New developments in AmiBroker

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AmiBroker 4.80 key improvements

▌ brand new fully customizable User Interface

▌ much better performance

▌ enhanced functionality in almost every area

▌ 64 bit version available

UI improvements

- Advanced nested docking
- Sliding Auto-hide panes
- Tear-off tabs
- Tear-off color picker
- Advanced customizable toolbars and menus
- Themed appearance

UI: Advanced nested docking

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Docking stickers allow easy control over placement of docking window

Central sticker allows to dock as tab

UI: Sliding auto-hide panes

UI: Tear-off tabs

Tear-off tabs allow to re-organize tabbed groups freely using drag-drop

UI: Tear-off color picker

UI: Advanced customizable toolbars & menus

Customize dialog allows creation of user-defined toolbars/menus, adding new buttons to existing toolbars. It also allows to define your own keyboard shortcuts and choose themes.

If there is not enough space for all toolbar buttons, the ones that were hidden are available from chevron menu

Chevron menu also allows to access toolbar/menu customization

UI: Adding/removing buttons

Toolbar buttons can be easily added/removed using customization menu

UI: Editing buttons

RMB click in customize mode allows even drawing your own button images
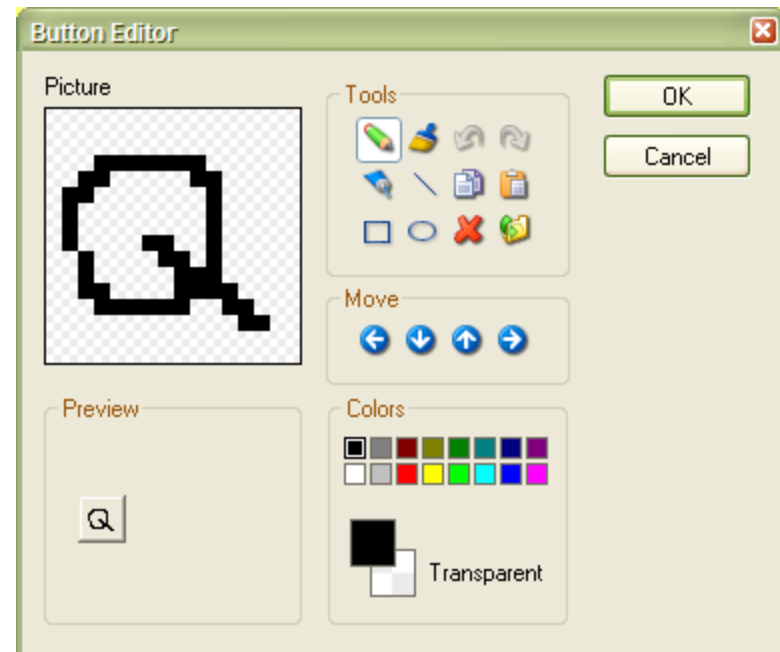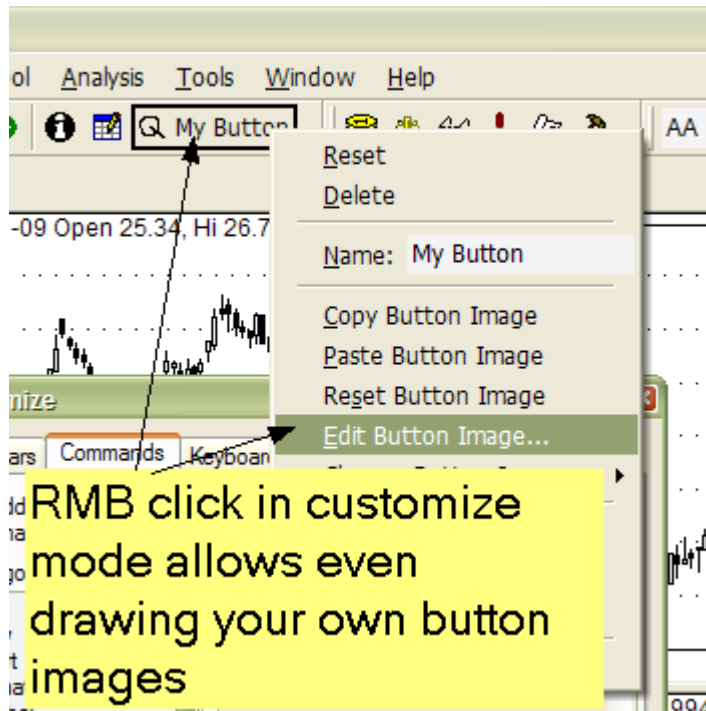
UI: Themed appearance
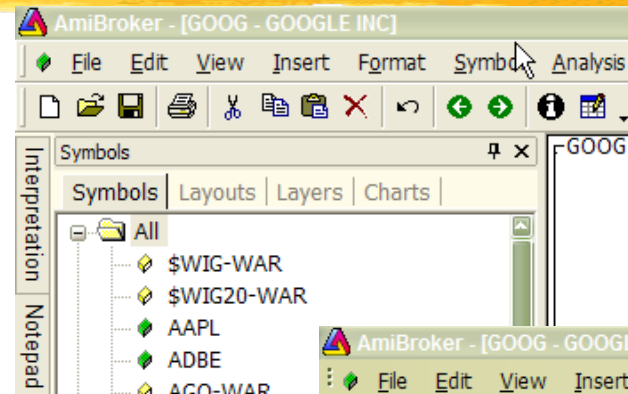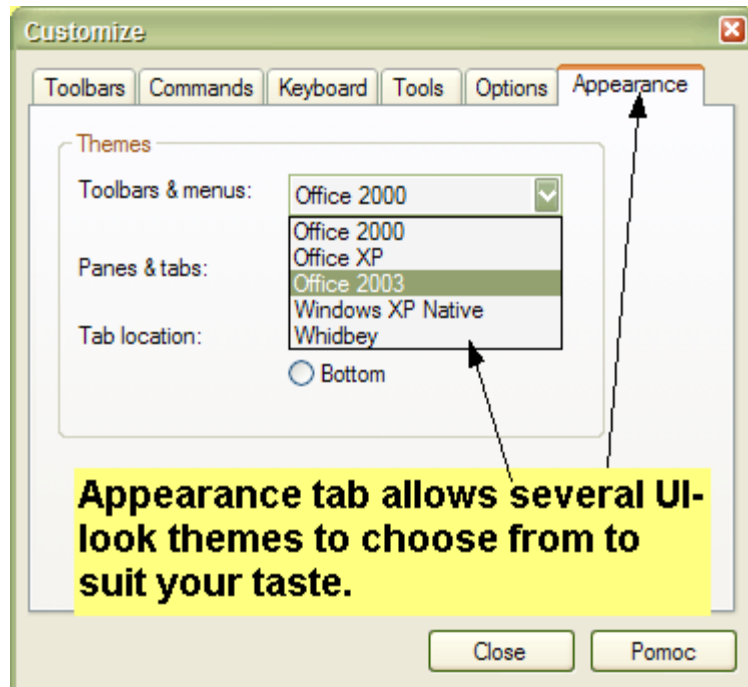
Office 2000 theme

