

# Robust utility optimization without compactness

Joaquín Fontbona

Center for Mathematical Modeling  
Universidad de Chile

(joint work with Julio Backhoff, HU Berlin)

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# Outline

## 1 Introduction

- Utility maximization in continuous time financial market
- Duality methods: standard and robust settings
- Robust problem under “model compactness”
- Open questions and motivation

## 2 Robust problem without model compactness: the complete case

- An Orlicz-Musielak space formulation
- Our results
- Least favorable measure for “linear uncertainty set” by solving a minimization of entropy problem
- Example

## 3 Conclusions, open problems

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# Continuous Time Financial Market

- Filtered probability space  $(\Omega, \mathbb{F}, (\mathcal{F})_{t \leq T}, \mathbb{P})$  ( $\mathbb{P}$  reference law).
- Market consists of  $d$  stocks and a riskless bond,  $S = (S^i)_{0 \leq i \leq d}$ .
- $S$  continuous semimartingale.
- A portfolio  $\pi$  is a pair  $(X_0, H)$  with  $H$  strategy.
- The value of  $\pi$  at time  $t$  is  $X_t = X_0 + \int_0^t H_u dS_u$ .
- $\mathcal{M}^e(S) = \left\{ \tilde{\mathbb{P}} \sim \mathbb{P} : S \text{ is a } \tilde{\mathbb{P}}\text{-loc. martingale} \right\} \neq \emptyset$ .  
Market is **complete** if  $\mathcal{M}^e(S) = \{\mathbb{P}^*\}$ .

## Admissible wealths starting from $x$

$$\mathcal{X}(x) = \left\{ X \geq 0 : X_t = X_0 + \int_0^t H_u dS_u \text{ with } X_0 \leq x \right\}$$

# Utility Function

## Utility Functions on $(0, \infty)$

$U : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (-\infty, \infty)$  is a *utility function on  $(0, \infty)$* , if strictly increasing, strictly concave and continuously differentiable.

**In all the sequel**, it satisfies **INADA**:  $U'(0+) = \infty$  and  $U'(\infty) = 0$ .

It's **asymptotic elasticity** (KramkovSchachermayer'99) is

$$AE(U) := \limsup_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{xU'(x)}{U(x)}.$$



# Utility maximization problems

## Standard utility maximization

Agent tries to maximize expected final utility starting from  $x > 0$ , under the fixed (subjective) model  $\mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{P}$ . Value function is

$$u_{\mathbb{Q}}(x) := \sup_{X \in \mathcal{X}(x)} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[U(X_T)].$$

## Robust utility maximization

Actual probabilistic model (law) possibly unknown (model uncertainty) but there is a set  $\mathcal{Q}$  of reasonable possible models.

Pessimistic agent tries to maximize expected final utility of the worst-case model. Value function is

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# Duality in financial markets

$$V(y) := \sup_{x>0} [U(x) - xy], y > 0 \text{ conjugate of } U.$$

“Supermartingale densities ” w.r.t. (subjective) model  $\mathbb{Q}$

$\mathcal{Y}_{\mathbb{Q}}(y) := \{Y \geq 0, YX \text{ is a } \mathbb{Q} - \text{supermartingale } \forall X \in \mathcal{X}(1), Y_0 = y\}$ .  
Generalizes set of densities with respect to  $\mathbb{Q}$  of eq. risk measures.

For all  $x > 0, X \in \mathcal{X}(x), \mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[U(X_T)] \leq \inf_{y>0} \left( \inf_{Y \in \mathcal{Y}_{\mathbb{Q}}(y)} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[V(Y_T)] + xy \right)$$

$$\implies v_{\mathbb{Q}}(y) := \inf_{Y \in \mathcal{Y}_{\mathbb{Q}}(y)} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[V(Y_T)] \text{ candidate conjugate of } u_{\mathbb{Q}}(x),$$

$$v(y) := \inf_{\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{Q}} v_{\mathbb{Q}}(y) \text{ candidate conjugate of } u(x).$$

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## Known results: non-robust case

- [KaratzasLehoczkyShreve](87) (complete market) ,  
[KramkovSchachermayer](99,03) (incomplete market)
- Under (finiteness assumptions), duality holds:

$$v_{\mathbb{Q}}(y) = \sup_{x \geq 0} [u_{\mathbb{Q}}(x) - xy], \quad y > 0$$

$$u_{\mathbb{Q}}(x) = \inf_{y \geq 0} [v_{\mathbb{Q}}(y) + xy], \quad x > 0$$

and  $u_{\mathbb{Q}}, v_{\mathbb{Q}}$  have nice properties.

