GASTROINTESTINAL MOTILITY MONITOR (GIMM) SYSTEM

SOF-570

USER'S MANUAL

DOC-103
Rev. 1.8

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CHAPTER 1 | INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing the Gastrointestinal Motility Monitor (GIMM) package from Med Associates, Inc. We are pleased to present this package, which is intended for use in gastrointestinal physiology/pharmacology experimentation.

GIMM is a software/hardware package that is the result of basic research and development efforts aimed at bringing scientists a powerful and easy-to-use application that allows in vitro measurements of motility patterns, such as the peristaltic reflex and spatiotemporal maps in isolated segments of the gastrointestinal tract from laboratory animals. GIMM allows the researcher to accurately quantify GI motility patterns in an experimental setting. GI motility patterns can be determined under resting conditions, as well as in the presence of pharmacological test compounds.

System Components

The GIMM system includes all of the hardware and software necessary for functioning as a stand-alone laboratory station. GIMM also offers full flexibility for incorporating into existing lab stations.

Each fully equipped GIMM system includes:

- Heating water pump set to maximum flow rate
- Up to two peristaltic pumps
- One heat exchanger per station
- One tissue bath per station
- One backlight with power supply per station
- One camera with mount per station
- Up to two Firewire hubs
- Tubing
- Tubing accessories/connectors
- Computer package
- Gastrointestinal Motility Monitor (GIMM) Software

CHAPTER 2 | INSTALLATION

Workstation Assembly

The instructions in this section describe the complete assembly of one workstation. Repeat these instructions for each additional workstation.
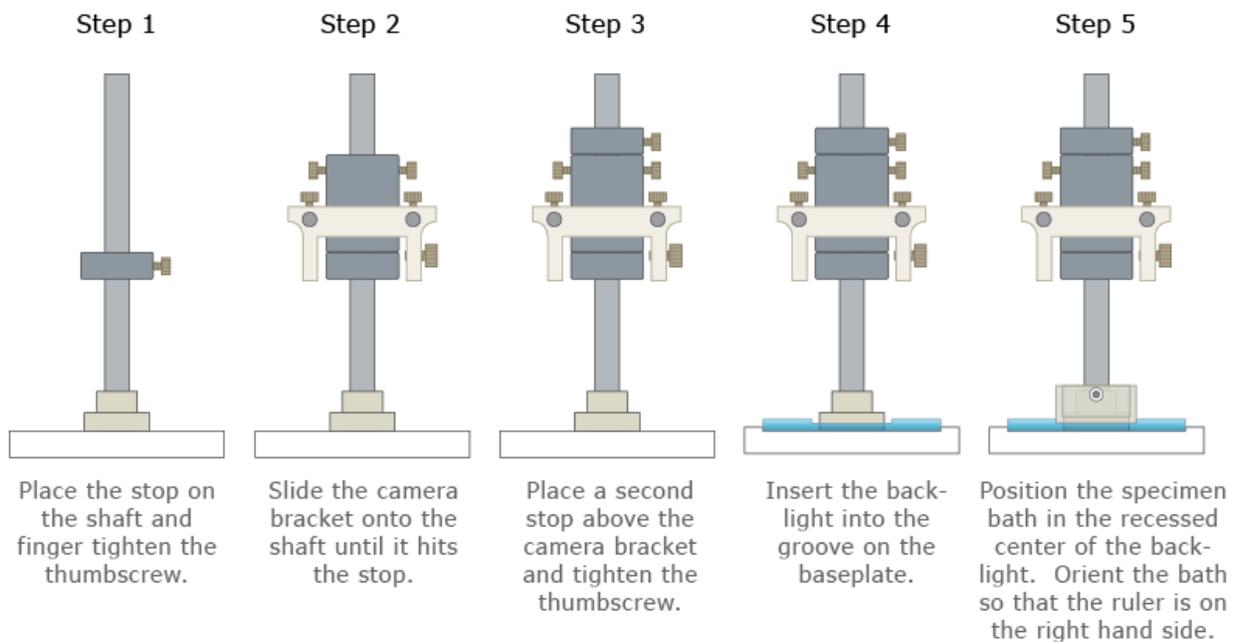
1. Locate the workstation base and attach the support shaft using four of the included thumbscrews.

Figure 2.1 - Workstation Base and Support Shaft
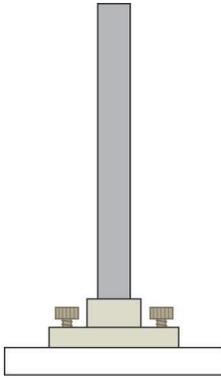
2. Refer to Figure 2.2 to complete the workstation assembly. Be sure that each workstation is assembled using the properly numbered components.

Figure 2.2 - Completion of Workstation Assembly

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
Place the stop on the shaft and finger tighten the thumbscrew.	Slide the camera bracket onto the shaft until it hits the stop.	Place a second stop above the camera bracket and tighten the thumbscrew.	Insert the back-light into the groove on the baseplate.	Position the specimen bath in the recessed center of the back-light. Orient the bath so that the ruler is on the right hand side.

Camera Placement

Place the camera in the camera bracket as shown in Figure 2.3. Once the camera is in place, secure it in the bracket using the thumbscrew on the right side.

