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Maximize Your Profits

Qstick Pressure Shift

Expert Advisor Documentation

PLATFORM	TYPE	TIMEFRAME	WEBSITE
MetaTrader 5 (MT5)	Momentum / Trend-Following	H1 – H4 (adaptable)	www.algobot.live

Overview

Qstick Pressure Shift is a trend-aligned momentum Expert Advisor built on Tushar Chande's *Qstick* indicator — the simple moving average of each candle's *body* (Close minus Open). Where most oscillators discard the open price and work only from closes, Qstick keeps the body, so it reads the raw balance of intrabar buying versus selling: a run of bullish bodies pushes Qstick positive, a run of bearish bodies pushes it negative. That "body conviction" is a signal a close-only series never sees.

What lifts this strategy above a bare zero-line cross is three layers of filtering. First, the trigger is **volatility-normalised**: instead of a fixed level, the EA acts only when Qstick pushes beyond a band set to a fraction of the current ATR, so the band breathes with market volatility and ignores limp, low-conviction bodies. Second, it fires only on a **fresh cross** — the exact bar Qstick moves out through the band, not a bar already sitting beyond it. Third, an EMA trend filter demands that price sit on the correct side of the EMA *and* that the EMA be sloping the same way, so only pressure shifts that push *with* the prevailing drift are taken and counter-trend pokes are skipped.

The result is a symmetric long/short system with few, broadly-ranged parameters designed to resist curve-fitting, ATR-based stops and targets for risk control, and an early reversal exit when body pressure flips against an open trade.

How It Works

The Qstick Body-Pressure Engine

On every completed bar the EA computes Qstick as the average candle body over `QstickPeriod` bars:

```
Qstick = SMA( Close - Open )  over QstickPeriod bars
```

A positive Qstick means recent candles closed above their opens on balance (net buying pressure); a negative value means net selling pressure. The strategy reads Qstick on the just-completed bar (`qNow`) and the bar before it (`qPrev`) to detect the moment pressure shifts.

Volatility-Scaled Trigger Band

Because a raw Qstick value is measured in price units, a "meaningful" body run is worth more on a volatile day than on a quiet one. Rather than a fixed threshold, the EA scales the trigger to the Average True Range:

```
thr = PressureThreshold × ATR(AtrPeriod)
```

The band `±thr` therefore expands and contracts with volatility, filtering out weak, low-conviction bodies automatically.

Entry Logic — Fresh, Trend-Aligned Cross

A signal requires a **fresh cross** of the band (inside on the prior bar, beyond on this one) confirmed by the EMA trend filter. The EMA filter checks both the price's side of a `TrendPeriod` EMA and the EMA's slope over `SlopeBars`:

- **Long:** Qstick crosses up through `+thr` (`qPrev ≤ thr` and `qNow > thr`), *and* close is above the EMA, *and* the EMA is rising.
- **Short:** Qstick crosses down through `-thr` (`qPrev ≥ -thr` and `qNow < -thr`), *and* close is below the EMA, *and* the EMA is falling.

> **Why the fresh-cross rule matters.** Acting only on the bar Qstick breaks out of the band captures the genuine *shift* in body pressure. A bar already sitting outside the band tells you nothing new — the move may be old and exhausted. This is a core anti-whipsaw safeguard.

Exit Logic

An open position is managed two ways:

- **Reversal exit:** if Qstick makes an opposing fresh cross while a trade is open (a down-cross against a long, or an up-cross against a short), the position is closed early — body pressure has flipped.
- **Stop / Target:** otherwise the trade is managed by its ATR-based stop-loss and take-profit, both set at entry.

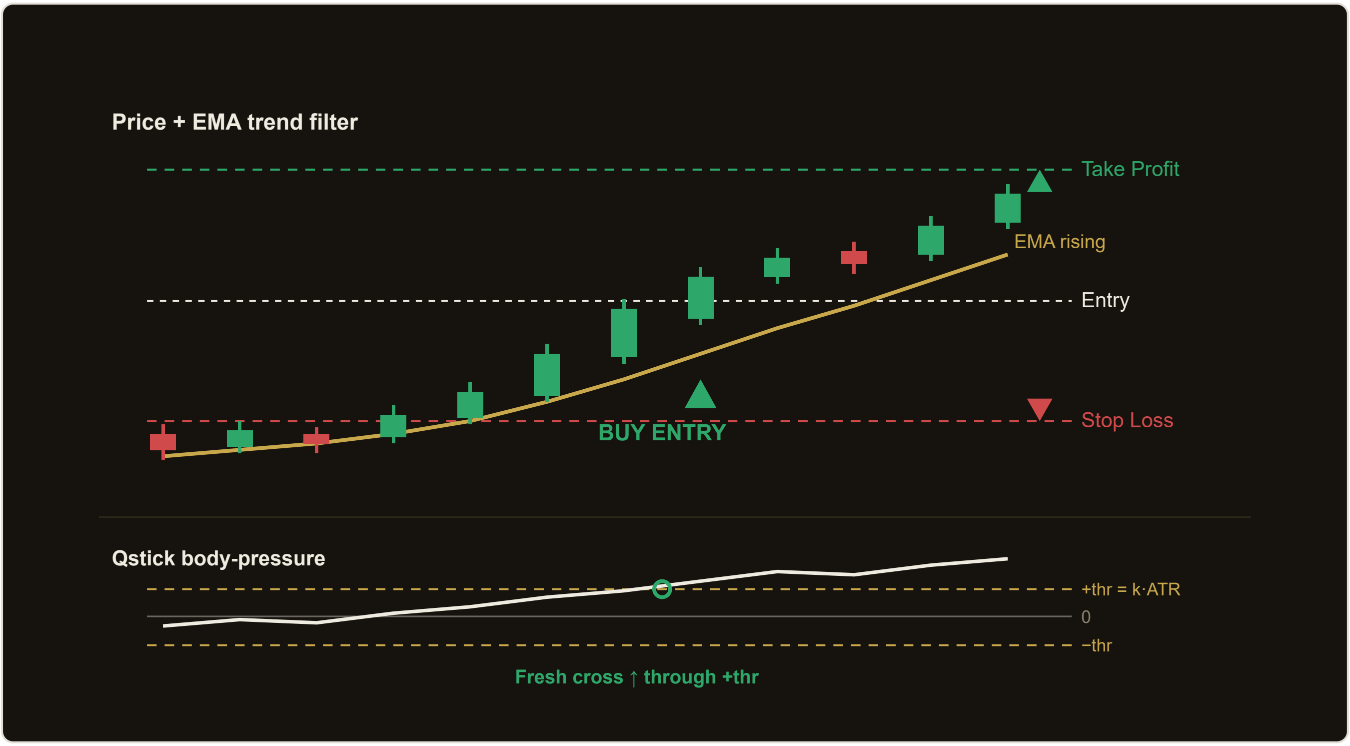
Risk & Position Management

```
Long : SL = entry - AtrSlMult × ATR     TP = entry + AtrTpMult × ATR
Short: SL = entry + AtrSlMult × ATR     TP = entry - AtrTpMult × ATR
```

