

# Time Consistency of the Mean-Risk Problem

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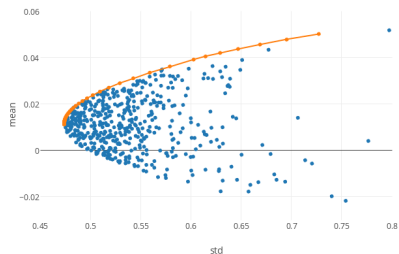
joint work with Gabriela Kováčová

Happy Birthday, Yuri!

# Mean-Risk Problem: Motivation

## Markowitz (1952)

- expected return (**mean**) is desirable, **risk** is undesirable
- portfolios not dominated in the mean-risk sense are **efficient**
- static mean-variance problem
- extensions: multiple time periods, various measurements of risk



- Maximize mean under a risk constraint, or vice versa

$$\max \mathbb{E}[v_T] \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \rho(v_T) \leq r$$

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- mean-CVaR: Bäuerle, Mundt (2009)

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- Dynamic problems - **time inconsistency**

# Some Approaches to Time Inconsistency

- Pre-commitment
  - Li, Ng (2000); Zhou, Li (2000)
- Game-theoretic approach
  - Björk, Murgoci, Zhou (2014)
- Time-varying risk aversion
  - Basak, Chabakauri (2010); Cui, Li, Wang, Zhu (2012); Björk, Murgoci, Zhou (2014); Karnam, Ma, Zhang (2016)
- Certainty equivalent w.r.t. a time consistent dynamic utility
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- Here: Consider the mean-risk as a **vector optimization problem**



# Vector Optimization

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- Image space: a partially ordered vector space  $(Y, \leq_C)$ 
  - An ordering cone  $C \subseteq Y$  :  $y_1 \leq_C y_2 \Leftrightarrow y_2 \in y_1 + C$

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- A **minimizer** of the (VOP) is  $\bar{x} \in S$  such that
$$(\{f(\bar{x})\} - C \setminus \{0\}) \cap f[S] = \emptyset$$
- A **weak minimizer** of the (VOP) is  $\bar{x} \in S$  such that
$$(\{f(\bar{x})\} - \text{int } C) \cap f[S] = \emptyset$$

## Mean-Risk as a VOP

# Market and Feasible Portfolios

- Discrete time with a finite horizon  $\mathbb{T} = \{0, 1, \dots, T\}$
- Finite  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, (\mathcal{F}_t)_{t=0, \dots, T}, \mathbb{P})$

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- Feasible portfolios at time  $t$  with wealth  $v_t \in L_t$

$$\Psi_t(v_t) := \left\{ (\psi_s)_{s=t, \dots, T-1} \mid S_s^\top \psi_s = v_s, v_{s+1} = S_{s+1}^\top \psi_s, \right. \\ \left. \psi_s \in \Phi_s, s = t, \dots, T-1 \right\}$$

- **Conditional expectation** of the terminal value  $\mathbb{E}_t(v_T)$

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A family of mappings  $\rho_t : L_T \rightarrow L_t$ , such that  $\forall v, w \in L_T, \forall \lambda \in L_t$

- **translation invariance:**  $\rho_t(v + \lambda) = \rho_t(v) - \lambda$ ,
- **monotonicity:**  $v \leq w \Rightarrow \rho_t(v) \geq \rho_t(w)$ ,
- **convexity:**  $\rho_t(\lambda v + (1 - \lambda)w) \leq \lambda \rho_t(v) + (1 - \lambda) \rho_t(w)$  for  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$ ,
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  - **recursiveness:**  $\rho_t(v) = \rho_t(-\rho_{t+1}(v))$ ,
- Given a wealth  $v_t \in L_t$  we consider a problem

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{(\psi_s)_{s=t, \dots, T-1}} \quad & \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbb{E}_t(v_T) \\ \rho_t(v_T) \end{pmatrix} \text{ w.r.t. } \leq_{L_t(\mathbb{R}_+^2)} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & S_s^\top \psi_s = v_s, & (D_t(v_t)) \\ & v_{s+1} = S_{s+1}^\top \psi_s, \\ & \psi_s \in \Phi_s, \quad s = t, \dots, T-1. \end{aligned}$$

