

# Welcome to the course

INTRODUCTION TO PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS IN R



**Kris Boudt**

Professor, Free University Brussels &  
Amsterdam

# Is investing monkey-business?



<sup>1</sup> Source: Eric Isselee, Getty Images

# Who am I?

- Professor of Finance



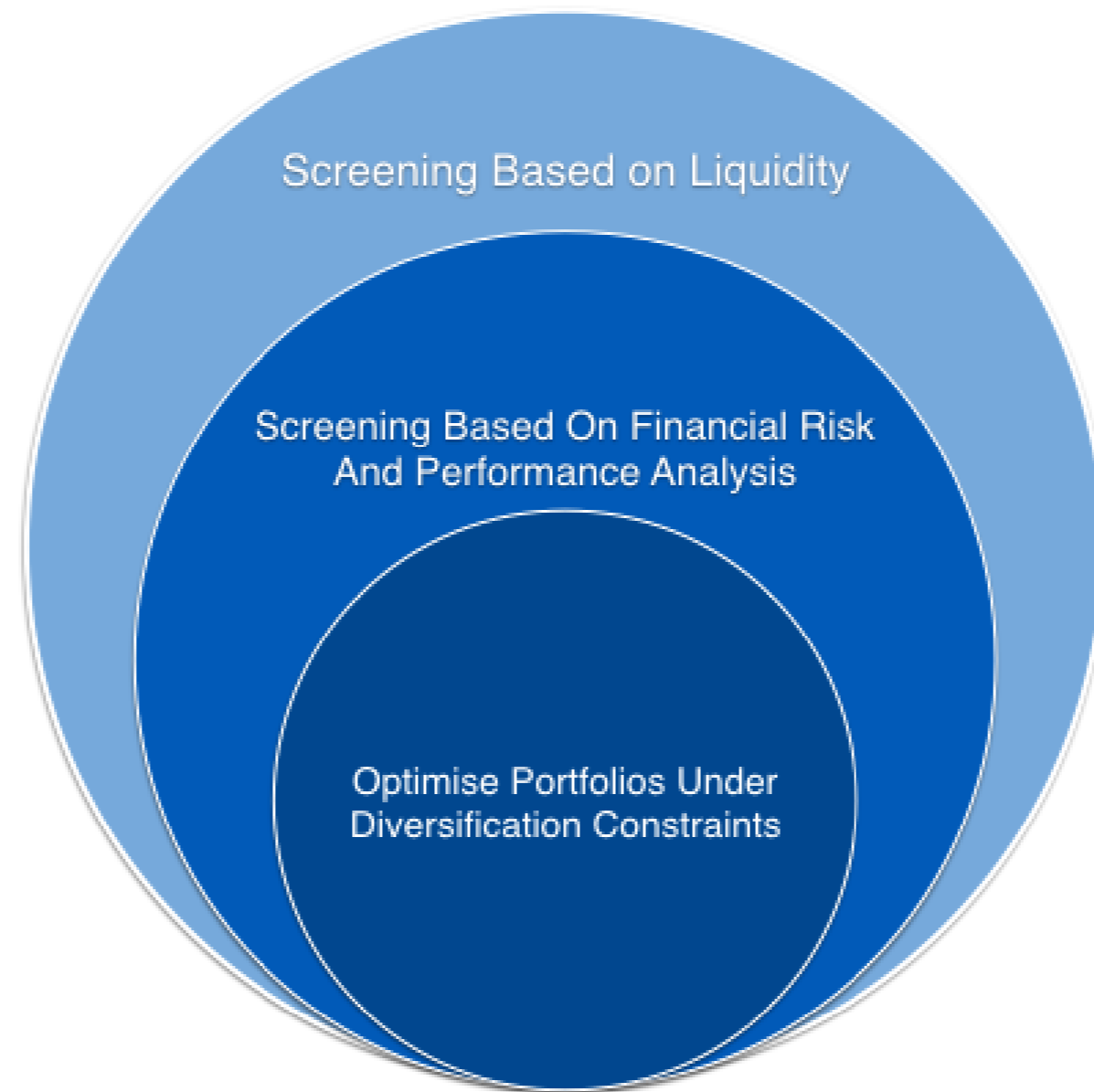
Vrije  
Universiteit  
Brussel



# Who am I?

- Advisor to investment companies about risk optimized investment: Winning by losing less.

# Diversify to avoid losses



# Simple tricks

- To avoid large losses:
  - Carefully select diversified portfolios
  - Use backtesting and online performance monitoring

# Simple tricks

- DataCamp

# Course overview

Chapter 1: Portfolio Weights & Returns



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Chapter 2: Portfolio Performance Evaluation

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Chapter 1: Portfolio Weights & Returns



Chapter 2: Portfolio Performance Evaluation



Chapter 3: Drivers of Performance

# Course overview

Chapter 1: Portfolio Weights & Returns



Chapter 2: Portfolio Performance Evaluation



Chapter 3: Drivers of Performance



# Course overview

Chapter 1: Portfolio Weights & Returns



Chapter 2: Portfolio Performance Evaluation



Chapter 3: Drivers of Performance



Chapter 4: Portfolio Optimization

# Let's practice!

INTRODUCTION TO PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS IN R

# The portfolio weights

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# Investment decision choices

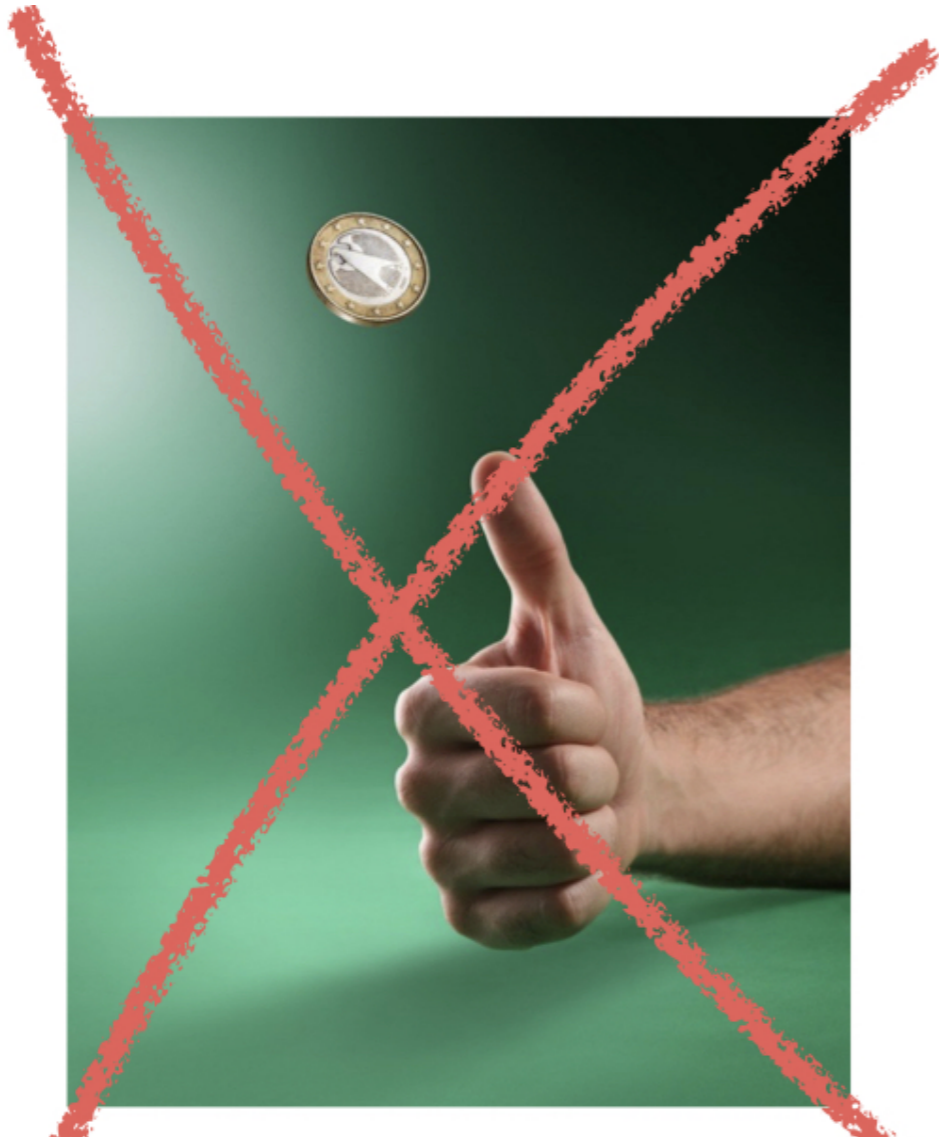
There are two similar companies: Do you invest in either of them based on a coin toss?



