

Package ‘portfolioBacktest’

July 23, 2025

Title Automated Backtesting of Portfolios over Multiple Datasets

Version 0.4.1

Date 2022-04-22

Description Automated backtesting of multiple portfolios over multiple datasets of stock prices in a rolling-window fashion. Intended for researchers and practitioners to backtest a set of different portfolios, as well as by a course instructor to assess the students in their portfolio design in a fully automated and convenient manner, with results conveniently formatted in tables and plots. Each portfolio design is easily defined as a function that takes as input a window of the stock prices and outputs the portfolio weights. Multiple portfolios can be easily specified as a list of functions or as files in a folder. Multiple datasets can be conveniently extracted randomly from different markets, different time periods, and different subsets of the stock universe. The results can be later assessed and ranked with tables based on a number of performance criteria (e.g., expected return, volatility, Sharpe ratio, drawdown, turnover rate, return on investment, computational time, etc.), as well as plotted in a number of ways with nice barplots and boxplots.

Maintainer Daniel P. Palomar <daniel.p.palomar@gmail.com>

URL <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=portfolioBacktest>,
<https://github.com/dppalomar/portfolioBacktest>

BugReports <https://github.com/dppalomar/portfolioBacktest/issues>

License GPL-3

Encoding UTF-8

LazyData true

RoxygenNote 7.1.1

Depends R (>= 2.10)

Imports digest, evaluate, ggplot2, pbapply, PerformanceAnalytics,
parallel, quadprog, quantmod, R.utils, rlang, stats, utils,
xts, zoo

Suggests CVXR, DT, ggfortify, gridExtra, knitr, prettydoc, readtext,
rmarkdown, R.rsp, scales, stringi, testthat

VignetteBuilder knitr, rmarkdown, R.rsp

NeedsCompilation no

Author Daniel P. Palomar [cre, aut],
Rui Zhou [aut]

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2022-04-22 08:30:09 UTC

Contents

portfolioBacktest-package	2
add_performance	3
backtestBoxPlot	4
backtestChartCumReturn	6
backtestChartDrawdown	7
backtestChartSharpeRatio	8
backtestChartStackedBar	10
backtestLeaderboard	11
backtestSelector	13
backtestSummary	14
backtestTable	16
dataset10	17
financialDataResample	18
genRandomFuns	19
listPortfoliosWithFailures	20
plotPerformanceVsParams	21
portfolioBacktest	22
SP500_symbols	26
stockDataDownload	26
stockDataResample	28
summaryBarPlot	28
summaryTable	30
Index	32

portfolioBacktest-package

portfolioBacktest: Automated Backtesting of Portfolios over Multiple Datasets

Description

Automated backtesting of multiple portfolios over multiple datasets of stock prices in a rolling-window fashion. Intended for researchers and practitioners to backtest a set of different portfolios, as well as by a course instructor to assess the students in their portfolio design in a fully automated and convenient manner, with results conveniently formatted in tables and plots. Each portfolio design is easily defined as a function that takes as input a window of the stock prices and outputs

the portfolio weights. Multiple portfolios can be easily specified as a list of functions or as files in a folder. Multiple datasets can be conveniently extracted randomly from different markets, different time periods, and different subsets of the stock universe. The results can be later assessed and ranked with tables based on a number of performance criteria (e.g., expected return, volatility, Sharpe ratio, drawdown, turnover rate, return on investment, computational time, etc.), as well as plotted in a number of ways with nice barplots and boxplots.

Functions

`stockDataDownload`, `financialDataResample`, `portfolioBacktest`, `backtestSelector`, `backtestTable`, `backtestBoxPlot`, `backtestLeaderboard`, `backtestChartCumReturn`, `backtestChartDrawdown`, `backtestChartStackedBar` `backtestSummary`, `summaryTable`, `summaryBarPlot`

Data

`dataset10`, `SP500_symbols`

Help

For a quick help see the README file: [GitHub-README](#).

For more details see the vignette: [CRAN-vignette](#).

Author(s)

Daniel P. Palomar and Rui ZHOU

add_performance	<i>Add a new performance measure to backtests</i>
-----------------	---

Description

Add a new performance measure to backtests

Usage

```
add_performance(bt, name, fun, desired_direction = 1)
```

Arguments

<code>bt</code>	Backtest results as produced by the function <code>portfolioBacktest</code> .
<code>name</code>	String with name of new performance measure.
<code>fun</code>	Function to compute new performance measure from any element returned by <code>portfolioBacktest</code> , e.g., <code>return</code> , <code>wealth</code> , and <code>w_bop</code> .
<code>desired_direction</code>	Number indicating whether the new measure is desired to be larger (1), which is the default, or smaller (-1).

Value

List with the portfolio backtest results, see [portfolioBacktest](#).

Author(s)

Daniel P. Palomar

Examples

```
library(portfolioBacktest)
data(dataset10) # load dataset

# define your own portfolio function
EWP_portfolio <- function(dataset, ...) {
  N <- ncol(dataset$adjusted)
  return(rep(1/N, N))
}

# do backtest
bt <- portfolioBacktest(list("EWP" = EWP_portfolio), dataset10)

# add a new performance measure
bt <- add_performance(bt, name = "SR arithmetic",
                      fun = function(return, ...)
                        PerformanceAnalytics::SharpeRatio.annualized(return,
                                                                      geometric = FALSE))

bt <- add_performance(bt, name = "avg leverage", desired_direction = -1,
                      fun = function(w_bop, ...)
                        if(anyNA(w_bop)) NA else mean(rowSums(abs(w_bop))))
```

backtestBoxPlot

Create boxplot from backtest results

Description

Create boxplot from a portfolio backtest obtained with the function [portfolioBacktest](#). By default the boxplot is based on the package ggplot2 (also plots a dot for each single backtest), but the user can also specify a simple base plot.

