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The Rearrangement Algorithm a new tool for computing bounds on risk measures

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1. QRM framework

2. The Rearrangement Algorithm

3. Applications

1. QRM framework

QRM framework under Basel 2,3,Solvency 2,...

$$
L_1 \sim F_1, \quad L_2 \sim F_2, \quad \ldots, \quad L_d \sim F_d
$$

one period risks with statistically estimated marginals.

 $L^+ = L_1 + \cdots + L_d \quad$ total loss exposure

 $\rho(L_1+\cdots+L_d)$ amount of capital to be reserved

If a dependence model is not specified there exist infinitely many values for the risk measure which are consistent with the choice of the marginals

$$
\frac{\rho}{\rho} = \inf \{ \rho(L_1 + \dots + L_d) : L_j \sim F_j, 1 \le j \le d \}
$$
\n
$$
\overline{\rho} = \sup \{ \rho(L_1 + \dots + L_d) : L_j \sim F_j, 1 \le j \le d \}
$$

Value-at-Risk (VaR)

- $VaR_{\alpha}(L^{+}) = F_{L^{+}}^{-1}(\alpha) = \inf\{x \in \mathbb{R} : F_{L^{+}}(x) \ge \alpha\}, \ \alpha \in (0, 1)$

i.e.
$$
P(L^+ > VaR_{\alpha}(L^+)) \leq 1 - \alpha
$$

Expected Shortfall (ES)

- ES<sub>$$
\alpha
$$</sub>(L⁺) = $\frac{1}{1-\alpha} \int_{\alpha}^{1} VaR_{q}(L^{+}) dq, \ \alpha \in (0,1)$

i.e. $ES_{\alpha}(L^+) = E[L^+ | L^+ > VaR_{\alpha}(L^+)]$ if L^+ is continuous

QRM framework

$$
L_1 \sim F_1, \quad L_2 \sim F_2, \quad \ldots, \quad L_d \sim F_d
$$

one period risks with statistically estimated marginals.

model uncertainty for VaR

 $VaR_{\alpha}(L^{+})$

$\overline{\text{VaR}}_{\alpha}(L^+)$

model uncertainty for ES

Known bounds

- Subadditivity of ES implies that

$$
\overline{\mathrm{ES}}_{\alpha}(L^{+}) = \sum_{j=1}^{d} \mathrm{ES}_{\alpha}(L_{j}) = \sum_{j=1}^{d} \frac{1}{1 - \alpha} \int_{\alpha}^{1} \mathrm{VaR}_{q}(L_{j}) \, dq
$$

-
$$
\underline{ES}_{\alpha}(L^+), \underline{VaR}_{\alpha}(L^+), \overline{VaR}_{\alpha}(L^+)
$$

are known only in the case $d = 2$ and for $d \geq 3$ under special assumptions, e.g. for identically distributed risks having monotone densities; see Puccetti (2013) and Puccetti, G. and L. Rüschendorf (2013).

For general inhomogenous marginals, there does not exist an analytical tool to compute them.

2. The Rearrangement Algorithm

The Rearrangement Algorithm

Question: Given the matrix *X*, rearrange the second column to obtain rowwise sums with minimal variance

Solution: Arrange the second column oppositely to the first

The Rearrangement Algorithm

Question (more difficult): Given the matrix *X*, rearrange the entries within each column to obtain rowwise sums with minimal variance

Strategy: rearrange the entries of column *j* oppositely to the sum of the other columns. Then iterate for all *j*.

Rearrangement Algorithm:

Rearrange the entries in the columns of *X* until you find an *ordered* matrix *Y*, i.e. a matrix in which

each column is oppositely ordered to the sum of the others.

Let *+(X)* and *+(Y)* be the vectors having as components the componentwise sum of each row of *X* and, respectively, *Y*.

The convex order $Y \leq_{cx} X$ is defined as

$Y \leq_{cx} X$ iff $\mathbb{E}[f(Y)] \leq \mathbb{E}[f(X)]$

for all convex functions f such that the expectations exist.

 $Y \leq_{c} X X$

implies

 $E(Y) = E(X)$ and $var(Y) \leq var(X)$

and is equivalent to

 $ES_{\alpha}(Y) \leq ES_{\alpha}(X), \ \alpha \in (0, 1)$

Associate to a (*N* × *d*) matrix *X* the *N*-discrete d-variate distribution giving probability mass *1/N* to each one of its *N* row vectors.

$$
\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 & 7 \\ 3 & 3 & 4 & 10 \\ 4 & 2 & 3 & 9 \\ 5 & 5 & 5 & 15 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 1 & 2 & 8 \\ 3 & 5 & 1 & 9 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 & 9 \\ 4 & 2 & 3 & 9 \\ 1 & 4 & 5 & 10 \end{bmatrix}
$$

Theorem (see Puccetti, 2013)

Let *Y* be the matrix obtained by applying the RA to *X*. Then, the distribution associated to *Y* has the same univariate marginals of the distribution associated to *X*.

