

Coding in R: Generate Half Gaussian Table, Optimal Markowitz portfolio

Salpawuni, A.S

14.06.2021

Problem 2

```
# 1. phi function -----
phi <- function(x = NULL){
  if(is.null(x)) stop("Stop! Null vector not allowed!") # test for non-null vector

  x = scale(x) # obtain standardization of vector x
  out <- 1/sqrt(2 * pi) * exp(-x^2/2) # probability density of vector x
  return(as.vector(out))
}
# output vector of densities
# e.g. phi(x = seq(100)) outputs 100 densities

# 2. quantile vector, integrate to obtain phi vector values -----

quant = seq(0, 5.5, by = 1/100) # for half-table values
f = function(x) 1/sqrt(2 * pi) * exp(-x^2/2) # integrand for Phi(x) value
probs <- sapply(quant,
  FUN = function(x) integrate(f, lower = 0, upper = x)$value)

# check if probs and pnorm() agree to 4 decimal places
identical(round(probs, 4), round(pnorm(q = quant)-0.5, 4))

## [1] TRUE

# matrix form (subset first 400 to draw half-table)
half_table <- as.data.frame(matrix(probs[1:400], ncol = 10, byrow = TRUE))
rownames(half_table) = sprintf('%0.1f', seq(0, 3.9, by = 1/10))
colnames(half_table) = sprintf('%0.2f', seq(0, 0.09, by = 1/100))
# output Gaussian table (half-table)
knitr::kable(half_table,
  digits = 4,
  caption = "Standard normal table: $P(0 < Z < z)$")
```

Table 1: Standard normal table: $P(0 < Z < z)$

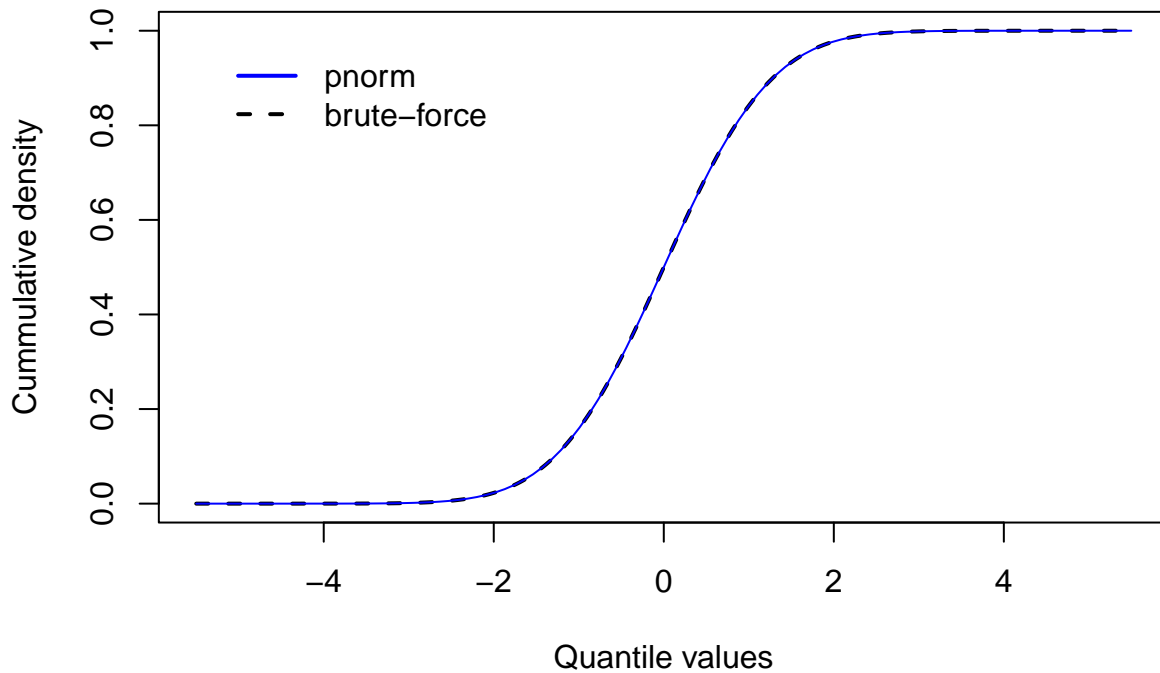
	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.09
0.0	0.0000	0.0040	0.0080	0.0120	0.0160	0.0199	0.0239	0.0279	0.0319	0.0359
0.1	0.0398	0.0438	0.0478	0.0517	0.0557	0.0596	0.0636	0.0675	0.0714	0.0753
0.2	0.0793	0.0832	0.0871	0.0910	0.0948	0.0987	0.1026	0.1064	0.1103	0.1141
0.3	0.1179	0.1217	0.1255	0.1293	0.1331	0.1368	0.1406	0.1443	0.1480	0.1517
0.4	0.1554	0.1591	0.1628	0.1664	0.1700	0.1736	0.1772	0.1808	0.1844	0.1879
0.5	0.1915	0.1950	0.1985	0.2019	0.2054	0.2088	0.2123	0.2157	0.2190	0.2224
0.6	0.2257	0.2291	0.2324	0.2357	0.2389	0.2422	0.2454	0.2486	0.2517	0.2549
0.7	0.2580	0.2611	0.2642	0.2673	0.2704	0.2734	0.2764	0.2794	0.2823	0.2852
0.8	0.2881	0.2910	0.2939	0.2967	0.2995	0.3023	0.3051	0.3078	0.3106	0.3133
0.9	0.3159	0.3186	0.3212	0.3238	0.3264	0.3289	0.3315	0.3340	0.3365	0.3389

