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Fundamentals of Physiological Data Recording





Frazer Findlay CEO BIOPAC Systems, Inc.





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Agenda

- Data acquisition basics
- Sampling rate
- Amplifier gain
- Filtering
- Scaling/calibration
- Applying electrodes and transducers



Data acquisition basics

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What is an A/D converter?

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MP160

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Analog chart recorders and oscilloscopes





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The body as a battery – heart, brain, muscle





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Biopotential Signals

Heart – ECG Electrocardiogram Brain – EEG Electroencephalogram Brain – ERS Evoked Response Muscle – EMG Electromyogram Eyes – EOG Electrooculogram Stomach – EGG Electrogastrogram Transducer Signals Respiration – Respiratory Effort Transducer Temperature – Thermistor / Thermocouple Airflow – Pneumotachogram Force – Hand clench, Grip, Tissue Transducer Blood Pressure – BP cuff or continuous

Electrodermal – EDA Skin Conductance Level and Skin Conductance Response Impedance Cardiography – ICG stroke volume and cardiac output

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Sampling Rates

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Sample rate



- Great Data
- Hz = samples/second
- Why does sample rate matter?



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Sample rate too low





Sample rate



Not good for HRV studies or waveform analysis



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Signal	Amplitude	Frequency	
Heart Potential (ECG)	50 microvolts to 5 millivolts	.05-100Hz	
Brain Potential (EEG)	2 to 10 microvolts	1-100 Hz	
Muscle Potential (EMG)	20 microvolts to 10 millivolts	10 Hz to 2,000 Hz	
Electro-oculogram (EOG)	10 microvolts to 4 millivolts	0.1 -100 Hz	
Electro-gastrogram (EGG)	10 microvolts to 80 millivolts	0-1 Hz	



Two times the highest frequency component of a bandwidth limited signal

TIP: A good rule of thumb is to set the sampling rate to at least three to four times the highest frequency component of interest.

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Demonstration time



Audience Poll



Amplifier Gains

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BIOPAC Amplifiers







- Need to match the size of the signal
 - A smaller amplitude signal requires a higher gain
 - A larger amplitude signal can tolerate a lower gain



Demonstration time



Audience Poll



Filtering

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- High Pass, Low Pass, Band Pass, Band Stop, Comb Band Stop filtering
- AC vs. DC (let's use EDA as an example)
- Using FFT to identify frequencies



Demonstration time



Audience Poll



Scaling and Calibration

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- Transducer calibration
- Signal Scaling for viewing



Demonstration time

Applying Electrodes and Transducers



- Skin preparation
- Consider the subject and what they're doing
- Place electrodes and transducers to avoid artifact
- Tape leads and electrodes in place
- Test signals before recording
- Understand the signal you are recording



Lead Configuration



Lead	Polarity
Lead I	right arm (-) to left arm (+)
Lead II	right arm (-) to left leg (+)
Lead III	left arm (-) to left leg (+)



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Lead Configuration



If you record LEAD I and LEAD III, you can calculate LEAD II

LEAD I + LEAD III = LEAD II

Use the Expression calculation to calculate the 3rd Lead, plus the Augmented leads.



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aVR = (Lead I + Lead II)/2 aVL = (Lead I - Lead III)/2 = Lead I - ((Lead II)/2) aVF = (Lead II + Lead III)/2 = Lead II - ((Lead I)/2)



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Subject Preparation







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Fig. 5.2 Components of the ECG & Electrical and mechanical events of the cardiac cycle

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C	ECG OMPONENT	Measurement area	Represent	Duration (seconds)	Amplitude (millivolts)
Waves	P	begin and end on isoelectric line (baseline); normally upright in standard limb leads	depolarization of the right and left atria.	0.07 – 0.18	< 0.25
	QRS complex	begin and end on isoelectric line (baseline) from start of Q wave to end of S wave	depolarization of the right and left ventricles. Atrial repolarization is also part of this segment, but the electrical signal for atrial repolarization is masked by the larger QRS complex (see Fig. 5.2)	0.06 – 0.12	0.10 – 1.50
	т	begin and end on isoelectric line (baseline)	repolarization of the right and left ventricles.	0.10 - 0.25	< 0.5
Intervals	P-R	from start of P wave to start of QRS complex	time from the onset of atrial depolarization to the onset of ventricular depolarization.	0.12-0.20	
	Q-T	from start of QRS complex to end of T wave	time from onset of ventricular depolarization to the end of ventricular repolarization. It represents the refractory period of the ventricles.	0.32-0.36	
	R-R	from peak of R wave to peak of succeeding R wave	time between two successive ventricular depolarizations.	0.80	
Segments	P-R	from end of P wave to start of QRS complex	time of impulse conduction from the AV node to the ventricular myocardium.	0.02 – 0.10	
	S-T	between end of S wave and start of T wave	period of time representing the early part of ventricular repolarization during which ventricles are more or less uniformly excited.	< 0.20	
	T-P	from end of T wave to start of successive P wave	time from the end of ventricular repolarization to the onset of atrial depolarization.	0.0 - 0.40	

Notes: Tabled values represent results from a typical Lead II setup (wrist and ankle electrode placement) with Subject heart rate ~75 BPM. Values are influenced by heart rate and placement; values for torso placement would be different.

Q&A Session:

Please submit questions for our guest speakers through the Questions Window. While all questions cannot be answered during our live session, all will be reviewed and answered following our event.

-- Thank you for your participation



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Thank you for your time and attention!

