The CoTrader NQ Model: Seven Years, 1,433 Trades, Costs Included

CoTrader Strategy Lab · MNQ (Micro Nasdaq-100) futures, 1-minute bars, 2019-05-24 to 2026-08-25 · 1 contract · hypothetical backtest

ABSTRACT

One of our own intraday models on Nasdaq futures, backtested trade by trade on real CME 1-minute data with commission and slippage on every fill. 1,433 trades, 39.0% won, profit factor 1.28, $22,852 net on one micro contract, largest drawdown $2,128. 30 of 88 months finished at a loss. The rules stay private; this note shows how we test and report, the same way we would for your rules.

1 What this model is

An intraday Nasdaq futures model built in our lab: it trades the New York session, one setup a day at most, with a fixed stop and target on every trade and always flat before the close. The entry and exit rules are our own and are not disclosed here. Every number below comes from the full trade log, which is available on request.

2 Data and method

Data. CME Micro Nasdaq-100 futures (MNQ), one-minute bars, 2019-05-24 to 2026-08-25.

Costs. $1.18 commission plus 1 tick of slippage per side on every trade. Fills on the next bar; if stop and target are touched in the same bar, the stop is counted first.

Split. 2019 to 2022 and 2023 to 2026 are reported separately so you can see whether the later years hold up.

Unit. Results in dollars for one micro contract ($2 per index point) and in R, where 1R is the planned risk of the trade.

3 Results

1,433	39.0%	1.28	$2,128
TRADES	WIN RATE	PROFIT FACTOR	MAX DRAWDOWN

EXHIBIT 1 · summary statistics, 1 MNQ, after costs

	ALL YEARS	2019 TO 2022	2023 TO 2026
Trades	1,433	723	710
Win rate	39.0%	42.3%	35.6%
Average trade	+0.156 R · $16	+0.158 R · $16	+0.154 R · $16
Net, 1 MNQ	$22,852	$11,670	$11,182
Profit factor	1.28	1.31	1.25
Max drawdown, 1 MNQ	$2,128	$1,792	$2,128

