RiskPortfolios: Computation of Risk-Based Portfolios in R

David Ardia

Institute of Financial Analysis, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland Département de Finance, Assurance et Immobilier, Université Laval, Québec, Canada

Kris Boudt

Solvay Business School, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium Faculty of Economics and Business, VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Jean-Philippe Gagnon-Fleury PSP Investments, Montréal, Canada

December 22, 2016

Summary

RiskPortfolios is an R package (R Core Team, 2016) for constructing risk—based portfolios. It provides a set of functionalities to build mean—variance, minimum variance, inverse—volatility weighted (Leote De Carvalho et al., 2012), equal—risk—contribution (Maillard et al., 2010), maximum diversification (Choueifaty and Coignard, 2008), and risk—efficient (Amenc et al., 2011) portfolios. Optimization is achieved with the R packages quadprog (Weingessel, 2013) and nloptr (Ypma, 2014). Long—only or gross constraints can be added to the optimization. As risk—based portfolios are mainly based on covariances, the package also provides a large set of covariance matrix estimators. A simulation study relying on the package is described in Ardia et al. (2016).

References

Noel Amenc, Felix Goltz, Lionel Martellini, and Patrice Retkowsky. Efficient indexation: An alternative to cap-weighted indices. *Journal of Investment Management*, 9(4):1–23, 2011.

David Ardia, Guido Bolliger, Kris Boudt, and Jean-Philippe Gagnon-Fleury. The impact of covariance misspecification in risk-based portfolios, 2016. Working paper.

Yves Choueifaty and Yves Coignard. Toward maximum diversification. *Journal of Portfolio Management*, 35(1):40–51, 2008. doi: 10.3905/JPM.2008.35.1.40.

Raul Leote De Carvalho, Xiao Lu, and Pierre Moulin. Demystifiying equity risk-based strategies: A simple alpha plus beta description. *Journal of Portfolio Management*, 38(3):56–70, 2012. doi: 10.3905/jpm.2012.38.3.056.

Sébastien Maillard, Thierry Roncalli, and Jérôme Teïletche. The properties of equally weighted risk contribution portfolios. *Journal of Portfolio Management*, 36(4):60–70, 2010. doi: 10.3905/jpm.2010.36.4.060.

- R Core Team. R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria, 2016. URL http://www.R-project.org/.
- Andreas Weingessel. quadprog: Functions to solve Quadratic Programming Problems, 2013. URL https://cran.r-project.org/package=quadprog. R package version 1.5-5.
- Jelmer Ypma. nloptr: R interface to NLopt, 2014. URL https://cran.r-project.org/package=nloptr. R package version 1.0.4.