Machine Learning Optimization

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ABSTRACT: Convex optimization like Mean Variance Optimization solutions tend to be unstable, to the point of entirely offsetting the benefits of optimization. For example, in the context of financial applications, it is known that portfolios optimized in-sample often underperform the naïve (equal weights) allocation out-of-sample. This instability can be traced back to two sources: (i) noise in the input variables; and (ii) signal structure that magnifies the estimation errors in the input variables. A first innovation of this paper is to introduce the nested clustered optimization algorithm (NCO), a method that tackles both sources of instability.

Over the past 60 years, various approaches have been developed to address these two sources of instability. These approaches are flawed in the sense that different methods may be appropriate for different input variables, and it is unrealistic to expect that one method will dominate all the rest under all circumstances. Accordingly, a second innovation of this paper is to introduce MCOS, a Monte Carlo approach that estimates the allocation error produced by various optimization methods on a particular set of input variables. The result is a precise determination of what method is most robust to a particular case. Thus, rather than relying always on one

particular approach, MCOS allows users to apply opportunistically whatever optimization method is best suited in a particular setting.

We will compare all two tranditional methods of optimization, Black Litterman as maximum returns of a portfolio and Mean Variance Optimization with Machine Learning Optimization in this paper by optimizing 20 stocks in US market.

- 1. The goal: Build a portfolio from the US stock market, simulate a three-month short-term investment, and evaluate the actual return by comparing the two models, the mean variance model and the Black Litterman model. The training period will be from October 1, 2012 to September 24, 2018. The simulation period is from September 25, 2018 to September 24, 2019. Set the brand to 20.
- (1) As external information, it is first necessary to know the risk-free interest rate and market price. Measured using the 52 Week Treasury Bill as a risk-free interest rate.

```
In [1]: #Simulation period
    import datetime
    datetime.datetime(2018, 9, 24)-datetime.datetime(2012, 10, 1)

Out[1]: datetime.timedelta(days=2184)

In [2]: import datetime
    datetime.datetime(2019, 9, 24)-datetime.datetime(2018, 9, 25)

Out[2]: datetime.timedelta(days=364)
```

```
In [3]:
        import quandl
        quandl.ApiConfig.api key = 'DxKMsvF36hXo5BAMpeDK'
        Wk Bank Discount Rate 52=quandl.get("USTREASURY/BILLRATES",
                                  start date=datetime.datetime(2012, 10, 1),
                                  end date=datetime.datetime(2019, 9, 12))
In [4]: 2184/(52*7)
Out[4]: 6.0
In [5]: #Downloading bond price
        yield list=[]
        for i in range(6):
            yield list.append(Wk Bank Discount Rate 52[datetime.datetime(2012, 10, 1)+datetime.timedelta(days=364*i):]
                              ["52 Wk Bank Discount Rate"][01)
In [6]: yield list
Out[6]: [0.16, 0.09, 0.1, 0.32, 0.56, 1.27]
In [ ]:
```

Simulation period Yield from October 1, 2012 to September 12, 2019 $S = (1 + S0) \times (1 + S1) \times (1 + S2) \times (1 + S3) \times (1 + S4) \times (1 + S5) -1$

If you invest \$1 in the bond on October 1, 2012, you will have an asset of 1.025 on September 12, 2019. This is defined as a safe asset, and the interest rate of this safe asset is a risk-free interest rate.

```
In [9]: risk_free=S
In [10]: risk_free
Out[10]: 0.025209638953526792
In [11]: risk_free_annual=risk_free/6
In [12]: risk_free_annual
Out[12]: 0.004201606492254466
```

(3) Download the selected brand as Training Datasets

```
In [13]:
          import pandas datareader as pdr
          import numpy as np
          import pandas as pd
          from scipy import stats
          dateparse = lambda dates: pd.datetime.strptime(dates, '%Y-%m-%d')
          from matplotlib import pylab as plt
          import seaborn as sns
          %matplotlib inline
          from matplotlib.pylab import rcParams
          rcParams['figure.figsize'] = 15, 6
          data=pd.DataFrame([])
          name=["AAPL", "GOOGL", "MCD", "GM", "XOM", "BRK-A", "MSFT", "WFC", "AMZN", "FB", "JPM", "V",
                        "WMT", "MA", "PG", "BAC", "T", "INTC", "UNH", "DIS"]
          columns=["APPLE", "GOOGLE", "McDonalds", "GM", "XOM", "BRK", "MSFT", "WFC", "AMZN", "FB", "JPM", "VISA",
                        "WMT", "MA", "PG", "BAC", "ATT", "Intel", "UnitedHealth Group", "The Walt Disney"]
          for idx,stock in enumerate(name):
              names = pdr.get data yahoo(stock, start=datetime.datetime(2012, 10, 1),
                                     end=datetime.datetime(2018, 9, 24))
              j=columns[idx]
              data[j]=names["Adj Close"]
```

