

*AMS Special Session on Advances in Mathematical Finance and Optimization I*

# A Lead-Lag Analysis of Intraday and Overnight Returns

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# No Break Time



Figure 1. Stock markets trading hours [1]

- Stock markets with non-overlapping trading hours
- Lagged correlations between intraday and overnight markets [2]

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# Introduction

- A lead-lag effect refers to the relationship between two financial assets, where one asset's price movement predicts the price movements of the other.
  - Li, Liu, Wang, *et al.* [3] and Li, Wang, Sun, *et al.* [4] propose a statistically principled definition of the “lead-lag effect.”

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- The existing literature investigates a potential correlation between ADR-SPY pairs of non-overlapping market hours.<sup>1</sup>
  - Kang and Leung [2] showed that ADRs' returns are affected by both the US market and the home market.

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# Introduction

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  - Kang and Leung [2] showed that ADRs' returns are affected by both the US market and the home market.
- Hawkes processes model self-exciting properties in diverse fields:
  - finance: Hawkes [5], Da Fonseca and Zaatour [6]
  - insurance: Swishchuk, Zagst, and Zeller [7], Jung, Lee, and Xu [8]
  - epidemiology: Browning, Sulem, Mengersen, *et al.* [9]

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# Goal

- Our goal is to construct a statistical method that effectively quantifies the **lead-lag effect** in multiple aspects, including the **direction**, the **strength**, and the **momentum** in intraday and overnight returns of a pair of stocks.



# Data preparation

- We will conduct a lead-lag analysis on two Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs) that are actively traded in the US market and have non-overlapping home market hours:

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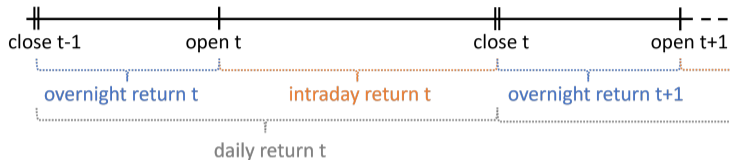
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- The price data are obtained via the Yahoo Finance API<sup>2</sup>.
- The time period in our analysis: 2011–2022.

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# Data preparation



- Daily returns  $r(t)$  on day  $t$ :

$$r(t) = \frac{p_t^{close} - p_{t-1}^{close}}{p_{t-1}^{close}} \quad (1)$$

- Intraday  $r_{ID}(t)$  and overnight returns  $r_{ON}(t)$  on day  $t$ :

$$r_{ID}(t) = \frac{p_t^{close} - p_t^{open}}{p_t^{open}} \quad (2)$$

$$r_{ON}(t) = \frac{p_t^{open} - p_{t-1}^{close}}{p_{t-1}^{close}} \quad (3)$$

# Modeling lead-lag effects of daily returns

$$X_t \rightarrow Y_{t+1}$$

$X_t$  = the leader return on day  $t$

$Y_t$  = the lagged return on day  $t$

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$$X_t \rightarrow Y_{t+1}$$

$X_t$  = the leader return on day  $t$

$Y_t$  = the lagger return on day  $t$

- Li, Liu, Wang, *et al.* [3] identifies a lead-lag day as a day satisfying the following criterion for a fixed small  $0 < \Delta < 1$ :

$$\begin{cases} (1 - \Delta)X_t \leq Y_{t+1} \leq (1 + \Delta)X_t & \text{if } X_t \geq 0 \\ (1 + \Delta)X_t \leq Y_{t+1} \leq (1 - \Delta)X_t & \text{if } X_t < 0 \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

- daily returns
- the same movement direction
- multiplicative errors

# Modeling lead-lag effects of ID and ON returns

$$X_{2t-1} \rightarrow Y_{2t}$$

$X_{2t-1}$  = the leader (SPY) intraday return on day  $t$

$Y_{2t}$  = the lagger (FXI) overnight return on day  $t$



# Modeling lead-lag effects of ID and ON returns

$$X_{2t-1} \rightarrow Y_{2t}$$

$X_{2t-1}$  = the leader (SPY) intraday return on day  $t$

$Y_{2t}$  = the lagger (FXI) overnight return on day  $t$

- We further model the lagged correlation by simple linear regression of the two returns:

$$Y_{2t} = \gamma X_{2t-1} + \epsilon_t \quad (5)$$

- intraday and (following) overnight returns
- The reversal direction is allowed.
- additive errors

