

The Economic Importance of the Active/Passive Debate

- Roughly \$4 trillion in equities managed by mutual funds
- Industry-average mutual fund expense ratio is 100 basis points per year
- Vanguard 500 Index Fund expense ratio is 20 basis points per year
- The 80 basis point difference amounts to \$32 billion per year
- Higher transactions costs on top of this (probably about half as much as the expenses)

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Academic Studies on the Persistence Issue

- The evidence is mixed:
 - Hendricks, Patel, and Zeckhauser (1993)
 - Fund managers have "hot hands" in year-over-year results, but not beyond that
 - Brown and Goetzmann (1995)
 - Persistence is mainly due to persistence of poor performers
 - Carhart (1997)
 - No evidence of persistence in style-adjusted net returns
 - "the results do not support the existence of skilled or informed mutual fund portfolio managers"
 - Carhart, now at G-S Asset Management

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While the Academic Literature has Cast (at Best) an Ambiguous Light on Performance Persistence...

- Mutual fund trading activity (and expenses) has increased significantly over the past 20 years. Are these trends largely wasteful?
- And, as my paper will show, fund <u>turnover</u> is persistent over several-year periods
 - E.g., high turnover funds remain high-turnover
 - Do these funds trade merely to appear to have "hot hands" in picking stocks?

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Several Controversies in these Studies

- Survivor bias
 - Carhart estimates an upper bound of 1%/year
- Sample selection period
- Performance measurement method
 - **Example:** Jensen measure has timing-related biases

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Controversies (continued)

- Adjustment for style
 - Hendricks, Patel, and Zeckhauser (1993) fail to control for momentum
 - Carhart (1997) adjusts using covariancebased matching with style-mimicking portfolios

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The Reasons Why the Literature Has Not Provided a Full Attribution of Performance of Winners vs. Losers

- No proper style benchmarks (DGTW, 1997)
- No integrated database of mutual fund holdings, net returns, turnover, etc. (Wermers (2000))
- No estimates of transactions costs (Wermers (2000))

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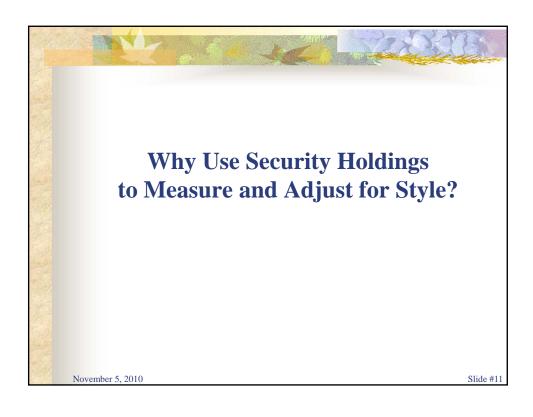
Returns-Based PEVA...

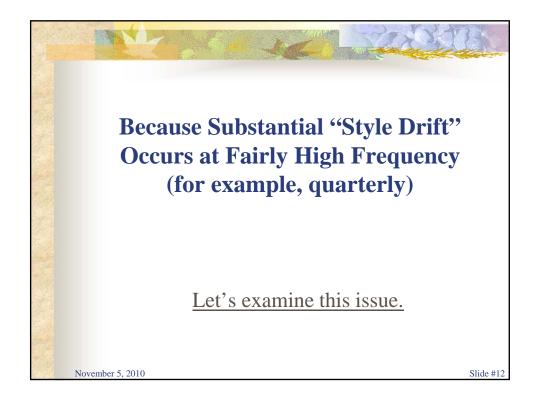


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My Paper Decomposes Returns and Costs of Winners vs. Losers into:

- Talents in picking stocks that beat their characteristic benchmarks
- Holdings of stocks having characteristics that provide higher average returns
- Transactions costs (of stock trades)
- Expense ratios
- Returns on non-stock mutual fund holdings
- Return drag of consumer flows