## Definition: Efficient Portfolio

A feasible portfolio  $(\psi_s)_{s=t,\dots,T-1} \in \Psi_t(v_t)$  is **efficient at a time  $t$  for an investment  $v_t$** , if and only if there exists no feasible portfolio  $(\phi_s)_{s=t,\dots,T-1} \in \Psi_t(v_t)$ , such that

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}_t(v_T^\phi) &\geq \mathbb{E}_t(v_T^\psi), \\ \rho_t(v_T^\phi) &\leq \rho_t(v_T^\psi),\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

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- $(\psi_s)_{s=t,\dots,T-1}$  is a (weakly) efficient portfolio  $\Leftrightarrow$  it is a (weak) minimizer of the problem  $D_t(v_t)$

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## Theorem

The family of mean-risk problems  $\mathcal{D}$  has the following property,

$(\psi_s)_{s=t,\dots,T-1}$  being a *weak minimizer* of  $D_t(v_t)$   
implies

$(\psi_s)_{s=t+1,\dots,T-1}$  being a *weak minimizer* of  $D_{t+1}(S_{t+1}^\top \psi_t)$ .

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- A weaker notion than the scalar time consistency

# Scalar Time Consistency and Bellman's Principle

Recall:

- scalar problem with **value function**  $J_t(v_t)$

$$J_t(v_t) := \inf_{u_t, \dots, u_{T-1}} \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \sum_{s=t}^{T-1} f_s(v_s, u_s, z_s) + f_T(v_T) \right]$$

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- The Bellman's equation provides a possibility to solve the problem recursively
- Is there a similar recursive relation for a vector optimization mean-risk problem? What is the value function???

# Value Function for a VOP

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  - space of closed upper sets  $\mathbb{F}(Y, C) = \{A \subseteq Y \mid \text{cl}(A + C) = A\}$  with  $\supseteq$  is a partially ordered conlinear space and a complete lattice with infimum

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- consider a set-extended problem with  $F(x) := f(x) + C$ ,  
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$$\min F : X \rightarrow \mathbb{F}(Y, C) \text{ w.r.t. } \supseteq \text{ over } S \subseteq X$$
- its set-valued infimum is the **upper image**,

$$\inf_{x \in S} F(x) = \text{cl} \bigcup_{x \in S} f(x) + C = \mathcal{P}$$

# A Set-Valued Bellman's Principle for the Mean-Risk

The following recursive form of the upper image (value function) is obtained

## Theorem

$$\mathcal{P}_t(v_t) = \text{cl} \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{c} -\mathbb{E}_t(-x_1) \\ \rho_t(-x_2) \end{array} \right) \mid S_t^\top \psi_t = v_t, \psi_t \in \Phi_t, \right. \\ \left. \left( \begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{array} \right) \in \mathcal{P}_{t+1} \left( S_{t+1}^\top \psi_t \right) \right\} \quad (\text{B})$$

with

$$\mathcal{P}_T(v_T) = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{c} -v_T \\ -v_T \end{array} \right) \right\} + L_T(\mathbb{R}_+^2).$$

# Recursion and a One-Time-Step Problem

- This corresponds to a sequence of one-time-step problem

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\psi_t, x} & \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbb{E}_t(-x_1) \\ \rho_t(-x_2) \end{pmatrix} \text{ w.r.t. } \leq_{L_t(\mathbb{R}_+^2)} \\ \text{s.t.} & S_t^\top \psi_t = v_t, \\ & \psi_t \in \Phi_t, \\ & \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{P}_{t+1}(S_{t+1}^\top \psi_t). \end{aligned} \quad (\tilde{D}_t(v_t))$$

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- $\tilde{D}_t(v_t)$  shares the upper image  $\mathcal{P}_t(v_t)$  of the mean-risk problem

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- $\tilde{D}_t(v_t)$  shares the upper image  $\mathcal{P}_t(v_t)$  of the mean-risk problem
- $\tilde{D}_t(v_t)$  is a convex vector optimization problem

