

Convex duality  
for expected  
utility  
maximization

S. Biagini  
A. Černý

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# Convex duality and Orlicz spaces in expected utility maximization

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# Outline

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- A new look at utility maximization for arbitrary  $U$
- New Fenchel duality result with very interesting economic interpretation
- Links to [Kramkov and Schachermayer \(1999, 2003\)](#)
- New approach for obtaining integral representation of optimal strategy
- Separation theorem via conjugate duality (without non-empty interiors)
- The work motivates study of Orlicz-based FTAP
- Available from <http://arxiv.org/abs/1711.09121>

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- Self-financing strategy  $H$
- Wealth is a stochastic integral

$$B + H \cdot S_t := B + \int_{(0,t]} H_s dS_s$$

- $B$  is initial wealth / random endowment
- Semimartingale  $S$  represents price of  $d$  risky assets
- Stochastic integration theory requires  $H \in L(S)$
- Harrison and Kreps (1979) note things go wrong when all trading strategies in  $L(S)$  are allowed
- Solution: use “tame” strategies, wealth bounded from below

$$\mathcal{T}_\infty := \{H \in L(S) \mid (-H \cdot S \vee 0)_T^* \in L^\infty\}$$

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- This works well also for utility functions with domain bounded below (e.g.  $\log$ )

$$u(B) := \sup_{H \in \mathcal{T}_\infty} E[U(B + H \cdot S_T)] = \max_{H \in \mathcal{T}_\infty} E[U(B + H \cdot S_T)]$$

- Problem #1: For general  $U$  the set  $\mathcal{T}_\infty$  is too restrictive  $\rightarrow$  work with wider class of tame strategies  $\mathcal{T}_U$  instead
- Problem #2: Maximizer typically does not belong to  $\mathcal{T}_U$
- We need “admissible strategies”  $\mathcal{A}_U$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} u(B) &= \sup_{H \in \mathcal{T}_U} E[U(x + H \cdot S_T)] = \sup_{H \in \mathcal{A}_U} E[U(B + H \cdot S_T)] \\ &= \max_{H \in \mathcal{A}_U} E[U(B + H \cdot S_T)] \end{aligned}$$

# Two streams

- Literature has two streams
  - Utility functions finite on a half-line (solved)
  - Utility functions finite on the whole  $\mathbb{R}$  (some gaps left)
  - Not clear how the two fit together
- Random endowment  $B$
- When  $B$  is constant we write  $x = B$

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# Utility finite on half-line

- Solved by [Kramkov and Schachermayer \(1999, 2003\)](#)
- $S$  need not be locally bounded
- Assume no arbitrage, take  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{T}_\infty$
- KS99: Optimal strategy in **all probabilistic models for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$**  iff  $U$  has reasonable asymptotic elasticity,  $\text{RAE}(+\infty)$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{xU'(x)}{U(x)} < 1$$

- KS03: Optimal strategy in **a given probab. model for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$**  iff indirect utility satisfies

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{u(x)}{x} = 0$$

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# Utility functions finite on the whole $\mathbb{R}$

- Problem #1: Optimizer not in  $\mathcal{T}_\infty$ , cf. Black-Scholes model
- Solution: Schachermayer (2001)  $X$  is admissible terminal wealth if there are  $H^n \in \mathcal{T}_\infty$  such that

$$U(x + H^n \cdot S_T) \xrightarrow{L^1(P)} U(X)$$

- Now  $S$  must be locally bounded
- $U$  must satisfy  $\text{RAE}(-\infty)$  to guarantee optimizer in all models for all  $x$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{xU'(x)}{U(x)} > 1$$

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# $U$ finite on $\mathbb{R}$ : admissible trading strategies

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- Problem #2: we have optimal terminal wealth but where is the optimal strategy  $H$ ?

$$X = x + H \cdot S_T$$

- Delbaen et al. (2002), Kabanov and Stricker (2002)

$H \in \mathcal{A} \iff H \cdot S$  is a **martingale** under all  
local martingale measures

- Works well for exponential utility with  $S$  locally bounded
- Schachermayer (2003) shows in general we need

$H \in \mathcal{A} \iff H \cdot S$  is a **supermartingale** under all  
local martingale measures



