

# **SmartBetas Code Documentation**

***Release 0.1***

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April 28, 2019



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## SmartBetas Investing

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`__main__` is initiating the application and starting the console.

The module checks if the required library is installed on the host and if the host is connected to the internet. If the tests succeed, it starts the user interface console.

The program is built on a database, the communications between the program and the db is managed by pydal (Python Database Abstraction Layer). `__main__` checks if *pydal* is installed on the host; if not, the program outputs a message and closes.

The module will also check if the host is connected to the internet, this is required because the data used to compute portfolios is pulled from an API. If the host is not connected to the internet the program will close.

The connectivity test is performed by trying to open a socket on google's TCP port 80.

This module also clears the console of whatever was currently displayed on it prior starting the console.



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## Database Layer

---

`__db__` is used to handle the database in which the application is storing operations, tickers, portfolios and reports.

The layer to manage the database is provided by *pyDal*, this is an open source python package acting as an abstraction layer between an application and a database.

*pyDal* can handle multiple types of database, in this case since there will not be intensive database operations we use `sqlite3`.

When imported the module is checking if the *db* folder (located at the same level than the application folder) is present. The folder is created if not found.

The database is then initialize with the following statement:

```
folder = os.getcwd()+('/db' if os.name != 'nt' else '\\db')
db = DAL('sqlite://storage.sqlite', folder=folder, migrate_enabled=True)
```

Where *folder* is the database location and *migrate\_enabled* indicates to *pyDal* than it should not assume that the tables exists, but rather check and compare against the *define\_table* statements.

For this project we defined the following tables:

**Investments** - *investments*: Contains the investments made by the user, each entry features a *date*, a *name* a volatility based portfolio *vol*, a momentum based portfolio *cmr*, a composite based portfolio *cmp* and a register containing the prices of all the securities listed in each portfolio (the portfolios and the price register are stored in *json*).

**Portfolios** - *portfolios*: Contains the computed and ranked portfolios that the user chose to save after computing. Each entry features a *date*, a *name* a volatility based portfolio *vol*, a momentum based portfolio *cmr*, a composite based portfolio *cmp* and a register containing the prices of all the securities listed in each portfolio (the portfolios and the price register are stored in *json*).

**Symbols** - *symbols*: Contains the tickers and their corresponding names, each entry features a ticker *ticker* and a name *name*.

**Checks** - *checks*: Contains the reports of comparisons of portfolios (old vs now) generated by users and saved in the database for future usage. Each entry features a name *name*, a volatility based portfolio *vol*, a momentum based portfolio *cmr*, a composite based portfolio *cmp* and date *date*. (the portfolios are stored in *json*).

The *json* structure for *checks* table is as follow:

```
{
  "ACB": {
    "abs": -109.92,
    "date": "2019-04-22 16:57:42",
    "new": 9.04,
    "old": 9.1,
    "qty": 1832,
    "rel": -0.66
```

```
{,
  "AMD": {
    "abs": -30.81,
    "date": "2019-04-22 16:57:42",
    "new": 27.88,
    "old": 27.9316,
    "qty": 597,
    "rel": -0.18
  },
  ...
}
```



---

## Tickers Management

---

`__tickers__` is handling operations related to tickers passed to the application by the user.

The input of all the operations are dictated by the tickers provided by the user, this module is used to check the files provided by users and to write data into the database.

`tickers.save ( ticks )`

Saves the ticker's name into the database and into the global ticker list.

**Parameters:**

- `ticks` : list of tickers string

The function will check for each ticker if an entry already exists in the database, if not, it will attempt to fetch the name from a web API.

If the fetch is successful, its result is written into the database to save time next time this ticker is used.

The function also sets the global `TICKERS` and `NAMES` list with the tickers and their corresponding names.

When a ticker can not be identified on the web API, it is discarded and stored in a list.

Returns a list containing tickers that caused errors.

`tickers.save_portfolio ( vol, cmr, cmp, prices, name )`

Writes the computed portfolios into the database.

**Parameters:**

- `vol` : dict volatility portfolio.
- `cmr` : dict momentum portfolio.
- `cmp` : dict composite portfolio.
- `prices` : dict price register.
- `name` : string name of the portfolio.

