

DECISION-ENGINE ARCHITECTURE



OPERATING PREMISE

Modern cross-asset execution is dominated by liquidity transmission, positioning reflexivity and volatility amplification. The engine ranks which market-state changes should alter execution timing, risk limits and trade expression before liquidity becomes expensive. Signals escalate only when magnitude, speed, crowding and liquidity all point to the same transmission channel simultaneously.

EXECUTION-FRAGILITY BANDS

Signal	Normal	Watch	Escalate
MOVE percentile	<50	50 - 80	>80
Depth change	0/-10%	-10/-25%	>-25%
Spread state	Normal	Wider	Elastic
Flow risk	Balanced	Crowded	Forced

CORE OUTPUT MAP

Signal	Read-through	Decision consequence
Rates-vol alert	Policy path + term-premiu...	Own event gamma / payer...
Liquidity fragility	Price impact becoming non...	Reduce clip; work passive
CAD/oil disconnect	Commodity beta capped by...	CAD crosses before outri...
Curve stress	Auction + inflation premium...	Conditional steepeners

HISTORICAL FRAGILITY REFERENCE POINTS

Episode	Market lesson	Engine implication
Mar-2020 UST stress	Depth vanished despite sa...	Liquidity state can dominate...
UK LDI shock	Duration + leverage forced...	Track convexity, margin, for...
Vol-control unwind	Vol-targeting amplified pric...	Flow rules matter during rea...

Sources: Federal Reserve H.15; Bank of Canada Daily Digest; EIA; BLS; Statistics Canada; CFTC COT; CME FedWatch; ICE BofA MOVE Index. For informational purposes only.

SIGNAL ENGINE: LAYER TRANSFORMS

Layer	Transform	Decision signal
Rates / curve	Path repricing + slope speed + supply window	Steeper / payer / event gamma
FX / CAD	Oil beta residual + USD impulse + COT crowd	Crosses vs outright USD/CAD
Volatility	MOVE/VIX pctile + implied-realised spread	Own gamma or reduce carry
Liquidity	Spread/depth z-score + funding stress	Sizing, routing, escalation

A signal becomes actionable only when it changes the trade expression. The same directional thesis can move from delta to option, RV or passive execution as liquidity and vol states migrate across regimes.

CROSS-ASSET INTERACTION HEATMAP (0=low, 4=high)

	Rates	CAD	Oil	Vol
Rates	0	3	2	4
USD/CAD	3	0	3	4
WTI	2	3	0	3
MOVE	4	4	3	0

SIGNAL ESCALATION RULES

Rule	Desk implication
Magnitude + speed	Move from monitor to alert
3+ layers align	Treat as cross-asset transmission event
Liquidity deteriorates	Reduce clip size; shift to passive execution
Catalyst < 48 hours	Raise event-vol sensitivity; pre-position optionality

RANKED DECISION PACK

Rank	Signal	Implementation
1	Rates-vol persistence	Event gamma; avoid carry-only exposure
2	Liquidity fragility	Vol-adjust sizing; monitor bid/offer and slippage
3	Curve term-premium risk	Conditional steepeners / payer hedges on supply

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AUTOMATION WORKFLOW



The automation edge is not forecasting precision; it is reducing reaction latency and making execution rules explicit before markets shift from continuous repricing to gapped liquidity. Under fragility, execution style is part of the thesis: passive execution preserves price but risks information leakage; aggressive execution secures immediacy but pays spread elasticity.

TRIGGER-CONDITION ENGINE

Signal	Trigger condition	Operational response
Rates vol	MOVE high + CPI/FOMC ...	Event gamma; payer-spread he...
Liquidity	Spread/depth stress confi...	Reduce clip; shift execution style
CAD squeeze	COT short + oil/BoC align...	CAD crosses; avoid naked USD...
Curve stress	2s10s speed + auction pr...	Conditional steepeners + convex...

EXECUTION SEQUENCING LOGIC

Step	Decision rule	Desk nuance
1 -- Confirm signal	Magnitude + speed + cross...	Avoid single-indicator fals...
2 -- Check liquidity	Size + route from spread-d...	Clip size follows depth, not...
3 -- Select expression	RV / options / crosses befor...	Preserve optionality under...
4 -- Learn + retune	Alert vs slippage vs realised...	Retune thresholds and co...

FIG -- PROCESS IMPROVEMENT (BASELINE vs TARGET)

Index score: Manual=100 baseline

IMPLEMENTATION ROADMAP

Phase	Build scope	Output / milestone
Phase 1	Source map + prototype	Morning pack: rates/FX/vol/oil snapshot
Phase 2	Python + SQL pipeline	Auto-refresh signals; threshold calibration
Phase 3	Alert router + dashboard	Intraday escalation; desk notifications
Phase 4	Feedback + backtest loop	Threshold tuning; post-event P&L linkage

COMMERCIAL & WORKFLOW VALUE

Value lever	Institutional benefit
Monitoring leverage	Fewer manual screens; broader cross-asset coverage per head
Execution timing	Spread/depth alerts before liquidity windows deteriorate
Risk prioritisation	Ranked fragility signals focus desk attention and capital
Process discipline	Audit trail, threshold tuning and systematic post-event review

GOVERNANCE & REALISM CONTROLS

Risk	Control	Why it matters
False precision	Confidence bands + source freshness flags	Prevent pseudo-certainty in signals
Data quality	Stale-feed flags + reconciliation checks	Prevent bad alerts from stale inputs
Over-alerting	Severity score + cooldown periods	Protect desk attention bandwidth
Model drift	Threshold review + event post-mortems	Adapt to regime and structural change

STRATEGIC VALUE

The engine is useful only if it changes decisions: when to trade, how to express the view, how much to size, whether to seek immediacy, and when to monetise optionality or stand down. Convert fragmented monitoring into a governed decision engine that links market state, execution quality and post-trade learning.

MARKET-MICROSTRUCTURE PLAYBOOK

State	Engine action
Depth deterioration	Reduce clip; increase order slicing
Stop-loss cascade	Flag trigger levels; wait for follow-through confirmation
Gamma / expiry risk	Avoid false calm; own event optionality selectively
Correlation break	Shift from directional to relative-value expression

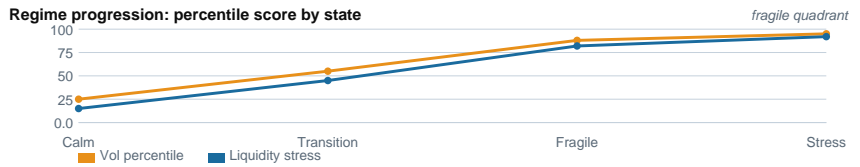
POSITIONING SQUEEZE MATRIX

Crowding	Catalyst	Preferred response
Short CAD	BoC meeting / oil mo...	CAD crosses; avoid naked USD/CAD shorts
Short vol	FOMC / CPI print	Own event gamma selectively ahead of catalyst
Long duration	CPI / supply auction	Payer hedge; reduce outright delta exposure
Risk-beta longs	USD / funding stress	Lower gross exposure; widen stop levels

LIQUIDITY & CATALYST HEATMAP (2=moderate, 4=high risk)

	Open	Data	Auction	Expiry
UST/GoC	2	4	4	3
USD/CAD	2	3	3	4
WTI	2	3	2	3
Rates vol	3	4	4	4

FIG -- REGIME MAP: VOL & LIQUIDITY STRESS



CROSS-ASSET INTELLIGENCE ENGINE