

# FIN2010 Financial Management

## Lecture 8: Risk and Return



# Review—Stock Valuation

- Dividend discount model: one example of cash flow based model

$$P_0 = \frac{Div_1}{1 + r_E} + \frac{Div_2}{(1 + r_E)^2} + \frac{Div_3}{(1 + r_E)^3} + \dots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{Div_n}{(1 + r_E)^n}$$

- 1) **Zero growth model:** dividends are constant over time **level perpetuity**
  - 2) **Constant growth model:** dividends grow at a constant rate **growth perpetuity**
  - 3) **Variable growth model:** dividends change for a number of years and then stabilize to a sustainable growth rate **irregular cash flows**
- Which model to choose? It depends on the maturity stage of the firm!
  - Implications:
    - Prices increases with firms' growth prospect, profitability.
    - Price decreases with firms' risk level.
    - When firms cut dividends, prices will increase (decrease) if firms use the retained earnings to invest in efficient (inefficient) projects.



# Review—Stock Pricing

- Method of comparable
  - Estimate the value of the firm based on the value of other comparable firms
  - Stock's fair value =  $\text{EPS} * \text{appropriate P/E ratio (from other firms)}$
- Discounted free cash flow model
  - Another cash flow based model
  - Will come back to it after we learn how to calculate free cash flows.
- All methods have their pros and cons. In reality, analysts tend to use a combination of different methods.



# Agenda

- Motivation
- Definition and Measurement of Risk and Return
  - Return
  - Risk
- Empirical Facts on Historical Returns
  - US and Chinese Asset Returns
  - Sharpe Ratio
  - Ponzi Scheme



# Agenda

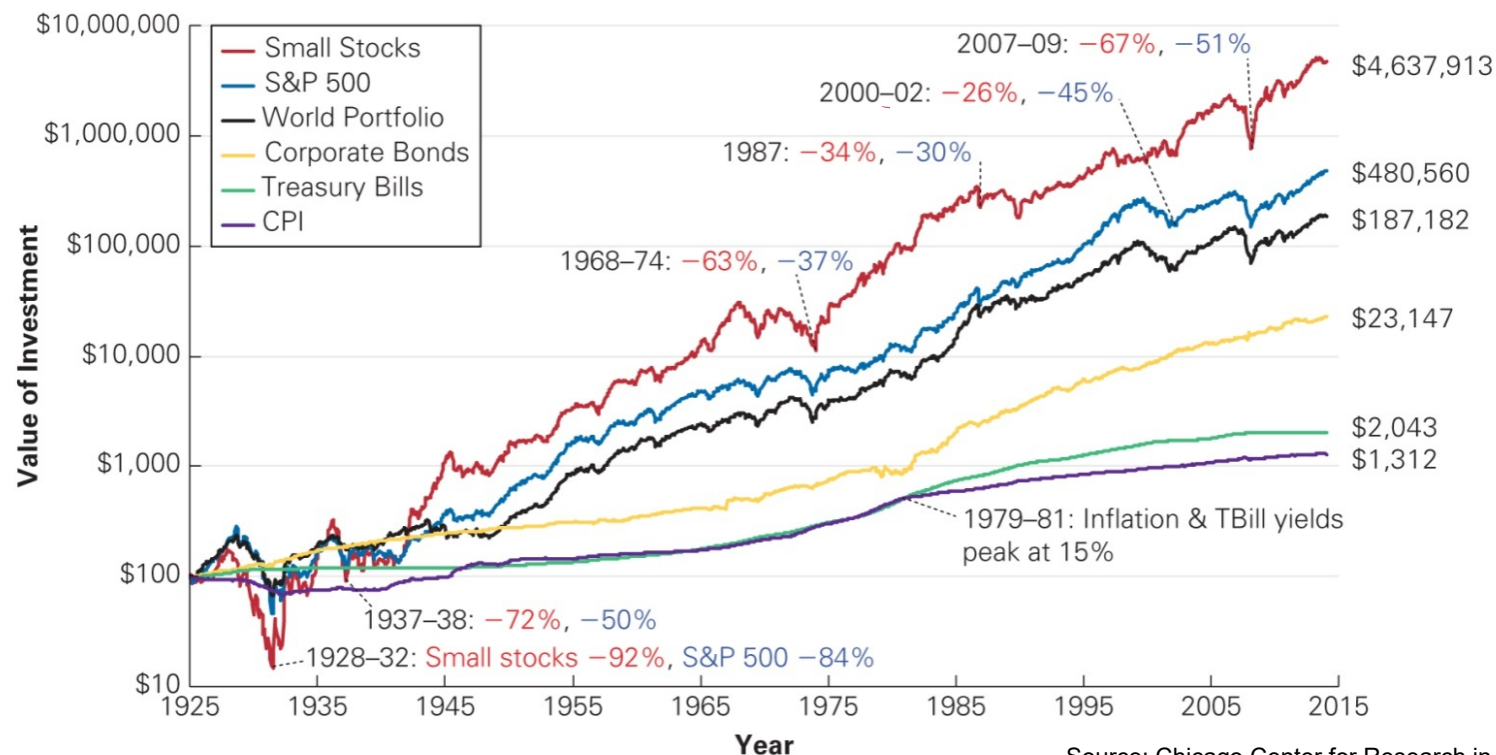
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# Motivation

(上证指数)

- How would \$100 have grown from 1925 to 2015



Source: Chicago Center for Research in Security Prices, Standard and Poor's, MSCI, and Global Financial Data.

- Lessons from the history:

宽基指数

- There is positive return on any broad-based index in the long run.
- There is a **risk and return tradeoff**, i.e. higher risks  $\leftrightarrow$  higher returns.



# Agenda

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# Return

- Holding period return (HPR): the rate of return over an investment period one is trying to evaluate (e.g. 4 months, 1 year, 3 years...). **Backward looking.**
- Average return: average return per year/month/... over an investment period. **Backward looking.**
- Expected return: the return an investor expects to earn on an investment in the future. **Forward looking.**





