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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

3.5 Methods used in official statistics

OTexts.org/fpp3/

History of time series decomposition

- Classical method originated in 1920s.
- Census II method introduced in 1957. Basis for X-11 method and variants (including X-12-ARIMA, X-13-ARIMA)
- STL method introduced in 1983
- TRAMO/SEATS introduced in 1990s.

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National Statistics Offices

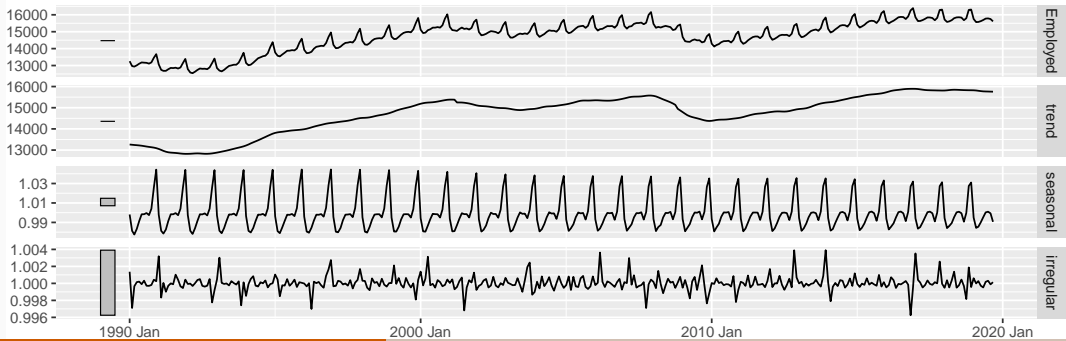
- ABS uses X-12-ARIMA
- US Census Bureau uses X-13ARIMA-SEATS
- Statistics Canada uses X-12-ARIMA
- ONS (UK) uses X-12-ARIMA
- EuroStat use X-13ARIMA-SEATS

X-11 decomposition

```
x11_dcmp <- us_retail_employment |>  
  model(x11 = X_13ARIMA_SEATS(Employed ~ x11())) |>  
  components()  
autoplot(x11_dcmp)
```

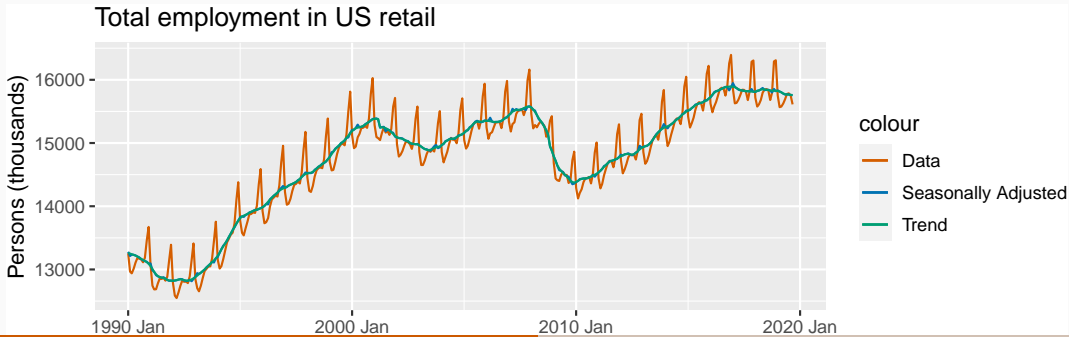
X-13ARIMA-SEATS using X-11 adjustment decomposition

$\text{Employed} = \text{trend} * \text{seasonal} * \text{irregular}$



X-11 decomposition

```
x11_dcmp |>  
  ggplot(aes(x = Month)) +  
  geom_line(aes(y = Employed, colour = "Data")) +  
  geom_line(aes(y = season_adjust, colour = "Seasonally Adjusted")) +  
  geom_line(aes(y = trend, colour = "Trend")) +  
  labs(y = "Persons (thousands)", title = "Total employment in US retail")
```



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Advantages

- Relatively robust to outliers
- Completely automated choices for trend and seasonal changes
- Very widely tested on economic data over a long period of time.

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Disadvantages

- No prediction/confidence intervals
- Ad hoc method with no underlying model
- Only developed for quarterly and monthly data

Extensions: X-12-ARIMA and X-13-ARIMA

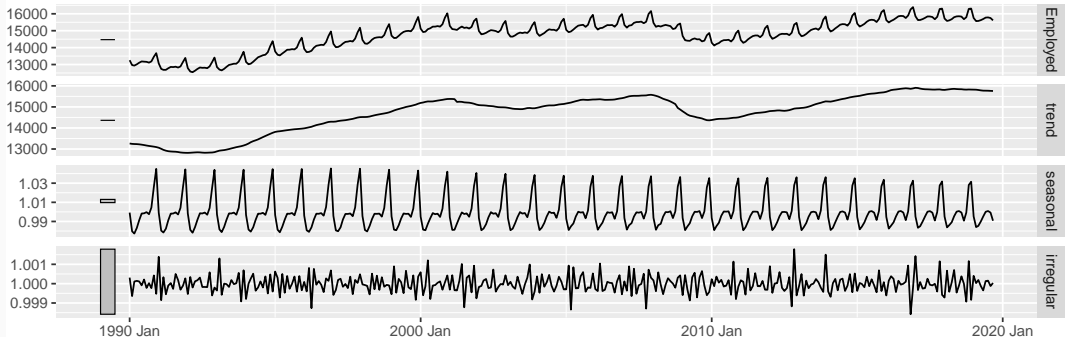
- The X-11, X-12-ARIMA and X-13-ARIMA methods are based on Census II decomposition.
- These allow adjustments for trading days and other explanatory variables.
- Known outliers can be omitted.
- Level shifts and ramp effects can be modelled.
- Missing values estimated and replaced.
- Holiday factors (e.g., Easter, Labour Day) can be estimated.

X-13ARIMA-SEATS

```
seats_dcmp <- us_retail_employment |>  
  model(seats = X_13ARIMA_SEATS(Employed ~ seats())) |>  
  components()  
autoplot(seats_dcmp)
```

X-13ARIMA-SEATS decomposition

$\text{Employed} = f(\text{trend, seasonal, irregular})$



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- Model-based
- Smooth trend estimate
- Allows estimates at end points
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