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Introduction

The dashboard is only a tool over the beautiful manual trading method of Bob Nanning (<http://www.forexfactory.com/showthread.php?t=246113>) .

The nature of the method involve trading over a lot of pairs. Monitoring them in MT4 is a real pain cause you have to switch back and forth between chart window to find a good setup and manage your trade.

I don't like MT4 (now you know it ;). I don't like the GUI (Graphical User Interface). Too much mouse clicks here and there to do something... A real pain in the a...! I'm a scalper since my beginning in the Forex world (I'm a software Engineer by formation). I like when things goes fast. So much trades missed cause of too much operations to do just to place an order and close another one at the same time... Yeah I wrote a lot of Eas and scripts to automated some tasks but it's not like clicking one button to do a couple of operations. I then wrote a panel for my scalping needs. A panel that gave me the flexibility to place an order at a click of a button, reverse an order at a click on a button, close a group of orders at a click of a button. It works so well that I completely forgot (ok, that's not really true) how to do these operation in MT4.

I have founded Bob's Nanning thread strategy on Forex Factory a day when I was lurking around reading different threads/methods. Found interesting the idea, I then decided to gave it a try and guess what, the idea for a panel was just at the corner 😊

Version 1 of the dashboard has proven more then enough that navigating thru chart in MT4 is now really easy. One thing was missing: send commands (on a simple click) to MT4 to perform different operations. Version 2 is here and answer the problem.

With version 2, from the panel, you will be able to:

- place a BUY/SELL directly on any pair at the instant
- start/stop/remove all EA from any charts, set them with a re-entry flag if needed
- close all order on a pair or a selection of pairs
- set all EA parameters directly from the panel in a bigger window
- see a chart preview of a chart just by positioning your mouse on a specific location
- change your takeprofit mode and multi level (basket) management directly from the panel
- and more...

Let just clarify something: the panel (dashboard) ISN'T an automated EA that decide and place trades for you. If it's what you are looking for, this tool isn't for you. You want an automated EA for the method, I recommend you to visit the thread of one of the famous FF coder/trader, Steve Hopwood:

<http://www.forexfactory.com/showthread.php?t=248297>

NH4PANEL Version 2 Setup

Step 1:

Download the installation kit here:

<http://www.mldlfx.com/files/NH4PANELv200.exe> or

<http://www.mldlfx.com/files/NH4PANELv200.zip> (if you can't download exe)

If you download the zip, unzip it to a temporary folder on your PC.

Step 2:

Run the file NH4PANELv200.exe

Step 3:

Select your language (French or English)

Step 4:



Specify a directory where to install the application. Please **DO NOT** installed the application in your MT4 directory. I suggest you to accept the default directory.

Step 5:



Click Next to proceed with the installation.

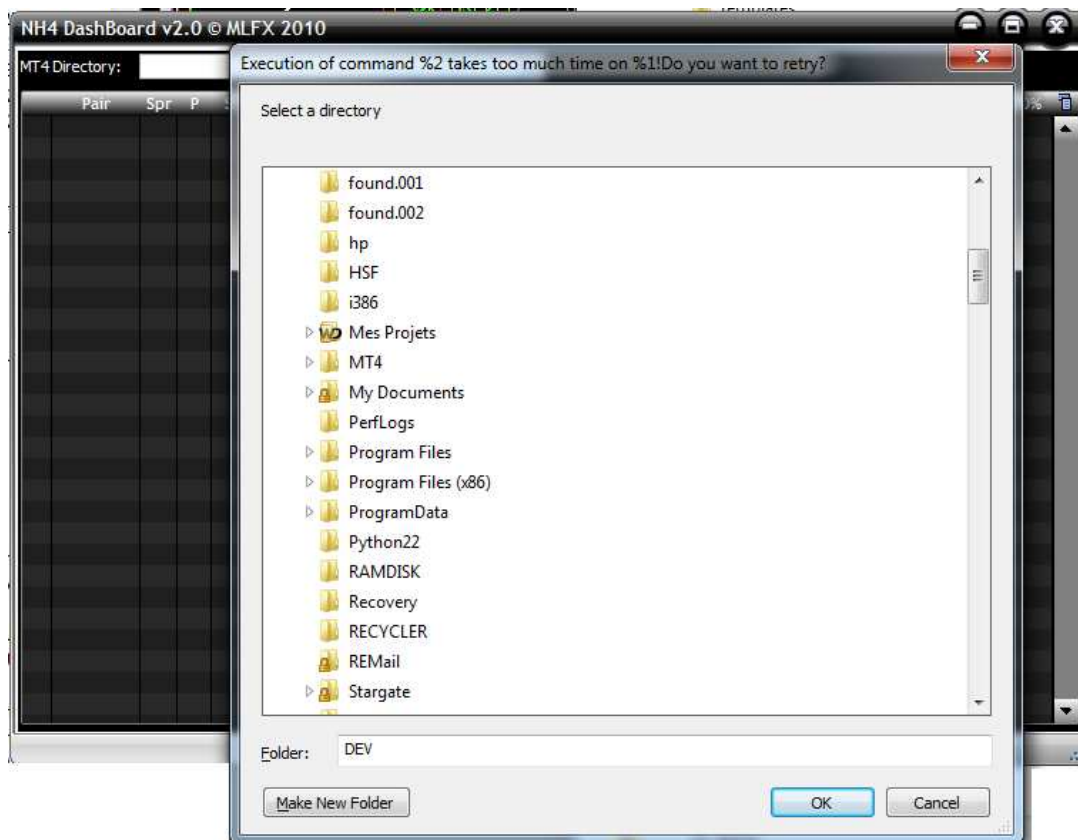
At the end of the installation you can choose to launch the application immediately.

