

EMA “Captain” Crypto Trading Bot (with RSI/MACD “Advisors”)

This bot watches multiple crypto markets on Coinbase in real time. It makes simple, explainable trades:

- **EMA crossover** is the “captain”: when a short-term moving average crosses a long-term one, that’s a buy/sell signal.
 - **RSI & MACD** are “advisors”: they can veto obviously bad buys/sells.
 - Orders are **post-only limit orders** by default (to earn maker rates), with a **daily spend cap** and a **cool-down** between trades per coin. It keeps a lightweight portfolio and P&L.
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Quick start (plain English)

1. **Add your API keys** in an env file (default name APIkeys.env) or environment variables:
 - COINBASE_API_KEY, COINBASE_API_SECRET, and optional COINBASE_PORTFOLIO_ID.
2. **Run the bot:**
3. `python main.py`

It sets up logging, loads keys, starts the bot, and idles until you stop it. Ctrl-C triggers a clean shutdown.

What each file does (in friendly terms)

- **main.py** – The entry point. Loads your keys, wires up Ctrl-C handling, starts the bot, and keeps the event loop alive until you stop it.
- **bot/config.py** – All the knobs. Pick which coins to trade, EMA lengths, spend limits, cool-down, advisor (RSI/MACD) settings, and maker offsets. Includes per-coin overrides and an EMA “dead-band” to avoid flapping.
- **bot/tradebot.py** – The brain. Connects to Coinbase (REST + WebSocket), subscribes to tickers for all chosen coins, updates indicators per tick, decides when to trade, enforces daily cap/cool-down, places orders (maker by default), and updates portfolio/P&L from fills. Also logs a session P&L footer on exit.
- **bot/indicators.py** – Lightweight, streaming indicators:

- **EMA** (short & long) for the captain signal,
 - **RSI(14)** by default,
 - **MACD(12,26,9)** with signal line & histogram.
 - **bot/strategy.py** – Advisor rules. RSI must be within a safe range; MACD must not contradict the side (default: buy only if $MACD \geq 0$, sell only if $MACD \leq 0$). It can normalize MACD by price (basis points).
 - **bot/orders.py** – Builds post-only limit orders near the current bid/ask with an offset, and rounds price/size to the exchange increments. Returns the price & size to place.
 - **bot/persistence.py** – The little database:
 - **SpendTracker** (daily spend cap),
 - **LastTradeTracker** (per-coin cool-down),
 - **PortfolioStore** (positions, cost basis, realized P&L),
 - **ProcessedFills** (avoid double-counting),
 - Trade log writer (appends human-readable lines).
 - **bot/constants.py** – Points the bot to a .state/ folder and names the JSON/text files it uses.
 - **bot/logging_setup.py** – Optional rotating file logs; sets formats and quiets noisy libraries.
 - **bot/utils.py** – Thin re-export layer so tradebot.py can import the persistence & constants helpers from one place.
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How the bot decides to trade (simple view)

1. **Real-time prices** stream in for every chosen product.
2. For each tick, it updates **EMA/RSI/MACD** for that product. It waits for a minimum warm-up of ticks first.
3. When **short EMA crosses long EMA** (with a small “dead-band” buffer), that’s a new buy/sell event.
4. **Advisors can veto** if RSI is out of range or MACD disagrees with the side.

5. It obeys **per-coin cooldown** and a daily **BUY** cap. Once the cap is hit, it writes the session P&L footer and skips further BUYs (for the current **UTC** day) but continues to place SELLs until you stop it (Ctrl+C).
 6. **Orders**: by default it places **post-only limit** buys/sells using your maker offset (bps) relative to bid/ask; market orders are optional.
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Key settings you'll actually tweak

All of these live in **bot/config.py** unless noted.

What to trade & how much

- `product_ids`: the coins you want. More coins = more potential trades overall.
- `usd_per_order`: size of each order in USD.
- `max_usd_per_day`: daily spend cap; hitting it will stop the bot for the day.
- `dry_run`: simulate without sending live orders.

