Tools for Traders Standard Plus Edition Components

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- This edition of Tools for Traders supports both Supply & Demand trading styles as well as traditional trading styles. It contains the following indicators:
  - Chart Tool Standard+
  - Session Tool Standard+
  - Trade Finder
  - Pattern Finder
  - Snapback
  - Snapback Scan
  - Price Direction Pressure Index (PDPI)

Chart Tool Overview

- The Chart Tool Standard+ can find and mark on your charts
  - Swing Highs and Lows
  - Basing Candles
  - Base Highs and Lows
  - Candle in Control High and Low
  - Segments
  - Trend
  - Curve
  - Supply and Demand Bands
- Additional features:
  - Supports Optimized Settings Files (OSF files)
  - Supports sharing settings between Chart Windows

Chart Tool – Swing Highs and Swing Lows

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- Swing Highs and Lows
  - Swing Highs are indicated by placing a red dot above the swing high candle
  - Swing Lows are indicated by placing a green dot below the swing low candles
  - The size, color, and position of the dots used to mark swings are user configurable

Chart Tool – Basing Candles, Base Highs, Base Lows

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- Basing Candles
  - Are marked on the chart with a tick mark in the center of the candle. The default color for the tick mark is yellow, but the user can select any supported color.
  - The user can choose to mark all basing candles or only those which are not nested.
- Base Highs and Lows
  - Base Highs are marked with dashed red line.
  - When a base high is broken, its color can be changed (magenta is used in the example) or it can be removed from the chart.
  - Base Lows are marked with a dashed green line.
  - When a base low is broken, its color can be changed (cyan is used in the example) or it can be removed from the chart.
  - The length of the marker line used for a Base High or Base Low is determined by the length of the base that was broken.

Chart Tool – Candle in Control High and Low

- Candle in Control High and Low
  - Marked on the chart using a text label
  - User can control the color, font, and font size of the labels
  - Updated dynamically as market conditions change
  - An alert can be generated when either the CIC High or CIC Low changes

Chart Tool - Segments

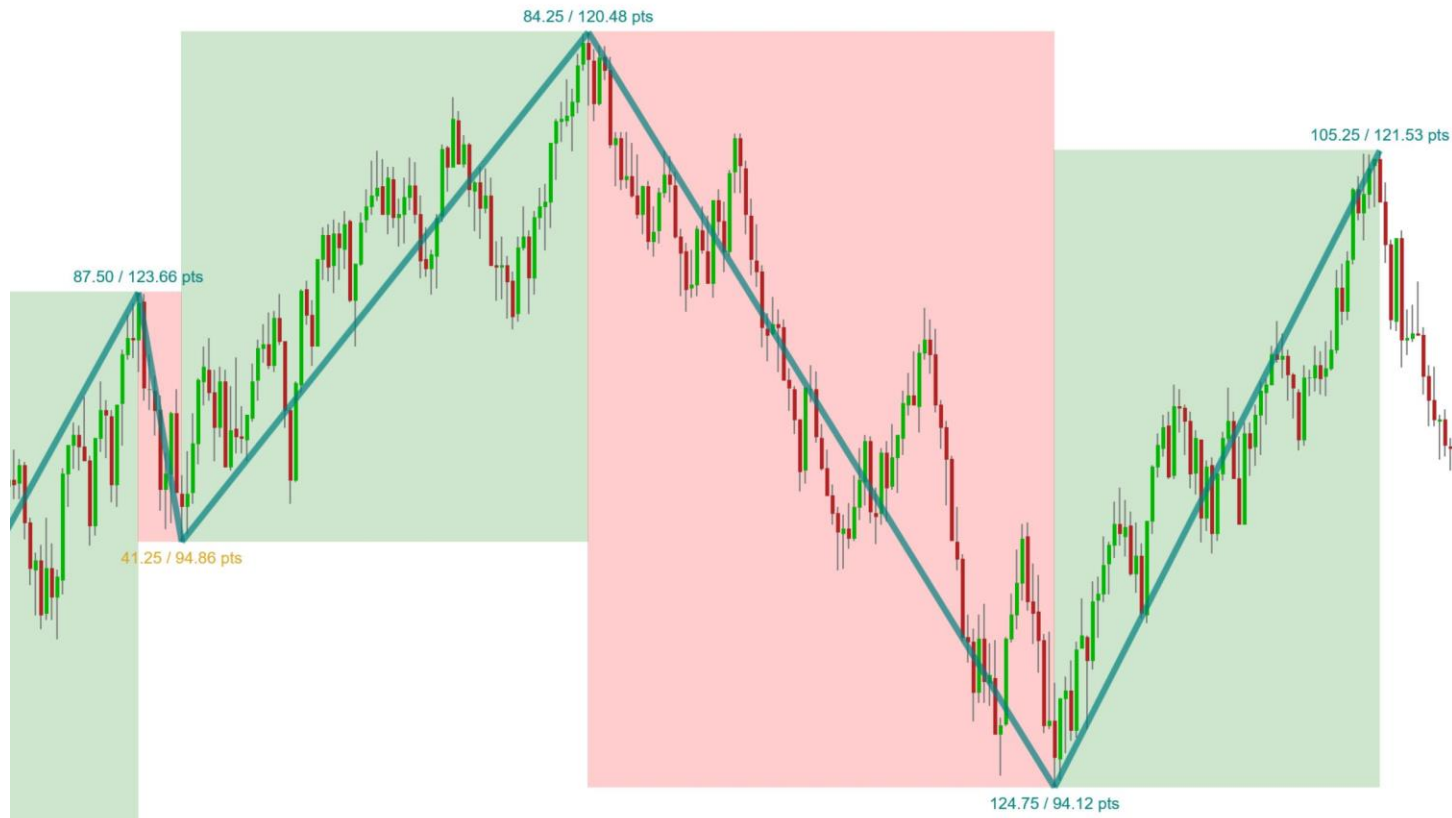Segments shown using lines with labels. The labels show the length of the segment and the average length for segments of the same type.

