

**E.D.A.**  
**EVENT DETECTION AND ANALYSIS FOR PHYSIOLOGICAL SIGNALS**  
**Manual of Version 1.04**

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<sup>1</sup> ✓: indicates modifications to previous versions

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# 1 Basics

## Overview

The software package *E.D.A.* (Event Detection and Analysis)<sup>2</sup> analyses digitized physiological recordings<sup>3</sup>. It was originally designed to analyze the CODAS data format (for CODAS see chapter 5, p. 41) but it is also possible to use a binary or ASCII format. Significant events will be detected (e.g., R-waves of an ECG or SCRs of an EDA recording) and stored in a result file. These events can be displayed with the original signal. Alterations or corrections of these events are possible.

The detected events or results are stored in relation to the beginning of recording, i.e. in real time. Besides a listing of the results it is therefore possible to look at particular parts of the recording in order to calculate several tonic or phasic parameters of interest from the events, e.g. SCR frequencies, heart rate, heart period, phasic heart rate second-by-second. If one of the recording channels contains time markings, e.g. for stimulus onset, the program is able to detect these and it is possible to consider the events in relation to these time markings.

In short, *E.D.A.* enables the user to generate parameters from the raw signal, the sort of data needed for statistical purposes.

## Main Modules and Additional Routines

The package incorporates several independent programs. First, there is the routine *ED.EXE* (Event Detection). Till now, it is possible to investigate recordings of electrocardiography (ECG) and electrodermal activity (EDA), to integrate the data e.g. for electromyography (EMG), and to run a power spectrum for descriptive purposes. The user may specify several presets prior to the investigation, e.g., type of analysis (ECG, EDA, integration, power spectrum), time constant, amplitude criterion, kind of filter (high, low, band, notch, none). *ED.EXE* can show how your choices influence the detection of events (e.g., using filters with different upper or lower borders or using different amplitude criteria). A validated setup (the presets) can be stored in a definition file *ED.DEF* to run the routine in a batch job for several data files, e.g. overnight. *ED.EXE* also transforms the original data, i.e. you can choose between a binary output file containing the filtered signal, the original signal (converted from ASCII or CODAS), or the signal with the time constant eliminated. All features and the usage of the ED

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<sup>2</sup> The first version of *E.D.A.* was presented at the 20th annual meeting of the German Psychophysiological Society (DGPA) in Hamburg (Trosiener & Kayser, 1992).

<sup>3</sup> Martin & Venables (1980) is recommended as a standard handbook for description and evaluation of methods in Psychophysiology.

routine are documented in chapter 2.

Second, the *EC.EXE* routine (Event Check) displays the data (original, filtered, time constant eliminated) together with the detected events. Up to eight data channels can be displayed at a time therefore making it possible: to inspect the recording; to compare the activity in several channels by overlaying the data curves; to change the resolution separately for each channel; to jump to different time points in the recording; to revise the detected results (change, add, or, delete an event), and, to select or to reject the detected events. Further, you can investigate a particular channel for time markings, i.e. rectangular impulses, which are simplest the ascents or descents or - more complicatedly - a pattern of two rectangular impulses determined by the time of and between the impulses. The detected discrete time points perform as 'anchors' in order to display a related time frame or time window on the screen, e.g. to collect interactively only those events which fit in your time window. The *EC* routine as well as the *PSCREEN.EXE* routine which prints stored graphic screens while working with *EC* are documented in detail in chapter 3.

The *RECAL.EXE* routine (results and calculations) converts the result files to ASCII code or calculates several parameters from the detected and/or corrected events, e.g. frequencies for a particular part of the recording. Of course, it is possible to direct the ASCII listing to an output file and to calculate own parameters from the results, or - even better - from the original result files for such a calculation. Refer to chapter 4 concerning the *RECAL* routine.

The *COSAM.EXE* routine (CODAS sampling) works on CODAS data files, i.e. to extract parts of a data file, to reduce a sampling rate, to combine two data files, or simply to inform you about the number of channels, sample rate, length of recording, etc. The *COSAM* routine is documented in chapter 5.

## Hardware Requirements

All routines work in a DOS environment with a base memory of 640 Kb RAM on an ordinary IBM PC or any compatible PC. For the *EC.EXE* routine a color monitor with a VGA or EGA interface is recommended and is absolutely necessary if you are displaying more than one channel. For the *ED.EXE* routine such a color screen is recommended. The other routines will not need a special monitor type.

Depending on the amount of data a large, fast hard disk is recommended. *ED.EXE* will use available extended memory (EMS) which will speed up the analysis. All routines will operate with an installed co-processor which will also increase speed.

So, best is a machine with a 486 CPU, built-in co-processor, 16 MB RAM, 200 MB hard disk and a VGA adapter - but the package will work with a 286-AT, no co-processor,

640 Kb RAM, 20 MB hard disk and a EGA adapter - only much slower.

## System Files

Before copying the files you are advised to make a back-up copy of the *E.D.A.* distribution diskette and to store the original data in a safe place as a reference.

The *E.D.A.* distribution diskette contains four self-extracting archive files which store the following files (archive names in the left column):

### System Files

ED!.EXE	ED.EXE ED.DEF ED.DBF/ED.DBT	- to analyze your raw data (EDA, ECG, integration, power spectrum) - user defined default settings for ED.EXE - on-line help of the entry menu
EC!.EXE	EC.EXE EC.DEF EC.DBF/ED.DBT EC.HLP	- to check the recorded and analyzed data - user defined default settings for EC.EXE - on-line help of the entry screen - on-line graphic command key reference
UTIL!.EXE	PSCREEN.EXE RECAL.EXE COSAM.EXE  RESULT.PAS	- to print stored screens - to list and to calculate on result files - to modify CODAS data files  - result file structure (Turbo Pascal code)

### Example Files

DEMO!.EXE	DEMO.COD DEMO.CAL DEMO.DEF DEMO.D01 DEMO.D02 DEMO.G01 DEMO.G02 DEMO.G04 DEMO.ZMD  DEMO_EMG.COD DEMO_EMG.CAL	- CODAS data file - the corresponding calibration file - the corresponding user default setup (cf. EC.DEF) - time constant eliminated data channel 1 - time constant eliminated data channel 2 - EDA results of channel 1 - EDA results of channel 2 - ECG results of channel 4 - the corresponding time file to channel 5  - CODAS data file with an EMG recording - the corresponding calibration file
-----------	--	---

Copy the system files after extraction from the archives to a subdirectory (e.g., C:\EDA) of your hard disk. If you would like to try the examples mentioned in this manual then copy the demo files to your hard disk (e.g, C:\EDA or C:\EDA\DEMO).

## Data Format

ED.EXE and EC.EXE work on CODAS data files which are stored in an 12-bit integer format. The data is optionally calibrated to significant units, e.g.,  $\mu mho$  or  $Mv$ , and the calibration constants are stored in a CODAS calibration file (same file name with the extension \*.CAL).

Alternatively, binary files may serve as an input to ED.EXE and EC.EXE consisting of real type values (range  $2.9 \times 10^{-39}$  to  $1.7 \times 10^{38}$ , accuracy 11-12 digits, i.e. 1 sign bit, 39 bit fraction and 8 bit exponent). The first data point holds the sample rate, the following data points represent the continuous data flow.

In addition, ASCII files may be used as a data source (only for *ED.EXE* which converts these files to the binary format). Each ASCII value must be separated by a carriage return and a line feed (ASCII decimal codes 13 and 10), i.e. each line contains one value. The first line value consists of the total amount of data points, the second value contains the sampling rate in Hertz. The following lines illustrate an ASCII file. Note, that there is 1) no need for an exponential notation and 2) the comments in the right column are not allowed to occur in the ASCII file.

20001	<i>line 1</i> (20001 data points)
2.00000000000E+02	<i>line 2</i> (frequency 200 Hz)
-6.3461538462E-02	<i>line 3</i> (first data point at real time 0 sec)
-6.3781324248E-02	<i>line 4</i> (second data point at 0.005 sec)
-6.6665196610E-02	.
.	.
-1.2444866899E-01	.
-1.2791017588E-01	<i>line 20003</i> (last data point at 100.000 sec)

## Logic of File Names

All output generated by the modules is named as follows:

*<file name>* . *<file type>* *<channel>*

*<file name>* is a string of 1 to 8 characters, *<file type>* a one-character string, and *<channel>* a two-character string. *<channel>* codes the number of the channel to which the file refers, e.g. 01 for channel one. *<file type>* refers to the type of data or to the kind of result the file exists of.

Table 1 lists the possibilities of *<file type>*.





Examples for valid filenames: CHANNEL1.BIN, VALUES2.ASC, EXPER3.COD, CHANNEL4, VP024, DATA0701.EXP

☞ In our examples please use **DEMO.COD** as filename. This file contains of 5 channels (cf. table 2).

**Table 2.**  
**Recording Channels of DEMO.COD**

Channel	Recording	Unit
1	electrodermal activity (EDA) on left hand	[ $\mu$ S]
2	electrodermal activity (EDA) on right hand	[ $\mu$ S]
3	horizontal eye movements (EOG)	[°]
4	heart activity (ECG)	[mV]
5	time markings of stimulus exposure	[Mark]

*Method*

- EDA calculates the time, the amplitudes and the half-value time of EDA reactions. The type of EDA-reaction is determined.
- ECG1 calculates the time of the R-wave. The calculated values represent the absolute maxima of the R-wave complex. Under some circumstances (e.g. small sample rates) the absolute maximum does not represent the best estimation of the time of the R-wave.
- ECG2 calculates the time of the R-waves as the best estimation, i.e. it represents a 'virtual' maximum. Use this method only if 'ECG1'-results are insufficient. The procedure is very time consuming and it might be very confusing for presentation purposes if the calculated maximum is not the absolute maximum.
- POW calculates the power spectrum of the selected data channel. The data are divided in successive segments of 1024 data points. The spectra are linear averaged and the result is only presented visually.
- INT integrates the selected data channel. The integration time constant can be selected over a wide range. The detection process is skipped.

After you have specified the main file name, the data type and the desired method you are prompted with the question: *OK (Y/N) ?* If you type 'N' you can modify all of your entries (you must use the <RETURN> key to skip through the fields).



4330	3	-8.21	2.16	0.0015
4963	3	-8.21	2.48	0.0015
10378	4	8.17	5.19	0.0020
12233	7	-8.21	6.12	0.0035
12244	3	8.17	6.12	0.0015

### *Time Constant*

The specification of this field is necessary. The (RC-)time constant ( $tc$ ) must be  $\geq 0.0$ . It is defined as the time a signal needs to decrease to 37 % of its stationary value. A  $tc$  of 0.0 indicates that your signal is not affected by a  $tc$ . A  $tc > 0.0$  leads to an elimination of the effect of the specified  $tc$ . This is done by computing the signal as if it was affected by a  $tc$  of 100 seconds. This is nearly equivalent to DC amplification<sup>4</sup>. Some manufacturers of psychophysiological equipment use the term 'time constant' in a very confusing and unusual manner (e.g. AC time constant). In doubt determine the (RC-)time constant of your equipment by empirical tests.

### *Filter Type*<sup>5</sup>

Filters are predefined as the Bessel type, which are recommended by constant group delay and low overshoot. Conceptually the filter is designed as (recursive) IIR-filter. The precise determination of signals phase shift by Bessel filters makes this type most interesting in event-related reaction designs. Furthermore, a Bessel filter has low signal distortion (passband ripple) but less selectivity (no sharp cut offs).

