

# Extreme distribution for a generalized stochastic volatility model<sup>1</sup>

DIOP Aliou<sup>2</sup>

GUEGAN Dominique<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> UFR de Sciences Appliquées et de Technologies, B.P. 234  
Université Gaston Berger, Saint-Louis, Sénégal (e-mail:  
adiop@uva.org)

<sup>3</sup> E.N.S. Cachan, IDHE UMR 8533 CNRS, 61 Avenue du President  
Wilson, 94235, Cachan Cedex, France (e-mail:  
dominique.guegan@ecogest.ens-cachan.fr).

**Key words:** Extreme Value Theory, tail behavior, stochastic volatility model, GED distribution.

---

<sup>1</sup>This research was begun during a much appreciated stay of the second author at University Gaston Berger under the ICTP visiting scholar/consultant programme. The first author acknowledges help from the African centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) and the Fonds International de Coopération Universitaire (FICU) of the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie.

# Extreme distribution for a generalized stochastic volatility model

## Summary

We give the asymptotic behavior of the extreme values of a stochastic volatility model  $(Y_t)_t$  when the noise follows a generalized error distribution (GED). This class of distributions, which has been studied in Box and Tiao (1973) for instance, includes in particular the Gaussian law. In this paper, we show that in the general context, the normalized extremes of a log-transformation of  $(Y_t)_t$  converges in distribution to the double exponential distribution. We investigate the importance of the different assumptions using Monte Carlo simulations. We also deal with the finite sample behavior of the normalized maxima. The influence of the parameters of the models is discussed.

## 1 Introduction

The class of stochastic volatility models has its roots and applications in finance and financial econometrics. Indeed, volatility plays a central role in the analysis of a lot of phenomena in these domains. There exists a lot of versions of stochastic volatility models in the literature. Here we are interested by a discrete time version of volatility model introduced first by Taylor (1986). This model appears as a particular model of the SARV model introduced by Andersen in 1994. The univariate volatility model  $(Y_t)_t$  that we will consider here can be defined by the

following equation :

$$(1.1) \quad Y_t = \sigma \exp\left(\frac{\alpha_t}{2}\right) \varepsilon_t$$

with

$$(1.2) \quad \alpha_t = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \theta_j Z_{t-j}$$

where  $\sigma$  is a positive constant,  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  a sequence of independent and identically distributed (iid) random variable (r.v.) and  $(Z_t)_t$  a sequence of iid Gaussian r.v. with mean zero, variance  $\sigma_Z^2$  and independent of the sequence  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$ . The parameters  $(\theta_j)_j$  are such that  $\sum_{j \geq 0} |\theta_j|^2 < \infty$ . In the literature, generally it is assumed that  $\varepsilon_t$  and  $Z_t$  are not correlated with each other. For simplicity here we will assume independence between the two sequences. The model can pick up the kind of asymmetry behavior which is often found in stock prices, and a negative correlation between  $\varepsilon_t$  and  $Z_t$  induces a leverage effect. This explains why practitioners often use this model. The behavior of the autocorrelation function and the power-moments for the process defined by (1.1)-(1.2) are well known when  $\varepsilon_t$  follows a Gaussian law or a Student law, see for instance Harvey (1993), Taylor (1986), Ghysels *et al.* (1996) or Shepard (1996).

Recently banks and insurance companies have been faced with questions concerning extremal rare events. In insurance, these extremal events may clearly correspond to individual claims which by far exceed the capacity of a single insurance company. In finance these extremal events can present themselves spectacularly whenever major stock market crashes like the one in 1987 occurs for instance. The first preoccupation for these institutions is to define a well-functioning risk management and control system to address these problems. Thus, they need stochastic methodology for the construction of various components of such tools.

In that context, it is important to know, for instance the extremal distribution of the different processes which are used, until now, to characterize the behavior of certain asset prices. Our contribution consists in studying the extremal behavior of the distribution of a class of transformation of the process  $(Y_t)_t$  defined by (1.1)-(1.2) when the noise  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  follows a generalized error distribution (GED). This class of distribution, which has been studied in Box and Tiao (1973) for instance, includes in particular the Gaussian law. This last case has been studied by Breidt and Davis (1998). Here we show, in a general context specified in the next section, that the normalized extremes of a log-transformation of  $(Y_t)_t$  converge in distribution to the double exponential distribution. Since we are interested by a feasible application of these results on real data, we investigate the importance of the different assumptions using Monte Carlo simulations. Thus, we are able to show that some assumptions are not so important in the reality context. Nevertheless our results obtained in an asymptotic context can be very bad at finite samples. This last situation is classical in extreme value theory, indeed, some results obtained in an asymptotic context are not always valid with finite samples. Obviously, this implies some difficulties to use directly these results in view to construct a risk management theory.

Our paper is organized in the following way : Section two contains statistical properties of the process (1.1)-(1.2) when  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  follows a GED distribution. The extremal behavior of a log-transformation of  $(Y_t)_t$  is presented in Section three. In Section four we focus on finite sample behavior for the normalized maximum of the log-transformation of  $(Y_t)_t$ . Section five is devoted to the conclusion. The proofs are postponed in an Appendix.

## 2 Stationarity of the process $(Y_t)_t$

In this section we present some properties of the autocorrelation function and the power-moments of the process  $(Y_t)_t$  defined in (1.1)-(1.2) when  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  follows a GED distribution. The GED density is defined by

$$(2.1) \quad f_\varepsilon(x) = c_0 \exp(-k|x|^\gamma),$$

with  $c_0 > 0$ ,  $\gamma > 0$  and  $k > 0$ . The expression (2.1) can also be written :

$$(2.2) \quad f_\varepsilon(x) = \frac{\gamma \exp(-\frac{1}{2}|\frac{x}{\tau}|^\gamma)}{\tau 2^{1+\frac{1}{\gamma}} \Gamma(\frac{1}{\gamma})}, \quad \gamma > 0$$

with

$$\tau = \left[ \frac{2^{-\frac{2}{\gamma}} \Gamma(\frac{1}{\gamma})}{\Gamma(\frac{3}{\gamma})} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

This class of densities contains the normal density ( $\gamma = 2$ ) and the Laplace density ( $\gamma = 1$ ), and has the uniform density as a limit ( $\gamma \rightarrow +\infty$ ). It was first introduced by Subbotin (1923) as the exponential power distribution. The tail behavior of the innovations process  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  which is characterized by such a density depends on the tail-thickness parameter  $\gamma$ . For instance, if  $\gamma = 2$ , then  $\varepsilon_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$ , while for  $\gamma < 2$  the distribution has thicker tails than the Gaussian distribution. Now we present some results concerning the moments of the process (1.1)-(1.2) assuming that the distribution of  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  is given by (2.1).

