

# No-arbitrage with multiple-priors in discrete time

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Joint work with Romain Blanchard.



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New characterisation of the condition of quasi-sure no-arbitrage of [Bouchard and Nutz, 2015] which has become a standard assumption.



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- Revisit the so-called geometric and quantitative no-arbitrage conditions.



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- Simple proof for FTAP.
- New possibility for utility maximisation.
- Revisit the so-called geometric and quantitative no-arbitrage conditions.
- Explicit two important examples where all these concepts are illustrated.



# Framework and notations

## Set of priors (similar to [Bouchard and Nutz, 2015])

- Sequence  $(\Omega_t)_{1 \leq t \leq T}$  of Polish spaces. We denote

$$\omega^t = (\omega_1, \dots, \omega_t) \in \Omega^t := \Omega_1 \times \dots \times \Omega_t.$$

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- **Assumption 1** : the one period set of priors  $\mathcal{Q}_{t+1} : \omega^t \in \Omega^t \rightarrow \mathfrak{P}(\Omega_{t+1})$  is a **non-empty** and **convex valued random set** s.t.

$$\text{Graph}(\mathcal{Q}_{t+1}) = \{(\omega^t, P) \in \Omega^t \times \mathfrak{P}(\Omega_{t+1}), P \in \mathcal{Q}_{t+1}(\omega^t)\}$$

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is an **analytic set** (continuous image of a Polish space).

- Jankov-von Neumann Theorem allows to construct the set of all possible priors  $\mathcal{Q}^T$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Q}^T := \{ & Q_1 \otimes q_2 \otimes \dots \otimes q_T, Q_1 \in \mathcal{Q}_1, q_{s+1} \in \mathcal{SK}_{s+1}, \\ & q_{s+1}(\cdot, \omega^s) \in \mathcal{Q}_{s+1}(\omega^s) \forall \omega^s \forall 1 \leq s \leq T-1 \}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathcal{SK}_{t+1}$  is the set of  $\mathcal{B}_c(\Omega^t) := \bigcap_{P \in \mathfrak{P}(\Omega^t)} \mathcal{B}_P(\Omega^t)$ -meas. stochastic kernel on  $\Omega_{t+1}$  given  $\Omega^t$ .



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- Trading strategies :  $\phi := \{\phi_t, 1 \leq t \leq T\} \in \Phi$ , universally-predictable  $d$ -dimensional process.
- Trading is self-financing. Riskless asset's price is constant 1.

$$V_t^{x,\phi} = x + \sum_{s=1}^t \phi_s \Delta S_s.$$

# No-arbitrage conditions

## Monoprior NA(P)

$NA(P) : V_T^{0,\phi} \geq 0 \text{ } P\text{-a.s. for some } \phi \in \Phi \Rightarrow V_T^{0,\phi} = 0 \text{ } P\text{-a.s.}$



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## Robust NA

$$NA(\mathcal{Q}^T) : V_T^{0,\phi} \geq 0 \text{ } \mathcal{Q}^T\text{-q.s. for some } \phi \in \Phi \Rightarrow V_T^{0,\phi} = 0 \text{ } \mathcal{Q}^T\text{-q.s.}$$

See Bouchard and Nutz [2015]

$N \subset \Omega^T$  is called a  $\mathcal{Q}^T$ -polar set if  $\forall P \in \mathcal{Q}^T, \exists A_P \in \mathcal{B}(X)$  such that  $P(A_P) = 0$  and  $N \subset A_P$ . Holds true  $\mathcal{Q}^T$ -q.s. : outside a  $\mathcal{Q}^T$ -polar set.  
 $\mathcal{Q}^T$ -full measure set : complement of a  $\mathcal{Q}^T$ -polar set.

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- Nevertheless,  $Q^T$  might still contain some models that are not arbitrage free.
- An agent may not be able to delta-hedge a simple vanilla option using different levels of volatility in a arbitrage free way.



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- This definition seems also relevant in a continuous time setting for studying the no-arbitrage characterisation, see [Biagini et al., 2015].

# No-arbitrage characterisations

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The contraposition of the  $wNA(Q^T)$  condition is that for all models  $P \in Q^T$ , there exists a strategy  $\phi_P$  such that  $V_T^{0, \phi_P} \geq 0$   $P$ -a.s. and  $P(V_T^{0, \phi_P} > 0) > 0$ .

A concrete example of a such model-dependent arbitrage is given in [Davis and Hobson, 2007].

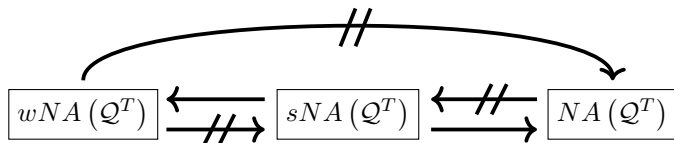


FIGURE – Simple relations between the no-arbitrage definitions.

