

# An Axiomatic and Data Driven View on the EPK Paradox

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## Motivation

- Pricing kernel (PK)
    - ▶ Consumption based models
      - marginal rate of consumption substitution
    - ▶ Arbitrage free models
      - Radon-Nikodym derivative of the physical measure w.r.t. the risk neutral measure
  - ▶ Risk Neutral Valuation
  - ▶ PK - Black-Scholes
- 
- Empirical pricing kernel (EPK)
    - ▶ Any estimate of the PK
    - ▶ EPK paradox - locally increasing EPK



# EPK Paradox

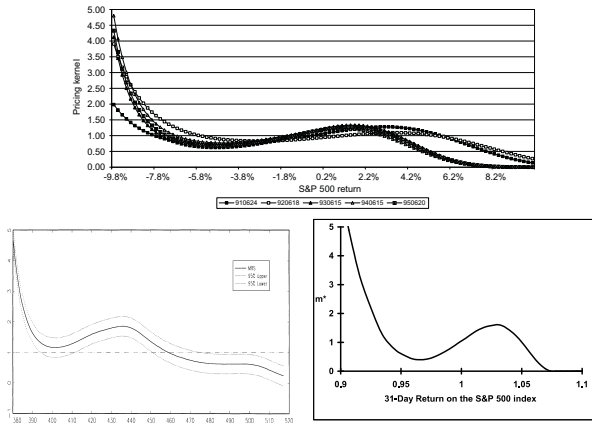


Figure 1: EPK's: Engle and Rosenberg (2002), Ait-Sahalia and Lo (2000), Brown and Jackwerth (2004)



## EPK Paradox

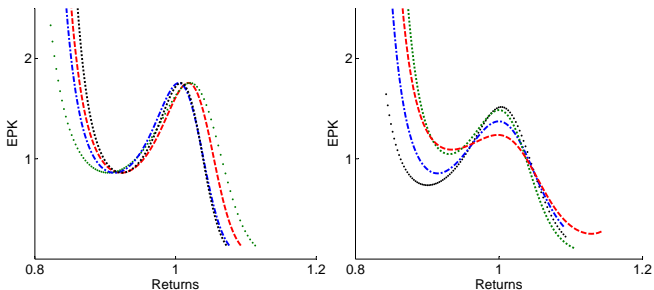


Figure 2: EPK's for various maturities (left) and different estimation dates for fixed maturity 1M (right), Grith et al. (2010)



## EPK Paradox

Figure 3: EPK's across moneyiness  $\kappa$  and maturity  $\tau$  for DAX from 20010101 – 20011231, Giacomini and Härdle (2008)



## EPK Paradox

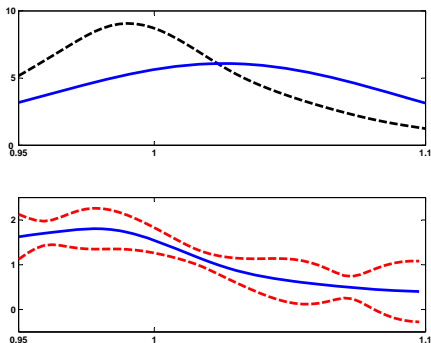


Figure 4: Upper panel: estimated risk neutral density  $\hat{q}$  and historical density  $\hat{p}$ . Lower panel: EPK and 95% uniform confidence bands on 20080228, Härdle et al. (2010)



## Objectives

- Pricing kernel derivation
  - ▶ Adjust individual and aggregate preferences
  - ▶ State-dependent (state variable: market return)
  - ▶ Simulation study
  
- Fitting EPK's
  - ▶ Test function approach
  - ▶ Empirical study



## Research Questions

- How to modify standard expected utility theory to rationalize the EPK paradox?
- How well can 'observed' EPK's be fitted?
- How sensitive are results with respect to the preference parameters?





