

# Portfolio Optimization, Regression and Conic Programming

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**Thalesians**, Zurich, November 26

**Jobs you might be interested in (from LinkedIn):**

**Quantitative Trader**

... - Zurich Area, Switzerland

Candidates should possess:

**Most utterly humble brief personal history within portfolio optimization**

## Warning

Be **careful** when you mention Optimization... the term is just too ambiguous.

# Today

- we render problems arising in quantitative finance as conic programs.
- we solve such programs using 3rd party software (Mosek).
- we illustrate common mistakes made in practice.

# Challenges

- underestimated?
- modelling (implicit constraints, reverse engineering, politics etc).
- complex maths, flexibility to formulate problems

# User feedback

***If the answer is highly sensitive to perturbations,  
you have probably asked the wrong question.***

**Lloyd N. Trefethen, FRS**

**MAXIMS ABOUT NUMERICAL MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE,  
COMPUTERS, AND LIFE ON EARTH.**



# Literature

- Stephen Boyd, Convex Optimization, <http://stanford.edu/~boyd/cvxbook/>
- Mosek Modeling Manual, <http://docs.mosek.com/generic/modeling-letter.pdf>
- Mosek Tutorials, <https://github.com/MOSEK/Tutorials>
- Thomas Schmelzer and Raphael Hauser, Seven Sins in Portfolio Optimization, <http://arxiv.org/abs/1310.3396>
- Thomas Schmelzer et al., Regression techniques for Portfolio Optimization using MOSEK, <http://arxiv.org/abs/1310.3397>