

# ARMA Analysis

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By definition, auto-regressive moving average (ARMA) is a stationary stochastic process made up of sums of auto-regressive Excel and moving average components.

Alternatively, in a simple formulation for an ARMA(p,q):

$$x_t - \phi_0 - \phi_1 x_{t-1} - \phi_2 x_{t-2} - \dots - \phi_p x_{t-p} = a_t + \theta_1 a_{t-1} + \theta_2 a_{t-2} + \dots + \theta_q a_{t-q}$$

where:

- $x_t$  is the observed output at time t.
- $a_t$  is the innovation, shock or error term at time t.
- $p$  is the order of the last lagged variables.
- $q$  is the order of the last lagged innovation or shock.
- $\{a_t\}$  time series observations are independent and identically distributed (i.e. i.i.d) and follow a Gaussian distribution (i.e.  $\Phi(0, \sigma^2)$ )

Using back-shift notations (i.e. L), we can express the ARMA process as follows:

$$(1 - \phi_1 L - \phi_2 L^2 - \dots - \phi_p L^p) x_t - \phi_0 = (1 + \theta_1 L + \theta_2 L^2 + \dots + \theta_q L^q) a_t$$

Assuming  $y_t$  is stationary with a long-run mean of  $\mu$ , then taking the expectation from both sides, we can express  $\phi_0$  as follows:

$$\phi_0 = (1 - \phi_1 - \phi_2 - \dots - \phi_p) \mu$$

Thus, the ARMA(p,q) process can now be expressed as

$$(1 - \phi_1 L - \phi_2 L^2 - \dots - \phi_p L^p) (x_t - \mu) = (1 + \theta_1 L + \theta_2 L^2 + \dots + \theta_q L^q) a_t$$
$$z_t = x_t - \mu$$
$$(1 - \phi_1 L - \phi_2 L^2 - \dots - \phi_p L^p) z_t = (1 + \theta_1 L + \theta_2 L^2 + \dots + \theta_q L^q) a_t$$

In sum,  $z_t$  is the original signal after we subtract its long-run average.

## Remarks

1. The variance of the shocks is constant or time-invariant.
2. The order of an AR component process is solely determined by the order of the last lagged auto-regressive variable with a non-zero coefficient (i.e.  $w_{t-p}$ ).
3. The order of an MA component process is solely determined by the order of the last moving average variable with a non-zero coefficient (i.e.  $a_{t-q}$ ).
4. In principle, you can have fewer parameters than the orders of the model.
5. **Example:** Consider the following ARMA(12,2) process:  $(1 - \phi_1 L - \phi_{12} L^{12}) z_t = (1 + \theta_1 L + \theta_2 L^2) a_t$

$$(y_t - \mu) = (1 + \theta L^2)a_t$$

## Requirements

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## References

- Hamilton, J .D.; [Time Series Analysis](#), Princeton University Press (1994), ISBN 0-691-04289-6
- Tsay, Ruey S.; [Analysis of Financial Time Series](#) John Wiley & SONS. (2005), ISBN 0-471-690740

## See Also

[template("related")]