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Equation-by-Equation Estimation of Multivariate Periodic Electricity Price Volatility *

Álvaro Escribano[†] and Genaro Sucarrat[‡]

22nd July 2016

Abstract

Electricity prices are characterised by strong autoregressive persistence, periodicity (e.g. intraday, day-of-the week and month-of-the-year effects), large spikes or jumps, GARCH and – as evidenced by recent findings – periodic volatility. We propose a multivariate model of volatility that decomposes volatility multiplicatively into a non-stationary (e.g. periodic) part and a stationary part with log-GARCH dynamics. Since the model belongs to the log-GARCH class, the model is robust to spikes or jumps, allows for a rich variety of volatility dynamics without restrictive positivity constraints, can be estimated equation-by-equation by means of standard methods even in the presence of feedback, and allows for Dynamic Conditional Correlations (DCCs) that can – optionally – be estimated subsequent to the volatilities. We use the model to study the hourly day-ahead system prices at Nord Pool, and find extensive evidence of periodic volatility and volatility feedback. We also find that volatility is characterised by (positive) leverage in half of the hours, and that a DCC model provides a better fit of the conditional correlations than a Constant Conditional Correlation (CCC) model.

JEL Classification: C22, C32, C51, C58

Keywords: Electricity prices, financial return, volatility, ARCH, exponential GARCH, log-GARCH, Multivariate GARCH, Dynamic Conditional Correlations, inverse leverage, Nord Pool

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1 Introduction

Modelling the uncertainty or volatility of electricity prices is of great importance for energy market participants. On the supply side, producers of electricity need estimates of the time-varying price volatility in order to determine the risks of future production levels. On the demand side, consumers of electricity need the same type of information in order to ascertain the risks associated with decisions about when and where to produce goods, and in order to hedge against adverse price changes.

It is well known that electricity prices are characterised by autoregressive persistence, periodicity effects (e.g. hour-of-the-day, day-of-the-week and month-of-the-year effects) in the conditional mean, see e.g. [Bunn \(2000\)](#), [Knittel and Roberts \(2005\)](#), [Janczura et al. \(2013\)](#), and [Weron \(2014\)](#). It is also well known that the volatility of electricity prices is characterised by Autoregressive Conditional Heteroscedasticity (ARCH) and large spikes or jumps, see e.g. [Escribano et al. \(2002, 2011\)](#), [Koopman et al. \(2007\)](#), and [Hellström et al. \(2012\)](#). Since the periodicity effects in the conditional mean usually account for a considerable proportion of the conditional mean dynamics, it is reasonable to conjecture that the same may also be the case for volatility. Recently, this line of research has received increasing attention. [Bauwens et al. \(2013, Section 4.2\)](#), for example, in a three-dimensional multivariate model of monthly, quarterly and yearly Phelix baseload futures at the European Energy Exchange, find that volatility depends on the number of days-to-delivery, i.e. that the volatility increases as the future in question approaches maturity. [Sucarrat et al. \(2016, Section 4\)](#), in a two-dimensional multivariate model of peak and off-peak day-ahead prices in the Oslo region (Nord Pool), find that day-of-the-week effects matter for volatility, and that peak volatility dynamics is less persistent than off-

peak. Dupuis (2016), in a fifteen-dimensional multivariate model of electricity prices in the New York area, includes dummies in the volatility equations to accommodate hour-of-the-day and day-of-the-week effects.

There are two main challenges in the multivariate modelling of electricity price volatility. The first is the so-called “curse of dimensionality”: As the multivariate dimension grows, joint estimation of the full model becomes infeasible in practice due to the number of parameters that has to be estimated. This problem is not specific to electricity prices, but it is more severe. The reason is that volatility is likely to depend on additional covariates, e.g. weather and market specific stochastic conditioning variables, in addition to periodicity effects similar to those that often characterise the conditional mean dynamics. Moreover, if standard or non-exponential GARCH models are used, then the curse of dimensionality problem is compounded, since the covariates and/or their parameters need to be restricted in estimation in order to ensure the positivity of fitted volatility. An example in which such a parameter restriction is needed in electricity price markets is the so-called “inverse leverage effect”, as coined by Knittel and Roberts (2005), whereby negative shocks in one period leads to a reduction in volatility in the next period.¹ Knittel and Roberts (2005) avoid the need for a restriction by using Nelson’s (1991) Exponential GARCH (EGARCH). However, as is well-known, the EGARCH is not robust to spikes.² This leads to the second main challenge in the modelling of electricity prices: The occurrence of price spikes. It is well-known that the ordinary GARCH model is not robust to such spikes. This is because the spikes affect estimation and inference inadvertently (Carnero et al. (2007), Gregory and Reeves (2010)), and because it makes the model propensive to volatility forecast failure subsequent to the spikes, see e.g. Harvey and Sucarrat (2014, Introduction). One multivariate model specification that has been put forward as being able to accommodate fat-tailed standardised errors, is the exponential version of the Generalised Autoregressive Score (GAS) model, see e.g. Creal et al. (2011). However, even univariate versions of this model can be very difficult to estimate due to its nature (see the section on “Computational challenges” in Sucarrat (2013, p. 142)), and the problem is compounded even further in the multivariate case.

We propose a multivariate model of electricity price volatility that is robust to spikes, that sidesteps the curse of dimensionality through equation-by-equation estimation, and which can include both deterministic and stochastic covariates to accommodate periodicity effects, leverage, the effect of weather-related variables, and so on. The model we propose is a multivariate multiplicative component log-GARCH-X model that decomposes volatility multiplicatively into a non-stationary

¹In stock markets, by contrast, a negative shock is usually followed by an increase. Arguably, the inverse leverage effect should instead be referred to as negative asymmetry, since the effect is not due to leverage in many markets (e.g. electricity and currency markets), and because a negative parameter value is not obtained as the mathematical inverse of a positive parameter.

²This is the reason why Nelson proposed his model in combination with the Generalised Error Distribution (GED) rather than with the standardised Student’s t , since the unconditional variance will generally not exist if the standardised error is distributed as the latter, see Nelson (1991, p. 365).

deterministic part of arbitrary form, and a stationary stochastic part. In order to enable equation-by-equation estimation, we make use of recent ideas developed formally in [Francq and Zakoïan \(2015\)](#), and in [Francq and Sucarrat \(2015\)](#). In particular, our model allows for feedback volatility effects among the equations, and Dynamic Conditional Correlations (DCCs) that – optionally – can be estimated subsequent to the volatility equations. As long as the DCC specification is appropriately chosen, this will ensure positive definiteness of the conditional covariance matrix. The model we propose can be viewed as a generalisation of [Sucarrat et al. \(2016, Section 4\)](#) in two ways. First, the deterministic component is much more general, since it can be of arbitrary form (i.e. it needs not be a linear combination of non-stochastic covariates). Second, we set up the estimation problem in such a way that the deterministic and stationary parts can be estimated separately, each by common methods that are widely available. In particular, in many cases the deterministic part will be estimable by an Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression, and the stochastic part will be estimable via an ARMA-regression. The equation-by-equation estimation procedure that we propose is thus readily implemented in software that is widely available. We use the model to study the multivariate volatility of hourly day-ahead system prices at Nord Pool. We find extensive evidence of periodicity in the volatility in that it depends on the day-of-the-week, and in that volatility dynamics varies intradaily. We also find extensive evidence of volatility feedback from adjacent hours. Leverage (of positive type), however, is only present in about half the instances, and it is at its strongest from 1am to 6am. In only a single instance – at midnight – does a plain log-GARCH(1,1) without periodicity provide a better fit of the volatility. Finally, we also find that the corrected DCC (cDCC) of [Aielli \(2013\)](#) provides a better fit of the conditional correlations than a Constant Conditional Correlation (CCC) specification. Interestingly, the conditional correlations are found to be at their strongest among adjacent hours, and that the strength is inversely related to the degree of adjacency: The further away, the weaker the correlation. This has implication for risk-management, since it implies that portfolios risk is reduced if the degree of adjacency among the portfolio components is reduced.

The rest of the paper is organised as follows. The next section, [Section 2](#), outlines the model and the equation-by-equation estimation procedure. [Section 3](#) contains our study of hourly day-ahead price volatility at Nord Pool. [Section 4](#) contains the conclusions, whereas tables and figures are located at the end after the references.

