### Implementing Low Volatility ETF, Mutual Fund and Stock Portfolios

**Introductory Comments** 

Low Volatility ETFs

Mutual Funds with Volatility

Control

Low Volatility Stock

Screens

Dong the Trades

Takeaways

Q&A

References









Reduce

Risk



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# **Introductory Comments**

Focus on the Stock portion of your portfolio other assets assumed (bonds, REITs, etc.)

algorithms, etc. used

Covers ETFs, Mutual Funds and stocks at a high level

Presentation, spreadsheets will be posted at AAII site

Questions during the session are welcome <u>but</u> we have limited



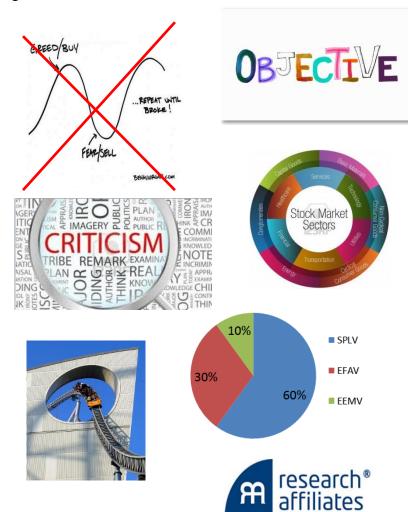
# Low Volatility ETFs

The Basics

Normal and Low Volatility Comparisons

Criticisms of Low Volatility ETFs

Simple Applications of Low Volatility ETFs





### Low Volatility ETFs: The Basics

#### Low Volatility ETF Objective:

• Provide broad exposure to companies that have demonstrated the lowest volatility over the prior year - not necessarily to match the return of the S&P 500



#### **S&P 500 Lower Volatility (SPLV)**

- Tracks the S&P 500 Lower Volatility Index
- Contains 100 S&P 500 stocks that had the lowest volatility over the past year
- Weighted by the inverse of volatility (higher volatility, smaller weight)
- Rebalanced quarterly.
- Expense ratio of 0.25%. Yields 2.5%





#### Low Volatility ETFs: The Basics

#### Mid Cap Volatility (XMLV)

- Contains 80 S&P 400 stocks that had the lowest volatility over the past year
- Weighted by the inverse of volatility (higher volatility, smaller weight)
- Rebalanced quarterly
- Expense ratio of 0.26%. Yields 1.9%

# **XMLV**

PowerShares S&P MidCap Low Volatility

XMLV Top 10 Sectors



)%	Technology	5.06%
!%	Consumer Non-Cyclicals	2.69%
<b>!</b> %	Consumer Cyclicals	1.16%
5%		
l%		

#### • Small Cap Volatility (XSLV)

- Contains 120 S&P 600 stocks that had the lowest volatility over the past year
- Weighted by the inverse of volatility (higher volatility, smaller weight)
- Rebalanced quarterly
- Expense ratio of 0.25%. Yields 2.3%

# **XSLV**

PowerShares S&P SmallCap Low Volatility



XSLV Top 10 Sectors

4.10%

3.64%

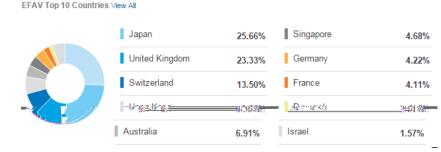
0.79%

#### Low Volatility ETFs: The Basics

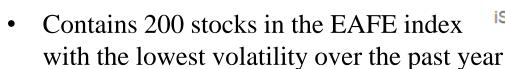
#### MSCI EAFE Low Volatility (EFAV)

- **EFAV**
- Contains 191 stocks in the EAFE index with the lowest volatility over the past year
- iShares MSCI EAFE Minimum Volatility

- Rebalanced twice per year
- Expense ratio of 0.25%. Yields 2.5%



#### Small Cap Volatility (EEMV)



• Rebalanced twice per year

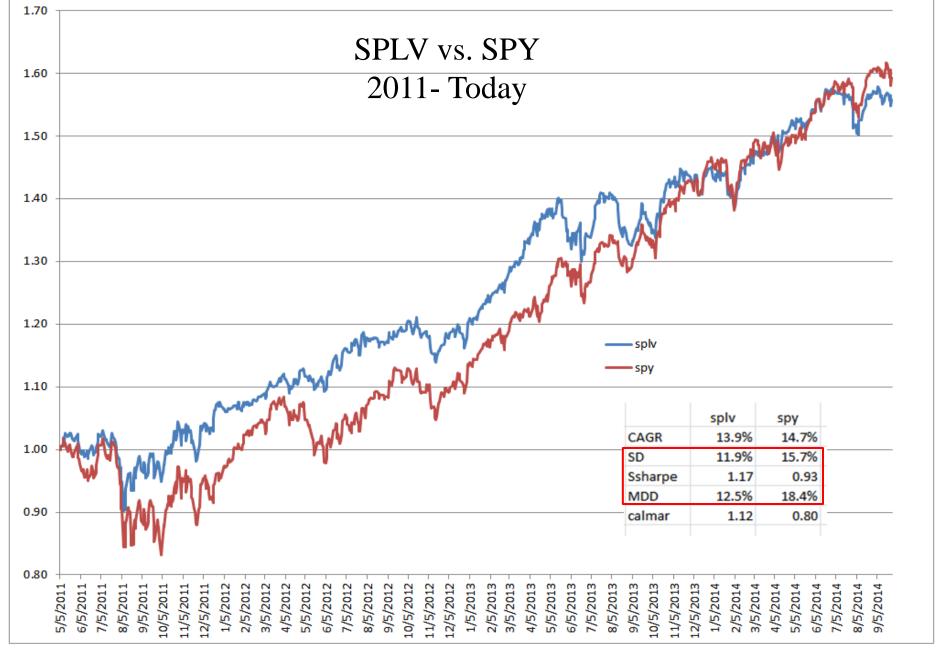
• Expense ratio of 0.25%. Yields 2.5%

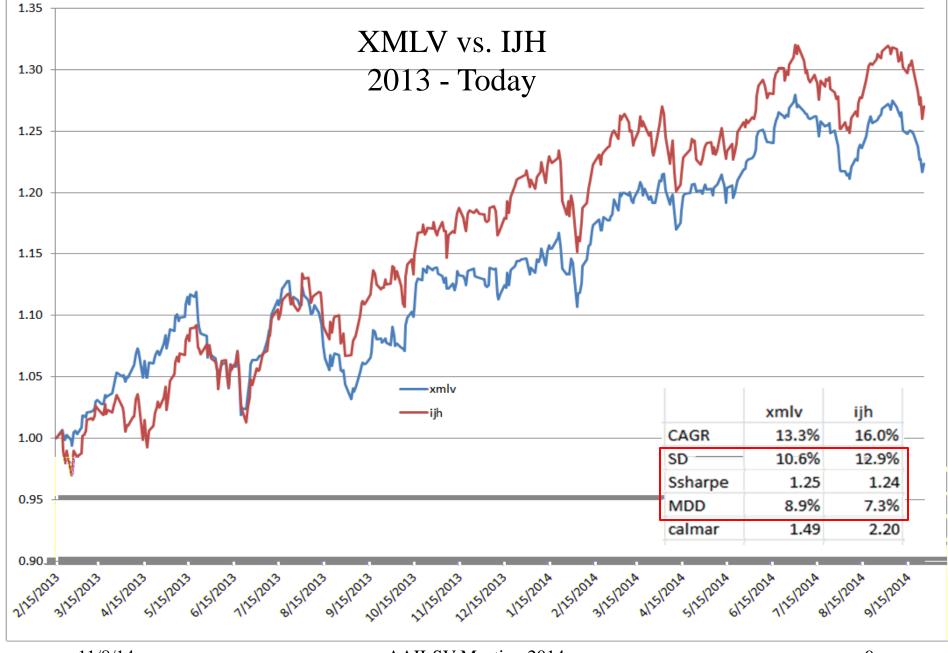


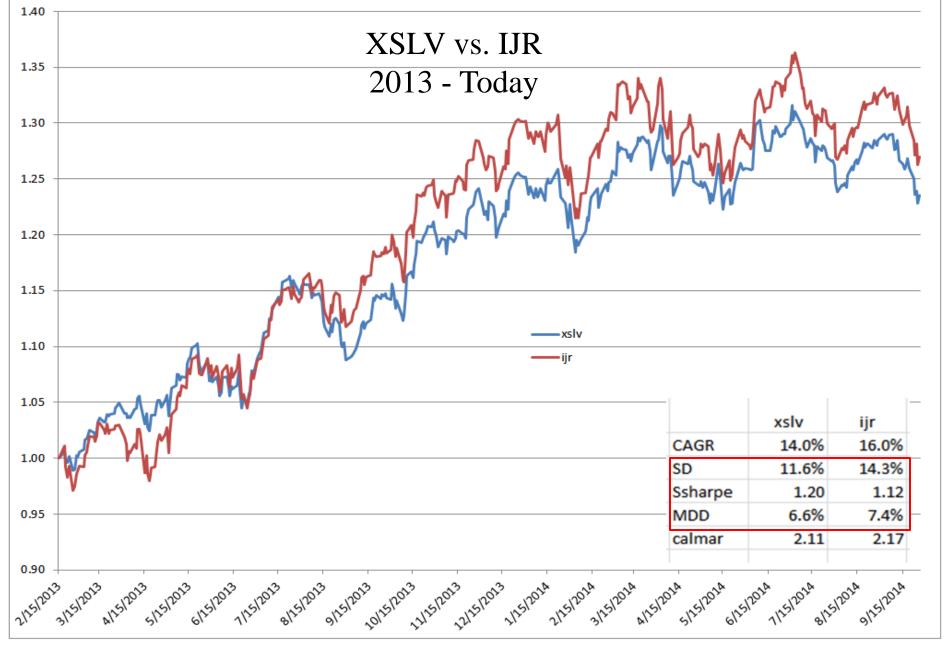
EEMV Top 10 Countries View All

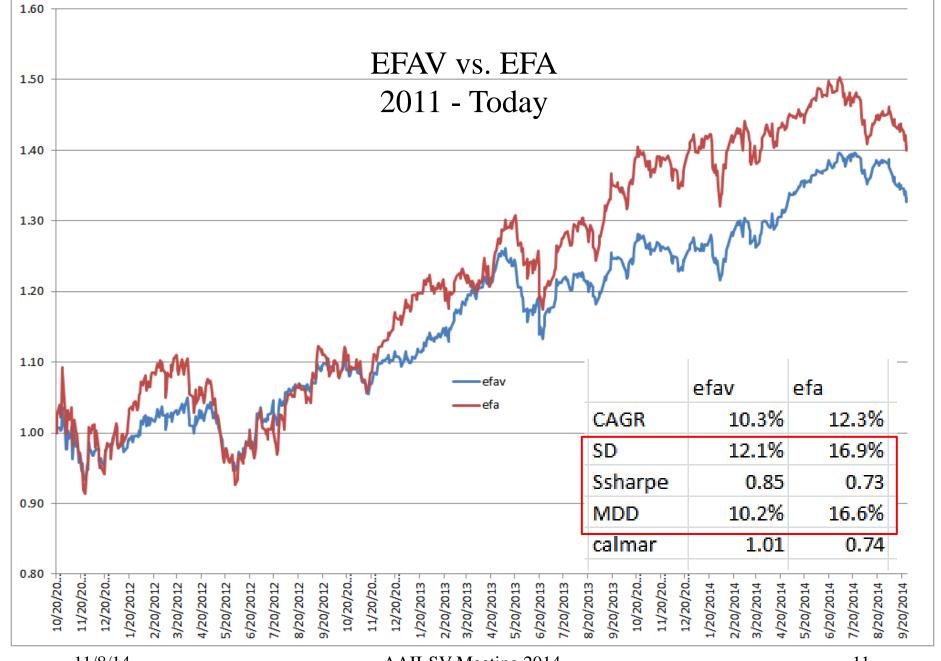
iShares MSCI Emerging Markets Minimum Volatility

