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# Efficient estimation of Markov-switching model with application in stock price classification

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#### Abstract:

In this paper, we discuss the calibration of geometric Brownian motion model equipped with Markov-switching factor. Since the motivation for this research comes from a recent stream of literature in stock economics, we propose an efficient estimation method to sample series of stock prices based on the expectation-maximization algorithm. We also implement an empirical application to evaluate the performance of the suggested model. For this purpose, based on the proposed Markov-switching model, we classify market data under various economic regimes by estimating the smoothed probabilities of hidden Markov chain states. Numerical results through the classification of the data set show that the proposed Markov-switching model fits the actual stock prices and reflects the main stylized facts of market dynamics.

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#### 1 Introduction

There are several researches in the literature, which their purpose to present a more realistic reflection of financial markets. The stochastic models can be broadly divided into: local volatility, stochastic volatility, volatility as an unknown process and Markov-switching models. The stochastic volatility model as an unknown process was first presented by [2]. However, as pointed out in [3], these models complicate the solution of financial market derivatives, because they involve additional nonlinear factors in ordinary differential equations.

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From [8] and [6], local volatility models have been proposed by deterministic function of asset price and time horizon. Fast calibration of these volatility models types was extensively studied by [10]. As we know, the model requires a smooth and continuous implied volatility, while numerical methods considered for the local volatility models can yield unstable results. According to studies conducted by [7] and [16], the performance of the local volatility model is not satisfactory because these models are highly restrictive. The stochastic models were generally investigated by [1]. It should be noted that the stochastic models are too popular for pricing financial derivatives and these models are also able to produce implied volatility smile well (see [12], [26] and [11]). However, stochastic models are not able to take into account different economic states without the regime-switching factor. Under such circumstances, these models may not reflect well the significant events that occur in the dynamics of financial time series.

Many financial time series sporadically show significant interruptions in their behavior that are associated with events such as war, climate change, recession, inflation, and so on (see [29] and [4]). In these situations, economists tend to use variables that change the behavior of time series dynamics. The model that can analyze these changes is called the Markov-switching model. This model can consider the intermittent and repetitive changes of economic regimes endogenously, while in the other models, these changes are usually as specific and exogenous. In most researches, there may be little information about the times that the parameters change. Therefore, we need to make results for milestones so that the change of parameters is significant. In this regard, some researchers first considered models that only one regime change occurs in the data, then models with more than one regime were designed. The probability of switching depends on the path of the asset. This dependence introduced as Markov-switching models (see [19]). Markov-switching (regime-switching) models are among the models that take the sudden changes into account and have been widely used to evaluate asset prices. Such models have recently been considered not only in econometrics but also in other areas such as population dynamics, river flow analysis, and speech recognition (see [21], [14] and [17]). Further, a comparison of various types of Markov-switching models for exchange rate can be found in [28]. Newly, [15] and [23] have experimentally shown that adding the Markov-switching factor to the volatility dynamics leads to more non-Gaussianity stock returns.

In order to compare the prices obtained by the model and the actual market data, calibration by model parameters estimation is evermore implicated (see [25], [13] and [24]). This challenging process under the Markov-switching model is the focus of this paper. Given the latent switching mechanism, in which the model parameters change based on sudden changes over time, it is necessary to estimate these parameters by deriving model parameters and the state values of the hidden Markov chain process simultaneously. In this paper, we calibrate the geometric Brownian motion (GBM) model equipped with the hidden Markov chain. To do this, we use the method proposed by [20], in which the parameters of the hidden Markov model were estimated using the expectation-maximization (EM) algorithm. The proposed model actually demonstrates the Markov-switching GBM (MSGBM) dynamics, such that the stock price can be classified based on its calibration.

### 2 The MSGBM model framework

Suppose that  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  is a probability space and [0, T] is a time interval with a maturity time of T > 0. Also, let  $Y := \{Y(t)\}_{t \in [0,T]}$  be a hidden Markov chain with N state on probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  that the set of chain states is  $\mathcal{E} = \{e_1, \ldots, e_N\}$ . Without loss of the generality, suppose that the hidden Markov chain states are considered as singular vectors; That is, for every  $j = 1, \ldots, N$ , *j*th component of  $e_j$  is one and the rest is zero. Let  $\Pi = (\pi_{jk})_{j,k=1,\ldots,N}$  be a hidden Markov chain rate matrix, where  $\pi_{jk}$  is the intensity of the chain transition from state  $e_j$  (regime *j*) into state  $e_k$  (regime *k*). Such that for every  $j, k = 1, \ldots, N$  we have

$$\pi_{jk} = \begin{cases} \pi_{jk} \ge 0 & j \ne k, \\ -\sum_{j=1, j \ne k}^{N} \pi_{jk} & j = k. \end{cases}$$

