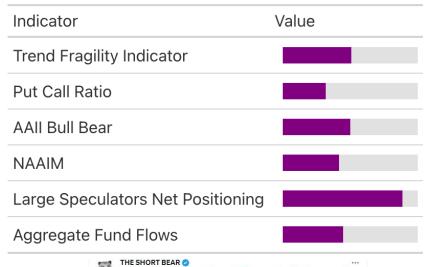


Macro Ops

Play The Player Report

Playing the game of markets at the fourth degree and above...

- > Trend Fragility Indicator (a composite of sentiment & positioning) dropped to 53%, which is neutral.
- ➤ Weekly Nervous & Numb indicator, fell to -1.93 (-2 or below is required for an official buy signal). While this level falls just shy of an official buy signal, readings in the range of -1.9 or below tend to significantly tilt probabilities in favor of the market being near a short-term bottom.
- Positioning: Is neutral across the board indicating we haven't seen the bullish capitulation yet that typically marks the end of broader retraces.
- Market Internals: Credit spreads (LQDH), Cyclical vs Defensive, and Consumer Discretionary vs Staples continue to indicate that this is a correction within a broader bull trend.
- Liquidity: Rising yields are what is driving stocks lower, not general risk off. 10yr yields are over 2std above their 12m average. We should expect elevated chop and volatility until we see yields find a temporary ceiling. On the plus side, general financial conditions remain loose and supportive of risk assets (slide 13).
- ▶ Breadth: Short-term breadth is weak and nearing deeply oversold levels that typically mark interim bottoms (should get there this week). While long-term breadth is weakening as well from neutral levels. Not what you want to see if you think we're at the start of a new bull cycle. Long-term breadth is more reflective of our base case which is that we're in a retracement within a broader cyclical sideways to down market (see slides 8 & 9).
- Market Regimes: SPX, Qs, and Dow are in Blended Bull regimes, while small-caps are in a neutral sideways regime.
 Primary trend is up of though expect further downside over nearterm until technical evidence of a capitulation low.





General Sentiment/Positioning Summary:

As traders and investors our job is not to predict the future, nor to always have a strong opinion and aggressive positioning. It's simply to execute a time-tested system that allows us to make good risk-adjusted returns over the long haul.

A big part of this job is to know when it's time to double down. And more importantly, when it's time to fold and wait for a better hand, a more opportune setup, a higher probability environment.

For much of this year we were sitting at a decent table. Not perfect, but pretty good. The consensus recession narrative had clearly gotten well ahead of itself. And subsequently, positioning had priced in what we believed to be a *very* low probability future (ie, recession in 1H23').

This allowed us to perform okay year-to-date, up +15% while holding large amounts of cash and with low portfolio drawdowns.

But as we've been discussing since late July, when our Trend Fragility and Nervous & Numb indicators triggered their first joint sell signals, the <u>Narrative Pendulum</u> has now swung to the opposite side of the spectrum. And it's becoming clear that the "higher for longer" and "soft or no landing" narratives are gaining in popularity though we cannot yet call them consensus.

As a result, the current market environment is not as conducive to aggressive trading. This is why we've been moving up stops, taking profits, and raising cash.

We don't see a clear consensus to fade or a large mispricing to exploit – outside of course our largest position in uranium, which continues to perform quite well, though even this trend is arguably getting a bit ahead of itself in the short-term.

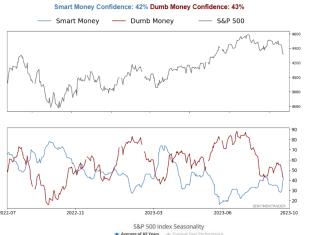
We do see some big trades setting up, such as bonds and precious metals, though these will likely take some more time.

It looks as though we're finally seeing the start of a capitulation selloff in bonds, which is something we've been waiting for. Our yield leads (<u>slide 18</u>) are diverging lower. Small spec positioning remains quite long though and ideally we'd see this cohort flip neutral to short.

Our base case for the economy is that we dip into recession in Q1 of next year. An accelerated rise in yields will hopefully be enough to cement the "higher for longer" consensus, while also leading to the inevitable tightening of conditions thus dragging on economic growth and setting things up for a major bottom in bonds.

Precious metals have been coiling these past few months. Positioning has been taken down and they look geared up for another run to new highs. PMs often lead the major macro assets (bonds, stocks, USD) at significant turning points. I'll be out with more on the setup this week.

As far as equities, we should expect more downside volatility this week with a bottom coming near the end of this week or early next. Probabilities still favor a resumption of the trend higher. But these aren't strong odds, and we'll adjust as the data says to do so.





Weekly Flows: \$2.5bn to bonds, \$0.3bn from gold, \$4.3bn from cash, \$16.9bn from stocks (largest since Dec'22).

YTD Flows: \$1.0tn to cash...investors cautious & "paid to wait"; but \$147bn to Treasuries, \$145bn to IG bonds, \$98bn to equities, \$35bn to tech...bearish investors "sell"...but no selling in bonds, credit, stocks in '23.

Flows to Know:

- Bonds: 26th straight week of inflows (\$2.5bn);
- Treasuries: 32nd straight week of inflows (\$2.5bn);
- Credit: IG inflows (\$1.9bn) again contrast with HY outflows (\$0.5bn);
- EM debt: 8th straight week of outflows (\$1.4bn);
- US equities: largest weekly outflow (\$17.9bn) since Dec'22;
- Europe equities: 28th straight week of outflows (\$3.1bn);
- Energy: largest weekly inflow (\$0.6bn) since Mar'23.

