

Time series analysis:  
ARIMA models  
Exponential Smoothing

## Forecasting accuracy

Let us define a **forecasting error**  $e_t = Y_t - F_t$ .

We may then define some forecasting accuracy measures:

**Mean Error, Mean Absolute Error, Mean Squared Error**

$$\text{ME} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n e_t$$

$$\text{MAE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n |e_t|$$

$$\text{MSE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n e_t^2.$$

## Forecasting accuracy

The value of ME, MAE, MSE depend on the scale of data.  
This makes difficult to compare different models.  
We may define the percentage error and related measures.

$$PE_t = \frac{Y_t - F_t}{Y_t} 100$$

$$MPE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n PE_t$$

$$MAPE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n |PE_t|$$

## Short-term forecasting: simple exponential smoothing

If  $\alpha=0$  then  $F_{t+1} = F_t \rightarrow$  Naive Model

The simple exponential smoothing is defined as

$$F_{t+1} = F_t + \alpha(Y_t - F_t)$$

observed data at time  $t$   
forecast at time  $t$   
and

where  $\alpha$  is a constant term taking values between 0 and 1.

The new forecast  $F_{t+1}$  is the old forecast  $F_t$  with an adjustment.

## Short-term forecasting: simple exponential smoothing

$$\text{If } \alpha=1 \quad F_{t+1} = Y_t$$

An equivalent way to express the simple exponential smoothing is

$$F_{t+1} = \alpha Y_t + (1 - \alpha) F_t \quad \text{--- ①}$$

The new forecast  $F_{t+1}$  is a weighted average of the last observation,  $Y_t$ , and the last forecast,  $F_t$ .

$$F_t = \alpha Y_{t-1} + (1 - \alpha) F_{t-1}$$

Sub  $F_t$  in ①

$$F_{t+1} = \alpha Y_t + \alpha(1 - \alpha) Y_{t-1} + (1 - \alpha)^2 F_{t-1}$$

## Short-term forecasting: simple exponential smoothing

Why exponential smoothing?

$$\begin{aligned}F_{t+1} &= \alpha Y_t + (1 - \alpha)[\alpha Y_{t-1} + (1 - \alpha)F_{t-1}] \\&= \alpha Y_t + \alpha(1 - \alpha)Y_{t-1} + (1 - \alpha)^2 F_{t-1}\end{aligned}$$

so that we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}F_{t+1} &= \alpha Y_t + \alpha(1 - \alpha)Y_{t-1} + \alpha(1 - \alpha)^2 Y_{t-2} \\&\quad + \alpha(1 - \alpha)^3 Y_{t-3} + \dots + \alpha(1 - \alpha)^{t-1} Y_1 + (1 - \alpha)^t F_1\end{aligned}$$

coefficients are decaying exponential

## Short-term forecasting: simple exponential smoothing

Initialization of the process

$$F_2 = \alpha Y_1 + (1 - \alpha)F_1$$

Since  $F_1$  is not available, typically we use the first observation,  
 $Y_1 = F_1$ .

$$F_2 = Y_1$$

## Short-term forecasting: simple exponential smoothing

- ▶ A crucial point in exponential smoothing concerns choosing a suitable value for  $\alpha$ .
- ▶ A higher value for  $\alpha$  is more sensitive to a change in the data structure, while a lower value generates a 'flat' forecast.
- ▶ A suitable selection for  $\alpha$  is that minimizing the MSE.



# Example



Oil production in Saudi Arabia: forecasting with  $\hat{\alpha} = 0.83$   
simple model with just one parameter  $\alpha$ .

## Short-term forecasting: Holt's exponential smoothing

- ▶ The Holt's linear trend method is a useful extension to allow the forecasting of data with a trend.
- ▶ This method involves a forecast equation and two smoothing equations (one for the level and one for the trend)

double smoothing

$$\begin{aligned} L_t &= \alpha Y_t + (1 - \alpha)(L_{t-1} + b_{t-1}) \\ b_t &= \beta(L_t - L_{t-1}) + (1 - \beta)b_{t-1} \\ F_{t+m} &= L_t + b_t m \end{aligned}$$

$\rightarrow m=1 \quad f_{t+1} = L_t + b_t$   
 $m=2 \quad f_{t+2} = L_t + b_t \times 2$

} straight lines

$L_t$  denotes an estimate of the level of the series at time  $t$  and  $b_t$  an estimate of the slope  $t$ .

