

Mathematical Behavioural Finance A Mini Course

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January 2013 Winter School @ Lunteren

Chapter 4: Portfolio Choice under CPT

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- 2 Divide and Conquer
- 3 Solutions to GPP and LPP
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Section 1

Formulation of CPT Portfolio Choice Model

Model Primitives

- Present date $t = 0$ and a future date $t = 1$
 - Randomness described by (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) at $t = 1$
 - An atomless *pricing kernel* $\tilde{\rho}$ so that any future payoff \tilde{X} is evaluated as $E[\tilde{\rho}\tilde{X}]$ at present
 - An agent with
 - initial endowment x_0 at $t = 0$
 - preference specified by CPT
- ... wants to choose future consumption (wealth) \tilde{c}

Portfolio Choice/Consumption Model under CPT

■ The model

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Max}_{\tilde{c}} \quad & V(\tilde{c}) = \int_0^\infty w_+ \left(\mathbb{P} \left(u_+ \left((\tilde{c} - \tilde{B})^+ \right) > x \right) \right) dx \\
 & - \int_0^\infty w_- \left(\mathbb{P} \left(u_- \left((\tilde{c} - \tilde{B})^- \right) > x \right) \right) dx \\
 \text{subject to} \quad & E[\tilde{\rho}\tilde{c}] \leq x_0, \tilde{c} \text{ is bounded below}
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{CPT}$$

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- u_\pm is assumed to be concave so overall value function $u_+(x)\mathbf{1}_{x \geq 0} - u_-(x)\mathbf{1}_{x < 0}$ is S -shaped; $u_\pm(0) = 0$

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- u_\pm is assumed to be concave so overall value function $u_+(x)\mathbf{1}_{x \geq 0} - u_-(x)\mathbf{1}_{x < 0}$ is S -shaped; $u_\pm(0) = 0$
- w_\pm is in general non-convex/non-concave
- $\tilde{B} = 0$ without loss of generality

CPT Preference

Write $V(\tilde{c}) = V_+(\tilde{c}^+) - V_-(\tilde{c}^-)$ where

$$V_+(\tilde{c}) := \int_0^\infty w_+(P(u_+(\tilde{c}) > x)) dx$$

$$V_-(\tilde{c}) := \int_0^\infty w_-(P(u_-(\tilde{c}) > x)) dx$$

Mathematical Challenges

- Two difference sources

Mathematical Challenges

- Two difference sources
- Probability weighting **and** S -shaped value function

Literature

- Almost none

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- Berkelaar, Kouwenberg and Post (2004): no probability weighting; two-piece power value function

Standing Assumptions

- $\tilde{\rho} > 0$ a.s., **atomless**, with $E[\tilde{\rho}] < +\infty$.
- $u_{\pm} : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are strictly increasing, concave, with $u_{\pm}(0) = 0$. Moreover, u_{+} is continuously differentiable on $(0, \infty)$, strictly concave, and satisfies the Inada condition: $u'_{+}(0+) = \infty$, $u'_{+}(\infty) = 0$.
- $w_{\pm} : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ are strictly increasing and continuously differentiable, and satisfies $w_{\pm}(0) = 0$, $w_{\pm}(1) = 1$.

Section 2

Divide and Conquer

Our Model (Again)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Max}_{\tilde{c}} \quad & V(\tilde{c}) = \int_0^\infty w_+ (\mathbf{P}(u_+(\tilde{c}^+) > x)) dx \\
 & - \int_0^\infty w_- (\mathbf{P}(u_-(\tilde{c}^-) > x)) dx \quad (\text{P}) \\
 \text{subject to} \quad & E[\tilde{\rho}\tilde{c}] \leq x_0, \tilde{c} \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

This problem admits a quantile formulation

Divide and Conquer

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- Step 1: divide into two problems: one concerns the **gain** part of \tilde{c} and the other the **loss** part of \tilde{c}
- Step 2: combine them together via solving another problem

Step 1 – Gain Part Problem (GPP)

A problem with parameters (A, x_+) :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Max} \quad & V_+(\tilde{c}) = \int_0^\infty w_+(P(u_+(\tilde{c}) > x)) dx \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \begin{cases} E[\tilde{\rho}\tilde{c}] = x_+, \tilde{c} \geq 0 \\ \tilde{c} = 0 \text{ on } A^C, \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where $x_+ \geq x_0^+ (\geq 0)$ and $A \in \mathcal{F}$ with $P(A) \leq 1$

