

Homework 1 Submission

Output:

Loading and processing data...

Loaded 397 rows of data from 199001 to 202301

Question 1a: Market Portfolio Statistics

Average Monthly Return: 0.8960

Volatility: 4.4535

Sharpe Ratio: 0.2012

Question 1b: CA Strategy Statistics

Average Monthly Return: 0.9425

Volatility: 2.6183

Sharpe Ratio: 0.3599

Question 1d: CAPM Estimates for CA Strategy

Alpha: 0.397965

Beta: 0.488712

Alpha t-statistic: 5.320164

Alpha p-value: 0.000000

Alpha Significant: True

R-squared: 0.686956

Detailed Regression Results:

OLS Regression Results

```
=====
Dep. Variable:          CA      R-squared:          0.687
Model:                  OLS      Adj. R-squared:       0.686
Method:                 Least Squares      F-statistic:      866.8
Date:                  Wed, 02 Apr 2025      Prob (F-statistic): 1.17e-101
Time:                  16:53:08      Log-Likelihood:     -716.07
No. Observations:      397      AIC:              1436.
Df Residuals:          395      BIC:              1444.
Df Model:               1
Covariance Type:       nonrobust
=====
```

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
const	0.3980	0.075	5.320	0.000	0.251	0.545
Mkt-RF	0.4887	0.017	29.442	0.000	0.456	0.521

```
=====
Omnibus:                0.933      Durbin-Watson:      2.286
Prob(Omnibus):          0.627      Jarque-Bera (JB):    0.991
Skew:                   0.041      Prob(JB):            0.609
Kurtosis:               2.769      Cond. No.            4.57
=====
```

Notes:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

Question 1g: CA Strategy Evaluation

Alpha: 0.3980 (p-value: 0.0000)

Alpha is statistically significant at the 5% level

Beta: 0.4887

R-squared: 0.6870

Conclusion: CA strategy generates positive and statistically significant alpha, making it potentially suitable as a hedge fund strategy.

Question 2: Strategy Evaluations

LBHA Strategy Analysis:

Statistics:

Average Monthly Return: 0.6944

Volatility: 2.1102

Sharpe Ratio: 0.3291

CAPM Results:

Alpha: 0.482844

Beta: 0.004513

Alpha t-statistic: 4.553189

Alpha p-value: 0.000007

Alpha Significant: True

R-squared: 0.000093

LSA Strategy Analysis:

Statistics:

Average Monthly Return: 0.9571
Volatility: 3.1668
Sharpe Ratio: 0.3022

CAPM Results:

Alpha: 0.479427
Beta: 0.391546
Alpha t-statistic: 3.559889
Alpha p-value: 0.000416
Alpha Significant: True
R-squared: 0.302923

TA Strategy Analysis:

Statistics:

Average Monthly Return: 0.9612
Volatility: 3.4561
Sharpe Ratio: 0.2781

CAPM Results:

Alpha: 0.403635
Beta: 0.507766
Alpha t-statistic: 3.038762
Alpha p-value: 0.002533
Alpha Significant: True
R-squared: 0.428989

HV Strategy Analysis:

Statistics:

Average Monthly Return: 0.9218
Volatility: 3.8352
Sharpe Ratio: 0.2403

CAPM Results:

Alpha: 0.155687
Beta: 0.811003
Alpha t-statistic: 2.395850
Alpha p-value: 0.017046
Alpha Significant: True
R-squared: 0.888986

LV Strategy Analysis:

Statistics:

Average Monthly Return: 0.3067
Volatility: 0.2147
Sharpe Ratio: 1.4285

CAPM Results:

Alpha: 0.098690
Beta: -0.000629
Alpha t-statistic: 20.562490
Alpha p-value: 0.000000
Alpha Significant: True
R-squared: 0.000881

NA Strategy Analysis:

Statistics:

Average Monthly Return: 0.1558
Volatility: 2.6908
Sharpe Ratio: 0.0579

CAPM Results:

Alpha: -0.404671
Beta: 0.511964
Alpha t-statistic: -5.552380
Alpha p-value: 0.000000
Alpha Significant: True
R-squared: 0.717262

LB Strategy Analysis:

Statistics:

Average Monthly Return: 0.6758
Volatility: 1.9407
Sharpe Ratio: 0.3482

CAPM Results:

Alpha: 0.452938
Beta: 0.020911
Alpha t-statistic: 4.628618
Alpha p-value: 0.000005
Alpha Significant: True

R-squared: 0.002342

HB Strategy Analysis:

Statistics:

Average Monthly Return: 2.6418

Volatility: 13.3758

Sharpe Ratio: 0.1975

CAPM Results:

Alpha: 0.372236

Beta: 2.997826

Alpha t-statistic: 10.998913

Alpha p-value: 0.000000

Alpha Significant: True

R-squared: 0.997527

Question 2a: LBHA vs Market Analysis

LBHA strategy outperforms the market in terms of Sharpe ratio.

LBHA strategy generates positive and statistically significant alpha.

Question 2b: LSA Analysis

LSA strategy generates positive and statistically significant alpha.

Question 2c: TA Analysis

TA strategy generates positive and statistically significant alpha.

Question 2d: HV vs LV Comparison

LV strategy has a higher Sharpe ratio than HV strategy.

Question 2e: NA Strategy Analysis

NA strategy generates negative and statistically significant alpha.

Question 2f: LB vs HB Comparison

LB Alpha: 0.4529 (p-value: 0.0000)

HB Alpha: 0.3722 (p-value: 0.0000)

LB manager is better due to higher and significant alpha.

Question 3: Fee Analysis

LB Strategy Fee Analysis:

Before Fee Alpha: 0.4529382319664177

Before Fee Beta: 0.02091068169789078

After Fee Alpha: 0.20045059368615564

After Fee Beta: 0.017734263844179844

Total Fees on \$100M investment: \$277.11M

Management Fees: \$173.20M

Incentive Fees: \$103.91M

Final Value: \$496.93M

HB Strategy Fee Analysis:

Before Fee Alpha: 0.3722355286311332

Before Fee Beta: 2.9978257133733366

After Fee Alpha: -0.09785937711349652

After Fee Beta: 2.929985482305454

Total Fees on \$100M investment: \$7535.25M

Management Fees: \$1585.92M

Incentive Fees: \$5949.33M

Final Value: \$12030.85M

Fee Comparison:

HB strategy earned higher fees: \$7535.25M vs \$277.11M for LB

Difference: \$7258.15M

Question 3d: Discussion on High Beta Hedge Funds

High beta hedge funds tend to earn higher fees because:

1. They generate higher absolute returns in bull markets, leading to larger incentive fees
2. Their AUM grows faster, leading to higher management fees
3. They can market themselves based on absolute returns rather than alpha
4. The '2 and 20' fee structure rewards total returns, not just alpha generation
5. Many investors focus on total returns rather than understanding risk-adjusted performance
6. In prolonged bull markets, high beta funds appear more attractive than low beta funds

Conclusion

This analysis demonstrates the importance of separating alpha from beta when evaluating hedge fund performance. While high beta strategies may generate larger total returns and higher fees in bull markets, true skill is measured by consistent alpha generation.

Investors should be willing to pay for alpha, not beta which can be obtained cheaply through passive index funds. The discrepancy between fee structures (based on total returns) and performance evaluation (based on alpha) creates potential misalignment of incentives in the hedge fund industry.

