# US Domestic Flight Passenger Data

Presented by:

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## Introduction

Over the course of 17 years:

Domestic Air Travel has increased 47%

International Air Travel has doubled

Related to the United States and aircraft leaving or returning to it.





## **Data Overview**

What: Air Travel Passenger counts with All Carriers & Airports

**Source**: U.S. Dept of Transportation

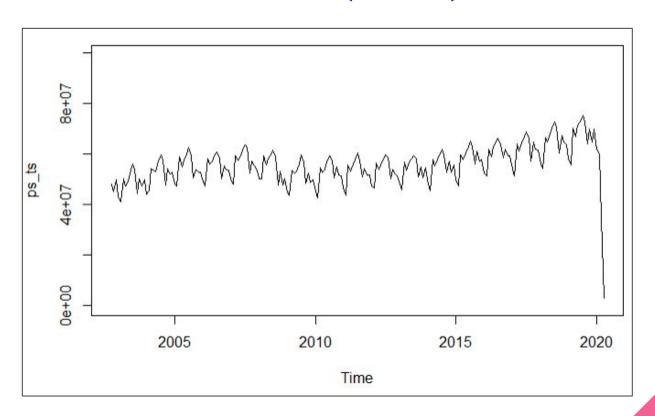
Date Range: October 2002 - December 2019 (2020 removed)

#### **Key Features:**

- Domestic Passenger Count
- International Passenger Count
- Total Passenger Count



## **Data Overview (Cont.)**

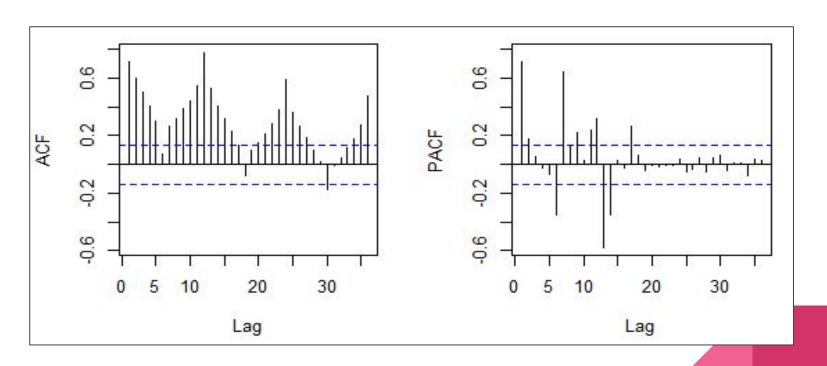


#### **Key Features:**

- Seasonality
- Trend



# **Key Charts (ACF/PACF) & Interpretation**



## First difference





H0: series is stationary

HA: series is not stationary

KPSS Test for Level Stationarity

data: first\_difference
KPSS Level = 0.52706, Truncation lag parameter = 4,
p-value = 0.03557

#### **Augmented Dickey-Fuller test**

H0: series is not stationary

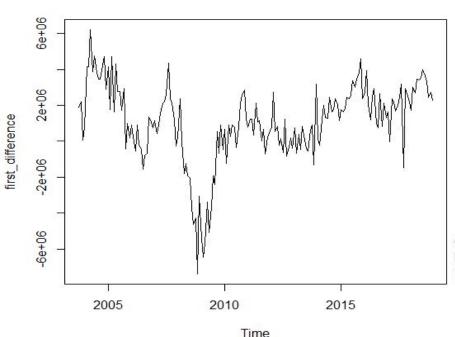
HA: series is stationary

Augmented Dickey-Fuller Test

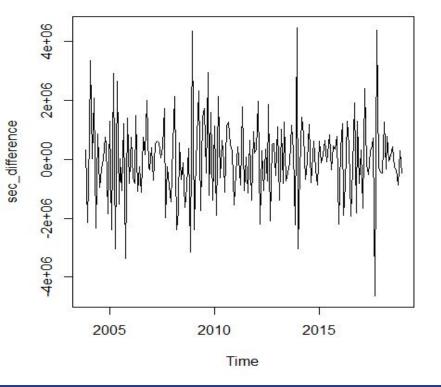
data: first\_difference

Dickey-Fuller = -2.7333, Lag order = 5, p-value = 0.2696

alternative hypothesis: stationary



## **Second difference**





H0: series is stationary

HA: series is not stationary

```
KPSS Test for Level Stationarity

data: sec_difference

KPSS Level = 0.043021, Truncation lag parameter = 4,
p-value = 0.1
```

