Asian Stock Markets Analysis: The New Evidence from Time-Varying Coefficient Autoregressive Model

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Abstract

In financial economics studies, the autoregressive model has been a workhorse for a long time. However, the model has a fixed value on every parameter and requires the stationarity assumptions. Time-varying coefficient autoregressive model that we use in this paper offers some desirable benefits over the traditional model such as the parameters are allowed to be varied over-time and can be applied to non-stationary financial data. This paper provides the Monte Carlo simulation studies which show that the model can capture the dynamic movement of parameters very well, even though, there are some sudden changes or jumps. For the daily data from January 1, 2015 to February 12, 2020, our paper provides the empirical studies that Thailand, Taiwan and Tokyo Stock market Index can be explained very well by the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model with lag order one while South Korea’s stock index can be explained by the model with lag order three. We show that the model can unveil the non-linear shape of the estimated mean. We employ GJR-GARCH in the condition variance equation and found the evidences that the negative shocks have more impact on market’s volatility than the positive shock in the case of South Korea and Tokyo.

Keywords: Non-Stationary, Time-Varying Coefficient, Autoregressive Model, Asian Stock Markets, GJR-GARCH

JEL Classification Code: C14, C22, G15, G17

1. Introduction

The traditional autoregressive model has been a popular model in the field of financial economics for many decades. The nice feature of the autoregressive model is that the model can capture the time-lagged relationship of the interesting variable. However, the parameters in the model are time-invariant and the model can apply only to stationary data (Chatfield, 2003). Since many data in the field of financial economics, such as the stock index, contain time-trend in which researcher needs to detrend the data before estimating the model. So, normally, if we want to study the stock market, we use the return of the market instead of the stock market index to avoid time-trend and non-stationary problem (Tsay, 2002). Since the stock market index or price is non-stationary in nature, the studies that involve the stock market index in their model need to use the non-stationary model such as cointegration and VECM (Lee & Zhao, 2014; Lee & Brahmase, 2018) or convert the stock price into stock return and use the stationary model such as autoregressive or vector autoregressive model (Goudarzi & Ramanarayan, 2010; Parsva & Lean, 2017).

For alternative approach, this paper applies the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model using generalized additive modeling which can be applied to time-trend data (Bringman et al., 2017). The time-varying model can be applied to both stationary and non-stationary data (Chow, Zu, Shifren, & Zhang, 2011). In addition, the time-varying model offers some great benefit over the traditional one by allowing the parameters in the model to be changing over time. There are some studies try to unveil the changing in stock market by using Markov switching autoregressive model (Ismail & Isa, 2008; Wasim & Bandi, 2011). However, Markov switching technique is normally applied for 2 regime shifts situation while our model can reveal the
dynamic movement on every coefficient and mean over the period of time.

The traditional autoregressive model requires many assumptions on stationarity; however, some assumptions can be relaxed in the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model. For traditional model, the parameters are time-invariant, which means mean and variance of the model are also time-invariant. Since the stock market index always has a time-trend in the data, consequently, mean of the stock index is changing all the time. Having the model that can captures the dynamic changing in parameters and mean is a desirable benefit.

The research goals of this paper are to fill the gap in the literature and provide new evidence of applying the time-varying autoregressive model on Asian stock market indices. This paper provides the Monte Carlo simulation studies that when the parameters of the autoregressive model changing over time, the time-varying coefficient model can capture the dynamic movement of the parameters very well, even though, there is a sudden change or jump. Our simulation study extends Bringmann et al. (2017)’s paper by covering the model with lag order one, two and three.

This paper provides the empirical study results of applying the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model and time-varying volatility model on four Asian stock market indices, Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET), Korea Composite Stock Price Index (KOSPI), Taiwan Stock Exchange (TWSE) and Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE). The time-varying autoregressive model provides the evidences that Asian stock market indices have a non-linear dynamic relationship between current index and lagged periods indices. We also provide the evidence that the model can provide non-linear estimated mean which follow closely to the dynamic movement of the stock index. The GJR-GARCH which we employ in the conditional variance equation provide evidence that the model can provide non-linear dynamic relationship between current index and lagged periods indices. We also provide the evidence that the model can provide non-linear estimated mean which follow closely to the dynamic movement of the stock index. The GJR-GARCH which we employ in the conditional variance equation provide evidence that the model can provide non-linear dynamic relationship between current index and lagged periods indices.

