



HARNESS VOLATILITY /

# **In case of fire, use volatility**

**Protecting the value of your equity allocations**

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**/01**

What is  
Intech?

**/02**

The importance  
of avoiding  
losses

**/03**

How to do it



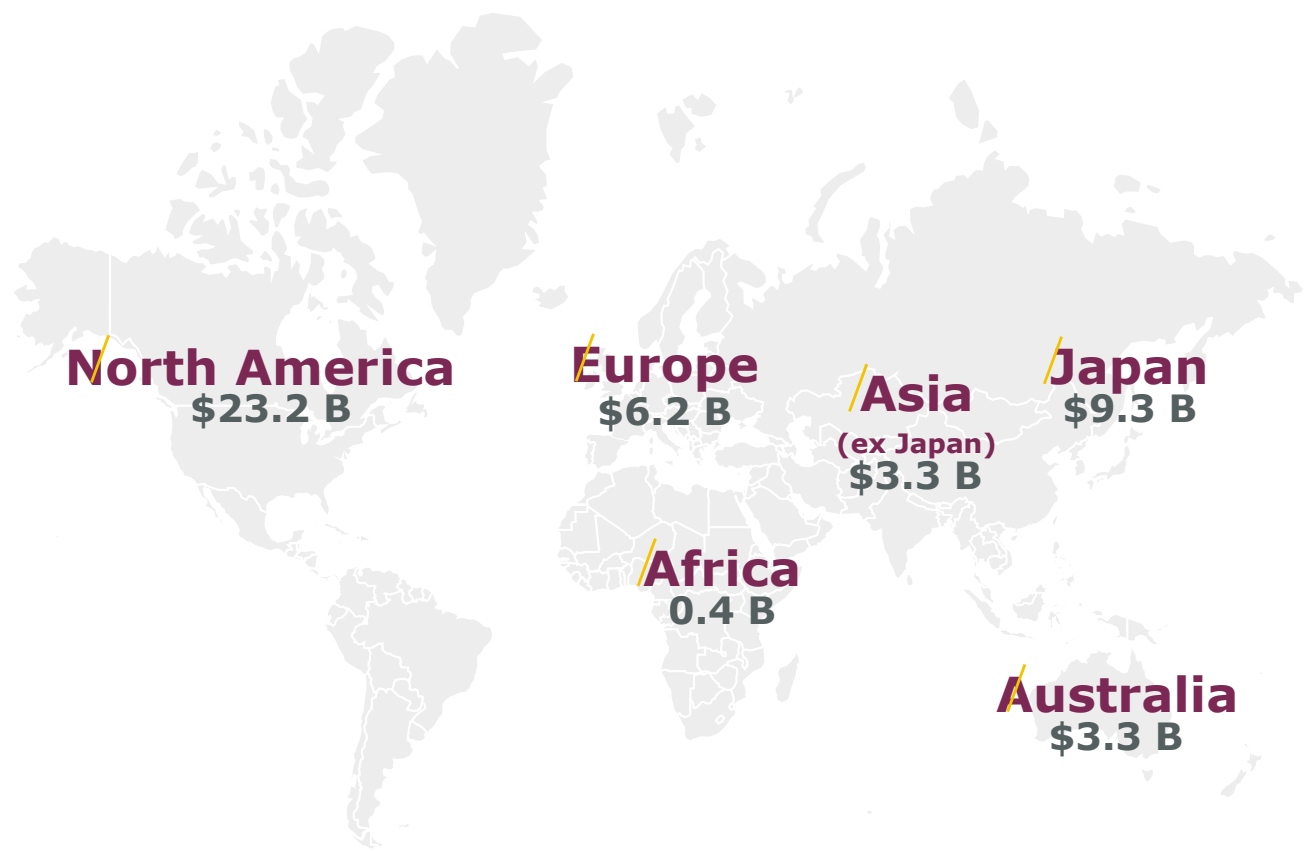
# What is Intech?



