On Adaptive Online Mean-Variance Portfolio Selection Problems

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Abstract

Abstract Online portfolio selection is attracting a lot of attention due to its efficiency and practicability in deriving optimal investment strategies in real investment activities where the market information is constantly renewed in a very short period. One key issue in online portfolio selection include predicting the future returns of risky assets accurately given historical data and providing optimal investment strategies for investors in a short time. In the existing online portfolio selection studies, the historical return data of one risky asset is used to estimate its future return. In this talk, we incorporate the peer impact into the return prediction where the predicted return of one risky asset not only depends on its past return data but also the other risky assets in the financial market, which gives a more accurate prediction. An adaptive moving average method with peer impact (AOLPI) is proposed, in which the decaying factors can be adjusted automatically in the investment process. In addition, the adaptive mean-variance (AMV) model is applied in online portfolio selection where the variance is employed to measure the investment risk and the covariance matrix can be linearly updated in the investment process. The adaptive online moving average mean-variance (AOLPIMV) algorithm is proposed to provide flexible investment strategies for investors with different risk preferences. Numerical experiments are presented to validate the effectiveness and advantages of AOLPIMV.

Keywords: Online portfolio selection; Adaptive moving average method; Peer impact; Mean-Variance model; Quadratic programming.

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Outline

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• Online portfolio selection attracts both researchers and practitioners. It is different from the traditional portfolio selection theory proposed by Markowitz (1952) in his seminal work.

• In a **traditional portfolio selection problem**, it is usually assumed that the return of a risky asset is subject to a certain **distribution function**.

-Based on the distribution function, the **expected value** and **variance** of the return can be calculated to measure the **expected return** and **risk**, respectively.

-Then investors allocate the capital in different assets to achieve excess **investment return** or avert the **investment risk**.

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• In contrast, **online portfolio selection** concerns more on employing modern techniques to **predict the future returns of risky assets** and **making the optimal investment strategy**.

• Online portfolio selection focuses on exploring the most **efficient** and **practical computational intelligence techniques** to deal with real online asset trading problems.

• It is a **sequential decision making optimization problem** where the investment strategy is determined at the beginning of each short period.

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Introduction to Online Portfolio Selection (OLPS)

Online portfolio strategies can be classified into **five types**.

(I) The first one is called "**Benchmark**".

• One widely adopted Benchmark is the **Uniform Buy-and-Hold strategy**, which is also called the **Market strategy**, Li and Hoi (2014). In this strategy, the available capital is **uniformly distributed** into all the risky assets in each period.

• Another Benchmark is called the **Best stock strategy**, Li and Hoi (2014), where all the capital is invested into **the best asset** in the whole investment process.

• Constant Rebalanced Portfolios (CRP) strategy is a popular Benchmark where the allocation proportions of the risky assets are the **same in all periods**. There are two special CRPs: **Uniform Constant Rebalanced Portfolios** (UCRP) Li and Hoi (2015) and **Best Constant Rebalanced Portfolios** (BCRP) Cover (1991). イロト イ押 トイヨ トイヨ トー ÷. $2Q$

Introduction to Online Portfolio Selection (OLPS)

(II) The second type of methods focuses on the "**Follow the Winner**" strategy. They are based on the **momentum principle** which assumes that the risky assets performing well currently will continue achieving good performance in the next period.

• Cover (1991) proposed **Universal Portfolio (UP) strategy**, which first distributed the capital to **various portfolio managers** and derived the corresponding returns, then obtain the weighted average of returns of all strategies.

• Helmbold et al. (1998) proposed the **Exponential Gradient (EG) method** in which **exponentiated gradient update** was employed to calculate the investment proportions based on the past return data.

• Agarwal et al. (2006) employed the **Online Newton Step (ONS) method** to tackle online portfolio selection, where the **gradient** and **Hessian matrix** of the **log function of cumulative return** are computed. イロト イ押 トイヨ トイヨ トー \equiv

(III) There are some "**Follow the Loser**" approaches built on the **mean reversion principle**, which claims that the risky assets performing well in the past may return to normal or perform poorly in the next period. Therefore, it is encouraged to **buy the current under-performing risky assets** and **sell the overperforming assets**.

• Borodin et al. (2004) proposed the **Anti-correlation (Anticor) method** based on the **mean reversion principle**, where the proportions were transferred from the assets performing well to assets performing poorly, and **the explicit amounts of transferred proportions** are determined by the **cross-correlation matrix** of different risky assets.

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• Li et al. (2012) proposed the **Passive-aggressive Mean Reversion (PAMR) method** based on a loss function. Current portfolio will be kept if its return is **below a certain return threshold** under the assumption that **under-performing risky assets will perform better** in the next period.

• Similar to PAMR, Li et al. (2011, 2013) proposed the **Confidence Weighted Mean Reversion (CWMR) method** by modeling the portfolio vector with Gaussian distribution and update the distribution constantly following the **mean reversion principle**.

• Huang et al. (2016) proposed the **Robust Median Reversion (RMR) strategy** where the robust L_1 -median estimator was adopted to exploit the reversion phenomenon. **The RMR runs in linear time which is easy to implement in real algorithmic trading**.

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• The above PAMR and CWMR employed the **single-period mean reversion assumption** where the price of asset in the next period was estimated with **the price of last period**, which may not achieve good performance.

