

# **Structural estimation of rational expectations models with recursive preferences**

**Bart Claassen**

ING and  
University of Groningen

**Diego Ronchetti**

Audencia Business School

ESEM 2023

## Investors' recursive preferences in macrofinance

The bad news about long-run future consumption growth induces fear of stocks

Preferences over the timing in the temporal resolution of uncertainty  
[Kreps and Porteus (1978); Dekel (1986); Chew and Epstein (1989)]

Chew-Dekel class of preferences

- Epstein and Zin (1989) is the most popular specification
- Routledge and Zin (2010)
- Backus et al. (2004)
- Campanale et al. (2010)
- ...

## No arbitrage

$$\mathbb{E} [M_{t,t+1} \mathbf{R}_{t+1} - \boldsymbol{\iota}_{q+1} | \mathcal{F}_t] = \mathbf{e}_{q+1}$$

$M_{t,t+1}$  = Stochastic Discount Factor (SDF) from  $t$  to  $t + 1$

$\mathbf{R}_{t+1}$  = vector of risk-free rate and cum-dividend excess returns from  $t$  to  $t + 1$

$\boldsymbol{\iota}_{q+1}$  = vector of ones

$\mathbf{e}_{q+1}$  = unit vector with one as first component

$\mathcal{F}_t$  = information set at  $t$

## Epstein and Zin (1989) specification

At  $t$ , the representative agent consumes  $C_t$  and enjoys utility  $V_t$

$$g_{t+1} := \ln(C_{t+1}/C_t) \quad v_t := (V_t/C_t)^{1-1/\psi}$$

$$v_t = 1 - \beta + \beta E \left[ \exp[(1-\gamma)g_{t+1}] v_{t+1}^\alpha \middle| \mathcal{F}_t \right]^{1/\alpha} \quad \alpha := \frac{1-\gamma}{1-\frac{1}{\psi}}$$

“subjective discount rate”  $\beta \in (0, 1)$

“risk aversion parameter”  $\gamma > 0$

“elasticity of intertemporal substitution”  $\psi > 0$   $\theta := [\beta \ \gamma \ \psi]'$

$\mathcal{F}_t$  = agent's information at  $t$

$$M_{t,t+1} = \beta e^{-\gamma g_{t+1}} \frac{v_{t+1}^{\alpha-1}}{E \left[ \exp[(1-\gamma)g_{t+1}] v_{t+1}^\alpha \middle| \mathcal{F}_t \right]^{1-1/\alpha}}$$

The (relative) magnitude of  $\gamma$  and  $\psi$  implies different attitudes toward (intertemporal) risk

## Model estimation methods already proposed

$v_{t+1}$  is **unobservable**

- Proxy (or model) the log return on the wealth portfolio  $r_{t+1}^A$ , since in complete markets

$$M_{t,t+1} = \exp \left[ \alpha \ln(\beta) - \frac{\alpha}{\psi} g_{t+1} + (\alpha - 1) r_{t+1}^A \right]$$

[Epstein and Zin (1991); Bansal and Yaron (2004); Bansal et al. (2007, 2016);  
Constantinides and Ghosh (2011); Grammig and Küchlin (2018); Meddahi and Tinang (2016)]

- Specify the dynamics of consumption growth through latent variables  
[Chen et al. (2013)]

joint hypothesis on preferences and

- proxy of  $r_{t+1}^A$  [ $\sim$  Roll (1977)'s critique]
- macroeconomic model specification
- specification of consumption growth dynamics

## Our estimation method ...

... for nonparametric time series models characterized by  
**conditional moment restrictions** that are functional equations solved by a  
**contraction mapping argument**

These restrictions are known up to

- an unknown Euclidean (finite-dimensional) parameter  $\theta$
- an unknown functional of the Euclidean parameter  $v(\cdot; \theta)$
- the unknown transition density of the state variables  $f$

The method that retains the entire original structure of the preferences and reduces misspecification risk

## Starting point

Choose a few Markov weak stationary state variables  $\mathbf{X}_t$  spanning  $\mathcal{F}_t = \sigma(\mathbf{X}_t)$   
 $(v(\mathbf{X}_t; \theta) \equiv v_t \text{ shows contraction [Hansen and Scheinkman (2012)]})$   
Estimate  $E[\cdot | \mathbf{X}_t]$  nonparametrically by  $\hat{E}[\cdot | \mathbf{X}_t]$

