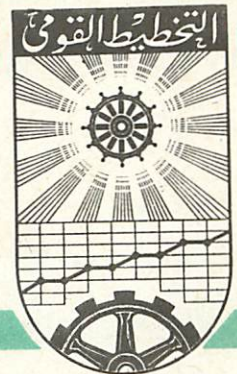


# ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

## THE INSTITUTE OF NATIONAL PLANNING



Memo No. (1359)  
Predicting the National Freight  
Transport Demand  
An Application of  
Multivariate Autoregressive Moving Average  
Time Series Analysis

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# **Predicting the National Freight**

## **Transport Demand**

### **An Application of**

### **Multivariate Autoregressive Moving Average Time**

### **Series Analysis**

#### **I. Introduction**

The development of many sectors of the economy is often hampered by the insufficiency of the existing facilities of physical distribution. Ridding of such a problem is expected to yield a returns to different sectors far more than the cost involved in the additional facilities. To estimate future needs for each mode of freight transport (waterways, railroad, and motor carriers), it is logical to start by predicting total needs of freight transport, then break down the total to find the size of demand on each mode.

This study concerns itself with the first part, i.e. with developing a proper model which could be used to predict total annual needs of freight transport services.

It is doubtful that analysis of time series of past commodity shipments would by itself suffice to predict such future needs. It does not account for external factors which affect the variable

being forecast. In a previous study in which the author took part,<sup>1</sup> it had been suggested that Gross National Product at constant prices would be about the most relevant single variable affecting freight transport needs since most domestic product is physically distributed within the economy.

However, direct application of regression analysis to estimate the relationship between the two series (Demand for freight transport as the dependent variable Y, and GDP at constant prices as the independent variable X) would present some difficulties.

On the one hand, the disturbance terms of each series would not be white noise (random) as required by the model. Rather, they would most likely be serially related.

On the other hand, the trend in both series would tend to dominate the regression thus obscuring the true regression relation making its identification and estimation rather difficult.

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1) This was in an unpublished study by the Institute of National Planning, Cairo, 1973.

Often in practical studies, these problems are ignored and regression analysis is applied to time series as are. The results would be unbiased estimates of the regression parameters but their estimated variances would be biased. This in turn leads to unreliable tests and inaccurate interval estimates.

Therefore, for the correct specification of the regression model which will be used for prediction purposes, it is important to rid each series of any of these difficulties whenever present before applying regression analysis to them. The suggested procedure, known as the Box-Jenkins Approach, will be applied in the following sequence:

- a) Checking for the existence of a trend in each series, in which case data should be detrended first.
- b) Checking whether disturbances of each series is white noise, if not, transform them into white noise through the specification and application of the correct ARMA model. This is known as the prewhitening stage.
- c) Applying regression analysis to the prewhitened series of X and Y. Modify until reaching the correct MARMA model.
- d) Checking the model for adequacy. This stage is known as diagnostic checking stage.
- e) Using the estimated MARMA model for prediction.

## II. Detrending and Prewhitening

Prewhitening is applied to both the independent variable X and the dependent variable Y. The purpose is to eliminate the trend within each series leaving what could be called white noise, therefore allowing the application of regression analysis to estimate the regression of the prewhitened y series on the prewhitened X series.

Starting with the X series, the general class of autoregressive moving average (ARMA) model expressing the way an X value is related to its own past values and to current and past error terms is:

$$\begin{aligned} X_t = & \phi_1 X_{t-1} + \phi_2 X_{t-2} + \dots + \phi_p X_{t-p} \\ & + u_t - \theta_1 u_{t-1} - \theta_2 u_{t-2} \dots - \theta_q u_{t-q} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Equation (1) should be applied to stationary time series to find out the degree of the ARMA model, i.e. to determine p and q.

If the data are not stationary, they should be made so by first removing the trend in them.