### Proposition 1 (Covariance and strict stationarity)

*If the process  $(Y_t)_t$  follows the model (1.1)-(1.2) driven by a GED noise  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  with index  $\gamma$  then,*

*i) the power-moments of  $Y_t$  are given by*

$$(2.3) \mathbb{E}(Y_t^r) = \begin{cases} \sigma^r \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{\gamma})^{\frac{r}{2}-1} \Gamma(\frac{r+1}{\gamma})}{\Gamma(\frac{3}{\gamma})^{\frac{r}{2}}} \exp(\frac{r^2}{8} \sigma_\alpha^2) & \text{if } r \text{ is even} \\ 0 & \text{if } r \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

and

$$va(2(\mathbb{Y})^r) = \begin{cases} \sigma^{2r} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{\gamma})^{r-2} \Gamma(\frac{r+1}{\gamma})^2}{\Gamma(\frac{2}{\gamma})^r} \exp(\frac{r^2}{4} \sigma_\alpha^2) [K_r \exp(\frac{r^2}{4} \sigma_\alpha^2) - 1] & \text{if } r \text{ is even} \\ \sigma^{2r} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{\gamma})^{r-1} \Gamma(\frac{2r+1}{\gamma})}{\Gamma(\frac{2}{\gamma})^r} \exp(\frac{r^2}{2} \sigma_\alpha^2) & \text{if } r \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

where

$$(2.5) \quad K_r = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{\gamma}) \Gamma(\frac{2r+1}{\gamma})}{\Gamma(\frac{r+1}{\gamma})^2}.$$

ii) The excess kurtosis of  $Y_t$  is given by

$$(2.6) \quad \kappa = 3\left(\frac{K_2}{3} \exp(\sigma_\alpha^2) - 1\right),$$

where  $K_2$  is given by (2.5) with  $r = 2$ .

iii) The  $r$ -th autocorrelation function is equal to

$$(2.7) \quad \rho_h^{(r)} = \begin{cases} \frac{\exp(\frac{r^2}{4} \gamma_\alpha(h)) - 1}{K_r \exp(\frac{r^2}{4} \gamma_\alpha(0)) - 1} & \text{if } r \text{ is even} \\ \exp(\frac{r^2}{4} (\gamma_\alpha(h) - \gamma_\alpha(0))) & \text{if } r \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

where  $\gamma_\alpha(\cdot)$  is the autocovariance function of the stationary process  $(\alpha_t)_t$ . Hence, the process  $(Y_t^r)_t$  is both covariance and strict stationary.

**Proof:** See the Appendix.

This proposition ensures that the process  $(Y_t)_t$  defined by (1.1)-(1.2) and the powers of this process are stationary. We are going to use this result in the next section.

### 3 Asymptotic behavior of the maxima of the process $(X_t)_t$

In this section we study the asymptotic behavior of the distribution of a class of transformations of the process  $(Y_t)_t$ . First of all, we define  $\forall t$ ,

$$(3.1) \quad X_t = \ln\left(\frac{Y_t}{\sigma}\right)^2 = \alpha_t + \ln \varepsilon_t^2.$$

Now we put :

$$(3.2) \quad \zeta_t = \ln \varepsilon_t^2 \text{ for all } t \in \mathbb{Z},$$

thus the process  $(X_t)_t$  becomes a sum of two independent processes :

$$(3.3) \quad X_t = \alpha_t + \zeta_t.$$

The model (3.3) can be considered as a regression model with special noise  $(\zeta_t)_t$ . When  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  is characterized by a GED distribution, we denote by  $F$  the distribution function of  $(X_t)_t$ . First of all, we study the asymptotic behavior of the distribution  $F$ .

**Proposition 2** *Let  $(X_t)_t$  be the process defined by (3.3), assume that the distribution of  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  is (2.1), then the asymptotic behavior of  $F$  is :*

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{F}(x) & \stackrel{(3.4)}{=} P\{X_t > x\} \\ & \sim \frac{\sigma_\alpha}{\sqrt{\pi}} \exp\left\{ -\frac{x^2}{2\sigma_\alpha^2} + \frac{ax \ln g(x)}{\sigma_\alpha^2} - \frac{2x(1+R)}{\gamma\sigma_\alpha^2} + A \ln g(x) - \frac{bx \ln g(x)}{\sigma_\alpha^2 g(x)} \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \frac{2 \ln^2 g(x)}{\sigma_\alpha^2 \gamma^2} - \frac{cx}{\sigma_\alpha^2 g(x)} + \frac{1}{8\sigma_\alpha^2} \left(\frac{1}{2}\gamma - 1\right)^2 + \frac{1}{\sigma_\alpha^2} \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{\gamma}\right) + C + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\ln^2 g(x)}{g(x)}\right) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} a &= \frac{2}{\gamma}, & b &= \left(\frac{2}{\gamma}\right)^3, & c &= -\left(\frac{2}{\gamma}\right)^3 R - \frac{2}{\gamma^2} \sigma_\alpha^2 + \frac{\sigma_\alpha^2}{\gamma}, \\ R &= \ln k \sigma_\alpha^2, & A &= \frac{4}{\gamma^2 \sigma_\alpha^2} (R+1) + \frac{1}{\gamma} - \frac{3}{2}, \\ C &= -\frac{2}{\gamma^2 \sigma_\alpha^2} R^2 + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{\gamma} - \frac{4}{\gamma^2 \sigma_\alpha^2}\right) R - \frac{1}{\gamma} + \frac{1}{2} + \ln \frac{4\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})c_0}{\sqrt{k}\gamma^2}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$g(x) = \frac{2x+1}{\gamma} - 1/2.$$

**Proof :** See the Appendix.

**Remark :** When the noise  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  follows a Gaussian distribution, then  $c_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$ ,  $\gamma = 2$ ,  $k = \frac{1}{2}$  and we find the results of Breidt and Davis (1998, p.667).