- $v_{\mathbb{Q}}(y) := \inf_{Y \in \mathcal{Y}_{\mathbb{Q}}(y)} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[V(Y_T)]$  attained.
- Under additional assumptions (e.g.  $AE(U) < 1$ ), for each  $x$ ,

$$\hat{X}_T(x) = (U')^{-1} \left( \hat{Y}_T(\hat{y}) \right), \quad \text{where } \hat{y} \in \partial u_{\mathbb{Q}}(x)$$

and  $\hat{Y}(\hat{y})$  the above minimum. Also,  $\hat{X}(x)\hat{Y}(\hat{y})$  is a u.i.  
 $\mathbb{Q}$ -martingale.

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## Robust case under model compactness assumption

- Dual involves  $v(y) = \inf_{Q \in \mathcal{Q}} \inf_{Y \in \mathcal{Y}_{\mathbb{P}}(y)} \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{dQ}{d\mathbb{P}} V \left( \frac{Y_T}{\frac{dQ}{d\mathbb{P}}} \right) \right]$ .
- Primal requires Minmax:  $\sup_{X \in \mathcal{X}(x)} \inf_{Q \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathbb{E}^Q [U(X_T)] = \inf_{Q \in \mathcal{Q}} u_Q(x)$ .

Conditions on  $\mathcal{Q}$  are needed. Schied & Wu 05 consider:

- 1  $\mathcal{Q}$  convex,
- 2  $\mathbb{P}(A) = 0 \iff \mathbb{Q}(A) = 0 \forall \mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{Q}$ , and
- 3  $\frac{dQ}{d\mathbb{P}} := \left\{ \frac{dQ}{d\mathbb{P}} : \mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{Q} \right\}$  closed in  $L^0(\mathbb{P})$  (equiv.  $\sigma(L^1, L^\infty)$ -compact).

Theorem ([SchiedWu05] (see also Gundel 03))

Then, minmax equality holds and  $u, v$  are conjugate. Under additional assumptions (e.g.  $AE(U) < 1$ ), everything is attained:

$$u(x) = u_{\hat{Q}}(x), \quad \hat{X}_T = (U')^{-1}(\hat{Y}_T / \hat{Z}_T)$$

where  $\hat{y} \in \partial u(x)$ ,  $\hat{Y} \in \mathcal{Y}(\hat{y})$  and the pair  $(\hat{Z} = \frac{d\hat{Q}}{d\mathbb{P}}, \hat{Y})$  attains the double infimum in the dual problem for such  $(x, \hat{y})$ .

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Theorem ([SchiedWu05] (see also Gundel 03))

*Then, minmax equality holds and  $u, v$  are conjugate. Under additional assumptions (e.g.  $AE(U) < 1$ ), everything is attained:*

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*where  $\hat{y} \in \partial u(x)$ ,  $\hat{Y} \in \mathcal{Y}(\hat{y})$  and the pair  $(\hat{Z} = \frac{d\hat{\mathbb{Q}}}{d\mathbb{P}}, \hat{Y})$  attains the double infimum in the dual problem for such  $(x, \hat{y})$ .*

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# Open questions and our motivation

- No general characterization of  $\hat{\mathcal{Q}}$  (except when independent of  $U$ ).
- There are simple (and reasonable) uncertainty sets, that are not **weakly compact** in  $L^1(\mathbb{P})$ . e.g.:

$$\mathcal{Q} = \{\mathbb{Q} \ll \mathbb{P} : \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[S_T] \geq A\}, \quad A > 0.$$

More generally,  $\mathcal{Q}$  determined by “moment” or distributional constraints

$$\mathcal{Q} = \bigcap_i \{\mathbb{Q} \ll \mathbb{P} : \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[F_i(S)] \in \mathcal{C}_i\}$$

arise naturally and may fail to be compact.

- **Goal:** Find a framework to study the above problems.
- **Goal:** use **techniques of constrained entropy minimization to describe least favorable measure.**

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# Orlicz-Musiela space associated with the robust problem

In the sequel, we assume  $U$  satisfies **INADA**,  $U \geq 0$  and  $U(\infty) = \infty$ .  
Moreover, **market is complete**:  $\mathcal{M}^e = \{\mathbb{P}^*\}$ ,

We have

$$u(x) = \sup_{X \in \mathcal{X}(x)} \inf_{\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} [U(X_T)] \leq \inf_{y \geq 0} \left[ \inf_{\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{Q}_e} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}} \left[ \frac{d\mathbb{Q}}{d\mathbb{P}} V \left( \frac{yY_T}{\frac{d\mathbb{Q}}{d\mathbb{P}}} \right) \right] + xy \right]$$

where  $Y := \frac{d\mathbb{P}^*}{d\mathbb{P}}$ .

