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The time-series relations among expected return, risk, and book-to-market $\hat{\alpha}^{\sim} \dagger$

Jonathan Lewellen

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Abstract

This paper examines the time-series relations among expected return, risk, and book-to-market (B/M) at the portfolio level. I find that B/M predicts economically and statistically significant time-variation in expected stock returns. Further, B/M is strongly associated with changes in risk, as measured by the [Fama and French \(1993\)](#) (*Journal of Financial Economics*, 33, 3â€“56) three-factor model. After controlling for risk, B/M provides no incremental information about expected returns. The evidence suggests that the three-factor model explains time-varying expected returns better than a characteristics-based model.



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JEL classification

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