Timeseries Analysis on Automobile Stocks (DAX)

GAURAV PANDEY

Department of Computer Science
Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute
Belur Math, Howrah
Pin – 711202, West Bengal



A report submitted to
Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute
in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of
MSc in Big Data Analytics
2021

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my faculties for providing their invaluable guidance, comments and suggestions throughout the course of the project. I would specially thank Dr. Sudipta Das for helping me and constantly motivating me to work harder.

Also, I would like to thank my Head of Department Swathy Dhyanagamyananda for his assistance and support.

Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, Belur Math, Wet Bengal

Date: Jan 29, 2021

Gaurav Pandey

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the report entitled 'Timeseries analysis on Automobile Stocks in German stock market' submitted by Mr Gaurav Pandey, who has been registered for the award of MSc in Big Data Analytics degree of Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, Belur Math, Howrah, West Bengal is absolutely based upon his/her own work under the supervision of Dr. Sudipta Das of Assistant Professor, RKMVERI and that neither his/her report nor any part of the report has been submitted for any degree/diploma or any other academic award anywhere before.

Date: Jan 29, 2021

Dr. Sudipta Das Assistant Professor RKMVERI

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. Abstract
- 2. <u>List of figures</u>
- 3. Introduction
- 4. <u>Problem Definition</u>
- 5. Description of method
- 6. Experimental Evaluation
- 7. <u>Data Analysis</u>
- 8. <u>Volatility</u>
- 9. Conclusion

ABSTRACT

This report is about using the data available on DAX index fetched from the finance platform named yahoo finance. From the DAX we are specifically focused on the automobile industry where my major focus on the stocks of three companies specifically, i.e., BMW, Volkswagen and Porsche. As later on Volkswagen was involved in the buyout of Porsche, this is what we are going to keep our major focus in the project and how this deal affected the entire German automobile industry. We have taken BMW stocks as keep track that how a major deal affected the entire market. It simply means that BMW is our market benchmark here, something we can compare our stocks as we make further progress in our project.

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure Number	Figure Title
Figure 1	Closing Prices
Figure 2	Closing prices w/t time separation
Figure 3	Correlation output
Figure 4	Correlation output
Figure 5	Correlation output
Figure 6	Correlation output
Figure 7	Correlation output
Figure 8	Model output
Figure 9	Model output
Figure 10	Model output
Figure 11	Model output
Figure 12	Model output
Figure 13	Volatility of
Figure 13	Volkswagen
Figure 14	ACF plot for returns
Figure 15	PACF plot for returns
Figure 16	Model output
Figure 17	Model output
Figure 18	Model output

INTRODUCTION

In this project, we are going to do a brief timeseries analysis on automobile industry of German stock exchange particularly our focus is specific to the following three companies:

- 1. Volkswagen
- 2. BMW
- 3. Porsche

As this is a timeseries project, time-interval plays important role here and we are observing and analysing four time periods specifically in this this entire project. Those time periods would be as followed:

Start Date- It is period from when we start observing the and analysing the stock prices of the above-mentioned companies.

1st **Announcement Date-** This is a very important date registered in history of DAX because it is a date when Volkswagen announced that it is going to acquire 49.9% of holdings of the Porsche.

2nd Announcement Date- This is a date when Porsche completely becomes the part of Volkswagen because on this date Volkswagen acquired the remaining 50.1% of holdings of Porsche.

End Date- It is a period of time till where we analyse the market and its affect.

Time series forecasting can be done on the closing price index of the abovementioned companies, we can try different approaches in forecasting the future possible closing price that the company can incur in the immediate future. Some of the models we can use are as follows:

- 1. ARCH(q)
- 2. GARCH(p,q)
- 3. ARIMA or SARIMAX models

PROBLEM DEFINITION

We try to analyse the data and gather whatever relevant information we can get out of the dataset. We try to look at the data that leading up to the Volkswagen buyout of Porsche. Compare what models describe the stocks best (before and after each acquisition announcement).