Saves into the database the items passed as argument.

Returns `True` if it succeeded.

`tickers.validate ( raw )`

Checks the content of the data provided by the user.

The user provides tickers to the application by writing them into a file that is loaded through the console interface with the `<load>` command.

We expect the file to be filled with coma separated tickers string.

It is necessary to check that the syntax of the file is correct prior passing this data further into the application to avoid errors.

**Parameters:**

- `raw` : string content of the user provided file.

The function strips the raw data from spaces, carrier returns and split the content around comas. It will also check if there was a trailing coma or if the user mistakenly put two comas instead of one.

Returns a `list` of sanitized tickers

---

## API Management

---

`__api__` handles communications between the host and the web APIs.

A web API is an Application Programming Interface for a web server or a web browser. On the server side, it consists of one or more publicly exposed endpoints accessible through *http* requests. The content is typically expressed in JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) or XML (eXtensible Markup Language).

`__smartbetas__` relies on two APIs. One is used to convert tickers to company names (As example: AAPL -> Apple Inc), the second one is used to get information about a security (daily open, daily high, daily low, daily close and daily volume).

The ticker API is totally free and open source, it is maintained by a single contributor ([Kambala Yashwanth](#)), this API simply takes a ticker as input and returns the name of the equity if found.

(Alpha Vantage) provides the stock data API. This is not a free service, however they offer a free limited access to their data. The following constraints are applicable when using a free account:

- 5 API requests per minute
- 500 API requests per day

Note that Alpha Vantage requires free users to register to get an API key. The key is stored in `__gbl__`.

`api.symbol ( tick )`

Determines the name of a security based on a ticker.

**Parameters:**

- `tick: string` security ticker.

Constructs the request URL with the ticker passed as argument then makes the request and parses the data received from the API.

Data sample from the API: `[{"symbol": "AAPL", "name": "Apple Inc."}]`

This function is always called before the software tries to obtain stock data about a security, therefore it filters wrong/bad tickers provided by the user.

Returns a `string` containing the name of the security OR `None` if the API failed to return data for the ticker.

`api.tsd ( tick )`

Fetches a security daily data from 20 years ago till now.

**Parameters:**

- `tick: string` security ticker.

The function makes the API call and parses the JSON, then to assert that data was indeed returned, it checks the length of the data: `- l=2` : Data returned - `l<2` : No data returned

If no data is returned, the function assumes that the maximum amount of calls per minute is

reached; it will wait for 15 seconds and retry if it fails again it will wait again etc.. till data is returned.

Note: The function can not handle the maximum amount of requests, if it is the case, it will loop forever.

Data sample:

```
{
  "Meta Data": {
    "1. Information": "Daily Prices (open, high, low, close) Volumes",
    "2. Symbol": "AAPL",
    "3. Last Refreshed": "2019-04-26",
    "4. Output Size": "Full size",
    "5. Time Zone": "US/Eastern"
  },
  "Time Series (Daily)": {
    "2019-04-26": {
      "1. open": "204.9000",
      "2. high": "205.0000",
      "3. low": "202.1200",
      "4. close": "204.3000",
      "5. volume": "18611948"
    },
    ...
  }
}
```

Once the data was obtained, the function will create a list of tuple containing in each position a datetime object and the closing price of the security. (List starts with the date closest to now)

List sample: [(datetime.datetime(2019, 4, 18, 0, 0), 203.86)]

Returns a list of tuple with date and closing price.

---

## Computing results

---

`__compute__` is used to compute volatility, momentum and composite based portfolio.

This module gets from the stock data API the security closing value and computes for each security the volatility and the momentum.

Based on the security ranking it also computes a composite portfolio.

To expedite things, this module uses python's *concurrent.futures* to fetch data from the API in a parallel fashion. This is done to save time as *HTTP* requests take time no matter how powerful the host running the code is.

`compute.compute ( tick )`

Returns the volatility, momentum and price of a ticker.

This function gets the tickers data with the `api.tsd()`, the volatility with `volatility.volatility()` and the momentum with the module `cumulative.ret()`.

