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

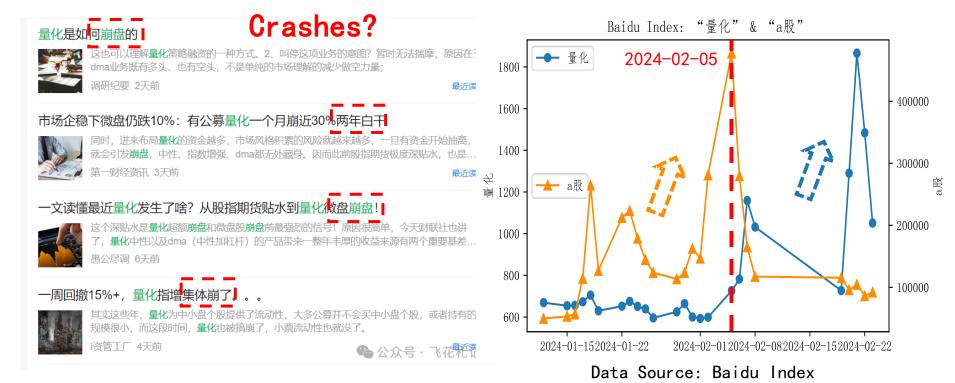
观澜·事前风控的失效: 中性化真能中性化吗 The Failure of Ex Ante Risk Control: Can Neutralisation Really Neutralised Risk Exposure?

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## What Happened to China's Quant Hedge Funds

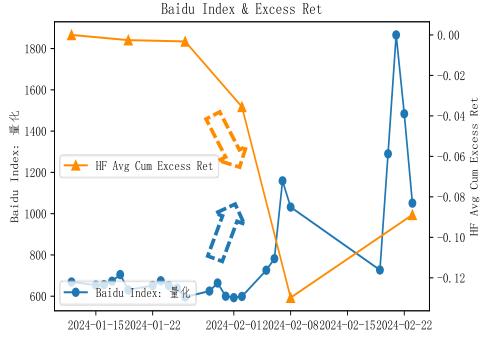
- Rumours flying and searches skyrocketing
- Misaligned search trend of "Quantitative" (量化) with the "A Share" (a股)



## 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)

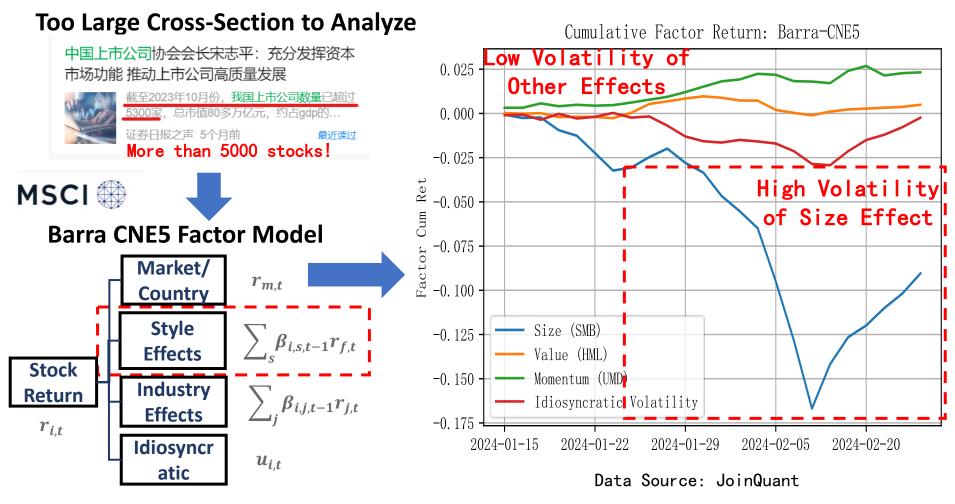
Representative Hedge Funds

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<sup>°</sup>、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。