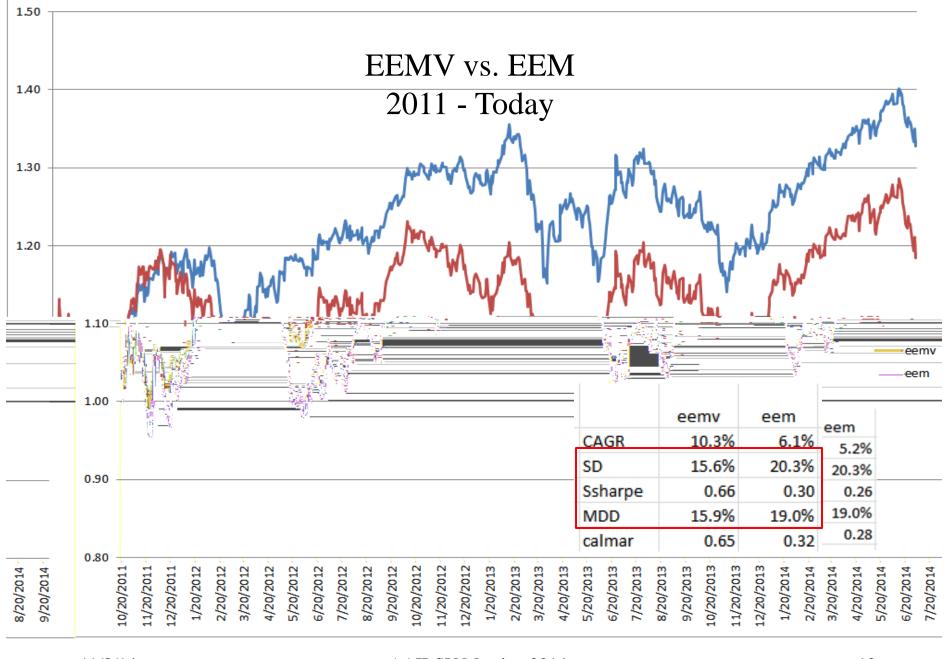












### Criticisms of Low Volatility ETFs

- Short histories (3 years or less)
- Violates EMH/CAPM
- Value/dividend ETFs in disguise
- Low Volatility is a hot topic: Warning sign??
  - BlackRock survey: Market volatility is one of the most popular topics clients bring up with their advisers.
  - Research Affiliates: Total assets invested in low-volatility strategies have gone from \$8.7 billion in 2010 to \$58.5 billion in 2013.
- Over valuation in lowest 20% of stocks (by beta)
- Over-
  - Healthcare, consumer staples, utilities
- Susceptible to sharp drops
- Studies show low volatility returns are cyclical 11/8/14



### BLACKROCK





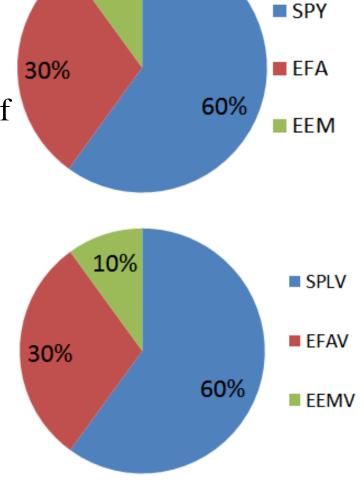
### Low Volatility ETFs: Simple Applications

• Q: What do I do with these ETFs??

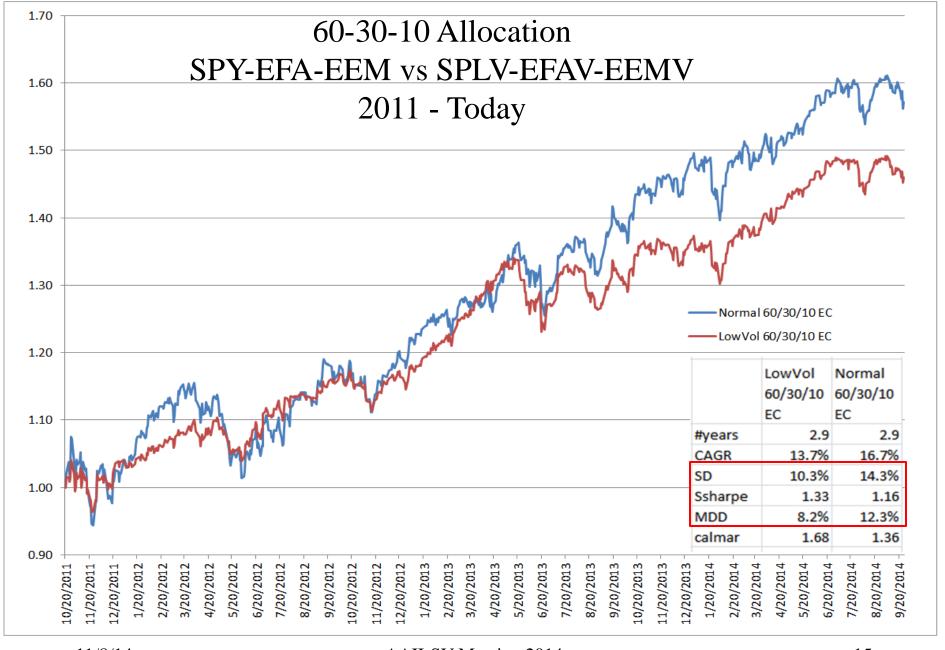
• A: Pretty much whatever you would do

- Example: Allocation the equity portion of your portfolio across Large, Mid and Small Caps
  - See example at right and next slide
  - Rebalance the 3 major segments to their target weight monthly (quarterly, yearly,

• Example: Use in place of, in addition to, the value/dividend part of your portfolio



10%



# Mutual Funds with Volatility Control

Why Mutual Funds??





# Limiting Volatility with Cash/Bonds

Using a 1% Volatility limit Pick Your Volatility





#### Timing the SPY

Timing with the 210d SMA Using a 60-40 mix with timing



#### Why Use Mutual Funds??

Q: Since Low Volatility ETFs are

mutual funds??

- Not available in my 401k (or equivalent) plan
- Too new least not with real money)
- I already have value oriented investments
- Over-valued just waiting to fall off a cliff..





•

### Limiting Volatility with Cash or Bonds

• To address volatility and DD measure volatility and when the market reduce

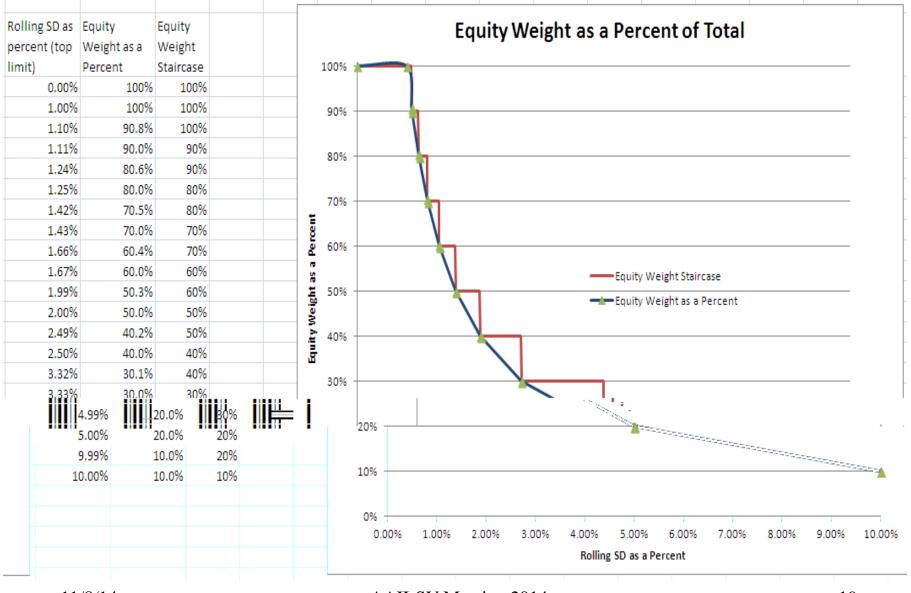


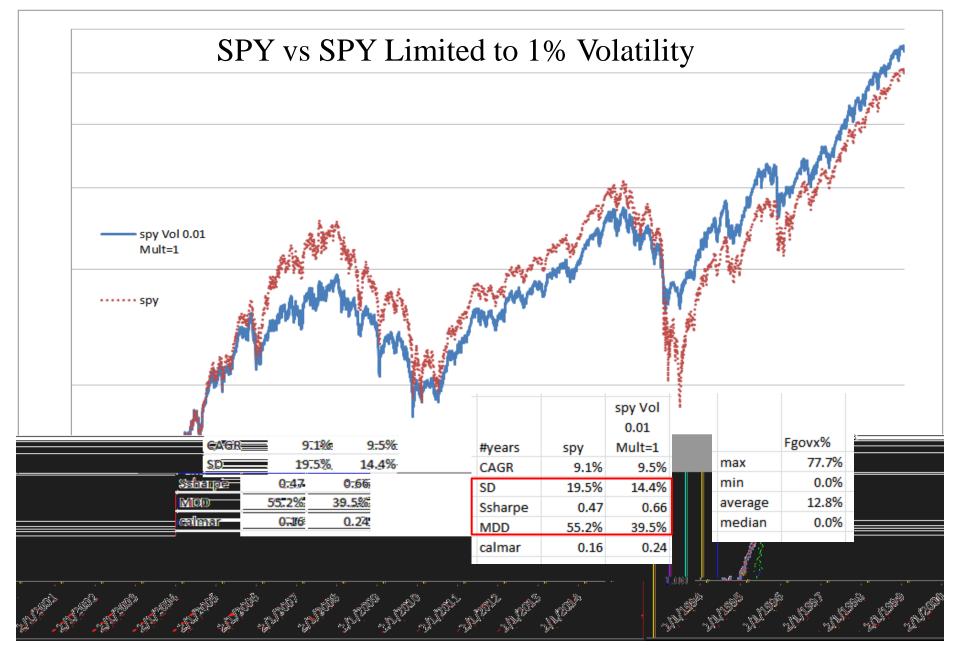
- volatility by adding cash or bonds
- The target volatility is a 1% daily SD on a trailing 60 day basis
  - If the SD is above 1% --- add cash to reduce volatility
- Implement the volatility check at the end of the month
- Note you <u>never completely exit</u> the market with this approach
- Not a cure-all fix a bad fund

