

Master Thesis

# **Edit: Master Thesis Title**

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# Acknowledgements

Here write acknowledgements.



# Abstract

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# 1. Introduction

En alta volatilidad, quizá incluso mencionar los tweets de Elon Musk, por ejemplo, diciendo que Tesla no aceptaría pagos con bitcoin debido al alto costo energético asociado con su minería, causando una baja de los precios

Mirar Liu et al (y el otro paper similar) donde habla de las criptomonedas, e inspirarnos de ahí. Quizá la otra tesis en esto también.

Empezar con una introducción de criptomonedas, del mercado, de la gran volatilidad, grandes retornos. Mencionar coin Market cap, la capitalización del mercado total de criptomonedas.

Mencionar artículos o reportes donde mencionen la importancia de este mercado, cuántas personas en promedio tienen criptos en su portafolio. Mencionar sucesos recientes importantes, como la introducción de criptomonedas en algunos exchanges, de futuros en CME, de índices en XXX, del boom en la crisis de COVID (ver Mercik, donde menciona sucesos importantes).

Exhaustive list of predictors for the cross-section of stock returns Feng et al. (2020) A. Y. Chen & Zimmermann (2021)

mencionar a Ross, que comprueba la estructura lineal de los factores: – Esto quizá en introducción

\*\* Ejemplo de frase See for additional discussion of literate programming.\*\*

## 1.1. Research objective

The main questions addressed in this thesis are:

- first research questions
- second research questions

Replicate the work of Kelly et al. (2019) and Bianchi & Babiak (2021) on the cryptocurrency market.

## 1. Introduction

### 1.2. Literature review

Hacerla similar a la descripción de la hipoteca inversa. Mencionar las dos corrientes de literatura: por una parte, los modelos de factores construidos como managed-strategies. Mencionar los modelos de factores más conocidos, y alguna de la literatura importante en este tema: fama french modelo de tres factores Fama & French (1993), FF modelo de cinco factores Fama & French (2015) Citar la colección de Chen and Zimmermann A. Y. Chen & Zimmermann (2021) con la gran cantidad de factores en su dataset.

Por otra, una corriente basada en la estadística que construye los factores mediante modelos puramente estadísticos, y que asume que los factores son latentes. Mencionar los dos autores pioneros de PCA: Chamberlain & Rothschild (1983) and Connor & Korajczyk (1986).

Mencionar modelos recientes con factores dinámicos. Describir brevemente estos modelos de PCA, y después propuestas de modelación de factores latentes dinámicos. Entre estos, hablar de Kelly et al. (2019), que propuso el modelo dinámico de factores, y más recientemente, RPCA Q. Chen et al. (2022) Z. Chen et al. (2024), inspirado en regresiones de fama macbeth, que hace una combinación de este modelo más una implementación de PCA.

Bianchi & Babiak (2021) aplicaron el modelo de Kelly en el mercado de criptos, mencionar otros papers que utilizaron el IPCA (hay otros de Kelly que lo usó para bonos y opciones, investigar)

Z. Chen et al. (2024) aplicó el RPCA para el cross-section de diferentes asset-classes.

Mencionar literatura extensa tratando de entender los factores de riesgo de las criptomonedas, por ejemplo, Mercik et al. (2025), y otros papers que tengo en mis archivos y en notas.

Baur & Hoang (2021) Studies stablecoins as a safe haven for Bitcoin volatility - safe heavens, but finds they're not stable. Wang et al. (2020) also investigates if stablecoins are real diversifiers, hedgers or safe heavens. Hoang & Baur (2024) Analyses the stability of the so called stablecoins Asadov et al. (2023) Analyses precious-metal-backed coins as a better alternative for stablecoins.

### 1.3. Data concerns

One of the main challenges in this thesis was obtaining a large panel of cryptocurrency data. I extracted market data from the free [CoinCodex](#) API, which provides access to

the full historical data of the cryptocurrencies listed on its platform. In contrast, most crypto market data providers –also called coin-ranking sites, such as CoinMarketCap, CoinGecko, CryptoCompare (CoinDesk)– offer limited access to historical data (usually one year) or none at all without a paid subscription. Some exchange platforms, such as Bybit, Binance, Coinbase, and Cex, allow users to extract market data for free through their public APIs. However, the number of cryptocurrencies (and thus, the cross-section) available from these sources was relatively small compared with CoinCodex, and the time span was shorter <sup>1</sup>.

