

# Nonlinear Time Series Models

Does nonlinearity exist in financial TS?

Yes, especially in volatility & high-freq data

We focus on simple nonlinear models.

What is a linear time series?

$$x_t = \mu + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \psi_i a_{t-i},$$

where  $\mu$  is a constant,  $\psi_i$  are real numbers with  $\psi_0 = 1$ , and  $\{a_t\}$  is an iid  $(0, \sigma_a^2)$ .

General concept: let  $F_{t-1}$  be info. available at time  $t - 1$ .

Conditional mean:

$$\mu_t = E(x_t | F_{t-1}) \equiv g(F_{t-1}),$$

Conditional variance:

$$\sigma_t^2 = \text{Var}(x_t | F_{t-1}) \equiv h(F_{t-1}),$$

where  $g(\cdot)$  and  $h(\cdot)$  are well-defined functions with  $h(\cdot) > 0$ . For a linear series,  $g(\cdot)$  is a linear function of  $F_{t-1}$  and  $h(\cdot) = \sigma_a^2$ . a. Statistics literature: focuses on  $g(\cdot)$ , See the book by Tong (Oxford University Press, 1990)

Econometrics literature: focuses on  $h(\cdot)$

# 1. Threshold AR (1) [TAR(1)] model:

Tong (1978), Chan (1993), Chan and Tsay (1998).

Example: 2-regime AR(1) model

$$x_t = \begin{cases} -1.5x_{t-1} + a_t & \text{if } x_{t-1} < 0, \\ 0.5x_{t-1} + a_t & \text{if } x_{t-1} \geq 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $a_t$ 's are iid  $N(0, 1)$ .

Here the delay is 1 time period,  $x_{t-1}$  is the **threshold** variable, and the threshold is 0. The threshold divides the  $x_{t-1}$ -space into two regimes with Regime 1 denoting  $x_{t-1} < 0$ .

What is so special about this model?

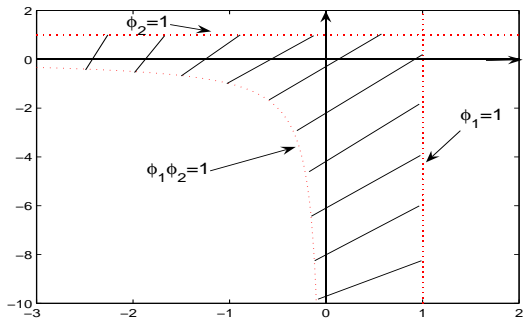
Special features of the model: (a) asymmetry in rising and declining patterns, (b) the mean of  $x_t$  is not zero even though there is no

Model:

$$r_t = \begin{cases} \phi_1 r_{t-1} + a_t, & \text{if } r_{t-1} > r, \\ \phi_2 r_{t-1} + a_t, & \text{if } r_{t-1} \leq r, \end{cases}$$

where  $a_t$  is i.i.d. r.v. with mean 0 and each having a strictly positive density  $f(\cdot)$  on  $R$ . Then,  $\{r_t\}$  is stationary and ergodic if and only if

$$\phi_1 < 1, \phi_2 < 1 \text{ and } \phi_1 \phi_2 < 1.$$



Higher-order Threshold AR (p) [TAR(p)] model:

$$r_t = \begin{cases} \mu_1 + \phi_{11}r_{t-1} + \cdots + \phi_{1p}r_{t-p} + a_t, & \text{if } r_{t-d} > r, \\ \mu_2 + \phi_{21}r_{t-1} + \cdots + \phi_{2p}r_{t-p} + a_t, & \text{if } r_{t-d} \leq r, \end{cases}$$

where  $a_t$  is i.i.d. r.v. with mean 0 and each having a strictly positive density  $f(\cdot)$  on  $R$ . Then,  $\{r_t\}$  is stationary and ergodic if

$$\max\left\{\sum_{i=1}^p |\phi_{1i}|, \sum_{i=1}^p |\phi_{2i}|\right\} < 1.$$

## 2 Threshold DAR [TDAR(p)] model (Li and Ling 2010)

$$r_t = \begin{cases} \phi_{10} + \sum_{j=1}^p \phi_{1j} r_{t-j} + \varepsilon_t \sqrt{\alpha_{10} + \sum_{j=1}^p \alpha_{1j} r_{t-j}^2}, & \text{if } r_{t-d} \leq r, \\ \phi_{20} + \sum_{j=1}^p \phi_{2j} r_{t-j} + \varepsilon_t \sqrt{\alpha_{20} + \sum_{j=1}^p \alpha_{2j} r_{t-j}^2}, & \text{if } r_{t-d} > r, \end{cases}$$

where  $\varepsilon_t$  is iid with mean 0 and variance 1.