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# Outline

1. Motivation ✓
2. Microeconomic Framework
3. Pricing Kernel
4. Fitting EPK's
5. Empirical Study
6. Statistical Properties
7. Conclusions



## Assumptions

### □ Financial markets

- ▶ Finite investment time horizon  $[0, T]$  and  $r$  risk free interest rate
- ▶ Risky asset with prices  $\{S_t\}_{0 \leq t \leq T}$  and return  $R_T = S_T/S_0$
- ▶ Arbitrage free market, at least one equivalent martingale measure with density  $\pi$

### □ $m$ Consumers

- ▶ Endowment  $e_i(R_T)$  and consumption  $c_i(R_T)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$
- ▶ State-dependent utility function



## State-Dependent Utility - Literature Review

### □ Axiomatisation

- ▶ Dreze and Rustichini (2004)
- ▶ Evans and Viscusi (1991)
- ▶ Mas-Colell, Winston und Green (1995)

### □ Empirical evidence

- ▶ Karni, Schmeidler and Vind (1983)



## Individual Preferences

- Consumer  $i$ 's extended expected utility, Mas-Colell et al. (1995)

$$U^i \{c_i(R_T)\} = E [u^i \{R_T, c_i(R_T)\}],$$

with  $u^i : \mathbb{R}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  - state dependent utility index

$$u^i \{R_T, c_i(R_T)\} = u_i^0 \{c_i(R_T)\} \mathbf{1} \{R_T \in [0, x_i]\} + u_i^1 \{c_i(R_T)\} \mathbf{1} \{R_T \in (x_i, \infty)\}$$

$x_i \in [0, \infty)$  - reference point of consumer  $i$ ;  $x_1 \leq \dots \leq x_m$

$u_i^0, u_i^1 : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  - utility indices

- strictly increasing, concave and twice cts differentiable



## Individual Preferences

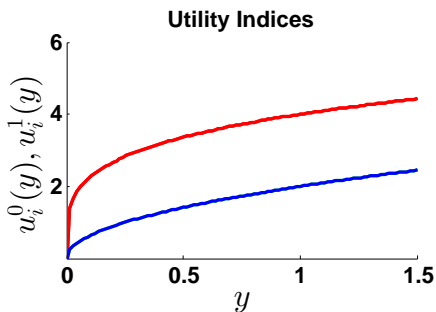


Figure 5: Utility indices  $w_i^0(y) = y^{0.25}/0.25$  (bearish market) and  $w_i^1(y) = y^{0.50}/0.50$  (bullish market)



## Equilibrium

- Individual optimization

$$\bar{c}_i(R_T) = \arg \max_{c_i(R_T)} U^i \{c_i(R_T)\}$$

- Market clearing

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \bar{c}_i(R_T) = \sum_{i=1}^m e_i(R_T) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bar{e}(R_T)$$

- ▶ Pareto optimal  $\bar{c}_1(R_T), \dots, \bar{c}_m(R_T)$



## Aggregated Preferences

- Aggregated extended expected preferences

$$U_{\alpha} \{ \bar{e} (R_T) \} = E [ u_{\alpha} \{ R_T, \bar{e} (R_T) \} ],$$

with  $u_{\alpha} : \mathbb{R}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  - aggregated indirect utility

$$\begin{aligned} u_{\alpha} \{ R_T, \bar{e} (R_T) \} = & u_{\alpha,1} \{ \bar{e} (R_T) \} I \{ R_T \in [0, x_1] \} + \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} u_{\alpha,i+1} \{ \bar{e} (R_T) \} I \{ R_T \in (x_i, x_{i+1}] \} + \\ & + u_{\alpha,m+1} \{ \bar{e} (R_T) \} I \{ R_T \in (x_m, \infty) \} \end{aligned}$$

$$u_{\alpha,j} \{ \bar{e} (R_T) \} = \sum_{k=1}^m \alpha_k u_k^0 \{ \bar{c}_k (R_T) \} I \{ k \geq j \} + \sum_{k=1}^m \alpha_k u_k^1 \{ \bar{c}_k (R_T) \} I \{ k < j \}$$

for  $j = 1, \dots, m + 1$  and importance weights  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m)^T$