	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.09
1.0	0.3413	0.3438	0.3461	0.3485	0.3508	0.3531	0.3554	0.3577	0.3599	0.3621
1.1	0.3643	0.3665	0.3686	0.3708	0.3729	0.3749	0.3770	0.3790	0.3810	0.3830
1.2	0.3849	0.3869	0.3888	0.3907	0.3925	0.3944	0.3962	0.3980	0.3997	0.4015
1.3	0.4032	0.4049	0.4066	0.4082	0.4099	0.4115	0.4131	0.4147	0.4162	0.4177
1.4	0.4192	0.4207	0.4222	0.4236	0.4251	0.4265	0.4279	0.4292	0.4306	0.4319
1.5	0.4332	0.4345	0.4357	0.4370	0.4382	0.4394	0.4406	0.4418	0.4429	0.4441
1.6	0.4452	0.4463	0.4474	0.4484	0.4495	0.4505	0.4515	0.4525	0.4535	0.4545
1.7	0.4554	0.4564	0.4573	0.4582	0.4591	0.4599	0.4608	0.4616	0.4625	0.4633
1.8	0.4641	0.4649	0.4656	0.4664	0.4671	0.4678	0.4686	0.4693	0.4699	0.4706
1.9	0.4713	0.4719	0.4726	0.4732	0.4738	0.4744	0.4750	0.4756	0.4761	0.4767
2.0	0.4772	0.4778	0.4783	0.4788	0.4793	0.4798	0.4803	0.4808	0.4812	0.4817
2.1	0.4821	0.4826	0.4830	0.4834	0.4838	0.4842	0.4846	0.4850	0.4854	0.4857
2.2	0.4861	0.4864	0.4868	0.4871	0.4875	0.4878	0.4881	0.4884	0.4887	0.4890
2.3	0.4893	0.4896	0.4898	0.4901	0.4904	0.4906	0.4909	0.4911	0.4913	0.4916
2.4	0.4918	0.4920	0.4922	0.4925	0.4927	0.4929	0.4931	0.4932	0.4934	0.4936
2.5	0.4938	0.4940	0.4941	0.4943	0.4945	0.4946	0.4948	0.4949	0.4951	0.4952
2.6	0.4953	0.4955	0.4956	0.4957	0.4959	0.4960	0.4961	0.4962	0.4963	0.4964
2.7	0.4965	0.4966	0.4967	0.4968	0.4969	0.4970	0.4971	0.4972	0.4973	0.4974
2.8	0.4974	0.4975	0.4976	0.4977	0.4977	0.4978	0.4979	0.4979	0.4980	0.4981
2.9	0.4981	0.4982	0.4982	0.4983	0.4984	0.4984	0.4985	0.4985	0.4986	0.4986
3.0	0.4987	0.4987	0.4987	0.4988	0.4988	0.4989	0.4989	0.4989	0.4990	0.4990
3.1	0.4990	0.4991	0.4991	0.4991	0.4992	0.4992	0.4992	0.4992	0.4993	0.4993
3.2	0.4993	0.4993	0.4994	0.4994	0.4994	0.4994	0.4994	0.4995	0.4995	0.4995
3.3	0.4995	0.4995	0.4995	0.4996	0.4996	0.4996	0.4996	0.4996	0.4996	0.4997
3.4	0.4997	0.4997	0.4997	0.4997	0.4997	0.4997	0.4997	0.4997	0.4997	0.4998
3.5	0.4998	0.4998	0.4998	0.4998	0.4998	0.4998	0.4998	0.4998	0.4998	0.4998
3.6	0.4998	0.4998	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999
3.7	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999
3.8	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999	0.4999
3.9	0.5000	0.5000	0.5000	0.5000	0.5000	0.5000	0.5000	0.5000	0.5000	0.5000

```
# 3. Distribution curve (full table plot) -----
x = c(-rev(quant), quant)
y = sapply(x,
  FUN = function(x) integrate(f, lower = -5.5, upper = x)$value)

plot(x, y, type = 'l',
  xlab = "Quantile values",
  ylab = "Cumulative density",
  lwd = 2, lty = 2,
  main = expression(
    paste("Standard Gaussian distribution function:")~Phi(x))
  # xlim = c(-5, 5), ylim = c(0, 1), axes = TRUE,
)
curve(expr = pnorm(x), add = TRUE, col = 'blue', lty = 1.5)
legend('topleft',
  inset = 0.05,
  legend = c("pnorm", "brute-force"),
  bty = "n", # Removes the legend box
  lty = c(1, 2),
  col = c('blue', 'black'),
  lwd = 2)
```

