

R Minimum Variance Portfolio Project

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Berlin, 16th of March 2019, Philipp Jung

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An investment strategy based on a Minimum Variance Portfolio seeks to minimize the risk of an investment. There is thus no desired target-return or stock-forecast to be considered. The portfolio optimization process can be described as pure risk-minimization, where the goal is a determination of the weight-distribution yielding the lowest possible risk at any time. Graphically, one can think of a Minimum Variance Portfolio as the most left point of the mean-variance-frontier. In this report, the minimum variance portfolio will be theoretically introduced and implemented in the R programming language.

1 Theory

As written in the paper by DeMiguel et al. [DGR09], the weights were chosen according to the portfolio that minimizes the variance of return, e.g.

$$\min_{w_t} w_t^\top \Sigma_t w_t \quad (1)$$

under the restriction that

$$1_N^\top w_t \stackrel{!}{=} 1 \quad (2)$$

and

$$\Sigma_t w_t \stackrel{!}{=} 1, \quad (3)$$

where $w_t \in \mathbb{R}^N$ is the weight-vector at time $t \in \{1, 2, \dots, T\}$ with $T \in \mathbb{N}$ period under observation and $N \in \mathbb{N}$ number of assets considered. $\Sigma_t \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ names the covariance matrix of excess-returns $R_\tau \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times \tau}$ at time t for a subset τ of the period of Observation $\tau \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, T\}$. In the equation above, 1 is thought of as the N-dimensional vector containing 1s.

We now want to investigate the restriction \min_{w_t} for one fixed time-period T , such that $\tau = T$. As a result, weights are not time-dependent anymore. Note that when constructing a Minimum Variance Portfolio, weights are in fact time-dependent. However, for the sake of legibility, we will for now treat the case where $w_t = w$.

Considering three risky assets and a weight vector $w \in \mathbb{R}^3$, such that

$$w = \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ w_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (4)$$

the minimal variance restraint can then be interpreted as follows [Ziv13, p. 7]:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{w_1, w_2, w_3} \sigma_{w_1, w_2, w_3}^2 &= w_1^2 \sigma_1^2 + w_2^2 \sigma_2^2 + w_3^2 \sigma_3^2 + \\ &\quad 2w_1 w_2 \sigma_{12} + 2w_1 w_3 \sigma_{13} + 2w_2 w_3 \sigma_{23} \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Here, the components' variance σ_i^2 and standard deviation $\sigma_{i,j}$ for $i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ are used to describe the relationship. The Lagrange-function of this problem can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} L(w_1, w_2, w_3, \lambda) &= w_1^2 \sigma_1^2 + w_2^2 \sigma_2^2 + w_3^2 \sigma_3^2 + \\ &\quad 2w_1 w_2 \sigma_{12} + 2w_1 w_3 \sigma_{13} + 2w_2 w_3 \sigma_{23} \\ &\quad + \lambda(w_1 + w_2 + w_3 - 1) \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Now, the component-wise deviates can be found and be set to equal zero, yielding the first order conditions.

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &= \frac{\partial L}{\partial w_1} = 2w_1\sigma_1^2 + 2w_2\sigma_{12} + 2w_3\sigma_{13} + \lambda \\
0 &= \frac{\partial L}{\partial w_2} = 2w_2\sigma_2^2 + 2w_1\sigma_{12} + 2w_3\sigma_{23} + \lambda \\
0 &= \frac{\partial L}{\partial w_3} = 2w_3\sigma_3^2 + 2w_1\sigma_{13} + 2w_2\sigma_{23} + \lambda \\
0 &= \frac{\partial L}{\partial \lambda} = w_1 + w_2 + w_3 - 1
\end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

In this, λ is the Lagrange multiplier. Equation 7 can be expressed as a system of linear equations:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2\sigma_1^2 & 2\sigma_{12} & 2\sigma_{13} & 1 \\ 2\sigma_{12} & 2\sigma_2^2 & 2\sigma_{23} & 1 \\ 2\sigma_{13} & 2\sigma_{23} & 2\sigma_3^2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ w_3 \\ \lambda \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{8}$$

Now we can clearly see that the equation has the form of

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2\Sigma & 1 \\ 1^\top & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w \\ \lambda \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{9}$$

where Σ is just the covariance-matrix of the matrix of excess-returns R_τ .

