A machine learning approach in Python is used to forecast the number of train passengers using a fuzzy time series model

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ABSTRACT

Train passenger forecasting assists in planning, resource use, and system management. forecasts rail ridership. Train passenger predictions help prevent stranded passengers and empty seats. Simulating rail transport requires a low-error model. We developed a fuzzy time series forecasting model. Using historical data was the goal. This concept predicts future railway passengers using Holt's double exponential smoothing (DES) and a fuzzy time series technique based on a rate-of-change algorithm. Holt's DES predicts the next period using a fuzzy time series and the rate of change. This method improves prediction accuracy by using event discretization. positive, since changing dynamics reveal trends and seasonality. It uses event discretization and machine-learning-optimized frequency partitioning. The suggested method is compared to existing train passenger forecasting methods. This study has a low average forecasting error and a mean squared error.

1. INTRODUCTION

Time series forecasting is crucial in today's dynamic climate. Forecasting helps businesses plan. This helps management and administration make good judgments. Management information systems, rail transportation, economic forecasting, sales forecasting, budgeting analysis, and stock market analysis benefit from time series techniques. Real-time forecasting was difficult. Choosing an appropriate forecasting strategy is vital. Time series data has been forecast using moving average, auto regression, or a combination of these. In complicated systems like rail transport, the future value of time series data isn't governed by deterministic mathematical models, probabilistic In the last 20 years, time series forecasting has changed. Processing power and soft computing have improved this. Fuzzy logic, artificial neural networks (ANN), and evolutionary algorithms are time series alternatives. Create a trustworthy model for accurate forecasts.

The importance of passenger forecasting on trains, in the context of global transportation use, it is vital to improve services across diverse modes of transportation and their interconnections. Rail transportation will continue to be important in the future as long as its capacity is increased and its long-term, efficient, and safe service is kept up. Strengthening network interoperability and national security are required to enhance the railway market [1]. Rail services, both provision and use, are important for public transit. Developing countries need rail transport. Mass rail public transportation is affected by how well legal railway company resources are planned and used.
A railroad corporation must precisely forecast demand for public rail service to operate it well. This helps the organization deliver effective train travel. A new study says that train passengers could be used to figure out how the rail industry uses its resources. Add up and realize orders, as well as cancel requests, to determine arrivals [2], [3]. A railroad company’s ability to reserve seats is determined by the number of passengers predicted at a specific departure time. On the other hand, supply may not always meet demand, which can cause long lines of people who want to get on the train but can’t.

Many of a business’s productive and effective operational decisions are based on accurate demand projections [3]-[6]. In order to improve operational efficiency and economic income, rail transportation business actors must make precise predictions about how many people will ride the train [6]. For the development of future rail transport expansion strategies, investments, and the effectiveness of the facilities [7], as well as for the development of local economies, the allocation of resources, and cutting costs [8], accurate transportation volume estimations are essential. The rail business utilizes it to decide whether to run more trains [9], how to distribute tickets [10], and ticket prices [11].

Accurate passenger forecasts are essential for train resource planning and distribution. Predicting future rail passenger numbers takes a lot of time and effort. Previous passenger surveys were erratic and time-consuming. The forecasting process and results must be clear to both rail service operators and decision-makers. Public transportation resource use and passenger service planning rarely use soft computing. Labs and case studies are forecasting methods. This doesn’t reflect the rail system’s complexity, so it’s impractical. Despite complex time series data, modern forecasting is largely theoretical and statistical. Use a valid hybrid method to predict train passenger numbers. This machine learning-hybrid method should accurately estimate time series data.

Related work, Balabanov et al. [12] shows how an ANN trained with differential evolution (DE) can be used to predict time series. The neural network model is better at handling non-linear circumstances, but it takes too long to train. The anticipated number isn’t accurate because the data is inconsistent and uncontrollable. FTS is a cutting-edge soft computing method. FTS can discover trends or cyclical portions in time series observations. Fuzzy logical links replace random and non-random functions in time series analysis.

