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# **DIVERSIFICATION BENEFITS UNDER MULTIVARIATE SECOND ORDER REGULAR VARIATION**

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# Diversification benefits under multivariate second order regular variation

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## ABSTRACT

We analyze risk diversification in a portfolio of heavy-tailed risk factors under the assumption of second order multivariate regular variation. Asymptotic limits for a measure of diversification benefit are obtained when considering, for instance, the *value-at-risk*. The asymptotic limits are computed in a few examples exhibiting a variety of different assumptions made on marginal or joint distributions. This study ties up existing related results available in the literature under a broader umbrella.

*AMS 2000 subject classifications:* 60G70, 60E05, 62E20, 62P05, 91B30

*Keywords:* asymptotic theory, diversification benefit, heavy tail, risk concentration, second order regular variation, value-at-risk..

## 1. Introduction

An important issue in risk management is assessing the effects of adding an investment to a portfolio of risk factors (time series of returns) and understanding how this aggregate risk relates to the individual risk factors. Broadly studied under the labels of *risk concentration* or *risk diversification*, the past couple of decades have seen tremendous developments in the understanding of this topic. Our interest is in a portfolio of risk factors that are heavy-tailed, where adequate care is necessary to study the aggregation of the risk factors; see [Dacorogna et al. \(2015\)](#), [Embrechts et al. \(2002\)](#), [Ibragimov et al. \(2011\)](#), [Puccetti and Rüschendorf \(2013\)](#) for detailed discussions on diversification, especially under heavy-tailed returns.

In this paper, we consider the particular risk measure *value-at-risk*. Recall that for a random variable (risk factor)  $X$  with distribution function  $F$ , the value-at-risk at level  $0 < \beta < 1$  is defined as

$$\text{VaR}_\beta(X) := \inf\{y \in \mathbb{R} : \mathbb{P}(X \leq y) \geq \beta\} = F^{\leftarrow}(\beta).$$

Consider a portfolio of risk factors  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_d)$ . We assume for this paper that  $X_1, \dots, X_d$  are identically distributed (homogeneous) non-negative random variables with a common continuous distribution function. The behavior of the sum

$$S_d = X_1 + \dots + X_d$$

and its value-at risk  $\text{VaR}_\beta(S_d)$  have been studied under various assumptions, either on the marginal distribution  $F$  (where  $X_1 \sim F$ ) or on the dependence structure of  $\mathbf{X}$ . If  $X_1, \dots, X_d$  are independent and identically distributed (iid) with a regularly varying tail distribution with tail parameter  $\alpha$ , that is,  $\bar{F} = 1 - F \in \mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha}$  (see [Section 1.1](#) for details) then it is well-known that  $\text{VaR}(S_d)$  is asymptotically sub-additive or super-additive according as  $\alpha > 1$  or  $\alpha < 1$  (see [Degen et al. \(2010\)](#), [Embrechts et al. \(2009\)](#)) and an accurate estimation for high threshold has been proposed in [Kratz \(2014\)](#). Since an assumption of regular variation provides only a first order approximation, researchers have studied second order behaviors of  $\text{VaR}_\beta(S_d)$  under a second order regular variation assumption on  $\bar{F}$ ; see [Degen et al. \(2010\)](#), [Mao and Hu \(2013\)](#). Furthermore, there has been a series of studies on the asymptotic behavior of the tail of  $S_d$  and  $\text{VaR}_\beta(S_d)$  under specific copula assumptions on the dependence structure of  $\mathbf{X}$ ; see [Albrecher et al. \(2010\)](#), [Alink et al. \(2004\)](#), [Barbe et al. \(2006\)](#), [Kortschak \(2012\)](#), [Sun and Li \(2010\)](#); or by providing risk bounds under assumptions on marginal densities, see [Peng et al. \(2013\)](#), [Puccetti and Rüschendorf \(2013\)](#).

In this paper we work under the assumption that  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_d)$  is multivariate second order regularly varying. This assumption encompasses examples of independent, asymptotically independent, as well as dependent risk factors and brings together a variety of marginal and dependence assumptions on the joint distribution of  $F$  under one broad umbrella. The structure of the paper is as follows. In [Section 1.1](#) we briefly collate notations to be used in the paper. The various notions of regular variation both first order and second order as well as univariate and multivariate are described and discussed in [Section 1.2](#). In [Section 2](#) we discuss risk aggregation under multivariate second order regular variation. The main results of risk diversification for value-at-risk are discussed in [Section 3](#). Some examples to illustrate our results are given in [Section 4](#). We provide conclusions and future directions in [Section 5](#). The appendix in [Section 6](#) recalls, for completeness, results from [Resnick \(2002\)](#) that characterize second order regular variation in terms of vague convergence of signed measures, and which are used in our results.

## 1.1. Notations

A brief summary of some notation and concepts used in this paper are provided here. We use bold letters to denote vectors, with capital letters for random vectors and small letters for non-random vectors, e.g.,  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . We also define  $\mathbf{0} = (0, 0)$  and  $\infty = (\infty, \infty)$ . Vector operations are always understood component-wise, e.g., for vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$ ,  $\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{y}$  means  $x_i \leq y_i$  for all  $i$ . For a constant  $k \in \mathbb{R}$  and a set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ , we denote by  $kA := \{k\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{x} \in A\}$ . Some additional notation follows with explanations that are amplified in subsequent sections. Detailed discussions are in the references.

$\mathbb{E}^*$	A compactified version of a nice subset of the finite-dimensional Euclidean space, often denoted $\mathbb{E}$ with different subscripts and superscripts, as required. For example, we often denote $\mathbb{E} = [0, \infty]^d \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$ and $\mathbb{E}_0 = (0, \infty]^d$ .
$\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{E}^*)$	The Borel $\sigma$ -field of the subspace $\mathbb{E}^*$ .
$\mathfrak{N}$	The set $\{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{E} : \ \mathbf{x}\  = 1\}$ , where $\ \cdot\ $ denotes the Euclidean norm in $\mathbb{R}^d$ .
$\mathbb{M}_+(\mathbb{E}^*)$	The class of Radon measures on Borel subsets of $\mathbb{E}^*$ .
$\xrightarrow{v}$	vague convergence of measures, often on $\mathbb{M}_+(\mathbb{E}^*)$ ; see <a href="#">Resnick (2007)</a> .
$f^\leftarrow$	The left-continuous inverse of a monotone function $f$ . For a non-decreasing function $f$ , we have $f^\leftarrow(x) = \inf\{y : f(y) \geq x\}$ . For a non-increasing function $g$ , we have $g^\leftarrow(x) = \inf\{y : g(y) \leq x\}$ .
$\mathcal{RV}_\rho$	The class of regularly varying functions with index $\rho \in \mathbb{R}$ , that is, functions $f : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ satisfying $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} f(tx)/f(t) = x^\rho$ , for $x > 0$ ; see <a href="#">Bingham et al. (1989)</a> , <a href="#">de Haan (1970)</a> , <a href="#">de Haan and Ferreira (2006)</a> , <a href="#">Resnick (2008)</a> .

## 1.2. Preliminaries

Regular variation often forms the basis for studying heavy-tailed distributions. In this section we recall definitions and properties of regular variation and second order regular variation in both univariate and multivariate case ([Bingham et al., 1989](#), [de Haan, 1970](#), [de Haan and Ferreira, 2006](#), [Resnick, 2002, 2008](#)). Definition 1.5 for *multivariate second order regular variation* forms the key assumption of our models for this paper. We also define the related concept of *hidden regular variation* in Definition 1.6, which may be used to generate models possessing multivariate second order regular variation as seen in Example 4.3.

Recall that a function  $f : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is regularly varying (at  $\infty$ ) with parameter  $\rho \in \mathbb{R}$  if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} f(tx)/f(t) = x^\rho$$

for any  $x > 0$ . We write  $f \in \mathcal{RV}_\rho$ .

### 1.2.1. Regular variation in one-dimension

A large class of heavy-tailed distributions belonging to the maximum domain of attraction of the Fréchet distribution corresponds to the paradigm of regular variation of the tail of the distribution.

**Definition 1.1** (Regular variation, [Bingham et al. \(1989\)](#)). A random variable  $X$  with distribution function  $F$  has regularly varying (right) tail with index  $\alpha \geq 0$  if  $\bar{F} = 1 - F \in \mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha}$ . Alternatively, we say that there exists a function  $b : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  with  $b(t) \uparrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  such that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} t \mathbb{P}[X > b(t)x] = x^{-\alpha}. \quad (1.1)$$

In terms of vague convergence we can think of convergence in the space  $(0, \infty]$ , where

$$\frac{\mathbb{P}[t^{-1}X \in \cdot]}{\mathbb{P}[X > t]} \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow \infty]{v} \mu_\alpha(\cdot)$$

with  $\mu_\alpha(dx) = \alpha x^{-\alpha-1}dx$ . We write  $\bar{F} \in \mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha}$  or, by abuse of notation,  $X \in \mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha}$ .

A consequence of the definition is that  $b \in \mathcal{RV}_{1/\alpha}$  and a natural choice is  $b(t) = (1/F)^\leftarrow(t)$ . For example, Pareto, Fréchet, Stable or Burr distribution with parameter  $\alpha$  have  $\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha}$  tail distributions (see e.g. [Embrechts et al. \(1997\)](#)).

Furthermore, often some distributions with regularly varying tails have a second order property that is not captured by the scaling in the definition of regular variation. The Pareto-Lomax distribution is one such example, analyzed below. The following definition provides one approach to studying such distributions.

**Definition 1.2** (Second order regular variation; [de Haan and Resnick \(1993\)](#), [Resnick \(2002\)](#), §3). A random variable  $X$  with distribution function  $F$  such that  $\bar{F} \in \mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha}$  with  $\alpha \geq 0$ , possesses second order regular variation with parameter  $\rho \leq 0$  if there exist functions  $b(\cdot) \in \mathcal{RV}_{1/\alpha}$  and  $A(t) \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow \infty]{} 0$  that is ultimately of constant sign,  $|A(\cdot)| \in \mathcal{RV}_\rho$  with  $\rho \leq 0$  and  $c \neq 0$  such that

$$\frac{t\bar{F}(b(t)x) - x^{-\alpha}}{A(b(t))} \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow \infty]{} cx^{-\alpha} \frac{x^\rho - 1}{\rho} =: H(x). \quad (1.2)$$

The right hand side of (1.2) is interpreted as  $H(x) = c \log(x)$  when  $\rho = 0$ . We write  $\bar{F} \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, \rho}(b, A, H)$  or, by abuse of notation,  $X \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, \rho}(b, A, H)$ . The arguments in the brackets are often dropped for simplicity.

