

## Measuring market risk using extreme value theory

Jose Oliver Q. Suaiso and Dennis S. Mapa\*

University of the Philippines, School of Statistics

The adoption of Basel II standards by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas initiates financial institutions to develop value-at-risk (*VaR*) models to measure market risk. In this paper, two *VaR* models are considered using the peaks-over-threshold (POT) approach of the extreme value theory: (1) static EVT model which is the straightforward application of POT to the bond benchmark rates; and (2) dynamic EVT model which applies POT to the residuals of the fitted AR-GARCH model. The results are compared with traditional *VaR* methods such as RiskMetrics and AR-GARCH-type models. The relative size, accuracy and efficiency of the models are assessed using mean relative bias, backtesting, likelihood ratio tests, loss function, mean relative scaled bias and computation of market risk charge. Findings show that the dynamic EVT model can capture market risk conservatively, accurately and efficiently. It is also practical to use because it has the potential to lower a bank's capital requirements. Comparing the two EVT models, the dynamic model is better than static as the former can address some issues in risk measurement and effectively capture market risks.

*JEL classification:* C01, C22, G12

*Keywords:* extreme value theory, peaks-over-threshold, value-at-risk, market risk, risk management

---

\* The authors are very grateful to Dr. Joselito C. Magadia and Dr. Reynaldo Rey and the participants at the 9th Faculty-Student National Conference on Statistical Sciences (Financial Econometrics Session) and at a seminar held at the School of Statistics, University of the Philippines Diliman. Errors and omissions are sole responsibilities of the authors.

## 1. Introduction

Everyday banks operate and conduct activities that have inherent risks. By exposing themselves more into such activities, banks expect to gain more revenue. In bond trading for example, banks take the risk of losing or gaining since the movement of interest rates is uncertain. They can earn more if the volume of investment is increased; but this could result in big losses in the event of an unfavorable market scenario. Such type of risk is called *market risk* or the risk of losses in on- and off-balance sheet positions arising from movements in market prices [BSP 2006a].

So for banks to cover any unexpected losses arising from their risk-taking activities, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) requires them to maintain capital that is sufficient to act as buffer against insolvency. This requirement is set under BSP Circular 538 or the Revised Risk-Based Capital Adequacy Framework. This circular is essentially Basel II – a framework for international capital adequacy standards. Circular 538 states that local banks must maintain their minimum capital adequacy ratio (CAR) at 10 percent. In formula, CAR is computed as:

$$CAR = \frac{\text{capital}}{\text{sum of risk weighted assets for credit risk + market risk + operational risk}} \geq 10\% \quad (1)$$

To meet the CAR requirement, banks may either increase their capital or decrease the level of risk in their assets. Increasing capital would be impractical because it would be too costly for a bank. To minimize risks, the bank may implement different strategies such as asset reclassification, credit risk mitigation techniques, or advanced risk management systems. Minimizing risks therefore would be a better option, as it may be less costly to implement.

To compute for CAR, the procedure of putting a value to the risks in assets is very crucial to banks. It is because their measure of risks will determine their required capital and apparently their compliance with BSP's regulations. So to guide banks on how to measure risks, Basel II suggests different approaches. In market risk for example, banks may define and measure market risk using internal models approach (IMA). Under IMA, capital is computed as a factor of bank's portfolio, which is based on the internal model assumptions on the behavior asset prices and yields. Thus IMA requires an internal model to measure market risk. In fact, BSP will allow banks to use IMA in year 2010 as part of BSP's Basel II Implementation Plan. Allowing banks to use internal models such as

value-at-risk will benefit them since the capital will be commensurate to the *current* risks measured by the model. And it is expected that banks' required capital could be lowered if a *VaR* model is used. Therefore the implementation of Basel II in the Philippines motivates a study on market risk measurement models.

While several market risk models have been developed, researchers have noted some common issues in risk measurement. These issues typically arise from the disagreement between model assumptions and actual observations and/or empirical studies on financial data. Among these issues are (1) the non-normality and/or fat-tailedness of price distribution of assets (2) the presence of serial correlation and heteroscedasticity in financial time series, and (3) the problem of whether to model the entire distribution or only the tails. To address these issues, this paper proposes to use the extreme value theory (EVT) approach in measuring market risk.

The paper is structured as follows: section 2 defines value-at-risk (*VaR*) and discusses existing *VaR* models such as RiskMetrics and autoregressive moving average-generalized autoregressive conditional heteroskedasticity (ARMA-GARCH)-type models; section 3 introduces extreme value theory, its types of approaches, and *VaR* models using EVT; section 4 discusses some procedures in assessing *VaR* model by using measures of relative size, accuracy and efficiency; section 5 presents the empirical results; and section 6 concludes.

## 2. Value-at-risk models

One popular measure of market risk is the value-at-risk (*VaR*). It is a measure of the maximum potential loss of a financial position during a given time period with a given probability. The calculation of *VaR* is aimed at making a statement of the following form: "We are  $X$  percent certain that we will not lose more than  $V$  pesos in the next  $N$  days." Here  $V$  is the *VaR* of the portfolio,  $X$  is the confidence level and  $N$  is the time horizon [Jorion 2000].

Following Tsay [2005], we define *VaR* in statistical terms. Suppose at the time index  $t$  we are interested in the risk of a financial position for the next  $\ell$  periods. Let  $\Delta V(\ell)$  be the change in value of the assets in the financial position from time  $t$  to  $t + \ell$ . This quantity is measured in pesos

and is a random variable at the time index  $t$ . Denote the cumulative distribution function (CDF) of  $\Delta V(\ell)$  by  $F_\ell(x)$ . We define the *VaR* of a *long position*<sup>1</sup> over the time horizon  $\ell$  with probability  $p$  as

$$p = \Pr[\Delta V(\ell) \leq \text{VaR}] = F_\ell(\text{VaR}) \quad (2)$$

Since the holder of a long financial position suffers a loss when  $\Delta V(\ell) < 0$ , the *VaR* value above is negative when  $p$  is small, signifying a loss. From the definition, the probability that the holder would encounter a loss greater than or equal to *VaR* over the time horizon  $\ell$  is  $p$ . Alternatively, we can interpret *VaR* as follows: With probability  $(1-p)$ , the holder would encounter a loss less than or equal to *VaR* over the time horizon  $\ell$ .

### 2.1. The RiskMetrics model

J.P. Morgan developed RiskMetrics method to calculate *VaR*. Let  $r_t$  denote the daily *log return*<sup>2</sup>,  $F_{t-1}$  the information set available at time  $t-1$ , and  $\mu_t$  and  $h_t$  the conditional mean and the conditional variance of  $r_t$  respectively. RiskMetrics assumes that

$$r_t | F_{t-1} \sim N(\mu_t, h_t)$$

where  $\mu_t = 0$ ,  $h_t = \alpha h_{t-1} + (1-\alpha)r_{t-1}^2$  and  $1 > \alpha > 0$ . A typical value of  $\alpha$  is 0.94 so the conditional variance can be written as  $h_t = 0.94h_{t-1} + 0.06r_{t-1}^2$ . RiskMetrics defines 1-day 99 percent confidence level *VaR* as:

$$\text{VaR} = \text{Amount of position} \times F^{-1}(0.01)h_{t+1}^{1/2} \quad (3)$$

---

<sup>1</sup> In bond trading for example, *long position* happens when a trader buys a bond and then sells it later, thinking that the price of the bond is likely to go up in the future.

