# 东华大学

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## 几类股票收益率预测模型的比较

#### 摘要

对股票收益率进行预测一直是学者热衷的研究领域。本文通过建立多元线性 回归模型、ARIMA模型、ARCH模型、支持向量机回归 SVR模型、随机森林模 型和 BP神经网络模型,以视觉中国 000681 股票以季度为周期的历史数据为例, 进行股票收益率的预测研究,进而从各模型的预测效果出发,对上述几类股票收 益率的预测模型进行比较分析。

文章所采用的几类预测方法可大致划分为线性和非线性。从线性角度出发,构建多元线性回归模型、ARIMA模型、ARCH模型和支持向量机回归 SVR模型,实证分析表明:四者对收益率的预测值精确度都不太高,但预测趋势方面差异大,以支持向量机回归 SVR模型的效果最优,ARIMA模型和 ARCH模型次之,多元线性回归模型预测趋势精度最差。由于股票市场的非线性因子作用,上述几种线性模型中不能充分描述出这一非线性现象,为此,从非线性角度出发,机器学习领域中的随机森林模型和 BP神经网络模型将被引入,以获得因子间非线性预测模型。预测结果表明:两模型显著优于线性角度的四种预测模型,,具有很高的预测值和预测趋势准确度,其中,以 BP神经网络模型的预测效果更优,几近与实际值吻合。

本文以视觉中国 000681 股票为例,通过对几类股票收益率的预测模型的比较,为后续股票收益率的预测模型选取问题提供参考进而更加准确地预测股票的收益率,对投资者建立有效投资策略具有较强的借鉴意义。

关键词:股票收益率预测,ARIMA模型,ARCH模型,SVR模型,随机森林模型,BP神经网络模型



## COMPARISON OF SEVERAL TYPES OF STOCK RETURN PREDICTION MODELS

#### **ABSTRACT**

Predicting stock returns has always been a hot research field for scholars. By establishing multiple linear regression model, ARIMA model, ARCH model, support vector machine regression SVR model, random forest model and BP neural network model, this paper takes the historical quarterly data of Vision China 000681 stock as an example to predict the stock return rate, and then from the prediction effect of each model, it compares and analyzes the prediction models of the above types of stock return rate.

The several types of prediction methods used in the article can be roughly divided into linear and nonlinear. From a linear perspective, multiple linear regression models, ARIMA models, ARCH models, and support vector machine regression SVR models are constructed. Empirical analysis shows that the accuracy of the four models in predicting returns is not very high, but there are significant differences in predicting trends. Support vector machine regression SVR model has the best effect, followed by ARIMA model and ARCH model, and multiple linear regression model has the worst trend prediction accuracy. Due to the nonlinear factor effect of the stock market, this nonlinear phenomenon cannot be fully described in the above-mentioned linear models. Therefore, from the nonlinear perspective, the random forest model and BP neural network model in the field of machine learning will be introduced to obtain the nonlinear prediction model between factors. The prediction results show that the two models are significantly superior to the four linear angle prediction models, with high predictive values and trend accuracy. Among them, the BP neural network model has



better prediction performance, which is almost in line with the actual values.

This article takes Visual China's 000681 stock as an example, and compares the prediction models for several types of stock returns to provide reference for the selection of subsequent prediction models for stock returns, thereby more accurately predicting stock returns. This has strong reference significance for investors to establish effective investment strategies.

**Key words**: stock return prediction, ARIMA model, ARCH model, SVR model, random forest model, BP neural network model



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## 1 绪论

## 1.1 引言

我们知道,股票市场价格的走势是极为复杂并且难以预测的,这是由于股票市场的参与者难以准确地把握宏观的经济形势、相关金融政策、公司的财务状况、国际环境变化以及投资者的心理的承受能力等相关因素的变化和其对股票市场的影响方式与作用。而由于该问题潜藏着巨大经济价值,因此,市场分析师和研究人员非常重视对股市的价格和方向趋势做出准确预测。

实际上,股票收益率的变化可能比股票价格更能准确地衡量股票市场的变化。缘于此,在股票市场中,对股票的收益率进行相关建模预测分析相对于股票的价格预测来说,有着更为重要的研究价值。故文章结合视觉中国 000681 股票的季度性历史数据,对多元线性回归、时间序列分析、支持向量机回归、随机森林和 BP 神经网络这几种预测方法所建立的收益率预测模型作比较。

## 1.2 研究现状

长期以来,股票价格的涨跌一直是股票市场研究中的热点问题。正因为如此,国内外众多学者对股票市场的预测进行了诸多深入研究,并开发了各种预测技术。从线性角度出发,早期多采用时间序列的分析方法来预测股价,以建立ARIMA-SVM模型的方式对股票的开盘价格进行短期预测[1];亦有通过主成分分析建立多元线性回归模型的基本方法进行股票收益率预测[2]。但站在计量经济学的角度传统的线性模型对系数不显著及回归截距显著大于零等问题的解释,已被验检查证明是不充分的。考察这些问题的根源,看看是否有解释变量遗漏或其他时间性变量值仍然可以被解释。由此,对于线性模型的修正有了几个对应的修改的方法:提出了多因子变量的定价模型,以解决解释变量的遗漏方面的问题[3-5];提出了变参数(贝塔)的定价模型,以解决贝塔系数时变性方面的问题[6];提出了GARCH类定价模型,以解决随机项的方差的时变性问题[7]。然而,如果只使



用上述修改后的模型,将无法完全解决模型解释能力不足的问题。这是由于:首先,增加解释变量的过程是无法穷尽的,只依靠此法来提高模型的解释能力并不现实。再者,由于时变贝塔参数定价的模型来估计出的贝塔系数与相应市场组合的超额的收益之间关系并不密切,表现为两者的协方差数值并不大,这意味着,时变贝塔参数的定价模型与用 CAPM 模型计算出来的收益相近。

进而,不少国内外文献对于存在着的非线性金融市场的现象及特征进行了深入的实证检验与报道<sup>[8-11]</sup>。有效市场和随机游走的假设失败是因为股市的非线性特征,而随之而来的是基于此假设基础上相应的方差有限性或是正态分布的金融计量学模型以及现代资本的市场理论皆备受质疑。但在前述文献资料显示,在对定价模型修正的过程中,并未考虑非线性股市带来的金融不规则性,只在模型的参数里面表现出来,而其挑战在于,因变量之间的非线性价格结构不能被目前的模型所描述。

故近些年来,国内外许多研究人员尝试使用非参数回归方法,如局部的最小 二乘估计、核回归和人工神经网络等,来预测股票收益率。其中,人工神经网络 是目前的相关股票收益率预测研究中较为经常使用的方法[12]。随着计算机的发 展,机器学习的应用建模预测方法作为一种有别于传统股票市场预测的新方法 [13],取得了越来越显著的的成效。在一些学术研究中,有学者使用来自 Cnx Nifty 和孟买证券交易所(BSE)的历史股票数据做样本,通过建立支持向量机(Support Vector Machine, 简记 SVM)模型, 朴素贝叶斯(Naive Bayes, 简记 NB)模型, 随机森 林(Random Forest, 简记 RF)模型和人工神经网络(Artificial Neural Networks, 简记 ANN)模型,四种模型预测方法来预测股票市场的未来走势。预测结果表明,随 机森林模型的预测精度最高[14]。还有学者在此基础上为解决随机森林参数的寻优 问题进行了相关改进研究。针对随机森林的参数优化主要是决策树个数和分裂的 属性两个方面, 学者采用了网格搜索的算法的有效方式来优化参数。我们知道, 当股票的特征过于多时,可能会存在输入的数据的维度过大还有计算量过于高等 问题[15],故而在使用随机森林模型对股票进行预测时,可能存在预测的准确率因 参数较多而对参数的依赖程度过高的问题,亦可能存在着因特征种类增加,模型 的运行耗时增加同时股票的预测精度会随之而下降等问题。因此,为解决上述问 题,有学者创新性地引入了机器学习的领域中的神经网络的模型,以此来捕获股



票市场中,相关诸多预测收益率的因子之间的非线性定价结构,更好的解决上述问题的同时,预测精度性能也有了进一步提高。而得出的相关实证研究结果进一步证明,神经网络模型能够准确追踪影响预期收益的众多变量之间的非线性关系。神经网络非线性模型对诸多股票收益率进行预测时,预测效果均优于传统的因子线性定价模型。

基于为此,本文在参考相关文献的基础上,对上述几种预测方法对股票收益率进行预测。从线性角度出发建立的多元线性回归模型、ARIMA模型、ARCH模型、支持向量机回归 SVR模型和非线性角度出发建立的随机森林模型、BP神经网络模型来分别对股票视觉中国 000681 的季度收益率进行预测,分析预测结果,更直观地比较得出各种模型与方法的优劣,并在建模过程中寻求模型改进,获得更优的预测性能和趋势预测精度,对投资者构建有效的投资策略具有较强借鉴意义。

## 1.3 文章结构

本文主要研究几类股票收益率预测模型的比较。在第二章介绍了 ARIMA 模型、ARCH 模型、SVR 模型、随机森林模型、BP 神经网络模型五种预测模型的基本理论和定义,并概述了模型建立的基本运行原理和运算公式。在第三章,以视觉中国 000681 这一股票季度历史数据为例,运用前述几类股票收益率预测模型,进行实证分析,对预测模型进行相关检验寻求各方法的最优模型,并分别得到预测结果。进而对结果进行分析,评估预测效果,并于其他方法所得预测模型的效果进行比较,分析相关差异及原因,选择最优预测方法。在第四章中,对本论文的主要工作成果进行总结,并对下一步研究工作进行展望。

本文在部分研究文献的理论基础上,进行整合实践,通过分析与比较,得出一些重要结果,对未来股票收益率预测模型的选择与建立具有参考意义。



## 2 基本理论

本章将介绍 ARIMA 模型、ARCH 模型、支持向量机回归 SVR 模型、随机 森林模型和 BP 神经网络模型这几种预测模型的基本理论。

## 2.1 ARIMA 模型

博克思-詹金斯(Box-Jenkins)提出了时间序列数据相关分析及预测问题的较完善算法,此类问题对应的常用模型有:自回归 AR 模型,滑动平均 MA 模型,自回归-滑动平均混合 ARMA 模型以及差分整合移动平均自回归 ARIMA 模型。

#### 定义 2.1

具有如下结构的模型称为求和自回归移动平均模型,简记为 ARIMA(p,d,q)模型,可表示为:

$$\left(1 - \sum_{i=1}^{p} \phi_i L^i\right) (1 - L)^d X_t = \left(1 + \sum_{i=1}^{q} \theta_i L^i\right) \varepsilon_t$$
 (2-1)

其中, L 是滞后算子,  $d \in \mathbb{Z}, d > 0$ 

非平稳的时间序列通过去除局部水平和序列趋势的方法在非静态时间线中显示出一定的同质性,即序列中一些部分与其他部分具有相同的特质。这种非平稳的波动可以用差分的方法转换变成较平稳的波动。模型齐次的阶数即为差分的次数。

将▽记作差分算子,则有

$$\nabla^2 y_t = \nabla (y_t - y_{t-1}) = y_t - 2y_{t-1} + y_{t-2}$$
 (2-2)

对于延迟算子B,有

$$y_{t-p} = \mathbf{B}^p y_t, \forall p \ge 1 \tag{2-3}$$

由此可以得出



$$\nabla^k = (1 - \mathbf{B})^k \tag{2-4}$$

设齐次非平稳的时间序列  $y_t$  为 d 阶,则  $\nabla^d y_t$  是平稳的时间序列,故  $\nabla^d y_t$  其 为 ARMA(p,q)模型,即

$$\lambda(\mathbf{B})(\nabla^d y_t) = \theta(\mathbf{B})\varepsilon_t \tag{2-5}$$

其中, $\varepsilon_t$ 是均值为零的白噪声序列, $\theta(B)=1-\theta_1B-\theta_2B^2-\cdots-\theta_pB^p$ 是滑动平均系数的多项式, $\lambda(B)=1-\lambda_1B-\lambda_2B^2-\cdots-\lambda_pB^p$ 则是自回归系数多项式。故称序列 $y_t$ 为自回归求和滑动平均模型,简记 ARIMA(p,d,q)。

差分阶数 d 是否等于零代表该时间序列是否平稳。当差分的阶数 d=0 时, ARIMA 模型等同于 ARMA 模型。

## 2.2 ARCH 模型[16-18]

自回归条件异方差模型,简记 ARCH 模型(Autoregressive conditional heteroskedasticity model),该模型解决了早前的时间序列研究中传统计量经济学直接假设其方差恒定的欠缺。该模型的基本的思想是:条件方差取决于前期值的大小,干扰因素在前后都是不相关的。该模型作为计量经济学重要成果,因其不容忽视的作用而获得 2003 年诺贝尔经济学奖。

#### 定义 2.2

具有如下结构的模型称为p阶自回归条件异方差模型,简记为ARCH(p)模型,表示为:

$$\begin{cases} \varepsilon_t^2 = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \varepsilon_{t-1}^2 + \dots + \alpha_p \varepsilon_{t-p}^2 \\ \varepsilon_t = \sigma_t \zeta_t \end{cases}$$
 (2-6)

其中, $\varepsilon_i$ 表示收益或是收益残差,式中的 $\zeta_i$ ~iid N(0,1),即满足独立同分布期望为 0 方差为 1 的正态分布序列,此处的 $\alpha_0$  > 0, $\alpha_i$  ≥ 0,i > 0,即,常数项为正数,各期的收益或是收益残差为非负数,以此作为线性组合。



在金融工程的实证研究中,广泛使用时间序列变量的波动性这一特征,因而建立 ARCH 模型能更好地进行模拟预测研究。它是华尔街著名的预测工具,该模型蕴含的"信息价值"可以更准确地检测风险(即波动性),特别是应用于"价值风险"理论相关问题是更是不可或缺。

#### 2.3 支持向量回归模型(SVR)

支持向量机回归(support vector regression),简称 SVR,是支持向量机(support vector machine)(简称 SVM)作为运用于回归问题的一种方法。SVR模型可简单地理解为,创造一个间隔带于线性函数两边,而此间隔带间距为 $\varepsilon$ (该值常根据经验而定),只有支持向量才会对函数的模型产生影响,即对于所有落入间隔带内的样本不计损失,进而通过最小化总损失同时最大化间隔来得出优化后的模型。与支持向量机(SVM)相同,对于非线性的模型,使用核函数(kernel function)方法映射到特征空间,然后进行回归操作。

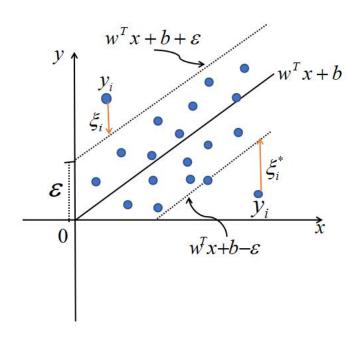


图 2-1 SVR 模型

上图即为支持向量机回归(SVR)的基本情况:



f(x) = wx + b 为最终所要求得的模型函数,而  $wx + b + \varepsilon = bwx + b - \varepsilon$  (即  $f(x)+\varepsilon n f(x)-\varepsilon$ )为隔离带的上边缘和下边缘,  $\xi^*$ 是隔离带下边缘之下的样本点  $y_i$ 到隔离带的下边缘上的队友投影与该样本点的v值的差。表示如下:

$$\xi_{i} = \begin{cases} y_{i} - (f(x_{i}) + \varepsilon), y_{i} > f(x_{i}) + \varepsilon \\ 0, \text{ i.e.} \end{cases}$$
(2-7)

$$\xi = \begin{cases} y_i - (f(x_i) + \varepsilon), y_i > f(x_i) + \varepsilon \\ 0, 其他 \end{cases}$$

$$\xi^* = \begin{cases} (f(x_i) - \varepsilon) - y_i, y_i < f(x_i) - \varepsilon \\ 0, 其他 \end{cases}$$

$$(2-7)$$

#### 2.4 随机森林模型

随机森林是一个包含多个决策树的分类器,作为在机器学习领域中的常用模 型方法,由个别树输出的类别的众数确定其输出的类别。运用集成学习的思想, 随机森林通过随机抽样而获得的数据,输入到众多弱学习器(决策树)中,并进 行投票,最后获得最终输出结果。