Signal sensitivity (frequency dial)

- `short_ema`, `long_ema`: shorter numbers react faster (more trades); longer numbers react slower (fewer). Per-coin overrides available in `ema_params_per_product`.
- `ema_deadband_bps`: extra buffer around crossovers to avoid choppy flip-flops. Bigger dead-band = fewer signals.
- `cooldown_sec`: minimum seconds between trades **per coin**. Higher = fewer trades.
- `min_ticks` (and per-coin `min_ticks` in overrides): warm-up period (doesn't change steady-state frequency, just how soon it can start).

Advisor (RSI/MACD) guardrails

- Toggle with `enable_advisors` / `use_advisors`. Turning them off increases trades.
- **RSI band**: Buys require $RSI \leq rsi_buy_max$ (default 70). Sells require $RSI \geq rsi_sell_min$ (default 30). Tighten by **lowering** `rsi_buy_max` and/or **raising** `rsi_sell_min`.
- **MACD sign-check**: Buys require $MACD \geq macd_buy_min$ and sells require $MACD \leq macd_sell_max$ (set in `config.py`). Use 0.0/0.0 for pure sign-check; increase magnitude (e.g., +3.0/-3.0) to tighten confirmation. Values set in `config.py` override default values.

Order style (fill behavior)

- `prefer_maker`: True = post-only limit orders.
- `maker_offset_bps` (and per-coin map): bigger offset = less aggressive pricing, **fewer fills**; smaller offset = more fills.

Sell guard (risk)

- `max_loss_bps`: don't sell below cost basis beyond this tolerance (bps). Lower value = fewer loss-taking sells; higher value = more sells allowed when under water.

Tuning cheatsheet

If you're seeing *too many* trades per session:

- **Raise `cooldown_sec`** (e.g., 720 → 1200).
- **Increase `ema_deadband_bps`** (e.g., 8 → 12–20 bps).
- **Lengthen EMAs** (e.g., `short_ema` +10–30%, `long_ema` +10–30%). Use per-coin overrides if only some assets are noisy.
- **Narrow the RSI window** (raise `rsi_buy_floor`, lower `rsi_sell_ceiling`, e.g., 55–65).
- **Increase `maker_offset_bps`** so limits are less likely to fill in chop.
- **Lower `max_usd_per_day`** to force the bot to stop sooner once busy.

If you're getting *hardly any* trades:

- **Lower `cooldown_sec`** (e.g., 720 → 300).
- **Shrink `ema_deadband_bps`** (e.g., 8 → 4–0 bps).
- **Shorten EMAs** (e.g., `short_ema` –10–30%, `long_ema` –10–30%).
- **Widen the RSI window** (lower `rsi_buy_floor`, raise `rsi_sell_ceiling`, e.g., 45–75), or **disable advisors** temporarily.
- **Decrease `maker_offset_bps`** for more fills, or set `prefer_maker=False` (market orders).
- **Raise `max_usd_per_day`** if you're hitting the cap early.

Advanced MACD loosen/tighten: In code, the default requires **MACD ≥ 0 for buys** and **≤ 0 for sells**. To make it less strict (more trades), allow small negatives/positives by changing

macd_buy_min and macd_sell_max when AdvisorSettings is created in tradebot.py. (Example: set them to -5/+5 bps. macd_buy_min=-5, macd_sell_max=+5)

Where things get saved

- **State folder:** .state/ (configurable via BOT_STATE_DIR).
 - **Files:**
daily_spend.json, last_trades.json, trade_log.txt, portfolio.json, processed_fills.json.
 - **Trade log lines** look like: timestamp, side, product, USD, price, qty (and “DRY RUN” if simulated).
 - **Session P&L footer** is appended when the session ends.
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Order placement (maker vs market)

- **Maker (default):** prices are placed slightly *away* from current bid/ask using your offset (in basis points). This can reduce fees but may not fill in fast markets.
 - **Market:** switch by setting prefer_maker=False in config.
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Notes & defaults (handy)

- **RSI default period:** 14. **MACD:** 12/26 with 9-period signal.
- **Dead-band meaning:** a small % buffer (in **bps**, where 100 bps = 1%) around the crossover to cut down on noise.
- **Sell guard:** won't sell at a loss beyond max_loss_bps below cost basis unless you relax that number.