# / A leader in quantitative equity investing

As of September 2019

## Asset distribution by client domicile



## Intech® by the numbers

**30+**  
Year investing  
heritage

**10+**  
Year average  
account tenure

**\$46**  
Billion in assets  
under  
management

**#6**  
Largest global  
equity quantitative  
manager

**188**  
Institutional clients  
in five continents

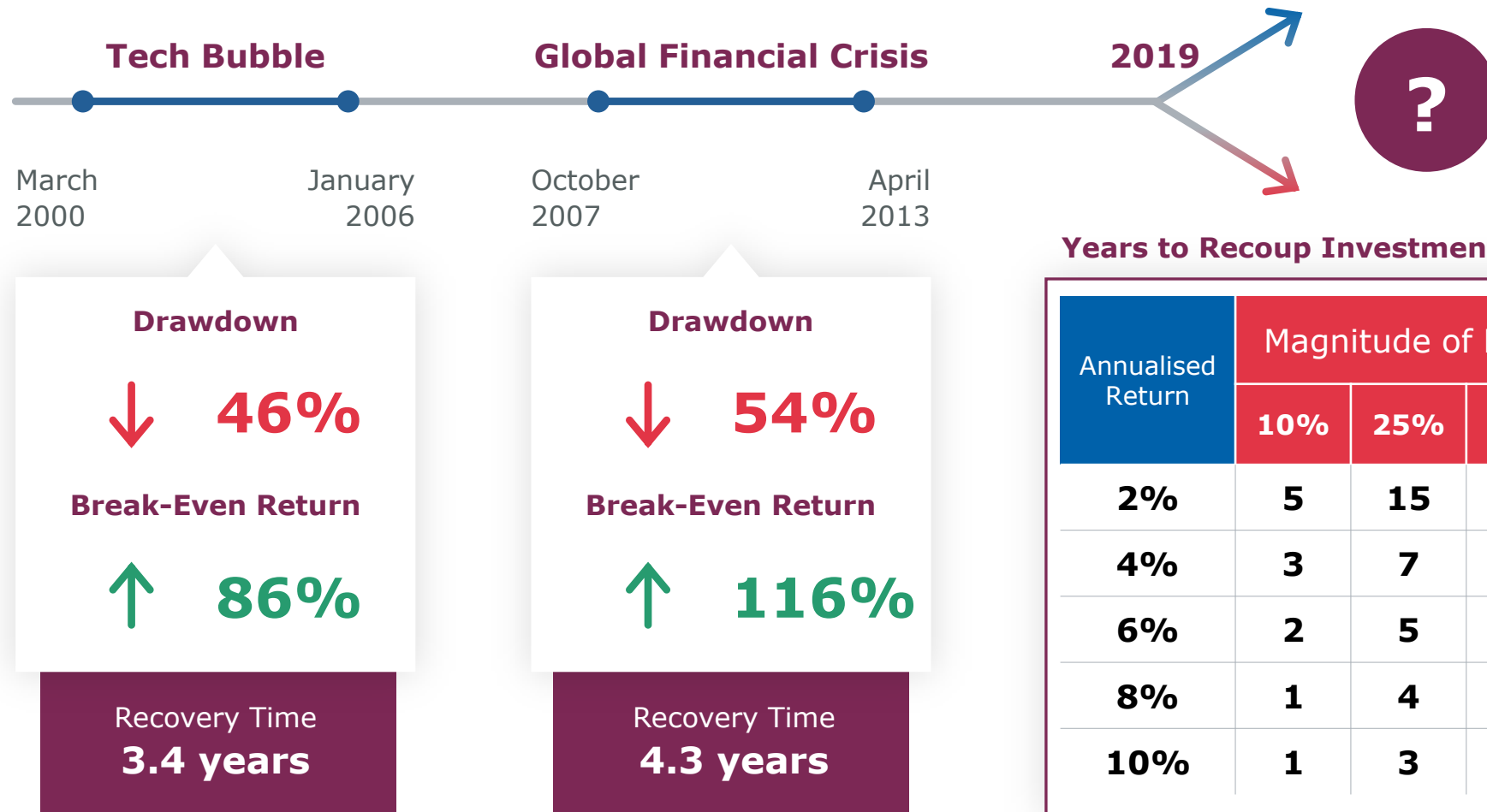
**#5**  
Largest US Equity  
quantitative  
manager



# **The importance of avoiding losses**

02

# Portfolio volatility: the importance of limiting losses



Years to Recoup Investment Losses

Annualised Return	Magnitude of Loss		
	10%	25%	50%
2%	5	15	35
4%	3	7	18
6%	2	5	12
8%	1	4	9
10%	1	3	7



As an investment decreases in value, the gain needed to get back to even increases substantially.



Severe market drawdowns are difficult to predict and may require years to recover from.



