## Stock and Bond Correlation: Negative and Positive Regimes



The correlation between stocks and bonds plays a critical role in portfolio construction. A negative correlation allows stocks and bonds to function as a hedge to one another because they move in opposite directions. Whereas a positive correlation means stocks and bonds will move in the same direction.

For the last 20 years, as shown below, stocks and bonds were negatively correlated. However, during the previous 30 years, including the '70s, '80s and '90s, and again from 1932 – mid-1955 they were positively correlated.

## Stock and Bond Correlation\* – Negative and Positive Regimes | January 31, 1929 - December 31, 2023



Source: LoCorrFund Management and Morningstar Direct. Monthly data as of December 31, 2023. Index performance is not indicative of fund performance. To obtain fund performance visit www.LoCorrFunds.com. **Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.** \*Average 3-yr rolling correlation between IA SBBI U.S. Large Stock TR Index and IA SBBI U.S. Long-Term Government TR Index

## **Key Takeaways**

- Stock and bond correlation is not always negative.
- In the current macroeconomic environment of higher inflation and interest rates, the correlation between these two asset classes has become positively correlated.
- Fixed income shouldn't be counted on as the only long-term solution for hedging equity market risk.

**IA SBBI U.S. Large Stock TR Index** tracks the monthly return of S&P 500 Index. The history data from 1926 to 1969 is calculated by Ibbotson. **IA SBBI U.S. Long-Term Government TR Index** measures the performance of a single issue of outstanding U.S. Treasury bond with a maturity term of around 21.5 years. It is calculated by Morningstar and the raw data is from Wall Street Journal.

The Funds' investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses must be considered carefully before investing. The prospectus contains this and other important information about the investment company, and it may be obtained by calling 1.855.LCFUNDS, or visiting www.LoCorrFunds.com. Read it carefully before investing.

Mutual fund investing involves risk. Principal loss is possible. Non-diversified investments may concentrate assets in fewer individual holdings than diversified investments. Therefore, the investments are more exposed to individual stock volatility than diversified funds. The Funds invest in foreign investments and foreign currencies which involve greater volatility and political, economic and currency risks and differences in accounting methods. These risks are greater for emerging markets. The Funds may make short sales of securities, which involves the risk that losses may exceed the original amount invested. Investing in commodities may subject the Funds to greater risks and volatility as commodity prices may be influenced by a variety of factors including unfavorable weather, environmental factors, and changes in government regulations. The Funds may invest in derivative securities, which derive their performance from the performance of an underlying asset, index, interest rate or currency exchange rate. Derivatives can be volatile and involve various types and degrees of risks, and, depending upon the characteristics of a particular derivative, suddenly can become illiquid. Investments in debt securities typically decrease in value when interest rates rise. This risk is usually greater for longer-term debt securities. Investments in Asset-

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