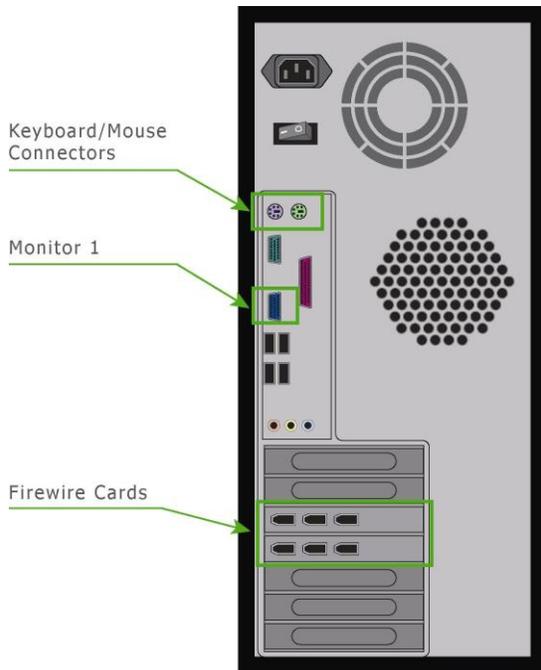*Figure 2.3 - Proper Camera Orientation*
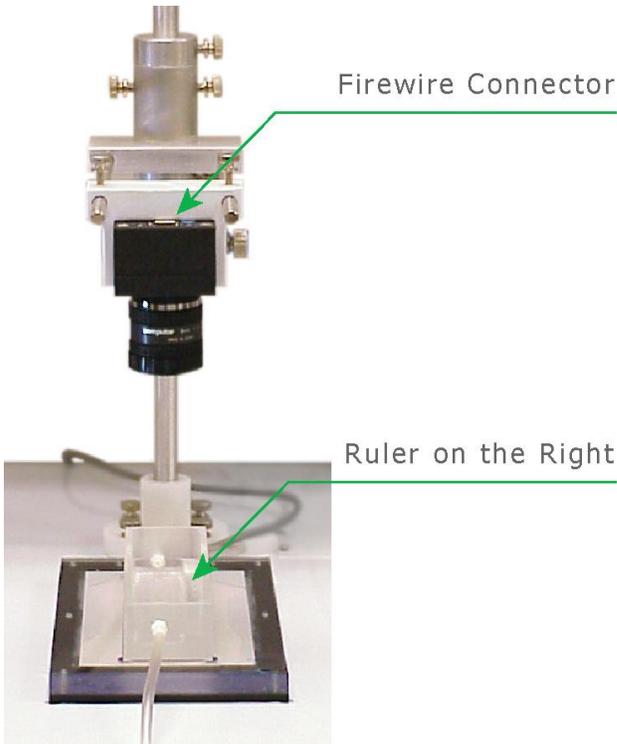
Wiring Instructions

Firewire Cables

Once all four of the workstations have been assembled and the corresponding cameras placed in the camera brackets, setup the computer using the figure below as a guide. The location of these connections may vary slightly.

Figure 2.4 - Rear of Computer

Connect each of the firewire hubs to separate firewire cards (located on the back of the computer) using the included firewire cables. Supply power to the hubs using the DC cable. Figure 2.5 shows a connected firewire hub.

Figure 2.5 - Firewire Hub

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Med Associates, Inc.
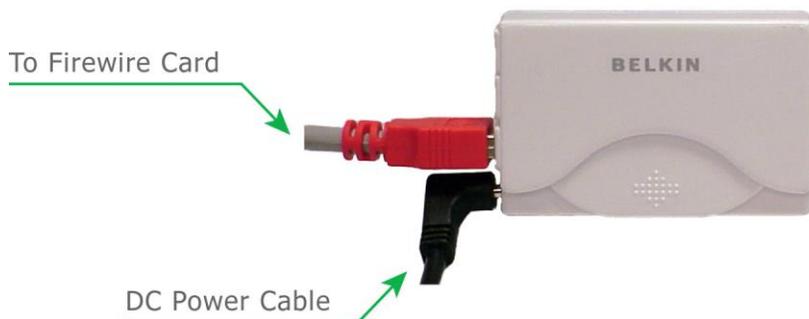
Each of the four cameras will be connected to the computer via the firewire hubs. First attach two firewire cables to each of the hubs as shown in Figure 2.6.

*Figure 2.6 - Firewire Hub with Camera Cables*

Next, run the firewire cables from the hubs to each individual camera. The firewire connector is located on the top of the camera.

Backlight Cables

NOTE: Be sure that the GIMM-100 light amplifiers are turned off or unplugged prior to connecting the backlight cables.
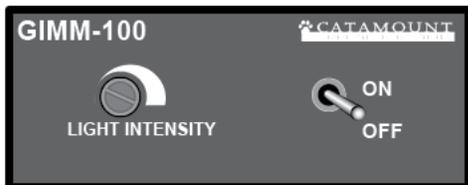
Connect each backlight to the **LIGHT BATH** connector on the corresponding GIMM-100.

Figure 2.7 - Back Panel of the GIMM-100
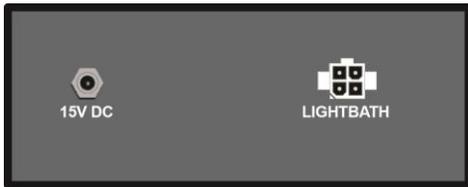
Connect the included 15 VDC power supplies to the **15 VDC** connectors on the GIMM-100s and plug them in. The backlight intensity may be adjusted using the LIGHT INTENSITY knob on the front of the GIMM-100.

Figure 2.8 - Front Panel of the GIMM-100

Plumbing Instructions

Perfusate System for Single Station GIMM System Using One Pump

A single-station GIMM system includes one peristaltic pump that is used to circulate the perfusate through the system (pump models may vary). To install the tubing, refer to the instructions in the Instruction Manual provided with the pump. The instructions in this section describe the complete plumbing of one workstation.

Table 2.1 - Single Station Tubing Guide

Section Name	Connector 1	Tubing Length	Connector 2	Qty. Used
A	None	36"	Female Luer	2
B	Male Luer (Inflow)	16"	Male Luer	1
C	Female Luer	60"	Male Slip	1
E	Male Luer	60"	Female Luer	1
B'	Male Luer (Outflow)	16"	Male Luer	1
C'	Female Luer	18"	Male Slip	1

*Figure 2.9 - Plumbing Diagram for Single Station System with Single Pump*
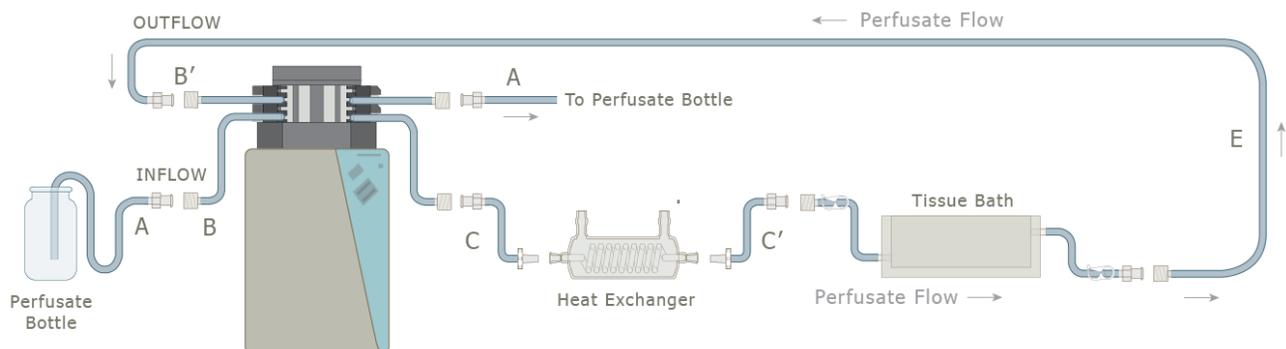
NOTE: The peristaltic pump supplied with the GIMM System is a 4 channel pump and will support up to 2 stations.

