

## Volatility Forecasting with Empirical Similarity: Japanese Stock Market Case

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### Abstract

In this study, we compare the forecasting ability of various volatility models through within-sample and out-of-sample forecasting simulations. The models considered here are heterogeneous autoregression models (HAR), a 1/3 model where the weight coefficients are all set to 1/3 in the HAR model (ES0), and an HAR model where the weight coefficients are determined by their empirical similarity. We also test AR(1), ARCH/GARCH and their variants, and models incorporating the realized quarticity (RQ), which are referred to as ARQ, HARQ, and ESQ. For stock data, we picked six index series stocks that are listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange as well as 24 individual stock series. All these stocks had enough liquidity in the market from April 1, 1999, to December 30, 2013, for our investigation. Minute-by-minute data were created based on high-frequency data. Forecasting evaluation depends on what kind of evaluation function we employ. We make use of Patton's error function. By changing the length of estimation period and the forecasting period and the parameter of Patton's error function, we attempt 27,000 forecasting simulations. We find that ESQ and HARQ are almost comparative in within-sample forecasting, whereas ES0 differs in out-of-sample forecasting experiments. We also tried a model comparison based on the pair-wise testing procedure proposed by Hansen et al. We found similar results, but the details are different between the index series and the individual stock series.

**Key Words:** Empirical similarity, Realized measures, HARQ, ESQ, Model confidence set

### 1. Introduction

Making inferences based on analogy is one of the basic methods for predicting future events based on experience (Gilboa et al. 2011). Hume (1748) is famous for discussing analogical reasoning, including doubts about the logical validity of inductive reasoning, which is a way to learn from the past about the future. Generally, in an uncertain situation where one has imperfect information, a decision maker cannot evaluate the probability of a future condition, but it is possible to learn from the past about the future and think based on the similarity. More contemporaneously, in the expected utility theory of von Neumann Morgenstern in decision making under uncertainty, decision makers use the state space that enumerates all possible states and their probability distribution. This is assumed to act to maximize the calculated expected utility of analogous thinking. However, there are many situations where it is impossible to assume that decision makers can fully grasp the state space. One way of thinking about such decisions is that people will decide on the action based on analogy from past experiences. This is the case-based decision-making theory advocated by Gilboa and Schmeidler (1995, 2001). Reasoning based on this similarity is widely applied to decision making in medicine, law, business, politics, and artificial intelligence (Gilboa and Schmeidler, 2001). This case-based decision-making theory assumes reasonable consideration of decision makers to evaluate the current situation by considering similarities with a past situation that was experienced (Gilboa and Schmeidler, 2001). Cases that are similar to a current situation are given greater weight than cases that are not very similar. This is the concept of empirical similarity (ES), based on case-based decision-making

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theory (Gilboa et al., 2006 and Gilboa et al., 2011), and Gilboa and Schmeidler (2012) provided an econometric framework to estimate similarity functions from data. This makes it possible to measure the distance between cases (i.e., problems and situations) recognized by decision makers. In this paper, we use the concept of ES proposed by Golosnoy et al. (2014) to combine prediction values obtained from different models in a non-stochastic way. In this setting, different predicted values obtained from competing models are evaluated by comparing them to the currently observed state or the realized value. A model giving a more accurate predictor of the past is given a larger weight than models with less accurate predictions. The core idea of Golosnoy et al. (2014) is to measure the empirical distance between the currently observed value and the predicted value obtained from different models. With this similarity distance, we can determine the weight of the model for the next period. Therefore, this model combination method, based on ES, uses information on the immediate predictive power of different models to determine the weight of the combination of prediction models. According to Golosnoy et al. (2014), the following three points are possible advantages of using the model combination method based on this ES over other probabilistic methods.

1. There is no need to calculate the posterior probability of the model and the mean square error (MSE) of the predicted value.
2. We can associate weights of predictive models with the preferences of economic agents.
3. We can clarify from the data how the decision maker evaluates the similarity between the predicted value and the realized value.

In the empirical research for this paper, we analyzed the model combination method based on ES as proposed by Golosnoy et al. (2014) by modeling the daily realized volatility process. For this purpose, we evaluated ES against the combination of HAR (heterogeneous autoregressive) models proposed by Corsi (2009), as in the previous work. The HAR model can estimate results in different past investment periods in terms of volatility. The data used for predictive power evaluation in this empirical study are the daily realized volatility obtained from high-frequency data at 1-minute intervals. These data consist of six stock indices over 15 years from January 1999 to December 2013 and 24 individuals listed on the First Section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange. As for the sampling period of data, 225 estimation periods, including in-sample and out-of-sample simulations from 1999 to 2013, are analyzed. These data include 120 in-sample combinations and 105 out-of-sample combinations. By predicting these in-sample and out-of-samples populations, the predictive power of the model combination method based on this ES is compared with a plurality of general volatility models. Regarding the comparison of predictive power, we use the model confidence set (MCS) proposed by Hansen et al. (2011), to evaluate the predictive power appropriately in the framework of statistical hypothesis tests of the error function values of each model obtained in in-sample and out-of-sample simulations. The MCS enables the best model selection at a given significance level without assuming a true model. Finally, we perform a Mincer-Zarnowitz (MZ) regression, which is one of the general methods to evaluate the predictive power proposed by Mincer and Zarnowitz (1969), on the predicted values of each model. We then compare the obtained adjusted coefficient of determination.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. Section 2 explains statistical models of ES in detail, which is the theoretical background of this paper. In Section 3, after explaining the data used for empirical analysis, we compare the predictive power of the model by using an MCS and MZ regression. Section 4 summarizes the results of the empirical analysis in this paper and suggests the direction for future research.

## 2. Theoretical Background

Here, we explain the theoretical background of ES used in this paper based on Gilboa et al. (2011) and Golosnoy et al. (2014).

### 2.1 ES

We evaluate the value of variable  $y_t$  based on a database constituted by the value  $x_t = (x_t^1, \dots, x_t^d)$  of the relevant variable. For example, let's say that  $y_t$  is the price of furniture antiques. Here  $x_t$  denotes characteristic values such as style, year of manufacture, size, and so on. To properly evaluate  $y_t$ , how should we join past observations  $x_i$  and current values? If we follow the idea of Hume (1748), we need an idea of similarity that shows whether a past condition  $x_i = (x_i^1, \dots, x_i^d)$  is similar to  $x_t$  or not. In predicting  $y_t$ , we give higher weight to observations obtained under more similar conditions than observations obtained under less similar conditions. In the above example, it is reasonable to evaluate the price of this antique by the price of similar antiques sold recently. Furthermore, if historical observations are more similar to the current observations with respect to style, year of manufacture, size, and time of sale, then we place higher weight on the observation when evaluating the current situation.

Formally, we assume a similarity function  $s : \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{++} = (0, \infty)$ . Given a database  $(x_i, y_i)_{i \leq n}$  and a new data point  $x_t = (x_t^1, \dots, x_t^d) \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , a similarity predictor of  $y_t$  can be formulated as

$$y_t^s = \frac{\sum_{i < t} s(x_i, x_t) y_i}{\sum_{i < t} s(x_i, x_t)}. \quad (1)$$

Alternatively, if the order of data points in  $(x_t, y_t)_{t \leq n}$  is arbitrary, it can also be defined as

$$y_t^s = \frac{\sum_{i \neq t} s(x_i, x_t) y_i}{\sum_{i \neq t} s(x_i, x_t)}. \quad (2)$$

For the similarity function  $s$ , it can be expressed in an arbitrary functional form if several weak assumptions are satisfied (Lieberman, 2010). For example, Billot et al. (2008) give conditions on the similarity weighted average that is equivalent to the similarity function, which has the form:

$$s(x, x') = \exp(-\|x - x'\|),$$

where  $\|\cdot\|$  denotes a norm in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Specifically, if focusing on a norm family defined by the weighted Euclidean distance, then we have

$$s_w(x, x') = \exp(-d_w(x, x')),$$

where  $w \in \mathbb{R}_+^d$  is the weighted vector of the distance between the two vectors  $x, x' \in \mathbb{R}^d$  given by

$$d_w(x, x') = \sum_{j=1}^d w_j (x_j - x'_j)^2. \quad (3)$$

Therefore, in this formulation, the similarity function is a  $d$ -dimensional vector of parameters including each predictor.

To perform statistical inference and obtain qualitative results by using a hypothesis test, we can incorporate (1) and (2) into the statistical model. That is, we consider the following models as

$$y_t = \frac{\sum_{i < t} s_w(x_i, x_t) y_i}{\sum_{i < t} s_w(x_i, x_t)} + \varepsilon_t, \quad (4)$$

and

$$y_t = \frac{\sum_{i \neq t} s_w(x_i, x_t) y_i}{\sum_{i \neq t} s_w(x_i, x_t)} + \varepsilon_t, \tag{5}$$

where  $\{\varepsilon_t\}$  follows iid  $(0, \sigma^2)$ . Then, equation (4) can be interpreted as a certain causal model. For example, we consider the price formation process by an economic agent. This economic agent will determine the price of goods such as real estate and art, according to their similarity with other products whose prices have already been determined. Therefore, we can consider equation (4) as a model of the thought process that involves the economic agent in determining the price. However, equation (5) cannot be interpreted directly in a similar way. Since the distribution of each  $y_t$  depends on all other  $y_t$ , equation (5) cannot explain the temporal evolution of the process. On the other hand, such interdependence can be interpreted naturally in general geography, sociology, or political science data as an application field of spatial statistics.

## 2.2 The Relationship Between ES and a Kernel Estimator

For simplicity of explanation, we consider the case where  $X$  exists as one dimension, that is, as a variable of  $d = 1$ . In the nonparametric regression model, we normally assume the following data generation process:

$$y_i = m(x_i) + \varepsilon_i, \quad (i = 1, \dots, n), \quad \varepsilon_i \sim \text{iid} (0, \sigma^2),$$

where  $m : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is an unknown function relating  $x$  and  $y$ . The widely used nonparametric estimator of  $m(\cdot)$  is a Nadalaya-Watson estimator and is defined as follows:

$$\hat{m}(x_t) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{x_i - x_t}{h}\right) y_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{x_i - x_t}{h}\right)},$$

where  $K(x)$  is a nonnegative function that satisfies  $\int K(z) dz = 1$  as well as other kernel functions (that is, other regular conditions) and  $h$  is a bandwidth parameter. For example, if we choose the Gaussian kernel, then we have

$$\frac{1}{h} K\left(\frac{x_i - x_t}{h}\right) = (2\pi h^2)^{-1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{(x_i - x_t)^2}{2h^2}\right). \tag{6}$$

Since there is a trade-off relationship between variance and bias, selection of  $h$  is an important issue in nonparametric statistics. One of the most common criteria for choosing the optimal bandwidth is to minimize the mean integral squared error. That is, the optimum  $h$  satisfies

$$h^* = \arg \min_h E_{f_0} \int (\hat{m}(x) - m(x))^2 dx,$$

where the expected value  $E_{f_0}$  means the expected value under  $f_0$  which is the true distribution of  $y$ . If  $x$  is countable and we substitute  $m(x)$  with  $y$ , then we decide  $h^*$  by the criterion of minimizing the expected value of the sum of squared errors.

Now, we discuss the relationship between estimation based on the kernel and ES. As explained above, the ES method proposes to predict  $y_t$  by

$$y_t = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n s_w(x_i, x_t) y_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n s_w(x_i, x_t)},$$

where

$$s_w(x_i, x_t) = \exp(-d_w) = (\pi/w)^{1/2} \left[ \frac{1}{(1/\sqrt{2w})} K \left( \frac{x_i - x_t}{1/\sqrt{2w}} \right) \right],$$

$D_w$  is defined in equation (3) and  $K$  is given in equation (6). Finally, we have

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n s_w(x_i, x_t) y_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n s_w(x_i, x_t)} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n K \left( \frac{x_i - x_t}{1/\sqrt{2w}} \right) y_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n K \left( \frac{x_i - x_t}{1/\sqrt{2w}} \right)},$$

and this setting results in  $h = 1/\sqrt{2w}$ .

