

# Some applications of Deep Learning in Finance

AI for Global Goals  
OxML 2023

**Blanka Horvath**

University of Oxford, Oxford Man Institute &  
The Alan Turing Institute

**Part II: Market Generation**

10th July 2023, Oxford

The talk is based on joint work with

Hans Bühler, Terry Lyons, Imanol Perez Arribas, Ben Wood



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Sometimes at a trade-off with tractability, control over errors, or interpretability, ...

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**(1)** Classical and Neo-classical stochastic market models:

$$dS_t = rS_t dt + \sigma S_t dW_t, \quad S_0 = s.$$

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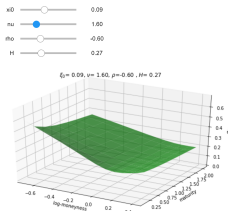
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- (1.5) Augmenting and extending currently prevalent stochastic models  
models that are adaptive to market environments by mixing of (neo-)classical models
- **Mixture of expert models:** A first step towards this was demonstrated in the Deep Learning Volatility framework: Take a mixture of two (or more) stochastic volatility models and calibrate it to data including the mixture parameter  $a$ .  
 $a \times \text{Heston} + (1 - a) \times \text{rBergomi}$



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  - ▶ **OT approach:** From Optimal Transport to Robust Pricing and Hedging via Neural Networks (see J. Obłój et al., 2018), a framework that interpolates between model-specific and model independent settings.
  - ▶ **Non-parametric mixtures:** Signature-based interpolation and approx. of models (I. Perez-Arribas and C. Salvi, 2020) or directly mixing classical with data driven models (C.A. Lehalle).

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- ▶ In this work we take an approach via **Rough Paths** using **Signatures**.

# Motivation for our Market Generators

The concept of “Model” (here, in form of a numerical program):

► Classical: (Program; Data)  $\Rightarrow$  Output

► **Now:** (Architecture, ObjF; TrainData)  $\Rightarrow$  Program

(Program, TestData)  $\Rightarrow$  Output

$\Rightarrow$  This may redefine the concept of model governance too:

Model = ( $\underbrace{\text{Architecture, ObjF}}_{\text{Network}}$ ; Dataset) “Quality of” training data shapes the DNN!

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# Rough Paths Approach to Generative Modelling of Markets

**Levin, Lyons, & Ni. (2013)** firstly proposed the signature of a path as a basis of functions for a functional on path space.

## Definition (Signature of a path)

Let  $X : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  be a continuous path of bounded variation. The signature of  $X$  is then defined by the sequence of iterated integrals given by

$$\mathbb{X}_T^{\leq \infty} := (1, \mathbb{X}_T^1, \dots, \mathbb{X}_T^n, \dots), \quad \text{where}$$

$$\mathbb{X}_T^n := \int_{0 < u_1 < \dots < u_n < T} dX_{u_1} \otimes \dots \otimes dX_{u_n} \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes n}$$

with  $\otimes$  the tensor product. Similarly, given  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , the truncated signature of order  $N$  is defined by

$$\mathbb{X}_T^{\leq N} := (1, \mathbb{X}_T^1, \dots, \mathbb{X}_T^N).$$

If the path  $X$  has bounded variation – which is the case of discrete data – the integrals above can be defined using Riemann-Stieltjes integrals.

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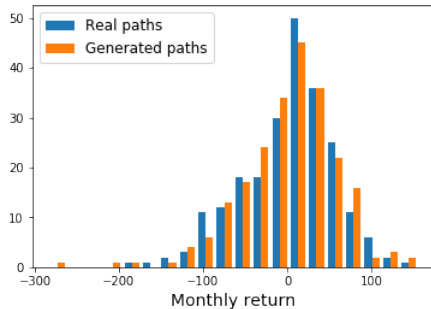
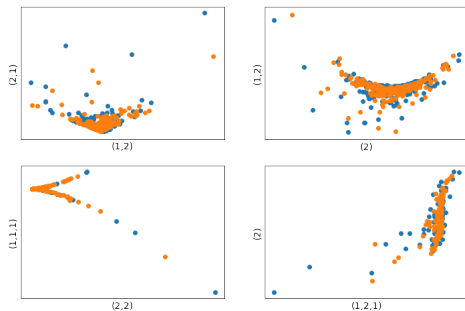
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- ▶ While Fourier transforms and wavelets have a similar role approximating curves as a linear combination of basis functions, signatures do so in an un-parametrised way (model free, path by path characterisation possible).
- ▶ Robustness to missing data and irregular sampling and towards highly oscillatory data, and invariance under time re-parametrisation. **Liao, Lyons, Ni, Yang (2019)**
- ▶ Signatures provide the right framework for performance evaluation metrics on pathspace, one of the difficulties being that the pathspace  $C([0, 1], \mathbb{R}^d)$  is infinite-dimensional and not locally compact. **Chevyrev, Oberhauser (2018)**
- ▶ In fact, **Liao, Lyons, Ni, Yang (2019)** demonstrated the advantages of log-signatures (with all positive properties listed above, but lower dimensionality)

