

Value-at-Risk, Expected Shortfall and Density Forecasting

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$$\sigma_r = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n r_i^2}$$

$$D_r = \sigma^2 = M_2 - (M_1)^2$$

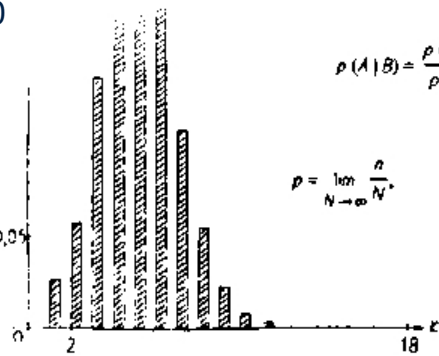
$$p_r(\lambda) = \frac{\lambda^e}{e!} e^{-\lambda}$$

$$p(x_1 \leq x \leq x_2) = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \phi(x) dx$$

$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

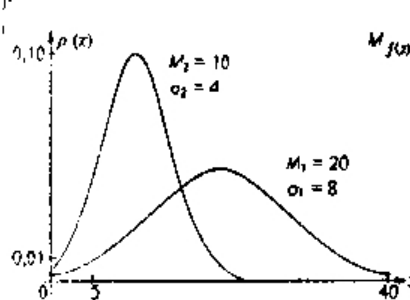
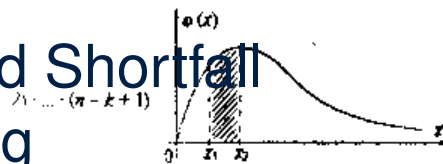
$$\phi(v) = 4\sqrt{\frac{k^3}{\pi}} v^2 e^{-kv^2}$$



$$p(A|B) = \frac{p(AB)}{p(B)}$$

$$p = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{N}$$

$$D_r = \sum_{i=1}^k p_i (x_i - M_r)^2$$



$$D_r = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - M_r)^2 \phi(x) dx$$

$$M_r = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^r \phi(x) dx$$

$$M_{f(x)} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \phi(x) dx$$

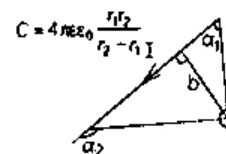
$$S = v_{\sigma} + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}$$

$$F = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{R^2}$$

$$f(v) = 4\pi \left(\frac{m_0}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} v^2 e^{-\frac{mv^2}{2kT}}$$

$$\phi(\ln x) d(\ln x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{(\ln x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}} d(\ln x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma x} e^{-\frac{(\ln x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}} dx$$

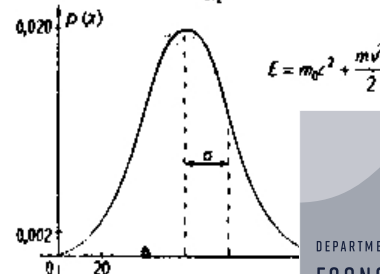
$$\langle r \rangle = \frac{\langle v \rangle t}{n\sqrt{2\pi}d^2}$$



$$B = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi b} (\cos \alpha_1 - \cos \alpha_2)$$

$$A^2 = A_1^2 + A_2^2 + 2A_1A_2 \cos(\varphi_2 - \varphi_1)$$

$$hv = A + \frac{mv^2}{2}$$



$$E = mc^2 + \frac{mv^2}{2}$$



- What is risk?
- What is Value-at-Risk?
- How can VaR be measured and modeled?
- How can VaR models be tested?
- What is Expected Shortfall?
- How can densities be forecasted?
- How can density models be evaluated?
- What is a coherent risk measure?

- What is risk?
- Market Risk
 - ▶ Liquidity Risk
 - ▶ Credit Risk
 - ▶ Counterparty Risk
 - ▶ Model Risk
 - ▶ Estimation Risk
- Today's focus: Market Risk
- Tools
 - ▶ Value-at-Risk
 - ▶ Expected Shortfall
 - ▶ Density Estimation

- Value-at-Risk is a standard tool of risk management
 - ▶ Basel Accord

Definition (Value-at-Risk)

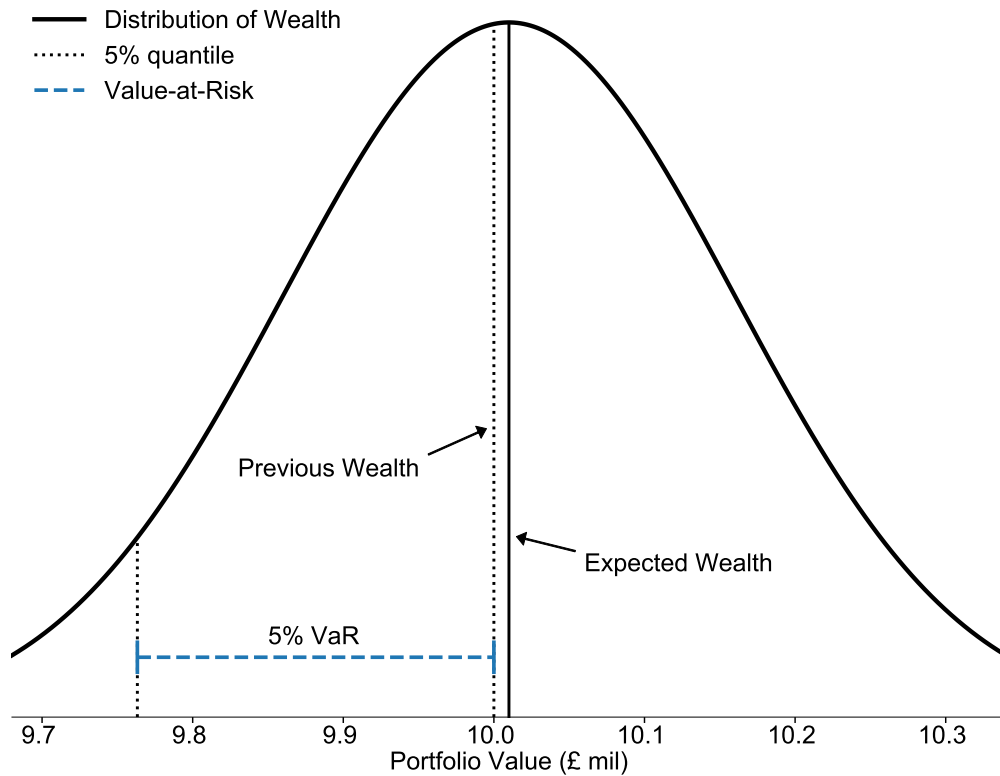
The α Value-at-Risk (VaR) of a portfolio is defined as the largest number such that the probability that the loss in portfolio value over some period of time is greater than the VaR is α ,

$$Pr(R < -VaR) = \alpha$$

where $R = W_1 - W_0$ is the total return on the portfolio, W_t , $t = 0, 1$, is the value of the assets in the portfolio and 1 and 0 measure an arbitrary time span (e.g. one day or two weeks).

