

Can investors benefit from corporate social responsibility and portfolio model during the Covid19 pandemic?

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ABSTRACT

Since late 2019 and throughout 2020, the global economy has been experiencing difficult times due to the outbreak of the lethal Coronavirus (COVID-19). This study looks at the financial impact of this epidemic on the global economy using Malaysian market index i.e., FTSE Bursa Malaysia KLCI before and during COVID-19. Measuring the financial impact of this epidemic on the Malaysia economy may help policy makers to develop measures to avert similar financial catastrophic impacts on the global economy. The study uses Sharpe optimal and naïve diversification model to solve a scenario that factors in the level of corporate social responsibility (CSR) exhibited before and during the epidemic to measure the financial impact on the stock portfolio. The results show that the emergence of COVID-19 exacerbated the already weak Malaysian economy. Our findings may help the policy makers in Malaysia to develop and maintain techniques and policies that may mitigate the negative financial impact and handle similar epidemics in the future. Future studies could cover the financial impact of CSR using variable scoring and apply the portfolio model with practical and prevailing constraints.

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1. Introduction

In responding to the COVID-19 epidemic, the majority of countries in the world including Malaysia announced lockdown policies (Express, 2020). On 18th March 2020, Malaysia introduced such a policy that allowed only businesses offering essential services to operate (Tang, 2020). Due to the pandemic, it has been widely reported that the virus and lockdowns have direct impacts on financial performance and the global stock markets. Therefore, analysis of the investment portfolios due to the global pandemic is an important and topical subject. The mathematical framework for portfolio models was developed by Harry Markowitz (1952) who was awarded the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences for his contributions. Frankfurter, Philips and Seagle (1976) documented that Sharpe model could produce more reliable results than the Markowitz model as it could eliminate the excess and inefficient inputs. DeMinguel, Garlappi and Uppal (2009) discussed the conditions that could help Modern Portfolio Theory (MPT) to outperform Naive diversification. The results concluded that additional constraints and small portfolio size are the basic conditions that helped achieve a result similar to those from Simaan 1997. According to Brinson, Singer, Beebower (1991), asset allocation carries a large portion in determining portfolio performance. The estimation error increased with portfolio size and reduced the performance of a portfolio. Later, Nwakanma (2014) showed that Markowitz model could take the privilege of naive diversification if and only if the study uses between 6-10 assets. Recently, Nor and Islam (2016, 2017) further prove found similar results that MPT dominated naive diversification with the assistance of small portfolio size and practical constraints. Extending the studies of Nakai, Yamaguchi, Takeuchi (2016), and Tan and Kalyebara (2019), this

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study applies the data sample to the current pandemic situation to incorporate practical views of the effect of CSR in portfolio financial performance. According to Alexandar and Burcholz (1978), Brammer and Brooks (2006), corporate social responsibility (CSR) does not have any financial effect on stock value. However, Godfrey et al. (2009) found that there is an effect of CSR on capital preservation; but it does not expand the capital structure of the firm. In other words, CSR act as a cushion for a firm to withstand negative financial impact. Later, CSR was incorporated in portfolio theory and applied in investments in 2015 (Oikonomou, Platanakis and Sutcliffe, 2015; Calvo, Ivorra and Liern, 2015). Furthermore, Nakai, Yamaguchi, Takeuchi (2016) found that Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) assists a firm to withstand the negative financial impact of financial crises. The results showed that a portfolio with CSR and constraints can outperform the Naïve diversification and classics Markowitz model. These results are what is expected in theory. Nor and Zawawi (2018) conducted a study on the financial impact of CSR in portfolio performance specifically from the perspective of corporate governance. However, the results show that weak corporate governance can dominate strong corporate governance during out-sample analysis. Tan and Kalyebara (2019) conducted research that analyzed the financial impact of CSR on portfolio investment. Firstly, they ranked the Top constituent FTSE KLCI according to their Environmental, Social, and Governance variable scoring. After asset screening, they optimized the portfolio and recorded the performance. The results show that Sharpe-optimal model can outperform Naïve diversification, while Bottom ESG scoring outperforms Top ESG scoring. These results may be due to portfolio factors and economic factors. A more recent study by Rehman et al. (2021) in BRICS argues that investors are becoming more interested in socially responsible investments in emerging economies. They also suggested future research to explore portfolios based on environment, social and governance (ESG) using 1/N and Markowitz (1952) efficient frontier, among others.

2. Data and model

This study analyzes the financial effect of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and shares price using the portfolio model during the COVID-19 epidemic. Hence, 40 listed firms listed on FTSE Bursa Malaysia KLCI are employed to analyze for the period of 11 years (1 Jan 2009 - 1 Sept 2020). The time covers a pre-epidemic period (2009-2019), and during the epidemic period (2020). This paper maintains the portfolio size in 20, a majority of risk reduced during portfolio size reaching 10-20 (Edwin and Martin, 1977), while Nor and Islam (2017) document Sharpe optimal portfolio can outperform naïve diversification during portfolio size 15-30. The study shows the practical financial effect of CSR during the epidemic situation in Malaysia. Firstly, all the involved companies are categorized according to their scoring in Environmental, Social and Governance variables, which are calculated by financial professionals. Secondly, each category undergoes portfolio optimization computation and formed four (4) portfolios by applying the Naïve diversification and Sharpe optimal model. Accordingly, Sharpe optimal model used simple constraints which are 0.01 as the floor portion to avoid estimation error. In this study, it is assumed that the Malaysia Stock Market is in weak form efficiency and a simple buy-hold strategy is the preferred management strategy. Meanwhile, this study also uses the 12-month Malaysia Treasury Bill as the risk-free rate (3.17%). The optimization portfolio model used in this study is as flows:

$$\max \frac{\sum_{k=1}^N W_k E(R_k) - TR}{\sqrt{\sum_{i,j=1}^{i,j=N} W_i W_j \sigma_{ij}}} \quad (1)$$

subject to

$$\sum_{k=1}^N W_k = 1 \quad (2)$$

$$0.01 \leq W_k \leq 0.10 \quad (3)$$

whereas:

W_i	:	weight of stock i
W_j	:	weight of stock j
W_k	:	weight of stock k in a portfolio
σ_{ij}	:	covariance of stock i and stock j
$E(R_k)$:	expected return of stock k
TR	:	risk-free rate

In this paper, the General Reducing Gradient Non-linear (GRG Non-linear) algorithm is applied to solve the optimization problem due to its robustness in computation time. The GRG Non-linear is an extension of reducing gradient to solve the inequalities constraints and thus suitable for our portfolio selection problem. Besides, the objective function of this paper is to find the maximum value of Sharpe ratio with floor and ceiling constraints which providing a smooth function graph that permissible the solver to run through and tracking the optimal solution (see Maia et al., 2017; Arora, 2017; Charlie, nd).

