

Raport 1

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1 Information and formulas

Stable random variable

There are two parameterizations of a random variable from an alpha stable distribution $S(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta; 0)$ and $S(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta; 1)$. They are uniquely determined by the characteristic function.

Definition 1. A random variable X is stable if and only if $X \stackrel{d}{=} aZ + b$, with $\alpha \in (0, 2]$, $\beta \in [-1, 1]$, $a \neq 1$, $b \in \mathbb{R}$ and Z is a random variable with characteristic function

$$\varphi_Z(u) = \exp(iuZ) = \begin{cases} \exp(-|u|^\alpha(1 - i\beta \tan(\frac{\pi\alpha}{2})(\text{sign } u))) & \alpha \neq 1, \\ \exp(-|u|^\alpha(1 + i\beta \frac{2}{\pi}(\text{sign } u) \ln |u|)) & \alpha = 1. \end{cases}$$

Definition 2. Let $X \sim S(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta; 0)$ with $\alpha \in (0, 2]$, $\beta \in [-1, 1]$, $\gamma \geq 0$, $\delta \in \mathbb{R}$ then

$$X \stackrel{d}{=} \begin{cases} \gamma(Z - \beta \tan(\frac{\pi\alpha}{2}) + \delta) & \alpha \neq 1, \\ \gamma Z + \delta & \alpha = 1, \end{cases}$$

where $Z = Z(\alpha, \beta)$ is given by 1. X has characteristic function

$$E \exp(iuX) = \begin{cases} \exp(-\gamma^\alpha |u|^\alpha [1 + i\beta (\tan \frac{\pi\alpha}{2}) (\text{sign } u) (|\gamma u|^{1-\alpha} - 1)] + i\delta u) & \alpha \neq 1 \\ \exp(-\gamma |u| [1 + i\beta \frac{2}{\pi} (\text{sign } u) \log(\gamma |u|)] + i\delta u) & \alpha = 1 \end{cases}$$

Definition 3. Let $X \sim S(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta; 1)$ with $\alpha \in (0, 2]$, $\beta \in [-1, 1]$, $\gamma \geq 0$, $\delta \in \mathbb{R}$ then

$$X \stackrel{d}{=} \begin{cases} \gamma Z + \delta & \alpha \neq 1, \\ \gamma Z + (\delta + \beta \frac{2}{\pi} \ln \gamma) & \alpha = 1, \end{cases}$$

where $Z = Z(\alpha, \beta)$ is given by 1. X has characteristic function

$$E \exp(iuX) = \begin{cases} \exp(-\gamma^\alpha |u|^\alpha [1 - i\beta (\tan \frac{\pi\alpha}{2}) (\text{sign } u)] + i\delta u) & \alpha \neq 1 \\ \exp(-\gamma |u| [1 + i\beta \frac{2}{\pi} (\text{sign } u) \log |u|] + i\delta u) & \alpha = 1 \end{cases}$$

Above we defined the general stable law in the 0-parameterization and 1-parameterization. Alternatively, we can swap between the parameterizations using the following theorem;

Theorem 1. Let $Z \sim S(\alpha, \beta, 1, 0; 0)$ with $\alpha \in (0, 2]$, $\beta \in [-1, 1]$, $\gamma \geq 0$, $\delta \in \mathbb{R}$ then

$$\begin{cases} \gamma Z + \delta + \beta \gamma \tan\left(\frac{\pi\alpha}{2}\right) & \alpha \neq 1, \\ \gamma Z + \delta + \beta \frac{2}{\pi} \ln \gamma & \alpha = 1 \end{cases} \sim S(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta; 1),$$

The tail exponent estimation method gives us the information about the index of stability. The tails of stable random variable are asymptotically power laws.

