Due Date: June 1, 2012 (Campus) and June 2, 2012 (Weekend).

Remark: The grade for homework assignments is based on the best five of the six assignments.

This assignment is concerned with Value at Risk and Expected Shortfall. Assume that the tail probability of interest is 1% and the portfolio consists of two stocks, namely Amazon (AMZN) and Coca Cola (KO). The sample period is from January 5, 2004 to May 18, 2012. The data can be downloaded from Yahoo via the quantmod package. Use the adjusted closing prices to compute the daily log returns. For Questions 1 to 4, assume that you hold (long position) both stocks valued at $1 million each.

1. Consider the AMZN stock only.
   - Calculate the VaR of your position for the next trading day using the RiskMetrics method on May 18, 2012. You must estimate the IGARCH(1,1) model without constant to obtain the parameter value needed in the calculation. What is the associated expected shortfall?
   - Build a GARCH(1,1) model for the log return series with Gaussian innovations. What is the VaR based on the fitted model for the next trading day? What is the corresponding expected shortfall?
   - Build a GARCH(1,1) model with Student-t innovations for the log return series. What is the VaR for the next trading day based on the fitted model? What is the corresponding expected shortfall?

2. Again, consider the daily log returns of AMZN stock. The goal here is to use EVT to estimate risk. Using blocks of size 21, fit a generalized extreme value distribution to a proper return series. Write down the estimates and their standard errors. Compute the 1% VaR of your financial position based on the fitted parameters. What is the 1% VaR of your financial position for the next 10 trading days?

3. Again, consider the log returns of the AMZN stock. Fit a generalized Pareto distribution to the return series with threshold 3.0%. Based on the fitted model, what is the 1% VaR of your position? What is the associated expected shortfall? Repeat the analysis using threshold 4.5%. Are the results sensitive to the choice of thresholds?
4. Consider the log returns of KO stock. Calculate the VaR using the RiskMetrics method. Also, what is the VaR for the combined position of AMZN and KO stocks? Next, what is the VaR for the combined position of AMZN and KO if we entertain time-varying correlations between the two stocks. More specifically, use $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0.25[\text{Var}(X + Y) − \text{Var}(X − Y)]$ to compute the time-varying covariances. That is, fit IGARCH models as before to $X + Y$ and $X − Y$ to obtain the time-varying covariance. The volatilities of $X$ and $Y$ were obtained in the prior questions.

5. Consider a new portfolio that holds a short position of $1$ million in AMZN stock, but a long position of $1$ million in KO stock. Obtain the VaR (at the 1% level) of the portfolio for the next trading day on May 18, 2012 if (a) RiskMetrics is used and (b) GARCH(1,1) models with standardized Student-$t$ innovations are used.