One of sufficient condition of the stationarity and ergodicity is

$$\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^p \max(|\phi_{1i}|, |\phi_{2i}|) \right\}^2 + \sum_{i=1}^p \max(\alpha_{1i}, \alpha_{2i}) < 1,$$



# Quasi-maximum likelihood estimation

$$L_n(\theta) = \sum_{t=1}^n \varphi_t(\theta),$$

where  $\theta = (\lambda', r)' = (\phi_1', \alpha_1', \phi_2', \alpha_2', r)'$  is the parameter with  $\phi_i = (\phi_{i0}, \phi_{i1}, \dots, \phi_{ip})'$  and  $\alpha_i = (\alpha_{i0}, \alpha_{i1}, \dots, \alpha_{ip})'$  for  $i = 1, 2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_t(\theta) = & -\frac{1}{2} \left\{ \log(\alpha_1' \mathbf{Y}_{t-1}) + \frac{(r_t - \phi_1' \mathbf{y}_{t-1})^2}{\alpha_1' \mathbf{Y}_{t-1}} \right\} \mathbb{1}(r_{t-d} \leq r) \\ & -\frac{1}{2} \left\{ \log(\alpha_2' \mathbf{Y}_{t-1}) + \frac{(r_t - \phi_2' \mathbf{y}_{t-1})^2}{\alpha_2' \mathbf{Y}_{t-1}} \right\} \mathbb{1}(r_{t-d} > r) \end{aligned}$$

with  $\mathbf{y}_{t-1} = (1, r_{t-1}, \dots, r_{t-p})'$  and  $\mathbf{Y}_{t-1} = (1, r_{t-1}^2, \dots, r_{t-p}^2)'$ .

Let  $\Theta$  be the parameter space of  $\theta$ .

$$\hat{\theta}_n = \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} L_n(\theta)$$

is the QMLE of  $\theta_0 = (\lambda'_0, r_0)'$ .

Under some conditions, we can show that  $\hat{\theta}_n \rightarrow \theta_0$ , a.s. as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Assume that there exist nonrandom vectors  $\mathbf{w}^* = (1, w_1, \dots, w_p)'$  with  $w_d = r_0$  and  $\mathbf{W}^* = (1, W_1, \dots, W_p)'$  with  $W_d = r_0^2$  such that

$$\{(\phi_{10} - \phi_{20})'\mathbf{w}^*\}^2 + \{(\alpha_{10} - \alpha_{20})'\mathbf{W}^*\}^2 > 0.$$

Under some Assumptions, we can show that

$$n(\hat{r}_n - r_0) = O_p(1);$$

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\lambda}_n - \lambda_0) \Rightarrow \text{normal},$$

$$n(\hat{r}_n - r_0) \Rightarrow M_-.$$

What is  $M_-$ ?

Define a two-sided compound Poisson process (CPP)  $\wp(z)$  as

$$\wp(z) = \mathbb{1}(z < 0) \sum_{i=1}^{N_1(-z)} Y_i + \mathbb{1}(z \geq 0) \sum_{j=1}^{N_2(z)} Z_j, \quad z \in \mathbb{R},$$

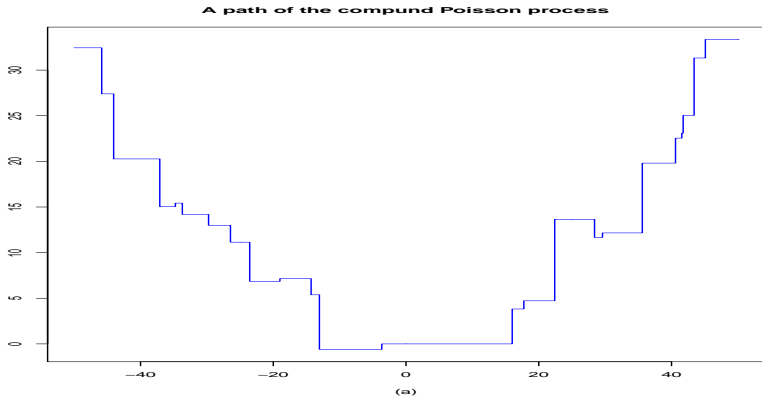
where  $\{N_1(z), z \geq 0\}$  and  $\{N_2(z), z \geq 0\}$  are two independent Poisson processes with  $N_1(0) = N_2(0) = 0$  a.s. and with identical jump rate  $\pi(r_0)$ , where  $\pi(\cdot)$  is the density of  $y_1$ .