## Pricing Kernel

### Theorem

If  $\bar{e}(r_T) = r_T$  then for every realization  $r_T$  of  $R_T$

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_\pi(r_T) &= \frac{\partial u_{\alpha,1}\{y\}}{\partial y} \Big|_{y=r_T} \mathbb{I}\{r_T \in [0, x_1]\} + \\ &+ \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \frac{\partial u_{\alpha,i+1}\{y\}}{\partial y} \Big|_{y=r_T} \mathbb{I}\{r_T \in (x_i, x_{i+1}]\} + \\ &+ \frac{\partial u_{\alpha,m+1}\{y\}}{\partial y} \Big|_{y=r_T} \mathbb{I}\{r_T \in (x_m, \infty)\}.\end{aligned}$$

Note:  $\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_\pi(r_T)$  is nonincreasing separately on the intervals  $[0, x_1], (x_1, x_2], \dots, (x_m, \infty)$  but may be nonmonotone at  $x_i$ 's





## Risk Aversion

- Arrow-Pratt coefficients of absolute risk aversion (ARA) at  $x_i$ 's from the left and from the right

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0_+} \frac{\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_{\pi}(x_i - \delta) - \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_{\pi}(x_i)}{\delta \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_{\pi}(x_i)}, \quad \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0_+} \frac{\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_{\pi}(x_i + \delta) - \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_{\pi}(x_i)}{\delta \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_{\pi}(x_i)}$$



## Example 1

**Example 1.** Consider  $m$  investors with identical reference point  $x_1$  that switch between constant relative risk aversion (CRRA) utilities  $u_i^0(y) = y^{\gamma_i^0} / \gamma_i^0$  and  $u_i^1(y) = y^{\gamma_i^1} / \gamma_i^1$ ,  $0 < \gamma_i^0 < \gamma_i^1 < 1$ .

$$\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_{\pi}(r_T) = r_T^{\gamma_{\alpha}^0 - 1} \mathbb{I}\{r_T \in [0, x_1]\} + r_T^{\gamma_{\alpha}^1 - 1} \mathbb{I}\{r_T \in (x_1, \infty)\},$$

$$\gamma_{\alpha}^{\ell} - 1 = r_T / \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\bar{c}_i(r_T)}{\gamma_i^{\ell} - 1}, \quad \ell = \{0, 1\} \text{ - implied CRRA coeff's}$$



## Example 1

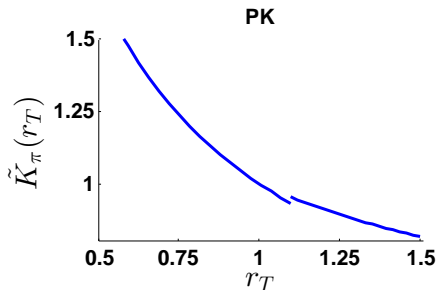
[▶ R code](#)

Figure 6: Pricing kernel  $\tilde{K}_\pi(r_T)$  for  $x_1 = 1.1$  and  $\gamma_\alpha^0 = 0.25 < \gamma_\alpha^1 = 0.50$



## Example 2

**Example 2.** Consider  $m$  investors with possibly different reference points  $x_i$ 's that switch between CRRA utilities  $u^0(y) = b_0 \frac{y^\gamma}{\gamma}$  and  $u^1(y) = b_1 \frac{y^\gamma}{\gamma}$ . Let  $F(r_T)$  be the cdf of the reference points

$$F(r_T) = m^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^m I\{x_i \leq r_T\}$$

$$\mathcal{K}_{v,F}(r_T) = \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_\pi(r_T) = \left[ \frac{r_T}{\{1 - F(r_T)\} b_0^{\frac{1}{1-\gamma}} + F(r_T) b_1^{\frac{1}{1-\gamma}}} \right]^{\gamma-1} \quad (1)$$