This paper is organized as follows: Section II describes methodology while section III presents the Monte Carlo simulation results. Section IV presents the empirical results on Asian Stock markets. Finally, the summary is presented in the last section.

2. Research Methodology

For the traditional autoregressive model with lag order one or AR(1):
\[ y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t \] (1)

This AR(1) model has 2 parameters to be estimated \( \beta_0 \) and \( \beta_1 \), which can be easily estimated by linear least square method. The parameter \( \beta_1 \) shows how previous period of the focused variable affect current period of the same variable. However, these parameters are constant over-time. Under the stationary assumption, the parameter \( \beta_1 \) is required to have value in between -1 and 1 \((-1 < \beta_1 < 1\) ). The \( \epsilon_t \) of the model is assumed to be a white noise series with zero mean and variance \( \sigma^2 \) (Tsay, 2002). Then, the mean \( \mu \) and the variance \( \sigma^2 \) of the model in equation 1 are

\[ E(y_t) = E(y_{t-1}) = \mu = \frac{\beta_0}{1 - \beta_1} \] (2)

\[ Var(y_t) = \sigma^2 = \frac{\sigma^2_\epsilon}{1 - \beta_1^2} \] (3)

From equation 2 and 3, the parameter \( \beta_1 \) can’t be equal to +1 or -1, otherwise mean and variance of the AR(1) model will be exploded to infinity. For the autoregressive model with lag order greater than one, it is required that the characteristic roots of the parameter equation must be less than one in modulus (Chatfield, 2003; Hamilton, 1994; Tsay, 2002). For the time-varying autoregressive model with lag order one (TV-AR(1)):

\[ y_t = \beta_{0,t} + \beta_{1,t} y_{t-1} + \epsilon_t \] (4)

The parameters \( \beta_{0,t} \) and \( \beta_{1,t} \) now can be changing over time (Giraitis, Kapetanios & Yates, 2014). The \( \epsilon_t \) of the model is still assumed to be a white noise series with zero mean and variance \( \sigma^2 \). Even though, the parameter \( \beta_{1,t} \) can be changing over time, but the model still requires the value of parameter \( \beta_{1,t} \) to be in between -1 and 1 \((-1 < \beta_{1,t} < 1\) ) (Dahlhaus, 1997). For the model with lag order greater than one, it is also required that the characteristic roots of the parameter equation must be less than one in modulus. Since the parameters of the new model now are time-variant, then mean and variance of the model can be changing over time (Giraitis, Kapetanios, & Yates, 2014).

\[ \mu_t \approx \frac{\beta_{0,t}}{1 - \beta_{1,t}} \] (5)

\[ \sigma^2_t \approx \frac{\sigma^2_\epsilon}{1 - \beta_{1,t}^2} \] (6)

Bringmann et al. (2017) mentioned that, even though, the model allows parameters to be changing over time, but it still requires that the changing in parameters should be gradual change and shouldn’t have a jump or sudden change in their values. However, our Monte Carlo simulations show that, even though, there is a sudden change or jump in parameter value, the model still works very well. The time-varying autoregressive model used the generalized additive model
(GAM) to estimate the time-varying parameters (Hastie & Tibshirani, 1990; Sullivan, Shadish, & Steiner, 2015; Wood, 2006). GAM applies the non-parametric smooth function that based on regression splines. For the simplified explanation, we follow Bringmann et al. (2017) to consider on time-varying coefficient autoregressive model with one a time-varying intercept and no autoregressive parameter.

\[ y_i = \beta_{0,i} + \epsilon_i \]  

(7)

By using regression splines method, the time-varying parameter can be estimate by

\[ \hat{\beta}_{0,i} = \alpha_0 R_i(t) + \alpha_1 R_i(t) + \cdots + \alpha_k R_k(t) \]  

(8)

