

VII. Time-varying variances

- A. Introduction to ARCH models
- B. Extensions
- C. Markov-switching GARCH
- D. Stochastic volatility

GARCH family:

$$y_t = \mathbf{x}_t' \boldsymbol{\beta} + u_t$$

$$u_t = \sqrt{h_t} v_t$$

$$v_t \sim \text{i.i.d. } (0, 1) \text{ (e.g. } N(0, 1))$$

$$h_t = h(u_{t-1}, u_{t-2}, \dots)$$

Implication:

the difference between
the realized value y_t and its
conditional expectation $\mathbf{x}_t' \boldsymbol{\beta}$
is the only information useful for
forecasting the variance h_t

Stochastic volatility:
Some latent variables in
addition to u_{t-j} contribute to h_t

Example:

$$y_t = \exp(h_t/2)v_t$$

$$h_t = \mu + \phi(h_{t-1} - \mu) + \sigma\eta_t$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_t \\ \eta_t \end{bmatrix} \sim \text{i.i.d. } N\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

argument in favor of stochastic vol:

more natural and flexible

argument in favor of GARCH:

ultimately our forecast

$$E(u_t^2 | \mathbf{x}_t, y_{t-1}, \mathbf{x}_{t-1}, y_{t-2}, \dots)$$

will be some function of

$$(\mathbf{x}_t, y_{t-1}, \mathbf{x}_{t-1}, y_{t-2}, \dots)$$

so why not take this function

as a primitive of the model?

Note sv model above implies

$$y_t^2 = \exp(h_t)v_t^2$$

$$\log y_t^2 = h_t + \log v_t^2$$

$$\log y_t^2 = \mu + (h_t - \mu) + \log v_t^2$$

For $\xi_t = h_t - \mu$ this is a state-space model of the form

$$\xi_t = \phi \xi_{t-1} + \sigma \eta_t$$

$$\log y_t^2 = \mu + \xi_t + \log v_t^2$$

problem: $\log v_t^2$ is not Normally distributed

Gibbs sampler blocks:

(1) $\sigma^2 | \phi, \mu, \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{y}$

gamma prior for σ^{-2} implies

gamma posterior

(2) $\phi|\sigma^2, \mu, \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{y}$
easy way:
Normal prior for $\phi|\sigma^2$ implies
Normal posterior

However: authors want to
restrict $\phi \in (-1, 1)$ and use
unconditional distribution
of first observation

prior:
 $\phi^* \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)$
 $\Rightarrow p(\phi^*) \propto (\phi^*)^{\alpha_1-1} (1 - \phi^*)^{\alpha_2-1}$
 $\phi = 2\phi^* - 1 \Rightarrow \phi \in (-1, 1)$
 $[\phi^* = (1 + \phi)/2]$

$$\Rightarrow p(\phi) \propto \begin{cases} \left[\frac{1+\phi}{2}\right]^{\alpha_1-1} \left[\frac{1-\phi}{2}\right]^{\alpha_2-1} & \phi \in (-1, 1) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$h_1 | \mu, \phi, \sigma^2 \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2 / (1 - \phi^2))$$

$$h_t | h_{t-1}, h_{t-2}, \dots, h_1, \mu, \phi, \sigma^2$$

$$\sim N(\mu + \phi(h_{t-1} - \mu), \sigma^2)$$

$$p(\mathbf{h} | \mu, \phi, \sigma^2) \propto \frac{1}{[\sigma^2 / (1 - \phi^2)]^{1/2}} \times$$

$$\exp \left[-\frac{(h_1 - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2(1 - \phi^2)} - \frac{\sum_{t=2}^T [h_t - \mu - \phi(h_{t-1} - \mu)]^2}{2\sigma^2} \right]$$

$p(\phi | \sigma^2, \mu, \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{y}) = p(\phi | \sigma^2, \mu, \mathbf{h})$
 $\propto p(\phi) p(\mathbf{h} | \mu, \phi, \sigma^2)$
 can sample with importance
 or Metropolis-Hastings

(3) $\mu|\phi, \sigma^2, \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{y}$

prior:

$$\mu|\sigma^2 \sim N(m_\mu, \sigma^2 M_\mu)$$

diffuse:

$$M_\mu^{-1} = 0$$

posterior:

$$\mu|\sigma^2, \phi, \mathbf{h} \sim N(m_\mu^*, \sigma^2 M_\mu^*)$$

(correct for different variance
of h_1 from h_2, h_3, \dots, h_T)