2 Model and estimator

2.1 The model

Let $\mathbf{r}_t = (r_{1t}, \dots, r_{Mt})'$ denote an M -dimensional vector of price returns at t . A generic model of \mathbf{r}_t can be written as (see e.g. Engle (2002))

$$\mathbf{r}_t = \boldsymbol{\mu}_t + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t, \quad t \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad (1)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t = (\epsilon_{1t}, \dots, \epsilon_{Mt})', \quad \mathbf{H}_t = E_{t-1}(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t'), \quad \mathbf{D}_t^2 = \text{diag}(\mathbf{H}_t), \quad (2)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\eta}_t = \mathbf{D}_t^{-1} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t, \quad \mathbf{R}_t = E_{t-1}(\boldsymbol{\eta}_t \boldsymbol{\eta}_t'), \quad (3)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\mu}_t$ is the conditional mean (say, a VARMA-X), $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t = (\epsilon_{1t}, \dots, \epsilon_{Mt})'$ is the error term, \mathbf{H}_t is an $M \times M$ covariance matrix conditional on the past information set \mathcal{F}_{t-1} , $E_{t-1}(\cdot)$ is shorthand notation for $E(\cdot | \mathcal{F}_{t-1})$, \mathbf{D}_t^2 is a diagonal $M \times M$ matrix with the conditional variance or volatility $\boldsymbol{\sigma}_t^2 = (\sigma_{1t}^2, \dots, \sigma_{Mt}^2)'$ on the diagonal, $\boldsymbol{\eta}_t = (\eta_{1t}, \dots, \eta_{Mt})'$ is the standardised error, i.e. $E(\boldsymbol{\eta}_t) = \mathbf{0}$ and $\text{Var}(\boldsymbol{\eta}_t) = \mathbf{1}$ where $\mathbf{0}$ and $\mathbf{1}$ are $M \times 1$ vectors, \mathbf{D}_t^{-1} is a diagonal $M \times M$ matrix with $(1/\sigma_{1t}, \dots, 1/\sigma_{Mt})'$ on the diagonal and \mathbf{R}_t is the correlation matrix conditional on the past. The relationships between \mathbf{H}_t and \mathbf{R}_t are given by $\mathbf{H}_t = \mathbf{D}_t \mathbf{R}_t \mathbf{D}_t$ and $\mathbf{R}_t = \mathbf{D}_t^{-1} \mathbf{H}_t \mathbf{D}_t^{-1}$. The return vector \mathbf{r}_t can be replaced with a price vector $\mathbf{S}_t = (S_{1t}, \dots, S_{Mt})'$, albeit – as is well-known – any vector of prices can be obtained via a straightforward transformation of \mathbf{r}_t . For example, if \mathbf{r}_t is log-return, then $\mathbf{S}_t = \exp(\boldsymbol{\mu}_t + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t) \odot \mathbf{S}_{t-1}$, where \odot is the elementwise (Hadamard) matrix product.³ Alternatively, if \mathbf{r}_t is relative return (this approach is preferable in markets where negative prices are possible), then $\mathbf{S}_t = (\mathbf{r}_t + \mathbf{1}) \odot \mathbf{S}_{t-1}$. Finally, to accommodate that our model belongs to the log-GARCH class of models, and in order to enable equation-by-equation estimation, we need to add the two assumptions

$$m = 1, \dots, M : P_{t-1}(\eta_{mt} = 0) = 0, \quad (4)$$

$$\eta_{mt} \text{ is independent of } \mathcal{F}_{t-1}, \quad (5)$$

where $P_{t-1}(\cdot)$ denotes a probability conditional on the past. The first assumption is standard in log-GARCH models, but can be relaxed via the modifications suggested in Sucarrat and Escibano (2013), and in Sucarrat and Grønneberg (2016). The second assumption enables equation-by-equation estimation of $\boldsymbol{\sigma}_t^2$ in the case where the conditional correlations (i.e. the off-diagonals of \mathbf{R}_t) are dynamic and dependent on the past, i.e. they are DCCs, see Francq and Zakoian (2015), and Francq and Sucarrat (2015).

Periodic volatility means volatility is not covariance-stationary, since then the unconditional variance $E(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t^2)$ depends on t . The most common approach to non-stationary volatility is to decompose $\boldsymbol{\sigma}_t^2$ multiplicatively, see (amongst other) Van Bellegem and Von Sachs (2004), Engle and Rangel (2008), Mazur and Pipien (2012), and Amado and Terasvirta (2014a, 2014b). This means

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}_t^2 = \mathbf{g}_t \odot \mathbf{h}_t = (g_{1t} h_{1t}, \dots, g_{Mt} h_{Mt})', \quad (6)$$

³For example, if \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} are two equally sized $M \times 1$ vectors, say, $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_M)'$ and $\mathbf{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_M)'$, then $\mathbf{a} \odot \mathbf{b} = (a_1 b_1, \dots, a_M b_M)'$.

where \mathbf{g}_t is the non-stationary component and \mathbf{h}_t is the stationary component (typically a GARCH-like process). In our model, the non-stationary component is specified as

$$\ln \mathbf{g}_t = (\ln g_1(\boldsymbol{\lambda}_1, \mathbf{x}_{1t}), \dots, \ln g_M(\boldsymbol{\lambda}_M, \mathbf{x}_{Mt}))', \quad (7)$$

where $\ln g_1, \dots, \ln g_M$ are known functions (linear or nonlinear), $\mathbf{x}_{1t}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{Mt}$ are known, non-stochastic regressors, and $\boldsymbol{\lambda}_1, \dots, \boldsymbol{\lambda}_M$ are unknown parameters to be estimated. We do not restrict the \mathbf{x}_{mt} 's nor the functions $\ln g_m$ to be equal across equations, and the $\ln g_m$'s can assume a variety of shapes. In the simplest case the $\ln g_m$'s are linear functions made up of time dummies (calendar effects, etc.), but it can also assume the shape of an exponential spline as in [Engle and Rangel \(2008\)](#), the Fourier Flexible Form (FFF) as in [Mazur and Pipien \(2012\)](#), or smooth threshold models as in [Amado and Terasvirta \(2014a, 2014b\)](#). Under appropriate assumptions, the functions may also be estimated nonparametrically, as in [Van Bellegem and Von Sachs \(2004\)](#).

The stationary component is specified as

$$\ln \mathbf{h}_t = \boldsymbol{\omega} + \sum_{i=1}^p \boldsymbol{\alpha}_i \ln \tilde{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}_{t-i}^2 + \sum_{j=1}^q \boldsymbol{\beta}_j \ln \mathbf{h}_{t-j}, \quad (8)$$

where $\ln \mathbf{h}_t = (\ln h_{1,t}, \dots, \ln h_{M,t})'$, $\boldsymbol{\omega} = (\omega_1, \dots, \omega_M)'$, $\ln \tilde{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}_t^2 = (\ln \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t^2 - \ln \mathbf{g}_t) = (\ln h_{1t}\eta_{1t}^2, \dots, \ln h_{Mt}\eta_{Mt}^2)'$,

$$\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{11.i} & \cdots & \alpha_{1M.i} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \alpha_{M1.i} & \cdots & \alpha_{MM.i} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \boldsymbol{\beta}_j = \text{diag}(\beta_{11.j}, \dots, \beta_{MM.j}).$$

The non-diagonality of $\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i$ enables feedback among equations, whereas the diagonality of $\boldsymbol{\beta}_j$ enables equation-by-equation estimation. The model is stable (in $\ln \mathbf{h}_t$) if all eigenvalues of $\sum_{i=1}^p (\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i + \boldsymbol{\beta}_i)$ are strictly less than 1 in modulus, and $\ln \mathbf{h}_t$ is invertible if all the eigenvalues of $\sum_{j=1}^q \boldsymbol{\beta}_j$ are strictly less than 1 in modulus.

2.2 Equation-by-equation estimation

In our model, given by (1)-(8), the m th. log-volatility equation can be written as

$$\ln \sigma_{mt}^2 = \ln g_{mt} + \ln h_{mt}, \quad (9)$$

$$\ln g_{mt} = \ln g_m(\boldsymbol{\lambda}_m, \mathbf{x}_{mt}), \quad (10)$$

$$\ln h_{mt} = \omega_m + \sum_{i=1}^p \boldsymbol{\alpha}_{m.i} \ln \tilde{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}_{t-i}^2 + \sum_{j=1}^q \beta_{mm.j} \ln \sigma_{m,t-j}^2, \quad (11)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{m.i}$ is the m th. row of $\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i$, i.e. $\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{m.i} = (\alpha_{m1.i}, \dots, \alpha_{mM.i})$. Estimation of equation m proceeds in three steps:

1. Estimate $\boldsymbol{\lambda}_m$ by means of the auxiliary regression

$$\ln \epsilon_{mt}^2 = \lambda_{m0} + \ln g_m(\boldsymbol{\lambda}_m, \mathbf{x}_{mt}) + y_{mt}, \quad (12)$$

where λ_{m0} is the intercept and y_{mt} the error-term. Below, we show that $\lambda_{m0} = E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2)$ and that y_{mt} is a zero-mean stationary error under standard assumptions. In the case where $\boldsymbol{\lambda}_m$ enters linearly in $\ln g_m$ the parameters can be estimated by OLS.

2. Fit an ARMA model to the residuals \hat{y}_{mt} from the first step. Below, we show that the error-term y_{mt} from Step 1 is in fact governed by a mean-corrected ARMA representation of $\ln h_{mt}$. Due to the relationships between the parameters of the log-GARCH model and the parameters of the mean-corrected ARMA-representation, this provides consistent estimates of all the log-GARCH parameters apart from the intercept ω_m . As we will show, however, an estimate of ω_m is not needed in order to estimate σ_{mt}^2 . Nevertheless, ω_m can – if needed – be estimated subsequently in a fourth step (see below).
3. Estimate the log-moment $E(\ln \eta_{mt}^2)$ needed to complete the estimate of σ_{mt}^2 . As we show below, estimation of $E(\ln \eta_{mt}^2)$ is straightforward by means of a simple formula made up of the residuals from Step 2.

We now provide the details of this three step estimator.