Consider the hidden Markov chain transition matrix Y as  $P = (p_{jk})$ , which includes the probabilities  $p_{jk} = \mathbb{P}(Y(t) = e_k | Y(t-1) = e_j)$ , such that  $p_{jk}$  means switching regime j (state  $e_j$ ) at time t-1 to regime k (state  $e_k$ ) at time t. For instance, if the hidden Markov chain has two states (N = 2), then

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} \\ p_{21} & p_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} p_{11} & 1 - p_{11} \\ p_{21} & 1 - p_{21} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here, the considered Markov chain in the Markov-switching model has two-state, i.e., N = 2. Generalizing the model to more states is similar to the two-state model. Let  $\mu = (\mu_1, \mu_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \sigma_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  be dependent on Y(t). We define

$$\begin{aligned}
\left( \mu(t) := \mu(Y(t)) = \langle \mu, Y(t) \rangle &= \sum_{j=1}^{2} \mu_j \langle Y(t), e_j \rangle, \\
\left( \sigma(t) := \sigma(Y(t)) = \langle \sigma, Y(t) \rangle &= \sum_{j=1}^{2} \sigma_j \langle Y(t), e_j \rangle, \quad \sigma_j > 0, \quad j = 1, 2, \end{aligned}$$
(1)

where  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  represents the inner product in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . On the other hand, as expressed in [9], Y(t) has the following expression

$$dY(t) = \Pi Y(t)dt + dV(t), \tag{2}$$

where  $\mathbb{R}^2$ -value process  $\{V(t)\}_{t\in[0,T]}$  is an  $\mathcal{F}^Y$ -martingale process, such that  $\mathcal{F}^Y := \mathcal{F}^Y\{(t)\}_{t\in[0,T]}$  indicates the filtration generated by the hidden Markov chain Y. We

define  $f(t,y) = e^{-\Pi t}y$ . Then from Eq. (2) and by applying Ito's lemma to f(t,y), we obtain

$$df(s,y) = f_s ds + f_y dY(s) + \frac{1}{2} f_{yy} dY(s) dY(s)$$
$$= -\Pi e^{-\Pi s} Y(s) ds + e^{-\Pi s} (\Pi Y(s) ds + dV(s))$$
$$= e^{-\Pi s} dV(s).$$

Integrating with respect to s from 0 to t and multiplying the sides by  $e^{\Pi t}$  we have

$$Y(t) = e^{\Pi t} Y(0) + \int_0^t e^{\Pi(t-s)} dV(s).$$

Therefore

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}[Y(t)] = & e^{\Pi t} \mathbb{E}[Y(0)] \\ = & e^{\Pi t} \left( e_1 \times \mathbb{P}(Y(0) = e_1) + e_2 \times \mathbb{P}(Y(0) = e_2) \right). \end{split}$$

We put  $m := (e_1 \times \mathbb{P}(Y(0) = e_1) + e_2 \times \mathbb{P}(Y(0) = e_2))$ . In this case, using Eq. (1), we have

$$\mathbb{E}[r(Y(t))] = \langle \mu, \mathbb{E}[Y(t)] \rangle = \langle \mu, m e^{\Pi t} \rangle,$$
  
$$\mathbb{E}[\sigma(Y(t))] = \langle \sigma, \mathbb{E}[Y(t)] \rangle = \langle \sigma, m e^{\Pi t} \rangle.$$
(3)

Suppose that S(t) is the stock price at the moment  $t \in [0, T]$ . In this case, the RS-GBM model under the accurate probability measure  $\mathbb{P}$  can be expressed as follows

$$dS(t) = \mu(t)S(t)dt + \sigma(t)S(t)dB(t), \quad S(0) = s,$$

wherein  $(\mu(t))_{t \in [0,T]}$  and  $(\sigma(t))_{t \in [0,T]}$  are the average rates of return and market volatility, respectively, which depend on the hidden Markov chain Y(t). Also, B(t) is a Brownian motion under the probability measure  $\mathbb{P}$ .

Recently [27], showed that the RSGBM model under the neutral risk probability measure  $\mathbb{Q}$  could be expressed as follows

$$dS(t) = r(t)S(t)dt + \sigma(t)S(t)dW(t), \quad S(0) = s,$$
(4)

where  $(r(t))_{t \in [0,T]}$  is the interest rate that depends on the hidden Markov chain Y(t). W(t) is also the standard Brownian motion under the probability measure  $\mathbb{Q}$ . In general, S(t) can be expressed as follows

$$S(t) = \begin{cases} S_1(t) & \text{if } Y(t) \text{ in state } e_1 \text{ (regime 1)}, \\ S_2(t) & \text{if } Y(t) \text{ in state } e_2 \text{ (regime 2)}, \end{cases}$$
(5)

where,

$$dS_i(t) = r_i S_i(t) dt + \sigma_i S_i(t) dW(t), \quad i = 1 \lor 2.$$

Here and everywhere, it is always assumed that the Markov chain process Y and the Brownian motion W are independent of each other. Therefore, Y is considered as an external factor of market information. Assume that  $\mathcal{F}_t^W$  is a filtration generated by Brownian motion W. We define  $\mathcal{F}_t := \mathcal{F}_t^W \vee \mathcal{F}_t^Y$  as a global filtration.