<sup>2</sup> A typical unit of observation used in analyzing financial data is the *log return* of the price of assets. If  $P_t$  is the price of an asset at time index  $t$ , then log return ( $r_t$ ) is defined as  $r_t = \ln(P_t/P_{t-1})$ .

where  $F^{-1}(0.01)$  is the 1 percent quantile of a standard normal distribution (i.e.,  $F^{-1}(0.01) = 2.326$ ) and  $h_{t+1}$  is the 1-step ahead forecast of the conditional variance given by  $h_{t+1} = \alpha h_t + (1 - \alpha)r_t^2$ .

## 2.2. ARMA-GARCH models

Econometric models such as ARMA-GARCH type can also be used to calculate *VaR*. These models, however, do not forecast the *VaR*; rather they forecast the return and conditional variance of the time series. Here the asset return is forecasted using ARMA models, and the volatility is forecasted using the volatility models such as GARCH, exponential GARCH (EGARCH), GARCH-in-Mean (GARCH-M) and integrated in variance GARCH (IGARCH). These volatility models can capture the observed *volatility clustering*<sup>3</sup> in financial time series data.

An ARMA( $p, q$ )-GARCH( $u, v$ ) process is represented by the time series model below:

$$\begin{aligned} r_t &= \phi_0 + \sum_{i=1}^p \phi_i r_{t-i} + a_t - \sum_{j=1}^q \theta_j a_{t-j} \\ h_t &= \alpha_0 + \sum_{i=1}^u \alpha_i a_{t-i}^2 + \sum_{j=1}^v \beta_j h_{t-j} \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where the innovation  $a_t = h_t^{1/2} \varepsilon_t$  and  $\varepsilon_t$  is the error term. Assuming that  $\varepsilon_t$  is normally distributed, *VaR* at time  $t+1$  is given by the following equation:

$$VaR = \hat{r}_{t+1} - F^{-1}(p)h_{t+1}^{1/2} \quad (5)$$

where  $F^{-1}(p)$  is the  $(p)100\%$  quantile of a standard normal distribution. Assuming that  $\varepsilon_t$  is distributed as a standardized Student- $t$  distribution with  $v$  degrees of freedom, the *VaR* at time  $t+1$  is:

$$VaR = \hat{r}_{t+1} - t_v^*(p)h_{t+1}^{1/2} \quad (6)$$

---

<sup>3</sup> Volatility clustering is commonly observed in financial time series. It is a feature of time series wherein large shocks tend to be followed by large shocks for certain time periods and small shocks tend to be followed by small shocks for certain time periods.

where  $t_v^*(p)$  is the  $p$ th quantile of a standardized Student- $t$  distribution with  $v$  degrees of freedom.

Here the computed  $VaR$  is actually the  $VaR$  of the log return  $r_t$ . The final  $VaR$  figure is computed by multiplying ARMA-GARCH  $VaR$  estimates by the asset amount or the mark-to-market value of the financial position.

While these models can capture serial autocorrelation and volatility clustering, the observed non-normality and heavy-tails of the distributions of financial data still pose problems to a risk manager. Thus, skewness risk and kurtosis risk are still other issues in risk measurement. So to address these problems, this paper proposes to use extreme value theory in measuring market risk.

### 3. $VaR$ models using extreme value theory

Extreme value theory extends the central limit theorem – which deals with the distribution of the average i.i.d. (independent and identically distributed) variables drawn from an unknown distribution – to the distribution of their tails [Jorion 2000]. Basically EVT models extreme risk or event that takes its value from the tail of its distribution. It is a tool that attempts to provide the best possible estimate of the tail area of the distribution [McNeil 1999].

There are two general types of extreme value models: unconditional and conditional. The unconditional types – considered as the oldest group of EVT models – are called block maxima models. The conditional types – regarded as the modern EVT approaches – are called peaks-over-threshold (POT) models. These two models can be used in estimating  $VaR$ .

#### 3.1 Block maxima

Following Tsay [2005], suppose there is a collection of  $n$  daily returns  $\{r_1, \dots, r_n\}$ , where  $r_{(1)}$  is the smallest order statistic and  $r_{(n)}$  is the maximum order statistic. For the case of *long position*, calculation of  $VaR$  is concerned with the properties of  $r_{(1)}$ . Assume that the returns  $r_t$  are serially independent with a common CDF  $F(x)$  and that the range of the return  $r_t$  is  $(-\infty, +\infty)$ . The CDF of  $r_{(1)}$ , denoted by  $F_{n,1}(x)$ , is given by:<sup>4</sup>

$$F_{n,1}(x) = 1 - [1 - F(x)]^n \quad (7)$$

---

<sup>4</sup> See Tsay [2005] for the derivation of equation (7).

Suppose we find two sequences  $\{\beta_n\}$  and  $\{\alpha_n\}$ , where  $\alpha_n > 0$ , such that the distribution of  $r_{(1*)} \equiv (r_{(1)} - \beta_n)/\alpha_n$  converges to a non-degenerated distribution as  $n$  goes to infinity. The sequence  $\{\beta_n\}$  is a *location* series and  $\{\alpha_n\}$  is a series of *scaling* factors. Under the independence assumption, the limiting distribution of the normalized minimum  $r_{(1*)}$  is given by:

$$F_*(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - \exp[-(1+kx)^{1/k}] & \text{if } k \neq 0, \\ 1 - \exp[-\exp(x)] & \text{if } k = 0, \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

for  $x < -1/k$  if  $k < 0$  and for  $x > -1/k$  if  $k > 0$ , where the subscript  $*$  denotes the minimum. The parameter  $k$  is called the *shape* parameter which governs the tail behavior of the limiting distribution. The limiting distribution of (8) is the generalized extreme value (GEV) distribution for the minimum. This distribution has three parameters –  $k_n$ ,  $\beta_n$ ,  $\alpha_n$  – that can be estimated by maximum likelihood estimation (MLE), all of which are dependent on  $n$ . Now the estimation is done by partitioning first the sample into  $g$  non-overlapping subsamples of length  $n$ , such that the number of observations  $T$  in the sample is, for simplicity, equal to  $n*g$ . Let  $r_{n,i}$  be the minimum of the  $i$ th subsample. When  $n$  is sufficiently large,  $x_{n,i} = (r_{n,i} - \beta_n)/\alpha_n$  should follow an extreme value distribution and the collection of subsample minima  $\{r_{n,i} | i = 1, \dots, g\}$  is considered as a sample of  $g$  observations from the extreme value distribution. Now given a small probability  $p$ , and plugging in the maximum likelihood estimates of GEV parameters, 1-day *VaR* of a long position in asset with return  $r_t$  is<sup>5</sup>

$$VaR = \begin{cases} \hat{\beta}_n - \frac{\hat{\alpha}_n}{\hat{k}_n} \{1 - [-n \ln(1-p)]^{\hat{k}_n}\} & \text{if } \hat{k}_n \neq 0 \\ \hat{\beta}_n + \hat{\alpha}_n \ln[-n \ln(1-p)] & \text{if } \hat{k}_n = 0 \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

One of the difficulties in implementing block maxima models is that the procedure requires a lot of data. The collected sample data are even reduced as the block maximum/minimum points are only considered. The choice of subsample size  $n$  is also a problem as it is not clearly defined [Tsay

---

<sup>5</sup> Details on the derivation of formula (9) are given by Tsay [2005].

2005]. Block maxima is also an unconditional approach, and hence does not consider effects of explanatory variables such as volatility [Tsay 2005].