# Holding Period Return (HPR)

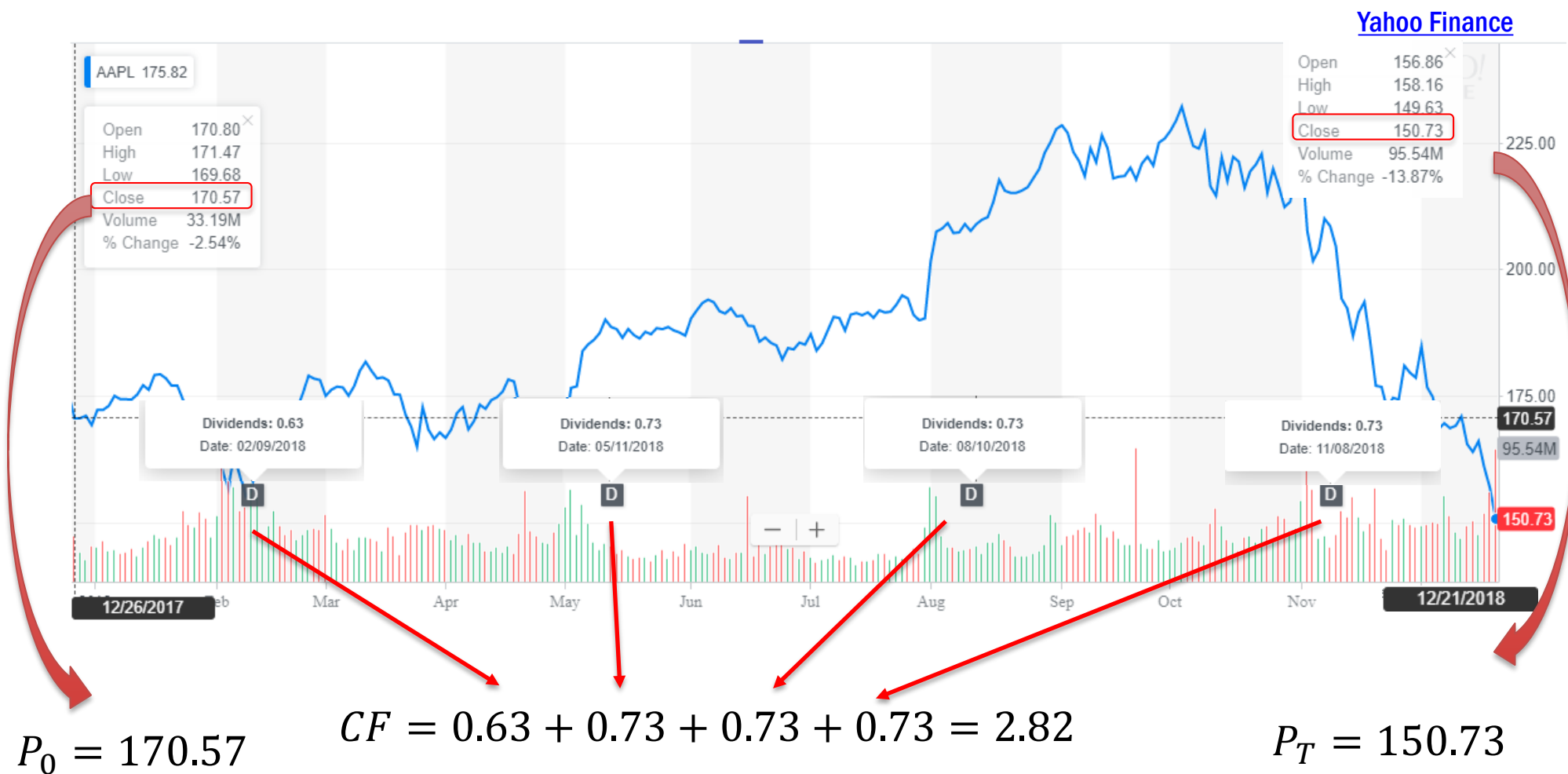
- Definition: the percent change *in* wealth over an investment period (e.g. 4 months, 1 year, 3 years...).
- How much you end up with vs. how much you put in over an investment period

$$R = \frac{Wealth_T}{Wealth_0} - 1$$

- Return on one asset:  $R = \frac{P_T + CF}{P_0} - 1$ 
  - Measures how much money generated per unit of initial investment in this period
    - $P_0$ : price of the asset at the beginning of this period
    - $P_T$ : price of the asset at the end of this period
    - $CF$ : all cash flows generated by this asset in this period
      - For stocks, CF includes dividends
      - For bonds, CF includes coupon payments



# Example: Holding Period Return



Return between 12/26/2017 and 12/21/2018:

$$R = \frac{P_T + CF}{P_0} - 1 = \frac{150.73 + 2.82}{170.57} - 1 = -9.98\%$$



# Example: Holding Period Return with Dividend Reinvestment

Date	Close
2018-2-28	178.12
... ..	
2018-2-12	162.71
2018-2-9	156.41
2018-2-9	0.63 Dividend
2018-2-8	155.15
... ..	
2017-12-26	170.57

[Yahoo Finance: AAPL](#)

**What is your HPR between 12/26/2017 and 2/28/2018?**

- Assume the dividend is reinvested at the close price of 2018-2-12
  - Initial investment: 1 share of AAPL, \$170.57
  - Final wealth:
    - 1 share of AAPL: \$178.12
    - \$0.63 dividend obtained on 2018-2-9, purchased  $0.63/162.71 = 0.003872$  shares of APPL on 2018-2-12, which is worth  $0.003872 * \$178.12 = \$0.69$
  - $R = (178.12 + 0.69)/170.57 - 1 = 4.830\%$
- What if you do not re-invest the dividend?
 
$$R' = (178.12 + 0.63)/170.57 - 1 = 4.796\%$$



# Average Return

- When we look back into the history, returns vary from period to period. One may also be interested in knowing how much return he/she earns per period on average.
- Arithmetic average return

$$\bar{R} = \frac{R_1 + R_2 + \cdots + R_T}{T} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=1}^T R_i$$

- Simple to calculate; often reported by companies/financial institutions; yet can be misleading
  - Geometric average return
- $$G(R) = \sqrt[T]{(1 + R_1) * (1 + R_2) * \cdots * (1 + R_T)} - 1$$
- The return really matters – it takes into account the compounding



# Example – Average Return

Year	S&P 500
2000	-9.03%
2001	-11.85%
2002	-21.97%
2003	28.36%
2004	10.74%
2005	4.83%
2006	15.61%
2007	5.48%
2008	-36.55%
2009	25.94%
2010	14.82%
2011	2.10%
2012	15.89%
2013	32.15%
2014	13.52%
2015	1.38%
2016	11.77%
2017	21.64%

**What is the average return of the S&P 500 stocks between 2000 and 2017?**

- Arithmetic average

$$= \frac{-9.03\% + (-11.85\%) + (-21.97\%) + \dots + 21.64\%}{18}$$

$$= 6.94\%$$

- Geometric average

$$= \sqrt[18]{(1 - 9.03\%) * (1 - 11.85\%) * \dots * (1 + 21.64\%)} - 1$$

$$= 5.34\%$$



# Why Arithmetic Average can be Misleading

- Assume that we have a 6-year sequence of investment returns as follows:
  - {40% -30% 40% -30% 40% -30%}
  - Suppose your initial investment is \$100. At the end you have **\$94.12**
- Arithmetic  $\bar{R} = \frac{40\% + (-30\%) + 40\% - 30\% + 40\% - 30\%}{6} = 5\%$
- Geometric  $G(R)$   
$$= \sqrt[6]{(1 + 40\%) * (1 - 30\%) * \dots * (1 - 30\%)} - 1 = -1\%$$
- **Theorem: Arithmetic average  $\geq$  geometric average**  
Arithmetic average return is not equal to (always higher than) the expected compound return you get when investing
- Proof of the theorem: <https://brilliant.org/wiki/arithmetic-mean-geometric-mean/>



# Expected Return

- When we look forward, we want to know that, on expectation, what the return on an risky investment is.
- We model the uncertainty of the future return with a *probability distribution*, which assigns a probability ( $Pr_i$ ) for each possible return ( $R_i$ ) that can occur.
- Expected return  $E(r)$  = weighted average of the possible returns, where the weights correspond to the probabilities.

$$E[R] = R_1 * Pr_1 + R_2 * Pr_2 + \cdots + R_n * Pr_n = \sum_{i=1}^n R_i * Pr_i$$

- $R_i$  is the return in possible outcome  $i$ .
- $Pr_i$  is the probability of outcome  $i$ .



