## A LOOK AT THE PERFORMANCE BEHIND OUR SUITE OF DYNAMICALLY HEDGED ETFS

Liqian Ren - Director of Modern Alpha 07/25/2024

At WisdomTree, we offer numerous suites of Funds. In this blog post, I will focus on two particular suites: one that is dynamically hedged and another that is not hedged.

- In large caps: <u>WisdomTree Dynamic Currency Hedged International Equity Fund (DDWM)</u>
  vs. <u>WisdomTree International Equity Fund (DWM)</u>.
- In small caps: <u>WisdomTree Dynamic Currency Hedged International SmallCap Equity Fund (DDLS)</u> vs. <u>WisdomTree International SmallCap Equity Fund (DLS)</u>.

The only difference between the Funds in each pair is the dynamic currency hedge, allowing for an easy evaluation of the net impact of currency hedging.

Dynamic currency hedging has reduced international portfolio risk while adding value on non-hedged equity portfolios.

Since 2016, <u>DDWM</u> has added 2% annually over <u>DWM</u>, as it benefited from adapting its hedge during a stronger dollar period for much of the last few years.

Because the U.S. dollar has been strong, it has been difficult to beat a 100% hedged portfolio. However, dynamically hedged <u>DDWM</u>, with a performance of 8.3% and risk of 12.7% since 2016, has been able to beat a 50% hedged portfolio.

The <u>current dynamic hedging strategy</u> has five components, with a broad market currency trend indicator accounting for 50% of the weight and the other four components (carry, cross asset, low vol and momentum) equal weighted across the remaining 50%.

Since 2023, every component has added some value, with carry and low volatility signals adding the most.

Figure 1: DDWM and DWM Performance vs. Different Hypothetical Hedging



		-	Actual	Co	ost	Dy	namic Cu	irrency C	ompone	ents	
Annualized Return (Past Years)	DDWM	DWM	Total DDWM/DWM Return Difference (Currency Return)	If DWM Were 100% Hedged	If DWM Were 50% Hedged	Weighted Average of the Currency Component Returns	Trend	Carry	Cross Asset	LowVol	Momentum
1	13.1%	12.0%	1.1%	16.6%	14.3%	1.2%	0.496	3.6%	0.4%	3.2%	0.5%
2	15.1%	13.8%	1.3%	17.796	15.7%						
3	8.3%	4.0%	4.3%	9.5%	6.8%						
5	7.5%	5.0%	2.6%	8.3%	6.6%						
SI (1/31/16-6/28/24)	8.3%	6.3%	2.0%	8.5%	7.5%						
Since Current Model (12/31/22-6/28/24)	15.5%	14.1%	1.4%	18.9%	16.5%	1.3%	0.5%	3.7%	0.3%	3.696	1.196

Assume No Transaction

Annual Std. Dev.	DDWM	DWM
1	9.5%	13.1%
2	12.6%	16.2%
3	12.0%	15.7%
5	14.4%	17.096
SI (1/31/16-6/28/24)	12.7%	14.8%
Since Current Model (12/31/22-6/28/24)	10.9%	13.6%

If DWM Were 100% Hedged	If DWM Were 50% Hedged
9.2%	11.0%
11.9%	14.096
11.796	13.6%
14.196	15.5%
12.6%	13.6%
10.0%	11.7%

Sources: WisdomTree, FactSet, Refinitiv 1/31/16-5/31/24. Past performance is not indicative of future results. Investment return and principal

value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost.

Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. For the most recent month-end and standardized

performance and to download the respective Fund prospectuses, click the relevant ticker: <a href="https://docs.pdf.com/download">DDWM</a>, <a href="https://download.com/download">DDWM</a>, <a href="https://download.com/downloa

In July, we rebalanced both our developed and emerging markets currency models. Specifically, the hedge for the developed market decreased to about 20%. This change was primarily influenced by the two momentum components of the strategy: the broad trend and cross-sectional momentum, which together account for 62.5% of the weight. As previously mentioned, the increased momentum weight in the new developed market strategy since 2023 has led to more frequent adjustments in hedge ratios.

Figure 2: Historical Dynamic Hedge Ratio in Developed Market





Sources: WisdomTree, FactSet, Refinitiv 1/06/16-7/10/24. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

In July, the currency strategy for the <u>WisdomTree Emerging Markets Multifactor Fund (EMM F)</u> remains similar to June. We are closely monitoring whether the strategy's signal regarding the potential weakening of the dollar is limited to developed markets.

100% 90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 10% 0% 8/9/2020 8/9/2018 8/9/2019 8/9/2021 8/9/2022 8/9/2023

Figure 3: Historical Dynamic Hedge Ratio in Emerging Markets

Sources: WisdomTree, FactSet, Refinitiv 8/9/18-7/10/24. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

In summary, we maintain our belief that a factor-based dynamic currency strategy can mitigate volatility in international portfolios while potentially enhancing long-term performance.

## Important Risks Related to this Article

There are risks associated with investing, including the possible loss of principal.