Standard Gaussian distribution function: $\Phi(x)$



Problem 3

```
options (digits=4, width=70)

library("PerformanceAnalytics")
library("tseries")
library("zoo")

# DATA -----
#####
### TASK 1: Retrieving 10 stock prices (Yahoo S&P500)
#####
tickers <- c("AAPL", "MSFT", "AMZN", "GOOGL", "BRK-B",
             "JPM", "JNJ", "NVDA", "BAC", "PFE")
lst <- list() # To hold adjusted monthly returns

retrieve_stock <- function(){
  for(i in tickers){
    lst[[i]] <- get.hist.quote(instrument = i,
                              start = "2010-01-01",
                              end = "2020-01-01",
                              quote = "AdjClose",
                              provider = "yahoo",
                              origin = "2000-09-01",
                              compression = "m",
                              retclass = "zoo")
  }
  return(lst)
}

stock_prices = retrieve_stock() # Stock prices from S&P500 (Yahoo)
```

```

## 'getSymbols' currently uses auto.assign=TRUE by default, but will
## use auto.assign=FALSE in 0.5-0. You will still be able to use
## 'loadSymbols' to automatically load data. getOption("getSymbols.env")
## and getOption("getSymbols.auto.assign") will still be checked for
## alternate defaults.
##
## This message is shown once per session and may be disabled by setting
## options("getSymbols.warning4.0"=FALSE). See ?getSymbols for details.

## time series ends 2019-12-01
## time series ends 2019-12-01
## time series ends 2019-12-01
## time series ends 2019-12-01
## time series ends 2019-12-01
## time series ends 2019-12-01
## time series ends 2019-12-01
## time series ends 2019-12-01
## time series ends 2019-12-01
## time series ends 2019-12-01

sapply(stock_prices, length) # Check lengths of downloaded RETURNS (i.e 120)

## AAPL MSFT AMZN GOOGL BRK-B JPM JNJ NVDA BAC PFE
## 120 120 120 120 120 120 120 120 120 120

# Transformation and Summary Statistics -----
#####
### TASK 2: mean, variance-covariance and weights
#####
N = length(tickers) # number of securities (10)
ones <- matrix(data = 1, nrow = N) # matrix of ones

descriptive_stat <- function(){
  lr <- lapply(X = stock_prices, FUN = function(x) diff(log(x)))
  mat <- sapply(lr, unclass) # obtain matrix of 10 securities

  ln = nrow(mat) # off by one after differencing

  # random weights
  wts <- runif(n = N) # random weights (not scaled)
  wts <- wts/sum(wts) # scaled weights (NB: this sums to One!)
  names(wts) <- tickers

  mu <- 1/ln * t(mat) %*% matrix(1, nrow = ln) # mean vector
  mu <- as.vector(mu)
  names(mu) <- tickers

  mu_mat <- matrix(data = mu, ncol = N, nrow = ln, byrow = TRUE) # mean matrix

  vcv <- 1/(ln - 1) * t((mat - mu_mat)) %*% (mat - mu_mat) # var-cov
  vcv <- as.matrix(vcv)
  dimnames(vcv) <- list(tickers, tickers)
  class(vcv) <- "matrix"

  list(mu_cap = mu, cov_mat = vcv, weights = wts) # mean, variance, weights
}
descript <- descriptive_stat() # Get and print values from descriptive_stat()
descript$mu_cap

## AAPL MSFT AMZN GOOGL BRK-B JPM JNJ
## 0.021089 0.016483 0.022607 0.013608 0.009129 0.012748 0.009606

