# 200 years momentum trading

Mag. Leo Willert Founder & Head of Trading ARTS Asset Management GmbH Vienna, October 6, 2022

Seizing Opportunities Let profits run & limit losses

System with experience Over 330 international awards since 2003

High flexibility Seeking the strongest & most consistent trends worldwide Active risk management Equity exposure control & stop loss limits

> Multi Asset Strategy A choice of more than 10,000 funds & ETFs

Trend following system Algorithm-based & emotionless trading approach

**ARTS** THE ART OF TRADING

### Marketing message

This document is only directed to professional clients and authorised distributors and not to retail investors.



### Overview



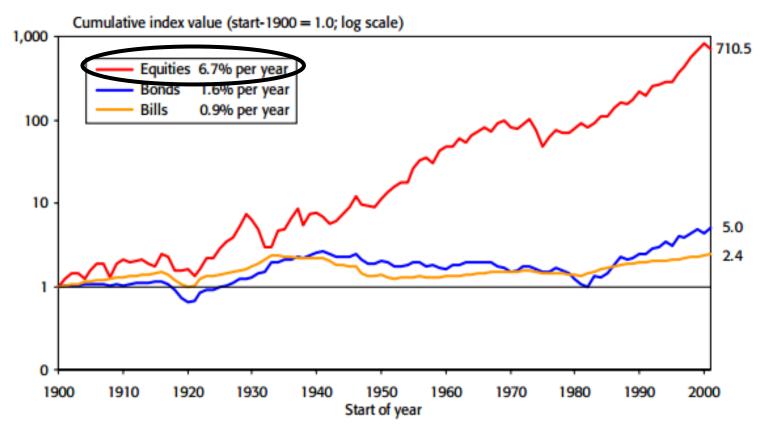
- Active trading vs. buy & hold
- Discretionary vs. quantitative
- Momentum-trading







EQUITIES results - 100 years "buy & hold"



\* Inflation-adjusted cumulative performance data (effective return) based on U.S. asset dasses, 1900-2000; Triumph of the Optimists: 101 Years of Global Investment Returns

Past performance figures do not constitute any reliable indicator of future performance. Every capital investment bears a risk. Prices may rise as well as fall. Source: ARTS Asset Management GmbH,



#### Buy & hold-strategy on the stock market:

... Delivers satisfactory performance over a very long time period + 6,7% p.a.

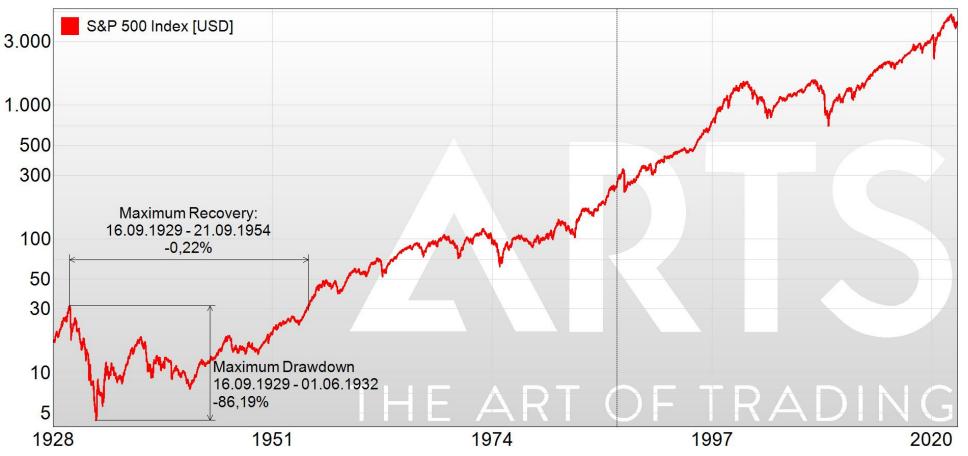
#### but

- ... high drawdowns
- ... long recovery phases

→ a glance at the largest stock indices (S&P500, Nikkei225, EuroStoxx50)



