Times series forecasting Varicella data

Julien JACQUES

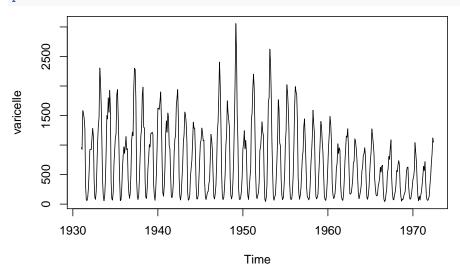
We start by loading necessary package

```
library(forecast)
library(ggplot2)
```

Warning: package 'ggplot2' was built under R version 3.5.2

We load the data and plot them

```
data=read.csv(file="http://eric.univ-lyon2.fr/~jjacques/Download/DataSet/varicelle.csv")
varicelle<-ts(data$x,start=c(1931,1),end=c(1972,6),freq=12)
plot(varicelle)</pre>
```



It seems to be a seasonal pattern. We can check this with the seasonplo

The mean is given by

```
mean(varicelle)
```

[1] 732.4076

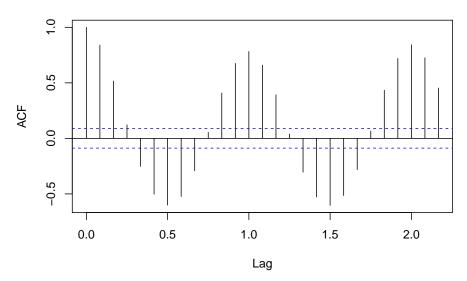
And the auto-correlation mean that there is a seasonal pattern in the data

```
tmp=acf(varicelle,type="cor",plot = FALSE)
tmp$acf[1:3,1,1]
```

```
## [1] 1.0000000 0.8394105 0.5160841
```

plot(tmp)

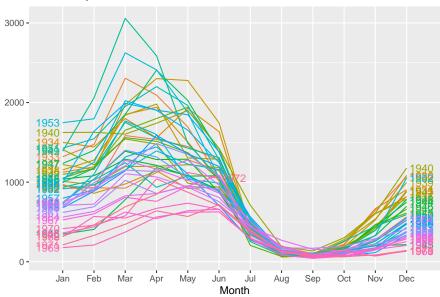
Series varicelle



What is confirmed by the seasonal plot

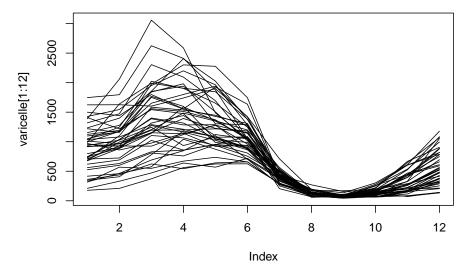
ggseasonplot(varicelle,year.labels= TRUE,year.labels.left=TRUE)





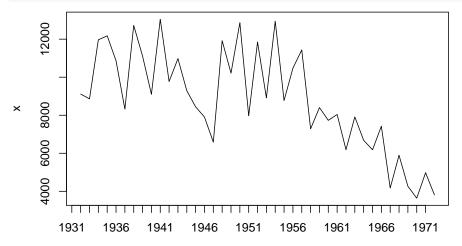
We can also plot manually the seasonal plot

```
plot(varicelle[1:12],type="l",ylim=c(min(varicelle),max(varicelle)))
for (i in 1:41) lines(varicelle[(1+12*i):(12*(i+1))])
```



We now compute and plot the annual evolution

```
x=rep(0,41)
for (i in 0:40) x[i+1]<-sum(varicelle[(1+12*i):(12*(i+1))])
plot(x,type='l',xaxt='n',xlab='')
axis(1,at = 0:40,labels = 1931:1971)</pre>
```



Forecasting

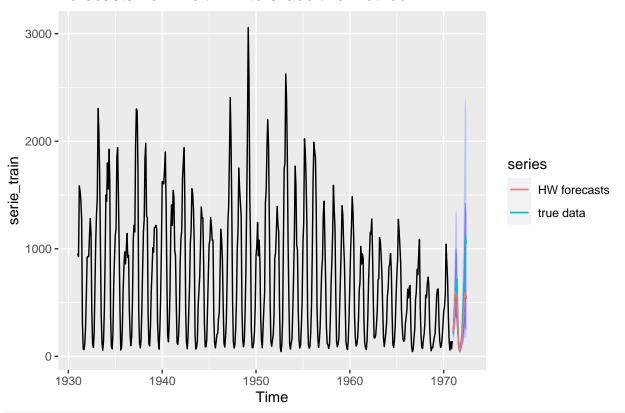
We split the serie into train and test

```
serie_train=window(varicelle,start=c(1931,1),end=c(1970,12))
serie_test=window(varicelle,start=c(1971,1),end=c(1972,6))
```

Forecasting with a Holt Winters exponential smoothing

```
fit=hw(serie_train,lambda="auto")
prev=forecast(fit,h=18)
autoplot(prev) + autolayer(serie_test, series="true data")+
  autolayer(prev$mean, series="HW forecasts")
```

