Statistical Methods for Discrete Response, Time Series, and Panel Data (W271): Lab 2

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Instructions (Please Read Carefully):

- Submit by the due date. Late submissions will not be accepted
- No page limit, but be reasonable
- Do not modify fontsize, margin or line-spacing settings
- One student from each group should submit the lab to their student github repo by the deadline
- Submit two files:
 - 1. A pdf file that details your answers. Include all R code used to produce the answers
 - 2. The R markdown (Rmd) file used to produce the pdf file

The assignment will not be graded unless both files are submitted

- Name your files to include all group members names. For example, if the students' names are Stan Cartman and Kenny Kyle, name your files as follows:
 - StanCartman KennyKyle Lab2.Rmd
 - StanCartman_KennyKyle_Lab2.pdf
- Although it sounds obvious, please write your name on page 1 of your pdf and Rmd files
- All answers should include a detailed narrative; make sure that your audience can easily follow the logic of your analysis. All steps used in modelling must be clearly shown and explained; do not simply 'output dump' the results of code without explanation
- If you use libraries and functions for statistical modeling that we have not covered in this course, you must provide an explanation of why such libraries and functions are used and reference the library documentation
- For mathematical formulae, type them in your R markdown file. Do not e.g. write them on a piece of paper, snap a photo, and use the image file
- Incorrectly following submission instructions results in deduction of grades
- Students are expected to act with regard to UC Berkeley Academic Integrity.

The Keeling Curve

In the 1950s, the geochemist Charles David Keeling observed a seasonal pattern in the amount of carbon dioxide present in air samples collected over the course of several years. He attributed this pattern to varying rates of photosynthesis throughout the year, caused by differences in land area and vegetation cover between the Earth's northern and southern hemispheres.

In 1958 Keeling began continuous monitoring of atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations from the Mauna Loa Observatory in Hawaii. He soon observed a trend increase carbon dioxide levels in addition to the seasonal cycle, attributable to growth in global rates of fossil fuel combustion. Measurement of this trend at Mauna Loa has continued to the present.

The co2 data set in R's datasets package (automatically loaded with base R) is a monthly time series of atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations measured in ppm (parts per million) at the Mauna Loa Observatory from 1959 to 1997. The curve graphed by this data is known as the 'Keeling Curve'.

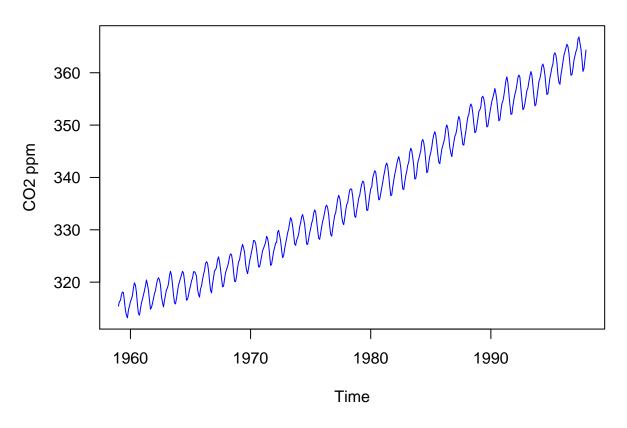
Part 1 (3 points)

Conduct a comprehensive Exploratory Data Analysis on the co2 series. This should include (without being limited to) a thorough investigation of the trend, seasonal and irregular elements.

```
str(co2)
```

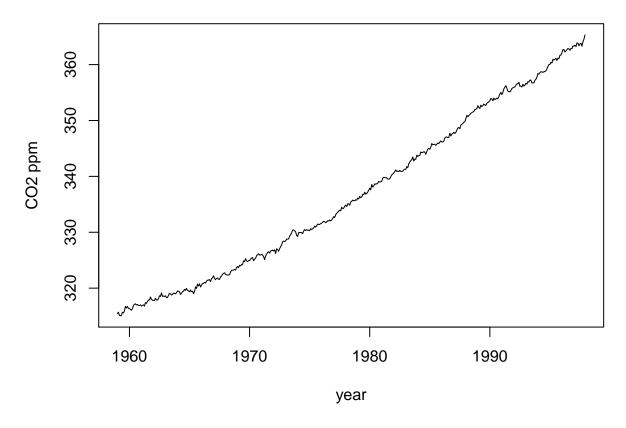
```
Time-Series [1:468] from 1959 to 1998: 315 316 316 318 318 ...
summary(co2)
##
      Min. 1st Qu. Median
                              Mean 3rd Qu.
                                               Max.
##
     313.2
             323.5
                     335.2
                             337.1
                                      350.3
                                              366.8
co2.decompose = decompose(co2)
co2.diff = diff(co2, 1)
co2.seasdiff = diff(co2, lag = 12)
co2.bothdiff = diff(co2.diff,lag = 12)
co2.deseasoned = co2 - co2.decompose$seasonal
co2.detrended = co2 - co2.decompose$trend
plot(co2, main = "Figure 1: Monthly Mean CO2 Variation",
          ylab = expression("CO2 ppm"), col = 'blue', las = 1)
```





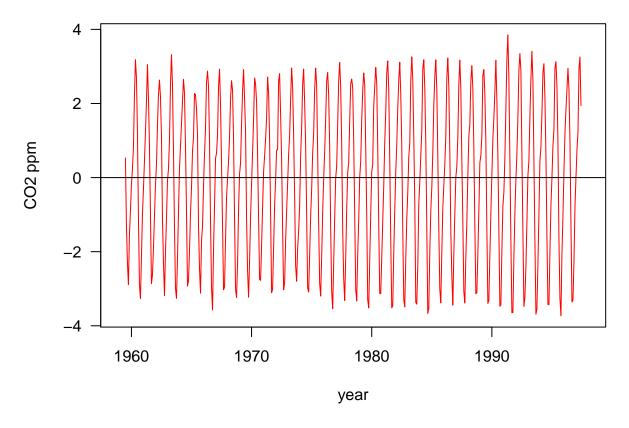
```
plot(co2.deseasoned,
    main = "Figure 2: Presence of CO2 after removing season",
    xlab = "year", ylab = "CO2 ppm")
```





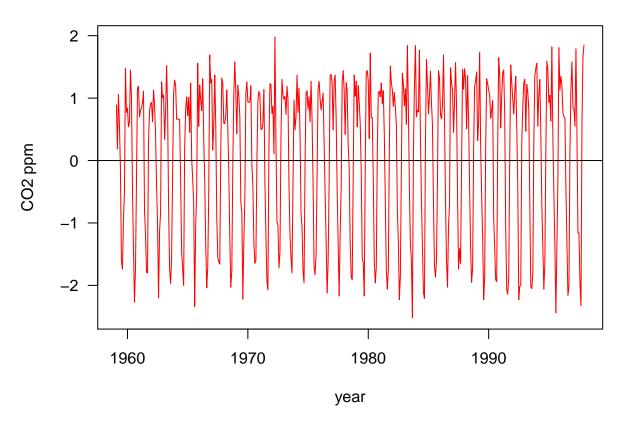
```
plot(co2.detrended,
    main = "Figure 3: Presence of CO2 after removing trend",
    xlab = "year", ylab = expression("CO2 ppm"), col = 'red', las= 1)
abline(h= 0)
```



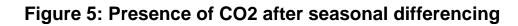


```
plot(co2.diff,
main = "Figure 4: Presence of CO2 after differencing",
xlab = "year", ylab = expression("CO2 ppm"), col = 'red', las= 1)
abline(h= 0)
```





```
plot(co2.seasdiff,
main = "Figure 5: Presence of CO2 after seasonal differencing",
xlab = "year", ylab = expression("CO2 ppm"), col = 'red', las= 1)
abline(h= 0)
```



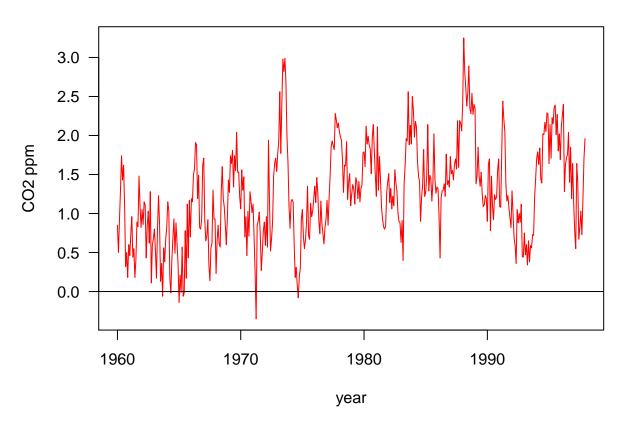
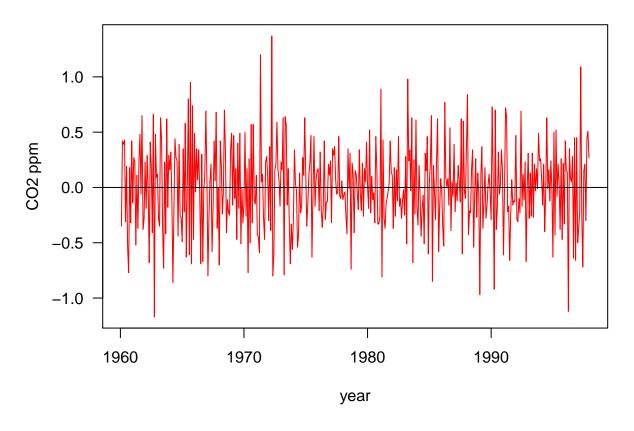


Figure 6: Presence of CO2 w/ non-seasonal & seasonal differencing



boxplot(co2 ~ cycle(co2), main="Figure 7: Boxplot of CO2 (ppm) by month")

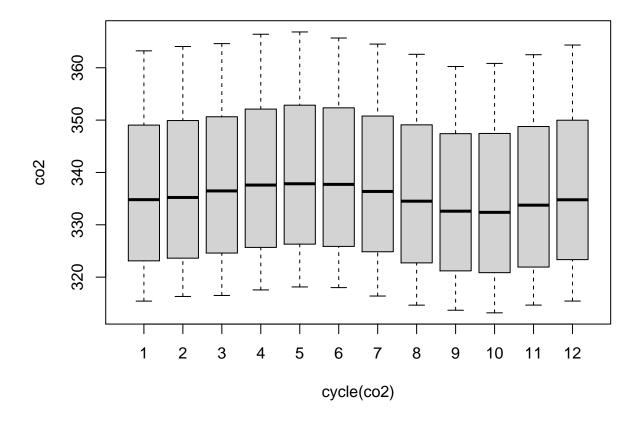


Figure 7: Boxplot of CO2 (ppm) by month

Data provided has CO2 presence in the air (parts per million) in monthly time series format from 1959 to 1998.

