

Unit 3. The Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM)



Corporate Finance

Degree in International Business

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Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Assumptions behind the CAPM
3. Capital Market Line (CML)
4. Security Market Line (SML)

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3.1. Introduction

- Efficient investors will need to divide their budgets between two funds or investment alternatives:
 - Investing in the Market Portfolio (M) representative of all risky securities.
 - Investing in the Risk-Free Asset (R_F).

Depending on their aversion to risk, these investors will choose a certain portfolio and position themselves along the line.

The Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM):

- This is the equilibrium model that underlies all modern financial theory.
- It is based on the principles of diversification with simplified assumptions.
- Markowitz, Sharpe, Lintner and Mossin are credited with the development of this model.

3.2. Assumptions behind the CAPM

- Three main assumptions underlie the CAPM:
 - 1) Investors can buy and sell all securities at competitive market prices (without incurring taxes or transactions costs) and can borrow and lend at the risk-free interest rate.
 - 2) Investors hold only efficient portfolios of traded securities – portfolios that yield the maximum expected return for a given level of volatility.
 - 3) Investors have homogeneous expectations regarding volatilities, correlations, and the expected returns of securities.

3.3. Capital Market Line (CML) (I)

– In line with the above:

- Efficient Portfolios adopt the following formal ex-post structure:

$$\tilde{R}_P = \omega \tilde{R}_M + (1 - \omega) R_F \quad (3.1)$$

- The ex-ante expected value of this portfolio is:

$$E(\tilde{R}_P) = \omega E(\tilde{R}_M) + (1 - \omega) R_F \quad (3.2)$$

$$\sigma_P = \omega \cdot \sigma_M \quad (3.3)$$

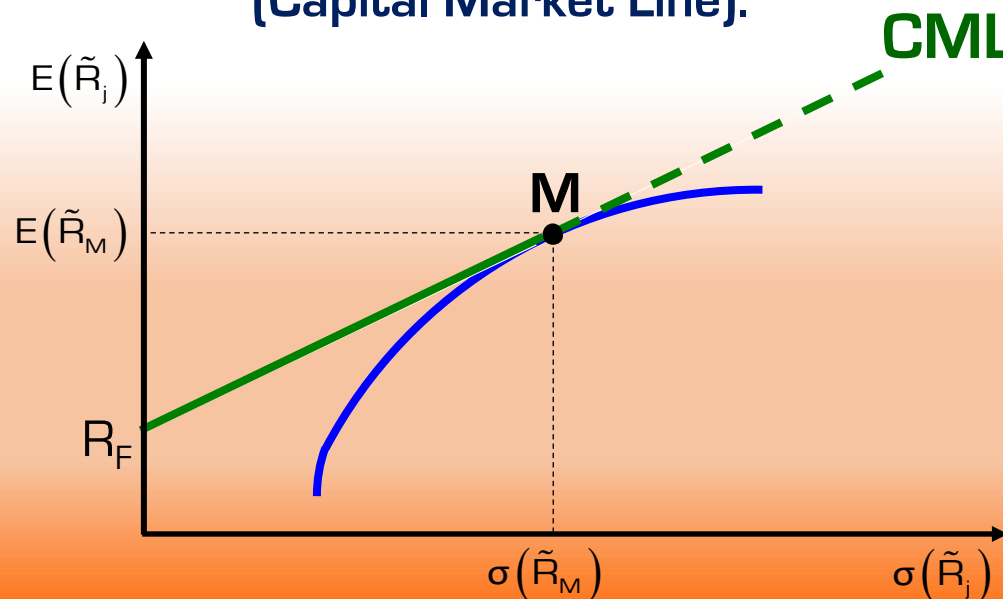
- We assume that these portfolios are well diversified and therefore have only systematic or market risk.

3.3. Capital Market Line (CML) (II)

- The correlation between any efficient portfolio and the market portfolio must be 1, since the portfolio is located on the line:

$$\rho_{PM} = \frac{\sigma_{PM}}{\sigma_P \sigma_M} = 1 \quad (3.4)$$

- This means that on the “new efficient frontier” we will have only efficient portfolios → **CML (Capital Market Line)**.



- With *lending portfolios*, part of the budget is invested into risk free assets and will give risk free return (R_f)
- With *borrowing portfolios*, we can finance (leverage) our investments by borrowing money from the market. The cost of borrowing is assumed to be the same as the lending rate (R_f).
- Under this new assumptions the Efficient Frontier is modified.