Therefore, the very first step is to find out whether the X series is stationary. Since stationarity exists when the data

are horizontal or fluctuate around a constant mean, autocorrelations are used to detect the presence of stationarity. Autocorrelation for time lag (k) is equal to

$$r_k = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{n-k} (x_t - \bar{x})(x_{t+k} - \bar{x})}{\sum_{t=1}^n (x_t - \bar{x})^2}$$

If autocorrelation drops rapidly to zero, the data are stationary and the ARMA model could be applied to them. Otherwise, if autocorrelations drop slowly to zero and several of them are significantly different from zero, it would be a sign of an existing trend within the series, i.e. the data would be nonstationary. Table 1 shows the autocorrelations for the X series for various time lags.<sup>1)</sup>

Table 1  
Autocorrelations of Original X Series

Time lag	Autocorrelation
1	0.865
2	0.748
3	0.641
4	0.537
5	0.447
6	0.358
7	0.283
8	0.211
9	0.137
10	0.063

1) The Data used are:

X = GDP at 1954 prices million £ for 1953-1980/1981

Y = Total volume of Freight transport in million ton/kelometer for 1953-1980/1981.

Since all autos up to the fifth time lag are significant<sup>1)</sup>, and the decline in them is rather slow, there exists a trend in the X series which will be removed by differencing.

Taking first differences instead of the original X data. The autos for various time lags are as shown in table 2.

Table 2  
Autocorrelations of Differenced X Series

Time lag	Autocorrelation
1	.39
2	.305
3	-.136
4	.037
5	.028
6	.318
7	.045
8	.106
9	-.104
10	.054

The values of the table indicates that the new series of first differences has much lower autos which decline exponentially.

To determine the proper order of the ARMA model we examine the autos and partial autos for various time lags. Table 3 shows the partial

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1) Standard error of the autocorrelation coefficient is equal to

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n-k}}$$

autos for the differenced series.

Table 3  
Partial Autocorrelations of Differenced X Series

Time lag	Partial Autocorrelation
1	.39
2	.227
3	-.354
4	.30
5	.256
6	.54
7	-.258
8	.40
9	.336

Notice that the first auto, the first and sixth partials are significantly different from zero. This suggests an AR of up to (6), and a MA of (1). However, we will start with the simplest model, an ARMA (1,1) and proceed with the remaining steps to find out whether such a model is adequate or should be modified.

An ARMA (1,1) model is in the form:

$$(X_t - X_{t-1}) = \phi_1 (X_{t-1} - X_{t-2}) + u_t - \theta_1 u_{t-1} \quad (2)$$

where  $u_t$  is white noise such that

$$E(u_t) = 0, \quad E u_t^2 = \sigma^2, \quad \text{and} \quad E u_t u_{t-1} = 0$$



Initial estimates of  $\phi_1$  and  $\theta_1$  should be obtained. These are obtained using the autocorrelation coefficients.

Let us first use  $x_t = X_t - X_{t-1}$

and  $x_{t-1} = X_{t-1} - X_{t-2}$

Therefore, eq (2) becomes

$$x_t = \phi_1 x_{t-1} + u_t - \theta_1 u_{t-1} \quad (3)$$

The variances and covariances of the mixed ARMA process would then be

$$\gamma_0 = E(x_t^2) = E(\phi_1 x_{t-1} + u_t - \theta_1 u_{t-1})^2 \quad (4)$$

$$= \phi_1^2 \gamma_0 - 2\phi_1 \theta_1 E(x_{t-1} u_{t-1}) + \sigma^2 + \theta_1^2 \sigma^2 \quad (5)$$

$$= \phi_1^2 \gamma_0 - 2\phi_1 \theta_1 \sigma^2 + \sigma^2 + \theta_1^2 \sigma^2 \quad (6)$$

$$\text{since } E(x_{t-1} u_{t-1}) = \sigma^2$$

Therefore,

$$\gamma_0 (1 - \phi_1^2) = \sigma^2 (1 + \theta_1^2 - 2\phi_1 \theta_1) \quad (7)$$

and, the variance  $\gamma_0$  is

$$\gamma_0 = \frac{(1 + \theta_1^2 - 2\phi_1 \theta_1)}{1 - \phi_1^2} \sigma^2 \quad (8)$$