59.00 / 34.16 pts
20.75 / 36.02 pts
22.25 / 33.98 pts
39.00 / 33.76 pts
18.00 / 35.02 pts
33.75 / 35.03 pts
41.75 / 34.02 pts
77.25 / 34.57 pts
43.75 / 35.13 pts

Segments shown using Bull & Bear boxes

- Segments
  - Segments form the low level trend (microtrend) for the chart
  - Can be shown on the chart using trend lines or Bull & Bear boxes
  - If shown using trend lines, then
    - A segment can be labeled with its length
    - The average length and/or standard deviation in length for segments of the same type can be included in the label
    - Segments with unusually long or short lengths can be automatically identified and are indicated by changing the color of their labels

Chart Tool - Trend

- Trend
  - The impulse and corrective moves of the major trend for the interval can be marked using trend lines, Bull & Bear boxes, or both
  - If shown using lines, then
    - An impulse or corrective move can be labeled with its length
    - The average length and/or standard deviation in length for impulse/corrections of the same type can be included in the label
    - Unusually long or short impulse/corrections can be automatically identified and are indicated by changing the color of their labels

Chart Tool - Curve

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Custom Curve divided into sections using a modified Fibonacci retracement

Default Curve

- Curve
  - Based on the Candle in Control High and Low
  - Can be divided into arbitrarily sized parts
  - Updated dynamically as market conditions change
  - An alert can be generated whenever the curve changes.

Chart Tool – Supply and Demand Bands

- **Supply and Demand Bands**
  - More than 30 rules are used to find supply and demand bands. 29 of the rules are under user control.
  - Band Origin showing the pattern that created the band will be marked
  - Supply bands are marked with a dot-dash pattern while demand bands are marked with solid lines so they are easy to tell apart
  - Bands are colored to show, at a glance, how far price has penetrated the band (light blue for areas price has not reached, light red for areas that price has retested)
  - The amount of time that a broken band is displayed on the chart is under user control
  - Supply and Demand bands can be labeled with the date/time the band was created, the percent of the band that has been penetrated, the width of the band in dollars, as well as the price level of the proximal and distal lines of the band.

Chart Tool – OSF File Support

- Supports Optimized Settings Files (OSF files)
  - Can use Pro OSF files for pre-canned configurations
  - Can create and use Personal OSF files for user defined configurations
  - Personal OSF files allow the user to associate settings with a specific market, or interval, or market on an interval and have the Chart Tool automatically use those settings when the associated market /interval combination is being charted
  - Personal OSF files can be layered on top of Pro OSF files to modify pre-canned configurations to the user's needs
  - Personal OSF files can be used with the backtesting features of the Chart Tool to create standardized backtests that can be stored and run whenever the user needs them
  - OSF files can be used to ensure that multiple tools use the same settings when looking at the same markets (ex. Chart Tool, Trade Finder, and Pattern Finder can use the same OSF files)
  - Makes it easy to share settings with others or deploy standardized settings across multiple systems

Chart Tool – Sharing Settings Between Charts

- Supports sharing settings between Chart Windows
  - Allows the settings used by a designated Chart Tool (the "sender") to become the default settings for Chart Tools used in other chart windows (the "receivers")
  - There can be multiple Chart Tools acting as "senders", and there can be multiple Chart Tool "receivers" assigned to each "sender"
  - Can be used to let one Chart Tool act as a control point for multiple other Chart Tools
  - In Chart Tools receiving shared settings:
    - Settings may be received from only a single sender
    - A Chart Tool which is receiving settings may not also be a sender of settings
    - Personal OSF files can be layered on top of the shared settings to customize the settings used by a specific Chart Tool
    - Manual overrides can be used to override specific shared settings (as well as settings from an OSF file) to customize/fine tune the settings used by a specific Chart Tool
  - Can be used with the backtesting features in the Chart Tool to control and coordinate multiple backtests being run simultaneously

Chart Tool – Personalize your Charts

- Combine Chart Tool features to create the charts you need!
  - Display just the information you want or need for the strategies you are using
  - Customize the look and feel of your charts to convey information as quickly and easily as possible
  - Spend less time charting and more time on other aspects of your trading!

Session Tool

- The Session Tool allows the user to define a session to be displayed on their chart.
  - A session is a period of time during the day, and all candles which close during that time are considered to be part of the session.
  - A session may correspond to a real world entity (such as the time period when the stock market is open), or it may be something which has no correlation to any real world entity or event that the user has created for their own use (such as for open range breakouts). So the definition and meaning of a session are entirely up to the user.
- The Session Tool is capable of collecting some statistics about a session, such as
  - The range, the distance from the open to the high, and the distance from the open to the low of the session
  - The average and standard deviation of range for sessions
  - The average and standard deviation of the distance from the open to the high for sessions
  - The average and standard deviation of the distance from the open to the low for sessions
  - These statistics can be used to predict possible behavior for future sessions, or be used for other purposes, such as calculating a value for a strategy.
- The Session Tool can be used to project lines on the user's chart.
  - These lines may be for reference (such as prior daily/weekly/monthly/yearly highs and lows) or be calculated values for use with a strategy.
  - Alerts can be generated when these lines are crossed.
- The Session Tool supports OSF files.
- Overall, the Session Tool can be used to provide the trader with valuable reference information, to assist the trader with certain strategies, and to reduce the time spent on charting.

