

Rob J Hyndman
George Athanasopoulos

FORECASTING

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE

A comprehensive introduction to the latest forecasting methods using R. Learn to improve your forecast accuracy using dozens of real data examples.



3RD EDITION

 **OTexts**
OPEN TEXTS FOR PRACTICE

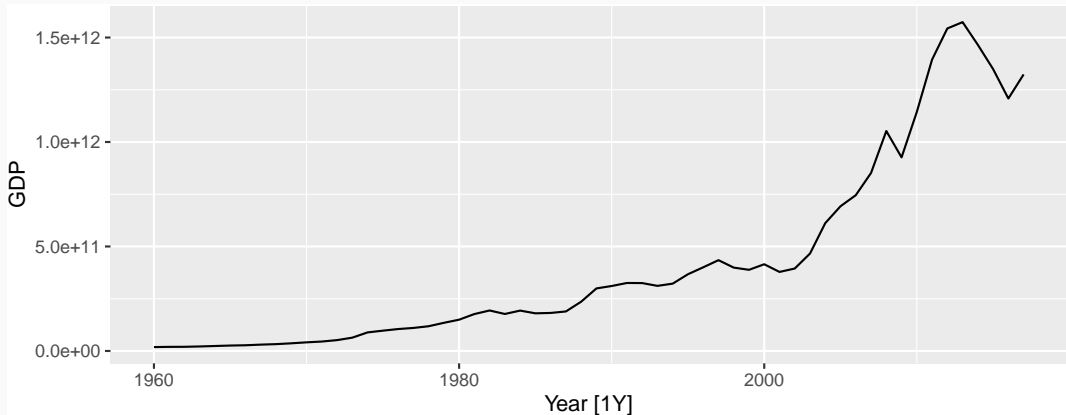
3. Time series decomposition

3.1 Transformations and adjustments

OTexts.org/fpp3/

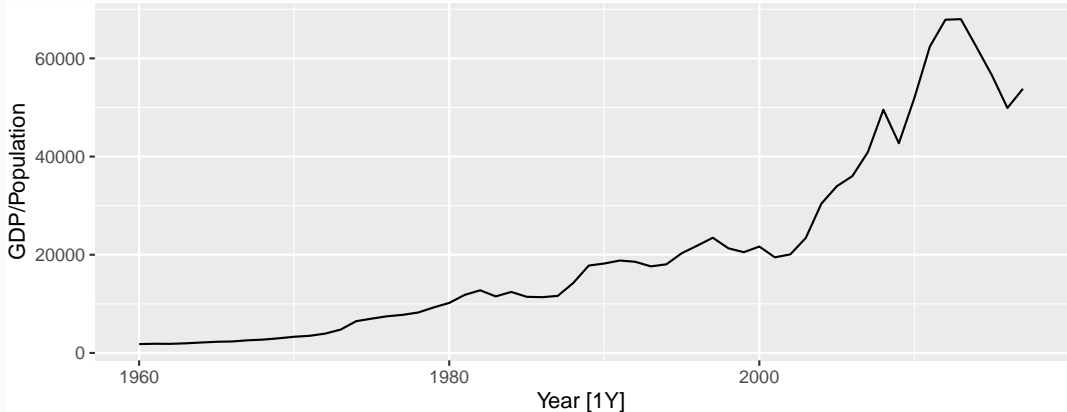
Per capita adjustments

```
global_economy |>  
  filter(Country == "Australia") |>  
  autoplot(GDP)
```



Per capita adjustments

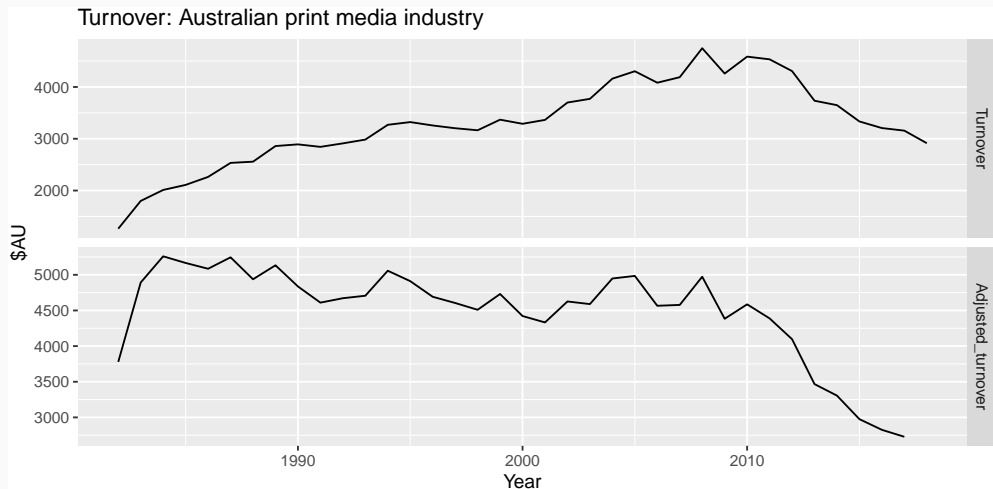
```
global_economy |>  
  filter(Country == "Australia") |>  
  autoplot(GDP / Population)
```