Parameter adjustments for preferred Trading Strategies (adjust at your own risk)

A) Quality-first (fewer whipsaws, fewer trades)

- **Mode: Candles (preferred).**
 - **candle_interval:** "1m" (or "5m" if you want even smoother signals)
- **EMA (trend gate):**
 - **1m:** short_ema = 20, long_ema = 60
 - **5m:** short_ema = 40, long_ema = 120
- **MACD veto (normalized, bps):**
 - **macd_buy_min** = +3.0
 - **macd_sell_max** = -3.0
- **RSI veto (one-sided):**
 - **rsi_buy_max** = 60 (don't buy if RSI > 60)
 - **rsi_sell_min** = 40 (don't sell if RSI < 40)
- **When to use:** Choppy days, tight spreads, or if you're seeing many small losers.

B) Velocity-first (more trades, more whipsaws)

- **Mode: Candles or ticks.**
 - **candle_interval:** "1m" (or ticks if you're experimenting)
- **EMA (trend gate):**
 - **1m:** short_ema = 12–20, long_ema = 36–60
 - **Ticks:** consider short_ema = 40, long_ema = 120
- **MACD veto (normalized, bps):**
 - **Candles:** macd_buy_min = +1.0 to +2.0 / macd_sell_max = -1.0 to -2.0
 - **Ticks:** macd_buy_min = +4.0 / macd_sell_max = -4.0 (ticks are noisier)
- **RSI veto (one-sided):**
 - **rsi_buy_max** = 65–70

- **rsi_sell_min** = 30–35
- **When to use:** Strong trends, wide ranges, or if the bot feels too “idle.”

Parameter Reference (how each knob behaves)

- **Candles vs Ticks**
 - Candles greatly reduce noise vs ticks. 1m is a good balance; 5m lowers noise further but reacts slower.
 - Ensure you have enough warm-up bars (\geq long_ema) before trusting EMA/MACD.
- **EMA (trend gate)**
 - Buys are favored when short **EMA** > **long EMA**; sells when **short** < **long** (exact gate depends on your strategy wiring).
 - **Longer EMAs** = smoother, slower; **shorter EMAs** = faster, choppier.
- **MACD veto (normalized to price in basis points)**
 - **macd_buy_min**: BUY allowed only if MACD \geq this value.
 - **macd_sell_max**: SELL allowed only if MACD \leq this value.
 - **0 / 0** = pure sign-check (fastest, choppier).
 - Increasing magnitude (e.g., +3/–3) demands more momentum → fewer but cleaner entries.
 - **Tip:** keep thresholds above your typical spread+slippage so you’re not churning.
- **RSI veto (one-sided)**
 - **rsi_buy_max**: cap for buys (don’t buy if overbought). Lower it (70→60) to be stricter.
 - **rsi_sell_min**: floor for sells (don’t sell if oversold). Raise it (30→40) to be stricter.
 - There is no “inside-band only” rule by default; it’s a ceiling for buys and a floor for sells.
- **Cooldown / Daily Cap / Runtime**
 - Cooldown: enforced per-coin to avoid rapid re-entries.

- Daily BUY cap: once hit, the bot skips further BUYs for the rest of the UTC day, logs the P&L footer once, and continues to place SELLS until you stop it (Ctrl+C).
- This lets you harvest exits without increasing exposure.

Suggested Defaults:

config.py (starting point)

mode = "candles" # "candles" or "ticks"

candle_interval = "1m" # "1m" | "5m" | etc.

EMA

short_ema = 20 # 1m: 20/60; 5m: 40/120

long_ema = 60

MACD (normalized, bps)

macd_buy_min = +2.0 # tighten to +3.0 if choppy

macd_sell_max = -2.0

RSI (one-sided veto)

rsi_period = 14

rsi_buy_max = 65 # tighten to 60 if many small losers

rsi_sell_min = 35 # tighten to 40 if premature exits

Risk/Ops

daily_spend_cap_usd = 1000 # buys stop after cap, sells keep running

per_product_cooldown_s = 300 # adjust per your pace