At least the big difference between **Backtest** and **Forward-Test** is noticeable for system developers when they activate a system after a successful development in Live-Trading. Quite often the excellent performance bend in **Backtest** turns out to be a completely unpleasant bend in the live-operation. So it could happen that a profitable system becomes a loss –maker. We have had this experience as well.

Well, what are the reasons for this?

1. MetaTrader doesn't recognize tick-data

All the developed steps and decisions are basing on the available and historic data if you are developing a system. But the available data are not tick-data. Many developers believe that they are developing on the basis of historic real passed benchmark data. That's not the case because MetaTrader calculates Pseudo-Ticks and how they could have been on the basis of 1minute candle with the appropriate **High/Low/Open/Close**.

Even **Scalping** systems which appear virtually fantastic in **Backtest**, fail regularly on this fact. Although of course we are developing our own systems on this basis of available data. Then, after gathering the appropriate forward-test data we either make improvements on that system or decide to reject it.

2. All **Backtests** are based off the data which had been loaded by **Metaquotes Server**!

It doesn't matter which **Broker** you got. The data in the development is based on the provided data by **Metaquotes**. The „correct" data is not available at **Forex-Markt** but every **Broker / Dealing-Desk** makes his own prices or rather conveys each prices of the associated banks. In reality this leads to the phenomenon "3 Broker - 3 exchange rates". A system which delivers in **Forward-Test** at Broker 1 x trades and at Broker 2 y trades is going to deliver at **Backtest** a totally different number of trades.

3. They work with an established **Spread** in **Backtest**

The **Spread** each Broker has looks, quite often, completely different and is even swaying.