

# Forecasting: principles and practice

Rob J Hyndman

1.1 Time series graphics

# **Outline**

- 1 Time series in R
- 2 Time plots
- 3 Lab session 1
- 4 Seasonal plots
- 5 Seasonal or cyclic?
- 6 Lag plots and autocorrelation
  - 7 White noise
- 8 Lab session 2

A time series is stored in a ts object in R:

- a list of numbers
- information about times those numbers were recorded.

### Example

Year	Observation
2012	123
2013	39
2014	78
2015	52
2016	110

For observations that are more frequent than once per year, add a frequency argument.

E.g., monthly data stored as a numerical vector z:

```
y <- ts(z, frequency=12, start=c(2003, 1))
```

ts(data, frequency,	start)	
Type of data	frequency	start example
Annual		
Quarterly		
Monthly		
Daily		
Weekly		
Hourly		
Half-hourly		

ts(data, frequency,	start)	
Type of data	frequency	start example
Annual	1	
Quarterly		
Monthly		
Daily		
Weekly		
Hourly		
Half-hourly		

ts(data, frequency,	start)	
Type of data	frequency	start example
Annual	1	1995
Quarterly		
Monthly		
Daily		
Weekly		
Hourly		
Half-hourly		

ts(data, frequency,	start)	
Type of data	frequency	start example
Annual	1	1995
Quarterly	4	
Monthly		
Daily		
Weekly		
Hourly		
Half-hourly		

ts(data, frequency,	start)	
Type of data	frequency	start example
Annual	1	1995
Quarterly	4	c(1995,2)
Monthly		
Daily		
Weekly		
Hourly		
Half-hourly		

ts(data, frequency,	start)	
Type of data	frequency	start example
Annual	1	1995
Quarterly	4	c(1995,2)
Monthly	12	
Daily		
Weekly		
Hourly		
Half-hourly		

ts(data, frequency,	start)	
Type of data	frequency	start example
Annual	1	1995
Quarterly	4	c(1995,2)
Monthly	12	c(1995,9)
Daily		
Weekly		
Hourly		
Half-hourly		

ts(data, frequency,	start)	
Type of data	frequency	start example
Annual	1	1995
Quarterly	4	c(1995,2)
Monthly	12	c(1995,9)
Daily	7 or 365.25	
Weekly		
Hourly		
Half-hourly		

ts(data, frequency,	start)	
Type of data	frequency	start example
Annual	1	1995
Quarterly	4	c(1995,2)
Monthly	12	c(1995,9)
Daily	7 or 365.25	1 or c(1995,234)
Weekly		
Hourly		
Half-hourly		

ts(data, frequency,	start)	
Type of data	frequency	start example
Annual	1	1995
Quarterly	4	c(1995,2)
Monthly	12	c(1995,9)
Daily	7 or 365.25	1 or c(1995,234)
Weekly	52.18	
Hourly		
Half-hourly		

ts(data, frequency,	start)	
Type of data	frequency	start example
Annual	1	1995
Quarterly	4	c(1995,2)
Monthly	12	c(1995,9)
Daily	7 or 365.25	1 or c(1995,234)
Weekly	52.18	c(1995,23)
Hourly		
Half-hourly		

ts(data, fred	quency, start)	
Type of data	frequency	start example
Annual	1	1995
Quarterly	4	c(1995,2)
Monthly	12	c(1995,9)
Daily	7 or 365.25	1 or c(1995,234)
Weekly	52.18	c(1995,23)
Hourly	24 or 168 or 8,766	
Half-hourly		

ts(data, fred	quency, start)	
Type of data	frequency	start example
Annual	1	1995
Quarterly	4	c(1995,2)
Monthly	12	c(1995,9)
Daily	7 or 365.25	1 or c(1995,234)
Weekly	52.18	c(1995,23)
Hourly	24 or 168 or 8,766	1
Half-hourly		

ts(data, fr	equency, start)	
Type of data	frequency	start example
Annual	1	1995
Quarterly	4	c(1995,2)
Monthly	12	c(1995,9)
Daily	7 or 365.25	1 or c(1995,234)
Weekly	52.18	c(1995,23)
Hourly	24 or 168 or 8,766	1
Half-hourly	48 or 336 or 17,532	

ts(data, fr	equency, start)	
Type of data	frequency	start example
Annual	1	1995
Quarterly	4	c(1995,2)
Monthly	12	c(1995,9)
Daily	7 or 365.25	1 or c(1995,234)
Weekly	52.18	c(1995,23)
Hourly	24 or 168 or 8,766	1
Half-hourly	48 or 336 or 17,532	1

