

## TAIL RISKS ACROSS INVESTMENT FUNDS

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#### ABSTRACT

**The purpose of the article.** Managed portfolios are subject to tail risks, which can be either index level (systematic) or fund-specific. Examples of fund-specific extreme events include those due to big bets or fraud. This paper studies the two components in relation to compensation structure in managed portfolios.

**Methodology.** A novel methodology is developed to decompose return skewness and kurtosis into various systematic and idiosyncratic components and applied it to the returns of different fund types to assess the significance of these sources. In addition, a simple model generates fund-specific tail risk and its asymmetric dependence on the market, and makes predictions for where such risks should be concentrated. The model predicts that systematic tail risks increase with an increased weight on systematic returns in compensation and idiosyncratic tail risks increase with the degree of convexity in contracts.

**Results of the research.** The model predictions are supported with empirical results. Hedge funds are subject to higher idiosyncratic tail risks and Exchange Traded Funds exhibit higher systematic tail risks. In skewness and kurtosis decompositions, the results indicate that coskewness is an important source for fund skewness, but fund kurtosis is driven by cokurtosis, as well as volatility comovement and residual kurtosis, with the importance of these components varying across fund types. Investors are subject to different sources of skewness and fat tail risks through delegated investments. Volatility based tail risk hedging is not effective for all fund styles and types.

**Keywords:** Tail Risk, Systematic Risk, Idiosyncratic Risk, Coskewness, Cokurtosis, Copula, Tail Dependence, ETFs, Closed-end Funds, Mutual Funds, Hedge Funds, Compensation.

**JEL Classification:** G01, G11, G12.

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## INTRODUCTION

It is well-known that financial asset returns exhibit asymmetry and fat-tailedness. Mandelbrot (1963) and Fama (1965) provide theoretical arguments and empirical evidence that price changes follow stable Paretian distributions. Along with the observation of time-varying volatility, asymmetric volatility, and volatility clustering by Bekaert and Wu (2000) and others, financial economists have been trying to find sources that contribute to the skewness and kurtosis in returns data, both conditionally and unconditionally. Facts about non-normality and jumps in returns and volatility reinforce the importance of higher order moments. Most importantly, financial markets do crash, as in 1929, Black Tuesday in 1987, the Asian financial crisis in 1997, Long-Term Capital Management in 1998, the dot-com bubble burst in 2000, and the recent financial crash of 2008. Tail risks are important and relevant.

Tail risks are of central importance to investors. A large negative event can significantly reduce portfolio value and the literature has tried to model this<sup>1</sup>. Large drawdowns in wealth due to extreme events in the last decade lead investors to fear another market crisis. To cope with investors' fears for extreme events, the fund industry has recently developed volatility-based tail risk hedging funds. Managed futures have also become a popular alternative investment class as investors seek broad diversification.

Tail risks can complicate investors' economic decisions. Samuelson (1970) points out that mean-variance efficiency becomes inadequate when higher moments matter for portfolio allocation. Harvey et al. (2010) emphasize the importance of higher moments in portfolio allocation. Cvitanić et al. (2008) show that ignoring higher moments in portfolio allocation can imply welfare losses and overinvestment in risky assets. If investors have preference for higher moments, they will demand a higher rate of return to compensate for negative tail risks.

A lack of diversification in investor holdings due to trading constraints or market frictions suggests that investors will care about not only systematic tail risks, but also idiosyncratic tail risks in their portfolio returns. Idiosyncratic risk is theoretically uncorrelated with market risk. However, higher moments of idiosyncratic shocks can be correlated with systematic shocks. Similarly, the covariance risk between the higher moments of systematic shocks and idiosyncratic shocks can be priced.

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<sup>1</sup> In recent literature on portfolio choice and delegated principal-agent problems, many models incorporate a VaR constraint to limit downside risk. The motivation behind downside risk is that investors are concerned with losses in extreme events and thus they will demand compensation for such extreme, but rare risks, and consider these risks in their investment decisions.

Given that most investors delegate their wealth to fund managers and care about tail risks, it is important to understand the structure of tail risks in managed portfolios and look for solutions to prevent extreme downside risk. For example, if investors are not aware of tail risks hidden in managed portfolios, dynamic trading and negatively skewed trading strategies can improve fund performance in view of mean and variance, but induce great downside risk.

The investment funds in this study include closed-end funds (CEFs), exchange-traded funds (ETFs), open-ended funds (OEFs), and hedge funds (HFs). In the finance literature, few have looked at the link between tail risks and returns across different types of funds. However, different fund types are subject to different rules and regulations. Importantly, different fund types are subject to different compensation schemes and agency costs. These differences lead to different tail risk exposures.

Conventionally, investors regard HFs as high risk investment products due to the lack of transparency and loose regulation. Hedge fund managers often claim that certain hedge fund strategies can be used to hedge tail risks. This paper addresses four questions:

1. Are tail risks in hedge funds systematically different from other types of investment funds?
2. Are tail risks in managed portfolios well diversified?
3. Do hedge funds offer an alternative for investors to hedge tail risks?
4. Can compensation structure explain the heterogeneity in the sources of tail risks across fund types?

Two empirical methods are used to document differences in tail risks across investment funds. First, the frequency of monthly returns exceeding 3 and 5 standard deviations from the mean (“three and five sigma” events) is counted. The results show that the probabilities of tail returns exceed those under normal distributions. The frequencies across fund types are not statistically different. These results imply that on average, investors suffer from the occurrence of a “three sigma” event every two years, regardless of fund types. Second, skewness and kurtosis are used as tail risk measures. Empirical findings support the presence of conditional skewness and kurtosis in financial assets (Hansen, 1994; Harvey and Siddique, 1999; Jondeau and Rockinger, 2003). Except fixed income ETFs, all fund types have negative skewness and excess kurtosis.

Skewness and kurtosis are decomposed into systematic versus idiosyncratic tail risks. The results show that HFs are subject to higher idiosyncratic tail risks, but ETFs exhibit higher systematic tail risks. The decomposition of skewness shows that coskewness is an important source of skewness across fund types. Kurtosis for ETFs and OEFs mainly comes from cokurtosis, but CEFs and HFs have the largest components in volatility comovement and residual kurtosis, respectively. Thus, the decomposition reveals that there are interesting differences

in tail risks across fund types that is not revealed by counting outliers. Idiosyncratic cokurtosis is consistently the least important contributing factor to kurtosis across fund styles and types. Overall, the combined contribution of cokurtosis and volatility comovement exceeds more than 50% of kurtosis across fund types.

The decomposition results suggest that:

- (1) investors cannot diversify tail risks in traditional investment funds, including HFs, because most of their skewness and tail risks come from coskewness, cokurtosis, and volatility comovement;
- (2) an effective tail risk hedging mechanism should consider fund performance relative to extreme market movements in return, volatility, and skewness. A volatility-based tail risk hedging fund or a fund offering negative correlation with broad asset classes is not likely to be sufficient;
- (3) the decomposition of tail risks may reflect the trading strategies undertaken by a fund type.

This paper further ties fund managers' compensation schemes with tail risks and tries to understand the decomposition of tail risks across fund types. The literature on agency costs, incentive contracts and the fund flow-performance relationship examine fund managers' risk-taking behavior. Brennan (1993) proposes an agency based model with relative performance and suggests that option-like compensation can induce skewness in fund returns. Motivated by relative performance measures and convex payoff structures, fund managers may take fund-specific tail risks (big bets) endogenously.

A simple model is designed to illustrate how fund managers adjust systematic and idiosyncratic tail risks in response to the weight on compensation relative to a benchmark (the return decomposition effect) and to the importance of incentive compensation (the convexity effect). A normal shock for the benchmark, a negatively skewed shock for the fund-specific big bet, and their asymmetric tail dependence by the copula to generate nonzero covariance risks between the higher moments of the two assets are implemented into the model. The model predicts the following: first, the more the compensation depends on systematic returns, the more systematic risk the fund managers would take. This action would increase total fund skewness and decrease total fund kurtosis. Second, when the weight on the incentive contract increases, the increased convexity encourages fund managers to take big bets and funds exhibit lower skewness and higher kurtosis.

The rest of the paper proceeds as follows. Section I explains how fund strategies affect tail risks. Section II offers descriptions of and comparisons across different types of investment funds. Section III describes the model to produce tail returns and risks in response to the weight between systematic/idiosyncratic risk and the convexity in compensation across fund types. Section IV outlines the data.

Section V explains empirical methods. Section VI presents empirical results. Section VII presents a robustness analysis.

## 1. HOW FUND STRATEGIES IMPACT TAIL RISKS

Two strategies that traditional fund managers use to outperform benchmarks or peers are stock picking and beta timing. These two strategies have their own implications for fund tail risks. If market factors are skewed and fund managers use aggressive bets on beta timing, fund returns can be skewed<sup>2</sup>. Time-varying betas can induce time-varying systematic skewness risk. Alternatively, a fund can follow a strategy of holding asset classes or compositions of assets different from the benchmark and achieve good stock selection to have better performance. If a fund manager relies on stock selection to generate alpha, idiosyncratic tail risk of the fund reflects the tail risks of the stocks the fund focuses on. The turnover of individual stocks in managed portfolios can also cause time-varying fund tail risks.

Fund risk can be decomposed into systematic and idiosyncratic components. Funds' systematic tail risk comoves with the market. Kraus and Litzenberger (1976) provide theoretical and empirical evidence that unconditional systematic skewness matters for market valuation. Harvey and Siddique (2000) extend the study to conditional skewness. Dittmar (2002) concludes that conditional systematic kurtosis is relevant to the cross-section of returns. If fund managers want to increase funds' systematic coskewness, in expectation of an upswing in the market, they can add positively coskewed financial assets. Adding an asset with positive coskewness, such as out-of-the-money options, makes the fund more right skewed. Buying or selling options on the market or individual security options will affect the skewness of the managed portfolio relative to the market (Leland, 1999). Harvey and Siddique (2000) document that abnormal returns from momentum strategies result from buying assets with negative coskewness (winners) and shorting assets with positive coskewness (losers). Therefore, a contrarian trading strategy, i.e. buying losers and sell winners, can increase fund skewness. Similarly, fund managers can increase portfolio kurtosis by adding assets with high cokurtosis.

Another mechanism that fund managers can use to increase overall portfolio skewness and kurtosis operates through idiosyncratic skewness and kurtosis. Some financial assets with specific characteristics, such as small-cap stocks, illiquid foreign securities, convertible bonds, may have more skewed distributions. Adding these assets can make investment funds more skewed.

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<sup>2</sup> In an ICAPM setting with conditional volatility, Engle and Mistry (2007) study negative skewness in priced risk factors - Fama and French factors and Carhart's momentum factor.

Likewise, foreign currencies have fatter tails than stocks or bonds. Currency fund managers can adjust the level of kurtosis via currency exposure.

In addition to what a fund manager trades (where), trading strategies (how) can also result in fund tail risks. However, trade positions in fund holdings disclosure may disguise the magnitude of skewness and fat tail risks. For example, a fund manager bets on two assets to converge to one price. A merger arbitrage manager bets on the completion of a merger by buying the target firm and selling the bidding firm. An event driven manager trades on corporate events that can affect share prices, such as restructurings, recapitalizations, spin-offs, etc. A pairs trading strategy is based on relative mispricing's of two assets in the same sector. A statistical arbitrage trade captures pricing inefficiencies between securities. These strategies create a short position on a synthetic put option, i.e. if desired events do not occur, the loss can be substantial.

The short volatility trades above are one type of negatively skewed bet. A negatively skewed trade is characterized by a concave function of the underlying price level, which delivers steady profits with low volatility most of the time. For example, a fund manager can collect premiums by shorting put options. However, extreme events can wipe out all those gains. Examples are covered call writing, short derivative positions, short vega option strategies, leveraged positions, illiquid trades, etc. Dynamic trading strategies of a HF manager can improve Sharpe ratios at the expense of significant tail risks (Leland, 1999). Goetzmann et al. (2007) argue that fund managers can manipulate performance through dynamic trading.

## **2. COMPARISONS ACROSS INVESTMENT FUNDS**

Financial institutions offer a wide variety of financial products to meet investors' needs. This study examines four fund types: CEFs, ETFs, OEFs, and HFs. An OEF issues and redeems shares at net asset value (NAV) at market close each day in response to investors' demands. The NAV of an OEF is calculated directly from the prices of stocks or bonds held in the fund. An OEF is required to report its NAV by 4 pm Eastern Standard Time, and trades on OEFs can only be legally executed end of the day when NAVs are determined.

Unlike an OEF, a CEF has a finite number of shares traded on an exchange. A fixed number of shares are sold at the initial public offering (IPO) and investors are not allowed to redeem shares after the IPO. Due to a set amount of shares traded on the exchanges, a CEF can be traded at a premium or a discount relative to the value of its portfolio. Numerous studies have attributed unrealized capital gains, the liquidity of the assets held, agency costs, and irrational investor sentiment as possible reasons for the CEF discount. Since redemptions of shares are restricted, a CEF is able to invest in less liquid securities than an OEF. About

80% of CEFs are income oriented and most CEFs are leveraged (Cherkes et al., 2009). A CEF can borrow additional investment capital by issuing auction rate securities, preferred shares, long-term debt, reverse-repurchase agreements, etc. Therefore, a CEF can have higher risks and earn higher returns from illiquidity premiums, active management, and leverage.

ETFs, like CEFs, are traded on a stock exchange. However, market prices of an ETF diverge from its NAV in a very narrow range. Since major market participants can redeem shares of an ETF for a basket of underlying assets, if the prices of an ETF deviate too much from its NAV, an arbitrage opportunity takes place. Moreover, most ETFs passively track their target market indices. But some ETFs, in contrast to mutual funds, are designed to provide 2 or 3 times leverage on the benchmarks. Leveraged ETFs have return characteristics similar to options in terms of amplifying investment returns, but no preset expiration dates.

Mutual funds and ETFs are under SEC regulations, but HFs face minimal regulations by the SEC. Only HFs with more than \$100,000,000 in assets are required to register as investment advisors and report holding information through 13-F filings. Therefore, HF managers are generally free to employ dynamic trading strategies (Fung and Hsieh, 1997). Management fees on HFs are between 1.5% and 2% of assets under management and performance fees are asymmetric and on average 20%. Like CEFs, HFs can invest in illiquid assets due to lockups and redemption notification periods (Aragon, 2007). HFs further suffer from smoothed returns (Asness et al., 2001). Getmansky et al. (2004) show that serial correlation in HF returns can be explained by illiquidity exposure and smoothed returns. In addition, HF managers use leverage to increase capital efficiency and investment returns. In short, illiquidity, leverage, high-water marks, investment flexibility, asymmetric performance fees, lack of transparency, and redemption requirements may increase HFs' tail risk exposures.

Convexity affects tail risks. HF managers are compensated by high-water mark contracts. The compensation is calculated as 20% of profits in excess of high-water marks only if previous losses are fully recovered. This option-like compensation can induce HF managers to take idiosyncratic bets to turn around fund performance. An OEF manager receives compensation based on assets under management. Sirri and Tufano (1998) and Chevalier and Ellison (1997) find a nonlinear relationship between fund flow and past performance. Asymmetric return chasing by investors can create incentives for OEF managers to take big bets to improve returns relative to the markets. In addition, relative performance evaluation to a benchmark or peers can motivate a mutual fund manager to take idiosyncratic bets to climb up in the rankings. The compensation for ETF managers depends more on systematic fund returns because they are generally evaluated based on how closely they track the benchmarks. As such, systematic tail risks are more important for ETF managers. Overall, the compensation



structure can impact on a fund manager's tail risk taking behavior and induce fund tail risks from heterogeneity in asset classes.

In summary, differences in fund characteristics, such as active management, redemptions, regulations, transparency to investors, agency costs, etc., may lead to differences in tail distributions across fund types. Most importantly, the model predictions propose that heterogeneity in compensation structure can explain heterogeneity in tail risks across fund types because compensation structure is linked to a fund manager's tail risk taking and optimal allocation among asset classes and risks.

### 3. THE MODEL

#### 3.1. Return Dynamics and Tail Dependence

A fund manager facing an exogenous compensation structure is modelled. The model predicts how the compensation structure can induce systematic and idiosyncratic skewness and kurtosis in fund returns. The manager chooses an optimal allocation between a benchmark and a negatively skewed bet on idiosyncratic returns. The model predictions are used to explain tail risks across fund types.

Suppose that a fund manager faces a stylized portfolio choice problem today at time  $t$  between a benchmark and a big bet. The benchmark exposure captures market timing and the big bet captures selectivity and tail-risk management. Assume the joint distribution of returns of the two assets are independent and identically distributed (*i.i.d*) through time and their complete moments and joint distribution are observable before the allocation is updated. Thus for  $j= 1, \dots, t$ , the fund's return dynamics is modeled as follows:

$$R_{i,t+1} = w * R_{p,t+1} + (1 - w) * R_{BB,t+1} \quad (1)$$

where:

$R_{i,j}$  is the return at time  $t + 1$  for fund  $i$ ,

$R_{p,j}$  and  $R_{BB,j}$  are the returns of the benchmark and the big bet at time  $j$ ,

$w$  is the optimal weight that maximizes expected wealth at time  $t$  and  $w \in [0, 1]$ <sup>3</sup>.

For simplicity, subscript  $j$  and  $t + 1$  are dropped in the following analysis. A fund manager's strategies on beta timing and security selection do not only affect the magnitude of systematic and idiosyncratic components of returns. Even if both components are uncorrelated, the higher moments of one component and

<sup>3</sup> For robustness, the model is also tested with  $w \in [-1, 1]$  to allow a fund manager to short sell.



the mean and variance of the other component are not necessarily uncorrelated, and this correlation is modelled below.

The benchmark represents the systematic risk of a fund and suffers from macroeconomic shocks. The benchmark is assumed to follow a normal distribution and satisfy zero residual tail risks<sup>4</sup>. In the empirical work, equal-weighted portfolios of funds are constructed by using funds within the same style and beta-weighted exogenous factors as proxies for benchmarks. The weight on the benchmark captures a fund manager's market timing strategy at time  $t$ .

The big bet reflects fund-specific risk or microeconomic shocks. Fund managers often engage in security selection, undertaking idiosyncratic risk to generate alpha. Simonson (1972) provides evidence for speculative behavior of mutual fund managers. HF managers commonly engage in negatively skewed bets (Taleb, 2004). A negatively skewed bet is characterized as a trade that has a large chance of making gains but a very small chance of losing big money. Examples are arbitrage trading strategies, leveraged trades, short (derivatives) positions, illiquid assets, credit related instruments, syndicated loans, pass-through securities, etc. Big bets can endogenously generate tail risks and induce asymmetric payoffs in investment funds. Moreover, trades that endogenously generate left tail risks can help fund managers manipulate performance measurement (Goetzmann et al., 2007).

Additional motivations to model the big bet as a negatively skewed bet are the following. First, fraud or ponzi schemes follow negatively skewed distributions. For instance, Benard Madoff's hedge funds made a succession of considerable gains, but once he was charged with fraud, fund performance plummeted. The return distribution is negatively skewed. Second, due to the negative price of risk for skewness, the big bet captures exposure to a non-benchmark asset that are possibly rewarded with a positive expected return. Third, the negatively skewed shock captures left-tail risk or crash risk. Crash risk arises from a low probability event that produces large negative returns. Fourth, the combination of the benchmark and the big bet under aforementioned assumptions can assure fund returns to be close to normal or negatively skewed. This is consistent with what we observe in the data.

Big bets are idiosyncratic because if a fund manager wants to camouflage a fund's trading, will use a trading strategy or an asset isolated from market movement. For example, frauds are fund-specific. Moreover, greater tail risks are associated with higher risk premiums. Fund managers have a wide variety of securities to select for negatively skewed trades, compared to some benchmarks,

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<sup>4</sup> The benchmark can also be assumed to be positively or negatively skewed, as long as the tail risks from the benchmark are lower than the big bet. The benchmark has limited tail risks since a underperforming firm in the benchmark will be replaced and investors do not observe benchmarks to blow up. Leverage on the benchmark will not yield downside risk as severe as individual assets.

based on their expertise and research. For instance, illiquidity premiums are associated with stock options due to wider bid-ask spreads than index options. The downside risk of short volatility trades on individual securities is higher than the benchmarks because of higher idiosyncratic volatility. Due to compensation structure, fund managers may have incentives to camouflage fund alpha by taking idiosyncratic big bets with significant tail risks. Titman and Tiu (2010) find that HFs deviating from systematic factors provide abnormal returns or higher Sharpe ratios.

The literature on pay-performance well documents managerial risk-taking behavior in response to performance relative to a benchmark (e.g. Murphy, 1999). Brown et al. (1996) find that mid-year losers tend to increase fund risk in the latter part of the year. Chevalier and Ellison (1997) conclude that mutual fund managers alter fund risk towards the end of year due to incentives to increase fund flows. Kempf and Ruenzi (2008) find that mutual funds adjust risk according to their relative ranking in a tournament within the fund families.

To capture the bet having a low probability of blowing up, but a large chance of winning, the skewed t-distribution is used to model the big bet<sup>5</sup>. In this study, the marginal distribution of the big bet follows the skewed t-distribution with  $\lambda = -0.6$  (skewness) and  $\nu = 7$  (degree of freedom) to generate negative skewness and excess kurtosis. Both parameters are in the reasonable range from the aforementioned empirical papers. Since only unexpected shocks matter for unexpected returns, both the benchmark and the big bet are standardized to be mean zero and variance one.