#### 3 Implementation of the EM algorithm

The expectation-maximization algorithm or EM algorithm is an efficient iterative method for calculating the maximum likelihood estimation in the presence of missing or hidden information. In contrast, in the maximum likelihood estimation method, the parameters are estimated in the presence of visible data. [5] first introduced the EM algorithm. Each step of the EM algorithm consists of two steps: expectation (E) and maximization (M). In step E, the confidential data are estimated based on a conditional expectation based on the observed data and the available model parameters. In step M, the likelihood function is maximized under the assumption that the lost data is known.

Assume that Z is a random vector derived from a parametric family to derive the EM algorithm. We want to find  $\Lambda$  so that  $\mathbb{P}(Z|\Lambda)$  is maximized. The logarithm likelihood function is defined as follows

$$L(\Lambda) = \log(\mathbb{P}(Z|\Lambda)), \tag{6}$$

where the likelihood function is considered as a function of the  $\Lambda$  parameter for X data. Since the logarithm function is a strictly ascending function, the value  $\Lambda$ , which maximizes  $\mathbb{P}(Z|\Lambda)$ , will also maximize  $L(\Lambda)$ .

As mentioned, the EM algorithm is an iterative method for maximizing  $L(\Lambda)$ , in which  $\Lambda^{(m)}$  is an estimate of  $\Lambda$  after *m*th iteration. Since the goal is to maximize  $L(\Lambda)$ , we want to calculate the updated estimate of  $\Lambda$ , such that,

$$L(\Lambda) > L(\Lambda^{(m)}).$$

It means that we can maximize the difference between the terms  $L(\Lambda)$  and  $L(\Lambda^{(m)})$ and we can write

$$L(\Lambda) - L(\Lambda^{(m)}) = \log(\mathbb{P}(Z|\Lambda)) - \log(\mathbb{P}(Z|\Lambda^{(m)})).$$
(7)

So far we have not considered any missing or hidden variables, the EM algorithm provides a framework for including such information in problems where there is such information. Suppose that Y is a hidden random vector composed of random variables y. Now we write the total probability  $\mathbb{P}(Z|\Lambda)$  based on the hidden variable y. In this case, we have

$$\mathbb{P}(Z|\Lambda) = \sum_{y} \mathbb{P}(Z|y,\Lambda) \mathbb{P}(y|\Lambda).$$
(8)

Therefore, Eq. (7) can be rewritten as follows

$$L(\Lambda) - L(\Lambda^{(m)}) = \log\left(\sum_{y} \mathbb{P}(Z|y,\Lambda)\mathbb{P}(y|\Lambda)\right) - \log(\mathbb{P}(Z|\Lambda^{(m)})).$$
(9)

Given the Jensen inequality for each convex function such as f and for nonnegative  $\Lambda_j$ , that is applied in the condition  $\sum_{j=1}^n \Lambda_j = 1$ , we have

$$f\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n}\Lambda_{j}x_{j}\right)\leq\sum_{j=1}^{n}\Lambda_{j}f(x_{j}).$$

In this case, using Jensen inequality for Eq. (9), we obtain

$$\begin{split} L(\Lambda) - L(\Lambda^{(m)}) &= \log\left(\sum_{y} \mathbb{P}(Z|y,\Lambda)\mathbb{P}(y|\Lambda)\right) - \log(\mathbb{P}(Z|\Lambda^{(m)})) \\ &= \log\left(\sum_{y} \mathbb{P}(Z|y,\Lambda)\mathcal{P}(y|\Lambda)\frac{\mathbb{P}(y|Z,\Lambda^{(m)})}{\mathbb{P}(y|Z,\Lambda^{(m)})}\right) - \log(\mathbb{P}(Z|\Lambda^{(m)})) \\ &= \log\left(\sum_{y} \mathbb{P}(y|Z,\Lambda^{(m)})\left(\frac{\mathbb{P}(Z|y,\Lambda)\mathbb{P}(y|\Lambda)}{\mathbb{P}(y|Z,\Lambda^{(m)})}\right)\right) - \log(\mathbb{P}(Z|\Lambda^{(m)})) \\ &\geq \sum_{y} \left(\mathbb{P}(y|Z,\Lambda^{(m)})\log\left(\frac{\mathbb{P}(Z|y,\Lambda)\mathbb{P}(y|\Lambda)}{\mathbb{P}(y|Z,\Lambda^{(m)})}\right)\right) - \log(\mathbb{P}(Z|\Lambda^{(m)})) \\ &= \sum_{y} \left(\mathbb{P}(y|Z,\Lambda^{(m)})\log\left(\frac{\mathbb{P}(Z|y,\Lambda)\mathbb{P}(y|\Lambda)}{\mathbb{P}(y|Z,\Lambda^{(m)})\mathbb{P}(Z|\Lambda^{(m)})}\right)\right) \\ &\triangleq \Delta(\Lambda|\Lambda^{(m)}). \end{split}$$
(10)

