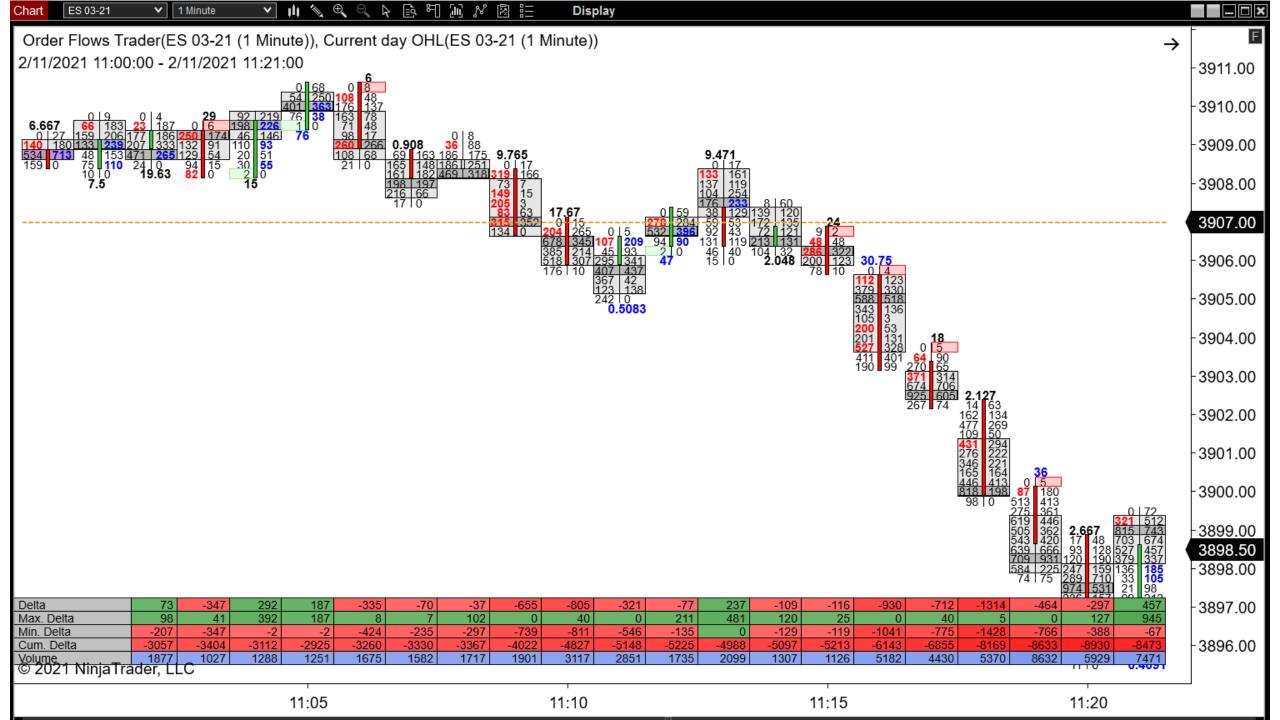
Next Level Order Flow Module 8: Flow Driven Market

Disclaimer

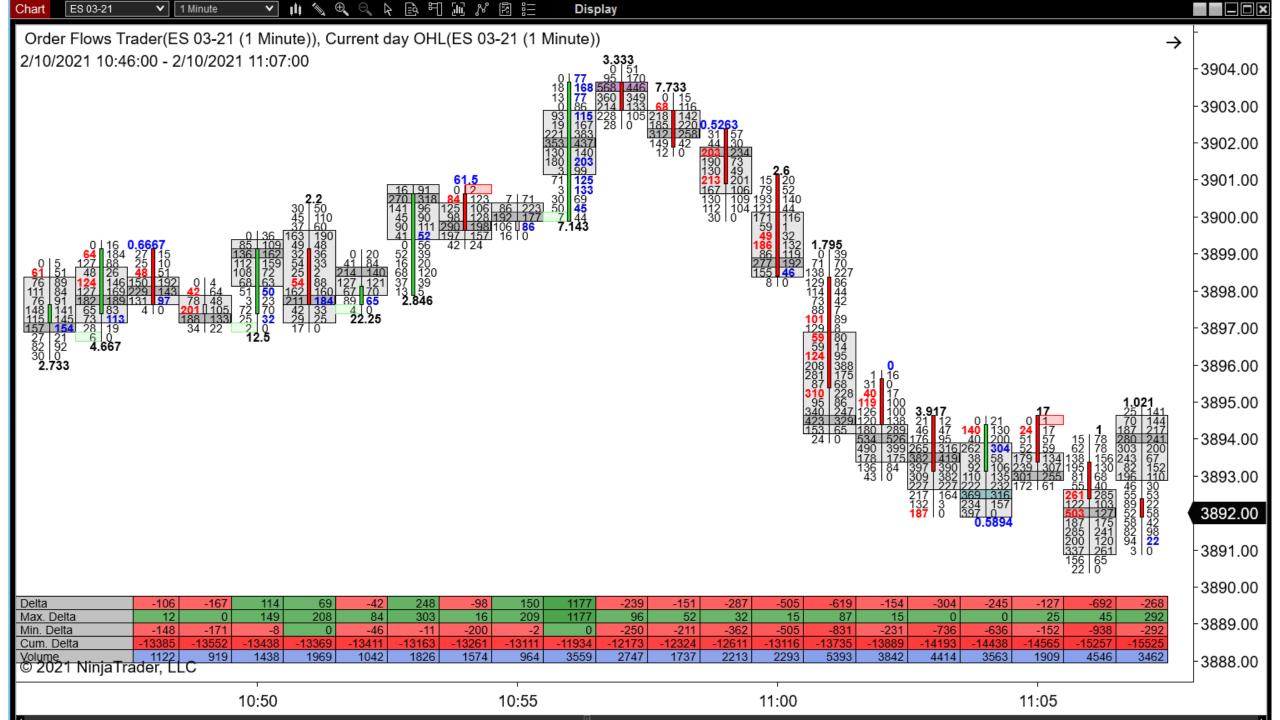
This course is for educational and informational purposes only and should not be considered a solicitation to buy or sell a futures contract or make any other type of investment decision. Futures trading contains substantial risk and is not for every investor. An investor could potentially lose all or more than the initial investment. Risk capital is money that can be lost without jeopardizing ones financial security or life style. Only risk capital should be used for trading and only those with sufficient risk capital should consider trading. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results.

CFTC Rules 4.41 - Hypothetical or Simulated performance results have certain limitations, unlike an actual performance record, simulated results do not represent actual trading. Also, since the trades have not been executed, the results may have under-or-over compensated for the impact, if any, of certain market factors, such as lack of liquidity. Simulated trading programs in general are also subject to the fact that they are designed with the benefit of hindsight. No representation is being made that any account will or is likely to achieve profit or losses similar to those shown.

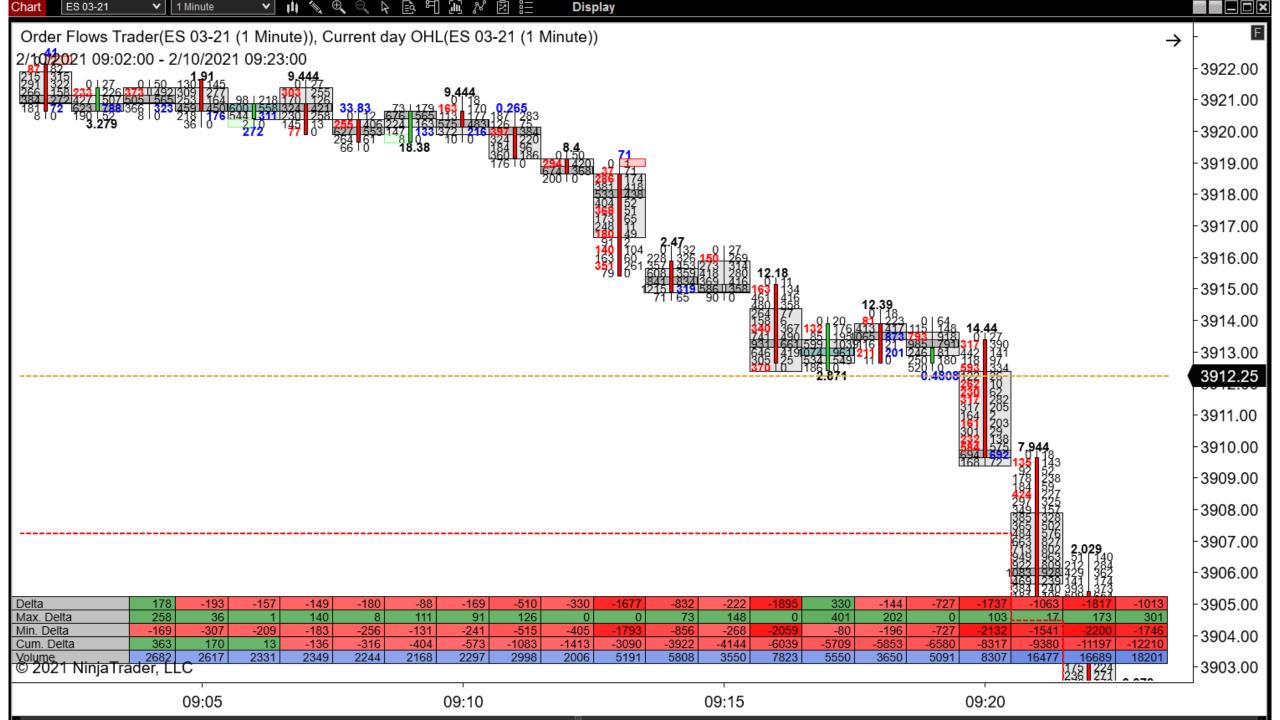
In order to be successful at trading you need understanding of what the other traders, traders you are competing with, are doing. There will be times you want to trade along side with them and there will be times you want to trade against them.



