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# Residual Momentum

David Blitz, Joop Huij and Martin Martens\*

## Abstract

Conventional momentum strategies exhibit substantial time-varying exposures to the Fama and French factors. We show that these exposures can be reduced by ranking stocks on residual stock returns instead of total returns. As a consequence, residual momentum earns risk-adjusted profits that are about twice as large as those associated with total return momentum; is more consistent over time; and less concentrated in the extremes of the cross-section of stocks. Our results are inconsistent with the notion that the momentum phenomenon can be attributed to a priced risk factor or market microstructure effects.

*JEL Classification: G11, G12, G14*

*Keywords: momentum, time-varying risk, stock-specific returns, residual returns*

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## Abstract

Conventional momentum strategies exhibit substantial time-varying exposures to the Fama and French factors. We show that these exposures can be reduced by ranking stocks on residual stock returns instead of total returns. As a consequence, residual momentum earns risk-adjusted profits that are about twice as large as those associated with total return momentum; is more consistent over time; and less concentrated in the extremes of the cross-section of stocks. Our results are inconsistent with the notion that the momentum phenomenon can be attributed to a priced risk factor or market microstructure effects.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Conventional momentum strategies, as described in the seminal work of Jegadeesh and Titman (1993; 2001), are based on total stock returns. In this study we investigate in detail a momentum strategy based on residual returns estimated using the Fama and French three-factor model. One of our main findings is that the Sharpe ratio of residual momentum is approximately double that of total return momentum, mainly due to lower return variability. The reason is related to the fact that momentum has substantial time-varying exposures to the Fama and French factors, as illustrated by Grundy and Martin (2001). Specifically, momentum loads positively (negatively) on systematic factors when these factors have positive (negative) returns during the formation period of the momentum strategy. As a consequence, a total return momentum strategy experiences losses when the sign of factor returns over the holding period is opposite to the sign over the formation period. By design, residual momentum exhibits smaller time-varying factor exposures, which reduces the volatility of the strategy.

Residual momentum does not only improve upon total return momentum in terms of higher long-run average Sharpe ratios, but also in several other ways. First, total return momentum strategies appear to have lost their profitability in the most recent years. In fact, we find a return of -8.5 percent per annum over the period January 2000 to December 2009. Residual momentum, on the other hand, has remained profitable, generating a return of 4.7 percent per annum over the same time period. To illustrate that the negative returns of total return momentum

strategies can largely be attributed to their time-varying exposures to the Fama and French factors we point at the large losses of momentum in the first half of 2009. The negative market returns in the credit crises of 2008 caused total return momentum to be tilted towards the low-beta segment of the market in early 2009. When the market recovered in the first quarter of 2009, total return momentum's negative market beta caused large losses. Because residual momentum was less negatively exposed to the market, the strategy was less negatively affected.

Second, a variety of papers argue that momentum displays characteristics that are often associated with priced risk factors. Chordia and Shivakumar (2002), for example, argue that the profits of momentum strategies exhibit strong variation across the business cycle. Over the period January 1930 to December 2009, total return momentum earns 14.7 percent per annum during expansions and loses -8.7 percent during recessions. We show that these results can largely be attributed to the strategy's time-varying exposures to the Fama and French factors. A total return momentum strategy is typically tilted towards low-beta stocks after the early stage of a recession, while market returns during the later stage of a recession are, on average, highly positive. Because residual momentum is nearly market-neutral by construction, the strategy delivers positive returns not only during expansions, but also during recessions. In particular, the return of residual momentum during recessions is a positive 5.6 percent per annum.

Third, another risk-based explanation for momentum is that the strategy is concentrated in the smallest firms in the cross-section, see for example

Jegadeesh and Titman (1993). Residual momentum, on the other hand, is nearly neutral to the Fama and French size factor, indicating that the success of momentum strategies is not critically dependent on a structural tilt towards small-caps. Moreover, because, unlike total return momentum, residual momentum is not concentrated in small-cap stocks, trading costs are likely to have a smaller impact on profitability of the strategy.

Finally, residual momentum is less prone to the tax-loss selling effect compared to total return momentum. Fund managers tend to sell small-cap loser stocks in December, causing a large positive return for a total return momentum strategy during that month, followed by a large negative return in January [see, e.g., Roll (1983), Griffiths and White (1993), and Ferris, D'Mello, and Hwang (2001)]. Because residual momentum is closer to being size neutral than total return momentum, this December/January effect is much less pronounced, as a result of which the strategy earns more stable returns within a calendar year.

Our work extends the research by Grundy and Martin (2001) who show that momentum has dynamic exposures to the Fama and French factors. The authors find a significantly improved performance for a hypothetical strategy which hedges these exposures by adding positions in zero-cost hedge portfolios based on *ex post* estimates of factor exposures. However, when they evaluate a feasible strategy which uses information that is available *ex ante* they only find a marginal improvement in performance. The residual momentum strategy described in this paper, on the other hand, succeeds in improving upon a total

return momentum strategy without using any information or instruments that would not have been available to investors in reality.

Our work also extends the research by Guitierrez and Pirinsky (2007), who document that momentum's long-term reversal in month 13 to 60 after portfolio formation can be attributed to the strategy's common-factor exposures. For a momentum strategy based on residual stock returns the authors observe that performance over the first year after formation is similar to that of total return momentum, but, contrary to total return momentum, long-run performance does not revert. This suggests that the difference between residual and total return momentum is negligible in the first year after formation and only becomes significant during subsequent years. However, we show that when risks are taken into account the momentum strategies' performances are in fact also different during the first 12 months after portfolio formation. As discussed above, we find that the risk-adjusted performance of residual momentum is double that of total return momentum; more consistent over time; more consistent over the business cycle; and less concentrated in the extremes of the cross-section.

Our findings are consistent with the gradual-information-diffusion hypothesis that states that information diffuses only gradually across the investment public and that investor under-reaction is more strongly pronounced for firm-specific events than for common events [see, e.g., Barberis, Schleifer and Vishny (1998), Daniel, Hirshleifer and Subrahmanyam (1998), Hong and Stein (1999), Hong, Lim and Stein (2000) and Gutierrez and Pirinsky (2007)]. Moreover, our results present an even more serious challenge to the view that

markets are weak-form efficient than the total return momentum results in the literature.

Our findings also have implications for the practical implementation of momentum trading strategies. Our results imply that momentum investors in practice are more likely to achieve a superior risk-adjusted performance by adopting a residual momentum strategy than by following a conventional total return momentum strategy.

In what follows, Section 2 discusses our motivation to look at residual momentum. Section 3 describes our data and construction of momentum portfolios. Sections 4 and 5 document the results of our empirical analyses and robustness tests, respectively. Finally Section 6 concludes.

## **2. RESIDUAL MOMENTUM VERSUS TOTAL RETURN MOMENTUM**

A conventional momentum strategy first ranks stocks on their total return over the preceding period and then buys the past winner stocks and sells the past loser stocks. We argue that such a strategy implicitly places a bet on persistence in common-factor returns, which will affect its risk and return characteristics. To illustrate this, consider the following example. If the market premium was positive during the formation period, a momentum strategy will typically be long in high-beta stocks and short in low-beta stocks, as high-beta stocks tend to outperform low-beta stocks when the market goes up. As a consequence, the net market beta of the momentum strategy will be positive. Similarly, when stocks with a high (low) book-to-market ratio performed relatively well during the formation period,

the strategy will be tilted towards value (growth) stocks. The profitability of a momentum strategy will be positively affected by these dynamic exposures in case of persistence in factor returns, but negatively when factor returns revert. In addition a substantial part of the risk of momentum returns will be caused by the factor exposures. In fact we will show in Section 4.1 that roughly 50 percent of the risks, but only 25 percent of the profits of a conventional momentum strategy can be attributed to the time-varying exposures to the Fama and French factors.

We look at a momentum strategy based on residual returns and focus on two main aspects of the strategy. First, we show that ranking stocks, not on their total returns, but on their residual returns is a very effective approach to neutralize the dynamic factor exposures of a momentum strategy. We find that these exposures are roughly three to five times smaller than those of a total return momentum strategy. Second, the return and risk characteristics of residual momentum allow us to substantiate various claims made about the return and risk characteristics of total return momentum.

Regarding the first point, we find that residual momentum has comparable returns to total return momentum at only half the risk. With a Sharpe ratio varying between 0.4 and 0.9 depending on the holding period residual momentum is a real-time feasible strategy. Grundy and Martin (2003) reduce the exposures of total return momentum by a hedging strategy that uses ex-post available information. They find that this makes momentum strategies more profitable, but when they evaluate a feasible strategy which uses information that is available ex

*ante* they only find a marginal improvement in performance. They leave the development of a real-time available hedging strategy for further research.

Regarding the second point, by comparing the risk and return characteristics of residual momentum strategies with those of conventional total return momentum strategies we can produce a number of convincing explanations regarding earlier findings in the literature. These explanations are all related to the time-varying exposures of total return momentum to the Fama and French factors. For example, the time-varying exposures of total return momentum caused to a large extent its poor performance in the past decade, see Section 4.2. Also, the poor performance of total return momentum during recessions reported by Chordia and Shivakumar (2002) can to a large extent be attributed to the time-varying risk exposures as discussed in Section 4.3. Finally, the poor performance of momentum in Januaries reported in Jegadeesh and Titman (1993) is caused by momentum being short in small-cap loser stocks that are aggressively sold in December but tend to recover in January, see Section 4.5.

### **3. DATA AND METHODOLOGY**

Consistent with most of the momentum literature, we extract our data from the CRSP database and consider all domestic, primary stocks listed on the New York (NYSE), American (AMEX), and Nasdaq stock markets in our study. Closed-end funds, Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), unit trusts, American Depository Receipts (ADRs), and foreign stocks are excluded from the analysis. Our sample

period covers the period January 1926 to December 2009. We exclude stocks during the month(s) that their price is below \$1 to reduce microstructure concerns. Our data on common factors are from the webpage of French (2010).

Our analysis of momentum strategies follows the common approach in the empirical literature [see, e.g., Jegadeesh and Titman (1993; 2001), Chan, Jegadeesh, and Lakonishok, (1996), Rouwenhorst (1998; 1999), Griffin, Ji and Martin (2003), Grundy and Martin (2003), Schwert (2003), and Gutierrez and Pirinsky (2007)]. The methodology involves *ex ante* formation of portfolios based on past returns, followed by *ex post* factor regressions of the resulting (overlapping) portfolio returns on common risk factors.

