

Three Essays on Shrinkage Estimation and Model Selection of Linear and Nonlinear Time Series Models

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9 May 2018

Overview and Motivation

- Parametric Time Series Models
 - Logistic Smooth Transition Autoregressive Model (LSTAR) (Terasvirta, 1994)
 - Threshold Autoregressive Model (TAR) (Tong, 1990)
 - Autoregressive Moving Average Model (ARMA) (Box and Pierce, 1970)
- Model Differences
 - ARMA = Popularized for Weakly Stationary Time Series
 - LSTAR and TAR = Handling Nonlinear Behavior
 - Changes in Level, Dynamics, and Volatility
 - Alternative Approach to Handling Nonstationary and Cyclical Phenomenon
 - Useful for Clustering and Classification of Realizations

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- A horizontal progress bar consisting of 20 small circles. The first circle is filled with blue, indicating 6% completion. The remaining 19 circles are white with black outlines.

Bayesian Automatic Estimation and Variable Selection Procedures for Flexible Subset Models

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- Simulation Study

Let $\mathbf{d}_t = [y_{t-1}, y_{t-2}, y_{t-3}, y_{t-4}]'$ and $\phi' = [\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3, \phi_4]$.

$$y_t = (-0.6y_{t-3})[1 - G(y_{t-1})] + (0.02 + 0.75y_{t-3})[G(y_{t-1})] + \epsilon_t$$

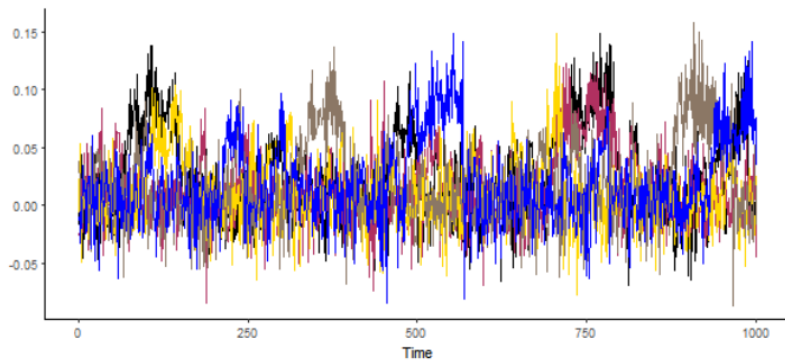
$$\text{where: } G(y_{t-1}) = \left\{ 1 + \exp \left[-120(\phi' d_t - 0.02) \right] \right\}^{-1}$$

and $\epsilon_t \sim \text{i.i.d. } N(0, 0.02^2)$

Under prior $\phi \sim \text{Dir}([0.25, 0.25, 0.25, 0.25]')$, we conduct posterior sampling for three different threshold variables $\{z_{1,t}, z_{2,t}, z_{3,t}\}$ defined through ϕ . BHS priors are used for autoregressive coefficients.

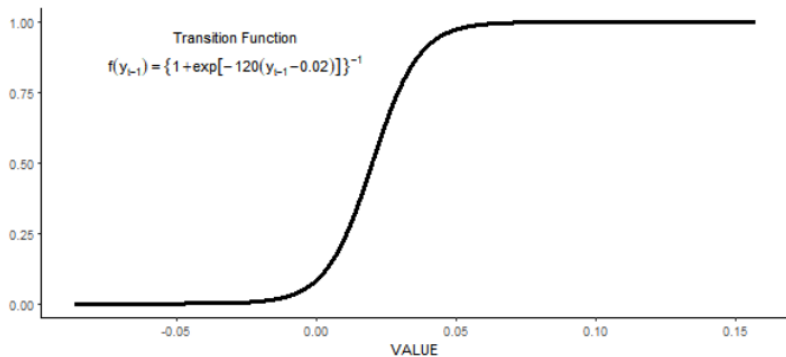
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Figure: Ten Random Replications