Inflation adjustments

```
print_retail <- aus_retail |>
  filter(Industry == "Newspaper and book retailing") |>
  group_by(Industry) |>
  index_by(Year = year(Month)) |>
  summarise(Turnover = sum(Turnover))
aus_economy <- global_economy |>
  filter(Code == "AUS")
print_retail |>
  left_join(aus_economy, by = "Year") |>
  mutate(Adjusted_turnover = Turnover / CPI * 100) |>
  pivot_longer(c(Turnover, Adjusted_turnover), values_to = "Turnover") |>
  mutate(name = factor(name, levels = c("Turnover", "Adjusted_turnover"))) |>
  ggplot(aes(x = Year, y = Turnover)) +
  geom_line() +
  facet_grid(name ~ ., scales = "free_y") +
  labs(title = "Turnover: Australian print media industry", y = "$AU")
```

Inflation adjustments



Mathematical transformations

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Mathematical transformations for stabilizing variation

Square root	$w_t = \sqrt{y_t}$	\downarrow
Cube root	$w_t = \sqrt[3]{y_t}$	Increasing
Logarithm	$w_t = \log(y_t)$	strength

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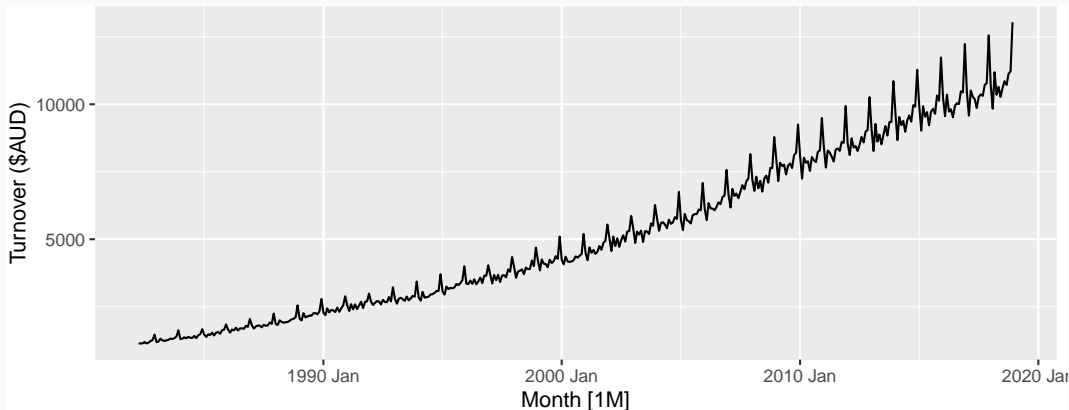
Mathematical transformations for stabilizing variation

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Cube root	$w_t = \sqrt[3]{y_t}$	Increasing
Logarithm	$w_t = \log(y_t)$	strength

Logarithms, in particular, are useful because they are more interpretable: changes in a log value are **relative (percent) changes on the original scale**.

