
Realisability problems

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Expected functionals

- ξ is a random element in space \mathcal{X}
- Distribution of ξ is uniquely specified by

$$\mathbf{E}g(\xi)$$

for all bounded continuous functions g

- $g \mapsto \Phi(g) = \mathbf{E}g(\xi)$ is a linear functional
- What if $\Phi(g)$ is given only for **some** functions g ?

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- Then the distribution of ξ is not uniquely specified.
 - But does there exist at least one ξ ?

Positivity

- If $g \geq 0$, then $\Phi(g) = \mathbf{E}g(\xi) \geq 0$.
- Idea: positively extend Φ from functions $g \in G$ to a wider family of functions $v \in E$ such that E is a vector lattice.
- Daniell's theorem says that a **positive linear upper semicontinuous normalised** functional on vector lattice E is the Lebesgue integral w.r.t. probability measure, i.e. the **expectation**.

Trivial example

- ξ is a random variable in \mathbb{R}
- Known $m_i = \Phi(g_i) = \mathbf{E}g_i(\xi) = \mathbf{E}\xi^i$ for $i = 1, 2$
- By linearity, Φ is defined on $g(x) = c + 2bx + x^2$ and $g \geq 0$ if $c \geq b^2$. Thus

$$\Phi(g) = c + 2bm_1 + m_2 \geq (b + m_1)^2 + m_2 - m_1^2 \geq 0$$

only in case $m_2 - m_1^2 \geq 0$.

Classical example (Kellerer 1964)

- Let \mathcal{I} be a certain family of subsets $I \subset \{1, \dots, d\}$
- Given probability distributions \mathbf{P}_I on $\mathbb{R}^{\text{card}(I)}$, does there exist a probability distribution on \mathbb{R}^d whose **marginals** are $\mathbf{P}_I, I \in \mathcal{I}$.

Solution

- Need existence of a probability measure \mathbf{P} on \mathbb{R}^d such that

$$\Phi(v_I) = \int v_I(x) d\mathbf{P}(x) = \int v_I(x) d\mathbf{P}_I(x)$$

for all functions v_I that depend on the coordinates with numbers from I .

- Extend Φ from functions of the type v_I and their linear combinations to all functions v on \mathbb{R}^d .

- The functional Φ is positive on \mathcal{G} iff

$$v(x) = \sum_{I \in \mathcal{I}} a_i v_I(x) \geq 0 \text{ for all } x \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Phi(v) = \sum_{I \in \mathcal{I}} a_i \int v_I(x) d\mathbf{P}_I(x) \geq 0.$$

Random closed sets

□ X is a random closed set in space $\mathbb{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$

□ The distribution is defined by the **capacity functional**

$$T(K) = \mathbf{P}\{X \cap K \neq \emptyset\}, \quad K \in \mathcal{K}.$$

□ A functional T on the family \mathcal{K} of compact sets is the capacity functional of a random closed set X if and only if T is upper semicontinuous and completely alternating.

□ Now assume that T is defined only on **some** compact sets.

□ If the family of test sets is sufficiently rich (separating), no problems.

All finite sets

Theorem. *A completely alternating functional T defined on the family of **all finite sets** is the capacity functional of a random closed set if and only if T is upper semicontinuous on finite sets, i.e.*

$$\limsup T(K_n) \leq T(K)$$

for each sequence K_n of finite sets that converges to a finite set K in the Hausdorff metric.

Singletons

One-point covering function

$$p_x = T(\{x\}) = \mathbf{P}\{x \in X\}, \quad x \in \mathbb{X}.$$

Theorem. *A function p_x , $x \in \mathbb{X}$, with values in $[0, 1]$ is the one-point covering function of a random closed set if and only if p is upper semicontinuous.*

Proof. Let $x_n \rightarrow x$ and let \bar{U}_n be the closure of an open neighbourhood U_n of x that shrinks to x as $n \rightarrow \infty$. The upper semicontinuity and monotonicity of T yield that

$$\limsup p_{x_n} \leq \limsup T(\bar{U}_n) \leq T(\{x\}) = p_x ,$$

that is $p_x, x \in \mathbb{X}$, is upper semicontinuous.