## Step 1: admissible SDF's reconstruction

- Initiate the estimate of  $v_t$  at  $\bar{v}$  (*either a constant or for simplified state variables dynamics*)
- Characterize SDF parameter space estimate  $\hat{\Theta}_T$  by checking (*numerically*) which  $\boldsymbol{\theta} = [\beta \ \gamma \ \psi]'$  and  $\hat{v}_{[N]}(\cdot; \boldsymbol{\theta})$  allow for a contraction mapping

$$\hat{v}_{[i]}(\mathbf{X}_t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \begin{cases} 1 - \beta + \beta \varphi_{[i-1]}(\mathbf{X}_t; \boldsymbol{\theta})^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}, & i \geq 1, \\ \bar{v}, & i = 1, \end{cases} \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, N$$

$$\hat{\varphi}_{[i-1]}(\mathbf{X}_t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) := \hat{\mathbb{E}} \left[ \exp \left[ (1 - \gamma) g(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}, \mathbf{X}_t) \right] \hat{v}_{[i-1]}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}; \boldsymbol{\theta})^\alpha \middle| \mathbf{X}_t \right]$$

- Construct an admissible SDF for each  $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \hat{\Theta}_T$ :

$$\hat{m}_T(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}, \mathbf{X}_t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) := \beta \frac{\exp \left[ -\gamma g(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}, \mathbf{X}_t) \right] \hat{v}_{[N]}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}; \boldsymbol{\theta})^{\alpha-1}}{\hat{\varphi}_{[N-1]}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}; \boldsymbol{\theta})^{1-\frac{1}{\alpha}}}$$

## Step 2: true SDF estimation

Local GMM:

$$\hat{\theta}_T := \underset{\theta \in \hat{\Theta}_T}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbf{1}(\mathbf{X}_t) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_T(\mathbf{X}_t; \theta)' \hat{\Omega}_T^{-1}(\mathbf{X}_t; \theta) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_T(\mathbf{X}_t; \theta).$$

$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_T(\mathbf{X}_t; \theta)$  = empirical pricing errors vector [obtained by local-linear regressions]

$\hat{\Omega}_T^{-1}(\mathbf{X}_t)$  = weighting matrix (*we consider the identity and the efficient matrix*)

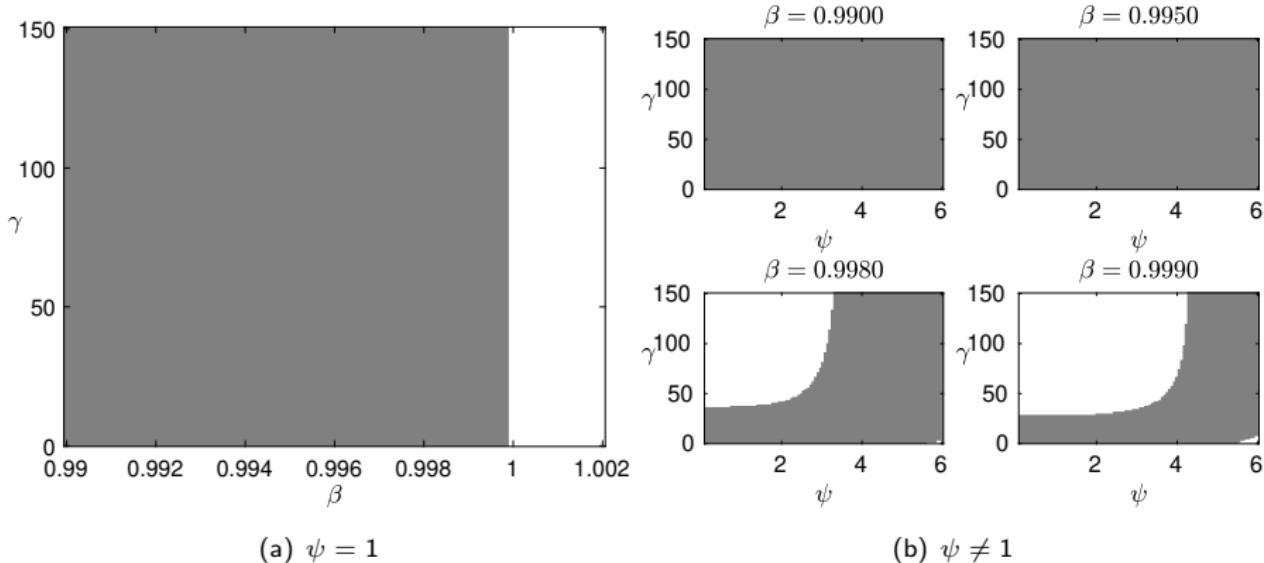
$\mathbf{1}(\mathbf{X}_t)$  state variables' support trimmer [Tripathi and Kitamura (2003); Gagliardini and Ronchetti (2020)]

# Data

- Quarterly U.S. data from 1952Q1 to 2019Q3
- Consumption growth,  $g_{t+1}$ , is proxied by the growth rate of the sum of the series *Personal Consumption Expenditures: Nondurables* and *Personal Consumption Expenditures: Services* (FRED).
- Six value-weighted Fama-French portfolios, two-way sort along size and book-to-market (Kenneth French).
- Risk-free rate,  $R_{t+1}^f$ : 3-month T-Bill (FRED).
- We adjust for inflation (PCEPI) and population growth (FRED).
- $cay_t$  = Lettau and Ludvigson (2001) consumption-wealth ratio       $\mathbf{X}_t = [g_t \ cay_t]'$

(we also checked other test assets and predictors [corporate bond spread, labor income-to-consumption ratio, ...])