1. Connect Section **A** to Section **B**.
2. Install Section **B** into the pump.
3. Connect the other end of Section **B** to Section **C**.
4. Connect Section **C** to one end of the **Heat Exchanger**.
5. Connect the other end of the **Heat Exchanger** to Section **C'**.
6. Connect Section **C'** to the male luer connector on the **Tissue Bath**.
7. Connect the female luer connector on the **Tissue Bath** to Section **E**.
8. Connect the other end of Section **E** to Section **B'**.
9. Install Section **B'** into the pump, being sure that the flow will be going in the same direction as the Section installed in Step 3.
10. Connect the other end of Section **B'** to Section **A**.
11. Place the ends of the Section **A**s in perfusate bottles.

Heating System

The heating system consists of the up to four heat exchangers, the heat pump and the included 1/4" ID tubing. Connect the heating system as shown in Figure 2.10, with the heat exchangers daisy chained together.

Figure 2.10 - Heating System Diagram
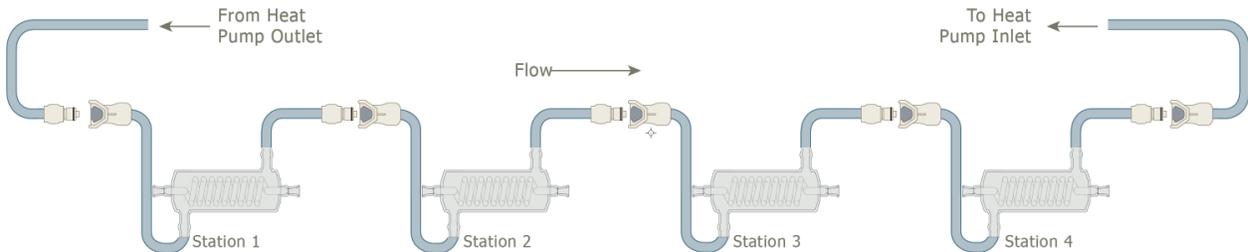
Peristaltic Pump Calibration

Now that the GIMM system is set up, turn the heat pump on. Now the saline will be heated while flowing through the heat exchangers. The temperature in the tissue baths should be constant. In order to assure that the temperature is consistent from bath to bath, be sure that the tubing between the heat exchanger and the tissue bath is the same length for each workstation. The heating system can be calibrated for most mammalian work.

Heating System Calibration

Use a thermometer to check the temperature in each tissue bath. Adjust the temperature of the circulatory water bath heater pump so that you read your desired temperature in each tissue bath. In most cases, you will need to set the heater pump several degrees higher than your desired tissue bath temperature. For example, to reach 37°C in each tissue bath, the heater pump may need to be set to 43-44°C. If you find that the heater pump has to be set much higher than that, consider decreasing the length of tubing in your bath superfusion circuit.

Caution: Excessive temperatures can cause pH problems in your saline solution.

CHAPTER 3 | SOFTWARE

Naming Cameras

A full GIMM system comes with four video cameras and four completely independent experimental stations, or "workstations." It is important to define which camera is associated with each workstation in the GIMM Software. Instructions for naming cameras and workstations in a 4-station setup are provided as an example.
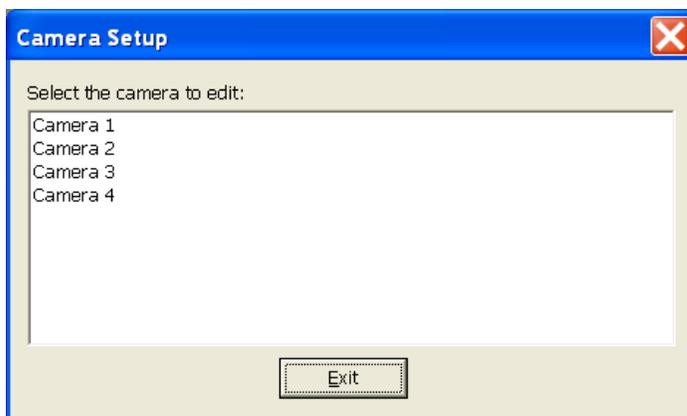
1. Open the GIMM software.

2. In the **File** menu, click **Camera Names** as shown in Figure 3.1:

Figure 3.1 - File | Camera Names Menu Selection
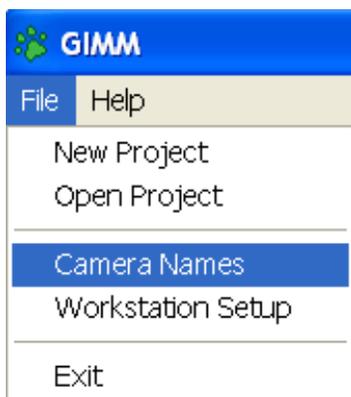
3. This will load the **Camera Setup** screen seen below:

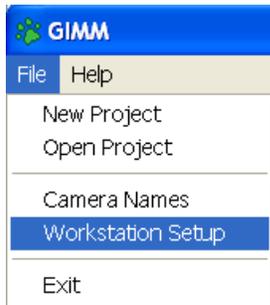*Figure 3.2 - Camera Setup Screen*

4. Click on a camera name to rename that camera. By default, cameras are numbered 1-4.

5. When all cameras have the desired name, click the **Exit** button to return to the GIMM home screen.
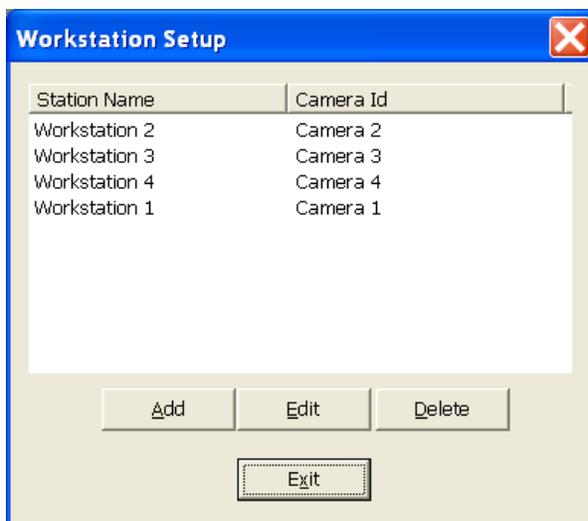
Setting Up Workstations

1. Open the GIMM software

2. In the **File** menu, click **Workstation Setup** as seen below in Figure 3.3:

   *Figure 3.3 - File | Workstation Setup Menu Selection*

3. This loads the **Workstation Setup** screen seen below:

    Figure 3.4 - Workstation Setup Screen


4. By default, these instructions assume Workstations are named 1-4 (from left to right) and that the Cameras are named 1-4 (from left to right). If the camera names have been altered, substitute the changed camera name when setting up each workstation.

5. Before setting up workstations, verify that all cameras and light sources are connected properly.

6. Turn **On** all light sources and turn the **Light Intensity** dial all the way to the right.

7. Begin by clicking on the desired Workstation**,** which will be highlighted in blue.

8. Then click the **Edit** button, to open the **Workstation** screen seen in Figure 3.5.

Figure 3.5 - Workstation Screen
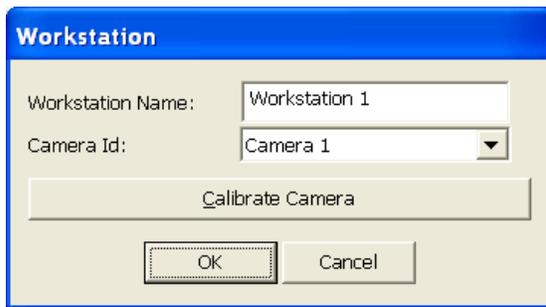
9. The Workstation name can be changed by entering desired name in the Workstation Name field.

10. Match the Workstation to the Camera by selecting the appropriate Camera from the **Camera Id** pulldown menu, which will highlight the camera name in blue.

11. Now click the **Calibrate Camera** button.

12. This will load the **Calibrate Workstation** screen seen below:

Figure 3.6 - Calibrate Workstation Screen
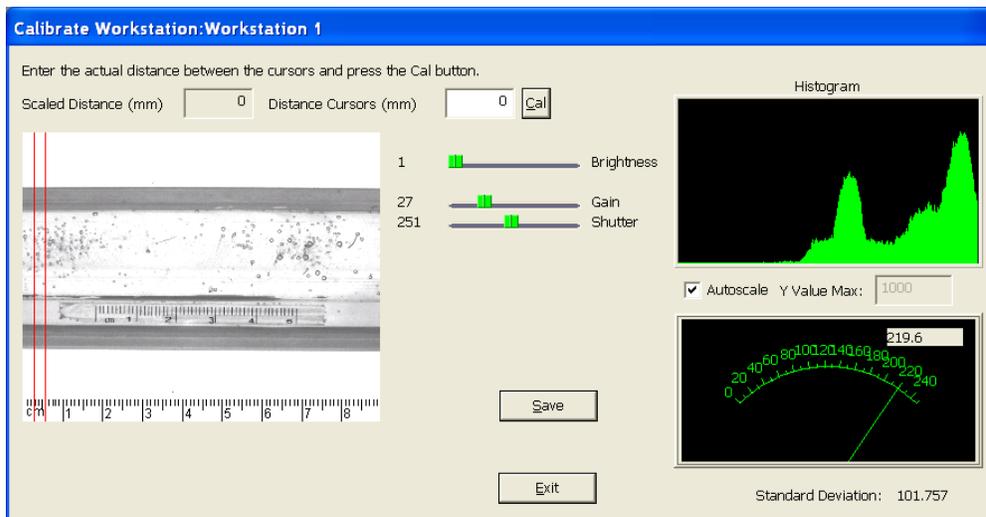
13. The video window on this screen is a live feed, so running your fingers under the camera will verify that the correct one has been selected.

14. Now calibrate the scale of the Camera by clicking and dragging one of the red cursors in the live video feed moving it to the 4 cm mark on the ruler. Next click and drag the other red cursor to the 3 cm mark on the ruler, thus making the two red lines 10 mm (1 cm) apart, as shown in Figure 3.7.

15. In the **Distance Cursors** field, enter **"10"** and then click the **Cal** button, this will calibrate the scale for the Camera and display the screen seen in Figure 3.7.

Figure 3.7 - Scale Calibration
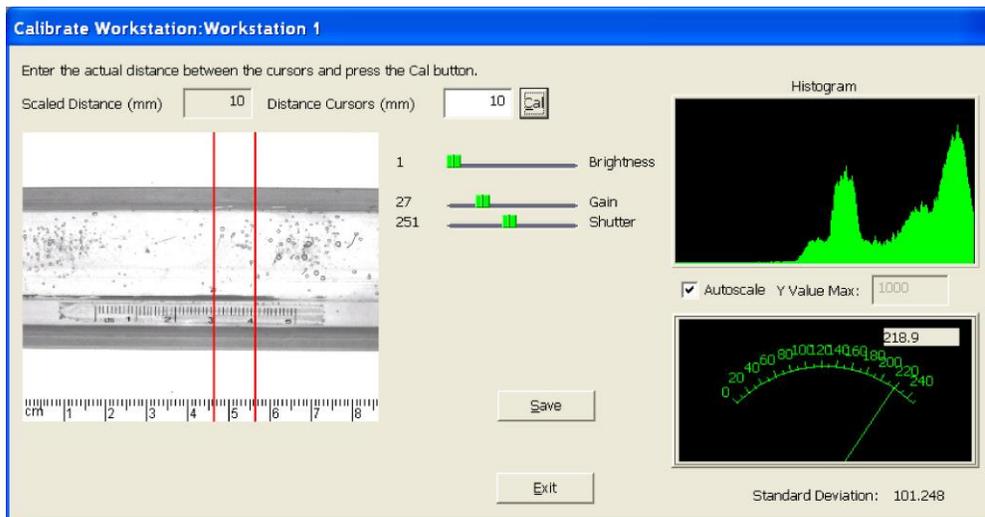
16.   The green sliders to the right of the video window (Figure 3.7) are used to adjust the following camera properties: Brightness, Gain, and Shutter. For fecal pellet propulsion tracking, these settings should be adjusted so that the colon segment appears overexposed, as shown in Figure 3.8. This will provide adequate contrast between the colon segment and the fecal pellet, allowing for accurate tracking. For motility analysis using spatiotemporal the gut segment should be darker, so adjust the camera settings accordingly.