In the other direction, consider a random variable v uniformly distributed on $[0, 1]$. Then

$$X = \{x : p_x \geq v\}$$

is closed by the upper semicontinuity of p and

$$\mathbf{P}\{x \in X\} = \mathbf{P}\{v \leq \Phi(x)\} = p_x \text{ for all } x. \quad \square$$

Two-point covering function

- Two-point covering function of a random closed set X is

$$p_{x_1, x_2} = \mathbf{P}\{x_1, x_2 \in X\}, \quad x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{X}.$$

- If X is stationary, then p_{x_1, x_2} depends only on $x_1 - x_2$.
- Problem: Characterise two-point covering functions of random closed sets, i.e. covariance functions of (stationary) upper semicontinuous indicator functions.

□ Linear space G generated by constants and $g_{x,y}(F) = \mathbb{1}_{x,y \in F}$, $x, y \in \mathbb{X}$. Note that $\min(g_{x,y}, g_{z,w})$ does not belong to G .
 $\Phi : G \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ is determined by $\Phi(g_{x,y}) = p_{x,y}$, i.e. two-point covering probabilities.

□ Φ is **positive** if and only if

$$\sum_{ij=1}^n a_{ij} \mathbb{1}_{x_i, x_j \in F} \Rightarrow \sum_{ij=1}^n a_{ij} p_{x_i, x_j} \geq 0.$$

□ Equivalently, $\sum_{ij=1}^n a_{ij} p_{x_i, x_j} \geq 0$ for all **corner-positive** matrices (a_{ij}) (nonnegative sums of all main minors), McMillan (1955), Shepp (1967)

□ If $a_{ij} = a_i a_j$, we recover the positive-definiteness of $p_{x,y}$ (only **necessary** condition).

Example (closedness condition)

- Let $p_{x,y} = \frac{1}{4}$ and let $p_x = \frac{1}{2}$ for all points $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$.
- While this two-point covering function corresponds, e.g., to the indicator field with independent values, it cannot be obtained as the covering function of a random **closed** set.

Covariances in the product form

Theorem. Assume that \mathbb{X} is a separable space. A function

$$p_{x_1, x_2} = \begin{cases} p_{x_1} p_{x_2} & \text{if } x_1 \neq x_2, \\ p_{x_1} & \text{if } x_1 = x_2 \end{cases}$$

is a two-point covering function of a random closed set if and only if p_x , $x \in \mathbb{X}$, is an upper semicontinuous function with values in $[0, 1]$ such that each point x with $p_x \in (0, 1)$ has an open neighbourhood U such that $p_y > 0$ only for at most a countable number of $y \in U$ and

$$\sum_{y \in U} p_y < \infty.$$

Correlation measures of point processes

- ξ is a point process in \mathbb{X}
- Which measures ρ on $\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{X}$ appear as the second-order factorial moment measure (correlation measure) of a point process.
- Kuna, Lebowitz and Speer (2011) characterised correlation measures for point processes with finite third moments or under hard-core exclusion condition with fixed exclusion range.

Plan

- Tool: extension of a positive linear functional, i.e. $\Phi(g) \geq 0$ if $g \geq 0$ (w.r.t. the chosen order).
- Positivity condition: difficult computational problem.
- How to ensure that the extension is sufficiently regular and so the corresponding linear functional corresponds to a probability measure?
- Note: linear functionals on functions are not always representable as Lebesgue integral (Daniell's theory)!

Positive functionals and their extensions

□ E is a vector lattice, G is a vector sub-space of E (e.g. E is generated by $\mathbb{I}_{x_1, \dots, x_k \in F}$ for all $k \geq 1$ and G is a linear space generated by $\mathbb{I}_{x \in F}$)

□ G majorises E if each $v \in E$ satisfies $|v| \leq g$ for some $g \in G$

Theorem (Kantorovich). *Assume that G is a **majorising** vector subspace of a vector lattice E . Then each positive linear functional on G admits a positive extension on the whole E .*

□ Regularity (e.g. continuity) of the extension is not guaranteed!