Theorem 2 (Tail approximation). Let $X \sim S(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta; k)$ with $\alpha \in (0, 2)$, $\beta \in (-1, 1]$, $k = 0, 1$ then as $x \rightarrow \infty$:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - F_X(x) &\sim \gamma^\alpha c_a (1 + \beta) x^{-\alpha}, \\ f_X(x) &\sim \alpha \gamma^\alpha c_a (1 + \beta) x^{-(\alpha+1)} \end{aligned}$$

where $c_a = \sin(\frac{\pi\alpha}{2})\Gamma(\alpha)/\pi$ and $f(x) \sim g(x)$ as $x \rightarrow a$ means $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} h(x)/f(x) = 1$. Using the reflection property, the lower tail properties are similar: for $\beta \in [-1, 1]$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$:

$$\begin{aligned} F_X(-x) &\sim \gamma^\alpha c_a (1 - \beta) x^{-\alpha}, \\ f_X(-x) &\sim \alpha \gamma^\alpha (1 - \beta) c_a x^{-(\alpha+1)} \end{aligned}$$

It follows from the above theorem that for $x \rightarrow \infty$

$$1 - F(x) \sim Cx^{-\alpha} \implies \ln(1 - F(x)) \sim \ln(C) - \alpha \ln(x) \quad (1)$$

Theorem 3. Let $X \sim S(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta; k)$ with $\alpha \in (0, 2]$, $\beta \in [-1, 1]$, $\gamma \geq 0$, $\delta \in \mathbb{R}$, $k = 0, 1$ then

$$\begin{aligned} |\varphi_X(u)| &= e^{-C|u|^\alpha} \implies \\ \ln |\varphi_X(u)| &= -C|u|^\alpha \implies \\ \ln(-\ln |\varphi_X(u)|) &= \ln(C) + \alpha \ln |u| \end{aligned}$$

Theorems 2 and 3 allows us to determine the stability index using linear regression.

Definition 4. Let X_1, \dots, X_n be i.i.d. random variables with the common cumulative distribution function $F(t)$. Then the empirical distribution function is defined as

$$\hat{F}_n(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbf{1}_{\{X_k \leq x\}}$$

Definition 5. Let X_1, \dots, X_n be i.i.d. random variables with the characteristic function $\varphi(t)$. Then the empirical characteristic function is defined as

$$\hat{\varphi}_n(u) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n e^{-iuX_k}$$

2 Compare two estimators of α parameter we introduced in the laboratories

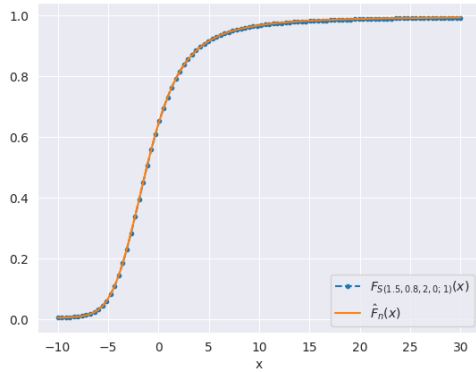
We will be conducting our simulations on consider one set of parameters $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta) = (1.5, 0.8, 2, 0)$.

2.1 Based on the ECDF

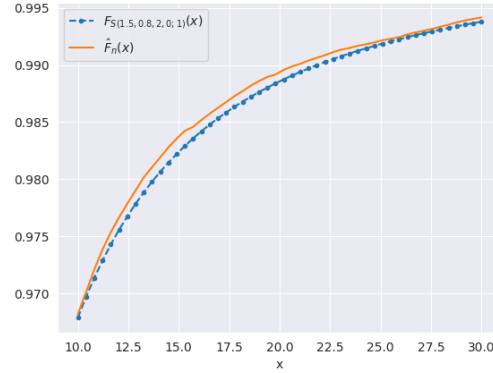
2.1. i)

We generated $n = 10^6$ samples of alpha-stable distribution. A figure 1 depicts cumulative distribution function of theoretical variable (blue) compared to generated one (orange). Based on this graph and the KS test p -value = 0.14623 we do not reject the hypothesis of different distributions and assume that the program that generates the variables is working correctly.

Graph at the right side shows CDF for higher values of x , thanks to which we can use the first method of estimation parameter α based on theorem 2 and properties 1.



(a) CDF simulated for $x \in (-10, 30)$.



(b) CDF simulated of tail for $x \in (10, 30)$.

Figure 1: CDF of a random variable with an α -stable distribution based on $n = 10^6$ realizations of the random variable.

Following the first method, using logarithm of distribution's tail, we successfully fitted parameters to our model. Results are shown at figure 2, where blue line is a theoretical distribution, orange line represents empirical one and green is a fitted model.