3. Results and Discussion

The goal of this study is to find out the financial impact of incorporating CSR into the investment portfolio of stocks listed on KLCI in Malaysia before and during COVID-19. Therefore, the sample data covers the pre-epidemic period (Oct 2018 - Dec 2019) and the COVID-19 period from Jan 2020 to Sept 2020. The results from the investment portfolios constructed show that Sharpe optimal model produces higher stock prices than the naive diversification.

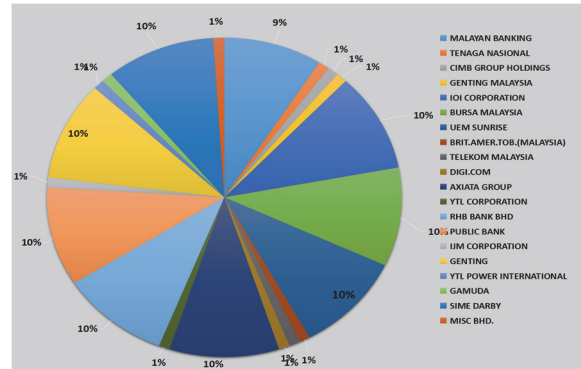
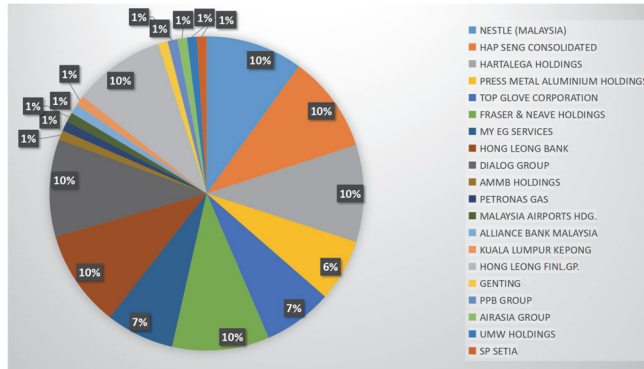


Fig. 1. Composition of Bottom Rating Sharpe Optimal Portfolio

Fig. 2. Composition of High Rating Sharpe Optimal Portfolio

Table 1
Optimization report (Bottom Rating portfolio 20)

Objective Cell (Max)				
Cell	Name	Original Value	Final Value	
\$D\$168	Sharpe Ratio	5.4756	8.2319	
Variable Cells				
Cell	Name	Original Value	Final Value	Integer
\$C\$165	WEIGHT NESTLE (MALAYSIA)	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$D\$165	WEIGHT HAP SENG CONSOLIDATED	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$E\$165	WEIGHT HARTALEGA HOLDINGS	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$F\$165	WEIGHT PRESS METAL ALUMINIUM HOLDINGS	0.0500	0.0641	Contin
\$G\$165	WEIGHT TOP GLOVE CORPORATION	0.0500	0.0713	Contin
\$H\$165	WEIGHT FRASER & NEAVE HOLDINGS	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$I\$165	WEIGHT MYEG SERVICE	0.0500	0.0702	Contin
\$J\$165	WEIGHT HONG LEONG BANK	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$K\$165	WEIGHT DIALOG GROUP	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$L\$165	WEIGHT AMMB HOLDINGS	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$M\$165	WEIGHT PETRONAS GAS	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$N\$165	WEIGHT MALAYSIA AIRPORTS HDQ	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$O\$165	WEIGHT ALLIANCE BANK MALAYSIA	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$P\$165	WEIGHT KUALA LUMPUR KEPONG	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$Q\$165	WEIGHT HONG LEONG FINL.GP.	0.0500	0.0944	Contin
\$R\$165	WEIGHT GENTING	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$S\$165	WEIGHT PPB GROUP	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$T\$165	WEIGHT AIRASIA GROUP	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$U\$165	WEIGHT UMV HOLDINGS	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$V\$165	WEIGHT SP SETIA	0.0500	0.0100	Contin

Note: GRG Nonlinear undergoes 35 time of iteration with 53.5 seconds to find a solution that satisfied all the constraints and optimality. Option applied are Max Time unlimited, iterations unlimited, precision 0.000001, use Automatic Scaling, Show iteration results convergence 0.0001, population size 100, random seed 0, derivatives forward, require bounds, Max subproblem unlimited, Max integer Tolerance 1%, assume non negative.

In this study, Sharpe optimal model maintains a minimum portion of (0.01) and a maximum (0.10) to maintain the diversification effect. According to strategic asset allocation, Sharpe optimal can allocate the portion on the stock that has performed well in sample analysis. Thus, this may be the reason that supports the higher stock price. Furthermore, Bottom rating stocks perform better than Top rating stocks during the comparison period between both sets of portfolios by using the same model. See Tables A5 and A6 in the Appendix for further details. In Fig. 1 and Fig. 2, we show the differences between Bottom and High ratings Sharpe optimal models. From the perspective of the optimization process, the Bottom portfolio optimization process takes 53.5 second and 35 iterations to maximize 50.34% (from 5.4756 to 8.2319) of Sharpe Ratio value, while Top portfolio optimization process takes 4.45 second and 23 iterations to maximize 36.88% (from -1.4782 to -0.9330). All the results satisfied the constraints and reached their optimal level. In other words, these analyses confirm the optimality of our portfolios (refer to Tables 1 and 2 while detailed reports can be seen in Tables A9 and A10).

Table 2

Optimization report (High Rating portfolio 20)

Objective Cell (Max)					
Cell		Name	Original Value	Final Value	
\$E\$168		Sharpe Ratio	(1.4782)	(0.9330)	
Variable Cells					
Cell		Name	Original Value	Final Value	Integer
\$C\$163	WEIGHT MALAYAN BANKING		0.0500	0.0900	Contin
\$D\$163	WEIGHT TENAGA NASIONAL		0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$E\$163	WEIGHT CIMB GROUP HOLDING		0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$F\$163	WEIGHT GENTING MALAYSIA		0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$G\$163	WEIGHT IOI CORPORATION		0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$H\$163	WEIGHT BURSA MALAYSIA		0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$I\$163	WEIGHT UEM SUNRISE		0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$J\$163	WEIGHT BRIT.AMER.TOBS.(MALAYSIA)		0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$K\$163	WEIGHT TELEKOM MALAYSIA		0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$L\$163	WEIGHT DIGI.COM		0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$M\$163	WEIGHT AXIATA GROUP		0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$N\$163	WEIGHT YTL CORPORATION		0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$O\$163	WEIGHT RHB BANK BHD		0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$P\$163	WEIGHT PUBLIC BANK		0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$Q\$163	WEIGHT IJM CORPORATION		0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$R\$163	WEIGHT GENTING		0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$S\$163	WEIGHTYTL POWER INTERNATIONAL		0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$T\$163	WEIGHT GAMUDA		0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$U\$163	WEIGHT SIME DARBY		0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$V\$163	WEIGHT MISC BHD		0.0500	0.0100	Contin

Note: GRG Nonlinear undergoes 23 time of iteration with 4 seconds to find a solution that satisfied all the constraints and optimality. Option applied are Max Time unlimited, iterations unlimited, precision 0.000001, use Automatic Scaling, Show iteration results convergence 0.0001, population size 100, random seed 0, derivatives forward, require bounds, Max subproblem unlimited, Max integer Tolerance 1%, assume non negative.