Plots:

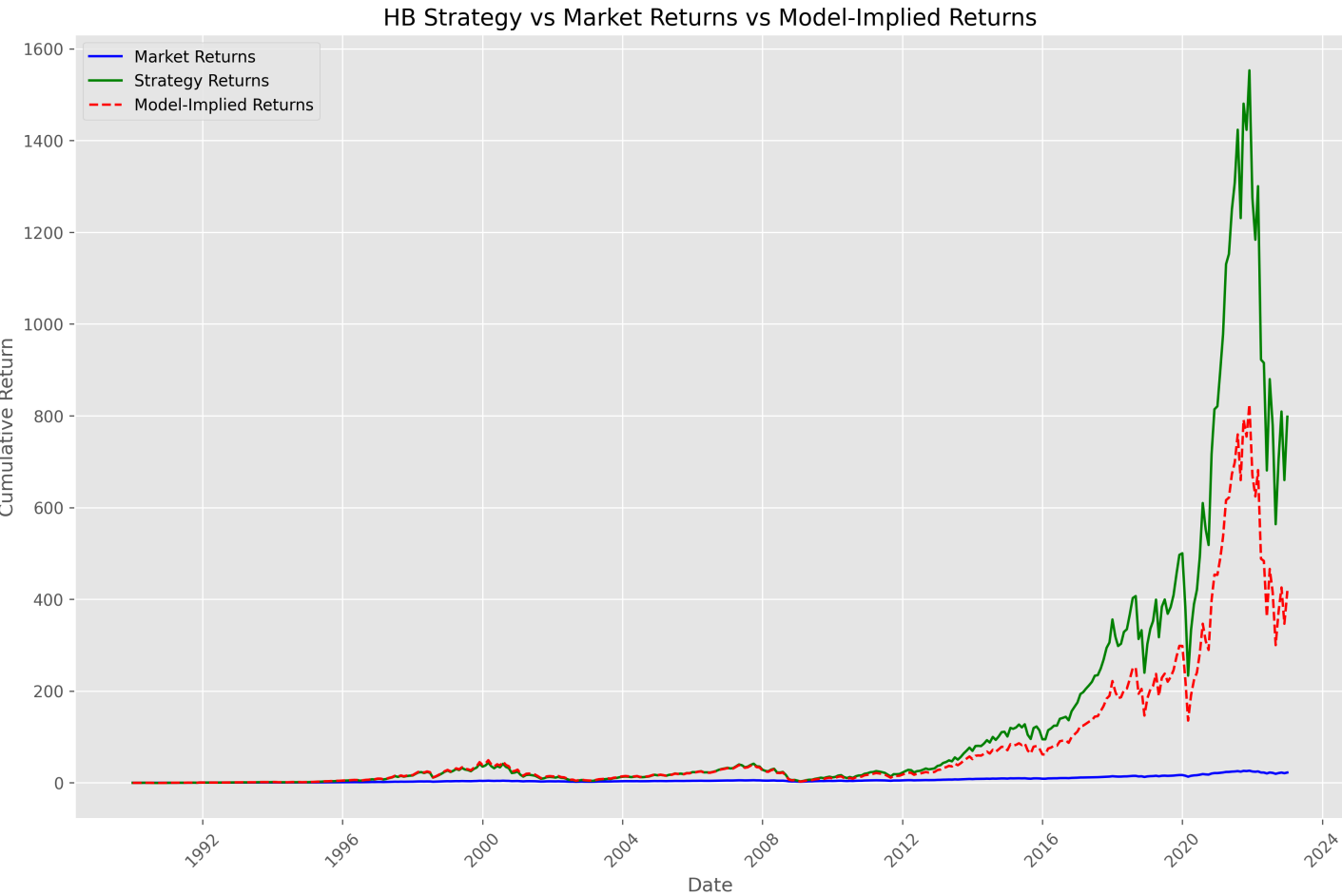


Figure: HB_returns_plot.png

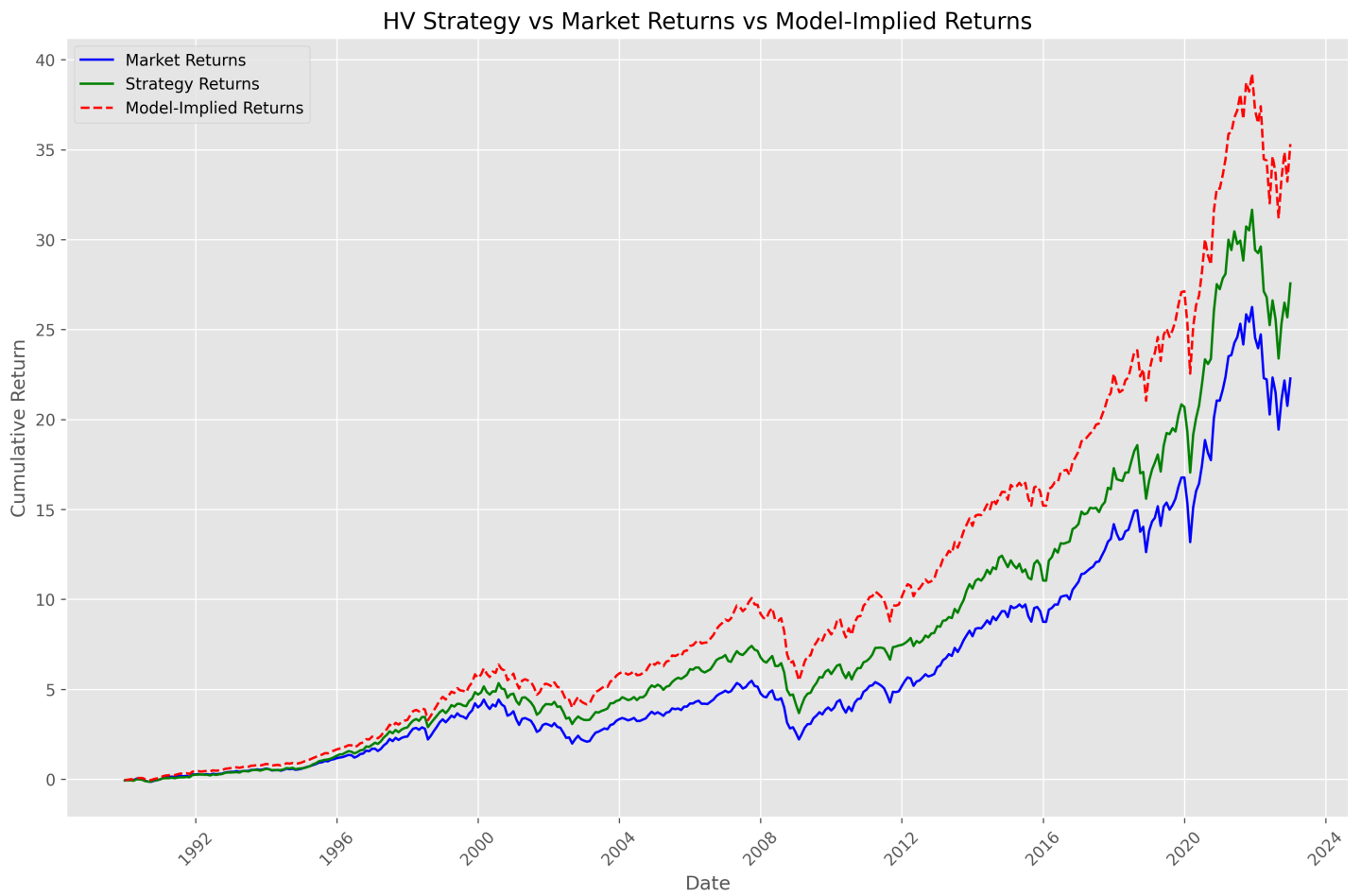


Figure: HV_returns_plot.png

LBHA Strategy vs Market Returns vs Model-Implied Returns

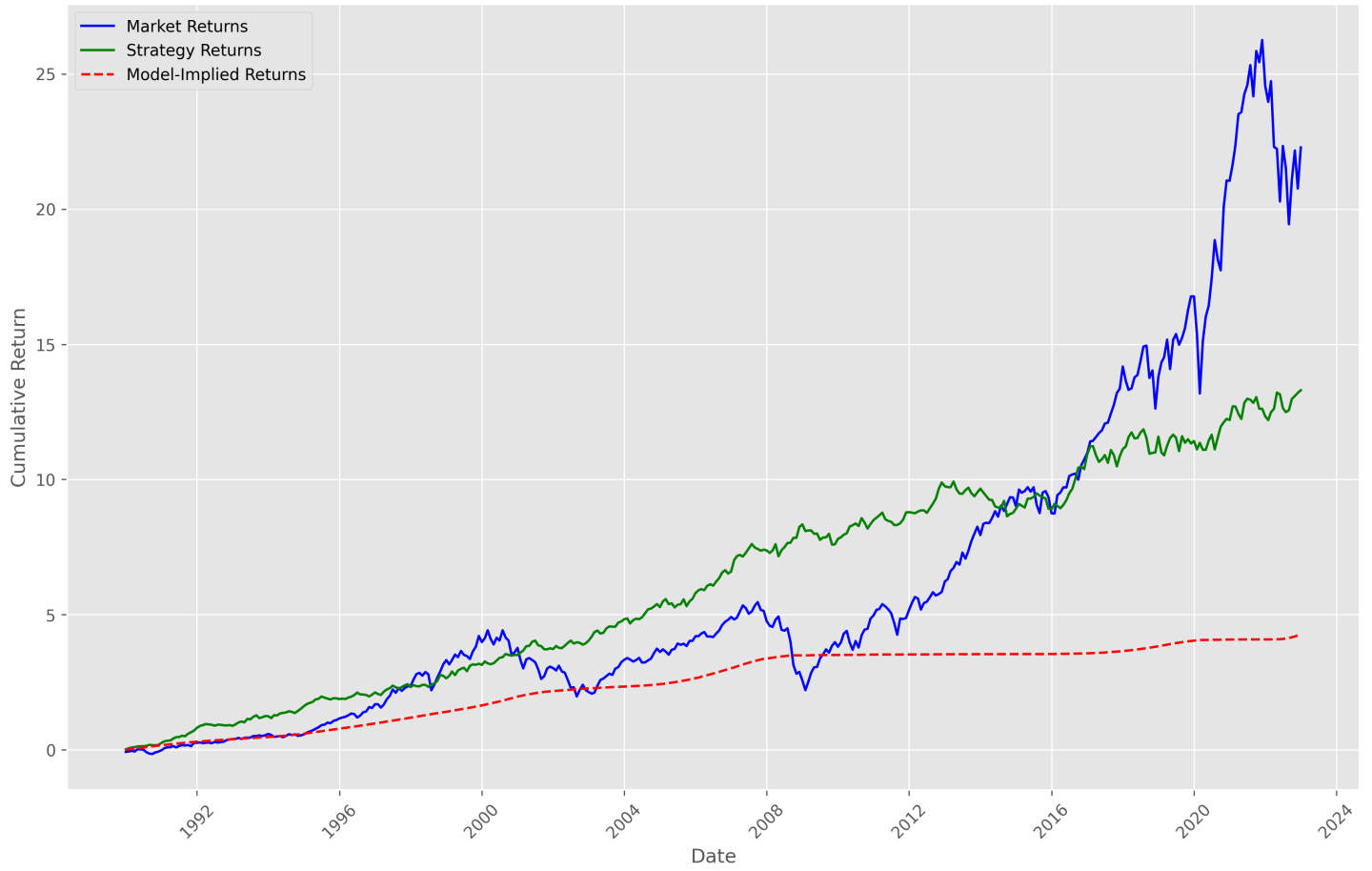


Figure: LBHA_returns_plot.png

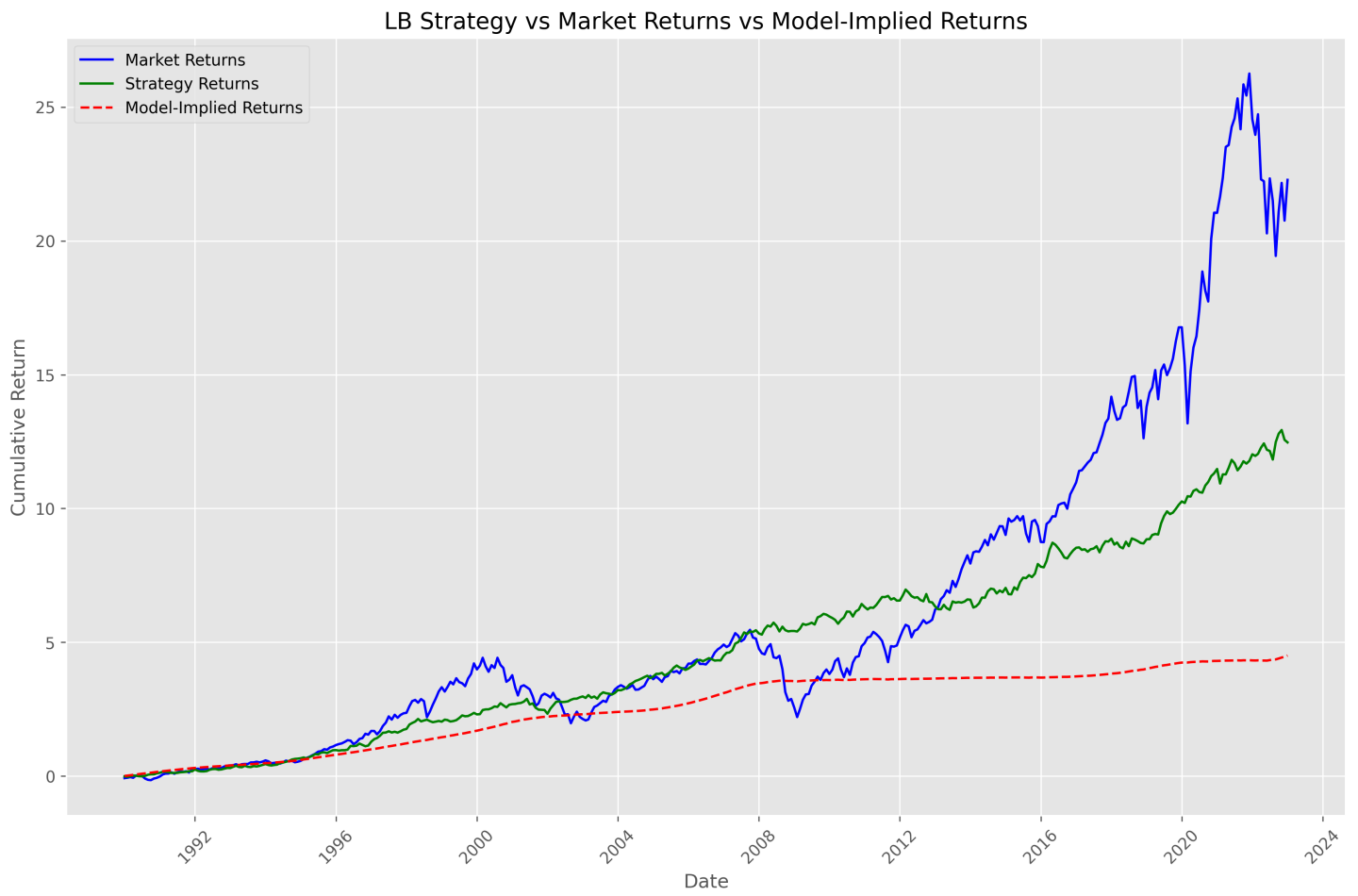


Figure: LB_returns_plot.png

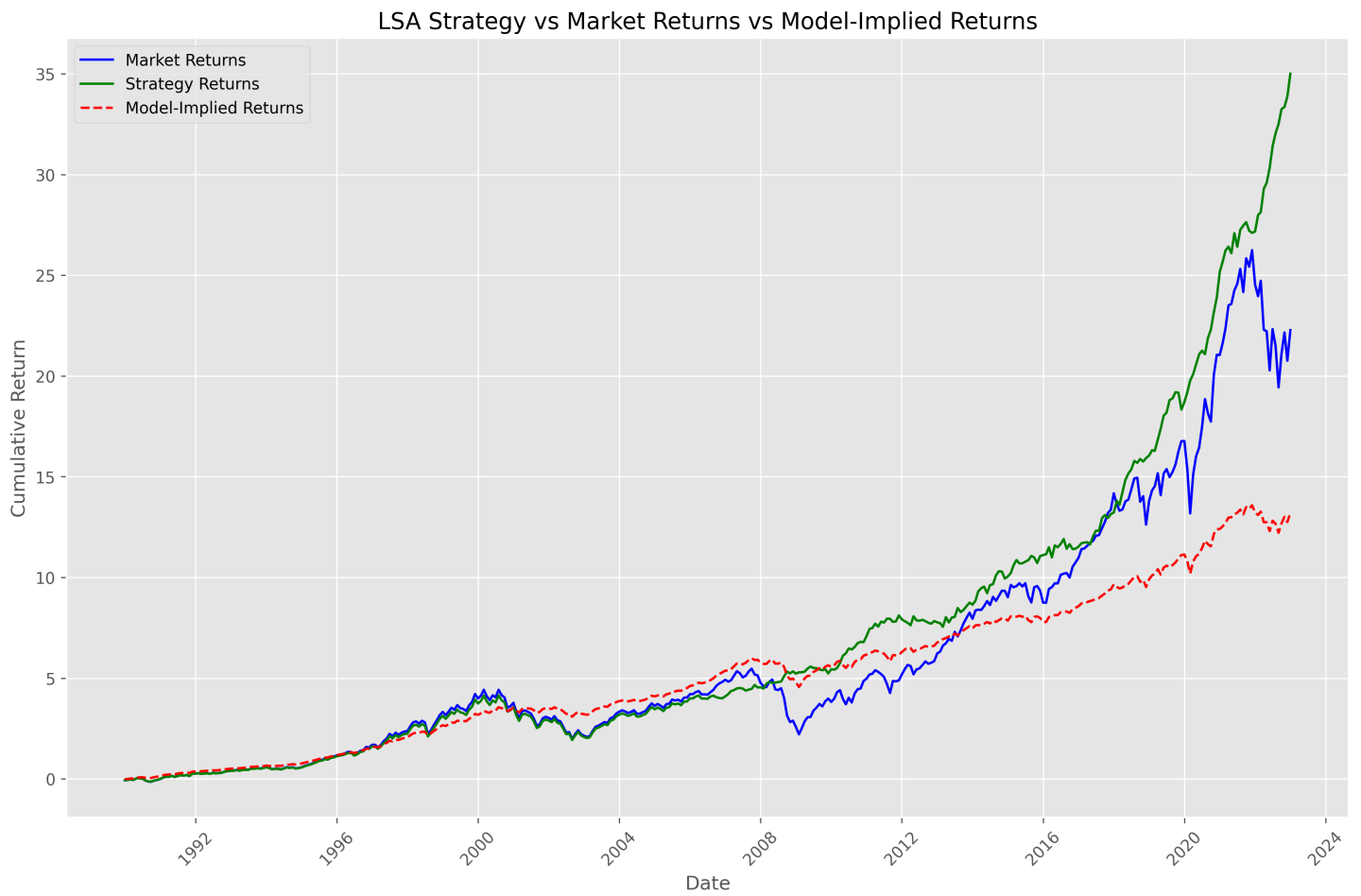


Figure: LSA_returns_plot.png

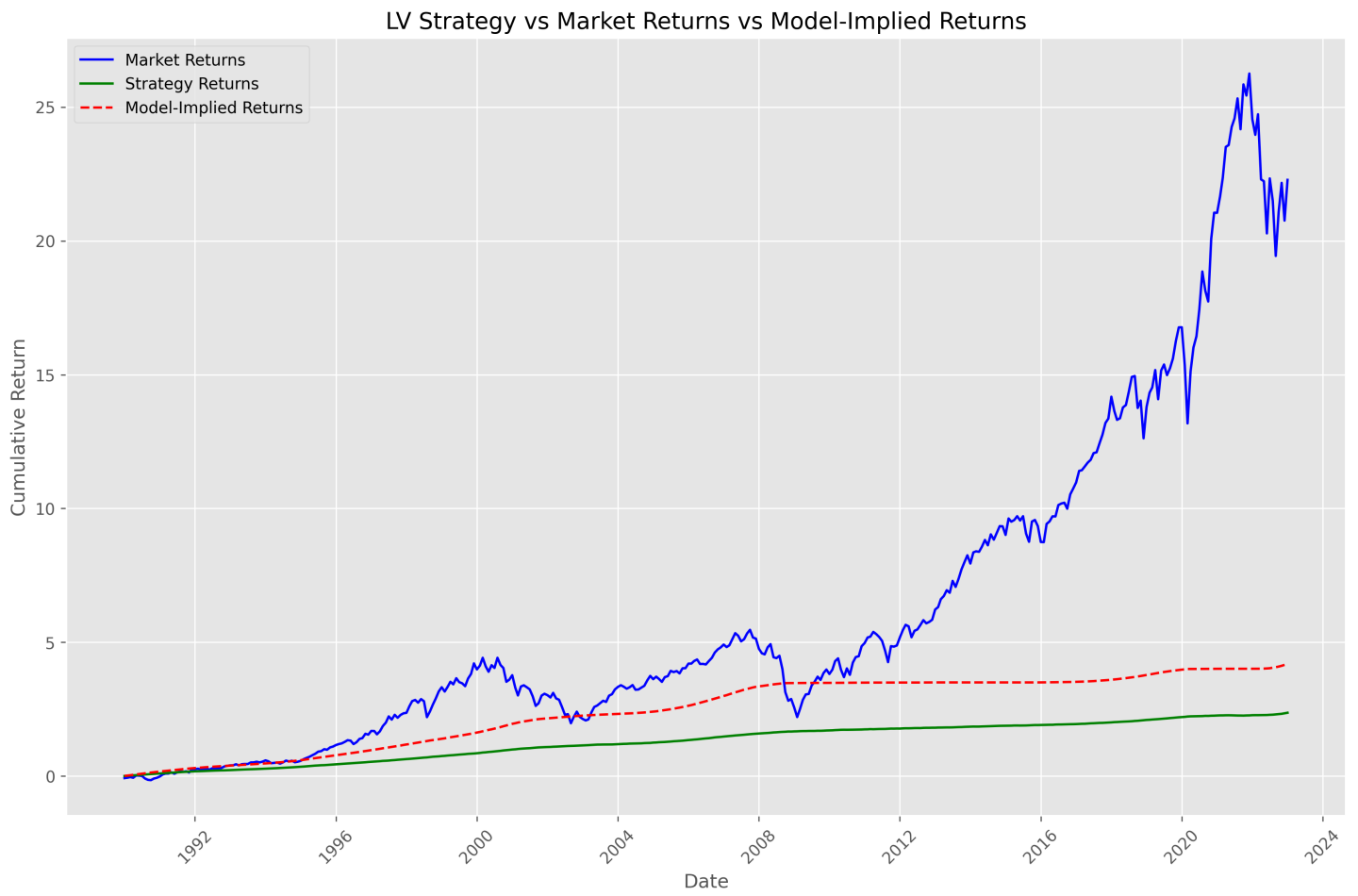


Figure: LV_returns_plot.png

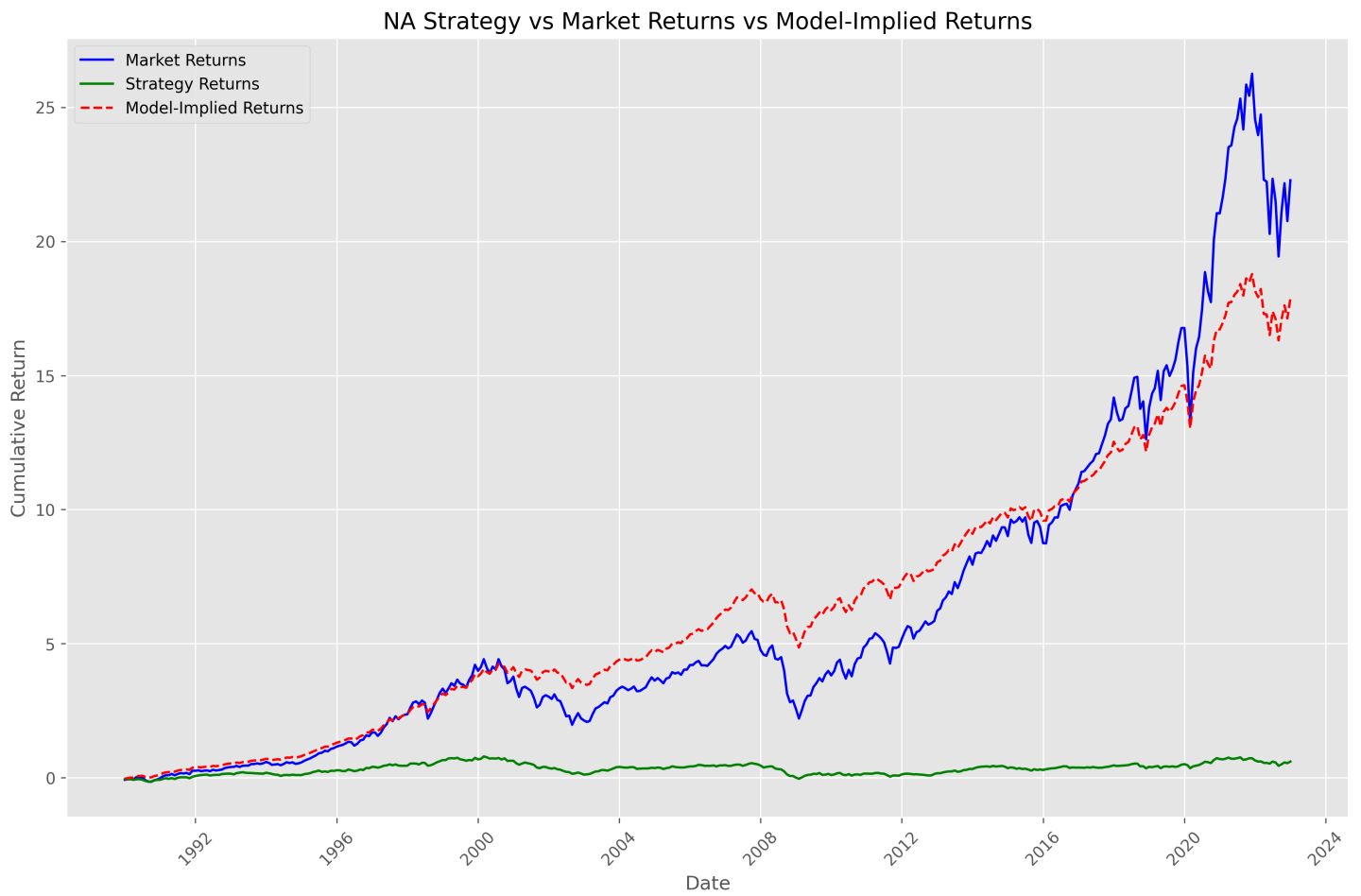


Figure: NA_returns_plot.png

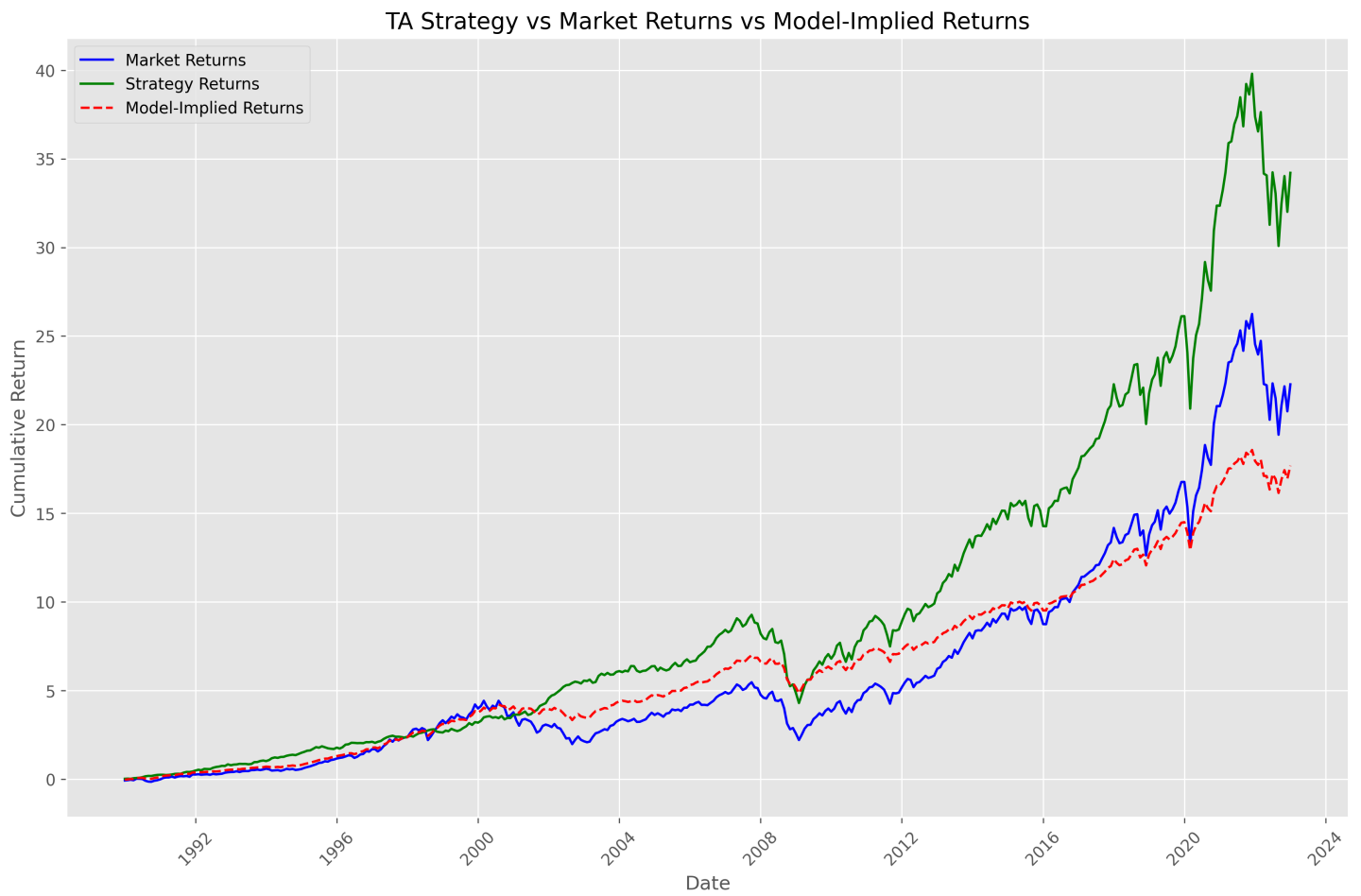


Figure: TA_returns_plot.png