下面来介绍随机森林的形成过程,模型建立的步骤如下:

#### (1) 样本的随机抽样

首先对抽取样本做训练集,使用 bootstrap 的方法,有放回的随机抽取 N 个 训练样本(可重复),抽取k次,k个数据集之间是相互独立同分布的

#### (2) 特征的随机抽样

从M 个特征中选择m 个特征 ( $m \ll M$ )

#### (3) 投票得出最终结果

把得到的所有决策树进行组合,通过民主投票的形式输出最后结果,对数据 进行预测或分类。



随机森林模型是一个原理简单、精确度高、用途广泛的模型。常用于以下场景:回归、分类问题,无监督学习聚类以及异常点的检测(利用样本间的相似性来做)。

#### 2.5 BP 神经网络模型

BP 神经网络(back propagation)的概念是由科学家代表 Rumelhart 与 McClelland 在 1986 年提出的。其作为应用最广泛的神经网络模型,本质上是一种多层前馈神经网络,通过误差逆向传播算法进行训练的。

#### 2.5.1 基本原理

BP 神经网络只需要通过自我的训练来学习对应规则,并在输入数值时得到下一个最接近期望的预期结果;它不需要事先知道与输入和输出相连的数学方程式。计算系统作为 BP 神经网络的大脑是一个智能信息处理器系统,从误差的反向传播(简称误差反传)训练中学习。这一学习的多层前馈网络是 BP 神经网络算法,简称为 BP 算法,梯度方程法是该算法的主要思想。通过使用梯度搜索的方法,使网络的实际基准和预期基准之间的误差均方差最小。

#### 2.5.2 BP 神经网络模型概述

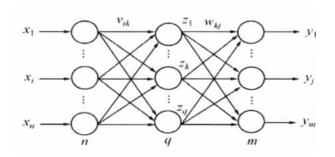


图 2-2 BP 神经网络基本结构

上图即为 BP 神经网络的基本结构,可以看到,输入层有  $\mathbf{n}$  个节点,对应的输入为  $x_1 \sim x_n$ ; 而输出层有  $\mathbf{m}$  个节点,对应的输出为  $y_1 \sim y_m$  ; 隐含层有  $\mathbf{q}$  个节点,其对应的输出为  $z_1 \sim z_q$  ; 输入层和隐含层之间的权值为  $v_{ik}$  , 隐含层和输出层之间的权值为  $w_{ki}$  。



#### 2.5.3 BP 神经网络学习算法

信号的前向传播和误差的反向传播是构成 BP 神经网络基本学习算法的两个关键过程。当计算误差输出时,相当于按输入到输出的方向进行了一遍。如果要调整权重和阈值,它就会"逃跑",即按输出到输入的逆方向进行。输出的信号是由输入的信号的非线性的变换产生的,这过程主要通过隐含层来作用于输出的节点,即进行正向传播而得。如果期望的输出和实际的结果差距较大,误差的反向传播过程就会开始。这一过程主要表现为输出的误差通过隐含层向输入层进行逐层反传,而产生的误差将会分摊于每一层的每一个单元中。继而对各个单元权重进行修改调整,调整的依据是每层产生的误差信号。这样的学习算法过程包括隐层的节点与输出的节点之间关联的强度和阈值,以及输入的节点与隐层的节点之间的关联的强度,使误差沿着梯度的方向下降。当网络参数(如权重和阈值)通过反复学习和训练建立起来后,训练就此完成了。训练后的 BP 神经网络网络此时能够自行处理类似样本的输入数据,进行非线性转换,并产生最小误差的信息结果。



## 3 实证结果与分析

本章以视觉中国 000681 股票的季度性历史数据为例,建立多元线性回归模型、ARIMA 模型、ARCH 模型、支持向量机回归 SVR 模型、随机森林模型和BP 神经网络模型,分别对视觉中国 000681 的股票收益率进行预测,根据预测结果对几类预测模型进行分析比较,挖掘优劣及特点,得出建设性结论。

## 3.1 数据选取

本文选取 1993 年 12 月 31 日-2017 年 10 月 1 日的视觉中国 000681 股票的相关季度性指标:净利润(元)(成长能力指标),每股净资产(元)(每股指标),流动比率、速动比率、资产负债率(3 个偿债能力指标),净资产收益率-摊薄(%)(盈利能力指标)作为样本数据,数据来源与常用股票软件同花顺中视觉中国 000681 这一的季度财报。本文研究股票季度收益率的预测,根据视觉中国 000681 这一股票的财务报表,设置自变量和因变量如下表

表 3-1 自变量和因变量设置释义

X1	X2	X3	X4	X5	Y
净利润(元)	每股净资产 (元)	流动比率	速动比率	资产负债率	净资产收益率-摊薄(%)

对六个数据指标变量进行初步的描述性统计分析

表 3-2 变量描述性统计

Name	Min	1st Qu	Median	Mean	3rd Qu	Max	Skew	Kurtosis
X1	-10^8	-9*10^5	10^7	4*10^7	6*10^7	3*10^8	1.62	5.79
X2	0.570	0.810	1.670	2.101	3.140	4.830	0.74	2.16



Name	Min	1st Qu	Median	Mean	3rd Qu	Max	Skew	Kurtosis
Х3	0.950	1.580	3.220	6.958	5.470	46.990	2.57	8.20
X4	0.680	1.230	2.280	5.808	3.590	46.900	2.73	9.13
X5	0.0187	0.1008	0.1834	0.1975	0.2534	0.6881	1.07	4.88
Y	-75.27	-0.68	1.66	1.57	5.08	28.46	-3.48	27.21

通过 Summary 函数一次性计算出各变量的描述性统计量。如上表所示,Min 表示变量的最小值,1st Qu 表示变量的下四分位点,Median 代表变量的中位数,Mean 表示变量的均值,3rd Qu 表示变量的上四分卫数,max 表示变量的最大数值,Skew 为变量偏度,Kurtosis 则代表变量峰度。由表中数据进而对样本数据各变量特征有了大致了解。

## 3.2 ARIMA 模型预测股票收益率

#### 3.2.1 平稳性检验

#### (1) 时序图检验

将视觉中国 000681 股票财报中获取的 1993 年 12 月 31 日-2017 年 10 月 1日季度收益率数据导入 RStudio,并绘制成对应时序图。

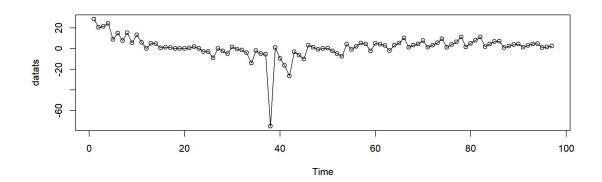


图 3-1 视觉中国 1993 年 12 月 31 日-2017 年 10 月 1 日季度收益率时序图

从图 3-1 可以看出, 视觉中国 1993 年 12 月 31 日-2017 年 10 月 1 日季度收



益率数据呈先减少后波动上升最后较为平稳仅一定范围内较小幅度振荡的趋势, 因此, 初步判断该序列不是平稳序列。

#### (2) 自相关图检验

#### Series datats

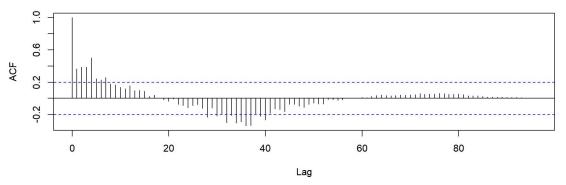


图 3-2 视觉中国 1993 年 12 月 31 日-2017 年 10 月 1 日季度收益率自相关图

从图 3-2 看出,视觉中国 000681 的季度收益率自相关系数延迟到 7 阶之后,落入到两倍标准差之内,但是在延迟到 28 阶之后,又落在了两倍标准差之外,在视觉中国 000681 季度收益率的自相关系数延迟到 40 阶之后,重新落入到两倍标准差之内,这意味着该股票收益率序列从 29 阶之后至 40 阶的衰减速度相当缓慢。而且该季度收益率序列延迟 1~17 期时自相关系数一直为正,而后又一直基本为负,在此季度收益率自相关图上呈现出明显的三角对称性,这是有趋势的非平稳序列常见的自相关图特征。根据该股票季度收益率序列的自相关图,可以认为该序列非平稳,且可能具有长期趋势,这和该序列时序图(图 3-1)呈现的先减后增是一致的。

#### 3.2.2 差分运算

#### (1) 差分

对收益率数据分别作一阶和二阶差分

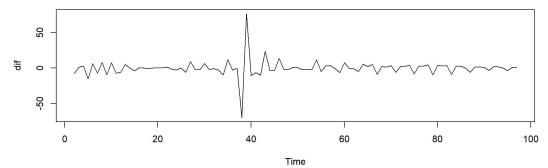


图 3-3 一阶差分后视觉中国股票收益率的时序图



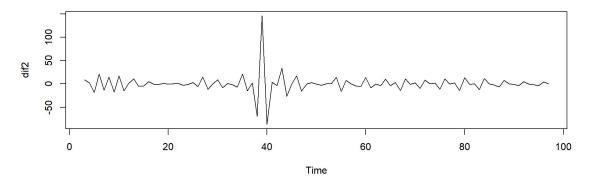


图 3-4 二阶差分后视觉中国股票收益率的时序图

通过对视觉中国 000681 股票季度收益率进行差分运算,成功从原序列中提取出线性趋势,差分后所得季度收益率序列呈现出较平稳波动特征。但单纯通过一阶和二阶时序图,较难辨别一阶差分后趋势信息提取是否充分,序列是否已经平稳,故进行单位根检验。

#### (2) 差分后序列平稳性检验

分别对一阶及二阶差分后的视觉中国 000681 股票季度收益率进行 ADF 单位根检验,所得 P 值均为 0.01,小于显著性水平(α=0.05)。由此可见,一阶和二阶差分的视觉中国 000681 股票季度收益率时间序列均平稳。故对视觉中国 000681 股票季度收益率序列进行一阶差分即可。

#### (3) 一阶差分后序列的纯随机性检验

使用 Box.test 进行纯随机性检验,检验结果显示,延迟 6 和 12 阶下 LB 统计量的 P 值均小于显著性水平(α=0.05),这说明一阶差分后的视觉中国股票收益率的时间序列不是白噪声序列,由此可以确认一阶差分后视觉中国 000681 股票季度收益率序列为平稳非白噪声序列,具有建模价值。

#### 3.2.3 建立 ARIMA 模型

#### (1) 确立 ARIMA 模型

绘制 1 阶差分后视觉中国 000681 股票季度收益率序列的自相关图和偏自相 关图:





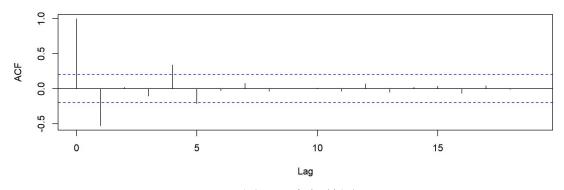


图 3-5 自相关图

Series dif

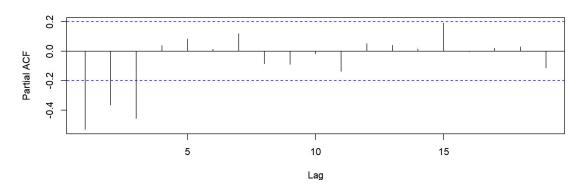


图 3-6 偏自相关图

从自相关图看出,1阶差分后视觉中国000681股票季度收益率序列的自相关函数1阶截尾,而偏自相关图上可看出,1阶差分后视觉中国000681股票季度收益率序列的偏自相关函数2阶截尾。因此,建立疏系数模型ARIMA(1,1,2)。由于个别参数未通过显著性检验(见下(4)参数显著性检验),对模型进行调整,最终建立了ARIMA(1,1,(0,1))模型。

表 3-3 ARIMA(1,1,(0,1))模型参数

Arl	Mal	Ma2	AIC
-0.8019	0	-0. 5146	701.96

(2) 对 ARIMA 模型残差进行白噪声检验

绘制残差图如下



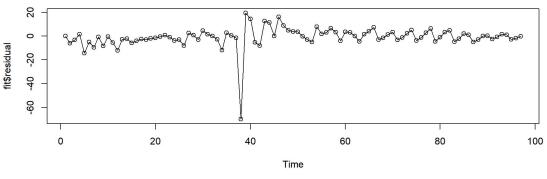


图 3-7 残差图

可以看到残差在一定范围内上下波动,初步认为是残差白噪声序列。 继而对残差进行 LB 白噪声检验,延迟 12 和 18 阶的残差的 LB 检验的 P 值分别 为 0.1699 和 0.4996,明显大于显著性水平(α=0.05),继而绘制残差性质图如下

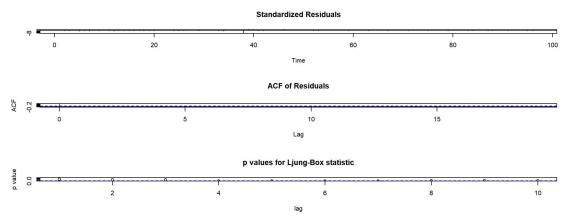


图 3-8 残差性质图

可以看出残差的自相关函数没有显著的自相关性,因此残差是白噪声序列,观察标准化残差图,发现可能存在波动聚集性,需进一步检验。

#### (3) 波动聚集性检验

对残差进行 LM 波动聚集性检验,得到 LM 检验统计量 P=0.1434>0.05,因此不存在聚集性波动

#### (4) 参数显著性检验

根据表 3-2 中的 ARIMA 模型参数值,进行参数显著性检验检验,结果显示,两个 p 值分别为 4.38^-19 和 3.55^-7,均小于显著性水平( $\alpha$ =0.05),故拒绝原假设,即两个系数均显著非零。

#### 3.2.4 ARIMA 模型预测

对建立的 ARIMA(1,1,(0,1))模型做未来五期的预测



#### Forecasts from ARIMA(1,1,2)

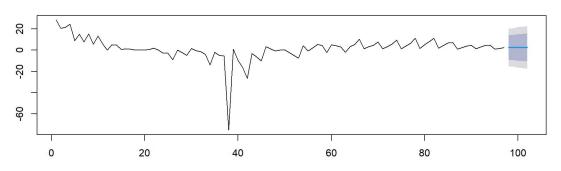


图 3-9 ARIMA(1,1,(0,1))未来五期预测

同时,对模型进行线性拟合预测

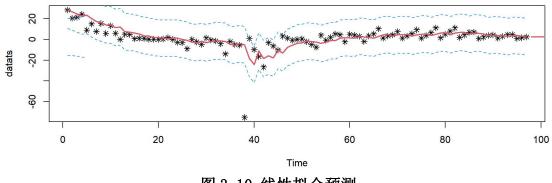


图 3-10 线性拟合预测

图中,\*标代表股票收益率真实值,红色折线代表股票收益率预测值,上下两条蓝色虚线则表示 95%预测预测区间的上下确限。可以看出模型拟合大致符合实际数值及总体变化,效果较为不错。预测结果显示,未来五期收益率呈平缓状态。

## 3.3 ARCH 模型预测股票收益率

基于 3. 2 中 ARIMA 模型建立与检验的基础上,来分析收益率异方差的可能性,寻求建立条件异方差 ARCH 模型的方法进行相关预测。

#### 3.3.1 检验集群效应

绘制差分后收益率序列的平方时序图, 观察是否存在集群效应



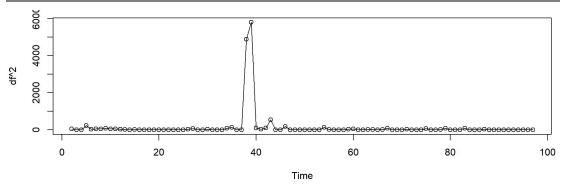


图 3-11 平方时序图

对原序列一阶差分后绘制平方时序图,序列在两端基本平稳,在中间部分的 波动大,且显著的大于两侧,因此判断可能存在集群效应。

#### 3.3.2 ARCH 检验——LM 检验

将差分序列进行 LM 检验与 Portmanteau 检验,统计量的 P 值分别为 0.001139 和 0.0002854,均小于显著性水平 ( $\alpha$ =0.05),故存在异方差性