Likewise, the covariance  $\gamma_1$  is

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_1 &= E(x_{t-1} x_t) = E \left[ x_{t-1} (\phi_1 x_{t-1} + u_t - \theta_1 u_{t-1}) \right] \\ &= \phi_1 \gamma_0 - \theta_1 \sigma^2\end{aligned}\quad (9)$$

$$= \phi_1 \frac{1 + \theta_1^2 - 2\phi_1 \theta_1}{1 - \phi_1^2} \sigma^2 - \theta_1 \sigma^2 \quad (10)$$

$$= \frac{\phi_1 + \phi_1 \theta_1^2 - 2\phi_1^2 \theta_1 - (1 - \phi_1^2) \theta_1}{1 - \phi_1^2} \sigma^2 \quad (11)$$

$$= \frac{\phi_1 + \phi_1 \theta_1^2 - 2\phi_1^2 \theta_1 - \theta_1 + \phi_1^2 \theta_1}{1 - \phi_1^2} \sigma^2 \quad (12)$$

$$= \frac{\phi_1 + \phi_1 \theta_1^2 - \phi_1^2 \theta_1 - \theta_1}{1 - \phi_1^2} \sigma^2 \quad (13)$$

$$= \frac{(\phi_1 - \theta_1) - \phi_1 \theta_1 (\phi_1 - \theta_1)}{1 - \phi_1^2} \sigma^2 \quad (14)$$

Thus,

$$\gamma_1 = \frac{(\phi_1 - \theta_1) (1 - \phi_1 \theta_1)}{1 - \phi_1^2} \sigma^2 \quad (15)$$

ewise  $\gamma_2$  is

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_2 &= E (x_{t-2} x_t) \\ &= E \left[ x_{t-2} (\phi_1 x_{t-1} + u_t - \theta_1 u_{t-1}) \right] \quad (16)\end{aligned}$$

$$= E \left[ x_{t-2} (\phi_1 (\phi_1 x_{t-2} + u_{t-1} - \theta_1 u_{t-2}) + u_t - \theta_1 u_{t-1}) \right] \quad (17)$$

$$= \phi_1^2 \gamma_0 - \theta_1 \phi_1 \sigma^2 \quad (18)$$

Thus,

$$\gamma_2 = \phi_1 (\phi_1 \gamma_0 - \theta_1 \sigma^2) = \phi_1 \gamma_1 \quad (19)$$

in the same fashion

$$\gamma_k = \phi_1 \gamma_{k-1} \quad \text{for } k \geq 2 \quad (20)$$

where  $k$  is the number of time lags.

Thus, the autocorrelation functions would be

$$r_1 = \frac{\gamma_1}{\gamma_0} = \frac{(\phi_1 - \theta_1) (1 - \phi_1 \theta_1)}{1 - \theta_1^2 - 2\phi_1 \theta_1} \quad (21)$$

and

$$r_2 = \frac{\gamma_2}{\gamma_0} = \frac{\phi_1 \gamma_1}{\gamma_0} = \phi_1 r_1 \quad (22)$$

Therefore,

$$\phi_1 = \frac{r_2}{r_1} \quad (23)$$

Next, the autocorrelation estimates for various time lags are used to obtain initial estimates for  $\phi_1$  and  $\theta_1$ .

Starting with  $\phi_1$ ,

$$\phi_1 = \frac{r_2}{r_1} = \frac{.305}{.39} = .781$$

Substituting this value of  $\phi_1$  in eq. (21) we can solve the resulting function, which is nonlinear, to get an initial estimate for  $\theta_1$

$$.39 = \frac{(.781 - \theta_1)(1 - .781\theta_1)}{1 - \theta_1^2 - 2 \times .781 \theta_1}$$

or

$$-.39 \theta_1^2 + \theta_1 - .39 = 0$$

Thus,

$$\theta_1 = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1 - 4(.39)^2}}{-2 \times .39} \quad (24)$$

$$\theta_1 = 0.479 \quad \text{or} \quad \theta_1 = 2.085$$

The first value  $\theta_1 = .479$  meets the constraint for stationarity (otherwise, with the other value of  $\theta_1$  the series would be explosive). Therefore, the initial values of the parameters are

$$\phi_1 = .781 \quad \theta_1 = .479$$

Final parameter estimates are obtained using Marquardt's method for solving nonlinear equations. This method is often preferred for its practical advantages over the other methods.<sup>1)</sup>