# Example- Expected Return

- Example: Assume BFI stock currently trades for \$100 per share. In one year, there is a 25% chance the share price will be \$140, a 50% chance it will be \$110, and a 25% chance it will be \$80. What is the expected return in a year?
- Solution:
  - The probability distribution

Current Stock Price (\$)	Stock Price in One Year (\$)	Probability Distribution	
		Return, $R$	Probability, $P_R$
100	140	0.40	25%
	110	0.10	50%
	80	-0.20	25%

- Expected return:  $E[R] = 25\%(0.4) + 50\%(0.1) + 25\%(-0.2) = 0.1$





# Risk

- Uncertainty of the return

- Risk a neutral word. A risky asset might have returns lower than your expectation, but might also have returns higher than your expectation

- E.g. there are 2 investments. Which is risky?

A. 100% chance lose \$100

B. 50% chance gain \$5, 50% chance gain \$10

**B is risky while A is not!**

**Risk is the uncertainty of the return,  
NOT the possibility of losing money.**

- Risks come from many different sources. For example, for bonds, there are

- **Default risk:** borrower might not pay back
- **Interest rate risk:** change in interest rate will cause change in bond price
- **Reinvestment risk:** might need to reinvest coupon at a different rate
- **Inflation risk:** money you get might not be worth as much
- **Call risk:** principal might be returned earlier than expected



# The Most Common Measure of Risks

- Typically measured as **standard deviation** ( $\sigma$ ) of the return
  - $\sigma(R) = \sqrt{Var(R)} = \sqrt{E[(R - E[R])^2]} = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n Pr_i(R_i - E[R])^2}$
  - Interpretation: by how much does return **typically** differ from the mean

- Example

Current Stock Price (\$)	Stock Price in One Year (\$)	Probability Distribution	
		Return, $R$	Probability, $P_R$
100	140	0.40	25%
	110	0.10	50%
	80	-0.20	25%

- Expected return:  $E(R) = 25\%(0.4) + 50\%(0.1) + 25\%(-0.2) = 0.1$
- Variance:  $Var(R) = 25\%(0.4 - 0.1)^2 + 50\%(0.1 - 0.1)^2 + 25\%(-0.2 - 0.1)^2 = 0.045$
- Standard deviation:  $\sigma(R) = \sqrt{Var(R)} = 0.212$

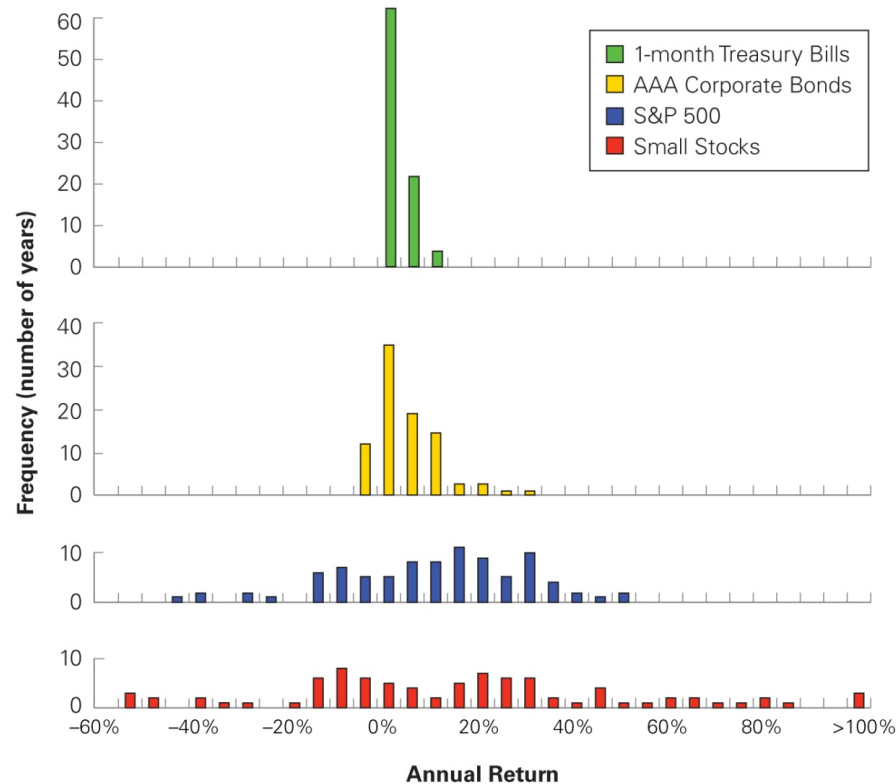
# Use Historical Data to Estimate Expected Return and Risk

- Investor's goal: identify the probability distributions of future returns
- But this is almost impossible. In practice, we often rely on past experiences to forecast the future.
  - By counting the number of times a realized return falls within a particular range, we can estimate the underlying probability distribution.
- Assumption: the past realization has an equal chance of repeating itself in the future



# Example – Empirical Distributions of Annual Returns of Different Assets

Figure: The Empirical Distribution of Annual Returns for U.S. Large Stocks (S&P 500), Small Stocks, Corporate Bonds, and Treasury Bills, 1926–2014



# Use Historical Data to Estimate Expected Return and Risk

- Expected return estimated using the historical returns:

$$E(R) = \frac{1}{T} (R_1 + R_2 + \cdots + R_T) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T R_t$$

- Risks estimated using historical returns

$$\delta(R) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{T-1} \sum_{t=1}^T (R_t - E(R))^2}$$

- \* 1. [Why is the s.d. of a sample different from the s.d. of the population?](#)
- 2. [Derivation of the s.d. of a sample](#)



**Theorem 5** (6.5). Suppose  $\mathbf{X}^n = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is an IID random sample from a population with  $(\mu, \sigma^2)$ . Then for all  $n > 1$ ,

$$E(S_n^2) = \sigma^2.$$

**Proof:** Using the formula  $(a - b)^2 = a^2 - 2ab + b^2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^n [(X_i - \mu) - (\bar{X}_n - \mu)]^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)^2 - 2 \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)(\bar{X}_n - \mu) + \sum_{i=1}^n (\bar{X}_n - \mu)^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)^2 - 2(\bar{X}_n - \mu) \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu) + n(\bar{X}_n - \mu)^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)^2 - 2n(\bar{X}_n - \mu)^2 + n(\bar{X}_n - \mu)^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)^2 - n(\bar{X}_n - \mu)^2, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu) = n(\bar{X}_n - \mu).$$

Taking the expectations for both sides, we have

$$\begin{aligned} E \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^n E(X_i - \mu)^2 - nE[(\bar{X}_n - \mu)^2] \\ &= n\sigma^2 - n \cdot \frac{\sigma^2}{n} = (n-1)\sigma^2, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that  $E(\bar{X}_n - \mu)^2 = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$  from Section 6.2. It follows that

$$E(S_n^2) = E \left[ \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2 \right] = \sigma^2.$$



# Example

Year	S&P 500
2000	-9.03%
2001	-11.85%
2002	-21.97%
2003	28.36%
2004	10.74%
2005	4.83%
2006	15.61%
2007	5.48%
2008	-36.55%
2009	25.94%
2010	14.82%
2011	2.10%
2012	15.89%
2013	32.15%
2014	13.52%
2015	1.38%
2016	11.77%
2017	21.64%

What is the expected return and risk of S&P 500 in 2019?