**Remark 1.3.** An equivalent representation of second order regular variation is the following:  $\bar{F} \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, \rho}(A, H)$  if there exists an ultimately positive or negative function  $A$  with  $A(t) \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow \infty]{} 0$  such that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{\bar{F}(tx) - x^{-\alpha}}{\bar{F}(t)} - x^{-\alpha}}{A(t)} = cx^{-\alpha} \frac{x^\rho - 1}{\rho} =: H(x)$$

for some constant  $c \neq 0$  and parameters  $\alpha > 0, \rho \in \mathbb{R}$ . The parameters  $\alpha, \rho$  of course remain the same in both definitions. With a choice of  $b(t) = (1/\bar{F})^\leftarrow(t)$ , the functions  $A$  and  $H$  also coincide.

**Example 1.1.** Consider the Pareto-Lomax distribution function for  $\alpha > 0$  given by  $\bar{F}(x) = (1+x)^{-\alpha}, x > 0$ . Choosing  $b(t) = (1/F)^\leftarrow(t) = t^{1/\alpha} - 1$  and  $A(t) = (1+t)^{-1}$ , we obtain

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t\bar{F}(b(t)x) - x^{-\alpha}}{A(b(t))} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t(1 + (t^{1/\alpha} - 1)x)^{-\alpha} - x^{-\alpha}}{(1+t)^{-1}} = -\alpha x^{-\alpha}(x^{-1} - 1) =: H(x).$$

Hence  $\bar{F} \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, -1}(b, A, H)$ .

### 1.2.2. Regular variation in multiple dimensions

Multivariate regular variation facilitates the study of jointly heavy-tailed random variables and is a natural extension to Definition 1.1. The following definitions explain multivariate regular variation as well as second order regular variation for joint tail distributions of random variables. The notion of vague convergence of measures is used for convergence of measures on the non-negative Euclidean orthant  $\mathbb{R}_+^d$  and its subsets; see Resnick (2007) for further details.

**Definition 1.4** (Multivariate regular variation, Resnick (2007)). *Suppose  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_d)$  is a random vector in a cone  $[0, \infty)^d$ . Then  $\mathbf{X}$  is multivariate regularly varying with limit measure  $\nu$ , if there exist  $b(t) \uparrow \infty$  and a Radon measure  $\nu \neq 0$  such that, on  $\mathbb{E} = [0, \infty]^d \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$ ,*

$$t \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}}{b(t)} \in \cdot \right) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} \nu(\cdot) \quad \text{on } \mathbb{M}_+(\mathbb{E}). \quad (1.3)$$

We write  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha}(b)$ .

It is easy to check that  $\nu(\cdot)$  is homogeneous in the sense that, for  $\alpha \geq 0$  and relatively compact  $A \subset \mathbb{E}$ ,

$$\nu(cA) = c^{-\alpha} \nu(A), \quad c > 0. \quad (1.4)$$

We can also check that  $b(\cdot) \in \mathcal{RV}_{1/\alpha}$ .

**Definition 1.5** (Second order multivariate regular variation, Resnick (2002)). *Suppose  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha}(b)$  and there exists  $A(t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$  that is ultimately of constant sign with  $|A(\cdot)| \in \mathcal{RV}_\rho$ ,  $\rho \leq 0$ , such that*

$$\frac{t \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}}{b(t)} \in [\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{x}]^c \right) - \nu([\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{x}]^c)}{A(b(t))} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} H(\mathbf{x}) \quad (1.5)$$

*locally uniformly in  $\mathbf{x} \in (0, \infty]^d \setminus \{\infty\}$ , where  $H(\mathbf{x})$  is a function that is non-zero and finite. Then  $\mathbf{X}$  is second order regularly varying with parameters  $\alpha \geq 0$  and  $\rho \leq 0$ . We write  $\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha, \rho}(b, A, \nu, H)$ ; some or all of the parameters may be omitted according to the context.*

Observe that putting  $d = 1$  in Definitions 1.4 and 1.5 gives us back the univariate versions Definitions 1.1 and 1.2. In order to use (1.5) in terms of vague convergence of signed measures, we impose further conditions on the distribution  $F$  of  $\mathbf{X}$  as aptly noted in (Resnick, 2002, Section 4). Appropriate conditions, used in this paper to obtain the results, are described in Assumptions 1 and 2 in the Appendix (Section 6).

The connection between second order regular variation and *hidden regular variation* has been discussed in detail in Resnick (2002). Recall that a  $d$ -dimensional non-negative random vector  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha}(b, \nu)$  possesses *asymptotic independence* if  $\nu((0, \infty]^d) = 0$ , meaning that, the limit measure  $\nu$  concentrates only on the coordinate axes. In the presence of such a phenomenon of asymptotic independence, *hidden regular variation*, as described below, is sometimes observed.

**Definition 1.6.** A random vector  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}_+^d$  has hidden regular variation if  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha}(b)$  and there exist a function  $b_0$  and a limit measure  $\nu_0 \neq 0$  on  $\mathbb{E}_0 = (0, \infty]^d$ , such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} b(t)/b_0(t) = \infty$  and for  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{E}_0)$ ,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} t \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}}{b_0(t)} \in A \right) = \nu_0(A).$$

Many models with hidden regular variation also happen to exhibit second order regular variation; specifically we can look at additive models and mixture models; for further details see [Das and Resnick \(2015\)](#), [Weller and Cooley \(2014\)](#). Example 4.3 in Section 4 is created in this way.

## 2. Aggregation under multivariate second order regular variation

In order to aggregate multiple risks factors (with the same marginal distribution or at least equivalent tail order), multivariate regular variation helps in providing justification for sub- or super-additivity; see [Degen and Embrechts \(2011\)](#), [Embrechts et al. \(2009\)](#). We observe here that further structure and intuition can be provided by assuming second order regular variation. The key idea in this section is to relate second order regular variation of the multivariate kind with the same of the univariate kind. This eventually helps us in evaluating risk measures for sums of homogeneous random factors with different dependence structures.

Aggregation of risk under multivariate regular variation is relatively straightforward to check. For example, assuming that  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha}(b)$  with identical marginals  $X_i \sim F$ , then, using the definition, we can check that, if  $S_d := \sum_{i=1}^d X_i \sim F_{S_d}$  for  $d \geq 2$ , then  $F_{S_d} \in \mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha}$  with the same function  $b(\cdot)$  as in the Definition 1.4. Moreover,  $b(\cdot)$  need not be asymptotically equivalent to  $(1/F_{S_d})^{\leftarrow}(\cdot)$ . The following proposition extends this implication to the case where  $\mathbf{X}$  possesses second order regular variation.

**Proposition 2.1.** Assume  $\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha, \rho}(b, A, \nu, H)$  with functions  $b(t) \uparrow \infty$  and  $A(t) \rightarrow 0$ , as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , so that Condition (1.5) holds in terms of vague convergence of signed measures, under either Assumption 1 or Assumption 2 (see Appendix). Then

$$S_d \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, \rho}(b_d, A_d, H_d), \text{ where}$$

$$\begin{cases} b_d(t) & := (\nu(\Gamma_d))^{1/\alpha} b(t), \\ A_d(t) & := A((\nu(\Gamma_d))^{-1/\alpha} t), \\ H_d(x) & := \chi(x(\nu(\Gamma_d))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_d) = c_d x^{-\alpha \frac{x^\rho - 1}{\rho}}, \quad \text{with } c_d = \frac{\rho^{2\alpha}}{2^\rho - 1} \chi(2(\nu(\Gamma_d))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_d), \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

where  $\chi$  is defined as  $\chi([\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{x}]^c) = H(\mathbf{x})$ , and

$$\Gamma_d := \{z \in \mathbb{R}_+^d : z_1 + z_2 + \dots + z_d > 1\}. \quad (2.2)$$

By construction we have  $A_d(b_d(t)) = A(b(t))$ . We also extend the notation for  $\Gamma_d$  in (2.2) defined for  $d \geq 2$  to the case where  $d = 1$  as

$$\Gamma_1 := \{z \in \mathbb{R}_+^d : z_1 > 1\}.$$



**Remark 2.2.**

- (i) Assuming  $\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha,\rho}(b, A, \nu, H)$  along with either Assumption 1 or Assumption 2, implies that  $\chi(k\Gamma_d) \neq 0$  for some  $k > 0$  and hence the constant  $c_d$  is non-zero. Nevertheless, we can construct examples where  $c_d = 0$ , yet  $\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha,\rho}(b, A, \nu, H)$  holds; see Example 2.2. Both Assumptions 1 and 2 require that the marginal distributions are identical, which is violated in Example 2.2.
- (ii) Note that although  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha}$  does mean that at least one of the marginal distributions is  $\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha}$ , such an implication is not necessarily true for a  $2\mathcal{MRV}$  condition. Assuming  $\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha,\rho}$  does not necessarily imply that one of the components is  $2\mathcal{RV}$ . For instance, if the components of  $\mathbf{X}$  are all iid  $F$  that is Pareto( $\alpha$ )-type 1, meaning  $F(x) = 1 - x^{-\alpha}$ ,  $x > 1$  and  $\alpha > 0$ , then  $\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha}$ , although none of the margins are  $2\mathcal{RV}$ .
- (iii) The reverse implication of Proposition 2.1, properly worded, would say that, if any convex combination of  $\mathbf{X}$  is  $2\mathcal{RV}$  then  $\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}$ . We conjecture that such a result would require further conditions on the random variables to hold. See Basrak et al. (2002) for the conditions that allows this to happen for regularly varying random vectors (not necessarily  $2\mathcal{RV}$  or  $2\mathcal{MRV}$ ), and also Boman and Lindskog (2009), Hult and Lindskog (2006) for further investigation.