### 2.3 ES for Model Combination

Here we assume that there is a finite set of forecasts  $x_t = (x_t^1, \dots, x_t^d)$  obtained from distinct  $d$  models which could be combined to predict the variable of interest  $y_t$ . According to Bates and Granger (1969), predictive linear combination is given by

$$\hat{y}_t = \sum_{j=1}^d a_{t-1}^j x_{t-1}^j, \tag{7}$$

where nonnegative  $a_t^j$  represents the ratio of the  $j$ th model satisfying  $\sum_{j=1}^d a_t^j \equiv 1$ . The weight  $a_t^j$  in equation (7) can be interpreted in relation to the quantitative evaluation (such as probability) of the likelihood of the model or the predicted value. In Elliott and Timmermann (2004), the smallness of the MSE derived from the model corresponds to the weighting factor. Several approaches have been proposed to properly select this weight  $a_t^j$ , but none of them can be considered a general method. Within this context, Golosnoy et al. (2014) formulated the linear combination of prediction based on the ES concept by Gilboa et al. (2006) as follows:

$$y_t = \sum_{j=1}^p \phi[y_{t-1}, x_{t-2}^j] x_{t-1}^j + \varepsilon_t, \quad \varepsilon_t \sim (0, \sigma^2).$$

The feature of this formulation is that it is possible to measure the distance between the one step ahead predicted value  $x_{t-2}^j$ , which is necessary to obtain the weight  $\phi[y_{t-1}, x_{t-2}^j]$ , and the corresponding realized value  $y_t$ . The linear combination of the prediction, which is the weighted sum of the predicted values  $x_t = (x_t^1, \dots, x_t^d)$ , is then given by

$$\hat{y}_t = \sum_{j=1}^d \phi[y_{t-1}, x_{t-2}^j] x_{t-1}^j.$$

Furthermore, the weight  $\phi[\cdot, \cdot]$  depends on the past values of the observed data. The distance between the proxy variable of the current realized value and the predicted value of the  $j$ th model is calculated as

$$\phi[y_t, x_{t-1}^j] = \frac{\theta[y_t, x_{t-1}^j]}{\sum_{k=1}^d \theta[y_t, x_{t-1}^k]}.$$

The weight  $\phi[y_t, x_{t-1}^j] \in [0, 1]$  can be interpreted as a normalized relative ES having the property of  $\sum_{k=1}^d \phi[y_t, x_{t-1}^k] \equiv 1$ . The  $\theta[y_t, x_{t-1}^j]$  on the right side denotes a similarity

function, and if the distance between  $y_t$  and  $x_{t-1}^j$  is shorter, then the  $\theta[y_t, x_{t-1}^j]$  implies higher similarity. In this paper, we use the exponential function according to Billot et al. (2008) introduced in the previous section as a similarity function:

$$\theta[y_t, x_{t-1}^j] = \exp\left(-\omega_j(y_t - x_{t-1}^j)^2\right), \quad \omega_j \in \mathbb{R}.$$

### 3. Empirical Analysis

The purpose of the empirical analysis is to evaluate the predictive power of the empirical similarity model introduced in the previous section by using it to predict the daily volatility of stock indices and individual stocks listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange. For this purpose, we use the ticker data of stock indices and individual stocks provided by Nikkei Media Marketing Co., Ltd., as high-frequency data at 1-minute intervals. The sample period is 15 years from January 4, 1999, to December 30, 2013, and the stock indices and individual stocks used are as follows: Regarding the stock price index, we use six series: Nikkei 225, Nikkei 300, TOPIX, TOPIX Electric Appliances Index, TOPIX Transportation Equipment Index, and TOPIX Banks Index. For individual issues, we use 24 stocks continuously traded on the market from 1999 to 2013, which are among the stocks included in the TOPIX Core 30 as of April 1, 2009. We exclude six stocks which were discontinuously traded, including Seven & i HD (1999-2005), JFE-HD (1999-2002), Mitsubishi UFJ-FG (1999-2001), Mitsui Sumitomo FG (1999-2002), Mizuho FG (1999-2003) and Tokio Marine HD (1999-2002). Note that the parentheses indicate the period of deficiency for each series. Table 1 summarizes the six stock indices and 24 individual stocks adopted for the empirical analysis.

The daily time-series data used in the empirical analysis are the stock price, stocks' logarithmic return, realized volatility ( $RV$ ), and realized quarticity ( $RQ$ ). In addition, we formulate and analyze the logarithm and square root of  $RV$  and  $RQ$  using the HAR model described later. However, we cannot find any significant differences in predictive power, so that we omit these results. Next, we discuss two realized measures of these,  $RV$  and  $RQ$ .

#### 3.1 Realized Measures

Volatility, one of the most common risk indicators in financial markets, is defined as the variance or standard deviation of the logarithmic return. So, far, many models have been proposed to estimate volatility. However, these models are basically parametric and are designed to estimate daily, weekly, and monthly volatilities, using data taken at the same frequency. In recent years, intraday data of financial asset prices have become widely available, and we can use very frequent data recorded every second or minute to calculate the daily volatility *ex post*.

Here, we outline the estimation method of daily volatility using data that have a daily frequency. Following Bollerslev et al. (2016), we consider the financial asset price process  $P_t$  as determined by the stochastic differential equation

$$d\log(P_t) = \mu_t dt + \sigma_t dW_t,$$

where  $\mu_t$  and  $\sigma_t$  represent drift and instantaneous volatility processes, respectively, and  $W_t$  is the standard Brownian motion. It is assumed that the model here does not include jumps or abrupt transitions to facilitate an easy understanding. The main objective of this paper is to estimate and predict latent daily volatility, that is, integrated variance ( $IV$ ). Specifically, the daily  $IV$  is formally defined by

$$IV_t = \int_{t-1}^t \sigma_s^2 ds.$$

**Table 1:** Target issues (6 stock indices and 24 individual stocks)

| Stock indices                        | Individual stocks                 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| TOPIX                                | JAPAN TOBACCO INC.                |
| Nikkei 225                           | Shin-Etsu Chemical Co.,Ltd.       |
| Nikkei 300                           | Takeda Pharmaceutical Company     |
| TOPIX Electric Appliances Index      | Astellas Pharma Inc.              |
| TOPIX Transportation Equipment Index | FUJIFILM Holdings Corporation     |
| TOPIX Banks Index                    | NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION          |
|                                      | KOMATSU LTD.                      |
|                                      | Hitachi,Ltd.                      |
|                                      | Panasonic Corporation             |
|                                      | SONY CORPORATION                  |
|                                      | NISSAN MOTOR CO.,LTD.             |
|                                      | TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION          |
|                                      | HONDA MOTOR CO.,LTD.              |
|                                      | CANON INC.                        |
|                                      | Nintendo Co.,Ltd.                 |
|                                      | MITSUI & CO.,LTD.                 |
|                                      | Mitsubishi Corporation            |
|                                      | Nomura Holdings, Inc.             |
|                                      | Mitsubishi Estate Company,Limited |
|                                      | East Japan Railway Company        |
|                                      | NTT CORPORATION                   |
|                                      | KDDI CORPORATION                  |
|                                      | NTT DoCoMo,Inc.                   |
|                                      | The Tokyo Electric Power Company  |

This  $IV$  cannot be observed directly in the financial market, but  $RV$  given by the following formula can be calculated as the sum of squares of the intraday high frequent return.  $S_t$ ,  $r_t = \log S_t - \log S_{t-1}$  and  $RV_t$  denote the stock price at time  $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$ , its logarithmic return, and realized volatility, respectively. For  $RV$ , it is defined as the sum of squares of the intraday return sampled at 1-minute intervals as

$$RV_t = \sum_{i=1}^{n_t} r_{t,i}^2,$$

where  $r_{t,i}$  is the  $i$ th observed logarithmic return on the  $t$  day and  $n_t$  represents the number of samples on day  $t$  (see, for example, Andersen et al., 2001). By considering the log-valued price process as a continuous martingale part of a semi-martingale, we can regard this  $RV$  as a proxy variable of  $IV$ . Also, it is known that  $RV$  is a consistent and unbiased estimator of  $IV$  (McAleer and Medeiros, 2008). Consequently, the  $RV$  estimation requires full high-frequency data over 24 hours as a daily volatility measure. However, the Japanese stock market is divided into two sessions by a lunch break, that is, the morning session goes from 09:00 to 11:00 (until 11:30 after 21 November 2011) and the afternoon session goes from 12:30 to 15:00. Thus, we adopt the weighted  $RV$  proposed by Masuda and Morimoto (2012), which is a modified version of Hansen and Lunde (2005) and which is adjusted to the Japanese market. The weighted  $RV$  with estimated optimal weights  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$ , and  $\lambda_4$  is defined by

$$RV_t^{weighted} = \lambda_1 Y_{t,1}^2 + \lambda_2 RV_{t,2} + \lambda_3 Y_{t,3}^2 + \lambda_4 RV_{t,4},$$

where  $Y_{t,1}^2$ ,  $RV_{t,2}$ ,  $Y_{t,3}^2$ , and  $RV_{t,4}$  denote the square of the close-to-open return, the  $RV$  in the morning session, the square of the lunch break return, and the  $RV$  in the afternoon session, respectively, on the  $t$ th day. Hereafter, we denote the weighted realized volatility  $RV^{weighted}$  as  $RV$  for notational simplicity.

Furthermore, it is known that  $RV$  is influenced by an observational error caused by the microstructure noise when using the intraday data sampled at high frequencies. As a method for mitigating this bias, it is conceivable to use  $RV$  with a low-frequency interval (see Andersen and Bollerslev, 1997 or Bandi and Russell, 2008), a subsample method (see Zhang et al., 2005), and a kernel method. Among these, in this paper, we use the Newey-West (NW) estimator using the Bartlett kernel following Hansen and Lunde (2005). It is shown by Bamdorff-Nielsen et al. (2008) that this NW estimator is almost the same as the above-described subsample method.

According to Bollerslev et al. (2016), the resulting estimation error in  $RV$  may be characterized by the asymptotic (for  $\Delta \rightarrow 0$ ) distribution theory of Barndorff-Nielsen and Shephard (2002),

$$RV_t = IV_t + \eta_t, \quad \eta_t \sim MN(0, 2\Delta IQ_t), \quad (8)$$

where  $IQ_t \equiv \int_{t-1}^t \sigma_s^4 ds$  denotes the integrated quarticity ( $IQ$ ), and  $MN$  represents a mixed normal distribution: that is, a normal distribution that is conditional on the realization of  $IQ_t$ . In parallel, for the  $IV$ , the  $IQ$  may be consistently estimated by the  $RQ$ ,

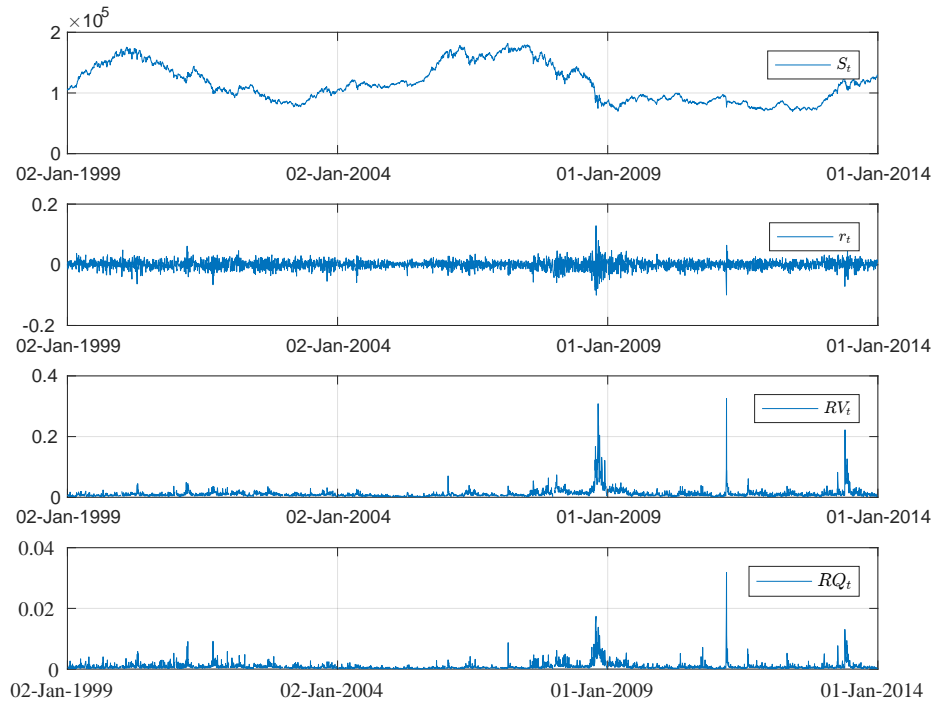
$$RQ_t \equiv \frac{M}{3} \sum_{i=1}^M r_{t,i}^4.$$

However, since the estimation of  $IQ$  includes the estimation of the 4th moment of the intraday return with many noises such as measurement errors, even if the magnitude of the jump is small, the  $RQ$  estimator is inevitably unstable. Thus, for example, to reduce even the influence of the jumps, Andersen et al. (2012) propose two robust estimates of  $IQ$  called  $MinRQ$  and  $MedRQ$  which employ the minimum or median of each adjacent return. In this paper, we use the NW estimator that uses the Bartlett kernel for  $RQ$  estimation in the same way as for  $RV$  estimation to ease the calculation burden.

