



**CMT LEVEL III**  
**2019 Learning Objective**  
**Statements**

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# Level III. The Integration of Technical Analysis

## Section One: Risk Management

### 1 System Design and Testing

Assess the value and challenges of using a system for trading or investing  
Compare and analyze differences between discretionary and nondiscretionary systems  
Evaluate the mind-set and discipline required to develop and trade with a system  
Organize the basic procedures for designing a system  
Inventory types of technical trading systems  
Defend the necessity of risk management protocols in a trading system  
Examine critical aspects of performing system tests  
Compare and evaluate standard measures of system profitability and risk  
Differentiate between various methods of optimization

### 2 Money and Portfolio Risk Management

Distinguish between trading strategies and money-management strategies  
Evaluate the significance of the theory of runs and a martingale strategy  
Model position size using risk of ruin and optimal f methods  
Differentiate between diversifiable and correlated risk  
Compare and analyze the various types of stops used to manage risk  
Assess the minimum capital needed for trading a system

### 3 System Evaluation and Testing

Choose factors for system testing including objectives, parameters and test data  
Assess the use of in-sample and out-of-sample data  
Evaluate optimized test results for continuity and significance  
Explain the basics of using genetic algorithms  
Illustrate the concept of robustness in a trading system  
Critique the use of performance and risk metrics based on a given objective

### 4 Practical Considerations

Plan for system development and testing: data, techniques, and initial evaluation of results  
Assess the impact of runs and martingales on a trading system  
Evaluate the trade-offs between trend-following and mean-reverting systems

### 5 Risk Control

Compare risk and performance metrics derived from the following: Sharpe Ratio, Information Ratio, Treynor Ratio, Calmar Ratio, Sortino Ratio  
Interpret calculations of Value at Risk (VaR)  
Compare various methods for setting stops and profit targets  
Compare approaches to compounding positions  
Calculate the risk of ruin  
Calculate optimal f

## **6 Statistical Analysis**

Assess random and nonrandom trends in trading system performance  
Examine sampling and sample statistics in trading  
Calculate relative frequency  
Organize six elements of a statistical inference problem  
Differentiate between theoretical and empirical probabilities  
Derive a sampling distribution

## **7 Hypothesis Tests and Confidence Intervals**

Differentiate between necessary and sufficient conditions  
Compare the assertions of the null and alternative hypotheses  
Defend why the null hypothesis should be framed as the target of a test

# **Section Two: Asset Relationships**

## **8 Regression**

Assess values generated by regression, multiple regression and tolerance calculations  
Select meaningful predictor variables for multiple regression studies

## **9 International Indices and Commodities**

Inventory the various indexes and markets discussed  
Evaluate the intermarket relationships among the indexes and markets discussed

## **10 The S&P 500**

Compare general correlations among the S&P 500, international indexes and other markets discussed

## **11 European Indices**

Compare general correlations among international indexes, stocks and other markets discussed

## **12 Gold**

Compare general correlations among gold, dollar, stocks and indexes

## **13 Intraday Correlations**

Appraise correlation characteristics in various timeframes among the index futures discussed

## **14 Intermarket Indicators**

Construct relative strength studies and evaluate the results  
Compare intermarket indicators described in this chapter  
Prepare recommendations based on asset correlation data

## **15 A Unique Way to Visualize Relative Strength**

Appraise the trend and momentum of relative strength using Relative Rotation Graphs (RRG)  
Assess relative strength using the indicators derived from the RRG concept

## Section Three: Portfolio Management

### 16 Fact, Fiction and Momentum Investing

Defend the use of momentum strategies using historical data  
Argue against common myths about momentum strategies

### 17 Analyzing the Macro-Finance Environment

Model the business cycle, the financial cycle and their relationship  
Assemble a sector rotation model based on the business and financial cycles  
Identify leading, coincident, and lagging indicators of economic activity

### 18 Portfolio Risk and Performance Attribution

Assess the statement “total risk = volatility = standard deviation of returns”  
Interpret three formulations of total risk  
Defend the assertion that “diversification reduces only firm-specific risk”  
Discuss beta and its role in assessing portfolio risk  
Employ the Sharpe and Treynor ratios for individual stocks and portfolios

## Section Four: Behavioral Finance

### 19 Behavioral Biases

Distinguish between two types of biases: cognitive and emotional  
Build a table of cognitive and emotional biases, their manifestations and ways to address them

### 20 Investor Psychology

Inventory general behavioral aspects that impact price action  
Model behavioral elements that contribute to the development of chart patterns  
Model behavioral elements that contribute to the persistence of trends  
Model behavioral elements that contribute to periods of consolidation  
Model behavioral elements that contribute to trend reversals

### 21 Are Two Heads Better than One?

Assess the negative consequences of group/committee decision making  
Organize approaches to mitigating the effects of group biases

### 22 The Anatomy of a Bubble

Model the five stages of a bubble

### 23 De-Bubbling: Alpha Generation

Assess the three cross-section strategies that should benefit from a de-bubbling/deflationary period

### 24 Behavioral Techniques

Evaluate market reactions to events: planned news releases versus price shocks  
Estimate reactions to events using the volatility ratio  
Assemble a COT Index and a COT Sentiment Index from Commitments of Traders (COT) data

## Section Five: Volatility Analysis

### 25 The VIX as a Stock Market Indicator

Compare movement in the VIX and the S&P 500  
Evaluate VIX and VIX futures price relationships for signals  
Formulate market forecasts that include volatility as an input

### 26 Hedging with VIX Derivatives

Defend the rationale behind hedging with VIX products  
Propose hedge strategies using VIX options and futures

### 27 Advanced Techniques

Analyze the relationship between price and volatility  
Inventory several measures of volatility  
Model profit targets and stop-loss levels using volatility  
Propose methods for filtering a system's signals based on volatility  
Assess how fractal, chaos, and entropy concepts may be applied to trading  
Explain the basics of using neural networks  
Explain the basics of using genetic algorithms

## Section Six: Classical Methods

### 28 Pattern Recognition

Compare pivot points and DeMark's calculations for price ranges  
Examine intraday data for idiosyncratic patterns in stocks and currencies  
Assess the use of opening gaps as trading signals

### 29 Multiple Time Frames

Evaluate chart data using Elder's, Krausz's and Pring's multiple time-frame methods  
Inventory Krausz's six rules

### 30 Candlestick Analysis

Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of candlestick charts  
Categorize reversal and continuation candlestick patterns  
Interpret the nine important price action guidelines  
Appraise the significance of various Japanese candlestick patterns to pinpoint reversals and breakouts  
Integrate candlestick charts with other technical studies

### 31 Progressive Charting

Evaluate candle patterns as they develop in a chart  
Compose responses to the four questions posed at the outset of the chapter

### 32 Bringing it All Together: Real-World Charts

Predict likely price action based on candlestick patterns and the overall context of the price action  
Propose entry and exit points based on patterns, price action, and risk  
Assess trend persistence based on candlestick patterns and the overall context of the price action

### 33 Conclusions

Assess the validity of the 12 major conclusions about technical analysis the authors present  
Defend the use of technical analysis when properly employed in a variety of market environments



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