We define now  $M_n = \max(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ ,  $n \geq 2$ , the maxima of the process  $(X_t)_t$ . Here, we investigate the asymptotic distribution of  $M_n$ .

**Theorem 1** *Let  $(X_t)_t$  be a process defined in (3.3). Assume that the density of  $\varepsilon_t$  is given by (2.1). Assume also that  $\rho_\alpha(h) \ln h \rightarrow 0$ , as  $h \rightarrow +\infty$ , where  $\rho_\alpha(h)$  denotes the autocorrelation function of  $(\alpha_t)_t$  defined in (1.2) and  $\gamma \geq \frac{1}{2}$ . Then there exist normalizing constants  $(a_n > 0)$  and  $(b_n)$  such that*

$$(3.5) \quad P[a_n(M_n - b_n) \leq x] \rightarrow \exp(-e^{-x}),$$

where

$$a_n = \sigma_\alpha (2 \ln n)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad d_n = (\ln n)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

and

$$b_n = c_1 d_n + c_2 \ln d_n + c_3 + c_4 \frac{\ln d_n}{d_n} + \frac{c_5}{d_n},$$

with

$$c_1 = (2\sigma_\alpha^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad c_2 = a, \quad c_3 = a \left[ \frac{3}{2} \ln 2 + \ln \frac{2}{\gamma} - \frac{\ln \sigma_\alpha^2}{2} - 1 \right],$$

$$c_4 = \left( \frac{1}{\gamma} - \frac{3}{2} \right) \frac{\sigma_\alpha}{\sqrt{2}},$$

$$c_5 = \frac{-1}{2(2\sigma_\alpha^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \left\{ a^2 + (1 - R + \frac{1}{2} \ln 2 \sigma_\alpha^2) \sigma_\alpha^2 (1 - a) + \left( \frac{\gamma^2}{4} \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{\gamma} \right) + 2 + 2\sigma_\alpha^2 \right) \left( \frac{1}{\gamma} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \right. \\ \left. + (3 - a) \sigma_\alpha^2 \ln a - 2\sigma_\alpha^2 \ln \left( \frac{a^2 c_0 \sqrt{\pi}}{\sqrt{k}} \right) + \sigma_\alpha^2 \ln(2\pi) \right\}.$$

**Proof :** See the Appendix.

## 4 Behavior of the distribution of the maxima of $(X_t)_t$ using finite samples

In this section we will study the behavior of the distribution of the maxima of  $(X_t)_t$  given by (3.2)-(3.3) for different versions of the process  $(\alpha_t)_t$ . We now describe these versions. First we consider the iid stochastic volatility model with a GED noise for  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  : the process  $(\alpha_t)_t$  is defined by :

$$(4.1) \quad \alpha_t = Z_t, \quad \{Z_t\} \text{ is iid } \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_\alpha^2).$$

Secondly we study the first-order autoregressive stochastic volatility model (ARSV) with a GED noise for  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  : the process  $(\alpha_t)_t$  is defined by :

$$(4.2) \quad \alpha_t = \phi\alpha_{t-1} + Z_t, \quad \{Z_t\} \text{ iid } \mathcal{N}(0, (1 - \phi^2)\sigma_\alpha^2),$$

with  $|\phi| < 1$ . Finally, we consider the long memory stochastic volatility model (LMSV), (see Breidt *et al.* (1998)) with a GED noise  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  and the process  $(\alpha_t)_t$  is defined by :

$$(4.3) \quad (1 - B)^d \alpha_t = Z_t, \quad \{Z_t\} \text{ iid } \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{\sigma_\alpha^2 \Gamma^2(1 - d)}{\Gamma(1 - 2d)}).$$

with  $|d| < 1/2$ .

In the following, we highlight the influence of the parameters on the limiting distribution for these different models. We study also the importance of the different assumptions made in Theorem 1.

### 4.1 Assumptions

The result stated in Theorem 1 requires the condition  $\rho_\alpha(h) \ln h \rightarrow 0$  as  $h \rightarrow \infty$ . The model (4.1) corresponds to an iid process thus  $\rho_\alpha(h) = 0$ ,  $h \neq 0$ . The model

(4.2) is an AR(1) process, thus  $\rho_\alpha(h)$  decreases with the rate of  $\phi^{|h|}$ . The model (4.3) is a FARIMA( $\theta, d, \theta$ ) process, it is known that  $\rho_\alpha(h) \sim C(d)h^{2d-1}$ , as  $h \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $C(d)$  is some constant which depends on  $d$ , thus the speed of convergence of  $\rho_\alpha(h)$  towards 0 is very slow.

## 4.2 Influence of the parameters

In order to compare our results with those of Breidt and Davis (1998), we use in our simulations the same values as them for  $\sigma_\alpha^2$  ( $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 2.3976, 0.6933, 0.0953$ ), for  $\phi$  ( $\phi = 0.95$ ) and for  $d$  ( $d = 0.4$ ). In Figures 1-4, we give in solid lines the empirical distribution functions for 1000 normalized maxima  $a_n(M_n - b_n)$  obtained from 1000 replications of samples of size 1000 and in dotted lines the limiting double exponential distribution. The quality of the convergence depends on  $\sigma_\alpha$  and  $a_n$  (the coefficient  $a_n$  is given by  $a_n = \sigma_\alpha^{-1}(2 \ln n)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ ). The influence of the tail-thickness parameter  $\gamma$  of the GED distribution is also studied in Figures 1-4. We present the limiting distribution when  $\gamma = 1$  (Laplace distribution which is thicker tail than the Gaussian distribution) and  $\gamma = 3$  (thinner tail than the Gaussian distribution). The asymptotic behavior of the normalized maxima is closely related to the value of  $\sigma_\alpha$  as shown in Figures 1-4. We also study in Figures 3-4 the sensitivity of the convergence obtained in (3.5) with respect to the parameters  $\phi$  and  $d$  respectively when  $(\alpha_t)_t$  follows the models (4.2)-(4.3). We detail now these results.