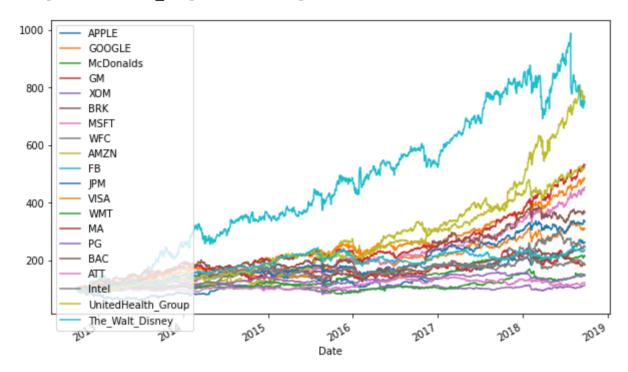
/usr/local/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/pandas_datareader/compat/__init__.py:7: FutureWarning: panda s.util.testing is deprecated. Use the functions in the public API at pandas.testing instead. from pandas.util.testing import assert_frame_equal

(4) Plot time series transition and rate of return

```
In [ ]:
```

```
In [23]: (data / data.iloc[0] * 100).plot(figsize=(10, 6))
```

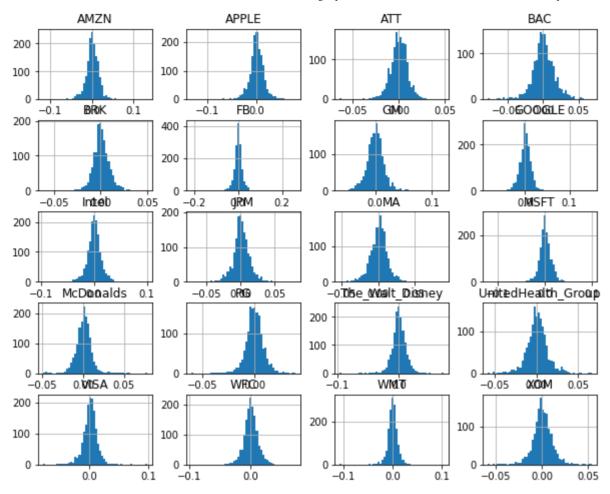
Out[23]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7faced449d50>



Out[24]:

	APPLE	GOOGLE	McDonalds	GM	XOM	BRK	MSFT	WFC	AMZN	FB	JPM	VISA	WMT	
Date														
2012- 10-01	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	_
2012- 10-02	0.002908	-0.006308	-0.011590	0.025231	-0.000872	0.001705	0.005748	0.003452	-0.005611	0.012653	-0.001221	-0.005354	-0.004060	С
2012- 10-03	0.015217	0.007252	-0.006399	0.029542	-0.000218	0.006270	0.006721	0.017649	0.021007	-0.019955	0.005891	0.018360	0.006083	С
2012- 10-04	-0.006950	0.007252	0.007498	0.010604	0.005655	0.009029	0.005677	0.014844	0.017623	0.005482	0.023223	0.008268	0.006983	С
2012- 10-05	-0.021541	-0.000521	-0.000330	0.006067	0.003572	0.002023	-0.006012	-0.003621	-0.007553	-0.048540	-0.002634	0.004215	0.005472	С

```
log returns.hist(bins=50, figsize=(10, 8))
In [251:
Out[25]: array([[<matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7faced70eb90>,
                 <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7faced726150>,
                 <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7faceclef790>,
                 <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7facec225d50>],
                 [<matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7facec268410>,
                 <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7faced741a90>,
                 <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7faced783150>,
                 <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7faced7ba7d0>],
                 [<matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7faced7c2a50>,
                 <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7facee015250>,
                 <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7facee077a50>,
                 <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7facee0bal10>],
                 [<matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7facee0ef790>,
                 <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7facee126e10>,
                 <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7facee1674d0>,
                 <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7facee19cb50>],
                 [<matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7faceele0210>,
                 <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7facee216890>,
                 <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7facee24cf10>,
                 <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x7facee28f5d0>]],
               dtype=object)
```



