

Notes on hedging cryptos with spectral risk measures

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Abstract

We investigate different methods of hedging cryptocurrencies with Bitcoin futures. A useful generalisation of variance-based hedging uses spectral risk measures and copulas.

1. Optimal hedge ratio

Following (Barbi and Romagnoli, 2014), we consider the problem of the optimal hedge ratios by extending commonly known minimum variance hedge ratio to more general risk measures and dependence structures.

Hedge portfolio: $R_t^h = R_t^S - hR_t^F$, involving returns of spot and future contract and where h is the hedge ratio

Optimal hedge ratio: $h^* = \operatorname{argmin}_h \rho_\phi(s, h)$, for given confidence level $1 - s$ (if applicable, e.g. in the case of VaR, ES), where ρ_ϕ is a spectral risk measure with weighting function ϕ (see below).

Corollary 2.1 of (Barbi and Romagnoli, 2014), corrected:

Proposition 1. Let R^S and R^F be two real-valued random variables on the same probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbf{P})$ with corresponding absolutely continuous copula $C_{R^S, R^F}^t(w, \lambda)$ and continuous marginals F_{R^S} and F_{R^F} . Then, the distribution of R^h is given by

$$F_{R^h}(x) = 1 - \int_0^1 D_1 C_{R^S, R^F} \left(u, F_{R^F} \left[\frac{F_{R^S}^{-1}(u) - x}{h} \right] \right) du. \quad (1)$$

The proof uses the D_1 -operator. Here $D_1 C(u, v) = \frac{\partial}{\partial u} C(u, v)$, which can be shown to fulfil (Cherubini *et al.*, 2011)

$$D_1 C_{X,Y}(F_X(x), F_Y(y)) = \mathbf{P}(Y \leq y | X = x). \quad (2)$$

Proof. Using the identity (2) gives

$$\begin{aligned} F_{R^h}(x) &= \mathbf{P}(R^S - hR^F \leq x) = \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{P} \left(R^F \geq \frac{R^S - x}{h} \middle| R^S \right) \right] \\ &= 1 - \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{P} \left(R^F \leq \frac{R^S - x}{h} \middle| R^S \right) \right] \\ &= 1 - \int_0^1 D_1 C_{R^S, R^F} \left(u, F_{R^F} \left(\frac{F_{R^S}^{-1}(u) - x}{h} \right) \right) du. \end{aligned}$$

□

1.1. Special case: Gaussian copula

Let $R^S \sim N(\mu_S, \sigma_S^2)$ and $R^F \sim N(\mu_F, \sigma_F^2)$ and assume further that they are jointly normally distributed with correlation ρ . Then,

$$R^h = R^S - hR^F \sim N(\mu_S - h\mu_F, \sigma_S^2 + h^2\sigma_F^2 - 2\rho h\sigma_S\sigma_F).$$

More generally, if $R^k \sim F^k$, $k \in \{S, F\}$, then

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{P}(R^S - hR^F \leq x) &= 1 - \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{P} \left(R^F \leq \frac{R^S - x}{h} \middle| R^S \right) \right] \\
&= 1 - \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{P} \left(N^{(-1)}(F_F(R^F)) \leq N^{(-1)} \left(F_F \left(\frac{R^S - x}{h} \right) \right) \middle| R^S \right) \right] \\
&= 1 - \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{P} \left(\rho N^{(-1)}(F_S(R^S)) + \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} \varepsilon \leq N^{(-1)} \left(F_F \left(\frac{R^S - x}{h} \right) \right) \middle| R^S \right) \right] \\
&= 1 - \mathbb{E} \left[N \left(\frac{N^{(-1)} \left(F_F \left(\frac{R^S - x}{h} \right) \right) - \rho N^{(-1)}(F_S(R^S))}{\sqrt{1 - \rho^2}} \right) \right] \\
&= 1 - \int_0^1 N \left(\frac{N^{(-1)} \left(F_F \left(\frac{F_S^{(-1)}(u) - x}{h} \right) \right) - \rho N^{(-1)}(u)}{\sqrt{1 - \rho^2}} \right) du.
\end{aligned}$$

1.2. Special case: Normal variance mixtures

Let (R^S, R^F) follow a normal variance mixture, i.e., there exists a decomposition such that

$$\begin{aligned}
R^S &= \mu_S + \sqrt{W} \sigma_S Z_1 \\
R^F &= \mu_F + \sqrt{W} \sigma_F (\rho Z_1 + \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} Z_2),
\end{aligned}$$

where W is the mixing variable and Z_1, Z_2 are independent standard normal variables. Then, R^h follows a NVM distribution with

$$R^h = R^S - hR^F = \mu_S - h\mu_F + \sqrt{W} \left((\sigma_S - h\sigma_F\rho)Z_1 - h\sqrt{1 - \rho^2}\sigma_F Z_2 \right) = \mu_S - h\mu_F + \sqrt{W} Z_3,$$

where $Z_3 \sim N(0, \sigma_S^2 + h^2 \sigma_F^2 - 2\rho h \sigma_S \sigma_F)$.

More generally, let $R^k \sim F^k$, $k \in \{S, F\}$ and write V as the marginal distribution functions of the NVM distribution components. Let $V^{(-1)}(F_S(R^S)) = \sqrt{W}Z_1$ and $V^{(-1)}(F_F(R^F)) = \sqrt{W}\rho Z_1 + \sqrt{W}\sqrt{1-\rho^2}Z_2$, where Z_1, Z_2 are independent standard normals. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{P}(R^S - hR^F \leq x) &= 1 - \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{P} \left(R^F \leq \frac{R^S - x}{h} \middle| R^S \right) \right] \\
&= 1 - \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{P} \left(V^{(-1)}(F_F(R^F)) \leq V^{(-1)} \left(F_F \left(\frac{R^S - x}{h} \right) \right) \middle| W, Z_1 \right) \right] \\
&= 1 - \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{P} \left(\sqrt{W}\rho Z_1 + \sqrt{W}\sqrt{1-\rho^2}Z_2 \leq V^{(-1)} \left(F_F \left(\frac{F_S^{(-1)}(V(\sqrt{W}Z_1)) - x}{h} \right) \right) \middle| W, Z_1 \right) \right] \\
&= 1 - \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{N} \left(\frac{V^{(-1)} \left(F_F \left(\frac{F_S^{(-1)}(V(\sqrt{W}Z_1)) - x}{h} \right) \right) - \rho\sqrt{W}Z_1}{\sqrt{W}\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} \right) \right] \\
&= 1 - \int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty \mathbf{N} \left(\frac{V^{(-1)} \left(F_F \left(\frac{F_S^{(-1)}(V(\sqrt{w}z_1)) - x}{h} \right) \right) - \rho\sqrt{w}z_1}{\sqrt{w}\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} \right) \varphi(z_1) f_W(w) dz_1 dw
\end{aligned}$$

1.3. Special case: double- t copula

Let (R^S, R^F) follow a double- t copula.