The choice of which data source is appropriate for scientific research is subject to debate. For example, Alexander & Dakos (2020) examine different cryptocurrency data providers and find inconsistencies in regression estimates, suggesting that the source of cryptocurrency data can influence empirical results. Moreover, they document distorted coin prices on coin-ranking sites, caused by inflated or artificial trading volumes<sup>2</sup>, emphasizing the importance of using traded data from crypto exchanges. By contrast, Vidal-Tomás (2022) argue that coin-ranking sites use the same underlying process as crypto exchanges and other platforms to compute a cryptocurrency price, and they report no significant differences in empirical results when using alternative data sources. To address these concerns, I apply a series of pre-processing filters, described in Chapter 3, to mitigate the impact of potential inaccuracies in my dataset.

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<sup>1</sup>For example, bitcoin data started from late 2013 in CoinCodex, compared to November, 2022 in Bybit, January, 2019, in Binance, and June, 2021, in Coinbase. The available cryptocurrencies paired with Tether USD (USD) were 763 in Bybit, 623 in Binance, and 116 (USD) in Coinbase.

<sup>2</sup>Coin-ranking sites rank coins and exchanges by trading volume and market capitalization. As highlighted by Alexander & Dakos (2020), the prices quoted on some of these sites are calculated by aggregating the prices from hundreds of exchanges using a volume-weighted average. Because many exchanges artificially inflate their volume to boost their position in the rankings, the resulting aggregated prices are influenced by fake volumes and therefore inconsistent with traded prices.

## 2. Methodology

The Instrumented Principal Component Analysis (IPCA) model was introduced in the seminal work of Kelly et al. (2019, 2020). The main model used in this thesis is the IPCA with different  $K$  number of factors

Explicar la metodologia de IPCA. Si hay tiempo, entonces explicar tambien como funciona el RPCA de Chen and Roussanov. Explicar las  $R^2$  (en lugar de  $R^2$ , entonces poner Total score y predictive score), mencionar como pie de pagina que son las medidas definidas por Kelly et al. (2019).

Explicar los bootstrap para medir la significancia cada caracteristica, y quiza mencionar tambi'en brevemente los characteristic managed portfolios, en que consisten y como se emplean (quiza tomar inspiracion de Kelly, Bianchi, o creo que puede ser mejor en Liu et al.)

### 2.1. Instrumented Principal Component Analysis

## 3. Data

In this section, I introduce the cryptocurrency data used in this thesis, the series of filters applied to clean and prepare the dataset, and the summary statistics of the cryptocurrency excess returns. In addition, I show the set of asset-specific characteristics constructed from the cryptocurrency market data, which are used as instruments for latent factor exposures in the IPCA model. Appendix A.2 provides a detailed description of the characteristics used in the empirical analysis.

[++++ **ADD SMALL INTRO ABOVE OF RIK FACTORS CREATED** +++++]

The data extraction and pre-processing are primarily conducted in R 4.5.1 ([R Core Team, 2025](#)), using, among other packages<sup>1</sup>, the `tidyverse` (v. 2.0.0; [Wickham et al., 2019](#)). Additional cleaning steps and visualizations are performed in Python 3.13.5 ([Python Software Foundation, 2025](#)). The full reproducible code is available in Appendix A.1.

### 3.1. Data extraction and sample construction

I collect daily cryptocurrency data on open, high, close, and low (OHCL) prices, 24-hour volume, and market capitalization (calculated as the cryptocurrency’s USD price multiplied by its circulating supply) from [CoinCodex](#), a website-data provider that gathers and aggregates data from more than 400 exchanges. I extract the data, all expressed in US dollars, using the CoinCodex API as follows:

1. I retrieve the list of all available cryptocurrencies and extract each cryptocurrency shortname, also referred to as the “slug”. At the time of writing, there are 14,907 unique cryptocurrency shortnames listed in the API.
2. Using the slug, I construct an URL for each cryptocurrency to obtain the meta-data from the API. I parse the JSON API response into a dataframe and extract

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<sup>1</sup>See Appendix A.4 for the full list of software used in the empirical study.

### 3. Data

the OHCL prices, volume, and market capitalization daily data. I exclude those observations with non-zero or missing values in any of these fields.

