

# **Empirical Macro-Based Asset Pricing**

## **Part 0: Tools**

UCLA | Fall 2016

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# **1. Stochastic processes as building blocks**

# Tools

- General probability laws
- The key object is conditional distribution: compute prices and estimate models
- A highly tractable class of affine models: show up both in empirical and equilibrium models

# State Space Models

- States,  $X_t$ , and data  $Y_t$ :

$$\begin{aligned}X_{t+1} &= G(X_t, \varepsilon_{t+1}) \\ Y_t &= F(X_t, e_t)\end{aligned}$$

- We normally think of  $\varepsilon$  as an economic shock, and  $e$  as a measurement error
- Example:

$$\begin{aligned}X_{t+1} &= \bar{X}(I - \Phi) + \Phi X_t + \Sigma \varepsilon_{t+1} \\ Y_t &= A + BX_t + Ce_t\end{aligned}$$

- We need to know  $p_X(X_{t+1}|X_t)$  to compute prices
- We need to know  $p_Y(Y_{t+1}|Y_t) = p_X(F^{-1}(Y_{t+1})|Y_t) \left| \frac{dF^{-1}(y=Y_{t+1})}{dy} \right|$  to estimate models

# MGF, CGF, and CF

- These are extremely useful tools to characterize distributions even if they are not known in closed form
- Moment-generating function:  $h_t(X_{t+1}, s) = E_t e^{sX_{t+1}}$
- Property:  $\partial^n h_t(X_{t+1}, 0) / \partial s^n = E_t(X_{t+1}^n) \equiv m_{nt}$
- Cumulant-generating function:  $k_t(X_{t+1}, s) = \log h_t(X_{t+1}, s)$
- Property:  $k_t(X_{t+1}, s) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \kappa_{jt}(X_{t+1}) s^j / j!$
- Cumulants are almost moments

$$\text{mean} = \kappa_{1t}(X_{t+1})$$

$$\text{variance} = \kappa_{2t}(X_{t+1})$$

$$\text{skewness} = \kappa_{3t}(X_{t+1}) / \kappa_{2t}^{3/2}(X_{t+1})$$

$$(\text{excess}) \text{ kurtosis} = \kappa_{4t}(X_{t+1}) / \kappa_{2t}^2(X_{t+1})$$

- Characteristic function:  $f_t(X_{t+1}, s) = h_t(X_{t+1}, i \cdot s)$

## AR(1) process

- Suppose:  $X_{t+1} = \bar{X}(1 - \phi) + \phi X_t + \sigma \varepsilon_{t+1}$
- The CGF:

$$\begin{aligned} k_t(X_{t+1}, s) &= \log E_t e^{s(\bar{X}(1-\phi) + \phi X_t + \sigma \varepsilon_{t+1})} \\ &= s(\bar{X}(1 - \phi) + \phi X_t) + \log E_t e^{s\sigma \varepsilon_{t+1}} = s(\bar{X}(1 - \phi) + \phi X_t) + s^2 \sigma^2 / 2 \end{aligned}$$

- Derivatives:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial k_t(X_{t+1}, s) / \partial s &= \bar{X}(1 - \phi) + \phi X_t + s\sigma^2 = \bar{X}(1 - \phi) + \phi X_t|_{s=0} \\ \partial^2 k_t(X_{t+1}, s) / \partial s^2 &= \sigma^2 \\ \partial^n k_t(X_{t+1}, s) / \partial s^n &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

- Therefore, it is a conditionally normal variable.
- Of course, we knew this already

## MA( $\infty$ ) process

- Suppose:  $X_{t+1} = \bar{X} + \chi(B)\varepsilon_{t+1} = \bar{X} + \chi_0\varepsilon_{t+1} + \chi_1\varepsilon_t + \dots$
- The CGF:

$$\begin{aligned} k_t(X_{t+1}, s) &= \log E_t e^{s(\bar{X} + \chi_0\varepsilon_{t+1} + \chi_1\varepsilon_t + \dots)} \\ &= s(\bar{X} + \chi_1\varepsilon_t + \dots) + \log E_t e^{s\chi_0\varepsilon_{t+1}} = s(\bar{X} + [\chi(B)/B]_+\varepsilon_t) + s^2\chi_0^2/2 \end{aligned}$$

- Examples:

$$\begin{aligned} AR(1) \quad \chi_0 &= \sigma, \quad \chi_j = \phi\chi_{j-1} \\ ARMA(1,1) \quad \chi_0 &= \sigma, \quad \chi_1 = (\theta + \phi)\sigma, \quad \chi_j = \phi\chi_{j-1} \end{aligned}$$

- For ARMA(1,1),  $k_t(X_{t+1}, s) = s(\bar{X}(1 - \phi) + \phi X_t + \theta\sigma\varepsilon_t) + s^2\sigma^2/2$

# A jump process: Poisson mixture of normals

- Suppose  $j$  is a number of jumps per period,  $p(j) = e^{-\omega} \omega^j / j!$

$$E(j) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} j \cdot p(j) = \omega \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} e^{-\omega} \omega^{j-1} / (j-1)! = \omega$$

- Next component is a jump size:  $Z_{t+1} \sim \mathcal{N}(\theta, \delta^2)$
- The CGF:

$$\begin{aligned} k(Z, s) &= \log E e^{sZ} = (s\theta + s^2 \delta^2 / 2) \\ k(jZ, s) &= \log \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} e^{k(jZ, s)} p(j) = \log \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} e^{-\omega} (\omega e^{s\theta + s^2 \delta^2 / 2})^j / j! \\ &= -\omega + \log \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (\omega e^{s\theta + s^2 \delta^2 / 2})^j / j! = \omega (e^{s\theta + s^2 \delta^2 / 2} - 1) \end{aligned}$$

- Cumulants:  $\kappa_1 = \omega\theta$ ,  $\kappa_2 = \omega(\theta^2 + \delta^2)$ ,  $\kappa_3 = \omega\theta(\theta^2 + 3\delta^2)$ , ...
- See Backus, Chernov, and Martin (2011) for details



- We can recover conditional distributions if we know CF

$$\begin{aligned} p_X(X_{t+1}|X_t) &= (2\pi)^{-1} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-isX_t} f_t(X_{t+1}, s) ds \\ &= \pi^{-1} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-isX_t + k_t(X_{t+1}, is)} ds \end{aligned}$$

