

Belief Dispersion and Decreasing Returns in the Stock Market and in the Real Economy

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Introduction

- Shiller (1981), stock market volatility is too high relative to the ex post variability of dividends

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- Shiller (1981), stock market volatility is too high relative to the ex post variability of dividends
- First explanation: financial leverage (Black, 76, Christie, 82), explains only a small part

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- Heterogeneous beliefs (Basak 00, 2005, JN, 07, 11, Bhamra-Uppal, 14, Atmaz-Basak, 18): additional source of risk (excessive volatility, risk premium puzzle)

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- But exogenous dividend/production process (risk/return trade-off)

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- But exogenous dividend/production process (risk/return trade-off)
- "Although many interesting and useful results emerge from the analysis of exchange of fixed quantities of risk and return, an equally important set of issues arises in connection with the fact that the firm may vary the risk-return combination it offers" Greenberg et al. (78)

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- Financial markets equilibrium model, finite horizon, continuous time, one consumption good

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- Approach à la Greenberg et al. (78) : the firm chooses among a set of risk-return combinations ("technology" for the production of risk and return) vs neoclassical approach (capital, labor, investment,...)
- Capture the possibility for the firm/economy to expand during good times and to contract during bad times.

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- Existence and full characterization of Arrow-Debreu and Arrow-Radner equilibria

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- Due to risk exposure fluctuations

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- Due to risk exposure fluctuations
 - skewness, excess kurtosis and momentum in the production process

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 - skewness, excess kurtosis and momentum in the production process
 - skewness, excess kurtosis, short-term momentum and long-term reversal in the asset price process

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- RP ↘ with stock prices (Campbell-Cochrane, 99)

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- Testable conseq. : Sharpe and volatilities ratios bounds and relation between fin. volatility, RP, macro volatility, risk aversion and instantaneous average belief

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- Continuous time and log utility : CIR++ interest rate model

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- $\mathbb{T} = [0, T]$, Brownian motion $(W_t)_{t \in \mathbb{T}}$

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- One consumption good produced by the firm, delivered at date T , and consumption at T

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- $\mathbb{T} = [0, T]$, Brownian motion $(W_t)_{t \in \mathbb{T}}$
- One consumption good produced by the firm, delivered at date T , and consumption at T
- Controlled production process

$$dy_t^\theta = m(\theta_t) y_t^\theta dt + \theta_t y_t^\theta dW_t, y_0^\theta = 1$$

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$$dy_t^\theta = m(\theta_t) y_t^\theta dt + \theta_t y_t^\theta dW_t, y_0^\theta = 1$$

- $m(\theta) = \alpha + \beta\theta - \gamma\theta^2$ models the uncertainty/expected growth rate trade-off or how risk is transformed into return

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- A change in units of measure permits to take $\alpha = 0$

The firm

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- $Y = \{y : y \leq y_T^\theta \text{ for some } \theta\}$

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- A change in units of measure permits to take $\alpha = 0$
- $Y = \{y : y \leq y_T^\theta \text{ for some } \theta\}$
- AD-Prices (SPD) : r.v. p and value of y given by $E[py]$

Consumers/Shareholder

- There is a continuum of consumers who own the firm

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Consumers/Shareholder

- There is a continuum of consumers who own the firm
- Disagree about m : a δ -type shareholder believes that m is given by $m_\delta(\theta) = m(\theta) + \delta\theta$ and

$$dy_t = (m(\theta_t) + \delta\theta_t) y_t dt + \theta_t y_t dW_t^\delta$$

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- A δ -type shareholder has a subjective P^δ with $\frac{dP^\delta}{dP} = M_T^\delta = \exp(-\frac{1}{2}\delta^2 T + \delta W_T)$

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- δ takes all possible real values

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- Consumption at T , $U^\delta(c) = E [M_T^\delta u(c)]$, $u(x) = \frac{x^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma}$

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- A δ -type shareholder has a subjective P^δ with $\frac{dP^\delta}{dP} = M_T^\delta = \exp(-\frac{1}{2}\delta^2 T + \delta W_T)$
- δ takes all possible real values
- Consumption at T , $U^\delta(c) = E [M_T^\delta u(c)]$, $u(x) = \frac{x^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma}$
- Initial endowment of agent δ : $v_\delta \sim \mathcal{N}(\delta_0, \omega^2)$

Definition, existence and uniqueness

Definition

- $(\bar{y}, (\bar{c}_\delta)_{\delta \in \mathbb{R}}, \bar{p})$ is an ADPE if
1. $\bar{y} = \arg \max_Y E[\bar{p}y]$,
 2. $\bar{c}_\delta = \operatorname{argmax} U^\delta(c)$, $E[\bar{p}c] \leq \nu_\delta E[\bar{p}\bar{y}]$ for all δ , and
 3. $\int \bar{c}_\delta d\delta = \bar{y}$.

