

Strategy Overview

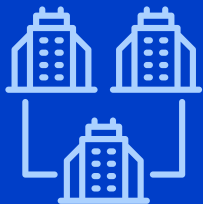
# Rayliant Quantamental Emerging Market ex-China Equity

# Rayliant's EM Strategy China not included



## Growth That Matters

Most investors find emerging economies compelling because they are expanding faster than their developed counterparts. But portfolio returns are driven by growth in companies' earnings, not GDP. Rayliant's active approach targets stocks that we expect to deliver the kind of high-quality growth that really matters to investors.



## Companies, Not Countries

Some strategies try to perfectly time individual markets within EM, riding the latest popular theme by backing stocks in particular countries. By contrast, Rayliant's approach is bottom-up, focused on picking the best companies throughout EM. This process leads to a portfolio of high-quality stocks offering growth at a reasonable price.



## Quantamental Approach

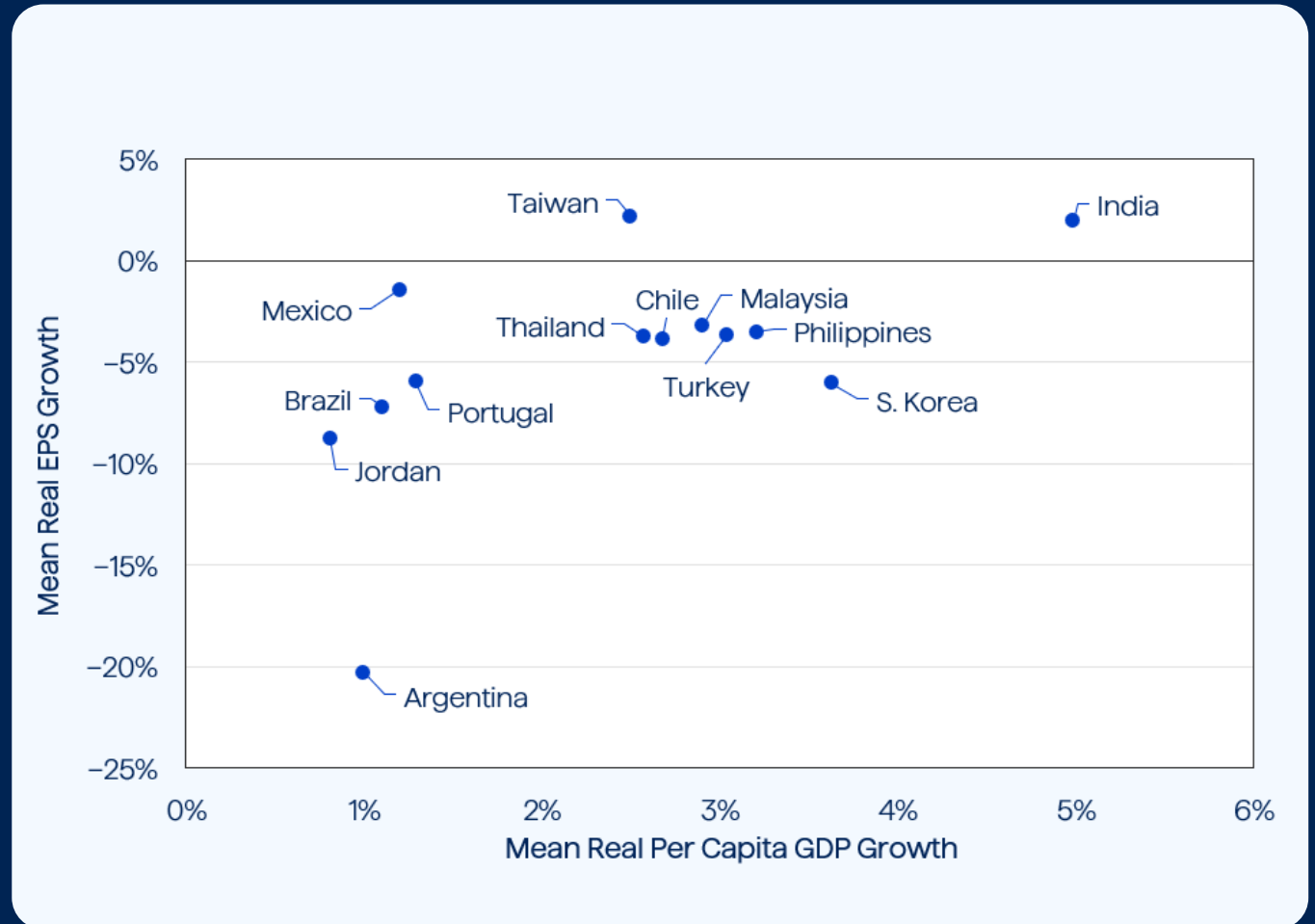
Rayliant's strategy seeks to earn alpha by identifying mispricings and exploiting behavioral bias in markets with high levels of retail trading. Our strategies apply a diversified multi-factor approach, incorporating big data and machine learning to maximize the likelihood of reliable outperformance in retail-dominated emerging markets.



