Tidal-Harmonic Model Fitting

Dan Kelley, Dalhousie University

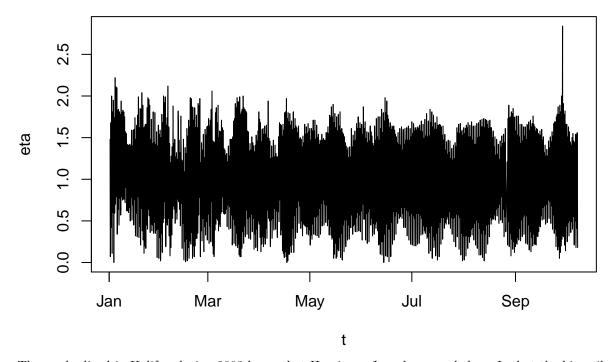
Goal. Demonstrate the use of oce::tidem(), which is somewhat similar to t-tide in Matlab.

A good test dataset is provided in the oce package. This is sea level in Halifax Harbour, in the year 2003.

```
library(oce)
```

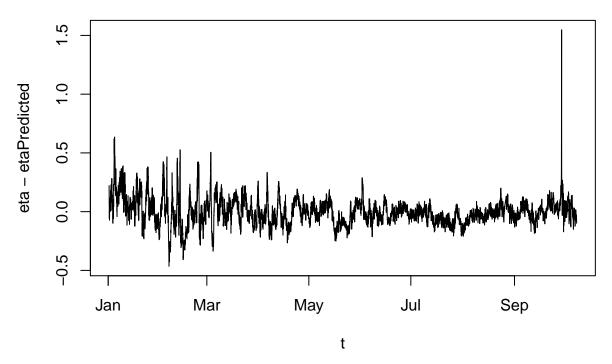
Loading required package: gsw

```
data(sealevel)
t <- sealevel[["time"]]
eta <- sealevel[["elevation"]]
plot(t, eta, type='1')</pre>
```



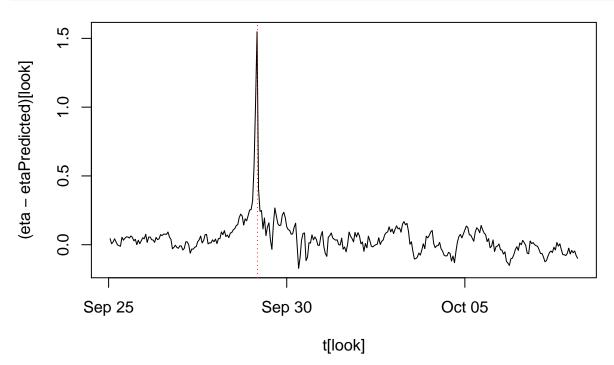
Those who lived in Halifax during 2003 know that Hurricane Juan happened then. Is that the big spike near the end?

```
m <- tidem(sealevel) # it 'understands' the first arg to be a sealevel-class object
etaPredicted <- predict(m)
plot(t, eta - etaPredicted, type='l')</pre>
```



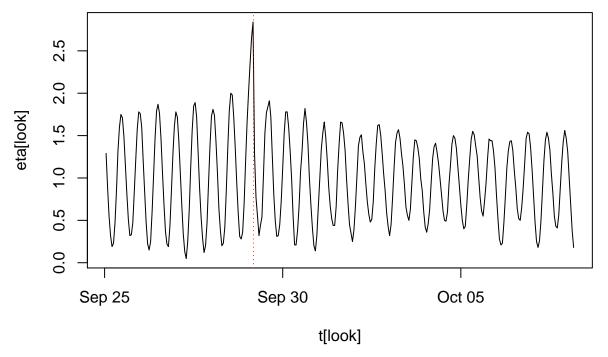
Well, that spike surely seems to stick out! Let's zoom in and add a dotted line for the approximate time Juan hit Halifax (personal knowledge).

```
look <- t > as.POSIXct("2003-09-25", tz="UTC")
plot(t[look], (eta - etaPredicted)[look], type='1')
tJuan <- as.POSIXct("2003-09-29 04:15:00", tz="UTC")
abline(v=tJuan, lty='dotted', col='red')</pre>
```



For comparison, let's look again at the raw data

```
look <- t > as.POSIXct("2003-09-25", tz="UTC")
plot(t[look], eta[look], type='1')
tJuan <- as.POSIXct("2003-09-29 04:15:00", tz="UTC")
abline(v=tJuan, lty='dotted', col='red')</pre>
```



The peak is there, but $a\ lot$ harder to see, and if it had occurred at a lower tide, it could easily be missed.

Exercises.

- 1. See whether this surge could be detected against an anomaly field constructed by subtracting a low-passed signal.
- 2. Find wind and pressure data, and see how they line up with this signal. (Compute the inverted-barometer effect, for example.)