1.1 Solving the system of linear equations

Above equation is of form

$$A \cdot x = b, \tag{10}$$

thus a system of linear differential equations. Since $A = \Sigma$ and $b = 1$ are known, we can solve this system to obtain $x = w_t$ the weight-vector at time t . Note that the weight-vector \mathbf{x} may contain negative which are smaller than zero. These negative weights are interpreted as short sales¹. While short sales are in reality strongly regulated and restricted, the Minimum Variance Portfolio created in this work will not consider any restrictions.

1.2 In-sample Sharpe ratio

The in-sample Sharpe ratio for one strategy k is a basic measure of performance. Only one weights-vector is computed for all results. According to DeMiguel et al. [DGR09, p. 1928] it can be computed by

$$\widehat{SR}_k^{IS} = \frac{\hat{\mu}_k^{IS\perp} \hat{w}_k}{(\hat{\mu}_k^\perp \Sigma \hat{\mu}_k)^{1/2}}. \tag{11}$$

Here, $\hat{\mu}_k^{IS\perp}$ is the mean-returns vector for strategy k , whereas Σ is the covariance-matrix of the excess-returns matrix R . \hat{w}_k is the mean weights-vector of strategy k .

¹[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Short_\(finance\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Short_(finance))

1.3 Out-sample Sharpe ratio

Computing the out-sample Sharpe ratio, the weights' time-dependency is addressed using a "rolling sample" approach[DGR09, p.1927]. These "rolling samples" are formed by defining continuous subsets t_i of the original time-series with fixed length of 120 consecutive time-steps, $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, T - 120\}$ where T is the last time-step of the time-series. This time-interval is then shifted progressively through the entire length of the time-series.

	Date	A_returns	B_returns
	01-2001	0.002	-0.001
t_1	02-2001	0.005	-0.005
	03-2001	-0.001	-0.008
t_3	04-2001	0.005	0.008
	05-2001	0.006	0.010
t_5	06-2001	0.007	0.001
	07-2001	0.000	0.004

Figure 1: Illustration of the rolling-window approach for a time-series containing seven time-steps filled with mock-data. Five subsets of length 3 divide the time-series.

This approach is schematically described in figure 1.

Finally, for each subset t_i , the weights are computed by solving the system of linear equations as in 10. Out-of-sample excess returns are then calculated using the actual excess returns of the $i + 1$ 'th time-step in an attempt to validate if a prediction in the past had been successful.

Lastly, the out-of-sample returns' arithmetic mean $\hat{\mu}$ is divided by its standard deviation $\hat{\sigma}$ to derive the out-of-sample Sharpe ratio like so:

$$\hat{SR} = \frac{\hat{\mu}}{\hat{\sigma}} \quad (12)$$

2 Implementation

In this section we want to display and discuss the implementation of the approach described in the previous chapter in the R programming language. We will compute several performance measures of the Minimal Variance Portfolio we're about to derive from the data.

2.1 Datasets and data preparation

The first dataset upon which this analysis is based is called "Ten sector portfolios of the S&P 500 and the US equity market portfolio". It has been created by Roberto Wessels and was obtained from Mendeley Data². Note that for this dataset, it is necessary to subtract the Treasury Bill-rates from each entry to obtain adjusted returns stripped of the risk-free rate. We call this dataset **TSP**.

The other dataset concerned is provided by Kenneth French and downloaded from his website³. The dataset is called "SMB and HML portfolios and the US equity market portfolio" and contains the factors "Small Minus Big" (SMB) and "High Minus Low" (HMB) from the Fama-French three-factor model⁴ as well as the whole S&P500 portfolio. We call this dataset short **SHS**. This dataset is already cleared from the risk-free rate, thus a Treasury Bill-rate adjustment is not necessary.