Using the initial estimates of  $\phi_1$  and  $\theta_1$  on the differenced data  $x_t$  we get its corresponding estimate

$$\hat{x}_t = .781 x_{t-1} - .479 e_{t-1}$$

where  $e_t$  is the observed residual value for time  $t$ . Thus the mean square error MSE is

$$MSE = \frac{\sum_{t=3}^{28} e_t^2}{26} = \frac{368622}{26} = 14178 \quad (25)$$

where

$$e_t = x_t - \hat{x}_t$$

The calculations using initial parameter values are shown in table 1 in the appendix.

Next, to determine the direction of changing the parameter estimates, we introduce a small change, say 1% of original value, once added and once subtracted to the initial value of  $\phi_1$  while holding  $\theta_1$

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- 1) Other methods for solving nonlinear equations are, linearization of the above nonlinear function around the initial values of the parameters using Taylor series expansion (see 7, p. 482), and steepest descent method (see 2, p. 267).

constant. The predicted values of  $x_t$  using these values, called  $f_{1t}$  are calculated. The difference between  $f_{1t}$  and  $\hat{x}_t$  is also found. The resulting values of MSE will determine the appropriate direction of change in  $\phi_1$ .

Interchangeably,  $\phi_1$  is held constant at its initial value and  $\theta_1$  is changed by a small increment in each direction. The predicted values of  $x_t$  using these values, called  $f_{2t}$  are also calculated. The difference between  $f_{2t}$  and  $\hat{x}_t$  could also be found. Again, the values of MSE will determine the appropriate direction of change in the value of  $\theta_1$ . Table 4 shows alternative values of  $\phi_1$  and  $\theta_1$  and their corresponding values of MSE.

Table 4  
MSE for alternative Estimates  
 $\phi_1$  and  $\theta_1$

Parameter Estimates	MSE
$\phi_1 = .781$ , $\theta_1 = .479$	14178
$\phi_1 = .789$ , $\theta_1 = .479$	13915
$\phi_1 = .773$ , $\theta_1 = .479$	14450
$\phi_1 = .781$ , $\theta_1 = .484$	14262
$\phi_1 = .781$ , $\theta_1 = .474$	14096

Notice that the value of MSE decreases whenever  $\phi_1$  is increased or  $\theta_1$  is decreased and vice versa. Thus, the search for final parameter

estimates should move in the direction of increasing  $\phi_1$  and decreasing  $\theta_1$  to the extent that would make MSE as small as possible. One should be aware not to carry the process to the extent that may cause the series to diverge.

The predicted values of  $x_t$  using  $\phi_1 = .789$ , called  $f_{1t}$ , are calculated as follows:

$$f_{1t} = .789 x_{t-1} - .479 e_{t-1}$$

Likewise, the predicted values of  $x_t$ , called  $f_{2t}$ , using  $\theta_1 = .474$  are calculated using the equation

$$f_{2t} = .781 x_{t-1} - .474 e_{t-1}$$

The differences between  $\hat{x}_t$  and  $f_{1t}$  on the one hand, and between  $\hat{x}_t$  and  $f_{2t}$  on the other hand are used to form the symmetric matrix  $D_{ij}$  whose elements are the products and cross products of the differences i.e.

$$D_{11} = \sum_{t=3}^{28} (f_{1t} - \hat{x}_t) (f_{1t} - \hat{x}_t) = 118.02 \quad (26)$$

$$D_{12} = D_{21} = \sum_{t=3}^{28} (f_{1t} - \hat{x}_t) (f_{2t} - \hat{x}_t) = 40.26 \quad (27)$$

$$D_{22} = \sum_{t=3}^{28} (f_{2t} - \hat{x}_t) (f_{2t} - \hat{x}_t) = 15.46 \quad (28)$$

The necessary calculations are shown in tables II and III in the appendix.

