

Assignment #2  
To be handed in Friday, October 23

1. Question 1

- (a) Let  $X$  be a Gaussian variable with mean  $m = 10^6\$$  and standard deviation  $\sigma = 3 \times 10^5\$$ . Compute  $V@R(X)$  and  $AV@R(X)$  at the level  $\lambda = 1\%$
- (b) Let  $Y$  be another variable, independent from  $X$  and with the same law. Compute  $V@R(X + Y)$  and  $AV@R(X + Y)$  at the level  $\lambda = 1\%$

2. Question 2

I have to pay back  $10^6\$$  exactly one year from now, and I have a zero-coupon bond, maturing in exactly ten years, with face value  $1.4 \times 10^6\$$ . On the day the loan comes due, I will sell the bond, and use the proceeds to pay off the loan. What is the present (ie discounted using today's interest rate)  $V@R$  of my position at the level  $1\%$ ? The yield curve is assumed to be flat and to remain so. The interest rate today is  $3\%$ . The interest rate one year from now will be  $r\%$ , where  $r$  is a lognormal random variable with mean  $m = 3\%$  and standard deviation  $\sigma = 2\%$ .

3. Question 3.

Let  $X$  be a random variable,  $F_X(x)$  its distribution function and  $q_X(u)$  its quantile,  $0 \leq u \leq 1$ . It is assumed that  $X$  is uniformly bounded and  $F$  is continuous and strictly increasing.

- (a) Show that  $U(\omega) = F_X(X(\omega))$  is a uniformly distributed random variable, i.e.  $P[U \leq \lambda] = \lambda$
- (b) Show that  $q_X(U(\omega)) = X(\omega)$
- (c) Show that, for any bounded measurable function  $f(x)$ , we have:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(X) dP = \int_0^1 f(q_X(u)) du$$

4. Question 4

- (a) Prove that, given two sets of  $n$  numbers:

$$\begin{aligned} a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n-1}, a_n \text{ with } a_i < a_j \text{ when } i < j \\ b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{n-1}, b_n \text{ with } b_i \neq b_j \text{ when } i \neq j \end{aligned}$$

and a permutation  $\sigma$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n-1, n\}$ , the sum:

$$S_\sigma := \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_{\sigma(i)}$$

is largest when the  $b_{\sigma(i)}$  are ordered:

$$b_{\sigma(i)} < b_{\sigma(j)} \text{ whenever } i < j$$

- (b) We consider the interval  $I = [0, 1]$  which we divide into  $n$  equal subintervals  $I_k := [\frac{k}{n}, \frac{k+1}{n}]$ . A  $n$ -step function on  $I$  is a function which is constant on each of the  $I_k$ . Given two  $n$ -step functions  $X$  and  $Z$ , we shall say that  $X \sim Z$  if  $X$  and  $Z$  have the same law.

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two strictly increasing  $n$ -step functions. Show that, for all  $Z \sim X$ , we have

$$\int_0^1 ZY \leq \int_0^1 XY$$

- (c) Show the same result when  $X$  and  $Y$  are  $L^2$  functions on  $[0, 1]$ . It is called the Hardy-Littlewood inequality (Hint: use the fact that the set of all  $n$ -step functions,  $n \geq 1$ , is dense in  $L^2$ )