<sup>1</sup> Source: ICMA Photos, Flickr

# Investment decision choices

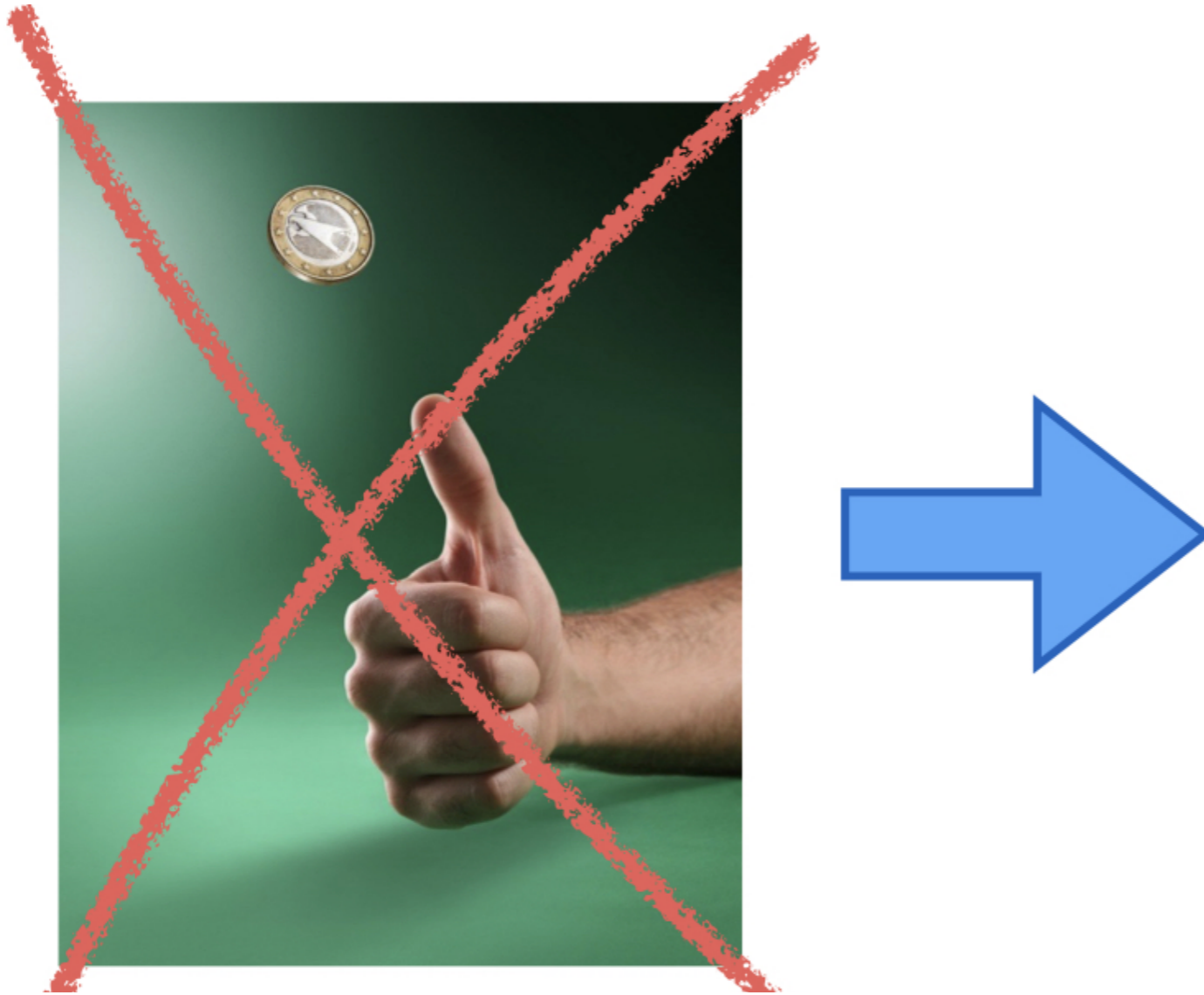
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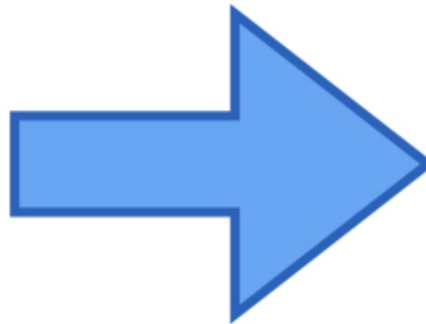
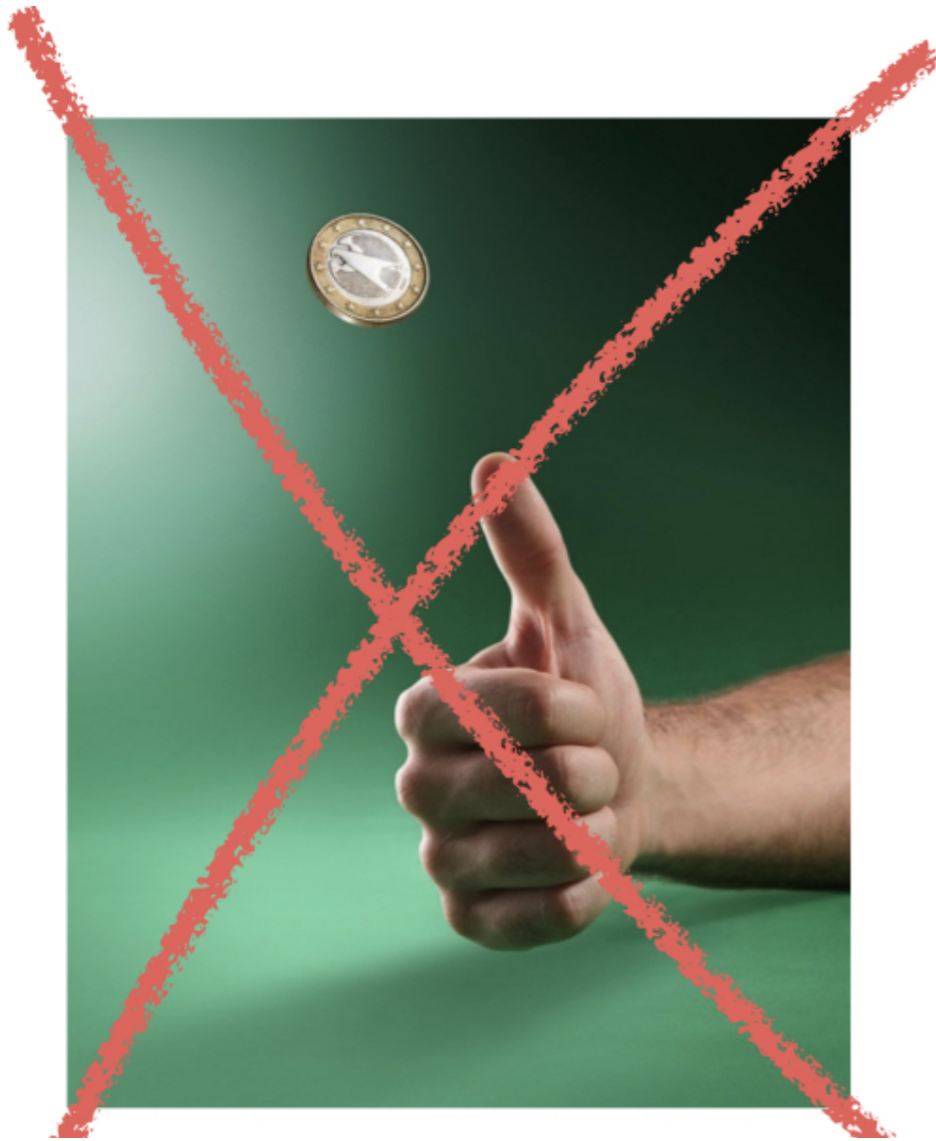
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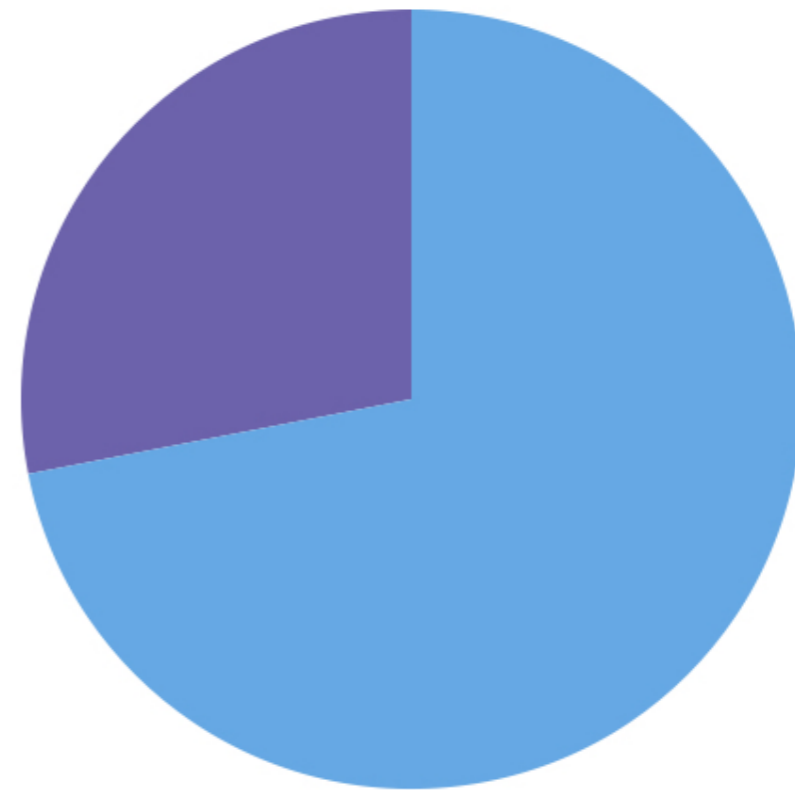
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# Investment decision choices