### 4.2.1 GED noise with $\gamma = 3$

We turn now to the case of stochastic volatility model (3.3) driven by a noise  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  characterized by tail-thickness parameter  $\gamma = 3$ , see Figure 1 : the solid lines represent the empirical distribution of the normalized maxima  $a_n(M_n - b_n)$ , with  $n = 1000$  and the dotted lines represent the double exponential distribution. Looking at the nine graphs of Figure 1, we see that for finite samples the approximation of the empirical distribution with the double exponential distribution is

better when  $(\alpha_t)_t$  follows the model (4.2) with  $\phi = 0.95$  and  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 2.3976$ .

#### 4.2.2 Laplace noise $\gamma = 1$

We now abstract from the thinner tailed case and consider a stochastic volatility model driven by Laplace noise  $\gamma = 1$ . The result is given in Figure 2. By reading across the rows of this picture, the panels again show the influence of the value of the parameter  $\sigma_\alpha^2$ . The greater  $\sigma_\alpha^2$ , the better the rate of convergence of the normalized maxima of  $(X_t)_t$  defined in (3.3) to the double exponential distribution. The dependence structure in  $(\alpha_t)_t$  seems not to have a great influence on this convergence. A comparison between Figure 1 of Breidt and Davis (1998) and Figure 2 shows clearly that the convergence of the normalized maxima is better when the driving noise  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  is Gaussian. Despite the change of the scale in the  $x$ -axis of Figure 2, the comparison between Figure 1 and Figure 2 corresponding respectively to  $\gamma = 3$  and  $\gamma = 1$  reveals a better approximation when  $\gamma = 3$ . We note also that as  $\gamma$  increases, the mass of the empirical distribution shifts to the right.

#### 4.2.3 Influence of the autoregressive parameter $\phi$

Here we assume for simplicity that the noise  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  follows a Gaussian law and we investigate the influence of the autoregressive parameter  $\phi$  to the asymptotic behavior of  $a_n(M_n - b_n)$  for the process  $(X_t)_t$  defined in (3.3) when the process  $(\alpha_t)_t$  follows the model (4.2). To determine the sensitivity of the results to this parameter, different alternative values for  $\phi$  have been used :  $\phi = 0.2$ ,  $\phi = 0.95$  and  $\phi = 0.99$ . The results are given in Figure 3. By looking across the rows of Figure 3, we note that the smaller  $\phi$ , the better the rate of convergence. When the autoregressive parameter  $\phi$  is equal to 0.99, the approximation is dramatically poor whatever the value of  $\sigma_\alpha$  as shown in the last column of Figure 3. A possible explanation is the fact that the underlying process tends to become nonstationary when the parameter  $\phi$  is close to 1. It seems that

this situation needs other investigations. This case has been already partially studied, see for instance, Horowitz (1980), Ballerini and Mc Cormick (1989) and Niu (1997).

#### 4.2.4 Importance of the long memory parameter $d$ .

Figure 4 shows the influence of the long memory parameter  $d$  to the convergence of the normalized maxima of the process  $(X_t)_t$  defined in (3.3). For sake of conciseness, we assume that the noise  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  follows a Gaussian distribution. We compare the empirical distribution function of  $a_n(M_n - b_n)$  when the process  $(X_t)_t$  follows the LMSV model and the double exponential distribution when  $d = 0.1$ ,  $d = 0.2$  and  $d = 0.4$ . The smaller  $d$ , the better the rate of the convergence (3.5). However we have approximately the same behavior as in the other cases when  $\sigma_\alpha$  is equal to 0.0953.

#### 4.2.5 Tail comparison

We give here a brief comparison between the tail behavior of the two components of the process  $(X_t)_t$  defined in (3.3). The density of the r.v.  $\zeta_t$  defined in (3.2) when the r.v.  $\varepsilon_t$  follows a GED distribution with shape parameter  $\gamma$  given by

$$h(x) = c_0 \exp\left(\frac{x}{2} - k e^{\frac{\gamma}{2}x}\right).$$

Asymptotically the log-squared iid noise has an upper tail that is dominated by the Gaussian tail of the log-volatility term : the tail of  $(\zeta_t)$  is asymptotic to

$$\frac{2c_0}{\gamma k} \exp\left(\frac{x}{2}(1 - \gamma)\right) \exp(-k e^{\frac{\gamma}{2}x}),$$

which goes to zero faster than the Gaussian tail  $\frac{1}{x} \exp(-\frac{x^2}{2})$ . Figure 5 shows the tails of the distribution of the Gaussian linear process  $(\alpha_t)_t$  defined in (1.2) and the noise  $(\zeta_t)_t$  defined in (3.2). The three panels correspond respectively to  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 2.3976$ ,  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 0.6933$  and  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 0.0953$ . When  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 2.3976$ , the Gaussian upper tail dominates the tail of  $\zeta_t$  for  $\gamma = 1, 2, 3$  which is expected. However,

in finite samples, when  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 0.0953$ , the Gaussian upper tail is dominated by the upper tail of  $\zeta_t$ . Finally when  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 0.6933$ , all the tails are tendency to have the same behavior as the Gaussian upper tail. Hence in finite samples, the Gaussian tail dominance is not evident. This is why the double exponential approximation is poor in finite samples.

## 5 Conclusion

In this paper, we get the asymptotic distribution of the maxima of a log-transformation of a process  $(X_t)_t$  driven by a stochastic volatility model and we study the empirical behavior of its asymptotic distribution. We point out the influence of the tail-thickness parameter  $\gamma$  of the driving noise  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$ . Our findings are that the choice of  $\gamma$ ,  $\sigma_\alpha^2$  and the dependence structure of  $(\alpha_t)_t$  does affect the goodness-of-fit of the limiting distribution.

In practice, the results stated in theorem 1 allow us to calculate quantile risk measures using the maximum block method, see for instance Embrechts *et al.* (1997). However in finite samples care must be taken because of the poverty of the approximation. This is one of the limitations to evaluate for instance the Value at Risk for real data using this part of the extreme value theory. It would be interesting to investigate the asymptotic behavior for more complicated nonstationary models; this will be done in a companion paper.