These function calls are segregated into this function to enable parallel processing.

Returns a list containing the volatility, the momentum and the price of a ticker.

`compute.smartbetas ( tickers )`

Builds three portfolios based on volatility, momentum and a composite score.

Parameters:

- `tickers`: list of tickers to compute

Uses `ProcessPoolExecutor` to perform for each ticker the following tasks in parallel (using the function `compute.compute()`):

- Get data from the web API - `api.tsd()`
- Compute volatility - `volatility.volatility()`
- Compute momentum - `cumulative.ret()`

The output of the parallel processing is stored in a list containing for each ticker a list of tuples.

Sample:

```
[('t1', volatility), ('t1', momentum), ('t1', price)],
 [('t2', vol), ('t2', vol), ('t2', vol)]
```

The volatility portfolio is built by sorting the list in an ascending fashion and extracting only the tickers and their volatility.

The momentum portfolio is built by sorting the list in a descending fashion and extracting the tickers and their momentum.

The prices are also extracted to allow for future comparisons against the market prices.

The composite portfolio is computed with `composite.composite()`.

The results are stored in the global variables.

Returns nothing

## 5.1 Volatility

`__volatility__` is used to compute the volatility of a security.

In this application, momentum is considered on a period between two years ago and now.

To calculate the volatility, a standard deviation needs to be performed. To do so we use the standard python's statistics package.

`volatility.volatility ( data )`

Computes the volatility of a security.

Parameters:

- `data`: list of tuples

Note: The function argument is built by `api.tsd()`, it is structured as follow:  
`[(datetime.datetime(2019, 4, 18, 0, 0), 203.86)]`.

The function uses `__datetime__` to determine the dates between which the volatility shall be calculated. A new list containing only the values to consider (the ones within the right time frame). The constructed list is then passed to `statistics.stdev` to compute the deviation.

Returns a the volatility of the security (float)

## 5.2 Momentum

`__cumulative__` is used to compute cumulative returns; also known as momentum.

In this application, momentum is considered as the returns on a period between 12 months ago and 2 months ago.

All the date and time operations are handled with python's standard `datetime` module.

`cumulative.momentum ( vector )`

Computes the momentum of a vector.

Parameters:

- `vector`: list of floats

The function computes the returns of the data passed as argument:

- $\text{momentum} = 100 * (\text{new} - \text{old}) / \text{old}$

Returns the momentum of the vector (float)

`cumulative.ret ( data )`

Computes the cumulative returns (momentum) of a security.

Parameters:

- `data`: list of tuples

Note: The function argument is built by `api.tsd()`, it is structured as follow:  
`[(datetime.datetime(2019, 4, 18, 0, 0), 203.86)]`.

The function uses `__datetime__` to determine the dates between which the momentum shall be calculated. A new list containing only the values to consider (the ones within the right time frame) is built and passed to `cumulative.momentum()`.

Returns a the momentum of the security (float)

## 5.3 Composite

`__composite__` is used to determine a composite portfolio.

In this application we define a composite portfolio as a portfolio based on the ranking of a security in the volatility portfolio and in the momentum portfolio.

The score of security is the sum of its index (position) in the two other portfolio. The securities are then sorted in an ascending fasion.

`composite.composite ( vol, cmr )`

Ranks securities in a composite fashion.

**Parameters:**

- *vol*:dict volatility portfolio.
- *cmr*:dict momentum portfolio.

Note: at this point, the two portfolios have the same tickers, only their ranking varies.

The function builds a `dict` with the tickers and set their score to zero; sample `{'ticker': 0}`. Then it adds to the ticker score their index in volatility and momentum portfolio.

**To rank the tickers, the dict is transformed into a tuple,**

sorted and transformed back into a `dict`.

Returns a `dict` containing tickers and their score.





---

## Investing

---

`__money__` is handle investments in the computed portfolios.

In the application, when a user requested to compute portfolios based on the tickers he provided, he can choose to invest money in the portfolios to be able to check them later on.