### 3.2. Peaks-over-threshold

Another type of EVT model is the peaks-over-threshold (POT), which is generally considered to be the most useful for practical applications [McNeil 1999]. In contrast with block maxima model, POT can efficiently use extreme values even when data is limited. It is used to model large observations that exceed a high threshold. Following Tsay [2005] and McNeil [1999], the POT modeling procedures are as follows:<sup>6</sup>

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be identically distributed random variables with unknown underlying distribution function  $F(x) = P\{X_i \leq x\}$ . These can be daily returns  $r_t$  on financial asset or portfolio. Specify a high threshold  $u$  in the sample (e.g., 99th quantile). Suppose that the  $i$ th exceedance occurs at day  $t_i$  (i.e.,  $x_{t_i} \geq u$ ). The POT approach then considers the data  $(t_i, x_{t_i} - u)$ , where  $x_{t_i} - u$  is the exceedance over the threshold  $u$  and  $t_i$  is the time at which the  $i$ th exceedance occurs. Now let  $y = x_{t_i} - u$ . The conditional distribution of  $y$  given  $x_{t_i} \geq u$  or the *excess distribution function* over the high threshold  $u$ ,  $F_u(y)$ , is defined as:

$$F_u(y) = P\{X - u \leq y \mid X > u\} = \frac{F(y + u) - F(u)}{1 - F(u)} \quad (10)$$

for  $0 \leq y < x_0 - u$  where  $x_0 \leq \infty$  is the right endpoint of  $F$ . The Pickands-Balkema-de Haan Theorem (see Appendix) states that under certain conditions  $F_u$  converges to the generalized Pareto distribution (GPD)  $G_{\xi, \beta}$ ,

$$G_{\xi, \beta}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - (1 + \xi x / \beta)^{-1/\xi} & \text{if } \xi \neq 0, \\ 1 - \exp(-x / \beta) & \text{if } \xi = 0, \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

---

<sup>6</sup> For ease in presentation, the right-hand side of return distribution is considered in this section. A positive threshold will then be used.



where  $\beta > 0$ , and where  $x \geq 0$  when  $\xi \geq 0$  and  $0 \leq x \leq -\beta/\xi$  when  $\xi < 0$ . The parameter  $\xi$  is the *shape* parameter which determines the rate at which the tail disappears and  $\beta$  is the *scaling* parameter.

Setting  $x = u + y$  and using (11), equation (10) can be written as:

$$F(x) = (1 - F(u))G_{\xi, \beta}(x - u) + F(u) \quad (12)$$

To estimate (12),  $G_{\xi, \beta}(x - u)$  is estimated using MLE, whereas  $F(u)$  is estimated by its empirical estimator. The empirical estimator of  $F(u)$  is  $(n - N_u)/n$ , where  $n$  is the sample size and  $N_u$  is the number of exceedances of the threshold  $u$ . Plugging in the maximum likelihood estimates of the GPD parameters and  $(n - N_u)/n$ , equation (12) is estimated by

$$\hat{F}(x) = 1 - \frac{N_u}{n} \left( 1 + \hat{\xi} \frac{x - u}{\hat{\beta}} \right)^{-1/\hat{\xi}} \quad (13)$$

Formula (13) is called the tail estimator. Finally, given a small probability  $p$ , and define  $q = 1 - p$  such that  $q > F(u)$ , a  $(1-p)100\%$  confidence level 1-day *VaR* estimate is calculated by inverting the tail estimator formula in (13):

$$VaR_q = u + \frac{\hat{\beta}}{\hat{\xi}} \left( \left( \frac{n}{N_u} (1 - q) \right)^{-\hat{\xi}} - 1 \right) \quad (14)$$

This type of EVT model is termed as *static* model [McNeil and Frey 2000]. In this model, the POT is applied directly to the raw return data where the underlying distribution  $F$  is assumed to be stationary or unconditional. Hence, it does not factor in the volatility of market prices, serial correlation and volatility clustering.

The other EVT *VaR* model based on POT is called *dynamic* model. In this model, the conditional distribution of  $F$  is considered and the volatility of returns is captured. It is dynamic in a sense that it is capable of reacting to fluctuations in market prices, hence enabling the model to capture the *current* risks. The dynamic EVT approach involves the following procedures [McNeil and Frey 2000]:

Let  $r_t$  the return at time  $t$  be defined by the following model:

$$r_t = \mu_t + h_t^{1/2} Z_t \quad (15)$$

where  $h_t^{1/2}$  and  $\mu_t$  are the volatility and expected return respectively at time  $t$ ;  $Z_t$  are the noise variables of the process with an identical unknown distribution  $F_Z(z)$ . Using this model and given a small probability  $p$ , a 1-day  $(1-p)100\%$  confidence level  $VaR$  is estimated by:

$$VaR_q^t = \hat{\mu}_{t+1} + \hat{h}_{t+1}^{1/2} VaR(Z)_q \quad (16)$$

(As defined in Equation (14),  $q = 1 - p$ ). Computing  $VaR_q^t$  above entails the following two-stage approach:

Suppose at the close of day  $t$  consider a time window containing the last  $n$  returns  $r_{t-n+1}, \dots, r_t$ .

- (1) An AR model with GARCH errors is fitted to the historical data by MLE. The estimates of the conditional mean  $(\hat{\mu}_{t-n+1}, \dots, \hat{\mu}_t)$  and standard deviation series  $(\hat{h}_{t-n+1}^{1/2}, \dots, \hat{h}_t^{1/2})$  are calculated recursively from the model. If the model is adequate, the residuals are extracted and calculated as

$$(z_{t-n+1}, \dots, z_t) = \left( \frac{r_{t-n+1} - \hat{\mu}_{t-n+1}}{\hat{h}_{t-n+1}^{1/2}}, \dots, \frac{r_t - \hat{\mu}_t}{\hat{h}_t^{1/2}} \right) \quad (17)$$

The residuals should be i.i.d. if the model is adequate. These residuals can be considered as realizations of the unobserved, independent noise variables  $Z_{t-n+1}, \dots, Z_t$ . The last step in stage 1 is to calculate the 1-step ahead forecasts of  $\hat{\mu}_{t+1}$  and  $\hat{h}_{t+1}^{1/2}$ .

- (2) Stage 2 begins by confirming that the residuals have fat-tails or leptokurtic. This can be done by constructing QQ-plot of the residuals against the normal distribution or by computing the *excess kurtosis*. EVT is then applied to the residuals if they have fat-tails. A fixed high threshold  $u$  is chosen and it is assumed that residuals exceeding this threshold have a generalized Pareto distribution (GPD). The GPD parameters are estimated using MLE and then  $VaR(Z)_q$  is calculated using (14). From here,  $VaR_q^t$  can be calculated.

In the study of McNeil and Frey [2000], it is shown that the dynamic model is better than static because the former does not just adequately measure losses in heavy-tailed distributions, but also captures volatility clustering, serial autocorrelation and heteroscedasticity attributes of financial data. Results of their study also show that dynamic *VaR* forecasts exhibit sensitivity to price changes. This means that the model reacts quickly to changing volatility, enabling it to capture the risks in a timely manner.

#### 4. *VaR* model assessment

With the inclusion of *VaR* models within the capital adequacy framework (Basel II), it can be expected soon that Philippine banks will use their *VaR* models in calculating the required minimum regulatory capital to be held against market risks. That is why the choice and evaluation of a *VaR* model is very crucial to a bank and to supervisors like the BSP. So to assess a *VaR* model, banks may look into a model's conservatism, accuracy and efficiency.

A *VaR* model is considered *conservative* if it systematically produces high estimates of risk relative to other models. A model is *accurate* if its estimates are large enough to cover the true underlying risks. Accuracy can be assessed by analyzing the number of times the *VaR* estimates are lower than the losses and the magnitude of those losses. An *efficient VaR* model provides sufficient conservatism (i.e., accurate and conservative) while at the same time minimizes the capital that must be held [Engel and Gizycki 1999].