EXHIBIT 2 · cumulative result, $ per 1 MNQ after costs

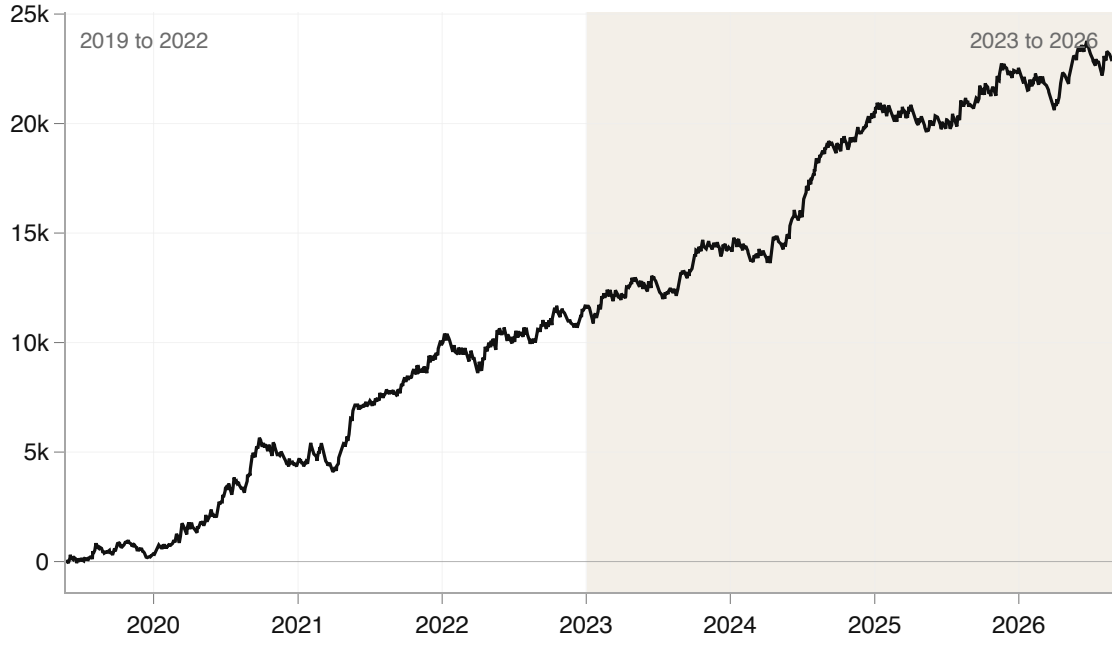


EXHIBIT 3 · drawdown from the previous high

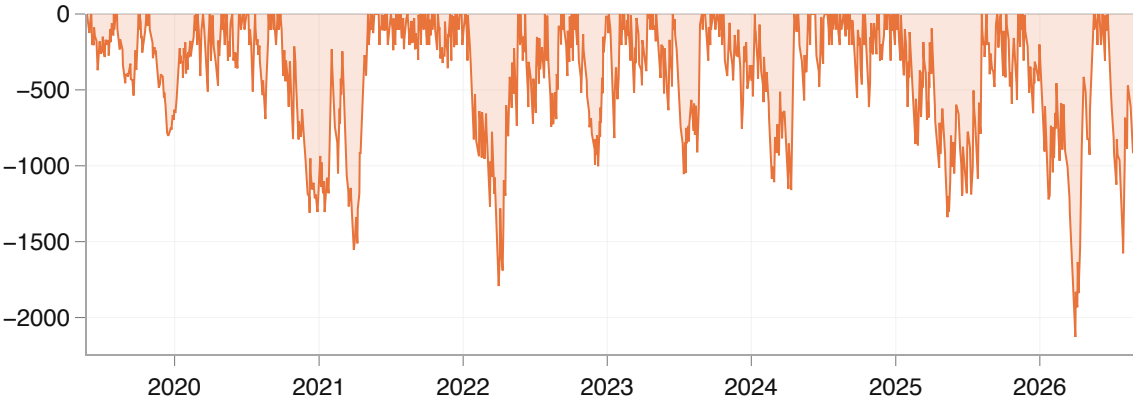


EXHIBIT 4 · net result by year

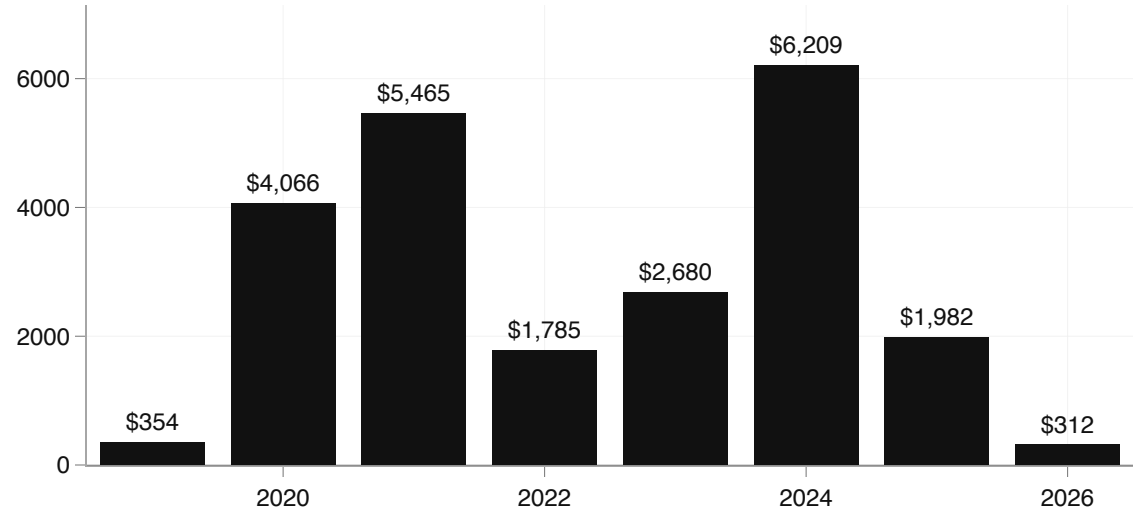
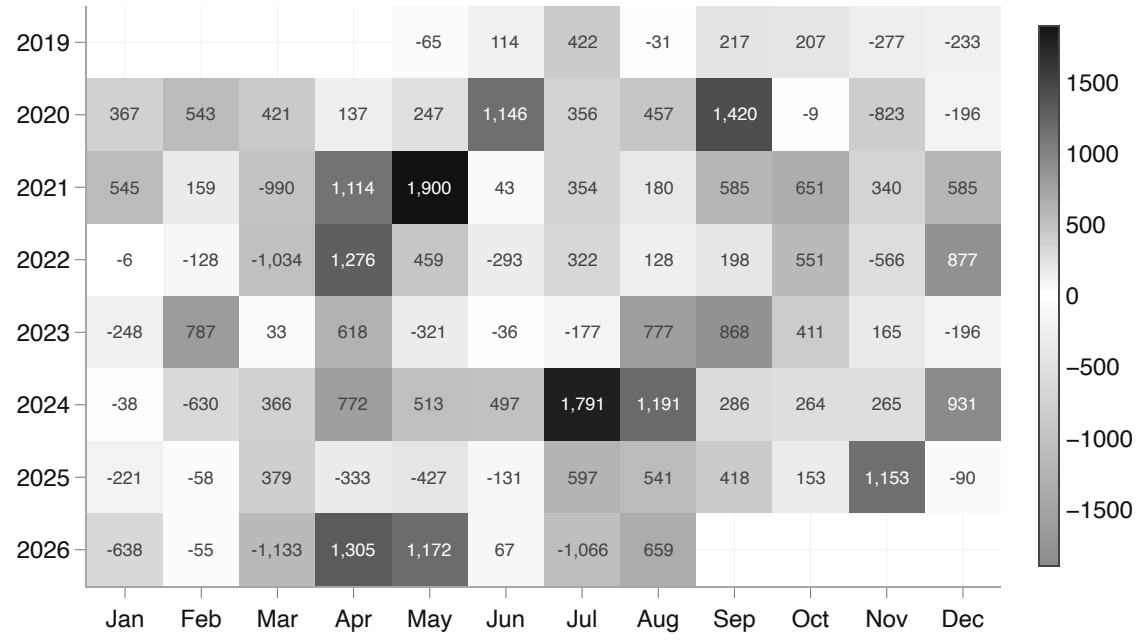


EXHIBIT 5 · net result by month ($)



4 Monte Carlo

The same 1,433 trades reshuffled into 1,000 random orders: same total, different path. It shows how deep a drawdown could get with these exact trades in a worse order.

EXHIBIT 6 · 1,000 reshuffled paths: median (black), middle 50% and 90% bands, actual path (orange)