It can be seen in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 that the composition both portfolios is able to maintain the effect of diversification as it allocates a portion in each asset which is considered as well performing. However, Table 3 shows our results, which may indicate that the top rating stocks fail to withstand the financial impact of the pandemic.

Table 3

Summary of results

	Bottom				High			
	Naïve		Sharpe		Naïve		Sharpe	
	In -Sample	Out Analysis	In -Sample	Out Analysis	In -Sample	Out Analysis	In -Sample	Out Analysis
Portfolio return	1.44%	6.45%	1.97%	10.13%	(0.13%)	(2.10%)	(0.05%)	(1.59%)
Annualize	18.71%	111.78%	26.39%	218.36%	(1.55%)	(22.50%)	(0.55%)	(17.49%)
Portfolio risk	2.84%	10.02%	2.82%	13.62%	3.19%	4.90%	3.98%	4.85%
Sortino Ratio		24.73		15.91		(5.65)		(2.21)
Sharpe Ratio	5.48	10.84	8.23	15.80	(1.48)	(5.24)	(0.93)	(4.26)

One of the possible reasons could be due to the effectiveness of diversification and asset allocation. Firstly, Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 show the different industries that are involved and Bottom rating portfolios are invested in more variety industries than Top rating. Accordingly, the bottom rating portfolio has high effectiveness compared to the top rating portfolio as Bottom rating portfolios are invested in more variety industries compared to Top rating. Statistically, the bottom rating portfolio has an average

correlation of 0.1726 while the Top rating portfolio has an average correlation of 0.2569. Hence, the correlation results indicate all the constituents of a high rating portfolio move down together during the pandemic which worsens the financial performance.

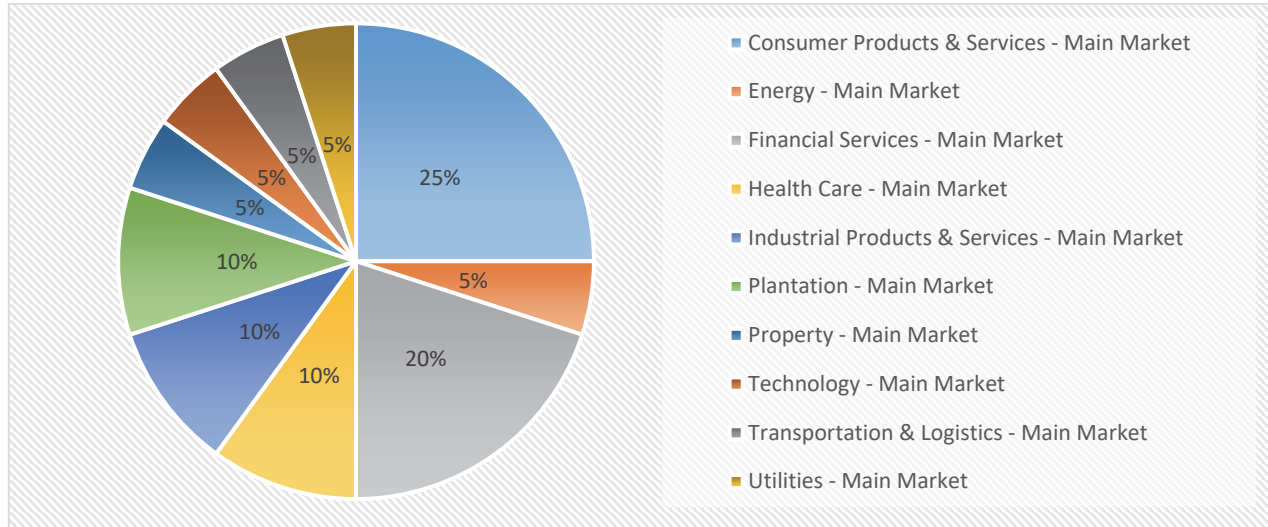


Fig. 3. Bottom rating portfolio constituents (Industry)

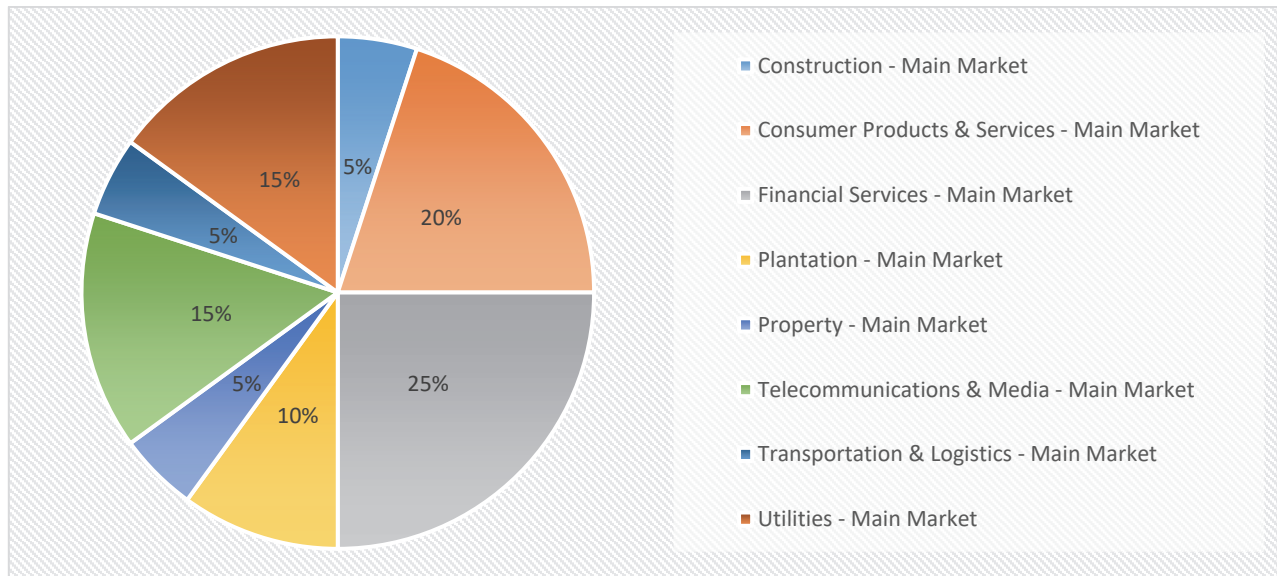


Fig. 4. Top rating portfolio constituents (Industry)

