

# CAPM, Risk and Portfolio Selection in “Stable” Markets

Lotfi Belkacem, Jacques Lévy Véhel, Christian Walter

► **To cite this version:**

Lotfi Belkacem, Jacques Lévy Véhel, Christian Walter. CAPM, Risk and Portfolio Selection in “Stable” Markets. [Research Report] RR-2776, INRIA. 1996. <inria-00073916>

**HAL Id: inria-00073916**

**<https://hal.inria.fr/inria-00073916>**

Submitted on 24 May 2006

**HAL** is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.

INSTITUT NATIONAL DE RECHERCHE EN INFORMATIQUE ET EN AUTOMATIQUE

***CAPM, Risk and Portfolio Selection in “Stable”  
Markets***

Lotfi BELKACEM, Jacques LÉVY VÉHEL, Christian WALTER

**N° 2776**

Janvier 1996

PROGRAMME 5



***rapport  
de recherche***

Unité de recherche INRIA Rocquencourt

Domaine de Voluceau, Rocquencourt, BP 105, 78153 LE CHESNAY Cedex (France)

Téléphone : (33 1) 39 63 55 11 – Télécopie : (33 1) 39 63 53 30



## CAPM, Risk and Portfolio Selection in “Stable” Markets

Lotfi BELKACEM, Jacques LÉVY VÉHEL, Christian WALTER

Programme 5 — Traitement du signal, automatique et productique  
Projet Fractales

Rapport de recherche n° 2776 — Janvier 1996 — 26 pages

**Abstract:** Our main purpose in this paper is to derive the generalized equilibrium relationship between risk and return under the assumption that the asset returns follow a joint symmetric  $\alpha$ -stable distribution, with  $1 < \alpha < 2$ . In order to justify such an investigation, we start by empirically evidencing the fractal structure of stocks market through extensive tests of self-similarity and stability. These tests allow us to model price changes with  $\alpha$ -stable distributions. We then show that equilibrium rates of return on all risky assets are functions of their **covariation** with the market portfolio. The “stable” CAPM highlights a new measure of the quantity of risk which may be interpreted as a generalized beta coefficient.

**Key-words:** Stable laws, Fractals, Covariation, Codifference, Spectral measure, Portfolios management, Capital Asset Pricing Model.

*(Résumé : tsvp)*

Lotfi Belkacem : e-mail : lotfi@bora.inria.fr  
Jacques Lévy Véhel : e-mail : jlv@bora.inria.fr  
Christian Walter : Crédit Lyonnais : DGRI-RIIE

Unité de recherche INRIA Rocquencourt

Domaine de Voluceau, Rocquencourt, BP 105, 78153 LE CHESNAY Cedex (France)

Téléphone : (33 1) 39 63 55 11 – Télécopie : (33 1) 39 63 53 30



## MEDAF, Risque et Choix des Portefeuilles dans des Marchés “Stables”

**Résumé :** L'objectif de ce travail est de généraliser le Modèle d'Evaluation d'Actifs Financiers (MEDAF, ou CAPM) dans le cas où les rentabilités de ces actifs suivent conjointement une loi  $\alpha$ -stable, avec  $1 < \alpha < 2$ . Pour justifier cette hypothèse, nous sommes amenés à mettre en évidence la structure fractale du marché des actions à travers des tests empiriques d'auto-similarité et de stabilité. Ces tests nous permettent de modéliser les variations des prix par des distributions  $\alpha$ -stables. Nous montrons que les taux de rentabilité d'équilibre de tous les actifs risqués sont fonctions de leurs **covariation** avec le portefeuille de marché. Le CAPM “Stable” met en évidence une nouvelle mesure de risque, qui peut être interprétée comme un coefficient “beta” généralisé.

**Mots-clé :** Lois stables, Covariation, Codifférence, Mesure spectrale, Gestion de portefeuilles, Modèle d'Evaluation d'Actifs Financiers.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Most economic and financial phenomena are modeled using probability distributions with finite variance. In particular, Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) theory has been developed by many authors in a Gaussian framework (see e.g. Sharpe [Sha63, Sha64], Mossin [Mos66], Lintner [Lin65], Black [Bla72], Fama-MacBeth [FM73] and Blume-Freind [BF73]). However, the assumption of Gaussianity is in general not verified empirically. It has been shown in many studies that asset returns exhibit a fat tail in their empirical distributions. Mandelbrot [Man63] and Fama [Fam65] proved that empirical distributions of asset returns such as stocks, foreign currencies, etc ... conform better to stable distributions than to the normal distribution. Asset returns may thus be naturally modeled by random variables defined on a complete probability space  $L^p(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$  with  $1 < p < 2$ . This implies that the mean is assumed to be finite but it is not necessary so for the variance. In this context, the classical mean-variance approach for optimal portfolios selection does not make sense. Its use leads to discard important information about the risk structure of different investment portfolios and may result in underestimating the quantity of risk and the risk premium.

Several authors have thus proposed to use stable Paretian distributions to model returns on securities. This raises the following questions :

- (1) how should one measure the dependence between returns ?
- (2) how can one characterize financial risk ?

Such questions are studied by Press [Pre72], Lee-Rachev-Samorodnitsky [LRS90], Rachev-Xin [RX93] and Samorodnitsky-Taquq [ST94].

Following these investigations, we shall extend in this paper the concept of market equilibrium in order to develop the CAPM when asset returns have a joint stable distribution. It will be shown that the equilibrium rates of return on all risky assets are functions of their **covariation** with the market portfolio. This is a natural generalization of the results obtained in the “classical” case, where the asset returns are modeled with Gaussian distributions.

INRIA

We mention here that Fama [Fam70] was the first who developed the CAPM under the "stable" assumption but he did not give a practical expression of the coefficient "beta". Arad [Ara75] already considered the problem of the CAPM under the hypothesis of stable distribution in a particular case, "the stable index model", which assumes a special structure of dependence ( all securities depend on a common factor or on a number of common terms).

In section 2 we briefly state some well known definitions and properties of multivariate stable distributions. In section 3 we experimentally check the property of stability, i.e. the closure under summation, of stocks market. We show that the characteristic exponent  $\alpha$  is invariant with respect to changes of "time yardsticks" and that the scale parameter follows an empirical scaling law with  $\frac{1}{\alpha}$ . In sections 4 and 5 we recall some useful results concerning the measure of dependence and financial risk when one deals with heavy tailed multivariate distributions. In section 6 we shall define the generalized market line in the mean-scale space for a given  $\alpha$  (as defined below) and derive the CAPM under the following assumptions :

- (1) All investors have homogeneous expectations about asset returns.
- (2) The common probability distribution of asset returns is joint Levy-stable and satisfies a symmetry condition (see section 5).
- (3) All investors are risk averse.
- (4) An investor may borrow or lend unlimited amounts at the risk free rate.
- (5) There are no market imperfections.

In the last section we present an experimental study and results on real data, and draw some practical consequences of the generalized CAPM.

## 2. DEFINITIONS AND PROPERTIES

For the definition of stable multivariate distributions we essentially make reference to Rachev-Xin [RX93] and Samorodnitsky-Taquq [ST94].

### **Definition 1.**

*A random variable  $X$  is said to have a stable distribution if there are parameters  $0 < \alpha \leq 2$ ,  $\gamma \geq 0$ ,  $-1 \leq \beta \leq 1$  and  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$  such that its characteristic function has the following form*

$$\Psi_X(t) = \exp \{i\mu t - \gamma^\alpha |t|^\alpha (1 - i\beta \operatorname{sign}(t)W(\alpha, t))\}, t \in \mathbb{R} \quad (1)$$

where

$$W(\alpha, t) = \begin{cases} \tan \frac{\pi\alpha}{2} & \text{if } \alpha \neq 1 \\ -\frac{2}{\pi} \log |t| & \text{if } \alpha = 1 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

The four parameters characterizing a stable random variable are sometimes referred to as :

- The characteristic exponent  $\alpha$ ,  $0 < \alpha \leq 2$ . It describes the shape of the distribution or the degree to which it is long tailed.
- The index of skewness  $\beta$ ,  $\beta \in [-1, 1]$ .
- The location parameter  $\mu$ ,  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- The scale parameter  $\gamma$ ,  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^+$ .

**Notation 1.**

$X \stackrel{d}{=} S_{\alpha,\beta}(\gamma, \mu)$  indicates that  $X$  follows a stable distribution with parameters  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$  and  $\mu$  (as defined above).

**Property 1.**

$X \stackrel{d}{=} S_{\alpha,\beta}(\gamma, \mu)$  is symmetric if and only if  $\beta = 0$  and  $\mu = 0$ . It is symmetric about  $\mu$  if and only if  $\beta = 0$ .

**Notation 2.**

$X \sim S\alpha S$  indicates that  $X$  follows a stable distribution  $S_{\alpha,0}(\gamma, 0)$

From now on,  $X$  will denote a  $d$ -dimensional random vector.

