

**1.17 Linear combinations of cash flows.** We consider cash flow vectors over  $T$  time periods, with a positive entry meaning a payment received, and negative meaning a payment made. A (unit) single period loan, at time period  $t$ , is the  $T$ -vector  $l_t$  that corresponds to a payment received of \$1 in period  $t$  and a payment made of  $\$(1+r)$  in period  $t+1$ , with all other payments zero. Here  $r > 0$  is the interest rate (over one period).

Let  $c$  be a \$1  $T-1$  period loan, starting at period 1. This means that \$1 is received in period 1,  $\$(1+r)^{T-1}$  is paid in period  $T$ , and all other payments (i.e.,  $c_2, \dots, c_{T-1}$ ) are zero. Express  $c$  as a linear combination of single period loans.

"+" payment received  
"-" payment made

Unit: Single period loan @  $t$  is  $l_t$

$$t=1 \rightarrow T-1$$

$$c = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ -(1+r)^{T-1} \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow T$$

$$l_t = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ -(1+r) \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow t+1$$

$r > 0$  is interest rate over one period

$$c_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ -(1+r)^{3-1} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow T-1 = 2 \leftarrow T = 3$$

$$\therefore c = c_1 l_{t_1} + c_2 l_{t_2} + c_3 l_{t_3} + \dots + c_{T-1} l_{t_{T-1}}$$

$$c_1 = c @ T=1 \quad \therefore c_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -(1+r)^{1-1} = -1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow T-1 = 0 \leftarrow T=1$$

$$c_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -(1+r)^{2-1} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow T-1 = 1 \leftarrow T = 2$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ -(1+r)^{T-1} \end{pmatrix} = (1) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -(1+r) \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + (1+r) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -(1+r) \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + (1+r)^2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -(1+r) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \dots + (1+r)^{T-2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ -(1+r) \end{pmatrix}$$

Q: technically positive?

$$c = c_1 l_{t_1} + c_2 l_{t_2} + \dots + c_{T-1} l_{t_{T-1}}$$

$$= (1) l_{t_1} + (1+r) l_{t_2} + \dots + (1+r)^{T-1-1} l_{t_{T-1}}$$

Q: how do I expand on  $c = c_1 l_{t_1} + c_2 l_{t_2} + \dots + c_{T-1} l_{t_{T-1}}$   
I think  $c_1 = 1$  because it says it's always one in the problem statement.

but what is  $c_2$ ? is it  $(1+r)^{2-1}$ ? isn't technically  $1 + (c_{T-1} + c_T)$ ?

- 2.1 Linear or not? Determine whether each of the following scalar-valued functions of  $n$ -vectors is linear. If it is a linear function, give its inner product representation, i.e., an  $n$ -vector  $a$  for which  $f(x) = a^T x$  for all  $x$ . If it is not linear, give specific  $x, y, \alpha$ , and  $\beta$  for which superposition fails, i.e.,

$$f(\alpha x + \beta y) \neq \alpha f(x) + \beta f(y).$$

- (a) The spread of values of the vector, defined as  $f(x) = \max_k x_k - \min_k x_k$ .
- (b) The difference of the last element and the first,  $f(x) = x_n - x_1$ .
- (c) The median of an  $n$ -vector, where we will assume  $n = 2k+1$  is odd. The median of the vector  $x$  is defined as the  $(k+1)$ st largest number among the entries of  $x$ . For example, the median of  $(-7.1, 3.2, -1.5)$  is  $-1.5$ .
- (d) The average of the entries with odd indices, minus the average of the entries with even indices. You can assume that  $n = 2k$  is even.
- (e) Vector extrapolation, defined as  $x_n + (x_n - x_{n-1})$ , for  $n \geq 2$ . (This is a simple prediction of what  $x_{n+1}$  would be, based on a straight line drawn through  $x_n$  and  $x_{n-1}$ .)