# $U$ finite on $\mathbb{R}$ : beyond locally bounded $S$

- Problem #3: Utility maximization makes sense for  $S$  with unbounded jumps
- Biagini and Frittelli (2005, 2007, 2008) define tame strategies via bigger Orlicz space  $L^{\hat{U}}$

$$\mathcal{T}_{U,W} := \{H \in L(S) \mid (-H \cdot S \vee 0)_T^* \leq W \in L^{\hat{U}}\}$$

- $\hat{U}$  is left tail of  $U$ ; it always holds that

$$L^\infty \hookrightarrow L^{\hat{U}} \hookrightarrow L^1$$

- $\mathcal{A}$  is the supermartingale class (dual definition)
- $S$  is not locally bounded but must be compatible with  $\hat{U}$
- Solution may in principle depend on the loss control  $W$

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- Quadratic utility: Č. and Kallsen (2007)
  - $U(x) = x - x^2/2$
  - $S$  is (locally) in  $L^2$
- Kallsen's definition of admissibility – purely under  $P$  (no duality)
- $\mathcal{T}$ : buy-and-hold (locally), bounded volume
- $H$  is admissible iff there is sequence of tame  $H^n$  such that
  - $H^n \cdot S_t \rightarrow H \cdot S_t$  in probability for all  $t$
  - $H^n \cdot S_T \rightarrow H \cdot S_T$  in  $L^2(P)$

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- Biagini and Č. (2011) general  $U$
- Admissibility: swap  $L^2$ -convergence for

$$U(x + H^n \cdot S_T) \xrightarrow{L^1(P)} U(x + H \cdot S_T)$$

- Walter got there first. But we have approximations at intermediate times.
- Tame strategies controlled from both sides

$$\mathcal{T} := \{H \in L(S) \mid (H \cdot S)_T^* \in L^{\hat{U}}\}$$

- Compatibility requirement  $S \in \mathcal{S}_\sigma^{\hat{U}}$  i.e.  $|S|_T^* \in L^{\hat{U}}$   $\sigma$ -locally
- Dual optimizer is a  $\sigma$ -martingale measure

$$\mathcal{M} := \{Q \ll P \mid S \text{ is a } Q\text{-}\sigma\text{-martingale}\}$$

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- Assume  $B \in L^{\hat{U}}$  throughout
- Tame strategies with max loss in  $L^{\hat{U}}$  (control from below)

$$\mathcal{T} := \{H \in L(S) \mid (-H \cdot S \vee 0)_T^* \in L^{\hat{U}}\}$$

- No compatibility requirement on  $S$
- Admissible strategies: modify intermediate convergence

$$(\operatorname{rqlim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} H^{(n)} \cdot S)_t := \lim_{q \searrow t, q \in \mathbb{Q}} \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} H^{(n)} \cdot S_q \right)$$

- Require  $H \cdot S = \operatorname{rqlim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} H^{(n)} \cdot S$  only on the set

$$U(B + H \cdot S_T) < U(\infty)$$

# Conjugate duality

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- Follow [Rockafellar \(1974\)](#)
- For concave  $f$  define concave **conjugate function**  $f^*$

$$f^*(y) = \inf_x \{\langle x, y \rangle - f(x)\}$$

- For convex  $f$  define convex conjugate

$$f^*(y) = \sup_x \{\langle x, y \rangle - f(x)\}$$

- Meaning of  $\langle x, y \rangle$  depends on the context:
  - $\langle x, y \rangle = xy$  when  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$
  - $\langle X, Y \rangle = E[XY]$  when  $X, Y$  are random variables
  - $\langle x, y \rangle = y(x)$  when  $y$  is understood as a linear functional
- **Effective domain** is also overloaded: for concave  $f$

$$\text{dom } f := \{x : f(x) > -\infty\}$$

# Economic duality

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- Take  $U$  and compute its conjugate  $U^*$
- Let  $V := -U^*$
- Let  $\hat{V}$  be the **right** tail of  $V$ ; we also have  $\hat{V} = \hat{U}^*$
- The space of all  $Y$  such that  $\langle X, Y \rangle = E[XY]$  is finite for all  $X \in L^{\hat{U}}$  is precisely  $L^{\hat{V}}$  (Zaanen, 1983)
- To represent prices as expectations one must work in duality  $(L^{\hat{U}}, L^{\hat{V}})$
- $\text{RAE}(-\infty)$  on  $U$  is equivalent to  $\Delta_2(+\infty)$  on  $V$  and  $\hat{V}$
- Therefore  $\text{RAE}(-\infty)$  on  $U$  implies  $L^{\hat{V}} = M^{\hat{V}}$
- $M^{\hat{V}}$  = Orlicz heart (Edgar and Sucheston, 1989)  
= Morse-Transue space (Morse and Transue, 1950)