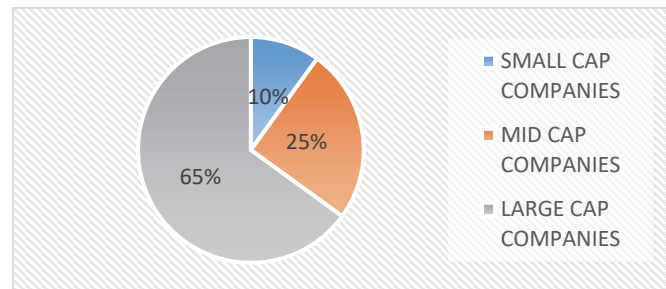
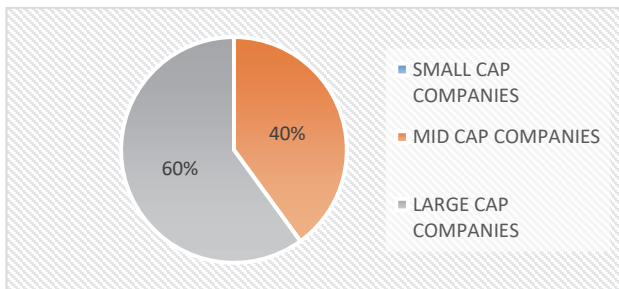


Fig. 5. Bottom rating portfolio constituents (Market Cap)

Fig. 6. Top rating portfolio constituents (Market cap)

Secondly, Fig. 5 and Fig. 6 show the different constituents of the portfolio according to market capital. As Fig. 5 and Fig. 6 shows, a Bottom rating portfolio has better stability than Top rating as all of the asset allocation applied in bottom rating are in mid and large market capital firms. Usually, the stability of a firm is increased along with the market capital. Hence, it will suffer less impact during a pandemic situation. Table A3 and Table A4 summarize the specific firm's market capital and industries. Besides, Figure 7 shows the differences in the two portfolios over time.

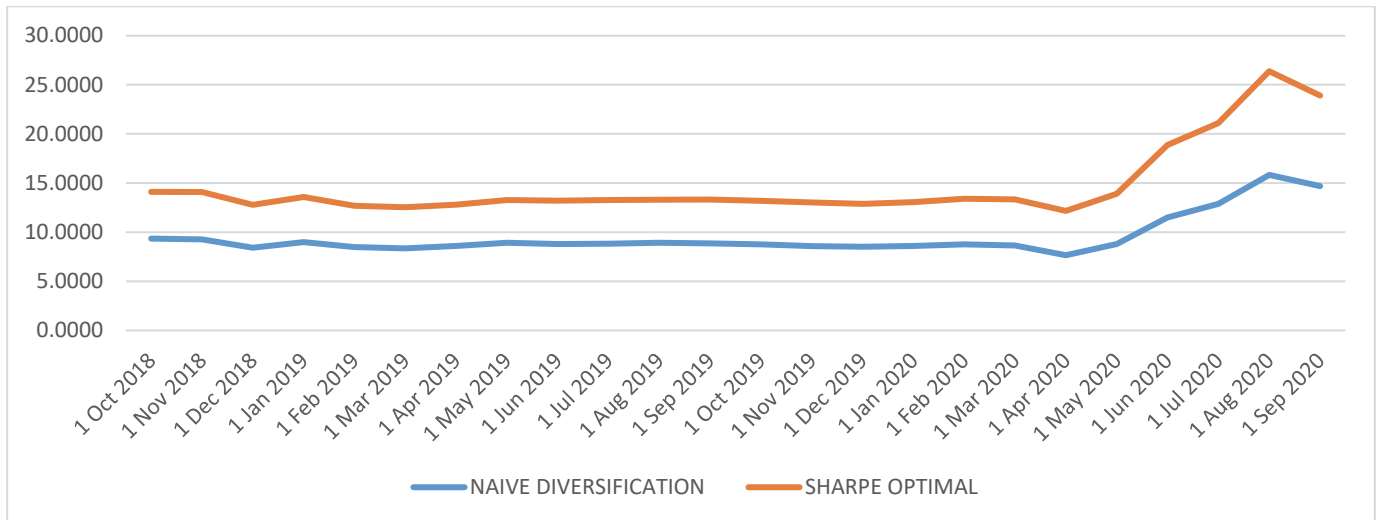


Fig. 7. Performance of Optimal Portfolio Over Time

To justify the difference between the performance, a simple hypothesis testing is carried out. The null hypothesis among the testing is that both portfolio performances (among different models or different ratings) do not have any significant differences, while the alternative hypothesis is vice versa. As the result shows, there is a significant difference between the comparison between high and low rating as value (0.0000) is less than the critical value (0.05) and the static value (20.9056, 18.0168) fall under rejection region (2.0687), this leads to the rejection of the null hypothesis. Besides, there exist significant differences during comparison among different portfolio models during different ratings. Accordingly, the null hypothesis cannot be accepted as value (0.0000) is less than critical value (0.05) and the static value (-5.9300, -3.7868) falls under the rejection region (-2.0301, -2.0141). Our results support the findings of El Ghouli and Karoui (2017) that expressed concern about the role CSR plays in stock screening and selection. Besides, the higher-than-average results in the Bottom rating portfolio represent that the bottom rating portfolio experiences high upside risk. This may support the investment performance as usually the higher the risk the higher the return provided the extra risk undertaken is compensated by extra return. Lastly, this study also finds that active management is encouraged to withstand the pandemic situation during the comparison between individual stock and portfolio constructed. This may be because during the epidemic investors tend to face the opportunity cost as they cannot rebalance the portion according to the market trend.

