

Business Cycle Index 12-17-2015:

The BCI at 197.2 is down from last week's 197.6, and is below the previous high of this business cycle indicated by BCIP at 91.6. However, the 6-month smoothed annualized growth BCIG at 12.1 is higher than last week's 11.9.

No recession is signaled.

Summary 12-18-2015:

The MAC-US model generated a buy signal early November, thus the model is invested in the markets. The 3-mo Hi-Lo Index of the S&P500 signaled an exit from the stock the markets on 12/17/2015. The MAC-AU remains out of the markets. The recession indicators COMP and iM-BCIG do not signal a recession. The bond market model avoids high beta (long) bonds, the trend of the yield spread is indeterminate. Both the gold and silver model are invested.

Stock-market:

The IBH-model has been discontinued

The [MAC-US](#) model generated a buy-signal early November. The sell-spread is now positive, however it is already showing downward trends and the model may generate a sell signal soon.

The [3-mo Hi-Lo Index](#) of the S&P500 signaled an exit from the stock markets on 12/17/2015 as the 40-day moving average (MA40) moved below the 5% threshold.

The MAC-AU model generated a sell signal end of August and thus in cash. The buy-spread is lower than last week's level. The next buy signal will emerge once the buy spread (green graph) moves above the zero line. This model and its application is described in [MAC-Australia: A Moving Average Crossover System for Superannuation Asset Allocations](#).

Recession:

Fig. 3 shows the COMP is higher than last week's level, and far away from signaling recession. COMP can be used for stock market exit timing as discussed in this article [The Use of Recession Indicators in Stock Market Timing](#).

Fig. 3.1 shows recession indicator iM-BCIG also higher than last week's level. A imminent recession is not signaled.

Fig 3.2: The Forward Rate Ratio between the 2-year and 10-year U.S. Treasury yields (FRR2-10) is below last week's level and far away from signaling a recession.

A description of this indicator can be [found here](#).

Bond-market:

The [BVR-model](#) avoids high beta bonds (long-bonds) and also intermediate duration bonds. The Bond Value Ratio is shown in Fig 4. The BVR is up from last week's level. According to the model, only when BVR turns upward after having been lower than the lower offset-line should one consider long bonds again. It would appear that [BVR has peaked](#) end of January 2015.

The Yield Curve:

The [yield curve model](#) indicates the trend of the 10-year and 2-year Treasuries yield spread. Figure 5 charts (i10 – i2) and it would appear that the spread has formed a trough and was rising and now the general trend is indeterminate. FLAT and STPP are ETNs. STPP profits from a steepening yield curve and FLAT increases in value when the yield curve flattens. This model confirms the direction of the BVR.

Gold:

The modified Coppock Gold indicator is shown in Fig 6. and is now invested. This indicator is described in [Is it Time to Buy Gold Again? - Wait for the buy signal](#)

Silver:

The modified Coppock Silver indicator shown in Fig 7 and is currently invested. This indicator is described in [Silver - Better Than Gold: A Modified Coppock Indicator for Silver](#).

Monthly Update Summary 12-3-2015: (next update 1/8/2016)

Unemployment

The unemployment rate recession model ([article link](#)), has been updated with the November UER of 5.0%. Based on the historic patterns of the unemployment rate indicators prior to recessions one can reasonably conclude that the U.S. economy is not likely to go into recession anytime soon.

Coppock Indicator for the S&P500

The Coppock indicator for the S&P500 generated the last interim buy signal on January 31, 2014 and a sell signal early in January. This model is now out of the market. This indicator is described [here](#) .

Trade Weighted USD

A downward trend of the Trade Weighted USD (TW\$) could signal the start of possible increases in federal fund rates. The TW\$ after an interim decline is recovering and the 6 month moving average trend remains upward.

TIAA Real Estate Account

As of end of November 2015 the 1-year rolling return is 8.82%. The Vanguard REIT Index Fund has retreated from the all-time high; however, the good positive returns of TIAA Real Estate Account are expected to continue. A sell signal is not imminent.

[Read more ...](#)

