METHODOLOGY

How every number is made

A plain-language white paper: where the data comes from, how each metric is calculated, and what the models leave out.

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Status: **provisional** under 300 counted trades. Results are in R and %; no dollar amounts are shown.

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1. The data path

1. **Broker statement.** After the last trade of the day, the account's detailed statement is saved from the trading platform. It is the single source of every trade.
2. **Tracking workbook.** The statement is loaded into the MARS tracking workbook, which matches each closed trade to its day and slot, and computes its net result in R after spread, commission, swap and slippage.
3. **Health check.** An independent script re-reads the statement and checks the workbook: every trade present once, net results to the cent, equity arithmetic, next-day risk. A failed check stops the update.

4. **Public page.** A build script turns the workbook into this site's data. A leak check refuses to publish if the text would show an account number, a balance or any dollar amount.
5. **Seal.** The day's data is fingerprinted and stamped in the verification chain (section 6).

2. Units: R, % and the breakeven band

- **R** is the amount risked on a trade. A trade's net R = its net profit or loss ÷ the amount it risked. Because every trade is 1:1, a clean win is about +1R and a clean loss about −1R, less costs.
- **%** is the change in account equity. Equity results depend on the risk the rail set that day (1% to 5.5% a trade), so the same R can mean different %.
- **Breakeven band.** A result between −0.10R and +0.10R is a breakeven, not a win or a loss. Win rate = wins ÷ (wins + losses); breakevens are left out of it but count in every R total.
- **Costs** are always inside the numbers: every R and % on the site is net of all costs.

3. The five core metrics, in order of authority

Metric	Question	Formula
EV (expectancy)	Is there an edge?	Average net R per trade.
Drawdown	Can the account survive it?	Fall from the Equity Peak High (the highest close so far) to the current equity, in %.
RAER	Is the risk put on turned into return?	Cumulative net profit ÷ cumulative risk put on, both as a share of equity.
RAPF	Is the profit quality real?	Profit factor (R won ÷ R lost) scaled by a reference risk ÷ the average risk actually used, so that sizing up on winners or down on losers shows.
Equity acceleration	Is compounding speeding up?	This week's % return minus last week's.

The order matters: a fast-growing account with no edge or with a drawdown it cannot survive fails the test, whatever its speed.

4. The Monte Carlo ruler

The benchmark is a model of the plan, not a target. It runs 1,000 simulated paths of the plan itself: 1:1 trades at a 60% win rate, a cost of about 0.05R a trade, four trades a day and four days a week, with risk set by the same rail of gates and tiers. Each week the live record is placed inside the spread of those paths (the 25th, 50th and 75th percentiles).

Alpha means beating the benchmark without a worse drawdown, worse efficiency or worse compliance. Beating it with more risk is not alpha.

5. Confidence and sample size

- EV is shown with a 95% range: EV ± t × standard deviation ÷ √trades. While the range includes zero, the edge is not proven.
- Win rates use the Wilson 95% range, which behaves well with few trades.
- Statuses wait for 30 trades; a firm verdict waits for 300. Until then every result carries a provisional label.

6. Verification

Each update adds a small block file holding the SHA-256 fingerprint of the newly published trade rows, the fingerprint of the broker statement at that moment (the statement itself stays private) and the fingerprint of the previous block, so the blocks form a chain. The blocks are stamped with OpenTimestamps, which anchors them in the Bitcoin blockchain. Anyone can download a block and its proof from the Integrity page and check at opentimestamps.org that the record existed in that form on that date. A replication kit (trades as CSV and Excel) lets a reader rebuild the headline numbers.

7. The Alpha Cup scoring

The Alpha Cup lets a visitor's own settings play the live record on the same trading days. A match is scored on 19 statistics in five groups, weighted in the MARS order of authority:

Group	Statistics	Points each
Edge	EV per trade, cost cushion, SQN, chance the edge is real	5
Survival	Max drawdown, longest losing run, time under water, ulcer index	4
Efficiency	RAER, return ÷ drawdown, smoothness	4
Quality	RAPF, R profit factor, payoff ratio, green days	2
Speed	Return, equity acceleration, new equity highs, best day	1

- Each statistic goes to the side with the better value (higher or lower, by statistic); a tie splits the points. A statistic scores only once both sides have its minimum number of trades.
- Bonus plays: +3 for each finished week with no fall through a gate; −10 for reaching System Lock.
- The visitor's trades are drawn at random from their own settings; the live record's trades are the real ones and never change. The Scouting report repeats this for 1,000 seasons to show how much of a result is luck.
- Prize weeks count only with the team registered before the week began, so the past cannot be rewritten. Everything stays in the visitor's browser. Illustration only.

8. The Filters rules

The Filters panel narrows 27 trade-level pages (for example edge, breakdowns, excursions and the trade log) to the trades that match a chosen pair, session, timeframe, direction, weekday or slot. It never touches pages built from the whole record in sequence, and those pages also ignore the date window: account equity, drawdown, the Monte Carlo benchmark, gates and tiers, simulations and the Alpha Cup. A filtered view is a slice, not a different track record: small slices are mostly noise.

9. What is not modelled

- The simulations use a simplified rail: the caution lock after repeated Red days, manually chosen tiers and holiday notes are not modelled.
- Simulated trades are independent coin flips at the chosen win rate; real trades can cluster.
- Costs in simulations are a fixed average; real costs vary by pair, session and stop size.

- Past order of trades only: what-if tools replay the record as it happened and cannot know how other choices would have changed later trades.

> Education and record-keeping only; not investment advice. See Disclaimer and privacy and the Trading Plan and Risk Charter.