

The screenshot shows the DISCOTRADING website with a banner featuring a pyramid and the text "discretionary trading tools". The main navigation bar includes links for "All Products", "NinjaTrader 7 Add-ons", "NinjaTrader 8 Add-ons", "Free Tools", and "Utilities". A "Customer area: Log in" link is also present. Below the navigation, there's a search bar with "en" and "ru" language options. A "DISC" button is visible on the left.

The central content area features a product listing for "Volume Nodes Detector NT8" with a "download" button. A note says "sales are off". Below this, a message encourages users to download and try the add-on before buying, noting an "Evaluation period is 14 days".

The "Add-on for NinjaTrader 8 Trading Platform" is highlighted, along with the "NINJA TRADER® Architects of Electronic Trading Innovation" logo.

A large screenshot of a NinjaTrader 8 chart interface is displayed, showing candlestick price action and a complex overlay of red and green horizontal lines representing the "Volume Nodes Detector" indicator. To the right of the chart is a vertical bar chart showing volume data.

At the bottom left, a copyright notice reads "© 2020 NinjaTrader, LLC".

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I. Add-on Installation/Update

It is recommended to use the standard way to remove/install add-ons in NinjaTrader. The most recent versions of all add-ons are always available to download from the [homepage](#).

1. Remove previous assembly if you have one installed:

- Run your NinjaTrader, go to the 'Tools' menu and click 'Remove NinjaScript Assembly...' menu item.
- In the list of installed assemblies appeared select the indicator you wish to update and press 'Remove' button.

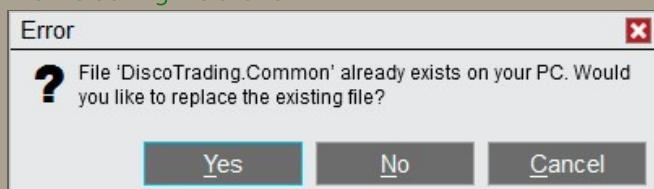
2. Restart NinjaTrader.

3. Download the latest assembly (.zip file) from this description page, from the [homepage](#) or request a direct link by email.

4. Install downloaded assembly:

- Go to "Tools" → "Import" → "NinjaScript Add-On...", select downloaded .zip file and press "Open". Then if the installation was correct you will see the success message.
- Restart NinjaTrader!

Note: Various Dt add-ons are relying on the same "DiscoTrading.Common.dll" library. NinjaScript Assembly contains the most recent version of the library, so you have to click 'Yes' when asked for replacement of the file during installation.



Remember, it is required to **restart NinjaTrader after add-on installation** before you can add a just installed indicator to a chart.

II. Overview

The natural and comprehensive way to see the flow of the Market...

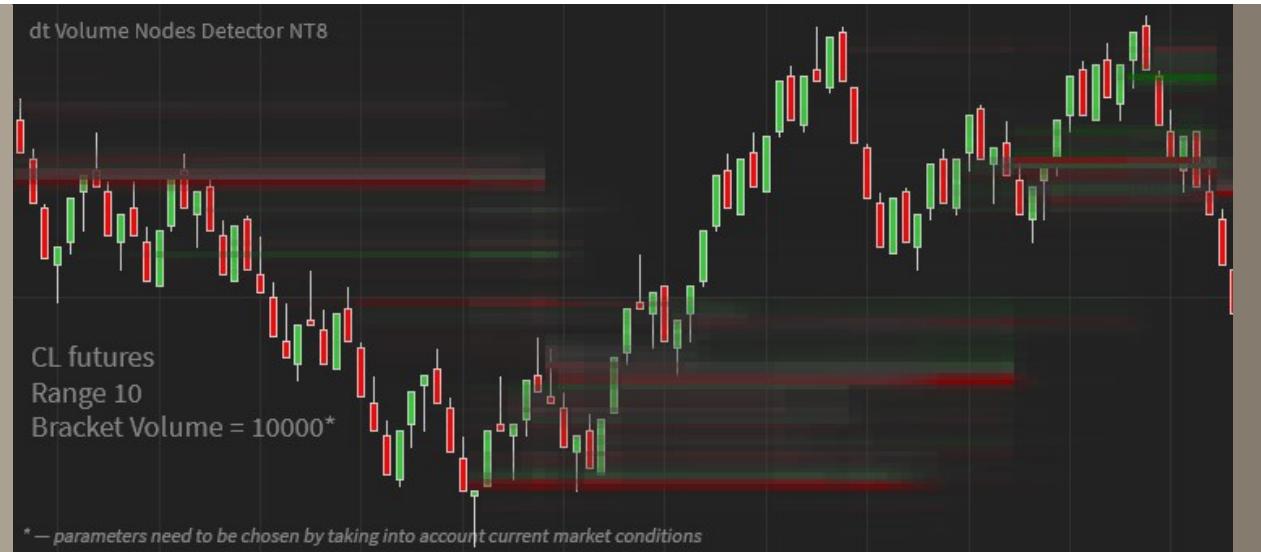
Early detection of the volume clustering within a small price range on a short time frame along with observation of how the volume distributes over time and price are the basic purposes of this add-on. It has various facilities to achieve these goals:

- **On-Chart Mapping** – the most generic way to visualize order-flow suitable for both slow "thick" low-range and fast high-volatile high-range traded instruments.

Monochrome Volume Mapping:



Trade side-colored Volume Mapping:



- Customizable [Bracket Multi-Profile](#) which is more suitable for slow low-range traded instruments.

Multi-Profile:



- The third is the special [Cumulative and Bar Delta sub-charts](#) (Volume- or Tick-based).

Bracket-based Cum Delta graphs are naturally oscillator-like studies and allows to get another perspective on periods of activity waves different than price chart.

Important note: The Sub-graphs functionality (Bracket Volume-Delta, Bracket Tick-Delta) is removed from NT8-version and delegated to the [Buy-Sell Pressure NT8](#) indicator.

[Buy-Sell Pressure NT8](#) indicator allows to emulate Bracket Volume Breakdown, Bracket Volume Delta and Bracket Tick Delta sub-graphs integrated in *Volume Nodes Detector NT7*, at the same time BSP is much handier in use as it plots on a separate chart Panel.



Please send a request for *Buy-Sell Pressure NT8* if you're user of *Volume Nodes Detector NT8*.

Maths: All computations in VND are based on the most recent trades (a group of recent trades of constant total volume hereinafter referred to as *Bracket*). A **Bracket** represents a such quantity of *the most recent trades* that are amounting to user-specified value in the sum of its volume (see the '[Bracket Volume Threshold](#)' parameter).

A visual representation of "Bracket":



The Bracket-based concept makes it possible to visualize traces of traded volume (On-Chart Mapping) on a bar chart. There are two forms of on-chart maps in VND which may be interested to observe: *the gradient map of volume distribution* and *the gradient map of average trade size*.