We select an index and individual stock prices from the above 30 issues and give an overview of the characteristics of these time series because of limited space. Figures 1 and 2 show the stock price, logarithmic return,  $RV$ , and  $RQ$  for TOPIX and Hitachi over 15 years from January 1999 to December 2013. From these figures, we can see that there are three major peaks in the latter half of the period. It is especially easy to capture the peaks when focusing on the panel of realized volatility. These substantial fluctuations correspond to the financial crisis of September 2008, the Tohoku district Pacific offshore earthquake that occurred in March 2011, and the Nikkei Average major crash on May 23, 2013, respectively.

In addition, Tables 2 and 3 provide the descriptive statistics of the stock price, logarithmic return,  $RV$ , and squared  $RQ$ , which range 15 years from January 1999 to December 2013 for TOPIX and Hitachi. From these tables, we can see that the kurtosis of the logarithmic return  $r_t$  is 3 or more, which is one of the stylized facts for the financial time series. The skewness for both is negative, which is an interesting result, as the peaks of the return distribution are biased to the right, that is, in the positive direction. But, both of the skews are negative, which means that the peak of the return distribution is biased to the right, that is, in the positive direction. This seems to be an interesting result. In both cases, the absolute value of the maximum value and the minimum value exceeds 10%, and the averages are almost equal to 0.





**Figure 1:** Stock price, logarithmic return,  $RV$  and  $RQ$  (TOPIX)

### 3.2 Models

In this subsection, we introduce 17 time-series models used for empirical analysis. The HAR model proposed by Corsi (2009) combines volatility measures sampled at different frequencies in a simple linear regression framework. The standard HAR model for the daily volatility process  $v_t$  is given by

$$v_t = \alpha_0 + \omega_1 v_{t-1}^{(d)} + \omega_2 v_{t-1}^{(w)} + \omega_3 v_{t-1}^{(m)} + \varepsilon_t, \quad \varepsilon_t \stackrel{iid}{\sim} (0, \sigma^2),$$

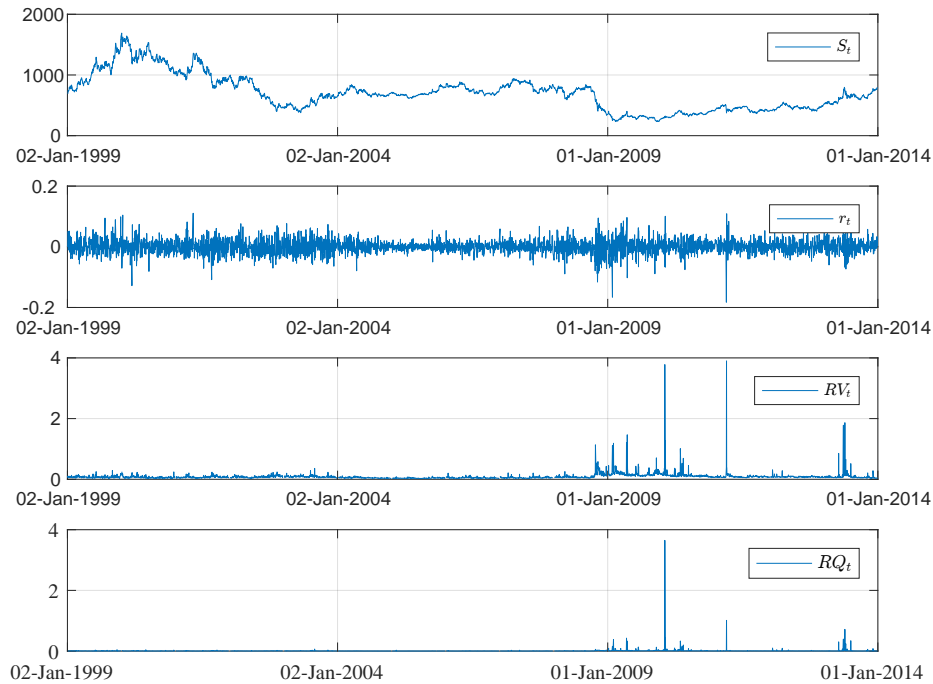
where  $v_{t-1}^{(d)} = v_{t-1}$ ,  $v_{t-1}^{(w)}$  and  $v_{t-1}^{(m)}$  are daily, weekly and monthly average volatility measures, respectively. These are defined as

$$v_t^{(w)} = 5^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^5 v_{t-i+1} \quad \text{and} \quad v_t^{(m)} = 22^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{22} v_{t-i+1}.$$

By substituting unobservable  $v_t$  by  $rv_t$ , we can estimate the HAR model with the framework of ordinary least squares (OLS) regression. According to Golosnoy et al. (2014), the economic interpretation of volatility components relate the long-term component  $v^{(m)}$  to the fundamental macroeconomic uncertainty factors. The medium-term component  $v^{(w)}$  reflects the current market uncertainty concerning the processing of news, and the short-term component  $v^{(d)}$  accounts for the speculative momentum uncertainty.

Next, we introduce the model in which the constant term of the HAR model is 0 and the other three parameters are fixed to the 1/3 value as follows:

$$v_t = \frac{1}{3} v_{t-1}^{(d)} + \frac{1}{3} v_{t-1}^{(w)} + \frac{1}{3} v_{t-1}^{(m)} + \varepsilon_t, \quad \varepsilon_t \stackrel{iid}{\sim} (0, \sigma^2),$$



**Figure 2:** Stock price, logarithmic return,  $RV$  and  $RQ$  (Hitachi)

In this paper, we refer to this model as the ES0 model, whereas it is called the “1/3 model” in Golosnoy et al. (2014). Although this ES0 model does not directly use empirical similarity, we can regard this model as a special case of the ES1 model as described below. That is, if we put the parameter of the ES1 model as  $\theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}] = \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(w)}] = \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(m)}] = 1/3$ , then the ES1 model is reduced to ES0. Since all the parameters of the ES0 model are constantly 1/3 as described above, there is no need to estimate the parameter values from the data. Then, the ES0 model appears only at the stage of predictive power evaluation later.

The third model is the empirical similarity model ES1, which plays a central role in this paper. The ES1 model was derived from the concept of empirical similarity estimates for the weight for the predictors of volatility model components, based on the past data observed directly. If the predictor of volatility obtained from model  $h$  belonging to the model set  $\mathcal{H}$  can be denoted by  $v_t^{(h)}$ , then the ES model for volatility prediction is given by

$$v_t = \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \phi[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(h)}] \cdot v_{t-1}^{(h)} + \varepsilon_t = \frac{\sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(h)}] \cdot v_{t-1}^{(h)}}{\sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(h)}]} + \varepsilon_t, \quad \varepsilon_t \stackrel{iid}{\sim} (0, \sigma^2),$$

where  $\sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \phi[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(h)}] \equiv 1$ . The similarity function is defined by  $\theta[v_t, v_{t-1}^{(h)}] = e^{-w_h (v_t - v_{t-1}^{(h)})^2}$  and the function measures the distance between the current volatility state  $v_t$  and the  $h$ th model’s predictor  $v_{t-1}^{(h)}$ . Thus, we can predict  $v_{t+1}$  by using the weight  $\phi[v_t, v_{t-1}^{(h)}] \in [0, 1]$  and the predictor  $v_{t-1}^{(h)}$  of the model.

As in Golosnoy et al. (2014), we use the HAR model as a benchmark in the study so that we focus on combining the three components with ES models. Our objective is

**Table 2:** Descriptive statistics (TOPIX) 1999-2013

|        | $S_t$       | $r_t$   | $RV_t$   | $\sqrt{RQ_t}$ |
|--------|-------------|---------|----------|---------------|
| Mean   | 115815.4168 | 0.0001  | 0.0114   | 0.0008        |
| Median | 111634.0000 | 0.0003  | 0.0080   | 0.0005        |
| Max.   | 181697.0000 | 0.1286  | 0.3255   | 0.0318        |
| Min.   | 69551.0000  | -0.1001 | 0.0012   | 0.0000        |
| SD     | 30461.9413  | 0.0141  | 0.0155   | 0.0013        |
| Ske.   | 0.4294      | -0.3543 | 9.7217   | 8.9328        |
| Kur.   | 1.9932      | 8.8653  | 144.9977 | 143.5033      |
| Size   | 3685        | 3684    | 3664     | 3664          |

**Table 3:** Descriptive statistics (Hitachi) 1999-2013

|        | $S_t$     | $r_t$   | $RV_t$   | $\sqrt{RQ_t}$ |
|--------|-----------|---------|----------|---------------|
| Mean   | 701.3720  | 0.0000  | 0.0884   | 0.0095        |
| Median | 683.0000  | 0.0000  | 0.0686   | 0.0051        |
| Max.   | 1690.0000 | 0.1105  | 3.9003   | 3.6477        |
| Min.   | 233.0000  | -0.1827 | 0.0203   | 0.0015        |
| SD     | 286.7948  | 0.0233  | 0.1249   | 0.0668        |
| Ske.   | 0.7732    | -0.1371 | 18.2170  | 45.8112       |
| Kur.   | 3.3460    | 6.7904  | 481.5358 | 2424.5612     |
| Size   | 3685      | 3684    | 3663     | 3663          |

to evaluate how the relative distance between the current volatility and the weighted sum of volatility sampled at different time periods is determined from historical data. In other words, we would like to analyze how the economic agents with different investment periods evaluate the weights of these volatility processes using ES. The empirical similarity model having the HAR component, represented hereafter as the ES1 model, is given as

$$v_t = \frac{\theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}]v_{t-1} + \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(w)}]v_{t-1}^{(w)} + \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(m)}]v_{t-1}^{(m)}}{\theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}] + \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(w)}] + \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(m)}]} + \epsilon_t, \quad \epsilon_t \sim (0, \sigma^2), \quad (9)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}] &= \exp(-\omega_1(v_{t-1} - v_{t-2})^2), \\ \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(w)}] &= \exp(-\omega_2(v_{t-1} - v_{t-2}^{(w)})^2), \\ \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(m)}] &= \exp(-\omega_3(v_{t-1} - v_{t-2}^{(m)})^2). \end{aligned}$$

The ES1 model can be interpreted as a combination of predictive models, assuming a simple weighted average of volatilities sampled at different frequencies. Component  $v_{t-1}$  is a predictor obtained from the volatility on the previous day, whereas  $v_{t-1}^{(w)}$  and  $v_{t-1}^{(m)}$  are predictors of the moving average in the previous 1 week and 1 month, respectively. Consequently, the daily volatility  $v_t$  in the equation (9) is expressed as a weighted average of past daily realized volatilities. As is apparent from the equation (9), the ES1 model is characterized by having one parameter less than the HAR model; that is, there is no constant term.