From Figure 1: The time series plot of the mean of co2 presence in the air indicates a clear trend and seasonal effect. We also observe that the variance is constant over time, which suggests no need for transformation.

From Figure 2: We see a clear upward trend in the mean of the presence of Co2 in the air.

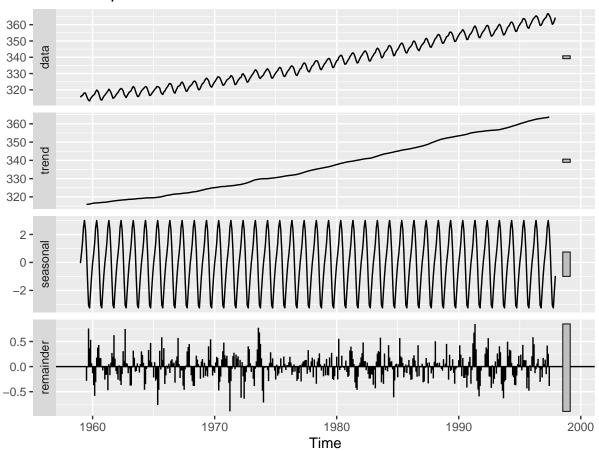
From Figure 3: Co2 presence in the air after removing the trend component from the time series indicates the persistent yearly seasonal effect. The de-trended series also appears to be mean and variance stationary.

From Figure 4: Trend is abstracted by taking the first difference of the time series. It suggests we use ARIMA with integration/difference of 1.

From Figure 5: Seasonality absent after applying difference of 12 lags for the season. We still see trends present.

From Figure 6: Seasonality and trend are absent after one lag and 12 lags for the season. After seasonal and non-seasonal differencing, the series appears stationary with a relatively constant mean. From Figure 7: Seasonality is apparent across months. For instance, notice the increase in CO2 from the first quarter to the end of the second quarter (month 6), and then the decline in CO2 until October.

Decomposition of C02 Time Series

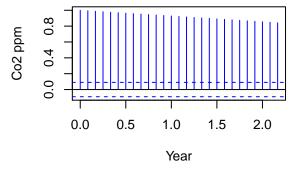


ACF – CO2 Presence in air 1959 – 1997

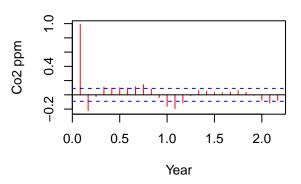
0.0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0

Year

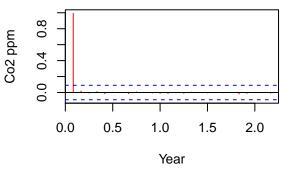
ACF – CO2 Presence in air– deseasoned (1959 – 1997)



PACF – CO2 Presence in air 1959 – 1997

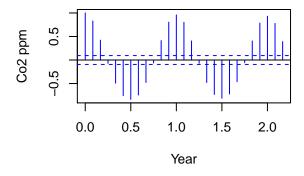


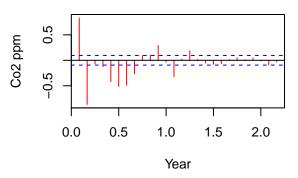
PACF CO2 Presence in airdeseasoned (1959 – 1997)



ACF CO2 Presence in air detrended (1959 – 1997)

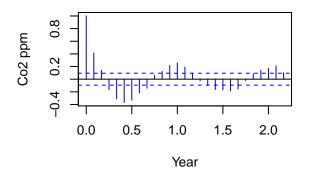
PACF CO2 Presence in air detrended 1959 – 1997

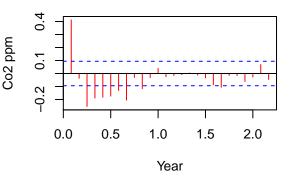




ACF CO2 Presence in air random component (1959 – 1997)

PACF CO2 Presence in air random component (1959 – 1997)



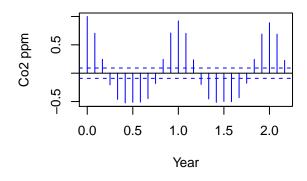


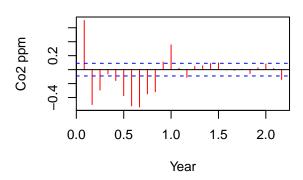
```
plot(plot.acf.diff,
    main = "ACF CO2 Presence in air \n AR First differencing (1959 - 1997)",
    xlab = "Year", ylab = "Co2 ppm", col="blue")
plot(plot.pacf.diff,
    main = "PACF CO2 Presence in air \n AR first differencing (1959 - 1997)",
    xlab = "Year", ylab = "Co2 ppm", col="red", cex.main=0.5)
```

```
plot(plot.acf.seasondiff,
    main = "ACF CO2 Presence in air \n seasonal diff (1959 - 1997)",
    xlab = "Year", ylab = "Co2 ppm", col="blue")
plot(plot.pacf.seasondiff,
    main = "PACF CO2 Presence in air \n season difference (1959 - 1997)",
    xlab = "Year", ylab = "Co2 ppm", col="red", cex.main=0.5)
```

ACF CO2 Presence in air AR First differencing (1959 – 1997)

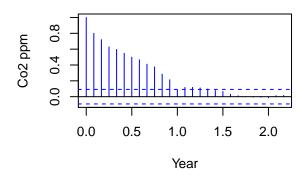
PACF CO2 Presence in air AR first differencing (1959 – 1997)

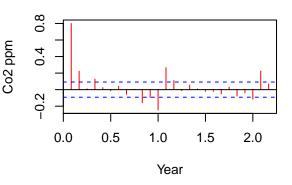




ACF CO2 Presence in air seasonal diff (1959 – 1997)

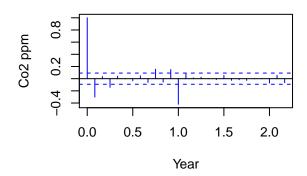
PACF CO2 Presence in air season difference (1959 – 1997)

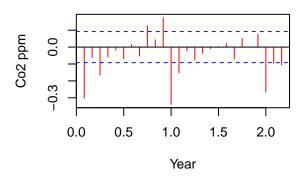




ACF CO2 Presence in air AR and seasonal differences

PACF CO2 Presence in air AR and seasonal differences





Decomposition graph confirms the findings from EDA that trend and seasonality are present in the time series.

The above ACF and PACF graphs show for different adjustments of time series, in the following order: 1) original series 2) de-seasoned 3) de-trended 4) random component of time series 5) One-period differenced for trend 6) One-period difference and seasonal difference time series. We noted a few observations below:

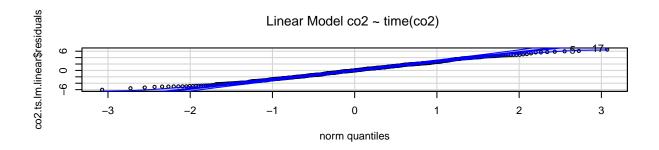
- * PACF graph shows autocorrelation dying off after first lag after de-seasoned. This suggests to use only 1st order autoregressive model. This also suggests taking the first seasonal difference is important.
- * ACF graph shows clear seasonal effect after removing trend
- * ACF graph after performing auto regressive (AR) and seasonal differences looks closer to white noise ACF graph. Significant correlations at a 1 year lag suggests the need for a MA term.
- * In the PACF with AR and seasonal differences plot, the significant negative correlations at 1 and 2 year lags suggest we should explore using a seasonal AR term in our model.

Part 2 (3 points)

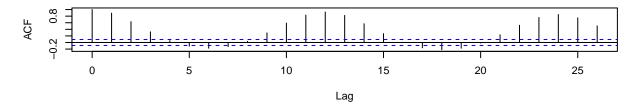
Fit a linear time trend model to the co2 series, and examine the characteristics of the residuals. Compare this to a higher-order polynomial time trend model. Discuss whether a logarithmic transformation of the data would be appropriate. Fit a polynomial time trend model that incorporates seasonal dummy variables, and use this model to generate forecasts up to the present.

Linear Time Trend Model

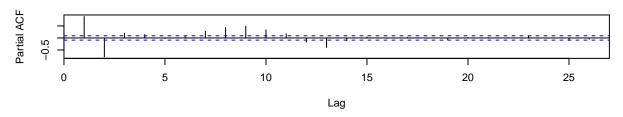
```
# First fit a linear time trend model
par(mfrow = c(3, 1))
co2.ts.lm.linear = lm(co2 ~ time(co2) )
summary(co2.ts.lm.linear)
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = co2 ~ time(co2))
## Residuals:
               1Q Median
      Min
                               30
                                      Max
## -6.0399 -1.9476 -0.0017 1.9113 6.5149
##
## Coefficients:
##
                Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) -2.250e+03 2.127e+01 -105.8
                                              <2e-16 ***
## time(co2)
              1.308e+00 1.075e-02
                                     121.6
                                              <2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 2.618 on 466 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.9695, Adjusted R-squared: 0.9694
## F-statistic: 1.479e+04 on 1 and 466 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
qqPlot(co2.ts.lm.linear$residuals,
      main = expression("Linear Model co2 ~ time(co2) "))
## [1] 17 5
plt.acf = acf(co2.ts.lm.linear$residuals, plot = FALSE)
plt.pacf = pacf(co2.ts.lm.linear$residuals, plot = FALSE)
plot(plt.acf, main = expression("ACF - Linear Model co2 ~ time(co2) "))
plot(plt.pacf, main = expression("PACF - Linear Model co2 ~ time(co2) "))
```



ACF - Linear Model co2 ~ time(co2)



PACF - Linear Model co2 ~ time(co2)



Box.test(co2.ts.lm.linear\$residuals, type="Ljung-Box")

```
##
## Box-Ljung test
##
## data: co2.ts.lm.linear$residuals
## X-squared = 373.94, df = 1, p-value < 2.2e-16</pre>
```

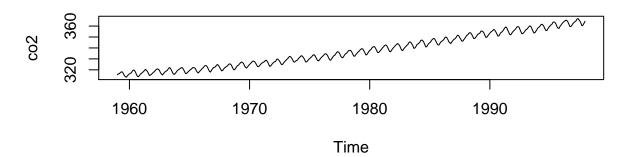
After fitting a time-trend model, we performed several checks to assess model fit. As seen above, the plot of the residuals against the normal distribution shows skewing in the tails, suggesting that the linear model residuals are not normally distributed.

