# Incorporating predictive analytics in an actuarial curriculum: some preliminary experience at the Chinese University of Hong Kong

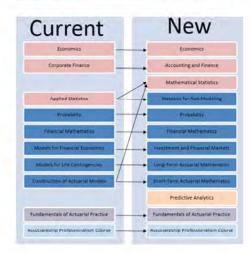
#### Wai-Sum Chan, PhD, FSA, CERA, FRSS

Professor of Finance
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

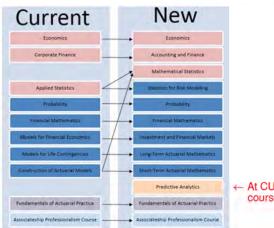


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## SOA's 2018 ASA Curriculum Changes



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 At CUHK, we do not have a specific course for Predictive Analytics yet

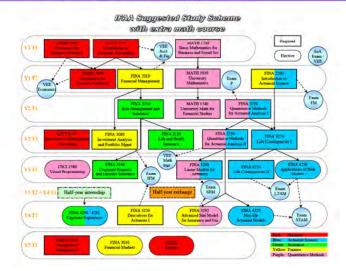
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## SOA's 2018 ASA Curriculum Changes



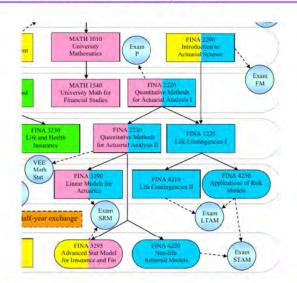
- We have two courses here to equip students with skills of R programming, regression & time-series predicition
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## CUHK Students' 2017 Study Plan



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## A Pilot Case Study for FINA3290

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#### A Pilot Case Study for FINA3290

- The National Data Buoy Center (NDBC) is a part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS) of the US government.
- NDBC deploys weather buoys which are instruments which collect weather and ocean data within the world's oceans.



## A Pilot Case Study for FINA3290

 The time-series weather data for each buoy are publicly available from the NDBC website (www.ndbc.noaa.gov).



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 These data have been used for research (e.g., Chen, Ruf and Cleason, Journal of Geophysical Research: Oceans, April 2016) and teaching purposes.

 Students are asked to locate the data webpage of the Weather Station buoy 46035 at 57.026 N 177.738 W from NDBC.

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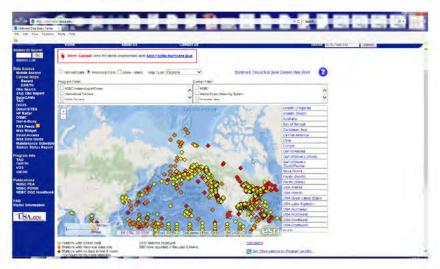
## Part (A) - constructing the dataset

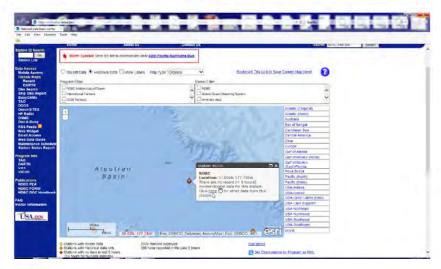
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- · Examine the data format for each yearly data file.
- Write an R program to extract and patch the data into two time-series of daily Air Temperature and Sea Temperature readings recorded at noon.

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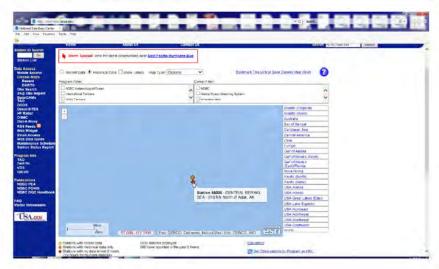
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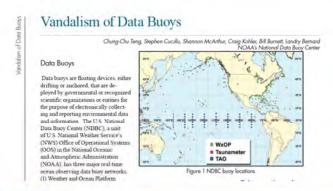
## Part (B) - data cleaning

Students are asked to plot and clean the data.

