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 three methods of optimizatio, Machine Learning Optimization, Black Litterman and Mean Variance 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)
```

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"]
```

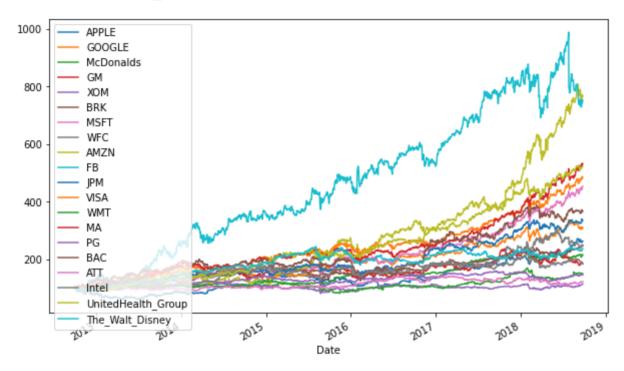
/usr/local/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/pandas_datareader/compat/__init__.py:7: FutureWarning: panda s.util.testing is deprecated. Use the functions in the public API at pandas.testing instead. from pandas.util.testing import assert frame equal

(4) Plot time series transition and rate of return

```
In [ ]:
```

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

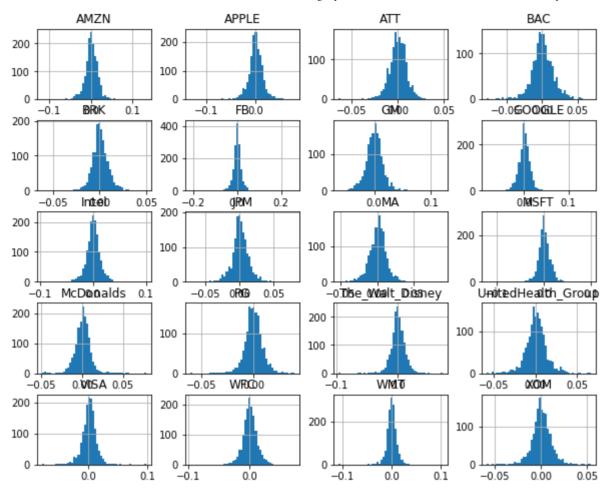
Out[23]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7faced449d50>



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理論に基づき、平均分散モデルを最適化
         #無リスク金利を入れる
         EF = EfficientFrontier(mu, S)
         weights = EF.max sharpe(risk free rate=risk free annual)
         #ポートフォリオの年リターン、ボラティリティ、シャープ・レシオを求める
         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)
```

```
In [28]: #各ウェイトをプリントする
         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

```
In [32]: from pypfopt import objective_functions
objective_functions.portfolio_variance(EF.weights, risk_models.sample_cov(data2))
```

Out[32]: 0.05157591285429528

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
                                 0.232971
         MSFT
         WFC
                               -0.047611
         AMZN
                               -0.043119
                                 0.147280
         FB
         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, For example, one critic predicts that after three months, Apple, United Health Group, Google, Microsoft, Facebook, McDonalds, Procter & Gamble, will rise by 0.05, -0.12, 0.07, 0.23, 0.15, 0.3,0.43 and that other stocks are unknown. Then, use the Black Litterman model and set as follows

```
In [37]: 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 [38]:
         rets
Out[38]: APPLE
                                 0.081179
          GOOGLE
                                 0.102669
          McDonalds
                                 0.179195
          GM
                                 0.092806
          MOX
                                 0.111946
          BRK
                                 0.102497
                                 0.165690
          MSFT
          WFC
                                 0.091560
          AMZN
                                 0.109526
                                 0.114165
          FB
          JPM
                                 0.104841
          VISA
                                 0.125748
          WMT
                                 0.113014
                                 0.128785
          MA
          PG
                                 0.224452
          BAC
                                 0.089426
          ATT
                                 0.107138
          Intel
                                 0.126267
         UnitedHealth Group
                                 0.009140
         The Walt Disney
                                 0.102901
         dtype: float64
In [ ]:
```

