

Mean Field Games with Latent Alpha

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joint work with

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Introduction

Introduction

- ▶ **Algorithmic and High-Frequency Trading** covers a diverse set of topics, but largely fall into three categories:
 1. **Optimal Execution** – selling/acquiring a large number of assets
 2. **Statistical Arbitrage** – making profits of off predictable returns, i.e., short-term “alpha”
 3. “**Market Making**” – setting bid-ask spreads and/or optimal placement of limit orders

Introduction

Table: A non-exhaustive list of contributors to this research agenda:

Gan	Rosenbaum	Leung	Almgren
Obizhaeva	Bouchard	Forsyth	Kinzebulatov
Capponi	Stoikov	Shreve	Kukanov
Sophie	Bouchaud	Alfonsi	Ricci
Elliot	Tourin	Macrina	Muhle-Karbe
Moallemi	Lehalle	Horst	Carmona
Wang	Gao	Avellaneda	Pham
Gatheral	Ludkovski	Scheid	Viens
Frey	Westray	Chriss	Nadtochiy
Bayraktar	Gueant	Cont	Abergel
Bank	Frei	Rogers	You Too

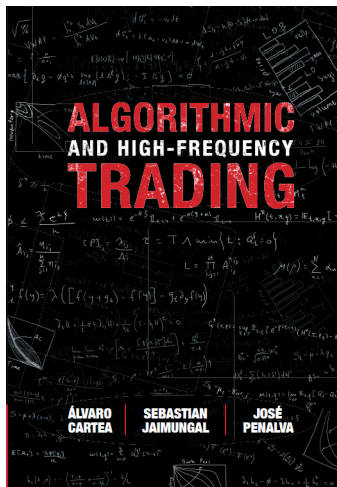
Introduction

This talk looks at three (related) topics:

- ▶ How **order-flow** affects prices, and how to optimally trade with this information
- ▶ How **latent alpha** factors can be used to generate statistical arbitrage strategies
- ▶ How to include large populations of **heterogenous traders**

from a stochastic control/game perspective.

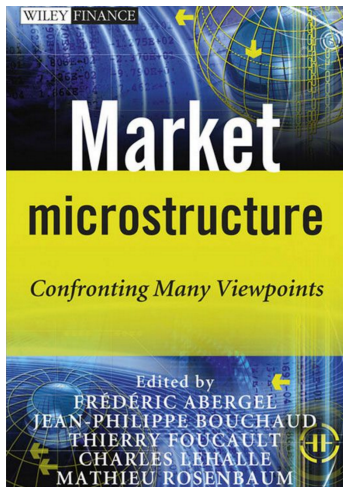
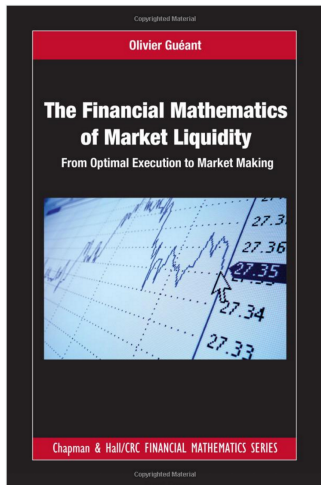
Introduction



Álvaro Cartea,
Sebastian Jaimungal,
and
José Penalva

Cambridge University Press
(Aug, 2015)

Introduction



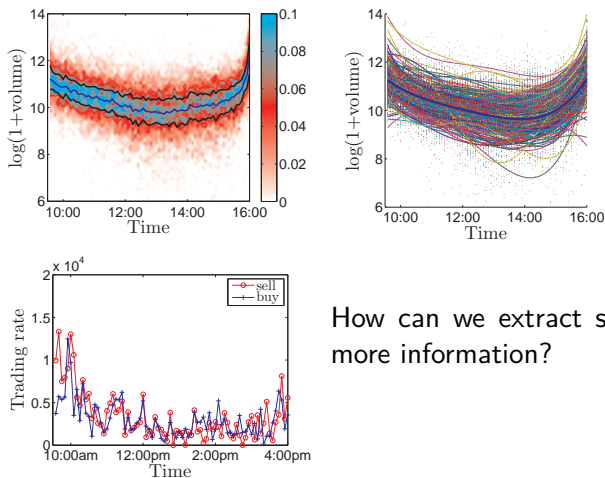
Order-Flow

Order-Flow

- ▶ **Trade volume** and **intensity** are **stochastic**
- ▶ **All order-flow affects prices...** not just “me”
- ▶ How can we **use order-flow information** and prediction **to improve trading performance?**