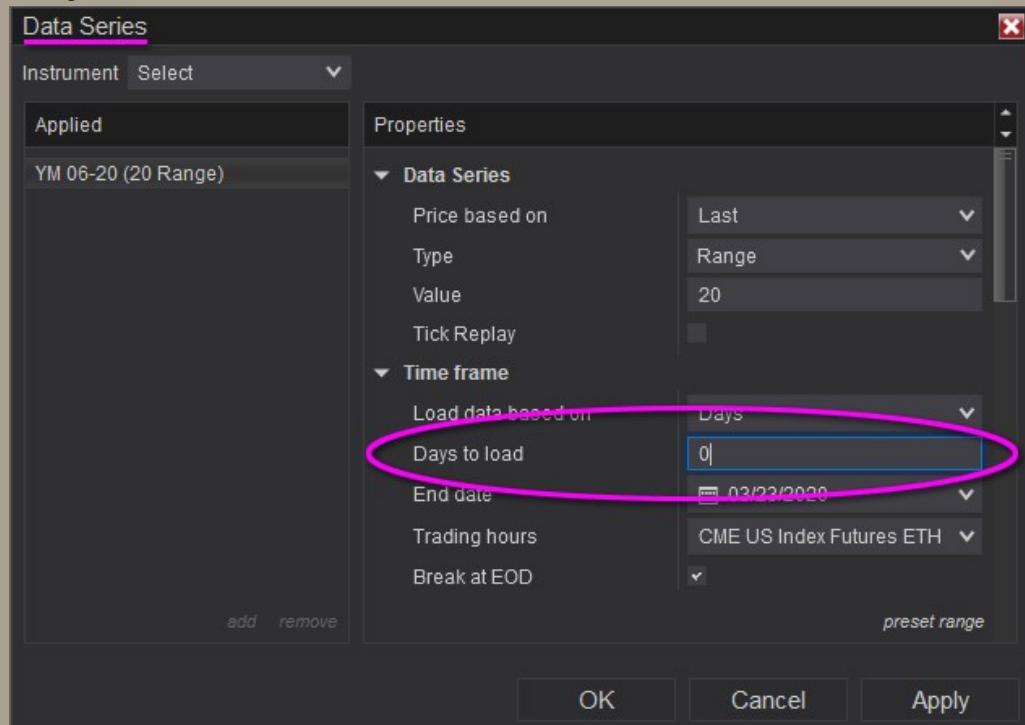
The common bands of volume-based [Value Area](#) and [Point of Control](#) are available either.

Volume Nodes Detector NT8 turned into a versatile tool aimed at discretionary scalpers and intraday traders.



III. Initial Chart Setting Up

1. *Volume Nodes Detector NT8* is a tactical tool intended to use on short-term intraday charts (intraday scalping). Please set feasible amount of 'Days to load' on your live charts to reduce data loading time on start up. There is no need to load many days on chart aimed at focusing on the most recent intraday price swings:



2. One of the important things is which bars type to use with *VND*. Assuming the volume mapping is the

most high-usage feature of VND, the common Ninja's volatility-based **Range** bar type appears to be most suitable as it helps to see more clearly how the volume distributes within price swings. Moreover the building of *Range* bars are based on consistent, simple and clear logic, this bars type is compatible with Ninja's Tick Replay feature as well as with the majority of 3-rd party indicators as opposed to the most of Renko bars types, for example.

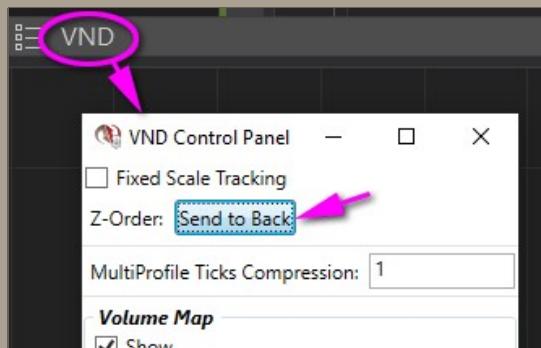
Nevertheless, if you're accustomed to *Renko* bars please take notice of the [Consistent Renko Bars Type NT8](#) which is specially designed for better compatibility with order-flow tools.

3. Do not set too densely spaced bars to avoid rendering speed degradation:

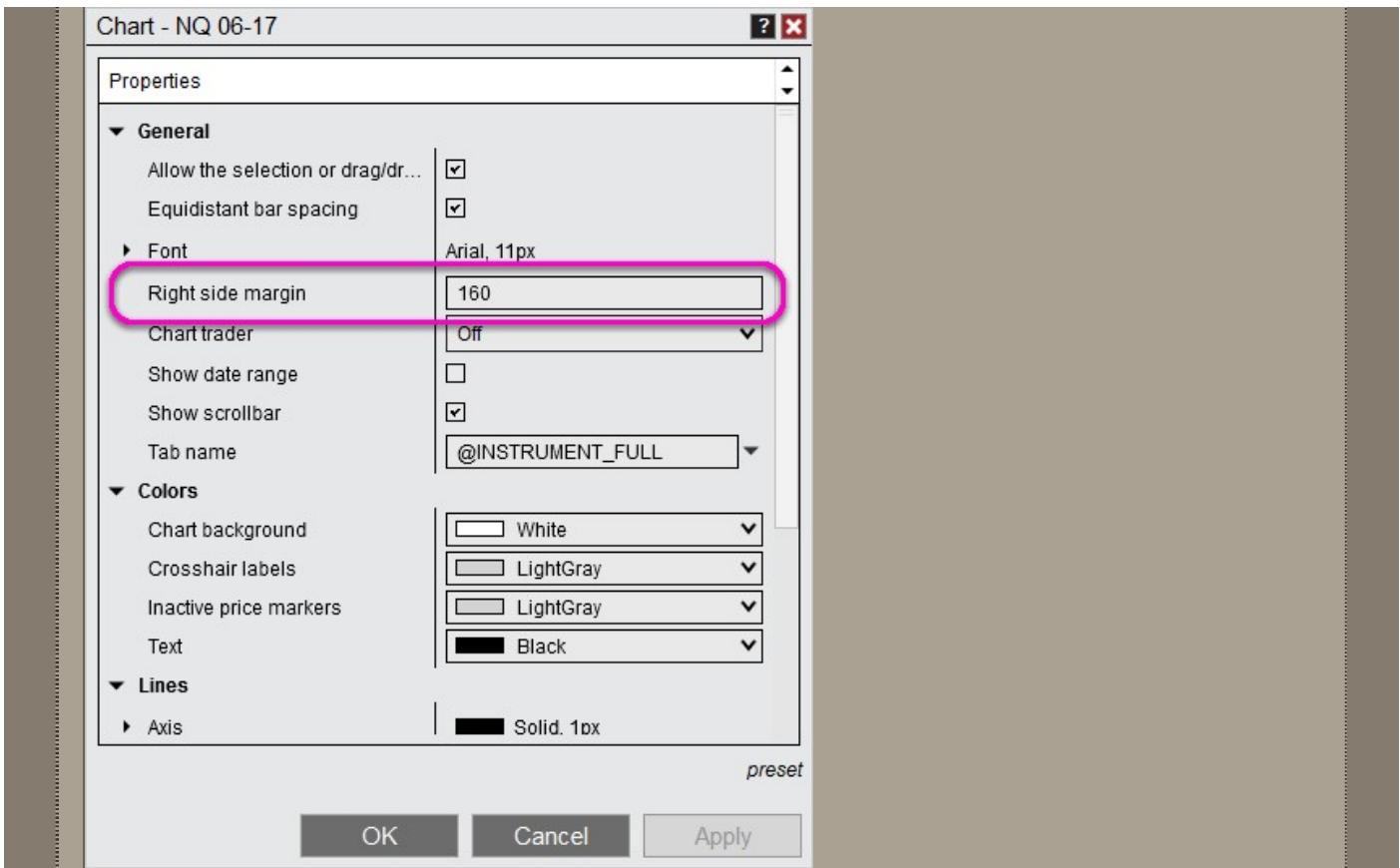


Notice that you may use
[Ctrl + Down Arrow] shortcut key to increase bar spacing and
[Alt + Up Arrow]/[Alt + Down Arrow] shortcut keys to adjust bar width.