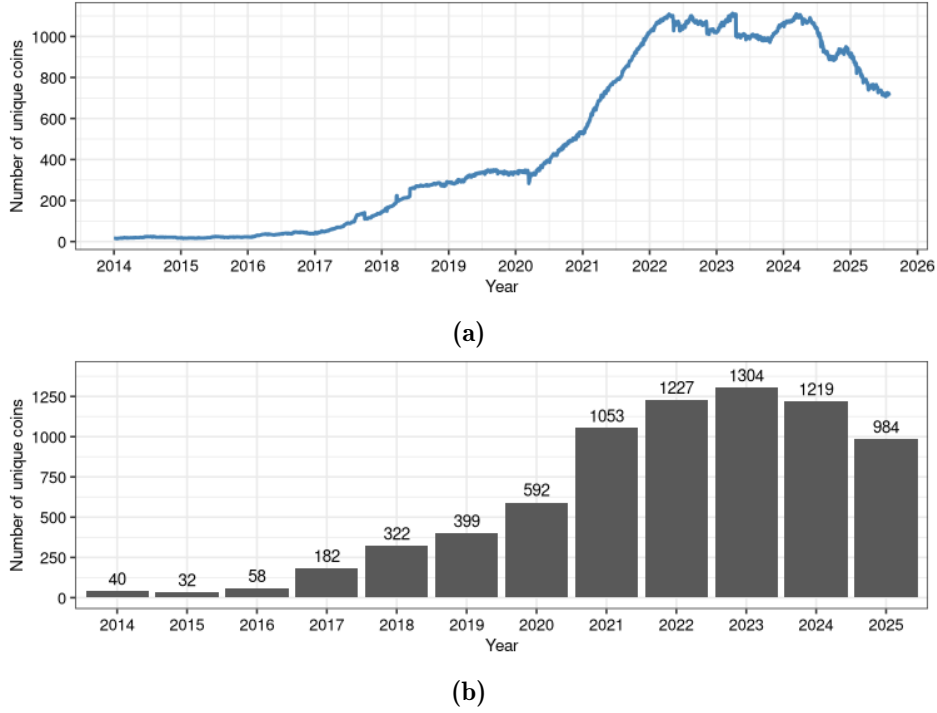
Out of the 14,907 cryptocurrencies listed, only 7,272 entries contained available data. Next, following the methodology of Bianchi & Babiak (2021) and Mercik et al. (2025), I apply a series of cleaning and filtering steps in order to remove possible inaccuracies in the dataset:

1. Non-positive and missing values. As mentioned earlier, I remove observations where prices, volume, or market capitalization were non-positive or missing.
2. Small cryptocurrencies. Similar to Y. Liu et al. (2022), I screen out small cryptocurrencies and consider only those with a market capitalization greater than one million USD. Therefore, I exclude observations for coins whose market capitalization falls below this minimum threshold, which allows for the possibility that a coin may become “small” after a certain period or event.
3. Cryptocurrency type. Based on the cryptocurrency classification from [CoinMarketCap](#) and [CoinCodex](#), I exclude:
  - stablecoins. I include (i) centralized stablecoins, which are backed and pegged to fiat currency or physical assets by a third party, such as Tether (USDT), USD Coin (USDC), and Euro Coin (EURC), and (ii) algorithmically stabilized stablecoins, which use algorithms to adjust the circulating supply in response to changes in demand to maintain a stable value with the underlying asset, such as DAI and AMPL (FSB, 2020).
  - wrapped cryptocurrency tokens, which mirror the value of another cryptocurrency from a different blockchain, e.g., Wrapped Bitcoin (wBTC) or Wrapped Ethereum (wETH) ([Coinbase](#), n.d.).
  - cryptocurrencies backed by or pegged to gold or precious metals, including Pax Gold (PAXG) or XAGx Silver Token (XAGX).
4. Erroneous trading volume. To filter out cryptocurrencies with “fake” or “erroneous” trading volume, I calculate the daily volume-to-market-capitalization ratio for each token and exclude observations where the ratio exceeds 1.
5. Extreme returns. To minimize the influence of extreme values in my results, I winsorize daily cryptocurrency returns to lie within the range of -90% to 500%.
6. Time period. Even though cryptocurrency data are available since 2014, I use data from June 1, 2018 for the empirical analysis due to the low amount of coins



available before this date (see Figure 3.1).

