Project 2

Kimberly Boswell

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Select a time series dataset which contains at least two predictor variables and one response variable (y_t) . We need to analyze and clean the data to ascertain a model which best fits the data.

1. Exploratory Data Analysis

- (a) First check for completeness and consistency of the data (if there are NAs or missing observations, replace with the value of the previous observation; make a note of this)
- (b) Provide descriptive analyses of your variables. This should include the five-number summary, histograms with fitted distribution, correlation plots (or heatmap). All figures must include comments.

2. Data pre-processing

- (a) With tsdisplay or ggtsdisplay, for each variable, use its time series plot, ACF and PACF to comment on its stationarity (you can also decompose the time series). To supplement this, use the appropriate Dickey-Fuller (unit root) test, to determine whether or not it is stationary.
- (b) If it is not stationary, determine the level of differencing to make our series stationary. We can use the ndiffs function which performs a unit-root test to determine this. After this, difference your data to ascertain a stationary time series. Re-do part c) for your differenced time series and comment on the time series plot, ACF and PACF. Recall that the time series models we've observed rely on stationarity.

3. Feature Generation, Model Testing and Forecasting.

- (a) Fit an AR(p) model to the data (using part (a), AIC or some built in R function)
- (b) Plot and comment on the ACF of the residuals of the model chosen in 3(b). If the model is properly fit, then we should see no autocorrelations in the residuals.
- (c) Using the appropriate predictors, fit an ARDL(p,q) model to the data and repeat step (b) in part 3.
- 4. Provide a brief summary of your findings and state which model performs better.
- 5. Suggest any improvements which could've been made to the model based on your findings, and what was learnt in class.