

Risk analysis lab 2019. 12. 03. (Optimizing mean-reverting portfolios)

1. Load the supplied data (`s.csv`). The data is a $T \times N$ matrix containing daily closing prices for N asset and T days. Calculate the covariance matrix \mathbf{G} for the given time series $\mathbf{s}(t) = \{s_1(t), s_2(t), \dots, s_N(t)\}$, $t = 1, \dots, T$.
2. Assume that $\mathbf{s}(t)$ is subject to a first order vector autoregressive process – VAR(1) –, defined as follows: $\mathbf{s}(t) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{s}(t-1) + \mathbf{W}(t)$, where \mathbf{A} is a matrix of size $N \times N$ and $\mathbf{W}(t) \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$ are i.i.d. random variables for some $\sigma > 0$.

Estimate \mathbf{A} using least squares estimation techniques, as $\hat{\mathbf{A}} = \min_{\mathbf{A}} \left\| \sum_{t=2}^T \mathbf{s}(t) - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{s}(t-1) \right\|^2$ where

$\|\cdot\|^2$ denotes the Euclidian norm. Solving the minimization problem above, by equating the partial derivatives to zero with respect to each element of the matrix \mathbf{A} , we obtain a system of linear equations. Solving that for \mathbf{A} and switching back to vector notation for \mathbf{s} , we obtain

$$\hat{\mathbf{A}} = \left(\mathbf{s}^T(t-1)\mathbf{s}(t-1) \right)^+ \left(\mathbf{s}^T(t-1)\mathbf{s}(t) \right)$$

where M^+ denotes the Moore-Penrose pseudoinverse of a matrix \mathbf{M} . Use only the last sample for the estimation. (Note that the Moore-Penrose pseudoinverse is preferred to regular matrix inversion, in order to avoid problems which may arise because of the potential singularity.)

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def est_A(s)
    return A
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3. The traditional way to identify the optimal mean-reverting portfolio is to find a portfolio vector subject to maximizing its predictability. One may note that

$$\mathbf{w}_{opt} = \max_{\mathbf{w}} \lambda = \max_x \frac{\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{G} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w}}{\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{w}}$$

is equivalent to finding the eigenvector corresponding to the maximum eigenvalue in the following **generalized eigenvalue problem**:

$$\mathbf{A} \mathbf{G} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w} = \lambda \mathbf{G} \mathbf{w} .$$

Calculate the optimal mean reverting portfolio and print its λ parameter.