We start by allocating stocks to mutually exclusive decile portfolios based on their returns over the preceding 12 months excluding the most recent month (henceforth denoted by 12-1M). Stocks are ranked on both total returns and residual returns. The reason why we focus on the 12-1M formation period throughout our main analyses is that this momentum definition is currently most broadly used and readily available though the PR1YR factor of Carhart (1997) and the WML factor from the webpage of French (2010).<sup>1</sup> Residual returns are estimated each month for all eligible stocks using the Fama and French three-factor model:

$$(1) \quad r_{i,t} = \alpha_i + \beta_{1,i}RMRF_t + \beta_{2,i}SMB_t + \beta_{3,i}HML_t + \varepsilon_{i,t}$$

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<sup>1</sup> Month  $t-1$  in the formation period of momentum strategies is typically skipped to disentangle the intermediate-term momentum effect from the short-term reversal effect documented by Jegadeesh (1990) and Lehman (1990).

where  $r_{i,t}$  is the return on stock  $i$  in month  $t$  in excess of the risk-free rate,  $RMRF_t$ ,  $SMB_t$  and  $HML_t$  are the excess returns on factor-mimicking portfolios for the market, size and value in month  $t$ , respectively,  $\alpha_i$ ,  $\beta_{1,i}$ ,  $\beta_{2,i}$  and  $\beta_{3,i}$  are parameters to be estimated, and  $\varepsilon_{i,t}$  is the residual return of stock  $i$  in month  $t$ . We estimate the regressions over 36-month rolling windows, i.e., over the period from  $t-36$  until  $t-1$ , so that we have a sufficient number of return observations to obtain accurate estimates for stock exposures to the market, size and value. Only stocks which have a complete return history over the 36-month rolling regression window are included in our analysis.

With the momentum portfolios based on total return momentum, the top (bottom) decile contains the 10 percent of stocks with the highest (lowest) 12-1M total returns. With the portfolios based on residual momentum, the top (bottom) decile contains the 10 percent of stocks with the highest (lowest) 12-1M residual return standardized by its standard deviation over the same period. The reason for standardizing the residual return is to obtain an improved measure, since the raw residual return can be a noisy estimate. Guitierrez and Pirinsky (2007) also standardize residual returns when they investigate the interaction between idiosyncratic stock return variation and long-run reversals. They argue that standardizing the residual return yields an improved measure of the extent to which a given firm-specific return shock is actually news, opposed to noise, thereby facilitating a better interpretation of the residual as firm-specific

information.<sup>2</sup> Note that we do not include the estimated alpha in the calculation of residual momentum because the alpha serves as a general control for misspecification in the model of expected stock returns. Moreover, over two-thirds of the observations behind the estimated alpha are outside the 11-month formation period which is relevant for residual momentum, as a result of which the alpha may, to a large extent, reflect extreme return observations in month  $t-36$  to  $t-13$ . For example, if we would include the estimated alpha in the calculation of residual momentum, stocks that had large positive (negative) returns over the period  $t-36$  to  $t-13$ , would rank low (high) on residual momentum. As such, the resulting residual momentum strategy might not only reflect the intermediate-term momentum effect, but also the long-term reversal effect.

Consistent with most of the literature, we assign equal weights to the stocks in each decile. We form the deciles using monthly, quarterly, semi-annually and yearly holding periods using the overlapping portfolios approach of Jegadeesh and Titman (1993; 2001). With this approach, the strategies hold a series of portfolios, in any given month, that are selected in the current month as well as in the previous  $K-1$  months, where  $K$  is the holding period.

Next, we consider the post-formation returns over the period January 1930 to December 2009 for the return differential between the top and bottom deciles. We look at the momentum strategies' returns, volatilities, Sharpe ratios and

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<sup>2</sup> We also test residual momentum strategies where the returns are not standardized. It seems that standardizing returns indeed helps to obtain a slightly improved measure. For example, using one-month holding periods, the non-standardized residual momentum strategy yields a return of 11.88 percent per annum, a volatility of 13.28 percent, and a Sharpe ratio of 0.89. Compared to the results in Table 2 we observe that standardizing in particular helps to further reduce the risk of the strategy.

alphas relative to the Fama and French factors. To estimate alphas, we employ a conditional framework in the spirit of Grundy and Martin (2001) to account for the dynamic factor exposures of momentum strategies:

$$(2) \quad r_{i,t} = \alpha_i + \beta_{1,i}RMRF_t + \beta_{2,i}SMB_t + \beta_{3,i}HML_t + \beta_{4,i}RMRF\_UP_t + \beta_{2,i}SMB\_UP_t + \beta_{3,i}HML\_UP_t + \varepsilon_{i,t}$$

where  $RMRF\_UP_t$ ,  $SMB\_UP_t$  and  $HML\_UP_t$  are interaction variables that are equal to the excess returns on factor-mimicking portfolios for the market, size and value in month  $t$ , respectively, when the premiums on the factors are positive over month  $t-12$  to  $t-2$ , and zero otherwise.

In later robustness checks (see Section 5), we show that residual momentum behaves consistently when we use the broad ( $J,K$ ) momentum strategies of Jegadeesh and Titman (1993); when we restrict our sample to large cap stocks; when we use alternative specifications of common factors; when we use different lengths for the rolling window we use to estimate the betas to the factor-mimicking portfolios for the market, size and value in Equation (1); and when we consider the post-1960 period of our sample.

#### 4. EMPIRICAL RESULTS

This section contains an extensive comparison of the empirical characteristics of residual and total return momentum strategies.

#### *4.1 Main results*

We start our empirical investigation by comparing and distinguishing between the performances of total return momentum and residual momentum. The main testable prediction which we explore is that residual momentum has significantly lower exposures to common factors than total return momentum, resulting in a significantly lower volatility of the strategy. At the same time we investigate which portion of the profitability of total return momentum can be attributed to dynamic factor exposures and how profitability is affected by following a residual momentum strategy instead.

To go to the heart of the issue, we examine if there is persistence in common factor returns. As we explained previously, persistence in common factor returns can potentially contribute positively to momentum's profitability. We test for persistence by measuring the frequency with which the signs of the factor returns are the same during the formation period and the holding period. Consistent with the definition of our momentum portfolios, we use 12-month formation periods excluding the most recent month. We use alternative holding periods of one month, one quarter, six months and one year. The results are in Table 1.

**[INSERT TABLE 1 ABOUT HERE]**

Under the null hypothesis of no persistence in factor returns, the frequencies in Table 1 should equal 50 percent. However, our empirical results show that the frequencies tend to be between 54 and 61 percent, which indicates that there is at least some amount of persistence in common factor returns. The

t-statistics resulting from differences-in-means tests indicate that the observed frequencies are significantly different from 50 percent.<sup>3</sup>

Given the evidence of persistence in common factor returns we may expect the dynamic factor exposures of a total return momentum strategy to contribute positively to profitability. However, the question remains how large this contribution to performance is; how much risk is involved with these exposures; and what happens when we attempt to neutralize these dynamic exposures.

We therefore continue by decomposing the risks and profits of total return momentum and residual momentum into a component due to persistence in common factor returns and a component due to persistence in residual returns using the conditional Fama and French model in Equation (2). The results in Panel A of Table 2 show that total return momentum exhibits strong dynamic exposures to the Fama and French factors. The exposures to the market, size and value factors are both economically and statistically significant. Momentum loads negatively on factors after negative returns, and positively after positive returns. For example, total return momentum's market beta is -0.34 after negative market returns in the formation period for one-month holding periods, and 0.34 (= -0.34 + 0.68) after positive market returns. The results are independent of the length of the holding period. The adjusted R-squared values of the regressions

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<sup>3</sup> Two effects may be driving the persistence in factor returns: positive autocorrelation in factor returns and positive factor premiums (or, more specifically, a larger than 50 percent probability that factor returns are positive). To illustrate the latter point, suppose that factor returns exhibit zero autocorrelation but have a 60 percent probability of being positive. In that case the probability of two subsequent returns having the same sign is 52 percent (=  $0.60 \times 0.60 + 0.40 \times 0.40$ ). Unreported results indicate that, indeed, both effects contribute to the persistence reported in Table 1. However, for the purposes of this paper our main concern is whether there is persistence, while the mechanism behind this is less relevant. We therefore do not further investigate this issue.

indicate that up to 48 percent of the variance of total return momentum can be explained by dynamic factor exposures. These findings underline the importance of taking into account dynamic risk exposures when evaluating the risks and profits of momentum strategies.<sup>4</sup>

**[INSERT TABLE 2 ABOUT HERE]**

The results in Panel B of Table 2 indicate that residual momentum, on the other hand, exhibits smaller factor exposures. More specifically, the conditional betas to the Fama and French factors of residual momentum are roughly three to five times smaller than those of total return momentum. For the one-month holding period, for example, the market beta after market declines during the formation period is  $-0.34$  for total return momentum, versus  $-0.12$  for residual momentum. The explanatory power of the regressions is also substantially lower for residual momentum with the regression R-squared values ranging from 13 to 17 percent, compared to 34 to 48 percent for total return momentum. We can thus conclude that ranking stocks by their residual return turns out to be an effective approach to reduce the dynamic factor exposures of conventional momentum strategies.

To further investigate the impact of neutralizing momentum's dynamic factor exposures on portfolio risk, we evaluate the volatilities of total return momentum and residual momentum. We find that the volatility of residual momentum is only about half that of total return momentum. For example, using one-month holding periods, total return momentum has an annualized volatility of

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<sup>4</sup> When we evaluate the performance of total return momentum using the unconditional Fama-French model in Equation (1), the adjusted R-squared values of the regressions indicate that only 10 to 17 percent of the variance of the momentum strategy can be explained by factor exposures.

22.70 percent, versus 12.49 percent for residual momentum. Hence, ranking stocks by their residual return substantially reduces the risk of a momentum strategy.

We next turn to investigating the impact of neutralizing momentum's dynamic factor exposures on the strategy's profitability. As expected, we can conclude that the dynamic style exposures of total return momentum are contributing positively to profitability, as the alphas of the total return momentum strategies are roughly 25 percent lower than their raw returns. For example, using one-month holding periods, the return of total return momentum is 10.26 percent per annum, while the alpha in this case is 7.98 percent. Importantly, the portion of the risk of total return momentum that can be attributed to these exposures is substantially larger (i.e., the adjusted R-squared values from the regressions indicate that this portion is about 50 percent). Therefore one might expect residual momentum to have a lower return, but a higher Sharpe ratio than total return momentum.