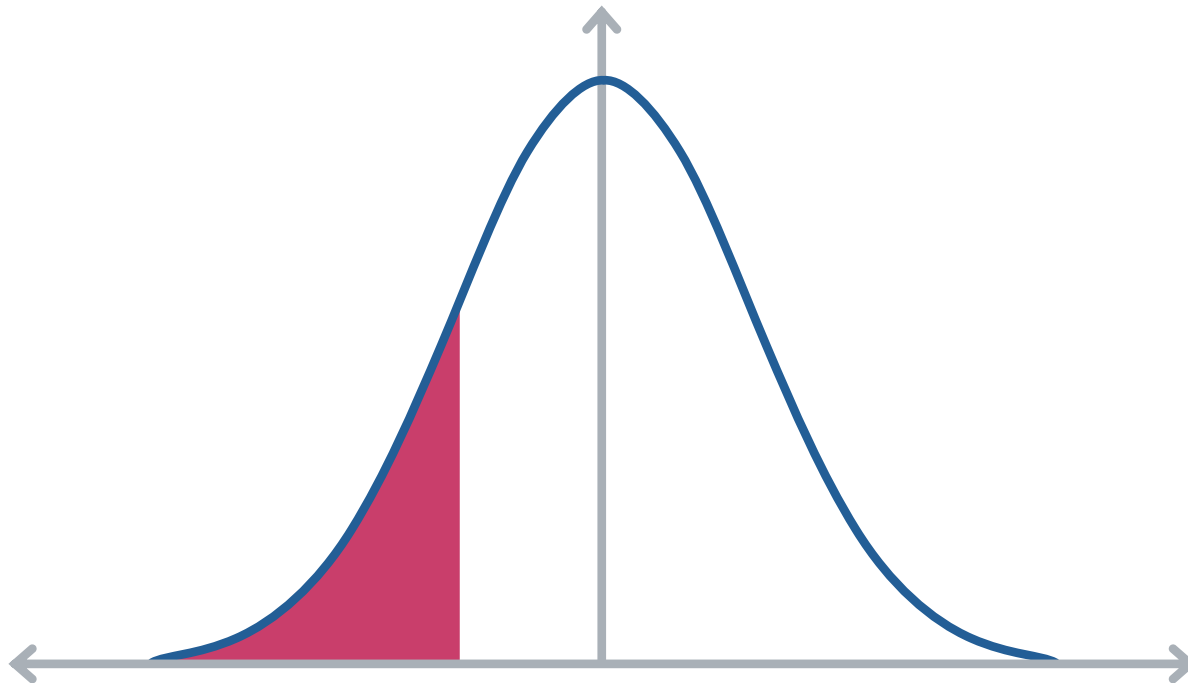
## Portfolio volatility: why do we care about drawdowns?



Large equity drawdowns are NOT infrequent.



Avoiding the drawdown of the left-hand tail has the potential to increase long-term performance



### MSCI World Index

Year	Maximum Drawdown	Return Needed to Break-Even
2001	-31.3%	45.6%
2002	-31.4%	45.8%
2003	-14.3%	16.7%
2004	-7.7%	8.3%
2005	-6.1%	6.5%
2006	-11.3%	12.7%
2007	-10.9%	12.2%
2008	-52.3%	109.6%
2009	-27.7%	38.3%
2010	-16.6%	19.9%
2011	-22.8%	29.5%
2012	-12.5%	14.3%
2013	-7.8%	8.5%
2014	-9.3%	10.3%
2015	-14.1%	16.4%
2016	-11.7%	13.3%
2017	-2.0%	2.0%
2018	-17.9%	21.8%

Drawdown reflects MSCI World Index daily returns within each calendar year shown. Does not represent the returns of any particular investment. Data reflects past performance and is no guarantee of future results.