$\{Y_i\}$  and  $\{Z_i\}$  are iid with the same dist. as  $\zeta_{1t}|_{y_{t-d}=r_0}$  and  $\zeta_{2t}|_{y_{t-d}=r_0}$ , resp., where

$$\zeta_{1t} = \log \frac{\alpha_{20}^T X_{t-1}}{\alpha_{10}^T X_{t-1}} + \frac{\left\{ (\phi_{10} - \phi_{20})^T Y_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t \sqrt{\alpha_{10}^T X_{t-1}} \right\}^2}{\alpha_{20}^T X_{t-1}} - \varepsilon_t^2,$$

$$\zeta_{2t} = \log \frac{\alpha_{10}^T X_{t-1}}{\alpha_{20}^T X_{t-1}} + \frac{\left\{ (\phi_{10} - \phi_{20})^T Y_{t-1} - \varepsilon_t \sqrt{\alpha_{20}^T X_{t-1}} \right\}^2}{\alpha_{10}^T X_{t-1}} - \varepsilon_t^2.$$

$\wp(z) \rightarrow \infty$  a.s. as  $z \rightarrow \pm\infty$ . There exists a unique random interval  $[M_-, M_+)$  on which the process  $\wp(z)$  attains its global minimum.



# Simulation studies

To assess the performance of the QMLE in finite samples, we use sample sizes  $n = 100, 200, 400$  and  $800$ , each with replications  $1000$  for the following TDAR(1) model

$$y_t = \begin{cases} 1 - 0.6y_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t\sqrt{(1 + 0.5y_{t-1}^2)}, & \text{if } y_{t-1} \leq 0, \\ -1 - 0.2y_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t\sqrt{(0.5 + 0.3y_{t-1}^2)}, & \text{if } y_{t-1} > 0. \end{cases}$$

The distribution of  $\varepsilon_t$  is  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ ,  $t_5$  and Exp.

**Table 1:** Simulation studies for model (2.1) with

$\theta_0 = (1, -0.6, 1, 0.5, -1, -0.2, 0.5, 0.3, 0)'$  when  $\varepsilon_t$  is standard normal.

$n$		$\phi_{10}$	$\phi_{11}$	$\alpha_{10}$	$\alpha_{11}$	$\phi_{20}$	$\phi_{21}$	$\alpha_{20}$	$\alpha_{21}$	$r$
100	EM	1.0477	-0.5741	0.8650	0.4786	-1.0173	-0.1935	0.4180	0.2923	-0.0528
	ESD	0.3542	0.2547	0.4112	0.2148	0.2555	0.1632	0.2288	0.1082	0.1242
	ASD	0.3203	0.2363	0.3965	0.2116	0.2361	0.1550	0.2182	0.1029	0.1012
200	EM	1.0253	-0.5851	0.9398	0.4865	-1.0050	-0.1983	0.4596	0.2939	-0.0250
	ESD	0.2337	0.1664	0.2931	0.1547	0.1692	0.1086	0.1579	0.0749	0.0548
	ASD	0.2239	0.1670	0.2768	0.1501	0.1639	0.1088	0.1511	0.0725	0.0506
400	EM	1.0227	-0.5909	0.9734	0.4988	-1.0135	-0.1970	0.4861	0.2971	-0.0127
	ESD	0.1605	0.1182	0.1977	0.1069	0.1132	0.0771	0.1088	0.0506	0.0256
	ASD	0.1575	0.1171	0.1951	0.1051	0.1152	0.0764	0.1064	0.0510	0.0253
800	EM	1.0042	-0.6006	0.9973	0.4926	-1.0026	-0.1996	0.4946	0.2971	-0.0061
	ESD	0.1080	0.0811	0.1391	0.0750	0.0830	0.0540	0.0778	0.0377	0.0140
	ASD	0.1110	0.0825	0.1376	0.0741	0.0813	0.0539	0.0751	0.0360	0.0127

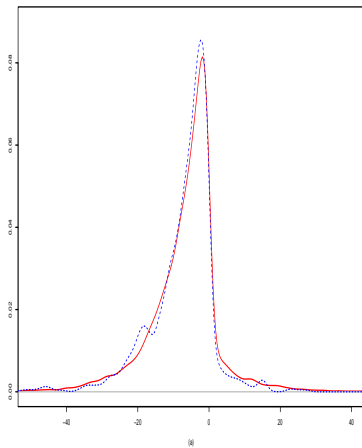


Table 2: Empirical quantiles of  $M_-$ .