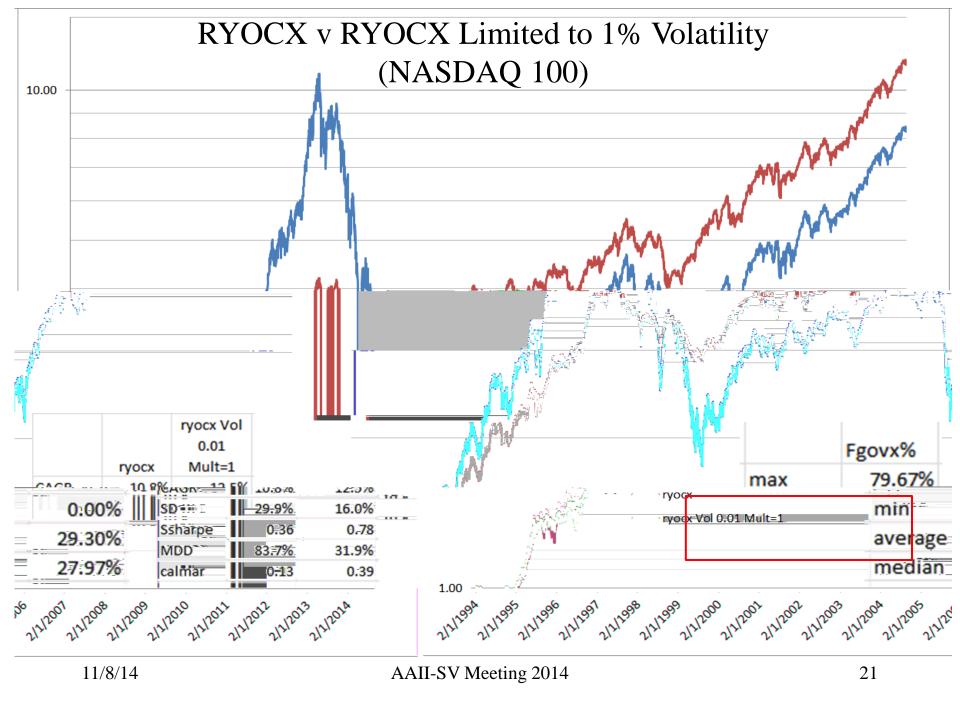


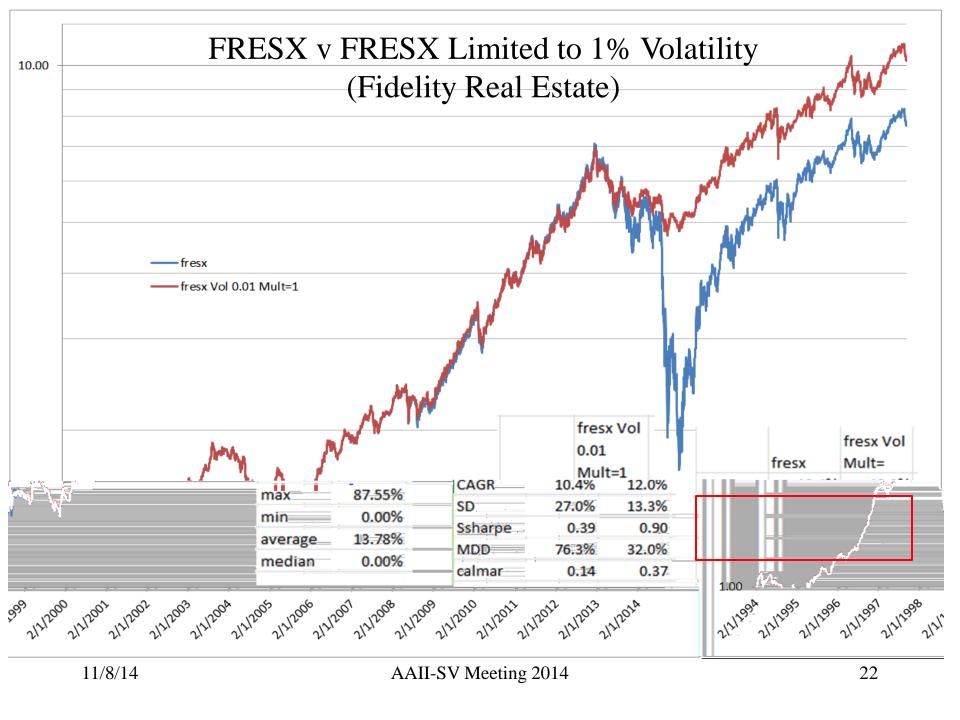


### Volatility Control: Continuous and Stepwise









Pick Your Volatility

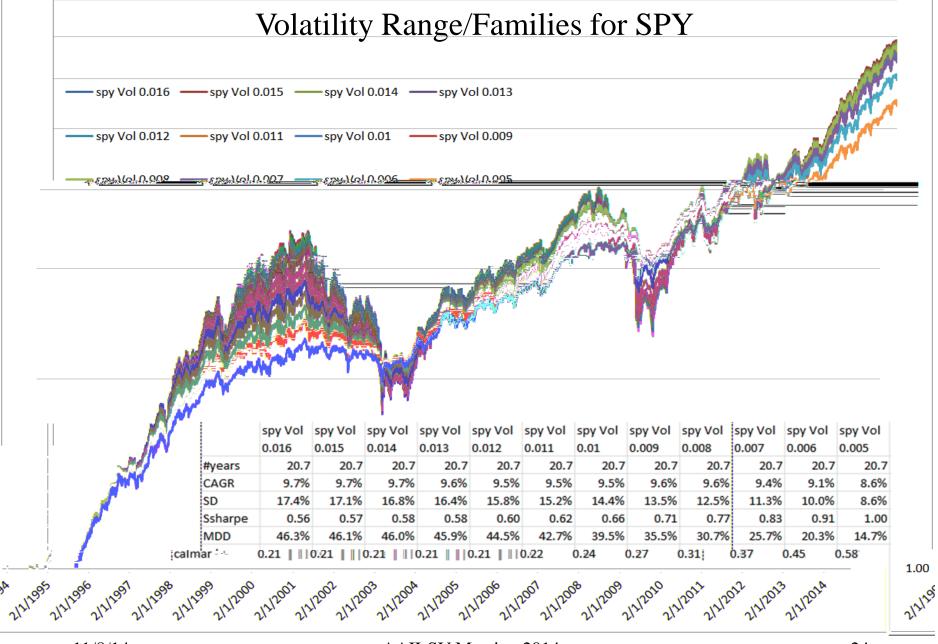
• In reality, you can target the volatility of your mutual fund (or other holding) to be within a range

- This allows you (to some extent) to pick the risk curve you want to be on
- The next slides show the family of curves for SPY
  - This family of curves varies for each mutual fund (or other holding)









### Timing

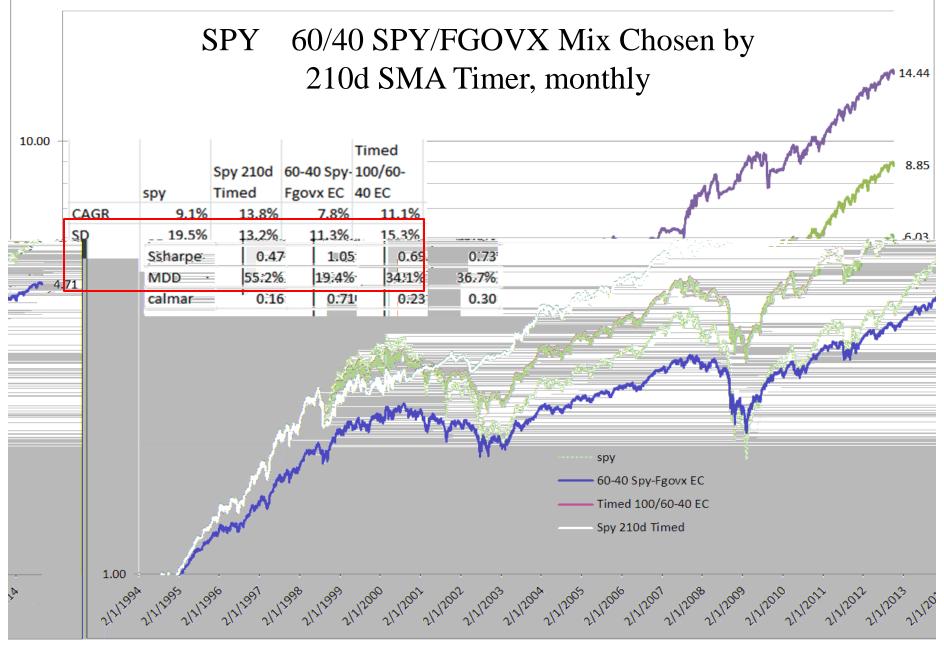
One way to control volatility and DD

- •
- Timing has worked extraordinarily well since 2000 optimistic to expect that this will continue
- For today, a simple timing system:
  - 210d or 10M SMA on the SPY
  - Implemented at end of month to reduce
- Alternative: Switch to a more conservative position when signaled to exit the market
  - Reduces your dependence on the accuracy of your timing signal









## Low Volatility Stock Screens

portfolio 📆

The Basic Low Volatility Stock Screen and Back-Test

Low Volatility Index Screens

Summary of Index and Sector Screens







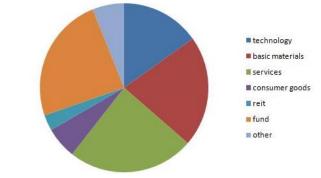




#### Basic Stock Screen & Back Test

- Implemented at Portfolio123
  - Based on daily prices with Standard
     Deviation computed on the last 60 days
  - Uses a 25 stock, equal weighted portfolio
  - Liquidity check of \$1M per day trading
  - Stock universe limited to index or sector under consideration
  - Rebalanced either yearly, quarterly or monthly (4 weeks)
  - Back test ran from 1/2/99 onward
  - No timing, volatility control, etc. applied always in the market.