Office 2003 theme

Whidbey theme
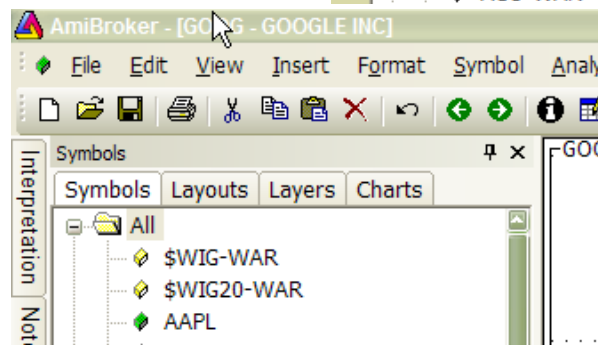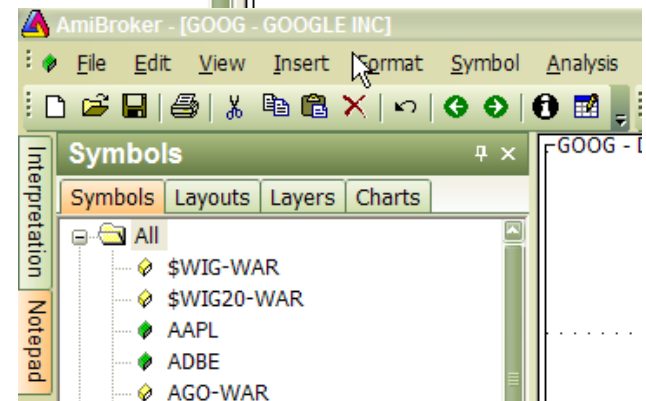
Appearance tab allows several UI-look themes to choose from to suit your taste.