### *Filter Characteristic*

You can choose high-pass, low-pass, band-pass and band-rejection (notch) filters.

LOW	Low-pass filters are used to eliminate high frequencies like EMG in some recordings.
HIGH	High-pass filters are used to eliminate low frequencies, e.g. slow potential moving artifacts.
BAND	Band-pass filters reject low and high frequencies and allow only frequencies in the passband (from flo to fhi) to pass like EEG-filters.
NOTCH	Band rejection filters cut out a frequency band (from flo to fhi) like line noise (50 Hz, 60 Hz).

<sup>4</sup> Linear transformations of time constant affected data are discussed e.g. by Elbert & Rockstroh (1980) and Thom (1988).

<sup>5</sup> See e.g. CookIII & Miller (1992) or Tietze & Schenk (1978) for digital filtering.

### *Filter Order*

The sharpness of the cut-offs and the distortion increase with the order of the filter. If you need a very selective filter then choose a high order. The order of the filters are selectable between 2 and 10 for high- and low-pass filters in steps of 2. For both band filters this is equivalent to 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> order.

### *Cut-off Frequency (f, flo, fhi)*

High- and low-pass filters need the cut-off frequency as a characteristic parameter. Cut-off frequency is the value where the signal gain is '3 Db down'. From this value the asymptotic gradient of the frequency characteristic has a value of  $-n \times 20$  dB per decade with  $n$  = order of the filter. Band filters also need the upper cut-off frequency.

### *Binary Output (save data)*

You have different options to save your data in binary format:

- ORIG     The original data are saved. This is normally done if you have ASCII-data.
- TCOR    The time constant is eliminated from your original data
- FIL0    You save the filtered signal and if requested the adjusted time constant, too. The group delay of the filter is not adjusted.
- FILC    You save the filtered signal and also, if requested, the adjusted time constant. The data are adjusted in respect to the group delay of the filter. This is done by cutting the first points in the length of the group delay (shift) and adding values at the end of the data. The last value is repeated until the original sampling time is reached.
- NONE    No data are saved.

In the interactive mode, existing binary data files with the same name are not destroyed. A message appears on the screen that prompts you to refuse or accept overwriting of binary data. In batch mode data files are overwritten unconditionally.

### *Displacement (group delay, shift)*

The group delay of a filter is the phase shift of the incoming signal which is proportional to the signal frequency. Bessel filter group delay is practically frequency independent and determined by the order of the filter. A high order produces a large group delay or shift of the incoming signal. We estimate the group delay and report it in data points and seconds. Our estimate is the time the outgoing signal of the filters needs to raise from 0 to 50% of the stationary value. We must adjust our detected events with this

value. This is already done in all our ED-result files. If you save data for further use with the 'FILO'-option the binary output data are not adjusted!

## Unique Fields

Some fields are specific to the method(s), some very sophisticated. The 'special' parameters can improve the detection of events.

### *Threshold: Maximum*

A maximum with an amplitude below this value is rejected, e.g. a value of 0.5 means that only the amplitude of R-waves equal or above this value are reported.

### *Threshold: Overlaid Maximum (special)*

The amplitude of an overlaid EDA reaction must have at least this value. Default value is the maximum threshold. For an explanation of 'overlaid maximum' refer to fig. 5 and 6 (p. 17).

### *Threshold: Speed / Acceleration (special)*

Speed (1<sup>st</sup> derivate) and acceleration (2<sup>nd</sup> derivate) control the selection of reactions. Only reaction above the predefined speed and acceleration are considered to be of interest. The values are normalized to speed and acceleration per second. In some special cases the distinction between reaction and recovery shifts can be forced by variation of acceleration threshold. Then only reactions which fit to a combined criterion of speed and acceleration are reported. Normally the parameters are not used.

### *Window (power spectrum)*

Windowing means a weighting data to reduce spectral leakage error in the *Fast Fourier Transform* (FFT). This becomes necessary since the waveforms are sampled for a finite length of time. Discontinuities at the end of the segments produce spectral errors. We have implemented some common windows:

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| RECT | Rectangular window. No weighting. Leakage is very severe.   |
| HANN | Hanning window. This window is most useful where good frequency resolution is needed and amplitude accuracy is not important. |
| HAMM | Hamming window. This window is useful for resolving closely spaced frequencies and amplitude accuracy is not important.       |
| PARZ | Parzen window. The data are weighted with a triangle.   |

### *R-wave Enhancement (ECG2)*

ECG2 convolves the data with a template of a specified frequency and enhances the R-waves. By convolution we get an enhancement of the relevant parts of the R-wave. Under some circumstances this leads to a better recognition of the maxima but the reported time values will not correspond necessarily to the absolute maximum in the R-wave complex.

### **Graphics**

Results may be displayed graphically. A segment of 256 or 256 x time compression points (1 .. 99) is used. Time compression means that more data points are used for a clearer presentation. You can request graphics only in interactive mode by typing 'y' when *graphics (y/n)* appears on the screen.

The binary result files produced in graphical mode should not be used further, because the recursive filter algorithm leads to some problems if the segment lengths are small. We recommend choosing convenient parameters and checking this graphically. You should then run the same job without graphics to produce best results.

### *Scaling*

The graph can be scaled automatically (*Auto scale*). Your data segment is displayed so that it fits exactly into the graphical surface. This is very useful if you have some unpredictably high signal amplitudes or if you want to inspect the visual results exactly.

Manual scaling requires the specification of upper (yhi) and lower (ylo) border of the scaling. Data out of that range are inspected but not displayed.

## Results

### *Range Overflows*

Cutting of your data by overranged amplifiers might occur. This is detected automatically and reported in an ASCII error file. The report gives information about the beginning and the length of the cut signal in units of data points and seconds. The amplitude is reported and the number of cuts is reported in the field 'Overflows' of the entry mask.

### *Event Detection*

All detected events (SCRs, R-waves, ...) and related values are written to a result file. Two result files are generated. One (main) holds time, amplitude, type etc. of events, the other holds corresponding speeds and accelerations to give ideas for the sophisticated special parameters. The result files represent the input for program *EC*. Our EDA example produces the main binary result file DEMO.G01. This may be listed by the program RECAL with the command "*RECAL DEMO.G01 <-*" (cf. chapter 4 *Results and Calculations*, p. 34). Appendix C (p. 45) holds this listing.

## Parameter Pre-definitions

All parameters can be preset if you use the ASCII file ED.DEF. Although all parameters have some default values which are set automatically by the program, it is not very handy to change some or all parameters manually for each new kind of analysis. Each time the program starts it searches for ED.DEF and uses - if found - all (valid) pre-definitions as default in the entry mask and for the batch mode. If ED.DEF is not present the program uses only internal presets and the batch mode is rejected.

The following example of ED.DEF shows you how such a definition file might look like for EDA method. It comments all possible presettings:

```

cod           ; type of Data(-File) : COD,BIN,ASC
eda          ; type of Analysis (eda, ecg1, ecg2, pow, int)
-5.0        ; lower border of signal range
 5.0        ; upper border of signal range
 1.0        ; time constant in seconds, 0 = no time constant
bessel      ; filter type (for future versions)
low         ; filter characteristic (Low, High, Band,
           ; Notch (Band rejection), none)
 6          ; order of the filter (2, 4, 6, 8, 10)
 2          ; upper cutoff-Frequency for LP/HP filter;
           ; lower for band filters/notch
 0          ; upper cutoff-frequency for band filters and band rejection
none        ; binary Output (tcor, filo, filc, orig, none)
.025       ; Threshold: maximum (smallest amplitude of a maximum)
 0         ; Threshold: overlaid maximum
 0         ; Threshold: speed
 0         ; Threshold: acceleration

```

```
.200      ; frequency of r-wave for enhancement / or time constant of
           integrator
0         ; segment length (DataPoints) in EMS/RAM/disk
           (0 = automatic use)
```

In the 'real' definition files only one line is used for each parameter! Appendix A (p. 43) shows as another example a typical definition file for the ECG1 method. Any error suspends execution and an error message appears on the screen.

## Batch Mode

You can use ED in batch mode as well. Thus, ED has to be used with several call parameters.

Parameters which define batch mode processing:

```
-c      channel number
-i      input file name
```

If both parameters are present and the data file can be opened successfully then processing continues in batch mode.

Parameters which work in batch mode and in interactive mode :

```
-d      data type (overrides all other specifications)
-m      method (overrides all other specifications)
-p      optional another (alternate) definition file than ED.DEF (very useful in
        case of frequent alterations of the predefinitions)
```

If a definition file (*ED.DEF* or an alternate file) or the channel number or the filename are missing the program automatically switches to the interactive mode. A wrong channel number stops execution with an error message.

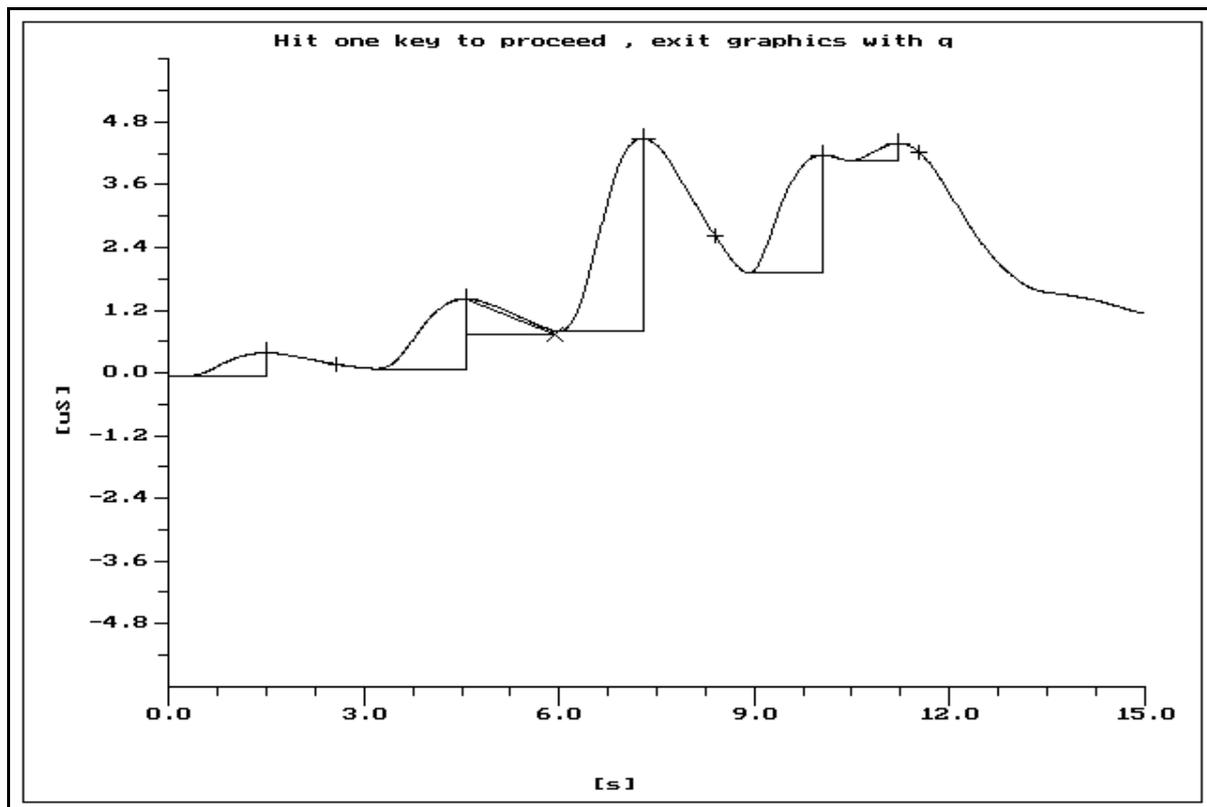
Example: "*ED.EXE -iDEMO.COD -c4 -pECG.DEF -MECG1 -dCOD <-*"

## Memory Resources

The program decides whether it can use RAM, EMS or virtual memory on disk for storage of the data segments. The decision depends on available resources. If there is not enough RAM or EMS and the anticipated consumption of disk space exceeds available disk space then the program is terminated with an error message.