Order-Flow

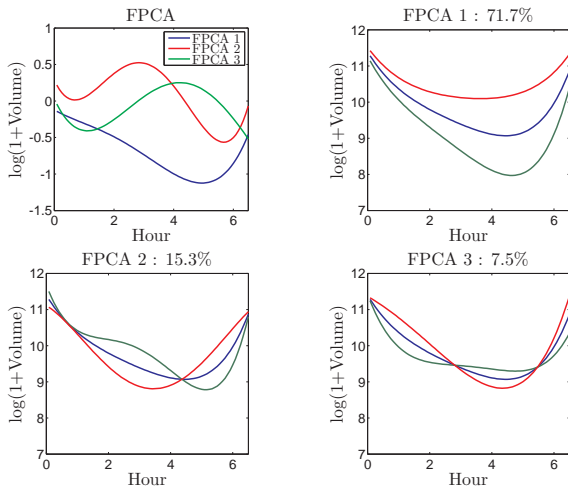
Figure: ORCL (2013) traded volume using 5 minute buckets.



How can we extract some more information?

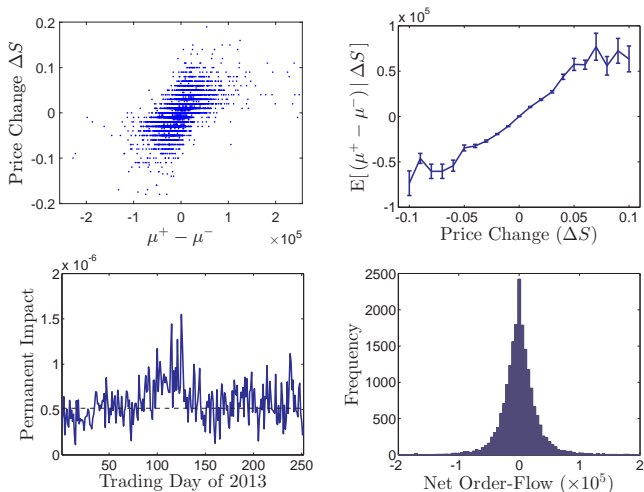
Order-Flow: FPCA

Figure: First three order-flow **functional principal components** : INTC (2014)



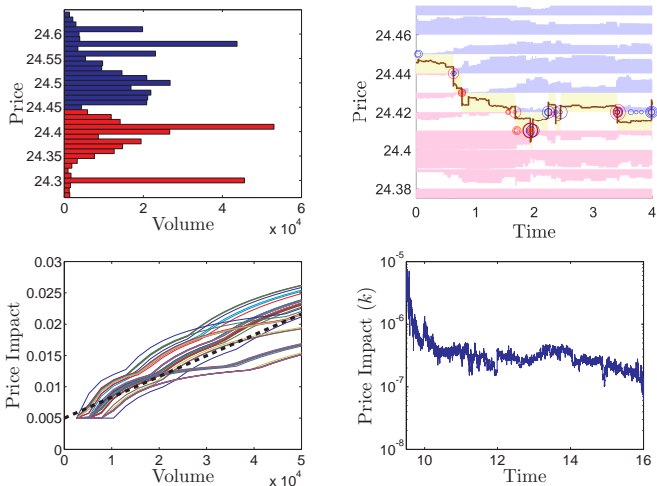
Order-Flow: Permanent Price Impact

Figure: **Order-Flow** and effect on the **midprice**. INTC (2014)



Order-Flow: Temporary Price Impact

Figure: The **immediate impact** from **walking the limit order book (LOB)**. INTC on Nov 1, 2013.



Order-Flow: Mathematical Model

- **Temporary price impact**

$$\hat{S}_t^\nu = S_t^\nu + a \nu_t$$

- **Price process** is affected by order-flow from all agents, i.e., **permanent price impact**

$$dS_t^\nu = b \underbrace{(\nu_t + \mu_t^+ - \mu_t^-)}_{\text{net order-flow}} dt + dM_t$$

- **Cash process** is

$$X_t^\nu = - \int_0^t (S_u^\nu + a \nu_u) \nu_u du$$

Order-Flow: Mathematical Model

- ▶ Agent aims to solve for

$$H(t, x, q, S, \mu) = \sup_{\nu \in \mathcal{A}} \mathbb{E}_{t, x, q, S, \mu} \left[\underbrace{X_T^\nu + S_T^\nu q_T^\nu}_{\text{terminal book-value}} - \underbrace{\alpha (q_T^\nu)^2}_{\text{terminal inventory penalty}} - \underbrace{\phi \sigma^2 \int_t^T (q_u^\nu)^2 du}_{\text{running inventory penalty}} \right]$$

