

PROBLEM SET 3

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4. Efficient Portfolios

$$R_p = R_f + w^T (R - R_f \mathbf{1}) \quad U(w) = \mu_p - \frac{\sigma}{2} \sigma_p^2$$

a) Show that $\mu_i - R_f = \sigma \text{Cov}(R_i, R_p) \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, N$

Proof

$$\begin{aligned} U(w) &= E(R_p) - \frac{\sigma}{2} \text{Var}(R_p) = \\ &= E(R_f + w^T (R - R_f \mathbf{1})) - \frac{\sigma}{2} \text{Var}(R_f + w^T (R - R_f \mathbf{1})) \stackrel{\text{Var}(R_f)=0}{=} \\ &= R_f + E\left(\sum_{i=1}^N w_i (R_i - R_f)\right) - \frac{\sigma}{2} \text{Var}\left(\sum_{i=1}^N w_i R_i\right) = \\ &\quad \sum_{i=1}^N w_i^2 \sigma_i^2 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N w_i w_j \text{Cov}(R_i, R_j) = \\ &\quad \text{Cov}(R_i, R_i) = \sigma_i^2 \quad = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N 2 w_i w_j \text{Cov}(R_i, R_j) \\ &= R_f + \sum_{i=1}^N w_i (\mu_i - R_f) - \frac{\sigma}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N 2 w_i w_j \text{Cov}(R_i, R_j) \end{aligned}$$

First order condition:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_i - R_f - \frac{\sigma}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N 2 w_j \text{Cov}(R_i, R_j) &= 0 \\ \mu_i - R_f - \sigma \text{Cov}(R_i, \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^N w_j R_j}_{R_p}) &= 0 \\ \mu_i - R_f &= \sigma \text{Cov}(R_i, R_p) \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

b) Show that $\mu_i - R_f = \beta_{i,p} (\mu_p - R_f) \quad \beta_{i,p} = \frac{\text{Cov}(R_i, R_p)}{\sigma_p^2}$

Proof

$$\mu_i - R_f \stackrel{\text{a)}}{=} \sigma \text{Cov}(R_i, R_p) \quad \text{and we want that} \quad \mu_i - R_f = \frac{\text{Cov}(R_i, R_p)}{\sigma_p^2} (\mu_p - R_f)$$

$$\text{So we want to show that } \sigma \text{Cov}(R_i, R_p) = \frac{\text{Cov}(R_i, R_p)}{\sigma_p^2} (\mu_p - R_f)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{we have to prove } \left[\sigma = \frac{\mu_p - R_f}{\sigma_p^2} \right] (*)$$

$$\text{From } \mu_p = R_f + w^T (\mu - R_f \mathbf{1}) \rightarrow U(w) = \mu_p - \frac{\sigma}{2} \sigma_p^2 = R_f + w^T (\mu - R_f \mathbf{1}) - \frac{\sigma}{2} w^T \Sigma w$$

$$\text{FOC: } \mu - R_f \mathbf{1} - \sigma \Sigma w = 0 \rightarrow \sigma = \frac{\mu - R_f \mathbf{1}}{\Sigma w} \stackrel{\text{multiply for } w}{=} \frac{w^T \mu - w^T R_f \mathbf{1}}{w^T \Sigma w} = \frac{\mu_p - R_f}{\sigma^2} \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true} \quad \square$$

efficient portfolio

It would have been possible to proceed differently:

Proof 2: We start from a) $\mu_i - R_f = \sigma \text{Cov}(R_i, R_p) \quad \forall i$ (*)

\Rightarrow with vectors:

$$\mu - R_f \mathbf{1} = \sigma \underbrace{\sum w}_{\text{variance/covariance matrix}}$$

Multiplying both sides for w' : $w' \mu - w' R_f \mathbf{1} = \sigma \underline{w' \Sigma w}$

$$\underline{\mu_p - R_f} = \sigma \underline{\sigma_p^2} \quad (**)$$

Divide (*) by (**)

$$\frac{\mu_i - R_f}{\mu_p - R_f} = \frac{\sigma \text{Cov}(R_i, R_p)}{\sigma \sigma_p^2}$$

$$\mu_i - R_f = \underbrace{\left(\frac{\text{Cov}(R_i, R_p)}{\sigma_p^2} \right)}_{B_{i,p}} (\mu_p - R_f) \quad \checkmark$$

c) Show that $\forall i$: $R_i = R_f + \beta_i (R_p - R_f) + \varepsilon_i$ where $\text{Cov}(R_p, \varepsilon_i) = 0$ $E(\varepsilon_i) = 0$

Proof from b) $\mu_i - R_f = B_{i,p} (\mu_p - R_f) + \varepsilon_i$

$$R_i = R_f - \mu_i + B_{i,p} (\mu_p - R_f) + R_i + B_{i,p} R_p$$

$$= R_f + B_{i,p} (R_p - R_f) - \underbrace{\mu_i + R_i - B_{i,p} R_p + B_{i,p} \mu_p}_{\varepsilon_i = B_{i,p} (\mu_p - R_p) - \mu_i + R_i}$$

$$E(\varepsilon_i) = E[B_{i,p} (\mu_p - R_p) - \mu_i + R_i]$$

$$= B_{i,p} [\underbrace{\mu_p - E(R_p)}_{\mu_p} - \underbrace{\mu_i}_{\mu_i} + E(R_i)] = 0$$

$$\text{Cov}(R_p, \varepsilon_i) = \text{Cov}(R_p, B_{i,p} (\mu_p - R_p) - \mu_i + R_i) =$$

$$= \cancel{B_{i,p} \text{Cov}(R_p, \mu_p)} - B_{i,p} \text{Cov}(R_p, R_p) - \cancel{\text{Cov}(R_p, \mu_i)} + \text{Cov}(R_p, R_i)$$

$$= -B_{i,p} \sigma_p^2 + \text{Cov}(R_p, R_i) = - \frac{\text{Cov}(R_p, R_i)}{\sigma_p^2} \sigma_p^2 + \text{Cov}(R_p, R_i) = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

