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questions tags users

What is the time frame for the Uptrend and Downtrend scan terms?

yama uses the Uptrend term in a scan from this question [link text](#)

2 I hadn't seen this used before so I tried it on [group is SP500] on 10/16/11. Uptrend returned 489 and Downtrend returned 11. The results for Downtrend were definitely doing less well, but many results for Uptrend were more or less neutral, with downward sloping intermediate MAs (65 days). I couldn't find documentation on these terms. Maybe they are based on P&F charts? Thanks for your help.

downtrend uptrend

closed Oct 28 '11 at 09:21

asked Oct 16 '11 at 09:40

markd 15.4k • 15 • 23

I'm sorry, did I miss an answer in here somewhere? Because for the life of me I've scoured this thread for one and I'm coming up dry.

What is the default time frame for "uptrend" and "downtrend"? Is it Three days? Four days? Two days? What?

chasfn (Dec 12 '11 at 12:06)

There was very little interest in this question at the time. I wanted to delete it, but did not see a delete option (maybe I need a new prescription). Also, there was no "lack of interest" option for closing a question, so I chose "answered" as a last resort. Sorry you wasted your time. If you find an answer, I'm sure at least a few members of the community would appreciate it.

markd (Dec 12 '11 at 17:38)

I had assumed it was three days, but then again I've written several scans that ensure a longer trend. For example, here's coding for six days downtrend leading into today:

```
[6 days ago high > 5 days ago high] and [6 days ago low > 5 days ago low] and [5 days ago high > 4 days ago high] and [5 days ago low > 4 days ago low] and [4 days ago high > 3 days ago high] and [4 days ago low > 3 days ago low] and [3 days ago high > 2 days ago high] and [3 days ago low > 2 days ago low] and [2 days ago high > yesterday's high] and [2 days ago low > yesterday's low]
```

Simple stuff, but it works!

chasfn (Dec 12 '11 at 17:44)

Well, the point of the question was more curiosity about SC's definition. I usually just test for the direction of an appropriate MA, eg. for an uptrend, `sma(5,close) > 3 days ago` or `sma(65, close) > 10 days ago`, etc. Depending on the purpose of the scan, you could then test for high, low or close above or below the MA. Since price movements can be pretty random, testing for an MA rather than an exact sequence of price relationships is usually more inclusive - if that's what you want.

markd (Dec 12 '11 at 21:03)

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Tags:

uptrend x6

downtrend x3

Asked: Oct 16 '11 at 09:40

Seen: 2,509 times

Last updated: Dec 13 '11 at 19:59

The question has been closed for the following reason "Question has been answered" by markd Oct 28 '11 at 09:21

One Answer:

oldest newest most voted

3 I did a experiment and if I'm right, the building blocks uptrend and downtrend are based upon total Candlestick patterns.

First scan for uptrend =489 based on the close of Oct 14

```
[Uptrend is true] and [group is SP500] and [[Bullish Engulfing is true] or [Bearish Engulfing is true] or [Dark Cloud Cover is true] or [Piercing Line is true] or [Bullish Harami is true] or [Bearish Harami is true] or [Morning Star is true] or [Evening Star is true] or [Rising Three Methods is true] or [Falling Three Methods is true] or [Gravestone Doji is true] or [Dragonfly Doji is true] or [Three White Soldiers is true] or [Three Black Crows is true] or [Hammer is true] or [Hanging Man is true] or [Shooting Star is true] or [Filled Black Candle is true] or [Hollow Red Candle is true] or [Elder Bar Red is true] or [Elder Bar Blue is true] or [Elder Bar Green is true] or [In Ichimoku Cloud is true] or [Above Ichimoku Cloud is true] or [Below Ichimoku Cloud is true] or [Green Ichimoku Cloud is true] or [Red Ichimoku Cloud is true]]
```


Second scan for downtrend =11 based on the close of Oct 14

[Downtrend is true] and [group is SP500] and [(Bullish Engulfing is true) or (Bearish Engulfing is true) or (Dark Cloud Cover is true) or (Piercing Line is true) or (Bullish Harami is true) or (Bearish Harami is true) or (Morning Star is true) or (Evening Star is true) or (Rising Three Methods is true) or (Falling Three Methods is true) or (Gravestone Doji is true) or (Dragonfly Doji is true) or (Three White Soldiers is true) or (Three Black Crows is true) or (Hammer is true) or (Hanging Man is true) or (Shooting Star is true) or (Filled Black Candle is true) or (Hollow Red Candle is true) or (Elder Bar Red is true) or (Elder Bar Blue is true) or (Elder Bar Green is true) or (In Ichimoku Cloud is true) or (Above Ichimoku Cloud is true) or (Below Ichimoku Cloud is true) or (Green Ichimoku Cloud is true) or (Red Ichimoku Cloud is true)]


Peace....Trade_to_Live

[link](#)

answered Oct 17 '11 at 13:55


 Trade_to_Live
2.0k ● 1 ● 18 ● 27

Wow! Thanks for doing all that work TtL! Amazing.


 markd (Oct 17 '11 at 18:25)

Try using the // scan comment command to run the second part of your scan without the first, uptrend or downtrend part. You will see that you will get all 500 stocks in the S&P500. The second part is connected with "or's" so any condition can select a stock. For example Elder bar is red, blue or green, well that covers them all, so all 500 S&P stocks are selected.

The up or down is what is selecting the 489 or 11 . I would think it is fairly simple and short term as candles are short term. Perhaps something like is today an up candle and is the close greater than the close yesterday.

 Gord (Oct 17 '11 at 18:36)


Thanks for that, Gord. Sounds likely.

 markd (Oct 20 '11 at 18:11)

OK, so, I actually took the step of asking [Stockcharts.com](#) what calculation they use, and this was the answer Jack Smith provided me:

"Our trend definitions are based on the 10-day exponential moving average and the midpoint of the day's data bar. If the midpoint is above the 10-day EMA, the stock is in an uptrend; if it is below it, the stock is in a downtrend. The definitions are based on recommendations in Greg Morris's book "Candlestick Charting Explained."

To be continued ...


 chasfn (Dec 13 '11 at 18:50)

So, that explains why, when you write a scan like Bearish Belt Hold that requires an uptrend to reverse, you get something that looks like this (for 12/13/11):

<http://stockcharts.com/h-sc/ui?s=CEM&p=D&b=9&g=1&id=p29260841302>

Sure, it satisfies the technical definition of an uptrend as Morris defines it and as [StockCharts.com](#) endorses it -- but eyeballing the thing, it sure doesn't look like much of an uptrend, does it?

So, there you have it, I guess. At least we know now.

 chasfn (Dec 13 '11 at 18:50)

showing 5 of 7 show all

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