**S&P500** – maximum drawdown (-86,19%), longest recovery phase (25 years):



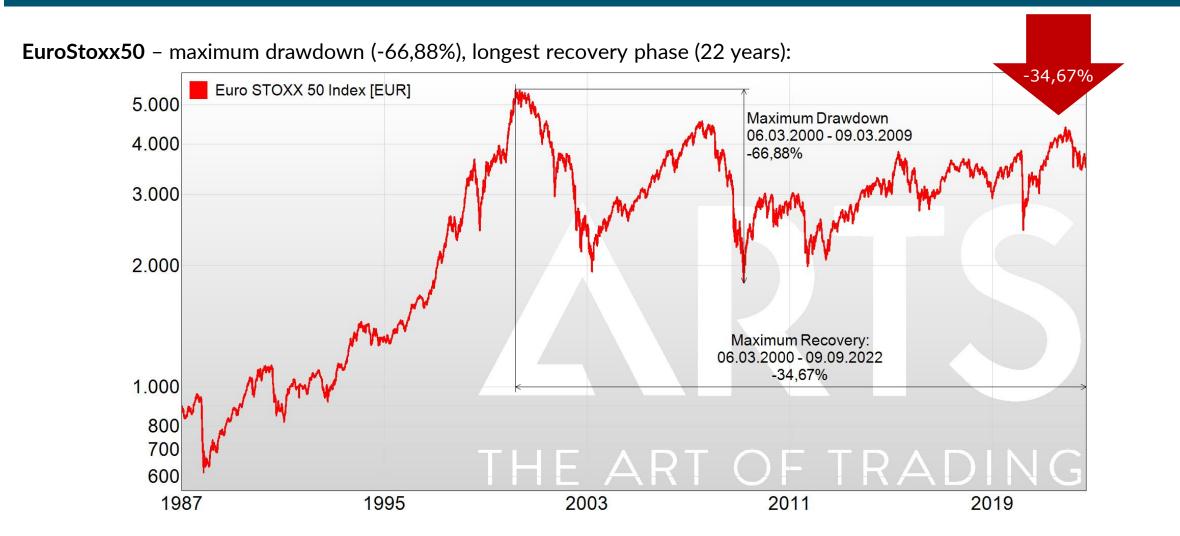
Past performance figures do not constitute any reliable indicator of future performance. Every capital investment bears a risk. Prices may rise as well as fall. Source: ARTS Asset Management GmbH, period: 1928 – 09/09/2022, logarithmic chart



Nikkei225 – maximum drawdown (-81,87%), longest recovery phase (33 years): -27,50% NIKKEI 225 Index [JPY] Maximum Drawdown 30.000 29.12.1989 - 10.03.2009 -81,87% 20.000 10.000 8.000 6.000 Maximum Recovery: 5.000 29.12.1989 - 09.09.2022 -27,50% 4.000 3.000 2.000 1971 1984 1997 2010

Past performance figures do not constitute any reliable indicator of future performance. Every capital investment bears a risk. Prices may rise as well as fall. Source: ARTS Asset Management GmbH, period: 1970 – 09/09/2022, logarithmic chart





Past performance figures do not constitute any reliable indicator of future performance. Every capital investment bears a risk. Prices may rise as well as fall. Source: ARTS Asset Management GmbH, period: 1987 – 09/09/202, logarithmic chart





A stock market crash is worse than a divorce:

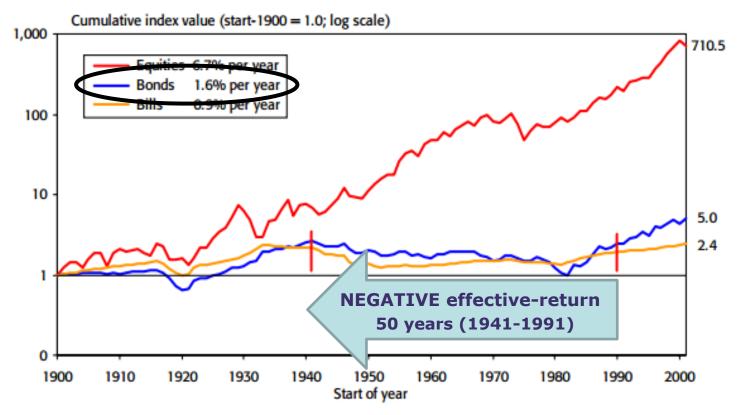
"You lose half your fortune...

... but you are still married.  $\ensuremath{\textcircled{}}$  "





BONDS results - 100 years "buy & hold":



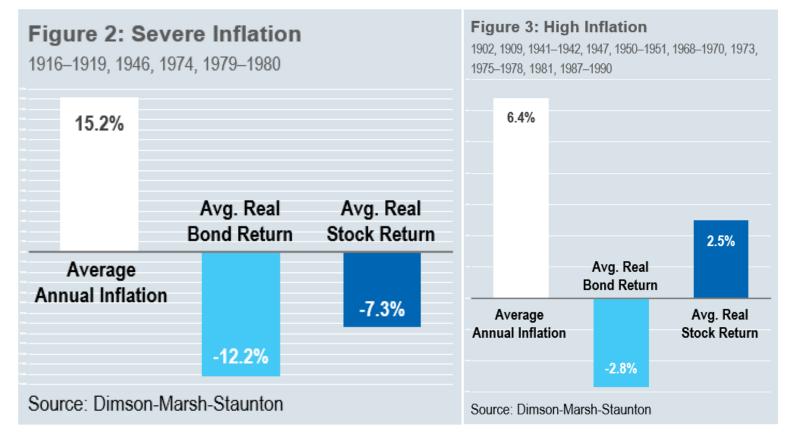
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## Active trading vs. buy & hold after inflation