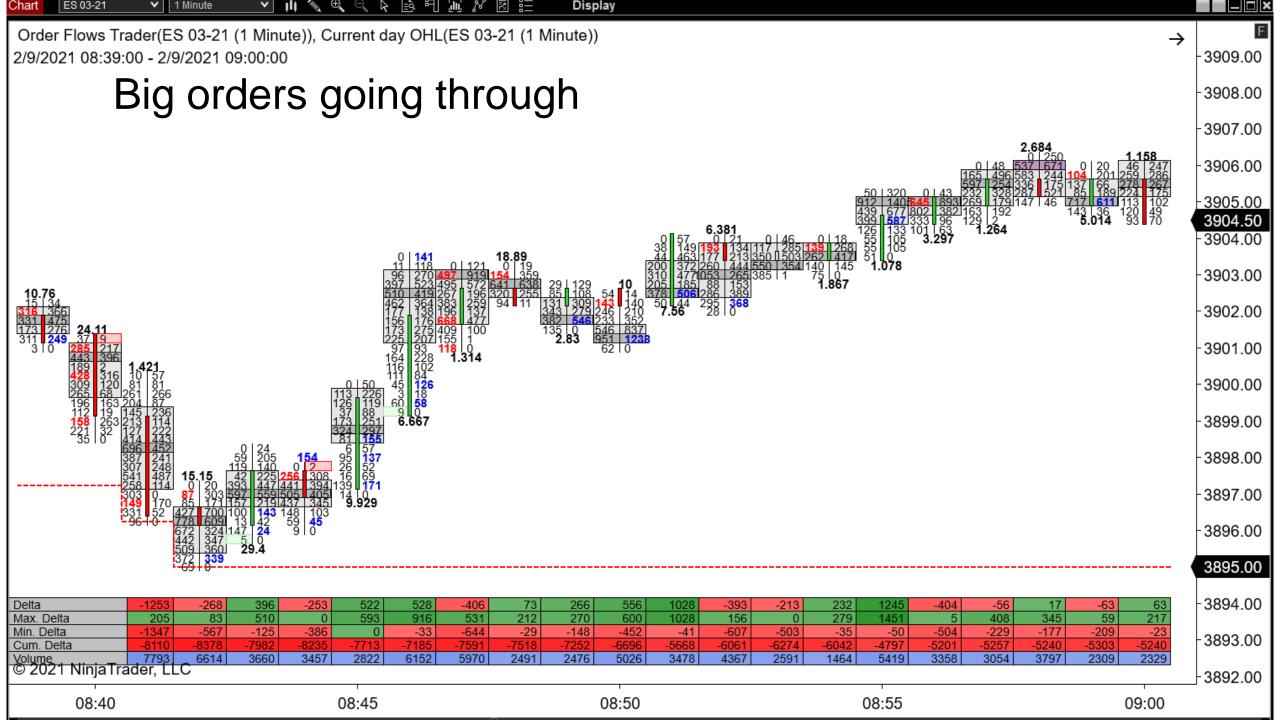
Order flow allows you to strip out specific situations in the market from the randomness that is every where. The specific situations give you opportunities out of the randomness of the market. That is part of the trading process.

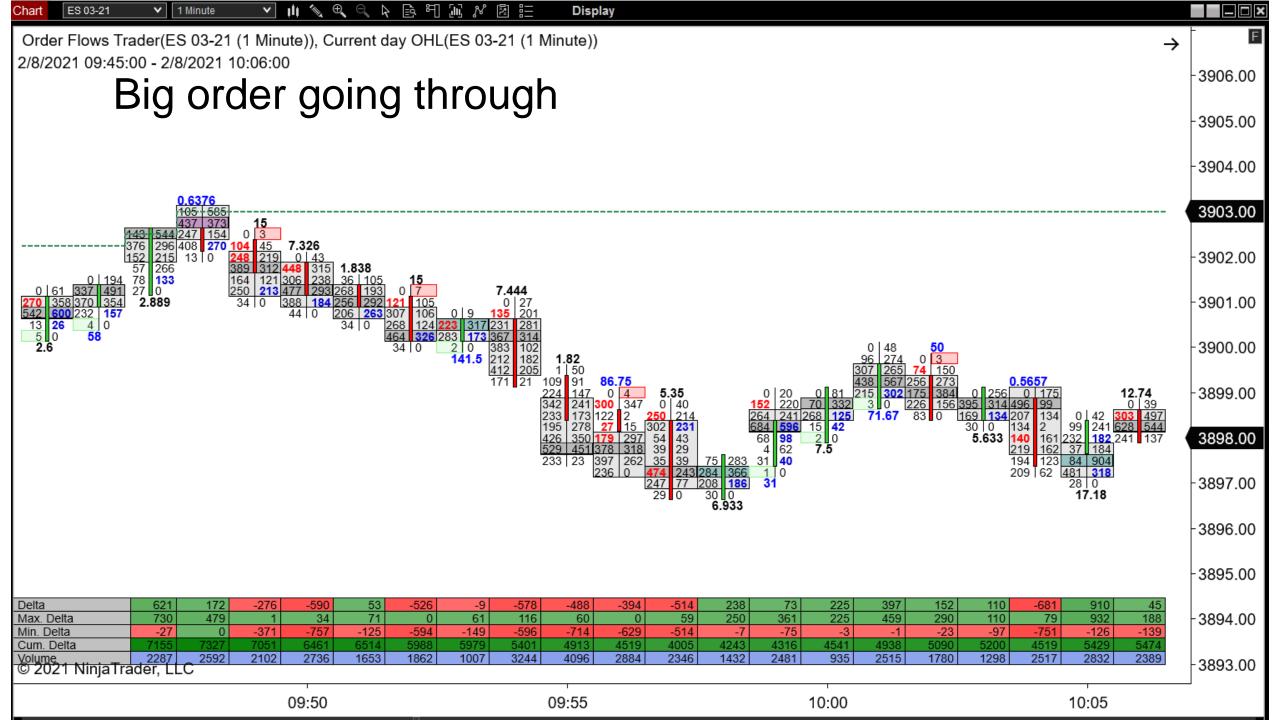


A flow driven market is a condition that occurs when traders are not passive, working bids and offers most of the time. Traders are more aggressive, they are more initiating in their trading because they want to get in now. They are buying the offer or selling the bid.



In a flow driven market you see big players active. The big players have an order to fill, they don't care if they are running into support or resistance or some technical level. They have to buy or sell.

