



Fat Tail Analysis and Package FatTailsR

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9th R/Rmetrics Workshop 27 June 2015

Villa Hatt – Zürich

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Mathematics
- 3 Fat tails: Application in finance
- 4 Conclusion



Since 2009: a small company located in Paris

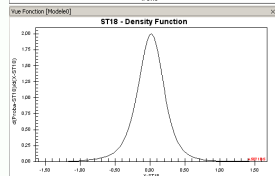
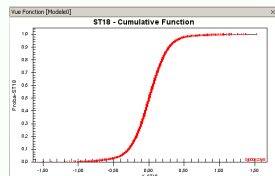
- Consulting services in data analysis
 - Design of experiments
 - Multivariate nonlinear modeling
 - Neural networks
 - Times series
- Software development in R

June 2014:

- 8th R/Rmetrics workshop
- First version of R package **FatTailsR** introducing Kiener distributions with symmetric (3 parameters) and asymmetric (4 parameters) fat tails

June 2015:

- 9th R/Rmetrics workshop
- Second version of R package **FatTailsR** including 3 functions for parameter estimation
- R package **FatTailsRplot** including advanced plotting functions



It is now well established that financial markets exhibit **fat tails**. It occurs on all markets.

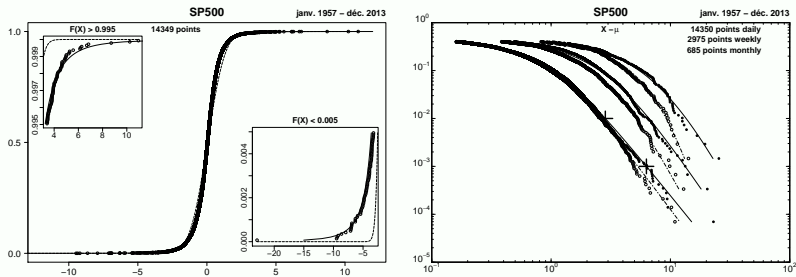


Figure : (a) SP500 daily log-returns (b) SP500 daily, weekly and monthly log-returns in log-log scale
black dots = negative returns, white circles = positive returns

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F(x) = |x|^{-\alpha}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} 1 - F(x) = x^{-\omega}$$

$$\alpha, \omega \approx 3.5$$

Symmetric distributions K1. Asymmetric distributions K2, K3, K4

Last year ¹, we introduced a family of four probability distributions which deal with symmetric and asymmetric fat tails. These distributions were named Kiener distributions or, simply, distributions K1, K2, K3, K4. They combine two log-logistic quantile functions, one for each tail.

The parameters are:

- median μ , scale γ , left tail α , right tail ω , shape parameter $\kappa = \frac{2\alpha\omega}{\alpha+\omega}$ or harmonic mean $\frac{1}{\kappa} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\omega} \right)$
- distortion δ and eccentricity ϵ defined by $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{\kappa} = \frac{1}{2} \left(-\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\omega} \right)$ with bounds $-\frac{1}{\kappa} < \delta < \frac{1}{\kappa}$ and $-1 < \epsilon < 1$

Quantile functions of distributions K2($\mu, \gamma, \alpha, \omega$), K3($\mu, \gamma, \kappa, \delta$), K4($\mu, \gamma, \kappa, \epsilon$), K1(μ, γ, κ)

$$(K2) \quad x(p) = \mu + \gamma \kappa \left[-\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)^{-\frac{1}{\alpha}} + \left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)^{\frac{1}{\omega}} \right] = \mu + \gamma \kappa \left(-e^{-\frac{\text{logit}(p)}{\alpha}} + e^{\frac{\text{logit}(p)}{\omega}} \right)$$

$$(K3) \quad x(p) = \mu + \gamma \kappa \left[-\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)^{-\frac{1}{\kappa}} + \left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)^{\frac{1}{\kappa}} \right] \left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)^{\delta} = \mu + 2\gamma \kappa \sinh\left(\frac{\text{logit}(p)}{\kappa}\right) e^{\delta \text{logit}(p)}$$

$$(K4) \quad x(p) = \mu + \gamma \kappa \left[-\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)^{-\frac{1}{\kappa}} + \left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)^{\frac{1}{\kappa}} \right] \left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)^{\frac{\epsilon}{\kappa}} = \mu + 2\gamma \kappa \sinh\left(\frac{\text{logit}(p)}{\kappa}\right) e^{\frac{\epsilon}{\kappa} \text{logit}(p)}$$

$$(K1) \quad x(p) = \mu + \gamma \kappa \left[-\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)^{-\frac{1}{\kappa}} + \left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)^{\frac{1}{\kappa}} \right] = \mu + 2\gamma \kappa \sinh\left(\frac{\text{logit}(p)}{\kappa}\right) = \mu + \gamma \text{kogit}(p, \kappa)$$

