

# Normal-form Based Analysis of Climate Time Series

Jan Sieber

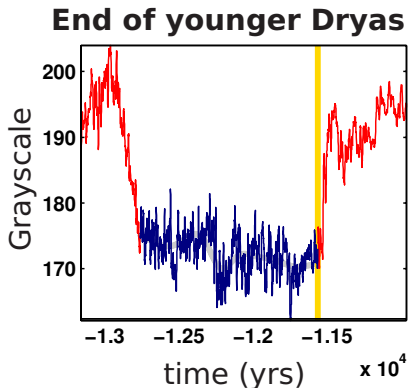
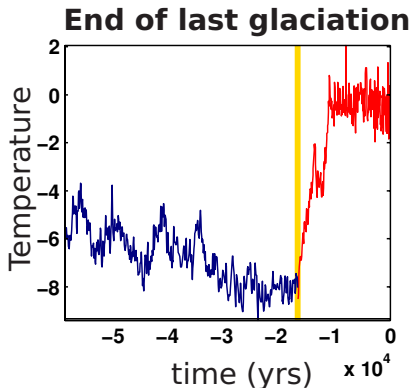
Department of Mathematics  
 University of  
**Portsmouth**

in collaboration with **J.M.T. Thompson**, FRS,  
School of Engineering, Aberdeen

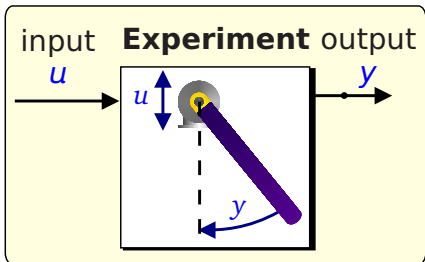
# Outline

- ▶ Time series analysis
- ▶ Saddle-node induced tipping
- ▶ Estimate of normal form parameters from time series

# Tipping in palaeoclimate time series



## Background — time series analysis

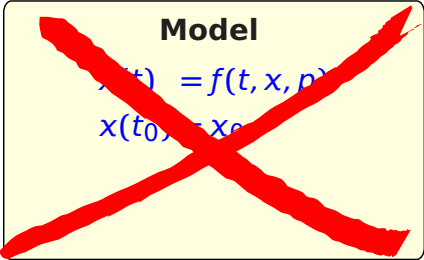
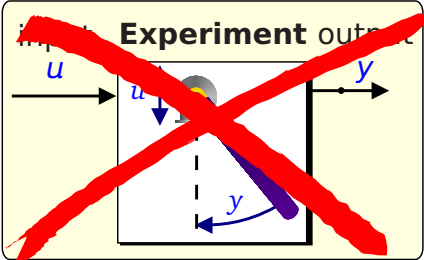


### Model

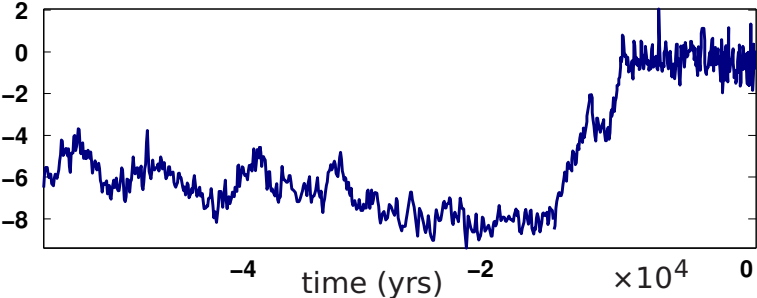
$$\dot{x}(t) = f(t, x, p)$$

$$x(t_0) = x_0$$

# Background — time series analysis

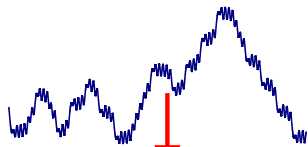


## Observation

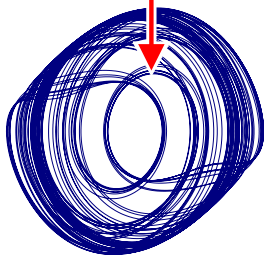


# Background — time series analysis

## Low-dim chaos & small noise

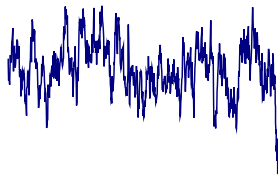


embedding, recurrence



[Kantz & Schreiber, 2000]