Position sizing is a fixed lot (`Lots`). The EA holds at most **one position per magic number** at a time, so a new entry is only taken when flat. All bar and indicator reads use the chart's primary timeframe, so the strategy runs on whatever timeframe you attach it to.

Strategy in Action

The illustration below shows an example of how the strategy identifies a setup and triggers its entry and exit. This is a simplified, illustrative example for educational purposes — not real market data.



Illustrative example only. Actual market behaviour varies.

Reading the chart

A run of bullish candles builds body pressure until Qstick pushes up through the volatility-scaled `+thr` band (green circle). Because price is above a rising EMA at that same bar, the fresh cross confirms a long. The trade opens at the Entry line, with the ATR-based Stop Loss below and Take Profit above. Price continues with the trend and reaches the target.

Parameters

Parameter	Default	Description
QstickPeriod	`10`	Smoothing length of the Qstick body-pressure average (SMA of Close − Open). Range 4–30, step 1. Shorter reacts faster; longer smooths noise.
TrendPeriod	`50`	EMA length for the trend filter (direction + slope). Range 20–200, step 5. Larger demands a stronger, slower prevailing trend.
SlopeBars	`3`	Lookback over which the EMA slope must agree with the trade direction. Range 1–10, step 1.
PressureThreshold	`0.15`	Trigger level as a fraction of ATR (`thr = PressureThreshold × ATR`). Range 0.0–0.6, step 0.05. Larger → fewer, stronger pressure shifts.
AtrPeriod	`14`	ATR length used for the trigger scale and the stop / target distances. Range 7–30, step 1.
AtrSlMult	`2.0`	Stop-loss distance as a multiple of ATR (`entry -/+ AtrSlMult × ATR`). Range 1.0–4.0, step 0.5.
AtrTpMult	`3.0`	Take-profit distance as a multiple of ATR (`entry +/- AtrTpMult × ATR`). Range 1.0–6.0, step 0.5.
Lots	`0.10`	Fixed lot size for each position. Range 0.01–1.0, step 0.05.
Magic	`5127`	Magic number identifying this EA's trades. Enforces one position per magic; use a unique value per chart.

Recommended Settings

The defaults above are a deliberately balanced, broadly-ranged starting point chosen to resist curve-fitting. Before deploying, always backtest and forward-test on your own symbol, timeframe and broker conditions.

SUGGESTED STARTING CONFIGURATION

- **Instruments:** liquid majors and index/commodity CFDs with clean trends and consistent spreads (e.g. EURUSD, GBPUSD, XAUUSD).
- **Timeframe:** H1 to H4. The strategy is timeframe-agnostic — it reads whatever timeframe the chart uses — but higher timeframes reduce noise and spread drag.
- **Trend filter:** keep `TrendPeriod` at 50 for H1; raise toward 100–200 on lower timeframes if entries feel over-eager.

> **Tuning tip.** To take fewer but higher-conviction trades, raise `PressureThreshold` (e.g. 0.25–0.35) so a larger body run is needed to trigger. To widen risk-per-trade, adjust `AtrSlMult` / `AtrTpMult` together and keep the reward-to-risk ratio deliberate (the 2.0 / 3.0 default is 1 : 1.5).

> **Position sizing.** `Lots` is a *fixed* size — it does not scale with account equity. Set it appropriately for your balance and risk tolerance, and never run a lot size whose ATR stop could exceed your acceptable per-trade loss.

How to Install on MetaTrader 5

1. Copy `QstickPressureShift.ex5` to your MT5 `MQL5\Experts\` folder
2. Restart MetaTrader 5 and refresh the Navigator panel
3. Drag the EA onto a chart matching the recommended symbol and timeframe
4. Configure the input parameters and click **OK**
5. Enable **Algo Trading** in the MT5 toolbar

> **Tip.** Assign a unique `Magic` number to each chart if you run Qstick Pressure Shift on more than one symbol at once, so each instance manages only its own position.

Risk Warning

Trading foreign exchange, CFDs, and other leveraged financial instruments involves substantial risk of loss and is not suitable for all investors. The strategies and tools described in this document are provided for **educational purposes only** and do not constitute financial advice, investment recommendations, or solicitation to trade. Always consult a qualified financial adviser before making trading decisions. Past backtest performance is not indicative of future results.