LAX Ground Vehicle Traffic Volume Forecasting

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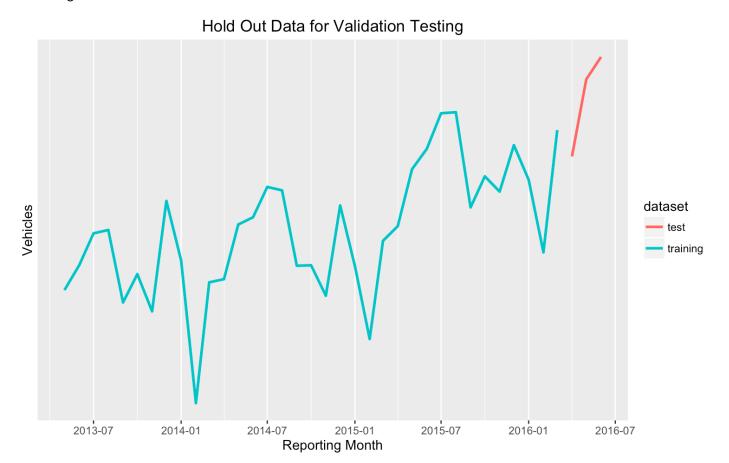
1 TL;DR

- Objective: Forecast LAX ground vehicle traffic volume for the year of 2017
- Apporach: We assessed 3 forecasting models: STL Decomposition, Holt-Winters Exponential Smoothing, and Arima
- Finding: STL Decomposition forecasting was most accurate, predicting ~40MM vehicles will pass through LAX in 2017

2 Setup

2.1 Validation Data

To setup the data for our analysis, we'll take the last 3 months and set them aside for validation. We'll use the remaining data to train our models.

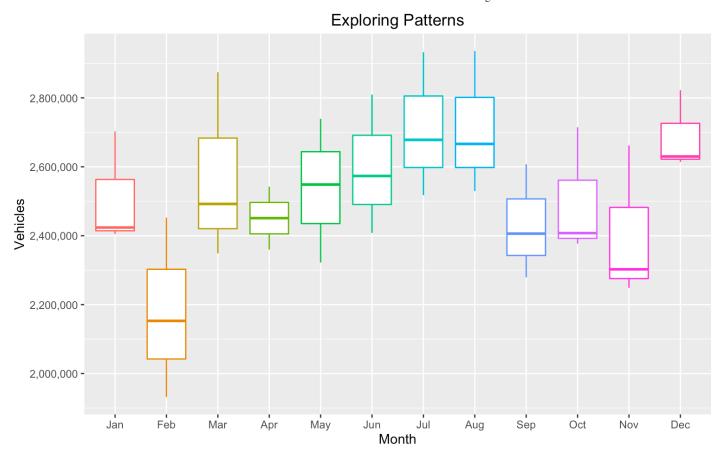


```
Jan
                    Feb
                                                              Jul
##
                            Mar
                                     Apr
                                             May
                                                     Jun
                                                                      Aug
## 2013
                                         2322085 2408061 2517892 2529552
  2014 2423773 1931681 2348707 2359741 2548453 2573367 2678236 2666378
  2015 2404930 2152837 2492211 2542424 2739284 2809522 2932503 2936218
  2016 2702732 2452320 2874440
                    Oct
            Sep
                            Nov
                                     Dec
  2013 2279129 2377058 2248586 2629896
  2014 2406043 2407597 2302482 2614235
  2015 2607537 2714757 2661911 2822376
## 2016
```

2.2 Exploring Patterns

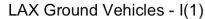
As expected with travel patterns, we see relatively strong 12 month seasonality:

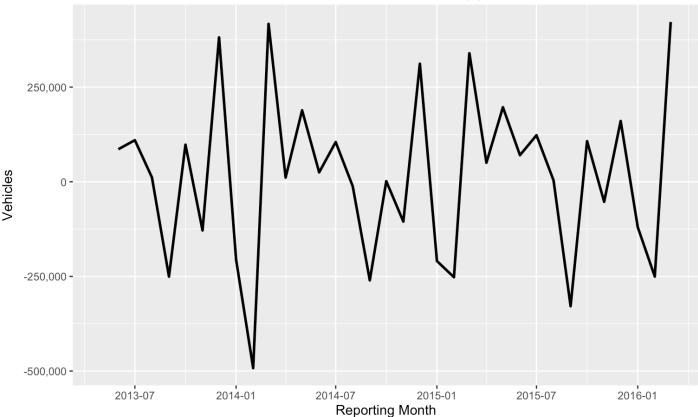
- · February is consistently the lowest month
- July / August / December are consistently the highest months
- Dips consistently occur during September / October / November periods



2.3 Stationary

Before proceeding, we'll need to make our data stationary over time, so we'll start with an integrated of order 1 and see if it becomes stationary.

