

Review

ESD.260 Fall 2003

Demand Forecasting

Accuracy and Bias Measures

1. Forecast Error: $e_t = D_t - F_t$

2. Mean Deviation: $MD = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n e_i}{n}$

3. Mean Absolute Deviation

$$MAD = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n |e_i|}{n}$$

4. Mean Squared Error:

$$MSE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2}{n}$$

5. Root Mean Squared Error:

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2}{n}}$$

6. Mean Percent Error:

$$MPE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{e_i}{D_i}}{n}$$

7. Mean Absolute Percent Error:

$$MAPE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{|e_i|}{D_i}}{n}$$

MD – cancels out the over and under – good measure of bias not accuracy

MAD – fixes the cancelling out, but statistical properties are not suited to probability based dss

MSE – fixes cancelling out, equivalent to variance of forecast errors, HEAVILY USED statistically appropriate measure of forecast errors

RMSE – easier to interpret (proportionate in large data sets to MAD) MAD/RMSE = SQRT(2/pi) for $e \sim N$

Relative metrics are weighted by the actual demand

MPE – shows relative bias of forecasts

MAPE – shows relative accuracy

Optimal is when the MSE of forecasts $\rightarrow \text{Var}(e)$ – thus the forecasts explain all but the noise.

What is good in practice (hard to say) MAPE 10% to 15% is excellent, MAPE 20%-30% is average CLASS?