Q1

Task (a): Monthly Returns and Summary Statistics

1. Import Libraries and Load Data

- · Libraries: pandas for data manipulation, numpy for numerical operations, and matplotlib.pyplot for plotting.
- The Excel file is loaded into a DataFrame (df) using pd.read_excel() with the file path specified.

2. Filter CSI 300 Data

- The dataset contains multiple indices (e.g., "000001", "000300"). We filter for the CSI 300 index by selecting rows where Indexcd == '000300', creating csi300_df.
- This ensures we analyze only the relevant index.

3. Convert Trading Date to Datetime

- The Trddt column is converted to a datetime format using pd.to_datetime() to enable time-based operations.
- A warning about SettingWithCopyWarning appears due to modifying a slice of the DataFrame. This could be avoided with .loc, but it doesn't affect the result here.

4. Set Trading Date as Index

• The Trddt column is set as the DataFrame index using set_index(), facilitating time-series operations like resampling.

5. Resample to Monthly Closing Indices

- The daily closing indices (Clsindex) are resampled to monthly frequency using .resample('M').last(), taking the last trading day's closing value of each month.
- Note: 'M' is deprecated in favor of 'ME' (month-end), but it works here. This creates monthly_closes.
- The first few values (e.g., 1009.597 for January 2006) confirm the resampling.

6. Compute Monthly Returns

- Monthly returns are calculated using the formula $R_{k,t}=rac{I_{k,t}}{I_{k,t-1}}-1$, implemented via monthly_closes.pct_change().
- The first return (January 2006) is NaN because there's no prior month, as expected.

7. Remove Missing Values

• The NaN value is dropped using .droppa(), leaving 215 monthly returns (February 2006 to December 2023, assuming complete data).

8. Calculate Summary Statistics

- Mean: Average monthly return, computed with .mean().
- Standard Deviation: Measure of return volatility, computed with .std().
- Skewness: Asymmetry of the return distribution, computed with .skew().
- Kurtosis: Tailedness of the distribution, computed with .kurt() (excess kurtosis relative to a normal distribution's kurtosis of 3).
- Results are printed and organized in a table using a pandas DataFrame.

Results

- Mean Monthly Return: 0.009042 (0.9042% per month)
 - Suggests a positive average monthly growth over the period.
- Standard Deviation: 0.081745 (8.1745% per month)
 - · Indicates significant volatility in monthly returns.
- Skewness: 0.018437 (near zero, slightly positive)
 - Iimplies the distribution is nearly symmetric, with a slight right tilt.
- **Kurtosis**: 1.455060 (positive excess kurtosis, leptokurtic)
 - Suggests a leptokurtic distribution with heavier tails than a normal distribution, indicating more frequent extreme returns.

Task (b): Histogram of Monthly Returns

1. Set Up Plot

• A figure size of 10x6 inches is set with plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6)) for clarity.

2. Plot Histogram

- The histogram is created using plt.hist() with:
 - bins=30: Provides granularity for ~215 data points (roughly 7-8 points per bin).
 - density=True: Normalizes the histogram to a probability density, allowing comparison with a normal curve.
 - alpha=0.7: Transparency for visual appeal.
 - color='blue': Distinguishes the histogram bars.

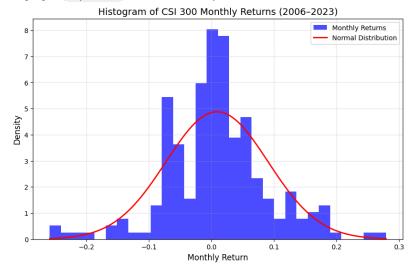
3. Overlay Normal Distribution

· A normal distribution curve is overlaid using scipy.stats.norm.pdf(), parameterized by the sample mean (mu) and standard deviation (sigma).

• This curve (red line) serves as a visual benchmark for normality.

4. Add Labels and Formatting

- Title, x-label ("Monthly Return"), y-label, and legend are added for context.
- A light grid (alpha=0.3) enhances readability.



Task (c): Normality Assessment with Shapiro-Wilk Test

1. Import Required Library

scipy.stats is imported for the shapiro function.

2. Perform Shapiro-Wilk Test

- The test is applied to monthly_returns using shapiro(), returning:
 - Test Statistic (W): Measures how closely the sample matches a normal distribution (0 to 1, closer to 1 is more normal).
 - P-value: Probability of observing the statistic under the null hypothesis (data is normal).

3. Interpret Results

- Detailed explanation of the test is provided in markdown:
 - $\bullet \ \ W = 0.971284$: Close to 1 but not perfect.
 - P-value = 0.000228: Far below 0.05.

Results

• Shapiro-Wilk Test Statistic: 0.971284

• P-value: 0.000228

Interpretation

- Test Statistic: A value of 0.971284 is relatively high, suggesting the distribution isn't drastically non-normal, but it's not 1 (perfect normality).
- **P-value**: At 0.000228 (< 0.05), we reject the null hypothesis at the 5% significance level. This indicates strong evidence that the CSI 300 monthly returns are not normally distributed.
- Sample Size Consideration: With ~215 observations, the test is sensitive to small deviations from normality, amplifying the significance of the low p-value.