Previous academics have employed the FTS model to solve forecasting issues. In [13], [14] used time series data and fuzzy set theory to get a rough estimate of how many students attend the university. As a measure of dependence, Song [15] utilized the auto-mean correlation function. Chen [16] looks at high-order FTS models and suggests ways to solve them with less math. Fuzzy forecasting systems have been developed by other researchers [17]. Chen and Tanuwijaya [18] suggests that FTS and automated clustering can be used to make a multivariate fuzzy forecasting method for TAIEX. Garg et al. [19] suggests optimizing an OWA-based sales model with a genetic algorithm. Yu [20] created a forecasting model using the iterative connection principle. The transition weights were used to calculate the weights in the expectation and class selection technique [21]. Chang and Huang [22] makes weighted fuzzy rules by counting each fuzzy relationship and giving it a weight with OWA operators.

Jiang et al. [23] says that FTS and advanced optimization algorithms can be used to predict how much tourism will come into China in the future. The forecast of visitor arrivals using machine learning and internet search indexes Sun and Huang [24] is another related problem. An FTS model with one optimization method is used in [25]. Then Silva [26] introduced the non-stationary FTS (NSFTS). The forecasting of stock indices can be made more accurate with the help of a novel weighted fuzzy trend time series algorithm [27]. Effective interval length [28], [29] influences how many fuzzy sets are produced, and has an impact on the generation of fuzzy [30], [31]. A new computational FTS model proposed by Garg [32] can be used to predict how often outpatient visits will happen. Solikhin et al. [33] used the FTS model and a statistical method called Holt’s double exponential smoothing (DES) to predict the number of Indonesian train passengers. It uses the discretization approach to divide the interval into sub-intervals based on frequency ranking, from highest to lowest.

Based on FTS research for forecasting challenges, look for tiny but significant signs beneath clear directives. This study proposes an innovative forecasting strategy to fix the problem. The proposed strategy uses data from multiple perspectives. Estimate and predict Indonesian train passenger numbers using FTS, which integrates a rate of change (RoC) algorithm and Holt’s DES method. Holt’s DES forecasts the next era based on the FTS, which forms the universe set. The best solution is to use machine learning to combine FTS modeling with Holt’s DES modeling.

We altered the FTS model [32], [33]. We enhanced forecast accuracy by applying an event discretization approach and a new interval-splitting technique. This new technique is preferable to relying on historical facts. Discrete event processing reduces erroneous predictions by using past time series RoC data. RoC identifies seasonal tendencies. The new frequency-based partitioning works better with different data frequencies. The model stresses math. According to this study, including all of the above parameters...
encompasses forecast accuracy. Compare the suggested method to one that Solikhin et al. [33] used in a previous study that used the same data about railroad passengers.

2. METHOD

This section describes a fuzzy technique for time series forecasting. The algorithm's strength is its event discretization and frequency-based partitioning. "Partitioning by frequency at intervals" is used to weight the intervals depending on how often the rate of change occurs by discretizing time series occurrences in terms of data RoC and defining the rate of change universe of discourse. Fuzzy sets are defined by intervals that are divided into subintervals, and the rate of change is fuzzified to construct each \( X_i \), fuzzy set as the next defuzzification step. The fuzzy set \( X_i \) shows the linguistic value of the rate of change over time. Determine the rate of change by calculating the midpoint of the resultant interval using the triangle membership function. Lastly, a value is estimated based on the expected change rate.

2.1. Basic algorithm definitions

2.1.1. Fuzzy set

A pair is an example of a fuzzy set \((A, m)\) with \(A\) being a set and \(m\) being \(A \rightarrow \{0,1\}\). The fuzzy set \((A, m)\) is typically represented by \(\{(m(x_1)/x_1), \ldots, (m(x_n)/x_n)\}\) for a finite set \(A=x_1, \ldots\). \(m(x)\) is the value of membership of \(x\) in each, \(x \in A\). If \(m(x)=0\), \(x\) is not included in the fuzzy set \((A, m)\), \(x\) is included if \(m(x)=1\), and \(x\) is a fuzzy associate if \(m(x)=0\). The support of \((A, m)\) is the set \(x \in A | m(x) > 0\), and the kernel is the set \(x \in A | m(x)=0\) [32].

