

DIVERSE BELIEFS AND MARKET SELECTION

L. C. G. Rogers
& Katsumasa Nishide

Statistical Laboratory, University of Cambridge & Yokohama
National University

Overview

Overview

- Equilibrium pricing under diverse beliefs
- Market selection and starvation
- Going broke
- Hungry misers and happy bankrupts
- Asymptotically equivalent pricing
- Conclusions

Overview

- Equilibrium pricing under diverse beliefs
- Market selection and starvation
- Going broke
- Hungry misers and happy bankrupts
- Asymptotically equivalent pricing
- Conclusions

Preprint downloadable from <http://www.statslab.cam.ac.uk/~chris/MSH.pdf>

Diverse beliefs and equilibrium pricing.

Diverse beliefs and equilibrium pricing.

Agents ($j = 1, \dots, J$) have same $(\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \geq 0}$, but have different beliefs \mathbb{P}^j .

Diverse beliefs and equilibrium pricing.

Agents ($j = 1, \dots, J$) have same $(\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \geq 0}$, but have different beliefs \mathbb{P}^j . There is a reference probability \mathbb{P}^0 such that

$$\Lambda_t^j = \frac{d\mathbb{P}^j}{d\mathbb{P}^0} \Big|_{\mathcal{F}_t}$$

a positive martingale.

Diverse beliefs and equilibrium pricing.

Agents ($j = 1, \dots, J$) have same $(\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \geq 0}$, but have different beliefs \mathbb{P}^j . There is a reference probability \mathbb{P}^0 such that

$$\Lambda_t^j = \frac{d\mathbb{P}^j}{d\mathbb{P}^0} \Big|_{\mathcal{F}_t}$$

a positive martingale.

Thus agent j has preferences over consumption streams given by

$$F_j(c^j) \equiv \mathbb{E}^j \left[\int_0^\infty U_j(t, c_t^j) dt \right] = \mathbb{E}^0 \left[\int_0^\infty \Lambda_t^j U_j(t, c_t^j) dt \right].$$

Diverse beliefs and equilibrium pricing.

Agents ($j = 1, \dots, J$) have same $(\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \geq 0}$, but have different beliefs \mathbb{P}^j . There is a reference probability \mathbb{P}^0 such that

$$\Lambda_t^j = \left. \frac{d\mathbb{P}^j}{d\mathbb{P}^0} \right|_{\mathcal{F}_t}$$

a positive martingale.

Thus agent j has preferences over consumption streams given by

$$F_j(c^j) \equiv \mathbb{E}^j \left[\int_0^\infty U_j(t, c_t^j) dt \right] = \mathbb{E}^0 \left[\int_0^\infty \Lambda_t^j U_j(t, c_t^j) dt \right].$$

Suppose single productive asset, output rate δ_t of consumption good.

Diverse beliefs and equilibrium pricing.

Agents ($j = 1, \dots, J$) have same $(\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \geq 0}$, but have different beliefs \mathbb{P}^j . There is a reference probability \mathbb{P}^0 such that

$$\Lambda_t^j = \frac{d\mathbb{P}^j}{d\mathbb{P}^0} \Big|_{\mathcal{F}_t}$$

a positive martingale.

Thus agent j has preferences over consumption streams given by

$$F_j(c^j) \equiv \mathbb{E}^j \left[\int_0^\infty U_j(t, c_t^j) dt \right] = \mathbb{E}^0 \left[\int_0^\infty \Lambda_t^j U_j(t, c_t^j) dt \right].$$

Suppose single productive asset, output rate δ_t of consumption good.

Central planner equilibrium: Form the combined objective

$$\begin{aligned} F(\bar{c}) &= \sup \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^J \nu_j^{-1} F_j(c^j) : \sum_j c^j = \bar{c} \right\} \\ &= \sup \left\{ \mathbb{E}^0 \left[\int_0^\infty \sum_j \nu_j^{-1} \Lambda_t^j U_j(t, c_t^j) dt \right] : \sum_j c_t^j = \bar{c}_t \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Hence at optimality the FOC give that

$$\nu_j^{-1} \Lambda_t^j U_j'(t, c_t^j) = \zeta_t$$

is the same for all j .

Hence at optimality the FOC give that

$$\nu_j^{-1} \Lambda_t^j U_j'(t, c_t^j) = \zeta_t$$

is the same for all j .

Writing $I_j \equiv (U_j')^{-1}$, we have

$$c_t^j = I_j(t, \zeta_t \nu_j / \Lambda_t^j)$$

Hence at optimality the FOC give that

$$\nu_j^{-1} \Lambda_t^j U_j'(t, c_t^j) = \zeta_t$$

is the same for all j .

Writing $I_j \equiv (U_j')^{-1}$, we have

$$c_t^j = I_j(t, \zeta_t \nu_j / \Lambda_t^j)$$

Sum on j and use market clearing:

$$\sum_j I_j(t, \zeta_t \nu_j / \Lambda_t^j) = \sum_j c_t^j = \bar{c}_t = \delta_t.$$

Hence at optimality the FOC give that

$$\nu_j^{-1} \Lambda_t^j U_j'(t, c_t^j) = \zeta_t$$

is the same for all j .