- Inverse Fourier transform

# Affine processes

- The processes are defined by the tractability of their CGF

$$k_t(X_{t+1}, s) = \alpha(s) + \beta(s)X_t$$

- The most famous examples are the Vasicek and CIR term structure models

$$X_{t+1} = \bar{X}(1 - \phi) + \phi X_t + \sigma \varepsilon_{t+1} \quad (\text{Vasicek})$$

$$X_{t+1} = \bar{X}(1 - \phi) + \phi X_t + \sigma X_t^{1/2} \varepsilon_{t+1} \quad (\text{CIR})$$

- Vasicek:  $\alpha(s) = s\bar{X}(1 - \phi) + s^2\sigma^2/2$ ,  $\beta(s) = s\phi$
- The CGF for CIR:  $\alpha(s) = s\bar{X}(1 - \phi)$ ,  $\beta(s) = s\phi + s^2\sigma^2/2$

$$\begin{aligned} k_t(X_{t+1}, s) &= \log E_t e^{s(\bar{X}(1-\phi) + \phi X_t + \sigma X_t^{1/2} \varepsilon_{t+1})} \\ &= s(\bar{X}(1 - \phi) + \phi X_t) + s^2\sigma^2 X_t/2 \end{aligned}$$

## More of affine processes in discrete time

- Poisson mixture of Gammas, or Autoregressive Gamma – ARG(1)
- The CIR process can become negative in discrete time, even if  $\sigma^2 < 2\bar{X}(1 - \phi)$

$$\begin{aligned}X_{t+1}|j_{t+1} &\sim \text{Gamma}((1 - \phi)\bar{X}/(\sigma^2/2) + j_{t+1}, \sigma^2/2) \\j_{t+1}|X_t &\sim \text{Poisson}(\phi X_t/(\sigma^2/2))\end{aligned}$$

- The resulting process is:

$$X_{t+1} = \bar{X}(1 - \phi) + \phi X_t + \sigma((1 - \phi)\bar{X}/2 + \phi X_t)^{1/2}\eta_{t+1}, \eta \text{ is not } \mathcal{N}$$

- cgf is  $k_t(X_{t+1}, s) = \alpha(s) + \beta(s)X_t$  with

$$\beta(s) = s\phi/(1 - s\sigma^2/2), \alpha(s) = -(1 - \phi)\bar{X}/(\sigma^2/2)\log(1 - s\sigma^2/2)$$

- Bertholon, Monfort, and Pegoraro (2008) have many more examples

# Entropy

- Definition of entropy: for  $x > 0$

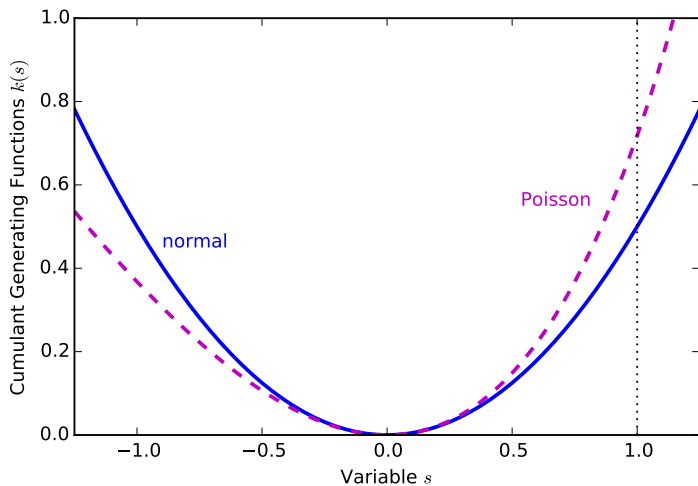
$$L(x) \equiv \log E(x) - E(\log x) \geq 0$$

- Entropy and cumulants

$$\begin{aligned} L(x) &= \log E(e^{\log x}) - E(\log x) = k(\log x; 1) - \kappa_1 \\ &= \underbrace{\kappa_2/2!}_{(\log)\text{normal term}} + \underbrace{\kappa_3/3! + \kappa_4/4! + \dots}_{\text{high-order cumulants}} \end{aligned}$$

- Entropy is a measure of dispersion
- Properties:
  - $L(ax) = L(x)$  ( $a$  is a constant)
  - $L(xy) = L(x) + L(y)$  ( $x$  and  $y$  are independent)

# Normal and Poisson CGF



# Vasicek model

- Pricing kernel

$$\log x_{t+1} = x + \theta y_t + \lambda w_{t+1}$$

with  $\{w_t\}$  iid, mean zero, variance one, and cgf  $k(s)$  (normality is not required)

- Conditional entropy

$$\begin{aligned} L_t(x_{t+1}) &= k(\lambda) \\ &= \lambda^2/2! + \lambda^3\kappa_3/3! + \lambda^4\kappa_4/4! + \dots \end{aligned}$$

# Coentropy

- Coentropy is a measure of dependence: for  $x_1, x_2 > 0$

$$C(x_1, x_2) \equiv L(x_1 x_2) - L(x_1) - L(x_2)$$

- Features
  - Invariant to scaling
  - Equals zero if  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are independent
- Related to (joint) cgf  $k(s_1, s_2) = \log E(e^{s_1 \log x_1 + s_2 \log x_2})$

$$C(x_1, x_2) = \underbrace{k(1, 1)}_{x_1 x_2} - \underbrace{k(1, 0)}_{x_1} - \underbrace{k(0, 1)}_{x_2}$$