In listing 1, it is showcased how data is imported and loaded into a dataframe. In line 1, the .csv-file containing the data is loaded via the `read.csv` function, where a separator as well as the header-parameter are specified.

```
1 return_matrix = read.csv('.. /ten-roberto-wessels.csv', header=TRUE, sep=',')
2 sub_return_matrix = subset(return_matrix, select = -c(13))
3 sub_return_matrix = apply(sub_return_matrix[, -1], 2, '-', return_matrix[, 13])
4 return_matrix = cbind(return_matrix$Date, sub_return_matrix)
5 colnames(return_matrix)[1] = 'Date'
```

Listing 1: Loading the data and subtracting the risk-free rate from the columns of returns yields a dataframe containing the matrix of excess-returns.

In case of dataset TSP, it is necessary to subtract the risk-free rate from the returns. To do this, a subset of the `return_matrix` is created in line 2, excluding the monthly risk-free rate which is stored in column 13 of the `return_matrix`. In line 3, the risk-free rate is subtracted from every column the `return_matrix`' subset, except for the column containing the date. Line 4 shows the reconstruction of the `return_matrix`, now containing risk-free returns. After the dates' column-name has been reset in line 5, the `return_matrix` now contains only risk-free returns.

²Data can be downloaded here. It is also attached to this report.

³The dataset from Kenneth French's website can be downloaded here and is also attached to this report.

⁴For an introduction to the Fama-French three-factor model, see Wikipedia.

2.2 Computing the in-sample Sharpe ratio

A very basic way of measuring portfolio performance is provided by the in-sample Sharpe ratio. By setting $\tau = \{1, 2, \dots, T\}$, the entire time-series is considered when computing the covariance matrix of the matrix of excess-returns Σ_t , effectively removing the weight-vectors' time-dependency.

Following the procedure leading to the system of linear equations in equation 10, we first compute a covariance matrix of the entire risk-free return-matrix. Line 1 of listing 2 does just this, excluding the column containing the time-series dates. A vector of dimension equal to the amount of assets listed in the return_matrix is constructed, where every component of the vector equals one.

```

1 cov_return_matrix = cov(return_matrix[, -1])
2 b = vector(length=nA) + 1
3 weights = solve(cov_benchmark_matrix, b)
4 weights = weights/abs(sum(weights))
5 mean_returns = data.matrix(apply(benchmark_matrix[, -1], 2, mean))
6 weights = data.matrix(weights)
7 Sharpe_ratio_IS = t(mean_returns) %*% weights / sqrt(t(weights)%*%cov_
    benchmark_matrix%*%weights)
8 print(Sharpe_ratio_IS)
```

Listing 2: This example shows how the in-sample Sharpe ratio for a matrix of expected returns, computed in the R programming language.

Line 3 of listing 2 uses the `solve()` function to solve the linear equation by inverting the covariance matrix. The resulting `weights`-vector is normalized in line 4. A vector containing the mean-values of `return_matrix` is created in line 5 and the `weights`-vector is converted to a data.matrix in line 6. This is done to facilitate the vector- and matrix-multiplication performed in line 7 to calculate the in-sample Sharpe ratio according to equation 11, which is printed in line 7.

2.3 Computing the out-sample Sharpe ratio

For computing the out-sample Sharpe ratio as described in section 1.3, the approach for deriving the in-sample Sharpe ratio needs to be altered to incorporate time-dependency.

Considering listing 3, in lines 1 and 2, the number of assets as well as the length of the time-series are assigned respectively. `M` contains the length of the rolling-sample, the iterator-variable `t` is initialized in line 4 and adjusted to `M`.

```

1 nA = dim(return_matrix[, -1])[2] # number of assets
2 T = dim(return_matrix)[1] # no of months
3 M = 120 # size of rolling-sample
4 t = M + 1 # adjust t_0 to size of rolling-sample
```

```

5 while (t <= T - 1) {
6   tStart = t - M
7   tEnd = t
8   return_matrix_future = return_matrix[c(tEnd+1),]
9   cov_return_matrix_t = cov(data.matrix(return_matrix[c(tStart:tEnd),-1]))
10  b_t = vector(length=nA) + 1
11  x_t = solve(cov_return_matrix_t, b_t)
12  x_t = x_t/sum(x_t)
13
14  if(t == M+1) {
15    history_of_weights = data.frame(t(x_t))
16    mu = data.frame(return_matrix[,1][t], x_t %*% return_matrix_future[-1])
17  }
18  else {
19    history_of_weights = rbind(history_of_weights, x_t)
20    mu = rbind(mu, data.frame(return_matrix[,1][t], x_t %*% return_matrix_
    future[-1]))
21  }
22  t = t+1
23 }

```

Listing 3: Computing the out-sample Sharpe ratio from the matrix of expected returns in R.