# Modeling lead-lag effects of ID and ON returns

- Using the least squares estimator, we obtain the estimates;

$$\hat{Y}_{2t} = \hat{\gamma} X_{2t-1}, \quad t = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (6)$$

- Reversal patterns; Strong reversal during the financial crisis periods

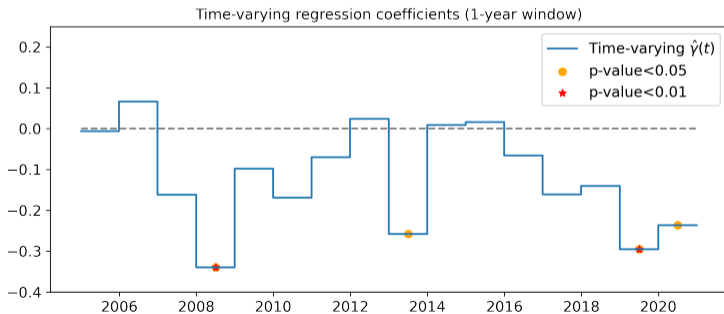


Figure 2. Exploration of the regression coefficient  $\gamma$

# Modeling lead-lag effects of ID and ON returns

## Construction of a lead-lag process

We model this lead-lag effect as a discrete-time **counting process** with **direction** and **strength** components:

$$N(t) = \sum_{k=1}^t \underbrace{\mathbb{1}(Y_{2k} \cdot \hat{Y}_{2k} > 0)}_{\text{Direction}} \underbrace{\mathbb{1}(|Y_{2k} - \hat{Y}_{2k}| < \delta)}_{\text{Strength}} \quad (7)$$

for a small fixed  $\delta > 0$  and up to date  $t = 1, 2, 3, \dots, T$ .

# Modeling lead-lag effects of ID and ON returns

## Momentum of the lead-lag process

- A stair-case pattern is often observed in some time steps.
- We quantify this cascading effect of  $N(t)$  by a Hawkes process

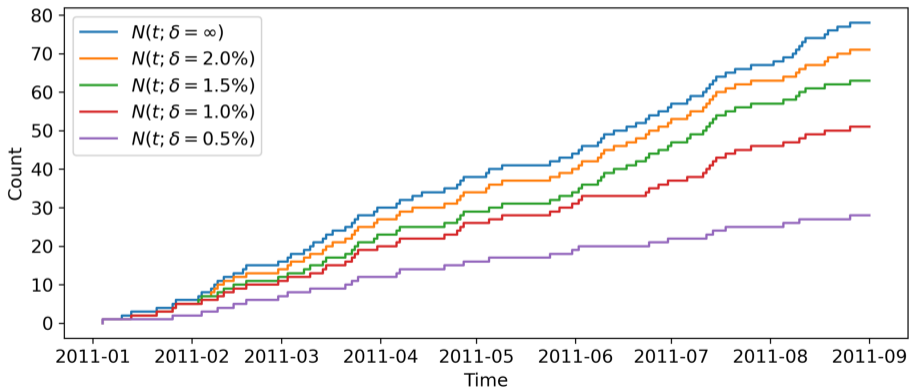


Figure 3. Lead-lag counting processes

# Modeling the momentum by a Hawkes process

## Hawkes process

- A Hawkes process is a **self-exciting** counting process.
- An event occurrence increases the probability of the occurrence of another event.

