

## Order Flow Dynamics

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Module 6: Order Flow Rotations

## Disclaimer

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All markets rotate.

What is a rotation? Earlier I talked about vertical and horizontal markets. Markets tend to rotate more in horizontal market conditions than vertical. A lot traders think when a market goes sideways it is rotating.

Market rotations give traders opportunity to get into trades at good levels.

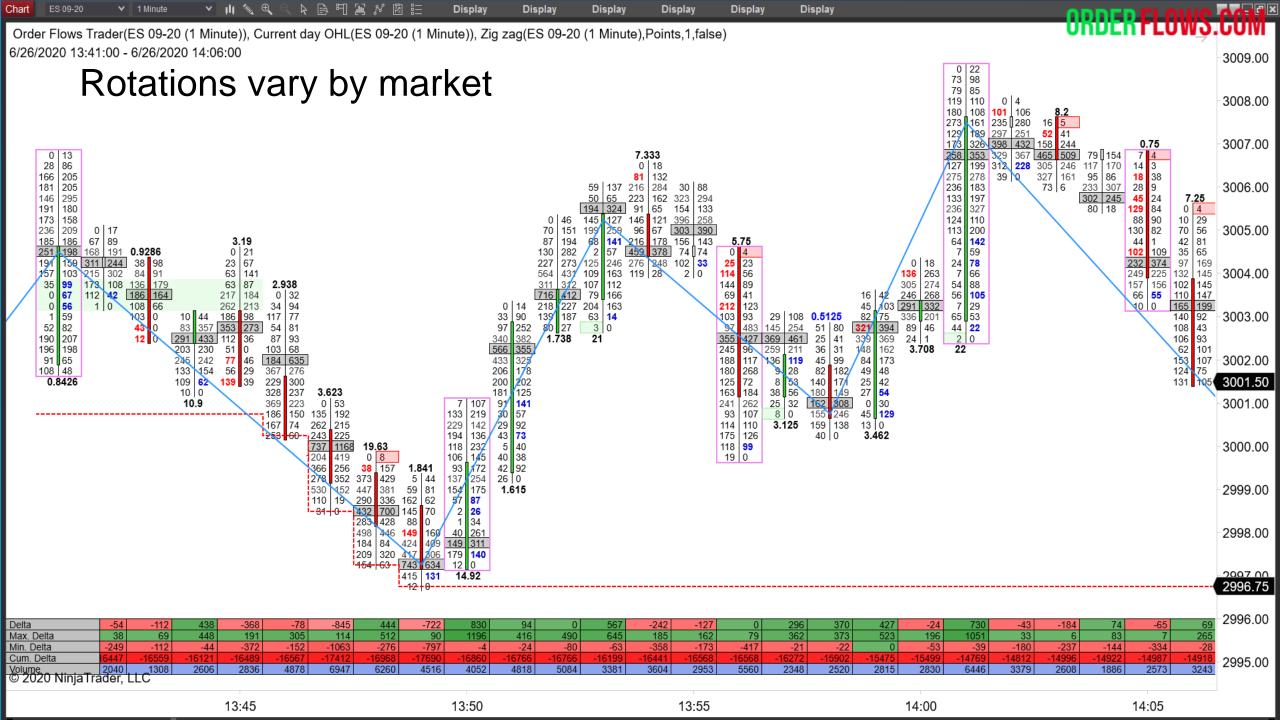
Traders often get caught offside in rotations.

For example, if ES has a rotation of 3.5 points, 14 ticks. The market moves up 10 points and then starts selling off 2 points, 3 points, and you think the move is over and you get short at 3 points or worse, 3.5 points from the high and then BAM, the market reverses and starts going higher again. You got caught in a rotation.

All markets rotate. Knowing the rotation will help keep you out of bad trades as well as help you know when to get into trades.