In line 5, the sample gets rolling: By setting a `while`-loop, we iterate over the whole time-series. The last date included in the rolling-sample is $T-1$, since it is the last value for which the expected returns of the next month are known. From line 6 to 12, the weights for time t x_t are computed. They are stored in dataframe `mu` in line 15 and 19 respectively. Meanwhile, the weights are saved in a dataframe in line 15 and 19.

3 Discussion

To validate the implementations of the minimum-variance portfolio, in this section metrics derived from the data will be compared with results from DeMiguel et al.[DGR09]. Additionally, results will be graphically displayed and compared.

3.1 Graphical Analysis

As a first graphical display of results, a portfolio appreciation graph is constructed by cumulatively summing the returns and scaling them by a factor 100. This is similar to having invested 100\$ in a specific portfolio at the beginning of the time-series considered. In figure 2, the portfolio appreciation graph of the minimum variance portfolio, which has been created in previous chapter 2.3, as well as the portfolio appreciation graph of the naive investing strategy are displayed. When applying a naive investing strategy as in [DGR09], the weight-vector w_{naive} is of dimension N and every component of w_{naive} is of value $1/N$, where N is the number of assets considered.

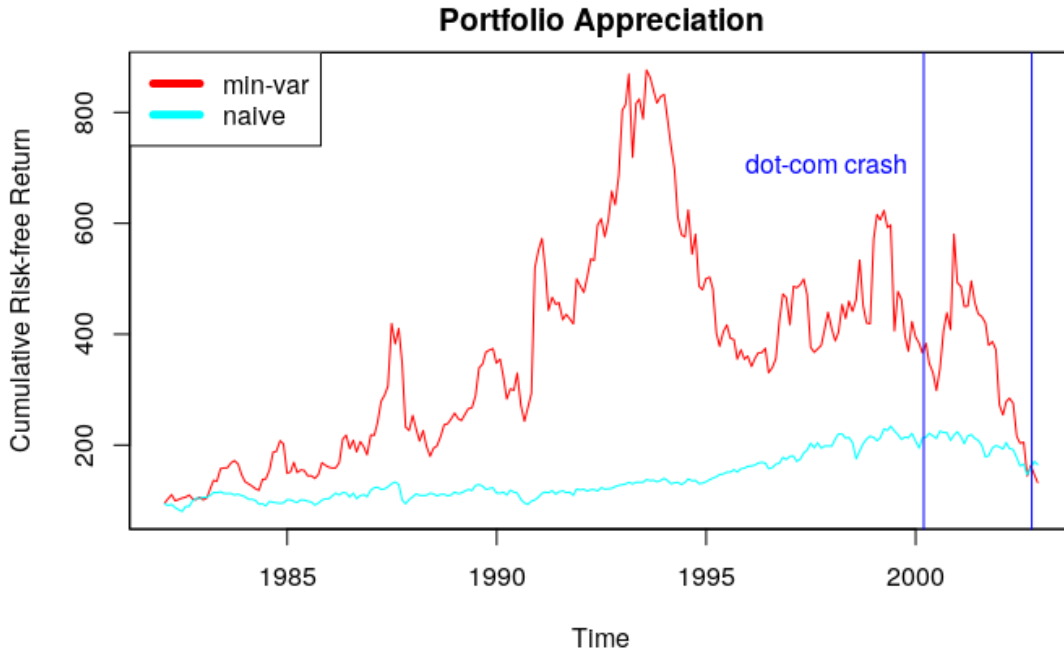


Figure 2: The graph shows cumulative returns of two portfolio strategies: a naive portfolio (naive) and a minimum variance portfolio (min-var) as implemented in previous sections. The dataset on which the analysis was performed is SHS by Roberto Wessels.