- ▶ The **running penalty** can be understood as arising from **ambiguity aversion** (model uncertainty) [Cartea, Jaimungal, Donnelly (2015)]

Order-Flow: Mathematical Model

- If the agent is ambiguity averse, they aim to solve

$$H(t, x, q, S, \mu) = \sup_{\nu \in \mathcal{A}} \inf_{Q \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathbb{E}_{t, x, q, S, \mu}^Q \left[\underbrace{X_T^\nu + S_T^\nu q_T^\nu}_{\text{terminal book-value}} - \underbrace{\alpha (q_T^\nu)^2}_{\text{terminal inventory penalty}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{\varphi} \log \frac{dQ}{dP} \Big|_t^T}_{\text{ambiguity aversion}} \right]$$

- **Alternate models** have an arbitrary (Markov) drift adjustment in the midprice
- **Model uncertainty** causes the agent to trade as if

$$dS_t^{\nu, \eta^*} = \left[b \underbrace{(\nu_t + \mu_t^+ - \mu_t^-)}_{\text{net order-flow}} - \underbrace{\varphi Q_t^{\nu, \eta^*}}_{\text{ambiguity adjustment}} \right] dt + dM_t$$

Order-Flow: Optimal Trading

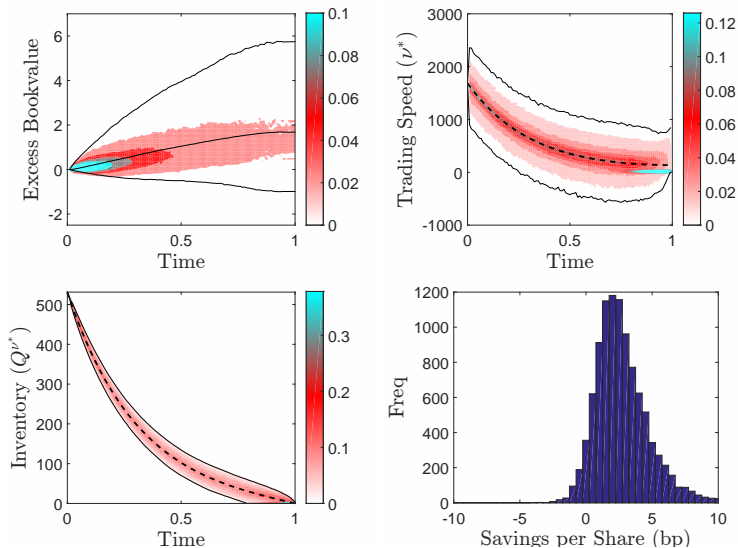
Theorem

The optimal trading speed to the control problem is

$$\lim_{\alpha \rightarrow \infty} \nu_t^* = \overbrace{-\gamma \tanh(\gamma(T-t)) Q_t^{\nu^*}}^{\text{Implementation Shortfall}} + \underbrace{\frac{b}{2k} \int_t^T \frac{\sinh(\gamma(T-u))}{\sinh(\gamma(T-t))} \mathbb{E} [\mu_u^+ - \mu_u^- | \mathcal{F}_t^\mu] du}_{\text{Order-flow adjustment}} .$$

is the admissible optimal control we seek, and \mathcal{F}_t^μ denotes the natural filtration generated by μ .

Order-flow: Simulation Study



Latent Alpha Models

Latent Alpha Models

- ▶ With **latent alpha signals**, the unimpacted price F satisfies

$$dF_t = \mathbf{A}_t dt + b (d\mathbf{N}_t^+ - d\mathbf{N}_t^-) + \sigma dW_t$$

and the midprice with impact is

$$S_t = F_t + \beta \int_0^t \nu_u du$$

where ν is the agent's **speed of trading**

- ▶ $\Theta_t \in \{\theta_j\}_{j=1\dots N}$ is a **hidden Markov chain** that modulates $\mathbf{A}_t = \mathbf{A}_t^{\Theta_t}$
- ▶ \mathbf{N}_t^\pm are **counting processes** with respective **unobserved intensity** processes λ_t^\pm of the form

$$\lambda_t^\pm = \sum_{j=1}^N \mathbb{1}_{\{\Theta_t = \theta_j\}} \lambda_t^{\pm,j},$$

$\lambda_t^{\pm,j}$ are adapted to the filtration generated by F (denoted $\mathcal{F} = (\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \geq 0}$) and $(\Theta_t, \lambda_t^{\pm,j}, F_t, \mathbf{N}_t^\pm)_{t \geq 0}$ is a Markov process.