# Growth That Matters Real EPS growth vs. GDP

## Do you know which countries grow?

- ▶ Most emerging markets are growing fast in terms of GDP, but what matters for investors isn't economic growth, it's **earnings growth**.
- ▶ In terms of **earnings per share (EPS) growth**, EM countries are truly all over the map. Worse yet, even over long periods, many countries' EPS has shrunk!
- ▶ We believe the key to EM investing—and the foundation of Rayliant's approach—is identifying stocks that will **actually deliver** growth to investors.



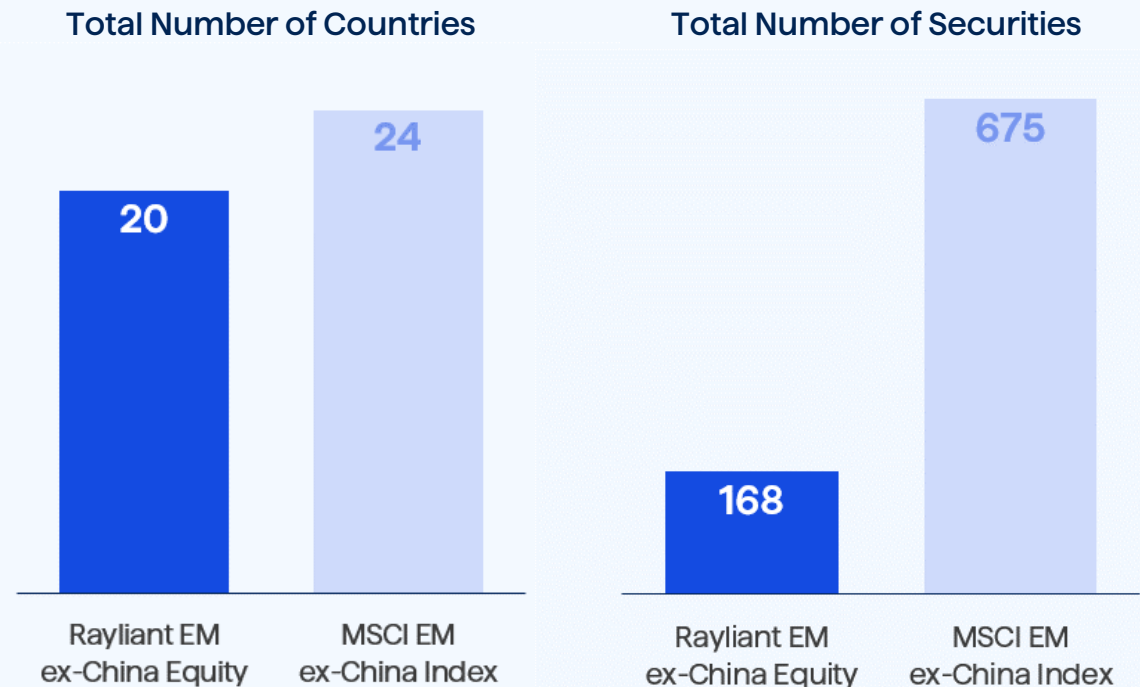
**Source:** The figure plots real EPS growth vs. per capita GDP growth for 15 emerging markets from 1996-2019. Data on real per capita GDP come from the World Bank for all countries except Taiwan, from the IMF; EPS data are from Bloomberg.

