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Working Paper
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Tinbergen Institute Discussion Paper, No. 11-175/2/DSF28

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Suggested Citation: Janus, Pawel; Koopman, Siem Jan; Lucas, André (2011) : Long Memory Dynamics for Multivariate Dependence under Heavy Tails, Tinbergen Institute Discussion Paper, No. 11-175/2/DSF28, Tinbergen Institute, Amsterdam and Rotterdam, http://nbn-resolving.de/urn:NBN:nl:ui:31-1871/38566

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TI 11–175/2/ DSF28

Long Memory Dynamics for Multivariate Dependence under Heavy Tails

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Long memory dynamics for multivariate dependence under heavy tails

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December 9, 2011

Abstract

We develop a new simultaneous time series model for volatility and dependence with long memory (fractionally integrated) dynamics and heavy-tailed densities. Our new multivariate model accounts for typical empirical features in financial time series while being robust to outliers or jumps in the data. In the empirical study for four Dow Jones equities, we find that the degree of memory in the volatilities of the equity return series is similar, while the degree of memory in correlations between the series varies significantly. The forecasts from our model are compared with high-frequency realised volatility and dependence measures. The forecast accuracy is overall higher compared to those from some well-known competing benchmark models.

\textit{JEL classification}: C10; C22; C32; C51.
\textit{Some keywords}: fractional integration; correlation; Student’s \textit{t} copula; time-varying dependence; multivariate volatility.

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1 Introduction

We propose a new dynamic modeling framework for the simultaneous analysis of volatility and dependence in time series of financial returns. In many studies multivariate extensions of the generalized autoregressive conditional heteroskedasticity (GARCH) model are considered for this purpose such as reviewed by, for example, Bauwens, Laurent, and Rombouts (2006) and Silvennoinen and Teräsvirta (2009). When volatility possibly has long memory features, the class of fractionally integrated processes is often considered; see, for example, Robinson (1991), Baillie, Bollerslev, and Mikkelsen (1996), Bollerslev and Mikkelsen (1996), and Tse (1998) for the univariate context, or Teyssièreme (1997), Brunetti and Gilbert (2000), Pafka and Mátyás (2001), and Conrad, Karanasos, and Zeng (2011) for the multivariate setting. Teyssière (1997) and Brunetti and Gilbert (2000) consider bivariate models where the variance of each series is fractionally integrated, whereas the covariances are time-varying and fractionally integrated only due to their dependence on the volatilities. Pafka and Mátyás (2001) extend Teyssiéreme (1997) by considering a trivariate model with the same fractional integration coefficient for each of the elements of the covariance matrix. Also Conrad, Karanasos, and Zeng (2011) estimate bivariate and trivariate fractionally integrated volatility models under the assumption of constant conditional correlations. Most of the results reported in these studies have indicated that the order of (fractional) integration is similar across the volatilities of different series. There is no evidence that similar results hold for the covariances and/or correlations.

Our contribution in this paper is to develop a new multivariate fractionally integrated model for volatilities and dependence by extending the model of Creal, Koopman, and Lucas (2011) to allow for long memory dynamics in both volatilities and correlations. Our new
model overcomes at least three drawbacks of the models proposed in the literature. First, the
time-varying conditional covariance matrix implied by available fractionally integrated mod-
elses for time-varying volatility and dependence cannot be subjected to analytical restrictions
that ensure positive definiteness of the resulting covariance matrix; see Teyssièreme (1997).
Each period, positive definiteness has to be validated and, if needed, restored. The latter is
typically done in an ad hoc manner. To circumvent problems with positive definiteness of the
covariance matrix, most authors impose constant correlations. The hypothesis of constant
correlations is typically rejected for financial time series; see Engle (2002). We therefore
allow the correlations to be time-varying with possibly long memory dynamics.

Second, most available models are directed towards modeling volatilities or variances.
This requires constraints on the parameter space to ensure that the estimated variances
are positive at all times. Such restrictions on the parameter space may lead to difficulties
at the estimation stage. We circumvent this problem by modeling log-volatilities rather
than volatilities themselves. This is close in spirit to the exponential GARCH specification
(EGARCH) of Nelson (1992) and it leads to positive variance estimates by construction.

Third, most models integrate the dynamic behaviour of marginal distributions with that
of the dependence structure. For example, Conrad et al. (2011) stress the need for heavy-
tailed densities, but they use the same tail shape for each of the marginals. Bollerslev (1987)
was amongst the first to show that the tail properties can be very different for different
financial time series. To allow for different tail shapes, we model the marginals and the
dependence structure separately using a dynamic copula approach as in Joe and Xu (1996).
The copula framework enables us to have different long memory properties for the volatilities
vis-à-vis the dependence measures.
Our final model consists of time-varying conditional marginal Student’s $t$ densities with time-varying fractionally integrated volatilities and possibly different degrees of freedom. In addition, the dependence between the marginals is captured by a time-varying Student’s $t$ copula function with long memory dynamics for the correlation parameter. Time-varying copulas have been introduced by Patton (2002, 2006) and applied and extended by Dias and Embrechts (2004, 2010), Jondeau and Rockinger (2006), Bartram, Taylor, and Wang (2007) and Ausin and Lopes (2010). In most studies, the dynamics of the copula are estimated as highly persistent processes; see, for example, Jondeau and Rockinger (2006, Table 6). Hafner and Manner (2010) even report that some dynamic copulas exhibit behavior close to a random walk. Our model, however, is the first to introduce fractional integration in the copula setting and to implement this in estimation and forecasting.

The key challenge is to define a fractionally integrated process for the dynamic copula parameter from the Student’s $t$ copula. In particular, we need to construct functions of past data that drive the dynamic correlation process in some appropriate way. The functions used in Engle (2002) or Patton (2006) do not account for the particular shape of the observation density. We find a solution in the generalized autoregressive score (GAS) mechanism of Creal, Koopman, and Lucas (2011). They argue that an appropriate function can be based on the scaled score of the conditional density. We adopt their approach in our current setting with Student’s $t$ marginals and Student’s $t$ copula functions. The resulting function has (conditional) zero mean by construction and facilitates the use of the infinite moving average expansion in the fractionally integrated setting. An additional advantage of this approach is that the resulting model automatically downweights possible outliers and thus limits their impact on volatility and correlation dynamics. The robustness property is crucial.
for long memory models where the impact of innovations on future values dissipates at a slow hyperbolic rate.