The ACF and PACF plots show evidence of autocorrelation in the residuals. This suggests poor model fit and clustering of errors, which would underestimate standard errors of the coefficients. This latter finding is supported by the results of the Ljung-Box test, which has a small p-value (< 0.05), meaning that we can reject with 95% confidence the null hypothesis that the residuals are independently distributed (the model exhibits a lack of fit).

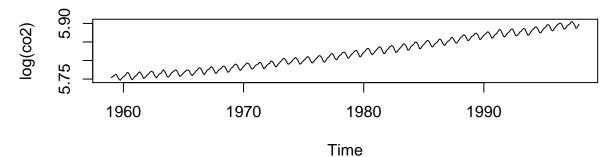
Log Transformation of CO₂ Levels

```
par(mfrow=c(2,1))
plot(co2, main="CO2 Levels")
plot(log(co2), main="Log-Transformed CO2 Levels")
```

CO2 Levels



Log-Transformed CO2 Levels



At first glance, the log-transformed series appears very similar to the raw series. Also, the raw monthly CO2 series does not appear to exhibit increasing variance through time, which suggests that a log-transformation is not necessary. However, we will continue to fit a log-transformed time trend model for verification.

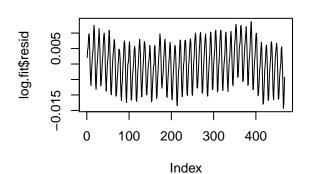
```
log.fit <- lm(log(co2) ~ time(co2) + I(time(co2)^2))
summary(log.fit)</pre>
```

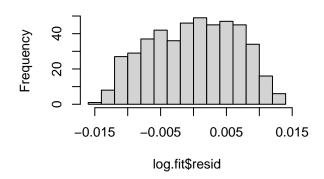
```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = log(co2) ~ time(co2) + I(time(co2)^2))
##
## Residuals:
## Min 1Q Median 3Q Max
## -0.0143052 -0.0050832 0.0005277 0.0052757 0.0136508
##
## Coefficients:
```

```
##
                   Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)
                  1.193e+02 1.036e+01
                                        11.52
                                                <2e-16 ***
## time(co2)
                                                 <2e-16 ***
                 -1.186e-01 1.047e-02 -11.32
## I(time(co2)^2) 3.094e-05 2.646e-06 11.69
                                                 <2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Residual standard error: 0.00649 on 465 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.9786, Adjusted R-squared: 0.9785
## F-statistic: 1.061e+04 on 2 and 465 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
# Residual Diagnostics
summary(log.fit$resid)
##
                1st Qu.
        Min.
                            Median
                                         Mean
                                                 3rd Qu.
                                                              Max.
## -0.0143052 -0.0050832 0.0005277 0.0000000 0.0052757 0.0136508
par(mfrow=c(2,2))
plot(log.fit$resid, type="l", main="Residuals: t-plot")
hist(log.fit$resid)
acf(log.fit$resid, main="ACF of the Residual Series")
pacf(log.fit$resid, main="PACF of the Residual Series")
```

Residuals: t-plot

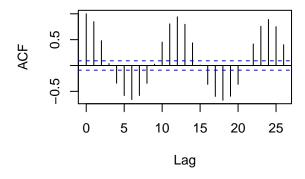
Histogram of log.fit\$resid

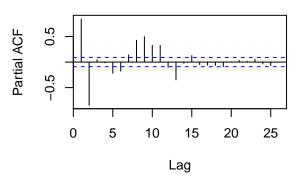




ACF of the Residual Series

PACF of the Residual Series





```
Box.test(residuals(log.fit), lag=12, type="Ljung")
```

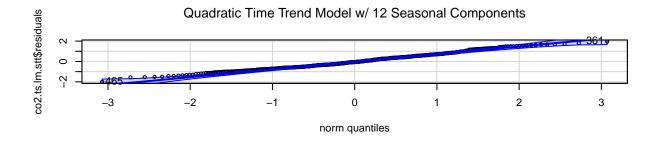
```
##
## Box-Ljung test
##
## data: residuals(log.fit)
## X-squared = 1925.9, df = 12, p-value < 2.2e-16</pre>
```

The residuals are highly correlated and show evidence of seasonality in the ACF plot. The Ljung-Box test supports the ACF plot and permits us to reject the null hypothesis that the series is independently distributed in favor of the alternative hypothesis that the series exhibits serial correlation. As mentioned earlier, since the variance appears constant through time, we will not log-transform the series going forward.

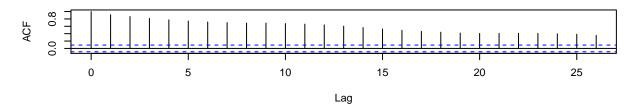
Seasonal Time-Trend Model

```
# Add seasonal dummy to data.frame
co2.df = data.frame(ppm = c(co2), time = c(time(co2)))
co2.df$season = as.factor(cycle(co2))
par(mfrow = c(3, 1))
```

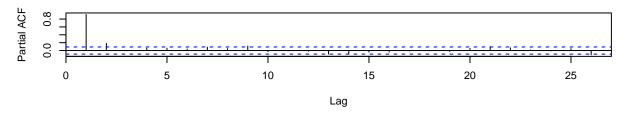
```
co2.ts.lm.stt = lm(ppm ~ time + I(time^2) + season, data = co2.df)
summary(co2.ts.lm.stt)
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = ppm ~ time + I(time^2) + season, data = co2.df)
##
## Residuals:
##
        Min
                 1Q
                      Median
                                   3Q
                                           Max
## -1.99478 -0.54468 -0.06017 0.47265
                                      1.95480
##
## Coefficients:
##
                Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) 4.771e+04 1.156e+03 41.289 < 2e-16 ***
## time
              -4.920e+01 1.168e+00 -42.120 < 2e-16 ***
## I(time^2)
               1.277e-02 2.952e-04 43.242 < 2e-16 ***
## season2
               6.642e-01 1.640e-01 4.051 5.99e-05 ***
## season3
               1.407e+00 1.640e-01 8.582 < 2e-16 ***
## season4
               2.538e+00 1.640e-01 15.480 < 2e-16 ***
## season5
               3.017e+00 1.640e-01 18.400 < 2e-16 ***
## season6
               2.354e+00 1.640e-01 14.357 < 2e-16 ***
## season7
              8.331e-01 1.640e-01 5.081 5.50e-07 ***
## season8
              -1.235e+00 1.640e-01 -7.531 2.75e-13 ***
## season9
              -3.059e+00 1.640e-01 -18.659 < 2e-16 ***
## season10
              -3.243e+00 1.640e-01 -19.777 < 2e-16 ***
## season11
              -2.054e+00 1.640e-01 -12.526 < 2e-16 ***
## season12
              -9.374e-01 1.640e-01 -5.717 1.97e-08 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Residual standard error: 0.724 on 454 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.9977, Adjusted R-squared: 0.9977
## F-statistic: 1.531e+04 on 13 and 454 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
qqPlot(co2.ts.lm.stt$residuals,
   main = expression("Quadratic Time Trend Model w/ 12 Seasonal Components"))
## [1] 465 361
plt.acf = acf(co2.ts.lm.stt$residuals, plot = FALSE)
plt.pacf = pacf(co2.ts.lm.stt$residuals, plot = FALSE)
plot(plt.acf,
main = expression("ACF - Quadratic Time Trend Model with Season terms"))
plot(plt.pacf,
main = expression("PACF - Quadratic Time Trend Model with Season terms"))
```



ACF - Quadratic Time Trend Model with Season terms



PACF - Quadratic Time Trend Model with Season terms



Box.test(co2.ts.lm.stt\$residuals, type="Ljung-Box")

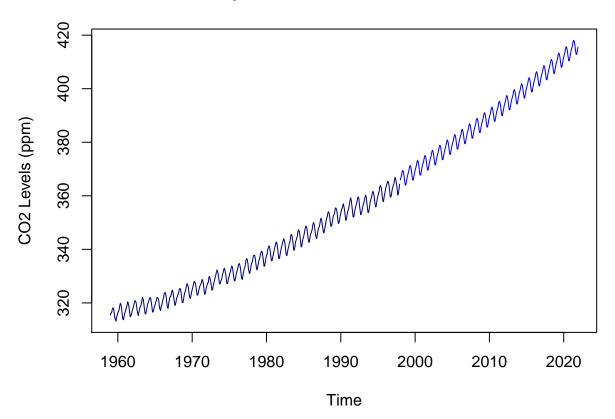
```
##
## Box-Ljung test
##
## data: co2.ts.lm.stt$residuals
## X-squared = 393.48, df = 1, p-value < 2.2e-16</pre>
```

Next, we fit a polynomial time trend model that incorporates seasonal dummy variables. Based upon residual plots, the quadratic model with time and seasonal dummy variables appears to be a better fit. The residual tails are closer to the quantiles of the normal distribution. However, the ACF plot of the residuals, like those of the linear time trend model, show a trend not captured by our model - the majority of autocorrelations are significant and there is a gradual decay in values over the lags. The PACF shows fewer significant autocorrelations. Again, we find that the model rejects the null hypothesis of the Ljung-Box test, indicating serial correlation in the residuals.

Despite these inadequacies, the model predictions in the short term do not appear unreasonable, as seen in our forecast plots below.

Seasonal Time-Trend Model Predictions

Seasonal Polynominal Time Trend Model Forecasts



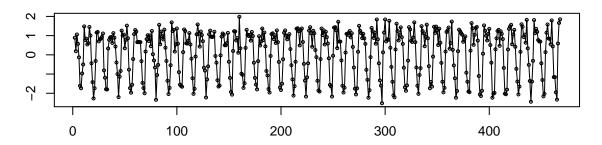
Part 3 (4 points)

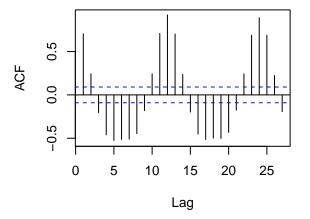
Following all appropriate steps, choose an ARIMA model to fit to this co2 series. Discuss the characteristics of your model and how you selected between alternative ARIMA specifications. Use your model to generate forecasts to the present.