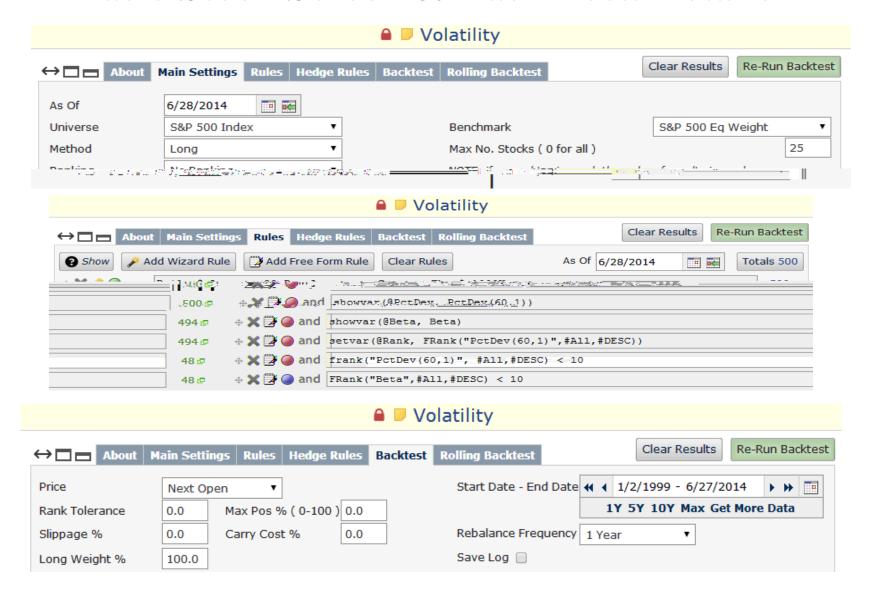








#### Basic Stock Screen & Back Test: Details

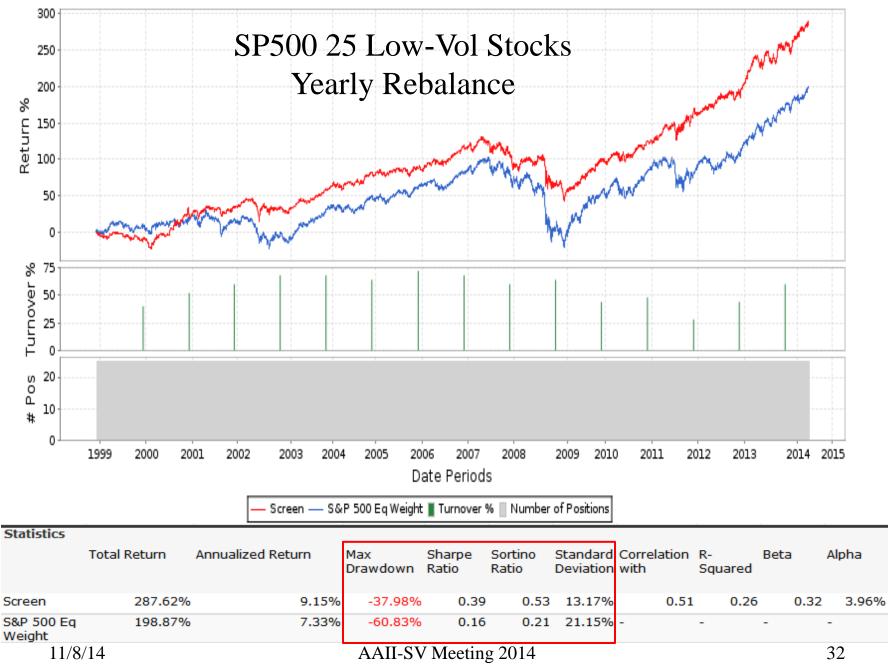


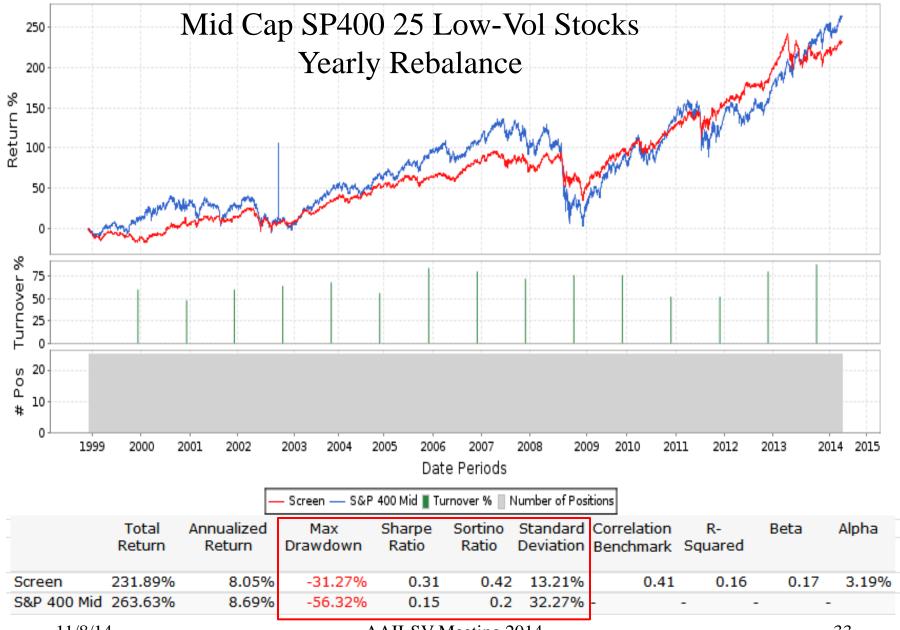
#### Stock Screen & Back Test: SP500 Stocks

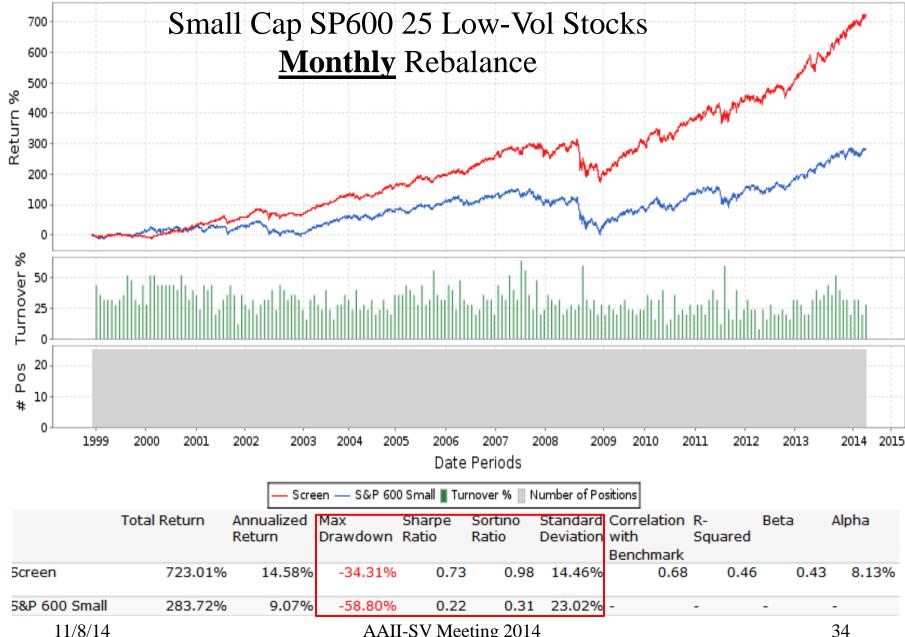
<u>Ticker</u>	Name	MktCap	@PctDev	@Beta
WM[5d][1y]	Waste Management Inc.	20,863.87	0.69	0.91
BAX[5d][1y]	Baxter International Inc	39,505.76	0.68	0.79
BRK.B[5d][1y]	Berkshire Hathaway Inc	314,026.25	0.68	0.78
MMM[5d][1y]	3M Co	94,013.21	0.68	1.07
SE[5d][1y]	Spectra Energy Corp	28,504.11	0.68	0.82
DE[5d][1y]	Deere & Co	33,039.68	0.67	0.96
VNO[5d][1y]	Vornado Realty Trust	20,118.68	0.67	1.05
ITW[5d][1y]	Illinois Tool Works Inc.	36,534.49	0.66	1.25
WMT[5d][1y]	Wal-Mart Stores Inc	243,348.19	0.66	0.41
GGP[5d][1y]	General Growth Propertie	20,819.67	0.65	1.58
SIAL[5d][1y]	Sigma-Aldrich Corp	12,076.12	0.65	1.12
XOM[5d][1y]	Exxon Mobil Corp	434,595.75	0.65	1.06
AVB[5d][1y]	AvalonBay Communities 1	18,444.72	0.64	0.69
CB[5d][1y]	Chubb Corp	22,546.50	0.63	0.78
XL[5d][1y]	XL Group Plc	8,906.92	0.63	1.47
L[5d][1y]	Loews Corp	16,946.74	0.62	0.98
SPG[5d][1y]	Simon Property Group Inc	51,898.69	0.62	0.76
BMS[5d][1y]	Bemis Co Inc	4,110.67	0.61	0.89
RSG[5d][1y]	Republic Services Inc.	13,620.04	0.61	0.7
MCD[5d][1y]	McDonald's Corp	100,283.06	0.59	0.29
TRV[5d][1y]	Travelers Companies Inc	32,637.20	0.59	0.92
ALL[5d][1y]	Allstate Corp (The)	25,471.46	0.58	1.15
ACE[5d][1y]	ACE Ltd	34,943.23	0.55	0.83
PG[5d][1y]	Procter & Gamble Co (The	213,824.95	0.54	0.56
SWY[5d][1y]	Safeway Inc	7,896.99	0.25	1.05

