

# Comparison of Estimators for NileMin Series

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## Abstract

We use the BIC criterion to select the best long-memory ARMA( $p, q$ ) model with  $p, q = 0, 1, 2, 3$  and long-memory model specifications FD, FGN and PLA. Also the best ARMA( $p, q$ ),  $p, q = 0, 1, 2, 3$  with no long-memory component is determined using the BIC.

*Keywords:* BIC, long-memory models .

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## 1. Introduction

The Nile river flow minima, 660-1320, comprising  $n = 663$  observations is a famous example of a time series that is well-fit by a long-memory time series model. This series was originally used by [Hurst \(1951\)](#) and some discussion of the data is given in [?, §5.9](#) and [Beran \(1994, §1.4\)](#). The Hurst  $K$  statistic ([Hipel and McLeod 1994](#)),  $K = s^{-1}(\max_t R_t / \min_t R_t) = 0.825$ , where  $R_t, t = 1, \dots, n$  is the cumulative range and  $s$  is the sample standard deviation, provides a simple, fast, and consistent estimate of  $H$  in the FGN model ([?, Corollary 3.6](#)).

Exact maximum likelihood was used to fit the autoregressive moving-average model of order  $(p, q)$  by itself as well as convolved with three types of long-memory: fractionally differenced white noise, fractional Gaussian noise, and power-law-decay-autocorrelation. The BIC criterion was used to select the best model among the four types taking  $p, q = 0, \dots, 3$ . In all there are 64 models. In the short-memory case the best model was with  $p = q = 1$  while in the long-memory case,  $p = q = 2$  was best. The best fitting models for each of the four types are compared in Table using their relative plausibility. For likelihoods, the relative plausibility is defined by  $R = L/L^*$ , where  $L$  is the likelihood and  $L^*$  is the largest likelihood out of the 64 models fitted. Similarly for the BIC,  $R_{\text{BIC}} = \exp\{-0.5 * (\text{BIC} - \text{BIC}^*)\}$ . So in terms of the BIC, we see that

The models are compared in Table in terms of their relative likelihoods,

This vignette accompanies our FGN package ([McLeod and Veenstra 2013](#)).

Further work is discussed in [Veenstra \(2013\)](#).

## 2. Find the Best Model

These computations take about 2 minutes.

```
R> require("FGN")  
R> z <- NileMin
```

```

R> z <- z - mean(z)
R> n <- length(z)
R> P <- Q <- 3
R> #
R> TotalTimes <- numeric(4)
R> names(TotalTimes) <- c("FD", "FGN", "PLA", "NONE")
R> #FD
R> numMod <- (P+1)*(Q+1)
R> outMod <- vector("list", numMod)
R> ii <- 0
R> #takes about 42 seconds on unit
R> startTime <- proc.time()
R> for (p in 0:P)
+   for (q in 0:Q) {
+     ii <- ii+1
+     k <- p+q+2
+     order <- c(p,0,q)
+     ans <- earfima(z, order=order, lmodel="FD")
+     Le <- ans$LL
+     bice <- -2*Le+k*log(n)
+     out <- c(p,q,Le,bice)
+     names(out) <- c("p","q","Le","bice")
+     outMod[[ii]] <- out
+   }
R> endTime <- proc.time()
R> totalTime <- endTime-startTime
R> TotalTimes[1] <- totalTime[1]
R> m<-matrix(unlist(outMod),byrow=TRUE,ncol=4)
R> dimnames(m)[[2]]<- c("p","q","Le","bice")
R> ind1 <- which.min(m[, "bice"])
R> mc<-rep(" ", 16)
R> mc[ind1]<- "*"
R> dimnames(m)[[1]]<-mc
R> mFD<-m
R> #
R> #FGN
R> numMod <- (P+1)*(Q+1)
R> outMod <- vector("list", numMod)
R> ii <- 0
R> #takes about 42 seconds on unit
R> startTime <- proc.time()
R> for (p in 0:P)
+   for (q in 0:Q) {
+     ii <- ii+1
+     k <- p+q+2
+     order <- c(p,0,q)
+     ans <- earfima(z, order=order, lmodel="FGN")

```

```

+   Le <- ans$LL
+   bice <- -2*Le+k*log(n)
+   out <- c(p,q,Le,bice)
+   names(out) <- c("p","q","Le","bice")
+   outMod[[ii]] <- out
+   }
R> endTime <- proc.time()
R> totalTime <- endTime-startTime
R> TotalTimes[2] <- totalTime[1]
R> m<-matrix(unlist(outMod),byrow=TRUE,ncol=4)
R> dimnames(m)[[2]]<- c("p","q","Le","bice")
R> ind1 <- which.min(m[, "bice"])
R> mc<-rep(" ", 16)
R> mc[ind1]<- "*"
R> dimnames(m)[[1]]<-mc
R> mFGN<-m
R> #
R> #PLA
R> numMod <- (P+1)*(Q+1)
R> outMod <- vector("list", numMod)
R> ii <- 0
R> #takes about 42 seconds on unit
R> startTime <- proc.time()
R> for (p in 0:P)
+   for (q in 0:Q) {
+     ii <- ii+1
+     k <- p+q+2
+     order <- c(p,0,q)
+     ans <- earfima(z, order=order, lmodel="PLA")
+     Le <- ans$LL
+     bice <- -2*Le+k*log(n)
+     out <- c(p,q,Le,bice)
+     names(out) <- c("p","q","Le","bice")
+     outMod[[ii]] <- out
+   }
R> endTime <- proc.time()
R> totalTime <- endTime-startTime
R> TotalTimes[3] <- totalTime[1]
R> m<-matrix(unlist(outMod),byrow=TRUE,ncol=4)
R> dimnames(m)[[2]]<- c("p","q","Le","bice")
R> ind1 <- which.min(m[, "bice"])
R> mc<-rep(" ", 16)
R> mc[ind1]<- "*"
R> dimnames(m)[[1]]<-mc
R> mPLA<-m
R> #
R> #