¹P. Kiener, Explicit models for bilateral fat-tailed distributions and applications in finance with the package FatTailsR, 8th R/Rmetrics Workshop, Paris, 2014. <http://www.inmodelia.com/fattailsr-en.html>

Distribution K1 and some properties

Probability and density functions of distribution K1(μ, γ, κ), $t = \operatorname{asinh}\left(\frac{x-\mu}{2\gamma\kappa}\right)$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\kappa \operatorname{asinh}\left(\frac{x-\mu}{2\gamma\kappa}\right)}} \quad f(x) = \frac{1}{4\gamma \cosh(t) (1 + \cosh(\kappa t))} \quad f(0) = \frac{1}{8\gamma}$$

Logit-probability:

$$\operatorname{logit}(F(x)) = \kappa \operatorname{asinh}\left(\frac{x-\mu}{2\gamma\kappa}\right)$$

Density as a function of the probability:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2\gamma} \operatorname{sech}\left(\frac{\operatorname{logit}(p)}{\kappa}\right) p(1-p)$$

Conversion between parameters $\alpha, \omega, \kappa, \delta, \epsilon$

$$\frac{1}{\kappa} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\omega} \right) \quad \delta = \frac{\epsilon}{\kappa} = \frac{1}{2} \left(-\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\omega} \right) \quad \frac{1}{\alpha} = \frac{1}{\kappa} - \delta \quad \frac{1}{\omega} = \frac{1}{\kappa} + \delta \quad \epsilon = \frac{\alpha - \omega}{\alpha + \omega} \quad \alpha = \frac{\kappa}{1 - \epsilon} \quad \omega = \frac{\kappa}{1 + \epsilon}$$

Property 1: Pareto asymptotic functions

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F(x) = \left| \frac{x - \mu}{\gamma\kappa} \right|^{-\alpha} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} 1 - F(x) = \left| \frac{x - \mu}{\gamma\kappa} \right|^{-\omega}$$

Property 2: Karamata theorem about slowly α -varying and ω -varying functions

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x f(x)}{F(x)} = -\alpha \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x f(x)}{1 - F(x)} = \omega$$

Comparison with other distributions

Distributions K1, K2, K3, K4 are similar, but more tractable and easier to use than Generalized Tukey lambda distribution and Tadikamalla and Johnson L_U distribution².

K2 and K4 distributions (Kiener, 2014):


$$x(p) = \mu + \gamma\kappa \left[-\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)^{-1/\alpha} + \left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)^{1/\omega} \right] = \mu + 2\gamma\kappa \sinh\left(\frac{\text{logit}(p)}{\kappa}\right) e^{\frac{\xi}{\kappa} \text{logit}(p)}$$

Generalized Tukey lambda distribution (Ramberg et Schmeiser, 1972):

$$x(p) = \lambda_1 + \frac{1}{\lambda_2} \left[-(1-p)^{\lambda_4} + p^{\lambda_3} \right]$$

L_U distribution (Tadikamalla and Johnson, 1982):

$$x(p) = \xi + \lambda \sinh\left(-\frac{\gamma}{\delta} + \frac{1}{\delta} \text{logit}(p)\right)$$

²Non-central Student distribution and Cauchy distribution were already discussed last year 

