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Tidy Forecasting in R



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Outline

- 1 Why change?
- 2 Model specification with fable
- 3 Example: Australian eating-out expenditure
- 4 Example: Half-hourly electricity demand
- 5 Example: Australian prison population
- 6 Equivalent methods
- 7 Extensibility
- 8 More information

forecast package

Pre 2003	Private functions used for consulting projects
July/August 2003	ets and thetaf added
August 2006	v1.0 available on CRAN
May 2007	auto.arima added
May 2010	arfima added
Feb/March 2011	tslm , stlf , naive , snaive added
August 2011	v3.0 . Box Cox transformations added
December 2011	tbats added
April 2012	Package moved to github
November 2012	v4.0 . nnetar added
June 2013	Major speed-up of ets
February 2016	v7.0 . Added ggplot2 graphics
February 2017	v8.0 . Added checkresiduals , tsCV and %>%
April 2018	v8.3 . Added mstl



A replacement for the forecast package.

Why change?

- Integrating with tidyverse packages
- Designed for forecasting many related time series
- Consistency of interface using formulas
- Distribution forecasting rather than point + interval
- Flexible transformations
- Sub-daily data and multiple seasonal data handled more easily
- Simpler interface for forecast reconciliation

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Formula model specification

?ets

ets {forecast}

R Documentation

Exponential smoothing state space model

Description

Returns ets model applied to y.

Usage

```
ets(y, model = "ZZZ", damped = NULL, alpha = NULL, beta = NULL,  
    gamma = NULL, phi = NULL, additive.only = FALSE, lambda = NULL,  
    biasadj = FALSE, lower = c(rep(1e-04, 3), 0.8), upper = c(rep(0.9999,  
    3), 0.98), opt.crit = c("lik", "amse", "mse", "sigma", "mae"), nmse = 3,  
    bounds = c("both", "usual", "admissible"), ic = c("aicc", "aic", "bic"),  
    restrict = TRUE, allow.multiplicative.trend = FALSE,  
    use.initial.values = FALSE, na.action = c("na.contiguous", "na.interp",  
    "na.fail"), ...)
```

Formula model specification

?auto.arima

auto.arima {forecast}

R Documentation

Fit best ARIMA model to univariate time series

Description

Returns best ARIMA model according to either AIC, AICc or BIC value. The function conducts a search over possible model within the order constraints provided.

Usage

```
auto.arima(y, d = NA, D = NA, max.p = 5, max.q = 5, max.P = 2,
  max.Q = 2, max.order = 5, max.d = 2, max.D = 1, start.p = 2,
  start.q = 2, start.P = 1, start.Q = 1, stationary = FALSE,
  seasonal = TRUE, ic = c("aicc", "aic", "bic"), stepwise = TRUE,
  trace = FALSE, approximation = (length(x) > 150 | frequency(x) > 12),
  truncate = NULL, xreg = NULL, test = c("kpss", "adf", "pp"),
  seasonal.test = c("seas", "ocsb", "hegy", "ch"), allowdrift = TRUE,
  allowmean = TRUE, lambda = NULL, biasadj = FALSE, parallel = FALSE,
  num.cores = 2, x = y, ...)
```

Formula model specification

To simplify model building, we use a model formula. This should be more familiar to those who have done regression modelling.

$$\mathbf{t}(y) \sim \{\text{model specification}\}$$

LHS: Response

- Defines the response variable from the data
- Specification of transformations (which are automatically back-transformed)

RHS: Specials

- Model specific special functions
- Exogenous regressors (if supported by model)