Step 1 consists of estimating an auxiliary regression whose error-term follows the mean-corrected ARMA-representation of $\ln h_{mt}$. If $E|\ln \eta_{mt}^2| < \infty$, then the ARMA-representation of $\ln h_{mt}$ is

$$\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2 = \phi_{m0} + \sum_{i=1}^p \phi_{m,i} \ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{t-i}^2 + \sum_{j=1}^q \theta_{mm,j} u_{m,t-j} + u_{m,t}, \quad (13)$$

where

$$u_{m,t} = \ln \eta_{m,t}^2 - E(\ln \eta_{m,t}^2), \quad u_{m,t} \sim WN(0, \sigma_{u_m}^2), \quad (14)$$

$$\phi_{m0} = \omega_m + (1 - \sum_{j=1}^q \beta_{mm,j}) E(\ln \eta_{mt}^2), \quad (15)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\phi}_{m,i} = (\alpha_{m1,i}, \dots, \alpha_{mm,i} + \beta_{mm,i}, \dots, \alpha_{mM,i}) \quad \text{and} \quad \theta_{mm,j} = -\beta_{mm,j}. \quad (16)$$

In other words, $\boldsymbol{\phi}_{m,i}$ is the m th. row of $\boldsymbol{\phi}_i$. If $E|\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_i^2| < \infty$, then the mean-corrected ARMA representation is

$$y_{m,t} = \sum_{i=1}^p \boldsymbol{\phi}_{m,i} \mathbf{y}_{t-i} + \sum_{j=1}^q \theta_{mm,j} u_{m,t-j} + u_{m,t} \quad u_{m,t} \sim WN(0, \sigma_{u_m}^2), \quad (17)$$

where $y_{m,t} = \ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{m,t}^2 - E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{m,t}^2)$ and $\mathbf{y}_t = (y_{1,t}, \dots, y_{M,t})'$. To obtain the auxiliary regression in (18), we simply add $\ln \eta_{mt}^2$ to $\ln \sigma_{mt}^2$ in (9), which gives

$$\begin{aligned} \ln \epsilon_{mt}^2 &= \ln g_{mt} + \ln h_{mt} + \ln \eta_{mt}^2 \\ &= \ln g_{mt} + \ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2 \\ &= \lambda_{m0} + \ln g_{mt} + y_{mt}, \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

where $\lambda_{m0} = E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2)$ and $y_{mt} = \ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2 - E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2)$. In other words, (18) is a standard regression model in which the error-term follows a zero-mean stationary error. In particular, if λ_m enters $\ln g_{mt}$ linearly, then $\lambda_{m0} + \ln g_{mt}$ can be estimated by OLS.

Step 2 consists of estimating (17) using the residuals \hat{y}_{mt} from Step 1. This is an ARMA-X estimation problem that provides estimates of all the ARCH and GARCH parameters – except ω_m – due to the relationships in (16). An estimate of ω_m , however, is not needed if the aim is to estimate σ_{mt}^2 . The reason for this is that the fitted values from the first two steps provide estimates of $E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2) + \ln g_{mt}$ and $E_{t-1}(y_{mt})$, respectively. Adding these gives

$$\begin{aligned} E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2) + \ln g_{mt} + E_{t-1}(y_{mt}) &= \ln g_{mt} + E_{t-1}(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2) \\ &= \ln g_{mt} + \ln h_t + E(\ln \eta_{mt}^2), \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

since $\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2 = \ln h_{mt} + \ln \eta_{mt}^2$. So only an estimate of $E(\ln \eta_{mt}^2)$ is needed to complete the estimate of σ_{mt}^2 .

Step 3 thus consists of estimating $E(\ln \eta_{mt}^2)$. [Sucarrat et al. \(2016\)](#) noted that, if $E|\ln \eta_{mt}^2| < \infty$ and $E(\eta_{mt}^2) = 1$, then it follows straightforwardly that $-\ln E(\exp(u_{mt})) = E(\ln \eta_{mt}^2)$. This suggests

$$-\ln \left[T^{-1} \sum_{t=1}^T \exp(\hat{u}_{mt}) \right] \quad (20)$$

provides a consistent estimator of $E(\ln \eta_{mt}^2)$, where the \hat{u}_{mt} 's are the residuals from Step 2.⁴ [Sucarrat et al. \(2016\)](#) provide conditions under which this indeed holds, whereas [Francq and Sucarrat \(2015\)](#) prove that this holds when the ARMA-X representation of equation m in a first order multivariate log-GARCH-X model – where the X-part refers to stochastic conditioning variables – is estimated by Least Squares.

Summarised, then, the estimate of σ_{mt}^2 is given by

$$\hat{\sigma}_{mt}^2 = \exp \left(\hat{E}(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2) + \ln \hat{g}_{mt} + \hat{E}_{t-1}(y_{mt}) - \hat{E}(\ln \eta_{mt}^2) \right), \quad (21)$$

where $\hat{E}(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2) + \ln \hat{g}_{mt}$ is the fitted value of the auxiliary regression in Step 1, $\hat{E}_{t-1}(y_{mt})$ is the fitted value of the mean-corrected ARMA representation in Step 2 and $\hat{E}(\ln \eta_{mt}^2)$ is the estimate of $E(\ln \eta_{mt}^2)$ in Step 3.

An estimate of ω_m requires estimation of the other equations, in addition to equation m . This is because the expression for $E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2)$, which can be written as $E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2) = \phi_{m0} + \sum_{i=1}^p \phi_{m,i} E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_i^2)$, depends on the unconditional expectations of the other equations. Solving for ω_m in the expression for $E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2)$ gives

$$\omega_m = \left(1 - \sum_{j=1}^q \beta_{mm,j} \right) E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2) - \sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_{m,i} E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_i^2) - \left(1 - \sum_{j=1}^q \beta_{mm,j} \right) E(\ln \eta_{mt}^2), \quad (22)$$

⁴The expression in square brackets in (20) is the smearing estimate of [Duan \(1983\)](#).

where we have used the expression for ϕ_{m0} in (15), and that $\sum_{i=1}^p \phi_{m,i} E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_t^2) = \sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_{m,i} E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_t^2) + \sum_{j=1}^q \beta_{mm,j} E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2)$. It should be noted that only the elements in $E(\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_t^2)$, apart from the m th. entry, comes from the other equations. In other words, if there is no feedback effects (i.e. all entries in the $\alpha_{m,i}$'s apart from the m th. entry are zero), then there is no need to estimate the other equations in order to estimate ω_m .

2.3 Stochastic covariates (“X”)

Electricity price volatility is likely to depend on a range of stochastic factors, e.g. leverage, weather-related quantities and other market specific variables. An appealing property of the model and associated estimation procedure described above is therefore that the stationary component \mathbf{h}_t can straightforwardly be augmented by stationary stochastic covariates, “X”. Let $\mathbf{x}_t^s = (x_{1t}^s, x_{2t}^s, \dots)'$ denote a vector of covariance-stationary variables, where the superscript s is intended to connote “stochastic” (in contrast to the non-stochastic regressors in the non-stationary component). For notational convenience, but without any loss of generality, we henceforth assume that \mathbf{x}_t^s is mean-corrected, so that $E(\mathbf{x}_t^s) = \mathbf{0}$. The stationary component in (8) now becomes

$$\ln \mathbf{h}_t^2 = \boldsymbol{\omega} + \sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i \ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{t-i}^2 + \sum_{j=1}^q \beta_j \ln \mathbf{h}_{t-j}^2 + \boldsymbol{\delta} \mathbf{x}_{t-1}^s, \quad (23)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\delta}$ is a parameter-matrix of appropriate size. Contrary to non-exponential GARCH models, we do not need to impose any non-negativity constraints on $\boldsymbol{\delta}$, nor on the variables in \mathbf{x}_t^s . The ARMA-representation of $\ln h_{mt}$ is now

$$\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{mt}^2 = \phi_{m0} + \sum_{i=1}^p \phi_{m,i} \ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{t-i}^2 + \sum_{j=1}^q \theta_{mm,j} u_{m,t-j} + \boldsymbol{\delta}_m \mathbf{x}_{t-1}^s + u_{m,t}, \quad (24)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\delta}_m$ is the m th. row of $\boldsymbol{\delta}$, and where ϕ_{m0} , $\phi_{m,i}$, $\theta_{mm,j}$ and u_{mt} are the same as before, i.e. they are given by (14)-(16). The mean-corrected ARMA representation now becomes

$$y_{m,t} = \sum_{i=1}^p \phi_{m,i} \mathbf{y}_{t-i} + \sum_{j=1}^q \theta_{mm,j} u_{m,t-j} + \boldsymbol{\delta}_m \mathbf{x}_{t-1}^s + u_{m,t}, \quad (25)$$

where $y_{m,t}$, \mathbf{y}_t and u_{mt} are defined as earlier. The practical consequence of this is that the three step estimation procedure described above only requires one minor modification: Estimate (25) instead of (17) in Step 2. The other steps are unchanged, and if an estimate of ω_m is needed, then formula (22) can still be used.

2.4 Dynamic Conditional Correlations (DCCs)

Assumption (5) enables DCCs. The three-step estimation procedure described above, however, does not provide estimates of the DCCs. Nevertheless, they can –

if needed – be estimated in a subsequent step. The estimates $\hat{\sigma}_{1t}^2, \dots, \hat{\sigma}_{Mt}^2$ from the three-step procedure above lead to the standardised residuals $\hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_t = (\hat{\eta}_{1t}, \dots, \hat{\eta}_{Mt})'$, where $\hat{\eta}_{mt} = \epsilon_{mt}/\hat{\sigma}_{mt}$. These residuals can be used to estimate a DCC specification of $\mathbf{R}_t = E(\boldsymbol{\eta}_t \boldsymbol{\eta}_t' | \mathcal{F}_{t-1})$. An example is the DCC of Engle (2002), or alternatively the corrected version of Aielli (2013), see e.g. the empirical section of Francq and Sucarrat (2015). Another option is the robust (to spikes) DCC model proposed for electricity prices by Dupuis (2016).

