PORTFOLIO ALLOCATION BASED ON PRICE EARNINGS RATIOS

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ABSTRACT

We examine the risk-return tradeoff for investors using price-earnings ratios to allocate funds across bonds and stocks. Sharpe ratios are computed for portfolios consisting of 100% bonds, 100% stock, and portfolios annually changing between bonds, stocks, and mixed portfolios based on the beginning of year price-earnings ratio. Holding periods from one to 25 years are examined. Simulated portfolio returns are used to calculate Sharpe ratios for all holding periods. Our results show that price-earnings ratio based investment rules generate portfolios with higher Sharpe ratios than investing only in bonds or stocks.

Keywords: investor, risk-return, portfolio