Page Proof

December 26, 2013 18:24 WSPC/S0219-6913 181

181-IJWMIP 1450020

1 International Journal of Wavelets, Multiresolution

2 and Information Processing

6

36

37 38

- 3 Vol. 12, No. 2 (2014) 1450020 (11 pages)
- 4 © World Scientific Publishing Company
- 5 DOI: 10.1142/S0219691314500209

HAAR WAVELET ANALYSIS OF CLIMATIC TIME SERIES

7	ZHIHUA ZHANG
8	College of Global Change and Earth System Science
9	Beijing Normal University
10	Beijing 100875, P. R. China
11	zhangzh@bnu.edu.cn
12	JOHN C. MOORE
13	College of Global Change and Earth System Science
14	Beijing Normal University
15	Beijing 100875, P. R. China
16	Arctic Centre, University of Lapland
17	Finland
18	Department of Earth Sciences, Uppsala University
19	Sweden
20	john.moore.bnu@gmail.com
21	ASLAK GRINSTED
22	Centre for Ice and Climate, Niels Bohr Institute
23	University of Copenhagen
24	$Copenhagen, \ Denmark$
25	ag@glaciology.net
26	Received 3 June 2013
27	Revised 29 November 2013
28	Accepted 29 November 2013
29	ruonsned
20	
3U 21	In order to extract the intrinsic information of climatic time series from background red
32	wavelet nower spectra of red noise in a rigorous statistical framework. After that by
32 33	comparing the difference of wavelet power spectra of real climatic time series and red
34	noise, we can extract intrinsic features of climatic time series. Finally, we use our method
35	to analyze Arctic Oscillation (AO) which is a key aspect of climate variability in the

1450020-1

Northern Hemisphere, and discover a great change in fundamental properties of the AO,

39 AMS Subject Classification: 42C

commonly called a regime shift or tripping point.

Keywords: Climatic time series; Haar wavelet analysis; red noise.

World Scientific www.worldscientific.com

1450020

Z. Zhang, J. C. Moore & A. Grinsted

1. Introduction

1

2 The continuous wavelet transform possesses the ability to construct a timefrequency representation of a time series that offers very good time and frequency 3 localization, so wavelet transforms can analyze localized intermittent periodicities 4 of climatic time series.^{1,7,8} The relative resolution in time and frequency space 5 depends on the wavelet chosen. Many climatic time series have been analyzed with 6 the Morlet wavelet.^{2,3,5} which is roughly equally localized in time and frequency. 7 However, the Haar wavelet which we discuss has not been previously used in this 8 respect. 9

Physical interpretation of climatic time series requires statistical significant test-10 ing against a null hypothesis of some noise model. Different from regular signal 11 analysis, climatic time series analysis often use red noise as noise model.⁴ A sim-12 ple model for red noise is the univariate lag-1 autoregressive (AR(1)) process. By 13 comparing the difference of wavelet power spectra of real climatic series and AR(1)14 red noise, one can extract the intrinsic features of climatic time series. To date 15 significance testing has been based on an empirical formula for the Morlet wavelet 16 power spectra of AR(1) red noise.^{2,3,5} 17

In this paper, we will focus on Haar wavelet. We will give an analytic formula of 18 the distribution of Haar wavelet power spectra for an AR(1) red noise in a rigorous 19 statistical framework (see Sec. 2). The relation between scale a and Fourier period T20 for the Morlet wavelet is $a = 0.97T.^5$ However, for Haar wavelet, the corresponding 21 formula is a = 0.3710T (see Appendix A). Since for any time series of time step δt 22 and total length $N\delta t$, the range of scales is from the smallest resolvable scale $2\delta t$ 23 to the largest scale $N\delta t$ in wavelet-based time series analysis, by using the Haar 24 wavelet analysis, one can extract more low frequency intrinsic information. At the 25 end of this paper, we use Haar wavelet to do the statistical significance test of the 26 Arctic Oscillation (AO) and discover a great change in fundamental properties of 27 the AO, commonly called a regime shift or tripping point. 28