Writing $I_j \equiv (U_j')^{-1}$, we have

$$c_t^j = I_j(t, \zeta_t \nu_j / \Lambda_t^j)$$

Sum on j and use market clearing:

$$\sum_j I_j(t, \zeta_t \nu_j / \Lambda_t^j) = \sum_j c_t^j = \bar{c}_t = \delta_t.$$

This gives state-price density ζ , and hence prices of cashflows:

Hence at optimality the FOC give that

$$\nu_j^{-1} \Lambda_t^j U_j'(t, c_t^j) = \zeta_t$$

is the same for all j .

Writing $I_j \equiv (U_j')^{-1}$, we have

$$c_t^j = I_j(t, \zeta_t \nu_j / \Lambda_t^j)$$

Sum on j and use market clearing:

$$\sum_j I_j(t, \zeta_t \nu_j / \Lambda_t^j) = \sum_j c_t^j = \bar{c}_t = \delta_t.$$

This gives state-price density ζ , and hence prices of cashflows:

$$w_t = \zeta_t^{-1} \mathbb{E}^0 \left[\int_t^\infty \zeta_u c_u du \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right]$$

Market selection.

Market selection.

Market Selection Hypothesis (Alchian (1950), Friedman (1953)): *Less knowledgeable agents are eventually eliminated from the market.*

Market selection.

Market Selection Hypothesis (Alchian (1950), Friedman (1953)): *Less knowledgeable agents are eventually eliminated from the market.*

Definition: We say that agent j *starves* if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{c_t^j}{\delta_t} = 0.$$

Market selection.

Market Selection Hypothesis (Alchian (1950), Friedman (1953)): *Less knowledgeable agents are eventually eliminated from the market.*

Definition: We say that agent j *starves* if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{c_t^j}{\delta_t} = 0.$$

Definition: We say that agent j *goes broke* if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{w_t^j}{\bar{w}_t} \equiv \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbb{E}_t \left[\int_t^\infty \zeta_s c_s^j ds \right]}{\mathbb{E}_t \left[\int_t^\infty \zeta_s \delta_s ds \right]} = 0.$$

Market selection.

Market Selection Hypothesis (Alchian (1950), Friedman (1953)): *Less knowledgeable agents are eventually eliminated from the market.*

Definition: We say that agent j *starves* if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{c_t^j}{\delta_t} = 0.$$

Definition: We say that agent j *goes broke* if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{w_t^j}{\bar{w}_t} \equiv \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbb{E}_t \left[\int_t^\infty \zeta_s c_s^j ds \right]}{\mathbb{E}_t \left[\int_t^\infty \zeta_s \delta_s ds \right]} = 0.$$

- If agent j starves, does he necessarily go broke?

Market selection.

Market Selection Hypothesis (Alchian (1950), Friedman (1953)): *Less knowledgeable agents are eventually eliminated from the market.*

Definition: We say that agent j *starves* if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{c_t^j}{\delta_t} = 0.$$

Definition: We say that agent j *goes broke* if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{w_t^j}{\bar{w}_t} \equiv \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbb{E}_t \left[\int_t^\infty \zeta_s c_s^j ds \right]}{\mathbb{E}_t \left[\int_t^\infty \zeta_s \delta_s ds \right]} = 0.$$

- If agent j starves, does he necessarily go broke?
- If agent j goes broke, does he necessarily starve?

Market selection.

Market Selection Hypothesis (Alchian (1950), Friedman (1953)): *Less knowledgeable agents are eventually eliminated from the market.*

Definition: We say that agent j *starves* if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{c_t^j}{\delta_t} = 0.$$

Definition: We say that agent j *goes broke* if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{w_t^j}{\bar{w}_t} \equiv \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbb{E}_t \left[\int_t^\infty \zeta_s c_s^j ds \right]}{\mathbb{E}_t \left[\int_t^\infty \zeta_s \delta_s ds \right]} = 0.$$

- If agent j starves, does he necessarily go broke?
- If agent j goes broke, does he necessarily starve?
- Can we characterize situations in which an agent will starve?

Market selection.

Market Selection Hypothesis (Alchian (1950), Friedman (1953)): *Less knowledgeable agents are eventually eliminated from the market.*

Definition: We say that agent j *starves* if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{c_t^j}{\delta_t} = 0.$$

Definition: We say that agent j *goes broke* if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{w_t^j}{\bar{w}_t} \equiv \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbb{E}_t \left[\int_t^\infty \zeta_s c_s^j ds \right]}{\mathbb{E}_t \left[\int_t^\infty \zeta_s \delta_s ds \right]} = 0.$$

- If agent j starves, does he necessarily go broke?
- If agent j goes broke, does he necessarily starve?
- Can we characterize situations in which an agent will starve?
- Can we characterize situations in which an agent will go broke?

Working assumptions.

Our assumptions:

Working assumptions.

Our assumptions:

- Time is continuous and the horizon is infinite;

Working assumptions.

Our assumptions:

- Time is continuous and the horizon is infinite;
- Agents maximize expected integrated felicity of consumption, discounted at a constant rate;

Working assumptions.

Our assumptions:

- Time is continuous and the horizon is infinite;
- Agents maximize expected integrated felicity of consumption, discounted at a constant rate;
- Agents have a common discount rate, a common felicity function, and differ only in their beliefs;

Working assumptions.

Our assumptions:

- Time is continuous and the horizon is infinite;
- Agents maximize expected integrated felicity of consumption, discounted at a constant rate;
- Agents have a common discount rate, a common felicity function, and differ only in their beliefs;
- Beliefs are summarized by strictly positive likelihood-ratio martingales

Working assumptions.

