

# Risk Aggregation and Fréchet Problems

## Part IV - Uncertainty Bounds for Risk Measures

Ruodu Wang

<http://sas.uwaterloo.ca/~wang>

Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science  
University of Waterloo, Canada



Minicourse Lectures, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy  
November 9 - 11, 2015

- 1 Risk measures
- 2 VaR and ES Bounds: basic ideas
- 3 Smallest element wrt convex order
- 4 Analytical results for homogeneous models
- 5 Asymptotic equivalence
- 6 Dependence-uncertainty spread
- 7 Challenges
- 8 References

A **risk measure** is a functional  $\rho : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow [-\infty, \infty]$ .

- $\mathcal{X}$  is a convex cone of random variables,  $\mathcal{X} \supset L^\infty$ .
- $\rho(L^\infty) \subset \mathbb{R}$
- $X \in \mathcal{X}$  represents loss/profit

A **law-determined** risk measure can be treated as a functional  $\rho : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow [-\infty, \infty]$ .

- $\mathcal{D}$  is the set of distributions of random variables in  $\mathcal{X}$ .

There are several properties of risk measures discussed in the literature, for instance:

- **Monetary** risk measure
  - **Monotonicity**:  $\rho(X) \leq \rho(Y)$  for  $X \leq Y$ ,  $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}$
  - **Cash-additivity**:  $\rho(X + c) = \rho(X) + c$  for  $X \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$
- **Coherent** risk measure: Monetary + two of the three:
  - **Positive homogeneity**:  $\rho(\lambda X) = \lambda \rho(X)$  for  $X \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+$
  - **Subadditivity**:  $\rho(X + Y) \leq \rho(X) + \rho(Y)$  for  $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}$
  - **Convexity**:  $\rho(\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y) \leq \lambda \rho(X) + (1 - \lambda)\rho(Y)$  for  $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$
- **Comonotonic additivity**:  $\rho(X + Y) = \rho(X) + \rho(Y)$  for  $X \parallel Y$ ,  $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}$

## Distortion risk measures

A **distortion risk measure** is defined as

$$\rho(X) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} x dh(F_X(x)), \quad X \in \mathcal{X}, \quad X \sim F_X,$$

where  $h$  is an increasing function on  $[0, 1]$  with  $h(0) = 0$  and  $h(1) = 1$ .  $h$  is called a **distortion function**.

- Yaari (1987):  
distortion risk measure  $\Leftrightarrow$  law-determined and comonotonic additive monetary risk measure.

## Distortion risk measures

If one of  $h$  and  $F_X^{-1}$  is continuous, then via a change of variable,

$$\rho(X) = \int_0^1 \text{VaR}_t(X) dh(t), \quad X \in \mathcal{X}.$$

- ES and VaR are special cases of distortion risk measures.

Two distortion risk measures, **Left-tail-ES** (LES) and **right-quantiles** ( $\text{VaR}^*$ )<sup>1</sup>:

## Left-tail-ES (LES)

$$\text{LES}_p : L^0 \rightarrow [-\infty, \infty),$$

$$\text{LES}_p(X) = \frac{1}{p} \int_0^p \text{VaR}_q(X) dq = -\text{ES}_{1-p}(-X), \quad p \in (0, 1).$$

## Right-quantile ( $\text{VaR}^*$ )

$$\text{VaR}_p^* : L^0 \rightarrow (-\infty, \infty),$$

$$\text{VaR}_p^*(X) = \inf\{x \in \mathbb{R} : \mathbb{P}(X \leq x) > p\}, \quad p \in (0, 1).$$

<sup>1</sup>We introduce them only for mathematical reasons. LES is not to be implemented in financial regulation and  $\text{VaR}_p^*$  is indistinguishable from  $\text{VaR}_p$  in practice. 

