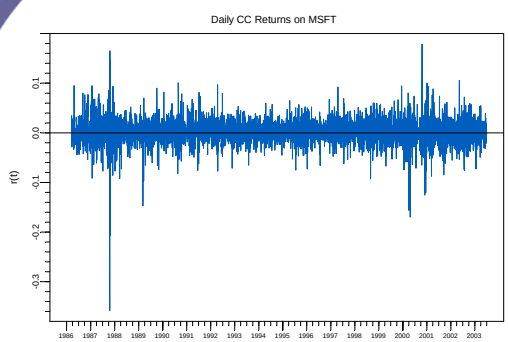
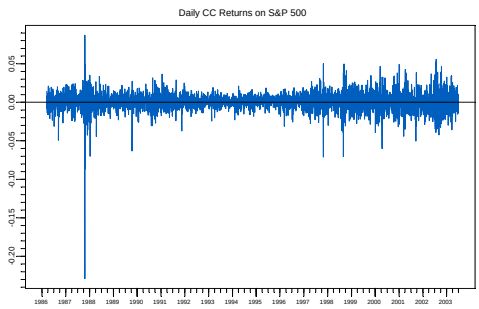
Lecture 1: Empirical Properties of Returns

Econ 512
Eric Zivot
Spring 2010
Updated: March 29, 2010

© Eric Zivot 2008

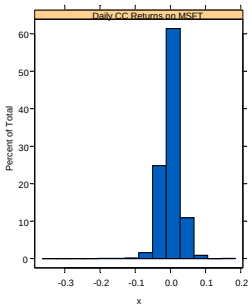


© Eric Zivot 2008



© Eric Zivot 2008

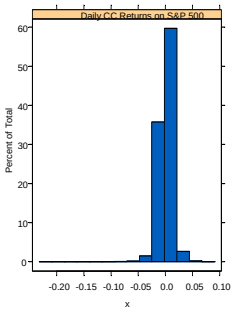
Distribution of Daily CC Returns on MSFT




```
Sample Quantiles:
     min       1Q median      3Q    max
 -0.3583 -0.01282      0 0.01554 0.1787

Sample Moments:
     mean     std skewness kurtosis
 0.001278 0.02539  -0.7275    16.12

Number of Observations:  4365
```

© Eric Zivot 2008

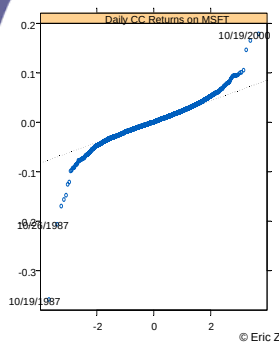
Distribution of Daily CC Returns on S&P 500




```
Sample Quantiles:
    min       1Q    median      3Q     max
 -0.229 -0.004697 0.0004677 0.00581 0.08709

Sample Moments:
      mean     std skewness kurtosis
 0.0003276 0.01135   -2.083    45.18

Number of Observations:  4365
```

© Eric Zivot 2008

Normal QQ-Plot

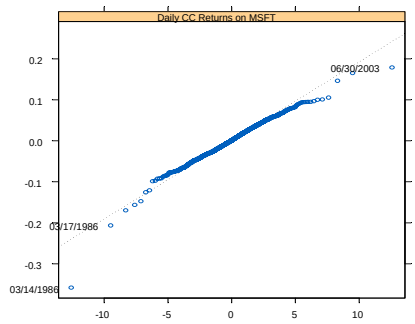


Test for Normality

```
Test for Normality: Jarque-Bera

Null Hypothesis: data is normally
distributed

Test Statistics:
                MSFT
Test Stat 31685.64
  p.value     0.00

Dist. under Null: chi-square with 2
degrees of freedom
   Total Observ.: 4365
```