**Proof of Proposition 2.1.** Since  $\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha,\rho}(b, A, \nu, H)$  and either Assumption 1 or Assumption 2 holds (this also ensures identical marginals), we have

$$\mu_t^\pm \xrightarrow{v} \chi^\pm, \quad \text{on } \mathbb{E},$$

where, for  $t > 0$ ,  $\mu_t^+, \mu_t^-, \chi^+, \chi^-$  are positive Radon measures with  $\mu_t = \mu_t^+ - \mu_t^-$  and  $\chi = \chi^+ - \chi^-$ ,  $\chi : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  for a Borel subset  $A \subset [0, \infty)^d \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$  defined by  $\chi([\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{x}]^c) = H(\mathbf{x})$  and  $\mu_t$  defined in (6.7). Hence we have

$$\mu_t(\Lambda_d) = \frac{t \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{\mathbf{X}}{b(t)} \in \Lambda_d\right) - \nu(\Lambda_d)}{A(b(t))} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} \chi(\Lambda_d) \quad (2.3)$$

for any relatively compact  $\Lambda_d \subset \mathbb{E}$ . Define  $b_d(t) = (\nu(\Gamma_d))^{1/\alpha} b(t)$ . Then, for  $x > 0$ ,

$$t \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{S_d}{b_d(t)} > x\right) = t \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{\mathbf{X}}{b(t)} \in x(\nu(\Gamma_d))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_d\right) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} \nu\left(x(\nu(\Gamma_d))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_d\right) = x^{-\alpha}$$

using (1.4). Now, let  $A_d(t) = A((\nu(\Gamma_d))^{-1/\alpha} t)$  for  $t > 0$ . Then by applying (2.3), we get for  $x > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{t \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{S_d}{b_d(t)} > x\right) - x^{-\alpha}}{A_d(b_d(t))} &= \frac{t \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{\mathbf{X}}{b(t)} \in x(\nu(\Gamma_d))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_d\right) - \nu(x(\nu(\Gamma_d))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_d)}{A(b(t))} \\ &= \mu_t(x(\nu(\Gamma_d))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_d) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} \chi(x(\nu(\Gamma_d))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_d). \end{aligned}$$

Defining  $H_d(x) := \chi(x(\nu(\Gamma_d))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_d)$ , we know that  $H_d$  is not identically zero by the assumption  $\chi(k\Gamma_d) \neq 0$  for some  $k > 0$ . Hence using Remark 1.3 and Theorem 2.3.9 in de Haan and Ferreira (2006), we can represent  $H_d$  as follows: for  $x > 0$ ,

$$H_d(x) = c_d x^{-\alpha} \frac{x^\rho - 1}{\rho}, \quad \text{where } c_d = \frac{\rho 2^\alpha}{2^\rho - 1} \chi(2(\nu(\Gamma_d))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_d) \left( = \frac{\rho 2^\alpha}{2^\rho - 1} H_d(2) \right).$$

Hence  $S_d \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha,\rho}(b_d, A_d, H_d)$ , as claimed.  $\square$

## 2.1. Examples of different degeneracies under second order regular variation

In this section we provide examples of a couple of degeneracies that come up while trying to connect second order regular variation in the multivariate and the univariate case. Suppose  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are iid  $2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, \rho}$ . Then using (Mao and Hu, 2013, Theorem 3.1, 3.2), we know that the sum  $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, \rho}$ . But can we say  $\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}$ ? This may not always be true as we see in the following example.

**Example 2.1.** Suppose  $X_1, X_2$  are iid random variables with distribution function  $F$  such that

$$\bar{F}(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^{-\alpha}(1+x^\rho), \quad x \geq 1,$$

where  $\alpha > 0, \rho < 0$ . This family of distributions belongs to the Hall-Welsh class of heavy-tailed distributions. For any  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\rho < 0$ , it is immediate that  $X_1 \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, \rho}(b, A)$  where  $b(t) = t^{1/\alpha}$  and  $A(t) = t^\rho$ . Take a set of the form  $[0, (x_1, x_2)]^c$  for  $x_1 > 0, x_2 > 0$  and observe that

$$t \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}}{t^{1/\alpha}} \in [0, (x_1, x_2)]^c \right) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{x_1^\alpha} + \frac{1}{x_2^\alpha} \right) =: \nu([0, (x_1, x_2)]^c).$$

At the second level

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{t \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}}{t^{1/\alpha}} \in [0, (x_1, x_2)]^c \right) - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{x_1^\alpha} + \frac{1}{x_2^\alpha} \right)}{t^{\rho/\alpha}} \\ &= \frac{t \mathbb{P}(X_1 > t^{1/\alpha} x_1) + t \mathbb{P}(X_2 > t^{1/\alpha} x_2) - t \mathbb{P}(X_1 > t^{1/\alpha} x_1, X_2 > t^{1/\alpha} x_2) - x_1^{-\alpha}/2 - x_2^{-\alpha}/2}{t^{\rho/\alpha}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(x_1^{-\alpha+\rho} + x_2^{-\alpha+\rho}) - \frac{t^{-1-\rho/\alpha}}{4} x_1^{-\alpha} x_2^{-\alpha} (1 + t^{\rho/\alpha} x_1^\rho)(1 + t^{\rho/\alpha} x_2^\rho) = H^*(x_1, x_2, t). \quad (\text{say}) \quad (2.4) \end{aligned}$$

Now, we have

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} H^*(x_1, x_2, t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}(x_1^{-\alpha+\rho} + x_2^{-\alpha+\rho}) & \text{if } \rho + \alpha > 0, \\ \frac{1}{2}(x_1^{-2\alpha} + x_2^{-2\alpha}) - \frac{1}{4}x_1^{-\alpha}x_2^{-\alpha} & \text{if } \rho + \alpha = 0, \\ -\infty & \text{if } \rho + \alpha < 0. \end{cases}$$

We can check that no other choice of  $A(\cdot)$  (up to equivalent tail behavior) would provide a finite limit for (2.4) as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Hence we have  $\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha, \rho}$  iff  $\alpha + \rho \geq 0$ . Thus for any choice of  $\rho$  such that  $\alpha + \rho < 0$ ,  $X_1 \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, \rho}$ , but  $\mathbf{X}$  is not  $2\mathcal{MRV}$ .

In the next example, we have independent (but not identically distributed) random variables  $X_1, X_2$ , where the marginal distributions are both  $2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, \rho}$ , and the joint distribution is also  $2\mathcal{MRV}$ , yet, we cannot use Proposition 2.1.

**Example 2.2.** Let  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, X_2) = B(Z_1, 0) + (1 - B)(0, Z_2)$ , where  $B \sim \text{Bernoulli}(1/2)$  and independent of  $Z_1, Z_2$ , which are independent random variables with distribution functions  $F_1, F_2$  respectively, such that, for  $x \geq 1$ ,

$$\bar{F}_1(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^{-2}(1+x^{-1}) \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{F}_2(x) = x^{-2}\left(1 - \frac{1}{2}x^{-1} + \frac{1}{2}x^{-2}\right).$$

Note that we created a random vector whose realizations are all on the two axes (there is no interior point). We can check that both  $X_1, X_2 \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-2,-1}(b, A)$  where  $b(t) = t^{1/2}$  and  $A(t) = t^{-1}$ . Take a set of the form  $[0, (x_1, x_2)]^c$  for  $x_1 > 0, x_2 > 0$  and observe that, as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$t \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}}{t^{1/2}} \in [0, (x_1, x_2)]^c \right) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{4x_1^2} + \frac{1}{2x_2^2} =: \nu([0, (x_1, x_2)]^c).$$

At the second level,

$$\frac{t \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}}{t^{1/2}} \in [0, (x_1, x_2)]^c \right) - \left( \frac{1}{4x_1^2} + \frac{1}{2x_2^2} \right)}{t^{-1/2}} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{4} (x_1^{-3} - x_2^{-3}) =: H(x_1, x_2) = \chi([0, (x_1, x_2)]^c).$$

Since the random vectors lie only on the axes, we have  $\mathbb{P}(X_1 + X_2 > x) = \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X} \in [0, (x, x)]^c)$ , and we can check that for any  $x > 0$ ,

$$\frac{t \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}}{t^{1/2}} \in x\Gamma_2 \right) - \frac{3}{4x^2}}{t^{-1/2}} = \frac{t \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{X_1 + X_2}{t^{1/2}} > x \right) - \frac{3}{4x^2}}{t^{-1/2}} = \frac{t \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}}{t^{1/2}} \in [0, (x, x)]^c \right) - \frac{3}{4x^2}}{t^{-1/2}} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^{-3} - x^{-3}}{4} = 0 = \chi(x\Gamma_2).$$

Hence we can conclude that  $c_2 = 0$  (as defined in (2.1)). Thus Proposition 2.1 cannot be used.

### 3. Diversification index

#### 3.1. Risk measures and diversification

In risk management, evaluating diversification benefits properly is key for both insurance and investments. Indices have been introduced to quantify and compare the diversification of portfolios, such as the closely related notions of *diversification benefit* defined by Bürgi et al. (2008) as

$$1 - \frac{\tilde{\rho}(\sum_{i=1}^d X_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^d \tilde{\rho}(X_i)}, \quad \text{with } \tilde{\rho}(\cdot) := \rho(\cdot) - \mathbb{E}(\cdot),$$

and the associated *diversification index* defined by Tasche (2008) as,

$$D_\rho(\mathbf{X}) = \frac{\rho(\sum_{i=1}^d X_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^d \rho(X_i)} \quad (3.1)$$

for  $d$  risks  $(X_i, i = 1, \dots, d)$ ,  $\rho$  denoting the associated risk measure. This index  $D_\rho(\mathbf{X})$  is also referred to as a measure of risk concentration by some authors. Neither index is a so-called universal risk measure and they depend on the choice of the associated risk measure  $\rho$  and on the number  $d$  of the underlying risks in the portfolio (see e.g. Emmer et al. (2015)). As indicated earlier, in this paper we restrict to the popular risk measure *value-at-risk* (VaR) as the choice for  $\rho$  and obtain asymptotic results for the diversification index. For notational convenience, we define the associated quantity  $Q_{1-\beta}(X)$  for  $0 < \beta < 1$  for a random variable  $X$  with distribution  $F$  as

$$Q_{1-\beta}(X) = \text{VaR}_\beta(X) := \overline{F}^{\leftarrow}(1 - \beta) = \inf\{x \in \mathbb{R} : \mathbb{P}(X > x) \leq 1 - \beta\}.$$

The diversification index associated with VaR under different assumptions on the marginal distributions and dependence structure, as well as its asymptotic limits can be found in the literature

(see e.g. [Bürge et al. \(2008\)](#), [Dacorogna et al. \(2015\)](#), [Degen et al. \(2010\)](#), [Embrechts et al. \(1997\)](#)). We denote the diversification index  $D_{\text{VaR}_\beta}$  as  $D_\beta$  to emphasize the role of  $\beta$  in the calculation of the index. The following result was obtained under the assumption of independence and identical distribution of the marginal  $X_i$ 's.