Notice the histogram in Figure 3.8. The first peak from the left represents the colon segment and the second peak is the white background. Figure 3.9 illustrates the desired contrast between the colon segment and the fecal pellet. Again, notice the histogram. This time the leftmost peak represents the fecal pellet.

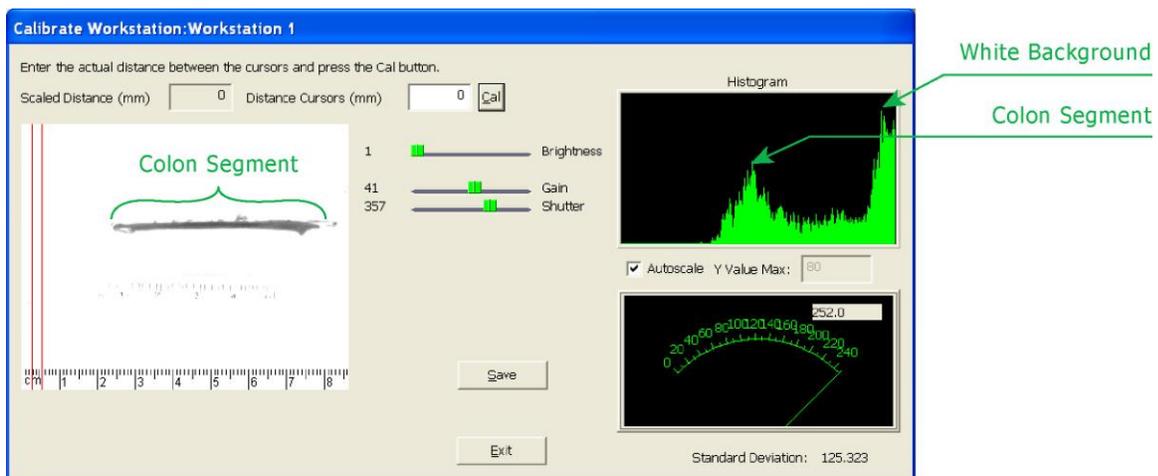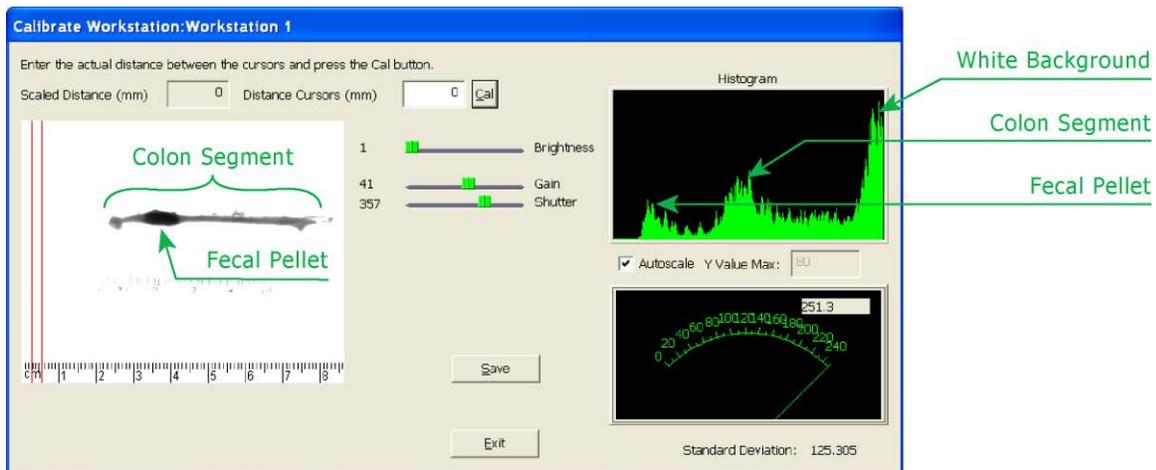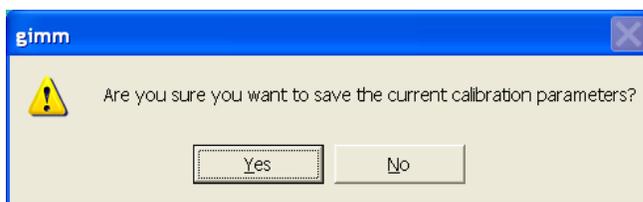*Figure 3.8 - Overexposed Colon Segment*

Figure 3.9 - Colon Segment and Fecal Pellet

17. When calibration and adjustments are complete, click the **Save** button at the bottom right. The following prompt will appear:

Figure 3.10 - Save Calibration Parameters

18. Click the **Yes** button. The live video screen will be displayed.

19. Now click the **Exit** button at the bottom of the screen.

20. This causes the return to the **Workstation Setup** screen (Figure 3.4). Repeat steps 7-20 for each remaining Workstation.

21. When all Workstations have been setup, click **Exit** on the **Workstation Setup** screen to return to the GIMM main screen (Figure 3.16).

GIMM Organizational Principles

The GIMM software is designed with two objectives. The first is to acquire and analyze segments of video images of gastrointestinal specimens showing in vitro motility. The second is to serve as a user interface that organizes experimental data and observations; much like a lab notebook is used to record daily laboratory activity. In this way, GIMM software allows users to define experimental protocols that are used in a given set of experiments. Experiments can be performed using pre-defined conditions established in a protocol. This feature greatly simplifies and facilitates the task of experimental design and data collection. The following section will outline the organizational features and conventions used in GIMM.

