

Applied Time Series Analysis – SS 2014

People:

Lecturer: **Dr. Marcel Dettling** (marcel.dettling@stat.math.ethz.ch)
Assistants: **Nina Anderegg** (anderegg@stat.math.ethz.ch)
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Organization:

This course will be visited by students of the “Weiterbildungs-Lehrgang in Angewandter Statistik” (WBL, i.e. “Advanced Studies in Applied Statistics”), students from the Master in Statistics, as well as from several other disciplines. It will be awarded with 6 ECTS credits.

Lectures:

Lectures will be held on Mondays from 8.15-10.00 at ETH Zentrum, room HG F3. Examples and part of the theory will be shown on power point slides, while other parts of the theory will be presented on the blackboard. Also, a scriptum is available. The schedule below gives an impression on the topics which are covered, but is only tentative.

Week	Date	L/L	Topics
01	17.02.2014	L/L	Introduction; Stationarity; Time Series in R
02	24.02.2014	L/L	Visualization; Transformation; Decomposition
03	03.03.2014	L/L	Autocorrelation; Partial Autocorrelation
04	10.03.2014	L/L	White Noise, Autoregressive Models
05	17.03.2014	L/L	Autoregressive and Moving Average Models
06	24.03.2014	L/L	Autoregressive and Moving Average Models
07	31.04.2014	L/L	Time Series Regression
08	07.04.2014	L/L	Non-Stationary Time Series Models
09	14.04.2014	L/L	Forecasting 1
--	21.04.2014	-/-	<i>Easter Break</i>
10	28.04.2014	L/L	Forecasting 2
11	05.05.2014	L/L	Multivariate Time Series Analysis
12	12.05.2014	L/L	Spectral Analysis
13	19.05.2014	L/L	State Space Modelling
14	26.05.2014	L/L	Miscellaneous, Outlook

Exercises:

Exercises will be held every Monday from 10.15-11.45 at ETH Zentrum, in the computer rooms HG E19 and HG E26.1. You will be handed out a set of problems on which we expect you to work. Assistants and lecturer are available for guidance and questions. At the end of each exercise session, a written master solution will be handed out and made available online. Generally, there is no need to hand in the exercises and no marking will be provided. In case of questions or discrepancies between your solution and the master solution, please speak up to the assistant or lecturer during the next session.

For the WBL students, two mandatory exams will take place in the exercise sessions of March 24, and May 26. All other students will obtain the same set of problems, and we expect you to work on these during the session in the sense of a non-compulsory test exam. After its end, you can hand in these test exams. Marking will be done by the

assistant and grades will be given, but they are of no relevance. Please note that the exercises in room E19 will be tutored by WBL assistant Nina Anderegg, thus places in this room are reserved for WBL students. All other students please visit room E26.1, where Laura Buzdugan will act as a tutor. Your lecturer, Dr. Marcel Dettling, will circulate in both rooms and answer questions on theory / exercises.

Software:

The exercises will be based on the statistical software package R. This is a freely available open source suite which works on all platforms, see (<http://stat.ethz.ch/CRAN/>). Some basic previous knowledge of R is required; the exercises will solely focus on time series specific aspects of R. If you lack this previous knowledge, do not worry. You can quickly and easily gain it by going over one of the many tutorials which are available. I recommend chapters 1-5 of

<http://www.cyclismo.org/tutorial/R/>,

or, going through the entire content of

<http://math.illinoisstate.edu/dhkim/rstuff/rtutor.html>.

The classic resource for the basics on R is the manual “An Introduction to R”, which is quite a bit longer and more technical, but a very worthwhile read:

<http://cran.r-project.org/doc/manuals/R-intro.html>

We assume that you either have a personal computer or a notebook where you can install R and do the exercises on. Moreover, on the workstations at ETH, R is already installed.

Written Material

A scriptum for this course will be provided. The current version is available for download from the course webpage which can be found at

<http://stat.ethz.ch/education/semesters/ss2014/atsa>.

Since the scriptum is not complete yet at the beginning of the term, new versions will be sent out via e-mail when available. E-Mail service will also be provided for the slides. Please note that they are usually not available before the weekend or Monday morning. Slides, exercise sheets and sample solutions are also archived on the course webpage.

Attendance to Lectures and Exercises:

For the WBL students, the general rules regarding attendance that were communicated by the organizers are in effect. For the non-WBL students, these are not binding, i.e. there are no conditions regarding attendance. Nevertheless, it will be difficult to pass the exam based on reading the scriptum only. Solving the exercises and discussing potential problems and thoughts with a tutor has proven to be absolutely key in earlier years.

Exam

While for the WBL students, the two above mentioned written exams during the exercise sessions will be used for grading, they are of no relevance for all other students. Their grade will be determined in oral exams during the regular session. This oral exam lasts for 30 minutes. It will focus on the practical aspects of time series analysis, i.e. it will test whether you know the basic theory of time series analysis and can make use of it for solving applied time series analysis problems. Some more details will be communicated in the very last lecture of the course.