

Optimal Bounds for Risk Measures

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The Problem

Let $R : L^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a given functional ($p \geq 1$).

We want to solve the following optimization problem:

$$\sup_{X \in \mathcal{L}} R(X)$$

where \mathcal{L} denotes the set of probability laws on \mathbb{R} such that

$$\mathbb{E}[g_i(X)] = c_i, \quad \forall i \in I,$$

where $\{g_i, i \in I\}$ is a finite set of given functions and $\{c_i, i \in I\}$ are given constants.

The Problem

Interesting criteria:

- $R(X) := \rho(X)$ is a given risk measure.
- $R(X) := \mathbb{E}[v(X)]$.

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Interesting constraints:

- $g_i(x) = x^i, i = 0, \dots, k$.
- The functions $\{g_i, i \in I\}$ form a Tchebycheff system.

Risk Measures

Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ be a given probability space.

We consider a mapping $\rho : L^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$:

- If $X \geq Y$ \mathbb{P} -a.s. then $\rho(X) \geq \rho(Y)$. (Losses orientation)
- $\rho(X + m) = \rho(X) + m$, $m \in \mathbb{R}$. (Cash additivity property: Capital requirement)
- Law invariance : If $X = Y$ in law (under \mathbb{P}) then $\rho(X) = \rho(Y)$.

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- Law invariance : If $X = Y$ in law (under \mathbb{P}) then $\rho(X) = \rho(Y)$.
- If X cannot be used as a hedge for Y (X and Y comonotone variables), then no possible diversification (comonotonic risk measures): $\rho(X + Y) = \rho(X) + \rho(Y)$.

Monetary risk measures

Growing need of regulation professionals and VaR drawbacks conducted to an axiomatic analysis of required solvency capital.

- Artzner, Delbaen, Eber, and Heath (1999) (**Coherent case**)
- Frittelli, M. and Rosazza Gianin, E. (2002) (**Convex case**)
- Föllmer, H. and Schied, A. (2004) (**Monography**)
- Bion-Nadal, (2008-2009); Bion-Nadal and Kervarec (2010), Cheridito, Delbaen, and Kupper (2004) (**Dynamic case**)
- Acciaio (2007, 2009), Barrieu and El Karoui (2008), Jouini, Schachermayer and Touzi (2006,2008), Kervarec (2008) (**Inf-convolution**)

Many other references...

Motivations

- Quantification of model uncertainty: Barrieu and Scandolo, *Assessing financial model risk*, European J. of Operational Research (2015)

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Proposed metric:

$$RM(X_0, \mathcal{L}) := \frac{\bar{\rho}(\mathcal{L}) - \rho(X_0)}{\bar{\rho}(\mathcal{L}) - \underline{\rho}(\mathcal{L})}$$

where

$$\bar{\rho}(\mathcal{L}) := \sup_{X \in \mathcal{L}} \rho(X) \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{\rho}(\mathcal{L}) := \inf_{X \in \mathcal{L}} \rho(X)$$

Motivations

- Model free pricing in insurance.

Compute

$$\sup_{X \in \mathcal{L}} \mathbb{E}[v(X)]$$

where v is a given convex function.

- Jansen, Haezendonck and Goovaerts (1986)
- Hurlimann (1988)

Tools

- Law invariance : Duality between the Distribution formulation and the Quantile formulation.
- Approximation of quantile and distribution curves by constrained step functions.
- Convex functions : continuity properties.

Objective

Solve the following optimization problem :

$$\sup_{X \in \mathcal{L}} \rho(X)$$

where \mathcal{L} denotes the set of probability laws on \mathbb{R} such that

$$\mathbb{E}[X^i] = c_i, \forall i = 1, \dots, k.$$

Methodology

We reformulate the problem in the following manner :

$$\sup_{q \in \mathcal{Q}} \Phi(q)$$

where \mathcal{Q} denotes the set of quantile functions of probability laws on \mathbb{R} with the given moment constraints, and where Φ is such that $\rho(X) = \Phi(q_X)$.

A result

Theorem

Assume that Φ is **linear**, then

$$\sup_{q \in \mathcal{Q}} \Phi(q) = \sup_{q \in \mathcal{Q}_k^*} \Phi(q)$$

where \mathcal{Q}_k^* denotes the set of quantile functions of atomic probability measures on \mathbb{R} with at most $k + 1$ atoms, and satisfying the moment constraints.

A result

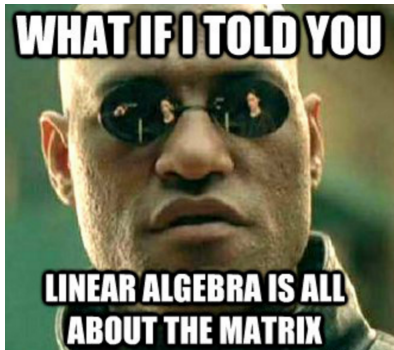
Idea of the proof.