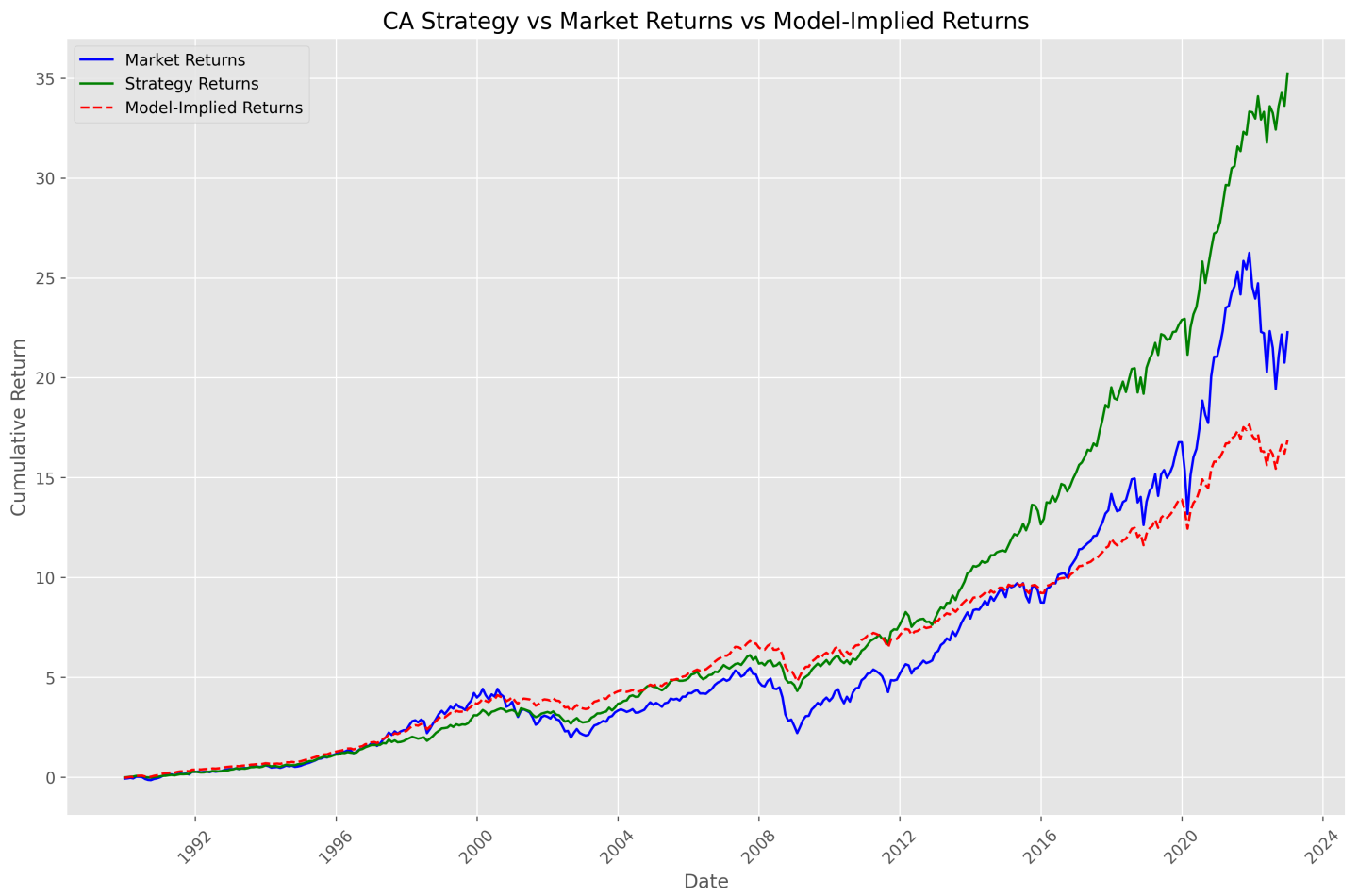


Figure: ca_returns_plot.png

Code:

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import statsmodels.api as sm
from statsmodels.regression.linear_model import OLS
from scipy import stats
import os
import warnings
warnings.filterwarnings("ignore")
# Create plots directory if it doesn't exist
os.makedirs('plots', exist_ok=True)
# Set figure size and style for plots
plt.rcParams['figure.figsize'] = (12, 8)
plt.style.use('ggplot')
def load_data():
    """
    Load and prepare the factor and strategy datasets
    """
    # Load data
    factors_df = pd.read_csv('F-F_Research_Data_Factors.CSV', skiprows=0)
