

# Package ‘PortfolioOptim’

July 21, 2025

**Title** Small/Large Sample Portfolio Optimization

**Version** 1.1.1

**Description** Two functions for financial portfolio optimization by linear programming are provided. One function implements Benders decomposition algorithm and can be used for very large data sets. The other, applicable for moderate sample sizes, finds optimal portfolio which has the smallest distance to a given benchmark portfolio.

**Depends** R (>= 3.3.0)

**License** GNU General Public License version 3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**Author** Andrzej Palczewski [aut, cre],  
Aleksandra Dabrowska [ctb]

**Maintainer** Andrzej Palczewski <A.Palczewski@mimuw.edu.pl>

**Imports** Rsymphony

**RoxygenNote** 6.1.1

**Suggests** mvtnorm, Rglpk, testthat

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2019-02-07 12:53:25 UTC

## Contents

BDportfolio_optim . . . . .	2
PortfolioOptimProjection . . . . .	4
<b>Index</b>	<b>7</b>

### Description

BDportfolio\_optim is a linear program for financial portfolio optimization. Portfolio risk is measured by one of the risk measures from the list `c("CVAR", "DCVAR", "LSAD", "MAD")`. Benders decomposition method is explored to enable optimization for very large returns samples ( $\sim 10^6$ ).

The optimization problem is:

$$\min F(\theta^T r)$$

over

$$\theta^T E(r) \geq \text{portfolio\_return},$$

$$LB \leq \theta \leq UB,$$

$$Aconstr \theta \leq bconstr,$$

where

$F$  is a measure of risk;

$r$  is a time series of returns of assets;

$\theta$  is a vector of portfolio weights.

### Usage

```
BDportfolio_optim(dat, portfolio_return,
risk=c("CVAR", "DCVAR", "LSAD", "MAD"), alpha=0.95,
Aconstr=NULL, bconstr=NULL, LB=NULL, UB=NULL, maxiter=500, tol=1e-8)
```

### Arguments

<code>dat</code>	Time series of returns data; <code>dat = cbind(rr, pk)</code> , where $rr$ is an array (time series) of asset returns, for $n$ returns and $k$ assets it is an array with $\dim(rr) = (n, k)$ , $pk$ is a vector of length $n$ containing probabilities of returns.
<code>portfolio_return</code>	Target portfolio return.
<code>risk</code>	Risk measure chosen for optimization; one of "CVAR", "DCVAR", "LSAD", "MAD", where "CVAR" – denotes Conditional Value-at-Risk (CVaR), "DCVAR" – denotes deviation CVaR, "LSAD" – denotes Lower Semi Absolute Deviation, "MAD" – denotes Mean Absolute Deviation.
<code>alpha</code>	Value of alpha quantile used to compute portfolio VaR and CVaR; used also as quantile value for risk measures CVAR and DCVAR.
<code>Aconstr</code>	Matrix defining additional constraints, $\dim(Aconstr) = (m, k)$ , where $k$ – number of assets, $m$ – number of constraints.
<code>bconstr</code>	Vector defining additional constraints, $\text{length}(bconstr) = m$ .
<code>LB</code>	Vector of length $k$ , lower bounds of portfolio weights $\theta$ ; warning: condition <code>LB = NULL</code> is equivalent to <code>LB = rep(0, k)</code> (lower bound zero).
<code>UB</code>	Vector of length $k$ , upper bounds for portfolio weights $\theta$ .

maxiter	Maximal number of iterations.
tol	Accuracy of computations, stopping rule.

### Value

BDportfolio\_optim returns a list with items:

return_mean	vector of asset returns mean values.
mu	realized portfolio return.
theta	portfolio weights.
CVaR	portfolio CVaR.
VaR	portfolio VaR.
MAD	portfolio MAD.
risk	portfolio risk measured by the risk measure chosen for optimization.
new_portfolio_return	modified target portfolio return; when the original target portfolio return is too high for the problem, the optimization problem is solved for new_portfolio_return as the target return.

### References

- Benders, J.F., Partitioning procedures for solving mixed-variables programming problems. *Number. Math.*, 4 (1962), 238–252, reprinted in *Computational Management Science* 2 (2005), 3–19. DOI: 10.1007/s10287-004-0020-y.
- Konno, H., Piecewise linear risk function and portfolio optimization, *Journal of the Operations Research Society of Japan*, 33 (1990), 139–156.
- Konno, H., Yamazaki, H., Mean-absolute deviation portfolio optimization model and its application to Tokyo stock market. *Management Science*, 37 (1991), 519–531.
- Konno, H., Waki, H., Yuuki, A., Portfolio optimization under lower partial risk measures, *Asia-Pacific Financial Markets*, 9 (2002), 127–140. DOI: 10.1023/A:1022238119491.
- Kunzi-Bay, A., Mayer, J., Computational aspects of minimizing conditional value at risk. *Computational Management Science*, 3 (2006), 3–27. DOI: 10.1007/s10287-005-0042-0.
- Rockafellar, R.T., Uryasev, S., Optimization of conditional value-at-risk. *Journal of Risk*, 2 (2000), 21–41. DOI: 10.21314/JOR.2000.038.
- Rockafellar, R. T., Uryasev, S., Zabarankin, M., Generalized deviations in risk analysis. *Finance and Stochastics*, 10 (2006), 51–74. DOI: 10.1007/s00780-005-0165-8.

