TSA Throughput Prediction



Question



Using historic hourly data starting at the beginning of 2019, can we predict the number of passengers going through airport security for a given hour?

Motivation

Recovery

Predict if and when the travel industry may recover fully from Covid 19



Efficiency

Proper staff and resource allocations

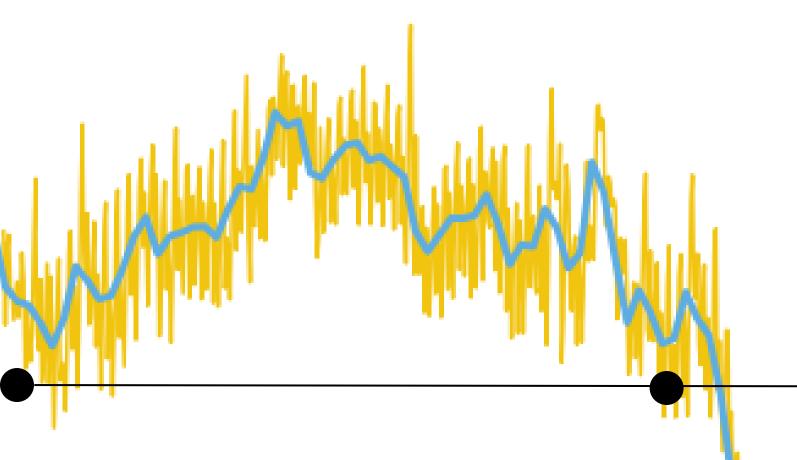


Customer Service

Better customer service will create loyal customers



Timeline



2021

Somewhat steady growth back toward pre-pandemic numbers

2019

Pre-pandemic

2020

Large drop in March with little recovery



Stakeholders











Airports



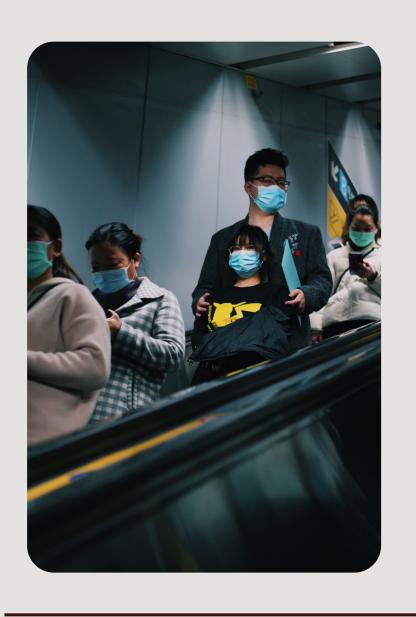
Shuttles and Taxis

Potential Challenges

Global events



Pandemics





Weather

Data Collection

01

Source - Repository

- Github repository (updated regularly)
- csv files for each airport
- Gate level counts
- 02

Dataframe - individual time seires

- Aggregate throughput for each airport
- Column Single airport
- Datetime index (time series analysis)