Usage

```
backtestBoxPlot(
  bt,
  measure = "Sharpe ratio",
  ref_portfolio = NULL,
  type = c("ggplot2", "simple"),
```

```
    ...  
  )
```

Arguments

<code>bt</code>	Backtest results as produced by the function portfolioBacktest .
<code>measure</code>	String to select a performane measure from "Sharpe ratio", "max drawdown", "annual return", "annual volatility", "Sterling ratio", "Omega ratio", and "ROT bps". Default is "Sharpe ratio".
<code>ref_portfolio</code>	Reference portfolio (whose measure will be subtracted). Default is NULL.
<code>type</code>	Type of plot. Valid options: "ggplot2", "simple". Default is "ggplot2".
<code>...</code>	Additional parameters. For example: <code>mar</code> for margins as in <code>par()</code> (for the case of plot type = "simple"); and <code>alpha</code> for the alpha of each backtest dot (for the case of plot type = "ggplot2"), set to 0 to remove the dots.

Author(s)

Daniel P. Palomar and Rui Zhou

See Also

[summaryBarPlot](#), [backtestChartCumReturn](#), [backtestChartDrawdown](#), [backtestChartStackedBar](#)

Examples

```
library(portfolioBacktest)
data(dataset10) # load dataset

# define your own portfolio function
quintile_portfolio <- function(data, ...) {
  X <- diff(log(data$adjusted))[-1]
  N <- ncol(X)
  ranking <- sort(colMeans(X), decreasing = TRUE, index.return = TRUE)$ix
  w <- rep(0, N)
  w[ranking[1:round(N/5)]] <- 1/round(N/5)
  return(w)
}

# do backtest
bt <- portfolioBacktest(list("Quintile" = quintile_portfolio), dataset10,
  benchmark = c("1/N", "index"))

# now we can plot
backtestBoxPlot(bt, "Sharpe ratio")
backtestBoxPlot(bt, "Sharpe ratio", type = "simple")
```

backtestChartCumReturn

Chart of the cumulative returns or wealth for a single backtest

Description

Create chart of the cumulative returns or wealth for a single backtest obtained with the function [portfolioBacktest](#). By default the chart is based on the package ggplot2, but the user can also specify a plot based on PerformanceAnalytics.

Usage

```
backtestChartCumReturn(
  bt,
  portfolios = names(bt),
  dataset_num = 1,
  type = c("ggplot2", "simple"),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

bt	Backtest results as produced by the function portfolioBacktest .
portfolios	String with portfolio names to be charted. Default charts all portfolios in the backtest.
dataset_num	Dataset index to be charted. Default is dataset_num = 1.
type	Type of plot. Valid options: "ggplot2", "simple". Default is "ggplot2".
...	Additional parameters.

Author(s)

Daniel P. Palomar and Rui Zhou

See Also

[summaryBarPlot](#), [backtestBoxPlot](#), [backtestChartDrawdown](#), [backtestChartStackedBar](#), [backtestChartSharpeRatio](#)

Examples

```
library(portfolioBacktest)
data(dataset10) # load dataset

# define your own portfolio function
quintile_portfolio <- function(data, ...) {
  X <- diff(log(data$adjusted))[-1]
  N <- ncol(X)
  ranking <- sort(colMeans(X), decreasing = TRUE, index.return = TRUE)$ix
```

```

    w <- rep(0, N)
    w[ranking[1:round(N/5)]] <- 1/round(N/5)
    return(w)
}

# do backtest
bt <- portfolioBacktest(list("Quintile" = quintile_portfolio), dataset10,
                        benchmark = c("1/N", "index"))

# now we can chart
backtestChartCumReturn(bt)

```

backtestChartDrawdown *Chart of the drawdown for a single backtest*

Description

Create chart of the drawdown for a single backtest obtained with the function [portfolioBacktest](#). By default the chart is based on the package `ggplot2`, but the user can also specify a plot based on `PerformanceAnalytics`.

Usage

```

backtestChartDrawdown(
  bt,
  portfolios = names(bt),
  dataset_num = 1,
  type = c("ggplot2", "simple"),
  ...
)

```

Arguments

<code>bt</code>	Backtest results as produced by the function portfolioBacktest .
<code>portfolios</code>	String with portfolio names to be charted. Default charts all portfolios in the backtest.
<code>dataset_num</code>	Dataset index to be charted. Default is <code>dataset_num = 1</code> .
<code>type</code>	Type of plot. Valid options: "ggplot2", "simple". Default is "ggplot2".
<code>...</code>	Additional parameters.

Author(s)

Daniel P. Palomar and Rui Zhou

See Also

[summaryBarPlot](#), [backtestBoxPlot](#), [backtestChartCumReturn](#), [backtestChartStackedBar](#), [backtestChartSharpeRatio](#)

Examples

```
library(portfolioBacktest)
data(dataset10) # load dataset

# define your own portfolio function
quintile_portfolio <- function(data, ...) {
  X <- diff(log(data$adjusted))[-1]
  N <- ncol(X)
  ranking <- sort(colMeans(X), decreasing = TRUE, index.return = TRUE)$ix
  w <- rep(0, N)
  w[ranking[1:round(N/5)]] <- 1/round(N/5)
  return(w)
}

# do backtest
bt <- portfolioBacktest(list("Quintile" = quintile_portfolio), dataset10,
                        benchmark = c("1/N", "index"))

# now we can chart
backtestChartDrawdown(bt)
```

backtestChartSharpeRatio

Chart of the rolling Sharpe ratio over time for a single backtest

Description

Create chart of the rolling Sharpe ratio over time for a single backtest obtained with the function [portfolioBacktest](#). By default the chart is based on the package ggplot2, but the user can also specify a plot based on PerformanceAnalytics.

Usage

```
backtestChartSharpeRatio(
  bt,
  portfolios = names(bt),
  dataset_num = 1,
  lookback = 100,
  by = 1,
  gap = lookback,
  bars_per_year = 252,
  type = c("ggplot2", "simple"),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

<code>bt</code>	Backtest results as produced by the function portfolioBacktest .
<code>portfolios</code>	String with portfolio names to be charted. Default charts all portfolios in the backtest.
<code>dataset_num</code>	Dataset index to be charted. Default is <code>dataset_num = 1</code> .
<code>lookback</code>	Length of the lookback rolling window in periods (default is 100).
<code>by</code>	Intervals at which the Sharpe ratio is to be calculated (default is equal to 1).
<code>gap</code>	Initial number of periods to skip (default is equal to lookback).
<code>bars_per_year</code>	Number of bars/periods per year (default is 252).
<code>type</code>	Type of plot. Valid options: "ggplot2", "simple". Default is "ggplot2".
<code>...</code>	Additional parameters.