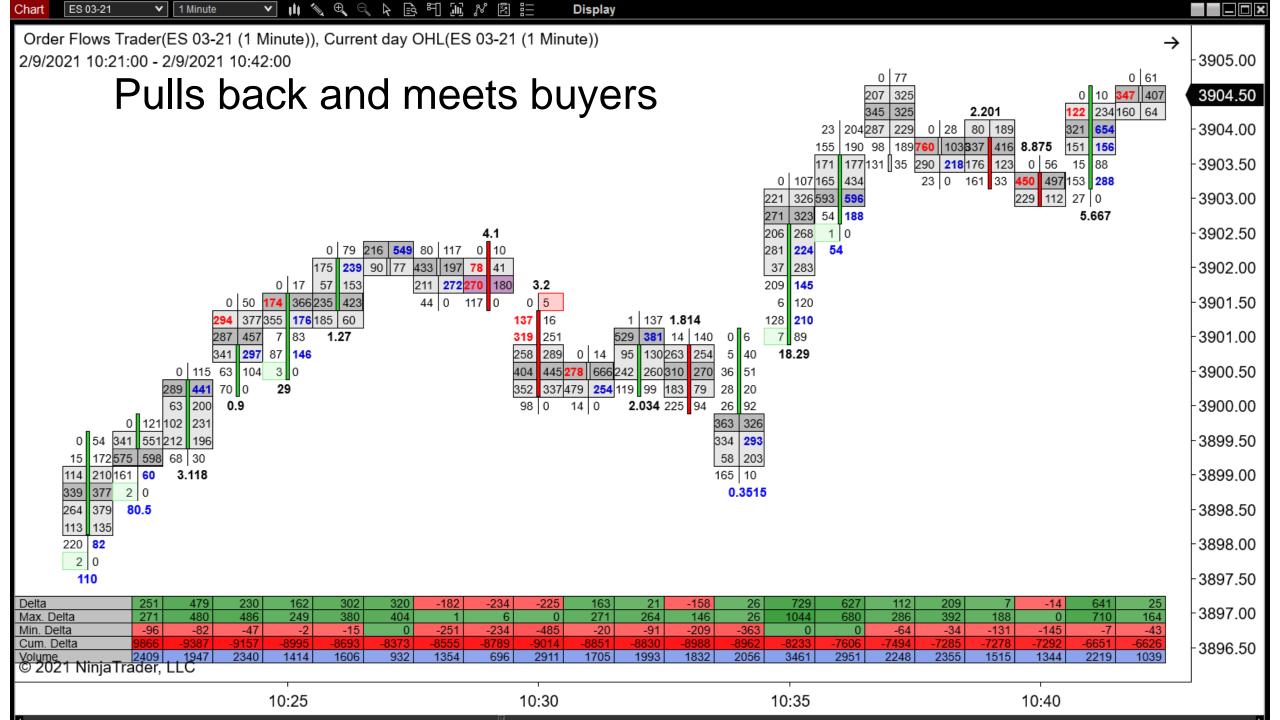


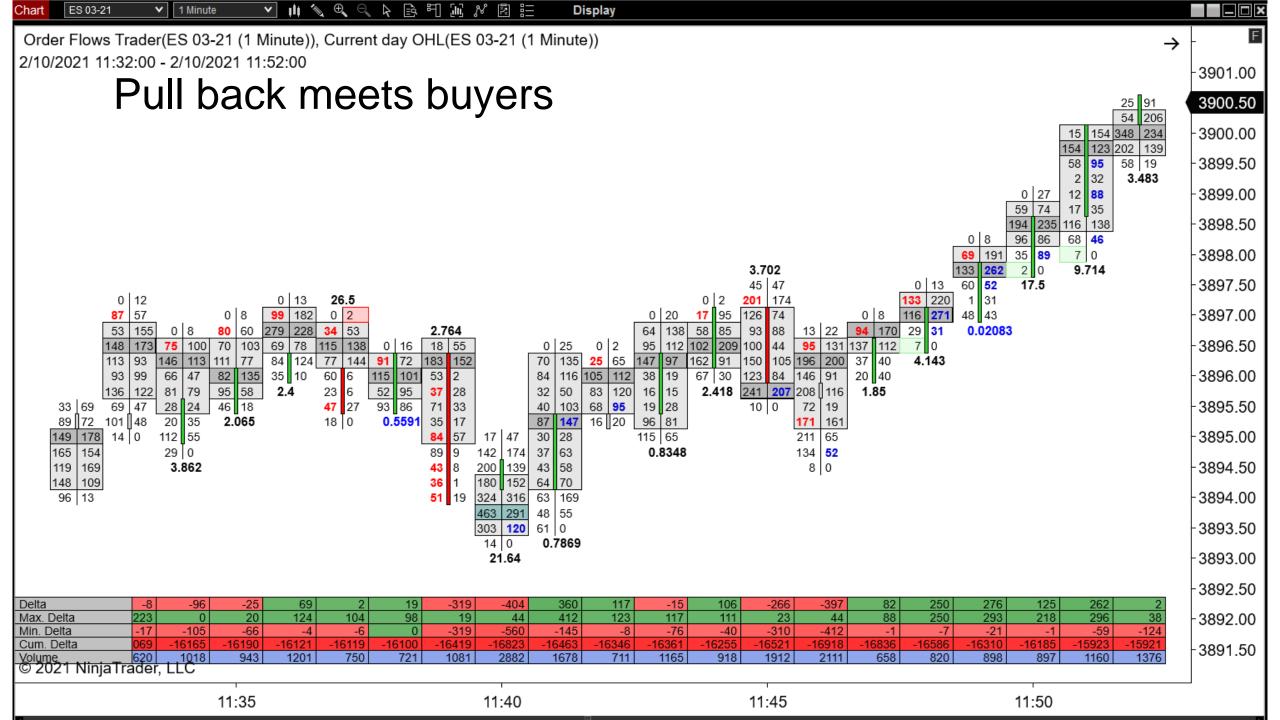


You and I can't move markets. Most of the trading that happens doesn't move the markets. Its that 10-15% of traders out there, the big longer term traders that trade in size that can move markets. The old saying "if you can't beat them, join them" applies to the markets now more than ever. Algos don't move the markets.

Flow Driven Market

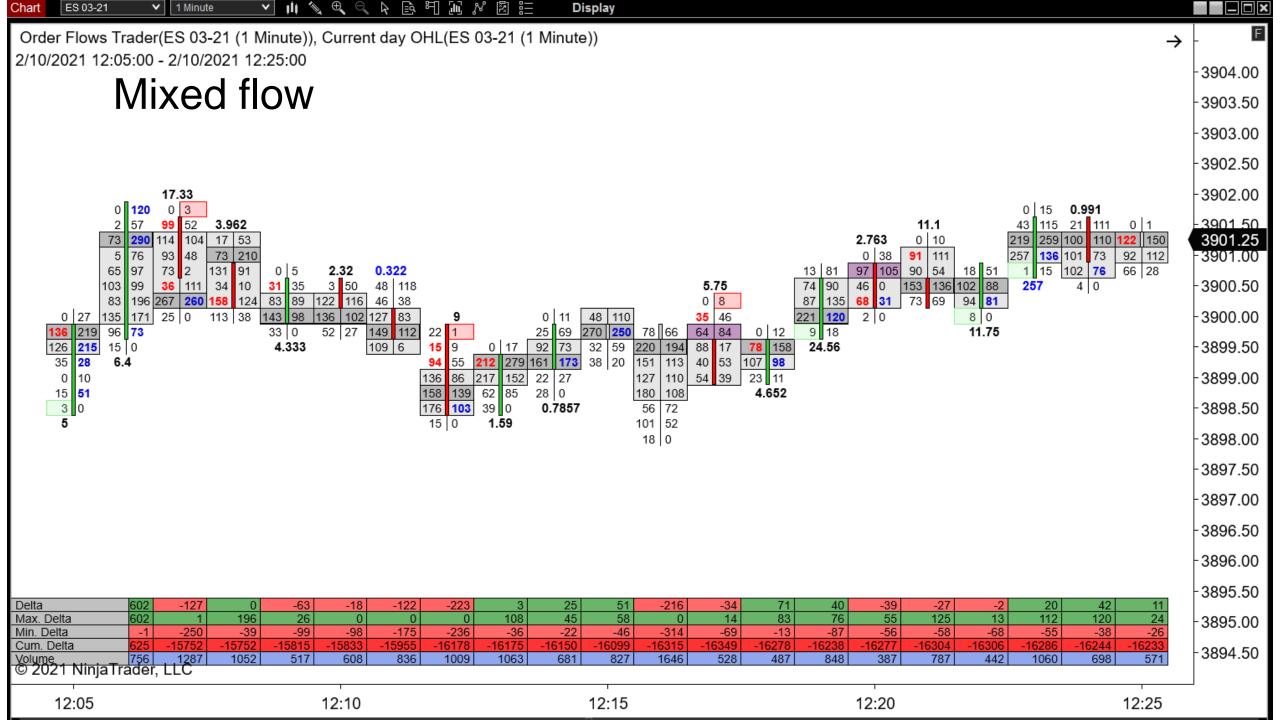
What also causes moves? Besides the big players getting active in the market, it also comes down to traders trying to guess what other traders are doing. Market goes up 5 points, pulls back 2 points, goes back up 2 points. Now everyone is looking for the market to keep going up.

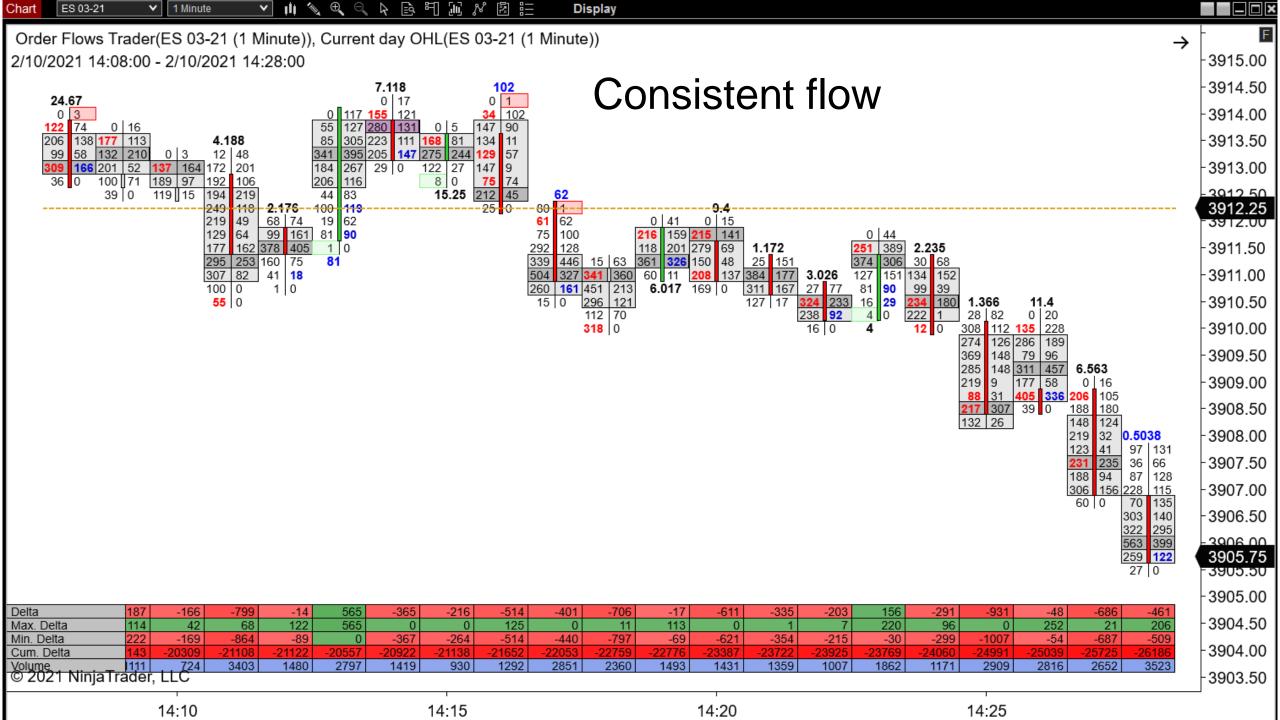




Flow direction

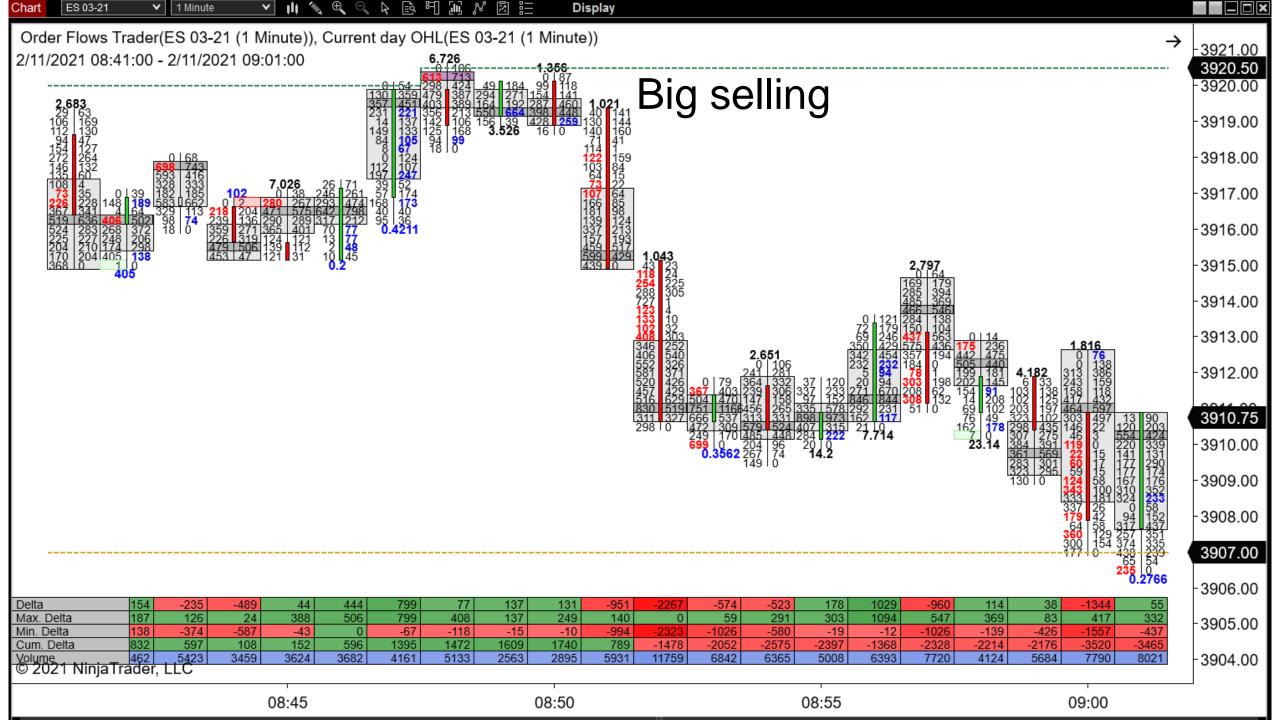
As simple as it sounds, you want to trade in the direction of the flow because that is the direction that facilitates the easiest returns.