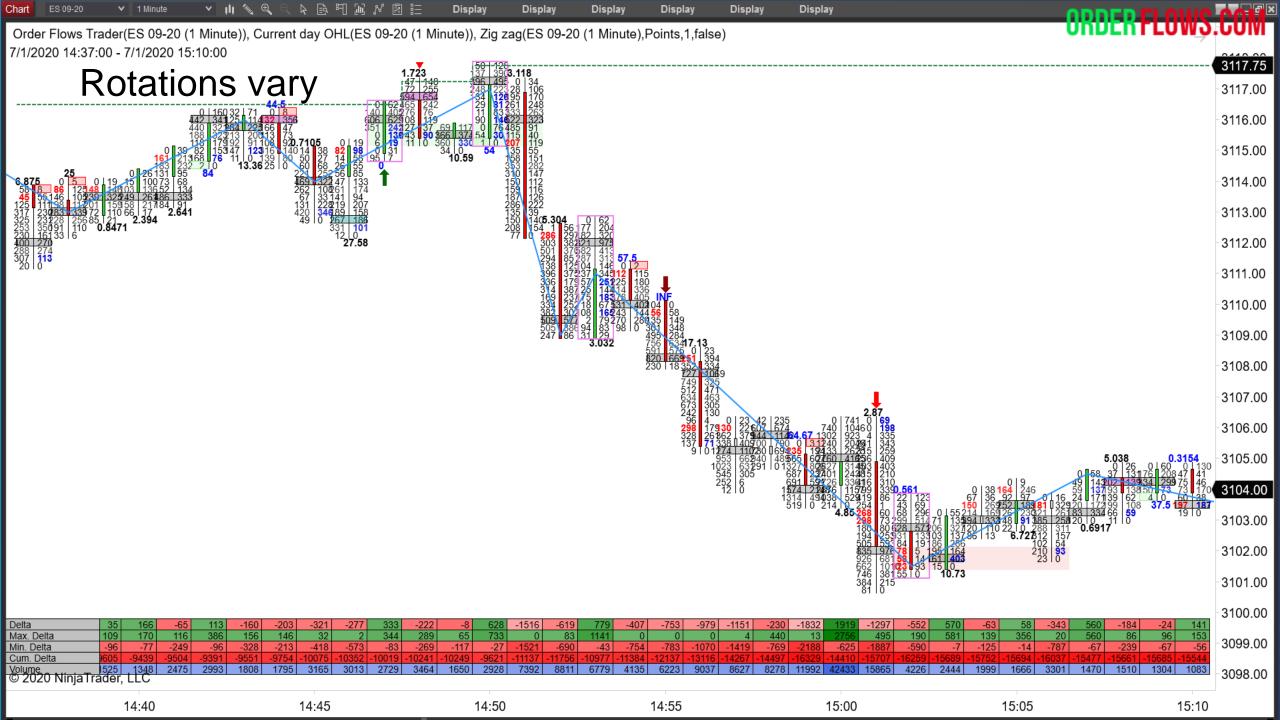
How do you know a market's rotation?

A tool to use is the Zig Zag indicator.



Where traders get mixed up in intra-day rotations occurs when they start thinking a market must adhere to its average rotation.

For example, say the ES has an average rotation of 3.5 points. But after 4 points it hasn't rotated, then 6 points, then 8 points and finally around 10 points it rotates back 3.5 – 4 points. Rotations are not set in stone.

