User Manual

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Introduction

Autochartist is a chart pattern identification tool that scans various markets and instrument types for known chart pattern formations such as triangles, wedges, head-and-shoulders and channels.

Fibonacci retracements, extensions, ABCD-, Gartley- and butterfly patterns are also identified by Autochartist throughout the trading day.

Patterns are distributed to you in real time via a web interface. This manual gives an overview of how to use the web interface.

Accessing Autochartist

To access Autochartist click on the Tools button on the top right of the dealing platform, and select the Autochartist service from the menu. You will be automatically logged into the Autochartist web interface, which will open in a separate window.

The Autochartist Interface

When you access Autochartist for the first time, the application will display information that has been loaded by default.

The layout of the web interface consists of five separate areas:
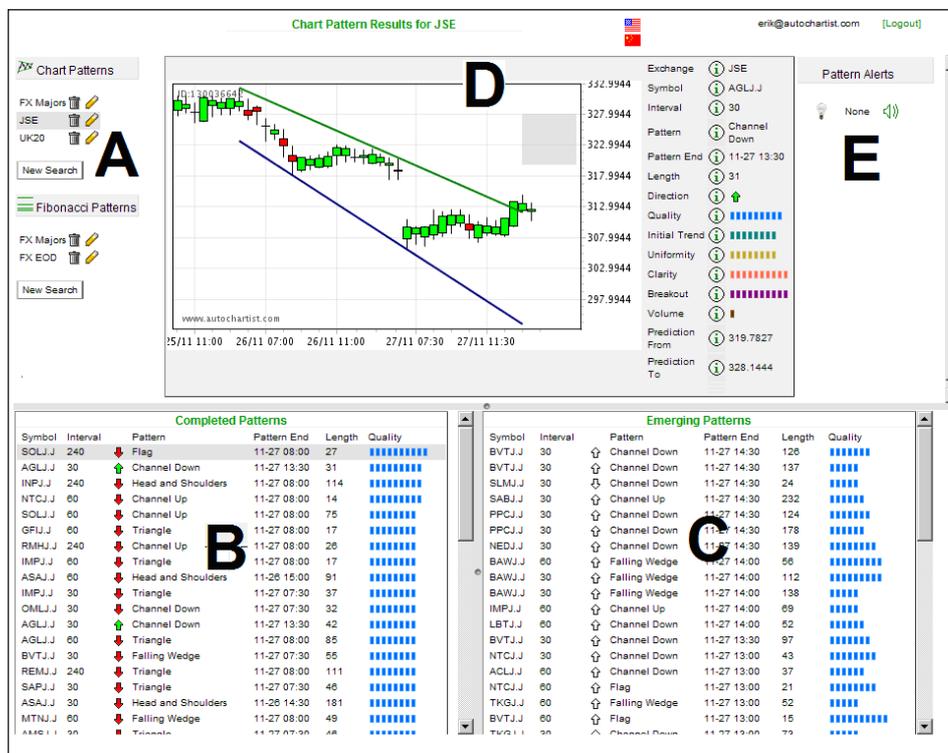
A – Search Pane
B – Results Pane - Completed Patterns
C – Results Pane - Emerging Patterns
D – Pattern Display
E – Alerts Pane

Search Pane (A)

The search pane contains a default search. This is based on the instruments which you are able to access when you log in to Autochartist for the first time. A search contains a set of criteria defined by you, and it specifies:

- *where* to look for patterns, by choosing from a predefined list of groupings (symbols are grouped, for example, by exchange or instrument type).

- *what* types of patterns to look for.

- other criteria that can further *filter* results.

All searches are listed in the Search Pane.However the information shown in the Results Panes only pertains to the highlighted search.

An existing search can be edited by clicking on the pencil icon (✏), or deleted by clicking on the dustbin icon (🗑). Please refer to the 'Creating and Editing a Search' section below for details on creating or editing a search.

Results Pane - Completed Patterns (B)

This pane lists all completed patterns identified for the selected search (highlighted in the Search Pane, A). A Chart Pattern is defined as being completed when the price has broken through the identified support or resistance level. A Fibonacci Pattern has completed when its final turning point adheres to the predefined criteria for that pattern.

Results are ordered chronologically by default, but you can also sort results by clicking on any of the column headers.

