UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

SHORT-TERM FORECAST OF NEW CONFIRMED CASES COVID-19 IN JAPAN USING TIME SERIES ANALYSIS MODELS

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STUDENT'S DECLARATION

I certify that this report and the research to which it refers are the product of my own work and that any ideas or quotation from the work of other people, published or otherwise are fully acknowledged in accordance with the standard referring practices of the discipline.

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ABSTRACT

The new strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) was found to have started in Wuhan, China in late December 2019. The virus has spread to countries all over the world including Japan. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 as a pandemic on 11 March 2020 due to the increasing number of new confirmed cases and deaths each day. The COVID-19 outbreak has impacted the nation of Japan adversely and the number of confirmed cases in Japan continues to increase day by day. On 7 April 2020, Japan declared a state of emergency to prevent the pandemic from worsening. This study is conducted to forecast new daily confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Japan over a short-term period. Four univariate time series models, namely, the Naïve Model, Mean Model, Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) Model and Exponential State Space Model were applied. This study analyzes daily data from 22 January to 10 April 2020 collected from the Our World in Data website. The prediction involves five phases of data analysis as well as five different partitions of estimation and evaluation parts in every model to ensure the accuracy of forecast values. R and RStudio software were used in this study to analyze the data. The results reveal that Naïve model with 99 percent of estimation part and 1 percent evaluation part produces the lowest value of error measures for Root Mean Square Error (RMSE), Mean Absolute Error (MAE), Mean Absolute Percentage Error (MAPE), and Mean Absolute Scaled Error (MASE).

Keywords: COVID-19, Naïve, Mean, ARIMA, Exponential State Space Model, R programming

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