**/ How to do it**

03

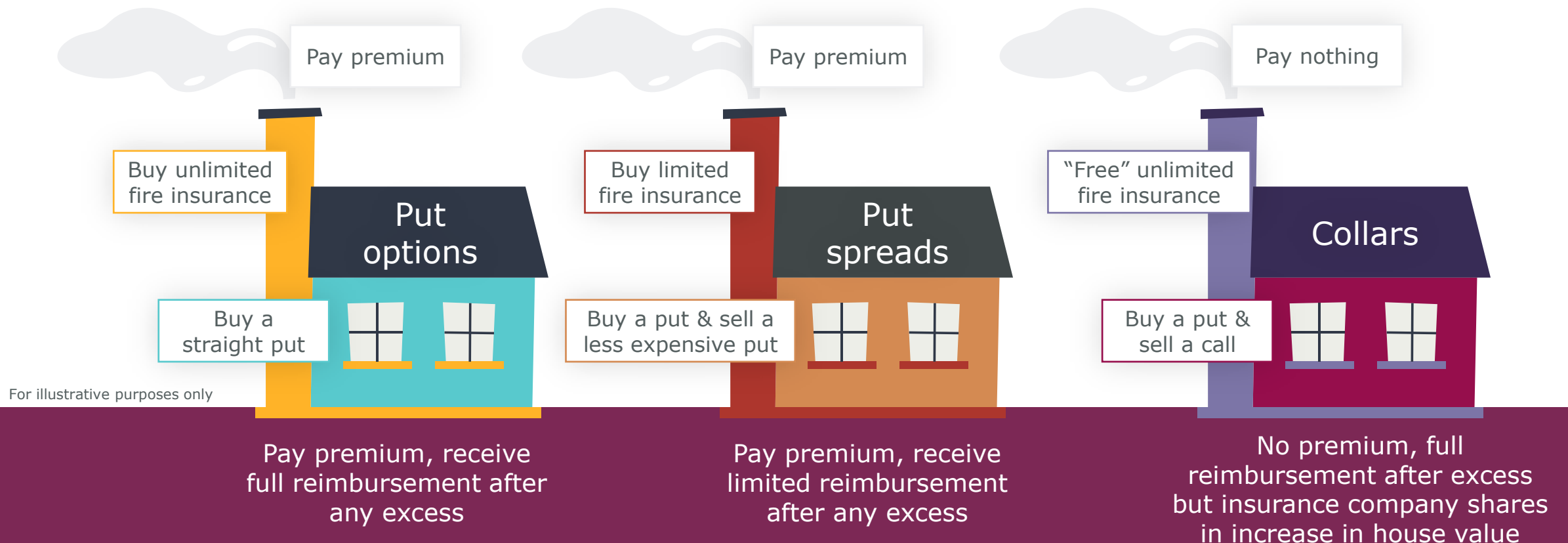
# / Using derivatives for protection is like buying fire insurance for your home

## Pros

Seeking to lock in your gains:  
Equity market uncertainty  
Restricted choices on alternative allocations  
Manage exposure towards an approaching valuation date or other risk events

## Cons

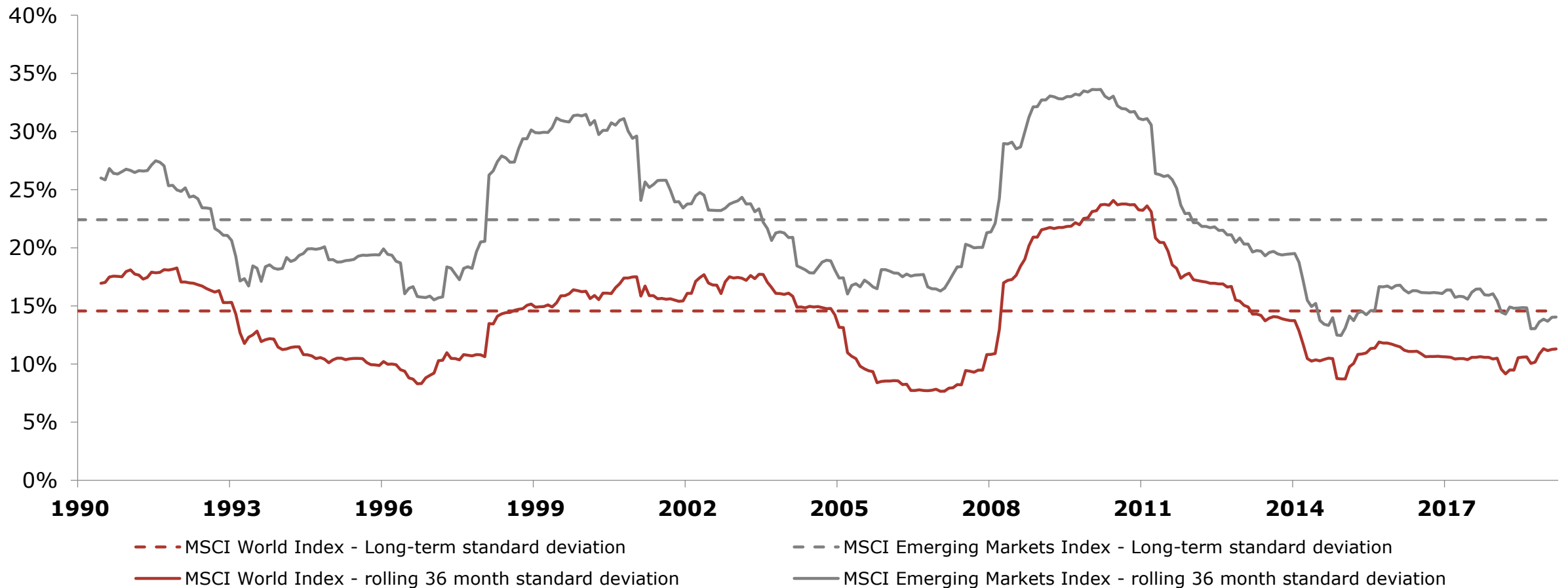
Guarantees are never free  
Rolling a protection strategy requires repeated payment to maintain derivative exposure  
Precision and complexity are expensive



