

Little Brown Jay A Tale From India Mondo

The CIA, the British Left, and the Cold WarNesting Birds of a Tropical FrontierAir Force RegisterCrows and JaysA Bird-finding Guide to MexicoResearch Awards IndexOwls2017 CFR Annual Print Title 50 Wildlife and Fisheries Parts 1 to 16Code of Federal RegulationsLet's Hear It for the GirlsJournal of the Executive Proceedings of the Senate of the United States of AmericaAnimals and Plants of the Ancient MayaBuffon's System of Natural History: Including the History of the Elements, the Earth, Mountains ... with Anecdotes and Illustrations from Later Writers. Embellished with Eighty CopperplatesField Guide to the Wildlife of Costa RicaA Guide to the Birds of Mexico and Northern Central AmericaMaroon & GoldA Field Guide to Rocky Mountain and Southwest ForestsThe Rochester DirectoryBirds of Costa RicaMonteverdeAir Force RegisterNatural History, General and Particular ... Illustrated with Above Six Hundred Copper Plates. The History of Man and Quadrupeds Translated, with Notes and Observations, by William Smellie ... A New Edition ... Corrected and ... Enlarged, by Many Additional Articles, Notes, and Plates, and Some Account of the Life of M. de Buffon. By William WoodHistory of birdsTaxonomie aller Vögel der Welt - Band IIThe American CyclopaediaEcology and Evolution of Cooperative Breeding in BirdsBirds of East AsiaCatalog of Copyright Entries. Third SeriesField Guide to the Birds of East AsiaOrganizational and Alphabetical ListingIndex of Patents Issued from the United States Patent OfficeTaxonomy of the birds of the worldRegister of the Commissioned and Warrant Officers of the United States Navy and Marine CorpsRegister of Commissioned and Warrant Officers of the United States Naval Research and Marine Corps ReserveThe Behavior of Texas BirdsThe Natural History of BirdsDas Wörterbuch Englisch-DeutschRegister of the Commissioned and Warrant Officers of the United States Navy and Marine Corps and Reserve Officers on Active DutyLetter from the Secretary of the Navy, Transmitting a List of All the Commissioned Officers in the Navy of the United States, Showing Their Respective Rank, and Dates of the Commissions; Also a List of All the Midshipmen, with the Dates of Their WarrantsTrow's New York City Directory Hugh Wilford Timothy Brush United States. Air Force. Office of the Directorate of Personnel Program Actions Steve Madge Steve N. G. Howell Heimo Mikkola Office of The Federal Register Erica Bauermeister United States. Congress. Senate Victoria Schlesinger George Louis LE CLERC (Count de Buffon.) Carrol L. Henderson Steve N. G. Howell Bob Eger John C. Kricher Carrol L. Henderson Nalini M. Nadkarni United States.

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halfway between dallas and mexico city along the last few hundred miles of the rio grande lies a subtropical outpost where people from all over the world come to see birds located between the temperate north and the tropic south with desert to the west and ocean to the east the lower rio grande valley of texas provides habitat for a variety of birds seen nowhere else in the united states if you want to see a hooked billed kite muscovy duck or altamira oriole this is the place drawing on years of personal observation and study timothy brush has written a classic work of natural history about the little known breeding bird communities of the valley and the diversity of nesting strategies and behaviors that can be seen brush estimates that there are more than 150 current breeding species in the lower rio grande valley in nesting birds of a tropical frontier he describes the habits distribution changes in occurrence and general outlook of these as well as former breeders concentrating on valley specialties and other birds of particular interest in the valley art by gerald sneed and color photographs by several of texas top nature photographers show off some of the valley s famous birds historical maps of vegetation and geology help us gain a better perspective on the changes that have taken place along the rio grande and on the breeding bird communities of the u s mexico frontier jacket