## Coentropy (continued)

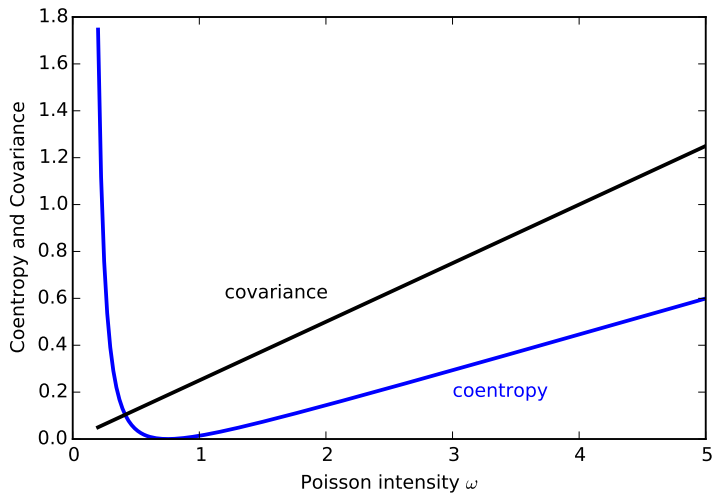
- If  $\log x = (\log x_1, \log x_2)$  is normal, coentropy = covariance
- Can also be much different
- Example: Poisson mixture (“jump process”)
  - Poisson jumps: probability  $e^{-\omega} \omega^j / j!$  of  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots$
  - Conditional on  $j$ ,  $\log x \sim \mathcal{N}(j\theta, j\Delta)$
- Properties

$$\text{Cov}(\log x_1, \log x_2) = \omega(\theta_1 \theta_2 + \delta_{12})$$

$$C(x_1, x_2) = \omega(e^{(\theta_1 + \theta_2) + (\delta_{11} + \delta_{22} + 2\delta_{12})/2} - e^{\theta_1 + \delta_{11}/2} - e^{\theta_2 + \delta_{22}/2})$$



# Coentropy and covariance



## 2. GMM

# Estimation

- Likelihood is king, because it reflects full information about the hypothesised model
- We like using Markov processes because the likelihood is particularly tractable in this case
- If conditional distributions are not available in the closed form, we have two principle approaches:
  - 1 Simulation-based methods (here Bayesian MCMC is the most successful tool)
  - 2 Moment-based methods, such as GMM (here MGF comes in handy)

# Problem

- In the standard Consumption CAPM the stochastic discount factor is the ratio of marginal utilities at  $t$  and  $t + 1$ .

$$M_{t+1} = \beta \left( \frac{C_{t+1}}{C_t} \right)^{-(1-\alpha)}$$

- The Law of One Price (LOOP) for  $N$  assets implies the “moment conditions”

$$E_t h_{t+1} = 0$$

where

$$h_{t+1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_{t+1} (P_{1t+1} + D_{1t+1}) - P_{1t} \\ M_{t+1} (P_{2t+1} + D_{2t+1}) - P_{2t} \\ \vdots \\ M_{t+1} (P_{Nt+1} + D_{Nt+1}) - P_{Nt} \end{bmatrix}$$

- How do we use moment conditions to estimate  $\beta$  and  $\alpha$ ?

## Conditioning down

- The Law of Iterated Expectations states that

$$E_{t-1} [E_t x_{t+1}] = E_{t-1} [x_{t+1}]$$

- Taking unconditional expectation of the LOOP and using the Law of Iterated Expectation, we get

$$E[P_t] = E[M_{t+1} (P_{t+1} + D_{t+1})]$$

- Can test the model, but this is a test whether the model is right on average and not whether it holds period by period.
- Use managed portfolios or instruments:

$$P_t z_t = E_t [M_{t+1} (P_{t+1} + D_{t+1}) z_t],$$

where the instrument  $z_t$  is any variable known at time  $t$ .

- Therefore,

$$E[P_t z_t] = E[M_{t+1} (P_{t+1} + D_{t+1}) z_t],$$

which is an additional implication of the conditional model.

## Moment conditions / GMM

- So, we replace the conditional moments  $E_t h_{t+1} = 0$  with the unconditional ones  $E f_{t+1} = 0$ ,  $f_{t+1} = h_{t+1} \otimes z_t$
- Let  $\theta$  be a  $K \times 1$  vector of parameters and define the  $(N \times Q) \times 1$  vector of sample moment conditions as:

$$g_T(\theta) \equiv \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\theta)$$

- Estimate the parameters by minimizing a "squared sum of errors" of the form

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \min_{\theta} g_T(\theta)' W g_T(\theta) \quad (1)$$

where  $W$  is a  $(N \times Q) \times (N \times Q)$  positive definite, symmetric weighting matrix.

- If  $K < (N \times Q)$ , the model is overidentified.

# Comments

- Valuation-based moments are not the only ones that can be used
  - Statistical properties of the underlying objects: consumption, returns, etc.
  - MGF is a great way to obtain such moments
- Instruments: something that's helpful in forecasting returns or consumption
- $W$  assigns relative importance to the moments. The statistically optimal one is  $S^{-1}$ , where

$$S = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} E \left[ f_t(\theta) f_{t-j}(\theta)^{\top} \right]$$

is the covariance matrix of moment conditions.

### **3. Likelihood**



# Likelihood of a Markov process

- $F_0(x) \triangleq P[X_0 < x]$

$$\begin{aligned} & P[X_0 \in A_0, X_1 \in A_1, \dots, X_n \in A_n] \\ = & P[X_n \in A_n | X_0 \in A_0, \dots, X_{n-1} \in A_{n-1}] P[X_0 \in A_0, \dots, X_{n-1} \in A_{n-1}] \\ = & P[X_n \in A_n | X_{n-1} \in A_{n-1}] P[X_0 \in A_0, \dots, X_{n-1} \in A_{n-1}] \\ \text{MrkP} \quad & = p(t_{n-1}, X_{n-1}, t_n, A_n) P[X_{n-1} \in A_{n-1} | X_0 \in A_0, \dots, X_{n-2} \in A_{n-2}] \\ & \times P[X_0 \in A_0, X_1 \in A_1, \dots, X_{n-2} \in A_{n-2}] \\ = & \prod_{i=1}^n p(t_{i-1}, X_{i-1}, t_i, A_i) P[X_0 \in A_0] \\ = & \prod_{i=1}^n p(t_{i-1}, X_{i-1}, t_i, A_i) \int_{A_0} dF_0(x) \end{aligned}$$

## Likelihood of an AR(1) process

- Recall:  $X_{t+1} = \bar{X}(1 - \phi) + \phi X_t + \sigma \varepsilon_{t+1}$
- The conditional distribution is:

$$p(t_{i-1}, X_{i-1}, t_i, A_i) \equiv p_X(X_{t+1} | X_t) = n(\bar{X}(1 - \phi) + \phi X_t, \sigma^2)$$
$$p_X(X_0) = n(\bar{X}, \sigma^2 / (1 - \phi^2))$$

- Therefore, the (log) likelihood is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & -(T+1) \log \sigma - 1/(2\sigma^2) \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} (X_{t+1} - \bar{X}(1 - \phi) - \phi X_t)^2 \\ & - (1 - \phi^2)/(2\sigma^2) (X_0 - \bar{X})^2 + \log(1 - \phi^2)/2 \end{aligned}$$