**Definition 2.**

$X$  follows an  $\alpha$ -stable multivariate distribution ( $0 < \alpha < 2$ ) if there exists a finite measure  $\Gamma$  on the unit sphere  $S_d$  of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  ( $S_d = \{s, \|s\| = 1\}$ ), and a shift vector  $\mu^0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$  such that:

$$\Psi_X(\lambda) = \exp \left\{ i(\lambda, \mu^0) - \int_{S_d} |(\lambda, s)|^\alpha (1 - i \operatorname{sign}((\lambda, s))W(\alpha, s, \lambda)) \Gamma(ds) \right\}, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^d \quad (3)$$

where  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  denotes the inner product and

$$W(\alpha, s, \lambda) = \begin{cases} \tan \frac{\pi\alpha}{2} & \text{if } \alpha \neq 1 \\ -\frac{2}{\pi} \log |(\lambda, s)| & \text{if } \alpha = 1 \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

The pair  $(\Gamma, \mu^0)$  is unique.

The measure  $\Gamma$  is called the spectral measure of the  $\alpha$ -stable random vector  $X$ . It replaces both the scale and skewness parameter that enter in the description of the univariate stable distribution.

As in the case of random Gaussian vectors, any linear combination of the components of an  $\alpha$ -stable vector is an  $\alpha$ -stable random variable:

**Property 2.**

Let  $X$  be an  $\alpha$ -stable random vector with characteristic function given by (3) and let  $Y = (\theta, X)$ ,  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . Then  $Y$  has a univariate  $\alpha$ -stable distribution  $S_{\alpha, \beta_\theta}(\gamma_\theta, \mu_\theta)$ , where

$$\gamma_\theta = \left( \int_{S_d} |(\theta, s)|^\alpha \Gamma(ds) \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \quad (5)$$

$$\beta_\theta = \frac{\int_{S_d} |(\theta, s)|^\alpha \text{sign}((\theta, s)) \Gamma(ds)}{\int_{S_d} |(\theta, s)|^\alpha \Gamma(ds)} \quad (6)$$

$$\mu_\theta = \begin{cases} (\theta, \mu^0) & \text{if } \alpha \neq 1 \\ (\theta, \mu^0) - \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{S_d} (\theta, s) \log |(\theta, s)| \Gamma(ds) & \text{if } \alpha = 1 \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

**Proof.** See Samorodnitsky-Taquq [ST94].

**Property 3.**

$X$  is a symmetric  $\alpha$ -stable vector in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $0 < \alpha < 2$  if and only if there exists a unique symmetric finite measure  $\Gamma$  on the unit sphere  $S^d$  such that

$$E \exp i(\lambda, X) = \exp \left\{ - \int_{S_d} |(\lambda, s)|^\alpha \Gamma(ds) \right\}, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^d \quad (8)$$

Thus  $X$  is symmetric if and only if the shift vector  $\mu^0 = 0$  and the spectral measure  $\Gamma$  is symmetric.

### 3. EXPERIMENTAL VERIFICATION OF THE LÉVY STABILITY: FRACTAL STRUCTURE OF STOCKS MARKET

A fractal approach for analyzing the market consists in studying price changes at different scales, with different degrees of resolution and to compare and interrelate results in order to look for a statistical similarity. Using different "time yardsticks", from hourly to monthly and yearly, we find that the statistical properties of price changes are the same, except for a scale factor which is power function of the yardstick size. Moreover, we show that the fractal nature of the stocks market takes the form of a stable distribution, all distribution functions of price changes having the same type, for all interval sizes. The fractality of the market is thus associated with the Lévy stability under summation property. This behavior was already described in [Man63].

To verify such claims, we look at the variation of the estimated index of stability with respect to the length of the time interval of observations. In other words, the empirical verification of the existence of a scaling law consists in estimating the value of the parameters and in verifying that they are independent of the scale.

For each asset, the Koutrouvelis [Kou80] method was used to estimate the  $\alpha$ -value. Walter [Wal94] shows that the Koutrouvelis method is the best among several alternatives.



The data consists in 2060 observations representing the closing prices for the some chosen stocks with the CAC40 index, ranging from 09/07/87 to 31/05/95. The data were provided by Crédit Lyonnais.

We performed two kinds of test:

- Tests with the complete series with different time steps.
- Tests with constant size samples, obtained through a moving window procedure.

### 3.1. Stability tests on samples with decreasing size.

Define

$$r_{p,t,i}^j = \log X_{ip+t}^j - \log X_{(i-1)p+t}^j$$

with:

- $p$ : time interval from 1 to 10 days ;
- $t$ : first price of the series,  $t = 1, \dots, p$ ;
- $i$ : index of observation  $i = 1, \dots, 2060$ ;
- $X_{ip+t}^j$ : price on a security  $j$  at time  $ip + t$  ;
- $r_{p,t,i}^j$ : period return on a security  $j$ .

There are thus  $p$  series for each time interval  $p$ . Increasing the time interval results in reducing the size of the sample. We fix a maximum time interval in order to have a statistically significant size for the sample.

Inspection of the estimated value of the parameters shows that the characteristic exponent  $\alpha$  remains approximately constant and that the scale parameter  $\gamma$  follows a scaling law.

More precisely, table 1, in appendix A, show that the characteristic exponent ranges from 1.6 to 1.8. In average,  $\alpha$  is approximately equal to 1.7. This value is close to the value found by several authors on different markets (see e.g. [Man63] and [Wal95]).

Table 2, figure 2 and figure 3, in appendix B, evidence an empirical scaling law, with exponent  $\frac{1}{\alpha}$ , for  $\gamma$ . If  $\gamma_1$  is the standard scale corresponding to one time unit, then the standard scale after  $t$  time units will be

$$\gamma_t = \gamma_1 t^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$$

where  $\frac{1}{\alpha}$  is referred to as the self-similarity exponent.  $\frac{1}{\alpha}$  is in relation with the Hausdorff dimension: let  $D$  denote the dimension of the path of an  $\alpha$ -stable process with  $1 < \alpha \leq 2$ . It may be shown (see Falconer [Fal90]) that  $D = 2 - \frac{1}{\alpha}$ . Thus an estimation of  $\alpha$  permits an estimation of  $D$ .

From these results, we can conclude that increasing the time interval of observation from 1 to 10 days does not change the behavior of the market as far as the parameters  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  are concerned.

Let us mention here that some authors (see Olsen et al. [Oal93], Bouchaud et al. [Bal95]) show that other commodities do not share the same stability. More precisely, it seems that some commodities exhibit a stable behavior for time periods lower than a given cross-over value. Beyond this value, price changes are modeled by a Pareto law with a different index.

### 3.2. Tests with constant size sample.

In contrast with the previous method which induces a sampling error due to the decreasing of the size of the sample, the second kind of test is more significant, because it deals with fixed size samples. Its main drawback is its high computational cost.

The test consists in building from a subsample of the initial sample with constant size, several series defined with respect to time yardsticks of different size and estimate the values of parameters on each series. The number of series increases as the size of the subsamples decreases.

Let  $N$  denote the size of the initial sample,  $n$  the size of a considered subsample and  $p$  the time interval. The total number of builded series with time interval size  $p$  is  $N - np$ . By varying  $p$  between 1 and  $p^*$  where  $p^* = \lfloor \frac{N}{n} \rfloor$ , we construct  $p^* N - n \frac{p^*(p^*+1)}{2}$  series.

More precisely, we built the following series:

$$r_{p,t,i}^j = \log X_{ip+t}^j - \log X_{(i-1)p+t}^j$$

where:

- $p$ : time interval from 1 to  $p^*$  days ;
- $t$ : first price of the series,  $t = 1, \dots, N - np$  ;
- $i$ : index of observations  $i = 1, \dots, n$  ;
- $X_{ip+t}^j$ : price on a security  $j$  during  $ip + t$  ;
- $r_{p,t,i}^j$ : period return on a security  $j$ .

If we fix, for example,  $n = 300$ ,  $p^*$  will be equal to 6, and we shall estimate  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  on 6060 data series for each stock.

This second kind of tests gives, approximately, the same results as before:  $\alpha$  ranges from 1.6 to 1.8 (see e.g. figure 4, in appendix C, for ACCOR) and  $\gamma$  follows a scaling law with exponent  $\frac{1}{\alpha}$  (see e.g. figure 5, in appendix C, for ACCOR).

## 4. DEPENDENCE MEASURE

The dependence structure of a Gaussian random vector ( $\alpha = 2$ ) is completely specified by its autocovariance function. There is no such simple description when  $\alpha < 2$ , because covariance does not exist. But the notions of **covariation** (when  $\alpha \geq 1$ ) and **codifference** (when  $0 < \alpha \leq 2$ ) prove to be very natural measures of dependence when one deals with heavy tailed multivariate distributions such as the stable one.

#### 4.1. Covariation.

The notion of ‘‘covariation’’ is due to Miller [Mil78]. It is designed to replace the covariance when  $1 < \alpha \leq 2$ . We list some of the useful properties of covariation (see Samorodnitsky-Taquq [ST94] for the proofs).

