

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

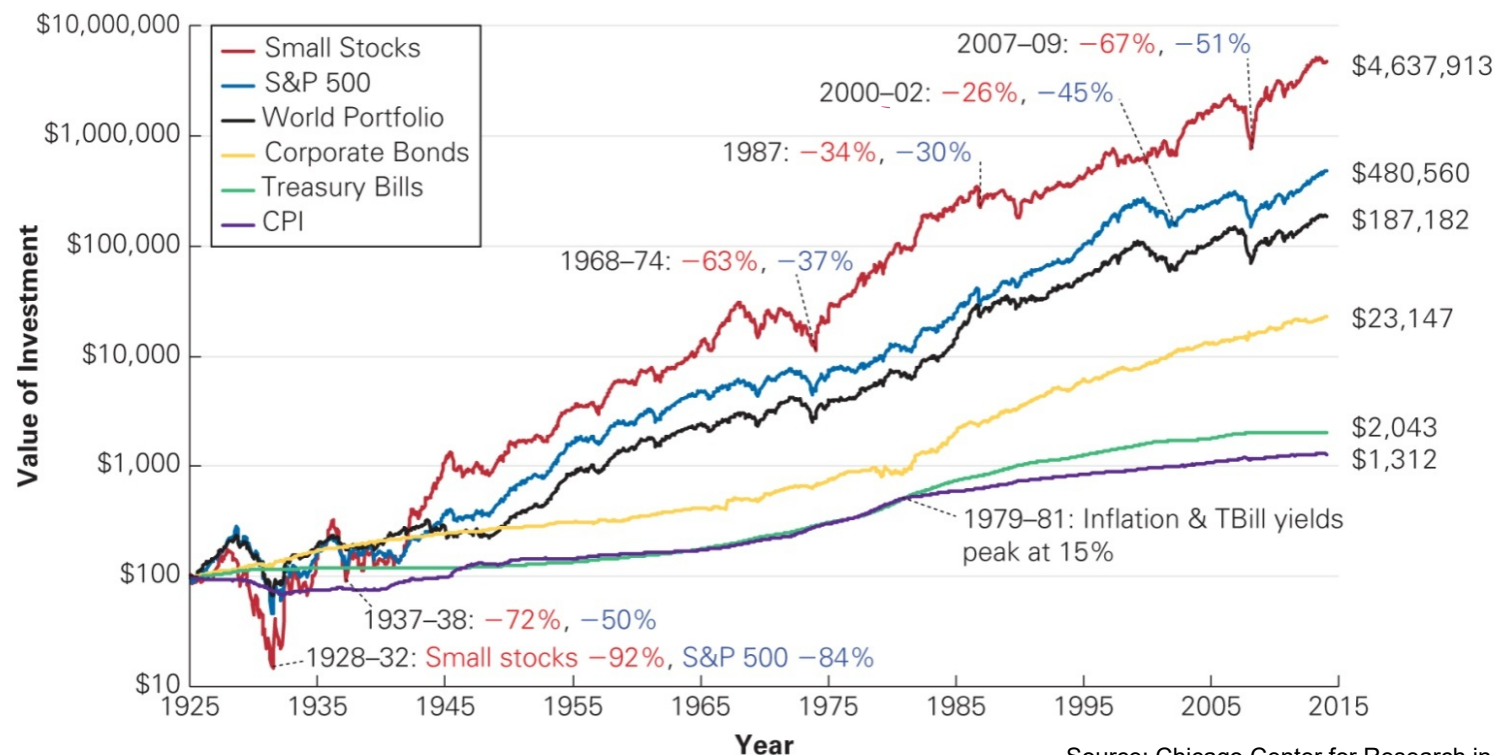
- Motivation
- Definition and Measurement of Risk and Return
 - Return
 - Risk
- Empirical Facts on Historical Returns
 - US and Chinese Asset Returns
 - Sharpe Ratio
 - Ponzi Scheme



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

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



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)