Performance improvements

- AFL engine: basic array arithmetic and logical operations upto 480% faster (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, modulus, AND/OR/NOT)

- Database: much faster handling of very long intraday data (>100000 quotes per symbol)

- startup time decreased 10x (on low end machines from 10s to below 1 second)

Charting improvements

- 16 million colors in charts (also in AA) ColorRGB/ColorHSB

- new chart styles - 'cloud' chart

- Xshift feature added to Plot() allowing displaced plots

- auto-wrap of chart title

- Y axis can now be scaled in fractions

Charting improvements (cont)

- background color control from formula level

- new PlotText function

Charting: New 'cloud' style and true color palette
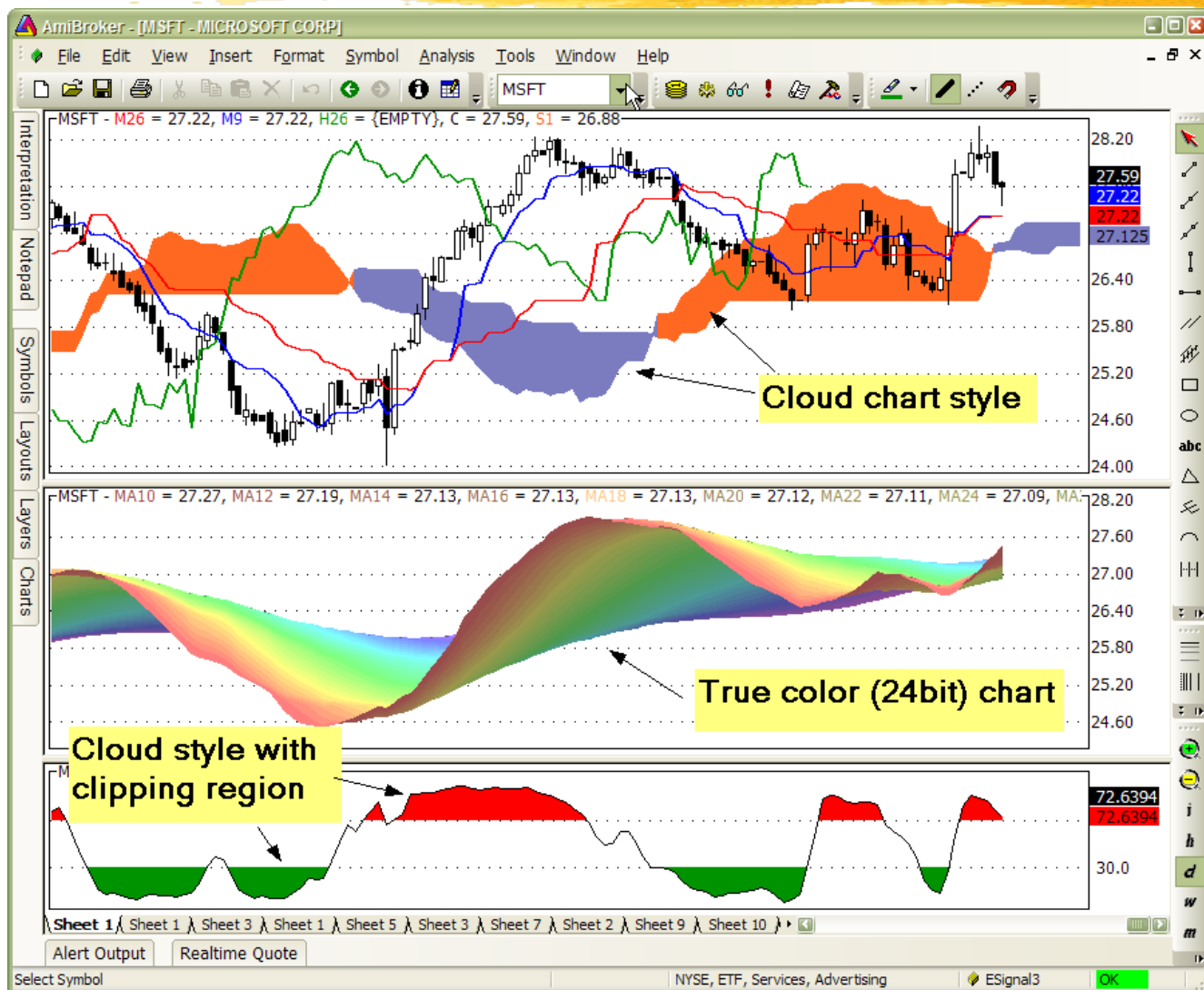