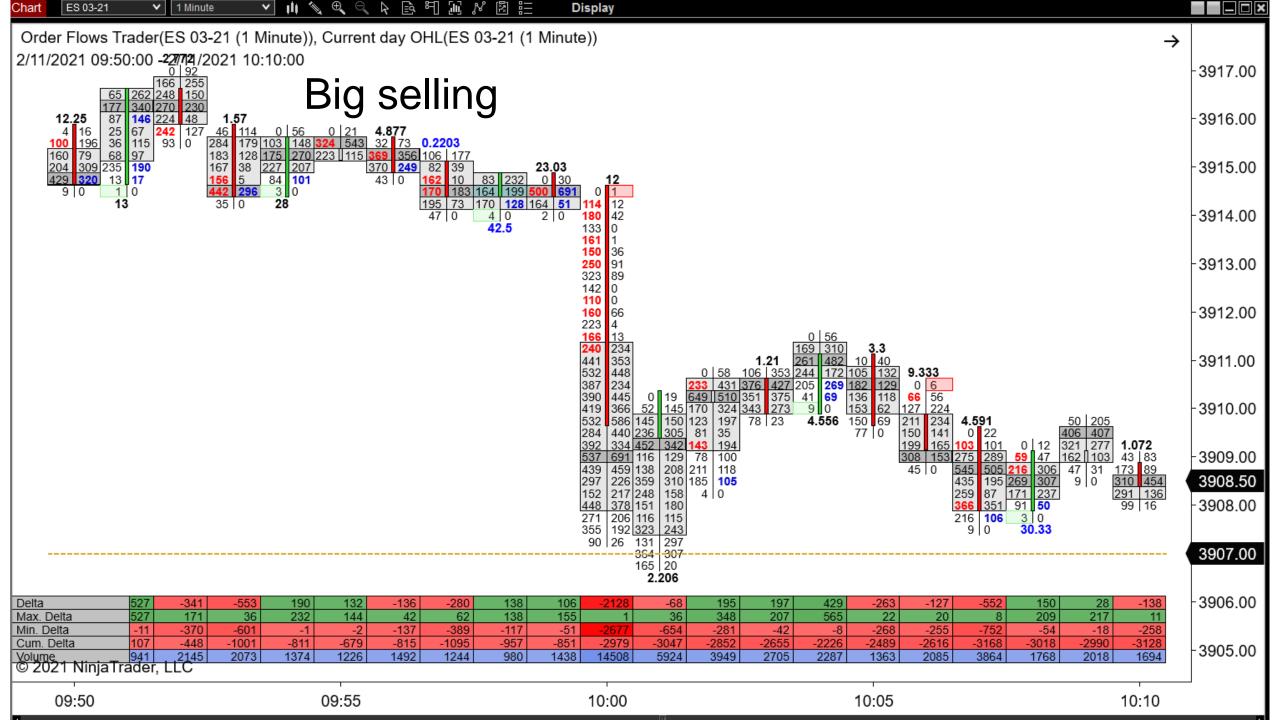


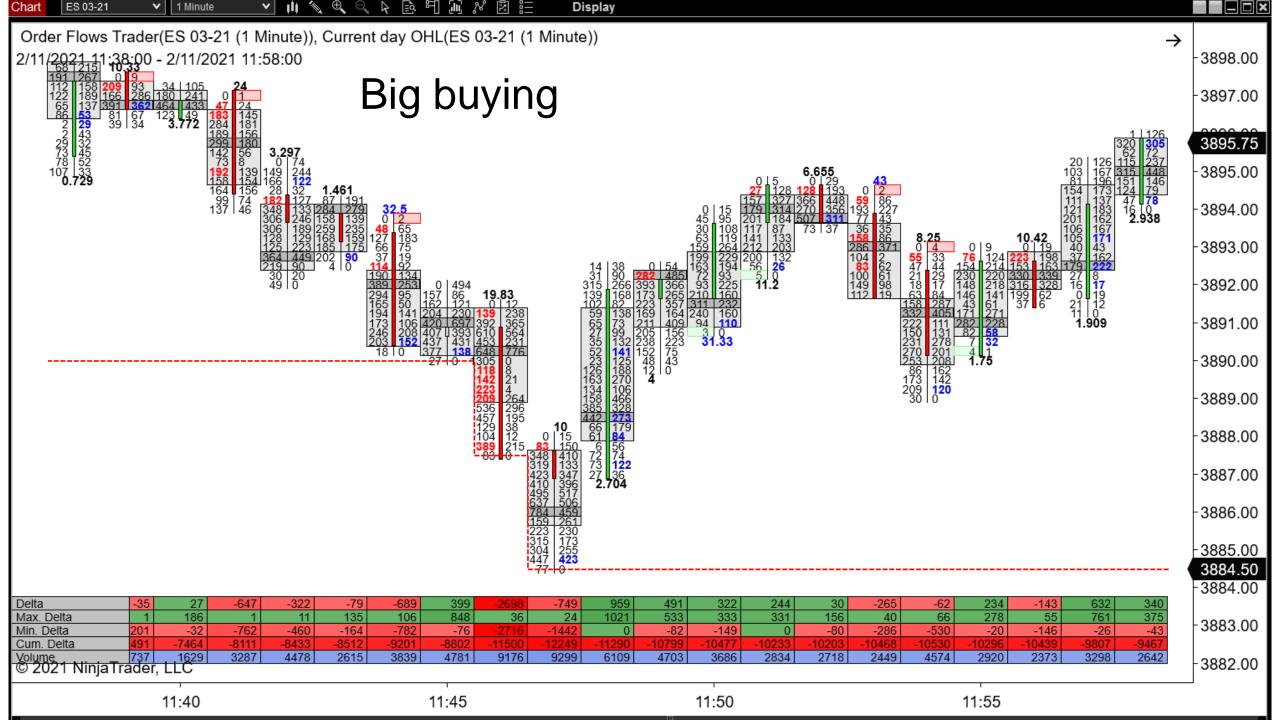


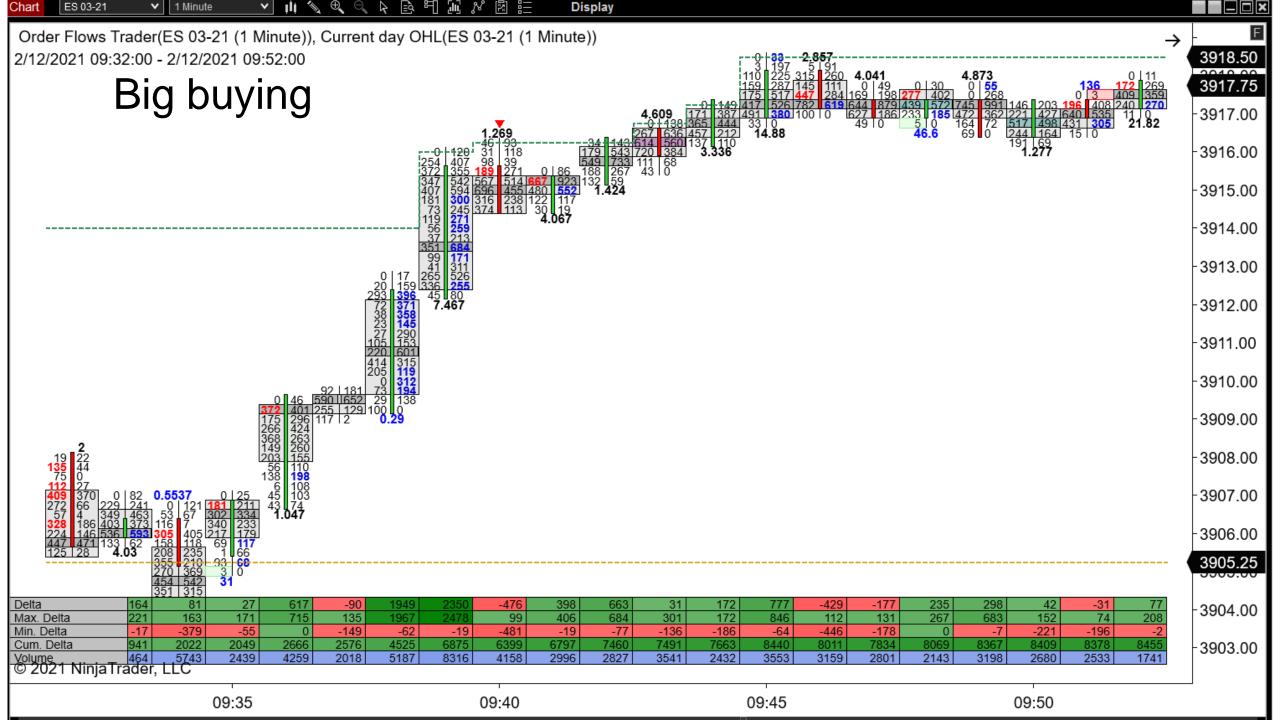
The big traders in the world, the ones who are not algorithmic or fully automated, essentially trade based on the story of the market. Their edge is in understanding the market from a way bigger picture sense than the chart sense.

