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UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2023/2024

FOURTH YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR DEGREE OF BACHELOR
OF SCIENCE IN STATISTICS

SMS 3460: FINANCIAL TIME SERIES AND RISK MANAGEMENT

DATE: APRIL 2023

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions.

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- (a) Briefly explain five characteristics of financial time series [5 marks]
- (b) State three key properties of Value at Risk (VaR) in financial risk management. [6 marks]
- (c) Describe three ways that a GARCH model can generate a heavy tailed distribution. [6 marks]
- (d) Given ARCH (1) model $a_t = \sigma_t e_t, \sigma_t^2 = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 a_{t-1}^2$ where $e_t \sim N(0,1)$ and $\alpha_0 > 0, \alpha_1 \geq 1$ GARCH (11) model. Show that $\text{var}[a_t] = \frac{\alpha_0}{1 - \alpha_1}$ [6 marks]
- (e) State and describe the GARCH-M model [4 marks]
- (f) State the square root of time rule in value at Risk (VaR) calculation under Risk metrics [3 marks]

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Given $a_t = \sigma_t e_t, \sigma_t^2 = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 a_{t-1}^2 + \beta \sigma_{t-1}^2$ where $e_t \sim N(0,1)$ is a GARCH (II) model. Show that



i. $E[a_t] = 0$ [3 marks]

ii. $Var[a_t] = \frac{\alpha_0}{1 - \alpha_1 - \beta_1}$ [8 marks]

iii. The process is leptokurtic [9 marks]

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

a) Consider an ARCH (i) process X_t given as; $X_t = \sqrt{\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{t-1}^2} + e_t$

where $e_t \sim IID N(0, \sigma^2)$ and independent of x_{t-1}

i. Find the stationary variance of X_t , giving necessary conditions on β_0 and β_1 [8 marks]

ii. Show that X_t is non-normal even if e_t is assumed to be normal. [6marks]

iii. Show that $X_t - \beta_1 X_{t-1}^2$ is a white noise with mean zero [6marks]

QUESTION FOUR(20MARKS)

a) Give three advantages of EGARCH models over the GARCH models. [6 marks]

b) Consider a financial time series model

$$X_t = \sigma_t e_t$$

where $e_t \sim IID N(0, \sigma^2)$ and X_t is a stationary process.

(i.) Define a GARCH (p, q) process [6 marks]

(ii.) Show that X_t^2 follows an ARMA (p, q) process with non-zero mean [8 marks]

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

a) Explain the stages in Financial Risk Management [8 marks]

b) Imagine you are a financial risk manager with two stocks namely:

Stock X: Initial investment: \$100,000 Expected return: 8% Standard deviation: 12%

Stock Y: Initial investment: \$150,000 Expected return: 12% Standard deviation:

18%

Assume a correlation coefficient (ρ) between the two stocks of 0.5. We want to calculate the I-day Var at a confidence level of 95% (12marks)