for parameters  $v = (\gamma, b_0, b_1)^\top$ ,  $0 < b_0 \leq b_1$



## Example 2

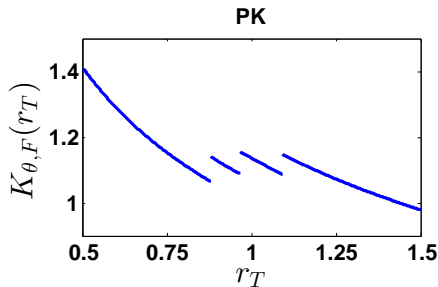
[▶ R code](#)

Figure 7: Pricing kernel  $\mathcal{K}_{v, F}(r_T)$  with  $\gamma = 0.5$ ,  $b_0 = 1$ ,  $b_1 = 1.2$  and  $m = 3$  with uniformly generated reference points



## Example 2 [▶ R code](#)

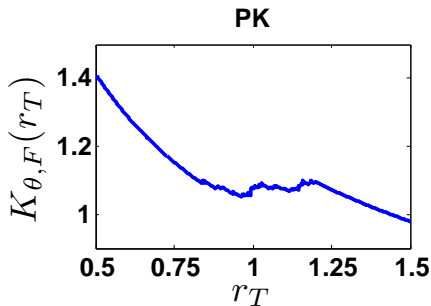


Figure 8: Pricing kernel  $\mathcal{K}_{v, F}(r_T)$  with  $\gamma = 0.5$ ,  $b_0 = 1$ ,  $b_1 = 1.2$  and  $m = 40$  with reference points generated from a triangular distribution



## Example 2

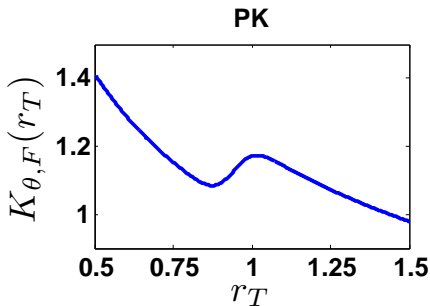
[▶ R code](#)

Figure 9: Pricing kernel  $\mathcal{K}_{v, F}(r_T)$  with  $\gamma = 0.5$ ,  $b_0 = 1$ ,  $b_1 = 1.2$  and  $m = 40$  with reference points generated from a normal distribution



## Example 2

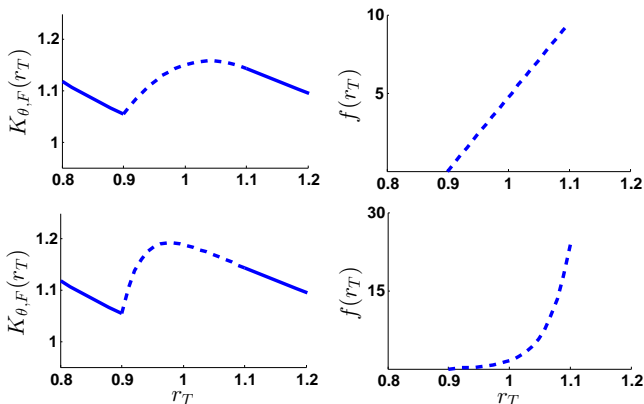


Figure 10:  $\mathcal{K}_{v, F}(r_T)$  and rescaled pdf's  $f(r_T) = \partial F(r_T)/\partial r_T$  for the linear and exponential specifications with  $\gamma = 0.5$ ,  $b_0 = 1$  and  $b_1 = 1.2$