    strategies_df = pd.read_csv('psl_strategies.csv')
    # Clean factors dataframe
    # Rename the first column which might be unnamed
    factors_df = factors_df.rename(columns={factors_df.columns[0]: 'date'})
    # Convert string values to floats (handling possible spaces)
    for col in factors_df.columns:
        if col != 'date':
            factors_df[col] = factors_df[col].astype(str).str.strip().astype(float)
    # Filter data to match strategy dates
    start_date = strategies_df['date'].min()
    end_date = strategies_df['date'].max()
    factors_df = factors_df[(factors_df['date'] >= start_date) & (factors_df['date'] <= end_date)]
    # Merge the datasets on date
    merged_df = pd.merge(strategies_df, factors_df, on='date')
    # Convert date to datetime for better plotting (YYYYMM format)
    merged_df['year'] = merged_df['date'] // 100
    merged_df['month'] = merged_df['date'] % 100
    merged_df['datetime'] = pd.to_datetime(merged_df[['year', 'month']].assign(day=1))
    return merged_df
def calculate_stats(returns):
    """
    Calculate average monthly return, volatility, and Sharpe ratio
    """
    avg_return = returns.mean()
    volatility = returns.std()
    sharpe = avg_return / volatility
    return {
        'Average Monthly Return': avg_return,
        'Volatility': volatility,
        'Sharpe Ratio': sharpe
    }
def estimate_capm(excess_returns, market_excess_returns):
    """
    Estimate CAPM model and return alpha, beta, and other statistics
    """
    # Add constant for alpha term
    X = sm.add_constant(market_excess_returns)
    # Perform regression
    model = OLS(excess_returns, X).fit()
    # Get parameters
    alpha = model.params[0]
    beta = model.params[1]
    # Get t-statistics and p-values for significance testing
    alpha_t_stat = model.tvalues[0]
    alpha_p_value = model.pvalues[0]
    # Determine if alpha is significant at 5% level
    alpha_significant = alpha_p_value < 0.05
```