##### Definition 3.

Let  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  be jointly  $S\alpha S$  with  $\alpha > 1$  and let  $\Gamma$  be the spectral measure of the random vector  $(X_1, X_2)$ . The covariation of  $X_1$  on  $X_2$  is the real number

$$[X_1, X_2]_\alpha = \int_{S_2} s_1 s_2^{\langle \alpha-1 \rangle} \Gamma(ds) \quad (9)$$

where  $a^{\langle \alpha-1 \rangle}$  is the ‘‘signed power’’ defined by  $a^{\langle \alpha-1 \rangle} = |a|^{\alpha-1} \text{sign}(a)$ .

##### Properties.

- (1)  $[X_1, X_2]_2 = \frac{\text{Cov}(X_1, X_2)}{2}$
- (2)  $[X_1, X_2]_\alpha \neq [X_2, X_1]_\alpha$  in general
- (3)  $[aX_1, bX_2]_\alpha = ab^{\langle \alpha-1 \rangle} [X_1, X_2]_\alpha$  for every  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$
- (4) the covariation is additive in the first argument i.e. for  $(X_1, X_2, X_3)$  jointly  $S\alpha S$  and for every  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$

$$[aX_1 + bX_2, X_3]_\alpha = a[X_1, X_3]_\alpha + b[X_2, X_3]_\alpha$$

- (5) the covariation is not additive in general in its second argument i.e. for  $(X_1, X_2, X_3)$  jointly  $S\alpha S$

$$[X_1, X_2 + X_3]_\alpha \neq [X_1, X_2]_\alpha + [X_1, X_3]_\alpha$$

- (6) If  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are jointly  $S\alpha S$  and independent then  $[X_1, X_2]_\alpha = 0$
- (7) Let  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are jointly  $S\alpha S$  with  $1 < \alpha \leq 2$ . Then

$$|[X_1, X_2]_\alpha| \leq \|X_1\|_\alpha \|X_2\|_\alpha^{\alpha-1}$$

- (8) the covariation induces a norm  $\| \cdot \|_\alpha$  on the linear space  $S_\alpha$  of jointly  $S\alpha S$  ( $\alpha > 1$ ) random variables. The norm  $\| \cdot \|_\alpha$  is defined for every  $X_1 \in S_\alpha$  by  $\|X_1\|_\alpha = ([X_1, X_1]_\alpha)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} = \gamma_{x_1}$ , where  $\gamma_{x_1}$  is the scale parameter of  $X_1$ .

#### 4.2. Codifference.

Although we are not going to use the notion of codifference in this work, we give some basic facts related to it because it could well be useful for solving the kind of problems we deal with.

The codifference function is derived from the difference between the joint characteristic function and the product of the marginal characteristic functions. It was first introduced by Astrauskas [Ast83]. and is defined for all  $0 < \alpha \leq 2$ .

**Definition 4.**

The codifference of two jointly  $S\alpha S$  random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  equals :

$$\tau_{X,Y} = \|X\|_\alpha^\alpha + \|Y\|_\alpha^\alpha - \|X - Y\|_\alpha^\alpha \quad (10)$$

where  $\|X\|_\alpha^\alpha$ ,  $\|Y\|_\alpha^\alpha$  and  $\|X - Y\|_\alpha^\alpha$  denote respectively the scale parameters of  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $X - Y$ .

**Properties.**

- (1)  $\tau_{X,Y} = \tau_{Y,X}$
- (2) if  $\alpha = 2$  then  $\tau_{X,Y} = Cov(X, Y)$
- (3)
  - if  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent then  $\tau_{X,Y} = 0$
  - if  $\tau_{X,Y} = 0$  and  $0 < \alpha < 1$  then  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent
- (4)
  - $\tau_{X,Y} \leq \|X\|_\alpha^\alpha + \|Y\|_\alpha^\alpha$
  -

$$\tau_{X,Y} \geq \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } 0 < \alpha \leq 1 \\ (1 - 2^{\alpha-1})(\|X\|_\alpha^\alpha + \|Y\|_\alpha^\alpha) & \text{if } 1 \leq \alpha \leq 2 \end{cases}$$

- (5) let  $(X_1, \dots, X_d)$  be a  $S\alpha S$  random vector.

Then the matrix  $\Sigma = (\tau_{X_i, X_j}, i, j = 1, \dots, d)$  is non-negative definite.

For more facts and proofs of the properties listed above see Astrauskas [Ast83], Levy-Taquq [LT91] and Samorodnitsky-Taquq [ST94].

## 5. "STABLE" RISK MEASURE AND EFFICIENT SET

When it exists, the variance is the statistic most frequently used to measure the risk. But we should note that there are other statistics which, in some situations, may be more appropriate : for instance the range, the semi-interquartile range, the semivariance and the mean absolute deviation have been considered (see Copeland-Weston [CW83]).

The Gaussian assumption leads to an optimal strategy depending on the means and variances of portfolios returns. However, when the distribution is  $\alpha$ -stable with  $1 < \alpha < 2$ , the second moment does not exist, and an approach based on an empirical mean-variance computation discards important information about the risk structure of different investment opportunities. It can lead to the selection of non-optimal investment portfolios. In our context, the measure of risk will be the scale parameter of an appropriate multivariate symmetric stable distribution.

Let  $R$  be the vector of considered asset returns and  $E(R) = \mu^0$ . We assume that  $R - \mu^0$  follows a  $S\alpha S$  law with  $\alpha > 1$ . Press [Pre72] give several reasons for the assumption that  $\alpha > 1$  :

- (1) for an investment setting, it is convenient to be able to speak of "expected returns" ;
- (2) this assumption is in general confirmed by empirical evidence ;

- (3) although the distributions depart from Normality, they do not deviate “too much”.

Finally, the symmetry assumption allows positive and negative price changes to be weighted in the same way.

The investors’ preferences can then be represented by a utility function defined over the mean and the scale of a portfolio return  $R_p = \sum_{i=1}^d \theta_i R_i$ , where  $R_i$  is the return of the asset  $i$  and  $\theta_i$  is the amount invested in the asset  $i$ .

$$E(R_p) = (\theta, \mu^0) \quad (11)$$

$$\|R_p\|_\alpha = \left( \int_{S_d} |(\theta, s)|^\alpha \Gamma(ds) \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \quad (12)$$

$\theta$  is the  $d$ -vector of the portfolio weights and  $\mu^0$  is the  $d$ -vector of asset return means.

### 5.1. Efficient set with risky assets.

An efficient portfolio was defined by Markovitz [Mar59] and Sharpe [Sha63] as a portfolio of risky asset which can not achieve greater expected return without increasing risk.

In the absence of a riskless asset, a portfolio  $P$  on the efficient frontier is defined as a portfolio solution of the following optimization problem <sup>1</sup> :

$$\min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d} \int_{S_d} |(\theta, s)|^\alpha \Gamma(ds)$$

subject to :

$$\begin{aligned} (\theta, \mu^0) &= \bar{R}_p \\ (\theta, e) &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mu^0$  is the  $d$ -vector of assets expected returns,  $\bar{R}_p$  is a fixed level of portfolio return, and  $e$  denotes an  $d$ -vector of ones.

As shown by Press [Pre72] and Arad [Ara75], the efficient set is convex. This means that the efficient frontier is the locus of all convex combinations of any two efficient portfolios.

### 5.2. Efficient set with one risky and one riskless asset.

In this subsection, we obtain a new and simple relation between the risk and return for efficient portfolio of assets.

Assume now that there exists a risk-free asset  $F$  and all investors can borrow or lend unlimited amounts at the riskless rate  $R_f$ . The investors satisfy their risk

---

<sup>1</sup>this problem will be studied in detail in a forthcoming paper.

preferences by considering the portfolio  $P$  combining  $\theta$ ,  $0 < \theta < 1$ , of risk-free asset and  $(1 - \theta)$  of a risky asset  $I$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} E(R_p) &= \theta R_f + (1 - \theta)E(R_i) \\ \|R_p\|_\alpha^\alpha &= (1 - \theta)^\alpha \|R_i\|_\alpha^\alpha \end{aligned}$$

which leads to:

$$E(R_p) = R_f + \frac{(E(R_i) - R_f)}{\|R_i\|_\alpha} \|R_p\|_\alpha \quad (13)$$

This relation shows that the efficient set in the presence of a riskless asset is represented by a line connecting  $R_f$  to the risky asset.

## 6. DERIVATION OF THE CAPM

In this section, we derive a new expression that yields the CAPM in the case of stable multivariate distributions.

If all investors have homogeneous expectations and they all can borrow or lend at the same rate, they will perceive the same efficient set (see figure 1).

In equilibrium, the portfolio of risky assets that an investor tries to combine with the risk-free asset will be identical to the combination held by any other investor<sup>2</sup>. This portfolio must be the tangency portfolio  $M$  usually referred to as the market portfolio. The risky assets are held according to their market value weights<sup>3</sup>. All investors will prefer combinations of the risk-free asset and the portfolio  $M$  on the same efficient set called the capital market line (see figure 1).

