

BIG DATA & ALGORITHMIC FINANCE



Yadh HAFSI

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Yadh Hafsi, my academic journey commenced in Tunisia, laying a solid foundation in mathematics and physics at the Preparatory Institute for Engineering Studies of Tunis. Transitioning to France, I pursued an Engineering degree in Applied Mathematics at ENSTA Paris, followed by a Master's in Financial Mathematics at Institut Polytechnique de Paris, specializing in stochastic control and algorithmic trading. Currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics at Université Paris-Saclay under the guidance of Vathana Ly Vath and Etienne Chevalier, my research delves into stochastic control, optimal execution, and market microstructure within financial markets. Professionally, I apply my research findings directly to Horizon Software's algorithmic trading platform, enhancing its functionality and effectiveness. At HEC Paris, my role entails serving as a teaching assistant focused on statistics. Notable contributions include publications like «Uncovering Market Disorder and Liquidity Trends Detection» (submitted to Mathematical Finance) and «Optimal Execution in a Multi-Agent Simulator with Reinforcement Learning» (accepted abstract at AAAI 2024).

UNCOVERING MARKET DISORDER AND LIQUIDITY TRENDS DETECTION

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The primary objective of this paper is to conceive and develop a new methodology to detect notable changes in liquidity within an order-driven market. We study a market liquidity model which allows us to dynamically quantify the level of liquidity of a traded asset using its limit order book data. The proposed metric holds potential for enhancing the aggressiveness of optimal execution algorithms, minimizing market impact and transaction costs, and serving as a reliable indicator of market liquidity for market makers. As part of our approach, we employ Marked Hawkes processes to model trades-through which constitute our liquidity proxy. Subsequently, our focus lies in accurately identifying the moment when a significant increase or decrease in its intensity takes place. We consider the minimax quickest detection problem of unobservable changes in the intensity of a doubly-stochastic Poisson process. The goal is to develop a stopping rule that minimizes the robust Lorden criterion, measured in terms of the number of events until detection, for both worst-case delay and false alarm constraint. We prove our procedure's optimality in the case of a Cox process with simultaneous jumps, while considering a finite time horizon. Finally, this novel approach is empirically validated by means of real market data analyses.

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