THE SCENARIO APPROACH to STOCHASTIC OPTIMIZATION

Marco C. Campi University of Brescia Italy "What I like about experience is that it is such an honest thing. ... You may have deceived yourself, but experience is not trying to deceive you."

C.S. Lewis

thanks to:

Algo Care' Simone Garatti

Maria Prandini



Bernardo Pagnoncelli

Giuseppe Calafiore

Federico Ramponi

optimization

- controller synthesis
- classification
- portfolio selection

optimization program

optimization

- controller synthesis
- classification
- portfolio selection
 - •

uncertain environment

• exercise caution

optimization program uncertain optimization:

optimize $J(\theta, \delta)$

uncertain optimization:

optimize $J(\theta, \delta)$

not a valid mathematical formulation

uncertain optimization:

optimize $J(\theta, \delta)$

not a valid mathematical formulation

often, a description of uncertainty is not available, or it is only partially available scenario-based knowledge:

scenario-based knowledge:

knowledge about uncertainty can be acquired through experience,

that is, we look at previous cases, or scenarios, of the same problem

1\$

1\$

d assets

1\$

- d assets
- p_k = percentage of capital invested on asset k

1\$

d assets

 p_k = percentage of capital invested on asset k

 $\theta = [p_1 \cdots p_d]^T$

1\$

d assets $p_k = \text{percentage of capital invested on asset } k$ $\theta = [p_1 \cdots p_d]^T$

$$J(\theta, \delta) = \sum_{k=1}^{d} p_k R_k \qquad \delta = [R_1 \cdots R_d]^T$$



record of past rate of returns:

 $R_k(i) =$ return of asset k over period i (scenarios)

record of past rate of returns:

 $R_k(i) = \text{return of asset } k \text{ over period } i \quad (\text{scenarios})$

$$J(\theta, \delta^{(i)}) = \sum_{k=1}^{d} p_k R_k(i), \quad i = 1..., N$$



decide whether a defibrillator has to be applied



(scenarios)



"scenario" optimization (convex case)

 $J(\theta, \delta)$ convex in θ

$$J(heta, \delta)$$
 convex in $heta$

$$\delta^{(1)}, \delta^{(2)}, \dots, \delta^{(N)} \longrightarrow J(\theta, \delta^{(1)}), J(\theta, \delta^{(2)}), \dots, J(\theta, \delta^{(N)})$$







$$J(\theta, \delta) \quad \text{convex in } \theta$$

$$\delta^{(1)}, \delta^{(2)}, \dots, \delta^{(N)} \quad \longrightarrow \quad J(\theta, \delta^{(1)}), J(\theta, \delta^{(2)}), \dots, J(\theta, \delta^{(N)})$$



$$J(\theta, \delta) \quad \operatorname{convex} \operatorname{in} \theta$$

$$\delta^{(1)}, \delta^{(2)}, \dots, \delta^{(N)} \longrightarrow \quad J(\theta, \delta^{(1)}), J(\theta, \delta^{(2)}), \dots, J(\theta, \delta^{(N)})$$



what are the guarantees for unseen situations?

what are the guarantees for unseen situations?

how guaranteed is J^* for another δ ?

what are the guarantees for unseen situations?

how guaranteed is J^* for another δ ?

from the "visible" to the "invisible"





about uncertainty


















Fix $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$ (risk parameter) $\beta \in (0, 1)$ (confidence parameter)

If
$$N = \frac{2}{\epsilon} \left(\ln \frac{1}{\beta} + d \right)$$
, then,

with probability $\geq 1 - \beta$, risk $\leq \epsilon$. <u>Theorem</u> (with S. Garatti) Fix $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$ (risk parameter)

If
$$N = \frac{2}{\epsilon} \left(\ln \frac{1}{\beta} + d \right)$$
, then,

 $risk \leq \epsilon$.

Fix $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$ (risk parameter) $\beta \in (0, 1)$ (confidence parameter)

If
$$N = \frac{2}{\epsilon} \left(\ln \frac{1}{\beta} + d \right)$$
, then,

with probability $\geq 1 - \beta$, risk $\leq \epsilon$. <u>Theorem</u> (with S. Garatti) Fix $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$ (risk parameter)

If $N = \frac{2}{\epsilon}(7 \ln 10 + d)$, then,

risk $\leq \epsilon$.





generalization need for structure \rightarrow

good news: the structure we need is only convexity

... more comments

$$N = \frac{2}{\epsilon} \left(\ln \frac{1}{\beta} + d \right)$$

- N depends on how complex the decision is via d
- N does not depend on how complex the "real world" is

... more comments

$$N = \frac{2}{\epsilon} \left(\ln \frac{1}{\beta} + d \right)$$

- N depends on how complex the decision is via d
- N does not depend on how complex the "real world" is

don't try to reconstruct the real world to answer easy questions!





$$\min_{\theta_1,\theta_2,\theta_3,\theta_4} \left[\max_i |y_i - [\theta_1 + \theta_2 u_i + \theta_3 u_i^2 + \theta_4 u_i^3] | \right]$$





risk = prob. that next point is outside IPM



... more comments

$$N = \frac{2}{\epsilon} \left(\ln \frac{1}{\beta} + d \right)$$

• *N* is independent of *Pr* (*distribution-free result*)

... more comments

$$N = \frac{2}{\epsilon} \left(\ln \frac{1}{\beta} + d \right)$$

• N is independent of Pr (distribution-free result)

"What I like about experience is that it is such an honest thing. ... You may have deceived yourself, but experience is not trying to deceive you."