- Estimating expected returns from historical data:

$$E[R] = \frac{1}{T} (R_1 + R_2 + \cdots + R_T) = 6.94\%$$

- Estimating risks from historical data (standard deviation of a sample):

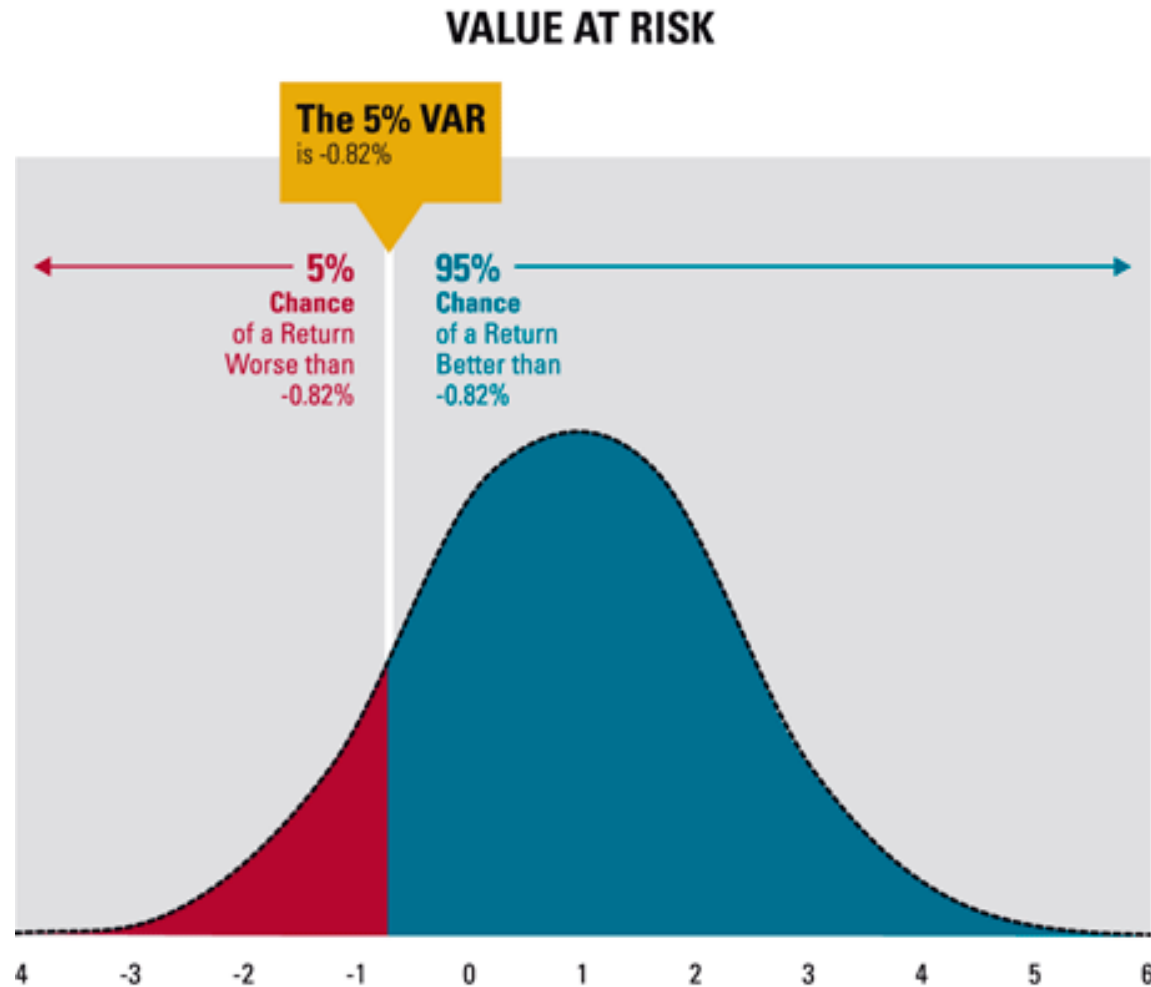
$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (R_t - \bar{R})^2}{T - 1}} = 17.77\%$$



# Other Measures of Risks (Not Required)

- Value at risk (VAR)  
X% of the time (e.g. 95%)  
return will be higher than this
- Expected Shortfall  
Expected loss if the most  
unfortunate X% event  
happens

Focus on extreme situations, often  
used in banks





# Agenda

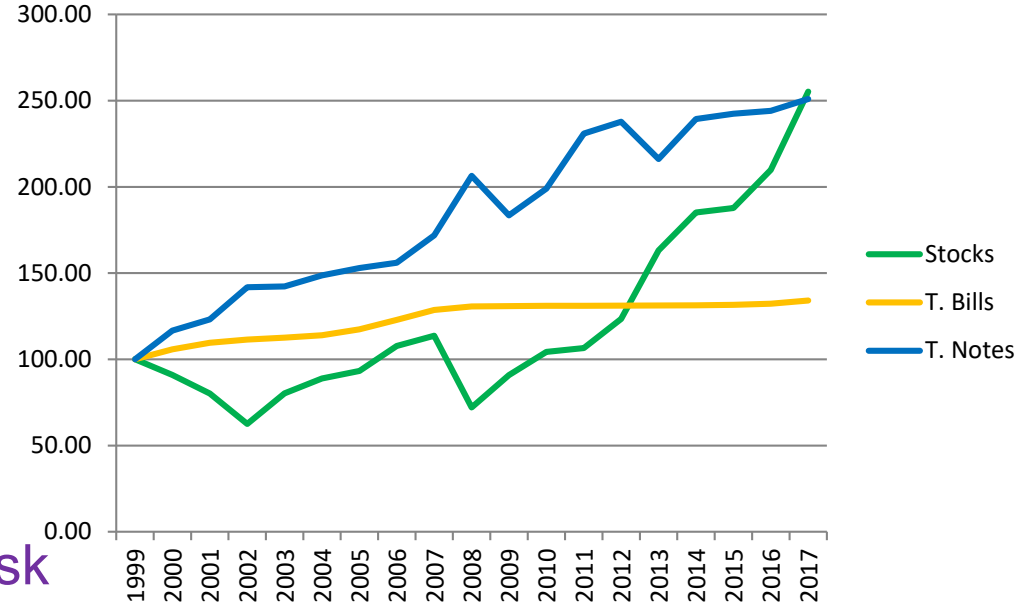
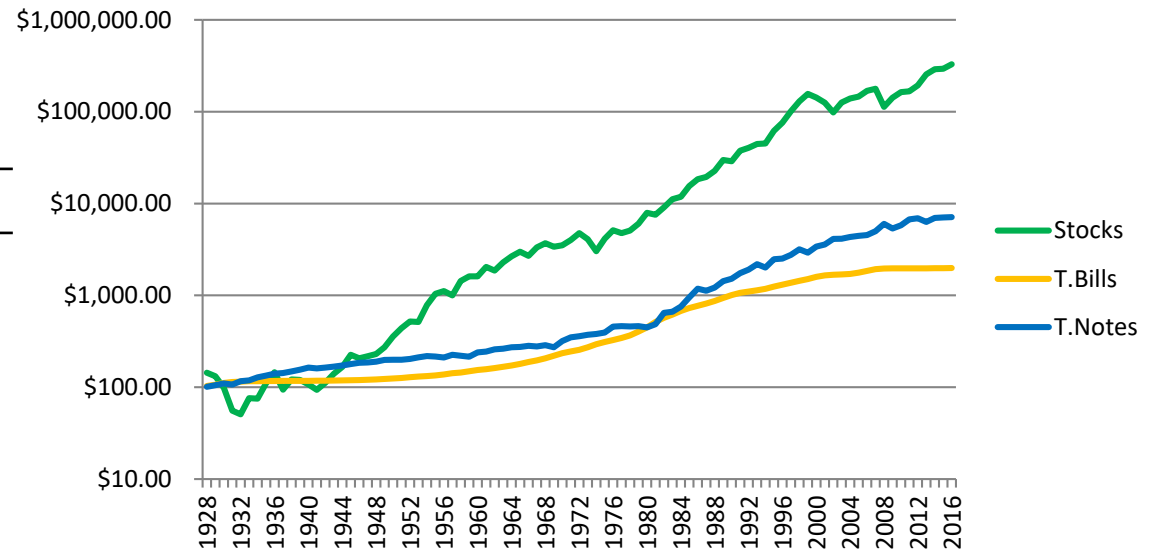
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# Historical Return of US Assets

