



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE



Weak Dutch Books versus Strict Consistency with Lower Previsions

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Outline

Background

- (Williams') coherent and convex imprecise previsions

Weak Dutch Books

- Local precision properties with coherent and convex imprecise previsions
- Relationship between WDBs and positive probability events
- Vulnerability to real Dutch Books
- Hedging Weak Dutch Books

Additional reference:



C. Corsato, R. Pelessoni, P. Vicig, Weak Dutch Books with Imprecise Previsions, IJAR, 88:72–90, 2017.

Notation

\mathcal{D}	set of conditional gambles $X B$	set of conditional events $E B$
$\underline{P} : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$	lower prevision	lower probability
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Notions of dF -coherence, W -coherence and convexity

$\underline{P} : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ lower prevision.

Define, $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}^+$, $\forall X_i | B_i \in \mathcal{D}$, $\forall s_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ($i = 0, 1, \dots, n$),

$$\underline{G} = \sum_{i=1}^n s_i B_i (X_i - \underline{P}(X_i | B_i)) - s_0 B_0 (X_0 - \underline{P}(X_0 | B_0)), \quad B = \bigvee_{i=0}^n B_i,$$

and require

$$\sup(\underline{G} | B) \geq 0.$$

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In each case, $\underline{G} | B$ is an **admissible gain** for \underline{P} .

What is a Weak Dutch Book gain?

Let $\underline{P}: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a convex (W -coherent) lower prevision. Any admissible gain $\underline{G}|B$ for \underline{P} satisfies

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Remark: WDBs arise with *extreme probability* events, but *not only*.
(*Proposition 3.1* in Corsato, Pelessoni, Vicig, 2017)

Local precision for convexity

Proposition

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(a) If $\underline{P}: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a **conditional** convex lower prevision and $\underline{G}|B$ is a WDB gain for \underline{P} , then $\exists P$, dF -coherent prevision, $\alpha_P \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t., for $i = 0$ and $\forall i = 1, \dots, n$ with $s_i > 0$,

- either $P(B_i|B) = 0$,
- or $\underline{P}(X_i|B_i) = P(X_i|B_i) + \frac{\alpha_P}{P(B_i|B)}$.

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(b) If \underline{P} is **unconditional**, then, $\forall i = 0, 1, \dots, n$ with $s_i > 0$,

$$\underline{P}(X_i) = P(X_i) + \alpha_P.$$

$\implies \underline{P}$ is a 'local' translation of a precise prevision.

Remark:

- ▶ in the **unconditional** case, $\underline{P}(B_i|B) = \underline{P}(\Omega|\Omega) = 1$.

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If $\underline{P} : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a **conditional** W -coherent lower prevision and

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Remark:

- ▶ specialises the convex case with $\alpha_P = 0$.

WDBs and positive probability events - 1

Proposition

If $\underline{P} : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a conditional **W-coherent** lower prevision and

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Special case:

- ▶ \underline{P} unconditional, $E = \omega \in \mathbb{P}$, domain of \underline{G} . Then

$$\sup \underline{G} = \max \underline{G} = \underline{G}(\omega) = 0.$$

WDBs and positive probability events - 2

Define

$$\mathcal{P} = \{\omega \in \mathbb{P} : \underline{P}(\omega) > 0\}, \quad \mathcal{N} = \{\omega \in \mathbb{P} : \underline{G}(\omega) = 0\}.$$

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Remarks:

- ▶ the relationship between \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{N} may also depend on the stakes s_i ; (*Example 4.4 in Corsato, Pelessoni, Vicig, 2017*)
- ▶ a simple test for checking WDBs:

$$\exists \omega \in \mathbb{P} : \underline{P}(\omega) > 0, \underline{G}(\omega) \neq 0 \longrightarrow \underline{G} \text{ is no a WDB gain.}$$