## Likelihood of a state-space model

- Suppose we do not observe  $X_t$ , but we observe  $Y_t$
- Case 1:  $\dim(X) = \dim(Y)$ , and  $e \equiv 0$
- Then  $X_t = B^{-1}(Y_t - A)$ , and

$$p_Y(Y_{t+1}|Y_t) = p_X(B^{-1}(Y_{t+1} - A)|Y_t) |B^{-1}|$$

- Case 2:  $\dim(X) < \dim(Y)$ , and  $e \equiv 0$  for the first  $\dim(X)$   $Y$ 's
- Split  $Y_t = (Y_t^1, Y_t^2)$ ,  $\dim(Y_t^1) = \dim(X)$ , then  $X_t = B_1^{-1}(Y_t^1 - A_1)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} p_Y(Y_{t+1}|Y_t) &= p_{Y_2}(Y_{t+1}^2|Y_{t+1}^1, Y_t)p_{Y_1}(Y_{t+1}^1|Y_t) \\ &= p_e(Y_{t+1}^2 - A_2 - B_2 B_1^{-1}(Y_{t+1}^1 - A_1)|Y_{t+1}^1) \\ &\times p_X(B_1^{-1}(Y_{t+1}^1 - A_1)|Y_t) |B_1^{-1}| \end{aligned}$$

- Case 3: none of  $e$ 's is equal to zero, then use Kalman filter (see, e.g., Hamilton 1994)

# The Kalman filter

- Goal: construct  $\hat{X}_{t|t} = E(X_t | Y^t)$ .
- Consider two vectors of normal variables  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  :

$$\begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{bmatrix} \sim N\left(\begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \Omega_{11} & \Omega_{12} \\ \Omega_{21} & \Omega_{22} \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

- Then  $z_2 | z_1 \sim N(m, \Sigma)$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} m &= E(z_2 | z_1) = \mu_2 + \Omega_{21} \Omega_{11}^{-1} (z_1 - \mu_1), \\ \Sigma &= E((z_2 - m)(z_2 - m)^\top | z_1) = \Omega_{22} - \Omega_{21} \Omega_{11}^{-1} \Omega_{12} \end{aligned}$$

- We will show that  $X_t | Y^{t-1} \sim N(\hat{X}_{t|t-1}, P_{t|t-1})$
- Then we can derive  $\hat{X}_{t|t}$  using the result above

# The Kalman filter steps

- Initialize:  $\hat{X}_{1|0} = 0$ ,  $P_{1|0} = E(X_t X_t^\top)$  :

$$\text{vec}(P_{1|0}) = [I_{\dim(X)^2} - \Phi \otimes \Phi]^{-1} \text{vec}(\Sigma \Sigma^\top)$$

( $A$  and  $\bar{X}$  are not jointly identified, so set  $\bar{X} = 0$ .)

- Recursion: assume that  $\hat{X}_{t|t-1}$ , and  $P_{t|t-1}$  are known. Then:
- Forecast of  $Y_t$  is

$$E(Y_t | Y^{t-1}) = A + B \hat{X}_{t|t-1} \equiv M_{t|t-1}$$

- The forecast error is

$$Y_t - E(Y_t | Y^{t-1}) = B(X_t - \hat{X}_{t|t-1}) + C e_t$$

- Thus ( $e_t$  is independent of  $X_t$  and  $\hat{X}_{t|t-1}$ ):

$$E[(Y_t - E(Y_t | Y^{t-1}))(Y_t - E(Y_t | Y^{t-1}))^\top | Y^{t-1}] = B P_{t|t-1} B^\top + C C^\top \equiv V_{t|t-1}$$

$$E[(Y_t - E(Y_t | Y^{t-1}))(X_t - \hat{X}_{t|t-1})^\top | Y^{t-1}] = B P_{t|t-1}$$

# The Kalman filter steps

- Therefore,

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y_t | Y^{t-1} \\ X_t | Y^{t-1} \end{bmatrix} \sim N \left( \begin{bmatrix} A + B\hat{X}_{t|t-1} \\ \hat{X}_{t|t-1} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} BP_{t|t-1}B^\top + CC^\top & BP_{t|t-1} \\ P_{t|t-1}B^\top & P_{t|t-1} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

- Therefore (using the result),  $X_t | Y^t \sim N(\hat{X}_{t|t}, P_{t|t})$ , where

$$\hat{X}_{t|t} = \hat{X}_{t|t-1} + P_{t|t-1}B^\top (BP_{t|t-1}B^\top + CC^\top)^{-1} (Y_t - A - B\hat{X}_{t|t-1})$$

$$P_{t|t} = P_{t|t-1} - P_{t|t-1}B^\top (BP_{t|t-1}B^\top + CC^\top)^{-1} BP_{t|t-1}$$

- Final step

$$\hat{X}_{t+1|t} = \Phi \hat{X}_{t|t}$$

$$P_{t+1|t} = \Phi P_{t|t} \Phi^\top + \Sigma \Sigma^\top$$

# Comments

- The update of  $P$  is deterministic
- One may also smooth the state, that is, compute  $\hat{X}_{t|T} = E(X_t | Y^T)$  :

$$\hat{X}_{t|T} = \hat{X}_{t|t} + P_{t|t} \Phi^\top P_{t+1|t}^{-1} (\hat{X}_{t+1|T} - \hat{X}_{t+1|t})$$

- Likelihood:

$$\begin{aligned} p_Y(Y_t | Y^{t-1}) &= (2\pi)^{-\dim(Y)/2} |V_{t|t-1}|^{-1/2} \\ &\times \exp[-1/2 (Y_t - M_{t|t-1})^\top V_{t|t-1}^{-1} (Y_t - M_{t|t-1})]. \end{aligned}$$

## Other approaches

- All of this works well for linear observation equations and Gaussian states
- Non-linear observation equations can be approximated using Taylor formula
- Non-Gaussian states can be approximated by the Gaussian ones with the same mean/variance
- A more general approach is to use simulation-based methods