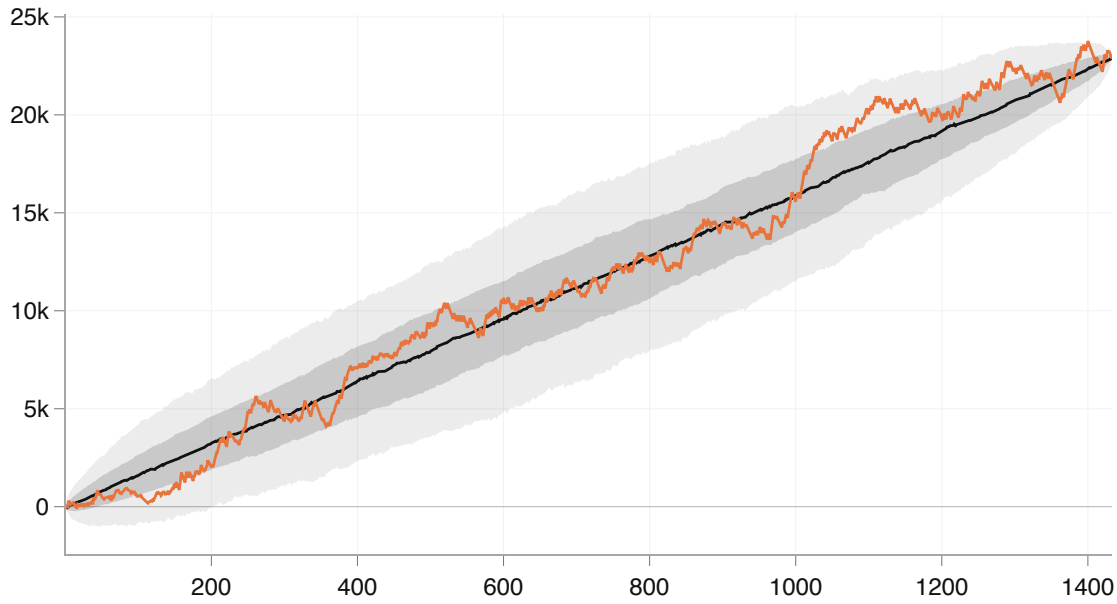
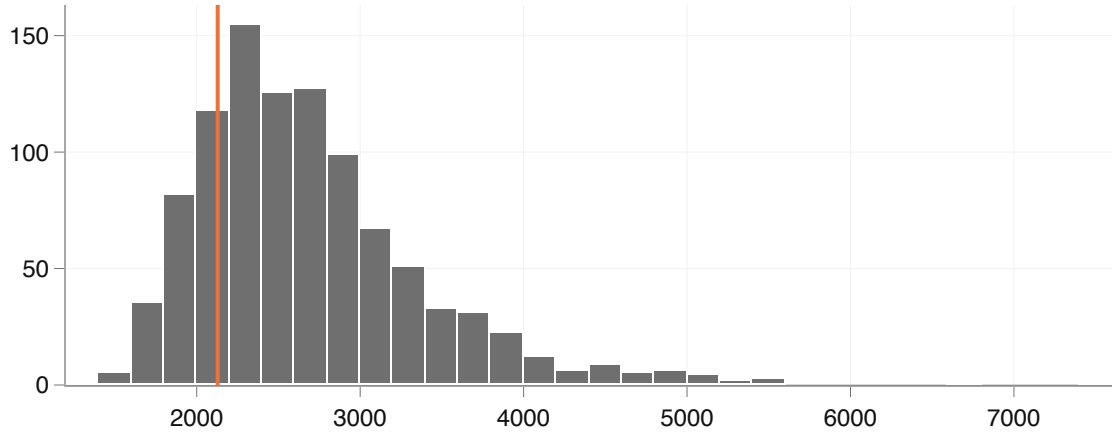


EXHIBIT 7 · maximum drawdown in each run; actual in orange



Maximum drawdown across runs, 1 MNQ: 5th percentile $1,833, median $2,566, 95th percentile $3,986.

5 Reading it honestly

> A backtest with costs that held up over seven years, with real losing stretches: 30 losing months out of 88. Before money, a model like this runs on a practice account and is judged after 30+ trades.

Want a report like this for your own rules?

We code your rules, test them on years of real data with costs, and send you this report before anything trades.

Start the application (2 min) →

Hypothetical performance results have many inherent limitations. No representation is being made that any account will or is likely to achieve profits or losses similar to those shown. There are frequently sharp differences between hypothetical results and actual results later achieved. Hypothetical results are prepared with the benefit of hindsight and do not reflect the risk of actual trading (CFTC Rule 4.41). This is research and education, not financial advice, and not an offer to manage any account.