- Define its optimal value to be $v_+(A, x_+)$

Step 1 – Loss Part Problem (LPP)

A problem with parameters (A, x_+) :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Min} \quad & V_-(\tilde{c}) = \int_0^\infty w_-(P(u_-(\tilde{c}) > x)) dx \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \begin{cases} E[\tilde{\rho}\tilde{c}] = x_+ - x_0, \tilde{c} \geq 0 \\ \tilde{c} = 0 \text{ on } A, \tilde{c} \text{ is bounded} \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where $x_+ \geq x_0^+$ and $A \in \mathcal{F}$ with $P(A) \leq 1$

- Define its optimal value to be $v_-(A, x_+)$

Step 2

In Step 2 we solve

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Max} & v_+(A, x_+) - v_-(A, x_+) \\ \text{subject to} & \left\{ \begin{array}{l} A \in \mathcal{F}, x_+ \geq x_0^+, \\ x_+ = 0 \text{ when } P(A) = 0, \\ x_+ = x_0 \text{ when } P(A) = 1. \end{array} \right. \end{array} \quad (3)$$

It Works

Theorem

(Jin and Zhou 2008) Given \tilde{c}^* , define $A^* := \{\omega : \tilde{c}^* \geq 0\}$ and $x_+^* := E[\tilde{\rho}(\tilde{c}^*)^+]$. Then \tilde{c}^* is optimal for the CPT portfolio choice problem (CPT) iff (A^*, x_+^*) are optimal for Problem (3) and $(X^*)^+$ and $(X^*)^-$ are respectively optimal for Problems (1) and (2) with parameters (A^*, x_+^*) .

Proof. Direct by definitions of maximum/minimum.

Solution Flow

- Solve GPP for any parameter (A, x_+) , getting optimal solution $\tilde{c}_+(A, x_+)$ and optimal value $v_+(A, x_+)$

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- Solve Step 2 problem and get optimal (A^*, x_+^*)

Solution Flow

- Solve GPP for any parameter (A, x_+) , getting optimal solution $\tilde{c}_+(A, x_+)$ and optimal value $v_+(A, x_+)$
- Solve LPP for any parameter (A, x_+) , getting optimal solution $\tilde{c}_-(A, x_+)$ and optimal value $v_-(A, x_+)$
- Solve Step 2 problem and get optimal (A^*, x_+^*)
- Then $\tilde{c}^* := \tilde{c}_+(A^*, x_+^*) - \tilde{c}_-(A^*, x_+^*)$ solves the CPT model

Simplification

Recall Step 2 problem

$$v_+(A, x_+) - v_-(A, x_+)$$

optimisation over a set of *random events* A : hard to handle

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Theorem

(Jin and Zhou 2008) For any feasible pair (A, x_+) of Problem (3), there exists $c \in [\text{essinf } \tilde{\rho}, \text{esssup } \tilde{\rho}]$ such that $\bar{A} := \{\omega : \tilde{\rho} \leq c\}$ satisfies

$$v_+(\bar{A}, x_+) - v_-(\bar{A}, x_+) \geq v_+(A, x_+) - v_-(A, x_+). \quad (4)$$

Simplification

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Proof. One needs only to look for $\tilde{c} = g(\tilde{\rho})$ where g is non-increasing. Hence

$$A = \{\omega : \tilde{c} \geq 0\} = \{\omega : g(\tilde{\rho}) \geq 0\} = \{\omega : \tilde{\rho} \leq a\}.$$

Step 2 Problem Rewritten

- Use $v_+(a, x_+)$ and $v_-(a, x_+)$ to denote $v_+(\{\omega : \tilde{\rho} \leq a\}, x_+)$ and $v_-(\{\omega : \tilde{\rho} \leq a\}, x_+)$ respectively