```

```
##      NVDA      BAC      PFE
## 0.023609 0.007925 0.009329
```

```
descript$cov_mat
```

```
##      AAPL      MSFT      AMZN      GOOGL      BRK-B      JPM
## AAPL 5.332e-03 0.0017387 0.0019689 0.0016484 0.0005565 0.0013656
## MSFT 1.739e-03 0.0036007 0.0019377 0.0018938 0.0006564 0.0021819
## AMZN 1.969e-03 0.0019377 0.0062797 0.0024272 0.0007627 0.0016718
## GOOGL 1.648e-03 0.0018938 0.0024272 0.0041605 0.0004818 0.0016069
## BRK-B 5.565e-04 0.0006564 0.0007627 0.0004818 0.0016122 0.0014506
## JPM 1.366e-03 0.0021819 0.0016718 0.0016069 0.0014506 0.0048291
## JNJ 5.647e-04 0.0008304 0.0010026 0.0005800 0.0008434 0.0009828
## NVDA 3.671e-03 0.0028929 0.0032514 0.0024704 0.0016160 0.0029807
## BAC 1.849e-03 0.0026145 0.0020101 0.0016732 0.0016923 0.0053808
## PFE 8.117e-05 0.0005848 0.0012071 0.0007677 0.0006772 0.0012951
```

```
##      JNJ      NVDA      BAC      PFE
## AAPL 0.0005647 0.0036713 0.001849 8.117e-05
## MSFT 0.0008304 0.0028929 0.002615 5.848e-04
## AMZN 0.0010026 0.0032514 0.002010 1.207e-03
## GOOGL 0.0005800 0.0024704 0.001673 7.677e-04
## BRK-B 0.0008434 0.0016160 0.001692 6.772e-04
## JPM 0.0009828 0.0029807 0.005381 1.295e-03
## JNJ 0.0016453 0.0010763 0.001002 1.049e-03
## NVDA 0.0010763 0.0138160 0.004080 8.588e-04
## BAC 0.0010024 0.0040798 0.008562 1.284e-03
## PFE 0.0010487 0.0008588 0.001284 2.186e-03
```

```
descript$weights
```

```
##      AAPL      MSFT      AMZN      GOOGL      BRK-B      JPM      JNJ      NVDA
## 0.14918 0.09048 0.08194 0.01321 0.16660 0.07758 0.08977 0.09000
##      BAC      PFE
## 0.10077 0.14046
```

```
# Get Portfolio -----
#####
### TASK 3: Create a portfolio object
#####
get_portfolio <-function(er, cov_mat, weights){

  ### Note the following
  # er: expected returns vector (N x 1)
  # cov_mat: variance-covariance matrix of returns (N x N)
  # weights: random weights vector, summing to 1 (N x 1)

  # Assess validity of inputs
  weights <- as.vector(weights); names(weights) <- tickers
  er <- as.vector(er) # assign names if none exist
  if(length(er) != length(weights))
    stop("Stop! Wrong dimensions: er and weights do not match")
  cov_mat <- as.matrix(cov_mat)
  if(length(er) != nrow(cov_mat))
    stop("Stop! Wrong dimensions: er and cov_mat do not match")
  if(any(diag(chol(cov_mat)) <= 0)) # check for positive definiteness
    stop("Covariance matrix not positive definite")

  # create portfolio
  er.port <- crossprod(er, weights)
  sd.port <- sqrt(weights %*% cov_mat %*% weights)
  # results
```

```

list(g.er = as.vector(er.port),
     g.sd = as.vector(sd.port),
     weights = weights
)
}
# Get values from get_portfolio()
get_port <- get_portfolio(er = descript$mu,
                        cov_mat = descript$cov_mat,
                        weights = descript$weights)
# portfolio with random weights
cat("Portfolio expected return: ", get_port$g.er)

## Portfolio expected return:  0.01428
cat("\nPortfolio standard deviation: ", get_port$g.sd)

##
## Portfolio standard deviation:  0.04258
get_port$weights

##      AAPL      MSFT      AMZN      GOOGL      BRK-B      JPM      JNJ      NVDA
## 0.14918 0.09048 0.08194 0.01321 0.16660 0.07758 0.08977 0.09000
##      BAC      PFE
## 0.10077 0.14046

# Efficient portfolio (Resolution 1) -----
#####
### TASK 4: Compute minimum variance portfolio
#####

# NB: in this section, target return,  $c^*$  =  $\mu_{cap}$  for the  $i$ th return

efficient_portfolio <- function(er, cov_mat, target_return){
  ### Note the following
  # er: expected returns vector (N x 1)
  # cov_mat: variance-covariance matrix of returns (N x N)
  # weights: random weights vector, summing to 1 (N x 1)
  # target_return: targeted return (scalar)

  #
  # output is portfolio object with the following elements
  # call                original function call
  # er                  portfolio expected return
  # sd                  portfolio standard deviation
  # weights             N x 1 vector of portfolio weights

  ## inputs
  er <- as.vector(er)                # assign names if none exist
  cov_mat <- as.matrix(cov_mat)
  if(length(er) != nrow(cov_mat))
    stop("invalid inputs")
  if(any(diag(chol(cov_mat)) <= 0))
    stop("Covariance matrix not positive definite")

  # compute efficient portfolio
  # forming system of equation

  ones <- rep(1, length(er))