Data Structure

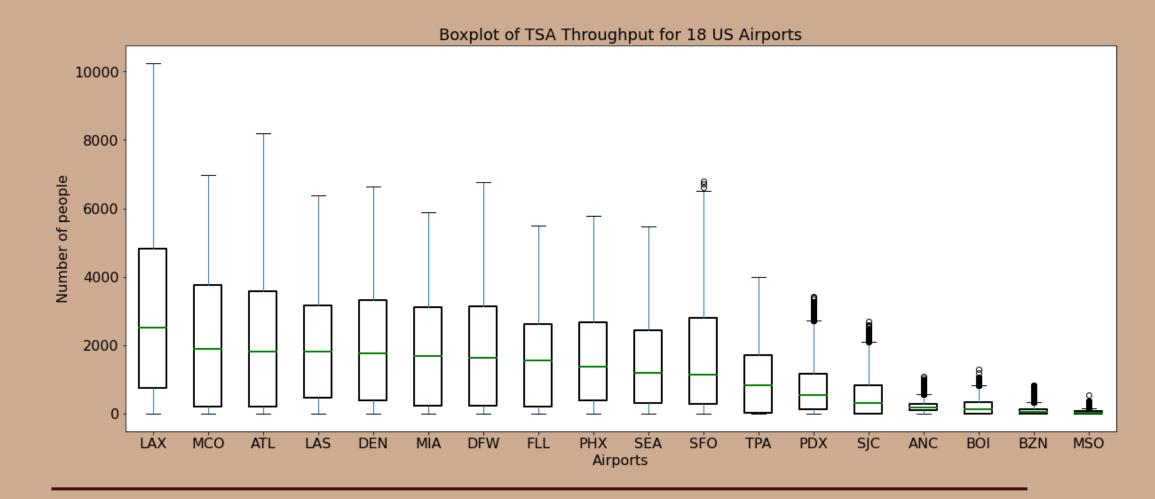
HOURLY DATA

Over 3 years

Start - Dec 31, 2018 End - Feb 5, 2022

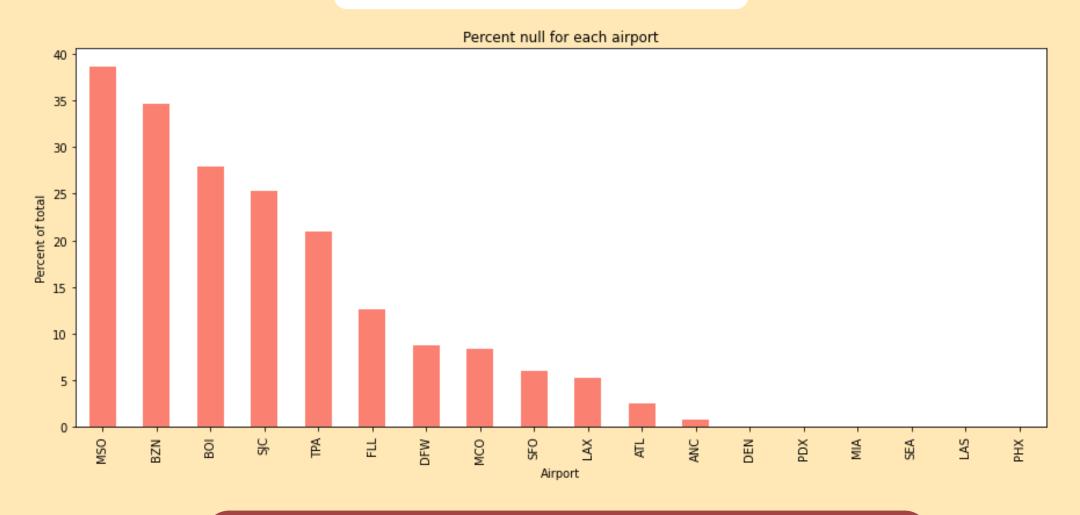
18 Columns

AIRPORTS



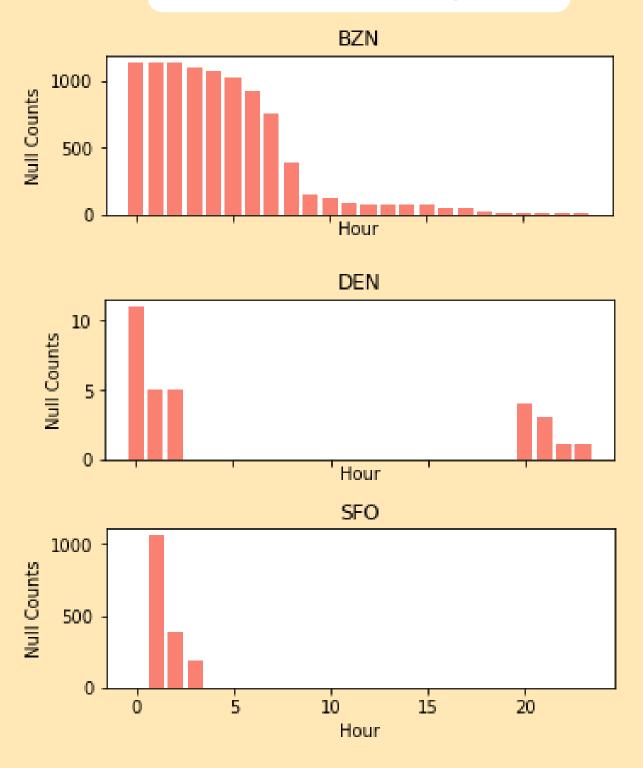
Null Values

