

Judging Fund
Managers by
the Company
They Keep

Cohen, Coval,
and Pastor
(2005)

Judging Fund Managers by the Company They Keep

Cohen, Coval, and Pastor (2005)

February 22, 2019

Introduction

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Intuition

- Active Mutual Fund managers rely on many techniques to reach benchmarks
- Managers using similar techniques more likely to make similar decisions
- Then, managers who make similar investment decisions should deliver similar performance

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Signs

- Can tell if manager is skilled by comparing investment decisions with other skilled managers given private info
- Skilled managers make similar investment decisions because they interpret info well (if public)
- Similar managers should have similar portfolio compositions

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Intuition for novel measures

- This paper's metric of a manager's skill is a weighted average of traditional skill measures across all managers where weights are covariances between the manager's current portfolio weights and the current weights of the other managers
- Trade-based performance judges manager's skill by extent to which recent changes in his holding match those of managers with outstanding past performance.
 - weighted avg of traditional skill measures, but weights are covariance between concurrent changes in manager's portfolio weights and those of other managers
- Evaluate mutual fund performance by pooling information across funds - instead of single history for single manager

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Simulations

- Results come by way of simulations:
 - estimators produce higher rank correlations with true skill than standard estimators
 - estimators perform best with high number of managers, small history

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Fund Return Predictability

- Sort funds in deciles according to both alpha and novel measures
- Find fund returns have persistence after controlling for momentum
- Authors show that their measures contain significant information not found in alpha

New Performance Measures

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Two Measures

- 1 Measure Based on Levels of Holdings
- 2 Measure Based on Changes in Holdings

New Performance Measures

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Equation (1)

$$\bar{\delta}_n = \sum_{m=1}^M v_{m,n} \alpha_m$$

Equation (2)

$$v_{m,n} = \frac{w_{m,n}}{\sum_{m=1}^M w_{m,n}}$$

for:

- M managers and N stocks which is held by at least one manager.
- α_m denotes reference measure of skill for manager m - here Jensen's alpha
- $w_{m,n}$ is weight of stock n in manager m 's portfolio. Then, we call $\bar{\delta}_n$ the quality measure.

Measure Based on Levels of Holdings

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Intuition

Equation (1) and (2) say the quality of stock n is the average skill of all managers who hold stock n in their portfolios, weighted by how much stock they hold.

- Implies that skilled managers hold more high quality stocks

From this we get Equation (3), the population performance measure:

$$\delta_m^* = \sum_{n=1}^N w_{m,n} \bar{\delta}_n$$

which measures manager's performance as the average quality of all stocks in manager's portfolio, where each stock contributes to its portfolio weight.

Measure Based on Levels of Holdings

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To construct our estimator of managerial skill, we replace α_m in equation (1) with $\hat{\alpha}_m$, the usual OLS estimator of alpha:

$$\hat{\delta}_m^* = \sum_{n=1}^N w_{m,n} \bar{\bar{\delta}}_n, \quad (4)$$

where

$$\bar{\bar{\delta}}_n = \sum_{m=1}^M v_{m,n} \hat{\alpha}_m. \quad (5)$$

Measure Based on Levels of Holdings

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- Some derivations via matrix algebra show that a manager's skill is a weighed average of the usual skill measures across all managers. The weight assigned to the performance of a manager is simply a loose measure of covariance between the weights of one manager with another.

$$\hat{\delta}^* = \mathbf{Z}\hat{\alpha}$$

- Additionally, $\bar{\hat{\delta}}_m^* = \bar{\hat{\alpha}}_m$
 - That is, skill measure here has same info as usual measure about performance of mutual fund industry as a whole
 - There will be gains to the skill measure, however.
- If $\hat{\alpha}_m$'s are not perfectly correlated, $\hat{\delta}_m^*$ has a lower standard error.

Measure Based on Changes in Holdings

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Intuition

- Last measure inferred managers make similar decisions if they have similar holdings
- Now, assume managers make similar decisions if their trades are similar

Measure Based on Changes in Holdings

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Return on portfolio of manager m at time t can be written as:

$$R_{m,t} = \sum_{n=1}^N w_{m,n} r_{n,t}$$

where $r_{n,t}$ denotes the return on stock n . Change in weights is:

$$d_{m,n} = w_{m,n,t} - w_{m,n,t-1} \frac{1 + r_{n,t}}{1 + R_{m,t}}$$

which is the difference between the current weight and the weight obtained if the manager neither bought nor sold any of this stock over the past period (one quarter).