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  - 1  *$\mathcal{P}^T$  and  $Q^T$  have the same polar-sets*
  - 2  *$sNA(\mathcal{P}^T)$  holds true i.e.  $NA(P)$  for all  $P \in \mathcal{P}^T$ .*



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  - ②  $sNA(\mathcal{P}^T)$  holds true i.e.  $NA(P)$  for all  $P \in \mathcal{P}^T$ .

Let  $P^*$  as in Theorem 11 below with the fix disintegration

$P^* := P_1^* \otimes p_2^* \otimes \cdots \otimes p_T^*$ . The set  $\mathcal{P}^T$  is defined recursively as follows :

$$\mathcal{P}^1 := \{ \lambda P_1^* + (1 - \lambda)P, 0 < \lambda \leq 1, P \in Q^1 \},$$

$$\mathcal{P}^{t+1} := \left\{ P_t \otimes (\lambda p_{t+1}^* + (1 - \lambda)q_{t+1}), 0 < \lambda \leq 1, \right.$$

$$\left. P_t \in \mathcal{P}^t, q_{t+1}(\cdot, \omega^t) \in Q_{t+1}(\omega^t) \forall \omega^t \in \Omega^t \right\}.$$

# Applications

Equivalence between the  $NA(Q^T)$  condition and the no-arbitrage condition introduced by [Bartl et al., 2019] which studies the problem of robust maximisation of expected utility using medial limits.

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## Corollary

*Assume that Assumptions 1. and 2. hold true. The following conditions are equivalent*

- *The  $NA(Q^T)$  condition holds true.*
- *For all  $Q \in \mathcal{Q}^T$ , there exists some  $P \in \mathcal{P}^T$  such that  $Q \ll P$  and such that  $NA(P)$  holds true.*
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# Applications

Robust FTAP of [Bouchard and Nutz, 2015].

$\mathcal{R}^T := \{P \in \mathfrak{P}(\Omega^T), \exists Q' \in \mathcal{Q}^T, P \ll Q' \text{ and } P \text{ is a martingale measure}\}.$

$\mathcal{K}^T := \{P \in \mathfrak{P}(\Omega^T), \exists Q' \in \mathcal{P}^T, P \sim Q' \text{ and } P \text{ is a martingale measure}\}.$

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- *For all  $Q \in \mathcal{Q}^T$ , there exists some  $P \in \mathcal{R}^T$  such that  $Q \ll P$ .*

# Applications

## Random Utility

$U : \Omega^T \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty\}$  such that

- for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $U(\cdot, x) : \Omega^T \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$  is  $\mathcal{B}(\Omega^T)$ -measurable,
- for all  $\omega^T \in \Omega^T$ ,  $U(\omega^T, \cdot) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$  is non-decreasing and concave on  $(0, \infty)$
- $U(\cdot, x) = -\infty$ , for all  $x < 0$ .

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## Robust portfolio problem with initial wealth $x$

$$u(x) := \sup_{\phi \in \Phi(x, U, \mathcal{Q}^T)} \inf_{P \in \mathcal{Q}^T} E_P U(\cdot, V_T^{x, \phi}(\cdot)). \quad (1)$$

where  $\Phi(x, U, \mathcal{Q}^T)$  is the set of all strategies, s.t  $V_T^{x, \phi}(\cdot) \geq 0$   $\mathcal{Q}^T$ -q.s. and  $E_P U^+(\cdot, V_T^{x, \phi}(\cdot)) < \infty$  or  $E_P U^-(\cdot, V_T^{x, \phi}(\cdot)) < \infty$  for all  $P \in \mathcal{Q}^T$ .

# Applications

**Assumption 3** : We have that  $U^+(\cdot, 1), U^-(\cdot, \frac{1}{4}) \in \mathcal{W}_T$  and  $\Delta S_t, 1/\alpha_t^P \in \mathcal{W}_t$  for all  $1 \leq t \leq T$  and  $P \in \mathcal{P}^t$ , where

$$\mathcal{W}_t := \bigcap_{r>0} \left\{ X : \Omega^t \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}, \mathcal{B}(\Omega^t)\text{-measurable, } \sup_{P \in \mathcal{Q}^t} E_P |X|^r < \infty \right\}.$$



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## Corollary

Assume that the  $NA(\mathcal{Q}^T)$  condition and Assumptions 1. and 2. hold true. Furthermore, assume that  $U$  is either bounded from above or that Assumption 3. holds true. Then for all  $x \geq 0$ .

$$u(x) = u^{\mathcal{P}}(x) := \sup_{\phi \in \Phi(x, U, \mathcal{P}^T)} \inf_{P \in \mathcal{P}^T} E_P U(\cdot, V_T^{x, \phi}(\cdot)).$$