Session Tool – What is a Session?

RTH Session High for 12/15/23 16887.25

RTH Session High for 12/14/23 16877.25

12/15/23 15 Min ORB

ORB High - 16843.50

ORB Mid - 16811.75

Range: 63.50, Range Avg: 64.12

ORB Low - 16780.00

RTH Session Low for 12/15/23 16762.50
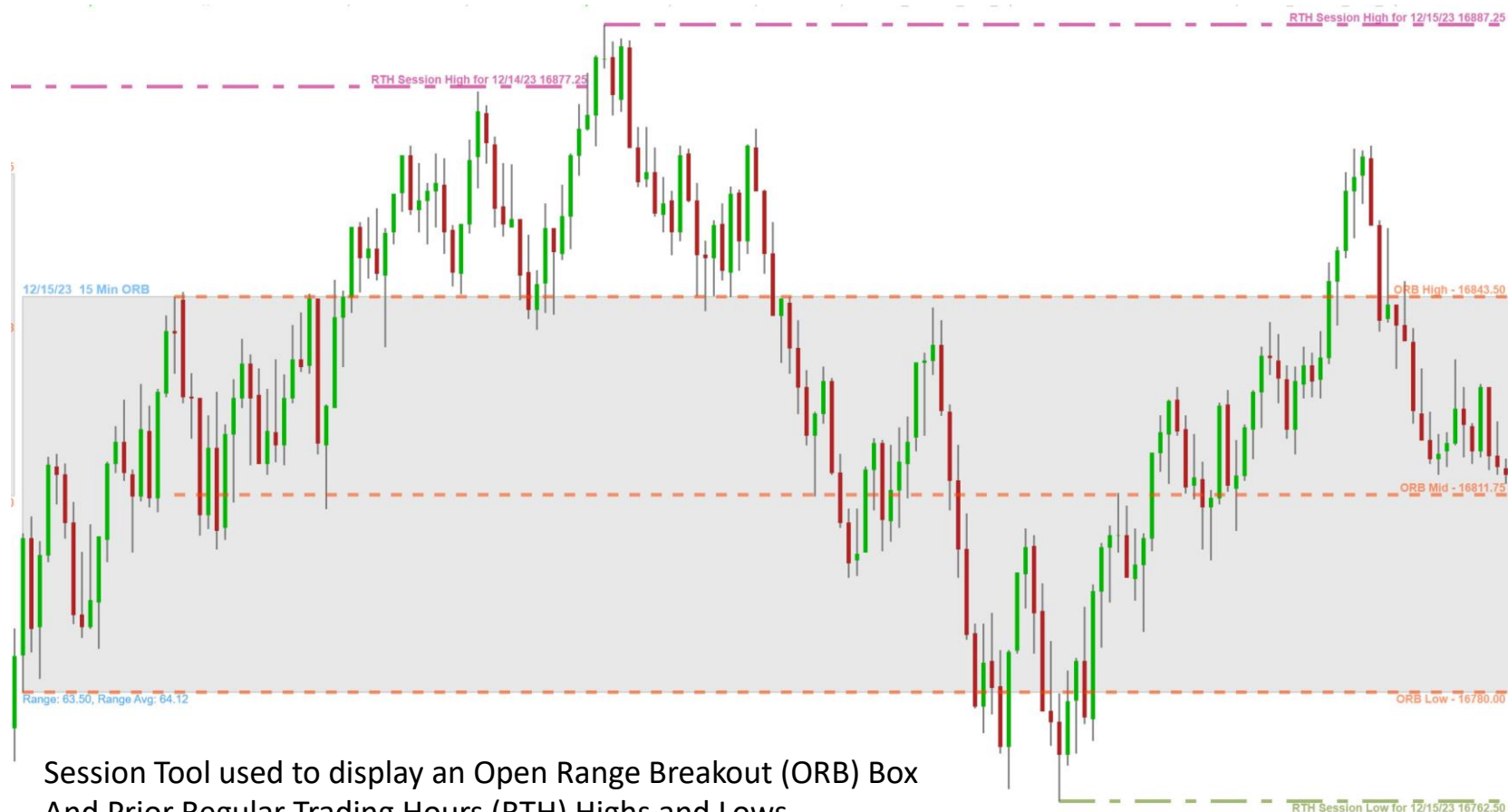
Session Tool used to display an Open Range Breakout (ORB) Box
And Prior Regular Trading Hours (RTH) Highs and Lows

- The Session Tool allows the user to define a session to be displayed on their chart.
  - A session is a period of time during the trading day, and all candles which close during that time are considered to be part of the session.
  - A session may correspond to a real world entity (such as the time period when the stock market is open), or it may be something which has no correlation to any real world entity or event that the user has created for their own use (such as for open range breakouts). So the definition and meaning of a session are entirely up to the user.
- The Session Tool is capable of collecting some statistics about a session, such as
  - The range of the session
  - The average and standard deviation of range for sessions
  - The average and standard deviation of the distance from the open to the high for sessions
  - The average and standard deviation of the distance from the open to the low for sessions
  - These statistics can be used to predict possible behavior for future sessions, or be used for other purposes, such as calculating a value for a strategy.

Session Tool – Projecting Lines on a Chart

Session Tool used with the Chart Tool to find the supply and demand bands and the high and low boundary lines for a particular strategy.

- The Session Tool can be used to project lines on the user's chart.
  - These lines may be for reference (such as prior daily/weekly/monthly/yearly highs and lows) or be calculated values for use with a strategy.
  - Alerts can be generated when these lines are crossed.
- Overall, the Session Tool can be used to provide the trader with valuable reference information, to assist the trader with certain strategies, and to reduce the time spent on charting.