3 The volatility of hourly day-ahead system prices at Nord Pool

3.1 Data

Nord Pool Spot AS is one of the largest energy exchanges in the world measured in traded volume of terrawatts per hour (TWh). Currently 380 members operate on the exchange, and these include public and private energy producers, energy intensive industries, large consumers, distributors, funds, investment companies, banks, brokers, utility companies and financial institutions. Arguably, the most important price at the exchange is the “system price”. This is because it constitutes some sort of aggregate or equilibrium price (it is determined by the intersection of the aggregate supply and demand curves of all bids and offers), and because it is used as reference in financial contracts – used for hedging and risk management – traded at Nasdaq Commodities.⁵

Our rawdata consist of the hourly day-ahead system prices in Euros per kw/h from 1 January 2010 to 20 May 2014. This amounts to $T = 1601$ daily observations for each m before differencing and lagging. The price at day t in hour m we denote S_{mt} , where $m = 1, \dots, 24$. Note that S_{1t} should be interpreted as the price from midnight to 1am in day t , S_{2t} is the price from 1am to 2am in day t , and so on. The daily log-return for hour m , denoted r_{mt} , is defined as $\ln S_{m,t} - \ln S_{m,t-1}$, i.e. the daily log-return for hour m . Graphs of S_{mt} and r_{mt} are contained in Figures 1 and 2, whereas the top graph in Figure 3. The prices and returns exhibit the usual characteristics, i.e. that price variability is substantially larger than those of stocks, stock indices and exchange rates, and that big spikes or jumps occur relatively frequently. On average, the price is highest at 9am and lowest at 4am. There are no negative prices in our data, but five spurious zeros due to daylight saving time.⁶ These zeros we replace by the average of the two adjacent values.

⁵See <https://www.nordpoolspot.com/About-us/>, <http://www.nordpoolspot.com/How-does-it-work/Financial-market/> and <http://www.nordpoolspot.com/TAS/Day-ahead-market-Elspot/Price-calculation/>. All accessed 14 July 2016.

⁶The five zeros all occurred for $m = 3$, one in each year: 28 March 2010, 27 March 2011, 25 March 2012, 31 March 2013 and 30 March 2014.

3.2 Models of the mean and volatility

We start by fitting a conditional mean specification to the vector \mathbf{r}_t of daily returns. A restricted Vector Autoregressive (VAR) model is formulated and estimated, where each equation contains its own AR-lags from 1 to 7 and daily impulse dummies (Tuesday to Sunday). The total number of estimated parameters in each equation is thus fourteen: One intercept + seven AR-parameters + six dummy-parameters. The second column of Table 1 and the second graph in Figure 3 contain the R -squareds of the twenty-four conditional mean equations. As is clear, predictability varies substantially across the day, since the R -squareds range from only 5% when $m = 1$ to a peak of 50% when $m = 9$. As a whole, the graph clearly indicates that the explanatory power is higher in peak hours, i.e. from about $m = 7$ to about $m = 19$.

We fit five different multivariate volatility models to the vector of errors $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t$. The models we label (a) – (e), and in each of the five models equation m is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(a)} \quad \ln \sigma_{mt}^2 &= \omega + \alpha_{mm.1} \ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{m,t-1}^2 + \beta_{mm.1} \ln h_{m,t-1}, \\
 \text{(b)} \quad \ln \sigma_{mt}^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^6 \lambda_{mi} d_{it}, \\
 \text{(c)} \quad \ln \sigma_{mt}^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^6 \lambda_{mi} d_{it} + \omega + \alpha_{mm.1} \ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{m,t-1}^2 + \beta_{mm.1} \ln h_{m,t-1}, \\
 \text{(d)} \quad \ln \sigma_{mt}^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^6 \lambda_{mi} d_{it} + \omega + \alpha_{mm.1} \ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{m,t-1}^2 + \alpha_{mm(1).1} \ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{m(1),t-1}^2 \\
 &\quad + \alpha_{mm(2).1} \ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{m(2),t-1}^2 + \beta_{mm.1} \ln h_{m,t-1}, \\
 \text{(e)} \quad \ln \sigma_{mt}^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^6 \lambda_{mi} d_{it} + \omega + \alpha_{mm.1} \ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{m,t-1}^2 + \alpha_{mm(1).1} \ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{m(1),t-1}^2 \\
 &\quad + \alpha_{mm(2).1} \ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{m(2),t-1}^2 + \beta_{mm.1} \ln h_{m,t-1} + \delta_m x_{m,t-1}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Model (a) is a plain log-GARCH(1,1) and serves as benchmark. The variables d_{1t}, \dots, d_{6t} are dummies for Tuesday to Sunday, respectively. So (b)–(e) all contain periodicity. In (e) and (d), $\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{m(1),t-1}^2$ and $\ln \tilde{\epsilon}_{m(2),t-1}^2$ are the two most adjacent log-ARCH lags in equation m . For example, if $m = 1$, then $m(1) = 2$ and $m(2) = 3$. Similarly, if $m = 2$, then $m(1) = m - 1 = 1$ and $m(2) = m + 1 = 3$. And so on. The idea is to include those log-ARCH terms that are most likely to have a feedback effect on the volatility of equation m . Finally, the variable $x_{m,t-1}$ is a lagged mean-corrected asymmetry or “leverage” term, where the lagged asymmetry term is given by $I_{\{\epsilon_{m,t-1} < 0\}}$.

Estimation of the five multivariate models all together takes about thirty seconds on an average laptop, and we experience no numerical issues.⁷ Both the deterministic and stationary parts are estimated by Least Squares (LS), and a summary of the

⁷The computations were undertaken with R code on a Lenovo X250 with an Intel Core i7-5600U-2.60 Ghz processor running Win7-64bit.

estimation results are contained in Table 1. For comparison we use the Schwarz (1978) information criterion (BIC), which favours parsimony. The best model in hour m according to the BIC is identified with an asterisk (*) to the right of its BIC-value. In all but one case the best model is either (d) or (e). In other words, in all but one case the best model contains periodicity and feedback terms. The exception occurs at midnight, i.e. for $m = 24$, in which model (a) is the best according to the BIC. If we only compare (a), (b) and (c) against each other to obtain a more detailed idea of the importance of periodicity, then we see that either (b) or (c) performs better in 17 out of the 24 hours. Moreover, the periods in which (a) performs better are clustered in the evening, since they are $m = 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22$ and 24. Finally, with respect to leverage, equation (e) performs better than (d) in 12 instances, whereas the opposite is the case in 11 instances. In other words, there is evidence of leverage in about half of the hours. Interestingly, whenever present, the leverage is always positive – i.e. we find no evidence of the so-called inverse (i.e. negative) leverage effect, and most of the instances of leverage occurs at night from $m = 21$ to $m = 6$. Summarised, then, our results provides extensive evidence of periodicity and feedback effects in the volatility, and in about half of the hours there is leverage. In only a single instance, at midnight, did the plain log-GARCH(1,1) perform better than the other specifications.

The third, fourth and fifth graphs in Figure 3 provide a more detailed picture of the best specifications in each m . The third graph contains the ARCH(1) estimates, i.e. $\hat{\alpha}_{mm,1}$, for $m = 1, \dots, 24$. All estimates but one are positive, and most are between 0 and 0.10. In other words, once periodicity and feedback effects are controlled for, then the (own) ARCH effect becomes substantially smaller than commonly found in electricity prices, and much closer to those usually found in stock and currency markets. The fourth graph in the figure contains the GARCH(1) parameter estimates, i.e. $\hat{\beta}_{mm,1}$. Most of the values are in the 0.7 to 0.8 range, and interestingly the values below 0.7 are clustered around the morning hours, i.e. $m = 5, 6$ and 7. Finally, the bottom graph contains the leverage estimates, i.e. $\hat{\delta}_m$. The estimated value is zero if the best model in hour m does not contain leverage, and it is notable that the strongest impact is clustered at night, from $m = 1$ to $m = 6$. Thereafter, leverage is either zero or very small.

3.3 Dynamic Conditional Correlations

To obtain estimates of the off-diagonals of \mathbf{H}_t , an estimate of $\mathbf{R}_t = E_{t-1}(\boldsymbol{\eta}'_t \boldsymbol{\eta}_t)$ is needed. To this end we fit the corrected DCC (cDCC) model of Aielli (2013), which is a modified version of Engle’s (2002) DCC. It should be noted that the cDCC is a covariance-stationary model of $\boldsymbol{\eta}'_t \boldsymbol{\eta}_t$ even though $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}'_t \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t$ is not covariance stationary.