• To improve this, Li et al. (2012, 2015) employed the **Moving Average method** to predict the price of next period based on multiple prices of previous periods and proposed the **Online Moving Average Reversion (OLMAR) method**.

• In this talk, we shall consider **some extensions (AOLMA and AOLPI)**, Guo et al. (2021, 2024) of the **OLMAR method** for predicting prices/returns of risky assets.

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(IV) The fourth type of online portfolio selection strategies focuses on "**Pattern Matching Based Approaches**".

• There are usually **two steps** in pattern matching based approaches.

• The **first step** is **sample selection** intended for selecting the historical price patterns which are similar to the latest price pattern. The selected historical price patterns are used to **estimate the return vector** of the whole portfolio in the next period.

• The **second step** is to **construct the portfolio optimization model** based on the selected price patterns.

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Introduction to Online Portfolio Selection (OLPS)

• Györfi et al. (2006) employed the **nonparametric kernelbased sample selection method** to search for similar price patterns by comparing the **Euclidean distance of different patterns**, and constructed a log-optimal portfolio based on the capital growth theory.

• Li et al. (2011) employed the **correlation-driven nonparametric sample selection method** by using the correlation coefficient of different patterns, and proposed the **Correlationdriven Nonparametric (CORN) learning algorithm**.

(V) The fifth type of online portfolio selection strategies is the "**Meta-learning Approach**". In this approach, **multiple base experts** are defined where each expert is equipped with **different strategies and outputs one portfolio**. Then all the output portfolios are combined together into a final portfolio.

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Problem Formulation (I)

• In online portfolio selection, an investor makes sequential decisions according to the changing financial market.

• Denote the investment strategy in Period *t* by $\mathbf{x}_t = (x_{t1}, x_{t2}, \dots, x_{tm})$, where x_i is the proportion allocated to risky asset *i*, $(t =$ $1, 2, \ldots, n, i = 1, 2, \ldots, m$.

• Let the **return in Period** *t* be $\mathbf{r}_t = (r_{t1}, r_{t2}, \ldots, r_{tm})$. We note that **x***^t* **should be determined at the beginning of Period** *t* and **r***^t* **is known at the end of Period** *t* (See Figure 1).

Figure 1: The investment pro[ce](#page-11-0)[ss.](#page-13-0)

Problem Formulation (I)

• The return vector $\mathbf{r}_t = (r_{t1}, r_{t2}, \dots, r_{tm})$ is calculated as follows:

$$
\mathbf{r}_t = \mathbf{p}_t / \mathbf{p}_{t-1}
$$

where $\mathbf{p}_t = (p_{t1}, p_{t2}, \dots, p_{tm})$ is the price at period *t* and "/" is an element-wise division of two vectors.

• The **Cumulative Return** from the beginning of the investment to **Period** *n* can be expressed as follows:

$$
CR_n = \prod_{t=1}^n \mathbf{r}_t \mathbf{x}_t^T.
$$
 (1)

• We note that **transaction cost** is **NOT** considered in Eq. [\(1\)](#page-13-1). Recall that the decision variables satisfy the following constraints:

$$
\left|x_{t1}+x_{t2}+\ldots+x_{tm}=1,\quad t=1,2,\ldots,n,\right|\qquad\qquad (2)
$$

where $0 \le x_{ti} \le 1$, $i = 1, 2, ..., m$.

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Online Moving Average Method

• Li and Hoi (2012, 2015) proposed **two moving average methods** to predict the single-period return.

• The **first one** is a **Simple Moving Average (SMA) method**: Given the historical stock prices $\textbf{p}_1, \textbf{p}_2, \ldots, \textbf{p}_t$ and the truncated $$ lated as follows:

$$
\hat{\mathbf{p}}_{t+1} = \frac{1}{w} \sum_{i=t-w+1}^{t} \mathbf{p}_i.
$$

• The **estimated return** for \mathbf{r}_{t+1} can be obtained by

$$
\hat{\mathbf{r}}_{t+1} = \frac{\hat{\mathbf{p}}_{t+1}}{\mathbf{p}_t} = \frac{1}{w} \left(\mathbf{1} + \frac{\mathbf{1}}{\mathbf{r}_t} + \frac{\mathbf{1}}{\mathbf{r}_t \cdot \mathbf{r}_{t-1}} + \cdots + \frac{\mathbf{1}}{\prod_{i=0}^{w-2} \mathbf{r}_{t-i}} \right).
$$

Here **"1" is the vector of all ones** and the product "·" refers to **the element-wise product of vectors**. $A\cong A\rightarrow A\cong A$

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• The **second one** is the **Exponential Moving Average (EMA) method** which uses all the historical stock prices by assigning each stock price an **exponential weight**.

• The predicted stock price can be calculated as follows:

$$
\dot{\mathbf{p}}_{t+1} = \alpha \mathbf{p}_t + (1 - \alpha) \hat{\mathbf{p}}_t = \alpha \mathbf{p}_t + \alpha (1 - \alpha) \mathbf{p}_{t-1} + \dots + (1 - \alpha)^{t-1} \mathbf{p}_1
$$

and the **estimated return** is

$$
\hat{\mathbf{r}}_{t+1} = \alpha \mathbf{1} + (1 - \alpha) \frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}}_t}{\mathbf{r}_t}
$$

where α is the **decaying factor**.