Session Tool – OSF File Support

- Supports Optimized Settings Files (OSF files)
  - Can use Pro OSF files for pre-canned configurations
  - Can create and use Personal OSF files for user defined configurations
  - Personal OSF files allow the user to associate settings with a specific market, or interval, or market on an interval and have the Session Tool automatically use those settings when the associated market /interval combination is being charted
  - Personal OSF files can be layered on top of Pro OSF files to modify pre-canned configurations to the user's needs
  - Personal OSF files make it easy to share settings with others or deploy standardized settings across multiple systems

Session Tool – Sharing Settings Between Charts

- Supports sharing settings between Chart Windows
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    - Personal OSF files can be layered on top of the shared settings to customize the settings used by a specific Session Tool
    - Manual overrides can be used to override specific shared settings (as well as settings from an OSF file) to customize/fine tune the settings used by a specific Session Tool

Trade Finder

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- The Trade Finder is a tool designed to assist the user in finding Supply and Demand style trading opportunities. It can be used in a RadarScreen® to monitor a set of markets on specific intervals and generate alerts when potential trades appear, or it can be used with the Scanner to search for possible trading opportunities through a list of markets.

- Supply and Demand style trades begin with price returning to a supply or demand band. The supply or demand band which price is returning to becomes the entry point for a trade. The Trader will have to specify what makes a supply or demand band acceptable as the entry point for a trade, as well as certain characteristics of the trade they desire, so that the Trade Finder knows what to look for. Some of the things that the Trade Finder allows the Trader to specify are:

  - Proximity – How close must price be to a supply or demand band in order for the Trade Finder to consider that band as a possible entry point for a trade.
  - Freshness – A "fresh" band is one which has not been retested by price. The Trader may tell the Trade Finder to only use "fresh" bands as the entry points for trades.
  - Band width – The Trader may specify a minimum band width for supply or demand bands used as the entry point for a trade. Bands not meeting this minimum will be rejected.
  - Curve Position – The Trader may specify what part of the Curve must a supply or demand band be in for it to be considered as a potential entry point for a trade.
  - Reward to Risk Ratio (RR Ratio) – The Trader may specify a minimum acceptable Reward to Risk Ratio for a potential trade to be acceptable. When the Trade Finder finds a supply or demand band which could be the entry point for a trade, it will look for the first opposing band, measure the distance to that opposing band, and then divide that by the width of the entry band to estimate the possible RR ratio. If the estimated RR ratio does not meet the Trader's requirements, then the potential trade will be rejected.
  - Since the Chart Tool and the Trade Finder both use the same engine for finding supply and demand bands, all of the settings found in the Chart Tool for controlling the discovery and management of bands are available in the Trade Finder.

- The Trade Finder can use OSF files generated for the Chart Tool. The use of OSF files can help ensure that, when the Chart Tool and Trade Finder are both looking at the same market, they are using the same settings.

Trade Finder - Outputs

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- The Trade Finder can issue an alert when it finds a potential trade that meets all of the requirements it was given.
- The Trade Finder provides the following information about any potential trade it has found which meets the requirements it was given:
  - Requested Proximity
  - CIC High and Low
  - Was a short trade or a long trade found
  - The proximal and distal lines of both the entry band and the target band for the trade
  - The value of the entry and target bands is provided in dollars instead of points
  - How far price has previously penetrated both the entry and target bands for the trade
  - The date and time for the formation of both the entry and target bands for the trade

Example of the Trade Finder used in a RadarScreen®

												SDSI_Trade_Finder_Beta_1							
Symbol	Interval	Last	Requested Proximity	CIC High	CIC Low	Short Trade Found	Long Trade Found	R:R Ratio	Entry Proximal	Entry Distal	Entry Band Penetration Level	Entry Origin Date/Time	Entry Band Value	Target Proximal	Target Distal	Target Band Penetration Level	Target Origin Date/Time	Target Band Value	Total Candles Processed
SPY	5 Min	470.10	4.00	472.06	464.12														2,070
SPY	15 Min	470.10	2.00		454.31														2,070
SPY	60 Min	470.10	1.50		454.31														2,069
@ES=11VON	987 Tick	4,776.50	1.00	4779.75	4766.00	TRUE		3.64	4777.75	4779.75	87.50%	12/15/2023 8:23:13 AM	$100.00	4769.75	4769.25	50.00%	12/17/2023 5:02:22 PM	$25.00	2,078
@ES=11VON	1597 Tick	4,776.50	1.00	4779.50	4766.00														2,075
@ES=11VON	2584 Tick	4,776.50	1.00	4789.00	4757.25	TRUE		3.09	4776.50	4779.50	16.67%	12/15/2023 2:56:13 PM	$150.00	4766.50	4765.75	66.67%	12/15/2023 2:50:05 PM	$37.50	2,073
TSLA	15 Min	253.32	1.00	257.18	228.20	TRUE		19.02	254.06	255.01	7.37%	10/18/2023 8:45:00 AM	$0.95	233.94	232.71	0.00%	12/13/2023 1:45:00 PM	$1.23	1,812
TSLA	60 Min	253.32	1.00	268.94	205.69	TRUE		6.62	254.40	257.18	0.00%	10/18/2023 9:30:00 AM	$2.78	233.77	226.54	77.04%	11/17/2023 10:30:00 AM	$7.23	1,915
TSLA	240 Min	253.32	1.00	268.94	194.07	TRUE		4.40	257.73	268.94	0.00%	10/13/2023 12:30:00 PM	$11.21	205.74	194.07	0.43%	11/2/2023 12:30:00 PM	$11.67	2,069