For now one can only invest 100'000 USD in each portfolio with a reparation of  $1/n$  where  $n$  is the amount of tickers in a portfolio.

```
money.invest ( p_size, p_vol, p_cmr, p_cmp, prices, s_name, stack=100000 )
```

Invests 100'000 USD in each computed portfolio.

**Parameters:**

- `p_size` : `int` amount of tickers per portfolio.
- `p_vol` : `dict` volatility portfolio.
- `p_cmr` : `dict` momentum portfolio.
- `p_cmp` : `dict` composite portfolio.
- `prices` : `dict` price register.
- `s_name` : `string` name of the investment.
- `stack` : `int` defaults to 100000, money to invest.

For each portfolio, the function determines to max amount of shares that can be purchased and builds a `dict` of tickers and quantity of shares.

The function then stores the outcomes into the database, the prices of the securities are also stored for future usage.

Returns nothing.



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## User Interface

---

`console` is used to have a neat console interface.

The user interface is built on top of python's standard `cmd` module.

The console interface inherits pretty much everything from the standard `cmd class`. The following parameters are modified:

- `intro` : 'Smart Betas Investing - Requires an internet connection'
- `prompt` : (beta)

A new parameter is introduced:

- `'out'` : '->', this string preceeds outputs on the console

```
class console.betacmd ( completekey='tab', stdin=None, stdout=None )
```

```
    do_bye ( arg )
```

```
        Terminates the program.
        usage: bye
```

```
    do_check ( arg )
```

```
        Generate a short report detailling returns for an investment
        usage: check
```

```
    do_compute ( arg )
```

```
        Computes tickers in the pipe into a portfolio
        usage: compute
```

```
    do_invest ( arg )
```

```
        Invest 100'000 USD into each of the calculated portfolio.
        usage: invest
```

```
    do_load ( arg )
```

```
        Loads a file containing tickers
        usage: load <FILENAME>
        Tickers in the file should be coma separated.
```

```
    do_portfolios ( arg )
```

```
        Displays stored portfolios
        Users can select a portfolio, view its securities and/or invest in it.
        usage: portfolios
```

```
    do_report ( arg )
```

```
        Displays previously generated reports
```

usage: report

**do\_show** ( *arg* )

Displays information to the user.

tickers: shows the list of tickers loaded to build a portfolio.

portfolio: shows the session portfolio (after <compute>)

invest: shows the investment sessions performed by the user.

usage: show <tickers/portfolio/invest>

**do\_symbols** ( *arg* )

Display tickers stored in the database

usage: symbols

**emptyline** ( )

Called when an empty line is entered in response to the prompt.

If this method is not overridden, it repeats the last nonempty command entered.

---

## Checking Out Results

---

`__check__` is used to determine the returns of an investment.

This module fetches from the stock data API today's securities values and compares them with the data from a previous investment session stored in the database. (API data provided through `api.tsd()`)

To expedite things, this module uses python's `concurrent.futures` to fetch data from the API in a parallel fashion. This is done to save time as *HTTP* requests take time no matter how powerful the host running the code is.

`check.get_price ( tick )`

Gets the current price of a security.

**Parameters:**

- `tick`: string security ticker

Fetches the latest price of the ticker from the stock api. The result is stored in a tuple : ``('ticker', 149)`

Returns a tuple containing the ticker and its latest price.

`check.returns ( inv, pfl, prices )`

Computes the return of a portfolio.

**Parameters:**

- `inv` : list past investment session row from the db
- `pfl` : string name of the portfolio
- `prices` : dict latest investment's ticker prices

Computes the absolute change and the returns for each ticker in the portfolio. These values are calculated as follow:

- Absolute change :  $(qty\ new) - (qty\ *\ old)$  (*\*rounded at 2 digits*)
- Returns :  $[(new-old)/old*100]$  (*rounded at 2 digits*)

The total absolute change and return is handled by `check.t_returns()`.

Returns a dict containing for each ticker the initial price, the new price, the absolute change, the returns, the quantity of shares and the date of the purchase.

`check.sessions ( id )`

Determines returns of an investment session.

**Parameters:**

- `id`: integer investment session database id.