2. Spectral risk measures

Spectral risk measure (Acerbi, 2002; Cotter and Dowd, 2006):

$$\rho_\phi = - \int_0^1 \phi(p) q_p \, dp,$$

where q_p is the p -quantile of the return distribution and $\phi(s)$, $s \in [0, 1]$, is the so-called *risk aversion function*, a weighting function such that¹

- (i) $\phi(p) \geq 0$,
- (ii) $\int_0^1 \phi(p) \, dp = 1$,
- (iii) $\phi'(p) \leq 0$.

Examples: VaR, ES

Replacing the last property with $\phi'(p) > 0$ rules out risk-neutral behaviour.

Spectral risk measures are coherent (Acerbi, 2002).

2.1. Representation of spectral risk measures

To prevent numerical instabilities involving the quantile function, re-write spectral risk measures as follows:

- Integration by substitution: $\int_a^b g(\varphi(x)) \varphi'(x) \, dx = \int_{\varphi(a)}^{\varphi(b)} g(u) \, du$.
- Spectral risk measures: $-\int_0^1 \phi(p) F^{(-1)}(p) \, dp$

¹Note that the treatment in (Acerbi, 2002) is measure-based and therefore slightly different

- Set $\varphi(x) = F(x)$, $g(p) = \phi(p) F^{(-1)}(p)$.
- Then:

$$-\int_0^1 \phi(p) F^{(-1)}(p) dp = -\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi(F(x)) x f(x) dx.$$

2.2. Exponential spectral risk measures

- Choose exponential utility function: $U(x) = -e^{-kx}$, where $k > 0$ is the Arrow-Pratt coefficient of absolute risk aversion (ARA).
- Coefficient of absolute risk aversion: $R_A(x) = -\frac{U''(x)}{U'(x)} = k$
- Coefficient of relative risk aversion: $R_R(x) = -\frac{xU''(x)}{U'(x)} = xk$
- Weighting function $\phi(p) = \lambda e^{-k(1-p)}$, where λ is an unknown positive constant.
- Set $\lambda = \frac{k}{1 - e^{-k}}$ to satisfy normalisation.
- Exponential spectral risk measure:

$$\rho_\phi = \int_0^1 \phi(p) F^{(-1)}(p) dp = \frac{k}{1 - e^{-k}} \int_0^1 e^{-k(1-p)} F^{(-1)}(p) dp.$$

(If calculation of quantiles is a problem use change of variables above.)

- What exactly is the link between risk measure and utility? I think there is no direct link: the exponential risk measure is *inspired* by ARA utility.

3. D_1 Operator

The D_1 operator is given as

$$D_1 C_{X,Y}(F_X(x), F_Y(y)) = \mathbf{P}(Y \leq y | X = x).$$

In the context of the above notation, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} D_1 C_{R^s, R^F}\{w, g(w)\} &= \mathbf{P}[R_F \leq F_F^{(-1)}\{g(w)\} | R_s = F_S^{(-1)}(w)] = \mathbf{P}\{V \leq g(w) | U = w\} \\ &= \frac{\mathbf{P}\{U \in dw, V \leq g(w)\}}{\mathbf{P}(U \in dw)} = \mathbf{P}\{U \in dw | V \leq g(w)\} = \int_0^{g(w)} c(w, v) dv. \end{aligned}$$

The last line can also be written as

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w} C\{w, g(w')\} \Big|_{w'=w}.$$

We give an explicit equation of the D_1 operator for Archimedean copulae.

The D_1 operator is defined as the partial derivatives of the first input to the copula function, so we fix the second argument while taking derivative with respect to the first, and then evaluate the function. we have

$$\frac{\partial C\{v, g(w)\}}{\partial v} \Big|_{v=w} = \frac{\partial \phi^{-1}[\phi(v) + \phi\{g(w)\}]}{\partial[\phi(v) + \phi\{g(w)\}]} \frac{\partial[\phi(v) + \phi\{g(w)\}]}{\partial v} \Big|_{v=w} \quad (3)$$

$$= \frac{\partial \phi^{-1}[\phi(v) + \phi\{g(w)\}]}{\partial[\phi(v) + \phi\{g(w)\}]} \frac{\partial \phi(v)}{\partial v} \Big|_{v=w} \quad (4)$$

$$= \frac{\partial \phi^{-1}[\phi(w) + \phi\{g(w)\}]}{\partial[\phi(w) + \phi\{g(w)\}]} \frac{\partial \phi(w)}{\partial w} \quad (5)$$

$$, \text{ where } g(w) = F_{R^F} \left\{ \frac{F_{R^S}^{-1}(w) - r^h}{h} \right\} \quad (6)$$

$$(7)$$

Function	Gumbel	Frank	Clayton	Independence
$\phi(t)$	$\{-\log(t)\}^\theta$	$-\ln \left\{ \frac{\exp(-\theta t)-1}{\exp(-\theta)-1} \right\}$	$\frac{1}{\theta}(t^{-\theta} - 1)$	Same to Gumbel where $\theta = 1$
$\phi^{-1}(t)$	$\exp(-t^{1/\theta})$	$\frac{-1}{\theta} \log[1 + \exp(-t)\{\exp(-\theta) - 1\}]$	$(1 + \theta t)^{-\frac{1}{\theta}}$	
$\partial\phi(t)/\partial t$	$\theta \frac{\phi(t)}{t \log(t)}$	$\frac{\theta \exp(-\theta t)}{\exp(-\theta t)-1}$	$-t^{-(\theta+1)}$	
$\partial\phi^{-1}(t)/\partial t$	$\frac{-1}{\theta} t^{\frac{1}{\theta}-1} \phi^{-1}(t)$	$\frac{1}{\theta} \frac{\exp(-t)\{\exp(-\theta)-1\}}{1+\exp(-t)\{\exp(-\theta)-1\}}$	$\theta(1 + \theta t)^{-\frac{1}{\theta}-1}$	

Table 1: Archimedean Copulae's Generator, Generator Inverse, and their derivative.

