



Unit 01

210.95

Single Index Model

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Overview

- Advantages of a single factor model
- Risk decomposition: systematic vs firm-specific
- Single index model and its estimation



Background

- Input list of the Markowitz Model
 - When analyzing 50 stocks for optimal portfolio choice, inputs are following
 - n = 50 estimates of expected returns $E(r_i)$'s
 - n = 50 estimates of variances, $Var(r_i)$'s
 - $(n^2 n)/2 = (50^2 50)/2 = 1,225$ estimates of covariances, $Cov(r_i, r_j), i \neq j$
 - This is a formidable task even with high computing power And imagine 4,000 stocks, and more...



Background

- Input list of the Markowitz Model
 - To reduce the number of inputs, we hypothetically decompose asset return into the expected and unexpected as follows $r_i = E(r_i)$ + unanticipated surprise
 - Unexpected component of the stock return can be attributed to 1 purely firm-specific, or 2. unexpected changes of economic conditions that affect the broad economy
 - We decompose the sources of return uncertainty into uncertainty about the economy as a whole, captured by a systematic market factor (call it, m), and uncertainty about the firm, which is captured by a firm-specific random variable (call it, e_i)



A Single Factor Model

Advantages

- Reduces the number of inputs for diversification
- Easier for security analysts to specialize

Model

$$r_i = E(r_i) + \beta_i m + e_i$$

$$\beta_i$$
 = sensitivity, m = market factor, e_i = firm-specific



Single Index Model

We need to specify m— it should be observable and estimable (we can estimate the mean, the volatility, and individual sensitivity to it)

Regression equation

$$R_i(t) = \alpha_i + \beta_i R_M(t) + e_i(t)$$
 , $\beta_i \equiv \frac{Cov(R_i, R_M)}{Var(R_M)}$, sensitivity

Expected return-beta relationship

$$E(R_i) = \alpha_i + \beta_i E(R_M)$$
, $since E(e_i) = 0$ (what does this mean?)

We also assume that $Cov(e_i, e_j) = 0$, for all i, j.



We need to specify m- it should be observable and estimable (we can estimate the mean, the volatility, and individual sensitivity to it)

Variance = Systematic Risk + Firm Specific Risk

$$\sigma_i^2 = \beta_i^2 \sigma_m^2 + \sigma(e_i)^2$$

Covariance = Product of Betas Market Risk

$$Cov(r_i, r_j) = Cov(\beta_i m + e_i, \beta_j m + e_j) = \beta_i \beta_j \sigma_m^2$$

Correlation

$$Corr(r_i, r_j) = \frac{\beta_i \beta_j \sigma_M^2}{\sigma_i \sigma_j} = \frac{\beta_i \sigma_M^2 \beta_j \sigma_M^2}{\sigma_i \sigma_M \sigma_j \sigma_M}$$
$$= Corr(r_i, r_M) \times Corr(r_j, r_M)$$



Diversification

Variance of the equally-weighted portfolio of firm-specific components

$$r_p = \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i r_i = \frac{1}{n} r_1 + \dots + \frac{1}{n} r_n$$

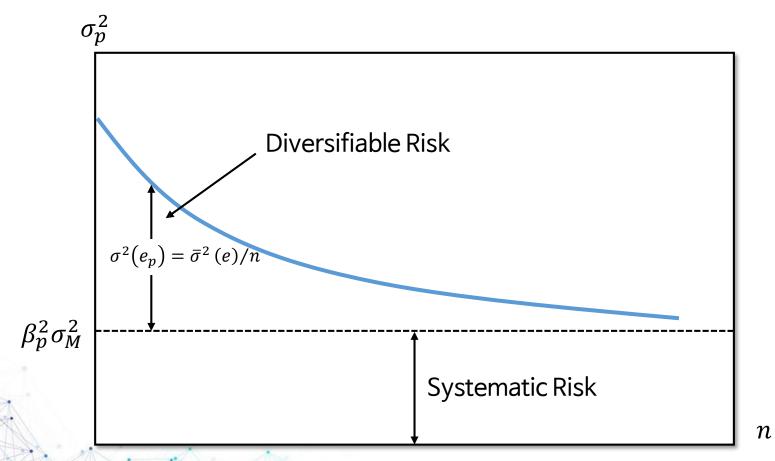
$$\sigma(e_p)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^2 \sigma(e_i)^2 = \frac{1}{n} \bar{\sigma}^2(e)$$

- When gets large, $\sigma^2(e_P) \to 0$: firm-specific risk gets diversified away!