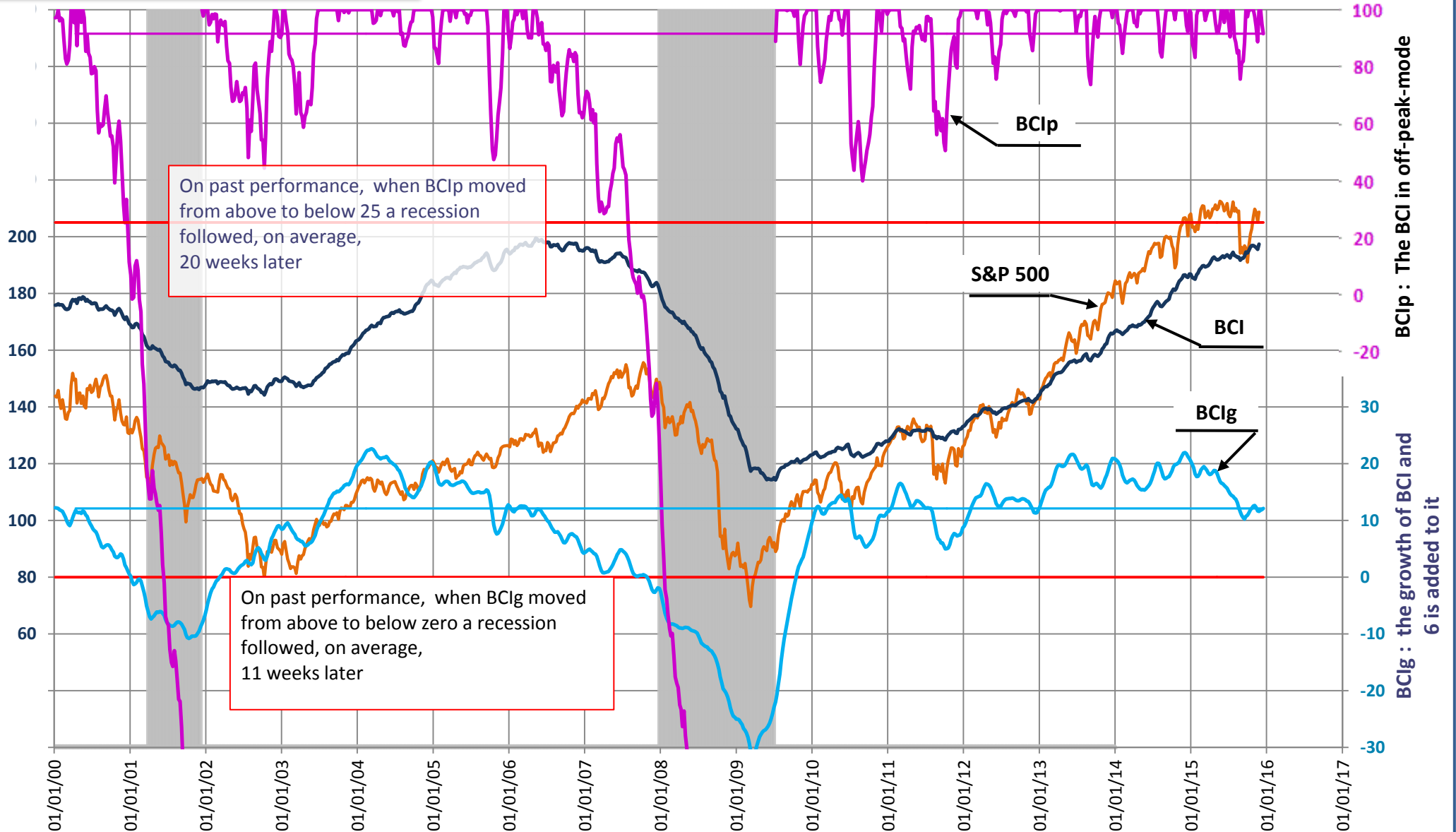
iM's Business Cycle Index (BCI)

Date	11/19	11/26	12/03	12/10	12/17
BCIp	88.7	100.0	100.0	94.9	91.6
BCI	195.6	197.4	198.2	197.6	197.2
BCIg	11.7	11.6	11.8	11.9	12.1

BCIp, BCI and BCIG
updated to December 17, 2015

On past performance, BCIp = 100 can be interpreted as an average one year "time-to-live" to a recession.

BCI : the Business Cycle Index
and S&P500/10



Please note: Past performance does not guarantee future returns, investments may increase or decrease in value and you may lose money using this model.

Figure 2: Buy and Sell signals for S&P 500 2010-15
from the modified golden-cross MAC-System



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**Fig 2.1: Buy and Sell signals for the Australia All Ordinaries Index
from the MAC-AU System**