4. Dependence

Dependence through copula (e.g. Student t, Clayton, Gumbel, double t, NIG, Frank, skewed-t, elliptical (this is too general, but maybe some theoretical results))

4.1. Archimedean copulas

- A well-studied one-parameter family of copulas are the **Archimedean copulas**.
- Let $\phi : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ be a continuous and strictly decreasing function with $\phi(1) = 0$ and $\phi(0) \leq \infty$.
- We define the **pseudo-inverse** of ϕ as

$$\phi^{(-1)}(t) = \begin{cases} \phi^{-1}(t), & 0 \leq t \leq \phi(0), \\ 0, & \phi(0) < t \leq \infty. \end{cases}$$

- If, in addition, ϕ is convex, then the following function is a copula:

$$C(u, v) = \phi^{(-1)}(\phi(u) + \phi(v)).$$

- Such copulas are called **Archimedean copulas**, and the function ϕ is called an **Archimedean copula generator**.
- Examples of Archimedean copulas are the **Gumbel** and the **Clayton** copulas:

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\theta, \text{Gu}}(u, v) &= \exp \left\{ -((- \ln u)^\theta + (- \ln v)^\theta)^{1/\theta} \right\}, & 1 \leq \theta < \infty, \\ C_{\theta, \text{Cl}}(u, v) &= (u^{-\theta} + v^{-\theta} - 1)^{-1/\theta}, & 0 < \theta < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

- In the case of the Gumbel copula, the independence copula is attained when $\theta = 1$ and the comonotonicity copula is attained as $\theta \rightarrow \infty$.
- Thus, the Gumbel copula interpolates between independence and perfect dependence.
- In the case of the Clayton copula, the independence copula is attained as $\theta \rightarrow 0$, whereas the comonotonicity copula is attained as $\theta \rightarrow \infty$.

4.2. Elliptical Copulae

See e.g. Theorem 3.22, Definition 3.26 and Theorem 3.28 of (?):

Definition 1. A random vector $\mathbf{Z} = (Z_0, \dots, Z_d)^T$ follows an elliptical distribution if it has a representation

$$\mathbf{Z} \stackrel{L}{=} GA\mathbf{U},$$

where $G > 0$ is a scalar random variable, the so-called *mixing variable*, A is a deterministic $(d+1) \times (d+1)$ matrix with $AA^T := \Sigma$, which in turn is a $(d+1) \times (d+1)$ nonnegative definite symmetric matrix of rank $d+1$, and \mathbf{U} is a $(d+1)$ -dimensional random vector uniformly distributed on the unit sphere $\mathcal{S}_{d+1} := \{\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1} : \mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{z} = 1\}$, and \mathbf{U} is independent of G .

A subclass of elliptical distributions are the so-called *normal variance mixtures (NVM)*, see Section 3.3 of (?). For the connection between NVM and elliptical distributions, see also Theorem 3.25 of (?).

Definition 2 (Normal variance mixture (NVM)). The random vector $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_k)^T$ follows a multivariate normal variance mixture (NVM) distribution if

$$\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\mathcal{L}}{=} \mu + \sqrt{W} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{Z},$$

where

- (i) $\mathbf{Z} \sim \mathbf{N}_k(\mathbf{0}, I_k)$, i.e., \mathbf{Z} are independent, standard normally distributed,
- (ii) $W \geq 0$ is a random variable independent of \mathbf{Z} ,
- (iii) $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$ and $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^d$ are a matrix and vector of constants, respectively.

It is easily observed that $\mathbf{X}|W = w \sim \mathbf{N}_d(\mu, w\Sigma)$, where $\Sigma = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}'$.

In general, we will assume that Σ is positive definite and that $W > 0$ \mathbf{P} -a.s.. Then, the density of \mathbf{X} is given by

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{x}) &= \int f_{\mathbf{X}|W}(\mathbf{x}|w) dH(w) \\ &= \int \frac{w^{-d/2}}{(2\pi)^{d/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\mathbf{x} - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mu)}{2w}\right) dH(w), \end{aligned}$$

where H is the distribution function of W .

Special cases:

- Normal distribution: W constant
- Student t distribution: $W \sim Ig(1/2\nu, 1/2\nu)$, where Ig is an inverse gamma distribution
- Symmetric generalised hyperbolic distribution: $W \sim N^-(\lambda, \chi, \psi)$ where N^- refers to the generalised inverse Gaussian (GIG) distribution;
- Normal inverse Gaussian (NIG): W follows a GIG distribution with $\lambda = -0.5$.

4.3. Normal inverse Gaussian distribution

As an interesting additional copula model, we consider the normal inverse Gaussian (NIG) distribution: first, it is a normal mean-variance mixture (an uncentered NVM distribution); second, its distribution type is preserved under convolution / linear combinations. The last property, together with its infinite divisibility, allow for the construction of Lévy processes from NIG distributions.

Following (?), a normal inverse Gaussian (NIG) distribution has density function

$$g(x; \alpha, \beta, \mu, \delta) = \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \mathbf{e}^{\delta \sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2} - \beta \mu} \frac{1}{q((x - \mu)/\delta)} K_1 \left[\delta \alpha q \left(\frac{x - \mu}{\delta} \right) \right] \mathbf{e}^{\beta x}, \quad x > 0,$$

where $q(x) = \sqrt{1 + x^2}$ and where K_1 is the modified Bessel function of third order and index 1. The parameters satisfy $0 \leq |\beta| \leq \alpha$, $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\delta > 0$. The parameters are interpreted as follows: μ and δ are location and scale parameters, respectively, α determines the heaviness of the tails and β determines the degree of asymmetry. If $\beta = 0$, then the distribution is symmetric around μ .

