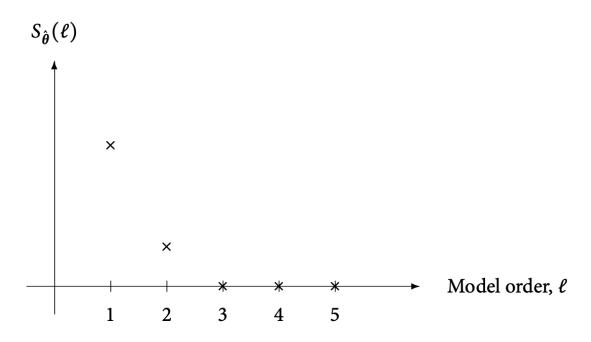


Form an estimate of the residual variance

$$S_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\ell) = \sum_{t} \left| y_t - \hat{y}_{t|t-1}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\ell}) \right|^2$$

where ℓ denotes the assumed model order.

ML parameter estimate



For the generalized information criteria (GIC), one adds $\alpha_{\ell,N}$ to $S_{\theta}(\ell)$, where

$$\begin{array}{ll} \alpha_{\ell,N} = 2\ell & \quad \text{for AIC} \\ \alpha_{\ell,N} = \ell \ln N & \quad \text{for BIC} \\ \alpha_{\ell,N} = 3\ell & \quad \text{for KIC} \end{array}$$

yielding

$$\hat{\ell} = \arg\min_{\ell \in [1, \ell_{max}]} \mathrm{GIC}(\ell)$$

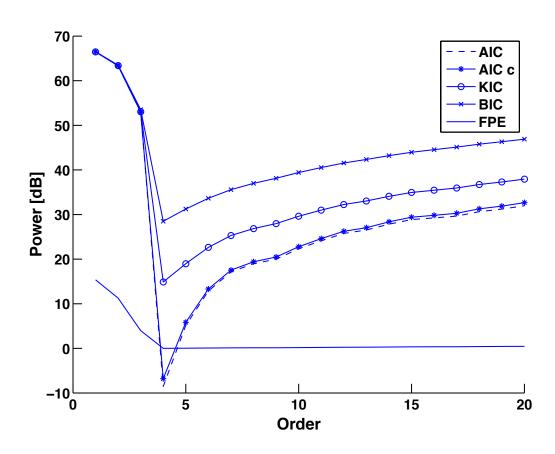
where

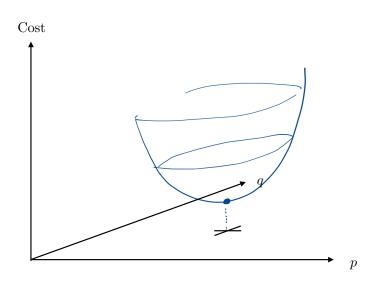
$$GIC(\ell) = N \ln \hat{\sigma}_{e,\ell}^2 + \alpha_{\ell,N}$$

A commonly used alternative is the final prediction error (FPE) defined as

$$\text{FPE}(\ell) = \hat{\sigma}_{e,\ell}^2 \frac{1 + \ell/N}{1 - \ell/N} \approx \hat{\sigma}_{e,\ell}^2 \left(1 + \frac{2\ell}{N} \right)$$

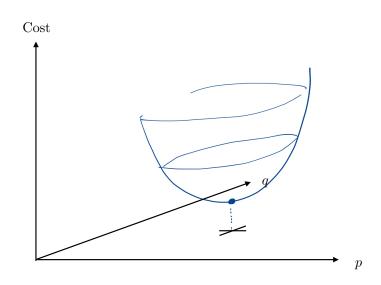
This is used, for instance, in Matlab.





In the case of an ARMA(p,q) process, the number of unknowns is $\ell=p+q$. For instance, AIC will then be

$$AIC(p,q) = N \ln \hat{\sigma}_{e,p,q}^2 + 2(p+q)$$



Important to note:

- \bullet Model order estimation is difficult, especially when N is small.
- There is no reliable algorithm. Treat all estimates with scepticism.
- At best, these algorithm can give you a feel for an appropriate order, at worst, they may indicate something completely wrong.
- Do not rely on your model order estimate!

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