Step 6:

Launch the application from the directory where you installed it. The file to launch is

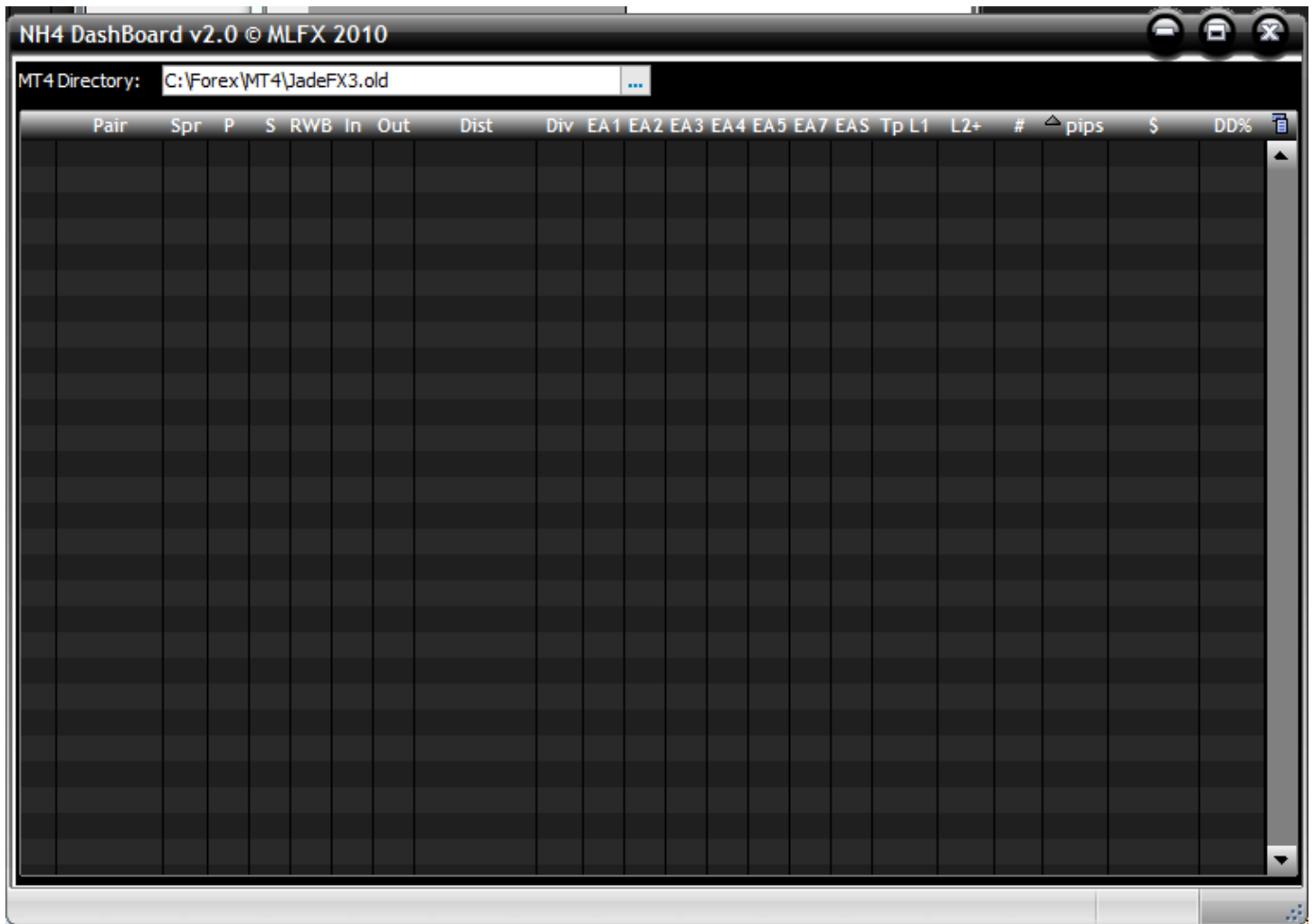
Nh4panel.exe

You should get the following screen:



Because it's the first invocation of the application you have to specify your Metatrader directory (the directory where you have installed Metatrader). DO NOT specify the "experts" (or any other MT4 sub folders) folder . In fact, the directory should be the one where the file **terminal.exe** reside.

At this point, the installation is completed. You should get a screen similar to this one:



Was to easy isn't? ;-))

Will describe later what you see in the panel.

Making the panel always on TOP

The NH4Panel is a windows application that, by default, doesn't stay on TOP of all the other opened applications on your PC. Something interesting to do when using Metatrader and the panel is to have the NH4Panel always displayed on the

screen even if Metatrader has the focus. To do it, I have included a small application “AlwaysOnTopMaker.exe” that you’ll find in the NH4PANEL directory.

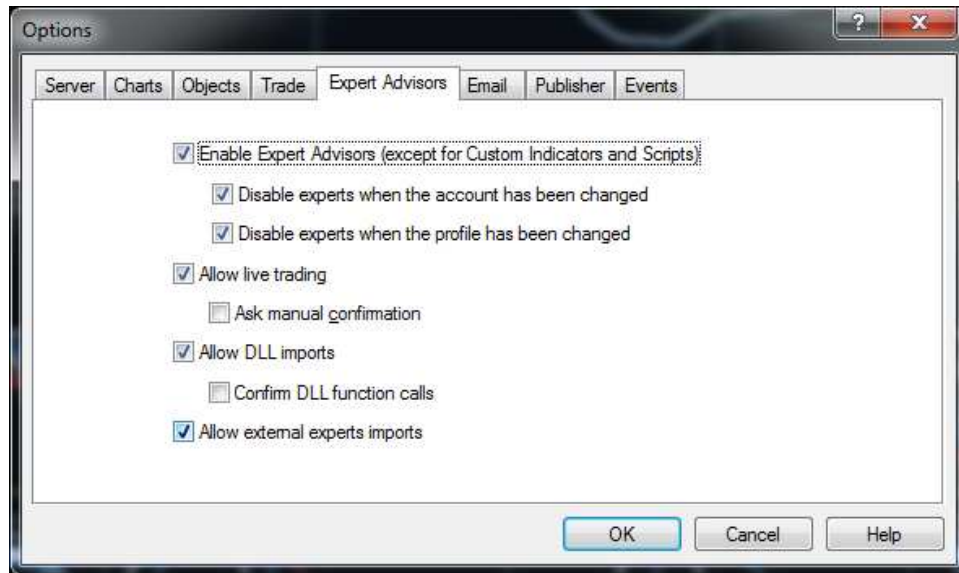
To make the NH4Panel always on Top, do the following:

- First be sure that NH4Panel is running
- Execute the “AlwaysOnTopMaker.exe” program
- Click on NH4PANEL window to give it the focus (bring it to the front)
- Press CTRL-ALT-T... that’s it, the application NH4PANEL will stay on top of any application.

CHARTS SETUP

Setup of a chart is easy.

Before going further, be sure your MT4 options for EA are set like this:



You need to download all indicators and the template that I have supplied (see <http://www.forexfactory.com/...>) and copy these files in their respective MT4 folder.

What you need to install:

- MLFX_NH4_MANAGER.ex4 (to put in **YourMT4Directory\experts** folder)
- MLFX_NH4_TEMPLATE2.tpl , (to put in **YourMT4Directory\templates** folder)
- SIXTHS 5.3.ex4 (to put in **YourMT4Directory\experts\indicators** folder)
- NB MACD.ex4 (to put in **YourMT4Directory\experts\indicators** folder)
- FX5 MACD DIVERGENCE V1.0.exe (to put in **YourMT4Directory\experts\indicators** folder)

Now, in MT4, open each chart that you want to trade and set them to the 4H timeframe.