- 1 Risk measures
- 2 VaR and ES Bounds: basic ideas
- 3 Smallest element wrt convex order
- 4 Analytical results for homogeneous models
- 5 Asymptotic equivalence
- 6 Dependence-uncertainty spread
- 7 Challenges
- 8 References

As in Part I: For given  $F_1, \dots, F_n \in \mathcal{M}_1$  and  $p \in (0, 1)$ , the four quantities

$$\underline{\text{VaR}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n), \quad \overline{\text{VaR}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n), \quad \underline{\text{ES}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n), \quad \overline{\text{ES}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)$$

are our primary targets.

- $\overline{\text{ES}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{ES}_p(X_i)$
- $\underline{\text{LES}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{LES}_p(X_i)$
- The others are generally open
- $\underline{\text{LES}}_p$  and  $\overline{\text{LES}}_p$  are symmetric to ES

We assume the marginal distributions  $F_1, \dots, F_n$  have finite means.

Observation:  $\text{ES}_p$  preserves convex order.

Finding  $\underline{\text{ES}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)$

Search for a **smallest element** in  $\mathcal{S}_n$  with respect to convex order, if it exists.

- If  $(F_1, \dots, F_n)$  is JM, then such an element is a constant.

VaR does not respect convex order: more tricky.

For  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and  $U \sim U[0, 1]$ , let  $F_i^{[p,1]}$  be the distribution of  $F_i^{-1}(p + (1 - p)U)$ , and  $F_i^{[0,p]}$  be the distribution of  $F_i^{-1}(pU)$ .

## Lemma 1 (VaR bounds\*)

For  $p \in (0, 1)$  and  $F_1, \dots, F_n \in \mathcal{M}_1$ ,

$$\overline{\text{VaR}}_p^*(\mathcal{S}_n) = \sup\{\text{ess-inf } S : S \in \mathcal{S}_n(F_1^{[p,1]}, \dots, F_n^{[p,1]})\},$$

and

$$\underline{\text{VaR}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n) = \inf\{\text{ess-sup } S : S \in \mathcal{S}_n(F_1^{[0,p]}, \dots, F_n^{[0,p]})\}.$$

## Corollary 2 (VaR bounds\*)

Suppose that  $T$  is the smallest element in  $\mathcal{S}_n(F_1^{[p,1]}, \dots, F^{[p,1]})$  with respect to convex order. Then  $\overline{\text{VaR}}_p^*(\mathcal{S}_n) = \text{ess-inf } T$ .

## Finding $\overline{\text{VaR}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)$

Search for a **smallest element** in  $\mathcal{S}_n(F_1^{[p,1]}, \dots, F^{[p,1]})$  with respect to convex order.

- $\overline{\text{VaR}}_p^*(\mathcal{S}_n) = \overline{\text{VaR}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)$  if  $F_1^{-1}, \dots, F_n^{-1}$  are continuous at  $p$ .

- 1 Risk measures
- 2 VaR and ES Bounds: basic ideas
- 3 Smallest element wrt convex order**
- 4 Analytical results for homogeneous models
- 5 Asymptotic equivalence
- 6 Dependence-uncertainty spread
- 7 Challenges
- 8 References

## Question

For general  $F_1, \dots, F_n \in \mathcal{M}_1$ , does there always exist a smallest element wrt  $\prec_{\text{cx}}$  in  $\mathcal{S}_n$  (or  $\mathcal{D}_n$ )?

- If  $(F_1, \dots, F_n)$  is JM, then there exists one
- The largest element wrt  $\prec_{\text{cx}}$  is always the comonotonic sum for any marginal distributions

## Example\*

Let  $F_1 = D\{0, 3, 8\}$   $F_2 = D\{0, 6, 16\}$  and  $F_3 = D\{0, 7, 13\}$ .