We conduct both a Monte Carlo study and an empirical study to illustrate the merits of the new model. In the Monte Carlo study, we show that our new fractionally integrated model outperforms short memory alternatives in terms of accuracy when the copula dynamics exhibit a slow rate of decay. In the empirical study, we analyze high-frequency tick-by-tick data from the Trade and Quote (TAQ) database over a long period from January 1993 to May 2010. We construct realised measures as benchmarks for evaluating the forecast quality of different dynamic copula models at a daily frequency. In accordance with earlier studies we find evidence of long memory in the volatility of these series. Long memory features also appear important for the dynamic Student’s $t$ copula. However, whereas the long memory properties are comparable across the volatilities of the different series, the degree of long memory for the correlations differs substantially between different pairs of equities. Also, the long memory properties of the correlations and volatilities are substantially different. These findings underline the need for a flexible modeling framework that accounts for these empirical features.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 we introduce our long memory model for volatility and dependence. In Section 3 we conduct a Monte Carlo study to examine the performance of competing models for time-varying dependence under a variety of correlation dynamics. In Section 4 we present the results of our empirical study. Section 5 concludes.
2 Conditional volatility and dependence

2.1 Modeling returns and volatility

Let $y_t^*$ denote a daily log return series for time $t = 1, \ldots, n$. The unconditional mean $\mathbb{E}[y_t^*]$ can be consistently estimated by the sample average $\bar{y}^*$. We define the demeaned series $y_t = y_t^* - \bar{y}^*$ for $t = 1, \ldots, n$, as our main quantity of interest. We assume that $y_t$ can be conditionally modeled as a Student’s $t$ distributed white noise series. The density of $y_t$ is given by

$$p(y_t|\sigma_t^2; \nu) = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{\nu+1}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{\nu}{2}\right) \sqrt{(\nu - 2)\pi \sigma_t^2}} \left[1 + \frac{y_t^2}{(\nu - 2)\sigma_t^2}\right]^{-(\nu+1)/2},$$

(2.1)

with time-varying variance $\sigma_t^2 > 0$, degrees of freedom parameter $\nu > 2$, $\Gamma(\cdot)$ denoting the gamma function. The Gaussian distribution is obtained as a special case for $\nu^{-1} \to 0$.

To enforce the volatility process to be positive, we model log volatility $h_t = \log \sigma_t^2$ rather than $\sigma_t^2$ itself. The evolution of $h_t$ over time is typically stationary and we can, for example, consider a first-order autoregressive process

$$h_{t+1} = \delta^{(h)} + \beta^{(h)}h_t + \alpha^{(h)}\eta_t, \quad t = 1, \ldots, n,$$

(2.2)

where $\delta^{(h)}$ is an unknown constant, $\beta^{(h)}$ is the autoregressive coefficient, $\alpha^{(h)}$ is a scaling constant, and $\eta_t$ is an innovation term with mean zero. The superscript $(h)$ indicates that coefficients correspond to the time-varying volatility process $h_t$. For a stationary process $h_t$, the unconditional mean is then given by $\mu^{(h)} = \delta^{(h)}/(1 - \beta^{(h)})$. Equation (2.2) can be rewritten as

$$h_{t+1} - \mu^{(h)} = \beta^{(h)}(h_t - \mu^{(h)}) + \alpha^{(h)}\eta_t, \quad t = 1, \ldots, n.$$

(2.3)
The nature of the innovation term determines the class of the model. When we take
\( \eta_t = \frac{y_t^2}{\sigma_t^2} - 1 \), the model is directly related to the GARCH model of Engle (1982) and Bollerslev (1986) and has several features in common with the exponential GARCH model of Nelson (1992). We base our choice for \( \eta_t \) on Creal et al. (2011) for which the details are given below.

To account for the high-persistence of \( h_t \) typically found in empirical work, stationary long memory processes have been proposed for modeling volatility, in particular fractionally integrated processes; see Robinson (1991), Baillie, Bollerslev, and Mikkelsen (1996), Bollerslev and Mikkelsen (1996) and Tse (1998). The fractionally integrated model can be written as

\[
(1 - L)^{d(h)}(h_{t+1} - \mu^{(h)}) = \beta^{(h)}(1 - L)^{d(h)}(h_t - \mu^{(h)}) + \alpha^{(h)}\eta_t, \quad t = 1, \ldots, n, \quad (2.4)
\]

where \( L \) is the lag operator (with \( Lh_t = h_{t-1} \)) and where the fractional difference operator \( (1 - L)^{d(h)} \) is defined by the binomial expansion

\[
(1 - L)^{d(h)} = 1 - d^{(h)}L + \frac{d^{(h)}(d^{(h)} - 1)}{2!}L^2 - \frac{d^{(h)}(d^{(h)} - 1)(d^{(h)} - 2)}{3!}L^3 + \ldots, \quad (2.5)
\]

for any real order of fractional integration \( d^{(h)} > -1 \). To enforce stationarity, one can impose \( d^{(h)} < 1/2 \). For most financial time series positive values for \( d^{(h)} \) are found. The time series process (2.4) for \( h_t \) is a special case of the autoregressive fractionally integrated moving average (ARFIMA) model as introduced by Granger and Joyeaux (1980) and Hosking (1981). The statistical properties for the ARFIMA process are also applicable to (2.4). For example, if \( |\beta^{(h)}| < 1, d^{(h)} < 1/2, \) and \( \eta_t \) is a martingale difference sequence with finite and time-invariant variance, a covariance stationary and invertible solution exists for (2.4); see
Palma (2007, Section 3.2).

The ARFIMA process substantially extends the range of autocovariance functions implied by short memory processes such as (2.2). The memory properties of $h_t$ depend on both $\beta^{(h)}$ and $d^{(h)}$. For $d^{(h)} < 0$ the process has intermediate memory and all autocovariances (except for lag 0) are negative and decay hyperbolically to zero. For $d^{(h)} = 0$, the autocovariance function decays exponentially and the process is said to have short memory. For $0 < d^{(h)} < 1/2$, the process is persistent and has long memory with an autocovariance function that decays at a slow hyperbolic rate. The innovation $\eta_t$ then has a long-lasting effect on future values of $h_t$. Finally, for $1/2 \leq d^{(h)} < 1$ the process is not covariance stationary, but still mean-reverting; see Baillie (1996, p.22). For $d^{(h)} = 1$ the log variance follows a unit root process.

The specification in (2.4) can be further generalized by including a leverage effect. An indicator function for $h_t$ with a different response to positive and negative values of $y_t$ can be considered as in Glosten, Jagannathan, and Runkle (1993). We adopt this generalization in our empirical application of Section 4.

The volatility innovation $\eta_t$ in (2.2) or (2.4) is set equal to the scaled score function of the predictive logdensity of observation $y_t$ with respect to $h_t$; see Creal, Koopman, and Lucas (2011). In this framework, the log variance $h_t$ becomes a function of $y_{t-1}, y_{t-2}, \ldots$. The score function is scaled by the inverse of its asymptotic variance which under standard regularity conditions equals the expected information matrix. In the limiting case of a normal density function for $y_t$ in (2.1), we recover a standard GARCH type model. Creal et al. (2011) show that a range of other conditional dynamic models used in financial econometrics can be obtained from the current set-up when considering other densities and parameterizations.
The martingale difference property of the score makes it a convenient choice for \( \eta_t \) in (2.2) or (2.4). A similar model was developed by Harvey and Chakravarty (2008) and is referred to as the Beta-\( t \)-EGARCH model. Here we extend the original GAS model with a fractionally integrated volatility (and later also correlation) process.