# Companies, Not Countries Searching for stars within EM

## Quality growth? Consider active!

- ▶ Passive approaches to investing in EM cast a wide net, buying hundreds of stocks in dozens of markets, regardless of fundamentals.
- ▶ A way to spot high-quality growth at a reasonable price requires actively narrowing the focus to only those stocks with just the right features.
- ▶ Rayliant's strategy is broad enough to capture macro drivers of EM growth, but built with conviction to deliver alpha<sup>1</sup> on top of the beta.<sup>2</sup>

## Rayliant's Selective Approach vs. Passive EM



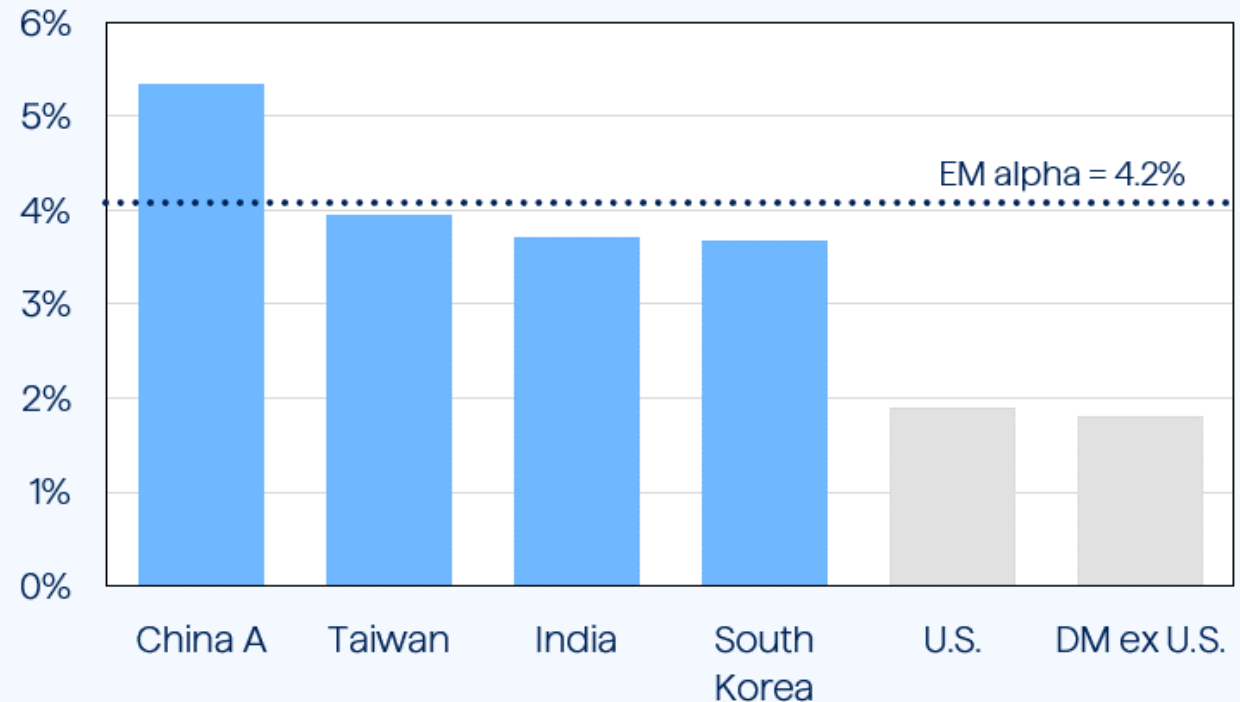
Source: Rayliant Research, Bloomberg as of December 31, 2023.

# Quantamental Approach A systematic strategy for EM

## Aiming for repeatable success in EM

- ▶ EM is notorious for high levels of individual investor activity. When retail traders dominate, you're bound to see mispricings.
- ▶ Rayliant's *quantamental* approach applies machine learning to data on fundamentals, manager behavior, and investor sentiment.
- ▶ Our strategies are built to systematically identify and trade in EM stocks found to be over- or undervalued due to behavioral bias.

Measuring alpha in various emerging and developed markets  
Annualized alpha from Rayliant multi-factor model, Jul. 2000 – Sep. 2023



# Active Overweights Balancing growth & value in EM

## High-quality growth

EM is interesting—and challenging—because it covers such a wide variety of countries and companies. Rayliant’s multi-factor approach is designed to find fast-growing stocks with solid fundamentals, strong sentiment, and valuations that haven’t surged ahead of future opportunities.



**Taiwan**  
Radiant Opto-Electronics



**India**  
Birlasoft



**Taiwan**  
Wistron

## Deep value stocks

Despite investors gravitating toward EM tech stocks, we see plenty of great opportunities in boring sectors like industrials, financials, and consumer staples—but buying bargains in EM requires acute awareness of cheap-for-a-reason “value traps” that masquerade as a good deal.



**India**  
Colgate-Palmolive India



**South Korea**  
Kia



**Thailand**  
Bangchak



**Source:** Rayliant Research, Bloomberg as of December 31, 2023. Holdings are subject to change. This is not a recommendation to buy or sell a security and should not be presumed profitable.

