A quantity-based approach to constructing climate risk hedge portfolios

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1. What are the research questions?

• How to build portfolios that hedge risks from climate change with a quantity-based approach?

2. Why are the research questions interesting?

- There has been rising demand for financial instruments that hedge these risks
 - Few instruments, like illiquid catastrophe bonds, directly hedge climate risks.
- Investors can hedge climate risks using stocks or bonds exposed to such risks.
 - Investors must identify climate risk winners and losers
 - Existing methods require long data series, limiting their use for emerging risks.
- The quantity-based approach uses investor trading data to select hedge portfolio stocks.

3. What is the paper's contribution?

- Literature that studies the interaction between climate change and asset markets
 - Prior: focus on how climate risk is priced
 - Ext: provide a quantity-based approach to forming hedge portfolios
- Literature on individuals' belief formation and action based on their personal experiences
 - Ext: Prove fund managers' consistent behavior under idiosyncratic and aggregate shocks.
- Literature using quantity and holdings data in asset pricing
 - Ext: prove quantity info is useful for predicting price movements in response to aggregate shocks

4. What hypotheses are tested in the paper? list them explicitly

- H1: The quantity-based portfolio will rise in price when aggregate climate risk materializes
- (a) Do these hypotheses follow from and answer the research questions?

Yes

(b) Do these hypotheses follow from theory or are they otherwise adequately developed?

- While idiosyncratic shocks only move quantities, the occurrence of aggregate climate shocks affect many investors.
- Investors adjust industry demands similarly under both shocks.
- Therefore, the hedge portfolio will rise in value when aggregate climate risks materialize.

5. Sample: comment on the appropriateness of the sample selection procedures

- Why only heat events?low-temperature events?
- The first shocks can lead to the second shocks.

6. Dependent and independent variables: the appropriateness of variable definition and measurement

• Many kinds of climate hedge targets

7. Regression/prediction model specification: the appropriateness of the regression/prediction model specification

- The portfolio performance evaluation methods are typical and appropriate.
- 8. What difficulties arise in drawing inferences from the empirical work
 - The empirical work is rigorous
- 9. Describe at least one publishable and feasible extension of this research
 - Using this approach for a specific type of risk event, we can determine its impact on industries.