Latent Alpha Models

- ▶ The agent's **prior** $\pi_0^j := \mathbb{P}(\Theta_0 = \theta_j)$ on the initial latent state
- ▶ The agent aims to solve

$$\sup_{\nu \in \mathcal{A}} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}} \left[\overbrace{X_T^\nu + S_T^\nu q_T^\nu}^{\text{terminal book-value}} - \underbrace{\alpha (q_T^\nu)^2}_{\text{terminal inventory penalty}} - \overbrace{\phi \int_t^T (q_u^\nu)^2 du}^{\text{running inventory penalty}} \right]$$

where the set of admissible strategies \mathcal{A} are adapted to the **partial information** \mathcal{F}_t rather than the full information $\mathcal{G}_t := \mathcal{F}_t \vee \mathcal{F}_t^\Theta$

Latent Alpha Models: Filtering

- ▶ To solve the latent (partial information) control problem, the **best estimate** of Θ_t given \mathcal{F}_t is required

$$\pi_t^j := \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}} \left[\mathbb{1}_{\{\Theta_t = \theta_j\}} \middle| \mathcal{F}_t \right]$$

- ▶ Key trick: introduce a **measure** \mathbb{Q} s.t. $\sigma^{-1}(F_t - bN_t)$ is a \mathbb{Q} -**Brownian motion** and N_t^\pm each have **intensity 1**

Latent Alpha Models: Filtering

Theorem

The filter $\{\pi_t^j\}_{j=1}^M$ admits the representation

$$\pi_t^j = \Lambda_t^j \bigg/ \sum_{i=1}^M \Lambda_t^i ,$$

where $\{\Lambda_t^j\}_{j=1}^M$ solve the coupled system of SDEs

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\Lambda_t^j}{\Lambda_t^j} = & \sigma^{-2} A_t^j (dF_t - b(dN_t^+ - dN_t^-)) \\ & + (\lambda_{t-}^{+,j} - 1)(dN_t^+ - dt) + (\lambda_{t-}^{-,j} - 1)(dN_t^- - dt) + \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\Lambda_t^i}{\Lambda_t^j} C_{j,i} dt , \end{aligned}$$

with $\Lambda_0^j = \pi_0^j$

Latent Alpha Models: Partial to Full Information

Theorem

Define the processes \hat{W} , \hat{M}^\pm as

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{W}_t &= W_t + \sigma^{-1} \int_0^t (A_u - \hat{A}_u) du, \\ \hat{M}_t^\pm &= M_t^\pm + \int_0^t (\lambda_u^\pm - \hat{\lambda}_u^\pm) du\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\hat{A}_t = \sum_{j=1}^M \pi^j(\mathbf{\Lambda}_t) A_t^j \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\lambda}_t^\pm = \sum_{j=1}^M \pi^j(\mathbf{\Lambda}_t) \lambda_t^{\pm,j}.$$

- (A) The process \hat{W} is an \mathcal{F} -adapted \mathbb{P} -Brownian Motion
- (B) The processes \hat{M}^\pm are \mathcal{F} -adapted \mathbb{P} -martingales
- (C) $[\hat{W}, \hat{M}^\pm]_t = 0$ and $[\hat{M}^+, \hat{M}^-]_t = 0$, \mathbb{P} -almost surely
- (D) N^\pm are \mathcal{F} -adapted doubly stochastic Poisson processes with \mathbb{P} -intensities $\hat{\lambda}^\pm$

Latent Alpha Models: Optimal Trading Strategy

The resulting optimal control when the trader must end the day flat is

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \lim_{\alpha \rightarrow \infty} \nu_t^* \\
 &= \overbrace{-\gamma \tanh(\gamma(T-t)) \mathbf{Q}_t^{\nu^*}}^{\text{Implementation Shortfall}} \\
 &+ \underbrace{\frac{1}{2a} \int_t^T \mathbb{E} [\hat{\mathbf{A}}_u + \mathbf{b} (\hat{\lambda}_u^+ - \hat{\lambda}_u^-) | \mathcal{F}_t]}_{\text{latent alpha correction}} \times \frac{\sinh(\gamma(T-u))}{\sinh(\gamma(T-t))} du .
 \end{aligned}$$

