

# Algorithm Project Presentation

## Markowitz Portfolio with Integer Constraint

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# Original Markowitz Portfolio

**Portfolio** : a range of investments held by a person or organization (source : google dictionary). e.g., APPL, TSLA, USBond

✓ You want to 1) **maximize expected profit** + 2) **reduce the risk** : **Tradeoff!**

**Markowitz Portfolio** : Optimize the **proportion vector** ( $x$ ) of items in a portfolio (Markowitz, H. (1959)).

$$\max_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} (e^T x - \gamma x^T C x) = \sum_i e_i x_i - \gamma \sum_i \sum_j C_{ij} x_i x_j$$

$$s.t. x_i \geq 0, \forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}, \sum_i x_i = 1$$

- $n$  : **number of items in a portfolio**  $\vec{r} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  : random vector of **returns** (standardize the price e.g., \$100 to make sense).
- $\vec{e} := E(\vec{r})$ ,  $C := E(r - e)(r - e)^T$  : Unknown  $\rightarrow$  Use point estimates of them!
- $\gamma > 0$  : **risk-sensitivity parameter**.  $\uparrow \gamma$  : **risk averse**,  $\downarrow \gamma$  : **risk seeking**.
- Two Constraints : Because  $x$  represents **proportion**.
- **Need Efficient Algorithms** :  $\therefore$  1) So many options to choose from  $\rightarrow n \uparrow \uparrow$ , 2) **Inference** of  $e$  and  $C$  fastly varies!

# Relaxed Version of Markowitz Portfolio

**Added Integer Constraint on Fraction.** Force  $x_i$  : finite decimal where  $k = \#$  of decimal points : **Simplification**

✓ e.g.,  $(n, k) = (4, 1) : (0.3, 0.1, 0.2, 0.4)$  &  $(n, k) = (3, 2) : (0.32, 0.61, 0.07)$ .

✓ I assume  $k = 1$  or  $2$  and  $n \gg k$  in calculation of time / space complexity.

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} & (e^T x - \gamma x^T C x) \\ \text{s.t.} & \sum_i x_i = 1, x_i = \frac{z}{10^k}, z \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, k \in \mathbb{N} \end{aligned}$$

## Why Integer Constraints?

### ① Why I can

- 1) People understand fractions in finite decimals and only need them
- 2) Computers : Finite Decimal Representation ( $\therefore$  limited memory)

### ② Why I did.

- 1) Original Problem : requires deep knowledge of optimization, relies on whether the problem is convex ( $C$  : PSD)
- 2) QP algorithms : integer point methods, extensions of simplex algorithms,... : hard to apply in class concepts
- 3) Original Problem : No brute Force

# Ways to Solve : Brute Force

```
def BruteForce(n, k):  
    ans_vec = []  
    1) Get every possible combinations of x  
    2) Calculate the objective function for all x  
    3) return max(e^T x - gamma x^T C x) and argmax(e^T x - gamma x^T C x)
```

Figure: Pseudocode for Brute Force Algorithm

**Time Complexity**  $T(n) \in \Theta(\frac{n^{10^k+2}}{10^k!}) = \Theta(n^{10^k+2})$  : Best = Avg = Worst .... considering that  $n \gg k$ .  $k = 1$  or  $2$ .

Two **basic operations** : 1. Elementwise multiplication for  $e^T x - \gamma x^T C x$ , 2. Elementwise Comparison to get minimum.

❶ **Multiplication**  $M(n) = (\text{Total number of combinations of } x) \times (\text{Complexity of } e^T x - \gamma x^T C x \text{ calculation}).$

a) Combinations of  $x = \#$  of multicombinations of  $(a_1, \dots, a_n)$  s.t.  $a_1 + \dots + a_n = 10^k, a_i \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ .

$$= P(n + 10^k - 1; 10^k, n - 1) = \binom{n+10^k-1}{10^k} \in \Theta(\frac{n^{10^k}}{10^k!}).$$

b) Complexity of  $e^T x - \gamma x^T C x$  :  $\Theta(n^2)$  in general,  $\Theta(n)$  for Diagonal  $C$ .