# Local NA

First part of [Bouchard and Nutz, 2015, Theorem 4.5]

## Theorem

*Assume that Assumptions 1 and 2 hold true. Then the following statements are equivalent :*

- 1. The  $NA(Q^T)$  condition holds true.*
- 2. For all  $0 \leq t \leq T - 1$ , there exists a  $Q^t$ -full measure set  $\Omega_{NA}^t \in \mathcal{B}_c(\Omega^t)$  such that for all  $\omega^t \in \Omega_{NA}^t$ ,*

$$h\Delta S_{t+1}(\omega^t, \cdot) \geq 0 \text{ } Q_{t+1}(\omega^t)\text{-q.s.} \Rightarrow h\Delta S_{t+1}(\omega^t, \cdot) = 0 \text{ } Q_{t+1}(\omega^t)\text{-q.s.}$$

# Measurability of the supports

## Lemma

Let  $P \in \mathcal{Q}^T$  with a fixed disintegration  $P := Q_1 \otimes q_2 \otimes \dots \otimes q_T$ . Under Assumptions 1 and 2, the following supports of the conditional distribution of  $\Delta S_{t+1}(\omega^t, \cdot)$

$$D^{t+1}(\omega^t) := \bigcap \left\{ A \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \text{ closed, } P_{t+1}(\Delta S_{t+1}(\omega^t, \cdot) \in A) = 1, \forall P_{t+1} \in \mathcal{Q}_{t+1}(\omega^t) \right\}$$

$$D_P^{t+1}(\omega^t) := \bigcap \left\{ A \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \text{ closed, } q_{t+1}(\Delta S_{t+1}(\omega^t, \cdot) \in A, \omega^t) = 1 \right\},$$

are non-empty, closed valued random set with graphs in  $\mathcal{B}_c(\Omega^t) \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

# Geometric NA

Geometric view in the spirit of [Jacod and Shiryaev, 1998, Theorem 3g)].  
 Recall that  $\text{Ri}(C) = \{y \in C, \exists \varepsilon > 0, \text{Aff}(C) \cap B(y, \varepsilon) \subset C\}$ .

## Definition

The geometric no-arbitrage condition holds true if for all  $0 \leq t \leq T - 1$ , there exists some  $\mathcal{Q}^t$ -full measure set  $\Omega_{gNA}^t \in \mathcal{B}_c(\Omega^t)$  such that for all  $\omega^t \in \Omega_{gNA}^t$ ,  $0 \in \text{Ri}(\text{Conv}(D^{t+1}))(\omega^t)$ .

In this case for all  $\omega^t \in \Omega_{gNA}^t$ , there exists  $\varepsilon_t(\omega^t) > 0$  such that

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- The geometric (local) no-arbitrage condition is indeed practical : it allows to check whether the (global)  $\text{NA}(\mathcal{Q}^T)$  condition holds true or not.

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- The geometric (local) no-arbitrage condition is indeed practical : it allows to check whether the (global)  $\text{NA}(\mathcal{Q}^T)$  condition holds true or not.
- As  $\mathcal{Q}_{t+1}$  and  $\Delta S_{t+1}$  are given one gets  $\text{Ri}(\text{Conv}(D^{t+1}))(\cdot)$  and it is easy to check whether 0 is in it or not.

# Quantitative NA

Quantitative view the spirit of [Rásonyi and Stettner, 2005, Proposition 3.3]

## Definition

The quantitative no-arbitrage condition holds true if for all  $0 \leq t \leq T - 1$ , there exists some  $\mathcal{Q}^t$ -full measure set  $\Omega_{qNA}^t \in \mathcal{B}_c(\Omega^t)$  such that for all  $\omega^t \in \Omega_{qNA}^t$ , there exists  $\beta_t(\omega^t), \kappa_t(\omega^t) \in (0, 1]$  such that for all  $h \in \text{Aff}(D^{t+1})(\omega^t)$ ,  $h \neq 0$  there exists  $P_h \in \mathcal{Q}_{t+1}(\omega^t)$  satisfying

$$P_h \left( \frac{h}{|h|} \Delta S_{t+1}(\omega^t, \cdot) < -\beta_t(\omega^t) \right) \geq \kappa_t(\omega^t).$$

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- One risky asset and one period : there exists a prior for which the price of the risky asset increases enough and an other one for which it decreases,  $P^\pm (\mp \Delta S(\cdot) < -\alpha) > \alpha$  where  $\alpha > 0$ .



