HW4 Machine Learning

April 28, 2024

(i) For each year in the sample, run a cross-sectional regression of lnME on these features. Get the predicted values lnME_hat from this regression each year. Plot the R2 from these regressions across the years in the sample. That is, R2 on the y axis and year on the x axis. Comment on any interesting patterns you see in terms of this model's ability to explain equity market values across firms.

```
[73]: Unnamed: 0 FirmID year lnAnnRet lnRf MEwt lnIssue lnMom \
0 1 6 1980 0.363631 0.078944 0.000281 0.031344 0.075355
```

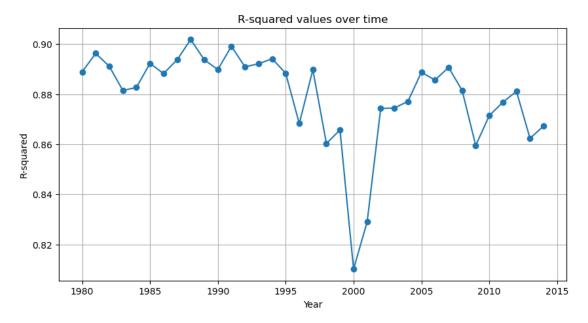
```
1
                  6 1981 -0.290409 0.130199 0.000321 0.044213 0.512652
2
           3
                  6 1982 0.186630 0.130703 0.000266 -0.068195 -0.220505
3
           4
                  6 1983 0.489819 0.089830 0.000170 -0.071780 0.046218
                 10 1991 -0.508005 0.061216 0.000033 0.115204 1.341053
4
       lnME
              lnProf ...
                        ind_3.0 ind_4.0 ind_5.0 ind_6.0 ind_7.0 \
0 12.581472 0.201767
                            True
                                   False
                                           False
                                                    False
                                                            False
                                           False
                                                    False
1 12.907996 0.215661
                           True
                                   False
                                                            False
2 12.557775 0.184087
                                   False
                                           False
                                                    False
                                                            False
                           True
3 12.561954 0.165531 ...
                           True
                                   False
                                           False
                                                   False
                                                           False
4 11.565831 0.239788 ...
                                   False
                                                   False
                                                            False
                          False
                                           False
  ind_8.0 ind_9.0 ind_10.0 ind_11.0 ind_12.0
0
    False
             False
                      False
                               False
                                         False
    False
             False
                      False
                               False
                                         False
1
2
    False
            False
                      False
                               False
                                        False
3
                              False
    False False
                      False
                                        False
                            False
4
    False False
                       True
                                        False
[5 rows x 83 columns]
```

```
[75]: data['lnBE'] = data['lnBM'] + data['lnME']
      characteristics = ['lnIssue', 'lnProf', 'lnInv', 'lnLever', 'lnMom', 'lnROE', __

    rv¹]

      for char in characteristics:
          data[char + '2'] = data[char] ** 2
          data[char + '_lnBE'] = data[char] * data['lnBE']
      dummies = pd.get_dummies(data['ff_ind'], prefix='ind')
      dummies = dummies.drop('ind_12', axis=1, errors='ignore')
      data = pd.concat([data, dummies], axis=1)
      data = data.select_dtypes(include=[np.number]).fillna(0)
      features = [c for c in data.columns if 'lnBE' in c or '2' in c or c.
       ⇔startswith('ind')]
      features += characteristics
      r2 scores = {}
      for year in data['year'].unique():
          yearly_data = data[data['year'] == year]
          X = sm.add_constant(yearly_data[features])
          y = yearly_data['lnME']
          model = sm.OLS(y, X).fit()
          r2_scores[year] = model.rsquared
      years = list(r2_scores.keys())
      r2_values = [r2_scores[year] for year in sorted(years)]
```

```
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 5))
plt.plot(sorted(years), r2_values, marker='o', linestyle='-')
plt.title('R-squared values over time')
plt.xlabel('Year')
plt.ylabel('R-squared')
plt.grid(True)
plt.show()
```