#### 3.3.3 拟合 ARCH 模型

对序列尝试分别建立 ARCH(1), ARCH(2), ARCH(3)模型, 相关模型及检验结果如下表

Model	Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max	Pr(> t )
ARCH(1)	-7.91285	-0.35096	-0.07691	0.29794	1.83186	<2e-16
ARCH(2)	-7.92609	-0.34611	-0.07433	0.30523	1.81920	0.818
ARCH(3)	-8.44438	-0.36534	-0.07547	0.33173	1.94427	0.904

表 3-4 三种 ARCH 模型相关参数及检验结果

由此可以看出,由于除 ARCH(1)外,其余模型均有参数检验 p 值较大的情况,即都含有接近 0 的参数,故选择 ARCH(1)模型

#### 3.3.4 建立 ARCH(1)模型,并进行模型预测

建立 ARCH(1)模型,并绘制其 95%置信区间及区间与真实值比较

x1.pre

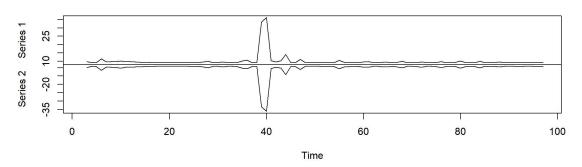


图 3-12 ARCH(1)模型 95%置信区间

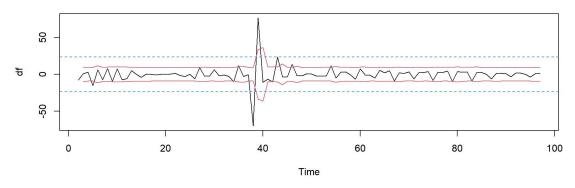


图 3-13 ARCH(1)模型条件异方差与方差齐性置信区间的比较

图中,黑色折线代表原序列波动,两红色折线代表条件异方差拟合序列波动的 95%置信区间,上下两条蓝色虚线则表示无条件方差下拟合原序列波动的 95%置信区间。由图可以看出,条件异方差拟合的置信区间比无条件方差(两蓝平行线)的 95%置信区间更加符合原序列的真实波动,效果更好。

## 3.4 支持向量机回归(SVR)模型预测股票收益率

#### 3.4.1 多元线性回归模型

首先进行多元线性回归模型的建立模拟预测结果,并对五个自变量进行参数 显著性检验,通过检验结果得到预测图

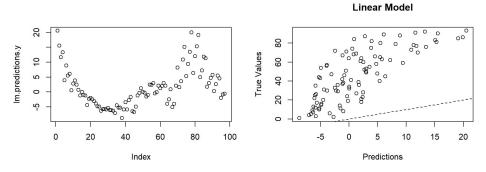


图 3-14 多元线性回归预测



可以发现,单纯的线性回归对预测有较大偏差,预测效果并不理想,这是由于狭义的线性回归不拟合非线性,而支持向量机回归不局限于此,可以很好拟合非线性,故下面尝试用支持向量机回归的方法来优化模型进行预测。

#### 3.4.2 支持向量机回归(SVR)模型

把数据划分为训练集和测试集,比例为 3: 1,通过 75%的训练集建立支持向量机回归 SVR 模型,进而运用剩余 25%的测试集五个自变量指标数据,通过训练集建立的模型,对对应的收益率进行预测,并与真实收益率进行比较,结果如下图

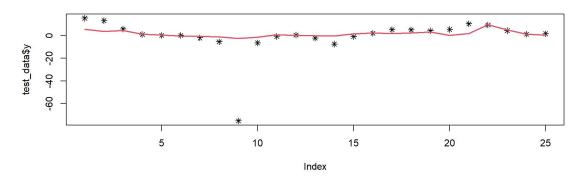


图 3-15 支持向量机回归 SVR 模型预测效果

从图中我们可以看出,支持向量机回归 SVR 模型因其可拟合非线性的优势, 预测效果相较于多元线性回归要好得多,可以较好的预测出收益率的大致趋势, 但仍存在对各个收益率预测结果精确度不高的问题。

下面进行具体检测模型的预测精确度和趋势准确率。衡量预测精确度时,选取 20%的误差作为标准进行筛选,结果仅有 3 个数据达到要求,仅占测试集数据的 12%,精确度不足。而趋势准确率方面,则有 16 个数据达到要求,占比达到了 64%。因此,在收益率预测方面,我们可以着重参考其预测趋势,而预测值的参考价值不高。

## 3.5 随机森林模型预测股票收益率

同样地,把视觉中国 000681 股票季度性样本数据划分为训练集和测试集, 比例为 3: 1,通过 75%的训练集建立随机森林模型,进而运用剩余 25%的测试 集的五个自变量指标数据,通过训练集建立的模型,对对应的收益率进行预测。

通过对参数 ntree 的调整尝试



#### wine\_randomforest2

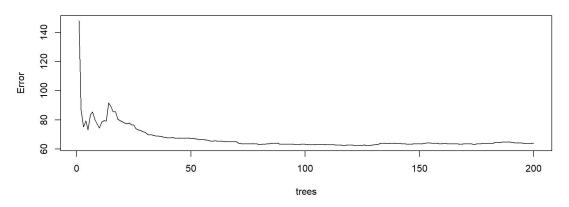


图 3-16 随机森林模型 tree 与错误率关系

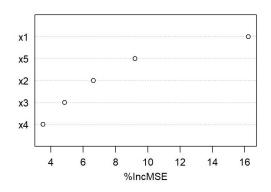
从图中可以看出,在树的数量大于 200 的时候错误率已基本稳定在较低水平,所以在保证效能的情况下,我们取 ntree=200 建立随机森林模型,在确保低错误率的前提下,减少决策树的数量来减少运行时间。

同时,也建立对应模型比较,通过模型的% Var explained 输出结果体现预测变量(用于回归的所有自变量)对响应变量(视觉中国 000681 股票的季度收益率)有关方差的整体解释率。选取解释率较高的选取 ntree=200 的随机森林模型进行预测,根据输出结果显示,五个自变量指标解释了约 53.57%的总方差,可以理解为该回归的  $R^2$ =0.5357,具有一定参考性的一个数值,表明五个指标与收益率之间具有一定相关关系。

基于已经构建好的随机森林回归模型,可以从中评估视觉中国 000681 股票的季度性指标:净利润(元)(成长能力指标),每股净资产(元)(每股指标),流动比率、速动比率、资产负债率(3个偿债能力指标),净资产收益率-摊薄(%)(盈利能力指标)这五个自变量的重要性,按重要程度高低进行排名,选择排名靠前的一部分自变量,这些重要的自变量是明显的与视觉中国 000681 股票收益率密切关联的指标因素。



#### variable importance



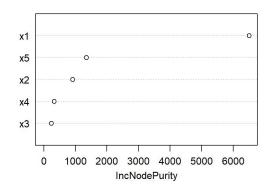


图 3-17 预测变量重要性

每个预测变量的重要性由左图上的"%IncMSE"(即 increase in mean squared error)表示。预测变量重要性的具体数值是从对每个预测因变量进行随机赋值测试而得,数值越大该预测变量的重要性就越大,进而被随机替换后,该模型的预测结果的误差越大。每个预测变量的重要性也可以通过右图中的"IncNodePurity"(即 increase in node purity)来表示,通过残差平方和来计算这个指标数值,数值越大表示该预测变量的重要性就越大。该指标值代表了此预测变量对分类树的每一个节点上观测值的异质性影响大小。对于"%IncMSE"和"IncNodePurity",二者均可作为判断预测因变量间重要性的指标。需注意的是,衡量指标不同二者的排名虽大致相同但仍可能存在着一定的差异。

从上图中可以看出,五个变量指标以 x1, x5, x2 为主要影响因素, x3 和 x4 占比影响最小。

绘制随机森林 ROC 曲线,查看该模型的预测性能,可以看到具有较高的精度。



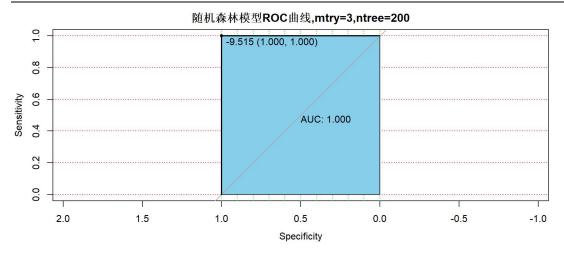


图 3-17 随机森林 ROC 曲线

AUC 值高达 1,模型性能较好。

进而以此随机森林模型对剩余 25%的测试集进行预测,并与真实值进行比较,得下图所示

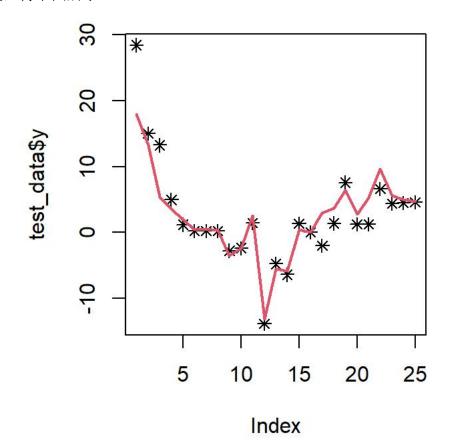


图 3-18 随机森林模型-真实值与预测值比较

图中,\*标代表 25%的测试集中股票收益率真实值,红色折线则代表相应测试集中股票收益率的预测值。通过上图真实值与预测值的比较可以看到,随机森



林模型基本能较好地刻画出趋势及预测值,甚至对个别波动大的收益率也能较好预测出来,总体与个值的预测都较好,性能明显优于前述的支持向量机回归模型。

## 3.6 BP 神经网络模型预测股票收益率

首先,对数据进行标准化处理(如果数据呈现正态分布使用 z 分数标准化,如果处于均匀分布或者非正态分布则最大最小标准化)。然后,与前述相同,把视觉中国 000681 股票季度历史数据划分为训练集和测试集,比例为 3: 1,通过75%的训练集建立 BP 神经网络模型。并通过隐藏层这一参数的调试,适当增加隐藏层,以提高模型的性能。经过试验,选取 hidden=5 时的 BP 神经网络模型。

表 3-5 BP 神经网络模型性能评估

实际值与预测值之间相关系数	0.9662334
平均绝对误差	0.0154795

通过 cor()相关系数获取实际值与预测值之间的关系,结果高达 0.9662334, mean() 平均绝对误差仅为 0.0154795,模型性能非常优异。

进而运用剩余 25%的测试集的五个自变量指标数据,通过训练集建立的模型,

对对应的收益率进行预测,得到的预测模型显示如下图

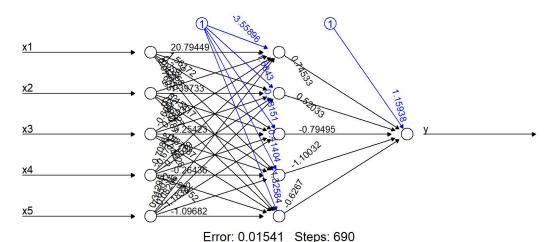


图 3-19 BP 神经网络模型



## 4 结论与展望

本章将对本论文的主要研究内容进行归纳总结,并在已有研究成果的基础上对下一步研究工作进行展望。

#### 4.1 结论

论文主要研究的是几类股票收益率预测模型的比较。在数据选择上,本文选取视觉中国 000681 股票这一有代表性的老牌热门股票,数据跨度由 1993 年 12 月 31 日-2017 年 10 月 1 日,跨度长数据较为丰富,从该股票的财报中选取的相关季度性指标:净利润(元)(成长能力指标),每股净资产(元)(每股指标),流动比率、速动比率、资产负债率(3个偿债能力指标),净资产收益率-摊薄(%)(盈利能力指标)作为样本数据。

在预测模型方法的选取上,基于目前股票收益率预测的研究现状,选取了ARIMA,ARCH,多元线性回归,支持向量机回归(SVR),随机森林,BP神经网络这几种预测方法建立预测模型,对视觉中国 000681 这一股票的收益率做相关预测研究,对预测结果进行检测分析,并与不同预测方法得出的结果进行比较,从而对不同方法的预测效果优劣有更直观的了解。将六种预测方法大致划分为以ARIMA,ARCH,多元线性回归,支持向量机回归(SVR)为代表的线性角度预测方法和以随机森林,BP神经网络为代表的两种非线性角度预测方法。

从第三板块的建模进行实证分析可以看到:从线性角度出发的四种预测方法明显不如非线性的两种机器学习类方法效果好。多元线性回归因其狭义线性拟合使得预测的结果最差,而 ARIMA,ARCH 和 SVR 支持向量机回归模型虽然均能大致刻画出股票收益率的趋势走向,但都存在着预测值与真实值有一定差距、精确度不够高的问题,故相关的线性角度预测方法建立的预测模型仅适合参考股票收益率的未来的走势来判断股价涨跌,但对收益率预测数值缺乏较好的参考。而从非线性角度出发的两种预测方法均以3:1的常用比例将视觉中国000681季度历史数据划分为训练集和测试集,通过训练集进行机器学习不断自我调整建立的出模型来对测试集数据进行预测,从对预测结果与真实值的对比分析中看到,随



机森林模型和 BP 神经网络模型对股票收益率的预测数值精度与股票收益率的趋势走向预测是均有不俗的惊人表现,不但能很好地刻画大致总体收益率及走向,甚至对于偏离总体于极端收益率值都能较好及时预测到,兼具较高的趋势预测率及收益率数值预测性能。其中,以视觉中国 00681 的股票收益率预测为例,BP 神经网络的预测比随机森林还要高,基本完美贴近真实值,将其应用于股票收益率的预测,带来的高于测性能将产生很高的经济参考价值。

#### 4.2 展望

本文只是在现有研究方法的基础上选取 ARIMA, ARCH, 多元线性回归, 支持向量机回归(SVR), 随机森林, BP 神经网络这几类热门常用方法对视觉中国 000681 这一股票进行收益率的预测与对比, 缺乏其他预测方法的对比及现有方法的深入优化改进,且只选取一支热门股票对于其他股票的收益率是否效果仍如此亦有待后续研究。