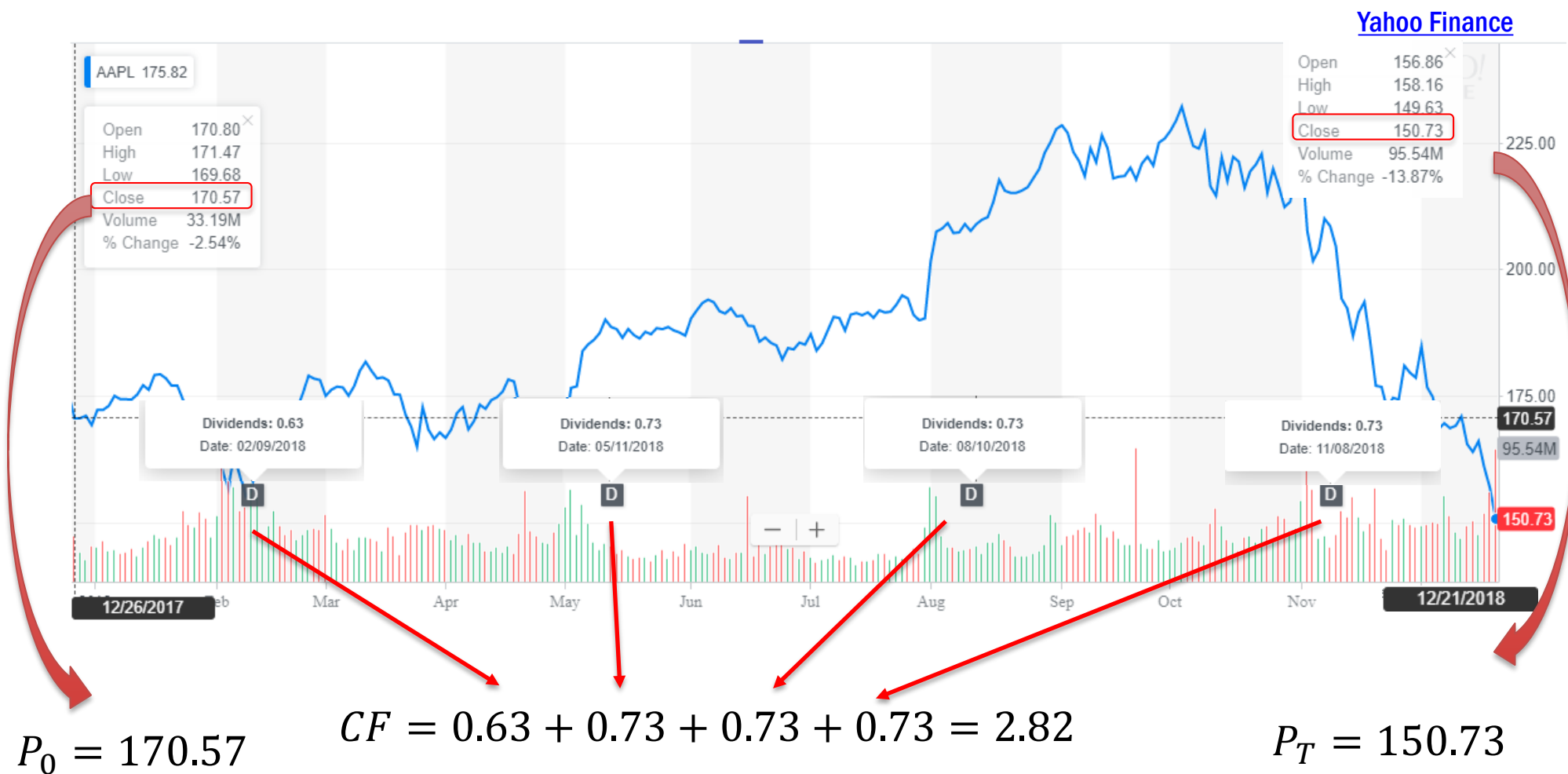
- Definition: the percent change *in* wealth over an investment period (e.g. 4 months, 1 year, 3 years...).
- How much you end up with vs. how much you put in over an investment period

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

- 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 AAPL 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** (σ) 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: $\sigma(R) = \sqrt{Var(R)} = 0.212$

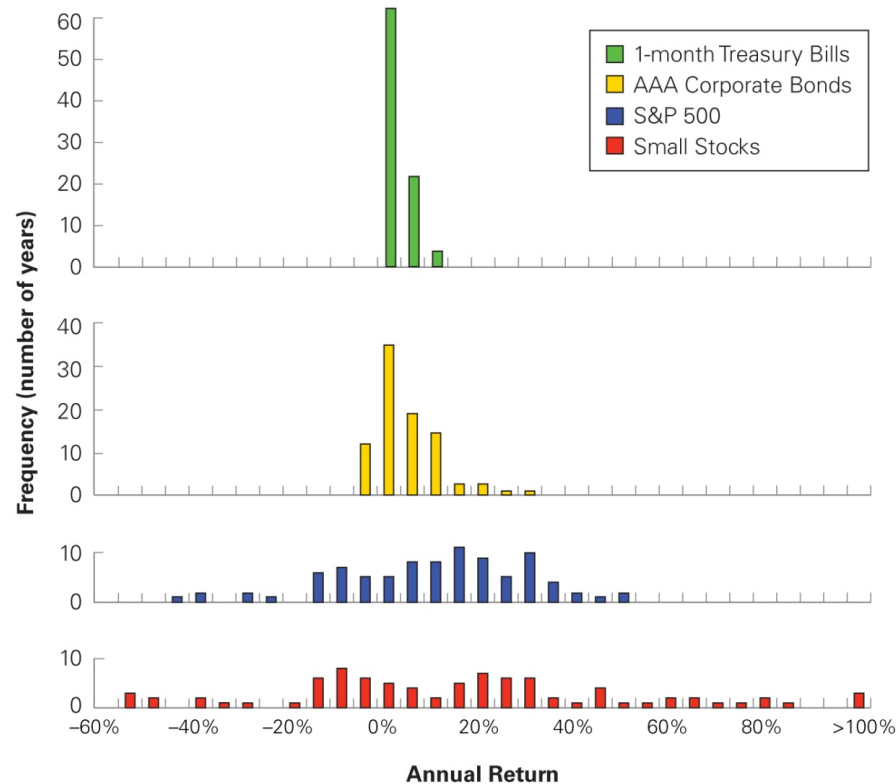
Use Historical Data to Estimate Expected Return and Risk

