The DAMSystem3 application is available in 2 versions:

- DAMSystem3 for Macintosh OSX (10.4/10.5)
- DAMSystem3 for Windows (2000/XP/Vista)

Unzip/Unstuff the appropriate distribution archive, and drag the single expanded file to a convenient folder on the hard drive, or leave it on the desktop. Before launching the application, systems using the PSIU Power Supply Interface Unit will need to download and install the appropriate USB driver from the PSIUdrivers.zip archive.

Then launch the application, and make the initial settings in the *Preferences* tab. The *DAMSystem User's Guide* contains additional information on both the hardware and software components of the system.

The *DAMFileScan* application should be downloaded as well, and while optional, does provide a number of useful functions for cleanup and validation of data files at the conclusion of an experiment.

Macintosh OSX Platform

The DAMSystem application should be placed in a User directory, preferably in its own folder. The desktop is fine as well.

The software will operate on both PowerPC and Intel Macintosh processors running OSX up to and including v10.5 Leopard.

Windows Platform

The DAMSystem application may be placed in a folder on the hard drive, in MyDocuments, or directly on the desktop. Windows versions 2000, XP, and Vista are supported.

Release History

v3.0.3	April 2008	Upgrade to Vista and Intel Macintosh, including Leopard
v3.0.2	January 2007	Initial release of DAMSystem3

Migrating from DAMSystem2

Users migrating from DAMSystem2 should have no trouble adapting to the new version, but a number of significant changes have been made, including:

Direct Data Output

Output text files are now produced immediately as the data is taken, eliminating the internal binary file and the Save Data step. This removes the 100000 bin storage limit, allowing data files to grow to any arbitrary length, and facilitates harvesting the data at any point during an experiment. (Simply copy the files to another folder and move them elsewhere for analysis.)

Monitor Files

All output from a single monitor is now stored in a single monitor text file instead of the 32 channel files. This new 42-column file format includes the 32 data channels, the date, time, and status for each reading, and in the case of the DAM2 monitor, the light sensor output (1/0).

Light Timing And/Or

The Light Timing settings (*Lights* tab) now include AND as well as OR logic to combine multiple pulses on a single channel. The AND provision makes possible the use of one long pulse as an enabling gate for a sequence of short pulses, as would be used to apply a repeated stimulus over a limited period of time.

Multiple Systems

Multiple system operation from a single computer is now supported on both platforms. Up to 5 independent systems, each with separate PSIU and monitor network, may operate simultaneously without interference. Each system will use a separate copy of the DAMSystem3 program, each of which must be located in a separate folder.

DAM File Scan

A separate DAMFileScan application is available to preprocess the raw output monitor files. At the conclusion of an experiment, the monitor files should be moved out of the DAMSystem3Data folder, and into another (or other machine) for scan by the DAMFileScan application. This program will correct skipped or extra bins, and produce subsets of the raw data files over specified date/time ranges if desired. The program will also produce the legacy Channel files for use with existing analysis protocols.

CPU Usage and Reliability

CPU usage has been significantly reduced over that of DAMSystem2, and overall reliability has been enhanced. Please report experience to the contrary.

User's Guide

Information formerly contained in the Help section of the program has been moved to the separate User's Guide document, available for download.

Feedback

Users migrating from DAMSystem2 are especially encouraged to submit comments, suggestions, and bug reports to support@trikinetics.com. Such feedback is invaluable to the continued improvement of this product, and is always welcome.

For additional assistance

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