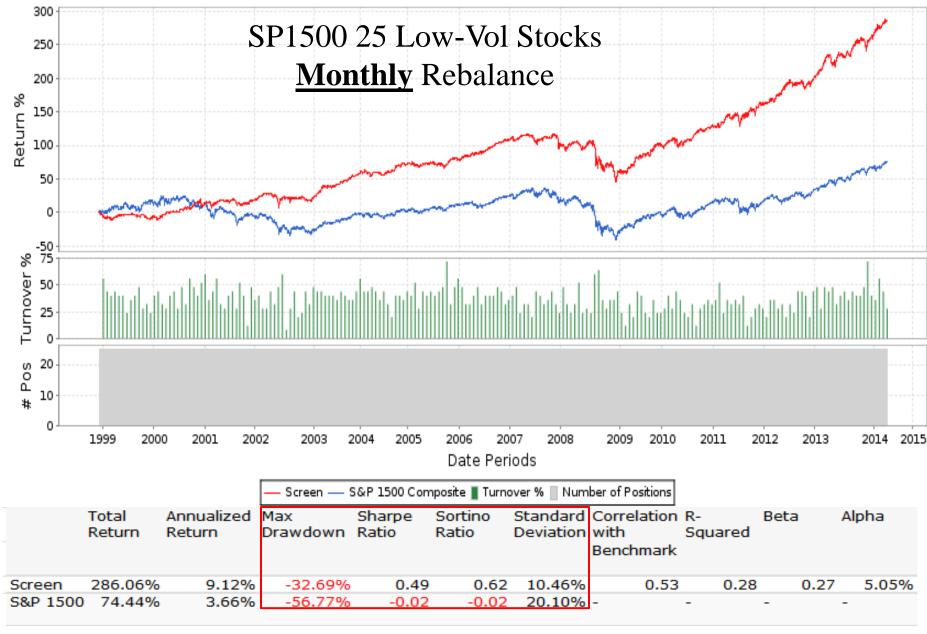












### Summary of Index Screen Performance

Statistics											
	Total Return	Annualized Return	Max Drawdown	Sharpe	Sortino Ratio	Standard C Deviation w		R- Squared	Beta	Alpha	
	Return	Return	Diawdowii	Katio	Kauo		enchmark	Squareu			
SP500 1 yr rot	287.62%	9.15%	-37.98%	0.39	0.53		0.51	0.26	0.32	3.96%	
S&P 500 Eq Weight	198.87%	7.33%	-60.83%	0.16	0.21	21.15% -		-	-	-	
delta	88.75%	1.82%	22.85%	0.23	0.32	-7.98%					
Screen - 1 Yr rot	231.89%						0.41	0.16	0.17	3.19%	
S&P 400 Mid	263.63%	8.69%	-56.32%	0.15	0.2	32.27% -		-	-	-	
delta	-31.74%	-0.64%	25.05%	0.16	0.22	-19.06%					
Screen - 1 Yr rot	324.96%	9.79%	-38.04%	0.41	0.56	14.14%	0.69	0.48	0.42	3.54%	
Screen - 13 wk rot	459.44%		-34.99%				0.69		0.42	5.40%	
Screen - 4 wk rot	723.01%						0.68		0.43	8.13%	best of all indices
Screen - 4 WK Tot	723.0170	14.50%	-54.5170	0.75	0.50	14.40 /0	0.00	0.40	0.43	0.13 //	most improved of all indices
S&P 600 Small	283.72%	9.07%	-58.80%	0.22	0.31	23.02% -		_	_	-	most improved or an indices
delta	439.29%										
dered	40312370	0.0170	2414570	0.01	0.07	0.5070					
Screen - 1 Yr rot	218.36%	7.76%	-26.47%	0.37	0.48	10.26%	0.54	0.29	0.27	3.74%	
Screen - 13 wk rot	238.85%	8.20%	-28.35%	0.41	0.52	10.24%	0.53	0.29	0.27	4.16%	
Screen - 4 wk rot	286.06%	9.12%	-32.69%	0.49	0.62	10.46%	0.53	0.28	0.27	5.05%	
S&P 1500 Composite	74.85%	3.67%	-56.77%	-0.01	-0.02	20.10% -		-	-	-	
delta	211.21%	5.45%	24.08%	0.5	0.64	-9.64%					
ADR Screen- 1 Yr rot	281.58%		-44.23%				0.49	0.24	0.32	3.84%	least improved of all indices
All ADR - EW 1 Yr rot	256.30%	8.55%	-61.73%	0.22	0.29	21.12%	0.59	0.35	0.59	2.51%	
delta	25.28%	0.48%	17.50%	0.14	0.17	-7.05%	-0.10	-0.11	-0.27	1.33%	
000 17	101 400/	0.740/	44.000/	0.01	0.41	17.000	0.76	0.50	0.7	1.000/	
QQQ - 1 Yr rot	121.42%		-41.80% -48.25%			17.36% 17.68%	0.76 0.76		0.72	1.00%	
QQQ - 13 wk rot QQQ - 4 wk rot	132.78% 191.15%		-48.23%				0.76		0.72	4.12%	
Nasdag 100	137.15%		-53.13%				0.76		-	4.12%	starts 2005
-										_	
delta	54.00%	2.39%	10.71%	0.16	0.22	-1.45%					
All Dow 4 wk rot	164.66%	6.49%	-60.53%	0.13	0.17	19.73%	0.68	0.46	0.71	2.41%	
Dia 4 wk rot	220.64%	7.81%	-34.53%	0.26	0.35	14.79%	0.64	0.41	0.5	3.70%	top 10 of 30
											worst of all indices
Dow Jones	83.49%	4.00%	-53.78%	0	0	18.86% -		-	-	-	
delta	137.15%	3.81%	19.25%	0.26	0.35	-4.07%					

#### Summary of Sector Screen Performance

Statistics	1			1				1			
	Total Return	Annualized Return	Max Drawdown	Sharpe Ratio	Sortino Ratio	Standard C Deviation w	orrelation R	- B guared	Beta	Alpha	
							enchmark				
Energy - 52wk rot	900.81%	16.04%	-70.31%	0.45	0.58	26.64%	0.53	0.28	0.67	9.46%	
All energy - 52 wk rot	1051.58%	17.09%	-71.28%	0.43	0.58	30.57%	0.53	0.28	0.76	10.17%	
delta	-150.77%	-1.05%	0.97%	0.02	0	-3.93%	0	0	-0.09	-0.71%	
Materials - 52wk rot	361.52%	10.38%	-55.93%	0.33	0.44	19.56%	0.63	0.39	0.58	4.30%	least improved of all sectors
All Matetials - 52 wk rot	470.79%	11.91%	-65.09%	0.33	0.44	23.84%	0.65	0.42	0.73	5.29%	·
delta	-109.27%	-1.53%	9.16%	0	0	-4.28%	-0.02	-0.03	-0.15	-0.99%	
Ind - 13 wk rot	422.31%	11.27%	-47.31%	0.45	0.61	16.16%	0.61	0.37	0.46	5.54%	
All Ind - 13 wk rot	450.59%	11.65%	-59.10%	0.34	0.46	22.30%	0.66	0.44	0.7	5.14%	
delta	-28.28%	-0.38%	11.79%	0.11	0.15	-6.14%	-0.05	-0.07	-0.24	0.40%	
CnsmrDisc 4 wk rot	355.31%	10.28%	-49.12%	0.39	0.51	16.27%	0.58	0.34	0.45	4.65%	
AllCnsmrDisc - 4wk rot	325.57%	9.80%	-68.96%	0.24	0.32	24.19%	0.63	0.4	0.72	3.30%	
delta	29.74%	0.48%	19.84%	0.15	0.19	-7.92%	-0.05	-0.06	-0.27	1.35%	
CnsmrStpls 4 wk rot	376.25%	10.60%	-31.84%	0.54	0.7	12.38%	0.46	0.21	0.27	5.53%	
AllCnsmrStpls - 4wk rot	456.86%	11.73%	-34.44%	0.53	0.71	14.72%	0.57	0.33	0.4	6.20%	
delta	-80.61%	-1.13%	2.60%	0.01	-0.01	-2.34%	-0.11	-0.12	-0.13	-0.67%	
Healthcare - 52wk rot	521.95%	12.53%	-37.11%	0.58	0.77	14.78%	0.49	0.24	0.34	7.14%	best of all sectors
All Healthcare - 52 wk rot	628.34%	13.68%	-39.96%	0.55	0.74	17.81%	0.55	0.3	0.46	7.86%	
delta	-106.39%	-1.15%	2.85%	0.03	0.03	-3.03%	-0.06	-0.06	-0.12	-0.72%	
Financials - 52wk rot	178.61%	6.84%	-51.07%	0.16	0.22	18.03%	0.58	0.34	0.5	1.17%	worst of all sectors
All Financials - 52 wk rot	192.29%	7.17%	-71.70%	0.12	0.17	25.80%	0.63	0.39	0.77	0.61%	
delta	-13.68%	-0.33%	20.63%	0.04	0.05	-7.77%	-0.05	-0.05	-0.27	0.56%	
IT 4 wk rot	449.98%	11.64%	-49.01%	0.42	0.58	18.24%	0.56	0.32	0.48	5.83%	most improved of all sectors
All IT - 4wk rot	282.90%	9.06%	-73.82%	0.18	0.27	27.92%	0.56	0.32	0.74	2.51%	
delta	167.08%	2.58%	24.81%	0.24	0.31	-9.68%	0	0	-0.26	3.32%	
Utilities - 52wk rot	319.65%	9.70%	-35.23%	0.4	0.53	14.37%	0.47	0.22	0.32	4.50%	
All Utilities - 52 wk rot	339.61%	10.03%	-39.88%	0.38	0.5	16.17%	0.51	0.26	0.39	4.59%	
delta	-19.96%	-0.33%	4.65%	0.02	0.03	-1.80%	-0.04	-0.04	-0.07	-0.09%	

#### Doing the Trades: Problems and Solutions

- A major objection to screening is the amount, and costs, of trading
  - One 25-stock screen rotated annually results in 50 trades/year
  - Assume 1 timing-event per year
  - Monthly volatility adjustments can add another 100-200 trades/year
  - High costs in terms of time and \$\$\$
- Ways to address this problem
  - Find a cheaper brokerage, negotiate fees with broker
  - Wrap accounts
  - Brokerages aimed at this market segment (next slide...)





# Doing the Trades: motifinvesting



Find investing ideas

We build portfolios

You tailor the portfolio

#### Control What You Buy

Customize any motif, or build your own from scratch. Easily add stocks, delete stocks, or change their weightings.

8	▼ Home Improvement Stores 0		53.4%
8	Home Depot Inc.		27.6%
⊗	Lowe's Cos.	- dim	23.7%
⊗	Lumber Liquidators Holdings Inc.		2.1%



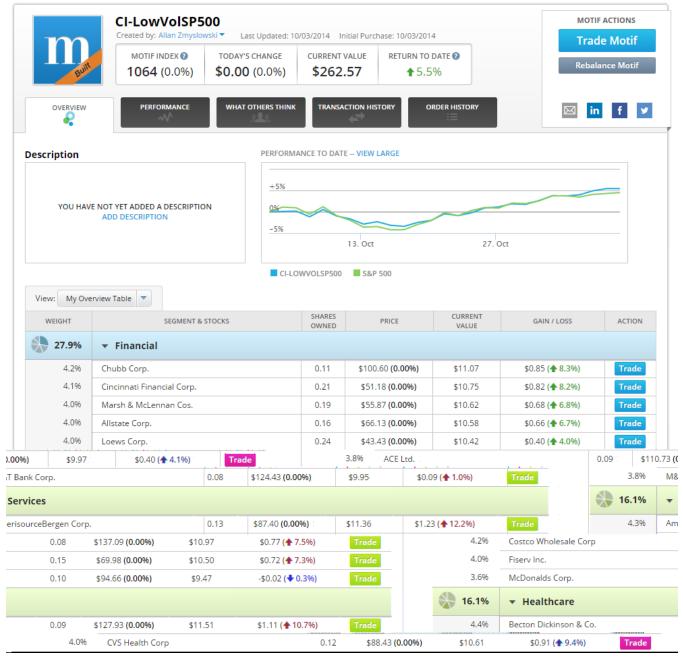
#### Buy for just \$9.95

No matter how much you customize, buy up to 30 stocks or ETFs in one motif for a total \$9.95 commission.