As can be seen in figure 2, the minimum variance portfolio yields for a vast majority of time-steps considerably higher returns than the naive approach. This is especially evident in the period from 1990 to 1995.

However, during the dot-com crash, which lasted from March 11, 2000 to October 9,

	Minimum variance portfolio	Naive portfolio
mean cumulative return (per cent)	362.75	142.72
maximum cumulative return (per cent)	876.41	233.97
minimum cumulative return (per cent)	95.52	80.36

Table 1: Key data of the naive portfolio strategy as well as the minimum variance portfolio. The size of the rolling window to compute the minimum variance portfolio is set to 12 months.

2002⁵, both portfolio-strategies lead to diminishing cumulative returns. Especially the minimum variance portfolio performs poorly during this period.

Table 1 summarizes the results. It becomes evident that the minimum variance portfolio performed on this dataset in a superior fashion compared to the naive portfolio. The absolute minimum cumulative return is about 15% lower for the minimum variance portfolio compared to the naive portfolio. The maximum cumulative return accomplished is roughly 3 times higher and the mean cumulative return approximately twice as big when employing a minimum variance portfolio compared to a portfolio following the naive approach.

Figure 3 shows the weights' dependency on time. Since the weights are normalized (compare with listing 3, line 12), any single weight larger than 1 (or -1) implies that additional capital shall be lent to either further buy stock (if the weight is bigger than 0) or to sell short the corresponding stock. As can be expected for a minimum variance portfolio, the weights fluctuate heavily over time.

3.2 Comparing numerical results

This work was motivated by the paper „Optimal versus naive diversification: how inefficient is the $1/N$ portfolio strategy?“ by DeMiguel et al. [DGR09]. The two datasets used for the analysis in this report were also used by DeMiguel et al., thus a comparison of results seems logical.

Table 2 lists all Sharpe ratios taken from DeMiguel et al. [DGR09] and also values computed by the author of this report. While in the original paper, the authors chose to only publish the out-sample Sharpe ratio, in-sample Sharpe ratios were also computed and listed in table 2 within brackets.

It can be seen that the results differ more or less strongly from the results obtained by DeMiguel et al. While the out-sample Sharpe ratio for the SHS-dataset is off by two orders of magnitude, the in-sample Sharpe ratio has an relative deviation from the DeMiguel et al.-result by 1.2%.

⁵Dates taken from the wikipedia page of the dot-com bubble.