The moment-generating function of the NIG distribution is given by

$$M(u; \alpha, \beta, \mu, \delta) = \exp \left(\delta \left(\sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2} - \sqrt{\alpha^2 - (\beta + u)^2} \right) + \mu u \right).$$

As a direct consequence, the expectation and variance of the NIG distribution are easily calculated to be

$$\mathbb{E}X = \mu + \frac{\delta \beta}{\sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2}} \tag{8}$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{\alpha^2 \delta}{(\alpha^2 - \beta^2)^{3/2}}. \tag{9}$$

Let $\text{IG}(\delta, \gamma)$ denote the *inverse Gamma distribution* with density function²

$$d(w; \delta, \gamma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp(\delta\gamma) w^{-3/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\delta^2/w + \gamma^2 z}{2}\right). \quad (10)$$

The $\text{NIG}(\alpha, \beta, \mu, \delta)$ distribution is a normal variance-mean mixture: X follows an $\text{NIG}(\alpha, \beta, \mu, \delta)$ distribution if X conditional on W follows a normal distribution with mean $\mu + \beta W$ and variance W , i.e.,

$$X|W \stackrel{\mathcal{L}}{\sim} \text{N}(\mu + \beta W, W),$$

where W follows an $\text{IG}(\delta, \sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2})$ distribution.

It is easily seen from the moment-generating function that linear combinations of NIG random variables are again NIG-distributed provided they share the parameters α and β . Let $X_i \sim \text{NIG}(\alpha, \beta, \mu_i, \delta_i)$, $i = 1, 2$, and $X_1 \perp X_2$. Then,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{e}^{u(X_1 + X_2)} \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{e}^{uX_1} \right] \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{e}^{uX_2} \right] = \exp \left((\delta_1 + \delta_2) \left(\sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2} - \sqrt{\alpha^2 - (\beta + u)^2} \right) + (\mu_1 + \mu_2)u \right),$$

hence $X_1 + X_2 \sim \text{NIG}(\alpha, \beta, \mu_1 + \mu_2, \delta_1 + \delta_2)$. (This is also a direct consequence from the properties of the normal inverse Gaussian Lévy process X_t , which may be represented as Brownian motion with a random time change,

$$X_t = B_{W_t} + \mu t,$$

where $B = (B_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is a Brownian motion and $W = (W_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is a Lévy process with density given by (10). The random variable W_t can be interpreted as a first-passage time of an independent Brownian motion \bar{B} , i.e., $W_t = \inf\{s > 0 : \bar{B}_s + \sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2}s = \delta t\}$.)

As a consequence, the NIG distribution gives rise to two copulas:

²The density of the IG distribution in **Mathematica** is given as

$$f(x) = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda}{x^3}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \mathbf{e}^{-\frac{\lambda(x-\mu)^2}{2x\mu^2}}, \quad x > 0,$$

with parameters $\mu = \delta/\gamma$ and $\lambda = \delta^2$.

- a copula determined from a linear combination of independent NIG random variables with identical parameters α, β (essentially a factor model);
- a copula determined from the multivariate normal-mean-variance mixture, which is a linear combination of normal random variables scaled by one scalar inverse Gaussian random variable.

4.4. Normal inverse Gaussian factor copula

We consider a simple factor model consisting of NIG-distributed random variables.

Proposition 2. *Let $Z \sim NIG(\alpha, \beta, \mu, \delta)$ and $Z_i \sim NIG(\alpha, \beta, \mu_i, \delta_i)$, $i = 1, \dots, n$ be independent NIG-distributed random variables. Then (i) $X_i = Z + Z_i \sim NIG(\alpha, \beta, \mu + \mu_i, \delta + \delta_i)$ and (ii)*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) &= \text{Var}(Z), \\ \text{Corr}(X_i, X_j) &= \frac{\delta}{\sqrt{(\delta + \delta_i)(\delta + \delta_j)}}. \end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

Proof. (i) This follows directly from the moment-generating function (see also previous page). **need re-writing**

(ii) For the covariance,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) &= \mathbb{E}[(Z + Z_i)(Z + Z_j)] - \mathbb{E}[Z + Z_i]\mathbb{E}[Z + Z_j] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[Z^2] - (\mathbb{E}[Z])^2. \end{aligned}$$

The correlation is determined directly from (9).

□

4.5. Fitting the NIG distribution

Given that the parameters $\alpha, \beta, \mu, \delta$ denote tail heaviness, skewness, location and scale, one can fit the NIG distribution by matching the first four moments. Let $\hat{\mu}_r = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^r$ denote the r -th moment of the sample x_1, \dots, x_n .

Then moment-matching the NIG distribution corresponds to solving for $\alpha, \beta, \mu, \delta$ the system of equations

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial u} M(u; \alpha, \beta, \mu, \delta)|_{u=0} \\ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial u^2} M(u; \alpha, \beta, \mu, \delta)|_{u=0} \\ \frac{\partial^3}{\partial u^3} M(u; \alpha, \beta, \mu, \delta)|_{u=0} \\ \frac{\partial^4}{\partial u^4} M(u; \alpha, \beta, \mu, \delta)|_{u=0} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\mu}_1 \\ \hat{\mu}_2 \\ \hat{\mu}_3 \\ \hat{\mu}_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Bivariate data, as present in our case, can be fit by moment-matching involving the parameters $(\alpha, \beta, \mu_1, \mu_2, \delta_1, \delta_2)$ and then fitting δ of the joint factor via the empirical correlation. Without loss of generality, set $\mu = 0$. Then:

$$\min_{\alpha, \beta, \mu_1, \mu_2, \tilde{\delta}_1, \tilde{\delta}_2} \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^2 \sum_{r=1}^4 \left(\hat{\mu}_{r,k} - \frac{\partial^r}{\partial u^r} M(u; \alpha, \beta, \mu_k, \tilde{\delta}_k) \Big|_{u=0} \right)^2}$$

Note that $\tilde{\delta}_k$ refers to the scale parameter of X_k . The scale parameters of the independent NIG components Z_k , $k = 1, 2$, are obtained as $\delta_k = \delta - \tilde{\delta}_k$ after fitting δ from (11). Figure 1 shows histograms and the fitted NIG densities of the Bitcoin reference rate (BRR) returns and the Bitcoin Futures contract returns (BTCF).