Haar Wavelet Power Spectrum Distribution for AR(1) Time Series

Different from regular signal analysis, climatic time series analysis often use red noise as noise model.⁴ A simple model for red noise is the univariate lag-1 autoregressive (AR(1)) process. A discrete random process $\{x_n\}_0^{N-1}$ is called an AR(1) time series with the parameter α if

 $x_n = \alpha x_{n-1} + \mathbb{Z}_n, \quad n = 1, \dots, N-1 \text{ and } x_0 = 0,$

where the parameter $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ and $\{\mathbb{Z}_n\}_1^{\infty}$ is the white noise, i.e. they are independent normal distributed variables with variance σ^2 . From this, we can successively obtain that

$$x_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha^{n-k} Z_k \tag{2.1}$$

181-IJWMIP 1450020

Haar Wavelet Analysis of Climatic Time Series

and the expectation

$$E[x_n] = \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha^{n-k} E[Z_k] = 0.$$

Therefore, each x_n is a Gaussian random variable with mean 0. Let H(x) be the Haar function:

$$H(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 < x \le \frac{1}{2}, \\ -1, & -\frac{1}{2} < x < 0, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$
(2.2)

The wavelet transform $W_{\nu}(s)$ of AR(1) time series $\{x_n\}_0^{N-1}$ associated with H(x) is defined ordinarily as^{2,3}:

$$\sqrt{\frac{s}{\delta t}} W_{\nu}(s) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n H\left(\frac{(n-\nu)\delta t}{s}\right), \tag{2.3}$$

where ν is the time parameter and s is the scaling parameter and δt is a sample period of $\{x_n\}_0^{N-1}$. By (2.2),

$$H\left(\frac{(n-\nu)\delta t}{s}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \left(\nu < n \le \nu + \frac{s}{2\delta t}\right), \\ -1 & \left(\nu - \frac{s}{2\delta t} < n < \nu\right), \\ 0 & \left(n = \nu \text{ or } n \le \nu - \frac{s}{2\delta t} \text{ or } n > \nu + \frac{s}{2\delta t}\right). \end{cases}$$
(2.4)

We choose ν, s such that

$$\frac{s}{2\delta t} \le \nu \le N - 1 - \frac{s}{2\delta t}.$$
(2.5)

By (2.3),

$$\sqrt{\frac{s}{\delta t}} E[W_{\nu}(s)] = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} E[x_n] H\left(\frac{(n-\nu)\delta t}{s}\right) = 0$$

Therefore, $W_{\nu}(s)$ is a Gaussian random variable with mean 0. To obtain the distribution of the power spectrum $|W_{\nu}(s)|^2$, we only need to compute the variance of $W_{\nu}(s)$. Note that

$$\operatorname{Var}(W_{\nu}(s)) = E[(W_{\nu}(s))^{2}] - (E[W_{\nu}(s)])^{2} = E[(W_{\nu}(s))^{2}].$$

From this and (2.3), we have

$$\frac{s}{\delta t} \operatorname{Var}(W_{\nu}(s)) = E\left[\left(\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n H\left(\frac{(n-\nu)\delta t}{s}\right)\right)^2\right]$$
$$= \sum_{n,m=0}^{N-1} E[x_n x_m] H\left(\frac{(n-\nu)\delta t}{s}\right) H\left(\frac{(m-\nu)\delta t}{s}\right). \quad (2.6)$$

Page Proof

Z. Zhang, J. C. Moore & A. Grinsted

Denote $s^* = \frac{s}{2\delta t}$. By (2.5), we have

$$\nu - s^* \ge 0$$
 and $\nu + s^* \le N - 1$.

From this and (2.4), by (2.6), we get

$$2s^* \operatorname{Var}(W_{\nu}(s)) = \sum_{n,m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu+s^*} E[x_n x_m] H\left(\frac{m-\nu}{2s^*}\right) H\left(\frac{n-\nu}{2s^*}\right).$$
(2.7)

Since $\{Z_n\}_1^\infty$ is white noise with variance σ^2 ,

$$E[Z_k Z_l] = 0 (k \neq l)$$
 and $E[Z_k^2] = \sigma^2$.

