

Anticipate Before You Participate

Understanding Market Volatility of Emerging Markets and Natural Resources is Key to Managing Expectations



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Multidisciplinary Focus





According to Morningstar, alpha is a measure of the difference between a fund's actual returns and its expected performance, given its level of risk as measured by beta. A positive alpha indicates the fund has performed better than its beta would predict. In contrast, a negative alpha indicates the fund's underperformance, given the expectations established by the fund's beta. All MPT statistics (alpha, beta, and R-squared) are based on a least-squared regression of the fund's return over Treasury bills (called excess return) and the excess returns of the fund's benchmark index.



Complex Adaptive Systems



Source: Trojan Mice



Time Management



Top Down

Monday

We focus on macroeconomic factors and their inter-market relationships.

Bottom Up

Tuesday through Friday

We focus on finding the best stocks to own, based on critical drivers.

Organize

Data

Rate of change over 5/20/60 days



Cycles – Principles of Continuous Revolution



Every cycle – irrespective of degree or significance – contains its own unique rhythm.

From daily tides to the solar system, life is governed by the cyclical principle.



Cycles – Where are we on the...



Kuznet Cycle – 20-year Emerging Market Cycle That Drives Commodity Demand.



Presidential Election Cycle – 4-Year Cycle



Seasonal Cycle – Commodity and Stock Market Patterns



Mean Reversion

Investments can have wide price swings during any given year. But, over time, they usually revert to their long-term averages. This principle is called "mean reversion."





Market Exuberance...

Through the Cycle Discounts and Premium to NPV



Source: Deutsche Securities estimates



Presidential Cycle

Presidential Cycle on Cycle comparison S&P 500 Monthly Closing Price, Through = 100





Annual Cyclical Pattern - Oil



Seasonality for Crude Oil '86 - '05

Source: U.S. Global Research



Annual Cyclical Pattern – Natural Gas

Seasonality for Natural Gas '86 - '05



Source: U.S. Global Research



Annual Cyclical Pattern – Gold

Gold monthly moves 1971-2005



Source: U.S. Global Research



Annual Cyclical Pattern – Platinum

Seasonality for Platinum '86 - '05





Annual Cyclical Pattern - Copper

Seasonality for Copper '86 - '05



Source: U.S. Global Research



Standard Deviation (sigma)





MSCI Emerging Markets Index

iShares MSCI Emerging Markets Index 3-Year sigma as of 6/14/06



Probability Graph:	# of occurrences	% of occurrences
+ 2 Std. Dev	1	0.13%
+1 Std. Dev	117	15.25%
-1 Std. Dev	85	11.08%
-2 Std. Dev	42	5.48%
Current:	-2.21 std dev	

Source: Bloomberg



Morgan Stanley India Investment

Morgan Stanley India Investment Fund 3-Year sigma as of 6/14/06



Probability Graph:	# of occurrences	% of occurrences
+ 2 Std. Dev	30	2.55%
+1 Std. Dev	162	13.76%
-1 Std. Dev	192	16.31%
-2 Std. Dev	14	1.19%
Current:	-1.66 std dev	

Source: Bloomberg



Eastern European Fund (EUROX)

Eastern European Fund 5-Year sigma as of 6/14/06



Probability Graph:	# of occurrences	% of occurrences
+ 2 Std. Dev	24	1.84%
+1 Std. Dev	198	15.15%
-1 Std. Dev	210	16.07%
-2 Std. Dev	38	2.91%
Current:	-2.48 std dev	

Source: Bloomberg



China Region Opportunity Fund (USCOX)

China Region Opportunity Fund 5-Year sigma as of 6/14/06



Probability Graph:	# of occurrences	% of occurrences
+ 2 Std. Dev	26	1.99%
+1 Std. Dev	180	13.77%
-1 Std. Dev	189	14.46%
-2 Std. Dev	22	1.68%
Current:	-0.31 std dev	

Source: Bloomberg



Global Resources Fund (PSPFX)

Global Resources Fund 5-Year sigma as of 6/14/06



Probability Graph:	# of occurrences	% of occurrences
+ 2 Std. Dev	9	0.69%
+1 Std. Dev	222	16.99%
-1 Std. Dev	168	12.85%
-2 Std. Dev	41	3.14%
Current:	-0.34 std dev	