- Units are \$, £, ¥
- Almost always *positive*
- It is a **quantile**

- Returns are $N(.001, .015^2)$
- W_0 is £10,000,000



- Value-at-Risk can be normalized and reported as a %

Definition (Percentage Value-at-Risk)

The α percentage Value-at-Risk ($\%VaR$) of a portfolio is defined as the largest return such that the probability that the return on the portfolio over some period of time is less than $-\%VaR$ is α ,

$$Pr(r < -\%VaR) = \alpha$$

where r is the percentage return on the portfolio. $\%VaR$ can be equivalently defined as $\%VaR = VaR/W_0$.

- Units are returns (no units)
- Also almost always *positive*
- Lets VaR be interpreted without knowing the value of the portfolio, W_0
 - ▶ No meaningful loss of information from standard VaR
 - ▶ Used throughout rest of lecture in place of formal definition of VaR

- VaR is a quantile
 - ▶ Quantile of the future distribution

Definition (α -Quantile)

The α -quantile of a random variable X is defined as the *smallest* number q_α such that

$$\Pr(X \leq q_\alpha) = \alpha$$

- Other “-iles”
 - ▶ Tercile
 - ▶ Quartile
 - ▶ Quintile
 - ▶ Decile
 - ▶ Percentile

- Conditional VaR is similar to conditional mean or conditional variance

Definition (Conditional Value-at-Risk)

The conditional α Value-at-Risk is defined as

$$Pr(r_{t+1} < -VaR_{t+1|t} | \mathcal{F}_t) = \alpha$$

where $r_{t+1} = (W_{t+1} - W_t) / W_t$ is the return on a portfolio at time $t + 1$.

- t is an arbitrary measure of time $\Rightarrow t + 1$ also refers to an arbitrary unit of time
 - day, two-weeks, 5 years, etc.
- Incorporates all information available at time t to assess risk at time $t + 1$
- Natural extension of conditional expectation and conditional variance to **conditional quantile**

- Industry standard benchmark
- Restricted GARCH(1,1)

$$\sigma_{t+1}^2 = (1 - \lambda)r_t^2 + \lambda\sigma_t^2$$

- *Exponentially Weighted Moving Average (EWMA):*

$$\sigma_{t+1}^2 = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (1 - \lambda)\lambda^i r_{t-i}^2$$

$$VaR_{t+1} = -\sigma_{t+1}\Phi^{-1}(\alpha)$$

- $\Phi^{-1}(\cdot)$ is the inverse normal CDF
- Advantages
 - ▶ No parameters to estimate
 - ▶ $\lambda = .94$ (daily data), $.97$ (weekly), $.99$ (monthly)
 - ▶ Easy to extend to portfolios (see notes)
- Disadvantages
 - ▶ No parameters to estimate
 - ▶ No leverage effect
 - ▶ Random Walk VaR

$$r_{t+1} = \mu + \epsilon_{t+1}$$

$$\sigma_{t+1}^2 = \omega + \gamma \epsilon_t^2 + \beta \sigma_t^2$$

$$\epsilon_{t+1} = \sigma_{t+1} e_{t+1}$$

$$e_{t+1} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} f(0, 1)$$

- Value-at-Risk:

$$VaR_{t+1} = -\hat{\mu} - \hat{\sigma}_{t+1} F_{\alpha}^{-1}$$

- F_{α}^{-1} is the α quantile of the distribution of e_{t+1}
 - For example, 1.645 for the 5% from a normal

- Advantages

- Flexible volatility model and easy to estimate

- Disadvantages

- Must choose f (know f to get the correct VaR)
- Location-Scale families

- Parametric GARCH + Nonparametric Density → Semi-parametric VaR

$$e_{t+1} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} g(0, 1), \quad g \text{ unknown distribution}$$

- Implementation

1. Fit an ARCH model using Normal QMLE
2. $\hat{e}_t = \frac{\hat{\epsilon}_t}{\hat{\sigma}_t}$
3. Order residuals

$$\hat{e}_1 < \hat{e}_2 < \dots < \hat{e}_{N-1} < \hat{e}_N$$

- Quantile is residual $\alpha \times N$ residual ($N=T$).

$$VaR_{t+1}(\alpha) = -\hat{\mu} - \hat{\sigma}_{t+1} \hat{G}_\alpha^{-1}$$

- Advantages

- ▶ All advantages of GARCH
- ▶ Quantile converges to true quantile

- Disadvantages

- ▶ Location-Scale families
- ▶ Quantile convergence is *slow*

- Conditional Autoregressive Value-at-Risk (ARCVaR)
 - ▶ Conditional quantile *regression*
 - ▶ Directly parameterize quantile $F_{\alpha}^{-1} = q$ of the return distribution

$$q_{t+1} = \omega + \gamma HIT_t + \beta q_t$$

$$HIT_t = I_{[r_t < q_t]} - \alpha$$

$$VaR_{t+1} = -q_{t+1}$$

- Advantages
 - ▶ Focuses on quantile
 - ▶ Flexible specification
- Disadvantages
 - ▶ Hard to estimate
 - ▶ Which specification?
 - ▶ Out-of-order VaR: 5% can less than 10% VaR

- Many CaViaR specifications

- ▶ Symmetric

$$q_{t+1} = \omega + \gamma H I T_t + \beta q_t.$$

- ▶ Symmetric absolute value,

$$q_{t+1} = \omega + \gamma |r_t| + \beta q_t.$$

- ▶ Asymmetric absolute value

$$q_{t+1} = \omega + \gamma_1 |r_t| + \gamma_2 |r_t| I_{[r_t < 0]} + \beta q_t$$

- ▶ Indirect GARCH

$$q_{t+1} = (\omega + \gamma r_t^2 + \beta q_t^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

- Estimation minimizes the “tick” loss function

$$\underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \quad T^{-1} \sum_{t=1}^T \alpha (r_t - q_t)(1 - I_{[r_t < q_t]}) + (1 - \alpha)(q_t - r_t) I_{[r_t < q_t]}$$

- ▶ Non-differentiable
- ▶ Requires “derivative-free” optimizers (e.g. simplex optimizers)

- Uses a weighted empirical CDF
- Weights are exponentially decaying

$$w_i = \lambda^{t-i} (1 - \lambda) / (1 - \lambda^t) , \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, t$$