4. Conclusion and implications

Since 2018 Malaysia's economy has experienced recession due to global unstable economy issues as a result of rising interest rate, political instability, trade war, etc (Kok 2019). The emergence of COVID-19 exacerbated the already weak economy. The COVID-19 pandemic caused a market crash and inflicted financial hardships on most households. Hence, this brings out the topic of this study that Corporate Social Responsibilities and Modern Portfolio Model play a vital role during this pandemic situation. Having that in mind, this paper extends the studies from prior studies (Nakai, Yamaguchi and Takeuchi, 2016; Tan and Kalyebara, 2019) in terms of data sample coverage, portfolio size before and after COVID-19. The results of this study show that Sharpe optimal model dominates Naive diversification with significant differences over the scenario, as it can allocate more capital in the stock portfolio investment performing better. However, the Bottom rating dominates the Top rating portfolio over the period covered due to the effectiveness of diversification and its asset allocation strategies. This paper has a significant contribution in terms of the importance of optimal portfolio model, optimal asset screening, and the effect of CSR during a pandemic situation. Thus, future studies could explore the effect of CSR from the perspective of variable scoring and apply the portfolio model with practical constraints or elements. This is suggested because the model that uses past performance as input

suffers a gradual loss of its effectiveness with the changing economic inputs due to the advancement of technology. Since the world is now moving towards globalization, further research can also explore portfolios taking into account topical and current issues namely geopolitical risks and economic policy uncertainty, which can affect international portfolio diversification. Recent studies by Hasan et al. (2020a, 2020b) explore these important risks and uncertainty issues. Finally, it should also be noted that the success of stock portfolio diversification relies upon market efficiency. However, findings by Shahzad et al. (2017), Nor and Wickremasinghe (2014), Jassal and Dhiman (2016), Filipiak and Filipiak (2018), Nor and Zawawi (2019, 2020) and Ren and Ren (2017) indicate that efficiency may not hold in some stock markets, including developed ones. However, according to Nor and Wickremasinghe (2017), the Malaysian market is expected to become more efficient with the advancement of technology. Their finding suggests that the application of portfolio optimization has value in the future in such a market. All in all, it is undeniable that portfolio optimization is an important area that encompasses finance, mathematics, and information technology and has significant implications. With the current advancement in computer science and technology, as well as issues such COVID-19 pandemic, studies about investment have serious implications and potential for further research (both empirical and theoretical) by academics and practitioners.

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Axiata Group Berhad	Telecommunications & Media	30,534.60	M
CIMB Group Holdings Berhad	Financial Services	38,104.20	M
Tenaga Nasional Berhad	Utilities	55,049.90	M
Public Bank Berhad	Financial Services	81,330.80	M
Malayan Banking Berhad	Financial Services	89,143.30	M

Table A5

Hypothesis Testing between Bottom rating and High Rating (Naive diversification)

t-Test: Two-Sample Assuming Unequal Variances

	<i>LOW</i>	<i>HIGH</i>
Mean	9.5394	0.7564
Variance	4.2320	0.0041
Observations	24.0000	24.0000
Hypothesized Mean Difference	0.0000	
df	23.0000	
t Stat	20.9056	
P(T<=t) one-tail	0.0000	
t Critical one-tail	1.7139	
P(T<=t) two-tail	0.0000	
t Critical two-tail	2.0687	

Table A6

Hypothesis Testing between Bottom rating and High Rating (Sharpe-optimal model)

t-Test: Two-Sample Assuming Unequal Variances

	<i>LOW</i>	<i>HIGH</i>
Mean	14.7536	0.8322
Variance	14.3237	0.0055
Observations	24.0000	24.0000
Hypothesized Mean Difference	0.0000	
df	23.0000	
t Stat	18.0168	
P(T<=t) one-tail	0.0000	
t Critical one-tail	1.7139	
P(T<=t) two-tail	0.0000	
t Critical two-tail	2.0687	

Table A7

Hypothesis Testing among Bottom Rating Portfolio

t-Test: Two-Sample Assuming Unequal Variances

	<i>NAIVE DIVERSIFICATION</i>	<i>SHARPE OPTIMAL</i>
Mean	9.5394	14.7536
Variance	4.2320	14.3237
Observations	24.0000	24.0000
Hypothesized Mean Difference	0.0000	
df	35.0000	
t Stat	-5.9300	
P(T<=t) one-tail	0.0000	
t Critical one-tail	1.6896	
P(T<=t) two-tail	0.0000	
t Critical two-tail	2.0301	

Table A8

Hypothesis Testing among High Rating Portfolio

t-Test: Two-Sample Assuming Unequal Variances

	<i>NAIVE DIVERSIFICATION</i>	<i>SHARPE OPTIMAL</i>
Mean	0.7564	0.8322
Variance	0.0041	0.0055
Observations	24.0000	24.0000
Hypothesized Mean Difference	0.0000	
df	45.0000	
t Stat	-3.7868	
P(T<=t) one-tail	0.0002	

t Critical one-tail	1.6794
P(T<=t) two-tail	0.0004
t Critical two-tail	2.0141

Table A9

Optimization report for Bottom Rating portfolio 20

Worksheet: Low Rating Portfolio [20]**Report Created: 19/2/2021 2:37:58 pm****Result: Solver found a solution. All Constraints and optimality conditions are satisfied.****Solver Engine**

Engine: GRG Nonlinear

Solution Time: 53.5 Seconds.

Iterations: 35 Subproblems: 0

Solver Options

Max Time Unlimited, Iterations Unlimited, Precision 0.000001, Use Automatic Scaling, Show Iteration Results. Convergence 0.0001, Population Size 100, Random Seed 0, Derivatives Forward, Require Bounds. Max Subproblems Unlimited, Max Integer Sols Unlimited, Integer Tolerance 1%, Assume NonNegative

Objective Cell (Max)

Cell	Name	Original Value	Final Value
\$D\$168	SHARPE RATIO	5.4756	8.2319

Variable Cells

Cell	Name	Original Value	Final Value	Integer
\$C\$163	WEIGHT NESTLE (MALAYSIA)	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$D\$163	WEIGHT HAP SENG CONSOLIDATED	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$E\$163	WEIGHT HARTALEGA HOLDINGS	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$F\$163	WEIGHT PRESS METAL ALUMINIUM HOLDINGS	0.0500	0.0641	Contin
\$G\$163	WEIGHT TOP GLOVE CORPORATION	0.0500	0.0713	Contin
\$H\$163	WEIGHT FRASER & NEAVE HOLDINGS	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$I\$163	WEIGHT MY EG SERVICES	0.0500	0.0702	Contin
\$J\$163	WEIGHT HONG LEONG BANK	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$K\$163	WEIGHT DIALOG GROUP	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$L\$163	WEIGHT AMMB HOLDINGS	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$M\$163	WEIGHT PETRONAS GAS	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$N\$163	WEIGHT MALAYSIA AIRPORTS HDG.	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$O\$163	WEIGHT ALLIANCE BANK MALAYSIA	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$P\$163	WEIGHT KUALA LUMPUR KEPONG	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$Q\$163	WEIGHT HONG LEONG FINL.GP.	0.0500	0.0944	Contin
\$R\$163	WEIGHT GENTING	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$S\$163	WEIGHT PPB GROUP	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$T\$163	WEIGHT AIRASIA GROUP	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$U\$163	WEIGHT UMW HOLDINGS	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$V\$163	WEIGHT SP SETIA	0.0500	0.0100	Contin