### **Australian GDP**

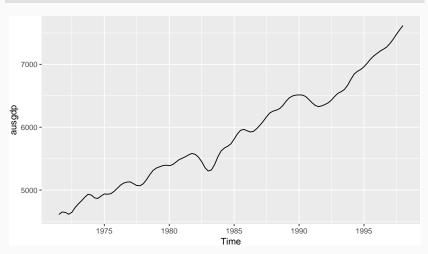
```
ausgdp <- ts(x, frequency=4, start=c(1971,3))
```

- Class: "ts"
- Print and plotting methods available.

### ausgdp

# **Australian GDP**

### autoplot(ausgdp)



# Residential electricity sales

elecsales

## Time Series:

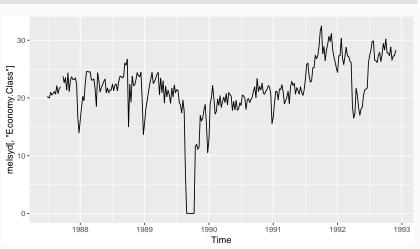
```
## Start = 1989
## End = 2008
## Frequency = 1
## [1] 2354.34 2379.71 2318.52 2468.99 2386.0
## [6] 2569.47 2575.72 2762.72 2844.50 3000.7
## [11] 3108.10 3357.50 3075.70 3180.60 3221.6
## [16] 3176.20 3430.60 3527.48 3637.89 3655.0
```

# **Outline**

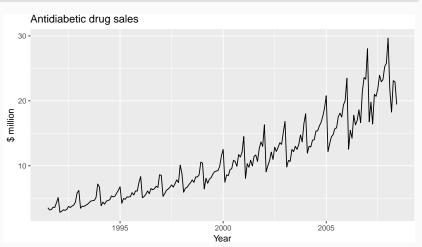
- 1 Time series in R
- 2 Time plots
- 3 Lab session 1
- 4 Seasonal plots
- 5 Seasonal or cyclic?
- 6 Lag plots and autocorrelation
  - 7 White noise
- 8 Lab session 2

# **Time plots**





# Time plots



# **Outline**

- 1 Time series in R
- 2 Time plots
- 3 Lab session 1
- 4 Seasonal plots
- 5 Seasonal or cyclic?
- 6 Lag plots and autocorrelation
- 7 White noise
- 8 Lab session 2

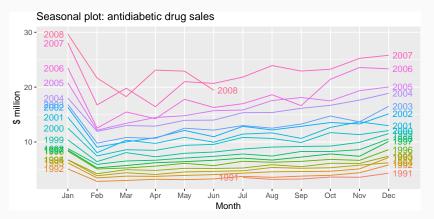
# **Lab Session 1**

# **Outline**

- 1 Time series in R
- 2 Time plots
- 3 Lab session 1
- 4 Seasonal plots
- 5 Seasonal or cyclic?
- 6 Lag plots and autocorrelation
  - **7** White noise
- 8 Lab session 2

# **Seasonal plots**

```
ggseasonplot(a10, ylab="$ million",
  year.labels=TRUE, year.labels.left=TRUE) +
  ggtitle("Seasonal plot: antidiabetic drug sales")
```

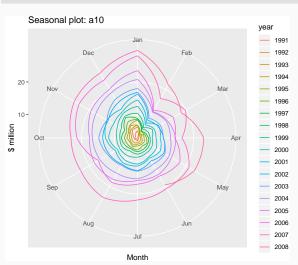


# **Seasonal plots**

- Data plotted against the individual "seasons" in which the data were observed. (In this case a "season" is a month.)
- Something like a time plot except that the data from each season are overlapped.
- Enables the underlying seasonal pattern to be seen more clearly, and also allows any substantial departures from the seasonal pattern to be easily identified.
- In R: ggseasonplot

# Seasonal polar plots

ggseasonplot(a10, polar=TRUE) + ylab("\$ million")