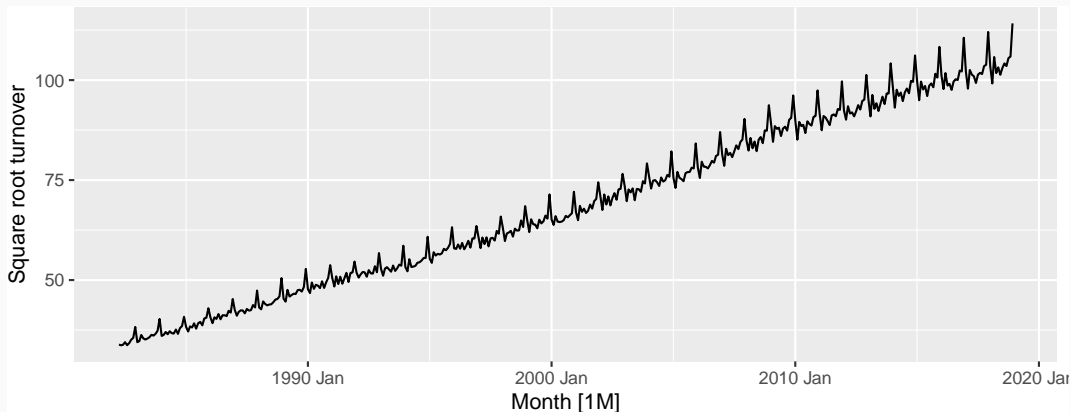
Mathematical transformations

```
food <- aus_retail |>  
  filter(Industry == "Food retailing") |>  
  summarise(Turnover = sum(Turnover))
```



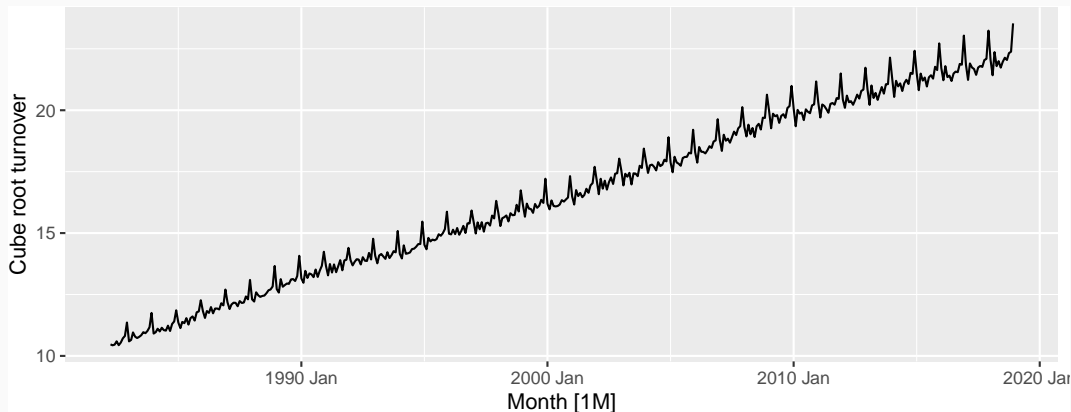
Mathematical transformations

```
food |> autoplot(sqrt(Turnover)) +  
  labs(y = "Square root turnover")
```



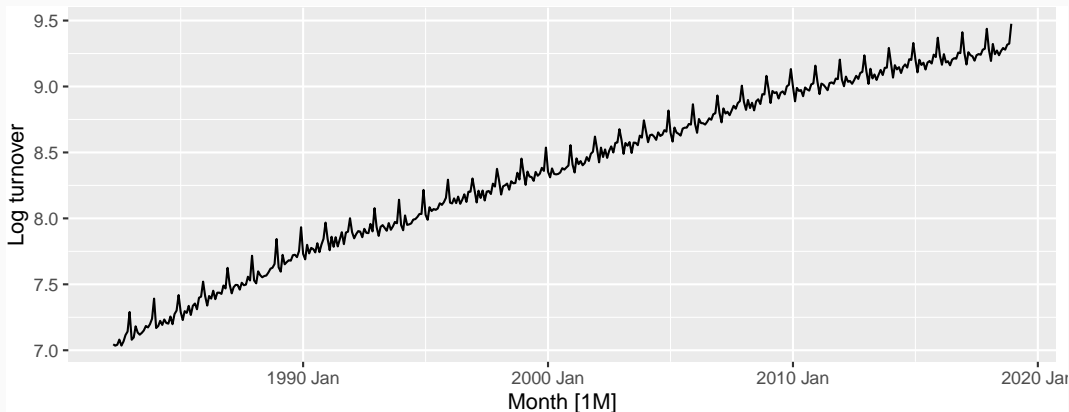
Mathematical transformations

```
food |> autoplot(Turnover^(1 / 3)) +  
  labs(y = "Cube root turnover")
```