- 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 (μ, σ^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):

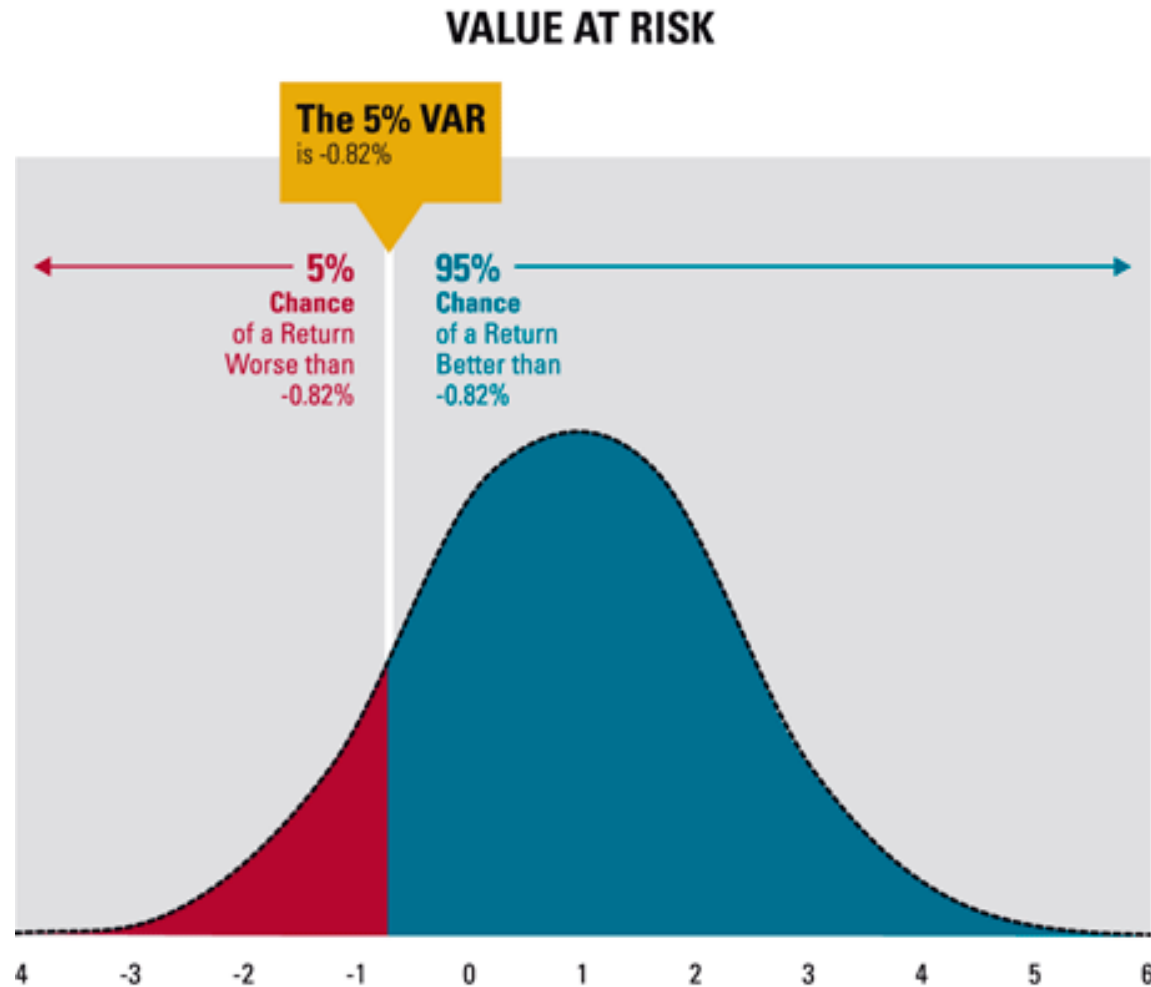
$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (R_t - \bar{R})^2}{T - 1}} = 17.77\%$$