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## 附录

```
library(xlsxjars)
library(rJava)
library(xlsx)
library(tseries)
library(forecast)
library(lmtest)
library(zoo)
library(FinTS)
#导入数据
mydata<-read.xlsx("D:\\MathModering\\RFunction\\sjzg.xlsx",1)
Time <- mydata[,1]
add <- mydata[,2]
no sym <- mydata[,3]
no sym=ts(no sym,start=1)
#画图观察,显然非平稳
plot(no sym,type='o')
#一阶差分作图观察,单位根检验,平稳
plot(diff(no sym),type='o')
adf.test(diff(no sym))
#二阶差分,单位根检验,平稳
plot(diff(diff(no sym)),type='o')
adf.test(diff(diff(no sym)))
df2=diff(diff(no sym))
#白噪声检验,不是白噪声序列
for(i in 1:3)
print(Box.test(df2),lag=6*i,type='Ljung-Box')
#拟合模型
acf(df2)
pacf(df2)
model1 = arima (no\_sym, order = c(1,1,2), transform.pars = F,
fixed=c(0,NA)
#画出残差图
plot(model1$residual,type='o')
abline(h=0)
#对残差进行白噪声检验(p=0.95),通过检验,是白噪声
for(i in 1:3)
print(Box.test(model1$residual,lag=6*i))
#正态 QQ 图
qqnorm(residuals(model1))
qqline(residuals(model1))
#残差性质图
tsdiag(model1)
#LM 检验
for (i in 1:5)
print(ArchTest(residuals(model1)))
#Portmanteau Q 检验
for(i in 1:5)
```



```
print(Box.test(residuals(model1)^2,lag=i))
#对残差建立 GARCH 模型
res.fit <- garch(model1$residuals,oreder=c(0,1))
#预测并画出预测图
x.fore=forecast(model1,h=5)
x.fore
plot(x.fore)
no sym.fore=forecast(model1,h=5)
L1=no sym.fore$fitted-1.96*sqrt(model1$sigma2)
U1=no sym.fore$fitted+1.96*sqrt(model1$sigma2)
L2=ts(no sym.fore$lower[,2],start=1)
U2=ts(no sym.fore\upper[,2],start=1)
c1=min(no sym,L1,L2)
c2=max(no sym,L1,L2)
plot(no sym,type='p',pch=8)
lines(no sym.fore$fitted,col=2,lwd=2)
lines(no sym.fore$mean,col=2,lwd=2)
lines(L1,col=4,lty=2)
lines(U1,col=4,lty=2)
lines(L2,col=4,lty=2)
lines(U2,col=4,lty=2)
#对参数进行显著性检验
t1 = -0.6551/0.1084
pt(t1,df=69,lower.tail = T)
t2=-0.7242/0.1099
pt(t2,df=69,lower.tail = T)
t3=-0.3708/0.1655
pt(t3,df=69,lower.tail = T)
#残差分析
#残差相关性质图
win.graph(width=6.5,height=6)
tsdiag(model1)
#残差分布
hist(residuals(model1))
#正态检验
ggnorm(residuals(model1))
qqline(residuals(model1))
#聚集效应
plot(df2^2,type='o')
#LM 检验
for (i in 1:5)
print(ArchTest(df2))
#Portmanteau Q 检验
for(i in 1:5)
print(Box.test(df2^2,lag=i))
#建立条件异方差模型
model2=auto.arima(no sym)
for(i in 1:5)
print(Box.test(residuals(model2)^2,lag=i))
for (i in 1:5)
print(ArchTest(residuals(model2)))
plot(residuals(model2),type='o')
df2.fit1 <- garch(model1$residuals,order=c(0,1))
summary(df2.fit1)
```



```
df2.fit2 <- garch(model1$residuals,order=c(0,2))
summary(df2.fit2)
df2[is.na(df2)] < 0
df2.fit3 <- garch(model1$residuals,order=c(0,3))
summary(df2.fit3)
df2.fit4 <- garch(model1$residuals,order=c(0,4))
summary(df2.fit4)
df2.fit5 <- garch(model1$residuals,order=c(0,5))
summary(df2.fit5)
df2.fit1 <- garch(model1$residuals,oreder=c(1,1))
summary(df2.fit1)
eacf(abs(diff(diff(no sym))^2))
model2=garch(x=diff(no sym),order=c(0,3))
qqnorm(residuals(model2))
qqline(residuals(model2))
shapiro.test(na.omit(residuals(model2)))
#Garch 模型
r.model=garch(model1$residuals,order=c(1,1))
r.pre <- predict(r.model)</pre>
plot(r.pre[2:length(r.pre)],type='o')
df2.fit1 \le garch(df2^2, order=c(0,1))
summary(df2.fit1)
df2.fit2 \le garch(df2, order = c(0,2))
summary(df2.fit2)
df2.fit3 \le garch(df2, order = c(0,3))
summary(df2.fit3)
df2.fit4 \le garch(df2, order = c(0,4))
summary(df2.fit4)
df2.fit5 \le garch(df2, order = c(0,5))
summary(df2.fit5)
df2.fit1 <- garch(df2,oreder=c(1,1))
summary(df2.fit1)
```



## 致谢

时光荏苒,一转眼,大学生涯即将落幕。即将站上人生新起点之际,回顾四年大学生活,可以细数一路走来的诸多收获与伴随着的坎坷挫折,虽未尽完美但亦不留遗憾。新冠疫情长达三年的肆虐与反复伴随着的居家或是封校封寝举措无疑成为丰富校园活动的拦路虎,而随之改变的线上教学无疑凝聚力学校与老师的辛勤汗水,为保障学习进程添砖加瓦。在此,感谢学校与诸位老师灵魂转变教学模式,不负学子孜孜求学之旅;亦感谢学校防疫工作组对大家即使的全方位保护与照顾;也要特别感谢我的指导老师尤苏蓉老师,在需要时永远在线投入时间与我进行沟通,即使全面答疑解惑,在完成毕业论文过程中给予我很多指导与鼓励;此外,还要感谢所有陪伴在身边的老师、朋友和家人们,是你们的鼓励与教导给予我不断探索前行的力量;最后,感谢东华大学对我的教育,我会谨记"崇德博学,砺志尚实"的校训,并践行于今后的生活中。

未来路漫漫, 定当仰望星空, 脚踏实地, 不忘初心继续奋勇前行。



# 译文及原文

# 股票市场回报的可预测性:一个组合预测的视角 摘要

本文以传统的宏观经济变量为基础,主要考察这些变量对股票市场收益的可预测性。实证结果表明,均值组合预测模型比其他预测模型具有更好的样本外性能。此外,在不同的预测窗口、不同的市场条件和多步预测中,均值组合预测模型的性能也是稳健的。重要的是,考虑到不同投资者的风险厌恶系数和交易成本,均值组合预测始终比其他模型产生更高的 CER 收益。本文试图为组合预测模型预测股票市场收益提供更多的证据。

关键词 股票市场,回报可预测性,组合预测,商业周期,投资组合,业绩



# 1. 介绍

准确预测股票市场收益一直是研究的热点,它可以使市场参与者或机构投资者持续获得高于市场的风险调整后收益(Kongsilp & Mateus, 2017; Luo, Chen, & Cai, 2018; Ma, Wang,Lu, & Wahab, 2021; Nasir, Shahbaz, Mai, & Shubita, 2021; Khan, Teng,Khan, Jadoon, & Khan, 2021; Wen, Shui, Cheng, & Gong, 2022)。过去几十年来股票市场的研究呈指数增长,这促使大量学者预测股票市场的回报(Campbell & Vuolteenaho, 2004; Raghutla & Chittedi,2021)。到目前为止,已有大量的研究使用各种变量来预测股票市场的收益,如投资者情绪(Chue, Gul, & Mian, 2019; Frijns, Verschoor, & Zwinkels, 2017; Sun, Najand, & Shen,2016),经济政策不确定性(Chen, Jiang, & Tong, 2017; Kang & Ratti, 2013; Phan, Sharma, & Tran, 2018),互联网索引(Bijl,Kringhaug, Molna'r, & Sandvik, 2016),隐含波动率(Antonakakis,Chatziantoniou, & Filis, 2013; Dai, Zhou, Wen, & He, 2020),技术指标(Baetje & Menkhoff, 2016; Neely, Rapach, Tu, & Zhou, 2014),宏观经济变量(Flannery & Protopapadakis, 2002; Ratana-pakorn & Sharma, 2007; Welch & Goyal, 2008)等。

不可否认,股市收益与宏观经济状况密切相关,而宏观经济因素的不确定性对股票和商品市场有强烈的影响,导致价格波动(Barnor, 2014; Fisher, Martineau, & Sheng, 2021; Gopinathan& Durai, 2019; Pan & Mishra, 2018; Rapach, Wohar, & Rangvid, 2005; Razmi, Bajgiran, Behname, Salari, & Razmi, 2020; Savor & Wilson, 2013)。宏观经济变量的作用不容忽视,因为它们在塑造发达国家和发展中国家的金融体系方面都发挥着重要作用。在此背景下,本文运用 14 个宏观经济变量从影响研究 Welch and Goyal(2008)来预测股票市场的回报。

为了综合考虑 14 个指标的信息,我们采用了 3 种降维方法: 主成分分析 (PCA)Pearson, 1901), 比例主成分分析(SPCA)Huang, Jiang, Li, Tong, & Zhou, 2022) 和偏最小二乘(PLS)Wold, 1966)。此外,当市场条件频繁变化时,单独的预测器 难以具有稳定的性能。因此,有必要考虑组合预测模型。根据 Rapach, Strauss, and Zhou (2010)的研究,由于模型的不确定性,个别预测器难以在长期或变化的市场



条件下维持强预测能力,但个别预测的简单组合确实始终优于历史平均值。尽管可以使用更复杂的组合方法,Timmermann (2006)表明简单的组合方法通常优于更复杂的方法。因此,简单组合方法是否比其他给定的模型(如降维方法)具有更好的预测性能是一个有趣的问题。鉴于此,我们采用组合预测,其形式为14个单独预测的简单平均值。

我们得到了几个发现。首先,我们发现个别宏观经济指标无法实现优于样本外的性能基准模型。其次,我们发现主成分分析的降维方法优于基准模型。更具体地说,就是主成分分析的 $R_{oos}^2$ 为 0. 2074,在 5%显著水平上呈正相关显著性水平。我们发现组合预测模型的  $R_{oos}^2$ 为 0. 4425,这是所有预测模型中最大的,它是在 5%显著性水平上显著。此外,性能的均值组合预测模型在不同的预测窗口、不同的市场条件和多步预测中也是稳健的。重要的是,考虑到不同投资者的风险厌恶系数和交易成本,均值组合预测始终比其他模型产生更高的 CER 收益。我们从以下几个方面对现有文献做出贡献。首先,除了主成分分析法,我们还考虑了几种流行的降维方法,如尺度主成分分析法和偏最小二乘法(PLS)。第二,现有的研究主要发现,单个预测的简单组合确实一贯优于历史平均水平。在本文中,我们进一步探讨简单组合方法是否比其他给定的模型(如降维方法)具有更好的预测性能。我们发现简单组合方法比其他模型具有更好的性能。

本文的其余部分组织如下。Section 2 提出了预测模型。Section 3 是描述性统计,第四节是实证结果。Section 5 提出了进一步的分析和 Section 6 提出结论。



# 2. 预测模型

# 2.1线性回归模型

我们应用单变量回归来研究每个预测因子对于股票市场回报的预规定性,其可以是:

$$r_{t+1} = \alpha + \beta_q \bullet x_{q,t} + \varepsilon_{t+1} \tag{1}$$

其中 $\alpha$ 和 $\beta_q$ 是来自回归的 OLS 估计, $r_{t+1}$ 是月股市超额收益, $x_{q,t}$ 是我们考虑的预测因子之一,它们是传统的宏观经济变量,而 $\varepsilon_{t+1}$ 是误差项。使用最小二乘法估计模型参数,并通过以 Newey and West (1987)中的方式调整 t 值。在这篇文章中,我们应用递归窗口方法来预测股票超额收益。

# 2.2 降维模型

## 2.2.1 主成分分析模型

在本文中, 我们考虑了 Goyal 和 Welch (2008)的 14 个宏观经济变量的主成分。基于主成分分析法, 超额股票收益可以是:

$$r_{t+1} = \alpha_0 + \sum_{p=1}^{P} \delta_p F_{p,t}^{PCA} + \varepsilon_{t+1}$$
 (2)

其中 $F_{p,t}^{PCA}$ 是从 14 个宏观经济变量中提取的第 p 个主成分。跟随 Neely et al. (2014),P是基于调整后的  $R^2$  选择的。本文首先选用主成分分析法对股票收益进行预测。

# 2.2.2 比例主成分分析(SPCA)模型

基于 PCA 方法, Huang 等人(2021年)提出了比例主成分分析(SPCA), 其可以根据变量对目标的影响来定标每个变量。它可以获得如下。首先,超额回报的每个宏观经济变量的可预测性可以通过以下回归来评估:

$$r_{t+1} = \alpha_i + \beta_i X_{i,t} + \varepsilon_{i,t+1} \tag{3}$$

基于回归,我们得到了比例系数β,和比例宏观经济关注指数面板



 $(\beta_1 X_{1,t}, \dots, \beta_I X_{I,t})$ .

第二,目标特定的扩散指数  $(F_t)$  可以基于 PCA 和按比例缩放的宏观经济关注预测因子  $(\beta_t X_1, \dots, \beta_t X_{t,t})$ ,它们是:

$$\beta_i X_{i,t} = \lambda_i' F_t^{SPCA} + e_{i,t} \tag{4}$$

其中 $\beta_i$ 反映第i个预测器对目标的预测能力, $F_i^{SPCA}$ 表示由 SPCA 提取的扩散指数,其是m维(M << I),而 $e_{i,t}$ 是误差项。值得注意的是,M 的值基于累积方差贡献率来选择。

我们选用 SPCA 法的第一主成分来预测收益,它可以写成;

$$r_{t+1} = \alpha_0 + \sum_{p=1}^{P} \delta_p F_{p,t}^{SPCA} + \varepsilon_{t+1}$$
 (5)

其中, $F_{p,t}^{SPCA}$ A 是从 14 个宏观经济变量中提取的 SPCA 方法的第p 个主成分。

# 2.2.3. 偏最小二乘(PLS)模型

我们采用从宏观经济变量中获得的偏最小二乘分量。PLS 因素可提取如下。 首先,我们对第I个预测因子 $X_{i,t-1}$ 和股票超额收益进行时间序列回归,结果如下:

$$X_{i,t-1} = \alpha_{i,0} + \beta_i r_{i,t} + e_{i,t-1}$$
 (6)

其次,我们对每个月t的相应系数 $\beta_i$ 运行第I个预测因子 $X_{i,t}$ 的横截面回归,

$$X_{i,t} = \varphi_{i,0} + F_t^{PLS} \hat{\beta}_i + \mu_{i,t-1}$$
 (7)

其中 $F_t^{PLS}$ 是PLS扩散指数。

因此,回报预测由下式给出:

$$r_{t+1} = \alpha_0 + \sum_{p=1}^{P} \delta_p F_{p,t}^{PLS} + \varepsilon_{t+1}$$
 (8)

其中 $F_{p,t}^{PLS}$ 是从 14 个宏观经济变量中提取的 PLS 方法的第p 个主成分。



# 3. 数据描述

在本文中,我们进一步检验了 14 个流行的宏观经济变量的预测性能 Welch and Goyal (2008)用于预测标准普尔 500 指数的超额收益。标准普尔 500 指数能够 反映整体经济状况(Durham, 2007; Miao, Ramchander, & Zumwalt, 2014)。因此,我们基于标准普尔计算超额股票回报标普 500 指数。14 个流行的宏观经济变量 Welchand Goyal (2008)可从 Amit Goyal 的网站下载。表 1 呈现每月变量的数据描述性统计数据例如均值、标准差、偏斜度、峰度以及 Jarque-Bera (JB)统计测试的结果。从 Jarque-Bera (JB)统计检验的结果中,我们发现在所有数据序列中,在 1%显著性水平上没有高斯分布的暗示。

表1 描述性统计。

Variable	Mean	Std.	Skew	Kurtosis	JB	ρ(1)
Ret	0.0052	0.0542	-0.4365	7.7168	2805.9679	0.0010
DP	-3.3924	0.4665	-0.1524	-0.4739	15.0535	0.0022
DY	-3.3874	0.4642	-0.1778	-0.4969	17.6758	0.0012
EP	-2.7526	0.4195	-0.5347	2.3373	306.9381	0.0010
DE	-0.6398	0.3259	1.5440	6.1795	2222.8262	0.0010
SVAR	0.0029	0.0061	6.1806	49.7989	122,664.9644	0.0010
BM	0.5580	0.2677	0.7962	1.3821	207.1613	0.0010
NTIS	0.0162	0.0259	1.6098	7.8563	3357.2881	0.0010
TBL	3.3422	3.0724	1.1188	1.3927	324.3554	0.0010
LTY	5.0246	2.8052	1.0857	0.6415	239.8646	0.0010
LTR	0.4869	2.4650	0.5946	4.3466	944.2496	0.0010
TMS	1.6823	1.3016	-0.2267	0.0952	10.0151	0.0100
DFY	1.1220	0.6835	2.5249	9.2297	5159.2569	0.0010
DFR	0.0366	1.4069	-0.6080	8.4903	3423.1773	0.0010
INFL	0.2400	0.5269	1.0894	14.0714	9439.5069	0.0010

注:本表为股票回报率(Ret)的描述性统计数据,14 个宏观经济预测因子用于预测模型。 $\rho(1)$ 指一阶自相关。



# 4. 实证结果

# 4.1 样本内估计

预测回归估计在中给出表 2。对于宏观经济变量,如 DY,LTR 和 LTY,我们发现这三个宏观经济变量对股票回报率的影响有 10%的显著性水平。对于宏观经济变量,如 EP、BM、NTIS 和 TBL,我们发现这四个宏观经济变量对股票回报率的影响在 5%的显著水平。对于所获得的组分从 PLS 降维模型中,我们发现 PLS 成分对股票收益的影响在 1%显著性水平上。总之,从一个内抽样的角度来看,我们发现大部分宏观经济变量都会对股市收益产生影响。

# 4.2 样本外结果

## 4.2.1 统计计算

跟随 Campbell and Thompson (2008) 和 Wang, Pan, Liu, and Wu (2019),在本文中,我们应用递归窗口方法来获得预测值。数据范围从 1980 年 6 月到 2020 年 12 月。初始窗口M 是 240 个月 (20 年),递归窗口方法的样本外间隔 是从 2000 年 6 月开始至 2020 年 12 月。

