

# Illuminating the World of HEDGE FUNDS

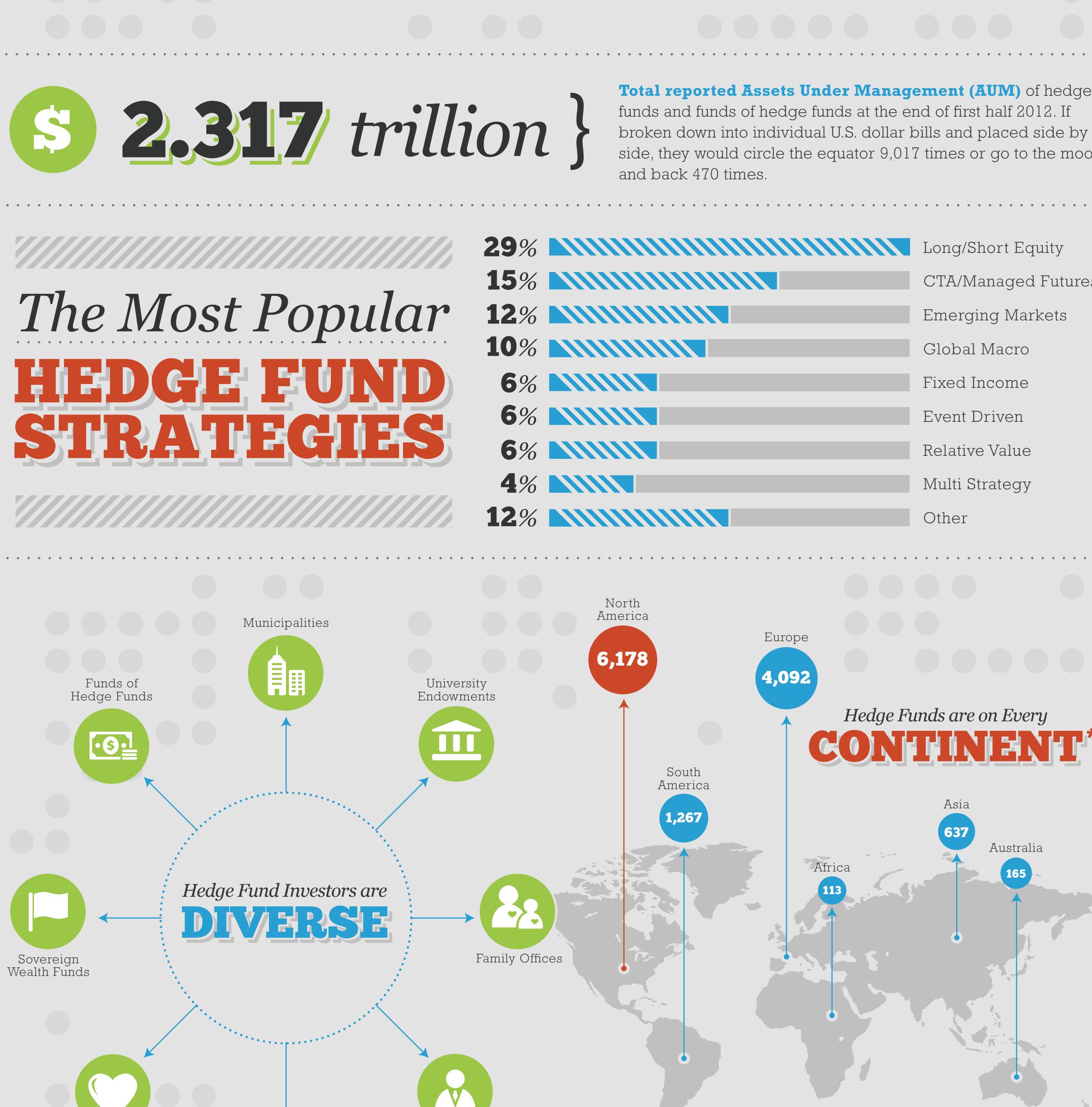
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"The logic of the idea was very clear. It was a hedge against the vagaries of the market. You can buy more good stocks without taking as much risk as someone who merely buys."

