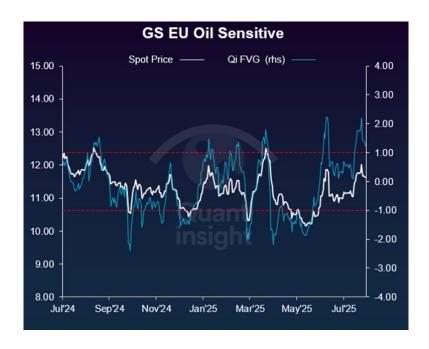


1. EU Oil Rich into Ukraine Summit

Hopes have lifted for a Ukraine ceasefire given the impending meeting between Trump and Putin. Crude oil (both WTI & Brent) has fallen almost 10% into August on this prospect.

However, the European Oil & Gas heavyweights still screen rich relative to oil exposed companies on Qi's valuation model, currently at +1.22 sigma – the upper end of its long term FVG range. When the FVG elastic is stretched it warrants attention given its high correlation to spot prices.





Relative to other European sectors, SXEP (Energy) vs. SX8P (Technology) is the stand-out RV sector pair in term of extended Qi Fair Value Gap — at a multi-year highs of +2.7 sigma.

2. Room for US Mid-Cap Outperformance?

It is well known that US large caps have been on a tear relative to their smaller peers. Looking at Vanguard's mid-cap ETF (VO US Equity), it is trading close to all-time lows relative to SPY.

The VO / SPY RV pair is now trading at -1.5 sigma below Qi's model value (close to 5yr lows) and the ability of Qi's FVG to track spot performance has been strong – see the chart below. So we have a starting point where the size factor screens rich vs. history.



Tuesday's inflation report lifted the odds of a September rate cut. Expectations of looser financial conditions ahead would allow for respite in the relative under-performance of mid-caps.

3. USDBRL - be patient

There are several strong arguments for being bearish USDBRL. However Qi suggests these are not the optimal levels to chase downside.

While spot has moved lower early in August, Qi model value has risen nearly 2%. The attribution of that move shows it's the plunge in copper prices that's pushed Qi's macro-warranted fair value up.

Put another way, USDBRL has moved too low, too quickly relative to the sharp fall in copper prices. Either metal prices need to recover, or the FX market may need to consolidate or retrace before the Real appreciates further.





That divergence leaves USDBRL almost 1 sigma (3.5%) cheap on Qi. Since 2009, the cross has only been in regime & this cheap on 25 occasions over the last 16 years. Back tests reveal a 60% hit rate and +1.2% average return. Plus, on recent patterns, extremes in Q's FVG has done a decent job of catching local turning points in spot.

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