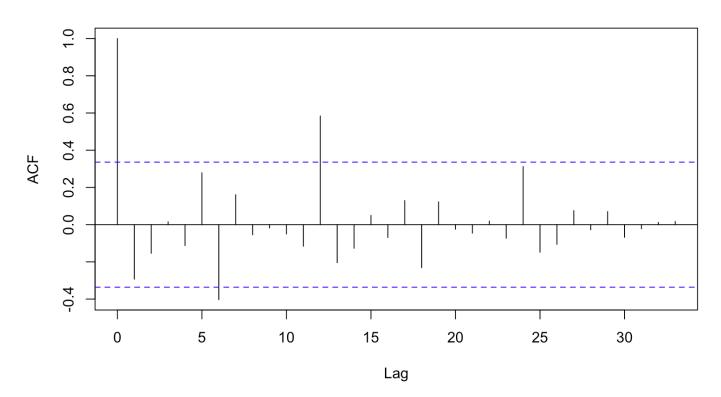




2.3.1 ACF

Our Autocorrelation Function (ACF) shows significance at lag 12 and almost significance at lag 24. This makes intuitive sense as travel data is seasonal on an annual level.

Series diff(lax.training\$vehicles)



2.3.2 Ljung-Box

Our Ljung-Box test shows statistical significance, validating I(1) is stationary.

```
##
## Box-Ljung test
##
## data: diff(lax.training$vehicles)
## X-squared = 46.621, df = 20, p-value = 0.0006619
```

2.3.3 ADF

Our Augmented Dickey-Fuller (ADF) test shows statistical significance at a p-value < 0.05, validating I(1) is stationary.

```
##
## Augmented Dickey-Fuller Test
##
## data: diff(lax.training$vehicles)
## Dickey-Fuller = -4.0279, Lag order = 3, p-value = 0.02033
## alternative hypothesis: stationary
```

2.3.4 KPSS

Our Kwiatkowski-Phillips-Schmidt-Shin (KPSS) test shows no statistical significance at a p-value < 0.05, validating I(1) is stationary.

```
##
## KPSS Test for Level Stationarity
##
## data: diff(lax.training$vehicles)
## KPSS Level = 0.034776, Truncation lag parameter = 1, p-value = 0.1
```

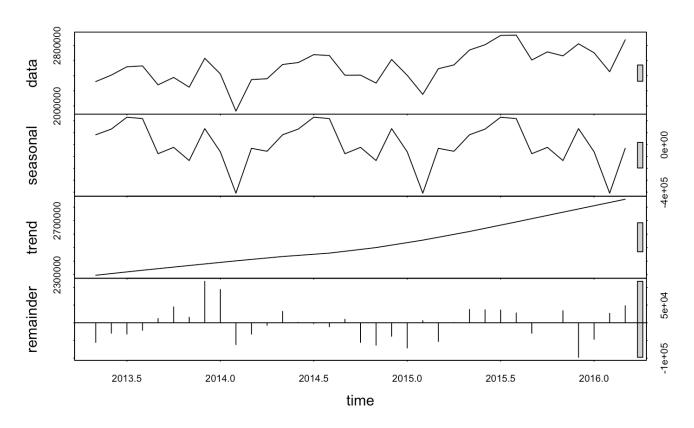
3 Model Selection

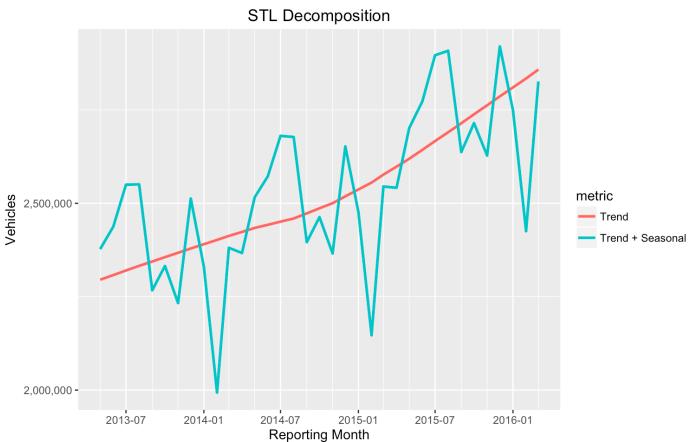
We'll run forecasting using our three models:

- STL Decomposition
- Holt-Winters Exponential Smoothing
- Arima

3.1 STL Decomposition

3.1.1 Analysis



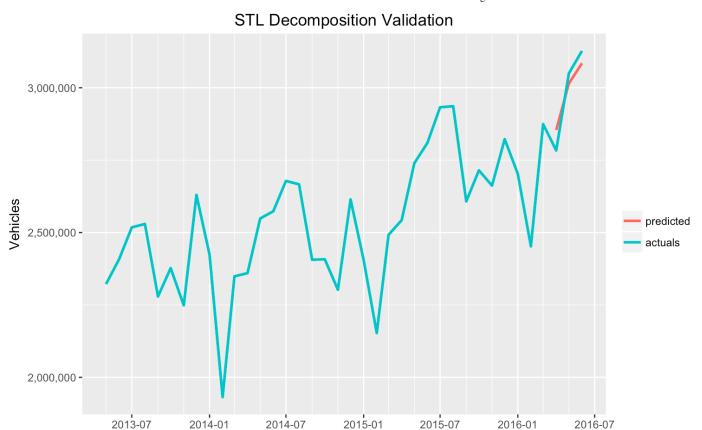


3.1.2 Validation

STL Decomposition vs. Actuals



	Point.Forecast	Lo.80	Hi.80	Lo.95	Hi.95
Apr 2016	2,854,059	2,781,038	2,927,080	2,742,384	2,965,734
May 2016	3,014,717	2,927,119	3,102,316	2,880,747	3,148,687
Jun 2016	3,084,528	2,984,273	3,184,783	2,931,202	3,237,855



mpe	mse	mape	mae	model
-1e-04	2,672,397,950	0.0168	49,374.81	STL

Reporting Month

3.2 Holt-Winters Exponential Smoothing

3.2.1 Analysis

```
## Holt-Winters exponential smoothing with trend and additive seasonal component.
##
## Call:
## HoltWinters(x = lax.ts12)
##
## Smoothing parameters:
##
    alpha: 0.0466399
##
   beta: 1
##
    gamma: 1
##
## Coefficients:
##
              [,1]
## a
       2864807.764
## b
         33785.349
## s1
          5489.864
## s2
        182580.965
## s3
        230187.267
## s4
        327370.776
## s5
        302049.128
## s6
        -54961.301
## s7
         20208.747
## s8
        -69865.707
## s9
         56780.354
## s10 -96252.978
## s11 -378702.415
## s12
          9632.236
```

3.2.2 Validation

	Point.Forecast	Lo.80	Hi.80	Lo.95	Hi.95
Apr 2016	2,904,083	2,820,378	2,987,788	2,776,068	3,032,098
May 2016	3,114,959	3,030,891	3,199,028	2,986,388	3,243,530
Jun 2016	3,196,351	3,111,471	3,281,231	3,066,538	3,326,164

Holt-Winters Validation



model	mae	mape	mse	mpe
Holt-Winters	85,048.83	0.029	7,868,504,847	-0.029

3.3 Arima

3.3.1 Analysis

```
## Series: lax.ts12
## ARIMA(0,1,1)(0,1,0)[12]
##
## Coefficients:
## ma1
## -0.3585
## s.e. 0.1903
##
## sigma^2 estimated as 5.971e+09: log likelihood=-278.38
## AIC=560.76 AICc=561.39 BIC=562.94
```

3.3.2 Validation

	Point.Forecast	Lo.80	Hi.80	Lo.95	Hi.95
Apr 2016	2,892,655	2,793,625	2,991,684	2,741,202	3,044,108
May 2016	3,089,515	2,971,858	3,207,172	2,909,574	3,269,456