# Orlicz spaces as modular spaces

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- Integral functional  $I_\varphi$

$$I_\varphi(X) := E[\varphi(X)]$$

- $I_{\hat{U}}$  plays the role of so-called **modular**
  - $X \in L^{\hat{U}} \iff I_{\hat{U}}(\lambda X)$  for **some**  $\lambda > 0$ ;
  - $X \in M^{\hat{U}} \iff I_{\hat{U}}(\lambda X)$  for **all**  $\lambda > 0$
- modular convergence  $I_{\hat{U}}(\lambda(X_n - X)) \rightarrow 0$  for some  $\lambda > 0$ ;
- gauge norm  $\|X\|_{\hat{U}} = \inf\{\lambda > 0 \mid I_{\hat{U}}(X/\lambda) \leq 1\}$ ;
- More general modular space: Musielak-Orlicz
  - accomodates state-dependent utility
- Further generalization: Banach lattice theory
  - Original space  $L$  (here  $L^{\hat{U}}$ ); dual space  $L_n^\sim$  (here  $L^{\hat{V}}$ )
  - Modular on  $L_n^\sim$  defined by conjugation (here  $I_{\hat{V}}$ )

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- Nowak (1989)
  - Strong topology  $\beta(L^{\hat{U}}, L^{\hat{V}})$  coincides with norm topology
  - Modular topology coincides with Mackey topology  $\tau(L^{\hat{U}}, L^{\hat{V}})$
- $\beta(L^{\hat{U}}, L^{\hat{V}})$  may not be compatible with economic duality
- The following are equivalent
  - modular  $I_{\hat{U}}$  is metrizing; i.e.  $I_{\hat{U}}(X_n) \rightarrow 0 \implies I_{\hat{U}}(2X_n) \rightarrow 0$ ;
  - $X_n \rightarrow 0$  modularly  $\implies X_n \rightarrow 0$  in norm;
  - modular and strong topology coincide;
  - $L^{\hat{U}}$  is barrelled in modular topology;
  - $L^{\hat{V}}$  is norm-dual of  $L^{\hat{U}}$ ;  $(L^{\hat{U}})^* = L^{\hat{V}}$
- If, additionally the probability space is not finite
  - $M^{\hat{U}} = L^{\hat{U}}$
- If, additionally the probability space is not purely atomic
  - $\hat{U}$  satisfies  $\Delta_2(+\infty)$ ; i.e. there is  $K > 0$  and  $x_0 > 0$  such that

$$\hat{U}(2x) \leq K\hat{U}(x) \text{ for all } x > x_0$$



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- We need three conjugation symbols
- Norm (strong) dual  $(L^{\hat{U}})^*$ ; conjugate  $f^*$
- Economic (modular) dual  $L^{\hat{V}}$ ; conjugate  $f^{\otimes}$ 
  - compatible topologies between  $\sigma(L^{\hat{U}}, L^{\hat{V}})$  and  $\tau(L^{\hat{U}}, L^{\hat{V}})$
- In KS99,03  $L^{\hat{U}} = (L^{\hat{V}})^*$
- In general this is not true but one has  $L^{\hat{U}} = (M^{\hat{V}})^*$
- Weak\* dual  $M^{\hat{V}}$  (for  $L^{\hat{U}} \approx L^1$ ); conjugate  $f^*$ 
  - \*-u.s.c. characterized by sequences [Gao and Xanthos \(2018\)](#)
- $(L^{\hat{U}})^* \leftrightarrow L^{\hat{V}} \leftrightarrow M^{\hat{V}}$  ( $\star$  strong,  $\otimes$  modular,  $*$  weak-star)
- Connections to criteria for relative  $\sigma(L^\varphi, L^{\varphi^*})$ -compactness ([Andô, 1962](#); [Nowak, 1993](#))