Forecasts from Holt-Winters' additive method



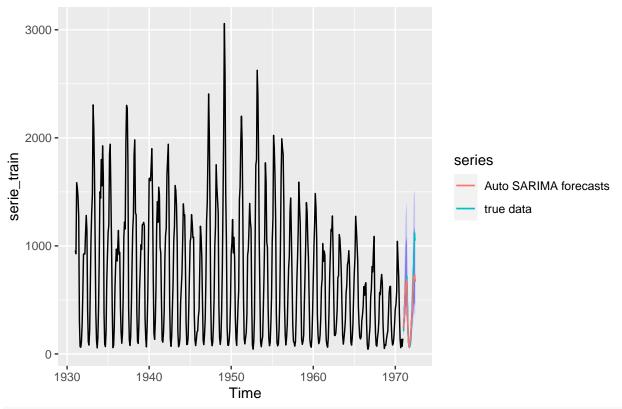
cat('RMSE :',sqrt(mean((serie_test-prev\$mean)^2)),'\n')

RMSE : 206.9893

Forecasting with a ${\bf SARIMA}$ model, automatically chosen

```
fit=auto.arima(serie_train,lambda="auto")
prev=forecast(fit,h=18)
autoplot(prev) + autolayer(serie_test, series="true data")+
autolayer(prev$mean, series="Auto SARIMA forecasts")
```

Forecasts from ARIMA(1,0,0)(1,1,1)[12] with drift



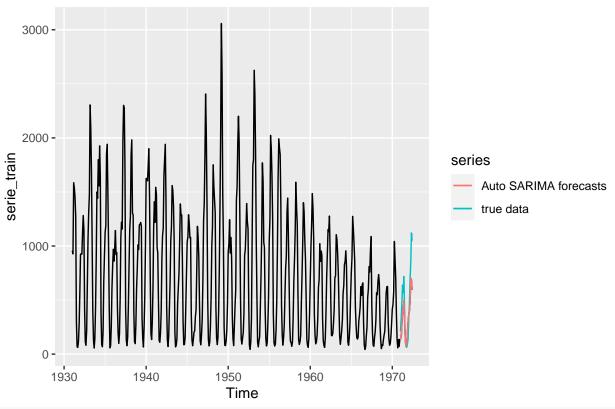
cat('RMSE :',sqrt(mean((serie_test-prev\$mean)^2)),'\n')

RMSE : 142.2666

Forecasting with a auto-regressive neural network

```
fit=nnetar(serie_train,lambda = "auto")
prev=forecast(fit,h=18)
autoplot(prev) + autolayer(serie_test, series="true data")+
autolayer(prev$mean, series="Auto SARIMA forecasts")
```

Forecasts from NNAR(26,1,14)[12]

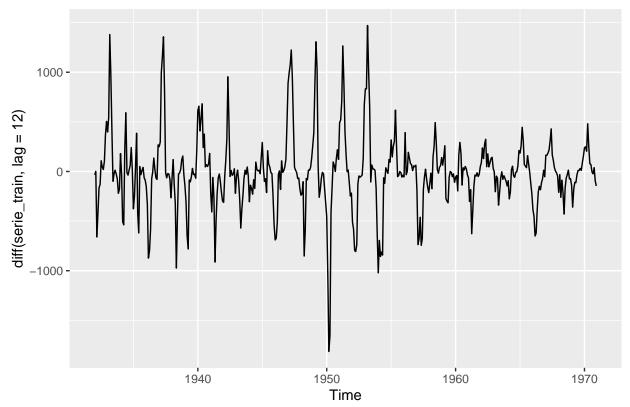


cat('RMSE :',sqrt(mean((serie_test-prev\$mean)^2)),'\n')

RMSE : 199.6614

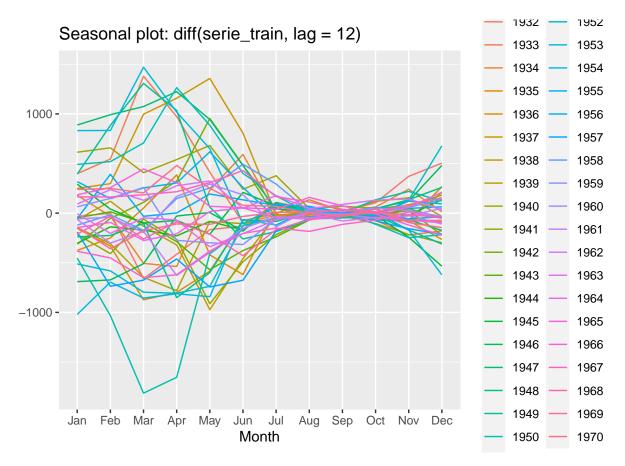
The best forecast is the SARIMA model, we can try to improve it. Let's remove the trend

autoplot(diff(serie_train,lag = 12))



It seems that there is something still periodic ?