Figures related to symmetric distribution K1

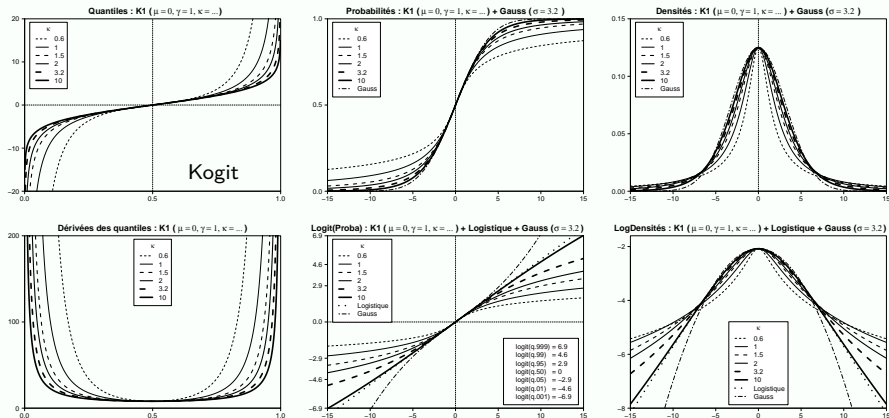


Figure : Distribution K1 : (a) Quantiles - (b) Cumulative functions (c) Densities (d) Quantile derivatives - (e) Logit of the cumulative functions - (f) Logdensities

Figures related to asymmetric distributions K2, K3, K4

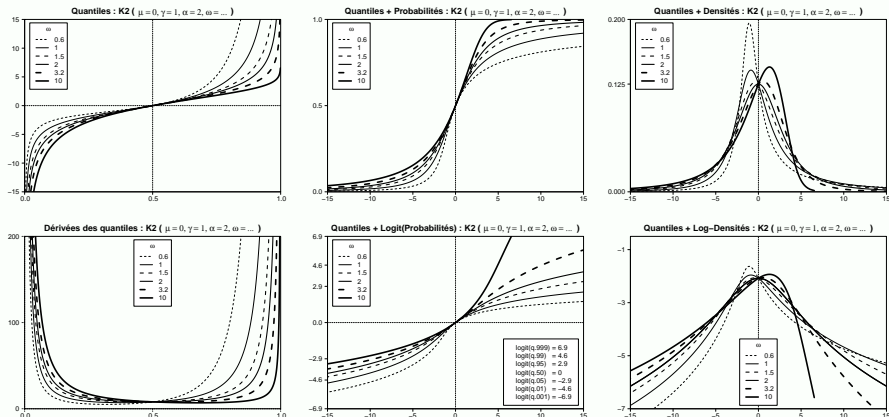


Figure : Distribution K2 : (a) Quantiles - (b) Cumulative functions (c) Densities (d) Quantile derivatives - (e) Logit of the cumulative functions - (f) Logdensities

Limit points

When $\alpha = \infty$ or $\omega = \infty$, the quantile function becomes a single log-logistic quantile function with left or right limit points

Property 4: Left limit point ($\alpha = \infty$), Right limit point ($\omega = \infty$)

$$\alpha = \infty, \kappa = 2\omega, \delta = \frac{1}{2\omega}, \epsilon = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad x(p) = \mu - 2\gamma\omega + 2\gamma\omega \left(\frac{p}{1-p} \right)^{-1/\omega} \xrightarrow{p \rightarrow 0} \mu - 2\gamma\omega$$

$$\omega = \infty, \kappa = 2\alpha, \delta = -\frac{1}{2\alpha}, \epsilon = -1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad x(p) = \mu + 2\gamma\alpha - 2\gamma\alpha \left(\frac{p}{1-p} \right)^{-1/\alpha} \xrightarrow{p \rightarrow 1} \mu + 2\gamma\alpha$$

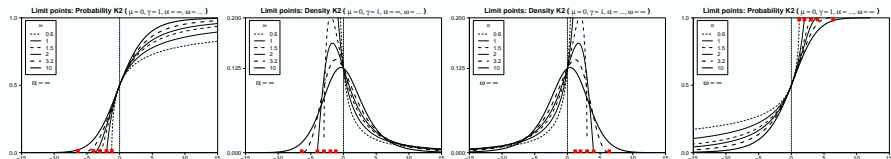


Figure : Cumulative functions K2: (a) $\alpha = \infty$ (b) $\omega = \infty$ Density functions K2: (c) $\alpha = \infty$ (d) $\omega = \infty$

Raw and central moments — K2, K1

Mean exists if $\min(\alpha, \omega) > 1$. Variance exists if $\min(\alpha, \omega) > 2$.

Skewness exists if $\min(\alpha, \omega) > 3$. Kurtosis exists if $\min(\alpha, \omega) > 4$.