# But volatility is volatile!

1 January 1988 – 31 March 2019

## Rolling 36-month standard deviation vs. long-term standard deviation

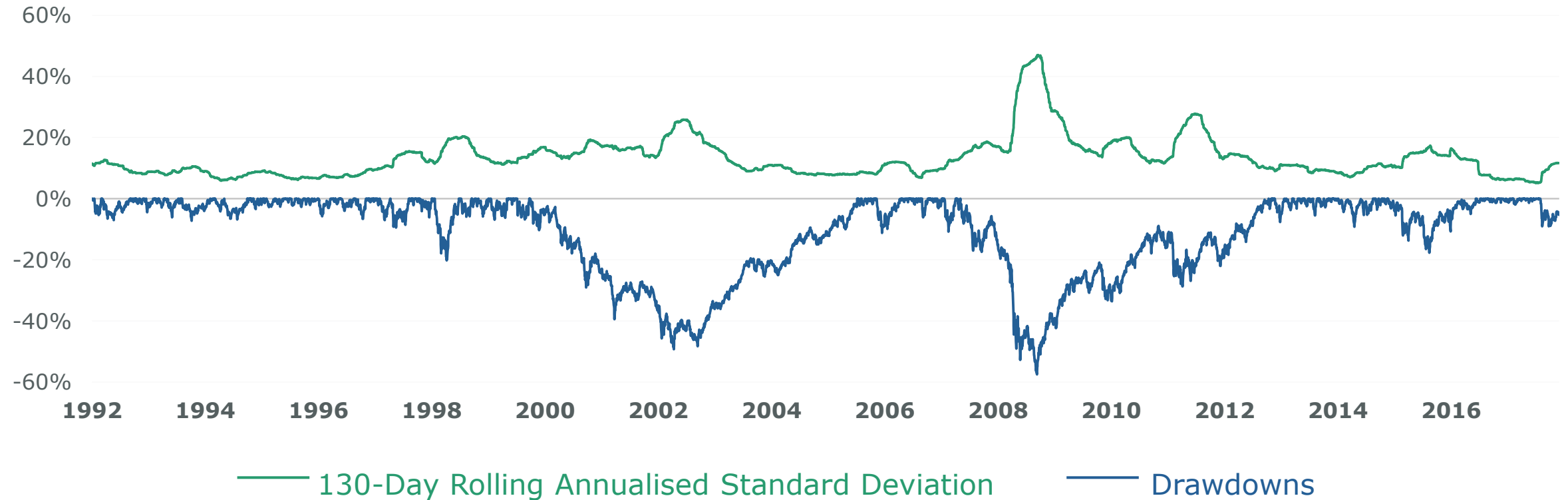


## How does **volatility** correspond to market **drawdowns**?

MSCI World Index

1 July 1992 – 30 June 2018

### Volatility and drawdowns



Indexes are unmanaged and investors cannot invest directly in an index. Results reflect daily data.

Volatility spikes coincide with drawdowns and recoveries.

## / Experiment 1: using volatility to protect on the downside



### Experiment 1: A simple, rules-based, adaptive strategy

**01**

If volatility  $\leq$  **13.5%**,  
hold the index  
portfolio.