4. You may swap relative position (z-order) of Price Bars and Indicator's output to avoid their overlapping: use a standard way in NinjaTrader — select candlestick series, hold down the Ctrl key and scroll mouse wheel. This way does not work sometimes. Thus you can use alternate way — a special command from *VND Control Panel*:



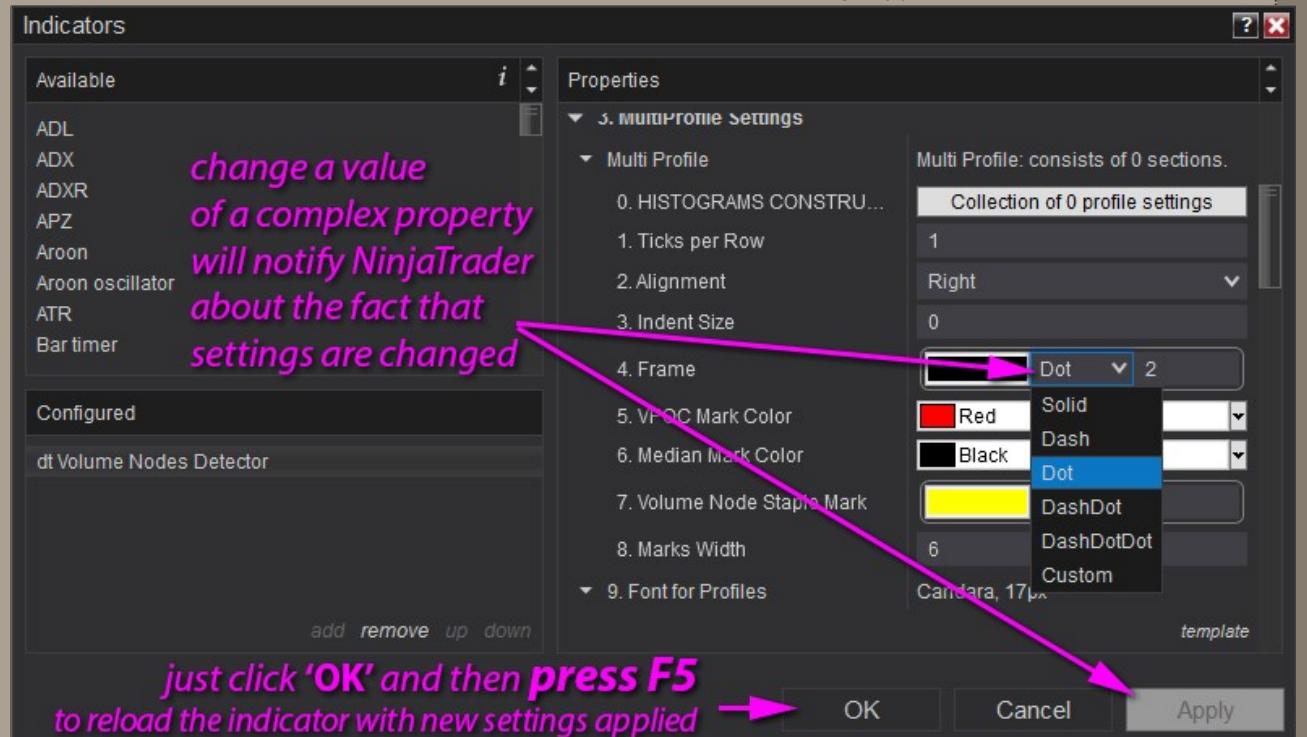
5. Remember that you may also need to increase the '*Right side margin*' parameter in Chart's properties window to add more space for the current (developing) bar. This comes in handy when using [Bracket Multi-Profile](#) feature:



IV. Settings

Note: Changing a value of some *complex property* in 'Indicators' setting window may not activate 'Apply' button and leave NinjaTrader unaware about change in settings is made, so the new indicator setting will not be actually applied after clicking 'OK'.

In this case, after you click 'OK' you just need to press F5 button (or use the 'Reload NinjaScript' command from chart's context menu) to reload the indicator with the actual settings applied.



General Parameters

1. Bracket Threshold Volume and 2. Reinitialize at Session Beginning

The “**Bracket Threshold Volume**” parameter limits the volume of Bracket. As mentioned above, Bracket is just an abstraction representing the most recent trades that are having in total the volume equal (or not exceeding) the specified value of the “Bracket Threshold Volume” parameter. This parameter has an influence on all parts of the indicator: volume map, volume/tick profiles, volume/tick delta sub-graphs.

The threshold value you should use depends mainly on the liquidity of your chosen instrument. There is no strict rule on this, however there are standard recommendations for intraday traders which might be helpful (at least to be aware on): A simple rule of thumb to define a suitable ‘*Bracket Threshold Volume*’ value is to set it to 1/10...1/5 of average daily volume of traded instrument. This gives around 10000 to 30000 contracts for 6B and CL, or 100 000 to 200 000 for ES, for instance.

Sure enough, this value has an influence upon the range and sensitivity of the Bracket. The more the threshold volume the wider the range and less the sensitivity to the most recent changes in price & volume.

Thus, using lower Threshold values allows to reveal local short-term volume congestions (or holes in the volume aka low volume nodes, which sometimes more important than congestions).

VND is too customizable, so, what settings to choose is actually dependent on your trading style and thereby on what you're attempting to track on your chart.

The “**Reinitialize at Session Beginning**” parameter defines whether the Bracket (i.e. all related volume/tick profiles and calculations of delta sub-charts) be cleared and rebuilt over again starting from the beginning of each session or it should be calculated continuously.

- Using the ‘*Reinitialize at Session Beginning*’ = ‘*False*’ results in continual uninterrupted computations of delta and profiles.

This option is best to use when you prefer to work with 24H charts (day + night or RTH + ETH on one chart) where the time span between two consecutive sessions is not significant (for example when you trade currencies). You should not use the “*False*” value along with session templates that infer an appreciable time break (as all of the “*RTH*” aka Regular Trading Hours session templates, for example).

- Using the ‘*Reinitialize at Session Beginning*’ = ‘*True*’ leads to zeroing of all volume metrics including volume and tick delta at beginning of each session (zeroing of the Bracket). No volume of previous session is involved in delta computations.

The default value (“*True*”) suits for the majority of cases, especially when you prefer to work with “*RTH*” session templates.