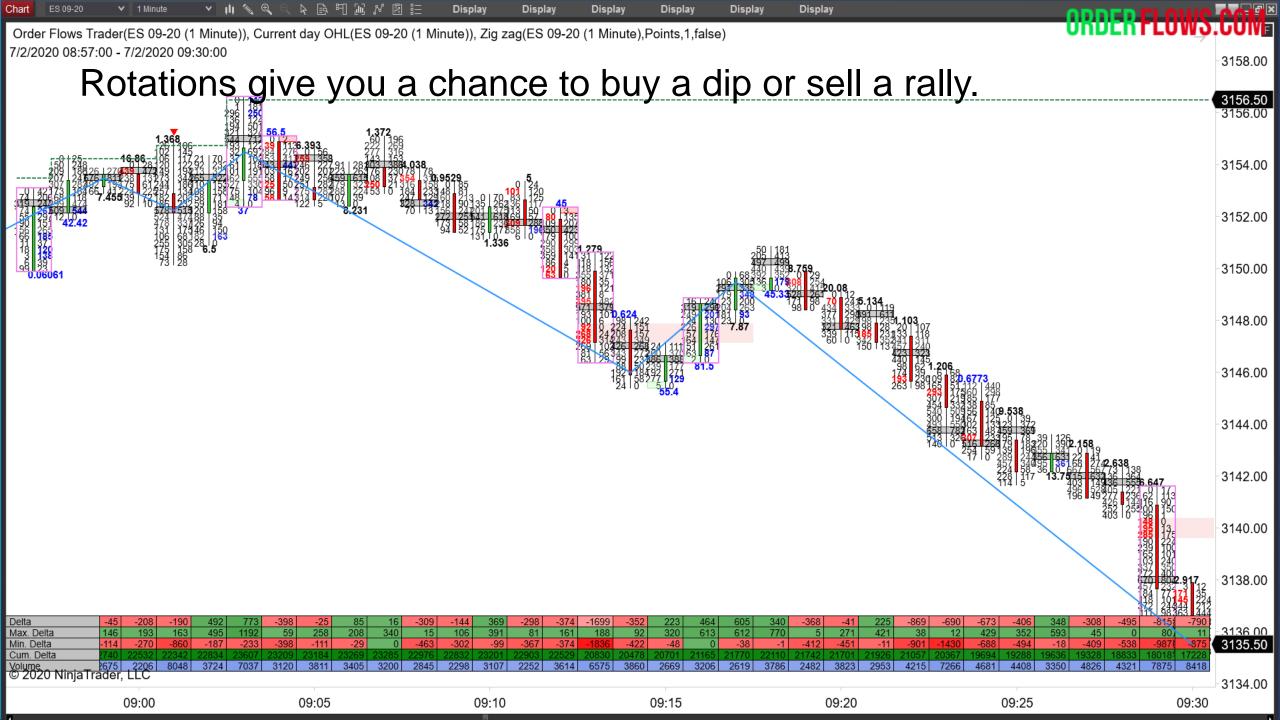


Traders often struggle on where to get in on a prevailing trend, by understanding rotations a trader can more easily enter a trend move because market rarely move in a straight line.

Rotations give you a chance to buy a dip or sell a rally.









Rotations occur is a trend all the time. Think of rotations like this -There are forces in nature that we just cannot fight such as the current tide of the ocean, it is either coming in or going out. Yet during the different tides, there are waves approaching the beach or receding from the beach. But when you want to go into the water and swim, you time your entry on what the waves are doing, you usually go into the water when the wave is receding even though the tide may be coming in (rising). Suppose the tide is going out and the wave is receding and you are going into to water, you can find yourself further out in the water than you want and you will want to use a wave going in to the beach to bring you back to safety.

Substitute the tide for the prevailing trend in the market and substitute the waves for the market rotations. Where traders often get lost is watching the rotations and mistaking them for the prevailing trend.

Long term traders are focused on the prevailing trend in the market and ideally enter on rotations.

