CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for providing a core-satellite analysis of investment choices, comprising:

at least one data processing device of a data computing system accessing, from memory coupled to said at least one data processing device, instructions causing said at least one data processing device to determine a first set of said investment choices, wherein each one of said investment choices in the first set of said investment choices is within at least one asset class of a defined set of asset classes, wherein causing said at least one data processing device to determine the first set of said investment choices includes causing said at least one data processing device to determine ones of said investment choices having a filter function metric value that falls inside both an upper limit and a lower limit of a filter function metric value range defined by a dynamic range filter structure, wherein the dynamic range filter structure specifies unique characteristics desired of a set of investment choices and at least one parameter used for deriving the filter function metric value range, and wherein the filter function metric value of each one of said investment choices of the first set of said investment choices and the filter function metric value of the benchmark investment choice correspond to a common filter function metric;

said at least one data processing device accessing, from said memory, instructions causing said at least one data processing device to determine a second set of said investment choices, wherein each one of said investment choices in the second set of said investment choices is within said at least one asset class, wherein causing said at least one data processing device to determine the second set of said investment choices includes causing said at least one data processing device to determine ones of said investment choices having a filter function metric value that falls outside of at least on of the upper limit and the

lower limit of the filter function metric value range defined by the dynamic range filter structure and wherein the filter function metric value of each one of said investment choices of the second set of said investment choices and the filter function metric value of the benchmark investment choice correspond to the common filter function metric; and

said at least one data processing device accessing, from said memory, instructions causing said at least one data processing device to perform a comparative assessment of each one of said sets of investment choices, wherein causing said at least one data processing device to perform the comparative assessment of each one of said sets of investment choices includes causing said at least one data processing device to determine a comparative assessment value for each one of said investment choices thereof.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the filter function metric value is a filter function metric value that quantifies volatility of a respective one of said investment choices.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the benchmark investment choice is an investment index.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the comparative assessment value for each one of said investment choices is determined using at least the filter function metric value thereof.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein:

causing said at least one data processing device to determine the first set of said investment choices includes causing said at least one data processing device to determine ones of said investment choices having a filter function metric value that falls within both of the upper limit and the lower limit of the filter function metric value range defined by the dynamic range filter structure; and

causing said at least one data processing device to determine the second set of said investment choices includes causing said at least one data processing device to

determine ones of said investment choices having a filter function metric value that falls outside of at least one of the upper limit and the lower limit of the filter function metric value range defined by the dynamic range filter structure.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the filter function metric value is a filter function metric value that quantifies volatility of a respective one of said investment choices.

7. The method of claim 5 wherein:

the benchmark investment choice is an investment index; and

the comparative assessment value for each one of said investment choices is determined using at least the filter function metric value thereof.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein said at least one parameter used for deriving the filter function metric value range includes a filter function metric of the benchmark investment choice.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the filter function metric of the benchmark investment choice is a filter function metric defining a level of volatility of the benchmark investment choice.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein:

the benchmark investment choice is an investment index; and

the comparative assessment value for each one of said investment choices is determined using at least the filter function metric value thereof.

11. A system for objectively quantifying investment choices, comprising:

at least one data processing device;

instructions processable by said at least one data processing device; and

an apparatus from which said instructions are accessible by said at least one data processing device;

wherein said instructions are configured for causing said at least one data processing device to:

perform asset allocation for providing a blend of asset classes;

specify a benchmark investment choice for each one of said asset classes;

identify source of available investment choices, wherein each one of said investment choices is in at least one of said asset classes;

provide a dynamic range filter structure that specifies unique characteristics desired of a set of investment choices, wherein the unique characteristics include a relationship between a filter function metric value of the benchmark investment choice and at least one parameter used for deriving a filter function metric value range;

apply the dynamic range filter structure to a filter function metric value of each one of said investment choices such that the relationship between the filter function metric value of the benchmark investment choice and said at least one parameter used for deriving a filter function metric value range causes filtered investment choices to be identified as those ones of said investment choices having a filter function metric value that falls within upper and lower limits of a filter function metric value range defined by the dynamic range filter structure, wherein the filter function metric value of each one of said investment choices and the filter function metric value of the benchmark investment choice correspond to a common filter function metric; and

perform a comparative assessment of each one of said filtered investment choices, wherein the comparative assessment is at least partially based

on a comparative assessment value for each one of said filtered investment choices and wherein the comparative assessment value of allows for quantitative assessment of each one of said investment choices with respect to each other one of said investment choices.