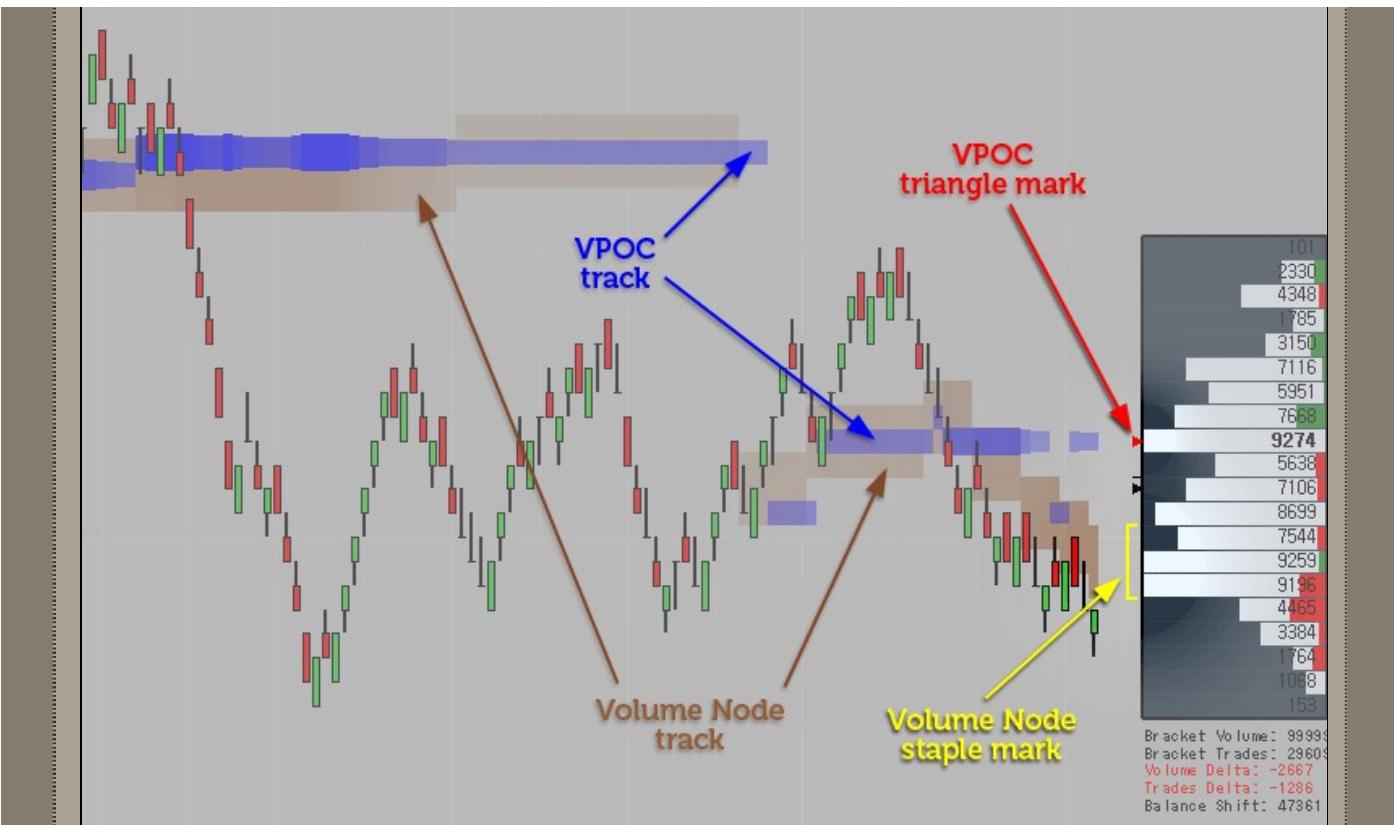
classic tool

If you have got accustomed to working with classic volume profiling tools please try the [Range Volume Profile for NT8](#). Users of Volume Nodes Detector NT8 can request a special extended evaluation licenses for *Range Volume Profile NT8*. Just email us.

3. Number of Ticks of Volume Node

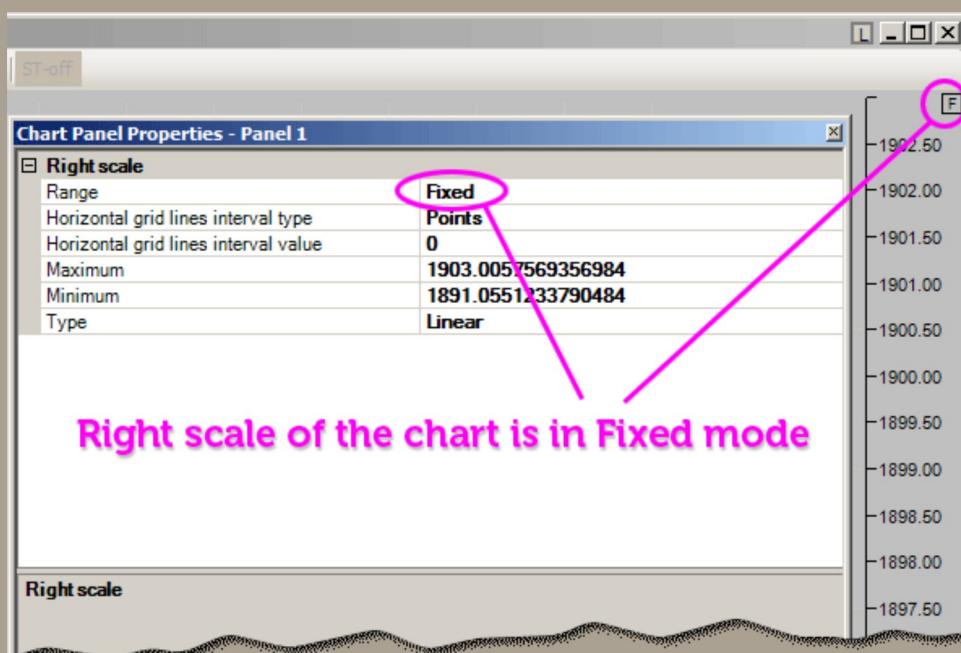
Common Volume-based Point of Control (VPOC) is just one tick wide. So, estimation of the VPOC value is a simple way of volume congestion analysis, but it is not such robust way as to be hoped for, especially when it comes to fast and highly volatile instruments. The Volume Node is a more robust alternative to the VPOC. The Volume Node relates to several ticks instead of just one and represents an area where the most trading occurred (within the Bracket naturally).

You can observe location and migrations of Volume Node by using both the “staple” mark at the side of the multi-profile and the track on price chart.

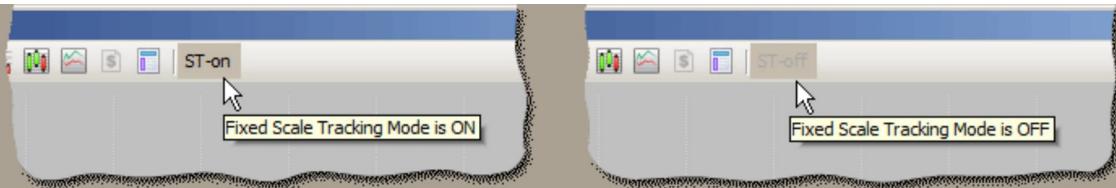


General Appearance Parameters

- 1. **First-to-Last Trade Of Bracket Line.** Sets color and thickness of the line connecting the first trade of the Bracket with the most recent one. Plotting of this line is off by default.
- 2. **Use View Tracking in Fixed Scale Mode.** Current price can move off the upper or lower limit of the scope of chart when your price chart is in Fixed Scale mode. Frequent manual adjusting of the scope by dragging the chart scale may appear to be very tiresome at the height of the hot trading session. The "View Tracking" feature allows to eliminate such inconveniences for users.



The corresponding toggle button on the toolbar of a Chart window makes it possible to switch the "View Tracking" mode on-the-fly without needing to get into the "Indicators" settings window.



The function of view tracking is smart enough to take into account the height of sub-panes.

When applying two instances of the Volume Nodes Detector to the same chart you can have the "View Tracking" function enabled in both of them without negative consequences. But it is good practice to enable this function in only one instance of the Volume Nodes Detector (in that one that has sub-panes).

- **3. Value Area.** This expandable property allows you to customize visual appearance of the bands of developing volume-based value area: Value Area High and Value Area Low.

Value Area (VA) is the price range in which a specified percentage of all volume was traded within the Bracket.