4.6. Hedge calculation in the NIG factor model

Optimising for the hedge quantity h requires fast calculations of the hedge distribution function (1). The position obtained from hedging Bitcoin with h units of the Bitcoin future returns

$$R^h = X_1 - hX_2 = Z + Z_1 - hZ - hZ_2 = (1 - h)Z + Z_1 - hZ_2,$$

with Z, Z_1, Z_2 independent NIG-distributed random variables. Without loss of generality, set $\mu = 0$. Because of the scaling with $1 - h$ and h , R^h will not follow an NIG distribution, unless $h = 0$. A direct calculation of the distribution

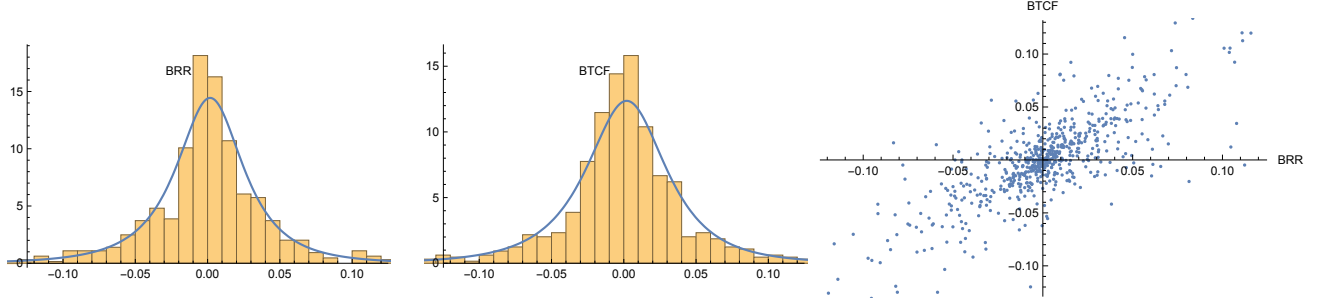


Figure 1: BRR and BTCF return distributions (empirical and fitted to NIG) as well as scatter plot.

function is achieved by numerically computing the integral

$$\mathbf{P}(R^h \leq x) = \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \mathbf{N}(y; \mu_1 - h\mu_2 + \beta w_1 - hw_2, (1-h)^2 w + w_1 + h^2 w_2) f_W(w) f_{W_1}(w_1) f_{W_2}(w_2) dw dw_1 dw_2,$$

where $\mathbf{N}(x; \mu, \sigma^2)$ denotes the normal distribution function with expectation μ and variance σ^2 , and f_W, f_{W_1}, f_{W_2} are the inverse gamma density functions of the scaling variables W, W_1 and W_2 with parameters $\delta, \delta_1, \delta_2$ and $\sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2}$.

However, for determining the optimal hedge parameter h , numerical computation of the three-fold integral may be slow, compared to other methods that make explicit use of the simple form of the moment-generating function. The following two methods achieve a much faster computation for the NIG factor model. The first method uses Fourier inversion to calculate the density from the characteristic function. The second method approximates the distribution of R^h by an NIG distribution. Both methods use the moment-generating function of R^h , which is given

by

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_h(u) &:= \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{e}^{uR^h} \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{e}^{u[(1-h)Z + Z_1 - hZ_2]} \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{e}^{u(1-h)Z} \right] \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{e}^{uZ_1} \right] \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{e}^{-uhZ_2} \right] \\ &= M \left(u; \frac{\alpha}{1-h}, \frac{\beta}{1-h}, (1-h)\mu, (1-h)\delta \right) M(u; \alpha, \beta, \mu_1, \delta_1) M \left(-u; \frac{\alpha}{h}, \frac{\beta}{h}, h\mu_2, h\delta_2 \right). \quad (12)\end{aligned}$$

4.6.1. Calculation via Fourier inversion

Because of the simple form of the moment-generating function (12), the density f of R^h can be calculated numerically using the inverse Fourier transform of the characteristic function $\varphi(u)$:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbf{e}^{-iux} \varphi_h(u) \, du,$$

and the distribution function of R^h can be calculated as

$$\mathbf{P}(R^h \leq x) = \lim_{b \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{\mathbf{e}^{-iux} - \mathbf{e}^{-iub}}{iu} \varphi_h(u) \, du,$$

see e.g. II.§12, Theorem 3 of (?).

4.6.2. NIG approximation of hedged position

If $h = 1$ and $\beta = 0$, then R^h is NIG, hence, if h is close to 1, it may be feasible to approximate R^h by an NIG. The parameters can be determined either by moment-matching or by a first-order Taylor approximation of the moment-generating function's exponent.

For the moment-matching procedure, set $R^h \approx \text{NIG}(\alpha_h, \beta_h, \mu_h, \delta_h)$ and solve for $\alpha_h, \beta_h, \mu_h, \delta_h$,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \varphi_h(u) \big|_{u=0} \\ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial u^2} \varphi_h(u) \big|_{u=0} \\ \frac{\partial^3}{\partial u^3} \varphi_h(u) \big|_{u=0} \\ \frac{\partial^4}{\partial u^4} \varphi_h(u) \big|_{u=0} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial u} M(u; \alpha_h, \beta_h, \mu_h, \delta_h)_{u=0} \\ \frac{\partial^1}{\partial u^2} M(u; \alpha_h, \beta_h, \mu_h, \delta_h)_{u=0} \\ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial u^3} M(u; \alpha_h, \beta_h, \mu_h, \delta_h)_{u=0} \\ \frac{\partial^3}{\partial u^4} M(u; \alpha_h, \beta_h, \mu_h, \delta_h)_{u=0} \end{pmatrix}.$$