**Alfred Winslow Jones**

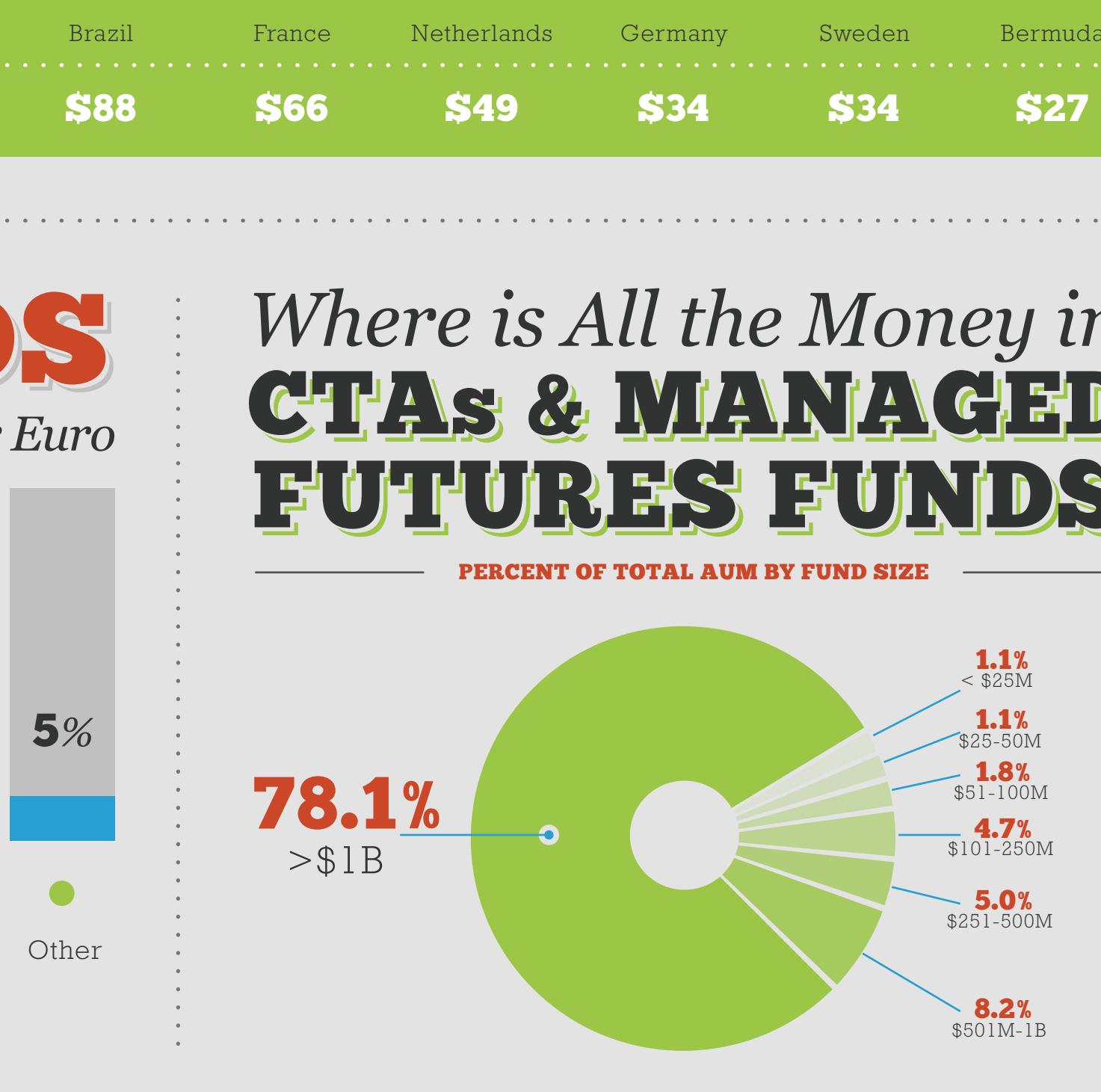
The Institutional Investor Journal, August 1968