```

```

top <- cbind(2*cov_mat, er, ones)
bot <- cbind(rbind(t(er), t(ones)), matrix(0,2,2)) # edited by me (no error)
A <- rbind(top, bot)
b.target <- as.matrix(c(rep(0, length(er)), target_return, 1))
x <- solve(A, b.target)
w <- x[1:length(er)]
names(w) <- tickers

#
# compute portfolio expected returns and variance
#
er.port <- crossprod(er,w)
sd.port <- sqrt(w %*% cov_mat %*% w)

# output
list(exp_ret_port = as.vector(er.port),
     sd_port = as.vector(sd.port),
     weights_ef = w)
}
efficient_portfolio(er = descript$mu_cap,
                   cov_mat = descript$cov_mat,
                   target_return = 0.0211) ### mu_cap for AAPL is 0.0211

## $exp_ret_port
## [1] 0.0211
##
## $sd_port
## [1] 0.05075
##
## $weights_ef
##      AAPL      MSFT      AMZN      GOOGL      BRK-B      JPM      JNJ
## 0.33510 0.28451 0.28213 -0.11812 0.17346 0.37663 -0.07312
##      NVDA      BAC      PFE
## 0.04852 -0.44763 0.13852

# To compute for efficient portfolios for all tickers, run the code below
# sapply(1:N, FUN = function(x){
#   efficient_portfolio(er = descript$mu_cap,
#                       cov_mat = desc_vals$cov_mat,
#                       target_return = descript$mu_cap[x])})

# Lagrangian method -----
#####
### TASK 5: Lagrangian method (lambda1 and lambda2)
#####
markowitz = function(mu, cov_mat, er) {
  A = t(ones) %*% solve(cov_mat) %*% mu
  B = t(mu) %*% solve(cov_mat) %*% mu
  C = t(ones) %*% solve(cov_mat) %*% ones
  D = B*C - A^2
  lam1 = (C*er-A)/D
  lam2 = (B-A*er)/D
  wts = lam1[1]*(solve(cov_mat) %*% mu) + lam2[1]*(solve(cov_mat) %*% ones)
  g = (B[1]*(solve(cov_mat) %*% ones) - A[1]*(solve(cov_mat) %*% mu))/D[1]
  h = (C[1]*(solve(cov_mat) %*% mu) - A[1]*(solve(cov_mat) %*% ones))/D[1]
  wts = g + h*er
}
# output (computed for only one of the 10 portfolios)