For the Student’s \( t \) density in (2.1) with \( \sigma_t^2 = \exp(h_t) \), we can express the logdensity as a function of \( h_t \),

\[
\log p(y_t|h_t; \nu) = a(\nu) - \frac{1}{2} h_t - \frac{\nu + 1}{2} \log[1 + (\nu - 2)^{-1} \exp(-h_t) y_t^2],
\]

where

\[
a(\nu) = \log\left(\Gamma\left((\nu + 1)/2\right)\right) - \log\left(\Gamma(\nu/2)\right) - \frac{1}{2} \log(\nu - 2) - \frac{1}{2} \log \pi,
\]

is a function with \( \nu \) as its only argument. We differentiate (2.6) with respect to \( h_t \) and obtain

\[
\nabla_t^{(h)} = \frac{\partial \log p(y_t|h_t; \nu)}{\partial h_t} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \omega_t \sigma_t^{-2} y_t^2 - 1 \right],
\]

where the weight \( \omega_t \) is given by

\[
\omega_t = \frac{\nu + 1}{(\nu - 2) + \sigma_t^{-2} y_t^2} \geq 0.
\]

For given values of \( y_t \) and \( \sigma_t^2 \), the weight \( \omega_t \) converges to unity for the limiting Gaussian case of \( \nu^{-1} \to 0 \). For given values of \( \nu \) and \( \sigma_t^2 \), the weight \( \omega_t \) is decreasing in \( \sigma_t^{-2} y_t^2 \). Hence relatively large observations (in absolute terms) are downweighted and have less impact on future volatilities. This is a consequence of the heavy tails of the Student’s \( t \) distribution.
The Fisher information is given by

\[ I_t^{(h)} = \mathbb{E}_{t-1} \left( \nabla_t^{(h)} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{2} \nu \left( \nu + 3 \right), \quad (2.9) \]

where \( \mathbb{E}_{t-1} \) is expectation with respect to density \( p(y_t|h_t;\nu) \). We notice that \( h_t \) is a function of \( y_{t-1}, y_{t-2}, \ldots \) in our framework. For the limiting Gaussian case, we have \( I_t = \frac{1}{2} \). We finally define the innovation \( \eta_t \) for the log volatility process \( h_t \) in (2.2) or (2.4) as

\[ \eta_t = \left[ I_t^{(h)} \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} \nabla_t^{(h)}. \quad (2.10) \]

The initial value \( h_1 \) can be set to the unconditional mean of the actual process \( h_t \). Here we scale the score by the square root of the inverse of the Fisher information. Creal et al. (2011) consider different scaling variables for \( \nabla_t \). Since the information matrix is constant here, the scaling is less relevant.

An attractive feature of the current model is the explicit link between the density of \( y_t \) and the dynamics of the log volatility process \( h_t \). The expression of the weight \( \omega_t \) in (2.7) is a result of the Student’s \( t \) distribution for \( y_t \). The robustness property due to \( \omega_t \) distinguishes our modeling framework from existing fractionally integrated models for volatility, in particular from the fractionally integrated GARCH and EGARCH models of Baillie, Bollerslev, and Mikkelsen (1996) and Bollerslev and Mikkelsen (1996). A volatility model that is robust to large positive or negative log returns is particularly important when log volatility is modeled as a long memory process: large values of \( \eta_t \) then have a long-lasting effect on many future values of \( h_t \) due to the slow hyperbolic decay rate of the autocorrelation function. Aberrant values of \( y_t \) may then corrupt our volatility estimates.
for a substantial number of periods. Robustifying the impact of influential values of \( y_t \) may thus be particularly useful to improve the fit of long-memory models. We provide empirical illustrations in Section 4.

2.2 Modeling dependence

Our treatment of the cross-sectional dependence between series is based on copula functions and Sklar’s theorem. We assume that for a \( k \)-dimensional time series the joint distribution function can be decomposed into (i) \( k \) marginal distributions and (ii) a copula function for the dependence structure. We consider the bivariate Student’s \( t \) copula that enable us to capture the dependence between extreme events; see the discussion in Demarta and McNeil (2005). Since the modeling stages of the marginals and the dependence structure are separated, the degrees of freedom parameters for the marginal Student’s \( t \) distributions can be different. In addition, these degrees of freedom parameters can be different from the degrees of freedom parameter of the Student’s \( t \) copula that ties the marginals together. Hence the clustering of large absolute returns and of dependence in tail events are modeled separately.

Let \( z_{it} = \sigma_{it}^{-1} y_{it} \) denote the \( i \)th standardized observation at time \( t \), with \( i = 1, \ldots, k \), and \( t = 1, \ldots, n \). The probability integral transform of \( z_{it} \) is given by

\[
\begin{align*}
 u_{it} &= \int_{-\infty}^{z_{it}} p_{it}(x) \, dx,
\end{align*}
\]

where \( p_{it}(\cdot) \) is the marginal density of \( z_{it} \). It follows that \( u_{it} \) is uniformly distributed, \( u_{it} \sim U(0,1) \). The copula function is then defined as a distribution function on a \( k \)-dimensional hypercube with uniform marginals. We denote the copula as \( C(u_{1t}, \ldots, u_{kt}) \).
and the copula density as \( c(u_1t, \ldots, u_{kt}) \). The bivariate Student’s \( t \) copula density with time-varying correlation parameter \( \rho_t \) and degrees of freedom parameter \( \kappa \) is given by

\[
c(u_{1t}, u_{2t}|\rho_t; \kappa) = \gamma(\kappa)(1-\rho_t^2)^{-1/2}\left[1 + \kappa^{-1}(1-\rho_t^2)^{-1}\left(x_{1t}^2 + x_{2t}^2 - 2\rho_tx_{1t}x_{2t}\right)\right]^{-\frac{\kappa+1}{2}}/(1 + x_{1t}^2/\kappa)(1 + x_{2t}^2/\kappa),
\]

where

\[
\gamma(\kappa) = \Gamma\left(\frac{\kappa + 2}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{\kappa}{2}\right) \Gamma^{-2}\left(\frac{\kappa + 1}{2}\right), \quad x_{it} = T^{-1}_\kappa(u_{it}), \quad i = 1, 2,
\]

with correlation coefficient \( \rho_t \in (-1, 1) \), and \( T^{-1}_\kappa(\cdot) \) the inverse cumulative distribution function of the univariate Student’s \( t \) distribution with \( \kappa > 0 \) degrees of freedom. The Gaussian copula density is obtained as the limiting case \( \kappa \to \infty \). The resulting joint distribution of the bivariate data is only elliptical if \( \nu_1 = \nu_2 = \kappa \) such that it corresponds to the bivariate Student’s \( t \) distribution.

The correlation coefficient \( \rho_t \) and degrees of freedom parameter \( \kappa \) together determine the dependence between the two components of \( y_t \). We treat \( \kappa \) as an unknown fixed coefficient but we allow the correlation parameter \( \rho_t \) to be time-varying. To enforce that the correlation always lies in the interval \( (-1, 1) \), we define the variable \( g_t \) as

\[
g_t = \log \frac{1 + \rho_t}{1 - \rho_t} \Leftrightarrow \rho_t = \frac{\exp(g_t) + 1}{\exp(g_t) - 1}.
\]

We let \( g_t \) evolve over time by the process

\[
(g_{t+1} - \mu^{(g)}) = \beta^{(g)}(g_t - \mu^{(g)}) + \alpha^{(g)}\varepsilon_t, \quad \varepsilon_t, \quad t = 1, \ldots, n,
\]
where $\mu^{(g)}$, $\beta^{(g)}$, and $\alpha^{(g)}$ are unknown coefficients that need to be estimated. The superscript $(g)$ indicates that coefficients correspond to the time-varying dependence parameter $g_t$. The innovation term $\varepsilon_t$ has mean zero. Similar to the log-volatility process $h_t$, the dependence parameter $g_t$ can also be modeled as a fractionally integrated process

$$(1 - L)^{d^{(g)}}(g_{t+1} - \mu^{(g)}) = \beta^{(g)}(1 - L)^{d^{(g)}}(g_t - \mu^{(g)}) + \alpha^{(g)}\varepsilon_t, \quad t = 1, \ldots, n,$$  

for any real order of fractional integration $d^{(g)} > -1$ with stationarity condition $d^{(g)} < 1/2$.