Step 2 Problem Rewritten

- Use $v_+(a, x_+)$ and $v_-(a, x_+)$ to denote $v_+(\{\omega : \tilde{\rho} \leq a\}, x_+)$ and $v_-(\{\omega : \tilde{\rho} \leq a\}, x_+)$ respectively
- Problem (3) is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Max} && v_+(a, x_+) - v_-(a, x_+) \\ & \text{subject to} && \begin{cases} \text{essinf } \tilde{\rho} \leq a \leq \text{esssup } \tilde{\rho}, & x_+ \geq x_0^+, \\ x_+ = 0 \text{ when } a = \text{essinf } \tilde{\rho}, \\ x_+ = x_0 \text{ when } a = \text{esssup } \tilde{\rho} \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Section 3

Solutions to GPP and LPP

GPP

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Max} \quad & V_+(\tilde{c}) = \int_0^\infty w_+(P(u_+(\tilde{c}) > x)) dx \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \begin{cases} E[\tilde{\rho}\tilde{c}] = x_+, & \tilde{c} \geq 0 \\ \tilde{c} = 0 \text{ on } A^C, \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where $x_+ \geq x_0^+$ and $A = \{\omega : \tilde{\rho} \leq a\}$ with $\text{essinf } \tilde{\rho} \leq a \leq \text{esssup } \tilde{\rho}$

We have solved this problem – RDUT portfolio choice!

Integrability Condition

- Impose the integrability condition

$$E \left[u_+ \left((u'_+)^{-1} \left(\frac{\tilde{\rho}}{w'_+(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho}))} \right) \right) w'_+(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho})) \right) \right] < +\infty$$

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- In the following, we always assume the integrability condition holds

Solutions to GPP

Theorem

(Jin and Zhou 2008) Assume $M(z) = \frac{w'_+(1-z)}{F_{\tilde{\rho}}^{-1}(1-z)}$ is non-decreasing on $z \in (0, 1)$.

- (i) If $x_+ = 0$, then optimal solution of (6) is $\tilde{c}^* = 0$ and $v_+(a, x_+) = 0$.
- (ii) If $x_+ > 0$ and $a = \text{essinf } \tilde{\rho}$, then there is no feasible solution to (6) and $v_+(a, x_+) = -\infty$.
- (iii) If $x_+ > 0$ and $\text{essinf } \tilde{\rho} < a \leq \text{esssup } \tilde{\rho}$, then optimal solution to (6) is $\tilde{c}^* = (u'_+)^{-1} \left(\frac{\lambda^* \tilde{\rho}}{w'_+(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho}))} \right) \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} \leq a)}$ with the optimal value $v_+(a, x_+) = E \left[u_+ \left((u'_+)^{-1} \left(\frac{\lambda^* \tilde{\rho}}{w'_+(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho}))} \right) \right) w'_+(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho})) \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} \leq a)} \right]$, where λ^* is determined by $E(\tilde{\rho} \tilde{c}^*) = x_+$.

Idea of Proof

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- GPP is rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Max} \quad & V_+(\tilde{c}) = w_+(P(A)) \int_0^\infty w_A(P_A(u_+(\tilde{c}) > x)) dx \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \{ E_A[\tilde{\rho}\tilde{c}] = x_+/P(A), \tilde{c} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

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- Apply result in Chapter 2

LPP

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Min} \quad & V_-(\tilde{c}) = \int_0^\infty w_-(\mathbb{P}(u_-(\tilde{c}) > x)) dx \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \begin{cases} E[\tilde{\rho}\tilde{c}] = x_+ - x_0, \tilde{c} \geq 0 \\ \tilde{c} = 0 \text{ on } A, \tilde{c} \text{ is bounded} \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

where $x_+ \geq x_0^+$ and $A = \{\omega : \tilde{\rho} \leq a\}$ with $\text{essinf } \tilde{\rho} \leq a \leq \text{esssup } \tilde{\rho}$

This is a minimisation problem!

A General Problem

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{Min}_{\tilde{c}} & \int_0^\infty w(\mathbf{P}(u(\tilde{c}) > x)) dx \\ \text{subject to} & E[\tilde{\rho}\tilde{c}] \geq x_0, \tilde{c} \geq 0 \end{array} \quad (\mathbf{G})$$

Hardy–Littlewood Inequality (Again)

Lemma

(Jin and Zhou 2008) We have that $\tilde{c}^* := G(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho}))$ solves $\max_{\tilde{c}' \sim \tilde{c}} E[\tilde{\rho}\tilde{c}']$, where G is quantile of \tilde{c} . If in addition $-\infty < E[\tilde{\rho}\tilde{c}^*] < +\infty$, then \tilde{c}^* is the unique optimal solution.