## **4. Bayesian MCMC**

# Bayesian MCMC

- Bayesian Markov Chain Monte Carlo as applied to finance problems (e.g., Johannes and Polson, 2009)
- A model connects observable prices  $Y$  to state variables  $X$  (some unobservable) via parameters  $\Theta$ .
- Econometrician's task is to estimate the unknown parameters and state variables.
- Bayesians view all the unknowns as random variables that have some distribution (frequentists view parameters as constants whose estimates have an asymptotically normal distribution).
- In other words, the task is to construct  $p(\Theta, X|Y)$

## Example: SVOL

- The model

$$\begin{aligned}r_t &= \mu + \sigma_{t-1}\varepsilon_t \\ \log \sigma_t^2 &= \omega + \beta \log \sigma_{t-1}^2 + \sigma_v v_t\end{aligned}$$

- $Y = \{r_t\}_{t=1}^T$
  - $X = \{\sigma_t\}_{t=1}^T$
  - $\Theta = \{\mu, \omega, \beta, \sigma_v\}$
- 
- How do we construct densities in practice? A histogram!
    - Simply simulate draws  $\{\Theta^{(g)}, X^{(g)}\}_{g=1}^G$  from the target density  $p(\Theta, X|Y)$
    - Then for each  $\Theta_i$  construct a histogram using the available  $\Theta_i^{(g)}$
    - Obtain a finite-sample distribution of  $\Theta_i$
- 
- How do we simulate from  $p(\Theta, X|Y)$ ?

# The Hammerlsey-Clifford theorem

- Consider two simpler problems
  - simulate  $X$  from  $p(X|Y, \Theta)$
  - simulate  $\Theta$  from  $p(\Theta|Y, X)$
  - HC: the combined  $(X, \Theta)$  will form a draw from the original target  $p(\Theta, X|Y)$
- How?
  - Given  $\Theta^{(0)}$ , draw  $X^{(1)} \sim p(X|Y, \Theta^{(0)})$
  - Given  $X^{(1)}$ , draw  $\Theta^{(1)} \sim p(\Theta|Y, X^{(1)})$
  - ... and so forth
  - The sequence  $\{\Theta^{(g)}, X^{(g)}\}_{g=1}^G$  forms a Markov chain that converges to draws from  $p(\Theta, X|Y)$
- The devil is in the detail: how do we simulate from the marginal densities?
  - Sometimes these densities are known, then one can use standard simulation methods – Gibbs sampler
  - When the densities are unknown, we use the Metropolis-Hastings algorithm

# What happens afterwards?

- We can get point estimates of parameters as

$$E(\Theta_i | Y) = \frac{1}{G} \sum_{g=1}^G \Theta_i^{(g)}$$

- Inference? Construct *finite-sample* confidence bounds by picking  $p$ th and  $(1 - p)$ th percentiles from the distribution
- We can estimate the unobservable state variables in a number of ways

- 1 Smoothing,

$$p(X_t | Y^T) = \int p(\Theta, X | Y) d\Theta dX_{-t} = \frac{1}{G} \sum_{g=1}^G p(X_t | \Theta_i^{(g)}, X_{-t}^{(g)}, Y)$$

- 2 Filtering  $p(X_t | Y^t)$
- 3 Forecasting  $p(X_{t+1} | Y^t)$

# General representation of asset pricing models

- Bayes rule:

$$p(A|B) = \frac{P(A, B)}{p(B)} = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{p(B)}$$

- Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} p(\Theta, X|Y) &= \frac{P(Y|\Theta, X)P(\Theta, X)}{p(Y)} \propto P(Y|\Theta, X)P(\Theta, X) \\ &= \underbrace{P(Y|\Theta, X)}_{\text{full info likelihood}} \underbrace{P(X|\Theta)}_{\text{dist'n of state}} \underbrace{p(\Theta)}_{\text{prior}} \end{aligned}$$

- This representation will be used over and over while implementing the HC theorem

# Gibbs sampler: Black-Scholes

- Stock returns follow

$$r_t = \mu + \sigma \varepsilon_t, \quad Y = \{r_t\}_{t=1}^T, \quad \Theta = \{\mu, \sigma^2\}$$

- The objective is  $p(\Theta|Y) = p(\mu, \sigma^2|Y)$
- HC suggests the following approach
  - Draw  $\mu^{(g+1)} \sim p(\mu | (\sigma^2)^{(g)}, Y)$ ; then  $(\sigma^2)^{(g+1)} \sim p(\sigma^2 | \mu^{(g+1)}, Y)$
- What are these marginal densities? Use the AP decomposition:

$$p(\mu | \sigma^2, Y) \propto p(Y | \mu, \sigma^2) p(\mu)$$

$$p(\sigma^2 | \mu, Y) \propto p(Y | \mu, \sigma^2) p(\sigma^2)$$

$$p(Y | \mu, \sigma^2) = \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \right)^T \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \left( \frac{Y_t - \mu}{\sigma} \right)^2 \right)$$

# Priors

- In order to figure out the posterior distributions, we need to make assumptions about priors.
- Conjugate priors are very attractive because they are tractable and lead to correct posteriors
  - Inverse gamma distribution is often used as a prior for  $\sigma^2$

$$f(\sigma^2|\alpha, \beta) = \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} (\sigma^2)^{-\alpha-1} \exp(-\beta/\sigma^2)$$

- Normal distribution is often used as a prior for  $\mu$

$$f(\mu|\theta, \delta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\delta^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\mu - \theta}{\delta}\right)^2\right)$$



## Posterior of $\sigma^2$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\sigma^2|\mu, Y) &\propto p(Y|\mu, \sigma^2) \times p(\sigma^2) \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \right)^T \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \left( \frac{Y_t - \mu}{\sigma} \right)^2 \right) \\ &\times \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} (\sigma^2)^{-\alpha-1} \exp(-\beta/\sigma^2) \\ &\propto (\sigma^2)^{-T/2-\alpha-1} \exp \left( - \left[ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T (Y_t - \mu)^2 + \beta \right] / \sigma^2 \right) \\ &\propto IG \left( \alpha + \frac{T}{2}, \beta + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T (Y_t - \mu)^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

# Posterior of $\mu$

- Start with

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mu|\sigma^2, Y) &\propto p(Y|\mu, \sigma^2) \times p(\mu) \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \right)^T \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \left( \frac{Y_t - \mu}{\sigma} \right)^2 \right) \\ &\times \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\delta^2}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\mu - \theta}{\delta} \right)^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

- Next, need a trick

# Completing the square

- Denote  $\hat{\mu} = \left( \sum_{t=1}^T Y_t \right) / T$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{t=1}^T (Y_t - \mu)^2 &= \sum_{t=1}^T (Y_t - \hat{\mu} + \hat{\mu} - \mu)^2 \\ &= \sum_{t=1}^T (Y_t - \hat{\mu})^2 + 2(\hat{\mu} - \mu) \sum_{t=1}^T (Y_t - \hat{\mu}) + \sum_{t=1}^T (\hat{\mu} - \mu)^2 \\ &= \sum_{t=1}^T (Y_t - \hat{\mu})^2 + T(\hat{\mu} - \mu)^2 \end{aligned}$$

- Note that the first member of the sum does not depend on the parameter of interest.