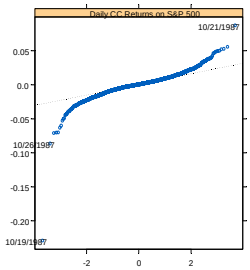
© Eric Zivot 2008

QQ-Plot: Student-t with 4 degrees of freedom



© Eric Zivot 2008

Normal QQ-Plot

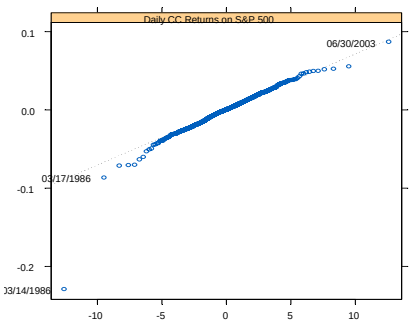


Test for Normality

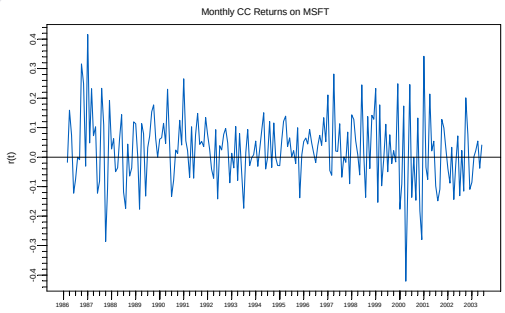
```
Test for Normality: Jarque-Bera

Null Hypothesis: data is normally
distributed

Test Statistics:
                SP500
Test Stat 326705.3
  p.value       0.0

Dist. under Null: chi-square with 2
degrees of freedom
   Total Observ.: 4365
```

© Eric Zivot 2008

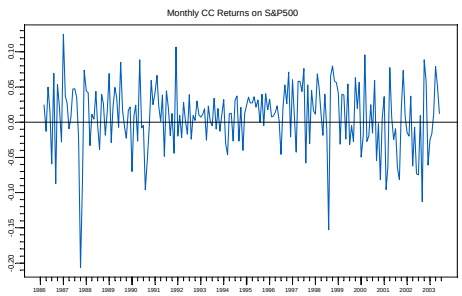
QQ-Plot: Student-t with 4 degrees of freedom



© Eric Zivot 2008

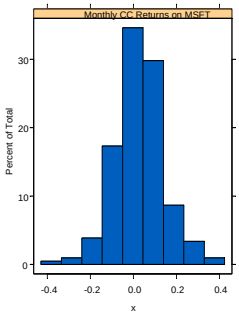


© Eric Zivot 2008



© Eric Zivot 2008

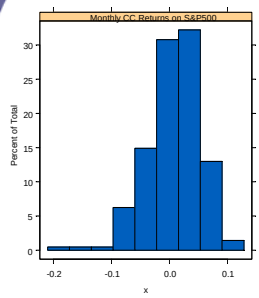
Distribution for Monthly Returns on MSFT




```
Sample Quantiles:
     min       1Q median      3Q    max
 -0.3861 -0.03587 0.0336 0.09736 0.4384

Sample Moments:
    mean    std skewness kurtosis
 0.03357 0.1145   0.1845    4.004

Number of Observations:  208
```

© Eric Zivot 2008

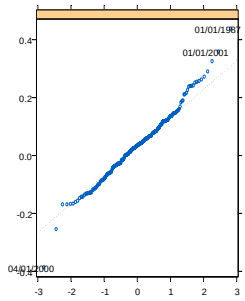
Distribution for Monthly Returns on S&P 500




```
Sample Quantiles:
     min       1Q median      3Q
max
 -0.2066 -0.01921 0.0122 0.03875
0.125

Sample Moments:
     mean    std skewness kurtosis
 0.008219 0.0459  -0.8377    5.186

Number of Observations:  208
```

© Eric Zivot 2008

Normal QQ-Plot

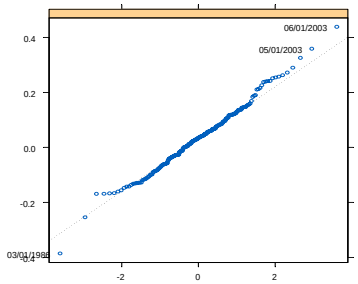


Tests for Normality

```
Test for Normality: Shapiro-Wilks

Test Statistics:
                MSFT
Test Stat 0.9906
  p.value 0.9558

Dist. under Null: normal
   Total Observ.: 208

Test for Normality: Jarque-Bera

Test Statistics:
                MSFT
Test Stat 9.9223
  p.value 0.0070

Dist. under Null: chi-square with
2 degrees of freedom
   Total Observ.: 208
```

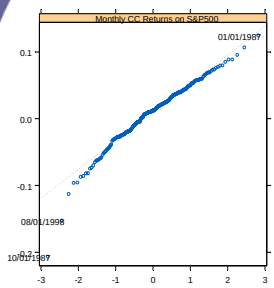
© Eric Zivot 2008

QQ-Plot: Student's t with 10 df



© Eric Zivot 2008

Normal QQ-Plot

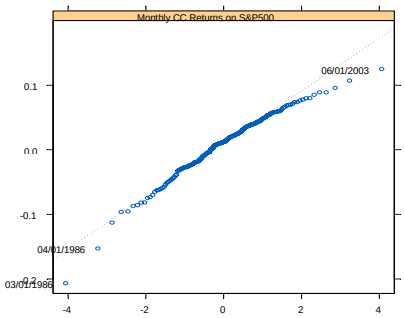


Tests for Normality

```
Test for Normality: Shapiro-Wilks

Test Statistics:
            SP500
Test Stat 0.9699
  p.value 0.0154

Dist. under Null: normal
   Total Observ.: 208

Test for Normality: Jarque-Bera

Test Statistics:
            SP500
Test Stat 65.7551
  p.value  0.0000

Dist. under Null: chi-square with 2
degrees of freedom
   Total Observ.: 208
```