Load the MLFX_NH4_TEMPLATE2.tpl template on each of them.

Please, scale the charts as Bob recommendations. You should set them to see the last 4 weeks (one month). The MLFX_NH4_MANAGER2 EA send screen data to the panel. If you rescale the chart, MAs will move, SIXTHS indi will recalculated the lines and the panel will reflect what you visually see on the screen at this instant.

Here is an sample of what it should looks like:



Please note that there is no “visible” parameters in the MT4 EA windows setup . Don’t matter, you’ll be able to modify them from a new screen (more intuitive, faster and BIGGER) in the panel.

When all your desired charts have been setup with the MLFX_NH4_TEMPLATE, start the panel if it's not already started.

You should see a screen that should look similar to this one (yours will differ for sure):

NH4 DashBoard v2.0 © MLFX 2010




MT4 Directory: C:\Forex\MT4\jadeFX3.old



Pair	Spr	P	S	RWB	In	Out	Dist	Div	EA1	EA2	EA3	EA4	EA5	EA7	EA8	Tp L1	L2+	#	pips	\$	DD%
AUDJPY	1.4					●	■■■■■■■■		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	ATR	\$\$				
AUDNZD	4.5						■■■■■■■■■		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	ATR	\$\$				
CHFJPY	1.7						■■■■■■■■■		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	ATR	\$\$				
EURAUD	3.7						■■■■■■■■■		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	ATR	\$\$				
EURCAD	2.6						■■■■■■■■■		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	ATR	\$\$				
EURNZD	6.0						■■■■■■■■■		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	ATR	\$\$				
GBPJPY	2.8	●					■■■■■■■■■		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	ATR	\$\$				
NZDCAD	4.0					●	■■■■■■■		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	ATR	\$\$				
NZDCHF	4.0	●				●	■■■■■		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	ATR	\$\$				
USDCHF	1.1	●		●		●	■■■■■		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	ATR	\$\$				
USDJPY	0.5	●				●	■■■■■		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	ATR	\$\$				
																		0	0	0.00	0.00

Overview of the Dashboard

Please refer to the previous picture.

Here is what you see in the panel:

Column	Description
<i>Chart Graphic</i>	<p>This column shows, with a small graphic, the position of the price in respect to the SIXTHS center line.</p> <p> Price is over center line</p> <p> Price is under center line</p> <p>Position the mouse pointer on this graphic and a popup screen will show you a snap shot of the chart. Just move the pointer outside the column and the popup will disappear. Really usefull to fastly browse over chart without going in MT4... (remember I don't like it ;-)</p> 
<i>Pair</i>	<p>This column list all pairs where you have loaded the MLFX_NH4_TEMPLATE.tpl template. Pairs are automatically loaded in the panel when they are detected. But, if you remove the MLFX_NH4_MANAGER2 EA from the chart, it won't be remove from the panel. You have to do it manually. For doing so, right click on the pair, select "Remove Pair from Table" from the context menu. You can also select a group of pairs (using standard windows key and mouse pointer) and perform the operation</p>
<i>Spr</i>	<p>This is the current spread of the pair.</p>
<i>P</i>	<p>This signal tells you that price is over/under the top/bottom SIXTHS line. Two colors for two reasons:</p> <p>Yellow: price is near the top/bottom SIXTHS line by 25 pips (less then 25 pips)</p> <p>Green: price is equal or over/under SIXTHS top/bottom lines.</p>
<i>S</i>	<p>Same as P both for the green SIXTHS lines.</p>