## High-dim chaos or large noise



### Assumption

▷ quasi-stationary

### Questions

▷ finite  $t$

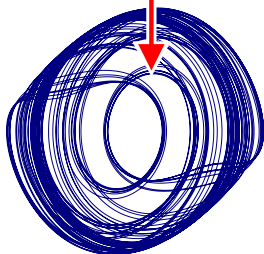
▷ qualitative  
change of attractor

# Background — time series analysis

## Low-dim chaos & small noise

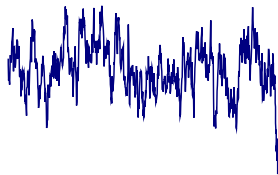


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## High-dim chaos or large noise



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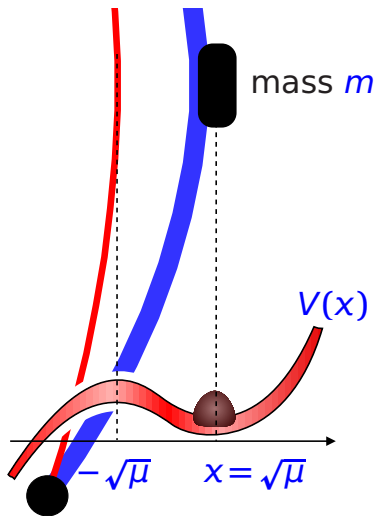
▷ qualitative  
change of attractor

## Tipping — Mechanical caricature of positive feedback

- ▶ squishy beam, clamped and loaded with gradually increasing mass  $m$



# Tipping — Mechanical caricature of positive feedback



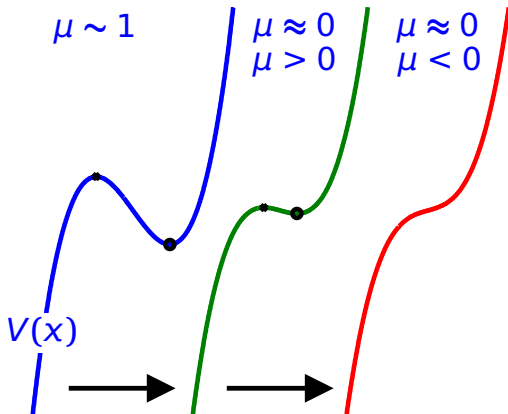
saddle-node normal form  
with drift and noise