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- $\mathcal{N}_m^+ = \{n : d_{m,n} > 0\}$ - stocks purchased by manager m between $t - 1$ and t
- $\mathcal{N}_m^- = \{n : d_{m,n} < 0\}$ - stocks sold by manager m between $t - 1$ and t
- $\mathcal{M}_n^+ = \{m : d_{m,n} > 0\}$ - set of managers who made net purchases of stock n between $t - 1$ and t
- $\mathcal{M}_n^- = \{m : d_{m,n} < 0\}$ - set of managers who made net sales of stock n between $t - 1$ and t

Measure Based on Changes in Holdings

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$$x_{m,n}^+ = \frac{d_{m,n}}{\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_m^+} d_{m,n}}, \quad x_{m,n}^- = \frac{d_{m,n}}{\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_m^-} d_{m,n}}, \quad (17)$$

$$y_{m,n}^+ = \frac{d_{m,n}}{\sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_n^+} d_{m,n}}, \quad y_{m,n}^- = \frac{d_{m,n}}{\sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_n^-} d_{m,n}}, \quad (18)$$

where $d_{m,n}$ is the difference between the current weight and the weight obtained if the manager neither bought nor sold any of this stock over the past period (one quarter).

- Then, $x_{m,n}^+$ ($x_{m,n}^-$) captures the fraction of manager m 's purchases (sales) accounted for by stock n
- And, $y_{m,n}^+$ ($y_{m,n}^-$) captures the fraction of purchases (sales) of stock n accounted for by manager m

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For each stock n , we define its quality measure $\bar{\delta}_n$ as

$$\bar{\delta}_n = \bar{\delta}_n^+ - \bar{\delta}_n^-, \quad (19)$$

where

$$\bar{\delta}_n^+ = \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_n^+} y_{m,n}^+ \hat{\alpha}_m, \quad (20)$$

$$\bar{\delta}_n^- = \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_n^-} y_{m,n}^- \hat{\alpha}_m, \quad (21)$$

The quality of stock n is the difference between the average skill of all managers who bought stock n recently and average skill of all managers who sold stock n recently, where the averages are weighted by how much was bought and sold

Measure Based on Changes in Holdings

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Trade Based Skill Measure:

$$\hat{\delta}_m^{**} = \hat{\delta}_m^{+} - \hat{\delta}_m^{-}, \quad (22)$$

where

$$\hat{\delta}_m^{+} = \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_m^{+}} x_{m,n}^{+} \bar{\delta}_n \quad (23)$$

$$\hat{\delta}_m^{-} = \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_m^{-}} x_{m,n}^{-} \bar{\delta}_n. \quad (24)$$

- Difference between average quality of stocks recently bought by manager m and the average quality of stocks recently sold by this manager
- Combines two aspects of stock picking skills
- Example: Stocks of high quality are those that were recently bought mostly by high-skill managers and sold by low-skill managers

New Performance Measures

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Note: There is a matrix representation too after some linear algebra allowing for \mathbf{C} to be a matrix containing the $x_{m,n}^+$, $x_{m,n}^-$, $y_{m,n}^+$, $y_{m,n}^-$:

$$\hat{\delta}^{**} = \mathbf{C}\hat{\alpha}$$

$$\text{Cov}(\hat{\delta}^{**}, \hat{\delta}^{**\top}) = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{\Omega}\mathbf{C}^\top$$

New Performance Measures

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Some Considerations

- Not necessarily an optimized measure - would be challenging
- May look like “herding” but literature does not factor in trades
- Not just window-dressing since managers not only judged by portfolio, but also its relation to others

Simulations

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Design

Let M managers receive signals about expected excess returns of N stocks:

$$r_{n,t} = \mu_{n,t} + e_{n,t}, n = 1, \dots, N; t = 1, \dots, T$$

where $\mu_{n,t}$ is the stock's expected excess return and $e_{n,t}$ is an error term. Each are drawn from a normal distribution centered on zero with distinct variances.