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Portfolio

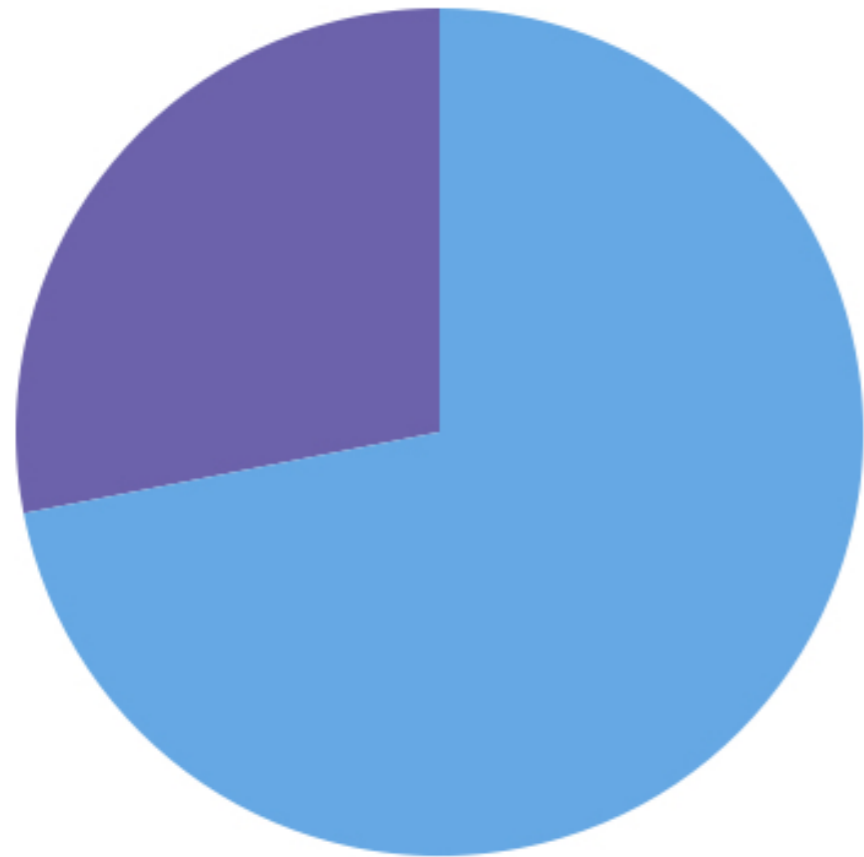


● Company 1

<sup>1</sup> Source: ICMA Photos, Flickr

# Investment decision choices

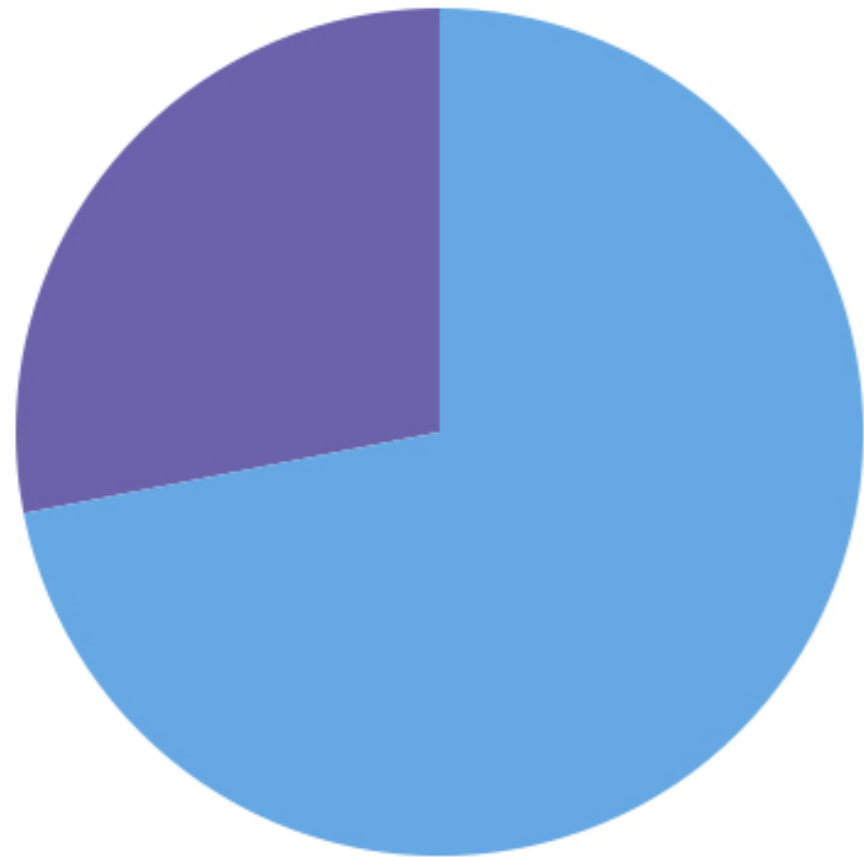
## Portfolio



- Company 1
- Company 2

# Investment decision choices

Portfolio

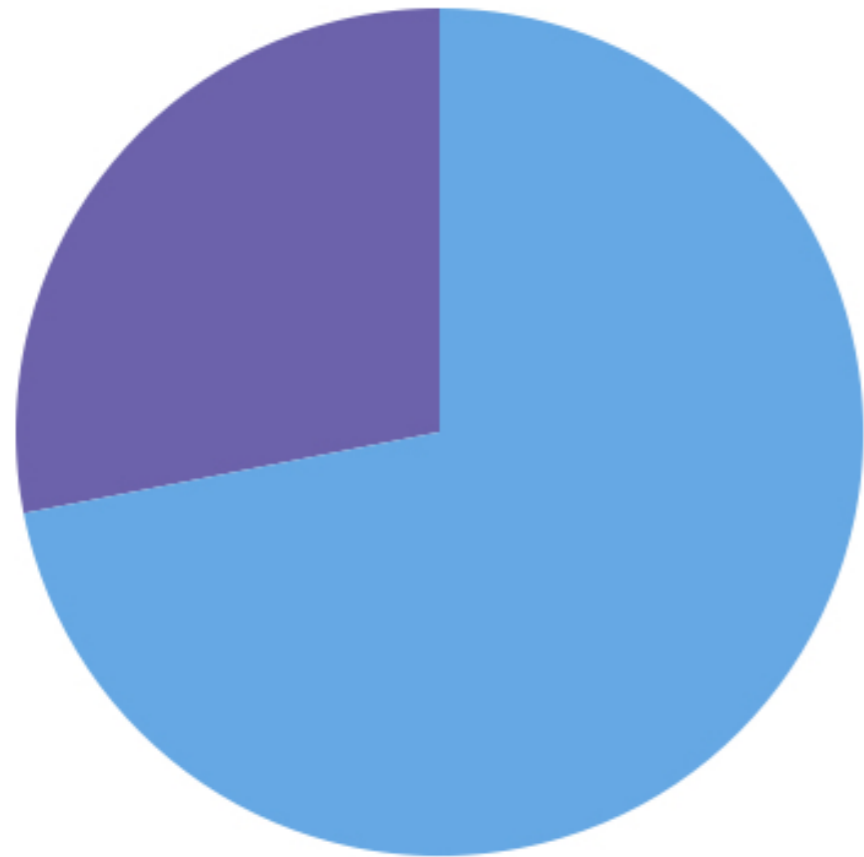


or