Pattern Finder

- The Pattern Finder is a pattern matching tool. In understands the four classic Supply & Demand patterns (DBR, RBR, RBD, DBD) and can find them individually or in combination. It has, for each pattern, the same settings as the Chart Tool for defining an acceptable pattern of that type. It also has settings to allow the user to define what Supply & Demand pattern, or combination of Supply & Demand patterns, to search for. It can be used in a RadarScreen® to monitor specific markets for the development of specific patterns or combinations of patterns, and it can be used with the TradeStation® Scanner to search for markets where a specific pattern or combination of patterns has occurred. It also supports the OSF subsystem and can use certain OSF files produced by/for the Chart Tool. Some of the key features of this tool are:
  - The Pattern Finder has more than 30 rules per pattern that it uses when looking for acceptable Supply & Demand patterns.
  - There are 29 rules per pattern that are under user control.
  - The Pattern Finder can search for individual Supply & Demand patterns (up to four simultaneously).
  - The Pattern Finder has two built-in compound reversal patterns that it knows how to search for (DBR-RBR, and RBD-DBD), and can search for those simultaneously.
  - The Pattern Finder accepts user defined compound patterns of arbitrary length (ex. DBD-DBD-DBR-RBR-RBR).
  - For compound patterns, the user can place individual limits on how many candles may appear between two consecutive patterns in the compound pattern. For example, if the user wishes to search for a compound reversal pattern consisting of a DBD, followed by a DBR, followed by an RBR, and they wish to limit the number of candles between the DBD and the DBR to no more than 40, and they wish to limit the number of candles between the DBR and the RBR to no more than 25, they can do so.

Pattern Finder - Outputs

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- When the Pattern Finder discovers a matching pattern, it can issue an alert. It will also output the date and time of the leg-out candle of the pattern found and whether the pattern is a supply or demand pattern.

- The user should carefully examine the pattern found by the Pattern Finder as the tool does not assess the state of the pattern (broken or unbroken).

Symbol	Interval	Last	Pattern Found	Pattern Date	Pattern Time	Demand Pattern Found	Supply Pattern Found	Total Candles Processed	+
SPY	5 Min	468.73	TRUE	12/20/23	09:05:00	TRUE		440	
SPY	15 Min	468.73	TRUE	12/18/23	08:45:00	TRUE		440	
SPY	60 Min	468.73	TRUE	12/15/23	09:30:00		TRUE	440	
@ES=11VON	987 Tick	4,762.25	TRUE	12/20/23	14:55:46		TRUE	440	
@ES=11VON	1597 Tick	4,762.25							
@ES=11VON	2584 Tick	4,762.25							
TSLA	15 Min	248.35	TRUE	12/13/23	10:15:00		TRUE	440	
TSLA	60 Min	248.35	TRUE	12/14/23	09:30:00	TRUE		440	
TSLA	240 Min	248.35	TRUE	03/21/23	12:30:00	TRUE		440	

Snapback – The Basics

The Snapback Indicator in unidirectional mode
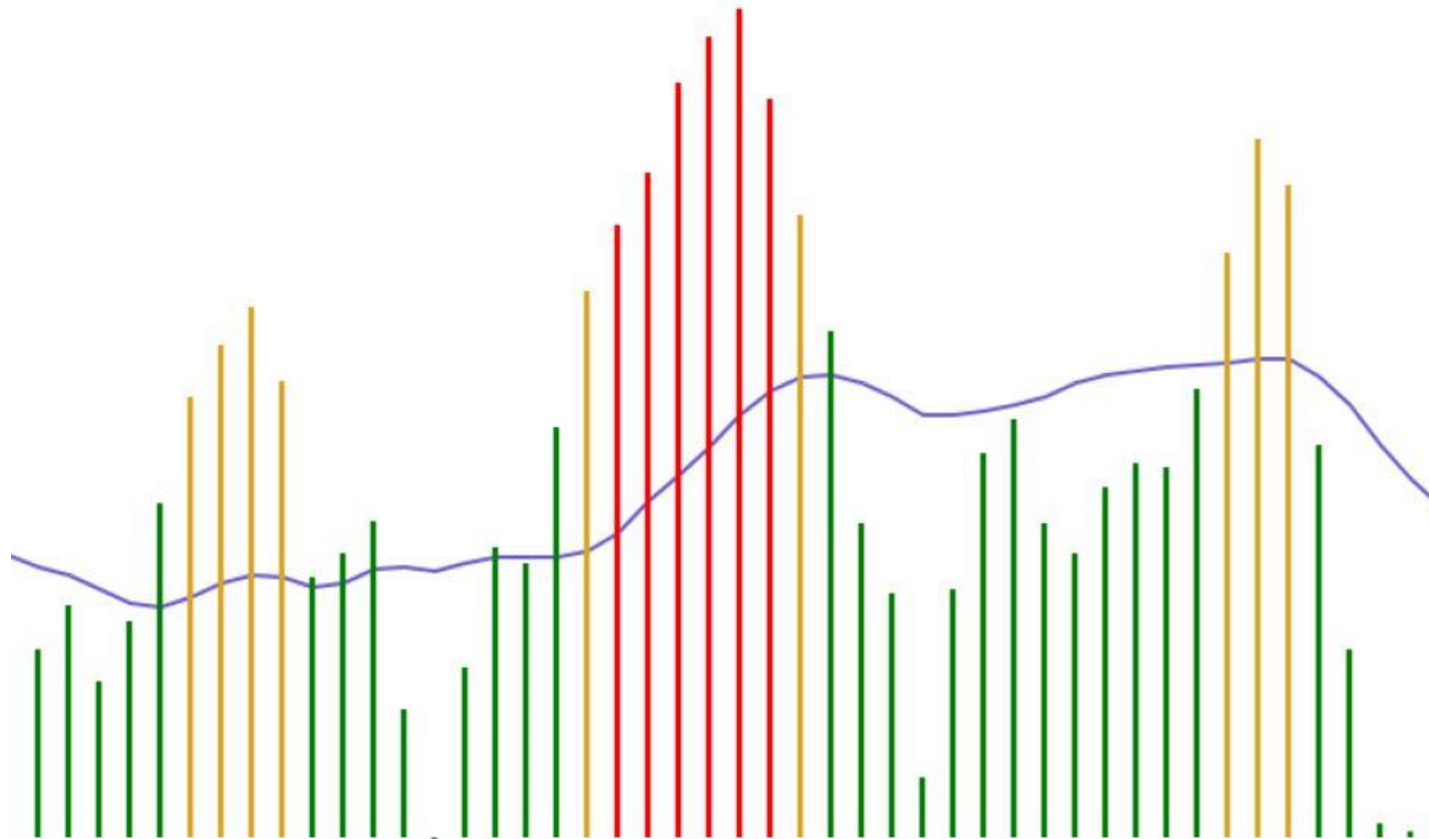
- The Snapback Indicator is based upon the concept of reversion to the mean. The basic idea is that price tends to stay near an average value. This average value may change over time, but the average changes at a rate that is slower than what price can do. If price suddenly moves well away from the current average value, then price will move in a way to reduce the distance between itself and the current average.
- The two most common behaviors we see when price has opened a large gap between itself and its current average, are the snapback and the stall.
  - A snapback occurs when price stops moving away from its current average and instead moves back towards it, often touching or crossing the average.
  - A stall occurs when price moves sideways and waits for the average to close the gap by catching up to price.