**Lemma 3.1** (cf. Example 3.1, [Embrechts et al. \(2009\)](#)). *Assume  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are iid with distribution function  $F$  where  $\bar{F} \in \mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha}$  with  $\alpha > 0$ . Let  $S_d := \sum_{i=1}^d X_i$ . Then*

$$\lim_{\beta \uparrow 1} D_\beta(\mathbf{X}) = \lim_{\beta \uparrow 1} \frac{\text{VaR}_\beta(S_d)}{d \text{VaR}_\beta(X_1)} = \lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{Q_\gamma(S_d)}{d Q_\gamma(X_1)} = d^{1/\alpha-1}. \quad (3.2)$$

The rate of convergence for the limit in (3.2) can be obtained by using an additional assumption of second order regular variation; see [Albrecher et al. \(2010\)](#), [Degen et al. \(2010\)](#), [Mao and Hu \(2013\)](#), [Omey and Willekens \(1986\)](#). Some studies relax the condition of independence of marginals and obtain limits as in (3.2) as well as rates of convergence; for instance [Hua and Joe \(2011\)](#) work under a scale-mixture dependence with second order regularly varying marginal distributions, [Kortschak \(2012\)](#) works under an assumption of asymptotic independence, and [Tong et al. \(2012\)](#) assume an Archimedean copula as the dependence structure. In this paper, we consider an alternative approach assuming that the random vector is multivariate regularly varying ( $\mathcal{MRV}$ ) as well as it possesses second order regular variation ( $2\mathcal{MRV}$ ) in order to obtain the rate of convergence. To the best of our knowledge, this approach has not been looked at and forms a broad class containing examples with regularly varying margins (both possessing  $2\mathcal{RV}$  and not possessing  $2\mathcal{RV}$ ) as well as different families of dependence structures.

### 3.2. Main Result

The following result provides the rate of convergence for the diversification index  $D_\rho(\mathbf{X})$  when taking VaR as a risk measure for a random vector  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_d)$  that exhibits second order regular variation. Note that even if  $\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}$ , the marginal random variables  $X_i$  need not to be  $2\mathcal{RV}$ . We assume that the marginals are identically distributed although not necessarily independent.

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha, \rho}(b, A, \nu, H)$  with functions  $b(t) \uparrow \infty$  and  $A(t) \rightarrow 0$ , as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Assume either Assumption 1 or Assumption 2 holds. From Proposition 2.1, we have  $S_d = \sum_{i=1}^d X_i \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, \rho}(b_d, A_d, H_d)$  with  $b_d, A_d$  and  $H_d$  as defined in (2.1). Then, for  $d \geq 2$ ,*

$$\lim_{\beta \uparrow 1} D_\beta(\mathbf{X}) = \lim_{\beta \uparrow 1} \frac{\text{VaR}_\beta(S_d)}{\sum_{i=1}^d \text{VaR}_\beta(X_i)} = \lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{Q_\gamma(S_d)}{d Q_\gamma(X_1)} = K_d \quad \text{where} \quad K_d := \frac{1}{d} \left( \frac{\nu(\Gamma_d)}{\nu(\Gamma_1)} \right)^{1/\alpha}$$

with  $\Gamma_d$  defined in (2.2), for any  $d \geq 1$ . Moreover, if

$$|\chi(2(\nu(\Gamma_d))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_d)| < \infty, \quad \forall d \geq 1, \quad \text{and} \quad |\chi(2(\nu(\Gamma_d))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_d)| \neq |\chi(2(\nu(\Gamma_1))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_1)|, \quad \forall d \geq 2, \quad (3.3)$$

then we have, for any  $x > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{D_{1-\gamma x}(\mathbf{X}) - K_d}{A(b(1/\gamma))} = \lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{\frac{Q_{\gamma x}(S_d)}{d Q_{\gamma x}(X_1)} - K_d}{A(b(1/\gamma))} = C \frac{K_d}{\alpha \rho} (x^{-\rho/\alpha} - 1), \quad (3.4)$$

for a constant  $C \neq 0$  that is identified, for  $d \geq 2$ , as

$$C = \begin{cases} c_d - c_1 & \text{if } X_1 \sim 2RV \\ c_d (\neq 0) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

with  $c_d$  and  $c_1$  defined in (2.1).

**Remark 3.3.**

- (i) Note that if  $|\chi(2(\nu(\Gamma_d))^{1/\alpha}\Gamma_d)| = \infty$ , the question about the limiting rate of convergence above remains open.
- (ii) Even if  $c_d \neq 0$  and  $c_1 \neq 0$ , it is possible that  $C = c_d - c_1 = 0$ ; we have not found any example of this type.

In order to prove Theorem 3.2, we need the following result that is a direct application of a lemma from Vervaat (see Vervaat (1971)).

**Lemma 3.4.** For any positive random variable  $X \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, \rho}(b, A)$ , we have

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{b(1/\gamma)} Q_{\gamma x}(X) - x^{-1/\alpha}}{A(b(1/\gamma))} = \frac{c_1}{\alpha \rho} x^{-1/\alpha} (x^{-\rho/\alpha} - 1) =: H_1^*(x)$$

with  $0 < c_1 < \infty$  defined in (2.1).

**Example 3.1.** The following example is an application of Lemma 3.4. Suppose  $X \sim F$ , where  $\bar{F}(x) = 1 - F(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x^{-\alpha} + x^{-2\alpha})$ . Hence, for  $0 < p < 1$ ,  $\bar{F}^{\leftarrow}(p) = 2^{1/\alpha}(\sqrt{1+8p} - 1)^{-1/\alpha}$ . With  $b(t) = \bar{F}^{\leftarrow}(1/t)$  we have, for  $x > 0$ ,

$$t\bar{F}(b(t)x) = \frac{t}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( \sqrt{1 + \frac{8}{t}} - 1 \right) x^{-\alpha} + \frac{1}{4} \left( \sqrt{1 + \frac{8}{t}} - 1 \right)^2 x^{-2\alpha} \right] = x^{-\alpha} \left( 1 + \frac{2}{t}(x^{-\alpha} - 1) + o(t^{-1}) \right) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} x^{-\alpha}.$$

Moreover, taking  $A(t) = t^{-\alpha}$ , we have  $A(b(t)) = \frac{2}{t} [1 - \frac{2}{t} + o(1/t)]$ , from which we deduce that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t\bar{F}(b(t)x) - x^{-\alpha}}{A(b(t))} = x^{-\alpha}(x^{-\alpha} - 1) =: H(x).$$

Hence,  $X \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, -\alpha}(b, A, H)$  with  $c = -\alpha$  as defined in (1.2). Applying Lemma 3.4, we have

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{b(1/\gamma)} Q_{\gamma x}(X) - x^{-1/\alpha}}{A(b(1/\gamma))} = \frac{1}{\alpha} x^{-1/\alpha} (x - 1),$$

which can also be directly verified. Note that  $Q_{\gamma x}(X) = \text{VaR}_{1-\gamma x}(X) = b(1/(\gamma x))$ .

**Proof of Lemma 3.4.** The proof is an application of Vervaat's Lemma that we recall here for the sake of completeness.

**Vervaat's Lemma** (see [Vervaat \(1971\)](#)). Suppose  $y$  is a continuous function on  $[0, \infty)$  and  $\{z_t(x)\}_{t \geq 0}$  is a family of non-negative, non-increasing functions. Also assume that the function  $g$  has a negative continuous derivative. Let  $\delta(t) \rightarrow 0$  with  $\delta(t) > 0$  eventually and

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{z_t(x) - g(x)}{\delta(t)} = y(x)$$

locally uniformly on  $(0, \infty)$ . Then, locally uniformly on  $(g(0), g(\infty))$ ,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{z_t^{\leftarrow}(x) - g^{\leftarrow}(x)}{\delta(t)} = -(g^{\leftarrow})'(x) y(g^{\leftarrow}(x)).$$

Let  $\gamma = 1/t$ , so that  $\gamma \downarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Applying Vervaat's Lemma with  $z_t(x) = t \mathbb{P}[X > xb(t)] = t \bar{F}_X(xb(t))$ ,  $g(x) = x^{-\alpha}$ ,  $\delta(t) = A(b(t))$  and  $y(x) = H_1(x)$  given in (2.1), we obtain:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{z_t^{\leftarrow}(x) - g^{\leftarrow}(x)}{\delta(t)} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{b(t)} \bar{F}_X^{\leftarrow}(x/t) - x^{-1/\alpha}}{A(b(t))} = \lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{b(1/\gamma)} Q_{\gamma x}(X) - x^{-1/\alpha}}{A(b(1/\gamma))},$$

hence the result given in Lemma 3.4.  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 3.2.** Since  $\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha, \rho}(b, A, \nu, H)$ , and  $X_i$ 's are identically distributed, if  $X_i \sim F$  then  $\bar{F} \in \mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha}$ . Proposition 2.1 (with the same notations) provides that  $S_d$  is  $2RV_{-\alpha, \rho}(b_d, A_d, H_d)$  such that, for  $x > 0$ ,  $\frac{t \mathbb{P}[S_d > b_d(t)x] - x^{-\alpha}}{A_d(b_d(t))} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} H_d(x)$ . Applying Lemma 3.4 for  $S_d$  gives then