Distribution K2($\mu, \gamma, \alpha, \omega$)

$$m_1 = E(X) = \mu + \gamma\kappa \left(-\beta \left(1 - \frac{1}{\alpha}, 1 + \frac{1}{\alpha} \right) + \beta \left(1 - \frac{1}{\omega}, 1 + \frac{1}{\omega} \right) \right) = \mu + \gamma\kappa v$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_2 = E\left((X - E(X))^2\right) &= \gamma^2 \kappa^2 \left[\beta \left(1 - \frac{2}{\alpha}, 1 + \frac{2}{\alpha} \right) + \beta \left(1 - \frac{2}{\omega}, 1 + \frac{2}{\omega} \right) - 2\beta \left(1 + \frac{1}{\alpha} - \frac{1}{\omega}, 1 - \frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\omega} \right) \right] \\ &+ \gamma^2 \kappa^2 \left[-\beta^2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{\alpha}, 1 + \frac{1}{\alpha} \right) - \beta^2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{\omega}, 1 + \frac{1}{\omega} \right) + 2\beta \left(1 - \frac{1}{\alpha}, 1 + \frac{1}{\alpha} \right) \beta \left(1 - \frac{1}{\omega}, 1 + \frac{1}{\omega} \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\beta_1 = \frac{\mu_3}{(\mu_2)^{3/2}} = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^3 \sum_{j=0}^i \binom{3}{i} \binom{i}{j} (-v)^{3-i} (-1)^j \beta \left(1 + \frac{j}{\alpha} - \frac{i-j}{\omega}, 1 - \frac{j}{\alpha} + \frac{i-j}{\omega} \right)}{\left[\sum_{i=0}^2 \sum_{j=0}^i \binom{2}{i} \binom{i}{j} (-v)^{2-i} (-1)^j \beta \left(1 + \frac{j}{\alpha} - \frac{i-j}{\omega}, 1 - \frac{j}{\alpha} + \frac{i-j}{\omega} \right) \right]^{3/2}}$$

$$\beta_2 = \frac{\mu_4}{(\mu_2)^2} = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^4 \sum_{j=0}^i \binom{4}{i} \binom{i}{j} (-v)^{4-i} (-1)^j \beta \left(1 + \frac{j}{\alpha} - \frac{i-j}{\omega}, 1 - \frac{j}{\alpha} + \frac{i-j}{\omega} \right)}{\left[\sum_{i=0}^2 \sum_{j=0}^i \binom{2}{i} \binom{i}{j} (-v)^{2-i} (-1)^j \beta \left(1 + \frac{j}{\alpha} - \frac{i-j}{\omega}, 1 - \frac{j}{\alpha} + \frac{i-j}{\omega} \right) \right]^2}$$

Distribution K1(μ, γ, κ)

$$m_1 = \mu \quad \mu_2 = 2\gamma^2 \kappa^2 \left(\beta \left(1 - \frac{2}{\kappa}, 1 + \frac{2}{\kappa} \right) - 1 \right) \quad \beta_1 = 0 \quad \beta_2 = \frac{\beta \left(1 - \frac{4}{\kappa}, 1 + \frac{4}{\kappa} \right) - 4\beta \left(1 - \frac{2}{\kappa}, 1 + \frac{2}{\kappa} \right) + 3}{2 \left(\beta \left(1 - \frac{2}{\kappa}, 1 + \frac{2}{\kappa} \right) - 1 \right)^2}$$

Pearson chart (β_1^2, β_2)

We plot the skewness β_1 and kurtosis β_2 of distributions K1 and K2, K3, K4 in chart (β_1^2, β_2) . K1 is on the vertical β_2 axis. K2, K3 and K4 are located under the log-logistic curve. Some remarkable points at the limits:

- $(\alpha = \infty, \omega = \infty) \Rightarrow (\kappa = \infty, \epsilon = 0) \Rightarrow (\beta_1 = 0, \beta_2 = 4.2)$
- $(\alpha = 4.1, \omega = 4.1) \Rightarrow (\kappa = 4.1, \epsilon = 0) \Rightarrow (\beta_1 = 0, \beta_2 = 64.8)$
- $(\alpha = \infty, \omega = 4.1) \Rightarrow (\kappa = 8.2, \epsilon = 1) \Rightarrow (\beta_1 = 3.97, \beta_1^2 = 15.8, \beta_2 = 340)$

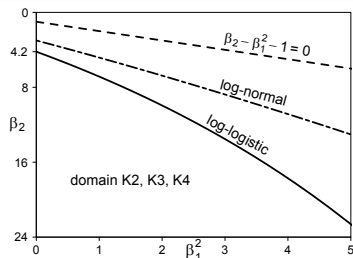


Figure : Skewness β_1 and kurtosis β_2 of distributions K1 and K2, K3, K4

The domain is identical to the domain associated to Tadikamalla and Johnson L_U distribution.