Thus, we only are only concerned with  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{Q}$  such that  $Z := \frac{d\mathbb{Q}}{d\mathbb{P}}$  belongs to the **Orlicz-Musiela** space:

$$L_\eta = \left\{ Z \in L^0 \text{ s.t. } \exists \alpha > 0, \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}} [\eta(\alpha Z, \cdot)] < \infty \right\}$$

where  $\eta(Z, \omega) := |Z| V \left( \frac{Y_T(\omega)}{|Z|} \right)$ .



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## Some Properties

- $\mathbb{P}(d\omega)$  a.s.,  $z \mapsto \eta(z, \omega) := |z| V\left(\frac{Y_T(\omega)}{|z|}\right)$  is a Young function (convex, l.s.c., even,  $\geq 0$  and null (only) at 0),  $\eta(z, \omega)/|z| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $|z| \rightarrow \infty$ .
- $\mathbb{P}(d\omega)$  a.s. conjugate of  $\eta(z, \omega)$  is  $z \mapsto \eta^*(z, \omega) := Y_T(\omega) U^{-1}(|z|)$
- $L_\eta = \{Z \in L^0 \text{ s.t. } \exists \alpha > 0, \mathbb{E}^\mathbb{P}[\eta(\alpha Z, \cdot)] < \infty\}$  is Banach with norm

$$\|Z\|_\eta = \inf \left\{ \beta > 0 : \mathbb{E}^\mathbb{P}[\eta(Z/\beta, \cdot)] \leq 1 \right\},$$

and is continuously embedded in  $L^1$ .

- Under  $\Delta_2$  condition on  $\eta$  plus other conditions (including that  $\eta^*$  is  $\Delta_2$  and holding in particular if  $AE(U) < 1$ ),  $\eta, \eta^*$  are  $N$ -functions,

$[L_\eta]^*$  is isomorphic to  $[L_{\eta^*}]$  and  $[L_{\eta^*}]^*$  is isomorphic to  $[L_\eta]$ .

In particular,  $L_\eta$  is **reflexive**.

- Bounded sets of  $L_\eta$  are u.i.

([Kozek] 76,80 and [Musielak] 83 for background on O.M. spaces)

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# Results

## Theorem (Backhoff, F', 2012)

### Assume

- $\mathcal{Q}$  is countably convex
- $\mathbb{P}(A) = 0 \iff \forall Q \in \mathcal{Q} \quad Q(A) = 0$
- $\frac{d\mathcal{Q}}{d\mathbb{P}} \cap L_\eta(\mathbb{P})$  is  $\sigma(L_\eta, L_{\eta^*})$ -closed.

Moreover, assume that  $U$  satisfies **INADA**,  $U \geq 0$  and  $U(\infty) = \infty$ , that  $\eta$  and  $\eta^*$  satisfy  $\Delta_2$  (so that  $L_\eta$  is reflexive.)

Then, for each  $x$  with  $u(x) < \infty$

$$Z = \frac{dQ}{d\mathbb{P}} \in \frac{d\mathcal{Q}}{d\mathbb{P}} \cap L_\eta \mapsto u_Q(x) \geq C_x \|Z\|_\eta.$$

We deduce that minmax equality holds, and  $u, -v$  are conjugate.

Moreover,

$$u(x) = u_{\hat{Q}}(x), \quad \hat{X}_T = (U')^{-1}(Y_T / \hat{Z}_T)$$

where  $\hat{y} \in \partial u(x)$  and  $\hat{Z} = \frac{d\hat{Q}}{d\mathbb{P}}$  attains the infimum in the dual problem

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# Convex integral functionals associated with the dual problem

By previous Theorem, for each  $x$  s.t.  $u(x) < \infty$ , solution  $(\hat{y}, \hat{\mathbb{Q}})$  of dual problem satisfies

$$u(x) = x\hat{y} + \Phi_{\hat{y}}(\hat{\mathbb{Q}}) = x\hat{y} + \inf_{\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{Q}} \Phi_{\hat{y}}(\mathbb{Q})$$

where

$$\Phi_y(\mathbb{Q}) := \int_{\Omega} \eta_y \left( \frac{d\mathbb{Q}}{d\mathbb{P}}(\cdot, \omega), \omega \right) \mathbb{P}(d\omega)$$

and  $\eta_y(z, \omega) := |z| V \left( \frac{y Y_T(\omega)}{|z|} \right)$ .