a)  $f(x) = \max_k x_k - \min_k x_k$ , let  $\alpha = \beta = 1$

$$\text{Suppose } x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \therefore f(x) = 2 - 1 = 1 \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} x+y = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \\ f(x+y) = 3 - 3 = 0 \end{array} \right\} \quad \therefore f(\alpha x + \beta y) \neq \alpha f(x) + \beta f(y)$$

$$\text{Suppose } y = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \therefore f(y) = 2 - 1 = 1 \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} f(x) + f(y) = 1 + 1 = 2 \end{array} \right\} \quad \text{not linear.}$$

b)  $f(x) = x_n - x_1 \Rightarrow -x_1 + x_n = a^T x = a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + a_3 x_3 + \dots + a_n x_n$   
 linear if  $a = (-1, 0, \dots, 0, 1)$   $\therefore$  Linear

c) Suppose  $\alpha = \beta = 1$   $x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \therefore f(x) = 0, f(y) = 0 \quad x+y = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad f(x+y) = 1$   
 not linear

d)  $(\frac{1}{n} \mathbb{1})^T a = \frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}{n}$

if vector is even  $n=2k$   $k_{\text{even}} = k_{\text{odd}}$

$$\therefore \frac{a_1 + a_3 + \dots + a_{K-1}}{K} - \frac{a_2 + a_4 + \dots + a_K}{K} \quad \therefore a = (1, -1, 1, -1, \dots, -1)^{\frac{1}{K}}$$

if vector is odd  $n=2k+1 \quad \therefore k_{\text{even}}, k+1_{\text{odd}}$

$\therefore$  Since  $n=2k$  is even

$$\frac{a_1 + a_3 + \dots + a_{K+1}}{K+1} - \frac{a_2 + a_4 + \dots + a_K}{K} \quad \text{Linear}$$

e)  $x_n + (x_n - x_{n-1}) \Rightarrow 2x_n - x_{n-1} \quad \therefore f(x) = a^T x = (0, \dots, 0, -1, 2)x$   
 $\hookrightarrow -x_{n-1} + 2x_n \quad \therefore$  Linear

- 3.25 *Leveraging*. Consider an asset with return time series over  $T$  periods given by the  $T$ -vector  $r$ . This asset has mean return  $\mu$  and risk  $\sigma$ , which we assume is positive. We also consider cash as an asset, with return vector  $\mu^{rf}\mathbf{1}$ , where  $\mu^{rf}$  is the cash interest rate per period. Thus, we model cash as an asset with return  $\mu^{rf}$  and zero risk. (The superscript in  $\mu^{rf}$  stands for 'risk-free'.) We will create a simple portfolio consisting of the asset and cash. If we invest a fraction  $\theta$  in the asset, and  $1 - \theta$  in cash, our portfolio return is given by the time series

$$p = \theta r + (1 - \theta)\mu^{rf}\mathbf{1}.$$

We interpret  $\theta$  as the fraction of our portfolio we hold in the asset. We allow the choices  $\theta > 1$ , or  $\theta < 0$ . In the first case we are *borrowing* cash and using the proceeds to buy more of the asset, which is called *leveraging*. In the second case we are *shorting* the asset. When  $\theta$  is between 0 and 1 we are blending our investment in the asset and cash, which is a form of *hedging*.

- Derive a formula for the return and risk of the portfolio, i.e., the mean and standard deviation of  $p$ . These should be expressed in terms of  $\mu$ ,  $\sigma$ ,  $\mu^{rf}$ , and  $\theta$ . Check your formulas for the special cases  $\theta = 0$  and  $\theta = 1$ .
- Explain how to choose  $\theta$  so the portfolio has a given target risk level  $\sigma^{tar}$  (which is positive). If there are multiple values of  $\theta$  that give the target risk, choose the one that results in the highest portfolio return.
- Assume we choose the value of  $\theta$  as in part (b). When do we use leverage? When do we short the asset? When do we hedge? Your answers should be in English.

$$\begin{aligned} a) \quad \text{avg}(p) &= \text{avg}(\theta r + (1 - \theta)\mu^{rf}\mathbf{1}) = \text{avg}(\theta r) + \text{avg}((1 - \theta)\mu^{rf}\mathbf{1}) \\ &\Rightarrow \theta \text{ avg}(r) + (1 - \theta)\mu^{rf} \text{ avg}(\mathbf{1}) \\ &\quad \mu = \text{avg}(r) \quad (\text{arbitrary}) \quad \text{avg}(\mathbf{1}) = 1 \\ &\therefore \text{avg}(p) = \theta\mu + (1 - \theta)\mu^{rf} \end{aligned}$$