2, mean variance model

(1) Model optimization

```
In [26]: from pypfopt.efficient frontier import EfficientFrontier
         from pypfopt import risk models
         from pypfopt import expected returns
         mu = expected returns.mean historical return(data)
         S = risk models.sample cov(data, frequency=252)
         #mean variance model optimization
         EF min = EfficientFrontier(mu, S)
         EF min.min volatility()
         #portfolio performance
         EF min.portfolio performance(verbose=True)
         Expected annual return: 11.6%
         Annual volatility: 10.6%
         Sharpe Ratio: 0.90
Out[26]: (0.1155764576157817, 0.10646529100156261, 0.8977241006590485)
 In [ ]:
 In [ ]:
In [27]: #CAPM optimization
         #Enter non-risky asset
         EF = EfficientFrontier(mu, S)
         weights = EF.max sharpe(risk free rate=risk free annual)
         #Portfolio ratio
         EF.portfolio performance(verbose=True)
         Expected annual return: 31.3%
         Annual volatility: 16.0%
         Sharpe Ratio: 1.83
Out[27]: (0.31330291556754775, 0.16004365290494513, 1.832643221045132)
```

```
#Weights in each stock
In [28]:
         EF.clean weights()
Out[28]: OrderedDict([('APPLE', 0.0),
                       ('GOOGLE', 0.0),
                       ('McDonalds', 0.02215),
                       ('GM', 0.0),
                       ('XOM', 0.0),
                       ('BRK', 0.0),
                       ('MSFT', 0.09304),
                       ('WFC', 0.0),
                       ('AMZN', 0.13933),
                       ('FB', 0.10216),
                       ('JPM', 0.0),
                       ('VISA', 0.10452),
                       ('WMT', 0.0),
                       ('MA', 0.16295),
                       ('PG', 0.0),
                       ('BAC', 0.0),
                       ('ATT', 0.0),
                       ('Intel', 0.0),
                       ('UnitedHealth Group', 0.37584),
                       ('The Walt_Disney', 0.0)])
In [ ]:
```

(2) Download the data of each stock from September 13, 2019 to December 13, 2019 will be collected for simulation.

(3) If managed from September 13, 2019 to December 13, 2019, the average return of the portfolio will be

R = 1r1 + w2r2 + ... + wn * rn

ri = Return of individual stock

wi = weight of individual stock

R = average revenue of the portfolio

```
In [ ]:
In [30]: Mean_variance_return=np.sum(np.array(EF.weights)*np.array(expected_returns.mean_historical_return(data2, frequent
In [31]: Mean_variance_return
Out[31]: 0.052360018732317506
```

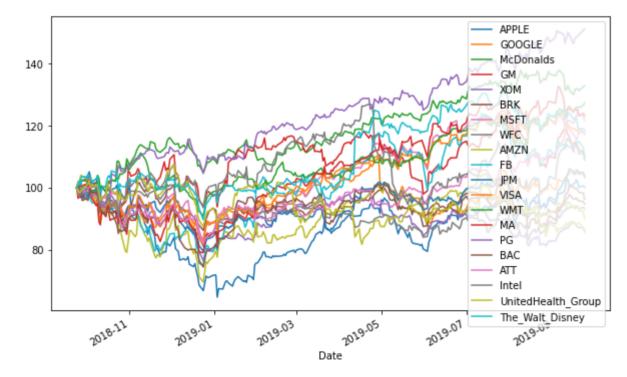
(4) Volatility of the mean variance model portfolio

3. Black - Litterman model

(1) For the simulation period, calculate the return of each issue from September 13, 2019 to December 13, 2019

```
In [34]: (data2 / data2.iloc[0] * 100).plot(figsize=(10, 6))
```

Out[34]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7facef902450>



```
expected returns.mean historical return(data2, frequency=252)
In [351:
Out[35]: APPLE
                                 0.052789
         GOOGLE
                                 0.073778
         McDonalds
                                 0.299691
         GM
                                 0.137557
         MOX
                                -0.132187
          BRK
                                -0.035906
         MSFT
                                 0.232971
         WFC
                                -0.047611
         AMZN
                                -0.043119
         FΒ
                                 0.147280
         JPM
                                 0.057230
         VISA
                                 0.194010
         WMT
                                 0.258941
         MA
                                 0.250547
         PG
                                 0.434399
         BAC
                                -0.003515
         ATT
                                 0.183480
         Intel
                                 0.134533
         UnitedHealth Group
                                -0.122655
         The Walt Disney
                                 0.199716
         dtype: float64
```