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{b_d(1/\gamma)} Q_{\gamma x}(S_d) - x^{-1/\alpha}}{A_d(b_d(1/\gamma))} = \frac{c_d}{\alpha \rho} x^{-1/\alpha} (x^{-\rho/\alpha} - 1) =: H_d^*(x), \quad \text{with } 0 < c_d < \infty. \quad (3.5)$$

First of all, since  $\bar{F} \in \mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha}$ , introducing the notation  $b_1$  when looking at any  $X_i$ , we can write

$$\lim_{\beta \uparrow 1} D_{\beta}(\mathbf{X}) = \lim_{\beta \uparrow 1} \frac{\text{VaR}_{\beta}(S_d)}{\sum_{i=1}^d \text{VaR}_{\beta}(X_i)} = \lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{Q_{\gamma}(S_d)}{d Q_{\gamma}(X)} = \lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{d} \times \frac{Q_{\gamma}(S_d)}{b_d(1/\gamma)} \times \frac{b_1(1/\gamma)}{Q_{\gamma}(X_1)} \times \frac{b_d(1/\gamma)}{b_1(1/\gamma)} = \frac{1}{d} \left( \frac{\nu(\Gamma_d)}{\nu(\Gamma_1)} \right)^{1/\alpha} = K_d.$$

Now, to assess the second order property, observe that for any  $x > 0$ ,

$$\frac{D_{1-\gamma x}(\mathbf{X}) - K_d}{A(b(1/\gamma))} = \frac{\frac{Q_{\gamma x}(S_d)}{d Q_{\gamma x}(X)} - K_d}{A(b(1/\gamma))} = I(x, \gamma) - II(x, \gamma)$$

where

$$I(x, \gamma) = K_d \frac{b_1(1/\gamma)}{Q_{\gamma x}(X_1)} \frac{\left[ \frac{Q_{\gamma x}(S_d)}{b_d(1/\gamma)} - x^{-1/\alpha} \right]}{A(b(1/\gamma))}$$

and

$$II(x, \gamma) = \begin{cases} K_d \times \frac{b_1(1/\gamma)}{Q_{\gamma x}(X_1)} \times \frac{\left[ \frac{Q_{\gamma x}(X_1)}{b_1(1/\gamma)} - x^{-1/\alpha} \right]}{A(b(1/\gamma))} & \text{if } X_1 \sim 2RV \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Indeed, if  $X_1$  is 2RV, then we have  $\frac{t \mathbb{P}(X_1 > b_1(t)x) - x^{-\alpha}}{A_1(b_1(t))} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} H_1(x) := c_1 x^{-\alpha} \frac{x^\rho - 1}{\rho}$  with  $c_1 = \frac{\rho 2^\alpha H_1(2)}{2^\rho - 1}$  and  $H_1(2) = \chi(2(\nu(\Gamma_1))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_1)$ . Moreover  $b_1(t) = (\nu(\Gamma_1))^{1/\alpha} b(t)$ ,  $A_1(t) = A((\nu(\Gamma_1))^{-1/\alpha} t)$ , and, by construction,

$$A(b(t)) = A_d(b_d(t)) = A_1(b_1(t)). \quad (3.6)$$

Note that we also used the fact that  $dK_d = b_d(t)/b_1(t)$  (for any  $t > 0$ ), when writing the expression

$$\text{of the ratio } \frac{D_{1-\gamma x}(\mathbf{X}) - K_d}{A(b(1/\gamma))} = \frac{\frac{Q_{\gamma x}(S_d)}{dQ_{\gamma x}(X)} - K_d}{A(b(1/\gamma))}.$$

Now, we obtain via (3.5), that

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 1} I(x, \gamma) = K_d \cdot x^{1/\alpha} \cdot H_d^*(x) = K_d \frac{c_d}{\alpha \rho} (x^{-\rho/\alpha} - 1).$$

Similarly, when  $X_1$  is 2RV, applying Lemma 3.4 for  $X_1$  gives

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{b_1(1/\gamma)} Q_{\gamma x}(X_1) - x^{-1/\alpha}}{A_1(b_1(1/\gamma))} = \frac{c_1}{\alpha \rho} x^{-1/\alpha} (x^{-\rho/\alpha} - 1) =: H_1^*(x), \quad \text{with } 0 < c_1 < \infty.$$

from which we deduce that

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 1} II(x, \gamma) = K_d \cdot x^{1/\alpha} \cdot H_1^*(x) = K_d \frac{c_1}{\alpha \rho} (x^{-\rho/\alpha} - 1).$$

Hence (3.4) holds and the theorem is proved.  $\square$

In the subsequent section we provide examples for both cases where  $C = c_d$  and when  $C = c_d - c_1$ . Note that proportional growth rate of  $D_{1-\gamma}(X)$  can be deduced immediately from Theorem 3.2 providing the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.5.** *Under the conditions of Theorem 3.2, we have, for any  $x > 0, y > 0$ ,*

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{D_{1-\gamma x}(\mathbf{X}) - D_{1-\gamma}(\mathbf{X})}{D_{1-\gamma y}(\mathbf{X}) - D_{1-\gamma}(\mathbf{X})} = \frac{x^{-\rho/\alpha} - 1}{y^{-\rho/\alpha} - 1}.$$

Under the assumption that we can statistically estimate  $D_\beta$  at moderately high values of  $\beta$ , Corollary 3.5 may provide a way to extrapolate values of  $D_\beta$  to extreme levels of  $\beta$ . For instance, let  $\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha, \rho}$  and suppose our data allows us to compute estimates of the diversification index for VaR at 90% and 95% which is given by  $\hat{D}_{0.90}(\mathbf{X})$  and  $\hat{D}_{0.95}(\mathbf{X})$ , then for any  $p \gg 0.95$  (with  $0 < p < 1$ ), we can use Corollary 3.5 to estimate  $D_p(\mathbf{X})$  as

$$\hat{D}_p(\mathbf{X}) = \hat{D}_{0.90}(\mathbf{X}) + \left( \frac{\left( \frac{1-p}{0.1} \right)^{-\rho/\alpha} - 1}{(0.5)^{-\rho/\alpha} - 1} \right) \left[ \hat{D}_{0.95}(\mathbf{X}) - \hat{D}_{0.90}(\mathbf{X}) \right].$$

## 4. Examples

In this section we apply Theorem 3.2 in different examples possessing  $2\mathcal{MRV}$  to compute the asymptotic limit for the diversification index  $D_\beta$ ; our examples are carried out in dimension  $d = 2$  for convenience.

In both Examples 4.1 and 4.2, the dependence structure is given by a survival Clayton copula that exhibits asymptotic dependence, hence the conditions of Assumption 1 hold. Example 4.1 additionally possesses  $2\mathcal{RV}$  across the marginal distributions, whereas Example 4.2 does not. In Example 4.3, we discuss a general class of distributions possessing *hidden regular variation* that exhibits asymptotic independence and Assumption 2 is satisfied.

**Example 4.1** (Pareto-Lomax marginal distribution with survival Clayton copula).

Suppose  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, X_2) \sim F$  with identical  $(\alpha, 1)$ -Pareto-Lomax marginal distributions, with  $\alpha > 1$ , s.t.

$$\bar{F}_1(x) = \bar{F}_2(x) = (1 + x)^{-\alpha}, \quad \forall x > 0,$$

and that the dependence structure of  $\mathbf{X}$  is given by a survival Clayton copula on  $[0, 1]^2$ , with parameter  $\theta > 0$ :

$$\mathbb{P}[X_1 > x_1, X_2 > x_2] = \left[ (\bar{F}_1(x_1))^\theta + (\bar{F}_2(x_2))^\theta - 1 \right]^{-1/\theta} = \left[ (1 + x_1)^{\alpha\theta} + (1 + x_2)^{\alpha\theta} - 1 \right]^{-1/\theta}. \quad (4.1)$$

**STEP 1:** It has been already shown in Example 1.1 that  $X_1 \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, -1}(b, A_1, H)$  with  $b(t) = t^{1/\alpha} - 1$ ,  $A_1(t) = (t + 1)^{-1}$ ,  $H(x) = -\alpha x^{-\alpha}(x^{-1} - 1)$ , and  $c = c_1 = \alpha$ . Applying Lemma 3.4 provides

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{\frac{\text{VaR}_{1-\gamma x}(X_1)}{(1/\gamma)^{1/\alpha} - 1} - x^{-1/\alpha}}{\gamma^{1/\alpha}} = \lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{\frac{Q_{\gamma x}(X_1)}{(1/\gamma)^{1/\alpha} - 1} - x^{-1/\alpha}}{\gamma^{1/\alpha}} = x^{-1/\alpha} - 1.$$

**STEP 2:** Now we verify that  $\mathbf{X}$  is  $2\mathcal{MRV}$  and identify the right parameters. We have

$$t \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}}{b(t)} \in ([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2])^c \right) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} x_1^{-\alpha} + x_2^{-\alpha} - \left( x_1^{\alpha\theta} + x_2^{\alpha\theta} \right)^{-1/\theta} =: \nu \left( ([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2])^c \right). \quad (4.2)$$

Choosing  $A(t) = -(t + 1)^{-\min(\alpha\theta, 1)}$ , we have

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}}{b(t)} \in ([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2])^c \right) - \nu \left( ([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2])^c \right)}{A(b(t))} = H(x_1, x_2), \quad \text{with}$$

$$H(x_1, x_2) := \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\theta} (x_1^{\alpha\theta} + x_2^{\alpha\theta})^{-1 - \frac{1}{\theta}} & \text{if } \theta < 1/\alpha \\ \alpha \left[ (x_1 + x_2)^{-(\alpha+1)} (x_1 + x_2 - 1) - x_1^{-(\alpha+1)} (x_1 - 1) - x_2^{-(\alpha+1)} (x_2 - 1) \right] & \text{if } \theta = 1/\alpha \\ \alpha \left[ (x_1^{\alpha\theta} + x_2^{\alpha\theta})^{-1 - \frac{1}{\theta}} \left[ x_1^{\alpha\theta-1} (x_1 - 1) + x_2^{\alpha\theta-1} (x_2 - 1) \right] \right. \\ \quad \left. - x_1^{-(\alpha+1)} (x_1 - 1) - x_2^{-(\alpha+1)} (x_2 - 1) \right] & \text{if } \theta > 1/\alpha \end{cases} \quad (4.3)$$



from which we deduce that

$$\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha,-1}(b, A, \nu, H) \text{ with } \begin{cases} b(t) = t^{1/\alpha} - 1 \\ A(t) = -(t+1)^{-\min(\alpha\theta, 1)} \\ \nu \text{ defined in (4.2)} \\ H \text{ defined in (4.3)}. \end{cases} \quad (4.4)$$