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Example: Australian eating-out expenditure

fpp2:auscafe

##		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
##	1982				0.342	0.342	0.329	0.339	0.332	0.342	
##	1983	0.369	0.348	0.366	0.351	0.360	0.347	0.364	0.376	0.378	
##	1984	0.389	0.377	0.398	0.383	0.414	0.382	0.393	0.409	0.395	
##	1985	0.426	0.392	0.416	0.420	0.446	0.407	0.449	0.466	0.455	
##	1986	0.504	0.453	0.480	0.497	0.531	0.485	0.526	0.538	0.537	
##	1987	0.572	0.525	0.544	0.558	0.565	0.542	0.599	0.584	0.593	
##	1988	0.605	0.586	0.625	0.612	0.630	0.635	0.659	0.656	0.660	
##	1989	0.733	0.661	0.713	0.694	0.710	0.722	0.741	0.746	0.767	
##	1990	0.858	0.764	0.840	0.805	0.809	0.799	0.815	0.828	0.812	
##	1991	0.862	0.771	0.813	0.797	0.821	0.801	0.829	0.854	0.882	
##	1992	0.938	0.862	0.936	0.932	0.929	0.869	0.891	0.875	0.914	
##	1993	0.918	0.838	0.870	0.862	0.852	0.828	0.882	0.867	0.905	
##	1994	0.985	0.902	1.015	0.939	0.941	0.935	1.013	1.018	1.041	
##	1995	1.076	0.982	1.099	1.068	1.083	1.045	1.094	1.110	1.126	
##	1996	1.213	1.128	1.180	1.169	1.146	1.109	1.138	1.146	1.105	
##	1997	1.180	1.060	1.148	1.141	1.170	1.113	1.165	1.173	1.154	
##	1998	1.186	1.050	1.141	1.107	1.144	1.088	1.162	1.145	1.149	10
##	1999	1.244	1.124	1.245	1.236	1.271	1.208	1.219	1.234	1.261	

Example: Australian eating-out expenditure

```
library(tsibble)
cafe <- as_tsibble(fpp2::auscafe)
cafe
```

```
## # A tsibble: 426 x 2 [1MONTH]
##       index value
##       <mth> <dbl>
##  1 1982 Apr 0.342
##  2 1982 May 0.342
##  3 1982 Jun 0.329
##  4 1982 Jul 0.338
##  5 1982 Aug 0.332
##  6 1982 Sep 0.342
##  7 1982 Oct 0.358
##  8 1982 Nov 0.375
##  9 1982 Dec 0.433
## 10 1983 Jan 0.369
## # with 416 more rows
```

Example: Australian eating-out expenditure

```
library(fable)
cafe %>% ARIMA(log(value))
```

```
## # A mable: 1 model [1MONTH]
##   data                model
##   <list>              <model>
## 1 <tsibble [426 x 2]> ARIMA(2,1,1)(2,1,2)[12]
```

Example: Australian eating-out expenditure

```
cafe %>% ARIMA(log(value)) %>% summary()
```

```
## Series: log(value)
## ARIMA(2,1,1)(2,1,2)[12]
##
## Coefficients:
##          ar1      ar2      ma1      sar1      sar2      sma1      sma2
##      -0.925  -0.318   0.588   0.724  -0.213  -1.44   0.557
## s.e.   0.182   0.060   0.189   0.174   0.074   0.17   0.149
##
## sigma^2 estimated as 0.000554:  log likelihood=959
## AIC=-1903   AICc=-1903   BIC=-1871
##
## Training set error measures:
##              ME    RMSE     MAE      MPE  MAPE   MASE
## Training set -0.00106 0.0371 0.0267 -0.0506 1.78 0.256
##              ACF1
## Training set -0.0184
```

Example: Australian eating-out expenditure

```
cafe %>% ARIMA(log(value)) %>% forecast()
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 forecast [1MONTH]
##   data          model          forecast
##   <list>        <model>        <fc>
## 1 <tsibble [426 x 2]> ARIMA(2,1,1)(2,1,2)[12] ~t(N) [h=24]
```