As a result

$$L(\Lambda) \ge L(\Lambda^{(m)}) + \Delta(\Lambda | \Lambda^{(m)}).$$
(11)

From  $l(\Lambda|\Lambda^{(m)}) \triangleq L(\Lambda^{(m)}) + \Delta(\Lambda|\Lambda^{(m)})$ , the inequality of expression (11) is written as follows

$$L(\Lambda) \ge l(\Lambda | \Lambda^{(m)}). \tag{12}$$

Therefore  $l(\Lambda|\Lambda^{(m)})$  is an upper bound for the maximum likelihood function  $L(\Lambda)$ .

Now we show that the function  $l(\Lambda|\Lambda^{(m)})$  and  $L(\Lambda)$  are equals for each  $\Lambda = \Lambda^{(m)}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} l(\Lambda^{(m)}|\Lambda^{(m)}) &= L(\Lambda^{(m)}) + \Delta(\Lambda|\Lambda^{(m)}) \\ &= L(\Lambda^{(m)}) + \sum_{y} \mathbb{P}(y|Z,\Lambda^{(m)}) \log\left(\frac{\mathbb{P}(Z|y,\Lambda^{(m)})\mathbb{P}(y|\Lambda^{(m)})}{\mathbb{P}(y|Z,\Lambda^{(m)})\mathbb{P}(Z|\Lambda^{(m)})}\right) \\ &= L(\Lambda^{(m)}) + \sum_{y} \mathbb{P}(y|Z,\Lambda^{(m)}) \log\left(\frac{\mathbb{P}(Z,y|\Lambda^{(m)})}{\mathbb{P}(Z,y|\Lambda^{(m)})}\right) \\ &= L(\Lambda^{(m)}). \end{aligned}$$
(13)

As can be seen, the function  $l(\Lambda|\Lambda^{(m)})$  is an upper bound for the likelihood function  $L(\Lambda)$ , which is equal to  $\Lambda = \Lambda^{(m)}$ , and the value of  $l(\Lambda|\Lambda^{(m+1)})$  is maximized for  $\Lambda = \Lambda^{(m+1)}$ . Since  $l(\Lambda) \geq l(\Lambda|\Lambda^{(m)})$ , an increase of  $l(\Lambda|\Lambda^{(m)})$  is guaranteed and the value of the likelihood function  $L(\Lambda)$  increases with each step.

Now we just need to calculate the value  $\Lambda^{(m+1)}$ . Therefore we have

$$\Lambda^{(m+1)} = \arg \max_{\Lambda} \left\{ l(\Lambda|\Lambda^{(m)}) \right\}$$
$$= \arg \max_{\Lambda} \left\{ L(\Lambda^{(m)}) + \sum_{y} \mathbb{P}(y|Z, \Lambda^{(m)}) \log \left( \frac{\mathbb{P}(Z|y, \Lambda) \mathbb{P}(y|\Lambda)}{\mathbb{P}(y|Z, \Lambda^{(m)}) \mathbb{P}(Z|\Lambda^{(m)})} \right) \right\}.$$
(14)

Excluding sentences that are fixed relative to  $\Lambda$ , we have

$$\Lambda^{(m+1)} = \arg \max_{\Lambda} \left\{ \sum_{y} \mathbb{P}(y|Z, \Lambda^{(m)}) \log \left( \mathbb{P}(Z|y, \Lambda) \mathbb{P}(y|\Lambda) \right) \right\}$$
$$= \arg \max_{\Lambda} \left\{ \sum_{y} \mathbb{P}(y|Z, \Lambda^{(m)}) \log \left( \frac{\mathbb{P}(Z, y, \Lambda) \mathbb{P}(y, \Lambda)}{\mathbb{P}(y, \Lambda) \mathbb{P}(\Lambda)} \right) \right\}$$
$$= \arg \max_{\Lambda} \left\{ \sum_{y} \mathbb{P}(y|Z, \Lambda^{(m)}) \log \left( \mathbb{P}(Z, y|\Lambda) \right) \right\}$$
$$= \arg \max_{\Lambda} \left\{ \mathbb{E}_{Y|Z, \Lambda^{(m)}} \left[ \log \left( \mathbb{P}(Z, y|\Lambda) \right) \right] \right\}.$$
(15)

As we can see, in Eq. (15), the phases of expectation and maximization have appeared. Thus the EM algorithm includes the following iterations

- (i) Step E: Determine the conditional expectation  $\mathbb{E}_{Y|Z,\Lambda^{(m)}}[\log \mathbb{P}(Y,y|\Lambda)].$
- (ii) Step M: Maximize the expression  $\mathbb{E}_{Y|Z,\Lambda^{(m)}}[\log \mathbb{P}(Y,y|\Lambda)]$  relative to  $\Lambda$ .