What we want to be able to see is where there is significant buying or significant selling taking place. We are not interested so much in the normal back and forth between speculators and algos. The significant buying or significant selling is often the result of big players.



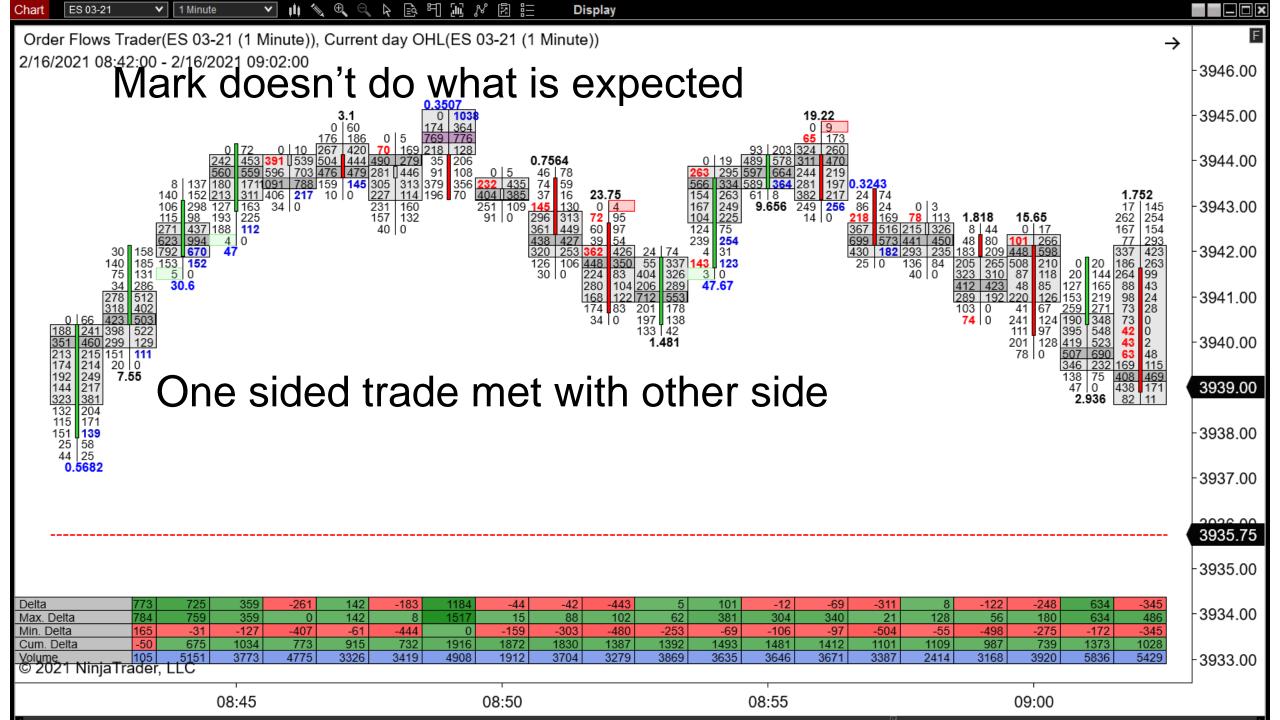




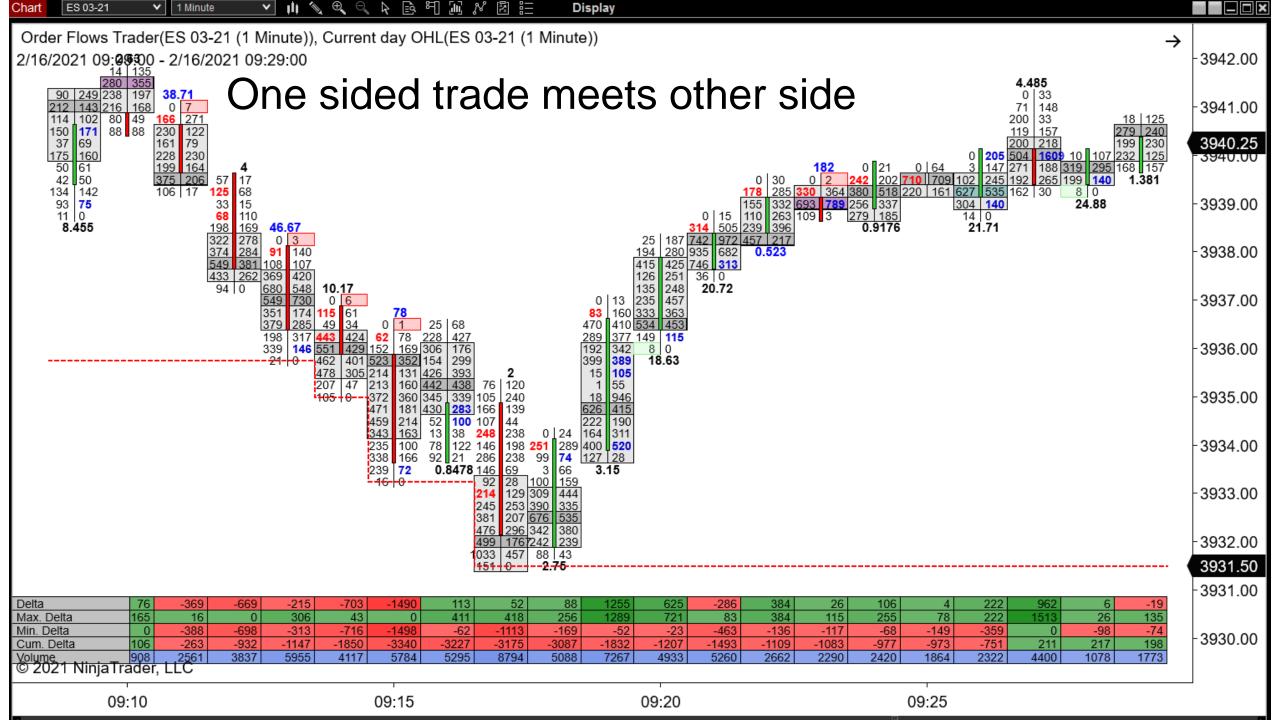


One-Sided vs. Two-Sided Trade - Some of the best trading opportunities occur when the market tries to do something expected of it but fails to do it. If this market failure is so obvious that other traders also see it and jump in to trade that failure.

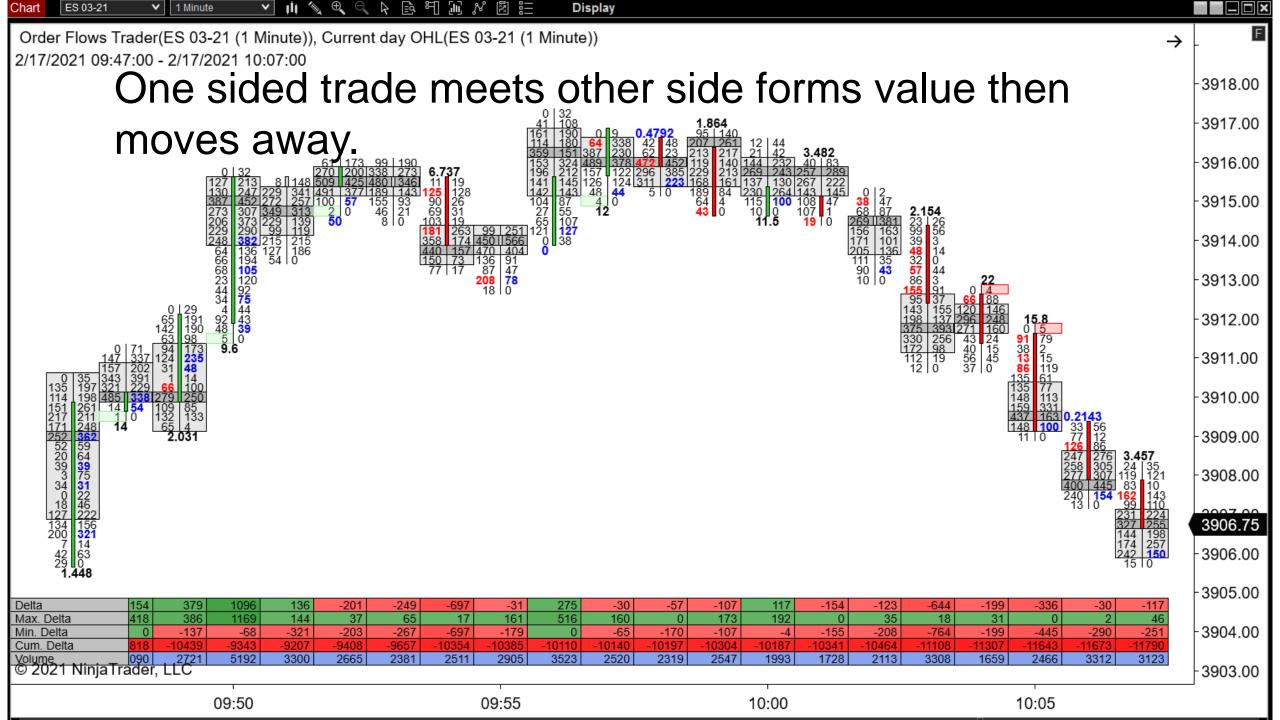
This is what I mean when I talk about take trades in context of market. When looking at order flow bearish activity can occur after a prolonged move down. That doesn't mean it is a good short. It just means the order flow is bearish.



One-Sided Trade vs. Two-Sided Trade – When two-sided trade occurs the market has found acceptance, balance, creating value. When one-sided trade occurs, the market starts breaking out and look for an area where balance can occur.



One-Sided Trade vs. Two-Sided Trade – When traders try to take the market out of a balance area and fails and trades to the other side of value, then breaks, what is going on? Traders were expecting the market to breakout but there was not enough one-sided trade that it failed and failed miserably. It traded to the other end of balance and other traders started to notice what was happening and also started getting in on the move.