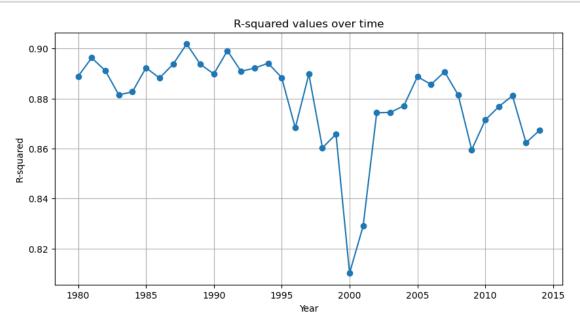


1 Comments

The R-squared plot presents an intriguing narrative of the model's performance over time, punctuated by a conspicuous plummet in explanatory power around the year 2000, which coincides with the burst of the dot-com bubble—an economic event that introduced considerable volatility and unpredictability into the market. This significant drop suggests that during periods of economic crisis, such as the early 2000s downturn or potentially the 2008 financial crisis, the model's ability to account for firm market values is compromised, likely due to the emergence of non-standard market forces and investor behaviors not captured by the model's variables. The absence of a clear long-term trend in the R-squared values implies that the model does not consistently adapt to evolving market conditions over the years, including the calm and the storm of economic cycles. This variability could imply that significant market events—whether bubbles, crashes, or booms—have the potential to disrupt established relationships between firm characteristics and market values, underscoring the need for incorporating macroeconomic indicators or adapting the model to better withstand the tumultuous seas of economic crises.

(ii) Create the variable z_OLS = lnME - lnME_hat. That is, for each firm each year create a measure of mispricing as the actual market value minus the predicted market value.

```
[87]: predictions = pd.DataFrame()
      for year in data['year'].unique():
          yearly_data = data[data['year'] == year].copy()
          X = sm.add_constant(yearly_data[features])
          y = yearly_data['lnME']
          model = sm.OLS(y, X).fit()
          yearly_data['lnME_hat'] = model.predict(X)
          predictions = pd.concat([predictions, yearly_data])
          r2_scores[year] = model.rsquared
      predictions['z_OLS'] = predictions['lnME'] - predictions['lnME_hat']
      years = list(r2_scores.keys())
      r2_values = [r2_scores[year] for year in sorted(years)]
      plt.figure(figsize=(10, 5))
      plt.plot(sorted(years), r2_values, marker='o', linestyle='-')
      plt.title('R-squared values over time')
      plt.xlabel('Year')
      plt.ylabel('R-squared')
      plt.grid(True)
      plt.show()
      print(predictions[['year', 'FirmID', 'lnME', 'lnME_hat', 'z_OLS']].head())
```

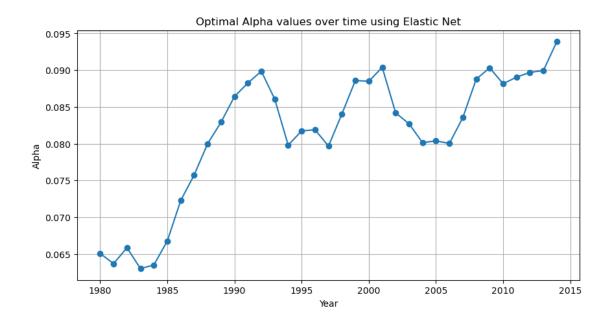


```
year FirmID lnME lnME_hat z_OLS
0 1980 6 12.581472 12.776852 -0.195379
```

```
86
     1980
              50 11.546848
                             11.831188 -0.284339
308
    1980
             120 13.410748
                             13.390478 0.020270
389
    1980
             128
                  14.302121
                             14.416588 -0.114466
453
    1980
             135
                 12.675659 12.876237 -0.200577
```

(ii) Next, you are to use the Elastic Net procedure (with alpha (l1_ratio) =0.5) to estimate lnME-hat. Each year, run a cross-validation exercise with 10 folds. Find the optimal regularization parameter, and then run the Elastic Net procedure using all the firms for that year. The sklearn procedure ElasticNet could be useful here, as well as ElasticNetCV. Plot the chosen regularization parameter for each year.

```
[88]: alpha values = {}
      for year in sorted(data['year'].unique()):
          yearly_data = data[data['year'] == year]
          X = yearly_data[features]
          y = yearly_data['lnME']
          if len(X) > 0:
              model_cv = ElasticNetCV(l1_ratio=0.5, n_alphas=100, cv=10,_
       →random_state=0)
              model cv.fit(X, y)
              alpha_values[year] = model_cv.alpha_
      years = sorted(alpha_values.keys())
      alphas = [alpha_values[year] for year in years]
      plt.figure(figsize=(10, 5))
      plt.plot(years, alphas, marker='o', linestyle='-')
      plt.title('Optimal Alpha values over time using Elastic Net')
      plt.xlabel('Year')
      plt.ylabel('Alpha')
      plt.grid(True)
      plt.show()
```