Next, we introduce three models that incorporate the  $RQ$  that introduced in the previous section. Bollerslev et al. (2016) suppose that the dynamic dependencies in  $IV$  may be

described by an autoregressive (AR) model of order 1,

$$IV_t = \phi_0 + \phi_1 IV_{t-1} + u_t, \quad u_t \sim \text{iid}(0, \sigma_u^2).$$

Let  $\eta_t \sim \text{iid}(0, \sigma_\eta^2)$  be a measurement error of  $IV_t$ . Thus, a simple AR (1) model for  $IV_t$  incorporating  $\eta_t$  is given by

$$IV_t + \eta_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 (IV_{t-1} + \eta_{t-1}) + u_t. \quad (10)$$

The formal theoretic justification for applying the autoregressive model to  $RV$  is given by Andersen et al. (2003). Andersen et al. (2004) also show that the predictive power of  $IV$  can be significantly improved by using a simple discrete-time autoregressive model rather than a continuous time-based model for  $RV$ . If we assume that  $u_t$  and  $\eta_t$  are both *i.i.d.*, so that  $\text{Cov}(RV_t, RV_{t-1}) = \phi_1 \text{Var}(IV_t)$  and  $\text{Var}(RV_t) = \text{Var}(IV_t) + 2\Delta IQ$ , then, we have

$$\beta_1 = \phi_1 \left( 1 + \frac{2\Delta IQ}{\text{Var}(IV_t)} \right)^{-1}. \quad (11)$$

Therefore, the coefficient  $\beta_1$  of  $RV$  is smaller than the coefficient  $\phi_1$  of the  $IV$ , due to the so-called attenuation bias. For details of the attenuation bias, for example, see Wooldridge (2015). From equation (11),  $\beta_1$  varies depending on the variance  $2\Delta IQ$  of the measurement error. That is, if  $2\Delta IQ = 0$ , then  $\beta_1 = \phi_1$ , but if  $2\Delta IQ$  is large, then  $\beta_1$  goes to zero. In general,  $\beta_1$  in equation (11) assumes that the variance of the measurement error is a constant. In practice, however, the variance with respect to an estimation error of  $RV$  changes through time in practice. On days when  $IQ$  is small,  $RV$  has a higher predictive power for  $IV$ , and conversely,  $RV$  has relatively weak predictive power for  $IV$  on days with a large  $IQ$ . Therefore, it is more realistic to assume an autoregressive coefficient that changes through time such as  $\beta_{1,t}$ , rather than assuming that the coefficient of AR is constant.

Equation (10) can be viewed as an AR(1) model for  $RV$  as  $RV_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 RV_{t-1} + u_t$  from the relationship of  $RV_t = IV_t + \eta_t$  in equation (8). Bollerslev et al. (2016) implement a more flexible and robust specification that allows the time-varying AR parameter to depend linearly on an estimate of  $IQ^{1/2}$  as

$$RV_t = \beta_0 + \underbrace{(\beta_1 + \beta_{1Q} RQ_{t-1}^{1/2})}_{\beta_{1,t}} RV_{t-1} + u_t.$$

The specification is called the ARQ model. The model can easily be estimated using the standard OLS method, rendering both estimating and forecasting straightforward and fast. Importantly, the value of the autoregressive  $\beta_{1,t}$  parameter varies with the estimated measurement error variance. If  $RQ$  is constant over time, the ARQ model reduces to a standard AR(1) model; see Bollerslev et al. (2016) for a more detailed description of the ARQ model.

Bollerslev et al. (2016) consider that the AR(1) model in equation (10) is too simplistic to satisfactorily describe the long-run dependencies in most  $RV$  series. Instead, the heterogeneous autoregression (HAR) model of Corsi (2009) has arguably emerged as the most popular model for daily  $RV$  based forecasting,

$$RV_t = \beta_0 + \underbrace{(\beta_1 + \beta_{1Q} RQ_{t-1}^{1/2})}_{\beta_{1,t}} RV_{t-1} + \beta_2 RV_{t-1|t-5} + \beta_3 RV_{t-1|t-22} + u_t.$$

The specification is called the HARQ model. Here, the coefficient of the daily  $RV$  only changes through time as a function of  $RQ^{1/2}$ . For models that include time varying coefficients of weekly and monthly  $RV$ , see Bollerslev et al. (2016). Further, we can also add

$RQ_{t-1|t-5}^{1/2}, RQ_{t-1|t-22}^{1/2}$  to the explanatory variable of the HARQ model above as a natural extension. However, Bollerslev et al. (2016) report that the prediction power of the model referred to as HARQ-Full does not improve unconditionally compared with the HARQ model above, since it is practically difficult to accurately estimate weekly and monthly variances of the measurement errors. Based on the results, we omit the analysis of HARQ-Full model in the paper.

According to Golosnoy et al. (2014), the ES model can be used for any combination of volatility predictors. Therefore, it is also possible to consider a new model combining the past daily volatility  $v_{t-1}$ , the HAR predictor  $v_{t-1}^{(har)}$ , and the HARQ predictor  $v_{t-1}^{(harq)}$ . We call this model the “ESQ” model here. The specification of the model is given by

$$v_t = \frac{\theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}]v_{t-1} + \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(har)}]v_{t-1}^{(har)} + \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(harq)}]v_{t-1}^{(harq)}}{\theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}] + \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(har)}] + \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(harq)}]} + \epsilon_t, \quad \epsilon_t \sim (0, \sigma^2),$$

and as previously defined, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}] &= \exp(-\omega_1(v_{t-1} - v_{t-2})^2), \\ \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(har)}] &= \exp(-\omega_2(v_{t-1} - v_{t-2}^{(har)})^2), \\ \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(harq)}] &= \exp(-\omega_3(v_{t-1} - v_{t-2}^{(harq)})^2). \end{aligned}$$

In addition, we also analyze the following models from the viewpoint of consistency in the model comparison. First, we introduce a model simply combining daily volatility  $v_t$  and the HAR predictor  $v_t^{(har)}$ ,

$$v_t = \frac{\theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}]v_{t-1} + \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(har)}]v_{t-1}^{(har)}}{\theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}] + \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(har)}]} + \epsilon_t.$$

The second is a model that combines  $v_t, v_t^{(w)}, v_t^{(m)}, q_t = RQ_t^{1/2}RV_t$  as it is without modeling,

$$v_t = \frac{\theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}]v_{t-1} + \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(w)}]v_{t-1}^{(w)} + \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(m)}]v_{t-1}^{(m)} + \theta[v_{t-1}, q_{t-2}]q_{t-1}}{\theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}] + \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(w)}] + \theta[v_{t-1}, v_{t-2}^{(m)}] + \theta[v_{t-1}, q_{t-2}]} + \epsilon_t,$$

where

$$\theta[v_{t-1}, q_{t-2}] = \exp(-\omega_4(v_{t-1} - q_{t-2})^2).$$

We refer to these models as ES1a and ES1b, respectively.

We introduce a simple AR (1) model

$$v_t = \alpha_0 + \omega_1 v_{t-1} + \epsilon_t, \quad \epsilon_t \stackrel{iid}{\sim} (0, \sigma^2),$$

and eight types of GARCH models as benchmarks of predictive power, in addition to the five models that are the center of the analysis, of which the GARCH models are GARCH(1,1), GJR(1,1,1), EGARCH(1,1,1), IGARCH(1,1), AGARCH(1,1), NAGARCH(1,1), APARCH(1,1,1), and ZARCH(1,1,1). However, the eight types of GARCH models are overwhelmingly disadvantageous compared with other AR1, HAR, ES0, ES1, ES1a, ES1b, ARQ, HARQ, and ESQ models in the predictive power comparison, since the GARCH models estimate and predict volatility by not directly using  $RV_t$  series. Therefore, we note that comparison of predictive power within the GARCH models can be useful information, but the results of comparative study between the eight types of GARCH models and the other nine models are just for reference.

### 3.3 Estimation

In this section, we estimate and predict volatility using stock price data for six stock indices and 24 individual stocks introduced in the previous section. The sample period and indices for these stocks range from January 4, 1999, to December 30, 2013. Table 4 shows the periods used for estimation and prediction. As can be seen from the table, periods for estimation and prediction sum up to 225 including in-sample and out-of-sample simulations from 1999 to 2013. In the table, we omit the first two digits of year because of limited space. The breakdown of the 225 combinations comprises 120 in-samples and 105 out-of-samples. Furthermore, we divide the 120 estimation periods of in-samples into 15 for 1 year, 50 for more than 2 years but less than 5 years, and 55 for more than 5 years but less than 15 years. Likewise, we divide the 105 estimation periods of out-of-sample simulations into 14 for 1 year, 46 for more than 2 but less than 5 years and 45 for more than 5 years but less than 14 years. Note that the prediction period of the out-of-sample is set as the most recent one year of the estimation period.

When outliers exist in the estimation period, nonlinear models such as ES1, ES1a, ES1b, and ESQ are susceptible to the influence of the outliers. Therefore, we apply Cook's distance to the  $RV$  series to detect and exclude the outliers, so that we use data without outliers when estimating the models. The rate of outlier detection is approximately 5% (with a minimum value of 3.2% and a maximum value of 6.6%), although there exists difference across series. For the definition of Cook's distance, see, for example, Weisberg (2014).

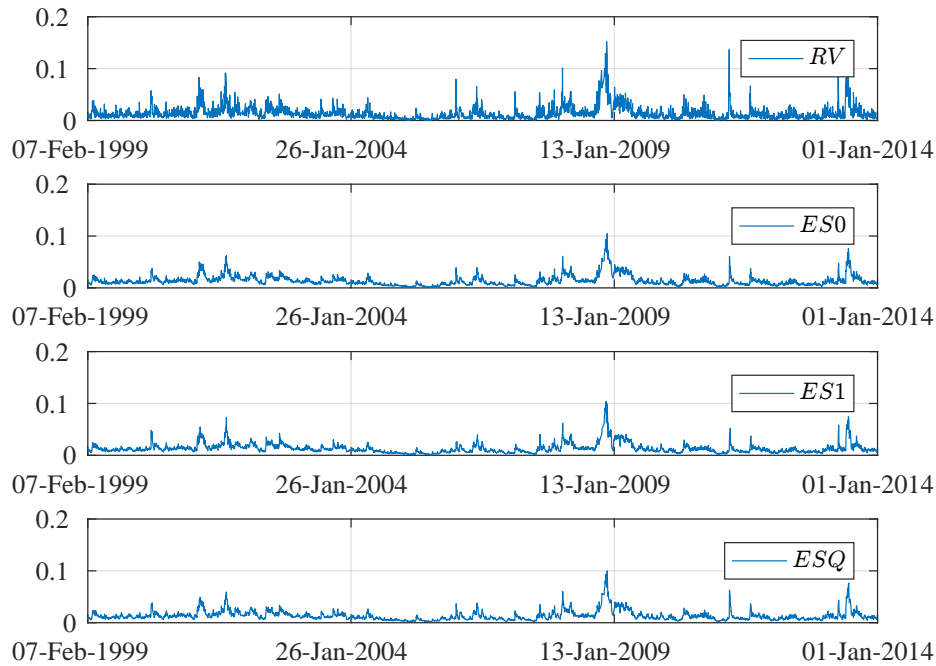
We use the Statistics and Machine Learning Toolbox of MATLAB for parameter estimation of the ES1, ES1a, ES1b, HAR, AR1, ARQ, HARQ, and ESQ models and the MFE Toolbox of Prof. Kevin Sheppard for the eight types of GARCH models.

### 3.4 Prediction

In this section, we compare and analyze the predictive power of empirical similarity models and other time-series models in terms of volatility, which is the main contribution of the paper. To do this, we estimate the parameters of 16 models, excluding the ES0 model, using time-series data of 30 stocks in the estimation period shown in Table 4. Then, we compare the predictive power between models using the error function described below in the corresponding prediction period of Table 4. Note that we only list the model ranking by MCS and the result of the MZ regression for the ES1a and ES1b models because of limited space, and the MCS and MZ are described below.