The cDCC model is given by

$$\mathbf{R}_t = \mathbf{Q}_t^{*-1/2} \mathbf{Q}_t \mathbf{Q}_t^{*-1/2}, \quad \mathbf{Q}_t = (1 - \gamma_1 - \gamma_2) \mathbf{R} + \gamma_1 \mathbf{Q}_{t-1}^{*1/2} \boldsymbol{\eta}'_{t-1} \boldsymbol{\eta}'_{t-1} \mathbf{Q}_{t-1}^{*1/2} + \gamma_2 \mathbf{Q}_{t-1}, \quad (26)$$

where $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \geq 0$ are scalars such that $\gamma_1 + \gamma_2 < 1$, \mathbf{R} is a correlation matrix (which in general is *not* equal to $E(\mathbf{R}_t)$), \mathbf{Q}_t^* is a diagonal matrix with elements from the

diagonal of \mathbf{Q}_t and $\boldsymbol{\eta}_t = \mathbf{D}_t^{-1}\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t$. Here, we define the standardised error $\boldsymbol{\eta}_t$ to be made up of the errors from the best model in each m according to the BIC (see above). In other words, if $m = 1$, then $\hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_{1t}$ is that of model (e). If $m = 8$, then $\hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_{8t}$ is that of model (d). And so on.

Recalling that \mathbf{R}_t is both the conditional correlation and covariance matrix of $\boldsymbol{\eta}_t$, estimation of γ_1 and γ_2 by Gaussian Quasi Maximum Likelihood (QML) leads to the estimator

$$(\hat{\gamma}_1, \hat{\gamma}_2) = \arg \max_{(\hat{\gamma}_1, \hat{\gamma}_2)} \sum_{t=1}^T \left(-M \ln 2\pi - \ln |\hat{\mathbf{R}}_t| - \hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_t' \hat{\mathbf{R}}_t^{-1} \hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_t \right) / 2, \quad (27)$$

where $|\mathbf{R}_t|$ is the determinant of \mathbf{R}_t , $\hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_t$ are the standardised residuals of the best models,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{R}}_t &= \hat{\mathbf{Q}}_t^{*-1/2} \hat{\mathbf{Q}}_t \hat{\mathbf{Q}}_t^{*-1/2}, \quad \hat{\mathbf{Q}}_t = (1 - \hat{\gamma}_1 - \hat{\gamma}_2) \hat{\mathbf{R}} + \hat{\gamma}_1 \hat{\mathbf{Q}}_{t-1}^{*1/2} \hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_{t-1}' \hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_{t-1} \hat{\mathbf{Q}}_{t-1}^{*1/2} + \hat{\gamma}_2 \hat{\mathbf{Q}}_{t-1} \\ \hat{\mathbf{R}} &= \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \hat{\mathbf{Q}}_t^{*1/2} \hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_t \hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_t' \hat{\mathbf{Q}}_t^{*1/2}, \quad \hat{\mathbf{Q}}_t^* = \text{diag}(\hat{q}_{11t}, \dots, \hat{q}_{M Mt}) \\ \hat{q}_{mmt} &= (1 - \hat{\gamma}_1 - \hat{\gamma}_2) + \hat{\gamma}_1 \hat{\eta}_{m,t-1}^2 + \hat{\gamma}_2 \hat{q}_{mm,t-1} \quad \text{for } m = 1, \dots, M. \end{aligned}$$

The estimates of γ_1 and γ_2 are 0.004 and 0.905, respectively, which suggests the correlations are relatively persistent. An estimate of the unconditional correlation $E(\mathbf{R}_t)$ is obtained as $\hat{\mathbf{R}}^{*-1/2} \hat{\mathbf{R}} \hat{\mathbf{R}}^{*-1/2}$, where $\hat{\mathbf{R}}^*$ is a diagonal matrix containing the diagonal elements of $\hat{\mathbf{R}}$. Figure 4 depicts the evolution of the unconditional correlations over the day depending on m . The general tendency is clear: The strongest unconditional correlations of $\hat{E}(\eta_{it}\eta_{mt})$ are always those closest to hour i . The top left graph, for example, depicts the evolution of $\hat{E}(\eta_{1t}\eta_{mt})$ for $m = 1, \dots, 24$. Naturally, when $m = 1$, then $\hat{E}(\eta_{1t}\eta_{1t}) = 1$. Next, the unconditional correlations fall gradually until they reach their lowest point at $m = 23$, in which the estimate is 0.2. In other words, almost without exception $\hat{E}(\eta_{it}\eta_{m+1,t})$ is stronger than $\hat{E}(\eta_{it}\eta_{m+2,t})$, which is stronger than $\hat{E}(\eta_{it}\eta_{m+3,t})$, and so on. Similarly, whenever $i > 1$, $\hat{E}(\eta_{it}\eta_{m-1,t})$ is stronger than $\hat{E}(\eta_{it}\eta_{m-2,t})$, which is stronger than $\hat{E}(\eta_{it}\eta_{m-3,t})$, and so on. So just as in the case of volatility feedback (see above), there is a clear adjacency effect among correlations.

Estimation of the cDCC entails fitting a total of $24 \cdot (24 - 1)/2 = 276$ distinct conditional correlation paths. Figure 5 contains graphs of the first 24, i.e. of $\hat{E}_{t-1}(\eta_{1t}\eta_{mt})$ for $m = 1, \dots, 24$. Graphically, they appear relatively flat around their unconditional values, so one may ask whether the cDCC provides a better fit than a Constant Conditional Correlation (CCC) specification. The Gaussian log-likelihood of the cDCC is given by the formula in (27) at the estimated values $\hat{\gamma}_1, \hat{\gamma}_2$. Similarly, the log-likelihood of the CCC specification is obtained by replacing $\hat{\mathbf{R}}_t$ with the sample covariance matrix of $\hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_t \hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_t'$ in the same formula. The two values are -20725.7 (cDCC) and -20938.0 (CCC), so the former produces a better fit in terms of the (quasi) log-likelihood. In terms of the BIC, computed in terms of the average

(quasi) log-likelihood with $T = 1592$, and defining the cDCC to be characterised by 2 parameters and the CCC by 0, then this yields BIC values of 26.05 (cDCC) and 26.30 (CCC), respectively. In other words, the DCC specification is also warranted according to the BIC.

4 Conclusions

We propose a multivariate model of electricity price volatility that decomposes volatility multiplicatively into a non-stationary part (e.g. periodic) of arbitrary form, and a stationary part with log-GARCH dynamics. The model is robust to spikes or jumps, a common characteristic of electricity prices, the model allows for a rich variety of volatility dynamics without restrictive positivity constraints, it can be estimated equation-by-equation by means of standard methods in widely available software, and Dynamic Conditional Correlations (DCCs) can – optionally – be estimated subsequent to the volatilities. In a study of the hourly day-ahead system prices at Nord Pool, we find extensive evidence of periodic volatility and volatility feedback, and that about half of the hours exhibit (positive) leverage. The strength of the ARCH, GARCH and leverage effects depend on the hour of the day. In only a single instance (at midnight) does the plain log-GARCH(1,1) perform better than the other specifications. We also find that the conditional correlations are time-varying, and that the conditional correlations are at their strongest in adjacent hours. This may have implications for risk-management, since it implies that portfolios risk is reduced if the degree of adjacency among the components of a portfolio prices is reduced.

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Table 1: Estimation results of multivariate models (a)–(e) for each equation $m = 1, \dots, 24$, see Section 3. Only selected parameter estimates reported

m	R_m^2	$Spec.$	$\hat{\alpha}_{mm.1}$	$\hat{\beta}_{mm.1}$	$\hat{\delta}_m$	$LogL_m$	k_m	BIC_m	T
1	0.05	(a)	0.145	0.785		1696.179	3	-2.1157	1593
		(b)				1223.525	7	-1.5037	1593
		(c)	0.150	0.779		1761.886	9	-2.1704	1593
		(d)	0.101	0.752		1863.422	11	-2.2900	1592
		(e)	0.100	0.759	0.462	1939.576	12	-2.3811*	1592
2	0.08	(a)	0.142	0.800		1366.772	3	-1.7021	1593
		(b)				703.540	7	-0.8509	1593
		(c)	0.151	0.787		1443.756	9	-1.7710	1593
		(d)	0.048	0.732		1499.741	11	-1.8332	1592
		(e)	0.039	0.806	0.517	1613.673	12	-1.9717*	1592
3	0.11	(a)	0.148	0.803		972.495	3	-1.2071	1593
		(b)				377.325	7	-0.4413	1593
		(c)	0.166	0.780		1169.506	9	-1.4266	1593
		(d)	0.095	0.748		1214.471	11	-1.4748	1592
		(e)	0.085	0.802	0.436	1304.535	12	-1.5833*	1592
4	0.13	(a)	0.145	0.808		803.453	3	-0.9948	1593
		(b)				184.655	7	-0.1994	1593
		(c)	0.168	0.778		1016.636	9	-1.2347	1593
		(d)	0.034	0.746		1132.164	11	-1.3714	1592
		(e)	0.040	0.812	0.374	1198.132	12	-1.4496*	1592
5	0.18	(a)	0.192	0.731		591.917	3	-0.7293	1593
		(b)				214.012	7	-0.2363	1593
		(c)	0.225	0.690		1068.156	9	-1.2994	1593
		(d)	0.161	0.646		1092.515	11	-1.3216	1592
		(e)	0.144	0.708	0.253	1136.385	12	-1.3720*	1592
6	0.34	(a)	0.408	0.023		448.025	3	-0.5486	1593
		(b)				221.996	7	-0.2463	1593
		(c)	0.210	0.695		953.960	9	-1.1560	1593
		(d)	0.125	0.612		1105.194	11	-1.3375	1592
		(e)	0.116	0.652	0.141	1137.632	12	-1.3736*	1592
7	0.46	(a)	0.342	0.026		536.814	3	-0.6601	1593
		(b)				569.559	7	-0.6827	1593
		(c)	0.206	0.654		1078.526	9	-1.3124	1593
		(d)	0.125	0.621		1118.880	11	-1.3547*	1592
		(e)	0.127	0.615	-0.025	1113.663	12	-1.3435	1592
8	0.49	(a)	0.230	0.247		473.888	3	-0.5811	1593
		(b)				582.832	7	-0.6993	1593
		(c)	0.146	0.705		800.839	9	-0.9638	1593
		(d)	0.071	0.644		857.150	11	-1.0259*	1592