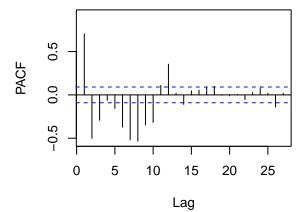
SARIMA Model Selection

```
# Find the number of seasonal and non-seasonal differences needed for stationarity
# 1 non-seasonal difference and 0 seasonal differences are required
unitroot_ndiffs(co2)
## ndiffs
##
unitroot nsdiffs(co2)
## nsdiffs
##
# Plot the residuals, ACF, and PACF of the first-differenced series
# The PACF chart has fewer repeated significant spikes at seasonal lags
# than the ACF does # so we'll use it for the seasonal part of the model
# in our initial estimate
# The PACF only a seasonal spike at a lag of 12 - (1,0,0).
#Since we used the PACF for the seasonal part, we'll estimate
#the non-seasonal with the ACF
# The first 2 autocorrelations in the ACF are significant,
# so we'll estimate an MA(2)
tsdisplay(difference(co2), main = "Non-Seasonal 1st Difference")
```

Non-Seasonal 1st Difference







```
## [1] 18.45181
co2.sarima.aicc
```

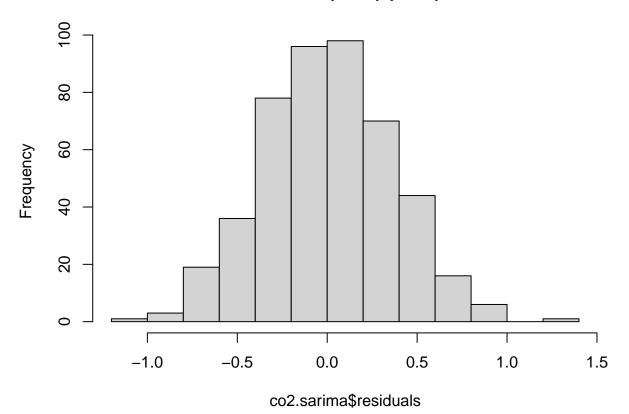
[1] 395.0111

```
# Look at the estimated coefficients
summary(co2.sarima)
```

```
##
## Call:
## arima(x = co2, order = c(0, 1, 2), seasonal = list(order = c(1, 0, 0), frequency(co2)),
## method = "CSS")
##
```

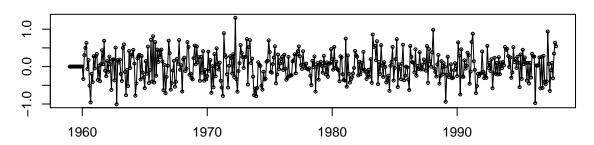
```
## Coefficients:
##
             ma1
                      ma2
                             sar1
                           0.9804
         -0.3501
                  -0.0577
##
          0.0462
                   0.0444 0.0108
## s.e.
##
## sigma^2 estimated as 0.1364: part log likelihood = -197.51
## Training set error measures:
                                RMSE
                                            MAE
                                                        MPE
                                                                  MAPE
                        ME
                                                                            MASE
## Training set 0.00639654 0.3641826 0.2888305 0.001826364 0.08591893 0.2683615
##
                       ACF1
## Training set 0.007648558
# The histogram plot looks approximately normal
hist(co2.sarima$residuals, main = "SARIMA (0,1,2) (1,0,0)")
```

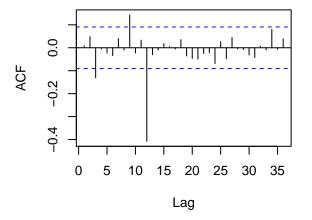
SARIMA (0,1,2) (1,0,0)

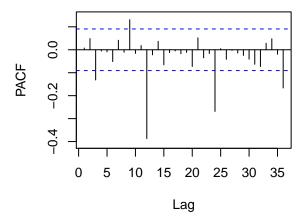


A time series plot of the residuals appears to have a constant mean
The ACF and PACF plots show a few significant autocorrelations
tsdisplay(co2.sarima\$residuals, main = "SARIMA (0,1,2) (1,0,0)")

SARIMA (0,1,2) (1,0,0)

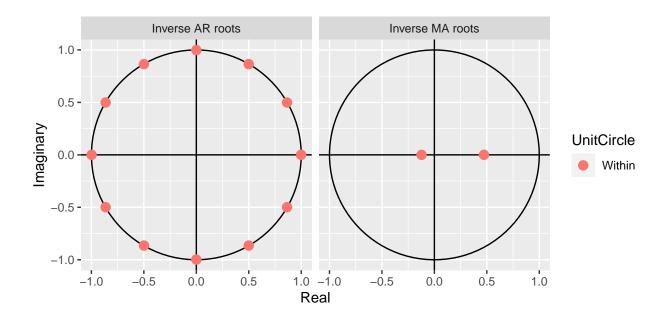






But the model fails to reject the null hypothesis, suggesting that
the residuals are not serially correlated
Box.test(co2.sarima\$residuals, type="Ljung-Box")

```
##
## Box-Ljung test
##
## data: co2.sarima$residuals
## X-squared = 0.027554, df = 1, p-value = 0.8682
# Check the inverse unit roots for stationarity
# The inverse unit roots are near non-stationarity
autoplot(co2.sarima)
```



To create our initial model, we first ran unit root tests to check the number of seasonal and non-seasonal differences required for stationarity. These tests returned 1 non-seasonal difference and 0 seasonal differences required, so we used these values as our d and D to estimate our initial Arima model.

To obtain p, q, P, and Q, we took a first non-seasonal difference and plotted the ACF, PACF, and differenced values as a time series. The time series plot of the differenced values appeared relatively stationary. The ACF and PACF still showed evidence of autocorrelation. Since the PACF had fewer repeating seasonal lags, we used this plot to estimate the seasonal part of the Arima model. The PACF plot showed a significant autocorrelation at only the first seasonal lag, at 12, so we estimated (1,0,0) for the seasonal part of the model. For the non-seasonal part of the Arima model, the ACF showed significant autocorrelation at lags 1 and 2, so we estimated a MA model of order 2, or (0,1,2) for the non-seasonal component (with a difference of 1 since we took 1 non-seasonal difference).

The ACF and PACF plots of the residuals of this estimated model $((0,1,2)(1,0,0)_{12})$ shows a few significant autocorrelations (notably at 1 year in the ACF and PACF and at 2 years in the PACF), although the majority of values fall within the confidence interval for white noise values.

The Ljung-Box test, however, shows a p-value > 0.05, so we fail to reject the null hypothesis that the residuals are independently distributed, suggesting that they are not serially correlated.

Since the ACF and PACF plots still showed a few strong autocorrelations and the plot of the inverse

unit roots showed values near unity, we proceeded to iterate over model parameters to see if we could improve the AIC score and create a model with residuals that better approximated white noise.

Model Selection Algorithm

```
get.best.arima \leftarrow function(x.ts, maxord = c(1,1,1,1,1,1))
{
    best.aic <- 1e8
    df.results = data.frame()
    n<-length(x.ts)
    for(p in 0:maxord[1]) for(d in 0:maxord[2]) for(q in 0:maxord[3])
      for(P in 0:maxord[4]) for(D in 0:maxord[5]) for(Q in 0:maxord[6])
      {
        tryCatch(
        {
          fit <- arima(x.ts, order=c(p,d,q),</pre>
                               seas = list(order=c(P,D,Q), frequency(x.ts)),
                                            method="ML")
          npar <- length(fit$coef[fit$mask]) + 1</pre>
          nstar <- length(fit$residuals) - fit$arma[6] - fit$arma[7]*fit$arma[5]</pre>
          fit.aic <- fit$aic</pre>
          fit.bic <- fit.aic + npar * (log(nstar) - 2)</pre>
          fit.aicc <- fit.aic + 2 * npar * (nstar/(nstar - npar - 1) - 1)</pre>
          df <- data.frame(model= paste(p,d,q,P,D,Q), AICc= fit.aicc,</pre>
                             AIC= fit.aic, BIC= fit.bic)
          df.results <- rbind(df.results, df)</pre>
        },
        error=function(cond) {
             paste('[', p,',',d,',',q,']', '[', P,',',D,',',Q,']')
        }
        )
      }
    df.results
}
arima.search <- get.best.arima(co2, maxord=c(2,2,2,2,2,2))</pre>
```

To find a parsimonious seasonal Arima model that better fit the time series, we looped over values in the range of 0 to 2 for the parameters p, q, P, and Q. We also chose the range of 0 to 2 for the number of seasonal and non-seasonal differences, since differencing beyond order 2 is rarely required.

For the best fit model, we chose to use the model with the lowest AICc, as seen in our table below (using AICc since it penalizes the model fit with increasing parameters and corrects for the bias in

predictor selection introduced by AIC). As seen below, the best fitting model is (0,1,1)(2,1,2).

```
best10.arima <- head(arima.search[with(arima.search, order(AICc)),], n=10)
row.names(best10.arima) <- NULL
kable(best10.arima, caption='Top 10 Models.')</pre>
```

Table 1: Top 10 Models.

model	AICc	AIC	BIC
$\overline{0\ 1\ 1\ 2\ 1\ 2}$	173.6886	173.5011	198.2229
$0\ 1\ 2\ 2\ 1\ 2$	174.2829	174.0323	202.8744
$2\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 1$	177.9614	177.8278	198.4293
$1\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 1$	178.1561	178.0672	194.5484
$0\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 1$	178.2089	178.1557	190.5166
$1\ 0\ 1\ 2\ 1\ 2$	178.6926	178.4426	207.3000
$1\ 1\ 2\ 0\ 1\ 1$	178.7607	178.6271	199.2286
$0\ 1\ 2\ 0\ 1\ 1$	179.1813	179.0924	195.5736
$2\ 1\ 1\ 2\ 1\ 1$	179.1879	178.9373	207.7794
$2\ 1\ 2\ 0\ 1\ 1$	179.2641	179.0766	203.7984

Our best sarima model can be expressed as below in the form backshift operator

$$(1-\Phi_1B^{12}-\Phi_2B^{13})(1-B)(1-B^{12})x_t = (1+\theta_1B)(1+\Theta_{12}B^{12}+\Theta_{13}B^{13})w_t$$

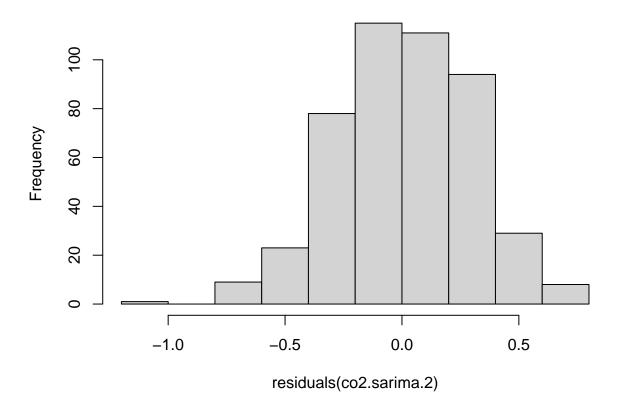
 $(1-\Phi_1B^{12}-\Phi_2B^{13})$ represents seasonal auto regressive term, $(1+\theta_1B)$ represents moving average term and $(\Theta_{12}B^{12}+\Theta_{13}B^{13})$ represents seasonal moving average of arima model. w_t represents white noise of the time series.