## BRIEF HISTORY of HEDGE FUNDS



**\$ 2.317 trillion }**

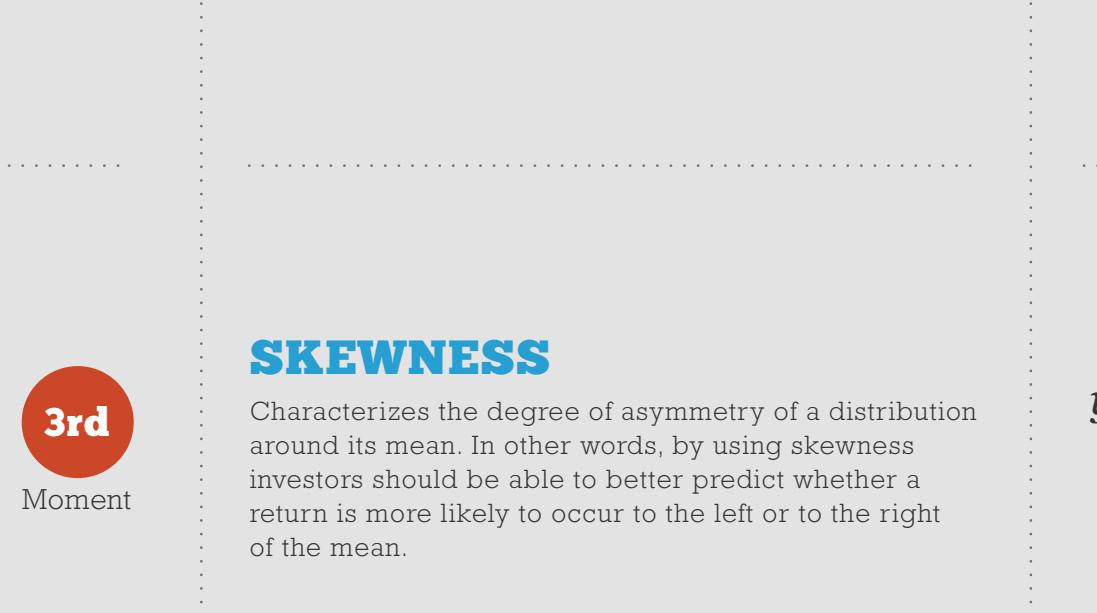
**Total reported Assets Under Management (AUM)** of hedge funds and funds of hedge funds at the end of first half 2012. If broken down into individual U.S. dollar bills and placed side by side, they would circle the equator 9,017 times or go to the moon and back 470 times.



