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Robert Alohimakalani Yuen* (bobyuen@umich.edu) and **Stilian A Stoev**. *Upper bounds on Value-at-Risk for the maximum portfolio loss.*

Extremal dependence of the losses in a portfolio is one of the most important features that should be accounted for when estimating Value-at-Risk (VaR) at high levels. Max-stable processes provide a principled framework for the modeling and estimation of extremal dependence. In practice, however, this involves dealing with a challenging infinite dimensional parameter. Here, following recent developments in Strokorb and Schlather (2013), we propose to represent extremal dependence via the Tawn–Molchanov (TM) model, which is finite dimensional. Every max-stable random vector \mathbf{X} can be associated with a TM max-stable vector $\mathbf{Y} = \text{TM}(\mathbf{X})$ so that the *extremal coefficients* of \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Y} *match* and at the same time \mathbf{Y} stochastically dominates \mathbf{X} in the lower orthant order. This result readily yields an optimal upper bound on the Value-at-Risk $\text{VaR}_\alpha(\mathbf{X}^\vee)$ of the maximum portfolio loss $\mathbf{X}^\vee := \max_{j=1,\dots,d} X_j$. We discuss some challenges in extending our framework to bound Value-at-Risk for the *sum of dependent losses*. (Received September 08, 2014)