120 species of crows jays and their allies exist in the world today many are exceedingly beautiful in colour grace and form whereas others are black and somewhat sinister in appearance in no other group of perching birds has evolution produced such a degree of variation from the tiny hume s ground jay of the steppe highlands of tibet to the huge thick billed raven of the mountains of ethiopia some have had a long association with people and appear in tales of mythology and superstition while others have been regarded as agricultural pests the great majority however remain largely unknown their only contact with

humanity being the destruction of their specialised habitats as a consequence more than 20 species are now regarded as internationally endangered some of which are very poorly known the 30 superb colour plates by hilary burn in this book depict them all each plate is accompanied by an informative caption page summarising the criteria required to identify the species alongside colour world distribution maps some of these birds bearing such evocative names as the banggai crow mesopotamian crow and flores crow have never been illustrated before the authoritative text by steve madge treats each species in depth summarising identification techniques and concisely reviewing all aspects of corvid behaviour distribution population and taxonomy the author has had first hand experience of most of the species during his travels throughout the world travels in which he gradually became fascinated by this very special but somewhat ignored group of birds crows and jays is a combination of scientifically accurate information and an identification guide planned to give anyone whether a birdwatcher or biologist a greater understanding of the lives of these beautiful yet very complex group of birds it will surely be a standard work of reference for many years to come

in a guide that covers mexico s best birdwatching sites from baja california to the yucatan peninsula the coauthor of a guide to the birds of mexico and northern central america selects over 100 sites where birders may see more than 950 species 70 maps 18 drawings

owls are soft plumaged short tailed big headed birds that have the most frontally situated eyes of all birds and they can blink the upper eyelids this together with a broad facial disc gives owls all the right characteristics to make them attractive in our eyes at the same time some people fear their presence and even their calls and there are more myths and beliefs about owls than there are about any other bird bats are often similarly feared as owls partly because both of them inhabit the night a place that is unknown and alien to us owls and bats symbolise all that is mysterious about the night and their complete mastery of the darkness only highlights our own deficiencies in this book we will get to know the relationships between bats and owls this book describes the biological control of rats by owls in malaysia the prey predator interactions in a tropical forest in mexico and provides an overview of the breeding biology of owls from numerous owl belief and myth studies described in this book are those of the lesser known central asian countries where owls are often worshipped for their supernatural powers

special edition of the federal register containing a codification of documents of general applicability and future effect as of with ancillaries

bravo they ve given adults and young girls a much needed treasure map of heroines and she roes it blazes an important path in the forest of children s literature jim trelease

a growing interest in all things maya brings an increasing number of visitors to prehistoric maya ruins and contemporary maya communities in guatemala belize el salvador western honduras the yucatán peninsula and the southern areas of chiapas and tabasco mexico for these visitors and indeed everyone with an interest in the maya this field guide highlights nearly 100 species of plants and animals that were significant to the ancient maya and that continue to inhabit the maya region today drawing from the disciplines of biology ecology and anthropology victoria schlesinger describes each plant or animal s habitat and natural history identifying characteristics also shown in a black and white drawing and cultural significance to the ancient and contemporary maya an introductory section explains how to use the book and offers a concise overview of the history lifeways and cosmology of the ancient maya the concluding section describes the collapse of ancient maya society and briefly traces the history of the maya region from colonial times to the present

at the biological crossroads of the americas costa rica hosts an astonishing array of plants and animals over half a million species ecotourists birders and biologists come from around the world to immerse themselves in the country s unspoiled rain forests mountains and beaches drawn by the likelihood of seeing more than three or four hundred species of birds and other animals during even a short stay to help all of these visitors and local residents identify and enjoy the wildlife of costa rica this field guide presents nearly three hundred species of birds mammals reptiles amphibians butterflies moths and other invertebrates carrol henderson an experienced wildlife biologist traveler and tour leader in costa rica has chosen the species that ecotourists are most likely to see along with a selection of rarer sought after animals he gives a general introduction to each group of animals followed by individual species accounts that highlight identification features and interesting ecological adaptations for survival his stunning close up photographs and distribution maps complete each entry in addition henderson includes a wealth of data about costa rica s natural environment as well as a trip preparation checklist and lists of conservation organizations wildlife tourism sites

and wildlife vocalization tapes and cds with so much information so readily and readably accessible this field guide will be essential for planning and enjoying your time in costa rica

field guide covering the 1070 bird species found in mexico guatemala belize el salvador honduras and western nicaragua

