# Trader Contagion: Agent-based Stochastic Model of Markets

Name: Tsigemariam Assegid (UNI: tya2104)

November 27, 2023

## Overview

In this project, I implemented a parallel version of the agent based and stochastic model described in "Linking agent-based models and stochastic models of financial markets". The paper focuses on linking agent-based and stochastic models to understand financial market dynamics. The paper investigates the emergence of fat tails and long-term memory in financial returns, suggesting that these characteristics can be attributed to the collective behavior of market participants. It emphasizes the importance of agent heterogeneity and the interaction between different types of traders. The research demonstrates how agent-based models can provide valuable insights into complex market phenomena and supports the idea that market dynamics are deeply rooted in the actions and strategies of individual traders.

# Implementation

The agent based model simulates the actions of individual agents in a financial market, incorporating randomness(noise) to reflect real-world unpredictability.

The model calculates the probability of trading based on market velocity (V), differentiating between fundamental  $(V_f)$  and technical traders  $(V_c)$ . Fundamental traders are assumed to hold a majority of the shares 83%, basedonhistorical data from 1997 — 2006. Trading probability is derived from the velocities, with multiple choices for  $V_f$ , including the best-fit value of 0.4 used in the paper.

Agents decide whether to buy, sell, or hold based on the calculated trading probability. They are also distributed into opinion groups, with the number of groups determined by  $\omega$ . The model sets a logical minimum of one opinion group (where all agents share the same opinion) and a maximum equal to the number of agents. The diversity of opinions affects market dynamics, with a higher number of groups reducing herd behavior. At each timestep, the model updates based on agents' decisions

and market changes. This includes recalculating trading probabilities and adjusting agent behaviors according to new market conditions. The boundaries on returns is set according to the guidelines from Feng et al. 2012's Appendix 5.

In my implementation, I mainly focused on testing sensitivity of the model return's on the number of opinion groups to []. I simulated 10 runs for each  $\omega$  (11 different  $\omega$  values) listed on the paper. In each run, I used the following parameters:

· number of agents (n): 1024

· probability of trading (p): 0.2178

· steps: 1000

For each value of  $\omega$ , I collected key statistics: daily returns, daily trading volume, total trading volume. Based on the paper, I implemented hill estimator and linear regression model to understand the relationship between the returns and number of opinion group.

Hill estimator is used in the paper to primarily to assess the tail heaviness of a distribution. The Hill estimator provides a measure of the "tail thickness" of the distribution, with higher values indicating a "heavier" tail, which implies a higher risk of extreme price movements. Hill estimators are used in financial modeling to to evaluate the risk of extreme price movements. I implemented linear regression to to model the relationship between the omega parameter (representing the number of opinion groups) and the Hill estimator values of returns (representing market extremities) derived from market simulations. The linear regression model is fitted to these values and calculates and returns the slope, intercept, the coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ), and p-value, which indicate how much of the variability in the Hill estimator can be explained by omega.

After the simulations and analysis, the calculated p-value (0.00037123621) is less than 0.05 rejecting the null hypothesis and showing a significant relationship between the variables. A positive correlation is also observed between omega and the Hill exponent as shown in the paper. Higher omega values which means higher number of opinion groups therefore decreased probability of herd effect correlate with a steeper slope of the distribution. For instance, if all market participants converge into a single opinion group and consequently execute identical trading actions, it would lead to high fluctuation in return, reflecting extreme market movements

I also implemented the stochastic model detailed on the paper. It involved allocating agents across different time horizons, informed by their trading strategies and market behaviors. This model captures the randomness inherent in financial markets. Agents

are distributed based on an exponential decay function, which accounts for the diminishing influence of past market events over time.

# **Parallel Implementation**

I parallelized the simulations and analysis related to different omega values described in the section above. The sequential version took over 60s, I was able to get to around 6s in the parallel version.