After solving for coefficients using R arima model, we get

```
x_t = x_{t-1} + (\ 0.9591505\ ) * x_{t-12} + + (\$\ \text{-}0.1266424\ ) * x_{t-13} + w_t + (\ \text{-}0.3520208\ ) * w_{t-1} + (\ \text{-}1.8151982\ ) * w_{t-12} + (\ 0.853752\ ) * w_{t-13}
```

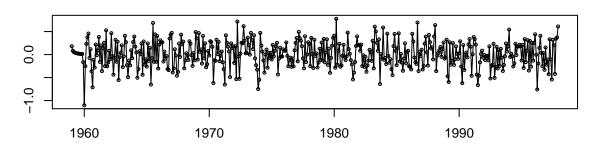
where x_{t-12} and x_{t-13} represents 12th & 13th lag of time series, which comes from seasonal part of arima model. The x_{t-1} is the results of first difference of time series i.e. $x_t^1 = x_t - x_{t-1}$ w_t is white noise from current time step, w_{t-1} is white noise from the previous time step, which is the result of AR moving average. w_{t-12} is the white noise from 12 steps before (seasonal) the current time step and w_{t-13} is the white noise from 13 steps before current time step. This is the result of seasonal moving average component of our model.

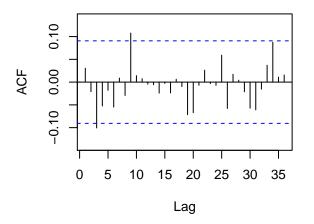
Histogram of residuals(co2.sarima.2)

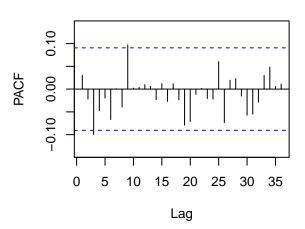


tsdisplay(co2.sarima.2\$residuals, main = {toString(pdqPDQ)})

0, 1, 1, 2, 1, 2







sarima2.aicc

[1] 161.5011

Box.test(co2.sarima.2\$residuals, type="Ljung-Box")

##

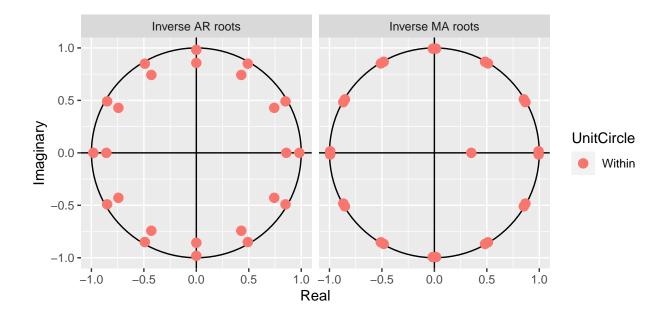
Box-Ljung test

##

data: co2.sarima.2\$residuals

X-squared = 0.43736, df = 1, p-value = 0.5084

autoplot(co2.sarima.2)



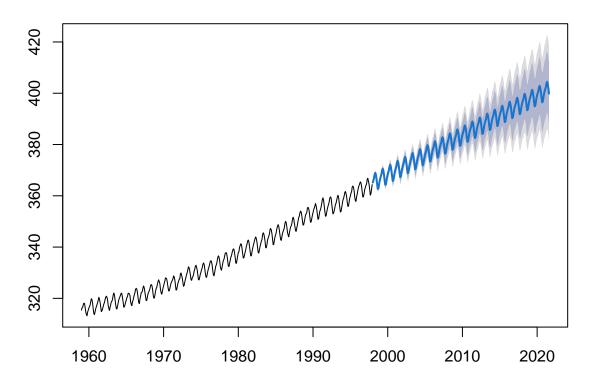
The AICc value is smaller than that of our initial model estimate, and the majority of ACF and PACF values fall within the 95% confidence interval bounds for white noise. In addition, the Ljung-Box test indicates that the data are independently distributed since we fail to reject the null hypothesis.

The histogram of the residuals shows them to be approximately normally distributed and the plot of the residuals as a time series resembles white noise. Moreover, as seen in the plots of the inverse unit roots, the absolute value of the inverse unit roots are less than unity, meaning that the residuals are stationary.

Since this model has a lower AICc than our initial base model estimate, the residuals resemble white noise, and we have not found significant evidence of residual autocorrelation, we will use this model for forecasting to the present day (as seen in the plot below).

Best Model Forecasts

Best SARIMA Model – CO2 Forecasts to Present Day



Part 4 (5 points)

The file co2_weekly_mlo.txt contains weekly observations of atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations measured at the Mauna Loa Observatory from 1974 to 2020, published by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Convert these data into a suitable time series object, conduct a thorough EDA on the data, addressing the problem of missing observations and comparing the Keeling Curve's development to your predictions from Parts 2 and 3. Use the weekly data to generate a month-average series from 1997 to the present and use this to generate accuracy metrics for the forecasts generated by your models from Parts 2 and 3.

```
##
                                                          decimal
         year
                        month
                                           day
                            : 1.00
                                             : 1.00
##
    Min.
            :1974
                    Min.
                                      Min.
                                                       Min.
                                                               :1974
##
    1st Qu.:1986
                    1st Qu.: 4.00
                                      1st Qu.: 8.00
                                                       1st Qu.:1986
##
    Median:1997
                    Median : 7.00
                                      Median :16.00
                                                       Median:1998
##
    Mean
           :1997
                    Mean
                            : 6.52
                                      Mean
                                             :15.72
                                                       Mean
                                                               :1998
##
    3rd Qu.:2009
                    3rd Qu.:10.00
                                      3rd Qu.:23.00
                                                       3rd Qu.:2010
            :2021
                            :12.00
                                     Max.
                                             :31.00
##
    Max.
                    Max.
                                                       Max.
                                                               :2021
```

```
ppm
            days
                          1yr_ago 10yrs_ago
##
## Min. :-1000.0
               Min. :0.000
                           Min. :-1000.0
                                        Min. : -999.99
## 1st Qu.: 347.1
               1st Qu.:5.000 1st Qu.: 345.6
                                        1st Qu.: 331.48
## Median : 365.2 Median :6.000
                           Median: 363.5
                                        Median: 350.18
## Mean : 358.3 Mean :5.871
                           Mean : 328.4
                                        Mean : 59.61
## 3rd Qu.: 388.4 3rd Qu.:7.000 3rd Qu.: 386.2
                                        3rd Qu.: 368.45
## Max. : 420.0
               Max. :7.000 Max. : 417.8
                                        Max. : 395.23
##
    since1800
## Min. : -999.99
## 1st Qu.: 66.95
## Median: 84.55
## Mean : 80.38
## 3rd Qu.: 108.07
## Max. : 136.87
describe(co2_weekly)
## co2 weekly
##
## 9 Variables 2458 Observations
## -----
## vear
   n missing distinct Info Mean Gmd
                                           .05
                                                   .10
                             1997 15.71 1976
         0 48
                        1
##
    2458
                                                  1979
##
     . 25
           .50
                 .75
                       .90
                              .95
                2009
##
     1986
          1997
                        2016
                              2019
## lowest : 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978, highest: 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021
## -----
## month
   n missing distinct
                       Info Mean
                                    \operatorname{Gmd} .05
                                                .10
##
    2458
         0 12
                       0.993
                              6.52 3.965
                                            1
                                                    2
    . 25
           .50
                 .75
                       .90
                              .95
##
##
      4
            7
                  10
                         11
                               12
## lowest : 1 2 3 4 5, highest: 8 9 10 11 12
## Value
        1
               2
                    3
                         4
                              5
                                  6
                                      7
                                          8 9
                                                   10
                                                       11
## Frequency 208 190
                    208
                        201
                            211
                                 205
                                     208 208
                                              202
                                                  207
## Proportion 0.085 0.077 0.085 0.082 0.086 0.083 0.085 0.085 0.082 0.084 0.082
##
## Value
           12
## Frequency
           208
## Proportion 0.085
## day
## n missing distinct Info Mean Gmd .05 .10
    2458 0 31 0.999 15.72 10.16
##
                                             2
```