Experimental and theoretical variance

Large datasets are required to reach the theoretical variance or the standard deviation $K1$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_i^N (x(p_i) - \mu)^2} \quad (\text{coloured lines}) \text{ vs (black line)} \quad \sigma = \gamma \kappa \sqrt{2\beta \left(1 - \frac{2}{\kappa}, 1 + \frac{2}{\kappa}\right) - 2}$$

$$x(p_i) = \mu + 2\gamma\kappa \sinh\left(\frac{1}{\kappa} \text{logit}\left(\frac{i}{N+1}\right)\right) \quad \text{with } \mu = 0, \gamma = 1, N = (20, 50, 100, 250, 1000, 10.000)$$

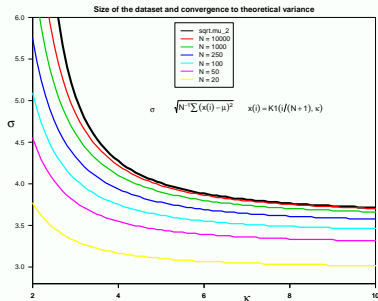


Figure : Theoretical variance and experimental variance related to the size of the dataset

Explanation: There is a lot of information carried by the tails and not seen in small datasets!
In most cases, standard deviation should not be used with fat tails.

- Mathematics in **FatTailsR** package
- Plot and figures in **FatTailsRplot** package

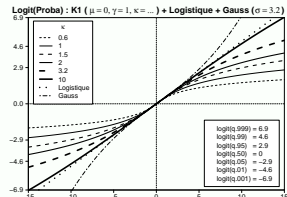
2 algorithms and 3 functions are proposed in **FatTailsR** to estimate the parameters

1 Nonlinear regression

- Functions **regkienerLX** (\rightarrow list), **fitkienerLX** (\rightarrow data.frame)
- Work with K1, K2, K3, K4
- Use the whole dataset of size N
- Perform a nonlinear regression from $\text{logit}(F(x))$ to x with $F(x_i) = p_i = \frac{i}{N+1}$
- Nonlinear least squares
- Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm (package *minpack.lm*)
- Examples: slide 16, videos of slide 17

2 Quantile estimation

- Function **estimkienerX** (\rightarrow data.frame)
- Works with K2, K3, K4
- Requires 5 quantiles only!
- Very fast!
- Examples: slides 19–20



Fat tail characterization

Pair (κ, δ) describes the tails. Let us decompose the quantile function $x(p)$ as:

- the median μ and scale γ \implies linear part
- the tail as a function of κ and δ \implies nonlinear part, asymmetric curvature

K3, C3 — Corrective tail function $C(p, \kappa, \delta)$, $g = \text{logit}(p)$

$$C(p, \kappa, \delta) = \frac{\kappa}{g} \sinh\left(\frac{g}{\kappa}\right) \exp(g\delta) \iff x(p) = \underbrace{\mu + 2\text{logit}(p)}_{\uparrow} \gamma \underbrace{C(p, \kappa, \delta)}_{\uparrow}$$

$C(p, \kappa, \delta)$ acts as a multiplier of the logistic asymptote and incorporates the imbalance between negative and positive tails. For simplicity, let us consider:

- $c01 = C(0.01, \kappa, \delta)$ \implies Risk over long periods
- $c05 = C(0.05, \kappa, \delta)$ \implies Risk during trading

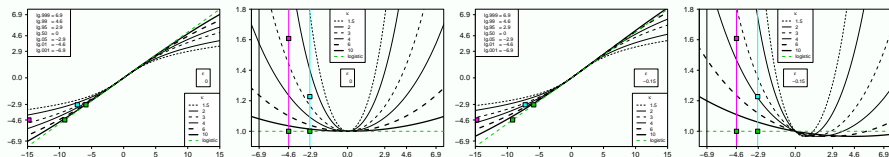


Figure : (a) Logit-Proba $K4(0, 1, \kappa, \epsilon = 0)$ (b) $C4(p, \kappa, \epsilon = 0)$ in logit scale
 (c) Logit-Proba $K4(0, 1, \kappa, \epsilon = -0.15)$ (d) $C4(p, \kappa, \epsilon = -0.15)$ in logit scale