# Contraction of $\nu$



*(Slow convergence for high beta and low alpha: truncated recursion at 20,000 iterations)*

## Estimates of the preference parameters

$\hat{\beta}_T$	0.989	0.987
	(0.967, 0.999)	(0.972, 1.00)
$\hat{\gamma}_T$	16.55	16.44
	(2.50, 23.94)	(1.85, 40.27)
$\hat{\psi}_T$	-	1.74
		(0.10, 2.66)
Estimation crit.	0.004	0.0039
	(0.002, 0.009)	(0.002, 0.009)

(Bootstrap 90% standard confidence intervals in parentheses)

► "Reasonable" values for  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$  and  $\psi$

# Monte Carlo experiment I

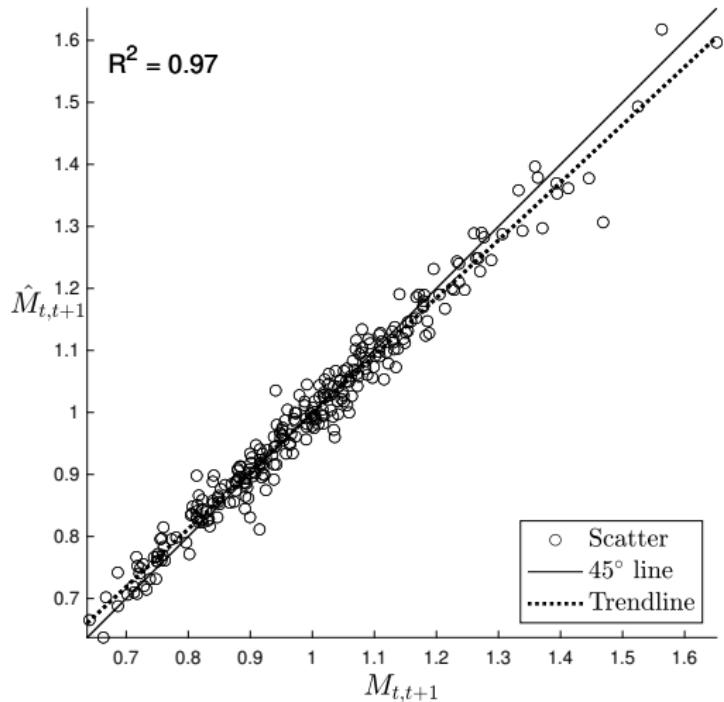
Bansal et al. (2012) Long-run risks model

Param.	Value	Explanation
$\beta$	0.9930	Subjective discount rate
$\gamma$	10.0000	Risk aversion
$\psi$	1 or 2	Elasticity of intertemporal substitution

$B = 1000$  simulated samples with length  $T = 275$

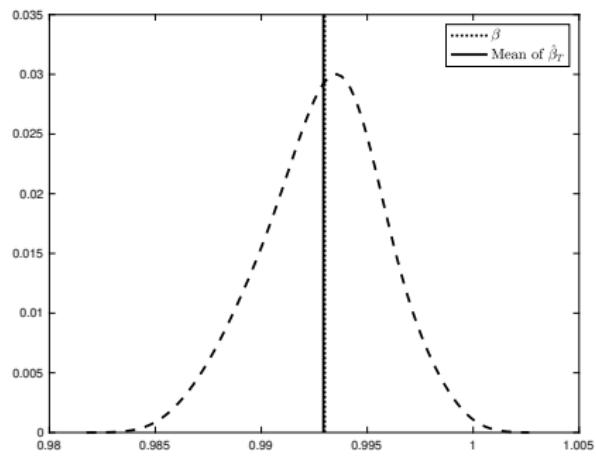
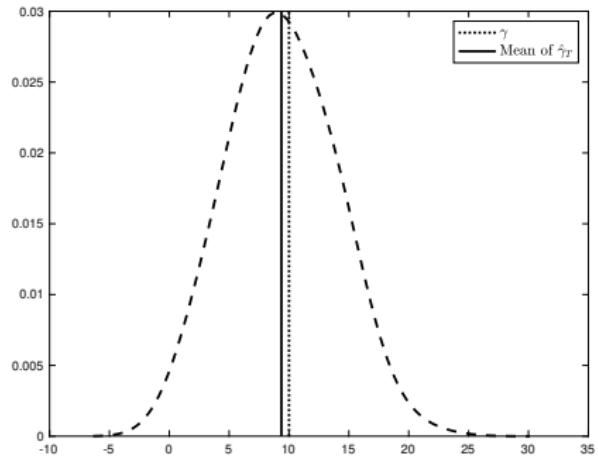
▶ Data Generating Process (Bansal-Yaron Long-run Risks model)