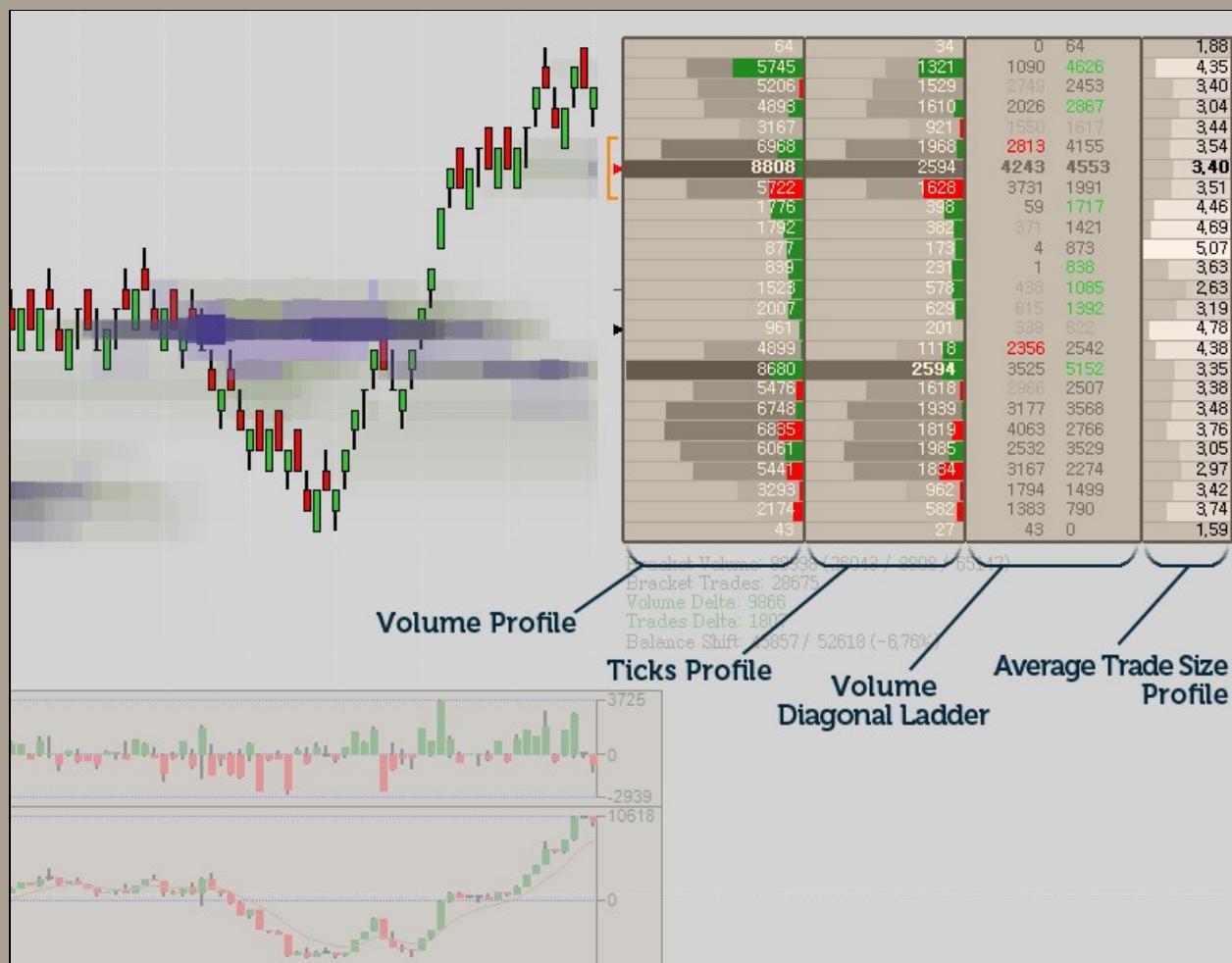
The "Tolerance Interval" parameter sets this percentage and it is about 70% by default (typical VA). However, this is up to the trader's discretion.

You can find many sources of information on Volume Profile and classical principles of volume analysis everywhere on the Internet. We can recommend the [Peter Steidlmaier's educational video](#) for a good start.

Multi-Profile

Multi-Profile is a sort of container that can be composed of an unlimited number of profiles (histograms, ladders) of one of four different kinds: Volume Profile, Ticks Profile, Volume Diagonal Ladder, Average Trade Size Histogram.

Each kind of profile/histogram has own properties besides the generic appearance settings.

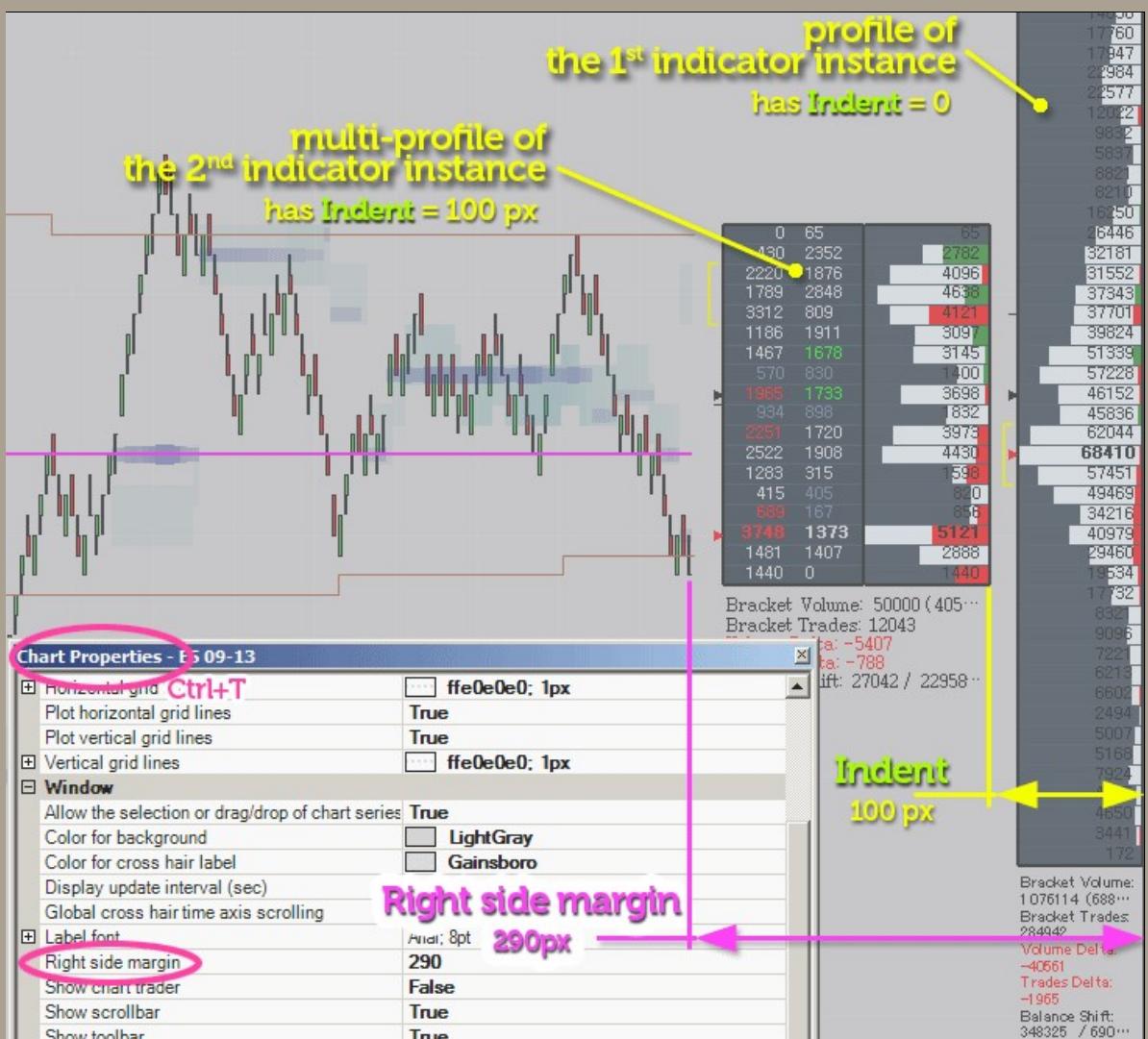


General Appearance Settings of Multi-Profile

- 1. **Alignment.** Sets the alignment of the multi-profile block (to the Right or Left side of the chart).



- 2. **Indent Size.** Sets the amount of indent from the border of the chart.



- 3. **Frame.** Specifies appearance properties of the frame. To turn off plotting of the frame outline set the color to 'Transparent'.
- 4. **Volume Node Staple Mark.** Specifies appearance properties of the line of Volume Node mark. To turn off plotting of the mark set the color to 'Transparent'.
- 5. **Marks Width.** Sets horizontal width of Volume Node staple, VPOC and Median triangle marks.
- 6. **Font for Profiles.** Specifies font for profile data.