### Examples

```
library(Rsymphony)
library(Rglpk)
library(mvtnorm)
k = 3
num = 100
dat <- cbind(rmvnorm(n=num, mean = rep(0,k), sigma=diag(k)), matrix(1/num,num,1))
# a data sample with num rows and (k+1) columns for k assets;
port_ret = 0.05 # target portfolio return
alpha_optim = 0.95
```

```

# minimal constraints set: \eqn{\sum \theta_{i} = 1}
# has to be in two inequalities: \eqn{1 - \epsilon \leq \sum \theta_{i} \leq 1 + \epsilon}
a0 <- rep(1,k)
Aconstr <- rbind(a0,-a0)
bconstr <- c(1+1e-8, -1+1e-8)

LB <- rep(0,k)
UB <- rep(1,k)

res <- BDportfolio_optim(dat, port_ret, "CVAR", alpha_optim,
Aconstr, bconstr, LB, UB, maxiter=200, tol=1e-8)

cat ( c("Benders decomposition portfolio:\n\n"))
cat(c("weights \n"))
print(res$theta)

cat(c("\n mean = ", res$mu, " risk = ", res$risk,
"\n CVaR = ", res$CVaR, " VaR = ", res$VaR, "\n MAD = ", res$MAD, "\n\n"))

```

---

## PortfolioOptimProjection

*Portfolio optimization which finds an optimal portfolio with the smallest distance to a benchmark.*

---

### Description

PortfolioOptimProjection is a linear program for financial portfolio optimization. The function finds an optimal portfolio which has the smallest distance to a benchmark portfolio given by `bvec`. Solution is by the algorithm due to Zhao and Li modified to account for the fact that the benchmark portfolio `bvec` has the dimension of portfolio weights and the solved linear program has a much higher dimension since the solution vector to the LP problem consists of a set of primal variables: financial portfolio weights, auxiliary variables coming from the reduction of the mean-risk problem to a linear program and also a set of dual variables depending on the number of constrains in the primal problem (see Palczewski).

### Usage

```

PortfolioOptimProjection (dat, portfolio_return,
risk=c("CVAR","DCVAR","LSAD","MAD"), alpha=0.95, bvec,
Aconstr=NULL, bconstr=NULL, LB=NULL, UB=NULL, maxiter=500, tol=1e-7)

```

### Arguments

`dat` Time series of returns data; `dat = cbind(rr, pk)`, where `rr` is an array (time series) of asset returns, for  $n$  returns and  $k$  assets it is an array with  $\dim(rr) = (n, k)$ , `pk` is a vector of length  $n$  containing probabilities of returns.

portfolio_return	Target portfolio return.
risk	Risk measure chosen for optimization; one of "CVAR", "DCVAR", "LSAD", "MAD", where "CVAR" – denotes Conditional Value-at-Risk (CVaR), "DCVAR" – denotes deviation CVaR, "LSAD" – denotes Lower Semi Absolute Deviation, "MAD" – denotes Mean Absolute Deviation.
alpha	Value of alpha quantile used to compute portfolio VaR and CVaR; used also as quantile value for risk measures CVAR and DCVAR.
bvec	Benchmark portfolio, a vector of length $k$ ; function PortfolioOptimProjection finds an optimal portfolio with the smallest distance to bvec.
Aconstr	Matrix defining additional constraints, $\dim(Aconstr) = (m, k)$ , where $k$ – number of assets, $m$ – number of constraints.
bconstr	Vector defining additional constraints, length ( $bconstr$ ) = $m$ .
LB	Vector of length $k$ , lower bounds of portfolio weights $\theta$ ; warning: condition LB = NULL is equivalent to LB = rep(0, k) (lower bound zero).
UB	Vector of length $k$ , upper bounds for portfolio weights $\theta$ .
maxiter	Maximal number of iterations.
tol	Accuracy of computations, stopping rule.

### Value

PortfolioOptimProjection returns a list with items:

return_mean	vector of asset returns mean values.
mu	realized portfolio return.
theta	portfolio weights.
CVaR	portfolio CVaR.
VaR	portfolio VaR.
MAD	portfolio MAD.
risk	portfolio risk measured by the risk measure chosen for optimization.
new_portfolio_return	modified target portfolio return; when the original target portfolio return is too high for the problem, the optimization problem is solved for new_portfolio_return as the target return.

### References

Palczewski, A., LP Algorithms for Portfolio Optimization: The PortfolioOptim Package, R Journal, 10(1) (2018), 308–327. DOI:10.32614/RJ-2018-028.

Zhao, Y-B., Li, D., Locating the least 2-norm solution of linear programs via a path-following method, SIAM Journal on Optimization, 12 (2002), 893–912. DOI:10.1137/S1052623401386368.

### Examples

```
library(mvtnorm)
k = 3
```

```

num =100
dat <- cbind(rmvnorm (n=num, mean = rep(0,k), sigma=diag(k)), matrix(1/num,num,1))
# a data sample with num rows and (k+1) columns for k assets;
w_m <- rep(1/k,k) # benchmark portfolio, a vector of length k,
port_ret = 0.05 # portfolio target return
alpha_optim = 0.95

# minimal constraints set: \sum theta_i = 1
# has to be in two inequalities: 1 - \epsilon <= \sum theta_i <= 1 + \epsilon
a0 <- rep(1,k)
Aconstr <- rbind(a0,-a0)
bconstr <- c(1+1e-8, -1+1e-8)

LB <- rep(0,k)
UB <- rep(1,k)

res <- PortfolioOptimProjection(dat, port_ret, risk="MAD",
alpha=alpha_optim, w_m, Aconstr, bconstr, LB, UB, maxiter=200, tol=1e-7)

cat ( c("Projection optimal portfolio:\n\n"))
cat(c("weights \n"))
print(res$theta)

cat (c ("\n mean = ", res$mu, " risk = ", res$risk, "\n CVaR = ", res$CVaR, " VaR = ",
res$VaR, "\n MAD = ", res$MAD, "\n\n"))

```

# Index

BDportfolio\_optim, [2](#)

PortfolioOptimProjection, [4](#)