#### 1/3 of developed countries showed negative results - 100 years of "buy & hold":



\* Inflation-adjusted cumulative performance data (effective return) based on U.S. asset classes, 1900-2000; Triumph of the Optimists: 101 Years of Global Investment Returns





## Discretionary vs. quantitative



#### Human vs. rule-based action:

"There is a large amount of research, showing that simple quantitative models are superior to human (expert) judgment in almost every domain.

One study, which includes over 130 studies from a wide variety of fields such as firefighting, wine pricing, brain damage detection, art of cooking, to heart attack diagnosis, etc, concludes that rule-based systems work "better" than expert decisions.

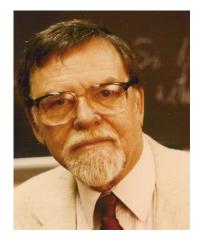
In only 8 out of 130 cases the opposite was true. All 8 of these studies had one thing in common. The human participants had access to information not available to the quant models. Where quant models and human had the same information set, the models performed much better.

James Montier for Dresdner Kleinwort "Global Equity Strategy: Painting By Numbers - An Ode To Quant"

### Discretionary vs. quantitative

Paul Meehl, referred to as ...

"... the smartest psychologist of the 20th century" (Psychology Today)



THE ART OF TRADING

Paul E. Meehl (1920-2003) University of Minnesota Department of Psychology

**Conclusion for practice:** 

"In the future let all decisions, forecasts, diagnoses, as well as judgments - whether important or insignificant - be made

by

rule-based systems. Because nowadays there is no doubt that "algorithms" lead us to better results."



#### There are so many rules - but only a few work:

Academic studies show that most trading rules and indicators, after extensive testing, often only work to a very limited extent.

- 7,846 different trading rules were tested on the Dow Jones Index (1897-2011, study by Bajgrowicz and Scaillet)
- 93 market indicators were tested on the S&P500 (over the past 54 years, study by Fang, Quin and Jacobson)



- Momentum trading (trend following) is one of the most studied financial topics of the past 20 years
- Approved strategy for more than 200 years in almost all asset classes
- Momentum is "the most significant anomaly" in the markets (Fama/French)



Jegadeesh and Titman (momentum-study 1993)

### time frame studied: 1965 – 1989

"... Trading strategies that buy past winners and sell past losers realize significant abnormal returns ..."



Jegadeesh and Titman (momentum-study 2001)

### time frame studied: 1990 – 1998

"... This paper evaluates various explanations for the profitability of momentum strategies documented in Jegadeesh and Titman (1993). The evidence indicates that momentum profits have continued in the 1990s, suggesting that the original results were not a product of data snooping bias ..."

## A century of evidence on trend-following investing



#### Hurst, Ooi, Pedersen (momentum-study 2012)

"... Given its attractive returns and diversifying characteristics, allocating to a time series momentum strategy would have significantly improved a traditional portfolio's performance over the past 110 years ..."



Lempérière, Deremble, Seager, Potters, Bouchaud (momentum-study 2014)

- examined two time series
  - Futures-prices (since 1960)
  - Spot-prices (since 1800)
- Trends are the "most statistically significant anomaly" in the financial markets
- "... We establish the existence of anomalous excess returns based on trend following strategies across four asset classes (commodities, currencies, stock indices, bonds) and over very longtime scales ..."