Author(s)

Daniel P. Palomar and Rui Zhou

See Also

[summaryBarPlot](#), [backtestBoxPlot](#), [backtestChartCumReturn](#), [backtestChartStackedBar](#), [backtestChartDrawdown](#)

Examples

```
library(portfolioBacktest)
data(dataset10) # load dataset

# define your own portfolio function
quintile_portfolio <- function(data, ...) {
  X <- diff(log(data$adjusted))[-1]
  N <- ncol(X)
  ranking <- sort(colMeans(X), decreasing = TRUE, index.return = TRUE)$ix
  w <- rep(0, N)
  w[ranking[1:round(N/5)]] <- 1/round(N/5)
  return(w)
}

# do backtest
bt <- portfolioBacktest(list("Quintile" = quintile_portfolio), dataset10,
  benchmark = c("1/N", "index"))

# now we can chart
backtestChartSharpeRatio(bt)
```

backtestChartStackedBar

Chart of the weight allocation over time for a portfolio over a single backtest

Description

Create chart of the weight allocation over time for a portfolio over a single backtest obtained with the function [portfolioBacktest](#). By default the chart is based on the package ggplot2, but the user can also specify a plot based on PerformanceAnalytics.

Usage

```
backtestChartStackedBar(
  bt,
  portfolio = names(bt[1]),
  dataset_num = 1,
  numBars = 100,
  type = c("ggplot2", "simple"),
  legend = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

bt	Backtest results as produced by the function portfolioBacktest .
portfolio	String with portfolio name to be charted. Default charts the first portfolio in the backtest.
dataset_num	Dataset index to be charted. Default is dataset_num = 1.
numBars	Number of bars shown over time (basically a downsample of the possibly long sequence).
type	Type of plot. Valid options: "ggplot2", "simple". Default is "ggplot2".
legend	Boolean to choose whether legend is plotted or not. Default is legend = FALSE.

Author(s)

Daniel P. Palomar and Rui Zhou

See Also

[summaryBarPlot](#), [backtestBoxPlot](#), [backtestChartCumReturn](#), [backtestChartDrawdown](#)

Examples

```
library(portfolioBacktest)
data(dataset10) # load dataset

# for better illustration, let's use only the first 5 stocks
dataset10_5stocks <- lapply(dataset10, function(x) {x$adjusted <- x$adjusted[, 1:5]; return(x)})

# define GMVP (with heuristic not to allow shorting)
GMVP_portfolio_fun <- function(dataset, ...) {
  X <- diff(log(dataset$adjusted))[-1] # compute log returns
  Sigma <- cov(X) # compute SCM
  # design GMVP
  w <- solve(Sigma, rep(1, nrow(Sigma)))
  w <- abs(w)/sum(abs(w))
  return(w)
}

# backtest
bt <- portfolioBacktest(list("GMVP" = GMVP_portfolio_fun), dataset10_5stocks, rebalance_every = 20)

# now we can chart
backtestChartStackedBar(bt, "GMVP", type = "simple")
backtestChartStackedBar(bt, "GMVP", type = "simple", legend = TRUE)
backtestChartStackedBar(bt, "GMVP")
backtestChartStackedBar(bt, "GMVP", legend = TRUE)
```

backtestLeaderboard	<i>Leaderboard of portfolios from the backtest results</i>
---------------------	--

Description

Leaderboard of portfolios according to the backtesting results and a ranking based on the combination of several performance criteria. Since the different performance measures have different ranges and distributions, each is first transformed according to its empirical distribution function (along the empirical distribution of the portfolios being ranked) to obtain percentile scores. After that transformation, each of the measures has an empirical uniform distribution in the interval $[0, 100]$ and can be weighted to obtain the final ranking.

Usage

```
backtestLeaderboard(
  bt = NA,
  weights = list(),
  summary_fun = median,
  show_benchmark = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

bt	Backtest results as produced by the function <code>portfolioBacktest</code> .
weights	List of weights for the different performance measures as obtained in <code>backtestSummary()</code> \$performance (i.e., "Sharpe ratio", "max drawdown", "annual return", "annual volatility", "Sterling ratio", "Omega ratio", "ROT bps", as well as "cpu time" and "failure rate". For example: <code>weights = list("Sharpe ratio" = 8, "max drawdown" = 4)</code>).
summary_fun	Summary function to be employed (e.g., median or mean).
show_benchmark	Logical value indicating whether to include benchmarks in the summary (default is TRUE).

Value

List with the following elements:

leaderboard_scores	Matrix with the individual scores for the portfolios (as chosen in weights) and the final score.
leaderboard_performance	Matrix with all the performance measures for the portfolios.
error_summary	Error messages generated by each portfolio on each dataset. Useful for debugging and give feedback to the portfolio managers of the different portfolios.

Author(s)

Daniel P. Palomar and Rui Zhou

Examples

```
library(portfolioBacktest)
data(dataset10) # load dataset

# define your own portfolio function
quintile_portfolio <- function(data, ...) {
  X <- diff(log(data$adjusted))[-1]
  N <- ncol(X)
  ranking <- sort(colMeans(X), decreasing = TRUE, index.return = TRUE)$ix
  w <- rep(0, N)
  w[ranking[1:round(N/5)]] <- 1/round(N/5)
  return(w)
}

# do backtest
bt <- portfolioBacktest(quintile_portfolio, dataset10,
  benchmark = c("1/N", "index"))

# see all performance measures available for the ranking
backtestSummary(bt)$performance

# show leaderboard
```

```

leaderboard <- backtestLeaderboard(bt, weights = list("Sharpe ratio" = 6,
                                                    "max drawdown" = 1,
                                                    "ROT (bps)" = 1,
                                                    "cpu time" = 1,
                                                    "failure rate" = 1))

leaderboard$leaderboard_scores

```

backtestSelector	<i>Selector of portfolio backtest results</i>
------------------	---

Description

Select the results from a portfolio backtest.