$\alpha$	0.5%	1%	2.5%	5%	95%	97.5%	99%	99.5%
$N(0, 1)$	-45.02	-38.20	-30.38	-24.25	5.77	12.50	21.54	28.81
ST(5)	-52.47	-46.91	-37.16	-29.66	8.75	19.23	33.56	46.25
Dexp	-65.14	-56.61	-44.80	-34.44	11.86	22.93	37.78	51.14

Table 3: Coverage probabilities.

$\varepsilon_t$	$\alpha$	100	200	400	800
$N(0, 1)$	0.01	0.979	0.986	0.989	0.984
	0.05	0.932	0.940	0.944	0.946
	0.10	0.880	0.893	0.900	0.887
ST(5)	0.01	0.970	0.980	0.984	0.987
	0.05	0.906	0.925	0.934	0.949
	0.10	0.859	0.871	0.884	0.886
Dexp	0.01	0.970	0.969	0.987	0.991
	0.05	0.919	0.922	0.942	0.945
	0.10	0.845	0.878	0.886	0.892

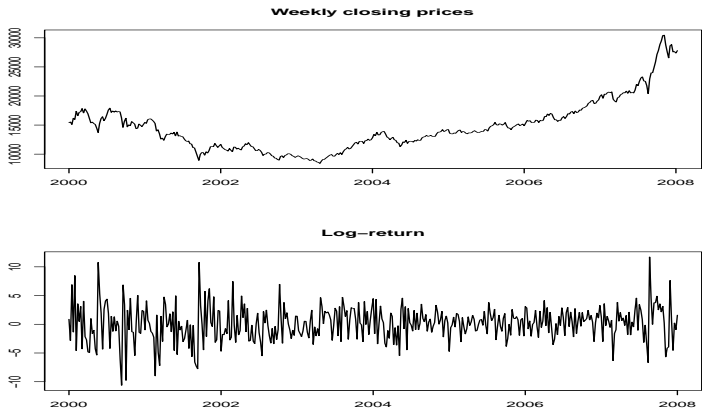


# An Empirical Example

Weekly closing prices of Hang Seng Index: 01/2000 – 12/ 2007.  
418 observations.

$P_t$  – the weekly closing price at time  $t$ .

$$y_t = 100(\log P_t - \log P_{t-1}).$$



**Figure 1:** Time plots of the weekly closing prices and the log-returns for Hang Seng Index.

Tsay's (1986)— the nonlinearity  
McLeod-Li test— the ARCH effect.

$$y_t = \begin{cases} -0.238 - 0.154y_{t-1} + 0.264y_{t-2} + \varepsilon_t\sigma_t, & \text{if } y_{t-1} \leq 0, \\ (0.317) \quad (0.149) \quad (0.088) & (0.423) \\ -0.104 + 0.096y_{t-1} - 0.068y_{t-2} + \varepsilon_t\sigma_t, & \text{if } y_{t-1} > 0, \\ (0.250) \quad (0.092) \quad (0.061) \end{cases}$$

with

$$\sigma_t^2 = \begin{cases} 4.402 + 0.513y_{t-1}^2 + 0.178y_{t-2}^2 + 0.105y_{t-3}^2, & \text{if } y_{t-1} \leq 0, \\ (1.102) \quad (0.165) \quad (0.124) \quad (0.085) \\ 4.000 + 0.075y_{t-2}^2 + 0.134y_{t-3}^2, & \text{if } y_{t-1} > 0. \\ (0.658) \quad (0.059) \quad (0.078) \end{cases}$$

Ljung-Box test statistic  $Q(k)$

McLeod-Li test statistic  $Q^2(k)$

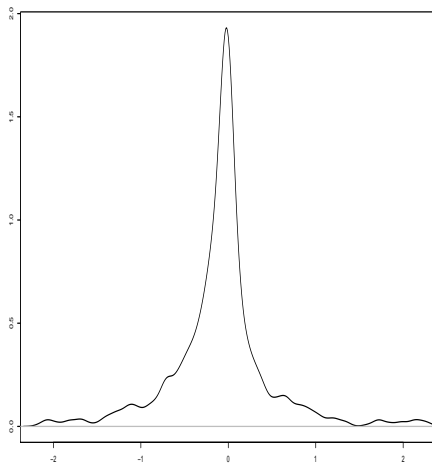
$k = 6, 12$ .

The  $p$ -values of  $Q(6)$ ,  $Q(12)$ ,  $Q^2(6)$  and  $Q^2(12)$  are 0.72, 0.45, 0.84 and 0.53, respectively.