# How easy is it to have $M^{\hat{V}} \subsetneq L^{\hat{V}}$ ?

- All commonly used utility functions have  $\hat{V} \in \Delta_2(+\infty)$
- If  $\hat{V}$  grows faster than power then for sure  $\hat{V} \notin \Delta_2(+\infty)$
- Converse is not true: for any  $p \geq 1$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is  $\hat{V}$  such that [Salekhov \(1968\)](#)
  - $L^{p+\varepsilon} \leftrightarrow L^{\hat{V}} \leftrightarrow L^p$
  - $\hat{V}$  does not satisfy  $\Delta_2$

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# Market completion, separating measure

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- $\mathcal{K}$  cone of tame terminal wealths with zero initial capital,

$$\mathcal{K} := \{H \cdot S_T : H \in \mathcal{H}\},$$

- $\mathcal{C}$  convex cone of super-replicable claims,

$$\mathcal{C} := (\mathcal{K} - L_+^0) \cap L^{\hat{U}}.$$

- Each  $Q \in P_{\hat{V}}$  can be understood as a complete market with

$$\mathcal{C}_Q := \{X \in L^{\hat{U}} \mid E^Q[X] \equiv \langle X, dQ/dP \rangle \leq 0\}.$$

- We say  $Q$  is a **full completion / separating measure** if  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathcal{C}_Q$
- Geometrically  $dQ/dP$  is in the economic polar of  $\mathcal{C}$

$$\mathcal{C}^{\circ} := \{Y \in L^{\hat{V}} \mid \langle X, Y \rangle \equiv E[XY] \leq 0 \text{ for all } X \in \mathcal{C}\}.$$

# Complete market utility

- For  $L^{\hat{U}} \sim L^{\infty}$  assume  $\text{ess inf } B$  is high enough
- Every bliss-free complete market satisfies

$$u_Q(B) := \sup_{X \in \mathcal{C}_Q} I_U(B + X) = \min_{\lambda > 0} \{I_V(\lambda dQ/dP) + \lambda E^Q[B]\}$$

- Max utility with budget constraint expressed via  $Q$  [Pliska \(1986\)](#)
- The set of bliss-free complete markets

$$P_V = \{Q \mid \lambda dQ/dP \in \text{dom } I_V \text{ for some } \lambda > 0\}$$

- Bliss-free complete markets for  $U$  bounded above

$$P_{\hat{V}} = \{Q \mid dQ/dP \in L^{\hat{V}}_+\}$$

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# Duality over separating measures

- Since  $\mathcal{C}_Q \supseteq \mathcal{C}$  we have  $u_Q(B) \geq u(B)$
- We look for completions that increase utility only a little

$$u(B) = \inf_{dQ/dP \in \mathcal{C}^*} u_Q(B)$$

- Important for construction of optimal trading strategy (later)
- Rewrite as

$$u = \sup_{X \in \mathcal{C}} I_U(B + X) = \inf_{Y \in \mathcal{C}^*} \{I_V(Y) + E[YB]\}$$

- Rewrite again to obtain Fenchel duality,  $\mathcal{A} := B + \mathcal{C}$

$$\sup_{X \in L^{\hat{U}}} \{I_U(X) - \delta_{\mathcal{A}}(X)\} = \inf_{Y \in L^{\hat{V}}} - \{I_U^*(Y) - \delta_{\mathcal{A}}^*(Y)\},$$

- Always holds if  $\circledast = \star$

# First new result, $\mathcal{A} = B + \mathcal{C}$

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- Fenchel duality is subtle, it is only easily available in  $\star$  form

$$u(B) = \sup_{X \in L^{\hat{U}}} \{I_U(X) - \delta_{\mathcal{A}}(X)\} = \min_{Y \in (L^{\hat{U}})^{\star}} -\{I_U^{\star}(Y) - \delta_{\mathcal{A}}^{\star}(Y)\}$$

- Optimal  $Y$  may contain singular parts
- $\mathcal{D} := \text{dom } I_U$ , the set of wealth distributions with finite utility
- Assume  $\mathcal{A} \cap \text{core } \mathcal{D} \neq \emptyset$ , automatic for  $B \in M^{\hat{U}}$
- We prove, **assuming nothing else!!!**,

$$u(B) = \sup_{X \in L^{\hat{U}}} \{I_U(X) - \delta_{\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{D}}(X)\} = \min_{Y \in L^{\hat{V}}} -\{I_U^{\circledast}(Y) - \delta_{\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{D}}^{\circledast}(Y)\}$$