Here are the threadscope results:



Figure 1: Sequential Simulation

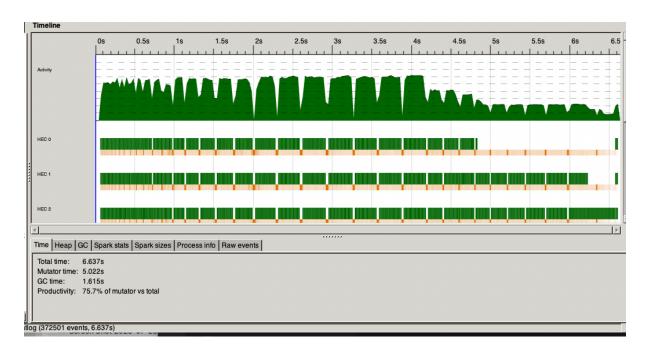


Figure 2: Parallel Simulation

## **Code Listing**

#### Main.hs

```
module Main (main) where

import Lib
import DifferentOmega
import ParallelDifferentOmega
import LinearRegression
main :: IO ()
main = diffomega
```

## AgentBased.hs

```
import System.Random.MWC ( create )
14 import System.Random.MWC.Distributions (normal)
import Control.Monad ( replicateM, replicateM_ )
16 import Control. Monad. State
      ( MonadState(put, state, get),
        MonadIO(liftIO),
        execStateT,
        runState,
        StateT )
22 import Statistics.Sample (mean, stdDev)
23 import Data.Vector (fromList)
24 import Graphics.Gnuplot.Simple ( plotList )
25 import Graphics.Gnuplot.Advanced ()
26 import Debug.Trace ()
28 -- Model data type
29 data Model = Model {
     n :: Integer,
      p :: Double,
      dailyReturn :: Double,
32
     tradingVolume :: Int,
     k :: Int,
     omega :: Double,
35
      dailyReturns :: [Double],
      ct :: Int,
      b :: Int,
      dailyTradingVolumes :: [Int]
40 } deriving (Show)
42 boxMuller :: (Double, Double) -> (Double, Double)
43 boxMuller (u1, u2) = (z0, z1)
    where
     r = sqrt (-2 * log u1)
     theta = 2 * pi * u2
      z0 = r * cos theta
      z1 = r * sin theta
50 -- Generate a normally distributed number
51 generateNormal :: RandomGen g => Double -> Double -> g -> (Double, g)
52 generateNormal mean stddev gen =
    let scale = sqrt stddev
        (u1, gen1) = randomR (0, 1) gen
        (u2, gen2) = randomR (0, 1) gen1
        (z0, _) = boxMuller (u1, u2)
    in (mean + z0 * scale, gen2)
57
```

```
59 -- Pure version of buySellHold with explicit random number generator
     state
60 buySellHoldPure :: RandomGen g => Double -> Int -> g -> ([Int], g)
 buySellHoldPure p amountTimes gen =
      let (diceRolls, gen1) = generateDiceRolls amountTimes gen
          (coinFlips, gen2) = generateCoinFlips amountTimes gen1
          indices = filter ((<= (2 * p)) . snd) $ zip [0..] diceRolls</pre>
          psis = zipWith (\(idx, _) coin -> (idx, if coin == 0 then 1
     else -1)) indices coinFlips
          result = foldr (\(idx, val) acc -> take idx acc ++ [val] ++
     drop (idx + 1) acc) (replicate amountTimes 0) psis
     in (result, gen2)
69 -- Helper function to generate a list of dice rolls
70 generateDiceRolls :: RandomGen g => Int -> g -> ([Double], g)
71 generateDiceRolls n = runState $ replicateM n (state $ uniformR (0.0,
     1.0))
73 -- Helper function to generate a list of coin flips
74 generateCoinFlips :: RandomGen g => Int -> g -> ([Int], g)
75 generateCoinFlips n = runState $ replicateM n (state $ randomR (0, 1))
77 -- buy_sell_hold function
78 buySellHold :: Double -> Int -> IO [Int]
79 buySellHold p amountTimes = do
      diceRolls <- replicateM amountTimes (randomRIO (0.0, 1.0))
      let indices = filter ((<= (2 * p)) . snd) $ zip [0..] diceRolls</pre>
      psis <- mapM (\(idx, _) -> do
                      coin <- randomRIO (0, 1 :: Int)</pre>
83
                      return (idx, if coin == 0 then 1 else -1)
                   ) indices
      return $ foldr (\(idx, val) acc -> take idx acc ++ [val] ++ drop (
     idx + 1) acc) (replicate amountTimes 0) psis
90 mean' :: Model -> Double
91 mean' model = (fromIntegral (n model) / abs (dailyReturn model)) ** (
     omega model)
93 pdistributeOpinionGroups :: RandomGen g => Model -> g -> (Int, g)
94 pdistributeOpinionGroups model gen
      | b model == 0 = (round $ mean' model, gen)
      | abs (dailyReturn model) >= fromIntegral (n model) = (1,gen)
      | otherwise =
97
        let mean = mean' model
```

```
bVal = b model
               (c, newGen) = generateNormal mean (fromIntegral bVal) gen
100
               d = max 1 (round c)
          in (min d (fromIntegral (n model)), newGen)
103
  distributeOpinionGroups :: Model -> IO Int
  distributeOpinionGroups model
       | b model == 0 = return $ round $ mean' model
       | abs (dailyReturn model) >= fromIntegral (n model) = return 1
       | otherwise = do
109
          let mean = mean' model
               stdDev = sqrt (mean * fromIntegral (b model))
               minValue = mean - stdDev
112
              maxValue = mean + stdDev