You can override the automatic decision process in two ways:





**Fig. 4.** Graphical presentation of the EDA method (results cf. Appendix C, p. 45). Graphic colors are given in table 3.

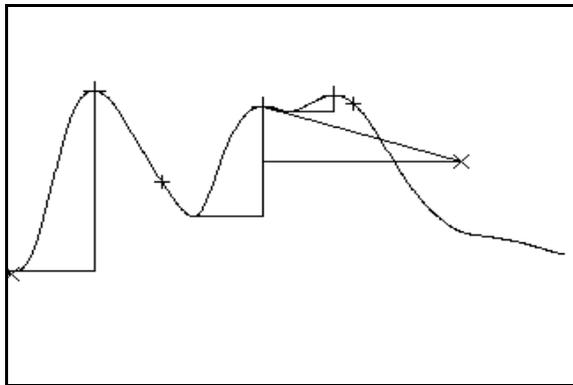
Fig. 4 shows a normal EDA recording, treated with a six pole 2 Hz bessel filter before the detection process. All maxima and overlaid maxima exceeding a particular amplitude criterion (here  $\geq 0.025 \mu\text{S}$ ) are treated as meaningful. In the graphical presentation the y-axis scale is fixed with a time compression value of 3.

**Table 3.**  
Graphic Colors for **EDA** method

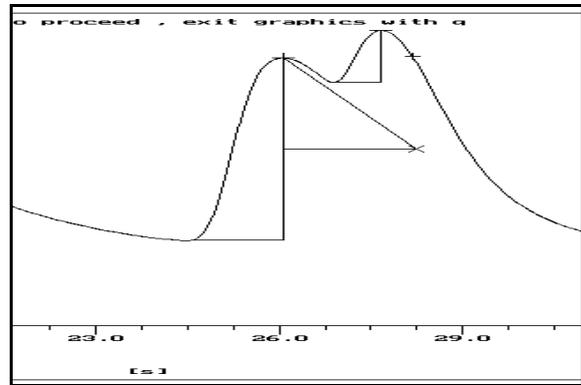
S)) Q	
color	graphic feature
S)) Q	
black:	(treated) data
yellow:	points that are shifted to the next segment
green:	angle sides of computed half recovery time
red plus (+):	maximum, reaction
white plus (+):	half value time
white cross (x):	computed half value time
light blue:	angle sides of the maximum, reaction
S)) Q	

Five maxima were detected in this example. The 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. maximum are of type

1 and the half value times could be computed directly. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> maximum are of type 2 and the half value times had to be estimated. In fig. 4 you can see that for maximum 2 the algorithm leads to a valid estimation. The presentation of the estimation of the 4<sup>th</sup> maximum was suppressed because the computed value is not very realistic (cf. fig. 5). An estimation is only realistic if we can extract a gradient from the data which leads to a practical determination of an approximation which is near to the assumed original value (cf. fig. 6). This is only possible if there are enough points for an estimation. Even if there are enough points particular circumstances can lead to enormous errors, e.g. a critical sample frequency, a critical AD-converter resolution or a very low amplitude criterion. A visual inspection or a programmatical control of plausibility is strongly recommended!



**Fig. 5.** SCR of type 2: Critical estimation of half value time (maximum 4) (for colors see table 3).



**Fig. 6.** SCR of type 2: Estimated half recovery time (for colors see table 3).

### Classification of Maxima

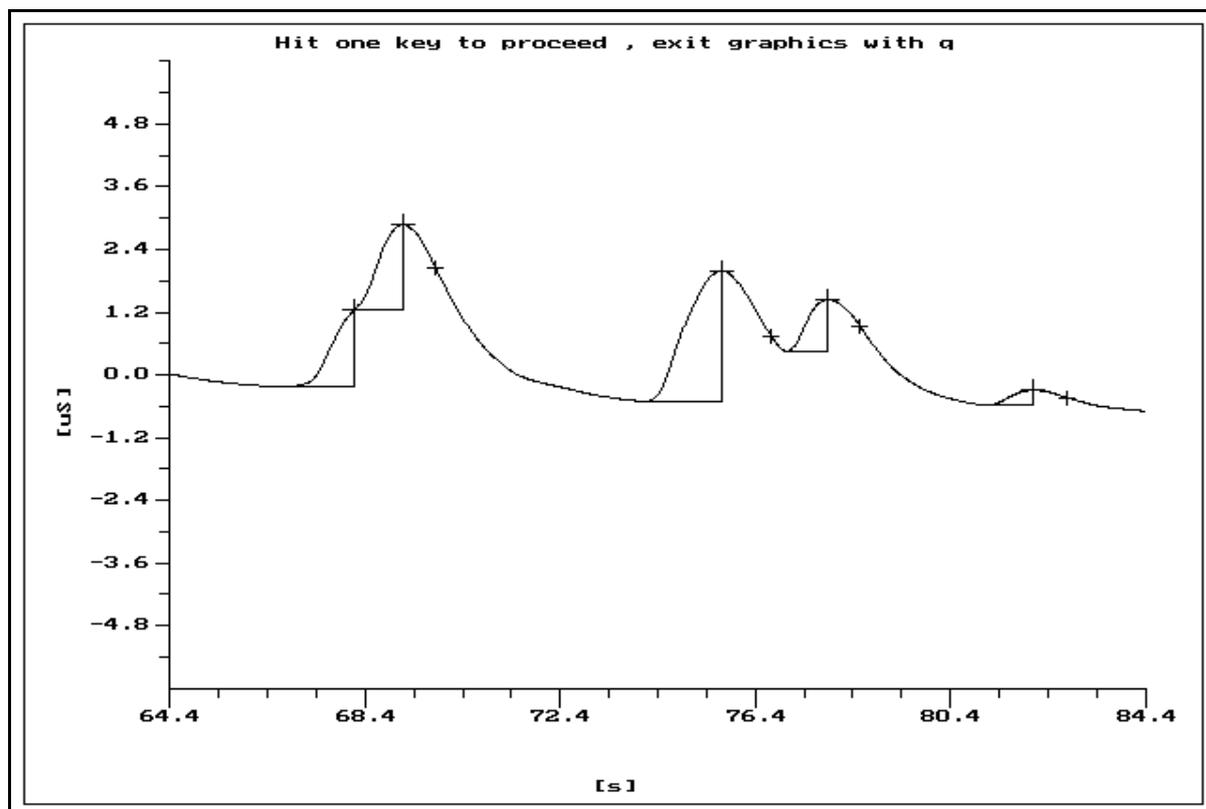
After Boucsein (1988/1992) we distinguish three different types of maxima in the EDA method (cf. table 4).

**Table 4.**  
SCR Classification

S)) Q

Type 1:	Normal maximum, half value time could be computed.
Type 2:	Overlaid maximum, half value time had to be estimated.
Type 0:	Overlaid maximum, half value time could not be estimated because the SCR has no distinct maximum (see 1st reaction in fig. 7). Boucsein (1988/1992) labels this type different as type '3'.

S)) Q



**Fig. 7.** Reaction of type 0 (1<sup>st</sup> SCR).

The half value times are always computed if possible, but no plausibility check is made. The graphical presentation of the half value time is suppressed if the value is greater than twice the rise time. A half value time of -1 is coded when an estimation was impossible (normally type 0 of reaction). A half value time of -2 is coded if there are not enough points for an estimation.

### Electrocardiogram (ECG)

Most fields of the ECG screen are known (cf. *Interactive Mode*, p. 6). One field is specific for method *ECG2*: R-wave enhancement. Remember that you can choose between two different methods for the detection of R-waves: *ECG1* and *ECG2*. *ECG1* determines the absolute maxima in the neighbourhood of a likely R-wave. A convolution of the data with a template of specified frequency is done in *ECG2*. A frequency value between 8 and 10 Hz is normal. You can determine the frequency when you measure the width of the R-wave where frequency equals the reciprocal of double width (in seconds). By convolution we get an enhancement of the relevant parts of the R-wave. Under some circumstances this leads to a better recognition of the maxima. The computed time values of *ECG2* do not always point to the real maxima (i.e. values found in your data) but to hypothetical time values. Sometimes this estimation is better than the time of the absolute maxima, primarily if you have used a slow sample rate, so that the 'real' maximum lies between two data points. Method *ECG1* is normally

sufficient.

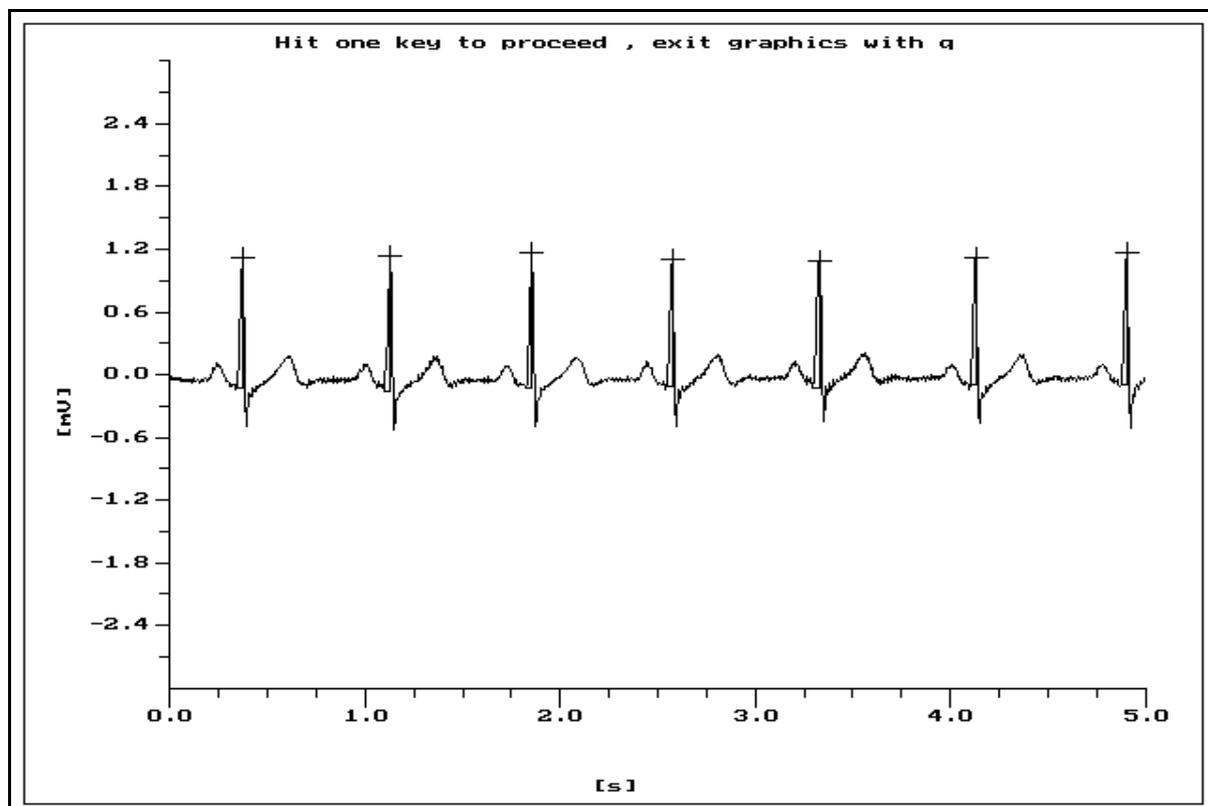


Fig. 8. ECG demo data (channel 4 of DEMO.COD). Graphic colors are given in table 5.