Table continues on next page. Explanatory note at the end of table.

m	R_m^2	$Spec.$	$\hat{\alpha}_{mm.1}$	$\hat{\beta}_{mm.1}$	$\hat{\delta}_m$	$LogL_m$	k_m	BIC_m	T			
9	0.50	(e)	0.069	0.630	-0.190	824.509	12	-0.9802	1592			
		(a)	0.112	0.795		702.853	3	-0.8685	1593			
		(b)				636.460	7	-0.7667	1593			
		(c)	0.120	0.784		841.824	9	-1.0152	1593			
		(d)	0.080	0.753		877.438	11	-1.0514*	1592			
10	0.48	(e)	0.083	0.745	-0.072	862.803	12	-1.0284	1592			
		(a)	0.106	0.820		1169.681	3	-1.4546	1593			
		(b)				958.053	7	-1.1704	1593			
		(c)	0.111	0.813		1218.310	9	-1.4879	1593			
		(d)	0.061	0.801		1261.253	11	-1.5335*	1592			
11	0.44	(e)	0.061	0.800	-0.050	1254.686	12	-1.5207	1592			
		(a)	0.087	0.848		1436.812	3	-1.7900	1593			
		(b)				1230.942	7	-1.5130	1593			
		(c)	0.092	0.840		1478.363	9	-1.8144	1593			
		(d)	-0.061	0.815		1588.854	11	-1.9451*	1592			
12	0.40	(e)	-0.061	0.815	-0.026	1586.327	12	-1.9373	1592			
		(a)	0.096	0.837		1652.884	3	-2.0613	1593			
		(b)				1348.482	7	-1.6606	1593			
		(c)	0.103	0.827		1675.852	9	-2.0624	1593			
		(d)	0.090	0.808		1711.472	11	-2.0991*	1592			
13	0.39	(e)	0.090	0.808	-0.030	1711.643	12	-2.0947	1592			
		(a)	0.108	0.817		1750.552	3	-2.1839	1593			
		(b)				1463.161	7	-1.8046	1593			
		(c)	0.115	0.805		1786.314	9	-2.2010	1593			
		(d)	0.026	0.759		1845.398	11	-2.2674	1592			
14	0.42	(e)	0.025	0.762	0.066	1850.175	12	-2.2688*	1592			
		(a)	0.116	0.801		1736.312	3	-2.1660	1593			
		(b)				1497.177	7	-1.8473	1593			
		(c)	0.127	0.786		1794.275	9	-2.2110	1593			
		(d)	0.068	0.757		1836.675	11	-2.2564	1592			
15	0.41	(e)	0.069	0.767	0.103	1850.518	12	-2.2692*	1592			
		(a)	0.104	0.800		1647.765	3	-2.0549	1593			
		(b)				1448.164	7	-1.7858	1593			
		(c)	0.114	0.787		1698.284	9	-2.0905	1593			
		(d)	0.017	0.805		1769.745	11	-2.1724	1592			
16	0.40	(e)	0.018	0.804	0.042	1777.901	12	-2.1780*	1592			
		(a)	0.103	0.819		1655.581	3	-2.0647	1593			
		(b)				1428.192	7	-1.7607	1593			
		(c)	0.113	0.804		1734.833	9	-2.1364	1593			
		(d)	0.045	0.748		1760.855	11	-2.1612*	1592			
17	0.35	(e)	0.045	0.744	-0.019	1757.760	12	-2.1527	1592			
		(a)	0.119	0.792		1574.735	3	-1.9632	1593			
		(b)							1326.363	7	-1.6328	1593

Table continues on next page. Explanatory note at the end of table.

m	R_m^2	$Spec.$	$\hat{\alpha}_{mm.1}$	$\hat{\beta}_{mm.1}$	$\hat{\delta}_m$	$LogL_m$	k_m	BIC_m	T
18	0.30	(c)	0.127	0.782		1583.191	9	-1.9460	1593
		(d)	0.042	0.746		1675.591	11	-2.0541*	1592
		(e)	0.041	0.749	0.025	1678.602	12	-2.0532	1592
		(a)	0.118	0.833		1649.697	3	-2.0573	1593
		(b)				1198.336	7	-1.4721	1593
19	0.23	(c)	0.123	0.827		1663.243	9	-2.0465	1593
		(d)	0.069	0.815		1719.584	11	-2.1093*	1592
		(e)	0.068	0.814	-0.070	1712.633	12	-2.0960	1592
		(a)	0.114	0.830		1784.389	3	-2.2264	1593
		(b)				1320.064	7	-1.6249	1593
20	0.20	(c)	0.118	0.825		1783.915	9	-2.1980	1593
		(d)	0.026	0.791		1868.741	11	-2.2967*	1592
		(e)	0.026	0.791	-0.025	1868.236	12	-2.2915	1592
		(a)	0.130	0.778		2051.643	3	-2.5619	1593
		(b)				1558.624	7	-1.9244	1593
21	0.16	(c)	0.135	0.770		2057.749	9	-2.5418	1593
		(d)	0.071	0.721		2099.335	11	-2.5864*	1592
		(e)	0.071	0.721	-0.013	2098.817	12	-2.5811	1592
		(a)	0.109	0.807		2260.769	3	-2.8245	1593
		(b)				1815.880	7	-2.2474	1593
22	0.13	(c)	0.113	0.801		2269.980	9	-2.8083	1593
		(d)	0.018	0.755		2341.591	11	-2.8908	1592
		(e)	0.017	0.758	0.059	2347.321	12	-2.8933*	1592
		(a)	0.132	0.781		2441.839	3	-3.0518	1593
		(b)				2022.447	7	-2.5068	1593
23	0.10	(c)	0.136	0.775		2446.624	9	-3.0301	1593
		(d)	0.080	0.750		2489.917	11	-3.0771	1592
		(e)	0.079	0.754	0.090	2499.693	12	-3.0847*	1592
		(a)	0.137	0.761		2448.579	3	-3.0603	1593
		(b)				2014.287	7	-2.4965	1593
		(c)	0.141	0.755		2478.169	9	-3.0697	1593
		(d)	0.078	0.740		2541.112	11	-3.1414	1592
		(e)	0.079	0.742	0.044	2545.099	12	-3.1418*	1592

Table continues on next page. Explanatory note at the end of table.

m	R_m^2	$Spec.$	$\hat{\alpha}_{mm.1}$	$\hat{\beta}_{mm.1}$	$\hat{\delta}_m$	$LogL_m$	k_m	BIC_m	T
24	0.10	(a)	0.131	0.818		2048.593	3	-2.5581*	1593
		(b)				1356.737	7	-1.6710	1593
		(c)	0.133	0.815		2001.696	9	-2.4715	1593
		(d)	0.119	0.796		1967.751	11	-2.4211	1592
		(e)	0.113	0.808	0.250	2038.426	12	-2.5053	1592

R_m^2 , the R -squared of conditional mean equation m . $Spec.$, the log-GARCH specification in question, see Section 3. $\hat{\alpha}_{mm.1}$, $\hat{\beta}_{mm.1}$ and $\hat{\delta}_m$, the ARCH, GARCH and asymmetry/leverage estimates, respectively. $LogL_m$, the Gaussian log-likelihood of equation m in question. k_m , the number of parameters in the log-GARCH specification in question. BIC_m , the value of the Schwarz (1978) information criterion for the equation m in question in terms of the average log-likelihood. T , the number of observations. All computations in R (R Core Team (2014)).