- Company 1
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# Investment decision choices

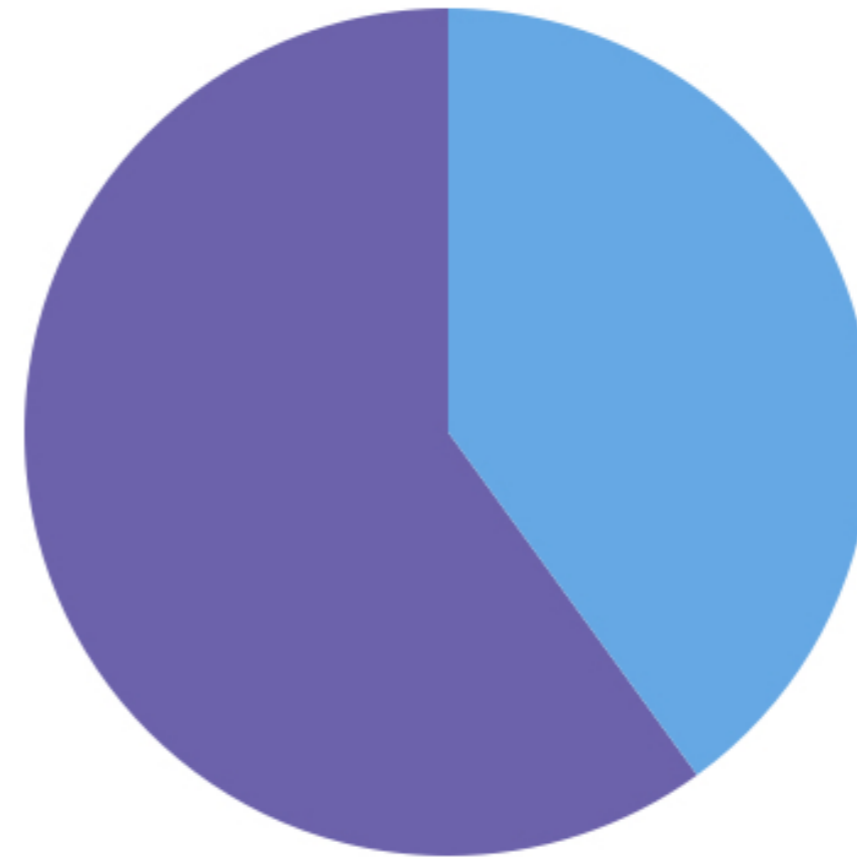
Portfolio



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or

Portfolio

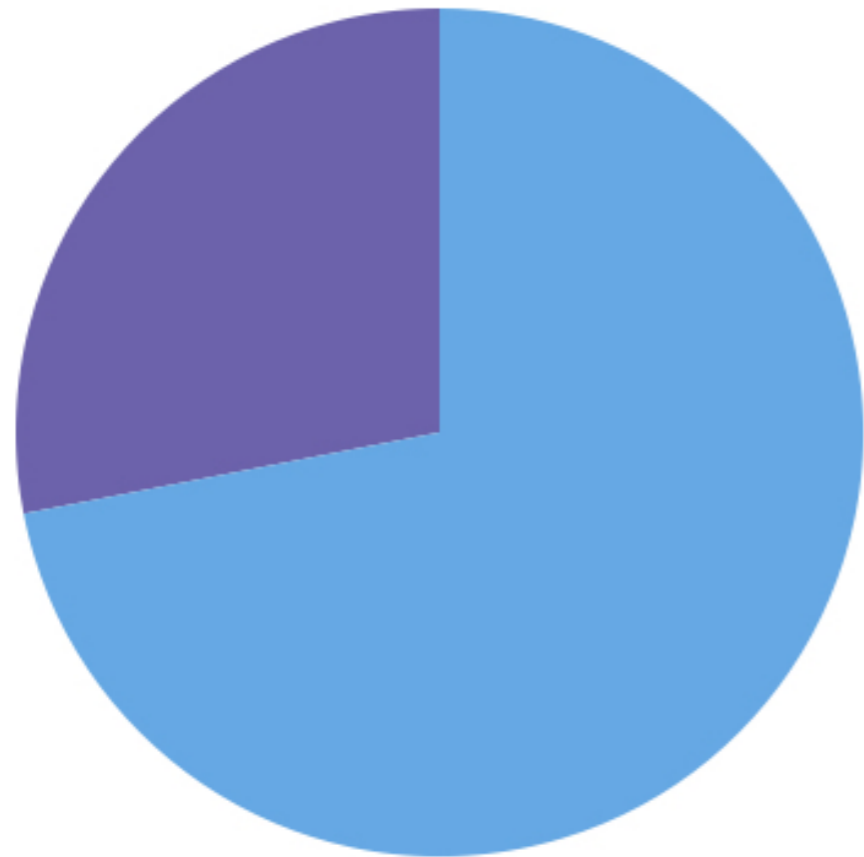


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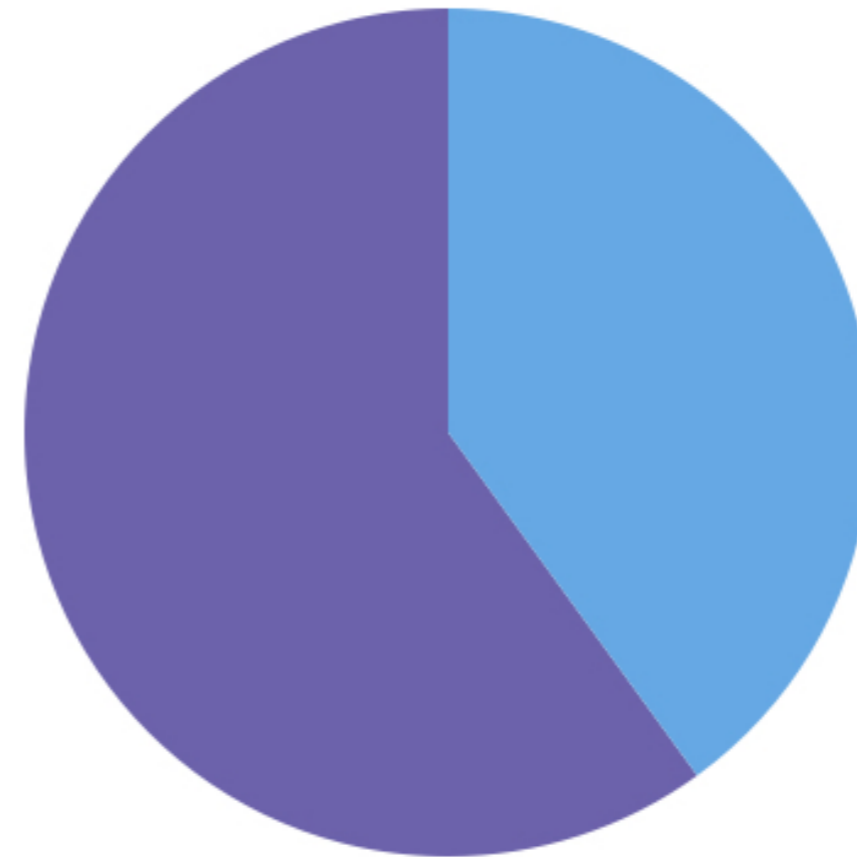
Portfolio