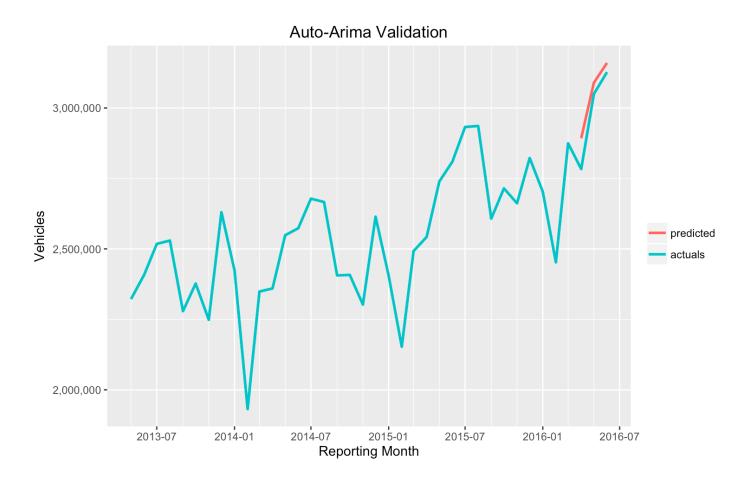
Jun 2016 3,159,753

3,026,039

3,293,467

2,955,255

3,364,251



mpe	mse	mape	mae	modei
-0.0209	4,858,125,254	0.0209	60,558.61	Arima

3.4 Model Comparison

We compared our models using the following error metrics:

- Mean Absolute Error
- Mean Absolute Percentage Error
- Mean Squared Error
- Mean Percentage Error

model	mae map e	mse m pe
STL 49,	374.81 0.0 2 2,6	72,397,950 0. 00
Holt-Winters	85,048.83 0.03	7,868,504,847 -0.03
Arima 60,	558.61 0.0 2 4,8	58,125,254 -0. 02

Our STL Decomposition model performed the best

4 Forecasting

We'll use our STL Decomposition to project LAX ground vehicles 2 years out

	Point.Forecast	Lo.80	Hi.80	Lo.95	Hi.95
Apr 2016	2,854,059	2,781,038	2,927,080	2,742,384	2,965,734
May 2016	3,014,717	2,927,119	3,102,316	2,880,747	3,148,687
Jun 2016	3,084,528	2,984,273	3,184,783	2,931,202	3,237,855
Jul 2016	3,206,524	3,094,877	3,318,171	3,035,774	3,377,273
Aug 2016	3,217,131	3,095,001	3,339,261	3,030,350	3,403,913
Sep 2016	2,943,955	2,812,033	3,075,876	2,742,198	3,145,711
Oct 2016	3,019,492	2,878,325	3,160,659	2,803,595	3,235,389
Nov 2016	2,930,651	2,780,682	3,080,619	2,701,294	3,160,008
Dec 2016	3,220,991	3,062,591	3,379,392	2,978,738	3,463,244
Jan 2017	3,048,465	2,881,945	3,214,985	2,793,794	3,303,135
Feb 2017	2,722,763	2,548,392	2,897,135	2,456,085	2,989,442
Mar 2017	3,121,837	2,939,846	3,303,828	2,843,505	3,400,168
Apr 2017	3,119,221	2,929,815	3,308,628	2,829,549	3,408,894
May 2017	3,279,880	3,083,238	3,476,522	2,979,142	3,580,618
Jun 2017	3,349,691	3,145,973	3,553,408	3,038,132	3,661,250
Jul 2017	3,471,686	3,261,036	3,682,336	3,149,525	3,793,847
Aug 2017	3,482,294	3,264,841	3,699,747	3,149,728	3,814,859
Sep 2017	3,209,117	2,984,977	3,433,257	2,866,325	3,551,909
Oct 2017	3,284,654	3,053,934	3,515,375	2,931,798	3,637,511
Nov 2017	3,195,813	2,958,608	3,433,018	2,833,039	3,558,587
Dec 2017	3,486,154	3,242,552	3,729,755	3,113,598	3,858,710
Jan 2018	3,313,627	3,063,710	3,563,544	2,931,413	3,695,842
Feb 2018	2,987,926	2,731,768	3,244,084	2,596,166	3,379,685
Mar 2018	3,386,999	3,124,669	3,649,329	2,985,799	3,788,199
Apr 2018	3,384,384	3,115,944	3,652,824	2,973,841	3,794,927
May 2018	3,545,042	3,270,551	3,819,533	3,125,245	3,964,840
Jun 2018	3,614,853	3,334,366	3,895,341	3,185,885	4,043,822

value	reporting_month
2,854,059	2016-04-01

2016-05-01	3,014,717
2016-06-01	3,084,528
2016-07-01	3,206,524
2016-08-01	3,217,131
2016-09-01	2,943,955
2016-10-01	3,019,492
2016-11-01	2,930,651
2016-12-01	3,220,991
2017-01-01	3,048,465
2017-02-01	2,722,763
2017-03-01	3,121,837
2017-04-01	3,119,221
2017-05-01	3,279,880
2017-06-01	3,349,691
2017-07-01	3,471,686
2017-08-01	3,482,294
2017-09-01	3,209,117
2017-10-01	3,284,654
2017-11-01	3,195,813
2017-12-01	3,486,154
2018-01-01	3,313,627
2018-02-01	2,987,926
2018-03-01	3,386,999
2018-04-01	3,384,384
2018-05-01	3,545,042
2018-06-01	3,614,853