7. Minimum observations. In order to maintain practical relevance, I keep cryptocurrencies that have at least 365 consecutive daily observations and those with at least 730 observations in the complete panel of coin characteristics (see Section 3.3), which is equivalent to 2 years of historical data. Therefore, I exclude very short-lived coins, but retain failed coins with this relatively large number of observations, which help to lessen the so called “survivorship bias”.



**Figure 3.1.: Number of cryptocurrencies over time.** Panel A shows the daily time series of the number of unique cryptocurrencies. Panel B displays the number of unique cryptocurrencies recorded each year. Both panels correspond to the dataset after applying the filtering steps (1) to (5), covering the period from January 1, 2014, to July 31, 2025, and including 1,416 unique cryptocurrencies. Note that coins may enter or exit the market over time.

## 3.2. Sample overview

After applying all the filters, the resulting sample consists of 973 unique cryptocurrencies and 1,478,936 observations from June 1, 2018, to July 31, 2025, where a day starts at 00:00:00 UTC. It is important to mention that the number of cryptocurrencies fluctuates over the entire period, which results in an unbalanced panel of data. Table 3.1 provides a description of the yearly cross-sectional statistics: the sample starts with 254 different cryptocurrencies in 2018 and peaks in 2023 with 939 unique cryptocurrencies, before decreasing to 780 in 2025. The minimum daily cross-section is 121 in 2018,

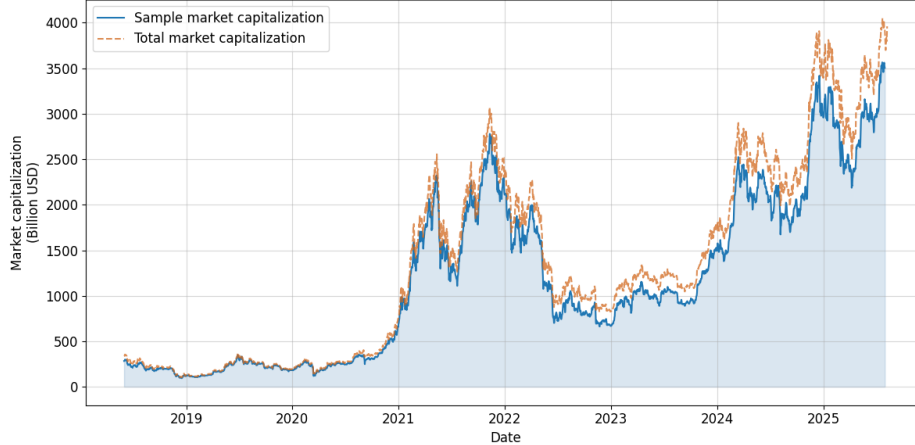
### 3. Data

**Table 3.1.: Cross-section size of the sample.** The table reports the number of unique coins per year, as well as the minimum daily cross-section size in the filtered sample.

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unique coins	254	337	420	714	938	939	906	780
Min. daily cross-section	121	239	207	381	699	793	710	578

and then increases drastically up to 793 in 2023. For context, at the time of writing, CoinMarketCap tracks around 19 million cryptocurrencies, and CoinGecko around 19 thousands. When compared to these numbers, the size of the sample may seem small; however, it actually covers most of the whole cryptocurrency market capitalization (see Figure 3.2). The sample period includes important events in the market, such as

Table 3.2 summarizes the descriptive statistics for the cryptocurrency daily returns across different subsamples and Bitcoin, Ethereum, and Ripple, which are the three largest cryptocurrencies in the sample. Interestingly, the larger samples exhibit a larger volatility and more pronounced extreme returns, both positive and negative. Bitcoin shows the lowest mean return during the sample period (0.16% per day), though this value very close to that of Ethereum (0.17%) and Ripple (0.20%), and only slightly below other cryptocurrency subsamples.



**Figure 3.2.: Cryptocurrency market capitalization.** The figure compares the cryptocurrency market capitalization in the filtered sample (blue line) with the total market capitalization (yellow line) from June 1, 2018 to July 31, 2025. Source: total market capitalization from [CoinGecko](#).