$$\frac{d}{dt}x = -V'(x) = \mu - x^2 + \text{noise}$$

$$\mu \sim m_{\text{critical}} - m$$

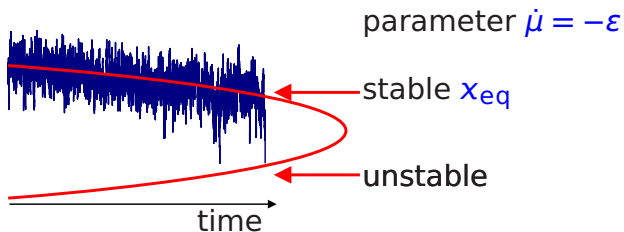
$$\frac{d}{dt}\mu = -\varepsilon$$

# Tipping — Mechanical caricature of positive feedback



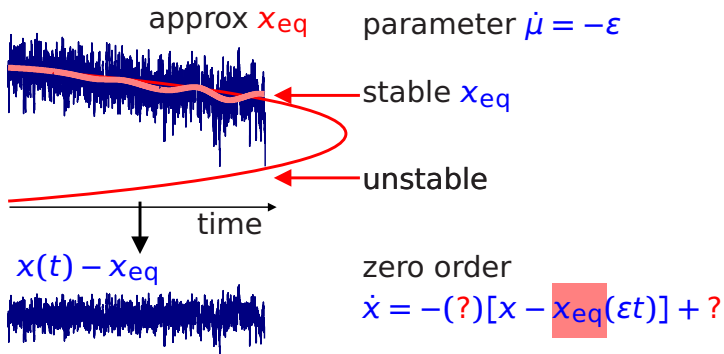
## Estimate from time series

Approach to **Saddle-node**  $\dot{x} = f(x, \mu) + \sigma \eta_t$



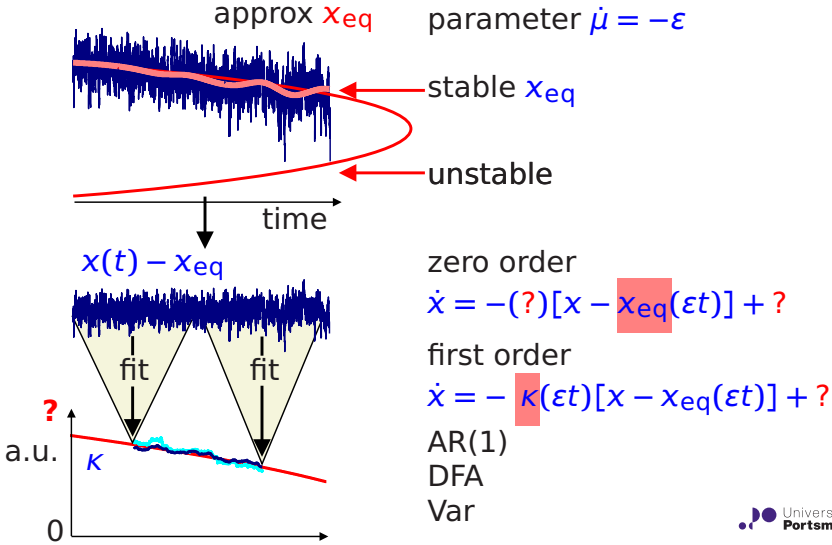
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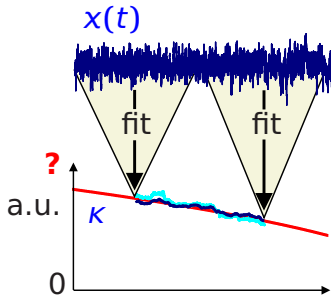


# Estimate from time series

Approach to **Saddle-node**  $\dot{x} = f(x, \mu) + \sigma \eta_t$



# Estimate of linear decay rate



first order

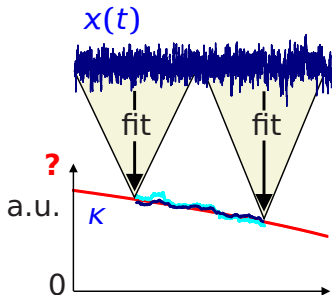
$$\dot{x} = -\kappa(\epsilon t)x + \sigma\eta_t \leftarrow \text{noise}$$

**AR(1)** (Held&Kleinen'04)

DFA (Livina&Lenton'07)

**Variance**

# Estimate of linear decay rate



first order

$$\dot{x} = -\kappa(\epsilon t)x + \sigma\eta_t \quad \leftarrow \text{noise}$$

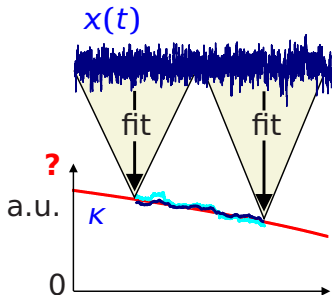
**AR(1)** (Held&Kleinen'04)

DFA (Livina&Lenton'07)

**Variance**

$$\mathbf{AR(1)} \quad x(t_{n+1}) = \alpha x(t_n) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{fit } \alpha \quad \Rightarrow \quad \alpha = \exp(-\kappa\Delta t)$$

