



Universiteit Utrecht  Stochastic Hydrology

# Random functions

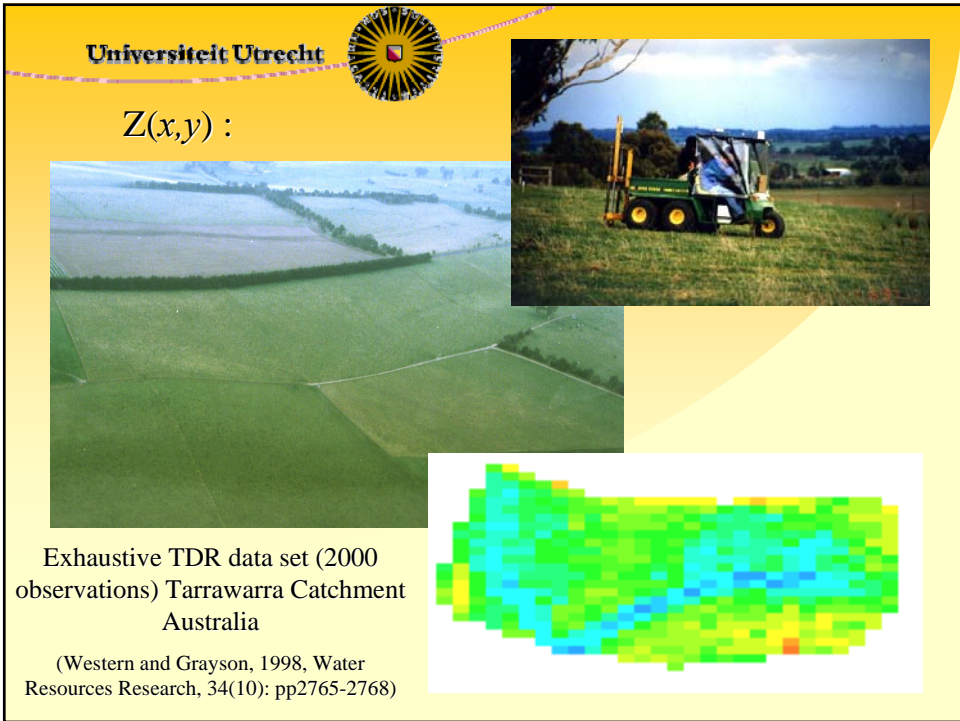
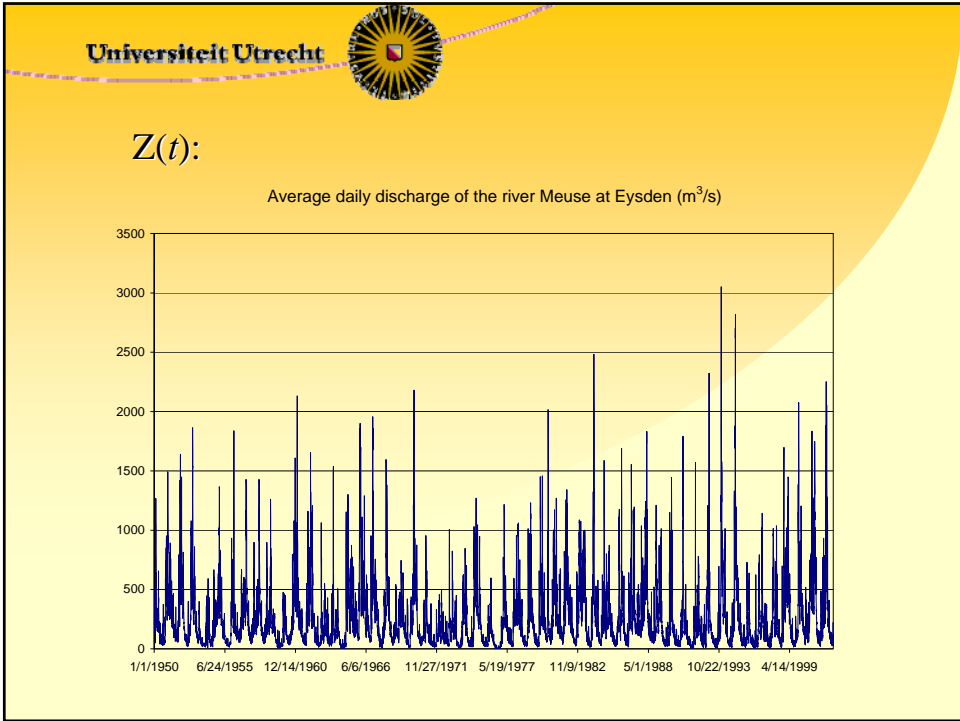
Marc F.P. Bierkens  
*Professor of Hydrology*  
*Faculty of Geosciences*