```

return {
    'Alpha': alpha,
    'Beta': beta,
    'Alpha t-statistic': alpha_t_stat,
    'Alpha p-value': alpha_p_value,
    'Alpha Significant': alpha_significant,
    'R-squared': model.rsquared,
    'Model': model
}
def calculate_capm_returns(beta, risk_free_rate, market_excess_returns):
    """
    Calculate CAPM implied returns:  $R_p = R_f + \beta_p(RM - R_f)$ 
    """
    return risk_free_rate + beta * market_excess_returns
def plot_cumulative_returns(datetime, market_returns, strategy_returns, model_returns, title):
    """
    Plot cumulative returns for market, strategy, and model-implied strategy
    """
    # Calculate cumulative returns (using log returns for additivity)
    cum_market = np.exp(np.log(1 + market_returns / 100).cumsum()) - 1
    cum_strategy = np.exp(np.log(1 + strategy_returns / 100).cumsum()) - 1
    cum_model = np.exp(np.log(1 + model_returns / 100).cumsum()) - 1
    # Plot results
    plt.figure()
    plt.plot(datetime, cum_market, 'b-', label='Market Returns')
    plt.plot(datetime, cum_strategy, 'g-', label='Strategy Returns')
    plt.plot(datetime, cum_model, 'r--', label='Model-Implied Returns')
    plt.title(title)
    plt.xlabel('Date')
    plt.ylabel('Cumulative Return')
    plt.legend()
    plt.grid(True)
    plt.xticks(rotation=45)
    plt.tight_layout()
    return plt.gcf() # Return the figure for later use
def analyze_strategy(df, strategy_name, market_col='Mkt-RF', rf_col='RF'):
    """Analyze a strategy with CAPM and plot results"""
    # Calculate strategy's total returns
    strategy_excess_returns = df[strategy_name]
    strategy_total_returns = strategy_excess_returns + df[rf_col]
    # Calculate statistics
    stats = calculate_stats(strategy_total_returns)
    # Estimate CAPM
    capm_results = estimate_capm(strategy_excess_returns, df[market_col])
    # Calculate CAPM implied returns
    implied_returns = calculate_capm_returns(capm_results['Beta'], df[rf_col], df[market_col])
    # Plot cumulative returns
    fig = plot_cumulative_returns(
        df['datetime'],
        df[market_col] + df[rf_col], # Market total returns
        strategy_total_returns, # Strategy total returns
        implied_returns + df[rf_col], # Model-implied total returns
        f'{strategy_name} Strategy vs Market Returns vs Model-Implied Returns'
    )
    # Save the plot
    fig.savefig(f'plots/{strategy_name}_returns_plot.png', dpi=300, bbox_inches='tight')
    return {
        'Statistics': stats,
        'CAPM': capm_results,
        'Figure': fig
    }
def calculate_after_fee_capm(df, strategy_name):
    """Calculate after-fee returns and estimate CAPM"""
    # Get before-fee statistics
    strategy_excess_returns = df[strategy_name]
    strategy_total_returns = strategy_excess_returns + df['RF']
    # Calculate before-fee CAPM
    before_fee_capm = estimate_capm(strategy_excess_returns, df['Mkt-RF'])
    # Apply the 1.8% and 20% fee structure to get after-fee returns
    # For a more precise calculation, we need to simulate the actual cash flows with fees

```