## Example 2

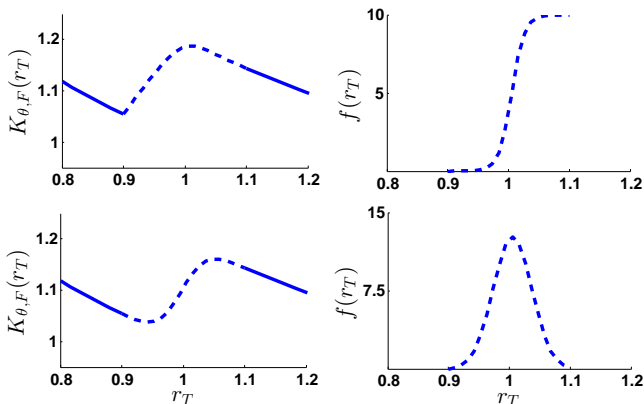


Figure 11:  $\mathcal{K}_{v, F}(r_T)$  and rescaled pdf's  $f(r_T) = \partial F(r_T)/\partial r_T$  for the logistic and bell shaped specifications with  $\gamma = 0.5$ ,  $b_0 = 1$  and  $b_1 = 1.2$



## Fitting EPK's

### Test function approach, e.g., Izuchi (1997)

- Family  $\mathcal{V}$  of strictly decreasing  $C^1$ -mappings  $v : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} v(x) = \infty$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} v(x) = 0$
- $\mathcal{Z}_N$  - set of partitions  $\mathbf{x}_N = (x_1, \dots, x_N)^\top$  with  $N \leq m$   
**switching points**,  $\underline{z} = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_N < x_{N+1} = \bar{z}$
- Test function for  $\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_\pi(x)$  approximation to fit an observed  $\hat{\mathcal{K}}(x)$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N+1} v_i(x) \mathbb{I}\{x \in (x_{i-1}, x_i]\}$$



## Fitting EPK's

- Find  $x_N^*, v_1^*, \dots, v_{N+1}^*$  that minimize

$$\int \left\{ \widehat{\mathcal{K}}(x) - \sum_{i=1}^{N+1} v_i(x) \mathbb{I}\{x \in (x_{i-1}, x_i]\} \right\}^2 p(x) dx$$

for observed  $\widehat{\mathcal{K}}(x)$  and  $p$  - pdf of  $X$

- Grid-based approach - find  $\widehat{v}$  and  $\widehat{F}$  that minimize

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \left\{ \widehat{\mathcal{K}}(s_j) - \mathcal{K}_{v,F}(s_j) \right\}^2 \widehat{p}(s_j) (s_j - s_{j-1})$$

for observation points  $\{s_j\}_{j=0}^n$ , see Example 2 (??)



## Data

### □ Financial markets

- ▶ EUREX European option data on 20000920 and 20060621
- ▶ Daily DAX returns - past 500 observations until 20000920 and 20060621 respectively

### □ Pricing kernels

- ▶  $\hat{\mathcal{K}}(r_T)$  - Grith et al. (2010)
- ▶  $\mathcal{K}_{v,F}(r_T) = \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_{\pi}(r_T)$  - semi-parametric PK (??)
- ▶  $\mathcal{K}_{\hat{v},\hat{F}}(r_T)$  - estimated  $\mathcal{K}_{v,F}(r_T)$



## Fitting Results

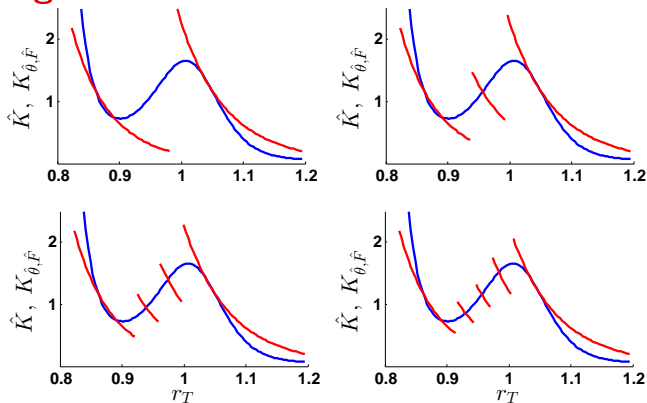


Figure 12:  $\hat{K}(r_T)$  on 20000920 and  $K_{\hat{\nu}, \hat{F}}(r_T)$  for  $m = 1, 2, 3, 4$ .  
 $\hat{\nu} = (-12.61, 0.15, 2.27)^\top$