## 6 Appendix

**Proof of Proposition 1 :** We can establish using Devroye (1986) p. 175 that the GED noise  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  defined in (2.1) satisfies

$$(6.1) \quad \varepsilon_t \stackrel{d}{=} k^{-\frac{1}{\gamma}} V G^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}$$

where  $\stackrel{d}{=}$  denote the equality in distribution,  $V$  a uniform r.v. on  $[-1, 1]$  and  $G$  a r.v. following a Gamma distribution  $\Gamma(1 + \frac{1}{\gamma}, 1)$ , independent of  $V$ . The

identity (6.1) is used in Section 4 to draw samples from a GED distribution.

From (6.1), it can be shown that

$$(6.2) \quad E(\varepsilon_t^r) = \begin{cases} \frac{k - \frac{\alpha}{\gamma}}{r+1} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{r+1}{\gamma}+1)}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{\gamma}+1)}, & \text{if } r \text{ is even} \\ 0 & \text{if } r \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

i) Since  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  has a symmetric distribution and  $(\alpha_t)_t$  defined in (1.2) is a Gaussian linear process independent of  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$ , (2.3) and (2.4) are obtained directly from the properties of the lognormal distribution.

ii) The excess kurtosis of  $(Y_t)_t$  defined by  $\frac{E[Y_t^4]}{E[Y_t^2]^2} - 3$  follows directly from (2.3).

iii) The  $r$ -th autocorrelation function is defined by

$$(6.3) \quad \rho_h^{(r)} = \frac{E[Y_t^r Y_{t+h}^r] - E[Y_t^r]^2}{E[Y_t^{2r}] - E[Y_t^r]^2}.$$

From (1.1) and using again the properties of lognormal distribution, we have for all  $r$  :

$$(6.4) \quad E(Y_t^r Y_{t+h}^r) = \sigma^{2r} \exp\left(\frac{r^2}{4}(\sigma_\alpha^2 + \gamma_\alpha(h))\right) E(\varepsilon_t^{2r}).$$

The remainder of the proof follows directly from (2.3) and (6.4).

**Proof of Proposition 2:** We avoid here to go through the details of the computations which need some great efforts. We focus only on the important steps. Breidt and Davis (1998) use a Tauberian argument in the Gaussian case to express the asymptotic approximation to the tail distribution of  $(X_t)_t$ ; we use it again. In step 1, we give some expansions of the two derivatives  $m(\lambda)$  and  $S(\lambda)$  of the log-moment generating function of  $(X_t)_t$  defined in (3.3). In the second step, we define an inverse function  $m^{-1}(\cdot)$  of  $m(\lambda)$  and we justify the inverse notation. Some useful expansions of functions in terms of  $m^{-1}(x)$  are also provided. In the third step, we establish the asymptotic normality for the normalized Esscher transform of  $F$  which permits us to prove (3.4).

**Step 1 :**

We give here some expansions of the two first derivatives of the log-moment generating of the process  $(X_t)_t$  defined in (3.3).

The log of the moment generating function of  $(\zeta_t)_t$  is given by :

$$\ln E \exp(\lambda \zeta_t) = \ln 2c_0 - \ln \gamma - \frac{2\lambda + 1}{\gamma} \ln k + \ln \Gamma\left(\frac{2\lambda + 1}{\gamma}\right).$$

Thus, the log of the moment-generating function of  $(X_t)_t$  is equal to

$$\begin{aligned} \ln \mathcal{C}(\lambda) &= \frac{\lambda^2 \sigma_\alpha^2}{2} + \ln 2c_0 - \ln \gamma - \frac{2\lambda + 1}{\gamma} \ln k + \ln \Gamma\left(\frac{2\lambda + 1}{\gamma}\right) \\ &= \frac{\lambda^2 \sigma_\alpha^2}{2} - g(\lambda) \ln k - g(\lambda) + g(\lambda) \ln g(\lambda) + \ln \frac{2\sqrt{2}\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})c_0}{\sqrt{k}\gamma} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\lambda}\right), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$g(\lambda) = \frac{2\lambda + 1}{\gamma} - \frac{1}{2}.$$

The first two derivatives of  $\ln C(\lambda)$  are

$$\begin{aligned} m(\lambda) &= \frac{d}{d\lambda} \ln C(\lambda) = \lambda \sigma_\alpha^2 - \frac{2}{\gamma} \ln k + \frac{2}{\gamma} \Psi\left(\frac{2\lambda + 1}{\gamma}\right) \\ (6.6) \quad &= \lambda \sigma_\alpha^2 - \frac{2}{\gamma} \ln k + \frac{2}{\gamma} \ln g(\lambda) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\lambda^2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} S^2(\lambda) = \frac{d^2}{d\lambda^2} \ln C(\lambda) &= \sigma_\alpha^2 + \left(\frac{2}{\gamma}\right)^2 \Psi'\left(\frac{2\lambda + 1}{\gamma}\right) \\ (6.7) \quad &= \sigma_\alpha^2 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\lambda}\right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Psi(\cdot)$  and  $\Psi'(\cdot)$  are the digamma and trigamma functions respectively.

**Step 2 :**

We set

$$(6.8) \quad m^{-1}(x) = \frac{\gamma g(x)}{2\sigma_\alpha^2} - \frac{a \ln g(x)}{\sigma_\alpha^2} + \frac{b \ln g(x)}{\sigma_\alpha^2 g(x)} + \frac{c}{\sigma_\alpha^2 g(x)} - \frac{d}{\sigma_\alpha^2},$$

where

$$d = -\frac{2}{\gamma} \ln(k\sigma_\alpha^2).$$

It follows that

$$(6.9) \quad \ln g(m^{-1}(x)) = \ln\left(\frac{g(x)}{\sigma_\alpha^2}\right) - \frac{2a \ln g(x)}{g(x)} + \frac{D_1}{\gamma g(x)} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\ln^2 g(x)}{g(x)^2}\right),$$

where

$$D_1 = -2d + \sigma_\alpha^2 - \frac{\gamma \sigma_\alpha^2}{2}.$$

After some computations, using (6.6), (6.8) and (6.9), we get

$$(6.10) \quad m(m^{-1}(x)) = x + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\ln^2 g(x)}{g(x)^2}\right)$$

which justifies the inverse notation.