The discussions related to the processes (2.2) and (2.4) and its coefficients also apply to the dynamic processes for dependence. The dependence innovation $\varepsilon_t$ in (2.13) or (2.14) is defined by the scaled score of the observation density with respect to $g_t$. For the case of our Student’s $t$ copula density, we obtain

$$\nabla^{(g)}_t = \frac{\partial \log c(u_{1t}, u_{2t}|g_t; \kappa)}{\partial g_t} = \frac{\dot{\rho}_t}{(1 - \rho_t^2)^2} \left[ (1 + \rho_t^2)(\pi_t x_{1t} x_{2t} - \rho_t) - \rho_t (\pi_t x_{1t}^2 + \pi_t x_{2t}^2 - 2) \right],$$

with $\dot{\rho}_t = \partial \rho_t / \partial g_t$,

$$\pi_t = (\kappa + 2)/(\kappa + m_t) \geq 0,$$

$$m_t = \frac{1}{1 - \rho_t^2}(x_{1t}^2 + x_{2t}^2 - 2\rho_t x_{1t} x_{2t}) \geq 0,$$

where $\pi_t$ is a weight and $m_t$ is the squared Mahalanobis distance of the vector $x_t = (x_{1t}, x_{2t})'$.
to zero with respect to the correlation matrix

\[
R_t = \begin{bmatrix}
1 & \rho_t \\
\rho_t & 1
\end{bmatrix}.
\]

The weight \(\pi_t\) can be interpreted in a similar way as the weight \(\omega_t\) for the log variance equation (2.7). For a finite \(\kappa\), extreme observations \(x_{1t}\) and/or \(x_{2t}\) leading to a large distance \(m_t\) will, as the result of downweighting via \(\pi_t\), have less impact on the correlation dynamics because they are partly attributed to the heavy-tailed nature of the copula rather than to local increases in the correlation. The degree of robustness increases with a decreasing \(\kappa\). In the limiting case of \(\kappa \to \infty\), we recover the Gaussian copula density with \(\pi_t = 1\).

We obtain the expected information as

\[
I_t^{(g)} = \frac{\dot{\rho}_t^2}{(1 - \rho_t^2)^2} \left(1 + \rho_t^2 - \frac{2\rho_t^2}{\kappa} + \frac{\kappa + 2}{\kappa + 4}\right),
\]

see for example Lange, Little, and Taylor (1989) for a detailed derivation. The innovation \(\varepsilon_t\) in (2.13) or (2.14) is then given by

\[
\varepsilon_t = \left[I_t^{(g)}\right]^{-1/2} \nabla_t^{(g)}.
\]

Other scaling terms for \(\nabla_t^{(g)}\) are also possible as in Creal et al. (2011). From an (unreported) preliminary Monte Carlo study, however, we concluded that scaling as in (2.17) is slightly preferred, as it produces numerically the most stable results. Also, scaling as in (2.17) implies that \(\varepsilon_t\) has zero mean and constant unit variance.
2.3 Estimation

Parameter estimation is carried out by the method of maximum likelihood. All static model parameters, including the order of fractional integration, are collected in a parameter vector $\psi$. We maximize the loglikelihood with respect to $\psi$. The standard errors are computed by means of the square root of the inverse Hessian of the log-likelihood evaluated at the maximum.

Since our modeling framework is based on the copula function, we can estimate the parameters in two steps. First, we consider the marginal models for all series separately and rely on the univariate volatility specification as discussed in Section 2.1. Here we include a subscript $i$ to denote the parameters and marginal densities of the $i$th series. For example, the log volatility $h_t$ for the $i$th series is denoted by $h_{it}$. The $i$th marginal loglikelihood function is based on the log density (2.6) and is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{i}^{(h)} = \sum_{t=1}^{n} \log p(y_{it}|h_{it}; \nu_i)$$

$$= n \cdot a(\nu_i) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} h_{it} - \frac{\nu_i + 1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log \left[ 1 + (\nu_i - 2)^{-1} \exp(-h_{it})y_{it}^2 \right],$$

(2.18)

where the function $a(\nu)$ is given below equation (2.6). For each $i$, the parameter estimates related to $h_{it}$ are obtained by maximizing (2.18).

Second, the dependence parameters are estimated as follows. For each series $i$, we compute $\hat{h}_{it}$ using the appropriate updating equations for $h_{it}$ given by (2.2) or (2.4) with parameters replaced by their corresponding estimates. We compute the probability integral
transform for each observation by

\[ \hat{u}_{it} = T_{\nu_i} \left[ \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \hat{h}_{it} \right) y_{it} \right], \]

where \( T_{\nu}(\cdot) \) is the cumulative distribution function of the univariate Student’s t distribution with \( \nu \) degrees of freedom. The likelihood for the (bivariate) copula is given by

\[
\mathcal{L}^{(g)} = \sum_{t=1}^{n} \log c(\hat{u}_{1t}, \hat{u}_{2t} | \rho_t; \kappa)
\]

\[
= n \cdot \gamma(\kappa) + \frac{\kappa + 1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \sum_{i=1}^{2} \log \left( 1 + \frac{x_{it}^2}{\kappa} \right)
\]

\[
- \frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \log(1 - \rho_t^2) - \frac{\kappa + 2}{2} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \log \left( 1 + \left( \frac{x_{1t}^2 + x_{2t}^2 - 2 \rho_t x_{1t} x_{2t}}{\kappa(1 - \rho_t^2)} \right) \right), \quad (2.19)
\]

where \( \gamma(\kappa) \) is defined below equation (2.11),

\[ x_{it} = T_{\kappa}^{-1}(\hat{u}_{it}), \]

and \( \rho_t \) is a function of \( g_t \) as given by (2.12).

For the evaluation of \( h_t \) and \( g_t \), it is convenient to express the model in its infinite moving average form. For example, the updating equation (2.4) for \( h_t \) can also be given by

\[ h_{t+1} = \mu^{(h)} + (1 - \beta^{(h)} L)^{-1} (1 - L)^{-d^{(h)}} \alpha^{(h)} \eta_t. \quad (2.20) \]

Maximum likelihood estimation in fractionally integrated models requires the truncation of the infinite distributed lags polynomial \( (1 - L)^{-d^{(h)}} \). We follow Baillie, Bollerslev, and Mikkelsen (1996) and Bollerslev and Mikkelsen (1996) and use a fixed truncation lag of
1000. For the initialization of the volatility and correlation recursions, we follow Bollerslev and Mikkelsen (1996) who argue that initialization has a negligible effect on parameter estimation when the sample size is sufficiently large. In particular, we set the innovation term of the volatility and correlation recursions to zero for all pre-sample values. Similarly, we set $h_1$ and $g_1$ equal to their respective unconditional means.

3 Monte Carlo study

In this section we report the results of a Monte Carlo study to compare the performance of competing models. We concentrate on the newest feature of the model proposed in Section 2, namely the fractionally integrated correlation dynamics under fat-tailed distributions.