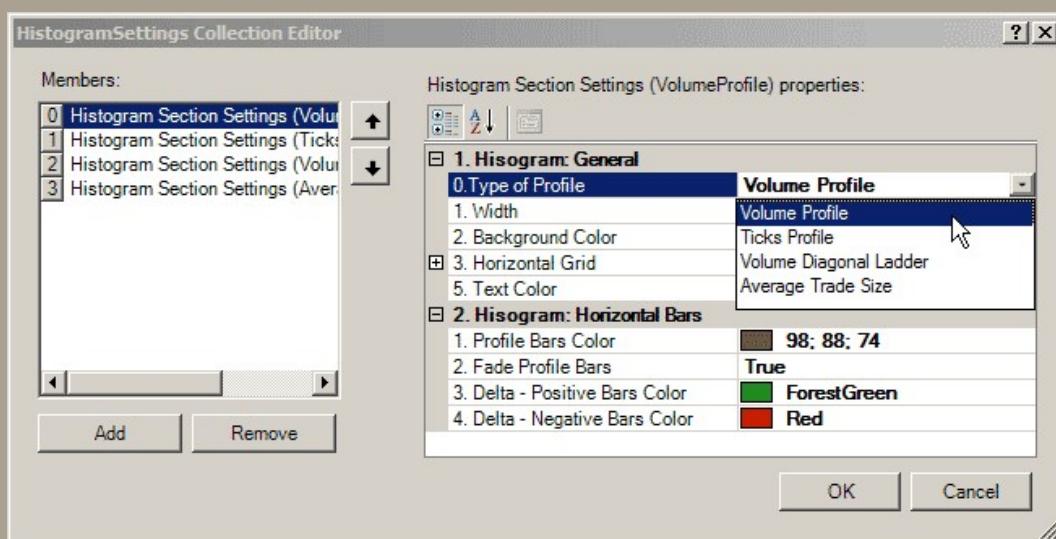
- 7. **Font for Reference Info.** Specifies font for the text block of reference info. The reference info block contains supplementary data on certain objective metrics of the Bracket:

Bracket Volume: Total (Above VPOC / VPOC Value / Below VPOC);
 Bracket Trades: Total amount of trades;
 Volume Delta;
 Trades Delta;
 Balance Shift: Volume above vs Volume below mid point of the range of the Bracket.

- 8. **Reference Info Formatting.** This setting allows to turn off displaying of reference info as well as to choose between two formatting modes: "Place field name and data on the same line" and "Place data under its field name".

The second mode might come in handy when your multi-profile area will have appeared to be too narrow.

- 9. **Histograms Constructor.** This property item provides an access to the editor of the custom collection of the multi-profile elements. Here you can add new or remove existing histogram or ladder, as well as edit individual settings of any histogram/ladder.



There are currently four types of sections you can choose from: Volume Profile, Ticks Profile, Volume Diagonal Ladder, Average Trade Size (ATS) Profile. Three of them (Volume, Ticks and ATS Profiles) have mostly similar settings because of similarity of visual representation. [Volume Diagonal Ladder](#) is a kind of [Bracket-based volume footprint](#) (aka *bid-ask ladder*) that uses a particular approach to coloring the bid and ask values.

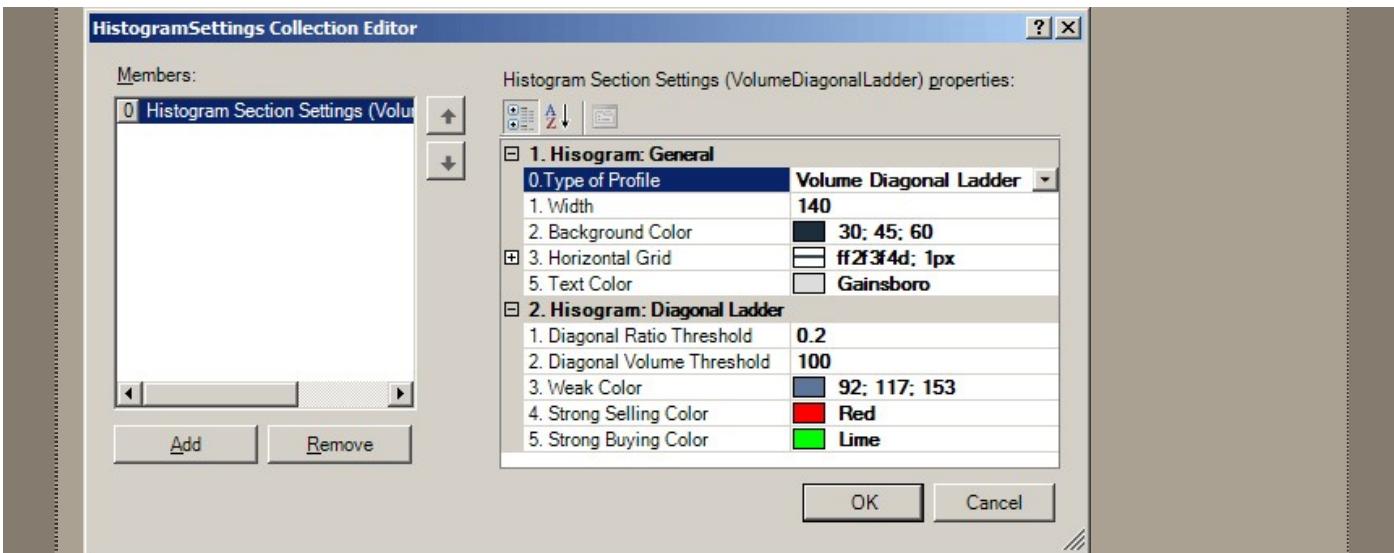
Managing histograms:

Volume Diagonal Ladder

This simple *bid-ask ladder* uses coloring based on "diagonal" ratio between the bid value and the corresponding ask (offer) value. In other words, the bid value is compared with the offer value located right above, and then, if the difference (or ratio) exceeds some predefined threshold, then it means we have a significant volume imbalance between that particular bid and ask. So, such diagonally imbalanced bid-ask pairs will be highlighted by noticeable colors (see the "*Strong Selling Color*", "*Strong Buying Color*" and "*Weak Color*").

| | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| pressure to the bid is 69% greater than to the offer (ratio is $\frac{1198 - 710}{1198 + 710} = 0.26$) | 0 280 980 710 1198 3880 4363 4982 4061 4010 2370 6469 6474 5892 2620 937 565 216 | (ratio is $\frac{5892 - 2620}{5892 + 2620} = 0.38$) pressure to the offer is 125% greater than to the bid |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

All bid-ask diagonal pairs that are not imbalanced will be colored by the 'neutral' "*Text Color*".
Diagonal Ratio Threshold and *Diagonal Volume Threshold* parameters jointly define the sensitivity of imbalance detection.



- 1. **Diagonal Ratio Threshold.** Diagonal bid-ask pairs having a ratio greater than the specified threshold are considered as imbalanced. Therefore, the greater the threshold the lower the sensitivity of imbalance detection.

Examples of relationship between ratio and percentage:

Ratio **0.1** ↔ if the bid (or offer) value is **22%** greater than the offer above (or bid below) value...

0.2 ↔ 50%

0.273 ↔ 75%

0.333 ↔ 100%

0.429 ↔ 150%

0.5 ↔ 200%

0.6 ↔ 300%

...

Note: All numbers are given just for reference. Don't get too stuck with any numbers and exactness. Remember, the Market is very visual. And this tool is also a visual tool in the first place. The renunciation of an absolute certainty and exactness in trading is the first step to the peace of mind and profitability.

- 2. **Diagonal Volume Threshold.** Diagonal bid-ask pairs with the bid or ask value less than the specified threshold are not involved in the process of imbalance detection and, thus, are always colored by the *Text Color*.

Volume Maps & Tracks

To track price levels of volume congestion you can use both *VPOC Track* and *Volume Node Track*. In addition you can use such order-flow mapping tools as *Volume Profile Map* and *Average Trade Size Map*. All tools has similar setting and computation modes.

Tip

Before we proceed notice that VND's toolbar button provides an extended functionality — it has drop-down menu that gives you quick and easy access to the mostly used visual settings of volume based and tracks.
Watch short demo:

VPOC Track

As it was mentioned, Volume Point of Control (VPOC) is the price level where the most volume was traded within the Bracket.

- 1. **Mapping Mode.**

- **Do not plot.**
 - **Plot as simple line.**

- **Based on VPOC Value / Bracket Volume ratio.**

In this mode VPOC Track is plotted as a one tick wide stip with the ratio-dependent opacity.

The closer the (^{VPOC Value}/_{Bracket Volume}) ratio is to the user-specified value of the Upper Limit of VPOC Value Ratio parameter, the more opaque the track will be.

Or simpler: the more volume, the more opacity.

