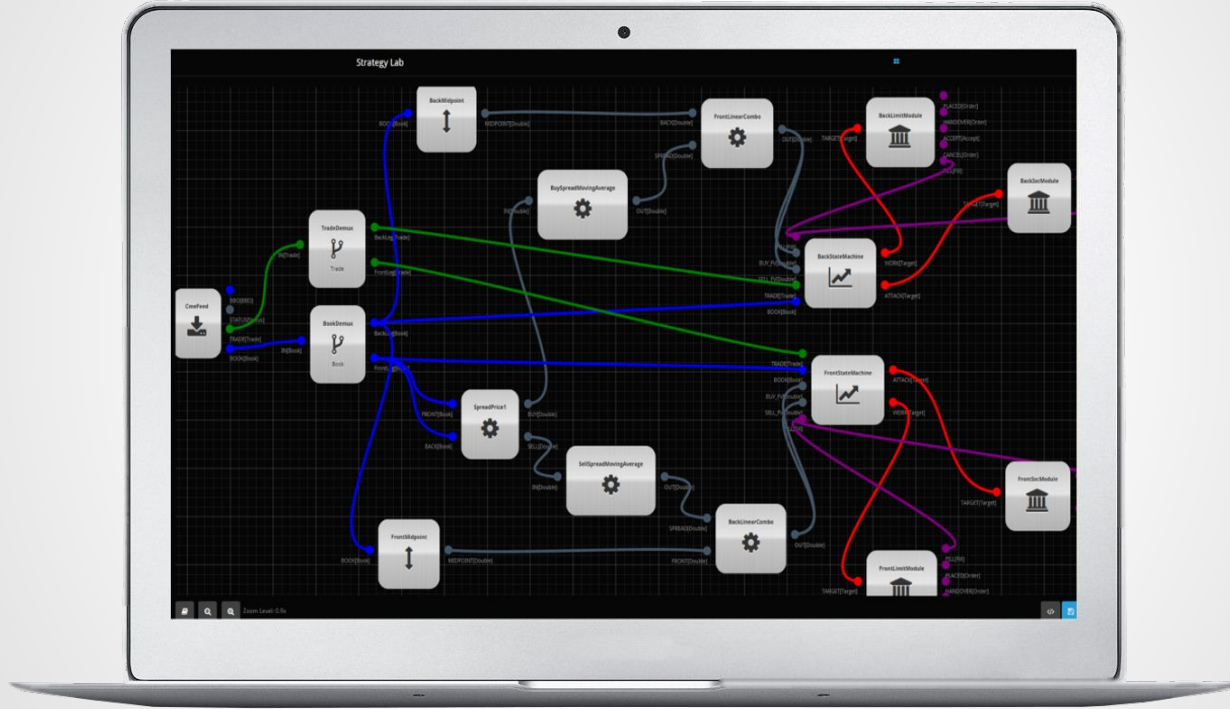


StrategyLab



Flow Based Strategy Development

Motivation

Along with the Attila platform, we inherited upwards of 75 different strategies. Each strategy a unique snowflake which at one point required a large team of dev, ops and trading talent to create, run and maintain. The strategies all had unique database schemas and architectural requirements. Most of these strategies were surely started by a “copy and paste” process where an existing strategy would be copied and modified. This practice resulted in a huge amount of code duplication, and “reinventing the wheel” at each strategy iteration. Furthermore, the primary command and control interface employed was SSH (read black-box); which although ubiquitous and dependable, is difficult to present to the average trader as a realistic user interface.

Fortunately, most of the strategy scalability and maintainability issues were propagated by the individual trading teams, and the core architecture team did a good job at maintaining a balance between performance and abstraction. Observing the multitude of strategy iterations available, it is difficult to think that there isn't a better way!