## Monte Carlo experiment II

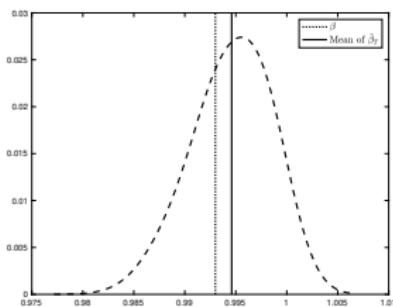
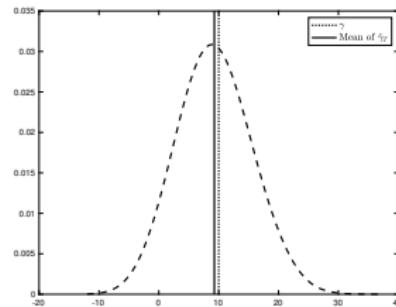
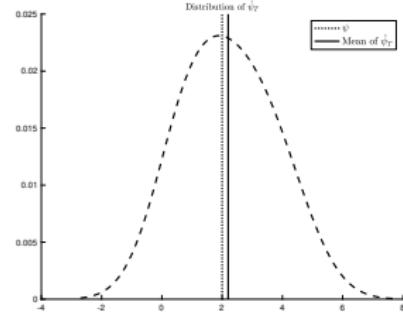


Reconstructed SDF against true SDF (case with  $\psi = 2$ )

# Monte Carlo experiment III

(c) Distribution of  $\hat{\beta}_T$ (d) Distribution of  $\hat{\gamma}_T$ (case with  $\psi = 1$ )

# Monte Carlo experiment IV

(e) Distribution of  $\hat{\beta}_T$ (f) Distribution of  $\hat{\gamma}_T$   
(case with  $\psi = 2$ )(g) Distribution of  $\hat{\psi}_T$

## Conclusion

We propose a novel estimation method for nonparametric Markovian time series models characterized by **conditional moment restrictions** that are functional equations solved by a **contraction mapping argument**, such as recursive preference models

Estimates of Epstein-Zin preferences for U.S. equity and T-Bill markets during 1952-2019:

$$\hat{\beta}_T \approx 0.99 \quad \hat{\gamma}_T \approx 16 \quad \hat{\psi}_T \approx 1.7$$

Adaptable to models with other Chew-Dekel preferences (e.g., semi-weighted utilities, generalized disappointment aversion, ...) and other structural models

Thank you for your attention

## References |

- Backus, D. K., Routledge, B. R., and Zin, S. E. (2004). Exotic preferences for macroeconomists. *NBER Macroeconomics Annual*, 19:319–390.
- Bansal, R., Gallant, A. R., and Tauchen, G. (2007). Rational pessimism, rational exuberance, and asset pricing models. *The Review of Economic Studies*, 74(4):1005–1033.
- Bansal, R., Kiku, D., and Yaron, A. (2012). An empirical evaluation of the long-run risks model for asset prices. *Critical Finance Review*, 1:183–221.
- Bansal, R., Kiku, D., and Yaron, A. (2016). Risks for the long run: estimation with time aggregation. *Journal of Monetary Economics*, 82:52–69.
- Bansal, R. and Yaron, A. (2004). Risks for the long run: A potential resolution of asset pricing puzzles. *The Journal of Finance*, 59(4):1481–1509.
- Campanale, C., Castro, R., and Clementi, G. L. (2010). Asset pricing in a production economy with Chew-Dekel preferences. *Review of Economic Dynamics*, 13(2):379–402.
- Campbell, J. Y. and Shiller, R. J. (1988). The dividend-price ratio and expectations of future dividends and discount factors. *The Review of Financial Studies*, 1(3):195–228.
- Chen, X., Favilukis, J., and Ludvigson, S. C. (2013). An estimation of economic models with recursive preferences. *Quantitative Economics*, 4(1):39–83.
- Chew, S. H. and Epstein, L. G. (1989). The structure of preferences and attitudes towards the timing of the resolution of uncertainty. *International Economic Review*, pages 103–117.

## References II

- Constantinides, G. M. and Ghosh, A. (2011). Asset pricing tests with long-run risks in consumption growth. *The Review of Asset Pricing Studies*, 1(1):96–136.
- Dekel, E. (1986). An axiomatic characterization of preferences under uncertainty: Weakening the independence axiom. *Journal of Economic Theory*, 40(2):304–318.
- Epstein, L. G. and Zin, S. E. (1989). Substitution, risk aversion, and the temporal behavior of consumption and asset returns: A theoretical framework. *Econometrica*, 57(4):937–969.
- Epstein, L. G. and Zin, S. E. (1991). Substitution, risk aversion, and the temporal behavior of consumption and asset returns: An empirical analysis. *Journal of Political Economy*, 99(2):263–286.
- Gagliardini, P. and Ronchetti, D. (2020). Comparing asset pricing models by the conditional hansen-jagannathan distance. *Journal of Financial Econometrics*, 18(2):333–394.
- Grammig, J. and Küchlin, E.-M. (2018). A two-step indirect inference approach to estimate the long-run risk asset pricing model. *Journal of Econometrics*, 205(1):6 – 33.
- Hansen, L. P. and Scheinkman, J. A. (2012). Recursive utility in a Markov environment with stochastic growth. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 109(30):11967–11972.
- Kleibergen, F. and Zhan, Z. (2020). Robust inference for consumption-based asset pricing. *The Journal of Finance*, 75(1):507–550.
- Kreps, D. M. and Porteus, E. L. (1978). Temporal resolution of uncertainty and dynamic choice theory. *Econometrica*, 46(1):185–200.