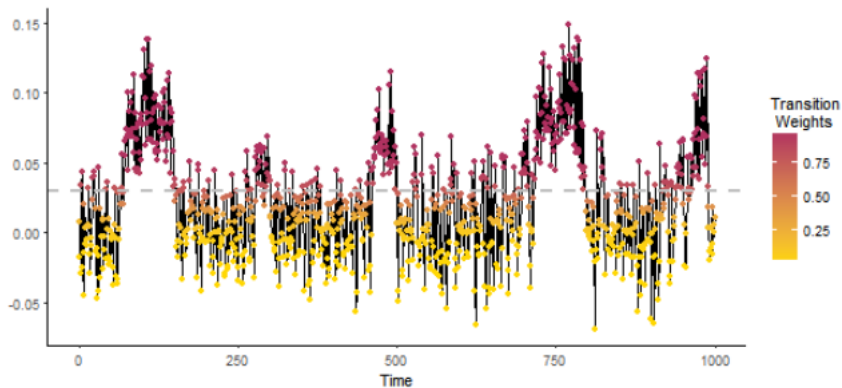
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Figure: Transition Function



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Figure: Illustration of Regime-switching Behavior

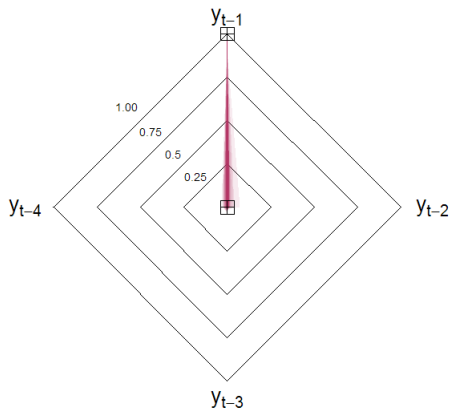


Chapter 1: LSTAR Model

- Bayesian Selection of the Threshold Variable (Scenario 1)

Consider $z_{1,t} = y_{t-1} = [1, 0, 0, 0]d_t$.

Figure: Posterior Means of ϕ from 100 Replications

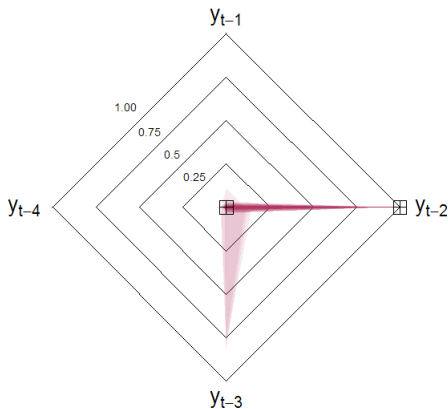


Chapter 1: LSTAR Model

- Bayesian Selection of the Threshold Variable (Scenario 2)

Consider $z_{2,t} = y_{t-2} = [0, 1, 0, 0]d_t$.

Figure: Posterior Means of ϕ from 100 Replications

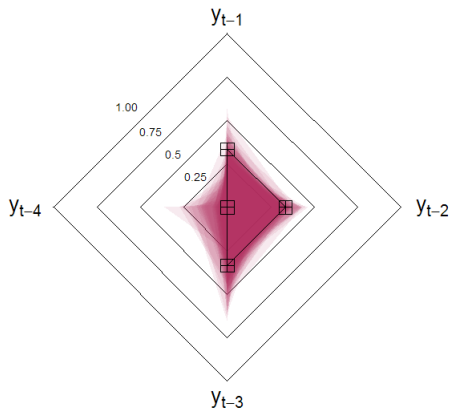


Chapter 1: LSTAR Model

- Bayesian Selection of the Threshold Variable (Scenario 3)

Consider $z_{3,t} = \frac{y_{t-1} + y_{t-2} + y_{t-3}}{3} = [\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, 0]d_t$.