Moreover, if
$$
(X_1, \ldots, X_d) \sim X
$$
 and $(Y_1, \ldots, Y_d) \sim Y$, then

$$
Y_1 + \cdots + Y_d \leq_{cx} X_1 + \cdots + X_d,
$$

and $ES_{\alpha}(Y_1 + \cdots + Y_d) \leq ES_{\alpha}(X_1 + \cdots + X_d), \ \alpha \in (0, 1)$

The RA finds a finite sequence of matrices with a decreasing expected shortfall for the the sum of the components of the random vectors having the associated distributions.

It may fail in general to minimize ES

3. Applications

General distributions

Pareto (4) 1) Approximate the support of each marginal F_j from above and below: 0.00000000 0.01709526 0.03509834 $F_j \geq F_j \geq \overline{F}_j$ 0.05409255 0.07417231 0.09544512 0.11803399 and create two matrices *X* and *Y* with *N* rows and *d* columns. 0.14208048 0.16774842 0.19522861 0.22474487 2) Iteratively rearrange the column of each matrix and find two 0.25656172 0.29099445 matrices *X** and *Y** with each column oppositely ordered to the 0.32842233 0.36930639 sum of the other columns. 0.41421356 0.46385011 0.51910905 0.58113883 3) If $(X_1,\ldots,X_d)\sim X^*$ and $(Y_1,\ldots,Y_d)\sim Y^*$, then 0.65144565 0.73205081 0.82574186 0.93649167 $\text{ES}_{\alpha}(X_1 + \cdots + X_d) \simeq \text{ES}_{\alpha}(L^+) \leq \text{ES}_{\alpha}(Y_1 + \cdots + Y_d)$ 1.07019668 \simeq 1.23606798 1.44948974 1.73861279 4) Run the algorithm with *N* large enough. 2.16227766 2.87298335 4.47722558 Inf

 \sim

takes only N values all having the same probability $(1 - \alpha)/N$. Fix $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and assume that each $F^{-1}_j | [\alpha, 1]$

$$
P\left(\sum_{j=1}^{d} L_j \ge \min(\text{rowSums}(X))\right) \ge 1 - \alpha
$$

 $VaR_{\alpha}(L_1 + \cdots + L_d) \geq min(rowSums(X))$

max $\tilde{X} \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ $\overline{\text{VaR}}_{\alpha}(L^+) = \max_{\tilde{X} \in \mathcal{D}(X)} \min(\text{rowsums}(\tilde{X}))$

(proof in Puccetti and Rüschendorf (2012b))

Analogous procedure for $\operatorname{VaR}_\alpha(L^+)$

 $VaR₁¹(L₁)$

Pareto(2) marginals and $\alpha = 0.99$ **ORDERED MATRIX**

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Model uncertainty for id risks

d=56,
$$
L_i \sim \text{Pareto}(2)
$$
, $\alpha = 99.9\%$

Several inhomogeneous examples are given in Embrechts, P., Puccetti, G. and L. Rüschendorf (2013).

For a risk vector (L_1, \ldots, L_d) , we define the *superadditivity ratio*

$$
\delta_{\alpha}(d) = \frac{\text{VaR}_{\alpha}(L^{+})}{\text{VaR}_{\alpha}^{+}(L^{+})}
$$

Assume that the random variables L_j are positive, identically distributed like F , an unbounded continuous distribution having an ultimately decreasing density and **finite mean**. Then

$$
\lim_{d \to \infty} \delta_{\alpha}(d) = \frac{\text{ES}_{\alpha}(L_1)}{\text{VaR}_{\alpha}(L_1)}
$$

Table 3: Values for the constant d_{α} for Pareto(θ) distributions.

For a risk vector (L_1, \ldots, L_d) , we define the *superadditivity ratio*

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\delta_{\alpha}(d) = \frac{\text{VaR}_{\alpha}(L^{+})}{\text{VaR}_{\alpha}^{+}(L^{+})}
$$

Assume that the random variables L_j are positive, identically distributed like F , an unbounded continuous distribution having an ultimately decreasing density and **infinite mean**. Then

$$
\lim_{d\to\infty}\delta_{\alpha}(d)=\infty
$$

Model uncertainty for id risks

d=56,
$$
L_i \sim \text{Pareto}(2)
$$
, $\alpha = 99.9\%$

Several inhomogeneous examples are given in Embrechts, P., Puccetti, G. and L. Rüschendorf (2013).

