**Title**

Educated Guess: An Intuitive Guide to Forecasting with Time Series Models Using R

**Author**

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**Brief Description**

Contrary to the often-quoted adage that “forecasting is difficult…” forecasting, I believe, is easy. Anyone can make a guess about the future, and often, everyone who can—does it. What’s difficult is doing it right. The increasingly available rich data, the easy access to econometric software, and the emergence of internet as the key source of information where the talk is cheap, have created a fruitful environment for current age prophets, or the instructors of prophecy. Many of these lack a clear, even minimal, understanding of the structure—models used to generate forecasts.

**Intended Readership**

This book will be written for an audience of undergraduate students in the fields of economics and econometrics, and the related fields (e.g., business analytics, data science, etc.). This book will also attract readership from people who are interested in and thinking about analyzing time series data, which have become available in great abundance lately, and have no prior knowledge or need to acquire any knowledge of economics and statistics.

**Competition and Contribution**

**Market Considerations**

Given the lack of recent competing books and the low substitutability between this and other competing books (see below), I expect it could do as well as Thomson’s book, since many prospective graduate students, current graduate students, and recent (and even not-so-recent) PhDs will want their own copy.

**Status of the Work**

The idea of the book evolved naturally as part of the process my teaching of: *Forecasting for Economics and Business* at the University of Sydney. I have taught this third-year unit since 2013. The framework of the book, and specifically its technical components, are by and large ready (and available at <https://davidubilava.com/forecasting/docs/index>). The ‘intuitive guidance’ bit of the book—which, really, it its key selling point—is work in progress.