One of our key findings, however, is that ranking stocks on their residual return does not come at the expense of the profitability of the strategy. Both the return and the alpha of residual momentum are in fact higher than those of total return momentum. For example, Table 2 shows that, using one-month holding periods, the return of residual momentum is about one percent higher than that of total return momentum, while the alpha is even 2.9 percent higher. In order to understand this result, we first note that, compared to total return momentum, residual momentum has less weight in stocks with large exposures to common

factors, but more weight in stocks with high residual returns. Our results imply that the loss in profitability which results from the first effect is more than compensated for by a gain in profitability which is associated with the second effect. Hence, despite our finding that factor returns tend to persist to a certain degree, the dynamic factor exposures of total return momentum strategies are not only suboptimal from a risk point of view, but also from a return perspective.

Because a residual momentum strategy yields profits similar to a total return momentum strategy, but with a volatility that is roughly 45 percent lower, the Sharpe ratio of residual momentum is approximately double that of total return momentum. Therefore, when we use the Sharpe ratio as the criterion to evaluate the magnitude of anomalies, this implies that momentum, which is already one of the most significant anomalies in empirical finance, is twice as large an anomaly if stocks are ranked on their residual return instead of their total return.<sup>5</sup> Our empirical results are consistent with the body of literature that attempts to explain the momentum anomaly by behavioural biases of investors [see, e.g., Barberis, Schleifer and Vishny (1998), Daniel, Hirshleifer and Subrahmanyam (1998), and Hong and Stein (1999)]. In particular, our finding that the largest portion of the profits of total return momentum can be attributed to exposures to idiosyncratic factors is supportive of the gradual-formation-diffusion hypothesis of Hong and Stein (1999) that predicts that firm-specific information diffuses only gradually across the investment public.

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<sup>5</sup> Following the work of Jegadeesh and Titman (1993), momentum has been investigated by other authors in the United States before 1960s; in areas outside the United States; and subsequent to the period after the publication of their results [see, e.g., Rouwenhorst (1998, 1999), Jegadeesh and Titman (2001), Griffin, Ji and Martin (2003), and Schwert (2003)].

Another important implication of our findings is that residual momentum is a substantially longer-lived phenomenon than total return momentum. While the alpha of total return momentum decreases to an economically and statistically insignificant figure of 0.56 percent using a 12-month holding period, residual momentum still generates significant risk-adjusted returns of over four percent per annum at this horizon. This finding is inconsistent with the view that momentum profits can only be captured using a short holding period, but in line with the recent findings of Gutierrez and Pirinsky (2007), who focus on the long-term performance of residual versus total return momentum strategies in their study. They find that, whereas total return momentum profits revert at horizons beyond one year, residual momentum continues to generate positive returns.

#### *4.2 Performance differences over time*

Proceeding further, we investigate how the performance differential between the two momentum strategies evolves over time. Are there, for example, specific time periods in which reversals in factor returns hurt the performance of total return momentum because of its exposures to the Fama and French factors? To investigate this issue, we first examine the cumulative performances (Figure 1) and drawdowns (Figure 2) of total return momentum and residual momentum using one-month holding periods. The drawdown at any given moment is calculated by comparing the cumulative return at that point in time to the all-time high cumulative return which was achieved up to that point in time. By definition,

therefore, the drawdown is zero percent at best, in case the strategy is at an all-time high, and negative otherwise.

**[INSERT FIGURES 1 AND 2 ABOUT HERE]**

Figures 1 and 2 show that residual momentum generates more consistent returns than total return momentum. For example, in our sample period total return momentum suffers from a maximum drawdown magnitude of 85 percent negative during the early 1930s, from which it takes over 19 years to recover. Residual momentum also suffers its worst drawdown during this period, but with a magnitude and length less than half as severe as for total return momentum. The second worst drawdown for total return momentum and residual momentum occurs during the most recent decade. During the post-2000 period total return momentum suffers a drawdown exceeding 80 percent, while residual momentum limits the drawdown in this period to about 40 percent.

To investigate the impact of the large drawdowns on momentum profits over time we list the performances of total return momentum and residual momentum per decade in Table 3. For comparison, the table also shows the returns per decade on the market, size and value factors and the risk-free rate.

**[INSERT TABLE 3 ABOUT HERE]**

The results in Table 3 show that total return momentum does not earn a premium over the decades in which it suffers its two largest drawdowns; the 1930s and the post-2000 period. Moreover, the momentum premium during the 1970s is only marginally significant from a statistical point of view. Residual momentum, on the other hand, delivers annualized returns of at least four-and-a-

half percent per annum during each decade in our sample, and, except for the most recent decade, the residual momentum premium is statistically significant for all decades in our sample. Compared to the returns on the other factors in the Fama and French three-factor model, both momentum strategies have economically large and statistically significant premiums. For example, the premium on the market factor is only statistically significant during two out of eight decades; and the premium on the size and value factors is only statistically significant during one or two decades in our sample.

To better understand how the differences in exposures to the Fama and French factors between total return momentum and residual momentum cause the large return differences in the 1930s and the post-2000 period, we take a detailed look at the returns of both momentum strategies during the years 2009 and 1932, when the return differences between the momentum strategies are the largest. The returns over these years of the momentum strategies and the market are shown in Figure 3.

**[INSERT FIGURE 3 ABOUT HERE]**

In both years a strong market reversal occurred after a severe economic recession. For example, during the credit crisis in 2008 the return on the market factor was -39 percent. This negative return caused total return momentum to be tilted towards the low-beta segment of the market early 2009. When the market recovered in 2009 with returns of 9, 11, and 7 percent over the months March, April, and May, respectively, total return momentum's negative market beta caused a streak of large losses. Because residual momentum was less

negatively exposed to the market, the strategy was less negatively affected. While the *ex post* market beta over 2009 was -0.9 for total return momentum, this figure was -0.3 for residual momentum.<sup>6</sup> We see a very similar pattern in the year 1932. Following a market return of -49 percent in 1931, a recovery followed with large positive returns of 34 and 37 percent in July and August 1932, respectively. Again total return momentum was tilted towards the low-beta segment of the market at the end of 1931 and suffered large losses during the recovery with an *ex post* market beta of -1.1 over 1932. At -0.3, the market beta of residual momentum was again substantially lower, causing smaller losses. We conclude that although long-term average returns may be similar, the differences in exposures to the Fama and French factors between total return momentum and residual momentum may cause large return differences between the strategies in the short run.

#### *4.3 Business cycle effects*

Having established that the largest return differences between total return momentum and residual momentum occur when the factor returns in the investment period are opposite to those during the formation period, we continue our analysis with investigating the performance of total return momentum and residual momentum over the business cycle. Chordia and Shivakumar (2002) report that total return momentum performs poorly during contractions as defined by the NBER. Because of this characteristic, momentum returns are often associated with a priced risk factor. We argue that the poor performance of total

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<sup>6</sup> The reported market betas are estimated using the regression model in Equation (1).

return momentum during economic contractions can be attributed to the stylized fact that the largest market reversals tend to take place during recessionary periods. For example, over our sample period from January 1930 to December 2009, the average return on the market factor is -22.9 percent per annum in the early phase of economic recessions as defined by the NBER business cycle indicator, while its average return is 10.9 percent in the late phase.<sup>7</sup> As we have seen in our previous analysis, we expect total return momentum to tilt towards the low-beta segment of the market after early recessions, which causes large underperformance when the market recovers during the late recessionary phases. Because residual momentum exhibits significantly smaller exposures to the Fama and French factors, we expect the strategy to be less affected by business cycle effects. To investigate this issue, we evaluate the returns of total return and residual momentum strategies with one-month holding periods during NBER expansion or contraction phases.

**[INSERT TABLE 4 ABOUT HERE]**

The results in Table 4 indicate that total return momentum has a high average performance during expansionary periods, at 14.70 percent per annum. In contrast, the performance is -8.73 percent per annum during recessionary periods. We attribute this negative performance to the large market reversals that typically take place during economic contractions. Panel B of Table 4 which shows the results during the early and late stages of expansions and recessions confirms that the losses of total return momentum during recessions are indeed

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<sup>7</sup> We define the early and late phase of expansions and recessions by splitting the period exactly halfway.

concentrated in the second half of recessions, when the market tends to revert. When we consider the performance of residual momentum, shown in the final column of Table 4, we see that the performance of residual momentum is quite stable over the business cycle. During recessions it still averages returns above five-and-a-half percent per annum, and even during the second half of recessions it manages to avoid a negative return. By design residual momentum has less dynamic exposures to the factor returns and hence it is not susceptible to losses when factor returns revert. When we calculate market betas of both momentum strategies during late recessions, we find a beta of -0.74 for total return momentum and a beta of -0.24 for residual momentum. These results are consistent with our notion that total return momentum strategies tend to tilt towards the low-beta segment of the market during early recessionary periods and that this effect is less pronounced for residual momentum. Overall, our results indicate that residual momentum produces consistent alpha in all economic environments, which makes it more difficult to attribute this anomaly to a priced risk factor.

#### *4.4 Small-cap stock exposures, distress risk and trading costs*

Apart from the fact that total return momentum tends to be exposed to common factors with positive one-year returns, the strategy is also systematically concentrated in the small-cap segment of the market. Jegadeesh and Titman (1993), for example, show that the top and bottom deciles of stocks ranked on total return on average contain high-beta and small-cap stocks. In this subsection

we illustrate the corresponding characteristics of residual momentum. In Table 5 we therefore report the average pre- and post-ranking returns and volatilities, as well as the unconditional *ex post* exposures to the market, size and value factors, for each decile portfolio and for the D10-D1 hedge portfolio.

**[INSERT TABLE 5 ABOUT HERE]**

As expected, we observe that total return momentum has a higher dispersion in pre-ranking returns and volatility. Consistent with the findings of Jegadeesh and Titman (1993), we also find that the decile 1 and 10 portfolios have a higher market beta and a lower market cap than the other deciles. Moreover, it appears that the extreme portfolios exhibit increased levels of firm-specific risk. Campbell and Taksler (2003) show that these characteristics are positively related to bond yields. As such, our findings are consistent with the notion of Agarwal and Taffler (2008), and Avramov et al. (2007) that momentum trading strategies are concentrated in the highest credit-risk firms that are more likely to suffer financial distress.

The corresponding characteristics of decile portfolios of stocks sorted on their residual momentum appear to be quite different. We first note that *ex post* the average returns of the residual momentum deciles increase more monotonically than those of total return momentum, also resulting in the slightly higher spread of 11.20 percent between deciles 10 and 1, compared to 10.26 percent of total return momentum. Furthermore, residual momentum only has minor differences in market betas and size exposures across all deciles. Hence, residual momentum does not appear to be tilted towards a specific market

segment of the equity market such as small-cap stocks with elevated levels of firm-specific risk.