- We first remark that Φ is continuous: Biagini and Fritteli (2009), *On the extension of the Namioka-Klee theorem and on the Fatou property for Risk Measures*.
- We approach every $q \in \mathcal{Q}$ by a $q^* \in \mathcal{Q}^*$ in the L^p norm. (\mathcal{Q}^* denotes the set of quantile functions of atomic measures with a finite number of atoms)
- The two previous points give us:

$$\sup_{q \in \mathcal{Q}} \Phi(q) = \sup_{q \in \mathcal{Q}^*} \Phi(q)$$

A result

- Then to reduce the supremum only over \mathcal{Q}_k^* we follow the explicit construction given in by Hoeffding, *The extrema of the expected value of a function of independent random variables*, Ann. Math. Statist. (1955).



Application to DRM

Application to the case of distortion risk measures:

A distortion risk measure is **law invariant** and can be written

$$\Phi(\bar{q}) = \int_0^1 \bar{q}(u) d\psi(u)$$

where ψ is a given distortion function. It is a **linear** functional in the \bar{q} variable !

Application to DRM

Assume that $k = 2$. To obtain a superior bound, all one need to compute is:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{\bar{q} \in \bar{\mathcal{Q}}_{m_1, m_2}} \Phi(\bar{q}) \\ &= \sup_{p_i, a_i} (\psi(p_1)a_3 + a_2\{\psi(p_1 + p_2) - \psi(p_1)\} + a_3\{1 - \psi(p_1 + p_2)\}) \end{aligned}$$

under the constraints

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ a_1^2 & a_2^2 & a_3^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \\ p_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ m_1 \\ m_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Application to DRM

Completely different approach to compute the former supremum :

Let μ and ν be two arbitrary probability measures on \mathbb{R} . We say that μ dominates ν in the *first order stochastic dominance* if

$$\int g d\mu \geq \int g d\nu \text{ for all continuous, bounded and increasing function } g.$$

We say that μ dominates ν in the *second order stochastic dominance* if

$$\int g d\mu \geq \int g d\nu \text{ for all bounded, increasing and concave function } g.$$

Application to DRM

The distortion risk measures **preserve** the first and second order stochastic dominance.

- Question : Can we find a maximal distribution for the first order stochastic dominance?

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- Yes: Results from the 80's summarized in Hurlimann, *Extremal moment methods and stochastic orders: application in actuarial science*, Bol. Asoc. Mat. Venez. (2008).

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When $k = 2$, $m_1 = 0$ and $m_2 = 1$, the worst case first order stochastic dominance cumulative distribution is given by $F(x) = \frac{x^2}{1+x^2}$.

Application to DRM

We directly deduce that

$$\sup_{\bar{q} \in \bar{\mathcal{Q}}_{0,1}} \Phi(\bar{q}) = \int_0^1 \sqrt{\frac{1-u}{u}} d\psi(u)$$

Application to DRM

We can retrieve the following classical result:

For $\psi(u) := \mathbf{1}_{u \geq \alpha}$, $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, we have

$$\sup_{X \in \mathcal{L}_{\mu, \sigma}} \text{VaR}_{\alpha}(X) = \mu + \sigma \sqrt{\frac{1 - \alpha}{\alpha}}$$

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Free bonus:

$$\inf_{X \in \mathcal{L}_{\mu, \sigma}} \text{VaR}_{\alpha}(X) = \mu - \sigma \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{1 - \alpha}}$$

Application to DRM

Another classical result:

For $\psi(u) := \min(\frac{u}{\alpha}, 1)$, $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, we have

$$\sup_{X \in \mathcal{L}_{\mu, \sigma}} AVaR_{\alpha}(X) = \mu + \sigma \sqrt{\frac{1 - \alpha}{\alpha}}$$

More general constraints

Let u_0, \dots, u_n denote real-valued, continuous functions defined on \mathbb{R} . (u_0, \dots, u_n) form a Tchebycheff system (or a T-system for short) if for any (t_0, \dots, t_n) with $t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n$, we have $\det(A(t_0, \dots, t_n)) > 0$ where

$$A(t_0, \dots, t_n) := \begin{pmatrix} u_0(t_0) & u_0(t_1) & \cdots & u_0(t_n) \\ u_1(t_0) & u_1(t_1) & \cdots & u_1(t_n) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ u_n(t_0) & u_n(t_1) & \cdots & u_n(t_n) \end{pmatrix}.$$

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The previous Theorem extends to the case where $\{g_i, i \in I\}$ forms a T-system.

Thank you for your attention