Usage

```

backtestSelector(
  bt,
  portfolio_index = NULL,
  portfolio_name = NULL,
  measures = NULL
)

```

Arguments

bt	Backtest results as produced by the function portfolioBacktest .
portfolio_index	Index number of a portfolio, e.g., 1 means to select the performance of the first portfolio recorded in bt.
portfolio_name	String name of a portfolio, e.g., "GMVP" means to select the performance of portfolio with name "GMVP" in bt. Only considered when portfolio_index is not passed.
measures	String vector to select performane measures (default is all) from "Sharpe ratio", "max drawdown", "annual return", "annual volatility", "Sterling ratio", "Omega ratio", and "ROT bps".

Value

List with the following elements:

performance	Performance measures selected by argument measures.
error	Error status (TRUE or FALSE) of portfolio over each dataset (TRUE is when the portfolio function generates an error or the maximum CPU time is exceeded).
error_message	Error messages generated by portfolio function over each dataset. Useful for debugging purposes.

cpu time	CPU usage by portfolio function over each dataset.
portfolio	Portfolio weights generated by portfolio function over each dataset.
return	Portfolio returns over each dataset.
wealth	Portfolio wealth (aka cumulative returns or cumulative P&L) over each dataset.

Author(s)

Rui Zhou and Daniel P. Palomar

Examples

```
library(portfolioBacktest)
data("dataset10") # load dataset

# define your own portfolio function
EWP_portfolio <- function(dataset, ...) {
  N <- ncol(dataset$adjusted)
  return(rep(1/N, N))
}

# do backtest
bt <- portfolioBacktest(list("EWP" = EWP_portfolio), dataset10)

# extract your interested portfolio result
bt_sel <- backtestSelector(bt, portfolio_name = "EWP")
names(bt_sel)
```

backtestSummary

Summary of portfolio backtest

Description

Summarize the results from a portfolio backtest.

Usage

```
backtestSummary(
  bt,
  portfolio_indexes = NA,
  portfolio_names = NA,
  summary_fun = median,
  show_benchmark = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

<code>bt</code>	Backtest results as produced by the function <code>portfolioBacktest</code> .
<code>portfolio_indexes</code>	Numerical vector of portfolio indexes whose performance will be summarized, e.g., <code>c(1, 2)</code> means to summarize the performance of the first and second portfolios recorded in <code>bt</code> .
<code>portfolio_names</code>	String vector of portfolio names whose performance will be summarized, e.g., <code>c("EWP", "GMVP")</code> means to summarize the performance of portfolios with names "EWP" and "GMVP" in <code>bt</code> (default is <code>names(bt)</code> except the benchmark names). Only considered when <code>portfolio_indexes</code> is not passed.
<code>summary_fun</code>	Summary function to be employed (e.g., median or mean).
<code>show_benchmark</code>	Logical value indicating whether to include benchmarks in the summary (default is TRUE).

Value

List with the following elements:

<code>performance_summary</code>	Performance criteria: "Sharpe ratio", "max drawdown", "annual return", "annual volatility", "Sterling ratio", "Omega ratio", "ROT bps", "VaR (0.95)", "CVaR (0.95)", "cpu time", and "failure rate". Default is "Sharpe ratio".
<code>error_message</code>	Error messages generated by each portfolio function over each dataset. Useful for debugging purposes.

Author(s)

Rui Zhou and Daniel P. Palomar

Examples

```
library(portfolioBacktest)
data(dataset10) # load dataset

# define your own portfolio function
EWP_portfolio <- function(dataset, ...) {
  N <- ncol(dataset$adjusted)
  return(rep(1/N, N))
}

# do backtest
bt <- portfolioBacktest(list("EWP" = EWP_portfolio), dataset10)

# show the summary
bt_sum <- backtestSummary(bt)
names(bt_sum)
bt_sum$performance_summary
```

backtestTable	<i>Table with portfolio backtest results</i>
---------------	--

Description

Create table with the results from a portfolio backtest.

Usage

```
backtestTable(
  bt,
  portfolio_indexes = NA,
  portfolio_names = NA,
  show_benchmark = TRUE,
  measures = NULL
)
```

Arguments

bt	Backtest results as produced by the function portfolioBacktest .
portfolio_indexes	Numerical vector of portfolio indexes whose performance will be summarized, e.g., c(1, 2) means to summarize the performance of the first and second portfolios recorded in bt.
portfolio_names	String vector of portfolio names whose performance will be summarized, e.g., c("EWP", "GMVP") means to summarize the performance of portfolios with names "EWP" and "GMVP" in bt (default is names(bt) except the benchmark names). Only considered when portfolio_indexes is not passed.
show_benchmark	Logical value indicating whether to include benchmarks in the summary (default is TRUE).
measures	String vector to select performane measures (default is all) from "Sharpe ratio", "max drawdown", "annual return", "annual volatility", "Sterling ratio", "Omega ratio", "ROT bps", "error", "cpu time", and "error_message".

Value

List with the following elements:

<performance criterion>	One item per performance measures as selected by argument measures.
error	Error status (TRUE or FALSE) for each portfolio over each dataset (TRUE is when the portfolio function generates an error or the maximum CPU time is exceeded).
cpu time	CPU usage by each portfolio function over each dataset.
error_message	Error messages generated by each portfolio function over each dataset. Useful for debugging purposes.

Author(s)

Rui Zhou and Daniel P. Palomar

Examples