#### **Augmented Dickey-Fuller test**

H0: series is not stationary HA: series is stationary

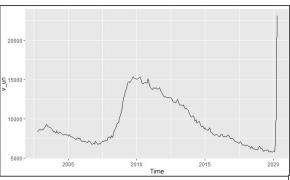
```
Augmented Dickey-Fuller Test
```

```
data: sec_difference
Dickey-Fuller = -6.6216, Lag order = 5,
p-value = 0.01
alternative hypothesis: stationary
```



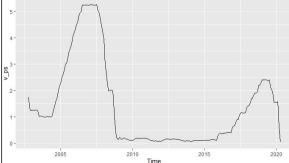
# **Ordinary Least Squares (OLS)**



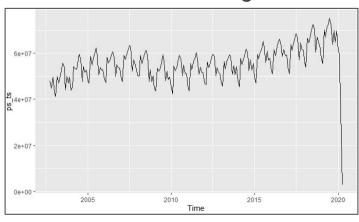


**Unemployment Level** 

Personal Savings (US)

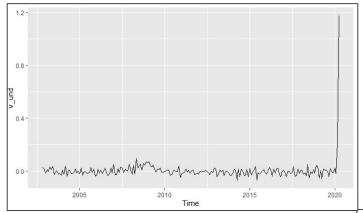


#### **Domestic Passenger Data**



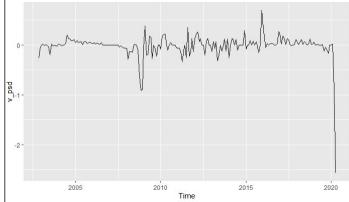
# **Ordinary Least Squares (OLS)**





Log Differenced Unemployment Level

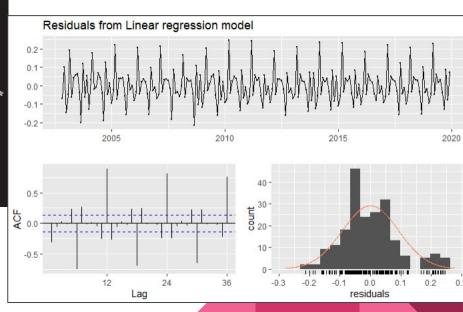
Log Differenced Personal Savings (US)