Dependence (a)

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_1(\omega_1) & X_2(\omega_1) & X_3(\omega_1) \\ X_1(\omega_2) & X_2(\omega_2) & X_3(\omega_2) \\ X_1(\omega_3) & X_2(\omega_3) & X_3(\omega_3) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 16 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 13 \\ 8 & 0 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

Dependence (b)

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_1(\omega_1) & X_2(\omega_1) & X_3(\omega_1) \\ X_1(\omega_2) & X_2(\omega_2) & X_3(\omega_2) \\ X_1(\omega_3) & X_2(\omega_3) & X_3(\omega_3) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 16 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 13 \\ 8 & 6 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

Some conclusions:

- $\mathcal{S}_n$  does not always admit a smallest element wrt  $\prec_{\text{CX}}$
- To search for a smallest element wrt  $\prec_{\text{CX}}$  might not be a viable solution

# Homogeneous model with a decreasing density

Suppose that  $F_1 = \dots = F_n := F \in \mathcal{M}_1^1$  which has a decreasing density on its support. Define three quantities:

$$H(x) = (n-1)F^{-1}((n-1)x) + F^{-1}(1-x), \quad x \in \left[0, \frac{1}{n}\right],$$

$$a = \min \left\{ c \in \left[0, \frac{1}{n}\right] : \int_c^{\frac{1}{n}} H(t) dt \geq \left(\frac{1-nc}{n}\right) H(c) \right\},$$

and

$$D = \frac{n}{1-na} \int_a^{\frac{1}{n}} H(x) dx = n \frac{\int_{(n-1)a}^{1-a} F^{-1}(y) dy}{1-na}.$$

Note that if  $a > 0$  then  $D = H(a)$ . Finally, let

$$T(u) = H(u/n)I_{\{u \leq na\}} + DI_{\{u > na\}}, \quad u \in [0, 1].$$

## Theorem 3 (Homogeneous model with a decreasing density\*)

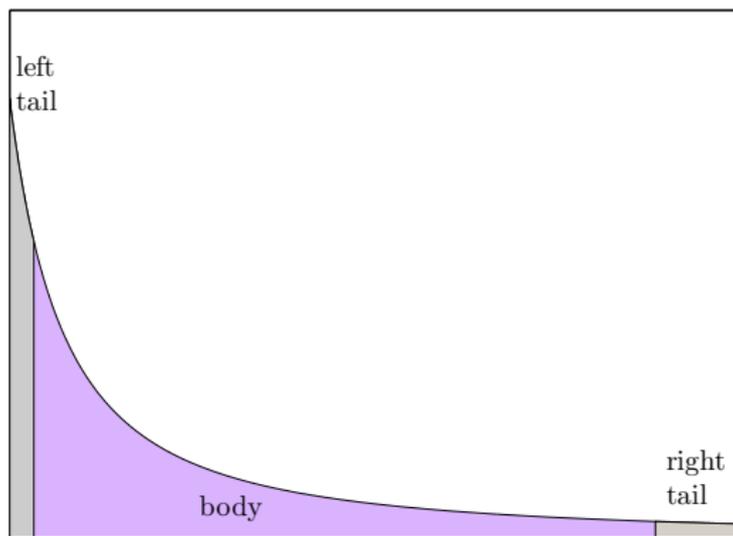
Suppose that  $F_1 = \dots = F_n := F \in \mathcal{M}_1^1$  which has a decreasing density on its support. Then

- (i)  $T(U) \in \mathcal{S}_n$  for some  $U \sim U[0, 1]$ ;
- (ii)  $T(U) \prec_{\text{cx}} S$  for all  $S \in \mathcal{S}_n$ .

---

This is a weaker version of Theorem 3.1 of Bernard-Jiang-W. (2014) which was essentially shown in Wang-W. (2011)

# Homogeneous model with a decreasing density



The corresponding dependence structure:

- On  $\{U \leq na\}$ : almost **mutual exclusivity**
- On  $\{U > na\}$ : a **joint mix**

# Homogeneous model with a decreasing density

## General model with decreasing densities

Suppose that each of  $F_1, \dots, F_n$  has a decreasing density. Then there exists an element  $T$  in  $\mathcal{S}_n$  such that  $T \prec_{\text{cx}} S$  for all  $S \in \mathcal{S}_n$ .

- The distribution of  $T$  consists of a point-mass part and a continuous part, both of which can be calculated via a set of functional equations.
- The structure is very similar to the homogeneous model: an almost mutually exclusive part and a part of joint mix.