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

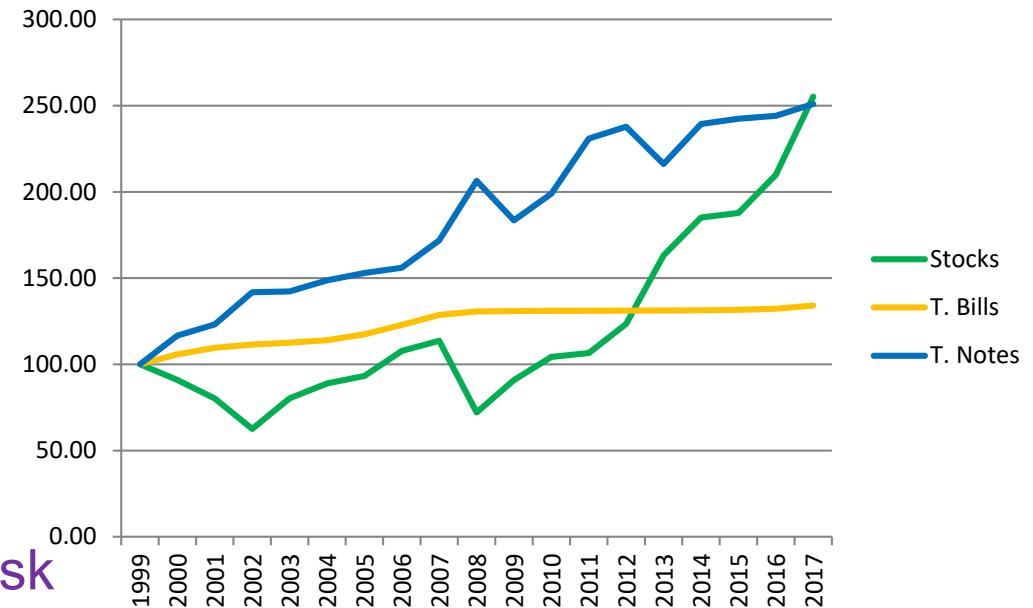
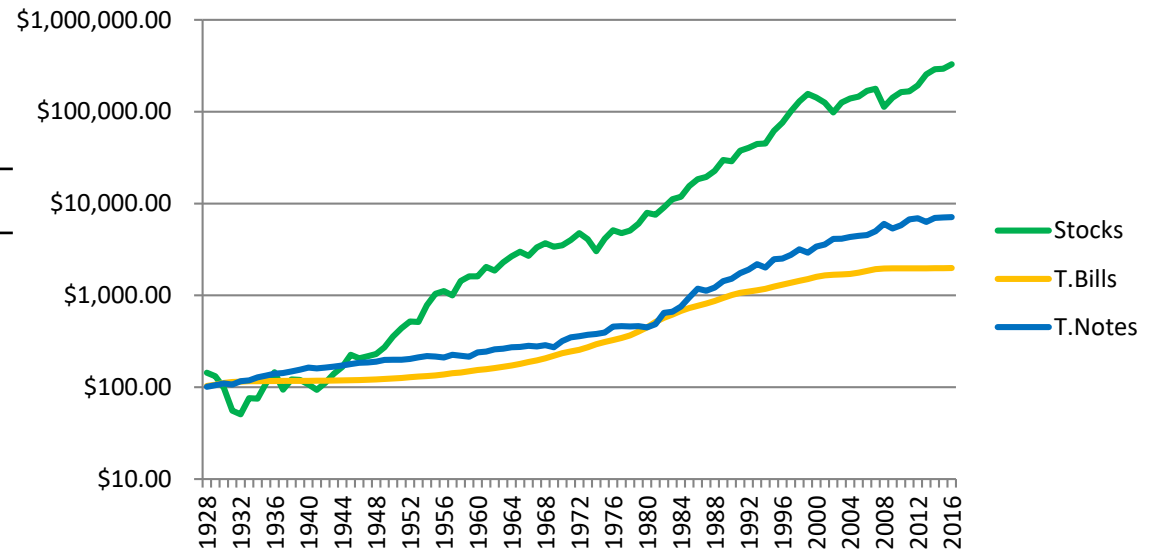
- Motivation
- Definition and Measurement of Risk and Return
 - Return
 - Risk
- Empirical Facts on Historical Returns
 - US and Chinese Asset Returns
 - Sharpe Ratio
 - Ponzi Scheme



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 (δ) | 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 (δ) | 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