updated to Dec-18-15
last buy spread= -75.0

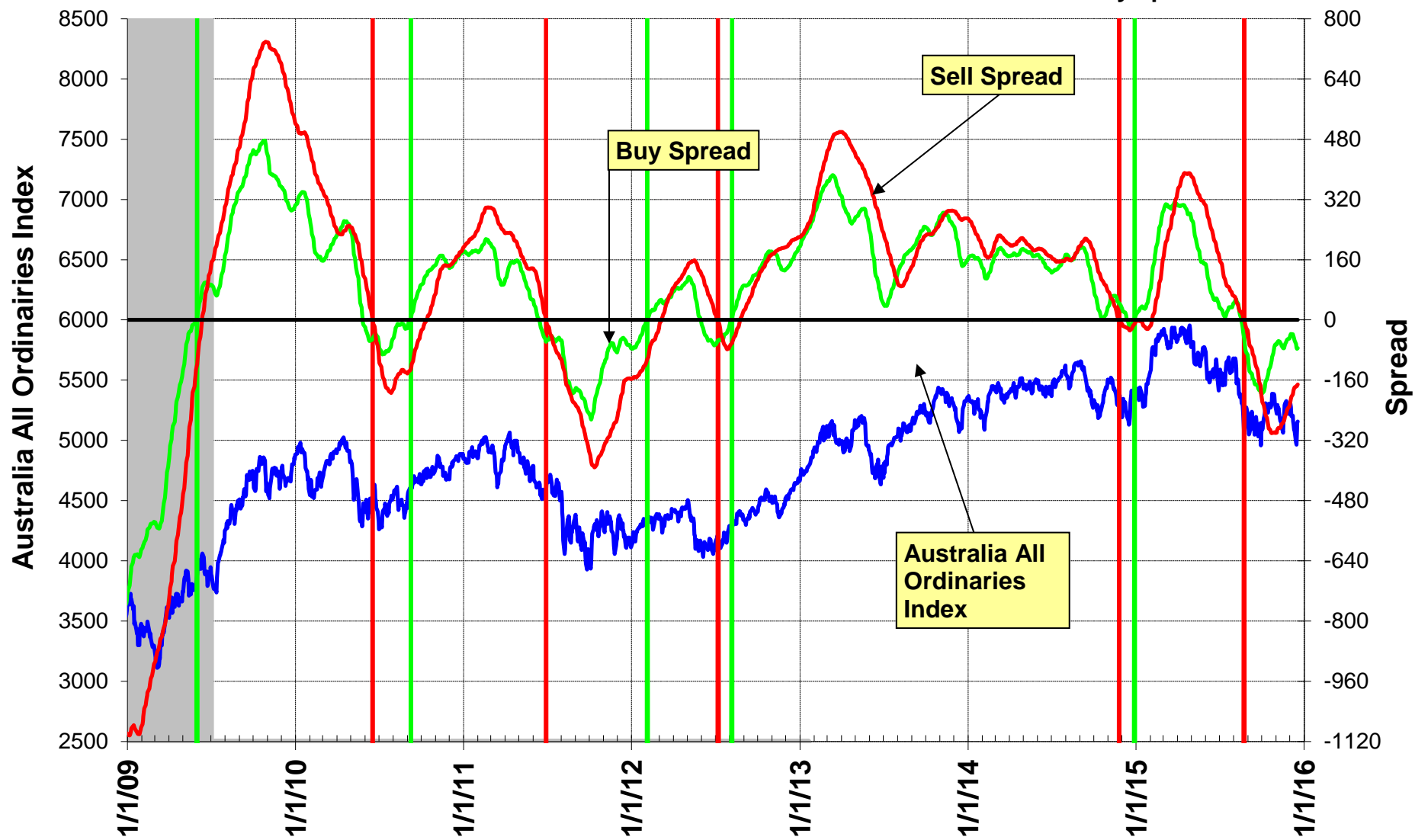


Fig 2.2 3-mo Hi-Lo Index of the S&P500 & 40-day SMA of Index

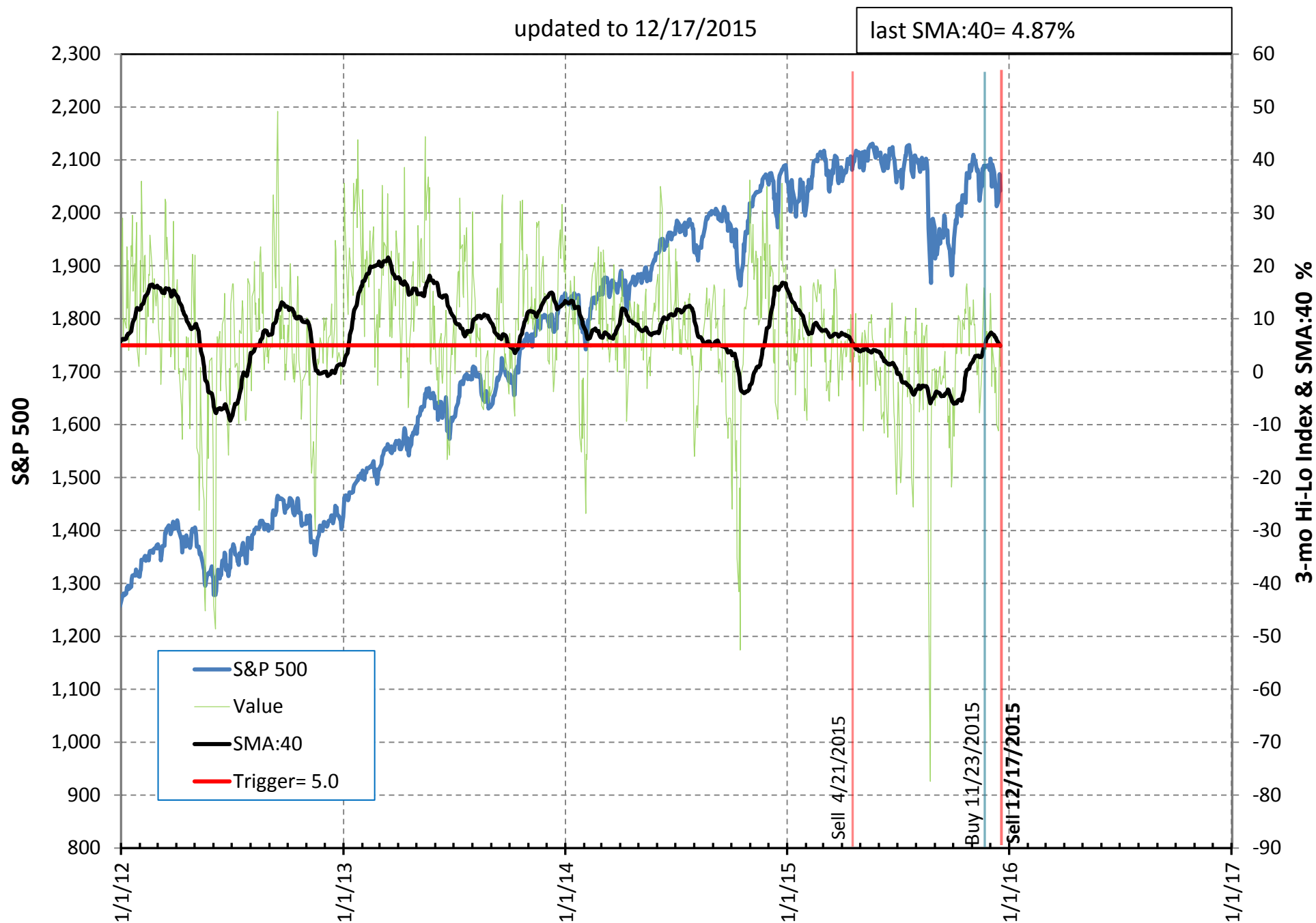


Fig. 3: COMP Leading Indicator of US Economy 1969-2015

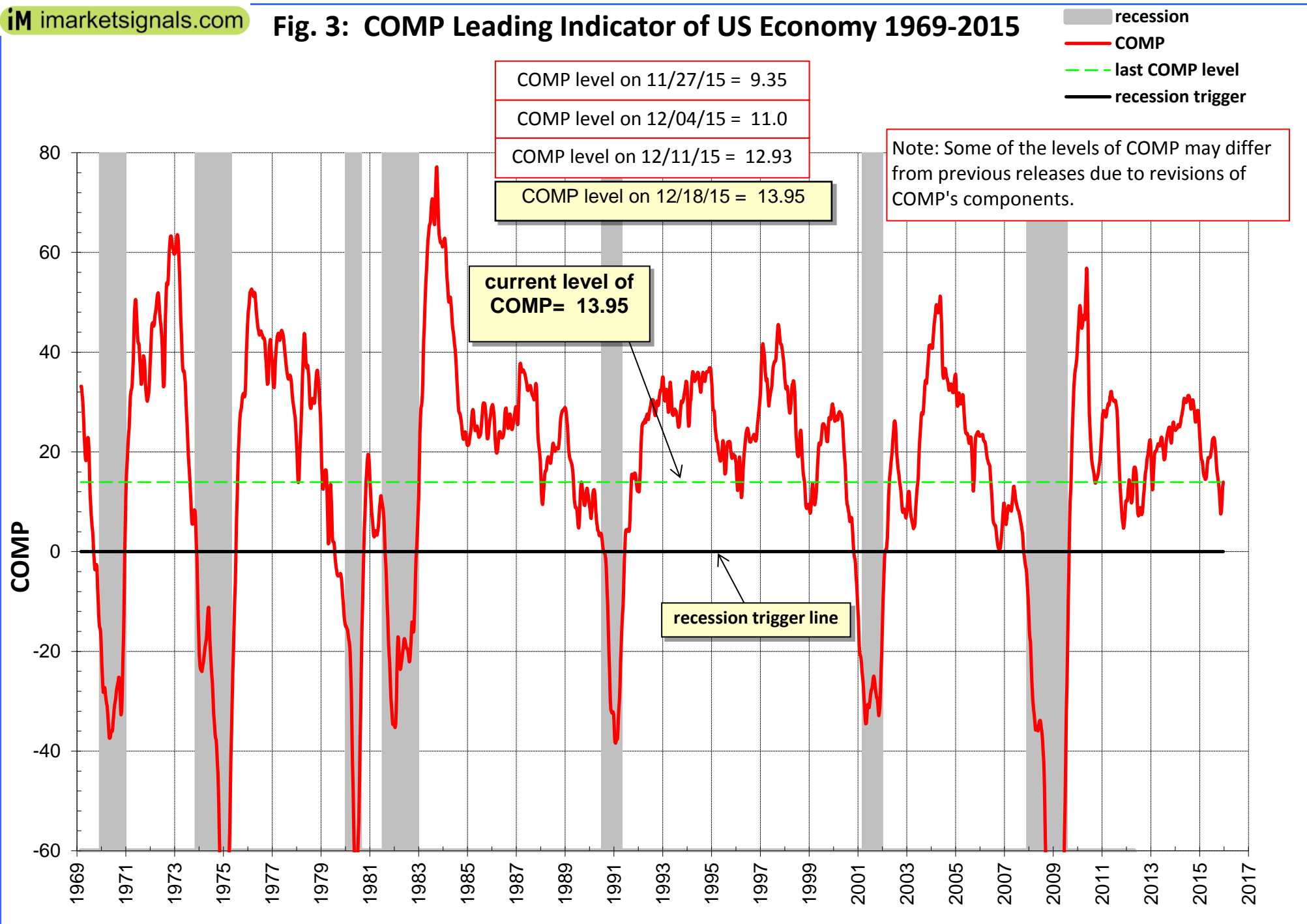


Fig 3.1: iM-BCIg 1969-2015

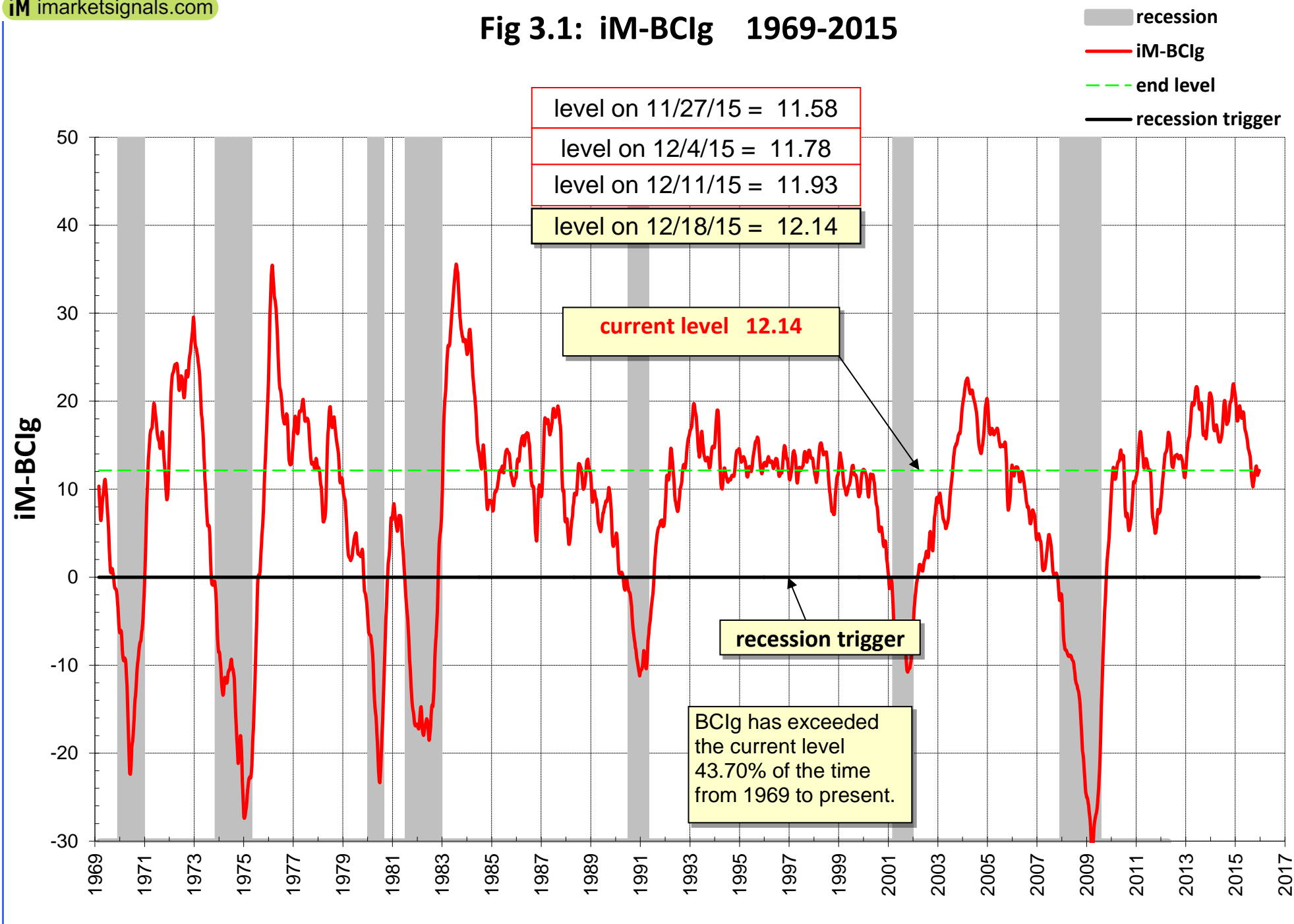


Figure 3.2: Forward Rate Ratio FRR2-10 - leads to Recessions

FRR2-10 is the ratio of the rate at which one can lock in borrowing for the eight year period starting two years from now, and the ten-year rate itself.

The FRR2-10 is indicative of the slope of the yield curve between the two-year and the ten-year note yields; a FRR2-10 greater than 1.00 indicates a positively sloped yield curve (ten-year note yields are higher than two-year note yields); a FRR2-10 less than 1.00 indicates an inversion of the yield curve (two-year note yields are higher than ten-year note yields).

The last seven recessions were all preceded by a FRR2-10 less than 1.0

Recessions start	Recessions end	Date when EMA of FRR2-10 less than 1.0	Lead to Ression start (weeks)	Lead to Ression start (years)
Jan-70	Nov-70	5/1/68	87	1.68
Dec-73	Mar-75	3/6/73	39	0.75
Feb-80	Jul-80	10/9/78	69	1.32
Aug-81	Nov-82	11/3/80	39	0.75
Aug-90	Mar-91	2/22/89	75	1.44
Apr-01	Nov-01	3/17/00	54	1.05
Jan-08	Jun-09	8/29/06	70	1.35