The StrategyLab Approach

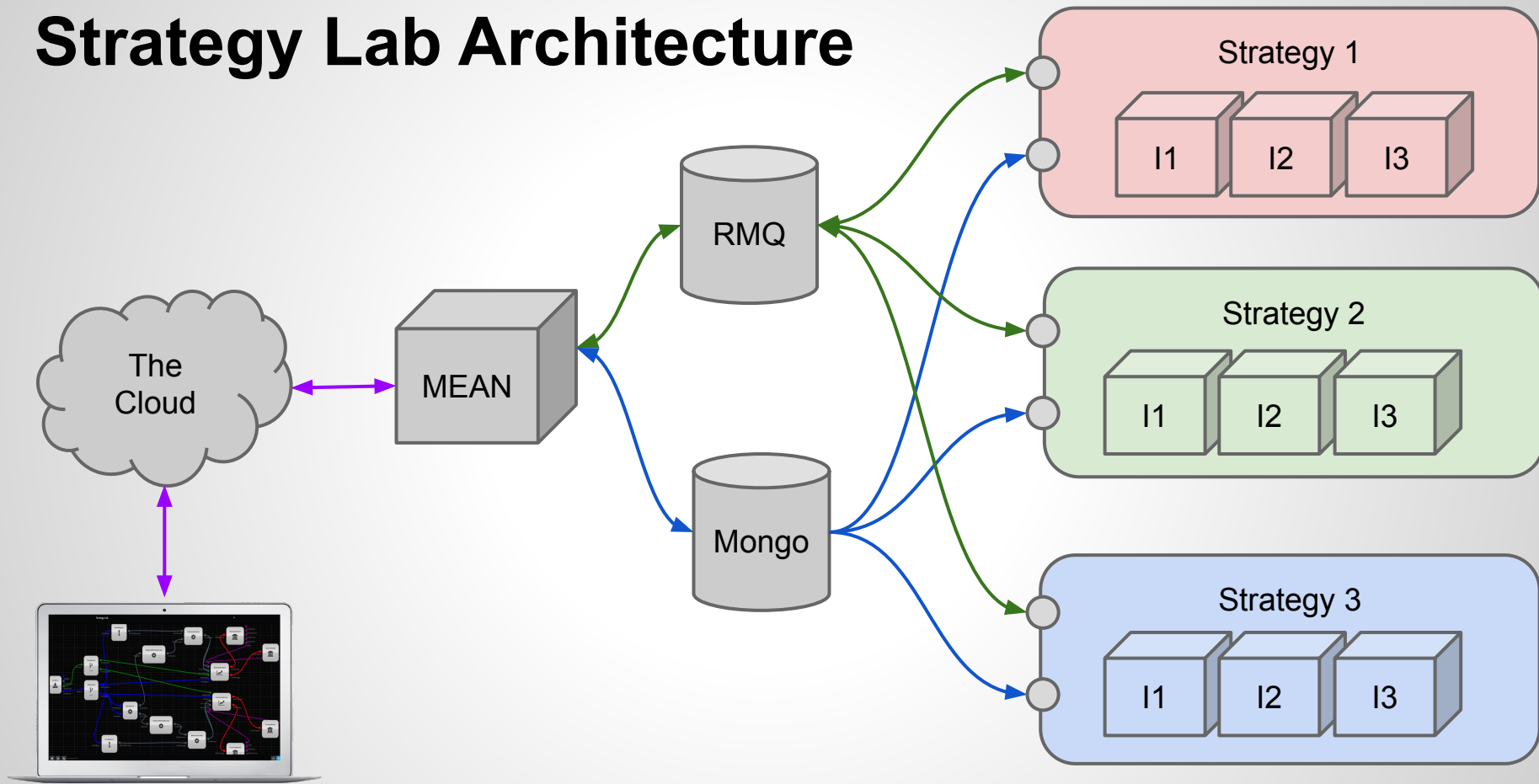
With the development of strategy lab, we address the aforementioned difficulties by adhering to the following principles:

- Don't Repeat Yourself.
- Create a graphical flow based “Domain Specific Language” which encapsulates the fundamental components found throughout Attila strategy development.
- Maintain the highest possible performance in communication between components.
- Fully leverage the existing core Attila platform and Boost Python scripting interface.

