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# Analysis of High Frequency Financial Time Series: Methods, Models and Software 

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## Agenda

- Lecture 1
- Introduction to high frequency data
- Lecture 2
- Realized variance measures: theory
- Lecture 3
- Realized variance measures: empirical analysis


## Data Sources

- Much of the published empirical analysis of RV has been based on high frequency data from two sources:
- Olsen and Associates proprietary FX data set for foreign exchange
- www.olsendata.com
- The NYSE Trades and Quotation (TAQ) data for equity
- www.nyse.com/taq


## Olsen FX Data

- Historical data made available for use in three conferences on the statistical analysis of high frequency data: HFDF-1993, HFDF-1996, and HF-2000.
- The HFDF-2000 data is the most commonly used data set
- spot exchange rates sampled every 5 minutes for the \$, DM, CHF, BP, Yen over the period December 1, 1986 through June 30, 1999.
- All interbank bid/ask indicative quotes for the exchange rates displayed on the Reuters FXFX screen.
- Highly liquid market: 2000-4000 observations per day per currency
- Outlier filtered log-price at each 5-minute tick is interpolated from the average of bid and ask quotes for the two closest ticks, and 5 -minute cc return is difference in the log-price.


## Olsen FX Data

- Data cleaning prior to computation of RV measures:
- 5 -minute return data is restricted to eliminate nontrading periods, weekends, holidays, and lapses of the Reuters data feed.
- The slow weekend period from Friday 21:05 GMT until Sunday 21:00 GMT is eliminated from the sample.
- Holidays removed: Christmas (December 24-26), New Year's (December 31- January 2), July 4th, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Memorial Day, Labor Day, and Thanksgiving and the day after.
- Days that contain long strings of zero or constant returns (caused by data feed problems) are eliminated.


## Empirical Analysis of FX Returns

| Author | Series | Sample | Days, T | m |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| AB 1998 | DM/\$, Y/\$ | $87-93$ | 260 | 288 |
| AB 1998 | DM/\$, Y/\$ | $87-93$ | 260 | 48 |
| ABDL 2000 | DM/\$, Y/\$ | $86-96$ | 2,445 | 288 |
| ABDL 2001 | DM/\$, Y/\$ | $86-96$ | 2,449 | 288 |
| ABDL 2003 | DM/\$, Y/\$ | $86-99$ | 3,045 | 48 |
| ABDM 2005 | DM/\$, Y/\$ | $89-99$ | 3,045 | 48 |
| BNS 2001 | DM/\$ | $86-96$ | 2,449 | various |
| BNS 2002 | DM/\$ | $86-96$ | 2,449 | 288 |
| 8/8/2005 |  |  |  |  |

## Distribution of RV

- ABDL (2001): "The Distribution of Realized Exchange Rate Volatility," Journal of the American Statistical Association.
- BNS (2001): "Estimating Quadratic Variation Using Realized Variance," Journal of Applied Econometrics.

Summary Statistics for Daily RV Measures, $\mathrm{m}=228$

|  | $\mathrm{RV}^{\prime}$ | $\mathrm{RV}_{Y}$ | $\mathrm{RVOL}_{D}$ | RV0L $L_{y}$ | RLVOL ${ }_{\text {D }}$ | RLVOLY | RCOV | RCOR |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nean | . 52 | . 538 | . 679 | . 684 | -449 | -413 | 243 | 433 |
| Variance | . 234 | .272 | . 067 | . 070 | . 120 | . 123 | . 073 | . 028 |
| Slemeess | 3.71 | 5.57 | 1.68 | 1.87 | . 345 | 264 | 3.78 | . 203 |
| Kurtosis | 24.1 | 66.5 | 7.78 | 10.4 | 3.26 | 3.53 | 25.3 | 2.72 |

