

Risk measures [Part I].

W: Feb 15th, 2019.

The Variance

For any random variable X we have the expected value of X is $\mu_X := \mathbb{E}[X]$ (if it exists).

We define the variance of X as

$$\text{Var}[X] := \mathbb{E}[(X - \mu_X)^2] = \mathbb{E}[X^2] - \mu_X^2$$

(if it exists)

Usage : $X \leftrightarrow R \dots$ return of an investment

The Semi-Variance

Define the semi-variance of X as:

$$\sigma_{sv}^2 := \mathbb{E}[(\min(0, X - \mu_X))^2]$$

Value at Risk (VaR).

$\alpha \rightarrow$
(p)... probab. of an adverse event you're willing to live with

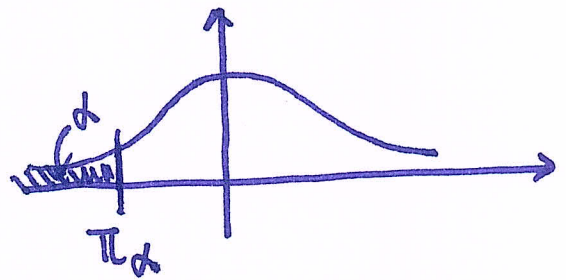
R .. is a return random variable, i.e., we benefit if R is high and we have the adverse effect if R is low

Define $\text{VaR}_\alpha(R)$ as the value π_α such that

$$P[R \leq \pi_\alpha] = \alpha$$

\uparrow

If R is a continuous random variable:



$$F_R(\pi_\alpha) = \alpha \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \pi_\alpha = F_R^{-1}(\alpha)$$

\uparrow
generalizing F_R^{-1}

Consider an R such that its density f_R is always positive (e.g., let R be normally dist'd).
For any $a \in \mathbb{R}$:

$$F_R(a) = \int_{-\infty}^a f_R(x) dx$$

If $f_R(x) > 0$ for all x ,
then F_R is strictly increasing
 $\Rightarrow F_R$ is one-to-one
 $\Rightarrow F_R^{-1}$ exists.

* If we are interested in the upper tail probab. bounds, e.g., if the random variable X signifies a loss, we just look @ $\text{VaR}_{1-\alpha}(X)$

← the random variable denoting the profits.

34) Let X be the random gain from operations of a company. You are given:

(i) X is normally distributed with mean 42 and variance 6400. $\sigma = 80$

(ii) p is the probability that X is negative.

(iii) K is the amount of capital such that the Value-at-Risk (VaR) at the 5th percentile for $X + K$ is zero.

Calculate p and K .

$$X \sim N(\text{mean} = 42, \text{var} = 6400)$$

(A) $p = 0.7; K = 157$

(B) $p = 0.7; K = 131$

(C) $p = 0.5; K = 115$

(D) $p = 0.3; K = 115$

(E) $p = 0.3; K = 90$

$$p = P[X < 0] = P\left[\frac{X - 42}{80} < \frac{0 - 42}{80}\right]$$

$$p = P\left[Z < -0.525\right] = N(-0.525)$$

$N(0,1)$

$$p = 1 - N(0.525) = 1 - 0.7019$$

↑
rounding up
in the std normal
tables

$$p = 0.2981 \Rightarrow p \approx 0.3$$

→ (D) or (E)

$$\text{VaR}_{0.05}(X+K) = 0 = \pi_{0.05}$$

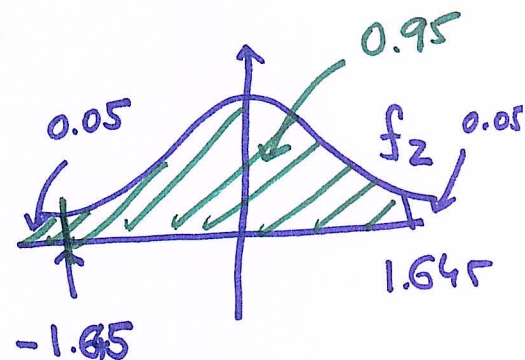
$$P[X+K \leq 0] = 0.05$$

$$X+K \sim \text{Normal}(\text{mean} = 42+K, \text{var} = 6400)$$

$$P[X \leq -K] = 0.05$$

in terms of $Z \sim N(0,1)$

$$P[42 + 80 \cdot Z \leq -K] = 0.05$$



$$42 + 80 \cdot (-1.645) = -K$$

$$\parallel$$

$$-90$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{K=90} \Rightarrow (E)$$