- Now  $\hat{Y}$  is a random variable (no singular parts)
- If  $\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{D}$  is a strict subset of  $\mathcal{A}$  then  $\hat{Y}$  need not be in  $\mathcal{C}^{\circledast}$
- So  $\hat{Y}$  may not correspond to a separating measure

# The link to FTAP, $B = 0$

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- $I_U$  is known to be  $\otimes$ -u.s.c.; (even  $*$ -u.s.c. when  $L^{\hat{U}} \approx L^\infty$ )
- Intuitively utility should not increase from  $\mathcal{C}$  to  $\mathcal{C}^{\otimes\otimes}$
- For sure it does not increase from  $\mathcal{C}$  to  $(\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{D})^{\otimes\otimes}$
- Likewise it does not increase from  $\mathcal{C}$  to  $\mathcal{C}^{**}$ 
  - In the nice case  $\mathcal{C}^{**}$  equals  $\mathcal{C}^{\otimes\otimes}$
- But, increase from  $\mathcal{C}$  to  $\mathcal{C}^{\otimes\otimes}$  remains possible if  $\star \neq \otimes$
- If this happens, goodbye duality over pricing measures
- $L^{\hat{U}}$ -FTAP to rescue (small market):  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}^{\otimes\otimes}$ 
  - Excluding  $L^{\hat{U}} \sim L^\infty$ , this is an open question,
  - [Cuchiero and Teichmann \(2015\)](#) revisit  $L^\infty$ -FTAP
  - In large market  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}^{\otimes\otimes}$  may not hold
  - It is disconnected from absence of arbitrage
- The  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}^{\otimes\otimes}$  in classical  $L^\infty$ -FTAP is a **happy coincidence**

# Utility increases from $\mathcal{C}$ to $\mathcal{C}^{**}$

- We now understand how this happens
- It is an example of  $\text{core } A \cap \text{dom } f \neq \emptyset$ ,  $f$  convex l.s.c., where  $f$  decreases on the closure of  $A$ ;
  - this cannot happen on a barrelled space
  - so never on a metric or normed space and never in finite dim
- Construction (generic on not purely atomic space):
  - this is a “large market” construction
  - take  $X_n$  that converges to zero modularly but not in norm;

$$I_{\hat{U}}(X_n) \rightarrow 0 \text{ but } I_{\hat{U}}((1 + \varepsilon)X_n) = \infty$$

- give  $X_n$  zero mean;
- take arbitrage-free  $Z$  disjointly supported from  $X_n$ ;
- make  $Z$  satisfy  $I_U(2Z) > I_U(Z)$ ;
- this implies  $I_U(Z + X_n) \rightarrow I_U(Z)$  but  $I_U(2Z + 2X_n) = -\infty$

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# Modular Fenchel duality continues to hold

- Modular Fenchel duality holds separately for  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{C}^{**}$

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \sup_{X \in L^{\hat{U}}} \{I_U(X) - \delta_{\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{D}}(X)\} &= \min_{Y \in L^{\hat{V}}} - \{I_U^{\circledast}(Y) - \delta_{\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{D}}^{\circledast}(Y)\} \\ &\leq \sup_{X \in L^{\hat{U}}} \{I_U(X) - \delta_{\mathcal{C}^{**} \cap \mathcal{D}}(X)\} &= \min_{Y \in L^{\hat{V}}} - \{I_U^{\circledast}(Y) - \delta_{\mathcal{C}^{**} \cap \mathcal{D}}^{\circledast}(Y)\} \end{aligned}$$

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# Market completion (type 2 = effective)

- $(B + C) \cap \mathcal{D} \subseteq x + B + C_Q$  for some  $x \geq 0$ , smallest such  $x$
- Boils down to separating measure when  $x = 0$
- When  $x > 0$  we have only an **effective completion**
- EXAMPLE 1:  $\max_{H \in \mathbb{R}} E[\ln(1 + H(e^R - 1))]; R \sim N(\mu, 1)$ 
  - Cook it up so that  $\hat{H} = 1$  is optimal
  - FOC:  $E[e^{-R}(e^R - 1)] > 0$  for  $\mu$  sufficiently high
  - Dual optimizer  $\hat{Y} = e^{-R}; \delta_{C \cap \mathcal{D}}^\oplus(\hat{Y}) = E[e^{-R}(e^R - 1)] > 0$