Our assumptions:

- Time is continuous and the horizon is infinite;
- Agents maximize expected integrated felicity of consumption, discounted at a constant rate;
- Agents have a common discount rate, a common felicity function, and differ only in their beliefs;
- Beliefs are summarized by strictly positive likelihood-ratio martingales - **no parametric structure for beliefs is imposed**;

Working assumptions.

Our assumptions:

- Time is continuous and the horizon is infinite;
- Agents maximize expected integrated felicity of consumption, discounted at a constant rate;
- Agents have a common discount rate, a common felicity function, and differ only in their beliefs;
- Beliefs are summarized by strictly positive likelihood-ratio martingales - **no parametric structure for beliefs is imposed**;
- Output process is a continuous strictly positive semimartingale.

Working assumptions.

Our assumptions:

- Time is continuous and the horizon is infinite;
- Agents maximize expected integrated felicity of consumption, discounted at a constant rate;
- Agents have a common discount rate, a common felicity function, and differ only in their beliefs;
- Beliefs are summarized by strictly positive likelihood-ratio martingales - **no parametric structure for beliefs is imposed**;
- Output process is a continuous strictly positive semimartingale.

Choice variables for us are the **positive martingales Λ^i** , the **output process δ** , the discount rate ρ and the felicity U .

Working assumptions.

Our assumptions:

- Time is continuous and the horizon is infinite;
- Agents maximize expected integrated felicity of consumption, discounted at a constant rate;
- Agents have a common discount rate, a common felicity function, and differ only in their beliefs;
- Beliefs are summarized by strictly positive likelihood-ratio martingales - **no parametric structure for beliefs is imposed**;
- Output process is a continuous strictly positive semimartingale.

Choice variables for us are the **positive martingales Λ^i** , the **output process δ** , the discount rate ρ and the felicity U .

Different assumptions from earlier work of Blume & Easley, Kogan et al, Cvitanic & Malamud, Yan, Sandroni, Cvitanic-Jouini-Malamud-Napp, ...

Starvation

Starvation

If agent i has preferences

$$U^i(c) \equiv \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^{\infty} \Lambda_t^i e^{-\rho_i t} u_i(c_t) dt \right]$$

Starvation

If agent i has preferences

$$U^i(c) \equiv \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^{\infty} \Lambda_t^i e^{-\rho_i t} u_i(c_t) dt \right]$$

then starvation may occur even if $\Lambda_t^i \equiv 1$ for all i :

Starvation

If agent i has preferences

$$U^i(c) \equiv \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^{\infty} \Lambda_t^i e^{-\rho_i t} u_i(c_t) dt \right]$$

then starvation may occur even if $\Lambda_t^i \equiv 1$ for all i :

- if there are differences in ρ_i ;

Starvation

If agent i has preferences

$$U^i(c) \equiv \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^{\infty} \Lambda_t^i e^{-\rho_i t} u_i(c_t) dt \right]$$

then starvation may occur even if $\Lambda_t^i \equiv 1$ for all i :

- if there are differences in ρ_i ;
- even if $\rho_i = \rho$ for all i , if there are differences in u_i ;

Starvation

If agent i has preferences

$$U^i(c) \equiv \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^{\infty} \Lambda_t^i e^{-\rho_i t} u_i(c_t) dt \right]$$

then starvation may occur even if $\Lambda_t^i \equiv 1$ for all i :

- if there are differences in ρ_i ;
- even if $\rho_i = \rho$ for all i , if there are differences in u_i ;
- even if also $u_i = u$ for all i , starvation may still occur . . .

Starvation

If agent i has preferences

$$U^i(c) \equiv \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^{\infty} \Lambda_t^i e^{-\rho_i t} u_i(c_t) dt \right]$$

then starvation may occur even if $\Lambda_t^i \equiv 1$ for all i :

- if there are differences in ρ_i ;
- even if $\rho_i = \rho$ for all i , if there are differences in u_i ;
- even if also $u_i = u$ for all i , starvation may still occur . . . Recall:

$$c_t^j = I(e^{\rho t} \zeta_t \nu_j)$$

Starvation

If agent i has preferences

$$U^i(c) \equiv \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^\infty \Lambda_t^i e^{-\rho_i t} u_i(c_t) dt \right]$$

then starvation may occur even if $\Lambda_t^i \equiv 1$ for all i :

- if there are differences in ρ_i ;
- even if $\rho_i = \rho$ for all i , if there are differences in u_i ;
- even if also $u_i = u$ for all i , starvation may still occur . . . Recall:

$$c_t^j = I(e^{\rho t} \zeta_t \nu_j)$$

If there are $x_n \downarrow 0$ such that for some $p < 1$

$$\lim_n \frac{I(x_n)}{I(px_n)} = 0,$$

Starvation

If agent i has preferences

$$U^i(c) \equiv \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^\infty \Lambda_t^i e^{-\rho_i t} u_i(c_t) dt \right]$$

then starvation may occur even if $\Lambda_t^i \equiv 1$ for all i :

- if there are differences in ρ_i ;
- even if $\rho_i = \rho$ for all i , if there are differences in u_i ;
- even if also $u_i = u$ for all i , starvation may still occur ... Recall:

$$c_t^j = I(e^{\rho t} \zeta_t \nu_j)$$

If there are $x_n \downarrow 0$ such that for some $p < 1$

$$\lim_n \frac{I(x_n)}{I(px_n)} = 0,$$

Then if $\nu_2 = p$, $\nu_1 = 1$, and $e^{\rho t} \zeta_t \downarrow 0$ through the values (x_n) we see that agent 1 starves ...

