

Spreadsheet Interface Software for Biochrom Spectrophotometers

Introduction

This product provides a mechanism for collecting data from the serial port of a Biochrom spectrophotometer, with the appropriate cable, and importing it either directly into Excel or to a text box for cutting and pasting into other software packages.

Data is collected via a data capture utility and then exported.

Using the Spreadsheet Interface Software with a Biochrom Spectrophotometer

Its use with Biochrom Spectrophotometers is summarised below:

Biochrom Spectrophotometer	Can it be used?	Serial cable required	Comments
Libra S5 and S5H	Yes	80-2105-97	In Instrument Set-up > Communications, put Serial Port Device to PC On the software, Comms to 38,400 Baud and Export > Separator to Comma
Libra S11 and S12	Yes	80-2109-02	In Instrument Set up, put Serial to Yes Press . to output if Autoprint is off On the software, File > Set up > Comms to 19,200 Baud and Export > Separator to Tab
Libra S21 and S22	Yes	80-2105-97	Always output Press . to output if Autoprint is off On the software, File > Set up > Comms to 19,200 Baud and Export > Separator to Tab
Libra S32	Yes	80-2105-97	In Set up > User, put Print key function to "Output to Computer" and put Auto Print to On
Libra S32PC	No	Not applicable	Instrument control is via PC applications software
WPA CO7000 WPA CO7500 WPA CO8000	Yes	80-2115-29	On the software, File > Set up > Comms to 9,600 Baud and Export > Separator to Space
UV1101/03	Yes	80-2115-29	In Print Status, Select Output = PC On the software, Comms to 9600 Baud and Export > Separator to Comma
WPA S1000	Yes	80-2105-97	In Instrument Set-up > Communications, put Serial Port Device to PC On the software, File > Set up > Comms to 38,400 Baud and Export > Separator to Comma
WPA S2000	Yes	80-2115-29	Version 2.6 firmware required In Instrument Set-up > Communications, put Serial Port Device to PC On the software, File > Set up > Comms to 38,400 Baud and Export > Separator to Comma
WPA S2100	Yes	80-2115-29	In Instrument Set-up > Communications, put Serial Port Device to PC On the software, File > Set up > Comms to 38,400 Baud and Export > Separator to Comma

The software takes up approximately 700 Kbytes of disk space when installed. Proceed as follows to install the software:

1. Place disk into the appropriate disk drive of the PC
2. Select Start > Run, and type a:\setup
3. Press Next on the Welcome dialogue box and then enter your name and company name in the User Information dialogue box; press Next again
4. The default folder (directory) is C:\PROGRAM FILES \Biochrom Data Capture. To change this use Browse, otherwise press Next

Set up

Use the Configuration dialogue box to set up the system for the instrument being used.

Communications

- Specify the comms port of the PC that will be used
- Select the baud rate for communication with the instrument (see table).

Export

Automatic Export

This defines when the data is to be sent from the data capture utility to Excel.

The default of “disabled” means that after data collection, the Excel icon has to be pressed to export the captured data, and is recommended. If disabled, the new data option on Run has no effect.

Separator

This defines how the data is sent from the instrument (see table).

Start new data on

If several samples are being measured consecutively, this option enables them to be output to different excel files, worksheets on the same excel file, to right of the data just obtained (same file) or below the data just obtained (same file).

Formatting

Select if the tables of data are to be printed only or graphed afterward; default is graphed.

Decimal Separator

The decimal separator is language dependent and relates to the language used on the instrument; for example English uses a point (1.0), whereas French uses a comma (1,0).

Export Files

Template name

This allows the user to load up a previously defined default template whenever a new excel sheet is created, so that the exported data can be exported directly to a preferred format or included in a user created macro. **No support, advice or correspondence will be entered into with users who wish to use this software as part of their own, more complicated macro.**

Data Directory

This allows the user to define where the data should be saved.

Data Name

This option allows the Excel data filename to be defined. Furthermore, if the date field <D> or increment field <I> are selected, the current date and an incremental identifier, respectively, are added automatically to the filename defined by the user.

Use of Spreadsheet Interface Software

- Call it up by Start > Programs > Biochrom Data Capture > Bio DC
- File > Set up to change the parameters originally defined (see earlier)
- Run > Start to start collecting data output from the instrument
 - The new data option, when Excel is enabled, will direct results to Excel as defined in “Export > Start New Data on”.
- File > Export or Export icon to send data to Excel

Tips when using Excel 97 for Graphing

- A knowledge of Excel 97 is assumed; refer to the appropriate User Guide
- Graphing will be particularly useful if a scanning or kinetics experiment has been output to Excel.
- Select XY Scatter
- To change range of X axis, double click on it, select Scale and enter the Minimum and Maximum as required
- To change the graph background colour from grey, double click on it and set Pattern Area to None.