```

# Initialize variables for fee simulation
initial_investment = 100 # $100 million
current_value = initial_investment
max_value = initial_investment # High water mark
after_fee_returns = []
management_fees = []
incentive_fees = []
# Fee parameters
monthly_mgmt_fee_rate = 0.018 / 12 # 1.8% annually
incentive_fee_rate = 0.2 # 20%
# Calculate after-fee returns
for i, monthly_return in enumerate(strategy_total_returns):
    # Calculate pre-fee value gain
    monthly_return_decimal = monthly_return / 100
    pre_fee_gain = current_value * monthly_return_decimal
    pre_fee_value = current_value + pre_fee_gain
    # Calculate management fee
    mgmt_fee = current_value * monthly_mgmt_fee_rate
    management_fees.append(mgmt_fee)
    # Calculate post-management fee value
    post_mgmt_value = pre_fee_value - mgmt_fee
    # Calculate incentive fee if there's a new high water mark
    if post_mgmt_value > max_value:
        incentive_fee = incentive_fee_rate * (post_mgmt_value - max_value)
        max_value = post_mgmt_value - incentive_fee # Update high water mark
    else:
        incentive_fee = 0
    incentive_fees.append(incentive_fee)
    # Final value after all fees
    current_value = post_mgmt_value - incentive_fee
    # Calculate after-fee return for this period
    after_fee_return = (current_value / (pre_fee_value - pre_fee_gain) - 1) * 100
    after_fee_returns.append(after_fee_return - df['RF'].iloc[i]) # Convert to excess return
# Convert to numpy array
after_fee_returns = np.array(after_fee_returns)
# Calculate after-fee CAPM
after_fee_capm = estimate_capm(after_fee_returns, df['Mkt-RF'])
# Calculate total fees
total_management_fees = sum(management_fees)
total_incentive_fees = sum(incentive_fees)
total_fees = total_management_fees + total_incentive_fees
return {
    'Before Fee CAPM': before_fee_capm,
    'After Fee CAPM': after_fee_capm,
    'Management Fees': total_management_fees,
    'Incentive Fees': total_incentive_fees,
    'Total Fees': total_fees,
    'Final Value': current_value
}
# Main execution
if __name__ == "__main__":
    # Load the data
    print("Loading and processing data...")
    df = load_data()
    print(f"Loaded {len(df)} rows of data from {df['date'].min()} to {df['date'].max()}")
    # Question 1: Build a Simple Analysis Tool
    # 1a: Calculate market portfolio statistics
    market_returns = df['Mkt-RF'] + df['RF'] # Convert from excess to total return
    market_stats = calculate_stats(market_returns)
    print("\nQuestion 1a: Market Portfolio Statistics")
    for key, value in market_stats.items():
        print(f"{key}: {value:.4f}")
    # 1b: Calculate CA strategy statistics
    ca_returns = df['CA'] + df['RF'] # Convert from excess to total return
    ca_stats = calculate_stats(ca_returns)
    print("\nQuestion 1b: CA Strategy Statistics")
    for key, value in ca_stats.items():
        print(f"{key}: {value:.4f}")
    # 1c-1d: Estimate CAPM for CA strategy
    ca_capm = estimate_capm(df['CA'], df['Mkt-RF'])

```

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print("\nQuestion 1d: CAPM Estimates for CA Strategy")
for key, value in ca_capm.items():
    if key != 'Model':
        print(f"{key}: {value:.6f}" if isinstance(value, (int, float)) else f"{key}: {value}")
# Print complete regression results
print("\nDetailed Regression Results:")
print(ca_capm['Model'].summary())
# 1e: Calculate CAPM implied returns
ca_implied_returns = calculate_capm_returns(ca_capm['Beta'], df['RF'], df['Mkt-RF'])
# 1f: Plot cumulative returns
ca_fig = plot_cumulative_returns(
    df['datetime'],
    market_returns,
    ca_returns,
    ca_implied_returns + df['RF'], # Convert back to total return
    'CA Strategy vs Market Returns vs Model-Implied Returns'
)
# Save the plot
ca_fig.savefig('plots/ca_returns_plot.png', dpi=300, bbox_inches='tight')
# 1g: Evaluate if CA would make a good hedge fund strategy
print("\nQuestion 1g: CA Strategy Evaluation")
print(f"Alpha: {ca_capm['Alpha']:.4f} (p-value: {ca_capm['Alpha p-value']:.4f})")
print(f"Alpha is {'statistically significant' if ca_capm['Alpha Significant'] else 'not statistically significant'} at the 5% level")
print(f"Beta: {ca_capm['Beta']:.4f}")
print(f"R-squared: {ca_capm['R-squared']:.4f}")
if ca_capm['Alpha'] > 0 and ca_capm['Alpha Significant']:
    print("Conclusion: CA strategy generates positive and statistically significant alpha,")
    print("making it potentially suitable as a hedge fund strategy.")
else:
    print("Conclusion: CA strategy does not generate statistically significant alpha,")
    print("making it less attractive as a hedge fund strategy.")
# Question 2: Evaluating Returns
# Analyze all strategies for question 2
strategies = ['LBHA', 'LSA', 'TA', 'HV', 'LV', 'NA', 'LB', 'HB']
strategy_results = {}
print("\nQuestion 2: Strategy Evaluations")
for strategy in strategies:
    strategy_results[strategy] = analyze_strategy(df, strategy)
    print(f"\n{strategy} Strategy Analysis:")
    print("Statistics:")
    for key, value in strategy_results[strategy]['Statistics'].items():
        print(f"    {key}: {value:.4f}")
    print("CAPM Results:")
    for key, value in strategy_results[strategy]['CAPM'].items():
        if key != 'Model':
            print(f"    {key}: {value:.6f}" if isinstance(value, (int, float)) else f"    {key}: {value}")
# Question 2a: LBHA vs Market
print("\nQuestion 2a: LBHA vs Market Analysis")
if strategy_results['LBHA']['Statistics']['Sharpe Ratio'] > market_stats['Sharpe Ratio']:
    print("LBHA strategy outperforms the market in terms of Sharpe ratio.")
else:
    print("LBHA strategy underperforms the market in terms of Sharpe ratio.")
if strategy_results['LBHA']['CAPM']['Alpha'] > 0 and strategy_results['LBHA']['CAPM']['Alpha Significant']:
    print("LBHA strategy generates positive and statistically significant alpha.")
else:
    print("LBHA strategy does not generate statistically significant alpha.")
# Question 2b: LSA Analysis
print("\nQuestion 2b: LSA Analysis")
if strategy_results['LSA']['CAPM']['Alpha'] > 0 and strategy_results['LSA']['CAPM']['Alpha Significant']:
    print("LSA strategy generates positive and statistically significant alpha.")
else:
    print("LSA strategy does not generate statistically significant alpha.")
# Question 2c: TA Analysis
print("\nQuestion 2c: TA Analysis")
if strategy_results['TA']['CAPM']['Alpha'] > 0 and strategy_results['TA']['CAPM']['Alpha Significant']:
    print("TA strategy generates positive and statistically significant alpha.")
else:
    print("TA strategy does not generate statistically significant alpha.")

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    print("TA strategy generates positive and statistically significant alpha.")
else:
    print("TA strategy does not generate statistically significant alpha.")
# Question 2d: HV vs LV Comparison
print("\nQuestion 2d: HV vs LV Comparison")
if strategy_results['HV']['Statistics']['Sharpe Ratio'] >
strategy_results['LV']['Statistics']['Sharpe Ratio']:
    print("HV strategy has a higher Sharpe ratio than LV strategy.")
else:
    print("LV strategy has a higher Sharpe ratio than HV strategy.")
# Question 2e: NA Strategy Analysis
print("\nQuestion 2e: NA Strategy Analysis")
if strategy_results['NA']['CAPM']['Alpha'] < 0 and strategy_results['NA']['CAPM']['Alpha
Significant']:
    print("NA strategy generates negative and statistically significant alpha.")
else:
    print("NA strategy does not generate statistically significant negative alpha.")
# Question 2f: LB vs HB Comparison
print("\nQuestion 2f: LB vs HB Comparison")
lb_alpha = strategy_results['LB']['CAPM']['Alpha']
hb_alpha = strategy_results['HB']['CAPM']['Alpha']
print(f"LB Alpha: {lb_alpha:.4f} (p-value: {strategy_results['LB']['CAPM']['Alpha
p-value']:.4f})")
print(f"HB Alpha: {hb_alpha:.4f} (p-value: {strategy_results['HB']['CAPM']['Alpha
p-value']:.4f})")
if lb_alpha > hb_alpha and strategy_results['LB']['CAPM']['Alpha Significant']:
    print("LB manager is better due to higher and significant alpha.")
elif hb_alpha > lb_alpha and strategy_results['HB']['CAPM']['Alpha Significant']:
    print("HB manager is better due to higher and significant alpha.")
else:
    if strategy_results['LB']['Statistics']['Sharpe Ratio'] >
strategy_results['HB']['Statistics']['Sharpe Ratio']:
        print("LB manager is better due to higher risk-adjusted returns (Sharpe ratio).")
    else:
        print("HB manager is better due to higher risk-adjusted returns (Sharpe ratio).")
# Question 3: Fees Analysis
# 3a-3b: Calculate before-fee and after-fee alphas and betas
print("\nQuestion 3: Fee Analysis")
# Only analyze LB and HB for fee comparison
fee_strategies = ['LB', 'HB']
fee_results = {}
for strategy in fee_strategies:
    fee_results[strategy] = calculate_after_fee_capm(df, strategy)
    print(f"\n{strategy} Strategy Fee Analysis:")
    print("Before Fee Alpha:", fee_results[strategy]['Before Fee CAPM']['Alpha'])
    print("Before Fee Beta:", fee_results[strategy]['Before Fee CAPM']['Beta'])
    print("After Fee Alpha:", fee_results[strategy]['After Fee CAPM']['Alpha'])
    print("After Fee Beta:", fee_results[strategy]['After Fee CAPM']['Beta'])
    print(f"Total Fees on $100M investment: ${fee_results[strategy]['Total Fees']:.2f}M")
    print(f"Management Fees: ${fee_results[strategy]['Management Fees']:.2f}M")
    print(f"Incentive Fees: ${fee_results[strategy]['Incentive Fees']:.2f}M")
    print(f"Final Value: ${fee_results[strategy]['Final Value']:.2f}M")
# Compare fee earnings between strategies
lb_fees = fee_results['LB']['Total Fees']
hb_fees = fee_results['HB']['Total Fees']
print("\nFee Comparison:")
if lb_fees > hb_fees:
    print(f"LB strategy earned higher fees: ${lb_fees:.2f}M vs ${hb_fees:.2f}M for HB")
    print(f"Difference: ${lb_fees - hb_fees:.2f}M")
else:
    print(f"HB strategy earned higher fees: ${hb_fees:.2f}M vs ${lb_fees:.2f}M for LB")
    print(f"Difference: ${hb_fees - lb_fees:.2f}M")
# Question 3d: Discussion on high beta hedge funds
print("\nQuestion 3d: Discussion on High Beta Hedge Funds")
print("High beta hedge funds tend to earn higher fees because:")
print("1. They generate higher absolute returns in bull markets, leading to larger incentive
fees")
print("2. Their AUM grows faster, leading to higher management fees")
print("3. They can market themselves based on absolute returns rather than alpha")
print("4. The '2 and 20' fee structure rewards total returns, not just alpha generation")

```

```
print("5. Many investors focus on total returns rather than understanding risk-adjusted
performance")
print("6. In prolonged bull markets, high beta funds appear more attractive than low beta
funds")
# Conclusion
print("\nConclusion")
print("This analysis demonstrates the importance of separating alpha from beta when evaluating")
print("hedge fund performance. While high beta strategies may generate larger total returns
and")
print("higher fees in bull markets, true skill is measured by consistent alpha generation.")
print("Investors should be willing to pay for alpha, not beta which can be obtained cheaply
through")
print("passive index funds. The discrepancy between fee structures (based on total returns)
and")
print("performance evaluation (based on alpha) creates potential misalignment of incentives in")
print("the hedge fund industry.")
```