With respect to the predictors of the out-of-sample, for example, when the estimation and prediction periods are 99-99 and 00-00 respectively, we estimate parameters using the data for 1999 and sequentially make predictions for 2000. However, we do not perform so-called rolling window prediction, which estimates and predicts parameters daily. There are two reasons for that:

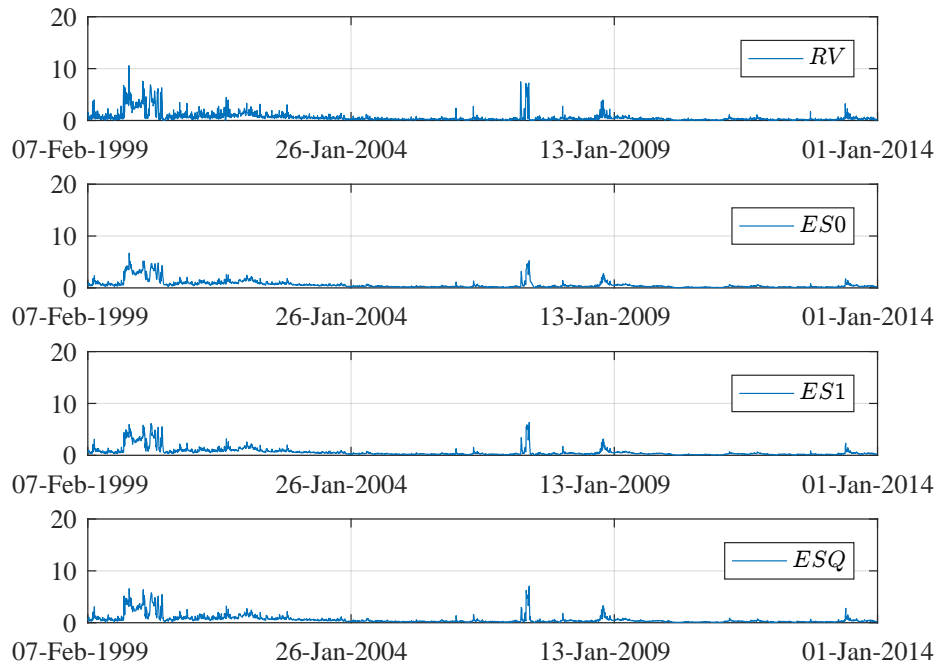
1. First, the number of calculations is simply too large. The objective of the study is to compare the predictive power of the models in terms of volatility against various (i.e., 30) stocks and multiple models (i.e., 17) over long and short periods of time (the estimation and prediction periods number 225). Therefore, it is not practical to estimate parameters and execute 1-day ahead prediction day by day for 114,750 ( $30 \times 17 \times 225$ ) combinations if we consider its calculation time.
2. Again, the objective of the study is not to compare the strict predictive power between models, but to rank models for a wide variety of data as well as estimation and prediction periods. Therefore, when considering cost effectiveness, it is more



**Figure 3:**  $RV$  and predictors obtained from models (Nikkei 225)

efficient to fix the parameter estimation and perform a 1-day ahead prediction than it is to execute the rolling window prediction, which requires much calculation time.

Figures 3 and 4 show in-sample  $RV$ 's for Nikkei 225 and KDDI as well as predictors of volatility calculated from the ES0, ES1, HAR, HARQ, and ESQ models from February 1999 to December 2013. The reason that the plots begin in February 1999 is because we exclude the predictors for the first 22 days because the HAR model requires the average of the volatility over the latest 22 days to make a forecast. First, looking at Figure 3, we can see that significant fluctuations are noticeable in the second half of 2008 due to the financial crisis of 2007-2008. Comparing  $RV$  over the fluctuations with the predictor calculated from each model, we can see that the ES0, ES1, HAR, HARQ and ESQ models underestimate the volatility. Overall, we can see that the predictor from each model is lower than  $RV$  even in periods other than the one during which the financial crisis occurred. Second, looking at Figure 4, we can see that the behavior of volatility significantly differs between the Nikkei 225 and KDDI. Especially, long-term volatility clustering for KDDI is prominent from 1999 to 2000. This long-term volatility clustering coincides approximately with the period from the formal announcement of the merger of KDD, DDI, and IDO in December 1999 to the actual merger in October 2000. It is interesting that individual stocks behave differently from the stock price indices as events specific to each stock affect their movements. Comparing  $RV$  with the predictor calculated from each model, we can see that the ES0, ES1, HAR, HARQ, and ESQ models underestimate the volatility as a whole similar to the Nikkei 225 plot. Considering that the scale of the  $y$  axis of  $RV$  in the plot of Nikkei 225 is up to 0.2, we can see that the volatility of individual stocks may very high compared with the stock price indices.



**Figure 4:**  $RV$  and predictors obtained from models (KDDI)

### 3.4.1 Descriptive Statistics of Error Functions

Which predictor has the highest predictive power among the predictor calculated for each model? To answer the question, we use the class of error functions proposed by Patton (2011) and compare the predictive power among the models. The error functions are robust in the presence of noise in proxy variables of  $RV$ , and we can use it for ranking predictive models. By parameterizing with a certain  $b \in \mathbb{R}$ , the class of the error functions is defined as

$$\mathcal{L}(rv, \hat{v}, b) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{(b+1)(b+2)}(rv^{b+2} - \hat{v}^{b+2}) - \frac{1}{b+1}\hat{v}^{b+1}(rv - \hat{v}) & \text{for } b \notin \{-1, -2\}, \\ \hat{v} - rv + rv \cdot \log(rv/\hat{v}) & \text{for } b = -1, \\ \frac{rv}{\hat{v}} - \log \frac{rv}{\hat{v}} - 1 & \text{for } b = -2, \end{cases}$$

where  $rv$  is a volatility measure and  $\hat{v}$  is the corresponding predictor. The error functions correspond to the quasi-likelihood (QLIKE) when  $b = -2$ , while corresponding to the MSE measure when  $b = 0$ . According to Patton and Sheppard (2009), QLIKE, which is a likelihood-based error function, is robust to noise, so that QLIKE is a preferable error function for comparing the predictive power of volatility compared to MSE. For a large positive value  $b$ , the error functions result from overestimation, whereas for a negative value  $b$ , the error functions increase and underestimate true values (Patton, 2011).

In the study, we use four kinds of values:  $b \in \{1, 0, -1, -2\}$ . The number of empirically calculated error functions is 27,000 ( $225 \times 30 \times 4$ ), which is a combination of 30 stocks, 4 kinds of  $b$ , and 225 kinds of estimation and prediction periods in Table 4. Table 5 shows a part of the average errors calculated using the error function with  $b = -2$ , that is, QLIKE. Looking at the table, we can see that the results change in different estimation and prediction periods. It is also difficult to evaluate models by comparing the error functions one by one based on the results extending 27,000.



Therefore, we broadly classify the estimation and prediction periods into in-sample and out-of-sample, and we examine descriptive statistics to grasp the characteristics of the overall error functions. Tables 6 and 7 show the descriptive statistics of each error function for in-sample and out-of-sample, respectively. Focusing on the average values, from Table 6, ES1 is the lowest when  $b = 1$ , and HARQ is the lowest when  $b = 0, -1$ , or  $-2$ ; in contrast, ARQ is the highest when  $b = 0$  and AR1 is the highest when  $b = 1, -1$ , or  $-2$ . From the table, we can see that the average values of error functions for in-sample simulations are ordered as  $\text{HARQ} < \text{ES1} < \text{HAR} \approx \text{ESQ} < \text{ES0} < \text{ARQ} < \text{AR1}$  as the overall tendency. From Table 6, ES1 is the lowest when  $b = 0$ , and ES0 is the lowest when  $b = 1, -1$ , and  $-2$ ; in contrast, ARQ is the highest when  $b = 1$ , and AR1 is the highest when  $b = 0, -1$ , or  $-2$ . From the table, we can see that the average values of error functions for out-of-sample simulations are ordered as  $\text{ES0} < \text{ES1} < \text{HAR} \approx \text{HARQ} \approx \text{ESQ} < \text{ARQ} < \text{AR1}$  as the overall tendency. Next, focusing on the maximum values, the results differ depending on  $b$  for both Tables 6 and 7. One thing we can say is that the differences between the results of all models, including AR1, are not so large.

Finally, focusing on the standard deviations in Table 6, ARQ or AR1 is the highest for all  $b$ , but there are not many differences among the results of the other ES0, ES1, HAR, HARQ, and ESQ models. Meanwhile, from Table 6, for out-of-sample simulations, we can recognize that ES0 has the lowest standard deviation in all  $b$ . As described above, ES0 is a model in which parameters other than constant terms of the HAR model are fixed to  $1/3$  without estimating parameters. Surprisingly, in out-of-sample simulations, ES0 is the least dispersive and can more stably predict volatility than other models. It is consistent with the results suggested in the previous study that ES0 exerts its power in out-of-sample prediction. The fact that ES0, that is, the  $1/3$  weighting model shows good results in out-of-sample simulations can be associated with the empirical finding that no models overcome the  $1/N$  weights method when deciding the optimal portfolio selection (DeMiguel Et al., 2009). In other words, the result implies that uninformed decision makers tend to predict volatility by equally weighting volatilities observed daily, weekly, and monthly.

### 3.4.2 Model Comparison Based on the MCS

We cannot perform model comparisons simply by looking at the descriptive statistics of error functions for in-sample and out-of-sample simulations seen above. To judge the results of error functions appropriately in the framework of the statistical hypothesis tests and to compare the predictive power of models, we introduce the MCS proposed by Hansen et al. (2011). By using MCS, it is possible to select the best among the models at a given significance level without premising on a specific statistical model. We explain the outline of MCS following Hamid and Heiden (2015). First, we prepare a set  $\mathcal{M}_0 = \{1, \dots, m_0\}$  of candidate models, where  $m_0 = 17$  in the study. Second, for all model pairs, we evaluate the superiority of the models based on the differences of the error functions  $L$ , obtained from each model. That is, for models  $i$  and  $j$  ( $i, j = 1, \dots, m_0$ ) and for all time  $t = 1, \dots, T$ , we evaluate

$$d_{ij,t} = L(rv_{it}, \hat{r}v_{it}) - L(rv_{jt}, \hat{r}v_{jt}).$$

Finally, against the model set  $\mathcal{M} \in \mathcal{M}_0$ , we test the null hypothesis

$$H_0 : E[d_{ij,t}] = 0, \quad \forall i, j \in \mathcal{M}, \quad i > j,$$

for each  $d_{ij,t}$ , where the initial value is set to  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_0$ . If the null hypothesis  $H_0$  is rejected at a given significance level (e.g., 10%), then, the model with the lowest predictive power is excluded from the model set. We continue the above method until  $H_0$  cannot be

rejected. Following Hansen et al. (2011), for evaluating  $H_0$ , we use range statistics such as

$$T_{R,k} = \max_{i,j \in \mathcal{M}} |t_{ij}| = \max_{i,j \in \mathcal{M}} \frac{|\bar{d}_{ij}|}{\sqrt{\widehat{\text{var}}(\bar{d}_{ij})}},$$

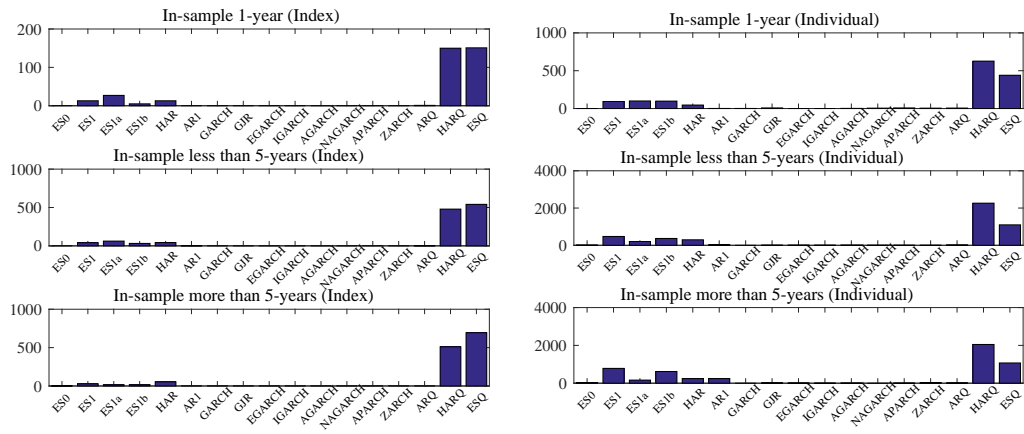
where  $\bar{d}_{ij} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T d_{ij}$  and  $\widehat{\text{var}}(\bar{d}_{ij})$  are obtained by using the block bootstrap method. The model  $i^*$  with the worst predictive power excluded from the model set  $\mathcal{M}$  is chosen by a criterion,

$$i^* = \arg \max_{i \in \mathcal{M}} \frac{\bar{d}_i}{\sqrt{\widehat{\text{var}}(\bar{d}_i)}},$$

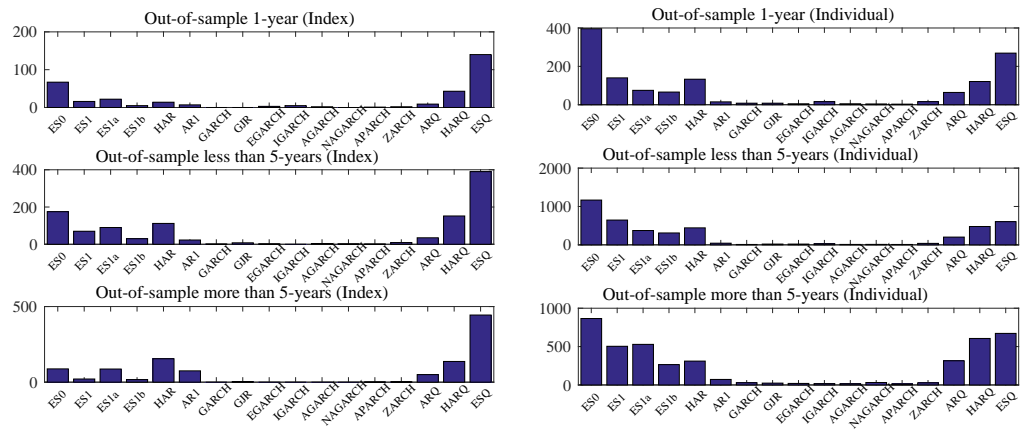
where  $\bar{d}_i = \frac{1}{m-1} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{M}} \bar{d}_{ij}$  and  $m$  is the number of models included in model set  $\mathcal{M}$ . In the study, we perform a block boot strap method of block length 17 with 10,000 iterations. We set the significance level to 90% and use the MFE Toolbox mentioned above in our empirical analysis.