LAX Ground Vehicle Forecast

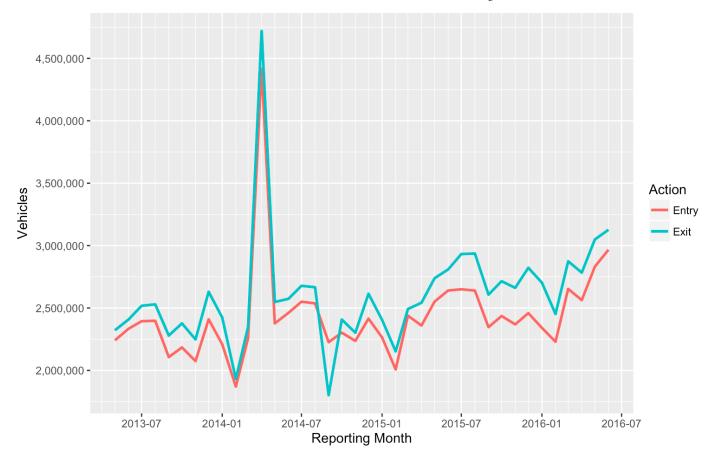


5 Appendix

5.1 Data Source

Our raw data for LAX Ground Vehicle Traffic Volume came from www.data.gov. See here (https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/los-angeles-international-airport-ground-vehicle-traffic-volume-cb231) for the original data source.

5.2 Data Quality Check



We see three odd things about our data, and will do what we can to fix them:

- 1. Month of 2014-04 has an unusual spike in trip volume
- 2. Month of 2014-09 is the only month where entries out pace exists
- 3. Exits outpace entries every month

5.2.1 Part 1

Month of 2014-04 has an unusual spike in trip volume.

reporting_month	action	level	vehicles
2014-04-01	Entry	Lower Level	1,027,606
2014-04-01	Entry	Lower Level	1,027,606
2014-04-01	Entry	Upper Level	1,181,556
2014-04-01	Entry	Upper Level	1,181,556
2014-04-01	Exit	Lower Level	1,691,869
2014-04-01	Exit	Lower Level	1,691,869
2014-04-01	Exit	Upper Level	667,872
2014-04-01	Exit	Upper Level	667,872

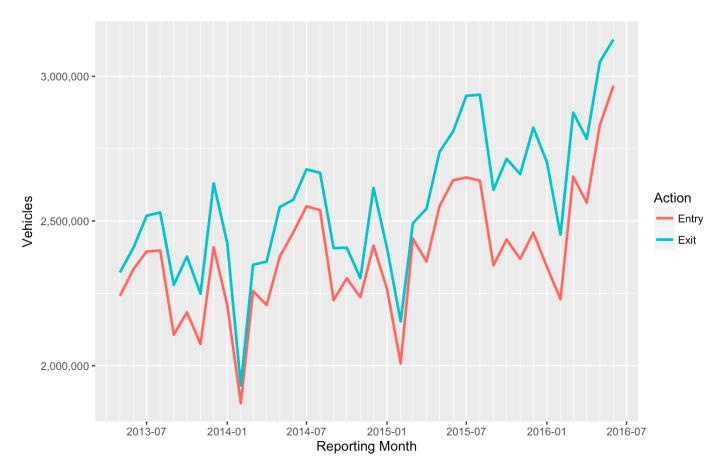
Investigating our raw data shows dup rows for this month, so we'll go ahead and dedup rows for that month.

vehicles	level	action	reporting_month
1,027,606	Lower Level	Entry	2014-04-01
1,181,556	Upper Level	Entry	2014-04-01
1,691,869	Lower Level	Exit	2014-04-01
667,872	Upper Level	Exit	2014-04-01

5.2.2 Part 2

We see month of 2014-09 is the only month where entries out pace exists.