- 1 Risk measures
- 2 VaR and ES Bounds: basic ideas
- 3 Smallest element wrt convex order
- 4 Analytical results for homogeneous models**
- 5 Asymptotic equivalence
- 6 Dependence-uncertainty spread
- 7 Challenges
- 8 References

# Summary of existing results

- Homogeneous model ( $F_1 = \dots = F_n$ )
  - $\underline{ES}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)$  solved analytically for decreasing densities, e.g. Pareto, Exponential
  - $\overline{\text{VaR}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)$  solved analytically for tail-decreasing densities, e.g. Pareto, Gamma, Log-normal
- Inhomogeneous model
  - Semi-analytical results are available for decreasing densities
- Numerical method: Rearrangement Algorithm (RA)<sup>2</sup>
- Real data analysis: DNB<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup>Embrechts-Puccetti-Rüschendorf (2013)

<sup>3</sup>Aas-Puccetti (2014)

## Theorem 4 (Sharp VaR bounds for homogeneous model\*)

Suppose that  $F_1 = \dots = F_n := F \in \mathcal{M}_1^1$  which has a decreasing density on  $[b, \infty)$  for some  $b \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then, for  $p \in [F(b), 1)$  and  $X \sim F$ ,

$$\overline{\text{VaR}}_p(S_n) = n\mathbb{E}[X|X \in [F^{-1}(p + (n-1)c), F^{-1}(1-c)]],$$

where  $c$  is the smallest number in  $[0, \frac{1}{n}(1-p)]$  such that

$$\int_{p+(n-1)c}^{1-c} F^{-1}(t)dt \geq \frac{1-p-nc}{n}((n-1)F^{-1}(p + (n-1)c) + F^{-1}(1-c)).$$

- $c = 0$ :  $\overline{\text{VaR}}_p(S_n) = \overline{\text{ES}}_p(S_n)$ .

## Theorem 5 (Sharp VaR bounds for homogeneous model II\*)

Suppose that  $F_1 = \dots = F_n := F \in \mathcal{M}_1^1$  which has a decreasing density on its support. Then for  $p \in (0, 1)$  and  $X \sim F$ ,

$$\underline{\text{VaR}}_p(S_n) = \max\{(n-1)F^{-1}(0) + F^{-1}(p), n\mathbb{E}[X|X \leq F^{-1}(p)]\}.$$

## Theorem 6 (Sharp ES bounds for homogeneous model\*)

Suppose that  $F_1 = \dots = F_n := F \in \mathcal{M}_1^1$  which has a decreasing density on its support. Then for  $p \in (1 - na, 1)$ ,  $q = (1 - p)/n$  and  $X \sim F$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{\text{ES}}_p(S_d) &= \frac{1}{q} \int_0^q ((n-1)F^{-1}((n-1)t) + F^{-1}(1-t)) dt, \\ &= (n-1)^2 \text{LES}_{(n-1)q}(X) + \text{ES}_{1-q}(X).\end{aligned}$$

- One **large outcome** is coupled with  $d - 1$  **small outcomes**.

## Rearrangement Algorithm (RA)<sup>4</sup>

- A fast numerical procedure
- Discretization of relevant quantile regions
- The idea is to approximate a  $\prec_{\text{cx}}$ -smallest element assuming one exists
- $n$  possibly large
- Applicable to  $\overline{\text{VaR}}_p$ ,  $\underline{\text{VaR}}_p$  and  $\underline{\text{ES}}_p$

---

<sup>4</sup>Puccetti-Rüschendorf (2012) and Embrechts-Puccetti-Rüschendorf (2013)

Example of RA borrowed from Marius Hofert:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 5 & 4 \\ 4 & 7 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \xRightarrow{\Sigma_{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 9 \\ 15 \end{pmatrix}} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 & 4 \\ 1 & 7 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \xRightarrow{\Sigma_{-2} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 6 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 7 & 1 \\ 3 & 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \xRightarrow{\Sigma_{-3} = \begin{pmatrix} 11 \\ 8 \\ 5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}} \\
 \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 7 & 1 \\ 3 & 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \xRightarrow{\Sigma_{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 7 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 7 & 1 \\ 4 & 5 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \xRightarrow{\Sigma_{-2} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 7 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 7 & 1 \\ 4 & 5 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \xRightarrow{\Sigma_{-3} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ 6 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}} \\
 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 7 & 2 \\ 4 & 5 & 1 \\ 3 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \checkmark \xRightarrow{\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 11 \\ 10 \\ 10 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix}} \widehat{\text{VaR}}_{\alpha}(L^+) \approx 10
 \end{array}$$