- Weighted Empirical CDF

$$\hat{G}_t(r) = \sum_{i=1}^t w_i I_{[r_i \leq r]}$$

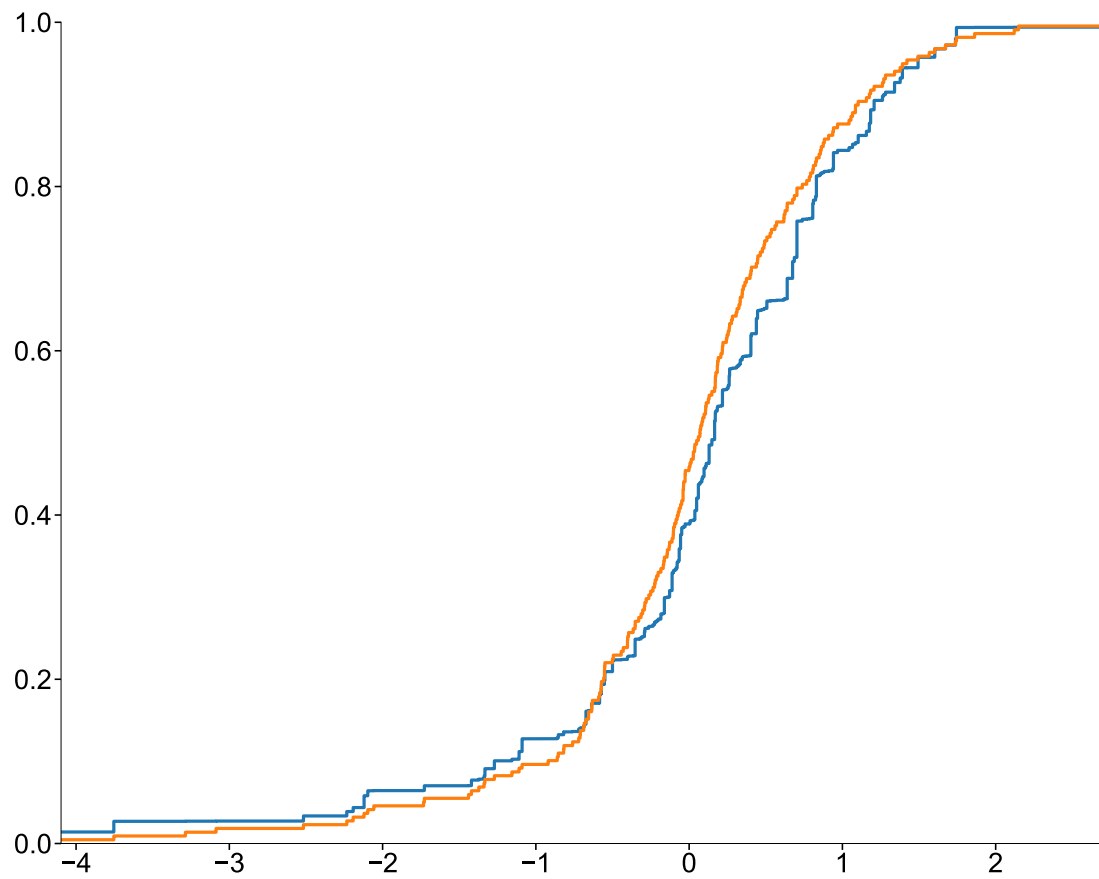
- Conditional VaR is solution to

$$\text{VaR}_{t+1} = \min_r \hat{G}(r) \geq \alpha$$

- Example uses $\lambda = 0.975$

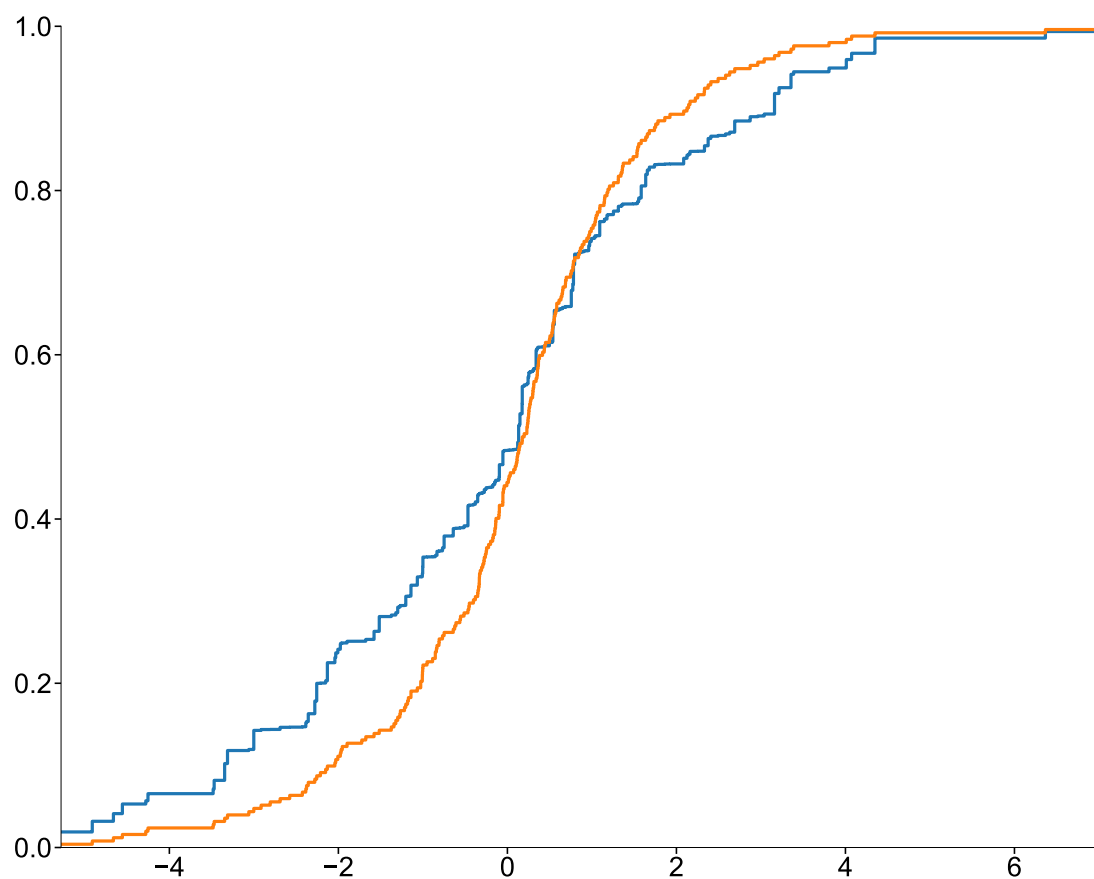
Weighted Historical Simulation

2018

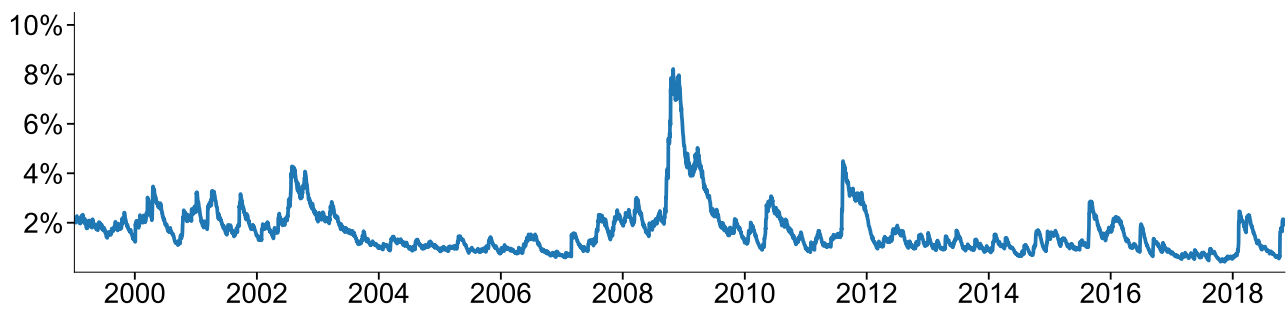


Weighted Historical Simulation

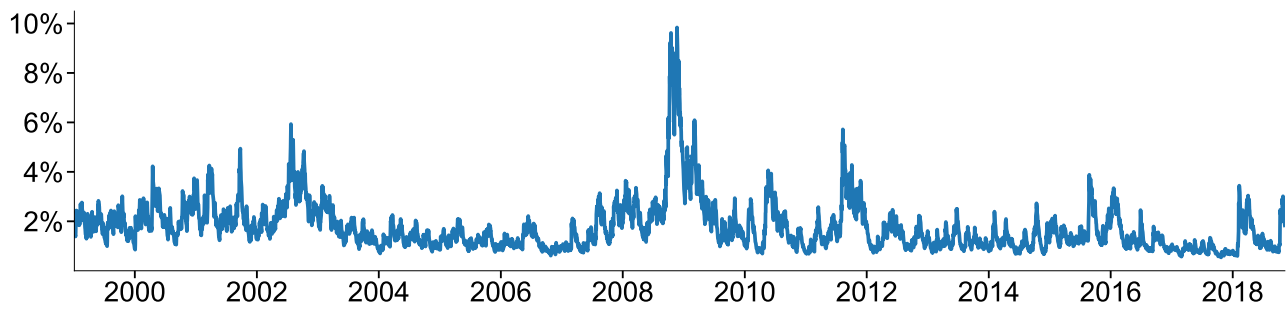
2009



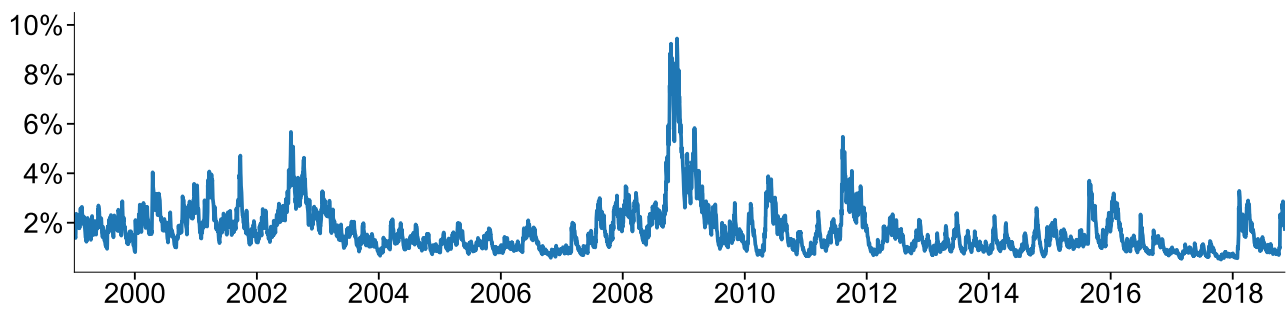
% VaR using RiskMetrics



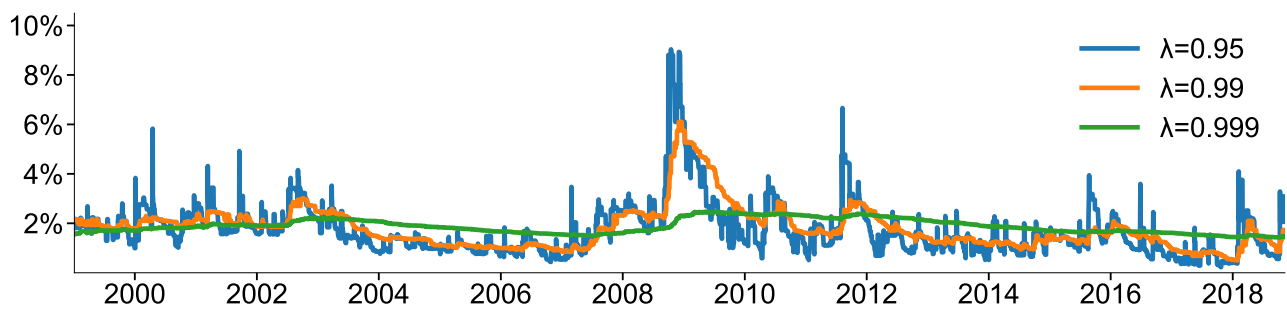
% VaR using TARCH(1,1,1) with Skew t errors



% VaR using Asymmetric CaViaR



% VaR using Weighted Historical Simulation



- Parametric Estimation
 - ▶ Specify some fully parametric model for returns
 - ▶ Estimate the parameters by MLE
 - ▶ VaR is the α -quantile of the fit distribution
- Nonparametric Estimation (Historical Simulation)
 - ▶ Nonparametric estimation of the density of returns using raw data
 - ▶ Identical to previous density estimation
 - ▶ Can “smooth” to reduce variance
- Parametric Monte Carlo
 - ▶ Estimate a conditional model for short horizon returns
 - ▶ Simulate the model for many periods
 - ▶ Use a nonparametric estimate of the density of the simulated returns

- Basic instrument for testing VaR is the “Hit”

$$ge_t = I_{[r_t < F_t^{-1}]} - \alpha = HIT_t$$

- Is the *generalized error* from the “tick” loss function
- If the VaR is correct,

$$E_{t-1}[HIT_t] = 0$$

- Leads to a standard Generalized Mincer-Zarnowitz evaluation framework
- Hit Regression