Constraints

Cell	Name	Cell Value	Formula	Status	Slack
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\$CS\$163	WEIGHT NESTLE (MALAYSIA) WEIGHT HAP SENG CONSOLIDATED	0.1000	\$CS\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0900
\$DS\$163		0.1000	\$DS\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0900
\$ES\$163	WEIGHT HARTALEGA HOLDINGS	0.1000	\$ES\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0900
\$FS\$163	WEIGHT PRESS METAL ALUMINIUM HOLDINGS	0.0641	\$FS\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0541
\$GS\$163	WEIGHT TOP GLOVE CORPORATION	0.0713	\$GS\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0613
\$HS\$163	WEIGHT FRASER & NEAVE HOLDINGS	0.1000	\$HS\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0900
\$IS\$163	WEIGHT MY EG SERVICES	0.0702	\$IS\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0602
\$JS\$163	WEIGHT HONG LEONG BANK	0.1000	\$JS\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0900
\$KS\$163	WEIGHT DIALOG GROUP	0.1000	\$KS\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0900
\$LS\$163	WEIGHT AMMB HOLDINGS	0.0100	\$LS\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.0000
\$MS\$163	WEIGHT PETRONAS GAS	0.0100	\$MS\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.0000
\$NS\$163	WEIGHT MALAYSIA AIRPORTS HDG.	0.0100	\$NS\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.0000
\$OS\$163	WEIGHT ALLIANCE BANK MALAYSIA	0.0100	\$OS\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.0000
\$PS\$163	WEIGHT KUALA LUMPUR KEPONG	0.0100	\$PS\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.0000
\$QS\$163	WEIGHT HONG LEONG FINL.GP.	0.0944	\$QS\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0844
\$RS\$163	WEIGHT GENTING	0.0100	\$RS\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.0000
\$SS\$163	WEIGHT PPB GROUP	0.0100	\$SS\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.0000
\$TS\$163	WEIGHT AIRASIA GROUP	0.0100	\$TS\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.0000
\$US\$163	WEIGHT UMW HOLDINGS	0.0100	\$US\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.0000
\$VS\$163	WEIGHT SP SETIA	0.0100	\$VS\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.0000
\$CS\$164	RISK NESTLE (MALAYSIA)	0.0440	\$CS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0340
\$DS\$164	RISK HAP SENG CONSOLIDATED	0.0830	\$DS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0730
\$ES\$164	RISK HARTALEGA HOLDINGS	0.0801	\$ES\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0701
\$FS\$164	RISK PRESS METAL ALUMINIUM HOLDINGS	0.1297	\$FS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.1197
\$GS\$164	RISK TOP GLOVE CORPORATION	0.0933	\$GS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0833
\$HS\$164	RISK FRASER & NEAVE HOLDINGS	0.0483	\$HS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0383
\$IS\$164	RISK MY EG SERVICES	0.1259	\$IS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.1159
\$JS\$164	RISK HONG LEONG BANK	0.0437	\$JS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0337
\$KS\$164	RISK DIALOG GROUP	0.0728	\$KS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0628
\$LS\$164	RISK AMMB HOLDINGS	0.0557	\$LS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0457
\$MS\$164	RISK PETRONAS GAS	0.0404	\$MS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0304
\$NS\$164	RISK MALAYSIA AIRPORTS HDG.	0.0692	\$NS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0592
\$OS\$164	RISK ALLIANCE BANK MALAYSIA	0.0544	\$OS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0444
\$PS\$164	RISK KUALA LUMPUR KEPONG	0.0438	\$PS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0338
\$QS\$164	RISK HONG LEONG FINL.GP.	0.0510	\$QS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0410
\$RS\$164	RISK GENTING	0.0474	\$RS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0374
\$SS\$164	RISK PPB GROUP	0.0507	\$SS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0407
\$TS\$164	RISK AIRASIA GROUP	0.1148	\$TS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.1048
\$US\$164	RISK UMW HOLDINGS	0.0680	\$US\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0580
\$VS\$164	RISK SP SETIA	0.0675	\$VS\$164>=0.01	Not Binding	0.0575
\$W\$163	WEIGHT Return	1.0000	\$W\$163=1	Binding	0
\$CS\$163	WEIGHT NESTLE (MALAYSIA)	0.1000	\$CS\$163<=0.1	Binding	0
\$DS\$163	WEIGHT HAP SENG CONSOLIDATED	0.1000	\$DS\$163<=0.1	Binding	0

\$E\$163	WEIGHT HARTALEGA HOLDINGS	0.1000	\$E\$163<=0.1	Binding	0
\$F\$163	WEIGHT PRESS METAL ALUMINIUM HOLDINGS	0.0641	\$F\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.03595
\$G\$163	WEIGHT TOP GLOVE CORPORATION	0.0713	\$G\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.02865
\$H\$163	WEIGHT FRASER & NEAVE HOLDINGS	0.1000	\$H\$163<=0.1	Binding	0
\$I\$163	WEIGHT MY EG SERVICES	0.0702	\$I\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.02981
\$J\$163	WEIGHT HONG LEONG BANK	0.1000	\$J\$163<=0.1	Binding	0
\$K\$163	WEIGHT DIALOG GROUP	0.1000	\$K\$163<=0.1	Binding	0
\$L\$163	WEIGHT AMMB HOLDINGS	0.0100	\$L\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$M\$163	WEIGHT PETRONAS GAS	0.0100	\$M\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$N\$163	WEIGHT MALAYSIA AIRPORTS HDG.	0.0100	\$N\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$O\$163	WEIGHT ALLIANCE BANK MALAYSIA	0.0100	\$O\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$P\$163	WEIGHT KUALA LUMPUR KEPONG	0.0100	\$P\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$Q\$163	WEIGHT HONG LEONG FINL.GP.	0.0944	\$Q\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.00558
\$R\$163	WEIGHT GENTING	0.0100	\$R\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$S\$163	WEIGHT PPB GROUP	0.0100	\$S\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$T\$163	WEIGHT AIRASIA GROUP	0.0100	\$T\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$U\$163	WEIGHT UMW HOLDINGS	0.0100	\$U\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$V\$163	WEIGHT SP SETIA	0.0100	\$V\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09