Example of RA not working:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \xRightarrow{\Sigma_{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \xRightarrow{\Sigma_{-2} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \checkmark$$

$$\xRightarrow{\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}} \widehat{\text{VaR}}_{\alpha}(L^+) \approx 5 < 6 \quad \xRightarrow{\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 6 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}} \text{for } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- 1 Risk measures
- 2 VaR and ES Bounds: basic ideas
- 3 Smallest element wrt convex order
- 4 Analytical results for homogeneous models
- 5 Asymptotic equivalence**
- 6 Dependence-uncertainty spread
- 7 Challenges
- 8 References

# Asymptotic equivalence

Consider the case  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . What would happen to  $\overline{\text{VaR}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)$ ?

- Clearly always  $\overline{\text{VaR}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n) \leq \overline{\text{ES}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)$ .
- Recall that  $\overline{\text{VaR}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)$  has an ES-type part.

Under some weak conditions,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\overline{\text{ES}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)}{\overline{\text{VaR}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)} = 1.$$

- When **arbitrary dependence** is allowed, the worst-case  $\text{VaR}_p$  of a portfolio behaves like the worst-case  $\text{ES}_p$

---

This was shown first for homogeneous models and then extended to general inhomogeneous models. The first result is in Puccetti-Rüschendorf (2014).

Theorem 7 (( $\text{VaR}_p, \text{ES}_p$ )-equivalence for homogeneous model\*)

In the homogeneous model,  $F_1 = F_2 = \dots = F$ , for  $p \in (0, 1)$  and  $X \sim F$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \overline{\text{VaR}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n) = \text{ES}_p(X).$$

## Theorem 8 ((VaR<sub>p</sub>, ES<sub>p</sub>)-equivalence)

Suppose the continuous distributions  $F_i$ ,  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  satisfy that for  $X_i \sim F_i$  and some  $p \in (0, 1)$ ,

- (i)  $\mathbb{E}[|X_i - \mathbb{E}[X_i]|^k]$  is uniformly bounded for some  $k > 1$ ;
- (ii)  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{ES}_p(X_i) > 0$ .

Then as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\frac{\overline{\text{ES}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)}{\overline{\text{VaR}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)} = 1 + O(n^{1/k-1}).$$

- $k = 1$  is not ok

Similar results holds for  $\underline{\text{VaR}}_p$  and  $\underline{\text{ES}}_p$ : assume (i) and

$$(iii) \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{LES}_p(X_i) > 0,$$

then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{VaR}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)}{\underline{\text{LES}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)} = 1,$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\underline{\text{ES}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[X_i]} = 1,$$

and

$$\frac{\text{VaR}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)}{\underline{\text{ES}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)} \approx \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \text{LES}_p(X_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[X_i]} \leq 1, \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

## Example: Pareto(2) risks

Bounds on VaR and ES for the sum of  $n$  Pareto(2) distributed rvs for  $p = 0.999$ ;  $\text{VaR}_p^+$  corresponds to the comonotonic case.

	$n = 8$	$n = 56$
$\underline{\text{VaR}}_p$	31	53
$\underline{\text{ES}}_p$	178	472
$\text{VaR}_p^+$	245	1715
$\overline{\text{VaR}}_p$	465	3454
$\overline{\text{ES}}_p$	498	3486
$\overline{\text{VaR}}_p / \text{VaR}_p^+$	1.898	2.014
$\overline{\text{ES}}_p / \overline{\text{VaR}}_p$	1.071	1.009

# Example: Pareto( $\theta$ ) risks

Bounds on the VaR and ES for the sum of  $n = 8$   
Pareto( $\theta$ )-distributed rvs for  $p = 0.999$ .