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• We then propose the **Adaptive Online Moving Average (AOLMA) method** where the decaying factor can be **adjusted automatically** according to the performances of risky assets.

• Define the **decaying vector** of the whole portfolio at Period *t* by $\alpha_t = (\alpha_{t1}, \alpha_{t2}, \dots, \alpha_{tm})$, where α_{ti} is the decaying factor of risky asset i ($i = 1, 2, \ldots, m$).

• Then the **predicted price at Period** $(t + 1)$ can be expressed as follows:

$$
\hat{\mathbf{p}}_{t+1} = \alpha_{t+1} \cdot \mathbf{p}_t + (\mathbf{1} - \alpha_{t+1}) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}_t \tag{3}
$$

and the **predicted return** is

$$
\hat{\mathbf{r}}_{t+1} = \alpha_{t+1} \cdot \mathbf{1} + (\mathbf{1} - \alpha_{t+1}) \cdot \frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}}_t}{\mathbf{r}_t}.
$$
 (4)

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• The key of the adaptive moving average method lies in the $\mathop{\mathsf{decaying}}\nolimits$ factor $\alpha_t.$ We believe that a time-dependent decaying factor will further improve the prediction accuracy.

• Consider **risky asset** *i* at **Period** *t*: the predicted return following from Eq. [\(4\)](#page-16-0) is given by

$$
\hat{r}_{ti} = \alpha_{ti} + (1 - \alpha_{ti}) \frac{\hat{r}_{(t-1)i}}{r_{(t-1)i}}
$$

and the **corresponding error** is

$$
r_{ti} - \hat{r}_{ti} = r_{ti} - \frac{\hat{r}_{(t-1)i}}{r_{(t-1)i}} - \left(1 - \frac{\hat{r}_{(t-1)i}}{r_{(t-1)i}}\right)\alpha_{ti}.
$$

α*ti*. (5)

• Our aim is to **improve** (reduce) the **prediction error** in the online portfolio selection process. Once *rti* is known, the error can be obtained and can be applied to determine the decaying factor for the next period.

• There are **four cases** that one needs to consider:

Case 1: $r_{ti} > \hat{r}_{ti}$ and $r_{(t-1)i} > \hat{r}_{(t-1)i}$. Case 2: $r_{ti} > \hat{r}_{ti}$ and $r_{(t-1)i} \leq \hat{r}_{(t-1)i}.$ **Case 3**: $r_{ti} \leq \hat{r}_{ti}$ and $r_{(t-1)i} > \hat{r}_{(t-1)i}$. **Case 4:** $r_{ti} \leq \hat{r}_{ti}$ and $r_{(t-1)i} \leq \hat{r}_{(t-1)i}$.

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• For **Case 1**, it can be derived from Eq. [\(5\)](#page-17-0) that the coefficient of α_{ti} is $- \left(1 - \frac{\hat{r}_{(t-1)i}}{r_{(t-1)i}} \right)$ *r*(*t*−1)*ⁱ* $\Big) < 0.$

• Then, the decaying factor for the next period $\alpha_{(t+1)i}$ can be **increased** by one step size to reduce the prediction error:

$$
\alpha_{(t+1)i} = \alpha_{ti} + \tau \tag{6}
$$

where τ is the given **step size** of the decaying factor.

• For Case 2, the coefficient is $\left(1 - \frac{\hat{r}_{(t-1)i}}{r_{(t-1)i}}\right)$ *r*(*t*−1)*ⁱ* $\big) \geq 0$, then the decaying factor $\alpha_{(t+1)i}$ can be **decreased** to reduce the prediction error as follows:

$$
\alpha_{(t+1)i} = \alpha_{ti} - \tau. \tag{7}
$$

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• Similarly, for **Case 3** and **Case 4**, the decaying factor can be updated by Eqs. [\(6\)](#page-19-0) and [\(7\)](#page-19-1), respectively.

Remark

-It is reasonable to employ the above decaying factor updating mechanism in online portfolio selection.

-For example, in Case 1, both $\hat{r}_{(t-1)i}$ and \hat{r}_{ti} are underestimated. Then in the next period, it is necessary to increase the value of $\hat{r}_{(t+1)i}$ by using a larger $\alpha_{(t+1)i}$ following from Eq. [\(5\)](#page-17-0) (As $\frac{\hat{r}_{ti}}{r_{ti}} < 1$). -The **initial value** of the decaying factor is set to be $\alpha_{1i} = 0.5$. If the iterated decaying factor α_{ti} is **outside the interval** [0, 1], then it is **reset to** 0.5.

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Example

-To verify the effectiveness of our proposed AOLMA method, we employ the classical benchmark data set **MSCI which contains the historical daily returns of 24 stocks from April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2010**, Li and Ho (2015).

-For each stock *i*, its **prediction relative error** at the *j*-th trading day is given by

$$
Er(j) = \frac{|\hat{r}_{ji} - r_{ji}|}{r_{ji}} \times 100\%
$$

and the **average relative error** is

$$
\bar{Er} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \frac{|\hat{r}_{ji} - r_{ji}|}{r_{ji}} \times 100\%.
$$

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Example

-We apply **SMA** ($w = 6$), **EMA** ($\alpha = 0.5$), **AOLMA** ($\tau = 0.0006$) to estimate the daily returns and make comparisons with the real returns. -The average relative errors are shown in Table [1.](#page-22-0)

-It is clear that AOLMA achieves the **lowest relative error** in each stock, meaning that AOLMA performs better than both SMA and EMA.