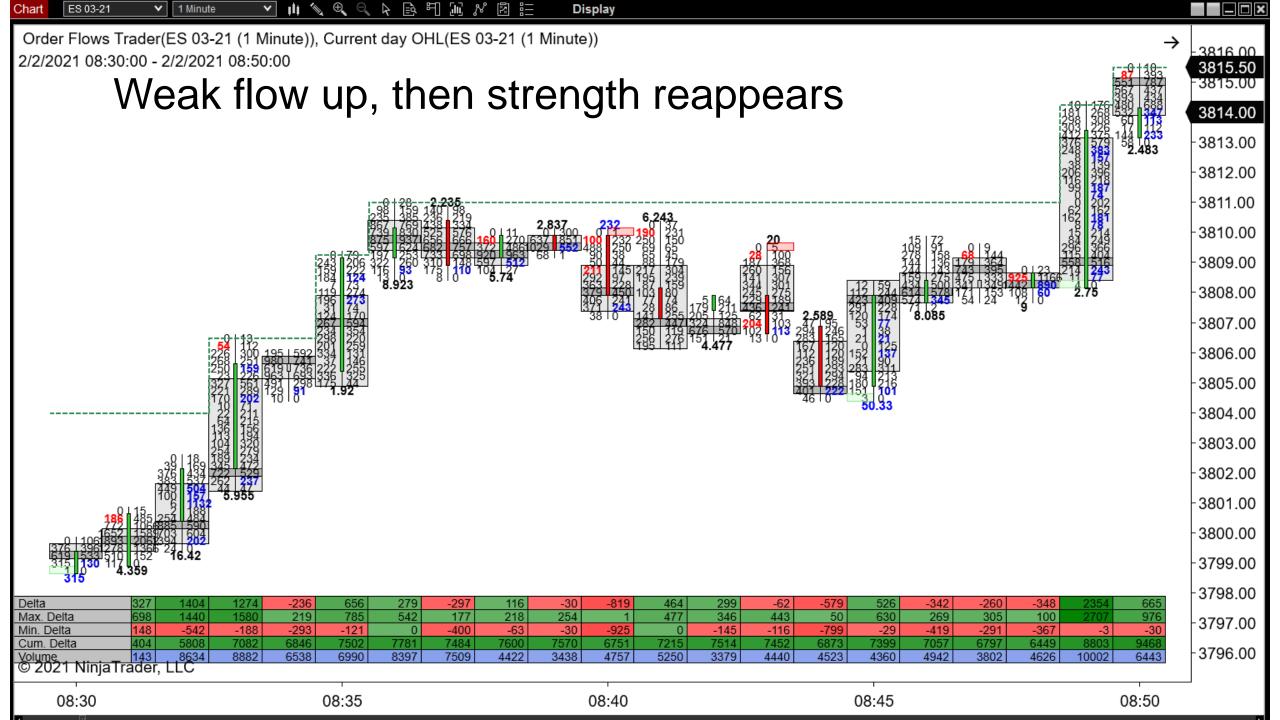


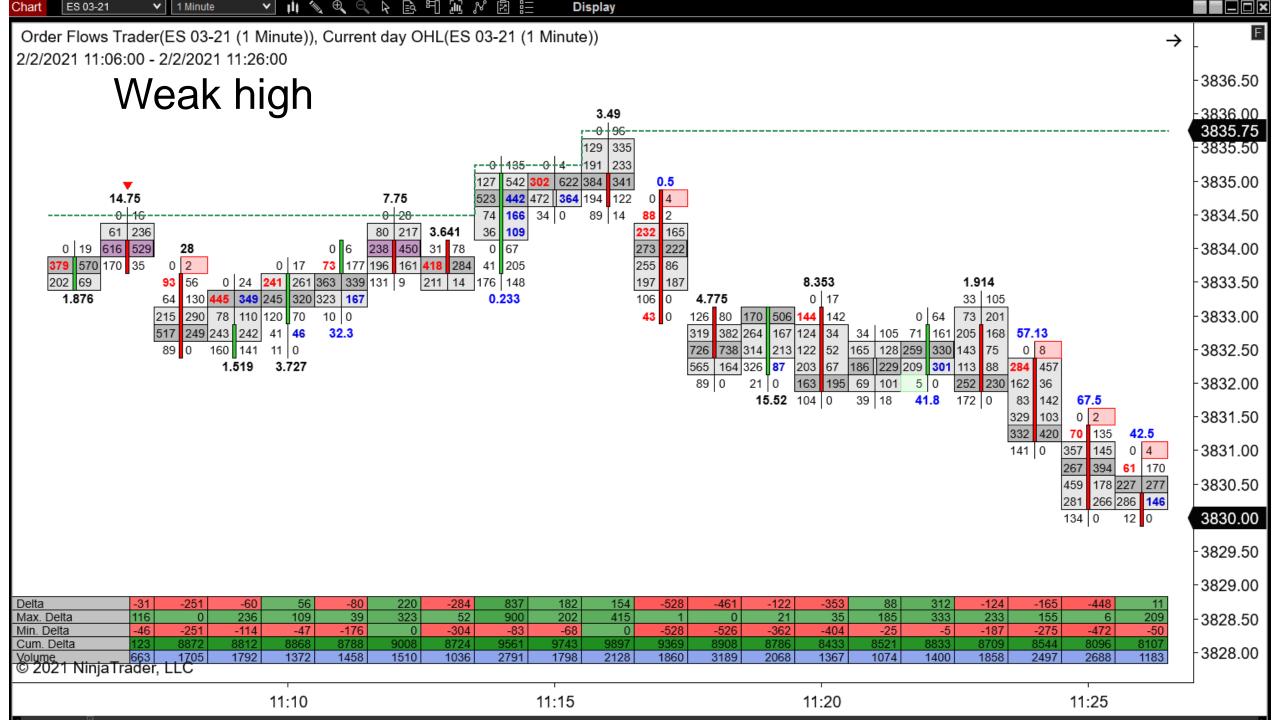
Strong & Weak Flow

Weak order flow occurs when the market is just rotating and facilitating trade. It is not weak in the sense that no one is participating, rather it is weak because there is no directional price strength being exhibited in the market.

Strong & Weak Flow

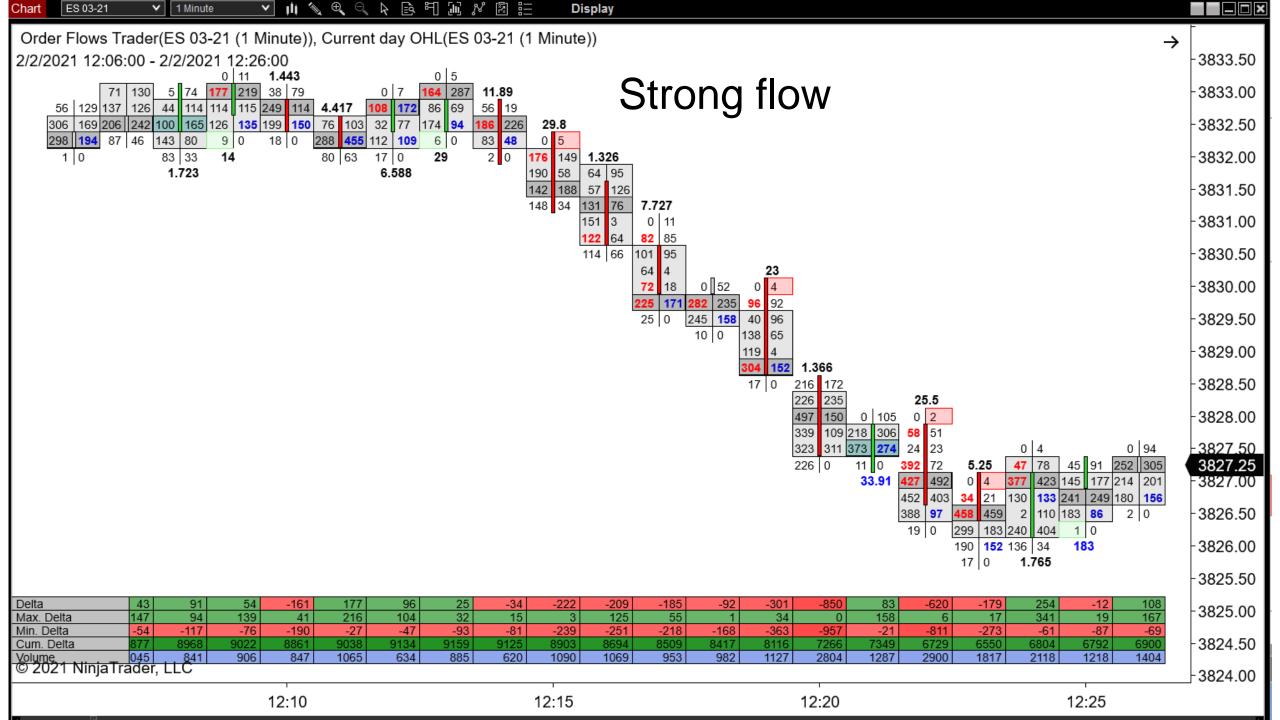
When you see a market going up on weak flow it doesn't mean everyone has turned bullish and there is going to be a lot of aggressive buyers present. The market could simply be rotating.