The sample period spans several major market, economic, and political events, these include: the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent crypto bubble in 2020-2021, El Salvador adoption of Bitcoin as legal tender in September 2021, and China’s ban on cryptocurrency exchanges and mining in October 2021. The period also experienced multiple cryptocurrency exchange hacks<sup>2</sup>, and geopolitical shocks such as

<sup>2</sup>For example, Binance, largest crypto exchange in the world, was hacked in 2019, and KuCoin and

### 3.3. Characteristic construction and description

**Table 3.2.: Summary statistics of daily returns.** The table reports summary statistics of daily returns for the filtered sample, the top 100 and top 10 cryptocurrencies ranked by market capitalization, and for Bitcoin, Ethereum, and Ripple individually. Reported statistics include the number of daily observations, the number of unique coins over the sample period, the mean and standard deviation of returns, and the 10th percentile, lower quartile, median, upper quartile, and 90th percentile of the distribution of the returns. The sample period is from June 1, 2018, to July 31, 2025.

	No. Obs	Unique coins	Mean	Std	P10	P25	P50	P75	P90
Sample	1,478,936	973	0.36%	12.25%	-6.83%	-3.00%	-0.16%	2.57%	6.85%
Top 100	176,400	100	0.21%	6.93%	-5.64%	-2.52%	-0.03%	2.44%	5.86%
Top 10	24,747	10	0.25%	5.74%	-4.71%	-2.00%	0.07%	2.14%	5.07%
Bitcoin	2,618	1	0.16%	3.33%	-3.24%	-1.27%	0.09%	1.52%	3.67%
Ethereum	2,611	1	0.17%	4.35%	-4.33%	-1.77%	0.10%	2.14%	4.88%
Ripple	2,540	1	0.20%	5.31%	-4.48%	-1.87%	0.08%	1.89%	4.70%

<sup>1</sup> As of July 31, 2025, the top 10 cryptocurrencies are Bitcoin, Ethereum, Ripple, Binance Coin, Solana, Dogecoin, Tron, Cardano, Stellar, and Chainlink.

the Russia-Ukraine war in February 2022, and the Palestine-Israel war in October 2023. More recently, in 2024, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) approved the listing and trading of several crypto spot ETFs in January, and Donald Trump’s election as U.S. president, with Elon Musk playing an important role in his campaign (Bianchi & Babiak, 2021; C. Chen & Liu, 2022; S. Liu & Yang, 2024; Mercik et al., 2025; Zhou, 2025).

### 3.3. Characteristic construction and description

For the analysis, I construct 40 asset-specific characteristics from the cross-section of 973 cryptocurrencies using data on prices, volume, and market capitalization. Specifically, I follow the methodology of Bianchi & Babiak (2021), Y. Liu et al. (2022), and Mercik et al. (2025) to replicate and classify a set of characteristics that serve as return predictors in the empirical analysis. Based on economic intuition, I group the characteristics into six categories: market and size, volatility and risk, trading activity, liquidity, past returns, and distribution. Table 3.3 summarizes the set of characteristics, while Appendix XXX provides a detailed description and the construction procedure.

This is more related to factor construction.

Organize week in the following way: the first seven days of the year forms the first week, and the first 51 weeks of the year consists of 7 days each. The 52th week of the year consists of the last eight days and, in case of a leap year (as 2016, 2020, and 2024), of nine days.

---

Crypto.com were hacked in 2020 and 2022, respectively. (Zhou, 2025)

### 3. Data

**Table 3.3.: Cryptocurrency characteristics.** This caption is way too long and doesnt look good when formatted in the Table of Contents. What you really need here is a much shorter caption so that your eyes dont go crazy trying to figure out what information the author is trying to convey. Often there is too much information in the caption anyway so why not shorten it?.