2.1. ii)

After checking the correctness of the method, we estimated parameter α using a Monte Carlo simulation with 1000 steps and, 20000 samples every time. Distribution of estimated parameters can be observed at figure 8, where we place density histogram and boxplot. We can see, that the mean of estimation is correct, but there are also a lot of outliers.

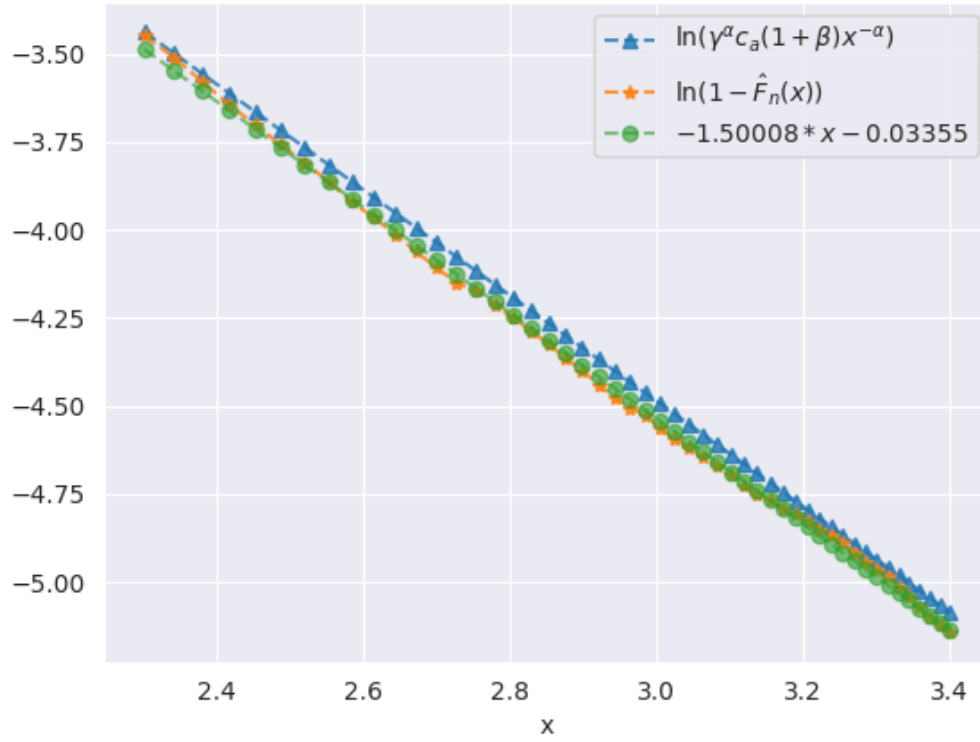
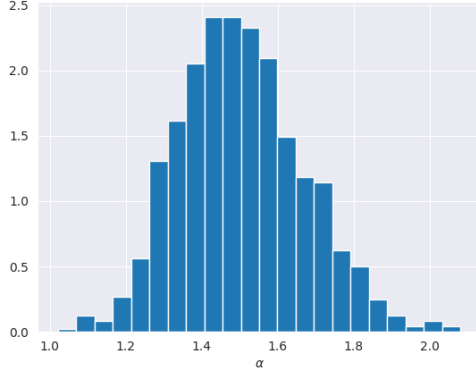
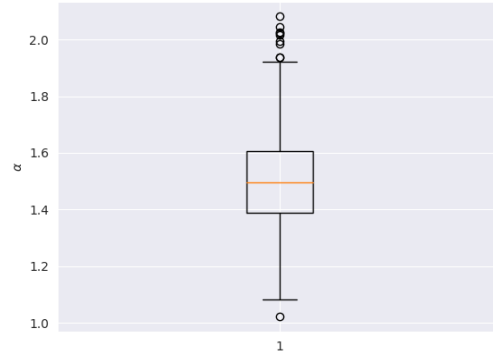


Figure 2: Plot of tail approximation method fitted line.



(a) Histogram of the $\hat{\alpha}$ estimator.