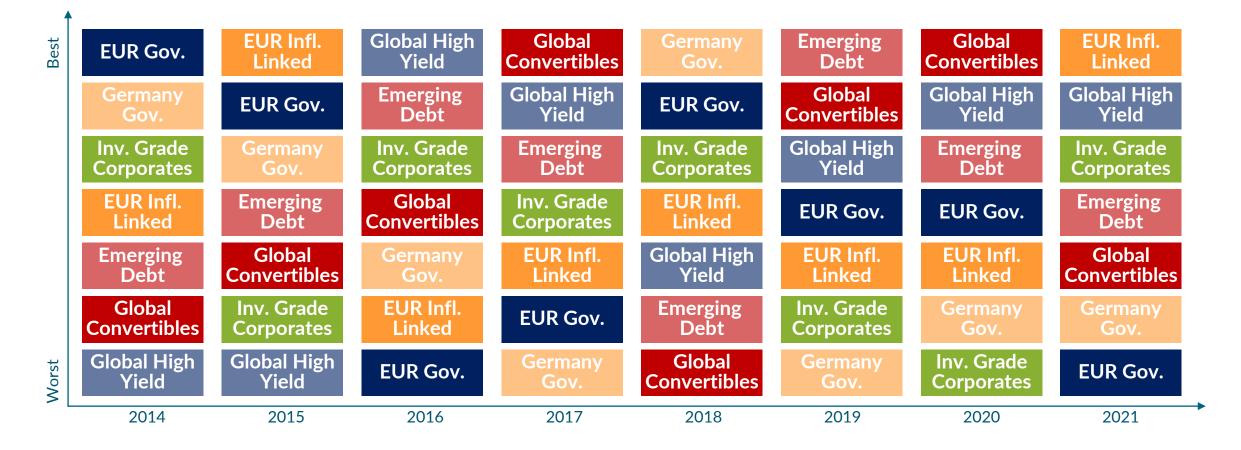
- Free investment guidelines: 
  "Unconstrained Bond" funds
- No "benchmark-thinking"

### Broad investment universe (over 1.000 bond funds)

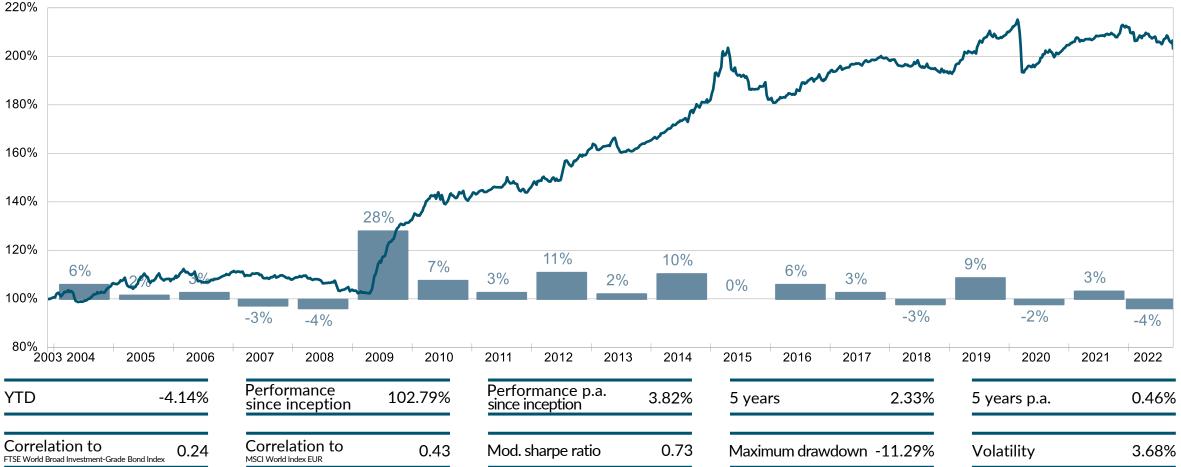
- Government bonds
- Corporate bonds
- High yield / emerging market bonds
- Inflation-linked bonds
- Short-duration bonds
- In various regions / durations / currencies / credit ratings
- etc...
- Trend following strategy with active risk management
- Strict stop-loss systematic



#### Global bond rotation (2014-2021)



#### Performance & Data since 11/24/2003 (Track-record since 19 years)



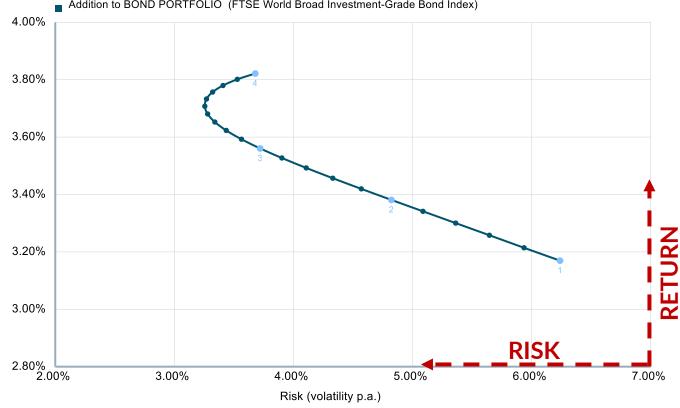
Past performance figures do not constitute any reliable indicator of future performance. Every capital investment bears a risk. Prices may rise as well as fall. Issue and redemption fees have not been taken into account when calculating performance. Performance data have been calculated using the OeKB method.