Theorem

There exists a unique ADPE given by

$$\bar{p} = \bar{y}^{-\gamma} \exp \frac{(k - W_T)^2}{2\omega^2}, \quad \bar{\theta}_{T-\tau} = \frac{W_{T-\tau} - b\tau - k + b\omega^2}{(2c + \gamma)\omega^2 - \tau(2c + 1)}$$

$$\bar{c}_\delta = \frac{\omega \lambda_\delta^{-\frac{1}{\gamma}} (M^\delta)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} \bar{p}^{-\frac{1}{\gamma}}}{\sqrt{2\pi\gamma}}, \quad \lambda_\delta = \exp \left(\frac{(\omega^2 - T)\delta^2}{2} + k\delta \right)$$

$\omega^2 \searrow$ with ω^2 from ∞ (for $\omega = 0$) to $\frac{2c+1}{2c+\gamma} T$ (for $\omega = \infty$).

Sketch of the resolution

- FOC : $M^\delta \bar{c}_\delta^{-\gamma} = \bar{\lambda}_\delta \bar{p} \implies \bar{c}_\delta = (M^\delta)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} (\bar{\lambda}_\delta \bar{p})^{-\frac{1}{\gamma}}$ and
$$\bar{y} = \bar{p}^{-\frac{1}{\gamma}} \int (M^\delta)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} \bar{\lambda}_\delta^{-\frac{1}{\gamma}} d\delta$$

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$$\bar{y} = \bar{p}^{-\frac{1}{\gamma}} \int (M^\delta)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} \bar{\lambda}_\delta^{-\frac{1}{\gamma}} d\delta$$
- $\bar{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta} E \left[y_T^\theta \bar{y}^{1-\gamma} \left(\int (M^\delta)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} \bar{\lambda}_\delta^{-\frac{1}{\gamma}} d\delta \right)^\gamma \right]$

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- $\bar{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta} E \left[y_T^\theta \bar{y}^{1-\gamma} \left(\int (M^\delta)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} \bar{\lambda}_\delta^{-\frac{1}{\gamma}} d\delta \right)^\gamma \right]$
- We assume $\ln \bar{\lambda}_\delta$ quadratic in δ , i.e. $\bar{\lambda}_\delta$ proportional to
$$\lambda_\delta = \exp \left(\frac{(\omega^2 - T)\delta^2}{2} + k\delta \right)$$

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Sketch of the resolution

- FOC : $M^\delta \bar{c}_\delta^{-\gamma} = \bar{\lambda}_\delta \bar{p} \implies \bar{c}_\delta = (M^\delta)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} (\bar{\lambda}_\delta \bar{p})^{-\frac{1}{\gamma}}$ and
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 $\lambda_\delta = \exp \left(\frac{(\omega^2 - T)\delta^2}{2} + k\delta \right)$
- $z_t^\theta = y_t^\theta \bar{y}^{-\gamma}$, $\bar{\theta} = \arg \max_\theta E [q_T z_T^\theta]$ where
 $q_T = \left(\int (M^\delta)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} \bar{\lambda}_\delta^{-\frac{1}{\gamma}} d\delta \right)^\gamma = \exp \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{(k - W_T)^2}{\omega^2} \right) \right)$

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 $q_t = E_t [q_T]$
- $0 = F_t + \mu_t^\theta F + \frac{1}{2} F_{ww} + \sigma_t^q \sigma_t^\theta F + \sigma_t^\theta F_w + \sigma_t^q F_w$

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- $0 = \frac{d}{d\theta} (\mu_t^\theta F + \sigma_t^q \sigma_t^\theta F + \sigma_t^\theta F_w) \Big|_{\bar{\theta}} = 0$, $1 = F(T, w)$

Sketch of the resolution (continued)