The U.S. could be in a recession and we just don't know it yet



- Opinion: The bullish case for U.S. stocks is getting weaker
- . Tech money is finally flowing again, and it may be just the beginning
- . 4 reasons your index funds failed you

Market



million. My home is paid off. I'd like to move but am afraid of the high prices elsewhere: 'Will I be OK?'

- 'I'm 32. married with two kids, and I've blown half my 401(k) on my cars. Am I screwed?
- may divorce soon, but he will inherit \$1 million How do I make sure I get half?

U.S. House Speaker McCarthy gives in to hard line conservatives in hopes of solving government funding impasse

Tropical Storm Ophelia moves inland over North Carolina as coastal areas lashed with

State of corruption: from Bridgegate to gold bars, Menendez joins long list of NJ political

Ukraine targets a key Crimean city a day after striking Russia's Black Sea Fleet headquarter

BofA Bull & Bear Indicator (B&B)

Our BofA Bull & Bear Indicator is at 3.4, signal is Neutral.

Chart 22: BofA Bull & Bear Indicator Drops to 3.4 from 3.6



BOFA GLOBAL RESEARCH

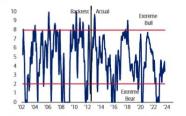
Table 6: Table 5: BofA B&B Indicator BofA Bull & Bear current component readings

Components	Percentile	Sentiment		
HF positioning	80%	V. Bullish		
Credit mkt technicals	58%	Bullish		
Equity market breadth	29%	Neutral		
Equity flows	71%	Bullish		
Bond flows	18%	Bearish		
LO positioning	19%	Bearish		

Source: BofA Global Investment Strategy, Bloomberg, EPFR Global Lipper FMI Global FMS, CFTC, MSCI

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Chart 23: BofA Bull & Bear Indicator BofA Bull & Bear Indicator since 2002



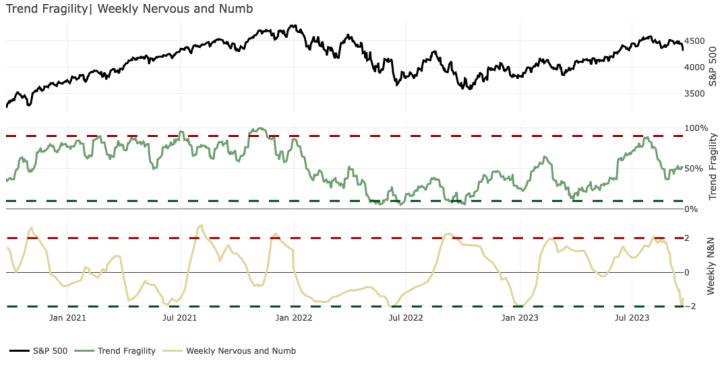
Source: BofA Global Investment Strategy, EPFR Global, FMS. CETC MSCI

'Shark Tank' investor Kevin O'Leary warns of more pain coming for the economy as the Fed is poised to hike rates higher and as oil prices keep rising

 He predicted the Fed will push interest rates to 6% in a bid to lower inflation.