Starvation

If agent i has preferences

$$U^i(c) \equiv \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^\infty \Lambda_t^i e^{-\rho_i t} u_i(c_t) dt \right]$$

then starvation may occur even if $\Lambda_t^i \equiv 1$ for all i :

- if there are differences in ρ_i ;
- even if $\rho_i = \rho$ for all i , if there are differences in u_i ;
- even if also $u_i = u$ for all i , starvation may still occur ... Recall:

$$c_t^j = I(e^{\rho t} \zeta_t \nu_j)$$

If there are $x_n \downarrow 0$ such that for some $p < 1$

$$\lim_n \frac{I(x_n)}{I(px_n)} = 0,$$

Then if $\nu_2 = p$, $\nu_1 = 1$, and $e^{\rho t} \zeta_t \downarrow 0$ through the values (x_n) we see that agent 1 starves ... Need for some (all) $0 < p < 1$ that

$$\sup_{x>0} \frac{I(px)}{I(x)} < \infty.$$

$$R(x) \equiv - \frac{xu''(x)}{u'(x)} \text{ bounded away from } 0 \Rightarrow \sup_{x>0} \frac{I(x)}{I(2x)} < \infty. \quad (1)$$

$$R(x) \equiv - \frac{xu''(x)}{u'(x)} \text{ bounded away from } 0 \Rightarrow \sup_{x>0} \frac{I(x)}{I(2x)} < \infty. \quad (1)$$

$$R(x) \equiv - \frac{xu''(x)}{u'(x)} \text{ bounded} \Rightarrow \inf_{x>0} \frac{I(x)}{I(2x)} = 1 + \varepsilon > 1. \quad (2)$$

$$R(x) \equiv - \frac{xu''(x)}{u'(x)} \text{ bounded away from } 0 \Rightarrow \sup_{x>0} \frac{I(x)}{I(2x)} < \infty. \quad (1)$$

$$R(x) \equiv - \frac{xu''(x)}{u'(x)} \text{ bounded} \Rightarrow \inf_{x>0} \frac{I(x)}{I(2x)} = 1 + \varepsilon > 1. \quad (2)$$

Say that Agent 2 has **inferior beliefs** if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Lambda_t^2}{\Lambda_t^1} = 0 \quad \text{a.s.}$$

$$R(x) \equiv - \frac{xu''(x)}{u'(x)} \text{ bounded away from } 0 \Rightarrow \sup_{x>0} \frac{I(x)}{I(2x)} < \infty. \quad (1)$$

$$R(x) \equiv - \frac{xu''(x)}{u'(x)} \text{ bounded} \Rightarrow \inf_{x>0} \frac{I(x)}{I(2x)} = 1 + \varepsilon > 1. \quad (2)$$

Say that Agent 2 has **inferior beliefs** if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Lambda_t^2}{\Lambda_t^1} = 0 \quad \text{a.s.}$$

Theorem 1.

- (i) If (2) holds, then Agent 2 has inferior beliefs \Rightarrow Agent 2 starves.

$$R(x) \equiv - \frac{xu''(x)}{u'(x)} \text{ bounded away from } 0 \Rightarrow \sup_{x>0} \frac{I(x)}{I(2x)} < \infty. \quad (1)$$

$$R(x) \equiv - \frac{xu''(x)}{u'(x)} \text{ bounded} \Rightarrow \inf_{x>0} \frac{I(x)}{I(2x)} = 1 + \varepsilon > 1. \quad (2)$$

Say that Agent 2 has **inferior beliefs** if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Lambda_t^2}{\Lambda_t^1} = 0 \quad \text{a.s.}$$

Theorem 1.

- (i) If (2) holds, then Agent 2 has inferior beliefs \Rightarrow Agent 2 starves.
- (ii) If (1) holds, then Agent 2 starves \Rightarrow Agent 2 has inferior beliefs.

$$R(x) \equiv - \frac{xu''(x)}{u'(x)} \text{ bounded away from } 0 \Rightarrow \sup_{x>0} \frac{I(x)}{I(2x)} < \infty. \quad (1)$$

$$R(x) \equiv - \frac{xu''(x)}{u'(x)} \text{ bounded} \Rightarrow \inf_{x>0} \frac{I(x)}{I(2x)} = 1 + \varepsilon > 1. \quad (2)$$

Say that Agent 2 has **inferior beliefs** if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Lambda_t^2}{\Lambda_t^1} = 0 \quad \text{a.s.}$$

Theorem 1.

- (i) If (2) holds, then Agent 2 has inferior beliefs \Rightarrow Agent 2 starves.
- (ii) If (1) holds, then Agent 2 starves \Rightarrow Agent 2 has inferior beliefs.

Corollary. If R is bounded and bounded away from 0, then
Agent 2 starves \Leftrightarrow Agent 2 has inferior beliefs.

Going broke.

Going broke.

Is there a similar criterion for when an agent goes broke?

Going broke.

Is there a similar criterion for when an agent goes broke?

No: there's an example where both agents have same ρ , same $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, different Λ ;

Going broke.

Is there a similar criterion for when an agent goes broke?

No: there's an example where both agents have same ρ , same $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, different Λ ;

and if $\delta_t = \delta_t^{(1)}$, then Agent 2 goes broke, while if $\delta_t = \delta_t^{(2)}$ then Agent 1 goes broke.