	<p>Yellow: price is near the top/bottom SIXTHS green line by 25 pips (less than 25 pips)</p> <p>Green: price is equal or over/under SIXTHS top/bottom green lines.</p>
<i>RWB</i>	<p>Red, White, Blue line indicator.</p> <p>Yellow: RWB lines are all over/under 75/25 values</p> <p>Green: RVW lines are all over/under 85/15 values</p>
<i>In</i>	<p>Position of the 1MA is “inside” the Bbands</p> <p>Yellow: 1MA is inside Bbands and distance from upper/lower bands is more than 25 pips</p> <p>Green: 1MA is inside Bbands and distance from upper/lower bands is less than 25 pips.</p>
<i>Out</i>	<p>Position of the 1MA is “outside” the Bbands</p> <p>Yellow: 1MA is outside Bbands and distance from upper/lower bands is more than 25 pips.</p> <p>Green: 1MA is outside Bbands and distance from upper/lower bands is less than 25 pips.</p>
<i>Dist</i>	<p>This graph show the distance in pips of the 1MA and it's nearest Bbands (upper or lower). A full graph indicates that the distance is equal or more than 100 pips. If the graph is half displayed, that means a distance of 50 pips and so on.</p>
<i>Div</i>	<p>Divergence indicator. When a divergence has been detected in the last 12 hours, an arrow will indicate it.</p> <p> Short divergence</p> <p> Long divergence</p>
<i>EA1-EAS</i>	<p>Show which EA are running in the system. An EA can be started for a “one shot” operation or a “multi-shot” (or re-entry) operation.</p> <p>One shot operation: EA waits for a condition to trig. When an order is place, it stops itself automatically. That means it won't trig a new condition. EA has to be re-initiated by hand.</p> <p>Multi-shot (reentry) operation: EA waits for a condition to trig. When an order is place, it waits for the order to take profit (wait the closure of the order). When order close, it re-initiate itself and wait for another condition to trig. To stop this process, EA must be stop/remove manually (will see later how).</p> <p>3 status led:</p> <p>Green: EA is running and waiting to trig a condition</p> <p>Red: EA has trig a condition (place an order) and it stops (won't trig a new condition)</p> <p>Yellow: EA has trig a condition (place an order) and waits for the current order(s) to close before re-initiating itself to trig a new condition.</p>

<i>TpL1</i>	<p>TakeProfit Method for Level 1 trade. There is 8 possible methods.</p> <p>Mode 0 – fixed take profit</p> <p>Mode 1 – based ATR</p> <p>Mode 2 – Nearest SIXTHS green line</p> <p>Mode 3 – Middle BBand</p> <p>Mode 4 – Stochastic 7-3-3 over/under a given level</p> <p>Mode 5 - Stochastic 7-3-3 cross with stochastic 14-3-5</p> <p>Mode 6 – Upper Bband</p> <p>Mode 7 – Lower Bband</p> <p>Mode 8 – Stochastic 7-3-3 cross MACD red line</p> <p>These modes are active only when there is only 1 opened order on a given pair. When more than one order is opened it's probably because you want to recover a negative order with another to breakeven. At this time, the manager switch to basket mode (see next column) and you use the Basket Mode parameter to control what to do (how to breakeven).</p> <p>In all takeprofit mode, a blue dot line is draw on the chart to tell you where the profit will be taken. This line move dynamically (if not fixed) depending of the method. If you don't see this line (Mode 4,5 and 8) it's because the takeprofit value can't be know in advance. All mode have 3 levels of takeprofit (use TPmode#.TakeProfit1,2,3 parameters)and at each level that is reach you can control how much % of lot you want to close at this level (use TPmode#.Lots1,2,3r parameters).</p> <p>For example, you want the ea to take the first profit at 30 pips and close 50% of the lot, second takeprofit at 50 and close another 50% and let the rest of lot run to takeprofit at 100, then if using mode 0, you set:</p> <pre>TP.Mode = 0;</pre> <pre>TPmode0.TakeProfit1 = 30;</pre> <pre>TPmode0.Lots1r = 50; //% of lot to close at this TP</pre> <pre>TPmode0.TakeProfit2 = 50;</pre> <pre>TPmode0.Lots2r = 50; //% of remaining lot to close at this TP</pre> <pre>TPmode0.TakeProfit3 = 100;</pre> <p>EA will close all the order lot if the portion you want to close is greater than the minimum lot your broker accept.</p> <p>For each mode, as soon as Takeprofit1 is reach, stoploss is set to BE + an offset in pips if you want (parameter TPallmode.BEpips). When takeProfit2 is reach, stoploss is set to Takeprofit1 level. When Takeprofit3 is reach, order will be close in totality. You can set the portion of lot to close at 0% (no portion</p>
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	<p>will be close) and only the SL will be move. It's then act as a step trailing stop.</p> <p>It's possible to activate a trailing stop starting at a given takeprofit level. Default value is 3 (takeprofit level3). That means the EA will start to trail the SL when takeprofit2 will be taken (entering takeprofit level 3).</p> <p>Note for takeprofit mode 1 to 8:</p> <p>The first takeprofit is automatically calculated depending on the mode. Example, you set mode 1 (ATR mode), then the takeprofit1 is calculated on ATR (use TPmode1.ATR... parameters to set your preferences). Takeprofit2 and 3 become an offset added to take profit 1. Let say the ATR is 78 pips. You set Takeprofit2 at 50 and Takeprofit3 at 100, that means that your 3 takeprofit levels will be: TP1=78, TP2=78+50=128, TP3=78+100=178.</p>
<i>L2+</i>	<p>Take profit method for Level 2 (basket mode). As soon as 2 or more orders are active on a chart, L2+ mode is activated. No trailing stop is possible in this mode. It's mainly use to breakeven group of trades (with a 0\$ profit or a couple of bucks if desired). A magenta line will show you the breakeven (Profit=0\$) price where all opened orders will breakeven. Note that this line always show price for 0\$ profit even if you set the BASKET_targetpipsgroup or BASKET_targetAmount to a value different of 0.</p> <p>You can select if you want to breakeven using a basket of pips or amount of money.</p> <p>If you close an order manually, TpL1 mode will be reactivated automatically if there is one order still active.</p>
<i>#</i>	Display the quantity of orders opened on the chart
<i>Pips</i>	<p>Gives the equivalent profit in pips of opened orders. Pips value for an order is calculated like this:</p> $\text{Pips} = (\text{OrderProfit} + \text{OrderCommision} + \text{OrderSwap}) / \text{OrderLot} * 10$ <p>And the value in the table show the sum of Pips for all opened order on the chart.</p>
<i>\$</i>	Profit amount in \$ of all opened orders in the chart
<i>DD%</i>	Drawdown in percentage of the opened orders