(4) $\mathbf{h}|\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y}$

for $\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\phi, \mu, \sigma^2)'$

(i) solution? (doesn't work well)

Let $\mathbf{h}_{-t} = (h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{t-1}, h_{t+1}, \dots, h_T)'$

$$p(h_t|\mathbf{h}_{-t}, \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y}) = p(h_t|h_{t-1}, h_{t+1}, \boldsymbol{\theta}, y_t)$$

$$\propto p(h_t|h_{t-1}, h_{t+1}, \boldsymbol{\theta})p(y_t|h_t, \boldsymbol{\theta})$$

To get $p(h_t|h_{t-1}, h_{t+1}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$, calculate the
joint distribution $p(h_{t-1}, h_t, h_{t+1}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$
and use formula for conditional

Normal:

$$h_t|h_{t-1}, h_{t+1}, \boldsymbol{\theta} \sim N(m_{h_t}, \sigma^2 M_{h_t})$$

$$m_{h_t} = \mu + \frac{\phi[(h_{t-1}-\mu)+(h_{t+1}-\mu)]}{(1+\phi^2)}$$

$$M_{h_t} = \frac{1}{1+\phi^2}$$

Why doesn't this work well?

Answer: $h_t, h_{t+1} | \mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\theta}$ are too highly correlated

(ii) solution? (a little better)
approximate non-Gaussian
state-space model with
mixture of Gaussian state space

Recall

$$z_t = \log v_t^2 \sim \log[\chi^2(1)]$$

claim: can approximate this
density arbitrarily well with
a mixture of Normals:

$$p(z_t) = \sum_{i=1}^K \frac{\pi_i}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma_i} \exp\left[-\frac{(z_t - \mu_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2}\right]$$

$K = 7$ gives excellent approximation
values of π_i, σ_i, μ_i are numerically known
(not a function of data, function of
 $\log[\chi^2(1)]$ distribution)

Claim 2: we could generate a
value for z_t from this distribution
in two steps

step 1: generate $s_t \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}$

$$\text{Prob}(s_t = i) = \pi_i$$

step 2: generate $z_t | s_t \sim N(\mu_{s_t}, \sigma_{s_t}^2)$

Gibbs sampler blocks:

(1) $\sigma^2 | \phi, \mu, \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{s}$

(2) $\phi | \sigma^2, \mu, \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{s}$

(3) $\mu | \phi, \sigma^2, \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{s}$

(1)-(3) are done same as before

(4) $\mathbf{s}|\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{y}$

Notice that conditional on y_t and h_t , the value of $z_t = \log(y_t^2) - h_t$ is known (though authors replace $\log(y_t^2)$ with $y_t^* = \log(y_t^2 + 0.001)$ for robustness)

$$p(s_t = j|z_t) = \frac{(\pi_j/\sigma_j) \exp\left[-\frac{(z_t - \mu_j)^2}{2\sigma_j^2}\right]}{\sum_{i=1}^K (\pi_i/\sigma_i) \exp\left[-\frac{(z_t - \mu_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2}\right]}$$

Recall our original state-space description:

$$\log y_t^2 = \mu + (h_t - \mu) + \log v_t^2$$

$$h_t - \mu = \phi(h_{t-1} - \mu) + \sigma\eta_t$$

or for

$$z_t = \log v_t^2 \sim N(\mu_{s_t}, \sigma_{s_t}^2)$$

$$\xi_t = h_t - \mu$$

$$y_t^* = \log(y_t^2 + 0.001)$$

this becomes

$$y_t^* = \mu + \xi_t + z_t$$

$$\xi_t = \phi\xi_{t-1} + \sigma\eta_t$$

$$z_t \sim N(\mu_{s_t}, \sigma_{s_t}^2)$$

So we can generate

$$\xi_1, \dots, \xi_T | \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{s}$$

from Kalman smoother

$$\text{(and thus } h_t = \xi_t + \mu)$$

problem: \mathbf{h} is highly correlated
with $\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\phi, \mu, \sigma^2)'$

(iii) solution? (almost there)
goal: sample from $p(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{h} | \mathbf{y}^*, \mathbf{s})$
rather than $p(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{y}^*, \mathbf{s})$ and
 $p(\mathbf{h} | \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y}^*, \mathbf{s})$ separately

$$p(\phi, \sigma^2, \mu, \mathbf{h} | \mathbf{y}^*, \mathbf{s}) =$$
$$p(\phi, \sigma^2 | \mathbf{y}^*, \mathbf{s}) p(\mu, \mathbf{h} | \phi, \sigma^2, \mathbf{y}^*, \mathbf{s})$$