Example 1: SP500

SP500 from 1 January 1957 to 31 December 2013:

Days: 14349 points, Weeks: 2975 points, Months: 685 points

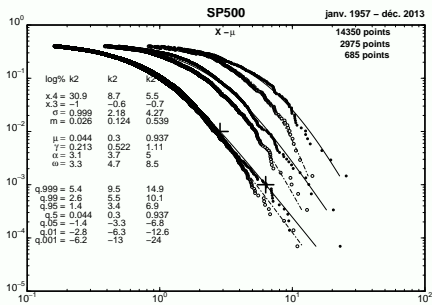
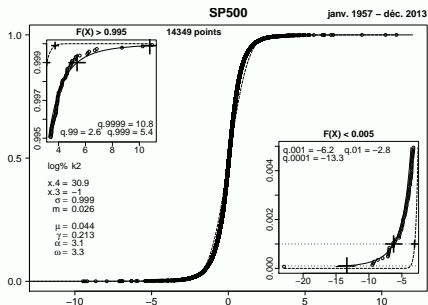


Figure : (a) SP500 daily log-returns (b) SP500 daily, weekly and monthly log-returns in log-log scale
black dots = negative returns, white circles = positive returns

Example 2: Videos SP500 — Rolling windows and Garch

SP500 from January 2005 to December 2013, rolling windows 252 points rebalanced every month

- (left) without Garch
- (right) K2 applied on Garch(1,1) residuals

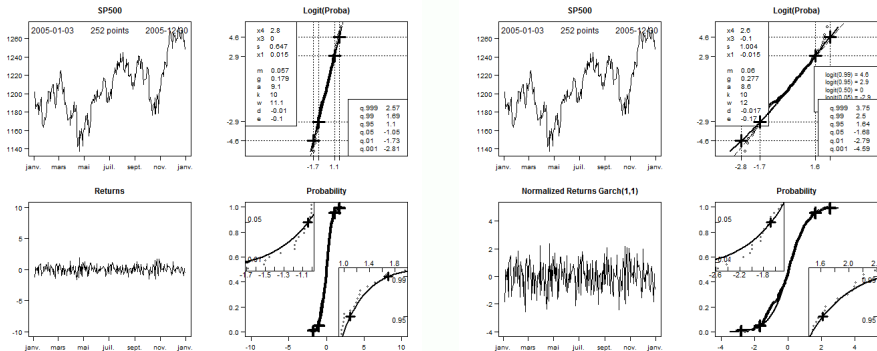


Figure : (a) SP500 log-returns + K2 (b) SP500 log-returns + Garch(1,1) + K2

Click on the links to watch the videos online: [url: SP500](#) [url: SP500-Garch](#) [url: VIX](#) [url: VIX-Garch](#)

Rolling windows 21, 41, 101 days rebalanced every day on **SP500** index

Plots:

- Left: Year 2011
- Right: Year 2012

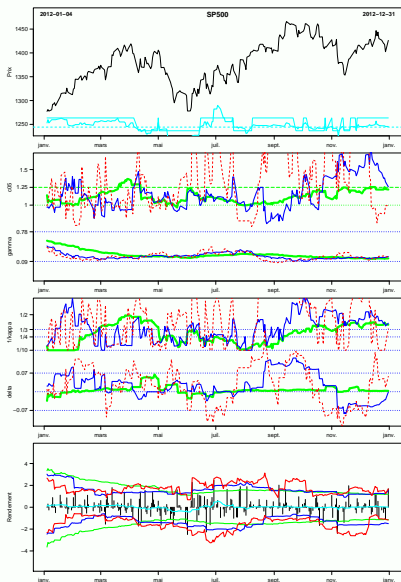
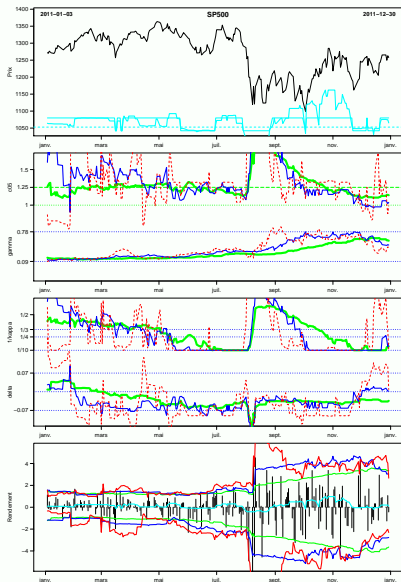
Plots:

- 1 Top: Prices + rolling median (dots = 0)
- 2 Middle top: Rolling parameters $c05$ and γ
- 3 Middle bottom: Rolling parameters $1/\kappa$ and δ
- 4 Bottom: Returns + rolling quantiles at 5% and 95 % \Rightarrow justifies $c05$ rather than $c01$

Colours:

- Black: Prices and returns on a daily basis
- Green: Rolling windows 101 days rebalanced every day
- Blue: Rolling windows 41 days rebalanced every day
- Red: Rolling windows 21 days rebalanced every day
- Cyan: Moving median 21 days rebalanced every day

Example 3: SP500 in 2011 and 2012 — Rolling 21, 41, 101 days



SP500 — Evolving parameters c05, q05. Rolling 41 days

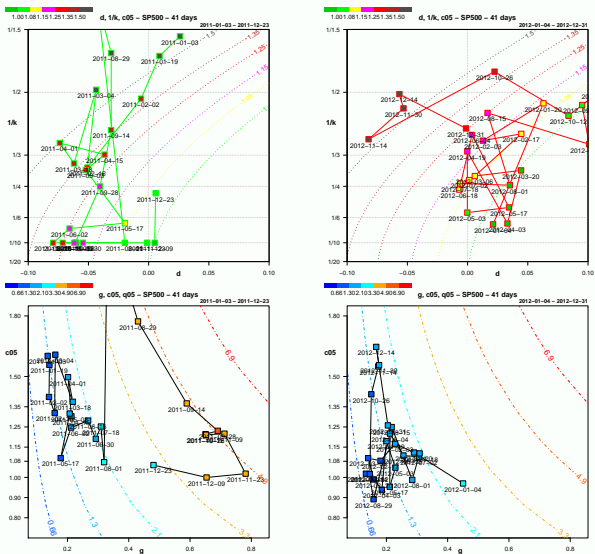


Figure : Parameters c05 (top) and q05 (bottom) from January 2011 (left) to December 2012 (right).
SP500: Rolling periods of 41 days rebalanced every 10 days

Evolving parameter $c01$ — Rolling 88 days

$c01(\kappa, \delta) = \frac{\kappa}{4.6} \sinh\left(\frac{4.6}{\kappa}\right) \exp(-4.6 \delta)$ changes over time. We can track it using plot $(\delta, 1/\kappa)$.

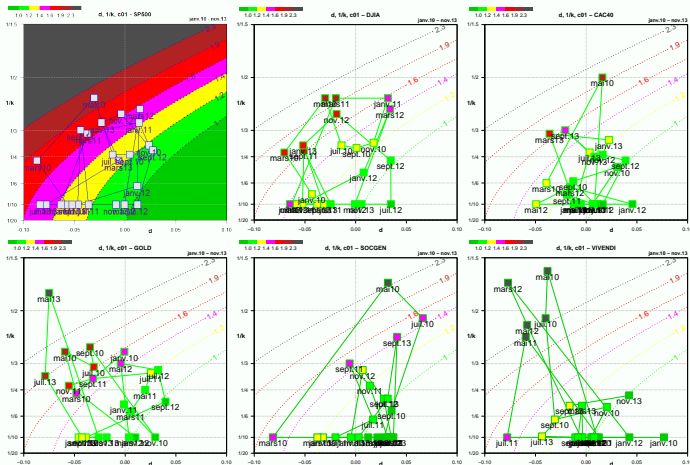


Figure : Parameter $c01$ from October 2009 (January 2010) to November 2013. Rolling periods of 4 months (≈ 88 days) rebalanced every 2 months: SP500, DJIA, CAC40, Gold, Société Générale, Vivendi.

