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Pairs trading and selection methods: is cointegration superior?

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Abstract

Pairs trading is a popular dollar-neutral trading strategy. This article, using the

component of the trading system based on the cointegration in the literature, we show that the statistical evidence on which we make the trade is not of view. Trade after the confirmation, which generates insignificant criterion leads to a high, stable and

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Notes

¹ The sample really considers 500 stocks only at the end of the trading period due to initial public offerings/newcomers in the index: Google in 2004 for example.

² As an example, see [Table 3](#), transaction costs for the 1-year formation period, distance method, 2 SDs are 0.38%. .

³ The part of the initial deviation greater than the opening threshold plus the part exceeding the crossing with the equilibrium after convergence.

⁴ Data and details on construction of these factors series can be found from Ken French's website:

http://mba.tuck.dartmouth.edu/pages/faculty/ken.french/data_library.html

⁵ The fourth one, 2-year formation period, 2 SD, is significant at 10% level.

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