- $F(t, w)$ of the form $\exp(A(t)w^2 + B(t)w + C(t))$ and $\bar{\theta}(t, w) = D(t)w + E(t)$

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Sketch of the resolution (continued)

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should be proportional to v_δ

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- Gives $k = \frac{b(1-\gamma) + \delta_0(2c+1)}{2c+\gamma} T - \omega^2 \delta_0$ and $\frac{1}{\omega^2} = \frac{((2c+\gamma)\omega^2 + (2c+1)T)\omega^2}{2Tc(1-\gamma) + \gamma(2c+\gamma)\omega^2}$

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- Uniqueness : adapt Dana (1995), BDJ (2020)

Homogeneous/Exogenous benchmarks

- Without divergence of opinion ($\omega = 0, \omega = \infty$),
$$\theta_h \equiv \frac{b + \delta_0}{2c + \gamma}$$

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and its sensitivity \nearrow with ω^2 ; $\bar{\theta}_t \nearrow$ with δ_0

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- Exogenous benchmark : let μ and σ be given and let us
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 - we have $\bar{\theta}(t, W_t) = \sigma$ and $dy_t = \mu y_t dt + \sigma y_t dW_t$
(Atmaz-Basak, 2018)

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(Atmaz-Basak, 2018)
 - natural, since $m(\sigma) = \mu$ for all c and $\lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} m(\theta) = -\infty$
for $\theta \neq \sigma$

The production process

- At equilibrium, $\bar{y}_t = Y(t, W_t)$ where

$$Y(t, w) = K_t \exp \frac{1}{2} \left(\varphi(t) \bar{\theta}^2(t, w) - \frac{(k - b\omega^2 + Tb)^2}{\varphi(0)} \right)$$

$$\varphi(t) = (2c + \gamma)\omega^2 - (2c + 1)(T - t)$$

$$\text{and } K_t = \left(\frac{\varphi(t)}{\varphi(0)} \right)^{-\frac{1}{2(2c+1)}}$$

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- Non Markov

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- Non Markov
- In \bar{y}_{s+t}/\bar{y}_s : skewness > 0 and excess kurtosis for small t

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- In \bar{y}_{s+t}/\bar{y}_s : skewness > 0 and excess kurtosis for small t
- Momentum when $\delta_0 = 0$ (no bias) and $\gamma > 1$ and no reversal (Mao and Wei, 2014)

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- Non Markov
- In \bar{y}_{s+t}/\bar{y}_s : skewness > 0 and excess kurtosis for small t
- Momentum when $\delta_0 = 0$ (no bias) and $\gamma > 1$ and no reversal (Mao and Wei, 2014)
- No such effects in the homogeneous/exogenous settings

Long-lived securities

- Two long-lived securities, risky stock and riskless bond, $dS_t = \mu_t S_t dt + \sigma_t S_t dW_t$ and $r = 0$
- Self-financing strategy α , $dV_t^\alpha = \alpha_t (\mu_t S_t dt + \sigma_t S_t dW_t)$

Theorem

At the ADPE

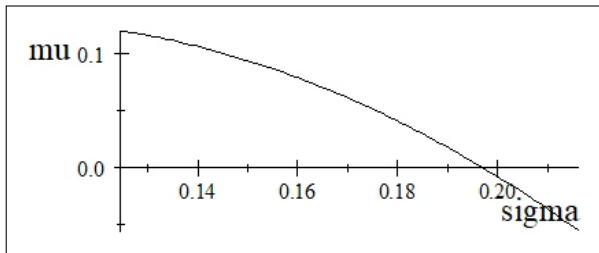
$$\mu_t = \omega^2 (2c + \gamma) \frac{b\omega^2\gamma + 2ck - 2cW_t}{(\varphi(t) + T - t)^2} \bar{\theta}_t,$$

$$\sigma_t = \frac{(2c + \gamma) \omega^2}{(\varphi(t) + T - t)} \bar{\theta}_t.$$

For each δ , $\exists \bar{\alpha}^\delta$ s.t. $V^{\bar{\alpha}^\delta} = \bar{c}_\delta$, and $\int \bar{\alpha}^\delta d\delta = 1$.

As in Duffie and Huang (1985), the ADPE might be implemented in a Radner equilibrium with two securities.