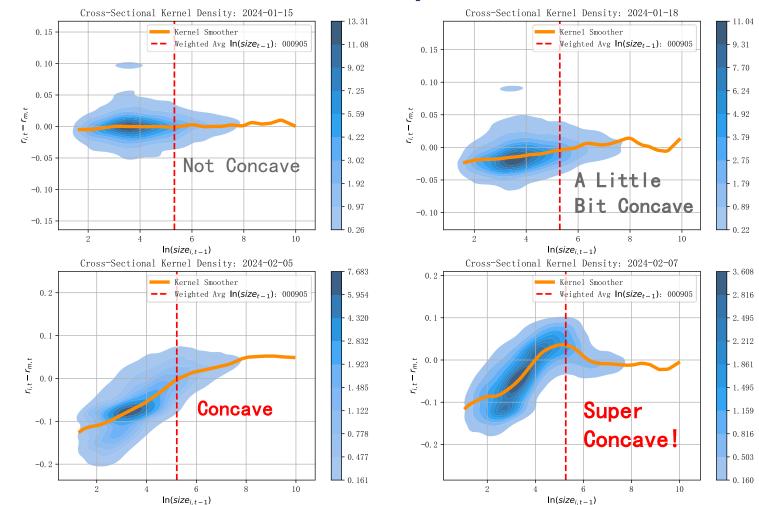
## What's Happening in the Market

#### ■ A Factor Return Perspective



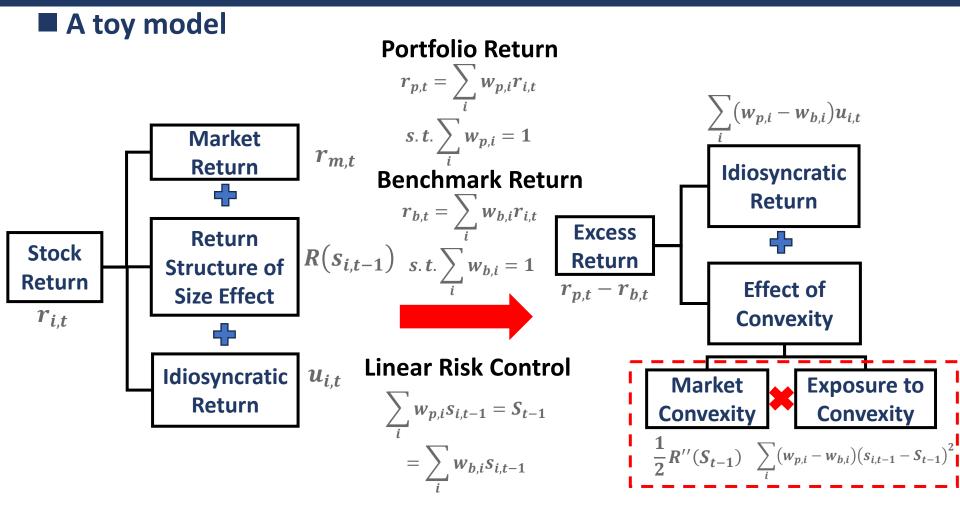
## What's Happening in the Market

#### Evolutions in market convexity



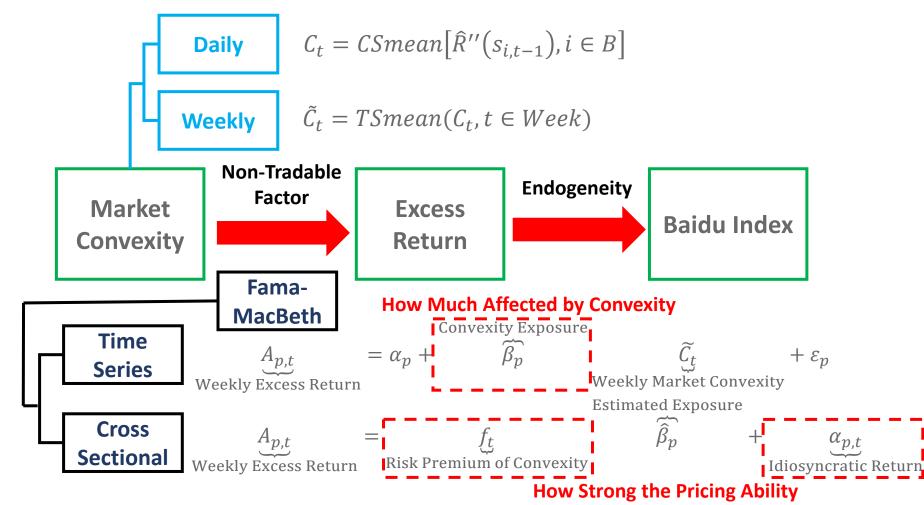
Data Source: JoinQuant

# **Effect of Market Convexity on Hedge Funds: Model**



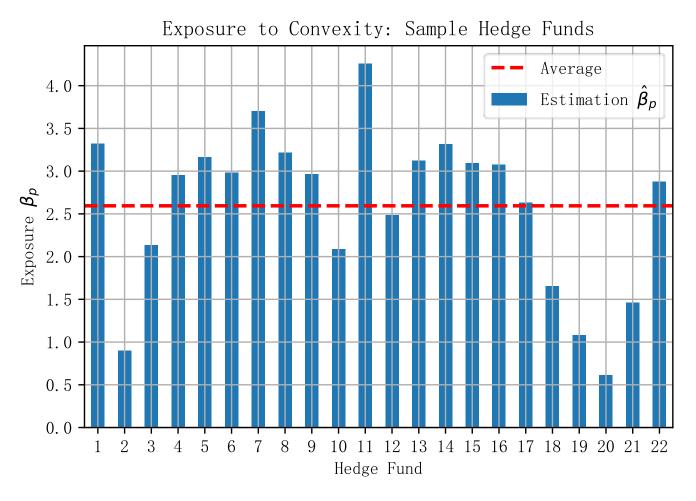
# **Effect of Market Convexity on Hedge Funds: Identification**

#### ■ Identification framework



## **Effect of Market Convexity on Hedge Funds: Results**

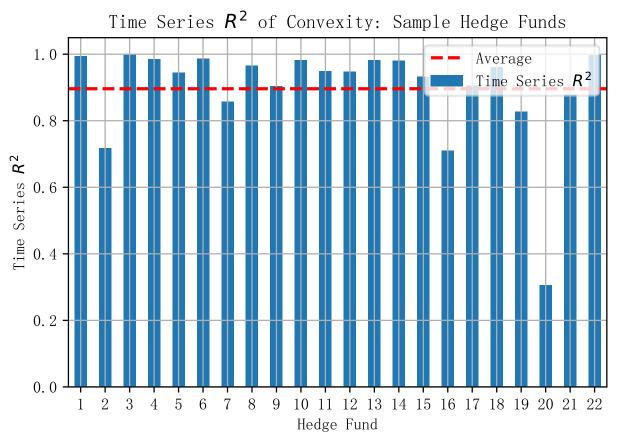
#### Almost all of these hedge funds have large exposure to convexity



## **Effect of Market Convexity on Hedge Funds: Results**

#### Explaining the time-series variance very well

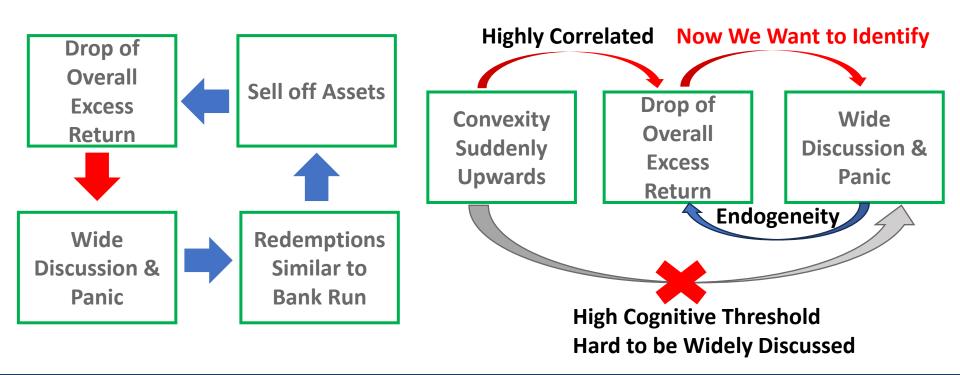
• Use results of the second step to calculate time-series  $R_p^2 = 1 - \frac{\mathbb{E}_t \widehat{\alpha}_{p,t}^2}{Var_t(A_{p,t})}$ 



## 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?
- Endogeneity

#### Convexity as an instrument variable

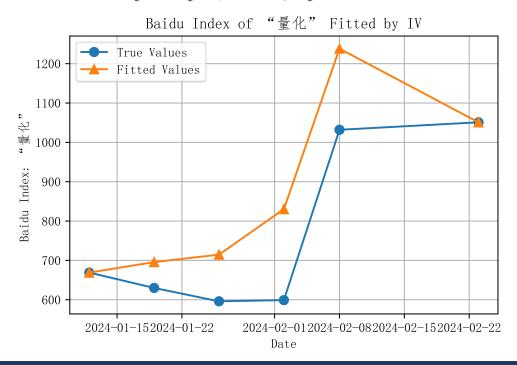


## Effect of Convexity from a Perspective of Communication

#### **■** Time-Series Regression

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

- $\hat{A}_t$  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

观澜 · 事前风控的失效: 中性化真能中性化吗

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札记中的所有内容均为探究或思考,不构成任何投资建议!

投资有风险,入市需谨慎!

## **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

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