Results Pane - Emerging Patterns (C)

This pane lists all emerging patterns identified for the selected search (highlighted in the Search Pane, A). A pattern is defined as emerging if it has not yet fulfilled the criteria to be regarded as complete. These patterns provide a useful early indication of potential trading opportunities.

Results are ordered chronologically by default, but you can also sort results by clicking on any of the column headers.

See 'Emerging vs Complete results' below for a fuller explanation of the difference between completed and emerging patterns.

Pattern Display (D)

The price graph and illustrated pattern displayed in this pane represent the result that was selected in one of the Results Panes (B or C).

The columns to the right of the price graph contain additional information about the pattern, such as time found, pattern quality, pattern length and forecast region. For more information see 'Pattern Results'.

Alerts Pane (E)

This pane provides a listing of new patterns as they are identified. It spans all your defined searches, including those that are not currently in view.

When new patterns are found, the light bulb icon lights up and a list of searches containing the new pattern results are displayed underneath. When you click on an alert, you are redirected to the relevant search results. Alerts are cleared from this pane periodically as automatic updates occur.

The alerts mechanism also provides an audio signal that can be activated to keep you updated even when the Autochartist application window is not visible. To switch the audio alert on and off, click on the speaker icon (🔊) next to the light bulb.
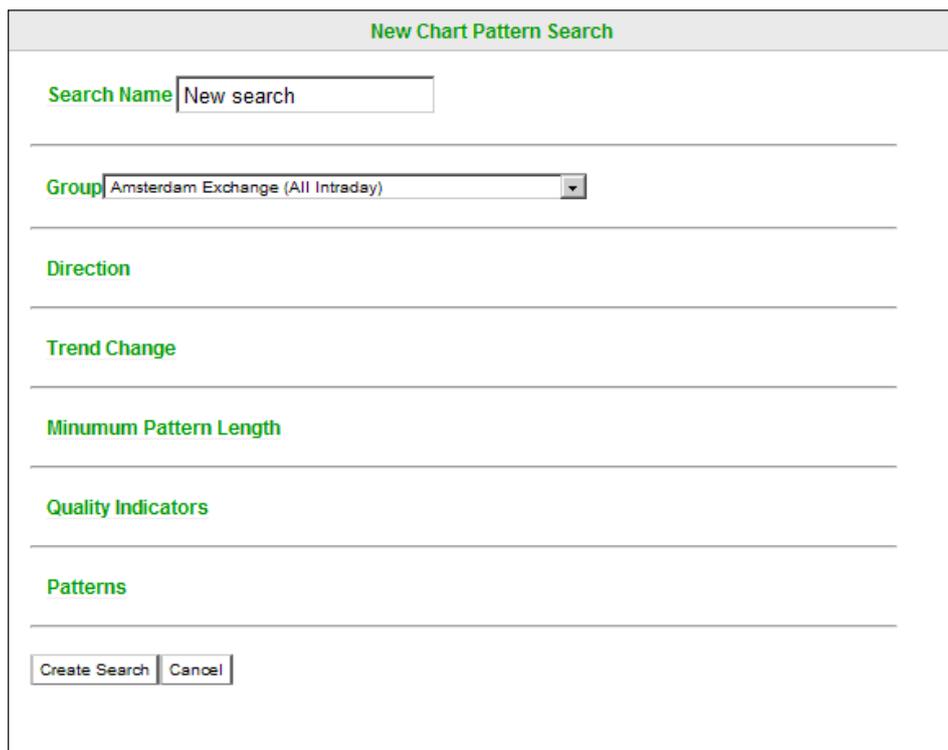
Creating and Editing a Search

A search is a set of criteria, defined by you, which is used to scan the market for patterns.

Each new search is created specifically, either for Chart Patterns or for Fibonacci Patterns.

To create a new search, click on the 'New Search' button in the Search Pane (see above) under the relevant pattern heading. A separate window will pop up in which to define your search. Your search is created by selecting from an existing list of criteria.

The layout of the search window is an 'accordion' panel, in which details of sub sections are hidden from view until the section is selected. Each section is described below.

Search Name

The first section of the search window has no hidden details.It provides a text field for you to enter a name for the search. It should be given a meaningful name, just as you would give a descriptive file name to an important document when saving it. The name of the search will be displayed under the relevant pattern heading in the Search Pane (A).

Group

This is a fundamental decision to make when creating a new search is where to scan for patterns. You may have a preference for certain instruments that guide your trading actions, and after naming the search the you will need to choose which instrument group will be its focus. .