#### 4 Estimation of the MSGBM model parameters

In this section, we use the EM algorithm based on the actual market data to estimate the Markov-switching times of the MSGBM model, the transition probabilities of the Markov chain, and the parameters that depend on the hidden Markov chain, i.e.,  $(r(t), \sigma(t))$ . Using the same strategy, the Markov-switching model parameter with more states can be estimated.

Before estimating the Markov-switching model parameters in Eq. (4), we consider its discrete form by using the Euler method as follows

$$S(t_j) = S(t_{j-1}) + r(t)S(t_{j-1}) + \sigma(t_j)S(t_{j-1})\sqrt{\delta\epsilon_j},$$
(16)

where  $\{0 = t_0 < t_1 < \ldots < t_n = T\}$  is a partition of interval [0, T] with step length  $\delta := t_j - t_{j-1}$ . Also  $\epsilon_1, \ldots, \epsilon_n$  is a random instance of the standard normal distribution. Since the  $\epsilon_j$  has a standard normal distribution, then  $S(t_j)$  has a normal distribution with mean  $S(t_{j-1}) + r(t_j)S(t_{j-1})$  and variance  $\sigma^2(t_j)S^2(t_{j-1})\delta$ , conditional upon the  $S(t_{j-1})$  and  $Y(t_j)$ . Therefore, assuming that the number of Markov chain states is two, the density function of  $S(t_j)$  conditional upon the  $S(t_{j-1})$  and  $Y(t_j)$  is expressed as follows

$$f(S(t_j)|S(t_{j-1}), Y(t_j) = e_k, \Lambda) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_k^2 S^2(t_{j-1})\delta}}\right) \times \exp\left\{-\frac{(S(t_j) - S(t_{j-1}) - r_k S(t_{j-1}))^2}{2\sigma_k^2 S^2(t_{j-1})\delta}\right\}, \quad k = 1, 2,$$
(17)

where  $\Lambda := \{r_1, r_2, \sigma_1, \sigma_2, P\}$  is a set of parameters that we want to estimate. Consider the likelihood function based on the parameter  $\Lambda$  as follows

$$L(\Lambda|\mathcal{S},\mathcal{Y}) = \prod_{j=1}^{n} f\left(S(t_j)|S(t_{j-1}),Y(t_j)=e_k,\Lambda\right),\tag{18}$$

where  $S = (S(t_1), \ldots, S(t_n))$  and  $\mathcal{Y} = (Y(t_1), \ldots, Y(t_n))$ . In this case, the logarithm likelihood function is obtained as follows

$$\mathcal{L}(\Lambda|\mathcal{S},\mathcal{Y}) = \ln\left(\prod_{j=1}^{n} f\left(S(t_{j})|S(t_{j-1}),Y(t_{j})=e_{k},\Lambda\right)\right)$$
  
$$= \sum_{j=1}^{n} \ln f\left(S(t_{j})|S(t_{j-1}),Y(t_{j})=e_{k},\Lambda\right)$$
  
$$= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \ln(2\pi\sigma_{k}^{2}S^{2}(t_{j-1})\delta) - \sum_{j=1}^{n} \left[\frac{\left(S(t_{j})-S(t_{j-1})-r_{k}S(t_{j-1})\right)^{2}}{2\sigma_{k}^{2}S^{2}(t_{j-1})\delta}\right]$$
  
$$= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \left[\ln(2\pi\sigma_{k}^{2}S^{2}(t_{j-1})\delta) + \frac{\left(S(t_{j})-S(t_{j-1})-r_{k}S(t_{j-1})\right)^{2}}{\sigma_{k}^{2}S^{2}(t_{j-1})\delta}\right].$$
(19)

As mentioned before, the EM algorithm maximizes the probability function (4) for models with missing observations or unobserved variables. Its purpose is to maximize the probability function in the presence of unobserved data. This algorithm is an iterative method consisting of the following two steps in (m + 1)th iteration.

(i) Step E: Determine the following conditional expectation

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}|\mathcal{S},\Lambda^{(m)}}\left[\ln\mathbb{P}\left(\mathcal{S},\mathcal{Y}\mid\Lambda^{(m+1)}\right)\right] := \sum_{k=1}^{2}\sum_{j=1}^{n}\ln\mathbb{P}\left(\mathcal{S},\mathcal{Y}\mid\Lambda^{(m+1)}\right)\mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_{j})=e_{k}\mid\mathcal{S},\Lambda^{(m)}\right)$$
(20)

(ii) Step M: Maximize the problem (20) relative to  $\Lambda$ . In this case, the logarithm likelihood function of Eq. (19) is maximized relative to the model parameters, and  $\Lambda^{(m+1)}$  is obtained in (m+1)th iterations.