Small Airports have higher null values

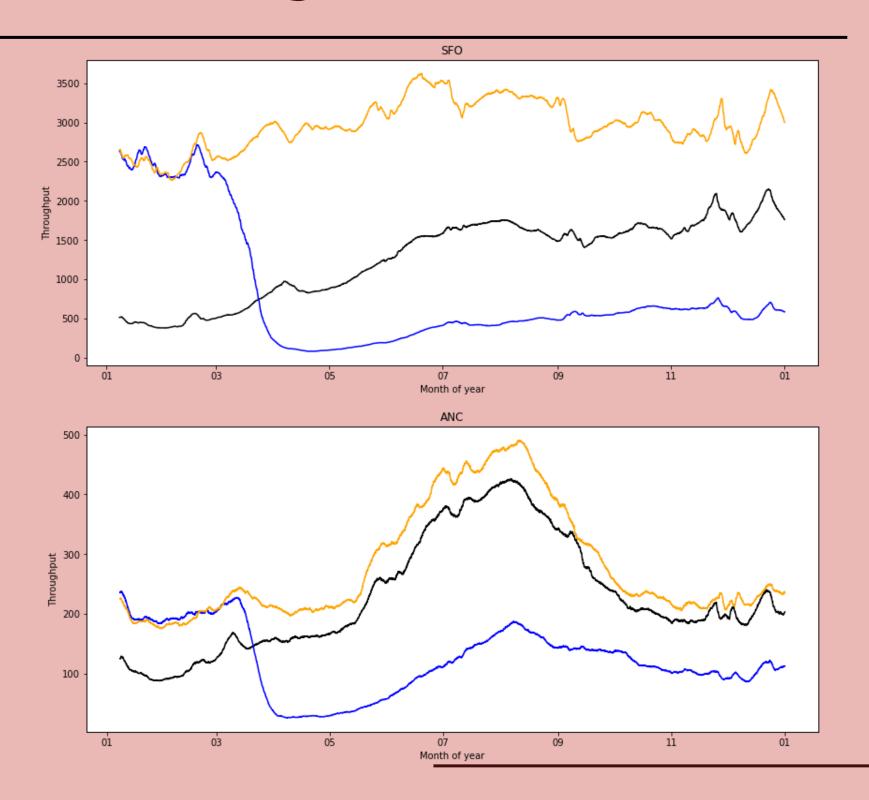


Impute null with ZERO

Fewer Flights in the Middle of the night



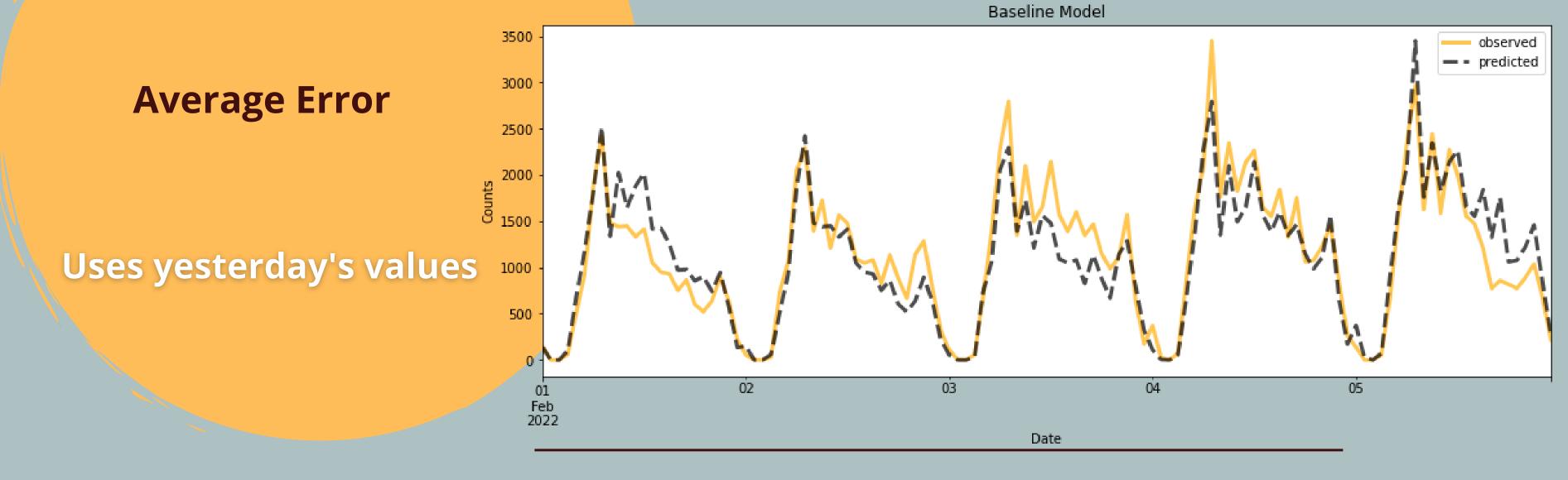
Yearly Trends





Baseline Model