### Step 3 :

We establish the asymptotic normality for the normalized Esscher transform of the distribution F (see Feigin and Yashchin (1983)). We write

$$(6.11) \quad \bar{F}(m(\lambda)) \sim \frac{\exp(-\lambda m(\lambda))C(\lambda)}{(2\pi)^{\frac{1}{2}}\lambda S(\lambda)}.$$

Using the inverse of  $m$  defined in (6.8), we have

$$(6.12) \quad \bar{F}(x) \sim \frac{\exp(-xm^{-1}(x))C(m^{-1}(x))}{(2\pi)^{\frac{1}{2}}m^{-1}(x)S(m^{-1}(x))}.$$

The remainder of the proof needs the following expansions.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sigma_\alpha^2}{2}(m^{-1}(x))^2 &= \frac{\gamma^2 g(x)^2}{8\sigma_\alpha^2} + \frac{a^2 \ln^2 g(x)}{2\sigma_\alpha^2} - \frac{\gamma a g(x) \ln g(x)}{2\sigma_\alpha^2} + \frac{(\gamma b + 2ad) \ln g(x)}{2\sigma_\alpha^2} \\ &\quad - \frac{\gamma d g(x)}{2\sigma_\alpha^2} + \frac{d^2 + \gamma c}{2\sigma_\alpha^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\ln^2 g(x)}{g(x)^2}\right), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} g(m^{-1}(x)) \ln g(m^{-1}(x)) &= -\frac{\ln(\sigma_\alpha^2)}{\sigma_\alpha^2} g(x) + D_2 \ln g(x) + \frac{g(x) \ln(g(x))}{\sigma_\alpha^2} - \frac{2a \ln^2 g(x)}{\gamma \sigma_\alpha^2} \\ &\quad + \frac{D_1}{\gamma \sigma_\alpha^2} (1 - \ln \sigma_\alpha^2) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\ln^2 g(x)}{g(x)}\right), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$D_2 = \frac{-ad + a^2 \ln \sigma_\alpha^2 - 2a}{\sigma_\alpha^2}.$$

We conclude the proof by using (6.7), (6.8), (6.10), (6.12) and these expansions.

**Proof of theorem1:** Using proposition 2, we get

$$(6.13) \quad F^n(u_n) \longrightarrow \exp(-e^{-x}), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

where  $u_n = a_n^{-1}x + b_n$ . Now, we need to show that

$$(6.14) \quad |P(M_n \leq u_n) - F^n(u_n)| \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{as} \quad n \longrightarrow +\infty.$$

The proof of (6.14) uses the Normal comparison lemma (Leadbetter *et al.* (1983), page 81) and follows the great lines of Breidt and Davis (1998). First, we establish

$$(6.15) \quad |P(M_n \leq u_n) - F^n(u_n)| \leq nK \sum_{i=1}^n |\rho_\alpha(i)| \left( \text{Exp} \left\{ - \frac{(u_n - \zeta_1)^2}{2\sigma_\alpha^2(1 + |\rho_\alpha(i)|)} \right\} \right)^2$$

where  $K$  is a positive constant,  $\rho_\alpha(\cdot)$  the autocorrelation function of the process  $(\alpha_t)_t$  and  $\zeta_t = \ln \varepsilon_t^2$ . It is easy to show that for  $\gamma \geq \frac{1}{2}$ , we have

$$\bar{F}_\varepsilon(x) \approx \frac{c_0}{\gamma k} x^{1-\gamma} e^{-kx^\gamma} \quad \text{as} \quad x \longrightarrow +\infty.$$

Using the asymptotic relationship for the tail probability of the GED distribution, it can be shown that

$$(6.16) \quad \text{Exp} \left\{ - \frac{(u_n - \zeta_1)^2}{2\sigma_\alpha^2(1 + |\rho_\alpha(i)|)} \right\} \leq K' (\ln n)^{\lfloor \frac{1}{2(1+|\rho_\alpha(i)|)} \rfloor} E(\bar{F}_\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{1+|\rho_\alpha(i)|}}(\sigma_\alpha^{-1}(u_n - \zeta_1))) + o(n^{-1}),$$

where  $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$  stands for the integer part and  $K'$  a positive constant. By Jensen's inequality and the relation (6.13), we have

$$(6.17) \quad \left( \text{Exp} \left\{ - \frac{(u_n - \zeta_1)^2}{2\sigma_\alpha^2(1 + |\rho_\alpha(i)|)} \right\} \right)^2 \leq K'' (\ln n)^{\frac{1}{1+|\rho_\alpha(i)|}} n^{\frac{-2}{1+|\rho_\alpha(i)|}}$$

where  $K''$  is a positive constant. The remainder of the proof is similar to the one of Breidt and Davis (1998), page 671; see also Leadbetter *et al.* (1983), page 86.

## References

Andersen, T. G. , Stochastic autoregressive volatility : a framework for volatility modelling. *Mathematical finance*, **4** (2), (1994) 75-102.

Ballerini, R. and W. P. Mc Cormick (1989): Extreme value theory for processes with periodic variances. *Comm. Statist. Stochastic Models*, **5**, 45-51.

Box, G.E.P. and G. C. Tiao, *Bayesian Inference in Statistical Analysis*. (Reading, MA : Addison-Wesley 1973).

Breidt, F. J., Crato, N. and P. De Lima, The detection and estimation of long memory in stochastic volatility. *J. Econometrics*, **83** (1998), 325- 348.

Breidt, F.J. and R. A. Davis, Extremes of Stochastic Volatility models. *The Annals of Applied Probability* , **8** (3) (1998) , 664-675.

Davis, R. A. and S. I. Resnick, Extremes of moving averages of random variables with finite endpoint. *Ann. Probab.* **19**, (1991) 312-328.

Devroye, L., *Non Uniform Random Variate Generation*. (Springer, New York 1986).