Unconditional Distributions: m=288


## Unconditional Distributions: $\mathrm{m}=288$



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## Correlation Matrix for Daily RV Measures

|  | RV $_{Y}$ | RVOL $_{D}$ | RVOL $_{Y}$ | RLVOL $_{D}$ | RLVOL $_{Y}$ | RCOV | RCOR |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $R V_{D}$ | .539 | .061 | .552 | .860 | .512 | .806 | .341 |
| RV $_{Y}$ | 1.00 | .546 | .945 | .514 | .825 | .757 | .234 |
| RVOL $_{D}$ |  | 1.00 | .592 | .965 | .578 | .793 | .383 |
| RVOL $_{Y}$ |  |  | 1.00 | .589 | .959 | .760 | .281 |
| RLVOL $_{D}$ |  |  |  | 1.00 | .604 | .720 | .389 |
| RLVOL $_{Y}$ |  |  |  |  | 1.00 | .684 | .294 |
| RCOV |  |  |  |  |  | 1.00 | .590 |

## "Correlation-in-Volatility" Effect




Accuracy of RV Measures: $95 \% \mathrm{Cl}$ from BNS Asymptotic theory


[^0]Time Series of Daily RVOL: m=228


Time Series of Daily RCOR: $\mathrm{m}=228$


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## Long Memory Behavior of RV Measures

A stationary process $y_{t}$ has long memory, or long range dependence, if its autocorrelation function decays slowly at a hyperbolic rate:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \rho_{k} \rightarrow C_{\rho} \cdot k^{-\alpha}, \text { as } k \rightarrow \infty \\
& \alpha \in(0,1)
\end{aligned}
$$

- A long memory process $y_{t}$ can be modeled parametrically by extending an integrated process to a fractionally integrated process:
$(1-L)^{d}\left(y_{t}-\mu\right)=u_{t}, u_{t} \sim I(0)$
$0<d<0.5$ : stationary long memory
$0.5 \leq d<1$ : nonstationary long memory


## Estimating d

- Nonparametric estimation
- Geweke-Porter-Hudak (GPH) logperiodogram regression
- Local Whittle estimator
- Phillips-Kim modified GPH estimator
- Andrews-Guggenberger biased corrected GPH estimator
- Parametric estimation
- ARFIMA(p,d,q) model with normal errors


## GPH Estimated of d

| $R V_{D}$ | $R V_{Y}$ | $R_{V O L}$ | RVOL $_{Y}$ | $R_{2 V O L}$ | $R L V O L_{Y}$ | RCOV | RCOR |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\hat{d} .356$ | .339 | .381 | .428 | .420 | .455 | .334 | .413 |

Note: Multivariate estimation of common d using ( $\mathrm{RLVOL}_{D}$, RLVOL $_{Y}, \mathrm{RLVOL}_{D Y}$ ) is 0.4

## Temporal Aggregation and Scaling Laws

- The fractional differencing parameter d is invariant under temporal aggregation
- If $x_{t}$ is fractionally integrated with parameter $d$ then

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \operatorname{var}\left(\left[x_{t}\right]_{h}\right)=c \cdot h^{2 d+1} \\
& {\left[x_{t}\right]_{h}=\sum_{j=1}^{h} x_{h(t-1)+j}} \\
& \Rightarrow \ln \left(\operatorname{var}\left(\left[x_{t}\right]_{h}\right)\right) \propto(2 d+1) \ln (h)
\end{aligned}
$$



Temporal Aggregation and Scaling Laws





## Distribution of Returns Standardized by RV

- ABDL (2000): "Exchange Rate Returns Standardized by Realized Volatility Are (Nearly) Gaussian," Multinational Finance Journal


## Stochastic Volatility Model

- Assume daily returns $r_{t}$ may be decomposed following a standard conditional volatility model

$$
\begin{aligned}
& r_{t}=\sigma_{t} \varepsilon_{t} \\
& \sigma_{t}=\text { latent volatility } \\
& \varepsilon_{t} \sim \text { iid }(0,1) \\
& \Rightarrow E\left[r_{t}^{2}\right]=\sigma_{t}^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Standardized Returns