Stock	$SMA(\%)$	$EMA(\%)$	$AOLMA(\%)$	Stock	$SMA(\%)$	$EMA(\%)$	AOLMA(%)
	2.06	1.16	1.14	13	1.88	1.06	1.04
\overline{c}	3.08	1.75	1.69	14	3.69	2.07	2.05
3	2.57	1.44	1.42	15	2.53	1.43	1.39
$\overline{4}$	2.11	1.19	1.16	16	3.48	1.96	1.92
	3.39	1.90	1.87	17	2.72	1.53	1.48
6	2.80	1.58	1.53	18	2.68	1.51	1.48
	2.62	1.48	1.43	19	3.18	1.79	1.77
8	2.26	1.28	1.25	20	2.72	1.53	1.48
9	4.00	2.25	2.21	21	2.87	1.62	1.57
10	2.62	1.48	1.46	22	2.83	1.59	1.56
11	2.60	1.47	1.45	23	3.52	1.98	1.93
12	2.72	1.53	1.50	24	2.30	1.29	1.29

Table 1: Average relative errors of SMA, EMA and AOLMA.

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Example

-To test the **robustness** of AOLMA, we conduct multiple experiments with **step size** τ **ranging from** 0.0001 **to** 0.0010.

-The final average relative errors are shown in Fig. 2.

-For all the stocks, the maximum difference of average relative errors with different τ **does not exceed** 0.09%.

-To show the advantages of AOLMA, for all step sizes τ , we select **the worst case** of average relative error for each stock, and compare it with SMA and EMA (See Fig. 3).

Figure 2: Average relative errors for different τ

Figure 3: A comparison with SMA and EMA

 $($ \Box \rightarrow $($ $\frac{1}{10}$ \rightarrow $($ $\frac{1}{10}$ \rightarrow $($ $\frac{1}{10}$ \rightarrow $($ $\frac{1}{10}$ \rightarrow $($ $\frac{1}{10}$ \rightarrow $($ $\frac{1}{10}$ \rightarrow $($ $\frac{1}{10}$ \rightarrow $($ $\frac{1}{10}$ \rightarrow $($ $\frac{1}{10}$ \rightarrow $($ $\frac{1}{10}$ \rightarrow $($ $\frac{$

• We propose the **Net Profit Maximization Model with Transaction Costs**. It is worth noting that several general assumptions are made in the model.

− Firstly, we assume **proportional transaction costs** on risky assets **purchases and sales**.

− Secondly, we assume that each asset share is **arbitrarily divisible**, and that any required quantities of shares, even fractional, can be **bought and sold** at the last closing price in any trading period.

− Thirdly, we assume that **market behavior** and **stock prices** are **NOT affected** by any trading strategy / market impact.

− Fourthly, **NO capital** is added or removed from the portfolio.

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Net Profit Maximization Model with Transaction Costs

• The **net profit maximization model (NPM)** considering **transaction cost** in each trading period:

$$
\begin{cases}\n\max \sum_{i=1}^{m} \hat{r}_{ti}x_{ti} - \gamma \sum_{i=1}^{m} |x_{ti} - \tilde{x}_{(t-1)i}|. \\
\text{s.t.} \quad x_{t1} + x_{t2} + \ldots + x_{tm} = 1, 0 \le x_{ti} \le 1, i = 1, 2, \ldots, m. \\
\text{(8)}\n\end{cases}
$$

• Here γ is the **unit transaction cost rate** for buying/selling assets, $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{t-1}$ is the actually investment strategy in period $(t-1)$. • The model can be transformed into the following **LP problem**:

$$
\begin{cases}\n\max \quad \sum_{i=1}^{m} \hat{r}_{ti}\tilde{x}_{(t-1)i} + \sum_{i=1}^{m} (\tilde{x}_{(t-1)i} - \gamma)u_{ti} - \sum_{i=1}^{m} (\tilde{x}_{(t-1)i} + \gamma)v_{ti} \\
\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{i=1}^{m} (u_{ti} - v_{ti}) = 0, \\
0 \le \tilde{x}_{(t-1)i} + u_{ti} - v_{ti} \le 1, i = 1, 2, \dots, m, u_{ti} \ge 0, v_{ti} \ge 0, i = 1,\n\end{cases}
$$
\n(9)

• Integrating AOLMA and NPM together, we have **Adaptive On-Line Net Profit Maximization (AOLNPM) [A](#page-24-0)l[go](#page-26-0)[r](#page-24-0)[it](#page-25-0)[h](#page-26-0)[m](#page-0-0)**[.](#page-59-0) 290

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• **MSCI**, **NYSE-O**, **NYSE-N** and **TSE** are employed as benchmark data sets for testing the performances of different online portfolio selection algorithms.

• **MSCI** contains **24 stocks** which has been employed for verifying the effectiveness of AOLMA method.

• **NYSE-O** and **NYSE-N** contain historical return data of stocks selected from **American stock market**, where **NYSE-O** contains the data of **36 stocks ranging from June 3, 1962 to December 31, 1984**, and **NYSE-N** contains the data of **23 stocks ranging from January 1, 1985 to June 30, 2010**.

• **TSE** contains **88 stocks** selected from **Canadian stock market** ranging from January 4, 1994 to December 31, 1998.