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or

Portfolio



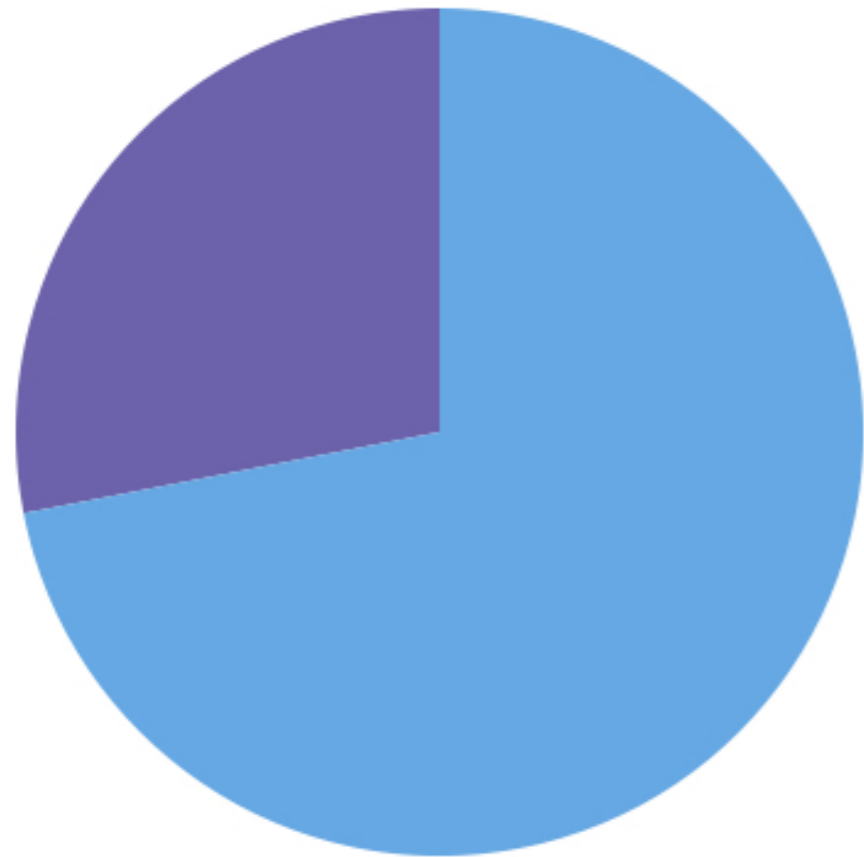
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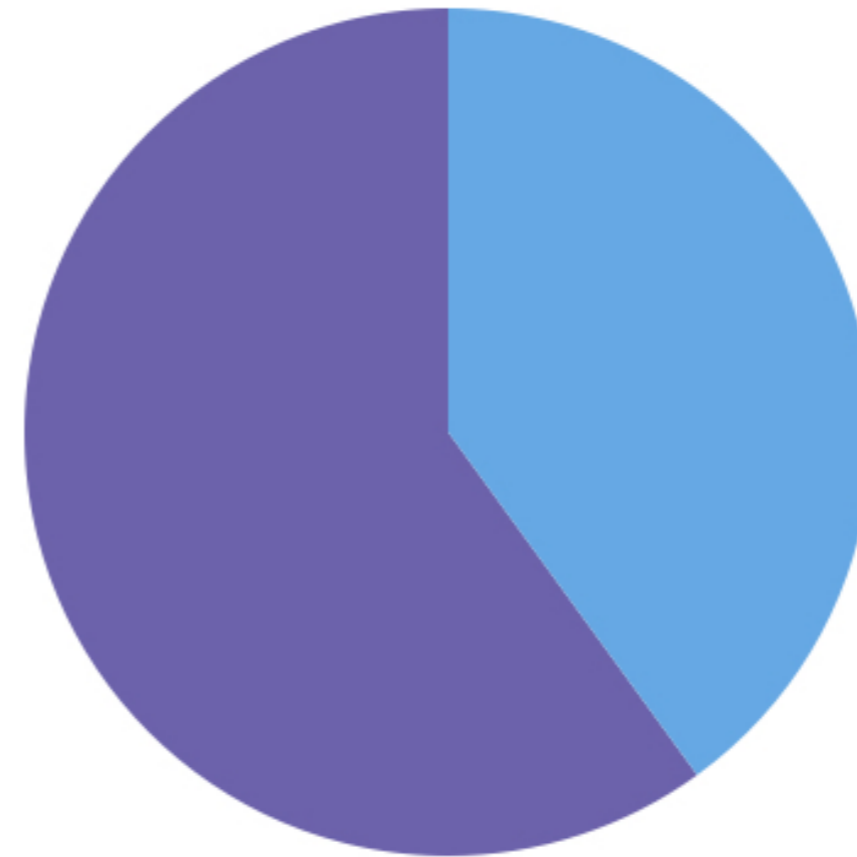
Portfolio



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or

Portfolio



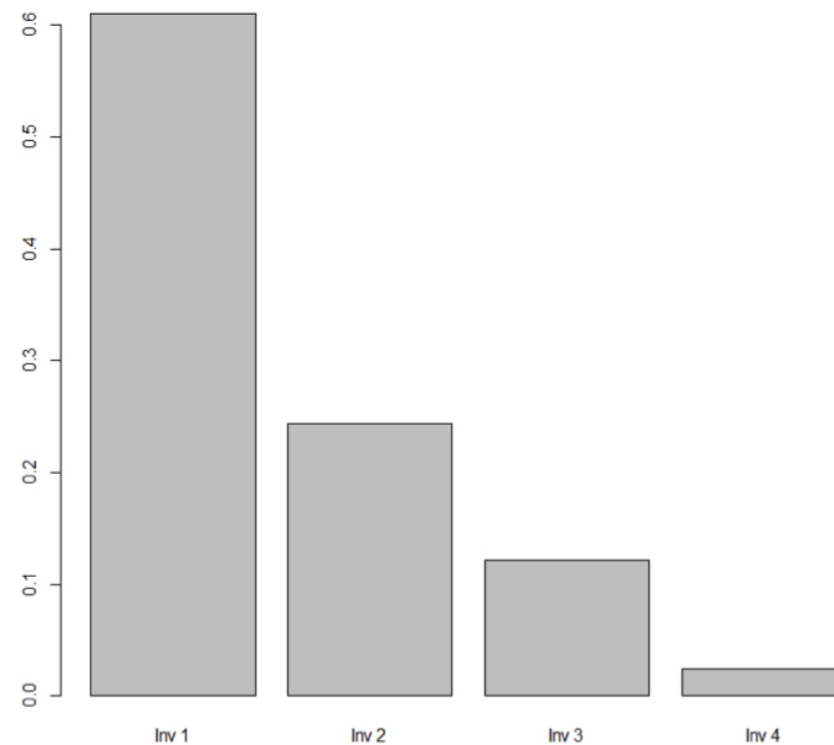
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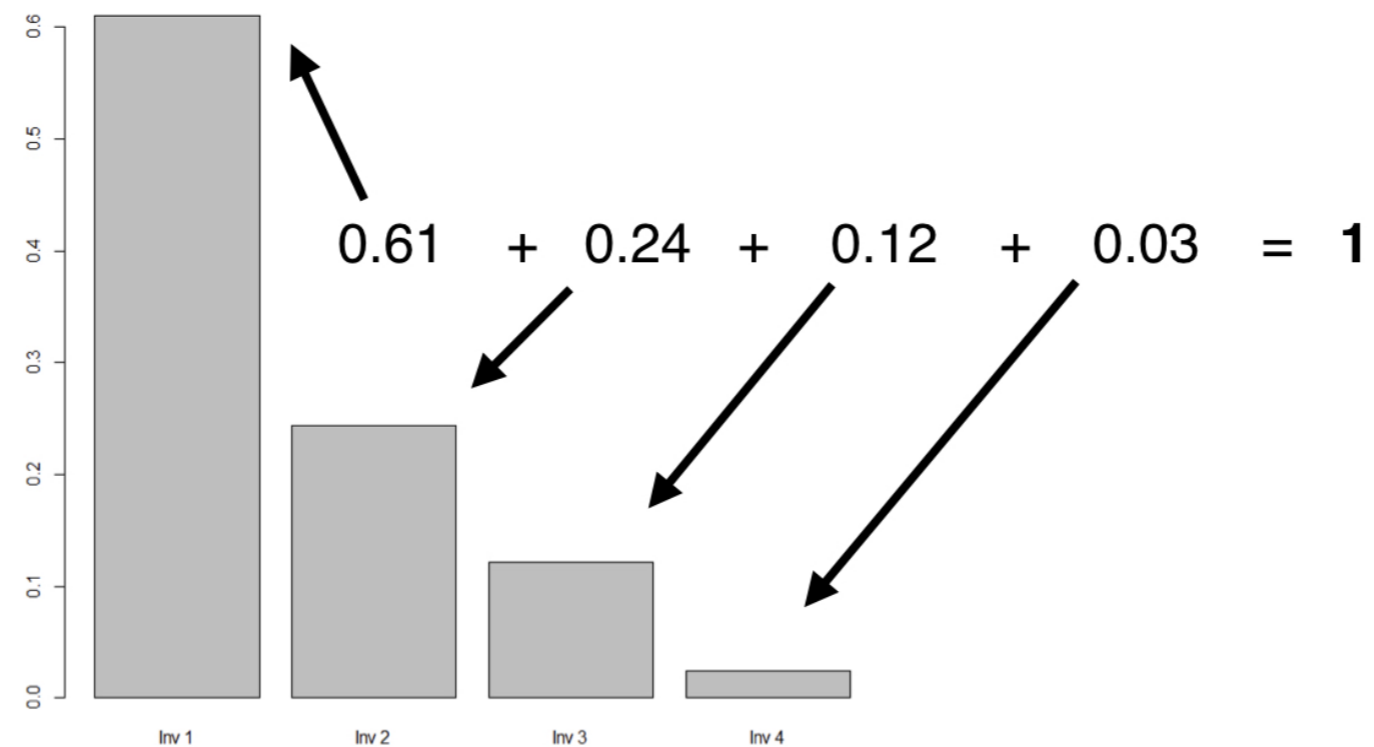
# Asset weighting