DESCRIPTION OF METHOD

METHODOLOGY:

Volatility – When we talk about the volatility, we generally talk about the magnitude of residuals. We just don't care if it is positive or negative, we just care that how far off our predictions are from the reality.

When making long-term huge purchases, investors often seek stability in their investment that is why as long as portfolio rarely experience big shocks they are willing to consider it. And here comes the need of special models that measures volatility.

A positive shock or a negative shock is equally unpleasant since we(investors) are seeking stability.

That is why in finance, volatility is synonymous with the variability/variance.

Thus, measuring volatility is the key when we want safety in our investment.

ARCH– It refers to "Auto-regressive conditional heteroskedasticity". The term heteroskedasticity means "different dispersion" and conditional means "a value that depends on others". The name suggests that we will be dealing with the variance that is depend on the other variance of past periods. This model consists of several equations including μ equation and σ^2 - equation. We need several equations in this model to measure unexpected shocks we needed some sort of norm which we can set with the μ -equation without such a base model we don't really have anything to deviate from.

It can be modelled as followed:

$$r_{t} = c + \phi_{1} \mu_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{t}$$

where,

 ε_t = The residual values left after estimating the coeff.

 μ_t = A function of past values and past errors which is modeled using ARMAX model

It first fit mean equation to data and then estimate the residuals.

And,

$$\sigma_t^2 = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \varepsilon_{t-1}^2$$

where,

 α_0 = constant factor

 α_1 = coefficient associate with the first term

 σ_{t}^{2} = conditional variance

 ε_{t-1}^{-2} = squared value of the residual epsilon for the previous period

Based on the epsilon we extract as it measures conditional variance.

GARCH – It refers to "Generalised Auto-regressive conditional heteroskedasticity". It is very similar to ARCH in explanation we can say that adding past values of conditional variances which would serve as a great benchmark for estimations while mathematically it can be represented as follows:

$$V(y_t | y_{t-1}) = \Omega + \alpha_1 \varepsilon_{t-1}^2 + \beta_1 \sigma_{t-1}^2$$

where,

 $V(y_t | y_{t-1})$ = The variance today is conditional on the values of variables yesterday

 Ω = constant

 α_1 = Numeric coeff. for the square residual for past period

 β_1 = Numeric coeff. for the conditional variance from last period

 ε_{t-1}^{2} = Square residual for past period

 σ_{t-1}^{2} = Conditional variance from last period

No higher-order GARCH models outperform GARCH (1,1) when it comes to variance of market returns.

All the effects of the conditional variance 2 days ago will be contained in the conditional variance of yesterday. We do not need to include more than 1 GARCH component.

SARIMA – Seasonal Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average, SARIMA or Seasonal ARIMA, is an extension of ARIMA that explicitly supports univariate time series data with a seasonal component. It adds three new hyperparameters to specify the autoregression (AR), differencing (I) and moving average (MA) for the seasonal component of the series, as well as an additional parameter for the period of the seasonality. The model equation is as follows:

$$\phi(B)\Phi(B^{\varepsilon})(1-B)^{d}\left(1-B^{\varepsilon}\right)^{D}X_{t}=\Theta(B^{\varepsilon})\theta(B)Z_{t}$$

Where,

$$\begin{split} \phi\left(B\right) &= 1 - \phi_1 B - \phi_2 B^2 - \dots - \phi_p B^p \\ \Phi\left(B\right) &= 1 - \Phi_1 B - \Phi_2 B^2 - \dots - \Phi_p B^p \\ \theta\left(B\right) &= 1 - \theta_1 B + \theta_2 B^2 + \dots + \theta_q B^q \\ \Theta\left(B\right) &= 1 - \Theta_1 B + \Theta_2 B^2 + \dots + \Theta_Q B^Q \\ \left\{Z_t\right\} & \square \ WN\left(0, \sigma^2\right) \end{split}$$

's' is the period of seasonality, 'd' is the normal differencing and ' \mathcal{D} ' is the seasonal differencing.