There are alternatives to endogenously generate fund tail risks with an idiosyncratic big bet. For instance, one can add jumps in asset prices and volatility to generate skewness and kurtosis. Another approach is to model a mixture of normal distributions in returns and volatility. Both approaches require more assumptions on parameter specifications than the skewed t. As far as is known, the parameter values for funds are not well documented. For example, there is little evidence on the frequency of jumps and jump sizes in investment funds.

The dependence structure between the benchmark and the big bet can impact fund tail risks. The change of the moments and the return distribution of a fund depends on the covariance, coskewness, and cokurtosis risk between the benchmark and the big bet. For example, Boguth (2010) models state-dependent

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<sup>5</sup> The generalized skewed t-distribution is first suggested by Hansen (1994) and is applied to model time-varying asymmetry and fat-tailedness by Jondeau and Rockinger (2003) and Patton (2004). Theodossiou (1998), Daal and Yu (2007) show that the skewed t-distribution provides a better fit for financial asset returns in both the U.S. and emerging markets than GARCH-jump models. Recent studies also adopt the skewed t-distribution to model asset returns and extend its applications in asset allocation, risk management, credit risk, and option pricing (e.g. Aas and Haff, 2006, Dokov et al., 2007).

idiosyncratic variance and its correlation with the mean and variance of a systematic factor to induce fund skewness and kurtosis. Recent studies have also documented asymmetric tail dependence among financial assets (Longin and Solnik, 2001; Ang and Chen, 2002).

The tail dependence between the benchmark and the big bet is modelled by a T-Copula<sup>6</sup>. The bivariate copula is the joint distribution of two marginal distributions. Financial asset returns tend to comove together more strongly in bad economic states than good ones. The copula models asymmetric joint risks among financial assets. Its application includes credit default risk, catastrophic risk for insurers, systemic risk among financial institutions, etc (Frey et al., 2001; McNeil et al., 2005). T-Copula is adopted because of its prominence in the tail dependence literature. Results are based on tail dependent parameter  $\kappa = 0$ <sup>7</sup>.

The model setup follows Patton (2004). He studies the optimal conditional weight between a big-cap and a small-cap portfolio under various tail dependence structures. To solve the optimal weight for two given assets, it is necessary to estimate the conditional mean and variance. Unlike his study, my focus is on the unconditional weight and the benchmark and the big bet to be any specific financial assets are not restricted. Because the differences in tail risks between these two assets are emphasized, two arbitrary standardized financial assets are adopted<sup>8</sup>. If two specific financial assets, such as S&P 500 and a stock option on Citibank, are interested, the standardized time-series by their respective volatilities can be multiplied and their respective means can be added back to derive the optimal unconditional weight of these two specific assets. One example with mutual fund data is shown in the robustness analysis section.

This allocation problem reflects a fund manager's ability to adjust systematic and idiosyncratic tail risk. For example, market-neutral HFs have low systematic tail risk but high idiosyncratic tail risk. ETF or index funds have high systematic tail risk, but relatively low idiosyncratic tail risk. In daily fund management, fund managers can adopt market-timing or stock-picking strategies to decide the allocation between systematic and idiosyncratic returns. In a multi-period setting, a fund manager can disguise fund performance by betting on negatively skewed assets or investing strategies.

<sup>6</sup> Normal and Rotated Gumbel copula is also tested for a robustness check. Normal copula has zero tail dependence and Rotated Gumbel copula has lower tail dependence only.

<sup>7</sup> Results hold for  $\kappa = 0.5$  and  $0.9$ , reflecting different levels of covariance, coskewness, cokurtosis risk between the benchmark and the big bet.

<sup>8</sup> Kan and Zhou (1999) is followed to standardize the systematic factor to simulate asset returns.

### 3.2. Characterization of Compensation Structure and Optimization Problem

A combination of a linear and a convex compensation contract is considered. The linear contract is based on a fund manager's systematic and fund-specific returns with the nonnegative allocation weight  $\alpha$  and  $1 - \alpha$ , respectively<sup>9</sup>:

$$W_{linear} = \alpha(wR_p) + (1 - \alpha)((1 - w)R_{BB}) \quad (2)$$

where  $\alpha$  is specified in the incentive contract. The return decomposition parameter  $\alpha$  reflects the weight of the systematic component on the compensation. For larger  $\alpha$ , the manager's compensation depends more on the systematic component of returns.

A fund manager's total compensation may also depend on the convex payoff:

$$W_{opt} = 1 + \max(\varphi(R_i + K), 0) \quad (3)$$

and  $W_{linear}$ , weighted by nonnegative  $g$  and  $1 - g$ , respectively:

$$\begin{aligned} W &= gW_{opt} + (1 - g)W_{linear} = \\ &= g(\max(\varphi(R_i + K), 0) + (1 - g)[\alpha(wR_p) + (1 - \alpha)((1 - w)R_{BB})] \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where the incentive fee  $\varphi$  is subject to high-water marks and commonly quoted as 20% in the HF industry. Fund managers receive incentive fees only if fund value exceeds the highest value the fund has previously achieved. The convexity parameter  $g$  is exogenously given and varies across fund types. The larger the  $g$ , the more convex the compensation.  $K$  measures the cumulative losses up to time  $t$  and is modeled as:

$$K_t = \min(0, K_{t-1} + R_t) \quad (5)$$

directly model the option-like payoff like HFs, instead of using an arbitrary fixed  $K$ . An arbitrary  $K$  may reflect implicit convexity faced by fund managers, such as tournaments or fund-flow performance relations, but it is too arbitrary to justify a specific value to  $K$ . To the best of available information, there are no empirical studies that estimate the range of  $K$  across funds. Furthermore, incentive fees in the mutual fund industry are calculated based on cumulative performance over previous periods as well. Elton et al. (2003) show that fulcrum fees can always be

<sup>9</sup> Ramakrishnan and Thakor (1984) show that in the presence of moral hazard, contracts will depend on both systematic and idiosyncratic risks.

converted to non-negative incentive fees. Nonetheless, a fixed  $K = 1\%$  is used as a robustness check.

This setup for managerial compensation is very stylized so that it can be applied to different types of investment funds. HF managers are measured against high-water marks and thus  $g = 1$ . For ETFs and index funds, tracking errors are critical in performance measurement and no convex payoff applies to compensation<sup>10</sup>. Therefore,  $\alpha$  and  $g$  are 1 and 0, respectively. Because actively managed OEFs are subject to implicit optionality, such as fund-flow performance relations and “tournaments”, the compensation should depend on a combination of total fund returns and fund-specific returns ( $0 < \alpha, g < 1$ ). CEFs are subject to discounts, which can be regarded as the moneyness of an option that investors sell to the management. Both  $\alpha$  and  $g$  are between 0 and 1 for CEFs. The setup implicitly captures relative performance in ETFs, CEFs, OEFs, and absolute performance in HFs. The order of the magnitude of  $\alpha$  (index tracking) across fund types is ETFs, CEFs or OEFs, and HFs; the effect of  $g$  (convexity) is in the order of HFs, OEFs or CEFs, and ETFs.

In summary, Table 1 shows how the model for the different fund types is applied.

Table 1. Parameters used across different fund types

	ETFs	Index	Active OEFs	CEFs	HFs
$\alpha$	1	1	$\in (0,1)$	$\in (0,1)$	$\in (0,1)$
$g$	0	0	$\in (0,1)$	$\in (0,1)$	1
$K$	NA	NA	Cumulative*	NA	Cumulative
$\varphi$	NA	NA	$< 1\%$ *	NA	20%

\* if applicable (Elton et al., 2003).

Source: Elton et al., 2003.

Following Patton (2004), fund managers are assumed to optimize his/her wealth for the period  $t + 1$  using returns observed up to time  $t$  to form expectations. Under the assumption of i.i.d returns, the optimal weight can be solved by maximizing the sum of utility functions up-to-date.

$$W = \operatorname{argmax} E_t[U(W_{t+1})] = \operatorname{argmax} \frac{1}{t} \sum_{j=1}^t U(W_j) \quad (6)$$

Where  $W_j$  is the manager’s total compensation at time  $j$ . For simplicity, the subscript  $j$  is dropped in the following notation.

The non-normal fund returns and option-like compensation structure lead to nonlinearity and non-normality of total wealth  $W$ . The utility below follows

<sup>10</sup> Kim (2010) shows that the flow-performance relation is weak for index funds.

Mitton and Vorkink (2007) and Boguth (2010) and captures the higher moments of wealth.

$$U(W) = E(W) - \frac{1}{2\tau_2}Var(W) + \frac{1}{3\tau_3}Skew(W) - \frac{1}{12\tau_4}Kurt(W) \quad (7)$$

where  $\tau_2$ ,  $\tau_3$ , and  $\tau_4$  are risk tolerance for the second, third, and fourth moments of  $W$ . The central moments are defined as  $Var(W) = E[W - E(W)]^2$ ,  $Skew(W) = E[W - E(W)]^3$  and  $Kurt(W) = E[W - E(W)]^4 - 3Var(W)^2$ . The main results use  $\tau_2 = 1.5$ ,  $\tau_3 = 0.15$ , and  $\tau_4 = 0.015$ . The parameters of risk tolerance for the second, third, and fourth moments under this utility is translated into relative risk aversion between 5 and 10 under the power utility<sup>11</sup>. The initial wealth is set to be 1 because the optimal allocation does not depend on the initial wealth under this utility.

The positive sign of the third term denotes the manager's preference for skewness. The negative sign of the fourth term corresponds to the manager's dislike of kurtosis. This type of utility captures the manager's concern for skewness and kurtosis relatively to dispersion.

Since the distribution of fund returns in this model is not solely determined by mean and variance and managerial compensation is convex, the utility taking account of the probability distribution of wealth up to the fourth moments is used. Fund managers are assumed to value skewness and kurtosis. A convex contract is not desirable for a fund manager who is neutral to risks or cares only about mean and variance. Hemmer et al. (2000) show that the incentive contract should be more convex when skewness is increased, and the amount of convexity depends on the risk aversion. The return generating process and asymmetric dependence structure guarantees skewness and kurtosis in wealth. Fund skewness and kurtosis cannot be diversified away in this model. The preference for higher moments ensures fund managers consider tail risks in the asset allocation between the benchmark and the big bet according to compensation structure.

Career concern and "tournament" also support the preference for higher moments. As Taleb (2004) states, "Does one gamble dollars to win a succession of pennies (negative skewness) or one risks a succession of pennies to win dollars (positive skewness)?" Although the conventional utility theory suggests that a rational manager would prefer positive skewness and dislike excess kurtosis, most funds are negatively skewed and fat-tailed. One reason can be career concerns. If a fund manager takes a positively skewed bet, the probability of

<sup>11</sup> According to Kane (1982), the skewness ratio and kurtosis ratio for the power utility are equal to  $1+\gamma$  and  $(1+\gamma)(2+\gamma)$ , where  $\gamma$  is the relative risk aversion and skewness (kurtosis) ratio reflects preference for the third (fourth) moment relative to aversion to variance. Thus, the range of skewness ratio is between 6 and 11 and kurtosis ratio is between 42 and 132 for  $\gamma = 5$  and 10. Parameters for risk tolerance used in the model suggest skewness ratio and kurtosis ratio to be 10 and 100, respectively.

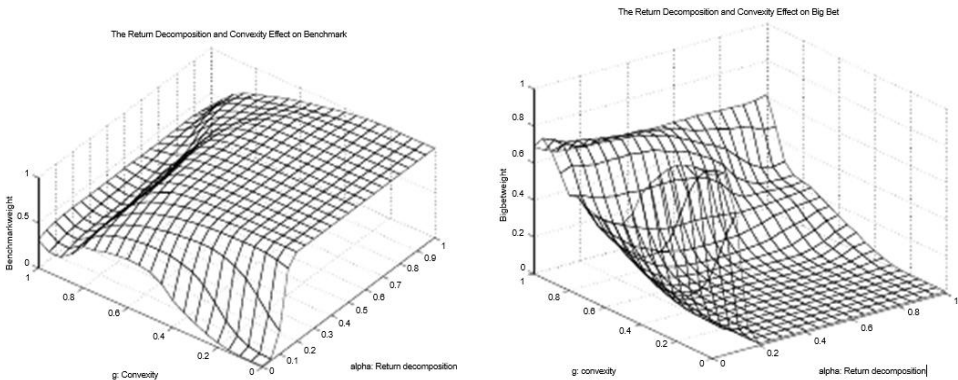
failures is too high to stay in the business. From the “tournament” perspective, if a fund underperforms its peer, the fund manager may choose to gamble with a large probability of considerable losses, but a tiny probability of huge gains. Large losses can blow up the fund. On the other hand, an outperforming fund may take a negatively skewed bet instead because of a very tiny probability of losses and frequent gains.

### 3.3. MONTE CARLO RESULTS

Since the optimization problem above has no closed-form solution, Patton (2004) is followed to numerically solve the asset allocation problem. The details are in the Appendix A.

Figure 1 presents the optimal weights of the benchmark and the big bet. Figure 2 shows the snapshot of the optimal weights with respect to  $\alpha$  and  $g$ , i.e. the return decomposition and convexity effect. Figure 3 displays the optimal skewness and kurtosis of a fund.

Figure 1. The Optimal Weight of the Benchmark and Big Bet

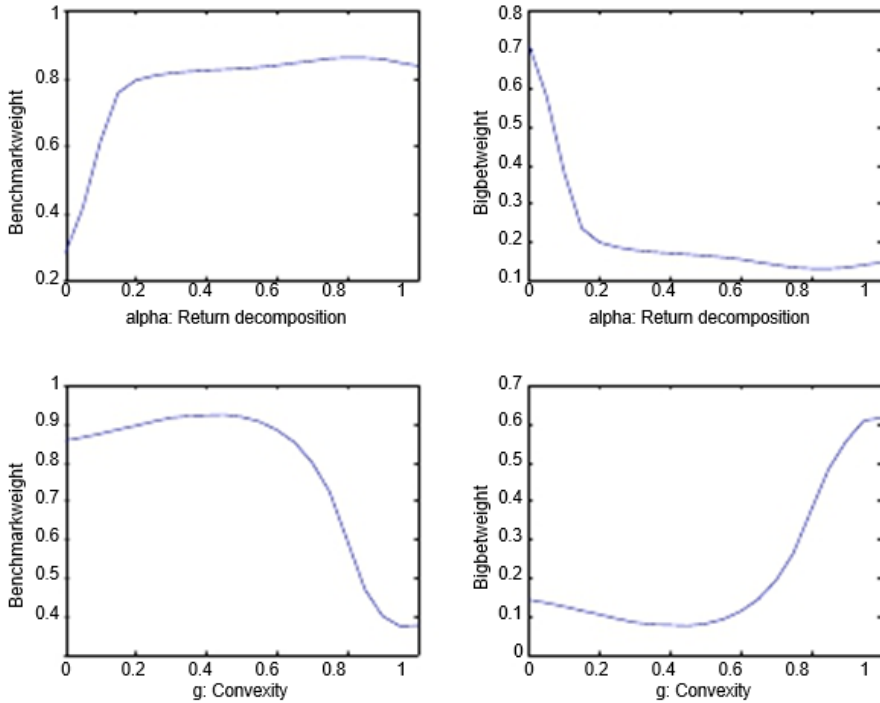


Source: own study based on the model outputs.

The return decomposition parameter  $\alpha$  and the convexity parameter  $g$  are the weight of the systematic return and convex payoff in managerial compensation, respectively. Z-axis is the optimal weight on the benchmark.



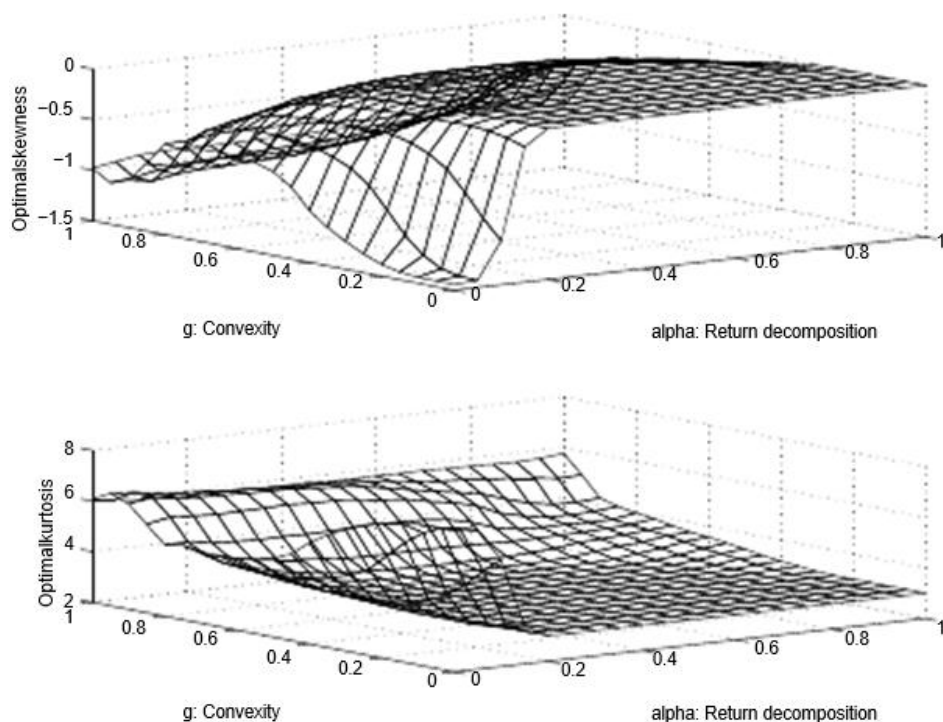
Figure 2. The Return Decomposition and Convexity Effect on the Optimal Weights of the benchmark and the Big Bet



Source: own study based on the model outputs.

The graphs on the top panel show the return decomposition effect on the benchmark (left) and the big bet (right). The graphs on the bottom panel show the convexity effect on both assets. The snapshot is taken by averaging weights across all  $g$  and  $\alpha$  for each  $\alpha$  on the x-axis and  $g$  on the y-axis, respectively.

Figure 3. The Optimal Fund Skewness and Kurtosis



Source: own study based on the model outputs.

The model predicts that as convexity in the contract increases (i.e.  $g$  increases), fund managers will increase weights on the idiosyncratic big bet and thus reduce fund skewness and increase fund kurtosis. On the other hand, if a fund managers' compensation ties more to the systematic returns (i.e.  $\alpha$  increases), more weight will be allocated to the benchmark to increase fund skewness and reduce fund kurtosis.

The incentive to take the idiosyncratic big bet is to risk the possibility of negatively skewed outcomes in exchange for improving the fund's expected alpha for the next period. Consider two types of fund managers in the economy: conservative and aggressive. A fund manager whose compensation depends more on the systematic component of returns (i.e. a larger  $\alpha$ ) can be viewed as the conservative one. An ETF fund manager is one example. The conservative fund manager face a linear contract and tail risks have symmetric impact on managers. Thus, simply trades the benchmark and has no incentive to improve alpha and

trade idiosyncratic big bets since trading big bets does not increase utility. On the contrary, when a fund manager is endowed with a more convex compensation scheme (i.e. a larger  $g$ ), fund managers care about the upside and downside differently. An aggressive fund manager prefers idiosyncratic big bets that improve or camouflage the short-term performance at the cost of increased left tail risks. HFs are the example. Convexity generally increases skewness, but the introduction of a negatively skewed bet can mitigate the convexity effect.

One intriguing implication from the model is that if the compensation structure depends mostly on idiosyncratic returns with little convexity (i.e.  $\alpha$  and  $g$  are both very low), the model suggests that a fund manager will invest mostly in the idiosyncratic big bet to increase expected returns and undertake tail risks. However, it is hard to find this type of compensation structure since the compensation structure should be based on any signals that informs about managers' actions (Holmstrom, 1979). Most funds' compensation relies on convexity and systematic returns to some degrees.

In summary, Figure 1 shows the predictions for the tail risks for the different fund types. HFs' skewness and kurtosis come mostly from the idiosyncratic component of returns because the convex compensation is associated with  $g = 1$ . The increased weight on the idiosyncratic big bet lowers the skewness and raises the kurtosis of a HF. ETFs, represented by higher  $\alpha$  and lower  $g$ , are subject to higher systematic tail risks. Figure 3 shows that ETFs exhibit less negative skewness and lower kurtosis. OEFs and CEFs are associated with  $\alpha$  and  $g$  between 0 and 1. As such, their weights of the idiosyncratic components in total fund skewness and kurtosis are between HFs and ETFs.

#### 4. THE DATA

The ETFs, OEFs, CEFs, and HFs in this study are investment funds managed in the U.S. The list of ETFs and CEFs domiciled in the U.S. are screened from the Morningstar database, including both live and dead funds. Monthly returns of ETFs and CEFs from the CRSP monthly stock return table are merged with the list of funds from Morningstar database by dates and tickers. ETFs and CEF returns start from 1993 and 1929, respectively. Monthly OEF returns are from CRSP U.S. survivorship-free mutual fund database and start in 1962. The HF sample is constructed from the HFR database, starting in 1996. The data period for all four fund types ends in 2008.