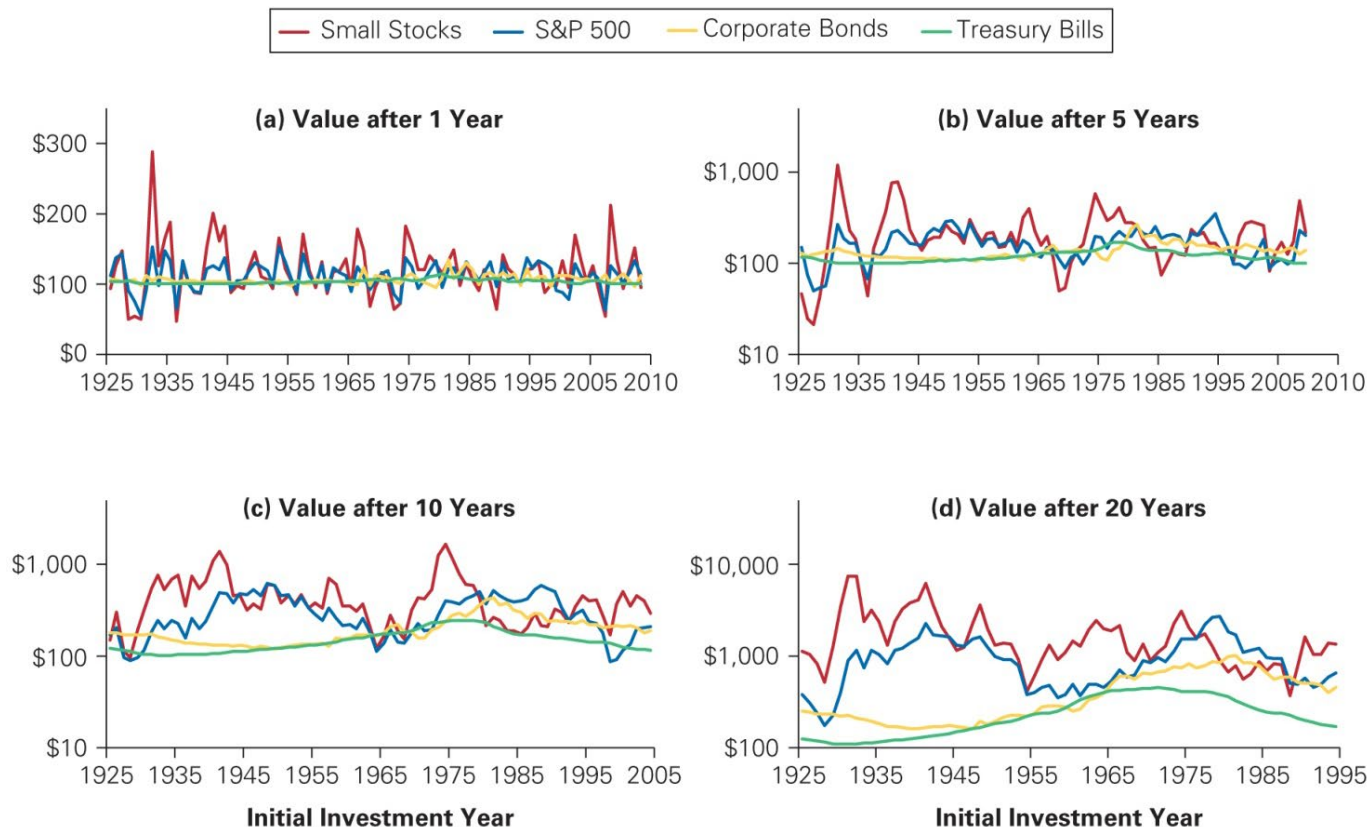


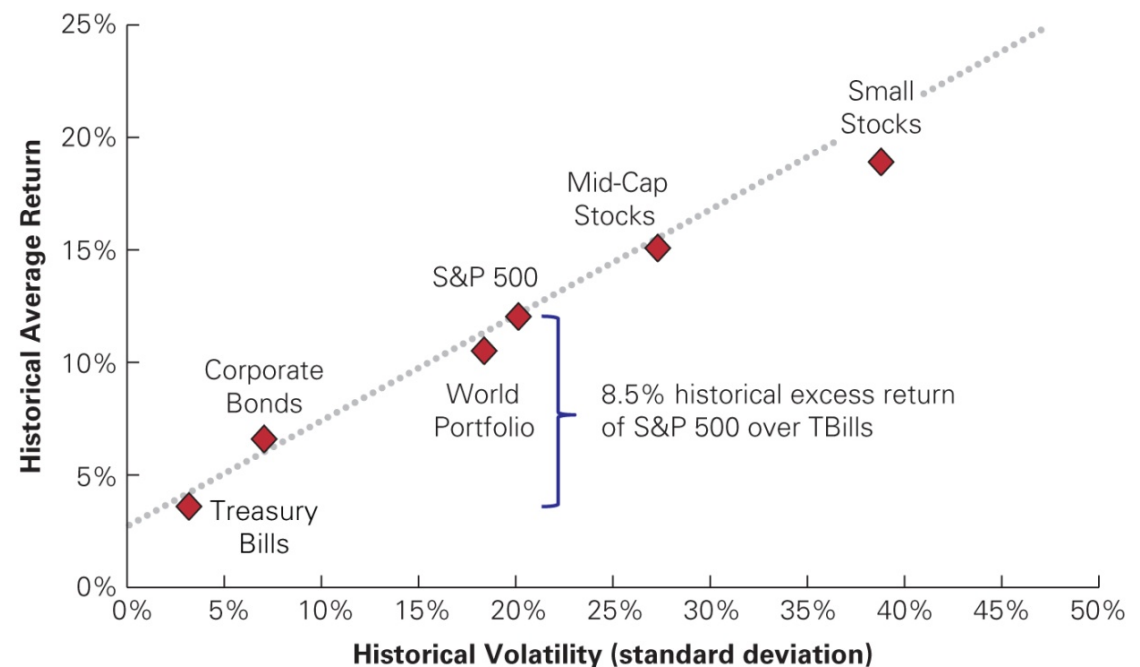
Figure: How much will you have if you invest \$100 in asset x in year t for n years?