Endogenous Variable – The variable we are estimating.

EXPERIMENTAL EVALUATION

DATA COLLECTION:

The data is recorded from the German stock market (There are other markets as well where these companies participate in stock exchange but choosing German stock exchange makes sense because all three companies home country is Germany.). To make sure all the values and all the changes in the values are stock specific we needed a market benchmark that is why we have picked up Volkswagen's greatest competitor in market i.e., BMW (this could be any automobile maker). Data is imported from the yahoo finance.

1. Start Date

The starting date we have selected from which we are going to analyse the data would be **2009-04-05**.

2. 1st Announcement Date

The date when Volkswagen made its first announcement to acquire Porsche is **2009-12-09**.

3. 2nd Announcement Date

The date when Volkswagen made its second announcement to acquire remaining stocks Porsche is **2012-07-05**.

4. End Date

The end date we have selected from which we are going to analyse the data would be **2014-01-01**.

5. Returns

It is customary in finance to consider the logarithmic return because of the nature of dataset. It is defined as followed:

$$r_t = \log \frac{P_t}{P_{t-1}} = \log P_t - \log P_{t-1}$$

We will create squared returns as well to examine the volatility in the series.

DATA DESCRIPTION:

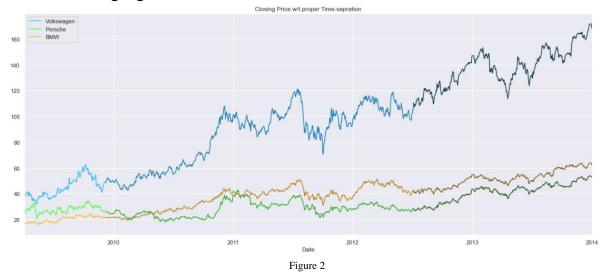
Table 2

TADIA DI EG							
VARIABLES	DESCRIPTION						
date	Column of dates						
open	Opening price of stock						
high	Highest price of the day						
low	Lowest price of the day						
close	Closing price of the stock						
ret_vol	Calculated return from closing price						
	(Volkswagen)						
ret nor	Calculated return from closing price						
ret_por	(Porsche)						
ret_bmw	Calculated return from closing price (BMW)						
sq_vol	Squared return of Volkswagen						
sq_por	Squared return of Porsche						
sq_bmw	Squared return of BMW						
q_vol	Extracting no. of purchases and sales each						
q_voi	day of Volkswagen						
q_por	Extracting no. of purchases and sales each day						
	of Porsche						
q_bmw	Extracting no. of purchases and sales each day						
	of BMW						

DATA ANALYSIS:



We see some similarity in the way they move. This indicates the trends of entire automobile industry market. However, Volkswagen prices shift a lot more in magnitude after the third quarter of 2009 to get a better idea. We should separate the different intervals by colour if every period of timeseries is random colour as in the following figure:



As we can see prior to the first announcement, we see that the two stocks i.e., Volkswagen and Porsche move in a similar fashion. However, Volkswagen number seems to be roughly twice as high afterwards.

Afterwards the gap between the two seems to grow bigger and bigger. If we look at BMW's numbers, we will see that they resemble the Porsche's numbers much closer than the Volkswagen's or at least that is what it looks like.

To get an idea of similarity we are going to perform correlation to get an exactr idea about the growth as followed:

Correlation output (Start date to End Date):

```
Correlation among manufacturers from 2009-04-05 to 2014-01-01
```

Volkswagen and Porsche correlation: 0.8348050084649201 Volkswagen and BMW correlation: 0.9799384525546676 Porsche and BMW correlation: 0.8039398538655349

Figure 3

As the output shows us, we get a higher correlation value between Volkswagen and BMW than the Volkswagen and Porsche. This suggests Volkswagen moves in similar way to the market benchmark.