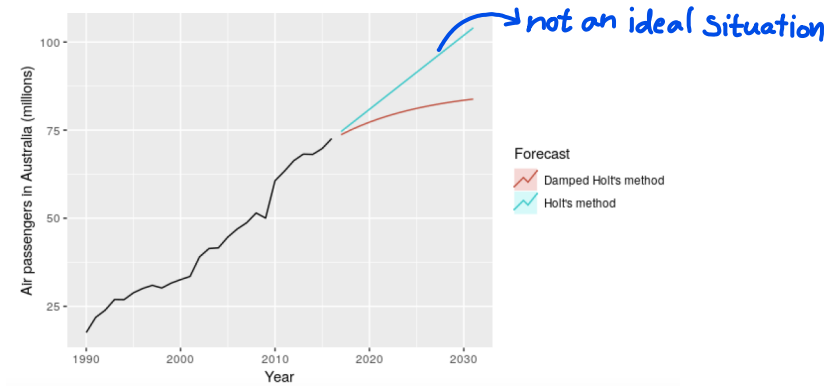
- ▶ This exponential smoothing is a double smoothing.
- ▶ The forecast function is no longer flat but trending.
- ▶ The  $m$ -step-ahead forecast is equal to the last estimated level ( $L_t$ ) plus times the last estimated trend value ( $b_t$ )
- ▶ Hence the forecasts are a linear function of  $m$ .

## Short-term forecasting: Damped trend methods

- ▶ The forecasts generated by Holt's linear method display a constant trend (increasing or decreasing) indefinitely into the future.
- ▶ Empirical evidence indicates that these methods tend to over-forecast, especially for longer forecast horizons.
- ▶ A useful extension includes a damping parameter  $0 < \phi < 1$

$$\begin{aligned}L_t &= \alpha Y_t + (1 - \alpha)(L_{t-1} + \phi b_{t-1}) \\b_t &= \beta(L_t - L_{t-1}) + (1 - \beta)\phi b_{t-1} \\F_{t+m} &= L_t + (\phi + \phi^2 + \cdots + \phi^h)b_t\end{aligned}$$

## Example



Airline passengers:

Holt's and Dampened Holt's exponential smoothing  $\phi = 0.90$

Holt's winters considers both trend and seasonality

## ARIMA models: introduction

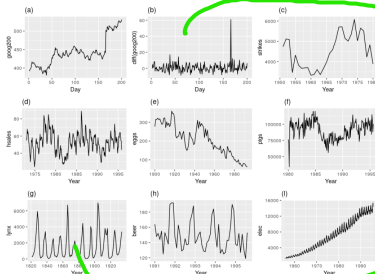
Chapter 8 of principles of forecasting – Rob Hyndman.

- ▶ ARIMA models provide a typical approach to time series forecasting.
- ▶ Exponential smoothing and ARIMA models are the two most widely used approaches to time series forecasting, and provide **complementary approaches** to the problem.
- ▶ While exponential smoothing models are based on a description of the trend and seasonality in the data, ARIMA models aim to describe the **autocorrelations in the data**.

# Stationarity and differencing

A stationary time series is one whose properties do not depend on the time at which the series is observed.

Thus, time series with trends, or with seasonality, are not stationary.



→ stationary

Which of these series are stationary? (a) Google stock price for 200 consecutive days; (b) Daily change in the Google stock price for 200 consecutive days; (c) Annual number of strikes in the US; (d) Monthly sales of new one-family houses sold in the US; (e) Annual price of a dozen eggs in the US (constant dollars); (f) Monthly total of pigs slaughtered in Victoria, Australia; (g) Annual total of lynx trapped in the McKenzie River district of north-west Canada; (h) Monthly Australian beer production; (i) Monthly Australian electricity production.

Differencing → applied to eliminate or reduce trend or seasonality of time series

- Differencing can help stabilise the mean of a time series by removing changes in the level of a time series, and therefore eliminating (or reducing) trend and seasonality.

$$y'_t = y_t - y_{t-1}.$$

- Seasonal differencing (for monthly data)

$$y'_t = y_t - y_{t-12}.$$

→ because of monthly data  
Ex: 4 in case of quarterly data.

- A further differencing may be performed

$$y_t^* = y'_t - y'_{t-1} = (y_t - y_{t-12}) - (y_{t-1} - y_{t-13}).$$

## Backshift notation

The backward shift operator  $B$  is a useful notational device when working with time series lags:

$$By_t = y_{t-1}.$$

In other words,  $B$  has the effect of shifting the data back one period.