          g <- create
           c <- normal mean stdDev g
115
           -- liftIO $ putStrLn $ "c: " ++ show c ++ show mean ++ show
     stdDev
          let d = max 1 (round c)
117
          return $ min d (fromIntegral (n model))
118
120 applyBoundaries :: Double -> Double -> Double
121 applyBoundaries dailyReturn minReturn maxReturn =
      let sign = if dailyReturn < 0 then -1 else 1</pre>
      in sign * min maxReturn (max minReturn (abs dailyReturn))
125 pstep :: RandomGen g => Model -> g -> (Model, Int, g)
126 pstep model gen =
      let (c, gen1) = pdistributeOpinionGroups model gen
           (psis, gen2) = buySellHoldPure (p model) c gen1
           averageAgentsPerGroup = fromIntegral (n model) / fromIntegral c
          returnMatrix = map ((* averageAgentsPerGroup) . fromIntegral)
130
     psis
           -- Other calculations
131
          tradingVolume = round $ sum $ map abs returnMatrix
132
          dailyReturn ' = sum returnMatrix
133
          minimumReturn = fromIntegral (n model) ** ((omega model - 1) /
134
     omega model)
          dailyReturn', = applyBoundaries dailyReturn', minimumReturn (
135
      fromIntegral (n model))
          newModel = model { dailyReturn = dailyReturn',
136
                              dailyReturns = dailyReturns model ++ [
     dailyReturn''],
                              dailyTradingVolumes = dailyTradingVolumes
138
     model ++ [tradingVolume],
```

```
ct = ct model + 1 }
      in (newModel, ct model + 1, gen2)
140
142 step :: StateT Model IO Int
143 step = do
      model <- get
      c <- liftIO $ distributeOpinionGroups model</pre>
      psis <- liftIO $ buySellHold (p model) c</pre>
      let averageAgentsPerGroup = fromIntegral (n model) / fromIntegral
          returnMatrix = map ((* averageAgentsPerGroup) . fromIntegral)
148
     psis
      -- liftIO $ putStrLn $ "c: " ++ show c ++ ", avgAgentsPerGroup: "
     ++ show averageAgentsPerGroup ++ ", returnMatrix: " ++ show
     returnMatrix
      let
          tradingVolume = round $ sum $ map abs returnMatrix
          dailyReturn' = sum returnMatrix -- Should be Double now
152
          minimumReturn = fromIntegral (n model) ** ((omega model - 1) /
     omega model)
          dailyReturn', = applyBoundaries dailyReturn', minimumReturn (
154
     fromIntegral (n model))
      put model { dailyReturn = dailyReturn',
155
                  dailyReturns = dailyReturns model ++ [dailyReturn',],
156
                  dailyTradingVolumes = dailyTradingVolumes model ++ [
157
     tradingVolume],
                  ct = ct model + 1 }
158
      return $ ct model + 1
prunModel :: RandomGen g => Int -> Model -> g -> (Model, g)
prunModel 0 model gen = (model, gen)
163 prunModel t model gen =
      let (updatedModel, _, newgen) = pstep model gen
      in prunModel (t - 1) updatedModel newgen
runModel :: Int -> Model -> IO Model
runModel t model = execStateT (replicateM_ t step) model
standardScale :: [Double] -> [Double]
standardScale xs = map (\x -> (x - m) / s) absXs
    where
172
      absXs = map abs xs -- Take the absolute value of each element
173
      vXs = fromList absXs -- Convert the list to a Vector
      m = mean vXs -- Calculate the mean
      s = stdDev vXs -- Calculate the standard deviation
```

```
initializeModel :: Integer -> Double -> Double -> Int -> Int -> Model
  initializeModel nVal pVal omegaVal bVal kVal = Model {
          n = nVal,
          p = pVal,
181
           dailyReturn = 1.0,
182
           dailyReturns = [],
           dailyTradingVolumes = [],
           omega = omegaVal,
185
          b = bVal,
           k = kVal,
187
           tradingVolume = 0,
188
           ct = 0
           }
192 main :: IO ()
193 \text{ main} = do
194
      let initialmodel = Model {n = 1024, p = 0.02178, dailyReturn =
      1.0, dailyReturns = [], dailyTradingVolumes = [], omega = 1, b = 1,
     k = 1, tradingVolume = 0, ct = 0}
      gen <- newStdGen
196
      finalmodel1 <- runModel 20 initialmodel
      let (finalmodel, _) = prunModel 10000 initialmodel gen
198
           y = standardScale (dailyReturns finalmodel)
199
           y2 = standardScale (dailyReturns finalmodel1)
           points = zip ([1..] :: [Int]) y
      plotList [] points
```

