On a continuous time stock price model with regime switching, delay and threshold

Pedro P. Mota and Manuel L. Esquivel

New University of Lisbon, Portugal

Abstract

Motivated by the need to describe bear-bull market regime switching in stock prices, we introduce and study a stochastic process in continuous time with two regimes, threshold and delay, given by a stochastic differential equation. When the difference between the regimes is simply given by different set of real valued parameters for the drift and diffusion coefficients, changes between regimes depending only on these parameters, we show that if the delay is known there are consistent estimators for the threshold as long we know how to classify a given observation of the process as belonging to one of the two regimes. When the drift and diffusion coefficients are of geometric Brownian motion type we obtain a model with parameters that can be estimated in a satisfactory way, a model that allows to differentiate regimes in some of the NYSE 21 stocks analyzed and also, that gives very satisfactory results when compared to the usual Black-Scholes model for pricing call options.

Keywords

Ergodic diffusions, Transition and invariant densities, Maximum likelihood estimators.

References

Chan, K.S. (1993). Consistency and limiting distribution of the least squares estimator of a threshold autoregressive model. Ann. Statist. 2(1), 520–533.

Chan, K.S. and Tsay, R.S. (1998). Limiting properties of the least squares estimator of a continuous threshold autoregressive model. *Biometrika* 85(2), 413–426.

Freidlin, M. and Pfeiffer, R. (1998). A threshold estimation problem for processes with hysteresis. *Finance Stoch.* 36, 337–347.

1

Hansen, A.T. and Poulsen, R. (2000). A simple regime switching term structure model. Statist. Probab. Lett. 4(4), 409–429.

Mota, P.P. (2008). Brownian motion with drift threshold model. Ph.D Thesis – New University of Lisbon, Portugal.

Petrucelli, J.D. (1986). On the consistency of least squares estimators for a threshold AR(1) model. J. Time Ser. Anal. $\gamma(4)$, 269–278.

2