# **Seasonal subseries plots**

.lan

Feb

Mar

```
ggsubseriesplot(a10) + ylab("$ million") +
  ggtitle("Seasonal subseries plot: antidiabetic drug sales")
    Seasonal subseries plot: antidiabetic drug sales
  30 -
  20 -
$ million
  10 -
                         Apr
                                                          Oct
```

Jul

Month

Aua

Nov

Dec

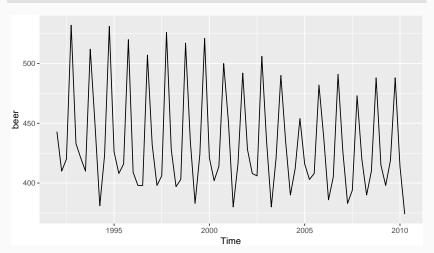
Mav

# Seasonal subseries plots

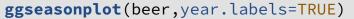
- Data for each season collected together in time plot as separate time series.
- Enables the underlying seasonal pattern to be seen clearly, and changes in seasonality over time to be visualized.
- In R: ggsubseriesplot

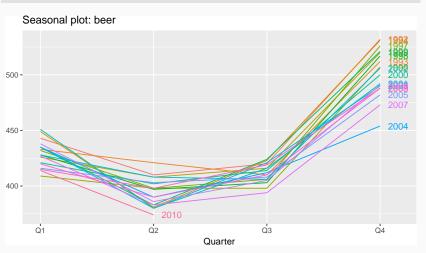
# **Quarterly Australian Beer Production**

```
beer <- window(ausbeer, start=1992)
autoplot(beer)</pre>
```



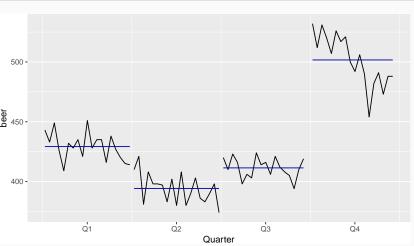
# **Quarterly Australian Beer Production**





# **Quarterly Australian Beer Production**





## **Outline**

- 1 Time series in R
- 2 Time plots
- 3 Lab session 1
- 4 Seasonal plots
- 5 Seasonal or cyclic?
- 6 Lag plots and autocorrelation
  - **7** White noise
- 8 Lab session 2

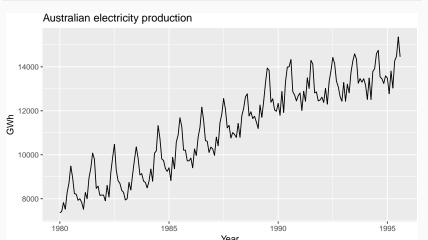
- **Trend** pattern exists when there is a long-term increase or decrease in the data.
- Seasonal pattern exists when a series is influenced by seasonal factors (e.g., the quarter of the year, the month, or day of the week).
  - **Cyclic** pattern exists when data exhibit rises and falls that are *not of fixed period* (duration usually of at least 2 years).

## Time series components

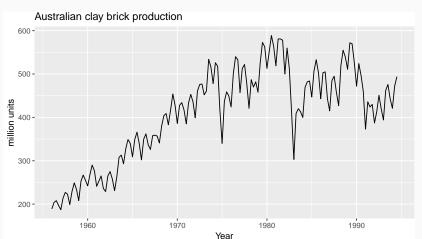
#### Differences between seasonal and cyclic patterns:

- seasonal pattern constant length; cyclic pattern variable length
- average length of cycle longer than length of seasonal pattern
- magnitude of cycle more variable than magnitude of seasonal pattern

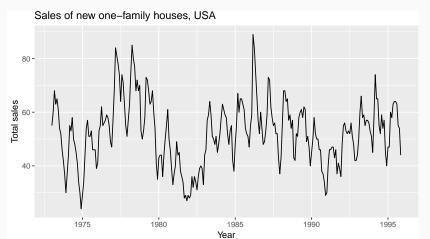
```
autoplot(window(elec, start=1980)) +
  ggtitle("Australian electricity production") +
  xlab("Year") + ylab("GWh")
```



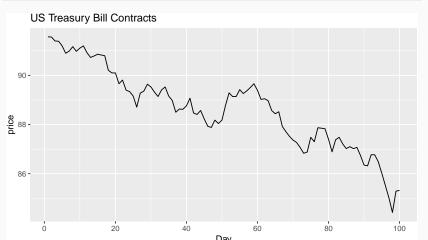
```
autoplot(bricksq) +
  ggtitle("Australian clay brick production") +
  xlab("Year") + ylab("million units")
```



