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Part I

Foundations of Risk Management

Chapter 1

Things to understand

1. Treadway Report (USA)
2. Turnbull Report (UK)
3. Dey Report (Canada)
4. Sarban-Oaxley Act

Chapter 2

Risk

2.1 Risk Types

1. market risk
2. credit risk
3. liquidity risk
4. operational risk
5. legal and regulatory risk
6. business risk
7. strategic risk
8. reputation risk

2.2 Market risk

Market risk and credit risk are referred to as financial risks.

Market risk could be subdivided into:

1. equity price risk
2. interest rate risk
3. foreign exchange risk
4. commodity price risk

2.3 Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of an economic loss from the failure of a counterparty to fulfill its contractual obligations, or from the increased risk of default during the term of the transaction. Credit risk types:

1. default risk
2. bankruptcy risk
3. downgrade risk
4. settlement risk

2.4 Liquidity risk

1. funding liquidity risk
2. trading liquidity risk

Chapter 3

CAPM

3.1 Definition

Individual risk premium equals the market premium times β :

$$E(R_i) - R_f = \beta_i(E(R_m) - R_f) \quad (3.1)$$

where:

- $E(R_i)$ - the (expected) asset return
- R_f - the risk-free return
- β_i - the sensitivity of the (expected) asset return to the (expected) market return:

$$\beta_i = \frac{Cov(R_i, R_m)}{Var(R_m)} = \rho_{i,m} \frac{\sigma_i}{\sigma_m} \quad (3.2)$$

- $E(R_m)$ - the expected market return

- $E(R_m) - R_f$ - the market premium
- $E(R_i) - R_f$ - the risk premium

3.2 Portfolio possibilities curve (PPC)

1. The correlation ρ determines the shape of the curve. If the correlation equals to 1, the curve degenerates into a straight line.
2. The concave segment above the MVP (Minimum Variance Portfolio) is efficient frontier
3. The MVP is the furthest to the left
4. The optimal portfolio maximises the slope of the tangent line from the risk free return to the portfolio possibilities curve. It also has the highest Sharpe ratio.

3.3 Capital market line

The CML is defined as:

$$CML : \mathbb{E}[R_p] = R_f + \frac{R_M - R_f}{\sigma_M} \sigma_p \quad (3.3)$$

It differs from the efficient frontier in that it contains the risk free asset.

The properties of CML:

1. Every portfolio on the CML is superior to the efficient frontier portfolio before we introduced the risk free rate
2. The market portfolio is the optimal portfolio

3. For every portfolio on the CML the Sharpe ratio is the same

That is, **the CML is the expected return as the function of the total risk as represented by volatility of the portfolio.**

Capital market line represents the decision about the allocation between the market portfolio that is optimal and the risk free asset.

3.4 Security market line

Security market line displays the expected rate of return of an individual security as a function of systematic, non-diversifiable risk.

The slope of SML is equal to the market risk premium:

$$E(R_i) = R_f + (E(R_m) - R_f)\beta \quad (3.4)$$

That is **the SML is the expected return as the function of the systematic risk represented by β of the portfolio.**

For the security market line Sharpe ratio is not constant.

Security market line accepts any portfolio, but not every portfolio in security market line is efficient.

3.5 Efficient frontier line

3.6 Capital market line

3.7 Capital allocation line

Chapter 4

Performance Measurement

4.1 Treynor ratio

The *Treynor ratio* (sometimes called the **reward-to-volatility ratio**), is a measurement of the returns earned in excess of that which could have been earned on an *investment that has no diversifiable risk* (e.g. Treasury bills or completely diversified portfolio), per each unit of market risk assumed.

The Treynor ratio relates *excess return* over the risk-free rate to the additional risk taken. However, the *systematic risk is used instead of total risk*. The higher the Treynor ratio, the better the performance of the portfolio under analysis.

$$T = \frac{r_i - r_f}{\beta_i} \quad (4.1)$$

where:

- T - Treynor ratio
- r_i - portfolio i -s return

- r_f - risk-free rate
- β - portfolio beta

Like the Sharpe ratio, the Treynor ratio does not quantify the value added, if any, of active portfolio management. A ranking of portfolios based on the Treynor Ratio is only useful if the portfolios under consideration are sub-portfolios of a broader, fully diversified portfolio. If this is not the case, portfolios with identical systematic risk, but different total risk, will be rated the same. But the portfolio with a higher total risk is less diversified and therefore has a higher unsystematic risk which is not priced in the market.