2.1.2. Time series

Observations are made sequentially in a predetermined order. A time series is represented in time domain analysis by the mathematical model \(G(t)=O(t)+R(t)\), where \(O(t)\) denotes a logical or systematic part and \(R(t)\) represents an undetermined component. The two sections are interdependent and may have multiple parameters [32].

2.1.3. Fuzzy time series

Let \(Y(t)\), real-numbers subset \((t=\ldots, 0, 1, 2, ...)\), the discourse universe of 'fuzzy sets' \(f_i(t)\) are defined. \(Y\) if it is a set of \(f_1(t), f_2(t), \ldots\), and so on \((t)\) [32].

2.1.4. Fuzzy relationship

Let \(F(t-1)\) equal \(A_i\) and \(F(t)\) equal \(A_j\). \(A_i \rightarrow A_j\) it's on the left and \(A_j\) that which is on the right of a fuzzy logical relationships (FLRs) between two observations that follow each other in time, \(F(t)\) and \(F(t-1)\). It's known as a "fuzzy logic" connection [32].

2.2. The fundamental notions of the algorithm

2.2.1. The procedure for discretizing events

FTS theory says discretization reduces discourse complexity. Linking events from different time periods helps prepare for numerical evaluation of the universe of speech. Forecasting approaches use time-series data [34]. Time series differences improve forecast accuracy. Differences can't be used to predict time series growth and decline. In our method, the discourse universe is the RoC from \(t\) to \(t+1\).

It is possible to define the event discretization function \(\text{RoC}(t+1)=(X(t+1) - X(t)) \setminus X(t)\), where \(X(t+1)\) is the value at the time \(t+1\) index and \(X(t)\) is the actual value at time \(t\) index, so that the value at time \(t\) index corresponds to an occurrence of the event at a later date in the future. From time \(t\) to time \(t+1\), the RoC is defined as the change in value. As an example: As indicated in Table 1, the rate of change for the period 2012/02 is, \((9515–10223)/10223\) which equals -6.93%. The rate of change for the next year or month is determined similarly [32].

2.2.2. The procedure for frequency-based partitioning

After dividing the universe of speech into equal intervals \((u_1, u_2, u_3, \ldots u_n)\), then partition by frequency. In this section, we use and change a method for dividing frequency that has been described in previous publications [32], [33]. These are the alterations:

- Count how many rate of change frequencies fall within each interval.
- Divide the interval into numerous sub-intervals based on the total number of RoC frequencies. If the total number of RoC frequencies is 1 or 0, the interval is fixed or not partitioned.
- rep for the next interval in the same manner.
Table 2 illustrates how this works by displaying some example data for a variety of RoC frequencies. In Table 2, it shows that the intervals [-15, -10] and [-5, 0] have one rate of change data frequency, hence the fixed interval or not is separated into sub-intervals. The next interval is [-10, -5], which has a total rate of change data frequency of four and may be broken into four subintervals: [-10, -8.75]; [-8.75, -7.5]; [-7.5, -6.25]; and [-6.25, -5]. The interval [0, 5] will be separated into three sub-intervals [0, 1.67], [1.67, 3.33], and [3.33, 5].

2.2.3. Using a triangular membership function, we define a fuzzy set

The triangle membership function generates an interval in which \( A = \frac{1}{n} \) is used to build a fuzzy set. Take the average of the values in the interval to compute the expected rate of change in value. Then, use the membership function of the triangle [35] in (1) to estimate the RoC of the data.

\[
t_j = \begin{cases} 
\frac{1+0.5}{a^1 + a^2} & , \text{if } j = 1, \\
\frac{0.5+1+0.5}{a_{j-1} + a_j + a_{j+1}} & , \text{if } 2 \leq j \leq n-2, \\
\frac{0.5+1}{a_{n-1} + a_n} & , \text{if } j = n.
\end{cases}
\]

Where \( a_{[j-1]} \), \( a_j \) and \( a_{[j+1]} \) denote the mean of the fuzzy intervals corresponding to \( x_{[j-1]} \), \( x_j \) and \( x_{[j+1]} \), respectively. The \( t_j \) function forecasts rate of change (FRoC) in the actual data history from one period to the next. Based on the forecast value \( t_j \rightarrow F(t) \), compute the forecasting result, where \( x_{t+1} \) denotes the location of the data at \( t+1 \).