(5) Introduce SP500 as market price

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

```
In [42]: from pypfopt import black_litterman
    delta = black_litterman.market_implied_risk_aversion(market_prices,risk_free_rate=risk_free_annual)
    ef = EfficientFrontier(rets, S)
    bl.bl_weights(delta)
    weights = bl.clean_weights()

In [43]: bl.portfolio_performance(verbose=True)
    Expected annual return: 26.5%
    Annual volatility: 14.8%
    Sharpe Ratio: 1.66
Out[43]: (0.26542973424544986, 0.14759656473150295, 1.6628417788172642)
```

```
In [44]: weights
Out[44]: OrderedDict([('APPLE', -0.04205),
                       ('GOOGLE', -0.0521),
                       ('McDonalds', 0.4077),
                       ('GM', 0.0),
                       ('XOM', 0.0),
                       ('BRK', 0.0),
                       ('MSFT', 0.10176),
                       ('WFC', 0.0),
                       ('AMZN', 0.0),
                       ('FB', 0.02402),
                       ('JPM', 0.0),
                       ('VISA', 0.0),
                       ('WMT', 0.0),
                       ('MA', 0.0),
                       ('PG', 0.8193),
                       ('BAC', 0.0),
                       ('ATT', 0.0),
                       ('Intel', 0.0),
                       ('UnitedHealth Group', -0.25864),
                       ('The Walt Disney', 0.0)])
In [45]: sum(weights.values())
Out[45]: 0.9999900000000002
 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 []: BL_return=np.sum(np.array(bl.weights)*np.array(expected_returns.mean_historical_return(data2, frequency=252)))
In [185]: BL_return
Out[185]: 0.5309927605199798
```

(8) Portfolio volatility

```
In [186]: from pypfopt import objective_functions
   objective_functions.portfolio_variance(bl.weights, risk_models.sample_cov(data2))

Out[186]: 0.03780342465637397

In [ ]:
```

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

(2)Optimization

```
import pandas as pd
In [292]:
          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 [293]: w nco/sum(w nco)
Out[293]: array([[ 0.04219501],
                  [ 0.08730925],
                  [ 0.0991364 ],
                  [-0.03645715],
                  [-0.28615967],
                 [ 0.18754904],
                  [ 0.10727043],
                  [-0.22232391],
                  [ 0.10917067],
                  [ 0.07619004],
                 [ 0.24198512],
                  [ 0.09368157],
                  [ 0.00318379],
                  [ 0.18014768],
                  [-0.04459596],
                  [ 0.04120791],
                  [-0.08884568]
                  [ 0.02804965],
                  [ 0.29556298],
                 [ 0.08574281]])
In [294]: NCO return=np.sum((w nco/sum(w nco)).flatten()*np.array(expected returns.mean historical return(data2, frequency
In [295]: NCO return
Out[295]: 0.13335703253042905
In [296]: CVO return=np.sum((w cvo/sum(w cvo)).flatten()*np.array(expected returns.mean historical return(data2, frequenc
In [297]: CVO return
Out[297]: 0.15772837375294288
In [298]: NCO variance=objective functions.portfolio variance((w nco/sum(w nco)).flatten(), risk models.sample cov(data2)
```

In [303]: w_nco.T

Out[303]:

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	0.030823	0.000356	-0.024801	-0.006986	-0.023305	0.074871	0.021925	0.023359	0.054369	-0.029993
1	-0.021236	-0.004521	-0.006298	0.009236	0.021095	0.043717	0.013141	-0.014436	0.008106	-0.044245
2	0.139488	0.203016	0.090932	0.136616	0.160450	0.187716	0.046144	0.290947	0.176557	0.273012
3	0.022455	-0.047175	-0.000176	-0.006267	0.006740	-0.011677	0.013166	0.031066	-0.005650	-0.096755
4	0.119858	0.242006	0.085192	0.089590	0.126343	0.110217	0.023717	0.068910	0.126969	0.058068
5	0.172263	0.152173	0.135389	0.146763	0.057844	0.269641	0.281878	0.082681	0.283852	0.219984
6	-0.024670	-0.038302	0.006225	0.014142	-0.018958	0.003662	0.061724	-0.000917	-0.068139	-0.068619
7	0.062433	0.066449	0.000351	0.051479	0.024682	-0.050318	0.024171	0.013363	0.000375	-0.051899
8	-0.040138	-0.029141	0.011316	-0.013625	-0.016979	-0.036181	0.041042	0.009284	0.031622	0.011002
9	-0.036458	-0.021178	0.006683	0.007404	-0.025814	-0.018741	-0.000680	-0.018280	-0.027082	-0.022359
10	-0.001269	0.025083	-0.008355	0.036401	-0.007433	-0.063589	0.011408	-0.098206	-0.042790	-0.038619
11	-0.021744	0.002174	0.018154	0.037629	-0.000368	0.055771	0.049518	0.041741	-0.040422	0.015523
12	0.112789	0.086931	0.193481	0.078649	0.189896	0.093451	0.042849	0.064634	0.103276	0.113329
13	-0.015693	0.001743	0.012245	0.011812	0.028097	-0.058372	-0.027164	0.034435	-0.023977	0.019037
14	0.242338	0.236010	0.232990	0.205659	0.343254	0.368970	0.290758	0.191748	0.216285	0.308210
15	-0.025637	-0.025607	-0.035849	-0.014705	-0.043013	-0.118560	0.000521	-0.117063	-0.050177	-0.087454
16	0.152898	0.079523	0.154190	0.175971	0.109042	0.091515	0.044060	0.252278	0.128490	0.316853
17	-0.001192	-0.007060	-0.025586	-0.020623	-0.019486	-0.016644	0.007546	0.046506	-0.022581	-0.036561
18	0.025628	0.028836	0.002250	0.026676	0.017487	0.048439	0.014431	0.086087	0.042653	0.043803
19	0.107064	0.048684	0.151667	0.034180	0.070425	0.026110	0.039847	0.011861	0.108262	0.097683