- **Based on VPOC Value / Average Volume Per Price Tick ratio.**

This mode is basically similar to the previous one with the difference in the ratio used for variation of the opacity. The closer the (^{VPOC Value}/_{Average Volume Per Price Level}) ratio is to the user-specified value of the Upper Limit of VPOC Value Ratio parameter, the more opaque the track will be.

Or simpler: the more volume, the more opacity.

- 2. **Color.** Sets the reference color for VPOC track.

- 3. **Upper Limit of VPOC Value Ratio.** This setting is available only for the last two of mentioned modes.

- 3. **Thickness.** This setting is available only for "Plot as simple line" mode, and hence defines the thickness of VPOC line.

- 4. **Contrast.** This parameter allows to adjust contrast between high and low volume areas of VPOC Track. If less than 1 → less contrast; more than 1 → more contrast (Default = 2).

Volume Node Track

As it was mentioned, the use of Volume Node Track instead of VPOC Track might appear to be more appropriate way for an analysis of volume congestion when working with fast and volatile instruments like GC or CL. Volume Node (VNode) relates to several ticks instead of just one and represents an area within the Bracket where the most trading occurred.

- 1. **Mapping Mode.**

- **Do not plot.**

- **Based on Node Volume / Bracket Volume ratio.**

In this mode VNode Track is plotted as a several ticks wide strip (depending on Number of Ticks of Volume Node) with the ratio-dependent opacity. The closer the $(\text{Node Volume} / \text{Bracket Volume})$ ratio is to the user-specified value of the Upper Limit of Node Value Ratio parameter, the more opaque the track will be.

Or simpler: the more volume, the more opacity.

- **Based on Node Volume / Average Volume Per Price Tick ratio.**

This mode is basically similar to the previous one with the difference in the ratio used for variation of the opacity. The closer the $(\text{Node Volume} / \text{Average Volume Per Price Level})$ ratio is to the user-specified value of the Upper Limit of Node Value Ratio parameter, the more opaque the track will be.

Or simpler: the more volume, the more opacity.

- 2. **Color.** Sets the reference color for Volume Node track.

- 3. **Upper Limit of Node Value Ratio.** As always, you should not be getting too stuck with exactness or any precise numbers. You need to get play with the limit value to find out one that suits your objectives. The usable value of the parameter may vary considerably depending on traded instrument and chosen mapping mode.

- 4. **Contrast.** This parameter allows to adjust contrast between high and low volume areas of VNode Track. If less than 1 → less contrast; more than 1 → more contrast (Default = 2).

Volume Profile Map

This kind of order-flow mapping implements shading of all price levels within the Bracket in accordance with the volume traded on each particular level.

- 1. **Mapping Mode.**

- **Do not plot.**

- **Based on Level Volume / VPOC Value ratio.**

In this mode the opacity of each price level area depends on $(\text{The Volume of the level} / \text{Current VPOC value})$ ratio.

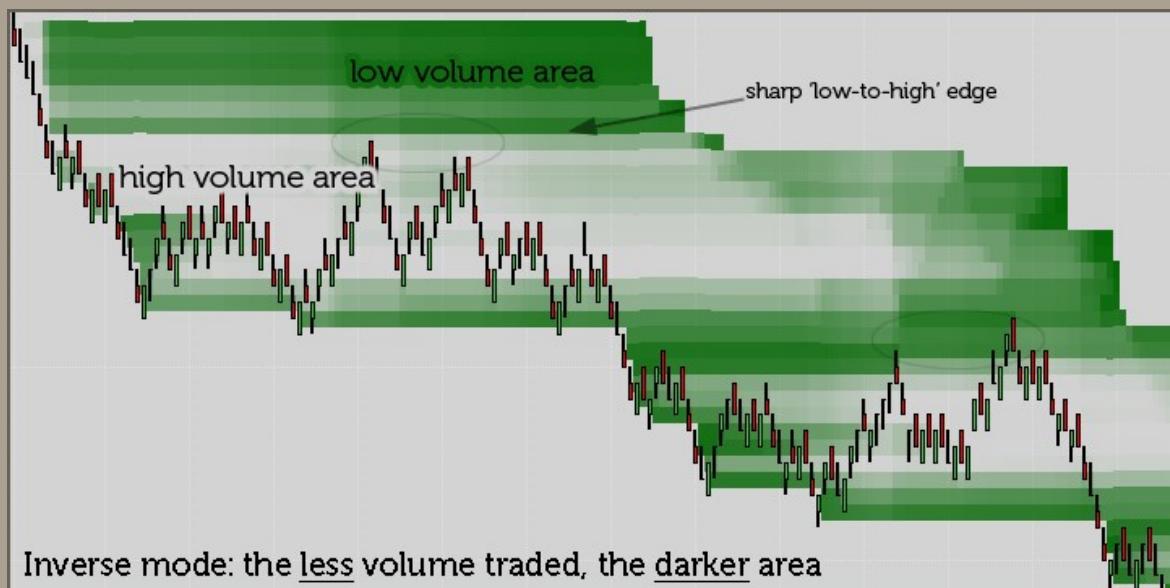
- **Based on Level Volume / Bracket Total Volume ratio.**

In this mode the opacity of each price level area depends on $(\text{The Volume of the level} / \text{Total Volume of the Bracket})$ ratio.

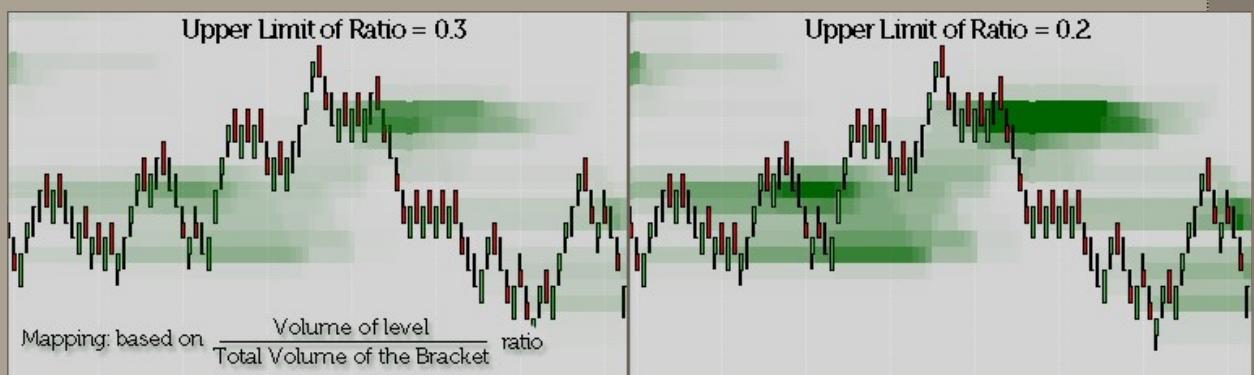
- 2. **Displaying Mode.** Can be **Normal** or **Inverse**.

The *Normal* mode means the familiar shading approach: the more volume, the more opacity.

The *Inverse* mode is an experimental mode that was added as a way to lay emphasis on areas with low volume.



