable, it holds that

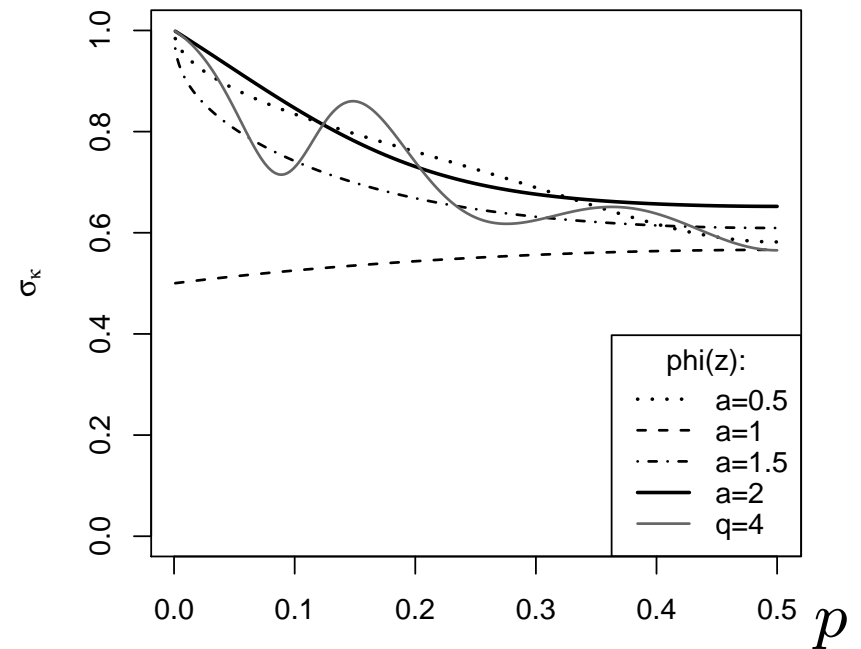
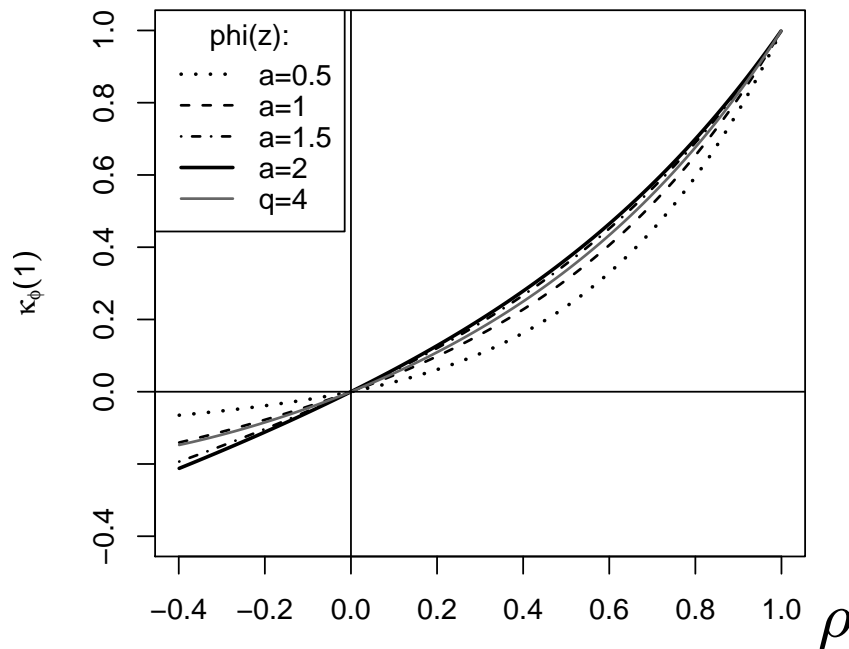
$$\sqrt{n} \left(\hat{\kappa}_\phi(h) - \kappa_\phi(h) \right) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \sigma_\kappa^2)$$

$$\text{with } \sigma_\kappa^2 = \sum_{j,k=0}^{m-1} u_j u_k \left(f_{\min\{j,k\}} - f_j f_k \right)^2,$$

$$\text{where } u_j = \frac{\phi''(f_j) + \phi''(1 - f_j)}{\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} (\phi''(f_i) + \phi''(1 - f_i)) f_i (1 - f_i)}.$$

Bias-corrected mean of $\hat{\kappa}_\phi(h)$ is $E[\hat{\kappa}_\phi(h)] \approx -\frac{1}{n}$.