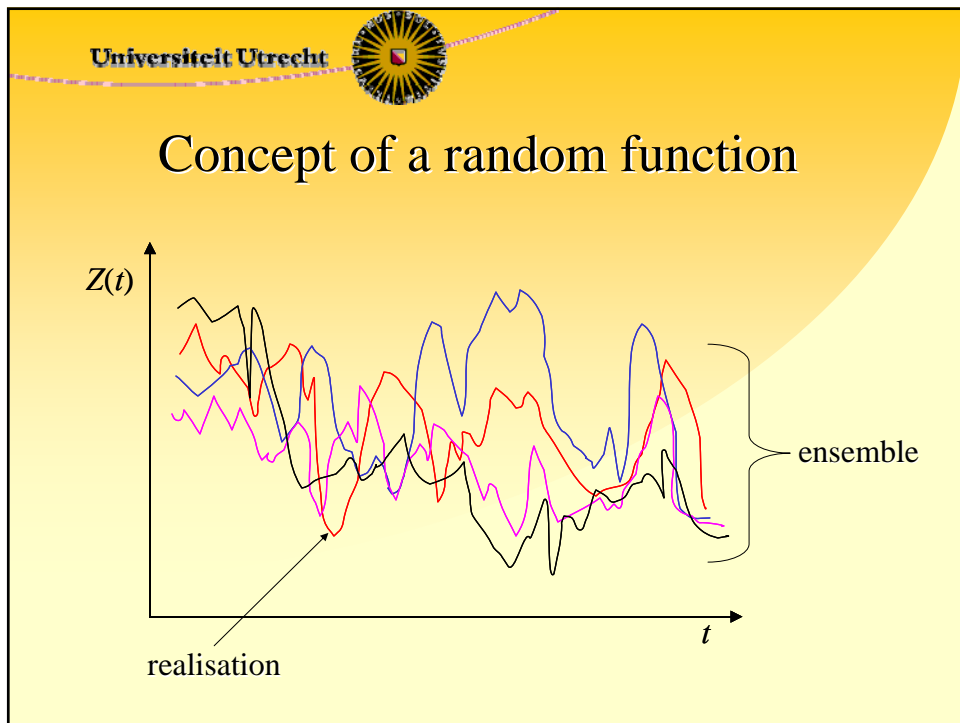
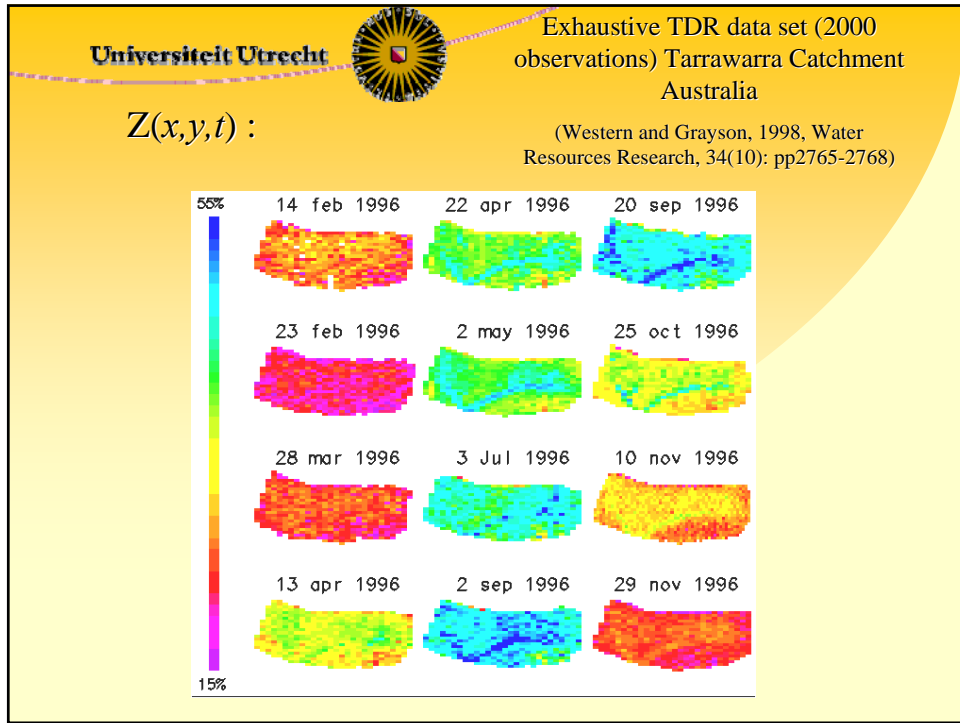
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## Introduction

Up to now: *unknown value* of a variable  $Z$  without considering time and spatial co-ordinates  $t, x, y, z$   
→ Random Variable

Now consider the *unknown variation* of a variable  $Z$  in time, space or space-time: and spatial co-ordinates  $Z(t)$ ,  $Z(x, y, z)$  or  $Z(x, y, z, t)$   
→ Random Function







## Random functions of different domains

- Random time function (RTF), random process or stochastic process:

$$Z(t)$$

- Random space function or random field:

$$Z(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} = (x, y) \text{ or } \mathbf{x} = (x, y, z)$$

- Random space-time function or space-time random field:

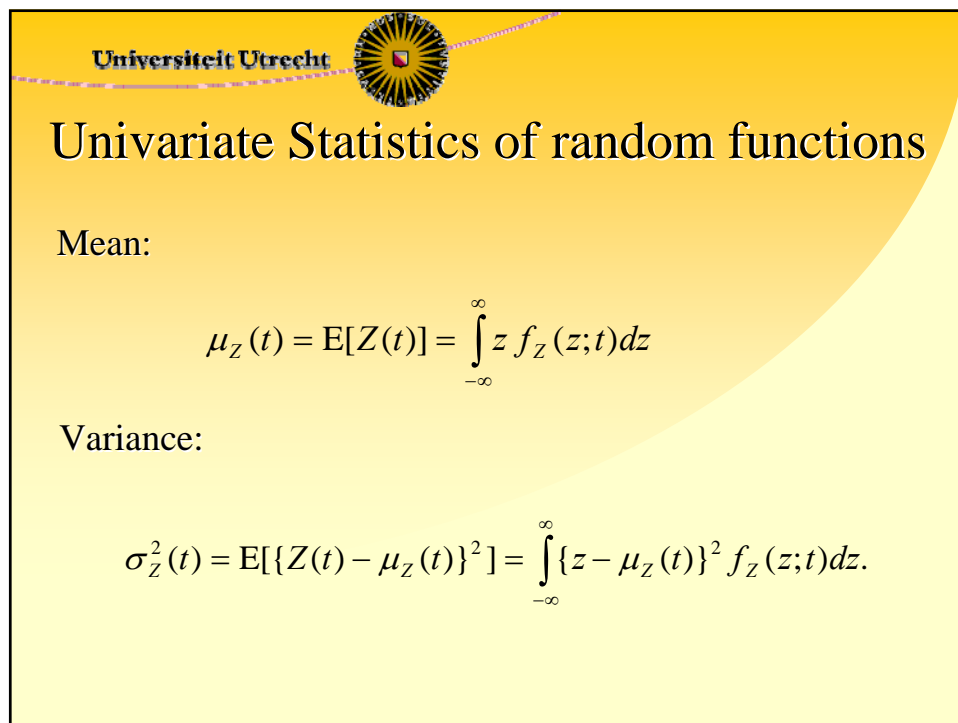
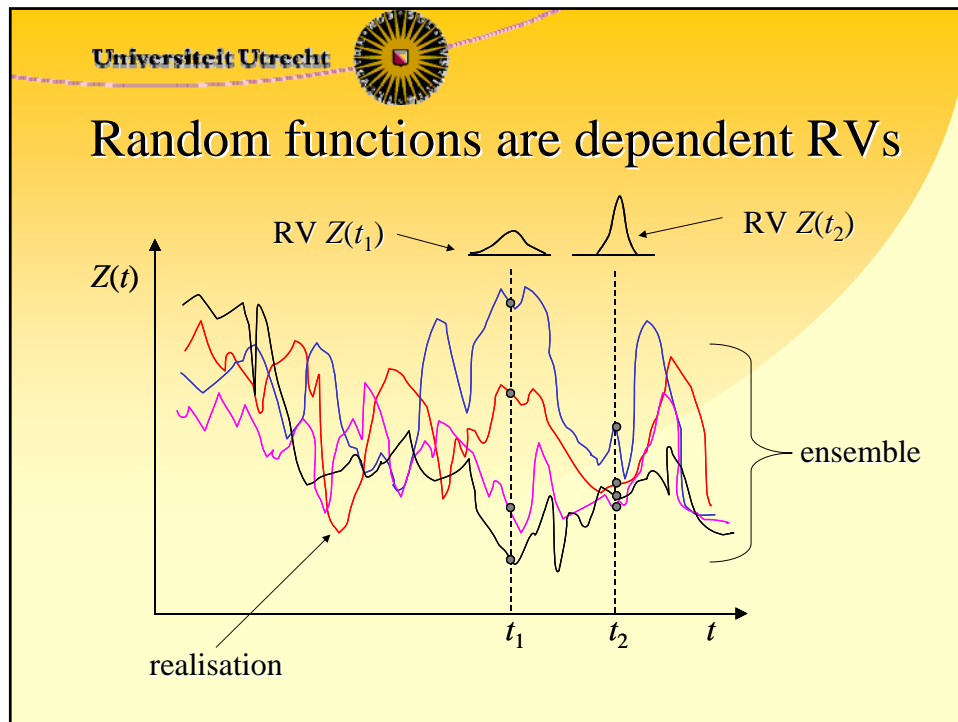
$$Z(\mathbf{x}, t)$$



## Random functions are dependent RVs

Another way of viewing a random function is as:

a collection of random variables (one at every location in space or point in time) that are all mutually statistically dependent.





## Bivariate Statistics of random functions

Bivariate pdf

$$f(z_1, z_2; t_1, t_2) = \lim_{\partial z_1, \partial z_2 \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Pr[z_1 < Z(t_1) \leq z_1 + \partial z_1, z_2 < Z(t_2) \leq z_2 + \partial z_2]}{\partial z_1 \partial z_2}$$

Gives the probability density of values of the random function at two points in time, space or space-time.

Covariance:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{COV}[Z(t_1), Z(t_2)] &= E[\{Z(t_1) - \mu_Z(t_1)\}\{Z(t_2) - \mu_Z(t_2)\}] = \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \{z_1 - \mu_Z(t_1)\}\{z_2 - \mu_Z(t_2)\} f(z_1, z_2; t_1, t_2) dz_1 dz_2 \end{aligned}$$



## Multivariate pdf of a random function

Also called: multi-point pdf

$$f(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N; t_1, t_2, \dots, t_N) =$$

$$\lim_{\partial z_1, \dots, \partial z_N \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Pr[z_1 < z(t_1) \leq z_1 + \partial z_1, z_2 < z(t_2) \leq z_2 + \partial z_2, \dots, z_N < z(t_N) \leq z_N + \partial z_N]}{\partial z_1 \partial z_2 \dots \partial z_N}$$

Gives the probability density of values of the random function at a set of points in time, space or space-time.

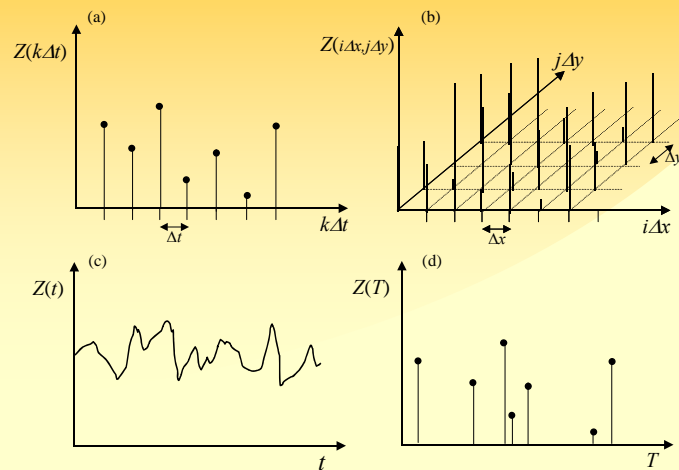


## Types of random functions

- 1) Value:
  - a) discrete valued  $D$
  - b) continuous valued  $Z$
- 2) Domain type:
  - a) time  $t$
  - b) space  $\mathbf{x}$
  - c) space-time  $(\mathbf{x}, t)$
- 3) Domain definition:
  - a) continuous  $\mathbf{x}, t$
  - b) discrete (at finite number of points)  $\mathbf{x}_i, t_k$
  - c) random points (point process)  $X_j, T_k$



## Types of random functions



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## Strict stationary random functions

$$f(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N; t_1, t_2, \dots, t_N) = f(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N; t_1 + t', t_2 + t', \dots, t_N + t') \quad \forall t_i, t'$$

time

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## Strict stationary random functions

$$f(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N; \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) = f(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N; \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{h}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N + \mathbf{h}) \quad \forall \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{h}$$

$|\mathbf{h}| = \sqrt{h_x^2 + h_y^2}$

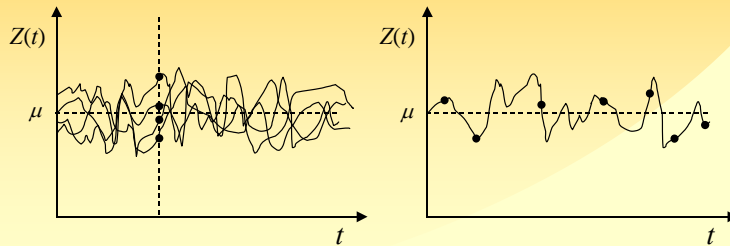
Strict stationary RF      Strict Stationary and isotropic RF

space





## Ergodic random functions



Statistics over time (space/space-time) converge to the statistics over the ensemble!