• The total numbers of the trading days for MSCI, NYSE-O, NYSE-N and TSE are **1043**, **5651**, **6431** and **1259**, respectively.

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• Numerical results for demonstrating the effectiveness of AOL-NPM algorithm over other algorithms on benchmark data sets: MSCI (Li and Ho (2015)), NYSE-O (Konno and Yamazaki (1991)), NYSE-N (Cover (1991)) and TSE (Borodin et al. (2004)).

Figure 4: **Cumulative returns** on diffe[re](#page-26-0)[nt](#page-28-0) [d](#page-26-0)[ata](#page-27-0)[se](#page-0-0)[ts.](#page-59-0)

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Table 2: **Mean excess return** on MSCI, NYSE-O, NYSE-N and TSE

$$
MER = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} (R_t - R_t^{\star}) = \bar{R} - \bar{R}^{\star}.
$$

 R_t^{\star} is the return of the portfolio in period *t* by using Market strategy, and R_t is the return of the portfolio in period *t*.

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Table 3: **Sharpe ratios** on MSCI, NYSE-O, NYSE-N and TSE.

 $SR = \frac{1}{1}$ $\frac{1}{\sigma}(\bar{R}-r_f).$

Here *r_f* is the risk-free return in financial market, \bar{R} is the average return of the portfolio and σ is the corresponding

standard deviation of daily returns.

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Table 4: **Information ratios** on MSCI, NYSE-O, NYSE-N and TSE.

 $IR = (\bar{R} - \bar{R}^{\star})/\sigma(R - R^{\star}).$

Here $\sigma(R - R^*)$ is the standard deviation of the excess return over Market strategy.

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Table 5: **Calmar ratios** on MSCI, NYSE-O, NYSE-N and TSE.

$$
CR = \bar{R}_{net}/MDD, \quad MDD =
$$

$$
\sqrt{\frac{1}{n}\sum_{t=1}^{n}\min\{R_{t}-1,0\}^{2}}.
$$

Here \bar{R}_{net} is the average daily net profit return rate, and MDD (the maximum drawdown of return) only covers the

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Figure 5: Impact of AOLMA and NPM: AOLNPM, NPM with EMA and OLMAR

The **blue curve** is the **cumulative return** derived by the **OLMAR method**. The **green curve** refers to the return by using **EMA and our NPM model**. The **red curve** is obtained by using **AOLMA and NPM (AOLNPM) simultane[ous](#page-31-0)l[y](#page-33-0)**.

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Figure 6: Cumulative returns with different transaction cost rates.

To study the relationship between the transaction cost rate γ and the cumulative return, we set different rates ranging from 0.1% to 0.7%. It is found that AOLNPM dominates other algorithms with high or low transaction cost rate.

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Online Moving Average with Peer Impact Method (Motivation)

- In a financial market, the performance of one asset may be affected by that of **other assets** and the financial market. Therefore, it is useful to consider the **impact of peer assets**.
- The price fluctuation of different assets may differ a lot and it is therefore better to **employ different decaying factors** for different assets.
- In real applications, risk-neural and risk-averse investors treat controlling investment risk as one important objective. It is necessary and important to incorporate **investment risk** into the objective of OLPS.

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• Recall that the investor invests into *m* risky assets within the investment horizon of *n* periods. At the beginning of period *t*, the investment strategy $\mathbf{x}_t = (x_{t,1}, x_{t,2}, \ldots, x_{t,m})$ should be determined. Suppose that the **price relative vector** at period *t* is $\mathbf{r}_t = (r_{t,1}, r_{t,2}, \ldots, r_{t,m})$. The final **wealth** at the end of period *n* is as follows:

$$
S_n = S_0 \prod_{t=1}^n (\mathbf{x}_t \mathbf{r}_t^\top - \gamma \parallel \mathbf{x}_t - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{t-1} \parallel_1).
$$
 (10)

• The prediction method EMA only depends on the past historical data sequence $\mathbf{D}_{t,i} = (r_{1,i}, r_{2,i}, \ldots, r_{(t-1),i}).$ In this talk, we introduce the **peer impact**. For Asset *i*, we denote the average return data of all the other assets as $\bar{\bm{\mathsf{D}}}_{t,i}$, where

$$
\mathbf{\tilde{D}}_{t,i} = \left(R_{1,i}, R_{2,i}, \ldots, R_{(t-1),i}\right) = \left(\frac{\sum_{k \neq i} r_{1,k}}{m-1}, \frac{\sum_{k \neq i} r_{2,k}}{m-1}, \ldots, \frac{\sum_{k \neq i} r_{(t-1),k}}{m-1}\right).
$$

From the data sequence **D***t*,*ⁱ* , we derive

$$
u_{t,i} = \bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(1)} + (1 - \bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(1)}) \cdot \frac{\hat{r}_{(t-1),i}}{r_{(t-1),i}}.
$$

Similarly, for data sequence $\bar{\bm{\mathsf{D}}}_{t,i}$, we derive

$$
\mathfrak{o}_{t,i} = \bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(2)} + (1 - \bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(2)}) \cdot \frac{\hat{R}_{(t-1),i}}{R_{(t-1),i}},
$$

where $\bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{\left(1\right)}$ $\bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(1)}$ and $\bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(2)}$ *t*,*i* are the **decaying factors** of asset *i* at period t for $\mathbf{D}_{t,i}$ and $\bar{\mathbf{D}}_{t,i}$, respectively.

