Advanced Econometrics: Forecasting (Part I)
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Aims, objectives and intended learning outcomes

Course aims

This course focuses on practical forecasting through the lens of the M4 forecasting competition. This high-visibility competition drew entrants using very different methodologies. We will focus on exponential smoothing and combination methods. This course is focused on learning techniques and applying them, not on their theoretical underpinnings.

Intended learning outcomes

Students should become familiar with:

- Alternative methods to forecast using exponential smoothing;
- Methods to improve predictions by combining forecasts; and
- Modeling seasonality.

Lectures

Part I Lectures are provided by Kevin Sheppard (Lectures 1 (week 1) and 3 (week 2)). Lecturers are held Mondays from 9:00 to 12:15.

Assessment

Part I of the course is assessed using a group project. This project contributes 40% to the total score.
**Readings**

Most of the readings are short articles from a special issue of the *International Journal of Forecasting* covering the M4 competition. The other key readings are an open text book, *Forecasting: principles and practice, 2nd edition*, and “Exponential smoothing: The state of the art—Part II” (Gardner 2006).

**Reading List**