Next, we investigate the results of our empirical analysis using MCS. Like with error functions, we can execute MCS as many as 27,000 ways, which is the number of combinations of 30 stocks, four kinds of  $b$ , and estimation and prediction periods of 225. Then, we excerpt a part of the results of MCS obtained from actual data and present it in Table 8. To ensure fairness, we present the results of the periods during which ES 0, ES 1, HAR, HARQ, and ESQ are the best. Table 8 lists the ranking of predictive power of models by MCS from 6th place to 1st place in the rightmost column. The parentheses under the model names represent the P values. In other words, the model with the  $P = 1.00$  is the best, and after that, we rank predictive power of models depending on the P values.

Furthermore, Figures 5 to 7 show the cumulative frequencies of the models with the best predictive power based on the MCS criterion; that is, the models with  $P = 1.00$  in the predictive power ranking obtained by MCS. Figure 5 shows the cumulative frequency of the best MCS models for in-sample simulations with estimation periods of 1 year, less than 5 years and more than 5 years, where the left-hand panels are stock indices and the right-hand panels are individual stocks. At first glance, in the left-side panels for stock indices, ESQ has the highest frequency being the best model during the estimation period of 1 year, and HARQ has the highest in the other periods. Either way we can see that HARQ and ESQ are overwhelmingly more predictive than the other models. On the right-side panels for individual stocks, we can see that ES1 is relatively good during the estimation period of more than 5 years, although the overall trend is similar to the stock indices. Figure 6 shows the cumulative frequency of the best MCS models for out-of-sample simulations with the same settings as in Figure 5. The characteristic feature of the plot is that the frequency of ES0 is the highest in all estimation periods of individual stocks in the out-of-sample simulations, as suggested by the result of the error functions in Table 7. In the left-side panels for stock indices, HAR has the highest frequency of the best model in the estimation period of more than 5 years, and ESQ has the highest in the other periods. Figure 7 summarizes Figures 5 and 6 and contains in-sample simulations, out-of-sample simulations, stock indices, and individual stocks for all estimation periods. The left- and right-side panels show cumulative frequencies for stock indices and individual stocks, respectively. The top and bottom panels are for in-sample and out-of-sample simulations, respectively. From the left-side panels for stock indices of the figure, we can see that HARQ has the highest frequency of being the best model for in-sample simulations, and ESQ has the highest for out-of-sample. From the right-side panels for individual stocks, we can see that HARQ again has the highest frequency of the best model for in-sample simulations, and ES0 has the highest for out-of-sample simulations. As described above, the eight types of GARCH models are overwhelmingly worse compared with other AR1, HAR, ES0, ES1, ES1a, ES1b, ARQ,



**Figure 5:** Cumulative frequencies of the best MCS models (in-sample)



**Figure 6:** Cumulative frequencies of the best MCS models (out-of-sample)

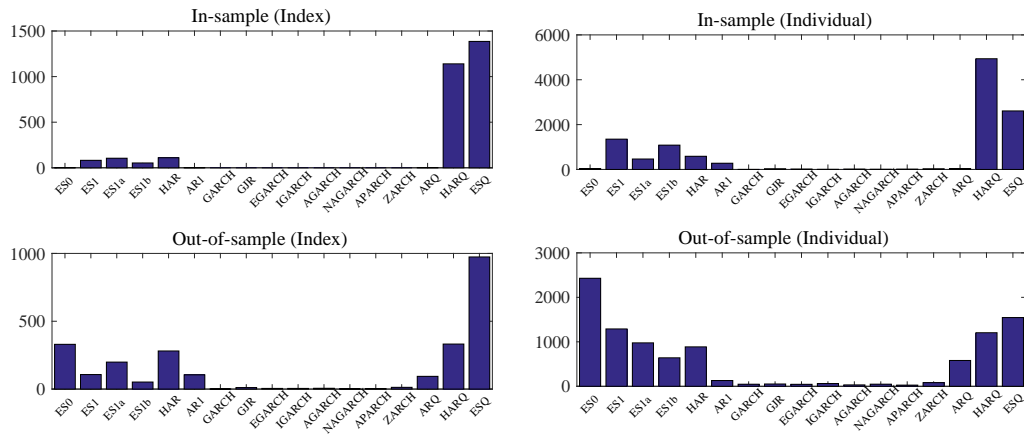
HARQ, and ESQ models in a predictive power comparison since the GARCH models estimate and predict volatility by not directly using the  $RV_t$  series. Hence, note that it is not appropriate to directly compare the predictive power of the GARCH models with other AR1, HAR, ES0, ES1, ES1a, ES1b, ARQ, HARQ, and ESQ models.

### 3.4.3 Model Comparison Based on the MZ Regression

Finally, we report the results of the MZ regression on predictors obtained from models. According to Patton and Sheppard (2009), MZ regression is one of the general methods for evaluating the predictive power of volatility, which is proposed by Mincer and Zarnowitz (1969). The MZ regression is formulated by

$$\hat{\sigma}_t^2 = \alpha + \beta h_t + e_t,$$

where  $\hat{\sigma}_t^2$  is a proxy variable for volatility,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are parameters,  $h_t$  is a predictor obtained from each model, and  $e_t$  is an error term. Regarding  $\hat{\sigma}_t^2$ , we consistently use  $RV$  as a proxy variable for volatility in the study. We performed the MZ regression on the data set of stock indices and individual stocks for in-sample and out-of-sample simulations. Table 9 shows



**Figure 7:** Cumulative frequencies of the best MCS models (all estimation periods)

the result of the adjusted coefficient of determination,  $R^2$ . Underlined values in the table are the maximum  $R^2$  in each row. From the table of stock indices, we can see that ESQ has the maximum  $R^2$  in all in-sample estimation periods, whereas ES0 has the maximum  $R^2$  for 1 year and less than 5 years out-of-sample estimation period data. From the table of individual stocks, we can see that ES1 has the maximum  $R^2$  for less than 5 and more than 5 years for in-sample estimation periods, whereas ES0 has the maximum  $R^2$  in all out-of-sample estimation periods. In summary, ES0 has the highest  $R^2$  in almost all out-of-sample estimation periods except for the more than 5 years estimation period of stock indices. This is consistent with the previous results of error functions and MCS.

Based on the result of the MZ regression, the overall trend can be summarized as follows: for in-sample simulations, the model using the information on the fourth moment of stock returns has better predictive power but such an effect is not observed in the out-of-sample simulations. As we often observe volatility clustering in financial asset returns, there are times when it is turbulent and times when it is calm. The various models analyzed in the study have no way to predict when large variability will come in the future, although  $RQ$  can be an important explanatory element to account for such differences in the in-sample period.

In situations where we perform an extrapolation type point prediction, there is no big difference when fourth moments are incorporated into the models. Thus, we may enjoy the benefit of assuming a fat-tailed distribution only when using low-frequency data. If the predicted period is short, it happens that such an assumption is successful, and the level of predictive power may increase. However, the longer the period becomes, the lower is the predictive power. This may serve as an interpretation that ES0 dominates the average in out-of-sample simulations.

#### 4. Conclusions

In this paper, we focused on the framework of empirical similarity-based on case-based decision-making theory (Gilboa and Schmeidler, 1995, 2001) advocated by Gilboa et al. (2006). We conducted an empirical analysis of volatility prediction, using an empirical similarity-based time-series model proposed by Golosnoy et al. (2014). Regarding the predictive power comparison of models, we first ranked the predictive power of models in multiple estimation and prediction periods by using MCS with four error functions. We

then analyzed cumulative frequencies of the best predictive power models. Because of the empirical analysis, HARQ for both stock indices and individual stocks in the in-sample had the highest frequencies as best models. ESQ for stock indices and ES0 for individual stocks had the highest frequencies in the out-of-sample simulations. Next, we performed the MZ regression to compare the predictive power of models in estimation and prediction periods of various combinations over multiple stocks. Looking at the result of the analysis based on the adjusted coefficient of determination,  $R^2$ , obtained from the MZ regression, ESQ for stock indices and ES1 for individual stocks were the best models in the in-sample. ES0 was the best model for both stock indices and individual stocks in the out-of-sample simulations. In the results of the MCS and MZ regression, the tendency that the predictive power of ES0 in out-of-sample data was relatively high compared to other models is consistent with the results of the previous work of Golosnoy et al. (2014). In addition, incorporating the realized measure  $RQ$ , calculated from high-frequency data such as HARQ and ESQ, was generally favorable in analyses of error functions, including the MCS and MZ regression. We once again confirmed the abundance of information derived from the aggregation of high-frequency financial data.

In this paper, we do not explicitly consider the asymmetry of volatility, although asymmetry is a very important factor in predicting volatility, so that we leave this for our future work.

Finally, as far as we know, we have applied ES models for volatility analyses in the Japanese stock market. We have done this systematically, using volatility models incorporating the realized measures of  $RQ$ , such as HARQ and ESQ. Therefore, the study of volatility models incorporating empirical similarity and the realized measure,  $RQ$ , has just begun. We would like to further explore and develop this area of study.

### Acknowledgements

This study is partly supported by the Institute of Statistical Mathematics (ISM) cooperative research program (2015-ISM-CRP-2012) and JSPS KAKENHI Grant Number 25245033, 15H01943, 15H03337, 16K00067, 26380279, and 15K03406. We also would like to thank Dr. Moritz Heiden for his valuable comments.

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**Table 4:** All estimation and prediction periods for empirical analysis

