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Standardized conditional expectation and its applications in finance. Preliminary report.

Given random variables X, Y , we call the following expression

$$SCE[X|Y = y] = \frac{E[X|Y = y] - E[X]}{Cov(X, Y)}$$

the standardized conditional expectation We believe this to be an important notion, deeper understanding of which is highly desirable and this paper is a move in that direction. Equally importantly there are good applications, one of them to finance, such as CAPM (the capital asset pricing model) and its generalizations. (Received July 18, 2007)