



Trading – Basic Oscillators

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Oscillators

- Stochastic (Fast, Slow and Complete)
- ADX (Average Directional Index)



Stochastic Oscillator

'Stochastic oscillator does not follow prices or volume. Rather, it follows the speed or the momentum of prices.'

George Lane

FAST Stochastic

$$\%K = \frac{\text{Price}_{\downarrow t} - \text{Lowest low}_{\downarrow t - \text{lag}k:t}}{\text{Highest high}_{\downarrow t - \text{lag}k:t} - \text{Lowest low}_{\downarrow t - \text{lag}k:t}}$$

$$\%D = \text{SMA}(\text{lag}d)\%K$$



Stochastic Oscillator

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SLOW Stochastic

$$\%K(\text{FAST Stochastic}) = \frac{\text{Price}_{\downarrow t} - \text{Lowest low}_{\downarrow t - \text{lag}k:t}}{\text{Highest high}_{\downarrow t - \text{lag}k:t} - \text{Lowest low}_{\downarrow t - \text{lag}k:t}}$$

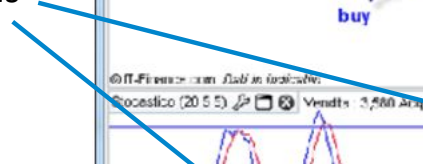
$$\%K(\text{SLOW Stochastic}) = \text{SMA}(\text{lag}d)\%K(\text{FAST Stochastic})$$

$$\%D = \text{SMA}(\text{lag}d)\%K$$

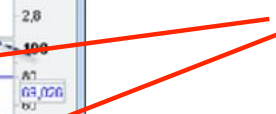


Stochastic Oscillator

Non-clean signals



Clean signals





Stochastic Oscillator





ADX (Average Directional Index)

- Developed by J. Welles Wilder, Jr. in 1978.
- Originally designed for commodity and currency securities with a daily frequency approach.
- Used to measure the strength of a trend but It does not provide indications about its direction.
- It is made by three single indicators:
 1. +DI (plus directional indicator)
 2. -DI (minus directional indicator)
 3. Final ADX value



ADX (Average Directional Index)

A directional movement is positive when:

$$\text{Current high} - \text{Prior high} > \text{Prior low} - \text{Current low}$$

Plus Directional Movement (+DM) = Current high – Prior High (if positive, zero otherwise)

A directional movement is negative when:

$$\text{Prior low} - \text{Current low} > \text{Current high} - \text{Prior high}$$

Minus Directional Movement (-DM) = Prior low – Current low (if positive, zero otherwise)



ADX (Average Directional Index)

- Smooth +DM and –DM with Wilder’s smoothing technique
- Divide the smoothed +DM and –DM by the smoothed true range (ATR not disclosed in these slides)
- The directional movement index equal the absolute value of +DI minus –DI divided by the sum of +DI and –DI
- The ADX is the moving average of the DX and the subsequent value of the ADS are smoothed with Wilder’s technique.



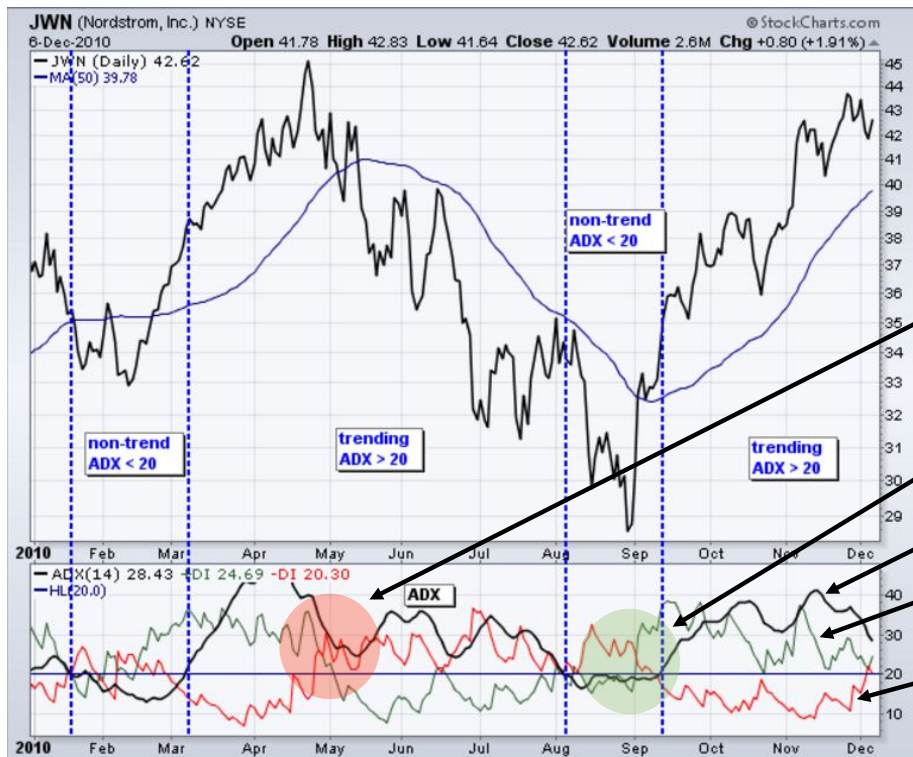
ADX (Average Directional Index)

According to his designer:

- 150 observations are needed in order to have a consistent ADX indicator because of the smoothing procedure.
- A level of the index above 25 indicates the presence of a trend while a value below 20 indicates that no trend is present.



ADX (Average Directional Index)



Bearish crossover

Bullish crossover

ADX

+DI

-DI



ADX (Average Directional Index)



False signals

Bullish signal



ADX (Average Directional Index)



Bearish signal

Bullish signal