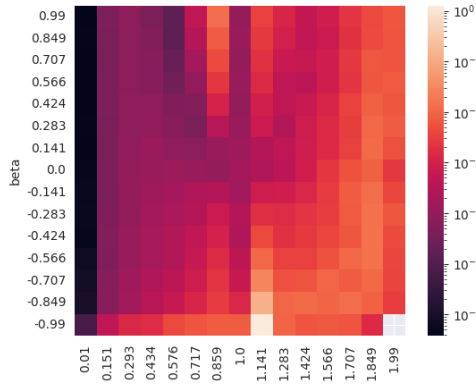
(b) Boxplot

Figure 3: Distribution of the estimator of the α parameter based on Monte Carlo simulations for tail approximation method.

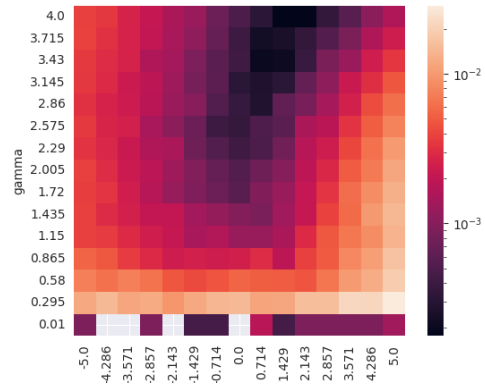
count	mean	std	min	25%	50%	75%	max
1000.0	1.503905	0.164877	1.020862	1.3874	1.494809	1.6061	2.08134

Table 1: Table of basic statistics of the $\hat{\alpha}$ estimator for tail approximation method.

2.1. iii)



(a) Depending on α, β parameters and $\gamma = 2, \delta = 0$



(b) Depending on γ, δ parameters and $\alpha = 1.5, \beta = 0.8$

Figure 4: Heatmaps of Mean Squared Error (MSE) based on Monte Carlo simulations for tail approximation method.

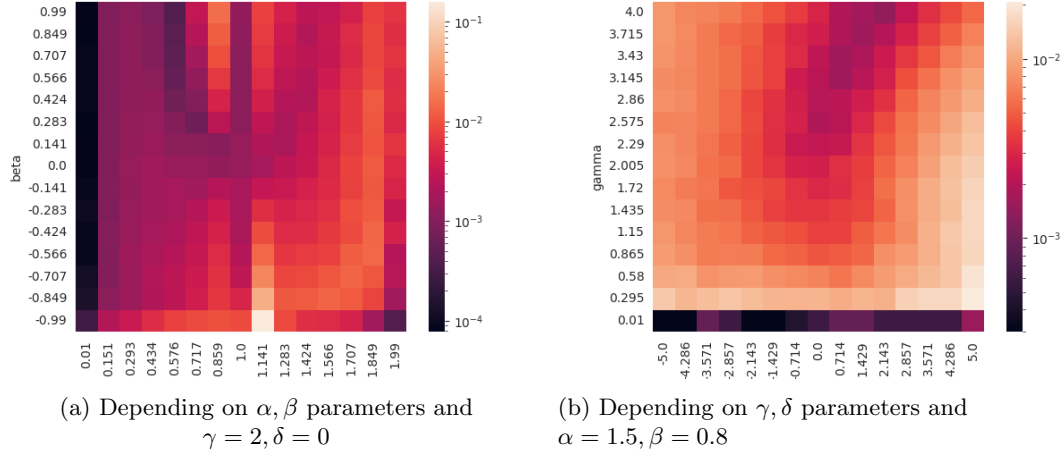


Figure 5: Heatmaps of Mean Absolute Error (MAE) based on Monte Carlo simulations for tail approximation method.

2.2 Based on the CF

2.2. i)

