

Oct 27 (1)

- Progress reports due Tuesday 11:59 pm via email, + hardcopy in class on Wednesday
 - Monday morning is last possible office hours
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- Progress reports 3-5 pages / 600-1000 words

Look at Markowitz model:

- Understand when it's useful / and its limitations...
- [Use the fictitious C, P, A, N, B (and other)].

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Portfolio $R(\vec{w})$: random variables R_1, \dots, R_n ,
such as $\underbrace{C, P, A, N}_{\text{risky stocks}}, \underbrace{B}_{\text{bond}}$ (financial instruments)

$$R(\vec{w}) = w_1 R_1 + w_2 R_2 + \dots + w_n R_n$$

w_i = variables,
 R_i = given, we know things about them

$$U_{\text{Markowitz}}(R(\vec{w}), \mu) = \overline{R(\vec{w})} - \mu \text{Var}(R(\vec{w}))$$

① μ measure of risk aversion

$$\text{② } U_m(R(\vec{w})) = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \bar{R}_i - \mu \sum_{i,j=1}^n w_i w_j \text{Cov}(R_i, R_j)$$

③ limitations & ~~positive aspects~~ advantages of Markowitz model

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Say $A = \text{Amazon}$, $B = \text{Bond}$ cost the same amount

$$U_m(A, \mu) = \bar{A} - \mu \text{Var}(A) = 10 - \mu 4$$

$$U_m(B, \mu) = \bar{B} - \mu \text{Var}(B) = 9 \quad (\text{Var}(B) = 0)$$

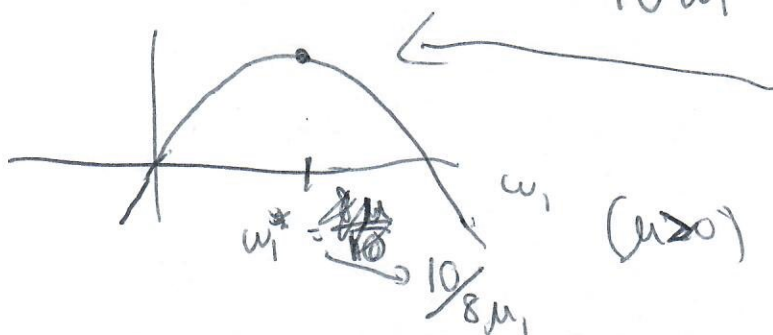
So $10 - 4\mu$ vs 9 : $\begin{cases} \mu > 0, \mu < 1/4, \text{ prefer } A \\ \mu > 0, \mu > 1/4, \text{ prefer } B \end{cases}$

Indicates: large positive $\mu \Rightarrow$ averse to "risk"
small positive $\mu \Rightarrow$ tolerant of risk

$\mu < 0$ in Casinos: $G = \text{Game}$, if $\bar{G} < 0$, $\text{Var}(G)$ big
😊

Now let's... situation: $R(\bar{w}) = w_1 A$, $n=1$ financial instruments.
Sensible?

$$\begin{aligned} U_m(R(\bar{w})) &= U_m(w_1 A) = \overline{A w_1} - \mu \text{Var}(A w_1) \\ &= \bar{A} w_1 - \mu \text{Var}(A) w_1^2 \\ &= 10 w_1 - \mu 4 w_1^2 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dw_1} (10w_1 - \mu 4w_1^2) &= 0 \\ 10 &= 4\mu 2w_1 \\ w_1 &= \frac{10}{8\mu} \end{aligned}$$

Markowitz model requires:

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- 2 or more instruments, (one which is pretty stable)
- A fixed budget, and (and ~~some~~ trade off)

$$\sum w_i (\text{Cost } R_i) = \text{budget}$$

- Or you have an instrument:

M = store money under your mattress

$$R(w_1 A + w_2 N + w_3 B + w_4 M)$$

money

$$w_1 \text{Cost}_1 + w_2 \text{Cost}_2 + w_3 \text{Cost}_3 \leq \text{budget}$$

$$w_4 = w_1 \quad w_2 \quad w_3$$

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Test: ① $R = w_1 A + w_2 B$, A, B same cost, so

$$w_1 + w_2 = \text{given} = (\text{your budget} / \text{Cost})$$

② $R = w_1 A + w_2 N$ ← $N = \text{fiction}$.

$$\text{take } w_1 + w_2 = 30$$

$$\bar{R} = w_1 \bar{A} + w_2 \bar{N} = w_1 10 + w_2 10 = 10(w_1 + w_2) = 10 \cdot 30 = 300$$

In general, assume A, N, C, P, B cost the same

$$U(w_1 A + w_2 N) = \overline{w_1 A + w_2 N} - \mu \text{Var}(w_1 A + w_2 N)$$

$$= 300 - \mu \underbrace{\text{Var}(w_1 A + w_2 N)}_{= ???}$$

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We define, random variables X, Y , $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = \overline{XY} - \bar{X} \bar{Y}$

Formulas:

$$\textcircled{1} \text{ Var } X = \overline{(X - \bar{X})^2} = \overline{(X^2 - 2X\bar{X} - \bar{X}^2)}$$

$$= \overline{X^2} - 2 \overline{(X\bar{X})} + \overline{(\bar{X}^2)}$$

$$= \overline{X^2} - 2 \bar{X} \bar{X} + (\bar{X})^2 = \overline{X^2} - (\bar{X})^2$$

$$\textcircled{2} \text{ Cov}(X, X) = \text{Var}(X) \quad (!)$$

\textcircled{3} Real motivation:

$$\text{Var}(X+Y) = \overline{(X+Y - \overline{(X+Y)})^2}$$

$$= \overline{X^2 + Y^2 + 2XY - \text{other stuff}} = \dots$$

$$= \overline{X^2} - (\bar{X})^2 + \overline{Y^2} - (\bar{Y})^2 + 2(\overline{XY} - \bar{X}\bar{Y})$$

$$= \underbrace{\overline{X^2} - (\bar{X})^2}_{\text{Var } X} + \underbrace{\overline{Y^2} - (\bar{Y})^2}_{\text{Var } Y} + 2 \underbrace{(\overline{XY} - \bar{X}\bar{Y})}_{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}$$

Fact: $\text{Var}(A) = \text{Var}(N) = 4$ but $\text{Cov}(A, N) = -4$

$$\text{Var}(A+N) = \dots = 0$$