Drift/RP as a function of volatility (Schwert-Stambaugh 87, Campbell-Hentschel 92)



• $\mu \searrow \sigma$

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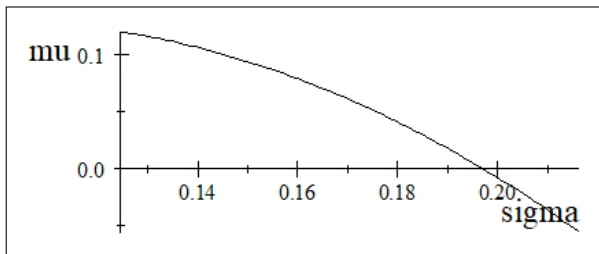
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Drift/RP as a function of volatility (Schwert-Stambaugh 87, Campbell-Hentschel 92)



- $\mu \searrow \sigma$
- $\sigma \nearrow$ with θ and with ω

Drift/RP as a function of production level (countercyclical, Campbell-Cochrane, 99)

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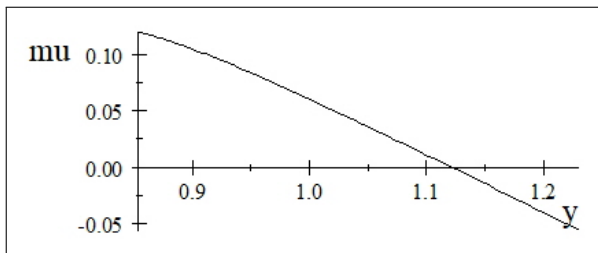
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Evolution of average belief/dispersion

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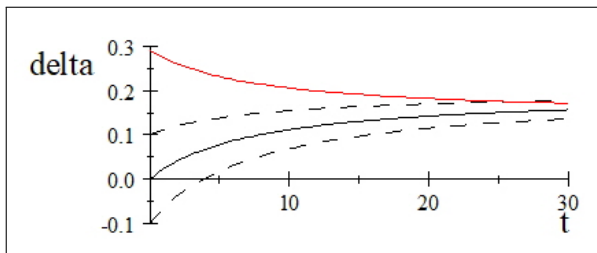
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Average belief as a function of production level (procyclical)

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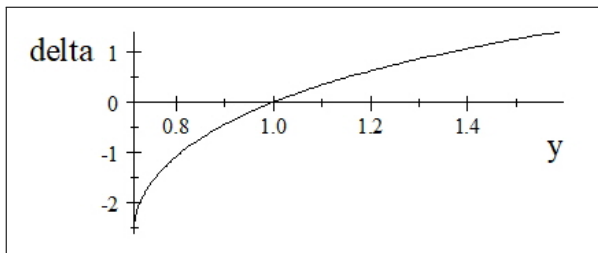
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Drift, volatilities and disagreement

- $\sigma_t / \bar{\theta}_t \nearrow$ with ω from 1 ($\omega = 0$) to $\frac{\max(1, \gamma) + 2c}{\max(1, \gamma) + 2ct/T}$ ($\omega = \infty$)

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- $\frac{\sigma_{T-\tau}}{\bar{\theta}_{T-\tau}}$ takes all possible values in

$$\left[1, \frac{2 + \sqrt{(\tau\omega_{T-\tau}^2 - \gamma)^2 + 4\tau\omega_{T-\tau}^2 + \tau\omega_{T-\tau}^2 - \gamma}}{2} \right]$$

when b and c take all admissible values.

Volatilities ratio bounds as a function of risk aversion

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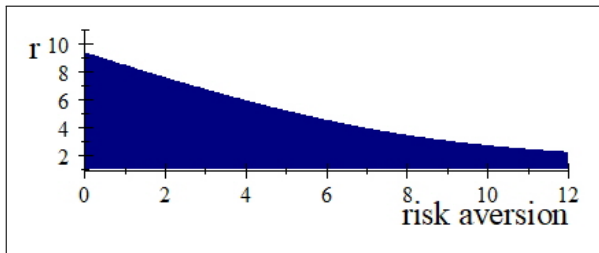
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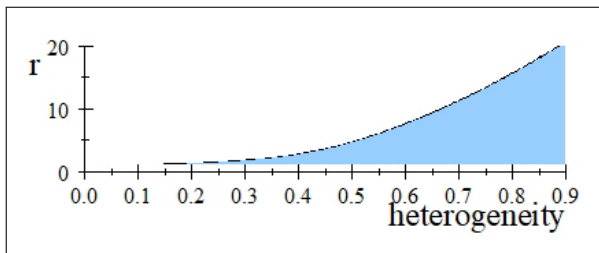
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- $V_t = \sigma_t^2; dV_t = (D_t^0 + \mathfrak{b}D_t^1\sqrt{V_t} + D_t^2V_t) dt + D_t\sqrt{V_t}dW$