in maroon gold a history of sun devil athletics veteran sportswriter bob eger recounts not only the most celebrated moments but many little known items from the university s colorful sports history from turn of the century football legend charlie haigler to the electrifying whizzer white to latterday star jake plummer the rich football lineage is well documented but this is much more than a football book who could forget coach ned wulk s great basketball teams of the early 1960s or the five national basketball titles it s a little known fact that women were participating in an early form of aerobics on campus as early as 1891 and playing basketball in 1898 though the school didn t begin attracting national attention for women s athletics until golfer joanne gunderson and diver patsy willard began to dominate their sports in the late 1950s and early 1960s maroon gold a history of sun devil athletics is must reading for any true sun devil fan from any generation

this comprehensive field guide includes all the flora and fauna you re most likely to see in the forest communities of the rocky mountains and the southwest it includes 53 color plates and more than 80 color photos illustrating trees birds mammals wildflowers mushrooms reptiles and amphibians butterflies beetles and other insects

at the biological crossroads of the americas costa rica hosts an astonishing array of plants and animals over half a million species ecotourists birders and biologists come from around the world drawn by the likelihood of seeing more than three or four hundred species of birds and other animals during even a short stay to help all of these visitors as well as local residents identify and enjoy the wildlife of costa rica carrol henderson published field guide to the wildlife of costa rica in 2002 and it became the instant and indispensable guide now henderson has created a dedicated field guide to the birds that travelers are most likely to see as well as to the unique or endemic species that are of high interest to birders birds of costa rica covers 310 birds an increase of 124 species from the earlier volume with fascinating accounts of the birds natural history identification and behavior gleaned from henderson s forty years of traveling and birding in costa rica all of the accounts include beautiful photographs of the birds

most of which were taken in the wild by henderson there are new updated distribution maps and a detailed appendix that identifies many of the country s best bird watching locations and lodges including contact information for trip planning purposes

the monteverde cloud forest reserve has captured the worldwide attention of biologists conservationists and ecologists and has been the setting for extensive investigation over the past 30 years roughly 40 000 ecotourists visit the cloud forest each year and it is often considered the archetypal high altitude rain forest this volume brings together some of the most prominent researchers of the region to provide a broad introduction to the biology of the monteverde and cloud forests in general collecting and synthesizing vital information about the ecosystem and its biota the book also examines the positive and negative effects of human activity on both the forest and the surrounding communities ecologists tropical biologists and natural historians will find this volume an indispensable resource as will all those who are fascinated by the magnificent wonders of the tropical forests

taxonomie aller vögel der welt band ii wie kommt man auf die idee alle vögel der welt inklusive der unterarten aufzulisten und allen vögeln deutsche namen zu geben es gibt einen grund dafür mein lieblingsspruch dessen verfasser unbekannt ist alle sagten das geht nicht da kam einer der wusste das nicht und tat es einfach ich bin tierfotograf und wohl auch ein wenig verrückt ich habe in den letzten zehn jahren eine komplette tierdatenbank für säugetiere und vögel aufgebaut das erleichtert mir die arbeit bei der bestimmung der bildarchivierung und stichwortvergabe vor allem bei den vielen unterarten warum nun die vögel der welt in buchform und warum die neuauflage die neuauflage war notwendig da die wissenschaftler regelmäßig die taxonomie anpassen das bedeutet jedesmal verwirrung vor allem für hobbyornithologen wie ist zum beispiel zu erklären dass in der familie megalaima keine art mehr mit megalaima beginnt sondern mit psilopogon unterarten sind plötzlich arten arten kommen in neue familien und so weiter mit diesem buch in zwei bänden möchte ich allen birding freunden und ornithologen eine komplette Übersicht in deutsch an die hand geben dazu habe ich allen unterarten eindeutige deutsche namen gegeben die namensgebung soll keinen wissenschaftlichen ansprüchen gerecht werden die namen beruhen auf Übersetzungen aus dem lateinischen namen geografischen verbreitungsgebieten den namen der entdeckter und Übersetzungen aus dem englischen im band i finden sie die komplette checkliste der vögel sortiert nach ordnung familie und gattung eine Übersicht der ordnungen familien und gattungen sowie ein inhaltsverzeichnis der lateinischen namen aller arten die einzelnen einträge bestehen aus dem wissenschaftlichen namen dem deutschen und englischen namen den verbreitungsgebieten und dem autor im band ii sind mehrere inhaltsverzeichnisse inklusive