12. The system of claim 11 wherein the filter function metric value is a filter function metric value that quantifies volatility of a respective one of said investment choices.

13. The system of claim 11 wherein the benchmark investment choice is an investment index.

14. The system of claim 11 wherein the comparative assessment value for each one of said investment choices is determined using at least the filter function metric value thereof.

15. The system of claim 11 wherein said at least one parameter used for deriving the filter function metric value range includes a filter function metric of the benchmark investment choice.

16. The system of claim 15 wherein the filter function metric of the benchmark investment choice is a filter function metric defining a level of volatility of the benchmark investment choice.

17. The system of claim 16 wherein:

the benchmark investment choice is an investment index; and

the comparative assessment value for each one of said investment choices is determined using at least the filter function metric value thereof.

18. A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium having tangibly embodied thereon and accessible therefrom instructions interpretable by at least one data processing device, said instructions are configured for causing said at least one data processing device to perform:

providing a plurality of investment choices, wherein each one of said investment choices is within at least one asset class of a defined set of asset classes;

providing a dynamic range filter structure that specifies unique characteristics desired of a set of investment choices, wherein the unique characteristics include a relationship between a performance factor value of a benchmark investment choice and at least one parameter used for deriving a performance factor value range;

applying the dynamic range filter structure to a performance factor value of each one of said investment choices such that the relationship between the performance factor value of the benchmark investment choice and said parameter used for deriving a performance factor value range filters to determine ones of said investment choices having a performance factor value that falls within upper and lower limits of a performance factor value range defined by the dynamic range filter structure, wherein the performance factor value of each one of said investment choices and the performance factor value of the benchmark investment choice correspond to a common performance factor; and

performing a comparative assessment of each one of said filtered investment choices, wherein the comparative assessment is at least partially based on a comparative assessment value for each one of said filtered investment choices and wherein the comparative assessment value allows for quantitative assessment of each one of said investment choices with respect to each other one of said investment choices.

19. The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of claim 18 wherein the performance factor value is a performance factor value that quantifies volatility of a respective one of said investment choices.

20. The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of claim 18 wherein the benchmark investment choice is an investment index.

21. The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of claim 18 wherein the comparative assessment value for each one of said investment choices is determined using at least the performance factor value thereof.

22. The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of claim 18 wherein said at least one parameter used for deriving the performance factor value range includes a performance factor of the benchmark investment choice.

23. The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of claim 22 wherein the performance factor of the benchmark investment choice is a performance factor defining a level of volatility of the benchmark investment choice.

24. The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium of claim 23 wherein:

the benchmark investment choice is an investment index; and

the comparative assessment value for each one of said investment choices is determined using at least the performance factor value thereof.

25. A performance report depicting a comparative investment choice performance assessment made by a method comprising:

outputting a plurality of core investment choices each defined by a first filter structure as being a qualified core investment choice for an investment portfolio, wherein a value for a particular metric for each one of the qualified core investment choices is between upper and lower values filter function metric values determined dependent upon a value of the particular metric for a benchmark investment choice defined by the filter structure;

outputting a plurality of satellite investment choices that are each determined using a second filter structure different than the first filter structure, wherein said core investment choices and said satellite investment choices are from a common asset class.

26. The performance report of claim 25, further comprising:

outputting the benchmark investment choice.

27. The performance report of claim 25, further comprising:

outputting a graphical depiction representing said upper and lower values, wherein outputting said core investment choices includes outputting a graphical representation depicting each one of said core investment choices in relation to said upper and lower values.

28. The performance report of claim 27, further comprising:

outputting the benchmark investment choice, wherein outputting the benchmark investment choice includes outputting a graphical representation depicting the benchmark investment choice in relation to said upper and lower values.