Trend Fragility



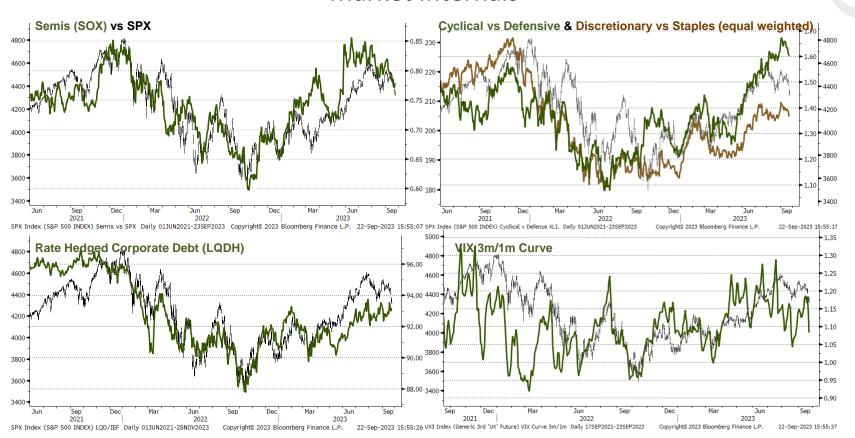


US	ticker	name Nasdaq 100		monthly		one_year	three_year	sqn
US	QQQ	Nasdag 100						
		readed 100	-3.54%	-3.08%	-1.64%	23.29%	30.37%	Bull Quiet
	BTCUSD	Bitcoin	-2.34%	2.35%	-9.46%	24.17%	-57.21%	Neutral
	DIA	Dow Jones	-1.91%	-1.53%	0.10%	11.79%	23.83%	Neutral
	ETHUSD	Ethereum	-3.15%	-2.68%	-15.39%	2.52%	-76.74%	Neutral
	IWM	Russell 2000	-3.85%	-5.03%	-3.72%	0.76%	20.40%	Neutral
	IWV	Russell 3000	-2.99%	-2.63%		11.91%	27.22%	Neutral
	SPY	S&P 500	-2.96%	-2.89%		13.15%	28.82%	Neutral
Sector	OIH	Oil Services	-3.33%	2.90%	22.00%	42.93%	123.76%	Bull Quiet
	SMH	Semiconductors	-3.36%	-7.34%	-6.51%	34.68%	53.76%	Bull Quiet
	XLC	Communications Services	-2.84%	-1.47%	1.74%	26.67%	12.97%	Bull Quiet
	XLK	Technology	-2.69%	-3.90%	-3.78%	26.08%	39.59%	Bull Quiet
	XLY	Consumer Discretionary	-6.53%	-3.16%	-3.61%	4.79%	12.42%	
	XOP	Oil & Gas Exploration	-4.61%	-1.13%	14.36%	8.86%	121.39%	Bull Quiet
	ITB	Home Construction	-3.16%	-6.68%	-7.33%	38.36%	38.54%	Neutral
	KBE	Banks	-5.33%	-4.49%	2.35%	-26.02%	25.90%	Neutral
	KRE	Regional Banks	-6.01%	-6.08%	0.98%	-42.07%	19.41%	Neutral
	XHB	Homebuilders	-3.51%	-5.97%	-4.33%	29.62%	39.15%	Neutral
	XLB	Materials	-4.17%	-3.18%	-4.09%	10.29%	24.29%	Neutral
	XLE	Energy	-2.98%	2.22%	12.36%	16.18%	108.39%	Neutral
	XLF	Financials	-3.42%	-0.86%	2.19%	4.78%	37.22%	Neutral
	XLI	Industrials	-3.10%	-4.94%	-3.48%	14.91%	30.21%	Neutral
	XLV	Health Care	-1.56%	-2.62%	-0.61%	5.89%	24.47%	Neutral
	XME	Metals and Mining	-3.39%	0.72%	3.67%	14.30%	81.67%	Neutral
	XRT	Retail	-4.33%	-5.68%	-5.60%	-1.71%	19.00%	Neutral
	XTL	Telecomunications	-2.61%		-5.67%		8.30%	Neutral
	GDX	Gold Miners	-2.90%	0.45%			-26.50%	Bear Quiet
	GDXJ	Junior Gold Miners	-4.69%	-3.28%			-44.18%	Bear Quiet
	IBB	Biotechnology	-3.25%	-4.37%	-2.39%	3.87%	-7.48%	Bear Quiet
	XLP	Consumer Staples	-2.69%		-5.49%	-0.77%	11.93%	Bear Quiet
	XLRE	Real Estate	-6.22%	-5.49%	-6.96%		2.10%	Bear Quiet
	XLU	Utilities	-2.57%	-0.36%	-3.72%	-14.08%	10.24%	Bear Quiet
Fixed Income	IEF	7-10 Yr Treasuries	-0.70%	-1.75%	-4.82%	-6.02%	-27.68%	Bear Quiet
	SHY	1-3 Yr Treasuries	-0.00%	-0.16%	-0.32%	-0.70%	-6.69%	Bear Quiet
	TLT	20+ Yr Treasuries		-4.40%	-12.08%	-16.68%	-58.73%	Bear Quiet

	ticker	name	weekly	monthly	quaterly	one vear	three_year	sqn
Global	EWZ	Brazil		-2.38%	-3.53%	-0.22%	10.51%	
GIODAI	INDA	India	-1.43%	0.65%	3.34%	3.55%	30.13%	Bull Quie
	TUR	Turkey	0.24%		29.27%	49.95%	66.97%	Bull Quie
	VNM	Vietnam	-5.29%	-0.98%	3.96%	-1.19%	-2.23%	Bull Quie
	EEM	Emerging Markets	-1.70%	-1.42%	-3.15%	3.71%	-11.36%	Neutral
	EWA	Australia	-2.73%	-0.51%	-3.27%	4.10%	10.00%	Neutral
	EWC	Canada	-3.81%	0.29%	-1.49%	3.57%	23.31%	Neutral
	EWI	Italy	-1.82%	-1.79%	-0.29%	30.18%	25.37%	Neutral
	EWJ	Japan	-1.91%	2.21%	1.07%	19.86%	4.81%	Neutral
	EWP	Spain		-0.43%	-1.71%	26.48%	26.58%	Neutral
	EWW	Mexico	0.12%	-5.48%	-4.61%	24.77%	65.17%	Neutral
	FXI	China		1.63%	-1.68%	0.04%	-42.78%	Neutral
	GREK	Greece	-2.92%	-9.81%	-5.57%	41.27%	56.47%	Neutral
	EFA	EAFE		-1.18%	-2.50%	17.29%	10.50%	
	EWG	Germany	-2.29%	-3.46%	-5.43%	24.34%	-6.63%	Bear Quie
	EWH	Hong Kong		-1.08%	-10.31%	-12.10%	-21.94%	Bear Qui
	EWQ	France		-3.81%	-4.85%	24.29%	27.09%	Bear Quie
	EWU	United Kingdom	-1.49%	1.32%	-0.53%	14.07%	24.32%	
Commodity	DBC	Commodities	-1.02%	4.53%	11.30%	1.96%	67.32%	Bull Quie
ŕ	USO	Oil	-0.82%	12.21%	27.41%	16.04%	105.66%	Bull Quie
	DBA	Agriculture	-2.17%	2.22%	2.64%	5.69%	40.23%	Neutral
	GLD	Gold	0.16%	0.41%	0.52%	13.68%		Neutral
	SLV	Silver	2.20%	-3.24%	2.82%	17.81%		Neutral
	UNG	Natural Gas	-1.63%	1.35%	-10.88%	-139.26%	-63.08%	Neutral
Currency	USDAUD	USDAUD	-0.04%	0.31%	4.41%	7.98%	12.38%	Bull Quie
	USDGBP	USDGBP	1.17%	2.80%			11.70%	Bull Quie
	USDJPY	USDJPY	0.46%	1.41%		14.80%	29.91%	Bull Quie
	USDNZD	USDNZD	-0.63%	-0.03%		6.95%	16.09%	Bull Quie
	USDSEK	USDSEK		0.89%	6.76%	6.81%	25.54%	Bull Quie
	USDBRL	USDBRL	1.31%	-0.57%			-5.25%	Neutral
	USDCAD	USDCAD	0.03%	-0.58%			6.77%	Neutral
	USDCHF	USDCHF	1.03%	2.31%				Neutral
	USDEUR	USDEUR	0.19%	1.15%	3.60%	1.64%	10.02%	Neutral