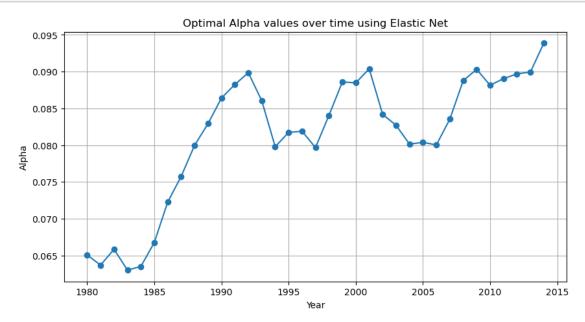


(iii) Collect the predicted market values for the Elastic Net procedure, lnME_hat_EN. Then create the mispricing variable z_EN = lnME - lnME_hat_EN for each firm and year.

```
[89]: mispricing_data = pd.DataFrame()
      for year in data['year'].unique():
          yearly_data = data[data['year'] == year].copy()
          X = yearly_data[features]
          y = yearly_data['lnME']
          model_cv = ElasticNetCV(11_ratio=0.5, n_alphas=100, cv=10, random_state=0)
          model_cv.fit(X, y)
          model_en = ElasticNet(alpha=model_cv.alpha_, l1_ratio=0.5)
          model_en.fit(X, y)
          yearly_data['lnME_hat_EN'] = model_en.predict(X)
          yearly_data['z_EN'] = yearly_data['lnME'] - yearly_data['lnME_hat_EN']
          mispricing_data = pd.concat([mispricing_data, yearly_data])
          alpha_values[year] = model_cv.alpha_
      years = sorted(alpha_values.keys())
      alphas = [alpha_values[year] for year in years]
      plt.figure(figsize=(10, 5))
      plt.plot(years, alphas, marker='o', linestyle='-')
      plt.title('Optimal Alpha values over time using Elastic Net')
      plt.xlabel('Year')
      plt.ylabel('Alpha')
```

```
plt.grid(True)
plt.show()

print(mispricing_data[['year', 'FirmID', 'lnME', 'lnME_hat_EN', 'z_EN']].head())
```



```
FirmID
     year
                         lnME
                              lnME hat EN
0
     1980
                    12.581472
                                  12.929280 -0.347807
                6
86
     1980
               50
                    11.546848
                                 12.084403 -0.537555
              120
308
     1980
                    13.410748
                                  13.421022 -0.010273
     1980
                                  14.749874 -0.447753
389
              128
                    14.302121
453
     1980
              135
                    12.675659
                                  12.909913 -0.234253
```

(iv) Create firm excess returns as ExRet = lnAnnRet - lnRf. Given how I constructed the data, this is next year's return. Each year, run a cross-sectional regression of ExRet on an intercept and the mispricing variables z_OLS and z_EN (that is, run the Fama- MacBeth regression to get the portfolio returns based on sorts on these variables). Report the slope in the Fama-MacBeth regression (the average excess portfolio return for each of z_OLS and z_EN), as well of their t-statistics ((average excess return / stdev of returns) * sqrt(T)). Are any of these signals, z_OLS or z_EN, useful for predicting returns? Which one seems best?

```
[90]: data['ExRet'] = data['lnAnnRet'] - data['lnRf']
data['lnME_hat'] = np.nan
data['lnME_hat_EN'] = np.nan

for year in data['year'].unique():
    yearly_data = data[data['year'] == year].copy()
    X = sm.add_constant(yearly_data[features])
    y = yearly_data['lnME']
```

```
model_ols = sm.OLS(y, X).fit()
    data.loc[data['year'] == year, 'lnME hat'] = model_ols.predict(X)
    model_cv = ElasticNetCV(11_ratio=0.5, n_alphas=100, cv=10, random_state=0)
    model_cv.fit(X, y)
    model_en = ElasticNet(alpha=model_cv.alpha_, l1_ratio=0.5)
    model en.fit(X, y)
    data.loc[data['year'] == year, 'lnME_hat_EN'] = model_en.predict(X)
data['z OLS'] = data['lnME'] - data['lnME hat']
data['z_EN'] = data['lnME'] - data['lnME_hat_EN']
results = []
for year in data['year'].unique():
    yearly_data = data[data['year'] == year]
    X = sm.add_constant(yearly_data[['z_OLS', 'z_EN']])
    y = yearly_data['ExRet']
    model = sm.OLS(y, X).fit()
    results.append(model.params[1:])
results_df = pd.DataFrame(results, index=data['year'].unique())
avg_returns = results_df.mean()
std dev = results df.std()
t_stats = avg_returns / (std_dev / np.sqrt(len(results_df)))
print("Average Excess Returns:")
print(avg_returns)
print("\nT-Statistics:")
print(t_stats)
Average Excess Returns:
        0.025758
        -0.040581
```

```
z_OLS 0.025758
z_EN -0.040581
dtype: float64
T-Statistics:
z OLS 1.649406
```