Figure: Posterior Means of ϕ from 100 Replications



Chapter 1: LSTAR Model

- Application to Sunspot Data (Granger, 1957; Teräsvirta et al., 2010)
- Application to Daily Maximum Water Temperatures (Kamarianakis et al., 2016)
 - Data Used From 31 Rivers in Spain
 - Models to Forecast Daily Maximum Water Temperature
 - Inclusion of Exogenous Distributed Lag Terms from Known Air Temperatures
 - Horizon-Specific Models Targeting 3-step and 7-step Ahead Forecasts
 - Nonlinear Models Improved Forecasting Accuracy for Some Rivers

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Chapter 2: TAR Model

- Need for Traffic Occupancy Models
 - Advanced Traffic Management Systems (ATMS) Monitor Traffic Characteristics in Real Time
 - ATMS Require Fast Short-Term Forecasting to Reduce Congestion
 - Traffic Occupancy is the Percent of Time a Detection Zone is Occupied
 - Different States of Traffic: Free-Flow, Congested, Transitional
 - Factors Influencing Regime Changes : Weekly Work Patterns, Accidents, Weather, etc.

- Traffic Data Considered
 - Major Athens' Arterial: Alexandras Ave.
 - Time Period: April 2000
 - Obtained by National Technical University of Athens
 - Provided for 2013 TRANSPortation Data FORecasting Competition (TRANSFOR) Developed by the Traffic Research Board (TRB) for Annual Meeting Workshop (Kamarianakis, 2014)
 - Measured on 90s Interval, but Mean Aggregated to 3min Interval

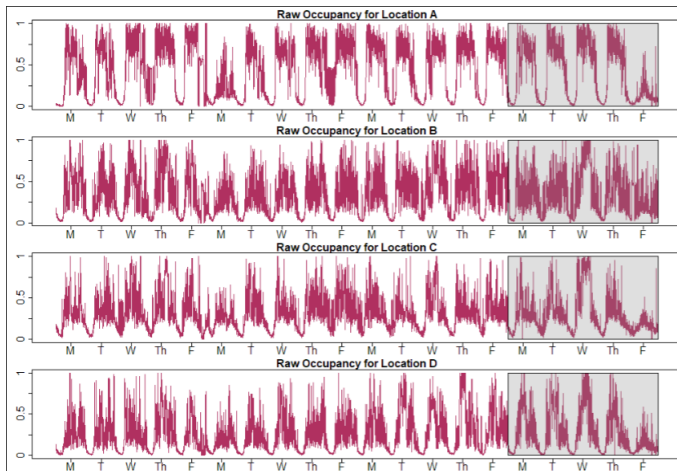
Chapter 2: TAR Model

Figure: Map of Traffic Network in Athens, Greece



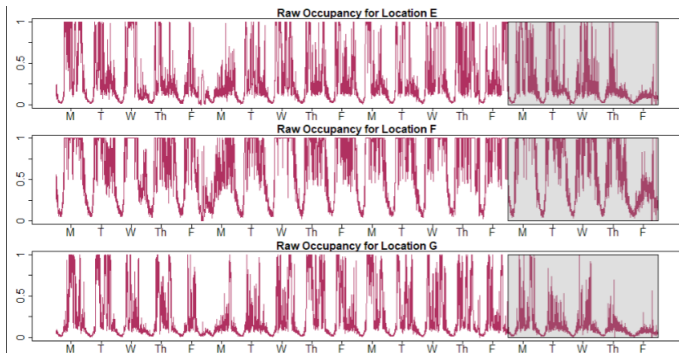
Chapter 2: TAR Model

Figure: Raw Traffic Occupancy From Westbound Detectors



Chapter 2: TAR Model

Figure: Raw Traffic Occupancy From Eastbound Detectors



Chapter 2: TAR Model

- (L, D, h) -Specific Models

- Location $L \in \{A, B, C, D, E, F, G\}$
- Work Day $D \in \{M, T, W, Th, F\}$
- Horizon $h \in \{1, 3, 5\}$