Correlation output (Start date to 1st Announcement Date):

Correlation among manufacturers from 2009-04-05 to 2009-12-09

Volkswagen and Porsche correlation: 0.6633400945227693 Volkswagen and BMW correlation: 0.8428353828601808 Porsche and BMW correlation: 0.6095046037466961

Figure 4

From the above output, we see much lower correlation all around with the Porsche and BMW is very low. This suggests the stock prices for these brands weren't too similar before the start of buyout. The possible explanation could be Porsche's evaluation becomes heavily tied to that of Volkswagen becomes market trendsetter so all other companies have to adjust to it.

In that way Volkswagen affect both the Porsche and BMW simultaneously. One directly and other is indirectly. Then the pull of Volkswagen in times of boom makes it so that Porsche and BMW appear to change in a similar manner without a direct causal link between them.

This is the case because Porsche and BMW correlation keeps increasing as Volkswagen grows as a market leader. Interdependence of Volkswagen and Porsche may increase over time as Volkswagen continue to buy their shares.

Correlation output (1st Announcement Date to 2nd Announcement Date):

Correlation among manufacturers from 2009-12-09 to 2012-07-05

Volkswagen and Porsche correlation: 0.7422114342529975 Volkswagen and BMW correlation: 0.9795943008992956 Porsche and BMW correlation: 0.7035985533162737

Figure 5

The new result shows increase among all correlations but interestingly we can see very high correlation between Volkswagen and BMW.

If the we look at the Figure 1 we can see that over that time period Volkswagen stocks grow in value several time faster than the market benchmark. However, since the market moves basically the same way Volkswagen becomes the sort of trend-setter after the partial takeover of the Porsche.

Correlation output (2nd Announcement Date to End Date):

Correlation among manufacturers from 2012-07-05 to 2014-01-01

Volkswagen and Porsche correlation: 0.9405237308477348 Volkswagen and BMW correlation: 0.9284447459439166 Porsche and BMW correlation: 0.9494111766213098

Figure 6

Now, this time we see higher correlation between Volkswagen and Porsche than Volkswagen and BMW. This shows that the two being recognised as a single entity and the prices of one directly affect the other. We can see higher correlation between BMW and Porsche interestingly they do not seem to have any obvious common link between them. Volkswagen continues to be a market trend-setter these correlations should all remain high.

Correlation output (End Date to current date):

Correlation among manufacturers from 2014-01-01 to 2020-12-23 00:00:00

Volkswagen and Porsche correlation: 0.9392810285264768
Volkswagen and BMW correlation: 0.5244440547982339
Porsche and BMW correlation: 0.47523916002767586

Figure 7

If there is another boom in the Volkswagen's market then it will again become the trend-setter.

As we can see Volkswagen's trend change after the 2nd announcement due to change in trend there is a need of shift in new model is required.

Now, we will try to fit the best model via auto-ARIMA method where exogenous variable taken as Porsche and BMW.

Dep. V	ariable:			!	y No .	Observa	tions:	178
	Model: SAR			1, 0, 0))	Log Like	lihood	-323.195
	Date:	Sat, 2	26 De	c 2020	0		AIC	656.390
	Time:		01	:22:36	6		BIC	672.299
5	Sample:		04-06	6-2009	9		HQIC	662.841
		-	12-09	9-2009	9			
Covariano	e Type:			op	g			
	coef	std e	rr	z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]	
intercept	0.7236	0.44	7 1	1.618	0.106	 3 -0.153	1.600	
por	0.4179	0.10	0 4	1.169	0.000	0.221	0.614	
bmw	0.6615	0.31	4 2	2.108	0.035	0.046	1.277	
ar.L1	0.9634	0.02	0 48	3.675	0.000	0.925	1.002	
sigma2	2.1787	0.14	8 14	1.718	0.000	1.889	2.469	
Ljung-	·Box (L1)	(Q):	0.77	Jaro	ue-Be	ra (JB):	166.09	
	Prob	o(Q):	0.38		Pr	ob(JB):	0.00	
Heteroske	dasticity	(H):	1.61			Skew:	-0.52	
Prob(H) (two-sid	ded):	0.07		K	urtosis:	7.62	

Figure 8

So, the period prior to 49.9% announcement. We can see that an AR(1) with the two exogenous variables is the best fit.