## Back to posterior of $\mu$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mu|\sigma^2, Y) &\propto \exp\left(-\frac{T}{2\sigma^2}(\hat{\mu}-\mu)^2 - \frac{1}{2\delta^2}(\mu-\theta)^2\right) \\ &\propto \exp\left(-\frac{T}{2\sigma^2}(-2\hat{\mu}\mu + \mu^2) - \frac{1}{2\delta^2}(\mu^2 - 2\mu\theta)\right) \\ &\propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\delta^{*2}}\left(\mu - \left(\frac{T\hat{\mu}}{\sigma^2} + \frac{\theta}{\delta^2}\right)\delta^{*2}\right)^2\right) \\ &\propto \mathcal{N}\left(\left(\sum_{t=1}^T Y_t/\sigma^2 + \theta/\delta^2\right)\delta^{*2}, \delta^{*2}\right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\delta^{*2} = (T/\sigma^2 + 1/\delta^2)^{-1}$ .

# Gibbs sampler: Jumps

- Stock returns follow

$$r_{t+1} = \mu + \sigma \varepsilon_{t+1} + Z_{t+1} \xi$$

$$Z_t = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{with prob } \lambda \\ 0 & \text{with prob } 1 - \lambda \end{cases}$$

$$\xi \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_s, \sigma_s^2)$$

$$Y = \{r_t\}_{t=1}^T$$

$$\Theta = \{\mu, \sigma^2, \lambda, \mu_s, \sigma_s^2\}$$

$$X = \{z_t, \xi_t\}_{t=1}^T$$

- The objective is  $p(\Theta, X | Y) = p(\Theta, Z, \xi | Y)$
- HC suggests the following approach
  - Draw  $\Theta_i^{(g+1)} \sim p(\Theta_i | \Theta_{-i}^{(g)}, Z^{(g)}, \xi^{(g)}, Y)$ ; then  
 $Z^{(g+1)} \sim p(Z | \Theta^{(g+1)}, \xi^{(g)}, Y)$ ; then  
 $\xi^{(g+1)} \sim p(\xi | \Theta^{(g+1)}, Z^{(g+1)}, Y)$

## Implementing the decomposition

- Use the decomposition above to obtain marginal densities

$$p(\Theta, X|Y) \propto P(Y|\Theta, X)P(X|\Theta)p(\Theta)$$

- Use the model to obtain

$$P(Y|\Theta, Z, \xi) = \prod_{t=1}^T p(Y_t|\Theta, Z_t, \xi_t)$$

$$p(Y_t|\Theta, Z_t, \xi_t) = n(Y_t, \mu + \xi_t Z_t, \sigma^2)$$

- Use the following priors

$$\mu \sim \mathcal{N}(\theta, \delta^2)$$

$$\sigma^2 \sim \text{IG}(\alpha, \beta)$$

$$\mu_s \sim \mathcal{N}(\theta_s, \delta_s^2)$$

$$\sigma_s^2 \sim \text{IG}(\alpha_s, \beta_s)$$

$$\lambda \sim \mathcal{B}(\gamma, \eta)$$

where  $\mathcal{B}(\gamma, \eta)$  is a Beta distribution  $\frac{\Gamma(\gamma+\eta)}{\Gamma(\gamma)\Gamma(\eta)}\lambda^{\gamma-1}(1-\lambda)^{\eta-1}$

## Posterior of $\Theta$

- Posteriors of  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  are the same as in the BS case
- Posteriors of  $\mu_s$  and  $\sigma_s^2$  are by analogy
- Posterior of  $\lambda$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\lambda|\Theta/\lambda, Z, \xi, Y) &= p(\lambda|Z) = p(Z|\lambda)p(\lambda) \propto \prod_{t=1}^T p(Z_t|\lambda)p(\lambda) \\ &= \prod_{t=1}^T \lambda^{Z_t} (1-\lambda)^{1-Z_t} p(\lambda) \\ &\propto \lambda^{\sum_t Z_t} (1-\lambda)^{T-\sum_t Z_t} \lambda^{\gamma-1} (1-\lambda)^{\eta-1} \\ &\propto \mathcal{B}(\sum_t Z_t + \gamma, T - \sum_t Z_t + \eta) \end{aligned}$$

## Posterior of $X_t$

- Posterior of  $\xi_t$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\xi_t | \Theta, Z_t, Y_t) &\propto p(Y_t | \Theta, Z_t, \xi_t) p(\xi_t | \Theta) \\ &\propto \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{Y_t - \mu - \xi_t Z_t}{\sigma} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\xi_t - \mu_s}{\sigma_s} \right)^2 \right) \\ &\propto \mathcal{N} \left( ((Y_t - \mu) Z_t / \sigma^2 + \mu_s / \sigma_s^2) \sigma_t^{*2}, \sigma_t^{*2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\sigma_t^{*2} = (Z_t / \sigma^2 + 1 / \sigma_s^2)^{-1}$

- Posterior of  $Z_t$

$$\begin{aligned} p(Z_t = 1 | \Theta, \xi_t, Y_t) &\propto p(Y_t | \Theta, Z_t = 1, \xi_t) p(Z_t = 1 | \Theta) \\ &\propto \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{Y_t - \mu - \xi_t}{\sigma} \right)^2 \right) \lambda \end{aligned}$$

- Similarly, compute  $p(Z_t = 0 | \Theta, \xi_t, Y_t)$ . The "integrating" constant is determined by insuring that the two probs add up to one.