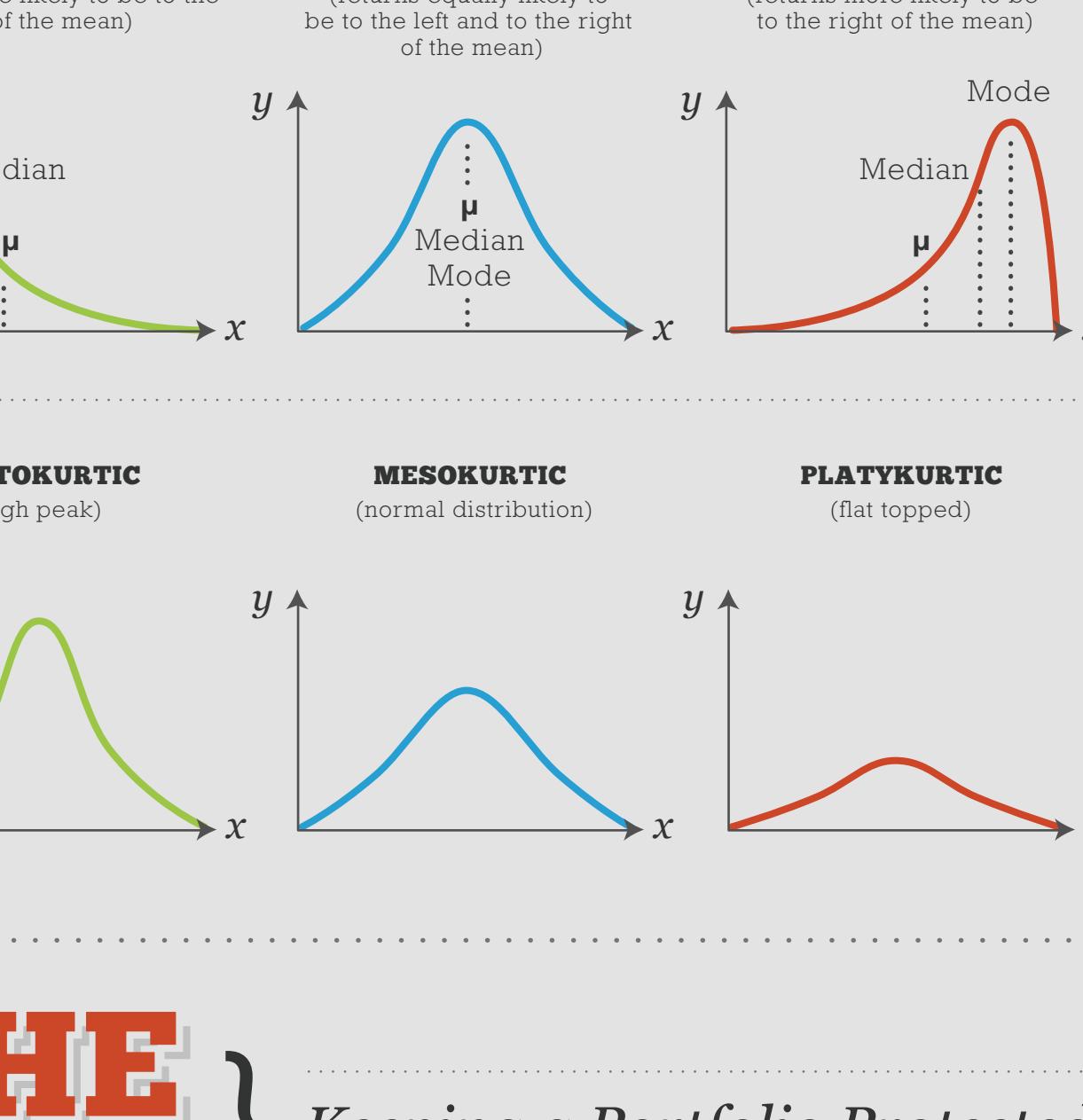
## The Most Popular HEDGE FUND STRATEGIES