• Then, we estimate the future return $r_{t,i}$ based on $u_{t,i}$ and $v_{t,i}$, which can be expressed as follows:

$$
\hat{r}_{t,i} = \alpha_i u_{t,i} + \beta_i v_{t,i}
$$

where α_i and β_i are the **weighting factors**, meaning that $\hat{r}_{t,i}$ $\hat{r}_{t,i}$ $\hat{r}_{t,i}$ is both affected by the historical da[ta](#page-35-0) $\mathbf{D}_{t,i}$ $\mathbf{D}_{t,i}$ $\mathbf{D}_{t,i}$ $\mathbf{D}_{t,i}$ $\mathbf{D}_{t,i}$ [a](#page-36-0)[n](#page-37-0)[d](#page-0-0) $\bar{\mathbf{D}}_{t,i}.$ $\bar{\mathbf{D}}_{t,i}.$

• At the beginning of period t , all the historical data $D_{t,i}$ and $\bar{\bm{\mathsf{D}}}_{t,i}$ are available and the values of $u_{t,i}$ and $v_{t,i}$ can be derived. Then, the **sum of mean squared errors** over the first $(t - 1)$ periods is

$$
MSE_i = \sum_{k=1}^{t-1} (\alpha_i u_{k,i} + \beta_i v_{k,i} - r_{k,i})^2.
$$

To minimize the sum of **mean squared errors** (MSE), we set the derivatives with respect to α_i and $\beta_i.$

We derive the $\mathsf{estimations}$ for α_i and $\beta_i\!\!:$

$$
\hat{\alpha}_{i} = \frac{\left(\sum_{k=1}^{t-1} r_{k,i} u_{k,i}\right)\left(\sum_{k=1}^{t-1} v_{k,i}^{2}\right) - \left(\sum_{k=1}^{t-1} u_{k,i} v_{k,i}\right)\left(\sum_{k=1}^{t-1} r_{k,i} v_{k,i}\right)}{\left(\sum_{k=1}^{t-1} u_{k,i}^{2}\right)\left(\sum_{k=1}^{t-1} v_{k,i}^{2}\right) - \left(\sum_{k=1}^{t-1} u_{k,i} v_{k,i}\right)^{2}}
$$
\n
$$
\hat{\beta}_{i} = \frac{\left(\sum_{k=1}^{t-1} r_{k,i} v_{k,i}\right)\left(\sum_{k=1}^{t-1} u_{k,i}^{2}\right) - \left(\sum_{k=1}^{t-1} u_{k,i} v_{k,i}\right)\left(\sum_{k=1}^{t-1} u_{k,i} r_{k,i}\right)}{\left(\sum_{k=1}^{t-1} u_{k,i}^{2}\right)\left(\sum_{k=1}^{t-1} v_{k,i}^{2}\right) - \left(\sum_{k=1}^{t-1} u_{k,i} v_{k,i}\right)^{2}}.
$$

• Then, we have

$$
\hat{r}_{t,i} = \hat{\alpha}_i \left[\bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(1)} + (1 - \bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(1)}) \cdot \frac{\hat{r}_{(t-1),i}}{r_{(t-1),i}} \right] + \hat{\beta}_i \left[\bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(2)} + (1 - \bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(2)}) \cdot \frac{\hat{R}_{(t-1),i}}{R_{(t-1),i}} \right],
$$

and the **corresponding estimation error** is

$$
r_{t,i} - \hat{r}_{t,i} = r_{t,i} - \hat{\alpha}_i \left(\frac{\bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(1)} r_{(t-1),i} + (1 - \bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(1)}) \hat{r}_{(t-1),i}}{r_{(t-1),i}} \right) - \hat{\beta}_i \left(\frac{\bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(2)} R_{(t-1),i} + (1 - \bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(2)}) \hat{R}_{(t-1),i}}{R_{(t-1),i}} \right).
$$

Here $\bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(1)}$ *t*,*i* can be updated to potentially **reduce the estimation error** of the next period, see Table [6.](#page-38-1)

Table 6: Decaying factor iteration table.

For the factor $\bar{\theta}_{t,i}^{(2)}$ $t_{t,i}^{(2)}$, we use similar iteration mechanism. The initial value of the **decaying factor** is [se](#page-37-0)t [to](#page-39-0) [be](#page-38-0) [0](#page-0-0).[5](#page-59-0)[.](#page-59-0)

Figure 7: A comparison of the average relative errors of AOLMA and AOLPI.

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Then, we propose **Adaptive Mean-Variance** (AMV) model to solve the practical OLPS problem. The variance of the risky asset is employed as a measure of the investment risk. The AMV model is given as follows:

$$
\begin{cases}\n\max \quad \mathbf{x}_t \mathbf{r}_t^\top - \eta \mathbf{x}_t \mathbf{\Sigma}_t \mathbf{x}_t^\top - \gamma \parallel \mathbf{x}_t - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{t-1} \parallel_1 \\
\text{s.t.} \quad \mathbf{x}_t \mathbf{1}^\top = 1, \\
\mathbf{0} \le \mathbf{x}_t \le \mathbf{1}\n\end{cases} (11)
$$