	S&P 500	T-Bill	T-Note
1928-2017			
Total Ret (HPR)	3999.27	20.17	73.07
Arithmetic avg. of annual ret	11.53%	3.44%	5.15%
Geometric avg. of annual ret	9.65%	3.39%	4.88%
St. dev of annual ret ( $\delta$ )	19.62%	3.05%	7.72%
2000-2017			
Total Ret(HPR)	2.55	1.34	2.51
Arith avg	6.94%	1.66%	5.56%
Geo avg	5.90%	1.33%	4.35%
St.dev ( $\delta$ )	17.77%	1.88%	8.37%

风险溢价  
**Risk premium:** difference in returns between risky and risk-free assets (e.g.  $11.53\% - 3.44\% = 8.09\%$  is called equity risk premium)



# Long Run Performance

- In the long run, stocks > long-term bonds > short-term bonds
  - There are many periods that stocks lose money, but...
  - Stocks outperform bonds in 92% of times in 10-yr periods
  - Stocks outperform bonds in any 20-yr period after 1929

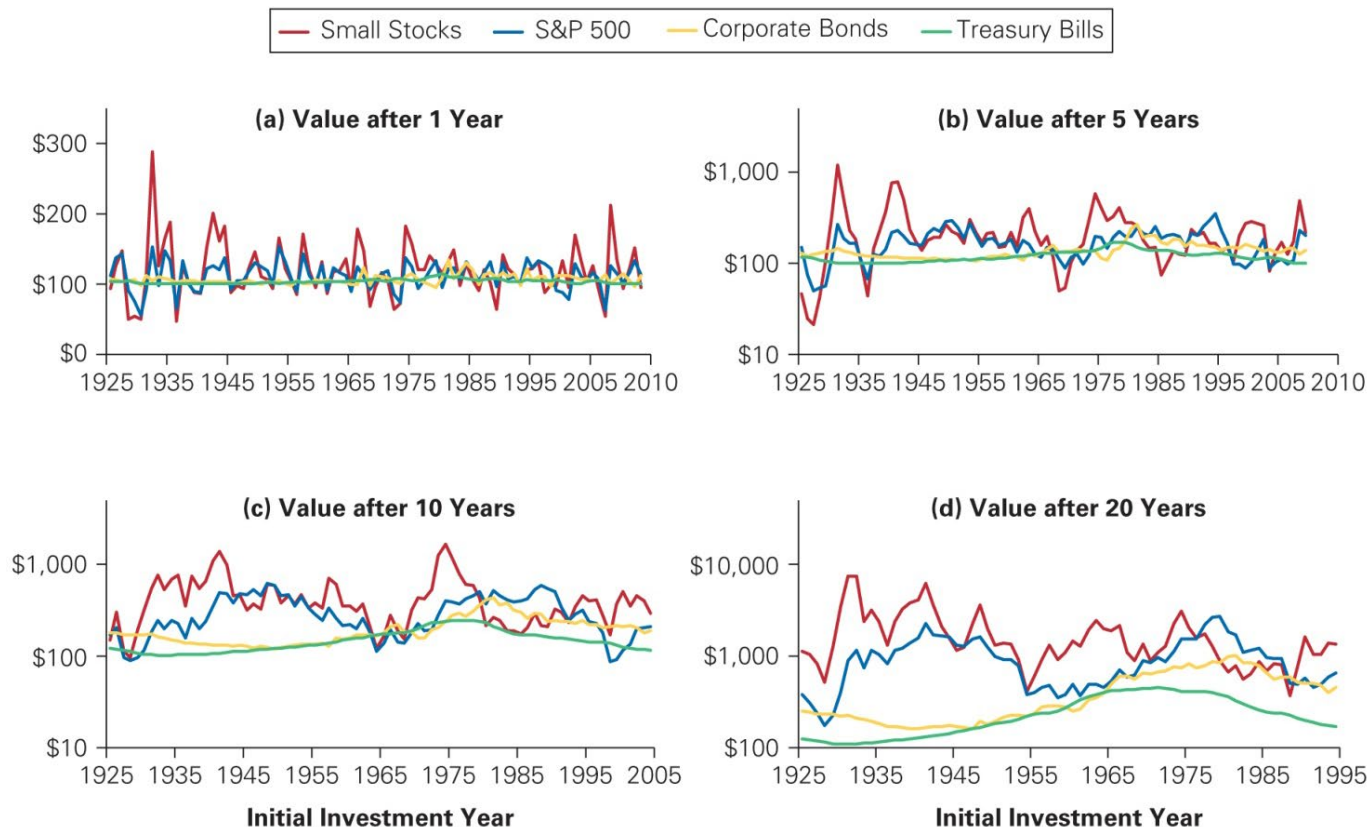


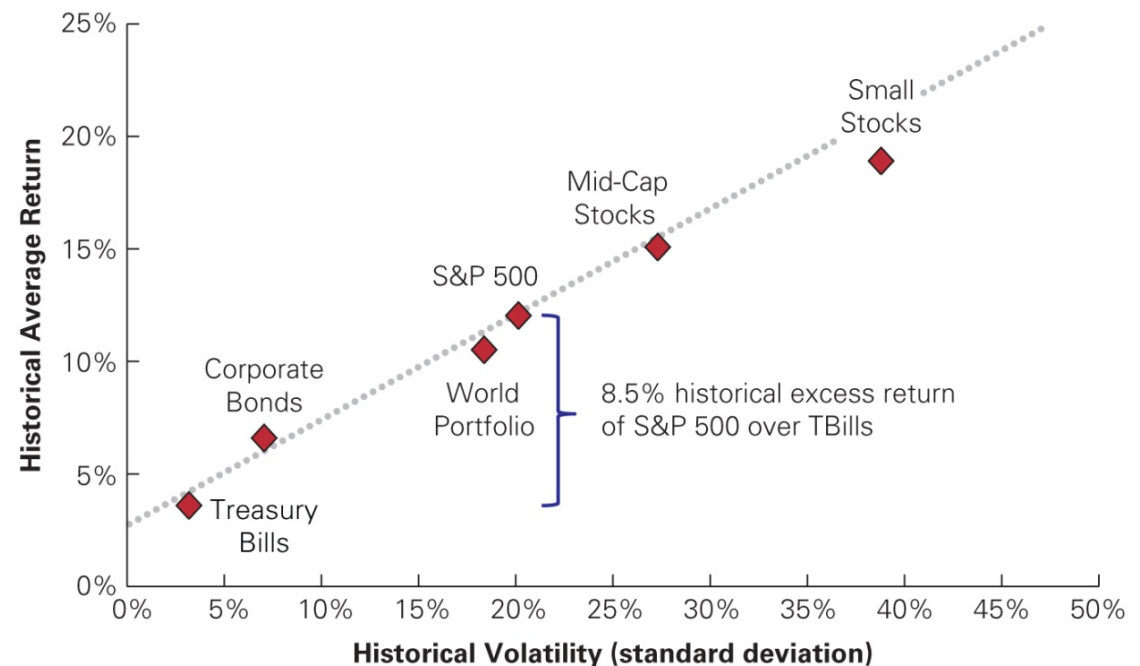
Figure: How much will you have if you invest \$100 in asset x in year t for n years?