An alternative to determine the parameters is to assume that $h = 1$ so that $R^1 = Z_1 - Z_2$ and using the following first-order Taylor approximation around zero:

$$\sqrt{\alpha^2 - (\beta + u)^2} - \sqrt{\alpha^2 - (\beta - u)^2} \approx -\frac{2\beta}{\sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2}} u.$$

This gives

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_1(u) &= M(u; \alpha, \beta, \mu_1, \delta_1) M(-u; \alpha, \beta, \mu_2, \delta_2) \\ &= \exp \left(\delta_1 (\sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2} - \sqrt{\alpha^2 - (\beta + u)^2}) + \mu_1 u + \delta_2 (\sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2} - \sqrt{\alpha^2 - (\beta - u)^2}) - \mu_2 u \right) \\ &= \exp \left(\delta_1 (\sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2} - \sqrt{\alpha^2 - (\beta + u)^2}) + \mu_1 u + \delta_2 (\sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2} - \sqrt{\alpha^2 - (\beta + u)^2}) - \mu_2 u \right) \\ &\quad \cdot \exp \left(\delta_2 (\sqrt{\alpha^2 - (\beta + u)^2} - \sqrt{\alpha^2 - (\beta - u)^2}) \right) \\ &\approx \exp \left((\delta_1 + \delta_2) (\sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2} - \sqrt{\alpha^2 - (\beta + u)^2}) + \left(\mu_1 - \mu_2 - \frac{2\delta_2 \beta}{\sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2}} \right) u \right) \\ &= M \left(u; \alpha, \beta, \mu_1 - \mu_2 - \frac{2\delta_2 \beta}{\sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2}}, \delta_1 + \delta_2 \right). \end{aligned}$$

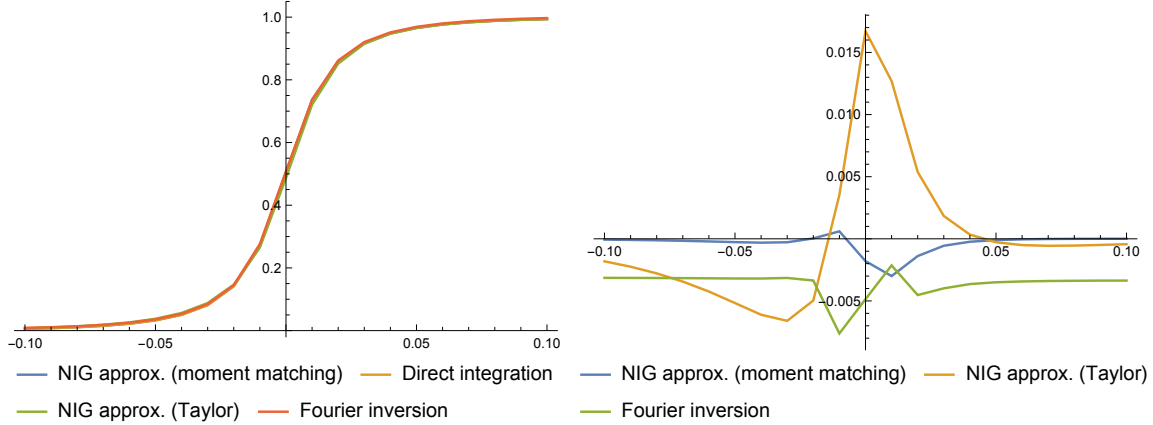


Figure 2: Left: CDF of $R^{0.95}$ using Bitcoin data. Right: Difference of different methods to direct integration. CPU times: NIG approximation (moment matching): 0.2 seconds plus 18.6 seconds for parameter calibration; Direct integration: 82 seconds; NIG approximation (Taylor): 0.18 seconds; Fourier inversion: 0.034 seconds plus 1.55 seconds to generate smooth density function.

Figure 2 shows an example of the distribution of $R^{0.95}$ for the different approximations as well as their error relative to direct integration. It turns out that the NIG moment-matching approximation performs best in terms of the error, while the Taylor approximation performs worst. Taking into account CPU times, the Fourier inversion technique performs best in terms of balancing error and CPU time.

[The definition below is one way of introducing the elliptical copula, but not the most practical one for our purposes.]

Definition 3. Elliptical Distribution. The d -dimensional random vector \mathbf{y} has an elliptical distribution if and only if the characteristic function $\mathbf{t} \mapsto \mathbb{E}\{\exp(i\mathbf{t}^\top \mathbf{y})\}$ with $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ has the representation

$$\phi_g(\mathbf{t}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}, \boldsymbol{\nu}) = \exp(i\mathbf{t}^\top \boldsymbol{\mu})g(\mathbf{t}^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{t}; \boldsymbol{\nu}) \quad (13)$$

where $g(\cdot; \boldsymbol{\nu}) : [0, \infty[\mapsto \mathbb{R}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, and $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ is a symmetric positive semidefinite $d \times d$ -matrix.

If r has a density, then the density of \mathbf{y} is of the form

$$|\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|^{\frac{1}{2}} g\{(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\}. \quad (14)$$

The function $g(\cdot; \boldsymbol{\nu})$ is known as characteristic generator, whereas $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ is parameter that determines the shape, in particular the tai index of the distribution.

Corollary 3. (*Fang, 2018, equation 2.12*) If \mathbf{y} follows an elliptical distribution, then \mathbf{y} has a stochastic representation

$$\mathbf{y} = \boldsymbol{\mu} + r\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{u}, \quad (15)$$

where $r \in \mathbb{R}_+$ is independent of \mathbf{u} , and $\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}$.