C.S. Lewis

a more general theoretical result



















Instances = 170 # NoRosc = 155 # Rosc = 15



Instances = 170 # NoRosc = 155 # Rosc = 15



d =complexity of classifier

Instances = 170 # NoRosc = 155 # Rosc = 15



d = complexity of classifier10-fold cross-validation

Instances = 170 # NoRosc = 155 # Rosc = 15



d = complexity of classifier

10-fold cross-validation

d	3	9	15	21	27
# of errors	4	10	18	23	27
	(2.35%)	(5.88%)	(10.59%)	(13.53%)	(15.88%)
# of unknowns	143	132	73	13	0
E[risk]	1.96%	5.88%	9.80%	13.73%	17.65%

generalizations and beyond

generalizations: risk-return tradeoff
















<u>Theorem</u> (risk-return trade-off)

With probability $\geq 1 - \beta$, risk of $J_k^* \leq \epsilon_k$ where:

$$\epsilon_k = \frac{k}{N} + O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}\right)$$

<u>Theorem</u> (risk-return trade-off)

With probability $\geq 1 - \beta$, risk of $J_k^* \leq \epsilon_k$ where:

$$\epsilon_k = \frac{k}{N} + O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}\right)$$











generalizations

 $\min_{\theta} \max_{i} J(\theta, \delta^{(i)})$



generalizations

$$\min_{\theta} c^T \theta$$
 subject to: $\theta \in \Theta_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N$

generalizations

$$\min_{\theta} c^T \theta$$

subject to: $\theta \in \Theta_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N$

relevanto to: • quantitative finance (minimum return)

• control with constraints (MPC)

Many have given a contribution:

T. Álamo, G. Andersson, F. Borrelli, G. Calafiore, A. Carè, F. Dabbene, L. Fagiano, S. Garatti, P. Goulart, O. Granichin, J. Hespanha, H. Hjalmarsson, G. Iyengar, T. Kanamori, D. Kuhn, C. Lagoa, J. Luedtke, A. Luque, J. Lygeros, K. Margellos, M. Morari, J. Matuško, B. Pagnoncelli, M. Prandini, F. Ramponi, D, Reich, C. Rojas, B. Rustem, G. Schildbach, M. Sznaier, A. Takeda, R. Tempo, B. Van Parys, P. Vayanos, M. Vrakopoulou, J. Welsh, W. Wiesemann

the theory is still in its infancy

the theory is still in its infancy



the theory is still in its infancy



the problem of extracting knowledge from observations is perhaps the most central issue of all science

the problem of extracting knowledge from observations is perhaps the most central issue of all science

the scenario approach is one way, and a lot of work remains to be done

the problem of extracting knowledge from observations is perhaps the most central issue of all science

the scenario approach is one way, and a lot of work remains to be done

certainly: it is a wonderful world to explore!

the problem of extracting knowledge from observations is perhaps the most central issue of all science

the scenario approach is one way, and a lot of work remains to be done

certainly: it is a wonderful world to explore!



REFERENCES

M.C. Campi and S. Garatti. *The Exact Feasibility of Randomized Solutions of Uncertain Convex Programs.* **SIAM J. on Optimization**, 19, no.3: 1211-1230, 2008.

M.C. Campi and S. Garatti. A Sampling-and-Discarding Approach to Chance-Constrained Optimization: Feasibility and Optimality. J. of Optimization Theory and Applications, 148: 257-280, 2011.

B.K. Pagnoncelli, D. Reich and M.C. Campi *Risk-Return Trade-off with the Scenario Approach: A Case study in Portfolio Selection.* J. Of Optimization Theory and Applications, 155: 707-722, 2012.

G. Calafiore and M.C. Campi. Uncertain Convex Programs: randomized Solutions and Confidence Levels. Mathematical Programming, 102: 25-46, 2005.

G. Calafiore and M.C. Campi. *The Scenario Approach to Robust Control Design.* **IEEE Trans. on Automatic Control**, AC-51: 742-753, 2006.

M.C. Campi, G. Calafiore and S. Garatti. Interval Predictor Models: Identification and Reliability. Automatica, 45: 382-392, 2009.

M.C. Campi. *Classification with guaranteed probability of error.* **Machine Learning**, 80: 63-84, 2010.