Diversification

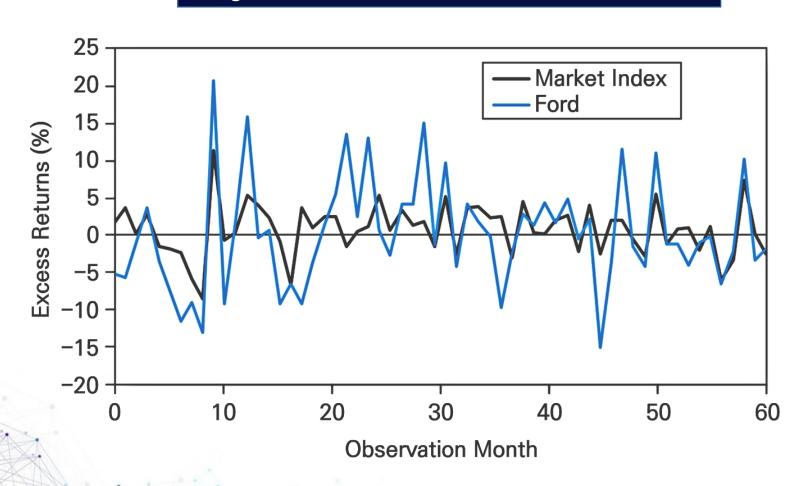
Figure : The variance of an equally weighted portfolio with risk coefficient β_p in the single-factor economy as a function of the number of firms included in the portfolio





Estimation of the Single Index Model – Ford Case

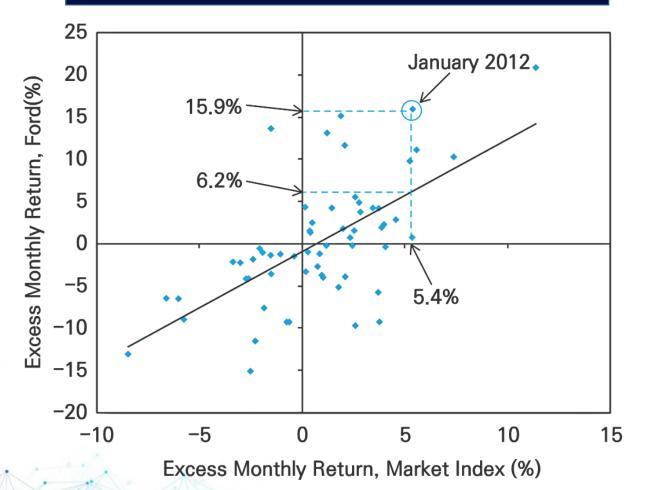
Figure: Excess returns on Ford and market index





Estimation of the Single Index Model – Ford Case

Figure: Scatter diagram for Ford against the market index and Ford's security characteristic line





Regression Equation

- - $R_i(t) \rightarrow$ excess return of security i
 - $\alpha_i \rightarrow$ expected excess return when the market excess return is zero
 - $\beta_i \rightarrow$ sensitivity of security i's return to changes in the return of the market
 - $R_{S\&P500}(t)$ \rightarrow expected excess return of the market
 - $e_i(t) \rightarrow \text{zero-mean}$, firm-specific surprise in security i's return in month t (the residual)



Regression Equation

• Excel output: Regression statistics for Ford's SCL

Regression Statistics				
Multiple <i>R</i>	0.6280	Explained Variation of the Return by the Model		
<i>R</i> -square	0.3943	$R^2 = \frac{\beta^2 \sigma_M^2}{2}$		
Adjusted <i>R</i> -square	0.3839	$R^2 = \frac{r}{\sigma^2}$		
Standard error	0.0577	Total Variation of the Return Data		
Observations	60			
	Coefficients	Standard Error	<i>t</i> -Stat	<i>p</i> −Value
Intercept	-0.0098	0.0077	-1.2767	0.2068
Market index	1.3258	0.2157	6.1451	0.0000

In a simple linear model, $R^2 = \rho_{i,M}^2$



- Interpretation
 - Correlation of Ford with the S&P 500 is 0.6280
 - The model explains about 38% of the variation in Ford
 - Ford's alpha is −0.98% per month, but not statistically significant
 - Ford's beta is 1.3258, but the 95% confidence interval is [0.90, 1.75]



Exercise Problem 1

Suppose that the index model for stocks *A* and *B* is estimated from excess returns with the following results:

$$r_A = 3\% + 0.7r_M + e_{A},$$

 $r_B = -2\% + 1.2r_M + e_B,$
 $\sigma_M = 20\%, R_A^2 = 0.2, R_B^2 = 0.12.$

- 1) What is the standard deviation of each stock?
- 2) Break down the variance of each stock into its systematic and firm-specific components.
- 3) What are the covariance and the correlation coefficient between the two stocks?
- 4) What is the covariance between each stock and the market index?
- 5) For portfolio *P* with investment proportions of .60 in A and 40 in B, rework Problems 1), 2), and 4).
- 6) Rework Problem 5) for portfolio Q with investment proportions of .50 in P.30 in the market index, and .20 in T-bills