By choosing the type basis function \( R(t) \) and the number of basis function, \( k \), then \( \beta_{0,i} \) can be estimated by using a simple linear regression. Each basis function can be calculated by the data we have, this method is actually a data driven approach. For a very simple example, we can choose a basis function as a polynomial with order 4, then \( R_i(t) = 1, R_i(t) = t, R_i(t) = t^2, R_i(t) = t^3, R_i(t) = t^4 \) (Wood, 2006). The parameter \( \hat{\beta}_{0,i} \) can be any shape from linear to any non-linear shapes. In practice, we have many choices on the type of basis function such as a cubic regression splines and thin-plate regression splines. In this paper, we use the package “mgcv” on R program to estimate the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model (Wood, 2006). We use a thin-plate regression splines which is the default setting function that based on regression splines. For the simplified explanation, we follow Bringmann et al. (2017) to consider on time-varying coefficient autoregressive model with one a time-varying intercept and no autoregressive parameter.

The optimal value of estimated time-varying parameter \( \hat{\beta}_{0,i} \) can be found when we perform the minimization of this penalized least squares loss function.

\[ \sum_{i=1}^{T} \left[ y_i - \beta_{0,i} \right]^2 + \lambda \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \beta_{0,i} \right]^2 dt \]  

(9)

The first term equation 9 is a simple linear least square minimization. The second term is the roughness penalty or wiggliness. The smoothing parameter \( \lambda \) controls how the shape of time-varying parameter will look like. If \( \lambda \) is small, the wigginess penalty will be small, then we will have a non-linear and wiggle shape of the parameter. On the other hand, if \( \lambda \) is large, the shape of the parameter will be a straight line.

\[ GCV = \frac{T \sum_{i=1}^{T} \left[ y_i - \hat{\beta}_{0,i} \right]^2}{\left[ tr(I-A) \right]^2} \]  

(10)

The optimal value of \( \lambda \) can be achieved by choosing \( \lambda \) that give the lowest value of the generalized cross validation score (Wahba, 1980; Wood, 2006). After we perform the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model, we apply the Ljung-Box test on the estimated residuals and estimated squared residuals. If the model is adequate, there won’t have an auto correlation in the estimated residuals. If there is no heteroskedasticity problem, there won’t have an auto correlation in the estimated squared residuals (Tsay, 2002). In the case that there is a heteroskedasticity problem, we will perform the time-varying volatility model. Glosten, Jagannathan and Runkle (1993)’s GJR-GARCH model will be used for the variance equation.

\[ y_i = \beta_{0,i} + \beta_{1,i} y_{i-1} + \epsilon_i \]  

(11)

\[ \epsilon_i = h^{-1/2}_i z_i; z_i \sim i.i.d.(0,1) \]  

(12)

\[ h_i = \omega + \alpha \epsilon_{i-1}^2 + \gamma I_{t-1,1} \epsilon_{i-1}^2 + \beta h_{i-1} \]  

(13)

where \( I_{t-1,1} = 0, \) if \( \epsilon_{i-1} > 0 \) and \( I_{t-1,1} = 1, \) if \( \epsilon_{i-1} < 0 \). Equation (11) is the conditional mean equation which follows the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model with lag order one. The mean equation can be easily extended to higher lag order. Equation (13) is the conditional variance equation which allow the variance, \( h_i \), to be changing over time under heteroskedasticity condition. We decide the use GJR-GARCH model for the variance equation because it extends Engle (1982)’s ARCH model and Bollerslev (1986)’s GARCH model to capture the different effect between positive and negative shocks on volatility. For the GJR-GARCH estimation, we use “rugarch” package on “R” program which we decide to choose the generalized error distribution (GED) for the distribution option. GED offers some desirable benefits which can work with the data that has excess skewness and kurtosis.

3. The Monte Carlo Simulation Study

In this section, we provide the simulation study on the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model in order to show that the model can capture the dynamic movement of each parameter very well. The number of data in the simulation is 1,000 which follows the nature of financial data that has abundance of data available. The simulation will repeat 100 times and then calculates for 2.5%, 50%, 97.5% quantiles of each parameter and mean of the model. We extend the simulation studied of (Bringmann et al., 2017) to cover the model with lag order one, two and three. The parameters of the model will follow fours cases: invariant case, linear increasing case, sine function case and random walk case.
For the invariant case, we set the parameters to be a fixed value. For the linear increasing case, we set the parameters to be increasing over-time in a linear form. For the sine function case, we set the parameters to be changing over-time in a non-linear form as a sine function; \[ \text{MAX} \cdot \sin \left( \frac{2\pi t}{T} \right) \], which \( \text{MAX} \) is the maximum value of the parameter. The random walk case, we set the parameters to be changing over-time in a non-linear form with a sudden change or jump which follows the random walk process as \[ \beta_t = \beta_{t-1} + a_t \] where \( a_t \) has a normal distribution with zero mean and one standard deviation.