```

```

# Optimal portfolio weights: Assuming expected returns = c*, eg. AAPL
(markowitz(mu = descript$mu_cap, cov_mat = descript$cov_mat, er = 0.0211))

##          [,1]
## AAPL    0.33510
## MSFT    0.28451
## AMZN    0.28213
## GOOGL   -0.11812
## BRK-B    0.17346
## JPM     0.37663
## JNJ     -0.07312
## NVDA     0.04852
## BAC     -0.44763
## PFE      0.13852

# Global Minimum variance (Resolution 2) -----
#####
### TASK 6: Global minimum variance portfolio
#####
global_min_portfolio <- function(er, cov_mat){
  #
  cov_mat_inv <- solve(cov_mat)
  one_vec <- rep(1,length(er))
  w_gmin <- rowSums(cov_mat_inv) / sum(cov_mat_inv)
  w_gmin <- as.vector(w_gmin)
  names(w_gmin) <- tickers
  er_gmin <- crossprod(w_gmin, er)
  sd_gmin <- sqrt(t(w_gmin) %*% cov_mat %*% w_gmin)

  # output
  list(er_gmin = as.vector(er_gmin),
       sd_gmin = as.vector(sd_gmin),
       w_gmin = w_gmin)
}
glmin <- global_min_portfolio(er = descript$mu_cap, cov_mat = descript$cov_mat)

# Global minimum variance
cat("Portfolio expected return (global): ", glmin$er_gmin)

## Portfolio expected return (global):  0.01059
cat("Portfolio standard deviation (global): ", glmin$sd_gmin)

## Portfolio standard deviation (global):  0.03062
glmin$w_gmin

##      AAPL      MSFT      AMZN      GOOGL      BRK-B      JPM      JNJ
##  0.11713  0.12599 -0.03203  0.09569  0.44496 -0.07798  0.17196
##      NVDA      BAC      PFE
## -0.05228 -0.03597  0.24254

```

```

# Compute efficient frontier -----
#####
### TASK 7: Compute Markowitz bullet
#####
efficient_frontier <- function(er, cov_mat,
                               nport = N, alpha_min = -0.5,
                               alpha_max = 1.5){

  # create portfolio names

