


Chapter 1

Use of Robo Advisors for Security Analysis and Portfolio Management: A Technological Innovation in Financial Markets

Partap Singh

 <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4653-7984>

Maharishi Markendshwar University, Mullana, India

ABSTRACT

This paper evaluates the effectiveness of robo-advisors in security analysis and portfolio management, focusing on their performance relative to traditional advisory services. By analyzing algorithms and technologies used in robo-advisors, the study assesses their capabilities in risk management, performance evaluation, and user satisfaction. Both primary data, gathered from surveys and interviews, and secondary data from case studies are used to evaluate trust, user experiences, and the overall efficacy of robo-advisors in investment strategies. The findings indicate that robo-advisors provide high user satisfaction, demonstrate effective portfolio management, and offer significant potential for integration with traditional advisory models. This research contributes to the understanding of robo-advisors' evolving role in modern finance, highlighting their impact on investment decision-making and the future of financial advisory services.

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1. INTRODUCTIONS

1.1 Background

The emergence of robo-advisors marks a transformative phase in the financial services industry, leveraging digital innovation to enhance investment management. These platforms use algorithm-based software to provide tailored investment recommendations, often requiring minimal human intervention (Maume 2019). While some robo-advisors integrate artificial intelligence to refine decision-making processes, others rely solely on pre-defined algorithms (Thier and dos Santos Monteiro 2022). The first generation of robo-advisors, including pioneers like Betterment and Wealthfront, began operating around 2008-2009, offering cost-efficient, automated solutions aimed at democratizing access to financial services (Sironi 2016). These early platforms focused on portfolio rebalancing and diversification strategies designed to guide investors toward achieving financial goals.

Recent advancements have allowed robo-advisors to evolve significantly, incorporating features such as tax-loss harvesting, personalized financial planning, and real-time risk analysis (Guo, Cheng, and Zhang 2019; Hohenberger et al. 2019). Machine learning algorithms and data analytics have played a pivotal role in enabling these systems to analyze complex market conditions and offer sophisticated recommendations. This evolution aligns with the broader trend of digitization in wealth management, where technology reshapes traditional approaches (Hildebrand and Bergner 2021). Despite their advantages, the adoption of robo-advisors raises critical considerations, including trustworthiness, ethical practices, and the reliability of automated systems (High-Level Expert Group on AI 2019). However, their capacity to enhance decision-making efficiency and reduce costs has solidified their role as a significant innovation in personal finance (Investment Company Institute 2023). The significance of robo-advisors lies not only in their operational efficiency but also in their ability to democratize access to high-quality investment services, thus reshaping the traditional advisory landscape (Hakala 2019).

1.2 Objectives of the Chapter

- To study the level of awareness and understanding towards robo –advisors;
- To critically evaluate the effectiveness of robo-advisors in security analysis and portfolio management;
- To analyze the algorithms and technologies employed by robo-advisors for security analysis and determine their effectiveness under varying market conditions.

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