The Treynor ratio is particularly appropriate for appreciating the performance of a well diversified portfolio, since it only takes the systematic risk of the portfolio into account, i.e., the share of the risk that is not eliminated by diversification. It is also for that reason, that the Treynor ratio is the most appropriate indicator for evaluating the performance of a portfolio that only constitutes a part of the investor's assets. Since the investor has diversified his investments, the systematic risk of his portfolio is all that matters.

4.2 Sharpe ratio

The ratio is the risk premium per unit of volatility or total risk.

$$S_r = \frac{\mathbb{E}(R_p) - R_f}{\sigma(R_p)} \quad (4.2)$$

where:

- $\mathbb{E}(R_p)$ - the expected return of the portfolio,
- R_f - the risk-free return,

- $\sigma(R_p)$ - the volatility (standard deviation of) the portfolio returns

The Sharpe ratio corresponds to the slope of the market line.

From the CAPM we get:

$$\frac{\mathbb{E}(R_p - R_f)}{\sigma(R_p)} = \frac{\mathbb{E}(R_m - R_f)}{\sigma(R_m)} \quad (4.3)$$

This relationship indicates that at equilibrium the Sharpe ratio of the portfolio to be evaluated and the Sharpe ratio of the market portfolio are equal.

If the portfolio is well diversified, then its Sharpe ratio will be closed to that of the market.

The measure is suitable for the performance of portfolios that are not very diversified, because the unsystematic risks is included in this measure.

This measure is also suitable for evaluating the performance of a portfolio that represents an individual's total investment.

The ratio is drawn from portfolio theory and not CAPM, like Treynor and Jensen ratios. It does not refer to the market index and is not therefore subject to Roll's criticism.

4.3 Jensen's differential return measure

Jensen's alpha is defined as the differential between the return on the portfolio in excess of the risk-free rate and the return explained by the market model, or:

$$\mathbb{E}(R_p) - R_f = \alpha_p + \beta_p(\mathbb{E}(R_M - R_f)) \quad (4.4)$$

It is calculated by carrying out the following regression:

$$R_{pt} - R_{ft} = \alpha_p + \beta_p(R_{Mt} - R_{ft}) + \epsilon_{Pt} \quad (4.5)$$

The Jensen's measure is based on the CAPM. The term $\beta(\mathbb{E}(R_M) - R_F)$ measures the return on the portfolio forecast by the model, α_P measures the share of additional return that is due to the manager's choices.

Unlike the Sharpe and Teynor measures, the Jensen measure contains the benchmark.

The Jensen's measure, unlike Treynor and Sharpe measures, does not allow portfolios with different levels of risk to be compared.

The Jensen alpha can be used to rank portfolios within peer groups. They group together portfolios that are managed in a similar manner, and that therefore have comparable levels of risk.

The Jensen measure is subject to the same criticism at the Treynor measure - the result depends on the choice of the reference index.

In addition, when managers practise a market timing strategy, which involves varying the beta according to anticipated movements in the market, the Jensen alpha often becomes negative, and does not then reflect the real performance of the manager.

4.4 Using the different measures

The Sharpe ratio can be used for all portfolios.

The use of the Treynor ratio should be limited to well-diversified portfolios.

the Jensen measure is limited to the relative study of portfolios with the same beta.

Name	Risk Used	Source	Criticised by Roll	
Sharpe	Total (σ)	Portfolio theory	No	Ranking portfolios with different le
Treynor	Systematic (β)	CAPM	Yes	Ranking portfolios with differen
Jensen	Systematic (β)	CAPM	Yes	

4.5 Tracking error

The tracking-error is defined as the standard deviation of the difference in return between the portfolio and the benchmark it is replicating, or

$$TE = \sigma(R_P - R_B) \quad (4.6)$$

The lower the value, the closer the risk of the portfolio to the risk of the benchmark.

Benchmarked management requires the tracking-error to remain below a certain threshold, which is fixed in advance.

To respect this constraint, the portfolio must be reallocated regularly as the market evolves.

It is necessary however to find the right balance between the frequency of the reallocations and the transaction costs that they incur, which have a negative impact on portfolio performance.

The additional return obtained, measured by alpha, must also be sufficient to make up for the additional risk taken on by the portfolio.

To check this we use another indicator - the information ratio.

4.6 Information ratio

The information ratio, which is sometimes called the appraisal ratio, is defined by the residual return of the portfolio compared with its residual risk.

The residual return of the portfolio corresponds to the share of the return that is not explained by the benchmark.

The residual, or diversifiable, risk measures the residual return variations.