| Esti. | Pred. | Esti. | Pred. | Esti. | Pred. | Esti. | Pred. | Esti. | Pred. |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 99-99 | 99-99 | 00-08 | 00-08 | 02-06 | 07-07 | 04-09 | 04-09 | 07-09 | 07-09 |
| 99-99 | 00-00 | 00-08 | 09-09 | 02-07 | 02-07 | 04-09 | 10-10 | 07-09 | 10-10 |
| 99-00 | 99-00 | 00-09 | 00-09 | 02-07 | 08-08 | 04-10 | 04-10 | 07-10 | 07-10 |
| 99-00 | 01-01 | 00-09 | 10-10 | 02-08 | 02-08 | 04-10 | 11-11 | 07-10 | 11-11 |
| 99-01 | 99-01 | 00-10 | 00-10 | 02-08 | 09-09 | 04-11 | 04-11 | 07-11 | 07-11 |
| 99-01 | 02-02 | 00-10 | 11-11 | 02-09 | 02-09 | 04-11 | 12-12 | 07-11 | 12-12 |
| 99-02 | 99-02 | 00-11 | 00-11 | 02-09 | 10-10 | 04-12 | 04-12 | 07-12 | 07-12 |
| 99-02 | 03-03 | 00-11 | 12-12 | 02-10 | 02-10 | 04-12 | 13-13 | 07-12 | 13-13 |
| 99-03 | 99-03 | 00-12 | 00-12 | 02-10 | 11-11 | 04-13 | 04-13 | 07-13 | 07-13 |
| 99-03 | 04-04 | 00-12 | 13-13 | 02-11 | 02-11 | 05-05 | 05-05 | 08-08 | 08-08 |
| 99-04 | 99-04 | 00-13 | 00-13 | 02-11 | 12-12 | 05-05 | 06-06 | 08-08 | 09-09 |
| 99-04 | 05-05 | 01-01 | 01-01 | 02-12 | 02-12 | 05-06 | 05-06 | 08-09 | 08-09 |
| 99-05 | 99-05 | 01-01 | 02-02 | 02-12 | 13-13 | 05-06 | 07-07 | 08-09 | 10-10 |
| 99-05 | 06-06 | 01-02 | 01-02 | 02-13 | 02-13 | 05-07 | 05-07 | 08-10 | 08-10 |
| 99-06 | 99-06 | 01-02 | 03-03 | 03-03 | 03-03 | 05-07 | 08-08 | 08-10 | 11-11 |
| 99-06 | 07-07 | 01-03 | 01-03 | 03-03 | 04-04 | 05-08 | 05-08 | 08-11 | 08-11 |
| 99-07 | 99-07 | 01-03 | 04-04 | 03-04 | 03-04 | 05-08 | 09-09 | 08-11 | 12-12 |
| 99-07 | 08-08 | 01-04 | 01-04 | 03-04 | 05-05 | 05-09 | 05-09 | 08-12 | 08-12 |
| 99-08 | 99-08 | 01-04 | 05-05 | 03-05 | 03-05 | 05-09 | 10-10 | 08-12 | 13-13 |
| 99-08 | 09-09 | 01-05 | 01-05 | 03-05 | 06-06 | 05-10 | 05-10 | 08-13 | 08-13 |
| 99-09 | 99-09 | 01-05 | 06-06 | 03-06 | 03-06 | 05-10 | 11-11 | 09-09 | 09-09 |
| 99-09 | 10-10 | 01-06 | 01-06 | 03-06 | 07-07 | 05-11 | 05-11 | 09-09 | 10-10 |
| 99-10 | 99-10 | 01-06 | 07-07 | 03-07 | 03-07 | 05-11 | 12-12 | 09-10 | 09-10 |
| 99-10 | 11-11 | 01-07 | 01-07 | 03-07 | 08-08 | 05-12 | 05-12 | 09-10 | 11-11 |
| 99-11 | 99-11 | 01-07 | 08-08 | 03-08 | 03-08 | 05-12 | 13-13 | 09-11 | 09-11 |
| 99-11 | 12-12 | 01-08 | 01-08 | 03-08 | 09-09 | 05-13 | 05-13 | 09-11 | 12-12 |
| 99-12 | 99-12 | 01-08 | 09-09 | 03-09 | 03-09 | 06-06 | 06-06 | 09-12 | 09-12 |
| 99-12 | 13-13 | 01-09 | 01-09 | 03-09 | 10-10 | 06-06 | 07-07 | 09-12 | 13-13 |
| 99-13 | 99-13 | 01-09 | 10-10 | 03-10 | 03-10 | 06-07 | 06-07 | 09-13 | 09-13 |
| 00-00 | 00-00 | 01-10 | 01-10 | 03-10 | 11-11 | 06-07 | 08-08 | 10-10 | 10-10 |
| 00-00 | 01-01 | 01-10 | 11-11 | 03-11 | 03-11 | 06-08 | 06-08 | 10-10 | 11-11 |
| 00-01 | 00-01 | 01-11 | 01-11 | 03-11 | 12-12 | 06-08 | 09-09 | 10-11 | 10-11 |
| 00-01 | 02-02 | 01-11 | 12-12 | 03-12 | 03-12 | 06-09 | 06-09 | 10-11 | 12-12 |
| 00-02 | 00-02 | 01-12 | 01-12 | 03-12 | 13-13 | 06-09 | 10-10 | 10-12 | 10-12 |
| 00-02 | 03-03 | 01-12 | 13-13 | 03-13 | 03-13 | 06-10 | 06-10 | 10-12 | 13-13 |
| 00-03 | 00-03 | 01-13 | 01-13 | 04-04 | 04-04 | 06-10 | 11-11 | 10-13 | 10-13 |
| 00-03 | 04-04 | 02-02 | 02-02 | 04-04 | 05-05 | 06-11 | 06-11 | 11-11 | 11-11 |
| 00-04 | 00-04 | 02-02 | 03-03 | 04-05 | 04-05 | 06-11 | 12-12 | 11-11 | 12-12 |
| 00-04 | 05-05 | 02-03 | 02-03 | 04-05 | 06-06 | 06-12 | 06-12 | 11-12 | 11-12 |
| 00-05 | 00-05 | 02-03 | 04-04 | 04-06 | 04-06 | 06-12 | 13-13 | 11-12 | 13-13 |
| 00-05 | 06-06 | 02-04 | 02-04 | 04-06 | 07-07 | 06-13 | 06-13 | 11-13 | 11-13 |
| 00-06 | 00-06 | 02-04 | 05-05 | 04-07 | 04-07 | 07-07 | 07-07 | 12-12 | 12-12 |
| 00-06 | 07-07 | 02-05 | 02-05 | 04-07 | 08-08 | 07-07 | 08-08 | 12-12 | 13-13 |
| 00-07 | 00-07 | 02-05 | 06-06 | 04-08 | 04-08 | 07-08 | 07-08 | 12-13 | 12-13 |
| 00-07 | 08-08 | 02-06 | 02-06 | 04-08 | 09-09 | 07-08 | 09-09 | 13-13 | 13-13 |

Esti. and Pred. denote estimation and prediction periods respectively.

**Table 5:** Error functions for  $b = -2$  (excerpt)

| Nikkei 225 | Esti. | Pred. | ES0   | ES1   | HAR   | AR1   | ARQ   | HARQ  | ESQ   |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|            | 99-11 | 99-11 | 0.156 | 0.156 | 0.154 | 0.186 | 0.180 | 0.153 | 0.153 |
|            | 99-11 | 12-12 | 0.186 | 0.185 | 0.179 | 0.201 | 0.203 | 0.183 | 0.173 |
|            | 99-12 | 99-12 | 0.159 | 0.159 | 0.156 | 0.187 | 0.183 | 0.156 | 0.155 |
|            | 99-12 | 13-13 | 0.205 | 0.207 | 0.203 | 0.220 | 0.230 | 0.205 | 0.202 |
|            | 99-13 | 99-13 | 0.162 | 0.162 | 0.160 | 0.190 | 0.186 | 0.160 | 0.159 |
| Astellas   | Esti. | Pred. | ES0   | ES1   | HAR   | AR1   | ARQ   | HARQ  | ESQ   |
|            | 99-11 | 99-11 | 0.025 | 0.025 | 0.025 | 0.032 | 0.032 | 0.025 | 0.025 |
|            | 99-11 | 12-12 | 0.009 | 0.009 | 0.011 | 0.025 | 0.024 | 0.011 | 0.010 |
|            | 99-12 | 99-12 | 0.024 | 0.024 | 0.024 | 0.031 | 0.030 | 0.024 | 0.024 |
|            | 99-12 | 13-13 | 0.028 | 0.028 | 0.028 | 0.031 | 0.030 | 0.028 | 0.028 |
|            | 99-13 | 99-13 | 0.024 | 0.024 | 0.023 | 0.030 | 0.029 | 0.023 | 0.024 |
| Komatsu    | Esti. | Pred. | ES0   | ES1   | HAR   | AR1   | ARQ   | HARQ  | ESQ   |
|            | 99-11 | 99-11 | 0.176 | 0.175 | 0.173 | 0.223 | 0.211 | 0.171 | 0.171 |
|            | 99-11 | 12-12 | 0.107 | 0.107 | 0.116 | 0.212 | 0.182 | 0.114 | 0.107 |
|            | 99-12 | 99-12 | 0.174 | 0.173 | 0.170 | 0.219 | 0.208 | 0.168 | 0.169 |
|            | 99-12 | 13-13 | 0.240 | 0.246 | 0.263 | 0.373 | 0.335 | 0.257 | 0.255 |
|            | 99-13 | 99-13 | 0.180 | 0.179 | 0.177 | 0.227 | 0.214 | 0.175 | 0.176 |
| Hitachi    | Esti. | Pred. | ES0   | ES1   | HAR   | AR1   | ARQ   | HARQ  | ESQ   |
|            | 99-11 | 99-11 | 0.129 | 0.128 | 0.132 | 0.187 | 0.159 | 0.128 | 0.128 |
|            | 99-11 | 12-12 | 0.030 | 0.030 | 0.030 | 0.030 | 0.032 | 0.029 | 0.031 |
|            | 99-12 | 99-12 | 0.123 | 0.123 | 0.126 | 0.177 | 0.151 | 0.122 | 0.123 |
|            | 99-12 | 13-13 | 0.212 | 0.207 | 0.212 | 0.230 | 0.211 | 0.205 | 0.212 |
|            | 99-13 | 99-13 | 0.127 | 0.127 | 0.130 | 0.179 | 0.153 | 0.126 | 0.126 |
| Toyota     | Esti. | Pred. | ES0   | ES1   | HAR   | AR1   | ARQ   | HARQ  | ESQ   |
|            | 99-11 | 99-11 | 0.079 | 0.079 | 0.079 | 0.101 | 0.094 | 0.078 | 0.079 |
|            | 99-11 | 12-12 | 0.079 | 0.079 | 0.077 | 0.100 | 0.090 | 0.077 | 0.080 |
|            | 99-12 | 99-12 | 0.083 | 0.083 | 0.083 | 0.105 | 0.098 | 0.082 | 0.083 |
|            | 99-12 | 13-13 | 0.102 | 0.102 | 0.105 | 0.114 | 0.088 | 0.109 | 0.097 |
|            | 99-13 | 99-13 | 0.100 | 0.099 | 0.097 | 0.117 | 0.108 | 0.096 | 0.097 |

Esti. and Pred. denote estimation and prediction periods respectively.



**Table 6:** Descriptive statistics of error functions (in-sample)

| $b = 1$  | ES0     | ES1     | HAR     | AR1    | ARQ    | HARQ    | ESQ     |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| Mean     | 0.0145  | 0.0142  | 0.0144  | 0.0162 | 0.0156 | 0.0147  | 0.0146  |
| Median   | 0.0001  | 0.0001  | 0.0001  | 0.0001 | 0.0001 | 0.0001  | 0.0001  |
| Max.     | 0.8704  | 0.9900  | 0.9717  | 0.9532 | 0.9082 | 0.9982  | 0.9041  |
| SD       | 0.0743  | 0.0734  | 0.0747  | 0.0838 | 0.0801 | 0.0766  | 0.0758  |
| Ske.     | 6.6617  | 6.9163  | 6.9393  | 6.7303 | 6.7412 | 7.0681  | 6.7948  |
| Kur.     | 51.19   | 57.44   | 57.50   | 52.10  | 52.44  | 60.28   | 54.26   |
| Size     | 3324    | 3324    | 3324    | 3324   | 3324   | 3324    | 3324    |
| $b = 0$  | ES0     | ES1     | HAR     | AR1    | ARQ    | HARQ    | ESQ     |
| Mean     | 0.0083  | 0.0080  | 0.0080  | 0.0092 | 0.0093 | 0.0079  | 0.0080  |
| Median   | 0.0004  | 0.0004  | 0.0004  | 0.0005 | 0.0005 | 0.0004  | 0.0004  |
| Max.     | 0.9818  | 0.9703  | 0.9486  | 0.6279 | 0.9609 | 0.9093  | 0.9434  |
| SD       | 0.0397  | 0.0384  | 0.0381  | 0.0411 | 0.0434 | 0.0377  | 0.0384  |
| Ske.     | 10.2256 | 10.4631 | 10.2925 | 7.6756 | 9.1738 | 9.9895  | 10.1998 |
| Kur.     | 163.47  | 172.57  | 166.33  | 77.96  | 125.25 | 154.31  | 161.72  |
| Size     | 3324    | 3324    | 3324    | 3324   | 3324   | 3324    | 3324    |
| $b = -1$ | ES0     | ES1     | HAR     | AR1    | ARQ    | HARQ    | ESQ     |
| Mean     | 0.0110  | 0.0107  | 0.0107  | 0.0129 | 0.0125 | 0.0106  | 0.0107  |
| Median   | 0.0042  | 0.0041  | 0.0041  | 0.0050 | 0.0049 | 0.0041  | 0.0041  |
| Max.     | 0.7353  | 0.7070  | 0.6926  | 0.7427 | 0.7270 | 0.6898  | 0.6713  |
| SD       | 0.0272  | 0.0262  | 0.0261  | 0.0307 | 0.0303 | 0.0259  | 0.0261  |
| Ske.     | 10.1021 | 10.0234 | 9.7591  | 8.4654 | 8.3573 | 9.7409  | 9.4669  |
| Kur.     | 188.98  | 186.43  | 177.16  | 129.45 | 125.12 | 176.75  | 162.61  |
| Size     | 3326    | 3326    | 3326    | 3326   | 3326   | 3326    | 3326    |
| $b = -2$ | ES0     | ES1     | HAR     | AR1    | ARQ    | HARQ    | ESQ     |
| Mean     | 0.1161  | 0.1153  | 0.1148  | 0.1375 | 0.1317 | 0.1138  | 0.1139  |
| Median   | 0.1090  | 0.1082  | 0.1077  | 0.1287 | 0.1229 | 0.1082  | 0.1074  |
| Max.     | 0.6328  | 0.6067  | 0.9892  | 0.9444 | 0.9738 | 0.9847  | 0.9598  |
| SD       | 0.0747  | 0.0750  | 0.0757  | 0.0857 | 0.0839 | 0.0750  | 0.0739  |
| Ske.     | 1.0967  | 1.1221  | 1.7024  | 0.9060 | 1.2516 | 1.7417  | 1.4951  |
| Kur.     | 5.8412  | 5.9414  | 13.2327 | 5.9489 | 9.2506 | 13.8119 | 11.3362 |
| Size     | 3326    | 3326    | 3326    | 3326   | 3326   | 3326    | 3326    |