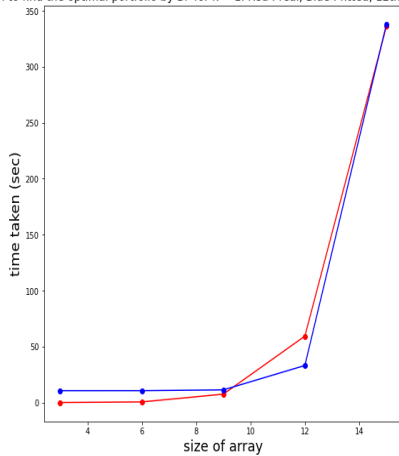
$$\therefore M(n) = \Theta(\frac{n^{10^k+2}}{10^k!})$$

❷ **Elementwise Comparison**  $C(n) = \text{Length of ans\_vec} = \Theta(\frac{n^{10^k}}{10^k!}).$

**Space Complexity**  $S(n) \in \Theta(\frac{n^{10^k}}{10^k!}) = \Theta(n^{10^k})$  : Best = Avg = Worst

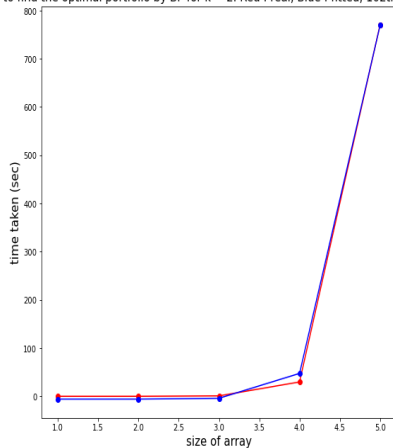
# Brute Force Empirical Results For General $C$

Time taken to find the optimal portfolio by BF for  $k = 1$ . Red : real, Blue : fitted, 12th order curve fitting



(a)  $k = 1$  Case,  $n \in \{3, 6, 9, 12, 15\}$ ,  $T(n) \in \Theta(n^{12})$

Time taken to find the optimal portfolio by BF for  $k = 2$ . Red : real, Blue : fitted, 102th order curve fitting



(b)  $k = 2$  Case,  $n \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ ,  $T(n) \in \Theta(n^{102})$

## What If $C$ is Diagonal : Greedy Algorithm

**Interpretation)** Return of an investment item A and item B consisting a portfolio are uncorrelated.

- Proper Assumption? Not Quite, but a **good starting point**.

Assuming  $C$  is diagonal,  $e^T x - \gamma x^T C x = \sum_{i=1}^n (e_i x_i - \gamma C_{ii} x_i^2)$  : Objective Function is **Separable** !

### Candidate 1 : Greedy Algorithm

- 1 Greedy Algorithm Idea) Find item  $i$  s.t. 1)  $e_i$  : big, 2)  $c_{ii}$  : small  $\rightarrow$  only invest on  $i$ .
- 2 Does not work  $\because$  **no reasonable metric** that shows how big expectation is compared to variance.
- 3 Looking at the figure below, multiple options are chosen : greedy algorithm is not plausible.

Item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Expected Return	0.71	0.97	-0.22	0.13	1.49	-0.24	-0.14	1.01
Variance	0.66	0.78	0.1	0.06	0.96	0.62	0.09	0.56
Optimal Proportion	10%	20%	0	0	40%	0	0	30%

**Figure:** Example showing that Greedy Algorithm may not work.  $\gamma = 1, k = 1, n = 8$ , objective function value = 0.9222

Slightly changing the proportion between item 1,2,5,8 does not lead to the optimum

(e.g, with  $x = (0.1, 0.2, 0, 0, 0.3, 0, 0, 0.4)$ , function value = 0.9022 & Only invest on item 5  $\rightarrow$  function value = 0.55))

# Dynamic Programming Guarantees Optimal Solution

## Terms

$Mark(n, k, p) = \max_{\sum_i x_i = p} (e^T x - \gamma x^T C x)$ . Call  $Mark(n = n, k = k, p = 1) \because \sum_i x_i = 1$  but  $p$  necessary for recursion.

## Alerts

- 1) The recursive equation is very complicated for non-diagonal  $C$ . For simplicity, I first deal with diagonal  $C$ .
- 2) The record table has  $10^k$  columns. For visualization purposes, let  $k = 1$  and ignore this parameter for a while.

$n \backslash p$	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	11	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
3	12	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
4	13	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41
5	14	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
6										51

Figure: The order of execution in case of  $Mark(n = 6, k = 1, p = 1)$

## 1 Base Case

- 1)  $Mark(n = 1, p = p) = \max(pe_1 - \gamma p^2 C_{11}, 0) \because$  Only one item. If the objective is positive, invest on it.
- 2)  $Mark(n = n, p = 0.1) = \max(\max_i (0.1e_i - 0.1^2 \gamma C_{ii}), 0) \because$  with  $p = 0.1$ , there is only one item to choose from.