Group (continued)

The following groups are included, and contain the same symbols as in the dealing platform:

- Forex
- Stock indices
- Metals
- Shares by region

For any search, you should choose a group from the drop-down list. To select your preference, click on the group name.

Direction

Search results can be filtered according to the direction of the expected outcome of price movement after the pattern is identified. Every pattern has either a bullish or bearish outlook. If you are interested only in a particular market direction you can select it here by clicking the applicable radio button.

Trend Change

The expected price movement after a Chart Pattern was found would either be in the same direction as the initial trend, or in the opposite direction. If the expected price movement after the pattern follows the same direction as the initial trend it is a known as a continuation pattern. If it goes in the opposite direction to the initial trend it is called a reversal.
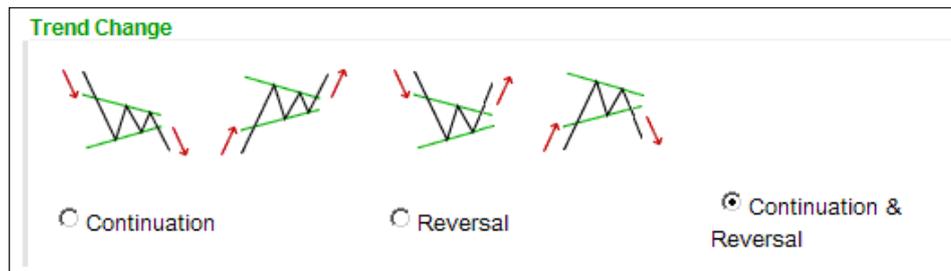

Depending on the type of market stage (trending or sideways) you may be more interested in either continuation or reversal patterns. Here you can filter these according to your preference by clicking on the applicable radio button.

Minimum Pattern Length

Pattern length specifies the number of candles (bars) of the price chart that are contained in the pattern. For example, a pattern of length 30 found on 60 minute data would mean that the pattern was formed over 30 hours.

Longer patterns tend to be of better quality, so you can choose to filter out short patterns by setting the minimum pattern length using the slider.
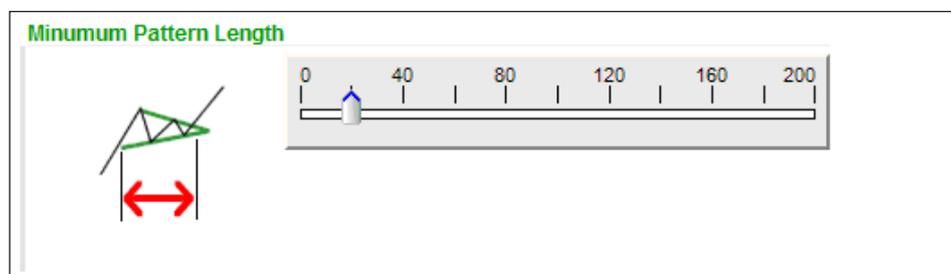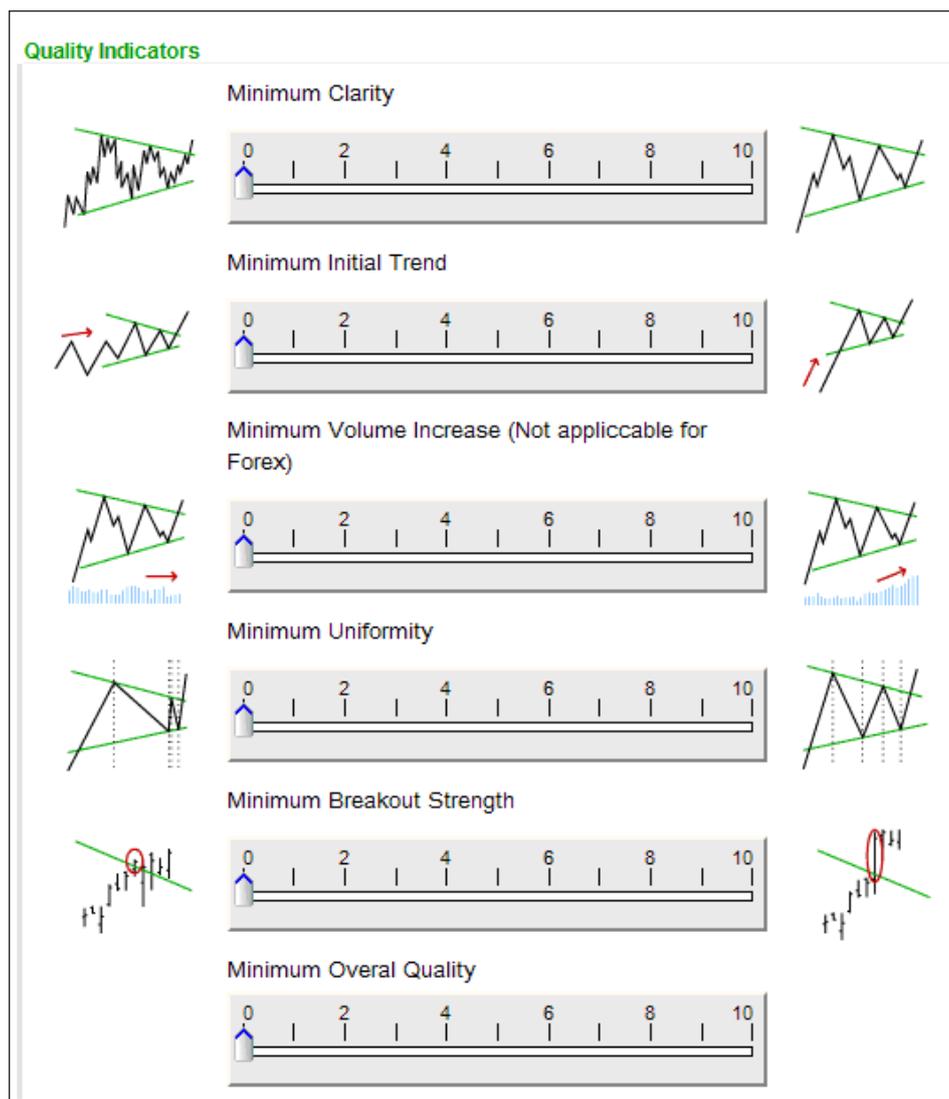

