Market Convexity and the Failure of Risk Control: What Happened to China's Quant Hedge Funds

观澜·事前风控的失效: 中性化真能中性化吗 The Failure of Ex Ante Risk Control: Can Neutralisation Really Neutralised Risk Exposure?

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What Happened to China's Quant Hedge Funds

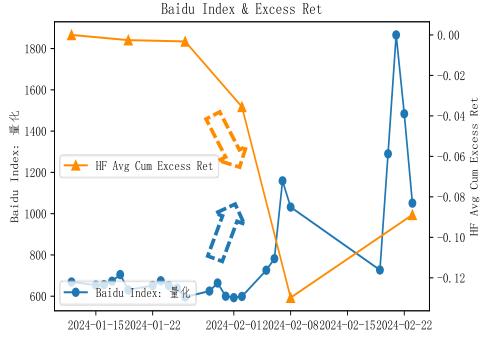
- Rumours flying and searches skyrocketing
- Misaligned search trend of "Quantitative" (量化) with the "A Share" (a股)



What Happened to China's Quant Hedge Funds

Some representative hedge funds and their excess returns

- Selection based on AUM and reputations
- Average cumulative excess return of CSI 500 Enhanced Fund
- CSI 500 Enhanced Fund is the most popular product among hedge funds



Data Sources: Baidu Index & PRIVATE ARRANGEMENT NET (私募排排网)

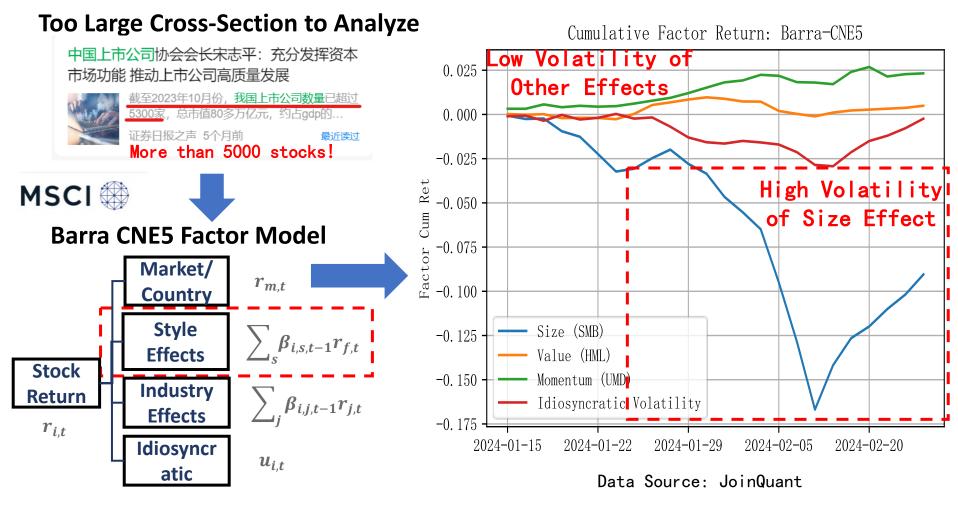
Representative Hedge Funds

代表性量化私募综合规模和关注度等因素选择, 详细清单(拼音顺序)为:白鹭、诚奇、黑翼、 幻方、九坤、聚宽、量锐、灵均、茂源、明汯[°]、鸣石、念空、启林、前沿、锐天、思勰、天 演、稳博、信弘、衍复、因诺和卓识。仅考虑这 些代表性样本私募的中证500指数增强产品。



