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Tactical asset allocation: an artificial neural network based model

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An artificial neural network was trained to support a tactical asset allocation investment strategy. The allocation strategy considers three asset classes: US stocks, bonds and money market. The neural network was trained to forecast the probability that each asset class would outperform the other two by the end of a one-month period. The neural network was trained with the backpropagation algorithm. A tactical asset allocation portfolio was invested in the asset class expected to have the best performance according to the neural network prediction. The strategy was simulated during a one-year period. During the simulation period the strategy outperformed the S&P500 Index by 1,792 basis points. The artificial neural network prediction was accurate 92% of the time.

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