- In every period t , each manager m receives a signal $s_{m,n,t}$ about each stock n . With probability γ_m this signal is equal to the stock's true expected excess return, error otherwise:

$$s_{m,n,t} = \begin{cases} \mu_{n,t} & \text{with probability } \gamma_m \\ u_{n,t} & \text{with probability } 1 - \gamma_m, \end{cases} \quad (31)$$

Simulations

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Design

Managers know their skill and error volatility. They have no information about expected excess return other than the signal. Then, goal will be to estimate:

- 1 Traditional Estimator of α and $\hat{\alpha}$ - Jensen's alpha
- 2 Performance measure based on level of holdings $\hat{\delta}_m^*$
- 3 Performance measure based on change in holdings $\hat{\delta}_m^{**}$
- 4 Bayesian estimator $\hat{\alpha}_m^B$
- 5 Population values δ_m^* and δ_m^{**}

Simulations

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Process

- Conduct 10,000 simulations for each set of parameter values
- Set managers M equal to 30, 100, and 300
- Set number of stocks N equal to 30, 100
- Set number of time periods T to 1, 5, 10, 20, and 30
- Let $\sigma_\mu = 0.1$ and $\sigma_e = 0.5$
- Calculate measures for each manager (on previous slide)
- Rank managers according to these measures to uncover correlation with true skill γ

Simulations - Results

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Table 1

| Rank Correlations with True Skill (γ) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|------------------|---------------------|----------|------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------|----------|------------|---------------|
| M | $N = 30$ | | | | | | $N = 100$ | | | | | |
| | $\hat{\alpha}$ | $\hat{\delta}^+$ | $\hat{\delta}^{**}$ | α | δ^+ | δ^{**} | $\hat{\alpha}$ | $\hat{\delta}^+$ | $\hat{\delta}^{**}$ | α | δ^+ | δ^{**} |
| $T = 1$ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 0.26 | 0.34 | 0.35 | 0.80 | 0.80 | 0.82 | 0.46 | 0.64 | 0.65 | 0.92 | 0.92 | 0.93 |
| 100 | 0.27 | 0.40 | 0.42 | 0.81 | 0.82 | 0.85 | 0.47 | 0.76 | 0.77 | 0.93 | 0.94 | 0.94 |
| 300 | 0.27 | 0.44 | 0.45 | 0.82 | 0.83 | 0.85 | 0.47 | 0.80 | 0.81 | 0.93 | 0.94 | 0.95 |
| $T = 5$ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 0.53 | 0.64 | 0.63 | 0.94 | 0.86 | 0.87 | 0.77 | 0.89 | 0.90 | 0.98 | 0.94 | 0.95 |
| 100 | 0.54 | 0.72 | 0.74 | 0.95 | 0.85 | 0.88 | 0.78 | 0.93 | 0.95 | 0.98 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| 300 | 0.54 | 0.76 | 0.78 | 0.95 | 0.84 | 0.88 | 0.79 | 0.94 | 0.96 | 0.98 | 0.94 | 0.96 |
| $T = 10$ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 0.66 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.96 | 0.86 | 0.88 | 0.86 | 0.93 | 0.93 | 0.99 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| 100 | 0.68 | 0.81 | 0.83 | 0.97 | 0.85 | 0.89 | 0.88 | 0.94 | 0.96 | 0.99 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| 300 | 0.68 | 0.82 | 0.86 | 0.97 | 0.85 | 0.88 | 0.88 | 0.94 | 0.96 | 0.99 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| $T = 20$ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 0.79 | 0.82 | 0.83 | 0.98 | 0.87 | 0.89 | 0.92 | 0.94 | 0.95 | 0.99 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| 100 | 0.80 | 0.84 | 0.87 | 0.98 | 0.85 | 0.89 | 0.93 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 0.99 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| 300 | 0.80 | 0.84 | 0.88 | 0.99 | 0.85 | 0.89 | 0.93 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 1.00 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| $T = 30$ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 0.84 | 0.84 | 0.85 | 0.98 | 0.87 | 0.89 | 0.94 | 0.94 | 0.95 | 0.99 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| 100 | 0.86 | 0.84 | 0.88 | 0.99 | 0.85 | 0.89 | 0.95 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 1.00 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| 300 | 0.86 | 0.84 | 0.88 | 0.99 | 0.85 | 0.89 | 0.96 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 1.00 | 0.95 | 0.96 |

Simulations - Results

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- Generally, new measures have higher rank-order correlations
- Population means outperform α .
- New measures do well in short return histories
- Also, new measures have higher correlation with population α (next table)
- Mean-Squared Error is low for new measures in short horizon