Another critical view on the momentum anomaly is that its profits are difficult to capture because the strategy is concentrated in stocks that involve high trading costs [see, e.g., Lesmond, Schill and Zhou (2004), and Korajczyk and Sadka (2006)]. Keim and Madhavan (1997) and De Groot, Huij, and Zhou (2011) report that market capitalization and stock volatility are important determinants in explaining stock trading costs. For example, Keim and Madhavan (1997) report that the trading costs of the bottom quintile of stocks ranked on market capitalization can be more than ten times larger than the costs of the top quintile of stocks. Because residual momentum is neutral to both factors, it follows that trading costs are likely to have a smaller impact on the profitability of residual momentum than total return momentum.

#### *4.5 Calendar month effects*

Finally, we investigate the performances of total return momentum and residual momentum per calendar month. Several authors document strong seasonal patterns in momentum returns. For example, Jegadeesh and Titman (1993; 2001) and Grinblatt and Moskowitz (2004) find a January effect for the total return momentum strategy. In particular, average returns in January are found to be negative. The cited reason is the tax-loss selling effect. Fund managers tend to sell small-cap loser stocks in December, resulting in downward price pressure in that month, which is followed by a correction in January. Because a total return

momentum strategy is typically short in small-cap loser stocks, this effect causes a large positive return for the strategy in December followed by a large negative return in January. We refer to Roll (1983), Griffiths and White (1993), and Ferris, D'Mello, and Hwang (2001) for a detailed documentation of this effect.

Because residual momentum is less concentrated in small-cap stocks compared to total return momentum, we expect the January effect to have a smaller impact on the strategy's performance. To investigate this issue in more detail, we examine the average monthly returns during each calendar month for the total return momentum versus the residual momentum strategies.

#### **[INSERT TABLE 6 ABOUT HERE]**

The results in Panel A of Table 6 confirm the strong negative performance of total return momentum in Januaries, with an average return of  $-2.60$  percent. Residual momentum, on the other hand, earns an average (non-significant) return of  $-0.32$  percent in Januaries, as shown in Panel B of Table 6.

Our results illustrate another notable seasonality in momentum returns. We observe that most of the profits of total return momentum are generated in a handful of months during the years. For example, the t-statistics of the strategy's returns exceed plus two only in three out of 12 months. By contrast, residual momentum returns have t-statistics larger than plus two in eight out of 12 months. We thus conclude that residual momentum is also more robust than total return momentum during the calendar year.

## **5. ROBUSTNESS CHECKS AND FOLLOW-UP EMPIRICAL TESTS**

In this final section we perform a range of tests to examine the robustness of our results to various choices we made with respect to the design of our research.

### *5.1 (J,K) momentum strategies*

To start with, we analyze the sensitivity of our results to our definition of momentum, which is based on a 12-month formation period excluding the most recent month. As mentioned before, we use this definition for our main analyses because this definition of momentum is currently most broadly used. Some researchers have used alternative momentum definitions though. To investigate if the improvement of residual momentum over total return momentum is also observed for alternative momentum definitions, we compare the risks and returns of both strategies for the broad  $(J,K)$  momentum definitions of Jegadeesh and Titman (1993). With these definitions, stock portfolios are formed based on  $J$ -month lagged returns and held for  $K$  months, where  $J = \{3,9,6,12\}$  and  $K = \{3,9,6,12\}$ . As in our previous analyses, we consider top-minus-bottom decile returns using overlapping portfolios. For each  $(J,K)$  combination we compare average returns, volatilities, and Sharpe ratios. If our residual momentum approach is indeed successful in removing momentum's time-varying exposures to the Fama and French factors, we should observe that the volatilities of the residual momentum strategies are consistently lower than those of the total return momentum strategies.

**[INSERT TABLE 7 ABOUT HERE]**

The results are reported in Table 7. The  $(J,K)$  momentum strategies exhibit performance patterns that are very similar to what has been documented in the literature. For short formation periods with  $J=3$ , we observe negative momentum profits because of the short-term reversal effect [see, e.g., Jegadeesh (1990) and Lehman (1990)]. In general returns for total return momentum are lower than in Panel A of Table 2, where the skip month avoids the negative returns in the first month after formation. The key take-away from Table 7 is that our residual momentum approach yields higher Sharpe ratios than total return momentum because of consistently lower volatility, independent of the parameters used to define a momentum strategy. Even with the parameter combination which results in the smallest improvement, residual momentum earns risk-adjusted profits that are three times as large as those associated with total return momentum: with  $J=6$  and  $K=9$  total return momentum earns a Sharpe ratio of 0.23, while residual momentum earns a Sharpe ratio of 0.62. The difference here is even larger than in Table 2 because residual momentum also has smaller losses in the skip month than total return momentum and hence higher average returns.

Another momentum definition that is sometimes used employs a six-month formation period where one month is skipped for the holding period [see, e.g. Grundy and Martin (2001), and Gutierrez and Pirinsky (2007)]. We also compare total return momentum to residual momentum using this definition. For total return momentum we find a return of 5.17 percent for the top-minus-bottom decile portfolio, a volatility of 23.22 percent, and a Sharpe ratio of 0.22. For residual momentum we find a return of 6.10 percent, a volatility of 12.02 percent,

and a Sharpe ratio of 0.51. These results corroborate our previous finding that residual momentum earn higher risk-adjusted profits than total return momentum because its volatility is roughly half. We conclude that our results are robust to our choice of momentum definition.

### *5.2 Using strictly large cap stocks*

Continuing our robustness checks, we address the concern that most of the performance differential between total return and residual momentum might come from the small-cap stocks in our sample. We therefore investigate if results remain similar when the universe of stocks is restricted to large-cap stocks only. In particular, we repeat the analysis on the 10 percent of stocks within our base-case sample with, at each point in time, the largest market capitalizations. The results are shown in Table 8.

### **[INSERT TABLE 8 ABOUT HERE]**

The results based on our sample of large-cap stocks are not materially different from our main results in Table 2. The most notable difference is that the portion of the variability in the returns of total return momentum that can be attributed to the Fama and French factors is somewhat lower. While the adjusted R-squared values of our regressions in Panel A of Table 2 vary between 34 and 48 percent, the corresponding figures in Table 8 vary between 31 and 33 percent. Also, the time-varying exposures of the total return momentum strategies to the SMB factor are smaller for our large-cap stock sample. In Panel A of Table 2 estimates range between -0.62 and -0.82 for SMB and between 0.58 and 1.01 for

SMB\_UP, whereas these figures range between -0.25 and -0.39, and 0.40 and 0.72, respectively, for our sample of large-caps in Table 8. These results are not surprising given the fact that our sample of large-cap stocks is, by definition, more homogeneous in terms of market capitalization. Nonetheless, the time-varying exposures to RMRF and HML remain substantial for total return momentum strategies. Hedging out these exposures using our residual momentum approach significantly improves the risk-adjusted performance of the strategies for all holding periods. For example, total return momentum for large cap stocks using one-month holding periods earns a Sharpe ratio of 0.36 compared to 0.60 for residual momentum. Hence our main conclusions remain nearly unchanged when we restrict our sample to a universe of large cap stocks.

### *5.3 Industry effects*

The next issue we investigate is related to the findings of several authors that the Fama and French factors do not fully suffice to describe the returns on industry portfolios [see, e.g., Fama and French (1997)]. While sorting stocks on their residual return relative to the Fama and French factors ensures that the momentum strategy is neutral to size and value effects, the strategy is not necessarily neutral to industries. In this subsection we investigate what portion of the risk of total return momentum can be attributed to industries and is not captured by the Fama and French factors.

Following Pastor and Stambaugh (2002a; 2002b), we employ a Principal Components Analysis (PCA) to construct statistical factors that capture industry-

specific effects on a rolling basis. At each point in time, we apply Equation (1) to each of the 30 industry portfolios of French (2008). Again we use a 36-month rolling regression window. Next, we conduct a PCA on the time-series of the residuals of each regression plus the intercept from that regression. We take the first five normalized eigenvectors as portfolios weights for the industries' residual returns and add the resulting principal component factors to the three-factor model, which results in the following eight-factor model:

$$(3) \quad r_{i,t} = \alpha_i + \beta_{1,i}RMRF_t + \beta_{2,i}SMB_t + \beta_{3,i}HML_t + \beta_{4,i}PC1_t + \beta_{5,i}PC2_t + \beta_{6,i}PC3_t + \beta_{7,i}PC4_t + \beta_{8,i}PC5_t + \varepsilon_{i,t}$$

where  $PC1_t$ ,  $PC2_t$ ,  $PC3_t$ ,  $PC4_t$  and  $PC5_t$  are the returns of the first, second, third, fourth and fifth principal component factors, respectively. Note that the use of principal components is motivated by the fact that we cannot simply add the returns of the 30 industry portfolios to Equation (2) as we would end up estimating for each stock 34 parameters from 36 observations.

We then allocate stocks to mutually exclusive decile portfolios based on 12-1M residual returns relative to the eight-factor model in Equation (3). As in our main analysis, we form the deciles using overlapping portfolios with one-, three-, six-, and 12-month holding periods. We then consider the post-formation returns over the period January 1930 to December 2007 for the long-short momentum portfolios. The results are in Table 9.

**[INSERT TABLE 9 ABOUT HERE]**

It appears that ranking stocks on their residual return relative to the Fama and French model augmented with our industry factors helps to further reduce the dynamic exposures momentum strategies. For both one-, three- and six-month holding periods the adjusted R-squared values of the regression model in Equation (2) is lower for momentum portfolios formed on residual returns that also incorporate industry effects (see Table 9), compared to the values for portfolios formed on residual returns relative to only the Fama and French factors (see Panel B of Table 2). As a result the risk of residual momentum based on Equation (3) is even lower than it was before. Hence the Sharpe ratios marginally increase after incorporating industry factors in estimating residual stock returns. In all other aspects the results are similar to those in panel B of Table 2. Hence we conclude that our results are robust to the inclusion of industry factors.