Snapback – Unidirectional

The Snapback Indicator in unidirectional mode
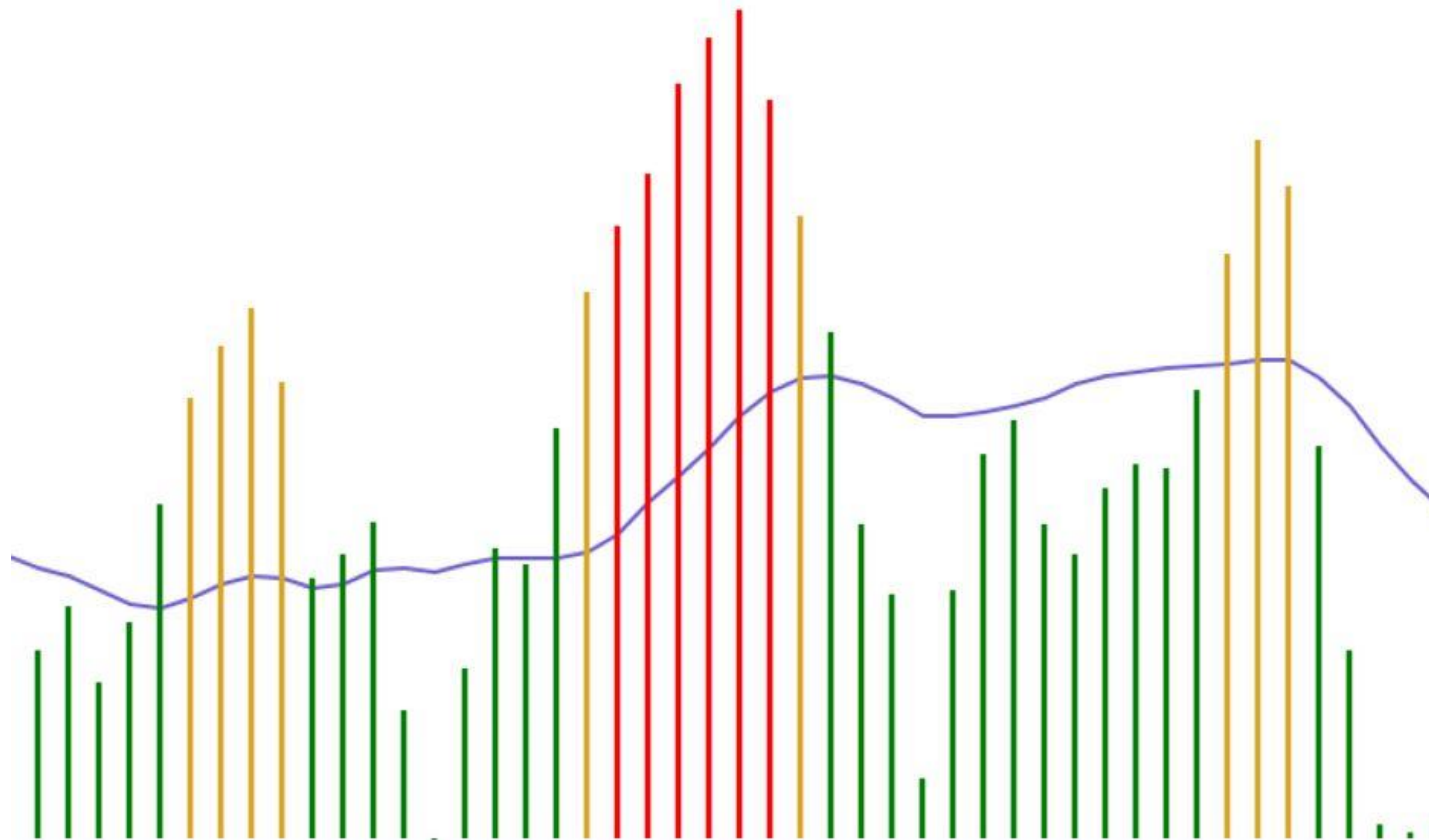
- The Snapback Indicator creates a histogram where the height of the bars in the histogram represent how far away from the mean price currently is. The color of the bars in the histogram indicate how unusual it is for price to be that distance from the mean.