Time-varying coefficient autoregressive model with lag order one will follow equation 4. For the invariant case, the value of \( \beta_{0,t} \) will be fixed at 3 while the value of \( \beta_{1,t} \) will be equal to 0.7. For the linear increasing case, the value of \( \beta_{0,t} \) will be linearly increasing from 0.5 to 3 while the value of \( \beta_{1,t} \) will be linearly increasing from 0.3 to 0.7. For the sine function case, the value of \( \beta_{0,t} \) and \( \beta_{1,t} \) will follow sine function as \[ \text{MAX} \cdot \sin \left( \frac{2\pi t}{T} \right) \] which \( \text{MAX} \) equal to 3 for \( \beta_{0,t} \) and 0.7 for \( \beta_{1,t} \). For the random walk case, the value of \( \beta_{0,t} \) and \( \beta_{1,t} \) will follow random walk process with the maximum value equal to 3 and 0.7 respectively.

For Figure 1, the blue line is the real value while the black line is the 50% quantile from 100 times simulation and the dot lines are the 2.5% and 97.5% quantile from 100 times simulation.

**Figure 1:** Simulation results of Time-varying coefficient autoregressive model with lag order one.

Note: First row shows the parameters in the invariant case. Second row shows the parameters in the linear increasing case. Third row shows the parameters in the sine function case. The fourth row shows the parameters in the random walk case. The first column shows the simulation results of \( \beta_{0,t} \), while the second shows the results of \( \beta_{1,t} \). The third column shows the simulation results of the mean of the model, \( \mu \). Blue line is the real value while the black line is the 50% quantile from 100 times simulation and the dot lines are the 2.5% and 97.5% quantile from 100 times simulation.
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Time-varying autoregressive model with lag order two is shown in the following equation.

\[ y_t = \beta_{0,t} + \beta_{1,t}y_{t-1} + \beta_{2,t}y_{t-2} + \varepsilon_t \]  \hspace{1cm} (14)

For this model, we have 3 time-varying parameters to be estimated \( \beta_{0,t}, \beta_{1,t}, \text{ and } \beta_{2,t} \). For the invariant case, the value of \( \beta_{0,t}, \beta_{1,t} \text{, and } \beta_{2,t} \) will be fixed at 3, 0.3 and 0.3 respectively. For the linear increasing case, the value of \( \beta_{0,t} \) will be linearly increasing from 0.5 to 3 while the value of \( \beta_{1,t} \text{ and } \beta_{2,t} \) will be linearly increasing from 0.1 to 0.3. For the sine function case, the value of \( \beta_{0,t}, \beta_{1,t}, \text{ and } \beta_{2,t} \) will follow sine function as \( \text{MAX. } \sin \left( \frac{2\pi t}{T} \right) \) which \( \text{MAX. } \) equal to 3, 0.3, 0.3 and 0.3 respectively. For the random walk case, the value of \( \beta_{0,t}, \beta_{1,t}, \text{ and } \beta_{2,t} \) will follow random walk process with the maximum value equal to 3, 0.3, 0.3 and 0.3 respectively.