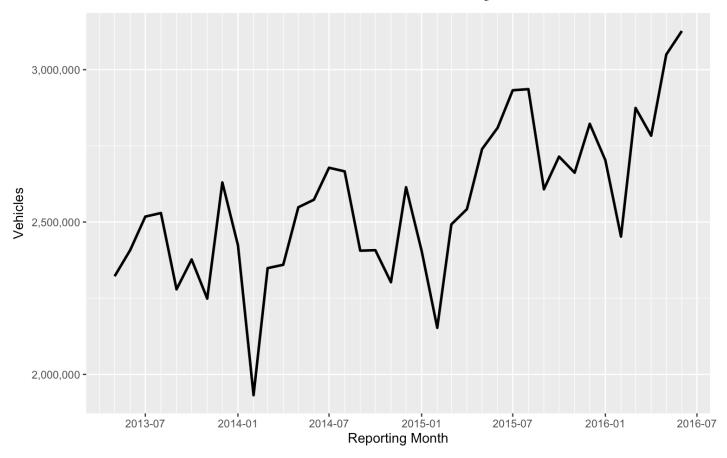
We'll correct for this by editing exits for that month to be the "# of entries in 2014-09" + "average difference between exits and entries".



5.2.3 Part 3

Lastly, exits outpace entries every month. In reality, a vehicle that exits had to have entered at some point, and vice versa.

For our analysis, we only need one number per month, so we'll use the maximum of each months entry or exit.



5.3 Code

```
work_dir="/Users/bradychiu/Dropbox/r/lax_ground_vehicle_traffic_volume"
data_dir="data/"
deliverable_dir="deliverables/"
# setwd(work_dir)

package_loader<-function(package_names){
    for(i in package_names){
        if(!i %in% rownames(installed.packages())) install.packages(i, repos="http://cran.r-project.org")
        library(i, character.only=T)
    }
}
package_names<-c("data.table", "dplyr", "forecast", "ggplot2", "knitr", "lubridate", "st ats", "stringr", "tidyr", "tseries")
package_loader(package_names)</pre>
```

```
get_data<-function(data_file_paths){</pre>
 bind_rows(lapply(data_file_paths, fread, na.strings="", stringsAsFactors=F)) %>%
    data.frame()
}
get_table<-function(df,dig=2){</pre>
  kable(df, align='r', digits=dig, format.args=list(big.mark=","))
}
# calculate mean absolute error
get mae<-function(actuals, predicted){</pre>
  err<-abs(actuals-predicted)
  return (mean(err))
}
# calculate mean absolute percentage error
get_mape<-function(actuals, predicted){</pre>
  err<-abs(actuals-predicted)/actuals
  return (mean(err))
}
# calculate mean squared error
get_mse<-function(actuals, predicted){</pre>
  err<-(actuals-predicted)^2
  return(mean(err))
# calculate mean percentage error
get mpe<-function(actuals, predicted){</pre>
  err<-(actuals-predicted)/actuals
  return(mean(err))
}
```