der unterarten aufgeführt so können sie nach englischen deutschen oder lateinischen namen suchen ebefalls finden sie dort eine namensliste latein deutsch englisch für alle arten und latein deutsch für alle arten und unterarten ich wünsche ihnen viel spaß mit diesem buch vor allem aber beim beobachten der faszinierenden vogelwelt fotolulu

cooperative breeders are species in which more than a pair of individuals assist in the production of young cooperative breeding is found in only a few hundred bird species world wide and understanding this often strikingly altruistic behaviour has remained an important challenge in behavioural ecology for over 30 years this book highlights the theoretical empirical and technical advances that have taken place in the field of cooperative breeding research since the publication of the seminal work cooperative breeding in birds long term studies of behavior and ecology 1990 hb isbn 0521 372984 pb isbn 0521 378907 organized conceptually special attention is given to ways in which cooperative breeders have proved fertile subjects for testing modern advances to classic evolutionary problems including those of sexual selection sex ratio manipulation life history evolution partitioning of reproduction and incest avoidance it will be of interest to both students and researchers interested in behaviour and ecology

over 900 species from both the paleoarctic and oriental regions including a wide range of arctic temperate and sub tropical birds

includes part 1 number 2 books and pamphlets including serials and contributions to periodicals july december

birds of east asia the definitive field guide to the birds of this slice of asia just got even better this enhanced fixed format version of the book featuring songs and calls is set to change birding forever optimised for ipad it features the book in crisp clear high resolution superb fully zoomable colour plates of the highest detail lie opposite comprehensive identification text and accurate range maps in addition this e book features songs calls and other sounds from the birds species placed conveniently next to the accompanying species text the sounds included on this e book represent more than 95 coverage of all species in the region this epic collection of images and sounds represents a step change in the way birders operate no more carrying heavy books into the field no more trying to remember sounds days or weeks after the event while all other methods for taking sounds into the field are consigned to the dustbin this e book provides a complete field based id solution no birder will want to be without it

how do you come up with the idea to list all the birds in the world including the subspecies and to give all birds english names

there is a reason for it my favorite saying whose author is unknown everyone said that s not possible then there was one who did not know that and just did it i am an animal photographer and probably a little bit crazy i ve built a complete animal database for mammals and birds over the last decade this facilitates my work in determining and archiving images and assigning keywords especially among the many subspecies with this book i would like to give all birding friends and ornithologists a complete overview in english for this i have given unique english names to all subspecies the naming should not meet any scientific requirements the names are based on translations from the latin name geographical distribution areas and the names of the discoverers the entries consist of the scientific name the english name the distribution areas and the author i wish you a lot of fun with this book but especially while watching the fascinating birdlife fotolulu

in this comprehensive yet easy to use book kent rylander distills data from many sources to provide an authoritative guide to the behavior of texas birds he begins by explaining the principles of animal behavior and illustrating how they can be applied to interpreting bird behaviors in the field the majority of the book is devoted to accounts of more than 400 species of birds that are most likely to be encountered by texas birdwatchers cover

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Understanding Exponential Smoothing Alpha: A Comprehensive Guide

Exponential smoothing is a powerful forecasting method used to analyze time series data. It's particularly useful when dealing with data that exhibits trends or seasonality, offering a simple yet effective way to predict future values. At the heart of exponential smoothing lies the smoothing parameter, alpha (α). This article will delve into the intricacies of alpha in exponential smoothing, explaining its role, impact, and practical applications.

What is Exponential Smoothing?

Exponential smoothing assigns exponentially decreasing weights to older observations. This means that more recent data points carry greater significance in the forecast than older data points. This approach is advantageous because it adapts more readily to recent changes in the data, making it suitable for predicting dynamic patterns. The basic idea is to generate a weighted average of past observations to predict the future. This differs from a simple moving average where all past observations within the window have equal weight. Imagine a stock's daily closing price. A simple moving average might average the last 7 days' prices equally. Exponential smoothing, however, would give yesterday's price the most weight, the day before less weight, and so on, diminishing the weight exponentially into the past.

