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Lecture 2: Risk and Financial Crises

Economics 252, Spring 2011 Prof. Robert Shiller, Yale University

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Return

•
$$Return_t = \frac{Price_{t+1} - Price_t + Dividend_t}{P_t}$$

• Gross Return = 1 + Return

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Expected Value, Mean, Average

$$E(x) = \mu_x = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} prob(x = x_i)x_i$$

$$E(x) = \mu_x = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)xdx$$

$$-\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i / n$$
 $G(x) = (\prod_{i=1}^{n} x_i)^{1/n}$

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Variance and Standard Deviation

$$var(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} prob(x = x_i)(x_i - \mu_x)^2$$

$$S_x^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \overline{x})^2 / n$$

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Covariance

$$cov(x, y) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x - \overline{x})(y - \overline{y})/n$$

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Correlation

 A scaled measure of how much two variables move together

•
$$-1 \le \rho \le 1$$

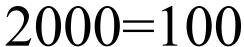
$$\rho = \operatorname{cov}(x, y) / (s_x s_y)$$

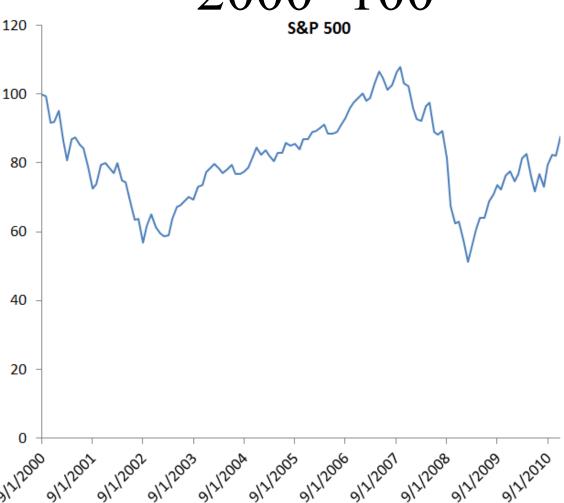
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Variance of Sum

• var(x + y) = var(x) + var(y) + 2cov(x, y)

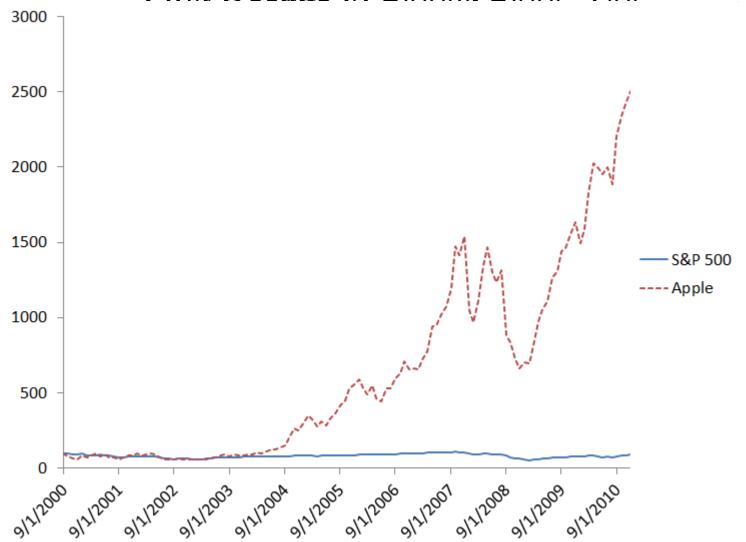
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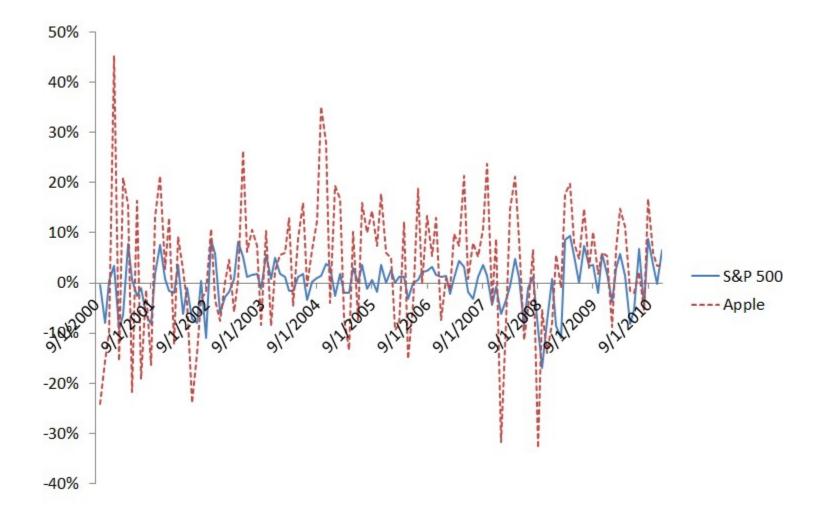


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First Decade of 2000s. 2000=100