Hardy, Littlewood and Pòlya (1952), Dybvig (1988)

Quantile Formulation

The *quantile formulation* of (G) is:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Min}_{G \in \mathbb{G}} & U(G(\cdot)) := \int_0^1 u(G(z))w'(1-z)dz \\ \text{subject to} & \int_0^1 F_{\bar{\rho}}^{-1}(z)G(z)dz \geq x_0 \end{array} \quad (\text{Q})$$

Combinatorial Optimisation in Function Spaces

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- ... which originates from S -shaped value function
- Solution must have a very different structure compared with the maximisation counterpart
- Lagrange fails (positive duality gap)
- Solution should be a “corner point solution”: essentially a combinatorial optimisation in an infinite dimensional space

Characterising Corner Point Solutions

Proposition

(Jin and Zhou 2008) Assume $u(\cdot)$ is strictly concave at 0. Then the optimal solution to (Q), if it exists, must be in the form $G^*(z) = q(b)\mathbf{1}_{(b,1)}(z)$, $z \in [0, 1)$, with some $b \in [0, 1)$ and $q(b) := \frac{a}{E[\tilde{\rho}\mathbf{1}_{\{F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho}) > b\}}]}$. Moreover, in this case, the optimal solution is $\tilde{c}^* = G^*(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho}))$.

- One only needs to find an optimal **number** $b \in [0, 1)$

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- One only needs to find an optimal **number** $b \in [0, 1)$
- ... which motivates introduction of the following problem

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Min}_b \quad & f(b) := \int_0^1 u(G(z))w'(1-z)dz \\ \text{subject to} \quad & G(\cdot) = \frac{a}{E[\rho\mathbf{1}_{(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho}) > b)}]}\mathbf{1}_{(b,1]}(\cdot), \quad 0 \leq b < 1. \end{aligned}$$

Solving (G)

Theorem

(Jin and Zhou 2008) Assume $u(\cdot)$ is strictly concave at 0. Then (G) admits an optimal solution if and only if the following problem

$$\min_{0 \leq b < \text{esssup } \tilde{\rho}} u\left(\frac{x_0}{E[\tilde{\rho} \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > b)}]}\right) w(\mathbb{P}(\tilde{\rho} > b))$$

admits an optimal solution b^* , in which case the optimal solution to (G) is $\tilde{c}^* = \frac{x_0}{E[\tilde{\rho} \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > b^*)}]} \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > b^*)}$.

Solutions to LPP

Theorem

(Jin and Zhou 2008) Assume $u(\cdot)$ is strictly concave at 0.

- (i) If $a = \text{esssup } \tilde{\rho}$ and $x_+ = x_0$, then optimal solution of (7) is $\tilde{c}^* = 0$ and $v_-(a, x_+) = 0$.
- (ii) If $a = \text{esssup } \tilde{\rho}$ and $x_+ \neq x_0$, then there is no feasible solution to (7) and $v_-(a, x_+) = +\infty$.
- (iii) If $\text{essinf } \tilde{\rho} \leq a < \text{esssup } \tilde{\rho}$, then

$$v_-(a, x_+) = \inf_{b \in [a, \text{esssup } \tilde{\rho}]} u_- \left(\frac{x_+ - x_0}{E[\tilde{\rho} \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > b)}]} \right) w_- (1 - F_{\tilde{\rho}}(b)).$$

Moreover, Problem (7) admits an optimal solution \tilde{c}^* iff the following problem

$$\min_{b \in [a, \text{esssup } \tilde{\rho}]} u_- \left(\frac{x_+ - x_0}{E[\tilde{\rho} \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > b)}]} \right) w_- (1 - F_{\tilde{\rho}}(b)) \quad (8)$$

admits an optimal solution b^* , in which case $\tilde{c}^* = \frac{x_+ - x_0}{E[\tilde{\rho} \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > b^*)}]} \mathbf{1}_{\tilde{\rho} > b^*}$.