## References III

- Lettau, M. and Ludvigson, S. (2001). Consumption, aggregate wealth, and expected stock returns. *The Journal of Finance*, 56(3):815–849.
- Manresa, E., Peñaranda, F., and Sentana, E. (2017). Empirical evaluation of overspecified asset pricing models. *Working Paper*.
- Meddahi, N. and Tinang, J. (2016). GMM estimation of the long run risks model. *Working Paper*.
- Roll, R. (1977). A critique of the asset pricing theory's tests Part I: on past and potential testability of the theory. *Journal of Financial Economics*, 4(2):129–176.
- Routledge, B. R. and Zin, S. E. (2010). Generalized disappointment aversion and asset prices. *The Journal of Finance*, 65(4):1303–1332.
- Stock, J. H. and Wright, J. H. (2000). GMM with weak identification. *Econometrica*, 68(5):1055–1096.
- Tripathi, G. and Kitamura, Y. (2003). Testing conditional moment restrictions. *The Annals of Statistics*, 31(6):2059–2095.
- Yogo, M. (2004). Estimating the elasticity of intertemporal substitution when instruments are weak. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 86(3):797–810.

# Definition of Epstein-Zin preferences

## Definition

$$F(x, y) = \left( (1 - \beta)x^{1 - \frac{1}{\psi}} + \beta y^{1 - \frac{1}{\psi}} \right)^{\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{\psi}}}, \quad (1a)$$

$$\mathcal{R}_t(x_{t+1}) = G^{-1}(\mathbb{E}_t[G(x_{t+1})]), \quad (1b)$$

$$G(x) = \frac{x^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma}, \quad (1c)$$

[◀ Go back to introduction](#)

## Weak instruments

- Within asset pricing, we often use moment conditions of the form

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{X}_t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \otimes \mathbf{Z}_t] = 0, \quad (2)$$

where

- $\mathbf{h}$  is a criterion function of
  - variables collected in the vector  $\mathbf{X}_t$ ;
  - the parameters in the vector  $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta$ .
- $\mathbf{Z}_t$  is a vector of instruments.
- In asset pricing,  $\mathbf{Z}_t$  often correlates “weakly” with  $\mathbf{X}_t$ , e.g. see Stock & Wright (2000, Ecra).
- Result: large standard errors for the estimator  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$ .
- Directly addressed by various authors, e.g. Kleibergen and Zhan (2020); Manresa et al. (2017); Stock and Wright (2000); Yogo (2004).
- ... but standard errors remain large.
- We minimize a criterion function based on kernel regressions to estimate the parameters (no need for instruments).

[◀ Go back to estimation and testing](#)

## Consumption growth close to one

- $C_{t+1}/C_t$  small and not so volatile, i.e.  $C_{t+1}/C_t \sim 1$ .
- The parameter  $\psi$  mainly regulates how strong the interest rate (i.e. risk-free rate) responds to changes in consumption growth; plausible values are between 0.5 and 4, and 1.5 is often used in calibrated models.
- Consequently, the term

$$\left( \frac{C_{t+1}}{C_t} \right)^{-\frac{1}{\psi}} \quad (3)$$

It is also close to one for a wide range of plausible values for  $\psi$ .

- E.g.  $1.001^{1/0.5}$  and  $1.001^{1/1.5}$  not so different.
- Consequently, large standard errors for estimates of  $\psi$ , e.g. see Chen et al. (2013); Constantinides and Ghosh (2011); Grammig and Küchlin (2018).

[◀ Go back to estimation and testing](#)

## Nadaraya-Watson regression

- Non-parametric regression equation (where  $X_t$  is one-dimensional):

$$E[y|x] = g(x) = \int y \frac{f(y,x)}{x} dy. \quad (4)$$

- We estimate  $g(x)$  by

$$\hat{g}(x) := \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N K\left(\frac{x_i-x}{h_N}\right) Y_i}{\sum_{j=1}^N K\left(\frac{x_j-x}{h_N}\right)} = \sum_{i=1}^N w(X_i, x; h_N) Y_i, \quad (5)$$

where

$$w(X_i, x, h_N) := \frac{K\left(\frac{x_i-x}{h_N}\right)}{\sum_{j=1}^N K\left(\frac{x_j-x}{h_N}\right)}. \quad (6)$$

- We want  $w$  to be large (small) when  $|X_i - x|$  is small (large).
- We use  $K(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{z^2}{2}\right)$ .
- Pick  $h_N$  to minimize errors.