According to (13), this line provides a simple relationship between the risk and return for efficient portfolios of assets. Therefore, the equation of the capital market line will be

$$E(R_p) = R_f + \frac{(E(R_m) - R_f)}{\|R_m\|_\alpha} \|R_p\|_\alpha \quad (14)$$

where  $R_m$  is the market portfolio return.

### 6.1. The single period "stable" CAPM.

We now derive a single period model under the assumptions (1), (2), (3), (4) and (5) described in the introduction.

Let us consider a portfolio with  $\theta$  invested in a risky asset  $I$  and  $(1 - \theta)$  in the market portfolio  $M$ . Thus  $P = \theta I + (1 - \theta)M$ . The return of  $P$  is then

$$R_p = \theta R_i + (1 - \theta)R_m \quad (15)$$

---

<sup>2</sup>we note that in equilibrium, all assets must be held, i.e. the excess demand of any asset will be zero.

<sup>3</sup>equal to the market value of each asset divided by the market value of all risky assets.

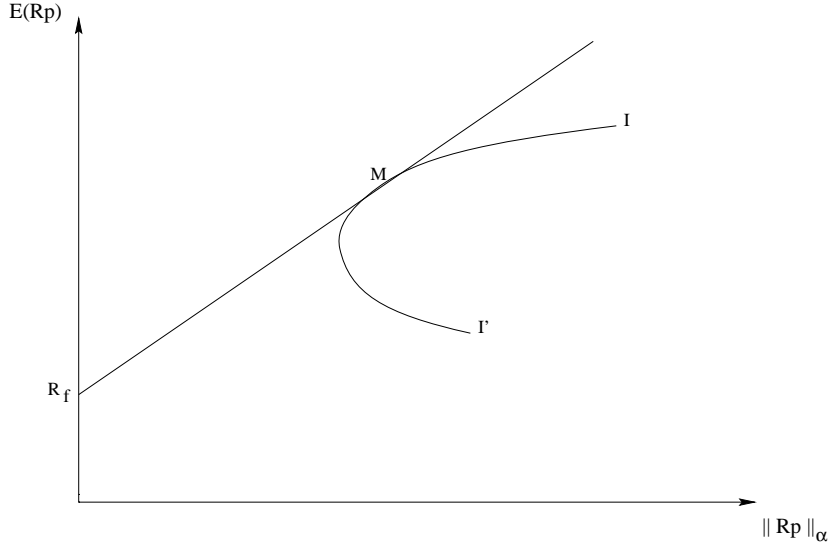


FIGURE 1. the opportunity set provided by combinations of risky asset and the market portfolio

We know from property (2) that since  $R_i - E(R_i)$  and  $R_m - E(R_m)$  are jointly  $S\alpha S$  with  $\alpha > 1$ , the mean and the scale parameter of  $R_p$  are respectively

$$E(R_p) = \theta E(R_i) + (1 - \theta)E(R_m) \quad (16)$$

$$\|R_p\|_\alpha^\alpha = \int_{S_2} |\theta s_1 + (1 - \theta)s_2|^\alpha \Gamma(ds) \quad (17)$$

This leads to:

$$\frac{\partial E(R_p)}{\partial \theta} = E(R_i) - E(R_m) \quad (18)$$

$$\frac{\partial \|R_p\|_\alpha^\alpha}{\partial \theta} = \alpha \|R_p\|_\alpha^{\alpha-1} \frac{\partial \|R_p\|_\alpha}{\partial \theta} = \alpha \int_{S_2} (s_1 - s_2)(\theta s_1 + (1 - \theta)s_2)^{\alpha-1} \Gamma(ds)$$

then

$$\frac{\partial \|R_p\|_\alpha}{\partial \theta} = \frac{1}{\|R_p\|_\alpha^{\alpha-1}} \int_{S_2} (s_1 - s_2)(\theta s_1 + (1 - \theta)s_2)^{\alpha-1} \Gamma(ds) \quad (19)$$

At point M,  $\theta = 0$  and  $\|R_p\|_\alpha = \|R_m\|_\alpha$ ; thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{\partial \|R_p\|_\alpha}{\partial \theta} \right|_{\theta=0} &= \frac{1}{\|R_m\|_\alpha^{\alpha-1}} \int_{S_2} (s_1 - s_2) s_2^{\alpha-1} \gamma(ds) \\ &= \frac{1}{\|R_m\|_\alpha^{\alpha-1}} \left( \int_{S_2} s_1 s_2^{\alpha-1} \gamma(ds) - \int_{S_2} s_2^\alpha \gamma(ds) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\|R_m\|_\alpha^{\alpha-1}} ([R_i, R_m]_\alpha - \|R_m\|_\alpha^\alpha) \end{aligned}$$

The slope of the risk-return trade-off (curve  $IMI'$ ) evaluated at point M, in market equilibrium, is

$$\frac{\partial E(R_p)}{\partial \|R_p\|_\alpha} = \frac{\frac{\partial E(R_p)}{\partial \theta}}{\frac{\partial \|R_p\|_\alpha}{\partial \theta}} = \frac{\|R_m\|_\alpha^{\alpha-1} [E(R_i) - E(R_m)]}{[R_i, R_m]_\alpha - \|R_m\|_\alpha^\alpha} \quad (20)$$

This slope should be equal to the slope of the capital market line given by (14) (see figure 1). Combining (14) and (20) we get

$$\frac{E(R_m) - R_f}{\|R_m\|_\alpha} = \frac{\|R_m\|_\alpha^{\alpha-1} [E(R_i) - E(R_m)]}{[R_i, R_m]_\alpha - \|R_m\|_\alpha^\alpha}$$

or

$$(E(R_i) - R_f) = \frac{[R_i, R_m]_\alpha}{\|R_m\|_\alpha^\alpha} (E(R_m) - R_f) \quad (21)$$

(21) may be written in the form:

$$(E(R_i) - R_f) = \beta_i (E(R_m) - R_f) \quad (22)$$

where

$$\beta_i = \frac{[R_i, R_m]_\alpha}{\|R_m\|_\alpha^\alpha} \quad (23)$$

The fundamental equation (21) is the generalized equilibrium relationship between risk and return for a given security. It is the generalization of the CAPM, which is usually defined for Gaussian distribution, to the case of stable distribution. We will refer to it as the “stable” CAPM. It may also be called the generalized security market line. The return over the risk free rate,  $E(R_i) - R_f$ , is called the risk premium for a security  $I$ .  $E(R_m) - R_f$  is the price of the risk.  $\beta_i$  is the “generalized beta coefficient” which measures the volatility of the security’s rate of return relative to changes in the market’s rate of return.  $\beta_i$  is interpreted as the quantity of risk.

**Remark.**

*If instead of assumption (2), we assume that asset returns have a joint normal distribution ( $\alpha = 2$ ), then by property (1) of the covariation we obtain*

$$(E(R_i) - R_f) = \frac{Cov(R_i, R_m)}{Var(R_m)} (E(R_m) - R_f) \quad (24)$$

*which is the well known standard form of the general equilibrium relationship for asset returns often referred to as the Sharpe-Lintner-Mossin form of the CAPM.*

**6.2. Properties of the “stable” CAPM.**

- (1) The only risk which investors will pay a premium to avoid is the covariation risk which is referred to as the systematic risk.



- (2) Let  $P = \sum_{i=1}^d \theta_i Y_i$ . The portfolio generalized beta coefficient, denoted  $\beta_p$ , is a linearly weighted combination of the individual asset generalized beta coefficients  $\beta_i$ :

$$\beta_p = \sum_{i=1}^d \theta_i \beta_i \quad (25)$$

**Proof.** use property (4) of the covariation.

### 6.3. The *ex post* form of the “stable” CAPM.

Assume again that the vector  $R$  of the per share portfolio follows a multivariate stable distribution with characteristic function

$$E \exp i(\lambda, R) = \exp \left\{ - \int_{S_d} |(\lambda, s)|^\alpha \Gamma(ds) + i(\lambda, \mu^0) \right\}. \quad (26)$$

where  $\Gamma$  is symmetric.

This is equivalent to saying that  $R - \mu^0$  follows a  $S\alpha S$  distribution. The assumption  $\alpha > 1$  implies that  $\mu^0 = E(R)$ .

If the rate of return on any asset is a fair game, the *ex ante* form of the “stable” CAPM given by equation (21) can be transformed into

$$R_i = R_f + (R_m - R_f)\beta_i + \epsilon_i \quad (27)$$

where

- $\epsilon_i$  is a random error term independent from  $R_m$  with zero mean,
- $\beta_i$  is as defined in (23).

## 7. STATISTICAL ESTIMATION OF THE GENERALIZED “BETA” COEFFICIENT

The main complication introduced when using the “stable” CAPM instead of the classical “Gaussian” one is not only of theoretical order, but also of practical one. Indeed, if one wants to apply equation (21) in real situations, one has to estimate the covariation of  $R_i$  on  $R_m$ , instead of simply the covariance of  $R_i$  and  $R_m$ , for which well known estimators exist.

We present in the following three methods for estimating the generalized “bêta” coefficient.