# Estimate of linear decay rate



first order

$$\dot{x} = -\kappa(\epsilon t)x + \sigma\eta_t \leftarrow \text{noise}$$

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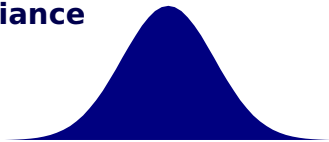
DFA (Livina&Lenton'07)

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**Variance**

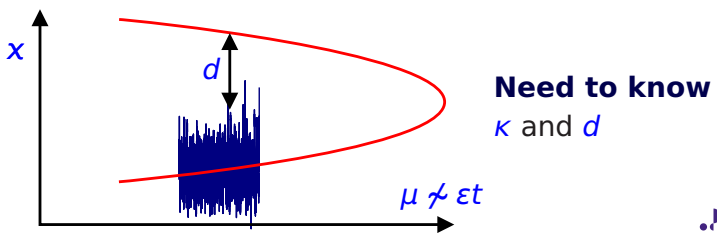
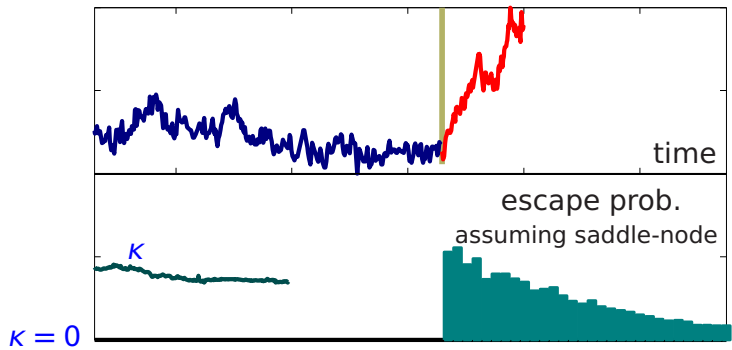
$$\Rightarrow \text{Var} = \frac{\sigma^2}{\kappa}$$



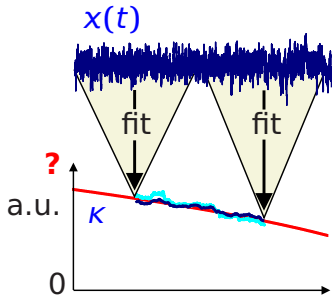
stationary distribution normal



# When linear is not enough



## Back to estimates



first order

$$\dot{x} = -\kappa(\epsilon t)x + \sigma\eta_t \quad \leftarrow \text{noise}$$

**AR(1)** (Held&Kleinen'04)

DFA (Livina&Lenton'07)

**Variance**

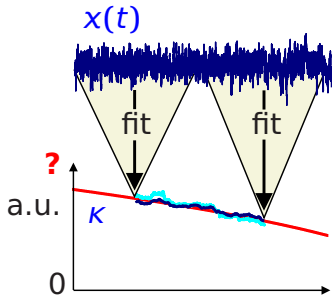
$$\text{AR(1)} \quad x(t_{n+1}) = \alpha x(t_n) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{fit } \alpha \quad \Rightarrow \quad \alpha = \exp(-\kappa\Delta t)$$

**Variance**

$$\Rightarrow \quad \text{Var} = \frac{\sigma^2}{\kappa}$$

stationary distribution normal

## Back to estimates



$$\dot{x} = -\kappa(\epsilon t)x + \mathbf{N}x^2 + \sigma\eta_t$$

**AR(1)** (Held&Kleinen'04)

DFA (Livina&Lenton'07)

**Variance**

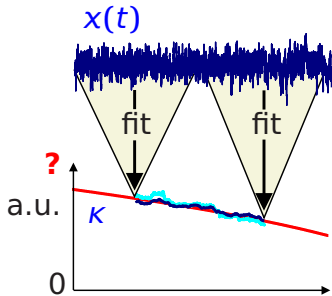
$$\mathbf{AR(1)} \quad x(t_{n+1}) = \alpha x(t_n) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{fit } \alpha \quad \Rightarrow \quad \alpha = \exp(-\kappa\Delta t)$$

