

Simple bounds for transaction costs

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Problem formulation

- S : d -dimensional continuous semimartingale.
- Frictionless market

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$$X^{\vartheta, \varepsilon} := X_0 + \int_0^\cdot \vartheta_s^\top dS_s - \varepsilon \int_0^\cdot d|\vartheta|_s - \mathbf{1}_{\{T\}} \varepsilon |\vartheta_T|.$$

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- Compare X^θ and $X^{\vartheta, \varepsilon}$ in terms of an \mathbf{L}_p norm or in terms of expected utility. In particular, compare

$$\sup_{\theta} \mathbb{E}[U(X_T^\theta)] \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_{\vartheta} \mathbb{E}[U(X_T^{\vartheta, \varepsilon})]$$

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- **Expected utility bounds**

$$|\sup_{\theta} \mathbb{E}[U(X_T^\theta)] - \sup_{\vartheta} \mathbb{E}[U(X_T^{\vartheta, \varepsilon})]| \leq C \varepsilon^{\frac{2}{3}}, \quad \text{for } \delta \sim \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}}.$$

Litterature (part of...)

- PDE approach : Goes back to Shreve and Soner (94), Whalley and Wilmott (97) - utility based pricing -, Jaceneck and Shreve (04) and Rogers (04) - ideas -.

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See also Cai, Rosenbaum and Tankov (17) for tracking errors (general asymptotic lower bounds in probability).

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- Based on mild moment conditions, that can be checked by using Malliavin calculus in complete Itô semimartingale frameworks.
- We restrict to bounded risk aversion but it can be made more general.
- Can be complemented by the approach of Soner and Touzi to derive explicit expansion.

Elementary L_p -bounds

- The simplest possible transaction region : ϑ solves the Skorohod problem

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \theta - \vartheta \in [-\delta, \delta]^d \text{ on } [0, T], \\ \sum_{i=1}^d \left(\int_0^T \mathbf{1}_{\{\theta_t^i - \vartheta_t^i = \delta\}} d\vartheta_t^{i+} + \int_0^T \mathbf{1}_{\{\theta_t^i - \vartheta_t^i = -\delta\}} d\vartheta_t^{i-} \right) = 0. \end{array} \right.$$

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- Take φ such that $-\varphi'(-1) = \varphi'(1) = 1$, $|\varphi| \vee |\varphi'| \vee |\varphi''| \leq 1$ and set $Z := (\theta - \vartheta)/\delta \in [-1, 1]$. Then ($d = 1$ case),

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$$\varphi(Z_t) = \varphi(Z_0) + \frac{1}{\delta} \left(\int_0^t \varphi'(Z_s) d(\theta - \vartheta)_s + \frac{1}{2\delta} \int_0^t \varphi''(Z_s) d\langle \theta \rangle_s \right)$$

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Thus, there exists $\xi \in \mathcal{B}_1$ (i.e. $\|\xi\| \leq 1$) s.t.

$$|\vartheta| \leq 2d\delta + \int_0^\cdot \xi_s^\top d\theta_s + \frac{1}{2\delta} \langle \theta \rangle.$$

Recall :

$$|\vartheta| \leq 2d\delta + \int_0^{\cdot} \xi_s^\top d\theta_s + \frac{1}{2\delta} \langle \theta \rangle.$$

□ **Assumption** : For some $p \geq 1$ and $\mathbb{Q} \sim \mathbb{P}$,

$$\sup_{\xi \in \mathcal{B}_1} \left\| \int_0^T \xi_s^\top d\theta_s \right\|_{\mathbf{L}_p(\mathbb{Q})} + \|\langle \theta \rangle_T\|_{\mathbf{L}_p(\mathbb{Q})} \leq C(p).$$

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□ **Remark** : Suppose that θ is a \mathbb{Q} -Brownian motion and choose $\varphi(z) = z^2/2$ for $z \in [-1, 1]$, then

$$\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} [|\vartheta|_t] = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[\delta(\varphi(Z_0) - \varphi(Z_t)) + \frac{d}{2\delta} t \right] \geq -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{d}{2\delta} t.$$

Generally speaking : this is just the Brownian motion scaling property...

□ As a consequence :

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \mathcal{X}_t^{\vartheta, \varepsilon} - \mathcal{X}_t^\theta \right| &= \left| \int_0^t (\vartheta_s - \theta_s)^\top dS_s - \varepsilon |\vartheta|_t - \mathbf{1}_{\{T\}} \varepsilon |\vartheta_T| \right| \\ &\leq \delta \left| \int_0^t \tilde{\xi}_s^\top dS_s \right| + 2\varepsilon \left(2d\delta + \int_0^t \xi_s^\top d\theta_s + \frac{1}{2\delta} \langle \theta \rangle_t \right) \end{aligned}$$

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□ **Proposition :**

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For $\delta = \varepsilon^{1/2} \in (0, 1)$,

$$\|X_t^{\vartheta, \varepsilon} - X_t^\theta\|_{\mathbf{L}_p(\mathbb{Q})} \leq C(p) \varepsilon^{1/2}.$$

□ Remark : if θ is a Brownian motion and S an Itô semi-martingale :

$$\begin{aligned} \delta \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[\int_0^t \xi_s^\top \mu_s^S ds \right] - c\varepsilon \left(1 + \frac{1}{\delta} \right) &\leq \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[X_t^{\vartheta, \varepsilon} - X_t^\theta \right] \\ &\leq \delta \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[\int_0^t \xi_s^\top \mu_s^S ds \right] - c'\varepsilon \left(1 + \frac{1}{\delta} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Cannot do better in general... unless S is a \mathbb{Q} -martingale (as in the utility maximization problem).