**WE CAN THUS ESTIMATE STATISTICS FROM DATA!**



## Ergodic random functions

e.g. ergodicity in the mean:

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_T z(t) dt = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} z f_Z(z; t) dz = \mu_Z$$

Requirements:

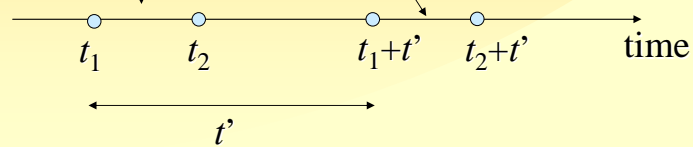
- random function is stationary
- time interval/area is large compared to correlation scale



## Second order stationary RF

Bivariate pdf invariant under translation:

$$f(z_1, z_2; t_1, t_2) = f(z_1, z_2; t_1 + t', t_2 + t') \quad \forall t_1, t_2, \tau$$



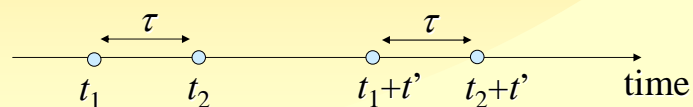
## Wide sense stationary RF

Time:

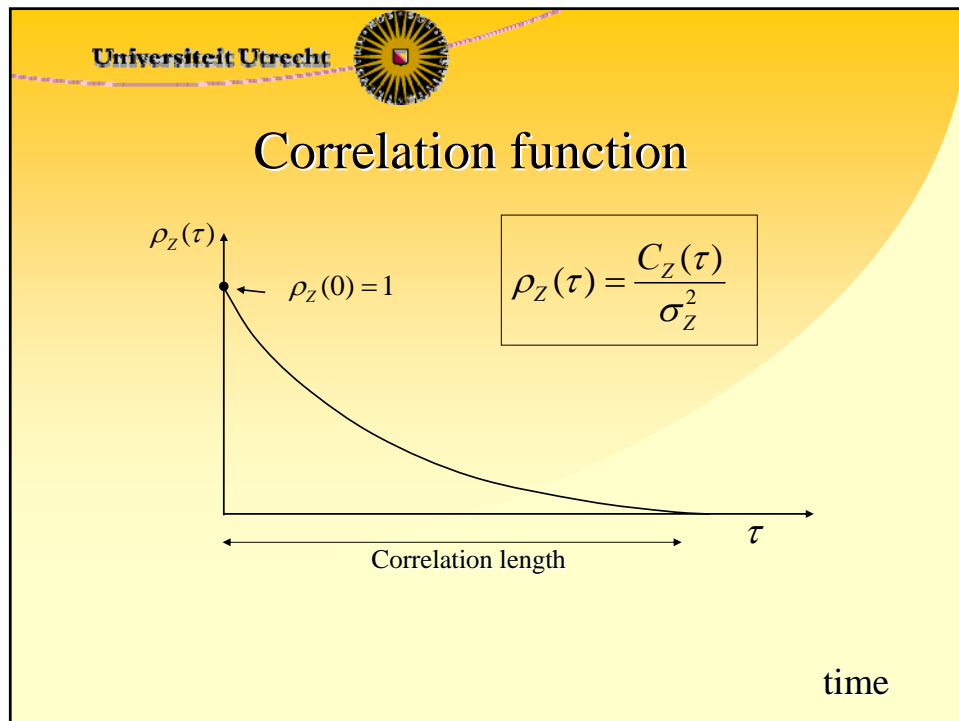
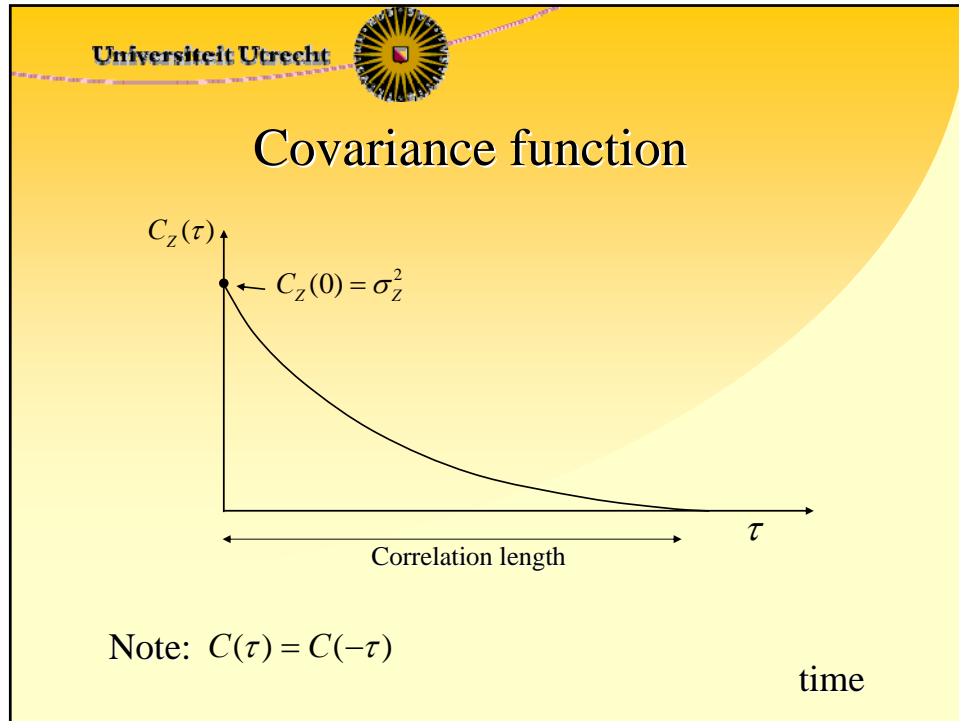
$$\mu_z(t) = \mu_z \text{ is constant}$$

