

Sharpe of a non-MVO portfolio

Sparsh Sah

The standard MVO portfolio u is $(\gamma\Sigma)^{-1}\mu$. So, the passive-asset ER's μ can be written as $\gamma\Sigma u$.

Now consider an arbitrary portfolio w . Its expected return is

$$w'\mu = \gamma w'\Sigma u.$$

Its variance is as usual

$$w'\Sigma w.$$

So, its Sharpe is

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma \frac{w'\Sigma u}{\sqrt{w'\Sigma w}} &= \gamma \frac{\text{Cov}(w, u)}{\sigma_w} = \gamma \frac{\text{Cov}(w, u)}{\sigma_w \sigma_u} \sigma_u = \gamma \frac{\text{Cov}(w, u)}{\sigma_w \sigma_u} \sigma_u \\ &= \gamma \text{Corr}(w, u) \sigma_u = \boxed{\text{Corr}(w, u) \gamma \sigma_u}.\end{aligned}$$

For the MVO portfolio u , this is just $\gamma \sigma_u$. For any other portfolio, it is the same thing discounted by "transfer coefficient".