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- Stochastic volatility, vol – vol = D_t (in contrast with the exogenous setting)

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- For $\mathfrak{b} = 0$, Heston model with perfect correlation between the 2 sources of risk
- The volatility risk premium by unit of risk
 $\Lambda_t = \frac{\mu_t}{\sigma_t} \frac{D_t}{\sqrt{V_t}} \longrightarrow \infty$ during recessions
($W_t^* = \mathfrak{b}(T - t) + k - \mathfrak{b}\omega^2$, $\bar{\theta}_t = 0$, S_t minimal)

Equilibrium stock price

- $S_t = G(t, \bar{y}_t)$ where $G(t, y) = H(t)y^{K(t)}$ with $K(t) = \frac{\sigma_t}{\theta_t}$ and H satisfies a first-order ODE

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- Log-returns exhibit positive skewness and excess kurtosis
- $C(S, s, t) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h^2} \text{cov}(\ln \frac{S_{s+h}}{S_s}, \ln \frac{S_{t+h}}{S_t})$

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- If $\delta_0 = 0$, $\gamma > 1$ and ω or T large enough, $C(S, 0, t) > 0$ for t small : short-term momentum

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- For T or ω large enough and $\xi \in (0, 1)$, $C(S, 0, \xi T) < 0$: long-run reversal

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- In the exogenous setting, short-term and long-run negative autocorrelations of returns

Equilibrium stock price

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- If $\delta_0 = 0$, $\gamma > 1$ and ω or T large enough, $C(S, 0, t) > 0$ for t small : short-term momentum
- For T or ω large enough and $\xi \in (0, 1)$, $C(S, 0, \xi T) < 0$: long-run reversal
- In the exogenous setting, short-term and long-run negative autocorrelations of returns
- In the homogeneous framework, no momentum nor long-run reversal

Autocorrelation between date 0 and date t returns

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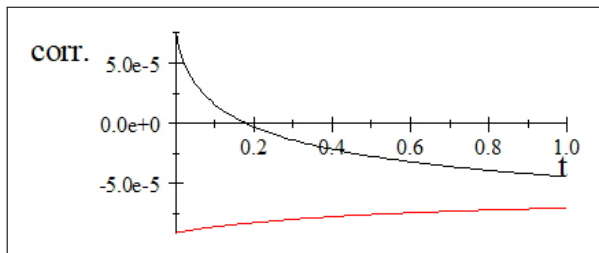
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The firm as a real option

- Debt : the value of the firm at T^* is given by $[S_{T^*} - \Delta]^+$

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Leverage effect and real options

The firm as a real option

- Debt : the value of the firm at T^* is given by $[S_{T^*} - \Delta]^+$
- Call option price with maturity T^* and strike κ

$$C_t^{\kappa, T^*} = S_t (\mathcal{N}(d_1) + \mathcal{N}(d'_1)) - \kappa (\mathcal{N}(d_2) + \mathcal{N}(d'_2))$$
$$d_1 = \frac{U - P}{\sqrt{Q}}, \quad d'_1 = \frac{P - V}{\sqrt{Q}}, \quad d_2 = \frac{U - p}{\sqrt{q}}, \quad d'_2 = \frac{p - V}{\sqrt{q}},$$

where $U < V$ are the solutions of $L_2 x^2 + L_1 x = \ln \kappa$.

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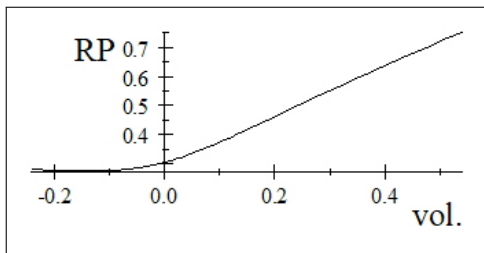
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The risk premium increases with volatility at the individual level (Duffee, 95)



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Volatility smirk (Rubinstein 94, Ait-Sahalia-Lo 98, Foresi-Wu 05)