Example: Australian eating-out expenditure

```
cafe %>% ARIMA(log(value)) %>% forecast() %>%  
summary()
```

```
## # A tsibble: 24 x 4 [1MONTH]  
##       index mean      80%      95%  
##       <mt> <dbl>    <hilo>    <hilo>  
## 1 2017 Oct  3.81 [3.70, 3.93]80 [3.64, 3.99]95  
## 2 2017 Nov  3.79 [3.65, 3.93]80 [3.58, 4.00]95  
## 3 2017 Dec  4.17 [3.99, 4.34]80 [3.91, 4.43]95  
## 4 2018 Jan  3.73 [3.55, 3.90]80 [3.46, 4.00]95  
## 5 2018 Feb  3.40 [3.22, 3.57]80 [3.14, 3.67]95  
## 6 2018 Mar  3.77 [3.56, 3.99]80 [3.46, 4.10]95  
## 7 2018 Apr  3.70 [3.48, 3.93]80 [3.37, 4.05]95  
## 8 2018 May  3.76 [3.52, 4.00]80 [3.40, 4.13]95  
## 9 2018 Jun  3.66 [3.41, 3.90]80 [3.29, 4.04]95  
## 10 2018 Jul 3.88 [3.61, 4.15]80 [3.48, 4.31]95  
## # ... with 14 more rows
```

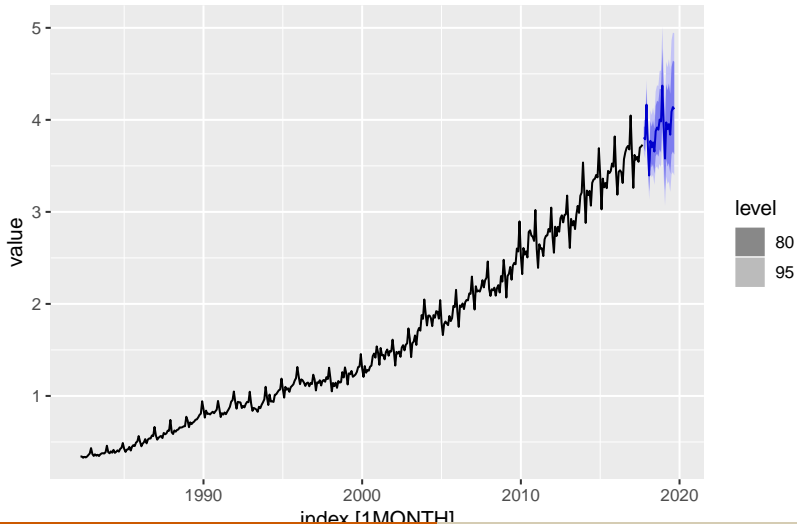
Example: Australian eating-out expenditure

```
cafe %>% ARIMA(log(value)) %>% forecast() %>%  
summary(level=90)
```

```
## # A tsibble: 24 x 3 [1MONTH]  
##       index mean          90%  
##       <mtch> <dbl>         <hilo>  
## 1 2017 Oct   3.81 [3.66, 3.96] 90  
## 2 2017 Nov   3.79 [3.62, 3.97] 90  
## 3 2017 Dec   4.17 [3.95, 4.39] 90  
## 4 2018 Jan   3.73 [3.50, 3.96] 90  
## 5 2018 Feb   3.40 [3.18, 3.62] 90  
## 6 2018 Mar   3.77 [3.51, 4.05] 90  
## 7 2018 Apr   3.70 [3.42, 3.99] 90  
## 8 2018 May   3.76 [3.46, 4.07] 90  
## 9 2018 Jun   3.66 [3.35, 3.98] 90  
## 10 2018 Jul  3.88 [3.54, 4.24] 90  
## # ... with 14 more rows
```


Example: Australian eating-out expenditure

```
cafe %>% ARIMA(log(value)) %>% forecast() %>% autoplot()
```



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Example: Half-hourly electricity demand

```
elecdemand
```

```
## # A tsibble: 17,520 x 4 [30MINUTE]
```