- Data Transformation

- Let O_t Represent the Traffic Occupancy at Time t
- $Y_t = \text{logit}(O_t) = \log[O_t/(1 - O_t)]$
- Raw Data Adjusted at the Boundary so $\text{logit}(\cdot)$ Is Defined
- Forecasts Evaluated on Original Scale, but

$$\hat{O}_{L,t} \neq \text{logit}^{-1}(\hat{Y}_{L,t})$$

- Density Forecasts Produced from $\{\text{logit}^{-1}(\hat{Y}_{L,t}^{(s)})\}_{s=1}^S$ where $\{\hat{Y}_{L,t}^{(s)}\}_{s=1}^S$ are S posterior samples obtained from the posterior predictive distribution $f(\hat{Y}_{L,t}|\mathcal{I}_t^*)$ where $\mathcal{I}_t^* = \{y_{L,k}\}_{k=t-h}^{t-h-P+1}$

Chapter 2: TAR Model

- Horizon-Specific Gaussian TAR(P) Model with $(m + 1)$ -regimes

$$y_t = \phi_0^{(j)} + \sum_{i=1}^P \phi_i^{(j)} y_{t-h-i+1} + \sigma \epsilon_t, \text{ for } \delta_{j-1} < y_{t-h} \leq \delta_j$$

where $\sigma > 0$, $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m + 1\}$, $h \in \mathbb{N}$, and $\epsilon_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$.

Vector of Thresholds $\delta = [\delta_1, \dots, \delta_m]$.

Partitions the Process into $m + 1$ regimes such that

$$-\infty = \delta_0 < \delta_1 \leq \delta_2 \leq \dots \leq \delta_m < \delta_{m+1} = \infty.$$

Chapter 2: TAR Model

- High Dimensional Linear Representation (Chan et al., 2015, 2017)
- Let $\mathbf{y} = [y_1, \dots, y_T]'$, $\boldsymbol{\epsilon} = [\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_T]'$, and define matrix \mathbf{X} by

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & y_{1-h} & y_{1-h-1} & \dots & y_{1-h-P+1} \\ 1 & y_{2-h} & y_{2-h-1} & \dots & y_{2-h-P+1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & y_{T-h} & y_{T-h-1} & \dots & y_{T-h-P+1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Second Column of \mathbf{X} Contains the h -Specific Transition Variable.

Model Matrix \mathbf{X} Often Used in Linear $AR(P)$ Regressions.

Chapter 2: TAR Model

- High Dimensional Linear Representation (Cont.)
 - Reorder \mathbf{y} , ϵ , and \mathbf{X} According to Transition Variable
 Sorting function $\pi(i) : \{1, \dots, T\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, T\}$ where $\pi(i)$ equates to the time index of the i th smallest element in $[y_{1-h}, y_{2-h}, \dots, y_{T-h}]'$. Now,

$$\mathbf{y}_R = [y_{\pi(1)+h}, \dots, y_{\pi(T)+h}]',$$

$$\epsilon_R = [\epsilon_{\pi(1)+h}, \dots, \epsilon_{\pi(T)+h}]',$$

and

$$\mathbf{X}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & y_{\pi(1)} & y_{\pi(1)-1} & \cdots & y_{\pi(1)-P+1} \\ 1 & y_{\pi(2)} & y_{\pi(2)-1} & \cdots & y_{\pi(2)-P+1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & y_{\pi(T)} & y_{\pi(T)-1} & \cdots & y_{\pi(T)-P+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{y}'_{\pi(1)} \\ \mathbf{y}'_{\pi(2)} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{y}'_{\pi(T)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Chapter 2: TAR Model

- High Dimensional Linear Representation (Cont.)
 - Finite Set of m Thresholds for an $(m + 1)$ -Regime TAR(P)

Define the Sample Quantile Function,

$$q(.) : [0, 1] \rightarrow [\min\{y_{t-h} : t = 1, 2, \dots, T\}, \max\{y_{t-h} : t = 1, 2, \dots, T\}]$$

Select Sequence $\{p_k\}_{k=1}^m$ of m Evenly Spaced Percentiles where

$$p_{min} = p_1 < \dots < p_m = p_{max}$$

For a Fully Saturated TAR Model Limited to $(m + 1)$ Regimes, Fix *a priori*

$$\delta = [q(p_1), q(p_2), \dots, q(p_m)]'$$

Chapter 2: TAR Model

- High Dimensional Linear Representation (Cont.)
 - Finite Set of m Thresholds for an $(m + 1)$ -Regime TAR(P) (Cont.)