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

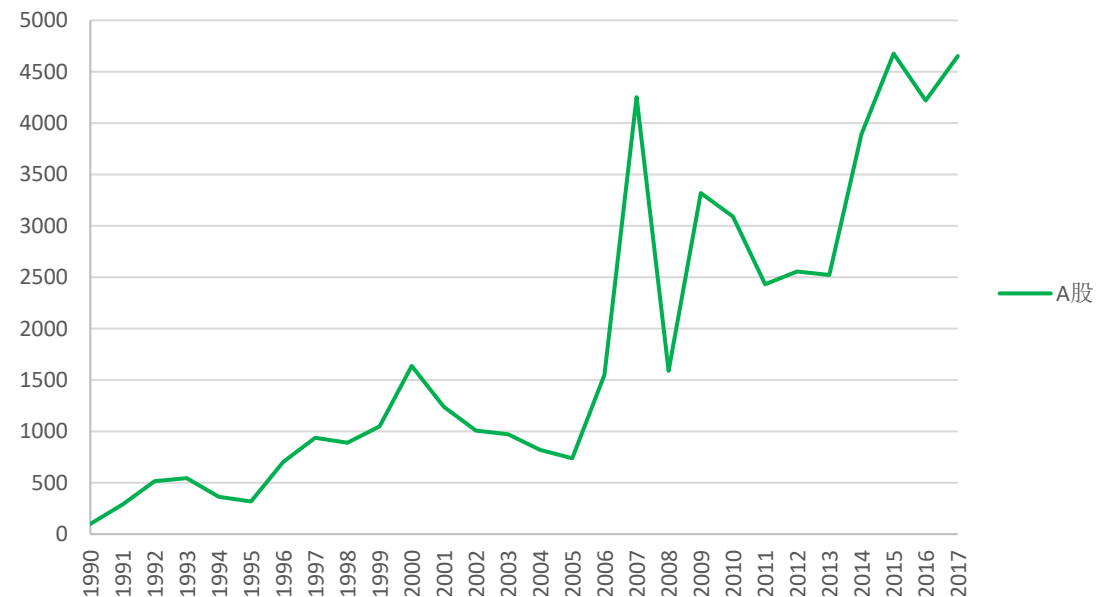
- There is positive return on any broad-based index in the long run
 - Do not let cash sit idly!
- Higher risk → higher return (Risk- return tradeoff)
 - If your investment horizon is long, you are better off holding risky assets
- The range of risk premium
 - 5-8% for stocks
 - 1-2% for long-term government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



Historical Return of Chinese Stocks

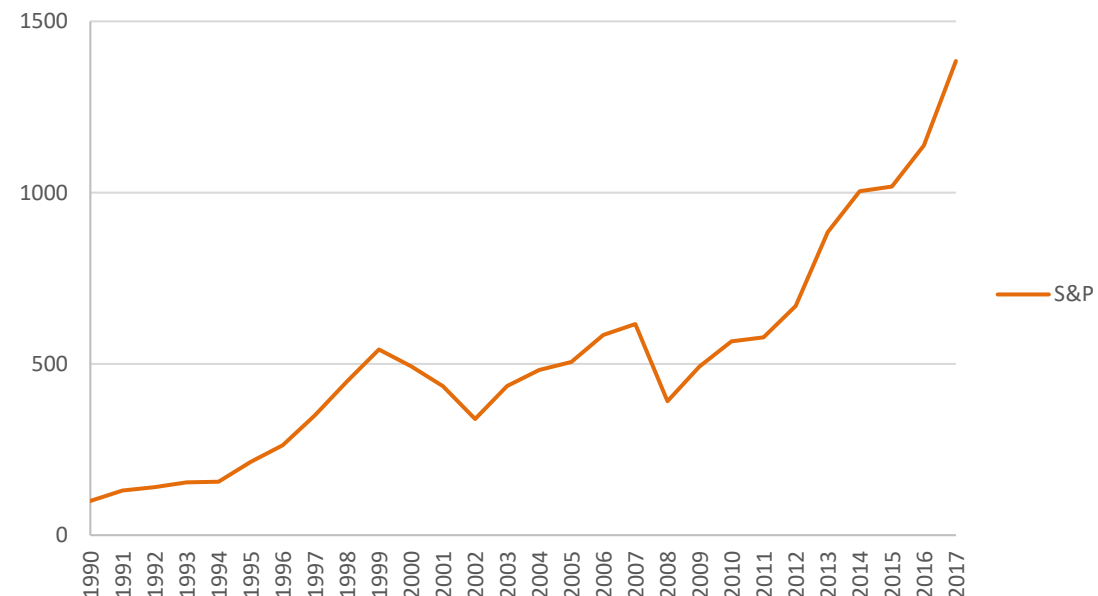
A Shares

| | From 1991 | From 2000 |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Total Ret | 46.52 | 4.42 |
| Arithmetic avg. | 28.12% | 20.30% |
| Geometric avg. | 15.28% | 8.64% |
| St.dev (δ) | 63.38% | 59.15% |