**3 out of 4 FUNDS**  
are denominated in the US Dollar or Euro

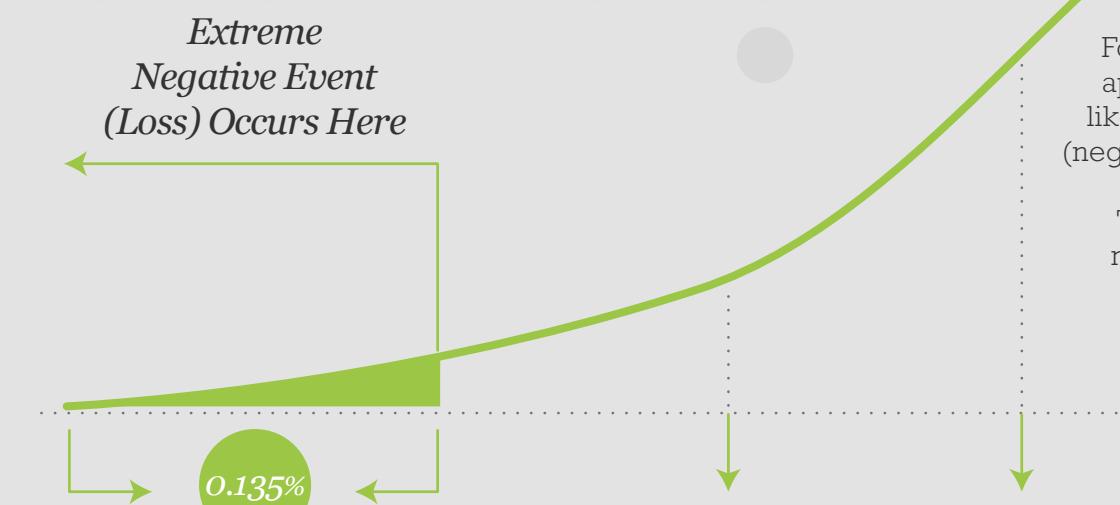


**Where is All the Money in CTA & MANAGED FUTURES FUNDS**

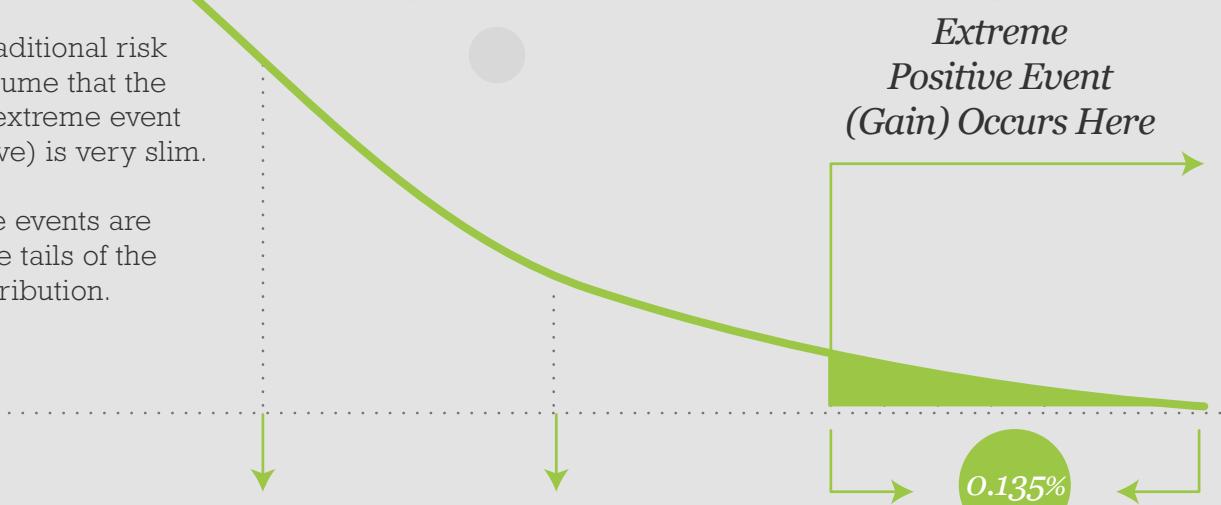


**GOOD THINGS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES**

Smaller Funds Tend to Outperform Larger Funds...