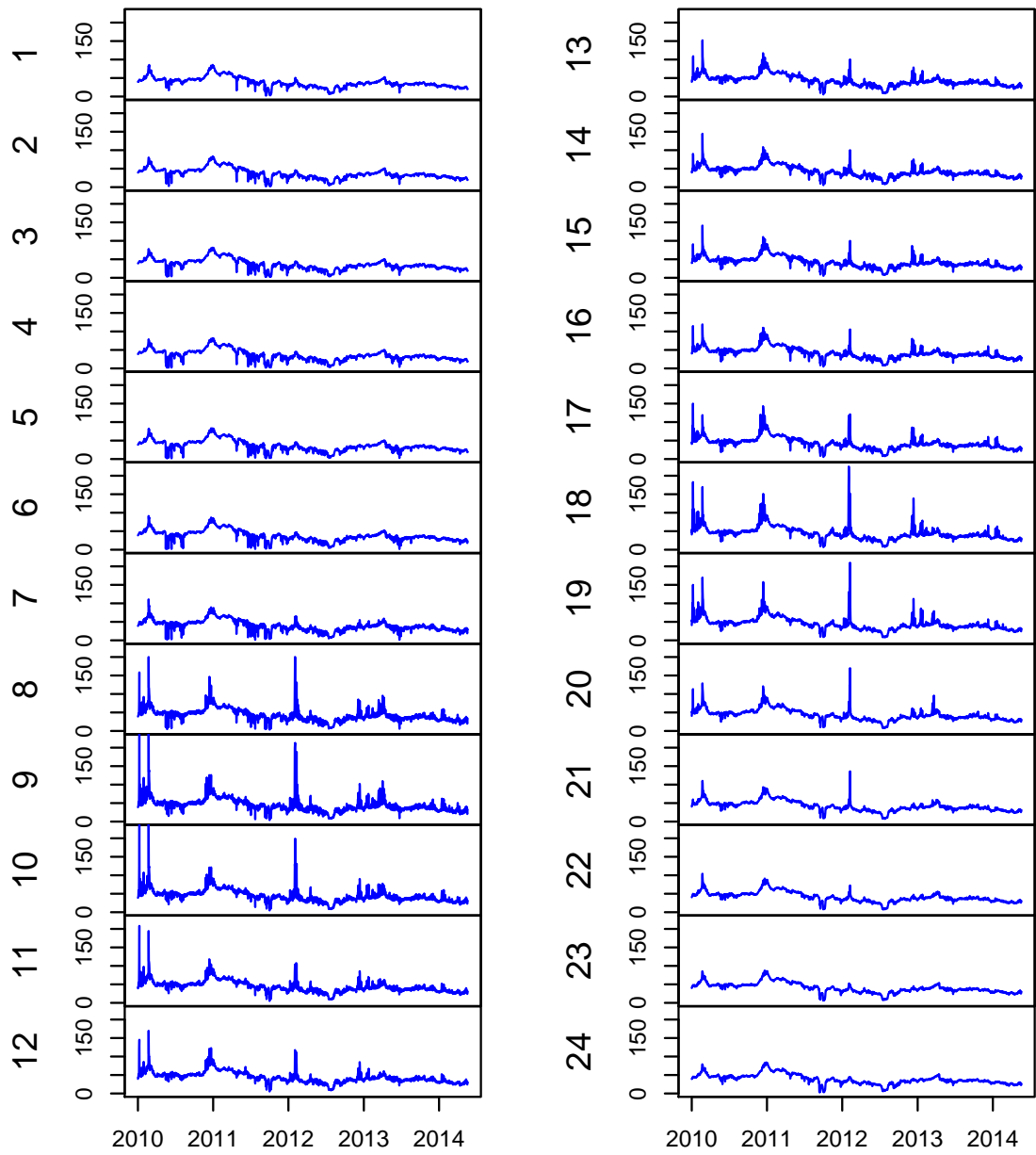


Figure 1: Hourly ($m = 1, \dots, 24$) day-ahead system prices in Euros per kw/h at Nord Pool from 1 January 2010 to 20 May 2014 ($T = 1601$ observations before differencing and lagging), see Section 3.1.

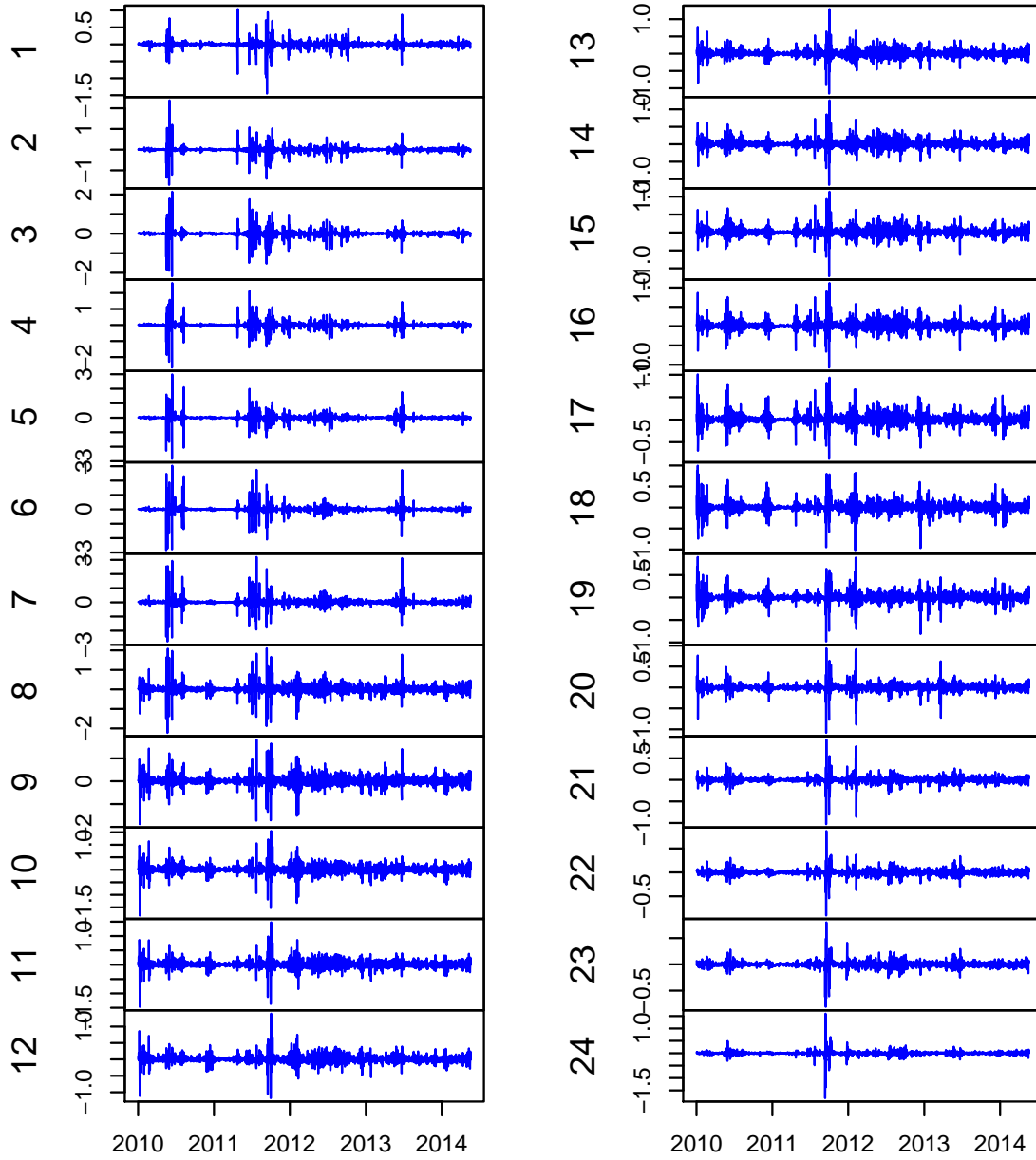


Figure 2: Hourly ($m = 1, \dots, 24$) day-ahead log-returns of system prices at Nord Pool from 1 January 2010 to 20 May 2014, see Section 3.1.

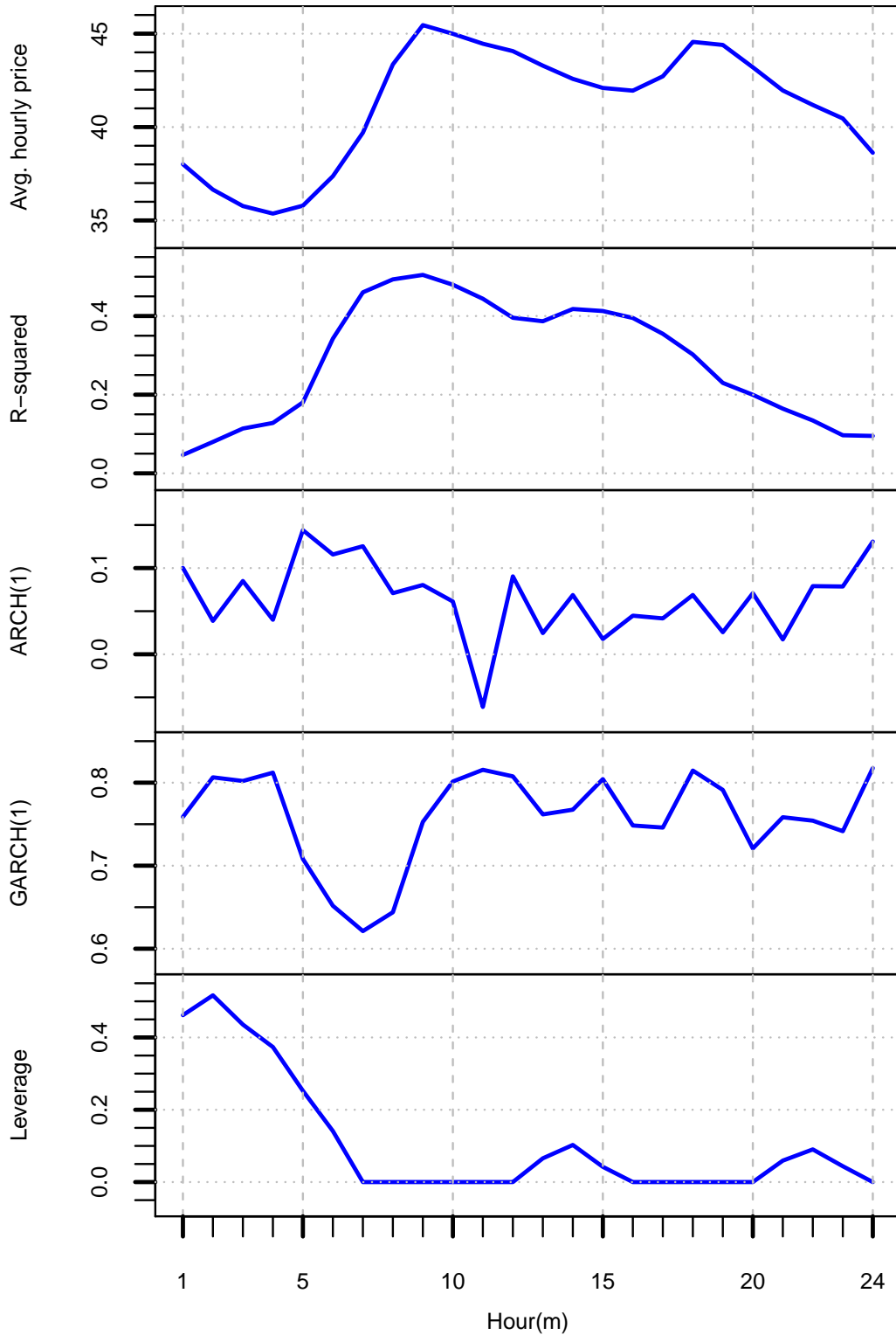


Figure 3: The average hourly price in Euros (top graph), the R-squared of the conditional mean equations (second graph), and the estimated ARCH(1), GARCH(1) and leverage parameters of the best specification (according to BIC) in each m (third, fourth and bottom graphs). The best specification in hour m is identified by means of an asterisk * to the right of its BIC value in Table 1.