2.2.4. Calculate the forecast for the next time period (t+1)

Combining approaches is done using Holt's DES approach. Using only linear equations, Holt's DES method is often used in business and economics to predict trends in a set of time series data [36]. Introduction [37] discusses a set of forecasting methods that use exponential smoothing. In business, it is common to use forecasting models from the family of equations called "exponential smoothing" [38]. The exponential smoothing is extended to a trend time series by the DES [39]. As stated in (2) to (6), calculate a prediction for the future time period \( t+1 \):

\[
S'_t = \alpha X_t + (1 - \alpha)(S'_{t-1} + t_{t-1}) \tag{2}
\]

\[
t_t = \beta(S'_t - S'_{t-1}) + (1 - \beta)t_{t-1} \tag{3}
\]

\[
F_{t+m} = S'_t + t_m \tag{4}
\]

\[
S'_t = X_t \tag{5}
\]

\[
t_1 = ((x_2 - x_1) + (x_4 - x_3))/2 \tag{6}
\]

Data at the point in time \( t \) is represented by \( X_t \), single-value smoothing \( S'_t \) is denoted here, the smoothing trend's value is denoted by the symbol \( t_t \), alpha and beta are smoothing parameters ranging from 0 to 1, the forecast value is \( F_{t+m} \) and \( m \) is the future period.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Passengers on trains: an experimental investigation

In this experiment, we use the Central Statistics Agency’s dataset on the change in Indonesian rail passengers between January 2006 and December 2019 [33] to test our model. Figure 1 shows a graphical
representation of the dataset. The proposed algorithm's stepwise calculation is shown below. The following are the steps for using a FTS with a RoC technique to model the prediction of the number of railway passengers. This is a very early stage in the process of determining the data for the number of train passengers over time, that is \(X=x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots, x_n\). Using the discretization process and (7), the following basic procedure can be used to figure out the RoC of the time series data.

\[
\text{RoC}_{(t+1)} = \frac{(x_{(t+1)} - x_{(t)})}{x_{(t)}} \times 100
\]

(7)

Figure 1. Train passenger dataset graph

Step 1: define the scope of the discourse universe \(U\)
Determine the scope of the conversational universe depending on the value of the rate of change obtained. To accomplish this, you'll need to go through numerous stages, among which [33]:

a. Determining the lowest level (LL) and upper level (UL) based on the rate of change. As a result, (8) can be used to determine \(U\).

\[
U = [LL - D_1, UL + D_2]
\]

(8)

From the rate of change data, we get LL=-21.43 and UL=23.53. Define U as [-23, 25], where \(D_1\) equals 1.57 and \(D_2\) equals 1.47. \(D_1\) and \(D_2\) are positive numbers that aid in the definition of the \(U\) universe set.

b. Using (9), count how many intervals there are [40]:

\[
B = 1 + 3.3 \times \log(n)
\]

(9)

\[
B = 1 + 3.3 \times \log(167) = 8.3350 \approx 8
\]

where \(n\) is the number of RoC

c. In (10) is used to calculate the length of the interval.

\[
P = (UL - LL)/B
\]

(10)

\[
P = (25 - (-23))/8 = 6
\]

So the same intervals are obtained as a result of this process, and they are as follows: \(u_1=[-23, -17]\), \(u_2=[-17, -11]\), \(u_3=[-11, -5]\), \(u_4=[-5, -1]\), \(u_5=[1, 7]\), \(u_6=[7, 13]\), \(u_7=[13, 19]\), and \(u_8=[19, 25]\).
A machine learning approach in Python is used to forecast the number of train passengers. For partitioning based on frequency, calculate the quantity of the rate of change that has dropped in each interval; determine the frequency of intervals depending on the suitable amount of the rate of change, as shown in Table 3. With each frequency, divide the interval into many sub-intervals. In this section, we modify the proposals [32], [33]. Carry on with the same procedure for the next interval division.