##	index	Demand	Temperature	WorkDay
##	<dtm>	<dbl>	<dbl>	<dbl>
##	1 2014-01-01 00:00:00	3.91	18.2	0
##	2 2014-01-01 00:30:00	3.67	17.9	0
##	3 2014-01-01 01:00:00	3.50	17.6	0
##	4 2014-01-01 01:30:00	3.34	16.8	0
##	5 2014-01-01 02:00:00	3.20	16.3	0
##	6 2014-01-01 02:30:00	3.10	16.6	0
##	7 2014-01-01 03:00:00	3.04	16.6	0
##	8 2014-01-01 03:30:00	3.01	16.7	0
##	9 2014-01-01 04:00:00	3.02	16.2	0
##	10 2014-01-01 04:30:00	3.03	16.6	0

Example: Half-hourly electricity demand

```
fit2 <- ARIMA(elecdemand,  
  Demand ~ Temperature + I(Temperature^2) + WorkDay)  
summary(fit2)
```

```
## Series: Demand  
## Regression with ARIMA(1,1,0)(2,0,2)[2] errors  
##  
## Coefficients:  
##          ar1      sar1      sar2      sma1      sma2  Temperature  
##          0.853   -0.181   0.523   -0.066   -0.792        -0.009  
## s.e.      0.005     0.015   0.012    0.012    0.011         0.002  
##          I(Temperature^2)  WorkDay  
##                          0      0.016  
## s.e.                      0      0.006  
##  
## sigma^2 estimated as 0.00846:  log likelihood=16949  
## AIC=-33881   AICc=-33881   BIC=-33811  
##  
## Training set error measures:  
##                          ME  RMSE      MAE      MPE  MAPE  MASE  ACF1  
## Training set 6.51e-06 0.092 0.0634 0.00633 1.39 0.292 0.103 20
```

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Example: Australian prison population

```
fpp2::prisonLF
```

```
## # A tibble: 1,536 x 5
##   state gender legal      t      count
##   <fct> <fct>  <fct>   <date>   <dbl>
## 1 ACT    Female Remanded 2005-03-01     2
## 2 ACT    Female Remanded 2005-06-01     4
## 3 ACT    Female Remanded 2005-09-01     1
## 4 ACT    Female Remanded 2005-12-01     4
## 5 ACT    Female Remanded 2006-03-01     4
## 6 ACT    Female Remanded 2006-06-01     6
## 7 ACT    Female Remanded 2006-09-01     9
## 8 ACT    Female Remanded 2006-12-01     6
## 9 ACT    Female Remanded 2007-03-01     4
## 10 ACT   Female Remanded 2007-06-01     4
## # ... with 1,526 more rows
```

Example: Australian prison population

```
prison <- fpp2::prisonLF %>%  
  mutate(qtr=yearquarter(t)) %>%  
  select(-t) %>%  
  as_tsibble(index=qtr, key=id(state,gender,legal))  
prison
```

```
## # A tsibble: 1,536 x 5 [1QUARTER]  
## # Key:      state, gender, legal [32]  
##   state gender legal    count    qtr  
##   <fct> <fct>  <fct>    <dbl>  <qtr>  
## 1 ACT   Female Remanded      2 2005 Q1  
## 2 ACT   Female Remanded      4 2005 Q2  
## 3 ACT   Female Remanded      1 2005 Q3  
## 4 ACT   Female Remanded      4 2005 Q4  
## 5 ACT   Female Remanded      4 2006 Q1  
## 6 ACT   Female Remanded      6 2006 Q2
```