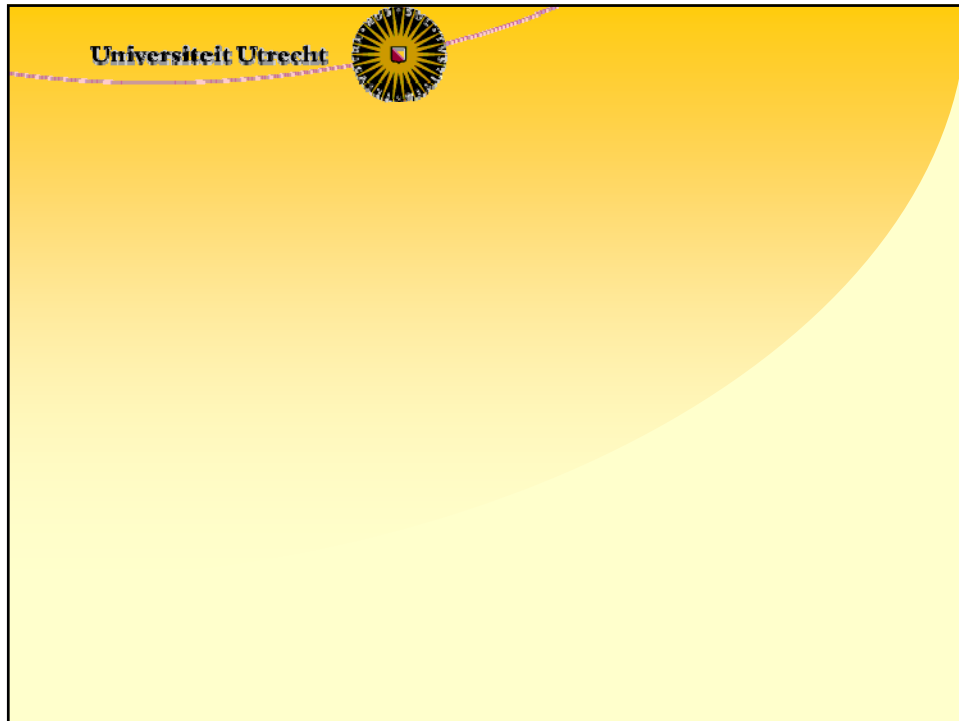
$$\sigma_z^2(t) = \sigma_z^2 \text{ is constant and finite}$$

$$\text{COV}[Z(t_1), Z(t_2)] = C_z(t_2 - t_1) = C_z(\tau)$$

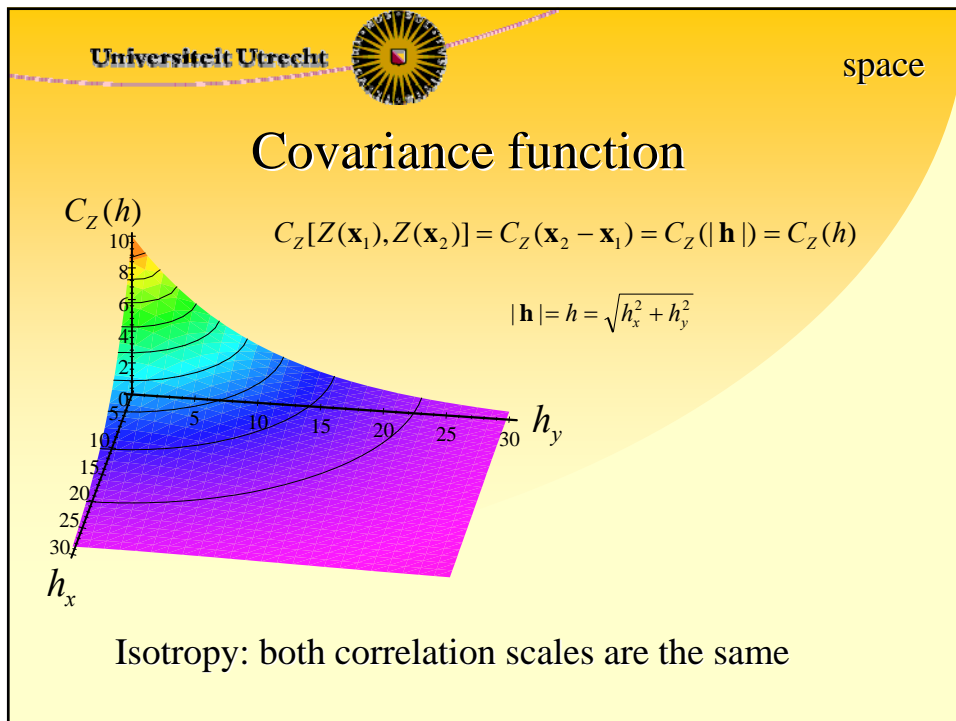
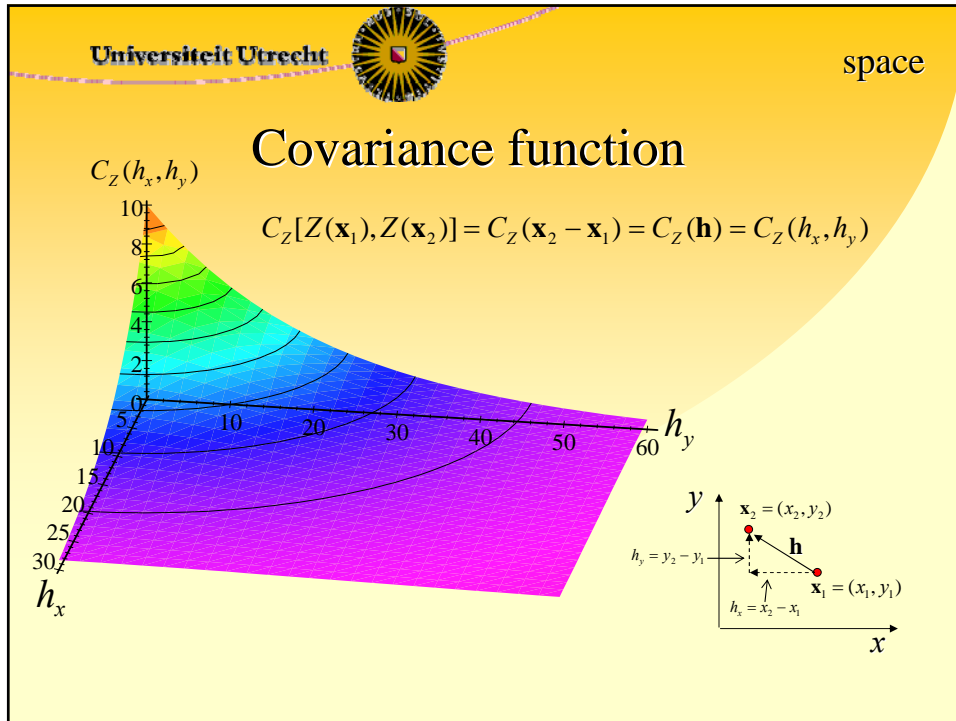