Latent Alpha Models: Numerical Example

- ▶ Let's consider the following mean-reverting dynamics for the asset midprice,

$$dS_t = b (dN_t^+ - dN_t^-) ,$$

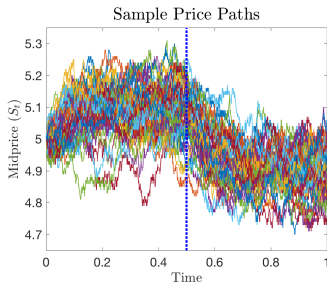
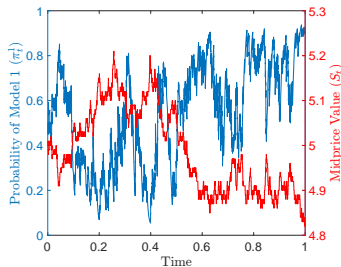
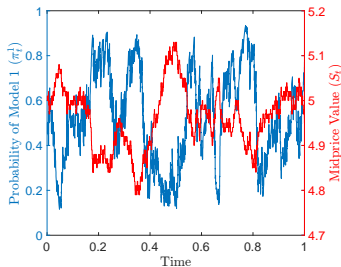
where N_t^\pm are doubly stochastic Poisson processes with respective intensities

$$\lambda_t^+ = a + \kappa (\Theta_t - S_t)_+$$

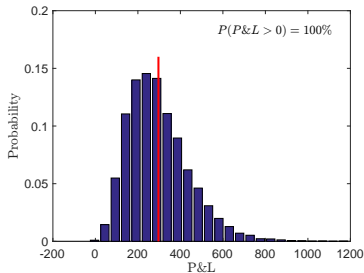
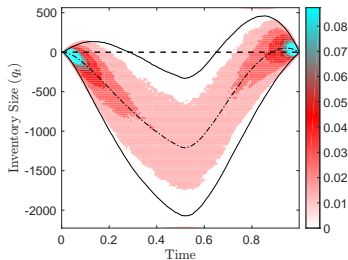
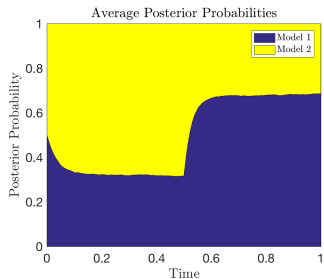
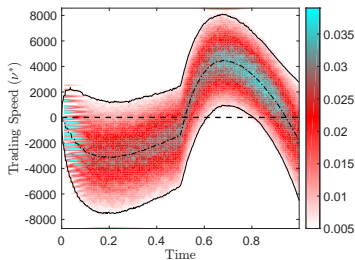
$$\lambda_t^- = a + \kappa (\Theta_t - S_t)_-$$

- ▶ Θ_t is a Markov chain
- ▶ π_t^k can be estimated in an **online** fashion

Latent Alpha Models: Numerical Example



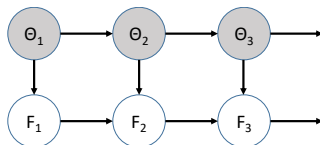
Latent Alpha Models: Numerical Example



Calibration

Calibration

- Parameters need to be learned offline
- Graphical model** framework with a **hidden layer**



- completed-data log-likelihood** is

$$\begin{aligned}\log L^{\Gamma} = & \sum_{d=1}^D \sum_{i=1}^M \log(\pi_0^i) \mathbb{1}_{\{\Theta_0^d = \theta_i\}} \\ & + \sum_{d=1}^D \sum_{k=0}^{K-2} \sum_{i,j=1}^M \log(P_{i,j}) \mathbb{1}_{\{\Theta_k^d = \theta_i, \Theta_{k+1}^d = \theta_j\}} \\ & + \sum_{d=1}^D \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} \sum_{i=1}^M \log(g_{\psi}(t_{k+1}, f_{k+1}^d; t_k, f_k^d, \theta_i)) \mathbb{1}_{\{\Theta_k^d = \theta_i\}}.\end{aligned}$$

Calibration

In the **m-step** find

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_{n+1} = \arg \max_{\Gamma} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}^{\Gamma_n}} [\log L^{\Gamma}] &= \sum_{d=1}^D \sum_{i=1}^M \log (\pi_0^i) \gamma_0^{i,d} \\ &+ \sum_{d=1}^D \sum_{k=0}^{K-2} \sum_{i,j=1}^M \log (P_{i,j}) \xi_k^{i,j,d} \\ &+ \sum_{d=1}^D \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} \sum_{i=1}^M \log (g_{\psi}(t_{k+1}, f_{k+1}^d; t_k, f_k^d, \theta_i)) \gamma_k^{i,d},\end{aligned}$$

where the **smoother** $\gamma_k^{i,d}$ and **two-slice marginal** $\xi_k^{i,j,d}$ are defined as

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_k^{i,d} &= \mathbb{P}^{\Gamma_n} (\Theta_{k,i}^d = \theta_i \mid F_{0:K}^d = f_{0:K}^d) \quad \text{and} \\ \xi_k^{i,j,d} &= \mathbb{P}^{\Gamma_n} (\Theta_{k,i}^d = \theta_i, \Theta_{k+1,j}^d = \theta_j \mid F_{0:K}^d = f_{0:K}^d) .\end{aligned}$$

and are computed in the **e-step**.