Uses `ProcessPoolExecutor` to request in parallel the latest prices of each tickers using

`check.get_price()` and stores the results in a dict : {'ticker1': 100, 'ticker2': 200}.

The returns of the portfolios are calculated by `check.returns()`.

Once the returns are calculated, the results are saved in the database, this is to allow users to consults the results later on without having the re-compute the returns or query any data from the API.

**Returns:**

- `r_vol` : dict Returns of the volatility portfolio.
- `r_cmr` : dict Returns of the momentum portfolio.
- `r_cmp` : dict Returns of the composite portfolio.
- `inv['name']` : string investment session name.

`check.t_returns ( inv, pfl, prices, date )`

Computes the total return of a portfolio.

Parameters:

- `inv` : list past investment session row from the db
- `pfl` : string name of the portfolio
- `prices` : dict latest investment's ticker prices
- `date` : string date of the purchase

Computes the sum of the initial portfolio value and the sum of the current portfolio value. Based on the sums, it computes the absolute change and the returns using the same formula as in `check.returns()`.

Returns a dict containing the total initial price, the new price, the absolute change, the returns and the date of the purchase.

---

## Input / Outputs

---

`__i_o__` is handle inputs and outputs generated from the console by the user.

`i_o.investment ( qty )`

Prompts instructions to guide a user to invest 100'000 USD into a portfolio.

```
(beta): invest
Invest 100'000 USD in each portefolio (y/n): y
Invest in the [x] top securities (1): 1
Name of the investment : Glorious Investment
```

Returns nothing.

`i_o.portfolio ( vol, cmr, cmp, prices )`

Displays a computed portfolio.

```
-----
| Pos |      Volatility      |      Momentum      |      Composite      |
-----
|  1  | AAPL      21.98      | AAPL      5.88 %    | AAPL      204.3 $    |
|  2  | TSLA      29.98      | TSLA      0.3 %     | TSLA      235.14 $   |
-----
```

Returns nothing.

`i_o.portfolios ( p_flo )`

Displays a table listing all the saved portfolios.

```
-----
| id | Date   | Name           | Tickers              |
-----
|  1  | 2019-04-23 | Apple Test    | AAPL                 |
|  2  | 2019-04-23 | Test Apple    | AAPL                 |
|  3  | 2019-04-23 | Test          | AAPL                 |
|  4  | 2019-04-23 | 14 Tickers ftw | AMD, ACB, GWW, GOOGL... |
|  5  | 2019-04-27 | Apple Only     | AAPL                 |
|  6  | 2019-04-27 | Apple Tesla    | AAPL, TSLA...        |
-----
```

Returns nothing.

`i_o.reports ( rep )`

Displays a listing all the previously saved reports.

```
-----
| Pos | Id  | Date           | Name                  |
-----
|  1  |  1  | 2019-04-26     | 6 Big Stuffs         |
|  2  |  2  | 2019-04-27     | 6 Big Stuffs         |
-----
```

	3		3		2019-04-27		Test	
	4		4		2019-04-27		6 Big Stuffs	
	5		5		2019-04-28		One One	
-----								

Returns nothing.

`i_o.returns (vol, cmr, cmp, name)`

Displays a report with the returns for each portfolio.