GIMM defines experimental conditions using conventions that are very familiar to pharmacologists and physiologists. A flow chart illustrating the hierarchical structure of data organization used in GIMM is shown in Figure 3.11.

Figure 3.11 - Experimental Design Flow Chart
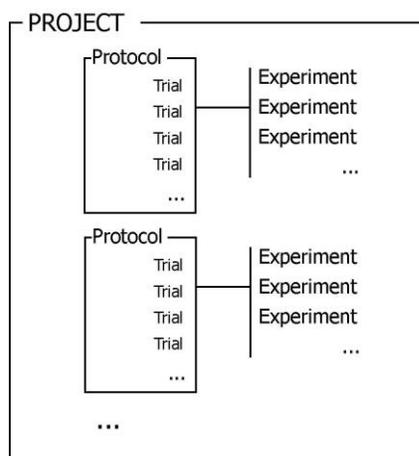
A **Project** is a grouping of experiments that are all related in some way. For example, a project may be called "Joe's Thesis" or "Histamine Grant." GIMM stores all the data relating to a given project in a single database file with a ***.gmm** extension. This database file includes all information about experimental protocols, trial definitions, experimental sessions, video clips, raw data, and analyzed data.

A **Protocol** is used to define a sequence of trials that will be used to conduct a given type of experiment. For example, you may have a protocol called "Time Control" that contains the parameters for measuring the reproducibility of motility rates over a sequence of trials. You could also have a protocol titled "Dose Response Curve" that contains the settings for measuring motility rates during successive applications of increasing concentrations of a test compound. Protocols are usually created during the initial stages of a project, but protocols may be added to existing projects at any time.

A **Trial** is an individual measurement of motility. A trial consists of the placement of a fecal pellet at the oral end of the colonic segment, then the peristaltic movement of the pellet along the length of the colon towards the anal end. GIMM software documents the trial by recording a video clip. The video is

then analyzed off-line to determine the fecal pellet velocity. Experiments usually consist of a sequence of trials performed over time. During the experimental design phase of a project, the sequence of trials to be performed in a given protocol is defined.

An **Experiment** is a set of motility measurements that is obtained from a single gastrointestinal specimen. Experiments may be named according to the date the experiment was performed (e.g. 2002-01-15), or any other convention used in your laboratory for naming experiments in general. The sequence of trials performed during an experiment is defined by the protocol associated with an experiment.

Getting Started with GIMM: A Simple Tutorial

A new project will need to be created the first time that GIMM is run. When setting out to establish a study design in GIMM, consider creating a flowchart that follows along the organization of the chart shown in Figure 3.12.

*Figure 3.12 - Generic Organization Chart*
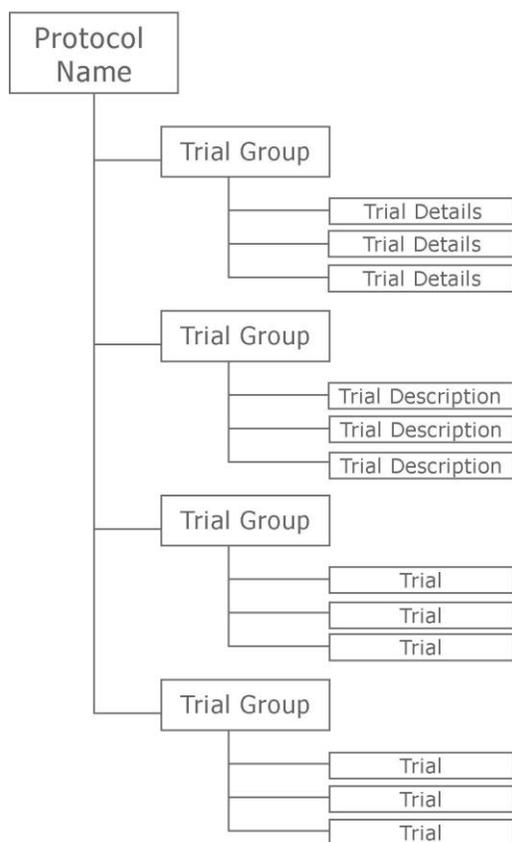
The organization outlined in Figure 3.12 depicts a protocol with four distinct conditions (trial groups). This format will be used in the following tutorial.

The following tutorial will describe the steps for setting up a project called "Sample Project." For this project, the study design will include two basic types of protocols. The first type will be a cumulative dose-response study of three concentrations (1 μM, 5 μM, and 10 μM) of the hypothetical drug

"Pentamil." The second type of protocol will be a vehicle control experiment with Pentamil replaced by the vehicle (saline, e.g.). Each protocol will consist of three motility measurements (trials).

The experimental design for the dose-response protocol is outlined in Figure 3.13.

*Figure 3.13 - Pentamil Dose Response Chart*
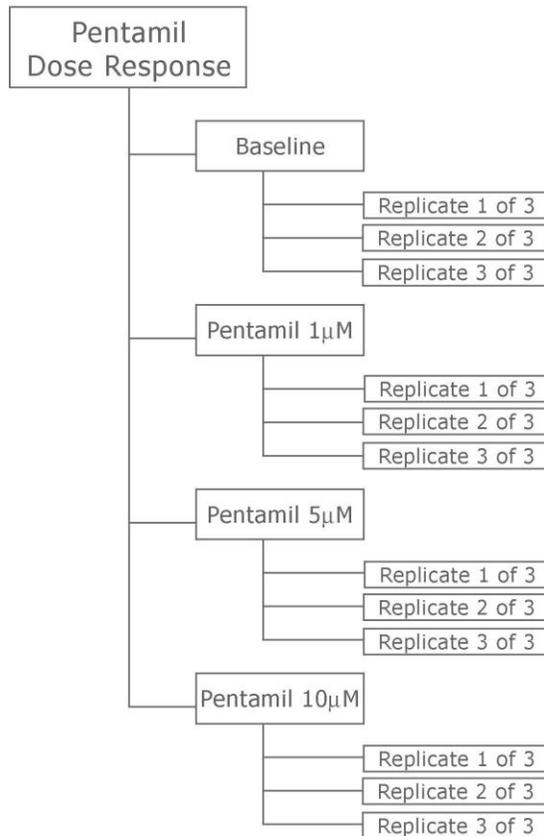
Here, the protocol name is "Pentamil Dose Response." Recall that we will be conducting motility measurements in triplicates for each condition. Each separate experimental condition corresponds to the "Trial Group" in Figure 3.12. The first set of motility measurements (trials) will be done to determine the baseline rate of motility for an individual colon segment. This set of trials will be called "Baseline" (Figure 3.13). The replicate number will be used to define the "Trial Description" for each trial (Figure 3.12 and Figure 3.13).