$$HIT_{t+h} = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 VaR_{t+h|t} + \gamma_2 HIT_t + \gamma_3 HIT_{t-1} + \dots + \gamma_K HIT_{t-K+1}$$

- ▶ Null is $H_0 : \gamma_0 = \gamma_1 = \dots = \gamma_K = 0$
 - ▶ Alternative is $H_1 : \gamma_j \neq 0$ for some j
- As always, GMZ can be augmented with any time t measurable variable

- \widetilde{HIT} s from a correct VaR model have a Bernoulli distribution
 - ▶ 1 with probability α
 - ▶ 0 with probability $1 - \alpha$
- Likelihood for T Bernoulli random variables $x_t \in \{0, 1\}$

$$f(x_t; p) = \prod_{t=1}^T p^{x_t} (1 - p)^{1-x_t}$$

- Log-likelihood is

$$l(p; x_t) = \sum_{t=1}^T x_t \ln p + (1 - x_t) \ln 1 - p$$

- In terms of α and \widetilde{HIT}_t

$$l(\alpha; \widetilde{HIT}_t) = \sum_{t=1}^T \widetilde{HIT}_t \ln \alpha + (1 - \widetilde{HIT}_t) \ln 1 - \alpha$$

- Easy to conduct a LR test

$$LR = 2(l(\hat{\alpha}; \widetilde{HIT}) - l(\alpha_0; \widetilde{HIT})) \sim \chi_1^2$$

- $\hat{\alpha} = T^{-1} \sum_{t=1}^T \widetilde{HIT}_t$, α_0 is the α from the VaR

- Can also be extended to testing conditional independence of $HITs$
- Define

$$\begin{aligned}n_{00} &= \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} (1 - \widetilde{HIT}_t)(1 - \widetilde{HIT}_{t+1}), & n_{10} &= \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} (1 - \widetilde{HIT}_t)\widetilde{HIT}_{t+1} \\n_{01} &= \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} \widetilde{HIT}_t(1 - \widetilde{HIT}_{t+1}), & n_{11} &= \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} \widetilde{HIT}_t\widetilde{HIT}_{t+1}\end{aligned}$$