Time-varying autoregressive model with lag order three.

\[ y_t = \beta_{0,t} + \beta_{1,t}y_{t-1} + \beta_{2,t}y_{t-2} + \beta_{3,t}y_{t-3} + \varepsilon_t \]  \hspace{1cm} (15)

For this model, we have 4 time-varying parameters to be estimated \( \beta_{0,t}, \beta_{1,t}, \beta_{2,t}, \text{ and } \beta_{3,t} \). For the invariant case, the value of \( \beta_{0,t}, \beta_{1,t}, \beta_{2,t}, \text{ and } \beta_{3,t} \) will be fixed at 3, 0.3, 0.3 and 0.3 respectively. For the linear increasing case, the value of \( \beta_{0,t} \) will be linearly increasing from 0.5 to 3 while the value \( \beta_{1,t}, \beta_{2,t}, \text{ and } \beta_{3,t} \) will be linearly increasing from 0.1 to 0.3. For the sine function case, the value of \( \beta_{0,t}, \beta_{1,t}, \beta_{2,t}, \text{ and } \beta_{3,t} \) will follow sine function as \( \text{MAX. } \sin \left( \frac{2\pi t}{T} \right) \) which \( \text{MAX. } \) equal to 3, 0.3, 0.3 and 0.3 respectively. For the random walk case, the value of \( \beta_{0,t}, \beta_{1,t}, \beta_{2,t}, \text{ and } \beta_{3,t} \) will follow random walk process with the maximum value equal to 3, 0.3, 0.3 and 0.3 respectively.

Figure 2 and 3 show the simulation results from the time-varying model with lag order two and three. The first row shows the simulation results of \( \beta_{0,t} \) while the second shows the results of \( \beta_{1,t} \). The third row shows the simulation results of \( \beta_{2,t} \) while the fourth shows the results of the mean of the model, \( \mu \). Blue line is the real value while the black line is the 50% quantile from 100 times simulation and the dot lines are the 2.5% and 97.5% quantile from 100 times simulation.
case while the last row shows the random walk case. As we can see, the model can reveal both linear and non-linear time-changing of the parameters and the mean of the model very well. For the random walk case, our simulation results provide the evidences that the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model work very well, even though, there is a sudden change or jump in parameters and model’s mean. In addition, the model works very good on both stationary mean and non-stationary mean.

4. Empirical Study

In this section, we apply the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model to the stock market index in four Asian countries: Stock Exchange of Thailand Index (SET), Korea Composite Stock Price Index (KOSPI), Taiwan Stock Exchange Index (TWSE) and Tokyo Stock Exchange Index (TSE). For all 4 market, we use a daily time-series data from January 1, 2015 to February 12, 2020 which is acquired from Thromson Reuters. So, in total, we have 1,335 number of data on each market.

To check the stationary condition of the data on all 4 stock markets, we perform the Augmented Dickey-Fuller test (ADF test). According to the results in Table 1, we fail to reject the null-hypothesis of non-stationarity, so, we can conclude that the stock market indices in Thailand, South Korea, Taiwan and Tokyo, Japan are non-stationary. Since the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model can be applied to both stationary and non-stationary data, then, our model is appropriate for these stock market indices.

In order to get some information about the lag order that we should use in the model, we perform the partial autocorrelation function (PACF) (Tsay, 2002). For the stock market in Thailand, Taiwan and Tokyo, we found the significant PACF at lag order 1. For the stock market in South Korea, we found the significant PACF at lag order 1, 3 and 4. Then, we perform time-varying coefficient autoregressive model with many lags and check the significant level and compare the value of AIC and BIC. Finally, we found that the model with lag order one is appropriated for Thailand, Taiwan and Tokyo while the model with lag three is appropriated for the South Korea.
The results of the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model and time-varying volatility model are reported in table 1 and figure 4. For table 1, the values in the row of $\beta_{0,t}$, $\beta_{1,t}$, $\beta_{2,t}$ and $\beta_{3,t}$ are effective degrees of freedom (EDF). Since we use the regression splines method to estimate the time-varying parameter which comes from the summation of basis functions that is shown in equation 8, the effective degrees of freedom (EDF) refers to the number of basis functions that use to estimate the parameter. The default number of basis function in “mgcv” package is 10, however, the number of basis function that need in model is referred to EDF. The high number of EDF means the model uses many basis functions to estimate the parameter, then we will have the non-linear and wiggly shape of the parameter. On the other hand, if the EDF is close to 1, we will have the linear shape of the parameter (Shadish, Zuur, & Sullivan, 2014). In additional, asterisks in table 1 refer to the rejection of null-hypothesis which means that the smooth time-varying parameter is significantly different from zero (Wood, 2013). According to table 1, all of the estimated time-varying coefficients in four Asian stock market indices are significantly different from zero except the intercept of Thailand case.