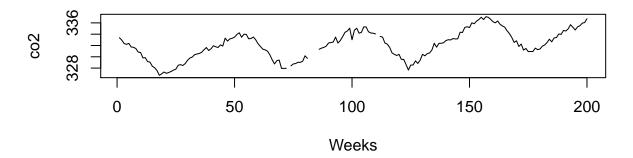
```
. 25
##
         .50 .75 .90
                            .95
##
                  23
                        28
      8
           16
                               29
##
## lowest : 1 2 3 4 5, highest: 27 28 29 30 31
## -----
## decimal
##
     n missing distinct
                       Info
                             Mean
                                    Gmd
                                          . 05
##
    2458
           0
                 2458
                        1
                              1998
                                    15.71
                                           1977
                                                 1979
##
     . 25
           .50
                 .75
                        .90
                              .95
     1986
##
           1998
                 2010
                       2017
                              2019
##
## lowest : 1974.380 1974.399 1974.418 1974.437 1974.456
## highest: 2021.390 2021.410 2021.429 2021.448 2021.467
## -----
## ppm
    n missing distinct Info
                                          .05
                                                 .10
                             Mean
                                    Gmd
                                  47.87 332.4
##
    2458
         0
                 2148
                       1
                             358.3
                                                336.1
                       .90
                             .95
##
    . 25
          .50
                .75
##
    347.1
          365.2
                388.4 404.6
                             410.6
## lowest : -999.99 326.72 326.99 327.07 327.23
## highest: 419.28 419.47 419.53 419.55 420.01
##
## Value -1000 320 340 360 380 400 420
## Frequency 18 45
                   638
                       662
                            527 435 133
## Proportion 0.007 0.018 0.260 0.269 0.214 0.177 0.054
## For the frequency table, variable is rounded to the nearest 20
## -----
## days
     n missing distinct
                      Info
                             Mean
                                     Gmd
    2458 0 8
                       0.896
                             5.871
                                    1.378
##
## lowest : 0 1 2 3 4, highest: 3 4 5 6 7
## Value
           0
               1
                   2 3 4 5 6
## Frequency
           18
               14
                    36
                       101 176 402
## Proportion 0.007 0.006 0.015 0.041 0.072 0.164 0.264 0.432
## -----
## 1yr_ago
##
    n missing distinct Info
                             Mean
                                          .05
                                                 .10
                                    Gmd
         0 2097
                        1
                             328.4 101.7 330.5 334.4
##
    2458
                       .90
##
     . 25
           .50
                 .75
                               .95
                386.2 402.0
##
    345.6
          363.5
                             408.2
## lowest : -999.99 326.73 326.84 326.98 327.21
## highest: 417.09 417.10 417.21 417.46 417.83
##
```

```
## Value
               -1000
                       320
                              340
                                    360
                                                 400
                                                       420
                                          380
                        45
                             638
## Frequency
                  70
                                    665
                                          523
                                                 436
                                                        81
## Proportion 0.028 0.018 0.260 0.271 0.213 0.177 0.033
##
## For the frequency table, variable is rounded to the nearest 20
  10yrs ago
##
             missing distinct
                                    Info
                                             Mean
                                                        Gmd
                                                                  .05
                                                                            .10
          n
                                            59.61
                                                      479.1 -1000.0 -1000.0
##
       2458
                    0
                          1644
                                   0.989
                            .75
##
        .25
                  .50
                                     .90
                                               .95
##
      331.5
                350.2
                         368.5
                                   382.4
                                            387.0
##
## lowest : -999.99 326.66 327.04 327.10
                      394.15 394.43 395.13
## highest:
             394.08
##
## Value
              -1000
                       330
                              340
                                    350
                                          360
                                                 370
                                                       380
                                                              390
                                                                    400
## Frequency
                 541
                       196
                              328
                                    343
                                           339
                                                 286
                                                       248
                                                              175
## Proportion 0.220 0.080 0.133 0.140 0.138 0.116 0.101 0.071 0.001
##
## For the frequency table, variable is rounded to the nearest 10
## since1800
                                                                  .05
##
          n
             missing distinct
                                    Info
                                             Mean
                                                        Gmd
                                                                            .10
##
                                            80.38
                                                      43.66
                                                                52.11
       2458
                    0
                          2086
                                       1
                                                                         55.81
                  .50
##
        .25
                            .75
                                     .90
                                               .95
##
      66.95
               84.55
                        108.07
                                  125.10
                                            130.75
##
## lowest : -999.99
                       49.60
                                49.65
                                        49.72
                                                 49.95
## highest:
                              136.64 136.74
             136.49 136.61
                                               136.87
##
## Value
              -1000
                        50
                               60
                                     70
                                           80
                                                  90
                                                       100
                                                              110
                                                                    120
                                                                          130
                                                                                 140
## Frequency
                  18
                       194
                             326
                                    325
                                          371
                                                 270
                                                       260
                                                              245
                                                                    200
                                                                          216
                                                                                  33
## Proportion 0.007 0.079 0.133 0.132 0.151 0.110 0.106 0.100 0.081 0.088 0.013
##
## For the frequency table, variable is rounded to the nearest 10
```

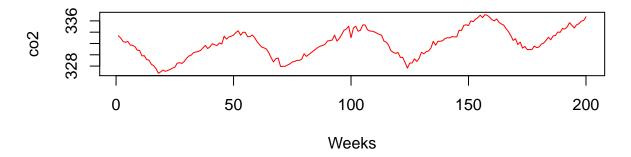
NOAA data provided in the file has 2458 weekly observations from 1974 to 2021 with 10 variables. Variable ppm tracks weekly co2 presence. We will be using ppm values for our analysis. It appears that NOAA uses -999 to represent missing values. For ppm, there are 18 observations missing.

Impute Missing Values Linearly

First 200 Weeks of Raw Data



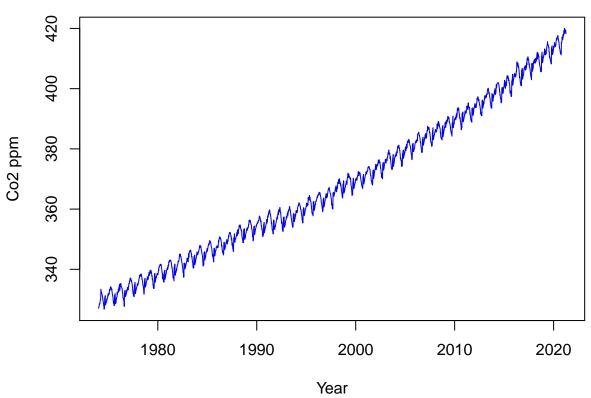
Linearly Interpolate Missing Values



After careful observation of the data, most of the missing points are spread out across the data set (i.e. we do not need to impute 18 weeks in a row). As a result, we suggest it is reasonable to simply interpolate the missing values linearly. The plot above shows the first 200 weeks of the original data series with missing data and a new time series with missing values imputed.

```
# Plot weekly time series
plot(co2_noaa_weekly_ts,
    main = "Weekly Observations of CO2 (ppm)\n Mauna Loa Observatory 1974-2021",
    xlab = "Year", ylab = "Co2 ppm", col="blue")
```

Weekly Observations of CO2 (ppm) Mauna Loa Observatory 1974–2021



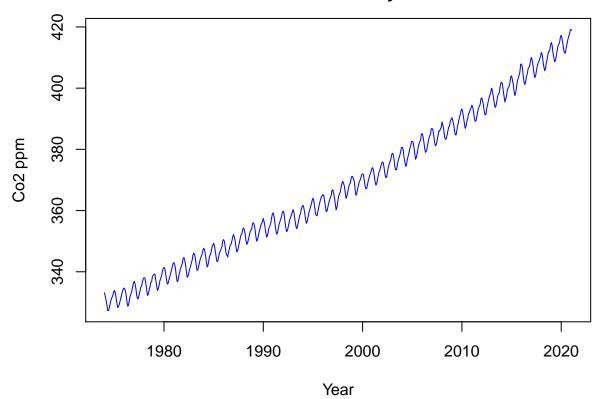
```
##
         year
                        month
                                     ppm_month_avg
                   Min.
##
                           : 1.000
                                     Min.
                                             :327.3
   Min.
           :1974
   1st Qu.:1986
                   1st Qu.: 4.000
##
                                     1st Qu.:347.2
   Median:1997
                   Median : 6.000
                                     Median :365.1
##
   Mean
           :1997
                   Mean
                           : 6.496
                                     Mean
                                             :368.2
##
   3rd Qu.:2009
                    3rd Qu.: 9.000
                                     3rd Qu.:388.1
##
   Max.
           :2021
                   Max.
                           :12.000
                                     Max.
                                             :419.1
```

```
# Create monthly ts object (all observations)
co2_noaa_monthly_ts <- ts(co2_noaa_monthly_df$ppm_month_avg, start=c(1974),</pre>
```

```
frequency=12)

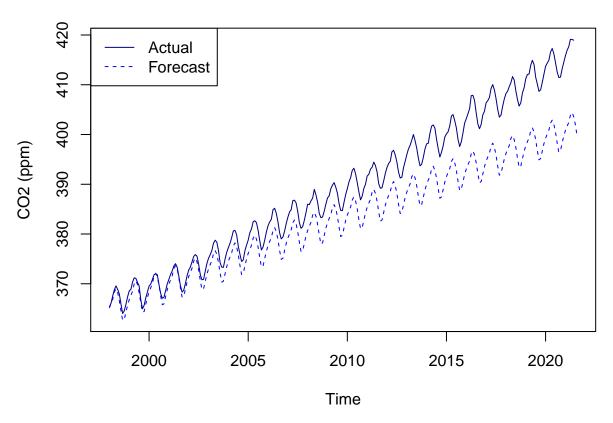
# Plot monthly time series
plot(co2_noaa_monthly_ts,
    main = "Monthly Observations of CO2 (ppm)\n Mauna Loa Observatory 1974-2021",
    xlab = "Year", ylab = "Co2 ppm", col="blue")
```

Monthly Observations of CO2 (ppm) Mauna Loa Observatory 1974–2021

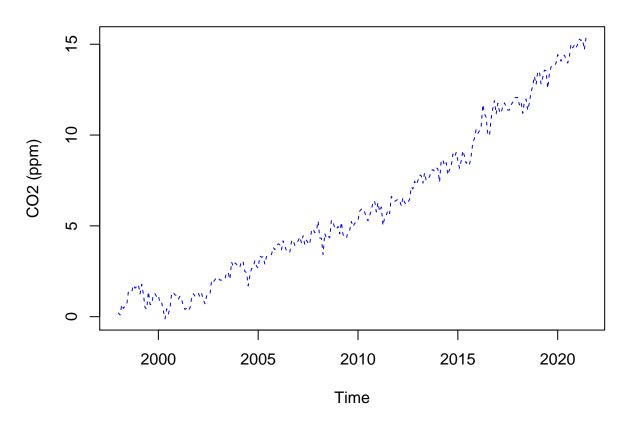


The monthly time series plotted above looks like a smoothed version of the weekly time series.

SARIMA(0,1,1,2,1,2) Forecasts vs. Actual CO2 Levels



Difference between Actual and Forecasted CO2 Levels



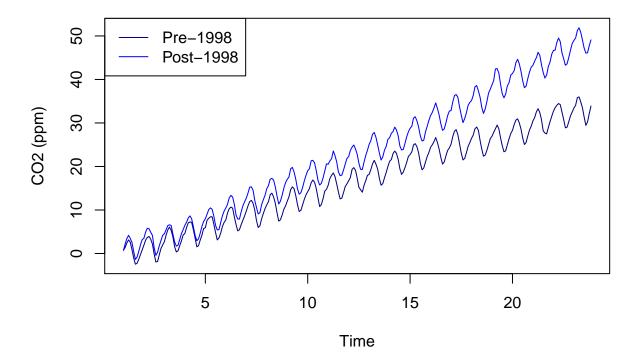
The difference between the actual measured CO2 levels from 1998 to present and our forecasts is stark. It is clear from the plot above that we underestimated the growth of the series over the subsequent 20+ years. Given that our best model's residuals were stationary and resembled to white noise, we would conclude that the forecast error was not necessarily due to a model misspecification, but rather a change in the underlying CO2 generating process. We hypothesize this could be due to the rapid growth of China's economy and other emerging market economies through the 2000s and 2010s¹. This could be the subject of a deeper, causal understanding of what is driving the ever-increasing concentrations of atmospheric CO2.