3.1 Monte-Carlo design

The design of the current experiment is similar to the studies in Engle (2002) and Hafner and Manner (2010). We simulate series of $n = 5,000$ observations from the bivariate Student’s $t$ copula with $\kappa \in \{2, 5, 15\}$ degrees of freedom. The correlation dynamics are generated by updating $\rho_t$ directly or by updating $g_t$ and using the transformation (2.12) to obtain $\rho_t$. The
following eight updating equations for the correlation process are considered:

1. Constant: \( \rho_t = 0.9; \)
2. Sine: \( \rho_t = 0.5 + 0.4\cos(2\pi t/1000); \)
3. Fast Sine: \( \rho_t = 0.5 + 0.4\cos(2\pi t/100); \)
4. Step: \( \rho_t = 0.9 - 0.5(t > 2500); \)
5. Ramp: \( \rho_t = \text{mod}(t/1000); \)
6. ARMA: \( (1 - 0.99L)g_t = 0.01 + 0.05\xi_t; \)
7. ARFIMA: \( (1 - 0.90L)(1 - L)^{0.45}(g_t - 1) = 0.05\xi_t; \)
8. Random Walk: \( (1 - L)g_t = 0.025\xi_t; \)

where \( L \) is the lag operator and \( \xi_t \) is Gaussian white noise with mean zero and unity variance. Graphs of the deterministic processes 1 to 5 can be found in Engle (2002). We simulate \( M = 1,000 \) (bivariate) series (of length \( n = 5,000 \)) for each correlation process and then estimate the parameters for five dynamic model specifications:

(a) GAS: the autoregressive process (2.13) with \( \varepsilon_t \) as the scaled score;
(b) IGAS: random walk process (2.14) with \( \beta^{(g)} = 0 \) and \( d^{(g)} = 1; \)
(c) FIGAS: long memory process (2.14);
(d) Fisher: benchmark model of Dias and Embrechts (2010);

The benchmark model (d) is given by

\[
g_{t+1} = \delta^{(g)} + \beta^{(g)} g_t + \alpha^{(g)} \text{sgn}(x_{1t} x_{2t}) |x_{1t} x_{2t}|^{1/2}, \tag{3.1}
\]
with coefficients $\delta^*(g)$, $\beta^*(g)$ and $\alpha^*(g)$, where $\text{sgn}(\cdot)$ is the sign function and where $x_{it}$ is defined below (2.11) for $i = 1, 2$. The use of the square root of the product $|x_{1t}x_{2t}|$ dampens the impact of extreme observations on the correlation dynamics. Dias and Embrechts (2010) refer to (3.1) as the Fisher(1, 1) dynamic model and they report that it outperforms a set of competing models.

The benchmark model (e) is a long memory extension of Patton (2002, 2006) for the Student’s $t$ copula,

$$(1-L)^{d^*(g)}(g_{t+1}-\mu^{1(g)}) = \beta^{1(g)}(1-L)^{d^*(g)}(g_t-\mu^{1(g)}) + \alpha^{1(g)}H^{-1}\sum_{j=1}^{H}(x_{1t-j+1}x_{2t-j+1}-\rho_t), \quad (3.2)$$

with coefficients $d^*(g)$, $\mu^{1(g)}$, $\beta^{1(g)}$ and $\alpha^{1(g)}$, where $H$ is a smoothing parameter and where $\rho_t$ is a function of $g_t$ as in (2.12). We set $H = 10$. The updating equation weights all observations equally and does not exploit the robust features of the Student’s $t$ density. We refer to equation (3.2) as the FIBase(1, 1) model.

The coefficients for each model are estimated by the method of maximum likelihood as discussed in Section 2.3. In our study we focus on the accuracy of models which is measured by the mean absolute error (MAE) and the mean squared error (MSE) as given by

$$\text{MAE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} |\rho_t - \hat{\rho}_t|, \quad \text{MSE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} (\rho_t - \hat{\rho}_t)^2;$$

where $\hat{\rho}_t$ denotes the correlation estimate for each of the five statistical models considered. Both statistics are reported as averages over the $M = 1,000$ simulations. These statistics measure effectively the accuracy of a model in its ability to fit the underlying correlation pattern $\rho_t$. None of the five statistical models is embedded in any of the eight correlation
data generating processes and, therefore, none of the statistical models is \textit{a priori} put at an advantage.

### 3.2 Results

Table 1 presents the main findings. For each combination of the model (row-wise), the correlation process (column-wise) and the degrees of freedom parameter $\kappa$ (panels), the MAE and MSE statistics are reported relative to their smallest value across the five statistical models considered. Hence the best performing model is normalized to one and printed in bold. For example, for $\kappa = 2$ and the Step correlation process, the GAS model performs best in terms of MAE as well as MSE.

For $\kappa = 5$, the Student’s $t$ distribution has moderately heavy tails. The FIGAS specification produces the best results in half of the cases whereas the GAS model performs best in the other half of the cases. Particularly, if the correlation process has long memory or is smoothly varying (processes Sine, Fast Sine and ARFIMA), the performance of the FIGAS model is excellent. The GAS model produces better results for correlation processes Step, Ramp, ARMA and Random Walk. Overall, the GAS and FIGAS models display good and stable results. The Fisher and FIBase benchmark models perform considerably worse. The deteriorations in terms of MAE and MSE in relation to the GAS and FIGAS models can be as large as 90% for MAE and 150% for MSE.

These findings are amplified if we move to $\kappa = 2$ where the tails of the Student’s $t$ are more extreme. The GAS, IGAS and FIGAS models display stable results; their performances and rankings are comparable to the $\kappa = 5$ case. However, the performance of the benchmark models has deteriorated substantially with efficiency losses of more than 600% in
Table 1: Simulation results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Constant</th>
<th>Sine</th>
<th>Fast Sine</th>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Ramp</th>
<th>ARMA</th>
<th>ARFIMA</th>
<th>Rand Walk</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MAE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAS</td>
<td>1.119</td>
<td>1.044</td>
<td>1.008</td>
<td><strong>1.000</strong></td>
<td>1.001</td>
<td><strong>1.000</strong></td>
<td>1.004</td>
<td><strong>1.000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGAS</td>
<td><strong>1.000</strong></td>
<td>1.058</td>
<td>1.117</td>
<td>1.098</td>
<td><strong>1.000</strong></td>
<td>1.064</td>
<td>1.049</td>
<td>1.032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIGAS</td>
<td>1.080</td>
<td><strong>1.000</strong></td>
<td>1.143</td>
<td>1.014</td>
<td>1.006</td>
<td><strong>1.000</strong></td>
<td>1.112</td>
<td>1.240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisher</td>
<td>1.355</td>
<td>1.741</td>
<td>1.326</td>
<td>2.258</td>
<td>1.322</td>
<td>1.109</td>
<td>1.112</td>
<td>1.240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIBase</td>
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<td>1.949</td>
<td>3.351</td>
<td>2.004</td>
<td>1.360</td>
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<td><strong>MSE</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAS</td>
<td><strong>1.000</strong></td>
<td>1.078</td>
<td>1.010</td>
<td><strong>1.000</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1.000</strong></td>
<td>1.009</td>
<td><strong>1.000</strong></td>
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<td>1.317</td>
<td>1.090</td>
<td>1.076</td>
<td>1.119</td>
<td>1.096</td>
<td>1.110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIGAS</td>
<td>1.108</td>
<td><strong>1.000</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.000</strong></td>
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<td>1.030</td>
<td>1.011</td>
<td><strong>1.000</strong></td>
<td>1.079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>4.563</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIBase</td>
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<td>6.541</td>
<td>3.553</td>
<td>7.460</td>
<td>3.549</td>
<td>3.613</td>
<td>2.456</td>
<td>5.037</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

specific cases. The case of $\kappa = 15$ represents tail properties close to those for the Gaussian distribution. The performances of the Fisher and FIBase models become relatively better for $\kappa = 15$. The GAS and FIGAS specifications still produce more accurate results when compared to the benchmark models.