Here is some hints on how the panel works:

- Double click a line will bring the corresponding chart on top in Metatrader. Note that you shouldn't maximise your chart in MT4. Doing this change the scale of the chart. Also, if the pair is minimize in MT4, it won't be restore when double clicking. You'll see the minimize icon going on top in MT4. The rule: scale your chart and let them open, not maximize and not minimize;
- Click any column title to toggle the sort from ascending/descending of the content of this column;
- Colors of "leds" can be changed in the EA (see the Color... parameter s). You'll need to recompile the EA for that. I don't give access to these variables from the panel.
- Many columns have a contextual menu (right click). Will see in the next section what you can do with them

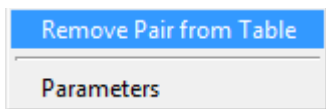
How it works overall

The Manager EA integrated the originals EA#1 to 4, 5, 7 and a special one S. This last one place a trade when the Sto7-3-3 enters in the range 15-85 from the bottom or the top. To the order to be place the 1MA must cross a 3MA.

As you have probably see, the MLFX_NH4_MANAGER EA doesn't show any parameters in the MT4 expert advisor properties window. Where they are? Simple, I have transferred them in the panel. Why? I wanted to be able to change on the spot many variables at the same time without doing it in MT4 (take too much time). Second: I don't like MT4 GUI but I think you already know it now ;-)

Different columns, different contextual menu.