Covariance function  $C(\tau)$





The image shows the main content of a slide with a yellow-to-white gradient background. At the top left, the text "Universiteit Utrecht" and the university logo are present, with a dashed pink line curving across the top. To the right of the logo, the text "Stochastic Hydrology" is written in a black serif font. In the center, the title "Random functions (2)" is displayed in a large, bold, black serif font. At the bottom left, the author's name "Marc F.P. Bierkens" is written in a black serif font, followed by his title "Professor of Hydrology" and affiliation "Faculty of Geosciences" in an italicized black serif font.





## Estimation of Covariance functions

Time

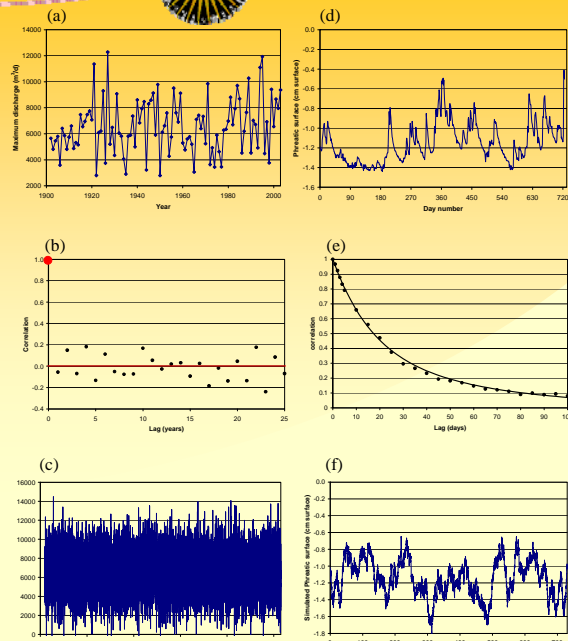
$$\hat{C}_Z(k\Delta t) = \frac{1}{n-k} \sum_{i=1}^{n-k} (z_i - \hat{\mu}_Z)(z_{i+k} - \hat{\mu}_Z)$$