# Metropolis – Hastings sampler: SVOL

- Stock returns follow (Jacquier, Polson, and Rossi, 1994)

$$\begin{aligned}r_t &= \sqrt{V_t}\varepsilon_t \\ \log V_t &= \omega + \beta \log V_{t-1} + \sigma_v \mathbf{v}_t \\ Y &= \{r_t\}_{t=1}^T \\ X &= \{V_t\}_{t=1}^T \\ \Theta &= \{\omega, \beta, \sigma_v^2\}\end{aligned}$$

- HC suggests the following approach
  - Draw  $(\omega, \beta)^{(g+1)} \sim p(\omega, \beta | (\sigma_v^2)^{(g)}, X^{(g)}, Y)$ ; then  $(\sigma_v^2)^{(g+1)} \sim p(\sigma_v^2 | (\omega, \beta)^{(g+1)}, X^{(g)}, Y)$ ; then  $X^{(g+1)} \sim p(X | \Theta, Y)$

## Posterior of $\omega$ and $\beta$

- Prior for  $m = (\omega, \beta)'$ :  $\mathcal{N}(\theta, \Delta)$  (bivariate normal, can be independent)
- Posterior

$$\begin{aligned} p(\omega, \beta | \sigma_v^2, X, Y) &\propto p(Y | \omega, \beta, \sigma_v^2, X) p(X | \omega, \beta, \sigma_v^2) p(\omega, \beta) \\ &\propto \prod_t p(X_t | X_{t-1}, \Theta) p(m) \\ &= \prod_t \frac{1}{X_t \sqrt{2\pi\sigma_v^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma_v^2} (\log X_t - \omega - \beta \log X_{t-1})^2\right) \\ &\quad \times \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} (m - \theta)' \Delta^{-1} (m - \theta)\right) \\ &\propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma_v^2} \sum_{t=1}^T (\log X_t - \omega - \beta \log X_{t-1})^2\right) \\ &\quad \times \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} (m - \theta)' \Delta^{-1} (m - \theta)\right) \end{aligned}$$

# Completing the square

- Introduce additional notation:

$$W_t = (1, \log X_t)', \quad U_t = \log X_t \text{ and } \hat{m} = W'U / W'W$$

- Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{t=1}^T (\log X_t - \omega - \beta \log X_{t-1})^2 &= \sum_{t=1}^T (U_t - m' W_{t-1})^2 \\ &= \sum_{t=1}^T (U_t - \hat{m}' W_{t-1} + \hat{m}' W_{t-1} - m' W_{t-1})^2 \\ &= \sum_{t=1}^T (U_t - \hat{m}' W_{t-1})^2 + (\hat{m} - m)' W' W (\hat{m} - m) \end{aligned}$$

## Posterior of $\omega$ and $\beta$ , cont...

- Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} p(\omega, \beta | \sigma_v^2, X, Y) &\propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma_v^2} (\hat{m} - m)' W' W (\hat{m} - m)\right) \\ &\times \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} (m - \theta)' \Delta^{-1} (m - \theta)\right) \\ &\propto \mathcal{N}((W' U / \sigma_v^2 + \Delta^{-1} \theta) \Delta^*, \Delta^*) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Delta^* = (W' W / \sigma_v^2 + \Delta^{-1})^{-1}$

## Posterior of $\sigma_v^2$

- Prior of  $\sigma_v^2$ :  $IG(\alpha, \beta)$

- Posterior

$$\begin{aligned} p(\sigma_v^2 | \omega, \beta, X, Y) &\propto p(Y | \omega, \beta, \sigma_v^2, X) p(X | \omega, \beta, \sigma_v^2) p(\sigma_v^2) \\ &\propto \prod_t p(X_t | X_{t-1}, \Theta) p(\sigma_v^2) \\ &\propto \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_v^2}} \right)^T \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2\sigma_v^2} \sum_{t=1}^T (\log X_t - \omega - \beta \log X_{t-1})^2 \right) \\ &\quad \times (\sigma_v^2)^{-\alpha-1} \exp(-\beta/\sigma_v^2) \\ &\propto IG \left( \alpha + \frac{T}{2}, \beta + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T (\log X_t - \omega - \beta \log X_{t-1})^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

## Posterior of $V$

Break down  $p(X|\Theta, Y)$  into

$$\begin{aligned} p(X_t|X_{-t}, \Theta, Y_t) &= p(X_t|X_{t-1}, X_{t+1}, \Theta, Y_t) \\ &\propto p(Y_t|X_t, \Theta)p(X_t|X_{t-1}, \Theta)p(X_{t+1}|X_t, \Theta) \\ &\propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{X_t}} \exp\left(-\frac{Y_t^2}{2X_t}\right) \frac{1}{X_t} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma_V^2} (\log X_t - \omega - \beta \log X_{t-1})^2\right) \\ &\quad \times \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma_V^2} (\log X_{t+1} - \omega - \beta \log X_t)^2\right) \end{aligned}$$

Unrecognizable distribution – have to use Metropolis-Hastings

# Accept/Reject Method

- This is a general method of drawing samples from distributions that are difficult to simulate from
- Suppose we want to draw from  $f(x)$ . We have density  $g(x)$  such that  $f(x) \leq Mg(x)$ . This condition implies that  $f/g$  is bounded, i.e.  $g$  has thicker tails than  $f$ .
  - 1 Generate  $X \sim g(x)$  and  $U \sim U[0, 1]$
  - 2  $Y = X$  if  $U \leq f(X)/(Mg(X)) \Rightarrow Y$  is from the target distribution
  - 3 Return to step 1 otherwise

$$P(Y \leq y) = P\left(X \leq y \mid U \leq \frac{f(X)}{Mg(X)}\right) = \frac{P\left(X \leq y, U \leq \frac{f(X)}{Mg(X)}\right)}{P\left(U \leq \frac{f(X)}{Mg(X)}\right)}$$
$$= \frac{\int_{-\infty}^y \int_0^{f(x)/(Mg(x))} du g(x) dx}{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_0^{f(x)/(Mg(x))} du g(x) dx} = \frac{\frac{1}{M} \int_{-\infty}^y f(x) dx}{\frac{1}{M} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx} = \int_{-\infty}^y f(x) dx$$

# Metropolis – Hastings

- We will use a similar approach here
  - Suppose we cannot simulate  $\Theta_i^{(g+1)}$  from  $\pi(\Theta_i) \equiv p(\Theta_i | \Theta_{-i}^{(g+1)}, X, Y)$
  - Use proposal density  $q(\Theta_i^{(g+1)} | \Theta_i^{(g)})$
  - Assume we can compute posterior density ratio  $\pi(\Theta_i^{(g+1)}) / \pi(\Theta_i^{(g)})$

- The algorithm

- 1 Draw  $\Theta_i^{(g+1)}$  from  $q(\Theta_i^{(g+1)} | \Theta_i^{(g)})$
- 2 Accept  $\Theta_i^{(g+1)}$  with probability  $\alpha(\Theta_i^{(g+1)}, \Theta_i^{(g)})$

$$\alpha(\Theta_i^{(g+1)}, \Theta_i^{(g)}) = \min \left( \frac{\pi(\Theta_i^{(g+1)}) q(\Theta_i^{(g)} | \Theta_i^{(g+1)})}{\pi(\Theta_i^{(g)}) q(\Theta_i^{(g+1)} | \Theta_i^{(g)})}, 1 \right)$$

- 3 The accepted draw is from the target distribution  $\pi(\Theta_i)$ .