### 7.1. Best Linear Umbased Estimator (BLUE).

Instead of estimating  $[R_i, R_m]_\alpha$ , which is not easy task, an alternative approach is to use a BLUE.

The model defined by (27) may be viewed as a linear model of the form:

$$y_t = \beta x_t + u_t \quad t = 1, \dots, n. \quad (28)$$

where  $y_t$  is the shifted return of a given asset at  $t$ ,  $x_t$  is the shifted market return at  $t$ , and the  $u_t$ 's are independent, identically distributed  $S\alpha S$  random variables with  $\alpha > 1$ , mean zero and scale parameter  $\nu$ . The  $u_t$ 's have an infinite variance. Hence, the Gauss-Markov theorem, which demonstrates the minimum variance of least squares, is not applicable.

Following the suggestion of Wise [Wis66] to generalize the concept of BLUE when disturbances are generated by a symmetric stable law, Blattberg and Sargent [BS71] have written down the following analytical expression of such estimators:

$$\forall \alpha > 1, \quad \hat{\beta}(\alpha) = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^n x_t \langle x_t \rangle^{\frac{1}{\alpha-1}} y_t}{\sum_{t=1}^n |x_t| \langle x_t \rangle^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}}} \quad (29)$$

(29) is derived as a solution of the following optimization program

$$\min_{\theta_t \in \mathbb{R}} \left\| \sum_{t=1}^n \theta_t y_t \right\|_{\alpha}$$

subject to :

$$\sum_{t=1}^n \theta_t x_t = 1$$

However, this does not give in general satisfactory results, because the  $u_t$  are supposed to be independent. We thus present now two means to directly estimate  $[R_i, R_m]_{\alpha}$ .

## 7.2. Moments estimator.

The following lemma (see Samorodnitsky-Taquq [ST94]) is useful for deriving a  $p$ -moments estimator of  $\beta$ .

### Lemma.

Let  $(y, x)$  be  $S\alpha S$  with  $\alpha > 1$ . Then for all  $1 < p < \alpha$

$$\frac{E y x \langle x \rangle^{p-1}}{E |x|^p} = \frac{[y, x]_{\alpha}}{\|x\|_{\alpha}^{\alpha}} \quad (30)$$

where  $\|x\|_{\alpha}$  denotes the scale parameter of  $x$ .

Consistent  $p$ -moments estimators  $\hat{\beta}(p)$  of  $\frac{[y, x]_{\alpha}}{\|x\|_{\alpha}^{\alpha}}$  will then be:

$$\hat{\beta}(p) = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^n y_t x_t \langle x_t \rangle^{p-1}}{\sum_{t=1}^n |x_t|^p} \quad (31)$$

Note that, in contrast with (30), this estimator is defined for all  $p > 1$  (see Gamrowski-Rachev [GR95]<sup>4</sup>).

### Remarks.

- (1)  $\hat{\beta}(\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1})$  is the BLUE of Blattberg-Sargent [BS71].
- (2)  $\hat{\beta}(2)$  is the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) estimator.

<sup>4</sup>[GR95] gives an alternative derivation of the  $S\alpha S$  CAPM and a generalized version ( $L_p$ -CAPM) for  $L_p$ -returns.

A nice feature of  $\hat{\beta}(p)$  is that it does not require a lot of data. However, its practical use is still an open issue, in particular because there are no methods that allow to choose an optimal value for  $p$ .  $\hat{\beta}(\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1})$  is optimal but only in the restricted case of a linear model with independent disturbances (independent specific risks).

### 7.3. Spectral estimator.

The Cheng-Rachev estimator [CR95] of the covariation  $[R_i, R_j]_\alpha^{(n)}$  is given by:

$$[R_i, R_j]_\alpha^{(n)} = \int_{\Omega_d} s_i(\theta) s_j(\theta)^{\langle \alpha_n - 1 \rangle} d\Phi_n(\theta) \quad (32)$$

where

- $(\rho, \theta)$  are the polar coordinates of  $R$ ;
- $s_i(\theta)$  denotes the  $i$ -th component of  $s = (s_1, \dots, s_d) \in \mathcal{S}_d$  in polar coordinates;
- $\Omega_d = [0, \pi]^{d-2} \times [0, 2\pi]$ ;
- $\alpha_n$  is an estimator of the index  $\alpha$  chosen using the family of estimators given by:

$$\alpha_n(k) = \frac{\log 2}{\log(\rho_{n-k+1:n}) - \log(\rho_{n-2k+1:n})} \quad (33)$$

where  $k = (k_n)_{n \geq 1}$  is a sequence of integers satisfying  $1 \leq k_n \leq \frac{n}{2}$ ,  $k_n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\frac{k}{n} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\rho_{k:n}$  is the  $k$ -th order statistic from  $(\rho_1, \dots, \rho_n)$ . The choice of the optimal value of  $k_n$  is based on an empirical rule to be described below;

- $\Phi_n$  is an estimator of the distribution function of  $\Gamma$  on  $\Omega_d$ , obtained through the following steps

$$\Phi_n(\theta) = \varphi_n(\theta) \Phi_n(\Pi), \quad (34)$$

where

$$\Pi = (\pi, \dots, \pi, 2\pi) \in \Omega_d, \quad \theta = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_{d-1}),$$

$$\Phi_n(\Pi) = \frac{k}{n} \rho_{n-k:n}^{\alpha_n} \quad (35)$$

and

$$\varphi_n(\theta) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{1}_{(\theta_i \leq \theta, \rho_i \geq \rho_{n-k+1:n})} \quad (36)$$

Cheng and Rachev [CR95] showed that:

- (1) if  $\frac{k}{\log \log n} \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  then a.s.  $\alpha_n \rightarrow \alpha$ ;
- (2) if  $\frac{k}{\log n} \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  then a.s.  $\varphi_n(\theta) \rightarrow \varphi(\theta) = \frac{\Phi(\theta)}{\Phi(\Pi)}$ .

Under additional conditions, it may be shown that the  $\alpha$ -covariation estimator is asymptotically normal.

In the bivariate case ( $d = 2$ ), the  $\alpha$ -covariation estimator will take the following simple form [RX93]

$$[X_1, X_2]_{\alpha}^{(n)} = \int_0^{2\pi} \cos \theta \sin \theta^{\langle \alpha_n - 1 \rangle} d\Phi_n(\theta) \quad (37)$$

A consistent estimator for the generalized “beta” coefficient for asset  $i$  will be

$$\hat{\beta}_i = \frac{[R_i, R_m]_{\alpha}^{(n)}}{[R_m, R_m]_{\alpha}^{(n)}} \quad (38)$$

## 8. EMPIRICAL STUDY

In our study, we have used a sample of nine French stocks chosen from the CAC 40 Index: ACCOR, CAMP. BANCAIRE, CARREFOUR, CR. FONC. FRANCE, GEN. DES EAUX, HAVAS, LEGRAND, MICHELIN, THOMSON CSF. The CAC 40 Index is considered as a “proxy” of the market portfolio.

The data consist of 2059 observations representing the successive differences of the logarithm of daily closing prices for the nine chosen stocks along with the CAC 40 Index, ranging from 09/07/87 to 31/05/95.

The optimal  $k$  for the estimator of  $\alpha$  was selected using a clue given by Mittnik and Rachev ([MR93]). The best value of  $k$  is set so as to agree with the estimated marginal index of stability of each asset: we first construct the graph yielding  $\alpha_n(k)$  versus  $\frac{k}{n}$ . We then estimate the marginal index  $\hat{\alpha}$ . The optimal  $k^*$  is the one such that  $\alpha_n(k^*) = \hat{\alpha}$  ( see e.g. figure 6 in appendix D).

For the data considered here, the estimated value of the marginal index  $\hat{\alpha}$  was found to be near 1.7. The corresponding optimal value of  $k$  is given in table 3 <sup>5</sup> in appendix D. In order to compare between different kinds of modeling (e.g. Gaussian vs stable non Gaussian), we also computed optimal  $k$ 's corresponding to “virtual” values of  $\alpha$  of 1.3, 1.5 and 2 (this last value corresponds to a “classical” modeling with Gaussian distribution).

A relevant test to assess the quality of the  $\beta$  estimator is to compare the value  $\hat{\beta}_{i1}$  obtained for  $\alpha = 2$  using (23) with the value  $\hat{\beta}_{i2}$  computed using a classical estimator in the Gaussian frame (namely empirical covariance divided the empirical variance). These comparisons are presented in table 6 in appendix E.

For all stocks,  $\left| \frac{\hat{\beta}_{i1} - \hat{\beta}_{i2}}{\hat{\beta}_{i1}} \right|$  is lower than 12% and for 67% it is lower than 3%.

Table 4 and table 5 in appendix E show that the covariations and the “beta” coefficients increase as  $\alpha$  tends to 1. The average increase of the “beta” coefficients

<sup>5</sup> values corresponding to the estimated index appears in bold face.

is about 6% when  $\alpha$  decreases from 2 to 1.7, with a maximum increase of 9% for CR. FONC. FRANCE.