(3) Setting critic reviews for each brand

Referring to the above figures and data supposed that I could correctly predict the future returns after three months, by exactly same as the actual returns above.

```
In [310]: from pypfopt.black_litterman import BlackLittermanModel
S = risk_models.sample_cov(data)
viewdict = expected_returns.mean_historical_return(data2, frequency=252)
```

```
In [311]: bl = BlackLittermanModel(S, absolute_views=viewdict)
    rets = bl.bl_returns()
```

/usr/local/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/pypfopt/black_litterman.py:252: UserWarning: Running Black-Litterman with no prior.

warnings.warn("Running Black-Litterman with no prior.")

(4) Calculate the return of each brand

```
In [312]:
          rets
Out[312]: APPLE
                                  0.083648
          GOOGLE
                                  0.096565
          McDonalds
                                  0.177183
          GM
                                  0.102974
          MOX
                                  0.006427
          BRK
                                  0.047350
                                  0.160205
          MSFT
          WFC
                                  0.020119
          AMZN
                                  0.059489
          FB
                                  0.108543
          JPM
                                  0.045620
          VISA
                                  0.154352
          WMT
                                  0.178605
                                  0.159932
          MA
          PG
                                  0.228743
          BAC
                                  0.011720
          ATT
                                  0.131412
          Intel
                                  0.117798
          UnitedHealth Group
                                 -0.000242
          The_Walt_Disney
                                  0.129512
          dtype: float64
 In [ ]:
```

(5) Introduce SP500 as market price

(6) The study period will be from October 1, 2012 to September 12, 2019.

```
In [318]: weights
Out[318]: OrderedDict([('APPLE', -0.04278),
                        ('GOOGLE', -0.03735),
                        ('McDonalds', 0.42499),
                        ('GM', 0.0444),
                        ('XOM', -0.3792),
                        ('BRK', -0.32059),
                        ('MSFT', 0.11836),
                        ('WFC', -0.15168),
                        ('AMZN', -0.10267),
                        ('FB', 0.0267),
                        ('JPM', 0.02304),
                        ('VISA', 0.08153),
                        ('WMT', 0.20143),
                        ('MA', 0.18465),
                        ('PG', 0.84262),
                        ('BAC', -0.01968),
                        ('ATT', 0.16188),
                        ('Intel', 0.02564),
                        ('UnitedHealth Group', -0.25202),
                        ('The Walt Disney', 0.17074)])
In [319]: sum(weights.values())
Out[319]: 1.00001
 In [ ]:
```

(7) If managed from September 13, 2019 to December 13, 2019, the average return of the portfolio will be

R = 1r1 + w2r2 + ... + wn * rn

ri = Return of individual stock

wi = weight of individual stock

R = average revenue of the portfolio

```
In [320]: BL_return=np.sum(np.array(bl.weights)*np.array(expected_returns.mean_historical_return(data2, frequency=252)))
In [321]: BL_return
Out[321]: 0.8130689012674709
```

(8) Portfolio volatility

4. Machine Learning Optimization, Nested Clustered Optimization algorithm(NCO), Convex Optimization Solution(CVO) and Monte Carlo approach(MCOS)

(1) Calculate the Return of Data

```
In [323]: data_return=data.pct_change().fillna(0)
```