Simulations - Results

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Table II

| Panel A: Rank Correlations with Traditional Skill (α) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------|---------------|
| M | $N = 30$ | | | | | | $N = 100$ | | | | | |
| | $\hat{\alpha}$ | $\hat{\alpha}^B$ | $\hat{\delta}^*$ | $\hat{\delta}^{**}$ | δ^* | δ^{**} | $\hat{\alpha}$ | $\hat{\alpha}^B$ | $\hat{\delta}^*$ | $\hat{\delta}^{**}$ | δ^* | δ^{**} |
| $T = 1$ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 0.32 | 0.32 | 0.41 | 0.40 | 0.96 | 0.95 | 0.49 | 0.49 | 0.67 | 0.68 | 0.98 | 0.98 |
| 100 | 0.33 | 0.33 | 0.48 | 0.47 | 0.98 | 0.97 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.80 | 0.80 | 0.99 | 0.98 |
| 300 | 0.33 | 0.33 | 0.52 | 0.51 | 0.99 | 0.97 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.84 | 0.84 | 0.99 | 0.99 |
| $T = 5$ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 0.55 | 0.55 | 0.66 | 0.65 | 0.89 | 0.91 | 0.78 | 0.78 | 0.90 | 0.91 | 0.96 | 0.96 |
| 100 | 0.56 | 0.56 | 0.75 | 0.76 | 0.88 | 0.91 | 0.79 | 0.79 | 0.94 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 0.97 |
| 300 | 0.57 | 0.57 | 0.78 | 0.80 | 0.87 | 0.91 | 0.80 | 0.80 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 0.95 | 0.97 |
| $T = 10$ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 0.68 | 0.68 | 0.77 | 0.77 | 0.88 | 0.90 | 0.87 | 0.87 | 0.93 | 0.94 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| 100 | 0.69 | 0.69 | 0.82 | 0.84 | 0.87 | 0.90 | 0.88 | 0.88 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| 300 | 0.70 | 0.70 | 0.83 | 0.87 | 0.86 | 0.90 | 0.89 | 0.89 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| $T = 30$ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 0.85 | 0.85 | 0.85 | 0.86 | 0.88 | 0.90 | 0.95 | 0.95 | 0.95 | 0.95 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| 100 | 0.86 | 0.86 | 0.85 | 0.88 | 0.86 | 0.89 | 0.95 | 0.95 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| 300 | 0.87 | 0.87 | 0.85 | 0.89 | 0.85 | 0.89 | 0.96 | 0.96 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 0.95 | 0.96 |

Simulations - Results

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Table II

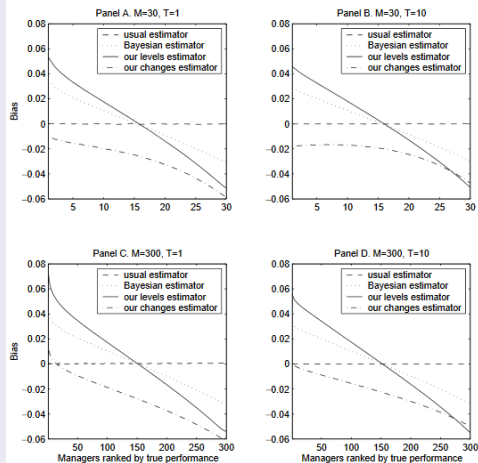
| Panel B: Mean Squared Errors | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------|---------------|
| <i>M</i> | <i>N</i> = 30 | | | | | | <i>N</i> = 100 | | | | | |
| | $\hat{\alpha}$ | $\hat{\alpha}^B$ | $\hat{\delta}^*$ | $\hat{\delta}^{**}$ | δ^* | δ^{**} | $\hat{\alpha}$ | $\hat{\alpha}^B$ | $\hat{\delta}^*$ | $\hat{\delta}^{**}$ | δ^* | δ^{**} |
| <i>T</i> = 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 2.65 | 1.71 | 1.48 | 0.75 | 0.11 | 0.11 | 0.78 | 0.53 | 0.49 | 0.23 | 0.09 | 0.12 |
| 100 | 2.61 | 1.65 | 1.40 | 0.52 | 0.12 | 0.10 | 0.78 | 0.52 | 0.49 | 0.19 | 0.10 | 0.13 |
| 300 | 2.62 | 1.65 | 1.40 | 0.47 | 0.12 | 0.10 | 0.78 | 0.52 | 0.49 | 0.19 | 0.10 | 0.13 |
| <i>T</i> = 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 0.53 | 0.36 | 0.36 | 0.23 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.16 | 0.13 | 0.17 | 0.11 | 0.08 | 0.08 |
| 100 | 0.53 | 0.36 | 0.35 | 0.17 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.16 | 0.13 | 0.17 | 0.10 | 0.09 | 0.08 |
| 300 | 0.52 | 0.35 | 0.35 | 0.15 | 0.10 | 0.09 | 0.16 | 0.13 | 0.17 | 0.10 | 0.10 | 0.08 |
| <i>T</i> = 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 0.26 | 0.20 | 0.22 | 0.16 | 0.08 | 0.10 | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.12 | 0.10 | 0.08 | 0.08 |
| 100 | 0.26 | 0.19 | 0.22 | 0.13 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.13 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.08 |
| 300 | 0.26 | 0.19 | 0.22 | 0.12 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.13 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.08 |
| <i>T</i> = 30 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.13 | 0.12 | 0.08 | 0.10 | 0.03 | 0.05 | 0.10 | 0.09 | 0.08 | 0.08 |
| 100 | 0.09 | 0.08 | 0.13 | 0.10 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.03 | 0.05 | 0.10 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.09 |
| 300 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.13 | 0.10 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.03 | 0.05 | 0.11 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.09 |