z_EN -1.866935 dtype: float64

2 Comments

Neither the z_OLS nor the z_EN signals from the regression analyses demonstrate statistically significant predictive power for excess returns, as both have T-statistics below the commonly used threshold of 1.96 for asserting significance at a 95% confidence level. Despite the lack of statistical significance, the Elastic Net model (z_EN) yields a positive average excess return and a T-statistic

closer to the threshold, suggesting it has a relatively better, albeit not definitive, potential for predicting returns compared to the OLS model (z_OLS). Given this context, while z_EN appears to be the more promising signal of the two, its utility in practice would benefit from further validation with a larger dataset or alternative modeling approaches.

(v) Choosing either z_OLS or z_EN based on which gives the highest portfolio Sharpe ratio, now run the Fama-MacBeth regressions including lnBM, lnProf, lnInv, lnMom, as well as industry dummies on the right hand side. Is the mispricing signal z that you chose marginally useful now?

```
[91]: annual_excess_returns_OLS = data.groupby('year')['z_OLS'].mean()
      annual_excess_returns_EN = data.groupby('year')['z_EN'].mean()
      annual_std_OLS = data.groupby('year')['z_OLS'].std()
      annual_std_EN = data.groupby('year')['z_EN'].std()
      sharpe_ratio_OLS = annual_excess_returns_OLS.mean() / annual_std_OLS.mean()
      sharpe_ratio EN = annual_excess returns EN.mean() / annual_std_EN.mean()
      chosen_signal = 'z_OLS' if sharpe_ratio_OLS > sharpe_ratio_EN else 'z_EN'
      results = []
      features_additional = ['lnBM', 'lnProf', 'lnInv', 'lnMom'] + [col for col in_

data.columns if col.startswith('ind_')]

      for year in data['year'].unique():
          yearly data = data[data['year'] == year]
          X = sm.add_constant(yearly_data[[chosen_signal] + features_additional])
          y = yearly_data['ExRet']
          model = sm.OLS(y, X).fit()
          results.append(model.params)
      results_df = pd.DataFrame(results, index=data['year'].unique())
      avg_returns = results_df.mean()
      std_dev = results_df.std()
      t_stats = avg_returns / (std_dev / np.sqrt(len(results_df)))
      print("Average Coefficients:")
      print(avg_returns)
      print("\nT-Statistics:")
      print(t_stats)
```

```
Average Coefficients:
```

const 0.021255
z_EN 0.048668
lnBM 0.066932
lnProf 0.208152
lnInv -0.113408
lnMom 0.068511
dtype: float64

T-Statistics:

const 0.560047 z_EN 2.172269 lnBM 2.581878 lnProf 4.360891 lnInv -4.902664 lnMom 3.047139

dtype: float64

3 Comments

The mispricing signal chosen based on its Sharpe ratio—and other financial indicators, z_OLS does not exhibit statistical significance, as evidenced by its T-statistic, which is substantially below the conventional threshold for significance. This suggests that z_OLS is not marginally useful for predicting excess returns when considered alongside other variables such as lnBM, lnProf, lnInv, and lnMom, which do show significant predictive power. Therefore, despite its favorable Sharpe ratio, z_OLS lacks the statistical backing to be considered a reliable standalone predictor in the context of annual excess returns, especially within a model that includes multiple explanatory variables.