Example: Australian prison population

```
prison %>% ETS(count)
```

```
## # A mable: 32 models [1QUARTER]
## # Key:      state, gender, legal [32]
##   state gender legal      data      model
##   <fct> <fct>  <fct>    <list>    <model>
## 1 ACT    Female Remanded <tsibble [48 x 2]> ETS(M,A,N)
## 2 ACT    Female Sentenced <tsibble [48 x 2]> ETS(A,A,N)
## 3 ACT    Male   Remanded <tsibble [48 x 2]> ETS(M,N,N)
## 4 ACT    Male   Sentenced <tsibble [48 x 2]> ETS(A,N,N)
## 5 NSW    Female Remanded <tsibble [48 x 2]> ETS(M,N,M)
## 6 NSW    Female Sentenced <tsibble [48 x 2]> ETS(M,N,M)
## 7 NSW    Male   Remanded <tsibble [48 x 2]> ETS(M,A,A)
## 8 NSW    Male   Sentenced <tsibble [48 x 2]> ETS(M,A,A)
## 9 NT     Female Remanded <tsibble [48 x 2]> ETS(M,N,N)
## 10 NT    Female Sentenced <tsibble [48 x 2]> ETS(M,A,A)
## # ... with 22 more rows
```


Example: Australian prison population

```
prison %>% ETS(count) %>% forecast()
```

```
## # A tibble: 32 forecasts [1QUARTER]
## # Key:   state, gender, legal [32]
##   state gender legal   data      model      forecast
##   <fct> <fct>  <fct>   <list>    <model>    <fc>
## 1 ACT   Female Remanded <tsibble [48~ ETS(M,A,N) ~N [h=8]
## 2 ACT   Female Sentenced <tsibble [48~ ETS(A,A,N) ~N [h=8]
## 3 ACT   Male   Remanded <tsibble [48~ ETS(M,N,N) ~N [h=8]
## 4 ACT   Male   Sentenced <tsibble [48~ ETS(A,N,N) ~N [h=8]
## 5 NSW   Female Remanded <tsibble [48~ ETS(M,N,M) ~N [h=8]
## 6 NSW   Female Sentenced <tsibble [48~ ETS(M,N,M) ~N [h=8]
## 7 NSW   Male   Remanded <tsibble [48~ ETS(M,A,A) ~N [h=8]
## 8 NSW   Male   Sentenced <tsibble [48~ ETS(M,A,A) ~N [h=8]
## 9 NT    Female Remanded <tsibble [48~ ETS(M,N,N) ~N [h=8]
## 10 NT   Female Sentenced <tsibble [48~ ETS(M,A,A) ~N [h=8]
## # ... with 22 more rows
```

Aggregation and reconciliation not yet implemented.

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Equivalent methods: forecast → fable

`auto.arima` → ARIMA

`ets` → ETS

`tslm/lm` → LM

`tbats` → TBATS

`nnetar` → NNAR

`stlm` → STL %>%

```
modelcomponents(  
  ETS(seasadj), SNAIVE(season))
```

- All functions have a formula interface with automatic modelling if no formula provided.
- All functions produce `mable` class objects.

Equivalent methods: forecast → fable

naive → NAIVE %>% forecast

snaive → SNAIVE %>% forecast

thetaf → THETA %>% forecast

stlf → STL %>%

```
modelcomponents(  
  ETS(seasadj), SNAIVE(season)) %>%  
  forecast
```

hw → HW %>% forecast

holt → HOLT %>% forecast

ses → SES %>% forecast

splinef → SPLINE %>% forecast

croston → CROSTON %>% forecast

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Extending fable

fable simplifies the times-series model development process

Tools to easily create new fable models

- Easily create specials for model formulae
- Focus on model estimation and forecasts

Automatically supported fable functionality

- Transformations and back-transformations (with bias adjustments)
- Plotting tools
- Accuracy measures and evaluation
- Model combinations (hierarchies & ensembles)

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More information



```
devtools::install_github("tidyverts/tsibble")  
devtools::install_github("tidyverts/fable")
```



Di Cook



Earo Wang



Mitchell O'Hara-Wild

Follow our progress

- tidyverts.org
- robjhyndman.com/hyndsight