Models Constant Slope DP 0.0198 (1.6661)\*\* 0.0043 (1.2347) DY 0.0234 (1.9668)\*\* 0.0054 (1.5394) \* 0.0249 (2.3170)\*\* 0.0071 (1.8483) \*\* EP DE 0.0033 (0.9354) -0.0030 (-0.6064) SVAR 0.0056 (3.1390)\*\*\* -0.1287 (-0.4820)BM -0.0012 (-0.3087)0.0115 (1.9027) \*\* NTIS 0.0075 (3.9372)\*\*\* -0.1380 (-2.2148) \*\* 0.0083 (3.4943)\*\*\* -0.0009 (-1.7543) \*\* TBL 0.0093 (2.7949)\*\*\* LTY -0.0008 (-1.3858) \* LTR 0.0048 (2.9040)\*\*\* 0.0010 (1.4852) \* **TMS** 0.0028 (1.0779) 0.0014 (1.1529) DFY 0.0041 (1.3252)\* 0.0010 (0.4289) 0.0052 (3.2174)\*\*\* DFR 0.0016 (1.4224) \* 0.0058 (3.2852)\*\*\* INFL -0.0024(-0.7855)0.0053 (3.2520) \*\*\* 0.0010 (1.2350) **PCA SPCA** 0.0053 (3.2515) \*\*\* 0.3603 (1.1228) 0.0048 (2.3330) \*\*\* PLS 0.0105 (3.8003) \*\*\*

表 2 样本内估计结果。



注:斜率系数为各变量的回归估计。此表包括斜率系数、Newey-West 异方差 t-stitic。\*\*\*、 \*\*、和\*分别表示在 1%、5%和 10%水平的显著性。MF 是指组合预测模型。

根据 Neely et al. (2014), Huang, Jiang, Tu, and Zhou (2015)和 Lin, Wu, and Zhou (2018)样本外  $R^2(R_{oos}^2)$  方法在捕捉预测模型之间的预测差异方 面是有效的。因此,在获得所有预测后,我们评估模型的性能,这种方法是:

$$R^{2} = 1 - \frac{MSPE_{\text{mod}el}}{MSPE_{bench}} = 1 - \frac{\sum_{t=M+1}^{T} (\hat{r}_{t} - r_{t})^{2}}{\sum_{t=M+1}^{T} (\hat{r}_{t} - r_{t})^{2}}$$
(9)

其中MSPE<sub>model</sub>和MSPE<sub>bench</sub>分别是预测模型和基准模型的预测误差。基 准模型是历史平均预测。 $r_i$ , $r_i$ 和 $r_i$ 分别是模型的预测值,实际超额股票收 益和历史平均收益。跟随 Clark and West (2007)的研究,应用 MSPE 度量来 检查预测模型之间的显著差异。

# 4.2.2 样本外结果

预测模型的结果如中所示表 3。我们得到了几个发现。首先,14个流行的 宏观经济变量 Welchand Goyal (2008), 我们发现个别宏观经济指标未能实现优 于基准模型的样本外表现。

Models	$R^2(\%)$	MSFE	<i>p</i> -value
DP	-0.1712	1.2544	0.1048
DY	-0.5006	1.5057	0.0661
EP	-1.5619	1.3328	0.0913
DE	-1.3864	-0.2597	0.6024
SVAR	-0.3333	-0.5150	0.6967
BM	-1.5526	0.5108	0.3048
NTIS	-0.4641	0.6502	0.2578
TBL	0.1571	1.5473	0.0609
LTY	-0.5475	1.5308	0.0629
LTR	-0.7152	-0.0787	0.5314
TMS	0.0310	1.0202	0.1538
DFY	-0.1479	-1.0635	0.8562
DFR	-0.2977	0.0023	0.4991
INFL	-0.0297	0.2354	0.4069
PCA	0.2074	1.8556	0.0318
SPCA	-1.2046	1.4321	0.0761
PLS	-0.9898	1.3516	0.0883
MF	0.4425	2.2540	0.0121

表 3 样本外结果。



附注:该表列示预测性回归估计及模型评估的样本外表现。MF 是平均组合预测模型。如果  $R^2$  大于零,则相应的模型优于基准模型。

其次,我们发现 PCA 的降维方法可以击败基准模型。更具体地说, PCA 的  $R^2$  是 0. 2074,其在 5%显著性水平上为正显著。我们找到了  $R^2$  组合预测模型为 0. 4425,这是预测模型中最大的,并且在 5%显著性水平上是显著的。

## 4.2.3 替代预测窗口

重要的是预测对于不同的前播窗口(Liang, Ma, Wang, & Zeng, 2021; Lu, Ma, Wang, & Zhu,2021; Wang, He, Ma, & Li, 2022)。在本节中,我们进一步研究变量在替代预测窗口中是否会有不同的表现。更具体地说,初始窗口*M* 是 120 和 360 个月 (10 和 30 年)。结果如中所示表 4。

基于 120 个月 (10 年)的初始窗口,我们发现 PCA 的  $R^2$ 是 0. 2816,在 5%时是显著正相关的显著性水平,说明主成分分析的降维方法可以击败基准 模型。此外,我们发现 MF 的  $R^2$  值为 0. 2574,这在 10%显著性水平上是显著正相关的,表明组合预测模型对股票的预测也是有效的投资回报。基于 360 个月 (30 年)的初始窗口,我们发现 PCA 的  $R^2$ 是 0. 3010,在 5%时是显著正相关的显著性水平,表明主成分分析的降维方法可以击败基准模型。此外,我们发现 MF 的  $R^2$ 为 0. 3215,这在 5%显著性水平上是显著正相关的,表明组合预测模型对股票的预测也是有效的投资回报。可能的原因可以是,市场条件总是变化,因此,单一模型很难始终表现稳健(Rapach et al., 2010)。故,组合模型比单一模型具有更强的稳健性。



表 4 基于不同预测窗口的结果。

Models	$R^{2}(\%)$	MSFE	<i>p</i> -value
10 years			
DP	-0.1252	1.2797	0.1003
DY	-0.3346	1.5366	0.0622
EP	-3.2440	0.6513	0.2574
DE	-1.6528	-0.7773	0.7815
SVAR	-0.3126	-0.6527	0.7430
BM	-0.3486	1.5955	0.0553
NTIS	-0.2920	0.8512	0.1973
TBL	-0.0216	1.3448	0.0894
LTY	-1.7120	0.5852	0.2792
LTR	-0.6909	0.2023	0.4199
TMS	-0.0246	0.8841	0.1883
DFY	-0.2703	-0.9182	0.8207
DFR	-0.2962	-0.0334	0.5133
INFL	-0.3143	-0.9286	0.8234
PCA	0.2816	2.0595	0.0197
SPCA	-1.6966	0.7603	0.2235
PLS	-1.2193	1.1516	0.1247
MF	0.2574	1.3568	0.0874
30 years			
DP	-0.3775	0.9090	0.1817
DY	-0.7666	1.1176	0.1319
EP	-1.9534	0.3897	0.3484
DE	-1.7710	-1.8608	0.9686
SVAR	-0.3464	-0.4656	0.6793
BM	-1.9396	0.2097	0.4169
NTIS	-0.5734	0.5674	0.2852
TBL	0.1974	1.5668	0.0586
LTY	-0.8351	1.3044	0.0961
LTR	-0.0912	0.8387	0.2008
TMS	0.0078	0.9644	0.1674
DFY	-0.0412	-0.2932	0.6153
DFR	-0.0819	0.3204	0.3743
INFL	-0.0165	0.2400	0.4052
PCA	0.3010	1.9144	0.0278
SPCA	-1.7539	0.8481	0.1982
PLS	-0.1056	1.9418	0.0261
MF	0.3215	1.7039	0.0442

附注:下表列示不同预测时段内模型评估的预测回归估计及样本外表现。MF 是平均组合 预测模型。如果  $R^2$  大于零,则相应模型优于基准模型。

# 4.3 经济评价

我们考察了宏观经济变量的样本外表现。然而,金融从业者最关心的是经济收益。具体而言,市场投资者最感兴趣的是资产配置方面的回报预测业绩。在这一部分中,我们将样本外回报预测应用于投资组合,检验基于给定模型的股票回报可预测性的经济价值。跟随 Campbell and Thompson (2008) 和 Zhang, Ma, andWang (2019),我们使用夏普比率 (SR) 和确定性等价回报 (CER) 来衡量均值-方差投资者的经济收益。我们假设均值-方差投资者将参考下个月的股市回报预测在股票和无风险资产之间分配他们的财富。为了实现收益最大化,投资



者分配给股票市场的权重应定义为:

$$w_t = \frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{\stackrel{\wedge}{r_{t+1}}}{\stackrel{\wedge}{\sigma_{t+1}^2}} \tag{10}$$

其中 $\gamma$ 是投资者的风险规避系数;  $\hat{r}_{t+1}$ 表示第t+1个月的股票回报预测, $\hat{\sigma}_{t+1}^2$ 表示第t+1个月的方差预测。然后,第t+1个月的投资组合的回报可以表示为:

$$R_{p,t+1} = w_t r_{t+1} + R_{f,t} \tag{11}$$

其中, $R_{f,t+1}$ 为无风险利率。基于投资组合回报。根据 Wang et al. (2019), SR 增益和 CER 增益可以反映投资组合的表现。可预测性的 SR 收益是给定投资组合的 SR 与基准投资组合的 SR 之间的差异。我们将 SR 增益乘以 $\sqrt{12}$  得到年价值。

此外,投资组合的 CER 为:

$$CER = \mu_p - 0.5\gamma \, \hat{\sigma}_p^2 \tag{12}$$

其中, $\mu_p$ 表示期间投资组合回报的样本外平均值, $\sigma_p^2$ 表示样本外时期投资组合收益的样本方差。CER 收益按预测模型产生的股市回报预测的 CER 值与基准模型预测的 CER 值之差计算。我们将 CER 回报乘以 1200 以获得年化百分比,其可被解释为投资者愿意为感兴趣的模型而非基准模型支付的年度投资组合管理费的百分比。此外,我们使用夏普比率来评估不同模型的股票回报预测的经济价值。与 CER 收益类似,SR 收益是给定投资组合的 SR 与基准投资组合的 SR 之间的差异。我们将 SR 增益乘以 $\sqrt{12}$ ,得到年价值。

## 4.3.1 基于不同风险规避的经济分析

众所周知,不同的投资者有不同类型的风险偏好。换句话说,不同的投资



者对不同的风险资产有不同的反应,这些反应也是可变的。有趣的是,检查传统宏观经济变量是否有效地改善了考虑不同类型的风险偏好的预测性能。表 5 报告了基于不同投资者的风险规避系数 ( $\gamma=3$ ,5,7)的宏观经济变量的投资组合表现。从 $\gamma=3$ 的结果中,我们发现 14 个单独变量预测中的 8 个产生正 CER 增益。对于 $\gamma=5$ 的结果,14 个单独变量预测中只有 4 个产生正 CER 增益。至于 $\gamma=7$ ,14 个单个变量预测中的 5 个产生正 CER 增益。此外,在三种降维方法中,只有 PCA 产生正的 CER 增益。均值组合预测在不同投资者的风险厌恶系数下一致地产生正 CER 收益。SR 增益的结果与 CER 增益高度一致。

表 5 基于投资者风险规避系数的宏观经济变量组合绩效。

Models	CER gains	SR gains
γ=3		
DP	-0.5348	-0.0226
DY	-0.9378	-0.0552
EP	0.1356	0.0142
DE	0.3092	0.0241
SVAR	0.1847	0.0114
BM	-1.4783	-0.1107
NTIS	0.6601	0.0433
TBL	0.7789	0.0623
LTY	0.5194	0.0544
LTR	-0.5926	-0.0368
TMS	0.8025	0.0500
DFY	-0.5029	-0.0314
DFR	0.1728	0.0111
INFL	0.2316	0.0153
PCA	0.7848	0.1527
SPCA	-1.0860	-0.0749
PLS	-0.4353	-0.0289
MF	0.6213	0.0435
y=5		(1000)
DP	-0.4412	-0.0562
DY	-0.5137	-0.0652
EP	-0.6045	-0.0488
DE	-0.7945	-0.0053
SVAR	0.1363	0.0121
BM	-1.4434	-0.1356
NTIS	-1.0821	-0.0274
TBL.	0.7566	0.0751
LTY	0.7209	0.0759
LTR	-0.6735	-0.0389
TMS	0.5431	0.0553
DFY	-0.3429	-0.0313
DFR	-0.1230	-0.0128
INFL	0.0775	0.0048
PCA	0.5875	0.1406
SPCA	-0.6258	-0.0729
PLS	-0.1684	-0.0729
MF	0.9124	0.0885
y=7	0.9124	0.0883
DP	-0.3548	-0.0611
DY	-0.4034	-0.0679
EP	-1.3090	-0.0971
DE.	-1.3090 -1.4273	-0.0971
SVAR	0.0897	0.0111
BM	-1.7606	-0.1793
NTIS	-1.9374	-0.081
TBI.	0.4628	0.0574
LTY	0.4674	0.0616
LTR	-0.7475	-0.0527
TMS	0.2812	0.0460
DFY	-0.2429	-0.0305
DFR	-0.2230	-0.0268
INFL	0.0456	0.0032
PCA	0.3609	0.1238
SPCA	-0.7402	-0.0962
PLS	-0.1665	-0.0254
MF	0.6044	0.0787

注:此表反映了投资者基于不同投资者的风险规避系数 ( $\gamma = 3$ , 5, 7) 在股票和无风险票据之间分配其投资组合的投资组合表现。MF 是平均组合预测模型。



## 4.3.2 考虑交易成本的经济分析

在真实的交易市场中,投资者在完成其交易条件时需要支付交易费用,因此,重要的是要考虑交易成本。此外,交易成本与投资组合的表现较为接近。根据 Neely et al. (2014),忽略交易成本可能会降低投资组合的经济价值。在这一部分中,我们研究了考虑交易成本的经济价值。表 6 基于不同投资者的风险规避系数 ( $\gamma=3$ , 5, 7),重新报告了考虑交易成本的宏观经济变量的投资组合业绩。对于  $\gamma=3,5,7$ ,分别有 6, 4, 4 个宏观经济变量产生正 CER 增益。对于三维缩减方法,只有 PCA 具有正 CER 增益。

表6基于考虑交易成本的投资者风险规避系数的宏观经济变量组合绩效。

Models	CER gains	SR gains	
γ=3			
DP	-0.6401	-0.0394	
DY	-1.0618	-0.0756	
EP	-0.0169	-0.0004	
DE	0.2938	0.0250	
SVAR	0.0839	0.0045	
ВМ	-1.5785	-0.1232	
NTIS	0.4333	0.0324	
TBL	0.7417	0.0564	
LTY	0.5077	0.0488	
LTR	-2.6436	-0.1629	
TMS	0.5306	0.0335	
DFY	-0.5388	-0.0336	
DFR	-1.1215	-0.0752	
INFL	-0.3203	-0.0236	
PCA	0.5781	0.1190	
SPCA	-1.0988	-0.0826	
PLS	-1.3798	-0.1069	
MF	0.4500	0.0299	
γ=5			
DP	-0.4841	-0.0666	
DY	-0.5693	-0.078	
EP	-0.7281	-0.0591	
DE	-0.8736	-0.005	
SVAR	0.0440	0.0034	
BM	-1.5528	-0.1469	
NTIS	-1.3165	-0.038	
TBL	0.7465	0.0710	
LTY	0.7090	0.0705	
LTR	-2.5719	-0.1880	
TMS	0.2628	0.0331	
DFY	-0.3866	-0.035	
DFR	-1.3064	-0.1251	
INFL	-0.3973	-0.042	
PCA	0.4934	0.1110	
SPCA	-0.6293	-0.0767	
PLS	-1.0197	-0.111;	
MF	0.7709	0.0723	
y=7	0.0017	0.070	
DP	-0.3817	-0.070	
DY EP	-0.4511 -1.4107	-0.0801 -0.1036	
DE			
SVAR	-1.5337	-0.038	
BM	0.0137	0.0018	
NTIS	-1.8642 -2.1595	-0.1897 -0.0920	
TBL	0.4457	0.0526	
LTY	0.4504	0.0526	
	-2.3550	-0.214	
LTR TMS	0.0621	0.0244	
DFY	-0.2676	-0.0336	
DFR	-0.2676 -1.1984	-0.0336	
INFL	-1.1984 -0.3397	-0.1470	
PCA	-0.3397 0.3074	0.048	
SPCA PLS	-0.7445	-0.0981 -0.1246	
	-0.9482		
MF	0.5077	0.063	