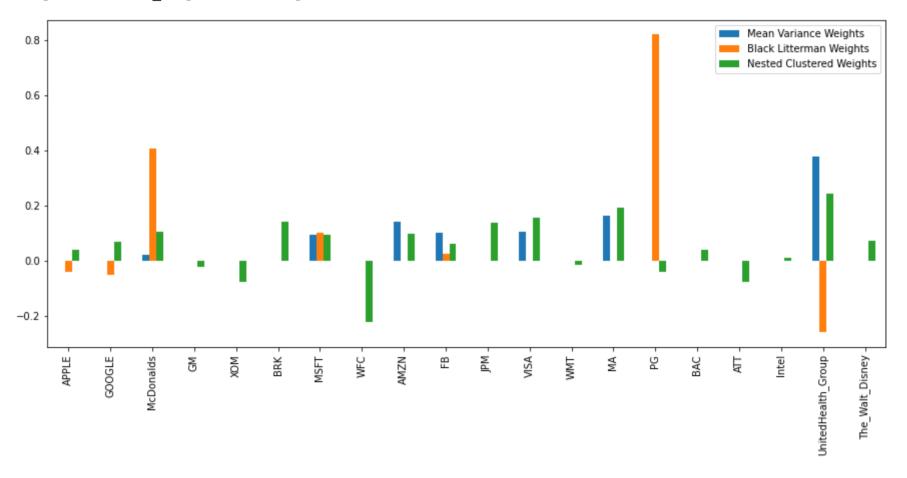
In []:

```
In [304]: sum(np.sum(w nco*np.array(expected_returns.mean_historical_return(data2, frequency=252)),axis=1))/10
Out[304]: 0.20443248582042087
In [305]: sum(np.sum(w cvo*np.array(expected returns.mean historical return(data2, frequency=252)),axis=1))/10
Out[305]: 0.2140528608347716
 In [ ]:
          objective_functions.portfolio_variance(w_nco.T, risk_models.sample_cov(data2))
In [218]:
Out[218]: Expression(CONSTANT, UNKNOWN, (10, 10))
 In [ ]:
  In [ ]:
In [137]: x=np.random.randn(20)
```

4, Portfolio comparison

(1) Portfolio weight comparison

Out[82]: <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7facd4e9dfd0>



(2) Analysis

Blue represents the original stock weight and red represents the newly calculated portfolio weight incorporating the investor's view. Weights have been newly calculated for the Black Litterman model, given information that stocks from Apple, Ghoull, JP Morgan, United Health Group and others will rise.

(3) Comparison of simulated portfolio returns and volatility

Out[219]:

	Mean Variance expected value	Black Litterman expected value	Mean Variance simulated value	Black Litterman simulated value
Return	0.313303	0.265430	0.0523601	0.530993
Variance	0.160044	0.147597	0.0515759	0.0378034
Portfolio Sharpe Ratio	1.832643	1.662842	N/A	N/A

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. In simulation period the volatility increased slightly by 0.013%, resulting in a Black Litterman model with a return to 53.1% much more higher than the mean variance model.

The average return of Black Litterman simulated value in 252 days is much higher than the expected annual return of Black Litterman expected value and the annual return of Mean Variance expected value.

The Portfolio Sharpe Ratio did not exactly assume the performance of portfolio, because it only calculate based on the historic Return data which is not correct.

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

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

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

References, PyPortfolioOpt, https://pyportfolioopt.readthedocs.io/en/latest/ (https://pyportfolioopt.readthedocs.io/en/latest/)

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