

Evaluating historical performance

10/2/17

Overview

- To make investment decisions, our firm estimates future financial metrics for potential investment decisions
- We believe the data that we collect has predictive power on the efficacy of our investment decisions
- To validate our belief in the value of our proprietary data, I evaluated 5 years of historical stock price performance against several features

Data

- Internally generated data
 - Before making investments, we log our estimates for future financial performance
 - Portfolio holding information was sourced through an internal database
- Market data
 - Market pricing information was sourced through Yahoo

Price Target		Price Target Comments	% Δ Tgt.
U/S:	\$38.00	7x 2019 EBITDA	42.3%
D/S:	\$20.00	6x 2018 EBITDA	-25.1%
Risk Buckets			

Data form

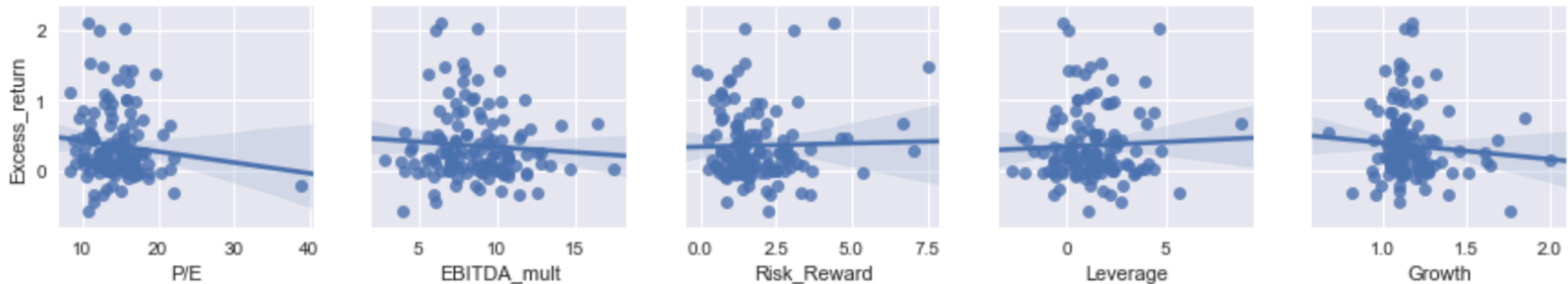
	Tickers	Excess_return	P/E	EBITDA_mult	Risk_Reward	Leverage	Growth
0	AAPL	0.497674	11.208226	5.627996	1.396586	-2.379201	1.106271
1	ABT	-0.041504	13.896665	8.048929	2.200000	-0.223479	1.108157
2	ADP	0.724053	17.830988	10.375587	0.649511	-0.647090	1.114339
3	AEO	-0.037771	12.145503	4.968321	2.000000	-1.223531	1.118048
4	AEP	0.287234	16.031957	8.572424	0.702611	3.510997	1.117882

- Integrating proprietary data, market data and targeting select features returned the following data set for 126 data points

Approach

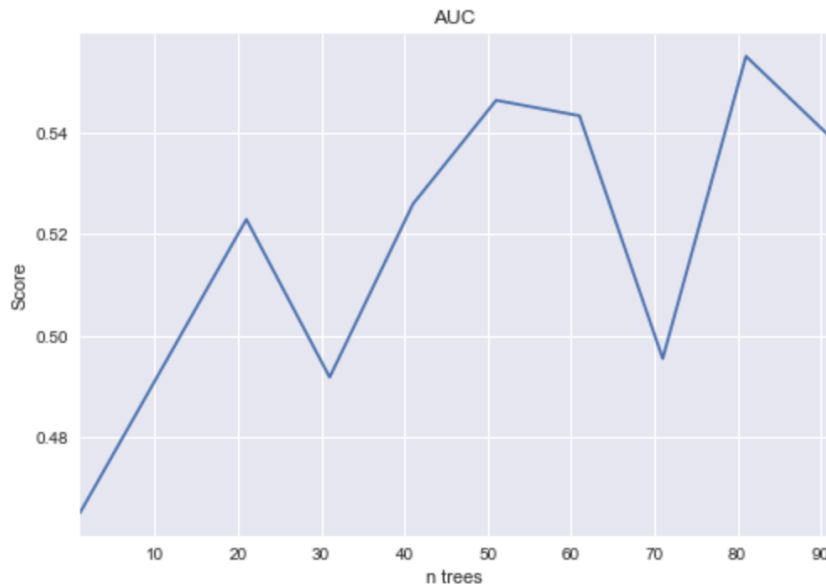
- Linear regression
 - Isolated financial variables that have expected predictive value
 - Performed multi-variable linear regression against variables
- Random forest
 - Applied random forest model
 - Determined importance of variables
 - Estimated AUC scores

Linear regression model was poor



- Regression lines do not show trends
- R^2 for multivariable model is very low at 0.027%

Random forest was little better



	Features	Importance Score
2	Risk_Reward	0.209297
0	P/E	0.206140
3	Leverage	0.204301
4	Growth	0.201093
1	EBITDA_mult	0.179169

- Area under the curve was little better than 0.50, or slightly better than chance

Conclusion

- Features derived from our internal data did not prove predictive of stock returns
- Additional data evaluation is necessary to improve feature predictiveness

"We have long felt that the only value of stock forecasters is to make fortune-tellers look good."

- Warren Buffett

Next steps

- Additional data / features
 - Source 3rd party financial data
 - Implement systematic feature selection
- Better models
 - Evaluated linear regression and random forest
 - Could attempt neural network model
- Integrating time into data evaluation
 - Exercise was static for a point in time
 - Potential to explore variables over time