```
library(portfolioBacktest)
data(dataset10) # load dataset

# define your own portfolio function
EWP_portfolio <- function(dataset, ...) {
  N <- ncol(dataset$adjusted)
  return(rep(1/N, N))
}

# do backtest
bt <- portfolioBacktest(list("EWP" = EWP_portfolio), dataset10)

# show the backtest results in table
bt_tab <- backtestTable(bt)
bt_tab[c("Sharpe ratio", "max drawdown")]
```

dataset10

Ten datasets obtained by resampling the S&P 500

Description

Ten datasets of stock market data resampled from the S&P 500. Each resample contains a random selection of 50 stocks from the S&P 500 universe and a period of two years with a random initial point.

Usage

```
data(dataset10)
```

Format

List of 10 datasets, each contains two xts objects:

adjusted 505 x 50 xts with the adjusted prices of the 50 stocks

index 505 x 1 xts with the market index prices

Source

[Yahoo! Finance](#)

`financialDataResample` *Generate random resamples from financial data*

Description

This function resamples the financial data (e.g., downloaded with [stockDataDownload](#)) to obtain many datasets for a subsequent backtesting with [portfolioBacktest](#). Given the original data, each resample is obtained by randomly choosing a subset of the financial instruments and randomly choosing a time period over the available long period.

Usage

```
financialDataResample(  
  X,  
  N_sample = 50,  
  T_sample = 2 * 252,  
  num_datasets = 10,  
  rm_stocks_with_na = TRUE  
)
```

Arguments

<code>X</code>	List of xts objects matching the structure returned by the function stockDataDownload .
<code>N_sample</code>	Desired number of financial instruments in each resample.
<code>T_sample</code>	Desired length of each resample (consecutive samples with a random initial time).
<code>num_datasets</code>	Number of resampled datasets (chosen randomly among the financial instrument universe).
<code>rm_stocks_with_na</code>	Logical value indicating whether to remove instruments with inner missing values. Default is TRUE.

Value

List of datasets resampled from `X`.

Author(s)

Rui Zhou and Daniel P. Palomar

See Also

[stockDataDownload](#), [portfolioBacktest](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:
library(portfolioBacktest)
data(SP500_symbols)

# download data from internet
SP500_data <- stockDataDownload(stock_symbols = SP500_symbols,
                                from = "2009-01-01", to = "2009-12-31")

# generate 20 resamples from data, each with 10 stocks and one quarter continuous data
my_dataset_list <- financialDataResample(SP500_data, N = 10, T = 252/4, num_datasets = 20)

## End(Not run)
```

genRandomFuns	<i>Generate multiple versions of a function with randomly chosen parameters</i>
---------------	---

Description

Portfolio functions usually contain some parameters that can be tuned. This function creates multiple versions of a function with randomly chosen parameters. After backtesting those portfolios, the plotting function [plotPerformanceVsParams](#) can be used to show the performance vs parameters.

Usage

```
genRandomFuns(portfolio_fun, params_grid, name = "portfolio", N_funs = NULL)
```

Arguments

portfolio_fun	Portfolio function with parameters unspecified.
params_grid	Named list containing for each parameter the possible values it can take.
name	String with the name of the portfolio function.
N_funs	Number of functions to be generated.

Author(s)

Daniel P. Palomar and Rui Zhou

See Also

[plotPerformanceVsParams](#)

Examples

```

library(portfolioBacktest)

# define GMVP with parameters "delay", "lookback", and "regularize"
GMVP_portfolio_fun <- function(dataset, ...) {
  prices <- tail(lag(dataset$adjusted, delay), lookback)
  X <- diff(log(prices))[-1]
  Sigma <- cov(X)
  if (regularize)
    Sigma <- Sigma + 0.1 * mean(diag(Sigma)) * diag(ncol(Sigma))
  # design GMVP
  w <- solve(Sigma, rep(1, ncol(Sigma)))
  return(w/sum(w))
}

# generate the functions with random parameters
portfolio_list <- genRandomFuns(portfolio_fun = GMVP_portfolio_fun,
                                params_grid = list(lookback = c(100, 120, 140, 160),
                                                    delay = c(0, 5, 10, 15, 20),
                                                    regularize = c(FALSE, TRUE)),
                                name = "GMVP",
                                N_funs = 40)

names(portfolio_list)
portfolio_list[[1]]
rlang::env_print(portfolio_list[[1]])
rlang::fn_env(portfolio_list[[1]])$lookback
rlang::fn_env(portfolio_list[[1]])$delay
rlang::fn_env(portfolio_list[[1]])$regularize

```

```
listPortfoliosWithFailures
```

List portfolios with failures

Description

List portfolios with failures

Usage

```
listPortfoliosWithFailures(bt)
```

Arguments

bt Backtest results as produced by the function [portfolioBacktest](#).

Author(s)

Daniel P. Palomar

Examples

```

library(portfolioBacktest)
data(dataset10) # load dataset

# define your own portfolio function
portfolio_with_errors <- function(dataset, ...) {
  return(NA)
}

# do backtest
bt <- portfolioBacktest(list("Portfolio with errors" = portfolio_with_errors), dataset10)

listPortfoliosWithFailures(bt)

```

plotPerformanceVsParams

Plot performance of portfolio function vs choice of parameters

Description

Portfolio functions usually contain some parameters that can be tuned. After generating multiple versions of a portfolio function with randomly chosen parameters with the function [genRandomFuns](#) and doing the backtesting, this function can be used to plot the performance vs choice of parameters.

Usage

```

plotPerformanceVsParams(
  bt_all_portfolios,
  params_subset = NULL,
  name_performance = "Sharpe ratio",
  summary_fun = median
)

```

Arguments

bt_all_portfolios	Backtest results as produced by the function portfolioBacktest .
params_subset	List of named parameters with a subset of the values to be considered. By default all the possible values will be considered.
name_performance	String with the name of the performance measure to be used.
summary_fun	Summary function to be employed (e.g., median or mean). Default is median.