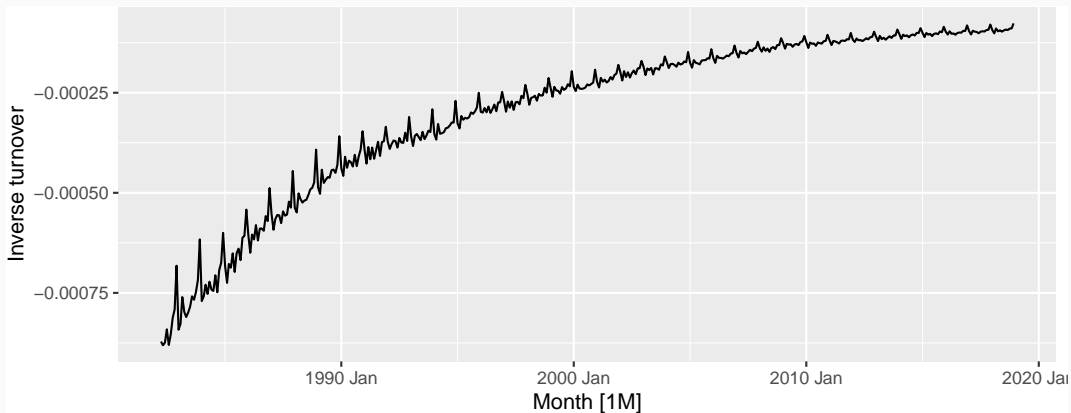
Mathematical transformations

```
food |> autoplot(log(Turnover)) +  
  labs(y = "Log turnover")
```



Mathematical transformations

```
food |> autoplot(-1 / Turnover) +  
  labs(y = "Inverse turnover")
```



Box-Cox transformations

Each of these transformations is close to a member of the family of **Box-Cox transformations**:

$$w_t = \begin{cases} \log(y_t), & \lambda = 0; \\ (\text{sign}(y_t)|y_t|^\lambda - 1)/\lambda, & \lambda \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

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- Actually the Bickel-Doksum transformation (allowing for $y_t < 0$)
- $\lambda = 1$: (No substantive transformation)
- $\lambda = \frac{1}{2}$: (Square root plus linear transformation)
- $\lambda = 0$: (Natural logarithm)
- $\lambda = -1$: (Inverse plus 1)

Box-Cox transformations

Box-Cox transformations

```
food |>  
  features(Turnover, features = guerrero)
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 1  
##   lambda_guerrero  
##             <dbl>  
## 1             0.0895
```

Box-Cox transformations

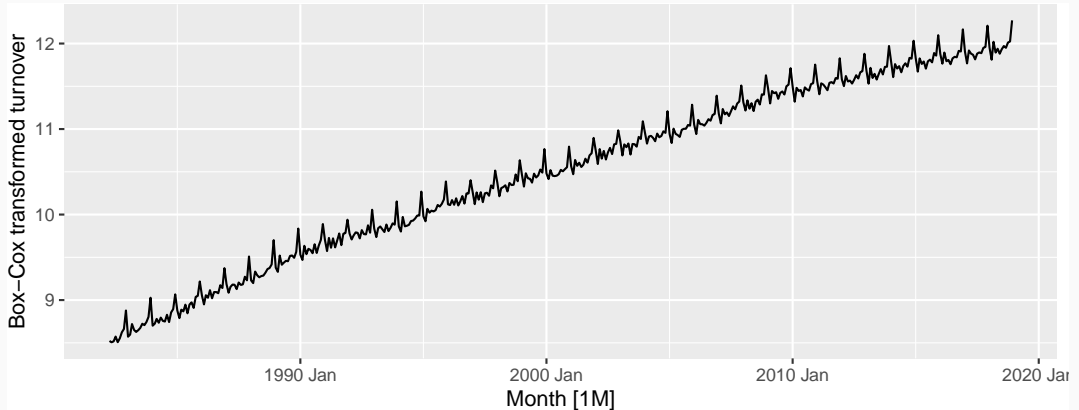
```
food |>  
  features(Turnover, features = guerrero)
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 1  
##   lambda_guerrero  
##             <dbl>  
## 1             0.0895
```

- This attempts to balance the seasonal fluctuations and random variation across the series.
- Always check the results.
- A low value of λ can give extremely large prediction intervals.

Box-Cox transformations

```
food |> autoplot(box_cox(Turnover, 0.0524)) +  
  labs(y = "Box-Cox transformed turnover")
```



Transformations

- Often no transformation needed.
- Simple transformations are easier to explain and work well enough.
- Transformations can have very large effect on PI.
- If some data are zero or negative, then use $\lambda > 0$.
- `log1p()` can also be useful for data with zeros.
- Choosing logs is a simple way to force forecasts to be positive
- Transformations must be reversed to obtain forecasts on the original scale. (Handled automatically by `fab1e`.)