Positivity

Theorem. *Assume that G can be represented as the direct sum of \mathbb{R} (i.e. constant functions) and a vector space G' . Then a linear functional $\Phi : G \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ with $\Phi(1) = 1$ is positive if and only if*

$$\Phi(g) \geq \inf_{x \in \mathcal{X}} g(x), \quad g \in G'.$$

Regularity modulus

□ Assume that the vector space G of functions on \mathcal{X} contains constants and, for each $g_1, g_2 \in G$, there is $g \in G$ such that $(g_1 \vee g_2) \leq g$.

□ A **regularity modulus** is a lower semicontinuous function $\chi : \mathcal{X} \mapsto [0, \infty]$ such that

$$H_g = \{x \in \mathcal{X} : \chi(x) \leq g\}$$

is relatively compact for each $g \in G$.

□ Assume that each $g \in G$ is **χ -regular**, i.e. g is continuous on $H_{g'}$ for each $g' \in G$.

Regular extension (main theorem)

Theorem. *If Φ is a linear functional on G with $\Phi(1) = 1$, then there exists a Borel random element ξ in \mathcal{X} such that*

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{E}g(\xi) = \Phi(g) & \text{for all } g \in G, \\ \mathbf{E}\chi(\xi) \leq r, \end{cases}$$

for some real r if and only if

$$\sup_{g \in G, g \leq \chi} \Phi(g) \leq r.$$

□ Equivalent condition (if $G = \mathbb{R} + G'$)

$$\inf_{x \in \mathcal{X}} [\chi(x) - g(x)] + \Phi(g) \leq r, \quad g \in G'.$$

Family of extensions

Theorem. *Assume that G consists of continuous functions. Let Φ be a linear positive functional on G .*

*Then the family \mathcal{M} of all Borel random elements ξ that satisfy $\mathbf{E}g(\xi) = \Phi(g)$ for all $g \in G$ and $\mathbf{E}\chi(\xi) \leq r$ is **weak compact**.*

Invariant extension

□ $\theta \in \Theta$ are transformations acting on \mathcal{X}

□ Φ is a Θ -invariant functional and χ is a regularity modulus

Theorem. Assume that at least one of the following conditions holds

1) G consists of continuous functions on \mathcal{X} and χ is pointwisely approximated from below by a monotone sequence of functions $g_n \in G$.

2) χ is Θ -invariant.

Then Φ is realisable by a Θ -stationary random element ξ with $\mathbf{E}\chi(\xi) \leq r$ if and only if

$$\sup_{g \in G, g \leq \chi} \Phi(g) \leq r .$$

Finite point processes

□ \mathcal{N} — locally finite counting measures with the vague topology

□ $Y \in \mathcal{N}$ is a counting measure, ξ is a point process

□ Functional

$$g_h(Y) = \sum_{x_i, x_j \in Y, i \neq j} h(x_i, x_j), \quad Y \in \mathcal{N},$$

$h \in \mathcal{C}_o$ — symmetric continuous with compact support

□ **Correlation measure** ρ of point process ξ

$$\int_{\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{X}} h(x, y) \rho(dx, dy) = \mathbf{E} g_h(\xi), \quad h \in \mathcal{C}_o.$$

Positivity condition

□ Functional Φ on $G = \{g_h : h \in \mathcal{C}_o\}$ is positive if

$$\Phi(g_h) \geq \inf_{Y \in \mathcal{X}} g_h(Y), \quad h \in \mathcal{C}_o,$$

where $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathcal{N}$.

□ Need to ensure that the extension of Φ corresponds to a probability measure. Note that

- each function g_h is vague-continuous, and so is χ -regular for any χ ;
- \mathcal{N} is locally compact.

Bounded cardinality

- \mathcal{X}_k consists of counting measures with total mass at most k on a compact space \mathbb{X} .
- \mathcal{X}_k is compact, g_h is continuous and so Riesz–Markov is applicable
- Example. If $k = 2$, then $\inf_{Y \in \mathcal{X}_2} g_h(Y)$ is the minimum of zero (in case Y is empty or consists of a single point) or the minimum of h .