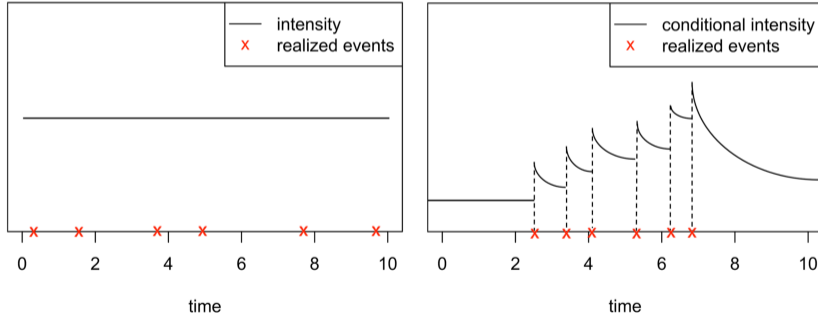


Figure 4. Poisson (left) and Hawkes (right) processes

# Modeling the momentum by a Hawkes process

The conditional intensity of the lead-lag process

We use a discrete-time Hawkes process to model the lead-lag intensity:

$$\lambda(t; \mathcal{F}_{t-1}) = E[N(t) - N(t-1) | \mathcal{F}_{t-1}] \quad (8)$$

$$= \underbrace{\mu(t)}_{\text{background intensity}} + \alpha \underbrace{\int_0^t g(s - t_i) dN(s)}_{\text{self-exciting intensity}} \quad (9)$$

where  $\mu(t)$  is the background intensity (exogenous effect term) and  $g(t)$  is the self-excitation kernel (endogenous effect term).

# Modeling the momentum by a Hawkes process

- **Choice of  $\mu(t)$ :** For simplicity, we choose a piecewise constant function as a background intensity for a given  $r_{thresh}$ ;

$$\mu(t) = \mu + \mu_x I(X_{t-1} \geq r_{thresh}) + \mu_y I(Y_{t-1} \geq r_{thresh}) \quad (10)$$

- **Choice of  $g(t)$ :** We use a geometric excitation kernel as a discrete counterpart of the exponential kernel [9];

$$g(t - t_i) = \beta(1 - \beta)^{t-t_i-1}, \quad t > t_i \quad (11)$$

# Modeling the momentum by a Hawkes process

- **Choice of  $\delta$ :** A small  $\delta$  fits better to a Hawkes process.

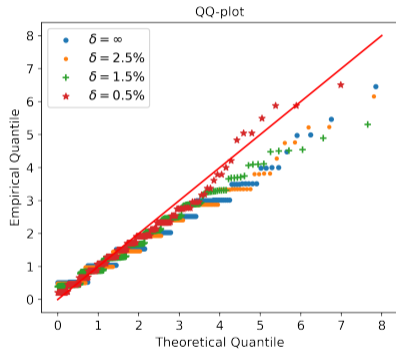


Figure 5. QQ-plot of fitted Hawkes models for different  $\delta$ . This goodness-of-fit method is based on Chen [10]



# Maximum likelihood estimates

- We have a set of parameter  $\theta = (\mu, \mu_x, \mu_y, \alpha, \beta)$  to estimate.
- We maximize the log-likelihood of the following form:

$$\log L(\theta) = \sum_{t=1}^T \left( \Delta N(t) \log (\mu(t) + \alpha \sum_{m=1}^M \beta(1 - \beta)^{m-1} \Delta N(t - m)) \right. \\ \left. - (\mu(t) + \alpha \sum_{m=1}^M \beta(1 - \beta)^{m-1} \Delta N(t - m)) \right) + K \quad (12)$$

# Maximum likelihood estimates

	$\hat{\mu}$	$\hat{\mu}_x$	$\hat{\mu}_y$	$\hat{\alpha}$	$\hat{\beta}$	$-\log L(\hat{\theta})$
$\delta = 0.5\%$	0.2126	0.0000	0.0000	5.8543	0.0005	1373.4
$\delta = 1.0\%$	0.3291	0.0080	0.0000	1.3626	0.0027	1764.8
$\delta = 1.5\%$	0.4084	0.0214	0.0000	1.5053	0.0032	1970.5
$\delta = 2.0\%$	0.4639	0.0156	0.0000	1.6481	0.0000	2062.9
$\delta = \infty$	0.5074	0.0748	0.0000	1.4858	0.0000	2146.8

Table 1. Maximum likelihood estimates over the 10-year time period (2011–2020)

## Conclusion and discussion

- We analyzed the lead-lag effect between intraday and overnight returns of the selected ETFs with non-overlapping trading hours.
- We proposed a statistical method to explore and quantify the lead-lag effect in these asynchronous markets.
- We plan to develop and analyze trading strategies using the lead-lag effects as signals.

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# Questions & Answers

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