Table 5.  
Graphic Colors for ECG method

```

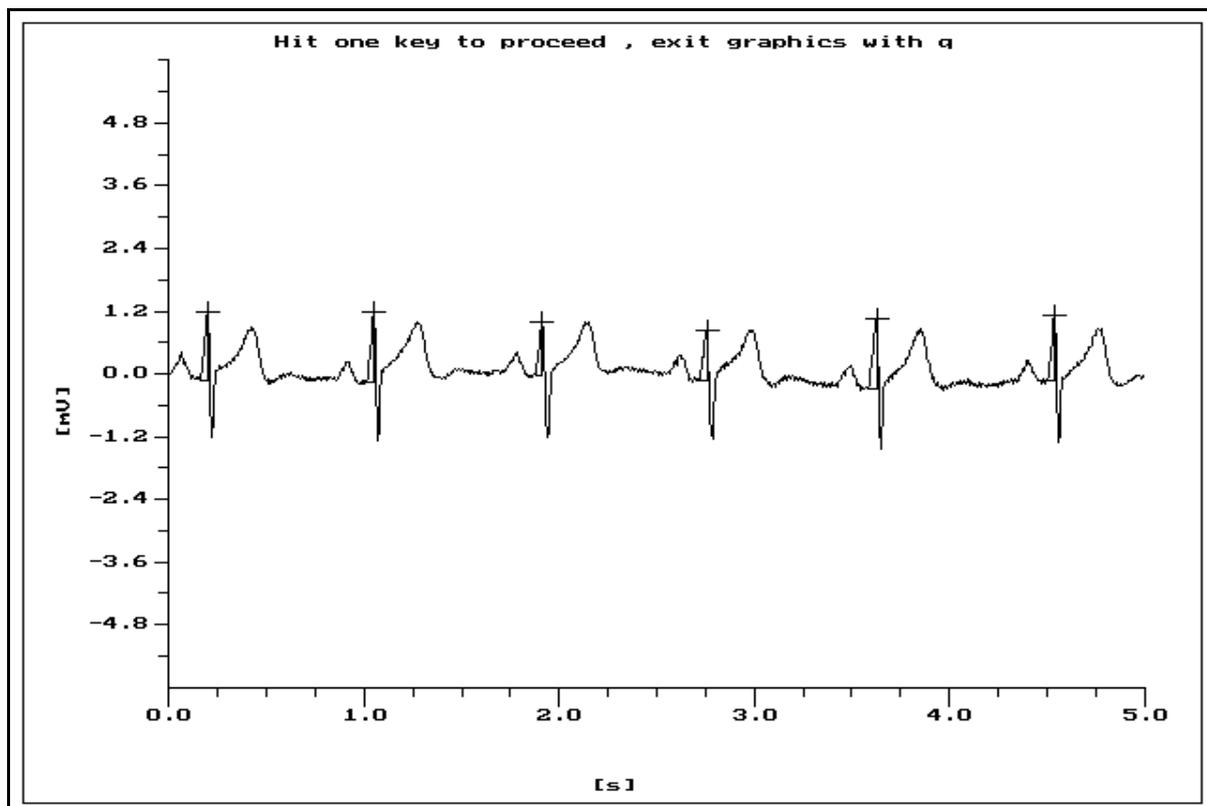
S))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))Q
  color                graphic feature
S))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))Q
  black:                (treated) data
  yellow:               points that are shifted to the next segment
  red plus (+):         Maximum, R-wave
  light blue:           angle sides of the R-wave
S))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))Q
    
```

Fig. 8 shows the results of ECG1. No filtering was done and all maxima above 0.4 Mv are selected as R-waves. No time compression was requested. As a result you get the time values of the R-waves and their amplitudes:

number	time [sec]	type	amplitude	slope maximum	rise time	recovery /2
1	0.375	9	1.239	0.000	0.000	0.000
2	1.130	9	1.292	0.000	0.000	0.000

3	1.855	9	1.291	0.000	0.000	0.000
4	2.575	9	1.216	0.000	0.000	0.000
5	3.330	9	1.223	0.000	0.000	0.000
6	4.130	9	1.217	0.000	0.000	0.000
7	4.900	9	1.261	0.000	0.000	0.000

Fig. 9 shows an ECG (not part of the demo data !), where some other parts of the ECG have the same amplitude as the R-waves. The program detects the maxima without further intervention.



**Fig. 9.** R-waves together with large T-waves (for colors see table 5).

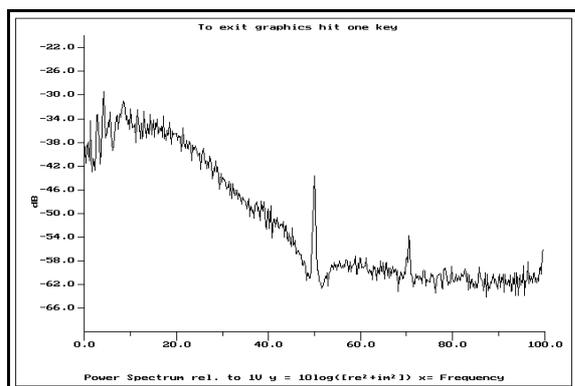
In both methods ECG1 and ECG2 the type of maximum is set to 9. The slope-maximum, rising and half recovery time are not computed and set to 0.0.

**Power Spectrum**

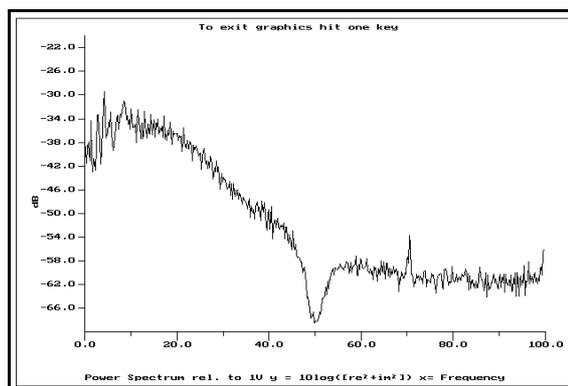
The power spectrum is used to control the effects of the requested filtering. As in the other methods you choose a data channel and specify the filter. A window can be requested. Windowing means a weighting of your data to reduce spectral leakage error in the Fast Fourier Transform (FFT). Normally this is not needed.

With the fields 'flow' and 'fhigh' you can change the x-scaling of the graph. If you specify e.g. 40 and 60 Hz you reduce the presentation to the range of 50 Hz noise (without harmonics). The y-scaling is done automatically. You can choose logarithmic or linear scaling.

The method itself divides your data in segments of 1024 points and computes the power spectrum of each segment. The segments are averaged without any weighting. The averaged power spectrum remains on your screen.



**Fig. 10.** Power spectrum of ECG-channel.



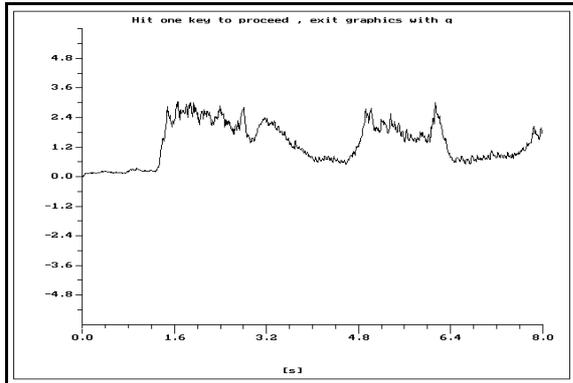
**Fig. 11.** Power spectrum of ECG-channel with notch filter (48-52 Hz).

Fig. 10 shows the power spectrum of the ECG-channel 4 without any treatment. The scaling is logarithmic and a rectangular window was used. You can see that the signal is superposed by a large amount of 50 Hz noise. If you choose a 2<sup>nd</sup> order band rejection filter (notch) between 48 and 52 Hz the reduction of 50 Hz noise is obvious (cf. fig. 11).

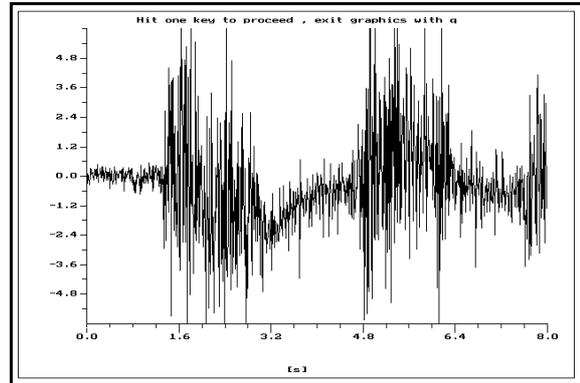
## Integration

The integration method integrates the chosen data channel. The minimum of the used integration time constant ( $tc$ ) has to be the sample rate. If you use this sample rate as  $tc$  the signal is simply rectified. Larger time constants lead to a signal integration. The signal amplitude is weighted in respect to the time constant. No event detection is done.

The graphical presentation normally shows the original data together with the integrated data. For clarification the two figures below (fig. 12 and 13) show the signals separately. Graph scaling is done in according to the range of the integrated data. If you use a large  $tc$  the original data are mostly out of range.



**Fig. 12.** Integrated EMG (for colors see table 6).



**Fig. 13.** Original EMG data (for colors see table 6).

**Table 6.**

Graphic Colors for **Integration** method

S)) Q	
<i>color</i>	<i>graphic feature</i>
S)) Q	
black:	(treated) data
red:	original data
S)) Q	

Fig. 12 shows the integrated data of channel 1 (EMG) with an integration time constant of 50 ms. No filtering and *tc*-elimination was used. The time compression factor for the graphic display was 16. Fig. 13 shows the corresponding original EMG recording.

The demo file **DEMO\_EMG.COD** holds the original EMG recording data.

## 3 Event Check

The *EC.EXE* routine displays the data (original, filtered, time constant eliminated) together with events normally detected by *ED.EXE* and allows checking of the events, with optional modification or correction. Thus, this routine may create new event (result) files.

### Getting Started

If you type "*EC /? <-*" you will get the following message:

```

EC Version 1.04 01/07/1993
Syntax: EC [<fil>] [<def>[.DEF]] [<opt>]

<fil>  data file name
<def>  file name for definitions (default extension .DEF)
<opt>  options:
      /?  this help
      /b  binary data
      /c  codas data

```

You may specify your input data file as the first call parameter and the data type either by the option (e.g. */b* for binary data) or by the extension of the data file, e.g. *\*.BIN* for binary data (see also p. 6).