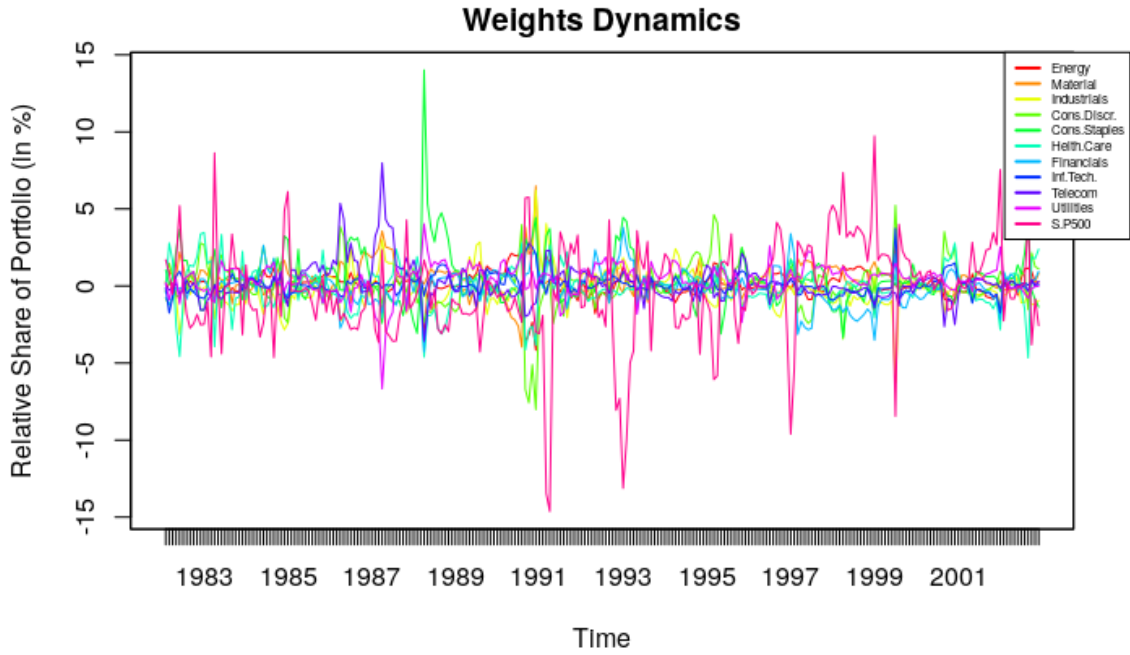


Figure 3: This figure depicts the dynamics of weights of a minimum variance portfolio as implemented in previous sections. The size of the rolling-window is set to 12 months. The dataset considered is SHS by Roberto Wessels.

Meanwhile, the deviation from the original paper's result for the TSP-dataset is 52.9% for the out-sample Sharpe ratio and 28.3% for the in-sample Sharpe ratio.

The error for the TSP-dataset might be explicable by the fact that the data might not be the same as DeMiguel et al. used in their study. It was obtained from an unofficial source⁶ and could be faulty.

Meanwhile, dataset SHS was directly obtained from the same source used by DeMiguel et al. The difference by two orders of magnitude between in-sample and out-sample Sharpe ratio is surprising. This hints at a systematic error in the computation of out-sample Sharpe ratios.

⁶Data can be downloaded here

Strategy	TSP	SHS
\min_{DM}	0.0820	0.2493
\min_{OS}	0.0386	15.5675
\min_{IS}	0.0588	0.2461

Table 2: Comparison of the Sharpe ratios of the minimum variance portfolio strategy. Values of strategies with subscript „DM“ are taken from DeMiguel et al. Strategies with subscript „OS“ name the out-sample Sharpe ratios computed by the author of this report, subscript „IS“ denote in-sample Sharpe ratios.

4 Conclusion

In this report, the minimum variance portfolio strategy has been elaborated. In a theoretical chapter, basic portfolio-theoretical concepts were discussed. Constraints for the minimum variance portfolio strategy were introduced and explained. In a next step, an optimization problem was derived from the portfolio constraints. The problem was transformed to a linear system of equations, which can be solved by inverting a matrix. In-sample and out-sample Sharpe ratio were introduced as important measures of performance.

Datasets, their sources, meanings and relevance were introduced. The subtraction of treasure-bill rates from the returns was discussed and demonstrated.

In the following section, implementations of theoretical core-concepts in the R programming language were discussed. The programmatical difference between in-sample Sharpe ratio and out-sample Sharpe ratio was thusly accentuated.

Graphical results were shown and discussed. The superiority of the minimum variance portfolio in comparison to the naive portfolio was stressed and fortified by key data extracted from the computed returns. The weights' time sensitivity was displayed in a weights dynamics graph.

Finally, numerical results were compared to results obtained by DeMiguel et al [DGR09].

5 Appendix

What follows is the full source-code listing.

```

1 return_matrix_eleven = read.csv('.. /ten-roberto-wessels.csv', header=TRUE,
   sep=',')
2 return_matrix_three = read.csv('.. /two-plus-one.csv', header=TRUE, sep = ',')
   )
3 colnames(return_matrix_three)[1] = 'Date'
4
5 # data-cleaning: subtracting the tbill-rate from returns