The  $D_{ij}$  matrix thus becomes

$$D_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} 118.02 & 40.26 \\ 40.26 & 15.46 \end{bmatrix}$$

Next, the  $D_{ij}$  values are scaled and standardized by dividing them by the product  $P_i P_j$  where  $P_i$  is the incremental change in  $\phi_1$ ,  $P_i = .00781$ , and  $P_j$  is the incremental change in  $\theta_1$ ,  $P_j = .00479$ . The new  $D_{ij}$  values become.

$$D_{11} = \frac{118.02}{(.00781)^2} = 1934877.817 \quad (29)$$

$$D_{12} = \frac{40.26}{(.00781)(.00479)} = 1076185.715 \quad (30)$$

$$D_{22} = \frac{15.46}{(.00479)^2} = 673811.585 \quad (31)$$

These last values are then constrained by dividing each of them by  $O_i O_j$

where

$$O_1 = \sqrt{D_{11}} = 1391, \text{ and } O_2 = \sqrt{D_{22}} = 820.86 \quad (32)$$



The resulting matrix  $J_{ij}$  is

$$J_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & .943 \\ .943 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Whose values are scaled between  $\pm 1$

Consider next the two values  $q_1$  and  $q_2$

where

$$\begin{aligned} q_1 &= \sum_{t=3}^{28} (\hat{x} - x) (f_{1t} - \hat{x}) / p_1 \\ &= \frac{3475}{.00781} = 444982 \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} q_2 &= \sum_{t=3}^{28} (\hat{x} - x) (f_{2t} - \hat{x}) / p_2 \\ &= \frac{1069}{.00479} = 223269 \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

Notice that the numerator of  $q_1$  is the cross product of errors when  $\phi_1 = .789$  holding  $\theta_1$  constant. When this is divided by the incremental change in the parameter  $p_1$  it gives a relative measure of how a change in the parameter affects the errors.  $q_2$  could be interpreted likewise with respect to giving a relative measure of how the errors are affected as a result of a small change in  $\theta_1$  while holding  $\phi_1$  constant.

Next,  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  are also scaled dividing them by  $O_1$  and  $O_2$  respectively yielding.

$$h_1 = \frac{q_1}{O_1} = 319.9, h_2 = \frac{q_2}{O_2} = 272 \quad (35)$$

Thus, the  $J_{ij}$  matrix times  $p_i$  will be equal to  $h_i$  i.e.

$J_{ij} p_i = h_i$ . Notice that the  $J_{ij}$  matrix includes all possible changes in the parameters while  $h_i$  includes changes in the errors from changing one parameter at a time. Instead of using the  $J_{ij}$  matrix as derived before, a constant quantity, say .01, is added to its diagonal i.e.

$$J_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.01 & .943 \\ .943 & 1.01 \end{bmatrix}$$

upon which the new relationship

$$J_{ij} p_i = h_i \quad \text{could be solved for } p_i$$

giving

$$p = J^{-1} h$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1.01 & .943 \\ .943 & 1.01 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 319.9 \\ 272 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 508 \\ -206 \end{bmatrix}$$

The elements of the last vector are scaled as they are divided by  $0_1$  and  $0_2$  respectively. The results would give the correction factors to be applied to  $\phi_1$  and  $\theta_2$ ,

$$P_1 = \frac{508}{1391} = .365$$

$$P_2 = \frac{-206}{820.86} = -.251$$

The correction factors are added to the initial  $\phi_1$  and  $\theta_1$  to the extent that the process does not become divergent. Thus  $\phi_1$  will be increased only to .995 (less than 1) while  $\theta_1$  is decreased to

$$\theta_1 = .479 - .251 = .228$$

Thus, the final parameter estimates of the parameters are

$$\phi_1 = .995, \quad \theta_1 = .228$$

and the final generating equation is  $\hat{x} = .995 x_{t-1} - .228 e_{t-1}$  (36)

Applying this equation yields MSE

$$MSE = \frac{289688}{26} = 11142$$

Which is minimum within the constraint of convergency of the series. Estimates using final parameter values are shown in table IV in the appendix.

