

Ex. 2

$$D_{t+1} = D_t e^{\bar{g} - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_g^2 + g_{t+1}} \quad \text{dividend process}$$

$$g_{t+1} = \rho_g g_t + \sigma_g \varepsilon_g(t+1) \quad \text{stoch. component}$$

$$R_{t+1} = \frac{P_{t+1} + D_{t+1}}{P_t} \quad \text{gross return}$$

$$E[R_{t+1}] = e^{\bar{r} + k_t} \quad \text{expected return}$$

$$PD_t = \frac{P_t}{D_t} \quad pd_t = \log PD_t$$

(a) $k_t = 0 \quad \forall t \Rightarrow e^{\bar{r}} = \text{const.}; \quad \rho_g = 0 \Rightarrow E[g_{t+1}] = 0$

$$R_{t+1} = \frac{P_{t+1} + D_{t+1}}{P_t} \Rightarrow P_t = \frac{D_{t+1} + P_{t+1}}{R_{t+1}}$$

$$E[R_{t+1}] = e^{\bar{r} + k_t} = e^{\bar{r}}; \quad D_{t+1} = P_t e^{\bar{g} - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_g^2 + g_{t+1}} = D_t e^{\bar{g}} \quad (\text{since volatility of a constant} = 0)$$

Thus, we have:

$$P_t = \frac{D_t e^{\bar{g}} + E[P_{t+1}]}{e^{\bar{r}}}, \quad \text{where } E_t[P_{t+1}] = \frac{D_{t+1} + E[P_{t+2}]}{e^{\bar{r}}} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{D_t}{e^{\bar{r}-\bar{g}}} + \frac{E[P_{t+2}]}{e^{\bar{r}-\bar{g}}}$$

Applying the brute force approach and substituting further $E[P_{t+n}]$ we get the following equation:

$$P_t = D_t e^{-(\bar{r}-\bar{g})} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} e^{(\bar{r}-\bar{g})k} + \left(\frac{1}{e^{\bar{r}}}\right)^N E_t[P_{t+N}]$$

Assuming no bubble condition and taking the lim gives: $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{e^{\bar{r}}}\right)^N E_t[P_{t+N}] = 0$. Thus, we have:

$$P_t = D_t e^{-(\bar{r}-\bar{g})} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} e^{(\bar{r}-\bar{g})k}$$

Since we assume that the price is finite $\bar{g} < \bar{r}$ has to hold and we have the following equation

$$\text{in the limit: } P_t = D_t e^{\bar{g}-\bar{r}} \frac{1}{1 - e^{\bar{r}-\bar{g}}} = \frac{D_t}{e^{\bar{r}-\bar{g}} - 1} \approx \frac{D_t}{\bar{r} - \bar{g}} \Rightarrow \text{the PD ratio is constant}$$

The results are not consistent with the empirical result. According to the empirical results, the volatility is not constant and the price volatility is 5 to 10 times higher than the dividend volatility. The condition under which such difference is possible (assuming constant volatility):

$$\sqrt{5} < \frac{1}{e^{\bar{r}-\bar{g}} - 1} < \sqrt{10}$$

$$2.236 < \frac{1}{e^{\bar{r}-\bar{g}} - 1} < 3.162$$

$$0.447 > e^{\bar{r}-\bar{g}} > 0.316$$

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$$0.369 > \bar{r} - \bar{g} > 0.275 \Rightarrow \text{the condition that is highly unlikely to hold in real life.}$$

(b) $\rho_g \neq 0 \Rightarrow k_{t+1} = \rho_g k_t + \sigma_g \varepsilon_k(t+1)$

We need to find a function that $PD_t = PD(g_t, k_t)$ that solves a fixed point: $E[R_{t+1}] = E_t\left[\frac{D_{t+1}}{D_t} \frac{1 + PD_{t+1}}{PD_t}\right]$

$$\text{Equivalently, } e^{\bar{r} + k_t} = E_t\left[\exp\left(\bar{g} - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_g^2 + g_{t+1} + \log(1 + e^{pd_{t+1}})\right) - pd_t\right]$$

Let's first find log-returns:

$$\log(R_{t+1}) = \log(P_{t+1} + D_{t+1}) - \log(P_t) = p_{t+1} + \log\left(1 + \frac{D_{t+1}}{P_{t+1}}\right) - p_t = p_{t+1} - p_t + \log\left(1 + \exp(d_{t+1} - p_{t+1})\right)$$