注:此表反映了投资者基于不同投资者的风险规避系数 ( $\gamma = 3, 5, 7$ ) 在股票和无风险票据之间分配其投资组合的投资组合表现。我们考虑每笔交易 50 个基点的交易成本。 MF 是平均组合预测模型。

此外,即使考虑交易成本的存在,组合预测模型的 CER 增益也始终为正。SR 收益的结果仍然与 CER 收益一致。总体而言,考虑交易成本的投资组合业绩结果与中报告的结果基本一致见表 7。



# 5. 进一步分析

# 5.1 扩张与衰退

探索商业周期与预测表现之间的联系可能揭示宏观经济指标所包含的预测能力的来源。跟随 Zhang, Ma, Liang, and Zhang (2021),我们进一步分析了 14 个宏观经济变量在美国国家经济研究局 (National Bureau of Economic Research)(NBER)日期的扩张和衰退期间的表现。符合 Neely et al. (2014),我们通过分解业务周期下的样本外  $R^2$  统计量来检验预测性能。在重新评估期间测试指标的预测能力在割让和扩张中,样本外  $R^2$  可以计算为,

$$R_{C}^{2} = 1 - \frac{\sum_{f=1}^{F} I^{c} (r_{t} - r_{t}^{j})^{2}}{\sum_{f=1}^{F} I^{c} (r_{t} - r_{t}^{0})^{2}}, for \quad c = EXP, REC,$$
(13)

其中,当月份为分类为扩张 ( 衰退 ) 期时,  $I^{EXP}$  和  $I^{REC}$  指标统一取值;否则,它们被设置为零。



表 7 商业周期中的样本外结果。

Models	$R^2(\%)$	MSFE	p-value
Expansions			
DP	-1.0911	0.1868	0.4259
DY	-1.8793	0.3780	0.3527
EP	-1.2801	1.5248	0.0637
DE	-0.5330	0.8432	0.1996
SVAR	-0.6967	-1.0711	0.8579
BM	-2.1599	0.1162	0.4538
NTIS	1.0054	2.8290	0.0023
TBL	-0.2898	1.0134	0.1554
LTY	-0.9934	1.1234	0.1306
LTR	-0.8439	-0.2623	0.6034
TMS	-0.2872	0.4895	0.3122
DFY	-0.1746	-1.1631	0.8776
DFR	-0.3982	-0.1882	0.5746
INFL	0.0537	0.7246	0.2344
PCA	-1.0911	0.2600	0.3974
SPCA	-2.1854	0.7651	0.2221
PLS	-1.4463	0.9382	0.1741
MF	0.3258	1.6114	0.0535
Recessions			
DP	2.3153	2.8423	0.0022
DY	3.2259	3.0914	0.0010
EP	-2.3235	0.3165	0.3758
DE	-3.6933	-1.3569	0.9126
SVAR	0.6489	0.9912	0.1608
BM	0.0890	0.6580	0.2553
NTIS	-4.4363	-2.0605	0.9803
TBL	1.3648	1.1729	0.1204
LTY	0.6579	1.0605	0.1445
LTR	-0.3672	0.2130	0.4157
TMS	0.8911	1.2520	0.1053
DFY	-0.0757	-0.2140	0.5847
DFR	-0.0260	0.1654	0.4343
INFL	-0.2550	-0.1934	0.5767
PCA	3.7173	3.5283	0.0002
SPCA	1.5381	1.4893	0.0682
PLS	0.2440	0.9719	0.1655
MF	0.7579	1.6712	0.0473

注:该表显示了不同商业周期期间模型评估的预测回归估计和样本外性能。MF 是均值组合预测模型。如果  $R^2$  大于零,则相应的模型优于基准模型。

表 7 报告业务周期中的抽样外结果。面板 A 显示了扩展期间的预测性能。从扩张期间的结果,我们可以发现只有 2 (NTIS 和 INFL)的 14 宏观经济变量产生正的  $R_c^2$ 统计数据,其中只有 INFL 的  $R_c^2$ 统计量在 1%显著性水平上是显著的。尽管单个宏观经济变量的预测能力较差,但简单组合预测得出的  $R_c^2$ 统计值为正,在 10%显著性水平上具有显著性。面板 B 显示了衰退期间的预测表现。从结果中,我们可以发现经济衰退时期宏观经济变量的预测能力显著



高于经济扩张时期。对于个人变量预测,14 个宏观经济变量中的 7 个(50%) 产生正的  $R_C^2$ 统计数据(两个在 1%的显著性水平上显著)。此外,三种降维方法提取的综合指标在衰退期也获得了正的  $R_C^2$ 统计量。特别地,主成分分析的  $R_C^2$ 统计量达到 3. 7173%,并且在 1%显著性水平上显著。组合预测的  $R_C^2$ 统计量为 0. 7579%(略高于扩展期)并在 5%显著性水平上显著。

# 5.2 多步超前预测

以往的实证研究主要集中在短期(提前一个月)预测,投资者也对宏观经济变量在股票市场收益长期预测中的表现感兴趣。根据对 Zhang, Ma, and Liao (2020)的研究,我们进一步检验宏观经济变量在未来两个月、三个月和六个月的预测能力。提前第 h 个月的回报可以计算为  $r_{t+h} = \frac{1}{h} (r_{t+1} + r_{t+2} + \cdots + r_{t+h})$ 

表 8 报 告 宏 观 经 济 的 样 本 外 表 现 不同时期的变量。对于基于 14 个 宏观经济变量的个体预测回归预测,14 个宏观经济变量中只有 1 个在未来两个 月产生积极的  $R_{oos}^2$  统计数据 (没有一个是显著的),14 个宏观经济变量中有 3 个 在三个月前 (两个在 10%的显著性水平上显著)和六个月前 (一个在 1%显著性水平上显著,另一个在 5%显著性水平上显著)。总的来说,宏观经济的预测能力经济指标随着预测范围的扩大而增加。更重要的是,组合预测的  $R^2$  统计量是一致的对于两个月、三个月和六个月的预测,在 1%的显著性水平上为正且显著。与单个预测回归预测一致,组合预测在六个月前的预测中产生最大的  $R^2$  统计数据。



# 6. 结语

本文主要研究传统宏观经济变量对股市收益的可预测性。我们得到了几个发现。首先,我们发现单个宏观经济指标未能实现比基准模型更好的样本外表现。第二,我们发现主成分分析的降维方法优于基准模型。第三,我们找到了  $R^2$  组合预测模型是所有预测模型中最大的。在不同的预测窗口中,我们发现均值组合预测在不同的预测窗口、不同的市场条件和多步提前预测中可以有稳健的表现。此外。考虑到不同投资者的风险规避系数和交易成本,平均组合预测始终比其他模型产生更高的 CER 收益。

表 8 不同范围内的样本外结果。

Models	R <sup>2</sup> (%)	MSFE	p-value
h = 2			
DP	-0.5280	1.8556	0.0318
DY	-0.9900	1.9401	0.0262
EP	-3.8415	1.8429	0.0327
DE	-2.6556	-0.5321	0.7027
SVAR	-0.0925	-0.3987	0.6549
BM	-3.9526	0.8767	0.1903
NTIS	-1.3573	0.3506	0.3629
TBL	-0.2243	1.8629	0.0312
LTY	-1.7492	1.8348	0.0333
LTR	-0.5800	0.0689	0.4725
TMS	-0.0286	1.2212	0.1110
DFY	-0.4819	-1.3764	0.9157
DFR	-0.5994	-2.0056	0.9775
INFL	0.2237	1.1870	0.1176
PCA	0.0972	2.4903	0.0064
SPCA	-3.3077	1.9324	0.0267
PLS	-2.5449	1.9082	0.0282
MF	0.7364	2.8004	0.0026
h = 3			
DP	-0.7149	2.4052	0.0081
DY	-0.2750	2.5799	0.0049
EP	-5.4804	2.4842	0.0065
DE	-3.7805	-0.5450	0.7071
SVAR	-0.5384	-1.9278	0.9731
BM	-5.4290	1.3160	0.0941
NTIS	-2.0009	0.3996	0.3447
TBL	-0.6647	2.0295	0.0212
LTY	-2.9042	2.1305	0.0166
LTR	0.1627	1.2950	0.0977
TMS	-0.0880	1.5001	0.0668
DFY	-0.4347	-1.3131	0.9054
DFR	0.0586	0.6028	0.2733
INFL	0.2211	1.3829	0.0833
PCA	0.4689	3.0805	0.0010
SPCA	-4.5728	2.5241	0.0058
PLS	-1.3221	2.9525	0.0016
MF	1.2449	3.7784	0.0001
h = 6			
DP	-0.3538	3.2475	0.0006
DY	-0.7431	3.1760	0.0007
EP	-3.4375	4.7246	0.0000
DE	-4.7995	-0.0810	0.5323
SVAR	-0.7406	-0.8387	0.7992
BM	-6.1663	2.4519	0.0071
NTIS	-4.0002	0.7515	0.2262
TBL.	-2.9768	1.5724	0.0579
LTY	-7.5975	1.7158	0.0431
LTR	-2.0710	1.0662	0.1432
TMS	1.1509	3.2402	0.0006
DFY	-0.4991	-1.7222	0.9575
DFR	0.0480	0.7144	0.2375
INFL	0.3331	2.0437	0.0205
PCA	-0.0022	3.0267	0.0012
SPCA	-4.8345	3.5238	0.0002
PLS	-3.8131	3.1324	0.0009
MF	2.2915	5.2538	0.0000



附注:下表呈列不同层面模式评估的预测性回归估计及样本外表现。MF 是平均组合预测模型。如果  $R^2$  大于零,则相应的模型优于基准模型。

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# Stock market return predictability: A combination forecast perspective

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#### ABSTRACT

Based on traditional macroeconomic variables, this paper mainly investigates the predictability of these variables for stock market return. The empirical results show the mean combination forecast model can achieve superior out-of-sample performance than the other forecasting models for forecasting the stock market returns. In addition, the performances of the mean combination forecast model are also robust during different forecasting windows, different market conditions, and multi-step-ahead forecasts. Importantly, the mean combination forecast consistently generates higher CER gains than other models considering different investors' risk aversion coefficients and trading costs. This paper tries to provide more evidence of combination forecast model to predict stock market returns.

#### 1. Introduction

Accurately predicting stock market returns has always been a hot research topic, which can enable market participants or institutional investors to consistently obtain higher risk-adjusted returns than the market (Kongsilp & Mateus, 2017; Luo, Chen, & Cai, 2018; Ma, Wang, Lu, & Wahab, 2021; Nasir, Shahbaz, Mai, & Shubita, 2021; Khan, Teng, Khan, Jadoon, & Khan, 2021; Wen, Shui, Cheng, & Gong, 2022). Investigations in the stock market have grown exponentially over the past few decades, which motivates a large number of scholars to predict stock market returns (Campbell & Vuolteenaho, 2004; Raghutla & Chittedi, 2021). So far, a large number of studies have used various variables to predict stock market returns, such as investor sentiment (Chue, Gul, & Mian, 2019; Frijns, Verschoor, & Zwinkels, 2017; Sun, Najand, & Shen, 2016), economic policy uncertainty (Chen, Jiang, & Tong, 2017; Kang & Ratti, 2013; Phan, Sharma, & Tran, 2018), Internet indexes (Bijl, Kringhaug, Molnár, & Sandvik, 2016), implied volatility (Antonakakis, Chatziantoniou, & Filis, 2013; Dai, Zhou, Wen, & He, 2020), technical indicators (Baetje & Menkhoff, 2016; Neely, Rapach, Tu, & Zhou, 2014), macroeconomic variables (Flannery & Protopapadakis, 2002; Ratanapakorn & Sharma, 2007; Welch & Goyal, 2008) and among others.

It is undeniable that stock market return is close to the macroeconomic conditions, and uncertainty in macroeconomic factors has a strong impact on equity and commodity markets, resulting in price volatility (Barnor, 2014; Fisher, Martineau, & Sheng, 2021; Gopinathan & Durai, 2019; Pan & Mishra, 2018; Rapach, Wohar, & Rangvid, 2005; Razmi, Bajgiran, Behname, Salari, & Razmi, 2020; Savor & Wilson, 2013). The role of macroeconomic variables cannot be ignored, as they play an important role in shaping the financial systems of both developed and developing countries. Against this backdrop, this paper uses 14 macroeconomic variables from the influential study of Welch and Goyal (2008) to predict stock market returns.

To comprehensively consider the information of the 14 indicators, we adopt three dimensionality reduction methods: principal component analysis (PCA) (Pearson, 1901), scaled principal component analysis (SPCA) (Huang, Jiang, Li, Tong, & Zhou, 2022) and partial least squares (PLS) (Wold, 1966). In addition, it is difficult for an individual predictor to have stable performance when the market conditions are frequently changing. Thus, it is necessary to consider the combination forecast models. According to the research of Rapach, Strauss, and Zhou (2010), due to the uncertainty of the model, it is difficult for an individual predictor to maintain strong predictive power over long-term or changing market conditions, but simple combinations of individual forecasts do consistently outperform historical averages. Although more complex combinatorial methods can be used, Timmermann (2006) showed that simple combinatorial methods are generally superior to more complex ones. Thus, it is interesting whether the simple combination method can have better forecasting performances than other given models, such as the dimensionality reduction methods. Given by this, we employ combination forecasts, which take the form of a simple average of 14 individual forecasts.

We get several findings. First, we find individual macroeconomic

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indicators fail to achieve superior out-of-sample performance than the benchmark model. Second, we find the dimensionality reduction method of PCA can beat the benchmark model. More specifically, the  $R_{\rm OOS}^2$  of PCA is 0.2074, which is positively significantly at the 5% significance level. We find the  $R_{\rm OOS}^2$  of combination forecast model is 0.4425, which is the largest among the forecasting models and it is significant at the 5% significance level. In addition, the performances of the mean combination forecast model are also robust during different forecasting windows, different market conditions, and multi-step-ahead forecasts. Importantly, the mean combination forecast consistently generates higher CER gains than other models considering different investors' risk aversion coefficients and trading costs.

We contribute to existing literature from the following aspects. First, besides the PCA method, we also consider several popular dimensionality reduction methods such as scaled principal component analysis and partial least squares (PLS). Second, existing studies mainly find that simple combinations of individual forecasts do consistently outperform historical averages. In this paper, we further whether the simple combination method can have better forecasting performances than other given models, such as the dimensionality reduction methods. We find the simple combination method has better performance than other models.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. Section 2 presents the forecasting models. Section 3 is the descriptive statistics, and Section 4 is the empirical results. Section 5 presents the further analysis and Section 6 presents the conclusions.

#### 2. Predictive models

#### 2.1. Linear regression models

We apply univariate regression to investigate each predictor's predictability for stock market returns, which can be:

$$r_{t+1} = \alpha + \beta_a \bullet x_{q,t} + \epsilon_{t+1} \tag{1}$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta_q$  are OLS estimates from regression,  $r_{t+1}$  is the monthly stock market excess return,  $x_{q,\ t}$  is one of the predictors we consider, which are traditional macroeconomic variables, and  $\epsilon_{t+1}$  is the error term. The least square method is used to estimate the model parameters, and the t values are adjusted by Newey and West (1987). In this paper, we apply the recursive window method to forecast excess stock returns.

#### 2.2. Dimensionality reduction models

#### 2.2.1. Principal component analysis (PCA) model

In this paper, we consider the principal components of 14 macroeconomic variables of Goyal and Welch (2008). Based on the principal component analysis method, the excess stock returns can be:

$$r_{t+1} = \alpha_0 + \sum_{p=1}^{P} \delta_p F_{p,t}^{\text{PCA}} + \epsilon_{t+1}$$
 (2)

where  $F_{p,\ t}^{PCA}$  is the p-th principal component extracted from the 14 macroeconomic variables. Following Neely et al. (2014), P is chosen based on the adjusted  $R^2$ . In this paper, we choose the first principal components of the PCA method to predict stock returns.

