

- CAPM is built on the Markovitz's (1959) portfolio optimization theory: Investors hold a well-diversified mean-variance efficient portfolios that minimize risk (variance) for a desired expected return.
- Sharpe (1964) and Lintner (1965) developed a market equilibrium model:
  - the market portfolio lies on the mean-variance frontier, i.e. efficient;
  - under two more assumptions: all investors have the same expectations, and they can borrow and lend at a risk-free rate.

- CAPM says that the expected return on asset  $i$  is given by

$$E(R_i) = R_f + \beta_i (E(R_m) - R_f) \quad (1)$$

where  $R_m$  is the return on the market portfolio,  $R_f$  the risk-free rate and

$$\beta_i = \frac{\text{Cov}(R_i; R_m)}{\text{Var}(R_m)}$$

- Using excess returns,  $X_i = R_i - R_f$ , we write the pricing relation:

$$E(X_i) = \beta_i E(X_m) \quad (2)$$

with

$$\beta_i = \frac{\text{Cov}(X_i; X_m)}{\text{Var}(X_m)}$$

- If the risk-free rate is nonstochastic, (1) and (2) are equivalent.
- In empirical analysis, (2) is usually used.

- In the absence of the risk-free rate, Black (1972) derived a general version of CAPM:

$$E(R_i) = E(R_0) + \beta_i (E(R_m) - E(R_0)) \quad (3)$$

where  $R_0$  is the return on the zero-beta portfolio that is uncorrelated with the market portfolio ( $\beta_0 = 0$ ).<sup>1</sup>

- Rearranging (3), we have

$$E(R_i) = \beta_i + (1 - \beta_i)E(R_0) \quad (4)$$

where

$$\beta_i = (1 - \beta_i)E(R_0)$$

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<sup>1</sup>Unobserved zero-beta portfolio makes the analysis more difficult. 

Early test of the Sharpe-Lintner CAPM focused on 3 implications of (2):

- 1 The intercept is zero;
- 2 Beta completely captures the cross-sectional variations of expected return;
- 3 The market risk premium,  $E(X_{mt})$ , is positive.

Consider the system model:

$$X_t = \alpha + \beta X_{mt} + \epsilon_t \quad (5)$$

where  $X_t$  is an  $N \times 1$  vector of excess returns with

$$E(\epsilon_t) = 0; E(\epsilon_t \epsilon_t^0) = \sigma^2; E(\epsilon_t \epsilon_s^0) = 0 \text{ for } s \neq t$$

$$E(X_t) = \alpha + \beta m; E(X_{mt}) = m; \text{Var}(X_{mt}) = \sigma_m^2; \text{Cov}(X_{mt}, \epsilon_t) = 0$$

ML estimation of (5). (May skip)

Assuming the normality of  $\epsilon_t$ , we have:

$$f(X_t | X_{mt}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2} (X_t - \beta X_{mt})^2\right] \quad (2)$$

If  $\epsilon_t$  are iid, the joint pdf is:

$$f(X_1, \dots, X_T | X_{m1}, \dots, X_{mT}) = \prod_{t=1}^T f(X_t | X_{mt})$$

So the log-likelihood function is:

$$L = -\frac{NT}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{T}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \ln \left[ \frac{1}{2} (X_t - \beta X_{mt})^2 \right]$$

Solving the FOCs for  $\beta$  and  $\alpha$  we obtain (the same as OLS):

$$\hat{\beta} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^T X_{mt} (R_{mt} - \bar{R}_m)}{\sum_{t=1}^T X_{mt}^2}$$

$$\hat{\alpha} = \bar{R}_m - \hat{\beta} \bar{X}_m$$

where  $\bar{R}_m = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T R_{mt}$ ; and  $\bar{X}_m = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T X_{mt}$ , and

$$\hat{\alpha} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (R_{mt} - \hat{\beta} X_{mt})$$

The asymptotic distributions are:

$$\hat{\alpha} \sim N \left( \frac{1}{T} \left( 1 + \frac{2}{m} \right), \frac{1}{T} \frac{1}{m} \right)$$

$$\hat{\Sigma} \sim W \left( T - 2; \right)$$

where  $W$  denotes a Wishart distribution.



In the Sharpe-Lintner CAPM, all elements of  $\beta$  should be zero, in which case then  $m$  is the tangency portfolio. We now test the null hypothesis:

$$H_0 : \beta = 0 \text{ vs } H_1 : \beta \neq 0$$

Wald test statistic is given by

$$J_0 = \hat{\beta}' [ \text{Var}(\hat{\beta}) ]^{-1} \hat{\beta} = T^{-1} \left( 1 + \frac{\hat{\sigma}_m^2}{\hat{\sigma}_m^2} \right) \hat{\beta}' \hat{\beta} \quad \frac{2}{N}$$

where  $\hat{\beta}$  is a consistent estimator of  $\beta$ .

F test statistic: Gibbons, Ross and Shanken (1989, GRS) suggest to use an exact distribution by using the F-test (assuming that  $r_{it}$ 's are normally distributed):

$$J_1 = \frac{T}{N} \frac{N-1}{1 + \frac{\hat{\sigma}_m^2}{\hat{\sigma}_q^2}} \sim F_{(N; T-N-1)}$$

GRS show that

$$J_1 = \frac{T}{N} \frac{N-1}{1 + \frac{\hat{\sigma}_m^2}{\hat{\sigma}_q^2}}$$

where  $q$  is ex post tangency portfolio, and  $\frac{\hat{\sigma}_q}{\hat{\sigma}_m}$  the Sharpe ratio. If  $H_0$  holds, market portfolio is the tangency portfolio and  $J_1$  is zero.

Likelihood Ratio test statistic:

$$J_2 = 2 \left( \hat{\mathcal{L}} - \mathcal{L} \right) = T \ln \hat{\mathcal{L}} - T \ln \mathcal{L} \sim \chi^2_{N-2}$$

where  $\hat{\mathcal{L}}$  is the unrestricted log-likelihood and  $\mathcal{L}$  is the restricted log-likelihood, i.e. as obtained from the model under the null:

$$X_t = X_{mt} + \epsilon_t$$

and  $\tilde{\epsilon}$  is the restricted estimator:

$$\tilde{\epsilon} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T X_t - \tilde{X}_{mt} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (X_t - \tilde{X}_{mt})$$

Notice that  $J_1$  is a monotonic transformation of  $J_2$ .

We can use a small sample adjustment to  $J_2$ :

$$J_3 = \frac{T}{T-2} J_2 \sim \chi^2_{N-2}$$

$J_3$  should have better finite-sample properties.

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