- The log-likelihood for the sequence two VaR exceedences is

$$l(p; \widetilde{HIT}) = n_{11} \ln(p_{11}) + n_{01} \ln(1 - p_{11}) + n_{00} \ln(p_{00}) + n_{10} \ln(1 - p_{00})$$

- Null is $H_0 : p_{11} = 1 - p_{00} = \alpha$
- MLEs are

$$\hat{p}_{00} = \frac{n_{00}}{n_{00} + n_{10}}, \quad \hat{p}_{11} = \frac{n_{11}}{n_{11} + n_{01}}$$

- Tested using a likelihood ratio test

$$LR = 2(l(\hat{p}_{00}, \hat{p}_{11}; \widetilde{HIT}) - l(p_{00} = 1 - \alpha, p_{11} = \alpha; \widetilde{HIT}))$$

- Test statistic follows a χ^2_2 distribution

- Standard GMZ regression is not an ideal test
- Ignores special structure of a HIT
- A HIT is a limited dependant variable
 - ▶ Only takes one of two values
- Define a modified hit $\widetilde{HIT}_t = I_{[r_t < F_t^{-1}]}$
 - ▶ Takes the value 1 with probability α and 0 with probability $1 - \alpha$
 - ▶ Name that distribution \rightarrow
- Leads to a modified regression framework known as a probit or logit

- ▶ Probit:

$$\widetilde{HIT}_{t+1} = \Phi(\gamma_0 + \mathbf{x}_t \gamma)$$

- ▷ If model is correct, $\gamma_0 = \Phi^{-1}(\alpha)$ and $\gamma = \mathbf{0}$
 - ▷ Estimated using Bernoulli Maximum Likelihood
 - ▷ Easy to compute Likelihood ratio
- Accounts for the limited range of the variable and that the density is non-normal
- Allows for simple-yet-powerful likelihood ratio tests under the null

- End all be all of risk measurement
- Issues:
 - ▶ Equally hard
 - ▶ Lots of estimation and model error
 - ▷ Can have non obvious effects on nonlinear functions (i.e. options)
 - ▶ Not closed under aggregation
 - ▷ No multi-step
- Builds off of the GARCH VaR application

- Simple constant mean GARCH(1,1)

$$r_{t+1} = \mu + \epsilon_{t+1}$$

$$\sigma_{t+1}^2 = \omega + \gamma \epsilon_t^2 + \beta \sigma_t^2$$

$$\epsilon_{t+1} = \sigma_{t+1} e_{t+1}$$

$$e_{t+1} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} g(0, 1).$$

- g is some known distribution, but not necessarily normal
- Density forecast is simply $g(\mu, \sigma_{t+1|t}^2)$
- Flexible through choice of g
- Parsimonious
- Semiparametric works in same way replacing g with the standardized residuals of a “smoothed” estimate

- “Smoothed” densities are more precise than rough estimates

$$g(e) = \frac{1}{Th} \sum_{t=1}^T K\left(\frac{\hat{e}_t - e}{h}\right), \quad \hat{e}_t = \frac{y_t - \hat{\mu}_t}{\hat{\sigma}_t} = \frac{\hat{e}_t}{\hat{\sigma}_t}$$

- Local average of how many \hat{e}_t there are in a small neighborhood of e
- $K(\cdot)$ is a kernel
 - ▶ Gaussian

$$K(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp(-x^2/2)$$

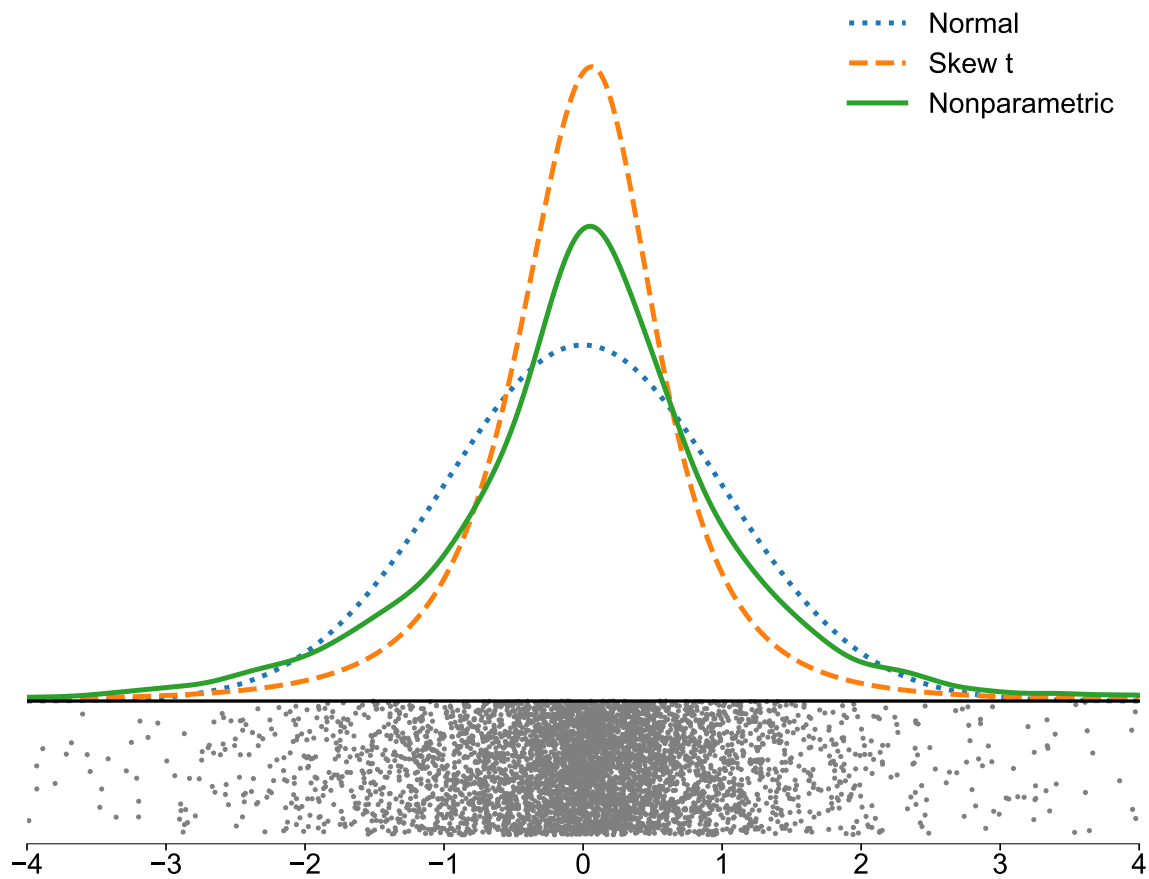
- ▶ Epanechnikov

$$K(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{4}(1 - x^2) & -1 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- h : Bandwidth controls smoothing
- Silverman's bandwidth

$$1.06\sigma_x T^{-\frac{1}{5}}$$

- ▶ h too small produces very rough densities (low bias but lots of variance)
 - ▶ h too large produces overly smooth (low variance but very biased)