The residuals of the ARMA model using final parameter estimate are calculated as

$$e_t = x_t - \hat{x}_t = x_t - .995 x_{t-1} + .228 e_{t-1}$$

Next, the autocorrelations of the residuals, shown in table 5 below, are examined. It is observed that the autos are significant for both  $K = 3$  and  $K = 6$ . This could be an indication of a pattern in the data that repeats itself every three time periods especially that for  $K = 9$  the auto is also high though not significant. However, the introduction of higher order ARMA models did not improve the situation much while leading to the loss of some precious degrees of freedom. This is because the total number of observations available is already small for time series analysis.

On the other hand, it is widely known that aggregate indices, such as GDP, tend to hide compositional changes thus biasing their measurements.<sup>1)</sup> Thus, if the published GDP statistics do not include some indication of the measurement errors involved, they can't be accounted for and some of this error will be a component of the error term thus obscuring

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1) See (1, P. 140 and 4, P.287).

its randomness. Since information about the range of error in GDP is lacking, we will proceed with the ARMA (1,1) model just estimated.

The residuals in table IV in the appendix will be used as the prewhitened x series.

Table 5  
Autocorrelations of residuals  
of x

Time lag	Autocorrelation
1	-.024
2	.011
3	-.053
4	-.008
5	-.07
6	.054
7	-.21
8	.0177
9	-.033
10	.09

We next proceed by applying the same ARMA equation to the differenced Y series. Table shows the autocorrelations of the residuals of y.

Table 6  
Autocorrelations of residuals of y

Time lag	Autocorrelation
1	-.12
2	-.22
3	.11
4	-.19
5	.19
6	.06
7	-.23
8	-.09
9	.03
10	.04

The autocorrelations of the residuals of the differenced y variable are all nonsignificant indicating that all  $y_e$  are white noise where

$$y_e = y - \hat{y}$$

### III Regression Analysis

Regression analysis could now be applied to the prewhitened X and Y series, i.e.  $y_e$  is regressed on  $x_e$ . To identify the form of the regression relationship, cross autocorrelation between  $y_e$  and  $x_e$  are found to determine whether some lagged dependent or independent variables should be included in the relation as explanatory

variables. The cross autocorrelation for time lag (K) is equal to

$$r_{xy}^{(k)} = \frac{\sum (x_t - \bar{x})(y_{t+k} - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum (x_t - \bar{x})^2 \sum (y_t - \bar{y})^2}} \quad (37)$$

Table 7 shows the cross autos for various time lags

Table 7

Cross Autocorrelations of  $x_e$  and  $y_e$  series

Time lag	Cross auto
0	.38
1	-.07
2	-.20
3	.10
4	-.03
5	.04
6	.39
7	-.32
8	-.19
9	-.03
10	.18

Considering the degrees of freedom for each time lag, only the cross auto for zero time lag  $r_{xy}(0)$  is found to be significant. Thus, multiple autoregressive moving average model, MARMA is of the form.

$$y_{et} = \delta x_{et} + e_t \quad (38)$$

Applying this MARMA model yield

$$\delta = 2.17$$

The residuals of the MARMA model  $e_t$  are found where

$$e_t = y_t - \hat{y}_t \quad (39)$$

$$\hat{y}_t = 2.17 x_t \quad (40)$$

#### IV Testing the Adequacy of the Model

To find out whether the model is adequate or should be modified, cross autos between the prewhitened  $x$  values that is  $x_{et}$  and  $e_t$  are calculated. If they indicate white noise, the MARMA model is correctly specified. Likewise, the autos of  $e_t$  are found, if they indicate randomness, then, the noise model is also correctly specified. If either one is not random, one should go back to the appropriate stage, and reestimate the relevant model. Table 8 shows the autos and the cross autos for various time lags.



Table 8  
Autocorrelations of MARMA Residuals and their  
cross autos with  $x_{et}$

Time lag	Autocorrelation of $e_t$	Time lag	Cross Auto of $e_t$ and $x_{et}$
		0	.02
1	.24	1	.01
2	-.18	2	.11
3	-.07	3	-.14
4	-.04	4	-.23
5	-.05	5	-.01
6	-.07	6	-.13
7	-.25	7	.20
8	-.16	8	-.03
9	-.04	9	.13
10	-.01	10	-.01

Since all values are not significantly different from zero, randomness is indicated. The MARMA model and the noise model are both adequate and could be used for forecasting.