All coefficients apart from the intercept are significant. So, this is an good fit.

We see the estimate to the AR(1) value is very close to 1 this means we are sticking really close to the value of the last period with very little deviation. This is not much surprising since we are using prices that do not oscillates completely randomly.

Dep.	Variable:			y N o	. Observ	ations:	672
	Model:	SARIN	MAX(1, 1,	1)	Log Like	elihood	-550.899
	Date:	Wed, 3	0 Dec 20	20		AIC	1111.797
	Time:		08:07:	04		BIC	1134.341
	Sample:		12-09-20	09		HQIC	1120.529
		-	07-05-20	12			
Covariar	nce Type:		0	pg			
	coef	std err	z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]	
vol	0.1704	0.015	11.128	0.000	0.140	0.200	
bmw	0.3030	0.042	7.206	0.000	0.221	0.385	
ar.L1	0.6598	0.229	2.883	0.004	0.211	1.108	
ma.L1	-0.5910	0.245	-2.412	0.016	-1.071	-0.111	
sigma2	0.3024	0.009	32.415	0.000	0.284	0.321	

Figure 9

After 1st announcement, ARIMAX (1,1,1) is the optimal choice. This is the really big shift.

Possible reasons could be:

- 1. The optimal model is integrated one. Since, the auto-arima enforces stationarity we know that the new dataset is certainly non-stationary.
- 2. The model finds past residuals to have significant explanatory power. This indicates that the real-life announcement actually changes the trend for Volkswagen.

Dep. Variable: y					lo. Obser	ations:	657
	Model	SARII	MAX(0, 1	, 0)	Log Lik	elihood	-1064.147
	Date	: Wed, 3	30 Dec 20	020		AIC	2134.294
	Time	:	08:38	:28		BIC	2147.752
	Sample	:		0		HQIC	2139.512
			- 6	657			
Covariar	nce Type	:	C	pg			
	coef	std err	z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]	
por	0.8277	0.066	12.546	0.000	0.698	0.957	
bmw	1.4806	0.071	20.791	0.000	1.341	1.620	

sigma2 1.5015 0.063 23.904 0.000 1.378 1.625

Figure 10

Moving onto the last interval, we see that the model has changed completely on more time, ARIMAX (0,1,0) once again recognised the non-stationary nature of stock prices. But we are no longer relying on past values. Instead of that we can see a huge shift towards the coefficient for Porsche prices.

I can presume this shift because of the two automobile manufacturers are now a single entity. Due to this reason price of Porsche today will be more accurate estimator than the prices of Volkswagen yesterday.

Hence, I can say that new information seems to have a higher impact on trends compare to past patterns.

Fitting model for Porsche:

Dep. Va	ariable:		у	No. O	bservati	ions:	178
	Model:	SARIMA	X(2, 0, 0)	Lo	g Likelil	hood	-218.214
	Date:	Sat, 26 [Dec 2020			AIC	448.427
	Time:		01:23:05			BIC	467.518
S	ample:	04	-06-2009		ı	HQIC	456.169
		- 12	-09-2009				
Covarianc	e Type:		opg				
	_			.			
	coef	std err	Z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]	
intercept	0.5516	0.360	1.533	0.125	-0.154	1.257	
vol	0.1101	0.051	2.157	0.031	0.010	0.210	
bmw	0.8068	0.145	5.557	0.000	0.522	1.091	
ar.L1	1.0747	0.059	18.194	0.000	0.959	1.191	
ar.L2	-0.1589	0.059	-2.716	0.007	-0.274	-0.044	
sigma2	0.6721	0.048	14.098	0.000	0.579	0.766	
Ljung-	Box (L1)	(Q): 0.0	0 Jarqu	ıe-Bera	(JB): 5	559.43	
	Prob	(Q): 0.9	8	Prob	(JB):	0.00	
Heteroske	dasticity	(H): 0.2	21	5	kew:	-0.96	
Prob(H)	(two-sid	ed): 0.0	00	Kurt	tosis:	11.47	

Figure 11

Before 1st announcement,

AR(2) with two exogenous is best model.