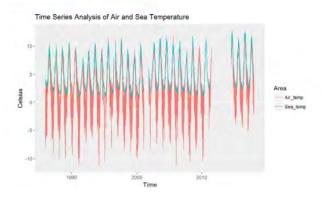
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## Part (B) - data cleaning

- · Students are asked to plot and clean the data.
- Messy data: outliers, missing values, lost of data due to vandalism/stolen of data buoys

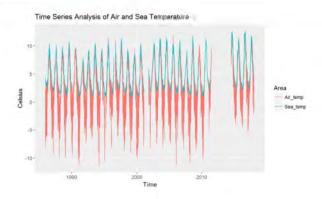


# Part (B) - data cleaning



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• Students have to research and decide on how to clean the data.

## Part (C) - the research question

 Students are asked to answer the question: Global warming have the temperatures (both sea and air) increased over the past 30 years?

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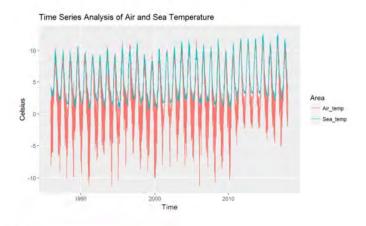
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- Two students form a team.
- Each team has to make a presentation and hand-in a final report (professionally written with proper conclusions and justifications).

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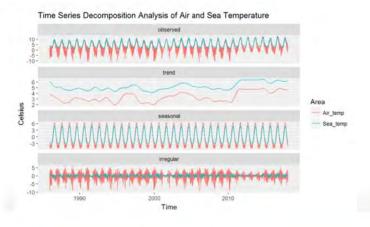
#### Report-1

#### Cleaned Data



# Report-2

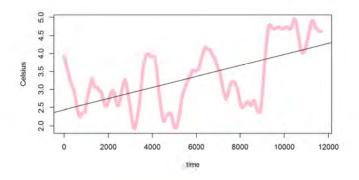
#### Seasonal Decomposition



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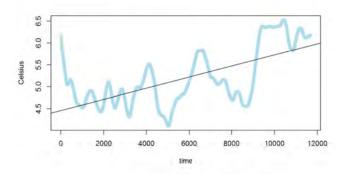
## Report-3

#### Trend: Air temperature



## Report-4

#### Trend: Sea temperature



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## Report-5

## Robustness Check

To check whether sampling affected our evaluation of temperature change, lets conduct simple robustness check when temperature = 0:00, 6:00,18:00 and compare with 12:00.

```
## Air.Time_0 0.3382657 0 23083382 68240392 177205149696 ## Air.Time_6 0.3505084 0 23918828 68240392 177205149696 ## Air.Time_12 0.3590287 0 24500260 68240392 177205149696 ## Air.Time_18 0.3716339 0 25360442 68240392 177205149696 ## Eas.Time_0 0.3823255 0 26090036 68240384 177205149696 ## Sea.Time_0 0.3794484 0 25893702 68240384 177205149696 ## Sea.Time_18 0.3794184 0 26360232 68240384 177205149696 ## Sea.Time_18 0.391811 0 26360232 68240384 177205149696
```

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#### Remarks

- Students are forced to get familiar with R programming.
- Students generally like the case study, but complained the heavy workload and unclear instructions.
- Most students indulged too much in the R coding part of the project, without a good understanding of the statistical methods they used.
- Students need more training in report writing.

## Other Issues: (I) Plagiarism

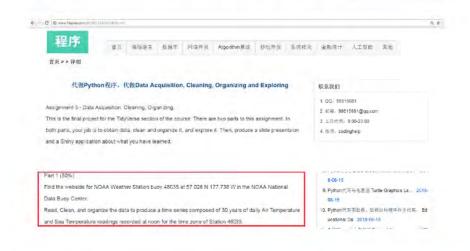


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## Other Issues: (II) Academic Honesty



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# THANK YOU!