To further illustrate this, we created cumulative CO2 (ppm) growth indices of the same number of months. In the plot below, notice that cumulative growth in ppm was greater post-1998 than pre-1998. This indicates that something exogenous changed the trajectory of atmospheric CO2 concentrations in the 276 months following our in-sample period, which would not be expected to be captured by our best ARIMA model.

```
cagr <- function(FV, PV, yrs = 4) {
values <- ((FV/PV)^(1/yrs)-1)
return(values)
}</pre>
```

¹https://climateactiontracker.org/countries/china/

Pre-1998 vs Post-1998 Trends in CO2 Concentrations

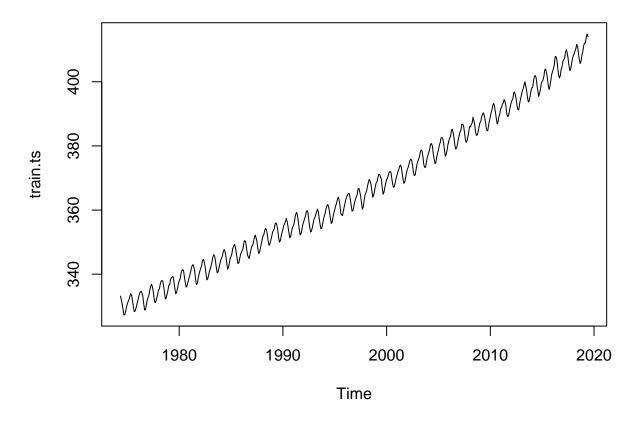


Part 5 (5 points)

Split the NOAA series into training and test sets, using the final two years of observations as the

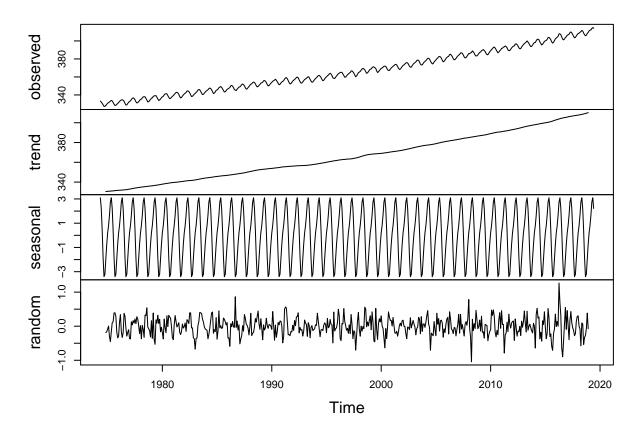
test set. Fit an ARIMA model to the series following all appropriate steps, including comparison of how candidate models perform both in-sample and (psuedo-) out-of-sample. Generate predictions for when atmospheric CO2 is expected to reach 450 parts per million, considering the prediction intervals as well as the point estimate. Generate a prediction for atmospheric CO2 levels in the year 2100. How confident are you that these will be accurate predictions?

Training Series: NOAA Monthly-Averaged Obsevations



Use additive decomposition, since the magnitude of the seasonal
fluctuation doesn't appear to vary by time series level
plot(decompose(train.ts))

Decomposition of additive time series



Find the number of seasonal and non-seasonal differences for stationarity
1 seasonal and non-seasonsal differences are required
nsdiffs(train.ts)

[1] 1

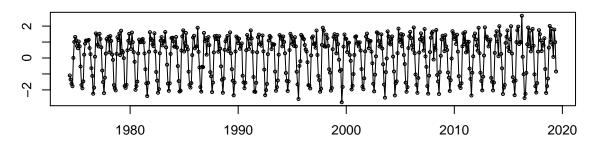
ndiffs(train.ts)

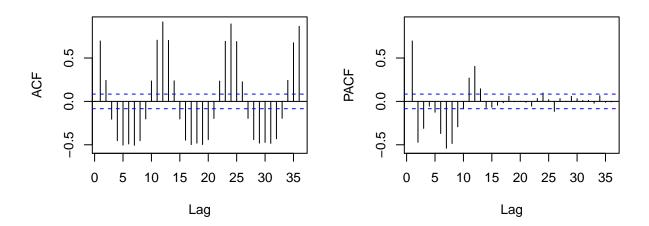
[1] 1

The number of non-seasonal and seasonal differences as indicated by the unit root test is 1.

Plot the ACF and PACF plots after 1 difference, and check for stationarity
tsdisplay(diff(train.ts), main = "Training Series: One Non-Seasonal Difference")

Training Series: One Non-Seasonal Difference



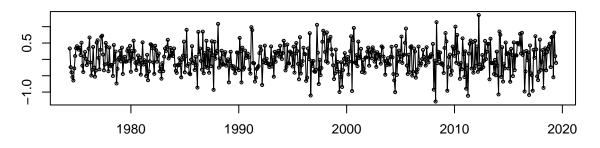


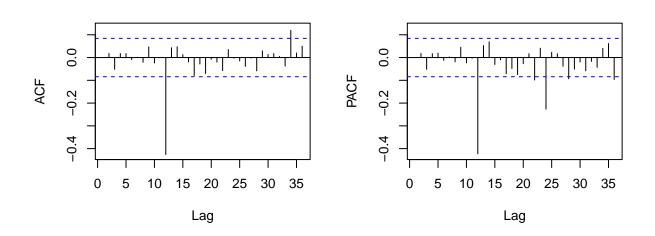
After taking one non-seasonal difference of the monthly-averaged NOAA series, we noticed there were fewer repeated seasonal lags in the PACF (only 1 at 12), so we'll use the PACF to estimate the seasonal part of the model (1,0,0). Furthermore, there are 2 significant autocorrelations at lags 1 and 2 in the ACF, so we'll estimate (0,1,2).

```
##
## Call:
## arima(x = train.ts, order = c(0, 1, 2), seasonal = list(order = c(1, 0, 0),
## frequency(train.ts)), method = "ML")
##
## Coefficients:
```

```
##
                      ma2
                              sar1
             ma1
##
         -0.4017
                  -0.0340
                           0.9721
## s.e.
          0.0436
                   0.0414
                           0.0079
##
## sigma^2 estimated as 0.1693: log likelihood = -304.69, aic = 617.39
##
## Training set error measures:
                                                        MPE
##
                        ME
                                RMSE
                                            MAE
                                                                  MAPE
                                                                             MASE
## Training set 0.01526793 0.4113246 0.3262361 0.004029418 0.08876883 0.2869071
##
                        ACF1
## Training set 0.0005232591
# The histogram plot looks approximately normal
# A time series plot of the residuals appears to have a constant mean
# The ACF and PACF plots still have a few significant autocorrelations
tsdisplay(arima.mod1$residuals, main = "SARIMA (0,1,2) (1,0,0)")
```

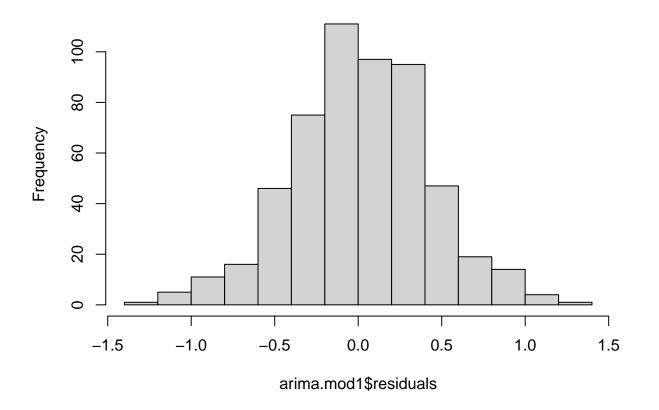
SARIMA (0,1,2) (1,0,0)





hist(arima.mod1\$residuals, main = "SARIMA (0,1,2) (1,0,0)")

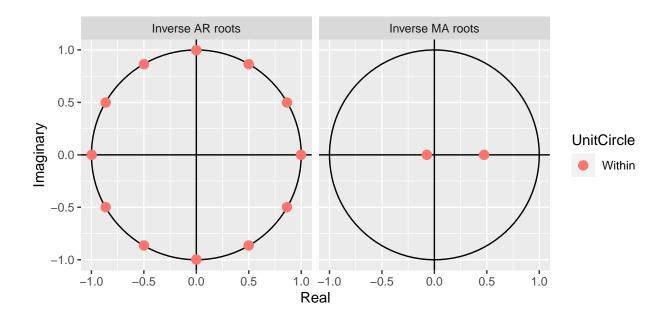
SARIMA (0,1,2) (1,0,0)



```
# However, the model passes the Ljung-Box test
Box.test(arima.mod1$residuals, type="Ljung-Box")

##
## Box-Ljung test
##
## data: arima.mod1$residuals
## X-squared = 0.00014922, df = 1, p-value = 0.9903

# Check the inverse unit roots for stationarity
# The inverse unit roots are near non-stationarity
autoplot(arima.mod1)
```



The ACF and PACF plots of the residuals of our initial model both show significant correlations at lag 12. Additionally, the PACF plot shows a significant correlation at lag 24. Although we fail to reject the null hypothesis that the model does not exhibit lack of fit (in our Ljung-Box test), we decided to explore additional seasonal parameters given the ACF and PACF plots. Similar to the finding the optimal monthly model, we will search for the best seasonal Arima parameters using our get.best.arima function.

```
# Minimize AICc
best.mod <- get.best.arima(train.ts, maxord=c(2,2,2,2,2,2))
best10.mods <- head(best.mod[with(best.mod, order(AICc)),], n=10)
row.names(best10.mods) <- NULL
kable(best10.mods, caption='Top 10 Models.')</pre>
```

Table 2: Top 10 Models.

model	AICc	AIC	BIC
$\overline{111011}$	318.4800	318.4037	335.4876
$0\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 1$	318.5723	318.5266	331.3395
$0\ 1\ 2\ 0\ 1\ 1$	318.5922	318.5159	335.5998
$0\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1$	319.5161	319.4397	336.5237
$0\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 2$	319.5281	319.4517	336.5357

model	AICc	AIC	BIC
$\overline{1\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 2}$	319.5488	319.4341	340.7891
$1\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1$	319.5532	319.4384	340.7934
$0\ 1\ 2\ 0\ 1\ 2$	319.6574	319.5427	340.8976
$0\ 1\ 2\ 1\ 1\ 1$	319.6613	319.5466	340.9015
$2\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 1$	320.5178	320.4031	341.7581

Our best sarima model can be expressed as below in the form backshift operator

$$(1-\phi_1B)(1-B)(1-B^{12})x_t = (1+\theta_1B)(1+\Theta_{12}B^{12})w_t$$

 $(1-\phi_1B)$ represents auto regressive term, $(1+\theta_1B)$ represents moving average term and $(1+\Theta_{12}B^{12})$ represents seasonal moving average of arima model. w_t represents white noise of the time series.