#### ABMSimulations.hs

```
1 module ABMSimulation
      (
          runABM,
          prunABM
     ) where
6 import AgentBased
      ( Model(dailyTradingVolumes, dailyReturns),
       prunModel,
       runModel,
       initializeModel )
import Control.Monad (replicateM)
12 import System.Random (StdGen)
14 -- Function to run the ABM model for a given number of runs and time
     steps
15 runABM :: Integer -> Double -> Double -> Int -> Int -> Int -> Int -> IO
     ([[Double]], [[Int]])
```

```
16 runABM n p omega b k t runs = do
      results <- replicateM runs $ do
          let model = initializeModel n p omega b k -- Initialize the
     model
          finalModel <- runModel t model</pre>
                                                       -- Run the model
     for t steps
         let returns = dailyReturns finalModel
          let volumes = dailyTradingVolumes finalModel
          return (returns, volumes)
      let (returns, volumes) = unzip results
      return (returns, volumes)
27 prunABM :: Integer -> Double -> Double -> Int -> Int -> Int -> Int ->
     StdGen -> ([[Double]], [[Int]])
28 prunABM n p omega b k t runs gen =
      let results = replicate runs $
              let model = initializeModel n p omega b k -- Initialize
     the model
                  (finalModel, newGen) = prunModel t model gen -- Run
31
     the model for t steps
                  returns = dailyReturns finalModel
                  volumes = dailyTradingVolumes finalModel
33
              in (returns, volumes)
      in unzip results
37 -- Function to calculate probability of trading based on the market
     velocity of fundamental and chartist traders
38 probabilityOfTrading :: Double -> Double -> Double
39 probabilityOfTrading vf v = vc / (250 * 2)
   where
     vc = (v - 0.83 * vf) / (1 - 0.83)
```

#### Sequential version of the different omega simulations

```
module DifferentOmega (diffomega) where
import ABMSimulation ( runABM )

import Control.Monad
import Data.List
import HillEstimator
import qualified Data.Map as Map
import LinearRegression

diffomega :: IO ()
diffomega = do
let omega_list = [0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 2.0]
```

```
results <- forM omega_list $ \omega -> do
          runABM 1024 0.02178 omega 1 1 1000 10
13
      let (normalized_return, normalized_voulme) = processResults results
          hill_estimator_returns = applyHillEstimator 1 normalized_return
          mean_return = init $ meanReturns hill_estimator_returns
          (slope, intercept, r2, tStats, pVal) = regAnalysis omega_list
     mean_return
      print(slope, intercept,r2, pVal)
      return()
19
21 applyHillEstimator:: Double -> [[[Double]]] -> [[[Double]]]
22 applyHillEstimator t d = map (map (x \rightarrow [hillEstimator t x])) d
24 normalise :: [Double] -> [Double]
25 normalise xs = map (\xspace x -> abs (x - mean) / stdDev) xs
    where
      mean = sum xs / fromIntegral (length xs)
      stdDev = sqrt $ sum (map (\x -> (x - mean) ** 2) xs) / fromIntegral
      (length xs)
processResults :: [([[Double]], [[Int]])] -> ([[[Double]]], [[[Double
     ]]])
processResults results = (absNormalizedReturns, abmNormalisedVolumes)
      absNormalizedReturns = map (map normalise . fst) results
      abmNormalisedVolumes = map (map (normalise . map fromIntegral) .
     snd) results
36 meanReturns :: [[[Double]]] -> [Double]
37 meanReturns = map (mean . concat)
      where
      mean xs = sum xs / fromIntegral (length xs)
```