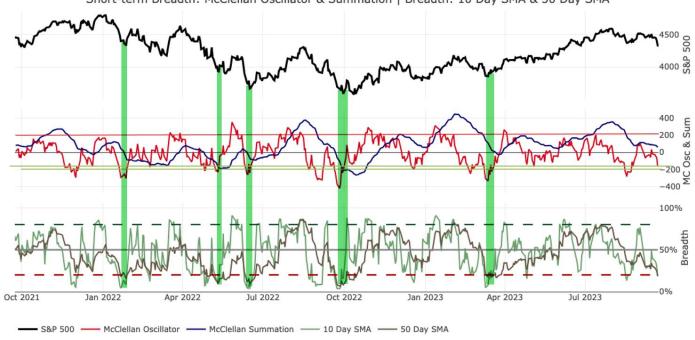
Market Internals



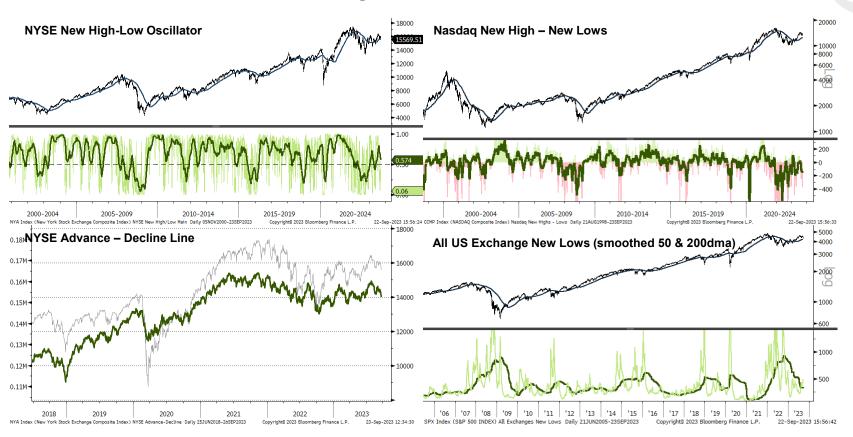
Short-term Breadth

McClellan Oscillator (red line) is nearing -200 oversold level while breadth is oversold in both the 10 and 50dma which typically marks short-term bottoms (highlighted in green)