Tool to accomplish: augmented Kalman filter

$$\xi_{t+1} = \mathbf{F}\xi_t + \mathbf{v}_{t+1} \quad \mathbf{v}_{t+1} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{Q})$$

$$y_t = \mathbf{x}_t' \boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{h}' \xi_t + w_t \quad w_t \sim N(0, R)$$

[could generalize to vector \mathbf{y}_t
using earlier vectorization tricks]

Kalman filter:

$$\hat{\xi}_{t+1|t} = \mathbf{F}\hat{\xi}_{t|t-1} + \mathbf{K}_t(y_t - \mathbf{x}_t' \boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbf{h}' \hat{\xi}_{t|t-1})$$

$$\mathbf{K}_t = \mathbf{F}\mathbf{P}_{t|t-1}\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{h}'\mathbf{P}_{t|t-1}\mathbf{h} + R)^{-1}$$

note: $\{\mathbf{K}_t\}_{t=1}^T$ does not depend
on $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ or $\{\mathbf{x}_t, y_t\}_{t=1}^T$

$$y_t | \boldsymbol{\theta}, \Omega_{t-1} \sim N(\mathbf{x}_t' \boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{h}' \hat{\xi}_{t|t-1}, c_{t|t-1}^2)$$

$$c_{t|t-1}^2 = \mathbf{h}' \mathbf{P}_{t|t-1} \mathbf{h} + R$$

so usual KF could tell us

$p(\mathbf{y} | \boldsymbol{\theta})$ for $\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\boldsymbol{\beta}', \boldsymbol{\lambda}')$ and

$\boldsymbol{\lambda}$ elements of parameter

vector other than $\boldsymbol{\beta}$

goal: find $\boldsymbol{\beta} | \mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}$

Consider running through the KF for two special cases:

(1) set $\beta = \mathbf{0}$ and variable in observation equation to y_t :
$$\xi_{t+1}^{(1)} = \mathbf{F}\xi_t^{(1)} + \mathbf{K}_t[y_t - \mathbf{h}'\xi_t^{(1)}]$$
starting from $\xi_0^{(1)} = \hat{\xi}_{0|0}$ for $\hat{\xi}_{0|0}$ the standard KF starting value with nonzero β

(2*i*) set $\beta = \mathbf{0}$ and variable in observation equation to $-x_{it}$
(for $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$)
$$\xi_{t+1}^{(2i)} = \mathbf{F}\xi_t^{(2i)} + \mathbf{K}_t[-x_{it} - \mathbf{h}'\xi_t^{(2i)}]$$
starting from $\xi_0^{(2i)} = \mathbf{0}$

Define matrix

$$\xi_t^{(2)} = \begin{bmatrix} \xi_t^{(2,1)} & \xi_t^{(2,2)} & \dots & \xi_t^{(2,k)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Then $\xi_t^{(2)}\beta = \sum_{i=1}^k \xi_t^{(2i)}\beta_i$

$$\xi_{t+1}^{(2i)} = \mathbf{F}\xi_t^{(2i)} + \mathbf{K}_t[-x_{it} - \mathbf{h}'\xi_t^{(2i)}]$$

$$\xi_{t+1}^{(2)}\beta = \mathbf{F}\xi_t^{(2)}\beta + \mathbf{K}_t[-\mathbf{x}_t'\beta - \mathbf{h}'\xi_t^{(2)}\beta]$$

$$\xi_{t+1}^{(1)} = \mathbf{F}\xi_t^{(1)} + \mathbf{K}_t[y_t - \mathbf{h}'\xi_t^{(1)}]$$

$$\xi_{t+1}^{(2)}\beta = \mathbf{F}\xi_t^{(2)}\beta + \mathbf{K}_t[-\mathbf{x}_t'\beta - \mathbf{h}'\xi_t^{(2)}\beta]$$

$$\xi_{t+1}^{(1)} + \xi_{t+1}^{(2)}\beta = \mathbf{F}[\xi_t^{(1)} + \xi_t^{(2)}\beta] + \mathbf{K}_t[y_t - \mathbf{x}_t'\beta - \mathbf{h}'\xi_t^{(1)} - \mathbf{h}'\xi_t^{(2)}\beta]$$