  - Green bars indicate that price is within 1 standard deviation of the mean. This is the "comfort" zone where price normally likes to stay.
  - Yellow bars indicate that price has left the "comfort" zone and is between 1 and 2 standard deviations away from the mean. When the bars are yellow it is possible to get a snapback or stall.
  - Red bars indicate that price is well away from the "comfort" zone and is between 2 and 3 standard deviations away from the mean. Red bars typically mean that a snapback or stall is likely to happen soon.
  - Magenta bars indicate that price is more than 3 standard deviations from the mean. This is very unusual (extreme!) and typically means that a snapback or stall is almost certainly coming, its just a matter of when.

Snapback – Bidirectional Mode

The Snapback Indicator in bidirectional mode
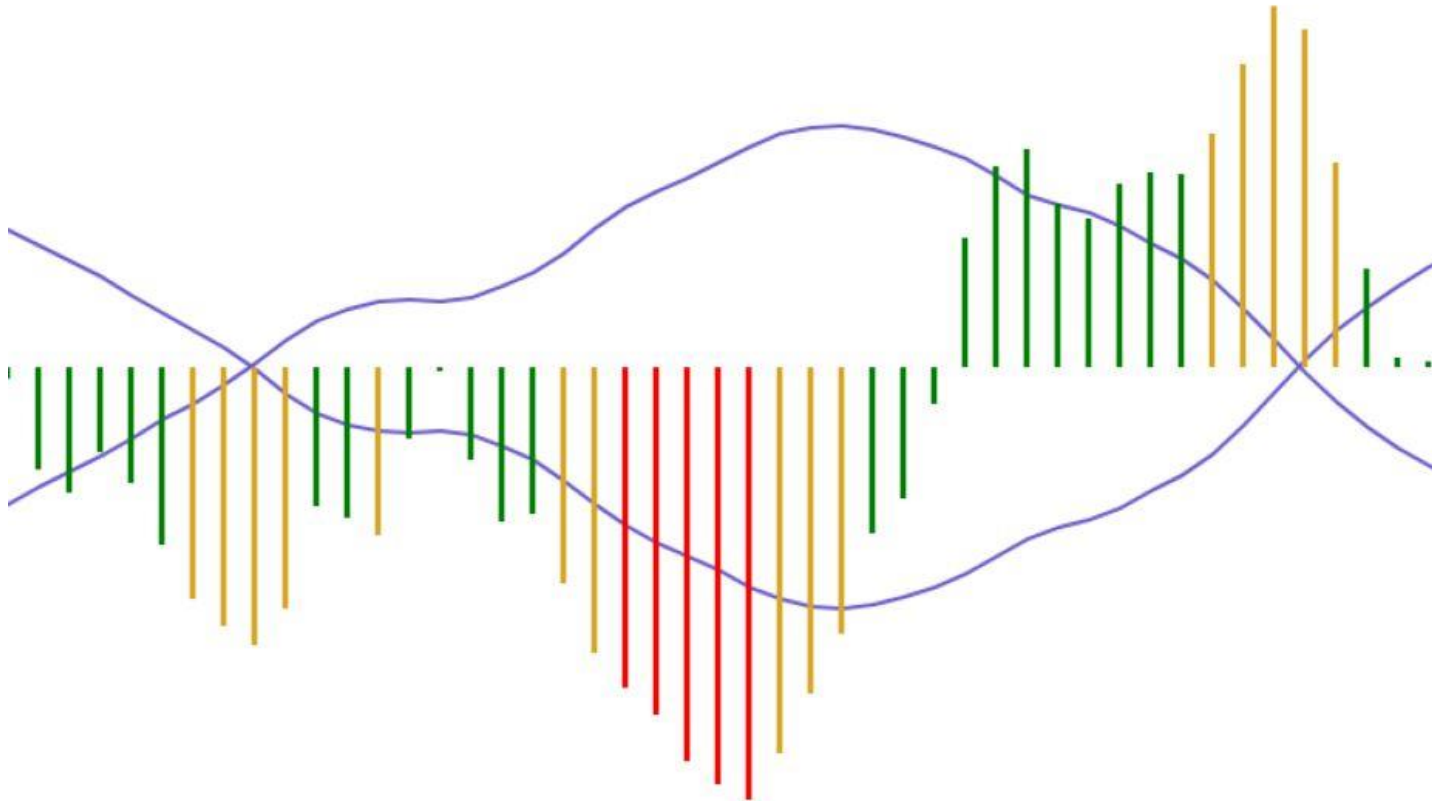
- The Snapback Histogram can be displayed in either Unidirectional mode or Bidirectional mode.
- In Unidirectional Mode, all of the bars point in the same direction and show how far price is from the mean. It does not indicate whether price is above or below the mean.
- In Bidirectional Mode, the bars of the histogram point in the direction that price will move if a snapback occurs. The bars still show how far price is from the mean, but they now take into account whether price is above or below the mean.
- In either mode, a signal line may optionally be generated using a moving average of the height of the bars.