Here Σ*^t* is the **covariance matrix** of all assets estimated at the beginning of period t, η is the **weighting factor** $(\eta > 0)$. • The updating process of Σ_t can be expressed as follows:

$$
\pmb{\Sigma}_l = \left(\begin{array}{cccc} \sigma_{1,1}^{(t)} & \sigma_{1,2}^{(t)} & \sigma_{1,3}^{(t)} & \cdots & \sigma_{1,n}^{(t)} \\ \sigma_{2,1}^{(t)} & \sigma_{2,2}^{(t)} & \sigma_{2,3}^{(t)} & \cdots & \sigma_{2,n}^{(t)} \\ \sigma_{3,1}^{(t)} & \sigma_{3,2}^{(t)} & \sigma_{3,3}^{(t)} & \cdots & \sigma_{3,n}^{(t)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \sigma_{m,1}^{(t)} & \sigma_{m,2}^{(t)} & \sigma_{m,3}^{(t)} & \cdots & \sigma_{m,m}^{(t)} \\ \end{array} \right)
$$

where each $\sigma^{(t)}_{i,i}$ *i*,*j* is the **covariance of Assets** *i* **and** *j* at the beginning of period *t*.

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For Asset *i*, the **average value** of the past returns $\mu_{t,i}$ is defined as follows:

$$
\mu_{t,i} = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{t-1} r_{k,i}}{t-1}.
$$

The iteration formula relating $\mu_{t,i}$ and $\mu_{(t+1),i}$ can be derived as follows:

$$
\mu_{(t+1),i} = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{t} r_{k,i}}{t} = \frac{(t-1)\mu_{t,i} + r_{t,i}}{t} = \left(\frac{t-1}{t}\right)\mu_{t,i} + \frac{1}{t}r_{t,i}.
$$

The **variance of Asset** *i* can be calculated by

$$
\sigma_{i,i}^{(t)} = \frac{1}{t-2} \sum_{k=1}^{t-1} (r_{k,i} - \mu_{t,i})^2,
$$

and the iteration formula relating $\sigma_{i,i}^{(t)}$ and $\sigma_{i,i}^{(t+1)}$ is

$$
\sigma_{i,i}^{(t+1)} = \frac{t-2}{t-1} \sigma_{i,i}^{(t)} + \frac{1}{t} (r_{t,i} - \mu_{t,i})^2.
$$

For Assets *i* and *j*, we have

$$
\sigma_{i,j}^{(t)} = \frac{1}{t-2} \sum_{k=1}^{t-1} (r_{k,i} - \mu_{t,i}) (r_{k,j} - \mu_{t,j}).
$$

Then, the iteration formula relating $\sigma_{i,j}^{(t)}$ $\sigma^{(t)}_{i,j}$ and $\sigma^{(t+1)}_{i,j}$ *i*,*j* can be derived as follows:

$$
\sigma_{i,j}^{(t+1)} = \frac{t-2}{t-1}\sigma_{i,j}^{(t)} + \frac{1}{t}(r_{t,i} - \mu_{t,i})(r_{t,j} - \mu_{t,j}).
$$

• The **covariance matrix** can be updated when new return data is obtained at the end of period *t*, which is given by

$$
\Sigma_{t+1} = \left(\frac{t-2}{t-1}\right) \Sigma_t + \frac{1}{t} M_t
$$

where $\textbf{\emph{M}}_{t}$ is an $n\times n$ matrix with its (i,j) -th entry being given by $(r_{t,i} - \mu_{t,i})(r_{t,i} - \mu_{t,i}).$

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We then combine the **AOLPI method** with the **AMV model** together in solving the following optimization problem:

$$
\begin{cases}\n\max \quad \mathbf{x}_t \hat{\mathbf{r}}_t^\top - \eta \mathbf{x}_t \mathbf{\Sigma}_t \mathbf{x}_t^\top - \gamma \parallel \mathbf{x}_t - \tilde{\mathbf{b}}_{t-1} \parallel_1 \\
\text{s.t.} \quad \mathbf{x}_t \mathbf{1}^\top = 1, \\
\mathbf{0} \le \mathbf{x}_t \le \mathbf{1},\n\end{cases}
$$
\n(12)

where the first two terms $\mathbf{x}_t \hat{\mathbf{r}}_t, \eta \mathbf{x}_t \mathbf{\Sigma}_t \mathbf{x}_t^\top$ in the objective function is standard **quadratic programming**.

We employ the **method of change of variables** to transform $\gamma ||\mathbf{x}_t - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{t-1}||_1$ into a linear one. Suppose that there are non-negative variables $u_{t,i}$ and $v_{t,i}$ such that

$$
\left(\begin{array}{c} |x_{t,i}-\tilde{x}_{(t-1),i}| \\ x_{t,i}-\tilde{x}_{(t-1),i} \end{array}\right)=\left(\begin{array}{cc} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{c} u_{t,i} \\ v_{t,i} \end{array}\right), \quad i=1,2,\ldots,m.
$$

It can be derived that $x_{t,i} = \tilde{x}_{(t-1),i} + u_{t,i} - v_{t,i}$. Then,

$$
\mathbf{x}_t = (\mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{v}_t)N + \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{t-1},
$$

where $N = (\mathbf{I}_m, -\mathbf{I}_m)^\top$ and \mathbf{I}_m is an identity matrix of size $m \times m$. The transaction cost term can be transformed into

$$
\gamma \parallel \mathbf{x}_{t} - \tilde{\mathbf{b}}_{t-1} \parallel_1 = \gamma \sum_{i=1}^{m} (u_{t,i} + v_{t,i}) = \gamma(\mathbf{u}_{t}, \mathbf{v}_{t})(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})^{\top},
$$

where $(1, 1)$ is the $1 \times 2m$ row vector of all ones.