starting from $\xi_0^{(1)} + \xi_0^{(2)}\beta = \hat{\xi}_{0|0}$

$$\xi_{t+1}^{(1)} + \xi_{t+1}^{(2)}\beta = \mathbf{F}[\xi_t^{(1)} + \xi_t^{(2)}\beta] + \mathbf{K}_t[y_t - \mathbf{x}_t'\beta - \mathbf{h}'\xi_t^{(1)} - \mathbf{h}'\xi_t^{(2)}\beta]$$

starting from $\xi_0^{(1)} + \xi_0^{(2)}\beta = \hat{\xi}_{0|0}$

Compare with standard KF:

$$\hat{\xi}_{t+1|t} = \mathbf{F}\hat{\xi}_{t|t-1} + \mathbf{K}_t[y_t - \mathbf{x}_t'\beta - \mathbf{h}'\hat{\xi}_{t|t-1}]$$

starting from $\hat{\xi}_{0|0}$

conclusion: $\hat{\xi}_{t|t-1} = \xi_t^{(1)} + \xi_t^{(2)}\beta$

Since

$$\hat{\xi}_{t|t-1} = \xi_t^{(1)} + \xi_t^{(2)}\beta \text{ and}$$

$$y_t | \theta, \Omega_{t-1} \sim N(\mathbf{x}_t' \beta + \mathbf{h}' \hat{\xi}_{t|t-1}, c_{t|t-1}^2)$$

it follows that

$$y_t | \theta, \Omega_{t-1} \sim N(\mathbf{x}_t' \beta + \mathbf{h}' \xi_t^{(1)} + \mathbf{h}' \xi_t^{(2)} \beta, c_{t|t-1}^2)$$

$$v_t^{(1)} | \theta, \Omega_{t-1} \sim N(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t' \beta, c_{t|t-1}^2)$$

for

$$v_t^{(1)} = y_t - \mathbf{h}' \xi_t^{(1)}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t' = \mathbf{x}_t' + \mathbf{h}' \xi_t^{(2)}$$

Notice β was not used to form $v_t^{(1)}$, $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t$, or $c_{t|t-1}^2$

Conclusion: the distribution $\beta | \mathbf{y}, \lambda$ can be found from Bayesian posterior distribution of β for the regression

$$v_t^{(1)} = \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t' \beta + u_t^{(1)}$$

$$u_t^{(1)} \sim N(0, c_{t|t-1}^2)$$

that is, with diffuse prior,

$$\beta|y, \lambda \sim N(\mathbf{m}_\beta^*, \mathbf{M}_\beta^*)$$

$$\mathbf{M}_\beta^* = \left(\sum_{t=1}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t' / c_{t|t-1}^2 \right)^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{m}_\beta^* = \mathbf{M}_\beta^* \left(\sum_{t=1}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t v_t^{(1)} / c_{t|t-1}^2 \right)$$

What have we accomplished?

Original formulation Gibbs sampled

$p(\beta|\xi, y, \lambda)$ and $p(\xi|\beta, y, \lambda)$

problem was they were too correlated

Augmented Kalman filter allowed

us instead to sample from

$p(\beta|y, \lambda)$ and then with usual Kalman

filter we can draw from $p(\xi|\beta, y, \lambda)$

to get $p(\xi, \beta|y, \lambda)$

Note this also allows us to calculate the distribution of \mathbf{y} without conditioning on $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ or $\boldsymbol{\xi}$:

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\lambda}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\beta} = \mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\lambda})p(\boldsymbol{\beta} = \mathbf{0})}{p(\boldsymbol{\beta} = \mathbf{0}|\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\lambda})}$$

The first term we know from the basic Kalman filter:

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\beta} = \mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}) &= \prod_{t=1}^T (2\pi c_{t|t-1}^2)^{-1/2} \times \\ &\exp\left\{-\frac{(y_t - \mathbf{x}_t' \boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbf{h}' \boldsymbol{\xi}_t^{(1)} - \mathbf{h}' \boldsymbol{\xi}_t^{(2)})^2}{2c_{t|t-1}^2}\right\}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}=\mathbf{0}} \\ &= \prod_{t=1}^T (2\pi c_{t|t-1}^2)^{-1/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{(y_t - \mathbf{h}' \boldsymbol{\xi}_t^{(1)})^2}{2c_{t|t-1}^2}\right\} \end{aligned}$$