## 2 Recursive Equation

$$Mark(n, p) = \max[Mark(n - 1, p), Mark(n - 1, p - 0.1) + (0.1e_n - 0.1^2 \gamma C_{nn}), \dots, Mark(n - 1, 0.1) + ((p - 0.1)e_n - (p - 0.1)^2 \gamma C_{nn}), (pe_n - \gamma p^2 C_{nn})]$$

## Review

- 1  $Mark(n, 0.1) = \max(\max_i(0.1e_i - 0.1^2\gamma C_{ii}), 0)$ ,  $Mark(1, p) = \max(pe_n - \gamma p^2 C_{nn}, 0)$  : **Base Case**
- 2  $Mark(n, p) = \max[Mark(n-1, p), Mark(n-1, p-0.1) + (0.1e_n - 0.1^2\gamma C_{nn}), \dots, Mark(n-1, 0.1) + ((p-0.1)e_n - (p-0.1)^2\gamma C_{nn}), (pe_n - \gamma p^2 C_{nn})]$  : **Recursive Relation**

**Time Complexity**  $T(n) \in \Theta(100^k \cdot n) = \Theta(n)$  : Best = Avg = Worst

Two **basic operations** : 1. Elementwise multiplication for  $e_i x_i - \gamma C_{ii} x_i^2$ , 2. Elementwise Comparison to get maximum.

- 1 Multiplication  $M(n, k) =$  Total number of  $e_i x_i - \gamma C_{ii} x_i^2$  calculations : Because calculating  $e_i x_i - \gamma C_{ii} x_i^2$  :  $\Theta(1)$
- 2 Comparison  $C(n, k) =$  Total number of elementwise comparisons.

$n \backslash p$	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6										10

Figure:  $(n, k) = (6, 1)$  case.  $M(n, k, p=1) = C(n, k, 1) = \sum$  shaded numbers

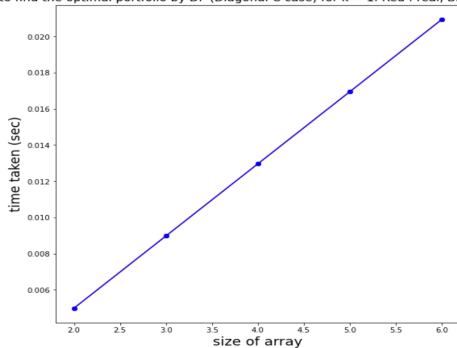
$$M(n, k) = C(n, k) \approx \frac{(10^k)(10^k+1)}{2} \cdot n \in \Theta(100^k \cdot n) \in \Theta(n).$$

**Space Complexity**  $S(n) =$  Size of the record table  $= S_n = 10^k \cdot n \in \Theta(n)$  : Best = Avg = Worst



# Dynamic Programming Empirical Results

Time taken to find the optimal portfolio by DP (Diagonal C case) for  $k = 1$ . Red : real, Blue : fitted, line fitting



```
1 time_list  
[0.004986286163330078,  
0.008975505828857422,  
0.012965202331542969,  
0.016945838928222656,  
0.020943880081176758]
```

Figure: Case  $k = 1$ ,  $n \in \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ .  $C$  is diagonal

# Comparison with Original Knapsack

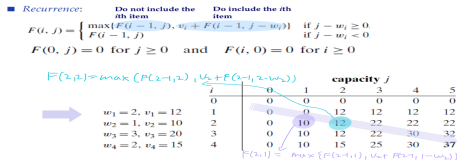
①  $Mark(n, 0.1) = \max(\max_i(0.1e_i - 0.1^2\gamma C_{ii}), 0)$ ,  $Mark(1, p) = \max(pe_n - \gamma p^2 C_{nn}, 0)$  : **Base Case**

②  $Mark(n, p) = \max[Mark(n-1, p), Mark(n-1, p-0.1) + (0.1e_n - 0.1^2\gamma C_{nn}), \dots, Mark(n-1, 0.1) + ((p-0.1)e_n - (p-0.1)^2\gamma C_{nn}), (pe_n - \gamma p^2 C_{nn})]$  : **Recursive Relation**

$T(n) \in \Theta(100^k \cdot n)$  while  $S(n) \in \Theta(10^k \cdot n)$

$n \backslash p$	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6										10

(a)  $M(n=6, k=1, p=1) = C(6, 1, 1) = \sum$  shaded numbers



● **Time efficiency**

■ **Solution:**  $T(n) \in \Theta(Wn) = \Theta(n)$

(b) Knapsack Problem (from Algorithm Lecture #8 DP class material)

**Difference from the Original Knapsack. Format :** this problem  $\leftrightarrow$  knapsack

① Considering  $k$ , asymptotic  $T(n) \neq$  asymptotic  $S(n) \leftrightarrow T(n) = S(n) = \Theta(Wn)$ .

② Moving right of the record table, more numbers to multiply and compare  $\leftrightarrow$  compare two items everywhere

③ Memory function : easy pattern  $\leftrightarrow$  random looking pattern.

# Importance & Value of This Problem

## For this specific problem

: Foundational role in Mean Variance Analysis : maximize expectation for a given level of risk.