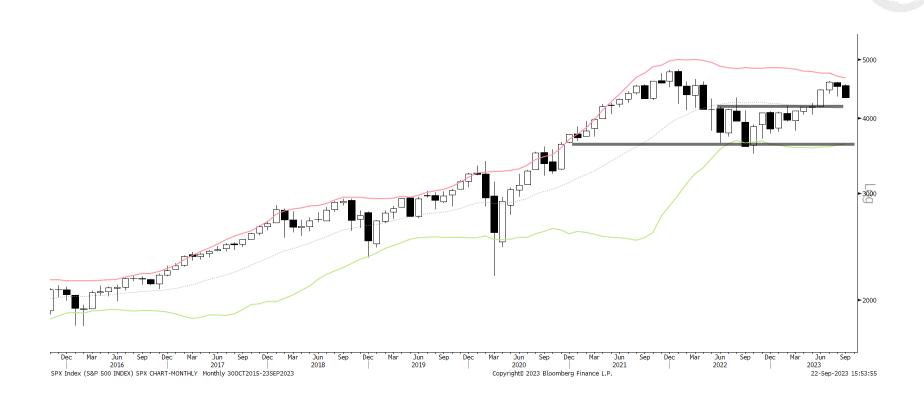




Long-term Breadth



S&P 500 Monthly



S&P 500 Weekly

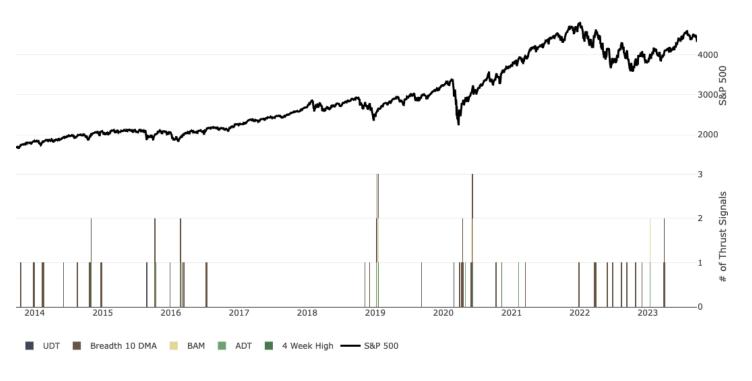


S&P 500 Daily

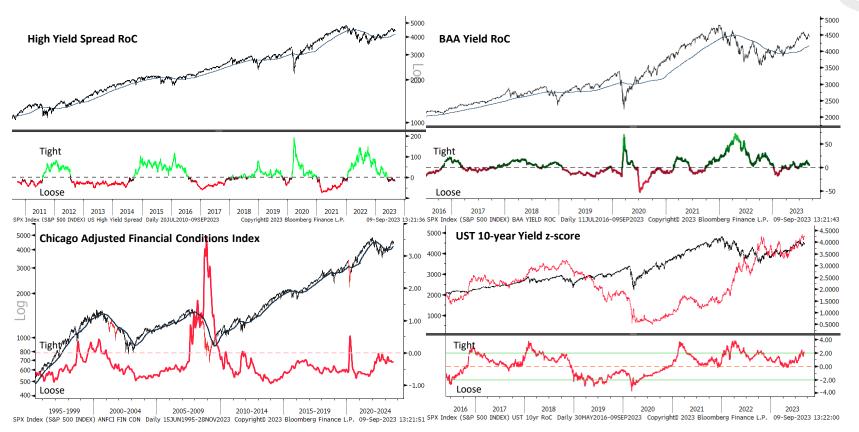


Breadth Thrusts





Liquidity



Bonds: 10-year Futures Monthly



Bonds: 10-year Futures Weekly

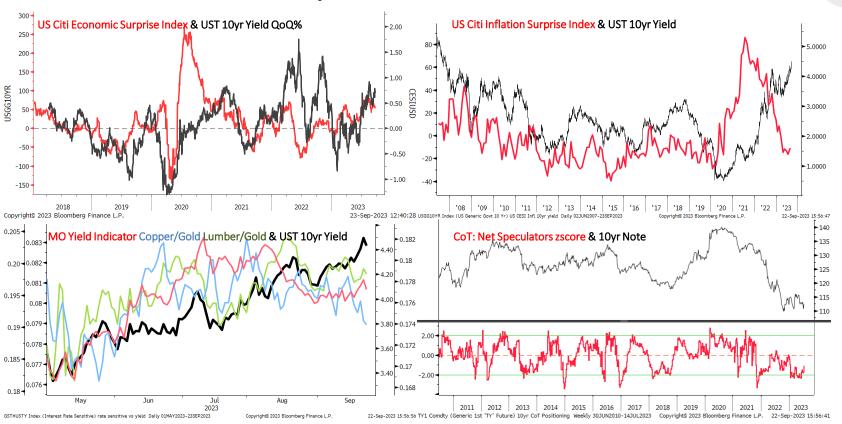


Bonds: 10-year Futures Daily





Bond/Yield Indicators



Trade Setups

CoT Setups:

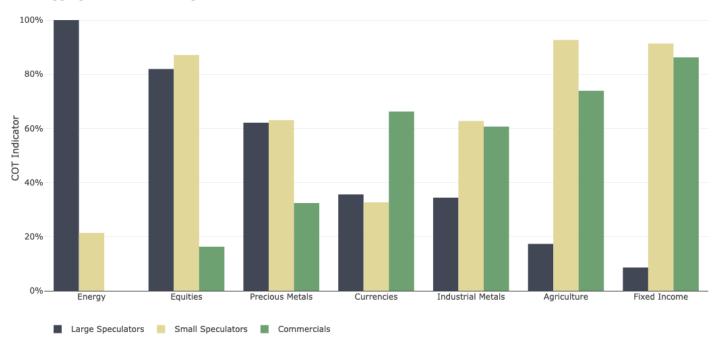
- Short Cotton (technical break / news failure)
- Short Cocoa (technical break / news failure)
- Short EURUSD on pullback reversal at midline
- Short GBPUSD on pullback reversal at midline
- Long AUDUSD on double bottom confirmation
- Long Wheat on bottom confirmation

VBO/FVBO & Technical Setups:

Aggregate COT Positioning

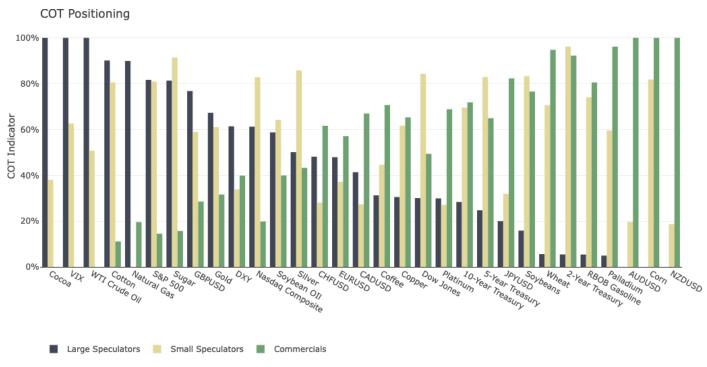


Aggregate COT Positioning

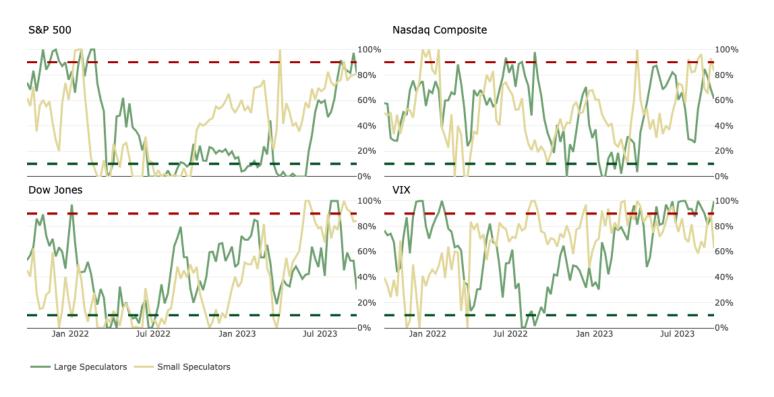


COT Positioning

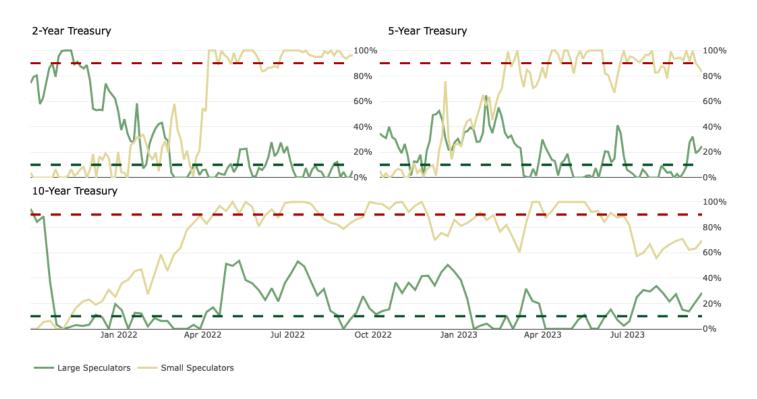




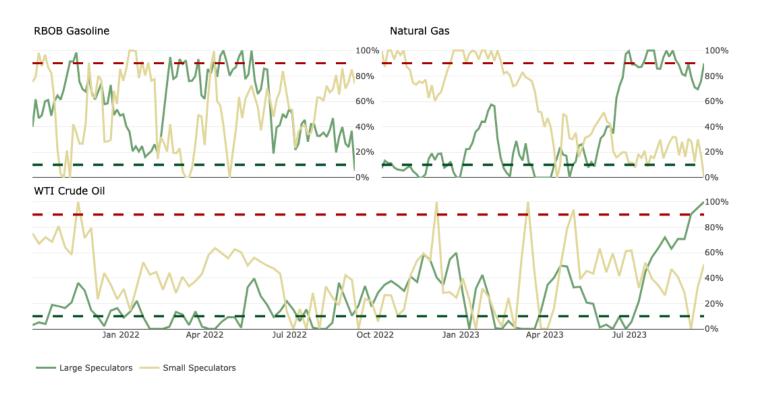
Equities: S&P 500, Nasdaq, Dow Jones, VIX



Fixed Income: 2-Year Treasury, 5-Year Treasury, 10-Year Treasury

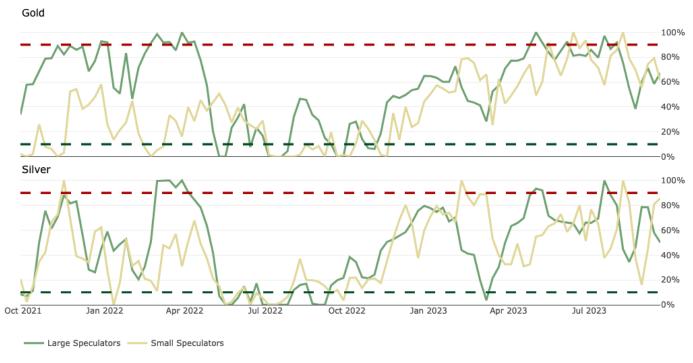


Energy: RBOB Gasoline, Natural Gas, WTI Crude Oil

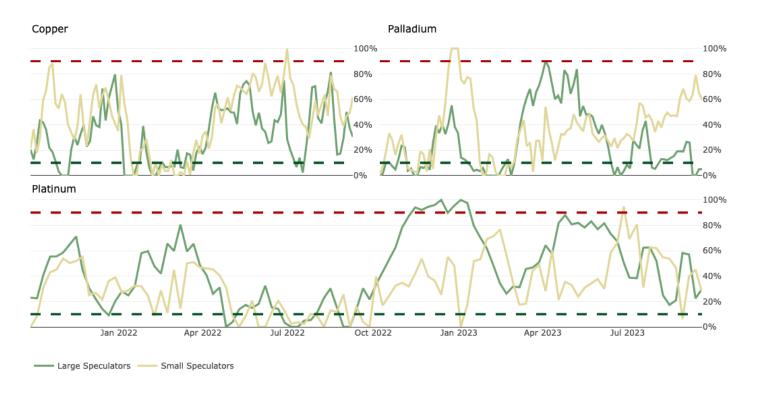


Precious Metals: Gold, Silver

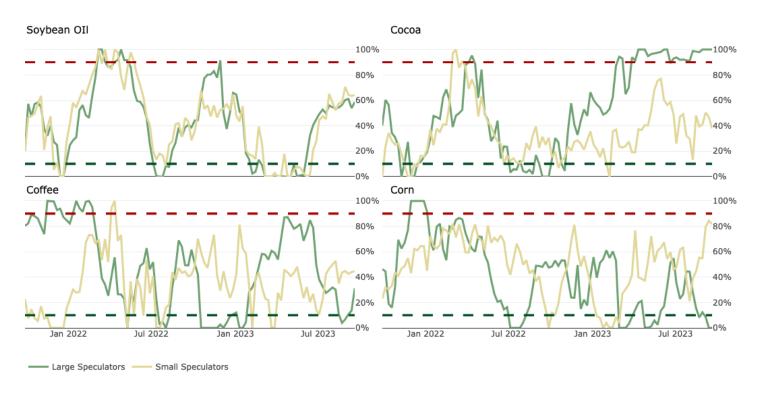




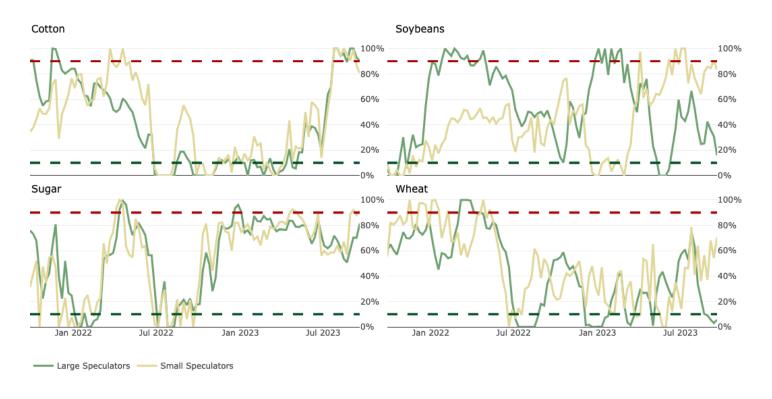
Industrial Metals: Copper, Palladium, Platinum



