

Macro for Automatic file saving in LabChart version 7 or 8 – no video

Introduction

**** These instructions will not work if recording video in LabChart. Please contact Kaha Sciences for further instructions if you wish to record video. support@kahasciences.com**

When recording data from telemetry studies the files can get very large very quickly. The problem with large files is that they can be slow to work with and analyze in LabChart. A macro can be used to automatically record data for a set period of time, save the data and start a new file before starting a new recording.

The macro below saves the data and starts a new file every 12 hours with the date and time that recording is started appended to the end of each filename.

These instructions are written to accompany the LabChart setting file:

- *Rat BP & ECG with Macro - no video.adiset* – LabChart settings file containing the macro

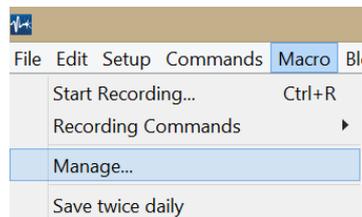
Macros in LabChart are stored as part of individual data files rather than as part of the LabChart program itself. To use the macro your LabChart file must have it available. The easiest way to do this is to append a LabChart settings file containing the macro you wish to use.

1. Prepare or open a LabChart file which has the data channels set up and ready to record your data.
2. Go to File> Append... and choose the file *Rat BP & ECG with Macro - no video.adiset*
3. You will be asked if you wish to add macros. Click OK
4. You now need to customize the macro for your use following the instructions below.

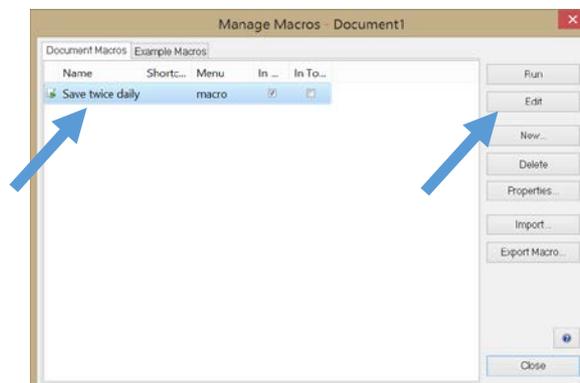
The macro

The macro is called "Save_twice_daily". It should now be listed under the Macro menu of LabChart. Before you run the macro you will need to customize the file path and names for your PC and experiment.

Go to Macro > Manage...



Select the *Save_twice_daily* macro and click Edit



The text of the macro is below. The green text lines are comments and do not actually run as commands.

To prepare the macro for use you must change the highlighted sections to match your PC username (delete the []) and the filename you wish to use. It is recommended to leave the underscore _ at the end of your filename to give a separation between the name and the date and time that are automatically added to the filename.

To test the macro, change the RecordSeconds=43200 (12 hours) value to 10 seconds and check the files save as expected. *Troubleshooting: If a dialog box opens asking for a filename then you have not changed the [UserName] correctly. Check the name and check that the square brackets are deleted.*

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Sub Save_twice_daily ( )

'This macro will automatically save your LabChart data after a chosen period of
recording, clear the data and start a new file.
'Each filename is appended with the date and time the recording was started.
'Make sure to check the path, filename and recording period below.

num=1

'Change the line below to the appropriate path and filename for your data.
'You must change [UserName] to the user logged in (make sure to delete the [ & ])
'Change BaseFilename to what you wish to call your data files. The date and time will
be appended to each file after the underscore
'Example where user is circul_admin and filename is Rat1401 with data being saved to a
folder called Rat1401 within the LabChart Gallery My Data folder.
'filename="C:\Users\circul_admin\Documents\LabChart Gallery\My
Data\Rat1401\Rat1401_.adicht"

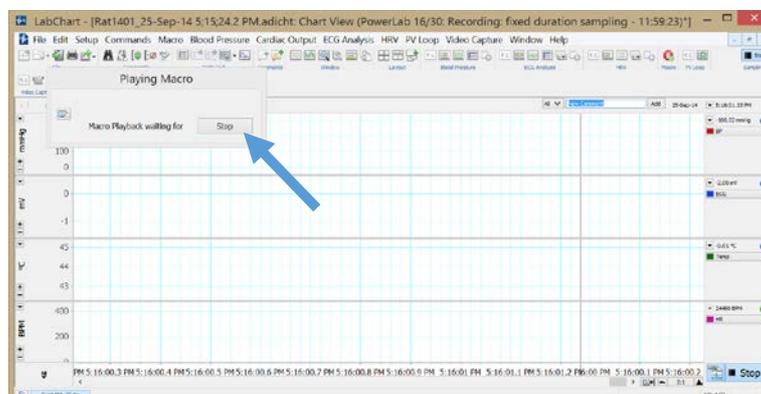
filename="C:\Users\[UserName]\Documents\LabChart Gallery\My Data\BaseFilename_.adicht"

'Set the recording period in seconds e.g. 12 hours = 43200
RecordSeconds=43200
do while num>0
    Call Doc.SaveAsAdvanced (filename, "{FA80FC3E-8409-4053-BEB7-1ACE168EE24F}-0", 12)
    Call Doc.StartSampling (RecordSeconds, True, kSMSampleForPeriod)
    Call Doc.Save ( )
    Call Doc.SelectAll ("Chart View")
    Call Doc.Clear ("Chart View")
loop
End Sub

```

After you have made the edits to the macro, close the macro editing dialog (the changes will be saved automatically). Go to Macro>Save twice daily and the macro will start running.

When the macro is running a new window will appear called *Playing Macro* and in the LabChart title bar you will see the words *fixed duration sampling* followed by the time left in the current recording period. To stop the macro you need to click *Stop* in the *Playing Macro* window. Clicking the usual LabChart Stop button will only cause the macro to start saving to the next file.



It is recommended that you disable automatic window updates on your LabChart PC when running this macro as prompts to restart after update installation can cause problems with the macro and data saving.

Please contact support@kahasciences.com if you have any questions or comments regarding this macro.