

Econometric Analysis of Realized Covariation: High Frequency Based Covariance, Regression, and Correlation in Financial Economics

Ole E. Barndorff-Nielsen, Neil Shephard

First published: 31 March 2004

<https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-0262.2004.00515.x>

Citations: 681

Abstract

This paper analyses multivariate high frequency financial data using realized covariation. We provide a new asymptotic distribution theory for standard methods such as regression, correlation analysis, and covariance. It will be based on a fixed interval of time (e.g., a day or week), allowing the number of high frequency returns during this period to go to infinity. Our analysis allows us to study how high frequency correlations, regressions, and covariances change through time. In particular we provide confidence intervals for each of these quantities.

References

Andersen, T.G., AND T. Bollerslev (1998): "Answering the Skeptics: Yes, Standard Volatility Models Do Provide Accurate Forecasts," *International Economic Review*, **39**, 885–905.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Andersen, T.G., T. Bollerslev, AND F. X. Diebold (2004): " Parametric and Nonparametric Measurement of Volatility," in *Handbook of Financial Econometrics*, ed. by Y. Aït-Sahalia and L. P. Hansen. Amsterdam : North-Holland, forthcoming.

[Google Scholar](#)

Andersen, T. G., T. Bollerslev, F. X. Diebold, AND H. Ebens (2001): "The Distribution of Realized Stock Return Volatility," *Journal of Financial Economics*, **61**, 43–76.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Andersen, T. G., T. Bollerslev, F. X. Diebold, AND P. Labys (2001): "The Distribution of Exchange Rate Volatility," *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, **96**, 42–55. Correction (2003), 98, 501.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Andersen, T. G., T. Bollerslev, F. X. Diebold, AND P. Labys (2003): "Modeling and Forecasting Realized Volatility," *Econometrica*, **71**, 579–625.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Andersen, T. G., T. Bollerslev, AND N. Meddahi (2004): "Analytic Evaluation of Volatility Forecasts," *International Economic Review*, 45, forthcoming.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Anderson, T. W. (1984): *An Introduction to Multivariate Statistical Analysis* (Second Edition). New York : John Wiley & Sons.

[Google Scholar](#)

Andreou, E., AND E. Ghysels (2002): "Rolling-Sampling Volatility Estimators: Some New Theoretical, Simulation and Empirical Results," *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*, 20, 363–376.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Back, K. (1991): "Asset Pricing for General Processes," *Journal of Mathematical Economics*, 20, 371–395.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Bai, X., J. R. Russell, AND G. C. Tiao (2000): " Beyond Merton's Utopia: Effects of Non-normality and Dependence on the Precision of Variance Estimates Using High-Frequency Financial Data," Unpublished paper, Graduate School of Business, University of Chicago.

[Google Scholar](#)

Barndorff-Nielsen, O. E., AND D. R. Cox (1994): *Inference and Asymptotics*. London : Chapman & Hall.

[Google Scholar](#)

Barndorff-Nielsen, O. E., AND N. Shephard (2001): "Non-Gaussian Ornstein–Uhlenbeck-Based Models and Some of Their Uses in Financial Economics (with Discussion)," *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B*, 63, 167–241.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Barndorff-Nielsen, O. E., AND N. Shephard (2002a): " Econometric Analysis of Realised Covariation: High Frequency Covariance, Regression and Correlation in Financial Economics," Unpublished paper, Nuffield College, Oxford, Economics Working Paper 2002-W13.

[Google Scholar](#)

Barndorff-Nielsen, O. E., AND N. Shephard (2002b): "Econometric Analysis of Realized Volatility and Its Use in Estimating Stochastic Volatility Models," *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B*, 64, 253–280.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Barndorff-Nielsen, O. E., AND N. Shephard (2003a): "Power Variation and Time Change," Unpublished paper, Nuffield College, Oxford.

[Google Scholar](#)

Barndorff-Nielsen, O. E., AND N. Shephard (2003b): "Realized Power Variation and Stochastic Volatility," *Bernoulli*, **9**, 243–265 and 1109–1111.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Barndorff-Nielsen, O. E., AND N. Shephard (2004a): "How Accurate Is the Asymptotic Approximation to the Distribution of Realized Volatility?" in *Identification and Inference for Econometric Models. A Festschrift in Honour of T. J. Rothenberg*, ed. by D. W. K. Andrews, J. Powell, P. A. Ruud, and J.H. Stock. Cambridge : Cambridge University Press, forthcoming.

[Google Scholar](#)

Barndorff-Nielsen, O. E., AND N. Shephard (2004b): "Power and Bipower Variation with Stochastic Volatility and Jumps (with Discussion)," *Journal of Financial Econometrics*, **2**, 1–48.

[Google Scholar](#)

Barndorff-Nielsen, O. E., AND N. Shephard (2004c): "A Feasible Central Limit Theory for Realised Volatility Under Leverage," Unpublished paper, Nuffield College, Oxford.

[Google Scholar](#)

Barndorff-Nielsen, O. E., S. E. Graversen, AND N. Shephard (2004): "Power Variation and Stochastic Volatility: A Review and Some New Results," *Journal of Applied Probability*, **41**, forthcoming.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Billingsley, P. (1995): *Probability and Measure* (Third Ed.). New York : John Wiley & Sons.

[Google Scholar](#)

Bollerslev, T., AND H. Zhou (2002): "Estimating Stochastic Volatility Diffusion Using Conditional Moments of Integrated Volatility," *Journal of Econometrics*, **109**, 33–65.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Bollerslev, T., R. F. Engle, AND J. M. Wooldridge (1988): "A Capital Asset Pricing Model with Time Varying Covariances," *Journal of Political Economy*, **96**, 116–131.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Calvet, L., AND A. Fisher (2002): "Multifractality in Asset Returns: Theory and Evidence," *Review of Economics and Statistics*, **84**, 381–406.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Campbell, J. Y., A. W. Lo, AND A. C. Mackinlay (1997): *The Econometrics of Financial Markets*. Princeton : Princeton University Press.