Groups of funds are formed by styles for analysis. ETFs and CEFs are grouped by Morningstar styles<sup>12</sup>. OEFs are grouped by CRSP style codes<sup>13</sup>. HFs are grouped by HFR main strategies<sup>14</sup>. Table I (in Appendix) summarizes univariate statistics of “average” funds across fund styles and types. By “average”, it means that statistics for individual funds in the same group are averaged to represent “average” or individual fund statistics.

HFs are the most negatively skewed. ETFs are the least negatively skewed and fixed income, ETFs have positive skewness. The level of skewness in OEFs and CEFs is between HFs and ETFs. The kurtosis of HFs (ETFs) is close to that of CEFs (OEFs). The model fully predicts the tail risks in HFs and ETFs. The tail risks in HFs increase because increased convexity in compensation motivates fund managers to take more big bets (negatively skewed bets). The tail risks in ETFs declines because the increased weight on compensation relative to the benchmark induces a ETF manager to increase loadings on the benchmark, which bears lower left tail risk. There are variations in tail risks across fund styles within the same fund type. It can be observed from the variation of the significance level of the Jarque-Berra test.

## 5. EMPIRICAL DESIGN

### 5.1. Frequency of Tail Returns

If an investment fund is well diversified, the distribution of returns should be close to normal, i.e. its skewness is zero and kurtosis is 3. However, Table I (in Appendix) suggests that tail returns and risks do exist in investment funds. One direct approach is to measure the frequency of tail returns in a given fund.

Tail returns of an individual fund are defined as its monthly returns above or below a cutoff stated of observing one jump conditional on a large log-return. He concludes that as far into the tail as 3.5 standard deviations, a large observed log-return can still be produced by Brownian noise. A large log-return above 3.5

<sup>12</sup> Equity ETFs: Global, Currency, Sector, Balanced, Bear Market, Commodities, Large/Mid/Small Cap, Growth/Value, and Others. Fixed Income ETFs: Global, Sector, Long Term, Intermediate Term, Short Term, Government, High Yield, and Others. Equity CEFs are Global, Balanced, Sector, Commodities, Large/Mid/Small Cap, Growth/Value, and Others. Fixed Income CEFs are Global, Sector, Long Term, Intermediate Term, Short Term, Government, High Yield, and Others.

<sup>13</sup> Equity funds are classified as Index, Commodities, Sector, Global, Balanced, Leverage and Short, Long Short, Mid Cap, Small Cap, Aggressive Growth, Growth, Growth and Income, Equity Income, and Others. Fixed income funds are classified as Index, Global, Short Term, Government, Mortgage, Corporate, and High Yield. The classification methodology is in Appendix A.

<sup>14</sup> Equity Hedge, Event-Driven, Fund of Funds, HFRI Index, HFRX Index, Macro, and Relative Value. Descriptions of these investment strategies are available from HFR (www1).

standard deviations in a finite time would help identify at least one jump. A fund with a high frequency of monthly returns exceeding 5 standard deviations suggests that jumps can be identified in the fund returns. As such, 3 and 5 standard deviations are used as thresholds to determine tail returns.

Funds' monthly returns are decomposed into systematic and idiosyncratic components and compute the percentage of monthly systematic and idiosyncratic returns exceeding 3 and 5 standard deviations of the means of respective distributions.

Let  $COUNT_{i,t_i}$  be one if fund  $i$  is monthly return on month  $t_i$  is greater than 3 or 5 standard deviations from the mean. The test statistics of the frequency of tail returns for fund  $i$  is derived by assuming that  $COUNT_{i,t_i}$  follows the Bernoulli distribution and the sequence of  $COUNT_{i,t_i}$  is independent and identically distributed, i.e.  $COUNT_{i,t_i}$  is 1 with probability  $p$  and 0 otherwise on each month. Thus, at the individual fund level, the frequency of tail returns and its test statistics can be represented as follows:

$$X_i = \frac{1}{I_{i,t_i=1}^{T_i}} COUNT_{i,t_i} \sim N\left(p, \frac{p(1-p)}{T_i}\right) \quad (8)$$

where  $T_i$  is the number of monthly returns for fund  $i$  and  $t_i = (1, 2, \dots, T_i) \in T_i$ . At the style or type level,

$$Y_s = \frac{1}{N_s} \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} X_i \sim N\left(p, \frac{1}{N_s^2} \left( \sum_i \frac{p(1-p)}{T_i} + \sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} \rho_{tail} \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{T_i}} \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{T_j}} \right)\right) \quad (9)$$

where  $N_s$  is the number of funds in the style or type  $s$ ,  $\rho_{tail}$  is calculated as follows. If the returns of different funds in the same style or type  $s$  are jointly within 3 standard deviations from their respective means in month  $t$ , i.e.  $COUNT_{i,t} = 0$  for all fund  $i$  in the style or type  $s$  in month  $t$ , those returns are dropped to compute correlations. Then correlations between different funds in the same style or type to derive  $\rho_{tail}$  are averaged.  $\rho_{tail}$  reflects correlation between funds at the extreme states.

To compare any two fund styles or types ( $Y_s$  and  $Y_r$ ) at the aggregate level:

$$Y_s - Y_r \sim N(0, var(Y_s) + var(Y_r) - 2cov(Y_s, Y_r)) \quad (10)$$

$$cov(Y_s, Y_r) = \frac{1}{N_s N_r} \sum_i \sum_j \rho_{tail} \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{T_i}} \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{T_j}} \quad (11)$$

Table II (in Appendix) presents the frequencies of monthly returns exceeding 3 and 5 standard deviations from the mean across fund types. The frequency of

raw tail returns ranges from 1.78% (CEFs) to 1.10% (OEFs) and 0.13% (CEFs) to 0.01% (ETFs) for the 3 and 5 standard deviations, respectively<sup>15</sup>. Both ranges exceed the probability of 3 and 5 sigma events under the normal distribution, i.e. 0.27% and less than 0.0001%, respectively. This result substantiates the presence of tail risks in managed portfolios.

For all fund types, the null hypothesis that a 3(5) standard deviation event occurs 4%(1%) per month is not rejected at 1% significance level. This suggests that on a monthly basis, all four fund types are subject to a 3(5) sigma event with 4%(1%) probability. In view of economic significance, investors who delegate investment decisions to fund managers still face 3 “sigma” event approximately every two years.

The frequencies of idiosyncratic tail returns are less varied across fund types than systematic tail returns. At the 3 standard deviations, CEFs have the highest frequency of tail returns on both return components<sup>16</sup>. ETFs show high frequency of systematic tail returns, but lowest frequency of idiosyncratic tail returns. The frequencies of both systematic and idiosyncratic tail returns at the 5 standard deviations follow the same order as raw tail returns. The test statistics associated with the hypothesis that the occurrence of systematic/idiosyncratic returns exceeding 3(5) standard deviations from the mean equals to 4%(1%) per month are not significant at 1% significance level. The classic portfolio theory suggests that idiosyncratic tail risks can be diversified away by increasing the number of assets. It is interesting to see that managed futures suffer from both systematic and idiosyncratic tail risks at similar frequency.

Investors suffer more systematic risks by investing in ETFs, but more idiosyncratic risks in HFs and OEFs. The high frequencies of idiosyncratic tail returns in CEFs and HFs imply that both fund types have high tracking errors, and their managers trade on individual assets with high idiosyncratic risks to increase performance. ETFs exhibit higher frequency of systematic tail risks than HFs and OEFs since tracking errors or idiosyncratic risks should be minimized for ETFs.

T-tests of differences in frequencies of tail returns (raw, systematic, and idiosyncratic) fail to reject the hypothesis that funds in different fund types have the same frequency at 1% significance level, except for equity CEFs and ETFs at the 3 standard deviations. This indicates that investors should be aware of 3 and 5 sigma events not only for HFs, but for all four types of investment funds.

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<sup>15</sup> Results for 2 standard deviations are also available upon request. Across fund types, the frequency of raw tail returns ranges from 4.74% and 5.6%; the frequencies of both systematic and idiosyncratic tail returns are very close to 5%.

<sup>16</sup> One concern is that the recording of the last return due to delisting varies across data vendors. One reason for CEFs to have higher a frequency may be due to traded price discounts. However, the order of frequencies across fund types still hold if the last observation is removed from the analysis.

The frequencies of tail returns are further broken down by right and left tails. The striking finding is that most tail returns come from the left tails. This evidence supports the importance of downside risk and the prevalence of negative skewness and leptokurtosis across fund types.

## 5.2. Systematic and Idiosyncratic Tail Risk

### 5.2.1. THE BENCHMARKS

Different fund styles and types have different levels of systematic risk and are exposed to different risk factors. Therefore, a broad-based index is not the appropriate benchmark to decompose risk into systematic and idiosyncratic components across fund styles and types. CEF returns are subject to discounts and Lee et al. (1991) show that changes in discounts are correlated with small firm returns. The discounts resemble market-to-book ratios and Thompson (1978) show that discounts predict the expected returns of CEFs. ETFs track market indexes and are most sensitive to market factors directly associated with the benchmarks they track. Because OEFs follow long-only strategies, standard asset classes may be appropriate market factors. HFs have no benchmarks, and fund managers tend to maximize total fund returns due to high watermark provisions. In addition, different HF styles pursue different directional/nondirectional trades and dynamic trading strategies, and differ in option-like payoffs. These HF characteristics lead to distinctive risk profiles among HFs, compared to other fund types.

Inappropriate factors may lead to a misleading measure of systematic and idiosyncratic risk decomposition. If the chosen market factors don't appropriately explain the variations of systematic components of returns, too much idiosyncratic risk is mistakenly identified. Then empirical results will spuriously show fund skewness and kurtosis mostly come from the idiosyncratic component of returns.

The equal-weighted portfolios of funds are used to decompose systematic and idiosyncratic components of returns. This follows many studies on fund performance (e.g. Grinblatt and Titman, 1994; Brown et al., 1999; Ackermann et al., 1999). The advantages of using portfolios of funds within the same style as a benchmark include the following: portfolios of funds are readily observable and capture diversification effects to isolate idiosyncratic returns of funds within the style<sup>17</sup>. Second, many fund managers in the same style make similar bets or share similar trading strategies. Therefore, funds in the same style may be exposed to

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<sup>17</sup> The  $k^{th}$  order moment of portfolios of funds is  $O(\frac{1}{n^{k-1}})$ . As  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $E[R_p - E(R_p)]^k = E[\frac{1}{n}R_i - \frac{1}{n}E(R_i)]^k = \frac{1}{n^k}E[R_i - E(R_i)]^k \leq \frac{n}{n^k}$



the same common factors (Hunter et al., 2010). The benchmark can capture a common component in the variation over time and across funds within the group.

In addition, return characteristics and distributions differ across fund styles and types and the portfolios of funds capture distinctive differences. For example, HFs exhibit nonlinearities in returns and the magnitudes of nonlinearities differ across HF styles. An index constructed of the funds in the same style captures style-specific returns.

Third, a fund manager is regarded as providing valuable services when the investment opportunity set is expanded by the trading strategies of the fund. Therefore, a benchmark should share common assets with the fund. For example, if the Janus Balanced Fund trades growth stocks and U.S. Treasuries, both types of securities should be included in the benchmark. The portfolios of funds represent a joint set of reference assets for funds with the same trading strategy.

Fourth, portfolios of funds create a peer group of managers who pursue the same style. Thus, portfolios of funds have the highest correlations with funds in the same style and represent asset classes in that style. Fund managers are increasingly evaluated relative to a benchmark specific to their styles, instead of a broad-based benchmark. An inappropriate benchmark can induce incorrect measurement of relative performance. For example, a small-cap fund manager may underperform relative to a broad market index, but overperform relative to a small stock benchmark.

### 5.2.2. THE DECOMPOSITION

The following regression is run to decompose the systematic and idiosyncratic components of risks:

$$R_{i,t} - E(R_i) = \beta_i (R_{p,t} - E(R_p)) + u_{i,t} \quad (12)$$

where  $R_{i,t}$  and  $R_{p,t}$  are returns for fund  $i$  and portfolios of funds  $p$  at time  $t$ . The portfolios of funds are constructed based on the investment styles outlined in section IV.  $\beta_i (R_{p,t} - E(R_p))$  and  $u_{i,t}$  stand for the systematic and idiosyncratic component of de-meaned returns for fund  $i$ . Both components are orthogonal to each other.

The simple linear regression in (12) is advantageous to study systematic and idiosyncratic tail risks<sup>18</sup>. Under the single factor model, the skewness of  $r_i$  can be decomposed as follows:

<sup>18</sup> If the quadratic terms are added to (12), i.e.  $R_{i,t} - E(R_i) = \alpha_i + \beta_i (R_{p,t} - E(R_p)) + \gamma_i (R_{p,t} - E(R_p))^2 + \varepsilon_{it}$  the skewness decomposition becomes  $E(r^3) = \beta_i^3 E(r_p^3) + 3\beta_i E(r_p \varepsilon_i^2) + E(\varepsilon_i^3) + [3\beta_i^2 \gamma_i E(r_p^4) + 3\beta_i \gamma^2 E(r_p^5) + 3\gamma_i E((r_p^2 \varepsilon_i^2) +$

$$E(r_i^3) = E[(\beta_i r_p + u_i)^3] = \underbrace{\beta_i^2 \text{cov}(r_i, r_p)^2}_{\text{COSKEW}} + \underbrace{2\beta_i^2 \text{cov}(u_i, r_p^2)}_{\text{ICOSKEW}} + \underbrace{3\beta_i \text{cov}(u_i^2, r_p)}_{\text{RESSKEW}} + E(u_i^3) \quad (13)$$

where  $r_i$  and  $r_p$  are de-meaned returns, i.e.  $r_i = R_i - E(R_i)$  and  $r_p = R_p - E(R_p)$ . According to (13), the skewness decomposition consists of three parts: coskewness (COSKEW), idiosyncratic coskewness (ICOSKEW), and residual skewness (RESSKEW). Since both COSKEW and ICOSKEW contain  $\beta$  and covary with the market, they are different forms of systematic skewness. RESSKEW represents idiosyncratic tail risk. Note that coskewness in this study is defined as the sum of two covariance terms – the covariance of fund returns with market volatility and the covariance of fund residuals with market volatility. The latter is small under the assumption of orthogonality between the systematic and idiosyncratic components in the one-factor regression.

Moreno and Rodríguez (2009) show that coskewness is managed and the coskewness policy is persistent over time. In their remark, “managing coskewness” refers to having a specific policy regarding the assets incorporated into the fund’s portfolio to achieve higher or lower portfolio coskewness. If a manager consistently adds assets with negative coskewness to reduce fund skewness, the fund will exhibit negative coskewness and investors will demand a higher risk premium.

The idiosyncratic coskewness, i.e. the covariance between idiosyncratic volatility and market returns, is advocated by Chabi-Yo (2009). Chabi-Yo (2009) proves that idiosyncratic coskewness is equivalent to a weighted average of individual security call and put betas. He shows that in a single factor model, during market upswings ( $r_p > 0$ ), ICOSKEW is positive and the idiosyncratic risk premium is negative; during market downswings ( $r_p < 0$ ), ICOSKEW is negative and the idiosyncratic risk premium is positive. In other words, stocks whose option betas with high sensitives to market returns have low average returns because they hedge against market upswings and downswings. Out-of-money options written on these stocks have large betas or higher sensitivities with market returns. Investors prefer options written on stocks with lottery-like returns. The

$$3\gamma_i^2 E(r_p^4 \epsilon_i) + 6\beta_i \gamma_i E((r_p^3 \epsilon_i) + \gamma_i^3 E((r_p^6))) = \text{COSKEW} + \text{ICOSKEW} + \text{RESSKEW}$$

+other higher moments. Similarly, the kurtosis decomposition expands as  $E(r_i^4) = \beta_i^4 E(r_p^4) + 4\beta_i E(r_p \epsilon_i^3) + E(\epsilon_i^4) + 4\beta_i^3 \gamma_i E(r_p^5) + 6\beta_i^2 \gamma_i^2 E(r_p^6) + 4\beta_i \gamma_i^2 E(r_p^5) + \gamma^4 E(r_p^8) + 4\epsilon_i 3\beta^2 \gamma_i E(r_p^4) + 3\beta_i \gamma^2 E(r_p^5) + \gamma^3 E(r_p^6) + 6\epsilon^2 [2\beta_i \gamma_i E(r_p^3) + \gamma^2 E(r_p^4)] + 4[\beta_i E(r_p \epsilon_i^3) + \gamma_i E(r_p^2 \epsilon_i^3)] = \text{COKURT} + \text{ICOKURT} + \text{RESKURT} + \text{VOLVOMV}$  + other higher moments. The components in this study can also be extracted under the quadratic assumption.

idiosyncratic coskewness explains two market anomalies. First, Ang et al. (2006 and 2009) document that stocks with high idiosyncratic volatility have low expected returns. Second, idiosyncratic coskewness helps explain the empirical finding that distressed stocks have low returns (Chabi-Yo and Yang, 2009).

Note that  $cov(u_i^2, r_p)$  is equivalent to  $cov[E(u_i^2|r_p), r_p]$  or  $E[E(u_i^2|r_p), r_p]$ . This decomposition implies that the sign and the magnitude of ICOSKEW depends on the risk-return relation and the level of conditional heteroscedasticity. Skewed fund returns can be generated through conditional heteroscedasticity. If an asset has high idiosyncratic conditional heteroscedasticity, negatively correlated with market returns, adding this asset to a fund will impart negative skewness through a large negative ICOSKEW.

Mitton and Vorkink (2007) and Barberis and Huang (2008) document that idiosyncratic skewness is priced and its relation with expected returns is negative. Boyer et al. (2010) empirically test the negative relation between idiosyncratic skewness and expected returns.

The decomposition of kurtosis is derived as follows:

$$E(r_i^4) = E[(\beta_i r_p + u_i)^4] = \underbrace{\beta_i^3 cov(r_i, r_p^3)}_{\text{COKURT}} + \underbrace{3\beta_i^3 cov(u_i, r_p^3)}_{\text{VOLCOMV}} + \underbrace{6\beta_i^2 E(r_p^2 u_i^2)}_{\text{VOLCOMV}} + \underbrace{4\beta_i cov(u_i^3, r_p)}_{\text{ICOKURT}} + \underbrace{E(u_i^4)}_{\text{RESKURT}} \quad (14)$$

This decomposition displays four sources of fund kurtosis: cokurtosis (COKURT), comovements of volatility (VOLCOMV), idiosyncratic cokurtosis (ICOKURT), and residual kurtosis (RESKURT). COKURT, VOLCOMV, and ICOKURT are exposed to the market and are classified as systematic tail risks. RESKURT is considered as idiosyncratic tail risk. The importance and validity of cokurtosis on asset returns are documented by Dittmar (2002).

The cokurtosis of an asset can impact the total kurtosis of the fund. Investors dislike fat-tails in returns and thus demand a positive risk premium on an asset with large kurtosis. Such an asset will increase the total kurtosis of the fund. If a manager constantly adopts the strategy of buying positive cokurtosis assets, the fund will show a large weight on cokurtosis in the kurtosis decomposition. In addition, since cokurtosis reflects the covariance between market skewness and individual fund returns, a fund with positive cokurtosis indicates a positive relation between the fund return and the skewness of the market returns.

The VOLCOMV term is the comovement of shocks to fund conditional volatility and market volatility. The negative relationship between these two shocks can reduce the kurtosis level of funds. Since investors prefer assets with lower kurtosis, fund managers can add assets, whose volatility moves oppositely to market volatility to achieve this goal. For example, a fund manager can engage

trades on variance swaps, VIX options, or VIX futures to reduce exposure to market volatility in extreme markets.

The concept of comovement of volatility is often applied across international markets (Hamao et al., 1990; Susmel and Engle, 1994). The comovement of volatility between the market and a fund can be interesting as well. Fund managers are known to use market-timing and market volatility timing strategies (Treyner and Mazuy, 1966; Merton and Henriksson, 1981; Busse (1999)). From the hedging perspective, if an investor's portfolio is exposed to the market, adding a fund which comoves with market volatility can be suboptimal due to kurtosis. Since kurtosis is the variance of the variance, a fund manager can add assets with high volatility comovements with the market to increase the kurtosis of the fund. When a fund exhibits a large VOLCOMV component, it is inferred that using comovements of volatility is a common strategy for the fund.

Following Chabi-Yo (2009), I refer to the covariance between idiosyncratic skewness and market returns as idiosyncratic cokurtosis. Like idiosyncratic coskewness, idiosyncratic cokurtosis can be interpreted as a weighted average of individual security call and put betas. For a single factor model, market upswings imply positive option betas and thus positive idiosyncratic cokurtosis.

$cov(u_i^3, r_p)$  can be rewritten as  $cov[E(u_i^3|r_p), r_p]$  or  $E[E(u_i^3|r_p), r_p]$  The idiosyncratic cokurtosis is implicitly embedded with a skewness-return relation and the magnitude of conditional heteroscedasticity. Conditional heteroscedasticity is a property of residual returns and kurtosis in fund returns can be induced by conditional heteroscedasticity from different assets. If fund managers prefer funds being less fat-tailed, in expectation of an increase in market returns, they can add assets with high idiosyncratic skewness covarying negatively with market returns. A trading strategy involving small cap stocks is one example.

Chabi-Yo (2009) extends his analysis to higher moments and concludes that risk premium on higher moments is driven by individual security call and put betas. Although the risk premium on idiosyncratic kurtosis is not well documented in the literature, a fund with a larger weight on idiosyncratic kurtosis implies that the manager has more flexibility in what and how to trade. For example, since HF managers constantly use high leverage and dynamic strategies, and are able to invest in a wider class of assets, HFs should exhibit a larger weight on RESSKEW and RESKURT.