(2)Optimization of NCO & CVO

```
In [387]: import pandas as pd
          from mlfinlab.portfolio optimization import NCO
          max num clusters = 19
          # Import dataframe of returns for assets in a portfolio
          # Calculate empirical covariance of assets
          assets cov = np.array(data return.cov())
          # Calculate empirical means of assets
          assets mean = np.array(data return.mean()).reshape(-1, 1)
          # Class that contains needed functions
          nco = NCO()
          # Find optimal weights using the NCO algorithm
          w nco = nco.allocate nco(assets cov, assets mean, max num clusters)
          # Find optimal weights using the CVO algorithm
          w cvo = nco.allocate cvo(assets cov, assets mean)
          # Compare the NCO solutions to the CVO ones using MCOS
          # Parameters are: 10 simulations, 100 observations in a simulation
          # goal of minimum variance, no LW shrinkage
```

```
In [ ]:
```

```
In [388]: w nco/sum(w nco)
Out[388]: array([[ 0.03519888],
                  [-0.02932606],
                  [ 0.11614586],
                  [-0.02749567]
                  [-0.1056953]
                  [ 0.04811056],
                  [ 0.05864416],
                  [-0.10869697],
                  [ 0.071867 ],
                  [ 0.07736821],
                  [ 0.02657243],
                  [ 0.10035062],
                  [ 0.03062617],
                  [ 0.31931698],
                  [-0.03625111],
                  [ 0.08822214],
                  [-0.01531096],
                  [ 0.03772505],
                  [ 0.30346834],
                  [ 0.0091597 ]])
```

(3)Return of NCO method

```
In [389]: NCO_return=np.sum((w_nco/sum(w_nco)).flatten()*np.array(expected_returns.mean_historical_return(data2, frequency
In [390]: NCO_return
Out[390]: 0.12983769963878486
```

(4)Return of CVO method

```
In [391]: CVO_return=np.sum((w_cvo/sum(w_cvo)).flatten()*np.array(expected_returns.mean_historical_return(data2, frequency
```

```
In [392]: CVO_return
Out[392]: 0.15772837375294288
```

(5) Variance of NCO method

```
In [468]: NCO_volatility=np.sqrt(objective_functions.portfolio_variance((w_nco/sum(w_nco)).flatten(), risk_models.sample_or [480]: NCO_volatility
Out[480]: 0.22761822576741092
```

(6) Variance of CVO method

```
In [470]: CVO_volatility=np.sqrt(objective_functions.portfolio_variance((w_cvo/sum(w_cvo)).flatten(), risk_models.sample_
In [471]: CVO_volatility
Out[471]: 0.3153933467170092
```

(7)Optimization of MCOS(Parameters are: 10 simulations, 100 observations in a simulation)

```
In [397]: w_cvo_mcos, w_nco_mcos = nco.allocate_mcos(assets_mean, assets_cov, 100, 10, 0.01, True, False)
# Find the errors in estimations of NCO and CVO in simulations
err_cvo_mcos, err_nco_mcos = nco.estim_errors_mcos(w_cvo, w_nco, assets_mean, assets_cov, True)
```

(8) Summary the returns of each simulation

(9) Average return of all simulations

```
In [463]: nco_mcos_return=sum(np.sum(w_nco_mcos*np.array(expected_returns.mean_historical_return(data2, frequency=252)),a
In [464]: nco_mcos_return
Out[464]: 0.19268138396419188
In [466]: cvo_mcos_return=sum(np.sum(w_cvo_mcos*np.array(expected_returns.mean_historical_return(data2, frequency=252)),a
In [467]: cvo_mcos_return
Out[467]: 0.19675876865353487
```

(10) Average volatility of all simulations

```
In [472]: values=[]
    for i in range(10):
        value=np.sqrt(objective_functions.portfolio_variance(np.array(w_nco_mcos.iloc[i]), risk_models.sample_cov(dot values.append(value))
        nco_mcos_volatility = np.array(values)
```