- Compute returns standardized by estimates of conditional volatility

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \hat{\varepsilon}_{t}=\frac{r_{t}}{\hat{\sigma}_{t}} \\
& \hat{\sigma}_{t}=R V O L_{c}, m=288 \\
& \hat{\sigma}_{t}=\hat{\sigma}_{t}^{G A R C H(1,1)} \\
& \operatorname{GARCH}(1,1): \sigma_{t}^{2}=w+\alpha r_{t-1}^{2}+\beta \sigma_{t-1}^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

Multivariate Standardized Returns

- Standardized returns based RCOV

$$
\binom{\hat{\varepsilon}_{D, t}}{\hat{\varepsilon}_{Y, t}}=R \operatorname{COV}_{t}^{-1 / 2}\binom{r_{D, t}}{r_{Y, t}}
$$

$R C O V_{t}^{1 / 2}=$ Cholesky factor of $R C O V_{t}$


## Comparison of Volatility Forecasts

- Squared returns are unbiased but very noisy
- $\operatorname{GARCH}(1,1)$ forecasts are smoother than RV forecasts; do not utilize information between time $t-1$ and $t$ (exponentially weighted average of past returns)
- RV forecasts make exclusive use of information between time $t-1$ and $t$; better forecast of time $t$ volatility


## Summary Statistics

|  | $r_{t}$ |  | $\frac{r_{t}}{\hat{\sigma}_{A}^{\text {GTRCH}}}$ | $\frac{r_{t}}{\mathrm{RVOL}}$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | $\mathrm{DM} / \mathrm{S}$ | $\mathrm{Y} / \mathrm{S}$ | $\mathrm{DM} / \mathrm{S}$ | $\mathrm{Y} / \mathrm{S}$ | $\mathrm{DM} / \$$ |

# Distribution of Daily Returns 




## Distribution of Standardized Returns

RV




DM/S Return Quantik


Yens Return cuantle

## Scatterplot of Daily Returns



## Scatterplot or Standardized Returns



RCOV


Source: ABDL (2000)

## SACF of Squared Returns



## Conclusions

- Daily returns standardized by RV measures are nearly Gaussian
- Supports diffusion model for returns
- Alternative to copula methods for characterizing multivariate distributions
- Advantages for value-at-risk computation
- RV provides superior volatility forecasts


## Modeling and Forecasting RV

- ABDL (2003): "Modeling and Forecasting Realized Volatility," Econometrica


## Traditional Conditional Volatility Models

- Normal GARCH(1,1)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& r_{t}=\sigma_{t} \varepsilon_{t}, \varepsilon_{t} \sim \operatorname{iid} N(0,1) \\
& \sigma_{t}^{2}=w+\alpha r_{t-1}^{2}+\beta \sigma_{t-1}^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

- Log-Normal SV model

$$
r_{t}=\sigma_{t} \varepsilon_{t}, \varepsilon_{t} \sim \text { iid } N(0,1)
$$

$$
\ln \sigma_{t}^{2}=\delta+\phi \ln \sigma_{t-1}^{2}+\sigma_{u} u_{t}, \mathrm{u}_{t} \sim \operatorname{iid} N(0,1)
$$

$$
E\left[\varepsilon_{t} u_{t}\right]=0
$$

## Advantages of Using RV

- RV provides an observable estimate of latent volatility
- Standard time series models (e.g. ARIMA) may be used to model and forecast RV
- Multivariate time series models may be used model and forecast RCOV, RCOR

Trivariate System of Exchange Rates

$$
\begin{aligned}
& y_{t}=\left(\begin{array}{l}
R L V O L_{D / \S, t} \\
R L V O L_{Y / s, t} \\
R L V O L_{Y / D, t}
\end{array}\right), m=48 \\
& R C O V_{D / \S, Y / \$}=\frac{1}{2}\left(R V_{D / \S, t}+R V_{Y / \S, t}-R V_{Y / D, t}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

- Fit models for $y_{t}$ in sample: 12/1/86-12/1/96
- Forecast $y_{t}$ out-of-sample: 12/2/96 - 6/30/99