## Fitting Results

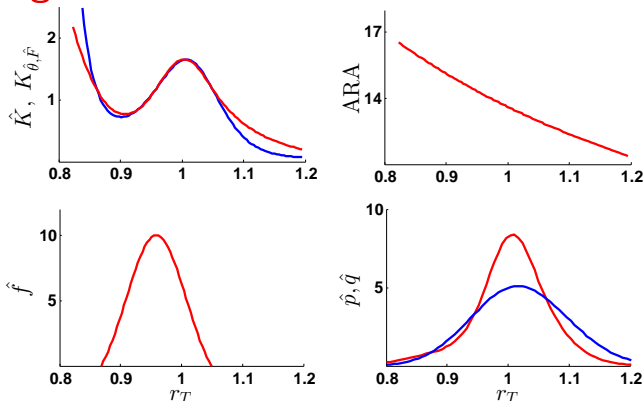


Figure 13:  $\hat{K}(r_T)$  on 20000920 and  $K_{\hat{\nu}, \hat{F}}(r_T)$  with implied ARA. Rescaled  $\hat{f}$  and  $\hat{p}, \hat{q}$ .  $\hat{\nu} = (-12.61, 0.15, 2.27)^\top$



## Fitting Results

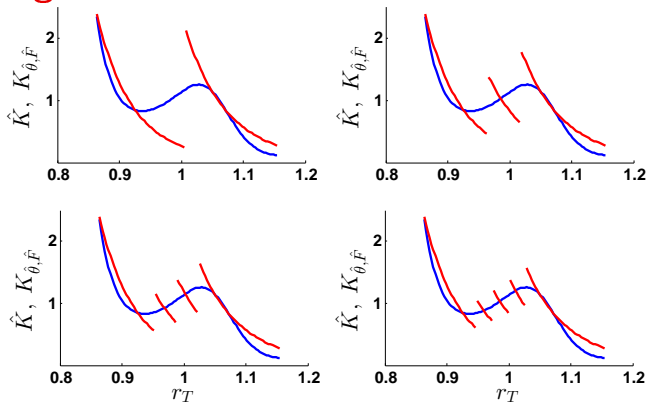


Figure 14:  $\hat{K}(r_T)$  on 20060621 and  $K_{\hat{\nu}, \hat{F}}(r_T)$  for  $m = 1, 2, 3, 4$ .  
 $\hat{\nu} = (-13.96, 0.27, 2.38)^\top$



## Fitting Results

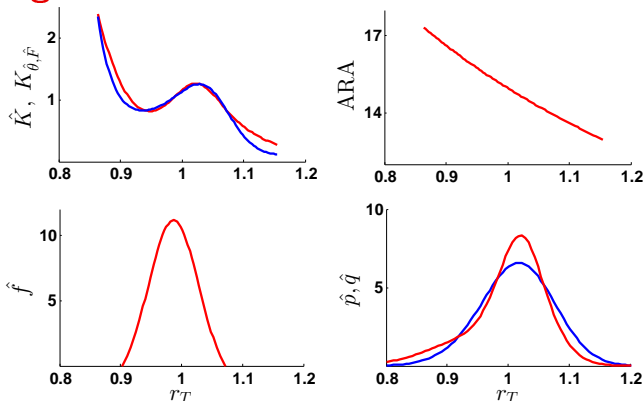


Figure 15:  $\hat{K}(r_T)$  on 20060621 and  $K_{\hat{\theta}, \hat{F}}(r_T)$  with implied ARA. Rescaled  $\hat{f}$  and  $\hat{p}, \hat{q}$ .  $\hat{v} = (-13.96, 0.27, 2.38)^\top$