...But Larger Funds are Generally Less Volatile



If You've Made it This Far... It's Time for Some More Advanced Analysis

**IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME } Some Common Investment Statistics**

SYMBOL	DEFINITION	WHAT IT ATTEMPTS TO ANSWER	THE FORMULA FOR YOUR INNER MATH GEEK
$\alpha$ Alpha	Measures the fund's value relative to a benchmark.	How much extra did you earn from a fund that you wouldn't have otherwise earned from investing in the broad market?	Where $M_B$ = The mean return of the benchmark Where $M_{RD}$ = The mean return of the fund $\alpha = M_{RD} - \beta(M_B - M_{RD})$
$\beta$ Beta	Measures the fund's sensitivity to movements of the market as a whole.	How likely is your fund to track the benchmark?	Where $R_i$ = The return of the fund for period 1 Where $R_{B,i}$ = The return of the benchmark for period 1 Where $M_{B,i}$ = The mean return of the fund Where $N$ = Number of periods $\beta = \frac{N}{n} \frac{\sum (R_i - M_{B,i})(R_{B,i} - M_{B,i})}{\sum (R_{B,i} - M_{B,i})^2}$
$\Omega$ Omega	Uses actual return distribution and divides expected returns into gains and losses to provide a relative measure of the fund achieving a given return.	How do your fund's good returns stack up to its bad returns, and how likely is that your fund will make more than a given percentage?	Where $r$ is the threshold return, and $F$ is cumulative density function of returns. $\Omega(r) = \frac{\int_0^r (1-F(x))dx}{\int_0^1 F(x)dx}$
$\sigma$ Sigma (Standard Deviation)	Measures the degree of variation of the fund's returns around the fund's mean (average) return for a specified period.	How much should you expect your fund's returns to vary from the norm?	Where $R_i$ = Return for period 1 Where $M_A$ = Mean of return set R Where $N$ = Number of periods $S = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^N (R_i - M_A)^2}$

**UNDERSTANDING the MOMENTS of a DISTRIBUTION**



**IMAGINING THE UNIMAGINABLE } Keeping a Portfolio Protected**

**TRADITIONAL RISK STATISTICS**

Traditional risk statistics assume that events to the left and right of the mean are equally likely to occur.

Extreme Negative Event (Loss) Occurs Here

Value at Risk (VaR) is the maximum loss a fund can expect within a specified holding period using a specified confidence level. It is calculated using traditional Risk Statistics based on a Normal Distribution, with No Skew, and Mesokurtic Kurtosis.

**FAT-TAIL RISK STATISTICS**

The traditional VaR model has come under criticism because, in the real world, events can't be easily modeled on a simple, symmetrical curve (normal distribution). Newer, Fat-Tail VaR models better capture the fact that highly improbable and damaging events do occur, and can occur more frequently than traditional risk statistics assume.

Nassim Nicholas Taleb popularized the use of the term "black swan" for these highly improbable events.

Notice that the tail is "fatter" to the left of 95% VaR. This indicates that the probability of sustaining losses has increased.

In this example, both the Fat-Tail and normal distributions have the same mean and VaR 95% numbers, but the Fat-Tail distribution is Leptokurtic and has a left skew.

As a result, the Fat-Tail distribution's Expected Tail Loss (ETL), which is the average return that exceed the VaR, more accurately captures a higher downside risk than traditional ETL.

An asymmetrical curve, based on real-world returns, can more accurately predict the chance that an extreme negative event (loss) or an extreme positive event (gain) may occur.

The overstated probability that an extremely positive event (gain) occurs according to the traditional risk approach.

"One single observation can invalidate a general statement derived from millennia of confirmatory sightings of millions of white swans. All you need is one single (and, I am told, quite ugly) black bird."

**Nassim Nicholas Taleb**  
The Black Swan: The Impact of the Highly Improbable

Images are for illustration purposes and are not to scale...

[www.pertrac.com](http://www.pertrac.com)  
[sales@pertrac.com](mailto:sales@pertrac.com)  
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Office locations and telephone numbers:  
New York: +1 212.661.6050  
London: +44 (0)20 7661.0800  
Hong Kong: +852 6252.69780  
Tokyo: +81 3.5785.2041  
Reno: +1 901.888.7300  
Memphis: +1 901.888.7300

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