#### *5.4 Post-1960 period*

Since the results of several authoritative momentum studies are based on the post-1960 period [see, e.g., Jegadeesh and Titman (1993)], we additionally investigate if our main results are also observed over this period of our sample. To this end, we re-perform the analyses above using the post-formation returns of both momentum strategies over the period January 1960 to December 2009. The results over the post-1960 period are virtually identical to those based on our full sample and we therefore do not report the results in tabular form. The returns of the residual momentum strategies are slightly higher than those of the total return momentum strategies; the volatility of the residual momentum strategies

are roughly half those of the total return momentum strategies; and the Sharpe ratios of the residual momentum strategies are roughly double those of the total return momentum strategies. Also, when we consider the exposures of the momentum strategies to the Fama and French factors, we observe very similar results as in our earlier analyses. Total return momentum loads positively (negatively) on a factor when this factor had a positive (negative) return during the formation period of the momentum strategy. These exposures are substantially smaller for the residual momentum strategies. We conclude that our main findings are also observed over the post-1960 period.

#### *5.5 Excluding stocks with short return histories*

To be able to estimate the Fama and French three-factor model in Equation (1) we require stocks to have a complete return history over the 36-month rolling regression window. Consequently, a large number of stocks from the CRSP universe is excluded at each point in time. To alleviate concerns that the performance differential between total return momentum and residual momentum strategies might be attributed entirely or partly to excluding these stocks from the analysis, we additionally investigate the performance of a total return momentum strategy that also requires stocks to have a complete return history over the 36-month rolling regression window to be included in the portfolio. Comparing the results with those in Panel A of Table 2 we observe that the average returns, volatilities, and Sharpe ratios are very similar. The results are not reported in tabular form for the sake of brevity. We conclude that the return momentum

results are hardly affected by only investing in stocks with a complete 36-month return history at each point in time. Therefore, we can safely say that our results are unrelated to our requirement that stocks exist for at least three years to be included in our analyses.

#### *5.6 Alternative estimation windows*

Finally, we investigate if our results are sensitive to the length of the rolling window we use to estimate the betas to the market, size and value factors in Equation (1). To this end we consider the effect of using 60-month instead of 36-month rolling windows. All other settings are exactly the same as in our main analysis described in Section 3. The results are very similar to those presented in Table 2, and not reported in tabular form for the sake of brevity. We also repeated the analysis using 24-month rolling windows. Again, the results are very similar to those presented in Table 2. We conclude that our findings are robust to the choice of length of the rolling window.

## **6. SUMMARY AND CONCLUDING COMMENTS**

We present a momentum strategy based on residual stock returns that significantly improves upon conventional total return momentum strategies. Our approach begins with estimating residual returns for each stock relative to the Fama and French factors. We find that ranking stocks on their residual returns is a very effective approach to isolate the stock-specific component of momentum.

Our results show that residual momentum exhibits risk-adjusted profits that are about twice as large as those associated with total return momentum.

Moreover, residual momentum does not only improve upon total return momentum in terms of higher long-run average Sharpe ratios, but also in several other ways. First, while the profits of total return momentum strategies have been insignificant, in fact even negative over the most recent decade, residual momentum remained remarkably robust over this time period. Second, while total return momentum performs poorly during economic crises, residual momentum displays consistent performance across different economic environments. Third, unlike total return momentum, residual momentum is not systematically tilted towards small-caps stocks with increased levels of firm-specific risk, that typically involve higher trading costs. Fourth, unlike total return momentum, residual momentum is not systematically plagued by seasonal patterns such as the January effect.

Our results add new insights to the literature on the importance of common-factor and stock-specific components for the risks and profits of momentum strategies. We find that roughly 50 percent of the risks and only 25 percent of the profits of total return momentum can be attributed to exposures to the Fama and French factors. We conclude that the common-factor component of total return momentum positively contributes to the profitability of total return momentum. At the same time, a disproportional large portion of the risk of total return momentum can be attributed to the common-factor component.

Our empirical evidence also contributes to the body of literature that attempts to explain the momentum anomaly. Our results are not consistent with risk-based explanations, but are supportive of the hypothesis that behavioural biases of investors are driving the momentum effect. Barberis, Schleifer and Vishny (1998), Daniel, Hirshleifer and Subrahmanyam (1998), and Hong and Stein (1999) have developed behavioural models that attribute the momentum effect to investors under-reacting to new information and slow information diffusion by financial markets. Our finding that the largest portion of the profits of total return momentum can be attributed to exposures to idiosyncratic factors is consistent with the gradual-information-diffusion hypothesis of Hong and Stein (1999) which predicts that firm-specific information disseminates only gradually across the investment public. Along these lines, our results are also in line with the recent finding of Gutierrez and Pirinsky (2007) that investors' under-reaction is more strongly pronounced for firm-specific events than for common events.

Our finding that residual momentum delivers even higher risk-adjusted abnormal returns than total return momentum poses a serious challenge to the weak form of the Efficient Market Hypothesis and may enable momentum investors in practice to improve their risk-adjusted performance.

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**TABLE 1. Persistence in common factor returns.**

In Table 1 we show the results of tests for persistence in the returns of the Fama and French market (RMRF), size (SMB), and value (HML) factors over the period January 1930 to December 2009. We define a formation period and a holding period and calculate the probability that the sign of the returns over these periods is the same. We report results for 12-month formation periods excluding the most recent month and consider one-, three-, six-, and 12-month holding periods. In parentheses we report t-statistics resulting from differences-in-means tests which test if the reported frequencies are different from 50 percent.

	RMRF_TREND		SMB_TREND		HML_TREND	
1M	57%	(4.37)	56%	(3.44)	56%	(3.70)
3M	57%	(4.10)	54%	(2.59)	54%	(2.52)
6M	58%	(5.30)	58%	(4.90)	56%	(3.57)
12M	56%	(3.51)	61%	(7.01)	54%	(2.52)

**TABLE 2. Total momentum versus residual momentum.**

In Table 2 we show the returns, volatilities, Sharpe ratios, alphas, betas to the Fama and French market (RMRF), size (SMB) and value (HML) factors, and R-squared values of total return momentum and residual momentum strategies. We extract stock data from the CRSP database and consider all domestic, primary stocks listed on the New York (NYSE), American (AMEX), and Nasdaq stock markets in our study. Closed-end funds, Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), unit trusts, American Depository Receipts (ADRs), and foreign stocks are excluded from the analysis. Our sample period covers the period January 1926 to December 2009. We exclude stocks during the month(s) that their price is below \$1. The total return momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month return excluding the most recent month. The residual momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month residual returns excluding the most recent month, standardized by the standard deviation of the residual returns over the same period, as in Guitierrez and Pirinsky (2007). Residual returns are estimated each month for all stocks over the past 36 months using the regression model in Equation (1). Portfolios are formed using monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, and yearly holding periods with the overlapping portfolios approach of Jegadeesh and Titman (1993; 2001). The returns of the resulting momentum strategies cover the period January 1930 to December 2009. Alphas and betas are estimated using the regression model in Equation (2). All values are annualized. T-statistics are in parentheses. Panel A shows the results for total return momentum and Panel B shows the results for residual momentum.

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TABLE 2. Total return versus residual momentum (CONTINUED).

	RETURN	VOLATILITY	SHARPE	P(RETURN>0)	ALPHA	RMRF	SMB	HML	RMRF_UP	SMB_UP	HML_UP	ADJ.RSQ
<i>Panel A. Total return momentum</i>												
1M	10.26	22.70	0.45	63%	7.98 (4.27)	-0.34 (-8.13)	-0.82 (-9.14)	-1.24 (-19.74)	0.68 (11.30)	1.01 (9.54)	1.47 (16.72)	0.48
3M	8.65	20.83	0.42	62%	7.09 (3.96)	-0.24 (-6.10)	-0.81 (-9.34)	-1.12 (-18.67)	0.58 (10.08)	0.87 (8.60)	1.24 (14.66)	0.43
6M	6.28	18.80	0.33	61%	4.94 (2.97)	-0.16 (-4.33)	-0.74 (-9.19)	-1.01 (-18.05)	0.48 (9.09)	0.82 (8.67)	1.02 (12.95)	0.40
12M	0.61	15.81	0.04	56%	0.56 (0.38)	-0.02 (-0.73)	-0.62 (-8.82)	-0.86 (-17.58)	0.29 (6.14)	0.58 (7.07)	0.68 (9.82)	0.34
<i>Panel B. Residual momentum</i>												
1M	11.20	12.49	0.90	66%	10.85 (8.35)	-0.12 (-4.30)	-0.16 (-2.63)	-0.44 (-10.00)	0.19 (4.49)	0.23 (3.14)	0.51 (8.29)	0.17
3M	10.01	11.57	0.86	66%	9.84 (8.16)	-0.06 (-2.33)	-0.20 (-3.51)	-0.44 (-10.92)	0.14 (3.71)	0.20 (2.95)	0.49 (8.57)	0.16
6M	7.57	10.30	0.73	65%	7.77 (7.19)	-0.01 (-0.37)	-0.22 (-4.19)	-0.41 (-11.19)	0.07 (2.15)	0.16 (2.55)	0.41 (8.08)	0.15
12M	3.68	8.79	0.42	59%	4.13 (4.41)	0.06 (3.03)	-0.22 (-4.84)	-0.33 (-10.38)	-0.01 (-0.37)	0.12 (2.24)	0.28 (6.32)	0.13

**TABLE 3. Total return versus residual momentum per decade.**

In Table 3 we show the returns of total return momentum and residual momentum strategies per decade over our sample period. We extract stock data from the CRSP database and consider all domestic, primary stocks listed on the New York (NYSE), American (AMEX), and Nasdaq stock markets in our study. Closed-end funds, Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), unit trusts, American Depository Receipts (ADRs), and foreign stocks are excluded from the analysis. Our sample period covers the period January 1926 to December 2009. We exclude stocks during the month(s) that their price is below \$1. The total return momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month return excluding the most recent month. The residual momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month residual returns excluding the most recent month, standardized by the standard deviation of the residual returns over the same period, as in Guitierrez and Pirinsky (2007). Residual returns are estimated each month for all stocks over the past 36 months using the regression model in Equation (1). Portfolios are formed using monthly holding periods. The returns of the momentum strategies cover the period January 1930 to December 2009. For comparison, the returns of the Fama and French market (RMRF), size (SMB), value (HML) factors and the risk-free rate (RF) are also shown. All values are annualized. T-statistics are in parentheses.