Proof 2

Otherwise we can start from a general regression with B_0 and prove that $B_0 = R_f$
 $B_1 = B_{i,p}$:

$$R_i = B_0 + B_1 (R_p - R_f) + \varepsilon_i$$

• About β_1 , we do not have any doubt because we know that the β_1 regression coefficient is given by the covariance divided by the variance of the variable $R_p - R_f$:

$$\beta_1 = \frac{\text{Cov}(R_i, R_p - R_f)}{\text{Var}(R_p - R_f)} = \frac{\text{Cov}(R_i, R_p) - 0}{\sigma_p^2 - 0} = B_{i,p}$$

- For B_0 , we would like to use the previous points, which work on μ_i .
So, we have to take the expectation:

From b)

$$\mu_i = B_0 + B_{i,p} (\mu_p - R_f) + 0 \quad \uparrow \quad E(\varepsilon_i) = 0$$

$$\mu_i - R_f + R_f = B_{i,p} (\mu_p - R_f) + R_f$$

b)

$$\Rightarrow R_f + B_{i,p} (\mu_p - R_f) = \mu_i = B_0 + B_{i,p} (\mu_p - R_f)$$

$$R_f = B_0$$

□

d) Show that $SR_p = \frac{\mu_p - R_f}{\sigma_p}$ for mean-variance efficient portfolios.

Proof We want that SR_p does not depend on w (the composition of the portfolio)
 \Rightarrow we consider $w_a \neq w_b$ and we show that $SR_a = SR_b$

$$SR_a = \frac{\mu_a - R_f}{\sigma_a}$$

$$SR_b = \frac{\mu_b - R_f}{\sigma_b} \quad \text{where} \quad \mu_b - R_f = \frac{\mu_a - R_f}{\sigma_a^2} \text{Cov}(R_a, R_b) = \frac{SR_a}{\sigma_a} \text{Cov}(R_a, R_b)$$

$$\Rightarrow SR_b = SR_a \cdot \frac{\text{Cov}(R_a, R_b)}{\sigma_a \sigma_b} = SR_a \cdot \rho_{a,b}$$

we have to show that $\rho_{a,b} = 1$:

we know that every portfolio is a different combination of the same 2 portfolios
(they are a kind of 'base')

\Rightarrow they are all perfectly correlated $\Rightarrow SR_a = SR_b$ for $w_a \neq w_b$ □

1) Show that only min var frontier portfolio can be rewritten as a convex combination of any two arbitrary min var frontier portfolios W_A, W_B in the sense that $W = \alpha W_A + (1-\alpha) W_B$

Assume W is not a min var frontier portfolio while W_A and W_B yes

$$W = \alpha(W_A) + (1-\alpha)W_B$$

$$W_A = W_{tan} \cdot C + W_{RF} \cdot (1-C) \quad \text{from the two fund separation theorem}$$

W_{tan} = tangency portfolio

W_{RF} = risk free asset

C = weight in each single asset

same for W_B

$$W_B = D \cdot W_{tan} + (1-D) W_{RF}$$

so

$$W = \alpha \cdot [C \cdot W_{tan} + (1-C) W_{RF}] + (1-\alpha) [D \cdot W_{tan} + (1-D) W_{RF}]$$

$$= [\alpha \cdot C + (1-\alpha) D] W_{tan} + [\alpha(1-C) + (1-\alpha)(1-D)] W_{RF}$$

$$\text{Since } \alpha \cdot C + (1-\alpha) D + \alpha(1-C) + (1-\alpha)(1-D) = 1$$

W is a convex combination of W_{tan} and W_{RF}

so for the two fund separation theorem is

an asset portfolio on the minimum variance frontier but this goes in contradiction to the initial here only min var frontier portfolio can be written as the linear combination of two arbitrary minimum variance frontier portfolio.

R_{min} global min-VAR portfolio
short

$$\text{Cov}(R, R_{min}) = \text{VAR}(R_{min})$$

Assume $R_p = wR + (1-w)R_{min}$

$$\text{VAR}(R_p) = w^2 \sigma_R^2 + (1-w)^2 \sigma_{min}^2 + 2w(1-w) \text{Cov}(R_{min}, R)$$

Minimize $\text{VAR}(R_p)$

for wrt w : relationship between w and parameters that minimize $\frac{d}{dw}$

$$2w\sigma_R^2 + (1-w)(-2)\sigma_{min}^2 + 2\text{Cov}(R_{min}, R) - 4w\text{Cov}(R_{min}, R) = 0$$

However $\text{VAR}(R_p)$ is minimized when $w = \sigma_{min}^2$ so
when $w=0$

SUB in the f.o.c:

$$-2\sigma_{min}^2 + 2\text{Cov}(R_{min}, R) = 0$$

$$\text{so } \sigma_{min}^2 = \text{Cov}(R_{min}, R)$$