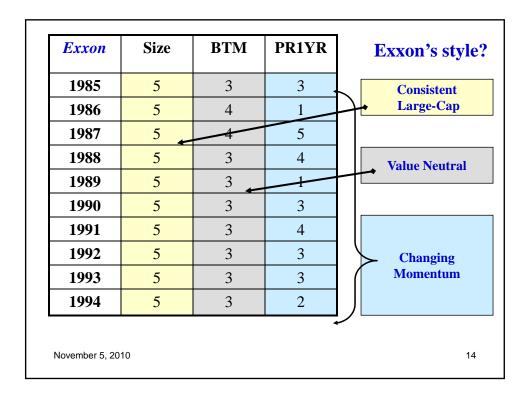


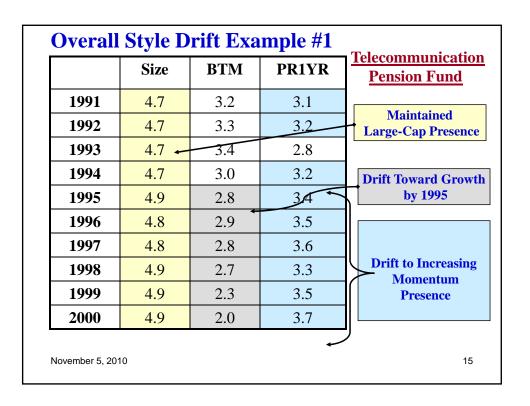


Sources of Style Drift

- · Individual stocks exhibit style drift over time
- Portfolios of stocks are more stable, but can still drift
 - Asset weights change in a passive portfolio, as well as the component stocks changing characteristics
- Managers tend to actively "tilt" the portfolio over time across different styles
 - Changing strategies, behavioral tendencies

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	Gross Return (%)	S&P 500 (%)	Telecommunication Pension Fund
1991	12.0*	13.9*	
1992	8.1	7.7	
1993	14.8	9.9	
1994	- 1.7	1.4	
1995	38.3	37.7	*1991 is April
1996	25.1	23.2	through December
1997	33.7	33.6	
1998	33.0	29.3	
1999	24.4	21.5	
2000	- 7.1	- 8.5	

	Size	BTM	PR1YR	Endowment
1991	4.7	2.3	2.9	
1992	4.6	2.5	2.8	Drift to
1993	4.8	2.4	3.0	Smaller Cap
1994	4.7	2.4	3.1	D 10/4
1995	4.3	2.6	3.5	Drift to Growth
1996	4.3	2.4	3.2	Growth
1997	4.5	2,8	3.3	
1998	3.2	2.4	3.3	A Large Drift
1999	3.1	1.8	4.0	to Momentum Stock
2000	3.7	2.0	4.2	

	Size	BTM	PR1YR	<u>University</u> <u>Endowment</u>
1991				
1992	-0.1	0.1	0.2	Active Move Toward Small Cap in 1998
1993	0.1	-0.1	0.1	
1994	-0.1	-0.1	9.2	Continued Active Mov
1995	-0.4	0.1	0.2	Toward Growth, Followed by Value
1996	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	Tonowed by varie
1997	-0.1	-0.1	-9.1	Continued Active
1998	-1.3	-0.1	0.2	Move Toward Momentum Stocks
1999	-0.5	-0.2	0.5	Wiomentum Stocks
2000	0.1	0.5	-0.3	

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Investment	hitoomog
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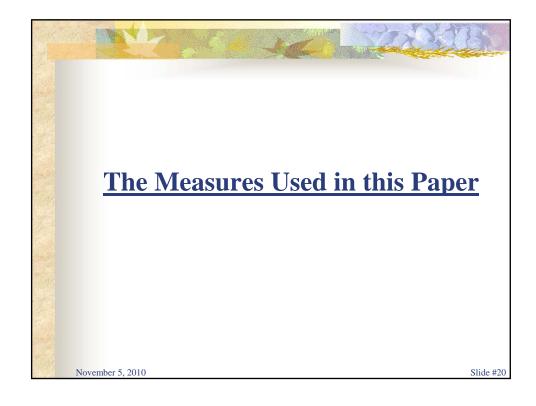
	Gross Stock Return (%)	S&P 500 (%)
1991	15.2*	13.9*
1992	6.5	7.7
1993	8.8	9.9
1994	- 1.0	1.4
1995	35.7	37.7
1996	29.1	23.2
1997	24.5	33.6
1998	25.0	29.3
1999	22.5	21.5
2000	17.9	- 8.5

University Endowment

*1991 is April through December)

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Stock-Picking Talent

"Characteristic-Selectivity Measure" (CS)

$$CS_t = \sum_{j=1}^{N} w_{j,t-1} (R_{j,t} - R_t^{b_{j,t-1}})$$

 CS measures the ability of the fund manager to pick stocks that beat their matching characteristic-based benchmarks

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Stock Benchmarks Based on Stock Characteristics (DGTW (1997))

