LeverAutoshaping

A Whisker client

by Rudolf Cardinal

www.whiskercontrol.com

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Foreword

WARNING

Whisker is a system designed for research purposes only, and should never be used to control medical apparatus or other devices that could endanger human life.

DISCLAIMER

The authors, copyright holders, and distributors disclaim all responsibility for any adverse effects that may occur as a result of a user disregarding the above warning.
1 LeverAutoshaping

1.1 About LeverAutoshaping

Purpose

Autoshaping using levers as the CS.

Software requirements

Requires Whisker v2.0 or greater.

Data storage

- Text-based output to disk.
- ODBC data storage to a database (supplied).

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1.2 Required devices

The program requires to claim devices in groups named box0, box1, box2... with device names as listed below in bold:

```plaintext
// Names of lines the program expects to be able to claim
NOSEPOKE      // input
LEFTLEVER      // input
RIGHTLEVER     // input
LOCOBREAK_FRONT // input
LOCOBREAK_MIDDLE // input
LOCOBREAK_REAR  // input
HOUSELIGHT     // output
PUMP           // output
DIPPER         // output
LEFTLEVERCONTROL // output
RIGHTLEVERCONTROL // output
LEFTLIGHT      // output
RIGHTLIGHT     // output
PELLET         // output
```

// Aliases used while the program is in full flight, which it therefore expects not to be present on the server:
PlusLever
PlusLeverControl
PlusLight
MinusLever
MinusLeverControl
MinusLlight

Please ensure that these devices are available and listed in the device definition file in use by the
1.3 Using the task

When you run the task, the main screen looks as follows:

You must connect to a Whisker server, claim an operant chamber (box), and set up the parameters for your task. Once that's done, the traffic lights will turn amber. When you are ready, press Start to begin the task.

When the task finishes, it saves data to disk and pops up a new dialogue box for you to select a database to store the data to. (The data sources are configured under Control Panel → ODBC.) If you previously specified an ODBC data source in the parameters, that data source is used automatically and you will only see a dialogue box if something goes wrong and the program needs your input.
A Machine Data Source is specific to this machine, and cannot be shared. "User" data sources are specific to a user on this machine. "System" data sources can be used by all users on this machine, or by a system wide service.
1.4 Parameters

The parameters dialogue box looks like this:

![Parameters Dialogue Box]

To pick an ODBC database in advance of finishing, click Pick and you will be offered the ODBC Data Source picker (below). Your choice will be recorded and will apply to this subject from now on (or until you specify a different source).
If you don't specify an ODBC data source now, or you delete the value in the "ODBC data source name" box, you'll be asked to choose when the task ends (and that choice will only apply to the session in progress).
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