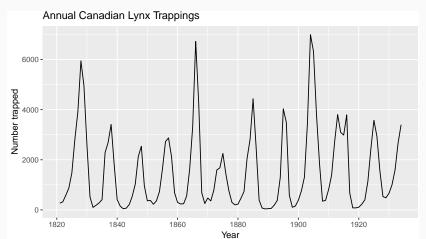
```
autoplot(hsales) +
  ggtitle("Sales of new one-family houses, USA") +
  xlab("Year") + ylab("Total sales")
```



```
autoplot(ustreas) +
  ggtitle("US Treasury Bill Contracts") +
  xlab("Day") + ylab("price")
```



```
autoplot(lynx) +
  ggtitle("Annual Canadian Lynx Trappings") +
  xlab("Year") + ylab("Number trapped")
```



## Seasonal or cyclic?

#### Differences between seasonal and cyclic patterns:

- seasonal pattern constant length; cyclic pattern variable length
- average length of cycle longer than length of seasonal pattern
- magnitude of cycle more variable than magnitude of seasonal pattern

## Seasonal or cyclic?

#### Differences between seasonal and cyclic patterns:

- seasonal pattern constant length; cyclic pattern variable length
- average length of cycle longer than length of seasonal pattern
- magnitude of cycle more variable than magnitude of seasonal pattern

The timing of peaks and troughs is predictable with seasonal data, but unpredictable in the long term with cyclic data.

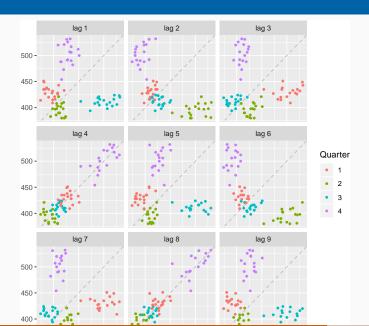
## **Outline**

- 1 Time series in R
- 2 Time plots
- 3 Lab session 1
- 4 Seasonal plots
- 5 Seasonal or cyclic?
- 6 Lag plots and autocorrelation
- **7** White noise
- 8 Lab session 2

## **Example: Beer production**

```
beer <- window(ausbeer, start=1992)
gglagplot(beer, lags=9, do.lines=FALSE,
    continuous=FALSE)</pre>
```

# **Example: Beer production**



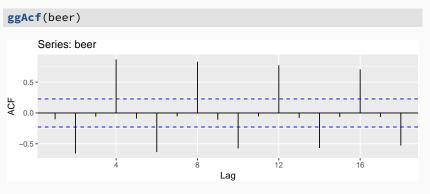
## **Lagged scatterplots**

- Each graph shows  $y_t$  plotted against  $y_{t-k}$  for different values of k.
- The autocorrelations are the correlations associated with these scatterplots.
- ACF (autocorrelation function):
  - $r_1 = Correlation(y_t, y_{t-1})$
  - $r_2$  = Correlation( $y_t, y_{t-2}$ )
  - $r_3$  = Correlation( $y_t, y_{t-3}$ )
  - etc.
- If there is seasonality, the ACF at the seasonal lag (e.g., 12 for monthly data) will be large and positive.

#### **Autocorrelation**

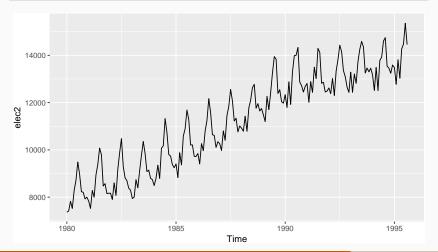
#### Results for first 9 lags for beer data:

r <sub>1</sub>	r <sub>2</sub>	r <sub>3</sub>	r <sub>4</sub>	r <sub>5</sub>	r <sub>6</sub>	r <sub>7</sub>	r <sub>8</sub>	r <sub>9</sub>
-0.102	-0.657	-0.060	0.869	-0.089	-0.635	-0.054	0.832	-0.108