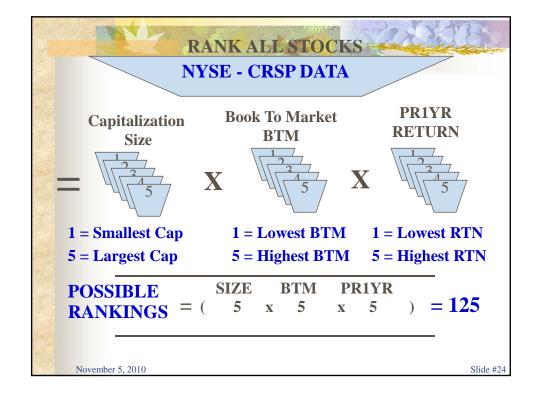
- Non-covariance based matching--matching based on characteristics, not based on factor loadings derived from regressions
- We form quintiles of CRSP stocks based on (1) size, (2) book-to-market, and (3) prior-year return
 - 125 value-weighted control portfolios (5x5x5)
- Each CRSP stock is matched with one of the 125 portfolios
 - The stock return, adjusted for stock characteristics, is computed as raw return minus value-weighted control portfolio return
- Performance measurement is easy: just subtract the matched portfolio return for month t from stock i's return during month t, then portfolio weight the difference

Analyzing Stock Drift

- Rank all NYSE stocks by Mkt. Cap. -Divide into 5 Quintiles
- Rank Quintiles = Book Value/Market Value (BTM)
 Subdivide into 5 more quintiles
- Rank the 25 fractiles by past year stock return Subdivide into 5 more quintile

A rank of:

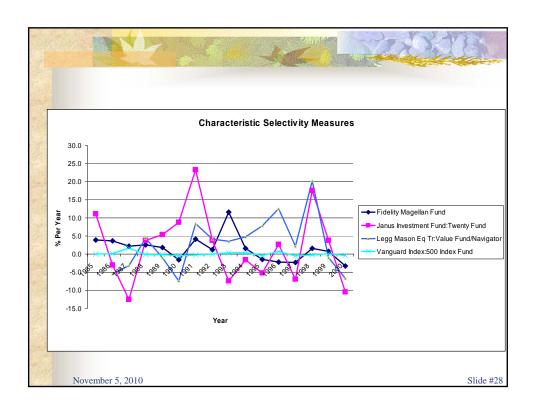
Size=5, BTM=5, PR1YR=5
Large Cap High BTM High Past Return



					easurement Is Easy
YEAR	SIZE	втм	RETURN	JAN	
2000	1	1	1	1.93%	(SMALL CAP) (LOWEST BTM) (LOWEST RT)
2000	1	2	1	9.17%	(5111122 6111) (26 11251 21111) (26 11251 1111
2000	1	3	1	5.99%	
2000	1	4	1	6.67%	
2000	1	5	1	9.91%	
2000	2	1	1	0.18%	
2000	2	2	1	-3.09%	
2000	2	3	1	0.88%	
2000	2	4	1	0.04%	
2000	2	5	1	-2.55%	
2000	3	1	1	-4.52%	
2000	3	2	1	-5.81%	
2000	3	3	1	-6.38%	
2000	3	4	1	-1.91%	
2000	3	5	1	-3.15%	
2000	4	1	1	-3.54%	
2000	4	2	1	1.24%	
2000	4	3	1	-6.16%	
2000	4	4	1	-6.70%	
2000	4	5	1	-8.48%	
2000	5	1	1	-5.80%	(LARGE CAP) (LOWEST BTM) (LOWEST R
2000	5	2	1	-4.07%	
2000	5	3	1	-2.40%	
2000	5	4	1	-5.60%	
2000	5	5	1	-5.54%	



		CS Measure (%/year)	
		(1985 to 2000)	
Magellan		1.5	
LM VT		2.9	
Janus 20		2.1	
Vanguard		0.0	
PIMCO	Bill Gross on Bloomberg	NA	



Style-Based Returns

"Average Style Measure" (AS)

$$AS_{t} = \sum_{j=1}^{N} W_{j,t-5} R_{t}^{b_{j,t-5}}$$

■ AS measures the tendency (ability?) of the fund manager to hold stocks with characteristics that paid off over long timeperiods

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Style-Timing Returns

"Characteristic Timing Measure" (CT)

$$CT_{t} = \sum_{j=1}^{N} (w_{j,t-1} R_{t}^{b_{j,t-1}} - w_{j,t-5} R_{t}^{b_{j,t-5}})$$