It is similar to Volkswagen over the same period.

After 1st announcement,

We see a shift towards integrated model ARIMA (1,1,0). This directly translates into a roughly one point drop in the AR coefficient from 1.08 to 0.07.

This is not too odd, since we are using integrated value here however an additional explanation comes from the rise of the Volkswagen coefficient which now has a bigger impact. The direct jump of 0.12 to 0.19. This is actually more than 50% growth.

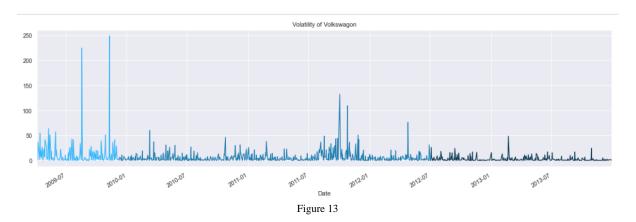
Dep. \	/ariable:				у	No. Obse	rvations:	390
	Model: SARIMAX(0, 1, 0)x(0, 0, [1], 5)				[1], 5)	Log L	ikelihood	-192.826
	Date:		Wed,	30 Dec	2020		AIC	393.653
	Time:			08:	07:05		BIC	409.507
	Sample:			07-05-	-2012		HQIC	399.938
				- 01-01	-2014			
Covarian	ce Type:				opg			
	coef	std err	z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]		
vol	0.2119	0.013	16.876	0.000	0.187	0.237		
bmw	0.2286	0.038	6.036	0.000	0.154	0.303		
ma.S.L5	-0.1249	0.057	-2.210	0.027	-0.236	-0.014		
sigma2	0.1578	0.006	27.851	0.000	0.147	0.169		

Figure 12

This time model discovers seasonal pattern. These trends are affected more by the current events rather than the pre-existing patterns.

NOTE- I have not used ACF & PACF plot to identify the parameters of the functions required to compute because I have used auto_arima command of python which automatically finds the best fit amongst all parameters.

VOLATILITY

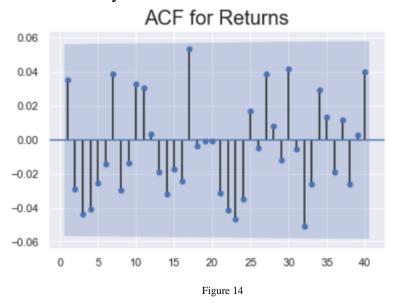


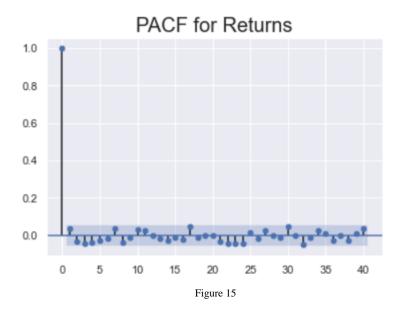
We expect some major shift surrounding such events. We see VW (volkswagen) has the highest volatility before any of the announcements.

The stocks become more stable following each of the announcements. While it exhibits instability in the time leading upto each purchase such behaviour can most certainly be attributed to the rumours spread across the market about the deal on the horizon.

However, Porsche had tried to purchase VW a few years back many people weren't certain how it will all play out.

Now, to measure volatility we need to fit GARCH model and ARCH model.