Next, using Theorems 4.1 and 4.2, we specify steps E and M of the EM algorithm, respectively, to estimate the parameters of the MSGBM model.

**Theorem 4.1.** Conditional expectation  $\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{Y}|\mathbb{S},\Lambda^{(m)}}[\ln \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{S},\mathbb{Y}|\Lambda^{(m+1)})]$ , in step E of the EM algorithm is as follows

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}|\mathcal{S},\Lambda^{(m)}}\left[\ln\mathbb{P}\left(\mathcal{S},\mathcal{Y}\mid\Lambda^{(m+1)}\right)\right] = \sum_{k=1}^{2}\sum_{j=1}^{n}\mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_{j}) = e_{k}|\mathcal{S},\Lambda^{(m)}\right) \times \ln f\left(S(t_{j})|S(t_{j-1}),Y(t_{j}) = e_{k},\Lambda^{(m+1)}\right).$$
(21)

*Proof.* See [22].

The value  $\mathbb{E}[Y(t_j) = e_k | S(t_j), \Lambda]$  is known as the "filtering inference" and is a linear combination of the observation vector  $S(t_j)$  and the probability  $\mathbb{P}(Y(t_j) = e_k | S(t_j), \Lambda)$ is calculated. Since Y(t) is hidden and not directly visible, the expected values of the Markov chain process can be observed by the observation vector  $\mathbb{E}[Y(t_j) = e_k | S(t_j), \Lambda]]$ to be calculated. These expected results are known as "smoothed inference" and calculate the conditional probability  $\mathbb{P}(Y(t_j) = e_k | S, \Lambda)$ . In order to calculate the smoothed probability, the filtering step must be completed.

The expression  $\mathbb{P}(Y(t_j) = e_k | S(t_j), \Lambda)$  in the Theorem 4.1, consists of two stages of filtering and smoothing. Let the parameter vector be obtained by step M in step (m-1), in this case, as examined by [20], the two-step filtering and smoothing algorithm to obtain  $\mathbb{P}(Y(t_j) = e_k | S(t_j), \Lambda^{(m)})$  is expressed as follows

(i) Filtering: For j = 1, ..., n, as long as  $\mathbb{P}(Y(t_n) = e_k | S(t_n), \Lambda^{(m)})$  is obtained, we calculate the following probability

$$\begin{split} & \mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_i) = e_k | S(t_j), \Lambda^{(m)}\right) \\ & = \frac{\mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_j) = e_k | S(t_{j-1}), \Lambda^{(m)}\right) f\left(S(t_j) | Y(t_j) = e_k, S(t_{j-1}), \Lambda^{(m)}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^2 \left[\mathbb{P}\left(Z(t_j) = e_i | S(t_{j-1}), \Lambda^{(m)}\right) f\left(S(t_j) | Y(t_j) = e_i, S(t_{j-1}), \Lambda^{(m)}\right)\right]}, \end{split}$$

where

$$\mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_{j+1}) = e_k | S(t_j), \Lambda^{(m)}\right) = \sum_{i=1}^2 P_{ki}^{(m)} \mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_j) = e_i | S(t_j), \Lambda^{(m)}\right)$$

(ii) Smoothing: For j = n - 1, ..., 1, we calculate the following probability

$$\mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_j) = e_k | \mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)}\right)$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^2 \left[\frac{\mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_{j+1}) = e_i | \mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_j) = e_k | \mathcal{S}(t_j), \Lambda^{(m)}\right) P_{ik}^{(m)}}{\mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_{j+1}) = e_i | \mathcal{S}(t_j), \Lambda^{(m)}\right)}\right],$$

where, the probability of transition is as follows

$$P_{ik}^{(m+1)} = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^{n} \left[ \mathbb{P}\left( Y(t_{j+1}) = e_i \mid S(t_{j+1}), \Lambda^{(m)} \right) \left( \frac{P_{ik}^{(m)} \mathbb{P}\left( Y(t_j) = e_k \mid S, \Lambda^{(m)} \right)}{\mathbb{P}\left( Y(t_{j+1}) = e_i \mid S(t_j), \Lambda^{(m)} \right)} \right) \right]}$$

In addition, as a starting point of the algorithm we have

$$h_j^{(m)} = \mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_1) = e_j | S(t_0), \Lambda^{(m)}\right),$$

and we will have the following iterations

$$h_j(m+1) = \mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_1) = e_j | \mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)}\right),$$

where  $h_j^{(0)}$  for each j = 1, 2 must be given as input to the algorithm (see [18]).