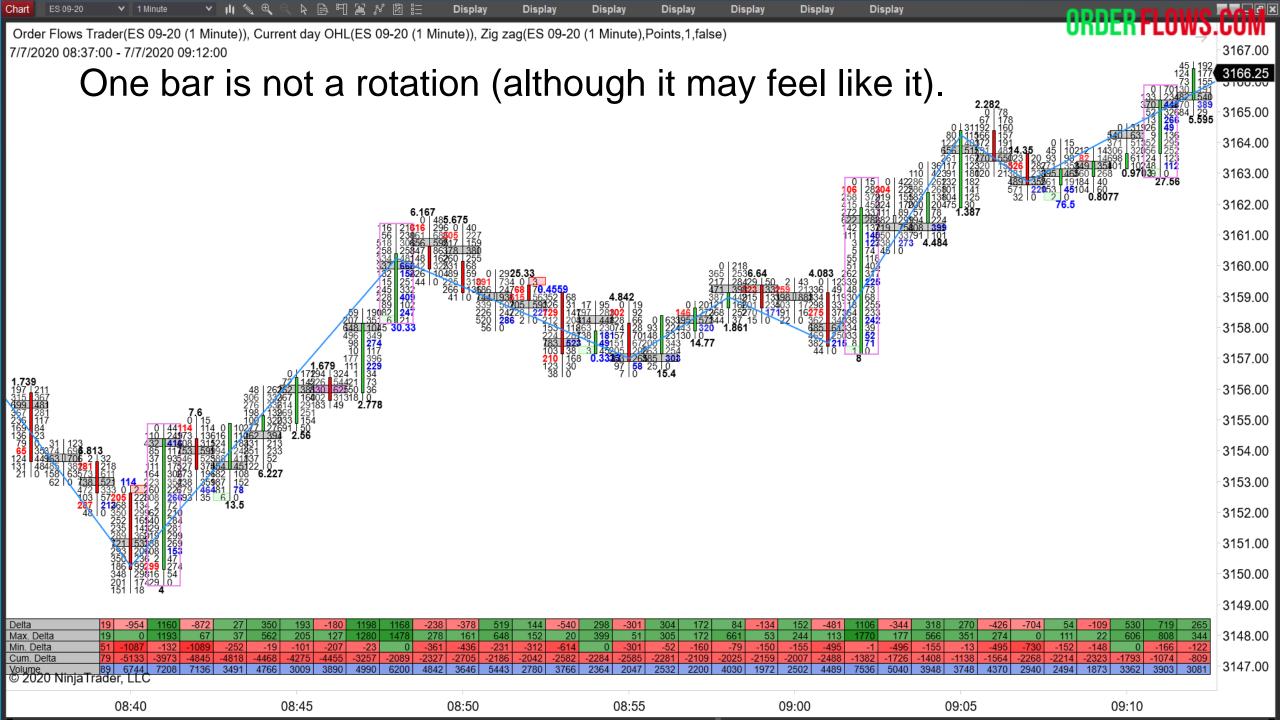
Short term traders are focused on the rotations, but need to be aware of the prevailing trend.

Rotations – when a market sells off from an intraday high by a certain amount of points, that high will not be tested again on that day. What happens is the market goes sideways or lower. The reverse is true when the market rallies from an intraday low. When a market moves from the low by certain amount of points, the low is in for the day. Get out of any shorts.