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# Implication for supermartingale deflators

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- Separating measures are naturally supermartingale measures
- Also, their density process is a supermartingale deflator
- Effective completions are **not** supermartingale measures
- Their density process is **not** a supermartingale deflator
- In KS99,03 effective completion **can** be turned into terminal value of a supermartingale deflator
- EXAMPLE 2: Exponential utility; Lévy process
  - positive jumps like tempered stable
  - negative jump Poisson with jump size  $-1/2$
  - sufficiently negative drift to make optimal investment short, and, "up to the hilt"
  - again corner solution - constant dollar amount short
  - **no supermart. deflator with terminal value  $\hat{Y}$  possible**

# New construction for optimal strategy

- Forget the dual optimizer (think truncated utility)
  - monotone mean-variance preferences [Maccheroni et al. \(2009\)](#)
  - link to truncated quadratic utility [Č. et al \(2012\)](#)
- Construct candidate strategy  $H$  under one  $Q \in \mathcal{M} \cap P_{\hat{V}}^e$
- Supermartingale compactness result  
[Delbaen and Schachermayer \(1998, Theorem D\)](#)
- Utility of  $B + H \cdot S_T$  is at least  $u(B)$
- Prove  $H \cdot S$  is a supermartingale for every  $Q \in \mathcal{M} \cap P_{\hat{V}}$
- Squeeze down the utility of  $H$  using duality over  $\mathcal{C}^*$ 
  - need densities in  $\mathcal{M} \cap P_{\hat{V}}$  to be  $\|\cdot\|_{\hat{V}}$ -dense in  $\mathcal{C}^*$
- The difficult part is to prove no duality gap over  $\mathcal{C}^*$

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# Norm-coercivity in losses

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## Definition

Expected utility  $I_U$  is **norm-coercive in losses** on a set  $\mathcal{G} \subseteq L^{\hat{U}}$  if

$$\lim_{\|X^-\|_{\hat{U}} \rightarrow \infty, X \in \mathcal{G}} I_U(X) = -\infty.$$

## Lemma

Consider  $\mathcal{G} \subseteq L^{\hat{U}}$  and suppose there is  $\tilde{Y} \in L^{\hat{V}}$  such that

- 1  $\lambda \tilde{Y} \in \text{dom } I_V$  for two distinct values of  $\lambda > 0$ ;
- 2  $\{E[X\tilde{Y}]\}_{X \in \mathcal{G}}$  is bounded from above.

Then  $I_U$  is norm-coercive in losses on  $\mathcal{G}$ .

# Uniform integrability for utility of upside wealth

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- Define indirect utility of norm-bounded endowment

$$\bar{u}(x) := \sup_{\|B\|_{\hat{U}} \leq x} u(B) = \sup\{I_U(X + Z) \mid X \in \mathcal{C}, \|Z\|_{\hat{U}} \leq x\}$$

- Note  $\bar{u}(x) = u(x)$  for  $L^{\hat{U}} \sim L^{\infty}$
- Subset of terminal wealth distributions

$$\mathcal{Z}(k_1, k_2) := \{X + Z \mid X \in \mathcal{C}, Z \in L^{\hat{U}}, \|X^-\|_{\hat{U}} \leq k_1, \|Z\|_{\hat{U}} \leq k_2\}$$

## Lemma

*Condition  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \bar{u}(x)/x = 0$  implies that the set  $\{U(\mathcal{Z}(k_1, k_2)^+)\}$  is uniformly integrable for every  $k_1, k_2 > 0$ .*

# Optimal terminal wealth

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## Proposition (Optimal Wealth)

*Assume*

- 1  $(B + C) \cap \text{core } \mathcal{D} \neq \emptyset$ ;
- 2 *no arbitrage over*  $\mathcal{C}^{\otimes\otimes}$ ;
- 3  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \bar{u}(x)/x = 0$ ;
- 4 *dual optimizer*  $\hat{Y}$  *satisfies*  $\lambda \hat{Y} \in \text{dom } I_V$  *for some*  $\lambda > 1$  *(automatic when*  $M^{\hat{V}} = L^{\hat{V}}$ *).*