By (2.1), we get

$$E[x_n x_m] = E\left[\left(\sum_{k=1}^m \alpha^{m-k} Z_k\right) \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \alpha^{n-k} Z_k\right)\right]$$
$$= \sum_{k=1}^{\lambda_{mn}} \alpha^{n-k} \alpha^{m-k} E[Z_k^2]$$
$$= \sigma^2 \alpha^{n+m} \sum_{k=1}^{\lambda_{mn}} \alpha^{-2k} = \frac{\sigma^2 \alpha^{n+m} (1 - \alpha^{-2\lambda_{mn}})}{\alpha^2 - 1},$$

where $\lambda_{mn} = \min\{n, m\}$. From this, we get that

$$\left(\frac{\alpha^2 - 1}{\sigma^2}\right) E[x_n x_m] = \begin{cases} \alpha^{m+n} - \alpha^{n-m}, & m \le n, \\ \alpha^{m+n} - \alpha^{m-n}, & m > n. \end{cases}$$
(2.8)

So, we get

$$\left(\frac{\alpha^2 - 1}{\sigma^2}\right) E[x_n x_m] = \alpha^{m+n} - \alpha^{|m-n|}.$$

From this and (2.7), we have

$$-2s^* \left(\frac{\alpha^2 - 1}{\sigma^2}\right) \operatorname{Var}(W_{\nu}(s)) = \sum_{n, m = \nu - s^*}^{\nu + s^*} (\alpha^{|m-n|} - \alpha^{m+n}) H\left(\frac{m - \nu}{2s^*}\right) \times H\left(\frac{n - \nu}{2s^*}\right) = J - \widetilde{J},$$
(2.9)

where

$$J = \sum_{n,m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu+s^*} \alpha^{|m-n|} H\left(\frac{m-\nu}{2s^*}\right) H\left(\frac{n-\nu}{2s^*}\right)$$

and

1

$$\tilde{J} = \sum_{n,m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu+s^*} \alpha^{m+n} H\left(\frac{m-\nu}{2s^*}\right) H\left(\frac{n-\nu}{2s^*}\right).$$
(2.10)

We first compute J.

181-IJWMIP

1450020

Haar Wavelet Analysis of Climatic Time Series

By (2.4), we divide J into four sums:

$$J = \left(\sum_{n,m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} - \sum_{m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \sum_{n=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} - \sum_{m=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \sum_{n=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} + \sum_{n,m=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \right) \alpha^{|m-n|}$$

=: $J_1 - J_2 - J_3 + J_4.$ (2.11)

We compute each sum. For J_1 :

$$J_1 = \left(\sum_{m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \sum_{n=\nu-s^*}^m + \sum_{m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \sum_{n=m+1}^{\nu-1}\right) \alpha^{|m-n|} = J_{11} + J_{12},$$

where

$$J_{11} = \sum_{m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \alpha^m \left(\sum_{n=\nu-s^*}^m \alpha^{-n} \right)$$

= $\sum_{m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \frac{\alpha^m (\alpha^{-\nu+s^*} - \alpha^{-m-1})}{1 - \alpha^{-1}} = \frac{\alpha^{-\nu+s^*}}{1 - \alpha^{-1}} \sum_{m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \alpha^m - \sum_{m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \frac{\alpha^{-1}}{1 - \alpha^{-1}}$
= $-\frac{(\alpha^{-\nu+s^*})(\alpha^\nu - \alpha^{\nu-s^*})}{(1 - \alpha)(1 - \alpha^{-1})} - \frac{s^*}{\alpha(1 - \alpha^{-1})} = \frac{1 - \alpha^{s^*}}{(1 - \alpha^{-1})(1 - \alpha)} + \frac{s^*}{1 - \alpha}$

and

$$J_{12} = \sum_{m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \alpha^{-m} \left(\sum_{n=m+1}^{\nu-1} \alpha^n \right)$$