**02**

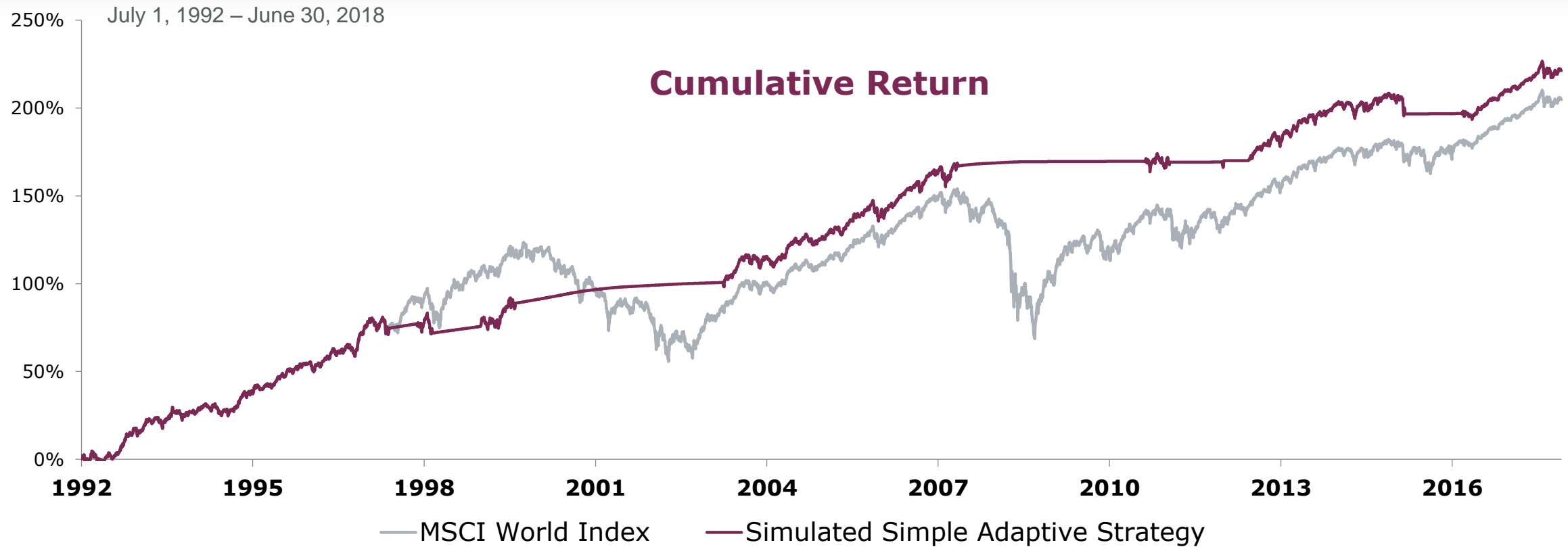
If volatility  $>$  **13.5%**,  
sell and switch  
to T-Bills.

**03**

When volatility  $<$  **13%**  
again, switch back to  
the index.

This strategy misses most of the drawdowns and the recoveries...

## Experiment 1: results



Hypothetical illustration. Does not represent the returns of any particular investment. Indexes are unmanaged and investors cannot invest directly in an index. Results reflect daily data. See Simulations Disclaimer at the end of this presentation for additional information.

...but it outperforms the index with about half the volatility.





**/ Is there a better way?**

03



## / How to adapt *efficiently* to the volatility climate?

### Challenge:

Moving **too slowly** can create substantial active risk that may be unacceptable for most investors.

Moving **too quickly** is not a practical solution when trading costs are considered.

Reliable estimates of volatility may allow for an efficient adaptation.

### Example:

Long-only strategy that dynamically balances return potential and volatility reduction.

The goal is to measure volatility, not predict it.