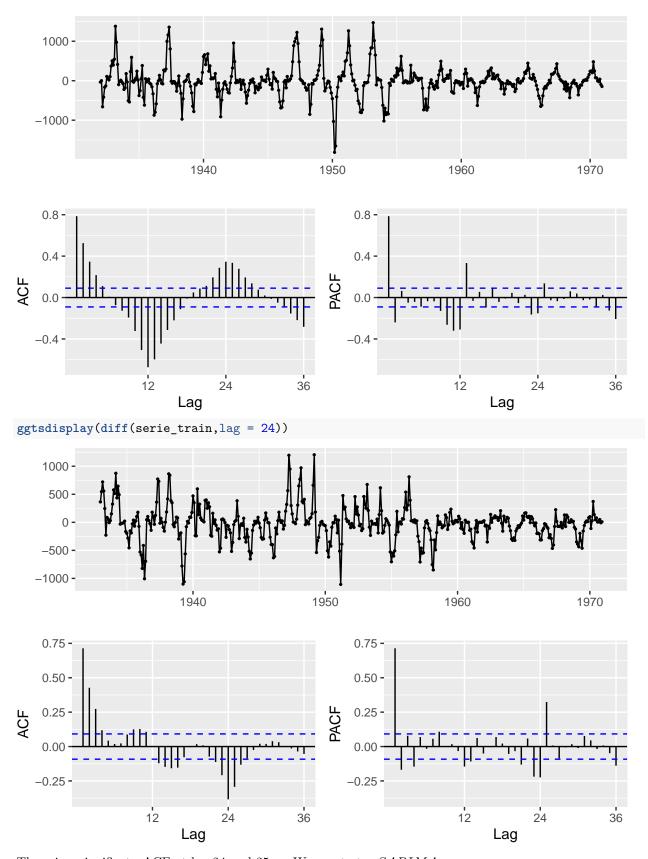
ggseasonplot(diff(serie_train,lag=12))



In fact not really: it is just the variance which is higher in spring and lower in fall, but no deterministic seasonal pattern.

Have a look to the ACP / PACF. It seems as there still a seasonal pattern of period $24\,$

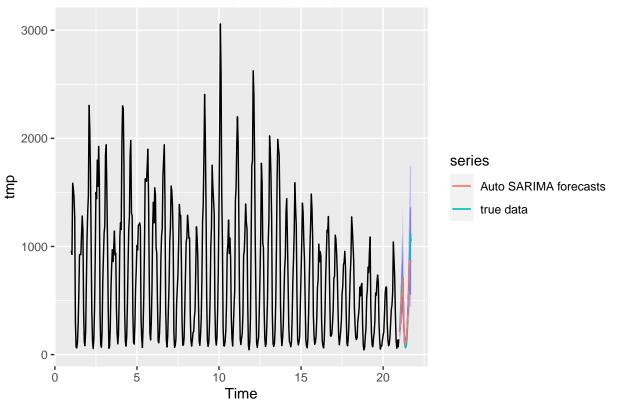
ggtsdisplay(diff(serie_train, lag = 12))



There is a significatn ACF at lag 24 and 25... We can test a $SARIMA_{(0,0,25)(0,1,1)24}$

```
tmp=ts(serie_train,frequency = 24)
tmp_test=ts(serie_test,frequency = 24,start=c(21,1))
fit=Arima(tmp, order=c(0,0,25), seasonal=c(0,1,1),lambda = "auto")
prev=forecast(fit,h=18)
autoplot(prev) + autolayer(tmp_test, series="true data")+
   autolayer(prev$mean, series="Auto SARIMA forecasts")
```

Forecasts from ARIMA(0,0,25)(0,1,1)[24]



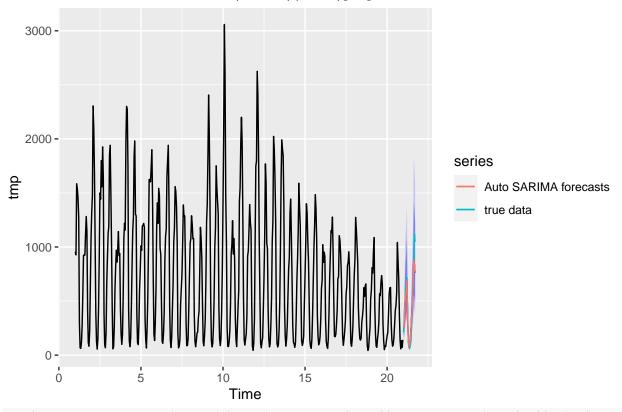
```
cat('RMSE with a SARIMA(0,0,25)(0,1,1)24 :',sqrt(mean((tmp_test-prev$mean)^2)),'\n')
```

RMSE with a SARIMA(0,0,25)(0,1,1)24 : 92.12437

Similarly, there is a significant PACF at lag 24 and 25... We can test a $SARIMA_{(25,0,0)(1,1,0)24}$

```
tmp=ts(serie_train,frequency = 24)
tmp_test=ts(serie_test,frequency = 24,start=c(21,1))
fit=Arima(tmp, order=c(25,0,0), seasonal=c(1,1,0),lambda = "auto")
prev=forecast(fit,h=18)
autoplot(prev) + autolayer(tmp_test, series="true data")+
    autolayer(prev$mean, series="Auto SARIMA forecasts")
```





RMSE with a SARIMA(25,0,0)(1,1,0)24 : 109.066