# Rayliant's ETF for EM ex-China

## ETF Performance: RAYE

as of 31 December 2023

Net Expense Ratio\* 0.88% Gross Expense Ratio\* 1.83%

		RAYE ETF	MSCI EM ex China Index <sup>1</sup>	Excess Return
<b>Last Month: December 2023</b>	Price	7.06%	6.45%	+0.61
1 December — 31 December	NAV	6.71%	6.45%	+0.27
<b>Trailing 1-Yr. at Last Qtr. End</b>	Price	21.51%	13.95%	+7.56
as of 31 December 2023	NAV	22.24%	13.95%	+8.30
<b>Inception to Last Qtr. End</b>	Price	-0.54%	-3.52%	+2.98
as of 31 December 2023	NAV	-0.48%	-3.52%	+3.04

The performance data quoted represents past performance. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Performance for periods greater than 1 year is annualized. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost and current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. For performance data current to the most recent month end, please call 866-898-1688 or visit <https://funds.rayliant.com>.

Note: The benchmark depicted in the table is a linked benchmark, representing the performance of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index from the Fund's inception, through Oct. 23, 2023, and the MSCI Emerging Markets ex-China Index thereafter. On Oct. 24, 2023, the Fund underwent a strategy change from a global Emerging Markets strategy to an Emerging Markets ex-China strategy, at which point the Fund's benchmark changed, accordingly.

\*A full explanation of expenses and fees are stated in the prospectus. Fee waivers are contractual and in effect until 1/31/2024.

[funds.rayliant.com](https://funds.rayliant.com)



<sup>1</sup>The MSCI Emerging Markets ex China Index captures large and mid-cap representation across 23 of the 24 EM countries. With 675 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Index performance returns do not reflect any management fees, transaction costs, or expenses. Indices are unmanaged.

# An **Intelligent Way** to Invest in Emerging Markets

Rayliant  
Quantamental  
Emerging Market  
ex-China ETF

**RAYE**

**Rayliant's Quantamental Emerging Market Equity ETF** was crafted by behavioral economists and researchers with more than two decades' experience in systematic EM strategies.

Our active quantamental approach to EM is informed by local data and behavioral research.



# The **Active ETF** can be a Powerful Investment Vehicle

- ▶ Active ETFs offer high-powered alpha strategies in a convenient chassis.
- ▶ Easier to trade than you think: For active ETFs, volume is *not* liquidity!
- ▶ Our Capital Markets team is available to facilitate large trades.

“Our deep relationships with leading market-makers allow Rayliant to execute large format trades and offer service that clients will be hard-pressed to find with most issuers.”



**Mark Schlarbaum**  
**Head of Capital Markets**  
Industry veteran with over 30  
years of trading experience  
Asia-based securities

Model Overview

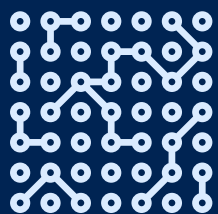
# Deeper Dive into Rayliant's Quant 2.0 Multi-Factor

# The **Quantamental** Investment Process



## Quantamental Research

Rayliant's team utilizes machine learning (ML), natural language processing (NLP), and advanced statistical analyses to help unlock opportunities within the investable universe.



## Unique Data

Using historical data from markets around the world, we believe novel local data sets mean a greater edge in EM.

Examples include:

- ▶ Exchange inquiry letters
- ▶ Insider shares pledging
- ▶ Political connections
- ▶ Institutional vs. retail trade flows



## Smarter Signals

More than 150 signals built around behavioral market inefficiencies, can exploit information in three broad categories:

- ▶ Underlying fundamentals
- ▶ Behavior of corporate insiders
- ▶ Other investors' sentiment/information



## Portfolio Construction

The EM strategy employs machine learning to validate and weight signals / exploit interactions and non-linearities in the data; we believe robust optimization ensures efficiency.