## Silverman bandwidth

The Silverman (1986) bandwidth is

$$h_T = 0.9 \times \min \left\{ \sigma_G, \frac{r_q(G)}{1.34} \right\} T^{-1/5}, \quad (7)$$

where  $\sigma_G$  is the standard deviation of  $G$  and  $r_q(G)$  the interquartile range of  $G$ .

[◀ Go back](#)

- We have a contraction mapping of  $v(\mathbf{X}_t; \boldsymbol{\theta})$  w.r.t.  $v(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$  (Hansen and Scheinkman, 2012, PNAS).
- We compute  $\forall \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta$  and  $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$  iterating over  $i = 0, 1, \dots, N$ :

$$v_{[i]}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \begin{cases} 1 - \beta + \beta \varphi_{[i-1]}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}, & i \geq 1, \\ \bar{v}, & i = 0, \end{cases}$$

where

$$\varphi_{[i-1]}(\mathbf{X}_t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) := E \left[ \exp \left[ (1 - \gamma) g(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}, \mathbf{X}_t) \right] v_{[i-1]}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}; \boldsymbol{\theta})^\alpha \middle| \mathbf{X}_t \right].$$

- We estimate  $\varphi_{[i-1]}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$  by a Nadaraya-Watson (kernel) regression:  $\hat{\varphi}_{T,[i-1]}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$ .
- We iteratively compute  $\hat{v}_{T,[i]}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = 1 - \beta + \beta \hat{\varphi}_{T,[i-1]}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$  until convergence.
- Then, we estimate the SDF by

$$\hat{m}_T(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}, \mathbf{X}_t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) := \beta \frac{\exp \left[ -\gamma g(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}, \mathbf{X}_t) \right] \hat{v}_{T,[N]}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}; \boldsymbol{\theta})^{\alpha-1}}{\hat{\varphi}_{T,[N-1]}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}; \boldsymbol{\theta})^{1-\frac{1}{\alpha}}},$$

which is the empirical counterpart of the model SDF  $M_{t,t+1}$

► Nadaraya-Watson regression

# What are reasonable values for $\beta$ , $\gamma$ , and $\psi$ ? I

- $\beta$  defines “current relative valuation placed on receiving a good at an earlier date compared with receiving it later.”
  - E.g. you receive a candy bar today or, say, one month from today; the second option is  $\beta$  times less worth than the first option
  - Therefore, it is intimately linked to the average gross risk-free rate:  $R^f \approx 1/\beta$
  - $R^f$  is close to 1.01 monthly
  - Quarterly  $\beta$  in  $[0.98 : 0.99]$  is plausible
- $\gamma$  defines willingness to substitute consumption across states of nature:
  - If  $\gamma$  is low, you do not mind if your consumption level falls significantly when a recession hits.
  - Therefore,  $\gamma$  links consumption growth to expected excess returns  $E_t[R_{j,t+1} - R_{t+1}^f]$ .
  - Calibrated models suggest that  $\gamma$  is between 5 and 15, e.g. see Bansal & Yaron (2004, JF) or Mehra & Prescott (1985, JME).
- $\psi$  defines willingness to substitute consumption across time:
  - Measures response of risk-free rate to change in consumption growth:

$$\psi \approx -\frac{(C_{t+1}/C_t)d(C_t/C_{t+1})}{dR_{t+1}^f/R_{t+1}^f}.$$

## What are reasonable values for $\beta$ , $\gamma$ , and $\psi$ ? II

- In the data, this response is rather small, e.g. see Yogo (2004);
- That is, plausible values of  $\psi$  are between 0.5 and 2.

## What are reasonable values for $\beta$ , $\gamma$ , and $\psi$ ? III

- In the context of Epstein-Zin preferences, we can also look at this problem as follows:
  - Suppose that consumption growth and returns,  $R_{j,t+1}$ , are homoskedastic and jointly lognormal with variances  $\sigma_C^2$  and  $\sigma_j^2$ , then we can write (see Campbell, 2018):

$$r_{t+1}^f = -\ln(\beta) + \frac{1}{\psi} E_t [\Delta \ln(C_{t+1})] \\ - \frac{\theta}{2\psi^2} \sigma_C^2 + \frac{\theta-1}{2} \sigma_w^2,$$

$$E_t [r_{j,t+1} - r_{t+1}^f] = \frac{\theta}{\psi} \sigma_{jC} + (1-\theta) \sigma_{jA} - \frac{\sigma_j^2}{2},$$

where  $\theta := (1-\gamma)/(1-1/\psi)$ ,  $r_{j,t+1}$  is the log-return on a risky asset  $j$ , and  $\sigma_{jA}$  and  $\sigma_{jC}$  are the covariance terms between  $r_{j,t+1}$  and, respectively,  $\Delta \ln(C_{t+1})$  and  $\ln(R_{t+1}^A)$ .

