

- CAPM Beta does not completely explain the cross-section of expected asset returns
- This may suggest that more factors must be added
- Theoretical arguments also suggests that more factors must be added, since the CAPM only applies under very strong assumptions
- Two main proposed solutions exists:
 - Absolute pricing theory (APT) of Ross (1976)
 - Intertemporal Capital Asset Pricing Model (ICAPM) of Merton (1973)

1. Theoretical Background

- APT - Ross (1976)
- Allows multiple factors
- Does not require the identification of the market portfolio
- Drawback:** In its general form the APT provides an approximation for the expected cross-section of returns with an unknown number of unidentified factors \Rightarrow model is not testable
No assumptions should be introduced to make the model testable.

Assumptions:

- competitive markets
- frictionless
- return generation process is given by:

$$R_i = \alpha_i + b_i f + \varepsilon_i \quad b_i \neq 0 \\ E[\varepsilon_i | f] = 0 \quad f \neq 0 \\ E[\varepsilon_i^2 | f] = \sigma_i^2 \leq \sigma^2 < \infty$$

For N assets stacked we have:

$$R_t = \alpha + B f_t + \varepsilon_t \quad R_{N \times 1} \text{ Bush f}_{N \times 1} \\ E[\varepsilon_t | f] = 0 \quad \alpha_{N \times 1} \quad \varepsilon_{N \times 1} \\ E[\varepsilon_t^2 | f] = \Sigma$$

- i) The factors f account for mostly of the common variation in the asset returns $\Rightarrow \varepsilon$ vanishes
- (ii) This requires that $\varepsilon_i \perp \varepsilon_j, i \neq j$

- Given these assumptions, Ross (1976) shows that the absence of arbitrage implies that:

$$\mu \approx 1\alpha_0 + B\alpha_f \quad (1.7)$$

μ : Expected return vector

α_0 : Market zero-beta parameter = Risk-free return if exists

α_f : Vector of factor risk premia

- Note that (1.7) is an approximation \Rightarrow does not produce directly testable restrictions for asset returns
- To obtain these restrictions, we need to add assumptions

Connor (1984) added assumption:

- The market portfolio is well diversified \rightarrow no single asset in the economy accounts for a significant portion of the aggregate wealth
- The factors are pervasive / universal \hookrightarrow prevents investors to diversify away idiosyncratic risk without reducing in a single factor exposure

• ICapm of Merton (1973):

- Assumptions on conditional distributions of returns

\Rightarrow EXACT Multifactor model

- In this chapter we will generally not differentiate the APT from the ICapm
- We will compare models with exact representation:

$$\mu = \lambda \alpha_0 + B \alpha_f \quad (1.8)$$

2. Estimation and testing

- We consider four versions of the exact factor pricing model:

- factors are portfolios of traded assets + risk-free asset
- factors are portfolios of traded assets + no risk-free asset
- factors are not portfolios of traded assets
- factors are portfolios of traded assets AND the factor portfolios span the mean-variance frontier of risky assets

- All four cases use maximum likelihood estimation

Assumption:

- Joint normality for the returns conditional on the factors

- Given this assumption, we can construct a test of any of the four cases using the likelihood ratio

Portfolios of factors with a riskfree asset

- factors are traded portfolios

- There exists a risk-free asset

- Let \hat{z}_{it} be a $N \times 1$ vector of N Assets excess returns

- The N -factor linear model is given by:

$$\hat{z}_{it} = \alpha_i + B \hat{z}_{it} + \varepsilon_{it}, \quad E[\hat{z}_{it}] = \alpha_i \quad E[\varepsilon_i^T \varepsilon_i] = \Sigma$$

$$E[\hat{z}_{it}^T \hat{z}_{it}] = \mu_{it} \quad E[(\hat{z}_{it} - \mu_{it})^T (\hat{z}_{it} - \mu_{it})] = \alpha_{it}$$

α : $N \times 1$ matrix of factor sensitivities

\hat{z}_{it} : $N \times T$ vector of factor portfolios excess returns

α_i : 1×1 vector of asset returns intercept

ε_{it} : $N \times 1$ vector of asset returns error terms

- exact factor pricing $\Rightarrow \alpha_i = \alpha$

- For the **UNCONSTRAINED** model (2.2) the MLE are just the OLS estimations:

$$\hat{\alpha}_i = \hat{\alpha}_0 - \hat{B} \hat{\alpha}_f$$

$$\hat{B} = \left[\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (\hat{z}_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0)^T (\hat{z}_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0) \right]^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (\hat{z}_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0)^T (\hat{z}_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0) \right]$$

$$\hat{\Sigma} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (\hat{z}_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0 - \hat{B} \hat{\alpha}_f)^T (\hat{z}_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0 - \hat{B} \hat{\alpha}_f)$$

$$\hat{\alpha}_0 = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \hat{z}_{it} \quad \hat{\alpha}_f = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \hat{z}_{it}$$

- For the **CONSTRAINED** version, real returns catch in excess of the expected, zero-beta portfolio return go:

$$R_t = \lambda \alpha_0 + B (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_f) + \varepsilon_t = (1 - B) \alpha_0 + B \alpha_f + \varepsilon_t$$

which means the MLE is given by:

$$\hat{B}^* = \left[\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0)^T (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0) \right]^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0)^T (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0) \right]$$

$$\hat{\Sigma}^* = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T [R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0 - \hat{B}^* (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0)]^T [R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0 - \hat{B}^* (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0)]$$

$$\hat{\alpha}_0 = [(1 - \hat{B}^*)^T \hat{\Sigma}^* (1 - \hat{B}^*)]^{-1} [(1 - \hat{B}^*)^T \hat{\Sigma}^* (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0)]$$