Author(s)

Daniel P. Palomar and Rui Zhou

See Also[genRandomFuns](#)**Examples**

```

library(portfolioBacktest)

# define GMVP with parameters "delay", "lookback", and "regularize"
GMVP_portfolio_fun <- function(dataset, ...) {
  prices <- tail(lag(dataset$adjusted, delay), lookback)
  X <- diff(log(prices))[-1]
  Sigma <- cov(X)
  if (regularize)
    Sigma <- Sigma + 0.01*diag(ncol(Sigma))
  # design GMVP
  w <- solve(Sigma, rep(1, ncol(Sigma)))
  return(w/sum(w))
}

# generate the functions with random parameters
portfolio_list <- genRandomFuns(portfolio_fun = GMVP_portfolio_fun,
                               params_grid = list(lookback = c(100, 120, 140, 160),
                                                  delay = c(0, 5, 10, 15, 20),
                                                  regularize = c(FALSE, TRUE)),
                               name = "GMVP",
                               N_funs = 40)

# backtest portfolios
bt <- portfolioBacktest(portfolio_list, dataset10)

# plot
plotPerformanceVsParams(bt)
plotPerformanceVsParams(bt, params_subset = list(regularize = TRUE))
plotPerformanceVsParams(bt, params_subset = list(delay = 5))
plotPerformanceVsParams(bt, params_subset = list(delay = 5, regularize = TRUE))

```

portfolioBacktest

Backtest multiple portfolios over multiple datasets of stock prices in a rolling-window basis

Description

Automated backtesting of multiple portfolios over multiple datasets of stock prices in a rolling-window fashion. Each portfolio design is easily defined as a function that takes as input a window of the stock prices and outputs the portfolio weights. Multiple portfolios can be easily specified as a list of functions or as files in a folder. Multiple datasets can be conveniently obtained

with the function `financialDataResample` that resamples the data downloaded with the function `stockDataDownload`. The results can be later assessed and arranged with tables and plots. The backtesting can be highly time-consuming depending on the number of portfolios and datasets can be performed with parallel computation over multiple cores. Errors in functions are properly caught and handled so that the execution of the overall backtesting is not stopped (error messages are stored for debugging purposes). See [vignette](#) for a detailed explanation.

Usage

```
portfolioBacktest(
  portfolio_funs = NULL,
  dataset_list,
  folder_path = NULL,
  source_to_local = TRUE,
  price_name = NULL,
  paral_portfolios = 1,
  paral_datasets = 1,
  show_progress_bar = FALSE,
  benchmarks = NULL,
  shortselling = TRUE,
  leverage = Inf,
  lookback = 252,
  T_rolling_window = NULL,
  optimize_every = 20,
  rebalance_every = 1,
  bars_per_year = 252,
  execution = c("same period", "next period"),
  cost = list(buy = 0, sell = 0, short = 0, long_leverage = 0),
  cpu_time_limit = Inf,
  return_portfolio = TRUE,
  return_returns = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| <code>portfolio_funs</code> | List of functions (can also be a single function), each of them taking as input a dataset containing a list of xts objects (following the format of each element of the argument <code>dataset_list</code>) properly windowed (following the rolling-window approach) and returning the portfolio as a vector of normalized weights. See vignette for details. |
| <code>dataset_list</code> | List of datasets, each containing a list of xts objects, as generated by the function <code>financialDataResample</code> . |
| <code>folder_path</code> | If <code>portfolio_funs</code> is not defined, this should contain the path to a folder containing the portfolio functions saved in files. See vignette for details. |
| <code>source_to_local</code> | Logical value indicating whether to source files to local environment (default is TRUE). It might be dangerous to set it to FALSE as in such case the global environment may be changed. We suggest only to allow FALSE when the code |

in the source files does not work when locally sourced, e.g., with some versions of package CVXR. In that case, we further recommend to set `paral_portfolios > 1` to avoid changing the global environment.

<code>price_name</code>	Name of the xts object in each dataset that contains the prices to be used in the portfolio return computation (default is the name of the first xts object).
<code>paral_portfolios</code>	Integer indicating number of portfolios to be evaluated in parallel (default is 1), see vignette-paralle-mode for details.
<code>paral_datasets</code>	Integer indicating number of datasets to be evaluated in parallel (default is 1), see vignette-paralle-mode for details.
<code>show_progress_bar</code>	Logical value indicating whether to show progress bar (default is FALSE).
<code>benchmarks</code>	String vector indicating the benchmark portfolios to be incorporated, currently supports: • 1/N - the 1/N portfolio, $w = [1/N, \dots, 1/N]$ with N be number of stocks; • IVP - the inverse-volatility portfolio, with weights be inversely proportional the standard deviation of returns; • index - the market index, requires an xts named 'index' in the datasets.
<code>shortselling</code>	Logical value indicating whether shortselling is allowed or not (default is TRUE, so no control for shorselling in the backtesting).
<code>leverage</code>	Amount of leverage as in $\ w\ _1 \leq \text{leverage}$ (default is Inf, so no control for leverage in the backtesting).
<code>lookback</code>	Length of the lookback rolling window in periods (default is 252).
<code>T_rolling_window</code>	Deprecated: use lookback instead.
<code>optimize_every</code>	How often the portfolio is to be optimized in periods (default is 20).
<code>rebalance_every</code>	How often the portfolio is to be rebalanced in periods (default is 1).
<code>bars_per_year</code>	Number of bars/periods per year. By default it will be calculated automatically (e.g., for daily data there are 252 bars/periods per year).
<code>execution</code>	String that can be either "same period" (default) or "next period". At the rebalancing period t , the portfolio has used information up to (and including) period t . Same period execution means one can get into the position at that period t , whereas the next period execution means that one can only get into the position the following period.
<code>cost</code>	List containing four different types of transaction costs (common for all assets) for buying, selling, shorting, and long leveraging. The default is <code>cost = list(buy = 0e-4, sell = 0e-4, short = 0e-4, long_leverage = 0e-4)</code> . If some elements are not specified then they will be automatically set to zero.
<code>cpu_time_limit</code>	Time limit for executing each portfolio function over a single data set (default is Inf, so no time limit).
<code>return_portfolio</code>	Logical value indicating whether to return the portfolios (default is TRUE). Three portfolio series are returned: <code>w_optimized</code> is the optimized portfolio at each

given optimization period (using all the information up to and including that period, which can be executed either on the same period or the following period), `w_rebalanced` is the rebalanced portfolio at each given rebalancing period, and `w_bop` is the "beginning-of-period" portfolio (i.e., at each period it contains the weights held in the market in the previous period so that the portfolio return at that period is just the product of the asset returns and `w_bop` at that period.)

`return_returns` Logical value indicating whether to return the portfolio returns (default is TRUE). Three series are returned: `return` with the portfolio returns, `wealth` with the portfolio wealth (aka cumulative P&L), and `X_lin` with the returns of the assets in the universe (note that the portfolio returns can also be obtained as `rowSums(X_lin * w_bop)` in the absence of transaction costs).

Value

List with the portfolio backtest results, see [vignette-result-format](#) for details. It can be accessed directly, but we highly recommend the use of the package specific functions to extract any required information, namely, [backtestSelector](#), [backtestTable](#), [backtestBoxPlot](#), [backtestLeaderboard](#), [backtestSummary](#), [summaryTable](#), [summaryBarPlot](#).

Author(s)

Daniel P. Palomar and Rui Zhou

See Also

[stockDataDownload](#), [financialDataResample](#), [backtestSelector](#), [backtestTable](#), [backtestBoxPlot](#), [backtestLeaderboard](#), [backtestSummary](#), [summaryTable](#), [summaryBarPlot](#).

Examples

