

Formulating Longitudinal Regression Models in R

Søren Lundbye-Christensen*, Claus Dethlefsen**

*Department of Mathematical Sciences, Aalborg University, Denmark

**Center for Cardiovascular Research, Aalborg Hospital, Aarhus University Hospital, Denmark



Introduction

Aim: To create a free software package for easy specification of generalized dynamic linear models

Alternatives: Ox + SsfPack, StructTS. But they are not easy to use, or do not support complex models

Idea: Use the glm-call in R as a template and use iterated extended Kalman smoothing

The package sspir is available from CRAN cran.r-project.org

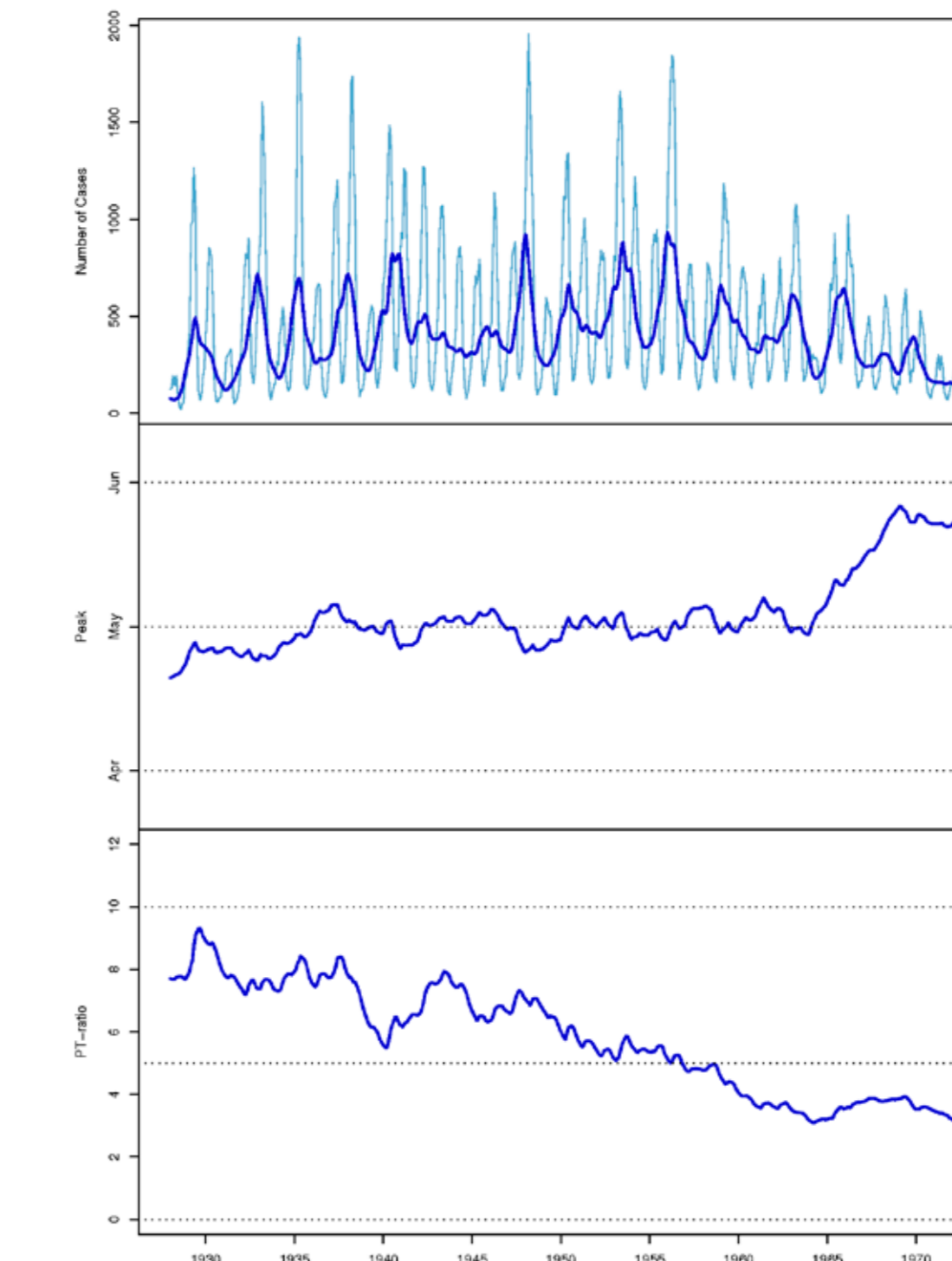
Model

$$y_t \sim \text{Exp.fam.}(\lambda_t = F_t^\top \theta_t)$$

$$\theta_t \sim N(G_t \theta_{t-1}, W_t)$$

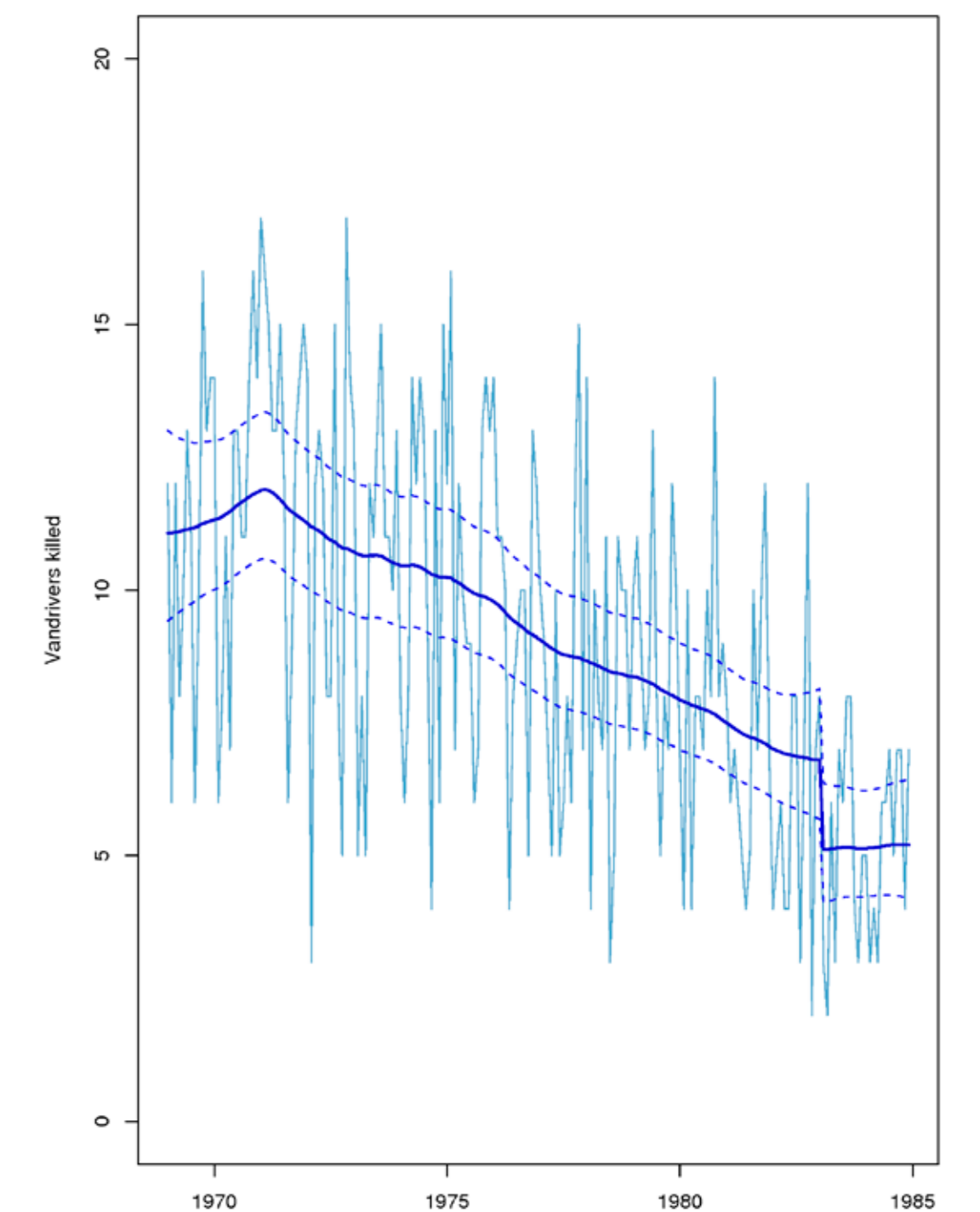
Examples

Variation in the incidence of mumps, NYC, 1927-1972



```
ssm ( mumps ~ -1 + tvar(polytime(index,1)) +