validation periods<-3</pre>

```
# file.remove(file.path(work_dir, data_dir, "lax_ground_vehicle_traffic_volume.Rds"))
if(!file.exists(file.path(work dir, data dir, "lax ground vehicle traffic volume.Rds")))
{
  file names<-c(
    "Los Angeles International Airport - Ground Vehicle Traffic Volume.csv"
 lax ground vehicle traffic volume<-get data(file.path(work dir, data dir, file names))</pre>
   mutate(ReportingMonth=mdy hms(ReportingMonth, tz="America/Los Angeles")) %>%
    dplyr::rename(reporting_month=ReportingMonth,
                  action=EntryExit,
                  level=UpperLower,
                  vehicles=TOTAL.VEHICLES) %>%
    arrange(reporting month, action, level)
  saveRDS(lax ground vehicle traffic volume, file.path(work dir, data dir, "lax ground v
ehicle traffic volume.Rds"))
}else{
  lax_ground_vehicle_traffic_volume<-readRDS(file.path(work_dir, data_dir, "lax_ground_v</pre>
ehicle_traffic_volume.Rds"))
}
```

```
mean_exit_entry_delta<-lax_ground_vehicle_traffic_volume_edit_1 %>%
  group by(reporting month, action) %>%
 summarize(vehicles=sum(vehicles)) %>%
 ungroup() %>%
  spread(action, vehicles) %>%
 mutate(exit entry delta=ifelse(Exit>Entry, Exit-Entry, NA)) %>%
  .$exit entry delta %>%
 mean(na.rm=T)
lax_ground_vehicle_traffic_volume_edit_2<-lax_ground_vehicle_traffic_volume_edit_1 %>%
  group by(reporting month, action) %>%
 summarize(vehicles=sum(vehicles)) %>%
 ungroup() %>%
 spread(action, vehicles) %>%
 mutate(Exit=ifelse(reporting month==ymd("2014-09-01", tz="America/Los Angeles"),
Entry+mean exit entry delta, Exit)) %>%
  gather(action, vehicles, -reporting_month)
lax_ground_vehicle_traffic_volume_edit_2 %>%
  ggplot(aes(x=reporting month, y=vehicles, color=action, group=action))+
 geom line(size=1)+
 scale x datetime(name="Reporting Month",
                   date minor breaks="1 months")+
 scale y continuous(name="Vehicles",
                     breaks=seq(0,10000000,500000),
                     labels=format(seq(0,10000000,500000), big.mark=",", scientific=F))+
 scale color discrete(name="Action")
```

```
lax_vehicles<-lax_ground_vehicle_traffic_volume_cleaned %>%
 mutate(dataset=ifelse(row number()<=nrow(.)-validation periods, "training", "test"))</pre>
lax.training<-lax_vehicles %>%
  filter(dataset=="training") %>%
  dplyr::select(-dataset)
lax.test<-lax vehicles %>%
  filter(dataset=="test") %>%
 dplyr::select(-dataset)
lax vehicles %>%
  ggplot(aes(x=reporting_month, y=vehicles, color=dataset))+
 geom line(size=1)+
 ggtitle("Hold Out Data for Validation Testing")+
 scale x datetime(name="Reporting Month")+
 scale y continuous(name="Vehicles",
                     breaks=seq(-1000000,1000000,250000),
                     labels=format(seq(-1000000,1000000,250000), big.mark=",", scientifi
c=F))
lax.ts12<-ts(lax.training$vehicles, frequency=12, start=c(year(min(lax.training$reportin
g_month)),
                                                           month(min(lax.training$reporti
ng_month))))
lax.ts12
lax.training %>%
 mutate(diff1=vehicles-dplyr::lag(vehicles, 1)) %>%
 ggplot(aes(x=reporting month, y=diff1))+
```

```
acf(diff(lax.training$vehicles),
    lag.max=sum(!is.na(lax.training$vehicles)))
```

```
adf.test(diff(lax.training$vehicles), alternative="stationary")
```

```
kpss.test(diff(lax.training$vehicles))
```

```
lax.stl<-stl(lax.ts12, s.window="periodic", t.window = 24)</pre>
plot(lax.stl)
lax.training %>%
 mutate("Trend"=lax.stl$time.series[,2],
         "Trend + Seasonal"=lax.stl$time.series[,1]+lax.stl$time.series[,2]) %>%
 dplyr::rename(actuals=vehicles) %>%
 gather(metric, value, actuals:`Trend + Seasonal`) %>%
 mutate(metric=factor(metric, levels=c("Trend", "Trend + Seasonal"))) %>%
 filter(metric!="actuals") %>%
 ggplot(aes(x=reporting_month, y=value, color=metric, group=metric))+
 geom_line(size=1)+
 ggtitle("STL Decomposition")+
 scale_x_datetime(name="Reporting Month",
                   date_minor_breaks="2 months")+
 scale_y_continuous(name="Vehicles",
                     breaks=seq(0,10000000,500000),
                     labels=format(seq(0,10000000,500000), big.mark=",", scientific=F))
```

```
lax.training %>%
 mutate("Seasonal + Trend"=lax.stl$time.series[,1]+lax.stl$time.series[,2]) %>%
 dplyr::rename(Actuals=vehicles) %>%
  gather(metric, value, Actuals:`Seasonal + Trend`) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x=reporting month, y=value, color=metric, group=metric))+
  geom line(size=1)+
 ggtitle("STL Decomposition vs. Actuals")+
 scale_x_datetime(name="Reporting Month",
                   date minor breaks="2 months")+
 scale_y_continuous(name="Vehicles",
                     breaks=seq(0,10000000,500000),