= $\sum_{m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \frac{\alpha^{-m} (\alpha^{m+1} - \alpha^{\nu})}{1 - \alpha} = -\frac{\alpha^{\nu}}{1 - \alpha} \sum_{m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \alpha^{-m} + \frac{1}{1 - \alpha} \sum_{m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \alpha^{-m}$
= $-\frac{\alpha^{\nu} (\alpha^{-\nu+s^*} - \alpha^{-\nu})}{(1 - \alpha)(1 - \alpha^{-1})} + \frac{\alpha s^*}{1 - \alpha} = \frac{1 - \alpha^{s^*}}{(1 - \alpha)(1 - \alpha^{-1})} + \frac{\alpha s^*}{1 - \alpha}.$

Therefore, we have

$$J_1 = J_{11} + J_{12} = \frac{2(1 - \alpha^{s^*})}{(1 - \alpha)(1 - \alpha^{-1})} + \frac{(1 + \alpha)s^*}{1 - \alpha}.$$

For J_4 :

$$J_4 = \sum_{m=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \left(\sum_{n=\nu+1}^m + \sum_{n=m+1}^{\nu+s^*} \right) \alpha^{|m-n|} = J_{41} + J_{42}$$

where

$$J_{41} = \sum_{m=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \alpha^m \left(\sum_{n=\nu+1}^m \alpha^{-n}\right)$$

1450020

Z. Zhang, J. C. Moore & A. Grinsted

$$=\sum_{m=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \frac{\alpha^m (\alpha^{-\nu-1} - \alpha^{-m-1})}{1 - \alpha^{-1}} = \frac{\alpha^{-\nu-1}}{1 - \alpha^{-1}} \sum_{m=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \alpha^m - \sum_{m=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \frac{\alpha^{-1}}{1 - \alpha^{-1}}$$
$$= \frac{\alpha^{-\nu-1} (\alpha^{\nu+1} - \alpha^{\nu+s^*+1})}{(1 - \alpha)(1 - \alpha^{-1})} - \frac{s^*}{\alpha(1 - \alpha^{-1})} = \frac{1 - \alpha^{s^*}}{(1 - \alpha)(1 - \alpha^{-1})} + \frac{s^*}{1 - \alpha}$$

and

$$J_{42} = \sum_{m=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \alpha^{-m} \left(\sum_{n=m+1}^{\nu+s^*} \alpha^n \right)$$

= $\sum_{m=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \frac{\alpha^{-m} (\alpha^{m+1} - \alpha^{\nu+s^*+1})}{1 - \alpha} = -\frac{\alpha^{\nu+s^*+1}}{1 - \alpha} \sum_{m=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \alpha^{-m} + \sum_{m=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \frac{\alpha}{1 - \alpha}$
= $-\frac{\alpha^{\nu+s^*+1} (\alpha^{-\nu-1} - \alpha^{-\nu-s^*-1})}{(1 - \alpha)(1 - \alpha^{-1})} + \frac{\alpha s^*}{1 - \alpha} = -\frac{\alpha^{s^*} - 1}{(1 - \alpha)(1 - \alpha^{-1})} + \frac{\alpha s^*}{1 - \alpha}$

it follows that

$$J_4 = J_{41} + J_{42} = \frac{(1+\alpha)s^*}{1-\alpha} + \frac{2(1-\alpha^{s^*})}{(1-\alpha)(1-\alpha^{-1})}$$

Furthermore,

$$J_1 + J_4 = \frac{4(1 - \alpha^{s^*})}{(1 - \alpha)(1 - \alpha^{-1})} + \frac{2(1 + \alpha)s^*}{1 - \alpha}.$$