E.g. Red line in figure (a) tells you how much you will have in one year if you invest \$100 in a portfolio of small stocks in any year between 1925 and 2010.



# Lessons from US Historical Returns

- There is positive return on any broad-based index in the long run
  - Do not let cash sit idly!
- Higher risk → higher return (Risk- return tradeoff)
  - If your investment horizon is long, you are better off holding risky assets
- The range of risk premium
  - 5-8% for stocks
  - 1-2% for long-term government bonds



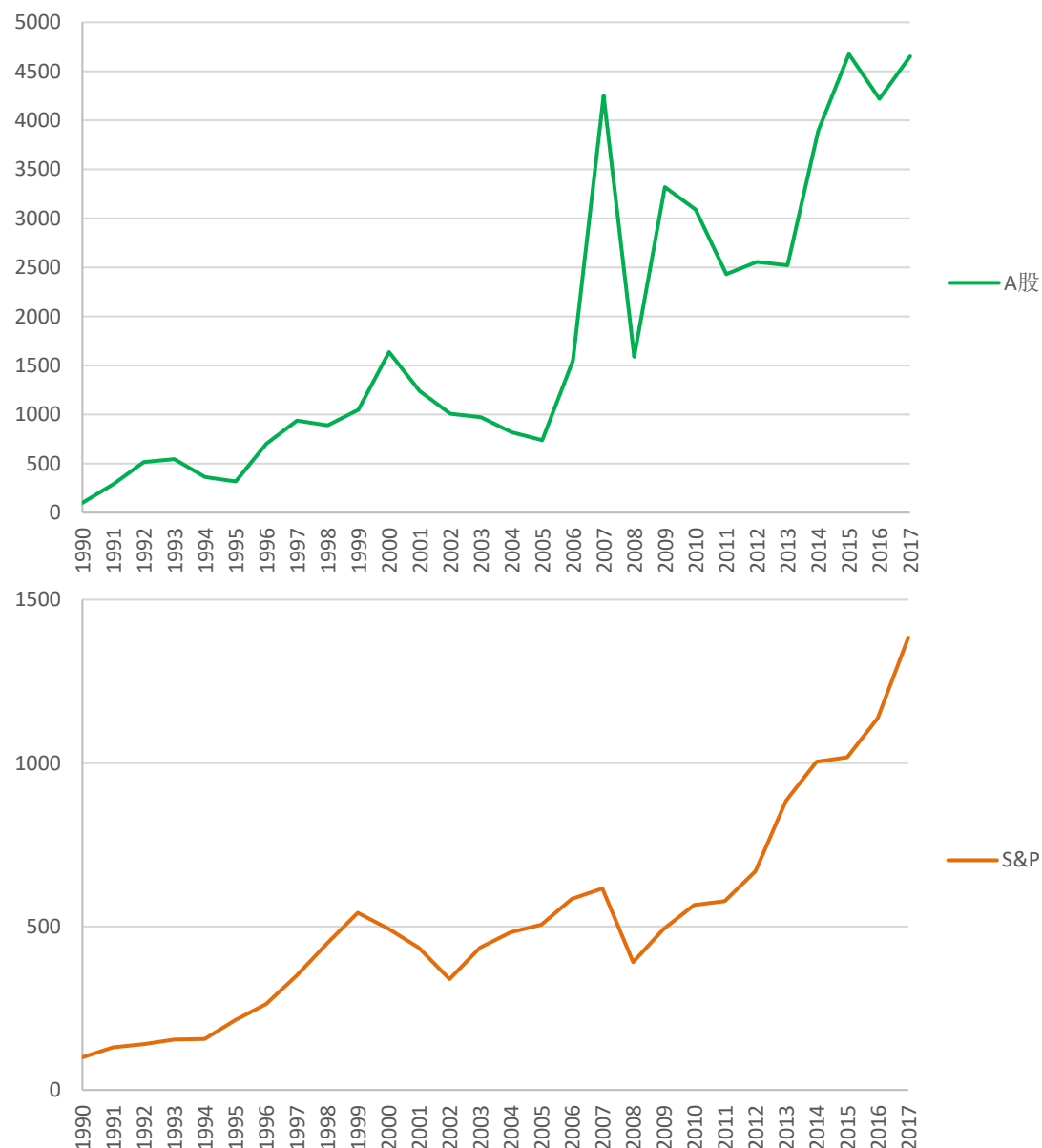
# Historical Return of Chinese Stocks

A Shares

	From 1991	From 2000
Total Ret	46.52	4.42
Arithmetic avg.	28.12%	20.30%
Geometric avg.	15.28%	8.64%
St.dev ( $\delta$ )	63.38%	59.15%

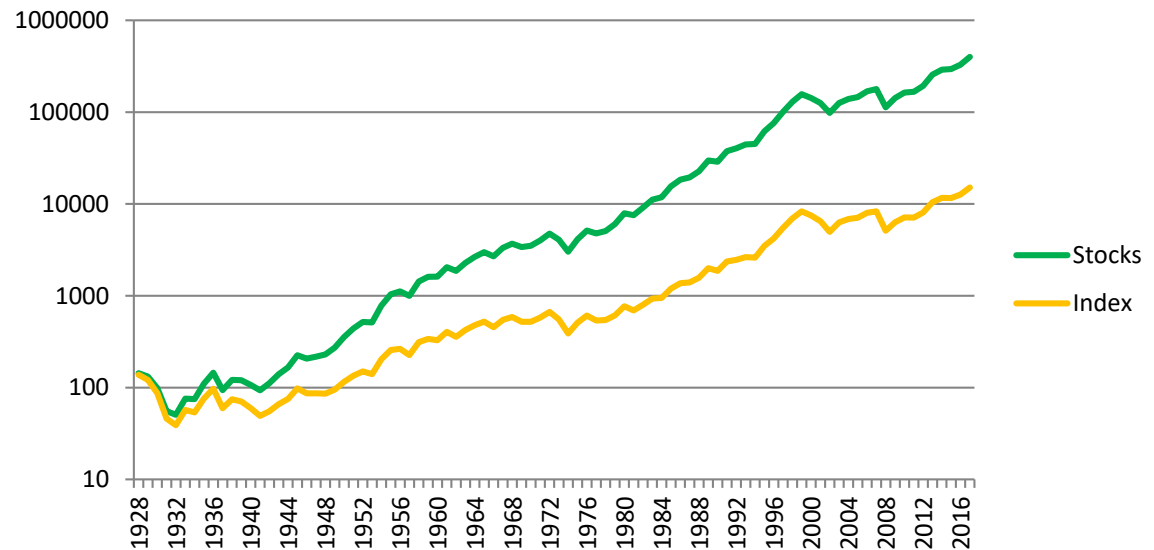
S&P 500

	From 1991	From 2000
Total Ret	13.84	2.55
Arithmetic avg.	11.71%	6.92%
Geometric avg.	9.15%	5.90%
St.dev ( $\delta$ )	17.36%	17.77%