For the model checking, if the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model in conditional mean equation is adequate, then the estimated residuals ($\hat{\epsilon}_t$) of the model should behave like a white noise with no auto-correlation (Tsay, 2002). The Lung-Box tests on the estimated residuals ($\hat{\epsilon}_t$) are shown in the row of “Q(p) of $\hat{\epsilon}_t$”. For the case of SET, KOSPI and TSE, there are no autocorrelation in the estimated residuals which means the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model in conditional mean equation is adequate while, for the case of TWSE, there still has an autocorrelation with 10% significant level.

To check the heteroskedasticity problem, we perform the Lung-Box tests on the squared estimated residuals ($\hat{\epsilon}_t^2$) and report the results in the row of “Q(p) of $\hat{\epsilon}_t^2$”. The results suggest that there is an autocorrelation in squared estimated residuals in the case of SET, KOSPI and TSE which means we need to construct the time-varying volatility model to capture the heteroskedasticity condition. For the lower part of table 1, we provide the results of GJR-GARCH model for the case of SET, KOSPI and TSE. However, we didn’t do the GJR-GARCH model on TWSE since there is no heteroskedasticity problem for Taiwan. The significant results of estimated parameter $\gamma$ suggest that the negative shock has more impact on market’s volatility than positive shock in KOSPI and TSE.

If the conditional variance equation is adequate, the estimated standardized residual ($\hat{z}_t$) and estimated squared standardized residual ($\hat{z}_t^2$) shouldn’t have an autocorrelation problem (Tsay, 2002). We perform the Lung-Box test on estimated standardized residual and estimated squared standardized residual. The results in the row of “Q(p) of $\hat{z}_t$” and “Q(p) of $\hat{z}_t^2$” suggest that there is no autocorrelation problem.
The results of time-varying parameters on SET, KOSPI, TWSE and TSE are shown in Figure 4. The solid black line is the estimated time-varying parameter of the model while space between the dot lines is 95% confidence interval. We use bootstrap resampling residuals approach to estimate the confidence interval (DiCiccio & Efron, 1996). Firstly, we estimate the model to get the fitted values $\hat{y}$ and the residuals $\hat{\epsilon} = y - \hat{y}$. Secondly, we randomly resample the residuals, $\hat{\epsilon}$, and create the new variable $y' = y + \hat{\epsilon}$. Thirdly, we estimate the model on the new variable $y'$ to get the new estimated parameters. Finally, we repeat step 1 to 3 for 1,000 times and calculate the 2.5% and 97.5% quantile of 1,000 times bootstrapping parameters to get the confidence interval.

Figure 4 shows the estimated time-varying coefficients of Stock Exchange of Thailand Index (SET), Taiwan Stock Exchange Index (TWSE), Tokyo Stock Exchange Index (TSE) and Korea Composite Stock Price Index (KOSPI).

By using equation 5, we can calculate the time-varying mean of the model. We show the estimated mean of the model in the black line along with the stock index in the blue line in Figure 5. As we can see, the time-varying coefficient autoregressive can reveal the dynamic movement of estimated mean very well in all 4 Asian stock markets. The estimated mean can reveal the downturn and the upturn of the market very well which the traditional autoregressive cannot do.
5. Conclusions

In this paper, we show a Monte Carlo simulation study and an empirical study of the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model. Our simulation shows that the estimated parameters of the time-varying autoregressive model can reveal the true shape of parameters and mean of the model very well, even though, there are some sudden change or jump. The model can be applied to both stationary time-series data and non-stationary data that have a time-trend. Our simulation shows the results from the time-varying coefficient autoregressive model with lag order one, two and three.

We also provide the results of applying the time-varying autoregressive model on four Asian stock markets. We found that Stock Exchange of Thailand Index, Taiwan Stock Exchange Index and Tokyo Stock Exchange Index can be explained very well by the time-varying coefficient autoregressive with lag order one while South Korea Stock Exchange Index can be explained by the model with lag order three. For the case of South Korea and Tokyo, we found that the negative shocks have more impact on market’s volatility than positive shock. We found that the time-varying mean of the model follows the non-linear pattern of stock market index very well in all 4 markets.

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