3.3. Capital Market Line (CML) (III)

- A limitation of the **CML** is that **it only considers Efficient Portfolios**.
- But in the market we can find both efficient and inefficient portfolios.
- We need a model that relates return and risk but for any type of portfolio.
- **Fundamental Equation of the CAPM Model (Capital Asset Pricing Model):** is materialized through **the SML (Security Market Line)**.

3.4. Security Market Line (SML) (I)

- The SML implies that:
 - Investors will be able to invest in efficient portfolios that have only systematic risk (it is correctly diversified).
 - If they invest in an inefficient (not diversified) portfolio, they take on more risk but the market only pays them to bear systematic risk.
- The expression of the Securities Market Line (SML) is generated through **the Fundamental Equation of the CAPM Model**:
 - It measures how changes in the returns of the market portfolio affect the returns of an investment (title or portfolio).
 - This sensitivity is measured using the beta coefficient (β):

$$\beta_j = \frac{\sigma_{jM}}{\sigma_M^2} \quad (3.5)$$

3.4. Security Market Line (SML) (II)

– The β of a portfolio/asset j implies:

$$\beta_j = \frac{\sigma_{jM}}{\sigma_M^2} = \frac{\rho_{jM} \cdot \sigma_j \cdot \sigma_M}{\sigma_M^2} = \frac{\rho_{jM} \cdot \sigma_j}{\sigma_M} \quad (3.6)$$

– According to expression (3.5), the value of β , assuming efficiency, will be:

$$\beta_j = \frac{\cancel{\rho_{jM}} \cdot \sigma_j}{\sigma_M} = \frac{\sigma_j}{\sigma_M} \quad (3.7)$$

– The β of the Market Portfolio implies:

$$\beta_M = \frac{\sigma_{MM}}{\sigma_M^2} = \frac{\sigma_M^2}{\sigma_M^2} = 1 \quad (3.8)$$

3.4. Security Market Line (SML) (III)

- Finally, the **CAPM Model** through the SML:

CAPM Model

$$E(\tilde{R}_j) = R_F + (E(\tilde{R}_M) - R_F) \beta_j \quad (3.9)$$

Where:

R_F : risk free rate, return of asset risk free (Treasury Bills)

$(E(\tilde{R}_M) - R_F)$ is the market risk premium. It is the premium for the systematic risk borne. Market returns are above the risk-free asset returns.

β_j is the beta of the investment (market risk). It is the sensitivity of the return of portfolio/asset j to changes in the performance of the market portfolio.

This equation is satisfied for both Efficient and Non-Efficient Portfolios.