The components in skewness and kurtosis decompositions are summarized below:

Table 2. Summary of Higher Moment Covariance Risks<sup>19</sup>

Components	Economic Interpretation	Type of Risk	Likely to be Driven by Compensation/ Fund Type
COSKEW	Covariance between fund returns and market volatility	Systematic	Systematic ( $\alpha=1$ )/ ETFs
ICOSKEW	Covariance between fund volatility and market returns		
RESSKEW	Idiosyncratic skewness held in the fund	Idiosyncratic	Convex ( $g=1$ )/ HFs
COKURT	Covariance between fund returns and market skewness	Systematic	Systematic ( $\alpha=1$ )/ ETFs
VOLCOMV	Covariance between fund volatility and market volatility		
ICOKURT	Covariance between fund skewness and market returns		
RESKURT	Idiosyncratic kurtosis held in the fund	Idiosyncratic	Convex ( $g=1$ )/ HFs

\*  $\alpha$  ( $g$ ) is the weight in compensation relative to benchmark (convex payoff).

Like beta risk, investors should concern themselves with different sources of tail risks. Investors fear those “black swans” that cause widespread disruption, and the components from skewness and kurtosis decompositions can help them identify the sources of tail risks in their portfolios. Market crashes cause not only spikes in market volatility, but also declines in market returns and skewness. COSKEW and VOLCOMV (ICOSKEW and ICOKURT) measure fund movement against market volatility (market returns). COKURT refers to the relation between fund performance and market skewness.

Investors always try to diversify risks across styles or types of funds. If investors want to hedge their investments against “black swans”, they should measure these components to identify the needs and choose an effective tail risk hedging mechanism accordingly. For instance, if a portfolio faces potential tail risks when economies skid, gold and treasuries are good hedging tools. On the other hand, if the significant portion of tail risks in a fund comes from COSKEW or VOLCOMV, one should look for volatility-based tail risk hedging mechanism, such as long-short strategies or managed futures.

<sup>19</sup> The simulated results from section 3 show that if a fund’s systematic (idiosyncratic) tail risks are increased with the weight in compensation relative to benchmark (convexity), COSKEW and COKURT (RESSKEW and RESKURT) are the main contributors, and ICOSKEW and ICOKURT contribute the least to fund tail risks. In other words, the model predicts that COSKEW and COKURT drive the systematic tail risks in ETFs and RESSKEW and RESKURT drive the idiosyncratic tail risks in HFs.

### 5.2.3. GMM ESTIMATION FOR SKEWNESS AND KURTOSIS DECOMPOSITIONS

The error terms of the time-series regression in (12) may suffer from heteroscedasticity, autocorrelation, and non-normality, and thus result in inefficient  $\beta$  coefficients and biased OLS standard errors. Furthermore, funds in the same group share commonalities in risk and strategies, and thereby the error terms may be correlated across funds and subject to possible fixed effects and clustering. Hansen's (1982) generalized method of moments (GMM) is the most robust estimation technique to allow for heteroscedasticity, autocorrelation, non-normality, and cross-sectional correlation in error terms. As such, GMM methodology is adopted to estimate the components from skewness and kurtosis decompositions.

The parameters for the skewness decomposition are  $\beta_i, \mu_i, \mu_p, COSKEW_i, ICOSKEW_i$  and  $RESSKEW_i$  for  $i = 1 \dots N$ .  $N$  is the number of funds in the same fund style or type.  $\mu_p$  is the expected return for the portfolio of funds.  $\mu_i$  is the expected return for fund  $i$ . Following equation (12) and (13) moment conditions for skewness are the following:

$$r_{i,t} = R_{i,t} - \mu_i \quad (15)$$

$$r_{p,t} = R_{p,t} - \mu_p \quad (16)$$

$$u_{i,1t} = (R_{p,t} - \mu_p)u_{i,t} \quad (17)$$

$$u_{i,2t} = COSKEW_i - \beta_i^3 r_{p,t}^3 - 3\beta_i^2 (r_{p,t}^2 u_{i,t}) \quad (18)$$

$$u_{i,3t} = ICOSKEW_i - 3\beta_i (r_{p,t} u_{i,t}^2) \quad (19)$$

$$u_{i,4t} = RESSKEW_i - u_{i,t}^3 \quad (20)$$

Similarly, the following moment conditions are used to estimate  $\beta_i, \mu_i, \mu_p, COKURT_i, ICOKURT_i, VOLCOMV_i, RESKURT_i$  in the kurtosis decomposition in equation (12) and (14).

$$r_{i,t} = R_{i,t} - \mu_i \quad (21)$$

$$r_{p,t} = R_{p,t} - \mu_p \quad (22)$$

$$u_{i,1t} = (R_{p,t} - \mu_p)u_{i,t} \quad (23)$$

$$u_{i,2t} = COKURT_i - \beta_i^4 r_{p,t}^4 - 4\beta_i^2 (r_{p,t}^3 u_{i,t}) \quad (24)$$

$$u_{i,3t} = VOLCOMV_i - 6\beta_i (r_{p,t}^2 u_{i,t}^2) \quad (25)$$

$$u_{i,4t} = ICOKURT_i - 4\beta_i (r_{p,t} u_{i,t}^3) \quad (26)$$

$$u_{i,5t} = RESKURT_i - u_{i,t}^4 \quad (27)$$

## 6. EMPIRICAL RESULTS

Table III (in Appendix) reports the skewness decomposition across fund types. The first column (EW portfolio skewness) is the total skewness for the equal-weighted portfolios of funds. The second column (individual skewness) is the average of total skewness across all funds in a given style. Individual funds' coskewness (COSKEW), idiosyncratic coskewness (ICOSKEW), and residual skewness (RESSKEW) are reported as the proportion of total fund skewness and they are denoted as COSKEW (%), ICOSKEW (%), and RESSKEW (%), respectively. All values at the style level are calculated as the equal-weighted average across all funds within the same style. Style averages are reported at the bottom of the fixed income styles, equity income styles, and all fund styles. FI Average is the average of statistics across fixed-income fund styles. EF Average is the average of statistics across equity fund styles. Group Average is the average of statistics across all fund styles.

Managed portfolios have negative skewness and excess kurtosis at both aggregate and individual fund levels. Note that the equal-weighted portfolio skewness and average fund skewness can be different, although for fixed income funds, both values are close. Equal-weighted portfolios of funds are constructed using all observations in a given month, but the number of funds changes over time. High attrition can make the distributions of the equal-weighted portfolios of funds negatively skewed. HFs are one example. Likewise, fund birth rates can affect the number of funds in a given month, and thus impact the distributions of the equal-weighted portfolios.

COSKEW is an important source of skewness across fund types. The proportions of CEF skewness are almost equal in the three components of skewness. The individual COSKEW, ICOSKEW, and RESSKEW are 40.48%, 33.32%, and 26.21%, respectively. Around 80% of ETF skewness is from COSKEW. OEF skewness mostly comes from COSKEW (71.17%) and HFs have a percentage of 65.93% on COSKEW. The large fractions of COSKEW in fund skewness suggest that market volatility has a strong impact on fund returns, and fund skewness risks are not diversified. Across fund types, HFs display the highest



percentage on RESSKEW (44.29%). This can reflect the asset classes HFs invest in, and the leverage and dynamic strategies HFs can undertake.

Most fixed income and equity fund styles have the largest component in COSKEW. Relative to fixed income CEFs and ETFs, fixed income OEFs have a highly negative percentage on ICOSKEW, and a highly positive percentage on RESSKEW. The negative percentage on ICOSKEW means that fund volatility decreases when market return drops. The hedging gains from ICOSKEW are counteracted by negative RESSKEW. This suggests that fixed income OEF managers use trading strategies that bear high idiosyncratic skewness risk or trade negatively skewed assets with high turnover. Equity ETFs and OEFs consistently have the highest percentages in COSKEW. Equity CEFs' percentage on three skewness components are close. This suggests that equity fund managers engage in trades or assets that make a big marginal contribution to the skewness of the market portfolio.

Panel E of Table III (in Appendix) provides the t-statistics on the comparison of the proportion of each component in fund skewness across fund types. The F-test of differences in the fractions of RESSKEW (%) show that all four fund types differ in RESSKEW (%). CSKEW (%) in ETFs and MFs are significantly different from CEFs or HFs. ICOSKEW (%) is more significant in CEFs and ETFs than OEFs. HFs' RESSKEW (%) is statistically significant than other fund types. This suggests that the sources of fund skewness differ across fund types, and not a single tail risk hedging strategy can work for all types of fund investors. For example, OEF investors can opt for tail risk hedging strategies based on ICOSKEW to reduce exposures to COSKEW.

The sign and magnitude of each skewness component can be determined by multiplying individual COSKEW (%), ICOSKEW (%), and RESSKEW (%) by the average fund skewness. CEFs, ETFs, OEFs, and HFs all have negative COSKEW and negative RESSKEW. This result denotes that investment fund returns and the market volatility move in opposite directions and fund managers add individual assets with negative skewness or fund-specific strategies generate negatively skewed payoff. Negative skewness is associated with high risk premiums. During crises, jumps in market volatility reduce fund skewness and negatively skewed bets can blow up. Investors can suffer from high skewness risk hidden in managed portfolios.

The sign of ICOSKEW depends on the correlation between a fund's idiosyncratic volatility and market returns. The relation can be positive or negative, and thus can be used to offset COSKEW. For example, large positive ICOSKEW means that assets' idiosyncratic risks in the fund are positively correlated with market returns. During crises, drops in returns yield positive skewness in fund returns and offset negative COSKEW. Empirical studies show that small growth firms have high idiosyncratic volatility; large value firms are

low idiosyncratic volatility stocks. Thus, ICOSKEW is more negative in the former.

OEFs and HFs have a negative sign on ICOSKEW (%) (positive values of ICOSKEW), but CEFs and ETFs have a positive sign on ICOSKEW (%) (negative values of ICOSKEW). HFs and OEFs have a positive relations between a fund's idiosyncratic volatility and market returns, but ETFs and CEFs have negative relations. That combined with the magnitude of ICOSKEW can reflect the asset characteristics a fund trades. The comparison of ICOSKEW suggests that HFs and CEFs prefer small growth stocks and ETFs and OEFs prefer large value stocks.

Table IV (in Appendix) presents results from the kurtosis decomposition. Individual components are reported as percentages of total fund kurtosis – COKURT (%), VOLCOMV (%), ICOKURT (%), and RESKURT (%). The average ETF and OEF fund has excess kurtosis below 3 and CEFs and HFs exhibit large kurtosis. This result confirms the analysis on the frequencies of tail returns. Fixed income funds have more kurtosis than equity funds. In particular, equity ETFs and equity OEFs show less fat-tailedness than other fund types.

COKURT (41.4%) and VOLCOMV (35.62%) contribute the most to the kurtosis of CEFs, including fixed income and equity CEFs. COKURT (67.46%) is the most important contributor to the kurtosis of both fixed income and equity ETFs. Fixed income and equity OEFs have the highest percentage on COKURT as well. HFs depend on RESKURT (39.60%) the most, and then VOLCOMV (33.81%). These results suggest that funds are subject to different types of systematic fat tail risks, and an effective tail risk hedging should reduce exposures an investor faces the most. Moreover, the fractions of combined COKURT and VOLCOMV exceed more than 50% of fund kurtosis, and it implies that too much systematic fat tail risk is not diversified away in funds as suggested by the portfolio theory. Since HFs have the highest percentage in residual tail risks (RESSKEW and RESKURT) across fund types, this confirms that HF managers commonly use idiosyncratic assets to improve performance. Across all fund styles and types, ICOKURT has minimal influence on total fund kurtosis.

Similar to skewness, a fund manager's trading strategies are reflected in COKURT, VOLCOMV, ICOKURT, and RESKURT. Results show that managed portfolios have positive COKURT, positive VOLCOMV, and positive RESKURT, suggesting fund returns and volatility are positively correlated with market volatility and skewness and idiosyncratic assets in funds are fat-tailed. When a fund manager has constantly trade illiquidity or volatility based products, such as VIX options or futures, the percentage on VOLCOMV will be high. HFs are one example. On the other hand, if a fund manager mostly trades assets in the benchmark, COKURT can have a high percentage. ETFs are one example. The high percentage in RESKURT can reflect a fund manager's flexibility in stock picking. Agency costs and compensation structure give a manager incentives to

take tail risks (low skewness and high kurtosis) to generate risk-adjusted returns over time.

Panel E of Table IV (in Appendix) summarizes the t-statistics associated with the comparison of the proportion of each kurtosis component across fund types. COKURT (%) in fund kurtosis are ranked from high to low as OEFs, ETFs, CEFs, and HFs, and pairwise comparisons show statistical differences. Interestingly, RESKURT (%) yields the opposite ranking, i.e. HFs, CEFs, ETFs, and OEFs. VOLCOMV (%) is the highest in CEFs and statistically different from other fund types. The sources of fat tail risks are more heterogeneous across fund types than those of skewness risks. These results support the argument that volatility based tail hedging is not effective for all fund types since COKURT, VOLCOMV, and RESKURT reflect different types of covariance risks with extreme market movements in market returns, volatility, and skewness.

The comparison of the same style across fund types exhibits some differences in the skewness and kurtosis decomposition. For instance, equity global OEFs have the largest component in COSKEW, but most of skewness of equity global CEFs come from RESSKEW. Although COSKEW contributes the most to long-short strategies, long-short OEFs rely more on COKURT, but equity hedge HFs face more fat tail risks from RESKURT. The inconsistency shows that different fund types rely on trading strategies that induce different levels of systematic and idiosyncratic skewness and fat tail risks, even their fund objective is the same.

The skewness and kurtosis decomposition help understand the trading strategies commonly used by fund managers and priced risks across fund types. If a fund manager tends to add negatively coskewed assets to increase expected returns, one would observe negative COSKEW in the fund. If a fund manager often chooses assets with high idiosyncratic volatility or negative idiosyncratic skewness, the fund will exhibit higher percentage on ICOSKEW or ICOKURT. If the skewness or kurtosis of a fund comes mostly from the idiosyncratic component of returns, one can conclude that the fund uses individual assets to increase fund expected returns. If a fund's common trading strategy is to rely on volatility comovement between the assets and the market, the source of kurtosis of the fund will mostly come from VOLCOMV.

More importantly, the examination of each component from the skewness and kurtosis decomposition conclude that managed funds are subject to different sources of tail risks. This has several important implications. First, it is hard to diversify tail risks in managed portfolios. Because COSKEW, COKURT, and VOLCOMV contribute to most tail risks and they all have the same signs and similar magnitudes for all fund types, fund returns and volatility of all fund types will move towards the same direction when market volatility jumps or market skewness declines drastically. Heterogeneity in the percentage of components

across fund styles suggests that investors can select a specific style and fund type to match their needs to hedge tail risks. Moreover, the fund industry claims that HFs can be used to hedge tail risks because of the flexibility in asset classes and trading strategies. Equity hedge and macro HFs do have less negative skewness, but style averages show that most HF styles are still subject to tail risks, especially idiosyncratic tail risks. For example, fund of hedge funds invest in a variety of different hedge funds, but their idiosyncratic tail risks are not well reduced (skewness of -0.459 and excess kurtosis of 0.588).

Second, the measures of these components help investors examine tail risks in their investment portfolios. The appropriate tail risk hedging fund should match investors' risk profiles on these components. Like hedging beta risk, investors can look for low beta securities or industries to reduce systematic risk. For instance, if an investor's portfolio consists of low COSKEW and high VOLCOMV, s/he should look for a tail risk hedging fund that offers fund returns positively correlated with market volatility and fund volatility negatively correlated with market volatility to reduce systematic tail risks.

Third, a one-size-fits-all tail risk hedging mechanism does not work for all funds. A fund negatively correlated to investors' portfolios is not sufficient to hedge tail risks. The fund industry has been launching volatility-based tail risk hedging funds, which guarantee a convex payoff to the upside during periods of market crisis. However, an effectively tail risk hedging mechanism should consider how fund returns and volatility respond to extreme movements in market returns, volatility, and skewness. These components capture different sources of tail risks, and thus policy makers and fund managers should examine these components on any funds.

Measurement errors are associated with estimation of skewness and kurtosis. All funds are kept with at least 12 monthly returns. This causes a trade-off between survivorship bias and measurement errors. The components in the kurtosis decomposition have higher statistical significance than those in the skewness decomposition. RESKURT and VOLCOMV are statistically significant at 5% for most fund styles and types. On the other hand, three components of the skewness decomposition yield low statistical significance.

Based on model predictions, across fund types, HFs (ETFs) should be subject to idiosyncratic risk the most (least). The compensation structure of ETFs is tied to systematic returns with no convexity. Some OEFs are subject to explicit incentive fees and their assets have been growing (Elton et al., 2003). Moreover, the fund-flow performance relation is convex for OEFs. The implicit convexity for CEFs may come from fund tournament or price premium/discount relative to net asset values. The compensation structure for CEFs depends more weight on idiosyncratic returns than ETFs, because of active management in CEFs and index-tracking in ETFs. The percentage of RESSKEW for HFs, OEFs, CEFs, and

ETFs are 44.29%, 26.21%, 31.27%, and 5.74%, respectively. For the kurtosis decomposition, HFs, OEFs, CEFs, and ETFs have the percentage of RESKURT as follows: 39.60%, 23.45%, 11.91%, and 10.30%. These results coincide with the model predictions.

The total fund skewness from low to high is HFs, OEFs, CEFs, and ETFs. This ranking is predicted by the model. The total fund excess kurtosis for CEFs is the highest, but only slightly above HFs. Figure 2 suggest that it is possible if the  $\alpha$  (the return decomposition parameter) and  $g$  (the convexity parameter) for CEFs on average is close to 0. OEFs have the lowest kurtosis, but very close to ETFs. The model fails to predict the result of total fund kurtosis, but it can be attributed to the assumed range of  $\alpha$  and  $g$  for OEFs.

The order of skewness holds across fixed-income funds, but the result for kurtosis is mixed across equity funds. The percentages for fixed-income funds across ETFs, CEFs, and OEFs are 7.62%, 11.33%, and 73.23%, respectively, for the skewness decomposition. The kurtosis decomposition also shows that fixed-income ETFs have the lowest weight (13.30%) on the idiosyncratic component. Equity ETFs have the percentage on RESSKEW and RESKURT – 4.48% and 8.29%, respectively, but equity OEFs have the lowest percentage on RESKURT.

The empirical results and model predictions are in line with Starks (1987). She concludes that the “symmetric” contract does not necessarily eliminate agency costs, but it better aligns the interests between investors and managers than the “bonus” contract. Since ETFs use a symmetric contract and HFs use a bonus contract, the alignment of interests is worse for HFs but agency costs still exist in both funds. This implication is reflected in the differences in skewness and kurtosis between these two types of funds. ETFs are less negatively skewed and fat-tailed. HFs are more negatively skewed and more leptokurtic. ETFs are subject to more systematic tail risks, and HFs are subject to more idiosyncratic tail risks.

## 7. ROBUSTNESS ANALYSIS

### 7.1. An Application of the Model on Mutual Funds

All moments in the model in section IV are standardized. One set of parameters from mutual funds is applied to the model. Brown, Goetzmann, Ibbotson, and Ross (1992) simulate mutual fund returns by the following:

$$R_{i,j} = r_f + \beta_i(R_{p,j} - r_f) + \epsilon_{i,j} \quad (28)$$

where the risk free rate is 0.07 and the risk premium is assumed to be normal with mean 0.086 and standard deviation 0.208.  $\beta_i$  follows the normal distribution with

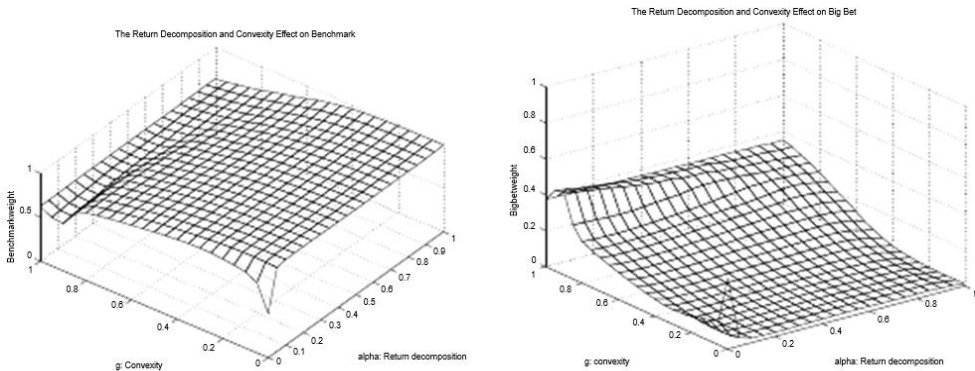
mean 0.95 and standard deviation 0.25 cross-sectionally. The idiosyncratic term  $Q_{i,j}$  is assumed to be normal with mean 0 and standard deviation  $\sigma_i$ . The relationship between nonsystematic risk and  $\beta_i$  is approximated as:

$$\sigma_i^2 = k(1 - \beta_i)^2 \quad (29)$$

The value of  $k$  is 0.05349. Note that  $\beta_i(R_{p,j} - r_f)$  and  $\epsilon_{i,j}$  are equivalent to  $r_{p,j}$  and  $r_{BB,j}$  in the model, representing systematic and idiosyncratic components of returns. These parameters are implemented in the model and display the model's predictions for the relation between the return decomposition (convexity) effect and the optimal weight on the market portfolio and the big bet in Figure 4.

