How do I write a scan to identify stocks that the 50 day moving average is almost flat?

See dynt August 2010 to December 2010. How do I write a scan to identify tha nearly flat 50 moving average?

2

1 moving-average range scans

edited Oct 06 at 13:12
AgnosticTrader
4.1k • 1 • 19

asked Oct 06 at 09:17
grover
21 • 2

3 Answers:

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1

This scan gives you the stocks whose 50d SMA is flat between yesterday and today:

Criteria:

• For the last market close:

• United States Stocks with...

• 20-day Simple Moving Average of Volume for today is greater than 500000

• 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for yesterday is less than or equal to 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for today times 1.0005

• 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for yesterday is greater than or equal to 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for today times 0.9995

You could duplicate the criteria to stretch it out another day or so:

Criteria:

• For the last market close:

• United States Stocks with...

• 20-day Simple Moving Average of Volume for today is greater than 500000

• 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for yesterday is less than or equal to 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for today times 1.0005

• 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for yesterday is greater than or equal to 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for today times 0.9995

• 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for 2 days ago is less than or equal to 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for today times 1.0005

• 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for 2 days ago is greater than or equal to 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for today times 0.9995

• 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for 3 days ago is less than or equal to 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for today times 1.0005

• 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for 3 days ago is greater than or equal to 50-day Simple Moving Average of Close for today times 0.9995

I'm not sure how far you can carry this on.

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Asked: **Oct 06 at 09:17**

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Last updated: **Oct 07 at 19:53**

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link edited **Oct 06 at 17:04** answered **Oct 06 at 16:59**

markk
1.4k ● 1 ● 9

1

Hi Grover, here are a couple of scans you can play with.

Your idea involves two parameters - length of time and change in price. Price can be expressed as a per cent of the moving average. For a time frame you might want to use 20 or 30 or 50 days. The percentage movement in the MA would be a very small number like 2 or 3 or 5.

So the scan for an upward moving average could look like this:

// **Flat MA scan - MA up**

// limit scan scope

[group is SP500] and

// test for rising sma

[sma(50,close) > 20 days ago sma(50,close)] and

// test for small per cent rise

[sma(50,close) < 20 days ago sma(50,close) * 1.02]

// end scan

while the scan for a downward moving average could be

// **Flat MA scan - MA down**

// scan limit

[group is SP500] and

// test for falling sma

[sma(50,close) < 20 days ago sma(50,close)] and

// test for small per cent decline

[sma(50,close) > 20 days ago sma(50,close) * .98]

// end scan

If you want, you could combine these into one scan with an "or" statement:

[group is SP500] and [[sma(50,close) > 20 days ago sma(50,close)] and [sma(50,close) < 20 days ago sma(50,close) * 1.02] or [sma(50,close) < 20 days ago sma(50,close)] and [sma(50,close) > 20 days ago sma(50,close) * .98]]

but you get quite a few more hits, which could be alot of work analyze.

To flatten out the MAs you get, either extend the number of days or lower the per cent change (add to .98, say .985 or .99 and subtract from 1.02, say 1.015 or 1.01) or do both.

Of course you can change [group is SP500] to anything else. You might want to limit price to under 100 [close < 100]. A small per cent move in a high priced stock can still move the MA more than what I think you are looking for. I hope that helps.

link answered **Oct 06 at 21:42**

markd
1.9k ● 1 ● 6

1

Another option.

```
[type = stock] and [country = us] and
[daily sma(50,daily volume) > 300000] and
[daily sma(20,daily close) > 5] and
[[[max(80, sma(50, daily close)) - min(80, sma(50, daily close))] / max(80, sma(5
```

link answered **Oct 06 at 22:36**

ekwong
2.5k ● 2 ● 18

Very elegant solution, ekwong. I like it.

markd (Oct 07 at 19:53)

Your answer

[hide preview]

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