

The **Prophet** forecasting model, developed by Facebook (Meta), is an additive time series model used for forecasting trends and seasonality. The model's fundamental formula is:

$$y(t) = g(t) + s(t) + h(t) + \epsilon_t$$

where:

- $y(t)$ = observed time series value at time t
- $g(t)$ = trend component (models long-term growth or decline)
- $s(t)$ = seasonality component (captures periodic fluctuations)
- $h(t)$ = holiday effects (captures special events)
- ϵ_t = error term (captures unexplained variability)

NOTE: IN A 100 VALUES IF 51 ARE SAME AND 49 ARE SAME THEN IT TAKES MAJORITY OF 51 AND GIVES NEXT VALUE AS THE PART OF 51

- $g(t)$ (trend) is something we provide or detect from data.
- $s(t)$ (seasonality) is also detected from repeated patterns.
- $h(t)$ (holidays/special events) should be added if they exist in our data.
- If we have data for the same month over multiple years, we can take the average of the highest values to estimate the seasonal effect.

Example Approach (Step-by-Step)

Step 1: Get the Trend ($g(t)$)

- This is the overall increase or decrease in data over time.
- Example: If ice cream sales have been increasing every year, that's a trend.

Step 2: Identify Seasonality ($s(t)$)

- Look for repeating patterns in the same month every year.
- Example: If every July has more tsunami floods, that's a seasonal effect.

Step 3: Identify Holiday Effect ($h(t)$)

- If we have holidays (like Christmas or summer vacations), add them separately.
- Example: If Christmas increases sales, we mark that in the model.

Step 4: Handling Same Month Across Years

- If we have sales for July 2000-2024 data
 - Find the highest sales in July each year.
 - Take the average of these highest values.
 - Use that as the seasonal impact.

Formula with Averaging High Values

$$y(t) = g(t) + s'(t) + h(t) + \epsilon(t) \quad y(t) = g(t) + s'(t) + h(t) + \epsilon(t)$$

where $s'(t)$ is the average of the highest seasonal values for that month