                     labels=format(seq(0,10000000,500000), big.mark=",", scientific=F))
lax.stl.fcast<-data.frame(forecast.stl(lax.stl, h=validation periods, method="ets"))</pre>
lax.stl.fcast %>%
  get_table()
lax.stl.predict<-lax.test %>%
  dplyr::rename(actuals=vehicles) %>%
 mutate(predicted=lax.stl.fcast$Point.Forecast)
lax.training %>%
  dplyr::rename(actuals=vehicles) %>%
  gather(metric, value, -reporting month) %>%
 bind rows(lax.stl.predict %>%
              gather(metric, value, -reporting month)) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x=reporting month, y=value,
             color=factor(metric,
                          levels=c("predicted", "actuals"))))+
 geom line(size=1)+
  ggtitle("STL Decomposition Validation")+
 scale x datetime(name="Reporting Month",
                   date minor breaks="2 months")+
 scale y continuous(name="Vehicles",
                     breaks=seg(0,10000000,500000),
                     labels=format(seq(0,10000000,500000), big.mark=",", scientific=F))+
 scale color hue(name="")
stl validation<-data.frame(model="STL",</pre>
                           mae=get mae(lax.stl.predict$actuals, lax.stl.predict$predicte
d),
                           mape=get mape(lax.stl.predict$actuals, lax.stl.predict$predic
ted),
                           mse=get mse(lax.stl.predict$actuals, lax.stl.predict$predicte
d),
                           mpe=get_mpe(lax.stl.predict$actuals, lax.stl.predict$predicte
d),
                           stringsAsFactors=F)
stl validation %>%
 get table(4)
forecast validation <- stl validation
```

```
# lax.hw<-HoltWinters(lax.ts12, gamma=F) # trend only
lax.hw<-HoltWinters(lax.ts12) # seasonal + trend
lax.hw</pre>
```

```
lax.hw.fcast<-data.frame(forecast.HoltWinters(lax.hw, h=validation periods))</pre>
lax.hw.fcast %>%
  get table()
lax.hw.predict<-lax.test %>%
  dplyr::rename(actuals=vehicles) %>%
 mutate(predicted=lax.hw.fcast$Point.Forecast)
lax.training %>%
  dplyr::rename(actuals=vehicles) %>%
  gather(metric, value, -reporting_month) %>%
 bind rows(lax.hw.predict %>%
              gather(metric, value, -reporting_month)) %>%
 ggplot(aes(x=reporting month, y=value,
             color=factor(metric,
                          levels=c("predicted", "actuals"))))+
 geom_line(size=1)+
 ggtitle("Holt-Winters Validation")+
 scale x datetime(name="Reporting Month",
                   date_minor_breaks="2 months")+
 scale y continuous(name="Vehicles",
                     breaks=seq(0,10000000,500000),
                     labels=format(seq(0,10000000,500000), big.mark=",", scientific=F))+
  scale color hue(name="")
hw validation<-data.frame(model="Holt-Winters",
                          mae=get mae(lax.hw.predict$actuals, lax.hw.predict$predicted),
                          mape=get mape(lax.hw.predict$actuals,
lax.hw.predict$predicted),
                          mse=get_mse(lax.hw.predict$actuals, lax.hw.predict$predicted),
                          mpe=get mpe(lax.hw.predict$actuals, lax.hw.predict$predicted))
hw validation %>%
 get_table(4)
forecast validation<-forecast validation %>%
 bind rows(hw validation)
```

```
lax.autoarima<-auto.arima(lax.ts12, allowdrift=F)
lax.autoarima</pre>
```

```
lax.autoarima.fcast<-data.frame(forecast(lax.autoarima, h=validation_periods))</pre>
lax.autoarima.fcast %>%
  get_table()
lax.autoarima.predict<-lax.test %>%
  dplyr::rename(actuals=vehicles) %>%
 mutate(predicted=lax.autoarima.fcast$Point.Forecast)
lax.training %>%
  dplyr::rename(actuals=vehicles) %>%
  gather(metric, value, -reporting month) %>%
 bind_rows(lax.autoarima.predict %>%
              gather(metric, value, -reporting month)) %>%
 ggplot(aes(x=reporting_month, y=value,
             color=factor(metric,
                          levels=c("predicted", "actuals"))))+
  geom_line(size=1)+
 ggtitle("Auto-Arima Validation")+
 scale_x_datetime(name="Reporting Month",
                   date_minor_breaks="2 months")+
 scale_y_continuous(name="Vehicles",
                     breaks=seq(0,10000000,500000),
                     labels=format(seq(0,10000000,500000), big.mark=",", scientific=F))+
  scale color hue(name="")
arima validation <- data.frame (model="Arima",
                             mae=get mae(lax.autoarima.predict$actuals, lax.autoarima.pr
edict$predicted),
                             mape=get mape(lax.autoarima.predict$actuals, lax.autoarima.
predict$predicted),
                             mse=get mse(lax.autoarima.predict$actuals, lax.autoarima.pr
edict$predicted),
                             mpe=get mpe(lax.autoarima.predict$actuals, lax.autoarima.pr
edict$predicted))
arima validation %>%
  get table(4)
forecast validation<-forecast validation %>%
 bind_rows(arima_validation)
```