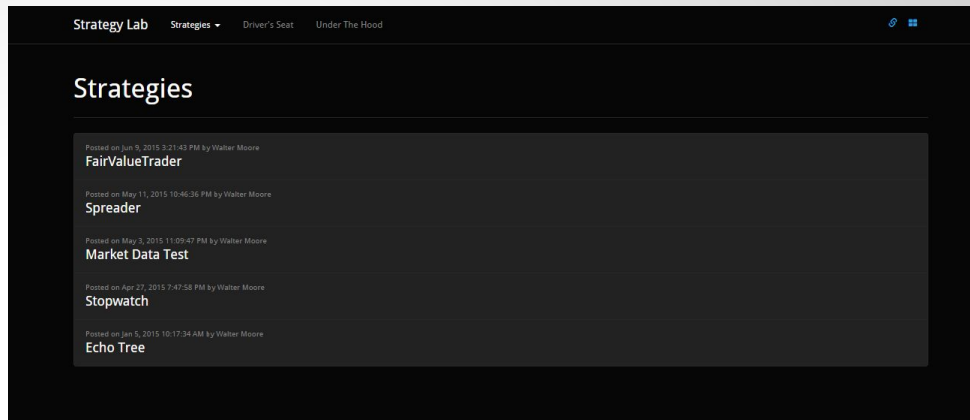
The StrategyLab Advantage

- Visually design strategies before having to write a single line of code.
- Safely change message routing between components without compilation while maintaining type safety.
- Code generation takes care of a substantial portion of strategy boilerplate.
- Super easy strategy replication.
- Not limited to trading system design. We can create DSLs for any environment.
- Easily control many instances of a strategy colocated around the world from a single screen.
- Cloud based, yet top of class performance.

Strategy Lab Architecture



What is a strategy?



- A set of connected components (i.e. a graph).
- Definitely not limited to trading.