A point process ξ realising ρ consists of coordinates of a random vector distributed according to the normalised ρ with probability $\rho(\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{X})$ and otherwise letting $\xi = \emptyset$.

Moment condition

□ For $\alpha > 2$

$$\chi_\alpha(Y) = Y(\mathbb{X})^\alpha, \quad Y \in \mathcal{N}.$$

is a regularity modulus, since

$$\{Y \in \mathcal{N} : \chi_\alpha(Y) \leq c + g_h(Y)\} \subset \{Y \in \mathcal{N} : Y(\mathbb{X})^\alpha \leq c + c'Y(\mathbb{X})^2\}$$

□ The realisability condition

$$\sup_{g \in \mathbf{G}, g \leq \chi_\alpha} \Phi(g) < \infty$$

ensures the existence of a point process with **finite α -moment**, i.e.

$$\mathbf{E}\xi(\mathbb{X})^\alpha < \infty.$$

Non-finite point processes

□ Let $\beta : \mathbb{X} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ be a lower semi-continuous strictly positive function.

□ Then

$$\chi_{\alpha,\beta}(Y) = \left(\sum_{x \in Y} \beta(x) \right)^\alpha, \quad Y \in \mathcal{N},$$

is a regularity modulus for $\alpha > 2$.

□ Realisability condition becomes

$$\inf_{Y \in \mathcal{X}} [\chi_{\alpha,\beta}(Y) - g_h(Y)] + \int_{\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{X}} h(x, y) \rho(dx, dy) \leq r, \quad h \in \mathcal{C}_o.$$

Hard-core point processes with a fixed exclusion distance

- \mathbb{X} is a compact metric space with metric d
- \mathcal{X}^ε be the family of ε -hard-core point sets and so is a subset of \mathcal{N}_s (simple counting measures)
- \mathcal{X}^ε is compact, so only positivity condition is required

$$\Phi(g_h) \geq \inf_{Y \in \mathcal{X}^\varepsilon} g_h(Y)$$

This is a stronger condition than

$$\Phi(g_h) \geq \inf_{Y \in \mathcal{N}_s} g_h(Y)$$

Hard-core point process on a compact space

□ Counting measures from $\cup_{\varepsilon>0} \mathcal{X}^\varepsilon$ (the exclusion distance is not specified)

□ Define

$$\chi_\psi^{\text{hc}}(Y) = \sum_{x_i, x_j \in Y, i \neq j} \psi(d(x_i, x_j)), \quad Y \in \mathcal{N}_s,$$

where $\psi : (0, \infty) \mapsto [0, \infty]$ be a monotone decreasing right-continuous function, such that $\psi(t) \rightarrow \infty$ as $t \downarrow 0$.

□ ψ should grow at zero sufficiently fast to ensure that χ_ψ^{hc} is a regularity modulus.

A combinatorial lemma

$P_t(\mathbb{X})$ denotes the **packing number** of \mathbb{X} with metric d , i.e. the maximum number of points in the space \mathbb{X} with pairwise distance exceeding t .

Lemma 1. *If $Y = \sum \delta_{x_i}$ is a counting measure of total mass n , then for all $t > 0$,*

$$\sum_{i \neq j} \mathbb{1}_{d(x_i, x_j) \leq t} \geq n \left(\frac{n}{P_t(\mathbb{X})} - 1 \right).$$

Proof. Successive transformations of Y that decrease the value of the left-hand sum and eventually bring Y to a set of multiple points with equal multiplicities. □

Asymptotics for the minimal number of close pairs

□ $\gamma_t(n)$ is the minimal number of pairs (x_i, x_j) with $d(x_i, x_j) \leq t$ and $x_i, x_j \in Y$ over all counting measures of total mass n

□ Then, for $t > 0$,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\gamma_t(n)}{n^2} = P_t(\mathbb{X})^{-1},$$

Regularity modulus χ_ψ^{hc}

Lemma 2. *Function χ_ψ^{hc} is a regularity modulus on \mathcal{N}_s if*

$$\psi(t)/P_t(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as } t \downarrow 0.$$