[Google Scholar](#)

Chamberlain, G. (1988): "Asset Pricing in Multiperiod Securities Markets," *Econometrica*, **56**, 1283–1300.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Cochrane, J. H. (2001): *Asset Pricing*. Princeton : Princeton University Press.

[Google Scholar](#)

Comte, F., AND E. Renault (1998): "Long Memory in Continuous-time Stochastic Volatility Models," *Mathematical Finance*, **8**, 291–323.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Dacorogna, M. M., R. Gencay, U. A. Müller, R. B. Olsen, AND O. V. Pictet (2001): *An Introduction to High-Frequency Finance*. San Diego : Academic Press.

[Google Scholar](#)

David, F. N. (1938): *Tables of the Ordinates and Probability Integral of the Distribution of the Correlation Coefficient in Small Samples*. Cambridge : Cambridge University Press.

[Google Scholar](#)

Doob, J. L. (1953): *Stochastic Processes*. New York : John Wiley & Sons.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Doornik, J. A. (2001): *Ox: Object Oriented Matrix Programming 3.0*. London : Timberlake Consultants Press.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Drost, F. C., AND T. E. Nijman (1993): "Temporal Aggregation of GARCH Processes," *Econometrica*, **61**, 909–927.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Fisher, R. A. (1921): "On the Probable Error of a Coefficient of Correlation Deduced from a Small Sample," *Metron*, 1, 3-32.

[Google Scholar](#)

Foster, D. P., AND D. B. Nelson (1996): "Continuous Record Asymptotics for Rolling Sample Variance Estimators," *Econometrica*, 64, 139-174.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Genon-Catalot, V., C. Laredo, AND D. Picard (1992): "Non-Parametric Estimation of the Diffusion Coefficient by Wavelet Methods," *Scandinavian Journal of Statistics*, 19, 317-335.

[Google Scholar](#)

Ghysels, E., A. C. Harvey, AND E. Renault (1996): "Stochastic Volatility," in *Statistical Methods in Finance*, ed. by C. R. Rao and G. S. Maddala. Amsterdam : North-Holland, 119-191.

[Google Scholar](#)

Gnedenko, B. W., AND A. N. Kolmogorov (1954): *Limits Distributions for Sums of Independent Random Variables*. Cambridge : Addison-Wesley.

[Google Scholar](#)

Gourieroux, C., E. Renault, AND N. Touzi (2000): "Calibration by Simulation for Small Sample Bias Correction," in *Simulation-Based Inference in Econometrics: Methods and Applications*, ed. by R. Mariano, T. Schuermann, and M. J. Weeks. Cambridge : Cambridge University Press, 328-358.

[Google Scholar](#)

Hansen, B. E. (1995): "Regression with Non-Stationary Volatility," *Econometrica*, 63, 1113-1132.

[Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Jacod, J., AND A. N. Shiryaev (1987): *Limit Theorems for Stochastic Processes*. Berlin : Springer-Verlag.

[Google Scholar](#)

Karatzas, I., AND S. E. Shreve (1991): *Brownian Motion and Stochastic Calculus* (Second Edition), Vol. 113 of Graduate Texts in Mathematics. Berlin : Springer-Verlag.

[Google Scholar](#)

Karatzas, I., AND S. E. Shreve (1998): *Methods of Mathematical Finance*. New York : Springer-Verlag.

[Google Scholar](#)

Lutkepohl, H. (1996): *Handbook of Matrices*. Chichester : John Wiley & Sons.

 | [Google Scholar](#) |

Magnus, J. R. (1988): *Linear Structures*. London : Griffin.

 | [Google Scholar](#) |

Mccullagh, P. (1987): *Tensor Methods in Statistics*. London : Chapman & Hall.

 | [Google Scholar](#) |

Meddahi, N. (2001): " A Theoretical Comparison Between Integrated and Realized Volatilities," Unpublished Paper, CIRANO DP 2001s-71.

 | [Google Scholar](#) |

Meddahi, N. (2002): "A Theoretical Comparison Between Integrated and Realized Volatilities," *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, 17, 479–508.

 | [Web of Science®](#) | [Google Scholar](#) |

Meddahi, N. (2003): "ARMA Representation of Integrated and Realized Variances," *Econometrics Journal*, 6, 334–355.

 | [Google Scholar](#) |

Munroe, M. E. (1953): *Introduction to Measure and Integration*. Cambridge : Addison-Wesley.

 | [Google Scholar](#) |

Protter, P. (1990): *Stochastic Integration and Differential Equations: A New Approach*. New York : Springer-Verlag.

 | [Google Scholar](#) |

Citing Literature



ABOUT WILEY ONLINE LIBRARY

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Terms of Use](#)

[About Cookies](#)

[Manage Cookies](#)

[Accessibility](#)

[Wiley Research DE&I Statement and Publishing Policies](#)

[Developing World Access](#)

HELP & SUPPORT

[Contact Us](#)

[Training and Support](#)

[DMCA & Reporting Piracy](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

[Subscription Agents](#)

[Advertisers & Corporate Partners](#)

CONNECT WITH WILEY

[The Wiley Network](#)

[Wiley Press Room](#)

Copyright © 1999-2025 John Wiley & Sons, Inc or related companies. All rights reserved, including rights for text and data mining and training of artificial intelligence technologies or similar technologies.

WILEY