The second term we know by evaluating our prior at $\boldsymbol{\beta} = \mathbf{0}$:

$$\begin{aligned} p(\boldsymbol{\beta} = \mathbf{0}) &= (2\pi)^{-k/2} |\mathbf{M}_\beta|^{-1/2} \times \\ &\exp\left\{-(1/2)(\boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbf{m}_\beta)' \mathbf{M}_\beta^{-1} (\boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbf{m}_\beta)\right\}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}=\mathbf{0}} \\ &= (2\pi)^{-k/2} |\mathbf{M}_\beta|^{-1/2} \exp\left\{-(1/2)\mathbf{m}_\beta' \mathbf{M}_\beta^{-1} \mathbf{m}_\beta\right\} \end{aligned}$$

The third term we know by evaluating our posterior at $\beta = \mathbf{0}$:

$$p(\beta = \mathbf{0} | \mathbf{y}, \lambda) = (2\pi)^{-k/2} |\mathbf{M}_\beta^*|^{-1/2} \times \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}(\beta - \mathbf{m}_\beta^*)' \mathbf{M}_\beta^{*-1} (\beta - \mathbf{m}_\beta^*)\right\}_{\beta=\mathbf{0}}$$

$$= (2\pi)^{-k/2} |\mathbf{M}_\beta^*|^{-1/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{m}_\beta^{*'} \mathbf{M}_\beta^{*-1} \mathbf{m}_\beta^*\right\}$$

Thus for $\mathbf{m}_\beta = \mathbf{0}$ we have

$$p(\mathbf{y} | \lambda) = \frac{p(\mathbf{y} | \beta = \mathbf{0}, \lambda) p(\beta = \mathbf{0})}{p(\beta = \mathbf{0} | \mathbf{y}, \lambda)}$$

$$\propto \prod_{t=1}^T (2\pi c_{t|t-1}^2)^{-1/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{(y_t - \mathbf{h}' \xi_t^{(1)})^2}{2c_{t|t-1}^2}\right\} \times |\mathbf{M}_\beta|^{-1/2} |\mathbf{M}_\beta^*|^{1/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{m}_\beta^{*'} \mathbf{M}_\beta^{*-1} \mathbf{m}_\beta^*\right\}$$

For our stochastic volatility example, we can use this to calculate

$p(\mathbf{y}^* | \mathbf{s}, \phi, \sigma^2)$ and thus to draw from $p(\phi, \sigma^2 | \mathbf{y}^*, \mathbf{s}) \propto p(\mathbf{y}^* | \mathbf{s}, \phi, \sigma^2) p(\phi) p(\sigma^{-2})$ using same numerical methods as before.

Finally, we can draw from $p(\boldsymbol{\beta}|\mathbf{y}^*, \mathbf{s}, \phi, \sigma^2)$ using the $N(\mathbf{m}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}}^*, \mathbf{M}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}}^*)$ distribution, and finally from $p(\xi|\boldsymbol{\beta}, \mathbf{y}^*, \mathbf{s}, \phi, \sigma^2)$ using the standard Kalman filter.

So why isn't this the authors final solution? Answer: above calculations replaced

$$\log y_t^2 = h_t + \log v_t^2 \quad \log v_t^2 \sim \chi^2(1)$$

with the approximation

$$y_t^* = \log(y_t^2 + 0.001) \simeq h_t + z_t$$

$$p(z_t) = \sum_{i=1}^7 \pi_i (2\pi\sigma_i^2)^{-1/2} \times$$

$$\exp\left[-\frac{(z_t - \mu_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2}\right]$$

(iv) solution!
reweight to correct for approximation bias

Note that for any y_t and generated h_t we can calculate the true density

$$p(y_t|h_t) = (2\pi \exp h_t)^{-1/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{y_t^2}{2 \exp(h_t)}\right\}$$

and the value of

$$\kappa(y_t^*|h_t) = \sum_{i=1}^7 \pi_i (2\pi \sigma_i^2)^{-1/2} \times \exp\left[-\frac{(y_t^* - h_t - \mu_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2}\right]$$

KSC then form the weight $w(\mathbf{h}) =$

$$\exp\left\{\sum_{t=1}^T [\log p(y_t|h_t) - \log \kappa(y_t^*|h_t)]\right\}$$

and weighting the draws from $\kappa(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{h}|\mathbf{y}^*)$ as in importance sampling, i.e.,

$$E(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{y}) = \frac{\sum_{m=1}^M \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(m)} w(\mathbf{h}^{(m)})}{\sum_{m=1}^M w(\mathbf{h}^{(m)})}$$

for $m = 1, \dots, M$ the separate simulated draws
