

Optimal Investment, Derivative Demand & Arbitrage under Price Impact

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Outline

- 1 Motivation & goals
- 2 Market model & initial steps
- 3 Connection to a constrained investment problem with no price impact
- 4 Derivative pricing under price impact
- 5 Conclusive remarks

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Large Investor's Price Impact

- **Large** in the sense that their orders substantially change MMs' inventory and hence their quoted prices.
→ *causing price impact.*
- MMs are risk averse.
- Given MMs price-quoting, each investor places his flow of orders, aiming to increase his individual expected utility.

Goal No. 1

*Find the continuous-time **optimal investment strategy** under price-impact.*

- A key step: Optimal investment problem *upon market impact* can be written as a constrained optimal investment problem in a *fictitious market without market impact*.
- Impose conditions that make the **constraint set non-binding**.
- Exploit this representation to **solve the problem** (when possible).

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Goal No. 2

*What about **derivative pricing and demand** under price impact?*

- Hedging costs are **not** linear anymore.
- Standard arbitrage-free arguments should be revisited.
- Even if there is a derivative price that creates arbitrage, the induced gains are *limited*, due to price impact.
- Since, investors are utility maximizers, they may **optimally ignore an arbitrage!**

Goal No. 3

*Could these arbitrage prices arise **endogenously**?*

- Indeed, through a partial equilibrium argument in segmented markets of the underlying assets.

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Assets & Market Makers

- We begin with $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{0 \leq t \leq T}, \mathbb{P})$, where $\{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ is the natural filtration of a d -dimensional Brownian Motion and $T > 0$ the terminal time.
- A random vector $\Psi \in \mathbb{L}^0(\mathcal{F}_T, \mathbb{R}^d)$ denotes the payoff of the tradeable assets.
- There are M *risk averse* market makers (MMs) that quote prices for Ψ at any time $t \in [0, T]$.
- The utility function of k th MM for terminal wealth is denoted by U_k and his endowment by $\Sigma_0^k \in \mathbb{L}^0(\mathcal{F}_T, \mathbb{R})$, $k = 1, 2, \dots, M$ and
- **Standing assumptions on utilities:** strict concavity, increasing, smooth on whole \mathbb{R} with *bounded absolute risk aversion*.

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Market Makers' Pricing Rule

- Let $\{Q_t\}_{t \in [0, T]}$ denote the aggregate order flow to MMs.
- Let $X_t(Q_t)_{t \in [0, T]}$ be the cash balance (price) asked by all the MMs at time t .
- The way $X_t(Q_t)$ is determined is the following:

MMs' Pricing Rule

- ① At any time $t \in [0, T]$, the MMs' total endowment after the transaction:

$$\sum_{k=1}^M \Sigma_0^k + X_t(Q_t) - Q_t' \Psi$$

is redistributed among MMs in a **Pareto optimal way** and

- ② each MM remains **at indifference**, i.e., there is no increase on the expected utility by entering into the trading of Ψ .

- ✓ When all MMs have **exponential utility**: $\rightarrow X_t(Q_t)$ is the *indifference pricing* of the *representative MM* with exponential utility and endowment $\Sigma_0 := \sum_{k=1}^M \Sigma_0^k$ and some risk aversion γ .

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Some notation

Standing Assumption

For all $q \in \mathbb{R}$, $\mathbb{E}[e^{-\gamma \Sigma_0 + q|\Psi|}] < \infty$.

Under the above assumption,

$$N_t(q) := \mathbb{E} \left[e^{-\gamma \Sigma_0 - \gamma q' \Psi} \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right], \quad t \leq T,$$

is a strictly positive martingale, and by martingale representation we may write

$$\frac{N_t(q)}{N_0(q)} = \mathcal{E} \left(\int_0^t H_s(q)' dB_s \right), \quad t \leq T,$$

for some adapted process $H(q)$ such that $\int_0^T |H_t(q)|^2 dt < \infty$.

Then, define the class of processes

$$\mathcal{Q} \in \mathcal{A}_{PI} := \left\{ Q \text{ adapted s.t. } \int_0^T |H_t(Q_t)|^2 dt < \infty \right\},$$

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A useful representation

- Consider a large investor who submits order flow $\{Q_t\}_{t \in [0, T]}$ to the MM(s).
- Let $\{V_t(Q_t)\}_{t \in [0, T]}$ be his **gains process**, i.e. $V_t(Q_t)$ represents the cash amount that he gets if he sells at time t his cumulative orders. For instance,

$$V_T(Q_T) = -X_T(Q_T) + Q_T' \Psi.$$

Based on the results of Bank & Kramkov ['15], we get the following:

Proposition

For $Q \in \mathcal{A}_{PI}$, and for all $t \in [0, T]$, the gains process takes the form

$$V_t(Q_t) = \frac{1}{\gamma} \int_0^t (H_s(Q_s) - H_s(0))' (dB_s - H_s(0) ds) - \frac{1}{2\gamma} \int_0^t |H_s(Q_s) - H_s(0)|^2 ds$$

Investor's investment problem, under endowment Σ_1

$$u(x; \Sigma_1) := \sup_{Q \in \mathcal{A}_{PI}} \mathbb{E}[U(x + V_T(Q) + \Sigma_1)].$$

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A fictitious related market

Define

$$\frac{dS_t}{S_t} = \lambda_t dt + dB_t, \quad t \in [0, T],$$

for an adapted d -dimensional process λ , such that $\int_0^T |\lambda_t|^2 dt < \infty$.

By construction, there is a **unique** measure \mathbb{Q}_0 on \mathcal{F}_T under which S is a martingale. \mathbb{Q}_0 has density

$$\left. \frac{d\mathbb{Q}_0}{d\mathbb{P}} \right|_{\mathcal{F}_T} = \mathcal{E} \left(- \int_0^T \lambda'_t dB_t \right).$$

Self-financing trading strategies are denoted by π (proportions of wealth) and the induced wealth process' dynamics

$$\frac{dX_t(\pi)}{X_t(\pi)} = \pi'_t (\lambda_t dt + dB_t), \quad t \in [0, T].$$

With initial wealth $X_0 = e^{\gamma x}$ the terminal wealth is

$$X_T(\pi) = \exp \left(\gamma x + \int_0^T \pi'_t (dB_t + \lambda_t dt) - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |\pi_t|^2 dt \right).$$

Some simple observations

Recall that large investor's gain process is

$$V_t(Q_t) = \frac{1}{\gamma} \int_0^t (H_s(Q_s) - H_s(0))' (dB_s - H_s(0) ds) - \frac{1}{2\gamma} \int_0^t |H_s(Q_s) - H_s(0)|^2 ds$$

A key observation

Set $\lambda_t = -H_t(0)$, assume that $\pi_t = H_t(Q_t) - H_t(0)$ and compare $X_T(\pi)$ with $V_T(Q)$. We get that

$$X_T(\pi) = e^{\gamma x + \gamma V_T(Q)} \implies x + V_T(Q) = \frac{1}{\gamma} \log(X_T(\pi)).$$

- For $Q \in \mathcal{A}_{PI}$ we can construct π . For the reverse we need π_t to belong in the random constraint set \mathcal{K}_t^o , where

$$\mathcal{K}_t := \{H_t(q) : q \in \mathbb{R}^d\}, \quad \mathcal{K}_t^o := \{H_t(q) - H_t(0) \mid q \in \mathbb{R}^d\}.$$

- Therefore, we define the acceptable strategies

$$\mathcal{A} := \left\{ \pi \text{ adapted} : \int_0^T |\pi_t|^2 dt < \infty \right\}, \quad \mathcal{A}_C := \{ \pi \in \mathcal{A} : \pi_t \in \mathcal{K}_t^o, t \leq T \}.$$

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A representation of optimal investment problem

Define the utility field $\tilde{U}(w, \omega) : (0, \infty) \times \Omega$ by

$$\tilde{U}(w, \omega) := U\left(\frac{1}{\gamma} \log(w) + \Sigma_1(\omega)\right),$$

and the value functions

$$\tilde{u}_C(x; \Sigma_1) := \sup_{\pi \in \mathcal{A}_C} \mathbb{E}[\tilde{U}(X_T(\pi), \Sigma_1) | X_0 = e^{\gamma x}],$$

and

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Theorem

With the above notation

$$u(x; \Sigma_1) = \tilde{u}_C(x; \Sigma_1) \leq \tilde{u}(x; \Sigma_1).$$

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An indicative example

- Let $U(x) = -e^{-\alpha x}$ and define

$$\left. \frac{d\tilde{\mathbb{P}}}{d\mathbb{P}} \right|_{\mathcal{F}_T} = \frac{e^{-\alpha \Sigma_1}}{\mathbb{E}[e^{-\alpha \Sigma_1}]}.$$

Proposition

$$u(0; \Sigma_1) = \tilde{u}_C(0; \Sigma_1) = \frac{\alpha}{\gamma} \mathbb{E}[e^{-\alpha \Sigma_1}] \left(\sup_{\pi \in \mathcal{A}_C} \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left[\frac{1}{p} (X_T(\pi))^p \mid X_0 = 1 \right] \right)$$
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On constrained problem

- In the related literature on utility maximization under random constraints the standard assumption is that constrained set is convex and closed.
- However, here \mathcal{K}_t^o is typically neither convex nor closed!