Embrechts, P., Klüppelberg, C. and T. Mikosch, *Modelling extremal events for insurance and finance*, (Springer 1997).

Feigin, P. D. and E. Yashchin, On a strong Tauberian result. *Z. Wahrsch. Verw. Gebiete*, **65** (1983), 35-48.

Ghysels, E., Harvey, A. and E. Renault, *Stochastic volatility in Handbook of Statistics*, Vol. 14, " Statistical Methods in finance" . (J. Wiley 1996).

Harvey, A. C. Long memory in stochastic volatility (1993) : Discussion paper, L.S.E., London.

Horowitz, J. (1980) : Extreme values for a nonstationary stochastic process : an application to air quality analysis. *Technometrics*, **22**, 469-478.

Leadbetter, M. R. Lindgren, G. and H. Rootzen, *Extremes and Related Properties of Random sequences and Processes*. (Springer, New York 1983).

Niu, X-F. (1997) : Extreme value theory for a class of nonstationary time series with applications. *J. of Appl. Proba.*, **7**, 508-522.

Shepard, N., "Statistical aspects of ARCH and stochastic volatility," in *Time Series Models in Econometrics, Finance and other fields*, eds. Cox, Hink ley, Barndorff-Nielsen, Chapman and Hall, Monographs on Statistics and applied probability, **65** (1993), 2-67.

Subbotin, M.T., On the law of frequency errors. *Matematicheskii Sbornik*, **31**, (1923) 296-300.

Taylor, S., *Modelling Financial Time series*. (Wiley, New York 1986).

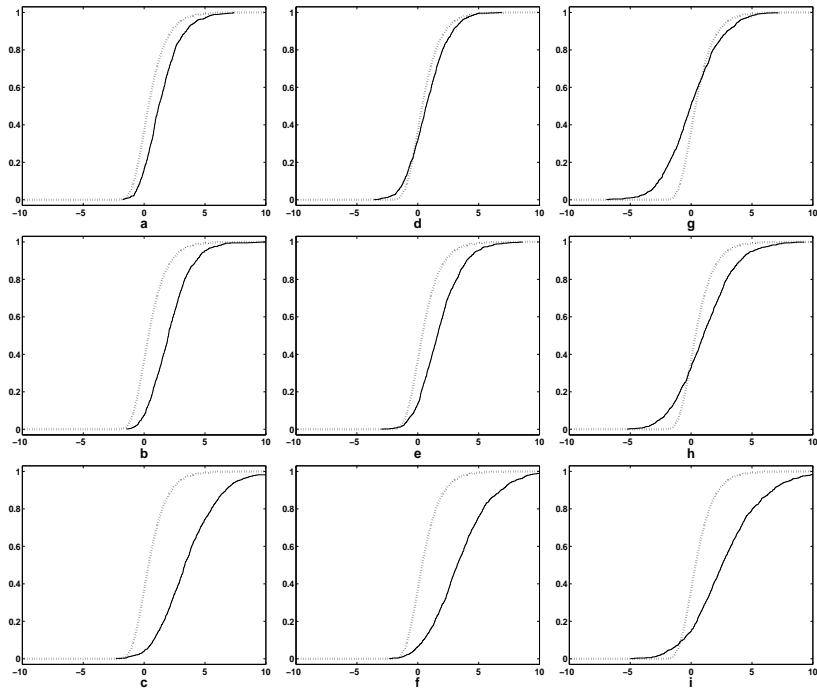


Figure 1: Comparison between the empirical distribution function and the double exponential distribution for the process  $(X_t)_t$  defined in (3.3) with a GED driving noise  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  with  $\gamma = 3$ . In first line for the three graphs  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 2.3976$ , in the second line  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 0.6933$ , in the third line  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 0.0953$ . a, b, c :  $\alpha_t \sim IID$ ; d, e, f :  $\alpha_t \sim AR(1)$ ,  $\phi = 0.95$ ; g, h, i :  $\alpha_t \sim FARIMA(0, d, 0)$ ,  $d = 0.4$ .

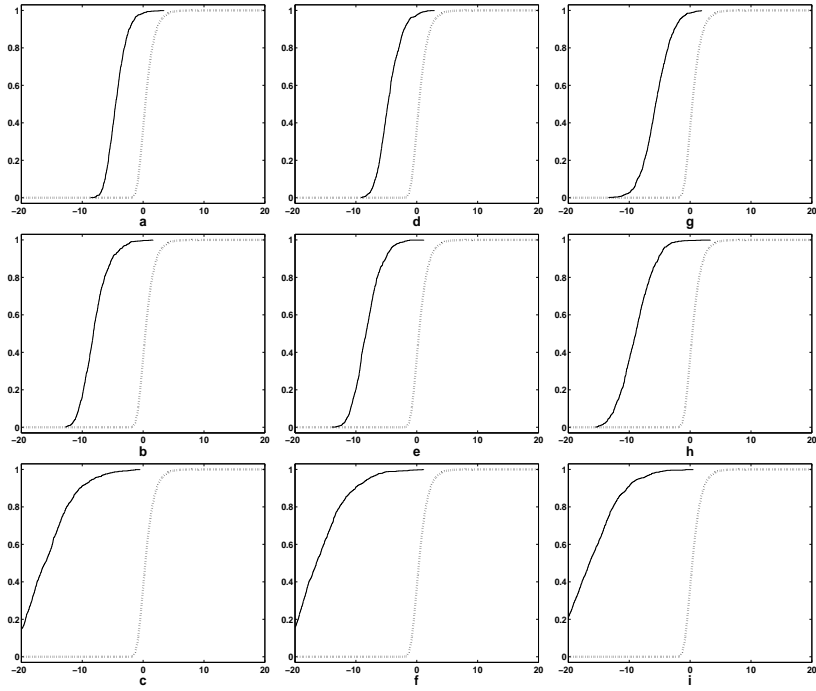


Figure 2: Comparison between the empirical distribution function (solid lines) for 1000 normalized maxima of  $(X_t)_t$  defined in (3.3) and the double exponential distribution (dotted lines) with a GED driving noise  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  with  $\gamma = 1$ . In first line for the three graphs  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 2.3976$ , in the second line  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 0.6933$ , in the third line  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 0.0953$ . a, b, c :  $\alpha_t \sim IID$ ; d, e, f :  $\alpha_t \sim AR(1)$ ,  $\phi = 0.95$ ; g, h, i :  $\alpha_t \sim FARIMA(0, d, 0)$ ,  $d = 0.4$ .