You may set up your parameters for *EC* with the help of an ASCII text file. You tell *EC* the name of this definition file with the second call parameter (cf. chapter *The Definition File*, p. 24). If there is no second call parameter, *EC* will search per default for a file named *EC.DEF*.

When calling the program by typing "*EC <-*" you will start in the interactive mode. *EC* prompts you to name an input data file and to specify the data type (CODAS data or binary data). The *<Enter>* and *<Esc>* keys quit the entry field.

### On-line Help and Interrupt Key

You are allowed to press the *<F1>* key throughout the program. This key will give you an on-line help. While using the on-line help you may switch to different help messages by pressing *<PgUp>* or *<PgDn>*, the *<Esc>* key quits the help. You will get a different set of help messages depending on whether you are working at the entry screen or at the graphic display.

| The 'emergency' interrupt key <Ctrl-Break> will quit the program as soon as possible.  
| Open files will be closed and occupied memory will be emptied. Use this key only if you  
| are in trouble (!) because in contrast to the normal termination of EC with the <Alt-X>  
| key no data are saved.

## The Definition File

A definition file holds the particular parameters you need for *EC.EXE*, e.g. significant labels for your data, the display or operation mode, or the kind of printer you use. Normally this information is stored in an ASCII text file named *EC.DEF* but you may also specify another file name when calling the program (cf. chapter *Getting Started*, p. 23). If you have no definition file *EC* will take default settings. You may alter the default settings on-line.

An example file (*EC.DEF*) is given in Appendix B (p. 43) to show how such a definition file might look like. All possible presettings are commented and are further explained in this chapter.

If you have copied the demo files **DEMO.\*** to your hard disk you can try to run *EC* with "*EC.EXE DEMO.COD DEMO.DEF <-*" or simply "*EC DEMO <-*".

## The Entry Screen

The *EC* entry mask serves as a status report of your work. It is logically divided into an upper and a lower part. In the upper screen the user establishes fixed settings for the work with a particular data file. In the lower screen it is possible to change several parameters throughout the run of *EC*.

### The Upper Screen

Besides the file name and the data type the top of the screen informs you about the sample frequency, sample rate, and, the total file length (cf. fig. 14). If the frequency per channel exceeds 1000 Hz time will be displayed in units of milliseconds (ms).

Below the file information you will get a channel listing of several columns. Depending on your data type there will be a display of eight (binary data) or of the total number of channels (CODAS data). The first column codes the channel number (*Ch.* ranges from 1 to 8). The second column codes whether a channel is active, i.e. to be included in the graphic (*act.* may be 'Y' or 'N'). The third column holds a user defined label for the channel which will be shown in the graphic (max. twelve characters).

Columns 4, 6, 8 hold file names, the adjacent columns 5, 7, 9 labelled with a question







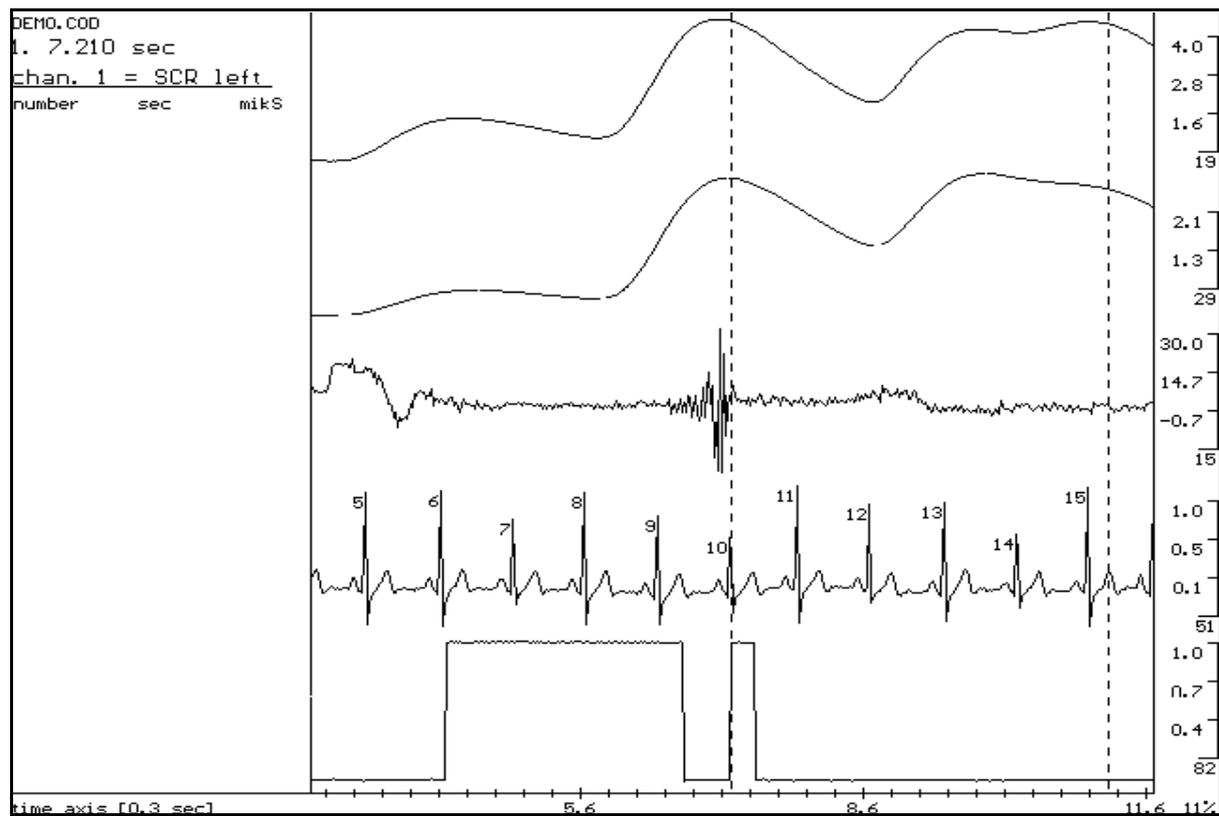
When searching for time markings EC checks times with a precision of  $\pm 2 \times \text{sample rate}$  (but at least 25 ms). An ongoing time analysis can be interrupted by the <Esc> key. If you then confirm the interruption the time file will contain all time points discovered prior to interruption otherwise the analysis will be continued

You may switch between reference time points in the graphic display (cf. chapter *Time Markings*, p. 33). In the entry screen you are no longer allowed to choose an *current time* (but you can do so from the graphic display using <F10>).

A time file may be converted to ASCII code with the RECAL.EXE routine (cf. chapter *Calculations and Other Options*, p. 34).

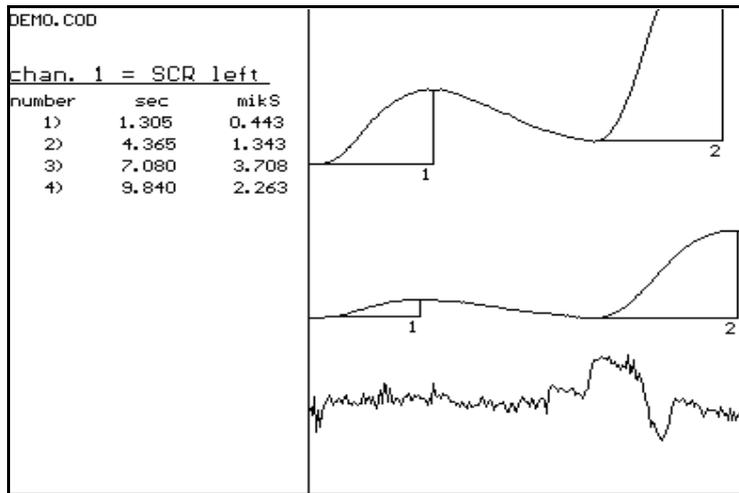
## The Graphic Interface

### Viewing the Display



**Fig. 17.** The whole EC graphic display showing 5 active channels (*DEMO.COD*).

The <Esc> key toggles between the entry screen and the graphic display (cf. fig. 17).



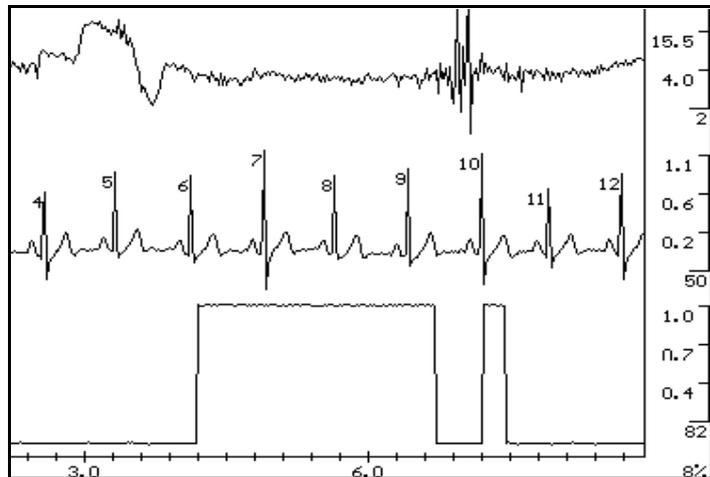
**Fig. 18.** Top left of graphic display: file name and currently activated channel.

When getting into the graphic mode for the first time or after changing the *actual time* EC will read the data. In the graphic the <F1> key always shows an on-line help, the <F2> redraws the screen.

The main part of the screen displays the signals of the recordings. If there are results within the time range of the display the results are integrated in each graph with orthogonal lines together with the last two digits of the result number. The top left corner of

the screen exhibits the main file name (cf. fig. 18). Below the file name you see the number of the currently activated channel together with the corresponding label. Result parameters of this channel are listed below (number, time of maximum, amplitude in units).

At the bottom of the screen a time axis informs you about the time scaling, start and end time of the current display, and the percentage of data read so far (cf. fig. 19). The right panel displays the scaling of each channel in real units. The number at the bottom of each scale represents an arbitrary scaling factor which may range from 1 to 9999 (see next section).



**Fig. 19.** Bottom right of graphic display: time axis, channel scaling, percentage of data read.

### Controlling the Appearance of a Single Channel

If you want to select another channel instead of the one currently activated you simply have to type the number of this channel (1-8). Only the channel displayed at the left panel may be modified.

The keys <Cursor up>, <Cursor down>, <PgUp>, <PgDn>, <Ctrl-PgUp> and <Ctrl-PgDn> adjust the scaling factor of this channel. Alternatively, you use the <F4> or <Alt-S> keys and specify the scaling factor directly (press <Backspace> or <Delete> to change the former scaling factor and enter the new one). The key <F3> recalculates the scaling factor and the best fitting horizontal position of the graph line (this is the initial default display). The <F5> key allows you to set the scaling factor of all measuring channels at once, i.e. of channels creating a new correction result file.

Per default all channel are 'auto scaled' which is exactly what the key <F3> does. But it is also possible to preset the scaling factor for each channel via a definition file (cf. the example in the chapter *The Definition File*, p. 24). In such a file scaling factor settings are coded by the initial characters "SF" followed by the channel number (two digits) and a non-significant character (e.g. double point) and the scaling factor value. The scaling factor has to be in the range 1 to 9999.