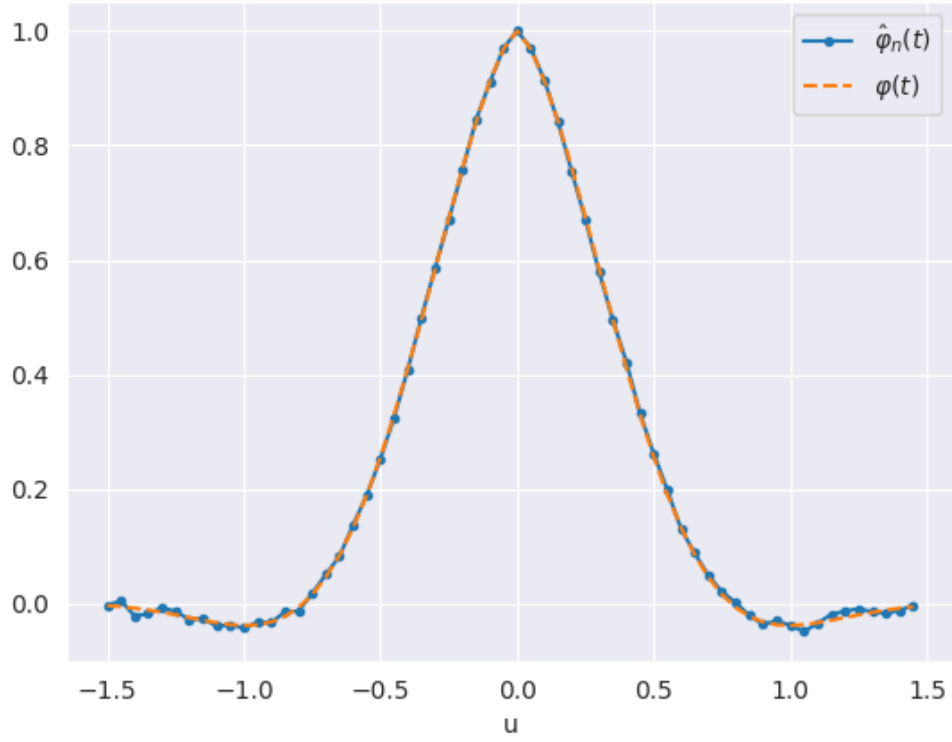


Figure 6: CF of a random variable with an α -stable distribution based on $n = 10000$ realizations of the random variable for each t .

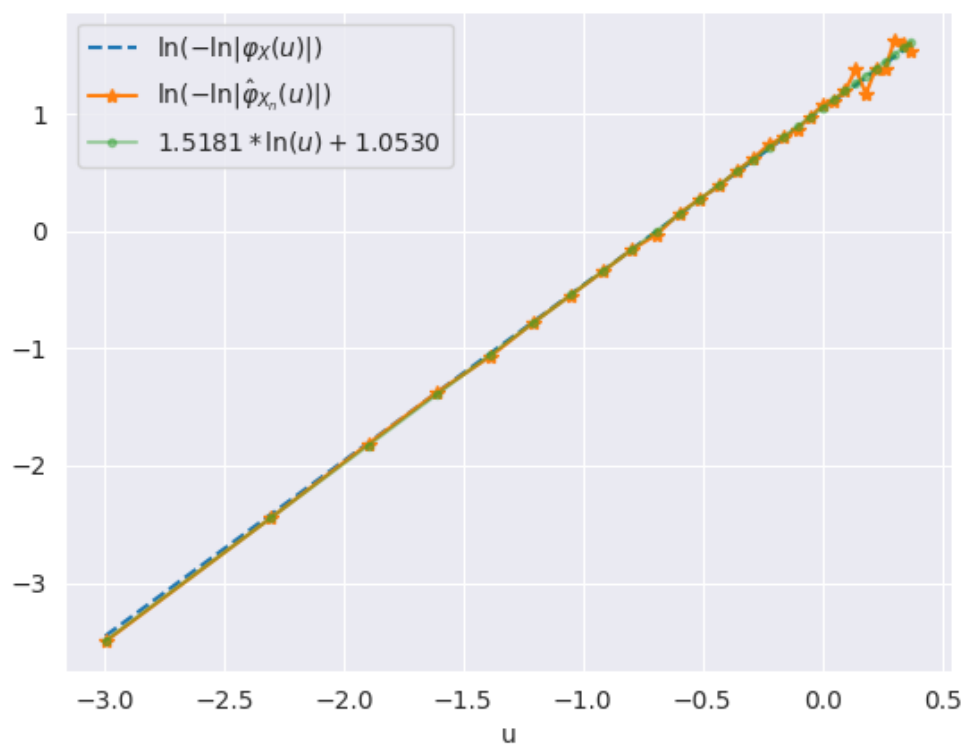
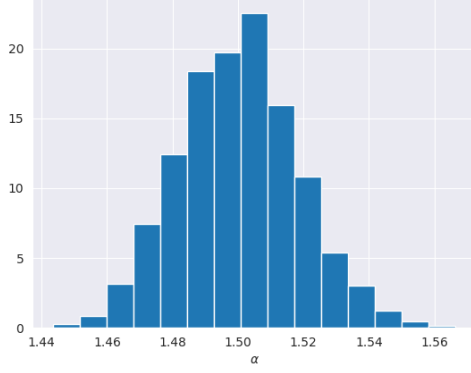
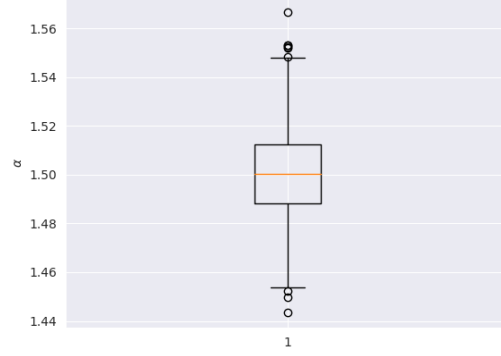