#### V Forecasting.

GDP Figures for the two years 1981/82 and 1982/83 were obtained, deflated and differenced. Thus the first differences of GDP, 1954 = 100, were

$$x_{81/82} = 532 \quad , \quad x_{82/83} = 376$$

Therefore, the estimated y values are

$$\hat{y}_{81/82} = 532 \times 2.17 = 1154$$

$$\hat{y}_{82/83} = 376 \times 2.17 = 816$$

Next, these estimates are dedifferenced back to original data by successive addition to last year's value in the original series, therefore, the estimated demand for freight transport for the two years are

$$\hat{y}_{81/82} = 13993 + 1154 = 15147$$

$$\hat{y}_{82/83} = 15147 + 816 = 15963$$

The actual values of total freight transport were 16505 and 16992 million ton/Kelometer for the two years respectively. It is worth indicating that the prediction process could continue beyond 1982/83, the last year for which data on the independent variable x are available. In this case the independent variable will have to be forecast first using its generating process in eq. (36). Then, these predicted values are used to forecast the values of the dependent variable, demand for freight transport. It is expected that forecasts, using a MARMA model will be more reliable, as compared with traditional methods' forecasts., This is so since the estimated variances will be unbiased as a result of using a regression model which has random residuals.

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Table 1

Estimated Annual National Income

Year	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
1950	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1951	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1952	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1953	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1954	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1955	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1956	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1957	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1958	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1959	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1960	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1961	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1962	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1963	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1964	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1965	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1966	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1967	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1968	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1969	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1970	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1971	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1972	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1973	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1974	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1975	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1976	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1977	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1978	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1979	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1980	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1981	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1982	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1983	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1984	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1985	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1986	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1988	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1989	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1990	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

APPENDIX

Table I  
Estimates Using initial parameter values

Observation No.	x	$\hat{x}$	e	$e^2$
2	52.40	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	45.50	40.72	4.58	20.74
4	24.00	33.34	7.34	87.31
5	27.00	23.22	9.78	14.29
6	121.00	19.28	101.72	10347.73
7	109.00	45.78	63.22	3997.36
8	66.00	54.84	11.16	124.45
9	45.00	46.20	-1.20	1.45
10	116.00	35.72	80.28	6444.72
11	125.00	52.14	72.86	5308.23
12	285.00	62.73	222.27	49405.64
13	82.00	116.12	-34.12	1163.89
14	7.00	80.38	-73.38	5385.14
15	-51.00	40.62	-91.62	8393.80
16	138.00	4.05	133.95	17941.56
17	139.00	43.62	95.38	9097.76
18	336.00	62.87	273.13	74599.56
19	104.00	131.59	-27.59	761.05
20	101.00	74.44	6.56	43.06
21	94.00	75.74	18.26	333.50
22	89.00	64.67	24.33	592.12
23	123.00	57.85	65.15	4244.10
24	328.00	64.86	263.14	69243.87
25	199.00	130.12	68.88	4744.07
26	352.00	122.43	229.57	52703.84
27	226.00	164.75	61.05	3727.52
28	347.00	147.26	199.74	39895.51
				368622.44