## Experiment 2: beta and volatility

A hypothetical fully-invested variable-beta strategy that adapts to risk regimes

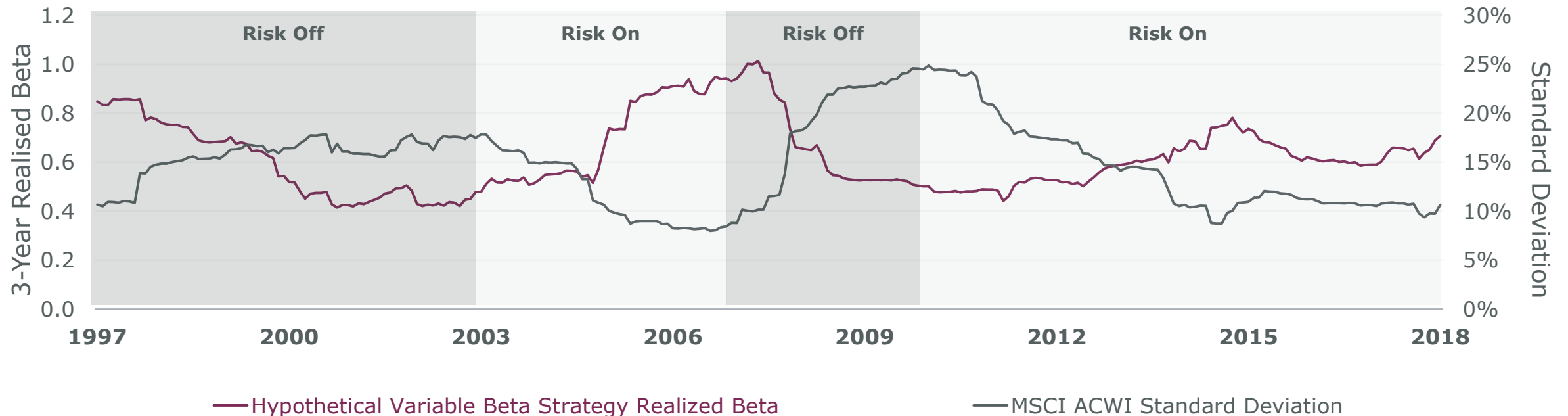
**Objective:** outperform the equity market with less volatility

Hybrid of active core and low volatility equity strategies

Seeks to reduce volatility, especially downside risk

Alpha-engine designed to outperform benchmarks

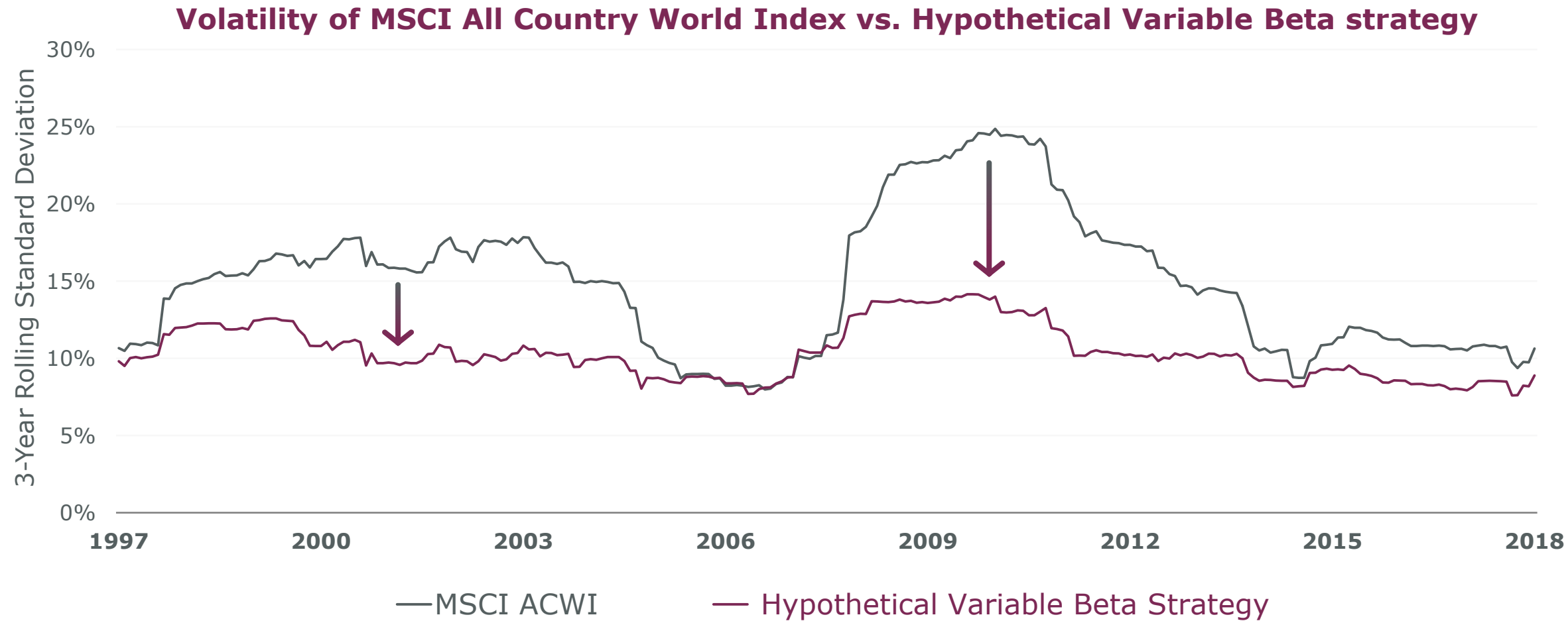
**Beta adapts to increase and decrease systematic risk exposure**