Section 4

Grand Solution

A Mathematical Programme

Consider a mathematical programme in (a, x_+) :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Max}_{(a, x_+)} \quad & E \left[u_+ \left((u'_+)^{-1} \left(\frac{\lambda(a, x_+) \tilde{\rho}}{w'_+(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho}))} \right) \right) w'_+(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho})) \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} \leq a)} \right) \\ & - u_- \left(\frac{x_+ - x_0}{E[\tilde{\rho} \mathbf{1}_{\tilde{\rho} > a}]} \right) w_-(1 - F(a)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{subject to} \quad \begin{cases} \text{essinf } \tilde{\rho} \leq a \leq \text{esssup } \tilde{\rho}, & x_+ \geq x_0^+, \\ x_+ = 0 \text{ when } a = \text{essinf } \tilde{\rho}, & x_+ = x_0 \text{ when } a = \text{esssup } \tilde{\rho}, \end{cases}$$

(MP)

where $\lambda(a, x_+)$ satisfies $E \left[(u'_+)^{-1} \left(\frac{\lambda(a, x_+) \tilde{\rho}}{w'_+(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho}))} \right) \tilde{\rho} \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} \leq a)} \right] = x_+$

Grand Solution

Theorem

(Jin and Zhou 2008) Assume $u_-(\cdot)$ is strictly concave at 0 and M is non-decreasing. Let (a^*, x_+^*) solves (MP). Then the optimal solution to (CPT) is

$$\tilde{c}^* = \left[(u'_+)^{-1} \left(\frac{\lambda \tilde{\rho}}{w'_+(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho}))} \right) \right] \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} \leq a^*)} - \left[\frac{x_+^* - x_0}{E[\tilde{\rho} \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > a^*)}]} \right] \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > a^*)}.$$

Interpretations and Implications

$$\tilde{c}^* = \left[(u'_+)^{-1} \left(\frac{\lambda \tilde{\rho}}{w'_+(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho}))} \right) \right] \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} \leq a^*)} - \left[\frac{x_+^* - x_0}{E[\tilde{\rho} \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > a^*)}]} \right] \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > a^*)}$$

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- Future world divided by “good” states (where you have gains) and “bad” ones (losses), *completely* determined by whether $\tilde{\rho} \leq a^*$ or $\tilde{\rho} > a^*$

Interpretations and Implications

$$\tilde{c}^* = \left[(u'_+)^{-1} \left(\frac{\lambda \tilde{\rho}}{w'_+(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho}))} \right) \right] \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} \leq a^*)} - \left[\frac{x_+^* - x_0}{E[\tilde{\rho} \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > a^*)}]} \right] \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > a^*)}$$

- Future world divided by “good” states (where you have gains) and “bad” ones (losses), *completely* determined by whether $\tilde{\rho} \leq a^*$ or $\tilde{\rho} > a^*$

- Agent buy claim $\left[(u'_+)^{-1} \left(\frac{\lambda \tilde{\rho}}{w'_+(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho}))} \right) \right] \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} \leq a^*)}$ at cost

$x_+^* \geq x_0$ and sell $\left[\frac{x_+^* - x_0}{E[\tilde{\rho} \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > a^*)}]} \right] \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > a^*)}$ to finance shortfall
 $x_+^* - x_0$

Interpretations and Implications

$$\tilde{c}^* = \left[(u'_+)^{-1} \left(\frac{\lambda \tilde{\rho}}{w'_+(F_{\tilde{\rho}}(\tilde{\rho}))} \right) \right] \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} \leq a^*)} - \left[\frac{x_+^* - x_0}{E[\tilde{\rho} \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > a^*)}]} \right] \mathbf{1}_{(\tilde{\rho} > a^*)}$$

- Future world divided by “good” states (where you have gains) and “bad” ones (losses), *completely* determined by whether $\tilde{\rho} \leq a^*$ or $\tilde{\rho} > a^*$
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- Agent not only invests in stocks, but also generally takes a **leverage** to do so
- Optimal strategy is a *gambling* policy, betting on the good states while accepting a **known** loss on the bad