Distribution	$r \sim$	$g(\mathbf{t})$
Gaussian		χ_n

Table 2: Generators of Elliptical Distributions summarised from (Fang, 2018, Chapter 2)

4.7. Gaussian Copula

The Gaussian or Normal copula is

$$C_{\Sigma}^{Ga}(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d/2}|\Sigma|^{1/2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\Phi^{-1}(x_1)} \cdots \int_{-\infty}^{\Phi^{-1}(x_d)} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}y^{\top}\Sigma^{-1}y\right\} dy_1 \dots dy_d \quad (16)$$

The copula density is

$$c_{\Sigma}^{Ga}(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d/2}|\Sigma|^{1/2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}\begin{pmatrix} \Phi^{-1}(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ \Phi^{-1}(x_d) \end{pmatrix}^{\top} \Sigma^{-1} - I \begin{pmatrix} \Phi^{-1}(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ \Phi^{-1}(x_d) \end{pmatrix}\right\} \quad (17)$$

Simplified notation bivariate Gaussian copula

$$C_{\rho}^{Ga}\{w, g(w)\} = \Phi_{\rho}[\Phi^{-1}(w), \Phi^{-1}\{g(w)\}], \quad (18)$$

where $g(w) : [0, 1] \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ is defined above, ρ is the dependency parameter of a bivariate Gaussian copula, Φ_{ρ} is bivariate normal distribution with mean 0 and covariance $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & \rho \\ \rho & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\Phi(\cdot)$ is CDF of standard normal, $\phi(\cdot)$ is PDF of standard normal, $\Phi^{-1}(\cdot)$ is quantile function of standard normal.

The bivariate $D_1 C^{Ga}\{w, g(w)\}$ is

$$D_1 C_{\rho}^{Ga}\{w, g(w)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\Phi^{-1}\{g(w)\}} \phi_{\rho}\{\Phi^{-1}(w), u\} du \cdot \frac{1}{\phi\{\Phi^{-1}(w)\}} \quad (19)$$

Proof.

$$D_1 C_\rho\{w, g(w)\} = \left. \frac{\partial C_\rho\{w, g(w')\}}{\partial w} \right|_{w'=w} \quad (20)$$

$$= \left. \frac{\partial \Phi_\rho[\Phi^{-1}(w), \Phi^{-1}\{g(w)\}]}{\partial \Phi^{-1}(w)} \frac{\partial \Phi^{-1}(w)}{\partial w} \right|_{w'=w} \quad (21)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi\rho} \int_{-\infty}^{\Phi^{-1}\{g(w)\}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2(1-\rho^2)} \Phi^{-1}(w)^2 - 2\rho\Phi^{-1}(w)u + u^2 \right\} du \cdot \frac{1}{\phi\{\Phi^{-1}(w)\}} \quad (22)$$

□

The bivariate Gaussian Copula density $c^{Ga}\{w, g(w)\}$ is

$$c_\rho^{Ga}\{w, g(w)\} = \frac{\partial D_1 C_\rho^{Ga}\{w, g(w)\}}{\partial g(w)} \quad (23)$$

$$= \frac{\phi_\rho[\Phi^{-1}(w), \Phi^{-1}\{g(w)\}]}{\phi\{\Phi^{-1}(w)\}\phi[\Phi^{-1}\{g(w)\}]} \quad (24)$$

4.8. t-copulae

The t copula is to represent the dependency structure by t distribution (Fang *et al.*, 2002; Embrechts *et al.*, 2002). Demarta and McNeil (2005) extend this idea to skewed t copula and grouped t copula to allow more flexibility in the modelling of dependency structure.

4.8.1. Vanilla t-copula

The t-copula is

$$C_{\nu, \Sigma}^t(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{t_{\nu}^{-1}(x_1)} \cdots \int_{-\infty}^{t_{\nu}^{-1}(x_n)} \frac{\Gamma\left\{\frac{\nu+i}{2}\right\}}{\Gamma\left\{\frac{\nu}{2}\right\} (\pi\nu)^{i/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}} \left(1 + \frac{y^{\top} \Sigma^{-1} y}{\nu}\right)^{-\frac{\nu+i}{2}} dy_1 \dots dy_n, \quad (25)$$

where t_{ν}^{-1} is the quantile function of a univariate student-t distribution with degree of freedom ν .

4.8.2. Skewed t copula

Mean variance mixture

4.8.3. Double-t copula

[It is OK to introduce the copula without any reference to CDO's.] Hull and White (2006) present an alternative way to the Gaussian copula for valuing CDO tranches. The double-t copula model is a weighted sum of a common (or market) variable M and a idiosyncratic variable Z_i . *[They are t-distributed, right?]* The double-t copula is

$$X_i = w_i M + \sqrt{1 - w_i^2} Z_i \quad (26)$$

where M and Z_i are independent random variables with zero mean and unit variance, and X_i is an indicator variable for i^{th} asset. The authors map the time to default of the i^{th} obligor, t_i , to X_i ,

$$F_{X_i}(x) = F_{t_i}(t). \quad (27)$$

In our case, we map X_i to log-returns of portfolio constituents,

$$F_{X_1}(x) = F_{r^S}(s) \text{ and } F_{X_2}(x) = F_{r^F}(t). \quad (28)$$

This is also known as percentile-to-percentile mapping(Hull, 2006).

[The percentile-to-percentile mapping is just the property that applying the cdf to a random variable yields a $U(0, 1)$ variable:

$$F(x) = \mathbf{P}(X \leq x) = \mathbf{P}(F(X) \leq F(x)) = \mathbf{P}(U \leq F(x)),$$

since by definition, $U \sim U(0, 1)$ fulfills $\mathbf{P}(U \leq u) = u$, $0 \leq u \leq 1$. This could be introduced when copulas and Sklar's Theorem are introduced.] The reason for this mapping is to turn incomprehensible dependency structures into known structure.

4.8.4. Normal Inverse Gaussian Copula

Normal Inverse Gaussian (NIG) distribution is a flexible 4-parameter distribution that can produce fat tails and skewness, unlike student-t distribution, NIG's convolution is stable under certain conditions and the CDF, PDF and quantile function can still be computed sufficiently fast (Schlösser, 2011, chapter 5). NIG distribution is a mixture of normal and inverse Gaussian distribution.

Definition 4. Inverse Gaussian Distribution. A non-negative random variable Y has an Inverse Gaussian (IG) distribution with parameters $\alpha > 0$ and $\beta > 0$ if its density function is of the form

$$f_{\text{IG}}(y; \alpha, \beta) = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2\pi\beta}} y^{-1.5} \exp \left\{ -\frac{(\alpha - \beta z)^2}{2\beta z} \right\} \quad (29)$$

The corresponding distribution function is:

$$F_{\text{IG}}(y; \alpha, \beta) = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2\pi\beta}} \int_0^y z^{-1.5} \exp \left\{ -\frac{(\alpha - \beta z)^2}{2\beta z} \right\} dz. \quad (30)$$

We write $Y \sim \text{IG}(\alpha, \beta)$.