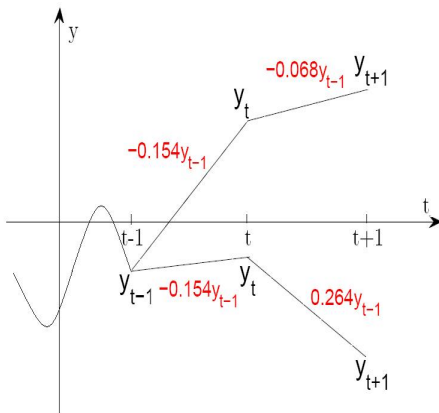
The fit is adequate at the significance level 5%.



Using the simulation method with 1000 replications,  
AD is 0.423 and 95% C.I. of  $r_0$  is  $[-1.338, 1.190]$



$$y_t = \begin{cases} -0.238 - 0.154y_{t-1} + 0.264y_{t-2} + \varepsilon_t\sigma_t, & \text{if } y_{t-1} \leq 0, \\ -0.104 + 0.096y_{t-1} - 0.068y_{t-2} + \varepsilon_t\sigma_t, & \text{if } y_{t-1} > 0 \end{cases}$$



## 4. Other models:

### a. AR-TGARCH(1,1) model

**Example:** Daily log returns of IBM stock from July 3, 1962 to December 31, 2003 for 10,446 observations. See Figure 4.3 of the text (p. 162).

AR(2)-GARCH(1,1) model:

$$r_t = 0.062 - 0.024r_{t-2} + a_t, \quad a_t = \sigma_t \epsilon_t,$$

$$\sigma_t^2 = 0.037 + 0.077a_{t-1}^2 + 0.913\sigma_{t-1}^2.$$

Std residuals:  $Q(10) = 5.19(0.88)$  and  $Q(20) = 24.38(0.23)$

Sq. std. res.:  $Q(10) = 11.67(0.31)$  and  $Q(20) = 18.25(0.57)$ .

## AR(2)-TGARCH(1,1) model

$$\begin{aligned}r_t &= 0.033 - .023r_{t-2} + a_t, \quad a_t = \sigma_t \epsilon_t, \\ \sigma_t^2 &= 0.075 + 0.041a_{t-1}^2 + 0.903\sigma_{t-1}^2 \\ &\quad + (0.03a_{t-1}^2 + 0.062\sigma_{t-1}^2)I(a_{t-1} \leq 0).\end{aligned}$$

Rewrite the TGARCH(1,1) as

$$\sigma_t^2 = \begin{cases} 0.075 + 0.071a_{t-1}^2 + 0.965\sigma_{t-1}^2 & \text{if } a_{t-1} \leq 0 \\ 0.075 + 0.041a_{t-1}^2 + 0.907\sigma_{t-1}^2 & \text{if } a_{t-1} > 0, \end{cases}$$

The asymmetry in volatility is clearly seen. When  $a_{t-1} < 0$ ,  $\alpha + \beta = 1.036 > 1$ . However,  $\alpha + \beta = 0.949 < 1$  when  $a_{t-1}$  is positive.

**b. Markov switching model:** Two-state MS model:

$$x_t = \begin{cases} c_1 + \sum_{i=1}^p \phi_{1,i} x_{t-i} + a_{1t} & \text{if } s_t = 1, \\ c_2 + \sum_{i=1}^p \phi_{2,i} x_{t-i} + a_{2t} & \text{if } s_t = 2, \end{cases}$$

where  $s_t$  assumes values in  $\{1, 2\}$  and is a first-order Markov chain with trans. prob.

$$P(s_t = 2 | s_{t-1} = 1) = w_1, \quad P(s_t = 1 | s_{t-1} = 2) = w_2,$$

where  $0 \leq w_1 \leq 1$  is the probability of switching out State 1 from time  $t - 1$  to time  $t$ . A large  $w_1$  means that it is easy to switch out State 1, i.e. cannot stay in State 1 for long. The inverse,  $1/w_1$ , is the expected duration (number of time periods) to stay in State 1. Similar idea applies to  $w_2$ .

**Example:** Growth rate of US quarterly real GNP 47-91. See Figure 4.4 of the textbook (p.166).

### State 1

	$c_i$	$\phi_1$	$\phi_2$	$\phi_3$	$\phi_4$	$\sigma_i$	$w_i$
est	.909	.265	.029	-.126	-.110	.816	.118
s.e	.202	.113	.126	.103	.109	.125	.053

### State 2

est	-.420	.216	.628	-.073	-.097	1.017	.286
s.e	.324	.347	.377	.364	.404	.293	.064

**c. Neural networks**, see textbook.