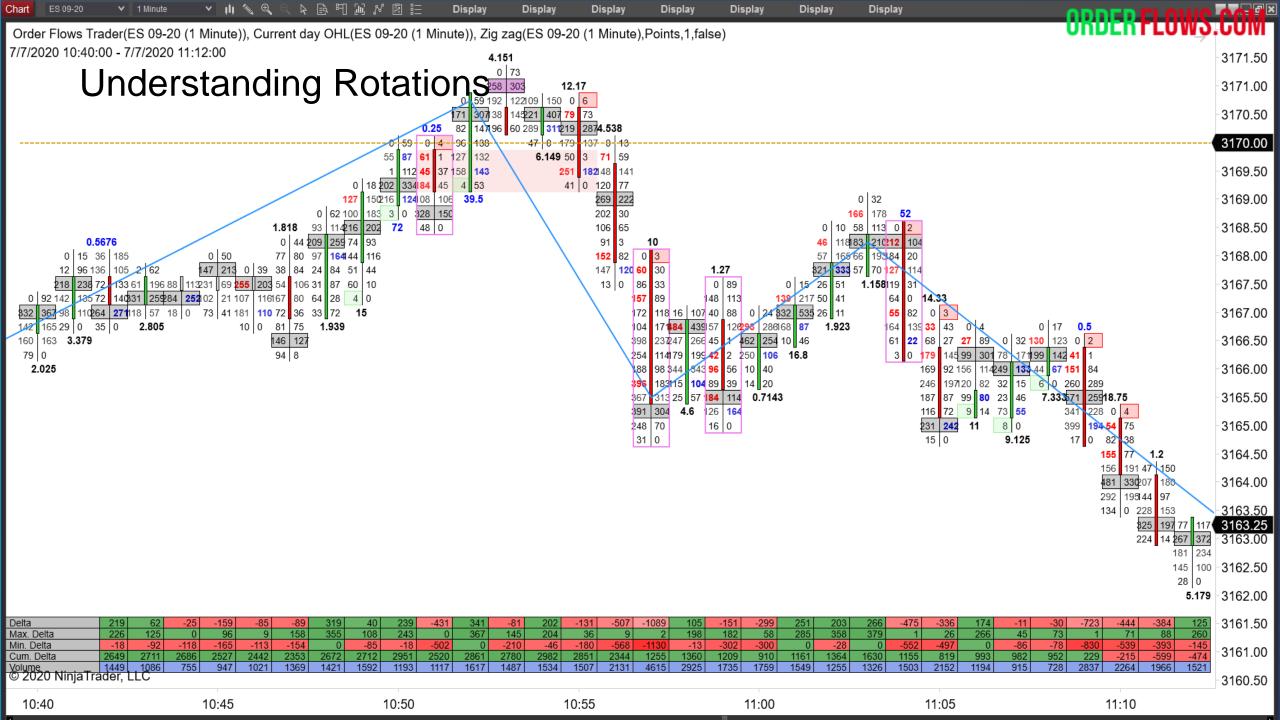
When looking for a potential high, most traders look for the reversal bar. A single bar to signal a reversal. But a single bar can be misleading, often you have to look at the bar after the high is made and combine it together.