#### Investing Made Social







# Session Take-Aways



#### **Session Take-Aways**

Described the structure, weightings holdings of Low Volatility ETFs along with their possible pitfalls

Discussed how mutual fund (and other holdings) volatility can be limited by adding cash/bonds



Showed how a volatility-reward point can be chosen from a family of volatility limit curves

Provided an example of a timing system along with some cautions about timing



#### Session Take-Aways

Discussed the back-tests and the performance of some simple low volatility screens

Reviewed some of the items needed to implement these strategies

like stock screen at motif investing



apply it to your portfolio even if in a small way (to start)

#### Thanks much!!

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# Shameless Plug for the CIMI Group

http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/AAII-SV-CI-MI-Group/info

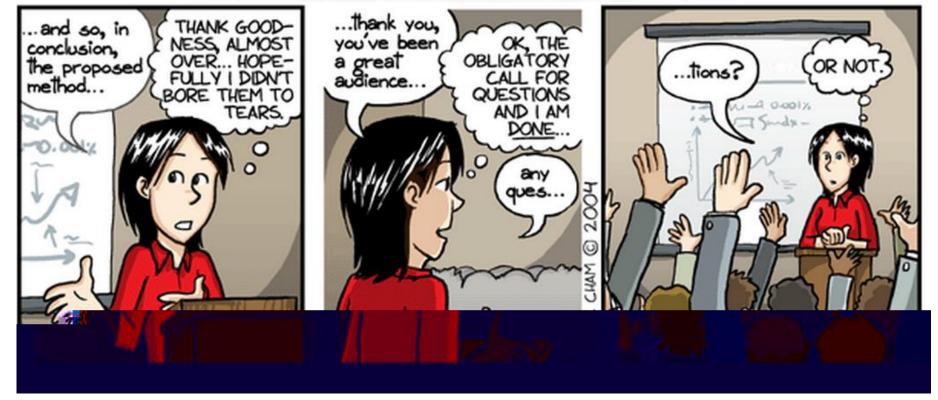
## CIMI Meeting Schedule

December Meeting: Tuesday December 2nd

Campbell Library, 6:30-8:30

January Meeting: Tuesday January 6th Saratoga Library, 6:30-8:30

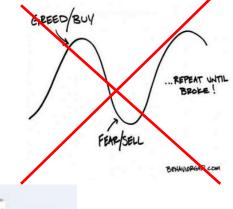




## Additional Slides

(not shown during presentation)

# Aside: Volatility and Drawdown







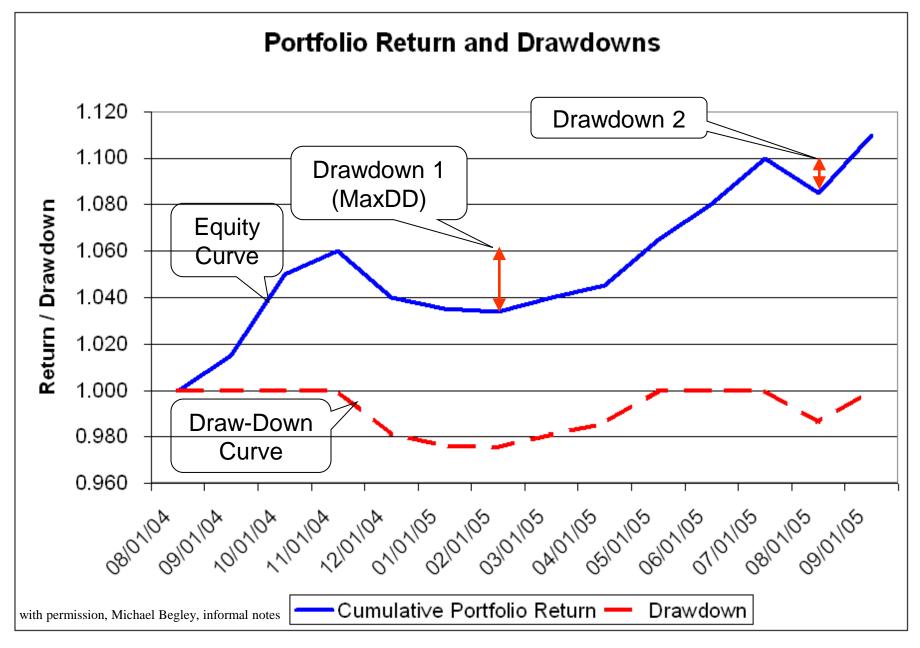


#### Volatility and Drawdown

- We all like the gains from the market but we hate losing money much more!
  - Behavioral finance has a lot to say about this part of investing
- While standard deviation is one measure of volatility, drawdown is what drives people to sell
  - A quick review of DrawDown (DD) and Max DD (MDD) follows
- There are other measures of risk but DD, MDD and SD are good general indicators
  - Other risk measures include VaR, CVaR, Ulcer Index, etc.





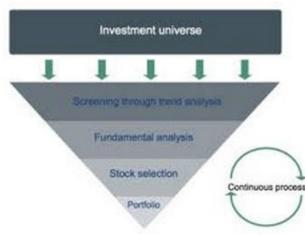


#### Implementation Details

- Spreadsheets
- Stock Trading: Problems and Solutions
- Doing the Trades











#### Spreadsheet for Timing and Volatility Control

 Spreadsheet to do both timing and volatility control examples shown today will be posted free!



- Functions: If(), Month(),
   Average(), Sum(), Max(), Stdev()
- Comes pre-loaded with data
- Review the spreadsheet and give it a try happy to do email Q&A

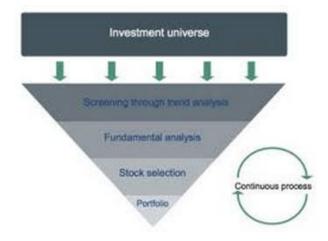
• Go to http://investexcel.net for a free spreadsheet that downloads Yahoo! data

1	Α	0	Р	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Υ	Z
1				vol Tgt	1.0%		cash Mult	1					
2													
3			naesx delta	63d SD	cash needed		naesx	cash	Naesx Vol 0.01 Mult=1	delta	rolling SD	Max	DD
4	2/1/1994						1.00	0	1.00			1.00	
5	2/2/1994		0.64%		0%		1.01	0	1.01	0.64%		1.01	0.0%
6	2/3/1994		0.00%		0%		1.01	0	1.01	0.00%	0.45%	1.01	0.0%
7	2/4/1994		-2.03%		0%		0.99	0	0.99	-2.03%	1.39%	1.01	2.0%
5188	9/4/2014		-0.41%	0.64%	0%		7.68	0.00	7.68	-0.41%	0.95%	7.81	1.6%
5189	9/5/2014		0.32%	0.64%	0%		7.71	0.00	7.71	0.32%	0.95%	7.81	1.3%
5190	9/8/2014		0.00%	0.63%	0%		7.71	0.00	7.71	0.00%	0.95%	7.81	1.3%
5191	9/9/2014		-0.97%	0.65%	0%		7.63	0.00	7.63	-0.97%	0.95%	7.81	2.2%
5192	9/10/2014		0.34%	0.65%	0%		7.66	0.00	7.66	0.34%	0.95%	7.81	1.9%
5193	9/11/2014		0.56%	0.64%	0%		7.70	0.00	7.70	0.56%	0.95%	7.81	1.4%
5194	9/12/2014		-0.91%	0.65%	0%		7.63	0.00	7.63	-0.91%	0.95%	7.81	2.3%
5195	9/15/2014		-0.87%	0.66%	0%		7.57	0.00	7.57	-0.87%	0.95%	7.81	3.1%
5196	9/16/2014		0.53%	0.66%	0%		7.61	0.00	7.61	0.53%	0.95%	7.81	2.6%
5197	9/17/2014		0.16%	0.66%	0%		7.62	0.00	7.62	0.16%	0.95%	7.81	2.4%
5198	9/18/2014		0.31%	0.66%	0%		7.64	0.00	7.64	0.31%	0.95%	7.81	2.1%
5199	9/19/2014		-0.74%	0.66%	0%		7.59	0.00	7.59	-0.74%	0.95%	7.81	2.9%
5200	9/22/2014		-1.47%	0.69%	0%		7.47	0.00	7.47	-1.47%	0.95%	7.81	4.3%
5201	9/23/2014		-0.89%	0.69%	0%		7.41	0.00	7.41	-0.89%	0.95%	7.81	5.1%
5202	9/24/2014		0.63%	0.69%	0%		7.45	0.00	7.45	0.63%	0.95%	7.81	4.5%
5203	9/25/2014		-1.43%	0.71%	0%		7.35	0.00	7.35	-1.43%	0.95%	7.81	5.9%
5204	9/26/2014		0.73%	0.71%	0%		7.40	0.00	7.40	0.73%	0.95%	7.81	5.2%
5205													
5206		All SD	1.37%	0.71%				#years	20.7				
5207		Yrly SD	21.8%	11.3%				CAGR	10.2%				
5208			max	4.83%	78.61%			SD	15.0%				
5209			min	0.32%	0.00%			Ssharpe	0.68				
5210			average	1.21%	15.79%			MDD	33.4%				
5211			median	1.06%	3.71%			calmar	0.30				

#### Implementation Details

- This is needed for the 1% volatility limit schemes
- Stock back-tests assumes an equal percentage of \$\$\$ taken from each stock i.e., sell some of each stock which increases the trade count
- Screens can be implemented at P123 and similar tools -- and possibly some free screeners
  - Use beta or volatility (if available)
- Hesitant?? Start off small.
  - Commissions insignificant as you scale up