Calibration

- ▶ The smoother & two-slice marginal can be represented via
 - ▶ **forward message passing**

$$\alpha_k^j = \mathbb{P}(\Theta_t = \theta^j \mid F_{1:t} = f_{1:t})$$

$$\eta_k = \mathbb{P}(F_t \mid F_{1:t-1} = f_{1:t-1})$$

- ▶ **backward message passing**

$$\beta_k^j = \frac{\mathbb{P}(F_{k+1:T} = f_{k+1:T} \mid \Theta_k = \theta^j)}{\mathbb{P}(F_{k+1:K} = f_{k+1:K} \mid F_{1:k} = f_{1:k})}$$

- ▶ so that

$$\gamma_k^j = \alpha_k^j \beta_k^j \quad \text{and} \quad \xi_k^{i,j} = \frac{\alpha_k^i \beta_{k+1}^j}{c_{k+1}^d} P_{i,j} f_\psi(t_{k+1}, y_{k+1}^d; t_k, \theta_i, y_k^d)$$

Calibration

Moreover, α and β can be computed **recursively**



$$\alpha_k^{j,d} = \hat{\alpha}_k^{j,d} / \sum_{j=1}^M \hat{\alpha}_k^{j,d} ,$$

where

$$\hat{\alpha}_k^{j,d} = \sum_{i=1}^M P_{i,j} g_{\psi}(t_k f_k^d; t_{k-1}, \theta_i, f_{k-1}^d) \alpha_{k-1}^{i,d} ,$$



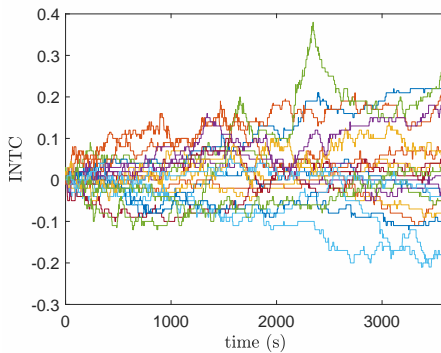
$$\beta_k^{j,d} = \frac{\hat{\beta}_k^{j,d}}{\sum_{i=1}^M \hat{\beta}_k^{i,d} \alpha_n^{i,d}} ,$$

where

$$\hat{\beta}_k^{j,d} = g_{\psi}(t_{k+1}, f_{k+1}^d; t_k, \theta_j, f_k^d) \sum_{i=1}^M \beta_{k+1}^{i,d} P_{j,i} .$$

Calibration

Figure: **INTC** all of Jan, 2014 – 10am-11am



Calibration

Table: **INTC** all of Jan, 2014 – **2 Latent States**

i	π_i	A_{ij}	
		$j = 1$	$j = 2$
1	0.000	0.995	0.005
2	1.000	0.013	0.987
		μ_i	θ_i
		κ_i	
1	0.011	0.024	2.006
2	0.053	0.046	-0.719

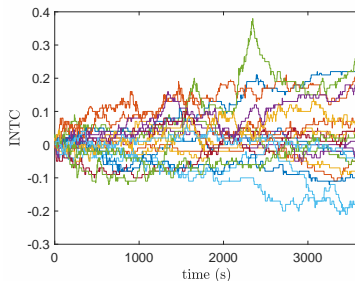
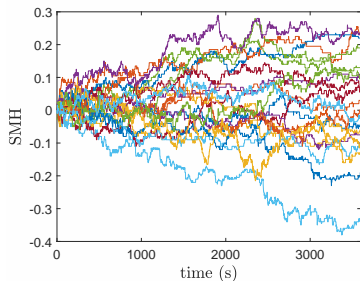
Calibration

Table: **INTC** all of Jan, 2014 – **3 Latent States**

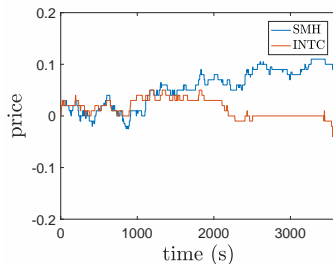
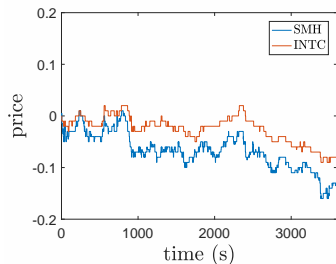
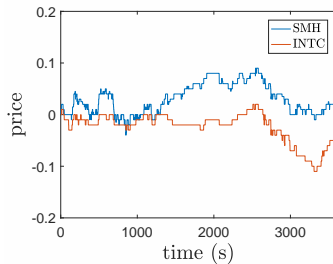
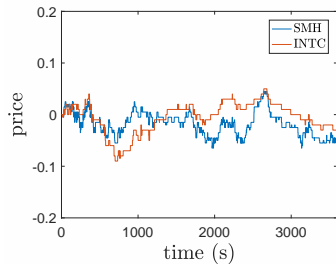
i	π_i	A_{ij}		
		$j = 1$	$j = 1$	$j = 3$
1	0.000	0.999	0.001	0.000
2	0.001	0.000	0.988	0.012
3	0.999	0.002	0.028	0.970
	μ_i	κ_i	θ_i	
1	0.010	0.025	1.147	
2	0.019	0.008	3.497	
3	0.070	0.071	-0.485	