Let's apply 1st order Taylor approximation to the function $f(x) = \log(1 + e^x)$ around $\bar{x} = \bar{d} - \bar{p}$:

$$f(x) \approx f(\bar{x}) + \frac{f'(\bar{x})}{1!} (x - \bar{x})$$

$$\log(1 + \exp(d_{t+1} - p_{t+1})) \approx \log(1 + \exp(\bar{d} - \bar{p})) + \frac{\exp(\bar{d} - \bar{p})}{\exp(\bar{d} - \bar{p}) + 1} (d_{t+1} - p_{t+1} - (\bar{d} - \bar{p}))$$

Thus we have the approximation for the function $\log(1 + e^x)$

Let's use the approximation for $\log(1 + e^{pd_{t+1}})$ and plug it into the initial equation:

$$e^{\bar{r} + k_t} = E_t\left[\exp\left(\bar{g} - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_g^2 + g_{t+1} + \log(1 + e^{pd_{t+1}})\right) + \frac{e^{\bar{d} - \bar{p}}}{e^{\bar{d} - \bar{p}} + 1} (pd_{t+1} - \bar{p}d) - pd_t\right]$$

(c) $pd_t = pd(g_t, k_t) = A + Bg_t + Ck_t$

We need to approximate the following function: $\log(1 + \exp(A + Bg_t + Ck_t))$ around $\bar{pd} = A$

$$\log(1 + \exp(A + Bg_t + Ck_t)) = \log(1 + e^A) + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} (A + Bg_t + Ck_t - A)$$

Thus, we get:

$$e^{\bar{k} + k_t} = E_t \left[\exp\left(\bar{g} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma_g^2 + g_{t+1} + \log(1 + e^A) + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} (A + Bg_{t+1} + Ck_{t+1} - A) - (A + Bg_t + Ck_t) \right) \right]$$

$$e^{\bar{k} + k_t} = \exp\left(\bar{g} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma_g^2 + \log(1 + e^A) - A - Bg_t - Ck_t\right) E_t \left[\exp\left(g_{t+1} + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} (Bg_{t+1} + Ck_{t+1})\right) \right] =$$

$$\exp\left(\bar{g} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma_g^2 + \log(1 + e^A) - A - Bg_t - Ck_t\right) E_t \left[\exp\left(g_{t+1} \left(1 + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} B\right) + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} Ck_{t+1}\right) \right]$$

Let's plug in g_{t+1} and k_{t+1} :

$$e^{\bar{k} + k_t} = \exp\left(\bar{g} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma_g^2 + \log(1 + e^A) - A - Bg_t - Ck_t\right) E_t \left[\exp\left((\rho_g g_t + \sigma_g \varepsilon_g(t+1)) \left(1 + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} B\right) + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} C(\rho_k k_t + \sigma_k \varepsilon_k(t+1))\right) \right] =$$

$$= \exp\left(\bar{g} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma_g^2 + \log(1 + e^A) - A - Bg_t - Ck_t + \rho_g g_t \left(1 + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} B\right) + \rho_k k_t \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} C\right) E_t \left[\exp\left(\sigma_g \varepsilon_g(t+1) \left(1 + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} B\right) + \sigma_k \varepsilon_k(t+1) C \frac{e^A}{1+e^A}\right) \right]$$

Since we know that the random variables are normally distributed (iid), we can use the moment generating function: $E_t[e^{A \varepsilon_g(t+1)}] = e^{\frac{A^2}{2}}$

In order to compute an expectation:

$$E_t \left[\exp\left(\sigma_g \varepsilon_g(t+1) \left(1 + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} B\right) + \sigma_k \varepsilon_k(t+1) C \frac{e^A}{1+e^A}\right) \right] = \exp\left(\frac{1}{2} \sigma_g^2 \left(1 + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} B\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_k^2 C^2 \frac{e^{2A}}{(1+e^A)^2}\right)$$

Thus, we have:

$$\bar{k} + k_t = \bar{g} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma_g^2 + \log(1 + e^A) - A + g_t \left(\rho_g \left(1 + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} B\right) - B\right) + k_t \left(\rho_k \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} C - C\right) + \frac{1}{2} \left(\sigma_g^2 \left(1 + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} B\right)^2 + \sigma_k^2 C^2 \frac{e^{2A}}{(1+e^A)^2}\right)$$