Problem enters the framework of **minimization of convex integral functionals** (entropies):

Rockafellar  $\sim 70$ , Csiszar, Föllmer  $\sim 80$ 's, BorweinLewis  $\sim 90$ 's,  
...Léonard,  $\sim 07$ .

## Uncertainty set as linear/convex constraints

We consider uncertainty set  $\mathcal{Q}$  such that

$$\frac{d\mathcal{Q}}{d\mathbb{P}} \cap L_\eta = \left\{ \mathbb{Q} \ll \mathbb{P} : \Theta \left( \frac{d\mathbb{Q}}{d\mathbb{P}} \right) \in \mathcal{C} \right\}$$

for

$$\Theta : L_\eta(\Omega, \mathbb{P}) \rightarrow E$$

a linear operator of integral type, taking values in some vectorial space  $E$  (possibly  $\infty$ -dim.) and  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq E$  a convex subset.

More precisely, there is a measurable function  $\theta : \Omega \rightarrow E$  such that

$$\Theta(Z) = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(Z\theta) \in E$$

(makes sense in  $E$  by Hölder's inequality if  $\langle g, \theta \rangle_{E', E} \in L_{\eta^*}$  for each  $g \in E'$  (alg. dual)).

**This includes moment constraints on “observables” of any dimension; in particular, any restriction (or belief) of distributional type on prices or assets can be described in this way**

# Uncertainty set as linear/convex constraints

Minimization problem is embedded into the space  $\mathcal{M}_f$  of finite signed measures  $\mathbb{M}$  on  $\Omega$ :

$$\Phi_y(\mathbb{M}) := \begin{cases} \int_{\Omega} \eta_y \left( \frac{d\mathbb{M}}{d\mathbb{P}}(\cdot, \omega), \omega \right) \mathbb{M}(d\omega) & \text{if } \mathbb{M} \geq 0 \text{ and } \mathbb{M} \ll \mathbb{P} \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

adding the supplementary constraint  $\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}\left(\frac{d\mathbb{M}}{d\mathbb{P}}\right) = 1$

Summarizing, we want the solution of

PC

Minimize  $\Phi_y(\mathbb{M})$  subject to  $\Theta_1(\mathbb{M}) \in C_1$ ,  $\mathbb{M} \in \mathcal{M}_f$

where  $\Theta_1(\mathbb{M}) = \left(\int_{\Omega} \theta d\mathbb{M}, \int_{\Omega} 1 d\mathbb{M}\right) \in E_1 = E \times \mathbb{R}$  and  $C_1 = C \times \{1\}$



# Uncertainty set as linear/convex constraints

Minimization problem is embedded into the space  $\mathcal{M}_f$  of finite signed measures  $\mathbb{M}$  on  $\Omega$ :

$$\Phi_y(\mathbb{M}) := \begin{cases} \int_{\Omega} \eta_y \left( \frac{d\mathbb{M}}{d\mathbb{P}}(\cdot, \omega), \omega \right) \mathbb{M}(d\omega) & \text{if } \mathbb{M} \geq 0 \text{ and } \mathbb{M} \ll \mathbb{P} \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

adding the supplementary constraint  $\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}\left(\frac{d\mathbb{M}}{d\mathbb{P}}\right) = 1$

Summarizing, we want the solution of

## PC

*Minimize*  $\Phi_y(\mathbb{M})$  subject to  $\Theta_1(\mathbb{M}) \in \mathcal{C}_1$ ,  $\mathbb{M} \in \mathcal{M}_f$

where  $\Theta_1(\mathbb{M}) = \left(\int_{\Omega} \theta d\mathbb{M}, \int_{\Omega} 1 d\mathbb{M}\right) \in E_1 = E \times \mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_1 = \mathcal{C} \times \{1\}$

# Dual of the Entropy minimization Problem

Dual Problem

(i.e. a “Dual of the Dual” of our original utility maximization problem):

DC

$$\sup \left\{ \inf_{x \in \bar{E}_1 \cap C_1} \langle g, x \rangle - \int \eta^*(\langle g, \theta(\cdot) \rangle) d\mathbb{P} : g \in E_1^* \right\}$$

where  $E_1^*$  is completion of  $E_1'$  w.r.t.  $\|\langle g, \theta \rangle_{E_1', E_1}\|_{L_{\eta^*}}$  (norm under reasonable assumptions), and  $\bar{E}_1$  topological dual.