Calibration

Figure: **INTC** & **SMH** all of Jan, 2014



Latent Alpha Models: Numerical Example



Calibration

Table: Calibration of INTC – SMH 1st month of 2014

		A_{ij}			
		π_i	$j = 1$	$j = 1$	
$i = 1$		0.000	0.918	0.082	
$i = 2$		1.000	0.204	0.796	
		μ_i	κ_i		θ_i
$i = 1$	INTC	0.010	0.000	0.000	0.052
	SMH	0.024	0.007	-0.006	7.894
$i = 2$	INTC	0.063	0.100	-0.023	-0.334
	SMH	0.299	-0.088	0.045	-2.029

Mean Field Games

- ▶ **Agents' trading rates** $\nu = (\nu_t^1, \dots, \nu_t^N)_{t \in [0, T]} \in \mathcal{A}$
- ▶ **Agent's strategies are \mathcal{F} -adapted**, where $\mathcal{F} = \sigma((F_u)_{u \leq t})$

$$F_t = S_t^\nu - \frac{\lambda}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N q_t^i$$

The midprice subtract total “order-flow”.

- ▶ Asset **midprice** satisfies the SDE

$$dS_t^\nu = \left(\mathbf{A}_t + \frac{\lambda}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \nu_t^i \right) dt + dM_t$$

\mathbf{A} is \mathcal{G} -predictable – latent

M is a \mathcal{G} -martingale.

Lemma (\mathcal{F} -projection.)

There exists an \mathcal{F} -adapted square-integrable martingale \hat{M} s.t.

$$dF_t = \hat{A}_t dt + d\hat{M}_t$$

where $\hat{A}_t \triangleq \mathbb{E}[A_t | \mathcal{F}_t]$.

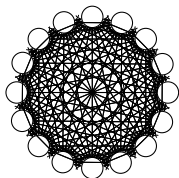
MFGs

- ▶ i^{th} -agent's performance criteria is

$$J(\nu^i; \nu^{-i}) = \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \left\{ (\mathbf{S}_u^\nu - a \nu_u^i) \nu_u^i - \phi \left(q_u^{\nu^i} \right)^2 \right\} du + q_T^{\nu^i} (\mathbf{S}_T^\nu - \gamma q_T^{\nu^i}) \right]$$

price is impacted by ALL traders, and contains latent risk factors, but own rate affects own inventory.

- ▶ Difficult to solve for finite number of players, so look for a MFG solution and apply to the finite player



- ▶ Assume a mean-field $\bar{\nu}$
- ▶ Find i^{th} agent's optimal strategy
- ▶ Average over agents
- ▶ Solve the fixed-point problem on space of controls

- ▶ suppose $\bar{\nu} = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \nu^i$ is given and \mathcal{F} -predictable
- ▶ We use the convex analysis approach to solving the MFG problem

Lemma (Gâteaux Differentiable.)

The performance criteria J is everywhere Gâteaux differentiable in \mathcal{A} . Moreover, given $\nu, \omega \in \mathcal{A}$, the Gâteaux derivative of J in the direction ω at ν is

$$\langle J'(\nu), \omega \rangle = \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \omega_t \mathbb{E} \left[-2a\nu_t - 2\gamma q_T^\nu + \int_t^T \{ \hat{A}_u + \lambda \bar{\nu}_u - 2\phi q_u^\nu \} \middle| \mathcal{F}_t \right] dt \right]$$

Proposition (Necessary & Sufficient vanishing Gâteaux Derivative .)

$$\langle J'(\nu), \omega \rangle = 0 \quad \forall \omega \in \mathcal{A}$$

if and only if ν is the unique strong solution to the FBSDE

$$\begin{cases} -d(2\kappa\nu_t) = (\hat{A}_t + \lambda\bar{\nu}_t - 2\phi q_t^\nu) dt - d\mathcal{M}_t \\ 2\kappa\nu_T = -\gamma q_T^\nu \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

for a suitable square-integrable martingale \mathcal{M}_t .