Finally, for J_2 and J_3 :

$$J_{2} = \left(\sum_{m=\nu-s^{*}}^{\nu-1} \alpha^{-m}\right) \left(\sum_{n=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^{*}} \alpha^{n}\right)$$
$$= \left(\frac{\alpha^{-\nu+s^{*}} - \alpha^{-\nu}}{1 - \alpha^{-1}}\right) \left(\frac{\alpha^{\nu+1} - \alpha^{\nu+s^{*}+1}}{1 - \alpha}\right) = -\frac{\alpha(\alpha^{s^{*}} - 1)^{2}}{(1 - \alpha)(1 - \alpha^{-1})}$$

and

$$J_3 = \left(\sum_{m=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \alpha^m\right) \left(\sum_{m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \alpha^{-n}\right) = J_2.$$

We obtain by (2.11) that

$$J = J_1 - J_2 - J_3 + J_4$$

= $\frac{4(1 - \alpha^{s^*})}{(1 - \alpha)(1 - \alpha^{-1})} + \frac{2\alpha(\alpha^{s^*} - 1)^2}{(1 - \alpha)(1 - \alpha^{-1})} + \frac{2s^*(1 + \alpha)}{1 - \alpha}$
= $\frac{2s^*(1 - \alpha^2) - 4\alpha(1 - \alpha^{s^*}) - 2\alpha^2(1 - \alpha^{s^*})^2}{(1 - \alpha)^2} =: \sigma_H^2.$ (2.12)

Haar Wavelet Analysis of Climatic Time Series

1450020

Next, we compute \tilde{J} . By (2.4) and (2.10), we can divide \tilde{J} into four sums:

$$\tilde{J} = \left(\sum_{m,n=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} - \sum_{m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \sum_{n=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} - \sum_{m=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \sum_{n=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} + \sum_{m,n=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \right) \alpha^{m+n}$$
$$= \tilde{J}_1 - \tilde{J}_2 - \tilde{J}_3 + \tilde{J}_4,$$

where

$$\tilde{J}_1 = \left(\sum_{m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \alpha^m\right) \left(\sum_{n=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \alpha^n\right) = \left(\frac{\alpha^{\nu-s^*} - \alpha^\nu}{1 - \alpha}\right)^2,$$
$$\tilde{J}_4 = \left(\sum_{m=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \alpha^m\right) \left(\sum_{n=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \alpha^n\right) = \left(\frac{\alpha^{\nu+1} - \alpha^{\nu+s^*+1}}{1 - \alpha}\right)^2$$

and

$$\tilde{J}_2 = \tilde{J}_3 = \left(\sum_{m=\nu-s^*}^{\nu-1} \alpha^m\right) \left(\sum_{n=\nu+1}^{\nu+s^*} \alpha^n\right) = \left(\frac{\alpha^{\nu-s^*} - \alpha^\nu}{1-\alpha}\right) \left(\frac{\alpha^{\nu+1} - \alpha^{\nu+s^*+1}}{1-\alpha}\right).$$

Therefore,

$$\tilde{J} = \tilde{J}_1 - \tilde{J}_2 - \tilde{J}_3 + \tilde{J}_4$$

$$= \frac{\alpha^{2\nu}}{(1-\alpha)^2} ((\alpha^{-s^*} - 1)^2 + \alpha^2 (1-\alpha^{s^*})^2 - 2\alpha (\alpha^{-s^*} - 1)(1-\alpha^{s^*}))$$

$$= \alpha^{2\nu} \frac{(1-\alpha^{s^*})^2 (\alpha^{-s^*} - \alpha)^2}{(1-\alpha)^2} =: \tilde{\sigma}_H^2.$$
(2.13)

Finally, by (2.10)-(2.13), we get

$$2s^*\left(\frac{1-\alpha^2}{\sigma^2}\right)\operatorname{Var}(W_\nu(s)) = J - \tilde{J} = \sigma_H^2 - \tilde{\sigma}_H^2$$

where σ_H and $\tilde{\sigma}_H$ are stated in (2.12) and (2.13), respectively. From this, we deduce that the Haar wavelet transform $W_{\nu}(s)$ of $\{x_n\}_0^{N-1}$ is distributed as

$$\frac{\sigma\sqrt{\sigma_H^2 - \tilde{\sigma}_H^2}}{\sqrt{2s^*(1 - \alpha^2)}}X,$$

1 2 where X is a normal distribution with mean 0 and variance 1. From this, we get the following theorem.