## Only that?

## Generalized into Proportion Optimization Problem

- You are often faced with **proportion choice problems** in various options!
- Important thing : Same Constraints, only different **objective function!**

In Markowitz Portfolio, the objective function is  $e^T x - \gamma x^T C x$

- Other applications :

① Capacity of Discrete Memoryless Channel :  $\max_{p,q} - \sum q_j \log q_j - p^T r$  s.t.  $p^T P = q, p^T s \leq S, \sum p_i = 1, p_i \geq 0$ .

② Water Filling :  $\min_x - \sum_i \log(\alpha_i + x_i)$  s.t.  $x_i \geq 0, \sum_i x_i = 1$

# Approaches or variants of Markowitz Portfolio on the Internet

- 1 Fu et al., (1998) : Approximation algorithms for QP. Quadratic Time complexity.
- 2 Kamath et al., (1992) : Interior Point Approach for QP
- 3 Faaland (1974) : Quadratic Integer Programming. "Integer" because the investor limits the number of securities (증권) of a portfolio. Applied Knapsack (similar!) but the problem is different.

laxed problem. The enumeration scheme selected is motivated by the successful algorithm due to Gilmore and Gomory [3] for the knapsack problem.

Step 1. Reorder the variables  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  so that  $C_1/a_1 \geq C_2/a_2 \geq \dots \geq C_n/a_n$ , and reorder the risk levels  $B_1, \dots, B_p$  so that  $B_1 > B_2 > \dots > B_p$ .

Step 2. Calculate

$$Q = \min_{\sum_{j=1}^n X_j = K; X_j \geq 0, \text{ integer}} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n Q_j X_j^2 \right\}.$$

Reset  $p$  (if necessary) at the largest  $t$  for which  $B_t - Q \geq 0$ , and set

$$b_t = (B_t - Q)^{1/2}, \quad t = 1, \dots, p.$$

The calculation of  $Q$  may be done in a straightforward manner using dynamic programming. Let  $f_1(k) = Q_1 k^2$  for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, K$ , and for  $r \geq 2$ , let

$$f_r(k) = \min_{0 \leq X_r \leq k; X_r \text{ integer}} \{Q_r X_r^2 + f_{r-1}(k - X_r)\}.$$

Then  $Q = f_n(K)$ . The term  $b_t$  computed in Step 2 is used as the right hand side of a relaxed linearized form of constraint (2.2). The algorithm applies a modified version of the Gilmore-Gomory enumeration scheme to relaxed problems of the form

$$(7.1) \quad \text{maximize} \quad \sum_{j=1}^n C_j X_j$$

$$(7.2) \quad \text{subject to} \quad \sum_{j=1}^n a_j X_j \leq b_t$$

$$(7.3) \quad \sum_{j=1}^n X_j = K$$

$$(7.4) \quad X_j \geq 0, \text{ integer}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

Figure: Source : Faaland (1974)

# Conclusion

- 1 Want to solve Markowitz Portfolio : Find the proportion which maximizes return but keeps variability low
- 2 Relax the original problem to 1) apply class concepts 2) not to resort to optimization knowledge
- 3 **Brute Force** : For every grid of  $x$ , calculate the objective.  $T(n) \in \Theta(\frac{n^{10^k+2}}{10^{k!}})$  for general  $C$ ,  $S(n) \in \Theta(\frac{n^{10^k}}{10^{k!}})$ .
- 4 For Diagonal  $C$ , Greedy Algorithm was tempting but did not work.
- 5 **Dynamic Programming** approach is a modification of Knapsack problem.  $T(n) \in \Theta(100^k \cdot n)$ ,  $S(n) \in \Theta(10^k \cdot n)$
- 6 Since we deal with  $k = 1$  or  $2$  while  $n \gg k$ , **DP** works more efficiently than **BF**.
- 7 Not only solving the specific portfolio problem, this can be generalized to various scope of **proportion allocation**.

# References

- 1) Markowitz, H. (1959). Portfolio selection. : Original Markowitz Portfolio
- 2) Faaland, B. (1974). An integer programming algorithm for portfolio selection. Management Science, 20(10), 1376-1384.  
: Integer Programming version of Markowitz Portfolio
- 3) Fu, M., Luo, Z. Q., Ye, Y. (1998). Approximation algorithms for quadratic programming. Journal of combinatorial optimization, 2(1), 29-50.  
: One way to solve Markowitz Portfolio
- 4) A.P. Kamath, N.K. Karmarkar, K.G. Ramakrishnan, and M.G.C. Resende, "A continuous approach to inductive inference," Mathematical Programming, vol. 57, pp. 215–238, 1992.
- 5) Algorithm Lecture #8 Dynamic Programming class material : For Knapsack Image