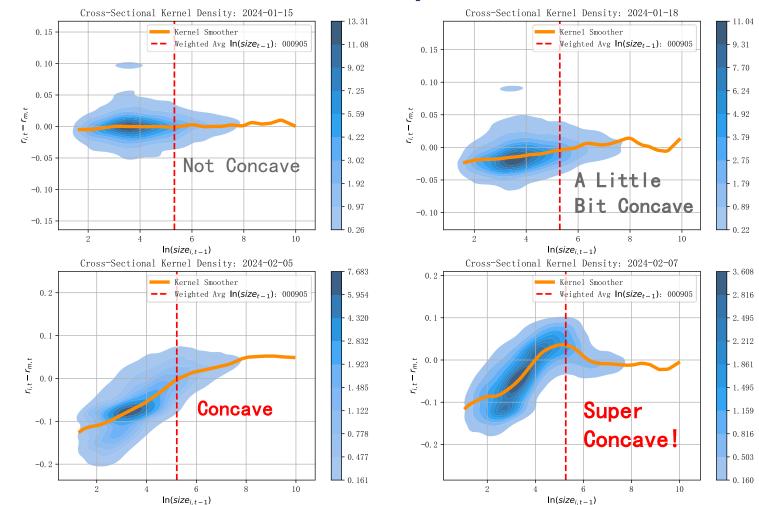
What's Happening in the Market

■ A Factor Return Perspective



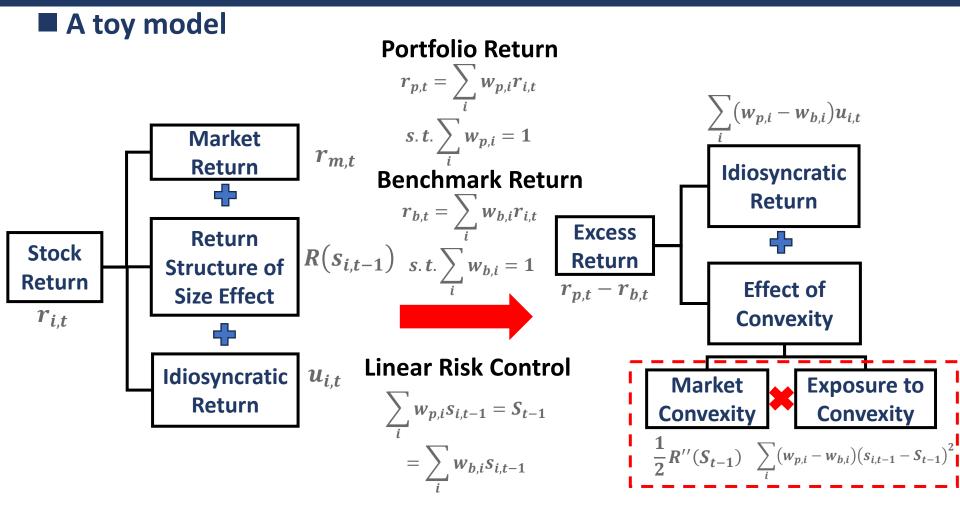
What's Happening in the Market

Evolutions in market convexity



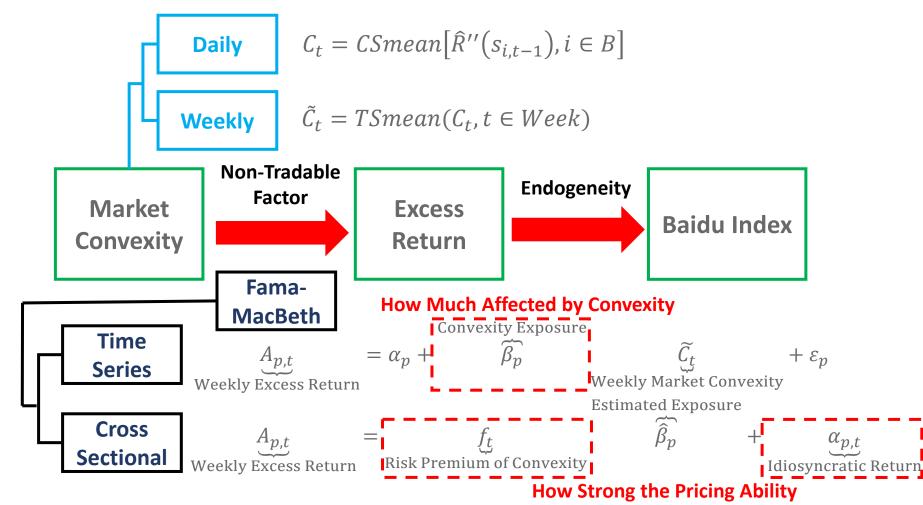
Data Source: JoinQuant

Effect of Market Convexity on Hedge Funds: Model



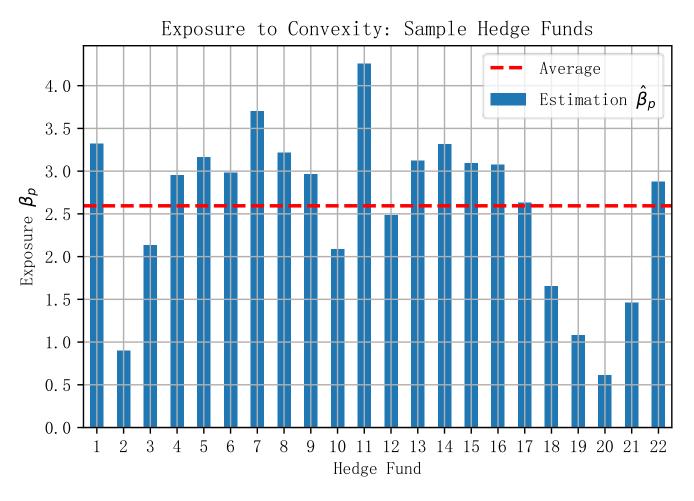
Effect of Market Convexity on Hedge Funds: Identification