Under some circumstances you need to adjust your input data in order to get a good resolution and scaling on the graphic display. If your data represents very coarse or very refined units you can multiply your original data by any factor by using the keys <F6> or <Alt-A>. A value smaller than one will divide the original data which will fit for a coarse differentiation. Values larger than one increase the original data which should be done with very refined input data. The adjustment process will not affect your data, and it operates only as an adaptation for the graphic display. Again, you can preset the adjustment factor for each channel via a definition file (cf. the example in the chapter *The Definition File*, p. 24) where the adjustment factor settings are coded by the initial characters "AF" followed by the channel number (two digits) and a non-significant character (e.g. a double point) and the adjustment factor value. There is no limit for the adjustment factor (a value equalling one has no effect).

With the help of the key <Home>, <Ctrl-Home>, <End> and <Ctrl-End> you move the graph in a vertical direction up and down, respectively.

### **Scrolling the Current Display**

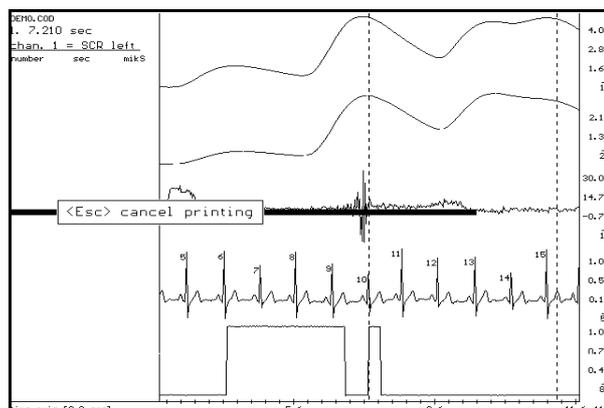
To look through the whole recording the keys <-> and <+> move the current display half a screen back and forth, respectively, i.e. the former centre of the screen will be left or right in the next screen. By pressing the <F10> key you may jump to any time position (start time of the display) within the recording range.

### **Printing a Screen**

Typing <Ctrl-PrtScr> forces EC to draw a pixel image of the screen. The drawing may be directed to the printer or to a print file. The printing process is displayed on the screen (cf. fig. 20) and may be cancelled by pressing <Esc>. You may setup your printer in the definition file (cf. chapter *The definition file*, p. 24) or on-line (after <Ctrl-

*PrtScr*> type <Esc> and then the printer code; use <F1> for help).

If you confirm the prompt question (which also shows the printer model) you are asked whether to send the screen image to a file or to the printer. Files are named SRCEEN00.PRN, SCREEN01.PRN, etc. in regard of existing print files. You may print the files later with the screen file printing utility PSCREEN.EXE. Typing "PSCREEN <- " will show the message below. Remember to delete your screen print files after printing when you are no longer using them.



**Fig. 20.** Screen printing in progress.

```
EC Screen File Printing Utility Version 1.04 01/07/1993
Syntax: PSCREEN <PrintFile>[.PRN] [<lpt-no>]
```

The default is LPT1.

```
Example: "PSCREEN screen01 2" - print file SCREEN01.PRN at LPT2
```

## Selection of Results

EC will indicate with different colors whether a particular result is selected for the output result file or not. Per default the selected results are highlighted, i.e. they are in the same color as the graph line (you may change the color settings, cf. chapter *Changing Graphic Color Settings*, p. 33). Depending on column 10 of the entry screen the results of a channel are either selected or unselected (cf. chapter *The Upper Screen*, p. 24).

You will activate a result in the display by pressing <cursor left> (left arrow key) or <cursor right> (right arrow key) which shifts between adjacent results. An activated result is highlighted in white in the list on the left as well as in the graph.

Pressing <Return> will select or de-select the activated result for the result output file (depending on the former status quo). An acoustic signal of either a high (now selected) or low (now unselected) frequency indicates your operation.

An activated result can be deleted by pressing <Delete>. You have to confirm your decision because the activated result will be removed from this EC session and it cannot be reinserted - but the original input result file will not be affected.

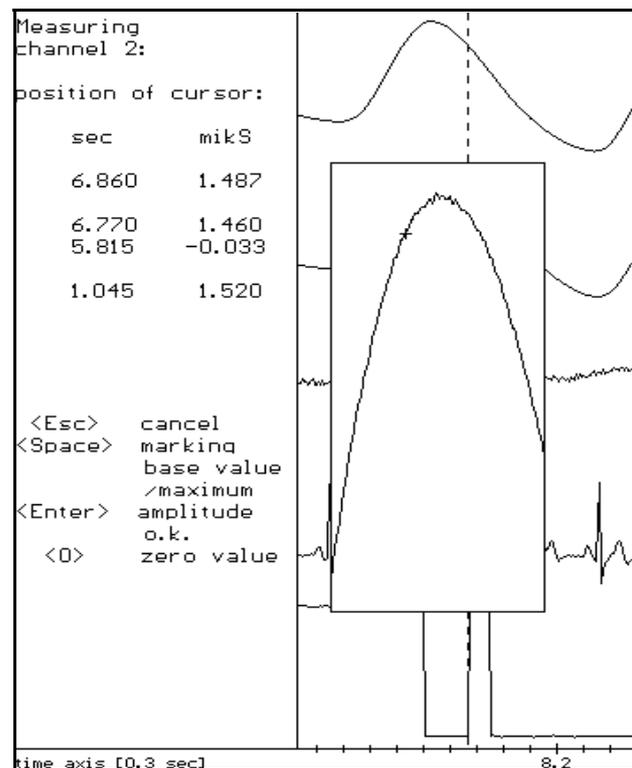
Note that when working with time markings results are not (!) implicitly selected when fitting the time window. You have to do this explicitly by activating the respective results and pressing <Return> which is followed by the high frequency tone.

## Measuring: Inserting and Revising Results

The keys `<Insert>` or `<Alt-I>` are used to activate the measuring panel on the left of the screen as well as a small cross in the middle of the screen. The cross behaves like a cursor: if you press the `<cursor left>` or `<cursor right>` keys the cross moves and the actual value and the corresponding time are displayed in the measuring panel (cf. fig. 21). Together with the `<Ctrl>` key the cursor movement is speeded up.

In fact, when determining an amplitude you need to specify two data points, one for the base value (onset) and the other for the maximum of the amplitude. Pressing `<Space>` fixes one data point and moves to the other data point which is represented by a second cross. Again, you can move the second cross with the help of the cursor keys. As before, `<Space>` will fix this data point and jump back to the first data point (and so on). Values and times of both data point together with their differences are shown on the panel.

If you have specified any compression larger than 1, *EC* will zoom the area around the actual data point when pressing `<Space>`. This gives you the opportunity to select each data value by moving a new cross within the zoom window. Pressing `<Space>` or `<Esc>` closes the zoom window and shifts to the other data point.



**Fig. 21.** Measuring an event: Zoom window with cursor (right hand) and corresponding status panel (left hand).

After choosing two data points the key `<Enter>` enters your decision as a choice for a new result. If you confirm your decision after prompting the result is automatically selected for the output result file. The `<Esc>` key will cancel the measuring.

Sometimes you do not need two data points, e.g. when specifying the R-wave peak or another zero amplitude. In this case you simply press the key `<0>` (otherwise you have to set both data points exactly to the same position). Note that when correcting ECG results you should not measure the R-wave amplitude. Calculations of RECAL.EXE refer to the difference of *time* (onset time of a particular amplitude) minus *rise time* (cf. chapter *Calculations and more*, p. 36). Normally you take the R-wave peak as the reference time, and therefore the rise time should be zero.

In contrast to the key `<Alt-I>` which will always insert a new result the `<Insert>` key will modify an existing result if activated. In this case you may change the base value and

the maximum of the activated result. The cursor will start at the base value of the particular result and swap to its maximum.

## Time Markings

If you are working with a time file (cf. chapter *Time Analysis and Time Files*, p. 27) the current time marker (number and time) is displayed at the top left corner between file name and channel label (cf. fig. 17). All manual result selection will store this time as the event time, i.e. the results of the \*.Z?? files are related to this marker time (cf. example 2 in chapter *Listing a Result File*, p. 35). When working with time markings the <Insert> key will activate the cursor cross in the middle of the time window (when no result is formerly activated).

You may jump to different time markers by either using the <F9> key (choose any marker number within the range of detected markers) or the keys <Tab> and <Shift-Tab> to skip to the next and previous time marker, respectively.

It is also possible to insert or delete a time marker manually. The key <F8> insert a new time marker at the specified time. The key <F7> deletes the time marker. Both keys adjust the time file. The keys <F7> to <F9> as well as the <Tab> keys are only functional when using a time file.

## Changing Graphic Color Settings

The default color settings of EC may be altered by the user. Pressing the <Shift-F1> key toggles between eight different background colors (using EGA or VGA).

The <Shift-F2> key activates a left panel to modify the colors of the currently activated channel. The keys <Space>, <Home> and <End> toggle between fifteen foreground colors (EGA/VGA) for the graph line, the selected, and, the unselected results, respectively. The <Esc> key quits the channel color panel.

You will save the current color settings with <Shift-F3> to a file named EC.PAL. When starting the program EC searches in the current DOS directory for a file EC.PAL with the color settings.

## 4 Results and Calculations

### The Result File Converting Utility

The RECAL.EXE routine is a multi-purpose program to operate on result files. By typing "RECAL <- " (or with /? as any call parameter) you will get the following help screen:

```

EC Result File Converting Utility  Version 1.04  01/07/1993
Syntax:  RECAL [<switches>] <input file> [<output file>]

switches:
/a          file converting: ASCII => binary (default: binary => ASCII)
/index     show sample rate index of events in listing
           (default: show event number)
/n[<t1>:<t2>] number or events * optional from time
/stat     time related statistics (only with /n) * <t1> to time <t2>
/p[<t1>:<t2>] IBI ("heart time") * in seconds
/pk[<ll>:<ul>] IBI plausibility control
           <ll> lower HR limit (interrupts listing)
           <ul> upper HR limit (interrupts listing)
/r[<t0>:<tu>] IBI phasic changes (real time)
           <t0> reference time (default: times from time file *.ZMD)
           <tu> calculation time (default: 1 [sec])
           => creates a new result file *.R??
/rt<t1>:<t2> specifications for IBI phasic changes (real time)
           <t1> calculations before <t0> (default: 5 [sec])
           <t2> calculations after <t0> (default: 10 [sec])
/z          convert time file
/?          this help

```

RECAL expects at least a result file name (<input file>) to convert the binary information into readable ASCII code. All ASCII output to the screen may be directed to an ASCII text file if you specify an <output file> name.