```
library(portfolioBacktest)
data(dataset10) # load dataset

# define your own portfolio function
ewp_portfolio <- function(dataset, ...) {
  N <- ncol(dataset$adjusted)
  return(rep(1/N, N))
}

# do backtest
bt <- portfolioBacktest(list("EWP" = ewp_portfolio), dataset10)

# check your result
names(bt)
backtestSelector(bt, portfolio_name = "EWP", measures = c("Sharpe ratio", "max drawdown"))
backtestTable(bt, measures = c("Sharpe ratio", "max drawdown"))
bt_summary <- backtestSummary(bt)
summaryTable(bt_summary)
```

SP500_symbols

Stock symbols of the S&P 500 constituents

Description

Stock symbols of the S&P 500 constituents

Usage

```
data(SP500_symbols)
```

Format

String vector of stock symbols of the S&P 500 constituents. The market index symbol is concluded as the attribute "index_symbol".

Source

[Yahoo! Finance](#)

stockDataDownload

Download stock data from the Internet

Description

This function is basically a robust wrapper for [quantmod:getSymbols](#) to download stock data from the internet. It will return 6 xts objects of the same dimensions named 'open', 'high', 'low', 'close', 'volume', 'adjusted' and 'index'. Additionally, it can return an xts object with an index. If the download for some stock fails after a few attempts they will be ignored and reported. Also, stocks with missing values can be optionally removed.

Usage

```
stockDataDownload(
  stock_symbols,
  index_symbol = NULL,
  from,
  to,
  rm_stocks_with_na = TRUE,
  local_file_path = getwd(),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

stock_symbols	String vector containing the symbols of the stocks to be downloaded. User can pass the market index symbol as its attribute 'index_symbol' (only considered when argument 'index_symbol' is not passed).
index_symbol	String of the market index symbol.
from	String as the starting date, e.g., "2017-08-17".
to	String as the ending date (not included), e.g., "2017-09-17".
rm_stocks_with_na	Logical value indicating whether to remove stocks with missing values (ignoring leading missing values). Default is TRUE.
local_file_path	Path where the stock data will be saved after the first time is downloaded, so that in future retrievals it will be locally loaded (if the same arguments are used). Default is getwd(). If local caching is not desired, it can be deactivated by setting local_file_path = NULL.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to quantmod:getSymbols .

Value

List of 7 xts objects named 'open', 'high', 'low', 'close', 'volume', 'adjusted' and 'index'. Note that 'index' will only be returned when correct index symbols is passed.

Author(s)

Rui Zhou and Daniel P. Palomar

See Also

[financialDataResample](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:
library(portfolioBacktest)
data(SP500_symbols)

# download data from internet
SP500_data <- stockDataDownload(stock_symbols = SP500_symbols,
                                from = "2009-01-01", to = "2009-12-31")

## End(Not run)
```

stockDataResample	<i>Generate random resamples from financial data</i>
-------------------	--

Description

This function is deprecated. Use instead [financialDataResample\(\)](#).

Usage

```
stockDataResample(
  X,
  N_sample = 50,
  T_sample = 2 * 252,
  num_datasets = 10,
  rm_stocks_with_na = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

X	List of xts objects matching the structure returned by the function stockDataDownload .
N_sample	Desired number of financial instruments in each resample.
T_sample	Desired length of each resample (consecutive samples with a random initial time).
num_datasets	Number of resampled datasets (chosen randomly among the financial instrument universe).
rm_stocks_with_na	Logical value indicating whether to remove instruments with inner missing values. Default is TRUE.

summaryBarPlot	<i>Create barplot from backtest summary</i>
----------------	---

Description

After performing a backtest with [portfolioBacktest](#) and obtaining a summary of the performance measures with [backtestSummary](#), this function creates a barplot from the summary. By default the plot is based on the package ggplot2, but the user can also specify a simple base plot.

Usage

```
summaryBarPlot(bt_summary, measures = NULL, type = c("ggplot2", "simple"), ...)
```

Arguments

bt_summary	Backtest summary as obtained from the function backtestSummary.
measures	String vector to select performane measures (default is all) from ‘Sharpe ratio’, ‘max drawdown’, ‘annual return’, ‘annual volatility’, ‘Sterling ratio’, ‘Omega ratio’, ‘ROT bps’, etc.
type	Type of plot. Valid options: "ggplot2", "simple". Default is "ggplot2".
...	Additional parameters (only used for plot type = "simple"); for example: mar for margins as in par(), inset for the legend inset as in legend(), legend_loc for the legend location as in legend().