##### 4.1. Mean relative bias

One measure of model conservatism is the mean relative bias (MRB) statistic [Hendricks 1996]. It tests whether different *VaR* models produce risk estimates of similar average size. Given  $T$  time periods and  $N$  *VaR* models, the mean relative bias of model  $i$  is calculated as:

$$MRB_i = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{VaR_{it} - \overline{VaR}_t}{\overline{VaR}_t} \quad (18)$$

where  $\overline{VaR}_t = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N VaR_{it}$

The mean relative bias is measured in percentage terms, so that an MRB value of, say, 0.05 implies that a given *VaR* model is 5 percent higher, on average, than the average estimates of all *N* *VaR* models.

#### 4.2. Backtesting

Backtesting is a comparison of actual trading results with model-generated risk measures. Its objective is to test the quality and accuracy of the *VaR* model. In backtesting, the bank periodically counts the number of times that the risk measures were smaller than the trading outcome/losses; i.e., the bank counts the number of *VaR exceptions*. In interpreting the results of backtesting, the Basel Committee introduced the three-zone approach found in Table 1.

**Table 1. Backtesting zones based on 260 days covered and 99 percent VaR confidence level**

Zone	No. of Exceptions	Multiplicative Factor (k)
Green	0	3.00
	1	3.00
	2	3.00
	3	3.00
	4	3.00
Yellow	5	3.40
	6	3.50
	7	3.65
	8	3.75
	9	3.85
Red	10 or more	4.00

If the model falls into the green zone, then there is no problem with the quality or accuracy of the model. The yellow zone is an ambiguous zone and the conclusion of model inaccuracy is not definite. If the model falls into the red zone, there is a high probability that the model is inaccurate.

#### 4.3. Likelihood ratio tests

If there is at least one exception, likelihood ratio (LR) tests can be used to assess if the model is inaccurate [Christoffersen 1998]. These tests are the LR test of unconditional coverage ( $LR_{uc}$ ), LR test of independence ( $LR_{ind}$ ) and LR test of conditional coverage ( $LR_{cc}$ ).

#### 4.3.1. LR test of unconditional coverage

The LR test of unconditional coverage checks if the proportion of *VaR* exceptions (also known as empirical failure rate) is equal to the pre-specified level  $p$  (e.g., 1 percent for 99 percent *VaR*). The empirical failure rate  $\pi_1$  is estimated by the following statistic:

$$\hat{\pi}_1 = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T I(r_t < VaR_t(p)) = \frac{T_1}{T} \quad (19)$$

where  $T$  is the total number of out-of-sample observations;  $I(\cdot)$  is the indicator variable which is equal to 1 if there is exception and zero otherwise;  $T_1$  is the number of exceptions.

Now to test if the empirical failure rate  $\pi_1$  is equal to  $p$ , a test of hypothesis is employed:  $H_0: \pi_1 = p$  vs.  $H_a: \pi_1 \neq p$ . The  $LR_{uc}$  test statistic [Jorion 2000] is given by

$$LR_{uc} = 2 * \log \left[ \frac{\left(1 - \frac{T_1}{T}\right)^{T-T_1} \left(\frac{T_1}{T}\right)^{T_1}}{(1-p)^{T-T_1} p^{T_1}} \right] \quad (20)$$

where  $LR_{uc}$  is asymptotically distributed as chi-square with 1 degree of freedom. Hence if  $LR_{uc} > \chi_{p,1}^2$ , we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that the empirical failure rate is not equal to  $p$ , otherwise we accept  $H_0$ . Accepting  $H_0$ , however, does not always imply that the model is correctly specified. The failure rate could be within the pre-specified level  $p$  but the *VaR* exceptions are clustered or not independent. A model with clustered *VaR* exceptions is a sign of inaccurate model [Christoffersen and Pelletier 2003].

#### 4.3.2. LR test of independence

If  $H_0$  is not rejected in the  $LR_{uc}$  test, the *VaR* model is further assessed using the LR test of independence ( $LR_{ind}$ ). It checks if the proportion of the clustered *VaR* exceptions is equal to the proportion of the independent *VaR* exceptions. Now consider the following statistics:

$$\pi_0 = \frac{T_{01}}{T_{01} + T_{00}}, \pi_1 = \frac{T_{11}}{T_{11} + T_{10}}, \pi = \frac{T_{01} + T_{11}}{T_{01} + T_{00} + T_{10} + T_{11}}$$

where  $T_{00}$  is the number of two consecutive days without *VaR* exception;

$T_{10}$  is the number of days without *VaR* exception that is preceded by a day with *VaR* exception;

$T_{11}$  is the number of two consecutive days with *VaR* exceptions;

$T_{01}$  is the number of days with *VaR* exception that is preceded by day without a *VaR* exception;

$\pi_0$  is the proportion of *VaR* exceptions preceded by non- *VaR* exception;

$\pi_1$  is the proportion of two consecutive *VaR* exceptions.

Now to use the  $LR_{ind}$  test, another test of hypothesis is employed:  $H_0: \pi_0 = \pi_1$  vs.  $H_a: \pi_0 \neq \pi_1$ . The  $LR_{ind}$  test statistic [Jorion 2000] is

$$LR_{ind} = 2 * \log \left[ \frac{(1 - \hat{\pi}_0)^{T_{00}} \hat{\pi}_0^{T_{01}} (1 - \hat{\pi}_1)^{T_{10}} \hat{\pi}_1^{T_{11}}}{(1 - \hat{\pi})^{T_{00} + T_{10}} \hat{\pi}^{T_{01} + T_{11}}} \right] \quad (21)$$

where  $LR_{ind}$  is asymptotically distributed as chi-square with 1 degree of freedom. Hence, if  $LR_{ind} > \chi_{p,1}^2$ , we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that the exceptions are not independent. Accepting  $H_0$  on the other hand, would require to further assess the model if the proportion of independent exceptions ( $\pi_0$ ) or clustered exceptions ( $\pi_1$ ) are not significantly different from the pre-specified failure rate  $p$ .

#### 4.3.3. LR test of conditional coverage

If the result of the  $LR_{ind}$  test shows that the *VaR* exceptions are independent, then there is still a need to check if the proportion of *VaR* exceptions is equal to the failure rate  $p$ . This third test is the LR test of conditional coverage ( $LR_{cc}$ ). It employs the following test of hypothesis:  $H_0: \pi_0 = \pi_1 = p$  vs.  $H_a$ : at least one of  $\pi_0, \pi_1$  is not equal to  $p$ . The test statistic is given by Christoffersen [1998]:

$$LR_{cc} = LR_{uc} + LR_{ind} \quad (22)$$

where  $LR_{cc}$  is asymptotically distributed as chi-square with 2 degrees of freedom. Therefore if  $LR_{cc} > \chi_{p,2}^2$ , we reject  $H_0$  and conclude that at least one of  $\pi$ 's is not equal to  $p$ ; otherwise, the model is accurate.

