RESEARCH FROM LYXOR MANAGED ACCOUNT PLATFORM

3 KEY H1 FACTS TO REMEMBER AND THE WAY FORWARD



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In H1, the

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believe this is due to

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continue.

performance of Event

Driven was in line with

As the first half of the year came to an end, we take a longer perspective than usual and provide a comprehensive picture of recent developments in the hedge fund universe. Three main points are particularly worth noticing:

Firstly, the outperformance of L/S Equity versus L/S Credit & Fixed Income Arb. recorded in 2013 came abruptly to a halt in H1-14. The former strongly outperformed, against bullish expectations for L/S equity. But despite the poor relative performance of the latter, inflows into L/S equity remain positive. We agree that the strategy is attractive, but suggest higher portfolio diversification to avoid a strong bias in favor of a particular investment style. There is a feeling amongst managers that this earnings season could be a turning point giving some directionality to the market.

Secondly, the performance of Event Driven was in line with investors' expectations. Inflows into Event Driven were very significant during the first half, both at the global level (HFR data) and from our own lens. The AuM of the strategy on the Lyxor platform rose 15% in H1-14. The strong rise in M&A activity, with volumes now comparable to pre-crisis levels, provided a broad range of opportunities for managers. We believe this is due to continue.

Thirdly, in terms of positioning it is important to note that hedge funds have turned cautious on US fixed income and credit, thus increasing short positions. US bond yields are at low levels despite the fact that job creation, at 288k in June, has been above the 24 months moving average (201k) since February. L/S credit and Fixed Income Arb. appears increasingly appealing compared to long only fixed income strategies in the current environment where the US recovery is getting firmer.



L/S Credit is leading the pack in H1 with Event Driven

(Based on Lyxor's funds in the Managed Account Platform)

Equally weighted. As of 1st July 2014. Source: Bloomberg, Lyxor AM

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THE WEEK IN 3 CHARTS

Hedge Fund Market Snapshot: CTA long term outperformed last week

	HFI index	Best strategy	Worst strategy	S&P 500	10Y UST	The hedge fund index was up last week, bringing the H1
WTD (Estimated perf. between June 24th to July 1st)	+0.5%	CTA LT +1.1%	Global Macro -0.3%	+1.2%	-1 bp	performance at 2%. Long term CTAs outperformed last week supported by equity markets and flattening vield curves.
QTD (Estimated perf. between March 25th to July 1st)	+0.5 %	CTA LT +6.9%	CTA ST -2.6%	+5.8%	-18 bp	In June, Event Driven funds profited again from the M&A frenzy , finishing up +4.4% in H1.
YTD	+1.9%	L/S Credit Arb. +5.0%	CTA ST -2.7%	+6.8%	-46 bp	L/S Credit Arbitrage is still leading the pack year to date (+5%).
Source : Bloon	nberg, Lyxor Al	M				

Systematic or discretionary?



According to data compiled by Preqin, systematic strategies exhibit lower volatility whereas discretionary funds provide higher absolute returns.

Discretionary funds have outperformed systematic funds on an annualized basis over the past 5 years, posting average returns of 11.6% compared to 7.9%. Nevertheless it is not always the case : in relative value and global macro, systematic strategies outperformed their discretionary peers. Generally, CTAs have found successful trends hard to come by in recent times.

Funds with a discretionary approach have consistently exhibited higher volatility than those with systematic strategies. The Sharpe ratio is 1.8 for systematic funds against 1.5 for discretionary funds.



Global M&A activity is on the rise: a positive for Merger Arbitrageurs

The average premium compares the bid offer to the stock price before the deal announcement. Source: Bloomberg, Lyxor AM

Global M&A volumes rose significantly in the first half of 2014 globally, a positive for merger arbitrageurs that now have a broader range of opportunities to invest in.

M&A activity also accelerated between Q1 and Q2, with respectively \$ 870bn and \$ 1300bn of deals announced and completed according to Bloomberg.

M&A activity was strongest in the US, with respectively \$ 400bn and \$ 537bn in Q1 and Q2.

In terms of sectors, consumer non cyclicals (of which mainly pharmaceuticals) and communications saw the largest volumes. These two sectors are very actively played by the merger arbitrageurs on the Lyxor platform.



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CTAs

(Estimated perf. between June 24th to July 1st)	WTD	QTD	YTD
CTA Long-Term	1.1%	6.9%	0.8%
CTA Short-Term	0.0%	-2.5%	-2.7%





As of June 24th. Equally weighted. Source: Lyxor AM

GLOBAL MACRO

(Estimated perf. between June 24th to July 1st)	WTD	QTD	YTD
Global Macro	-0.3%	2.6%	3.4%





As of June 24th. Equally weighted. Source: Lyxor AM

LT CTAs post strong returns in Q2

JULY 7, 2014

The week was good for long term CTA funds on the back of long positioning on equities, bonds and commodities.

- » North American equity indices rallied this week and continued to support performance. In H1, the upward trend on the stockmarket enabled trend followers to outperform pattern recognition strategies. Overall, long exposure to equities contributed predominantly.
- » The flattening of yield curves, which has also been a recurrent catalyst for CTAs this semester, kept being rewarding this week.
- » Year to date, performance was more challenging on FX and commodities. But over the recent weeks, net long exposures to commodities added to the gains. Performance was driven by the rise in oil price in the back of tensions in Iraq, while the precious metals market was also a source of gains.

A good second quarter

After a strong second quarter, this week was negative for Global Macro managers.