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Figure 1



Empirical Analysis

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Data

- CRSP mutual fund data (returns net of fees)
- Add fees back in with annual expense ratio
- Spectrum Data from Thomson Financial on WRDS
 - Allows for access to holding reports
 - merge with CRSP via *hand matching*
- Quarterly Data
- April 1982 - September 2002

Empirical Analysis

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Steps

- 1 Compute traditional alpha $\hat{\alpha}$
- 2 Using $\hat{\alpha}$ as reference, compute $\hat{\delta}^*$ and $\hat{\delta}^{**}$
- 3 Compute nine versions of each measure - with three benchmark models and three lookback periods.
- 4 Sort funds into decile portfolios at the beginning of each quarter, equal weighting.

Empirical Analysis Results

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- All three measures capable of predicting future returns
- Persistence in performance weakens when momentum benchmark is included
- Most predictive power achieved with $\hat{\delta}^*$

Empirical Analysis

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Table 3

| | Decile | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 10-1 |
| Panel A: Sorting Funds by Past 12 Months of Performance | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fama–French Alphas | | | | | | | | | | |
| $\hat{\alpha}$ | −1.62 (−1.62) | −0.39 (−0.57) | 0.00 (0.00) | 0.15 (0.30) | 0.43 (0.87) | 0.75 (1.44) | 0.94 (1.84) | 1.19 (2.13) | 1.62 (2.31) | 3.57 (3.57) | 5.19 (3.67) |
| $\hat{\delta}^+$ | −1.87 (−1.30) | −0.91 (−0.87) | −0.75 (−1.03) | −0.24 (−0.42) | −0.01 (−0.02) | −0.01 (−0.01) | 0.18 (0.33) | 2.00 (2.81) | 2.72 (2.86) | 5.48 (4.11) | 7.36 (3.23) |
| $\hat{\delta}^{++}$ | −1.13 (−1.23) | −0.27 (−0.45) | −0.12 (−0.21) | 0.37 (0.67) | 0.53 (1.08) | 0.07 (0.17) | 0.97 (1.77) | 0.75 (1.34) | 1.51 (2.23) | 3.32 (3.63) | 4.45 (4.53) |
| | Four-Factor Alphas | | | | | | | | | | |
| $\hat{\alpha}$ | −1.21 (−1.20) | −0.63 (−0.80) | 0.19 (0.31) | 1.13 (2.13) | 0.89 (1.81) | 0.29 (0.54) | 0.65 (1.29) | 1.05 (1.68) | 1.81 (2.63) | 2.48 (2.60) | 3.69 (2.64) |
| $\hat{\delta}^+$ | −1.58 (−1.14) | −0.89 (−0.81) | −0.29 (−0.38) | −0.11 (−0.17) | 0.51 (0.91) | 0.72 (1.32) | 0.67 (1.25) | 1.97 (2.56) | 1.33 (1.37) | 4.30 (3.46) | 5.88 (2.73) |
| $\hat{\delta}^{++}$ | −0.60 (−0.62) | −0.20 (−0.31) | 0.30 (0.47) | 0.38 (0.81) | 0.54 (1.10) | 0.76 (1.56) | 0.18 (0.32) | 0.86 (1.55) | 1.15 (1.66) | 2.92 (3.11) | 3.52 (3.25) |

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New info not contained in α ?