Proof. Show that the total mass of any Y from

$$\begin{aligned} H_\lambda &= \{Y \in \mathcal{N}_s : \chi_\psi^{\text{hc}}(Y) \leq \lambda Y(\mathbb{X})^2\} \\ &\subset \{Y : n^{-2} \gamma_t(n) \psi(t) \leq \lambda\} \end{aligned}$$

is bounded from above. □

Realisability condition

Theorem. *A locally finite measure ρ on $\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{X}$ is the correlation measure of a simple point process ξ such that $\mathbf{E}\chi_{\psi}^{\text{hc}}(\xi) \leq r$ if and only if*

$$\Phi(g_h) \geq \inf_{Y \in \mathcal{N}_s} g_h(Y)$$

and

$$\int_{\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{X}} \psi(d(x, y)) \rho(dx, dy) \leq r.$$

□ Note that χ_{ψ}^{hc} can be approximated from below by functions g_h and so this yields the existence of invariant extensions.

A direct condition on ρ

Theorem. A locally finite measure ρ on $\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{X}$ is a correlation measure of a simple point process ξ if

$$\Phi(g_h) \geq \inf_{Y \in \mathcal{N}_s} g_h(Y)$$

and

$$r = \int_{\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{X}} P_{d(x,y)}(\mathbb{X}) \rho(dx, dy) < \infty.$$

In this case, for every $r' > r$, there exists ξ such that

$$\mathbf{E} \sum_{x_i, x_j \in \xi, i \neq j} P_{d(x_i, x_j)}(\mathbb{X}) \leq r'.$$

for every $r' > r$.

If furthermore Θ is a group of continuous transformations on \mathbb{X} that leave ρ invariant, then ξ can be chosen Θ -stationary.

Non-compact case (\mathbb{R}^d)

- Usual positivity condition

$$\Phi(g_h) \geq \inf_{Y \in \mathcal{N}_s} g_h(Y)$$

- Regularity condition

$$\int_{B_n \times B_n} \|x - y\|^{-d} \rho(dx, dy) < \infty$$

for each ball B_n of radius n .

Random binary functions

- \mathcal{X} is the family of all subsets of \mathbb{X} with the topology of pointwise convergence
- Random indicator function ξ
- Let G be a family of continuous (for pointwise convergence) functionals on \mathcal{X} .
- A linear functional Φ on G is realisable, i.e. $\Phi(g) = \mathbf{E}g(\xi)$ if and only if Φ is positive, i.e.

$$\Phi(g) \geq \inf_{F \subset \mathbb{X}} g(F), \quad g \in G.$$

Example: one-point covering function

- G generated by constants and $g_x(F) = \mathbb{1}_{x \in F}$
- $\Phi : G \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ is determined by $\Phi(g_x) = p_x$.
- Positivity condition $p_x \in [0, 1]$
- Note that ξ is the indicator of a not necessarily closed random set.

Two-point covering function

□ G generated by constants and $g_{x,y}(F) = \mathbb{1}_{x,y \in F}$, $x, y \in \mathbb{X}$.
 $\Phi : G \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ is determined by $\Phi(g_{x,y}) = p_{x,y}$, i.e. two-point covering probabilities.

□ Φ is positive if and only if

$$\sum_{ij=1}^n a_{ij} p_{x_i, x_j} \geq \inf_{F \subset \mathbb{X}} \sum_{ij=1}^n a_{ij} \mathbb{1}_{x_i, x_j \in F} .$$

Functionals

□ ν is a σ -finite reference measure on \mathbb{X}

□ Define

$$g_h(F) = \int_{F \times F} h(x, y) \nu(dx) \nu(dy)$$

$$\Phi(g_h) = \int_{\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{X}} p_{x,y} h(x, y) \nu(dx) \nu(dy).$$

□ $p_{x,y}$ is **weakly realisable** if there exists random set X such that $\mathbf{E}g_h(X) = \Phi(g_h)$ for all h , i.e. $p_{x,y} = \mathbf{P}\{x, y \in X\}$ for almost all x, y .

