QP Simple Example

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library(quadprog)

To illustrate the solution method of a quadratic programming problem with linear equality and inequality constraints, consider the following problem:

$$\min_{x} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1\\2\\3 \end{pmatrix}^{T} x + \frac{1}{2} x^{T} \Sigma \ x$$

such that

$$\sum x_i = 1$$
$$x_1 <= 0.5$$
$$x_2 + x_3 >= 0.8$$

The constraints are written in matrix notation, taking good care to separate the equality and inequality constraints:

$$A_e^T x = b_e$$
$$A_n^T x >= b_n$$

with

$$A_e = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\1 \end{bmatrix} \quad b_e = 1$$

$$A_n = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0\\0 & 1\\0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad b_n = \begin{bmatrix} -0.5\\0.8 \end{bmatrix}$$

Data

To stay in the domain of portfolio optimization, Σ is a covariance matrix, constructed from the correlation matrix and a column vector of standard deviation.

$$\sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\2\\1.5 \end{bmatrix} \quad \Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0.3\\1 & 4 & 2.1\\0.3 & 2.1 & 2.25 \end{bmatrix}$$

\mathbf{QP}

The QP solver is invoked as follows. Note that the A matrix must contain first the rows corresponding to the equality constraints, then the rows corresponding to the inequality constraints. Parameter meq indicates the number of equality constraints.

```
b <- rbind(b_e, b_n)
Amat <- cbind(A_e, A_n)
sol = solve.QP(Sigma, c(1,2,3), Amat, b, meq=1)</pre>
```

Table 1: Solution

	X
1	0.1316348
2	-0.4692144
3	1.3375796