



US Equity OTC Quote Guide

Version 1.0.0 (Jul 2024)



algoseek | the market data company

We provide research market data for machine learning and quantitative trading



CONTACT US

We are here to help you do great things with our market and reference data. For questions, feedback, and other concerns, you may reach our team of experts using the following contact information:

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	4
OTC QUOTE HISTORY FILE	4
DATA DISTRIBUTION AND COLLECTION	4
DATA ORGANIZATION AND FILE FORMAT	5



REVISION SUMMARY

Effective Date	Version	Revision Type	Description
Jul 5, 2024	1.0.0	Release	An initial version of the dataset



INTRODUCTION

The algoseek US Equity OTC Quote data comprises all quotes submitted to the OTC Link inter-dealer quotation system and distributed by [OTC Markets Group](#) within the [OTC Quote History File](#) dataset.

OTC QUOTE HISTORY FILE

The description for the OTC Quote History file extracted from the "OTC Quote History Data File Specifications" document is as follows:

The OTC Markets Group OTC Quote History file provides tick by tick quote information for quotations submitted to the OTC Link inter-dealer quotation system. The file includes quote attribute information (e.g. timestamp, price, size) for individual market participant quotes and 'inside market' quotes generated by the OTC Link quotation system.

It is important to note that the inside market quotes are for quotes entered into the OTC Link system only. Quotes from other inter-dealer quotation systems are not included in the file or in the inside algorithm.

DATA DISTRIBUTION AND COLLECTION

The OTC Quote History File, distributed by OTC Markets Group, is obtained from the OTC Markets Group's SFTP server.

Data Normalization

algoseek collects data from the OTC Market Group's SFTP server, then standardizes the data to deliver it in CSV format, adhering to our established standards for data organization and file format.

“As-is” Data

algoseek refrains from altering the data extracted from the OTC Quote History File sourced from OTC Market Group in any manner that alters its original information. The normalization process merely guarantees that the CSV files adhere to the standards for data organization and file format.



DATA ORGANIZATION AND FILE FORMAT

algoseek offers US Equity OTC Quote data in plain-text CSV files. The initial row of the CSV file serves as a fixed header, followed by rows of data representing individual quotes (refer to Table 2). By default, the data is structured into one file per symbol per trading day. For instance, all events related to the ticker AAALY on October 25, 2023, are contained within a single CSV file.

To manage the substantial data size, CSV files undergo gzip compression, denoted by the csv.gz extension, typically achieving a compression ratio of approximately 8:1.

Table 1 demonstrates a sample of the US Equity OTC Quote dataset, in which rows and columns are inverted for the convenience of the document display. The sample refers to the ticker "GBRRF" on January 25th, 2024.

Table 1: US Equity OTC Quote Sample Data

TradeDate	20240125	20240125	20240125
Timestamp	11:42:21.153	11:42:21.458	11:42:21.458
QuoteUpdateType	6	1	6
Ticker	GBRRF	GBRRF	GBRRF
Name	GABRIEL RES LTD	GABRIEL RES LTD	GABRIEL RES LTD
BidType	A	A	A
BidPrice	0.3306	0.3307	0.3307
BidSize	87500	12500	12500
AskType	A	A	A
AskPrice	0.3453	0.3453	0.3453
AskSize	37500	22500	37500
UnsolicitedFlag	0	0	0
MMID		OTCN	
Trader		OTCNQUOT	
OpenCloseStatus	1	1	1



Quoteld	215484576	215488224	215488227
InsideReason	Quote Updated		Quote Updated

Table 2 below presents the name, description, and data type for each field in the CSV file.

Table 2: CSV File Fields Schema

Field	Type (Format)	Missing	Description
TradeDate	string (yyyymmdd)	Never	Trading date in yyyymmdd format
Timestamp	string (HH:MM:SS.mmm)	Never	Quote timestamp in HH:MM:SS.mmm format
QuoteUpdateType	integer	Never	Defines the quote record type. Start of Day quotes are quotes generated at system start. These quotes were closed the previous day but not withdrawn/deleted. Open/Close updates are updates caused by a Trader open/close status change. 1 = Update 2 = Add 3 = Delete 4 = Start of Day 5 = Open/Close Update 6 = Inside
Ticker	string	Never	Security symbol
Name	string	Never	Security name
BidType	string	Never	A= Actual (Priced) U= Unpriced OW = Offer Wanted
BidPrice	decimal	Never	Decimal precision is currently 4 decimal places for prices under \$1 and 2 places for prices greater than \$1. Minimum price is \$0.0001. Maximum price is \$999,999.99.
BidSize	integer	Never	Maximum allowed size is 999,999,999 shares
AskType	string	Never	A = Actual (Priced) U = Unpriced



			BW = Bid Wanted
AskPrice	decimal	Never	Decimal precision is currently 4 decimal places for prices under \$1 and 2 places for prices greater than \$1. Minimum price is \$0.0001. Maximum price is \$999,999.99.
AskSize	integer	Never	Maximum allowed size is 999,999,999 shares
UnsolicitedFlag	string	Never	1 = Unsolicited Flag True
MMID	string	Blank	For individual quotes (type <> 6) the represents the market participant who submitted the quote. For inside quotes (type = 6) this field will be null.
Trader	string	Blank	For individual quotes (type <> 6) the value represents the trader id of the trader who submitted the quote. For inside quotes (type = 6) this field will be null.
OpenCloseStatus	integer	Never	Notes the Open/Close status of the quote. 0 = Closed 1 = Open Only Open quotes may be considered for the inside.
QuoteId	integer	Never	Unique Quote identification number.
InsideReason	string	Blank	Value will only be populated where the quote update type = 6. Notes the cause of the inside update/addition. Possible values: - Quote Updated - Quote Added - Quote Deleted - Trader Open Quote - Trader Close Quote



Market Holidays and Trading Hours

Market Holidays

The stock market is closed for trading on most US holidays. For reference, algoseek publishes a list of historical holidays, which is available at `s3://us-equity-market-holidays/holidays.csv` (direct download link: <https://us-equity-market-holidays.s3.amazonaws.com/holidays.csv>).

Trading Hours

OTC Markets' normal market hours are Monday through Friday, 9:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. ET. Operating Hours for OTC Link ATS are Monday through Friday, 6:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. ET.