Microsoft Excel 16.0 Sensitivity Report

Worksheet: [PORTFOLIO 20 (1) (1).xlsx]low

Report Created: 19/2/2021 2:38:00 pm

Variable Cells

Cell	Name	Final Value	Reduced Gradient
\$C\$163	WEIGHT NESTLE (MALAYSIA)	0.1	1.375981254
\$D\$163	WEIGHT HAP SENG CONSOLIDATED	0.1	2.94350737
\$E\$163	WEIGHT HARTALEGA HOLDINGS	0.1	4.905703782
\$F\$163	WEIGHT PRESS METAL ALUMINIUM HOLDINGS	0.064051071	0
\$G\$163	WEIGHT TOP GLOVE CORPORATION	0.071346012	0
\$H\$163	WEIGHT FRASER & NEAVE HOLDINGS	0.1	1.24871875
\$I\$163	WEIGHT MY EG SERVICES	0.070185637	0
\$J\$163	WEIGHT HONG LEONG BANK	0.1	0.366397401
\$K\$163	WEIGHT DIALOG GROUP	0.1	0.107519249
\$L\$163	WEIGHT AMMB HOLDINGS	0.01	0
\$M\$163	WEIGHT PETRONAS GAS	0.01	0
\$N\$163	WEIGHT MALAYSIA AIRPORTS HDG.	0.01	0
\$O\$163	WEIGHT ALLIANCE BANK MALAYSIA	0.01	0
\$P\$163	WEIGHT KUALA LUMPUR KEPONG	0.01	0
\$Q\$163	WEIGHT HONG LEONG FINL.GP.	0.09441728	0
\$R\$163	WEIGHT GENTING	0.01	0
\$S\$163	WEIGHT PPB GROUP	0.01	0
\$T\$163	WEIGHT AIRASIA GROUP	0.01	0
\$U\$163	WEIGHT UMW HOLDINGS	0.01	0
\$V\$163	WEIGHT SP SETIA	0.01	0

Cell	Name	Final Value	Lagrange Multiplier
\$C\$163	WEIGHT NESTLE (MALAYSIA)	0.1	0
\$D\$163	WEIGHT HAP SENG CONSOLIDATED	0.1	0
\$E\$163	WEIGHT HARTALEGA HOLDINGS	0.1	0
\$F\$163	WEIGHT PRESS METAL ALUMINIUM HOLDINGS	0.064051071	0
\$G\$163	WEIGHT TOP GLOVE CORPORATION	0.071346012	0
\$H\$163	WEIGHT FRASER & NEAVE HOLDINGS	0.1	0
\$I\$163	WEIGHT MY EG SERVICES	0.070185637	0
\$J\$163	WEIGHT HONG LEONG BANK	0.1	0

\$K\$163	WEIGHT DIALOG GROUP	0.1	0
\$L\$163	WEIGHT AMMB HOLDINGS	0.01	-5.479916942
\$M\$163	WEIGHT PETRONAS GAS	0.01	-0.364136279
\$N\$163	WEIGHT MALAYSIA AIRPORTS HDG.	0.01	-2.505696664
\$O\$163	WEIGHT ALLIANCE BANK MALAYSIA	0.01	-2.270658915
\$P\$163	WEIGHT KUALA LUMPUR KEPONG	0.01	-1.547127077
\$Q\$163	WEIGHT HONG LEONG FINL.GP.	0.09441728	0
\$R\$163	WEIGHT GENTING	0.01	-1.988603806
\$S\$163	WEIGHT PPB GROUP	0.01	-1.659138979
\$T\$163	WEIGHT AIRASIA GROUP	0.01	-7.461147573
\$U\$163	WEIGHT UMW HOLDINGS	0.01	-4.486413265
\$V\$163	WEIGHT SP SETIA	0.01	-5.73367376
\$C\$164	RISK NESTLE (MALAYSIA)	0.043973431	0
\$D\$164	RISK HAP SENG CONSOLIDATED	0.083033023	0
\$E\$164	RISK HARTALEGA HOLDINGS	0.080074035	0
\$F\$164	RISK PRESS METAL ALUMINIUM HOLDINGS	0.129687827	0
\$G\$164	RISK TOP GLOVE CORPORATION	0.093313459	0
\$H\$164	RISK FRASER & NEAVE HOLDINGS	0.04831176	0
\$I\$164	RISK MY EG SERVICES	0.125914775	0
\$J\$164	RISK HONG LEONG BANK	0.043732058	0
\$K\$164	RISK DIALOG GROUP	0.072787352	0
\$L\$164	RISK AMMB HOLDINGS	0.055744223	0
\$M\$164	RISK PETRONAS GAS	0.040405607	0
\$N\$164	RISK MALAYSIA AIRPORTS HDG.	0.069243702	0
\$O\$164	RISK ALLIANCE BANK MALAYSIA	0.054426445	0
\$P\$164	RISK KUALA LUMPUR KEPONG	0.043845539	0
\$Q\$164	RISK HONG LEONG FINL.GP.	0.050964795	0
\$R\$164	RISK GENTING	0.047355287	0
\$S\$164	RISK PPB GROUP	0.050713181	0
\$T\$164	RISK AIRASIA GROUP	0.11475241	0
\$U\$164	RISK UMW HOLDINGS	0.068022898	0
\$V\$164	RISK SP SETIA	0.06746725	0
\$W\$163	WEIGHT Return	1	1.400553722

Table A10

Optimization report for Top Rating portfolio 20

Microsoft Excel 16.0 Answer Report

Worksheet: High Rating portfolio [20]

Report Created: 19/2/2021 2:43:30 pm

Result: Solver found a solution. All Constraints and optimality conditions are satisfied.

Solver Engine

Engine: GRG Nonlinear

Solution Time: 4.453 Seconds.

Iterations: 23 Subproblems: 0

Solver Options

Max Time Unlimited, Iterations Unlimited, Precision 0.000001 Convergence 0.0001, Population Size 100, Random Seed 0, Derivatives Forward, Require Bounds Max Subproblems Unlimited, Max Integer Sols Unlimited, Integer Tolerance 1%, Assume NonNegative

Objective Cell (Max)

Cell	Name	Original Value	Final
\$E\$168	SHARPE RATIO TENAGA NASIONAL	(1.4782)	(0.9330)

Variable Cells

Cell	Name	Original	Final	Integer
\$D\$163	WEIGHT MALAYAN BANKING	0.0500	0.0900	Contin
\$E\$163	WEIGHT TENAGA NASIONAL	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$F\$163	WEIGHT CIMB GROUP HOLDINGS	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$G\$163	WEIGHT GENTING MALAYSIA	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$H\$163	WEIGHT IOI CORPORATION	0.0500	0.1000	Contin