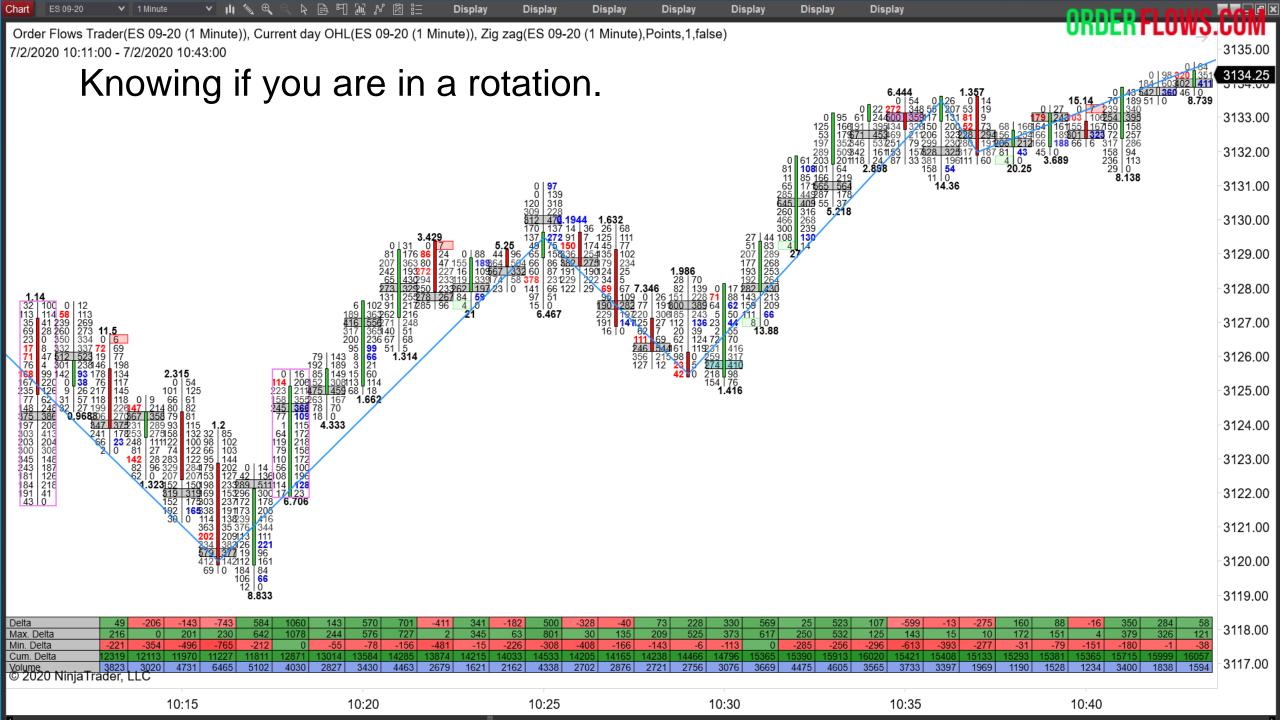


Once you understand rotations you start to see them everywhere, even areas that are not rotating. In other words, times where the market could legitimately be reversing.

How to tell the difference?

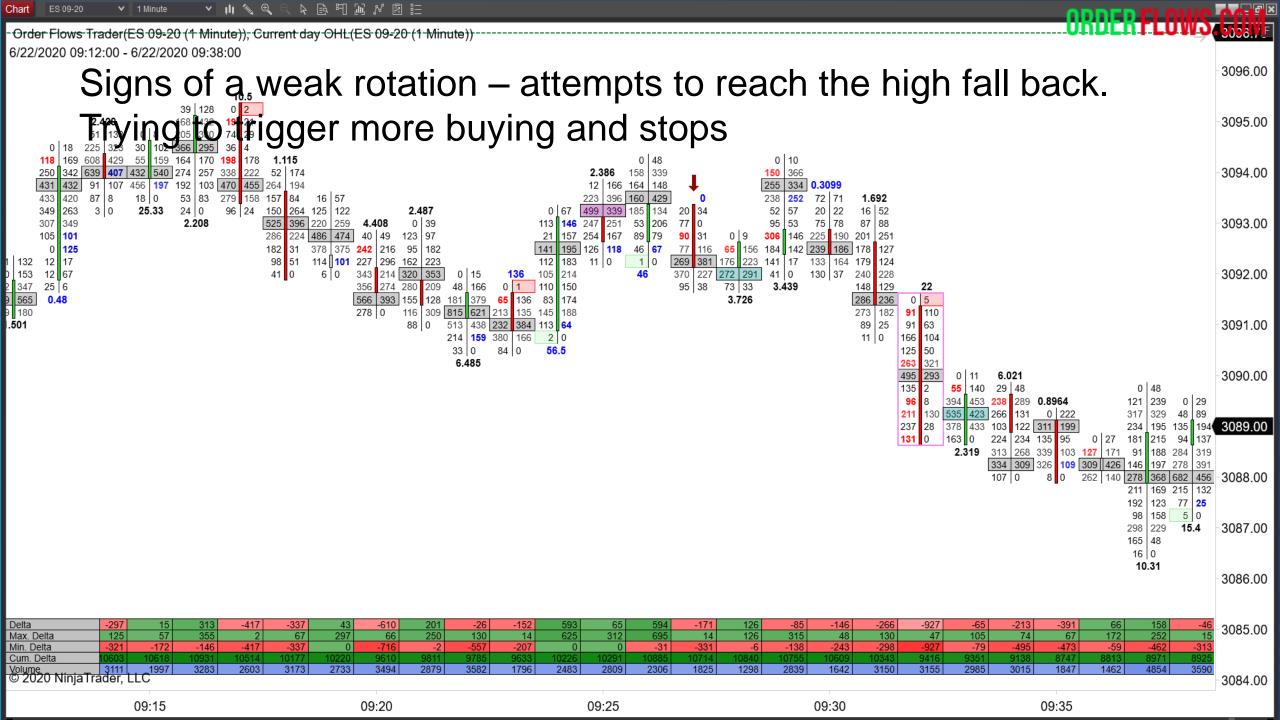
Read the order flow. Watch the delta, watch for imbalances, watch for bars that snap back on thin volume in the footprint.