Table II  
Calculations Introducing a Small Change in  $\phi_1$

Observation No. No	x	F <sub>1</sub>	e	e <sup>2</sup>
2	52.40	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	45.50	41.34	4.16	17.28
4	24.00	33.91	-9.91	98.18
5	27.00	23.68	3.32	11.01
6	121.00	19.71	101.29	10258.90
7	109.00	46.95	62.05	3849.84
8	66.00	56.28	9.72	94.47
9	45.00	47.42	-2.42	5.85
10	116.00	36.66	79.34	6294.30
11	125.00	53.52	71.48	5109.14
12	285.00	64.39	220.61	48670.12
13	82.00	119.19	-37.19	1383.20
14	7.00	82.51	-75.51	5702.16
15	-51.00	41.69	-92.69	8592.09
16	138.00	4.16	133.84	17912.82
17	139.00	44.77	94.23	8878.68
18	336.00	64.54	271.46	73692.50
19	104.00	135.07	-31.07	965.53
20	101.00	96.94	4.06	16.48
21	94.00	77.74	16.26	264.25
22	89.00	66.38	22.62	511.69
23	123.00	59.39	63.61	4046.77
24	328.00	66.58	261.42	68342.69
25	199.00	133.57	65.43	4281.12
26	352.00	125.67	226.33	51225.31
27	226.00	169.32	56.8	3213.09
28	347.00	151.16	195.84	38352.39
				361789.81

$$\sum (f_{1t} - \hat{x})^2 = 118.02$$

Table III  
Calculations introducing a small change in  $\theta_1$

Observation No.	x	F <sub>2</sub>	e	e <sup>2</sup>
2	52.40	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	45.50	40.92	4.58	20.94
4	24.00	33.37	-9.37	87.73
5	27.00	23.18	3.82	14.56
6	121.00	19.28	101.72	10347.34
7	109.00	46.28	62.72	3933.19
8	66.00	55.40	10.60	112.32
9	45.00	46.52	-1.52	2.32
10	116.00	35.87	80.13	6421.35
11	125.00	52.61	72.39	5239.90
12	285.00	63.31	221.69	49144.91
13	82.00	117.51	-35.51	1260.65
14	7.00	80.87	-73.87	5457.02
15	-51.00	40.48	-91.48	8368.98
16	138.00	3.53	134.47	18081.76
17	139.00	44.04	94.96	9017.41
18	336.00	63.55	272.45	74230.19
19	104.00	133.27	-29.27	856.95
20	101.00	95.10	5.90	34.81
21	94.00	76.08	17.92	320.97
22	89.00	64.92	24.08	579.75
23	123.00	58.10	64.90	4212.53
24	328.00	65.30	262.70	69012.06
25	199.00	131.65	67.35	4536.36
26	352.00	123.49	228.51	52215.03
27	226.00	166.60	59.40	3528.33
28	347.00	148.35	198.65	39461.62
				366498.94

$$\begin{aligned} \sum (f_{1t} - \hat{x}) (f_{2t} - \hat{x}) &= 40.26 & \sum (f_{2t} - \hat{x})^2 &= 15.46 \\ \sum (x - \hat{x}) (f_{1t} - \hat{x}) &= 3475 & \sum (x - \hat{x}) (f_{2t} - \hat{x}) &= 1069 \end{aligned}$$

Table IV  
Estimates using Final Parameter Values

Observation No.	x	$\hat{x}$	e	$e^2$
2	52.40	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	45.50	52.14	-6.64	44.06
4	24.00	46.79	-22.79	519.20
5	27.00	29.08	- 2.08	4.31
6	121.00	27.34	93.66	8772.54
7	109.00	99.04	9.96	99.20
8	66.00	106.18	-40.18	1614.77
9	45.00	74.83	-29.83	889.95
10	116.00	51.58	64.42	4150.36
11	125.00	100.73	24.27	588.96
12	258.00	118.84	166.16	27608.55
13	82.00	245.69	-163.69	26794.71
14	7.00	118.91	-111.91	12524.19
15	-51.00	32.48	-83.48	6969.05
16	138.00	-31.71	169.71	28801.95
17	139.00	98.62	40.38	1630.88
18	336.00	129.10	206.90	42808.68
19	104.00	287.15	-183.15	33542.55
20	101.00	145.24	-44 .24	1956.94
21	94.00	110.58	-16. 58	274.93
22	89.00	97.31	-8. 31	69.06
23	123.00	90.45	32.55	1059.52
24	328.00	114.96	213.04	45384.53
25	199.00	277.79	-78.79	6207.52
26	352.00	215.97	136.03	18504.54
27	226.00	319.22	-93.22	8690.87
28	347.00	246.13	100.87	10175.71
				289687.56