

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 Publishing

9. ARIMA models

9.2 Backshift notation

OTexts.org/fpp3/

Backshift notation

A very useful notational device is the backward shift operator, B , which is used as follows:

$$By_t = y_{t-1}$$

Backshift notation

A very useful notational device is the backward shift operator, B , which is used as follows:

$$By_t = y_{t-1}$$

In other words, B , operating on y_t , has the effect of **shifting the data back one period**.

Backshift notation

A very useful notational device is the backward shift operator, B , which is used as follows:

$$By_t = y_{t-1}$$

In other words, B , operating on y_t , has the effect of **shifting the data back one period**.

Two applications of B to y_t **shifts the data back two periods**:

$$B(By_t) = B^2y_t = y_{t-2}$$

Backshift notation

A very useful notational device is the backward shift operator, B , which is used as follows:

$$By_t = y_{t-1}$$

In other words, B , operating on y_t , has the effect of **shifting the data back one period**.

Two applications of B to y_t **shifts the data back two periods**:

$$B(By_t) = B^2y_t = y_{t-2}$$

For monthly data, if we wish to shift attention to “the same month last year”, then B^{12} is used, and the notation is $B^{12}y_t = y_{t-12}$.

Backshift notation

The backward shift operator is convenient for describing the process of *differencing*.

Backshift notation

The backward shift operator is convenient for describing the process of *differencing*.

A first-order difference can be written as

$$y'_t = y_t - y_{t-1} = y_t - By_t = (1 - B)y_t$$

Backshift notation

The backward shift operator is convenient for describing the process of *differencing*.

A first-order difference can be written as

$$y'_t = y_t - y_{t-1} = y_t - By_t = (1 - B)y_t$$

Similarly, if second-order differences (i.e., first differences of first differences) have to be computed, then:

$$y''_t = y_t - 2y_{t-1} + y_{t-2} = (1 - B)^2 y_t$$

Backshift notation

- Second-order difference is denoted $(1 - B)^2$.
- *Second-order difference* is not the same as a *second difference*, which would be denoted $1 - B^2$;
- In general, a *d*th-order difference can be written as

$$(1 - B)^d y_t$$

- A seasonal difference followed by a first difference can be written as

$$(1 - B)(1 - B^m)y_t$$

Backshift notation

The “backshift” notation is convenient because the terms can be multiplied together to see the combined effect.

$$\begin{aligned}(1 - B)(1 - B^m)y_t &= (1 - B - B^m + B^{m+1})y_t \\ &= y_t - y_{t-1} - y_{t-m} + y_{t-m-1}.\end{aligned}$$

Backshift notation

The “backshift” notation is convenient because the terms can be multiplied together to see the combined effect.

$$\begin{aligned}(1 - B)(1 - B^m)y_t &= (1 - B - B^m + B^{m+1})y_t \\ &= y_t - y_{t-1} - y_{t-m} + y_{t-m-1}.\end{aligned}$$

For monthly data, $m = 12$ and we obtain the same result as earlier.