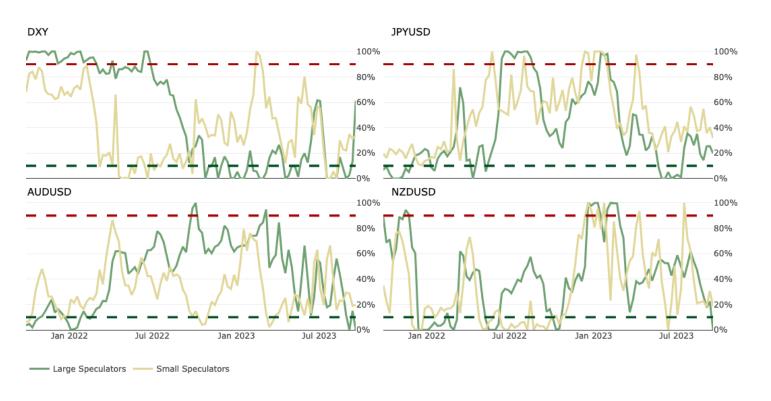
Agriculture: Soybean Oil, Cocoa, Coffee, Corn



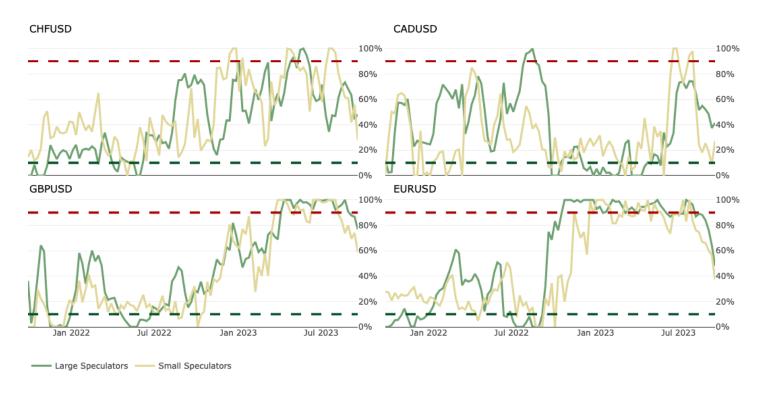
Agriculture: Cotton, Soybeans, Sugar, Wheat



Currencies: DXY, JPYUSD, AUDUSD, NZDUSD



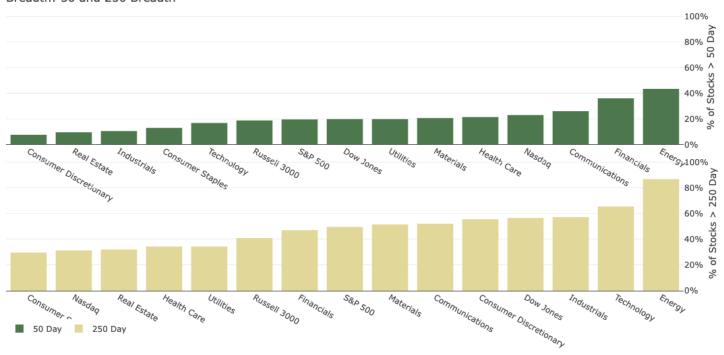
Currencies: CHFUSD, CADUSD, GBPUSD, EURUSD