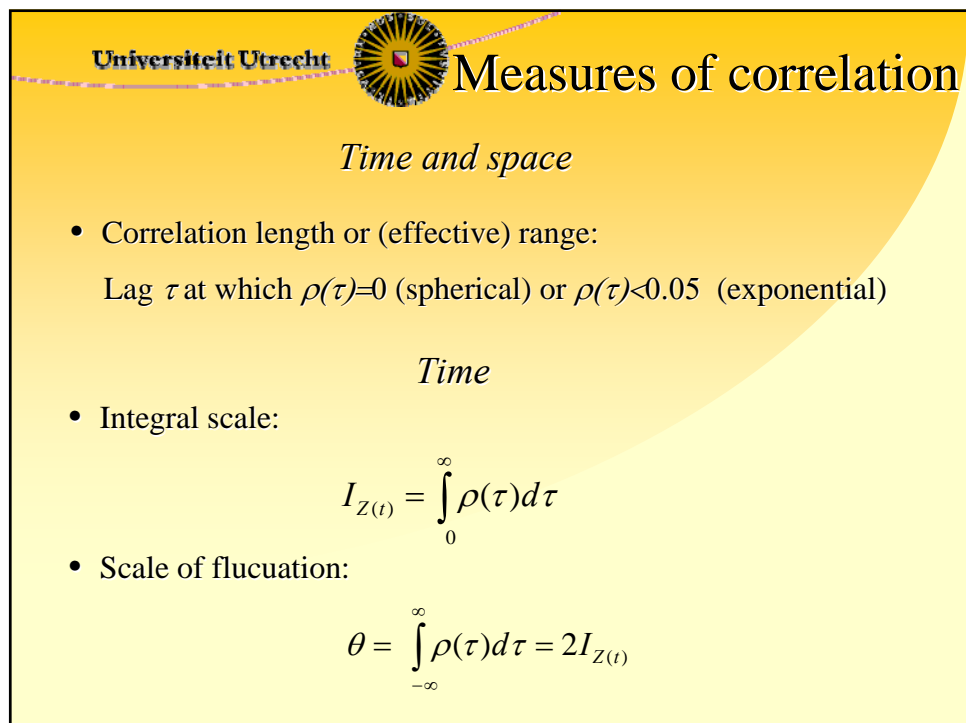
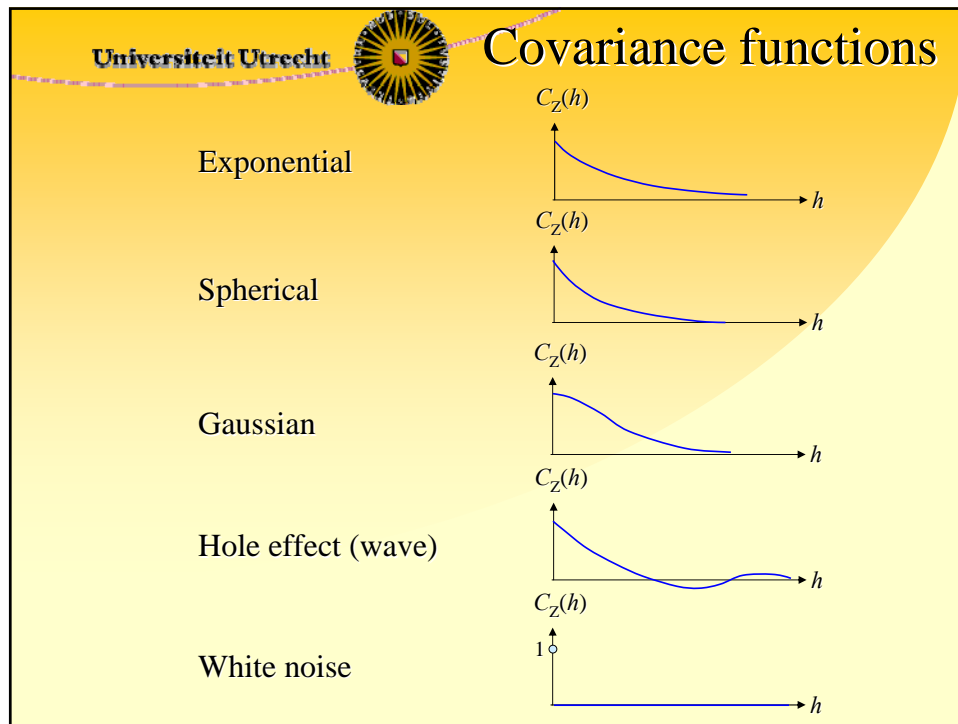
Space

$$\hat{C}_Z(\mathbf{h}) = \frac{1}{n(\mathbf{h})} \sum_{i=1}^{n(\mathbf{h})} [z(\mathbf{x}_i) - \hat{\mu}_Z][z(\mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{h} \pm \Delta \mathbf{h}) - \hat{\mu}_Z]$$



## Influence of correlation







### Space (2D and 3D)

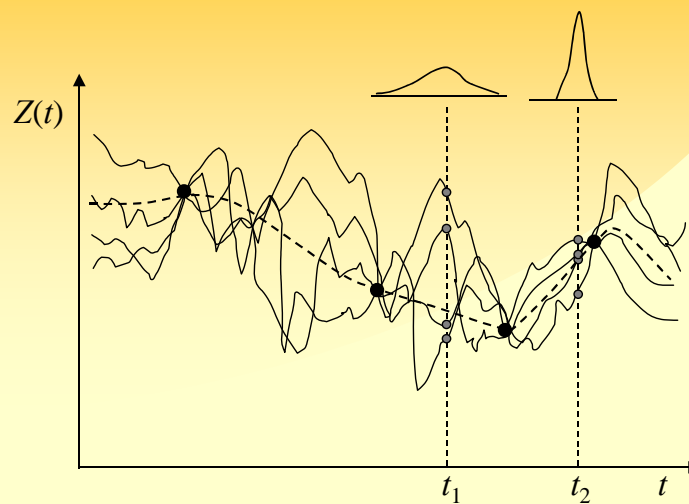
- Integral scale:

$$2D: I_{Z(x)} = \left[ \frac{4}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} \rho(h_1, h_2) dh_1 dh_2 \right]^{1/2}$$

$$3D: I_{Z(x)} = \left[ \frac{6}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} \rho(h_1, h_2, h_3) dh_1 dh_2 dh_3 \right]^{1/3}$$



### Conditional random functions







## Conditional random functions

Conditional random function:  $Z(t | y_1, \dots, y_m)$

Conditional density function at  $t=t_1$ :  $f_Z(z; t_1 | y_1, \dots, y_m)$

Conditional mean and variance  $t=t_1$ :

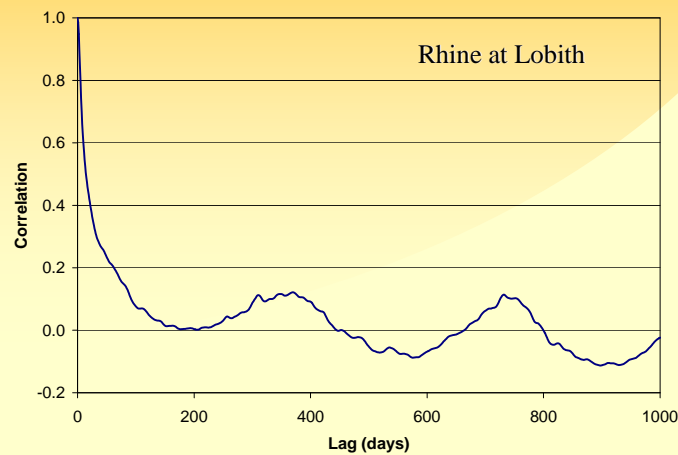
$$\mu_{Z|Y} = E[Z(t) | y_1, \dots, y_m] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} z f_Z(z; t_1 | y_1, \dots, y_m) dz$$