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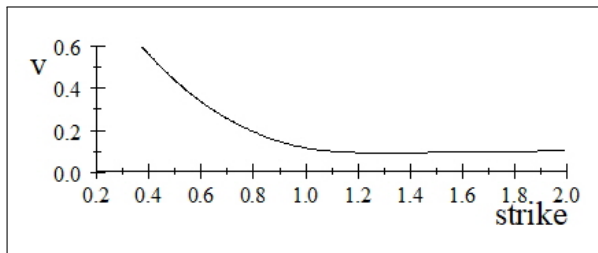
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Large horizon

- Taking the limit when $T \rightarrow \infty$, we have

$$\bar{\theta}_t = \frac{b + \delta_t}{2c + \gamma}, \quad \frac{\mu_t}{\sigma_t} = b, \quad \frac{\sigma_t}{\bar{\theta}_t} = 2c + 1, \quad \delta_\infty = b \frac{\gamma - 1}{2c + 1}$$

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- $\sigma_{[0,t]} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{t} \text{VAR} [\ln S_t]}$, $\mu_{[0,t]} = \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}[\ln S_t] + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_{[0,t]}^2$ and
 $\text{SHARPE}_{[0,t]} = \frac{\mu_{[0,t]}}{\sigma_{[0,t]}}$

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- Taking the limit when $T \rightarrow \infty$, we have

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- $\bar{\sigma}_t = \text{E}[\sigma_t]$, $\bar{\mu}_t = \text{E}[\mu_t]$ and $\text{SHARPE}_t = \frac{\mu_t}{\sigma_t} = \mathfrak{b}$ independent of t

Large horizon

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- $\sigma_{[0,t]} \nearrow$ with t and always above $\bar{\sigma}_t$,

Large horizon

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- $\sigma_{[0,t]} \nearrow$ with t and always above $\bar{\sigma}_t$,
- $\mu_{[0,t]} \nearrow$ with t and always below $\bar{\mu}_t$

Large horizon

- Taking the limit when $T \rightarrow \infty$, we have

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- $\mu_{[0,t]} \nearrow$ with t and always below $\bar{\mu}_t$
- $\text{SHARPE}_{[0,t]} \searrow \nearrow$ and always lower than SHARPE_t

Continuous time consumption/production

Short rate and yield curve

- $r_t = \rho + c \left(\frac{b + \delta_t}{2c + 1} \right)^2$ procyclical and $SR_t = \frac{b - 2c\delta_t}{2c + 1}$ contracyclical (for $c > 0$)

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Short rate and yield curve

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- $r_t = \rho + x_t$ with
$$dx_t = \kappa_t \left(\vartheta_t - x_t + b \frac{\sqrt{c}}{2c + 1} \sqrt{x_t} \right) dt + \sigma_t^r \sqrt{x_t} dW_t,$$
$$\kappa_t = 2 \frac{\omega^2}{t\omega^2 + 1} \text{ and } \vartheta_t = \frac{1}{2} c \frac{\omega^2}{(t\omega^2 + 1)(2c + 1)^2}$$

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- For $b = 0$, shifted CIR model (CIR++, Brigo-Mercurio, 06) with time-dependent parameters

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- For $b = 0$, shifted CIR model (CIR++, Brigo-Mercurio, 06) with time-dependent parameters
- For $\rho = 0$, CIR model with time-dependent parameters
- Generate a rich class of shapes for the yield curve (but always increasing in the short-run)

Conclusion

- We have attempted to link classical financial asset pricing models to the pricing, output, and investment models in the economics literature

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- We have attempted to link classical financial asset pricing models to the pricing, output, and investment models in the economics literature
- The firm maximizes its market value, its decisions are impacted by financial markets, and financial markets are impacted by its decisions in return

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 - from the financial point of view, debt as a strategic variable

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 - from the corporate governance point of view, delegation of firm's decisions and its impact

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- We retrieved some empirical regularities and derived testable consequences
- It may be of interest to explore
 - from the financial point of view, debt as a strategic variable
 - from the corporate governance point of view, delegation of firm's decisions and its impact
 - from a macroeconomic point of view, impact of real or perceived technological changes (e.g., dot-com bubble, data economy, Uberization, etc.) on volatilities

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Arrow-Debreu
equilibrium

Securities
markets

Extensions

Leverage effect
and real options

Large horizon

Continuous time
consumption/production

Conclusion