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Option-based forecasts of volatility: an empirical study in the DAX-index options market


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DAX-index options market. Our results suggest that Black-Scholes implied volatility

subsumes all the information contained in past realised volatility and is a better predictor for future realised volatility than model-free implied volatility.

Keywords: Black-Scholes implied volatility model-free implied volatility volatility forecasting

JEL Classification : G13 G14

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Notes

The data source for DAX-index options and DAX-index is the Institute of Finance, Banking, and Insurance of the University of Karlsruhe (TH). The risk-free rate is available

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In the regressions that include as an explanatory variable lagged realised volatility, the Durbin's alternative confirmed the non-autocorrelation of the residuals. The results of the Durbin's alternative and of the Breusch–Godfrey LM test are available on request.

The non-normality of the residuals is caused by one outlier that corresponds to the September 2001 crash. In order to eliminate the effect of the outlier, regressions (5)–(8) have been re-estimated on the sample period 26 September 2001 to 31 December 2005 and the results, which are available on request, are consistent with the ones reported for the entire sample period.

In order to see if B-S implied volatility or model-free implied volatility have been measured with errors, we adopt an instrumental variable procedure. The Hausman (1978) specification test reported in the last column of Table 2 indicates that the errors-in-variables problem is not significant both in univariate and encompassing regressions (In encompassing regression (3), the results are reported for the instrumental variable procedure applied to). Therefore we can trust the OLS regressions results.

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