#### 4.4. Quadratic loss function

The Basel Committee on Banking Supervision [1996] notes that not only the number of *VaR* exceptions is important, but also the size of exceptions is a matter of regulatory concern. So the quadratic loss function may be used in assessing *VaR* model accuracy. Quadratic loss function does not just include the magnitude of exceptions, but it also penalizes more severely those large exceptions. The formula is given by Lopez [1998]:<sup>7</sup>

$$L_{t+1} = \begin{cases} 1 + (loss_{t+1} - VaR_t)^2 & \text{if } loss_{t+1} > VaR_t \\ 0 & \text{if } loss_{t+1} \leq VaR_t \end{cases}, \quad (23)$$

where  $L_{t+1}$  and  $loss_{t+1}$  are the loss function value and trading loss, respectively, at time  $t+1$ , and  $VaR_t$  is the *VaR* forecast at time  $t$ . Loss function values are averaged across the out-of-sample period. Low average loss function indicates accuracy of a *VaR* model.

#### 4.5. Market risk capital

Market risk capital (MRC) or risk charge is one measure of *VaR* efficiency. It is one of the provisions of Basel II to compute for the MRC when a bank uses IMA for market risk. The general MRC required for any given day  $t$  is computed as

$$MRC = Max \left[ k \frac{1}{60} \sum_{i=1}^{60} VaR_{t-i}, VaR_{t-1} \right] \quad (24)$$

Where  $k$  is the supervisory-determined multiplicative factor (see Table 1). To get the total capital adequacy requirements, the credit risk charge connected to the issuer of the financial instrument is added to the market risk charge applied for trading positions. Here, an *accurate VaR* model with low MRC is considered efficient.

---

<sup>7</sup> Formula (23) assumes that the loss & VaR values are both positive.

#### 4.6. Mean relative scaled bias

Another efficiency measure is the mean relative scaled bias (MRSB). Computation of MRSB involves three steps. First, the number of *VaR* exceptions in the out-of-sample period is counted and the percentage of outcomes covered is determined per model. Second, the *VaR* measures are then multiplied to a constant in order to obtain the desired level of coverage. In this step, each *VaR* model is *scaled* so that it covers 99 percent of losses (for 99% confidence *VaR*). Finally, the mean relative bias (MRB) of each scaled *VaR* model is computed as in Section 4.1. The computed MRB in this last step will be the mean relative scaled bias (MRSB) [Hendricks 1998].

The second step requires calculation, on an ex-post basis, of the *multiple to obtain coverage* or the scaling factor. The scaling factor,  $\psi_i$ , for each *VaR* model  $i$ , is computed so that<sup>8</sup>

$$F_i = T * p \quad \text{where,} \quad F_i = \sum_{t=1}^T \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } loss_{t+1} > \psi_i VaR_{it} \\ 0 & \text{if } loss_{t+1} \leq \psi_i VaR_{it} \end{cases} \quad (25)$$

where  $T$  is the sample size,  $F_i$  is the expected no. of exceptions and  $(1 - p)$  is the *VaR* confidence level. So for a sample size of 260 days and *VaR* confidence level of 99 percent,  $\psi_i$  is computed such that the total number of exceptions  $F_i$  is equal to 2.6.

### 5. Results

This research uses the secondary market interest rates (MART1) of Philippine sovereign papers from October 1998 to September 2008. These benchmark rates series belong in one of the twelve tenors: 1-month, 3-month, 6-month, 1-year, 2-year, 3-year, 4-year, 5-year, 7-year, 10-year, 20-year and 25-year. In-sample data cover the period from October 1998 to August 2007 (maximum of 2,263 data points); out-of-sample data cover the period from September 2007 to September 2008 (260 data points). Ten *VaR* models are then used to measure market risk in each tenor: RiskMetrics, AR-GARCH (normal & Student- $t$ ), AR-EGARCH (normal), AR-GARCH-M (normal & Student- $t$ ), AR-IGARCH (normal & Student- $t$ ), static EVT, and dynamic EVT.

After generating the *VaR* forecasts for each model in each tenor, the number exceptions are summarized in Table 2 below. Among the ten models, RiskMetrics has the poorest performance due

---

<sup>8</sup> Formula (25) assumes that the loss and VaR values are both positive.



to relatively high number of exceptions in all tenors. On the other hand, the top-performing models are the AR-IGARCH models (normal & Student-*t*) with zero exception in all 12 tenors, followed by AR-GARCH (Student-*t*) and AR-GARCH-M (Student-*t*), both having zero exception in 10 out of 12 tenors, and lastly dynamic EVT with zero exception in 9 out of 12 tenors.

**Table 2. Summary of VaR exceptions and corresponding p-values**

Tenor	RiskMetrics		AR-GARCH, normal		AR-GARCH, Student-t		AR-EGARCH, normal		AR-GARCH-M, normal	
	exceptions	p-value	exceptions	p-value	exceptions	p-value	exceptions	p-value	exceptions	p-value
1M	7	<b>0.0166</b>	3	0.4823	1	0.9267	9	<b>0.0014</b>	3	0.4823
3M	8	<b>0.0051</b>	3	0.4823	1	0.9267	8	<b>0.0051</b>	4	0.2636
6M	7	<b>0.0166</b>	4	0.2636	0	1.0000	4	0.2636	4	0.2636
1Y	10	<b>0.0003</b>	1	0.9267	0	1.0000	2	0.7342	1	0.9267
2Y	8	<b>0.0051</b>	1	0.9267	0	1.0000	5	0.1216	1	0.9267
3Y	6	<b>0.0482</b>	3	0.4823	0	1.0000	2	0.7342	3	0.4823
4Y	4	0.2636	1	0.9267	0	1.0000	3	0.4823	1	0.9267
5Y	8	<b>0.0051</b>	1	0.9267	0	1.0000	2	0.7342	1	0.9267
7Y	7	<b>0.0166</b>	1	0.9267	0	1.0000	3	0.4823	1	0.9267
10Y	8	<b>0.0051</b>	1	0.9267	0	1.0000	2	0.7342	1	0.9267
20Y	6	<b>0.0482</b>	2	0.7342	0	1.0000	7	<b>0.0166</b>	2	0.7342
25Y	6	<b>0.0482</b>	6	<b>0.0482</b>	0	1.0000	8	<b>0.0051</b>	6	<b>0.0482</b>

Note: P-values in bold font indicate significance at 5 percent level.

**Table 2. Summary of VaR exceptions and corresponding p-values (continued)**

Tenor	AR-GARCH-M, Student-t		AR-IGARCH, normal		AR-IGARCH, Student-t		Static EVT		Dynamic EVT	
	exceptions	p-value	exceptions	p-value	exceptions	p-value	exceptions	p-value	exceptions	p-value
1M	1	0.9267	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	9	<b>0.0014</b>	1	0.9267
3M	1	0.9267	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	7	<b>0.0166</b>	1	0.9267
6M	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	6	<b>0.0482</b>	2	0.7342
1Y	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	2	0.7342	0	1.0000
2Y	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	2	0.7342	0	1.0000
3Y	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	2	0.7342	0	1.0000
4Y	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	2	0.7342	0	1.0000
5Y	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	1	0.9267	0	1.0000
7Y	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	1	0.9267	0	1.0000
10Y	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	2	0.7342	0	1.0000
20Y	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	4	0.2636	0	1.0000
25Y	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	0	1.0000	4	0.2636	0	1.0000

Note: P-values in bold font indicate significance at 5 percent level.

Table 3 below summarizes the average MRB of each model per tenor. Two *VaR* models have near zero or lowest *absolute* average MRB, namely, the AR-IGARCH (normal) model with lowest absolute average MRB in seven tenors and the dynamic EVT model with lowest absolute average

MRB in four tenors. It can be said that these two models are conservative or have less bias compared with the other *VaR* models.