## 24-Hour Trading Desk

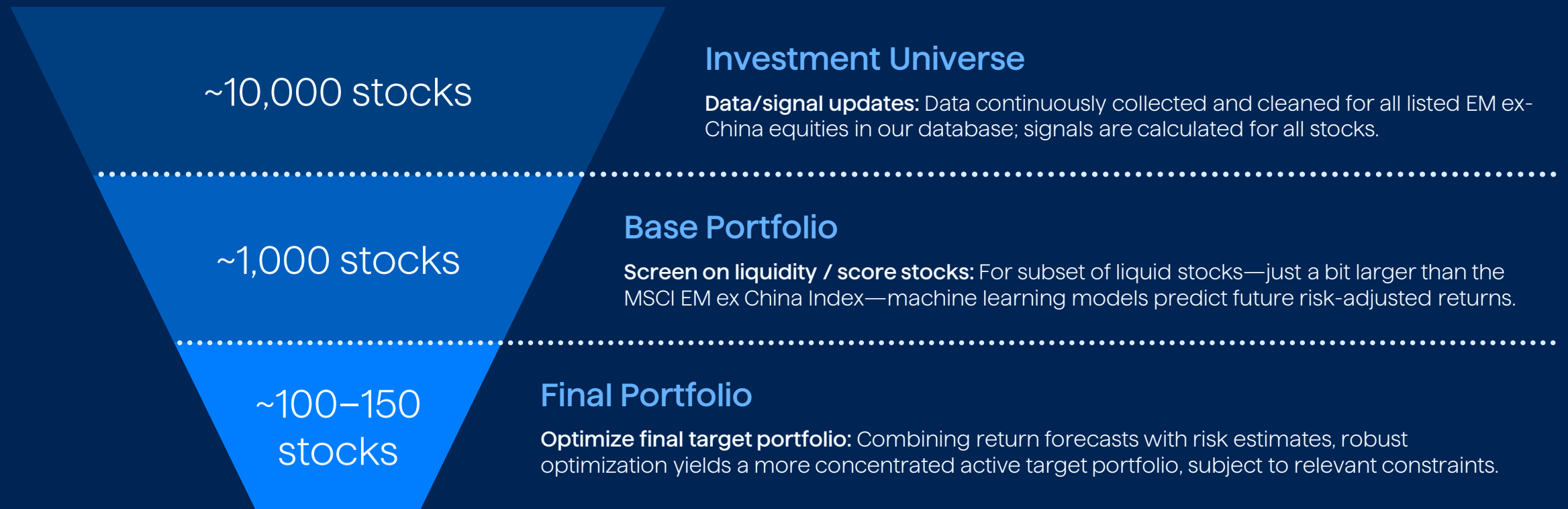
US and Asia-based trading desks handle global trades providing seamless multi-time zone portfolio management support.



# Overview of Portfolio Construction Methodology

## How do stocks make their way from an initial universe to a final quantamental portfolio?

Example "research funnel" from initial universe to final portfolio for EM equity strategy



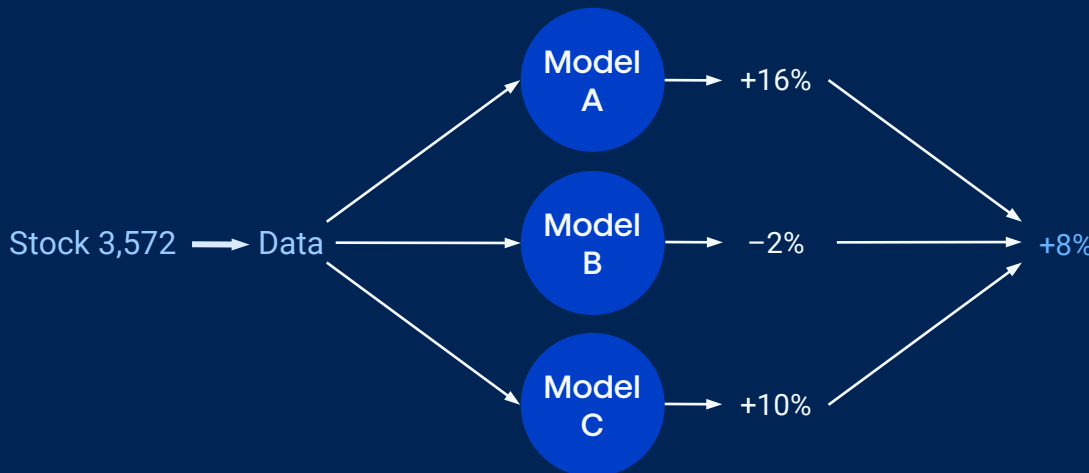
Source: Rayliant Research. Number of stocks are approximate and for illustrative purposes only.

# Scoring Stocks According to Model Consensus

## Ranking stocks on expected future returns

Example of ranking process for a hypothetical set of stocks

Every month, for each of the thousands of stocks in our investment universe, apply three models to predict next month's return, taking the average as our best forecast.