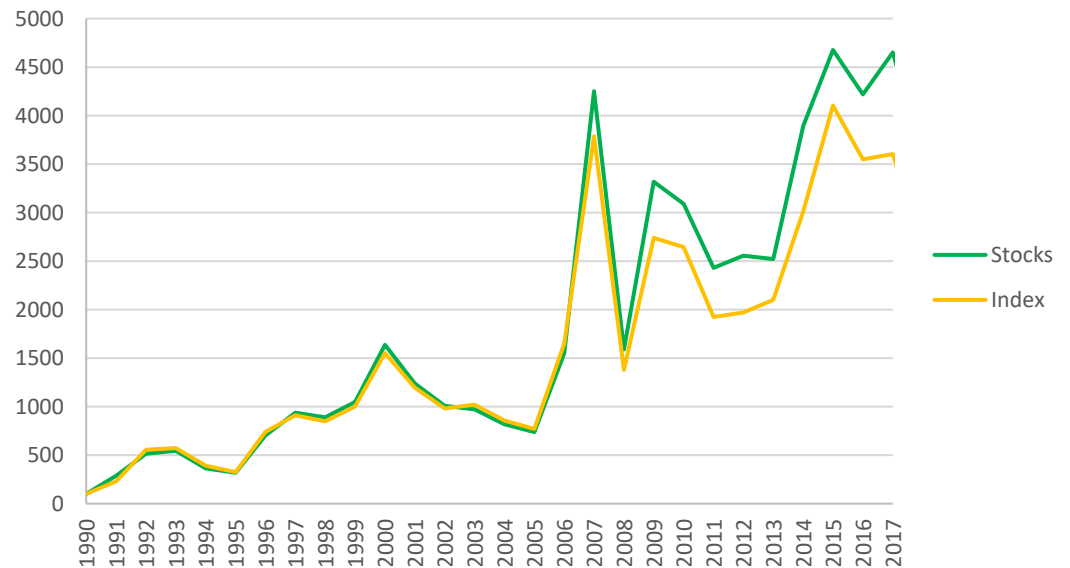


# Note: Stock Return $\neq$ Index Return

S&P 500	Stocks	Index
	1928-2017	
Total Ret	3999.27	151.39
Arithmetic avg. of annual ret	11.53%	7.60%
Geometric avg. of annual ret	9.65%	5.74%
St.dev of annual ret	19.62%	19.18%



A shares	1990-2019	
Total Ret	45.25	33.06
Arith avg	26.33%	24.30%
Geo avg	14.05%	12.82%
St.dev	61.85%	54.35%



# Lessons from Chinese Historical Returns

- Despite numerous complaints, the Chinese stock market is actually very profitable
  - A simple buy and hold strategy is very profitable.
  - If someone didn't earn as much as the broad index, he/she should really reflect on his/her trading behavior (more on lecture 23-24).
- Compared to the US market, the volatility in the Chinese stock market is extremely high
  - If you got in at the highest point in 2007, you wouldn't make much money in the past 13 years.
  - Timing is important!
    - Warren Buffet: (be) fearful when others are greedy and greedy when others are fearful



# Relative Return Measure —Sharpe Ratio

夏普比率

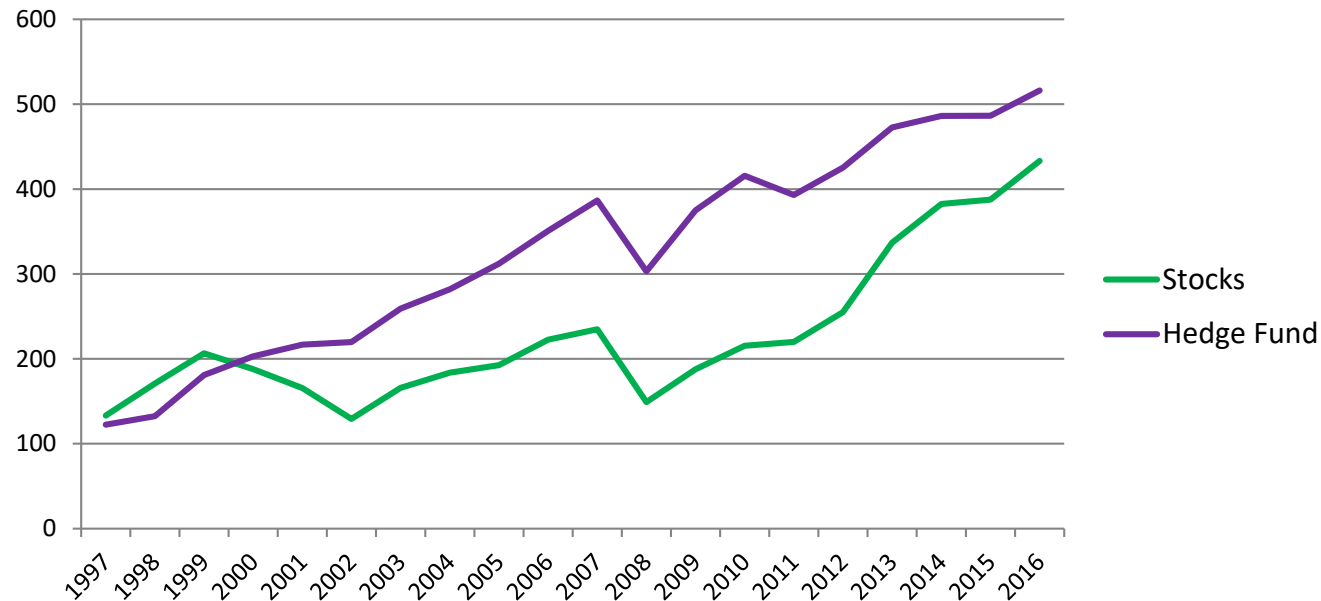
- Sharpe ratio:  $SR = \frac{E[R - R_f]}{\sigma(R - R_f)}$ 
  - $R_f$  is the risk-free rate. In practice we usually use the treasury bill rate as a proxy for risk-free rate.
- It measures the return of an investment relative to its risk. Also called reward to risk ratio
  - Assets with higher Sharpe ratio is generally preferred
  - Can be used to compare different investments

	Avg	Avg( $R_f$ )	Avg – Avg( $R_f$ )	St.dev	Sharpe Ratio
1928-2017					
S&P 500	11.53%	3.44%	8.09%	19.94%	0.4057
Treasury Notes	5.15%	3.44%	1.71%	7.74%	0.2313
1991-2017					
S&P 500	11.71%	2.00%	9.71%	17.29%	0.5257
T. Notes	4.81%	2.00%	2.81%	8.65%	0.4604
A Shares	28.12%	4.76%	23.36%	63.04%	0.3688