Definition 5. Normal Inverse Gaussian Distribution. A random variable X has an Normal Inverse Gaussian (NIG) distribution with parameters α , β , μ and δ if its density function is of the form

$$X|Y = y \sim \Phi(\mu + \beta y, y) \quad (31)$$

$$Y \sim \text{IG}(\delta\gamma, \gamma^2) \text{ with } \gamma \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sqrt{\alpha^2 - \beta^2} \quad (32)$$

The corresponding distribution function is:

$$F_{\text{NIG}}(y; \alpha, \beta) = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2\pi\beta}} \int_0^y z^{-1.5} \exp \left\{ -\frac{(\alpha - \beta z)^2}{2\beta z} \right\} dz. \quad (33)$$

5. Estimation

5.1. Two-Stage Estimation

Joe (2005) study the efficiency of a two-stage estimation procedure of copula estimation. The authors also call this method inference function for margins IFM.

Pros

1. Almost as efficient as MLE methods but easier to be implemented
2. Yields an asymptotically Gaussian, unbiased estimate

Cons

1. Subject to specification of marginals Kim *et al.* (2007)

Our data

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_{11} & \cdots & y_{1i} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_{n1} & \cdots & y_{ni} \end{bmatrix} \quad (34)$$

Let F and f be the joint cdf and joint density of \mathbf{y} with parameters $\boldsymbol{\delta}$, and let F_i and f_i be the marginal cdf and marginal density for the i^{th} random variable with parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$, we have

$$f(\mathbf{y}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_1, \boldsymbol{\theta}_2, \dots, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i, \boldsymbol{\delta}) = c\{F_1(\mathbf{y}_1; \boldsymbol{\theta}_1), F_2(\mathbf{y}_2; \boldsymbol{\theta}_2), \dots, F_i(\mathbf{y}_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i); \boldsymbol{\delta}\} \prod_{j=1}^i f_i(\mathbf{y}_j; \boldsymbol{\theta}_j) \quad (35)$$

For a sample of size n , the log-likelihood of functions of the i^{th} univariate margin is

$$L_i(\theta_i) = \sum_{m=1}^n \log f_i(y_{mi}; \theta_i), \quad (36)$$

and the log-likelihood function for the joint distribution is

$$L(\delta, \theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_i) = \sum_{m=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^i \log f(y_{mj}; \delta, \theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_i) \quad (37)$$

In most cases, one does not have closed form estimators and numerical techniques are needed. Numerical ML estimation difficulty increase when the total number of parameters increases. The two-stage estimation is designed to overcome this problem.

The two-stage procedure is

1. estimate the univariate parameters from separate univariate likelihoods to get $\tilde{\theta}_1, \dots, \tilde{\theta}_i$
2. maximize $L(\delta, \tilde{\theta}_1, \dots, \tilde{\theta}_i)$ over δ to get $\tilde{\delta}$

Under regularity conditions ³, $(\tilde{\theta}_1, \dots, \tilde{\theta}_i, \tilde{\delta})$ is the solution of

$$(\partial L_1 / \partial \theta_1^T, \dots, \partial L_i / \partial \theta_i^T, \partial L / \partial \delta^T) = \mathbf{0} \quad (38)$$

For comparison, if we optimize L directly without the two-stage procedure (i.e. MLE), we solve for

$$(\partial L / \partial \theta_1^T, \dots, \partial L / \partial \theta_i^T, \partial L / \partial \delta^T) = \mathbf{0} \quad (39)$$

We denote the two solutions as $\tilde{\eta} = (\tilde{\theta}_1, \dots, \tilde{\theta}_i, \tilde{\delta})$ for two-stage procedure; $\hat{\eta} = (\hat{\theta}_1, \dots, \hat{\theta}_i, \hat{\delta})$ for MLE procedure. and compare the asymptotic relative efficiency of $\tilde{\eta}$ and $\hat{\eta}$.

Asymptotics: yet to be done.

Kim *et al.* (2007) show the estimation of θ may be seriously affected. They compare the two-stage approach and Canonical Maximum Likelihood Method by simulation and conclude that Canonical Maximum Likelihood is preferred from a computational statistics and data analysis point of view.

³Regularity conditions include 1. $\exists \frac{\partial \log f(x; \theta)}{\partial \theta}, \frac{\partial^2 \log f(x; \theta)}{\partial \theta^2}, \frac{\partial^3 \log f(x; \theta)}{\partial \theta^3}$ for all x ; 2. $\exists g(x), h(x)$ and $H(x)$ such that for θ in a neighborhood $N(\theta_0)$ the relations $\left| \frac{\partial f(x; \theta)}{\partial \theta} \right| \leq g(x)$, $\left| \frac{\partial^2 f(x; \theta)}{\partial \theta^2} \right| \leq h(x)$, $\left| \frac{\partial^3 f(x; \theta)}{\partial \theta^3} \right| \leq H(x)$ hold for all x , and $\int g(x) dx < \infty$, $\int h(x) dx < \infty$, $\mathbb{E}_\theta \{H(X)\} < \infty$ for $\theta \in N(\theta_0)$; 3. For each $\theta \in \Theta$, $0 < \mathbb{E}_\theta \left\{ \left(\frac{\partial \log f(X; \theta)}{\partial \theta} \right)^2 \right\}$. For detail see section 4.2.2 of Serfling (2009)

5.2. Canonical Maximum Likelihood Method

This approach was studied by Genest *et al.* (1995) and Shih and Louis (1995). One estimates the margins using empirical CDF

$$F_X(x) = \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{i=1}^n 1(X_i \leq x) \quad (40)$$

,
we maximize the log-likelihood

$$L(\delta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log[c_\delta\{F_X(X_i), F_Y(Y_i)\}] \quad (41)$$

This procedure does not require specification of marginals.

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