Snapback – In Use

The Snapback Indicator in bidirectional mode

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- This chart shows the Snapback indicator in use on the ES (futures) on a 5 minute interval.
  - The Snapback Indicator is set to track the distance from price to the mean as a multiple of the ATR. This helps to adjust for changes in volatility during the trading day.
  - The signal line is turned off.
  - The warn if above line is active and is set to 2. If the distance from price to the mean is above 2 ATR (which means the mean is 2 ATR or more above price), then an alert will be generated.
  - The warn if below line is set to -2. If the distance from price to the mean is below -2 ATR (which means the mean is 2 ATR or more below price), then an alert will be generated.
- The Snapback Indicator is NOT a market timing tool. Its' purpose is to give the user early warning that a change in price behavior may be coming. This early warning can be used in various ways. For example, you could use it to avoid entering the market when you are near a possible turning point that could prevent your trade from reaching target. If you are already in a trade, it could be used to alert you to a possible pull-back or reversal so you can be prepared to respond should that happen.

Snapback Scan

Symbol	Interval	Last	SnapBack Pressure	Chances of a Snapback	Top Signal Line	Bottom Signal Line	Warn If Above Line	Warn If Below Line	+
				SDSI_Snapback_Scan_Beta_1					
FTNT	5 Min	56.15	2.04	POSSIBLE	-0.56	0.56	2.00	-2.00	
GEHC	5 Min	74.80	1.26	POSSIBLE	-0.13	0.13	2.00	-2.00	
GFS	5 Min	58.99	0.90		0.99	-0.99	2.00	-2.00	
GILD	5 Min	79.17	0.15		-0.01	0.01	2.00	-2.00	
GOOG	5 Min	137.19	1.97		0.01	-0.01	2.00	-2.00	
GOOGL	5 Min	135.79	1.91		-0.08	0.08	2.00	-2.00	
HON	5 Min	205.10	-0.72		0.48	-0.48	2.00	-2.00	
IDXX	5 Min	539.98	1.39		0.97	-0.97	2.00	-2.00	
ILMN	5 Min	130.00	1.52	POSSIBLE	0.31	-0.31	2.00	-2.00	
INTC	5 Min	45.55	1.99	POSSIBLE	-0.20	0.20	2.00	-2.00	
INTU	5 Min	618.43	-1.07		1.77	-1.77	2.00	-2.00	
ISRG	5 Min	328.42	1.21		-0.48	0.48	2.00	-2.00	
KDP	5 Min	32.40	2.05		-0.38	0.38	2.00	-2.00	
KHC	5 Min	36.69	-0.23		-0.44	0.44	2.00	-2.00	
KLAC	5 Min	576.68	2.54	LIKELY	-0.06	0.06	2.00	-2.00	
LRCX	5 Min	769.92	0.04		0.70	-0.70	2.00	-2.00	
LULU	5 Min	501.63	-1.18		1.34	-1.34	2.00	-2.00	
MAR	5 Min	222.20	-1.25	POSSIBLE	-0.10	0.10	2.00	-2.00	
MCHP	5 Min	91.31	1.52	POSSIBLE	0.39	-0.39	2.00	-2.00	
MDLZ	5 Min	71.06	0.47		-0.48	0.48	2.00	-2.00	

- The Snapback Scan Indicator is a version of the Snapback Indicator which is designed to operate in a TradeStation® RadarScreen® or Scan.

- By user request, it contains some additional settings not found in the Snapback Indicator which allow the user to tweak the internal workings of the indicator.

- The Snapback Scan Indicator is intended to be used in conjunction with the Trade Finder, Pattern Finder, and Chart Tool, where it can act as an odds enhancer for the bands or patterns found by those tools.

Price Direction Pressure Index (PDPI)

- The Price Direction Pressure Index (PDPI) is an indicator that examines price movement both within candles and between candles.
  - The price movement it finds is characterized as either upward or downward movement.
  - The upward movement and downward movement are processed independently of each other and can be displayed independently, together, or as a composite index.
  - The values displayed can be either raw or as an index with a range of 0 to 100.
  - Statistics are used to convert raw values to index values when index values are required.
- When the PDPI is showing the composite index, values below 50 indicate that there is more pressure on price to go down than up, and values over 50 indicate that there is more pressure on price to go up than down.

Price Direction Pressure Index (PDPI)

@NQ=11VON - 1597 Tick Bar CME

SDSI_PDPI_Beta 1 ("###################",1,11,1,11,100,...   60.27 50.00 65.00 35.00

- The PDPI in use on the NQ (futures) for 12-20-2023 on a 1597 tick chart.

- Some areas of divergence have been marked. Divergence is usually a sign that support for the current move in price is changing.

Price Direction Pressure Index (PDPI)

®NQ=11VON - 1597 Tick Bar CME

SDSI_PDPI_Beta 1 ("####################",1,11,1,11,100,... 6.43 3.71

10:35   11:32:30   12:02:01   13:10:56   13:34:17   13:44:45   13:51:34   13:55:30   14:04:24   14:10:46   14:18:01   14:28:02   14:50:30   14:57:46   15:00

- The PDPI in use on the NQ (futures) for 12-20-2023 on a 1597 tick chart.

- In this example, the PDPI is showing the upward (green) and downward (red) pressure individually.

Price Direction Pressure Index (PDPI)

- The PDPI in use on the MNQ (futures) for 3-27-2024 on a 987 tick chart.

- In this example, the PDPI is showing the up pressure index (dark solid green line), down pressure index (solid red line), and the composite pressure index (light green dot-dash line) as well as some divergences. The divergences show that the support for the current price move is changing.

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- Session Tool
  - Assist with range of market movement
  - Breakout Trade Analysis
  - Provide historical Information
- Snapback
  - Allows Reversion to the Mean analysis
- PDPI
- Pattern Finder
- Trade Finder

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