Going broke.

Is there a similar criterion for when an agent goes broke?

No: there's an example where both agents have same ρ , same $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, different Λ ;

and if $\delta_t = \delta_t^{(1)}$, then Agent 2 goes broke, while if $\delta_t = \delta_t^{(2)}$ then Agent 1 goes broke.

See the preprint with Nishide.

A remarkable example.

A remarkable example.

Two-agent example such that

A remarkable example.

Two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, same ρ ;

A remarkable example.

Two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, same ρ ;
- Agent 1 knows the correct probability: $\Lambda_t^1 \equiv 1$;

A remarkable example.

Two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, same ρ ;
- Agent 1 knows the correct probability: $\Lambda_t^1 \equiv 1$;
- Agent 1 consumes at constant rate 1;

A remarkable example.

Two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, same ρ ;
- Agent 1 knows the correct probability: $\Lambda_t^1 \equiv 1$;
- Agent 1 consumes at constant rate 1;
- Agent 2 starves;

A remarkable example.

Two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, same ρ ;
- Agent 1 knows the correct probability: $\Lambda_t^1 \equiv 1$;
- Agent 1 consumes at constant rate 1;
- Agent 2 starves;
- With positive probability, Agent 2 does not go broke.

A remarkable example.

Two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, same ρ ;
- Agent 1 knows the correct probability: $\Lambda_t^1 \equiv 1$;
- Agent 1 consumes at constant rate 1;
- Agent 2 starves;
- With positive probability, Agent 2 does not go broke.

Goal is to construct $\Lambda_t^{(2)} \equiv \Lambda_t$;

A remarkable example.

Two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, same ρ ;
- Agent 1 knows the correct probability: $\Lambda_t^1 \equiv 1$;
- Agent 1 consumes at constant rate 1;
- Agent 2 starves;
- With positive probability, Agent 2 does not go broke.

Goal is to construct $\Lambda_t^{(2)} \equiv \Lambda_t$; because we then define $c_t^{(2)} = \Lambda_t^{1/R}$ so that

$$\zeta_t = \frac{e^{-\rho t} u'(c_t^{(1)})}{u'(c_0^{(1)})} = \frac{e^{-\rho t} u'(c_t^{(2)}) \Lambda_t}{u'(c_0^{(2)})} = e^{-\rho t}$$

A remarkable example.

Two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, same ρ ;
- Agent 1 knows the correct probability: $\Lambda_t^1 \equiv 1$;
- Agent 1 consumes at constant rate 1;
- Agent 2 starves;
- With positive probability, Agent 2 does not go broke.

Goal is to construct $\Lambda_t^{(2)} \equiv \Lambda_t$; because we then define $c_t^{(2)} = \Lambda_t^{1/R}$ so that

$$\zeta_t = \frac{e^{-\rho t} u'(c_t^{(1)})}{u'(c_0^{(1)})} = \frac{e^{-\rho t} u'(c_t^{(2)}) \Lambda_t}{u'(c_0^{(2)})} = e^{-\rho t}$$

and $w_t^{(1)} = \rho^{-1}$ for all t .

A remarkable example.

Two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, same ρ ;
- Agent 1 knows the correct probability: $\Lambda_t^1 \equiv 1$;
- Agent 1 consumes at constant rate 1;
- Agent 2 starves;
- With positive probability, Agent 2 does not go broke.

Goal is to construct $\Lambda_t^{(2)} \equiv \Lambda_t$; because we then define $c_t^{(2)} = \Lambda_t^{1/R}$ so that

$$\zeta_t = \frac{e^{-\rho t} u'(c_t^{(1)})}{u'(c_0^{(1)})} = \frac{e^{-\rho t} u'(c_t^{(2)}) \Lambda_t}{u'(c_0^{(2)})} = e^{-\rho t}$$

and $w_t^{(1)} = \rho^{-1}$ for all t . Agent 2's wealth is

$$w_t^{(2)} = \mathbb{E}_t \left[\int_t^\infty e^{-\rho(s-t)} \Lambda_s^{1/R} ds \right]$$

A remarkable example.

Two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, same ρ ;
- Agent 1 knows the correct probability: $\Lambda_t^1 \equiv 1$;
- Agent 1 consumes at constant rate 1;
- Agent 2 starves;
- With positive probability, Agent 2 does not go broke.

Goal is to construct $\Lambda_t^{(2)} \equiv \Lambda_t$; because we then define $c_t^{(2)} = \Lambda_t^{1/R}$ so that

$$\zeta_t = \frac{e^{-\rho t} u'(c_t^{(1)})}{u'(c_0^{(1)})} = \frac{e^{-\rho t} u'(c_t^{(2)}) \Lambda_t}{u'(c_0^{(2)})} = e^{-\rho t}$$

and $w_t^{(1)} = \rho^{-1}$ for all t . Agent 2's wealth is

$$w_t^{(2)} = \mathbb{E}_t \left[\int_t^\infty e^{-\rho(s-t)} \Lambda_s^{1/R} ds \right]$$

Will take $R = 1/2$, and make $\Lambda_t \rightarrow 0$, yet $\liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} w_t^{(2)} \geq a > 0$ with positive probability.

So how is it done?

So how is it done?

Λ drifts downward until the time τ of a single upward jump, after which it evolves as $d\Lambda = \Lambda dW$.

So how is it done?