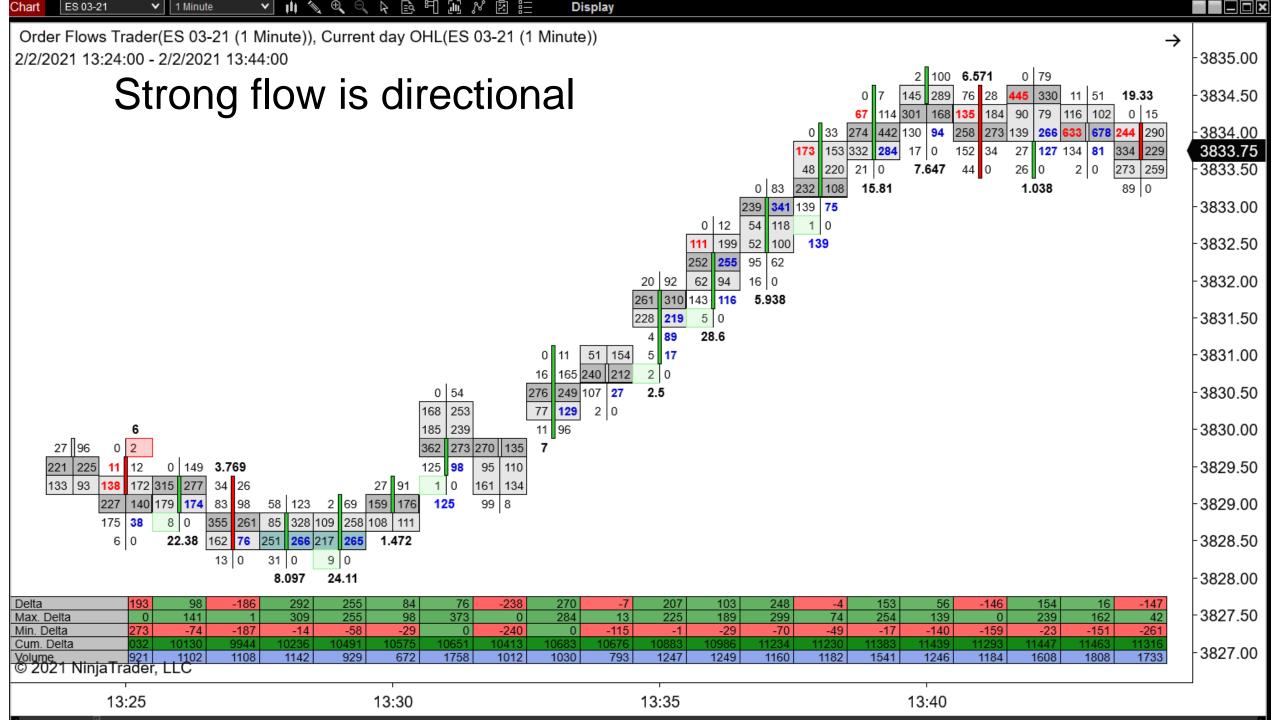




Strong & Weak Flow

The signs of strong flow is seen in directional price movement often in conjunction with imbalances. You start to see overwhelming buyers in up moves or overwhelming selling happening in down moves.





A flow driven market is very similar to a trending market because you tend to see the same things. A directional price move, initiative trading, high volume and big ranges.

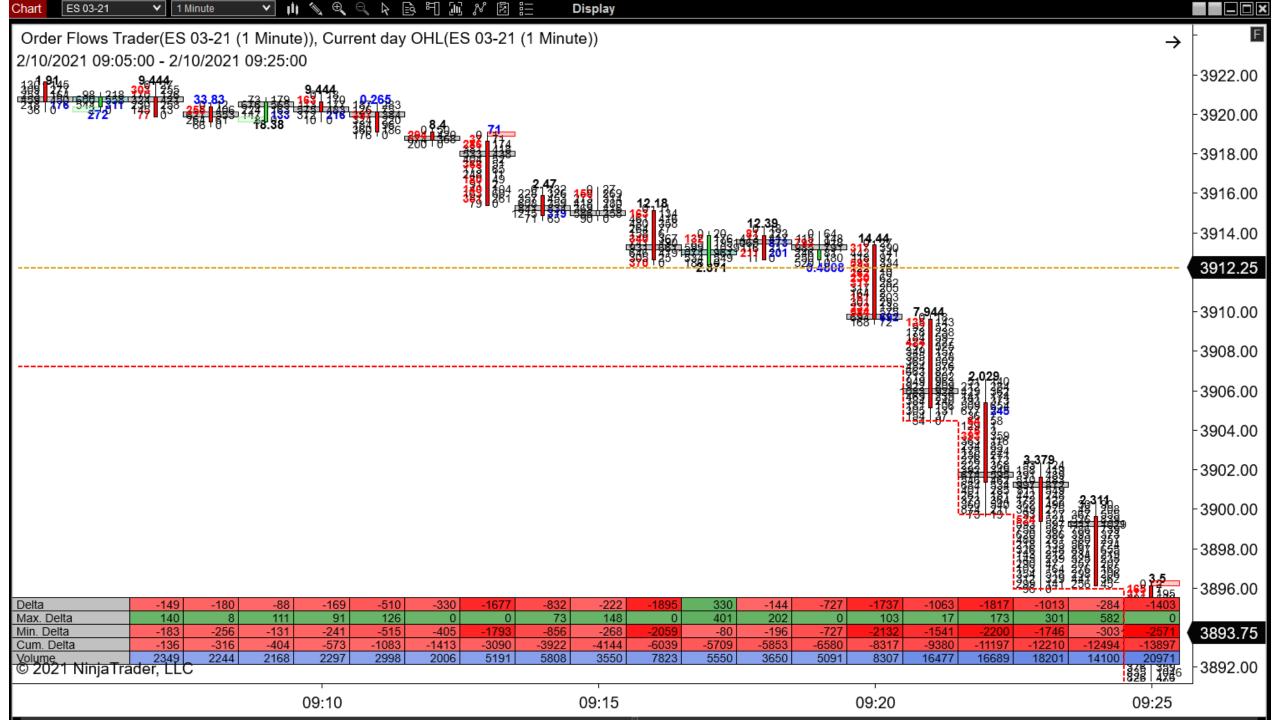
Strong & Weak Flow

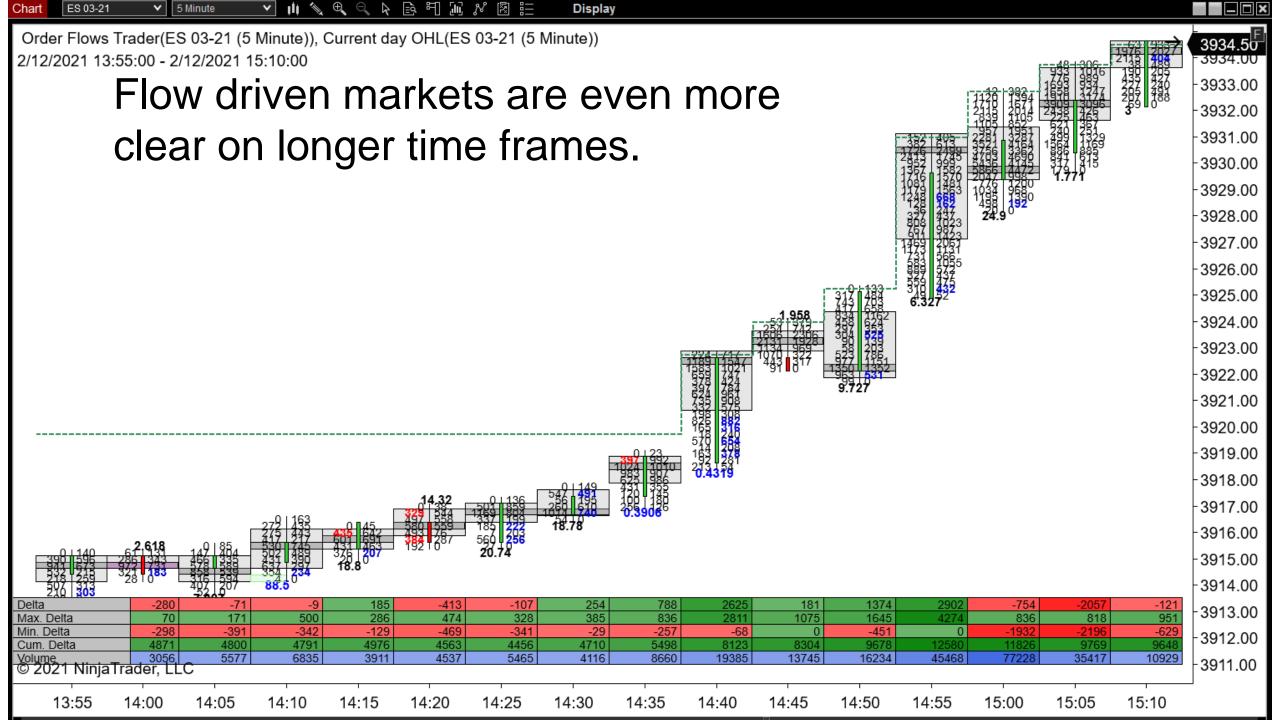
When price starts to aggressively move on the back of imbalances, what do you think is happening? Watch the volume. If the imbalances are on heavy volume, then chances are bigger timeframe traders are coming into the market. Imagine they are just stepping over everyone in their way and taking the liquidity. Go with them.

Flow driven markets tend to be more fundamentally driven. Technical levels are being driven over. Not respected. Why? Because long term timeframe traders have orders they need to fill. It exhibits clear price direction.

The opposite of a flow driven market is a technically driven market. A technically driven market is one that reacts to technical levels. A technically driven market is dominated by day-time frame traders.

Longer term traders don't necessarily care what the chart says. They don't say, "oh we're at a resistance level." If they have to buy, they buy. That is why you see supposed support and resistance levels broken all the time.





Flow driven market – How to trade it

In a flow driven market you enter a trade and then it just immediately moves to your stop and you get stopped out. You feel like "they" are watching you. But the reality is you are not watching them. That is what the order flow is useful for, for watching them. That's the problem, you are not watching what the other traders are doing.



It often feels like no matter what you do in the market, nothing goes right. You are trading out of market conditions. You are trading a market condition that is **NOT** what the current market condition is. That is why it often feels like nothing you do is working.

Sometimes you have to stop thinking and just start reacting. What you have to be most concerned with is where the big orders get filled.