Quality Indicators

Four objective indicators measure Chart Pattern quality, and three measure Fibonacci Pattern quality.

Quality indicators reflect the visual appeal of the pattern. A high quality pattern will naturally appear more attractive. The Overall Quality measure indicates average quality across all indicators.

Quality is expressed as a number ranging from 0 to 10, where 10 is the best quality and 0 is the poorest. Use the sliders to set the required levels of pattern quality for your search.

It is important to remember that the settings in this section determine the minimum requirements for quality. A lower threshold would allow more patterns to pass the search criteria. If the requirements are set too high, your search may return very few results or none at all. By default all quality requirements are set to zero.
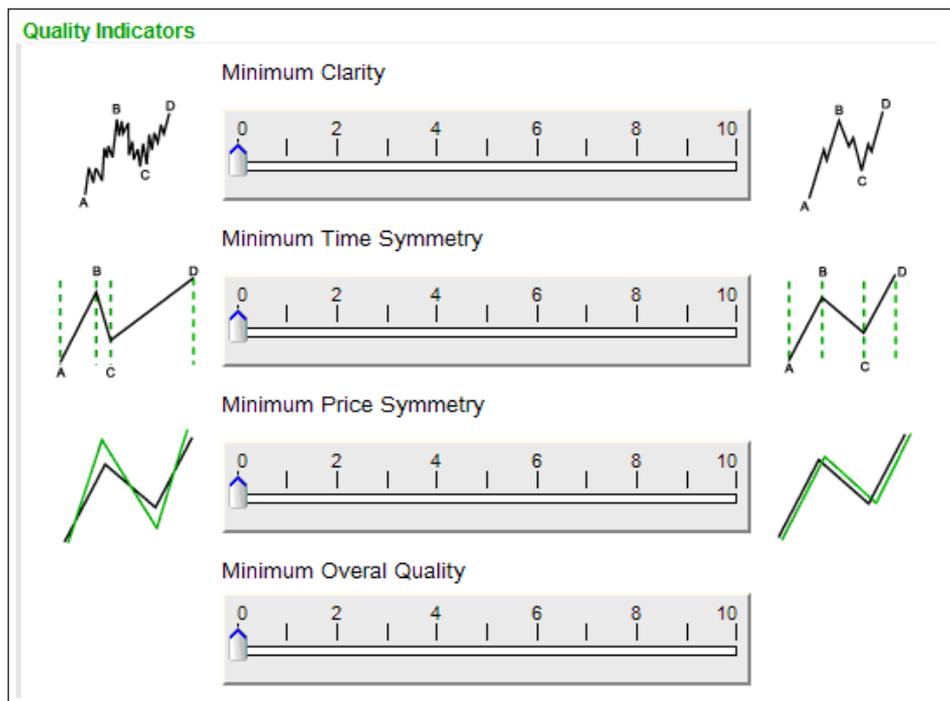
Chart Pattern Quality Indicators:

Clarity – indicates of the level of 'noise' in the price graph. If there are lots of spikes in the price movements the clarity would be low.

Initial Trend – the strength of the trend that precedes a pattern is a very good measure of the visual quality of the pattern. A long, consistent initial trend will have a higher rating for this indicator.

Uniformity – if the points touching the support and resistance lines are more evenly spaced over time, the pattern will have a better uniformity rating.

Breakout Strength – the momentum with which the price breaks through support or resistance indicates breach of a previous psychological level. Stronger breakout is a reinforcement of the underlying theory, and signals a better chance of reaching the forecast region.

Fibonacci Quality Indicators:

Clarity – indicates the level of 'noise' in the price graph. If there are lots of spikes in the price movements the clarity would be low.

Time Symmetry – the degree to which time differences between turning points follow the same Fibonacci ratios found in price levels.
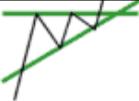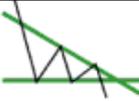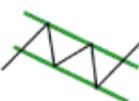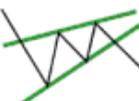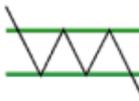
Price Symmetry – the degree to which the identified ratios match the theoretical Fibonacci ratios, within some margin of error. The smaller the margin of error, the higher the price symmetry.
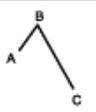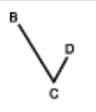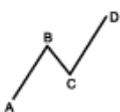
Pattern Types

There are 16 types of Chart Patterns or four types of Fibonacci Patterns that can be included in a search. Each pattern type is listed in this section, together with a checkbox that can be ticked to include it as part of the search.

In addition, you can click on an information icon that details the characteristics of the pattern, when it forms and what it suggests.

Chart Patterns:

Ascending Triangle		☑	Descending Triangle		☑
Triangle		☑	Channel Down		☑
Channel Up		☑	Falling Wedge		☑
Rising Wedge		☑	Rectangle		☑
Head and Shoulders		☑	Inverse Head and Shoulders		☑
Triple Top		☑	Triple Bottom		☑

Fibonacci Patterns:

3 Point Retracement		☑	3 Point Extension		☑
ABCD		☑	3 Drive		☑

Pattern Results

The Pattern Display (refer to 'Pattern Display (D)' in 'The Autochartist Interface' section above) contains detailed information on specific characteristics of the pattern. There are helpful descriptions available by clicking on the ⓘ icon next to each item.

Symbol – the name of the instrument on which the pattern was found.

Interval – time interval of the data on which the pattern was found.

Pattern – descriptive name of the type of pattern identified.

Pattern End – date and time when the pattern was identified or when it reached its completion.

Length – the number of candles / bars of the price chart that are contained in the pattern.

Direction - forecast direction of price movement after pattern completion.

Quality Indicators - (see the 'Quality Indicators' section above).

Forecast From / To - maximum and minimum price levels in the forecast range of a completed pattern.

Emerging vs Complete Results

Emerging patterns provide you with early notification of potential trading opportunities. They represent partially complete pattern formations that, once completed, would adhere to the underlying theory. Most emerging patterns do not complete, however, which means that the price moved in such a way that the graph no longer represents a valid pattern.

Emerging Chart Patterns are detected when the price is trading between support and resistance levels, but has not yet broken out in the direction anticipated by the pattern.

Emerging vs Complete Results (continued)

If a new turning point forms between the support and resistance levels before breaking out, the emerging pattern will no longer be valid.

In emerging Fibonacci Patterns, the price level of the final turning point of the pattern has not been reached yet. This is because it is only a theoretical possibility when the pattern is recognised. If the price graph does not make a turning point at the same price as the theoretical turning point, the Fibonacci Pattern will no longer be valid.

Support

For further support or information please visit www.autochartist.com