Section 5

Continuous Time and Time Inconsistency

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- m stocks whose price processes $S_1(t), \dots, S_m(t)$ satisfy stochastic differential equation (SDE)

$$dS_i(t) = S_i(t) \left(\mu_i(t)dt + \sum_{j=1}^m \sigma_{ij}(t)dW^j(t) \right); S_i(0) = s_i$$

Tame Portfolios

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$$\sigma(t) := (\sigma_{ij}(t))_{m \times m}$$

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- A portfolio $\pi(\cdot)$ is *admissible* if

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- Wealth process $x(\cdot)$ follows the *wealth equation*

$$\begin{cases} dx(t) &= [r(t)x(t) + B(t)'\pi(t)]dt + \pi(t)'\sigma(t)dW(t) \\ x(0) &= x_0 \end{cases}$$

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- An admissible portfolio $\pi(\cdot)$ is called *tame* if the corresponding wealth process $x(\cdot)$ is uniformly lower bounded

Market Assumptions

Market assumptions:

- (i) There exists $k \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $\int_0^T r(t)dt \geq k$,
- (ii) $\int_0^T [\sum_{i=1}^m |b_i(t)| + \sum_{i,j=1}^m |\sigma_{ij}(t)|^2]dt < +\infty$,
- (iii) $\text{Rank}(\sigma(t)) = m, t \in [0, T]$,
- (iv) There exists an \mathbb{R}^m -valued, uniformly bounded, \mathcal{F}_t -progressively measurable process $\theta(\cdot)$ such that $\sigma(t)\theta(t) = B(t)$

Pricing Kernel

- Define

$$\rho(t) := \exp \left\{ - \int_0^t \left[r(s) + \frac{1}{2} |\theta(s)|^2 \right] ds - \int_0^t \theta(s)' dW(s) \right\}$$

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- Denote $\tilde{\rho} := \rho(T)$
- Assume that $\tilde{\rho}$ is atomless

Continuous-Time Portfolio Choice under EUT

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Max} && E[u(x(T))] \\ & \text{subject to} && (x(\cdot), \pi(\cdot)) : \text{tame and admissible pair} \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

where u is a concave utility function satisfying the usual assumptions

Forward Approach: Dynamic Programming

- Let v be the *value function* corresponding to (9): $v(t, x)$ is the optimal value of (9) if the initial time is t (instead of 0) and the initial budget is x (instead of x_0)

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- *Verification theorem*: optimal portfolio

$$\pi^*(t, x) = -(\sigma(t)')^{-1} \theta(t) \frac{v_x(t, x)}{v_{xx}(t, x)} \quad (11)$$

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- Setting $\pi^*(t) = (\sigma(t)')^{-1}z^*(t)$ and $(x^*(\cdot), \pi^*(\cdot))$ is optimal pair

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- Dynamic programming falls apart
- Consider a weak notion of “optimality” - equilibrium portfolio in other settings (Ekeland and Pirvu 2008, Hu, Jin and Zhou 2012, Bjork, Murgoci and Zhou 2012)

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- Find a dynamic portfolio replicating the obtained optimal terminal wealth
- Such a portfolio is an optimal *pre-committed* strategy (Jin and Zhou 2008, He and Zhou 2011)

Section 6

Summary and Further Readings

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- Inherent time inconsistency for continuous-time behavioural problems

Essential Readings

- A. Berkelaar, R. Kouwenberg and T. Post. Optimal portfolio choice under loss aversion, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 86:973–987, 2004.
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Other Readings

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- I. Karatzas and S. E. Shreve. *Methods of Mathematical Finance*, Springer, New York, 1998.

Section 7

Final Words

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 - Neoclassical (maximising) finance starting 1960s: *Expected utility maximisation, CAPM, efficient market theory, option pricing*
 - Behavioural finance starting 1980s: *Cumulative prospect theory, SP/A theory, regret and self-control, heuristics and biases*

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 - A relatively new field that attempts to explain how and why emotions and cognitive errors influence investors and create stock market anomalies such as bubbles and crashes
 - It seeks to explore the consistency and predictability in human flaws so that such flaws can be avoided or even exploited for profit

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 - Robert Shiller (2006), “the two ... have always been intertwined, and some of the most important applications of their insights will require the use of both approaches”

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- *Mathematical behavioural finance*: research is in its infancy, yet potential is unlimited – or so we believe