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The quantitative no-arbitrage condition holds true if for all  $0 \leq t \leq T - 1$ , there exists some  $\mathcal{Q}^t$ -full measure set  $\Omega_{qNA}^t \in \mathcal{B}_c(\Omega^t)$  such that for all  $\omega^t \in \Omega_{qNA}^t$ , there exists  $\beta_t(\omega^t), \kappa_t(\omega^t) \in (0, 1]$  such that for all  $h \in \text{Aff}(D^{t+1})(\omega^t)$ ,  $h \neq 0$  there exists  $P_h \in \mathcal{Q}_{t+1}(\omega^t)$  satisfying

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- One risky asset and one period : there exists a prior for which the price of the risky asset increases enough and an other one for which it decreases,  $P^\pm (\mp \Delta S(\cdot) < -\alpha) > \alpha$  where  $\alpha > 0$ .
- The probability measure depends of the strategy.

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- $\beta_t(\omega^t)$  provides information on  $D^{t+1}(\omega^t)$  while  $\kappa_t(\omega^t)$  provides information on  $\mathcal{Q}_{t+1}(\omega^t)$ .

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- Used to prove the existence of the optimal strategy but could also be used to compute it numerically.
- Explicit values for  $\beta_t$  and  $\kappa_t$  are given.

## Theorem

*Assume that Assumptions 1 and 2 hold true. Then the  $NA(Q^T)$  condition, the geometric no-arbitrage and the quantitative no-arbitrage are equivalent and one can choose for all  $0 \leq t \leq T - 1$*

$$\Omega_{NA}^t = \Omega_{qNA}^t = \Omega_{gNA}^t$$

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## Proposition

*Assume that Assumptions 1 and 2 hold true. Under one of the no-arbitrage conditions one can choose an universally measurable version of  $\varepsilon_t$  and  $\beta_t$ .*



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- Note that  $\text{Aff}(D) = \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\text{Aff}(D_{P_2}) = \{0\} \times \mathbb{R}$ .



## Theorem

*Assume that Assumptions 1. and 2. hold true. TFAE*

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- The probability measure  $P^*$  of Theorem 11 is not unique.



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- Allows to find universally measurable version of  $\kappa_t$ .

## Proposition

*Assume that Assumptions 1. and 2. hold true. Assume furthermore that there exists some dominating measure  $\hat{P} \in \mathcal{Q}^T$ . Then*

- *The  $NA(\hat{P})$  and the  $NA(\mathcal{Q}^T)$  conditions are equivalent.*

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## Proposition

Assume that Assumption 2. holds true and that there exists

- ① some  $\tilde{P} \in \mathcal{Q}^T$
- ② some  $0 \leq \tilde{t} \leq T - 1$  and some  $\Omega_N^{\tilde{t}} \in \mathcal{B}_c(\Omega^{\tilde{t}})$  such that
  - $\tilde{P}^{\tilde{t}}(\Omega_N^{\tilde{t}}) > 0$
  - $\mathcal{Q}_{\tilde{t}+1}^{\sim}(\omega^{\tilde{t}})$  is **not dominated** for all  $\omega^{\tilde{t}} \in \Omega_N^{\tilde{t}}$ .

Then  $\mathcal{Q}^T$  is **not dominated**.



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- Usual binomial model corresponds :  $p_t = P_t = p$ ,  $u_t = U_t = u$  and  $d_t = D_t = d$  where  $0 < p < 1, d < 1 < u$ .



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- Usual binomial model corresponds :  $p_t = P_t = p$ ,  $u_t = U_t = u$  and  $d_t = D_t = d$  where  $0 < p < 1, d < 1 < u$ .
- Assumption 2. holds true.

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$$q_{t+1}(\Delta S_{t+1} \in \cdot, \omega^t) = \pi_t(\omega^t) \delta_{a_t(\omega^t)}(\cdot) + (1 - \pi_t(\omega^t)) \delta_{d_t(\omega^t)}(\cdot)$$

$$Q = Q_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes q_t \in \mathcal{Q}^T$$

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- $0 \notin \text{Ri}(\text{Conv}(D_Q^{t+1}))(\omega^t)$  for all  $\omega^t \in \Omega^t$  and both the  $NA(Q)$  and  $sNA(Q^T)$  conditions fail.

- Explicit expressions for  $\varepsilon_t$ ,  $\beta_t$  and  $\kappa_t$

$$\frac{\varepsilon_t(\omega^t)}{2} = \beta_t(\omega^t) = \frac{S_t(\omega^t)}{N} \min\left(\frac{U_t(\omega^t) - 1}{2}, \frac{1 - d_t(\omega^t)}{2}\right) > 0,$$

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$$p_{t+1}^*(\pm \Delta S_{t+1}(\omega^t, \cdot) < -\beta_t(\omega^t), \omega^t) \geq \kappa_t(\omega^t).$$

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- Indeed, if not, any dominating measure would have an uncountable number of atoms.



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- We give concrete examples where all the quantities appearing in the different definitions and characterizations of NA are explicit.

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