Charting: X-shift and title auto-wrap
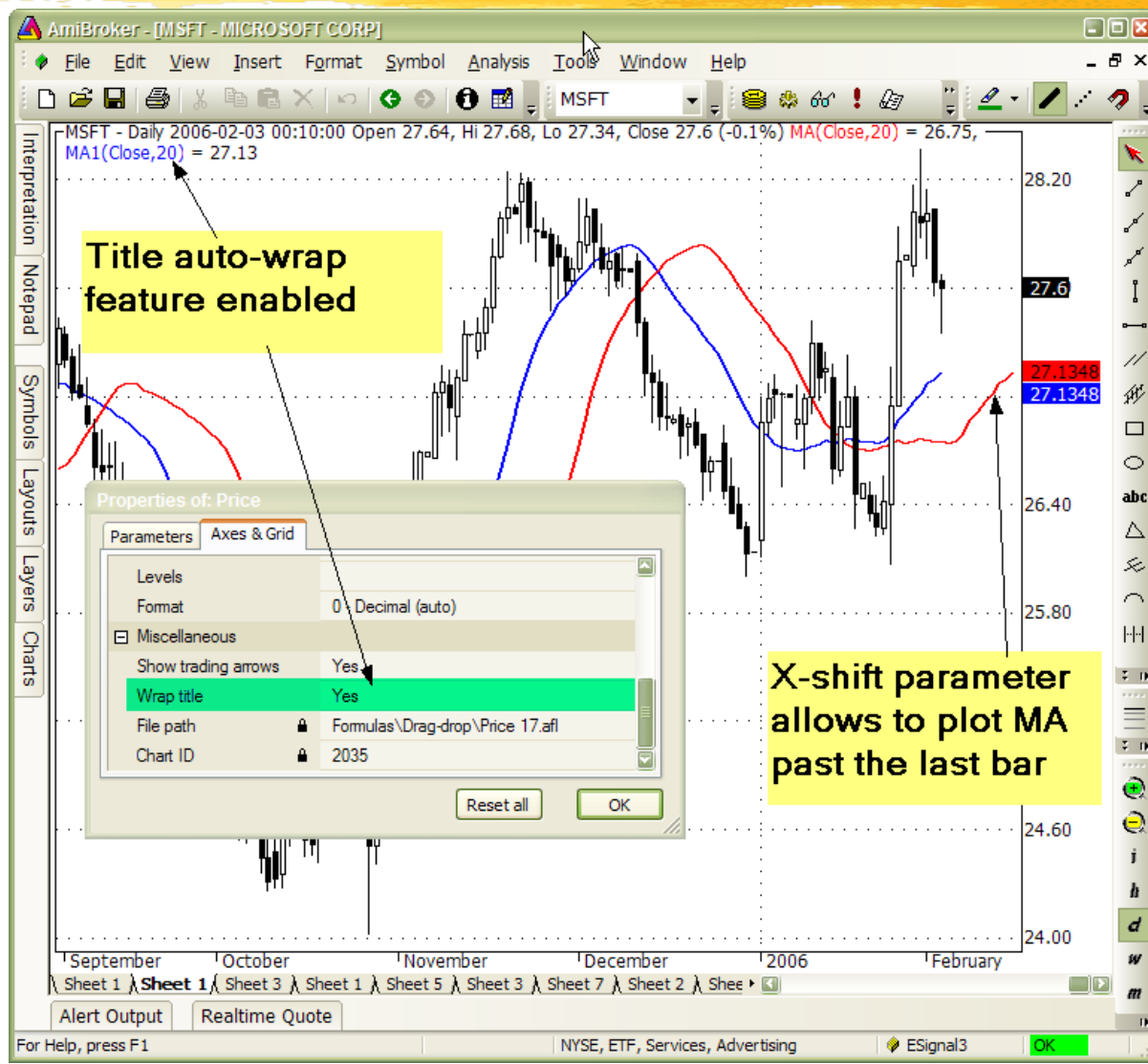
Charting: Background color & Y-axis in fractions
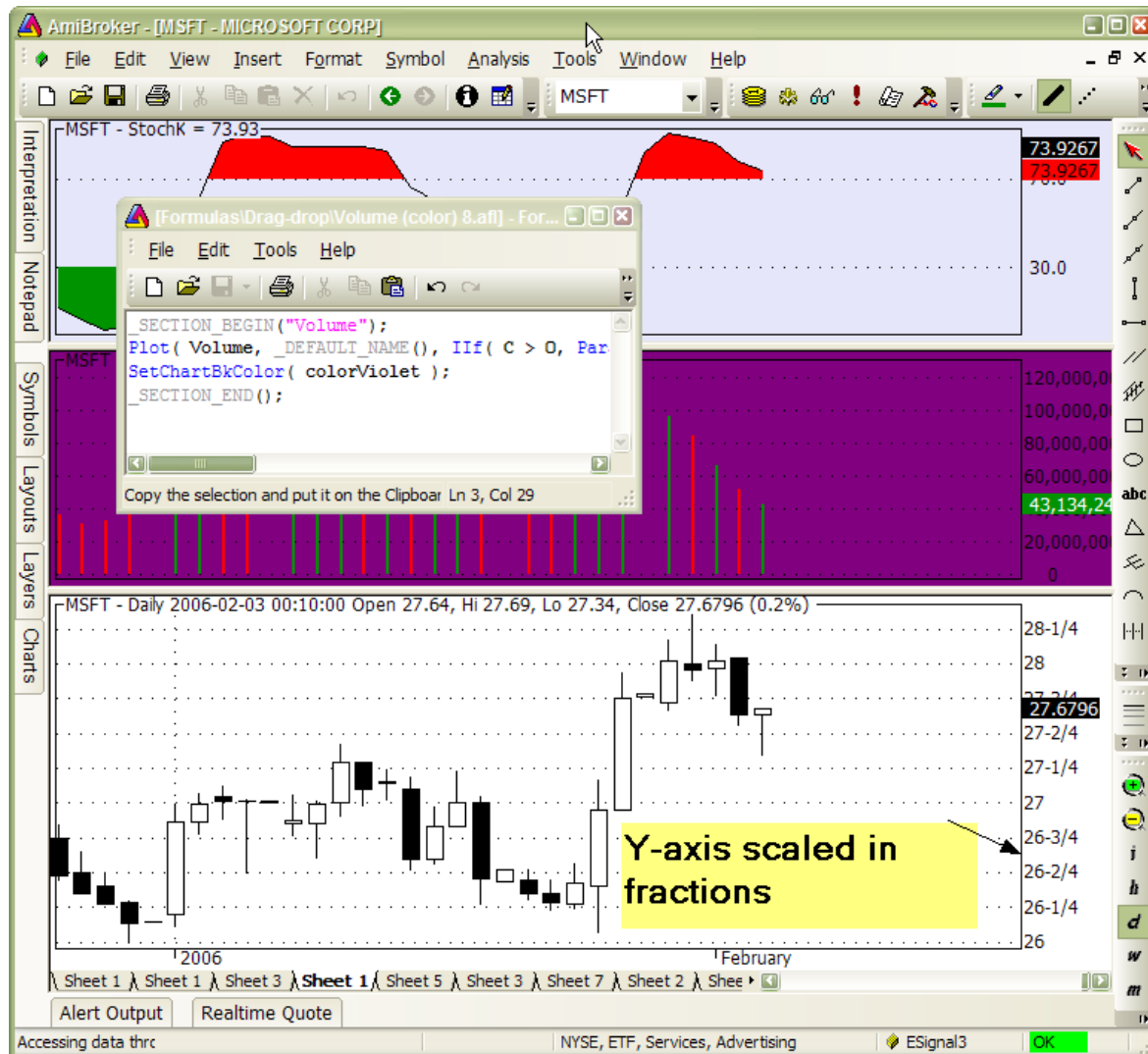
Charting: New PlotText() function
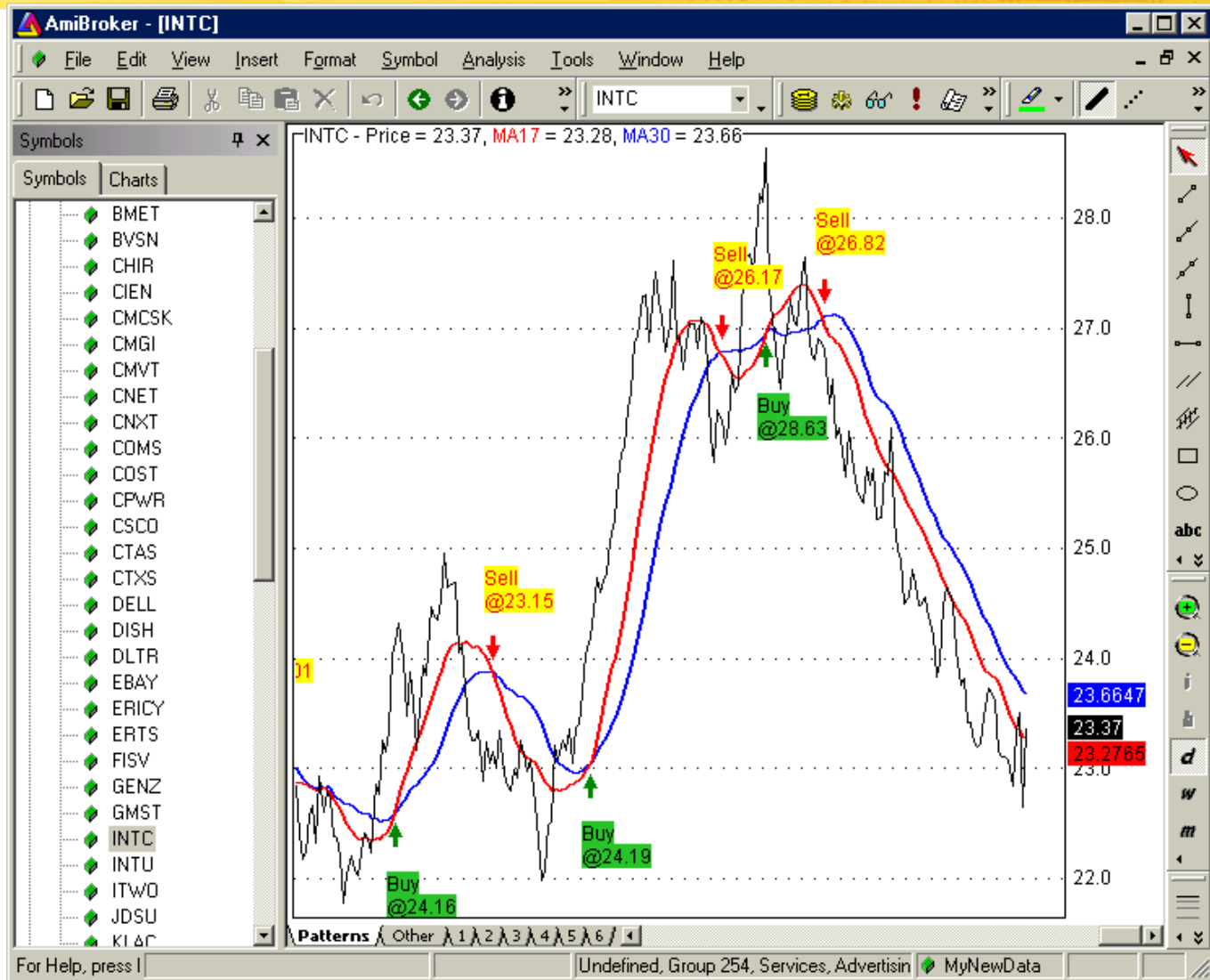
AFL improvements / new functions