To stress the significance of this result, let us take the example of the THOMSON CSF and the ACCOR stocks. In the classical Gaussian frame, the estimated “beta” coefficients are respectively 1.17 and 0.91. If we use the more realistic value  $\alpha = 1.7$ , they increase up to respectively 1.23 and 0.98, i.e. increases of 5% and 8%. In other words, the sensibilities of the THOMSON CSF and ACCOR stocks to the market portfolio are markedly greater than the ones estimated with the “Gaussian” CAPM. The same phenomenon is observed for all others stocks but with different variations of the coefficient. This has two important consequences: when building an index replicated portfolio with  $\alpha = 1.7$ , the proportion of each stock will not be the same as in the “Gaussian” case. Assuming wrongly that asset returns have a joint normal distribution thus results both in an underevaluation of the “beta” of the stock (and consequently of the risk premium) and in a non optimal portfolio allocation.

To summarize, the classical CAPM based on the mean-variance approach is generally misleading because it discards important information about the risk structure of different investment opportunities. This means that the MV-efficient portfolio is not efficient in the “stable” CAPM context. It is thus necessary to generalize the notion of efficiency from MV-efficiency to stable-efficiency.

## 9. CONCLUSION

The “stable” CAPM derived here represents a generalized model for evaluating both the risk and the expected return of alternative portfolios. Since, as was shown in section 3, price changes seem to approximately follow  $\alpha$ -stable laws with  $\alpha = 1.7$ , this stable CAPM offers a valuable alternative for measuring the risk. It differs from the classical one by its ability to deal with high risks induced by strong variations of markets. It should then be a useful and convenient tool for fund managers and investors who seek to maximize their trade-off between risk and return. Indeed, the Gaussian model of portfolio optimization underevaluates the real risk, because it is based on a theoretical framework not well fitted to the real market. On the contrary, the generalized CAPM allows to adequately price the risk in the real world.

APPENDIX A. RESULTS OF STABILITY TESTS UNDER SUMMATION ON 9 STOCKS  
CHOSEN FROM THE CAC40 INDEX.

Frequency (days)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Sample size	2059	1029	686	514	411	343	294	257	228	205
ACCOR	1.67 (0.01)	1.71 (0.01)	1.69 (0.04)	1.70 (0.04)	1.75 (0.03)	1.69 (0.06)	1.77 (0.02)	1.77 (0.05)	1.73 (0.06)	1.73 (0.06)
C. BANCAIRE	1.70 (0.03)	1.75 (0.02)	1.77 (0.07)	1.83 (0.02)	1.82 (0.05)	1.77 (0.07)	1.75 (0.08)	1.80 (0.08)	1.84 (0.06)	1.79 (0.08)
GEN.D.EAUX	1.70 (0.01)	1.76 (0.01)	1.76 (0.05)	1.82 (0.02)	1.80 (0.05)	1.84 (0.05)	1.84 (0.04)	1.85 (0.03)	1.85 (0.03)	1.83 (0.06)
THOM.CSF	1.70 (0.03)	1.73 (0.01)	1.76 (0.02)	1.82 (0.02)	1.81 (0.03)	1.79 (0.06)	1.82 (0.04)	1.81 (0.04)	1.79 (0.05)	1.74 (0.05)
HAVAS	1.65 (0.06)	1.73 (0.01)	1.76 (0.02)	1.79 (0.02)	1.75 (0.06)	1.79 (0.03)	1.77 (0.07)	1.78 (0.04)	1.75 (0.06)	1.79 (0.03)
CR.FONC	1.60 (0.07)	1.64 (0.05)	1.67 (0.04)	1.70 (0.03)	1.65 (0.07)	1.64 (0.09)	1.69 (0.07)	1.72 (0.06)	1.75 (0.05)	1.71 (0.07)
MICHELIN	1.71 (0.02)	1.68 (0.07)	1.70 (0.07)	1.73 (0.02)	1.69 (0.07)	1.76 (0.03)	1.73 (0.06)	1.80 (0.04)	1.77 (0.08)	1.77 (0.05)
LEGRAND	1.69 (0.09)	1.68 (0.03)	1.68 (0.05)	1.70 (0.03)	1.71 (0.04)	1.76 (0.07)	1.75 (0.08)	1.77 (0.06)	1.78 (0.08)	1.79 (0.04)
CARREFOUR	1.71 (0.04)	1.80 (0.01)	1.82 (0.02)	1.84 (0.02)	1.78 (0.05)	1.78 (0.06)	1.80 (0.05)	1.84 (0.04)	1.81 (0.05)	1.83 (0.05)
CAC 40	1.75 (0.01)	1.77 (0.03)	1.75 (0.07)	1.80 (0.02)	1.81 (0.04)	1.77 (0.07)	1.81 (0.03)	1.82 (0.03)	1.76 (0.06)	1.72 (0.06)

TABLE 1. Estimated  $\alpha$ -values for samples defined with respect to time intervals of different size. The values enclosed in parentheses are the standard deviations of  $\alpha$ .

APPENDIX B. RESULTS OF SELF-SIMILARITY TESTS ON 9 STOCKS CHOSEN FROM  
THE CAC40 INDEX

Frequency (days)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Sample size	2059	1029	686	514	411	343	294	257	228	205
ACCOR	0.91 <b>0.91</b>	1.40 <b>1.38</b>	1.79 <b>1.75</b>	2.13 <b>2.08</b>	2.47 <b>2.38</b>	2.75 <b>2.66</b>	3.02 <b>2.91</b>	3.28 <b>3.15</b>	3.50 <b>3.38</b>	3.68 <b>3.60</b>
C. BANCAIRE	1.27 <b>1.27</b>	1.89 <b>1.90</b>	2.45 <b>2.42</b>	2.84 <b>2.86</b>	3.20 <b>3.26</b>	3.49 <b>3.63</b>	3.77 <b>3.98</b>	4.09 <b>4.30</b>	4.40 <b>4.61</b>	4.63 <b>4.91</b>
GEN.D.EAUX	0.89 <b>0.89</b>	1.38 <b>1.34</b>	1.77 <b>1.70</b>	2.09 <b>2.02</b>	2.38 <b>2.30</b>	2.64 <b>2.56</b>	2.84 <b>2.80</b>	3.03 <b>3.03</b>	3.19 <b>3.25</b>	3.37 <b>3.46</b>
THOM.CSF	1.25 <b>1.25</b>	1.85 <b>1.87</b>	2.33 <b>2.38</b>	2.76 <b>2.82</b>	3.06 <b>3.22</b>	3.37 <b>3.58</b>	3.64 <b>3.92</b>	3.87 <b>4.25</b>	4.06 <b>4.55</b>	4.26 <b>4.84</b>
HAVAS	0.97 <b>0.97</b>	1.52 <b>1.48</b>	1.91 <b>1.90</b>	2.26 <b>2.26</b>	2.56 <b>2.58</b>	2.82 <b>2.89</b>	3.03 <b>3.17</b>	3.22 <b>3.44</b>	3.36 <b>3.70</b>	3.54 <b>3.94</b>
CR.FONC	0.99 <b>0.99</b>	1.54 <b>1.53</b>	1.92 <b>1.97</b>	2.25 <b>2.36</b>	2.50 <b>2.71</b>	2.77 <b>3.04</b>	3.08 <b>3.35</b>	3.41 <b>3.64</b>	3.66 <b>3.92</b>	3.92 <b>4.19</b>
MICHELIN	1.21 <b>1.21</b>	1.84 <b>1.81</b>	2.29 <b>2.29</b>	2.64 <b>2.71</b>	3.00 <b>3.09</b>	3.32 <b>3.44</b>	3.63 <b>3.77</b>	3.93 <b>4.07</b>	4.22 <b>4.36</b>	4.46 <b>4.64</b>
LEGRAND	0.85 <b>0.85</b>	1.31 <b>1.28</b>	1.63 <b>1.63</b>	1.86 <b>1.92</b>	2.15 <b>2.19</b>	2.35 <b>2.44</b>	2.54 <b>2.68</b>	2.72 <b>2.89</b>	2.91 <b>3.10</b>	3.07 <b>3.30</b>
CARREFOUR	0.88 <b>0.88</b>	1.36 <b>1.31</b>	1.70 <b>1.67</b>	2.01 <b>1.97</b>	2.24 <b>2.24</b>	2.46 <b>2.49</b>	2.70 <b>2.73</b>	2.92 <b>2.95</b>	3.12 <b>3.16</b>	3.30 <b>3.36</b>
CAC 40	0.68 <b>0.68</b>	1.03 <b>1.02</b>	1.29 <b>1.28</b>	1.52 <b>1.51</b>	1.75 <b>1.71</b>	1.92 <b>1.90</b>	2.11 <b>2.08</b>	2.25 <b>2.24</b>	2.38 <b>2.40</b>	2.48 <b>2.54</b>

TABLE 2. Estimated  $\gamma$ -values for samples defined with respect to time intervals of different size. The bold face values are the “theoretical” ones, i.e.  $\gamma_0 t^{\frac{1}{\hat{\alpha}}}$  where  $t$  is the frequency in days,  $\hat{\alpha}$  are the estimated values of  $\alpha$  for  $t = 1$ , and  $\gamma_0$  the estimated  $\gamma$  value for  $t = 1$ .