## 2.2.2. Scaled principal component analysis (SPCA) model

Based on the PCA method, Huang et al. (2021) proposed scaled principal component analysis (SPCA), which can scale each variable according to its effect on the target. It can be obtained as follows. First, the predictability of each macroeconomic variable for excess return can be evaluated from the following regression:

$$r_{t+1} = \alpha_i + \beta_i X_{i,t} + \epsilon_{i,t+1} \tag{3}$$

Based on the regression, we obtain the scaled coefficient  $\beta_i$  and the panels of scaled macroeconomic attention indices  $(\beta_1 X_{1, D}, ..., \beta_l X_{I, D})$ .

Second, the target-specific diffusion indices ( $F_t$ ) can be extracted based on the PCA and scaled macroeconomic attention predictors  $\beta_1 X_{1, t}$ , ...,  $\beta_t X_{L, t}$ ), which are:

$$\beta_i X_{i,t} = \lambda_i' F_t^{SPCA} + e_{i,t} \tag{4}$$

where  $\beta_i$  reflects the prediction ability of the *i*-th predictor to the target,  $F_t^{\mathrm{SPCA}}$  denotes the diffusion indices extracted by SPCA, which is *M*-dimensional ( $M \ll I$ ), and  $e_{i,\ t}$  is the error term. Notably, the values of *M* are chosen based on the cumulative variance contribution rate.

We choose the first principal components of the SPCA method to predict return, which can be written as:

$$r_{t+1} = \alpha_0 + \sum_{p=1}^{p} \delta_p F_{p,t}^{\text{SPCA}} + \epsilon_{t+1}$$

$$\tag{5}$$

where  $F_{p,\,t}^{\rm SPCA}$  is the *p*-th principal component of SPCA method extracted from the 14 macroeconomic variables.

#### 2.2.3. Partial least squares (PLS) model

We take the partial least squares component obtained from macroeconomic variables. The PLS factors can be extracted as follows. First, we run a time-series regression of the i-th predictor  $X_{i,\ t-1}$  and stock excess return, which is:

$$X_{i,t-1} = \alpha_{i,0} + \beta_i r_{i,t} + e_{i,t-1} \tag{6}$$

Second, we run cross-sectional regressions of the *i*-th predictor  $X_{i,t}$  on the corresponding coefficient  $\widehat{\beta}_i$  for each month t,

$$X_{i,t} = \varphi_{i,0} + F_t^{PLS} \hat{\beta}_i + \mu_{i,t-1}$$
 (7)

where  $F_t^{PLS}$ , is the PLS diffusion index.

Thus, the return prediction is given by:

$$r_{t+1} = \alpha_0 + \sum_{p=1}^{P} \delta_p F_{p,t}^{PLS} + \epsilon_{t+1}$$
 (8)

where  $R_{p,t}^{PLS}$  is the p-th principal component of PLS method extracted from the 14 macroeconomic variables.

## 3. Data description

In this paper, we further check the predictive performances of the 14 popular macroeconomic variables of Welch and Goyal (2008) for predicting the Standard & Poor's 500 index's excess returns. The Standard & Poor's 500 index is able to reflect the conditions of the overall economy (Durham, 2007; Miao, Ramchander, & Zumwalt, 2014). Therefore, we calculate the excess stock returns based on the Standard & Poor's 500 index. The 14 popular macroeconomic variables of Welch and Goyal (2008) can be downloaded from Amit Goyal's website. Table 1 presents the data descriptive statistics of the monthly variables such as mean, standard deviation, skew, kurtosis and the results of the Jarque-Bera (JB) statistic test. From the results of the Jarque-Bera (JB) statistic test, we find that there is no hint of Gaussian distributions at the 1% significance level in all the data series.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> More details about the 14 macroeconomic variables can refer to Welch and Goyal (2008).

**Table 1**Descriptive statistics.

Variable	Mean	Std.	Skew	Kurtosis	JB	ρ(1)
Ret	0.0052	0.0542	-0.4365	7.7168	2805.9679	0.0010
DP	-3.3924	0.4665	-0.1524	-0.4739	15.0535	0.0022
DY	-3.3874	0.4642	-0.1778	-0.4969	17.6758	0.0012
EP	-2.7526	0.4195	-0.5347	2.3373	306.9381	0.0010
DE	-0.6398	0.3259	1.5440	6.1795	2222.8262	0.0010
SVAR	0.0029	0.0061	6.1806	49.7989	122,664.9644	0.0010
BM	0.5580	0.2677	0.7962	1.3821	207.1613	0.0010
NTIS	0.0162	0.0259	1.6098	7.8563	3357.2881	0.0010
TBL	3.3422	3.0724	1.1188	1.3927	324.3554	0.0010
LTY	5.0246	2.8052	1.0857	0.6415	239.8646	0.0010
LTR	0.4869	2.4650	0.5946	4.3466	944.2496	0.0010
TMS	1.6823	1.3016	-0.2267	0.0952	10.0151	0.0100
DFY	1.1220	0.6835	2.5249	9.2297	5159.2569	0.0010
DFR	0.0366	1.4069	-0.6080	8.4903	3423.1773	0.0010
INFL	0.2400	0.5269	1.0894	14.0714	9439.5069	0.0010

Notes: This table represents descriptive statistics for the stock return (Ret), 14 macroeconomic predictors used for forecasting models.  $\rho(1)$  refers to the first-order autocorrelation.

#### 4. Empirical results

#### 4.1. In-sample estimations

The predictive regression estimates are presented in Table 2. For macroeconomic variables such as DY, LTR and LTY, we find these three macroeconomic variables have an effect on the stock return at a 10% significance level. For macroeconomic variables such as EP, BM, NTIS and TBL, we find these four macroeconomic variables have an effect on the stock return at a 5% significance level. For the components obtained from PLS dimensionality reduction model, we find the PLS components can have an effect on the stock return at a 1% significance level. in summary, from an in-sample perspective, we find most of the macroeconomic variables can have an effect on stock market returns.

## 4.2. Out-of-sample results

#### 4.2.1. Statistical evaluation

Following Campbell and Thompson (2008) and Wang, Pan, Liu, and Wu (2019), in this paper, we apply the recursive window method to obtain the predictive values. The data ranges from June 1980 to December 2020. The initial window *M* is 240 months (20 years), and the out-of-sample interval of the recursive window method is from June

**Table 2** In-sample estimation results.

Models	Constant	Slope
DP	0.0198 (1.6661)**	0.0043 (1.2347)
DY	0.0234 (1.9668)**	0.0054 (1.5394) *
EP	0.0249 (2.3170)**	0.0071 (1.8483) **
DE	0.0033 (0.9354)	$-0.0030 \; (-0.6064)$
SVAR	0.0056 (3.1390)***	-0.1287 (-0.4820)
BM	-0.0012 (-0.3087)	0.0115 (1.9027) **
NTIS	0.0075 (3.9372)***	-0.1380 (-2.2148) **
TBL	0.0083 (3.4943)***	-0.0009 (-1.7543) **
LTY	0.0093 (2.7949)***	-0.0008 (-1.3858) *
LTR	0.0048 (2.9040)***	0.0010 (1.4852) *
TMS	0.0028 (1.0779)	0.0014 (1.1529)
DFY	0.0041 (1.3252)*	0.0010 (0.4289)
DFR	0.0052 (3.2174)***	0.0016 (1.4224) *
INFL	0.0058 (3.2852)***	-0.0024 (-0.7855)
PCA	0.0053 (3.2520) ***	0.0010 (1.2350)
SPCA	0.0053 (3.2515) ***	0.3603 (1.1228)
PLS	0.0105 (3.8003) ***	0.0048 (2.3330) ***

Notes: The slope coefficient is the regression estimation of each variable. This table includes the slope coefficient, the Newey-West heteroskedasticity t-statistic. \*\*\*, \*\*, and \* indicate significance at the 1%, 5%, and 10% levels, respectively. MF means the combination prediction model.

2000 to December 2020.

According to Neely et al. (2014), Huang, Jiang, Tu, and Zhou (2015) and Lin, Wu, and Zhou (2018), the out-of-sample  $R^2(R_{\rm oos}^2)$  method is efficient in capturing the predictive distinction among the forecasting models. Thus, after obtaining all the predictions, we evaluate the models' performances by this method, which is:

$$R^{2} = 1 - \frac{\text{MSPE}_{\text{model}}}{\text{MSPE}_{\text{bench}}} = 1 - \frac{\sum_{t=M+1}^{T} (\hat{r}_{t} - r_{t})^{2}}{\sum_{t=M+1}^{T} (r_{t} - \overline{r_{t}})^{2}}$$
(9)

where  $\text{MSPE}_{\text{model}}$  and  $\text{MSPE}_{\text{bench}}$  are the prediction errors of a predicting model and benchmark model, respectively. The benchmark model is the historical average forecast.  $\hat{r}_t$ ,  $r_b$  and  $\overline{r}_t$  are the prediction of the model, the actual excess stock return and the historical average of return, respectively. Following Clark and West (2007), the MSPE metric is applied to check the significant differences among the forecasting models.

#### 4.2.2. Out-of-sample results

The results of the forecasting models are presented in Table 3. We get several findings. First, 14 popular macroeconomic variables of Welch and Goyal (2008), we find individual macroeconomic indicators fail to achieve superior out-of-sample performance than the benchmark model.

Table 3
Out-of-sample results.

Models	$R^2(\%)$	MSFE	<i>p</i> -value
DP	-0.1712	1.2544	0.1048
DY	-0.5006	1.5057	0.0661
EP	-1.5619	1.3328	0.0913
DE	-1.3864	-0.2597	0.6024
SVAR	-0.3333	-0.5150	0.6967
BM	-1.5526	0.5108	0.3048
NTIS	-0.4641	0.6502	0.2578
TBL	0.1571	1.5473	0.0609
LTY	-0.5475	1.5308	0.0629
LTR	-0.7152	-0.0787	0.5314
TMS	0.0310	1.0202	0.1538
DFY	-0.1479	-1.0635	0.8562
DFR	-0.2977	0.0023	0.4991
INFL	-0.0297	0.2354	0.4069
PCA	0.2074	1.8556	0.0318
SPCA	-1.2046	1.4321	0.0761
PLS	-0.9898	1.3516	0.0883
MF	0.4425	2.2540	0.0121

Notes: The table presents the predictive regression estimation and out-of-sample performance of the model evaluation. MF is the mean combination prediction model. If  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is larger than zero, the corresponding model is superior to the benchmark model.

Second, we find the dimensionality reduction method of PCA can beat the benchmark model. More specifically, the  $R^2$  of PCA is 0.2074, which is positively significantly at the 5% significance level. We find the  $R^2$  of combination forecast model is 0.4425, which is the largest among the forecasting models and it is significant at the 5% significance level.

#### 4.2.3. Alternative forecasting windows

It is important that predictions are changeable to different forecasting windows (Liang, Ma, Wang, & Zeng, 2021; Lu, Ma, Wang, & Zhu, 2021; Wang, He, Ma, & Li, 2022). In this section, we further investigate whether the variables can have different performances in alternative forecasting windows. More specifically, the initial window *M* is 120 and 360 months (10 and 30 years). The results are presented in Table 4.

Based on the initial window of 120 months (10 years), we find that the  $\mathbb{R}^2$  of PCA is 0.2816, which is positively significantly at the 5% significance level, showing dimensionality reduction method of PCA can beat the benchmark model. In addition, we find the  $\mathbb{R}^2$  of MF is 0.2574, which is positively significantly at the 10% significance level, showing the combination forecast model is also efficient to predict the stock returns. Based on the initial window of 360 months (30 years), we find that the  $\mathbb{R}^2$  of PCA is 0.3010, which is positively significantly at the 5% significance level, showing dimensionality reduction method of PCA can beat the benchmark model. In addition, we find the  $\mathbb{R}^2$  of MF is 0.3215, which is positively significantly at the 5% significance level, showing the combination forecast model is also efficient to predict the stock returns. Possible reason can be that the market conditions are always

**Table 4**Results based on different forecasting windows.

Models	R <sup>2</sup> (%)	MSFE	<i>p</i> -value
10 years			
DP	-0.1252	1.2797	0.1003
DY	-0.3346	1.5366	0.0622
EP	-3.2440	0.6513	0.2574
DE	-1.6528	-0.7773	0.7815
SVAR	-0.3126	-0.6527	0.7430
BM	-0.3486	1.5955	0.0553
NTIS	-0.2920	0.8512	0.1973
TBL	-0.0216	1.3448	0.0894
LTY	-1.7120	0.5852	0.2792
LTR	-0.6909	0.2023	0.4199
TMS	-0.0246	0.8841	0.1883
DFY	-0.2703	-0.9182	0.8207
DFR	-0.2962	-0.0334	0.5133
INFL	-0.3143	-0.9286	0.8234
PCA	0.2816	2.0595	0.0197
SPCA	-1.6966	0.7603	0.2235
PLS	-1.2193	1.1516	0.1247
MF	0.2574	1.3568	0.0874
30 years			
DP	-0.3775	0.9090	0.1817
DY	-0.7666	1.1176	0.1319
EP	-1.9534	0.3897	0.3484
DE	-1.7710	-1.8608	0.9686
SVAR	-0.3464	-0.4656	0.6793
BM	-1.9396	0.2097	0.4169
NTIS	-0.5734	0.5674	0.2852
TBL	0.1974	1.5668	0.0586
LTY	-0.8351	1.3044	0.0961
LTR	-0.0912	0.8387	0.2008
TMS	0.0078	0.9644	0.1674
DFY	-0.0412	-0.2932	0.6153
DFR	-0.0819	0.3204	0.3743
INFL	-0.0165	0.2400	0.4052
PCA	0.3010	1.9144	0.0278
SPCA	-1.7539	0.8481	0.1982
PLS	-0.1056	1.9418	0.0261
MF	0.3215	1.7039	0.0442

Notes: The table presents the predictive regression estimation and out-of-sample performance of the model evaluation during different forecasting windows. MF is the mean combination prediction model. If  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is larger than zero, the corresponding model is superior to the benchmark model.

changing, thus, it is difficult for single model to perform robust all the time (Rapach et al., 2010). Therefore, the combination model has more robust performances than single models.

#### 4.3. Economic evaluation

We have examined the out-of-sample performance of macroeconomic variables. However, financial practitioners are most concerned with economic gains. Specifically, market investors are most interested in the return forecasting performance in terms of asset allocation. In this section, we apply out-of-sample return forecasting to portfolios, examining the economic value of stock return predictability based on given models. Following Campbell and Thompson (2008) and Zhang, Ma, and Wang (2019), we employ the Sharpe Ratio (SR) and certainty-equivalent return (CER) to measure the economic gains of the mean-variance investor. We assumed that the mean-variance investors will allocate their wealth between the stock and risk-free assets with reference to the stock market return forecast for next month. In order to maximize their gains, the weight investors allocate to the stock market should be defined as:

$$w_t = \frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{\hat{r}_{t+1}}{\hat{\sigma}_{t+1}^2} \tag{10}$$

where  $\gamma$  is the investor's risk aversion coefficient;  $\hat{r}_{t+1}$  denotes the stock return forecasts for month t+1 and  $\hat{\sigma}_{t+1}^2$  denotes the prediction of variance for month t+1. Then the portfolio returns of month t+1 can be expressed as:

$$R_{p,t+1} = w_t r_{t+1} + R_{f,t} (11)$$

where the  $R_{f,\ t+1}$  is the risk-free rate. Based on the portfolio return. According to Wang et al. (2019), the SR gain and CER gain can reflect the portfolio performance. The SR gains of predictability are the differences between the given portfolio's SR and the benchmark portfolio's SR. We multiply the SR gain by  $\sqrt{12}$  to obtain the annual value.

Besides, the CER of the portfolio is:

$$CER = \hat{\mu}_p - 0.5\gamma \hat{\sigma}_p^2 \tag{12}$$

where  $\widehat{\mu}_p$  denotes the sample mean of the portfolio returns during the out-of-sample period and  $\widehat{\sigma}_p^2$  denotes the sample variance of the portfolio returns during the out-of-sample period. The CER gains are calculated by the difference between the CER of the stock market return forecasts generated by the forecasting models and the CER predicted by the benchmark model. We multiply the CER return by 1200 to obtain the annualized percentage, which can be interpreted as the percentage of annual portfolio management fees that investors are willing to pay for the interested model rather than the benchmark model. In addition, we employ the Sharpe ratio to assess the economic value of stock return forecasts from different models. Similar to CER gains, SR gains are the difference between the SR of a given portfolio and the SR of the benchmark portfolio. We multiply the SR gains by  $\sqrt{12}$  to obtain the annual value.