```

```

6 sub_return_matrix = subset(return_matrix_eleven, select = -c(13))
7 sub_return_matrix = apply(sub_return_matrix[, -1], 2, '-', return_matrix_
    eleven[, 13])
8 return_matrix_eleven = cbind(return_matrix_eleven$Date, sub_return_matrix)
9 colnames(return_matrix_eleven)[1] = 'Date'
10
11 # function calcMinVarWeights expects a matrix of returns, where the first
    column
12 # contains an index (e.g. date) and all other columns contain returns.
13 # the function returns a normalized weights vector
14 calcMinVarWeights = function(return_matrix) {
15     return_matrix = data.matrix(return_matrix) # convert for applying linear
        algebra
16
17     # solve system of linear equations
18     nA = dim(return_matrix[, -1])[2] # number of assets
19     b = vector(length=nA) + 1 # constraint-vector
20     cov_matrix = cov(return_matrix[, -1]) # dates are deleted
21     weights = solve(cov_matrix, b)
22     weights = data.matrix(weights/sum(weights)) # normalize the vector
23
24     return (weights)
25 }
26
27 # the function inSampleSharpe expects a data frame, where the first column
    is
28 # contains an index and returns the in-sample Sharpe ratio of said data
    frame.
29 inSampleSharpe = function(return_matrix) {
30
31     # calculate weights
32     weights = calcMinVarWeights(return_matrix)
33
34     # calculate mean of each asset
35     mean_returns = data.matrix(apply(return_matrix[, -1], 2, mean))
36
37     # calculate sharpe-ratio according to formula
38     cov_matrix = cov(return_matrix[, -1])
39     sharpe_ratio_in_sample =
40     t(mean_returns) %*% weights/ sqrt(t(weights)%*%cov_matrix%*%weights)
41

```

```

42   return (sharpe_ratio_in_sample)
43 }
44
45 ### results for both datasets ###
46 sharpe_ratio_IS_three = inSampleSharpe(return_matrix_three)
47 sharpe_ratio_IS_eleven = inSampleSharpe(return_matrix)
48 sharpe_ratio_IS_three
49 sharpe_ratio_IS_eleven
50
51 # the function outSampleSharpe expects a return_matrix where the first
    column
52 # contains an index (e.g. a Date) and all other columns contain returns.
53 # parameter M (int) indicates the size of the rolling-sample
54 # parameter historyOfWeights (boolean) indicates if instead of a data frame
55 # with columns date, minvar-returns, cumulative minvar-returns
56 # and cumulative naive-returns a data frame containing the weights should be
57 # returned
58 outSampleSharpe = function(return_matrix, M, historyOfWeights) {
59   return_matrix = data.matrix(return_matrix)
60   nA = dim(return_matrix[, -1])[2] # number of assets
61   T = dim(return_matrix)[1] # no of months
62   t = M + 1 # adjust t_0 to size of rolling-sample
63   b = vector(length=nA) + 1 # set up restraints_vector
64   while (t <= T - 1) {
65     tStart = t - M # lower barrier for the time-interval
66     tEnd = t # upper barrier for the time-interval
67     return_matrix_future = return_matrix[c(tEnd+1),] # return matrix t+1 in
        the future
68
69     cov_return_matrix_t = cov(data.matrix(return_matrix[c(tStart:tEnd), -1]))
        # calculate cov-matrix for time t
70     w_t = solve(cov_return_matrix_t, b) # solve system of equations
71     w_t = w_t/sum(w_t) # normalize weights
72
73     ## calculate returns
74     ret_t = w_t %*% return_matrix_future[-1] #min-var returns
75     naive_ret_t = (vector(length=nA) + 1/nA) %*% return_matrix_future[-1] #
        naive returns
76
77     if(t == M+1) { # in the first iteration, create df
78       if(historyOfWeights) {