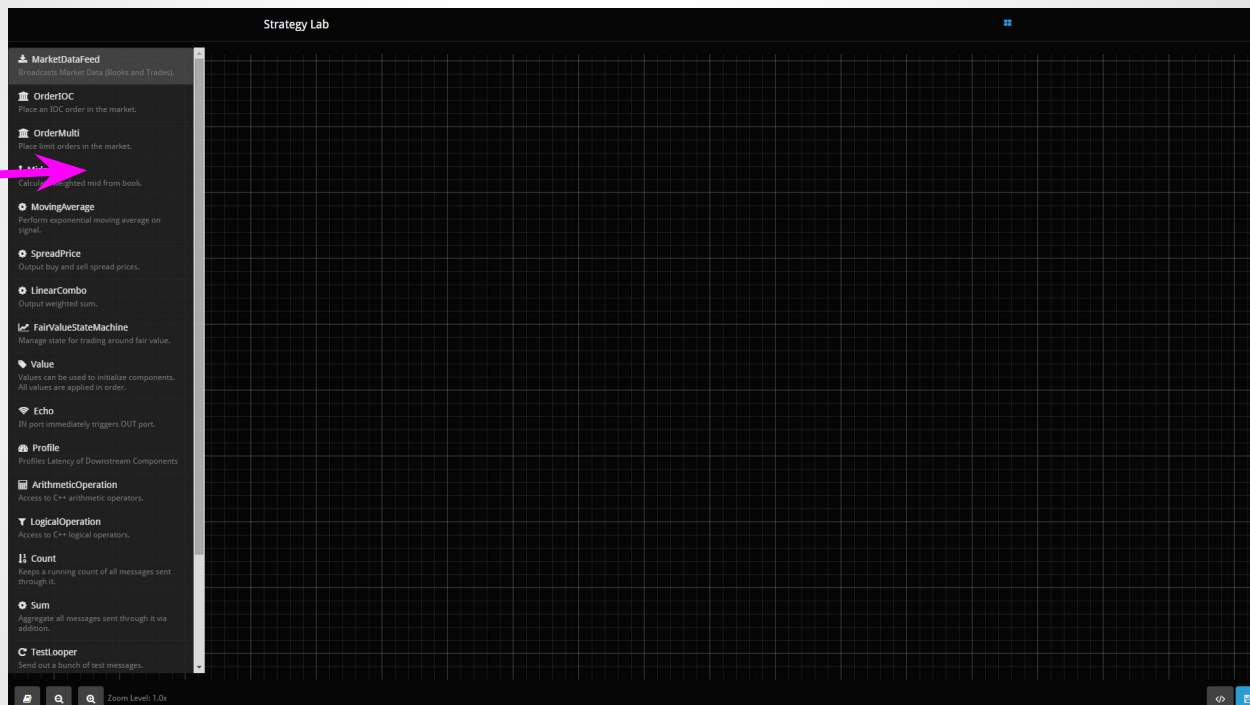
Under The Hood

- Surface for creating and manipulating components and connections.
- Generic port types.
- Port groups allow for an adjustable number of in/out ports (e.g. 1 per ticker symbol).

Clean Slate

Drag and drop
components
from the
library onto
the graph
surface.

Zoom In/Out,
Toggle
Library Panel



Import /
Export, Save

Where does the library come from?

```
{  
  "PORT_TYPES": [...],  
  "COMPONENT_TYPES": [...],  
  "GENERIC_COMPONENT_TYPES": [...]  
}
```

Central to the StrategyLab system is the library.json file. This file designates port (i.e. message) and component types. From this file, StrategyLab knows how to render components dropped onto the graph surface. The StrategyLab back end also uses library.json to generate all the base classes and python exports for components.

Example Port Type Definition:

```
{  
  "module": "Finance",  
  "header": "messages.hpp",  
  "name": "Book",  
  "operators": false,  
  "export": true,  
  "testValue": "Book() ",  
  "type": "Book",  
  "color": "Blue"  
}
```

Port types tell the StrategyLab front end what color these connections should be. The back end uses port types to generate code for all generic realizations.

