

Portfolio Issues

Module 14.3 Risk Attribution

1

Risk Attribution

- Risk attribution decomposes the total variance of excess return into a variety of statistics including percentage marginal contribution to risk by stock, sector, sector allocation decision, security selection decision, and interaction

- Numerous applications
- Aid in investment decision-making



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2

Some Basics

- Variance of portfolio representations

$$\sigma_{\Pi}^2 \equiv E\left[\left(\tilde{R}_{\Pi} - E(\tilde{R}_{\Pi})\right)^2\right] = \text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_{\Pi}, \tilde{R}_{\Pi}) = \text{Cov}\left(\sum_{j=1}^n w_j \tilde{R}_j, \tilde{R}_{\Pi}\right) = \sum_{j=1}^n w_j \text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_j, \tilde{R}_{\Pi})$$

- Marginal contribution to risk (MCTR)

$$MCTR_j = w_j \text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_j, \tilde{R}_{\Pi})$$

- Percentage MCTR (%MCTR): $\%MCTR_j = w_j \beta_{j,\Pi}$

$$1 = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n MCTR_j}{\sigma_{\Pi}^2} = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n w_j \text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_j, \tilde{R}_{\Pi})}{\sigma_{\Pi}^2} = \sum_{j=1}^n w_j \beta_{j,\Pi} = \sum_{j=1}^n \%MCTR_j$$

$$\beta_{j,\Pi} = \frac{\text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_j, \tilde{R}_{\Pi})}{\sigma_{\Pi}^2}$$



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3

Selected Variance Properties

$$\sigma^2(\tilde{R}_M) = \sum_{j=1}^n w_{M,j} \text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_j, \tilde{R}_M) = \sum_{k=1}^K \text{Cov}(\text{SAR}_{M,k}, \tilde{R}_M) = \sum_{k=1}^K \text{SAW}_{M,k} \text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_{M,k}, \tilde{R}_M)$$

$$\sigma^2(\tilde{R}_B) = \sum_{j=1}^n w_{B,j} \text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_j, \tilde{R}_B) = \sum_{k=1}^K \text{Cov}(\text{SAR}_{B,k}, \tilde{R}_B) = \sum_{k=1}^K \text{SAW}_{B,k} \text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_{B,k}, \tilde{R}_B)$$

$$\sigma^2(\text{ER}) = \text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_M - \tilde{R}_B, \text{ER}) = \sum_{j=1}^n w_{M,j} \text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_j, \text{ER}) - \sum_{j=1}^n w_{B,j} \text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_j, \text{ER})$$

$$= \text{Cov}(\text{SAD} + \text{SSD} + \text{I}, \text{ER}) = \text{Cov}(\text{SAD}, \text{ER}) + \text{Cov}(\text{SSD}, \text{ER}) + \text{Cov}(\text{I}, \text{ER})$$



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Excess Return Risk ($\sigma_{ER}^2 > 0$)

- Excess return risk:

$$1 = \frac{\text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_M - \tilde{R}_B, \text{ER})}{\sigma_{ER}^2} = \frac{\text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_M, \text{ER})}{\sigma_{ER}^2} - \frac{\text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_B, \text{ER})}{\sigma_{ER}^2} = \beta_{M,ER} - \beta_{B,ER}$$

- Decomposition:

$$1 = \frac{\text{Cov}(\text{SAD} + \text{SSD} + \text{I}, \text{ER})}{\sigma_{ER}^2} = \frac{\text{Cov}(\text{SAD}, \text{ER})}{\sigma_{ER}^2} + \frac{\text{Cov}(\text{SSD}, \text{ER})}{\sigma_{ER}^2} + \frac{\text{Cov}(\text{I}, \text{ER})}{\sigma_{ER}^2}$$

$$= \beta_{\text{SAD},ER} + \beta_{\text{SSD},ER} + \beta_{\text{I},ER}$$



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ER Beta Decompositions

- Sector allocation decision

$$\beta_{\text{SAD},ER} = \frac{\text{Cov}(\text{SAD}, \text{ER})}{\sigma_{ER}^2} = \sum_{k=1}^K (\text{SAW}_{M,k} - \text{SAW}_{B,k}) \beta_{B,k,ER}$$

- Security selection decision

$$\beta_{\text{SSD},ER} = \frac{\text{Cov}(\text{SSD}, \text{ER})}{\sigma_{ER}^2} = \sum_{k=1}^K \text{SAW}_{B,k} (\beta_{M,k,ER} - \beta_{B,k,ER})$$

- Interaction

$$\beta_{\text{I},ER} = \frac{\text{Cov}(\text{I}, \text{ER})}{\sigma_{ER}^2} = \sum_{k=1}^K (\text{SAW}_{M,k} - \text{SAW}_{B,k}) (\beta_{M,k,ER} - \beta_{B,k,ER})$$

$$\beta_{M,k,ER} = \frac{\text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_{M,k}, \text{ER})}{\sigma_{ER}^2} \quad \beta_{B,k,ER} = \frac{\text{Cov}(\tilde{R}_{B,k}, \text{ER})}{\sigma_{ER}^2} \quad \beta_{\text{SAD},ER} + \beta_{\text{SSD},ER} + \beta_{\text{I},ER} = \beta_{M,ER} - \beta_{B,ER} = 1$$



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6

Risk Key Results w/in Sector

- Sector allocation decision

$$\beta_{SAD,k,ER} = (SAW_{M,k} - SAW_{B,k})\beta_{B,k,ER}$$

- Security selection decision

$$\beta_{SSD,k,ER} = SAW_{B,k}(\beta_{M,k,ER} - \beta_{B,k,ER})$$

- Interaction

$$\beta_{I,k,ER} = (SAW_{M,k} - SAW_{B,k})(\beta_{M,k,ER} - \beta_{B,k,ER})$$



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7

7

Summary

- Performance attribution identifies strengths and weaknesses in the managerial process
- Return attribution decomposes the reported alpha into various managerial decision categories
- Risk attribution decomposes the excess return variance into various managerial decision categories



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8

8

Research Question

- How will performance attribution change once stochastic liabilities are introduced?
 - Example 1: Small bank
 - Example 2: Defined benefit retirement system
 - Example 3: High net worth family
- See Module 14.4 Keel Model



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9

9