For $j \in \{2, \dots, m + 1\}$, Let k_j Represent the Number of Elements in $[y_{1-h}, y_{2-h}, \dots, y_{T-h}]'$ Less than $q(p_{j-1})$ and Define

$$\mathbf{X}_j = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & y_{\pi(k_j+1)} & y_{\pi(k_j+1)-1} & \dots & y_{\pi(k_j+1)-P+1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & y_{\pi(T)} & y_{\pi(T)-1} & \dots & y_{\pi(T)-P+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ \mathbf{y}'_{\pi(k_j+1)} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{y}'_{\pi(T)} \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Fully Saturated $(m + 1)$ -Regime TAR(P) as a Linear Regression

$$\mathbf{y}_R = \mathbf{X}_R \boldsymbol{\theta}_R + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_R$$

$\mathbf{X}_R = [\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2, \dots, \mathbf{X}_{m+1}]$ is a $T \times (P + 1)(m + 1)$ Matrix

$\boldsymbol{\theta}_R = [\boldsymbol{\theta}'_1, \boldsymbol{\theta}'_2, \dots, \boldsymbol{\theta}'_{m+1}]'$ is a $(P + 1)(m + 1) \times 1$ Vector of Grouped Reparameterized Coefficients

Chapter 2: TAR Model

- Baseline (L, D) -Specific Seasonal Model (Cont.)

$$y_t = \mu + \sum_{j=1}^H \left[\alpha_j \sin\left(\frac{2\pi tj}{480}\right) + \beta_j \cos\left(\frac{2\pi tj}{480}\right) \right] + \sigma \epsilon_t$$

where $\sigma > 0$, $H \in \mathbb{N}$, and $\epsilon_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$.

Representable as a High Dimensional Linear Regression,

$$\mathbf{y}_F = \mathbf{X}_F \boldsymbol{\theta}_F + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_F$$

- Considerations for Traffic Occupancy
 - Maximum AR Order $P = 7$
 - Maximum Number of Thresholds $m = 50$
 - Set $p_{min} = 0.15$ and $p_{max} = 0.85$
 - Saturated 51-Regime TAR(7) Model with 408 Parameters in $\boldsymbol{\theta}_R$
 - Maximum Number of Sine/Cosine Pairs $H = 150$
 - Saturated Seasonal Harmonic Regression Model with 301 Parameters in $\boldsymbol{\theta}_F$

Chapter 2: TAR Model

- Three-Step Procedure For Automatic Estimation and Selection
 - Full Model $\mathbf{y}_R = \mathbf{X}_R \boldsymbol{\theta}_R + \epsilon_R$ Nests 6.61×10^{122} Different $(m^* + 1)$ -Regime Subset TAR(P) Models where $0 \leq m^* \leq m$
 - Step 1: Sparse Estimation Using Horseshoe+ Shrinkage Priors

- Adaptive LASSO Used by Chan et al. (2015)
- BHS⁺ Hierarchy for Each θ_i in $\boldsymbol{\theta}_R$ (Bhadra et al., 2016)

$$\theta_i | \lambda_i, \tau, \sigma^2 \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \lambda_i^2 \tau^2 \sigma^2)$$

$$\lambda_i \sim \mathcal{C}^+(0, \eta_i)$$

$$\eta_i \sim \mathcal{C}^+(0, 1)$$

$$\tau \sim \mathcal{C}^+(0, 1)$$

- Modified Hierarchy Required for Gibbs Sampling (Makalic and Schmidt, 2016)

If $\lambda_i^2 | \nu_i \sim \mathcal{IG}(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{\nu_i})$ and $\nu_i \sim \mathcal{IG}(\frac{1}{2}, 1)$, then $\lambda_i^2 \sim \mathcal{C}^+(0, 1)$ (Wand et al., 2011).