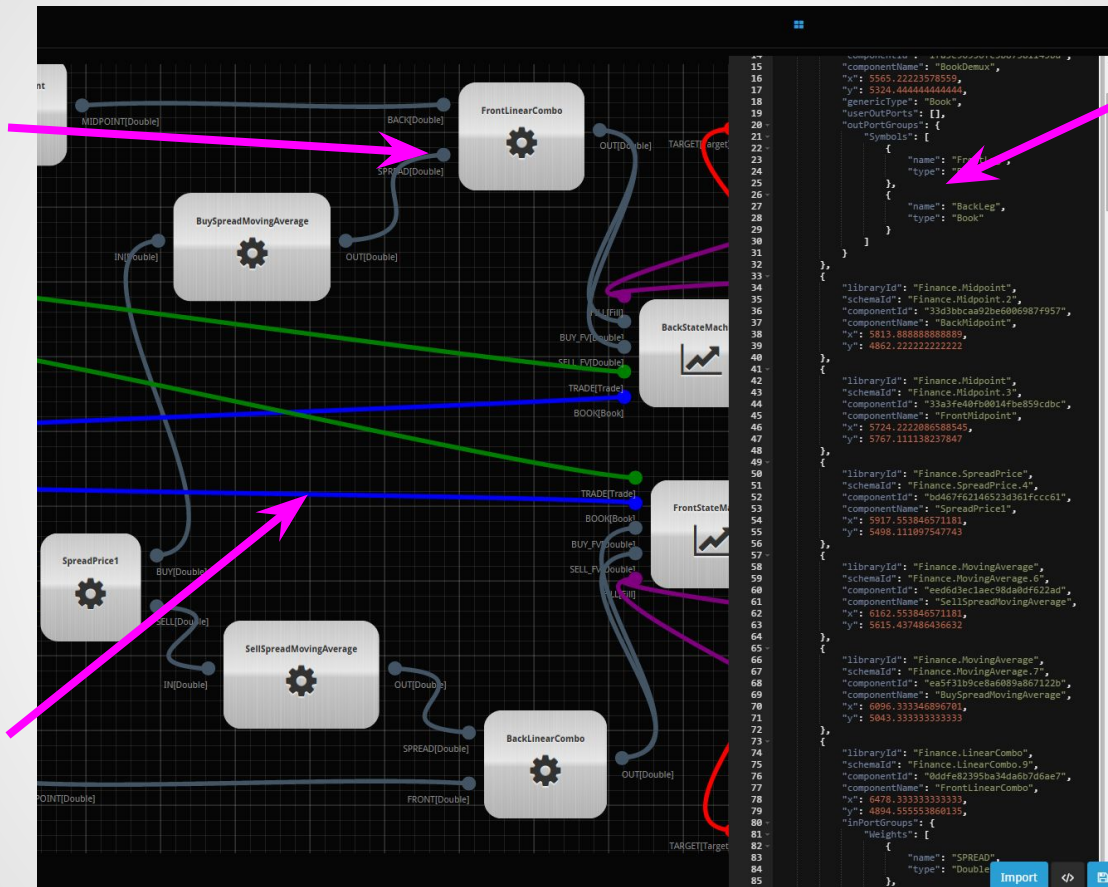
Example Component Definition

Component definitions tell the StrategyLab front end what ports it needs to render, as well as some metadata for user experience. Parameters accessible on the “Driver’s Seat” page are defined via exportFields, inPortGroups or outPortGroups.

```
{
  "module": "Finance",
  "name": "MarketDataFeed",
  "type": "MarketDataFeed",
  "header": "marketDataFeed.hpp",
  "description": "Broadcasts Market Data (Books and Trades).",
  "image": "download",
  "inPorts": [],
  "outPorts": [
    {
      "name": "STATUS",
      "type": "Status"
    }, {
      "name": "BBO",
      "type": "BBO"
    }, {
      "name": "BOOK",
      "type": "Book"
    }, {
      "name": "TRADE",
      "type": "Trade"
    }
  ],
  "exportDefs": [
    {
      "cppName": "registerInstrument",
      "pythonName": "RegisterInstrument"
    }
  ]
}
```