**Table 7:** Descriptive statistics of error functions (out-of-sample)

| $b = 1$  | ES0     | ES1     | HAR     | AR1     | ARQ     | HARQ    | ESQ     |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Mean     | 0.0026  | 0.0028  | 0.0027  | 0.0035  | 0.0040  | 0.0029  | 0.0029  |
| Median   | 0.0000  | 0.0000  | 0.0000  | 0.0000  | 0.0000  | 0.0000  | 0.0000  |
| Max.     | 0.4941  | 0.4660  | 0.5605  | 0.6676  | 0.9178  | 0.4867  | 0.5220  |
| SD       | 0.0175  | 0.0179  | 0.0185  | 0.0228  | 0.0276  | 0.0190  | 0.0192  |
| Ske.     | 14.1394 | 12.9544 | 15.3115 | 14.7657 | 17.6783 | 12.7591 | 13.4480 |
| Kur.     | 286.85  | 232.25  | 349.62  | 322.32  | 472.63  | 223.54  | 256.69  |
| Size     | 2840    | 2840    | 2840    | 2840    | 2840    | 2840    | 2840    |
| $b = 0$  | ES0     | ES1     | HAR     | AR1     | ARQ     | HARQ    | ESQ     |
| Mean     | 0.0050  | 0.0049  | 0.0056  | 0.0063  | 0.0058  | 0.0052  | 0.0054  |
| Median   | 0.0002  | 0.0002  | 0.0002  | 0.0003  | 0.0003  | 0.0002  | 0.0002  |
| Max.     | 0.5086  | 0.7682  | 0.8326  | 0.8262  | 0.8362  | 0.6840  | 0.8029  |
| SD       | 0.0344  | 0.0363  | 0.0422  | 0.0432  | 0.0388  | 0.0375  | 0.0399  |
| Ske.     | 12.3288 | 15.1551 | 13.2819 | 13.7566 | 15.3827 | 14.0863 | 13.9322 |
| Kur.     | 166.77  | 264.39  | 193.23  | 212.51  | 272.53  | 220.87  | 218.47  |
| Size     | 2840    | 2840    | 2840    | 2840    | 2840    | 2840    | 2840    |
| $b = -1$ | ES0     | ES1     | HAR     | AR1     | ARQ     | HARQ    | ESQ     |
| Mean     | 0.0091  | 0.0096  | 0.0098  | 0.0130  | 0.0129  | 0.0101  | 0.0098  |
| Median   | 0.0035  | 0.0037  | 0.0039  | 0.0054  | 0.0051  | 0.0037  | 0.0037  |
| Max.     | 0.3381  | 0.5879  | 0.4847  | 0.5723  | 0.9602  | 0.6940  | 0.5902  |
| SD       | 0.0224  | 0.0286  | 0.0264  | 0.0318  | 0.0375  | 0.0302  | 0.0280  |
| Ske.     | 10.0364 | 13.3357 | 10.7361 | 9.3700  | 12.9680 | 13.2420 | 11.8349 |
| Kur.     | 131.31  | 225.72  | 147.35  | 118.62  | 239.53  | 238.43  | 181.30  |
| Size     | 2841    | 2841    | 2841    | 2841    | 2841    | 2841    | 2841    |
| $b = -2$ | ES0     | ES1     | HAR     | AR1     | ARQ     | HARQ    | ESQ     |
| Mean     | 0.1225  | 0.1243  | 0.1275  | 0.1697  | 0.1624  | 0.1276  | 0.1245  |
| Median   | 0.1003  | 0.1016  | 0.1035  | 0.1351  | 0.1291  | 0.1016  | 0.1016  |
| Max.     | 0.5506  | 0.7121  | 0.5686  | 0.9904  | 0.9495  | 0.8868  | 0.7665  |
| SD       | 0.1004  | 0.1028  | 0.1042  | 0.1415  | 0.1367  | 0.1071  | 0.1026  |
| Ske.     | 1.2581  | 1.3651  | 1.2641  | 1.4917  | 1.5307  | 1.5091  | 1.3682  |
| Kur.     | 4.4922  | 5.2335  | 4.4802  | 5.6011  | 6.0364  | 6.4795  | 5.3569  |
| Size     | 2841    | 2841    | 2841    | 2841    | 2841    | 2841    | 2841    |

**Table 8:** Model ranking by MCS (Nikkei 225, excerpt)

| Estimation | Prediction | 1st             | 2nd             | 3rd             | 4th             | 5th             | 6th             |
|------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1999-2004  | 2005-2005  | ES0<br>(1.000)  | ES1<br>(0.945)  | ES1b<br>(0.572) | ESQ<br>(0.141)  | ES1a<br>(0.053) | HARQ<br>(0.024) |
| 2001-2004  | 2005-2005  | ES0<br>(1.000)  | ES1<br>(0.066)  | ES1b<br>(0.047) | ESQ<br>(0.047)  | ES1a<br>(0.047) | HARQ<br>(0.047) |
| 2002-2003  | 2004-2004  | ES0<br>(1.000)  | ES1b<br>(0.226) | ES1<br>(0.226)  | ESQ<br>(0.203)  | ES1a<br>(0.160) | HAR<br>(0.057)  |
| Estimation | Prediction | 1st             | 2nd             | 3rd             | 4th             | 5th             | 6th             |
| 2000-2004  | 2005-2005  | ES1<br>(1.000)  | ES0<br>(0.850)  | ESQ<br>(0.142)  | ES1a<br>(0.090) | ES1b<br>(0.090) | HARQ<br>(0.029) |
| 2001-2002  | 2003-2003  | ES1<br>(1.000)  | ES1b<br>(0.179) | ES0<br>(0.179)  | ESQ<br>(0.179)  | ES1a<br>(0.176) | HAR<br>(0.097)  |
| 2008-2008  | 2009-2009  | ES1<br>(1.000)  | ES0<br>(0.816)  | ES1b<br>(0.313) | ESQ<br>(0.313)  | HAR<br>(0.003)  | ES1a<br>(0.003) |
| Estimation | Prediction | 1st             | 2nd             | 3rd             | 4th             | 5th             | 6th             |
| 1999-2009  | 2010-2010  | HAR<br>(1.000)  | ES1b<br>(0.939) | ES1<br>(0.250)  | ESQ<br>(0.250)  | ES0<br>(0.225)  | HARQ<br>(0.017) |
| 2002-2009  | 2010-2010  | HAR<br>(1.000)  | ESQ<br>(0.713)  | ES0<br>(0.672)  | HARQ<br>(0.007) | ES1b<br>(0.007) | ES1<br>(0.007)  |
| 2009-2011  | 2012-2012  | HAR<br>(1.000)  | ESQ<br>(0.498)  | HARQ<br>(0.438) | ES1b<br>(0.438) | ES1<br>(0.135)  | ES1a<br>(0.135) |
| Estimation | Prediction | 1st             | 2nd             | 3rd             | 4th             | 5th             | 6th             |
| 1999-2006  | 2007-2007  | HARQ<br>(1.000) | ESQ<br>(0.924)  | HAR<br>(0.257)  | ES1<br>(0.104)  | ES0<br>(0.104)  | ES1a<br>(0.104) |
| 2001-2006  | 2007-2007  | HARQ<br>(1.000) | ESQ<br>(0.835)  | HAR<br>(0.388)  | ES1a<br>(0.388) | ES1b<br>(0.388) | ES1<br>(0.388)  |
| 2001-2012  | 2013-2013  | HARQ<br>(1.000) | ESQ<br>(0.963)  | ES1a<br>(0.963) | ARQ<br>(0.963)  | HAR<br>(0.555)  | ES1b<br>(0.555) |
| Estimation | Prediction | 1st             | 2nd             | 3rd             | 4th             | 5th             | 6th             |
| 1999-2007  | 1999-2007  | ESQ<br>(1.000)  | HARQ<br>(0.506) | HAR<br>(0.391)  | ES1<br>(0.034)  | ES0<br>(0.028)  | ES1a<br>(0.001) |
| 2000-2007  | 2000-2007  | ESQ<br>(1.000)  | HARQ<br>(0.340) | HAR<br>(0.288)  | ES1<br>(0.067)  | ES1a<br>(0.004) | ES0<br>(0.004)  |
| 2001-2004  | 2001-2004  | ESQ<br>(1.000)  | HARQ<br>(0.692) | HAR<br>(0.692)  | ES1a<br>(0.044) | ES0<br>(0.044)  | ES1b<br>(0.044) |

**Table 9:** Adjusted coefficients of determination  $R^2$  obtained from MZ regression

| Stock indices     | ES0          | ES1          | ES1a         | ES1b  | HAR   | AR1   | ARQ   | HARQ         | ESQ          |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|--------------|
| In-sample         |              |              |              |       |       |       |       |              |              |
| 1 year            | 0.293        | 0.320        | 0.323        | 0.313 | 0.312 | 0.250 | 0.269 | 0.322        | <u>0.330</u> |
| less than 5 years | 0.436        | 0.451        | 0.450        | 0.449 | 0.444 | 0.368 | 0.385 | 0.450        | <u>0.457</u> |
| more than 5 years | 0.547        | 0.554        | 0.554        | 0.552 | 0.552 | 0.468 | 0.485 | 0.557        | <u>0.560</u> |
| Out-of-sample     |              |              |              |       |       |       |       |              |              |
| 1 year            | <u>0.302</u> | 0.254        | 0.270        | 0.259 | 0.291 | 0.258 | 0.191 | 0.247        | 0.263        |
| less than 5 years | <u>0.317</u> | 0.300        | 0.305        | 0.304 | 0.317 | 0.272 | 0.241 | 0.290        | 0.300        |
| more than 5 years | 0.324        | 0.308        | <u>0.326</u> | 0.312 | 0.325 | 0.294 | 0.277 | 0.316        | 0.325        |
| Individual stocks |              |              |              |       |       |       |       |              |              |
| In-sample         |              |              |              |       |       |       |       |              |              |
| 1 year            | 0.284        | 0.308        | 0.305        | 0.304 | 0.299 | 0.240 | 0.259 | <u>0.309</u> | 0.308        |
| less than 5 years | 0.432        | <u>0.447</u> | 0.438        | 0.444 | 0.440 | 0.364 | 0.385 | 0.446        | 0.443        |
| more than 5 years | 0.538        | <u>0.548</u> | 0.540        | 0.546 | 0.543 | 0.456 | 0.480 | 0.547        | 0.545        |
| Out-of-sample     |              |              |              |       |       |       |       |              |              |
| 1 year            | <u>0.289</u> | 0.265        | 0.261        | 0.268 | 0.275 | 0.245 | 0.208 | 0.244        | 0.261        |
| less than 5 years | <u>0.295</u> | 0.280        | 0.282        | 0.284 | 0.289 | 0.252 | 0.231 | 0.273        | 0.280        |
| more than 5 years | <u>0.286</u> | 0.275        | 0.280        | 0.278 | 0.281 | 0.249 | 0.236 | 0.273        | 0.277        |