Chapter 2: TAR Model

- Three-Step Procedure For Sparse Estimation (Cont.)
 - Step 2: Regime Identification
 - Good Starting Point Under Full Saturated Model \mathcal{M}_R
 - Samples $\{\theta_R^{(s)}\}_{s=1}^S$ and $\{\sigma^{(s)}\}_{s=1}^S$ from Joint Posterior Distribution
 - Given Candidate Submodel \mathcal{M}_\perp , Posterior Samples $\{\theta_\perp^{(s)}\}_{s=1}^S$ and $\{\sigma_\perp^{(s)}\}_{s=1}^S$ Obtained Via Projection
 - Gaussian Linear Models (Piironen and Vehtari, 2015, 2017)

$$\theta_\perp^{(s)} = (\mathbf{X}_\perp' \mathbf{X}_\perp)^{-1} \mathbf{X}_\perp' \mathbf{X}_R \theta_R^{(s)}$$

$$\sigma_\perp^{(s)} = \sqrt{(\sigma_R^{(s)})^2 + \frac{(\mathbf{X}_R \theta_R^{(s)} - \mathbf{X}_\perp \theta_\perp^{(s)})' (\mathbf{X}_R \theta_R^{(s)} - \mathbf{X}_\perp \theta_\perp^{(s)})}{T}}$$

Chapter 2: TAR Model

- Three-Step Procedure For Sparse Estimation (Cont.)
 - Step 2: Regime Identification (Cont.)
 - Kullback-Leibler (KL) Divergence (Kullback and Leibler, 1951) Measures the Overall Discrepancy Between the Posterior Predictive Distributions $p(y_{T+1}|\mathcal{M}_R, \mathbf{y}_R, \mathbf{X}_R)$ and $p(y_{T+1}|\mathcal{M}_\perp, \mathbf{y}_\perp, \mathbf{X}_\perp)$
 - KL Divergence for a Particular Sample

$$d_\perp^{(s)}(\theta_R^{(s)}, \sigma_R^{(s)}) = \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\frac{\sigma_\perp^{(s)}}{\sigma_R^{(s)}} \right)^2$$

- Overall Discrepancy

$$D(\mathcal{M}_R || \mathcal{M}_\perp) = \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^S d_\perp^{(s)}(\theta_R^{(s)}, \sigma_R^{(s)})$$

Chapter 2: TAR Model

- Three-Step Procedure For Sparse Estimation (Cont.)
 - Step 2: Regime Identification (Cont.)
 - Forward Stepwise Selection Algorithm (Peltola et al., 2014)

Begin with Linear $AR(P)$ Model, Denoted $\mathcal{M}_{\perp}^{(1)}$, where

$$\theta_{\perp}^{(1)} = [\theta'_1, \mathbf{0}', \mathbf{0}', \dots, \mathbf{0}']',$$

with initial discrepancy $D(\mathcal{M}_R || \mathcal{M}_{\perp}^{(1)})$

For each $j \in \{2, \dots, m+1\}$, θ_j is Added to $\theta_{\perp}^{(1)}$ and the Best 2-Regime TAR(P) Model $\mathcal{M}_{\perp}^{(2)}$ Minimizes the Discrepancy $D(\mathcal{M}_R || \mathcal{M}_{\perp}^{(2)})$.