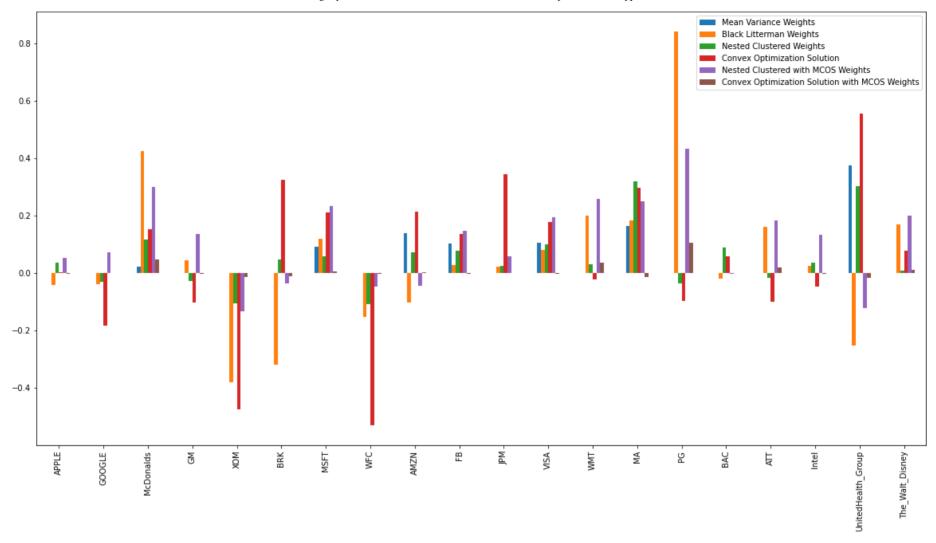
```
In [473]: nco mcos volatility
Out[473]: array([0.13353141, 0.14042089, 0.1378306, 0.13789167, 0.13257459,
                 0.13626064, 0.13215834, 0.14059929, 0.13711318, 0.13598299])
In [478]: sum(nco mcos volatility)/10
Out[478]: 0.1364363597337288
In [475]: values=[]
          for i in range(10):
              value=np.sqrt(objective functions.portfolio variance(np.array(w cvo mcos.iloc[i]), risk models.sample cov(d
              values.append(value)
          cvo mcos volatility = np.array(values)
In [476]: cvo mcos volatility
Out[476]: array([0.13427791, 0.13846402, 0.13666899, 0.13849846, 0.13438237,
                 0.13528773, 0.13497147, 0.14359841, 0.13723413, 0.1390172
In [477]: sum(cvo mcos volatility)/10
Out[477]: 0.1372400683540239
```

4, Portfolio comparison

(1) Portfolio weight comparison

```
(w_nco_mcos*np.array(expected_returns.mean_historical_return(data2, frequency=252))).T.iloc[0]
In [420]:
Out[420]: 0
              -0.002389
              -0.002020
          1
               0.000685
          3
               0.003964
               0.000802
               0.001641
               0.000725
               0.001648
               0.001202
              -0.000728
          Name: 0, dtype: float64
```

Out[462]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7facd7361110>



(2) Analysis

Weights have been newly calculated for the Black Litterman model as maximum return of portfolio compare to other portfolios of optimization.

(3) Comparison of simulated portfolios average return and volatility

Out[495]:

	Mean Variance simulated value	Black Litterman simulated value	Nested Clustered simulated value	Convex Optimization simulated value	Nested Clustered with MCOS simulated value	Convex Optimization Solution with MCOS simulated value
Return	0.052360	0.813069	0.129838	0.157728	0.192681	0.196759
Volatility	0.227103	0.239193	0.136436	0.137240	0.136436	0.137240
Portfolio Sharpe Ratio	0.212055	3.394823	0.943937	1.141634	1.404545	1.426029

5, conclusion

From September 25, 2018 to September 24, 2019, the mean variance model and the Black Litterman model were compared, the average revenue of the portfolio was calculated, and the Black Litterman model was adopted. We improved Black Litterman model as maximum return of portfolio compare to other portfolios of optimization.

The average return of Black Litterman simulated value is much higher than the expected annual return of Black Litterman expected value and the annual return of Mean Variance expected value.

The Return and Sharpe Ratio of Convex Optimization Solution with MCOS and Nested Clustered with MCOS resulted in highest return than those without MCOS method which mean MCOS method is prefer.

The Return and Sharpe Ratio of Convex Optimization Solution are litter higher than Nested Clustered with MCOS which mean Convex Optimization Solution with MCOS is better.

Although reading related research papers may seem obvious, but those who believe they have better information than others suggest that they perform better than market-average portfolios. In portfolio management, it is important to perform not only algorithms but also critic information, market information, and most importantly, corporate analysis.

6, reference list

translated by David G. Ruenberger, Hiroshi Konno, Kenichi Suzuki, Norio Bibiki, "Introduction to Financial Engineering: Second Edition," Nihon Keizai Shimbun (2015)

Takahiro Komatsu "Optimal Investment Strategy" Asakura Shoten (2018)

PyPortfolioOpt, https://pyportfolioopt.readthedocs.io/en/latest/

Machine Learning Financial Laboratory (mlfinlab) https://mlfinlab.readthedocs.io/en/latest/index.html) (https://mlfinlab.readthedocs.io/en/latest/index.html)

A ROBUST ESTIMATOR OF THE EFFICIENT FRONTIER

https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3469961 (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3469961)

López de Prado Machine Learning for Asset Managers

López de Prado Advances in Financial Machine Learning

In []:	
In []:	
In []:	