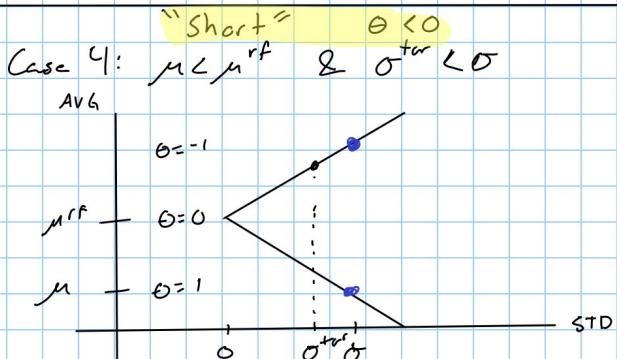
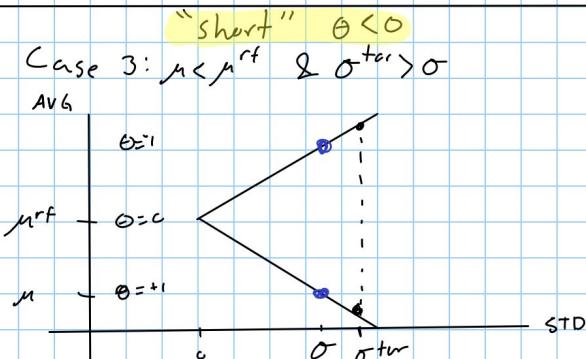
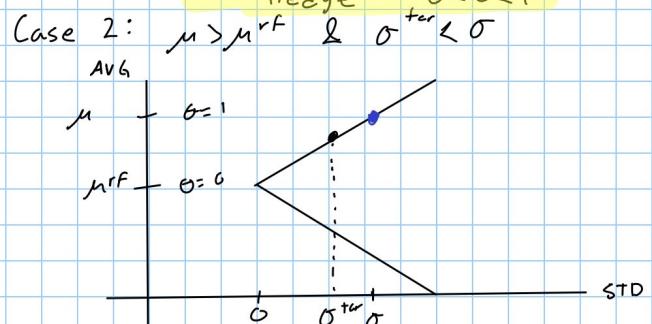
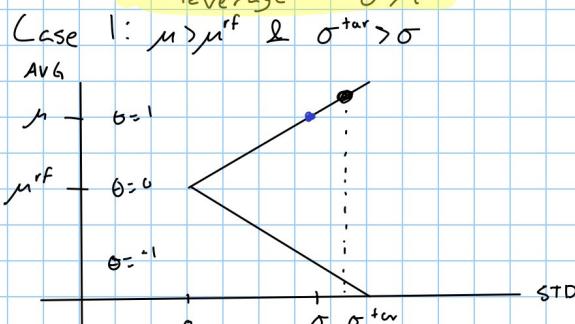
$$\begin{aligned} \text{std}(p) &= \text{rms}(p - \text{avg}(p)\mathbf{1}) = \frac{\|\mathbf{1}^T p - ((\mathbf{1}^T p)/n)\mathbf{1}\|}{\sqrt{n}} \\ &\hookrightarrow \left\| \theta r + (1 - \theta)\mu^{rf}\mathbf{1} - (\theta\mu + (1 - \theta)\mu^{rf})\mathbf{1} \right\| \\ &\quad \sqrt{T} \quad \text{over a period } T \\ &\hookrightarrow \left\| \theta(r - \mu)\mathbf{1} \right\| = \left\| \theta(r - \mu)\mathbf{1} \right\| \Rightarrow |\theta| \left\| r - \mu \right\| = |\theta| \sigma \end{aligned}$$

$$b) \quad |\theta| = \sigma^{tar}/\sigma \Rightarrow \theta = \pm \frac{\sigma^{tar}}{\sigma}$$

to maximize return ...  $\theta\mu + (1 - \theta)\mu^{rf} \Rightarrow \theta\mu + \mu^{rf} - \theta\mu'' \Rightarrow \mu^{rf} + \theta(\mu - \mu'')$

$$\begin{aligned} \theta > 0 &\text{ if } \mu > \mu^{rf} \quad (\text{leverage}) \\ \theta < 0 &\text{ if } \mu < \mu^{rf} \quad (\text{shorting}) \end{aligned}$$

c) risk, return graphs from book to visualize,  $(|\theta|\sigma, \mu^{rf} + \theta(\mu - \mu''))$



return vector  $\mu^{rf}\mathbf{1}, r$

$\theta > 1$  borrowing "leveraging"