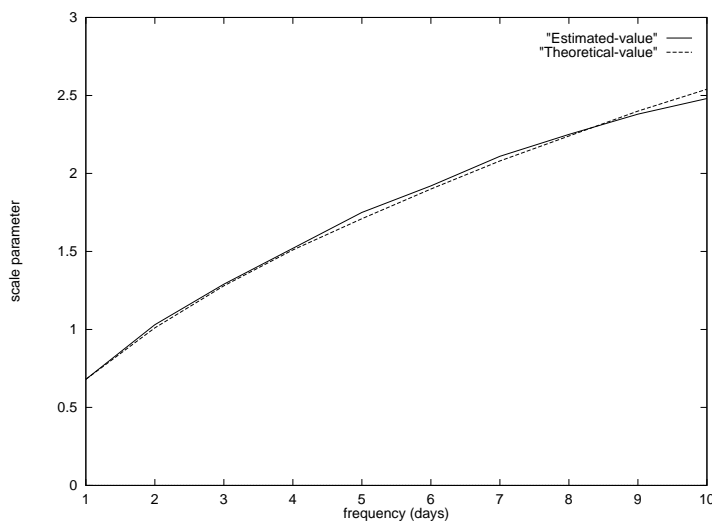


FIGURE 2. Evolution of the "CAC40" scale parameter as a scaling law with  $\frac{1}{\alpha}$  where  $\hat{\alpha} = 1.75$ . Dotted line: theoretical values. Dashed line: estimated values.

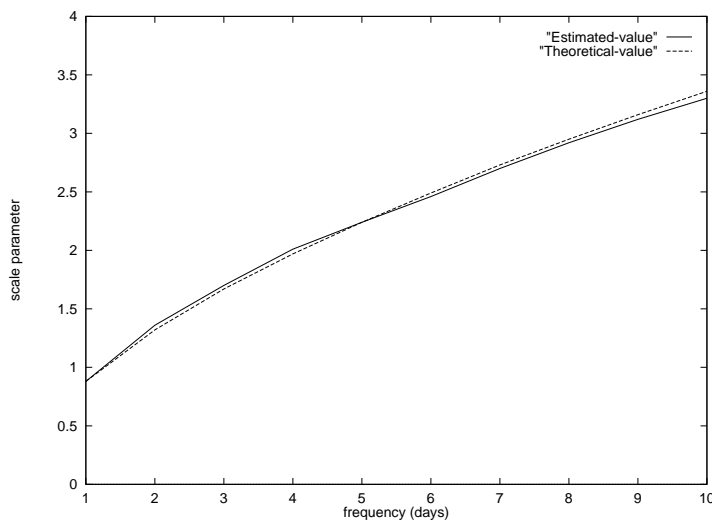


FIGURE 3. Evolution of the "CARREFOUR" scale parameter as a scaling law with  $\frac{1}{\alpha}$  where  $\hat{\alpha} = 1.71$ . Dotted line: theoretical values. Dashed line: estimated values.



## APPENDIX C. RESULTS OF STABILITY TESTS WITH CONSTANT SIZE SAMPLE

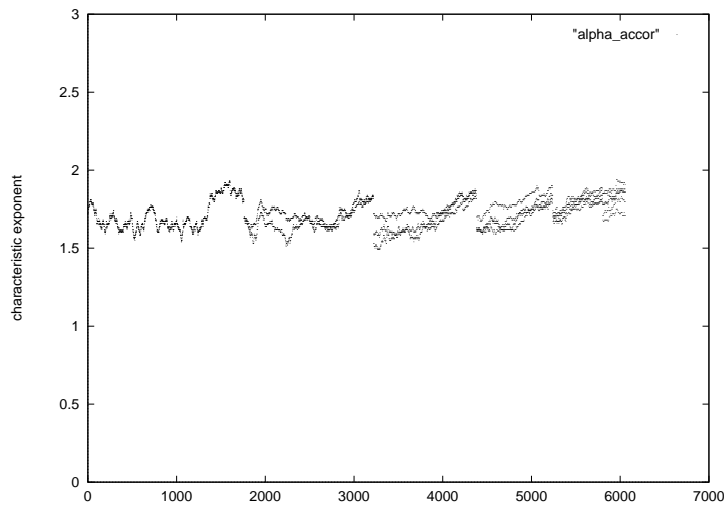


FIGURE 4. Estimated  $\alpha$ -values for 6060 series defined from a subsample of size 300 of the initial sample with respect to time intervals of different size. Each point represents an estimation of  $\alpha$  for an ACCOR series.

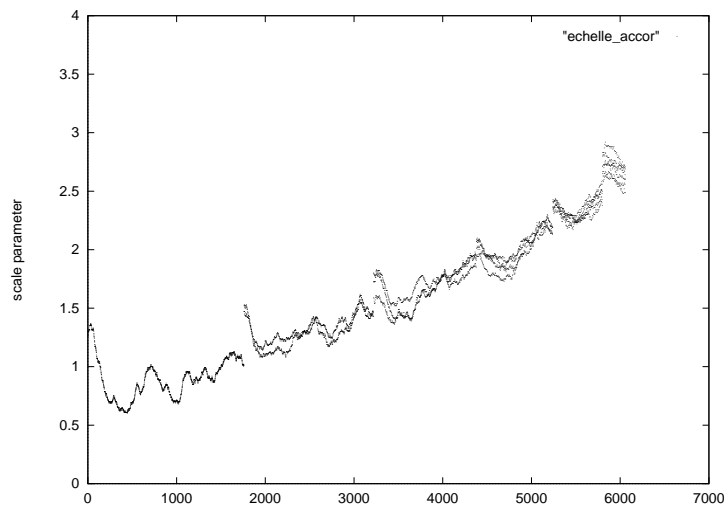
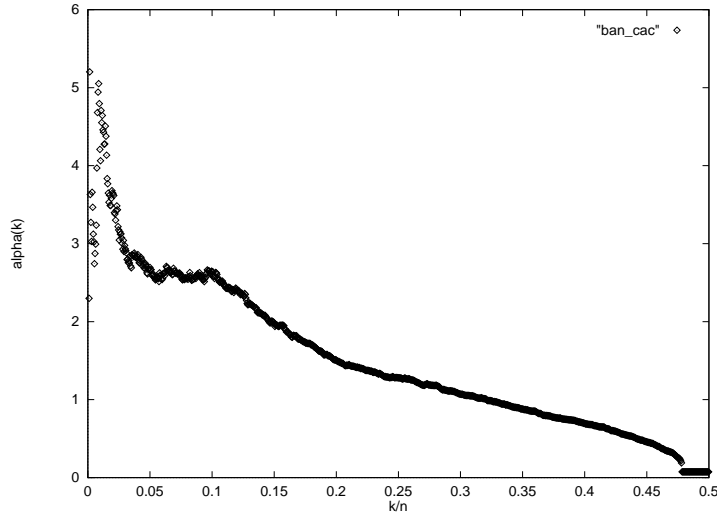


FIGURE 5. Estimated  $\gamma$ -values for 6060 series defined from a subsample of size 300 of the initial sample with respect to time intervals of different size. Each point represents an estimation of  $\gamma$  for an ACCOR series.

## APPENDIX D. OPTIMAL CHOICE OF K-VALUES

FIGURE 6. The estimator  $\alpha_n$  as a function of  $k$  for the BANCAIRE-CAC40 data.

OPTIMAL VALUES OF $k$				
Stocks	Values of marginal $\alpha$			
	$\alpha = 2.0$	$\alpha = 1.7$	$\alpha = 1.5$	$\alpha = 1.3$
(ACCOR,CAC40)	329	<b>391</b>	455	527
(BANCAIRE,CAC40)	306	<b>370</b>	413	490
(GEN.D.EAUX,CAC40)	286	<b>404</b>	466	546
(THOM.CSF,CAC40)	247	<b>328</b>	409	516
(HAVAS,CAC40)	270	<b>360</b>	452	532
(CR.FONC,CAC40)	287	<b>373</b>	430	519
(MICHELIN,CAC40)	249	<b>376</b>	434	535
(LEGRAND,CAC40)	316	<b>425</b>	472	525
(CARREFOUR,CAC40)	307	<b>380</b>	457	548

TABLE 3. Optimal values of  $k$  for  $\alpha = 2, 1.7, 1.5, 1.3$

APPENDIX E. RESULTS OF COVARIATION AND BÊTA ESTIMATION ON 9 STOCKS  
CHOSEN FROM THE CAC40 INDEX

$\alpha$ -COVARIATIONS				
$[X_i, Y_m]_\alpha$	Values of marginal $\alpha$			
	$\alpha = 2.0$	$\alpha = 1.7$	$\alpha = 1.5$	$\alpha = 1.3$
$[\text{ACCOR}, \text{CAC40}]_\alpha$	0.033	<b>0.126</b>	0.306	0.782
$[\text{BANCAIRE}, \text{CAC40}]_\alpha$	0.041	<b>0.161</b>	0.402	1.026
$[\text{GEN.D.EAUX}, \text{CAC40}]_\alpha$	0.035	<b>0.134</b>	0.337	0.855
$[\text{THOM.CSF}, \text{CAC40}]_\alpha$	0.042	<b>0.157</b>	0.390	0.975
$[\text{HAVAS}, \text{CAC40}]_\alpha$	0.038	<b>0.140</b>	0.343	0.847
$[\text{CR.FONC}, \text{CAC40}]_\alpha$	0.033	<b>0.128</b>	0.307	0.789
$[\text{MICHELIN}, \text{CAC40}]_\alpha$	0.042	<b>0.159</b>	0.326	0.993
$[\text{LEGRAND}, \text{CAC40}]_\alpha$	0.026	<b>0.092</b>	0.238	0.634
$[\text{CARREFOUR}, \text{CAC40}]_\alpha$	0.034	<b>0.123</b>	0.293	0.750
$[\text{CAC40}, \text{CAC40}]_\alpha$	0.036	<b>0.128</b>	0.300	0.750

TABLE 4. Estimated values of  $\alpha$ -covariations. The units are  $10^{-3}$ .