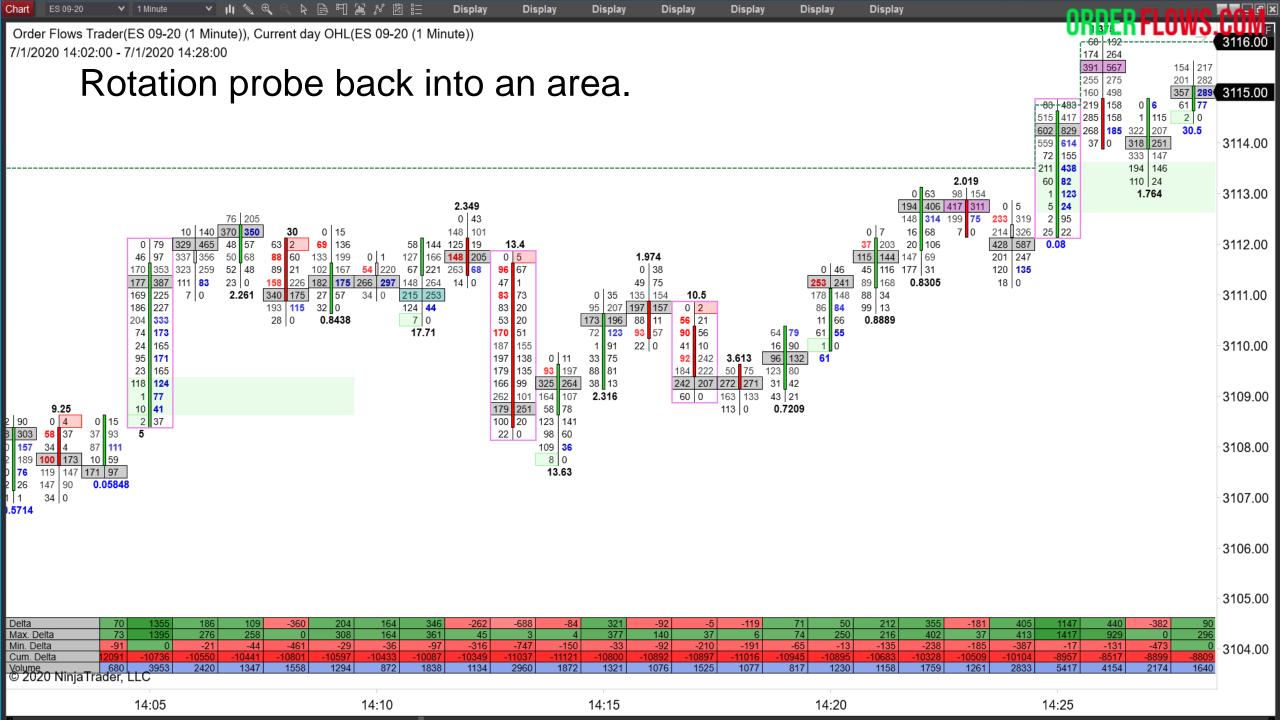


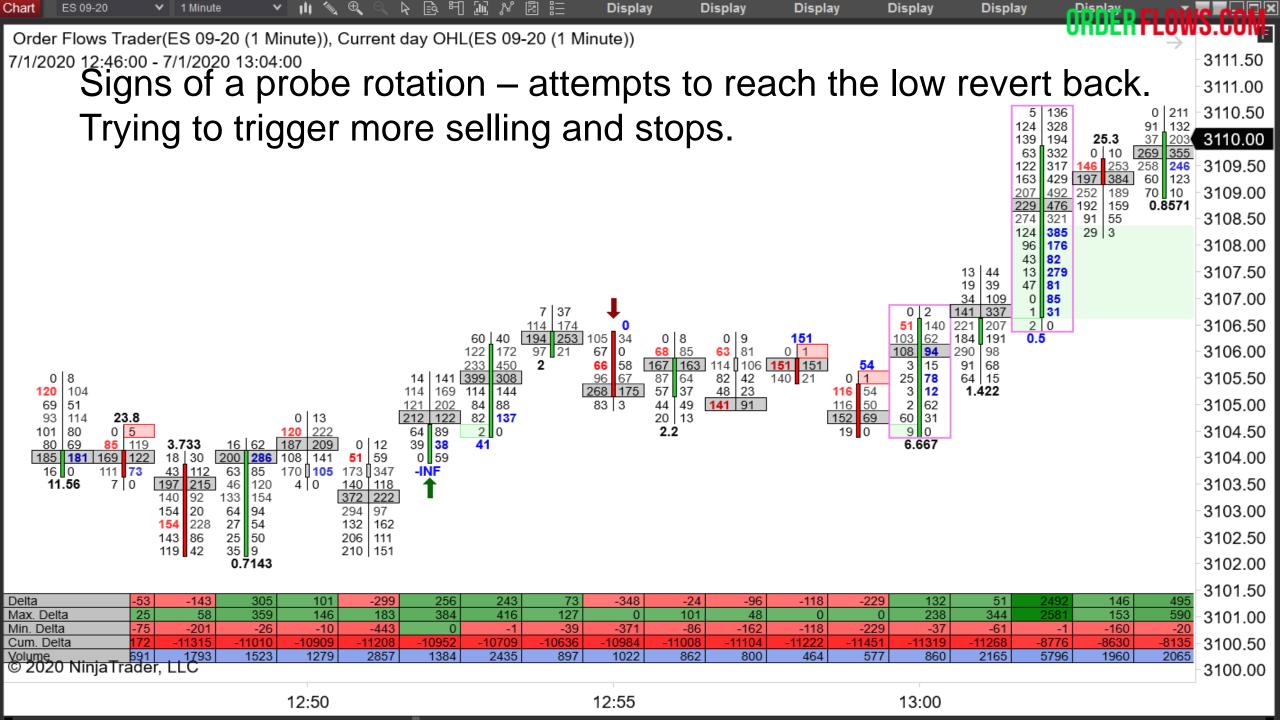


Another way to mark rotations is look for probes (candle wicks).

A probe up that comes after a period of weakness, meaning a new high and sideways activity, is a good sign of a market ready to sell off. Probes Up in downtrends – 2<sup>nd</sup> attempts to test the high. Chance to shake out weak longs. Optically, it looks like it is about to break loose higher, but when the selling comes it, the 2<sup>nd</sup> time around the market often falls over. When it has extra heavy volume, it is looks even better.







Look for these probes AFTER periods of strong selling or strong buying. Look for the up probes after a strong buying move up, what is happening during this move up is institutional selling, there is distribution going occurring. Once supply has been adequately distributed, the selling rotates as it decides which direction to go next, but really the direction is down. The retail traders think the market is just getting primed for a move higher, but in reality, the institutions are just reloading their guns so to speak for more selling.

Rotations – all markets have rotations. Knowing your market's rotation will enable you to work stops and take profits more effectively.

Market do overshoot rotations.

Some traders use pivot points as levels for rotation.

Use Zig Zag indicator to help you see the rotations and become more comfortable in seeing them.



This concludes Module 6. In Module 7 we will discuss recognizing initiative and responsive order flow.