Vulnerability to Dutch Books with coherence

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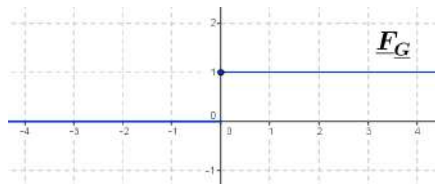
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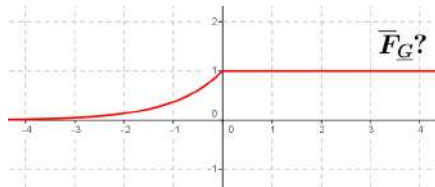
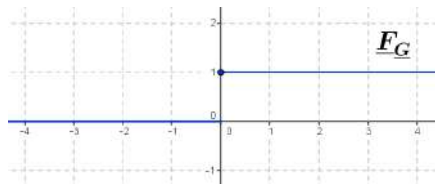
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(Examples 5.1 and 5.2 in Corsato, Pelessoni, Vicig, 2017)

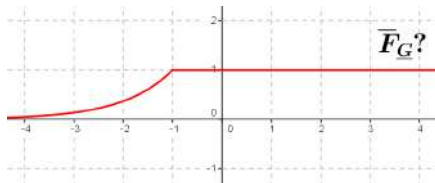
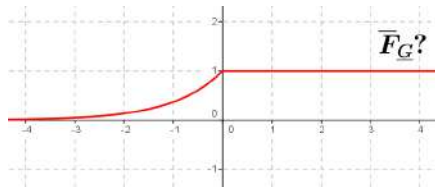
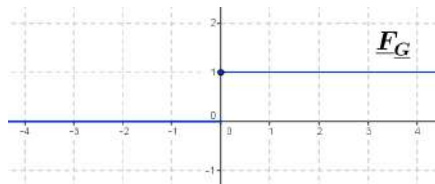
Uncertainty in the p -box for a coherent WDB gain



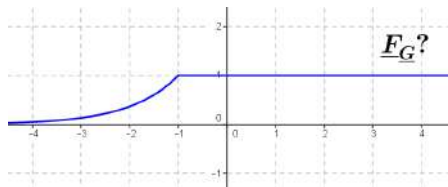
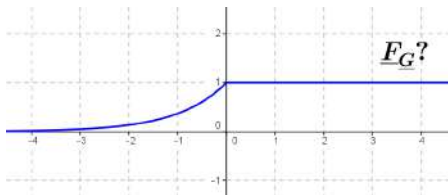
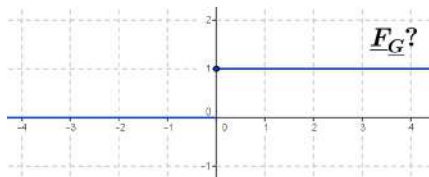
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(Oldest) solution: strengthen the consistency conditions to rule out WDBs.

Strict consistency

Let $\underline{P} : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a convex (W -coherent) lower prevision.

\underline{P} is a **strictly convex** (**strictly W -coherent**) **lower prevision** if, for any admissible gain $\underline{G}|B$ for \underline{P} , it holds that

$$\text{either } \underline{G}|B = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \sup(\underline{G}|B) > 0.$$

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$\forall E \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{\emptyset\}, P(E) > 0.$

(Kemeny, 1955; Shimony, 1955)

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\forall WDB gain $\underline{G}|B \neq 0,$

$\exists \varepsilon > 0 : (\underline{G}|B \leq -\varepsilon) \in \mathcal{D},$ non-impossible,

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$\exists \varepsilon > 0 : (\underline{G}|B \leq -\varepsilon) \in \mathcal{D},$ non-impossible,

$\underline{P} : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ W -coherent.

\underline{P} strictly W -coherent



$\forall E|B \in \mathcal{D} \setminus \{\emptyset|B\}, \underline{P}(E|B) > 0.$

Characterisation of strict coherence

\mathcal{A} algebra of unconditional events,

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- ▶ **Alternative approaches** to hedging WDBs: via
 - ▶ desirability,
(*Williams, 1975; Quaeghebeur, de Cooman, Hermans, 2015*)
 - ▶ buying/selling schemes,
(*Walley, 1991; Wagner, 2007*)
 - ▶ a qualitative model.
(*Pedersen, 2014*)

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- ▶ Some propositions describing WDBs derive from more general results.

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- ✓ WDBs induce local precision properties with W -coherent or convex lower previsions.
- ✓ The agent's confidence to avoid a proper Dutch Book may decrease with weaker consistency notions.

See you...



...at the Poster Session

Thank you for your attention!