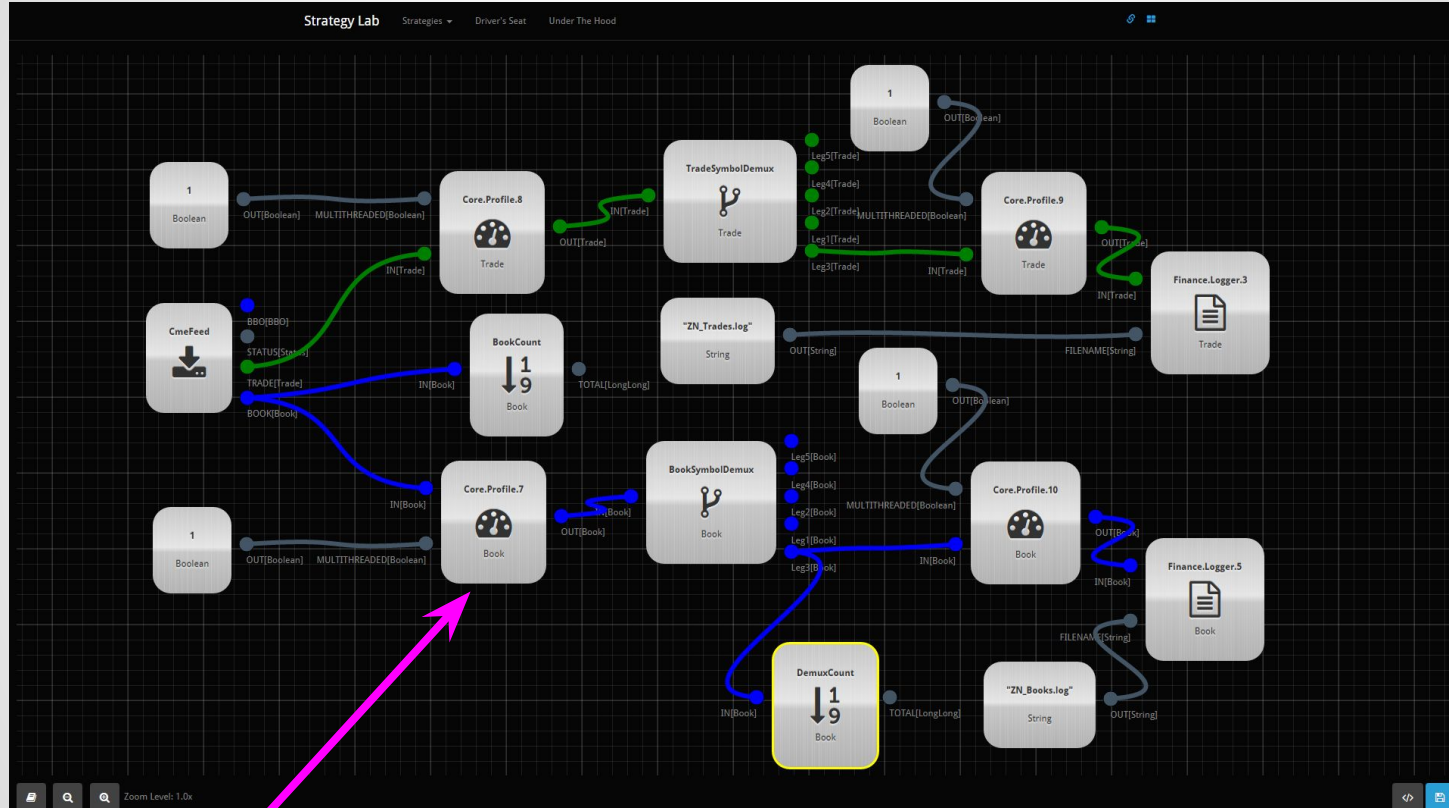
Drag and drop connections between component ports.

Port and connection color indicate message type.