- These equations also suggest that for quarterly values, we have  $\beta$  very close to 0.99,  $\gamma$  between 2 and 20, and  $\psi$  around 1.5.

[◀ Go back to point estimates](#)

# Regularization

- The concentration ratio of any p.d. matrix  $\mathbf{Z}$  is defined as:

$$\text{CR}(\mathbf{Z}) := \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{Z})}{\lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{Z})}}, \quad (8)$$

where  $\lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{Z})$  is the largest eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{Z}$  and  $\lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{Z})$  is the smallest eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{Z}$ .

- We inflate the diagonal elements of  $\mathbf{Z}$  by  $\bar{\epsilon} > 0$ .
- We note that  $\text{CR}(\mathbf{Z} + \bar{\epsilon}\mathbf{I}) < \text{CR}(\mathbf{Z})$ .
- We find the smallest  $\bar{\epsilon} > 0$  such that

$$\bar{\epsilon} = \underset{\epsilon}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \left[ 15 - \text{CR} \left( \hat{\Omega}_T(\mathbf{X}_t)^{-1} + \epsilon \mathbf{I} \right) \right]^2. \quad (9)$$

- Note that  $\hat{\Omega}_T(\mathbf{X}_t)^{-1}$  is an “uninverted” matrix, e.g.

$$\hat{\Omega}_T(\mathbf{X}_t)^{-1} = \sum_{i=1}^{T-1} w(\mathbf{X}_t, \mathbf{X}_i; h_T) \mathbf{R}_{i+1} \mathbf{R}'_{i+1}. \quad (10)$$

# The data generating process (DGP)

- The model is presented in log form.
- Small caps denote logs, e.g.  $g_t = \ln(G_t)$ , we write:

$$E_t \left[ \underbrace{\exp \left\{ \theta \ln(\beta) - \frac{\theta}{\psi} g_{t+1} + (\theta - 1)r_{t+1}^a + r_{j,t+1} \right\}}_{\ln \left( \beta^\theta G_{t+1}^{-\frac{\theta}{\psi}} (R_{t+1}^A)^{\theta-1} \right)} \right] = 1. \quad (11)$$

- Bansal & Yaron (2004, JF) postulate:

$$g_{t+1} = \mu + x_t + \sigma_t \eta_{t+1}, \quad (12a)$$

$$g_{d,t+1} = \mu_d + \phi x_t + \varphi_d \sigma_t u_{t+1}, \quad (12b)$$

$$x_{t+1} = \rho x_t + \varphi_\epsilon \sigma_t \epsilon_{t+1}, \quad (12c)$$

$$\sigma_{t+1}^2 = \bar{\sigma}^2 + \nu_1 (\sigma_t^2 - \bar{\sigma}^2) + \sigma_w w_{t+1}, \quad (12d)$$

- Note that  $x_t$  and  $\sigma_t^2$  are the state variables, i.e.  $\mathbf{X}_t = (x_t, \sigma_t^2)'$ .

[◀ Go back to Monte Carlo experiment](#)

- $R_{t+1}^A$  is the return on the “consumption claim” with price  $P_t$ .
- The log of price-consumption ratio  $z_t = \ln(P_t/C_t)$  obeys:

$$z_t = A_0 + A_1 x_t + A_2 \sigma_t^2, \quad (13)$$

and using a standard Campbell-Shiller (1988) decomposition, we have that:

$$r_{t+1}^a = \kappa_0 + \kappa_1 z_{t+1} - z_t + g_{t+1}, \quad (14)$$

where  $\kappa_1 = \exp(\bar{z}) / (1 + \exp(\bar{z}))$  and  $\kappa_0 = -\ln(\kappa_1) - (1 - \kappa_1) \ln(1/\kappa_1 - 1)$ , with  $\bar{z} = E[z_t]$ .

- $A_0$ ,  $A_1$ , and  $A_2$  are functions of the model's parameters:
  - Substitute  $r_{t+1}^a$  and  $z_t$  into (11) and set  $r_{t+1}^a = r_{j,t+1}$ ;
  - Solve for  $A_0$ ,  $A_1$ , and  $A_2$  so that (11) holds.

► Solutions for  $A_0$ ,  $A_1$ , and  $A_2$

◀ Go back to Monte Carlo experiment

- $R_{t+1}^M$  is the return on a market portfolio with price  $P_t^M$ .
- The market portfolio yields a dividend stream that grows with the rate  $g_{d,t}$ .
- The log of price-dividend ratio  $z_{m,t}$  obeys

$$z_{m,t+1} = A_{0,m} + A_{1,m}x_{t+1} + A_{2,m}\sigma_{t+1}^2, \quad (15)$$

and:

$$r_{t+1}^m = \kappa_{0,m} + \kappa_{1,m}z_{m,t+1} - z_{m,t} + g_{d,t+1}, \quad (16)$$

where  $\kappa_{1,m} = \exp(\bar{z}_m) / (1 + \exp(\bar{z}_m))$  and

$\kappa_0 = -\ln(\kappa_{1,m}) - (1 - \kappa_{1,m})\ln(1/\kappa_{1,m} - 1)$ , with  $\bar{z}_m = E[z_{m,t}]$ .