	DESCRIPTION	RMRF	SMB	HML	RF	RETURN MOMENTUM	RESIDUAL MOMENTUM
1930s		5.41 (0.91)	11.08 (3.02)	1.15 (0.29)	0.55 (3.76)	-0.04 (-0.01)	13.04 (3.30)
	Great Depression						
1940s		10.02 (1.68)	4.26 (1.16)	9.60 (2.42)	0.41 (2.80)	13.82 (1.93)	11.12 (2.81)
	WWII						
1950s		15.61 (2.61)	-0.46 (-0.13)	3.48 (0.88)	1.86 (12.73)	15.09 (2.11)	10.97 (2.77)
	Postwar prosperity						
1960s		4.95 (0.83)	4.73 (1.29)	3.65 (0.92)	3.81 (26.11)	18.92 (2.64)	10.04 (2.54)
	"						
1970s		1.28 (0.21)	3.60 (0.98)	8.13 (2.05)	6.14 (42.07)	8.96 (1.25)	9.73 (2.46)
	Oil crisis and inflation						
1980s		8.11 (1.36)	0.15 (0.04)	5.97 (1.35)	8.55 (58.63)	14.97 (2.09)	13.45 (3.40)
	Deregulation and deindustrialization						
1990s		12.25 (2.05)	-1.04 (-0.28)	-1.18 (-0.30)	4.82 (33.04)	18.87 (2.64)	16.58 (4.19)
	"						
2000-present		-1.04 (-0.17)	5.67 (1.55)	8.63 (2.17)	2.72 (18.68)	-8.54 (-1.19)	4.65 (1.18)
	New Economy, IT Bubble and credit crisis						

**TABLE 4. Total return versus residual momentum over the NBER business cycle.**

In Table 4 we show the returns of total return momentum and residual momentum strategies during economic expansions and recessions, as defined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). We extract stock data from the CRSP database and consider all domestic, primary stocks listed on the New York (NYSE), American (AMEX), and Nasdaq stock markets in our study. Closed-end funds, Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), unit trusts, American Depository Receipts (ADRs), and foreign stocks are excluded from the analysis. Our sample period covers the period January 1926 to December 2009. We exclude stocks during the month(s) that their price is below \$1. The total return momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month return excluding the most recent month. The residual momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month residual returns excluding the most recent month, standardized by the standard deviation of the residual returns over the same period, as in Guitierrez and Pirinsky (2007). Residual returns are estimated each month for all stocks over the past 36 months using the regression model in Equation (1). Portfolios are formed using monthly holding periods. The returns of the momentum strategies cover the period January 1930 to December 2009. For comparison, the returns of the Fama and French market (RMRF), size (SMB), value (HML) factors and the risk-free rate (RF) are also shown. In Panel A we show returns during full expansions and recessions, and in Panel B we show returns during the early and late stages of expansions and recessions. We define the early and late phase of expansions and recessions by splitting each period exactly halfway. All values are annualized. T-statistics are in parentheses.

	<b>RMRF</b>	<b>SMB</b>	<b>HML</b>	<b>RF</b>	<b>RETURN MOMENTUM</b>	<b>RESIDUAL MOMENTUM</b>
<i>Panel A. Full expansions and recessions</i>						
EXPANSION	10.14 (4.34)	3.91 (2.71)	5.75 (3.69)	3.60 (32.54)	14.70 (8.07)	12.50 (8.07)
RECESSION	-6.02 (-1.25)	1.76 (0.59)	1.43 (0.44)	3.64 (15.90)	-8.73 (-1.51)	5.62 (1.75)
<i>Panel B. Early and late stage expansions and recessions</i>						
EARLY EXPANSION	12.47 (3.82)	5.14 (2.55)	5.88 (2.68)	3.05 (19.94)	12.46 (3.18)	11.73 (5.39)
LATE EXPANSION	7.75 (2.34)	2.64 (1.29)	5.61 (2.53)	4.16 (26.87)	16.99 (4.27)	13.30 (6.03)
EARLY RECESSION	-22.88 (-3.37)	-5.74 (-1.37)	4.39 (0.96)	4.24 (13.32)	6.44 (0.79)	10.00 (2.21)
LATE RECESSION	10.85 (1.60)	9.25 (2.20)	-1.52 (-0.33)	3.03 (9.52)	-23.91 (-2.93)	1.24 (0.27)

**TABLE 5. Characteristics of decile portfolios of stocks ranked on total return momentum and residual momentum.**

In Table 5 we show the pre- and post-ranking returns, volatilities, Sharpe ratios, alphas, betas to the Fama and French market (RMRF), size (SMB) and value (HML) factors, and R-squared values for decile portfolios of stocks ranked on their total return momentum and residual momentum. We extract stock data from the CRSP database and consider all domestic, primary stocks listed on the New York (NYSE), American (AMEX), and Nasdaq stock markets in our study. Closed-end funds, Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), unit trusts, American Depository Receipts (ADRs), and foreign stocks are excluded from the analysis. Our sample period covers the period January 1926 to December 2009. We exclude stocks during the month(s) that their price is below \$1. The total return momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month return excluding the most recent month. The residual momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month residual returns excluding the most recent month, standardized by the standard deviation of the residual returns over the same period, as in Guitierrez and Pirinsky (2007). Residual returns are estimated each month for all stocks over the past 36 months using the regression model in Equation (1). Portfolios are formed using monthly holding periods. The returns of the decile portfolios cover the period January 1930 to December 2009. Alphas and betas are estimated using the regression model in Equation (1). All values are annualized. T-statistics are in parentheses. Panel A shows the results for total return momentum and Panel B shows the results for residual momentum.

**TABLE 5. Characteristics of decile portfolios of stocks ranked on total return momentum and residual momentum  
(CONTINUED).**

	Pre-ranking		Post-ranking		SHARPE	ALPHA	ALPHA-T	RMRF	SMB	HML	ADJ.RSQ
	RETURN	VOLATILITY	RETURN	VOLATILITY							
<i>Panel A. Total return momentum</i>											
D1 (LOSERS)	-54.94	40.69	11.06	33.69	0.33	-3.14	-1.90	1.19	0.98	0.48	0.81
D2	-25.53	34.57	9.76	28.17	0.35	-2.60	-2.28	1.09	0.65	0.49	0.87
D3	-12.34	32.24	9.22	25.80	0.36	-2.14	-2.12	1.03	0.52	0.47	0.88
D4	-2.78	31.49	11.27	24.60	0.46	0.21	0.27	0.99	0.55	0.43	0.92
D5	6.72	31.41	11.31	23.70	0.48	0.61	0.95	0.98	0.51	0.40	0.94
D6	13.93	32.10	12.18	21.96	0.55	2.64	3.95	0.93	0.47	0.27	0.93
D7	23.35	33.83	13.24	22.42	0.59	3.48	5.37	0.94	0.52	0.26	0.93
D8	35.45	36.63	14.96	23.47	0.64	4.89	6.65	0.99	0.55	0.23	0.92
D9	50.03	42.20	17.37	24.10	0.72	7.57	8.43	0.96	0.74	0.09	0.89
D10 (WINNERS)	97.24	61.82	21.31	29.12	0.73	10.19	8.17	1.07	1.06	-0.04	0.86
D10-D1	-	-	10.26	22.68	0.45	13.33	5.48	-0.11	0.09	-0.52	0.10
<i>Panel B. Residual momentum</i>											
D1 (LOSERS)	-28.64	31.59	7.22	26.18	0.28	-4.11	-4.39	1.06	0.63	0.33	0.90
D2	-15.79	33.03	9.68	25.27	0.38	-1.45	-1.76	1.02	0.61	0.35	0.92
D3	-7.27	34.12	11.01	25.10	0.44	-0.21	-0.28	1.02	0.59	0.39	0.93
D4	-0.67	35.14	11.98	25.14	0.48	0.74	1.06	1.03	0.60	0.37	0.94
D5	6.84	36.04	13.44	24.52	0.55	2.48	3.74	1.01	0.58	0.36	0.94
D6	14.07	37.44	14.14	25.80	0.55	2.38	3.42	1.03	0.66	0.44	0.94
D7	23.34	38.81	14.82	24.35	0.61	3.94	6.20	1.00	0.60	0.34	0.95
D8	32.24	40.31	14.81	24.44	0.61	3.93	5.88	0.99	0.66	0.33	0.94
D9	43.51	41.21	16.93	24.74	0.68	5.97	8.93	1.03	0.60	0.32	0.94
D10 (WINNERS)	58.20	38.51	18.42	24.54	0.75	8.30	9.20	0.99	0.69	0.14	0.89
D10-D1	-	-	11.20	12.49	0.90	12.41	9.02	-0.07	0.06	-0.19	0.05

**TABLE 6. Total return momentum versus residual momentum per calendar month.**

In Table 6 we show the returns of total return momentum and residual momentum strategies per calendar month. We extract stock data from the CRSP database and consider all domestic, primary stocks listed on the New York (NYSE), American (AMEX), and Nasdaq stock markets in our study. Closed-end funds, Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), unit trusts, American Depositary Receipts (ADRs), and foreign stocks are excluded from the analysis. Our sample period covers the period January 1926 to December 2009. We exclude stocks during the month(s) that their price is below \$1. The total return momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month return excluding the most recent month. The residual momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month residual returns excluding the most recent month, standardized by the standard deviation of the residual returns over the same period, as in Guitierrez and Pirinsky (2007). Residual returns are estimated each month for all stocks over the past 36 months using the regression model in Equation (1). Portfolios are formed using monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, and yearly holding periods with the overlapping portfolios approach of Jegadeesh and Titman (1993; 2001). The returns of the resulting momentum strategies cover the period January 1930 to December 2009. T-statistics are in parentheses. Panel A shows the results for total return momentum and Panel B shows the results for residual momentum.

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TABLE 6. Total return momentum versus residual momentum per calendar month (CONTINUED).