You can also end the experiment manually by clicking **Experiment | End Experiment… UroVoid** will prompt you that an experiment is running and ask you if you are sure you want to end the experiment, refer to Figure 3.16. All data that was collected will be saved up to this point in the user defined data file. Click **Yes** to end the experiment or **No** to continue.

After the Baseline trials are performed, the first concentration of Pentamil, 1 μM, will be applied. After the three trials under this condition are conducted, the second concentration of Pentamil, 5 μM, will be applied. After the three trials under this condition are performed, the final concentration of Pentamil, 10 μM, will be applied.   Finally, the three trials under this condition will be performed and the experiment is complete.

The organizational details for the vehicle control experiment are shown in Figure 3.14.

Figure 3.14 - Vehicle Organization Chart
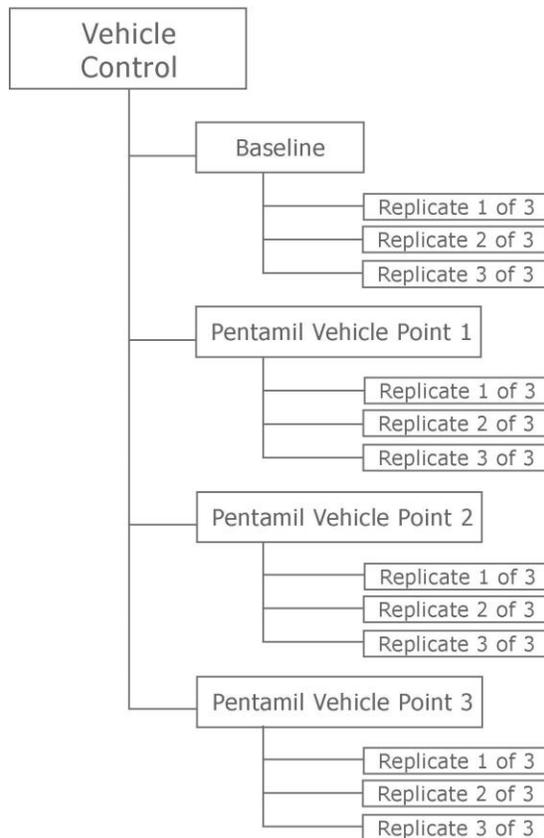
This protocol will be called "Vehicle Control."   Again, the first set of trials is done to determine the baseline motility rate for a given segment of colon and will be called "Baseline." After the three baseline trials are performed, the vehicle for 1 μM Pentamil (e.g. saline or ethanol) will be applied. This set of trials will be called "Pentamil Vehicle Point 1."   After these trials are performed, the vehicle for 5 μM Pentamil will be added. These trials will be called "Pentamil Vehicle Point 2."   After these trials are performed, the vehicle for 10 μM Pentamil will be applied. These trials will be called "Pentamil Vehicle Point 3."

This is the outline of the organization of the two protocols that will be employed in this project. In addition to planning the organization of the project, it is useful to plan the timing of the experiments as a timeline. A common approach used in the field is to allow a stabilization period after setting up the

tissue, such as 30 minutes, followed by motility measurements made every 3 minutes. When drugs are applied, a suitable time period should be allowed for the drug to exert its actions, for example 10 min. This is the approach taken for the sample project. The timeline is shown in Figure 3.15.

Figure 3.15 – Timeline

Baseline	Condition 1	Condition 2	Condition 3

Trial   1 2 3   4 5 6   7 8 9   10 11 12

- Allow colon to stabilize for 30 min
- Conduct first "Baseline" motility measurement
- Wait 3 min, conduct second "Baseline" motility measurement
- Wait 3 min, conduct third "Baseline" motility measurement
- Apply first Pentamil dose, or apply vehicle ("Condition 1")
- Wait 10 min, conduct first motility measurement in "Condition 1"
- Wait 3 min, conduct second "Condition 1" motility measurement
- Wait 3 min, conduct third "Condition 1" motility measurement
- Apply second Pentamil dose, or apply vehicle ("Condition 2")
- Wait 10 min, conduct first motility measurement in "Condition 2"
- Wait 3 min, conduct second "Condition 2" motility measurement
- Wait 3 min, conduct third "Condition 2" motility measurement
- Apply third Pentamil dose, or apply vehicle ("Condition 3")
- Wait 10 min, conduct first motility measurement in "Condition 3"
- Wait 3 min, conduct second "Condition 3" motility measurement
- Wait 3 min, conduct third "Condition 3" motility measurement

Starting the Sample Project

The basic steps for setting up the project "Sample Project" in GIMM are as follows:

Open GIMM Software by double clicking on the GIMM icon located on the desktop. The main GIMM screen will open (Figure 3.16).