For the next steps, we compute the density function  $f$  of the distribution function  $F$ , as well as the density function  $\lambda$  of the limit measure  $\nu$ , and obtain:

$$f(x_1, x_2) = \alpha^2(1+\theta)(1+x_1)^{\alpha\theta-1}(1+x_2)^{\alpha\theta-1} \left( (1+x_1)^{\alpha\theta} + (1+x_2)^{\alpha\theta} - 1 \right)^{-\frac{1}{\theta}-2} \quad (4.5)$$

and

$$\lambda(x_1, x_2) = \alpha^2(1+\theta)x_1^{\alpha\theta-1}x_2^{\alpha\theta-1} \left( x_1^{\alpha\theta} + x_2^{\alpha\theta} \right)^{-\frac{1}{\theta}-2}. \quad (4.6)$$

**STEP 3:** We check that Assumption 1 holds. This boils down to verifying conditions (6.4)-(6.6). We do this for the case  $\alpha\theta = 1$ , the alternative case ( $\alpha\theta \neq 1$ ) is analogous but is skipped for this part. Hence (4.5) and (4.6) simplify to

$$f(x_1, x_2) = \alpha(\alpha+1)(1+x_1+x_2)^{-(\alpha+2)} \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda(x_1, x_2) = \alpha(\alpha+1)(x_1+x_2)^{-(\alpha+2)}. \quad (4.7)$$

We have, for any  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{E}$ ,

$$\frac{f(t\mathbf{x})}{t^{-2}\bar{F}_1(t)} - \lambda(\mathbf{x}) = \lambda(\mathbf{x})t^{-1} \left( \alpha - \frac{2+\alpha}{x_1+x_2} \right) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

Therefore, (6.4) holds and from the form of  $\frac{f(t\mathbf{x})}{t^{-2}\bar{F}_1(t)} - \lambda(\mathbf{x})$ , it is clearly bounded if  $\lambda(\mathbf{x})$  is, which is true for  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathfrak{N}$ . Thus uniform convergence also holds. Conditions (6.5) and (6.6) can also be checked in the exact same way.

**STEP 4:** Now, since the conditions are satisfied, applying Proposition 2.1 gives us:

$$S_2 = X_1 + X_2 \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha,-1}(b_2, A_2)$$

with  $b_2(t) = (\nu(\Gamma_2))^{1/\alpha}b(t)$  and  $A_2(t) = A((\nu(\Gamma_2))^{-1/\alpha}t)$ . Using Definition 1.2 of 2RV with (2.1), we may then conclude that

$$\frac{t\mathbb{P}[S_2/b_2(t) > x] - x^{-\alpha}}{A_2(b_2(t))} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} H_2(x) = c_2 x^{-\alpha}(1-x^{-1})$$

where  $c_2 = 2^{\alpha+1}H_2(2) = 2^{\alpha+1}\chi(2(\nu(\Gamma_2))^{1/\alpha}\Gamma_2)$ .

**STEP 5:** The result on risk concentration follows by applying Theorem 3.2 (see (3.4)). For any  $x > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{D_{1-\gamma x}(\mathbf{X}) - K_2}{A_2(b_2(1/\gamma))} = \frac{1}{\alpha}(c_1 - c_2)K_2(x^{1/\alpha} - 1), \quad (4.8)$$

$A_2$  and  $b_2$  being defined in Step 4. We have seen in Step 1 that  $c_1 = \alpha$ . The quantities  $K_2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\nu(\Gamma_2)}{\nu(\Gamma_1)} \right)^{1/\alpha}$  and  $c_2$  can be computed with varying degrees of effort depending on the values of  $\alpha$  and  $\theta$ . We show this in the next step.

**STEP 6(A):  $\alpha\theta = 1$**  First compute  $\nu(\Gamma_2)$ , using (4.7), as

$$\nu(\Gamma_2) = \int_{\Gamma_2} \lambda(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2 = \alpha(\alpha + 1) \int_{\Gamma_2} (x_1 + x_2)^{-(\alpha+2)} dx_1 dx_2 = \alpha + 1.$$

Differentiating  $H$  given in (4.3) w.r.t. the 2 variables, we obtain the density  $h$  given by

$$h(x_1, x_2) := \alpha^2(\alpha + 1)(x_1 + x_2)^{-(\alpha+2)} - \alpha(\alpha + 1)(\alpha + 2)(x_1 + x_2)^{-(\alpha+3)}, \quad (4.9)$$

and can compute  $\chi(\cdot)$ , setting  $k = 2(\nu(\Gamma_2))^{1/\alpha} = 2(1 + \alpha)^{1/\alpha}$ , as

$$\chi(k\Gamma_2) = \int_{x_1+x_2>k} h(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2 = \alpha 2^{-\alpha} \left[ 1 - \frac{\alpha + 2}{2(\alpha + 1)^{1+1/\alpha}} \right].$$

We deduce that  $c_2 = \alpha \left( 2 - (\alpha + 2)(\alpha + 1)^{-(1+\frac{1}{\alpha})} \right)$ . Moreover we have  $K_2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\nu(\Gamma_2)}{\nu(\Gamma_1)} \right)^{1/\alpha} = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \alpha)^{1/\alpha}$ , hence (4.8) becomes, for any  $x > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{D_{1-\gamma x}(\mathbf{X}) - K_2}{A_2(b_2(1/\gamma))} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{\alpha + 2}{\alpha + 1} - (\alpha + 1)^{1/\alpha} \right] (x^{1/\alpha} - 1).$$

Now noting that  $A_2(b_2(1/\gamma)) = -\gamma^{1/\alpha}$ , we have via (3.4),

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{\gamma^{1/\alpha}} \left[ \frac{\text{VaR}_{1-\gamma x}(S_2)}{\text{VaR}_{1-\gamma x}(X_1)} - (1 + \alpha)^{1/\alpha} \right] = \left[ (\alpha + 1)^{1/\alpha} - \frac{\alpha + 2}{\alpha + 1} \right] (x^{1/\alpha} - 1).$$

**STEP 6(B):  $\alpha\theta \neq 1$**  First we compute  $\nu(\Gamma_2)$  using (4.6):

$$\nu(\Gamma_2) = \int_{\Gamma_2} \lambda(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2 = \alpha^2(1 + \theta) \int_{\Gamma_2} x_1^{\alpha\theta-1} x_2^{\alpha\theta-1} \left( x_1^{\alpha\theta} + x_2^{\alpha\theta} \right)^{-\frac{1}{\theta}-2} dx_1 dx_2.$$

This quantity can be easily numerically evaluated for specific values of  $\alpha$  and  $\theta$ , for instance using Mathematica. Next we compute  $\chi(k\Gamma_2)$  from which we can deduce  $c_2 = 2^{\alpha+1} \chi(2(\nu(\Gamma_2))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_2)$ . For instance, considering the case  $\alpha\theta < 1$  in (4.3), and differentiating  $H$  w.r.t. the 2 variables, we obtain the density  $h$  given by

$$h(x_1, x_2) := \alpha^2(\theta + 1)(2 + 1/\theta) x_1^{-2\alpha\theta-1-\alpha} x_2^{\alpha\theta-1} \left( 1 + (x_2/x_1)^{\alpha\theta} \right)^{-3-1/\theta}, \quad (4.10)$$

from which we deduce, with the change of variables  $(u, v) = (x_1, x_2/x_1)$ , and denoting  $k = 2(\nu(\Gamma_2))^{1/\alpha}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\chi(k\Gamma_2) &= \int_{x_1+x_2>k} h(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2 \\ &= \alpha^2(\theta+1)(2+1/\theta) \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty 1_{(u(1+v)>k)} u^{-\alpha(\theta+1)-1} v^{\alpha\theta-1} (1+v^{\alpha\theta})^{-3-1/\theta} dv du.\end{aligned}$$

This quantity can also similarly be numerically evaluated. Hence we are able to compute  $c_2, K_2, A_2$  and  $b_2$ , and impute them into (4.8) to obtain an exact result.

**Example 4.2** (Pareto-Type 1 marginal distribution with survival Clayton copula).

Here we consider the same structure of dependence as in Example 4.1, *i.e.* a survival Clayton copula with parameter  $\theta > 0$ , but assume that the marginal distributions are Pareto-Type 1 marginal distributions with parameter  $\alpha > 1$ , such that  $\bar{F}_1(x) = \bar{F}_2(x) = x^{-\alpha}$  for  $x > 1$ , to illustrate the situation where the  $X_i$ 's are not 2RV. For computational simplicity let  $\theta = 1/\alpha$ , so that, for  $x_1 > 0, x_2 > 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}[X_1 > x_1, X_2 > x_2] = (x_1 + x_2 - 1)^{-\alpha}. \quad (4.11)$$

**STEP 1:** First we verify that  $\mathbf{X}$  is  $2\mathcal{MRV}$  and identify the right parameters and functions. Choosing  $b(t) = (1/\bar{F}_1)^{\leftarrow}(t) = t^{1/\alpha}$  and using (4.11), we observe that, for  $x_1 > 0, x_2 > 0$ , and for  $t$  large enough such that  $x_i t^{1/\alpha} > 1$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ),

$$\begin{aligned}t \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{\mathbf{X}}{b(t)} \in ([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2])^c\right) &= x_1^{-\alpha} + x_2^{-\alpha} - (x_1 + x_2 - t^{-1/\alpha})^{-\alpha} \\ &\xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} x_1^{-\alpha} + x_2^{-\alpha} - (x_1 + x_2)^{-\alpha} =: \nu\left(\left([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2]\right)^c\right)\end{aligned} \quad (4.12)$$