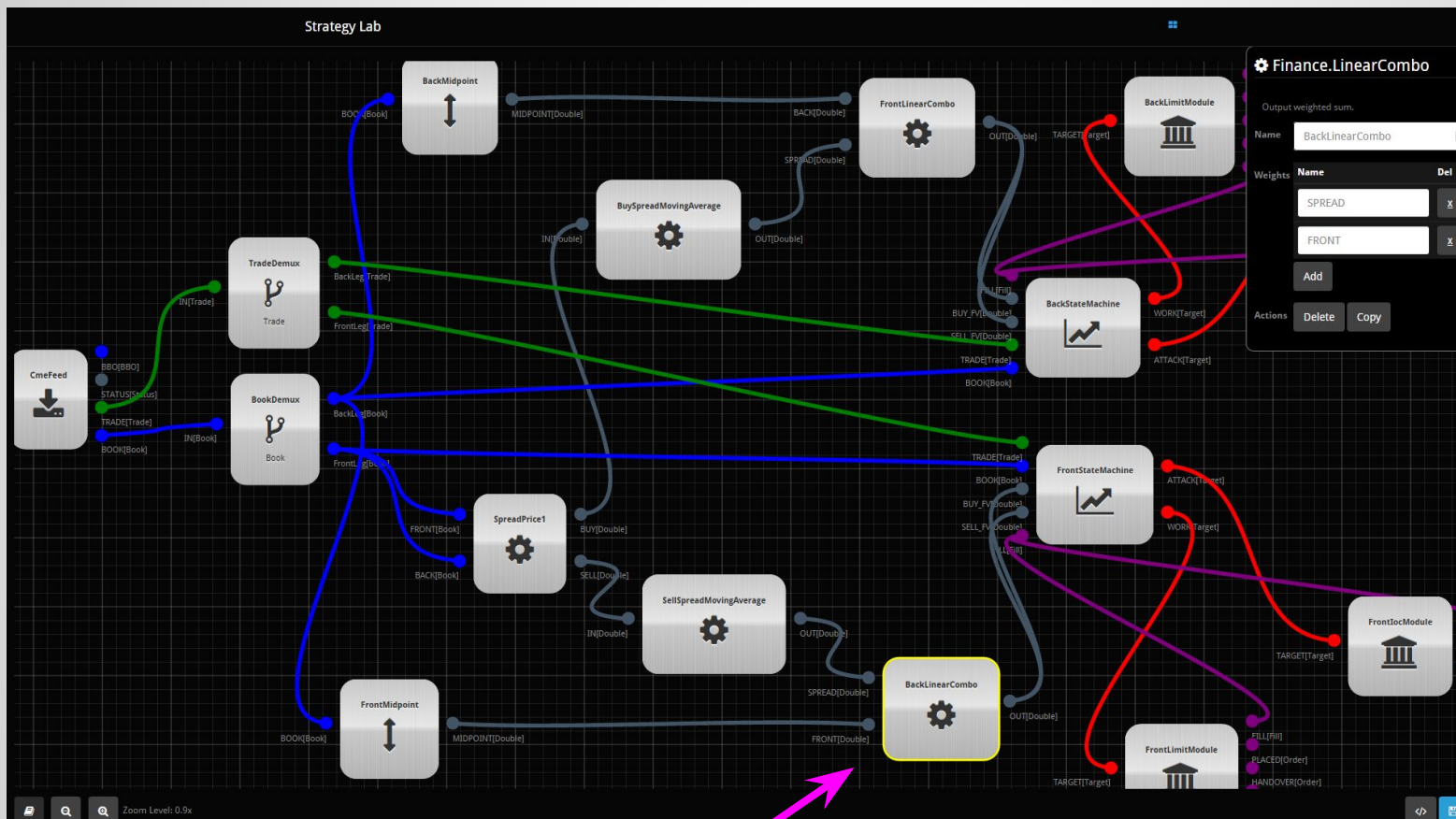


Import or export graph as a plain text JSON object.

Market Data Logging Example



Profiling Component For Inline Sampling



Finance.LinearCombo

Output weighted sum.

Name:

Weights	Name	Del
	SPREAD	X
	FRONT	X

Actions:

Port groups allow user defined filtering by symbol, etc.

Select Component

Driver's Seat

- Instance configuration.
- Python console.
- Command and control.
- Dashboard.

Register StrategyLab runtime instance with this info:

The screenshot shows the StrategyLab interface with a central panel for registering a runtime instance. A pink arrow points to the 'FairValueTrader' title bar. The registration form contains the following fields:

- Strategy ID: 55774ad75965da44161cf10d
- Instance ID: 3cf97a14908952e2fba12745

On the left, the 'Instances' panel lists 'FairValueTrader.0' with 'Info' and 'Delete' buttons, and an 'Add' button below. On the right, the 'Component Parameters' panel is expanded, showing parameters for 'SpreadPrice1', 'BuySpreadMovingAverage', 'SellSpreadMovingAverage', and 'FrontLinearCombo' (which includes a 'Weights' table).

Name	Key	Data
SPREAD	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
BACK	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

At the bottom left, there are three icons for toggling panels. At the bottom right, there is a blue 'Save' button.

Instance Parameters:

Toggle Panels:

Save:

A simple StrategyLab runtime:

```
import graphtools as strategy_lab_graph
import consoletools as strategy_lab_console

strategyId = "54aab91ecaef24bc05d27f1a"
instanceId = "fd6673b0a36567316afb4bd8"

echoTreeGraph = strategy_lab_graph.getMongoGraph(strategyId, 'library.json', instanceId)
strategy_lab_console.start(strategyId, instanceId, locals=dict(globals(), **locals()));
```

Each instance has its own python console, set of parameters and (todo) dashboard.