\$I\$163	WEIGHT BURSA MALAYSIA	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$J\$163	WEIGHT UEM SUNRISE	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$K\$163	WEIGHT BRIT.AMER.TOB.(MALAYSIA)	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$L\$163	WEIGHT TELEKOM MALAYSIA	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$M\$163	WEIGHT DIGI.COM	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$N\$163	WEIGHT AXIATA GROUP	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$O\$163	WEIGHT YTL CORPORATION	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$P\$163	WEIGHT RHB BANK BHD	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$Q\$163	WEIGHT PUBLIC BANK	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$R\$163	WEIGHT IJM CORPORATION	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$S\$163	WEIGHT GENTING	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$T\$163	WEIGHT YTL POWER INTERNATIONAL	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$U\$163	WEIGHT GAMUDA	0.0500	0.0100	Contin
\$V\$163	WEIGHT SIME DARBY	0.0500	0.1000	Contin
\$W\$163	WEIGHT MISC BHD.	0.0500	0.0100	Contin

Cell	Name	Cell Value	Formula	Status	Slack
\$X\$163	WEIGHT expectec return	1.0000	\$X\$163=1	Binding	0
\$D\$163	WEIGHT MALAYAN BANKING	0.0900	\$D\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.01
\$E\$163	WEIGHT TENAGA NASIONAL	0.0100	\$E\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$F\$163	WEIGHT CIMB GROUP HOLDINGS	0.0100	\$F\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$G\$163	WEIGHT GENTING MALAYSIA	0.0100	\$G\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$H\$163	WEIGHT IOI CORPORATION	0.1000	\$H\$163<=0.1	Binding	0
\$I\$163	WEIGHT BURSA MALAYSIA	0.1000	\$I\$163<=0.1	Binding	0
\$J\$163	WEIGHT UEM SUNRISE	0.1000	\$J\$163<=0.1	Binding	0
\$K\$163	WEIGHT BRIT.AMER.TOB.(MALAYSIA)	0.0100	\$K\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$L\$163	WEIGHT TELEKOM MALAYSIA	0.0100	\$L\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$M\$163	WEIGHT DIGI.COM	0.0100	\$M\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$N\$163	WEIGHT AXIATA GROUP	0.1000	\$N\$163<=0.1	Binding	0
\$O\$163	WEIGHT YTL CORPORATION	0.0100	\$O\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$P\$163	WEIGHT RHB BANK BHD	0.1000	\$P\$163<=0.1	Binding	0
\$Q\$163	WEIGHT PUBLIC BANK	0.1000	\$Q\$163<=0.1	Binding	0
\$R\$163	WEIGHT IJM CORPORATION	0.0100	\$R\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$S\$163	WEIGHT GENTING	0.1000	\$S\$163<=0.1	Binding	0
\$T\$163	WEIGHT YTL POWER INTERNATIONAL	0.0100	\$T\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$U\$163	WEIGHT GAMUDA	0.0100	\$U\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$V\$163	WEIGHT SIME DARBY	0.1000	\$V\$163<=0.1	Binding	0
\$W\$163	WEIGHT MISC BHD.	0.0100	\$W\$163<=0.1	Not Binding	0.09
\$D\$163	WEIGHT MALAYAN BANKING	0.0900	\$D\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.080
\$E\$163	WEIGHT TENAGA NASIONAL	0.0100	\$E\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.000
\$F\$163	WEIGHT CIMB GROUP HOLDINGS	0.0100	\$F\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.000
\$G\$163	WEIGHT GENTING MALAYSIA	0.0100	\$G\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.000
\$H\$163	WEIGHT IOI CORPORATION	0.1000	\$H\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.090
\$I\$163	WEIGHT BURSA MALAYSIA	0.1000	\$I\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.090
\$J\$163	WEIGHT UEM SUNRISE	0.1000	\$J\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.090
\$K\$163	WEIGHT BRIT.AMER.TOB.(MALAYSIA)	0.0100	\$K\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.000
\$L\$163	WEIGHT TELEKOM MALAYSIA	0.0100	\$L\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.000
\$M\$163	WEIGHT DIGI.COM	0.0100	\$M\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.000
\$N\$163	WEIGHT AXIATA GROUP	0.1000	\$N\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.090
\$O\$163	WEIGHT YTL CORPORATION	0.0100	\$O\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.000
\$P\$163	WEIGHT RHB BANK BHD	0.1000	\$P\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.090
\$Q\$163	WEIGHT PUBLIC BANK	0.1000	\$Q\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.090
\$R\$163	WEIGHT IJM CORPORATION	0.0100	\$R\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.000
\$S\$163	WEIGHT GENTING	0.1000	\$S\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.090
\$T\$163	WEIGHT YTL POWER INTERNATIONAL	0.0100	\$T\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.000
\$U\$163	WEIGHT GAMUDA	0.0100	\$U\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.000
\$V\$163	WEIGHT SIME DARBY	0.1000	\$V\$163>=0.01	Not Binding	0.090
\$W\$163	WEIGHT MISC BHD.	0.0100	\$W\$163>=0.01	Binding	0.000

Microsoft Excel 16.0 Sensitivity Report
Worksheet: [PORTFOLIO 20 (1) (1).xlsx]high
Report Created: 19/2/2021 2:43:32 pm

Variable Cells

Cell	Name	Final Value	Reduced Gradient
\$D\$163	WEIGHT MALAYAN BANKING	0.09	0
\$E\$163	WEIGHT TENAGA NASIONAL	0.01	-0.173675686
\$F\$163	WEIGHT CIMB GROUP HOLDINGS	0.01	-0.415447153
\$G\$163	WEIGHT GENTING MALAYSIA	0.01	-0.889825433
\$H\$163	WEIGHT IOI CORPORATION	0.1	0.147765577
\$I\$163	WEIGHT BURSA MALAYSIA	0.1	0.649320006
\$J\$163	WEIGHT UEM SUNRISE	0.1	1.231262207
\$K\$163	WEIGHT BRIT.AMER.TOB.(MALAYSIA)	0.01	-0.993397593
\$L\$163	WEIGHT TELEKOM MALAYSIA	0.01	-1.892093062
\$M\$163	WEIGHT DIGI.COM	0.01	-0.294541866
\$N\$163	WEIGHT AXIATA GROUP	0.1	0.453522801
\$O\$163	WEIGHT YTL CORPORATION	0.01	-0.230058312
\$P\$163	WEIGHT RHB BANK BHD	0.1	0.363027394
\$Q\$163	WEIGHT PUBLIC BANK	0.1	0.635874867
\$R\$163	WEIGHT IJM CORPORATION	0.01	-1.113224983
\$S\$163	WEIGHT GENTING	0.1	0.312878788
\$T\$163	WEIGHT YTL POWER INTERNATIONAL	0.01	-0.579054952
\$U\$163	WEIGHT GAMUDA	0.01	-0.2673392
\$V\$163	WEIGHT SIME DARBY	0.1	0.039397538
\$W\$163	WEIGHT MISC BHD.	0.01	-0.507545542

Constraints

Cell	Name	Final Value	Lagrange Multiplier
\$X\$163	WEIGHT expected return	1	0.486295104



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