

## Help on Univariate Linear method

The linear method imputes missing values by drawing a straight line between non-NAs observations, as follows.

Let  $Y_{it}$  be the missing data in a trajectory where  $i$  refers to a series in the dataset ( $i^{th}$  column) and  $t$  reflect the date (time). Additionally,  $Y_{ia}$  and  $Y_{ib}$  are the closest preceding and following non-missing values, respectively ( $a \leq t \leq b$ ). For example, the following trajectory contains three NAs and two non-NAs from both sides including  $Y_{ia}$  and  $Y_{ib}$ :

$$Y_{it-3}, Y_{ia}, NA, NA, NA, Y_{ib}, Y_{it+3}$$

The imputation takes into consideration the distance between the imputed observation,  $Y_{it}^*$  and  $a$  and  $b$ , as follows:

$$Y_{it}^* = w \cdot Y_{ia} + (1 - w) \cdot Y_{ib}$$

Where  $w$  is the proportional distance of  $t$  to  $b$  and  $(1-w)$  is the proportional distance of  $t$  to  $a$ :

$$w = \frac{b - t}{b - a} \quad ; \quad (1 - w) = \frac{t - a}{b - a}$$

The linear imputed observation can be presented also as:

$$Y_{it}^* = Y_{ia} + \frac{t - a}{b - a} (Y_{ib} - Y_{ia})$$

Screen example is depicted below. In all imputation figures, the non-NA observations are the colored lines while the imputed values ( $Y_{it}^*$ ) are the colored dots.