Investment	Value Invested	Weight
1	$V_1$	$w_1 = \frac{V_1}{V_1 + \dots + V_N}$
2	$V_2$	$w_2 = \frac{V_2}{V_1 + \dots + V_N}$
⋮	⋮	⋮
N	$V_N$	$w_N = \frac{V_N}{V_1 + \dots + V_N}$

```
values <- c(500000, 200000, 100000, 20000)
names(values) <- c("Inv 1", "Inv 2", "Inv 3", "Inv 4")
weights <- values/sum(values)
barplot(weights)
```

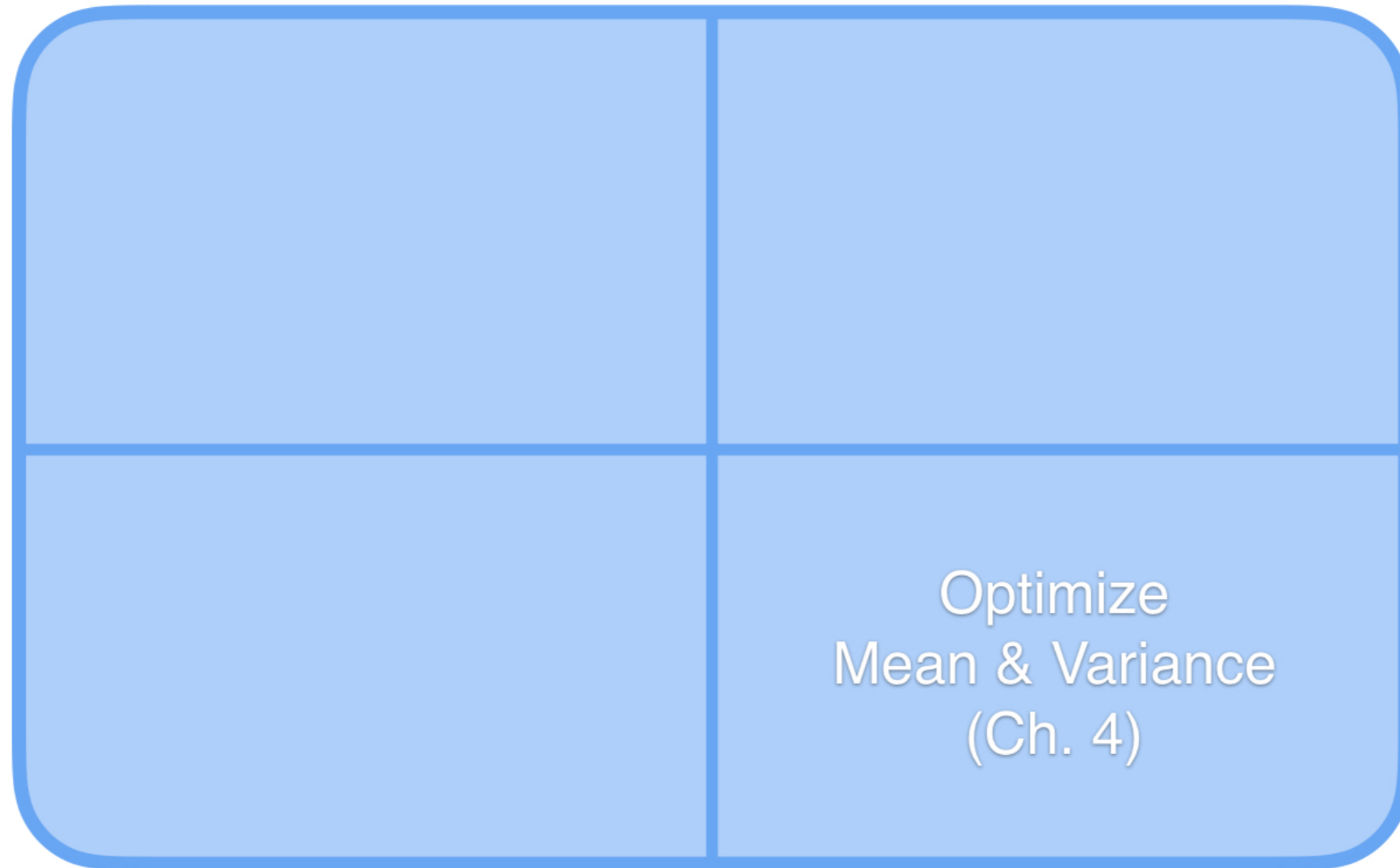


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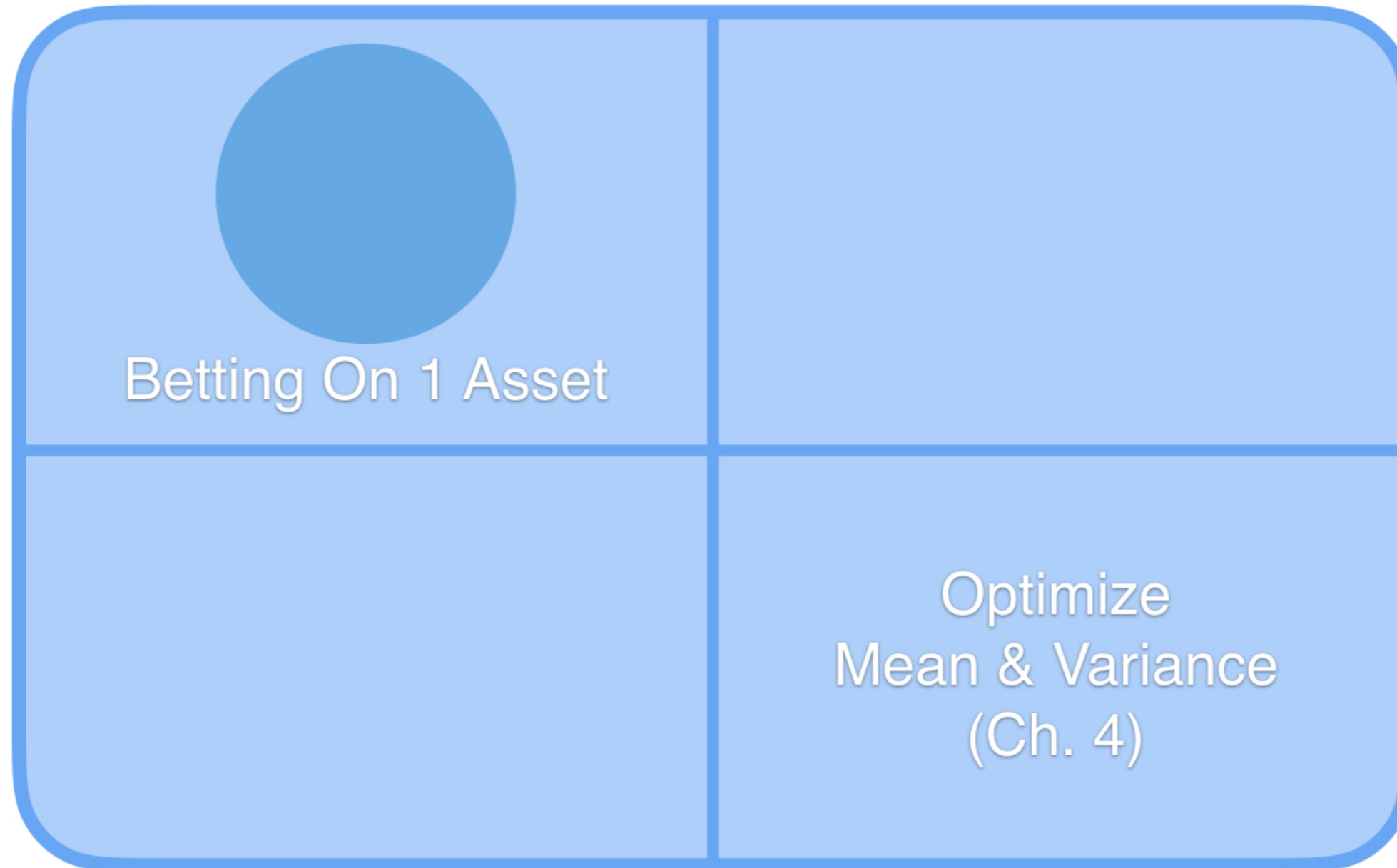


# Allocation strategies


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# Allocation strategies



Betting On 1 Asset



Equal Weighting

Optimize  
Mean & Variance  
(Ch. 4)



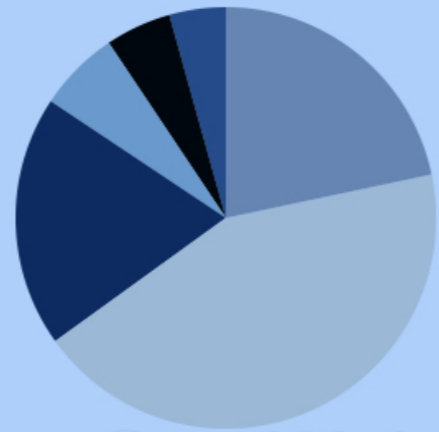
# Allocation strategies



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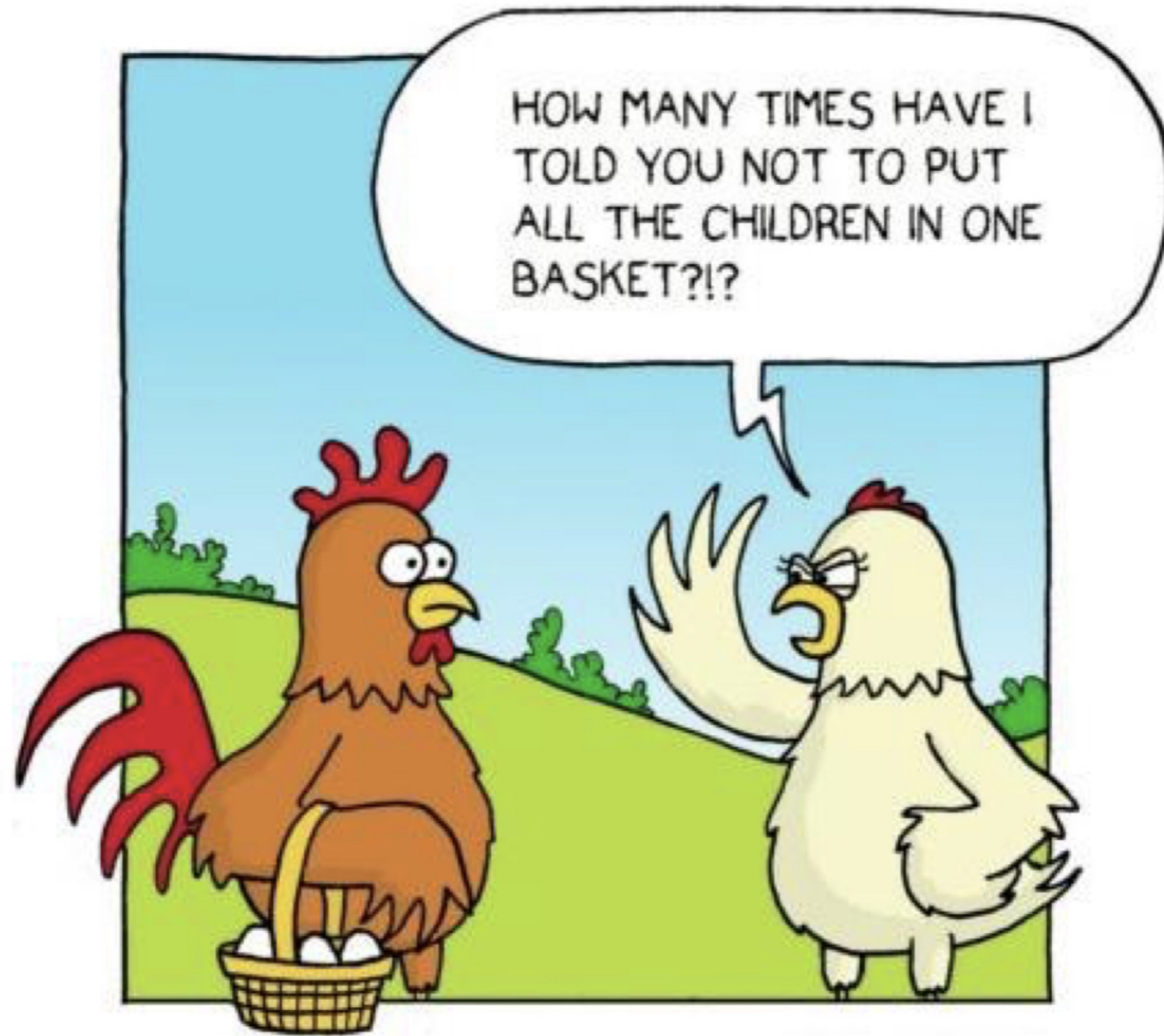


Equal Weighting



Market Cap Weighting

Optimize  
Mean & Variance  
(Ch. 4)



<sup>1</sup> Source: <http://www.falibo.com/vocabulary/idiom-dont-put-all-your-eggs-in-one/>

# Let's practice!

INTRODUCTION TO PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS IN R

# The portfolio return

INTRODUCTION TO PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS IN R



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# Portfolio returns: relative value

- Weights reveal active investment bets
- Returns are the relative changes in value:

$$\frac{\textit{final value} - \textit{initial value}}{\textit{initial value}}$$

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# Three steps

Asset <sub>1</sub>	...	Asset <sub>N</sub>
InValue.Asset <sub>1</sub>	...	InValue.Asset <sub>N</sub>
FinValue.Asset <sub>1</sub>	...	FinValue.Asset <sub>N</sub>