```

```

R> #NONE
R> numMod <- (P+1)*(Q+1)
R> outMod <- vector("list", numMod)
R> ii <- 0
R> #takes about 42 seconds on unit
R> startTime <- proc.time()
R> for (p in 0:P)
+   for (q in 0:Q) {
+     ii <- ii+1
+     k <- p+q+2
+     order <- c(p,0,q)
+     ans <- earfima(z, order=order, lmodel="NONE")
+     Le <- ans$LL
+     bice <- -2*Le+k*log(n)
+     out <- c(p,q,Le,bice)
+     names(out) <- c("p","q","Le","bice")
+     outMod[[ii]] <- out
+   }
R> endTime <- proc.time()
R> totalTime <- endTime-startTime
R> TotalTimes[4] <- totalTime[1]
R> m<-matrix(unlist(outMod),byrow=TRUE,ncol=4)
R> dimnames(m)[[2]]<- c("p","q","Le","bice")
R> ind1 <- which.min(m[, "bice"])
R> mc<-rep(" ", 16)
R> mc[ind1]<- "*"
R> dimnames(m)[[1]]<-mc
R> mNONE<-m
R> #
R> LLS <- c(mFD["*",3],mFGN["*",3],mPLA["*",3],mNONE["*",3])
R> LLmax <- max(LLs)
R> RLS <- exp(LLs-LLmax)
R> names(RLS) <- c("FD","FGN","PLA","NONE")
R> #
R> bics <- c(mFD["*",4],mFGN["*",4],mPLA["*",4],mNONE["*",4])
R> bicmin <- min(bics)
R> RELs <- exp(-0.5*(bics-bicmin))
R> names(RELs) <- c("FD","FGN","PLA","NONE")
R> tb <- matrix(c(RLS,RELs)*100, byrow=TRUE, nrow=2)
R> dimnames(tb) <- list(c("RL","REL"), names(RELs))
R> tbNileMin <- tb
R> #dump("tbNileMin", file="d:/R/CRAN/FGN/vig/tbNileMin.R")
R> #
R> TotalTimes

      FD   FGN   PLA  NONE
12.51 16.18 13.96 15.30

```

```
R> sum(TotalTimes)
```

```
[1] 57.95
```

```
R> #
```

```
R> mFD
```

	p	q	Le	bice
*	0	0	236.0231	-459.0526
	0	1	236.7121	-453.9340
	0	2	237.0574	-448.1277
	0	3	237.0598	-441.6357
	1	0	236.6242	-453.7581
	1	1	236.9508	-447.9146
	1	2	237.0586	-441.6334
	1	3	237.0581	-435.1355
	2	0	237.0768	-448.1665
	2	1	237.0772	-441.6705
	2	2	238.4707	-437.9607
	2	3	241.5985	-437.7195
	3	0	237.0775	-441.6712
	3	1	237.6591	-436.3375
	3	2	197.8448	-350.2121
	3	3	238.6838	-425.3933

```
R> mFGN
```

	p	q	Le	bice
*	0	0	236.5197	-460.0459
	0	1	236.7758	-454.0612
	0	2	237.0599	-448.1328
	0	3	237.0621	-441.6404
	1	0	236.7350	-453.9797
	1	1	236.9907	-447.9942
	1	2	237.0610	-441.6381
	1	3	237.6699	-436.3592
	2	0	237.0690	-448.1509
	2	1	237.0735	-441.6631
	2	2	240.8156	-442.6506
	2	3	241.5895	-437.7015
	3	0	237.0786	-441.6733
	3	1	237.0923	-435.2040
	3	2	241.5882	-437.6990
	3	3	242.0621	-432.1501

```
R> mPLA
```

```

p q      Le      bice
* 0 0 236.3019 -459.6102
  0 1 236.6812 -453.8720
  0 2 237.0585 -448.1298
  0 3 237.0596 -441.6354
  1 0 236.6272 -453.7641
  1 1 236.9213 -447.8555
  1 2 237.0591 -441.6343
  1 3 237.0587 -435.1367
  2 0 237.0782 -448.1693
  2 1 237.0782 -441.6725
  2 2 241.0509 -443.1212
  2 3 241.5781 -437.6788
  3 0 237.0782 -441.6726
  3 1 237.0788 -435.1769
  3 2 241.5333 -437.5891
  3 3 238.8028 -425.6314

```

```
R> mNONE
```

```

p q      Le      bice
  0 0   79.64748 -146.3014
  0 1  169.28546 -319.0806
  0 2  192.61781 -359.2485
  0 3  203.30791 -374.1319
  1 0  212.56400 -405.6377
  1 1  229.23378 -432.4805
  1 2  236.72533 -440.9668
  1 3  237.29426 -435.6079
  2 0  221.04253 -416.0980
*  2 1  237.61204 -442.7402
  2 2  237.63930 -436.2979
  2 3  237.98662 -430.4958
  3 0  228.14016 -423.7965
  3 1  237.62977 -436.2789
  3 2 -1324.91696 2695.3113
  3 3   237.40950 -422.8448

```

```
R> #
```

```
R> tbNileMin
```

	FD	FGN	PLA	NONE
RL	20.41404	33.54475	26.97737	100.00000000
REL	60.85614	100.00000	80.42203	0.01746245

### 3. Summary

	FD	FGN	PLA	NONE
RL	20.4	33.5	27.0	100.0
REL	60.9	100.0	80.4	0.0

Table 1: Relative Plausibility for Fitted Models

## References

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