Continue to Identify the Best 3-Regime TAR, 4-Regime TAR, \dots

Stopping Rule Based on Relative Explanatory Power (*RelE*) from Dupuis and Robert (2003)

$$RelE(\mathcal{M}_{\perp}) = 1 - \frac{D(\mathcal{M} || \mathcal{M}_{\perp})}{D(\mathcal{M} || \mathcal{M}^1)}$$

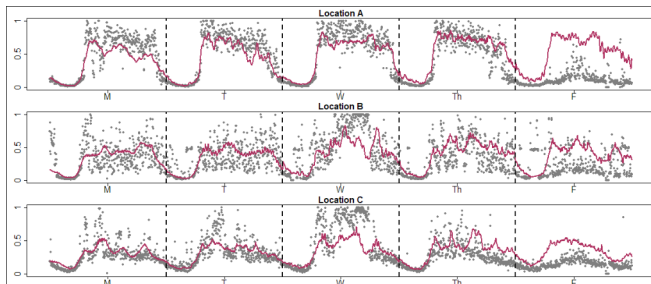
Chapter 2: TAR Model

- Three-Step Procedure For Sparse Estimation (Cont.)
 - Step 3: Final Subset Selection
 - Let $\mathcal{J} = \{j : \theta_j \neq 0\}$ indicate the $\text{AR}(P)$ parameter groups in θ_R Selected Via Forward Algorithm
 - Let $\theta_{i,j}$ Represent the i th Parameter in the j th Vector θ_j for $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, P+1\}$ and $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m+1\}$.
 - The Set $\mathcal{I} = \{\theta_{i,j} : i = 1, \dots, P+1 \text{ and } j \in \mathcal{J}\}$ Contains Potentially Relevant Parameters in θ_R
 - Repeat Forward Stepwise Algorithm Across \mathcal{I} . The Intercept Only Model Utilized for $\mathcal{M}_{\perp}^{(1)}$.
 - Result: Final Choice \mathcal{M}_* is a $(m^* + 1)$ -Regime Subset $\text{TAR}(P)$ Model where m^* is the Number of Parameter Groups with at Least 1 Selected Parameter.

Chapter 2: TAR Model

- Results
 - (L, D) -Specific Seasonal Profiles (Quickly Forecasts at All Horizons)

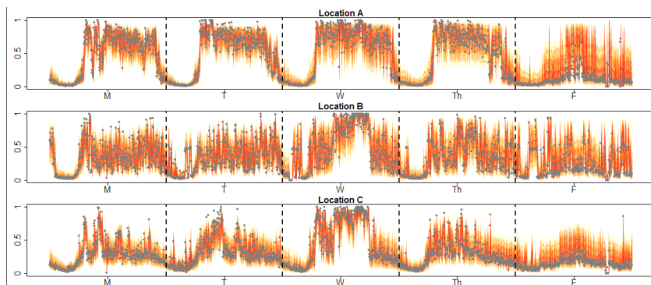
Figure: Forecasts Based on Seasonal Profiles for Westbound Detectors



Chapter 2: TAR Model

- Results (Cont.)
 - $(L, D, 1)$ -Specific Final Subset TAR(7) Models

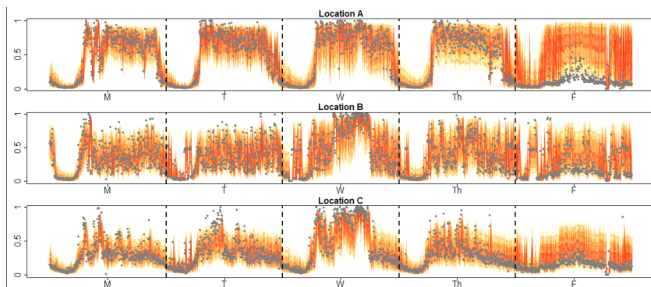
Figure: 1-Step Ahead Density TAR Forecasts for Westbound Detectors



Chapter 2: TAR Model

- Results (Cont.)
 - $(L, D, 3)$ -Specific Final Subset TAR(7) Models

Figure: 3-Step Ahead Density TAR Forecasts for Westbound Detectors



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Chapter 2: TAR Model

- Results (Cont.)
 - Comparison of Point Forecasts
 - Evaluated on Mean Absolute Scaled Forecast Error (Hyndman and Koehler, 2006)

$$\text{MASFE}(h) = \frac{1}{T_h} \sum_{t=P+h}^{480} \left| \frac{O_{L,t} - \hat{O}_{L,t}}{\text{MAE}_{RW}(h)} \right|$$