□ $p_{x,y}$ is **strongly realisable** if there exists X with $p_{x,y} = \mathbf{P}\{x, y \in X\}$ for all x, y .

Difficulties

- Aim to realise a random closed set
- Good: The family \mathcal{F} of closed sets is compact in the Fell topology
- Bad: The functional g_h is not continuous
- Even worse: The finite point covering probabilities do not generate the Fell σ -algebra (only for the subfamily of regular closed sets).

ε -neighbourhoods

- \mathcal{F}^ε is the family of ε -neighbourhoods of closed sets in \mathbb{R}^d
- G is generated by constants and the functions g_h , which are shown to be continuous on \mathcal{F}^ε .

Theorem. *A function $p_{x,y}$, $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d$, is weakly realisable by a random closed set X with realisations in \mathcal{F}^ε for some $\varepsilon > 0$ if and only if*

$$\Phi(g_h) \geq \inf_{F \in \mathcal{F}^\varepsilon} g_h(F), \quad h \in \mathcal{C}_o.$$

ε -neighbourhoods of varying ε

Regularity modulus

$$\chi(F) = \inf\{\varepsilon > 0 : F \in \mathcal{F}^{1/\varepsilon}\}$$

Theorem. *A function $p_{x,y}$, $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d$, is weakly realisable by a random closed set X such that $\mathbf{E}\chi(X) \leq r$ if and only if*

$$\inf_{F \in \mathcal{F}^0} [\chi(F) - g_h(F)] + \Phi(g_h) \leq r, \quad h \in \mathcal{C}_o.$$

*If $p_{x,y} = S_{x-y}$ for $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d$, with an even continuous function S , then $p_{x,y}$ is strongly realisable by a **stationary** random closed set X .*

Convexity restriction

- \mathcal{C} is the family for convex closed sets
- A functional $\Phi(g_h)$ is realisable as the covariance of a convex random closed set if and only if

$$\Phi(g_h) \geq \inf_{F \in \mathcal{C}} g_h(F).$$

- For sets from the convex ring the regularity modulus is the smallest number of convex components.

One-dimensional case

□ Assume $\mathbb{X} = [0, 1]$

□ Let $\chi(F)$ be the number of convex components of F

Theorem. *If $p_{x,y}$ is a function of $x, y \in [0, 1]$ such that*

$$\sup_{\varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0^1, 0 \leq \varphi \leq 1} \int_{\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{X}} p_{x,y} \varphi'(x) \varphi'(y) dx dy = \infty,$$

then there is no random closed set X satisfying $\mathbf{E}\chi(X)^2 < \infty$ having $p_{x,y}$ as its two-point covering function.

Contact distribution function

$$T_X(B_r(x)) = \mathbf{P}\{X \cap B_r(x) \neq \emptyset\}$$

is related to the spherical contact distribution function

$$H_X(r; x) = \mathbf{P}\{d(x, X) \leq r | x \notin X\}, \quad r \geq 0.$$

Realisability of capacity functionals on balls

Theorem. *A function $\tau_x(r)$, $r \geq 0$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$, is realisable as $T_X(B_r(x))$ for a random closed set X if and only if*

$$\Phi(g) = \sum_{i=1}^q a_i \tau_{x_i}(r_i) \geq 0$$

for each non-negative function

$$g(F) = \sum_{i=1}^q a_i \mathbb{1}_{B_{r_i}(x_i) \cap F \neq \emptyset} \geq 0, \quad F \in \mathcal{F}.$$

Example: two-points

Theorem. *Let $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}^d$, with $l = \|x_1 - x_2\|$, and let $\tau_{x_1}(r)$ and $\tau_{x_2}(r)$ be cumulative distribution functions of two sub-probability measures on \mathbb{R}_+ . Then there exists a random closed set X such that $\tau_{x_i}(r) = T_X(B_r(x_i))$ for $r \geq 0$ and $i = 1, 2$ if and only if for all $r \geq 0$*

$$\tau_{x_1}(\max(r - l, 0)) \leq \tau_{x_2}(r) \leq \tau_{x_1}(r + l).$$

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