

On the construction of high-dimensional models for dependent default times

Jan-Frederik Mai

Technische Universität München, Germany
mai_jan@rocketmail.com

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Several financial applications require a mathematical model for (X_1, \dots, X_d) , where component X_k denotes the random future time point, when the k -th asset in a portfolio of size $d \gg 2$ defaults. This high-dimensional modeling task is difficult in general because typical applications require the model to be low-parametric and efficient to simulate on a standard PC, while at the same time being realistic enough to capture common stylized facts. The use of a min-stable multivariate exponential (MSMVE) distribution in the sense of [Esary, Marshall (1974)] can be seen as a natural candidate in many cases.

(a) We show how to define low-parametric MSMVEs from parametric families of Bernstein functions, and how to simulate them efficiently. The key here is a novel stochastic representation for one-factor MSMVEs based on strong IDT processes, worked out in [Mai, Scherer (2014), Bernhart et al. (2014)].

(b) We derive a novel characterization for the subfamily of Marshall–Olkin distributions in terms of Markovianity, which sets this subfamily apart as a class of probability laws for dependent default times satisfying many practically desirable axioms, see [Brigo et al. (2014)].

References

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