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<i>Panel A. Return momentum</i>												
1M	-2.60 -(3.62)	1.46 (2.02)	1.18 (1.63)	1.42 (1.98)	1.32 (1.83)	1.37 (1.91)	-0.60 -(0.84)	0.00 (0.00)	0.79 (1.09)	0.95 (1.32)	1.54 (2.14)	3.45 (4.79)
3M	-3.13 -(4.79)	1.33 (2.03)	0.86 (1.32)	1.36 (2.07)	1.06 (1.62)	1.26 (1.92)	-0.64 -(0.97)	-0.02 -(0.03)	0.29 (0.44)	1.03 (1.58)	1.83 (2.79)	3.43 (5.25)
6M	-3.26 -(5.56)	0.97 (1.65)	0.41 (0.70)	1.35 (2.30)	0.83 (1.42)	1.03 (1.75)	-0.80 -(1.36)	-0.14 -(0.24)	0.36 (0.61)	0.77 (1.31)	1.66 (2.82)	3.11 (5.30)
12M	-3.81 -(7.81)	0.34 (0.70)	-0.22 -(0.46)	0.77 (1.58)	0.08 (0.17)	0.77 (1.59)	-0.92 -(1.88)	-0.36 -(0.74)	0.06 (0.12)	0.47 (0.95)	1.11 (2.28)	2.32 (4.74)
<i>Panel B. Residual momentum</i>												
1M	-0.32 -(0.81)	1.11 (2.76)	1.21 (3.02)	1.17 (2.91)	1.18 (2.95)	1.50 (3.74)	0.58 (1.44)	0.36 (0.91)	1.01 (2.51)	0.94 (2.34)	0.58 (1.45)	1.90 (4.73)
3M	-0.72 -(1.95)	1.16 (3.15)	0.97 (2.63)	1.27 (3.43)	0.86 (2.32)	1.34 (3.62)	0.56 (1.51)	0.31 (0.85)	0.74 (1.99)	0.91 (2.46)	0.81 (2.19)	1.80 (4.88)
6M	-1.00 -(3.06)	0.97 (2.97)	0.65 (1.98)	1.17 (3.59)	0.52 (1.58)	1.16 (3.56)	0.31 (0.95)	0.33 (1.00)	0.49 (1.48)	0.73 (2.24)	0.71 (2.17)	1.53 (4.68)
12M	-1.32 -(4.75)	0.53 (1.89)	0.29 (1.04)	0.77 (2.76)	0.09 (0.34)	0.84 (3.03)	0.15 (0.55)	0.15 (0.53)	0.12 (0.44)	0.48 (1.74)	0.55 (1.98)	1.02 (3.68)

**TABLE 7. Total return momentum versus residual momentum for the broad ( $J, K$ ) momentum definitions**

In Table 7 we show the returns, volatilities, and Sharpe ratios for the broad ( $J, K$ ) momentum strategies of Jegadeesh and Titman (1993), where  $J = \{3, 6, 9, 12\}$  and  $K = \{3, 6, 9, 12\}$ . We extract stock data from the CRSP database and consider all domestic, primary stocks listed on the New York (NYSE), American (AMEX), and Nasdaq stock markets in our study. Closed-end funds, Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), unit trusts, American Depository Receipts (ADRs), and foreign stocks are excluded from the analysis. Our sample period covers the period January 1926 to December 2009. We exclude stocks during the month(s) that their price is below \$1. The total return momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past  $J$ -month return. The residual momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past  $J$ -month residual return, standardized by the standard deviation of the residual returns over the same period, as in Guitierrez and Pirinsky (2007). Residual returns are estimated each month for all stocks over the past 36 months using the regression model in Equation (1). Portfolios are formed using  $K$ -month holding periods with the overlapping portfolios approach of Jegadeesh and Titman (1993; 2001). The returns of the resulting momentum strategies cover the period January 1930 to December 2009. All values are annualized. T-statistics are in parentheses. The left panel shows the results for total return momentum and the right panel shows the results for residual momentum.

		TOTAL RETURN MOMENTUM				RESIDUAL MOMENTUM			
		J = 3	J = 6	J = 9	J = 12	J = 3	J = 6	J = 9	J = 12
K = 3	RETURN	-4.69	-0.30	2.45	4.58	-2.70	2.82	5.13	7.59
	VOLATILITY	18.87	22.71	22.72	22.31	9.52	11.60	12.24	11.51
	SHARPE	-0.25	-0.01	0.11	0.21	-0.28	0.24	0.42	0.66
K = 6	RETURN	-0.16	2.97	5.18	4.33	1.21	5.08	7.10	6.71
	VOLATILITY	16.23	20.00	20.19	20.06	7.91	10.43	10.61	10.65
	SHARPE	-0.01	0.15	0.26	0.22	0.15	0.49	0.67	0.63
K = 9	RETURN	0.92	3.97	4.01	2.50	2.12	5.61	5.93	5.13
	VOLATILITY	13.93	17.25	18.00	18.25	6.73	8.98	9.59	9.93
	SHARPE	0.07	0.23	0.22	0.14	0.32	0.62	0.62	0.52
K = 12	RETURN	1.87	2.73	2.08	0.16	2.73	4.41	4.35	3.76
	VOLATILITY	11.82	14.94	15.96	16.89	5.83	8.18	8.82	9.23
	SHARPE	0.16	0.18	0.13	0.01	0.47	0.54	0.49	0.41

**TABLE 8. Total return momentum versus residual momentum for large cap stocks.**

In Table 8 we show the returns, volatilities, Sharpe ratios, alphas, betas, to the Fama and French market (RMRF), size (SMB) and value (HML) factors, and R-squared values for total return momentum and residual momentum strategies using strictly large-cap stocks. We extract stock data from the CRSP database and consider all domestic, primary stocks listed on the New York (NYSE), American (AMEX), and Nasdaq stock markets in our study. Closed-end funds, Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), unit trusts, American Depository Receipts (ADRs), and foreign stocks are excluded from the analysis. Our sample period covers the period January 1926 to December 2009. We exclude stocks during the month(s) that their price is below \$1. From the resulting sample of stocks we select the 10% largest stocks in terms of market capitalization at each point in time. The total return momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month return excluding the most recent month. The residual momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month residual returns excluding the most recent month, standardized by the standard deviation of the residual returns over the same period. Residual returns are estimated each month for all stocks over the past 36 months using the regression model in Equation (1). Portfolios are formed using monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, and yearly holding periods with the overlapping portfolios approach of Jegadeesh and Titman (1993). The returns of the resulting momentum strategies cover the period January 1930 to December 2009. All values are annualized. T-statistics are in parentheses. Panel A shows the results for total return momentum and Panel B shows the results for residual momentum.

TABLE 8. Total return momentum versus residual momentum for large cap stocks (CONTINUED).

	RETURN	VOLATILITY	SHARPE	P(RETURN>0)	ALPHA	RMRF	SMB	HML	RMRF_UP	SMB_UP	HML_UP	ADJ.RSQ
<i>Panel A. Total return momentum</i>												
1M	8.87	24.55	0.36	58%	6.30 (2.75)	-0.26 (-5.19)	-0.39 (-3.56)	-1.15 (-14.93)	0.62 (8.43)	0.72 (5.54)	1.31 (12.08)	0.33
3M	7.89	22.30	0.35	58%	5.69 (2.70)	-0.14 (-3.00)	-0.38 (-3.71)	-1.09 (-15.43)	0.53 (7.91)	0.59 (4.96)	1.16 (11.64)	0.31
6M	6.32	21.19	0.30	57%	4.61 (2.30)	-0.07 (-1.51)	-0.35 (-3.67)	-1.10 (-16.40)	0.42 (6.59)	0.58 (5.14)	1.06 (11.24)	0.31
12M	2.34	17.69	0.13	53%	1.93 (1.15)	0.02 (0.64)	-0.25 (-3.13)	-0.97 (-17.22)	0.28 (5.23)	0.40 (4.26)	0.69 (8.77)	0.31
<i>Panel B. Residual momentum</i>												
1M	9.18	15.27	0.60	58%	8.92 (5.32)	-0.14 (-3.90)	-0.08 (-1.00)	-0.25 (-4.49)	0.25 (4.67)	-0.03 (-0.35)	0.40 (5.09)	0.07
3M	8.58	14.02	0.61	59%	8.50 (5.60)	-0.11 (-3.40)	-0.10 (-1.36)	-0.30 (-5.81)	0.25 (5.20)	-0.06 (-0.74)	0.40 (5.57)	0.09
6M	6.97	13.19	0.53	58%	7.39 (5.23)	-0.09 (-2.83)	-0.16 (-2.41)	-0.35 (-7.46)	0.19 (4.21)	-0.02 (-0.21)	0.40 (5.98)	0.11
12M	3.86	11.06	0.35	54%	4.37 (3.62)	-0.03 (-1.18)	-0.13 (-2.16)	-0.29 (-7.08)	0.11 (2.73)	0.00 (0.02)	0.26 (4.48)	0.08

**TABLE 9. Incorporating industry effects.**

In Table 9 we show the returns, volatilities, Sharpe ratios, alphas, betas to the Fama and French market (RMRF), size (SMB) and value (HML) factors augmented with industry factors, and R-squared values for residual momentum strategies. We extract stock data from the CRSP database and consider all domestic, primary stocks listed on the New York (NYSE), American (AMEX), and Nasdaq stock markets in our study. Closed-end funds, Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), unit trusts, American Depository Receipts (ADRs), and foreign stocks are excluded from the analysis. Our sample period covers the period January 1926 to December 2009. We exclude stocks during the month(s) that their price is below \$1. The residual momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month residual returns excluding the most recent month, standardized by the standard deviation of the residual returns over the same period, as in Guitierrez and Pirinsky (2007). Residual returns are estimated each month for all stocks over the past 36 months using the regression model in Equation (3). The main difference with the analysis reported in Table 2 is that residual returns are estimated relative to a factor model that augments the three Fama and French factors with industry factors. Portfolios are formed using monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, and yearly holding periods with the overlapping portfolios approach of Jegadeesh and Titman (1993; 2001). The returns of the resulting momentum strategies cover the period January 1930 to December 2009. All values are annualized. T-statistics are in parentheses.