$\theta < 1$  "shorting"

$0 < \theta < 1$  hedging

$$P = \theta r + (1 - \theta)\mu^{rf}\mathbf{1}$$

$\theta \& (1 - \theta)$  are constants

$\mu^{rf}$  is a rate  $\therefore$  constant

$$\text{std}(r) = \sigma$$

$$= |\theta| \sigma$$

3.27 Another measure of the spread of the entries of a vector. The standard deviation is a measure of how much the entries of a vector differ from their mean value. Another measure of how much the entries of an  $n$ -vector  $x$  differ from each other, called the *mean square difference*, is defined as

$$\text{MSD}(x) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n (x_i - x_j)^2.$$

(The sum means that you should add up the  $n^2$  terms, as the indices  $i$  and  $j$  each range from 1 to  $n$ .) Show that  $\text{MSD}(x) = 2\text{std}(x)^2$ . Hint. First observe that  $\text{MSD}(\tilde{x}) = \text{MSD}(x)$ , where  $\tilde{x} = x - \text{avg}(x)\mathbf{1}$  is the de-meaned vector. Expand the sum and recall that  $\sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{x}_i = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Show } \text{MSD}(x) &= 2\text{std}(x)^2 & \text{MSD}(\tilde{x}) &= \text{MSD}(x) \\ & & \tilde{x} &= x - \text{avg}(x)\mathbf{1} & \sum_{i=0}^n \tilde{x}_i &= 0 \\ \text{MSD}(x) &= \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n (x_i - x_j)^2 = \text{MSD}(\tilde{x}) \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n (\tilde{x}_i - \tilde{x}_j)^2 \\ \hookrightarrow \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n (x_i^2 - 2\tilde{x}_i x_j + x_j^2) & & & & & \\ \hookrightarrow \frac{1}{n^2} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n (\tilde{x}_i^2) - 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n (\tilde{x}_i \tilde{x}_j) + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n (\tilde{x}_j^2) \right] & & & & & \\ & \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n (\tilde{x}_i^2)}_{n \|\tilde{x}\|^2} & \underbrace{- 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n (\tilde{x}_i \tilde{x}_j)}_{-2 \times 0 \times 0 = 0} & \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n (\tilde{x}_j^2)}_{n \|\tilde{x}\|^2} & & \\ \hookrightarrow \frac{1}{n^2} (2n \|\tilde{x}\|^2) & \Rightarrow \frac{2\|\tilde{x}\|^2}{n} & = 2 \frac{\|\tilde{x}\|}{\sqrt{n}} \frac{\|\tilde{x}\|}{\sqrt{n}} & = 2\text{std}(x)^2 & & \end{aligned}$$

1.2 Use the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality to prove that

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \geq \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{x_k} \right)^{-1}$$

for all  $n$ -vectors  $x$  with positive elements  $x_k$ . The left-hand side of the inequality is the arithmetic mean (average) of the numbers  $x_k$ ; the right-hand side is called the harmonic mean.

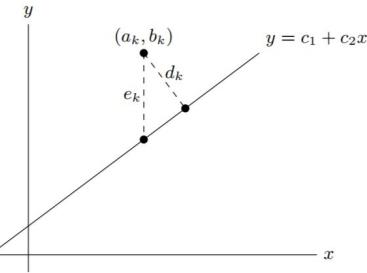
$$\text{rearrange the inequality } \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \geq \frac{1}{\left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{x_k} \right)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{x_k} \geq n^2 \Rightarrow \left[ \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{x_k} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \geq n$$

recall Cauchy-Schwarz inequality is  $\sigma^T b \leq \|a\| \|b\|$

$$\|a\| = \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^n x_k} \quad \|b\| = \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{x_k}}$$

- 1.8 Orthogonal distance regression. We use the same notation as in exercise 1.7:  $a, b$  are non-constant  $n$ -vectors, with means  $m_a, m_b$ , standard deviations  $s_a, s_b$ , and correlation coefficient  $\rho$ .