## Semiparametric Pricing Kernel

$$\mathcal{K}_{v,F}(x) = \left[ \frac{x}{\{1 - F(x)\} b_0^{\frac{1}{1-\gamma}} + F(x) b_1^{\frac{1}{1-\gamma}}} \right]^{\gamma-1}$$

with  $v = (\gamma, b_0, b_1)^\top$  and  $F$  cdf.

$$F(x) = \int_0^x \sum_{k=1}^p \beta_k \psi_k(u) du = \sum_{k=1}^p \beta_k \int_0^x \psi_k(u) du = \sum_{k=1}^p \beta_k \Psi_k(x)$$

with  $p$  fixed. Then

$$G(x; \theta) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{K}_{v,F}(x), \quad \theta = (\gamma, b_0, b_1, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_p)^\top$$



## Log-likelihood Approach

Assume that for  $y_j = \widehat{\mathcal{K}}(x_j)$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$  it holds

$$y_j = G(x_j; \theta) + \varepsilon_j$$

- $G(\cdot)$  is twice differentiable
- exponential moments of  $\varepsilon_j$  exists

For  $Y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)^\top$  and  $X = (x_1, \dots, x_n)^\top$

$$L(X, Y; \theta) = L(\theta) = - \sum_{j=1}^n \{y_j - G(x_j, \theta)\}^2$$

$$\tilde{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta} L(\theta) \quad \text{and} \quad \theta^* = \arg \max_{\theta} E L(\theta)$$



## Finite Sample Theory

$$L(\theta) = \underbrace{E L(\theta)}_{\text{deterministic function}} + \underbrace{\zeta(\theta)}_{\text{stochastic component}}$$

### Excess log-likelihood

$$L(\theta, \theta^*) = L(\theta) - L(\theta^*)$$

helps explain statistical properties of MLE  $\tilde{\theta}$  within a local set  $\Theta_0(r) = \{\theta : \|V_0(\theta - \theta^*)\| \leq r\}$  for  $V_0 = \text{Var}\{\nabla\zeta(\theta^*)\}$ .

Under some smoothness conditions for  $E L(\theta)$  and  $\zeta(\theta)$

$$L(\theta, \theta^*) \approx (\theta - \theta^*)^\top \nabla\zeta(\theta^*) - \|D_0(\theta - \theta^*)\|^2/2$$

for  $D_0^2 = -\nabla^2 E L(\theta^*)$ , Spokoiny (2012)



## Conclusions

### Pricing kernel derivation

- Reference points determine jumps in the aggregate utility
- State-dependent preferences may explain the EPK paradox

### Fitting EPK's

- Quality increases with the number of switching points
- Semi-parametric PK specification successfully applied



# Conclusions

## Further Research

- ▣ Multidimensional reference points
- ▣ Dynamic implementation (PK's, reference points)
- ▣ Statistical estimation methodology for semi-parametric PK's
- ▣ Theoretical properties of  $\hat{v}$  and  $\hat{F}$



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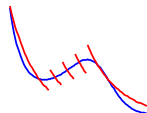
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## Risk Neutral Valuation ► Motivation

- Present value of the payoffs  $\psi(S_T)$

$$P_0 = E_Q \left[ e^{-Tr} \psi(s_T) \right] = \int_0^\infty e^{-Tr} \psi(s_T) \mathcal{K}(s_T) p(s_T) ds_T$$

$r$  risk free interest rate,  $\{S_t\}_{t \in [0, T]}$  stock price process,  
 $p$  pdf of  $S_T$ ,  $Q$  risk neutral measure,  $\mathcal{K}(\cdot)$  pricing kernel



## PK under the Black-Scholes Model ► Motivation

- Geometric Brownian motion for  $S_t$

$$\frac{dS_t}{S_t} = \mu dt + \sigma dW_t$$

$\mu$  mean,  $\sigma$  volatility,  $W_t$  Wiener process

- Physical density  $p$  is log-normal,  $\tau = T - t$

$$p_t(S_T) = \frac{1}{S_T \sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\tau}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{\log(S_T/S_t) - \left(\mu - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right)\tau}{\sigma\sqrt{\tau}} \right\}^2 \right]$$