To summarize, the model predictions hold in a qualitatively similar manner. Convexity induces fund managers to take idiosyncratic big bets and increased weights in compensation relative to a benchmark cause fund managers to invest more in the benchmark and thus yield more systematic tail risks.

Figure 4. The Optimal Weight of the Benchmark and Big Bet



Source: own study based on the model outputs.

The return decomposition parameter  $\alpha$  and the convexity parameter  $g$  are the weight of the systematic return and convex payoff in managerial compensation, respectively. Z-axis is the optimal weight.

## 7.2. Autocorrelation

Stale pricing or serial correlation of returns has the most significant impact on HFs among fund types. Due to the unique characteristics of HFs, such as limited regulations and the lockup and notice periods, HF managers have more flexibility

in trading illiquid assets. Since current prices may not be available for illiquid assets, HF managers commonly use past prices to estimate them. As a result, the presence of illiquid assets can lead to significant serial correlation on HF returns. This link is supported by Getmansky et al. (2004), who conclude that illiquidity and smoothed returns are the main source of serial correlation in HFs. The existence of serial correlation in returns can affect HF performance and statistics (Lo, 2002; Jagannathan et al., 2010).

Following Asness et al. (2001) and Getmansky et al. (2004), let the true but unobserved demeaned return satisfy the following regression:

$$r_{i,t}^* = \beta_i^* r_{p,t} + u_{i,t}^*, \quad E(u_{i,t}) = 0, r_{p,t} \text{ and } u_{i,t}^* \text{ are i. i. d.}$$

Three lags are used to model autocorrelations of the observed demeaned returns. The observed demeaned return  $r_{i,t}$  is thus modelled as:

$$\begin{aligned} r_{i,t} &= \theta_0 r_{i,t}^* + \theta_1 r_{i,t-1}^* + \theta_2 r_{i,t-2}^* \\ &= \beta_i^* (\theta_0 r_{p,t} + \theta_1 r_{p,t-1} + \theta_2 r_{p,t-2}) \\ &\quad + (\theta_0 u_{i,t}^* + \theta_1 u_{i,t-1}^* + \theta_2 u_{i,t-2}^*) \\ &= \beta_{0,i} \theta_0 r_{p,t} + \beta_{1,i} \theta_1 r_{p,t-1} + \beta_{2,i} \theta_2 r_{p,t-2} + \eta_{i,t} \\ &= (\beta_{0,i} + \beta_{1,i} + \beta_{2,i}) (R_{p,t} - \mu_p) + \tilde{u}_{i,t} \end{aligned}$$

The last equation is used by Asness et al. (2001) to compute the “summed beta” Sharpe ratios for HFs. They estimate coefficients by the second to last equation and consider the summation of three coefficients as the true beta. They therefore compute the “summed beta” residuals as:

$$\tilde{u}_{i,t}^* = r_{i,t} - \tilde{\beta}_i^* (R_{p,t} - \mu_p)$$

where  $\tilde{\beta}_i^*$  is the true or “summed beta”, i.e.  $\tilde{\beta}_i^* = \beta_{0,i} + \beta_{1,i} + \beta_{2,i}$ . The same approach is followed to construct moment conditions. GMM moment conditions are modified as follows. For skewness decomposition:

$$r_{i,t} = R_{i,t} - \mu_i$$

$$r_{p,t} = R_{p,t} - \mu_p$$

$$u_{i,t} = (R_{i,t} - \mu_i - \beta_{0,i}(R_{p,t} - \mu_p) - \beta_{1,i}(R_{p,t-1} - \mu_p) - \beta_{2,i}(R_{p,t-2} - \mu_p)) - (R_{p,t} - \mu_p)$$



$$u_{i,2t} = (R_{i,t} - \mu_i - \beta_{0,i}(R_{p,t} - \mu_p) - \beta_{1,i}(R_{p,t-1} - \mu_p) - \beta_{2,i}(R_{p,t-2} - \mu_p))(R_{p,t-1} - \mu_p)$$

$$u_{i,3t} = (R_{i,t} - \mu_i - \beta_{0,i}(R_{p,t} - \mu_p) - \beta_{1,i}(R_{p,t-1} - \mu_p) - \beta_{2,i}(R_{p,t-2} - \mu_p))(R_{p,t-2} - \mu_p)$$

$$u_{i,4t} = \text{COSKEW}_i - \tilde{\beta}_i^* r_{p,t}^3 - 3\tilde{\beta}_i^{*2} (r_{p,t}^2 \tilde{u}_{i,t}^*)$$

$$u_{i,5t} = \text{ICOSKEW}_i - \tilde{\beta}_i^* (r_{p,t} \tilde{u}_{i,t}^{*2})$$

$$u_{i,6t} = \text{RESSKEW}_i - \tilde{u}_{i,t}^3$$

For kurtosis decomposition:

$$r_{i,t} = R_{i,t} - \mu_i$$

$$r_{p,t} = R_{p,t} - \mu_p$$

$$u_{i,1t} = (R_{i,t} - \mu_i - \beta_{0,i}(R_{p,t} - \mu_p) - \beta_{1,i}(R_{p,t-1} - \mu_p) - \beta_{2,i}(R_{p,t-2} - \mu_p))(R_{p,t} - \mu_p)$$

$$u_{i,2t} = (R_{i,t} - \mu_i - \beta_{0,i}(R_{p,t} - \mu_p) - \beta_{1,i}(R_{p,t-1} - \mu_p) - \beta_{2,i}(R_{p,t-2} - \mu_p))(R_{p,t-1} - \mu_p)$$

$$u_{i,3t} = (R_{i,t} - \mu_i - \beta_{0,i}(R_{p,t} - \mu_p) - \beta_{1,i}(R_{p,t-1} - \mu_p) - \beta_{2,i}(R_{p,t-2} - \mu_p))(R_{p,t-2} - \mu_p)$$

$$u_{i,4t} = \text{COKURT}_i - \tilde{\beta}_i^* r_{p,t}^4 - 4\tilde{\beta}_i^{*3} (r_{p,t}^3 \tilde{u}_{i,t}^*)$$

$$u_{i,5t} = \text{VOLCOMV}_i - 6\tilde{\beta}_i^{*2} (r_{p,t}^2 \tilde{u}_{i,t}^{*2})$$

$$u_{i,6t} = \text{CONSKT}_i - 4\tilde{\beta}_i^* (r_{p,t} \tilde{u}_{i,t}^{*3})$$

$$u_{i,7t} = \text{RESKURT}_i - \tilde{u}_{i,t}^4$$

The decomposition results (%) for skewness and kurtosis are reported in Table V (in Appendix). Overall, the tail risk decompositions are robust to autocorrelation. The weight on RESSKEW increases slightly and the weight on RESKURT stays almost the same. COSKEW and RESSKEW are still the top two contributors to HF skewness. The components of VOLCOMV and RESKURT occupy the most weights in HF kurtosis. More interestingly, in contrast to the finding in Asness et al. (2001) that beta risk increases after stale prices are adjusted, idiosyncratic tail risks for HFs slightly increase. This may suggest that stale pricing helps identify true idiosyncratic tail risks undertaken by HF managers.

### 7.3. Exogenous Systematic Factors

Different fund types are subject to different exogenous systematic factors due to risk characteristics. ETFs are passive and index-tracking, and therefore returns are highly correlated with market factors. The premiums on CEFs are related to market risk, small-firm risk, and book-to-market risk (Lee et al., 1991; Swaminathan, 1996; Pontiff, 1997). Carhart (1997) shows that momentum plays an important role in mutual fund performance. Non-linearities in HF returns may suggest some systematic factors representing option-like payoffs (Fung and Hsieh, 2001; Agarwal and Naik, 2004).

Following the literature, Fama-French 3-factor model is used for equity ETFs and CEFs, Carhart 4-factor model for equity OEFs and Fung and Hsieh 7-factor model for HFs. For bond funds, two more Barclay bond indexes are added – the Barclay U.S. government/credit index and corporation bond index. Fama-French 3-factors are value-weighted market excess returns, and two factor-mimicking portfolios SMB and HML. SMB and HML measure the observed excess returns of small caps over big caps and of value stocks over growth stocks. Carhart adds the momentum factor on top of Fama-French 3-factors. The momentum factor is constructed by the monthly return difference between one-year prior high over low momentum stocks. Fung and Hsieh 7-factors include the equity and bond market factor, the size spread factor<sup>20</sup>, the credit spread factors<sup>21</sup>, and three lookback straddles on bond futures, currency futures, and commodity futures.

For simplicity, this paper adopts the single-factor model to illustrate economic intuitions on components of skewness and kurtosis decompositions. Beta-weighted time series of aforementioned factors are constructed to decompose systematic and idiosyncratic tail risks. Table VI and VII (in Appendix) show the results<sup>22</sup>.

First, COSKEW contributes the most to total fund skewness, except HFs. COKURT is the most contributing source to total fund kurtosis for ETFs and OEFs. In addition, HFs (ETFs) have the largest (smallest) weight on RESSKEW

<sup>20</sup> Wilshire Small Cap 1750 - Wilshire Large Cap 750 return.

<sup>21</sup> Month-end to month-end change in the difference between Moody's Baa yield and the Federal Reserve's 10-year constant-maturity yield.

<sup>22</sup> Equal-weighted exogenous factors are also constructed, but across all fund types and styles, RESSKEW and RESKURT consistently have the highest percentages among all components in both skewness and kurtosis decompositions. This result reflects that equal-weighted exogenous factors do not appropriately capture time-variation in systematic tail risks and implies that investors can diversify tail risks across fund types. A further analysis on the correlation between equal-weighted portfolios of funds and equal-weighted exogenous factors shows that the decomposition of the systematic and idiosyncratic tail risks is sensitive to the chosen benchmarks, i.e. low correlation between the endogenous and exogenous benchmarks implies the increased percentage of RESSKEW and RESKURT. All results are available upon request.

and RESKURT. Second, RESSKEW and RESKURT tend to be higher for fixed income funds when beta-weighted exogenous factors are used. This spurious result may be induced by missing bond factors, such as a high-yield index or a global bond index.

#### **7.4. Year 1996-2008**

The starting period of four fund types differs in this study. However, the time-variation of economic states, such as changes in yields and business cycles, may impose differential impacts on “economy-wide” shocks on funds. Using the same time intervals for all four fund types can ascertain that all funds are subject to the same economic shocks at any time. If the pattern of skewness and kurtosis decomposition holds, the percentage of each component should be robust to the same starting period. Therefore, all investment funds are restricted to have the same starting date as HFs and perform GMM on this subsample of data.

The main inferences remain qualitatively unchanged, when the dataset for all funds is restricted between the period from 1996 to 2008 only. Note that this period also excludes the 1987 stock market crash. COSKEW contributes the most to the skewness of all fund types. COKURT and VOLCOMV are the two largest components in kurtosis decomposition for CEFs, ETFs, and OEFs. HFs’ kurtosis comes mostly from the VOLCOMV and RESKURT. At the style level of each fund type, few fund styles have different proportions in skewness and kurtosis decompositions. It may imply that each component is time-varying at the style level. However, at the aggregate fund type level, the percentage on each component stays the same. In addition, HFs (ETFs) have the largest (least) weights on idiosyncratic tail risks.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

Different styles and types of managed portfolios execute different strategies and objectives. Traditional fund managers can make investment decisions based on returns and volatility of different individual assets. They can also adjust exposure to systematic factors or asset classes, such as size, book-to-market, or momentum. However, many stylized facts on financial asset returns refute the validity of the mean-variance framework, and market-timing and stock-picking strategies can induce systematic and idiosyncratic tail risks.

This study shows that managed portfolios are subject to tail risks. The frequency of tail returns shows that CEFs and HFs are subject to more total tail risks. ETFs show a disparity in the frequency between the systematic and idiosyncratic tail returns. Therefore, fund managers may manage systematic and idiosyncratic tail risks through investing in assets with desired properties and tail

risks. For instance, a manager can generate abnormal returns by adding assets with negative coskewness or positive cokurtosis or selecting negatively skewed or positively kurtosised assets. The skewness and kurtosis decompositions show the mechanisms fund managers may use to manage tail risks.

Skewness and kurtosis decompositions introduce economically important components. These components reflect fund returns and volatility with respect to extreme movements in market returns, volatility, and skewness. Skewness is decomposed into coskewness, idiosyncratic coskewness, and residual skewness. Coskewness and idiosyncratic coskewness are relatively important in the total fund skewness, but all three components do not show statistical significance. Kurtosis can be decomposed into four components – cokurtosis, volatility comovement, idiosyncratic cokurtosis, and residual kurtosis. The volatility comovement and residual kurtosis contribute the most to the total fund kurtosis at a statistically significant level. Results of the skewness and kurtosis decompositions are robust to benchmarks used.

The fund tail risks are linked to compensation structure across fund types through a simple model. There are two main determinants of compensation schemes – the decomposition between the systematic and idiosyncratic returns (return decomposition effect), and the convexity or degree of optionlike payoffs (convexity effect). The model predicts that the increased weight on systematic returns can increase market exposure, and in turn increase total skewness and decrease total kurtosis. In addition, increased convexity can increase idiosyncratic tail risks, and thus reduce asymmetry and raise fat-tailedness. Empirical results confirm both predictions.

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## APPENDICES

### Appendix A

#### A.1 THE NUMERICAL PROCEDURE FOR THE OPTIMIZATION PROBLEM

A fund manager solves for the optimal unconditional weight based on returns up to time  $t$ . Steps are the following:

- (a) Generate 10,000 jointly independent random variables  $(U, V)$  from the T-Copula.
- (b) Solve for the optimal weight:

$$w = \underset{t_{j=1}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \frac{1^t}{t} U(W_j)$$

- (c) Simulate step (a) to (c) 1000 times.

#### A.2 CONDITIONING BIASES AND BENCHMARKS

The literature has documented the following biases in fund datasets and they might differ across fund types and bias results on tail risks.

Incubation bias is referred to as fund families start several new funds, but only open funds that succeed in the evaluation period to the public. Evans (2007) shows that incubated mutual funds outperform non-incubated funds. Incubation creates upward bias on fund returns and thus increase skewness and reduce kurtosis. In addition, when a fund enters to the database, its past return history is automatically added to the database. The addition of past returns causes backfilling bias and it can bias fund skewness upwards and kurtosis downwards.

For OEFs, returns before the fund inception date are deleted to avoid incubation bias. This step follows from Evans' (2007) initial approach since the complete list of mutual fund tickers and their creation dates from NASD are not accessible. Fund returns for the first year are also deleted to remove backfill bias. For HFs, returns before the inception date are dropped to remove incubation bias. Aggarwal and Jorion (2010) use the data field "date added to database" in TASS dataset and find the median backfill period is 480 days. The same approach is adopted to clean out back-filled HF returns.

Stale prices mean that reported asset prices do not reflect correct true prices, possibly due to illiquidity, non-synchronous trading, or bid-ask bounce. These characteristics can cause serial-correlation in returns. HFs suffer from this bias the most, and are adjusted for stale prices in the robustness analysis.

If a study includes only funds that survive until the end of the sample period, survivorship bias occurs. The survival probability of funds depends on past



performance (Brown and Goetzmann, 1995). Managers who take significant risk and win will survive. Therefore, the database is left with high risk and high return surviving funds. The survivorship bias imparts a downward bias to risk, and an upward bias to alpha (e.g. Carhart, 1997; Blake and Timmermann, 1998). It also induces more positive skewness and less fat-tailedness.

CEFs may suffer also from survivorship bias, due to the commonly observed discounts on traded prices. The discounts may lead to liquidation or reorganization (“open-ending”) and leave the dataset with surviving funds. Although the exit rate for ETFs is low, survivorship bias might still affect their tail risks. To avoid survivorship bias, the lists of ETFs and CEFs are downloaded from the Morningstar survivorship free database. OEFs are taken from the CRSP survivorship free database.

The survivorship bias is more complex for HFs. HFs may decide to stop reporting because of liquidation or self-selection (Ter Horst and Verbeek, 2007; Jagannathan et al., 2010). Liquidation refers to underperforming funds exiting the database. Self-selection is associated with a fund’s decision to be included in the database. For instance, outperforming HFs have less incentives to report performance to attract new investors and fund managers may switch to another data vendor for marketing purposes. Both live and dead hedge fund returns are combined from HFR to eliminate survivorship bias.

The look-ahead bias arises when funds are required to survive some minimum length of time after a reference date. One type of look-ahead bias applicable to this study is the look-ahead benchmark bias (Daniel et al., 2009). Since the time series of styles are not kept in the database, funds that change styles over time may suffer from look-ahead benchmark bias. This omission can bias risk-adjusted returns and tail risks. The portfolios of funds for OEFs are constructed look-ahead bias free. Monthly returns are used only after the beginning of the assigned style. No ex-post style returns are used.

ETFs and CEFs are subject to look-ahead bias as well since no data vendors keep the history of their classification codes. However, it is unlikely these funds will change investment styles through time, given their fund characteristics<sup>23</sup>.

Investment funds with less than twelve months of returns are excluded and all investment funds maintain the same investment strategy for at least twelve months. Fund managers are usually evaluated at the end of year and the minimum of 12 observations offer sufficient degrees of freedom for GMM estimation<sup>24</sup>.

<sup>23</sup> ETFs are index funds and CEFs do not allow the redemption of shares after IPO.

<sup>24</sup> Two mutual funds (CRSP Fund ID 031241 in fixed income index and 01108 in fixed income government) and two HFs (HFR Fund ID 17393 and 21981 in relative value) are removed from this study manually because the percentages on the components in skewness and kurtosis decompositions by GMM estimation are so large that the average weights across individual funds are heavily skewed. All four funds have no monthly returns outside 3 standard deviation from the

Nevertheless, attempts to control these ex-post conditional biases may be imperfect. By construction, HFs might still suffer limited look-ahead benchmark bias and no change of styles in ETFs and CEFs is assumed. Lack of NASD data might leave backfill bias in the mutual fund sample. In addition, it is known that the coverage of HFs has little overlap across different data vendors. Relying on only HFR data may not represent the whole HF industry.

HFR provides main and sub strategy classification codes for HFs. Main strategy classification codes is used. Style classification codes for ETFs and CEFs are from Morningstar. The Morningstar classification codes for ETFs and CEFs are commonly used on many financial websites and easily accessible to investors. For OEFs, style classification codes in the CRSP mutual fund database are used. The database uses five different classification codes to cover disjoint time periods. POLICY codes are used before 1990. CRSP uses WIESENBERGER (WB OBJ) codes between 1990 to the end of 1992. Strategic Insight Objective (SI OBJ) codes cover from 1993 to September, 1998. Lipper Objective (Lipper OBJ) codes are used up to 2008. Most recent funds are classified by Thomson Reuters Objective (TR OBJ) codes.

Benchmark data are from the following sources. Market excess returns, SMB and HML factors are obtained from Ken French's website<sup>25</sup>. The momentum factor is downloaded from CRSP. The seven HF factors<sup>26</sup> are downloaded from David Hsieh's website<sup>27</sup>. The Barclay U.S. government/credit index (LHGVCRP) and corporate bond index (LHCCORP) are downloaded from Datastream.

### A.3 OPEN-ENDED FUND STYLES

Funds with the following style codes are considered fixed income funds - POLICY in B&P, Bonds, Flex, GS, or I-S; WB OBJ in I, S, I-S, S-I, I-G-S, I-S-G, S-G-I, CBD, CHY, GOV, IFL, MTG, BQ, BY, GM, or GS; SI OBJ in BGG, BGN, BGS, CGN, CHQ, CHY, CIM, CMQ, CPR, CSI, CSM, GBS, GGN, GIM, GMA, GMB, GSM, or IMX; Lipper Class in 'TX' or 'MB'; Lipper OBJ in EMD, GLI, INI, SID, SUS, SUT, USO, GNM, GUS, GUT, IUG, IUS, ARM, USM, A, BBB, or HY; and TR OBJ in AAG, BAG, GLI, BDS, GVA, GVL, GVS, UST, MTG, CIG, or CHY. Funds with holdings in bonds and cash less than 70% at the end of the previous year are further screened out.

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mean. Removing these four funds has minimal effects on the univariate statistics of the style that they belong to.

<sup>25</sup> www2.

<sup>26</sup> The equity and bond market factor, the size spread factor, two credit spread factors, and three lookback straddles on bond futures, currency futures, and commodity futures.

<sup>27</sup> www3.

Fixed income funds (FI) are classified as Index, Global, Short Term, Government, Mortgage, Corporate, and High Yield. Index funds (FI Index) are selected by matching the string “index” with the fund name. Global funds are coded as SI OBJ in BGG or BGN, Lipper OBJ in EMD, GLI, or INI, or TR OBJ in AAG, BAG, or GLI.