For each point  $(a_k, b_k)$ , the vertical deviation from the straight line defined by  $y = c_1 + c_2x$  is given by

$$e_k = |c_1 + c_2 a_k - b_k|.$$

The least squares regression method of the lecture minimizes the sum  $\sum_k e_k^2$  of the squared vertical deviations. The orthogonal (shortest) distance of  $(a_k, b_k)$  to the line is

$$d_k = \frac{|c_1 + c_2 a_k - b_k|}{\sqrt{1 + c_2^2}}.$$

As an alternative to the least squares method, we can find the straight line that minimizes the sum of the squared orthogonal distances  $\sum_k d_k^2$ . Define

$$J = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n d_k^2 = \frac{\|c_1 \mathbf{1} + c_2 a - b\|^2}{n(1 + c_2^2)}.$$

- (a) Show that the optimal value of  $c_1$  is  $c_1 = m_b - m_a c_2$ , as for the least squares fit.  
(b) If we substitute  $c_1 = m_b - m_a c_2$  in the expression for  $J$ , we obtain

$$J = \frac{\|c_2(a - m_a \mathbf{1}) - (b - m_b \mathbf{1})\|^2}{n(1 + c_2^2)}.$$

Simplify this expression and show that it is equal to

$$J = \frac{s_a^2 c_2^2 + s_b^2 - 2\rho s_a s_b c_2}{1 + c_2^2}.$$

Set the derivative of  $J$  with respect to  $c_2$  to zero, to derive a quadratic equation for  $c_2$ :

$$\rho c_2^2 + \left(\frac{s_a}{s_b} - \frac{s_b}{s_a}\right) c_2 - \rho = 0.$$

If  $\rho = 0$  and  $s_a = s_b$ , any value of  $c_2$  is optimal. If  $\rho = 0$  and  $s_a \neq s_b$  the quadratic equation has a unique solution  $c_2 = 0$ . If  $\rho \neq 0$ , the quadratic equation has a positive and a negative root. Show that the solution that minimizes  $J$  is the root  $c_2$  with the same sign as  $\rho$ .

- (c) Download the file `orthregdata.m` and execute it in MATLAB to create two arrays  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}$  of length 100. Fit a straight line to the data points  $(a_k, b_k)$  using orthogonal distance regression and compare with the least squares solution. Make a MATLAB plot of the two lines and the data points.

$$a) J = \frac{\|c_1 \mathbf{1} + c_2 a - b\|^2}{n(1 + c_2^2)} = \frac{(c_1 \mathbf{1} + c_2 a - b)^T (c_1 \mathbf{1} + c_2 a - b)}{n(1 + c_2^2)} \leq \frac{n c_1^2 + 2(c_1 \mathbf{1})^T (c_2 a - b) + (c_2 a - b)^T (c_2 a - b)}{n(1 + c_2^2)}$$

$$\text{Let } \frac{\partial J}{\partial c_1} = \frac{2n(c_1 + c_2 m_a - m_b)}{n(1 + c_2^2)} = 0 \Rightarrow c_1 + c_2 m_a - m_b = 0$$

$$b) \|c_2(a - m_a \mathbf{1}) - (b - m_b \mathbf{1})\|^2 = c_2^2 \|a - m_a \mathbf{1}\|^2 + \|b - m_b \mathbf{1}\|^2 - 2c_2(a - m_a \mathbf{1})^T (b - m_b \mathbf{1}) = n(c_2^2 s_a^2 + s_b^2 - 2\rho s_a s_b)$$

take derivative w/r to  $c_2$  and set to zero

$$\rho c_2^2 + \left(\frac{s_a}{s_b} - \frac{s_b}{s_a}\right) c_2 - \rho = 0$$

$$c_2 = 0 \quad \& \quad \rho > 0 \quad J' = "-" \quad \leftarrow \text{minimum}$$