Table 3. Frequency of the rate of change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intervals</th>
<th>Number of RoC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[-23.00, -17.00]</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[-17.00, -11.00]</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[-11.00, -5.00]</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[-5.00, 1.00]</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[1.00, 7.00]</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[7.00, 13.00]</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[13.00, 19.00]</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[19.00, 25.00]</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The first interval [-23, -17] is divided into two subintervals [-23, -20] and [-20, -17]. The second interval [-17, -11] has three subintervals: [-17, -15], [-15, -13], and [-13, -11]. The third interval [11, -5] is subsequently subdivided into twenty-three subintervals. There are sixty-five sub-intervals within the fourth interval [-5, 1]. There are forty subintervals within the fifth interval [1, 7]. There are twenty-five subintervals within the sixth interval [7, 13]. There are six sub-intervals within the seventh interval [13, 19]. The final interval [19, 25] consists of three subintervals: [19, 21], [21, 23], and [23, 25]. The next step is to calculate the mean value of the subinterval, as presented in Table 4 (in appendix).

Step 3: the rate of change value is defuzzified
Use the triangle membership function in (1) to figure out the rate of change in the data for this session.

Step 4: estimate the value of the predicted data based on the projected discovery RoC.

The F(t) forecasting data is determined by the results of the FRoC. In (11) is used to determine the value of F(t).

\[ F_t = \left( \frac{F_RoC}{100} x(t-1) \right) + x(t-1) \]  

(11)

where \( x(t-1) \) equals the actual data up to t-1.

Step 5: determine the following time period’s forecast

While the traditional forecasting method of Holt’s DES was used for the t+1 prediction using the parameters \( \alpha = 0.377001 \) and \( \beta = 0.007219 \). When using (2) to (6), the smoothing value for December, 2019 was 36766, while the smoothing value for the trend was 145. The projected value for January 2020 is 36766+145*1=36911, according to (4). Using (11), following this, the projected results for January 2020 are: \( F_{Jan\ 2020} = (\frac{-1.44}{100} 37463) + 37463 = 36924 \). Figure 2 shows the final prediction results.

Figure 2. Prediction graph based on the proposed concept

A machine learning approach in Python is used to forecast the number of train passengers. ... (Solikhin)
3.2. Performance comparison and evaluation

On the same rail passenger data, we compare our proposed model's performance in forecasting passenger numbers to that of the previous model [33]. We also use statistics on train passengers from the same year for verification. In Table 5, average forecasting error rate (AFER) and mean square error (MSE), as calculated by (12) and (13) [32], compare the proposed model's performance with that of existing models. Higher forecasting accuracy is measured by lower MSE and AFER values.

\[
AFER = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{n} (A_t - F_t)}{n} \times 100\%
\]

\[
MSE = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{n} (A_t - F_t)^2}{n}
\]

Table 5. Comparison results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposer</th>
<th>The concept that was used</th>
<th>AFER (%)</th>
<th>MSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The current proposed model</td>
<td>Frequency-based partition</td>
<td>0.078</td>
<td>935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solikhin [33]</td>
<td>Ranking-based partition</td>
<td>0.89</td>
<td>13725</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5 shows that the results of our AFER and MSE are better than those of the previous model, which used the same data and case study. The suggested model combines discretization event function, frequency-based partition, and optimization with an integrated and innovative Python machine learning technique to maintain consistency and predictability. By basing the discourse universe on historical static data and weighting the intervals based on RoC and frequency, the disadvantage is reduced. Past and future values affect the FTS's current value.

4. CONCLUSION

A new technique has the best accuracy and least MSE based on past forecasts. Our approach accurately predicts train passenger counts in every region. The model helps railroads plan, allocate, and manage resources. The technique can help training organizations judge. This strategy could boost rail transit efficiency. Future models will use more trustworthy methods and time-series data.

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APPENDIX

Table 4. Distribution of frequencies, fuzzy sets, and the value in the middle
REFERENCES


A machine learning approach in Python is used to forecast the number of train passengers ... (Solikhin)