Evolving parameter c01 — Table

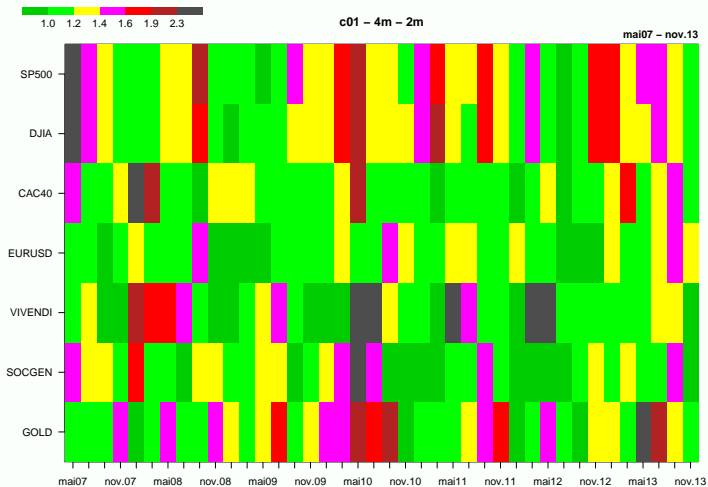


Figure : Parameter c01 from February 2007 (May 2007) to November 2013.
Rolling periods of 4 months (≈ 88 days) rebalanced every 2 months: SP500, DJIA, CAC40, Gold, Société Générale, Vivendi.

Conclusion (1)

A lot of knowledge on distributions with fat tails has been gained during the last 12 months

- K1, K2, K3, K4 distributions are good candidates for describing distributions with fat tails
 - They compare favourably to Tukey Generalized Lambda distribution, Tadikamalla and Johnson distribution, Student distribution, Cauchy distribution (see presentation last year for these last two).
 - They cover a vast domain under the log-logistic curve in Pearson (β_1^2, β_2) plot.
 - Their moments fall exactly at the expected values of the tail parameters α, ω, κ .
 - Their parameters are well separated: median μ , scale γ , shape κ , distortion δ or eccentricity ϵ .
 - Their parameters can be estimated by 2 different methods: nonlinear regression, quantile estimation.
- Effective tools to measure risk
 - Risk is split in scale risk (γ amplification) and asymmetric tail risk (c01, c05).
 - Approximation is good for datasets of various sizes: from 21 points to ten of thousands points.
 - SP500 has skewed and fat tails!
- Potential developments
 - Market risk (Bâle III, bcbs240, Jan-Feb.2013) \Rightarrow Include K3 distribution in the regulation?
 - Portfolio management \Rightarrow Extend the results to multidimensional distributions.
 - Derivatives \Rightarrow New process $\mu\gamma\kappa\delta$ -Garck (Garck to differentiate from Gaussian Garch)?
 - Bayesian change points \Rightarrow Combine K1..K4 distributions with BCP?
 - Stability index \Rightarrow Combine K1..K4 distributions ($\kappa, c01, c05$) with SI?
- Two R packages: **FatTailsR** (license GPL-2, on CRAN) and **FatTailsRplot** (contact me)

A remark rather than a conclusion:

During this presentation, I have talked a lot about risks but I never used the words « volatility » and « standard deviation » in the restrictive Gaussian meaning.

Distributions K1, K2, K3 and K4 introduce a new way of thinking of risk.
They deal with a 4 dimension space which is much larger than
the 2 dimension space of the Gaussian distribution.

With these new distributions, standard deviation is not the appropriate measure of risk.

Please, think about it.

Literature

- 1 N. L. Johnson, S. Kotz, N. Balakrishnan, Continuous univariate distributions, 2nd ed., Wiley, vol. 1, 1994 and vol. 2, 1995.
- 2 P. Kiener, Explicit models for bilateral fat-tailed distributions and applications in finance with the package **FatTailsR**, 8th R/Rmetrics workshop and summer school, Paris, 27 June 2014, <http://www.inodelia.com/fattailsr-en.html>
- 3 C. Ley, Flexible modelling in statistics: past, present and future, J. Soc. Fran. Stat., Vol. 156, No. 1, 76-96, 2015. <http://journal-sfds.fr/index.php/J-SFdS/article/download/415/394>
- 4 The R project for statistical computing, <http://www.r-project.org>

Software

- Package **FatTailsR**, version 1.2-0, 18 June 2015, available on CRAN, license GPL-2, <http://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/FatTailsR/index.html>
- Package **FatTailsRplot**, version 1.2-0, 18 June 2015, <http://www.inodelia.com/fattailsr-en.html>

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- P. Kiener, Fat tail analysis and package **FatTailsR**, 9th R/Rmetrics workshop and summer school, Zurich, 27 June 2015, <http://www.inodelia.com/fattailsr-en.html>



Thank you for your attention !

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