# Additional 1% & 210d SMA Volatility Control Examples







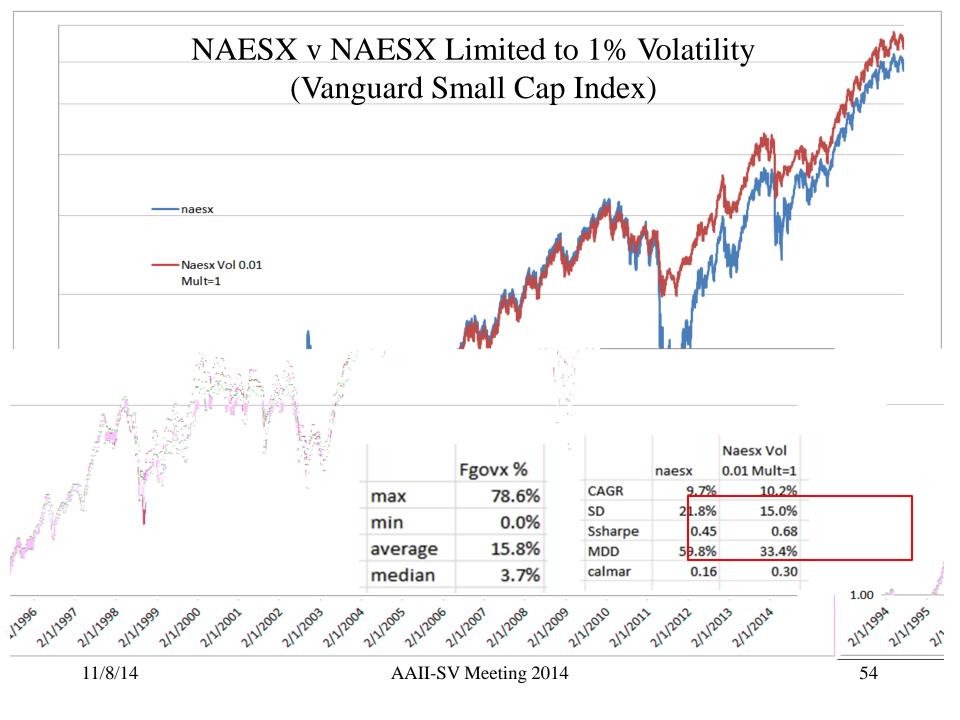


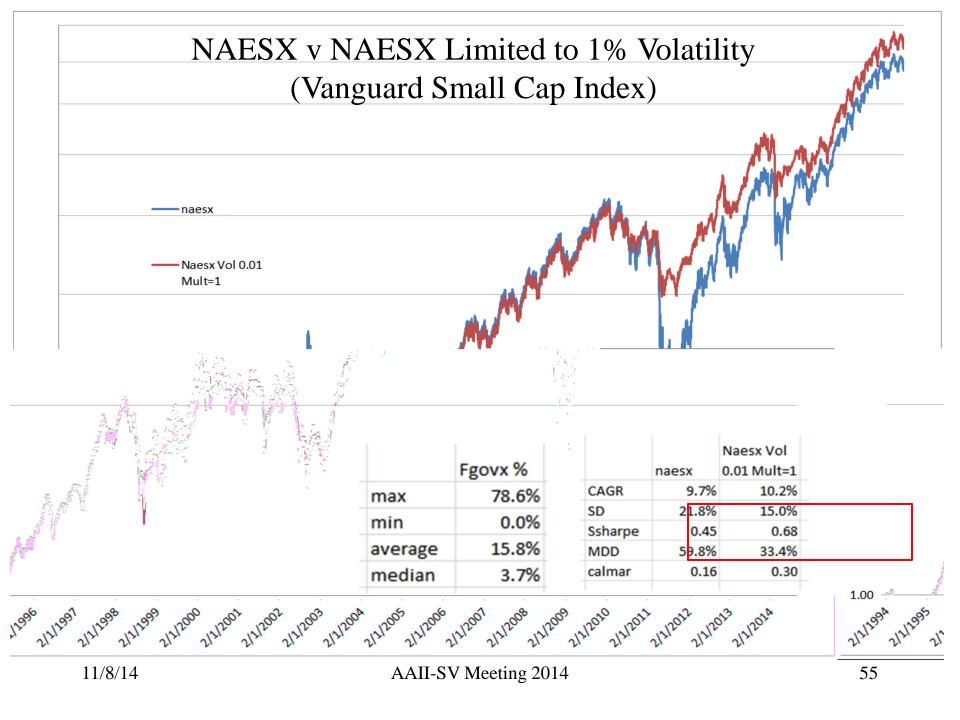


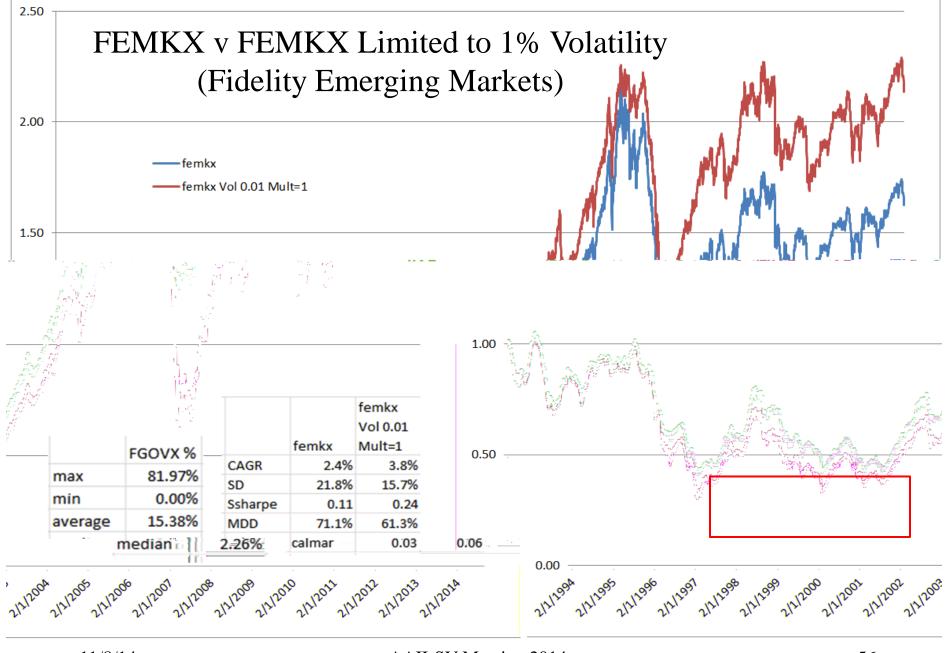


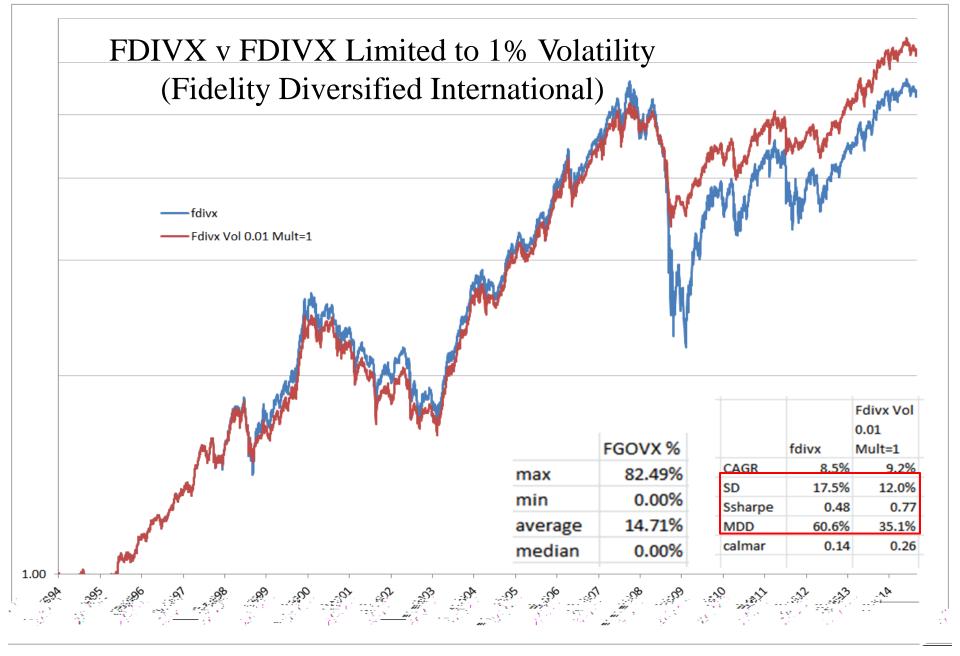


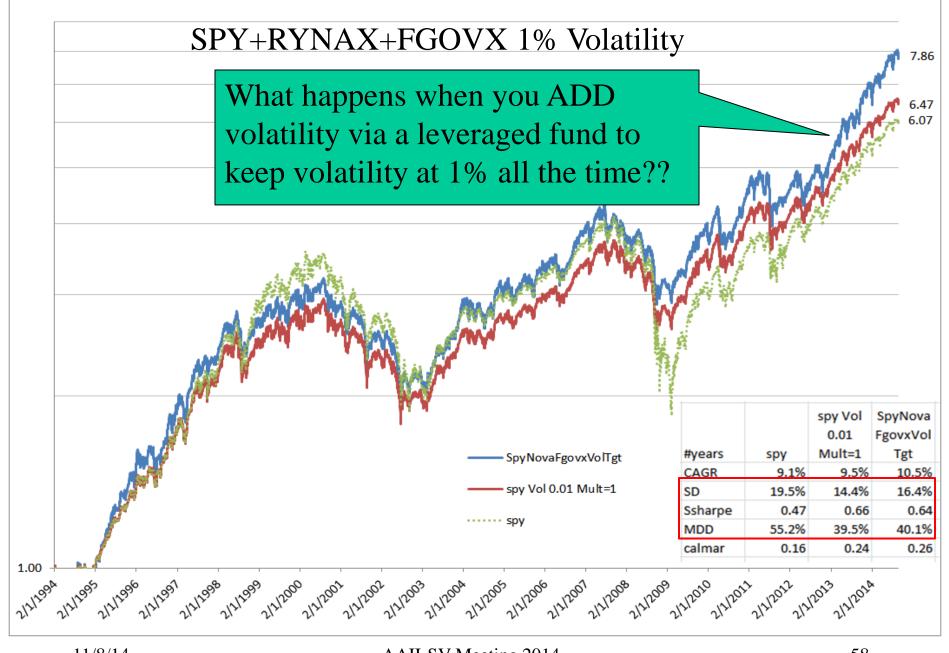
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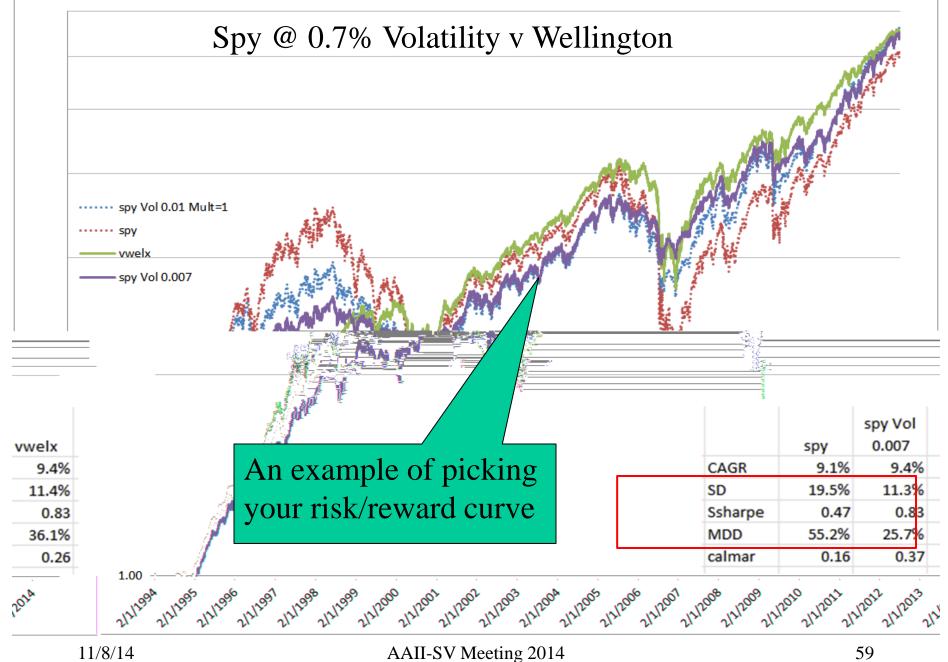