Rolling 3-year beta for a hypothetical global equity variable beta portfolio vs. a rolling 3-year standard deviation for MSCI All Country World Index.  
Does not represent the performance of any particular investment.

# Volatility reduction in high risk regimes tempers volatility profile

Rolling 3-year simulated standard deviation vs. MSCI All Country World Index  
1 January 1995 – 31 December 2018

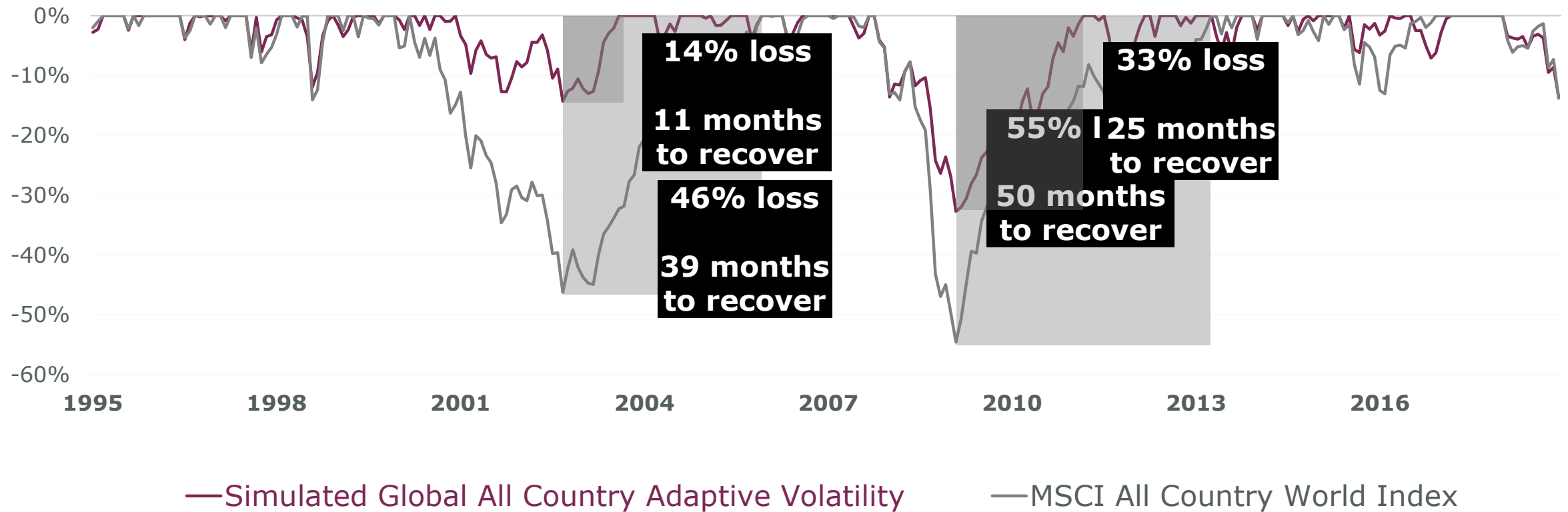


Does not represent the performance of any particular investment.

## Downside protection is invaluable

Hypothetical Variable Beta Strategy  
MSCI All Country World Index  
1 January 1995 – 31 December 2018

### Drawdown



The power of less severe drawdowns and shorter recovery periods



# Portfolio resilience

03



- We can ***guarantee*** volatility is here to stay
- Informed perspective comes from better ***estimates*** of security volatility
- ***Enhance*** your portfolio resilience by adapting to market dynamics

The background is a dark purple gradient with several semi-transparent geometric shapes (triangles and polygons) overlaid. In the background, there are faint, blurred images of financial charts, including candlestick charts and line graphs with data points. Some text from these charts is visible, such as "\$17.75", "\$79.90", "\$85.82", "\$76.92", "\$29.79", and "\$28.81".

**/ Any questions?**

04





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