276 passengers



Seasonal ARIMA Model

- AR Auto-regressive: q
- MA Moving Average: p
- I Differencing: d
- Seasonal parameters: P, D, Q, S

(p, d, q) X (P, D, Q, S)

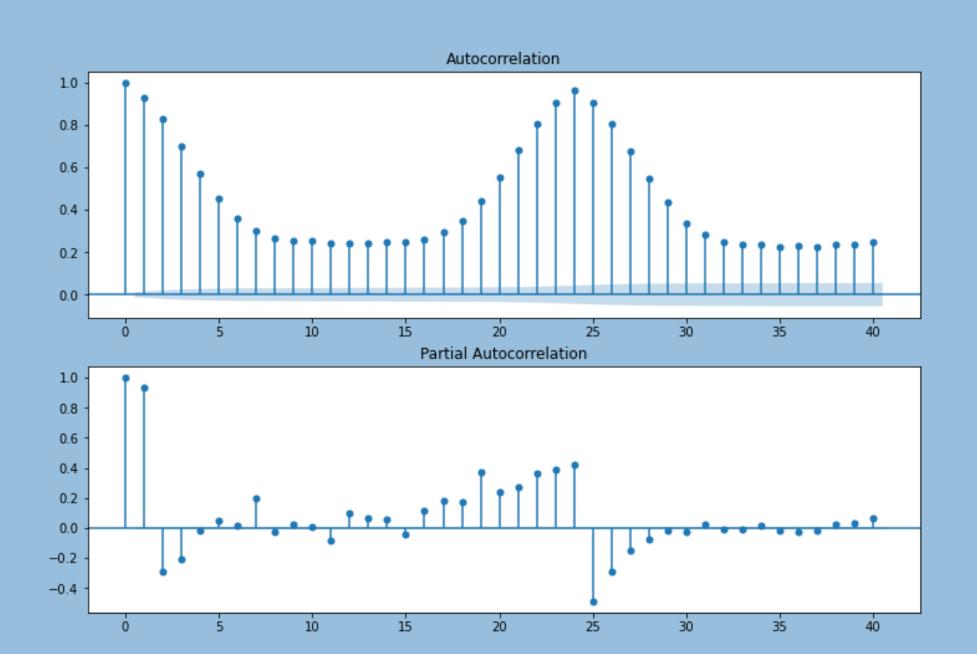
Seasonality/Stationarity

Seasonal:

- Period (S) = 24
- D = 1 (max values)

Non-stationary:

- $d+D \le 2$
- d = 0 or 1



Best Parameters

- Seasonality: D=1, S=24
- **Stationarity:** d = 0, 1
- **3 Autoregressive:** p, q = 0, 1, 2
- **4 Moving Average:** P, Q = 0, 1, 2, 3

GRID SEARCH: p, d, q, P, Q

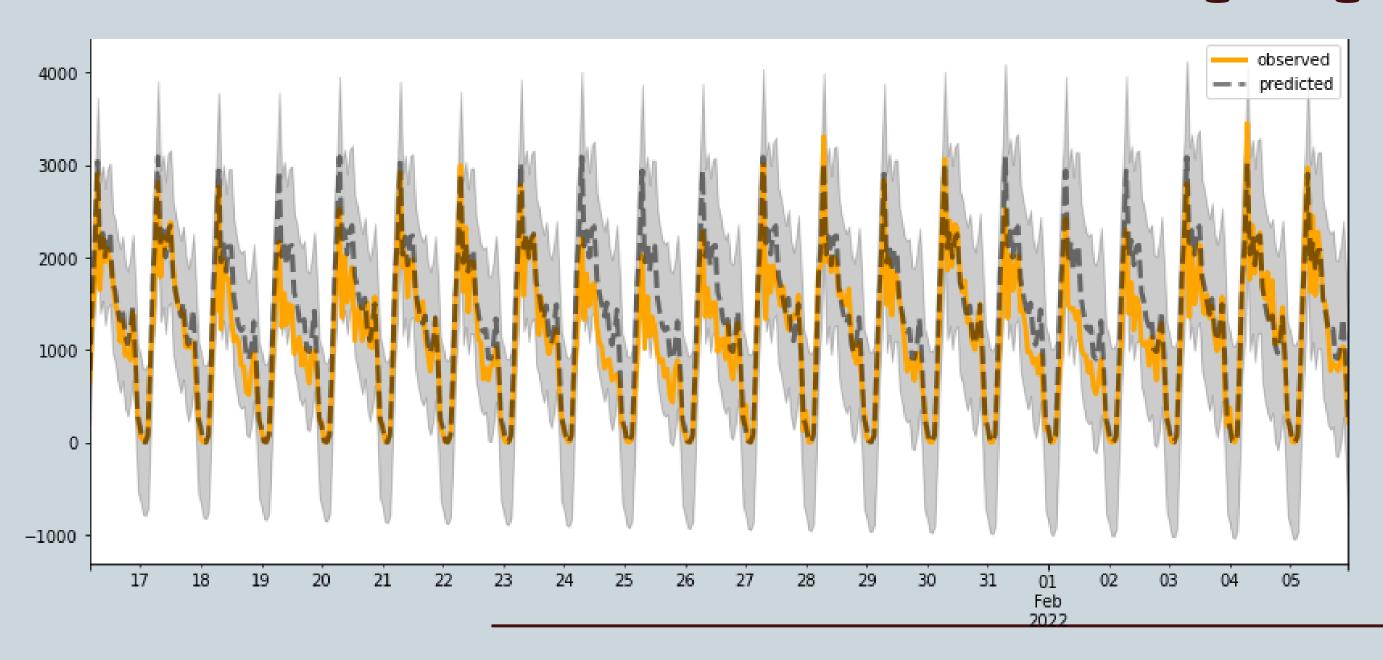
Training

- Tain/Test split: test against last 500 values
- Cross-validation for best parameters
- Metric Akaike Information Criteria (AIC) Best predictive model