- Perform conditional sorts into quintiles based on $\hat{\alpha}$ and then $\hat{\delta}^*$.
- Look chiefly at average of portfolios that buy funds with high $\hat{\delta}^*$ and shorts low $\hat{\delta}^*$ within a given $\hat{\alpha}$ quintile
- Appears that there is info contained in $\hat{\delta}^*$ not in $\hat{\alpha}$.

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Table IV

| Panel A: Sorting Funds by $\hat{\alpha}$ and Then by $\hat{\delta}^*$ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|------------------------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|
| Quintile of $\hat{\delta}^*$ | Quintile of $\hat{\alpha}$ | | | | | | Quintile of $\hat{\alpha}$ | | | | | |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Avg. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Avg. |
| | Fama-French Alphas | | | | | | Four-Factor Alphas | | | | | |
| 1 | -2.89 | -0.58 | -0.12 | 0.12 | -0.18 | -0.73 | -1.55 | -0.95 | 0.05 | -0.76 | 0.40 | -0.56 |
| 2 | -1.61 | -1.79 | -0.53 | 0.46 | 0.54 | -0.59 | -1.28 | -0.23 | -1.08 | -0.01 | 1.18 | -0.28 |
| 3 | -1.73 | 0.21 | 0.14 | -0.55 | 2.18 | 0.05 | -2.05 | 1.21 | 0.58 | 0.81 | 1.28 | 0.37 |
| 4 | -1.05 | 0.22 | 0.61 | 0.77 | 3.77 | 0.86 | -0.85 | 1.20 | 0.95 | 1.81 | 2.29 | 1.08 |
| 5 | 2.34 | 2.40 | 2.60 | 4.65 | 6.58 | 3.71 | 1.22 | 2.27 | 1.91 | 2.78 | 5.41 | 2.72 |
| 5-1 | 5.22 | 2.98 | 2.72 | 4.53 | 6.76 | 4.44 | 2.77 | 3.22 | 1.86 | 3.54 | 5.01 | 3.28 |
| t-stat | (2.68) | (1.66) | (1.74) | (2.58) | (3.38) | (2.77) | (1.57) | (1.66) | (1.09) | (2.00) | (2.66) | (2.06) |
| Panel B: Sorting Funds by $\hat{\delta}^*$ and Then by $\hat{\alpha}$ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Quintile of $\hat{\alpha}$ | Quintile of $\hat{\delta}^*$ | | | | | | Quintile of $\hat{\delta}^*$ | | | | | |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Avg. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Avg. |
| | Fama-French Alphas | | | | | | Four-Factor Alphas | | | | | |
| 1 | -2.24 | -0.05 | 0.24 | 2.00 | 3.83 | 0.76 | -1.37 | -0.90 | 1.42 | 1.01 | 2.36 | 0.51 |
| 2 | -2.51 | -0.21 | 0.21 | 1.52 | 3.64 | 0.53 | -1.94 | 0.08 | 1.05 | 1.47 | 2.16 | 0.56 |
| 3 | -0.87 | -1.26 | 0.44 | 0.80 | 3.66 | 0.56 | -1.19 | 0.67 | 0.70 | 1.63 | 2.96 | 0.95 |
| 4 | -0.94 | -0.82 | -0.35 | 0.08 | 3.22 | 0.24 | -1.12 | -0.01 | -0.08 | 1.37 | 2.83 | 0.60 |
| 5 | -0.41 | -0.08 | -0.36 | 0.95 | 6.28 | 1.28 | -0.54 | -0.93 | 0.06 | 1.09 | 3.87 | 0.71 |
| 5-1 | 1.84 | -0.04 | -0.60 | -1.04 | 2.45 | 0.52 | 0.83 | -0.04 | -1.36 | 0.08 | 1.51 | 0.20 |
| t-stat | (1.49) | (-0.04) | (-0.67) | (-1.07) | (2.61) | (0.82) | (0.68) | (-0.05) | (-1.53) | (0.08) | (1.51) | (0.33) |

Empirical Analysis

Judging Fund
Managers by
the Company
They Keep

Cohen, Coval,
and Pastor
(2005)

Useful to Investors?