### Listing a Result File

Example 1 shows an EDA result file created by ED. The column *type* refers to the kind of SCR, i.e. 1 codes a normal SCR, 2 codes an SCR with an interpolated *recovery time/2* (because of a new SCR), and 0 codes an SCR with no recovery at all (*recovery time/2* is set to -1.000). The column *time* holds the real time of the maximum of the SCR amplitude. The onset of the SCR (base value) is this *time* minus the *rise time*.

```

file name (binary)          DEMO.G01
file name (ASCII)          DEMO.EDA
threshold: maximum         0.0250
threshold: overlaid maximum 0.0250
threshold: speed (slope)   0.0750

```

```

percentage of maximum = onset      5.00
time constant in seconds           0.98      sample rate  200.00 Hz
delay in sample points             43.00      filter frequency 2.00 Hz

  number      time  type  amplitude      slope      rise      recovery
           [sec]                maximum      time      /2
-----
    1         1.305    1      0.443      0.671      1.210      1.080
    2         4.365    2      1.343      1.770      1.350      1.387
    3         7.080    1      3.708      4.938      1.265      1.110
    4         9.840    2      2.263      3.631      1.125      3.393
    5        10.995    1      0.331      0.708      0.710      0.325
           :
   21        86.350    1      0.151      0.234      1.070      0.790
   22        91.490    1      1.878      2.500      1.695      1.235
   23        94.130    1      1.388      2.314      1.065      0.865
   24        97.725    1      2.291      3.107      1.355      1.025
ok

```

Example 2 shows an EDA output result file created by EC while using time markings. Only a few results from the input result file have been selected. The column *recovery time/2* is replaced by *event time*, i.e. the actual reference time of the time file when selecting a particular result. The column *slope maximum* is replaced by *latency*, i.e. *time* minus *rise time* minus *event time*. As there has been an interactive correction (cf. chapter *Measuring*, p. 32) there is a -1 in the column *type*.

```

file name (binary)          DEMO.Z01
file name (ASCII)

  number      time  type  amplitude      latency      rise      event
           [sec]                time
-----
    1         9.840    2      2.263      1.505      1.125      7.210
    2        10.995    1      0.331      3.075      0.710      7.210
    3        39.660   -1      1.913      3.225      1.245      35.190
    4        62.710    1      0.485      2.310      1.160      59.240

```

Example 3 shows an ECG result file created by ED. Note that *time* holds the peak of the R-wave and that there is always a *rise time* of zero.

```

file name (binary)          DEMO.G04
file name (ASCII)

threshold: maximum          0.5000
threshold: overlaid maximum 0.5000
threshold: speed (slope)    0.0750
percentage of maximum = onset 5.00
time constant in seconds    0.00      sample rate  200.00 Hz
delay in sample points      0.00      filter frequency 0.00 Hz

  number      time  type  amplitude      slope      rise      recovery
           [sec]                maximum      time      /2
-----
    1         0.375    9      1.216      0.000      0.000      0.000
    2         1.130    9      1.230      0.000      0.000      0.000
           :
   10         7.200    9      1.201      0.000      0.000      0.000
   11         7.910    9      1.209      0.000      0.000      0.000

```

## Options

You may use the switch `/a` to reconvert from an ASCII file generated by RECAL to a binary file but this will only work if the ASCII listing contains the head entries, i.e. sample rate, etc.

The switch `/index` will show the sample rate index of each event instead of the event number.

Example 4 shows a time file (DEMO.ZMD) listing generated with the switch `/z`.

```

1           7.21000 sec
2          35.19000 sec
3          59.24000 sec
4          82.21500 sec

```

## Calculations

The switches `/n`, `/stat`, `/p`, `/r` and `/pk` are used to calculate on a result file.

### Number of Events

The switch `/n` counts the number of events.

```
n = 24 results in DEMO.G01 ...
```

Together with a time range specification only the events fitting the time range are regarded. The critical time for fitting is column *time* minus column *rise time*. For example, `/n50.0:100.0` calculates on a 50 seconds interval.

```
n = 73 results (50.000 - 100.000 sec => 87.600 n/min) in DEMO.G04 ...
```

### Heart Period, Heart Rate and IBI

The same logic holds for the switch `/p` which calculates heart periods (HP) and heart rate (HR) on IBIs, i.e. the time between adjacent results.

IBI	time [sec]	HP [sec]	HR [bpm]
1	20.810	0.72000	83.333
2	21.560	0.75000	80.000
3	22.285	0.72500	82.759
4	23.015	0.73000	82.192
5	23.765	0.75000	80.000
6	24.480	0.71500	83.916

7	25.145	0.66500	90.226
8	25.765	0.62000	96.774
9	26.365	0.60000	100.000
10	26.970	0.60500	99.174
11	27.620	0.65000	92.308
12	28.360	0.74000	81.081
13	29.065	0.70500	85.106
14	29.760	0.69500	86.331

14 IBI (n = 15, 20.000 - 30.000 sec) in DEMO.G04 ...  
ok

## Phasic Heart Rate Changes

The switch */r* calculates on IBIs phasic changes for real time. For example, the switch */r50.0* calculates for the reference time 50.0 seconds for steps of 1 seconds (default) heart period and heart rate. Additionally, EC calculates a mean heart rate for the interval before the reference time and the difference heart rate to the mean heart rate.

	Interval [sec]		HP [sec]	HR [bpm]	[bpm] Ø
-5	45.000-	46.000	0.73385000	81.761	
-4	46.000-	47.000	0.73315000	81.839	
-3	47.000-	48.000	0.67200000	89.286	
-2	48.000-	49.000	0.68990000	86.969	
-1	49.000-	50.000	0.69505000	86.325	
0	50.000-	51.000	0.73050000	82.136	85.132 Ø
1	51.000-	52.000	0.69207500	86.696	1.564
2	52.000-	53.000	0.65802500	91.182	6.050
3	53.000-	54.000	0.71585000	83.816	-1.315
4	54.000-	55.000	0.72975000	82.220	-2.912
5	55.000-	56.000	0.70805000	84.740	-0.392
6	56.000-	57.000	0.70665000	84.908	-0.224
7	57.000-	58.000	0.69680000	86.108	0.976
8	58.000-	59.000	0.70410000	85.215	0.083
9	59.000-	60.000	0.72160000	83.149	-1.983

You may use a time file as a reference time input. If the first time of the switch */r* equals zero (*/r* or */r0.0:1.0*) RECAL searches for a time file \*.ZMD. If there is no file you are prompted for a time file name. RECAL will calculate real time phasic changes for all times of the time file.

Together with the switch */rt* you may change the default settings of the pre- and post-intervals. The next example shows a listing with the switch settings */r0:0.5* and */rt6:10* while DEMO.G04 served as the input result file.

```
time file: DEMO.ZMD
```

	Interval [sec]		HP [sec]	HR [bpm]	[bpm] Ø
1	7.210				
-6	4.210-	4.710	0.77500000	77.419	
-5	4.710-	5.210	0.75640000	79.323	
-4	5.210-	5.710	0.74955000	80.048	
-3	5.710-	6.210	0.78000000	76.923	
-2	6.210-	6.710	0.77715000	77.205	
-1	6.710-	7.210	0.77370000	77.549	
0	7.210-	7.710	0.71000000	84.507	78.061 Ø

1	7.710-	8.210	0.74300000	80.754	2.693
2	8.210-	8.710	0.76675000	78.252	0.192
3	8.710-	9.210	0.79000000	75.949	-2.111
4	9.210-	9.710	0.78265000	76.663	-1.398
5	9.710-	10.210	0.77500000	77.419	-0.641
6	10.210-	10.710	0.75150000	79.840	1.780
7	10.710-	11.210	0.72360000	82.919	4.858
8	11.210-	11.710	0.69240000	86.655	8.594
9	11.710-	12.210	0.73000000	82.192	4.131
2	35.190				
-6	32.190-	32.690	0.73060000	82.124	

In case of the switch /r a new result file \*.R?? is generated by RECAL which may be later inspected with RECAL. Compare the following listing of the file DEMO.R04 with the previous example.

file name (binary) DEMO.R04  
file name (ASCII)

number	event time [sec]	No.	off-time [sec]	cal. IBI [sec]	HR	mean HR/ delta HR
1	7.210	-6	4.210	0.775	77.419	0.000
2	7.210	-5	4.710	0.756	79.323	0.000
3	7.210	-4	5.210	0.750	80.048	0.000
4	7.210	-3	5.710	0.780	76.923	0.000
5	7.210	-2	6.210	0.777	77.205	0.000
6	7.210	-1	6.710	0.774	77.549	0.000
7	7.210	0	7.210	0.710	84.507	78.061
8	7.210	1	7.710	0.743	80.754	2.693
9	7.210	2	8.210	0.767	78.252	0.192
10	7.210	3	8.710	0.790	75.949	-2.111
11	7.210	4	9.210	0.783	76.663	-1.398
12	7.210	5	9.710	0.775	77.419	-0.641
13	7.210	6	10.210	0.752	79.840	1.780
14	7.210	7	10.710	0.724	82.919	4.858
15	7.210	8	11.210	0.692	86.655	8.594
16	7.210	9	11.710	0.730	82.192	4.131
17	35.190	-6	32.190	0.731	82.124	0.000
18	35.190	-5	32.690	0.735	81.633	0.000
19	35.190	-4	33.190	0.742	80.917	0.000

### Time Related IBI Statistics

The switch /stat calculates several time specific statistics for IBIs, i.e. mean (MEAN), standard deviation (STDEV), variance coefficient (VARCOEF), mean sum of squares of successive differences (MSSD), instantaneous heart rate (IHR). For a detailed explanation of these statistical parameters and their relevance we recommend the article of van Dellen, Aasman, Mulder & Mulder (1985) as a reference. In contrast to the switch /n all calculations refer to the time interval between the first and the last heart beat. For clarification look at the following three examples (corresponding commands are entered after the DOS prompt):

```
C:\EDA\DEMO>recal demo.g04 /n15:75 /stat
```

```
n = 86 events (15.000 - 75.000 sec => 86.000 n/min) in DEMO.G04 ...
```

```
n = 85 IBI (15.435 - 74.660 sec => 86.112 n/min)
```

```
MEAN      =      696.7647058824 msec
STDEV     =      43.9338374472 msec
VARCOEF  =      6.3054051212
MSSD     =      1245.8333334122
IHR      =      1.4352047277 Hz
```

```
ok
```

```
C:\EDA\DEMO>recal demo.g04 /n15:75
```

```
n = 86 events (15.000 - 75.000 sec => 86.000 n/min) in DEMO.G04 ...
```

```
ok
```

```
C:\EDA\DEMO>recal demo.g04 /n /stat
```

```
n = 143 events in DEMO.G04 ...
```

```
n = 142 IBI (0.375 - 99.925 sec => 85.585 n/min)
```

```
MEAN      =      701.0563380281 msec
STDEV     =      45.4794435129 msec
VARCOEF  =      6.4872737105
MSSD     =      1128.5460992791
IHR      =      1.4264188850 Hz
```

```
ok
```

## Plausibility Check

The switch */pk* is used to check the IBIs for extra beats (systoles) or artifacts. For example, the switch */pk55:85* will list all IBIs and their respective HR but will pause the listing whenever an IBI of an HR below 55 bpm or over 85 bpm appears.

```
C:\EDA\DEMO>recal demo.g04 /pk55:85
```

IBI	HP [sec]	HR [bpm]	
1	1.130	0.75500	79.470
2	1.855	0.72500	82.759
3	2.575	0.72000	83.333
4	3.325	0.75000	80.000
5	4.125	0.80000	75.000
6	4.900	0.77500	77.419
7	5.645	0.74500	80.537
8	6.425	0.78000	76.923
9	7.200	0.77500	77.419
10	7.910	0.71000	84.507
11	8.675	0.76500	78.431
12	9.465	0.79000	75.949
13	10.240	0.77500	77.419
14	10.990	0.75000	80.000
15	11.680	0.69000	86.957

```

---- <Return> ----
      16      12.410      0.73000      82.192
      17      13.180      0.77000      77.922
      18      13.950      0.77000      77.922
      19      14.695      0.74500      80.537
      20      15.435      0.74000      81.081
      21      16.125      0.69000      86.957
---- <Return> ----
      :
```