Stock	Expected Return
Stock 1	4%
Stock 2	2%

⋮ ⋮

Stock 3,569	-9%
Stock 3,570	+1%
Stock 3,571	+8%
Stock 3,572	+8%
Stock 3,573	0%

⋮ ⋮

Stock 4,999	3%
Stock 5,000	-1%

Rank	Stock
1	Stock 2,123
2	Stock 4,085

⋮ ⋮

680	Stock 3,572
681	Stock 1,903
682	Stock 186
683	Stock 2,259
684	Stock 641

⋮ ⋮

4,999	Stock 927
5,000	Stock 83



Source: Rayliant Research, for illustrative purposes only.

# Data and Signals to help Exploit Behavioral Bias

## Models incorporate a large and growing library of data and signals

Examples of signals from three broad categories of information



### Company Fundamentals

#### Example: R&D Mispricing

Reflects retail investors' systematic undervaluation of future benefits of R&D, unduly penalizing companies for the hit to current income.

#### Example: Predicted Distress Risk

Retail investors underappreciate the high cost of financial distress. We estimate a firm's probability of default with a separate statistical model.



### Behavior of Corporate Insiders

#### Example: Management Overconfidence

Exploits retail investor overestimation of benefits of high plowback into projects with low return on equity, resulting from managers' overconfidence.

#### Example: Earnings Manipulation

Discretionary accruals capture earnings adjustment beyond that expected under normal usage of accrual accounting, suggesting manipulative reporting.



### Behavior of Other Market Participants

#### Example: Firm-Specific Underreaction

A momentum signal modified to isolate company-specific underreaction to news resulting from investor inattention; built to capture upward drift in prices.

#### Example: Lottery Stocks

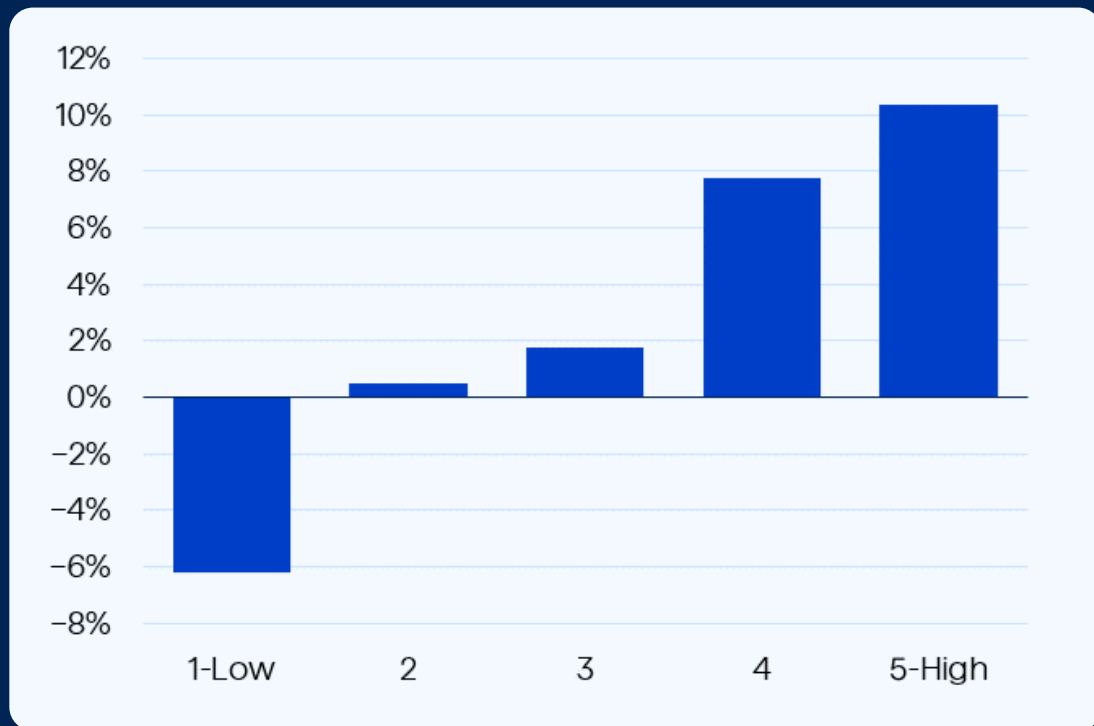
Designed to identify and avoid stocks with perceived "lottery-like" payoffs (i.e., skewed returns), for which risk-seeking retail investors are known to overpay.