Foreign investing involves special risks, such as risk of loss from currency fluctuation or political or economic uncertainty. Funds focusing their investments on certain sectors and/or smaller companies increase their vulnerability to any single economic or regulatory development, which may result in greater share price volatility. Investments in derivatives to obtain a dynamic currency hedge exposure can be volatile, less liquid



than other securities, and more sensitive to varied economic conditions, and may not perform as intended. Dividends are not guaranteed, and a company currently paying dividends may cease at any time. The composition of the Index underlying the Fund is heavily dependent on quantitative models and data from third parties, which may not perform as intended. Funds that invest in securities included in, or representative of, an Index do not attempt to outperform the Index or take defensive positions in declining markets. Investing involves risk, including possible loss of principal. Investments in non-U.S. securities involve additional political, regulatory and economic risks.

Specific additional risks for EMMF include emerging markets risk, which involves risks relating to political, economic or regulatory conditions not associated with U.S. securities or more developed international markets. The Fund's investment process is heavily dependent on quantitative models that may not perform as intended. Please read the Fund's prospectus for specific details regarding the Fund's risk profile.

For the top 10 holdings of DWM please visit the Fund's fund detail page at <a href="https://www.wisdomtree.com/investments/etfs/equity/dwm">https://www.wisdomtree.com/investments/etfs/equity/dwm</a>

For the top 10 holdings of DDWM please visit the Fund's fund detail page at <a href="https://www.wisdomtree.com/investments/etfs/equity/ddwm">https://www.wisdomtree.com/investments/etfs/equity/ddwm</a>

For the top 10 holdings of DLS please visit the Fund's fund detail page at <a href="https://www.wisdomtree.com/investments/etfs/equity/dls">https://www.wisdomtree.com/investments/etfs/equity/dls</a>

For the top 10 holdings of DDLS please visit the Fund's fund detail page at <a href="https://www.wisdomtree.com/investments/etfs/equity/ddls">https://www.wisdomtree.com/investments/etfs/equity/ddls</a>

For the top 10 holdings of EMMF please visit the Fund's fund detail page at <a href="https://www.wisdomtree.com/investments/etfs/equity/emmf">https://www.wisdomtree.com/investments/etfs/equity/emmf</a>

For standardized performance and the most recent month-end performance click <a href="here">here</a> NOTE, this material is intended for electronic use only. Individuals who intend to print and physically deliver to an investor must print the monthly performance report to accompany this blog.

## Related Blogs

- + Case for Currency Hedging: Weak Currency Benefits Europe and Japan
- + Currency Hedging: A Tool to Reduce Risk
- + New Models for Dynamically Hedging Currency Exposure

For more investing insights, check out our <a>Economic & Market Outlook</a>

View the online version of this article <a href="here">here</a>.



## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

U.S. investors only: Click <u>here</u> to obtain a WisdomTree ETF prospectus which contains investment objectives, risks, charges, expenses, and other information; read and consider carefully before investing.

There are risks involved with investing, including possible loss of principal. Foreign investing involves currency, political and economic risk. Funds focusing on a single country, sector and/or funds that emphasize investments in smaller companies may experience greater price volatility. Investments in emerging markets, currency, fixed income and alternative investments include additional risks. Please see prospectus for discussion of risks.

Past performance is not indicative of future results. This material contains the opinions of the author, which are subject to change, and should not to be considered or interpreted as a recommendation to participate in any particular trading strategy, or deemed to be an offer or sale of any investment product and it should not be relied on as such. There is no guarantee that any strategies discussed will work under all market conditions. This material represents an assessment of the market environment at a specific time and is not intended to be a forecast of future events or a guarantee of future results. This material should not be relied upon as research or investment advice regarding any security in particular. The user of this information assumes the entire risk of any use made of the information provided herein. Neither WisdomTree nor its affiliates, nor Foreside Fund Services, LLC, or its affiliates provide tax or legal advice. Investors seeking tax or legal advice should consult their tax or legal advisor. Unless expressly stated otherwise the opinions, interpretations or findings expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of WisdomTree or any of its affiliates.

The MSCI information may only be used for your internal use, may not be reproduced or re-disseminated in any form and may not be used as a basis for or component of any financial instruments or products or indexes. None of the MSCI information is intended to constitute investment advice or a recommendation to make (or refrain from making) any kind of investment decision and may not be relied on as such. Historical data and analysis should not be taken as an indication or guarantee of any future performance analysis, forecast or prediction. The MSCI information is provided on an "as is" basis and the user of this information assumes the entire risk of any use made of this information. MSCI, each of its affiliates and each entity involved in compiling, computing or creating any MSCI information (collectively, the "MSCI Parties") expressly disclaims all warranties. With respect to this information, in no event shall any MSCI Party have any liability for any direct, indirect, special, incidental, punitive, consequential (including loss profits) or any other damages (www.msci.com)

Jonathan Steinberg, Jeremy Schwartz, Rick Harper, Christopher Gannatti, Bradley Krom, Tripp Zimmerman, Michael Barrer, Anita Rausch, Kevin Flanagan, Brendan Loftus, Joseph Tenaglia, Jeff Weniger, Matt Wagner, Alejandro Saltiel, Ryan Krystopowicz, Jianing Wu, and Brian Manby are registered representatives of Foreside Fund Services, LLC.

WisdomTree Funds are distributed by Foreside Fund Services, LLC, in the U.S. only. You cannot invest directly in an index.