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- $\mathcal{P}_0(v_0)$  is obtained recursively via a sequence of one-time-step convex VOPs
- computation of  $\mathcal{P}_t(v_t)$  uses  $\mathcal{P}_{t+1}(S_{t+1}^\top \psi_t)$  in constraints  $\rightarrow$  a Bellman's principle



# Recursion and a One-Time-Step Problem

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- (B) corresponds to a set-valued infimum with  $\Gamma_t(X) := \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbb{E}_t(X_1) \\ \rho_t(X_2) \end{pmatrix}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}_t(v_t) &= \inf_{\substack{S_t^\top \psi_t = v_t, \\ \psi_t \in \Phi_t}} \Gamma_t(-\mathcal{P}_{t+1}(S_{t+1}^\top \psi_t)) \\ &= \inf_{\substack{S_t^\top \psi_t = v_t, \\ \psi_t \in \Phi_t}} \inf_{x \in \mathcal{P}_{t+1}(S_{t+1}^\top \psi_t)} \Gamma_t(-x). \end{aligned}$$

# Backward Computation of the Efficient Frontier

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  - problem  $\tilde{D}_t(v_t)$  reduces to

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbb{E}_t(-x_1) \\ \rho_t(-x_2) \end{pmatrix} \text{ w.r.t. } \leq_{L_t(\mathbb{R}_+^2)} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & S_t^\top \psi_t = v_t, \psi_t \geq 0, \\ & x \in (S_{t+1}^\top \psi_t) \cdot \mathcal{P}_{t+1}(\mathbb{1}). \end{aligned}$$

## Theorem

For every efficient mean-risk profile  $x_0^* \in \mathcal{P}_0(v_0)$  there exists a portfolio  $(\psi_s^*)_{s=0, \dots, T-1}$  **efficient at every time point  $t$**

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- if upper images are polyhedral: only arithmetic operations (instead of solving convex OP)

# Moving Scalarization and Risk Aversion

- To an efficient portfolio  $(\psi_s)_{s=0,\dots,T-1}$  corresponds a sequence of weights  $w_0, \dots, w_{T-1}$ , where each  $w_t \in L_t(\mathbb{R}_+^2) \setminus \{0\}$ 
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- Compare to Björk, Murgoci, Zhou (2014); Karnam, Ma, Zhang (2016)
  - for mean-variance there exists risk aversion  $c_t$  making problems

$$\sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}_{[t,T]}} \mathbb{E}_t(X_T^{t,u}) - \frac{1}{2c_t} \text{Var}(X_T^{t,u})$$

time consistent

## Two Examples

- Scalable market setting with i.i.d. asset returns

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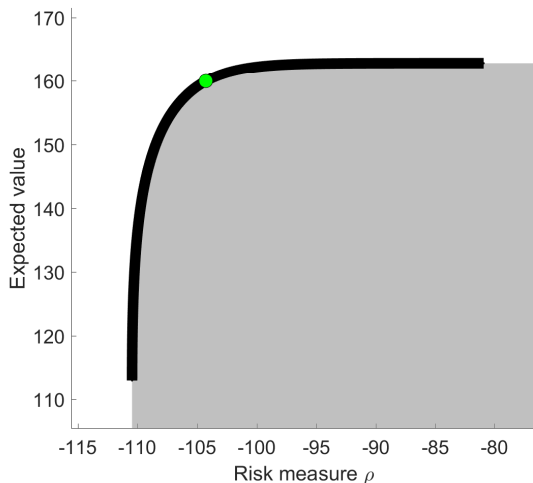
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- **Bensolve** and **Bensolve Tools** used for computations