• Model [\(12\)](#page-43-0) can be reformulated as follows:

$$
\begin{cases}\n\max \quad (\mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{v}_t) \mathbf{F}_t^\top - \eta(\mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{v}_t) \mathbf{H}_t (\mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{v}_t)^\top + \mathbf{C}_t \\
\text{s.t.} \quad (\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{v}_t) \mathbf{1}^\top = 0, \\
-\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{t-1} \le (\mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{v}_t) \mathbf{N} \le \mathbf{1} - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{t-1}, \\
\mathbf{0} \le \mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{0} \le \mathbf{v}_t,\n\end{cases}
$$
\n(13)

where $\bm{F}_t = \hat{\bm{\mathsf{r}}}_t \bm{N}^\top - \gamma(\bm{\mathsf{1}},\bm{\mathsf{1}}) - 2\eta \bm{N}\bm{\Sigma}_t \tilde{\bm{{\mathsf{x}}}}_{t-1}^\top, \bm{H}_t = N\bm{\Sigma}_t \bm{N}^\top$ and $C_t = \tilde{\mathbf{X}}_{t-1} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_t^\top - \eta \tilde{\mathbf{X}}_{t-1} \Sigma_t \tilde{\mathbf{X}}_{t-1}^\top.$ Ω

Theorem

The matrix H_t in Model [\(13\)](#page-44-0) is semi-positive definite for $t = 3, 4, \ldots, n$.

Theorem

There is at least one optimal solution for Model [\(13\)](#page-44-0) if the feasible region is not empty.

In addition, we can also derive the following theorem.

Theorem

Model [\(13\)](#page-44-0) achieves the optimal solution $\mathbf{u}_t^* = (u_{t,1}^*, u_{t,2}^*, \dots, u_{t,m}^*)$ and $\mathbf{v}_t^* = (v_{t,1}^*, v_{t,2}^*, \dots, v_{t,m}^*)$ if and only if Model [\(12\)](#page-43-0) achieves the optimal solution $\mathbf{x}_t^* = (x_{t,1}^*, x_{t,2}^*, \dots, x_{t,m}^*).$

 $\left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right.$

- We conduct numerical experiments to validate the effectiveness of our proposed AOLPIMV algorithm over some other OLPS algorithms. Some real data sets are employed, including **MSCI, NYSE-O, NYSE-N and TSE**.
- In addition, we collect the historical return data of another 20 stocks in the American stock market ranging from January 3, 2006, to October 7, 2010, which are contained in the data set **NASTDA**.
- AOLPIMV employs the adaptive decaying factors, and the corresponding **iteration step size** δ is set as 0.00040, 0.00045, 0.00010, 0.00065, and 0.00010 for MSCI, NYSE-O, NYSE-N, TSE, and NASTDA, respectively. The **risk weighting factor** η is set as 0.6, 0.05, 0.1, 0.7 and 0.005, respectively. The **window size** *w* is set to 6. The **transaction cost** γ is set to be 0.0005.

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Table 7: **Mean excess return** on MSCI, NYSE-O, NYSE-N, TSE, and NASTDA.

It can be seen that AOLPIMV gains the largest Mean excess return on MSCI, NYSE-O, NYSE-N and TSE, and the second largest return on NASTDA.

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It is clear that AOLPIMV performs the best in MSCI and TSE, achieving the second largest ratio on NYSE-O, and the third largest ratio on NYSE-N and NASTDA. This shows that AOLPIMV achieves relatively good and steady performance.

 $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$

Table 9: **Information ratios** on MSCI, NYSE-O, TSE, and NASTDA.

The benchmark is set as the Market strategy. It is clear that AOLPIMV achieves the largest Information ratios on TSE and the second largest ratio on MSCI and NYSE-O.

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Table 10: **Calmar ratios** on MSCI, NYSE-O, TSE, and NASTDA.

The benchmark is set as the Market strategy. It is clear that AOLPIMV achieves the largest Information ratios on MSCI, the second on NYSE-O and NASTDA and third on TSE.

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To further study the influence of introducing peer impact, we use the adaptive moving average mean-variance (AOLMAMV) algorithm, where the AOLMA is used to predict the future returns of risky assets without considering the peer impact.

Figure 8: Cumulative returns of AOLPIMV and AOLMAMV (Different Step Size δ).

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Figure 9: Number of assets in the last 43 periods.

 \leftarrow **Wai-Ki Ching On Adaptive Online Mean-Variance Portfolio Selection Proble**

Conclusions

- To accurately predict the future returns of assets, we propose the **AOLPI method**, which considers the historical returns of assets and the **peer impact of other assets**.
- Meanwhile, we construct the **AMV model** where the investment return and risk are considered simultaneously in the decision making process.
- We **integrate AOLPI and AMV** and propose the **AOLPIMV algorithm** to solve practical online portfolio selection issues. Numerical experiments are provided to verify the effectiveness of the AOLPIMV algorithm.
- We shall study other **time series model** such as **ARIMA** for prediction and other **risk measure** such as **CVaR**.

 $\left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right.$

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