	$\theta = 1.5$	$\theta = 2$	$\theta = 3$	$\theta = 5$	$\theta = 10$
$\overline{\text{VaR}}_p$	1897	465	110	31.65	9.72
$\overline{\text{ES}}_p$	2392	498	112	31.81	9.73
$\overline{\text{ES}}_p / \overline{\text{VaR}}_p$	1.261	1.071	1.018	1.005	1.001

Let  $\mathcal{D}_n(F) = \mathcal{D}_n(F, \dots, F)$  (homogeneous model).

For a law-determined risk measure  $\rho$ , define

$$\Gamma_\rho(X) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sup \{ \rho(S) : F_S \in \mathcal{D}_n(F_X) \}.$$

$\Gamma_\rho$  is also a [law-determined risk measure](#).

- $\Gamma_\rho \geq \rho$ .
- If  $\rho$  is subadditive then  $\Gamma_\rho = \rho$ .

Take  $\mathcal{X} = L^\infty$ .

Theorem 9 ( $(\rho_h, \rho_{h^*})$ -equivalence for homogeneous model)

We have

$$\Gamma_{\rho_h}(X) = \rho_{h^*}(X), \quad X \in \mathcal{X},$$

where  $h^*$  is the largest convex distortion function dominated by  $h$ .

For distortion risk measures

- $\Gamma_{\text{VaR}_\rho} = \text{ES}_\rho$
- $\rho_h$  is coherent if and only if  $h^* = h$

For law-determined convex risk measures.

- $\Gamma_\rho$  is the smallest coherent risk measure dominating  $\rho$
- If  $\rho$  is a convex shortfall risk measure, then  $\Gamma_\rho$  is a coherent expectile

- 1 Risk measures
- 2 VaR and ES Bounds: basic ideas
- 3 Smallest element wrt convex order
- 4 Analytical results for homogeneous models
- 5 Asymptotic equivalence
- 6 Dependence-uncertainty spread**
- 7 Challenges
- 8 References

## Theorem 10 (Uncertainty spread)

Take  $1 > q \geq p > 0$ . Under weak regularity conditions, for inhomogeneous models,

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\overline{\text{VaR}}_q(\mathcal{S}_n) - \underline{\text{VaR}}_q(\mathcal{S}_n)}{\overline{\text{ES}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n) - \underline{\text{ES}}_p(\mathcal{S}_n)} \geq 1.$$

- The **uncertainty-spread** of VaR is generally bigger than that of ES.
- In recent Consultative Documents of the Basel Committee,  $\text{VaR}_{0.99}$  is compared with  $\text{ES}_{0.975}$ :  $p = 0.975$  and  $q = 0.99$ .

# Dependence-uncertainty spread

ES and VaR of  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ , where

- $X_i \sim \text{Pareto}(2 + 0.1i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, 5$ ;
- $X_i \sim \text{Exp}(i - 5)$ ,  $i = 6, \dots, 10$ ;
- $X_i \sim \text{Log-Normal}(0, (0.1(i - 10))^2)$ ,  $i = 11, \dots, 20$ .

	$n = 5$			$n = 20$		
	best	worst	spread	best	worst	spread
$\text{ES}_{0.975}$	22.48	44.88	22.40	29.15	102.35	73.20
$\text{VaR}_{0.975}$	9.79	41.46	31.67	21.44	100.65	79.21
$\text{VaR}_{0.99}$	12.96	62.01	49.05	22.29	136.30	114.01
$\frac{\overline{\text{ES}}_{0.975}}{\text{VaR}_{0.975}}$		1.08			1.02	

# Dependence-uncertainty spread

Features/Risk measure	VaR	Tail-VaR
Frequency captured?	Yes	Yes
Severity captured?	No	Yes
Sub-additive?	Not always	Always
Diversification captured?	Issues	Yes
Back-testing?	Straight-forward	Issues
Estimation?	Feasible	Issues with data limitation
Model uncertainty?	Sensitive to aggregation	Sensitive to tail modelling
Robustness I (with respect to "Lévy metric <sup>33</sup> ")?	Almost, only minor issues	No
Robustness II (with respect to "Wasserstein metric <sup>34</sup> ")?	Yes	Yes

From the [International Association of Insurance Supervisors Consultation Document](#) (December 2014).