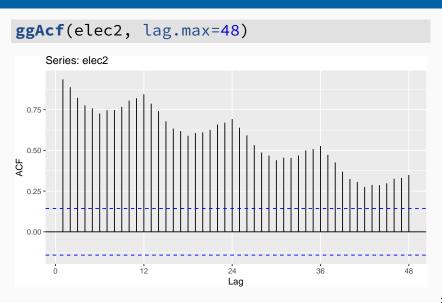


# Aus monthly electricity production

```
elec2 <- window(elec, start=1980)
autoplot(elec2)</pre>
```

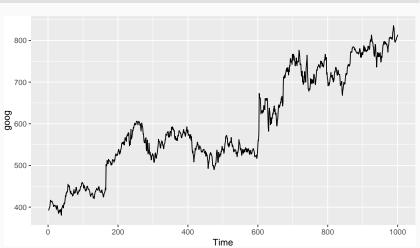


## Aus monthly electricity production

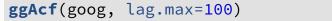


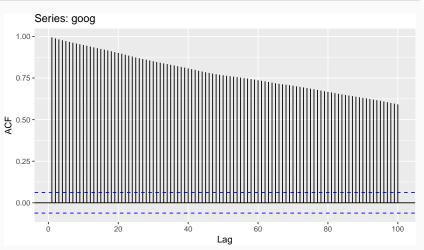
# Google stock price

#### autoplot(goog)

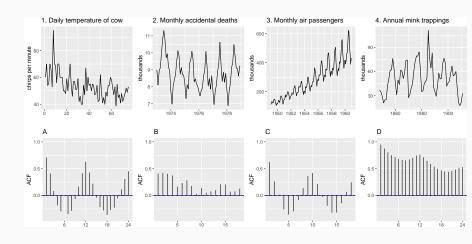


## Google stock price





# Which is which?

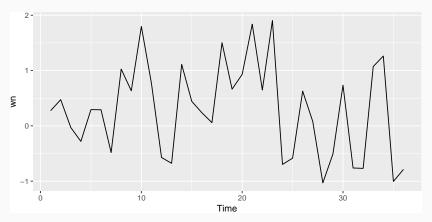


## **Outline**

- 1 Time series in R
- 2 Time plots
- 3 Lab session 1
- 4 Seasonal plots
- 5 Seasonal or cyclic?
- 6 Lag plots and autocorrelation
- 7 White noise
- 8 Lab session 2

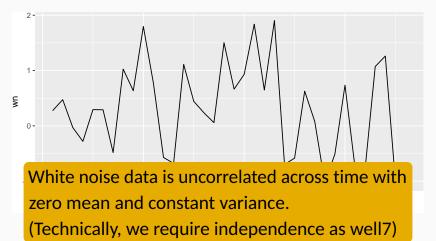
# **Example: White noise**

```
wn <- ts(rnorm(36))
autoplot(wn)</pre>
```

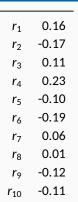


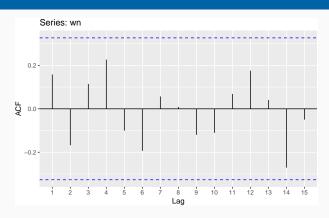
# **Example: White noise**

```
wn <- ts(rnorm(36))
autoplot(wn)</pre>
```



# Example: White noise





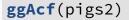
- Sample autocorrelations for white noise series.
- Expect each autocorrelation to be close to zero.
- Blue lines show 95% critical values.

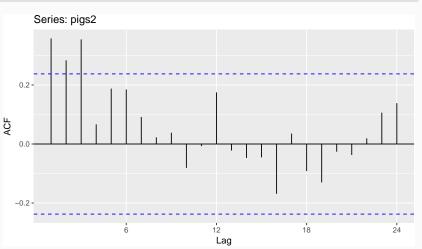
## **Example: Pigs slaughtered**

```
pigs2 <- window(pigs, start=1990)
autoplot(pigs2) +
   xlab("Year") + ylab("thousands") +
   ggtitle("Number of pigs slaughtered in Victoria")</pre>
```



## **Example: Pigs slaughtered**





## **Outline**

- 1 Time series in R
- 2 Time plots
- 3 Lab session 1
- 4 Seasonal plots
- 5 Seasonal or cyclic?
- 6 Lag plots and autocorrelation
- 7 White noise
- 8 Lab session 2

# **Lab Session 2**