**Table 3. Summary of average MRB of VaR models**

Tenor	Risk Metrics	AR-GARCH, normal	AR-GARCH, Student-t	AR-EGARCH, normal	AR-GARCH-M, normal	AR-GARCH-M, Student-t	AR-IGARCH, normal	AR-IGARCH, Student-t	Static EVT	Dynamic EVT
1M	-58 *	-37	21	-54	-38	18	93	107 **	-54	<b>3</b>
3M	-63 *	-36	10	-57	-37	9	126 **	98	-53	<b>3</b>
6M	-45 *	-18	11	-14	-18	11	21	96 **	-42	<b>-3</b>
1Y	-80 *	-40	71	-64	-41	71	<b>-21</b>	124 **	-62	42
2Y	-77 *	-49	69	-66	-49	70	<b>0</b>	98 **	-58	61
3Y	-69 *	-61	64	-58	-61	55	<b>17</b>	95 **	-45	63
4Y	-71 *	-30	53	-60	-30	46	<b>14</b>	71 **	-45	51
5Y	-68 *	-34	33	-54	-35	32	<b>29</b>	91 **	-37	44
7Y	-66 *	-22	32	-51	-25	30	<b>8</b>	103 **	-43	34
10Y	-72 *	-35	50	-60	-37	50	<b>16</b>	95 **	-53	46
20Y	-70 *	-34	35	-68	<b>-34</b>	35	92 **	67	-61	38
25Y	-66	-71	58	-73 *	-71	41	82	122 **	-63	<b>41</b>

Notes: Figures in %.

\* indicates lowest MRB in a tenor, \*\* indicates highest MRB in a tenor.

The lowest absolute average MRB in a tenor is set in bold.

Summarized in Table 4 below is the accuracy ranking of the *VaR* models based on the results of backtesting. With the top-five models all falling into the green zone in all 12 tenors, it can be said that their accuracy is not significantly different from one another.

**Table 4. Accuracy Ranking of VaR models based on backtesting**

Rank	Model	No. of Zero exceptions out of 12 tenors	No. of green zones out of 12 tenors	No. of yellow zones out of 12 tenors	No. of red zones out of 12 tenors
1	AR-IGARCH, normal	12	12	0	0
1	AR-IGARCH, Student-t	12	12	0	0
3	AR-GARCH, Student-t	10	12	0	0
3	AR-GARCH-M, Student-t	10	12	0	0
5	Dynamic EVT	9	12	0	0
6	AR-GARCH, normal	0	11	1	0
6	AR-GARCH-M, normal	0	11	1	0
8	Static EVT	0	9	3	0
9	AR-EGARCH, normal	0	7	5	0
10	RiskMetrics	0	1	10	1

Table 5 shows the results of likelihood ratio tests. Five models with at least one exception in a particular tenor – AR-GARCH (normal), AR-GARCH (Student-*t*), AR-GARCH-M (normal), AR-GARCH-M (Student-*t*) and dynamic EVT - have passed the  $LR_{uc}$  test. This indicates that these *VaR*

models can accurately predict losses 99 percent of the time. However, three models – RiskMetrics, AR-EGARCH (normal) and static EVT – failed in at least one of the LR tests. Failure in the LR tests implies that the assumption of 99 percent confidence level is not valid and/or the model is not correctly specified.

**Table 5. Summary results of Likelihood Ratio tests**

Tenor	RiskMetrics			AR-GARCH, normal			AR-GARCH, Student-t			AR-EGARCH, normal			AR-GARCH-M, normal		
	LRuc	LRind	LRcc	LRuc	LRind	LRcc	LRuc	LRind	LRcc	LRuc	LRind	LRcc	LRuc	LRind	LRcc
1M	A	R	na	A	-	-	A	-	-	R	na	na	A	-	-
3M	R	na	na	A	-	-	A	-	-	R	na	na	A	-	-
6M	A	-	-	A	-	-	na	na	na	A	-	-	A	-	-
1Y	R	na	na	A	-	-	na	na	na	A	-	-	A	-	-
2Y	R	na	na	A	-	-	na	na	na	A	-	-	A	-	-
3Y	A	A	A	A	-	-	na	na	na	A	-	-	A	-	-
4Y	A	-	-	A	-	-	na	na	na	A	-	-	A	-	-
5Y	R	na	na	A	-	-	na	na	na	A	-	-	A	-	-
7Y	A	A	A	A	-	-	na	na	na	A	-	-	A	-	-
10Y	R	na	na	A	-	-	na	na	na	A	-	-	A	-	-
20Y	A	-	-	A	-	-	na	na	na	A	-	-	A	-	-
25Y	A	A	A	A	-	-	na	na	na	R	na	na	A	-	-

**Table 5. Summary results of Likelihood Ratio tests (continued)**

Tenor	AR-GARCH-M, Student-t			AR-IGARCH, normal			AR-IGARCH, Student-t			Static EVT			Dynamic EVT		
	LRuc	LRind	LRcc	LRuc	LRind	LRcc	LRuc	LRind	LRcc	LRuc	LRind	LRcc	LRuc	LRind	LRcc
1M	A	-	-	na	na	na	na	na	na	R	na	na	A	-	-
3M	A	-	-	na	na	na	na	na	na	A	-	-	A	-	-
6M	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	A	-	-	A	-	-
1Y	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	A	-	-	na	na	na
2Y	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	A	-	-	na	na	na
3Y	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	A	-	-	na	na	na
4Y	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	A	-	-	na	na	na
5Y	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	A	-	-	na	na	na
7Y	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	A	-	-	na	na	na
10Y	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	A	-	-	na	na	na
20Y	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	A	-	-	na	na	na
25Y	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	A	-	-	na	na	na

Notes: “A” means acceptance of null hypothesis or passing the LR test, “R” means rejection of the null hypothesis or the model failed the LR test, “na” means that the LR test is not applicable due to zero exception or the previous LR test is rejected, “-” means that the LR test cannot be conducted due to undefined values in the test statistic.

The results of the quadratic loss function (see Table 6) are similar to backtesting results. RiskMetrics is still considered least accurate since it has the highest average loss function in 11 tenors. The AR-IGARCH (normal and Student-*t*) models are still considered most accurate because

of zero exception, thus resulting in zero percent average loss function in all tenors. Other models considered accurate are the AR-GARCH (Student-*t*) and AR-GARCH-M (Student-*t*), both with zero percent average loss functions in ten tenors, and the dynamic EVT model with zero loss functions in nine tenors.

**Table 6. Summary of average loss functions of VaR models per tenor**

Tenor	Risk Metrics	AR-GARCH, normal	AR-GARCH, Student-t	AR-EGARCH, normal	AR-GARCH-M, normal	AR-GARCH-M, Student-t	AR-IGARCH, normal	AR-IGARCH, Student-t	Static EVT	Dynamic EVT
1M	2.69	1.15	0.38	3.46 **	1.15	0.38	0.00 *	0.00 *	3.46	0.38
3M	3.08 **	1.15	0.38	3.08	1.54	0.38	0.00 *	0.00 *	2.69	0.38
6M	2.69 **	1.54	0.00 *	1.54	1.54	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.00 *	2.31	0.77
1Y	3.85 **	0.38	0.00 *	0.77	0.38	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.77	0.00 *
2Y	3.08 **	0.38	0.00 *	1.92	0.38	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.77	0.00 *
3Y	2.31 **	1.15	0.00 *	0.77	1.15	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.77	0.00 *
4Y	1.54 **	0.38	0.00 *	1.15	0.38	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.77	0.00 *
5Y	3.08 **	0.38	0.00 *	0.77	0.38	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.38	0.00 *
7Y	2.69 **	0.38	0.00 *	1.15	0.38	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.38	0.00 *
10Y	3.08 **	0.38	0.00 *	0.77	0.38	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.77	0.00 *
20Y	2.31 **	0.77	0.00 *	2.69	0.77	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.00 *	1.54	0.00 *
25Y	2.31 **	2.31	0.00 *	3.08	2.31	0.00 *	0.00 *	0.00 *	1.54	0.00 *

**Note:** Figures in %.

\*\* indicates highest average loss function in a tenor, \* indicates lowest average loss function in a tenor.