updated to 12/17/2015
EMA of FRR2-10 = 1.16

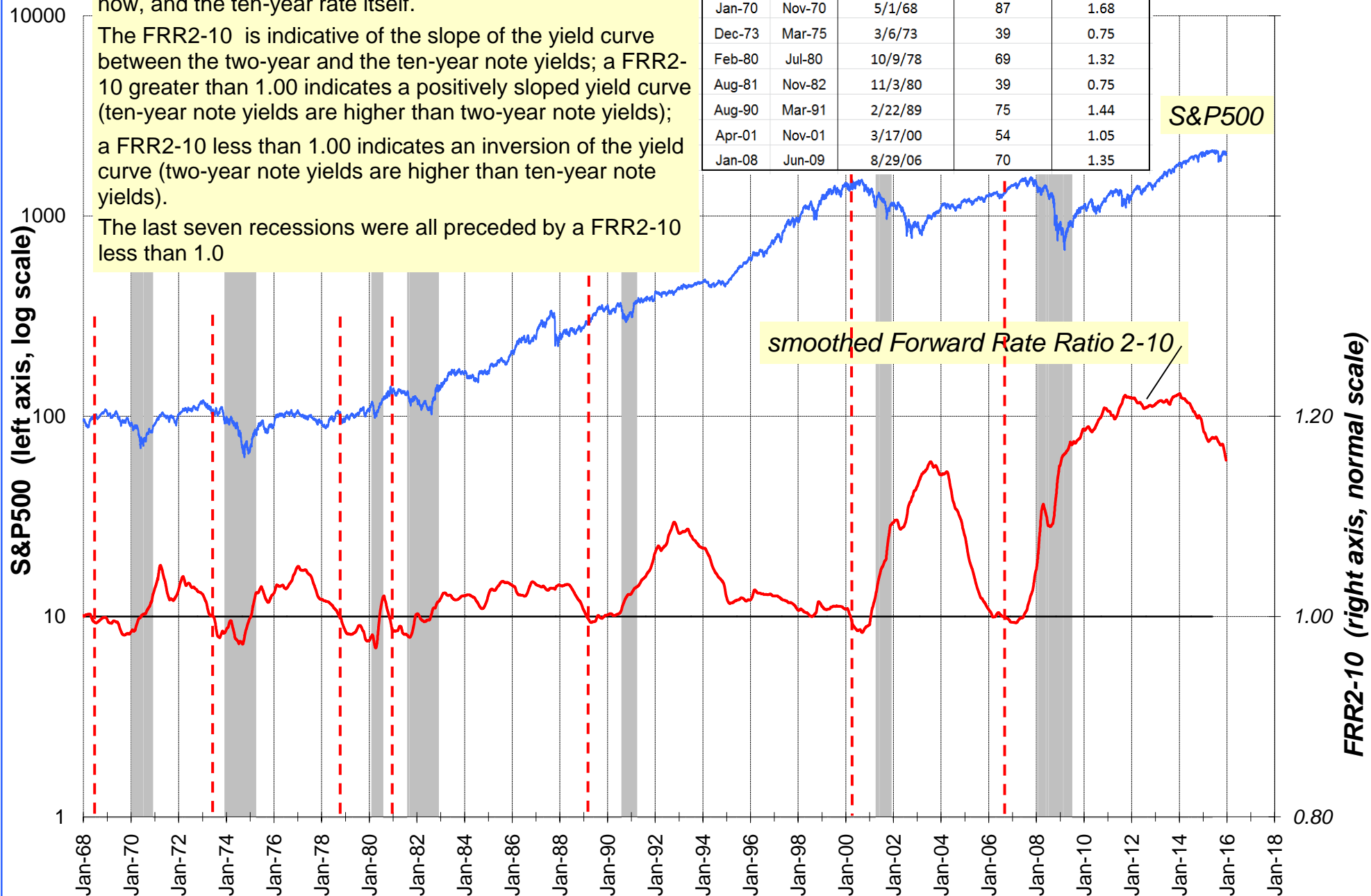


Figure 4: Bond Value Ratio (BVR) from 2005 to 2015