Theorem 2.1. Let $\{x_n\}_0^{N-1}$ be an AR(1) time series and $W_{\nu}(s)$ be its Haar wavelet transform. Then the Haar wavelet power spectrum of $\{x_n\}_0^{N-1}$

$$|W_{\nu}(s)|^2 \Rightarrow \frac{\sigma^2(\sigma_H^2 - \widetilde{\sigma}_H^2)}{2s^*(1 - \alpha^2)}\chi_1^2,$$

Z. Zhang, J. C. Moore & A. Grinsted

where " \Rightarrow " indicates "is distributed as" and χ^2_1 is the chi-square distribution with one degree of freedom, $s^* = \frac{s}{2\delta t}$, and

$$\sigma_H^2 - \tilde{\sigma}_H^2 = \frac{2s^*(1 - \alpha^2) - 4\alpha(1 - \alpha^{s^*}) - 2\alpha^2(1 - \alpha^{s^*})^2}{(1 - \alpha)^2} - \alpha^{2\nu} \frac{(1 - \alpha^{s^*})^2(\alpha^{-s^*} - \alpha)^2}{(1 - \alpha)^2}.$$

Remark 2.1. Since $0 \le \alpha < 1$, when ν is sufficiently large such that $\alpha^{2\nu} \approx 0$, the term

$$\tilde{\sigma}_H \approx 0.$$

The above formula is simplified as follows:

$$|W_{\nu}(s)|^2 \Rightarrow \frac{\sigma^2 \sigma_H^2}{2s^*(1-\alpha^2)} \chi_1^2,$$

1

where σ_H^2 is stated in (2.12). If $\{x_n\}_0^{N-1}$ is a white noise with variance σ^2 , i.e. $\alpha = 0$, then $\sigma_H^2 - \tilde{\sigma}_H^2 = 2s^*$ and

$$|W_{\nu}(s)|^2 \Rightarrow \sigma^2 \chi_1^2.$$

3. Numerical Experiment 2

The AO is a key aspect of climate variability in the Northern Hemisphere. The AO is 3

defined as the leading empirical orthogonal function (EOF) of Northern Hemisphere 4



Fig. 1. The standardized time series of winter AO index.

Page Proof



Haar Wavelet Analysis of Climatic Time Series

Fig. 2. Haar wavelet power spectrum of AO index. The thick black contour designates the 5% significance level against red noise. In addition, the COI also be marked (color online).

sea level pressure anomalies pole ward of 20°N,⁶ and characterized by an exchange 1 of atmospheric mass between the Arctic and middle latitudes. Figure 1 shows the 2 winter AO index (December–February 1851–1997). We will use Haar wavelet to 3 analyze AO index, i.e. we will compute the Haar wavelet power spectra of the AO Δ index. Since the AO index is a finite-length time series, errors in wavelet transform 5 will occur at the beginning and end of the wavelet power spectrum. The Cone 6 of influence (COI) is the region of the wavelet transform in which edge effects 7 become important. Here, we will not research wavelet power spectrum in COI. 8 Using Theorem 2.1, we can extract the instinct information of time series from g background red noise. Figure 2 shows Haar wavelet power spectrum of AO index. 10 11 The thick black contour designates the 5% significance level against red noise. Most regions of significance appear abruptly about 1970. Since the Haar wavelet is very 12 broadband, this discovers a great change in fundamental properties of the AO, 13 commonly called a regime shift or tripping point. 14

15 Acknowledgment

This research is partially supported by National Key Science Program for Global
Change Research No. 2013CB956604, No. 2010CB950504, Fundamental Research
Funds for the Central Universities (Key Program) No. 105565GK, 863 project
No. 2010AA012305, NSFC No. 41076125, State Key Lab of Earth Surface Processes
and Resource Ecology, and Polar Climate and Environment Key Laboratory.