- 3. **Color.** Sets the reference color for Volume Map.
- 4. **Upper Limit of Node Value Ratio.**

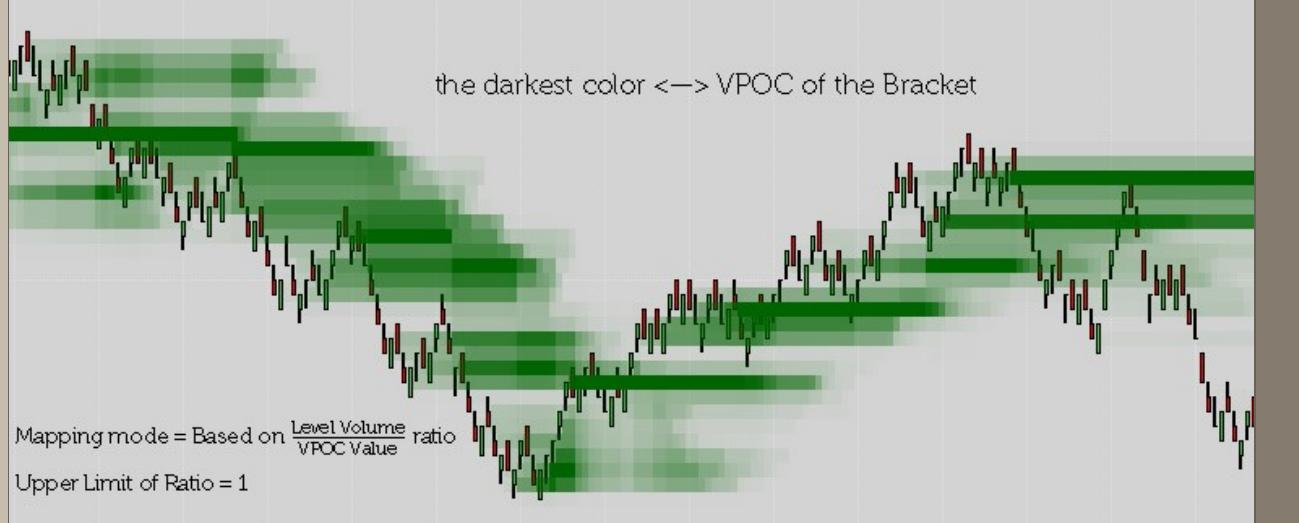


- 5. **Contrast.** This parameter allows to adjust contrast between high and low volume areas of Volume Map. If less than 1 → less contrast; more than 1 → more contrast (Default = 2).

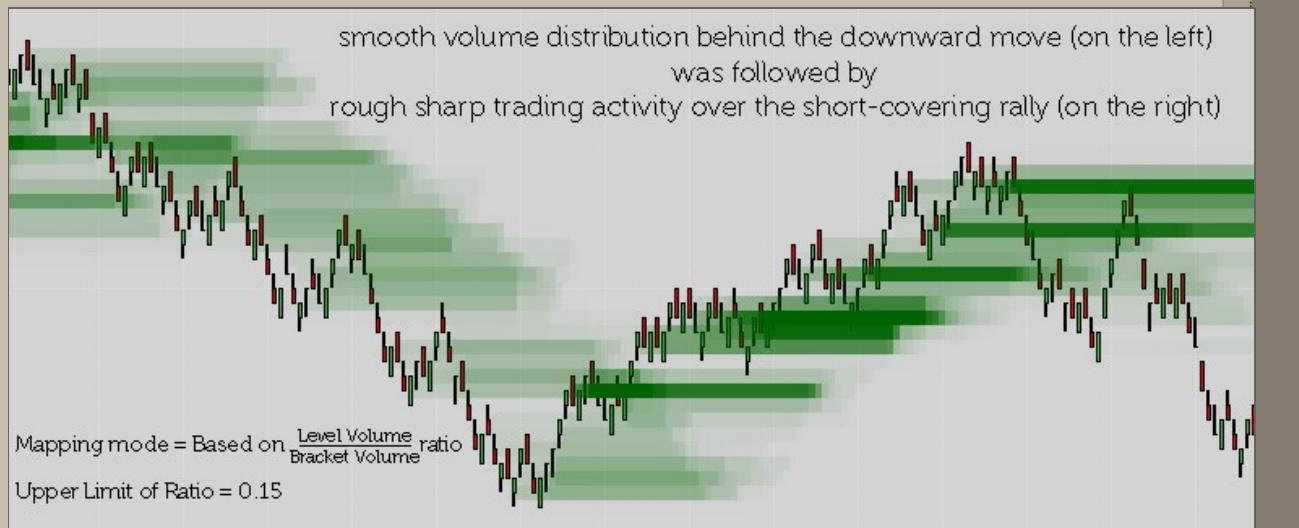
Tip

What is the difference between these two mapping modes in practical applications?

The opacity of map sectors for a given time (given price bar) is normalized relative to the VPOC value of the same time with the mapping based on *Level Volume / VPOC Value ratio*. Since the VPOC value is dynamic, such kind of volume map shows us how the volume is distributed within the Bracket.

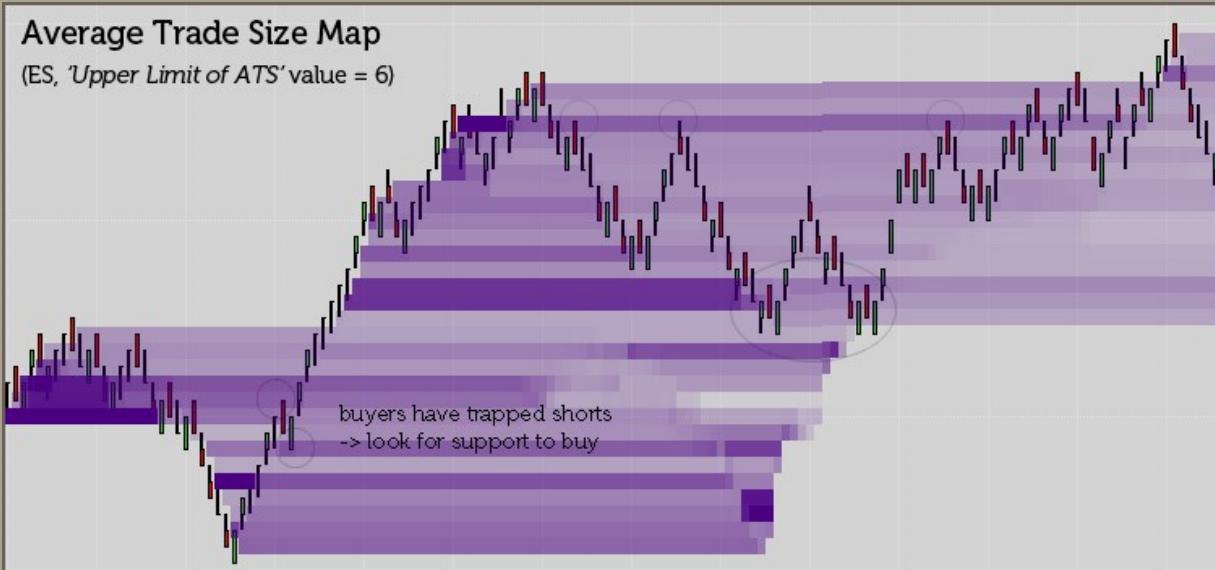


At the same time, the second mapping mode is based on volume normalization relative to the total volume of the Bracket. While being destined to show distribution of volume traded, such approach reveals also how a character of distribution was being changed over time.



Average Trade Size Map

This is the experimental kind of order-flow mapping.



Sub-Panes

Sub-Panes are serving to display up to three similar order-flow metrics in a traditional form of candlestick charts.

Those metrics are:

- Bracket Volume Breakdown,
- Bracket Volume Delta,
- Bracket Ticks Delta.

As you may have guessed, all of them are calculated for the Bracket.

1st — Bracket Volume Breakdown

Bracket Volume Breakdown shows how the volume delta (buying versus selling pressure) of the Bracket was varied on each particular bar separately.

2nd — Bracket Volume Delta

Bracket Volume Delta shows the volume delta accumulated for the Bracket.

Calculating the cumulative delta for the Bracket makes it similar to an oscillator-like indicator.

3rd — Bracket Ticks Delta

Bracket Ticks Delta shows the ticks delta accumulated for the Bracket — the difference between the total number of trades at offer and the total number of trades at bid within the Bracket. It also works like an oscillator. So you can use both volume and ticks delta to reveal divergence/convergence between price and order-flow.

Swift selloff (see order-flow) in an established balance was not able to clear out a previous low

→

possible trap of short-sellers involved with such selling within value area (a typical place for traps)

→

what's next? if we have an evidence of sellers absorption or selling dries up

then we have a good reason to look for long at the low of the balance or at breakout



Please, download and try the add-on before buying. Evaluation period is 14 days.

 [download](#)

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