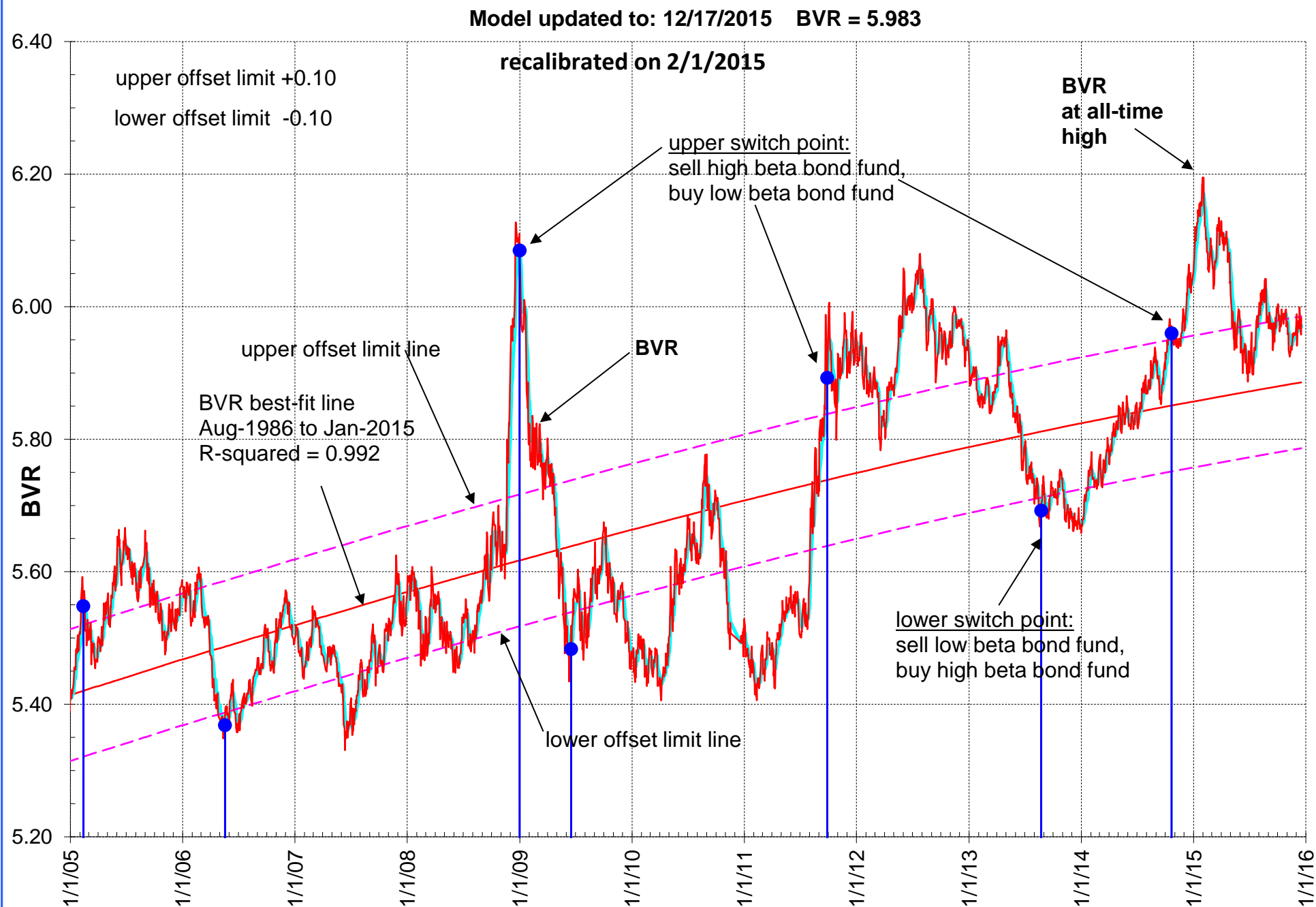


Figure 5: i10 - i2

Updated to.....12/17/15

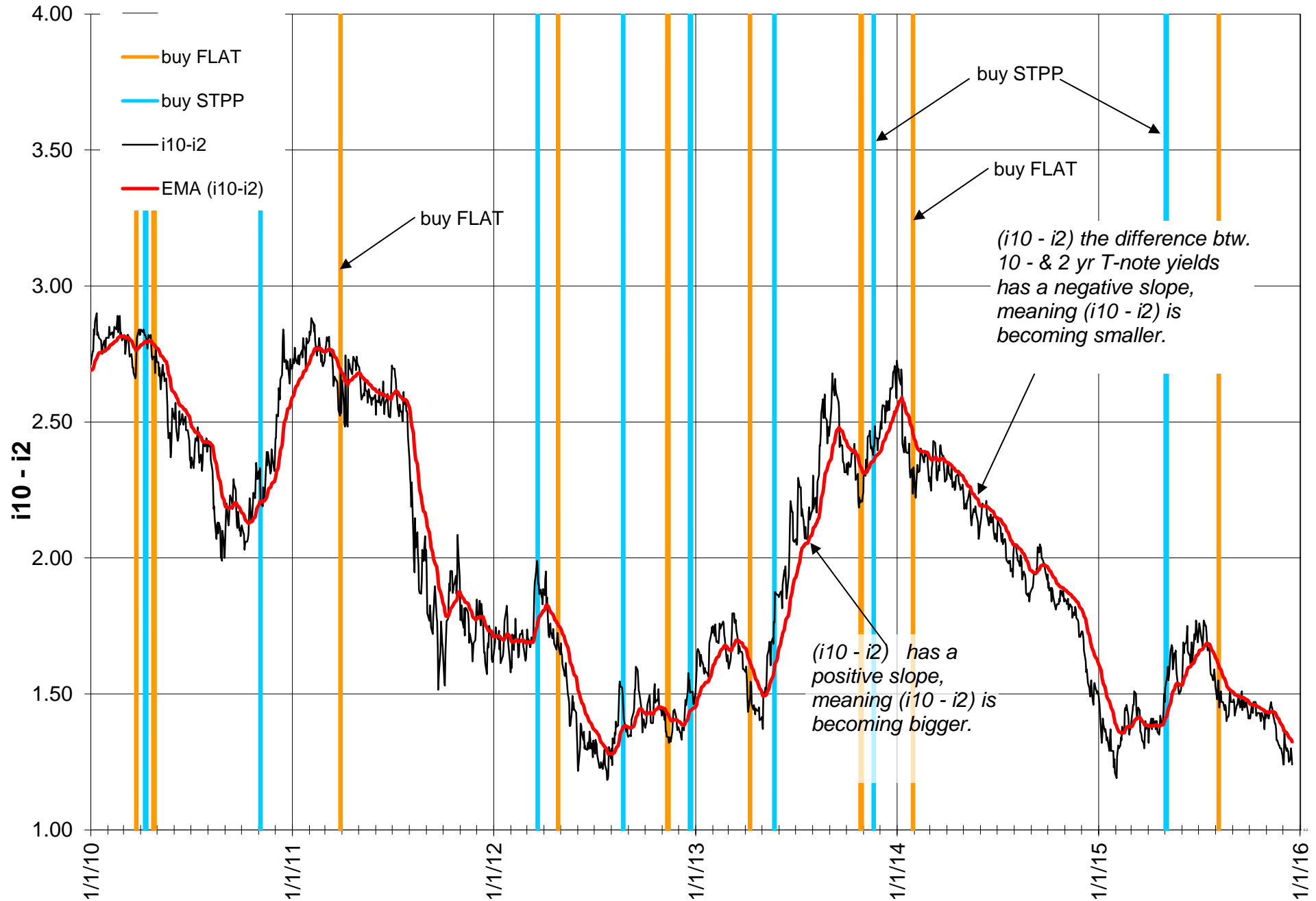


Figure 6: Modified Coppock Indicator for Gold 2009-2015