After solving for coefficients using R arima model, we get

where x_{t-1} is the results of first difference of time series i.e. $x_t^1 = x_t - x_{t-1}$ and second x_{t-1} is the result of auto regressive term.

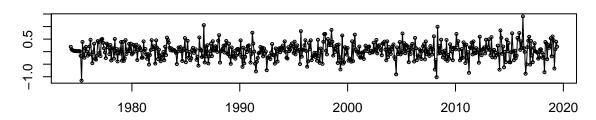
 w_t is the white noise from the current time step, w_{t-1} is white noise from the previous time step, which is the result of the AR moving average. w_{t-12} is the white noise from 12 steps before (i.e. seasonal) current time step. This is the result of the seasonal moving average component of our model.

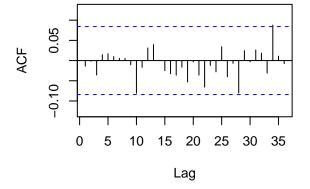
```
# Inspect the residual plots and find the estimated AICc
Box.test(co2.sarima.3$residuals, type="Ljung-Box")
```

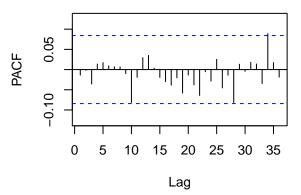
[1] 21.4454

tsdisplay(co2.sarima.3\$residuals, main = {toString(pdqPDQ.2)})

1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1





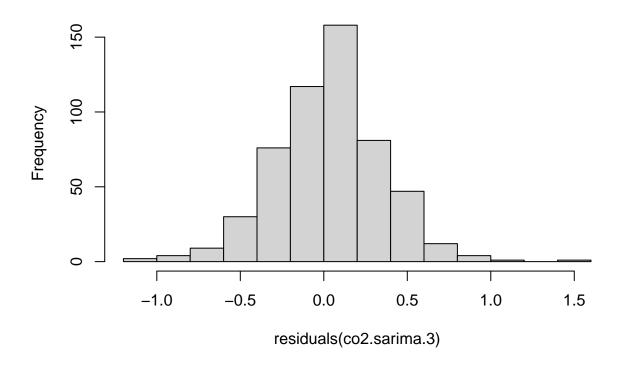


sarima3.aicc

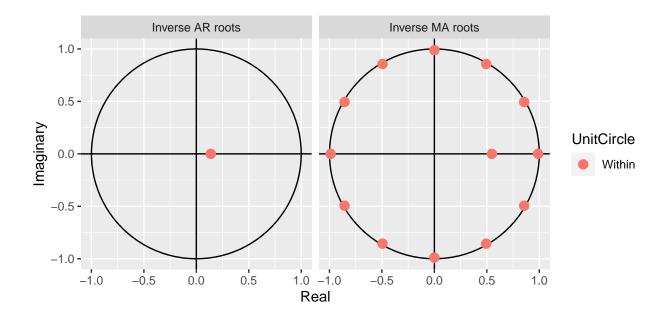
[1] 310.4037

hist(residuals(co2.sarima.3))

Histogram of residuals(co2.sarima.3)



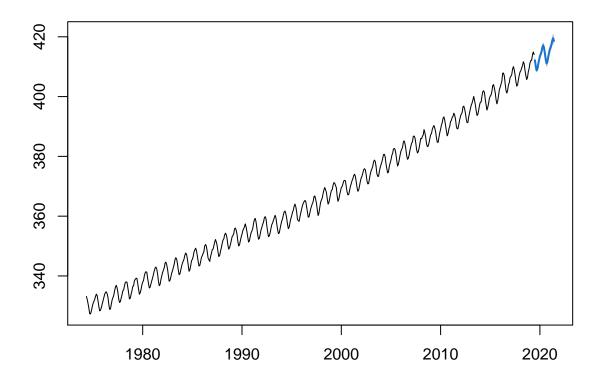
autoplot(co2.sarima.3)



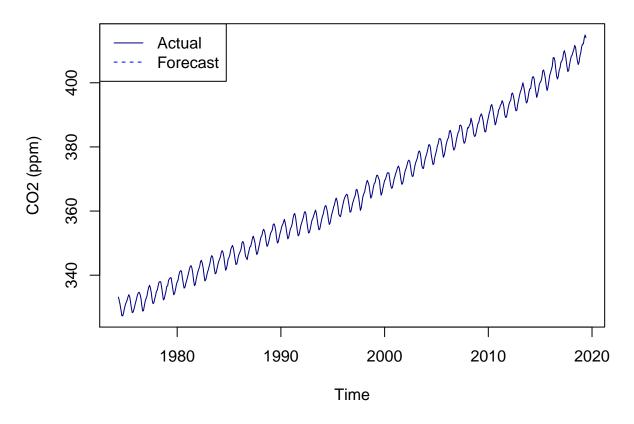
The ACF and PACF plots of the best model do not show any significant autocorrelations, indicating that the residual series could be similar to white noise. Additionally, the high p-value of the Ljung-Box test suggests that we cannot reject the null hypothesis that the series is independently distributed. Lastly, the roots are all positioned within the unit circle. As such, we will use this model to predict CO2 concentrations over the next 80 years.

Best Model Forecasts

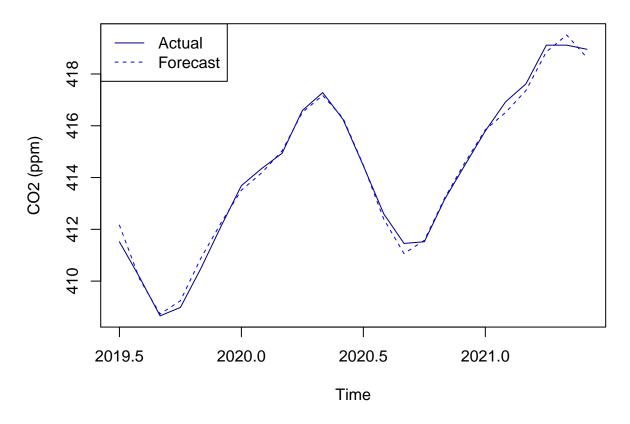
Best SARIMA Model - CO2 Forecasts



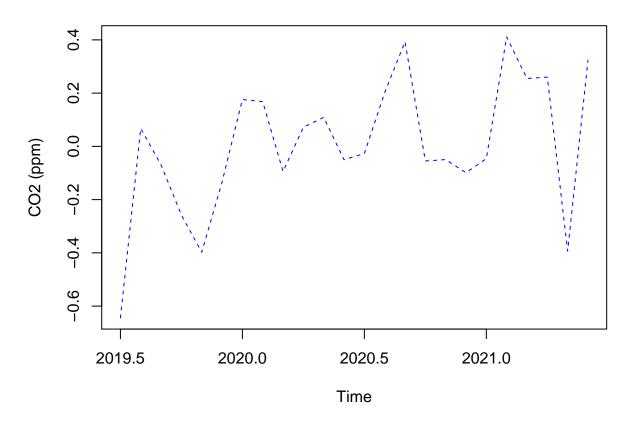
SARIMA(1,1,1,0,1,1) Forecasts vs. In-Sample CO2 Levels



SARIMA(1,1,1,0,1,1) Forecast vs. Actual CO2 Levels



Difference between Actual and Forecasted CO2 Levels

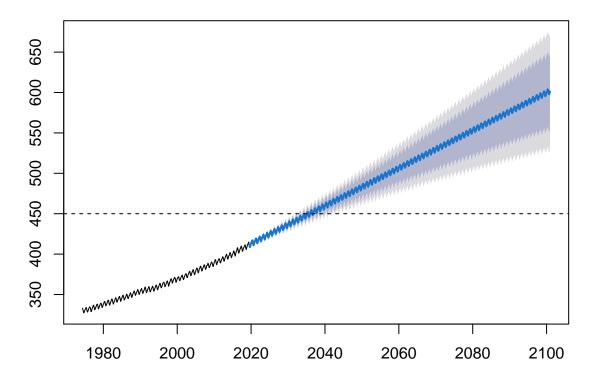


The out-of-sample predictions followed the actual series closely. Given that this is only a 24-month forecast, this does not seem unreasonable. The observed difference is also fairly stationary, unlike our earlier predictions, which clearly did not capture the increasing growth of CO2 levels of the 2000-2019 period.

Generate predictions for when atmospheric CO2 is expected to reach 450 parts per million, considering the prediction intervals as well as the point estimate. Generate a prediction for atmospheric CO2 levels in the year 2100. How confident are you that these will be accurate predictions?

```
mo_to_forecast <- (2100 - 2019)*12 + 6
co2.forecast.2100 <- forecast(co2.sarima.3, mo_to_forecast) # 24 month forecast
co2_forecast_ts2100 <- co2.forecast.2100[4]$mean
lower.bound.2100 <- co2.forecast.2100$lower[,2] # 95% confidence
upper.bound.2100 <- co2.forecast.2100$upper[,2]
plot(co2.forecast.2100, main = "SARIMA Atmospheric CO2 Forecasts through 2100")
abline(h=450, lty=2)</pre>
```

SARIMA Atmospheric CO2 Forecasts through 2100



```
co2_forecast_ts2100 <- co2.forecast.2100[4]$mean
```

We forecast that atmospheric CO2 would exceed 600 ppm by December 2100, and that the level of CO2 will be between 529 and 673 ppm with 95% confidence. This is nearly 43% higher than current CO2 levels! It is extremely important to note, however, that these forecasts assume the current CO2 generating process will be the same over the next 80 years as it has been over the past 45 years. This seems highly unlikely as there is clear evidence that carbon emissions impact the environment and climate negatively, and there is significant momentum among most of the world's governments to make a coordinated effort to combat climate change². Ultimately, we hope that our forecasts are only accurate in the very immediate term, and over time, the growth of CO2 concentrations decelerates, and CO2 levels eventually decline.

²https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement

The first time the point estimate reaches 450ppm is in Mar 2035. Upon inspecting the forecast's confidence intervals' upper bound, we observe that the first time that it reaches 450ppm is in Mar 2032, while the lower bound reaches 450ppm in Apr 2040.