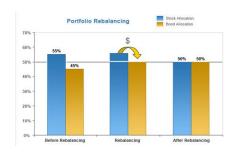






# Additional Low Volatility Stock Screen Examples





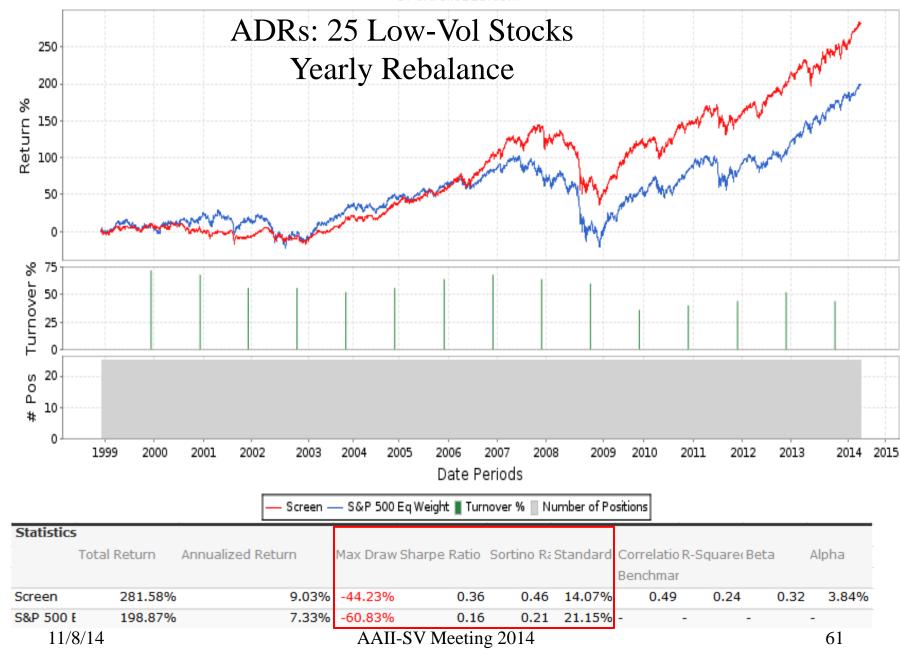


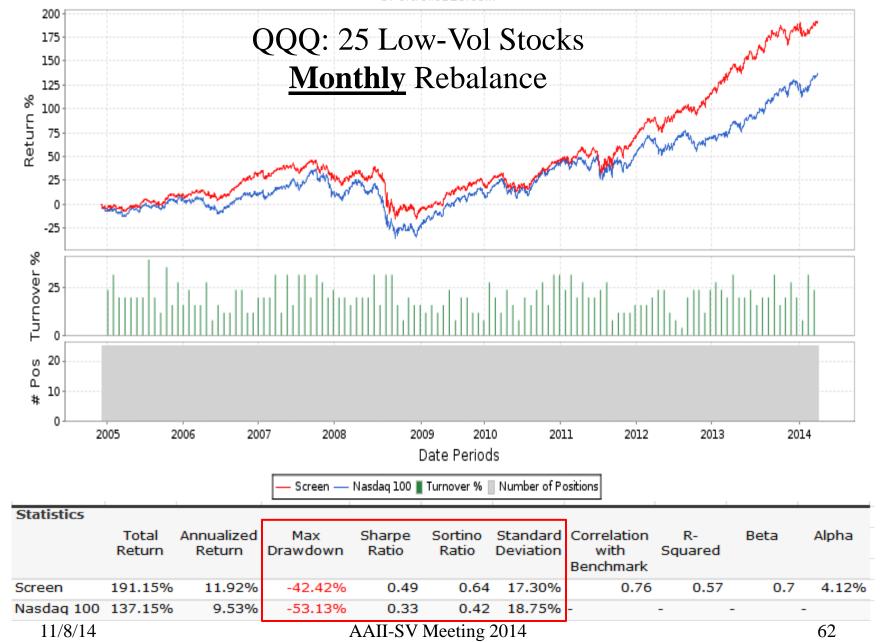


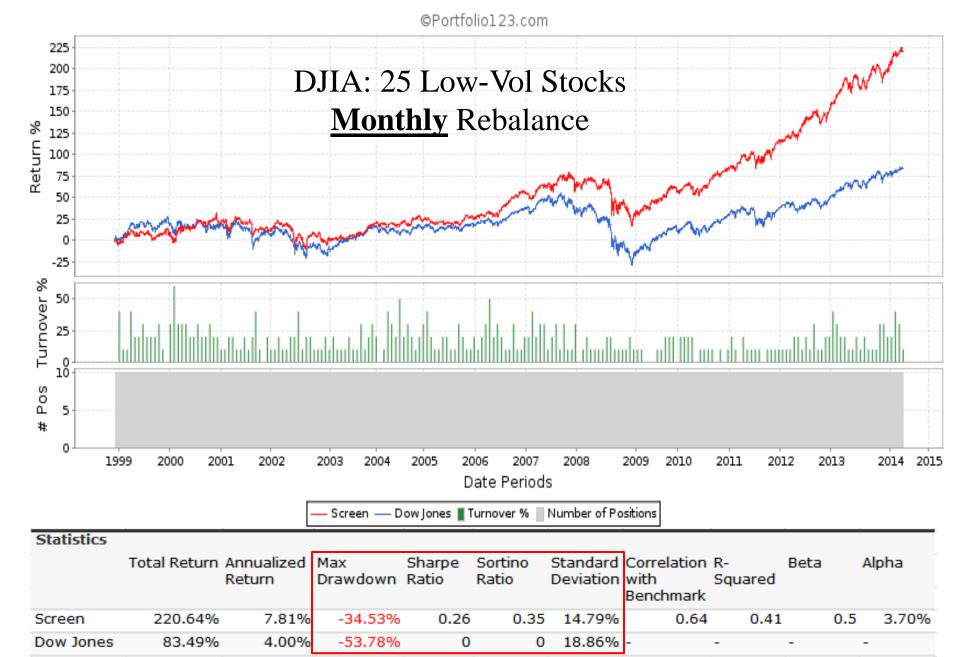


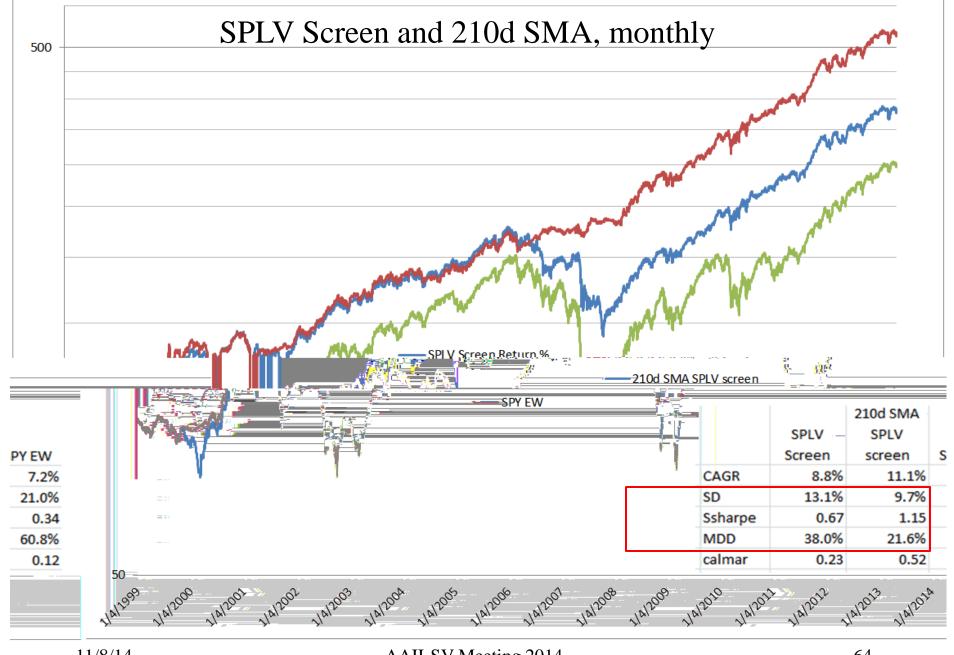


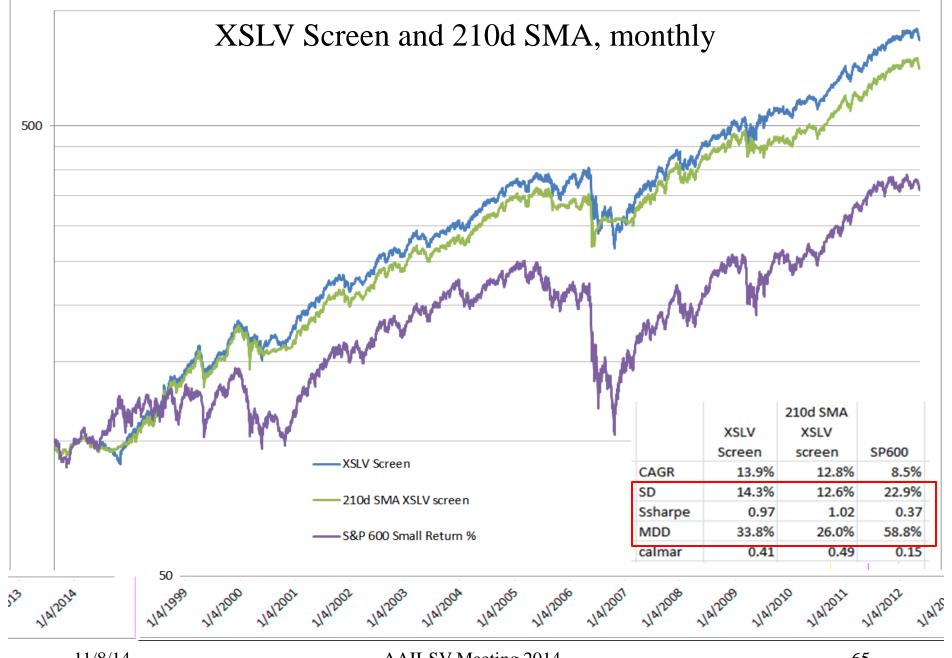












# Reference Material

#### Web Sites, Tools, Data Sources, etc.

#### General information

```
http://www.aaii.com articles, spreadsheets, portfolios, etc. http://finance.yahoo.com/?u great general site
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#### Blogs

```
http://www.hussmanfunds.com blog, economic financial studies http://www.ritholtz.com/blog/ Famous financier blog http://www.johnmauldin.com/ Another famous financier
```

#### Data, reference sites

```
http://www.investorwords.com/ investment dictionary
http://www.standardandpoors.com/home/en/us S&P site
http://www.wikiposit.org/w great free financial data
http://www.calculatedriskblog.com/ the best pure economic charting site
http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/STLFSI/downloaddata?cid=98
```

#### Web Sites, Tools, Data Sources, etc.

#### **Tools**

```
http://www.assetcorrelation.com/ Generates correlations across instruments
      http://stockcharts.com/ Draw complex charts
      http://www.google.com/ Can find anything
      http://www.keelix.com/backtester/ (free SIPro back tester)
      http://sumgrowth.com/ momentum & timing site (fees after trial period)
      https://www.vectorvest.com/vvlogin/login.aspx back testing tool (fees)
      http://www.portfolio123.com/ back testing toll (fees)
      http://www.qmatix.com/XLQ.htm (good Excel plug-in for Yahoo! Data, SIPro)
      Excel, Visual Basic: do a lot of hacking with this tool
      SIPro: best reasonably priced stock screener out there
Economics, Finance sites
      http://advisorperspectives.com/dshort/ mix of economic and market, very understandable, lots of fun charts
      http://www.businesscycle.com/ ECRI famous economic forecaster, downloadable info
      http://www.angrybearblog.com/ economic policy (arguments)
      http://gfs.eiu.com/about/ monthly economic forecast (free I think)
Quant sites (mostly blogs)
      http://cssanalytics.wordpress.com/ Lots of algs, models, ideas
      http://www.cxoadvisory.com/ Lots of algs, models, economic forecasts, etc
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http://marketsci.wordpress.com/ Lots of algs, models, ideas

http://www.mebanefaber.com/