Two applications of  $B$  shifts the data back two periods

$$B(By_t) = B^2y_t = y_{t-2}.$$



## Backshift notation

The backward shift operator is convenient for describing the process of differencing. A **first difference** can be written as

$$y'_t = y_t - y_{t-1} = y_t - By_t = (1 - B)y_t \rightarrow (1 - B)^* y_t$$

Similarly, if second-order differences have to be computed, then

$$\begin{aligned} y''_t &= (y'_t - y'_{t-1}) \\ &= (y_t - y_{t-1}) - (y_{t-1} - y_{t-2}) \\ &= y_t - 2y_{t-1} + y_{t-2} \\ &= (1 - 2B + B^2)y_t \\ &= (1 - B)^2 y_t \end{aligned}$$

# Autoregressive models

- ▶ In a multiple regression model, we forecast the variable of interest using a linear combination of predictors.

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \dots + \beta_p x_p + \varepsilon.$$

- ▶ In an autoregression model, we forecast the variable of interest using a linear combination of past values of the variable. The term autoregression indicates that it is a regression of the variable against itself.

$$y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 y_{t-1} + \beta_2 y_{t-2} + \dots + \beta_p y_{t-p} + \varepsilon_t$$

$$y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 y_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t \rightarrow \text{AR}(1) \quad y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 y_{t-1} + \beta_2 y_{t-2} + \varepsilon_t \rightarrow \text{AR}(2)$$

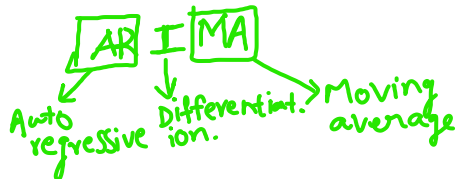
- ▶ We refer to this as an  $AR(p)$ , an *autoregressive* model of order  $p$ .
- ▶ This is like a multiple regression but with lagged values of  $y_t$  as predictors.

# Moving-average models

Rather than using past values of the forecast variable in a regression, a moving average model uses past forecast errors in a regression-like model.

$$y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} + \beta_2 \varepsilon_{t-2} + \dots + \beta_q \varepsilon_{t-q} + \varepsilon_t$$

We refer to this as an  $MA(q)$ , a Moving Average of order  $q$ .

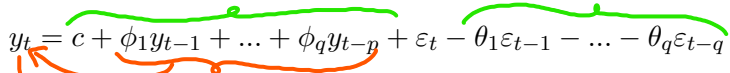


# ARIMA models

- ▶ If we combine differencing with autoregression and a moving average model, we obtain a **non-seasonal ARIMA model**.
- ▶ ARIMA is an acronym for **AutoRegressive Integrated Moving Average**, ARIMA  $(p, d, q)$  where  $p$  refers to the *AR* part,  $q$  refers to the *MA* part and  $d$  is the degree of first differencing involved.
- ▶ Notice that a White Noise model  $y_t = c + \varepsilon_t$  is an ARIMA(0,0,0), while a *Random Walk*  $y_t = y_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t$ , is an ARIMA (0,1,0).

## ARMA(p,q) models

An ARMA  $(p, q)$  may be expressed as

$$y_t = c + \phi_1 y_{t-1} + \dots + \phi_p y_{t-p} + \varepsilon_t - \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} - \dots - \theta_q \varepsilon_{t-q}$$
The equation is annotated with hand-drawn lines. A green line is drawn above the entire right-hand side of the equation. Another green line is drawn above the moving average part,  $\varepsilon_t - \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} - \dots - \theta_q \varepsilon_{t-q}$ . An orange line is drawn below the autoregressive part,  $c + \phi_1 y_{t-1} + \dots + \phi_p y_{t-p}$ , and an orange arrow points from the text 'using backshift notation' to the  $y_t$  term on the left.

or, by using backshift notation,

$$(1 - \phi_1 B - \dots - \phi_p B^p) y_t = c + (1 - \theta_1 B - \dots - \theta_q B^q) \varepsilon_t$$

## ARIMA(p,d,q) models

Presentations: Jan9 - Jan13 - 4:30pm  
Dec 12th - working groups meeting (not mandatory) - last day of lecture

If an ARMA  $(p, q)$  model is non stationary, we obtain an ARIMA  $(p, d, q)$  model. The simplest case, ARIMA  $(1, 1, 1)$ , is defined as

$$(1 - \phi_1 B)(1 - B)y_t = c + (1 - \theta_1 B)\varepsilon_t$$

The general form of an ARIMA  $(p, d, q)$  may produce a great variety of ACF and PACF.