# Sharpe Ratio Matters!



	Avg	T Bill	Avg - T Bill	St.dev	Sharpe Ratio
1997-2016					
Stock	9.27%	2.14%	7.13%	18.32%	0.3895
Hedge fund	9.17%	2.14%	7.03%	11.71%	0.6002

Given the same level of arithmetic average return, assets with higher Sharpe ratios are generally preferred

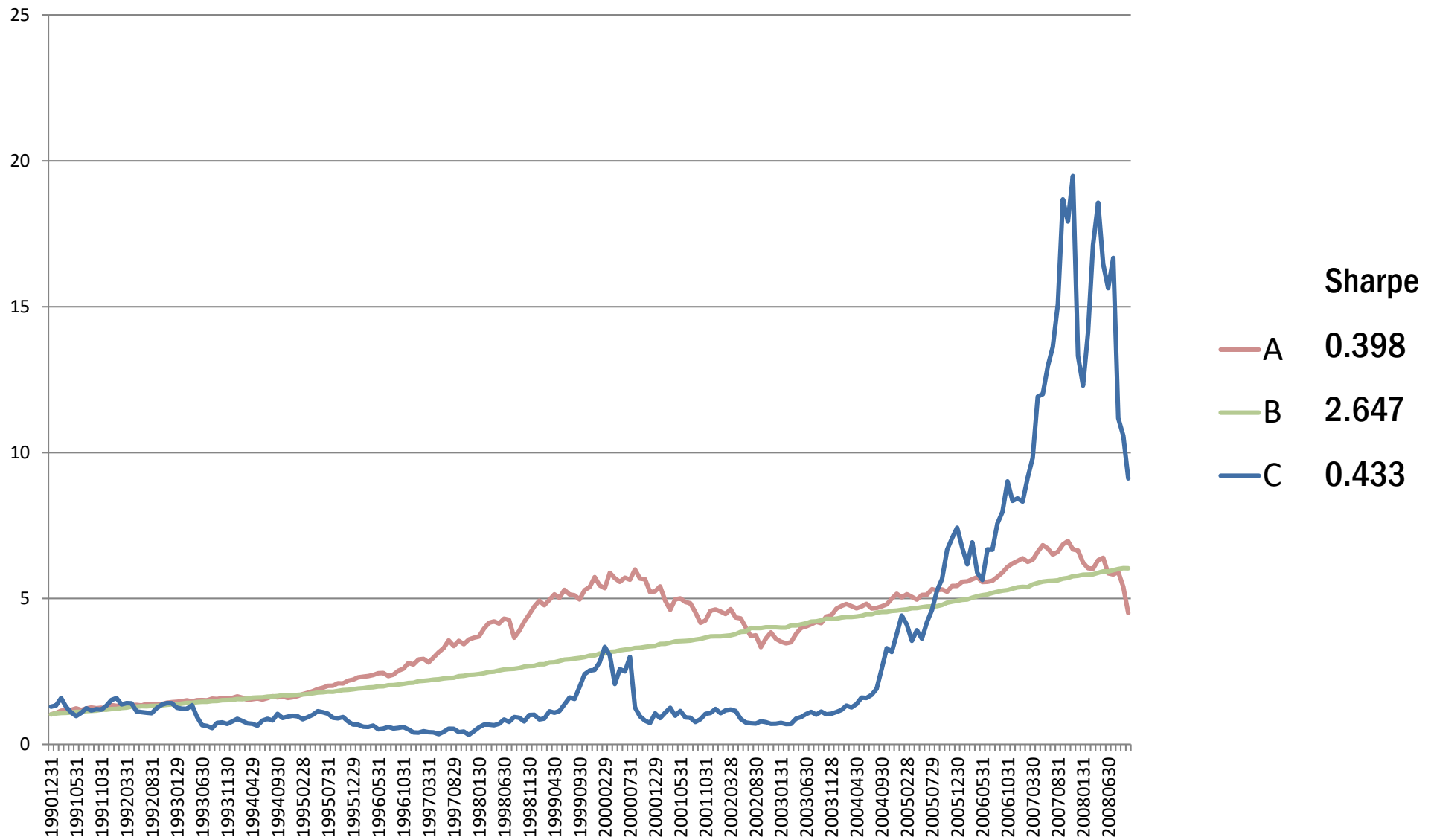


# Lessons

- In general, higher risk → higher return
- Given the same level of average returns, a higher Sharpe ratio usually results in higher compounded return
- On the other hand, if you would like to pursue higher returns, you may have to tolerate lower Sharpe ratios
  - Usually fixed-income assets have very high Sharpe ratios
  - But if you plan to invest for a long term, stocks will outperform despite having a lower Sharpe ratio because they have much higher returns
- The typical range of (annualized) Sharpe ratio is 0.2 to 0.5
  - Only extremely talented money managers achieve  $\text{Sharpe} > 1$



# Which Investment do You Prefer?



# What Happened to Investment B?

- Ponzi Scheme
- Origin: In 1919, [Charles Ponzi](#) figured that international stamps are priced differently in different countries, so he could buy in one country and sell in another to profit
  - Failed to get a personal loan at banks
  - Promised to pay friends 50% return in 45 days
  - Paid the first group of investors with money obtained from later investors
  - 1920-01: 18 investors, \$1,800
  - 1920-03: \$25,000
  - 1920-05: \$420,000
  - 1920-06: \$2,500,000
  - 1920-07: \$7,000,000, being suspected by many
  - 1920-08: collapsed



# Modern Ponzi Schemes

- [Bernard Madoff](#): largest and longest Ponzi scheme in history
  - Ran a successful stock exchange and a market making business in the 70's and the 80's
  - Claimed he found a highly profitable trading strategy and started taking in investors in the late 80's. His fund yields ~10% every year
  - All the money was actually sitting in a bank
  - Couldn't make payments to investors in 2008 and collapsed
- P2P
  - [Story 1](#)
  - [Story 2](#)



# Lessons

- If something is too good to be true, it probably is a scam
- Typical range of returns
  - Government bonds:  
risk-free rate + [0%, 2%]
  - Good corporate bonds:  
risk-free rate + [1%, 4%]
  - Stocks:  
risk-free rate + [5%, 10%]
- High return → high risk
  - If someone promise you a return higher than the risk-free rate, there is a chance that he/she cannot keep the promise
- Understanding risk-return tradeoff can help you avoid scams!



# Summary

- Return:
  - Holding period return
  - Average return: arithmetic and geometric average
  - Expected return
- Risk
  - Standard deviation ( $\sigma$ )
- History of risk and return:
  - There is positive return on any broad-based index in the long run
  - Return: stocks > long-term bonds > short-term bonds
  - Risk: stocks > long-term bonds > short-term bonds
  - The range of risk premium: 5-8% for stocks; 1-2% for long-term government bonds
- Risk and return tradeoff: return and risk is generally positively related. **If someone promises you high returns without risks, it is most likely a scam!**



# Next Time—Risk and Return of a Portfolio

- Portfolio
  - Motivation
  - Weights
  - Portfolio returns
  - Portfolio risks
    - Examples and intuitions
    - Math formulas
- Diversification
  - Idiosyncratic and systematic risks