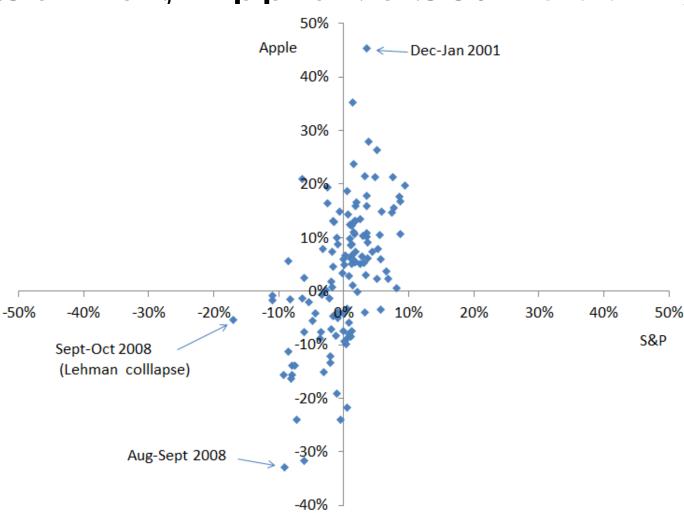


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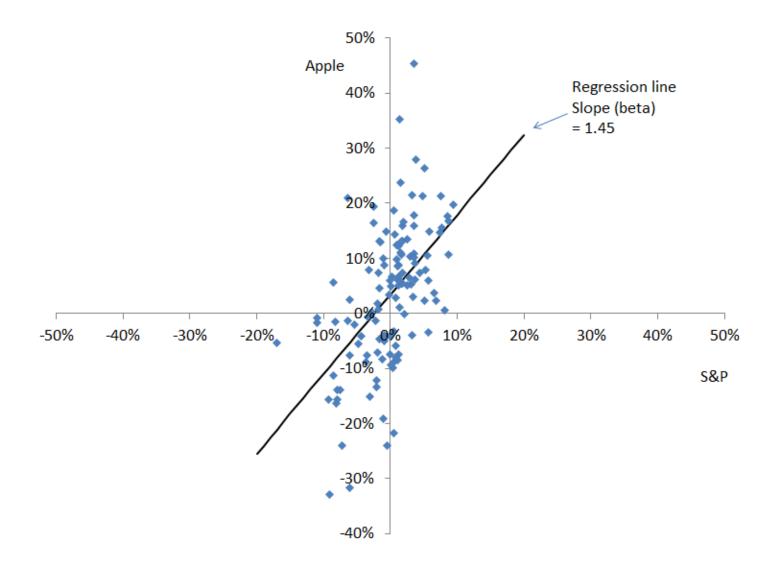
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Scatter, Apple vs S&P 500



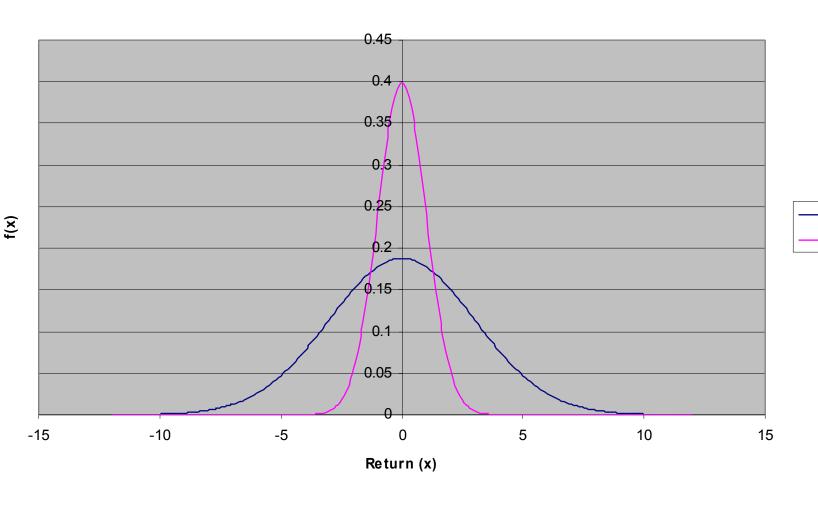
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Same Scatter with Regression Line



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Normal Distribution with Zero Mean

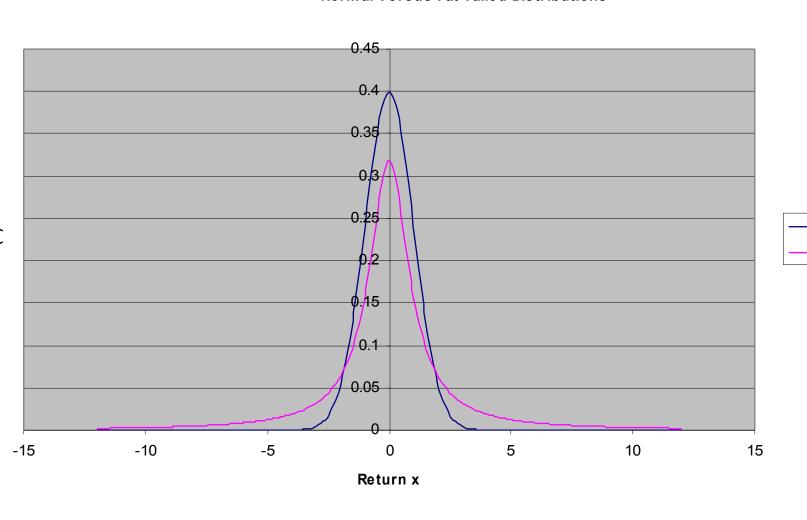


- Standard Dev. = 3

- Standard Dev. = 1

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Normal Versus Fat Tailed Distributions



Normal DistributionCauchy Distribution