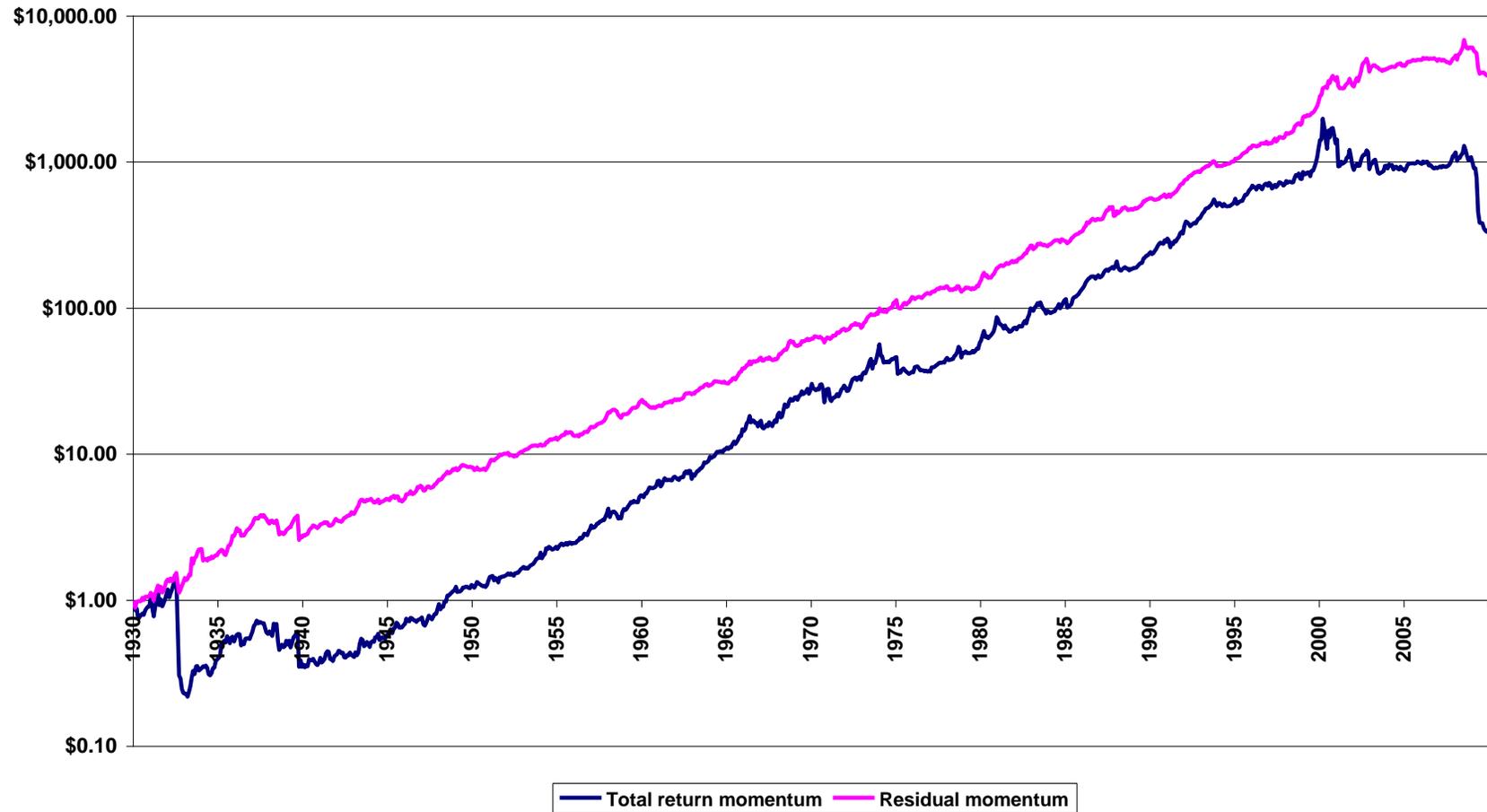
	RETURN	VOLATILITY	SHARPE	P(RETURN>0)	ALPHA	RMRF	SMB	HML	RMRF_UP	SMB_UP	HML_UP	ADJ.RSQ
1M	10.42	11.00	0.95	67%	10.06 (8.41)	-0.02 (-0.65)	-0.17 (-3.03)	-0.33 (-8.09)	0.02 (0.53)	0.26 (3.79)	0.40 (7.16)	0.09
3M	9.27	10.21	0.91	67%	9.35 (8.44)	0.01 (0.36)	-0.19 (-3.51)	-0.34 (-9.05)	0.01 (0.21)	0.19 (2.95)	0.36 (6.96)	0.09
6M	7.52	9.12	0.82	65%	7.57 (7.57)	0.04 (1.64)	-0.19 (-4.01)	-0.27 (-7.95)	-0.01 (-0.43)	0.17 (3.04)	0.28 (5.93)	0.07
12M	4.32	7.85	0.55	61%	4.47 (5.18)	0.08 (4.43)	-0.20 (-4.75)	-0.21 (-7.34)	-0.05 (-1.88)	0.13 (2.72)	0.20 (4.86)	0.07

**FIGURE 1. Total return momentum versus residual momentum over time.**

Figure 1 shows the cumulative return of total return momentum and residual momentum strategies over time. We extract stock data from the CRSP database and consider all domestic, primary stocks listed on the New York (NYSE), American (AMEX), and Nasdaq stock markets in our study. Closed-end funds, Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), unit trusts, American Depository Receipts (ADRs), and foreign stocks are excluded from the analysis. Our sample period covers the period January 1926 to December 2009. We exclude stocks during the month(s) that their price is below \$1. The total return momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month return excluding the most recent month. The residual momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month residual returns excluding the most recent month, standardized by the standard deviation of the residual returns over the same period, as in Guitierrez and Pirinsky (2007). Residual returns are estimated each month for all stocks over the past 36 months using the regression model in Equation (1). Portfolios are formed using monthly holding periods. The returns of the decile portfolios cover the period January 1930 to December 2009.

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FIGURE 1. Total return momentum versus residual momentum over time (CONTINUED).

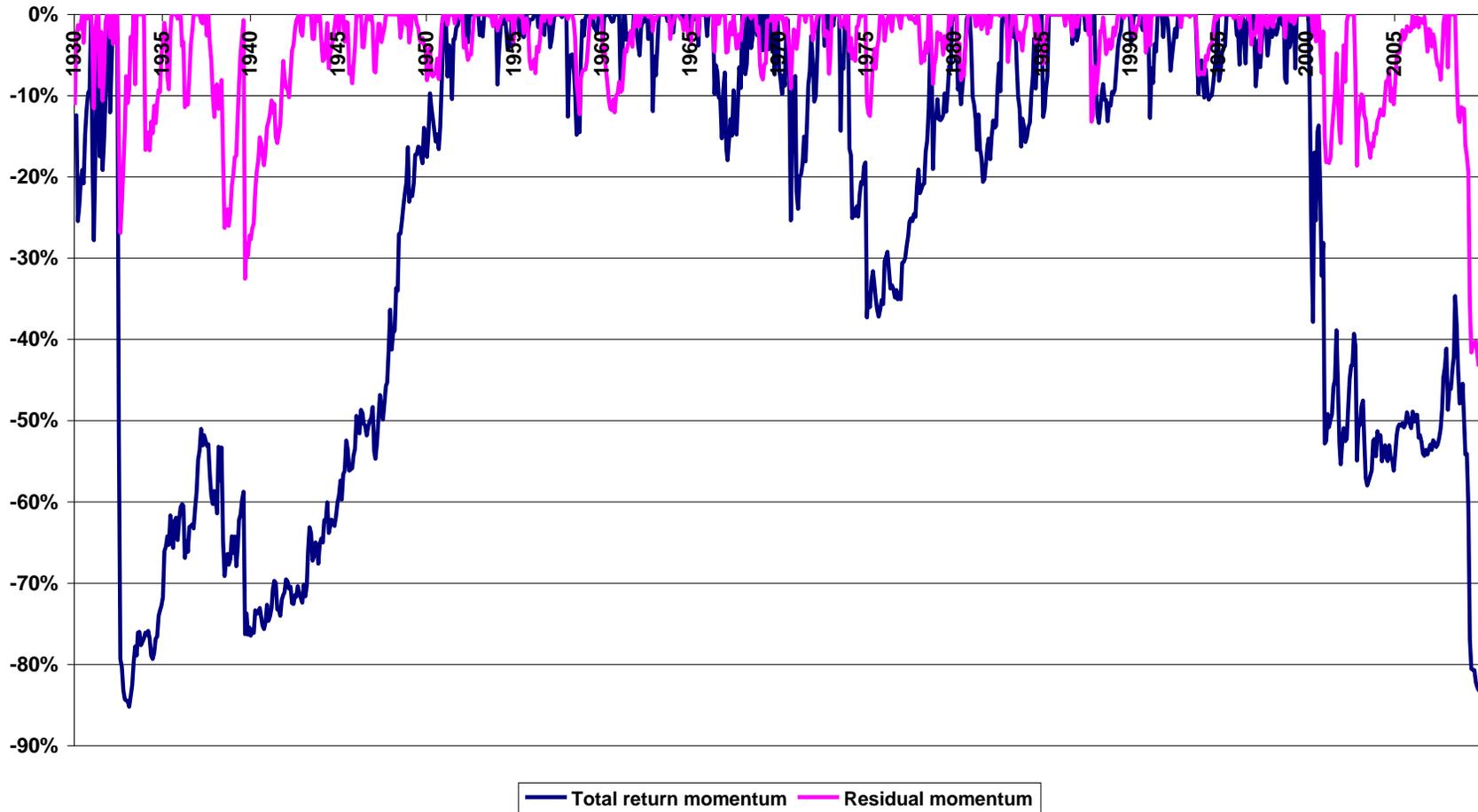


**FIGURE 2. Drawdown of total return momentum versus residual momentum.**

Figure 1 shows the drawdown of total return momentum and residual momentum strategies over time, where we define the drawdown at time  $t$  as the ratio between the cumulative return of the strategy at time  $t$  to the all-time high cumulative return of the strategy up to time  $t$ , minus 1. We extract stock data from the CRSP database and consider all domestic, primary stocks listed on the New York (NYSE), American (AMEX), and Nasdaq stock markets in our study. Closed-end funds, Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), unit trusts, American Depository Receipts (ADRs), and foreign stocks are excluded from the analysis. Our sample period covers the period January 1926 to December 2009. We exclude stocks during the month(s) that their price is below \$1. The total return momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month return excluding the most recent month. The residual momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month residual returns excluding the most recent month, standardized by the standard deviation of the residual returns over the same period, as in Guitierrez and Pirinsky (2007). Residual returns are estimated each month for all stocks over the past 36 months using the regression model in Equation (1). Portfolios are formed using monthly holding periods. The returns of the decile portfolios cover the period January 1930 to December 2009.

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FIGURE 2. Drawdown of total return momentum versus residual momentum (CONTINUED).



**FIGURE 3. Monthly performance of total return momentum and residual momentum in 1932 and 2009.**

Figure 3 shows the returns of total return momentum and residual momentum over the years 2009 and 1932 per month together with the return on the Fama and French market factor RMRF. We extract stock data from the CRSP database and consider all domestic, primary stocks listed on the New York (NYSE), American (AMEX), and Nasdaq stock markets in our study. Closed-end funds, Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), unit trusts, American Depository Receipts (ADRs), and foreign stocks are excluded from the analysis. Our sample period covers the period January 1926 to December 2009. We exclude stocks during the month(s) that their price is below \$1. The total return momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month return excluding the most recent month. The residual momentum strategy is defined as a zero-investment top-minus-bottom decile portfolio based on ranking stocks every month on their past 12-month residual returns excluding the most recent month, standardized by the standard deviation of the residual returns over the same period, as in Guitierrez and Pirinsky (2007). Residual returns are estimated each month for all stocks over the past 36 months using the regression model in Equation (1). Portfolios are formed using monthly holding periods. The returns of the decile portfolios cover the period January 1930 to December 2009.

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**FIGURE 3. Monthly performance of total return momentum and residual momentum in 1932 and 2009 (CONTINUED).**