Breadth



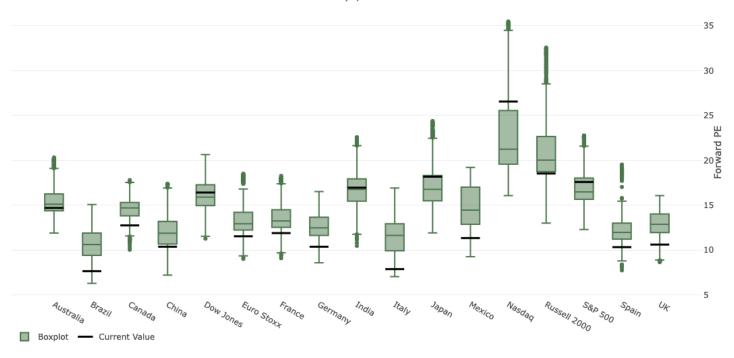
Breadth: 50 and 250 Breadth



Forward PE



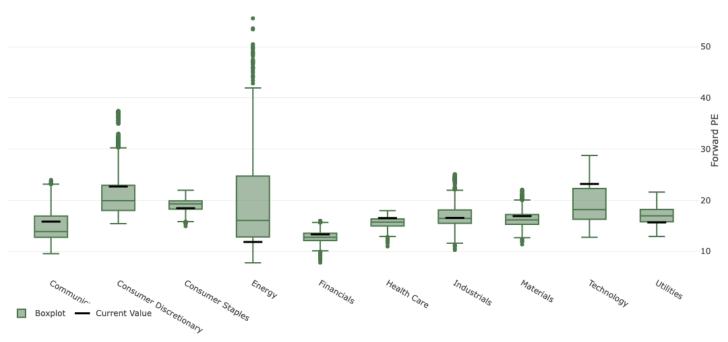
Country | Forward PE



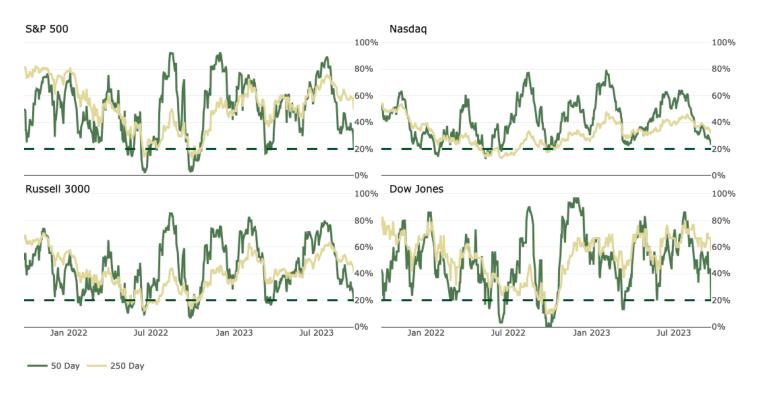
Forward PE





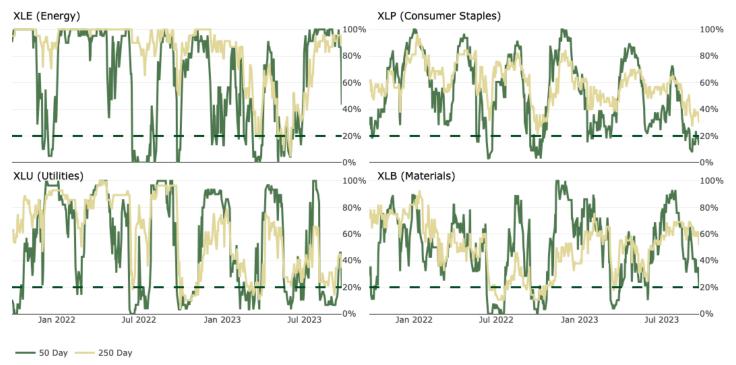


Broad Index Breadth: S&P 500, Nasdaq, Russell 300, Dow Jones



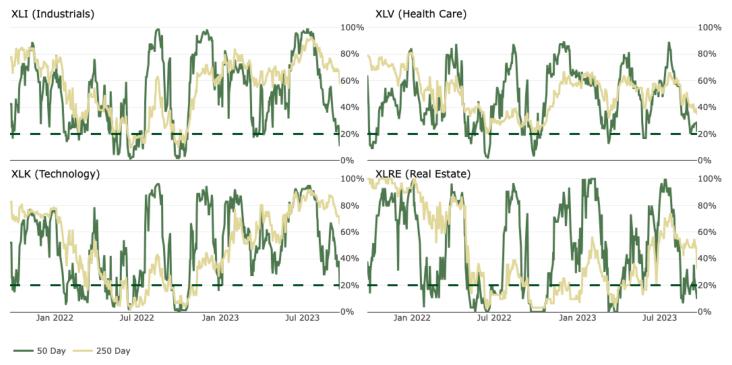
US Sector Breadth: XLE, XLP, XLU, XLB





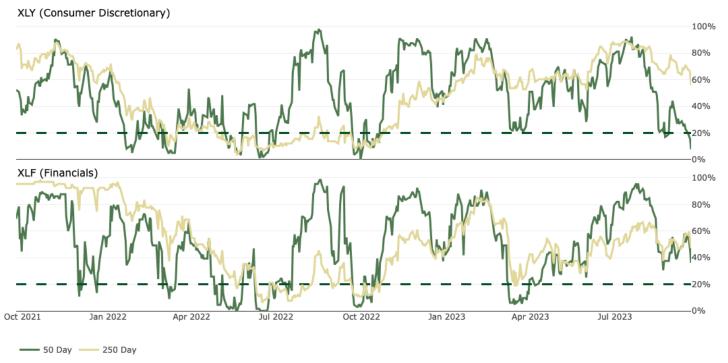
US Sectors: XLI, XLV, XLK, XLRE





US Sectors: XLY, XLF





The Macro Ops Portfolio

PDF: https://tinyurl.com/mo-portfolio

Total Drawdown Risk (%)

 2023 YTD Return
 14.79%

 Total Notional Exposure
 117.59%

 Equity Exposure
 42.46%

 Futures Exposure
 75.12%

 Current Cash Value (%)
 56.39%

 Total Capital At-Risk (%)
 0.47%

9.32%

 Cumulative 3YR Return
 83.00%

 Rolling 3YR CAGR
 22.32%

P&L R-Multiple (Cu
-0.58
-0.04
2.35
P&L R-Multiple (Cu
4.42
3.05
1.20
0.70
1.52
5.34
-0.70
2.44
4.44
P&L R-Multiple (Cu
P&L R-Multiple (Cu
-0.99
-0.96

Appendix

- Trifecta Lens & SQN Methodology & Case Study (<u>link here</u>)
 - TL Score Theory (<u>link here</u>)
 - Trend Fragility Dashboard (link here)
- Nervous & Numb Case Study (coming soon)
- Volatility & Failed Volatility Breakouts (VBO/FVBO) (<u>link here</u>)
- Hierarchy of Technicals (<u>link here</u>)
- Currency Framework (<u>link here</u>)
- Precious Metals Framework (link here)
- How to Read Market Sentiment (<u>link here</u>)
- Equity Supply & Demand Equation (<u>link here</u>)
- 50 Cent Conditional Tail Hedge Strategy (<u>link here</u>)