For any portfolio (L_1,\ldots,L_d) , of course we have that

$$
\frac{\overline{\mathrm{ES}}_{\alpha}(L_1 + \dots + L_d)}{\overline{\mathrm{VaR}}_{\alpha}(L_1 + \dots + L_d)} \geq 1.
$$

Assume that the random variables L_j are positive, identically distributed like F , an unbounded continuous distribution having an ultimately decreasing density and **finite mean**. Then

Theorem (see Puccetti and Rüschendorf, 2013pp)

$$
\lim_{d\to\infty}\frac{\mathrm{ES}_{\alpha}(L_1+\cdots+L_d)}{\mathrm{VaR}_{\alpha}(L_1+\cdots+L_d)}=1.
$$

Conjecture: the same result holds also for non id rvs

Application to inhomogeneous data

- marginal losses are distributed like a Generalized Pareto Distribution (GPD), that is

$$
F_i(x) = 1 - \left(1 + \xi_i \frac{x}{\beta_i}\right)^{-1/\xi_i}, \ x \ge 0, \ 1 \le i \le d.
$$

- Moscadelli (2004) contains an analysis of the Basel II data on Operational Risk coming out of the second Quantitative Impact Study (QIS)

Table 3: Estimates for VaR_{α} (L^+) for a random vector of $d = 8$ GPD-distributed risks having the parameters in Table 2 and different dependence assumptions, i.e. (from left to right) best-case dependence, comonotonicity, independence, worst-case dependence. Each estimate for $VaR_{\alpha}(L^{+})$ and $VaR_{\alpha}(L^{+})$ has been obtained via the RA in about 9 mins using $N = 2 \times 10^6$ and $\epsilon = 0.1$.

Adding additional information

- many examples

- we show that additional positive dependence information added on top of the marginal distributions does not improve the VaR bounds substantially;

- we show that additional information on higher dimensional sub-vectors of marginals leads to possibly much narrower VaR bounds;

Table 7: Estimates for VaRα(*L*+) for the Moscadelli example under different dependence assumptions, i.e. (from left to right) best-case dependence, best-case under additional information, comonotonicity, independence, worst-case under additional information (risks are two-by-two independent), worst-case dependence.

Summary

The rearrangement algorithm computes numerically sharp bounds on the ES/VaR of a sum of dependent random variables.

- it can be used with *any* set of *inhomogeneous* marginals, with dimensions d up in the several hundreds and for any quantile level α

- using the connection to convex order, it can be used also to compute moment bounds on supermodular functions (-> asset pricing)

- accuracy/speed can be increased by introducing a randomized starting condition and a termination condition based on the required accuracy.

The main message coming from our papers is that currently a whole toolkit of analytical and numerical techniques is available to better understand the aggregation and diversification properties of noncoherent risk measures such as Value-at-Risk.

4. Further mathematical links

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WORST-ES SCENARIO WORST ES SCENARIO WORST VAR SCENARIO

The worst-VaR scenario (and the best-ES scenario) yields a dependence in which:

- either the rvs are very close to each other and sum up to something very close to the worst-VaR estimate (*complete mixability*)
- or one of the components is large and the others are small (*mutual exclusivity)*

These scenarios exhibit

negative dependence!

Complete mixability

Definition

A distribution *F* is called *d*-completely mixable if there exist *d* random variables X_1,\ldots, X_d identically distributed as \digamma such that

$$
P(X_1 + \cdots + X_d = \text{constant}) = 1
$$

Examples

- *F* is continuous with a *monotone* density on a bounded support and satisfies a moderate mean condition; see Wang and Wang (2011).

- *F* is continuous with a *concave* density on a bounded support; see Puccetti, Wang and Wang (2012).

Applications

Plays the role of the lower Frèchet bound in multidimensional optimization problems

rearrangement = dependence

For *N* large enough, it is possible to approximate any dependence between *N*-discrete marginals by a proper rearrangement of the columns of *X ;* see Rüschendorf (1983) and Durante, F. and J.F. Sánchez (2012)

Overall conclusions

- We are able to compute reliable bounds on the VaR/ES of a sum.
- Rearrangements provide an effective way to handle dependence (alternative/complementary to copulas).
- The concept of complete mixability enters many important optimization problems as an extension of the lower Fréchet bound in dimensions $d \geq 3$.

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