No.	Characteristic	Symbol	Definition
<b>Panel A: Price and size</b>			
1	Market capitalization	mcap	Market capitalization of the coin.
2	Price	prc	Cryptocurrency logged closing price.
3	Closeness to the 90-day high	dh90	Last day's price over the maximum price in the previous 90 days.
<b>Panel B: Volatility &amp; risk</b>			
1	Market beta	beta	CAPM market beta, estimated from 30 days of daily returns.
2	Idiosyncratic volatility	ivol	Volatility of CAPM residuals over 30 days of daily returns.
3	7-day realized volatility	rvol_7d	Realized volatility, calculated from 7 days of OHCL prices.
4	30-day realized volatility	rvol_30d	Realized volatility, calculated from 30 days of OHCL prices.
5	Return volatility	retvol	Standard deviation of daily returns over 7 days.
6	Value-at-Risk	var	The historical Value-at-Risk at 5% level over 90 days.
7	Price delay	delay	Improvement in $R^2$ after adding lagged one-and two-day market excess return to the CAPM.
<b>Panel C: Activity</b>			
1	Volume	volume	Daily trading volume.
2	Average 7-day Volume	volume_7d	Mean volume over 7 days.
3	Average 30-day Volume	volume_30d	Mean volume over 30 days.
4	Volume scaled by size	volscaled	Trading volume scaled by market capitalization.
5	Turnover	turn	Turnover ratio (volume relative to market cap).
6	Volume standard deviation	std_vol	Standard deviation of trading volume.
7	Volume CV	cv_vol	Coefficient of variation of trading volume.
<b>Panel D: Liquidity</b>			
1	Bid-ask spread	bidask	Bid-ask spread as a liquidity measure.
2	Illiquidity	illiq	Amihud illiquidity ratio.
3	Supply-adjusted turnover	sat	Turnover adjusted for circulating supply.
4	Dollar trading output	dto	Total dollar trading value.
5	30-day volume share	volsh_30d	Share of trading volume in the past 30 days.
<b>Panel E: Past returns</b>			
1	1-day momentum	r2_1	Return on the previous trading day.
2	7-day momentum	r7_1	7-day cumulative return ending 1 day before the prediction date.
3	14-day momentum	r14_1	14-day cumulative return ending 1 day before the prediction date.
4	21-day momentum	r21_1	21-day cumulative return ending 1 day before the prediction date.
5	30-day momentum	r30_1	30-day cumulative return ending 1 day before the prediction date.
6	3014 day momentum	r30_14	Cumulative return from 30 to 14 days before the prediction date.
7	18060 day momentum	r180_60	Cumulative return from 180 to 60 days before the prediction date.
8	Closeness to the 90-day high	dh90	Last day's price over the maximum price in the previous 90 days.
9	Jensens alpha	alpha	Jensens alpha estimated from a factor model.
<b>Panel F: Distribution</b>			
1	Return skewness	skew	Skewness of daily returns.
2	Return kurtosis	kurt	Kurtosis of daily returns.
3	Maximum return	maxret	Maximum daily return in the sample.
4	Minimum return	minret	Minimum daily return in the sample.

### 3.3. Characteristic construction and description

Following Y. Liu et al. (2022), I construct a daily cryptocurrency market return as the value-weighted average return of all the cryptocurrencies in the sample. For cryptocurrencies  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , the daily market return at time  $t$  is computed as:

$$r_t^M = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N r_{it} \cdot marketcap_{it}}{\sum_{i=1}^N marketcap_{it}}$$

The cryptocurrency market excess return is constructed as the difference between the cryptocurrency market return and the risk-free rate. To proxy the risk-free rate, I used the (daily) 1-month Treasury bill rate from the FRED.

Write this in the following section of “Empirical application” or This is for the model:  
7. (Still undecisive) Minimum cross-section. Following the criterion by Kelly, I Convert variables in the -0.5 - 0.5 range

The sample period ranges from January 1st, 2014, to May 31st, 2025.

## 4. Results

Implemented in python, based on the IPCA python code of Seth Pruitt <sup>1</sup> and the `ipca` python package of Buechner & Bybee (2019) <sup>2</sup>.

Following Kelly et al. (2019), I cross-sectionally transform the instrument variables period-by-period in the following manner: first,

**Important:** mention the shift of characteristics: the conditional APT of Kelly, Pruitt, Su (JFE 2019) says that the characteristics known at  $\text{Date}=d-1$  determine the exposures associated with the returns realized at  $\text{Date}=d$ ; hence, here we should have shifted the characteristics in  $Z$  relative to the returns in  $R$

This is a template of the table of the results of the IPCA model. I need to add a caption to the table. Here I reference Table 4.1.

Some test for quarto and latex

Quarto: 1. Sees the caption line after the table. 2. Wraps the `tabular` inside a LaTeX `table` environment. 3. Adds `\caption{Some letters with LaTeX}` and `\label{tbl-letters}` automatically. 4. Gives it a table number and puts it in the List of Tables.

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### Inline LaTeX way inside Quarto

Here we see the summary statistics in Table 4.2.

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<sup>1</sup>See <https://sethpruitt.net/research/>.

<sup>2</sup>See <https://bkelly-lab.github.io/ipca/>.