- Densities do not aggregate in general
 - ▶ Multivariate normal is special
- Densities from GARCH models do not easily aggregate
- 1-step density forecast from a standard GARCH(1,1)

$$r_{t+1}|\mathcal{F}_t \sim N(\mu, \sigma_{t+1|t}^2)$$

- Wrong 2-step forecast from a standard GARCH(1,1)

$$r_{t+2}|\mathcal{F}_t \sim N(\mu, \sigma_{t+2|t}^2)$$

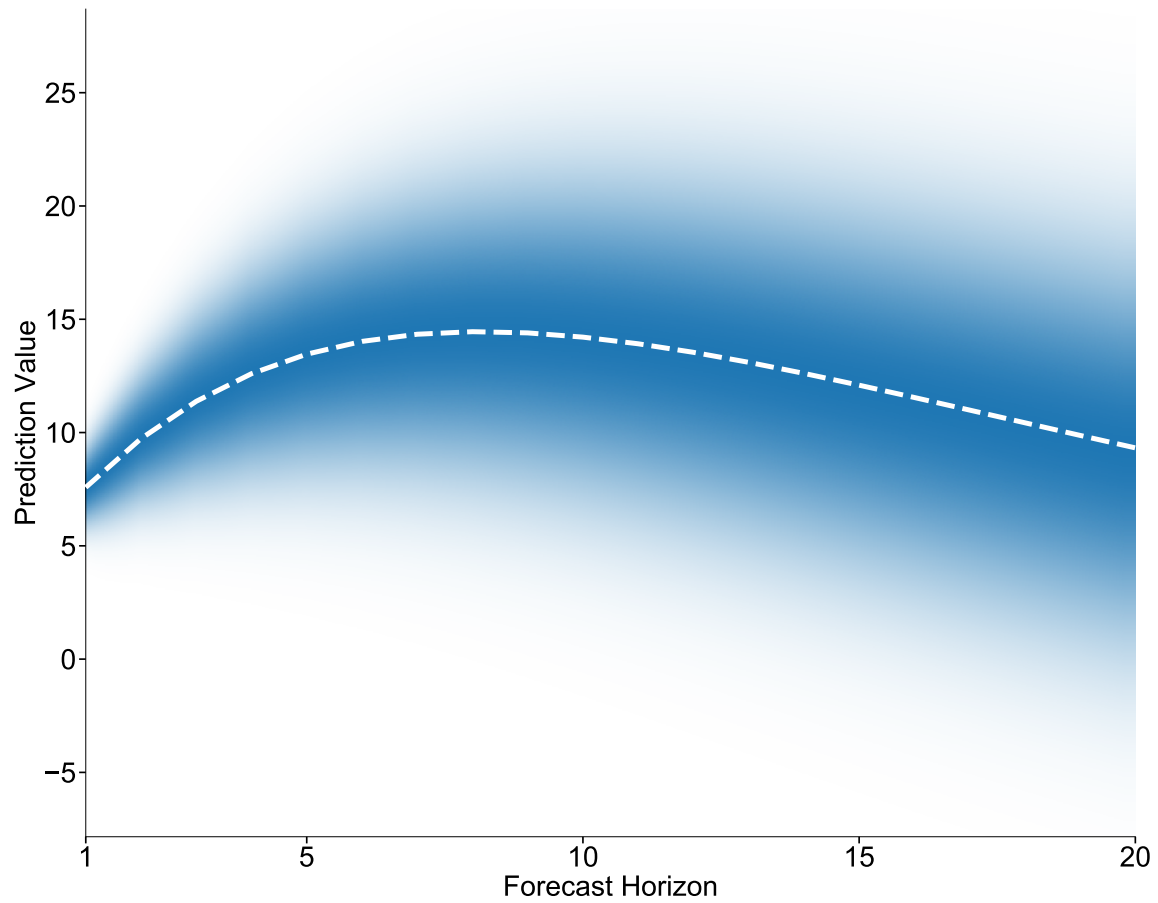
- Correct 2-step forecast from a standard GARCH(1,1)

$$r_{t+2}|\mathcal{F}_t \sim \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi(\mu, \sigma^2(e_{t+1})_{t+2|t+1}) \phi(e_{t+1}) \mathrm{d}e_{t+1}.$$

- Must integrate out the variance uncertainty between $t+1$ and $t+2$
- Easy fix: directly model $t+2$ (or $t+h$)

- Hard to produce time-series of densities
- Solution is the Fan Plot
- Popularized by the Bank of England
- Horizontal axis (x) is the number of time-periods ahead
- Vertical axis (y) is the value the variable might take
- Density is expressed using varying degrees of color intensity.
 - ▶ Dark color indicate the highest probability
 - ▶ Progressively lighter colors represent decreasing likelihood
 - ▶ Essentially a plot of many quantiles of the distribution through time
- A lot of “wow”
- Not necessarily a lot of content

A fan plot for an AR(2)



- Consider a generic stochastic process $\{y_t\}$

- ▶ Residuals from mean models:

$$\hat{\epsilon}_t = y_t - \hat{\mu}_t$$

- ▶ Residuals from variance models:

$$\hat{e}_t = \frac{\hat{\epsilon}_t}{\hat{\sigma}_t} = \frac{y_t - \hat{\mu}_t}{\hat{\sigma}_t}$$

- ▶ Residuals from Value-at-Risk models:

$$HIT_t = I_{[y_t < q_t]} - \alpha$$

- ▶ Residual from density models:

$$\hat{u}_t = F_t(y_t)$$

- Known as the **Probability Integral Transformed Residuals**.
- One very useful property: If $y_t \sim F$ then $u_t \equiv F(y_t) \sim U(0, 1)$

Theorem (Probability Integral Transform)

Let a random variable X have a continuous, increasing CDF $F_X(x)$ and define $Y = F_X(X)$. Then Y is uniformly distributed and $\Pr(Y \leq y) = y$, $0 < y < 1$.

For any $y \in (0, 1)$, $Y = F_X(X)$, and so

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(Y \leq y) &= \Pr(F_X(X) \leq y) \\ &= \Pr(F_X^{-1}(F_X(X)) \leq F_X^{-1}(y)) && \text{Since } F_X^{-1} \text{ is increasing} \\ &= \Pr(X \leq F_X^{-1}(y)) && \text{Invertible since strictly increasing} \\ &= F_X(F_X^{-1}(y)) && \text{Definition of } F_X \\ &= y\end{aligned}$$

- Quantile-Quantile Plots
- Plots the data against a hypothetical distribution

$$\hat{e}_1 < \hat{e}_2 < \dots < \hat{e}_{N-1} < \hat{e}_N$$

► $N = T$ but used to indicate that the index is not related to time

- e_n against $F^{-1}\left(\frac{j}{T+1}\right)$

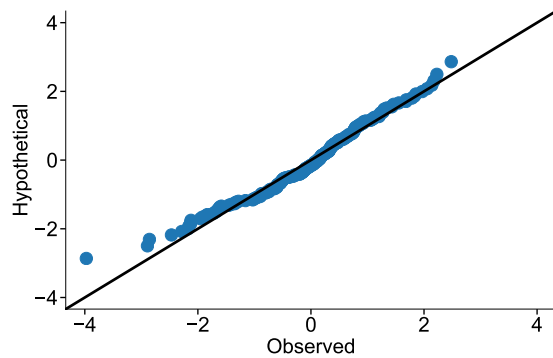
$$F^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{T+1}\right) < F^{-1}\left(\frac{2}{T+1}\right) < \dots < F^{-1}\left(\frac{T-1}{T+1}\right) < F^{-1}\left(\frac{T}{T+1}\right)$$