Conflicting flow

There are different types of order flow: Normal flow Flow driven

Conflicting flow

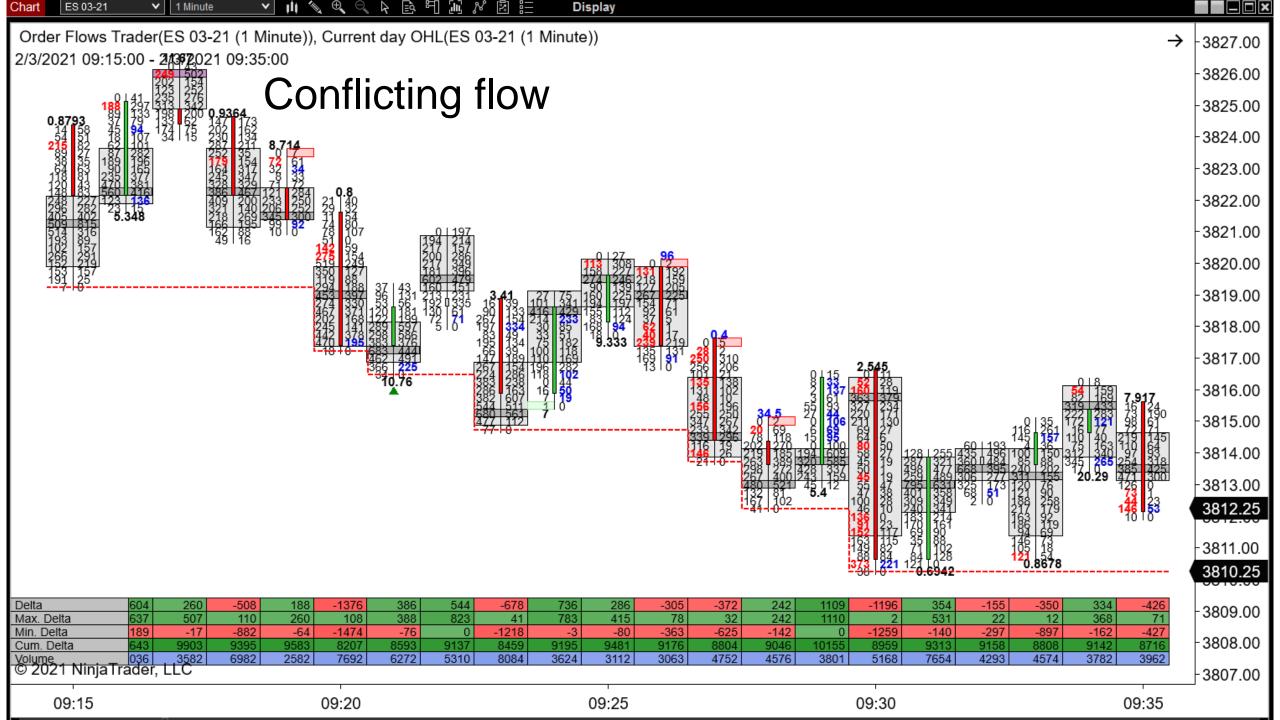
Conflicting flow is when you have bearish and bullish order flow all around.

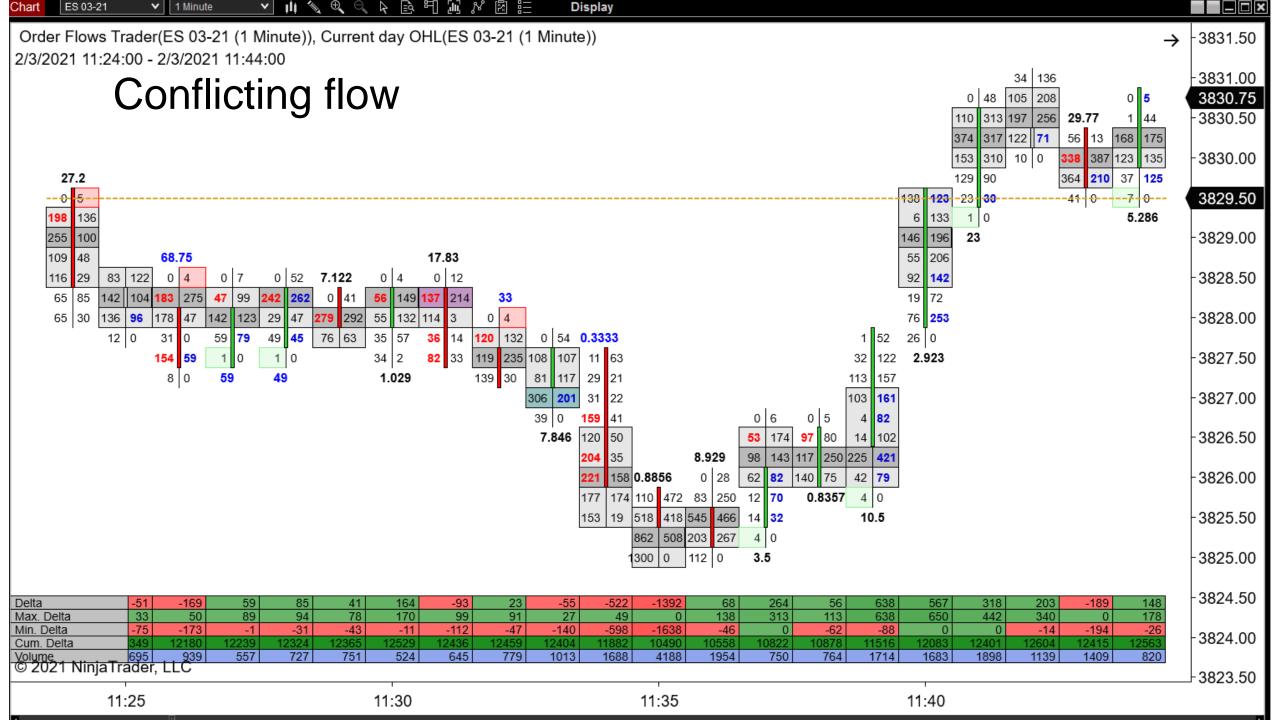
Conflicting flow

What makes conflicting flow unique is that the market is ambiguous and can go either way. Most traders don't like when the market is vague. They want all their ducks lined up in a row. They say what is the point of order flow is there is conflicting flow? Why doesn't order flow just tell me where to buy and where to sell? However, from this market confusion, opportunity can arise.

Conflicting flow

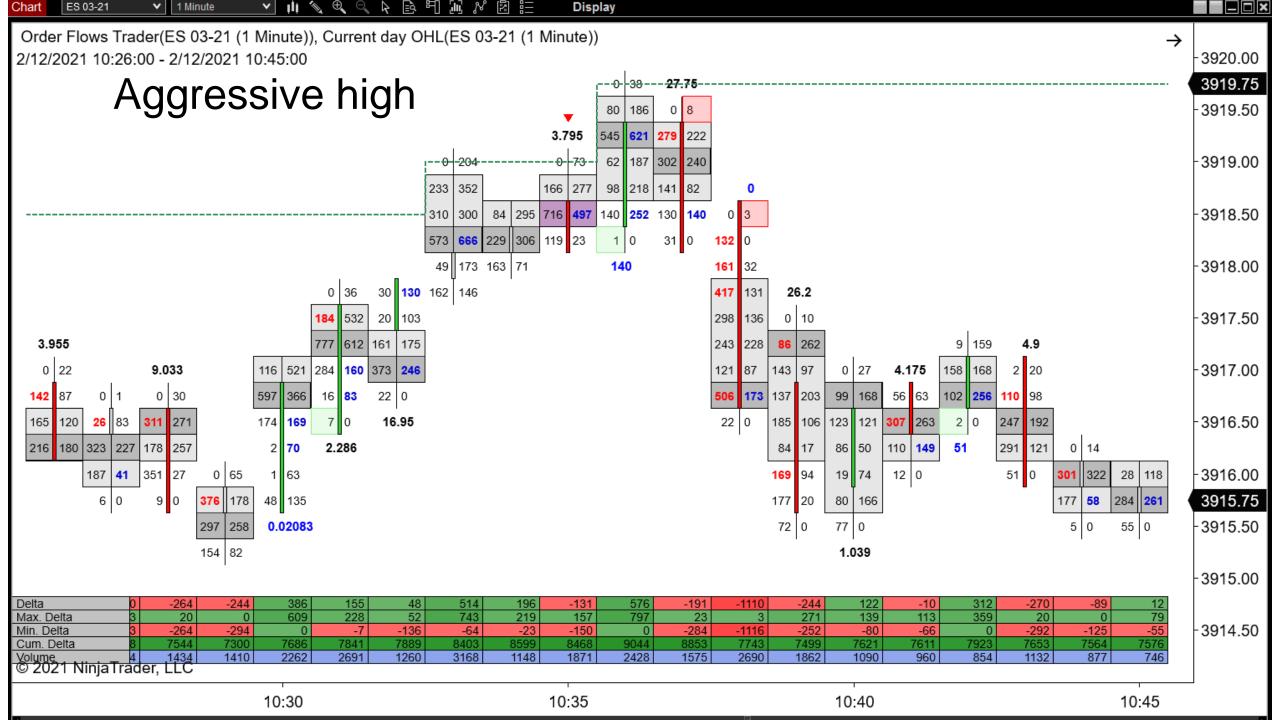
The power of conflicting flow is recognizing when you have conflicting flow. But what does that mean? When there is uncertainty in the market, you stay out until...certainty appears.





One of the keys of being a successful trader is knowing who is driving the market. By knowing who is driving the market it helps you anticipate what can happen next in the market.

For example, the market is at the highs and you see a lot of buying but it just can't go higher.



Not every trade is easy, sometimes it going to be a struggle. The footprint chart can give you an edge because you can see things clearly. For example, if you want to buy, but there is not much other buying occurring from other traders, are you going to buy? If you can see other traders coming in and coming in aggressively, you won't hesitate.

Understanding the market is flow driven means you understand the market conditions better than other traders who you may potentially lose your money to. You don't have to be the best trader in the world, but you don't want to be the last trader in the move. You have to be better than the other traders out there, but you probably won't be the best trader out there. You don't have to outrun the bear, just the person you are with.

Remember you are always looking at what can influence the market and how the order flow that is coming in may influence the market.

This concludes the Module 8: Flow Driven Markets.

In the next module we will discuss order flow trade setups that you can look for in the markets.