Bachelier model

Let

$$\Sigma_0 = \int_0^T f'_t dB_t \quad \text{and} \quad \Psi = \int_0^T \psi'_t dB_t,$$

where $f \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$ and $\psi \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$. Then,

$$N_t(q) = e^{\frac{1}{2}\gamma^2 \int_0^t |f_s + \psi_s q|^2 ds} \mathcal{E} \left(-\gamma \int_0^t (f_s + \psi_s q)' dB_s \right) \quad t \in [0, T].$$

Thus,

$$H_t(q) = -\gamma(f_t + \psi_t q) \quad \text{and} \quad H_t(q) - H_t(0) = -\gamma\psi_t q.$$

Hence, if ψ_t is invertible, $\mathcal{K}_t = \mathcal{K}_t^o = \mathbb{R}^d$ with $\pi_t = H_t(Q_t) - H_t(0)$ implying $Q_t = -(\gamma\psi_t)^{-1}\pi_t$.

On constrained problem

- In the related literature on utility maximization under random constraints the standard assumption is that constrained set is convex and closed.
- However, here \mathcal{K}_t^o is typically neither convex nor closed!

Bachelier model

Let

$$\Sigma_0 = \int_0^T f'_t dB_t \quad \text{and} \quad \Psi = \int_0^T \psi'_t dB_t,$$

where $f \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$ and $\psi \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$. Then,

$$N_t(q) = e^{\frac{1}{2}\gamma^2 \int_0^t |f_s + \psi_s q|^2 ds} \mathcal{E} \left(-\gamma \int_0^t (f_s + \psi_s q)' dB_s \right) \quad t \in [0, T].$$

Thus,

$$H_t(q) = -\gamma(f_t + \psi_t q) \quad \text{and} \quad H_t(q) - H_t(0) = -\gamma\psi_t q.$$

Hence, if ψ_t is invertible, $\mathcal{K}_t = \mathcal{K}_t^o = \mathbb{R}^d$ with $\pi_t = H_t(Q_t) - H_t(0)$ implying $Q_t = -(\gamma\psi_t)^{-1}\pi_t$.

Solving the optimal investment problem

Impose the standing assumption and that large investor has exponential utility. Then,

$$\frac{e^{-\frac{\alpha\gamma}{\alpha+\gamma}(\Sigma_1+\Sigma_0)}}{\mathbb{E}\left[e^{-\frac{\alpha\gamma}{\alpha+\gamma}(\Sigma_1+\Sigma_0)}\right]} = \mathcal{E}\left(\int_0^T M'_t dB_t\right),$$

for some adapted process M with $\int_0^T |M_t|^2 dt < \infty$.

A key assumption

$$M_t \in \mathcal{K}_t, \quad \forall t \in [0, T].$$

Proposition

Under the standing and key assumptions, the **constrain set is non-binding** and in fact,

$$\begin{aligned} u(0; \Sigma_1) &= \tilde{u}_C(0; \Sigma_1) = \tilde{u}(0; \Sigma_1) \\ &= -\mathbb{E}\left[e^{-\gamma\Sigma_0}\right]^{-\frac{\alpha}{\gamma}} \times \mathbb{E}\left[e^{-\frac{\alpha\gamma}{\alpha+\gamma}(\Sigma_0+\Sigma_1)}\right]^{\frac{\alpha+\gamma}{\gamma}}. \end{aligned}$$

Also, $\hat{\pi}_t = M_t - H_t(0)$, for all $t \leq T$.

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Example I

Endowments as portfolios of Ψ

Let $\Sigma_0 = k_0' \Psi$ and $\Sigma_1 = k_1' \Psi$ for some $k_0, k_1 \in \mathbb{R}^d$. Recall that

$$N_t(q) := \mathbb{E} \left[e^{-\gamma \Sigma_0 - \gamma q' \Psi} \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right], \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{N_t(q)}{N_0(q)} = \mathbb{E} \left(\int_0^t H_s(q)' dB_s \right)_t$$

We immediately get that

$$M_t = H_t \left(\frac{\alpha k_1 - \gamma k_0}{\alpha + \gamma} \right), \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad M_t \in \mathcal{K}_t, \quad \forall t \in [0, T]$$

and since $\hat{\pi}_t = M_t - H_t(0)$, we also get that

$$\hat{Q}_t \equiv \hat{q} = \frac{\alpha k_1 - \gamma k_0}{\alpha + \gamma}, \quad \forall t \in [0, T].$$

✓ We have a similar situation when $\Sigma_0 = k_0' \Psi + Y_0$ and $\Sigma_1 = k_1' \Psi + Y_1$, where (Y_0, Y_1) and Ψ are independent.