Source: Bloomberg



Trade Weighted Dollar Index (DXY)

Trade Weighted Dollar Index 5-Year sigma as of 6/14/06



Probability Graph:	# of occurrences	% of occurrences
+ 2 Std. Dev	28	2.14%
+1 Std. Dev	182	13.93%
-1 Std. Dev	257	19.66%
-2 Std. Dev	12	0.92%
Current:	-1.14 std dev	

Source: Bloomberg



Gold

Spot Gold \$/OZ 5-Year sigma as of 6/20/06



Probability Graph:	# of occurrences	% of occurrences
+ 2 Std. Dev	32	2.45%
+1 Std. Dev	132	10.10%
-1 Std. Dev	171	13.08%
-2 Std. Dev	18	1.38%
Current:	0.06 std dev	

Source: Bloomberg



Gold Rate of Change

Gold – 20 Day Rate of Change



The gold market's monthly decline is extreme when compared over 30 years to date. This has happened 16 times over the past 30 years. The last time was over 20 years ago. (1981-1983)



Amex Gold Bugs Index (HUI)

Amex Gold BUGS Index (HUI) 3-Year sigma as of 6/14/06



Probability Graph:	# of occurrences	% of occurrences
+ 2 Std. Dev	17	1.44%
+1 Std. Dev	171	14.53%
-1 Std. Dev	215	18.27%
-2 Std. Dev	2	0.17%
Current:	-0.44 std dev	

Source: Bloomberg



Philadelphia Gold & Silver Index (XAU)

Philadelphia Gold & Silver Index (XAU) 3-Year sigma as of 6/14/06



Probability Graph:	# of occurrences	% of occurrences
+ 2 Std. Dev	29	2.22%
+1 Std. Dev	187	14.31%
-1 Std. Dev	204	15.61%
-2 Std. Dev	23	1.76%
Current:	-0.38 std dev	

Source: Bloomberg



World Precious Minerals Fund (UNWPX)

World Precious Minerals Fund 5-Year sigma as of 6/14/06



Probability Graph:	# of occurrences	% of occurrences
+ 2 Std. Dev	10	0.77%
+1 Std. Dev	219	16.76%
-1 Std. Dev	176	13.47%
-2 Std. Dev	11	0.84%
Current:	-0.23 std dev	

Source: Bloomberg



Gold Shares Fund (USERX)

Gold Shares Fund 5-Year sigma as of 6/14/06



Probability Graph:	# of occurrences	% of occurrences
+ 2 Std. Dev	14	1.07%
+1 Std. Dev	199	15.23%
-1 Std. Dev	202	15.46%
-2 Std. Dev	14	1.07%
Current:	-0.01 std dev	

Source: Bloomberg



- The Panic/Euphoria Model fell further into panic territory the week of 6/16/06.
- Previous panic readings argue for significant market gains in the next six months with better than 90% historical probability.
- The Panic/Euphoria reading the week of 6/16/06 was -0.63.

Source: Citigroup Investment Research – U.S. Equity Strategy



All American Equity Fund (GBTFX)

All American Equity Fund 5-Year sigma as of 6/14/06



Probability Graph:	# of occurrences	% of occurrences
+ 2 Std. Dev	5	0.38%
+1 Std. Dev	201	15.38%
-1 Std. Dev	118	9.03%
-2 Std. Dev	55	4.21%
Current:	-0.83 std dev	

Source: Bloomberg



Holmes Growth Fund (ACBGX)

Holmes Growth Fund 5-Year sigma as of 6/14/06



Probability Graph:	# of occurrences	% of occurrences
+ 2 Std. Dev	3	0.23%
+1 Std. Dev	188	14.38%
-1 Std. Dev	106	8.11%
-2 Std. Dev	46	3.52%
Current:	-0.78 std dev	

Source: Bloomberg



Fund Sigma (Standard Deviation)