The Role of Alpha (α)

The smoothing parameter, alpha (α), is a crucial element that determines the responsiveness of the forecast to recent changes. It's a value between 0 and 1 (0 ≤ α ≤ 1).
 close to 0: A low alpha gives more weight to older data points. The forecast will be smoother, less responsive to recent fluctuations, and potentially lag behind significant shifts in the underlying trend. This is suitable for data with little variability.
 close to 1: A high alpha gives significantly more weight to recent data points. The forecast will be more responsive to recent changes, reflecting the latest trends accurately. However, it will also be more volatile

and susceptible to noise in the data. This is useful when dealing with rapidly changing data. The choice of alpha is crucial and depends heavily on the nature of the time series data. There's no universal optimal value; the best needs to be determined empirically, often through techniques like minimizing the Mean Squared Error (MSE) or Mean Absolute Error (MAE) between predicted and actual values.

Different Types of Exponential Smoothing and Alpha

While simple exponential smoothing uses only one parameter (α), more sophisticated methods exist: Double Exponential Smoothing: Accounts for both level and trend. It uses two smoothing parameters (α for level and β for trend). Alpha still controls the responsiveness to recent level changes. Triple Exponential Smoothing: Accounts for level, trend, and seasonality. It requires three smoothing parameters (α , β , and γ). Alpha again plays a key role in adjusting to level changes, independent of the trend and seasonality parameters.

Choosing the Optimal Alpha

Determining the optimal alpha value is a critical step in ensuring the accuracy of the exponential smoothing forecast. Several methods can be employed: Trial and Error: Testing different alpha values and evaluating their performance using metrics like MSE or MAE. This is a straightforward approach but can be time-consuming. Grid Search: Systematically testing a range of alpha values and selecting the one that yields the lowest error. Optimization Algorithms: Employing algorithms like gradient descent to find the alpha value that minimizes the chosen error metric. This is more sophisticated but can be computationally expensive.

Example: Predicting Sales

Let's imagine a company selling widgets. Their sales for the past five weeks were: 100, 110, 120, 105, 115. We want to predict next week's sales using simple exponential smoothing with different alpha values. Let's use an initial forecast (F_0) of 100.

Week	Actual Sales (A_t)	$\alpha = 0.2$	Forecast (F_t)	$\alpha = 0.8$	Forecast (F_t)
1	100	-	100	-	100
2	110	102	108	108	108
3	120	105.6	116.4	116.4	116.4
4	105	107.48	113.28	113.28	113.28
5	115	108.98	110.66	110.66	110.66
6 (Forecast)	-	110.18	111.32	111.32	111.32

As you can see, the higher alpha (0.8) results in a forecast more responsive to recent fluctuations, while the lower alpha (0.2) provides a smoother, less volatile prediction. The best alpha would be determined by comparing the accuracy of these forecasts against actual sales data.

Summary

Exponential smoothing is a versatile forecasting technique whose accuracy hinges on the appropriate selection of the smoothing parameter alpha (α). Alpha determines the weight assigned to recent observations, impacting the forecast's responsiveness and smoothness. Choosing the optimal alpha requires careful consideration of the data's characteristics and employing suitable optimization methods. Understanding the role of alpha is crucial for successfully applying exponential smoothing in various forecasting scenarios.

FAQs

1. What happens if I choose an alpha of 0 or 1? An alpha of 0 ignores all recent data and always predicts the first observation. An alpha of 1 only uses the most recent observation and completely ignores historical data. Both extremes are generally unsuitable for forecasting.
2. How do I choose the best alpha for my data? Experiment with different alpha values and evaluate their

performance using error metrics such as Mean Squared Error (MSE) or Mean Absolute Error (MAE). Methods like grid search can be used to automate this process. 3. Can I use exponential smoothing for data with seasonality? Yes, triple exponential smoothing explicitly accounts for seasonality by incorporating a seasonal component into the model. 4. Is exponential smoothing better than other forecasting methods? There's no universally "best" forecasting method. The suitability of exponential smoothing depends on the characteristics of the data and the forecasting goals. It's often compared against ARIMA models and other time series methods. 5. What software can I use to implement exponential smoothing? Many statistical software packages, including R, Python (with libraries like statsmodels), and specialized forecasting software, offer implementations of various exponential smoothing models.

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