- Risk neutral density  $q$  is log-normal: replace  $\mu$  by  $r$



## PK under the Black-Scholes Model ► Motivation

- PK is a decreasing function in  $S_T$  for fixed  $S_t$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{K}(S_t, S_T) &= \left(\frac{S_T}{S_t}\right)^{-\frac{\mu-r}{\sigma^2}} \exp\left\{\frac{(\mu-r)(\mu+r-\sigma^2)\tau}{2\sigma^2}\right\} \\ &= b \left(\frac{S_T}{S_t}\right)^{-\delta}\end{aligned}$$

$b = \exp\left\{\frac{(\mu-r)(\mu+r-\sigma^2)\tau}{2\sigma^2}\right\}$  and  $\delta = \frac{\mu-r}{\sigma^2} \geq 0$  constant relative risk aversion (CRRA) coefficient



## Example 1

▶ Example 1

```
# Step 1/3: Input parameters
R = t(matrix(seq(0.8, 1.2, by = 0.01), 1))
x0 <- 1.1
gamma0 <- 0.25
gamma1 <- 0.50

# Step 2/3: Define the PK
K = R[R <= x0, ] ^ (gamma0 - 1)
K2 = R[R >= x0, ] ^ (gamma1 - 1)

# Step 3/3: Plot the PK against simple gross market return
plot(R[R <= x0, ], K, type = 'l', lwd = 3, col = "blue",
     xlim = c(0.8, 1.2), ylim = c(0.8, 1.25), xlab = "r_T")
lines(R[R >= x0, ], K2, type = 'l', lwd = 3, col = "blue",
     xlim = c(0.8, 1.2), ylim = c(0.8, 1.25), xlab = "r_T")
```



## Example 2

▶ Example 2

```
gamma = 0.5
b0 = 1
b1 = 1.2

# Step 1/3: Input parameters and F_n
n = 1000
s = seq(0.5, 1.5, 0.2/n)
m = 10 # number of switching points
x = runif(m, 0.8, 1.2)
F_n = ecdf(x)(s)

# Step 2/3: Define the PK
PK = (s/((1 - F_n)*b0^(1/(1-gamma)) + F_n*b1^(1/(1-gamma))))^(gamma-1)

# Step 3/3: Plot the PK against simple gross market return
plot( cbind(s, PK) )
```

EPK Paradox



## Example 2

▶ Example 2

```
gamma = 0.5
b0 = 1
b1 = 1.2

# Step 1/3: Input parameters and F_n
n = 1000
s = seq(0.5, 1.5, 0.2/n)
m = 40 # number of switching points
x = 0.8 + 0.4*sqrt(runif(m))
F_n = ecdf(x)(s)

# Step 2/3: Define the PK
PK = (s/((1 - F_n)*b0^(1/(1-gamma)) + F_n*b1^(1/(1-gamma))))^(gamma-1)

# Step 3/3: Plot the PK against simple gross market return
plot( cbind(s, PK) )
```

EPK Paradox





## Example 2

▶ Example 2

```
gamma = 0.5
```

```
b0 = 1
```

```
b1 = 1.2
```

```
# Step 1/3: Input parameters and F_n
```

```
n = 1000
```

```
s = seq(0.5, 1.5, 0.2/n)
```

```
m = 40 # number of switching points
```

```
F_n = pnorm( 20*(s-0.95) )
```

```
# Step 2/3: Define the PK
```

```
PK = (s/((1 - F_n)*b0^(1/(1-gamma)) + F_n*b1^(1/(1-gamma))))^(gamma-1)
```

```
# Step 3/3: Plot the PK against simple gross market return
```

```
plot( cbind(s, PK) )
```