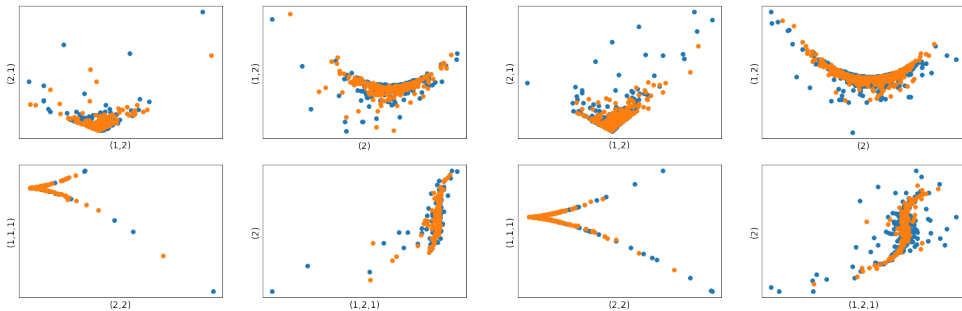
# Numerical Results

- Signature based training (ii) at least as accurate as returns-based training (i).



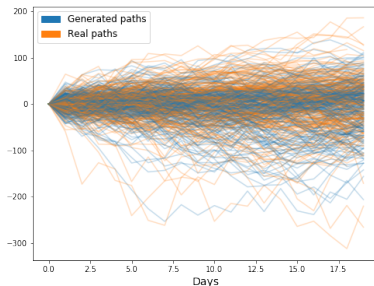
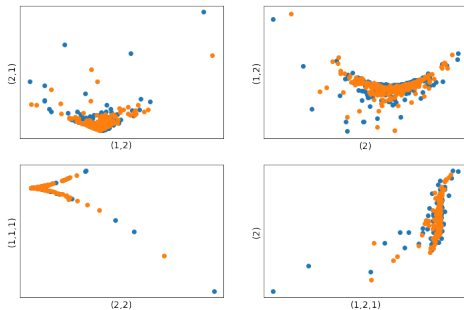
# Numerical Results

- ▶ Signature-based generative model works well already with the low number of training samples available in data (1000 samples weekly-unconditioned **left image**, 250 samples monthly **right image** unconditioned).
- ▶ Increasing the number of samples in numerically generated data does not lead to better performance.



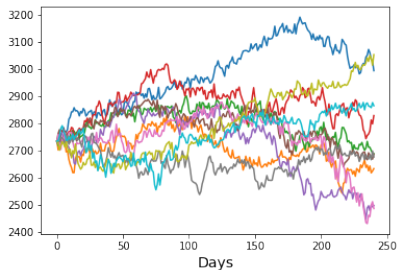
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# Conditional VAE and Postprocessing

- ▶ Conditional Variational Autoencoder is learned to condition VAE on current market conditions (a) current level of the index (b) instantaneous volatility (c) signature of the previous path segment.
- ▶ By conditioning, the number of available training samples is even smaller  $\Rightarrow$  powerful parsimonious generative model crucial.
- ▶ By conditioning on the signature of the previous path segment, one can generate + build paths far longer than the direct output of the generative model. Numerical results consistent between weekly vs. monthly paths. **Below: Yearly paths**



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- ▶ For classical models and continuous time stochastic processes popular performance evaluation metrics were whether the process reflects **stylised facts** of financial markets (many of these concern the returns) or provides **close fits to option prices** etc.
- ▶ If returns of the target distribution are only observable on a time-grid with pre-defined mesh size and a generative model is fitted to observed distributions of returns marginal by marginal this can become problematic between  $\mathbb{P}$  and  $\mathbb{Q}$  measures. See **Brigo (2019)** and **Armstrong, Bellani, Brigo, Cass (2019)** underline the necessity of pathwise evaluation metrics.
- ▶ While in the finite dimensional case it is well-understood how moments describe the law of a random variable this question is more subtle in the infinite-dimensional case of path-valued random variables. **Chevryrev, Oberhauser (2018)** prove an analogous result for path-valued random variables by using the normalized sequence of signature moments.

# Issues and Solutions offered by Market Generators

## Important concerns regarding training data:

- Issue 1** Data availability (some data is naturally scarce & not sufficient for training of neural networks)
- Issue 2** Data privacy (data often proprietary and not accessible, difficult to compare/regulate models' performance consistently across the industry)
- Issue 3** Data quality (noise, biases, outliers, expressiveness)

⇒ We need standardised and widely accessible testing datasets for innovation and benchmarking of DNN models.

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With this in mind we demonstrate in a joint work with A. Kondratyev and C. Schwarz the potential of generative models towards **data anonymisation, outlier detection & combating overfitting**, in several experiments **Kondratyev, Schwarz, H. (2020)**.

Thank you for your attention.

# Rough Paths Approach to Generative Modelling

In what follows we work instead with the log-signatures

## Definition (Log-signature)

Let  $X : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  be a path such that its signature  $\mathbb{X}_{0,T}^{<\infty}$  is well-defined. The log-signature is then defined by

$$\log \mathbb{X}_T^{<\infty} := -\mathbb{X}_T^{<\infty} + \frac{1}{2}(\mathbb{X}_T^{<\infty})^{\otimes 2} - \frac{1}{3}(\mathbb{X}_T^{<\infty})^{\otimes 3} + \dots + (-1)^n \frac{1}{n}(\mathbb{X}_T^{<\infty})^{\otimes n} + \dots,$$

which can be shown to be well-defined.

- ▶ There is a one-to-one map between signatures and log-signatures.
- ▶ Log-signatures have all positive properties listed above.
- ▶ They allow for lower dimensional representation and are better suited to VAE.