For the MRC figures, Table 7 summarizes the results. Although RiskMetrics has the lowest MRC in 11 tenors, it does not make it an efficient model because of its poor accuracy. The low MRC is due to its low *VaR* forecasts which understate risk. On the other hand, AR-IGARCH (Student-*t*) model has the highest MRC in ten tenors. Although it is the top-one model in terms of accuracy, it is not considered efficient as it mainly overstates risk, resulting in high capital charges, which is not practical for banks to implement. Among the top-five models based on backtesting, AR-IGARCH (normal) has the lowest MRC in seven tenors (medium- to long-term) while dynamic EVT has the lowest MRC in three tenors (short-term).

**Table 7. Summary of average market risk charge (MRC) of VaR models in each tenor**

Tenor	Risk Metrics	AR-GARCH, normal	AR-GARCH, Student-t	AR-EGARCH, normal	AR-GARCH-M, normal	AR-GARCH-M, Student-t	AR-IGARCH, normal	AR-IGARCH, Student-t	Static EVT	Dynamic EVT
1M	1.38 *	1.62	3.04	1.61	1.59	2.97	4.70	5.06 **	1.54	2.58 ‡
3M	1.34 *	1.73	2.95	1.57	1.70	2.92	5.90 **	5.20	1.60	2.76 ‡
6M	1.51 *	1.77	2.41	1.87	1.77	2.41	2.52	4.06 **	1.51	2.09 ‡
1Y	0.99 *	2.04	5.75	1.20	2.01	5.74	2.67 ‡	7.51 **	1.28	4.79
2Y	0.85 *	1.47	4.78	1.09	1.47	4.80	2.85 ‡	5.60 **	1.23	4.57

Tenor	Risk Metrics	AR-GARCH, normal	AR-GARCH, Student-t	AR-EGARCH, normal	AR-GARCH-M, normal	AR-GARCH-M, Student-t	AR-IGARCH, normal	AR-IGARCH, Student-t	Static EVT	Dynamic EVT
3Y	0.79 *	0.85	3.45	0.91	0.85	3.24	2.46 ‡	4.07 **	1.20	3.42
4Y	0.68 *	1.54	3.36	0.89	1.54	3.19	2.49 ‡	3.73 **	1.24	3.32
5Y	0.82 *	1.30	2.58	0.92	1.28	2.56	2.49 ‡	3.65 **	1.26	2.79
7Y	0.89 *	1.63	2.72	1.04	1.56	2.69	2.21 ‡	4.11 **	1.22	2.76
10Y	0.89 *	1.61	3.65	1.02	1.55	3.65	2.81 ‡	4.70 **	1.21	3.56
20Y	0.84 *	1.66	3.41	1.02	1.66	3.40 ‡	4.80 **	4.19	1.03	3.47
25Y	0.89	0.79	3.64	0.81	0.79 *	3.24	4.15	5.06 **	0.86	3.24 ‡

Notes: Figures in %.

\*\* indicates highest average MRC in a tenor, \* indicates lowest average MRC in a tenor, ‡ indicates lowest average MRC in a tenor considering only the top-five models.

Comparing further the MRC of the top-five models, the minimum and maximum MRC in each day in the out-of-sample period are counted (see Table 8). Results show that the models having the most number of days with maximum MRC are the AR-IGARCH (Student- $t$ ) in ten tenors and the AR-IGARCH (normal) in two tenors. This result confirms that the AR-IGARCH (Student- $t$ ) model generally overstates risk, thereby resulting in zero exception. On the other hand, the models having the most number of days with minimum MRC are the AR-IGARCH (normal) in seven tenors, dynamic EVT in three tenors and ARGARCH-M (Student- $t$ ) in two tenors. Again, the AR-IGARCH (normal) model is more practical to use in medium- to long-term tenors whereas dynamic EVT model is more practical to use in short-term tenors due to their low MRC.

**Table 8. Comparison of the top-five models by counting the no. of days out of 260 with minimum/maximum MRC**

Tenor	AR-IGARCH, normal		AR-IGARCH, Student-t		AR-GARCH, Student-t		AR-GARCH-M, Student-t		Dynamic EVT	
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max
1M	26	0	0	260	0	0	0	0	234	0
3M	30	205	0	55	0	0	0	0	230	0
6M	81	0	0	260	0	0	0	0	179	0
1Y	260	0	0	252	0	6	0	2	0	0
2Y	260	0	0	260	0	0	0	0	0	0
3Y	260	0	0	246	0	0	0	0	0	14
4Y	260	0	0	230	0	0	0	0	0	30
5Y	165	0	0	208	0	0	95	0	0	52
7Y	241	0	0	241	0	0	19	0	0	19
10Y	260	0	0	260	0	0	0	0	0	0
20Y	30	225	0	0	0	0	188	0	42	35
25Y	55	0	0	260	0	0	137	0	68	0

Finally, MRSB statistics are presented in Table 9. Among the ten *VaR* models, AR-IGARCH (normal) has the most number of lowest *absolute* MRSB (three tenors), followed by AR-GARCH (normal), AR-GARCH-M (Student-*t*), static EVT, and dynamic EVT (two tenors each).

**Table 9. Summary of average mean relative scaled bias (MRSB) of VaR models in each tenor**

Tenor	Risk Metrics	AR-GARCH, normal	AR-GARCH, Student-t	AR-EGARCH, normal	AR-GARCH-M, normal	AR-GARCH-M, Student-t	AR-IGARCH, normal	AR-IGARCH, Student-t	Static EVT	Dynamic EVT
1M	37 **	-9	-6	-5	-10	-8	-13	28	-4 *	-9
3M	36	-15	-7	-12	-13	-8	-3 *	45 **	-16	-7
6M	-18 **	0 *	6	10	1	6	-10	-6	7	3
1Y	6	-7	6	3	-9	5	-2 *	4	7	-13 **
2Y	11	5	-6	17 **	5	-5 *	-16	-16	14	-10
3Y	30 **	-5	-2	-2	-5	-8	-2 *	-6	3	-3
4Y	25 **	13	-11	-4	13	-15	-7	0	0 *	-13
5Y	23 **	-1	-8	4	-3	-8	-9	-11	14	-1 *
7Y	16	-3 *	-4	16	-7	-5	-10	-15	17 **	-3
10Y	-14	29	-16	-4	32 **	-16	-9	9	-7	-3 *
20Y	4	1	-7	1 *	1	-8	14 **	-1	1	-6
25Y	16 **	-12	8	-12	-12	-4 *	7	9	-8	9

Notes: Figures in %.

\*\* indicates highest absolute average MRSB in a tenor, \* indicates lowest absolute average MRSB in a tenor.