Plots for specific cases of $\phi_a(z) = (z - z^a)/(a - 1)$
and $\phi_q(z) = 1 - |2z - 1|^q$:



$\kappa_\phi(1)$ against $\text{BAR}(1)$'s dependence parameter ρ with marginal $\text{Bin}(4, 0.3)$ (left); σ_κ against p of marginal $\text{Bin}(4, p)$ (right).



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Finite-Sample Performance of Asymptotics

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Simulation Results

Always 10^4 replications per scenario,
choices $a = 1, 3/2, 2, 5/2$ as well as $q = 4$,
 $X_t = s_{I_t}$ with $I_t \sim \text{Bin}(m, p)$ according to BAR(1) DGP.

Full simulation results in Weiß (2022),
few illustrative results in sequel.

Simulated vs. asymptotic mean and SE of \widehat{CPE}_ϕ ,
with $p = 0.3$, $\rho = 0.4$, and sample size n .

n	simulated mean					asymptotic mean				
	$a = 1$	$a = 1.5$	$a = 2$	$a = 2.5$	$q = 4$	$a = 1$	$a = 1.5$	$a = 2$	$a = 2.5$	$q = 4$
50	0.529	0.491	0.476	0.473	0.598	0.528	0.491	0.476	0.472	0.597
100	0.540	0.501	0.485	0.481	0.611	0.540	0.501	0.485	0.481	0.611
250	0.547	0.506	0.490	0.487	0.620	0.548	0.507	0.490	0.487	0.620
500	0.551	0.509	0.493	0.489	0.623	0.550	0.509	0.492	0.489	0.623
1000	0.552	0.510	0.493	0.490	0.624	0.551	0.510	0.493	0.490	0.624

n	simulated SE					asymptotic SE				
	$a = 1$	$a = 1.5$	$a = 2$	$a = 2.5$	$q = 4$	$a = 1$	$a = 1.5$	$a = 2$	$a = 2.5$	$q = 4$
50	0.064	0.061	0.061	0.060	0.071	0.065	0.063	0.062	0.062	0.073
100	0.046	0.044	0.043	0.043	0.050	0.046	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.051
250	0.029	0.028	0.027	0.027	0.032	0.029	0.028	0.028	0.028	0.032
500	0.021	0.020	0.019	0.019	0.023	0.021	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.023
1000	0.014	0.014	0.014	0.014	0.016	0.015	0.014	0.014	0.014	0.016

Simulated vs. asymptotic mean and SE of $\hat{\kappa}_\phi(1)$,
 i. i. d. Bin(4, p) with $p = 0.3$ and sample size n .

n	simulated mean					asymptotic mean				
	$a = 1$	$a = 1.5$	$a = 2$	$a = 2.5$	$q = 4$	$a = 1$	$a = 1.5$	$a = 2$	$a = 2.5$	$q = 4$
50	-0.020	-0.020	-0.020	-0.020	-0.020	-0.020	-0.020	-0.020	-0.020	-0.020
100	-0.010	-0.010	-0.010	-0.010	-0.011	-0.010	-0.010	-0.010	-0.010	-0.010
250	-0.003	-0.004	-0.004	-0.004	-0.003	-0.004	-0.004	-0.004	-0.004	-0.004
500	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002
1000	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001

n	simulated SE					asymptotic SE				
	$a = 1$	$a = 1.5$	$a = 2$	$a = 2.5$	$q = 4$	$a = 1$	$a = 1.5$	$a = 2$	$a = 2.5$	$q = 4$
50	0.098	0.097	0.101	0.101	0.101	0.079	0.089	0.096	0.097	0.088
100	0.066	0.067	0.070	0.071	0.067	0.056	0.063	0.068	0.068	0.062
250	0.040	0.040	0.043	0.043	0.040	0.035	0.040	0.043	0.043	0.040
500	0.026	0.028	0.030	0.031	0.028	0.025	0.028	0.030	0.031	0.028
1000	0.018	0.020	0.021	0.021	0.020	0.018	0.020	0.021	0.022	0.020