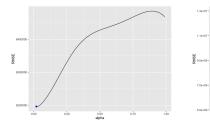


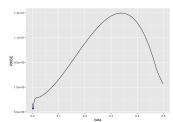
**Ordinary Least Squares (OLS)** 

```
call:
tslm(formula = ps_tsd \sim cbind(v_und, v_psd))
Residuals:
                       Median
     Min
                 10
                                              Max
-0.216167 -0.069341 -0.006777 0.060631
                                         0.291563
Coefficients:
                         Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)
                         -0.003604
                                     0.007360
                                                         0.625
cbind(v_und, v_psd)v_und -1.802367
                                                        <2e-16 ***
                                     0.133308 -13.520
cbind(v_und, v_psd)v_psd 0.060850
                                     0.047328
                                               1.286
                                                         0.200
               0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1
Signif. codes:
Residual standard error: 0.1064 on 207 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared: 0.7141,
                               Adjusted R-squared: 0.7113
F-statistic: 258.5 on 2 and 207 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```



# **Exponential Smoothing**







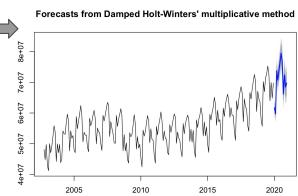
Using the fpp2() library, we applied a couple methods for Exponential Smoothing

- Simple Exponential Smoothing and Holt's Method
  - Used an algorithm to identify the optimal alpha and beta values respectively
  - Looked at lowest RMSE in relation to x-plot of alpha/beta values from 0 100
  - Then forecasted 12 months on differenced data
    - Used differenced approach to try to address clear trend
- Concluded that both models overfitted the data and despite forecasting on differenced data, saw our performance metrics remain higher for test/train
  - Lesson here reaffirms that it is difficult to apply SES and Holt on data with trend and seasonality like our plane data

## **Holt-Winters**

Using hw() we forecasted the next 12 months of our T.S.

- We experimented with the following four methods
  - Linear trend with additive seasonality
  - Linear trend with multiplicative seasonality
  - Exponential smoothing
    - Linear trend with additive seasonality and <u>damping</u>
    - Linear trend with multiplicative seasonality and <u>damping</u>
- Comparing the four approaches, we identified our best Holt Winters model to be multiplicative with damped trend
  - The multiplicative approach makes sense because we, from plotting our time series object, we observe data with a positive trend but with seasonality that appears to increase over time
  - By dampening the trend to be turn flat over time, we achieve better accuracy metrics (lowest RMSE) as early as 12 months forecasted out





## **ARIMA**

An initial Auto-ARIMA identified our best model as an ARIMA(2,1,2)(1,1,2)[12].

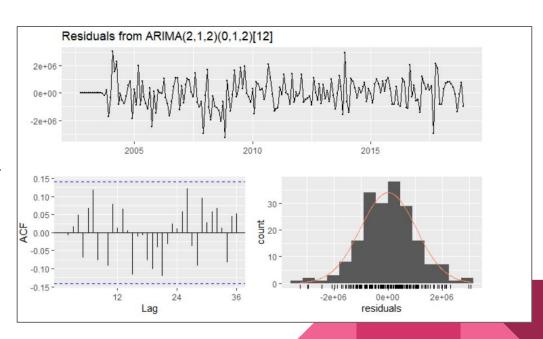
- This makes sense, as there is a strong seasonal pattern, as well as a trend, implying the need for differencing
- Overall, this model performed well, with AICc 5590
- Could it be trimmed?



# **ARIMA (Cont)**

#### Tried multiple models

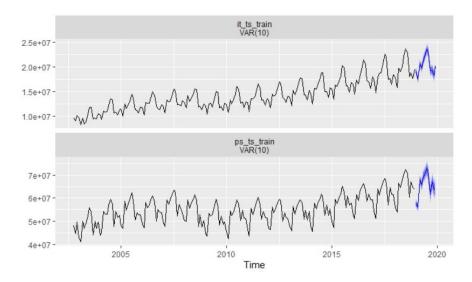
- Decreased Parameters
- Final ARIMA
   ARIMA(2,1,2)(0,1,2)[12]
  - Performed better on AICc; Error Metrics
- Residuals non concerning:





# **VAR Modeling**

- With a combination of international and domestic flight data, we were able to create a strong VAR model
  - We tried multiple, but inevitably a high order model was required to account for seasonality





## **Future Work**

Given the unique circumstances surrounding 2020:

- Additional data could be added
- An intervention would need to be calculated
  - Pulse Function
  - Intervention effects that die out gradually:

$$m_t = \delta m_{t-1} + \omega P_t^{(T)}$$

A shorter window training window



## **Conclusion - Performance**

- Ultimately, the ARIMA model did better than any others
  - While the VAR would be expected to do well, variations between patterns of international and domestic travel prevented it from performing quite as strongly as the ARIMA
  - OLS was not able to properly use the time aspect of the dataset
  - This model outperformed holt-winters as well on RMSE and other statistics

```
[1] "ARIMA(2,1,2)(0,1,2)[12]"

ME RMSE MAE MPE MAPE ACF1 Theil's U

Test set 733490.6 1534955 1287674 0.964031 1.89908 -0.2215569 0.2396795

[1] "Training Stats - AIC: 5588.6048156741 , AICc: 5589.24849383502 , BIC: 5611.03286248363"
```



## Conclusion

#### **Individual Contributions:**

- Matt N: Intro, OLS, Future Work
- Elio: Key Charts, Data Overview, OLS
- Lev: Holt-Winters, Exponential Smoothing
- Matt F: Arima, VAR