The screenshot displays the StrategyLab interface. On the left, under the 'Instances' tab, there are three entries: 'Market Data Test.0', 'Market Data Test.1', and 'Market Data Test.2'. Each entry has an 'Online' status and 'Info' and 'Delete' buttons. Below these is an 'Add' button. The central area is a large python console for instance '173L', showing a series of graph component map calls and a directory listing. At the bottom of this console is a command prompt prompt '>_'. On the right, the 'Component Parameters' panel lists several components with their respective data types and values: 'TradeLogProfileThreading' (Data [Boolean], 1), 'BookDemuxProfileThreading' (Data [Boolean], 1), 'TradeLogFileNames' (Data [String], TradeLog), 'BookLogFileName' (Data [String], BookLog), 'TradeDemuxProfileThreading' (Data [Boolean], 1), and 'BookLogProfileThreading' (Data [Boolean], 1). A pink arrow points to the command prompt at the bottom of the console.

Fully interactive python console allows command line control of the sandboxed StrategyLab runtime environment.

Instances

Market Data Test.0

Online:

Info DeleteAdd

Symbol ▾

Best Bid

Best Ask

Last

Position

Search:

Coinbase

BTC-USD 

Bittrex

BC-CLOAK BC-DOGE BC-DRK BC-KEY BC-LTC BC-RZR BC-XDQ BC-XMR BTC-2015 BTC-888 BTC-NEXUS BTC-SMBR BTC_VDO BTC-AAA BTC-ABY BTC-ACoin BTC-AERO BTC-AM BTC-ANC BTC-APEX BTC-AR 

0L

>>> graph.instanceMapBy{Name["DemuxCount"],Total}

23L

>>> graph.instanceMapBy{Name["DemuxCount"],Total}

111L

>>> graph.disable()

>_



Search for instruments here and add them to the currently selected instance.

Toggle Instrument Selector

Select an instance instrument in order to populate book depth

The screenshot displays the Strategy Lab interface with a dark theme. A pink arrow points to the 'Best Ask' column header in the 'ZBMS' table, indicating the selection of an instrument to populate book depth.

Instances Panel:

- Market Data Test.0
- Online: [Info] [Delete]
- [Add]

Table:

Symbol	Best Bid	Best Ask	Last	Position
ZBMS	ToDo	ToDo	ToDo	ToDo
ZNMS	ToDo	ToDo	ToDo	ToDo

Order Book (ZNMS):

Qty	ZNMS	B-bid
	126.812500	
	126.796875	4.00
	126.781250	55.00
	126.765625	
	126.750000	
	126.734375	
	126.718750	
	126.703125	22.00
	126.687500	
	126.671875	
	126.656250	
	126.640625	
	126.625000	
56.00	126.609375	
55.00	126.593750	
62.00	126.578125	
	126.562500	
22.00	126.546875	
	126.531250	

Code Editor:

```
0L  
  
>>> graph.instanceMapBy{Name["DemuxCount"],Total}  
  
23L  
  
>>> graph.instanceMapBy{Name["DemuxCount"],Total}  
  
111L  
  
>>> graph.disable()  
>_
```

Component Parameters:

- TradeLogProfileThreading**
Data [Boolean]
1
- BookDemuxProfileThreading**
Data [Boolean]
1
- TradeLogFileName**
Data [String]
Trade.log
- BookLogFileName**
Data [String]
Book.log
- TradeDemuxProfileThreading**
Data [Boolean]
1
- BookLogProfileThreading**
Data [Boolean]
1

Development Queue

Short Term:

- Fair Value Trader
- JSON component configs.
- Unify instrument models.
- Python based components.
- RMQ component.
- Market View integration.
- Queued/threaded components.
- General purpose chart.

Long Term:

- Split out library modules.
- Component library editor.
- Dynamic message types.
- Store script in DB and edit from SL.
- Dashboard Generation.
- State machine editor.