Rejection rate ($\rho = 0$: size; $\rho \neq 0$: power) of $\hat{\kappa}_\phi(1)$ -test:

n	simulated rejection rate					simulated rejection rate				
	$a = 1$	$a = 1.5$	$a = 2$	$a = 2.5$	$q = 4$	$a = 1$	$a = 1.5$	$a = 2$	$a = 2.5$	$q = 4$
	$\rho = -0.4$					$\rho = 0.4$				
50	0.484	0.565	0.585	0.588	0.312	0.663	0.749	0.756	0.757	0.625
100	0.807	0.878	0.891	0.893	0.672	0.917	0.959	0.962	0.962	0.897
250	0.989	0.999	1.000	1.000	0.987	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.999
500	0.997	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
1000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
	$\rho = 0$					$\rho = 0.8$				
50	0.061	0.056	0.054	0.054	0.061	0.997	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.981
100	0.056	0.060	0.058	0.057	0.057	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.999
250	0.047	0.048	0.046	0.046	0.049	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
500	0.049	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.052	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
1000	0.053	0.047	0.048	0.049	0.050	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000



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Daily Air Quality Level in Shanghai

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Data Application

Daily air-quality time series x_1, \dots, x_n in Shanghai for period Dec. 2013–July 2019 ($n = 2\,068$), with levels $s_0 = \text{“excellent”}$ to $s_5 = \text{“severely polluted”}$ (Liu et al., 2021).

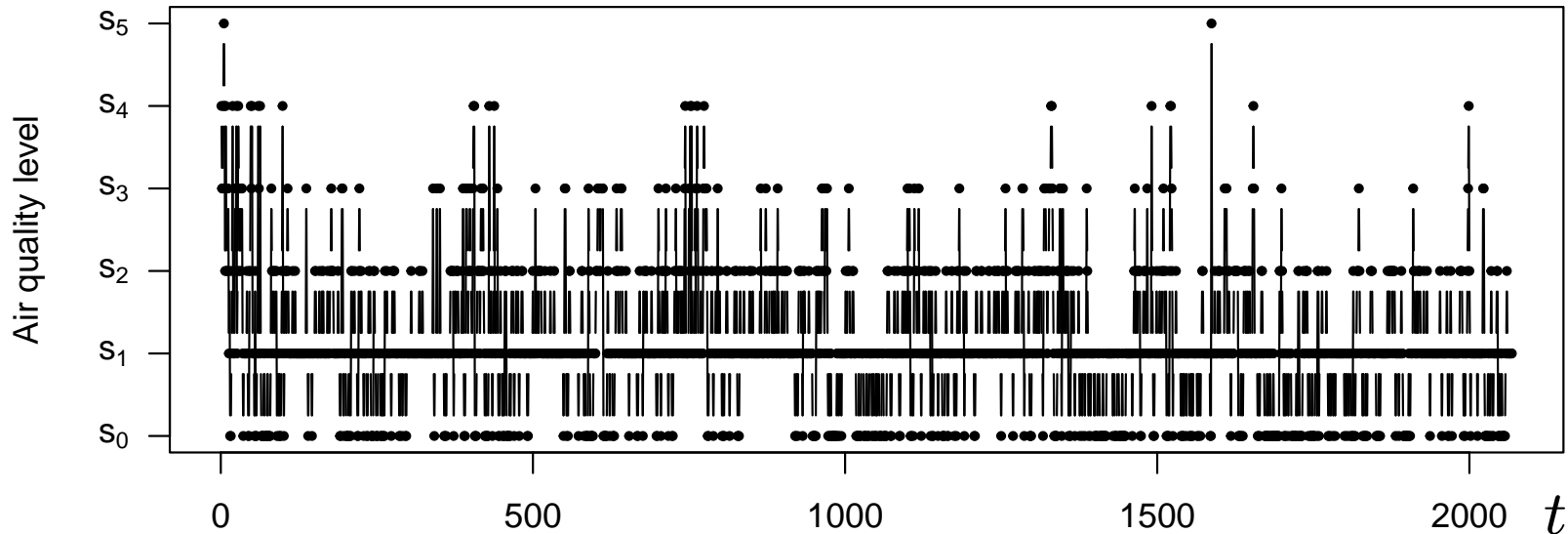
... **see plots on next slide!**

Uni-modal shape with mode (=median) in $s_1 = \text{“good”}$.

Significant $\hat{\kappa}_\phi(h)$ -values (recommended choice $a = 5/2$).