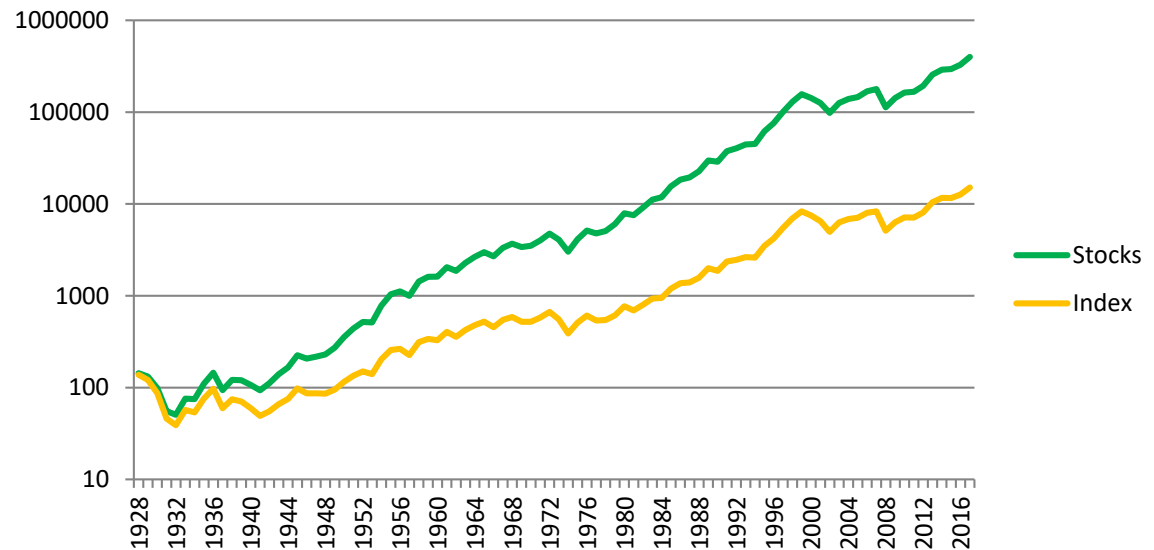
S&P 500

| | From 1991 | From 2000 |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Total Ret | 13.84 | 2.55 |
| Arithmetic avg. | 11.71% | 6.92% |
| Geometric avg. | 9.15% | 5.90% |
| St.dev (δ) | 17.36% | 17.77% |