We conclude that the GAS and FIGAS specifications present an attractive robustness
feature. Heavy tails for the observation distribution appear to distort the dynamic correlations in a minor way compared to the other models. The models produce good fits to the data under a variety of data generating processes, and in particular produce good results under thin-tailed as well as fat-tailed data distributions.

4 Long memory in equity return dependence measures

In the empirical study we illustrate our modeling framework for an equity data set. Earlier contributions have primarily concentrated on the long memory properties of volatility and have found that these properties are comparable across equities. We consider the long memory properties of both volatility and dependence. Our main conclusion is that the memory properties of dependence measures such as correlations are more diverse across different pairs of stocks.

4.1 Data and proxies for the latent processes

We analyze four different stocks from the Dow Jones Industrial Average index: American Express (NYSE ticker symbol is AXP), General Electric (GE), Coca-Cola (KO), and Procter & Gamble (PG). The stocks represent different industries.

In contrast to the simulation experiment in Section 3, we clearly do not observe the volatility $\sigma_t^2$ and correlation $\rho_t$ processes. This creates a complication in assessing the performance of our different statistical models. To solve this problem, we compare the model implied estimates with non-parametric estimates of volatility and correlation. In particular, we follow Andersen and Bollerslev (1998) and use realised (co)variance measures based on high-frequency intra-day data as proxies for their true, unobserved counterparts.
The intra-day tick data we use consists of consolidated trades extracted from the Trade and Quote (TAQ) database downloaded through the Wharton Research Data Services system. The data is taken from the NYSE core trading session between 9:30am and 4:00pm, Eastern Time. The sample period runs from January 4, 1993, to May 28, 2010. This yields a total of \( n = 4,385 \) trading days for all four equities. We clean the raw trade data by applying the methodology discussed by Barndorff-Nielsen, Hansen, Lunde, and Shephard (2009). All data is put to calendar time sampling using the previous tick method and aggregating records with the same time-stamp (in seconds) into one observation using the median price; see Hansen and Lunde (2006).

The statistical models from Section 2 are used to analyze daily return data which are defined as the difference between the logarithm of the close and the open price. The realised (co)variance measures are computed as logarithmic price increments sampled at 5 minute intervals. At this sampling frequency the impact of microstructure noise is benign and can be ignored for all practical purposes. The overnight returns are skipped in the computations.

To account for the possible presence of jumps, we use the threshold realised volatility estimator proposed by Mancini (2009) and defined as

\[
TRV^k_N = \sum_{i=1}^{N} (\Delta X^k_{t_i})^2 \mathbf{1}_{((\Delta X^k_{t_i})^2 \leq r_N)}, \quad \Delta X^k_{t_i} = X^k_{t_i} - X^k_{t_{i-1}},
\]

where \( \mathbf{1}_A \) is the indicator function for event \( A \), \( r_N \) is a threshold value and \( X^k_{t_i} \) is the log price of asset \( k \) at time \( t_i \), for \( i = 0, \ldots, N \) with \( N = 78 \) as the number of intraday returns sampled at the 5 minute frequency. The threshold value is set as \( r_N = N^{-0.99} \); see Mancini (2009). The threshold estimator (4.1) is based on the statistical properties of the Brownian motion.
whose variation is proportional to the time step $N^{-1}$. A price increment whose variation is larger than the regular Brownian variation might contain a jump component. The use of the threshold function $r_N$ mitigates the influence of jumps on estimated volatility.

The threshold realised correlation between assets $k$ and $l$ is given by

$$TRCorr_{N}^{k,l} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \Delta X_{t_i}^k 1_{((\Delta X_{t_i}^k)^2 \leq r_N)} \Delta X_{t_i}^l 1_{((\Delta X_{t_i}^l)^2 \leq r_N)}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (\Delta X_{t_i}^k)^2 1_{((\Delta X_{t_i}^k)^2 \leq r_N)}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (\Delta X_{t_i}^l)^2 1_{((\Delta X_{t_i}^l)^2 \leq r_N)}};$$

see Mancini and Gobbi (2010). It serves as our benchmark for the model implied estimates of correlation. As in (4.1), the threshold estimator in (4.2) measures the correlation attributable to the continuous parts of the price processes. Classical realised volatility ($RV$) and realised correlation ($RCorr$) measures can be retrieved in the usual way as described by Andersen, Bollerslev, Diebold, and Labys (2001) and Barndorff-Nielsen and Shephard (2002). We compute the realised measures for each day in our sample.

### 4.2 Conditional volatility of equity returns

In Table 2 we report the maximum likelihood estimates of parameters for four different models. The equity return series $y_t$ is modeled by

$$y_t = \sigma_t z_t, \quad z_t \sim \text{Student’s } t(\nu), \quad t = 1, \ldots, n,$$

such that the density for $y_t$ is given by (2.1). The unconditional mean of equity return is denoted as $\theta$. We consider the following four updating processes for transformations of $\sigma_t:$
1. fractionally integrated GARCH (FIGARCH):

\[(1 - \beta^{(h)} L)\sigma^2_{t+1} = \mu^{(h)}(1 - \beta^h) + \left[ 1 - \beta^{(h)} L - (1 - \alpha^{(h)} L)(1 - L)^{d^{(h)}} \right] y_{t+1}^2.\]

2. fractionally integrated EGARCH (FIEGARCH):

\[(1 - \beta^{(h)} L)(h_{t+1} - \mu^{(h)}) = (1 - L)^{-d^{(h)}} f(z_t), \quad h_t = \log \sigma^2_t,\]

where

\[f(z_t) = \gamma^{(h)} z_t + \alpha^{(h)} (|z_t| - \mathbb{E}|z_t|), \quad \mathbb{E}|z_t| = \frac{\sqrt{\nu - 2\Gamma((\nu + 1)/2)}}{(\nu - 1)\sqrt{\pi\Gamma(\nu/2)}}.\]

3. FIGAS : equations (2.4), (2.7), (2.9) and (2.10) with \(h_t = \log \sigma^2_t\).

4. FIGAS with leverage effect (FIGAS+L) : as FIGAS with \(\alpha^{(h)} \eta_t\) replaced by

\[\left(\alpha^{(h)} + \gamma^{(h)} 1_{y_t < 0}\right) \eta_t,\]

where \(1_A\) is the indicator function for event \(A\).

We have also considered short memory processes for transformations of \(\sigma_t\) which are obtained from the above models by setting the fractional order of integration to zero; these results are available in the online appendix accompanying this paper.