- $\text{MAE}_{RW}(h)$ is the Fitted MAE from Naive Random Walk where $\hat{O}_t = O_{t-h}$

Table: 1-Step Ahead MASFE Forecast Comparison

Day	Model	Location						
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G
M	TAR	1.02	1.10	0.88	1.07	1.87	0.81	1.48
	SEAS	1.80	1.47	1.15	1.43	4.02	1.57	3.66
T	TAR	0.90	1.05	1.04	0.98	1.36	1.03	1.95
	SEAS	1.35	1.36	1.22	1.46	3.36	1.65	3.29
W	TAR	1.04	1.11	0.91	0.97	2.27	1.86	1.55
	SEAS	1.39	2.01	2.18	1.61	4.65	2.90	2.80
Th	TAR	0.93	0.89	0.82	0.92	1.48	1.52	1.83
	SEAS	1.44	1.43	1.51	1.42	3.98	2.74	4.07
F	TAR	1.80	1.08	1.01	0.85	1.45	2.40	1.16
	SEAS	4.77	2.23	1.98	1.83	4.37	6.24	3.78

Chapter 2: TAR Model

- Results (Cont.)
 - Comparison of Point Forecasts (Cont.)

Table: 3-Step Ahead MASFE Forecast Comparison

Day	Model	A	B	Location			F	G
				C	D	E		
M	TAR	0.94	1.06	0.88	1.13	1.85	0.88	1.50
	SEAS	1.36	1.17	0.93	1.14	2.91	1.19	2.57
T	TAR	0.87	1.04	0.96	1.03	1.46	1.15	1.21
	SEAS	1.04	1.06	0.91	1.10	2.24	1.22	2.15
W	TAR	1.09	1.15	1.10	0.99	1.75	2.00	1.26
	SEAS	1.15	1.61	1.69	1.21	2.94	2.24	1.71
Th	TAR	0.90	0.96	0.82	0.93	1.88	1.47	1.14
	SEAS	1.15	1.09	1.14	1.03	2.69	1.96	2.68
F	TAR	3.04	1.09	1.00	0.66	1.14	2.47	0.92
	SEAS	3.53	1.57	1.42	1.33	3.12	4.35	2.42

Chapter 2: TAR Model

- Results (Cont.)
 - Comparison of Point Forecasts (Cont.)

Table: 5-Step Ahead MASFE Forecast Comparison

Day	Model	A	B	Location			F	G
				C	D	E		
M	TAR	0.94	0.99	0.89	1.12	1.97	0.86	1.68
	SEAS	1.24	1.06	0.88	1.06	2.46	1.08	2.17
T	TAR	0.81	1.05	0.95	1.00	1.47	1.13	1.15
	SEAS	0.95	0.95	0.85	0.99	1.85	1.07	1.77
W	TAR	1.02	1.12	1.04	0.99	1.67	1.94	1.26
	SEAS	1.01	1.44	1.56	1.12	2.30	1.95	1.44
Th	TAR	0.84	0.98	0.82	0.87	1.51	1.48	1.22
	SEAS	1.05	1.03	1.07	0.94	2.13	1.73	2.24
F	TAR	2.85	1.20	0.88	0.70	1.26	2.52	1.00
	SEAS	3.07	1.48	1.33	1.19	2.59	3.82	2.01

Chapter 2: TAR Model

- Contribution and Novelty
 - Advances Methodology for Estimating $TAR(P)$ Models with Potentially Many Regimes
 - Shows Relevancy in an Industry Needing Short-term Forecasting
 - Easy 3-Step Bayesian Approach Capable of Selecting Regimes and AR Parameters Within Regimes (More Flexible Final Models)
 - Appendix Provides Defense for Horseshoe+ Hierarchy
- Future Developments
 - Modifications for Student t Distributed Errors (Shows Promise)
 - Quality of Forecast Credible Regions
 - Other Techniques for Modeling Heteroskedasticity
 - Look at Using Different Transition Variables (Composite, Difference, etc.)

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