Medium level of dependence ($\hat{\kappa}_\phi(1) \approx 0.378$),

quickly decreases with increasing h (\rightarrow AR-type process).



$$\widehat{CPE}_\phi$$

$a = 1/2:$

0.514

$q = 4:$

0.465

$a = 1:$

0.394

$a = 3/2:$

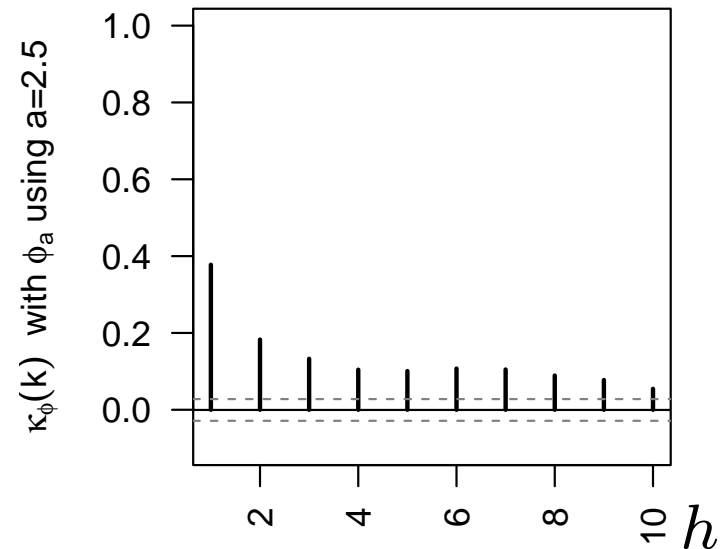
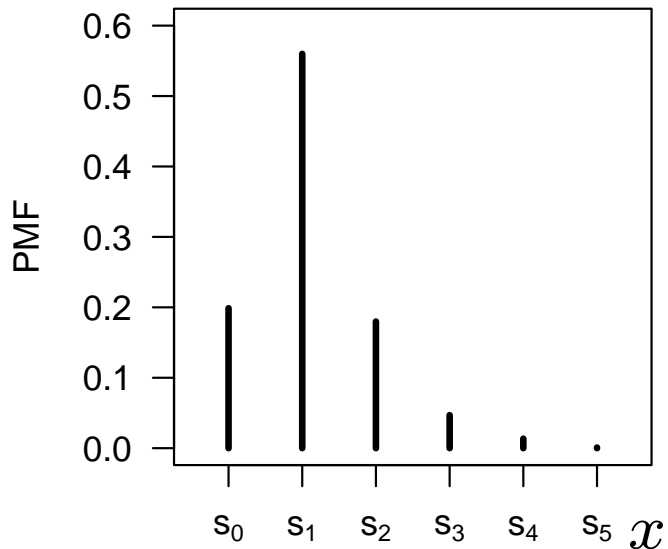
0.349

$a = 2:$

0.332

$a = 5/2:$

0.328



Compute **asymptotics** of $\widehat{\text{CPE}}_\phi$ in example case $a = 5/2$:

Start with **i. i. d.-approximations**

of bias, $\frac{1}{2n} \left(\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \hat{h}_{ii} \hat{f}_i (1 - \hat{f}_i) \right) \approx -1.54 \cdot 10^{-4}$,

and standard error, $n^{-1/2} \hat{\sigma}_{\phi, \text{iid}} \approx 7.83 \cdot 10^{-3}$.

Liu et al. (2021) use so-called “ZOBPAR model”.

For their model fit,

$$1 + 2 \sum_{h=1}^{\infty} \kappa_\phi(h) \approx 1.907, \quad \sqrt{1 + 2 \sum_{h=1}^{\infty} \vartheta_\phi(h)} \approx 1.343.$$

Thus, approximate 95 %-confidence interval (CI) for CPE_ϕ is given by $\approx (0.308; 0.349)$.

- Asymptotic distribution of \widehat{CPE}_ϕ for ordinal time series data. Useful, e. g., to compute approximate confidence intervals.
- Asymptotic bias of \widehat{CPE}_ϕ implies κ -type serial dependence measure, i. e., matched pair $(CPE_\phi, \kappa_\phi(h))$ for each EGF ϕ .
- Asymptotics of sample $\widehat{\kappa}_\phi(h)$ under i. i. d.-null, used to test for significant serial dependence in ordinal time series.
- Choosing $\widehat{\kappa}_\phi(h)$ based on a -entropy with $a \geq 2$, such as $a = 5/2$, ensures good finite-sample properties.

**Thank You
for Your Interest!**



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