Comparing the two EVT *VaR* models, dynamic EVT beats static EVT based on the following results:

- Dynamic EVT has fewer *VaR* exceptions than static EVT.
- The MRB statistics show that static EVT generally understates market risk while dynamic EVT is more conservative. Static EVT produces relatively lower *VaR* forecasts.
- Backtesting results reveal that dynamic EVT is more accurate than static EVT as the former is in the green zone in 12 tenors while the latter is in the green zone in nine tenors only and in the yellow zone in three tenors. Dynamic EVT passed all LR tests indicating model accuracy while static EVT failed in one LR test indicating that the model is not correctly specified. Also, average loss function of static EVT is higher than that of dynamic EVT, implying that static EVT is less accurate than dynamic EVT.
- Though static EVT has lower average MRC than dynamic EVT, static EVT is not necessarily more efficient as its low MRC is mainly due to its low *VaR* forecasts. Comparing the average absolute MRSB, dynamic EVT has relatively lower average MRSB than static EVT. Hence, dynamic EVT is more efficient than static EVT.

## 6. Conclusion

Less than a year from now, the BSP hopes to achieve full implementation of Basel II in the Philippines. With this initiative, it can be expected that local universal and commercial banks (UBs/KBs) will start developing internal risk measurement models, not just to comply, but also to reduce risk-based capital charges. This study considers two value-at-risk models using the POT approach of EVT, which can serve as potential internal market risk models: static and dynamic. These models are applied to the benchmark rates (secondary market rates) of the 12 tenors of government securities. The findings are summarized below:

- (1) The static EVT model is a straightforward application of EVT to the delta yield series while dynamic EVT is the application of EVT to the residuals of the fitted AR-GARCH model of the delta yield series. Results show that the dynamic EVT model is more efficient than static EVT, i.e., dynamic EVT predicts losses more effectively and has less *VaR* exceptions than static EVT. It is also a better EVT model because it can cover some risk measurement issues such as non-normality of distribution, heavy-tails, autocorrelation, non-constant variance and volatility clustering.
- (2) AR-IGARCH (normal) and Dynamic EVT are the most conservative *VaR* models based on low mean relative bias statistics. Specifically, AR-IGARCH (normal) is most conservative in medium- to long-term tenors while dynamic EVT is most conservative in short-term tenors. Both are able to capture risks by generating *VaR* figures that are high enough to estimate the losses.
- (3) The accuracy of the dynamic EVT model is comparable to the AR-GARCH-type *VaR* models, i.e., dynamic EVT's accuracy is not significantly different from the econometric *VaR* models based on the number of exceptions and backtesting results. Dynamic EVT falls into the green zone of backtesting in all 12 tenors, indicating high probability of model accuracy. Results of likelihood ratio tests and loss functions also indicate that dynamic EVT is one of the most accurate *VaR* models.
- (4) Based on the mean relative scaled bias statistics, dynamic EVT is efficient as it is both conservative and accurate. Furthermore, among the top-performing *VaR* models, dynamic EVT is one of the most efficient for having low market risk

charges specifically in short-term tenors. Hence it is practical to use and has a potential to lower the required market risk capital.

With these results, it can be concluded that the study has successfully assessed extreme value theory's potential as a risk measure. EVT-based *VaR* model like dynamic EVT is able to address some known issues in risk measurement. It can also measure risk conservatively, accurately and efficiently, therefore making it a candidate internal market risk measurement model for banks.



## APPENDIX

The Pickands-Balkema-de Haan Theorem: For a large class of underlying distributions we can find a function  $\beta(u)$  such that

$$\lim_{u \rightarrow x_0} \sup_{0 \leq y < x_0 - u} |F_u(y) - G_{\xi, \beta(u)}(y)| = 0$$

The important result of the theorem is that, for a large class of underlying distributions  $F$ , the excess distribution function  $F_u$  converges to the generalized Pareto as the threshold  $u$  is progressively increased. The class of underlying distributions for which the theorem holds comprises essentially all common distributions of statistics [McNeil and Frey 2000]. These distributions can be grouped according to the value of the parameter  $\xi$  in the limiting GPD approximation to the excess distribution. When  $\xi > 0$ , then the underlying  $F$  corresponds to heavy-tailed distributions whose tails decay like power functions such as the Pareto, Student-t, Cauchy, Burr, loggamma and Fréchet distributions. If  $\xi = 0$ , then  $F$  corresponds to distributions whose tails decay exponentially such as the normal, exponential, gamma and lognormal. The case  $\xi < 0$ , are the group of short-tailed distributions with finite right endpoint, like the uniform and beta distributions.

## References

- Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) [2006a] "Circular No. 538: Revised Risk-Based Capital Adequacy Framework", BSP Regulations. BSP.
- Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) [2006b] "Circular No. 544: Guidelines on Market Risk Management", BSP Regulations. BSP.
- Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas. Website, [www.bsp.gov.ph](http://www.bsp.gov.ph).
- Bank for International Settlements. Website, [www.bis.org](http://www.bis.org).
- Basel Committee on Banking Supervision [1996] *Supervisory framework for the use of "backtesting" in conjunction with the internal model approach to market risk capital requirements*. Bank for International Settlements.
- Basel Committee on Banking Supervision [2004] *International convergence of capital measurement and capital standards*. Bank for International Settlements.
- Bollerslev, T. [1986] "Generalized autoregressive conditional heteroscedasticity", *Journal of Econometrics* **31**: 307-327.
- Christoffersen, P. [1998] "Evaluating interval forecast", *International Economic Review* **3**(4): 841-862.
- Christoffersen, P. and D. Pelletier [2003] "Backtesting value-at-risk: a duration-based approach", CIRANO Scientific Series.
- Danielsson, J. and C. G. de Vries [2000] "Value-at-risk and extreme returns", *Annales D'Economie et de Statistique* **60**: 239-270.
- Embrechts, P., S. Resnick, and G. Samorodnitsky [1999] "Extreme value theory as a risk management tool", *North American Actuarial Journal* **3**: 30-41.
- Engel, J. and M. Gizycki [1999] "Conservatism, accuracy and efficiency: comparing value-at-risk models", Australian Prudential Regulation Authority, Reserve Bank of Australia, Working Paper 2.
- Engle, R. F. [1982] "Autoregressive conditional heteroscedastic models with estimates of the variance of United Kingdom inflation", *Econometrica* **50**: 987-1007.
- Gencay, R., F. Selcuk, and A. Ulugulyagci [2003] "High volatility, thick tails and extreme value theory in value-at-risk estimation", *Elsevier, Insurance: Mathematics & Economics* **33**: 337-356.
- Hendricks, D. [1996] "Evaluation of value-at-risk models using historical data", *Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Economic Policy Review* **2**: 39-69.
- Jorion, P. [2000] *Value at risk: the new benchmark for managing financial risk*. USA: McGraw-Hill.
- Lopez, J. [1998] "Methods for evaluating value-at-risk estimates", *Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Economic Policy Review*, October, Research Paper No. 9802.
- McNeil, A. J. [1998] "Calculating quantile risk measures for financial time series using extreme value theory", Department of Mathematics, ETH, Swiss Federal Technical University, ETHE-Collection, <http://e-collection.ethbib.ethz.ch/>.
- McNeil, A. J. [1999] "Extreme value theory for risk managers" in: *Internal modelling and CAD II*. Risk Books: 93-113.
- McNeil, A. J. and R. Frey [2000] "Estimation of tail-related risk measures for heteroscedastic financial time series: an extreme value approach", *Journal of Empirical Finance* **7**: 271-300.
- Money Market Association of the Philippines. Website, [www.mart.com.ph](http://www.mart.com.ph).
- Morgan J. P. [1996] *RiskMetrics technical document*. Fourth edition. New York: J.P. Morgan.
- Philippine Dealing & Exchange Corp. Website, [www.pdex.com.ph](http://www.pdex.com.ph).

Professional Risk Manager's International Association. Website, [www.prmia.org](http://www.prmia.org).  
Tsay, R. [2005] *Analysis of financial time series*. Second edition. John Wiley & Sons.