Short term funds are coded as SI OBJ in CSM, CPR, BGS, GMA, GBS, or GSM, Lipper OBJ in SID, SUS, SUT, USO, or TR OBJ in BDS. Government funds are coded as POLICY in GS, WB OBJ in GOV or GS, SI OBJ in GIM or GGN, or Lipper OBJ in GNM, GUS, GUT, IUG, or IUS, or TR OBJ in GVA, GVL, GVS, or UST. Mortgage funds are coded as POLICY WB OBJ in MTG, GM, SI OBJ in GMB, Lipper OBJ in ARM or USM, or TR OBJ in MTG. Corporate funds are coded as POLICY in B&P, WB OBJ in CBD,BQ, SI OBJ in CHQ, CIM, CGN, CMQ, Lipper OBJ in A, BBB, or TR OBJ in CIG. High Yield funds are coded as POLICY in Bonds, WB OBJ in I-G-S, I-S-G, S-G-I, BY, CHY, SI OBJ in CHY, Lipper OBJ in HY, TR OBJ in CHY. Other funds are funds that are classified as bond funds but do not meet the criteria above.

Similarly, the following codes are used to screen out equity funds – POLICY in Bal, C&I, CS, Hedge, or Spec; WB OBJ in G, G-I, I-G, AAL, BAL, ENR, FIN, GCI, GPM, HLT, IEQ, INT, LTG, MCG, SCG, TCH, UTL, AG, AGG, BL, GE, GI, IE, LG, OI, PM, SF, or UT; SI OBJ AGG, BAL, CVR, ECH, ECN, EGG, EGS, EGT, EGX, EID, EIG, EIS, EIT, EJP, ELT, EPC, EPR, EPX, ERP, FIN, FLG, FLX, GLD, GLE, GMC, GRI, GRO, HLT, ING, JPN, OPI, PAC, SCG, SEC, TEC, or UTI; Lipper Class in EQ; Lipper OBJ in SP, SPSP, AU, BM, CMD, NR, FS, H, ID, S, TK, TL, UT, CH, CN, CV, DM, EM, EU, FLX, GFS, GH, GL, GLCC, GLCG, GLCV, GMLC, GMLG, GMLV, GS, GSMC, GSME, GSMG, GSMV, GNR, GTK, IF, ILCC, ILCG, ILCV, IMLC, IMLG, IMLV, IS, ISMC, ISMG, ISMV, JA, LT, PC, XJ, B, BT, CA, DL, DSB, ELCC, LSE, SESE, MC, MCCE, MCGE, MCVE, MR, SCCE, SCGE, SCVE, SG, G, GI, EI, EIEI; and TR OBJ in AAD, AAG, AGG, BAD, BAG, CVT, EME, ENR, EQI, FIN, FOR, GCI, GLE, GPM, GRD, HLT, MID, OTH, SMC, SPI, TCH, UTL. Funds with holdings in bonds and cash less than 70% at the end of the previous year are further screened out.

Equity funds (EF) are classified as Index, commodities, Sector, Global, Balanced, Leverage and Short, Long Short, Mid Cap, Small Cap, Aggressive Growth, Growth, Growth and Income, Equity Income, and Others. Index funds (EF Index) are identified by finding the match of the string “index” within the fund name or funds with Lipper OBJ in SP or SPSP, or TR OBJ in SPI.

Commodities funds are coded as WB OBJ in ENR, GPM, PM, SI OBJ in GLD Lipper OBJ in AU, BM, CMD, NR, or TR OBJ in ENR, GPM. Sector funds are coded as POLICY in Spec, WB OBJ in FIN, HLT, TCH, UTL, SF, UT, SI OBJ in FIN,HLT, Lipper OBJ in FS, H, ID, S, TK, TL, UT, or TR OBJ in FIN,

HLT, OTH, TCH, UTL. Global funds are coded as POLICY in C&I, WB OBJ in INT, GE, IE, SI OBJ in ECH, ECN, EGG, EGS, EGT, EGX, EID, EIG, EIS, EIT, EJP, ELT, EPC, EPX, ERP, FLG, GLE, JPN, PAC, Lipper OBJ CH, CN, DM, EM, EU, GFS, GH, GL, GLCC, GLCG, GLCV, GMLC, GMLG, GMLV, GS, GSMC, GSME, GSMG, GSMV, GNR, GTK, IF, ILCC, ILCG, ILCV, IMLC, IMLG, IMLV, IS, ISMC, ISMG, ISMV, JA, LT, PC, XJ, TR OBJ in EME, FOR, GLE. Balanced funds are coded as POLICY in Bal, WB OBJ in AAL, BAL, BL, SI OBJ in BAL, CVR, FLX, Lipper OBJ in B, BT, CV, FLX, or TR OBJ in AAD, BAD, AAG, BAG, CVT. Leverage and short funds are coded as POLICY in Hedge, WB OBJ in OI, SI OBJ in OPI, or Lipper OBJ in CA, DL, DSB, ELCC, SESE. Long short funds are coded as Lipper OBJ in LSE. Mid cap funds are coded as WB OBJ in GMC, Lipper OBJ in MC, MCCE, MCGE, MCVE, TR OBJ in MID. Small cap funds are coded as WB OBJ in SCG, Lipper OBJ in MR, SCCE, SCGE, SCVE, SG, or TR OBJ in SMC. Aggressive growth funds are coded as WB OBJ in GI, GCI, SI OBJ in AGG, or TR OBJ in AGG. Growth funds are coded as WB OBJ in G, LG, SI OBJ in GRO, Lipper OBJ in G, or TR OBJ in GRD. Growth and income funds are coded as WB OBJ in GI, GCI, SI OBJ in GRI, Lipper OBJ in GI, or TR OBJ in GCI. Equity income funds are coded as WB OBJ in EI, IEQ, Lipper OBJ in EI, EIEI, or TR OBJ in EQI. Other funds are funds that are classified as equity funds but do not meet the criteria above.

## Appendix – Tables

TABLE I. SUMMARY STATISTICS

This table reports summary statistics for average funds across fund styles and types. Nofunds is the total number of funds. Nobs is the average number of nonmissing time series observations of average funds. Each statistic for a style is reported as the cross-sectional average of statistics of individual funds in the same style. Mean is the average mean, std is the average standard deviation, skewness is the average skewness, kurtosis is the average excess kurtosis,  $\rho_1$  is the average first order sample autocorrelation,  $\rho_2$  is the average second order sample autocorrelation, and  $\rho_3$  is the average third order sample autocorrelation. Reported statistics are in percentage per month. JB is the Jarque Bera p-value for test for normality. JB test statistic is  $\frac{Nobs}{6} \left( Skewness^2 + \frac{Kurtosis^2}{4} \right)$ . LQ is the Ljung-Box q statistics for the test of lag-3 autocorrelation.

LQ test statistic is  $Nobs(Nobs + 2) \sum_{j=1}^3 \frac{\rho_j}{Nobs-j}$ . FI Average is the average of statistics across fixed-income fund styles. EF Average is the average of statistics across equity fund styles. Group Average is the average of statistics across all fund styles.

## Tail Risks Across Investment Funds

Style	Nofunds	Nobs	Mean	Std	Skewness	Kurtosis	Min	Max	JB	$\rho_1$	$\rho_2$	$\rho_3$	LQ
<b>Panel A: Closed-End Funds</b>													
FI Global	26	133	0.185	5.953	-0.602	6.080	-26.00	20.33	< 0.05	-0.043	-0.002	-0.122	0.2713
FI Sector	29	151	0.309	6.214	-0.399	4.611	-22.48	22.33	< 0.05	-0.033	0.028	-0.057	0.4299
FI Long Term	26	129	-0.580	7.356	-1.224	8.322	-31.50	19.77	< 0.05	-0.065	0.091	-0.020	0.1992
FI Intermediate Term	25	259	0.803	5.759	0.203	5.443	-19.15	26.50	< 0.05	-0.097	-0.025	-0.045	0.145
FI Short Term	6	114	0.584	3.777	-0.912	4.361	-15.76	10.52	< 0.001	-0.061	-0.002	0.058	0.1801
FI Government	13	120	0.451	2.963	-0.185	2.305	-9.37	9.78	0.0679	-0.067	-0.012	0.028	0.3736
FI High Yield	47	142	-0.377	6.545	-0.620	3.708	-24.05	19.95	< 0.05	0.075	0.048	-0.003	0.357
FI Others	23	73	-0.685	4.672	-1.656	6.415	-19.71	10.70	< 0.001	0.259	0.186	0.013	0.0643
FI Average	24	140	0.086	5.405	-0.675	5.156	-21.00	17.49	< 0.05	-0.004	0.039	-0.019	0.2526
EF Balanced	46	110	-0.695	7.329	-0.780	4.193	-24.99	20.72	0.0693	0.112	0.021	-0.058	0.3177
EF Global	92	122	-0.145	9.955	-0.059	2.725	-29.53	31.94	0.1199	0.060	0.017	-0.031	0.4727
EF Sector	17	157	0.153	7.142	-0.162	4.424	-23.74	28.19	< 0.05	0.064	-0.002	-0.035	0.2411
EF Commodities	20	125	-1.214	9.109	-1.136	4.279	-32.94	18.95	< 0.05	0.056	0.188	0.010	0.2806
EF Large Cap	59	145	-0.272	6.438	-0.698	5.530	-23.44	20.71	0.0628	0.104	0.001	-0.024	0.361
EF Mid Cap	11	152	0.169	7.198	-0.258	4.565	-22.40	20.36	< 0.05	0.038	-0.071	-0.056	0.3546
EF Small Cap	6	161	0.611	12.124	-0.138	3.321	-31.95	51.28	< 0.05	0.110	0.017	-0.019	0.4631
EF Growth	18	97	0.200	8.462	-0.480	4.707	-24.89	28.51	< 0.05	0.101	-0.030	-0.042	0.3682
EF value	19	63	-0.584	6.251	-0.996	3.886	-21.98	14.63	0.053	0.099	0.025	-0.073	0.4109
EF Others	32	65	-1.318	10.111	-1.426	5.649	-38.08	20.11	0.1106	0.164	-0.050	-0.004	0.3635
EF Average	32	120	-0.310	8.414	-0.613	4.328	-27.39	25.54	0.0645	0.091	0.011	-0.033	0.3633
<b>Panel B: ETFs</b>													
FI Global	2	14	-0.218	6.383	-0.314	2.910	-15.61	12.82	0.2702	0.084	-0.341	-0.209	0.1995
FI Sector	3	22	0.677	1.680	0.826	1.841	-2.61	4.98	0.1073	0.360	-0.367	-0.287	0.0708
FI Long Term	2	49	0.631	3.407	0.945	7.720	-8.81	13.33	< 0.001	0.223	-0.475	-0.297	< 0.01
FI Intermediate Term	6	28	0.464	2.001	0.585	3.537	-4.08	6.13	< 0.05	0.227	-0.392	-0.183	0.1196
FI Short Term	3	21	0.437	0.969	-0.252	2.156	-2.00	2.66	0.1579	0.163	-0.207	-0.062	0.2098
FI Government	12	44	0.927	3.990	0.526	1.444	-8.12	11.55	0.4384	0.115	-0.050	0.024	0.2719
FI High Yield	2	17	-1.562	6.988	0.654	2.636	-13.97	16.36	0.2087	0.051	-0.233	-0.504	0.0681
FI Others	2	40	0.409	2.477	-1.078	3.699	-7.78	5.74	< 0.01	0.176	-0.239	-0.130	0.2464
FI Average	4	29	0.221	3.467	0.236	3.243	-7.87	9.20	0.1517	0.175	-0.288	-0.206	0.1484
EF Balanced	5	14	-1.728	4.575	-0.215	1.988	-10.87	7.97	0.1928	0.150	-0.351	-0.284	0.0631
EF Global	108	56	-1.117	7.917	-0.733	2.404	-24.24	15.27	0.192	0.268	-0.046	-0.059	0.2524
EF Sector	111	42	-0.939	6.346	-0.726	1.687	-18.51	11.23	0.2064	0.161	-0.148	-0.093	0.2482
EF Commodities	47	38	-0.939	10.759	-0.892	1.430	-29.54	16.56	0.1325	0.253	0.129	-0.003	0.2758
EF Large Cap	82	51	-0.956	5.537	-1.310	2.842	-18.78	7.67	< 0.05	0.284	-0.116	-0.028	0.1816
EF Mid Cap	55	40	-1.496	7.450	-1.194	2.648	-23.77	10.13	0.1149	0.298	-0.116	-0.077	0.1537
EF Small Cap	35	50	-1.269	6.874	-1.327	2.731	-24.21	8.64	< 0.05	0.231	-0.138	-0.175	0.1783
EF Growth	46	47	-1.457	7.245	-1.068	1.884	-22.61	10.35	0.1382	0.290	-0.017	-0.099	0.2181
EF value	46	51	-0.843	5.699	-1.413	3.579	-20.47	8.19	< 0.05	0.239	-0.189	-0.050	0.1512
EF Bear Market	40	22	1.624	10.706	0.676	1.142	-15.53	26.78	0.2369	0.170	-0.288	-0.206	0.1844
EF Currency	10	29	0.197	3.486	-0.670	3.786	-10.02	7.36	0.0801	0.284	0.091	0.016	0.3396
EF Others	82	48	-1.555	8.767	-0.737	1.749	-24.44	16.49	0.1675	0.162	-0.172	-0.118	0.2887
EF Average	55.583	41	-0.873	7.113	-0.801	2.323	-20.25	12.22	0.1294	0.233	-0.113	-0.098	0.2113
Group Average	34.95	36	-0.436	5.663	-0.386	2.691	-15.30	11.01	0.1383	0.209	-0.183	-0.141	0.1861
<b>Panel C: Open-Ended Funds</b>													
FI Index	32	95	0.508	1.252	-0.034	1.378	-3.14	4.21	0.2657	0.136	-0.096	0.065	0.2406
FI Global	303	87	0.381	2.367	-0.556	3.739	-8.00	6.47	0.1495	0.181	-0.114	-0.038	0.1798
FI Short Term	645	76	0.287	0.763	-0.890	5.023	-2.07	2.28	0.2501	0.242	0.084	0.124	0.1684

Style	Nofunds	Noibs	Mean	Std	Skewness	Kurtosis	Min	Max	JB	$\rho_1$	$\rho_2$	$\rho_3$	LQ
FI Government	727	93	0.464	1.124	-0.138	1.311	-2.88	3.60	0.1831	0.210	0.016	0.117	0.2543
FI Mortgage	219	81	0.399	0.898	-0.420	2.018	-2.33	2.69	0.2976	0.191	0.002	0.138	0.2589
FI Corporate	798	74	0.421	1.285	-0.580	2.578	-3.81	3.63	0.2704	0.142	-0.090	0.043	0.2166
FI High Yield	944	87	0.361	2.338	-1.174	5.553	-9.41	6.04	0.1161	0.224	-0.112	-0.094	0.1069
FI Others	619	79	0.623	1.006	0.286	3.412	-2.32	3.60	0.2316	0.425	0.378	0.334	0.1669
FI Average	536	84	0.431	1.379	-0.438	3.126	-4.24	4.07	0.2205	0.219	0.009	0.086	0.199
EF Index	838	79	-0.177	5.149	-0.966	2.850	-17.75	10.37	0.1072	0.199	-0.066	-0.013	0.2642
EF commodities	238	78	0.340	8.826	-0.516	1.585	-27.06	20.58	0.1587	0.085	0.050	0.065	0.2728
EF Sector	1331	69	-0.322	6.933	-0.371	1.268	-18.82	15.72	0.2676	0.137	-0.051	-0.059	0.3842
EF Global	3373	78	-0.115	5.884	-0.796	2.245	-19.52	12.36	0.1489	0.237	0.024	0.008	0.2393
EF Balanced	988	80	0.134	3.096	-1.098	3.332	-11.16	6.03	0.1121	0.192	-0.065	0.003	0.274
EF Leverage and Short	675	62	-0.099	6.231	-0.287	1.597	-16.50	14.93	0.2483	0.119	-0.051	-0.059	0.336
EF Long Short	80	22	-1.774	4.877	-0.980	1.439	-14.30	5.24	0.1843	0.293	-0.061	-0.109	0.2205
EF Mid Cap	1331	63	-0.335	5.942	-0.919	2.579	-19.61	11.80	0.1253	0.229	-0.050	-0.051	0.2213
EF Small Cap	1970	68	-0.183	6.207	-0.741	1.930	-19.66	13.03	0.1336	0.170	-0.053	-0.132	0.2247
EF Aggressive Growth	247	46	1.493	6.072	-0.734	2.067	-17.52	13.05	0.1803	0.059	-0.094	-0.036	0.5208
EF Growth	4586	73	-0.141	5.145	-0.812	2.114	-16.50	10.24	0.1826	0.186	-0.047	-0.023	0.3083
EF Growth and Income	2459	70	-0.160	4.494	-0.883	2.169	-14.83	8.48	0.1484	0.165	-0.073	-0.027	0.3286
EF Equity Income	509	55	-0.208	4.233	-0.782	2.041	-13.09	8.05	0.2366	0.140	-0.095	-0.026	0.327
EF Others	1758	65	1.267	5.362	-0.498	1.994	-15.42	12.90	0.2147	0.062	-0.044	-0.093	0.4216
EF Average	1456	65	-0.020	5.604	-0.742	2.086	-17.27	11.63	0.1763	0.163	-0.048	-0.039	0.3102
Group Average	1121	72	0.144	4.067	-0.631	2.465	-12.53	8.88	0.1924	0.183	-0.028	0.006	0.2698
Panel D: Hedge Funds													
Equity Hedge	2367	48	0.399	5.051	-0.299	2.001	-12.87	12.30	0.2928	0.102	0.015	-0.019	0.3381
Event-Driven	585	56	0.381	3.241	-0.618	4.071	-9.32	8.23	0.1682	0.262	0.102	0.057	0.209
Fund of Funds	1194	46	0.091	2.625	-0.981	2.951	-7.83	4.82	0.2097	0.272	0.159	0.064	0.2403
HFR1	75	137	0.612	2.925	-1.115	6.471	-11.69	9.49	< 0.05	0.302	0.148	0.073	0.1028
HFRX	27	46	-0.425	2.337	-1.709	6.048	-9.27	2.80	0.1688	0.273	0.182	0.049	0.1318
Macro	810	45	0.470	4.562	0.012	2.006	-10.38	11.74	0.3267	0.054	-0.052	-0.044	0.3471
Relative Value	786	46	0.241	2.991	-1.208	7.001	-10.18	5.84	0.146	0.265	0.100	0.073	0.2289
Style	Nofunds	Noibs	Mean	Std	Skewness	Kurtosis	Min	Max	JB	$\rho_1$	$\rho_2$	$\rho_3$	LQ
Group Average	835	60	0.253	3.390	-0.845	4.364	-10.22	7.89	0.1945	0.219	0.093	0.036	0.2283

TABLE II. FREQUENCY OF TAIL RETURNS ACROSS FUND TYPES

Tail returns are defined as monthly returns exceeding  $(+/-)5$  and  $(+/-)3$  standard deviations from the means. The frequency of tail returns of a fund is calculated as the count of tail returns divided by its total number of monthly returns. The test statistics is calculated by assuming the distribution of the counts of tail returns to be Bernoulli and *i.i.d.* Total fund returns are further decomposed into systematic and idiosyncratic components to calculate the frequency of systematic and idiosyncratic tail returns. Results are reported in three rows for each fund type. The first row is the frequency of total tail returns. The second row is the frequency of systematic tail returns. The third row is the frequency of idiosyncratic tail returns. The cross cell by the same fund type represents the average frequency of tail returns across funds in that fund type. The cross cell of two different fund types is the difference in frequency of tail returns between two fund types. T-values are in the parenthesis based on the test hypothesis of zero frequency.

CEFs/ETFs/OEFs/HFs refer to closed-end funds/exchange-traded funds/open-ended funds/hedge funds, respectively.