The estimates of the fractional order of integration \(d^{(h)}\) for the threshold realised volatility are computed using the log-periodogram regression method GPH of Geweke and Porter-Hudak (1983); for the details, see Maynard and Phillips (2001). The resulting estimates are all between 0 and 1, and they are similar across equities. It provides clear evidence of
Table 2: Maximum likelihood estimates for four conditional volatility models

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Equity</th>
<th>$d_{TRV}$</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>$\theta$</th>
<th>$\alpha^{(h)}$</th>
<th>$\gamma^{(h)}$</th>
<th>$\beta^{(h)}$</th>
<th>$\nu$</th>
<th>$d^{(h)}$</th>
<th>AIC</th>
<th>MAE$_{TRV}$</th>
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<td>0.543</td>
<td>FIGARCH</td>
<td>0.046</td>
<td>0.250</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.748</td>
<td>10.338</td>
<td>0.595</td>
<td>16996.78</td>
<td>1.021</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(0.020)</td>
<td>(0.034)</td>
<td>(0.043)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>0.187</td>
<td>-0.067</td>
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<td>9.411</td>
<td>0.692</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(0.017)</td>
<td>(0.030)</td>
<td>(0.015)</td>
<td>(0.133)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>0.036</td>
<td>0.086</td>
<td>0.324</td>
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<td>(0.013)</td>
<td>(0.013)</td>
<td>(0.024)</td>
<td>(0.179)</td>
<td>(0.922)</td>
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<td>FIGAS+L</td>
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<td>0.065</td>
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<td>(0.885)</td>
<td>(0.047)</td>
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</table>

The first column gives the NYSE ticker symbol of an equity. The second column is for $d_{TRV}^{(h)}$ and denotes the estimate of the fractional difference parameter for the threshold realised volatility (TRV) series as defined in (4.1). The $d_{TRV}^{(h)}$ is estimated based on the log-periodogram regression method of Geweke and Porter-Hudak (1983) and implemented as in Maynard and Phillips (2001). The third column indicates the process for $\sigma_t$ as detailed in the text. The penultimate column is for the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC). The final column is for MAE$_{TRV}$ and denotes mean absolute error between the model-based volatility process and the TRV series. We do not report the estimates of $\mu^{(h)}$ because it is not identified when $d^{(h)} \geq 1/2$. We report the estimates with their associated standard errors in parentheses below.
long range dependence in volatility; see Maasoumi and McAleer (2008) for more discussion. The persistence of the volatility processes can also be inferred from the estimates of the autoregressive coefficient that are all larger than 0.99 for the short memory formulations. The estimates of $d^{(h)}$ for the different models and different series are between 0.43 and 0.75; they are statistically different from zero and from unity based on conventional significance levels. This finding implies that innovations have a long-term effect on future volatility levels. The AIC criterion suggests that in most cases the volatility is best described by the non-stationary but mean-reverting fractionally integrated process. Confirmation of this finding is given by the reported MAE values in the last column of Table 2. It shows that the FIGAS+L model is most precise for all four equities. This finding is also consistent with earlier studies in which a similar degree of long memory in volatility is found for these equities. In addition, we find convincing evidence for a leverage effect; the estimates of $\gamma$ are statistically significant for all equities. The degrees of freedom parameter $\nu$ is estimated in the range between 7.5 and 12.5; the tail shapes of the equity series are quite similar.

In Figure 1 we present the model-based volatility estimate of $\sigma_t$ together with $TRV_t^{1/2}$. The realised measure is more jagged than the model-based volatilities but similar patterns can be detected. The time series are subject to volatile and tranquil periods with the average annualized volatility (right-hand scale) of around 25%. The other panels in Figure 1 present scatter plots of the four volatility estimates with long memory properties. A clear difference is apparent between FIGAS+L and FIGARCH volatility estimates; the estimates from the FIGAS+L, FIGAS and FIEGARCH models are similar. Noteworthy differences remain, however. To highlight these differences, we zoom in on some particular event days.
Figure 1: Conditional volatility estimates of Procter & Gamble equity returns
The upper-left panel presents a time series plot for Procter & Gamble (PG) equity returns of model implied volatilities plotted along with the threshold realised volatility estimator. The other panels contain FIGAS+L volatility estimates plotted against FIGARCH (upper-right), FIGAS (lower-left), and FIEGARCH (lower-right) volatility estimates.
Figure 2: Case study for Procter & Gamble (PG) equity returns
The upper-left panel consists of a top panel containing the daily equity returns, and a bottom panel containing the weights $\omega_t$ of the FIGAS model. The upper-right panel contains the intraday time series plot of the price level. The lower-left panel presents the time series of the realised variance together with the model implied volatility estimates. The lower-right panel plots the intraday 5 minute returns.
In the upper-left panel of Figure 2 we present daily PG equity returns in the summer of 2004 together with the weights $\omega_t$ of (2.8) which are used for computing the score $\nabla_t^{(h)}$ in (2.7). The aberrant observation of July 23, 2004 is clearly visible and takes the value of approximately $-6.5\%$; it is caused by the opening price of 55.97$ and a closing price of 52.49$ as depicted in the upper-right panel. This daily price increment was much larger (in absolute terms) than in adjacent days. From the high-frequency intraday data we observe that after the first trade, the remaining transactions over this day were relatively stable at a price level of around 52.50$-53.00$. Consequently, the first intraday return as well as the daily return are large. In the lower-left panel of Figure 2 we show the noticeable influence of this event on the volatility estimate. The substantial divergence between the standard realised variance measure (RV) and $TRV$ on this day is noticeable. Also the model-based volatility estimates increase instantly and it takes some time before they return to their previous level or to $TRV$. However, the effect is more pronounced in the FIGARCH estimate than in its FIGAS counterpart. The FIGAS updating scheme downweights the extreme observation through the weight $\omega_t$. The resulting volatility estimate is more robust. The volatility dynamics in the FIGAS+L specification are designed to respond relatively more to negative shocks compared to the FIGAS specification. We therefore notice a higher impact of the large return on the FIGAS+L compared to the FIGAS specification. However, the FIGAS+L volatility remains more robust than its FIGARCH and FIEGARCH counterparts.

4.3 Conditional dependence between returns on equities

Next we study the dynamic behavior of the dependence structure in pairs of equities. We compute standardized returns using the volatility estimates of a particular model and trans-
form the returns into uniform variables using the probability integral function of the Student’s t density. Then a set of competing models are considered for pairs of such transformed series. We report estimation results for three pairs only: AXP/GE, GE/KO and KO/PG. Results for other pairs are available in the online appendix. Table 3 presents the parameter estimates and associated standard errors for four models that are introduced in Section 3.1: Fisher, GAS, FIBase and FIGAS. For each model, we consider Gaussian (G) and Student’s t (t) copula functions.

In a preliminary analysis, we compute the GPH estimates of the fractional order of integration $d^{(g)}$ of the threshold realised correlation $TRCorr$. The GPH estimates are reported in the second column of Table 3 and they have values in the range from 0.35 to 0.50 which indicates long memory features in the correlation processes. However, the GPH estimates for realised correlations are smaller than those for realised volatilities. Within the model-based framework, the persistence of the correlation processes can be inferred from the estimates of the autoregressive coefficients $\beta^{(g)}$ that are in the range 0.970 – 0.997 for the Fisher and GAS models. The lower bound of this range is smaller than the $\beta^{(h)}$ estimates for volatilities. It suggests that the degree of memory for the correlation processes may be different. In general, we find that the correlation series are persistent. The empirical results of Dias and Embrechts (2010) also indicate that high persistence of dependence processes for dynamic copulas is a common feature for financial returns of different sampling frequencies. Hafner and Manner (2010) report that copula dependence exhibits ‘nearly integrated’ behaviour.