### 4.3.1. Economic analysis based on different risk aversions

It is well-known that different investors have different types of risk appetite. In other words, different investors have different reactions to different risky assets, which are also changeable. It is interesting to check whether the traditional macroeconomic variables are efficient to improve the forecasting performance considering different types of risk appetite. Table 5 reports the Portfolio performances of macroeconomic variables based on different investor's risk aversion coefficients ( $\gamma = 3$ , 5, 7). From the results of  $\gamma = 3$ , we find that 8 of 14 individual variable predictions generate positive CER gains. For the results of  $\gamma = 5$ , only 4 of 14 individual variable predictions generate positive CER gains. As for  $\gamma$ 

**Table 5**Portfolio performances of macroeconomic variables based on investor's risk aversion coefficients.

Models	CER gains	SR gains
γ=3		
DP	-0.5348	-0.0226
DY	-0.9378	-0.0552
EP	0.1356	0.0142
DE	0.3092	0.0241
SVAR	0.1847	0.0114
BM	-1.4783	-0.1107
NTIS	0.6601	0.0433
TBL	0.7789	0.0623
LTY	0.5194	0.0544
LTR	-0.5926	-0.0368
TMS	0.8025	0.0500
DFY	-0.5029	-0.0314
DFR	0.1728	0.0111
INFL	0.2316	0.0153
PCA	0.7848	0.1527
SPCA	-1.0860	-0.0749
PLS	-0.4353	-0.0289
MF	0.6213	0.0435
$\gamma=5$		
DP	-0.4412	-0.0562
DY	-0.5137	-0.0652
EP	-0.6045	-0.0488
DE	-0.7945	-0.0053
SVAR	0.1363	0.0121
BM	-1.4434	-0.1356
NTIS	-1.0821	-0.0274
TBL	0.7566	0.0751
LTY	0.7209	0.0759
LTR	-0.6735	-0.0389
TMS	0.5431	0.0553
DFY	-0.3429	-0.0313
DFR	-0.1230	-0.0128
INFL	0.0775	0.0048
PCA	0.5875	0.1406
SPCA	-0.6258	-0.0729
PLS	-0.1684	-0.0236
MF	0.9124	0.0885
<i>γ</i> =7		
DP	-0.3548	-0.0611
DY	-0.4034	-0.0679
EP	-1.3090	-0.0971
DE	-1.4273	-0.0369
SVAR	0.0897	0.0111
BM	-1.7606	-0.1793
NTIS	-1.9374	-0.0814
TBL	0.4628	0.0574
LTY	0.4674	0.0616
LTR	-0.7475	-0.0527
TMS	0.2812	0.0460
DFY	-0.2429	-0.0305
DFR	-0.2230	-0.0268
INFL	0.0456	0.0032
PCA	0.3609	0.1238
SPCA	-0.7402	-0.0962
PLS	-0.1665	-0.0254
MF	0.6044	0.0787

Note: This table reflects the portfolio performance for an investor who allocates their portfolio between stock and risk-free bills based on different investor's risk aversion coefficients ( $\gamma = 3, 5, 7$ ). MF is the mean combination prediction model.

 $=7,\,5$  out of 14 individual variable predictions generate positive CER gains. Furthermore, only PCA yields positive CER gains among the three dimensionality reduction methods. The mean combination forecast consistently generates positive CER gains under different investors' risk aversion coefficients. The results of SR gains are highly consistent with the CER gains.

#### 4.3.2. Economic analysis considering the trading cost

In the real trading market, investors need to pay transaction costs when they finish their conditions, thus, it is important to consider

transaction costs. In addition, transaction costs are close to the portfolio performance. According to Neely et al. (2014), ignoring transaction costs may reduce the economic value of a portfolio. In this section, we investigate economic value considering transaction costs. Table 6 reports the portfolio performance of macroeconomic variables considering transaction costs based on different investor's risk aversion coefficients ( $\gamma = 3, 5, 7$ ). For  $\gamma = 3, 5, 7$ , there are 6, 4, 4 macroeconomic variables that generate positive CER gains, respectively. For the three dimensionality reduction methods, only PCA has a positive CER gain. In

**Table 6**Portfolio performances of macroeconomic variables based on investor's risk aversion coefficients considering the trading cost.

Models	CER gains	SR gains
γ=3		
DP	-0.6401	-0.0394
DY	-1.0618	-0.0756
EP	-0.0169	-0.0004
DE	0.2938	0.0250
SVAR	0.0839	0.0045
BM	-1.5785	-0.1232
NTIS	0.4333	0.0324
TBL	0.7417	0.0564
LTY	0.5077	0.0488
LTR	-2.6436	-0.1629
TMS	0.5306	0.0335
DFY	-0.5388	-0.0336
DFR	-1.1215	-0.0752
INFL	-0.3203	-0.0236
PCA	0.5781	0.1190
SPCA	-1.0988	-0.0826
PLS	-1.3798	-0.1065
MF	0.4500	0.0299
$\gamma=5$		
DP	-0.4841	-0.0666
DY	-0.5693	-0.0783
EP	-0.7281	-0.0591
DE	-0.8736	-0.0054
SVAR	0.0440	0.0034
BM	-1.5528	-0.1469
NTIS	-1.3165	-0.0385
TBL	0.7465	0.0710
LTY	0.7090	0.0705
LTR	-2.5719	-0.1880
TMS	0.2628	0.0331
DFY	-0.3866	-0.0352
DFR	-1.3064	-0.1251
INFL	-0.3973	-0.0422
PCA	0.4934	0.1110
SPCA	-0.6293	-0.0767
PLS	-1.0197	-0.1113
MF	0.7709	0.0723
<i>γ</i> =7		
DP	-0.3817	-0.0708
DY	-0.4511	-0.0801
EP	-1.4107	-0.1036
DE	-1.5337	-0.0381
SVAR	0.0137	0.0018
BM	-1.8642	-0.1897
NTIS	-2.1595	-0.0926
TBL	0.4457	0.0526
LTY	0.4504	0.0552
LTR	-2.3550	-0.2140
TMS	0.0621	0.0244
DFY	-0.2676	-0.0336
DFR	-1.1984	-0.1470
INFL	-0.3397	-0.0481
PCA	0.3074	0.0971
SPCA	-0.7445	-0.0981
PLS	-0.9482	-0.1246
MF	0.5077	0.0630

Note: This table reflects the portfolio performance for an investor who allocates their portfolio between stock and risk-free bills based on different investor's risk aversion coefficients ( $\gamma=3,\,5,\,7$ ). We consider transactions cost of 50 basis points per transaction. MF is the mean combination prediction model.

addition, the CER gain of combination forecast model is consistently positive even considering the existence of transaction cost. The results of SR gains are still consistent with the CER gains. Overall, the results of portfolio performance considering transaction costs are basically consistent with the results reported in Table 7.

#### 5. Further analysis

#### 5.1. Expansion and recession

Exploring the link between business cycles and forecast performance may reveal the source of the forecasting power contained in macroeconomic indicators. Following Zhang, Ma, Liang, and Zhang (2021), we further analyze the performance of 14 macroeconomic variables during expansions and recessions on National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) dates. Consistent with Neely et al. (2014), we examine forecast performance by decomposing the out-of-sample  $R^2$  statistic under business cycles. To test the predictive power of indicators during recessions and expansions, the out-of-sample  $R^2$  can be calculated as,

$$R_{\rm c}^2 = 1 - \frac{\sum_{f=1}^F F(\mathbf{r}_t - \mathbf{r}_t^j)^2}{\sum_{f=1}^F I^f(\mathbf{r}_t - \mathbf{r}_t^0)^2}, \text{for } c = \text{EXP}, \text{REC},$$
 (13)

where  $I^{\rm EXP}$  and  $I^{\rm REC}$  are indicators in a unified value when the month is

**Table 7**Out-of-sample results over business cycles.

Models	$R^2(\%)$	MSFE	p-value
Expansions			
DP	-1.0911	0.1868	0.4259
DY	-1.8793	0.3780	0.3527
EP	-1.2801	1.5248	0.0637
DE	-0.5330	0.8432	0.1996
SVAR	-0.6967	-1.0711	0.8579
BM	-2.1599	0.1162	0.4538
NTIS	1.0054	2.8290	0.0023
TBL	-0.2898	1.0134	0.1554
LTY	-0.9934	1.1234	0.1306
LTR	-0.8439	-0.2623	0.6034
TMS	-0.2872	0.4895	0.3122
DFY	-0.1746	-1.1631	0.8776
DFR	-0.3982	-0.1882	0.5746
INFL	0.0537	0.7246	0.2344
PCA	-1.0911	0.2600	0.3974
SPCA	-2.1854	0.7651	0.2221
PLS	-1.4463	0.9382	0.1741
MF	0.3258	1.6114	0.0535
Recessions			
DP	2.3153	2.8423	0.0022
DY	3.2259	3.0914	0.0010
EP	-2.3235	0.3165	0.3758
DE	-3.6933	-1.3569	0.9126
SVAR	0.6489	0.9912	0.1608
BM	0.0890	0.6580	0.2553
NTIS	-4.4363	-2.0605	0.9803
TBL	1.3648	1.1729	0.1204
LTY	0.6579	1.0605	0.1445
LTR	-0.3672	0.2130	0.4157
TMS	0.8911	1.2520	0.1053
DFY	-0.0757	-0.2140	0.5847
DFR	-0.0260	0.1654	0.4343
INFL	-0.2550	-0.1934	0.5767
PCA	3.7173	3.5283	0.0002
SPCA	1.5381	1.4893	0.0682
PLS	0.2440	0.9719	0.1655
MF	0.7579	1.6712	0.0473

Notes: The table presents the predictive regression estimation and out-of-sample performance of the model evaluation during different business cycles. MF is the mean combination prediction model. If  $R^2$  is larger than zero, the corresponding model is superior to the benchmark model.

classified as an expansion (recession) period; otherwise, they are set to zero.

Table 7 reports the out-of-sample results during business cycles. Panel A shows the forecasting performance during expansions. From the results during expansions, we can find that only 2 (NTIS and INFL) of 14 macroeconomic variables generate positive  $R_c^2$  statistics, of which only the  $R_c^2$  statistic for INFL is significant at the 1% significance level. Despite the poor predictive power of individual macroeconomic variables, simple combination forecasts yielded positive  $R_c^2$  statistic and is significant at the 10% significance level. Panel B shows the forecasting performance during recessions. From the results, we can find that the forecasting ability of macroeconomic variables in the recession period is significantly higher than that in the expansion period. For individual variable forecasting, 7 of 14 macroeconomic variables (50%) generate positive  $R_c^2$  statistics (two are significant at a 1% significance level). Furthermore, the comprehensive indexes extracted by the three dimensionality reduction methods also obtained positive  $R_c^2$  statistics in the recession period. In particular, the  $R_c^2$  statistic of PCA reached 3.7173% and is significant at the 1% significance level. The  $R_c^2$  statistic of the combination forecast is 0.7579% (slightly higher than the expansion period) and significant at the 5% significance level.

#### 5.2. Multi-step-ahead forecasts

The previous empirical research mainly focuses on short-term (one-month-ahead) forecasting, and investors are also interested in the performance of macroeconomic variables in long-term forecasting of stock market returns. Following the research of Zhang, Ma, and Liao (2020), we further examine the forecasting ability of macroeconomic variables in the two-, three- and six-month-ahead. The hth-month-ahead returns can be computed as  $r_{t+h} = \frac{1}{h} (r_{t+1} + r_{t+2} + ... + r_{t+h})$ .

Table 8 reports the out-of-sample performance of macroeconomic variables during different horizons. For individual predictive regression forecasts based on the 14 macroeconomic variables, only 1 out of 14 macroeconomic variables generate positive  $R_{oos}^2$  statistics in the two-month-ahead (none of them are significant), 3 out of 14 macroeconomic variables generate positive  $R^2$  statistics in the three–month-ahead (two are significant at 10% significance level) and six-month-ahead (one is significant at the 1% significance level and the other is significant at the 5% significance level). In general, the predictive power of macroeconomic indicators increases as the forecasting horizon expands. More importantly, the  $R^2$  statistics of combination forecast are consistently positive and significant at 1% significance level for two-, three- and six-month-ahead forecasting. Consistent with the individual predictive regression forecasts, the combination forecast generates the largest  $R^2$  statistics at six-month-ahead forecasting.

#### 6. Conclusion remark

This paper mainly investigates the traditional macroeconomic variables' predictability for stock market return. We get several findings. First, we find individual macroeconomic indicators fail to achieve superior out-of-sample performance than the benchmark model. Second, we find the dimensionality reduction method of PCA can beat the benchmark model. Third, we find the  $R^2$  of combination forecast model is the largest among the forecasting models. During different forecasting windows, we find the mean combination forecast can have robust performances in alternative forecasting windows, different market conditions and multi-step-ahead forecasts. In addition. The mean combination forecast consistently generates higher CER gains than other models considering different investors' risk aversion coefficients and trading costs.

**Table 8**Out-of-sample results during different horizons.

Models	R <sup>2</sup> (%)	MSFE	<i>p</i> -value
h = 2			
DP	-0.5280	1.8556	0.0318
DY	-0.9900	1.9401	0.0262
EP	-3.8415	1.8429	0.0327
DE	-2.6556	-0.5321	0.7027
SVAR	-0.0925	-0.3987	0.6549
BM	-3.9526	0.8767	0.1903
NTIS	-1.3573	0.3506	0.3629
TBL	-0.2243	1.8629	0.0312
LTY	-1.7492	1.8348	0.0333
LTR	-0.5800	0.0689	0.4725
TMS	-0.0286	1.2212	0.1110
DFY	-0.4819	-1.3764	0.9157
DFR	-0.5994	-2.0056	0.9775
INFL		-2.0036 1.1870	
	0.2237		0.1176
PCA	0.0972	2.4903	0.0064
SPCA	-3.3077	1.9324	0.0267
PLS	-2.5449	1.9082	0.0282
MF	0.7364	2.8004	0.0026
h = 3			
DP	-0.7149	2.4052	0.0081
DY	-0.2750	2.5799	0.0049
EP	-5.4804	2.4842	0.0065
DE	-3.7805	-0.5450	0.7071
SVAR	-0.5384	-1.9278	0.9731
BM	-5.4290	1.3160	0.0941
NTIS	-2.0009	0.3996	0.3447
TBL	-0.6647	2.0295	0.0212
LTY	-2.9042	2.1305	0.0166
LTR	0.1627	1.2950	0.0977
TMS	-0.0880	1.5001	0.0668
DFY	-0.4347	-1.3131	0.9054
DFR	0.0586	0.6028	0.2733
INFL	0.2211	1.3829	0.0833
PCA	0.4689	3.0805	0.0010
SPCA	-4.5728	2.5241	0.0058
PLS	-1.3221	2.9525	0.0016
MF	1.2449	3.7784	0.0001
h = 6			
DP	-0.3538	3.2475	0.0006
DY	-0.7431	3.1760	0.0007
EP	-3.4375	4.7246	0.0000
DE	-4.7995	-0.0810	0.5323
SVAR	-0.7406	-0.8387	0.7992
BM	-6.1663	2.4519	0.0071
NTIS	-4.0002	0.7515	0.2262
TBL	-2.9768	1.5724	0.0579
LTY	-7.5975	1.7158	0.0431
LTR	-7.3973 -2.0710	1.0662	0.1432
TMS	-2.0710 1.1509	3.2402	0.1432
DFY	-0.4991	-1.7222	0.9575
DFR	0.0480	0.7144	0.2375
INFL	0.3331	2.0437	0.0205
PCA	-0.0022	3.0267	0.0012
SPCA	-4.8345	3.5238	0.0002
PLS	-3.8131	3.1324	0.0009
MF	2.2915	5.2538	0.0000

Notes: The table presents the predictive regression estimation and out-of-sample performance of the model evaluation during different horizons. MF is the mean combination prediction model. If  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is larger than zero, the corresponding model is superior to the benchmark model.

## **Declaration of Competing Interest**

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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