Contextual Menu of columns Pair/Spr/P/S/RWB/In/Out/Div

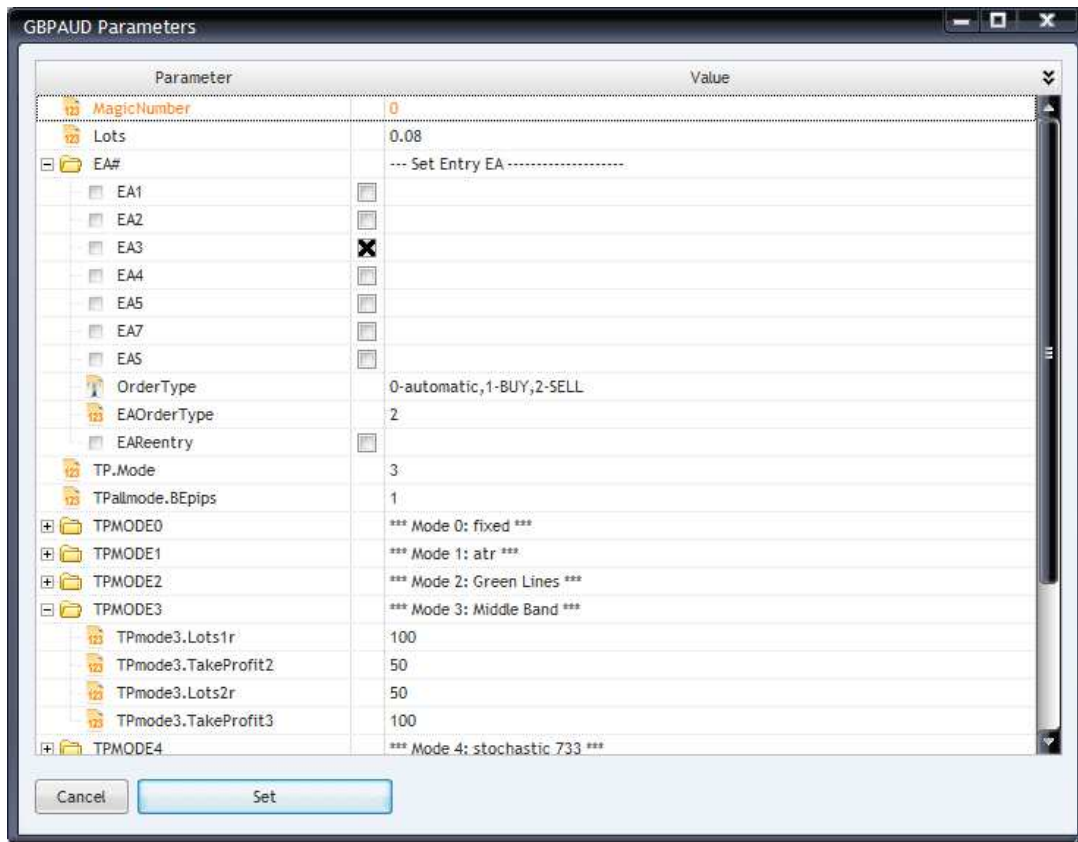


Remove Pair from Table

Remove the selected pair(s) from the table.

Parameters

Give you access to the parameters window. You'll see this option in all contextual menu. Here is the look of the parameter window:

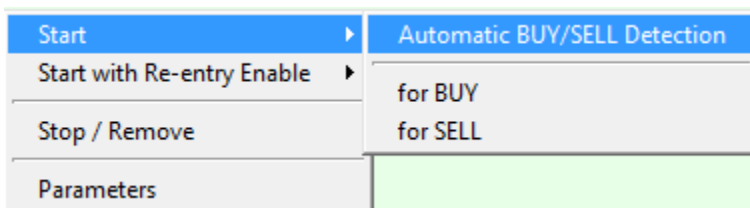


Looks like the one in MT4 isn't? Buy now you can resize the window (YES!). I have grouped the parameters in a treeview (no need to scroll over a long list of parameters to find the one you want to change, YES!).

This screen is easy to operate. Change the value of your desired parameters and click the Set button. Voilà!

Also, depending from which column (contextual menu) you invoke this screen, groups of interest are already open to facilitated changed. You'll see when you'll use the panel ;-)

Contextual Menu of Columns EA1/2/3/4/5/7/S



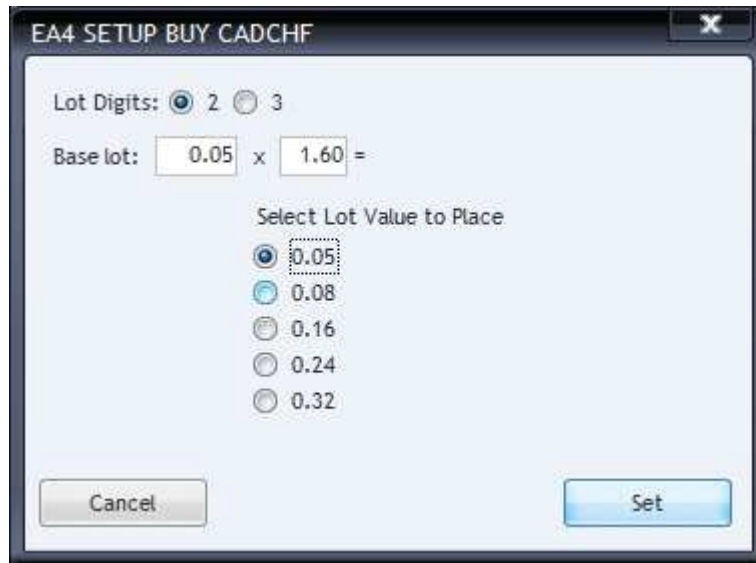
This menu is use to start/stop EAs.

Right click in the column of the EA you want. Select the operation you want. They are self explanatory.

You can perform an operation on a group of selected pairs if you want for example to stop all ea on a group of pairs, select them, right click any EA column and select "Stop/Remove".

The automatic Buy/Sell Detection use the SIXTHS center line to determine which kind of order to open. If price is over the center line, SELL will be open, under center line BUY will be open.