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Example II

Bachelier Model

- Recall that $\Sigma_0 = \int_0^T f'_t dB_t$ and $\Psi = \int_0^T \psi'_t dB_t$.
- We have seen that $\mathcal{K}_t^o = \mathbb{R}^d$, so the crucial assumption holds.
- Assume also that $\Sigma_1 = \int_0^T g'_t dB_t$.
- *What is the optimal demand?*
- We have seen that $H_t(q) - H_t(0) = -\gamma\psi_t q$, and we readily have that $\forall t \in [0, T]$

$$M_t = -\frac{\alpha\gamma}{\alpha + \gamma} (f_t + g_t) \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\pi}_t = M_t - H_t(0) = \frac{\gamma}{\alpha + \gamma} (\gamma f_t - \alpha g_t).$$

Thus, the equality $-\gamma\psi_t \hat{Q}_t = H_t(\hat{Q}_t) - H_t(0) = \hat{\pi}_t$ gives

$$\hat{Q}_t = \frac{1}{\alpha + \gamma} \psi_t^{-1} (\alpha g_t - \gamma f_t).$$

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Introducing a derivative contract

- Consider a single contingent claim with \mathcal{F}_T measurable payoff h .
- MMs do *not* make the market of h .
- However, investor could hedge his positions on h by trading the underlying market Ψ through MMs.
- Note that if $\mathcal{K}_t^o = \mathbb{R}^d$, $\forall t \in [0, T]$, large investor can fully hedge.
- Indeed, for every $u \neq 0$ units of h , there is an order flow $Q \in \mathcal{A}_{PI}$ and a (per unit) initial capital $\bar{h}(u)$ such that

$$u\bar{h}(u) + V_T(Q) = uh.$$

- In fact, $\bar{h}(u)$ is the MM's indifference value of selling u units of h , given by

$$\bar{h}(u) := \frac{1}{\gamma u} \log (\mathbb{E}^0 [e^{\gamma u h}]).$$

- Note that the value $\bar{h}(u)$ is increasing for $u > 0$, but not linear.

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Derivative pricing, price impact and *arbitrage*

Arbitrage-free price for all positions

A price $p \in \mathbb{R}$ is an arbitrage-free price for all position in h , when:

For all $Q \in \mathcal{A}_{PI}$ and $u \in \mathbb{R}$, if $up + V_T(Q) - uh \geq 0$ a.s., then $up + V_T(Q) = uh$ a.s.

Arbitrage-free price for position u

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Proposition

- The range of arbitrage-free prices for h is the singleton $\mathbb{E}^0[h]$.
- For any fixed $u > 0$, the range of arbitrage-free prices for h at position u is the closed interval $[-\bar{h}(u); \bar{h}(u)]$.
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Limited arbitrage

- If the large investor gets a price for h different than $\mathbb{E}^0[h]$, an arbitrage opportunity arises thanks to his price impact.
- However, because of not linearity, the arbitrage cannot be exploited for arbitrarily large units of h .
- In other words, the gains from the arbitrage are limited up to a certain position u^* .
- Note however that large investors is a utility maximizer with hedging needs. Hence, exploiting the limited arbitrage may be less preferable than reducing the risk exposure.
- Investor may ignore certain cash in favor of a higher expected utility.

✓ *But who is going to ask/bid an arbitrage price?*

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Partial equilibrium in segmented markets

- Suppose that there are two large investors, labeled A and B.
- They trade with different MMs in **segmented** markets (possibly with different securities too).
- The large investors trade to each other the derivative h at a partial equilibrium price & quantity (PEPQ), as introduced by A. and Žitković ['10].
- A PEPQ of h is a pair $(p^*, u^*) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ if

$$u^* \in \operatorname{argmax}_{u \in \mathbb{R}} \{u_A(x_A - p^*u, \Sigma_A + uh)\} \cap \operatorname{argmax}_{u \in \mathbb{R}} \{u_B(x_B + p^*u, \Sigma_B - uh)\}.$$

Proposition

Let both large investors have exponential utility and assume that $\gamma_A \Sigma_0^A - \gamma_B \Sigma_0^B$ and h are not constants. Then,

- There is a unique PEPQ.
 - If the key assumption holds for both markets, PEPQ creates arbitrage opportunity for at least one of the investors.
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Highlights...

- The optimal investment problem under price impact can be written as an optimal investment constrained problem without market impact.
- There is a specific condition that guarantees that constrain set is non-binding and the problem can be solved.
- Derivative pricing upon price impact on the underlying market differs from the standard arbitrage-free pricing.
- Arbitrage is limited \longrightarrow Investors may optimally ignore it!
- In segmented markets, arbitrage-price may arise as the equilibrium price!

The End

Thank you for your attention!