Λ drifts downward until the time τ of a single upward jump, after which it evolves as $d\Lambda = \Lambda dW$. We will find that $P(\tau = \infty) > 0$, and on this event, $w^{(2)}$ stays bounded away from 0.

So how is it done?

Λ drifts downward until the time τ of a single upward jump, after which it evolves as $d\Lambda = \Lambda dW$. We will find that $P(\tau = \infty) > 0$, and on this event, $w^{(2)}$ stays bounded away from 0. Set $a_n = 2^{-n}$, $n = 0, 1, \dots$

So how is it done?

Λ drifts downward until the time τ of a single upward jump, after which it evolves as $d\Lambda = \Lambda dW$. We will find that $P(\tau = \infty) > 0$, and on this event, $w^{(2)}$ stays bounded away from 0. Set $a_n = 2^{-n}$, $n = 0, 1, \dots$. While $a_{n+1} < \Lambda < a_n$ and before τ ,

$$\dot{\Lambda}_t = -2^{-n-1} \equiv b_n.$$

So how is it done?

Λ drifts downward until the time τ of a single upward jump, after which it evolves as $d\Lambda = \Lambda dW$. We will find that $P(\tau = \infty) > 0$, and on this event, $w^{(2)}$ stays bounded away from 0. Set $a_n = 2^{-n}$, $n = 0, 1, \dots$. While $a_{n+1} < \Lambda < a_n$ and before τ ,

$$\dot{\Lambda}_t = -2^{-n-1} \equiv b_n.$$

While $a_{n+1} < \Lambda < a_n$ let upward jump of size ξ_n come at rate ν_n ;

So how is it done?

Λ drifts downward until the time τ of a single upward jump, after which it evolves as $d\Lambda = \Lambda dW$. We will find that $P(\tau = \infty) > 0$, and on this event, $w^{(2)}$ stays bounded away from 0. Set $a_n = 2^{-n}$, $n = 0, 1, \dots$. While $a_{n+1} < \Lambda < a_n$ and before τ ,

$$\dot{\Lambda}_t = -2^{-n-1} \equiv b_n.$$

While $a_{n+1} < \Lambda < a_n$ let upward jump of size ξ_n come at rate ν_n ; martingale property implies

$$\nu_n \xi_n = b_n.$$

So how is it done?

Λ drifts downward until the time τ of a single upward jump, after which it evolves as $d\Lambda = \Lambda dW$. We will find that $P(\tau = \infty) > 0$, and on this event, $w^{(2)}$ stays bounded away from 0. Set $a_n = 2^{-n}$, $n = 0, 1, \dots$. While $a_{n+1} < \Lambda < a_n$ and before τ ,

$$\dot{\Lambda}_t = -2^{-n-1} \equiv b_n.$$

While $a_{n+1} < \Lambda < a_n$ let upward jump of size ξ_n come at rate ν_n ; martingale property implies

$$\nu_n \xi_n = b_n.$$

If $\tau > n$, then

$$\begin{aligned} w_n^{(2)} &\geq \mathbb{E}_n \left[\int_n^{n+1} e^{-\rho(s-n)} \Lambda_s^{1/R} ds \right] \geq \mathbb{E}_n \left[1_{\{\tau \leq n+1\}} \int_n^{n+1} e^{-\rho(s-n)} \Lambda_s^{1/R} ds \right] \\ &\geq \mathbb{E}_n \left[1_{\{\tau \leq n+1\}} \int_\tau^{n+1} e^{-\rho(s-n)} (a_{n+1} + \xi_n)^{1/R} ds \right] \\ &= (a_{n+1} + \xi_n)^{1/R} \int_0^1 \nu_n e^{-\nu_n t} \left(\int_t^1 e^{-\rho s} ds \right) dt \\ &= \frac{(a_{n+1} + \xi_n)^{1/R}}{\rho(\rho + \nu_n)} e^{-\rho} [\nu_n(e^\rho - 1) - \rho(1 - e^{-\nu_n})]. \end{aligned}$$

For small ν_n , we have this lower bound is asymptotic to

$$\frac{(a_{n+1} + \xi_n)^{1/R}}{\rho(\rho + \nu_n)} e^{-\rho} (e^\rho - 1 - \rho) \nu_n.$$

For small ν_n , we have this lower bound is asymptotic to

$$\frac{(a_{n+1} + \xi_n)^{1/R}}{\rho(\rho + \nu_n)} e^{-\rho} (e^\rho - 1 - \rho) \nu_n.$$

Now take $\xi_n = 2^n$, $R = 1/2$, $\nu_n = b_n/\xi_n = 2^{-2n-1}$.

For small ν_n , we have this lower bound is asymptotic to

$$\frac{(a_{n+1} + \xi_n)^{1/R}}{\rho(\rho + \nu_n)} e^{-\rho(e^\rho - 1 - \rho)\nu_n}.$$

Now take $\xi_n = 2^n$, $R = 1/2$, $\nu_n = b_n/\xi_n = 2^{-2n-1}$. This converges to

$$\frac{e^{-\rho}(e^\rho - 1 - \rho)}{2\rho^2} > 0$$

For small ν_n , we have this lower bound is asymptotic to

$$\frac{(a_{n+1} + \xi_n)^{1/R}}{\rho(\rho + \nu_n)} e^{-\rho(e^\rho - 1 - \rho)\nu_n}.$$

Now take $\xi_n = 2^n$, $R = 1/2$, $\nu_n = b_n/\xi_n = 2^{-2n-1}$. This converges to

$$\frac{e^{-\rho}(e^\rho - 1 - \rho)}{2\rho^2} > 0$$

Easy to see that $P(\tau = \infty) > 0$.