When you selected to start an EA (Auto, BUY or SELL) a popup menu will ask you to set the lot you want for the next order to be placed:

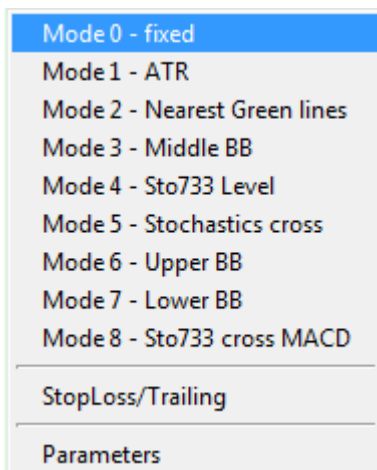


This screen is a rapid lot selector (so simple). Set your based lot, a multiplicator value and the lot digits that your broker accept (I know I could detect that automatically, next version ;-). The list in the middle will show you 5 lots value (base lot, base lot * 1.6, base lot * 1.6 * 2, etc...).

Select the lot you want and click the Set button.

Note that the screen will always show you the last values you have set in the fields the last time. There is not "link" yet between this screen and order that are opened on the chart. The parameter Lots is modified in the parameters list to set the lot. I could add the MagicNumber too in this window if required (let me know).

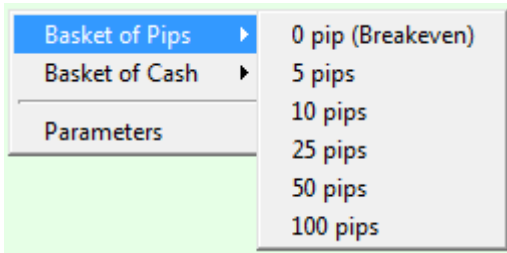
Contextual Menu of Column TpL1



Let you choose in one click the TakeProfit mode you want. When you select a mode, the parameters window is opened and the corresponding group for the mode is open to facilitated variables changes. TP.Mode is automatically set too. The panel will show the mode you selected.

You can also set a StopLoss/Trailing for the order that will be place by the EA or for a current opened order.

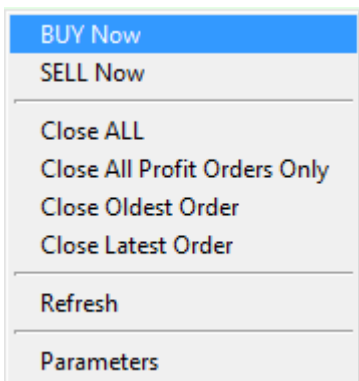
Contextual Menu of Column L2+



When there is 2 or more orders opened, Tpl1 is deactivated (so is the trailing stop too). Basket mode is engaged.

You can select here if you want to breakeven by pips value of cash amount. Menus offer the possibilities to set a given pre defined amount of pips or cash (instead of making 0\$ profit, it's often interesting to at least make a couple of bucks). You can changed theses values in the parameters window too.

Contextual Menu of Columns #/pips/\$/DD%



This is the menu that will make you save a lot of work! It does for me at least.

Buy Now

Let you place an instant Buy order in the chart (only in one pair, no group selected allowed). The lot selector window will popup to set a lot value (see page 16).

Sell Now

Idem but to place a Sell order.

Close ALL

Close all order on the selected pair or a group of selected pairs.

Close All Profit Orders Only

Will close all positive profit order on the selected pair or a group of selected of pairs. Negative profit orders will stay activated (opened).

Close Oldest Order

Close the oldest order on a the selected pair or group of selected pairs. Suppose you have L1,L2 and L3 trades opened on a chart. You want to place a L4 but first want to close the L1 trade, select this option and the L1 trade (the oldest) will be close letting L2,L3 opened.

Close Latest Order

Close the most recent order only on the selected pair or group of selected pairs.

Refresh

Refresh the pair data in the table. The panel refresh the table at each 2 seconds. If you are impatient and can't wait 2 seconds, select this option.

Conclusion

Using the panel is a personal choice (it's mine at least). It's limiting somewhere cause you can't use your favorite order management tool. In fact, you can, but the panel won't get any data from the chart where you put your own EA and you won't be able to send command to MT4 if needed. Someone will have to incorporate some of my code in his EA to push data to the panel.

It satisfied my needs and I trade with it with great success. Just hope that it can help a couple of guys doing the same.

Any questions? Don't hesitate. I'll open a new thread on FF to discuss about it.

Martin Lemire as MLFX/PHover