**Table 4.1.: Results of IPCA regression.** Model Performance. Panel A and B report total and predictive  $R^2$  in percent for the restricted ( $\Gamma_\alpha = 0$ ) and unrestricted ( $\Gamma_\alpha \neq 0$ ) IPCA model for  $K$  number of factors on daily and weekly data, respectively. Panel C reports the corresponding total and predictive  $R^2$  for a simple PCA model on weekly data.

		K		
		$K = 3$	$K = 5$	$K = 8$
Panel C: PCA on weekly data				
$R^2_{\text{Total}}$		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
$R^2_{\text{Predictive}}$		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Panel B: IPCA on weekly data				
$R^2_{\text{Total}}$	$\Gamma_\alpha = 0$	0.2625	0.2817	0.2934
	$\Gamma_\alpha \neq 0$	0.2661	0.2826	0.2937
$R^2_{\text{Predictive}}$	$\Gamma_\alpha = 0$	0.1725	0.1551	0.1511
	$\Gamma_\alpha \neq 0$	0.1719	0.1584	0.1554
Panel A: IPCA on daily data				
$R^2_{\text{Total}}$	$\Gamma_\alpha = 0$	0.2301	0.2509	0.2681
	$\Gamma_\alpha \neq 0$	0.2322	0.2524	0.2690
$R^2_{\text{Predictive}}$	$\Gamma_\alpha = 0$	-0.3904	-0.4082	-0.4169
	$\Gamma_\alpha \neq 0$	-0.3857	-0.4055	-0.4156

**Table 4.2.:** Some letters with LaTeX

A B C  
D E F

## **5. Conclusion**



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# A. Appendix

## A.1. Supplementary Material

## A.2. Cryptocurrency Characteristics

### A.2.1. Volume shock

Following Bianchi et al. (2022), the volume shock is defined as the log-deviation of trading volume from its rolling average (over 30 or 60 days) for cryptocurrency  $i$  at time  $t$ . For  $m \in \{30, 60\}$  periods, the volume shock is estimated as:

$$v_{i,t} = \log(\text{Volume}_{i,t}) - \log\left(\frac{1}{m} \sum_{s=1}^m \text{Volume}_{i,t-s}\right)$$

## A.3. Risk

### A.3.1. Realized volatility (rvol)

Using the volatility estimator of Yang and Zhang (2000), I compute the daily realized volatility based on OHCL prices over a rolling 30-day window. For  $n > 1$  number of periods, the volatility estimate at time  $t$  is:

$$\sigma_t = \sqrt{\sigma_O^2 + k\sigma_C^2 + (1-k)\sigma_{RS}^2}$$

where  $\sigma_{RS}^2$  is the variance estimator of Rogers et al. (1994), and  $\sigma_O^2$ ,  $\sigma_C^2$ ,  $k$  are defined as follows:

$$\sigma_O^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (o_i - \bar{o})^2,$$

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$$\sigma_C^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (c_i - \bar{c})^2,$$

$$k = \frac{\alpha - 1}{\alpha + \frac{n+1}{n-1}}$$

with  $o = \ln O_t - \ln C_{t-1}$ , and  $c = \ln C_t - \ln O_t$ . Here,  $C_{t-1}$  denotes the last days' closing price and  $O_t$  the current day's opening price. I set the constant  $\alpha = 1.34$  as suggested by Yang and Zhang (2000) to be the best value in practice.

Moskowitz et al. (2012)

### A.4. Software

This thesis was fully written using Quarto (Allaire et al., 2025), running in RStudio (v. 2025.5.1.513; Posit team, 2025) on Fedora Linux 42 (Workstation Edition).

I used R 4.5.1 (R Core Team, 2025) and the following R packages: bidask v. 2.1.4 (Ardia et al., 2024), moments v. 0.14.1 (Komsta & Novomestky, 2022), pcaMethods v. 2.0.0 (Stacklies et al., 2007), PerformanceAnalytics v. 2.0.8 (Peterson & Carl, 2024), quantmod v. 0.4.28 (Ryan & Ulrich, 2025), slider v. 0.3.2 (Vaughan, 2024), tidyverse v. 2.0.0 (Wickham et al., 2019), and zoo v. 1.8.14 (Zeileis & Grothendieck, 2005).

Additionally, I used Python 3.15.3 (Python Software Foundation, 2025) and the following packages: numpy (Harris et al., 2020), pandas (The pandas development team, 2020), matplotlib (Hunter, 2007), and scipy (Virtanen et al., 2020).