# MH Examples

- Independence MH:

$$q\left(\Theta_i^{(g+1)}|\Theta_i^{(g)}\right) = q\left(\Theta_i^{(g+1)}\right),$$

$$\text{then } \alpha\left(\Theta_i^{(g+1)}, \Theta_i^{(g)}\right) = \min\left(\frac{\pi\left(\Theta_i^{(g+1)}\right) q\left(\Theta_i^{(g)}\right)}{\pi\left(\Theta_i^{(g)}\right) q\left(\Theta_i^{(g+1)}\right)}, 1\right)$$

- Random-walk MH

$$\Theta_i^{(g+1)} = \Theta_i^{(g)} + \epsilon,$$

$$\text{then } q\left(\Theta_i^{(g)}|\Theta_i^{(g+1)}\right) = q\left(\Theta_i^{(g+1)}|\Theta_i^{(g)}\right),$$

$$\text{then } \alpha\left(\Theta_i^{(g+1)}, \Theta_i^{(g)}\right) = \min\left(\frac{\pi\left(\Theta_i^{(g+1)}\right)}{\pi\left(\Theta_i^{(g)}\right)}, 1\right)$$

## Back to posterior of $V$

- We stopped at

$$\begin{aligned} p(X_t | X_{-t}, \Theta, Y) &= p(X_t | X_{t-1}, X_{t+1}, \Theta, Y) \\ &\propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{X_t}} \exp\left(-\frac{Y_t^2}{2X_t}\right) \frac{1}{X_t} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma_v^2} (\log X_t - \omega - \beta \log X_{t-1})^2\right) \\ &\times \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma_v^2} (\log X_{t+1} - \omega - \beta \log X_t)^2\right) \\ &\propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{X_t}} \exp\left(-\frac{Y_t^2}{2X_t}\right) \frac{1}{X_t} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma_x^2} (\log X_t - \mu_t)^2\right) \\ \mu_t &= (\omega(1 - \beta) + \beta(\log X_{t+1} + \log X_{t-1})) / (1 + \beta^2), \\ \sigma_x^2 &= \sigma_v^2 / (1 + \beta^2) \end{aligned}$$

- Jacquier, Polson, and Rossi (1994) use an independence MH as one can closely approximate the true conditional distribution, especially in the tails

## Proposal density is an $IG$

- The first term in the posterior is  $IG(-1/2, Y_t^2/2)$
- The second (log-normal) term can be approximated by a suitably chosen  $IG(\alpha, \beta)$ . Specifically, we are matching the first and second moments of the lognormal  $(\exp(\mu_t + 0.5\sigma_x^2), (\exp(\sigma_x^2) - 1) \exp(2\mu_t + \sigma_x^2))$  to the moments of  $IG(\beta/(\alpha - 1), \beta^2/(\alpha - 1)^2/(\alpha - 2))$ . Therefore,

$$\alpha = \frac{2e^{\sigma_x^2} - 1}{e^{\sigma_x^2} - 1}, \quad \beta = e^{\mu_t + 0.5\sigma_x^2} (\alpha - 1)$$

- Thus, the proposal density is  $IG(\tilde{\alpha}, \tilde{\beta}) = IG\left(\alpha - \frac{1}{2}, e^{\mu_t + 0.5\sigma_x^2} (\alpha - 1) + \frac{Y_t^2}{2}\right)$

# Black-Scholes with returns and options

- Stock returns follow

$$\begin{aligned}r_t &= \mu + \sigma \varepsilon_t, \\c_t &= C_t/S_t = BS(\sigma, r_t) + \varepsilon_t^c, \\Y &= \{r_t, c_t\}_{t=1}^T, \Theta = \{\mu, \sigma^2\}\end{aligned}$$

- HC suggests the following approach

- Draw  $\mu^{(g+1)} \sim p(\mu | (\sigma^2)^{(g)}, Y)$  then  $(\sigma^2)^{(g+1)} \sim p(\sigma^2 | \mu^{(g+1)}, Y)$

- What are these marginal densities? Use the AP decomposition:

$$p(\mu | \sigma^2, Y) \propto p(\mu | \sigma^2, r) \propto p(r | \mu, \sigma^2) p(\mu)$$

$$p(\sigma^2 | \mu, Y) \propto p(c | \sigma^2, r) p(r | \mu, \sigma^2) p(\sigma^2)$$

$$p(r | \mu, \sigma^2) = \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \right)^T \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \left( \frac{r_t - \mu}{\sigma} \right)^2 \right)$$

$$p(c | \sigma^2, r) \propto \prod_{t=1}^T p(c_t | \sigma^2, r_t) \propto \prod_{t=1}^T \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{c_t - BS(\sigma, r_t)}{\sigma^c} \right)^2 \right)$$

# The independence MH step

- Propose from

$$q(\sigma^2) = p(\sigma^2|\mu, r) \propto p(r|\mu, \sigma^2)p(\sigma^2)$$

- If the prior is  $IG$ , so is the posterior (see the Gibbs sampler for BS)
- The algorithm:
  - 1 Draw  $(\sigma^2)^{(g+1)}$  from  $q(\sigma^2)$
  - 2 Accept  $(\sigma^2)^{(g+1)}$  with probability:

$$\alpha((\sigma^2)^{(g+1)}, (\sigma^2)^{(g)}) = \min\left(\frac{p(c|(\sigma^2)^{(g+1)}, r)}{p(c|(\sigma^2)^{(g)}, r)}, 1\right)$$

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