We can also find the density function for the measure  $\nu$  at  $x_1 > 0, x_2 > 0$ , namely

$$\lambda(x_1, x_2) = \left| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} \nu\left(\left([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2]\right)^c\right) \right| = \alpha(\alpha+1)(x_1+x_2)^{-(\alpha+2)},$$

from which we deduce, for any  $k > 0$ ,

$$\nu(k\Gamma_1) = \nu\left(\left([0, k] \times [0, \infty)\right)^c\right) = k^{-\alpha} \quad \text{and} \quad \nu(k\Gamma_2) = \iint_{x_1+x_2>k} \lambda(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2 = (\alpha+1)k^{-\alpha}. \quad (4.13)$$

To check that  $\mathbf{X}$  is  $2\mathcal{MRV}$ , choosing  $A(t) = -t^{-1}$ , we observe that for  $x_1 > 0, x_2 > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{\mathbf{X}}{b(t)} \in ([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2])^c\right) - \nu\left(\left([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2]\right)^c\right)}{A(b(t))} = \alpha(x_1+x_2)^{-(\alpha+1)} =: H(x_1, x_2). \quad (4.14)$$

Thus we have  $\mathbf{X} \in 2\mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha, -1}(b, A, \nu, H)$  where  $b(t) = t^{1/\alpha}$ ,  $A(t) = -t^{-1}$  and  $\nu, H$  are as defined in (4.12) and (4.14) respectively. We write  $\chi\left(\left([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2]\right)^c\right) = H(x_1, x_2)$ , which can be considered as a signed measure with density given by

$$h(x_1, x_2) = \alpha(\alpha+1)(\alpha+2)(x_1+x_2)^{-(\alpha+3)}, \quad x_1 > 0, x_2 > 0.$$

Then we can compute  $\chi(k\Gamma_2)$  as

$$\chi(k\Gamma_2) = \iint_{x_1+x_2>k} h(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2 = \alpha(\alpha+2)k^{-(\alpha+1)}. \quad (4.15)$$

**STEP 2:** We check that Assumption 1 holds, so that we can use Theorem 3.2. This boils down to verifying conditions (6.4)-(6.6). Observe that the distribution function  $F$  has a density function  $f$  defined, for  $x_1 > 0, x_2 > 0$ , by

$$f(x_1, x_2) = \alpha(\alpha+1)(x_1+x_2-1)^{-(\alpha+2)}. \quad (4.16)$$

Therefore, for any  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{E}$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{f(t\mathbf{x})}{t^{-2}\bar{F}_1(t)} - \lambda(\mathbf{x}) &= \alpha(\alpha+1)(x_1+x_2)^{-(\alpha+2)} \left( \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{t(x_1+x_2)} \right]^{-(\alpha+2)} - 1 \right) \\ &= \alpha(\alpha+1)(\alpha+2)(x_1+x_2)^{-(\alpha+3)}t^{-1} + o(t^{-1}) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence (6.4) holds and from the form of  $\frac{f(t\mathbf{x})}{t^{-2}\bar{F}_1(t)} - \lambda(\mathbf{x})$ , clearly it is bounded if  $\lambda(\mathbf{x})$  is; which is true for  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathfrak{N}$ . Thus uniform convergence also holds. Conditions (6.5) and (6.6) can also be checked in the exact same way.

**STEP 3:** Applying Proposition 2.1 provides

$$S_2 = X_1 + X_2 \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, -1}(b_2, A_2)$$

where  $b_2(t) = (\nu(\Gamma_2))^{1/\alpha}b(t) = (\alpha+1)^{1/\alpha}t^{1/\alpha}$  and  $A_2(t) = A((\nu(\Gamma_2))^{-1/\alpha}t) = -(\alpha+1)^{1/\alpha}t^{-1}$ . We also have from (2.1),

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t\mathbb{P}[S_2/b_2(t) > x] - x^{-\alpha}}{A_2(b_2(t))} = c_2x^{-\alpha}(1-x^{-1}) =: H_2(x), \quad (4.17)$$

where, via (4.13) and (4.15),  $c_2 = 2^{\alpha+1}\chi(2(\nu(\Gamma_2))^{1/\alpha}\Gamma_2) = \frac{\alpha(\alpha+2)}{(\alpha+1)^{1+1/\alpha}}$ .

**STEP 4:** The result on risk concentration follows by applying Theorem 3.2. For any  $x > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{D_{1-\gamma x}(\mathbf{X}) - K_2}{A_2(b_2(1/\gamma))} = c_2 \frac{K_2}{-\alpha} (x^{1/\alpha} - 1),$$

where  $A_2, b_2, c_2$  are as defined in the previous Step 3, and  $K_2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\nu(\Gamma_2)}{\nu(\Gamma_1)} \right)^{1/\alpha} = \frac{1}{2}(1+\alpha)^{1/\alpha}$ . Therefore we can rewrite (using the definitions of  $A_2, b_2, c_2, K_2$ ), and noting that  $A_2(b_2(1/\gamma)) = -\gamma^{1/\alpha}$ ,

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{\gamma^{1/\alpha}} \left[ \frac{\text{VaR}_{1-\gamma x}(S_2)}{\text{VaR}_{1-\gamma x}(X_1)} - (1+\alpha)^{1/\alpha} \right] = \frac{\alpha+2}{\alpha+1} (x^{1/\alpha} - 1).$$

**Example 4.3** (Example with Hidden Regular Variation).

We consider a simple example of a mixture model possessing hidden regular variation (Das and Resnick, 2015, Section 3.1); many similar examples can be easily constructed. Let  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, X_2)$  be defined as

$$\mathbf{X} = B_1 \mathbf{Y} + (1 - B_1)(V, V), \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{Y} = B_2(\xi_1, 0) + (1 - B_2)(0, \xi_2) \quad (4.18)$$

where  $B_1, B_2, \xi_1, \xi_2, V$  are independent,  $B_1, B_2$  are Bernoulli variables with  $\mathbb{P}[B_i = 1] = \mathbb{P}[B_i = 0] = 1/2, i = 1, 2$ ;  $\xi_1, \xi_2$  are identical Pareto (Type-1) variables with parameter  $\alpha > 0$ , whereas  $V$  is a Pareto (Type-1) variable with parameter  $2\alpha$ . Here  $\mathbf{Y}$  concentrates on the axes and provides the top level regular variation, whereas  $(V, V)$  is the source of hidden regular variation (and also second order regular variation) for  $\mathbf{X}$ . Note that for  $z_1 > 1, z_2 > 1$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X} \in ([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2])^c) = \frac{1}{4}(x_1^{-\alpha} + x_2^{-\alpha}) + \frac{1}{2}(\min(x_1, x_2))^{-2\alpha}.$$

Moreover,  $X_1, X_2 \sim F$  and, for  $x > 1$ ,  $\bar{F}(x) = \frac{1}{4}x^{-\alpha} + \frac{1}{2}x^{-2\alpha}$ .

This is an example exhibiting *asymptotic independence*, hence we need to verify that Assumption 2 holds to apply Theorem 3.2.

**STEP 1:** For large  $t$ , with  $b(t) = \bar{F}^{\leftarrow}(1/t) = 4^{1/\alpha}(\sqrt{1 + 32/t} - 1)^{-1/\alpha} = (\frac{t}{4})^{1/\alpha} (1 - \frac{8}{t} + o(1/t))^{-1/\alpha}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & t \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}}{b(t)} \in ([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2])^c \right) \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{8}{t} + o(1/t)\right) x_1^{-\alpha} + \left(1 - \frac{8}{t} + o(1/t)\right) x_2^{-\alpha} + \frac{8}{t} \left(1 - \frac{16}{t} + o(1/t)\right) (\min(x_1, x_2))^{-2\alpha} \\ &\xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} x_1^{-\alpha} + x_2^{-\alpha} =: \nu([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2])^c. \end{aligned}$$

Hence the first condition in Assumption 2 is satisfied. This also means that  $\nu$  does not have a density and the measure concentrates on the two axes, hence we can write

$$\nu(\Gamma_2) = \nu((x_1, x_2) \in [0, \infty)^2 : x_1 + x_2 > 1) = 1^{-\alpha} + 1^{-\alpha} = 2.$$

**STEP 2:** Marginally we observe that

$$t \mathbb{P}(X_1 > b(t)x) = \left(1 - \frac{8}{t} + o(1/t)\right) x^{-\alpha} + \frac{8}{t} \left(1 - \frac{16}{t} + o(1/t)\right) x^{-2\alpha} = x^{-\alpha} + \frac{8}{t} x^{-\alpha} (x^{-\alpha} - 1) + o(1/t).$$

Choosing  $A(t) = 2t^{-\alpha}$ , we obtain

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t \mathbb{P}(X_1/b(t) > x) - x^{-\alpha}}{A(b(t))} = x^{-\alpha}(x^{-\alpha} - 1) = c_1 x^{-\alpha} \frac{x^\rho - 1}{\rho},$$

where  $\rho = -\alpha$  and  $c_1 = -\alpha$ . Both margins are identical, therefore the second condition in Assumption 2 also holds and we can infer convergence of signed measures for  $2\mathcal{MRV}$ .