Author(s)

Daniel P. Palomar and Rui Zhou

See Also

[summaryTable](#), [backtestBoxPlot](#), [backtestChartCumReturn](#), [backtestChartDrawdown](#), [backtestChartStackedBar](#)

Examples

```
library(portfolioBacktest)
data(dataset10) # load dataset

# define your own portfolio function
quintile_portfolio <- function(data, ...) {
  X <- diff(log(data$adjusted))[-1]
  N <- ncol(X)
  ranking <- sort(colMeans(X), decreasing = TRUE, index.return = TRUE)$ix
  w <- rep(0, N)
  w[ranking[1:round(N/5)]] <- 1/round(N/5)
  return(w)
}

# do backtest
bt <- portfolioBacktest(list("Quintile" = quintile_portfolio), dataset10,
  benchmark = c("1/N", "index"))

# now we can obtain the table
bt_summary_median <- backtestSummary(bt)
summaryBarPlot(bt_summary_median, measures = c("max drawdown", "annual volatility"))
summaryBarPlot(bt_summary_median, measures = c("max drawdown", "annual volatility"),
  type = "simple")
```

summaryTable

*Create table from backtest summary***Description**

After performing a backtest with `portfolioBacktest` and obtaining a summary of the performance measures with `backtestSummary`, this function creates a table from the summary. By default the table is a simple matrix, but if the user has installed the package DT or grid.table nicer tables can be generated.

Usage

```
summaryTable(
  bt_summary,
  measures = NULL,
  caption = "Performance table",
  type = c("simple", "DT", "kable", "grid.table"),
  digits = 2,
  order_col = NULL,
  order_dir = c("asc", "desc"),
  page_length = 10
)
```

Arguments

<code>bt_summary</code>	Backtest summary as obtained from the function <code>backtestSummary</code> .
<code>measures</code>	String vector to select performane measures (default is all) from ‘Sharpe ratio’, ‘max drawdown’, ‘annual return’, ‘annual volatility’, ‘Sterling ratio’, ‘Omega ratio’, ‘ROT bps’, etc.
<code>caption</code>	Table caption (only works for <code>type = "DT"</code>).
<code>type</code>	Type of table. Valid options: "simple", "DT", "kable", "grid.table". Default is "simple" and generates a simple matrix (with the other choices the corresponding package must be installed).
<code>digits</code>	Integer indicating the number of decimal places when rounding (default is 2).
<code>order_col</code>	Column number or column name of the performance measure to be used to sort the rows (only used for table <code>type = "DT"</code>). By default the last column will be used.
<code>order_dir</code>	Direction to be used to sort the rows (only used for table <code>type = "DT"</code>). Valid options: "asc", "desc". Default is "asc".
<code>page_length</code>	Page length for the table (only used for table <code>type = "DT"</code>). Default is 10.

Author(s)

Daniel P. Palomar and Rui Zhou

See Also[summaryBarPlot](#)**Examples**

```
library(portfolioBacktest)
data(dataset10) # load dataset

# define your own portfolio function
quintile_portfolio <- function(data, ...) {
  X <- diff(log(data$adjusted))[-1]
  N <- ncol(X)
  ranking <- sort(colMeans(X), decreasing = TRUE, index.return = TRUE)$ix
  w <- rep(0, N)
  w[ranking[1:round(N/5)]] <- 1/round(N/5)
  return(w)
}

# do backtest
bt <- portfolioBacktest(list("Quintile" = quintile_portfolio),
                        dataset10,
                        benchmark = c("1/N", "index"))

# now we can obtain the table
bt_summary_median <- backtestSummary(bt)
summaryTable(bt_summary_median, measures = c("max drawdown", "annual volatility"))
summaryTable(bt_summary_median, measures = c("max drawdown", "annual volatility"), type = "DT")
summaryTable(bt_summary_median, type = "kable")
# this returned kable object can be combined with: " |> kableExtra::kable_styling()"
```

Index

- * **SP500_symbols**
 - SP500_symbols, [26](#)
- * **dataset**
 - dataset10, [17](#)
- add_performance, [3](#)
- backtestBoxPlot, [3](#), [4](#), [6](#), [8–10](#), [25](#), [29](#)
- backtestChartCumReturn, [3](#), [5](#), [6](#), [8–10](#), [29](#)
- backtestChartDrawdown, [3](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#), [9](#), [10](#), [29](#)
- backtestChartSharpeRatio, [6](#), [8](#), [8](#)
- backtestChartStackedBar, [3](#), [5](#), [6](#), [8](#), [9](#), [10](#),
[29](#)
- backtestLeaderboard, [3](#), [11](#), [25](#)
- backtestSelector, [3](#), [13](#), [25](#)
- backtestSummary, [3](#), [12](#), [14](#), [25](#), [28](#), [30](#)
- backtestTable, [3](#), [16](#), [25](#)
- dataset10, [3](#), [17](#)
- financialDataResample, [3](#), [18](#), [23](#), [25](#), [27](#), [28](#)
- genRandomFuns, [19](#), [21](#), [22](#)
- listPortfoliosWithFailures, [20](#)
- plotPerformanceVsParams, [19](#), [21](#)
- portfolioBacktest, [3–10](#), [12](#), [13](#), [15](#), [16](#), [18](#),
[20](#), [21](#), [22](#), [28](#), [30](#)
- portfolioBacktest-package, [2](#)
- quantmod:getSymbols, [26](#), [27](#)
- SP500_symbols, [3](#), [26](#)
- stockDataDownload, [3](#), [18](#), [23](#), [25](#), [26](#), [28](#)
- stockDataResample, [28](#)
- summaryBarPlot, [3](#), [5](#), [6](#), [8–10](#), [25](#), [28](#), [31](#)
- summaryTable, [3](#), [25](#), [29](#), [30](#)