Elementary bounds for utility maximization

□ **Assumption** : U has a bounded risk aversion, namely

$$0 < r < -\frac{U''(x)}{U'(x)} < R < \infty, \quad \text{for constants } r, R \text{ and all } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

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- **Admissibility** \mathcal{A} (resp. \mathcal{A}^ϵ) : X^θ (resp. $X^{\theta, \epsilon}$) is a supermartingale under all absolutely continuous martingale measures with finite entropy.
- There exists an optimizer $\hat{\theta} \in \mathcal{A}$ and a dual optimizer $\hat{\mathbb{Q}} \sim \mathbb{P}$ s.t.

$$\frac{U'(X_T^{\hat{\theta}})}{\mathbb{E}[U'(X_T^{\hat{\theta}})]} = \frac{d\hat{\mathbb{Q}}}{d\mathbb{P}}.$$

Set $\Delta_T^\varepsilon := U(X_T^{\vartheta, \varepsilon}) - U(X_T^{\hat{\theta}})$. For some $\zeta^\varepsilon = \lambda X_T^{\vartheta, \varepsilon} + (1 - \lambda)X_T^{\hat{\theta}}$,

$$\mathbb{E}[\Delta_T^\varepsilon] = \mathbb{E} \left[U'(X_T^{\hat{\theta}}) (X_T^{\vartheta, \varepsilon} - X_T^{\hat{\theta}}) + \frac{1}{2} U''(\zeta^\varepsilon) (X_T^{\vartheta, \varepsilon} - X_T^{\hat{\theta}})^2 \right]$$

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with $\alpha := \mathbb{E}[U'(X_T^{\hat{\theta}})]$. Because risk aversion is bounded from above by R ,

$$\frac{U''(\zeta^\varepsilon)}{U'(X_T^{\hat{\theta}})} = \frac{U''(\zeta^\varepsilon)}{U'(\zeta^\varepsilon)} \frac{U'(\zeta^\varepsilon)}{U'(X_T^{\hat{\theta}})} \geq -Re^{R|\zeta^\varepsilon - X_T^{\hat{\theta}}|}.$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\Delta_T^\varepsilon] &\geq \alpha \mathbb{E}^{\hat{\mathbb{Q}}} \left[(X_T^{\vartheta, \varepsilon} - X_T^{\hat{\theta}}) - \frac{R}{2} e^{R|\zeta^\varepsilon - X_T^{\hat{\theta}}|} (X_T^{\vartheta, \varepsilon} - X_T^{\hat{\theta}})^2 \right] \\ &= \alpha \mathbb{E}^{\hat{\mathbb{Q}}} \left[(X_T^{\vartheta, \varepsilon} - X_T^{\hat{\theta}}) - \frac{R}{2} e^{R\lambda|X_T^{\vartheta, \varepsilon} - X_T^{\hat{\theta}}|} (X_T^{\vartheta, \varepsilon} - X_T^{\hat{\theta}})^2 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

□ **Assumption** : There exists $\iota > 0$ such that

$$\sup_{\xi \in \mathcal{B}_1} \left\{ \mathbb{E}^{\widehat{\mathbb{Q}}} \left[e^{\iota \int_0^T \xi_t^\top d\widehat{\theta}_t} \right] \right\} + \mathbb{E}^{\widehat{\mathbb{Q}}} \left[e^{\iota \langle \widehat{\theta} \rangle T} + e^{\iota(S)T} \right] \leq C.$$

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with $\eta > 1$ and $\mathcal{R}_\delta(\xi)_t := 2d\delta + \int_0^t \xi_s^\top d\widehat{\theta}_s + \frac{1}{2\delta} \langle \widehat{\theta} \rangle_t$.

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In particular,

$$\left| \sup_{\vartheta} \mathbb{E}[U(X_T^{\vartheta, \varepsilon})] - \sup_{\theta} \mathbb{E}[U(X_T^{\theta})] \right| \leq C \varepsilon^{\frac{2}{3}}.$$

Complete Itô diffusion case

- We assume that

$$S = S_0 + \int_0^{\cdot} \mu(S_t) dt + \int_0^{\cdot} \sigma(S_t) dW_t.$$

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Simply write that

$$X_T^{\hat{\theta}} = (U')^{-1} \left(c \, d\hat{\mathbb{Q}}/d\mathbb{P} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\theta}_t^\top \sigma(S_t) = \mathbb{E}^{\hat{\mathbb{Q}}}[D_t X_T^{\hat{\theta}} | \mathcal{F}_t]$$

and use standard estimates (need second order Malliavin derivatives to control the martingale part of θ).

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□ **Proposition :** θ is bounded and is of the form

$$\theta = \theta_0 + \int_0^\cdot \alpha_t dt + \int_0^\cdot \gamma_t dW_t^{\hat{\mathbb{Q}}},$$

where $\theta_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ and α, γ are bounded adapted processes.

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- We now write the frictionless wealth process as

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- The Skorokhod problem becomes

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But the analysis is very similar.... (simply a bit more painful to write).

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