```



```

port_names <- rep("port", nport)
ns <- seq(1, nport)
port_names <- paste(port_names, ns)

# compute global minimum variance portfolio
#
cov_mat_inv <- solve(cov_mat)
one_vec <- rep(1, length(er))
port_gmin <- global_min_portfolio(er, cov_mat)
w_gmin <- port_gmin$w_gmin

# compute efficient frontier as convex combinations of two efficient ports
# 1st efficient port: global min var portfolio
# 2nd efficient port: min var port with ER = max of ER for all assets
er.max <- max(er)
port.max <- efficient_portfolio(er, cov_mat, er.max)
w.max <- port.max$weights_ef
a <- seq(from = alpha_min, to = alpha_max, length = nport) # convex combinations
we.mat <- a %o% w_gmin + (1-a) %o% w.max # rows are efficient portfolios
er.e <- we.mat %*% er # expected returns of efficient portfolios
er.e <- as.vector(er.e)
names(er.e) <- port_names
cov.e <- we.mat %*% cov_mat %*% t(we.mat) # cov mat of efficient portfolios
sd.e <- sqrt(diag(cov.e)) # std devs of efficient portfolios
sd.e <- as.vector(sd.e)
names(sd.e) <- port_names
dimnames(we.mat) <- list(port_names, tickers)

#
# summarize results
list(markowitz_er = er.e,
      markowitz_sd = sd.e,
      markowitz_weights = we.mat)
}
efficient_frontier(er = descript$mu_cap,
                  cov_mat = descript$cov_mat,
                  nport = N,
                  alpha_min = -0.5,
                  alpha_max = 1.5)

## $markowitz_er
## port 1 port 2 port 3 port 4 port 5 port 6 port 7
## 0.030120 0.027226 0.024333 0.021439 0.018545 0.015652 0.012758
## port 8 port 9 port 10
## 0.009864 0.006971 0.004077
##
## $markowitz_sd
## port 1 port 2 port 3 port 4 port 5 port 6 port 7 port 8
## 0.08118 0.07099 0.06113 0.05179 0.04331 0.03630 0.03174 0.03075
## port 9 port 10
## 0.03364 0.03957
##
## $markowitz_weights
## AAPL MSFT AMZN GOOGL BRK-B JPM
## port 1 0.52213 0.42054 0.55170 -0.301584 -0.05950 0.76671
## port 2 0.46213 0.37691 0.46522 -0.242729 0.01524 0.64157
## port 3 0.40213 0.33327 0.37875 -0.183874 0.08997 0.51643
## port 4 0.34213 0.28963 0.29227 -0.125019 0.16471 0.39129

```

```
## port 5    0.28213 0.24599 0.20579 -0.066164 0.23944 0.26615
## port 6    0.22213 0.20235 0.11931 -0.007308 0.31417 0.14101
## port 7    0.16213 0.15871 0.03283 0.051547 0.38891 0.01587
## port 8    0.10213 0.11508 -0.05365 0.110402 0.46364 -0.10927
## port 9    0.04213 0.07144 -0.14013 0.169257 0.53838 -0.23441
## port 10   -0.01787 0.02780 -0.22661 0.228112 0.61311 -0.35955
##          JNJ      NVDA      BAC      PFE
## port 1    -0.28341 0.135002 -0.800866 0.04926
## port 2    -0.21595 0.107257 -0.687548 0.07789
## port 3    -0.14848 0.079513 -0.574230 0.10653
## port 4    -0.08102 0.051768 -0.460912 0.13516
## port 5    -0.01356 0.024023 -0.347594 0.16379
## port 6     0.05390 -0.003722 -0.234275 0.19243
## port 7     0.12136 -0.031467 -0.120957 0.22106
## port 8     0.18882 -0.059212 -0.007639 0.24970
## port 9     0.25628 -0.086957 0.105679 0.27833
## port 10    0.32375 -0.114702 0.218997 0.30696
##### THE END #####
```

Extraneous: Obtain S&P500 tickers (symbols)

```
### Get S&P500 stickers
# Approach I
library(BatchGetSymbols)

sp500 <- GetSP500Stocks()
head(sp500$Tickers, 8)

## [1] "MMM" "ABT" "ABBV" "ABMD" "ACN" "ATVI" "ADBE" "AMD"

# Approach II
library(rvest)
url <- "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_S%26P_500_companies"
SP500 <- url %>%
  read_html() %>%
  html_nodes(xpath='//*[@id="mw-content-text"]/div/table[1]') %>%
  html_table()
SP500 <- SP500[[1]]
head(SP500$Symbol, 8)

## [1] "MMM" "ABT" "ABBV" "ABMD" "ACN" "ATVI" "ADBE" "AMD"
```