Corollary (The solution to (1) is optimal)

The solution ν to (1) is the optimal trading strategy for the i^{th} agent, i.e.,

$$\nu = \sup_{\chi \in \mathcal{A}} J(\chi)$$

- When there are K **sub-populations** with parameters $(a^k, \phi^k, \gamma^k)_{k=1, \dots, K}$ forming (p_1, \dots, p_K) percentage of the total population, the **fixed-point problem** is

$$\begin{cases} -d(2\mathbf{a}\bar{\nu}_t) = \left(\mathbf{1}^{(K \times 1)} \hat{A}_t + \lambda \mathbf{P} \bar{\nu}_t - 2\phi \bar{\mathbf{q}}_t \right) dt - d\mathcal{M}_t, \\ 2\mathbf{a} \bar{\nu}_T = -\gamma \bar{\mathbf{q}}_T \end{cases},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a} &= \text{diag} \left(\{a^k\}_{k=1}^K \right), & \phi &= \text{diag} \left(\{\phi^k\}_{k=1}^K \right) \\ \gamma &= \text{diag} \left(\{\gamma^k\}_{k=1}^K \right), & \mathbf{P} &= \begin{pmatrix} p_1 & \dots & p_K \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ p_1 & \dots & p_K \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

Proposition (K sub-population solution)

The mean field optimal trading rates are (stacked in a vector)

$$\bar{\nu}_t = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a}^{-1} (\mathbf{g}_{1,t} + \mathbf{g}_{2,t} \bar{\mathbf{q}}_t)$$

where

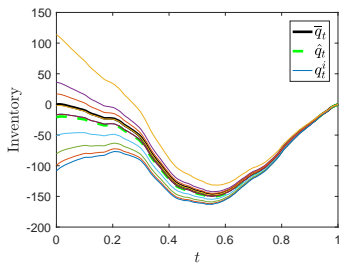
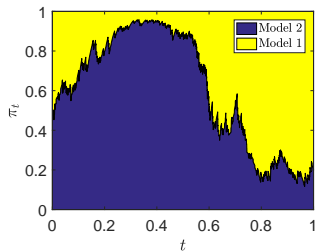
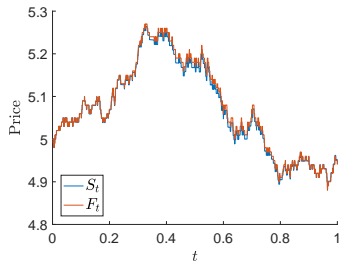
$$\mathbf{g}_{1,t} = \int_t^T : e^{\int_u^T (\lambda \mathbf{P} + \mathbf{g}_{2,s}) (2\kappa)^{-1} ds} : \mathbf{1}^{(K \times 1)} \mathbb{E}[\hat{\mathbf{A}}_u | \mathcal{F}_t] du .$$

and $\mathbf{g}_{2,t}$ solves a deterministic matrix ODE, while the i^{th} -agent within population k -trades according to

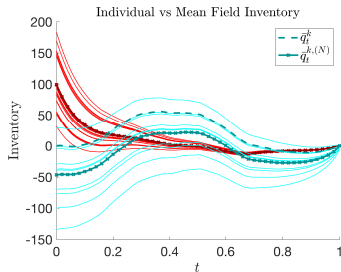
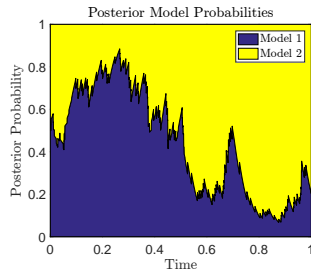
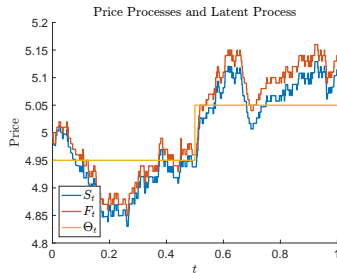
$$\nu_t^{i,k} = \frac{1}{2a^k} h_{2,t}^k (\mathbf{q}_t^{i,k} - \bar{\mathbf{q}}_t^k) + \bar{\nu}_t^k .$$

and $h_{2,t}^k = -a_k \tanh(b_k + c_k(T - t))$.

MFGs



MFGs



Conclusions

Conclusions

- ▶ Order-flow and latent-alpha are very similar
- ▶ Agent's modify trades based on average future expected latent-alpha
- ▶ Heterogeneous agents' modify to account for other agents in a manner that pulls their inventory towards the crowd

Thank you for your attention!

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