      tvar(polytrig(index,12,1)),
      family=poisson(link=log),
      phi=phi.start,
      C0 = diag(4)
    )
```

Monthly numbers of light goods van drivers killed in road accidents from 1969 to 1984 in UK



```
ssm( y ~ tvar(1) + seatbelt +
      sumseason(time,12),
      family=poisson(link="log"),
      data=vandrivers,
      phi = c(1,0.0004945505),
      C0=diag(13)*1000
    )
```

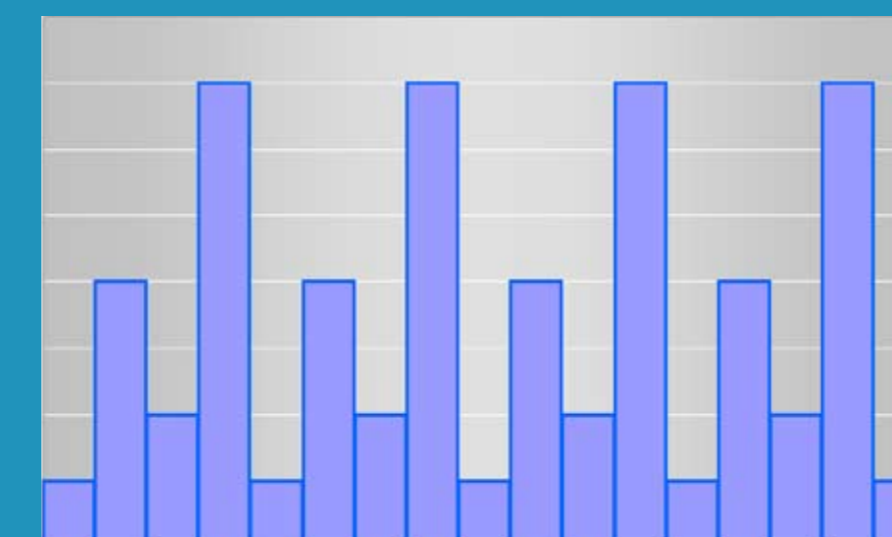
STATIC

Time trend
polytime(time,1)