An even more remarkable example.

An even more remarkable example.

The preceding construction can be modified to give a two-agent example such that

An even more remarkable example.

The preceding construction can be modified to give a two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1 - R)$, same ρ ;

An even more remarkable example.

The preceding construction can be modified to give a two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, same ρ ;
- Agent 1 knows the correct probability: $\Lambda_t^1 \equiv 1$;

An even more remarkable example.

The preceding construction can be modified to give a two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1 - R)$, same ρ ;
- Agent 1 knows the correct probability: $\Lambda_t^1 \equiv 1$;
- Agent 1 consumes at constant rate 1;

An even more remarkable example.

The preceding construction can be modified to give a two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, same ρ ;
- Agent 1 knows the correct probability: $\Lambda_t^1 \equiv 1$;
- Agent 1 consumes at constant rate 1;
- Agent 2 starves;

An even more remarkable example.

The preceding construction can be modified to give a two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1-R)$, same ρ ;
- Agent 1 knows the correct probability: $\Lambda_t^1 \equiv 1$;
- Agent 1 consumes at constant rate 1;
- Agent 2 starves;
- Agent 1 goes broke.

An even more remarkable example.

The preceding construction can be modified to give a two-agent example such that

- Both agents have the same CRRA $u(x) = x^{1-R}/(1 - R)$, same ρ ;
- Agent 1 knows the correct probability: $\Lambda_t^1 \equiv 1$;
- Agent 1 consumes at constant rate 1;
- Agent 2 starves;
- Agent 1 goes broke.

YES!! Agent 1 gets all the consumption, Agent 2 gets all the wealth!!

Price impact.

Price impact.

In a benchmark economy where all agents have the same beliefs, $\Lambda^j \equiv 1$ for all j ,

$$\tilde{\zeta}_t(\alpha) = \alpha_j e^{-\rho t} u'(c_t^j)$$

for some $\alpha_j > 0$.

Price impact.

In a benchmark economy where all agents have the same beliefs, $\Lambda^j \equiv 1$ for all j .

$$\tilde{\zeta}_t(\alpha) = \alpha_j e^{-\rho t} u'(c_t^j)$$

for some $\alpha_j > 0$. Kogan et al. say that agent j has *no price impact* if $\Lambda^j \neq 1 \equiv \Lambda^i$ for $i \neq j$ and for some α , for all $T > 0$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\zeta_{t+T}/\zeta_t}{\tilde{\zeta}_{t+T}(\alpha)/\tilde{\zeta}_t(\alpha)} = 1$$

Price impact.

In a benchmark economy where all agents have the same beliefs, $\Lambda^j \equiv 1$ for all j .

$$\tilde{\zeta}_t(\alpha) = \alpha_j e^{-\rho t} u'(c_t^j)$$

for some $\alpha_j > 0$. Kogan et al. say that agent j has *no price impact* if $\Lambda^j \neq 1 \equiv \Lambda^i$ for $i \neq j$ and for some α , for all $T > 0$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\zeta_{t+T}/\zeta_t}{\tilde{\zeta}_{t+T}(\alpha)/\tilde{\zeta}_t(\alpha)} = 1$$

In our example, Agent 2 starves and has no price impact according to this definition;

Price impact.

In a benchmark economy where all agents have the same beliefs, $\Lambda^j \equiv 1$ for all j .

$$\tilde{\zeta}_t(\alpha) = \alpha_j e^{-\rho t} u'(c_t^j)$$

for some $\alpha_j > 0$. Kogan et al. say that agent j has *no price impact* if $\Lambda^j \not\equiv 1 \equiv \Lambda^i$ for $i \neq j$ and for some α , for all $T > 0$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\zeta_{t+T}/\zeta_t}{\tilde{\zeta}_{t+T}(\alpha)/\tilde{\zeta}_t(\alpha)} = 1$$

In our example, Agent 2 starves and has no price impact according to this definition; and yet if p_t is the time- t price of future output, and \tilde{p}_t is the same for the benchmark economy, then almost surely

$$\frac{p_t}{\tilde{p}_t} \rightarrow \infty \quad (t \rightarrow \infty)$$

Price impact.

In a benchmark economy where all agents have the same beliefs, $\Lambda^j \equiv 1$ for all j .

$$\tilde{\zeta}_t(\alpha) = \alpha_j e^{-\rho t} u'(c_t^j)$$

for some $\alpha_j > 0$. Kogan et al. say that agent j has *no price impact* if $\Lambda^j \not\equiv 1 \equiv \Lambda^i$ for $i \neq j$ and for some α , for all $T > 0$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\zeta_{t+T}/\zeta_t}{\tilde{\zeta}_{t+T}(\alpha)/\tilde{\zeta}_t(\alpha)} = 1$$

In our example, Agent 2 starves and has no price impact according to this definition; and yet if p_t is the time- t price of future output, and \tilde{p}_t is the same for the benchmark economy, then almost surely

$$\frac{p_t}{\tilde{p}_t} \rightarrow \infty \quad (t \rightarrow \infty)$$

We change agent j in such a way that he has 'no price impact', and then the ratio of the prices of the asset in the two economies tends to infinity?!

Asymptotically equivalent pricing.

Asymptotically equivalent pricing.

