Why should you be a turtle in trend following? And how to be a turtle trend follower.

# A Spreadsheet for a Trend-Following Trading

Here's a spreadsheet template you can use to create a robust trend-following trading system even if you have no experience before without wasting time on another thing.



#### The Turtle

In 1983, famed commodities traders Richard Dennis and William Eckhardt conducted the turtle experiment to demonstrate that anybody could be taught to trade.

# **Experiment with Turtles**

Dennis was generally acknowledged as an astounding success in the trading industry by the early 1980s. He had converted a \$5,000 initial investment into more than \$100 million. He and his companion, Eckhardt, discussed their achievement often. Dennis thought that anybody could learn to trade the futures markets, while Eckhardt claimed that Dennis had a particular ability that enabled him to benefit from trading.

Dennis devised the experiment to put an end to the discussion. Dennis would recruit a group of individuals to explain his rules to, then have them trade with real money. Dennis was so confident in his ideas that he offered the traders his funds to deal with. The training would take two weeks and may be done several times. After visiting turtle farms in Singapore and concluding that he could create merchants as rapidly and effectively as farm-grown turtles, he named his pupils "turtles."

## The Turtles' Way

Dennis put an ad in The Wall Street Journal to settle the wager, and hundreds of people applied to study commodities trading at the feet of well-known experts. Only 14 merchants would survive the first "Turtle" scheme. Nobody knows what criteria Dennis employed, but it included a series of true-or-false questions.

Was It Effective?

According to former turtle Russell Sands, the two turtle classes Dennis personally coached generated over \$175 million in just five years. Dennis has shown that even complete novices can learn to trade effectively. Sands claims that the technique still works, claiming that if you began with \$10,000 in January 2007 and followed the original turtle rules, you would have completed the year with \$25,000 in your pocket.

Individuals may use the fundamental concepts of turtle trading for their trade even without Dennis' assistance. The basic idea is to buy breakouts and exit when the trend is about to change.

When prices begin to consolidate or reverse, because a market experiences both uptrends and downtrends, short bets must be conducted using the same concepts as long transactions. While any time frame may be utilized for the entrance signal, the exit signal must be much shorter to optimize successful trades.

# What Are We Going to Do Here?

The Turtle trading strategy was a trend-following approach based on rules. I won't delve into the Turtle trading money management guidelines since they are readily accessed on the Internet. Instead, I'll only outline a simple way for setting up an Excel spreadsheet to construct a rudimentary "Turtle"-style trend-following application in this brief post.

# Step: 1

To start, paste a minimum of 100 days of historical data into a workbook in cells A1 thru E100, as depicted in Figure 1.

## Step:2

The next step in creating the trend bands is to enter the variable-range formulas into cells G21 and H21.

The formula for G21 is:

=MAX(OFFSET(C21,-(\$G\$2-1),0):C21)

The formula for cell H21 is:

=MIN(OFFSET(D21,-(\$G\$2-1),0):D21)

Copy these formulas down to the end of the data range.

In this example, the formulas are copied down to cells G100 and H100.

You will see that these two formulas require a variable-range number entered into cell G2. This number defines the range that will be calculated. In this case, the content entered is 5. By adjusting this range, you can experiment based on your individual preferences in applying this indicator.

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G2 = 5

The second formulas are entered in cells J21 and K21, respectively. The formula for J21 is:

= MAX(OFFSET(C21,-(\$J\$2-1),0):C21)

The formula for K21 is:

=MIN(OFFSET(D21,-(\$J\$2-1),0):D21)

Again, copy these formulas down to the end of the data range. In this example, the recipes are copied down to cells J100 and K100. As in the previous procedures, a variable-range value needs to be

entered in cell J2:

J2 = 2

You will now have five columns of price data and four columns of range formulas. The last sets of recipes entered exemplify a basic buy/sell rule. Variations to this rule are left to the individual's imagination. I just provided this as a starting point for building a set of signals for entry and exit points.

For the signal formulas, enter in cell M21:

=G21-J21

And for the second signal parameter, in the next column, N21, enter:

= K21-H21

The last step is to enter formulas that will determine if the signal formulas are indicating a "buy" or "sell" (entry and exit).

In cell P21, enter the formula:

= IF(AND(N21>M21),"Buy","")

And in cell Q21, enter the formula:

= IF(AND(M21>N21), "Sell", "")

#### What Have We Done So Far?

This formula enters a long position when the difference between the two-day downward trend and the five-day downward trend is more significant than the difference between the two-day high trend and the five-day high trend. A sell (or short) position is entered when the opposite occurs—that is, when the difference between the two-day high trend and the five-day high trend is more significant than the difference between the two-day downward trend and the five-day downward trend.

### What to do Next?

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Mission/Our Why: Most traders lose money and become frustrated. We ensure clarity in your trading plan. When you trade with a clear trading strategy & Plan, you become Profitable and Stay confident about your Stock trading business Income.