- Examine “feasible” portfolio strategies.
- Holdings info available to investors comes with a lag
- Form measures on lagged data, using t to predict returns in $t + 4$ through $t + 6$
 - Normally $t + 1$ through $t + 3$
- Do double sorts again
- Measures are still helpful, even with lag

Empirical Analysis

Judging Fund Managers by the Company They Keep

Cohen, Coval, and Pastor (2005)

Table IX

| Panel A: Sorting Funds by $\hat{\alpha}$ and Then by $\hat{\delta}^*$ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|----------------------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|
| Quintile of $\hat{\delta}^*$ | Quintile of $\hat{\alpha}$ | | | | | | Quintile of $\hat{\alpha}$ | | | | | |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Avg. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Avg. |
| | Fama-French Alphas | | | | | | Four-Factor Alphas | | | | | |
| 1 | -3.61 | -1.03 | -1.16 | 0.21 | 0.73 | -0.97 | -3.03 | -0.67 | -0.20 | -0.67 | -0.21 | -0.95 |
| 2 | -0.85 | -0.64 | -0.07 | 0.82 | 1.01 | 0.06 | -1.08 | 0.22 | -0.29 | 0.30 | 0.83 | 0.00 |
| 3 | -0.33 | 0.60 | 0.34 | -0.03 | 2.42 | 0.60 | 0.15 | 0.62 | 0.28 | 0.44 | 1.83 | 0.66 |
| 4 | -0.59 | 0.19 | -0.30 | 0.62 | 3.37 | 0.66 | -0.12 | 1.29 | 0.86 | 0.01 | 1.41 | 0.69 |
| 5 | 1.18 | 0.71 | 1.43 | 1.47 | 5.60 | 2.08 | 0.49 | 0.45 | 1.74 | 1.56 | 5.05 | 1.86 |
| 5-1 | 4.79 | 1.74 | 2.59 | 1.27 | 4.87 | 3.05 | 3.51 | 1.11 | 1.94 | 2.23 | 5.26 | 2.81 |
| t-stat | (3.07) | (1.35) | (2.11) | (0.98) | (2.76) | (2.56) | (2.09) | (0.79) | (1.48) | (1.68) | (3.20) | (2.20) |
| Panel B: Sorting Funds by $\hat{\alpha}$ and Then by $\hat{\delta}^{**}$ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Quintile of $\hat{\delta}^{**}$ | Quintile of $\hat{\alpha}$ | | | | | | Quintile of $\hat{\alpha}$ | | | | | |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Avg. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Avg. |
| | Fama-French Alphas | | | | | | Four-Factor Alphas | | | | | |
| 1 | -1.43 | -0.38 | -0.82 | 0.89 | 1.55 | -0.04 | -1.82 | 0.04 | 0.21 | -0.06 | 1.40 | -0.05 |
| 2 | -0.47 | 1.12 | 0.08 | 0.42 | 0.97 | 0.43 | -0.55 | 0.76 | 0.31 | -0.45 | 1.03 | 0.22 |
| 3 | -0.59 | -0.40 | 0.88 | 1.36 | 3.40 | 0.93 | 0.39 | 0.34 | 0.58 | 0.56 | 1.79 | 0.73 |
| 4 | -0.09 | 0.15 | 0.75 | 0.76 | 2.31 | 0.78 | 0.83 | 1.51 | 0.30 | 1.57 | 0.59 | 0.96 |
| 5 | 0.06 | -0.23 | -0.73 | -0.62 | 3.51 | 0.40 | -1.05 | 0.61 | 0.33 | -0.71 | 3.68 | 0.57 |
| 5-1 | 1.49 | 0.15 | 0.08 | -1.51 | 1.95 | 0.43 | 0.78 | 0.57 | 0.12 | -0.65 | 2.28 | 0.62 |
| t-stat | (1.31) | (0.19) | (0.09) | (-2.06) | (1.62) | (0.82) | (0.70) | (0.61) | (0.14) | (-0.80) | (2.11) | (1.17) |