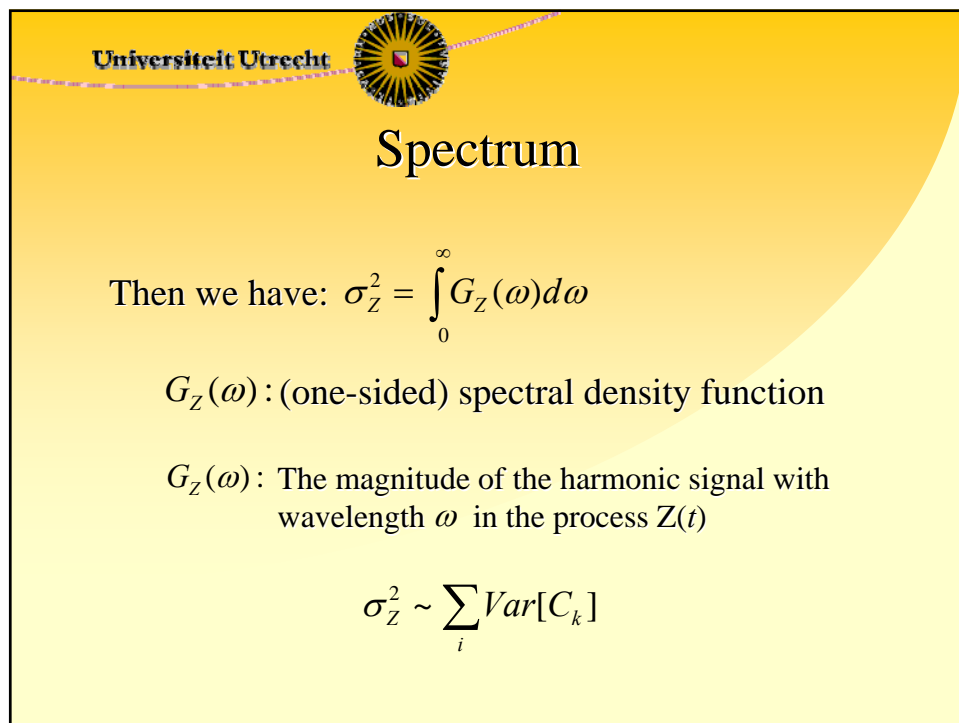
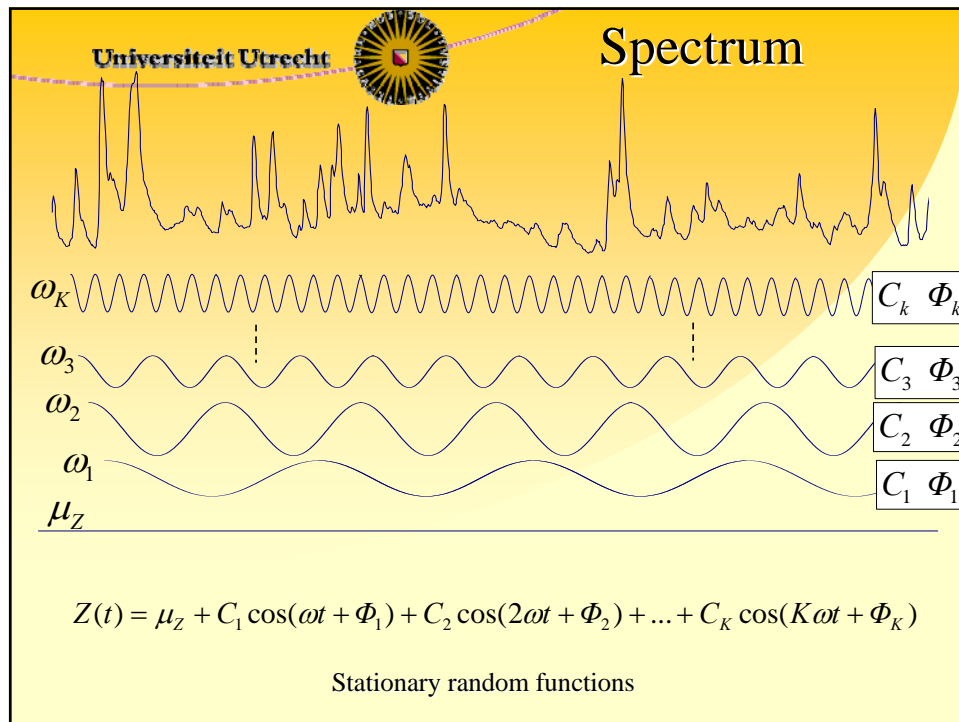
$$VAR[Z(t) | y_1, \dots, y_m] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (z - \mu_{Z|Y})^2 f_Z(z; t_1 | y_1, \dots, y_m) dz$$




## Spectrum

Many hydrological time series have a seasonal character





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# Spectrum

Spectrum and covariance are related:


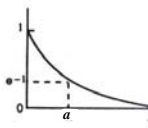
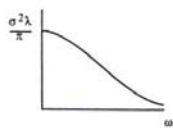
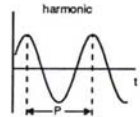
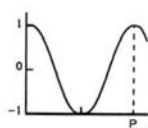
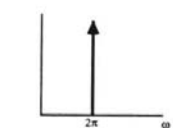
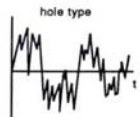
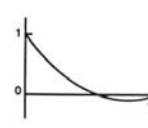
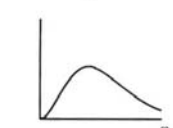

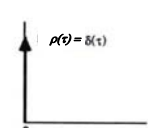
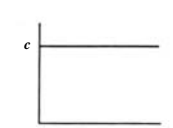
$$C_Z(\tau) = \int_0^\infty G_Z(\omega) \cos(\omega\tau) d\omega$$

$$G_Z(\omega) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty C_Z(\tau) \cos(\omega\tau) d\tau$$

Wiener-Khinchine relations

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# Spectrum

<p>exponential</p> 		
<p>harmonic</p> 		
<p>hole type</p> 		
<p>white noise</p> 		



## Spectrum

Spectrum can be used for:

- Analysis of periodicity in data
- Filtering (leave out certain wavelengths)
- Solving stochastic differential equations



## Spectrum Rhine data set