Conclusion

The Shapiro-Wilk test, combined with the histogram and kurtosis, suggests the CSI 300 monthly returns deviate from normality. The positive kurtosis (heavier tails) and slight skewness likely contribute to this rejection, indicating a distribution with more extreme values than a normal one.

Q2

1. Import Libraries

• pandas for data manipulation, numpy for calculations, statsmodels.api for regressions, matplotlib.pyplot for plotting, and tabulate for table formatting.

2. Load Data

- Two Excel files (TRD_Week_1.xlsx and TRD_Week_2.xlsx) are read using pd.read_excel(), skipping metadata rows and ensuring Stkcd is a string.
- Files are concatenated into stock_returns using pd.concat().

3. Filter Time Period

• Data is filtered to include only weeks before "2023-01" using a condition on Trdwnt, resetting the index for consistency.

4. Output

A sample of the merged data (with risk-free rates, added later) is displayed using tabulate for verification.

Task (b): Calculate Weekly Market Returns

1. Group and Average

- data.groupby('Trdwnt')['Wretnd'].mean() calculates the mean return across all stocks for each week, stored in market_returns.
- The column is renamed to Market_Return.

2. Merge with Main Dataset

Market returns are merged back into the main dataset (data) using pd.merge() on Trdwnt.

3. Output

• A sample of the updated dataset with Market_Return is printed (e.g., 0.016611 for "2017-01").

Results

Market returns represent a proxy for the market portfolio's performance, consistent with CAPM's $r_{m,t}$.

				risk_free_return	
	,			0.0005714053404517472	0.016611333917923535
1	000001	2017-02	0.003286	0.0007376706344075501	-0.03504762827225131
2	000001	2017-03	0.00655	0.0005432766629382968	-0.017416864300626302
3	000001	2017-04	0.011931	0.0007736414554528892	0.019901674732111994
4	000001	2017-05	-0.007503	0.0008020293316803873	-0.0025298505029483177

Task (c): Load Weekly Risk-Free Return Data

1. Load Risk-Free Data

weekly_risk_free_rate.xlsx is read into rf_data using pd.read_excel().

2. Format Trading Week

• trading_date_yw is converted to datetime using pd.to_datetime(), set as the index, and reformatted to a year-week string (e.g., "2017-01") using .to_period('W').strftime('%Y-%U').

3. Merge with Stock Data

Risk-free rates are merged into data using pd.merge() on Trdwnt.

4. Output

• The merged sample shows risk-free rates alongside stock returns (e.g., 0.000571 for "2017-01").

Results

The risk-free rate $(r_{f,t})$ is successfully integrated, enabling excess return calculations.

Task (d): Replicate Tables 2 and 3 from Chen et al. (2019)

Step 1: Ensure Data Consistency

- Filter Consistent Stocks: Only stocks present in all weeks are retained using set.intersection() on grouped Stkcd sets, resulting in 1604 stocks.
- Output: Number of consistent stocks is printed (1604).

Step 2: Divide Data into Three Periods

- Split Weeks: 308 unique weeks are divided into three periods (102, 102, 104 weeks) using integer division and slicing of unique_weeks.
- Assign Data: Each period's data (period1_data, period2_data, period3_data) is created by filtering data based on Trdwnt.
- Output: Week counts per period are verified (102, 102, 104).

Step 3: Calculate Individual Stock Betas (Period 1)

- Model: $r_{i,t} = \alpha_i + \beta_i r_{m,t} + \epsilon_i$.
- Function: calculate_stock_beta() uses sm.OLS to regress stock returns (Wretnd) on market returns (Market_Return) with a constant, returning β...
- Execution: Applied to period1_data via groupby('Stkcd'), storing results in stock_betas.

Step 4: Form Ten Portfolios

- Sort and Group: Stocks are sorted into deciles based on β_i using pd.qcut() (10 groups, labeled 1–10).
- Merge: Beta groups are merged into period2_data and period3_data.
- Output: Stock counts per portfolio are printed (e.g., 161, 160, etc.), confirming near-equal distribution.

		Stock Count
0	1	+ 161
1	2	160
2	3	160
3	4	161
4	5	160
5	6	160
6	7	161
7	8	160
8	9	160
9	10	161

Step 5: Calculate Portfolio Betas (Period 2) - Table 2

- Portfolio Returns: Equal-weighted returns are computed per portfolio and week using groupby(['Trdwnt', 'beta_group'])['Wretnd'].mean().
- Excess Returns: Portfolio excess returns $(r_{p,t}-r_{f,t})$ and market excess returns $(r_{m,t}-r_{f,t})$ are calculated.
- Model: $r_{p,t} r_{f,t} = \alpha_p + \beta_p (r_{m,t} r_{f,t}) + \epsilon_{p,t}$.
- Regression: For each portfolio (1–10), sm.OLS regresses excess portfolio returns on excess market returns, storing α_p , β_p , t-values, p-values, and R^2 .
- Output: Results are formatted into table2_df and printed, matching Table 2's structure:
 - β_p : 0.673459 to 1.17407, increasing across portfolios.
 - α_p : Mostly insignificant (p > 0.05, except Portfolio 9 at 0.0901).
 - R^2 : High (0.8067–0.9802), indicating strong explanatory power.