## SACF of Daily DM/\$ RLVOL: m=48



## SACF of Daily Yen/DM RLVOL: m=48



## FI-VAR(5) Model (VAR-RV)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \Phi(L)(1-L)^{0.4}\left(y_{t}-\mu\right)=\varepsilon_{t} \\
& \varepsilon_{t} \sim \text { iid } N(0, \Omega) \\
& \Phi(L)=I_{3}-\Phi_{1} L-\cdots-\Phi_{5} L^{5}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Alternative Models

- VAR-ABS: $\operatorname{VAR}(5)$ fit to $\left|r_{t}\right|$
- AR-RV: univariate $A R(5)$ fit to $(1-\mathrm{L})^{0.4} \mathrm{RLVOL}_{\mathrm{i}, \mathrm{t}}$
- Daily $\operatorname{GARCH}(1,1)$ : normal-GARCH(1,1) fit to daily returns $\mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{i}, \mathrm{t}}$
- Daily RiskMetrics: exponentially weighted moving average model for $\mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{i}, \mathrm{t}}{ }^{2}$ with $\lambda=0.94$
- Daily FIEGARCH $(1,1)$ : univariate fractionally integrated exponential $\operatorname{GARCH}(1,1)$ fit to $r_{i, t}$
- Intra-day FIEGARCH deseason/filter: univariate fractionally integrated exponential GARCH(1,1) fit to 30minute filtered and deseasonalized returns $r_{i, t+\Delta}$.


## Forecast Evaluation

$R V O L_{i, t}=b_{0}+b_{1} R \hat{V} O L_{i, t}^{V A R-R V}+b_{2} R \hat{V} O L_{i, t}^{\text {model }}+$ error $_{t}$
$R \hat{V} O L_{i, t}^{V A R-R V}=1$-day ahead forecast from RV-VAR
$R \hat{V} O L_{i, t}^{\text {model }}=1$-day ahead forecast from alternative model
$H_{0}: b_{0}=0, b_{1}=1, b_{2}=0$

## Findings

- RV-VAR is consistently best forecasting model in-sample and out-of-sample: highest $R^{2}$ from forecast evaluation regressions.
- Rarely reject $\mathrm{H}_{0}: \mathrm{b}_{0}=0, b_{1}=1, b_{2}=0$ for RVVAR model
- RV-AR is close to RV-VAR

Forecasts of Daily RVOL: VAR-RV vs. GARCH(1.1)





## NYSE TAQ Data

- Intra-day trade and quotation information for all securities listed on NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ.
- The most active period for equity markets is during the trading hours of the NYSE between 9:30 a.m. EST until 4:00 p.m. EST.
- Not as liquid as FX markets


## NYSE TAQ Data

- Equity returns are generally subject to more pronounced market microstructure effects (e.g., negative first order serial correlation caused by bid-ask bounce effects) than FX data. As a result, equity returns are often filtered to remove these microstructure effects prior to the construction of RV measures.
- A common filtering method involves estimating an MA(1) or AR(1) model to the returns, and then constructing the filtered returns as the residuals from the estimated model.


## Empirical Analysis of TAQ Data

- Andersen, Bollerslev, Diebold, Ebens (2001): "The Distribution of Realized Stock Return Volatility," Journal of Financial Economics
- Analyze 30 Dow Jones Industrial Average Stocks over the period 1/2/93-5/29/98
- Restrict analysis to NYSE exchange hours
- T=1,336; m=79 5-minute returns


## Summary of Findings

- Results for equity returns are similar to those for FX returns
- RLVOL, RCOR are approximately Gaussian
- RV measures exhibit long memory
- Daily returns standardized by RVOL are nearly Gaussian
- Little evidence of leverage effect
- Evidence of factor structure in multivariate system of RV measures


## Distribution of Daily RLVOL: Alcoa




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## Time Series of Daily RLVOL: Alcoa




Time Series of Daily RCOR: Alcoa, Exxon



Source: ABDE (2001)


## Evidence of Factor Structure

$\mathrm{RCOR}_{\text {Alcoa }, i}$


## Evidence of Factor Structure



## Directions for Future Research

- Continued development of methods for exploiting the volatility information in highfrequency data
- Volatility modeling and forecasting in the high-dimensional multivariate environments of practical financial economic relevance


[^0]:    Source: BNS (2002)