▌ AddToComposite support for custom backtest

▌ new hyperbolic functions: tanh, sinh, cosh

▌ StrToUpper, StrToLower

▌ GetRTDataForeign

▌ GetCursorXPosition/GetCursorYPosition

▌ DateTimeToStr/StrToDateTime

▌ TimeFrameMode

▌ AlmostEqual

OLE automation improvements

- New object: Window (ActiveWindow)

- new function allowing automatic/batch saving charts in PNG/GIF format (allows easy web publications) - ExportImage

- other new functions: MoveWindow, SelectedTab, LoadTemplate, SaveTemplate, ZoomToRange

Backtester improvements

▊ Custom backtest procedures fully support multiple positions on the same symbol

▊ Reports now include custom parameters

Real-time functionality improvements

▌ new Interactive Brokers plugin featuring 30 / 180 DAY 1-minute bar backfill

▌ new IQFeed plugin with much improved stability thanks to IQAPI 4.1.x.x

▌ new Easy alerts feature (coming soon)

▌ user-definable filtering in Times&Sales window (coming soon)

Other improvements

- TimeFrame functionality: new compression: N-Volume bars

- ASCII importer improvements: import of tick data

- Import wizard allows easy entering of extra commands, file dialogs allow now upto 20000 files to be selected at once

64 bit technology (AMD x64 / Intel EMT64)

- AmiBroker is first among technical analysis platforms to offer 64 bit versions now

- AmiBroker and AmiQuote source code was updated to fully conform with 64 bit (x64) technology, while keeping compatibility with 32 bit so BOTH versions are produced from the same source code base.

Benefits of 64 bit version:

▌ on average 25% faster execution

▌ huge physical memory supported - upto 1 TB (terabyte) - that's 1024 gigabytes

▌ huge addressable (virtual) memory - upto 16 TB

▌ ready for the future

Disadvantages of 64 bit version:

▌ runs only on 64 bit version of Windows (currently Windows XP Pro x64, Windows 2003 x64)

▌ requires 64 bit CPU (Athlon 64, Intel EMT64)

▌ loads only 64 bit DLLs - so all old plugins need to be recompiled to 64 bit

64-bit: Current availability

- AmiBroker v4.77 Std/Pro x64 - now

- AmiQuote v1.82 x64 - now

- 64 bit plugins:
  - IB (Interactive Brokers) - now
  - MS (Metastock) - March 30
  - DDE - March 30
  - QT (QuoteTracker) - March 30

64-bit: Where can I get it?

- There is a AmiBroker 4.77 x64 BETA version available now for download from:

  http://www.amibroker.com/x64/

  Again: it requires 64 bit processor AND 64 bit Windows.

64-bit: What to do with old data vendor sw?

- There are lots of programs (like FastTrack) that are 32 bit only now and that may or may not move to 64 bit in near future.

- Best solution: convince data vendor to release 64 bit API :-)

- Possible workaround: 64bit DLL /32bit EXE bridge communicating with 64 bit AmiBroker using TCP/IP

Summary

▌ New major upgrade of AmiBroker brings some key improvements and opens it for a new 64 bit technology setting new standards for technical analysis software

▌ If you are buying a new machine anytime near, make sure to buy 64 bit capable CPU AND 64 bit of Windows (it will run all your 32 bit programs BUT… if you have ANY 16 bit program that you use it will NOT run on Win64)

Future improvements

- Multi-threaded optimizer
- HoldMinBars feature in rotational backtester
- New account manager (multiple acc.)
- Layout sharing
- AFL code wizard
- new design of automatic analysis/formula edit
- On-line knowledge base
- On-line suggestion tracker with voting capability

Multi-threaded optimizer

- Support for multiple-core / multiple-CPU computers by using multiple-threading in optimizer.

- Optimization speed increase for dual-core CPU can reach 2x

HoldMinBars feature in rotational backtester

- per-symbol user definable minimum number of bars to hold position

- per-symbol user definable penalty in percent for early exit

Layout sharing

- XML-based export of formulas/layouts to allow people to share their layouts in an easy way

AFL code wizard

▎ The user interface driven tool for creation of AFL formulas for people without coding expericence.

New design of automatic analysis/formula edit

- A kind of "integrated environment" for AFL development with tabbed interface allowing multiple editor window, multiple AA result lists.

On-line services

▮ Knowledge base - categorized / searchable database of answers to many common questions that arise frequently (the idea is to post answer to the knowledge base, instead to the mailing list - on the mailing list I would give only the link to the KB article)

▮ suggestion tracker with voting capability

Thank You

For more information visit:

http://www.amibroker.com