p - Auto regressive part - describes the past output behavior

q - Moving average part - describes weighted average of past error terms

AR(1) -----> MA(inf)

MA(1) -----> AR(inf)

Stationary series - does not depend on time (i.e no trend and seasonality)

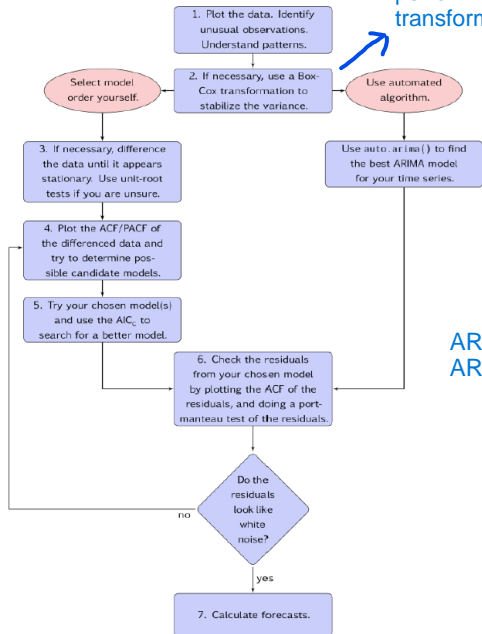
Differentiation is used to eliminate trend and seasonality of the time-series

## ARIMA(p,d,q) and seasonality - SARIMA

A further extension to ARMA models concerns seasonality. An ARIMA model with seasonal components is an ARIMA  $(p, d, q)(P, D, Q)_s$ , where  $(p, d, q)$  indicates the non-seasonal part of the model, while  $(P, D, Q)$  indicates the seasonal part of order  $s$ . The ARIMA model  $(1, 1, 1)(1, 1, 1)_4$  is [Quarterly Data](#)

$$(1 - \phi_1 B)(1 - \Phi_1 B^4)(1 - B)(1 - B^4)y_t = (1 - \theta_1 B)(1 - \Theta_1 B^4)\varepsilon_t$$

# Model selection



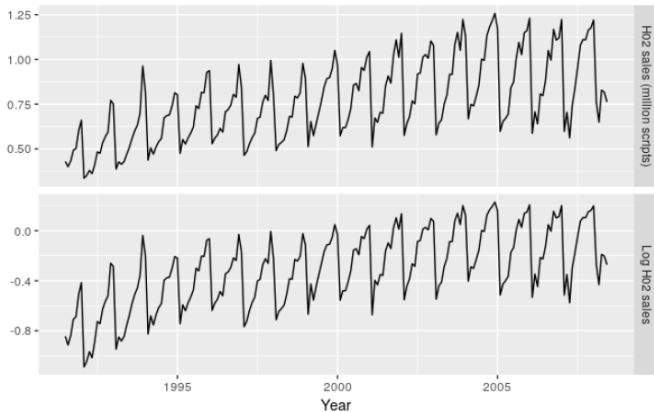
we can also  
perform log  
transformation

- selects best  
model based on  
AIC

ARMA(15, 12) - not ok  
ARMA(3, 0, 2) - ok

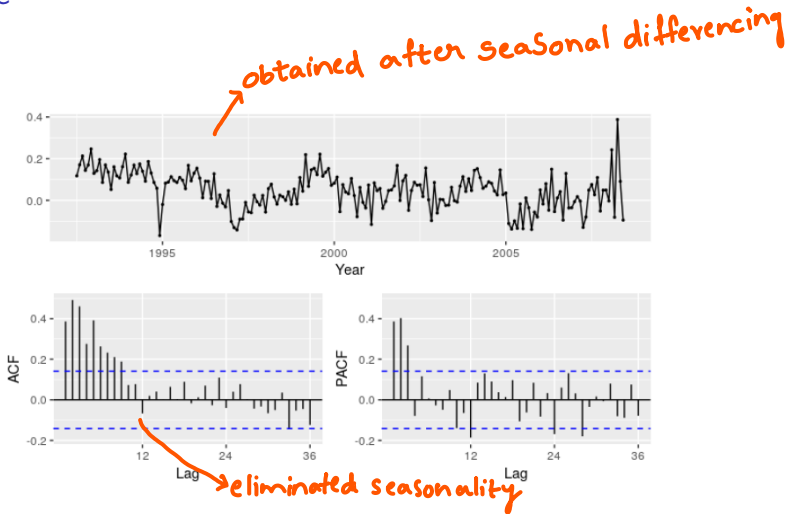


## Example



A drug's sales (July 1991- June 2008) What are the main features of the series?