 CT measures the ability of the fund manager to hold stocks with characteristics at times when those characteristics really pay off

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$$CS_t + AS_t + CT_t = GrossReturn$$

- In practice, only approximately true, since AS, CS, and CT measures require stock to be listed in Compustat
- And, AS and CT require a 1-year fund history

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Transactions Costs

■ I apply the Keim & Madhavan (1997) total institutional trading costs, with Stoll (1995) yearly execution cost factors, to my holdings data:

$$C_{i,t}^{B} = Y_{t}^{k} \left[1.1 + .3D_{i,t}^{Nasd} + .09Trsize_{i,t} - .08Logmcap_{i,t} + 13.8 \left(\frac{1}{P_{i,t}} \right) \right]$$

$$C_{i,t}^{S} = Y_{t}^{k} \left[.98 + .06D_{i,t}^{Nasd} + .21Trsize_{i,t} - .06Logmcap_{i,t} + 6.5 \left(\frac{1}{P_{i,t}} \right) \right]$$

Expense Ratios, Net Returns, and Non-Stock Returns

- Expense ratios and net returns available directly from the merged database
 - Expense ratios include all fees and expenses except direct and indirect trading costs, load fees, and taxes
 - Provided as a percentage of TNA
- Non-stock returns must be inferred by what is unexplained between gross and net returns

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Measuring Performance at the Net Return Level

Measure 1: Carhart (1997) regression alpha

- Regress time-series of monthly mutual fund excess returns on portfolio returns accruing to four zeroinvestment factor-mimicking portfolios:
 - High book-to-market minus low book-to-market (HML)
 - Small size minus big size (SMB)
 - High prior-year return less low prior-year return (PR1YR)
 - CRSP value-weighted index less T-bills (RMRF)

Measuring Performance at the Net Return Level

Measure 2: Fama and French regression alpha

(Carhart measure, without the PR1YR factor)

- Regress time-series of monthly mutual fund excess returns on portfolio returns accruing to four zeroinvestment factor-mimicking portfolios:
 - High book-to-market minus low book-to-market (HML)
 - Small size minus big size (SMB)
 - CRSP value-weighted index less T-bills (RMRF)

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Measuring Performance at the Net Return Level

Measure 3: Ferson-Schadt (1996) conditional alpha

- Regressors are Carhart unconditional factors (RMRF, HML, SMB, PR1YR), plus:
 - RMRF times each of five lagged publicly available economic variables:
 - One-month T-bill yield
 - CRSP NYSE/AMEX dividend yield
 - Slope of the term structure
 - Quality spread in corporate bonds
 - January dummy

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The Databases Used in this Paper November 5, 2010 Slide #37

The CDA Mutual Fund Database End-of-quarter equity holdings of virtually all publicly traded equity mutual funds 1975-1994 Quarterly Investment objectives from 6/30/80 (supplemented by 12/31/74 data) No survivorship bias 1995-2000 data is in the works (a "holdout sample")!

The CRSP Mutual Fund Database Contains, for all mutual funds existing at any time between 1962 and 2000: monthly net returns annual portfolio turnover annual expense ratios No survivorship bias

The Database Merging Process Funds were matched through similarities in: Fund names Management company names Total assets under management Self-declared investment objectives Only 60 funds in CRSP could not be matched to CDA, all during the last four years of the sample period Missing 110 "fund-years" out of 10,000 fund-years No survivorship bias during 16 out of 20 years

Success of Database Merging (Wermers (2000))

- Limited to funds having an investment objective of AG, G, GI, I, or B:
 - All funds in CRSP are matched to a CDA fund from 1975-1990
 - Unmatched funds:
 - 11 out of 690 in 1991
 - 14 out of 829 in 1992
 - **3**1 out of 980 in 1993
 - 54 out of 1,333 in 1994
 - Total of 110 fund-years out of 10,000 fund-years

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Potential Sources of Bias in the Merged Database

- "Survival Bias"—likely very minimal, and will not impact TNA-averaged results significantly
- "Incubator Bias"—related to survival bias—only relevant if "crib deaths" occurring to funds <u>available to the public</u> did not make it into the databases—trivial impact on TNA results anyway
- "Inherited Performance Record Bias"—merging fund "inherits" performance record of better fund—no known impact, as the CRSP mutual fund database used net returns available each year, not backfilled numbers

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