"BETA" COEFFICIENTS				
Stocks	Values of marginal $\alpha$			
	$\alpha = 2.0$	$\alpha = 1.7$	$\alpha = 1.5$	$\alpha = 1.3$
ACCOR	0.91	<b>0.98</b>	1.02	1.04
BANCAIRE	1.14	<b>1.25</b>	1.34	1.37
GEN.D.EAUX	0.97	<b>1.05</b>	1.12	1.15
THOM.CSF	1.17	<b>1.23</b>	1.30	1.30
HAVAS	1.05	<b>1.09</b>	1.10	1.13
CR.FONC	0.92	<b>1.00</b>	1.02	1.05
MICHELIN	1.17	<b>1.24</b>	1.32	1.33
LEGRAND	0.72	<b>0.72</b>	0.79	0.85
CARREFOUR	0.94	<b>0.96</b>	0.99	1.00

TABLE 5. Estimated values of generalized "beta" coefficients

"BETA" COEFFICIENTS			
Stocks	$\hat{\beta}_{i1}$	$\hat{\beta}_{i2}$	$\frac{\hat{\beta}_{i1} - \hat{\beta}_{i2}}{\hat{\beta}_{i1}}$
ACCOR	0.91	0.88	3%
BANCAIRE	1.14	1.14	0%
GEN.D.EAUX	0.97	0.95	2%
THOM.CSF	1.17	1.18	0.8%
HAVAS	1.05	0.96	8%
CR.FONC	0.92	0.93	1%
MICHELIN	1.17	1.17	0%
LEGRAND	0.72	0.81	12%
CARREFOUR	0.94	0.83	11%

TABLE 6. Comparison between the two estimations of  $\beta$ .

## REFERENCES

- [Ara75] W.R. Arad. *The Implications of a Long-Tailed Distribution Structure to Selection and Capital Asset Pricing*. PhD thesis, Princeton University, January 1975.
- [Ast83] A. Astrauskas. Limit Theorems for Sums of Linearly Generated Random Variables. *Lithuanian Mathematical Journal*, 23:127–134, 1983.
- [Bal95] J. F. Bouchaud and *al.* Taming Large Events: Optimal Portfolio Theory For Strongly Fluctuating Assets. *Submitted to Mathematical Finance*, 1995.
- [BF73] M. Blume and I. Friend. A New Look at the Capital Asset Pricing Model. *Journal of Finance*, pages 283–299, May 1973.
- [Bla72] F. Black. Capital Market Equilibrium with Restricted Borrowing. *Journal of Business*, pages 444–455, July 1972.
- [BS71] R. Blattberg and T. Sargent. Regression with Non-Gaussian Stable Disturbances: Some Sampling results. *Econometrica*, 39(3), May 1971.
- [CR95] B. N. Cheng and S. T. Rachev. Multivariate Stable Futures Prices. *Mathematical Finance*, 5(2):133–153, 1995.
- [CW83] T.E. Copeland and J.F. Weston. *Financial Theory and Corporate Policy*. Addison & Wesley, New York, 1983.
- [Fal90] K. Falconer. *Fractal geometry*. Wiley, New York, 1990.
- [Fam65] E.F. Fama. The Behaviour of Stock Market Prices. *Journal of Business*, 38, January 1965.
- [Fam70] E. F. Fama. Risk, Return and Equilibrium. *Journal of Political Economy*, 78:30–50, 1970.
- [FM73] E.F. Fama and J. MacBeth. Risk, Return and Equilibrium: Empirical Test. *Journal of Political Economy*, May/June 1973.
- [GR95] B. Gamrowski and S. T. Rachev. A Testable Version of the Pareto-Stable CAPM. *To appear in Mathematical Finance*, 1995.
- [Kou80] I. A. Koutrouvelis. Regression type estimation of the parameters of stables laws. *J. Am. Statist. Assoc.*, 75:918–928, 1980.
- [Lin65] J. Lintner. The Valuation of Risk Assets and the Selection of Risky Investments in Stock Portfolios and Capital Budgets. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 47:13–37, February 1965.
- [LRS90] M.L. Lee, S. T. Rachev, and G. Samorodnitsky. Association of Stable Random Variables. *Ann. Prob.*, 18:1759–1764, 1990.
- [LT91] J.B. Levy and M.S. Taqqu. A Characterisation of the Asymptotic Behavior of Stationary Stable Processes. In G. Samorodnitsky S. Cambanis and M.S. Taqqu, editors, *Stable Processes and Related Topics*, volume 25 of *Progress in Probability*, pages 181–198, Boston, 1991. Birkhäuser.
- [Man63] B. Mandelbrot. New Methods in Statistical Economics. *Journal of Political Economy*, 56, 1963.
- [Mar59] H. Markowitz. *Portfolio Selection: Efficient Diversification of Investments*. John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1959.
- [Mil78] G. Miller. Properties of Certain Symmetric Stable Distributions. *Journal of Multivariate Analysis*, 8:346–360, 1978.

- [Mos66] J. Mossin. Equilibrium in Capital Asset Markets. *Econometrica*, 34:337–350, October 1966.
- [MR93] S. Mittnik and S. T. Rachev. Reply to Comments on Modelling Asset Returns with Alternative Stable Distributions and Some Extensions. *Econ. Rev.*, 12:347–390, 1993.
- [Oal93] R. B. Olsen and *al.* Fractals and Intrinsic Time - a Challenge to Econometricians. In *XXXIX th International Conference of the Applied Econometrics Association (AEA)*, Luxembourg, October 1993.
- [Pre72] S.J. Press. Multivariate Stable Distributions. *Journal of Multivariate Analysis*, 2:444–462, 1972.
- [RX93] S.T. Rachev and H. Xin. Test on Association of Random Variables in the Domain of Attraction of Multivariate Stable Law. *Prob. and Math. Stat.*, 14:125–141, 1993.
- [Sha63] W.F. Sharpe. A Simplified Model for Portfolio Analysis. *Management Science*, 10:277–293, January 1963.
- [Sha64] W.F. Sharpe. Capital Asset Prices : A Theory of Market Equilibrium under Conditions of Risk. *Journal of Finance*, 19:425–442, September 1964.
- [ST94] G. Samorodnitsky and M.S. Taqqu. *Stable Non-Gaussian Random Processes: Stochastic Models with Infinite Variance*. Chapman & Hall, New York, 1994.
- [Wal94] C. Walter. *Les Structures du Hasard en Economie: Efficience des Marchés, Lois Stables et Processus fractals*. PhD thesis, Institut d'études Politiques, Paris, 1994.
- [Wal95] C. Walter. Lévy-stability-under-addition and fractal structure of markets : Implications for the actuaries and emphasized examination of MATIF notional contract. In *Proceedings of the 5th AFIR colloquium*, volume 3, pages 1285–1330, Bruxelles, September 1995.
- [Wis66] J. Wise. Linear Estimates for Linear Regression Systems Having Infinite Residual Variance. *Unpublished report*, 1966.



---

Unité de recherche INRIA Lorraine, Technopôle de Nancy-Brabois, Campus scientifique,  
615 rue du Jardin Botanique, BP 101, 54600 VILLERS LÈS NANCY  
Unité de recherche INRIA Rennes, Irista, Campus universitaire de Beaulieu, 35042 RENNES Cedex  
Unité de recherche INRIA Rhône-Alpes, 46 avenue Félix Viallet, 38031 GRENOBLE Cedex 1  
Unité de recherche INRIA Rocquencourt, Domaine de Voluceau, Rocquencourt, BP 105, 78153 LE CHESNAY Cedex  
Unité de recherche INRIA Sophia-Antipolis, 2004 route des Lucioles, BP 93, 06902 SOPHIA-ANTIPOLIS Cedex

---

Éditeur

INRIA, Domaine de Voluceau, Rocquencourt, BP 105, 78153 LE CHESNAY Cedex (France)

ISSN 0249-6399