- » Since the start of the year, macro funds have generated strong gains on long European equities and rates. However, short duration positions in the U.S. detracted from performance this week, as this was the case since the start of the year.
- The ytd metals rally continued this week and remained a large source of gains. Since the start of the year, the boom in Nickel prices driven by Chinese demand, the rise in oil prices due to fears over supply cuts in Iraq, and the precious metals rally enabled the funds' long positioning to perform well.
- » FX markets were more challenging over the first semester, and this proved true once again this week. Short Euro positions generated losses, only partly offset by gains on long EM currencies.



L/S EQUITY

(Estimated perf. between June 24th to July 1st)	WTD	QTD	YTD
Long Bias	0.9%	0.6%	0.9%
Market Neutral	1.1%	0.9%	0.2%
Variable Bias	0.8%	-1.3%	-1.4%

Gross exposure on U.S. markets decreasing, but net exposure is still at high levels





EVENT DRIVEN

(Estimated perf. between June 24th to July 1st)	WTD	QTD	YTD
Merger Arbitrage	0.6%	2.9%	4.4%
Special Situations	0.8%	2.2%	4.4%

The acquisition of Time Warner by Comcast is one of the most played M&A deals



Bouncing back

Most of the funds performed well during the last week after showing mixed results in previous weeks. The recent performance has helped to mitigate losses suffered in March and April and most funds are now showing a flat performance on a ytd basis.

- Development Funds bounced back nicely after a tough period in the first few weeks of June where investors seem to have sold off mid caps and growth stocks in favour of defensives and high yield stocks.
- » Style rotation has abated as we enter into the Q2 earnings season. Investors now look for positive earnings growth following a long period of multiple expansion. There is a feeling amongst managers that this earnings season could be a turning point giving some directionality to the market. Markets could then start to differentiate more and provide a good setting for alpha generation. With this in mind, most of the funds have increased net and gross exposure.

A very strong H1

Performance was strong this week, with merger arbitrage managers leading the pack. In contrast to the last week where the performance was mainly driven by the consolidation in pharmaceuticals, gains this week proved slightly more diversified.

- » Athabasca Oil, a large position held by special sits and merger arbitrageurs, is supposed to receive a longawaited \$1.2 bn payment from PetroChina for the sale of its Dover oil sands assets. Meanwhile, Cheniere Energy share price hit an all-time high of \$72.7 on June 30th after the LNG-related businesses firm dropped its plan to issue 30 million shares to pay employees.
- » Meanwhile, the Time Warner Cable's share price appreciated this week after Charter announced the acquisition of subscribers that Comcast is divesting as part of its Time Warner Cable deal.
- Description of the same period of 2013 (\$1.2 tn).
 ED posted strong results in H1, with all sub-strategies ending in positive territory. M&A activity increased remarkably, with global monthly volumes (\$375 bn in June 2014) getting closer to previous highs recorded in 2007 (\$440 bn in June 2007). In H1, M&A activity (\$2.2 tn) was 80% higher than during the same period of 2013 (\$1.2 tn).



CB & VOL ARBITRAGE

(Estimated perf. between June 24th to July 1st)	WTD	QTD	YTD
Convertible Arb	-0.2%	0.6%	3.0%





As of June 24th. Asset weighted. Source: Bloomberg, Lyxor AM

L/S CREDIT ARBITRAGE

(Estimated perf. between June 24th to July 1st)	WTD	QTD	YTD
L/S Credit Arb	-0.1%	2.6%	5.0%



As of June 24th. Asset weighted. Source: Bloomberg, Lyxor AM

Resilient despite low equity vol

- The best asset class since the year start faced a difficult week. Relative value players were challenged as volatility kept falling and no major corporate events presented themselves in their special situations books.
- » After several weeks of buoyant issues of fresh paper, the primary segment was tamed as less than USD1 billion tapped the market. But in spite of that, convertibles arbitrageurs proved repeatedly that they could navigate in all weather, being able take advantage of volatility in times of uncertainty and benefiting from the run-up in equity in times of calm.
- Despite the slow start of the primary market and the fact that its recent boom weighed on valuations, managers found valuable names in the convertible space especially thanks to their dedication to special situations.

Still leading the pack in 2014

Performance was rather fragmented on the platform this week. Going against the tide, the overperformer gained on its distressed book, despite the broad spread widening of HY Credit this week.

- The underperformer was harmed both by derivative's outperformance as well as refinancing & governance issues in one name of its European book.
- Still, this should not hide what was an outstanding semester for credit arbitrageurs. Investors' hunt for yield, combined with spikes of uncertainty in the equity segment defined a very supportive backdrop for the asset class.
- » Leading the pack on the whole platform on a risk adjusted basis, credit managers were driven by a strong spread tightening both on cash and derivatives and material macroeconomic improvement on several of their geographical exposure.



THE WEEKLY BRIEF

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METHODOLOGY

- » Approximately 100 funds in the platform
- » USD 12.1 billion of assets under management (as of March 25, 2014)
- » Replicating USD 200 billion of AUM



Breakdown of AuM by strategy

Lyxor has established relationships with some of the most respected, established managers. Including some of the largest Hedge Funds manager by AUM (Bridgewater, AQR, Winton, GAM,...)



Lyxor Hedge Fund Indices

Based on the complete range of funds available on the Lyxor Managed Account Platform, a universe of funds eligible for inclusion in the indices is defined on a monthly basis taking into account the following elements:

- » Investability Threshold: to be included in any index, the managed account must have at least \$3 million of AuM;
- » Capacity Constraints: All index components must possess adequate capacity to allow for smooth index replication in the context of a regular increase in investments.
- » Index Construction: for each index, the relative weightings of the component funds are computed on an assetweighted basis as adjusted by the relevant capacity factors.
- » Each Lyxor Hedge Fund Index is reviewed and rebalanced on a monthly basis.
- » The Index construction methodology has been designed to mitigate well-known measurement biases. Inclusions and exclusions of new Hedge Funds do not impact the historical index track record.



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