**STEP 3:** Now, for the same choice of functions  $b$  and  $A$ , we can write, for  $x_1 > 0, x_2 > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}}{b(t)} \in ([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2])^c \right) - \nu \left( ([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2])^c \right)}{A(b(t))} = H(x_1, x_2).$$

where

$$H(x_1, x_2) = -(x_1^{-\alpha} + x_2^{-\alpha}) + \min(x_1^{-2\alpha}, x_2^{-2\alpha}) =: -\chi^<([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2])^c + \chi^>([0, x_1] \times [0, x_2])^c. \quad (4.19)$$

**STEP 4:** Since  $\nu(\Gamma_2) = 2$  (Step 1), with  $\chi = \chi^> - \chi^<$  as defined in Theorem 6.3 in the Appendix, and using (4.19), we can compute for any  $k > 0$ ,

$$\chi(k\Gamma_2) = -(k^{-\alpha} + k^{-\alpha}) + (k/2)^{-2\alpha} = -2k^{-\alpha}(1 - 2^{2\alpha-1}k^{-\alpha}).$$

Applying Proposition 2.1, we have  $S_2 = X_1 + X_2 \in 2\mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha, -\alpha}(b_2, A_2)$  where

$$b_2(t) = (\nu(\Gamma_2))^{1/\alpha} b(t) = 8^{1/\alpha} (\sqrt{1 + 32/t} - 1)^{-1/\alpha} \sim \left( \frac{t}{2} \right)^{1/\alpha} \quad \text{and} \quad A_2(t) = A((\nu(\Gamma_2))^{-1/\alpha} t) = A(2^{-1/\alpha} t) = 4t^{-\alpha}.$$

We also have from (2.1),

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t \mathbb{P}[S_2/b_2(t) > x] - x^{-\alpha}}{A_2(b_2(t))} = -\frac{c_2}{\alpha} x^{-\alpha} (x^{-\alpha} - 1) =: H_2(x), \quad (4.20)$$

where

$$c_2 = \frac{-\alpha 2^\alpha}{2^{-\alpha} - 1} \chi(2(\nu(\Gamma_2))^{1/\alpha} \Gamma_2) = \frac{\alpha 2^{2\alpha}}{2^\alpha - 1} \chi(2^{1+1/\alpha} \Gamma_2) = \alpha 2^\alpha \frac{2^{\alpha-2} - 1}{2^\alpha - 1}.$$

**STEP 5:** Finally we obtain the result on risk concentration by applying Theorem 3.2. For any  $x > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{D_{1-\gamma x}(\mathbf{X}) - K_2}{A_2(b_2(1/\gamma))} = (c_2 - c_1) \times \frac{K_2}{(-\alpha^2)} (x - 1) = -2^{1/\alpha-1} \frac{2^{2(\alpha-1)} - 1}{\alpha(2^\alpha - 1)} (x - 1),$$

where we have  $A_2, b_2, c_2$  are as defined in Step 4 above and  $K_2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\nu(\Gamma_2)}{\nu(\Gamma_1)} \right)^{1/\alpha} = 2^{1/\alpha-1}$ . Therefore we can rewrite, using the definitions of  $A_2, b_2, c_2, K_2$  and noticing that  $A_2(b_2(1/\gamma)) \sim 8\gamma$ ,

$$\lim_{\gamma \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{\gamma} \left[ \frac{\text{VaR}_{1-\gamma x}(S_2)}{\text{VaR}_{1-\gamma x}(X_1)} - 2^{1/\alpha} \right] = 2^{1/\alpha+3} \frac{2^{2(\alpha-1)} - 1}{\alpha(2^\alpha - 1)} (1 - x).$$

## 5. Conclusion

Our goal in this paper was to exhibit the strength of the assumption of second order multivariate regular variation for understanding diversification benefits in a portfolio of risk factors. We have seen that  $2\mathcal{MRV}$  encompasses a broad variety of dependence structures where we could compute the diversification index and observe penultimate behavior of portfolio of risk factors with respect to the risk measure VaR. Explicit computations of the constants in many examples seem tedious,

although numerical tools can be often used here. A few questions still remain open. For instance, a characterization of multivariate second order regular variation in terms of linear combination of its marginals akin to a Cramér-Wold Theorem is yet to be discovered. We are also interested in finding the effects of the related concept of hidden regular variation on diversification.

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## 6. Appendix

We discuss results and assumptions from (Resnick, 2002, Section 4.2) that are used in this paper for the sake of completeness. The following results provide conditions under which the second order regular variation condition of Definition 1.5 can be represented as vague convergence of measures. Assumption 1 gives the appropriate conditions when the limit measure  $\nu(\cdot)$  as obtained in Definition 1.4 has a density with respect to the Lebesgue measure; hence  $\mathbf{X}$  is not asymptotically independent. On the other hand, Assumption 2 gives appropriate conditions when  $\nu(\cdot)$  does not have a density; it means that asymptotic independence holds for the tail distribution of  $\mathbf{X}$ .

Suppose  $\mathbf{X}$  is a  $d$ -dimensional non-negative random vector with distribution function  $F$  and identical one-dimensional marginals  $F_1$ .

**Assumption 1.** *We assume the following on  $F$ .*

1. Let  $F$  have a density  $F'$  such that for  $b(t) \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} |b(t)^d t F'(b(t)\mathbf{x}) - \lambda(\mathbf{x})| = 0, \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{E}, \quad (6.1)$$

where  $\lambda(\cdot) \neq 0$  is bounded on  $\aleph$  and moreover

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{\mathbf{a} \in \aleph} |b(t)^d t F'(b(t)\mathbf{a}) - \lambda(\mathbf{a})| = 0, \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{E}. \quad (6.2)$$

The limit function  $\lambda(\mathbf{x})$  necessarily satisfies  $\lambda(t\mathbf{x}) = t^{-\alpha-d}\lambda(\mathbf{x})$ . This implies from (Resnick, 2008) that there exists  $V \in \mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha}$  such that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 - F(b(t)\mathbf{x})}{V(b(t))} = \int_{[\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{x}]^c} \lambda(\mathbf{u}) d\mathbf{u} = \nu([\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{x}]^c), \quad \mathbf{x} > \mathbf{0}. \quad (6.3)$$

Thus conditions (6.1) and (6.2) imply multivariate regular variation. Instead of conditions (6.1) and (6.2) it is sufficient to assume  $\bar{F}_1 \in \mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha}$  and

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{F'(t\mathbf{x})}{t^{-d}\bar{F}_1(t)} - \lambda(\mathbf{x}) \right| = 0, \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{E}, \quad \text{and} \quad \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{\mathbf{a} \in \aleph} \left| \frac{F'(t\mathbf{a})}{t^{-d}\bar{F}_1(t)} - \lambda(\mathbf{a}) \right| = 0, \quad (6.4)$$

and we can take  $V = \bar{F}_1$ .

2. Assume that the second order condition given in (1.2) holds for  $\bar{F}_1$  so that  $\bar{F}_1 \in \mathcal{RV}_{-\alpha}$  and  $A \in \mathcal{RV}_\rho$ ,  $\rho \leq 0$ ,  $A \rightarrow 0$  and for  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{E}$ ,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\frac{F'(t\mathbf{x})}{t^{-d}\bar{F}_1(t)} - \lambda(\mathbf{x})}{A(t)} - \chi'(\mathbf{x}) \right| = 0, \quad (6.5)$$

where  $\chi' \neq 0$  is integrable on sets bounded away from  $\mathbf{0}$ . We also assume uniform convergence on  $\aleph$ :

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{\mathbf{a} \in \aleph} \left| \frac{\frac{F'(t\mathbf{a})}{t^{-d}\bar{F}_1(t)} - \lambda(\mathbf{a})}{A(t)} - \chi'(\mathbf{a}) \right| = 0, \quad (6.6)$$

Also assume that  $\chi'$  is finite and bounded on  $\aleph$ .

**Remark 6.1.** For  $\mathbf{X} \sim F$  with identical marginals  $F_1$ , assuming conditions (6.4)-(6.6) is sufficient for (6.1)-(6.3) to hold with  $V = \overline{F}_1$ .

Using  $\nu$  as defined in (6.3), we define the signed measure

$$\mu_t([\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{x}]^c) := \frac{t \mathbb{P} \left[ \frac{\mathbf{X}}{b(t)} \in [\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{x}]^c \right] - \nu([\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{x}]^c)}{A(b(t))}, \quad (6.7)$$

which has a density given by

$$\mu'_t([\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{x}]^c) := \frac{tb(t)^d F'(b(t)\mathbf{x}) - \lambda(\mathbf{x})}{A(b(t))}, \quad \mathbf{x} \in [0, \infty)^d. \quad (6.8)$$

**Theorem 6.2** (Proposition 5, Resnick (2002)). If  $\mathbf{X} \in [0, \infty)^d$  with distribution function  $F$  and identical marginals  $F_1$  satisfies Assumption 1 then

$$\mu_t^\pm \xrightarrow{v} \chi^\pm, \quad \text{on } \mathbb{E},$$

where for  $t > 0$ ,  $\mu_t^+, \mu_t^-, \chi^+, \chi^-$  are positive Radon measures with  $\mu_t = \mu_t^+ - \mu_t^-$  and  $\chi = \chi^+ - \chi^-$ .

If  $\mathbf{X} \in F$  with  $\overline{F} \in \mathcal{MRV}_{-\alpha}(b)$  but possesses asymptotic independence then the limit measure  $\nu(\cdot)$  as obtained in (1.4) does not have a density with respect to Lebesgue measure. Hence Assumption 1 does not hold. In this case we require a different set of assumptions which are given below.

**Assumption 2.** We assume the following on  $F$ .

1. Suppose (1.5) holds with  $\nu([\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{x}]^c) = \kappa \sum_{i=1}^d x_i^{-\alpha}$ , where  $\kappa$  is some constant.
2. Moreover the one dimensional marginals are identical and satisfy the second order condition as in Definition 1.2 such that we also have

$$\mu_{t1}^\pm := \left( \frac{t \mathbb{P} \left[ \frac{X_1}{b(t)} \in \cdot \right] - \nu_\alpha(\cdot)}{A(b(t))} \right)^\pm \xrightarrow{v} \chi_1^\pm, \quad (6.9)$$

on  $(0, \infty]$  where  $\chi_1(x, \infty] = cx^{-\alpha} \frac{x^\rho - 1}{\rho}$ .

**Theorem 6.3** (Theorem 2, Resnick (2002)). If  $\mathbf{X} \in [0, \infty)^d$  with distribution function  $F$  and Assumption 2 holds, then with  $\mu_t$  as defined in (6.7) and  $H$  as in (1.5), there exist non-negative Radon measures  $\mu_t^>, \mu_t^<, \chi^>, \chi^<$  such that

$$\mu_t^> \xrightarrow{v} \chi^>, \quad \mu_t^< \xrightarrow{v} \chi^<$$

where  $\mu_t = \mu_t^> - \mu_t^<$  and  $H(\mathbf{x}) = \chi^>([\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{x}]^c) - \chi^<([\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{x}]^c)$ . For our purposes we take for any set  $A$  in  $[0, \infty)^d$ ,  $\chi(A) := \chi^>(A) - \chi^<(A)$ .

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