$\text{InValue.Portfolio} = \text{InValue.Asset}_1 + \dots + \text{InValue.Asset}_N$
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$$\text{Portfolio Return} = \frac{\text{FinValue.Portfolio} - \text{InValue.Portfolio}}{\text{InValue.Portfolio}}$$

# Example: two assets

Asset <sub>1</sub>	Asset <sub>2</sub>
InValue.Asset <sub>1</sub> = \$200	InValue.Asset <sub>2</sub> = \$300
FinValue.Asset <sub>1</sub> = \$180	FinValue.Asset <sub>2</sub> = \$330

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InValue.Portfolio = \$200 + \$300 = \$500
FinValue.Portfolio = \$180 + \$330 = \$510

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InValue.Portfolio = \$200 + \$300 = \$500
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InValue.Portfolio = \$200 + \$300 = \$500
FinValue.Portfolio = \$180 + \$330 = \$510



$$\text{Portfolio Return} = \frac{\text{FinValue.Portfolio} - \text{InValue.Portfolio}}{\text{InValue.Portfolio}} = \frac{510 - 500}{500} = 2\%$$

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InValue.Portfolio = \$200 + \$300 = \$500
FinValue.Portfolio = \$180 + \$330 = \$510



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# Portfolio returns: weighted average return

$$\text{Portfolio Return} = w_1 R_1 + w_2 R_2 + \dots + w_n R_n$$

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# Three steps

Asset <sub>1</sub>	...	Asset <sub>N</sub>
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# Three steps

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$w_1 = \frac{200}{500} = 40\%$	$w_2 = \frac{300}{500} = 60\%$
$R_1 = \frac{180 - 200}{200} = -10\%$	$R_2 = \frac{330 - 300}{300} = 10\%$

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Asset <sub>1</sub>	Asset <sub>2</sub>
InValue.Asset <sub>1</sub> = \$200	InValue.Asset <sub>2</sub> = \$300
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$$\text{Portfolio Return} = 0.4 * (-10\%) + 0.6 * (10\%) = 2\%$$

# Let's practice!

INTRODUCTION TO PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS IN R

# PerformanceAnalytics

INTRODUCTION TO PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS IN R



**Kris Boudt**

Professor, Free University Brussels &  
Amsterdam

# The practitioner's challenge

- In practice, time series of portfolio returns
- Longer history → more info on portfolio
- Good package = `PerformanceAnalytics`

# The creators

- `PerformanceAnalytics` is the go-to package for portfolio return analysis in R



Peter Carl



Brian Peterson

<sup>1</sup> <https://tradeblotter.files.wordpress.com/2012/02/bwauthorpcc.jpeg>

# Calculating returns

- `Return.calculate` : to compute the asset returns
- `Return.portfolio` : to compute the portfolio return
- `Return.calculate(prices)`
  - `xts` -object
- Dates structure: `YYYY-MM-DD`

# Calculating returns

- `Return.calculate`

```
returns <- Return.calculate(prices)
```

```
returns <- returns[(-1),]
```

```
head(prices)
```

```
AAPL  MSFT
2006-01-03 9.829465 21.07395
2006-01-04 9.858394 21.17603
2006-01-05 9.780810 21.19173
...
```

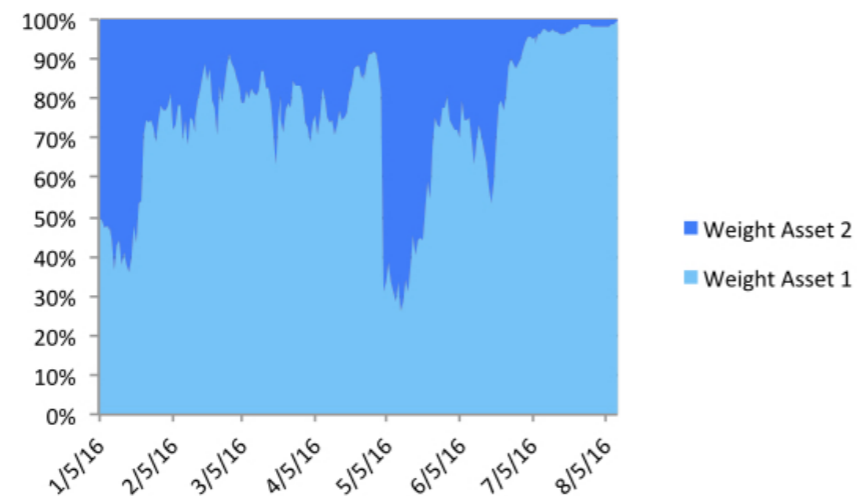
```
head(returns)
```

```
      AAPL      MSFT
2006-01-03 NA      NA
2006-01-04 0.002943090 0.0048434670
2006-01-05 -0.007869842 0.0007415934
...
```

# Dynamics of portfolio weights

Set Initial Weights & Do  
Not Intervene

*Example: Initial 50/50 weight*

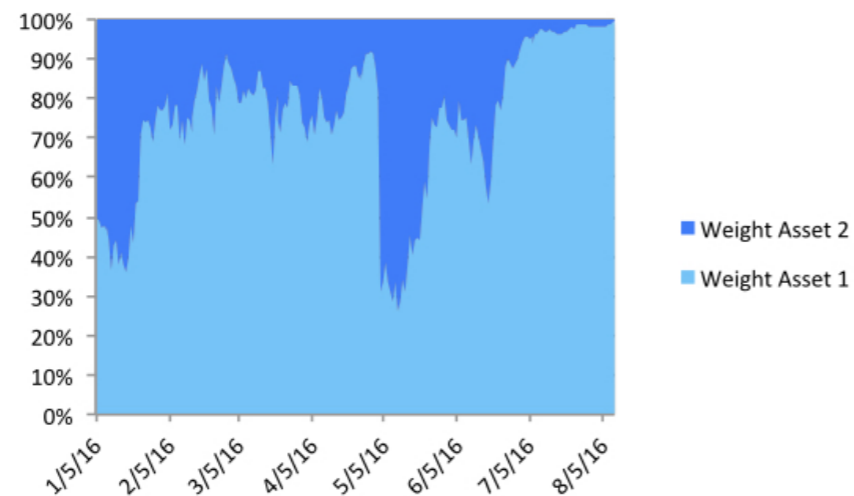




# Dynamics of portfolio weights

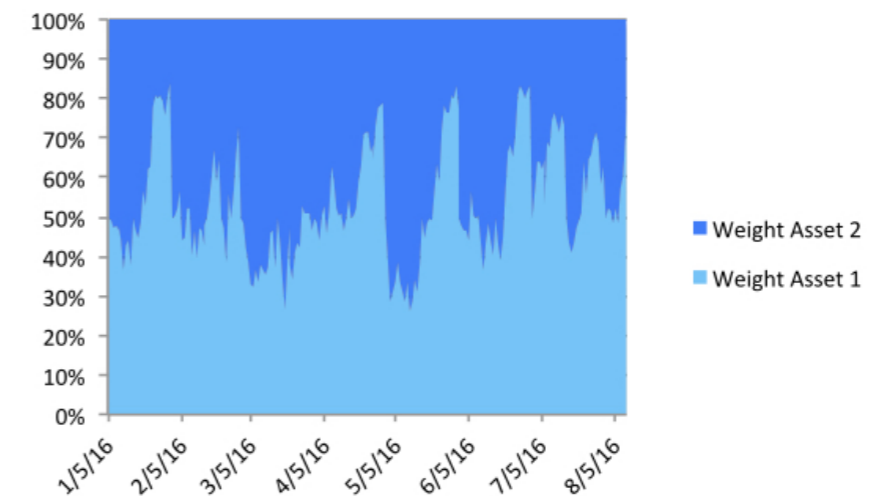
Set Initial Weights & Do Not Intervene

*Example:* Initial 50/50 weight



Actively Change Portfolio Weights

*Example:* 50/50 Weight With Rebalance



# Portfolio returns

```
Return.portfolio <- function(R, weights = NULL,  
  rebalance_on = c(NA, "years", "quarters",  
                  "months", "weeks", "days"))
```

- Three arguments to be specified:
  - return data
  - weights
  - rebalancing

# Let's practice!

INTRODUCTION TO PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS IN R