The information ratio is defined through the following relationship:

$$IR = \frac{\mathbb{E}(R_P) - \mathbb{E}(R_B)}{\sigma(R_P - R_B)} \quad (4.7)$$

We recognise the tracking error in the denominator.

The ratio can also be written as follows:

$$IR = \frac{\alpha_P}{\sigma(e_P)} \quad (4.8)$$

where

- α_P - denotes **the residual portfolio return**, as defined by Jensen,
- and $\sigma(e_P)$ - denotes **the standard deviation of this residual return**.

The ratio constitutes a criterion for evaluation the manager. It allows us to check that the risk taken by managers, in deviating from the benchmark, is sufficiently rewarded.

It is important to look at the value of the information ratio and the value of the tracking-error together.

For the same information ratio value, the lower the tracking error the higher the chance that the manager's performance will persist over time.

Since this ratio does not take the systematic portfolio risk into account, it is not

appropriate for comparing the performance of a well-diversified portfolio with that of a portfolio with a low degree of diversification.

The information ratio also allows us to estimate a suitable number of years for observing the performance, in order to obtain a certain confidence level for the result. To do so, we note that there is a link between the t -statistic of the regression, which provides the alpha value, and the information ratio.

The t -statistics is equal to the quotient of alpha and its standard deviation, and the information ratio is equal to the same quotient, but this time using annualised values. We therefore have:

$$IR \approx \frac{t_{STAT}}{\sqrt{T}} \quad (4.9)$$

where T denotes the length of the period, expressed in years, during which we observed the returns. The number of years required for the results obtained to be significant, with a given level of probability, is therefore calculated by the following relationship:

$$T = \left[\frac{t_{STAT}}{IR} \right]^2 \quad (4.10)$$

We should note, that the higher the manager's information ratio, the more the number of years decreases. The number of years also decreases if we consider a lower level of probability.

The calculation of the information ratio has been presented that the residual return came from the Jensen model. More generally, this return can come from a multi-index or multi-factor model.

4.7 Sortino ratio

Semivariance - is an average of the squared deviations of values that are less than the mean:

$$Semivariance = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{r_t < Average}^n (Average - r_t)^2 \quad (4.11)$$

An indicator such as the Sharpe ratio, based on the standard deviation, does not allow us to know whether the differentials compared with the mean were produced above or below the mean.

The Sortino ratio is based on the same principle as the Sharpe ratio. However, the risk-free rate is replaced with the minimum acceptable return (MAR), i.e., the return below which the investor does not wish to drop, and the standard deviation of the returns is replaced with the standard deviation of the returns that are below the MAR, that is:

$$SortinoRatio = \frac{\mathbb{E}(R_P) - MAR}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{T} \sum_{R_{Pt} < MAR}^T (R_{Pt} - MAR)^2}} \quad (4.12)$$

The *Sortino ratio* measures the risk-adjusted return of an investment asset, portfolio or strategy. It is a modification of the Sharpe ratio but penalises only those returns falling below a user-specific target or required rate of return, while the Sharpe ratio penalises both upside and downside volatility equally.

Though both ratios measure an investment's risk adjusted return, they do so in significantly different ways that will frequently lead to differing conclusions as to the true nature of the investment's return-generating efficiency.

The Sortino ratio is used as a way to compare the risk-adjusted performance

of programs with different risk and return profiles. In general, risk-adjusted returns seek to normalise the risk across programs and then see which has the higher return unit per risk.

Chapter 5

Basel Committee on Banking Supervision

5.1 Principles

1. Governance
2. Data architecture and IT infrastructure
3. Accuracy and Integrity
4. Completeness
5. Timeliness
6. Adaptability
7. Accuracy
8. Comprehensiveness
9. Clarity and usefulness

10. Frequency

11. Distribution

5.2 Short description

- **Governance** - a bank's risk data aggregation capabilities and risk reporting practices should be subject to strong governance arrangements consistent with other principles and guidance established by the Basel Committee
- **Data architecture and IT infrastructure**

Chapter 6

VAR

For a given portfolio, time horizon and probability p , the VaR is defined as the loss level such that the probability of the loss exceeding it is equal to p :

$$\mathbf{P}(Loss > VaR) = p \quad (6.1)$$

6.1 Financial Disasters

1. Chase Manhattan and Drysdale Securities
2. Kidder Peabody
3. Barings
4. Allied Irish Bank
5. Union Bank of Switzerland
6. Societe Generale
7. Long Term Capital Management
8. Metallgesellschaft
9. Bankers Trust
10. JPMorgan, Citigroup, and Enron

Chapter 7

Fama and French multi-factor model