- F^{-1} is inverse CDF of distribution being used for comparison
- Should lie along a 45° line
- No confidence bands

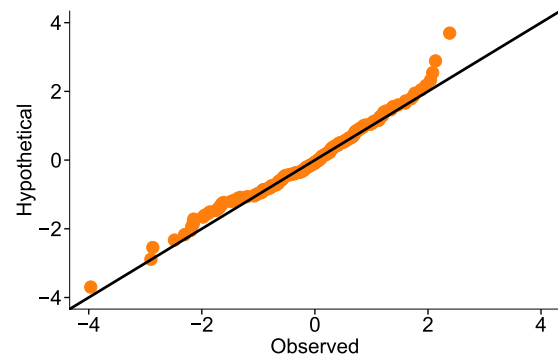
QQ Plots for the S&P 500

Monthly Returns

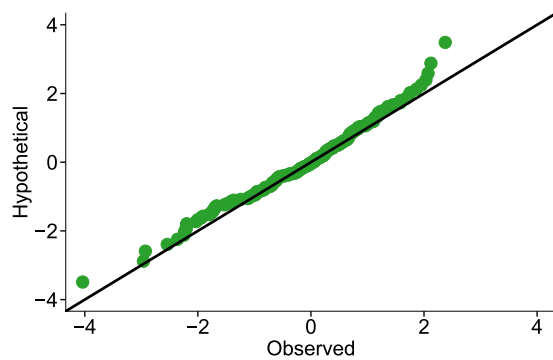
Normal



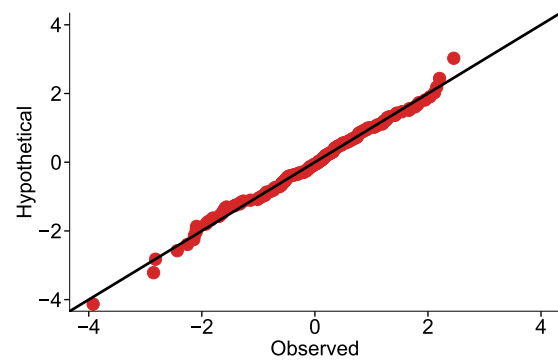
Student's t , $\nu = 5.8$



GED, $\nu = 1.25$



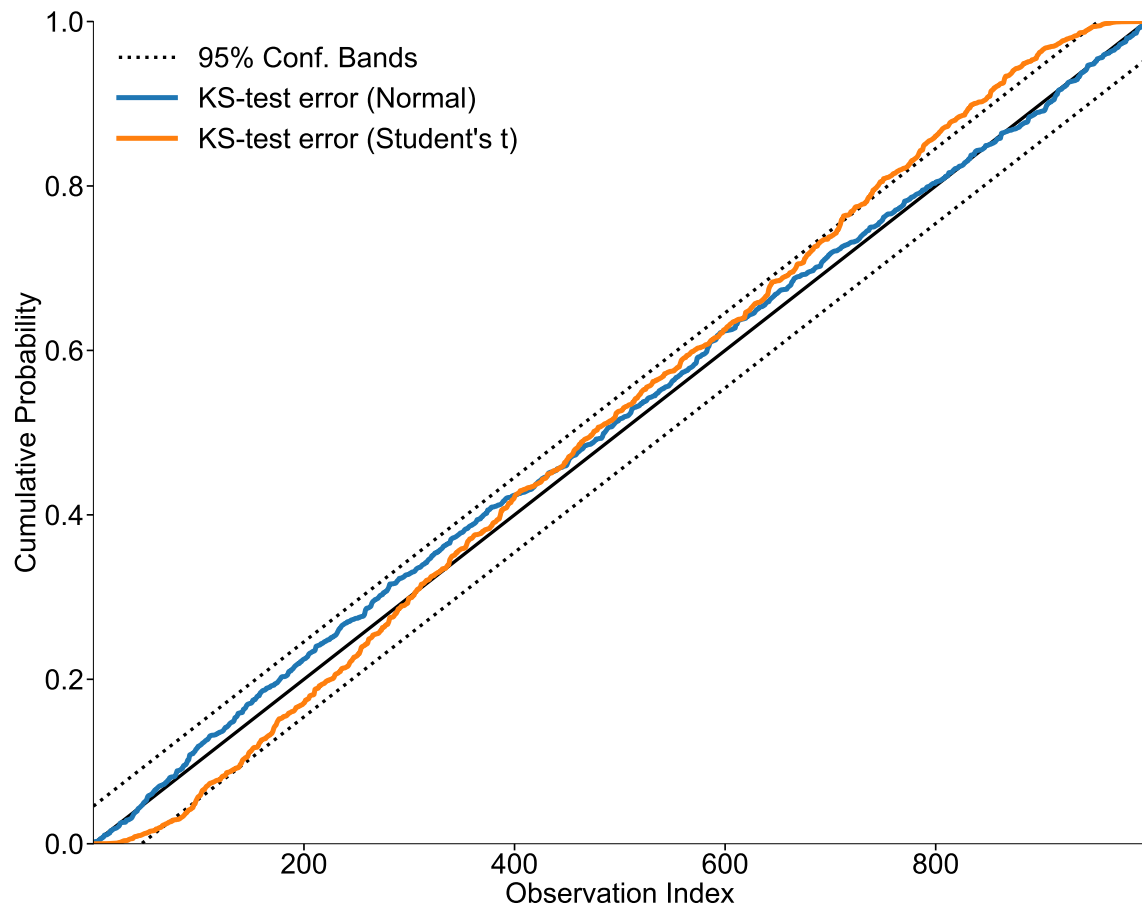
Skewed t , $\nu = 6.3$, $\lambda = -0.19$



- Formalizes QQ plots
- Key property
 - ▶ If $x \sim F$, then $u \equiv F(x) \sim U(0, 1)$
 - ▶ Can test $U(0, 1)$
- KS tests maximum deviation from $U(0, 1)$

$$\max_{\tau} \left| \frac{1}{T} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\tau} I_{[u_i < \frac{\tau}{T}]} \right) - \frac{\tau}{T} \right|, \quad \tau = 1, 2, \dots, T$$

- ▶ $\frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=1}^{\tau} I_{[u_i < \frac{\tau}{T}]}$: *Empirical percentage of u below τ/T*
 - ▶ τ/T : How many *should* be below τ/T
- Nonstandard distribution
- Parameter estimation error
 - ▶ Parameter Estimation Error (PEE) causes significant size distortions
 - ▶ Using a 5% CV will only reject 0.1% of the time
 - ▶ Solution is to simulate the needed critical values



- Model is a complete model so can be easily simulated
- Exact KS distribution tabulated

Algorithm (Correct CV for KS test with PEE)

1. *Estimate model and save $\hat{\theta}$*
2. *Repeat many times (1000+)*
 - a. *Simulate artificial series from model using $\hat{\theta}$ with same number of observations as original data*
 - b. *Estimate parameters from simulated data, $\ddot{\theta}$*
 - c. *Compute KS test statistic on simulated data using $\ddot{\theta}$ and save as $KS_i, i = 1, 2, \dots,$*
3. *Sort the KS_i values and use the $1 - \alpha$ quantile for get correct CV for α size test*