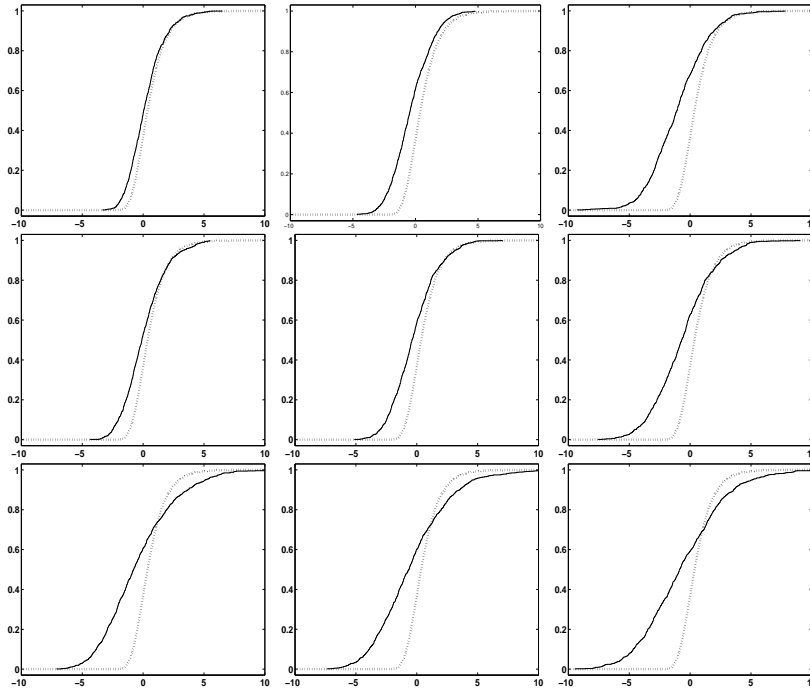


Figure 3: Comparison between the empirical distribution function (solid lines) for 1000 normalized maxima of  $(X_t)_t$  defined in (3.3) and the double exponential distribution (dotted lines) for ARSV when the driving noise  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  is Gaussian. For each line  $\sigma_\alpha^2$  is constant, the values of  $\sigma_\alpha^2$  are the same as in Figure 1. The columns correspond to  $\phi = 0.2$ ,  $\phi = 0.95$  and  $\phi = 0.99$  respectively.

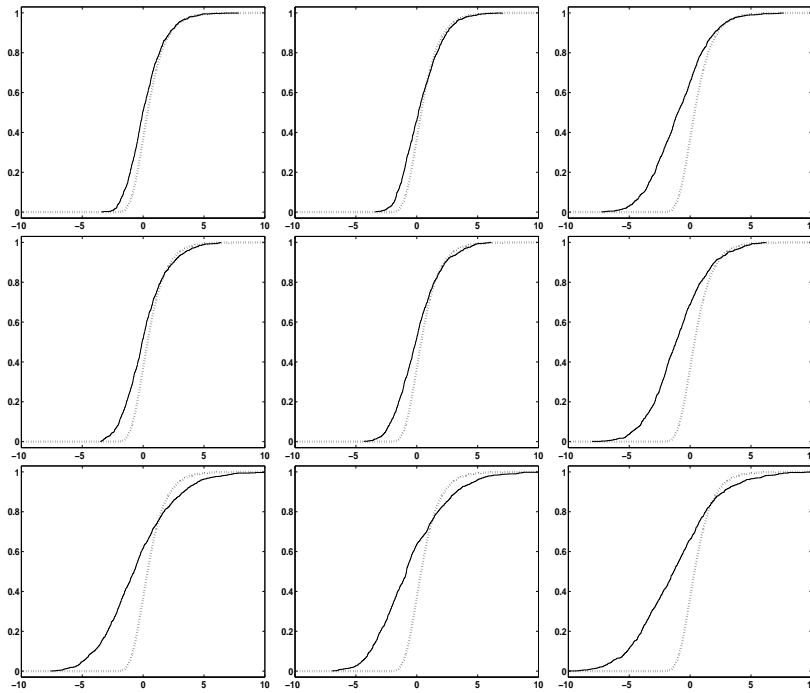


Figure 4: Comparison between the empirical distribution function (solid lines) for 1000 normalized maxima of  $(X_t)_t$  defined in (3.3) and the double exponential distribution (dotted lines) for LMSV when the driving noise  $(\varepsilon_t)_t$  is Gaussian. For each line  $\sigma_\alpha^2$  is constant, the values of  $\sigma_\alpha^2$  are the same as in Figure 1. The columns correspond to  $d = 0.1$ ,  $d = 0.2$  and  $d = 0.4$  respectively.

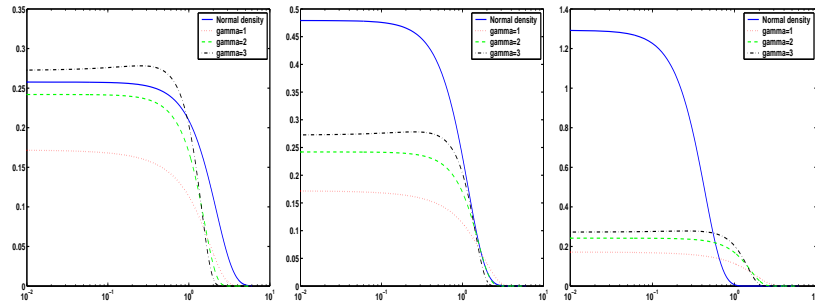


Figure 5: Comparison between the densities of  $\alpha_t$  defined in (1.2) (solid line) and  $\zeta_t$  defined in (3.2) for different values of  $\gamma$  ( $\gamma = 1, 2, 3$ ). The three graphs correspond respectively to  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 2.3976$ ,  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 0.6933$  and  $\sigma_\alpha^2 = 0.0953$ . We choose a log-scale on the x-axis.