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Let  $M$  be the set of returns of the portfolios in

$\mathcal{P} := \{w = (w_i) \in \mathbb{R}^d, \sum_{i=1}^d |w_i| = 1\}$ . Let the asset returns

$X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_d)$  be elliptically distributed,

$X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_d) \sim E_d(\mu, \Sigma, \psi)$  for some  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  and

$\psi: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $VaR_\alpha$  is coherent in  $M$ , for any  $\alpha \in (0.5, 1)$ .

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**Theorem:** (Embrechts et al., 2002)

Let  $X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_d) = \mu + AY$  be elliptically distributed with  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$  and a spherically distributed vector  $Y \sim S_k(\psi)$ .

Assume that  $0 < E(X_k^2) < \infty$  holds  $\forall k$ . If the risk measure  $\rho$  has the properties (C1) and (C3) and  $\rho(Y_1) > 0$  for the first component  $Y_1$  of  $Y$ , then

$$\arg \min \{\rho(Z(w)) : w \in \mathcal{P}_m\} = \arg \min \{\text{var}(Z(w)) : w \in \mathcal{P}_m\}$$

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Equivalently, a copula  $C$  is a function  $C: [0, 1]^d \rightarrow [0, 1]$ , with the following properties:

1.  $C(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_d)$  is mon. increasing in each variable  $u_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq d$ .
2.  $C(1, 1, \dots, 1, u_k, 1, \dots, 1) = u_k$  for any  $k \in \{1, \dots, d\}$  and  $\forall u_k \in [0, 1]$ .
3. The *rectangle inequality* holds  $\forall (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_d) \in [0, 1]^d$ ,  $\forall (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_d) \in [0, 1]^d$  with  $a_k \leq b_k, \forall k \in \{1, 2, \dots, d\}$ :

$$\sum_{k_1=1}^2 \dots \sum_{k_d=1}^2 (-1)^{k_1+k_2+\dots+k_d} C(u_{1k_1}, u_{2k_2}, \dots, u_{dk_d}) \geq 0,$$

where  $u_{j1} = a_j$  and  $u_{j2} = b_j$ .

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**Remark:** The  $k$ -dimensional marginal distributions of a  $d$ -dimensional copula are  $k$ -dimensional copulas, for all  $2 \leq k \leq d$ .

**Lemma:** Let  $h: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a monotone increasing function with  $h(\mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R}$  and  $h^{\leftarrow}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the generalized inverse function of  $h$ . Then the following statements hold:

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**Lemma:** Let  $X$  be a r.v. with continuous distribution function  $F$ . Then  $P(F^{\leftarrow}(F(x)) = x) = 1$ , i.e.  $F^{\leftarrow}(F(X)) \stackrel{\text{a.s.}}{=} X$

# Copulas: existence and uniqueness



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**Theorem:** Let  $G$  be a d.f. in  $\mathbb{R}$ . The following statements holds

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If  $U \sim U(0, 1)$ , then  $P(G^{\leftarrow}(U) \leq x) = G(x)$ .

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**Theorem:** (Sklar, 1959)

Let  $F: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow [0, 1]$  a c.d.f. with marginal d.f.  $F_1, \dots, F_d$ . There exists a copula  $C$ , such that for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_d \in \bar{\mathbb{R}} = [-\infty, \infty]$  the equality

$$F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_d) = C(F_1(x_1), F_2(x_2), \dots, F_d(x_d)) \text{ holds.}$$

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Vice-versa, if  $C$  is a copula and  $F_1, \dots, F_d$  are d.f., then the function  $F$  defined by the equality above is a c.d.f. with marginal d.f.  $F_1, \dots, F_d$ .

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$C$  as above is called *the copula of  $F$* . For a random vector  $X \in \mathbb{R}^d$  with c.d.f.  $F$  we say that  $C$  is *the copula of  $X$* .