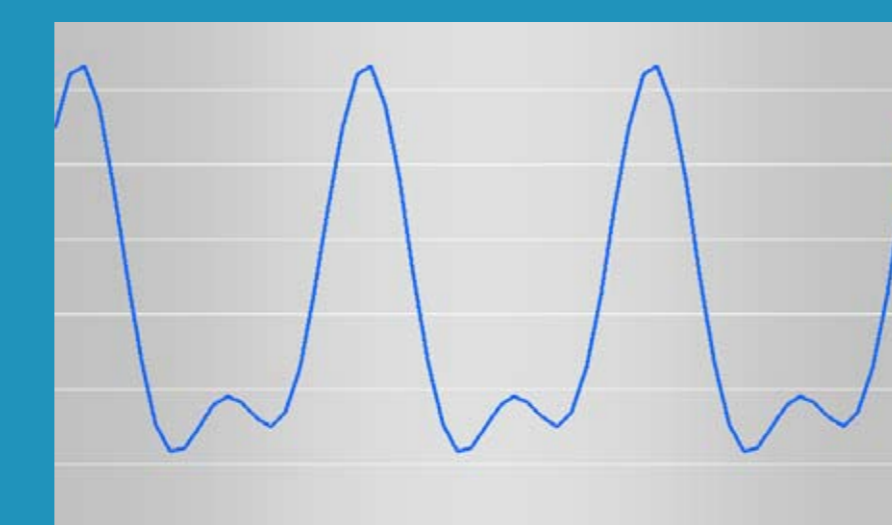
Covariates/interventions



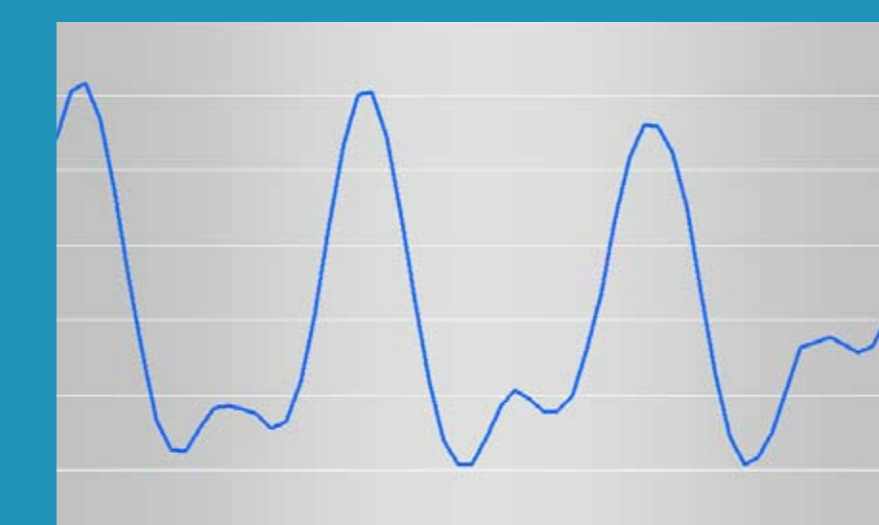
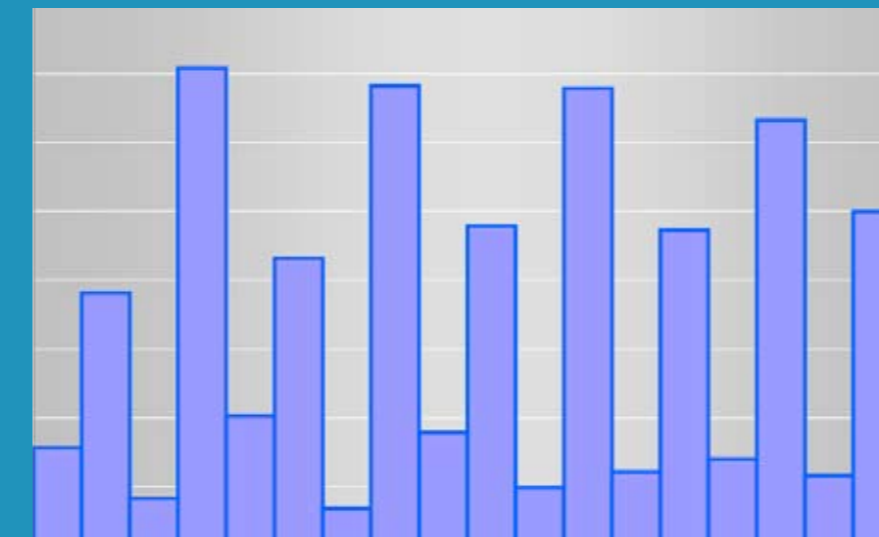
Seasonal variation
Unstructured
sumseason (time,4)



Harmonic
polytrig(time,2)



DYNAMIC



References

Dethlefsen, Lundbye-Christensen (2006). Formulating state space models in R with focus on longitudinal regression models. JStatSoft.

Durbin, Koopman (2000). Time series analysis by state space methods. OUP.

Hipel, McLeod (1994). Time series modeling of water resources and environmental systems.

Ripley (2002). Time series in R 1.5.0. R News.

West, Harrison, Migon (1985). Dynamic generalized linear models and Bayesian forecasting. JASA.

See also the poster

"Assessing seasonality in count data"

Discussion

Estimation of hyper-parameters is not implemented

The approach is very general, but slow

Random walk evolution of dynamic parameters vs. AR(1)

Multi process state space models can be built easily