A non-negative future cashflow $(c_s)_{s \geq t}$ is priced as

$$\pi_t(c) = \frac{1}{\zeta_t} \mathbb{E}_t \left[\int_t^\infty \zeta_s c_s ds \right]$$

Asymptotically equivalent pricing.

A non-negative future cashflow $(c_s)_{s \geq t}$ is priced as

$$\pi_t(c) = \frac{1}{\zeta_t} \mathbb{E}_t \left[\int_t^\infty \zeta_s c_s ds \right]$$

Definition. Families $(\pi_t)_{t \geq 0}$ and $(\tilde{\pi}_t)_{t \geq 0}$ are **asymptotically equivalent** if there exists some stopping time t_0 such that for all $t \geq t_0$,

$$\mathcal{A}_t \equiv \{c \geq 0; \pi_t(c) < \infty\} = \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_t \equiv \{c \geq 0; \tilde{\pi}_t(c) < \infty\},$$

and

$$\sup_{c \in \mathcal{A}_t, c \leq 1} \frac{\pi_t(c)}{\tilde{\pi}_t(c)} \rightarrow 1, \quad \sup_{c \in \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_t, c \leq 1} \frac{\tilde{\pi}_t(c)}{\pi_t(c)} \rightarrow 1 \quad (t \rightarrow 1).$$

Asymptotically equivalent pricing.

A non-negative future cashflow $(c_s)_{s \geq t}$ is priced as

$$\pi_t(c) = \frac{1}{\zeta_t} \mathbb{E}_t \left[\int_t^\infty \zeta_s c_s ds \right]$$

Definition. Families $(\pi_t)_{t \geq 0}$ and $(\tilde{\pi}_t)_{t \geq 0}$ are **asymptotically equivalent** if there exists some stopping time t_0 such that for all $t \geq t_0$,

$$\mathcal{A}_t \equiv \{c \geq 0; \pi_t(c) < \infty\} = \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_t \equiv \{c \geq 0; \tilde{\pi}_t(c) < \infty\},$$

and

$$\sup_{c \in \mathcal{A}_t, c \leq 1} \frac{\pi_t(c)}{\tilde{\pi}_t(c)} \rightarrow 1, \quad \sup_{c \in \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_t, c \leq 1} \frac{\tilde{\pi}_t(c)}{\pi_t(c)} \rightarrow 1 \quad (t \rightarrow \infty).$$

Theorem. Families $(\pi_t)_{t \geq 0}$ and $(\tilde{\pi}_t)_{t \geq 0}$ are asymptotically equivalent if and only if there exist positive α and β and a stopping time t_0 such that

(i) for all $t \geq t_0$,

$$\alpha_t \leq \frac{\zeta_{t,t+T}}{\tilde{\zeta}_{t,t+T}} \equiv \frac{\zeta_{t+T}/\zeta_t}{\tilde{\zeta}_{t+T}/\tilde{\zeta}_t} \leq \beta_t \quad \forall t, T \geq 0; \quad (7)$$

(ii)

$$\frac{\alpha_t}{\beta_t} \rightarrow 1 \quad (t \rightarrow \infty). \quad (8)$$

Conclusions.

Conclusions.

- Modelling diverse beliefs captures a key feature of financial markets - agents are not hydrogen atoms!

Conclusions.

- Modelling diverse beliefs captures a key feature of financial markets - agents are not hydrogen atoms!
- Modelling diverse beliefs, through different probability measures is not hard

Conclusions.

- Modelling diverse beliefs captures a key feature of financial markets - agents are not hydrogen atoms!
- Modelling diverse beliefs, through different probability measures is not hard
- Market selection hypothesis untrue in general

Conclusions.

- Modelling diverse beliefs captures a key feature of financial markets - agents are not hydrogen atoms!
- Modelling diverse beliefs, through different probability measures is not hard
- Market selection hypothesis untrue in general
- Under conditions, starvation is equivalent to inferior beliefs

Conclusions.

- Modelling diverse beliefs captures a key feature of financial markets - agents are not hydrogen atoms!
- Modelling diverse beliefs, through different probability measures is not hard
- Market selection hypothesis untrue in general
- Under conditions, starvation is equivalent to inferior beliefs
- Going broke not determined by beliefs alone

Conclusions.

- Modelling diverse beliefs captures a key feature of financial markets - agents are not hydrogen atoms!
- Modelling diverse beliefs, through different probability measures is not hard
- Market selection hypothesis untrue in general
- Under conditions, starvation is equivalent to inferior beliefs
- Going broke not determined by beliefs alone
- Example where one agent starves, the other goes broke!

Conclusions.

- Modelling diverse beliefs captures a key feature of financial markets - agents are not hydrogen atoms!
- Modelling diverse beliefs, through different probability measures is not hard
- Market selection hypothesis untrue in general
- Under conditions, starvation is equivalent to inferior beliefs
- Going broke not determined by beliefs alone
- Example where one agent starves, the other goes broke!
- Even though an agent goes broke, he may have lasting price impact.

Conclusions.

- Modelling diverse beliefs captures a key feature of financial markets - agents are not hydrogen atoms!
- Modelling diverse beliefs, through different probability measures is not hard
- Market selection hypothesis untrue in general
- Under conditions, starvation is equivalent to inferior beliefs
- Going broke not determined by beliefs alone
- Example where one agent starves, the other goes broke!
- Even though an agent goes broke, he may have lasting price impact.