3.4. Security Market Line (SML) (IV)

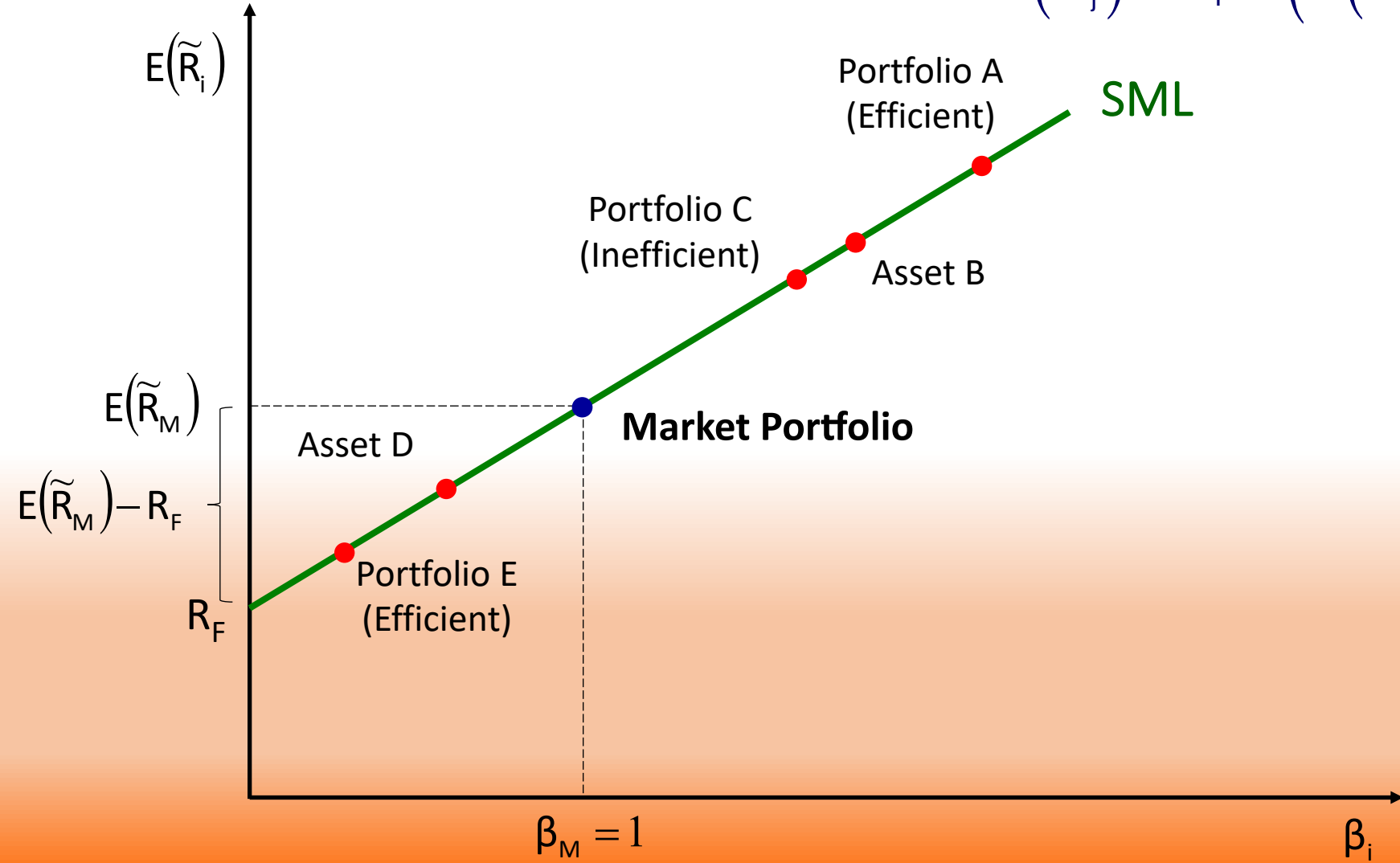
If we accept a linear relationship:

- The model can be represented with a line: **The Securities Market Line (SML)**.
- All securities should comply with the model, even the Market Portfolio (M).
- Since we need only two points to draw a line, in our market we would know that:
 - the risk-free asset: $\beta_{rf} = 0$ and the expected return is R_F .
 - the Market Portfolio: $\beta_M = 1$ and the expected return is $E(R_M)$.

3.4. Security Market Line (SML) (V)

- The SML represented graphically:

$$E(\tilde{R}_j) = R_F + (E(\tilde{R}_M) - R_F) \beta_j$$



3.4. Security Market Line (SML) (VI)

- Assets can be classified according to their β :
- **Aggressive Assets ($\beta_i > 1$)**: Securities whose risk is greater than that of the market itself.
 - If the market goes up, our portfolio will go up more.
 - If the market goes down, our portfolio will go down more.
- **Neutral Assets ($\beta_i = 1$)**: Securities whose risk is the same as that of the market.
 - If the market goes up, our portfolio will go up by the same proportion.
 - If the market goes down, our portfolio will go down by the same proportion.
- **Defensive Assets ($\beta_i < 1$)**: Securities whose risk is lower than that of the market.
 - If the market goes up, our portfolio will go down to a lesser extent.
 - If the market goes down, our portfolio will rise to a lesser extent.

3.4. Security Market Line (SML) (VII)

- The relationship between SML and CML:
 - The SML for an asset or portfolio Z:

$$E(\tilde{R}_Z) = R_F + [E(\tilde{R}_M) - R_F] \cdot \beta_Z$$

- Substituting the value of β by the expression (3.7), we obtain:

$$E(\tilde{R}_Z) = R_F + [E(\tilde{R}_M) - R_F] \cdot \frac{\rho_{ZM} \sigma_Z}{\sigma_M}$$

$$E(\tilde{R}_Z) = R_F + \left[\frac{E(\tilde{R}_M) - R_F}{\sigma_M} \right] \cdot \rho_{ZM} \sigma_Z$$

- If portfolio Z is efficient:

$$\rho_{ZM} = 1 \Rightarrow \text{SML} = \text{CML}$$

(3.10)

3.4. Security Market Line (SML) (VIII)

- Therefore:
 - The SML for an asset or portfolio Z:

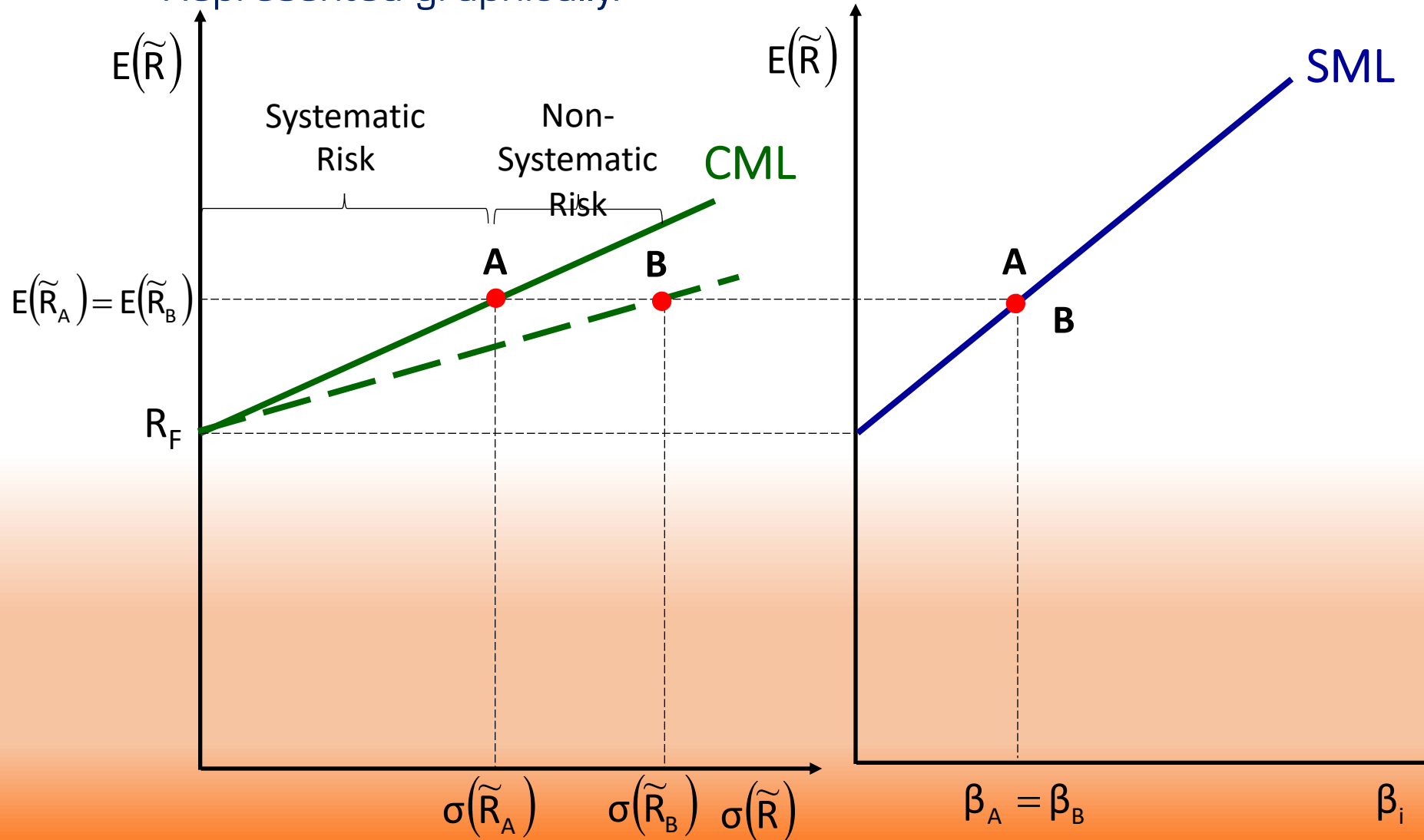
$$\text{SML} \Rightarrow E(\tilde{R}_Z) = R_F + \left[\frac{E(\tilde{R}_M) - R_F}{\sigma_M} \right] \cdot \rho_{ZM} \sigma_Z \quad (3.11)$$

$$\text{CML} \Rightarrow E(\tilde{R}_Z) = R_F + \left[\frac{E(\tilde{R}_M) - R_F}{\sigma_M} \right] \cdot \sigma_Z \quad (3.12)$$

- The efficient portfolios are located in the CML and in the SML.
- Individual securities and inefficient portfolios comply with the SML but not with the CML. They are therefore below the CML.

3.4. Security Market Line (SML) (IX)

– Represented graphically:



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