Sheet - 1

Asset and Liability Management

- Consider daily returns of the Exxon Mobil Corp., General Electric, AMD stocks on NYSE (symbols on Yahoo Finance: XOM, GE, AMD) from January, 1 2005 to January 1, 2007. Historical prices can be downloaded from http://finance.yahoo.com. Assume the following vector of weights w = (0.25, 0.5, 0.25).
 - Evaluate the 95% VaR by using the approach of RiskMetrics.
 - Evaluate the 95%VaR by using the historical method.
 - Evaluate the 95% VaR by using the hybrid method.
- 2. Consider the same data of the previous exercise and assume the normal distributional assumption.
 - Evaluate the 95% VaR by using the Monte Carlo method. In order to investigate how the fluctuations of the 95% VaR change, consider samples of different sizes: 500, 1000, 5000, 10000, 20000 scenarios.
- 3. Consider the same data of the previous exercise and a time window for the back-testing from January, 2 2007 to January 1, 2008.
 - For each day in the time window, calculate the VaR number by using the approach of RiskMetrics.
 - Check if the loss on a given day is below or above the VaR number computed the day before. If the observed loss is larger, then we say that there is a case of an exceedance.
 - Count the number of exceedances. Check if there are too many or too few of them by verifying if the number of exceedances belong to the corresponding 95% confidence interval.

Remark See Chapter 6 of the book Advanced Stochastic Models, Risk Assessment and Portfolio Optimization by Svetlozar T. Rachev, Stoyan V. Stoyanov, Frank J. Fabozzi, Wiley, 2008. Some exercises can be solved with paper and pen, other have to be solved with the help of a PC (Excel, MATLAB, R, S-plus). The software R is available at http://www.r-project.org. For any problem or remark, do not hesitate to contact me,

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