Magnitude for 1 standard deviation (1 sigma*) as of 6/14/06

Fund	Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly
Gold Shares Fund (USERX)	4.46%	10.16%	19.15%
World Precious Minerals Fund (UNWPX)	4.19%	10.16%	19.81%
Global Resources Fund (PSPFX)	2.80%	6.96%	13.15%
Eastern European Fund (EUROX)	2.75%	6.13%	10.18%
China Region Opportunity Fund (USCOX)	2.35%	5.54%	11.30%
Holmes Growth Fund (ACBGX)	2.23%	4.38%	7.60%
All American Equity Fund (GBTFX)	2.04%	4.47%	7.30%
Amex Gold BUGS Index (HUI)	4.77%	9.96%	17.79%
S&P 500 Index	2.05%	4.18%	6.89%

* Sigma is the Greek notation for standard deviation. Normally distributed random data series fall within +1 sigma from the mean around 68% of the time.



Suggestions To Manage Risk

1. Limit risk exposure to specific asset class.

ie: Resources 25% International 25%

- 2. Use dollar cost averaging model to build a position in any fund or asset class.
- 3. Rebalance different asset classes annually or quarterly.

Naturally, a program of regular investing doesn't assure a profit or protect against loss in a declining market. You should evaluate your ability to continue in such a program in view of the possibility that you may have to redeem fund shares in periods of declining share prices as well as in periods of rising prices.

Further, by diversifying into different asset classes as suggested by Roger Gibson and rebalancing annually, investors increase their mathematical odds to capture the power of "mean reversion" and manage the emotions of fear and greed better.

www.usfunds.com Diversification does not protect an investor from market risks and does not assure a profit.



Asset Allocation

25% - Fixed Income

25% - Domestic Equities

25% - International

25% - Resources (Hard Assets)



ROGER C. GIBSON

Vinur Retirem



Dollar Cost Averaging





Stable

Volatile



Four Asset Classes

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY FUNDS	FIXED INCOME FUNDS	
 China Region Opportunity Fund (USCOX) Eastern European Fund (EUROX) Global Emerging Markets Fund (GEMFX) 	 U.S. Government Securities Savings Fund (UGSXX) U.S. Treasury Securities Cash Fund (USTXX) Tax Free Fund (USUTX) Near-Term Tax Free Fund (NEARX) 	
GOLD AND NATURAL RESOURCES EQUITY FUNDS	DOMESTIC EQUITY FUNDS	
	All American Equity Fund (GBTFX)	



Significant Slowdown Coming

bbal Investors	<u>2 Yrs Ago</u>	Latest
Oil	\$37	\$70
10-Year Bond	4.74%	5.13%
Fed Funds	1.00%	5.00%
Yield Curve	374 bp	13 bp
Central Bank Tightenings*	20	83
NAHB Housing Index	68	43 (e)
Federal Deficit**	-\$459 b	-\$182 b
Real DPI Y/Y % (Disposable Personal Income)	2.7%	1.3% (e)
Real MZM Y/Y %	1.7%	0.5% (e)
Leading Indicators Y/Y%	8.0%	1.9% (e)

* Global 12 Month Sum ** 6 Month SAAR

Source: ISI Group



Will It Be Different This Time?

Every tightening cycle in the past has been associated with a financial crisis.

Fed Tightening Cycle	Financial Crisis
1970	Penn Central
1974	Franklin National
1980	First Penn / Latin America
1984	Continental Illinois
1987	Black Monday
1990	S&L Crisis
1994	Mexico
1997	Pacific Rim/Russia/LTCM
2000	Nasdaq Collapse
2006	?



Reasons for Secular Bull Market in Commodities

Demand Drivers:

- 1. Global "synchronicity" of economies
- 2. Asia's strong GDP & IP growth rate

Supply Drivers (Restrictions):

- 1. Higher barriers to entry due to global environmental and governmental regulations
- 2. Long lead time from exploration to production
- 3. Geopolitical events



Bull Market Risks





Disclosure

For more complete information about the

Eastern European Fund (EUROX), China Region Opportunity Fund (USCOX), Global Emerging Markets Fund (GEMFX), Global Resources Fund (PSPFX), Gold Shares Fund (USERX), World Precious Minerals Fund (UNWPX)

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