Simple GARCH (1,1) should be the best fit for the returns. GARCH (1,1) for constant mean. {Start date to ann_1}:

Constant Mean - GARCH Model Results

Dep. Variable:	ret_vol	R-squared:	-0.000
Mean Model:	Constant Mean	Adj. R-squared:	-0.000
Vol Model:	GARCH	Log-Likelihood:	-474.991
Distribution:	Normal	AIC:	957.983
Method:	Maximum Likelihood	BIC:	970.710
		No. Observations:	178
Date:	Wed, Dec 30 2020	Df Residuals:	174
Time:	08:07:06	Df Model:	4

Mean Model

	coef	std err	t	P> t	95.0% Conf. Int.
mu	0.1571	0.266	0.590	0.556	[-0.365, 0.679]

Volatility Model

	coef	std err	t	P> t	95.0% Conf. Int.
omega	10.6194	4.227	2.512	1.200e-02	[2.334, 18.905]
alpha[1]	0.1540	9.197e-02	1.675	9.400e-02	[-2.624e-02, 0.334]
beta[1]	4.7917e-13	0.349	1.372e-12	1.000	[-0.684, 0.684]

Figure 16

p-value=1 for β shows that the trends in variance aren't as persistent as we would expect. So, there is no need for a GARCH component. We can try ARCH model for this one.

GARCH (1,1) for constant mean. {ann_1 to ann_2}:

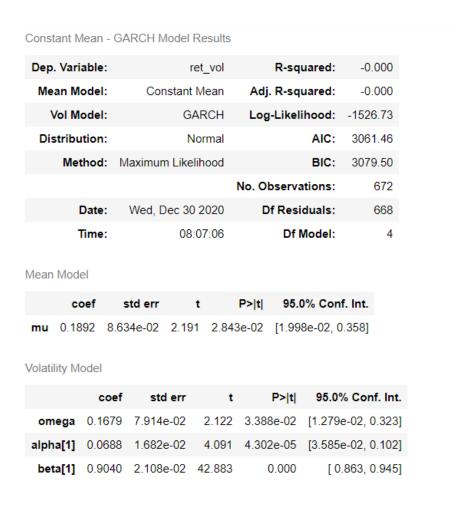


Figure 17

p-value=0 for β shows that the autocorrelation in the conditional variance is significant and dies off based on the coefficient value. The significant constant μ indicates that there is some constant trend in the return values. Additionally, the significant coefficient for omega suggests the exact same feature can be found in we never expect returns or their volatility to ever be perfectly stable which is normal for a market lacking efficiency.

GARCH (1,1) for constant mean. {ann_2 to end date}:

Constant Mean - GARCH Model Results

Dep. Variable:	ret_vol	R-squared:	-0.001
Mean Model:	Constant Mean	Adj. R-squared:	-0.001
Vol Model:	GARCH	Log-Likelihood:	-724.558
Distribution:	Normal	AIC:	1457.12
Method:	Maximum Likelihood	BIC:	1472.98
		No. Observations:	390
Date:	Wed, Dec 30 2020	Df Residuals:	386
Time:	08:07:06	Df Model:	4

Mean Model

	coef	std err	t	P> t	95.0% Conf. Int.
mu	0.2298	9.845e-02	2.334	1.958e-02	[3.685e-02, 0.423]

Volatility Model

	coef	std err	t	P> t	95.0% Conf. Int.
omega	0.7719	0.677	1.141	0.254	[-0.554, 2.098]
alpha[1]	0.1853	0.145	1.273	0.203	[-9.991e-02, 0.470]
beta[1]	0.5136	0.331	1.550	0.121	[-0.136, 1.163]

Figure 18

Non-significant coefficient for constant omega and alpha 1 shows that there is some autocorrelation in volatility which fits the volatility clustering feature. Since, the entire interval is much more stable even the beta coefficient is dropped by roughly $1/3^{\rm rd}$.

CONCLUSION

- After all the models fitting, we can say at some place GARCH is better where as at some places it is not, we can go for improvement in model always.
- > Overall, I see really different volatility trends in all three periods which is quite intriguing.
- ➤ The purchase of Porsche has destroyed many rumours in the market and provided Volkswagen with a larger share of market.
- ➤ In return of larger share of market it has resulted in much lower volatility after each announcement making Volkswagen stocks a more appealing prospect.