Matching the coefficients gives:

$$\begin{cases} \bar{k} = \bar{g} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma_g^2 + \log(1 + e^A) - A + \frac{1}{2} \left(\sigma_g^2 \left(1 + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} B\right)^2 + \sigma_k^2 C^2 \frac{e^{2A}}{(1+e^A)^2}\right) \\ k_t: \rho_k \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} C - C = 1 \\ g_t: \rho_g \left(1 + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} B\right) - B = 0 \end{cases}$$

From the system we have:

$$\begin{cases} C = \frac{1}{\rho_k \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} - 1} = \frac{1+e^A}{e^A(\rho_k - 1)} \\ B \left(\frac{e^A}{1+e^A} \rho_g - 1\right) = -\rho_g \Rightarrow B = \frac{-\rho_g(1+e^A)}{\rho_g e^A - 1 - e^A} = \frac{-\rho_g(1+e^A)}{e^A(\rho_g - 1) - 1} = \rho_g \frac{1+e^A}{e^A(1-\rho_g) + 1} \\ A = \bar{g} - \bar{k} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma_g^2 + \log(1 + e^A) + \frac{1}{2} \left(\sigma_g^2 \left(1 + \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} B\right)^2 + \sigma_k^2 C^2 \frac{e^{2A}}{(1+e^A)^2}\right) \end{cases}$$

d) $\rho_g = \rho_k = \sigma_k = 0$

Plugging it into previous solution gives:

$$\begin{cases} B = 0 \\ C = -1 \\ \bar{k} = \bar{g} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma_g^2 + \log(1 + e^A) - A + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_g^2 = \bar{g} + \log(1 + e^A) - A = \bar{g} - \log\left(\frac{e^A}{1+e^A}\right) \end{cases}$$

It follows that $pd_t = A$. It matches the results in point (a).

$$\log\left(\frac{e^A}{1+e^A}\right) = \bar{g} - \bar{k}$$

$$e^{\bar{g} - \bar{k}} = \frac{e^A}{1+e^A} = 1 + \frac{1}{e^A} \Rightarrow e^A = \frac{1}{e^{\bar{g} - \bar{k}} - 1} = PD_t$$

For the stochastic process to be mean-reverting, it has to be stationary, which means the distribution doesn't depend on t .

In our case the autocorrelation is represented by ρ_k and ρ_g . It can be expressed as $\rho_k = \frac{\text{Cov}(k_t, k_{t+1})}{\text{Var}(k_t)}$ (WSS process). It can be noticed that in order to have stationary process, ρ has to be strictly less than one in absolute value. If $\rho = 0 \Rightarrow$ the process is a random walk and if $\rho = 1 \Rightarrow$ unit root \Rightarrow random walk. Thus, either ρ_k or $\rho_g \neq 0$ and $\neq 1$ will result in predictable process.

1) Let's suppose $\rho_k \in (0, 1)$ and $\rho_g = 0$. Thus, we have:

$$pd_{t+1} = A + Bg_{t+1} + Ck_{t+1} = A + B\sigma_g \varepsilon_g(t+1) + C(\rho_k k_t + \sigma_k \varepsilon_k(t+1)) = A + \rho_k k_t C + \underbrace{(\sigma_k \varepsilon_k(t+1)C + \sigma_g \varepsilon_g(t+1)B)}_{\text{i.i.d.}}$$

Since k_t is the only parameter that depends on the past information and $\rho_k \in (0, 1) \Rightarrow$ the process is stationary.

2) Now let's suppose $\rho_g \in (0, 1)$ and $\rho_k = 0$.

$$pd_{t+1} = A + B(\rho_g g_t + \sigma_g \varepsilon_g(t+1)) + C\sigma_k \varepsilon_k(t+1) = A + \rho_g g_t B + (\sigma_g \varepsilon_g(t+1)B + \sigma_k \varepsilon_k(t+1)C)$$

Since g_t is the only parameter that depends on the past information and $\rho_g \in (0, 1) \Rightarrow$ the process is stationary.

Since empirically dividend growth is iid ($\rho_g \approx 0$). If $\rho_k \in (0, 1)$, it will guarantee that the pd_t is stochastic, mean-reverting process \Rightarrow the expected return $E_t[R_{t+1}]$ has to be predictable.