```

```

79     mu = data.frame(t(w_t))
80   } else {
81     mu = data.frame(return_matrix[,1][t],
82                     ret_t, 100 * (1 + ret_t),
83                     100 * (1 + naive_ret_t))
84     colnames(mu) = c('Date',
85                      'returns',
86                      'cumulative returns',
87                      'naive cumulative returns')
88   }
89   } else {
90     if(historyOfWeights) {
91       # save weights
92       mu = rbind(mu, w_t)
93     } else {
94       # calculate cumulative return
95       cumul_ret = mu[tStart-1,3] * (1 + ret_t)
96       naive_cumul_ret = mu[tStart-1,4] * (1 + naive_ret_t)
97       # save returns
98       new = data.frame(return_matrix[,1][t],
99                         ret_t,
100                        cumul_ret,
101                        naive_cumul_ret)
102       colnames(new) = c('Date',
103                          'returns',
104                          'cumulative returns',
105                          'naive cumulative returns')
106       mu = rbind(mu, new)
107     }
108   }
109   t = t+1
110 }
111 return (mu)
112 }
113 mu_three = outSampleSharpe(return_matrix_three, 120, FALSE)
114 mu_eleven = outSampleSharpe(return_matrix_eleven, 120, FALSE)
115 mean(mu_three$returns) / var(mu_three$returns)
116 mean(mu_eleven$returns) / var(mu_eleven$returns)
117
118 library('zoo')
119 library('xts')

```

```

120 history_of_returns = data.frame(as.Date(as.character(mu$Date), format="%Y%m%d"), mu[,c(2:4)])
121 colnames(history_of_returns) = c('Date', 'Out-of-sample returns', '
    cumulative returns', 'naive cumulative returns')
122 View(portfolio_appreciation)
123 portfolio_appreciation = as.xts(history_of_returns[,c(-1,-2)], order.by=
    history_of_returns$Date)
124 zoo.appreciation = as.zoo(portfolio_appreciation)
125 cumretRainbow = rainbow(ncol(zoo.appreciation))
126 {plot.zoo(x = zoo.appreciation, main = 'Portfolio Appreciation', xlab='Time'
    , ylab='Cumulative Risk-free Return (in %)', col = cumretRainbow, screens
    = 1)
127 legend(x = "topleft", legend = c("min-var", "naive"), lwd=5, col =
    cumretRainbow)
128 abline(v = c(as.Date('2000-03-11'), as.Date('2002-10-09')), col= 'blue')
129 text(x = as.Date('2000-03-01'), y=700, pos = 2, labels = 'dot-com crash',
    col='blue')
130 }
131
132 min(portfolio_appreciation$'cumulative returns')
133 mean(portfolio_appreciation$'cumulative returns')
134 max(portfolio_appreciation$'cumulative returns')
135 mean(portfolio_appreciation$'naive cumulative returns')
136 max(portfolio_appreciation$'naive cumulative returns')
137 min(portfolio_appreciation$'naive cumulative returns')
138
139 history_of_weights = outSampleSharpe(return_matrix_eleven, 12, TRUE)
140 weightsHistoryDf = data.frame(return_matrix[14:dim(return_matrix)[1],1],
    history_of_weights)
141 colnames(weightsHistoryDf)[1] = "Date"
142
143 weightsHistoryDf$Date = as.yearmon(as.character(weightsHistoryDf$Date),
    format="%Y%m")
144 weightsHistoryXts = as.xts(weightsHistoryDf[, -1], order.by=weightsHistoryDf$
    Date)
145 zoo.weightsHistory = as.zoo(weightsHistoryXts)
146 View(zoo.weightsHistory)
147 weightsRainbow = rainbow(ncol(zoo.weightsHistory))
148 {
149 par(xpd=TRUE)
150 plot(zoo.weightsHistory, main='Weights Dynamics', xlab='Time', ylab='

```



```

151   Relative Share of Portfolio (in %)', screens=1, col=weightsRainbow, xpd=
      TRUE)
      legend(x = "topright", legend = colnames(weightsHistoryDf)[c(2:12)], lwd=2,
            col = weightsRainbow, inset=c(-0.06,0), xpd=TRUE, pt.cex = 1, cex = 0.5)}

```

References

- [DGR09] Victor DeMiguel, Lorenzo Garlappi, and Uppal Raman. “Optimal Versus Naive Diversification: How Inefficient is the 1/N Portfolio Strategy?” In: *The Review of Financial Studies* 22 (5 2009), pp. 1915–1953. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/hhm075>. URL: <https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/hal-01850926/document>.
- [Ziv13] Eric Zivot. *Portfolio Theory with Matrix Algebra*. 2013. URL: <https://faculty.washington.edu/ezivot/econ424/portfolioTheoryMatrix.pdf>.