- The **NULL HYPOTHESIS** of $\alpha_i = (1 - B) \alpha_0$ can be tested using the likelihood ratio test

- Under the null hypothesis the test statistic follows an F-distribution with N degrees of freedom

Portfolios vs factors without a riskfree asset

- In the absence of a riskfree asset, there is a zero-beta model that is a multifactor equivalent to the Black version of the CAPM
- In the multifactor context, the zero-beta portfolio has no sensitivity to any of the factor returns
- Let R_t be an $N \times 1$ vector of real returns for N assets
- For the unconstrained version of the multifactor simple model is given by:

$$(2.14) \quad R_t = \alpha_i + B R_{it} + \varepsilon_t, \quad E[\varepsilon_i^T \varepsilon_i] = \Sigma$$

$$E[R_{it}] = \mu_{it} \quad E[(R_{it} - \mu_{it})^T (R_{it} - \mu_{it})] = \alpha_{it} \quad \text{cov}(R_{it}, \varepsilon_i) = 0$$

B : $N \times k$ matrix of factor sensitivities

μ_{it} : $k \times 1$ vector of factor portfolios real returns

For the **UNCONSTRAINED** model (2.14) the MLE is given by:

$$\hat{\alpha}_i = \hat{\alpha}_0 - \hat{B} \hat{\alpha}_f$$

$$\hat{B} = \left[\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (R_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0)^T (R_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0) \right]^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (R_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0)^T (R_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0) \right]$$

$$\hat{\Sigma} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (R_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0 - \hat{B} \hat{\alpha}_f)^T (R_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0 - \hat{B} \hat{\alpha}_f)$$

$$\hat{\alpha}_0 = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T R_{it} \quad \hat{\alpha}_f = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T R_{it}$$

- For the **CONSTRAINED** version, real returns catch in excess of the expected, zero-beta portfolio return go:

$$R_t = \lambda \alpha_0 + B (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_f) + \varepsilon_t = (1 - B) \alpha_0 + B \alpha_f + \varepsilon_t$$

which means the MLE is given by:

$$\hat{B}^* = \left[\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0)^T (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0) \right]^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0)^T (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0) \right]$$

$$\hat{\Sigma}^* = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T [R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0 - \hat{B}^* (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0)]^T [R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0 - \hat{B}^* (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0)]$$

$$\hat{\alpha}_0 = [(1 - \hat{B}^*)^T \hat{\Sigma}^* (1 - \hat{B}^*)]^{-1} [(1 - \hat{B}^*)^T \hat{\Sigma}^* (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0)]$$

- The **NULL HYPOTHESIS** of $\alpha_i = (1 - B) \alpha_0$ can be tested using the likelihood ratio test

- Under the null hypothesis the test statistic follows an F-distribution with N degrees of freedom

MACROECONOMIC VARIABLES AS FACTORS

- Factors NEED NOT BE TRADED PORTFOLIOS OF ASSETS, IN SOME CASES THAN CAN BE MACROECONOMIC VARIABLES

- For the **UNCONSTRAINED** version of the multifactor model we have:

$$(2.28) \quad R_t = \alpha_i + B R_{it} + \varepsilon_t, \quad E[\varepsilon_i^T \varepsilon_i] = \Sigma$$

$$E[R_{it}] = \mu_{it} \quad E[(R_{it} - \mu_{it})^T (R_{it} - \mu_{it})] = \alpha_{it} \quad \text{cov}(R_{it}, \varepsilon_i) = 0$$

B : $N \times k$ matrix of factor sensitivities

μ_{it} : $k \times 1$ vector of factor portfolios real returns

For the **UNCONSTRAINED** model (2.28) the MLE is given by:

$$\hat{\alpha}_i = \hat{\alpha}_0 - \hat{B} \hat{\alpha}_f$$

$$\hat{B} = \left[\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (R_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0)^T (R_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0) \right]^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (R_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0)^T (R_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0) \right]$$

$$\hat{\Sigma} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (R_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0 - \hat{B} \hat{\alpha}_f)^T (R_{it} - \hat{\alpha}_0 - \hat{B} \hat{\alpha}_f)$$

$$\hat{\alpha}_0 = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T R_{it} \quad \hat{\alpha}_f = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T R_{it}$$

- For the **CONSTRAINED** version, real returns catch in excess of the expected, zero-beta portfolio return go:

$$R_t = \lambda \alpha_0 + B (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_f) + \varepsilon_t = (1 - B) \alpha_0 + B \alpha_f + \varepsilon_t$$

which means the MLE is given by:

$$\hat{B}^* = \left[\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0)^T (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0) \right]^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0)^T (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0) \right]$$

$$\hat{\Sigma}^* = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T [R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0 - \hat{B}^* (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0)]^T [R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0 - \hat{B}^* (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0)]$$

$$\hat{\alpha}_0 = [(1 - \hat{B}^*)^T \hat{\Sigma}^* (1 - \hat{B}^*)]^{-1} [(1 - \hat{B}^*)^T \hat{\Sigma}^* (R_{it} - \lambda \alpha_0)]$$

- The **NULL HYPOTHESIS** of $\alpha_i = (1 - B) \alpha_0$ can be tested using the likelihood ratio test

- Under the null hypothesis the test statistic follows an F-distribution with N degrees of freedom

6.3 Estimation of Risk Premium and Expected Returns

- Recall that the expected return in the multifactor model is given by:

$$\mu = \lambda \alpha_0 + B \alpha_f$$

- To estimate it, we need to obtain measures of λ , α , and B