#### Parallel Version

```
let omega_list = [0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.5,
      2.01
      gens <- replicateM (length omega_list) newStdGen -- Generate a
     list of random number generators
      let results = zipWith (\omega gen -> prunABM 1024 0.02178 omega 1 1
      10000 10 gen) omega_list gens
                           'using' parList rdeepseq
16
      let (normalized_return, normalized_voulme) = processResults results
          hill_estimator_returns = applyHillEstimator 1 normalized_return
          mean_return = init $ meanReturns hill_estimator_returns
19
          (slope, intercept, r2, tStats, pVal) = regAnalysis omega_list
20
     mean_return
      print(slope, intercept, r2, pVal)
      return()
22
24 applyHillEstimator :: Double -> [[[Double]]] -> [[[Double]]]
applyHillEstimator t = map (parMap rdeepseq (\x -> [hillEstimator t x])
     )
28 normalise :: [Double] -> [Double]
29 normalise xs = map (x \rightarrow abs (x - mean) / stdDev) xs
    where
30
      mean = sum xs / fromIntegral (length xs)
31
      stdDev = sqrt  sum (map (\x -> (x - mean) ** 2) xs) / fromIntegral
      (length xs)
processResults :: [([[Double]], [[Int]])] -> ([[[Double]]], [[[Double]]]
     ]]])
processResults results = runEval $ do
      absNormalizedReturns <- rdeepseq (map normalise . fst) results
     )
      abmNormalisedVolumes <- rdeepseq (map (map (normalise . map
     fromIntegral) . snd) results)
      return (absNormalizedReturns, abmNormalisedVolumes)
40 meanReturns :: [[[Double]]] -> [Double]
41 meanReturns = map (mean . concat)
      where
      mean xs = sum xs / fromIntegral (length xs)
```

### Linear Regression Model

```
1 {-# OPTIONS_GHC -Wno-identities #-}
2 module LinearRegression(regAnalysis)where
3 import Statistics.LinearRegression ( linearRegressionRSqr )
4 import Numeric.LinearAlgebra
```

```
( Transposable(tr),
        fromList,
        (><),
        inv,
        <>>),
        toList,
10
        takeDiag,
        Linear(scale) )
import Statistics.Distribution ( Distribution(complCumulative) )
import Statistics.Distribution.StudentT ( studentT )
16 -- Fit the linear model and calculate statistical measures
17 regAnalysis :: [Double] -> [Double] -> (Double, Double, Double, [Double
     ], [Double])
18 regAnalysis omega returns = (slope, intercept, r2, tStats, pVals)
      xVec = fromList omega
      yVec = fromList returns
21
      (intercept, slope, r2) = linearRegressionRSqr xVec yVec
      predictions = map (predict (intercept, slope)) omega
23
      sse = sum $ zipWith (\x y -> (x - y) ** 2) predictions returns
24
      sampleSize = length omega
      numPredictors = 1.0
      mse = sse / (fromIntegral sampleSize - numPredictors - 1.0)
      ones = replicate (length omega) 1
      xMatrix = (length omega >< 2) (ones ++ omega)</pre>
29
      covarianceMatrix = scale mse $ inv (tr xMatrix Numeric.
     LinearAlgebra.<> xMatrix)
      se = toList $ sqrt $ takeDiag covarianceMatrix
      tStats = [slope / head se]
      pVals = map (\t -> 2 * complCumulative (studentT (fromIntegral
     sampleSize - numPredictors - 1)) (abs t)) tStats
predict :: (Double, Double) -> Double -> Double
36 predict (intercept, slope) x = intercept + slope * x
```