# Example 1: Binomial Market Model

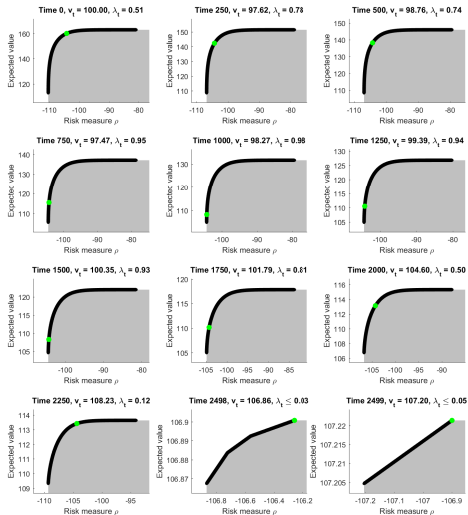
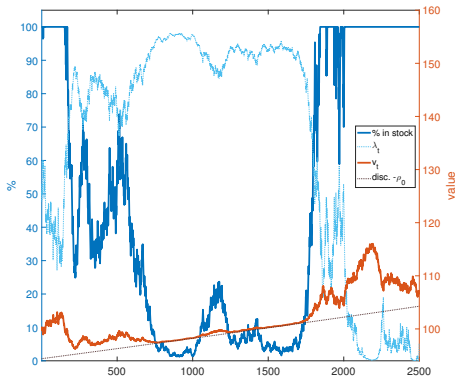


- 10 years with 250 trading days,  $T = 2\,500$
- $r_B = 1\%$ ,  $\bar{r}_S = 5\%$  p.a.,  $v_0 = 100$
- Selected mean-risk profile

$$\mathbb{E}_0(v_T) = 160$$

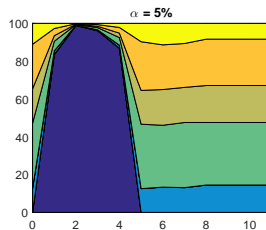
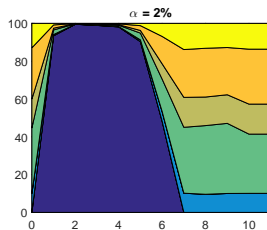
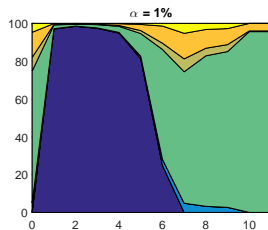
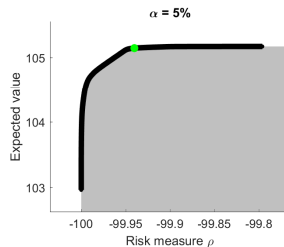
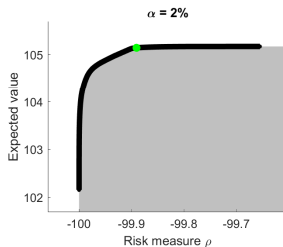
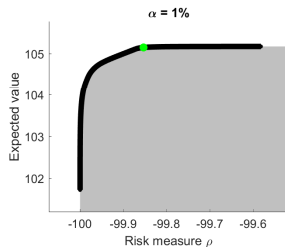
$$\rho_0(v_T) = -104.27$$

# Example 1: Trading Strategy along a Path



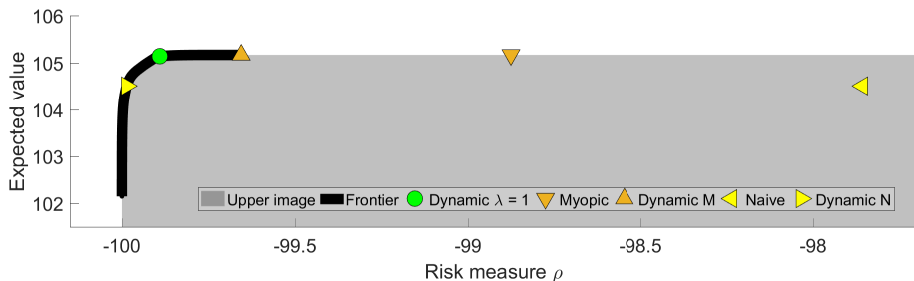
## Example 2: Multiple asset classes

- one year of monthly trading,  $T = 12$
- 1 bond class ( $r_B = 0\%$ ) 7 stock classes ( $\bar{r}_S = 5.17\%$ ),  $v_0 = 100$









## Example 2: Dynamic, Myopic and Naive Strategy

- mean-risk profiles of myopic and naive strategy can be computed
- time 0, level  $\alpha = 2\%$  of  $CVaR$
- dynamic and myopic for risk aversion 0.5





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