*Then there is sequence*  $\{X_n\} \in \mathcal{C}$  *with*  $I_U(B + X_n) \nearrow u(B) < U(\infty)$  *and r. v.*  $\hat{X}$  *(not necessarily in*  $L^{\hat{U}}$ *) such that*  $X_n \xrightarrow{P\text{-a.s.}} \hat{X}$ ,

$$U(B + \hat{X}) - (B + \hat{X})\hat{Y} = V(\hat{Y}),$$

$$U(B + X_n) \xrightarrow{L^1(P)} U(B + \hat{X}).$$

# Duality over separating measures

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## Theorem (Duality Over Separating Measures)

Assume either i)  $M^{\hat{U}} = L^{\hat{U}}$ ; or ii)

- $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}^{**}$ ; no arbitrage over  $\mathcal{C}$ ;
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \bar{u}(x)/x = 0$ ;
- and, only in the case  $L^{\hat{U}} \approx L^\infty$ , there is  $\tilde{Y} \in \mathcal{C}^\circledast$  such that  $\lambda \tilde{Y} \in \text{dom } I_V$  for two distinct values of  $\lambda \geq 0$ .

Then duality over separating measures holds for all  $B \in L^{\hat{U}}$ .

## Proof.

By Rockafellar (1974) enough to show  $u^{**}(B) = u(B)$ . Will prove more,  $u^{***} = u$ , using Gao and Xanthos (2018). □

Weaker (automatic) result:  $\sup_{X \in \mathcal{C}^{**}} I_U(X) = (I_V \square \delta_{-\mathcal{C}^*})^{**}(0)$ .



# Optimal strategy

## Proposition (Candidate Optimal Strategy)

Assume there is  $\bar{Q} \in \mathcal{M} \cap P_{\hat{V}}^e$ . Under the assumptions of Optimal Wealth Proposition there is a trading strategy  $H \in L(S)$ , a sequence of maximizing tame strategies  $H^{(n)}$  and a semimartingale  $\tilde{V}$  such that

- 1  $\tilde{V}$  is  $\bar{Q}$ -supermartingale;
- 2  $\tilde{V} = \text{rqlim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} H^{(n)} \cdot S$ ;
- 3  $H \cdot S \geq \tilde{V}$  and  $H \cdot S - \tilde{V}$  is an increasing process;
- 4 In particular,  $H^{(n)} \cdot S_T \xrightarrow{P\text{-a.s.}} \tilde{V}_T$ ;
- 5  $U(B + H^{(n)} \cdot S_T) \xrightarrow{L^1(P)} U(B + \tilde{V}_T)$  and thus  $I_U(B + \tilde{V}_T) = u(B) \in \mathbb{R}$ ;
- 6  $H \cdot S$  is a  $Q$ -supermartingale for any  $Q \in \mathcal{M} \cap P_{\hat{V}}$ .

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# Existence of optimal strategy

## Theorem

Assume (i)  $B \in L^{\hat{U}}$ ; (ii) no arbitrage over  $\mathcal{C}^{*\otimes*}$ ;  
 (iii)  $\mathcal{C}_\sigma^{\otimes}$  is norm-dense in  $\mathcal{C}^{\otimes}$  (automatic when  $L^{\hat{U}} \sim L^\infty$ );  
 (iv)  $(B + \mathcal{C}) \cap \text{core } \mathcal{D} \neq \emptyset$  (automatic when  $L^{\hat{U}} = M^{\hat{U}}$ ); and  
 (v) further assumptions as listed below. Then the Candidate Optimal Strategy  $H$  is optimal and admissible.

|   | $M^{\hat{V}} = L^{\hat{V}}$               | $M^{\hat{V}} \subsetneq L^{\hat{V}}$  |
|---|---|---|
| $M^{\hat{U}} = L^{\hat{U}}$                           | none required;                            | $\lambda \hat{Y} \in \text{dom } I_V$ for $\lambda > 1$ ;                                       |
| $M^{\hat{U}} \subsetneq L^{\hat{U}} \approx L^\infty$ | $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}^{*\otimes*}$ ; | $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}^{**}$ ;<br>$\lambda \hat{Y} \in \text{dom } I_V$ for $\lambda > 1$ ; |
| $M^{\hat{U}} \subsetneq L^{\hat{U}} \sim L^\infty$    | none required                             | cannot occur  |

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