© Eric Zivot 2008

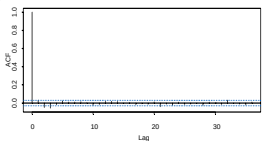
QQ-Plot: Student's t with 7 df



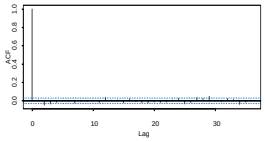
© Eric Zivot 2008

Testing for Autocorrelation

Daily CC Returns on MSFT



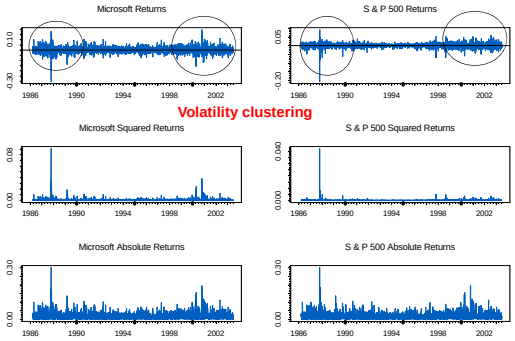
Daily CC Returns on S&P 500



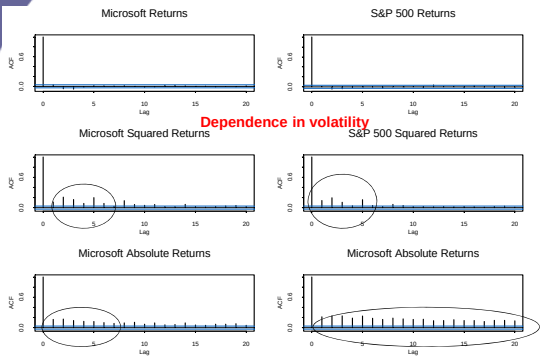

```
Test for Autocorrelation: Ljung-Box

Null Hypothesis: no autocorrelation

Test Statistics:
            SP500
Test Stat 35.1892
  p.value  0.0191

Dist. under Null: chi-square with 20
degrees of freedom
   Total Observ.: 4365

Test for Autocorrelation: Ljung-Box

Null Hypothesis: no autocorrelation

Test Statistics:
             MSFT
Test Stat 43.2323
  p.value  0.0019

Dist. under Null: chi-square with 20
degrees of freedom
   Total Observ.: 4365
```

© Eric Zivot 2008

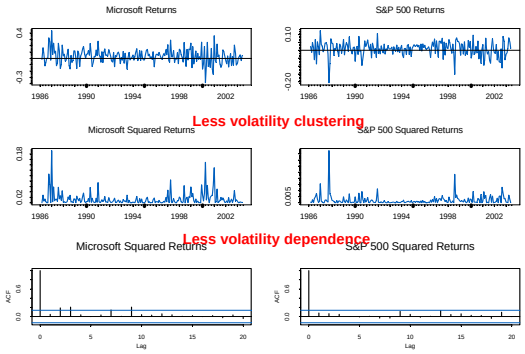
Stylized Facts of Daily Asset Returns



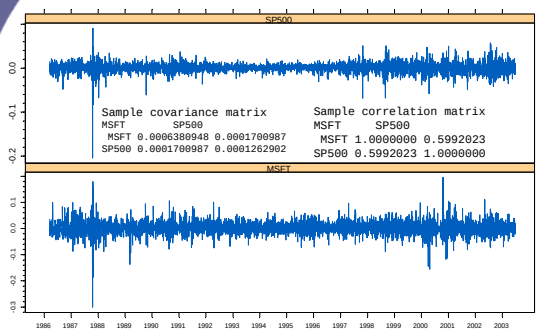
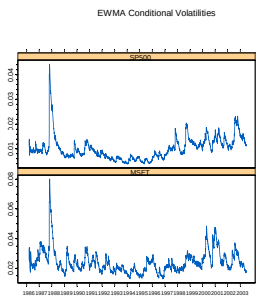
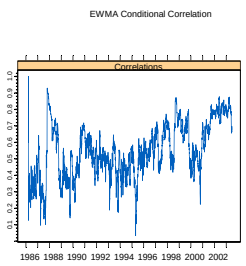
Sample Autocorrelations of Daily Returns



Stylized Facts for Monthly Asset Returns



MSFT and S&P 500 Daily Returns



EWMA Volatilities and Correlations