New developments in multifractal analysis of data with application to finance – How to extract real multiscaling properties of data and where are they in finance? –

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Abstract

I will discuss known mechanisms for the appearance of false signals of multifractality. The particular emphasis will be given to the influence of random fluctuations manifesting as finite size effects (FSE), influence of nonlinear transformations in data as well as the effect of broad data distributions. The provided semi analytical formulas will show the link between the amount of false or apparent multifractal effects in time series and the length of data, its persistency level, and the maximal fluctuation moment order q used to amplify the ratio of respective small and large fluctuations. An implementation of proposed corrections will be shown in examples of data taken from stocks around the world. The characteristic time scale s, only above which the observed multifractal effects have chance to be generated by temporal autocorrelations between fluctuations of various sizes in data will be found.

Keyword: Multifractality, broad data distributions, generalized Hurst exponent, MF-DFA

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