					•	Beta_p	
1						4.1086e-37	
2	0.000628	0.786	0.4335	0.806966	32.951	3.6391e-55	0.9164
3	0.000533	0.743	0.4591	0.841312	38.289	3.7288e-61	0.9367
4	0.000559	0.789	0.4318	0.892307	41.089	5.1897e-64	0.9446
5	6.8e-05	0.116	0.9081	0.934127	52.07	9.5865e-74	0.9648
6	0.000441	0.841	0.4024	1.011989	62.973	1.1111e-81	0.9756
7	0.000372	0.796	0.4277	1.002425	69.98	4.0619e-86	0.9802
8	0.000385	0.722	0.4719	1.067248	65.332	3.1736e-83	0.9773
9	0.001052	1.712	0.0901	1.129976	59.964	1.2530e-79	0.9732
10	0.000511	0.618	0.5380	1.17407	46.366	5.9601e-69	0.956

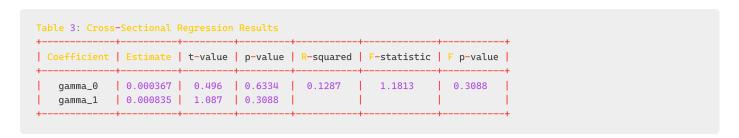
Step 6: Calculate Average Excess Returns (Period 3)

- Portfolio Returns: Equal-weighted returns are computed for Period 3.
- Excess Returns: $r_{p,t} r_{f,t}$ is calculated per week.
- Average: Mean excess returns per portfolio are computed using <code>groupby('beta_group')</code> .
- Output: Ranges from 0.000423 (Portfolio 3) to 0.001716 (Portfolio 5).

1	0	0	1.0	0.0011227736376281361	
3	1	1	2.0	0.0009735728673803038	
4 5.0 0.001715878003518918 5 6.0 0.0010043155035189177 6 7.0 0.0014534650465205781 7 8.0 0.001166215255994165 8 9.0 0.001558971196588225 9 10.0 0.0011130892393746462	1.2	2	3.0	0.0004225399465882249	
5 6.0 0.0010043155035189177 6 7.0 0.0014534650465205781 7 8.0 0.001166215255994165 8 9.0 0.001558971196588225 9 10.0 0.0011130892393746462	3	3	4.0	0.001097632133415603	
6	L	4	5.0	0.001715878003518918	
7 8.0 0.001166215255994165 8 9.0 0.001558971196588225 9 10.0 0.0011130892393746462	8	5	6.0	0.0010043155035189177	
8	6	6	7.0	0.0014534650465205781	
9 10.0 0.0011130892393746462	1.5	7	8.0	0.001166215255994165	
	8	8	9.0	0.001558971196588225	
++	9	9	10.0	0.0011130892393746462	
	+	+		++	+

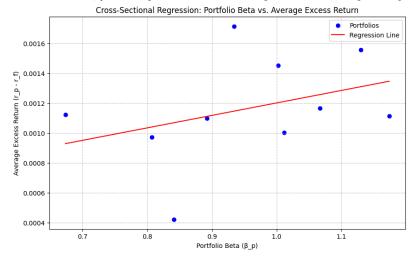
Step 7: Cross-Sectional Regression - Table 3

- Model: $\overline{r_{p,t}-r_{f,t}}=\gamma_0+\gamma_1\beta_p+\epsilon_p.$
- **Data**: Merges Period 3 average excess returns with Period 2 β_p .
- **Regression**: Sm.OLS regresses average excess returns on β_p .
- Output: Results are formatted into Table 3:
 - γ_0 : 0.000367 (t = 0.496, p = 0.6334, insignificant).
 - γ_1 : 0.000835 (t = 1.087, p = 0.3088, insignificant).
 - R^2 : 0.1287.
 - F-statistic: 1.1813 (p = 0.3088).



Step 8: Visualization

• Scatter Plot: Plots β_p vs. average excess returns with a regression line, showing a weak positive trend.



Results Interpretation

- Table 2: Portfolio β_p increases from 0.673 (Portfolio 1) to 1.174 (Portfolio 10), reflecting higher systematic risk. Most α_p values are insignificant (p > 0.05), aligning with CAPM's prediction of zero alpha, though high R^2 (0.8067–0.9802) suggests market returns explain most variance. Unlike Chen et al. (2019), fewer α_p are significant, possibly due to a larger sample (1604 vs. 50 stocks).
- Table 3: The insignificant γ_1 (p = 0.3088) indicates no strong linear relationship between β_p and excess returns, contradicting CAPM's expectation of a positive risk-return tradeoff. The low R^2 (0.1287) suggests other factors influence returns, consistent with Chen et al.'s findings of limited CAPM applicability in China.