- 1 Risk measures
- 2 VaR and ES Bounds: basic ideas
- 3 Smallest element wrt convex order
- 4 Analytical results for homogeneous models
- 5 Asymptotic equivalence
- 6 Dependence-uncertainty spread
- 7 Challenges**
- 8 References

Concrete mathematical questions:

- Full characterization of  $\mathcal{D}_n$  and mixability
- Existence and determination of smallest  $\prec_{\text{cx}}$ -element in  $\mathcal{D}_n$
- General analytical formulas for  $\overline{\text{VaR}}_p$  ( $\underline{\text{VaR}}_p$ ) and  $\underline{\text{ES}}_p$
- Aggregation of random vectors

Practical questions:

- Capital calculation under uncertainty
- Robust decision making under uncertainty
- Regulation with uncertainty

Some on-going directions on RADU

- Partial information on dependence<sup>5</sup>
- Connection with Extreme Value Theory
- Connection with martingale optimal transportation
- Both marginal and dependence uncertainty
- Computational solutions
- Other aggregation functionals

---

<sup>5</sup>Bignozzi-Puccetti-Rüschendorf (2015), Bernard-Rüschendorf-Vanduffel (2015+), Bernard-Vanduffel (2015), many more

-  Aas, K. and G. Puccetti (2014). Bounds for total economic capital: the DNB case study. *Extremes*, **17**(4), 693–715.
-  Bernard, C., Jiang, X. and Wang, R. (2014). Risk aggregation with dependence uncertainty. *Insurance: Mathematics and Economics*, **54**, 93–108.
-  Bernard C., Rüschendorf L., and Vanduffel S.. (2015+). Value-at-risk bounds with variance constraints. *Journal of Risk and Insurance*, forthcoming.
-  Bernard, C. and Vanduffel, S. (2015). A new approach to assessing model risk in high dimensions. *Journal of Banking and Finance*, **58**, 166–178.
-  Bignozzi, V., Puccetti, G. and Rüschendorf, L. (2015). Reducing model risk via positive and negative dependence assumptions. *Insurance: Mathematics and Economics*, **61**, 17–26.
-  Embrechts, P., Puccetti, G. and Rüschendorf, L. (2013). Model uncertainty and VaR aggregation. *Journal of Banking and Finance*, **37**(8), 2750–2764.
-  Embrechts, P., Wang, B. and Wang, R. (2015). Aggregation-robustness and model uncertainty of regulatory risk measures. *Finance and Stochastics*, **19**(4), 763–790.

-  Jakobsons, E., Han, X. and Wang, R. (2015+). General convex order on risk aggregation. *Scandinavian Actuarial Journal*, forthcoming.
-  Puccetti, G. and Rüschendorf, L. (2012). Computation of sharp bounds on the distribution of a function of dependent risks. *Journal of Computational and Applied Mathematics*, **236**(7), 1833–1840.
-  Puccetti, G. and Rüschendorf, L. (2014). Asymptotic equivalence of conservative VaR- and ES-based capital charges. *Journal of Risk*, **16**(3), 3–22.
-  Wang, B. and Wang, R. (2011). The complete mixability and convex minimization problems with monotone marginal densities. *Journal of Multivariate Analysis*, **102**, 1344–1360.
-  Wang, B. and Wang, R. (2015). Extreme negative dependence and risk aggregation. *Journal of Multivariate Analysis*, **136**, 12–25.
-  Wang, R., Bigozzi, V. and Tsakanas, A. (2015). How superadditive can a risk measure be? *SIAM Journal on Financial Mathematics*, **6**(1), 776–803.



Wang, R., Peng, L. and Yang, J. (2013). Bounds for the sum of dependent risks and worst Value-at-Risk with monotone marginal densities. *Finance and Stochastics*, **17**(2), 395–417.



Thank you for your kind attention