21 Appendix A. Haar Wavelet Scale and Fourier Wavelength

In order to give better physical interpretation, one needs to transfer wavelet scale to Fourier wavelength. We will use Meyers' method⁵ to obtain the relationship

Z. Zhang, J. C. Moore & A. Grinsted

between the equivalent Fourier period T and the wavelet scale a. This relationship
estimated by computing the wavelet power spectrum of a cosine wave of a known
frequency and then finding the scale a at which the wavelet power spectrum reaches
its maximum. In detail:

Let $x(t) = \cos \omega t$. Then

$$W(a,b) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \cos \omega t H\left(\frac{t-b}{a}\right) dt = \sqrt{a} \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} \cos \omega (at+b) H(t) dt$$
$$= -\frac{1}{\omega\sqrt{a}} \left(\sin \omega \left(\frac{a}{2}+b\right) + \sin \omega \left(\frac{a}{2}-b\right)\right) = -\frac{2}{\omega\sqrt{a}} \sin \frac{a\omega}{2} \cos b\omega$$

and so

$$|W(a,b)|^2 = \frac{4}{\omega^2 a} \sin^2 \frac{a\omega}{2} \cos^2 b\omega.$$

When ω is such that $\sin \frac{\omega a}{2} = 0$ or $\tan \frac{\omega a}{2} = \omega a$, we have

$$\frac{d}{da}|W(a,b)|^2 = 0.$$

From this, we deduce that the power spectrum $|W_{\nu}(s)|^2$ attains the maximal value at $a \approx \frac{2.3311}{\omega}$. Note that $\omega = \frac{2\pi}{T}$, where T is the Fourier wavelength. So we obtain the relationship between the scale parameter and the Fourier wavelength as follows:

$$a \approx \frac{2.3311}{2\pi}T = 0.3710T.$$

⁵ The relation between scale a and Fourier period T for the Morlet wavelet is ⁶ $a = 0.97T.^5$ However, for Haar wavelet, the corresponding formula is a = 0.3710T. ⁷ Since for any time series of time step δt and total length $N\delta t$, the range of scales ⁸ is from the smallest resolvable scale $2\delta t$ to the largest scale $N\delta t$ in wavelet-based ⁹ time series analysis, by using the Haar wavelet analysis one can extract more low ¹⁰ frequency intrinsic information.

11 References

12

13

17

18

19

20

21

- I. Daubechies, The wavelet transform time-frequency localization and signal analysis, IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory 36 (1990) 961–1004.
- A. Grinsted, S. Jevrejeva and J. C. Moore, Application of the cross wavelet transform and wavelet coherence to geophysical time series, *Nonlinear Process. Geophys.* 11 (2004) 561–566.
 - S. Jevrejeva, J. C. Moore and A. Grinsted, Influence of the arctic oscillation and El Nino-southern oscillation (ENSO) on ice conditions in the Baltic sea: The wavelet approach, J. Geophys. Res. 108 (2003) 4677–4687.
 - 4. M. E. Mann and J. M. Lees, Robust estimation of background noise and signal detection in climatic time series, *Clim. Change* **33** (1996) 409–445.
- S. D. Meyers, B. G. Kelly and J. J. OBrien, An introduction to wavelet analysis in oceanography and meteorology with application to the dispersion of Yanai waves, *Mon. Weather Rev.* 121 (1993) 2858–2866.

Haar Wavelet Analysis of Climatic Time Series

1	6.	D. W. J. Thompson and J. M. Wallace. The Arctic Oscillation signature in the winter
2		geopotential height and temperature fields, Geophys. Res. Lett. 25 (1998) 1297–1300.
3	7.	Z. Zhang, Fourier supports of scaling functions determine cardinalities of wavelets, Int.
4		J. Wavelets Multiresolut. Inf. Process. 10 (2012) 1–24.
5	8.	Z. Zhang and J. C. Moore, New significance test methods for Fourier analysis of geo-
6		physical time series, Nonlinear Process. Geophys. 18 (2011) 643–652.