One One - Report							
Volatility Based Portfolio							
Ticker	N Shares	Purchase Date	Initial	Current	Abs Change	Returns	
MBRX	12270	2019-04-27	1.63 \$	1.42 \$	-2576.7 \$	-12.88 %	
RAD	1992	2019-04-27	10.0401 \$	9.08 \$	-1912.52 \$	-9.56 %	
KEYW	1784	2019-04-27	11.21 \$	11.3 \$	160.56 \$	0.8 %	
ACB	2212	2019-04-27	9.0396 \$	9.04 \$	0.88 \$	0.0 %	
STLD	609	2019-04-27	32.86 \$	31.58 \$	-779.52 \$	-3.9 %	
Total	NA	2019-04-27	100006.0 \$	94898.7 \$	-5107.3 \$	-5.11 %	
Momentum Based Portfolio							
Ticker	N Shares	Purchase Date	Initial	Current	Abs Change	Returns	
AMD	717	2019-04-27	27.89 \$	27.88 \$	-7.17 \$	-0.04 %	
ACB	2212	2019-04-27	9.0396 \$	9.04 \$	0.88 \$	0.0 %	
GWV	69	2019-04-27	291.015 \$	291.91 \$	61.76 \$	0.31 %	
GOOGL	16	2019-04-27	1264.28 \$	1277.42 \$	210.24 \$	1.04 %	
BABA	107	2019-04-27	186.7425 \$	187.09 \$	37.18 \$	0.19 %	
Total	NA	2019-04-27	100282.7 \$	100585.6 \$	302.9 \$	0.3 %	
Composite Based Portfolio							
Ticker	N Shares	Purchase Date	Initial	Current	Abs Change	Returns	
ACB	2212	2019-04-27	9.0396 \$	9.04 \$	0.88 \$	0.0 %	
AMD	717	2019-04-27	27.89 \$	27.88 \$	-7.17 \$	-0.04 %	
MBRX	12270	2019-04-27	1.63 \$	1.42 \$	-2576.7 \$	-12.88 %	
KEYW	1784	2019-04-27	11.21 \$	11.3 \$	160.56 \$	0.8 %	
BABA	107	2019-04-27	186.7425 \$	187.09 \$	37.18 \$	0.19 %	



Total	NA	2019-04-27	99972.9 \$	97587.7 \$	-2385.2 \$	-2.39 %
-------	----	------------	------------	------------	------------	---------

Returns nothing.

`i_o.sessions (inv)`

Displays a table listing all the investments made by the user.

Pos	Id	Date	Name
1	1	2019-04-22 16:57:42	6 Big Stuffs
2	2	2019-04-27 13:59:42	Test
3	3	2019-04-27 14:05:07	One One
4	4	2019-04-28 12:31:58	Glorious Investment
5	5	2019-04-28 12:32:38	Glorious Investment

Returns nothing.

`i_o.tickers (row)`

Lists all the tickers and names saved in the database.

```
(beta): symbols
--> 0: AAPL - Apple Inc.
--> 1: TSLA - Tesla Inc.
--> 2: GOOGL - Alphabet Inc.
--> 3: BABA - Alibaba Group Holding Limited
--> 4: GWW - W.W. Grainger Inc.
--> 5: CVX - Chevron Corporation
--> 6: HAL - Bank Nova Scotia Halifax Pfd 3
--> 7: RAD - Credit Suisse X-Links Monthly Pay 2xLeveraged Alerian MLP
Index Exchange Traded Notes due May 16 2036
--> 8: MBRX - Moleculin Biotech Inc.
--> 9: KEYW - The KEYW Holding Corporation
--> 10: BBY - Bed Bath & Beyond Inc.
--> 11: AMD - Advanced Micro Devices Inc.
--> 12: STLD - Steel Dynamics Inc.
--> 13: ACB - Aurora Cannabis Inc.
--> 14: ATHEN - Athene Holding Ltd. Class A
```

Returns nothing.



---

## Global Variables

---

`__gbl__` is used to list/access/set variables with a global scope.

In this application we need to make some chunks of data available for multiple modules, for this reason we use variables of a global scope. For the sake of clarity, they are declared on a module dedicated to that.

**The following global variables are declared:**

- *TICKERS* : list storing tickers to compute
- *NAMES* : list storing *TICKERS*'s name
- *P\_VOL* : dict storing the volatility portfolio
- *P\_CMR* : dict storing the momentum portfolio
- *P\_CMP* : dict storing the composite portfolio
- *PRICES* : dict storing the prices register
- *API\_KEY* : string storing the API key
- *API\_URL* : string storing the API URL



---

## Test Modules

---

`__test_cumulative__` tests the function that computes the volatility of a vector in `volatility.volatility()`

This module can be executed with `python test_volatility.py`

```
class test_volatility.TestVolatility( methodName='runTest' )
```

`__test_cumulative__` tests the function that computes the momentum of a vector in `cumulative.momentum()`

This module can be executed with `python test_cumulative.py`

```
class test_cumulative.TestVolatility( methodName='runTest' )
```

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