- Berkowitz Test extends KS to evaluation of conditional densities
- Exploits probability integral transform property

$$\hat{u}_t = F(y_t)$$

- But then *re-transforms* the data to a standard normal

$$\hat{\eta}_t = \Phi^{-1}(\hat{u}_t) = \Phi^{-1}(F(y_t))$$

- ▶ Since $\hat{u}_t \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} U(0, 1)$, $\hat{\eta}_t \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} N(0, 1)$
- Test is a likelihood ratio test using an AR(1)

$$\hat{\eta}_t = \phi_0 + \phi_1 \hat{\eta}_{t-1} + \nu_t$$

- If the model is correctly specified

- ▶ $\phi_0 = 0, \phi_1 = 0, \sigma^2 = V[\nu_t] = 1$

- Likelihood ratio

$$2 \left(l(\eta_t | \hat{\phi}_0, \hat{\phi}_1, \hat{\sigma}^2) - l(\eta_t | \phi_0 = 0, \phi_1 = 0, \sigma^2 = 1) \right) \sim \chi_3^2$$

- ▶ Critical values wrong if F has estimated parameters

- Coherence is a desirable property for a risk measure
 - But not completely necessary
- ρ is the required capital necessary according to some measure of risk (VaR, ES, Standard Deviation, etc.)
- P , P_1 and P_2 are portfolios of assets
- A Coherent measure satisfies:

Drift Invariance

$$\rho(P + c) = \rho(P) - c$$

Homogeneity

$$\rho(\lambda P) = \lambda \rho(P) \quad \text{for any } \lambda > 0$$

Monotonicity If P_1 first order stochastically dominates P_2 , then

$$\rho(P_1) \leq \rho(P_2)$$

Subadditivity

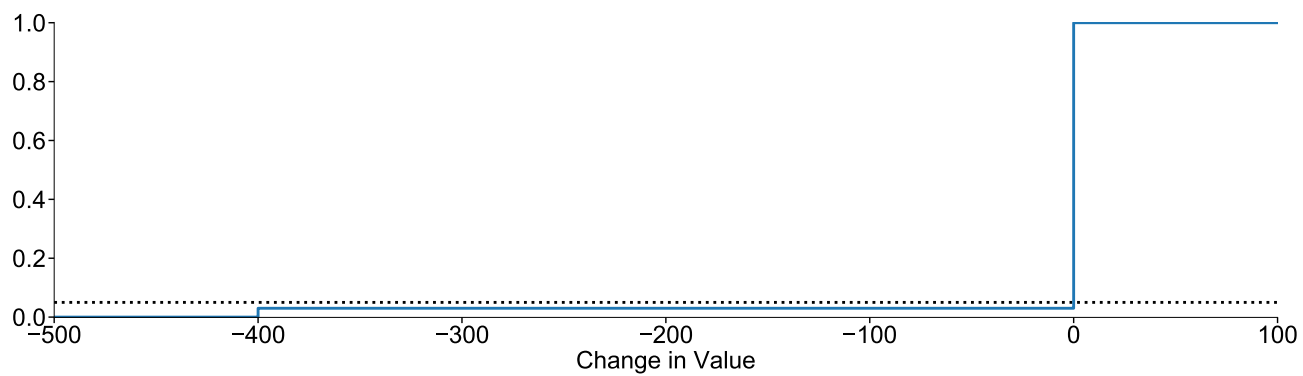
$$\rho(P_1 + P_2) \leq \rho(P_1) + \rho(P_2)$$

- VaR is *not* coherent
 - ▶ Because VaR is a quantile it may not be subadditive

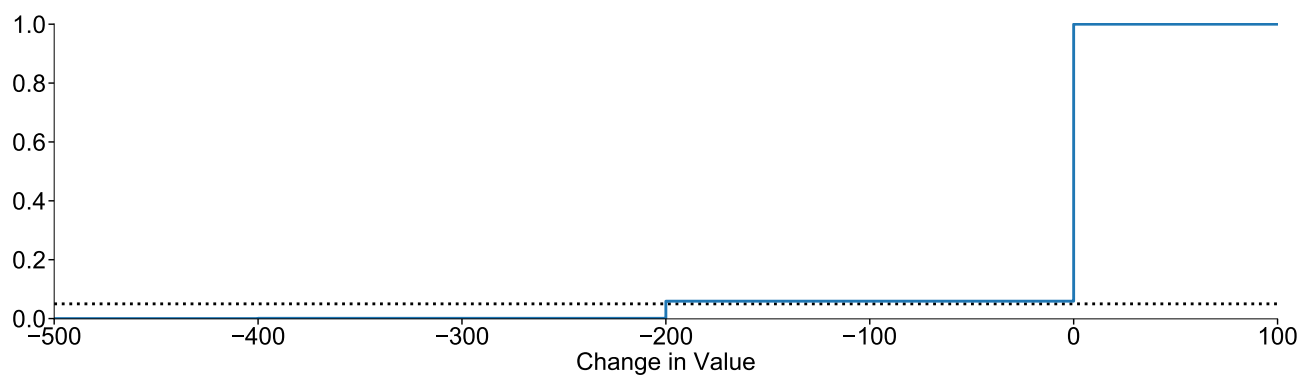
VaR is Not Coherent

- Two portfolios P_1 and P_2 holding a bond
 - ▶ Each paying 0%, par value of \$1,000
 - ▶ Default probability 3%, recovery rate 60%
 - ▶ Two companies, defaults are independent
- Value-at-Risk of P_1 and P_2 is \$0
- Value-at-Risk of $P_3 = 50\% \times P_1 + 50\% \times P_2 = \200
 - ▶ 5.91% that one or both default

P_1 and P_2



P_3



- ES is coherent
 - ▶ Doesn't mean much
 - ▶ VaR still has a lot of advantages
 - ▶ More importantly **VaR and ES agree in most realistic settings**

ES is coherent

- ES of P_1 and P_2 is \$240
 - ▶ Given in lower 5% of distribution, 60% chance of a loss of \$400
- ES of P_3
 - ▶ Given in lower 5% of distribution:
 - ▷ $0.0009/0.05 = .018$ probability of \$400 loss (2 defaults)
 - ▷ $0.0491/0.05 = .982$ probability of \$200 loss (1 default)
 - ▷ ES of $\$7.20 + \$196.40 = \$203.60$
- ES is subadditive when VaR is not

- Conditional Expected Shortfall (ES, also called Tail VaR)

$$ES_{t+1} = E_t[r_{t+1} | r_{t+1} < -VaR_{t+1}]$$

- "Expected Loss given you have a Value-at-Risk violation"
- Usually requires the specification of a complete model for the conditional distribution
- Uses all of the information in the tail
- Evaluation
 - ▶ Standard Problem, a conditional mean
 - ▶ GMZ regression

$$(ES_{t+1|t} - R_{t+1})I_{[R_{t+1} < -VaR_{t+1|t}]} = \mathbf{x}_t \boldsymbol{\gamma}$$

$$\triangleright H_0 : \boldsymbol{\gamma} = \mathbf{0}$$

- Difficult to test since relatively few observations