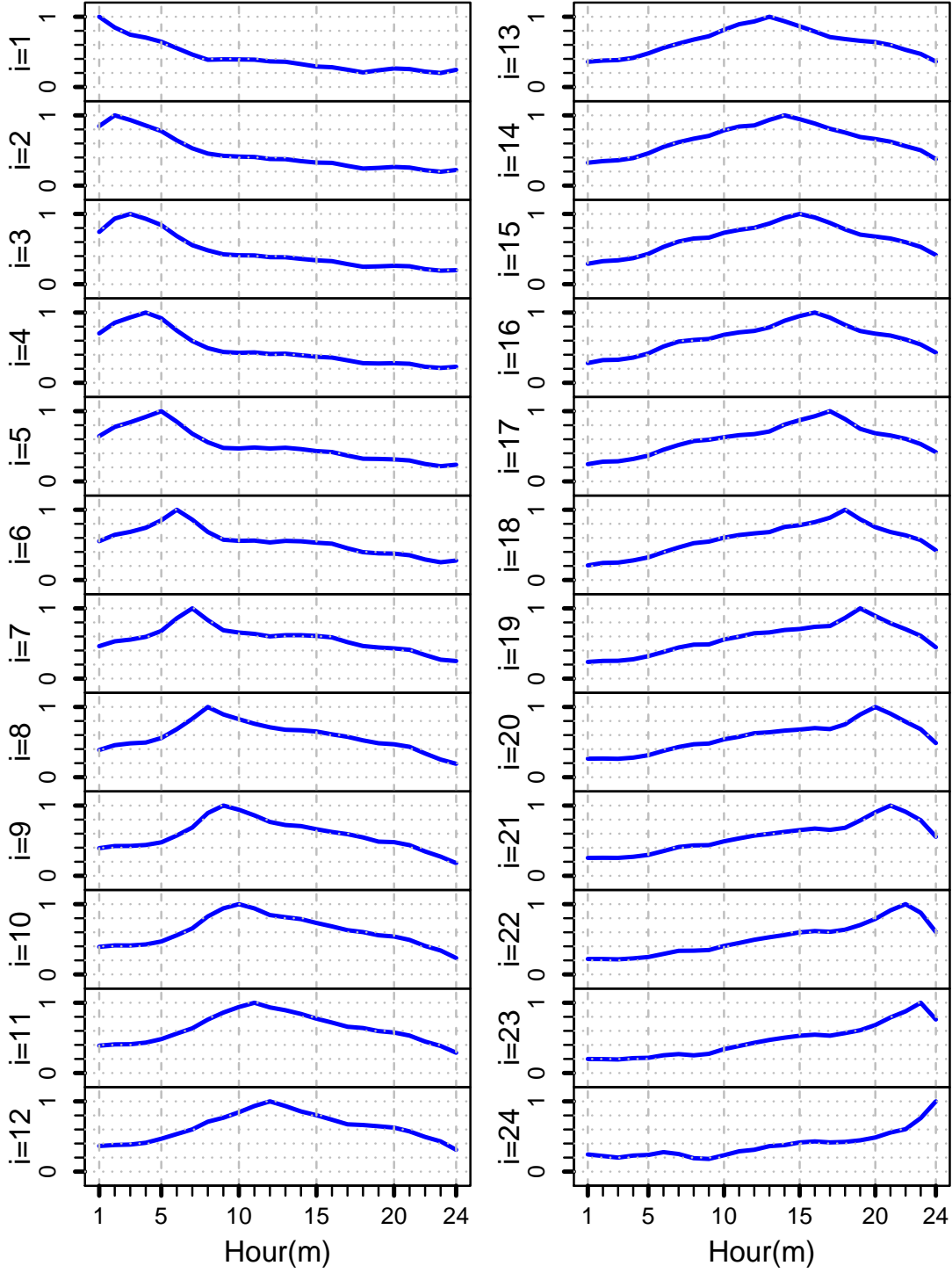


Figure 4: Estimates of the unconditional correlations $E(\eta_{it}\eta_{mt})$, $i = 1, \dots, 24$ and $m = 1, \dots, 24$, see Section 3.3.

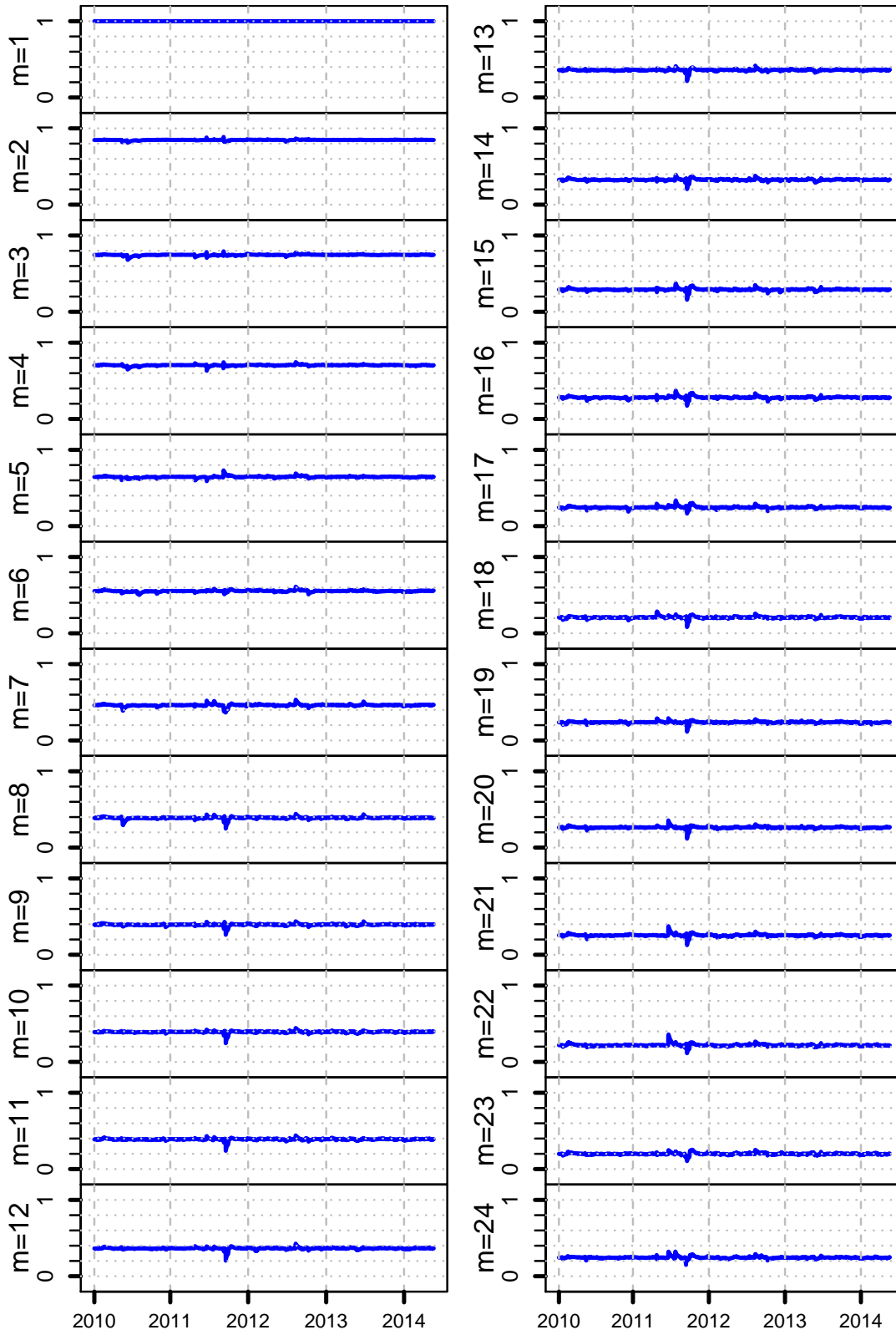


Figure 5: Estimates of a subset (the first 24) of the conditional correlations; $\hat{E}_{t-1}(\eta_{1t}\eta_{mt})$ for $m = 1, \dots, 24$, see Section 3.3.