29. The performance report of claim 25 wherein the particular metric is a metric that indicates investment choice volatility.

30. The performance report of claim 29, further comprising:

outputting the benchmark investment choice, wherein outputting the benchmark investment choice includes outputting a graphical representation depicting the benchmark investment choice in relation to said upper and lower values; and

outputting a graphical depiction representing said upper and lower values, wherein outputting said core investment choices includes outputting a graphical representation depicting each one of said core investment choices in relation to said upper and lower values.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for providing a core-satellite analysis of investment choices, comprising:

at least one data processing device of a data computing system accessing, from memory coupled to said at least one data processing device, instructions causing said at least one data processing device to determine a first set of said investment choices, wherein each one of said investment choices in the first set of said investment choices is within at least one asset class of a defined set of asset classes, wherein causing said at least one data processing device to determine the first set of said investment choices includes causing said at least one data processing device to determine ones of said investment choices having a filter function metric value that falls inside both an upper limit and a lower limit of a filter function metric value range defined by a range filter structure, wherein lower and upper filter function metric values determined by the range filter structure vary with time in response to the filter function metric value of a benchmark investment choice varying over time such that the filter function metric value range defined by the range filter structure varies in conjunction therewith, wherein the filter function metric value range is derived as a function of a plurality of filter parameter sets each defined within the range filter structure, wherein each one of said filter parameter sets includes a filter function type, a filter function metric associated with the filter type, a first filter function condition upon which the filter function metric is applied, and a first filter function metric value corresponding to the filter function metric, and wherein the filter function metric value of each one of said investment choices of the first set of said investment choices and the filter function metric value of the benchmark investment choice are all determined as a function of a particular filter function metric;

said at least one data processing device accessing, from said memory, instructions causing said at least one data processing device to determine a second set of said investment choices, wherein each one of said investment choices in the second set of said investment choices is within said at least one asset class, wherein causing said at least one data processing device to determine the second set of said investment choices includes causing said at least one data processing device to determine ones of said investment choices having a filter function metric value that falls outside of at least on of the upper limit and the lower limit of the filter function metric value range defined by the range filter structure and wherein the filter function metric value of each one of said investment choices of the second set of said investment choices and the filter function metric value of the benchmark investment choice are all determined as a function of the particular filter function metric; and

said at least one data processing device accessing, from said memory, instructions causing said at least one data processing device to perform a comparative assessment of each one of said sets of investment choices, wherein causing said at least one data processing device to perform the comparative assessment of each one of said sets of investment choices includes causing said at least one data processing device to determine a comparative assessment value for each one of said investment choices thereof.

2. The method of claim **1** wherein the filter function metric value is a filter function metric value that quantifies volatility of a respective one of said investment choices.

3. The method of claim **1** wherein the benchmark investment choice is an investment index.

4. The method of claim **1** wherein the comparative assessment value for each one of said investment choices is determined using at least the filter function metric value thereof.

5. The method of claim **1** wherein:

causing said at least one data processing device to determine the first set of said investment choices includes causing said at least one data processing device to determine ones of said investment choices having a filter function metric value that falls within both of the upper limit and the lower limit of the filter function metric value range defined by the range filter structure; and

causing said at least one data processing device to determine the second set of said investment choices includes causing said at least one data processing device to determine ones of said investment choices having a filter function metric value that falls outside of at least one of the upper limit and the lower limit of the filter function metric value range defined by the dynamic range filter structure.

6. The method of claim **5** wherein the filter function metric value is a filter function metric value that quantifies volatility of a respective one of said investment choices.

7. The method of claim **5** wherein:

the benchmark investment choice is an investment index; and

the comparative assessment value for each one of said investment choices is determined using at least the filter function metric value thereof.

8. The method of claim **1** wherein said at least one parameter used for deriving the filter function metric value range includes a filter function metric of the benchmark investment choice.

9. The method of claim **8** wherein the filter function metric of the benchmark investment choice is a filter function metric defining a level of volatility of the benchmark investment choice.

10. The method of claim **9** wherein:

the benchmark investment choice is an investment index; and

the comparative assessment value for each one of said investment choices is determined using at least the filter function metric value thereof.