Theorem 4.2. The maximum value of the relationship

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}|\mathcal{S},\Lambda^{(m)}}\left[\ln \mathbb{P}\left(\mathcal{S},\mathcal{Y}|\Lambda^{(m+1)}\right)\right]$$

In step M of the EM algorithm, under the MSGBM model, the following points are obtained

$$\hat{r}_{k} = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^{n} \mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_{j}) = e_{k} | \mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)}\right) \left(\frac{S(t_{j}) - S(t_{j-1})}{S(t_{j-1})}\right)}{\sum_{j=1}^{n} \mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_{j}) = e_{k} | \mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)}\right)},$$
(22)

$$\hat{\sigma}_{k} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{j=1}^{n} \left[ \left( \mathbb{P}\left( Y(t_{j}) = e_{k} | \mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)} \right) \right) \left( \frac{\left( S(t_{j}) - S(t_{j-1}) - \hat{r}_{k} S(t_{j-1}) \right)^{2}}{S^{2}(t_{j-1}) \delta} \right) \right]}{\sum_{j=1}^{n} \mathbb{P}\left( Y(t_{j}) = e_{k} | \mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)} \right)}.$$
(23)

*Proof.* According to Theorem 4.1, we have

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}|\mathcal{S},\Lambda^{(m)}}\left[\ln\mathbb{P}\left(\mathcal{S},\mathcal{Y}\mid\Lambda^{(m+1)}\right)\right] = \sum_{k=1}^{2}\sum_{j=1}^{n}\mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_{j})=e_{k}|\mathcal{S},\Lambda^{(m)}\right)$$
$$\times\ln f\left(S(t_{j})|S(t_{j-1}),Y(t_{j})=e_{k},\Lambda^{(m+1)}\right).$$

Substituting Eq. (19) in the expression above gives

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}|\mathcal{S},\Lambda^{(m)}}\left[\ln\mathbb{P}\left(\mathcal{S},\mathcal{Y}\mid\Lambda^{(m+1)}\right)\right] = \sum_{k=1}^{2}\sum_{j=1}^{n}\left[\mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_{j})=e_{k}|\mathcal{S},\Lambda^{(m)}\right)\right.\\ \left.\left.\left.\left.\left(-\frac{1}{2}\left[\ln\left(2\pi\sigma_{k}^{2}S^{2}(t_{j-1})\delta\right)\right.\right.\right.\right.\right.\right.\\ \left.\left.\left.\left.\left(S(t_{j})-S(t_{j-1})-r_{k}S(t_{j-1})\right)^{2}\right]\right\right)\right]\right]\right]\right]\right]$$

$$\left.\left.\left(24\right)$$

To obtain the maximum points of Eq. (24), we differentiate from  $r_k$  and  $\sigma_k$  (k = 1, 2) and then set it to zero. Differentiating Eq. (24) with respect to  $r_k$  and set it equal to zero, we obtain

$$\begin{split} &\frac{1}{2\sigma_k^2\delta}\sum_{j=1}^n \left[\mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_j) = e_k|\mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)}\right) \left(\frac{2S(t_{j-1})\left(S(t_j) - S(t_{j-1}) - r_kS(t_{j-1})\right)}{S^2(t_{j-1})}\right)\right] = 0\\ \Rightarrow &\sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_j) = e_k|\mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)}\right) \left(\frac{S(t_j) - S(t_{j-1}) - r_kS(t_{j-1})}{S(t_{j-1})}\right) = 0\\ \Rightarrow &\sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_j) = e_k|\mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)}\right) \left(\frac{S(t_j) - S(t_{j-1})}{S(t_{j-1})}\right) = r_k \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_j) = e_k|\mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)}\right). \end{split}$$

Therefore, estimation of the parameter  $r_k$  for k = 1, 2 is obtained as follows

$$\hat{r}_k = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n \left[ \left( \mathbb{P}\left( Y(t_j) = e_k | \mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)} \right) \right) \left( \frac{S(t_j) - S(t_{j-1})}{S(t_{j-1})} \right) \right]}{\sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{P}\left( Y(t_j) = e_k | \mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)} \right)},$$

which indicates the interest rate parameter is in the kth regime.

Now we differentiate from Eq. (24) with respect to  $\sigma_k$  and then set it to zero, in which case we have

$$\begin{split} &\sum_{j=1}^{n} \left[ \mathbb{P}\left( Y(t_{j}) = e_{k} | \mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)} \right) \left( -\frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{2}{\sigma_{k}} - \frac{2\left(S(t_{j}) - S(t_{j-1}) - \hat{r}_{k}S(t_{j-1})\right)^{2}}{\sigma_{k}^{3}S^{2}(t_{j-1})\delta} \right] \right) \right] = 0 \\ \Rightarrow & \frac{1}{\sigma_{k}^{3}} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \left[ \mathbb{P}\left( Y(t_{j}) = e_{k} | \mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)} \right) \left( \sigma_{k}^{2} - \frac{\left(S(t_{j}) - S(t_{j-1}) - \hat{r}_{j}S(t_{j-1})\right)^{2}}{S^{2}(t_{j-1})\delta} \right) \right] = 0 \\ \Rightarrow & \sum_{j=1}^{n} \left[ \left( \mathbb{P}\left( Y(t_{j}) = e_{k} | \mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)} \right) \right) \left( \frac{\left(S(t_{j}) - S(t_{j-1}) - \hat{r}_{k}S(t_{j-1})\right)^{2}}{S^{2}(t_{j-1})\delta} \right) \right] \\ = & \sigma_{k}^{2} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \mathbb{P}\left( Y(t_{j}) = e_{k} | \mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)} \right). \end{split}$$