# Thoughtfully Engineered, Thoroughly Tested

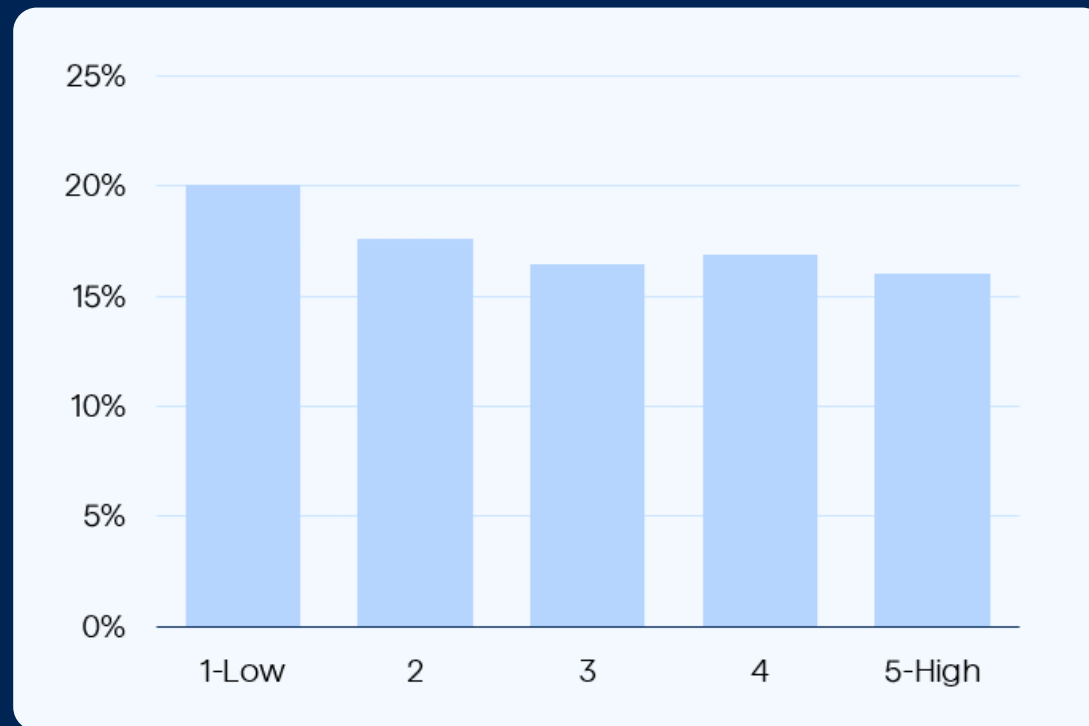
## Global stocks: High-ranking stocks delivered alpha

Annualized alpha, stocks sorted into five bins on model score, 2010/7–2023/9



## Global stocks: High-ranking stocks were lower risk

Annualized std deviation<sup>3</sup>, stocks sorted into five bins on model score, 2010/7–2023/9



Rayliant's approach to scoring stocks has historically identified superior stocks—in terms of both future returns and risk



**Source:** Rayliant Research, as of September 30, 2023. Analysis is conducted in the same universe as the Rayliant Quantamental Emerging Markets ex-China Strategy, benchmarked to the MSCI Emerging Markets ex-China Index. Model performance does not represent and may differ significantly from actual results. Model past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. The portfolios above do not represent the results of the Rayliant Quantamental Emerging Markets ex-China Strategy.

# Investment Research and Portfolio Management

From award-winning quant researchers and seasoned investment professionals



**Jason Hsu, PhD**  
Chief Investment Officer

**Expertise**  
Asset Allocation, Emerging Market Investing

**Experience | 25 years in industry**  
PM, PIMCO All Asset Fund (2002-2015)  
3X Winner of CFA Institute Graham & Dodd Research Award  
3X Winner of JPM Bernstein-Fabozzi Research Award  
4X Winner William Sharpe Award  
**Education** PhD of Finance, UCLA



**Phillip Wool, PhD**  
Senior Managing Director

**Expertise**  
Global Equities, Asset Allocation

**Experience | 20 years in industry**  
PM, Rayliant ETFs (RAYC, RAYD, RAYE)  
PM, Rayliant Asset Allocation Portfolios  
Professor of Finance, SUNY Buffalo (2013-2017)  
**Education** PhD of Finance, UCLA