# Example



Seasonal differencing

PACF - calculates correlation between  $y_t$  and  $y_{t-k}$  and without considering corr of observations between the interval

## Example

ARIMA(p, d, 0)

ACF ----> Exp Decaying

PACF ----> Significant spike until lag p

ARIMA(0, d, q)


- PACF - Exp Decaying

- ACF - significant spike until lag q

Model	AICc
ARIMA(3,0,1)(0,1,2) <sub>12</sub>	-485.5
ARIMA(3,0,1)(1,1,1) <sub>12</sub>	-484.2
ARIMA(3,0,1)(0,1,1) <sub>12</sub>	-483.7
ARIMA(3,0,1)(2,1,0) <sub>12</sub>	-476.3
ARIMA(3,0,0)(2,1,0) <sub>12</sub>	-475.1
ARIMA(3,0,2)(2,1,0) <sub>12</sub>	-474.9
ARIMA(3,0,1)(1,1,0) <sub>12</sub>	-463.4

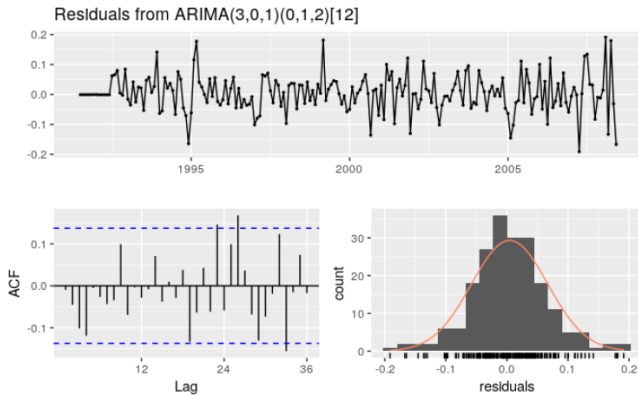
Different models have been estimated and compared on the basis of the AIC

$$\text{AIC} = -2\log(L) + 2k$$

 No of parameters of the model

# Example

$$\text{ARIMAX} = \text{ARIMA}(p,d,q) + X_t$$



Are residuals white noise?

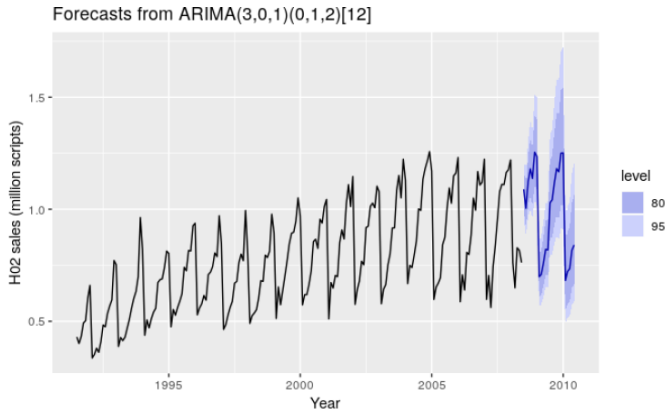
## Example

Model	RMSE
ARIMA(3,0,1)(0,1,2) <sub>12</sub>	0.0622
ARIMA(3,0,1)(1,1,1) <sub>12</sub>	0.0630
ARIMA(2,1,4)(0,1,1) <sub>12</sub>	0.0632
ARIMA(2,1,3)(0,1,1) <sub>12</sub>	0.0634
ARIMA(3,0,3)(0,1,1) <sub>12</sub>	0.0639
ARIMA(2,1,5)(0,1,1) <sub>12</sub>	0.0640
ARIMA(3,0,1)(0,1,1) <sub>12</sub>	0.0644
ARIMA(3,0,2)(0,1,1) <sub>12</sub>	0.0644
ARIMA(3,0,2)(2,1,0) <sub>12</sub>	0.0645
ARIMA(3,0,1)(2,1,0) <sub>12</sub>	0.0646
ARIMA(4,0,2)(0,1,1) <sub>12</sub>	0.0648
ARIMA(4,0,3)(0,1,1) <sub>12</sub>	0.0648
ARIMA(3,0,0)(2,1,0) <sub>12</sub>	0.0661
ARIMA(3,0,1)(1,1,0) <sub>12</sub>	0.0679

Test set (july 2006–june 2008)

Auto.arima and model comparison by RMSE

# Example



Forecast with the selected model