#### Hill Estimator

```
module HillEstimator(hillEstimator)where
import Numeric.LinearAlgebra ()
import Data.List ( sort )

hillEstimator :: Double -> [Double] -> Double
hillEstimator tailPercentage dataList = alphaEst
where
sortedData = sort dataList
n = fromIntegral $ length sortedData
```

```
k = round $ (tailPercentage * n) / 100
logXNMinusK = log $ sortedData !! (round n - k - 1)
logXNMinusJPlus1 = map log $ take k $ reverse sortedData
alphaEst = fromIntegral k / sum (map (\x -> x - logXNMinusK)
logXNMinusJPlus1)

normalise :: [Double] -> [Double]
normalise array = normalized
where
mean = sum array / fromIntegral (length array)
stdDev = sqrt $ sum (map (\x -> (x - mean) ** 2) array) /
fromIntegral (length array)
normalized = map (\x -> abs (x - mean) / stdDev) array
```

#### Stochastic Model

```
1 module Stochastic
    (
         StochasticModel(..)
          , runModel
          , initialize Stochastic Model
     ) where
9 import System.Random.MWC
10 import System.Random.MWC.Distributions (normal)
11 data StochasticModel = StochasticModel {
    n :: Integer,
    p :: Double,
     initial :: Double,
    returns :: [Double],
     time_horizon :: Bool,
     d :: Double,
     m :: Int
19 } deriving (Show)
21 initializeStochasticModel :: Integer -> Double -> Double -> Bool ->
     Double -> Int -> StochasticModel
_{22} initializeStochasticModel nVal pVal initialVal timeHorizonVal dVal mVal
      = StochasticModel {
     n = nVal,
     p = pVal,
     initial = initialVal,
     returns = [initialVal],
     time_horizon = timeHorizonVal,
27
     d = dVal,
    m = mVal
```

```
30 }
32 -- Function to calculate time horizons
33 timeHorizons :: StochasticModel -> Double
34 timeHorizons model = sum timeHorizonsList / sum alphaList
    where
      returnsList = returns model
      mValue = m model
     dValue = d model
     timeHorizonsList = [ fromIntegral i ** (-dValue) * absReturn i | i
     <- [1..mValue] ]
     alphaList = [ fromIntegral i ** (-dValue) | i <- [1..mValue] ]</pre>
      absReturn i
        length returnsList == 1 = abs (head returnsList)
        | i >= length returnsList = abs (head returnsList - last
     returnsList)
        | otherwise = abs (last returnsList - (returnsList !! (length
     returnsList - i)))
46 -- Function to perform a step
47 step :: StochasticModel -> IO StochasticModel
48 step model = do
      g <- createSystemRandom
      normalVal <- normal 0.0 1.0 g
      -- liftIO $ putStrLn $ show normalVal
     let variance = if time_horizon model
52
                     then 2 * p model * fromIntegral (n model) *
     timeHorizons model
                     else 2 * p model * fromIntegral (n model) * abs (
    last (returns model))
     let std = sqrt variance
     let value = std * normalVal
     let newReturns = returns model ++ [value]
      return model { returns = newReturns }
60 runModel :: (Eq t, Num t) => t -> StochasticModel -> IO StochasticModel
61 runModel = iterateM
    where
      iterateM 0 m = return m
      iterateM n m = step m >>= \newModel -> iterateM (n-1) newModel
```

#### Stochastic Simulations

```
module StochasticSimulation
(
where
```

```
import Stochastic

( StochasticModel(returns), initializeStochasticModel, runModel )

import Control.Monad (replicateM, forM_)

-- Function to run the stochastic model for a given number of runs and time steps

runStochasticModel :: Integer -> Double -> Double -> Bool -> Double -> Int -> Int -> Int -> I0 [[Double]]

runStochasticModel n p init timeHorizon d m t runs = do

results <- replicateM runs $ do

let model = initializeStochasticModel n p init timeHorizon d m

finalModel <- runModel t model

return (returns finalModel)

return results</pre>
```

## References

- 1. Feng, L., Li, B., Podobnik, B., Preis, T., Stanley, H. E. (2012). Linking agent-based models and stochastic models of financial markets. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, 109(22), 8388–8393. http://www.jstor.org/stable/41602564
- 2. Hill, B.M. (1975) A simple general approach to inference about the tail of a distribution. Annals of Statistics. 13, 331-341