**Fan Chen, MBA, MFE**  
Managing Director

**Expertise**  
Commodities, Alternatives, Asset Allocation

**Experience | 15 years in industry**  
PM, Ping An Global Macro Allocation Strategy (2015-2018)  
PM, PIMCO Global Macro Allocation Strategy (2011-2015)  
**Education** MBA, University of Chicago  
Master of Financial Engineering, UCLA



**Mark Schlarbaum**  
Managing Director

**Expertise**  
Capital Markets, Trade Execution

**Experience | 31 years in industry**  
PM, Head of Capital Markets, KraneShares (2015-2020)  
Senior Equities/Derivatives Trader for US\$40B, TRowe Price  
**Education** BA, Purdue University



**Kang Hao, PhD**  
Managing Director

**Expertise**  
Quantamental Research, Portfolio Construction

**Experience | 25 years in industry**  
CIO, VanEck Investment Management, SH (2020-2022)  
Head of Equity, ICBC CS Asset Management (2016-2020)  
**Education** PhD of Econometrics, Monash University, Australia



**Donald He, MFE**  
Senior Director

**Expertise**  
EM Equities, Greater China Investing

**Experience | 9 years in industry**  
PM, Ping An Global Macro Allocation Strategy (2016-2018)  
Risk Manager, Allianz Multi-Manager Group (2014-2016)  
**Education** Master of Financial Engineering, UCLA



**Engin Kose, PhD**  
Director

**Expertise**  
International & Emerging Markets Investing

**Experience | 16 years in industry**  
Associate PM, Allianz Global Investors (2018-2022)  
VP of Equity Research, Research Affiliates (2012-2018)  
Professor of Finance, UCSD (2018-2013)  
**Education** Mathematics and Economics, McGill University  
PhD of Finance, Washington University in St. Louis



**Priscilla Liu, MFE**  
Director

**Expertise**  
Portfolio Construction, Machine Learning

**Experience | 7 years in industry**  
Director, Equities Research, Rayliant (2015-2022)  
**Education** Economics & Mathematics, NYU  
Master of Financial Engineering, UCLA



**Tzee-Man Chow, MFE**  
Director

**Expertise**  
Portfolio Construction, Risk Management

**Experience | 13 years in industry**  
Partner, Equities, Research Affiliates (2010-2023)  
Quantitative Research, Macquarie Capital USA (2009)  
**Education** Master of Financial Engineering, UCLA



# Important Information

Before investing, carefully consider the fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses. To obtain a full or summary Prospectus for the Fund, which contains this and other information, please visit <https://funds.rayliant.com/raye>. Please read the Prospectus carefully before investing.

## Informational Purposes

This document is for informational purposes only. It is not a recommendation to buy or sell any financial instrument and should not be construed as investment advice. No offer may be made without also providing the Prospectus, and the information in the Prospectus is controlling.

## Risk of Investing

Investing involves risk, including the risk of total loss of principal. Please consider the following risks before investing in the ETF or any other investment strategy or product.

## Investment Objectives

There can be no assurance that any investment will achieve its stated objectives.

## Past Performance

An investment or strategy's past performance is not a promise or indication of future performance.

## Quantitative Investments

Investments that are managed according to a quantitative model can perform differently from the market as a whole.

## International and Emerging Markets

International markets involve political, social, economic and currency risks. These risks are heightened in emerging markets, which also include the risk of increased volatility and lower trading volume. Securities focusing on a single country may also be subject to higher volatility. Investments in smaller companies typically exhibit higher volatility.

## Local Rules and Regulations

Trading through Stock Connect is subject to a number of restrictions that may affect an investment's returns. For China, this includes rules regarding Chinese securities regulations and listing rules, among other restrictions.

## Reasonable Care

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## Definition of Terms (footnoted on Page 4, 15)

<sup>1</sup>An investment's "alpha" measures an investment's performance in excess of fair compensation for risk, controlling for, e.g., size, valuation, and beta. <sup>2</sup>An investment's "beta" measures the expected movement in its stock price relative to movements of the market, as a whole. <sup>3</sup>The standard deviation of an investment's returns is defined as the variation of those returns about their mean.

The Rayliant Quantamental Emerging Market ex-China Equity ETF (RAYE) is distributed by SEI Investments Distribution Co., which is not affiliated with Rayliant Asset Management, the Investment Adviser. Shares are bought and sold at market price (not NAV) and are not individually redeemed from the Fund.

Investments in smaller companies typically exhibit higher volatility. The Adviser's judgments about the attractiveness, value, or potential appreciation of the Fund's investments may prove to be incorrect.





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