updated to 12/18/2015

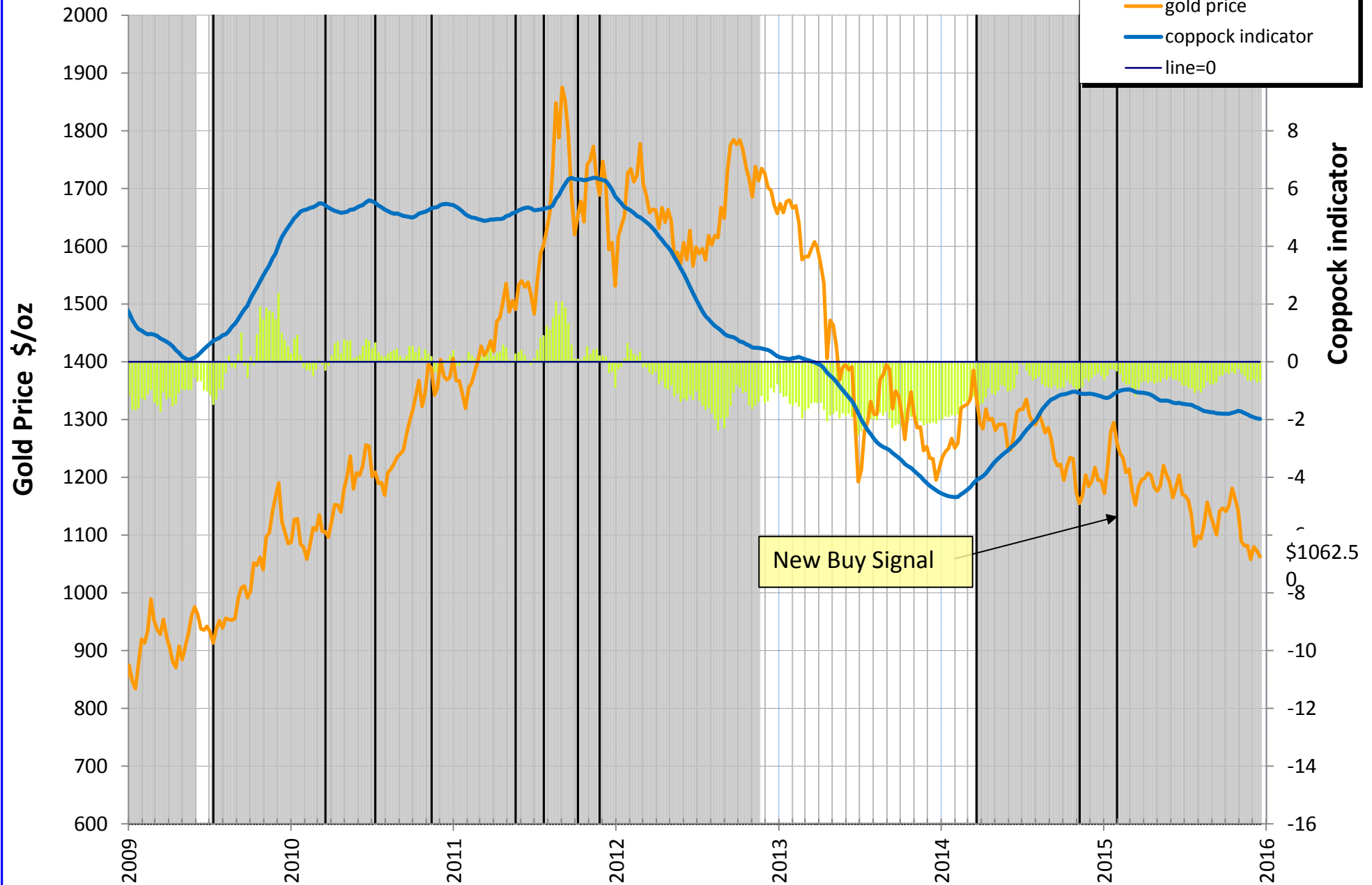


Figure 7: Modified Coppock Indicator for Silver 2009-2016

updated to 12/18/2015