Figure 7: Plot of characteristic function method fitted line.

2.2. ii)



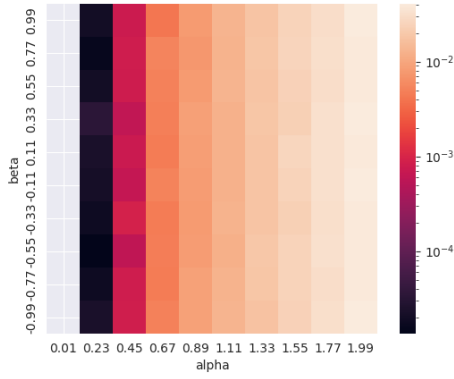
(a) Histogram of the $\hat{\alpha}$ estimator.



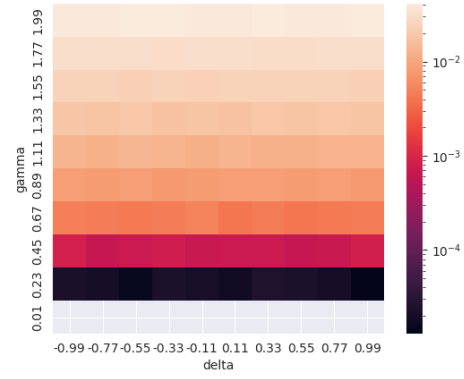
(b) Boxplot.

Figure 8: Distribution of the estimator of the α parameter based on Monte Carlo simulations for characteristic function method.

2.2. iii)

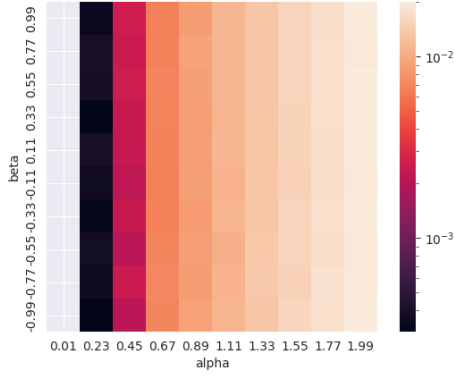


(a) Depending on α, β parameters and $\gamma = 2, \delta = 0$

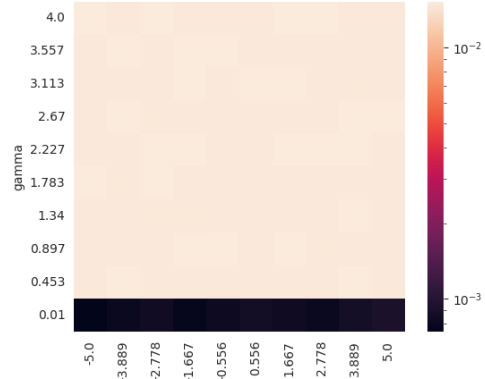


(b) Depending on γ, δ parameters and $\alpha = 1.5, \beta = 0.8$

Figure 9: Heatmaps of Mean Squared Error (MSE) based on Monte Carlo simulations for characteristic function method.



(a) Depending on α, β parameters and $\gamma = 2, \delta = 0$



(b) Depending on γ, δ parameters and $\alpha = 1.5, \beta = 0.8$

Figure 10: Heatmaps of Mean Absolute Error (MAE) based on Monte Carlo simulations for characteristic function method.