■ Identification framework



Effect of Market Convexity on Hedge Funds: Results

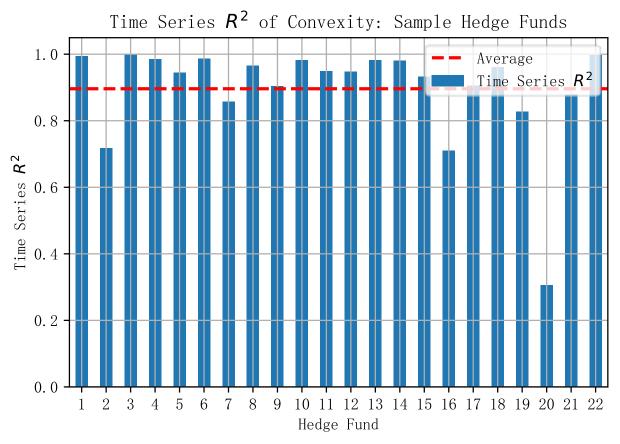
Almost all of these hedge funds have large exposure to convexity



Effect of Market Convexity on Hedge Funds: Results

Explaining the time-series variance very well

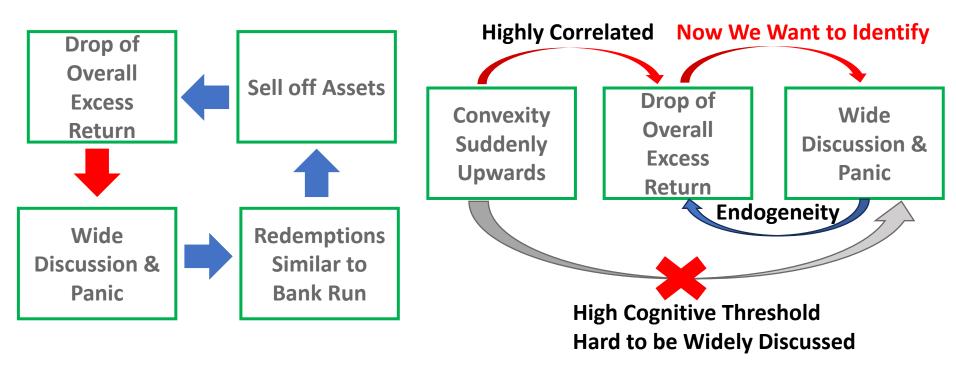
• Use results of the second step to calculate time-series $R_p^2 = 1 - \frac{\mathbb{E}_t \widehat{\alpha}_{p,t}^2}{Var_t(A_{p,t})}$



Effect of Convexity from a Perspective of Communication

- How much does excess return brought by convexity affect the **Baidu Index**
 - How to identify? Directly regress?

Convexity as an instrument variable Endogeneity

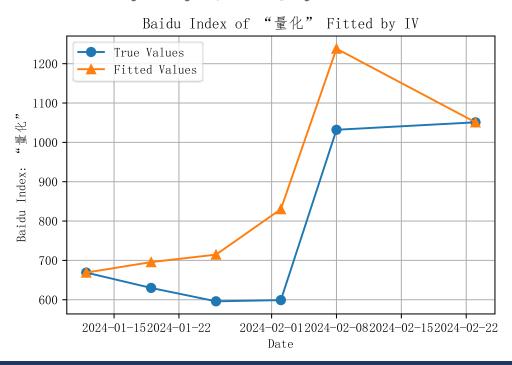


Effect of Convexity from a Perspective of Communication

■ Time-Series Regression

$$\underline{\Delta \ln I_t} = \alpha + \beta \qquad \underline{\hat{A}_t} + \varepsilon_t$$
Weekly Log Changes Weekly Overall Excess Return

- $\hat{ar{A}}_t$ is cross-sectional mean of $\hat{A}_{p,t}$ in the cross-sectional regression
- Transform $\widehat{\Delta \ln I_t}$ to $\widehat{I_t}$ by using I_t of 2024-01-12



Reference

- Orr, D. J., I. Mashtaler, and A. Nagy (2012). The Barra China Equity Model (CNE5) Empirical Notes. MSCI. https://www.msci.com/www/research-report/the-barra-china-equity-model/014459336
- The Failure of Ex Ante Risk Control: Can Neutralisation Really Neutralised Risk Exposure?
 https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/wCoS_PsybBNcKBbGPn-GaA

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Appendix

■ Calculation of Convexity

- Sort CSI 500 Index Constituents List B by MV $s_{i,t-1}$ in ascending order
- Calculate the first-order derivative $D_{i,t}$, where \hat{R} is the Return Structure of MV estimated by the kernel function smoothing

$$D_{i,t} = \frac{\hat{R}(s_{i+1,t-1}) - \hat{R}(s_{i-1,t-1})}{s_{i+1,t-1} - s_{i-1,t-1}}$$

• Calculate the second-order derivative $\mathcal{C}_{i,t}$

$$C_{i,t} = \frac{D(s_{i+1,t-1}) - D(s_{i-1,t-1})}{s_{i+1,t-1} - s_{i-1,t-1}}$$

• The equal-weighted mean of $R''(s_{i,t-1})$ in a certain region is regarded as the convexity of the return structure in this region

$$C_t = \frac{1}{|B| - 4} \sum_{i \in B} C_{i,t}$$