**Variance**

$$\Rightarrow \quad \text{Var} = \frac{\sigma^2}{K}$$

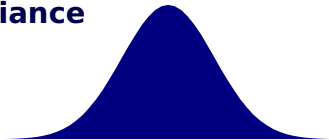
stationary distribution normal

## Back to estimates



$$\mathbf{AR(1)} \quad x(t_{n+1}) = \alpha x(t_n)$$

**Variance**



stationary distribution normal

$$\dot{x} = -\kappa(\epsilon t)x + \mathbf{N}x^2 + \sigma\eta_t$$

**AR(1)** (Held&Kleinen'04)

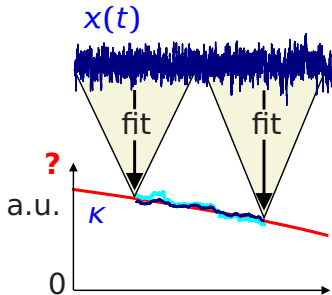
DFA (Livina&Lenton'07)

**Variance**

generalisation poor

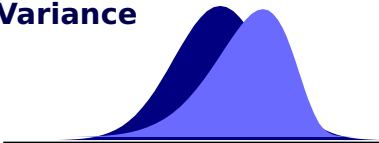
$$\Rightarrow \text{Var} = \frac{\sigma^2}{K}$$

## Back to estimates



$$\mathbf{AR(1)} \quad x(t_{n+1}) = \alpha x(t_n)$$

**Variance**



stationary distribution non-normal

$$\dot{x} = -\kappa(\epsilon t)x + \mathbf{N}x^2 + \sigma\eta_t$$

**AR(1)** (Held&Kleinen'04)

DFA (Livina&Lenton'07)

**Variance**

generalisation poor

Guttal

Livina, Kwasniok,  
Lenton'10

## Estimates for nonlinear parts

**Fokker-Planck equation**      Density  $p$  of

$$\dot{x} = f(x, \mu) + \sigma \eta_t$$

satisfies

$$\partial_t p = \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \partial_{xx} p - \partial_x [f(x, \mu) p]$$

Stationary density  $p(x)$

$$\frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 p(x) = \sigma^{-2} f(x, \mu) p(x) + c$$

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empirical

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Stationary density  $p(x)$

linear estimate  $-kx$

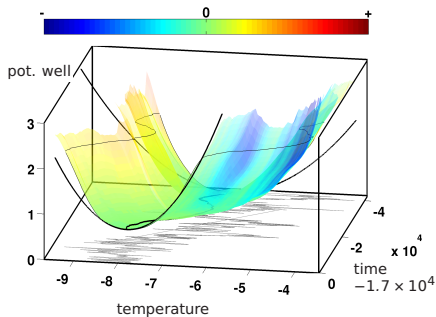
$$\frac{1}{2} \partial_x p(x) = \sigma^{-2} f(x, \mu) p(x) + c$$

empirical

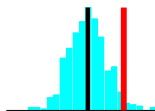


# Paleo-climate records

## End of last glaciation

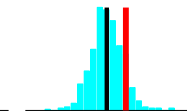


2.8%



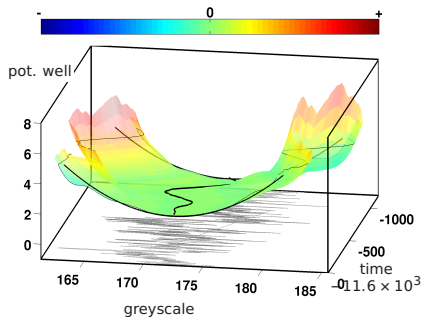
fitted  $c$

10.8%

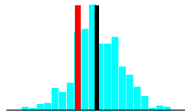


empirical skewness

## End of Younger Dryas

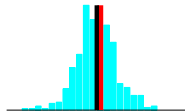


18%



fitted  $c$

41%



empirical skewness

## Summary

- ▶ accuracy of estimates  
zero order > first order > second order
- ▶ but second order term necessary to estimate tipping time/probability
- ▶ estimate tipping time/probability based on saddle-node normal form

[**JMTT,JS** on arxiv]