

Required Returns [cont'd]

W: April 24th, 2019.

- Start w/ an arbitrary portfolio P.

Its Sharpe ratio is denoted by $\eta_P = \frac{E[R_P] - r_f}{\sigma_P}$

- Consider an investment I.

- Construct a new portfolio:

P' {

- keep the "old" portfolio P,
- borrow $x \cdot (\text{value of P})$ @ the risk-free interest rate r_f

and

- invest the proceeds of the loan in the investment I

Assume that the weight x is small!

=> The new return: $R_{P'} = R_P - x \cdot r_f + x \cdot R_I$

- The new excess return:

$$E[R_{P'}] - r_f = \underbrace{E[R_P] - r_f}_{\text{the excess return of the "old" portfolio P}} + \underbrace{x \cdot (E[R_I] - r_f)}_{\text{the excess return of investment I}}$$

$$= \underbrace{E[R_P] - r_f}_{\text{the excess return of the "old" portfolio P}} + \underbrace{x \cdot (E[R_I] - r_f)}_{\text{the excess return of investment I}} \quad (E)$$

the excess
return of the
"old" portfolio P

the excess return
of investment I

①

• The SD of the return of portfolio P':

$$\text{Var}[R_{P'}] = \text{Var}[R_P - \underbrace{x \cdot r_f}_{\text{Constant}} + x \cdot R_I]$$

$$= \text{Var}[R_P + x \cdot R_I]$$

$$\text{Var}[R_{P'}] = \text{Var}[R_P] + 2 \cdot x \cdot \text{Cov}[R_P, R_I] + \underbrace{x^2 \cdot \text{Var}[R_I]}$$

Can be diversified away by x small!

$$f(y) = \sqrt{y} = y^{1/2}$$

$$f'(y) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}}$$

By the Taylor approximation:

$$f(y_0 + dy) = f(y_0) + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{y_0}} dy + \text{lower order terms}$$

$$\updownarrow$$

Var[R_P]

$$\text{Var}[R_{P'}] - \text{Var}[R_P] = 2 \cdot x \cdot \text{Cov}[R_P, R_I]$$

=>

$$\text{SD}[R_{P'}] = \sqrt{\text{Var}[R_{P'}]}$$

$$= \sqrt{\text{Var}[R_P]} + \cancel{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{\text{Var}[R_P]}} (2x \cdot \text{Cov}[R_P, R_I])$$

=>

$$\text{SD}[R_{P'}] = \text{SD}[R_P] + x \cdot \frac{1}{\cancel{\text{SD}[R_P]}} \cdot \cancel{\text{SD}[R_P]} \cdot \text{SD}[R_I] \cdot \text{corr}[R_P, R_I]$$

(2)

⇒

$$SD[R_{P'}] = SD[R_P] + \underbrace{x \cdot SD[R_I] \cdot \text{corr}[R_P, R_I]}_{\text{the "incremental" risk due to the addition of investment I}}$$

(σ)

the volatility of the "old" portfolio P

the "incremental" risk due to the addition of investment I

Putting (E) & (σ) together, in order for portfolio P' to be an improvement, we must have:

$$\boxed{x > 0}$$

$$x(E[R_I] - r_f) > x \cdot SD[R_I] \cdot \text{corr}[R_P, R_I] \cdot \eta_P$$

↑ The Sharpe ratio of portfolio P

↑ the effect of staying on the line through P w/ the same increase in risk

$$\Rightarrow E[R_I] - r_f > SD[R_I] \cdot \text{corr}[R_P, R_I] \cdot \frac{E[R_P] - r_f}{SD[R_P]}$$

$$E[R_I] > r_f + \frac{SD[R_I]}{SD[R_P]} \cdot \text{corr}[R_P, R_I] \cdot (E[R_P] - r_f)$$

$=: \beta_I^P$... the beta of the investment I w/ portfolio P

Def'n. $r_I := r_f + \beta_I^P (E[R_P] - r_f)$... the required return of investment I given Portfolio P

(3.)

Note: A portfolio P^* is EFFICIENT if no other portfolio outperforms it w/ respect to the interplay between volatility & expected return.

Consider an investment I such that:

$$E[R_I] > r_I = r_f + \beta_I^{P^*} (E[R_{P^*}] - r_f)$$

\Rightarrow you want to invest additionally to portfolio P^* in investment I

This is a contradiction w/ the fact that portfolio P^* is efficient.

\Rightarrow For any security I :

$$E[R_I] = r_I = r_f + \beta_I^{\text{eff}} (E[R_{\text{eff}}] - r_f)$$

β of investment I
w/ an efficient portfolio

the return of
the efficient
portfolio

The Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM)

Assumptions:

- ① The investors can buy/sell all securities at competitive market prices w/ no transaction costs (no commissions, no bid-ask spread!). Both borrowing and lending are done @ the same risk-free interest rate. (no friction!)
- ② Investors hold only efficient portfolios of traded securities, i.e., portfolios that yield the maximum expected return for a given level of volatility.
- ③ HOMOGENEOUS EXPECTATIONS.
All investors have homogeneous beliefs regarding:
 - expected returns of securities,
 - volatilities,
 - correlations.