Therefore, estimation of the parameter  $\sigma_k$  for k = 1, 2 is obtained as follows

$$\hat{\sigma}_k = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{j=1}^n \left[ \left( \mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_j) = e_k | \mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)}\right)\right) \left(\frac{\left(S(t_j) - S(t_{j-1}) - \hat{r}_k S(t_{j-1})\right)^2}{S^2(t_{j-1})\delta}\right) \right]}{\sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{P}\left(Y(t_j) = e_k | \mathcal{S}, \Lambda^{(m)}\right)},$$

which indicates the market volatility is in the kth regime.

After estimating the Markov-switching model parameters, the data should be classified according to the smoothed probabilities in regimes 1 and 2. More precisely, if the probability  $\mathbb{P}(Y(t_j) = e_2|S)$  is greater than  $\mathbb{P}(Y(t_j) = e_1|S)$ , then the model dynamic is currently in regime 2, otherwise it is in regime 1. In other words, since  $\mathbb{P}(Y(t_j) = e_2|S) + \mathbb{P}(Y(t_j) = e_1|S) = 1$ , if the smoothed probability for state  $e_2$  at time  $t_j$  is greater than 0.5, that is, if  $\mathbb{P}(Y(t_j) = e_2|S) > 0.5$ , then the model dynamic at time  $t_j$  is in regime 2, otherwise at time  $t_j$  it is currently in regime 1.

Table 1: Estimation of the MSGBM model parameters by using the EM algorithm.

Market	Regime 1		Regime 2		Transition probability			
	$\hat{r}$	$\hat{\sigma}$	$\hat{r}$	$\hat{\sigma}$	$P_{11}$	$P_{12}$	$P_{21}$	$P_{22}$
Microsoft	0.00201	0.05292	0.00082	0.17487	0.94606	0.05394	0.05654	0.94346
Intel	0.00140	0.06050	-0.00025	0.21297	0.89718	0.10282	0.10431	0.89569

To estimate the parameters of the RSGBM model, we use the daily stock price data of Microsoft and Intel companies from 01/01/2017 to 01/01/2020 (Figures 1 and 2). We set the maximum number of iterations of the EM algorithm to 20. The likelihood estimation results are reported in the last iteration of the EM algorithm



Figure 1: Microsoft stock price from 01/01/2017 to 01/01/2020.



Figure 2: Intel stock price from 01/01/2017 to 01/01/2020.

in Table 1 for the Microsoft and Intel markets. We can also see the trend of this algorithm in estimating the parameters of the RSGBM model and transition probability of the Markov chain states (transition probability of hidden Markov chain) with various iterations for Microsoft and Intel markets in Figures 3 and 4, respectively. As it is known, the values of the parameters converge to a certain level after several iterations, which indicate the estimated value of the parameter.

Figures 5 and 6 show Microsoft and Intel stock price data classification based on smoothed probability in state  $e_1$  (regime 1) and state  $e_2$  (regime 2), respectively. Significant results are obtained from each regime and give each one a real economic concept. As shown in Table 1, regime 1 corresponds to a low-volatility regime, and regime 2 represents a high-stress state constantly changing between periods. The reflection of this feature for the fundamental market data of Microsoft and Intel from 01/01/2018 to 01/01/2019 are shown in Figures 5 and 6.



Figure 3: Estimation of the MSGBM model parameters for Microsoft data by the EM algorithm with various iterations.

## Conclusion

In this paper, a stochastic model based on the two-state hidden Markov chain is studied. The proposed model represents a Markov-switching model whose parameters depend on the hidden Markov chain and change over time. We estimated the model parameters based on the actual data using the EM algorithm, where the conditional expectation of E-step, is obtained by the two-step filtering-smoothing algorithm. According to the obtained numerical results, in the first and second regimes, the interest rates are high and low, respectively, and also in these two regimes, the market volatility is low and high, respectively. These cases, which represent a healthy stock economy in the first regime and a sick stock economy in the second regime, were evaluated by classifying real data. Numerical results show that the proposed MSGBM model can well reflect these market realities.

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Figure 4: Estimation of the MSGBM model parameters for Intel data by the EM algorithm with various iterations.



Figure 5: Microsoft stock price classification from 01/01/2018 to 01/01/2019 by regimes 1 and 2 under the MSGBM model.

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Figure 6: Intel stock price classification from 01/01/2018 to 01/01/2019 by regimes 1 and 2 under the MSGBM model.

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