- $A_{1,m}$ ,  $A_{1,m}$ , and  $A_{2,m}$  are functions of the model's parameters:

- Substitute  $r_{t+1}^m$  and  $z_{m,t}$  into (11) and set  $r_{t+1}^m = r_{j,t+1}$ ;
- Solve for  $A_{1,m}$ ,  $A_{1,m}$ , and  $A_{2,m}$  so that (11) holds.

► Solutions for  $A_{1,m}$ ,  $A_{1,m}$ , and  $A_{2,m}$

◀ Go back to Monte Carlo experiment

- To obtain the risk-free rate,  $r_{t+1}^f$ , substitute  $r_{t+1}^f = r_{j,t+1}$  into (11):

$$\begin{aligned} r_{t+1}^f &= -\ln(\beta) + \frac{1}{\psi} E_t [g_{t+1}] + \frac{1-\theta}{\theta} E_t [r_{t+1}^a - r_{t+1}^f] \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2\theta} \text{var}_t (m_{t,t+1}). \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

- Then, we use

$$E_t [g_{t+1}] = \mu + x_t, \quad (18)$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_t [r_{t+1}^a - r_{t+1}^f] &= -\lambda_{m,\eta} \sigma_t^2 + \lambda_{m,\epsilon} \kappa_1 A_1 \varphi_\epsilon \sigma_t^2 \\ &\quad + \kappa_1 A_2 \lambda_{m,w} \sigma_w^2 - \frac{1}{2} \text{var}_t (r_{t+1}^a), \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

$$\text{var}_t (r_{t+1}^a) = \left[ 1 - (\kappa_1 A_1 \varphi_\epsilon)^2 \right] \sigma_t^2 + (A_2 \kappa_1 \sigma_w)^2, \quad (20)$$

$$\text{var}_t (m_{t,t+1}) = \left( \lambda_{m,\eta}^2 + \lambda_{m,\epsilon}^2 \right) \sigma_t^2 + \lambda_{m,w}^2 \sigma_w^2, \quad (21)$$

and use these results to simulate  $r_{t+1}^f$ .

► Auxiliary parameters  $\lambda_{m,\eta}$ ,  $\lambda_{m,\epsilon}$ ,  $\lambda_{m,w}$ ,  $\beta_{m,\epsilon}$ , and  $\beta_{m,w}$

## Parameters

We find that

$$A_0 = \frac{1}{1 - \kappa_1} \left[ \ln(\beta) + \kappa_0 + \left(1 - \frac{1}{\psi}\right) \mu + \kappa_1 A_2 (1 - \nu_1) \bar{\sigma}^2 + \frac{\theta}{2} (\kappa_1 A_2 \sigma_w)^2 \right],$$

$$A_1 = \frac{1 - \frac{1}{\psi}}{1 - \kappa_1 \rho}, \quad A_2 = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \left[ \left(\theta - \frac{\theta}{\psi}\right)^2 + (\theta A_1 \kappa_1 \varphi_\epsilon)^2 \right]}{\theta (1 - \kappa_1 \nu_1)},$$

and

$$A_{0,m} = \frac{\left( \theta \ln(\beta) + (\theta - 1)\kappa_0 + \kappa_{0,m} + (\theta - 1)(\kappa_1 - 1)A_0 + \left(\theta - 1 - \frac{\theta}{\psi}\right) \mu + \mu_d \right.}{1 - \kappa_{1,m}} \\ \left. + [(\theta - 1)\kappa_1 A_2 + \kappa_{1,m} A_{2,m}] (1 - \nu_1) \bar{\sigma}^2 + \frac{1}{2} [(\theta - 1)\kappa_1 A_2 + \kappa_{1,m} A_{2,m}]^2 \sigma_w^2 \right),$$

$$A_{1,m} = \frac{\phi - \frac{1}{\psi}}{1 - \kappa_{1,m} \rho}, \quad A_{2,m} = \frac{(1 - \theta)(1 - \kappa_1 \nu_1) A_2 + \frac{1}{2} H}{(1 - \kappa_{1,m} \nu_1)},$$

with

$$H := \lambda_{m,\eta}^2 + (\beta_{m,\epsilon} - \lambda_{m,\epsilon})^2 + \varphi_d^2,$$

$$\beta_{m,\epsilon} := \kappa_{1,m} A_{1,m} \varphi_\epsilon, \quad \beta_{m,w} := \kappa_{1,m} A_{2,m},$$

$$\lambda_{m,\epsilon} := (1 - \theta) \kappa_1 A_1 \varphi_\epsilon, \quad \lambda_{m,w} := (1 - \theta) A_2 \kappa_1, \quad \lambda_{m,\eta} := -\gamma.$$