## Result File Structure

Experienced programmers can use the result files created by ED.EXE, EC.EXE and RECAL.EXE to calculate their own parameters. For this reason the storage format of the events in the result file is given as a part of a **BORLAND® Turbo Pascal** source code in the file *RESULT.PAS*. Regard the comments in the source code!

```

{ RESULT.PAS                      (C) 1992 H.-J. Trosiener & J. Kayser }

{ The following declarations refer to the file structure of result files
  created by ED.EXE, EC.EXE and RECAL.EXE.

  The first record of a result file consists of <ResultType> = 2,
  the second record of <ResultType> = 3, and all following records
  are of <ResultType> = 1.

  Depending on the kind of <CodeType> the variables of <ResultType> = 1
  differ from the meaning of the variable name which hold only for
  <CodeType> = NormalType. }

TYPE CodeType      = (NormalType,
                      SlopeType,
                      LatencyType,
                      IBI_RealtimeType);

ResultType = RECORD CASE INTEGER OF
  1:(Index          : LongInt;
     TimePoint      : REAL   ;
     AmplitudeType  : INTEGER;
     Amplitude      : REAL   ;
     SlopeMaximum   : REAL   ;
     RiseTime       : REAL   ;
     RecoveryTime   : REAL   );
  2:(Min_Ampl_Crit  : REAL   ;
     Min_Inter_Top  : REAL   ;
     Min_Slope_Crit : REAL   ;
     Percentage     : REAL   ;
     Code           : CodeType);
  3:(TimeConstant   : REAL   ;
     SampleRate     : REAL   ;
     FilterDelay    : REAL   ;
     Frequency_low  : REAL   ;
     Frequency_high : REAL   );
END;
```

```
VAR ResultFile : FILE of ResultType;
```

## 5 Modifying CODAS Data Files

The COSAM.EXE routine allows you to reduce the original sample rate of a CODAS<sup>8</sup> data file in order to reduce the amount of data, to extract parts from the original file, and, to join different parts to a new CODAS data file. By typing "COSAM/?" you will get a command help screen.

```
CODAS File Operating Utility Version 1.04 01/07/1993
```

```
Syntax: COSAM <arg> [<inp>] [<out>] [<joi>]
```

```
<arg> arguments:
      /r    interactive data reduction to a smaller sample rate
      /e    extract parts
      /j    join with second CODAS input file
      /i    information about CODAS input file
      /?    this help
<inp> CODAS input file
<out> CODAS output file
<joi> second CODAS input file for joining
```

If you are creating a new CODAS data file, i.e. using one of the arguments */r*, */e*, or */j*, then the calibration file \*.CAL of the CODAS input file is copied.

---

<sup>8</sup> The CODAS package (Computer-based Oscillograph and Data Acquisition System) is a software and hardware utility that turns a personal computer into a high performance data acquisition system (Dataq Instruments, Inc., 1988).

## References

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## Appendix

### A. The Definition File ED.DEF

```

cod          ; type of Data(-File) : COD,BIN,ASC
ecg1        ; type of Analysis (eda, ecg1, ecg2, pow, int)
-5.0       ; lower border of signal range
 5.0       ; upper border of signal range
 0         ; time constant in seconds, 0 = no time constant
bessel     ; filter type (for future versions)
notch      ; filter characteristic ( Low, High, Band,
           ; Notch (Band rejection), none)
 2         ; order of the filter (2,4,6,8,10)
 48        ; upper cutoff-Frequency for LP/HP filter;
           ; lower for Bandfilters/notch
 52        ; upper cutoff-frequency for bandfilters and bandrejection
none       ; binary Output( tcor , filo, filc, orig, none)
.4         ; Threshold : maximum (smallest amplitude of a maximum)
 0         ; Threshold : overlaid maximum
 0         ; Threshold : speed
 0         ; Threshold : acceleration
 0         ; frequency of r-wave for enhancement / or time constant of
           ; integrator (Only for methods ECG2 and INT )
 0         ; segment length (DataPoints) in EMS/RAM/disk
           ; (0 = automatic use )

```

### B. The Definition File EC.DEF

```

; EC.DEF - parameter settings (definitions) of EC.EXE (C) Kayser 01/07/1993
; =====

; EC.EXE searches for a file EC.DEF (another file name may be
; specified as the second call parameter when starting the program).

; This file is an example of a parameter setting file:

; - empty lines are ignored
; - comments start with a semicolon

; - the order of all parameters for the head settings is fixed
; - head settings occur only once and refer to all channels (the default
;   is coded by a minus sign)
; - sequenced settings may be left, i.e. it is possible to have no head
;   settings at all (default settings)

; - head settings -----
7          ; rate of compression (default is 1, not smaller than 1,
           ; whole number)
y          ; event related analysis (using time markings)
-         ; file name of time markings (- = *.ZMD)
5          ; channel number for time analysis
1.0       ; start of time window [sec] in relation to a time marker
5.0       ; end of time window [sec] in relation to a time marker
1.0       ; height of markings (a base of zero is supposed)

```

```

0          ; duration [sec] of the 1st rectangular impulse (0 = any time)
0.5        ; duration [sec] between both impulses (0 = any time)
1.0        ; duration [sec] of the 2nd rectangular impulse (0 = any time)
2          ; time marking in pattern (0 = rise edge first rectangular
          ; impulse, 1 = decay edge first rectangular impulse, 2 = rise
          ; edge second rectangular impulse, 3 = decay edge second
          ; rectangular impulse; if each duration equals zero an even
          ; number (0 or 2) will lead to a detection of all rise edges,
          ; an odd number (1 or 3) will detect all decay edges)

; - adjustment factor settings -----
; AF02:0.01      ; adjustment factor channel 02 (data divided by 100)
; AF03:0.1       ; adjustment factor channel 03

; - scaling factor settings (default = auto scaling) are coded by the
;   initial characters "SF" followed by the channel number (two digits)
;   and a not significant character (e.g. double point), i.e. the
;   scaling factor value must be on column 6-15

; - scaling factor settings (range 1 to 9999) -----
; SF01:100      ; scaling factor channel 01
; SF02:100      ; scaling factor channel 02
; SF03:200      ; scaling factor channel 03
; SF04:50       ; scaling factor channel 04

; - parameter settings of a particular channel (channel entries) are
;   introduced by 'CHANNEL[n]' ([n] = channel number with two digits,
;   e.g. '01', max. 8 channels are possible)
; - entries for a particular channel are optional; if a channel is
;   mentioned all entries for that channel have to be explicit
; - the default is coded by a minus sign

;-----
CHANNEL01    ; start entries of channel 1
Y            ; y = show data of channel, n = ignore data of channel
SCR left     ; label (comment max. 12 characters)
-           ; binary file name (- = *.D01)
Y            ; y = use binary data, n = do not use binary data
-           ; result file name (- = *.G01)
Y            ; y = show results, n = do not show results
-           ; file name for corrected results (- = *.K01)
Y            ; y = correct results, n = do not correct results
n           ; selection of results (y = all, n = none)

;-----
CHANNEL02    ; start entries of channel 2
Y            ; y = show data of channel, n = ignore data of channel
SCR right    ; label (comment max. 12 characters)
-           ; binary file name (- = *.D01)
Y            ; y = use binary data, n = do not use binary data
-           ; result file name (- = *.G01)
Y            ; y = show results, n = do not show results
-           ; file name for corrected results (- = *.K01)
Y            ; y = correct results, n = do not correct results
n           ; selection of results (y = all, n = none)

;-----
CHANNEL03    ; start entries of channel 3

```

```

Y          ; y = show data of channel, n = ignore data of channel
EOG       ; label (comment max. 12 characters)
-         ; binary file name (- = *.D01)
n         ; y = use binary data, n = do not use binary data
-         ; result file name (- = *.G01)
n         ; y = show results, n = do not show results
-         ; file name for corrected results (- = *.K01)
Y         ; y = correct results, n = do not correct results
-         ; selection of results (y = all, n = none)

;-----
CHANNEL04 ; start entries of channel 4
Y         ; y = show data of channel, n = ignore data of channel
ECG      ; label (comment max. 12 characters)
-         ; binary file name (- = *.D01)
Y         ; y = use binary data, n = do not use binary data
-         ; result file name (- = *.G01)
n         ; y = show results, n = do not show results
-         ; file name for corrected results (- = *.K01)
Y         ; y = correct results, n = do not correct results
Y         ; selection of results (y = all, n = none)

;-----
CHANNEL05 ; start entries of channel 5
Y         ; y = show data of channel, n = ignore data of channel
markings ; label (comment max. 12 characters)
-         ; binary file name (- = *.D01)
n         ; y = use binary data, n = do not use binary data
-         ; result file name (- = *.G01)
n         ; y = show results, n = do not show results
-         ; file name for corrected results (- = *.K01)
n         ; y = correct results, n = do not correct results
-         ; selection of results (y = all, n = none)

; the entry 'PRINTER[n]' initializes the printer ([n] = printer number
; with three digits, e.g. '001')
; the default setting is a standard printer
; up to now the following printer are supported:
;   001 - Epson MX 100
;   002 - Epson RX-80, Epson 80F/T
;   003 - Epson LQ-850/1050
;   004 - IBM 4207-002 and compatible IBM printers
;   005 - Hewlett_Packard LaserJet II, Hewlett_Packard DeskJet PLUS
;   006 - Panasonic KX-P1092

; - printer -----
PRINTER004 ; initializes an IBM printer

```

### C. An EDA Result File Listing Example

```

file name (binary)      DEMO.G01
file name (ASCII)      DEMO.EDA
threshold: maximum     0.0250
threshold: overlaid maximum 0.0250
threshold: speed (slope) 0.0000
percentage of maximum = onset 5.00
time constant in seconds 1.00          sample rate 200.00 Hz

```

delay in sample points		43.00		filter frequency		2.00 Hz	
number	time [sec]	type	amplitude	slope maximum	rise time	recovery /2	
1	1.295	1	0.441	0.668	1.235	1.080	
2	4.360	2	1.331	1.762	1.350	1.373	
3	7.070	1	3.675	4.910	1.255	1.105	
4	9.835	2	2.254	3.630	1.120	3.249	
5	10.990	1	0.324	0.698	0.710	0.325	
6	16.790	2	6.364	7.326	1.610	20.091	
7	25.845	2	4.584	5.843	1.490	2.174	
8	27.465	1	1.311	2.776	0.775	0.500	
9	36.645	1	0.054	0.080	1.050	0.580	
10	39.675	1	2.043	2.753	2.100	1.265	
11	42.365	1	1.576	2.812	0.965	0.730	
12	44.475	1	1.670	2.939	0.975	0.700	
13	49.160	1	1.533	2.817	0.935	0.690	
14	51.275	1	0.416	0.922	0.740	0.430	
15	53.640	1	1.821	2.725	1.160	0.785	
16	62.705	1	0.482	0.662	1.170	1.485	
17	67.980	0	1.441	2.129	1.195	-1.000	
18	68.970	1	1.635	2.649	0.985	0.675	
19	75.510	1	2.498	2.822	1.520	1.005	
20	77.680	1	0.981	2.015	0.825	0.650	
21	81.895	1	0.279	0.519	0.945	0.670	
22	86.350	1	0.154	0.234	1.135	0.800	
23	91.480	1	1.860	2.485	1.690	1.220	
24	94.125	1	1.381	2.307	1.060	0.865	
25	97.720	1	2.274	3.096	1.355	1.020	

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