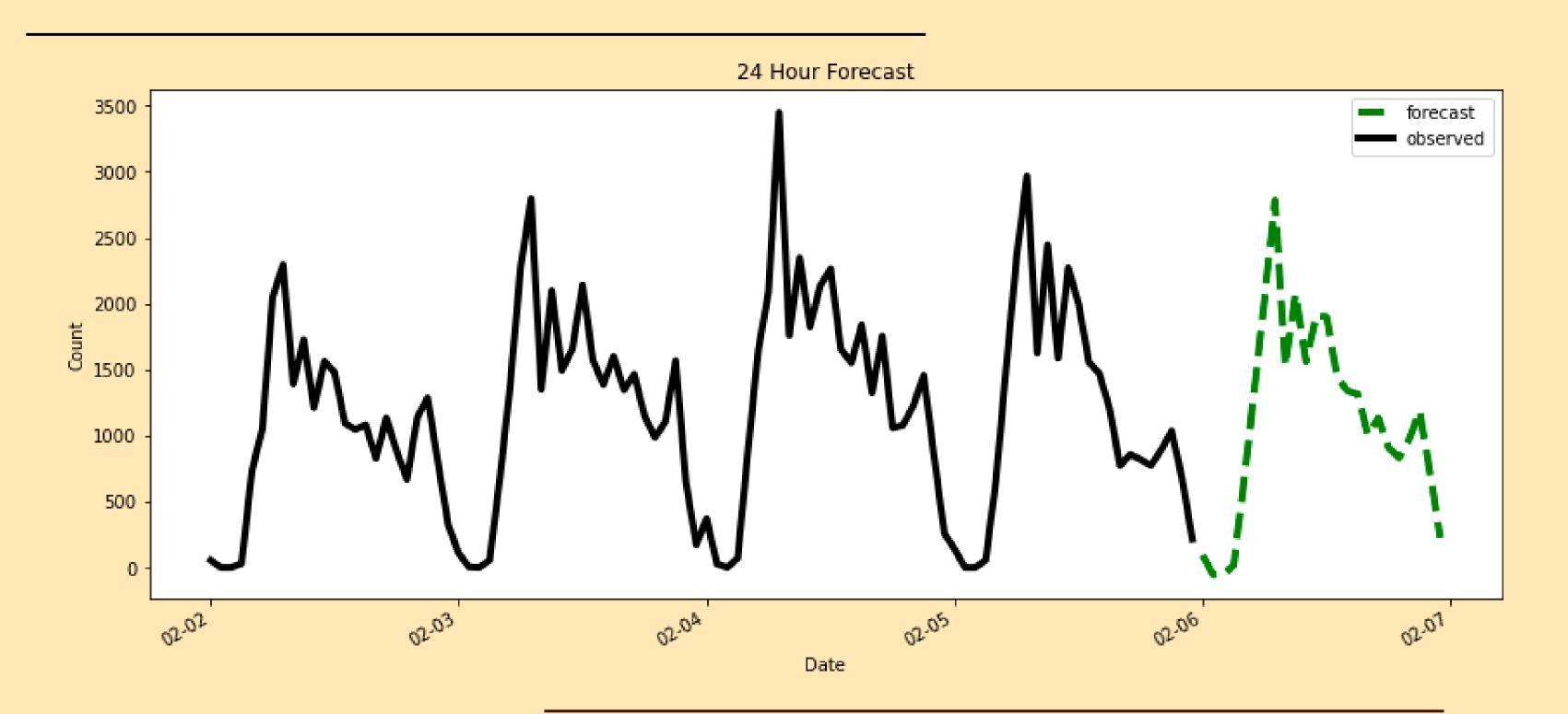
(1, 0, 1) X (3, 1, 3, 24)

Prediction

Test MAE - 227 people



Forecast



Next Steps

Perform time series clustering of all airports

Automate data collection from source repository as it is updated