Panel A: All Funds

		CEFs		ETFs		OEFs		HFs	
		5std	3std	5std	3std	5std	3std	5std	3std
Total		0.132(-0.47)	1.775(-1.54)	0.123(0.21)	0.617(1.33)	0.086(0.04)	0.672(0.45)	0.055(0.03)	0.609(0.50)
CEFs	Systematic	0.139(-0.47)	1.885(-1.46)	0.137(0.23)	0.462(0.99)	0.109(0.06)	0.814(0.55)	0.093(0.06)	0.788(0.64)
	Idiosyncratic	0.095(-0.49)	1.076(-2.02)	0.087(0.15)	0.426(0.92)	0.035(0.02)	0.212(0.14)	0.032(0.02)	0.156(0.13)
Total			0.009(-0.34)	1.158(-1.25)	-0.037(-0.06)	0.056(0.10)	-0.068(-0.04)	-0.008(-0.01)	
ETFs	Systematic		0.002(-0.34)	1.423(-1.13)	-0.028(-0.05)	0.352(0.72)	-0.044(-0.02)	0.326(0.22)	
	Idiosyncratic		0.007(-0.34)	0.650(-1.47)	-0.052(-0.09)	-0.214(-0.45)	-0.055(-0.03)	-0.270(-0.18)	
Total					0.046(-0.39)	1.102(-1.53)	-0.031(-0.08)	-0.063(-0.21)	
OEFs	Systematic				0.030(-0.40)	1.071(-1.55)	-0.016(-0.03)	-0.026(-0.01)	
	Idiosyncratic				0.059(-0.39)	0.864(-1.66)	-0.003(-0.00)	-0.056(-0.22)	
Total							0.077(-0.50)	1.165(-1.95)	
HFs	Systematic						0.046(-0.51)	1.097(-2.00)	
	Idiosyncratic						0.063(-0.50)	0.920(-2.12)	

Panel B: Fixed Income Funds

		CEFs		ETFs		OEFs	
		5std	3std	5std	3std	5std	3std
Total		0.199(-0.49)	1.967(-1.59)	0.159(0.05)	1.173(0.48)	0.052(0.02)	0.867(0.36)
CEFs	Systematic	0.234(-0.47)	2.054(-1.53)	0.193(0.06)	1.715(0.70)	0.127(0.04)	0.930(0.38)
	Idiosyncratic	0.146(-0.52)	1.265(-2.14)	0.106(0.03)	-0.288(-0.12)	-0.016(-0.01)	-0.034(-0.01)
Total				0.041(-0.28)	0.793(-1.21)	-0.107(-0.03)	-0.306(-0.13)
ETFs	Systematic			0.041(-0.28)	0.339(-1.38)	-0.066(-0.02)	-0.785(-0.33)
	Idiosyncratic			0.041(-0.28)	1.553(-0.92)	-0.122(-0.04)	0.254(0.11)
Total						0.147(-0.26)	1.099(-1.13)
OEFs	Systematic					0.106(-0.27)	1.124(-1.12)
	Idiosyncratic					0.162(-0.26)	1.299(-1.05)

Panel C: Equity Funds

		CEFs		ETFs		OEFs	
		5std	3std	5std	3std	5std	3std
Total		0.085(-0.41)	1.642(-1.35)	0.078(0.40)	0.464(3.06)	0.065(0.04)	0.552(0.48)
CEFs	Systematic	0.074(-0.42)	1.769(-1.28)	0.074(0.38)	0.285(1.88)	0.064(0.04)	0.724(0.64)
	Idiosyncratic	0.059(-0.42)	0.946(-1.75)	0.053(0.28)	0.346(2.28)	0.026(0.02)	0.191(0.17)
Total				0.007(-0.34)	1.178(-1.22)	-0.013(-0.01)	0.088(0.13)
ETFs	Systematic			0.000(-0.34)	1.484(-1.09)	-0.010(-0.01)	0.439(0.54)
	Idiosyncratic			0.006(-0.34)	0.600(-1.47)	-0.028(-0.03)	-0.156(-0.20)
Total						0.020(-0.36)	1.091(-1.35)
OEFs	Systematic					0.010(-0.36)	1.044(-1.37)
	Idiosyncratic					0.033(-0.35)	0.756(-1.51)

TABLE III. SKEWNESS DECOMPOSITION BY EQUAL-WEIGHTED PORTFOLIOS ACROSS FUND STYLES AND TYPES

This table summarizes the skewness decomposition by using equal-weighted portfolios of funds as market portfolio. EW portfolio skewness is the skewness for the equal-weighted portfolios of funds formed by funds in the same styles. Individual skewness is the cross-sectional average of skewness of individual funds



in each style. Skewness is the third central moment about the mean and computed as  $E\left(\frac{r_i^3}{\sigma_i^3}\right)$ .  $r_i$  and  $\sigma_i$  are the demeaned return and standard deviation of fund  $i$ . COSKEW, ICOSKEW, and RESSKEW refer to the following components in the skewness decomposition:

$$E(r_i^3) = \underbrace{\beta_i^2 \text{cov}(r_i, r_p^2)}_{\text{COSKEW}} + \underbrace{2\beta_i^2 \text{cov}(u_i, r_p^2)}_{\text{ICOSKEW}} + \underbrace{3\beta_i \text{cov}(u^2, r_p)}_{\text{RESSKEW}} + E(u_i^3)$$

where  $r_p$  is the demeaned return for the market portfolio. Individual COSKEW, ICOSKEW, and RESSKEW are the average of estimated values from the above equation by GMM across individual funds and reported as the percentage of the skewness of demeaned fund returns  $E(r_i^3)$  FI and EF stand for fixed income and equity funds, respectively. Numbers in parentheses are t-statistics associated with a null hypothesis of zero raw coskewness, idiosyncratic coskewness, and residual skewness in the respective columns. FI Average is the average of statistics across fixed-income fund styles. EF Average is the average of statistics across equity fund styles. Group Average is the average of statistics across all fund styles. Panel E, F, and G summarize the t-statistics on the comparisons of the percentage of each component between any two fund types based on fixed income, equity, and total funds, respectively. F test reports the p-value of the test of differences in mean estimates on the percentage of each component across four fund types in parentheses.

Styles	EW Port Skewness	Individual Skewness	Systematic		Idiosyncratic
			Individual COSKEW (%)	Individual ICOSKEW (%)	Individual RESSKEW (%)
Panel A: Closed-End Funds					
FI Global	-1.512	-0.602	122.89 (-0.65)	-12.21 (-0.29)	-10.67 (0.32)
FI Sector	-0.754	-0.399	105.95 (-0.60)	-6.07 (-0.41)	0.12 (-0.10)
FI Long Term	-0.339	-1.224	57.37 (-0.33)	40.49 (-0.61)	2.14 (0.19)
FI Intermediate Term	0.749	0.203	-6.31 (0.43)	116.74 (0.32)	-10.43 (-0.22)
FI Short Term	-0.419	-0.912	27.74 (-0.73)	63.65 (-1.20)	8.61 (-0.03)
FI Government	-0.262	-0.185	32.15 (-0.14)	36.76 (-0.31)	31.09 (-0.59)
FI High Yield	0.296	-0.620	70.36 (-0.88)	4.62 (-0.16)	25.01 (-0.49)
FI Others	-2.273	-1.656	43.16 (-1.16)	12.03 (-0.65)	44.81 (-0.10)
FI Average	-0.564	-0.675	56.66 (-0.51)	32.00 (-0.41)	11.33 (-0.13)
EF Balanced	-0.157	-0.780	72.21 (-0.99)	25.29 (-0.45)	2.49 (0.22)
EF Global	0.598	-0.059	16.66 (-0.74)	70.76 (0.61)	12.59 (0.36)



Tail Risks Across Investment Funds

Styles	EW Port Skewness	Individual Skewness	Systematic		Idiosyncratic
			Individual COSKEW (%)	Individual ICOSKEW (%)	Individual RESSKEW (%)
EF Sector	-0.896	-0.162	53.60 (-0.99)	19.99 (0.30)	26.41 (-0.24)
EF Commodities	0.508	-1.136	50.18 (-0.69)	66.73 (-0.38)	-16.90 (0.01)
EF Large Cap	2.306	-0.698	3.07 (-1.01)	-28.21 (-0.25)	125.15 (-0.14)
EF Mid Cap	0.247	-0.258	-67.72 (-0.41)	77.61 (-0.25)	90.10 (-0.47)
EF Small Cap	0.833	-0.138	68.26 (-1.26)	9.26 (1.39)	22.48 (-0.89)
EF Growth	0.789	-0.480	51.55 (-1.11)	-19.30 (0.26)	67.76 (-0.67)
EF Value	-0.834	-0.996	-13.76 (-1.11)	97.39 (-0.50)	16.37 (-0.47)
EF Others	-1.830	-1.426	41.24 (-1.07)	24.17 (-0.33)	34.59 (0.18)
EF Average	0.156	-0.613	27.53 (-0.94)	34.37 (0.04)	38.10 (-0.21)
Group Average	-0.164	-0.640	40.48 (-0.75)	33.32 (-0.16)	26.21 (-0.17)
Panel B: ETFs					
FI Global	-1.016	-0.314	59.64 (-0.55)	39.26 (0.93)	1.10 (0.00)
FI Sector	0.924	0.826	103.91 (1.20)	-5.69 (-0.47)	1.79 (-0.32)
FI Long Term	1.178	0.945	122.79 (0.94)	-20.81 (-0.97)	-1.98 (0.21)
FI Intermediate Term	0.650	0.585	85.66 (0.75)	5.04 (-0.86)	9.30 (0.37)
FI Short Term	0.445	-0.252	46.24 (0.27)	25.57 (-1.18)	28.20 (-0.34)
FI Government	0.024	0.526	-45.66 (-0.01)	123.15 (0.83)	22.51 (0.20)
FI High Yield	0.531	0.654	106.86 (0.66)	-6.95 (-1.15)	0.09 (0.48)
FI Others	-1.143	-1.078	101.51 (-1.33)	-1.50 (1.54)	-0.01 (0.49)
FI Average	0.199	0.236	72.62 (0.24)	19.76 (-0.17)	7.62 (0.14)
EF Balanced	-0.041	-0.215	76.95 (-0.48)	12.18 (0.52)	10.87 (0.54)
EF Global	-0.967	-0.733	87.30 (-1.33)	4.00 (0.34)	8.70 (0.38)
EF Sector	-0.716	-0.726	71.30 (-1.07)	27.25 (-0.50)	1.45 (0.19)

Styles	EW Port Skewness	Individual Skewness	Systematic		Idiosyncratic
			Individual COSKEW (%)	Individual ICOSKEW (%)	Individual RESSKEW (%)
EF Commodities	-0.751	-0.892	81.85 (-1.61)	18.00 (-0.40)	0.15 (-0.08)
EF Large Cap	-0.743	-1.310	87.54 (-1.55)	12.13 (-1.11)	0.33 (0.07)
EF Mid Cap	-1.071	-1.194	88.21 (-1.46)	10.39 (-1.07)	1.41 (0.06)
EF Small Cap	-1.023	-1.327	94.84 (-1.53)	5.52 (-1.23)	-0.36 (-0.13)
EF Growth	-0.121	-1.068	94.54 (-1.72)	5.37 (-0.78)	0.09 (-0.09)
EF Value	-0.560	-1.413	93.09 (-1.57)	6.51 (-0.77)	0.40 (0.03)
EF Bear Market	0.917	0.676	62.21 (1.00)	17.30 (0.88)	20.50 (0.46)
EF Currency	-1.362	-0.670	105.81 (-0.60)	-11.26 (0.10)	5.45 (-0.35)
EF Others	-0.321	-0.737	75.58 (-1.16)	19.59 (-0.47)	4.82 (0.01)
EF Average	-0.563	-0.801	84.93 (-1.09)	10.58 (-0.37)	4.48 (0.09)
Group Average	-0.258	-0.386	80.01 (-0.56)	14.25 (-0.29)	5.74 (0.11)
Panel C: Open-Ended Funds					
FI Index	-0.167	-0.035	100.30 (-0.16)	3.62 (0.04)	-3.92 (-0.19)
FI Global	-0.849	-0.556	85.77 (0.06)	-66.27 (-1.13)	80.50 (0.13)
FI Short Term	-0.333	-0.890	45.00 (-0.51)	-142.57 (-0.35)	197.57 (-0.38)
FI Government	-0.158	-0.138	69.42 (-0.67)	8.48 (0.24)	22.10 (-0.01)
FI Mortgage	-0.315	-0.420	80.90 (-0.58)	2.53 (-0.29)	16.57 (-0.04)
FI Corporate	-0.963	-0.580	113.87 (-0.69)	-33.19 (-0.11)	19.32 (0.07)
FI High Yield	-0.776	-1.174	-32.05 (-1.00)	-7.75 (-0.51)	139.80 (0.06)
FI Others	-0.095	0.286	48.69 (0.00)	-62.56 (0.06)	113.86 (0.41)
FI Average	-0.457	-0.439	63.99 (-0.44)	-37.22 (-0.25)	73.23 (0.01)
EF Index	5.493	-0.966	95.55 (-1.45)	2.39 (0.01)	2.05 (-0.33)
EF commodities	0.155	-0.516	87.41 (-1.07)	23.22 (0.07)	-10.63 (-0.15)

Tail Risks Across Investment Funds

Styles	EW Port Skewness	Individual Skewness	Systematic		Idiosyncratic
			Individual COSKEW (%)	Individual ICOSKEW (%)	Individual RESSKEW (%)
EF Sector	-0.569	-0.371	83.74 (-0.73)	3.99 (-0.20)	12.27 (0.04)
EF Global	-0.918	-0.796	83.73 (-1.24)	9.82 (-0.01)	6.45 (-0.00)
EF Balanced	-0.472	-1.098	88.85 (-1.23)	17.72 (-0.40)	-6.57 (-0.13)
EF Leverage and Short	2.351	-0.287	19.62 (-0.48)	29.08 (-0.06)	51.30 (-0.26)
EF Long Short	-1.658	-0.980	76.09 (-1.69)	-1.42 (-0.72)	25.33 (-0.26)
EF Mid Cap	-0.494	-0.919	84.11 (-1.13)	11.02 (-0.56)	4.87 (0.06)
EF Small Cap	-0.490	-0.741	103.62 (-1.07)	-7.17 (-0.41)	3.54 (0.07)
EF Aggressive Growth	-0.405	-0.734	101.10 (-1.05)	-5.18 (0.68)	4.08 (0.07)
EF Growth	-0.695	-0.812	81.57 (-1.30)	14.60 (-0.31)	3.83 (-0.00)
EF Growth and Income	-0.997	-0.883	96.89 (-1.30)	0.93 (-0.31)	2.18 (-0.14)
EF Equity Income	-0.944	-0.782	91.69 (-0.93)	1.25 (-0.79)	7.07 (0.06)
EF Others	-0.567	-0.498	-40.20 (-0.85)	143.89 (0.73)	-3.70 (0.07)
EF Average	-0.015	-0.742	75.27 (-1.11)	17.44 (-0.16)	7.29 (-0.07)
Group Average	-0.176	-0.631	71.17 (-0.87)	-2.44 (-0.20)	31.27 (-0.04)
Panel D: Hedge Funds					
Equity Hedge	-0.302	-0.299	46.67 (-0.36)	17.42 (-0.25)	35.91 (0.04)
Event-Driven	-1.899	-0.618	53.84 (-0.63)	21.50 (-0.60)	24.67 (0.06)
Fund of Funds	-1.000	-0.981	42.13 (-0.93)	10.99 (-0.92)	46.88 (-0.32)
HFRI	-1.074	-1.115	157.06 (-0.64)	-95.69 (-0.79)	38.63 (-0.17)
HFRX	-2.257	-1.709	110.83 (-0.57)	-23.03 (-1.70)	12.20 (-0.71)
Macro	0.378	0.012	19.74 (0.14)	-20.42 (0.14)	100.68 (0.04)
Relative Value	-4.219	-1.208	31.24 (-0.45)	17.85 (-0.62)	51.04 (-0.23)
Group Average	-1.482	-0.845	65.93 (-0.49)	-10.20 (-0.68)	44.29 (-0.18)

## Panel E: All Funds

Component		ETFs	OEFs	HF s
CEFs	COSKEW	-3.19	-3.42	0.01
	ICOSKEW	1.38	2.71	1.52
	RESSKEW	1.67	0.66	-1.23
ETFs	COSKEW		-1.12	6.03
	ICOSKEW		2.31	0.68
	RESSKEW		-2.46	-4.24
OEFs	COSKEW			5.04
	ICOSKEW			-1.15
	RESSKEW			-2.67

F test of equality: COSKEW ( $p=0.256$ ) ICOSKEW ( $p=0.960$ ) RESSKEW ( $p=0.070$ )

## Panel F: Fixed Income Funds

Component		ETFs	OEFs
CEFs	COSKEW	1.22	-0.54
	ICOSKEW	-0.71	1.67
	RESSKEW	-0.05	-2.18
ETFs	COSKEW		-1.36
	ICOSKEW		1.82
	RESSKEW		-1.37

F test of equality: COSKEW ( $p=0.979$ ) ICOSKEW ( $p=0.903$ ) RESSKEW ( $p=0.853$ )

## Panel G: Equity Funds

Component		ETFs	OEFs
CEFs	COSKEW	-3.21	-2.67
	ICOSKEW	1.38	1.15
	RESSKEW	1.57	1.50
ETFs	COSKEW		0.07
	ICOSKEW		0.03
	RESSKEW		-0.25

F test of equality: COSKEW ( $p=0.830$ ) ICOSKEW ( $p=0.970$ ) RESSKEW ( $p=0.538$ )

TABLE IV. KURTOSIS DECOMPOSITION BY EQUAL-WEIGHTED PORTFOLIOS ACROSS FUND STYLES AND TYPES

This table summarizes the kurtosis decomposition by using equal-weighted portfolio of funds as market portfolio. EW portfolio kurtosis is the kurtosis for the equal-weighted portfolios of funds formed by funds in the same styles. Individual kurtosis is the cross-sectional average of kurtosis of individual funds in each style.

Kurtosis is the fourth central moment about the mean and computed as  $E \frac{(r_i^4)}{\sigma_i^4} - 3$ .

$r_i$  and  $\sigma_i$  are the demeaned return and standard deviation of fund  $i$ . COKURT, VOLCOMV, ICOKURT, and RESKURT refer to the following components in the kurtosis decomposition:

$$E(r_i^4) = \underbrace{\beta_i^3 cov(r_i, r_p^3)}_{\text{COKURT}} + \underbrace{3\beta_i^3 cov(u_i, r_p^3)}_{\text{VOLCOMV}} + \underbrace{6\beta_i^2 E(r_p^2 u^2)}_{\text{ICOKURT}} + \underbrace{4\beta_i cov(u^3, r_p)}_{\text{RESKURT}} + \underbrace{E(u_i^4)}_{\text{RESKURT}}$$

where  $r_p$  is the demeaned return for the market portfolio. Individual COKURT, VOLCOMV, ICOKURT, and RESKURT are the average of estimated values from the above equation by GMM across individual funds and reported as the percentage of the kurtosis of demeaned fund returns  $E(r_i^4)$ . FI and EF stand for fixed income and equity funds, respectively. Numbers in parentheses are t-statistics associated with a null hypothesis of zero raw cokurtosis, idiosyncratic cokurtosis, volatility comovement, and residual kurtosis in the respective columns. FI Average is the average of statistics across fixed-income fund styles. EF Average is the average of statistics across equity fund styles. Group Average is the average of statistics across all fund styles. Panel E, F, and G summarize the t-statistics on the comparisons of the percentage of each component between any two fund types based on fixed income, equity, and total funds, respectively. F test reports the p-value of the test of differences in mean estimates on the percentage of each component across four fund types in parentheses.

Styles	EW Port Kurtosis	Individual Kurtosis	Systematic			Idiosyncratic
			Individual COKURT (%)	Individual VOLCOMV (%)	Individual ICOKURT (%)	Individual RESKURT (%)
Panel A: Closed-End Funds						
FI Global	11.897	6.080	52.09 (1.12)	37.14 (2.10)	- 3.27 (0.19)	14.04 (2.60)
FI Sector	3.395	4.611	19.84 (0.90)	41.68 (1.77)	5.24 (0.63)	33.24 (2.86)
FI Long Term	7.365	8.322	43.68 (0.66)	37.20 (1.88)	- 2.08 (0.05)	21.20 (2.06)
FI Intermediate Term	5.568	5.443	29.75 (1.12)	44.91 (2.21)	2.92 (0.76)	22.42 (3.24)
FI Short Term	1.814	4.361	12.36 (0.35)	54.30 (1.58)	3.88 (0.39)	29.47 (2.35)
FI Government	2.390	2.305	14.97 (1.20)	38.31 (2.13)	8.46 (0.83)	38.25 (2.51)
FI High Yield	5.445	3.708	47.57 (1.56)	36.53 (2.27)	- 5.41 (- 0.04)	21.32 (2.59)
FI Others	11.743	6.415	67.79 (1.36)	22.50 (1.73)	- 0.54 (0.21)	10.25 (2.20)
FI Average	6.202	5.156	36.01 (1.03)	39.07 (1.96)	1.15 (0.38)	23.77 (2.55)
EF Balanced	5.747	4.193	51.43 (1.40)	34.53 (1.96)	- 1.24 (0.29)	15.29 (2.50)
EF Commodities	5.801	2.725	30.94	40.01	3.98	25.07
Styles	EW Port Kurtosis	Individual Kurtosis	Systematic			Idiosyncratic
			Individual COKURT (%)	Individual VOLCOMV (%)	Individual ICOKURT (%)	Individual RESKURT (%)
EF Global	4.882	4.424	(1.33) 18.35 (0.96)	(2.21) 41.89 (2.04)	(0.48) 3.87 (0.21)	(2.84) 35.89 (2.40)
EF Sector	5.754	4.279	34.19 (1.19)	43.47 (1.82)	- 6.02 (- 0.41)	28.36 (2.27)
EF Large Cap	27.479	5.530	45.49 (1.30)	39.45 (1.85)	- 0.17 (0.27)	15.23 (2.62)
EF Mid Cap	2.958	4.565	29.65 (0.99)	36.43 (1.92)	5.81 (0.52)	28.10 (2.51)
EF Small Cap	5.238	3.321	5.27 (- 0.43)	76.14 (1.89)	- 16.61 (- 0.47)	35.21 (3.32)
EF Growth	6.635	4.707	22.20 (0.39)	50.27 (1.64)	- 5.23 (0.01)	32.76 (2.77)
EF Value	4.680	3.886	56.87 (1.38)	37.22 (1.91)	- 1.57 (- 0.13)	7.48 (2.06)
EF Others	7.017	5.649	58.66 (1.18)	33.23 (1.92)	- 0.44 (0.51)	8.55 (2.24)
EF Average	7.619	4.328	35.30 (0.97)	43.26 (1.92)	- 1.76 (0.13)	23.19 (2.55)
Group Average	6.989	4.696	35.62 (1.00)	41.40 (1.94)	- 0.47 (0.24)	23.45 (2.55)