In case of an investment amount of 1,000 EUR the investor will be required to pay a subscription fee of max. 30,- EUR. This will accordingly diminish the performance of his investment. The performance figures indicated correspond to the gross performance, which includes all costs arising at the fund level and assumes the reinvestment of any distributions. Other, individual costs incurred at the investor level, such as transaction costs, custodian expenses and taxes, additionally reduce the investor's return. Calculation provided by Cyberfinancials Datenkommunikation GmbH



as of 09/30/2022

#### Addition to the Portfolio since 11/24/2003



	BOND PORTFOLIO	ARTS Bond	Performance p.a. since 11/24/2003	Volatility	Maximum drawdown
1	100%	0%	3.17%	6.24%	-11.89%
2	75%	25%	3.38%	4.82%	-9.49%
3	50%	50%	3.56%	3.72%	-7.69%
4	0%	100%	3.82%	3.68%	-11.29%
Correlation to BOND PORTFOLIO					0.24

Addition to BOND PORTFOLIO (FTSE World Broad Investment-Grade Bond Index)

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as of 09/30/2022





- "Buy & hold strategies" + too risky (high drawdowns & long recovery phases)
- "Active Trading" → can reduce these risks
- To find a functional trading system is really "tricky"
- Even simple quantitative models outperform so-called experts
- Momentum strategies + function in almost all asset classes and time frames
- Attractive risk/return profile and low correlation to traditional stocks/bonds
  - ➡ an ideal component for a broadly diversified portfolio



#### Triumph of the Optimists: 101 Years of Global Investment Returns

https://www.osam.com/Commentary/inflation-and-the-us-bonds-and-stock-markets

James Montier for Dresdner Kleinwort "Global Equity Strategy: Painting By Numbers - An Ode To Quant" https://studylib.net/doc/10451396/global-equity-strategy--macro-research-painting-by-number...

Orley Ashenfelter, economist https://doi.org/10.1080/09332480.1995.10542468

**Paul Meehl** https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/cui-bono/201402/paul-e-meehl-smartest-psychologist-the-20th-century

#### Jegadeesh and Titman (momentum-study 1993)

"Returns to Buying Winners and Selling Losers: Implications for Stock Market Efficiency", by Narasimhan Jegadeesh and Sheridan Titman in "The Journal of Finance" Vol. 48, No. 1 (Mar. 1993), pp. 65-91 (27 pages); Published By: Wiley https://www.jstor.org/stable/i340162

#### Jegadeesh and Titman (Momentum-Studie 2001)

"Profitability of Momentum Strategies: An Evaluation of Alternative Explanations", by Narasimhan Jegadeesh and Sheridan Titman, in "The Journal of Finance" Vol. 56, No. 2 (Apr. 2001), pp. 699-720 (22 pages); Published By: Wiley https://www.jstor.org/stable/i302117

#### Hurst, Ooi, Pedersen (momentum-study 2012)

"Demystifying Managed Futures" by Brian Hurst, Yao Hua Ooi, and Lasse Heje Pedersen in "Forthcoming Journal of Investment Management" (2013/04/10) https://scholar.google.at/scholar?q=hurst+ooi+and+pedersen&hl=de&as\_sdt=0&as\_vis=1&oi=scholart

#### Lempérière, Deremble, Seager, Potters, Bouchaud (momentum-study 2014)

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/261635941\_Two\_centuries\_of\_trend\_following

#### **Research by Whitebox**

https://de.extraetf.com/news/etf-news/das-tut-weh-deutsche-privatanleger-verlieren-rekordvermoegen

### Thanks for your attention!

Mag. Leo Willert Founder & Head of Trading



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Trends may change and lead to negative return developments. Trend-following trading software may overweight or underweight trends.

Unit classes denominated in foreign currencies entail an additional currency risk. Their performance may rise or fall due to currency fluctuations.

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#### Description of the Figures used in this Review

**Volatility:** Value fluctuation of the fund (on daily basis).

Mod. Sharpe ratio: Ratio of return to volatility (excluding risk-free interest rate, on daily basis).

Correlation: Dependence of the fund's price performance relative to a benchmark index (on monthly basis). (1) - concurrent performance (-1) - opposite performance (0) - independent performance

#### Share Classes:

A = distributing; T = accumulating; VT = fully reinvesting in local and foreign; VT-A = fully reinvesting foreign; VT-I = fully reinvesting local