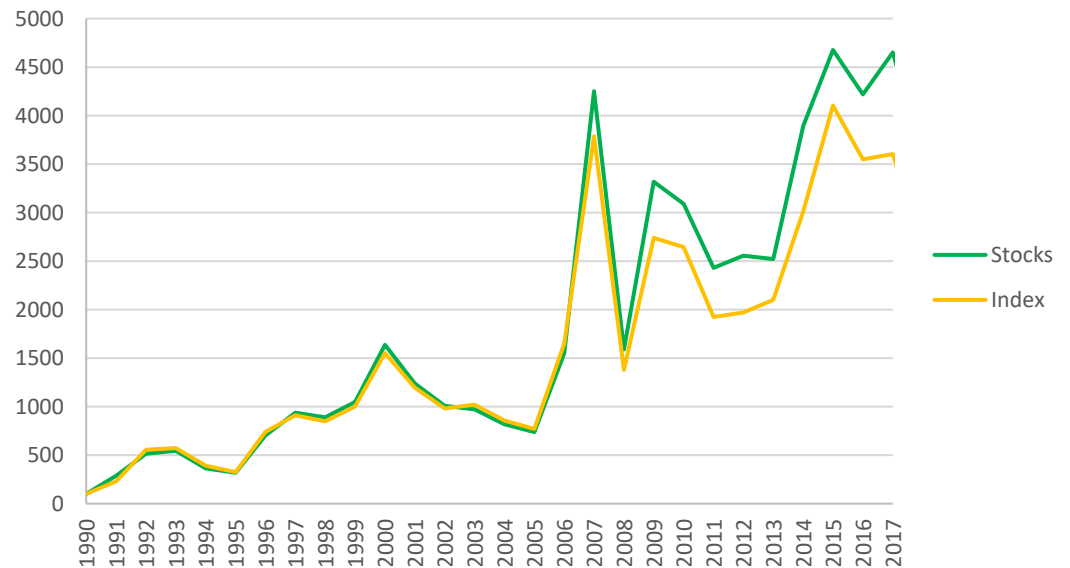


Note: Stock Return \neq Index Return

| 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

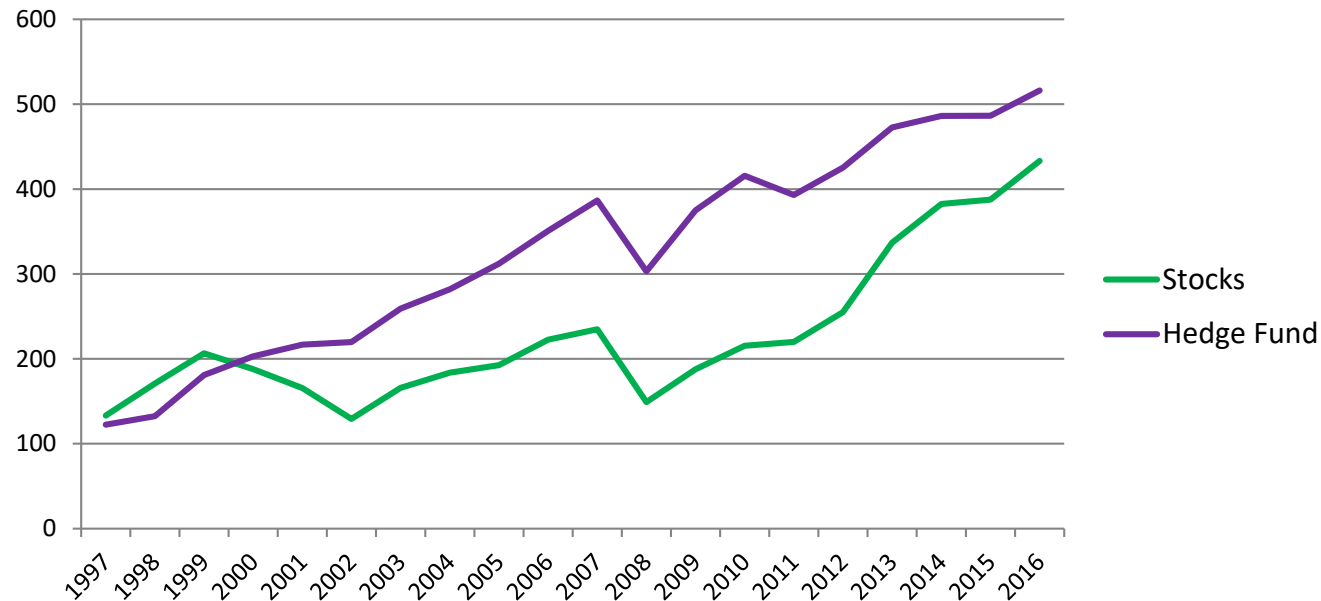
夏普比率

- 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

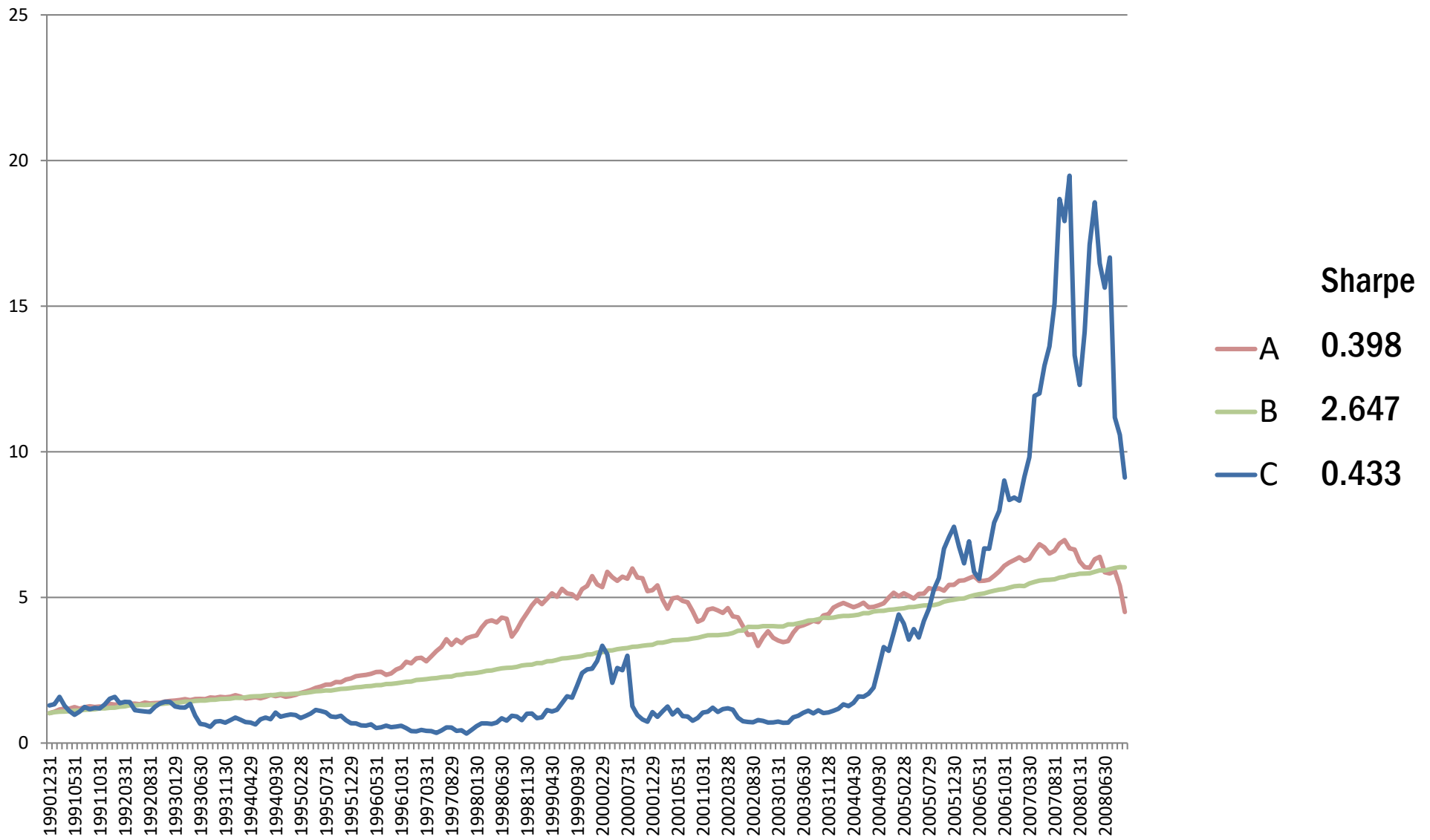


Lessons

- 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 (σ)
- 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