The last two columns of Table 3 report the AIC and MAE criteria which may be used to select the ‘best’ model. From these criteria we conclude that the FIGAS-t specification is always best or second best for the three equity pairs. This finding also applies to the
Table 3: Maximum likelihood estimates for conditional dependence models

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pair</th>
<th>$d_{TRCorr}$</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>$\delta^{(g)}/\mu^{(g)}$</th>
<th>$\alpha^{(g)}$</th>
<th>$\beta^{(g)}$</th>
<th>$\kappa$</th>
<th>AIC</th>
<th>MAE$_{TRCorr}$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>AXP/GE</td>
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<td>0.049</td>
<td>0.980</td>
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<td>-1220.05</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(0.003)</td>
<td>(0.012)</td>
<td>(0.005)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>GAS-G</td>
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<td>0.036</td>
<td>0.996</td>
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<td>(0.003)</td>
<td>(0.008)</td>
<td>(0.002)</td>
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<td>FIBase-G</td>
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<td>(0.537)</td>
<td>(0.073)</td>
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<td>FIGAS-G</td>
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<td>-1221.64</td>
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<td>(1.890)</td>
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<td>GAS-t</td>
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<td>9.890</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>GAS-G</td>
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<td>(1.166)</td>
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<td>FIBase-t</td>
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<td>(0.105)</td>
<td>(0.023)</td>
<td>(0.002)</td>
<td>(0.096)</td>
<td>(1.142)</td>
<td>1.079</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>FIGAS-t</td>
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<td>0.052</td>
<td>0.945</td>
<td>0.173</td>
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<td>(0.018)</td>
<td>(0.045)</td>
<td>(0.207)</td>
<td>(1.156)</td>
<td>0.990</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Note: $d_{TRCorr}$ denotes the estimate of the fractional difference parameter for the $TRCorr$ measure based on log-periodogram regression method of Geweke and Porter-Hudak (1983). AIC stands for Akaike Information Criterion. MAE$_{TRCorr}$ stands for the mean of the absolute errors between the model-based correlation process and threshold realised correlation. Suffixes $G$ and $t$ stand for Gaussian and $t$ copula, respectively. The Fisher and FIBase models are discussed in Section 3.1. The (F)GAS model for dependence is presented in Section 2.2.

(unreported) other three pairs. The estimates of $d^{(g)}$ for the FIGAS specification have values in the range from $-0.01$ to $0.72$ for all six pairs. For the three reported pairs we find
significant estimates of $d^{(g)}$ for the pairs AXP/GE and GE/KO. Such findings also hold for the FIBase model. For the AXP/GE pair, the $d^{(g)}$ estimate is even statistically different from 0.5; it suggests that the dependence measure is mean-reverting but is not covariance-stationary. These results also provide empirical evidence that the restriction adopted in Pafka and Mátyás (2001), i.e., imposing a common degree of long memory across volatilities and covariances, may be too restrictive.

Figure 3: Conditional dependence between returns on GE and KO equities
The figure contains realised and model implied correlation measures. The dotted horizontal line is the estimate of $\rho$ in the static bivariate $t$ copula.

Figure 3 presents the time-varying correlations together with the threshold realised correlation ($TRCorr$) for the equity pair GE/KO. The realised correlation is much noisier than the model-based correlations. The GE/KO dependence oscillates around the value obtained from the static copula (long-run mean) without any significant breaks over time. The Stu-
Student’s $t$ copula density generalizes the Gaussian copula density by allowing for non-zero dependence in the tails of the distribution. The correlation $\rho_t$ and the degrees of freedom $\kappa$ determine the tail dependence for the Student’s $t$ copula. This copula density is symmetric: the upper and lower tail dependence are equal and are given by

$$\lambda_{L,t} = \lambda_{U,t} = 2T_{\kappa+1} \left( -\sqrt{\kappa + 1} \frac{\sqrt{1 - \rho_t}}{\sqrt{1 + \rho_t}} \right) \in [0, 1]. \quad (4.3)$$

The lower-right panel of Figure 3 presents the implied time-varying tail dependence. It appears that the highest dependence between extreme events for this pair of equities was around 1997-1998.

![Figure 3](image)

**Figure 3:** Implied time-varying tail dependence.

The upper-left panel contains the daily equity returns for GE and KO (upper half), and the weights $\pi_t$ of the FIGAS-$t$ model (lower half). The upper-right and lower-right panels contains the intraday price dynamics for GE and KO, respectively. The lower-left panel presents the time series of the realised correlation together with the model implied correlation estimates.

![Figure 4](image)

**Figure 4:** Case study for the GE/KO equities

The upper-left panel contains the daily equity returns for GE and KO (upper half), and the weights $\pi_t$ of the FIGAS-$t$ model (lower half). The upper-right and lower-right panels contains the intraday price dynamics for GE and KO, respectively. The lower-left panel presents the time series of the realised correlation together with the model implied correlation estimates.
The model-based correlations in Figure 3 look very similar. However, the correlations of
different models can behave rather differently when extreme observations occur in the sam-
ple. An example is given by Figure 4 for GE/KO. The daily return of GE for September 8,
2004 was positive while the return for KO was substantially negative, approximately \(-4.5\%\).
The upper and lower right-hand panels in the graph present the 5 minute prices of GE and
KO over three consecutive days. During September 8, 2004, the two equity prices clearly
moved in opposite directions while this is not the case for the surrounding days. The isolated
patterns for this particular day has a large effect on model-based correlations as we observe
in the lower-left panel of Figure 4. The correlations drop sharply downwards and slowly
return to their previous levels afterwards. Given the long memory features of the models,
the mean reversion is very gradual. The lower half of the upper-left panel presents the
weights \(\pi_t\) based on the GAS and FIGAS models with the Student’s \(t\) copula specification.
The aberrant pattern on Sep 8, 2004 receives a smaller weight for both Student’s \(t\) mod-
els. Consequently, these correlation estimates are more robust compared to their Gaussian
counterparts. The values of the GAS-G and FIGAS-G specifications appear to be heavily
affected by the occurrence of the isolated extreme return realizations. The FIGAS-\(t\) is much
more robust.

5 Summary and conclusions

We have proposed a new observation driven fractionally integrated model for time-varying
volatility and dependence in data with heavy tailed and long memory features. The new
model extends the literature in several ways. First, correlations rather than covariances
are modeled as time-varying processes. In contrast to Teyssière (1997) and Brunetti and
Gilbert (2000), our model lets covariances vary over time due to changes in both variances and correlations. Second, the correlation processes are modeled in a copula framework and the volatilities are modeled by means of marginal distributions. This approach enabled us to allow for different degrees of fractional integration in volatilities and in correlations. Third, by employing the generalized autoregressive score (GAS) framework of Creal, Koopman, and Lucas (2011), we have shown that the correlation and volatility estimates are more robust to incidental extreme observations when considering Student’s $t$ copula and marginal density functions, respectively. The GAS updating scheme introduces a weighting scheme that mitigates the effects of aberrant observations on correlation and volatility estimates. The robustness is particularly relevant in the context of a fractionally integrated process: each shock has a long-lasting impact due to its long memory dynamic property.

In a Monte Carlo study we have shown that the new model outperforms a number of recently proposed benchmark models for a variety of correlation processes. In an empirical study we have shown that the robustness property of the new model is a key distinguishing feature. All model-based volatility estimates have been benchmarked against non-parametric threshold realised variance and correlation estimates based on high-frequency returns. From the perspective of our dynamic copula approach, we have found that the degree of long memory in the individual volatilities is similar across equities. We have also found that the degree of long memory in correlations across equity pairs can be substantially different. These findings stress the need for flexible time series models that allow for cross-sectional differences in the dynamic behavior and persistence of correlations and volatilities.
References