**Case of moment constraints, dimension = number of “real observables” + 1**, finite in many interesting problems.

# Finding the minimizer

We use

Theorem ([Léonard08])

*Under above assumptions:*

- *There is dual equality  $PC = DC$*
- *If  $C_1 \cap \Theta_1(\text{dom}(\Phi_{\hat{y}})) \neq \emptyset$ ,  $PC$  has a unique solution in  $L_\eta(\mathbb{P})$*
- *If moreover  $C_1 \cap \text{icor}(\Theta_1(\text{dom}(\Phi_{\hat{y}}))) \neq \emptyset$  the solution of **PC** is given by*

$$\hat{Q} = \frac{d\eta^*}{dz}(\langle \tilde{g}, \theta \rangle) d\mathbb{P}.$$

*where  $\tilde{g}$  solves the (extended) dual.*

Here,  $\text{icor}(A) = \{a \in A \mid \forall x \in \text{aff}(A), \exists t > 0 \text{ tq. } a + t(x - a) \in A\}$ .

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- Utility maximization in continuous time financial market
- Duality methods: standard and robust settings
- Robust problem under “model compactness”
- Open questions and motivation

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## Robust problem without model compactness: the complete case

- An Orlicz-Musielak space formulation
- Our results
- Least favorable measure for “linear uncertainty set” by solving a minimization of entropy problem
- **Example**

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## Conclusions, open problems

## Example

Consider on  $(\Omega, \mathbb{F}, \{\mathbb{F}_t\}_{t=0}^T, \mathbb{P})$ , and for  $t \leq T$ , the diffusion

$$\begin{aligned}dS_t &= S_t \{b dt + \sigma dW_t\} \\ S_0 &= 1\end{aligned}$$

(most elementary Black-Scholes).

This model is complete, with risk neutral measure

$$d\mathbb{P}^* = \exp \left\{ -\frac{b}{\sigma} W_T - \frac{b^2}{2\sigma^2} T \right\} d\mathbb{P}.$$
 Under  $\mathbb{P}^*$ ,

$$S_T \sim \text{lognormal} \left( -\frac{\sigma^2}{2} T, \sigma^2 T \right).$$

# Example

- We take  $U(x) = 2\sqrt{x}$ ,  $x \in (0, \infty)$ , thus  $L_\eta = L^2$ .
- For  $A \geq 0$ , consider the uncertainty set

$$\mathcal{Q} = \{\mathbb{Q} \ll \mathbb{P} : \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}(S_T) \geq A\}$$

which is not closed in  $L^0$  and not bounded in  $L^2$ , but weakly closed in  $L^2$ .

- Constraint qualification condition is met if  $e^{\sigma^2 T} > A > 1$

## Solution

From the dual representation of the corresponding  $\Phi$ , it follows:

$$\inf_{\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}} \left[ \frac{d\mathbb{Q}}{d\mathbb{P}} v \left( y Y_T \frac{d\mathbb{P}}{d\mathbb{Q}} \right) \right] = \sup_{\mathbb{R}^2} \left[ z_1 + A z_2 - \frac{y}{4} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}} \left( (z_1 + S_T z_2)^2 \mathbf{1}_{z_1 + S_T z_2 > 0} \right) \right]$$

Right-hand side can be solved, and by means of the duality relation between  $u$  and  $v$ , we get:

$$u(x) = 2 \sqrt{x \left( 1 + \frac{(A-1)^2}{e^{\sigma^2 T} - 1} \right)},$$

$$\hat{\mathbb{Q}}(d\omega) = \frac{e^{\sigma^2 T} - A + S_T(A-1)}{e^{\sigma^2 T} - 1} \mathbb{P}(d\omega)$$

and

$$\hat{X}_T := x \frac{\left( e^{\sigma^2 T} - A + S_T(A-1) \right)^2}{\left( e^{\sigma^2 T} - 1 + (A-1)^2 \right) \left( e^{\sigma^2 T} - 1 \right)}.$$

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- Functional setting and methodology to solve robust problem in complete market beyond model compactness framework is proposed.
- Least favorable measure can be explicitly (or numerically) computed when uncertainty is determined by finitely many moment constraints.

- Approach not readily extendable to utility functions not bounded from below or defined in  $(-\infty, \infty)$
- Incomplete case : Dual problem can be embedded in a convex modular space with explicit topology (Banach lattice) and dual space. Coercivity holds, but space is not reflexive.

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