Tail Risks Across Investment Funds

Styles	EW Port Kurtosis	Individual Kurtosis	Systematic			Idiosyncratic
			Individual COKURT (%)	Individual VOLCOMV (%)	Individual ICOKURT (%)	Individual RESKURT (%)
Panel B: ETFs						
FI Global	3.555	2.910	52.77 (0.89)	31.84 (1.27)	8.92 (0.15)	6.47 (2.18)
FI Sector	2.002	1.841	92.65 (1.77)	8.34 (2.01)	-1.43 (0.03)	0.45 (1.97)
FI Long Term	9.208	7.720	82.56 (1.35)	16.75 (1.47)	0.16 (0.25)	0.54 (1.60)
FI Intermediate Term	4.283	3.537	66.89 (1.29)	30.30 (1.61)	-0.64 (-0.35)	3.46 (2.16)
FI Short Term	0.890	2.156	36.00 (0.80)	34.02 (1.14)	-1.95 (0.12)	31.93 (2.26)
FI Government	0.123	1.444	7.41 (0.65)	28.26 (1.16)	0.77 (0.35)	63.56 (2.47)
FI High Yield	2.787	2.636	94.35 (1.39)	5.68 (2.51)	-0.05 (-0.13)	0.02 (2.00)
FI Others	4.516	3.699	98.79 (1.57)	1.20 (2.14)	0.01 (-0.22)	0.01 (1.87)
FI Average	3.421	3.243	66.43 (1.21)	19.55 (1.66)	0.72 (0.03)	13.30 (2.06)
EF Balanced	1.408	1.988	61.75 (1.24)	28.67 (2.09)	0.07 (0.17)	9.50 (1.73)
EF Global	2.524	2.404	69.21 (1.45)	22.32 (2.27)	1.84 (0.15)	6.63 (2.60)
EF Sector	2.259	1.687	48.06 (1.16)	33.30 (2.02)	-0.38 (0.04)	19.01 (2.42)
EF Commodities	3.222	1.430	69.22 (1.56)	23.32 (2.03)	1.37 (0.07)	6.10 (2.23)
EF Large Cap	1.559	2.842	79.38 (1.50)	17.94 (2.31)	-0.28 (-0.28)	2.96 (2.36)
EF Mid Cap	3.267	2.648	79.32 (1.35)	15.20 (1.96)	-0.51 (0.05)	5.98 (2.31)
EF Small Cap	2.240	2.731	90.59 (1.51)	9.41 (2.29)	-0.56 (-0.09)	0.56 (2.47)
EF Growth	1.453	1.884	81.83 (1.70)	15.01 (2.28)	-0.03 (0.21)	3.19 (2.62)
EF Value	2.537	3.579	79.72 (1.40)	17.24 (2.24)	-0.44 (0.16)	3.48 (2.43)
EF Bear Market	0.970	1.142	48.28 (1.26)	38.85 (1.83)	-1.11 (-0.01)	13.99 (2.24)
EF Currency	3.894	3.786	55.12 (0.94)	26.71 (1.60)	0.19 (0.31)	17.99 (2.24)
EF Others	0.489	1.749	55.47 (1.45)	32.84 (2.27)	1.62 (0.04)	10.08 (2.63)
EF Average	2.152	2.323	68.16 (1.38)	23.40 (2.10)	0.15 (0.07)	8.29 (2.36)
Group Average	2.659	2.691	67.47 (1.31)	21.86 (1.93)	0.38 (0.05)	10.30 (2.24)

Styles	EW Port Kurtosis	Individual Kurtosis	Systematic			Idiosyncratic
			Individual COKURT (%)	Individual VOLCOMV (%)	Individual ICOKURT (%)	Individual RESKURT (%)
Panel C: Open-Ended Funds						
FI Index	0.545	1.412	75.50 (2.17)	20.03 (2.30)	- 1.91 (- 0.13)	6.38 (2.42)
FI Global	5.778	3.739	35.55 (1.11)	52.03 (2.29)	- 4.35 (0.10)	16.76 (2.56)
FI Short Term	1.911	5.023	16.24 (0.47)	71.25 (1.94)	- 20.75 (- 0.33)	33.20 (2.20)
FI Government	0.430	1.311	56.88 (1.97)	26.83 (2.18)	- 1.82 (0.18)	18.10 (2.65)
FI Mortgage	0.966	2.018	60.27 (1.99)	27.10 (2.38)	0.48 (0.13)	12.15 (2.17)
FI Corporate	4.220	2.578	69.02 (1.79)	25.31 (2.54)	- 1.93 (- 0.15)	7.60 (2.17)
FI High Yield	4.850	5.553	72.90 (1.58)	21.01 (2.28)	- 0.03 (0.27)	6.12 (2.34)
FI Others	2.824	3.412	18.32 (0.56)	21.92 (1.36)	- 0.95 (0.14)	60.71 (2.84)
FI Average	2.690	3.131	50.59 (1.45)	33.18 (2.16)	- 3.91 (0.03)	20.13 (2.42)
EF Index	87.572	2.850	77.95 (1.69)	18.13 (2.57)	- 0.77 (- 0.14)	4.69 (2.44)
EF Commodities	4.114	1.585	66.37 (1.57)	25.43 (2.62)	- 0.66 (0.05)	8.86 (2.52)
EF Sector	2.142	1.268	44.65 (1.70)	37.35 (2.32)	1.03 (0.25)	16.97 (2.68)
EF Global	3.287	2.245	73.89 (1.69)	20.49 (2.75)	0.54 (0.15)	5.08 (2.79)
EF Balanced	2.151	3.332	73.09 (1.55)	21.10 (2.49)	- 0.83 (0.25)	6.64 (2.56)
EF Leverage and Short	23.537	1.597	44.92 (1.39)	38.01 (2.12)	- 0.47 (0.34)	17.54 (2.33)
EF Long Short	2.791	1.439	67.59 (1.36)	24.49 (2.09)	2.43 (0.07)	5.48 (2.49)
EF Mid Cap	1.336	2.579	76.03 (1.65)	21.74 (2.43)	- 1.06 (0.10)	3.28 (2.55)
EF Small Cap	1.097	1.930	73.92 (1.70)	24.35 (2.55)	- 1.25 (- 0.03)	2.98 (2.56)
EF Aggressive Growth	0.730	2.067	71.61 (1.39)	19.73 (2.54)	0.58 (0.04)	8.08 (2.55)
EF Growth	2.198	2.114	73.00 (1.86)	21.60 (2.62)	0.11 (0.16)	5.30 (2.61)
EF Growth and Income	2.785	2.169	82.80 (1.80)	14.39 (2.69)	- 0.06 (0.07)	2.87 (2.55)
EF Equity Income	3.010	2.041	79.60 (1.74)	17.44 (2.52)	- 0.21 (0.09)	3.17 (2.57)
EF Others	1.857	1.994	66.75 (1.41)	23.17 (2.54)	0.11 (0.08)	9.97 (2.58)
EF Average	9.901	2.086	69.44 (1.61)	23.39 (2.49)	- 0.04 (0.11)	7.21 (2.56)
Group Average	7.279	2.466	62.59 (1.55)	26.95 (2.37)	- 1.45 (0.08)	11.91 (2.50)



Tail Risks Across Investment Funds

Styles	EW Port Kurtosis	Individual Kurtosis	Systematic			Idiosyncratic
			Individual COKURT (%)	Individual VOLCOMV (%)	Individual ICOKURT (%)	Individual RESKURT (%)
Panel D: Hedge Funds						
Equity Hedge	2.004	2.001	17.56 (0.64)	34.18 (1.50)	1.08 (0.29)	47.17 (2.45)
Event-Driven	6.907	4.071	23.59 (0.73)	31.03 (1.58)	3.75 (0.49)	41.64 (2.25)
Fund of Funds	4.186	2.951	44.53 (1.17)	33.21 (1.95)	2.35 (0.37)	19.91 (2.31)
HFRI	4.018	6.471	33.21 (0.98)	42.58 (2.14)	- 0.29 (0.70)	24.50 (2.90)
HFRX	8.220	6.048	50.56 (0.69)	27.05 (1.88)	1.26 (0.65)	21.13 (2.27)
Macro	0.134	2.006	7.28 (0.61)	22.82 (1.21)	2.96 (0.29)	66.95 (2.32)
Relative Value	25.845	7.001	7.27 (0.42)	45.82 (1.07)	- 8.80 (0.20)	55.89 (1.96)
Group Average	7.330	4.364	26.28 (0.75)	33.81 (1.62)	0.33 (0.43)	39.60 (2.35)

Panel E: All Funds

	Component	ETFs	OEFs	HF s
CEFs	COKURT	- 13.38	- 21.59	12.11
	VOLCOMV	10.31	13.76	6.78
	ICOKURT	- 0.23	1.38	- 2.63
	RESKURT	8.38	11.51	- 18.67
ETFs	COKURT		- 3.45	33.55
	VOLCOMV		1.78	- 7.07
	ICOKURT		2.95	- 4.12
	RESKURT		1.96	- 37.51
OEFs	COKURT			106.32
	VOLCOMV			- 20.94
	ICOKURT			- 13.28
	RESKURT			- 73.00

F test of equality: COKURT (p < 0.001) VOLCOMV (p < 0.001) ICOKURT (p < 0.001) RESKURT (p < 0.001)

Panel F: Fixed Income Funds			
	Component	ETFs	OEFS
	COKURT	-0.99	-4.17
CEFs	VOLCOMV	3.16	3.19
	ICOKURT	-0.20	2.89
	RESKURT	-0.82	0.33
	COKURT		-0.35
ETFs	VOLCOMV		-2.01
	ICOKURT		1.10
	RESKURT		1.08
F test of equality: COKURT (p=0.002) VOLCOMV (p=0.053) ICOKURT (p=0.042) RESKURT (p=0.535)			

Panel G: Equity Funds			
	Component	ETFs	OEFS
	COKURT	-12.31	-19.29
CEFs	VOLCOMV	8.84	12.46
	ICOKURT	0.16	0.67
	RESKURT	7.18	10.30
	COKURT		-5.81
ETFs	VOLCOMV		4.23
	ICOKURT		1.12
	RESKURT		4.86
F test of equality: COKURT (p<0.001) VOLCOMV (p<0.001) ICOKURT (p=0.207) RESKURT (p<0.001)			

TABLE V. AUTOCORRELATION-ADJUSTED SKEWNESS AND KURTOSIS DECOMPOSITION OF HEDGE FUNDS

This table summarizes the skewness and kurtosis decompositions by using equal-weighted portfolio of funds as market portfolio, after being adjusted for stale prices. The 3-lag autocorrelated observed return process is identified as

$$r_{i,t} = (\beta_{0,i} + \beta_{1,i} + \beta_{2,i})r_{p,t} + u_{i,t}$$

$r_{i,t}$  and  $r_{p,t}$  are demeaned return for fund  $i$  and market portfolio. Substitute the true  $\tilde{\beta}_i^* = \beta_{0,i} + \beta_{1,i} + \beta_{2,i}$  in the equation of  $r_{i,t} = \tilde{\beta}_i r_{p,t}$  to derive and compute the skewness and kurtosis decompositions. Numbers in parentheses are t-statistics associated with a null hypothesis of zero raw coskewness, idiosyncratic coskewness, residual skewness, cokurtosis, idiosyncratic cokurtosis, volatility comovement, and residual kurtosis in the respective columns. Group Average is the average of statistics across all fund styles.

Tail Risks Across Investment Funds

Panel A: Skewness Decomposition			
Styles	Systematic		Idiosyncratic
	Individual	Individual	Individual
	COSKEW (%)	ICOSKEW (%)	RESSKEW (%)
Equity Hedge	23.66 (- 0.32)	36.20 (- 0.28)	43.21 (0.04)
Event-Driven	50.84 (- 0.54)	21.25 (- 0.59)	27.54 (0.08)
Fund of Funds	44.63 (- 0.95)	21.19 (- 0.79)	35.23 (- 0.30)
HFR1	141.69 (- 0.75)	- 49.19 (- 0.40)	8.05 (- 0.26)
HFRX	66.09 (- 0.83)	- 15.20 (- 1.36)	52.80 (- 0.25)
Macro	42.53 (0.11)	- 99.38 (0.12)	157.81 (0.05)
Relative Value	32.20 (- 0.37)	22.77 (- 0.60)	45.39 (- 0.18)
Group Average	57.38 (- 0.52)	- 8.91 (- 0.56)	52.86 (- 0.12)

Panel B: Kurtosis Decomposition				
Styles	Systematic			Idiosyncratic
	Individual	Individual	Individual	Individual
	COKURT (%)	VOLCOMV (%)	ICOKURT (%)	RESKURT (%)
Equity Hedge	9.77 (0.50)	48.98 (1.20)	- 11.54 (0.22)	52.88 (2.15)
Event-Driven	10.18 (0.50)	51.51 (1.26)	- 6.23 (0.25)	44.51 (2.06)
Fund of Funds	37.69 (1.04)	43.03 (1.66)	- 2.42 (0.33)	21.82 (2.04)
HFR1	36.99 (1.07)	34.96 (1.91)	4.50 (0.69)	23.57 (2.80)
HFRX	52.37 (0.90)	21.01 (1.53)	1.58 (0.25)	25.76 (2.25)
Macro	- 9.27 (0.27)	60.95 (0.82)	- 35.47 (0.14)	84.24 (1.95)
Relative Value	- 5.57 (0.27)	67.05 (0.95)	- 21.31 (0.07)	60.21 (1.82)
Group Average	18.88 (0.65)	46.79 (1.33)	- 10.13 (0.28)	44.71 (2.15)

TABLE VI. SKEWNESS DECOMPOSITION BY BETA-WEIGHTED EXOGENOUS FACTORS

Beta-weighted factors are constructed from Fama-French 3-factors, Carhart 4-factors, Fung-Hsieh 7-factors, and 2 bond factors. Equity CEFs and ETFs use the beta-weighted Fama-French 3-factors. Equity open-ended funds and hedge funds use the beta-weighted Carhart 4-factors, and Fung-Hsieh 7-factors, respectively. Bond CEFs, ETFs, and open-ended funds use two more bond indexes in addition to the factors used in their equity counterparts – the Barclay U.S. government/credit index and corporation bond index. The weights to construct beta-weighted factors depend on the respective betas on each factor. Betas are estimated by regressing fund excess returns on factor excess returns. EW portfolio skewness is the cross-sectional average of skewness of beta-weighted factors. Individual skewness is the cross-sectional average of skewness of individual funds in each style. Skewness is the third central moment about the mean and computed as  $E\frac{(r_i^3)}{\sigma_i^3} - 3$ .  $r_i$  and  $\sigma_i$  are the demeaned return and standard deviation of fund  $i$ . COSKEW, ICOSKEW, and RESSKEW refer to the following components in the skewness decomposition:

$$E(r_i^3) = \underbrace{\beta_i^2 \text{cov}(r_i, r_p^2)}_{\text{COSKEW}} + 2\underbrace{\beta_i^2 \text{cov}(u_i, r_p^2)}_{\text{ISOSKEW}} + 3\underbrace{\beta_i \text{cov}(u_i^2, r_p)}_{\text{ISOSKEW}} + \underbrace{E(u_i^3)}_{\text{RESSKEW}}$$

where  $r_p$  is the demeaned return for the market portfolio. Individual COSKEW, ICOSKEW, and RESSKEW are the average of estimated values from the above equation by GMM across individual funds and reported as the percentage of the skewness of demeaned fund returns  $E[r^3]$ . FI and EF stand for fixed income and equity funds, respectively. Numbers in parentheses are t-statistics associated with a null hypothesis of zero raw coskewness, idiosyncratic coskewness, and residual skewness in the respective columns. FI Average is the average of statistics across fixed-income fund styles. EF Average is the average of statistics across equity fund styles. Group Average is the average of statistics across all fund styles.

Tail Risks Across Investment Funds

Fund Type	EW Port Skewness	Individual Skewness	Systematic		Idiosyncratic
			Individual COSKEW (%)	Individual ICOSKEW (%)	Individual RESSKEW (%)
Panel A: Closed-End Funds					
FI Average	-0.772	-0.675	24.66 (-0.35)	38.56 (-0.59)	36.75 (-0.47)
EF Average	-1.274	-0.613	45.51 (-0.96)	32.98 (-0.64)	22.14 (0.28)
Group Average	-1.051	-0.640	36.24 (-0.69)	35.46 (-0.62)	28.63 (-0.05)
Panel B: ETFs					
FI Average	0.162	0.236	59.63 (0.15)	15.40 (-0.39)	22.25 (0.82)
EF Average	-1.170	-0.801	82.55 (-1.14)	13.16 (-0.22)	3.85 (0.22)
Group Average	-0.637	-0.386	73.38 (-0.62)	14.06 (-0.28)	11.21 (0.46)
Panel C: Open-Ended Funds					
FI Average	-0.352	-0.439	22.56 (-0.12)	29.67 (-0.38)	50.24 (-0.37)
EF Average	-0.919	-0.742	90.53 (-1.11)	5.69 (-0.19)	3.85 (0.11)
Group Average	-0.712	-0.631	65.81 (-0.75)	14.41 (-0.26)	20.72 (-0.06)
Panel D: Hedge Funds					
Group Average	0.928	-0.845	27.81 (-0.45)	23.88 (-0.68)	47.80 (-0.29)

TABLE VII. KURTOSIS DECOMPOSITION BY BETA-WEIGHTED EXOGENOUS FACTORS

Beta-weighted factors are constructed from Fama-French 3-factors, Carhart 4-factors, Fung-Hsieh 7-factors, and 2 bond factors. Equity CEFs and ETFs use the beta-weighted Fama-French 3-factors. Equity open-ended funds and hedge funds use the beta-weighted Carhart 4-factors, and Fung-Hsieh 7-factors,

respectively. Bond CEFs, ETFs, and open-ended funds use two more bond indexes in addition to the factors used in their equity counterparts – the Barclay U.S. government/credit index and corporation bond index. The weights to construct beta-weighted factors depend on the respective betas on each factor. Betas are estimated by regressing fund excess returns on factor excess returns. EW portfolio kurtosis is the cross-sectional average of kurtosis of beta-weighted factors. Individual kurtosis is the cross-sectional average of kurtosis of individual funds in each style. Kurtosis is the fourth central moment about the mean and computed as  $E \frac{(r_i^4)}{\sigma_i^4} - 3$ .  $r_i$  and  $\sigma_i$  are the demeaned return and standard deviation of fund  $i$ . COKURT, VOLCOMV, ICOKURT, and RESKURT refer to the following components in the kurtosis decomposition:

$$E(r_i^4) = \underbrace{\beta_i^3 \text{cov}(r_i, r_p^3)}_{\text{COKURT}} + \underbrace{3\beta_i^3 \text{cov}(u_i, r_p^3)}_{\text{VOLCOMV}} + \underbrace{6\beta_i^2 E(r_p^2 u^2)}_{\text{ICOKURT}} + \underbrace{4\beta_i \text{cov}(u_i^3, r_p)}_{\text{RESKURT}} + \underbrace{E(u_i^4)}_{\text{RESKURT}}$$

where  $r_p$  is the demeaned return for the beta-weighted factors. Individual COKURT, VOLCOMV, ICOKURT, and RESKURT are the average of estimated values from the above equation by GMM across individual funds and reported as the percentage of the kurtosis of demeaned fund returns  $E(r_i^4)$ . FI and EF stand for fixed income and equity funds, respectively. Numbers in parentheses are t-statistics associated with a null hypothesis of zero raw cokurtosis, idiosyncratic cokurtosis, volatility comovement, and residual kurtosis in the respective columns. FI Average is the average of statistics across fixed-income fund styles. EF Average is the average of statistics across equity fund styles. Group Average is the average of statistics across all fund styles.

Tail Risks Across Investment Funds

Fund Type	EW Port Kurtosis	Individual Kurtosis	Systematic			Idiosyncratic
			Individual COKURT (%)	Individual VOLCOMV (%)	Individual ICOKURT (%)	Individual RESKURT (%)
Panel A: Closed-End Funds						
FI Average	3.603	5.156	7.83 (0.62)	24.45 (1.43)	14.74 (1.09)	52.48 (2.48)
EF Average	4.228	4.328	23.92 (1.01)	36.83 (1.75)	7.02 (0.74)	29.90 (2.54)
Group Average	3.950	4.696	16.77 (0.84)	31.33 (1.61)	10.45 (0.89)	39.94 (2.52)
Panel B: ETFs						
FI Average	1.832	3.243	25.53 (0.65)	39.35 (1.36)	0.01 (0.15)	35.18 (2.12)
EF Average	2.329	2.323	68.89 (1.40)	21.03 (2.14)	1.88 (0.27)	7.81 (2.44)
Group Average	2.130	2.691	51.55 (1.10)	28.36 (1.82)	1.13 (0.22)	18.76 (2.31)
Panel C: Open-Ended Funds						
FI Average	2.806	3.131	14.08 (0.47)	28.12 (1.53)	2.28 (0.39)	55.82 (2.73)
EF Average	2.153	2.086	73.20 (1.65)	19.80 (2.54)	0.36 (0.15)	6.23 (2.70)
Group Average	2.390	2.466	51.70 (1.22)	22.82 (2.17)	1.06 (0.23)	24.26 (2.71)
Panel D: Hedge Funds						
Group Average	3.664	4.364	17.07 (0.55)	34.68 (1.36)	1.46 (0.47)	46.83 (2.46)

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