Figure 3.16 - GIMM Main Menu Screen
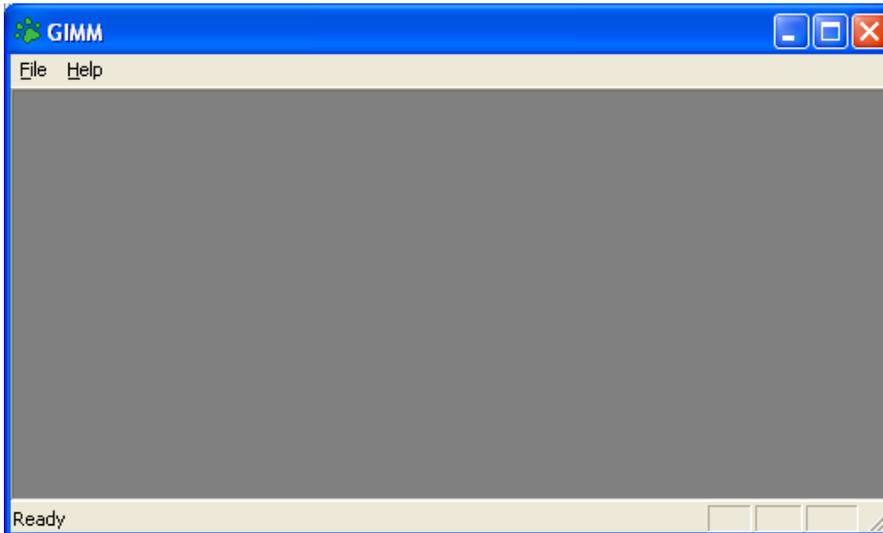
Depending on what is taking place in the program, the content of the menu bar changes, as well as the menus themselves. Initially there are two menus on the menu bar, the **File** menu and the **Help** menu. The Help menu contains program information such as the version number and copyright. The initial File menu contains five items (Figure 3.17).

Figure 3.17 - File Menu
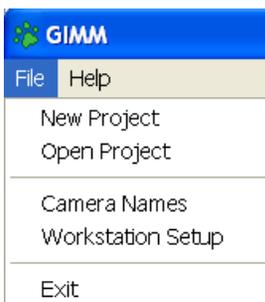
File Menu Options:

- **New Project** defines a new project database file.

- **Open Project** to open an existing project database file.

- **Camera Names** to define the naming of the cameras (Cameras 1-4 is default). See Naming Cameras.

- **Workstation Setup** to name and calibrate the workstations. See Setting Up a Workstation.

- **Exit** to quit GIMM.

For this example, select **New Project** from the **File** menu. This opens the **Create New Project** dialog box (Figure 3.18). Enter the name "**Sample Project**" in the **File name** field and click on the **Create** button.
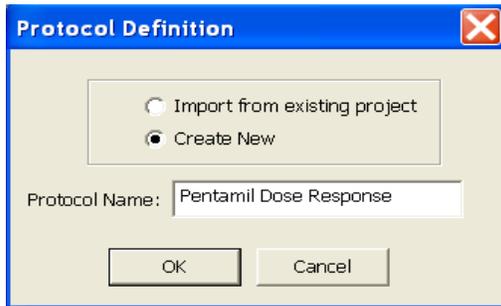
Figure 3.18 – Create New Project Screen
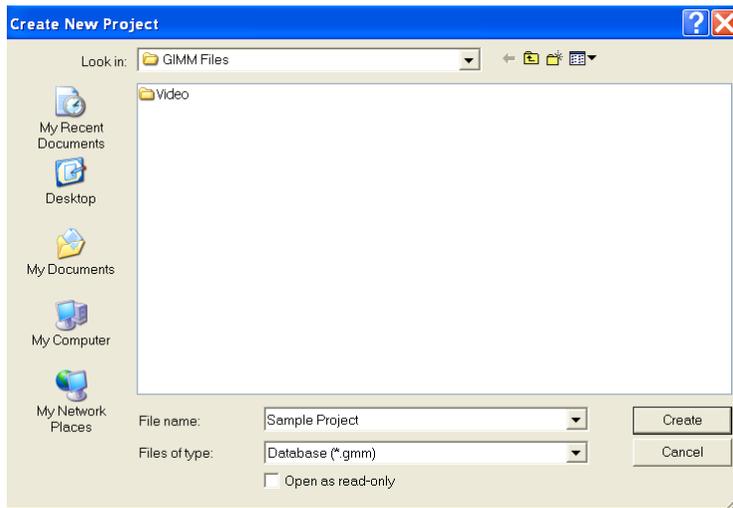
A dialog box will ask if protocols should be added to this new project (Figure 3.19). Click **Yes** to begin defining protocols.

Figure 3.19 - Adding Protocols
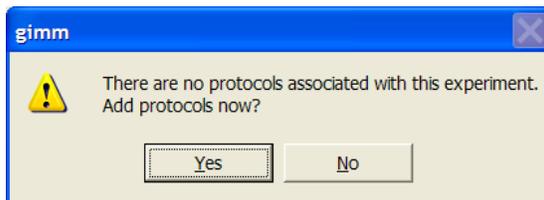
The **Protocol Definition** dialog box should now be displayed (Figure 3.20).

Figure 3.20 - Protocol Definition

Select **Create New** and enter "Pentamil Dose Response" as the Protocol Name. Click **OK**.

The Trial Editor window will be displayed (Figure 3.21). Protocols are created by defining the sequence of trials to be performed in a given type of experiment. The various components of a trial are the Group, Description, Details, and Max Duration.

Figure 3.21 - Trial Editor
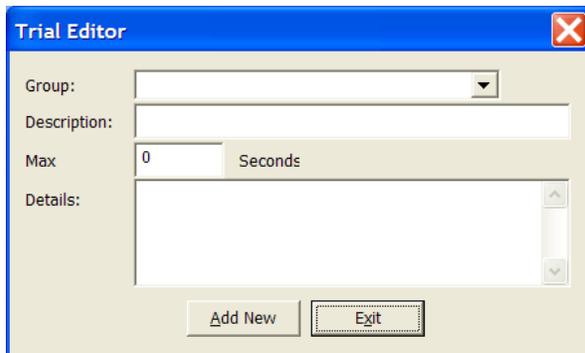
Group refers to the descriptor that identifies a particular group of trials (refer back to Figure 3.12). **Description** is used to identify a specific trial within a group. **Max Duration** refers to the maximum length of time that a video clip will be recorded. Leaving Max Duration at 0 seconds results in video clips that need to be started and stopped manually. If any duration other than 0 is entered for the Max Duration, a video clip will be recorded for up to that amount of time, but recording can be stopped manually before the Max Duration has elapsed. **Details** can be used to enter any other comments or information that will be useful for identifying a specific trial, such as instructions for carrying out the trial.

For this example, type "Baseline" in the Group field, "Replicate 1 of 3" in the Description field, and "120" in the Max Duration field. Use the Details field to indicate the instructions used by the technician running an experiment. For the first baseline trial Details, enter "Conduct the first baseline motility measurement after a 30 minutes stabilization period. After completing a trial, wait 3 minutes, and then start second baseline motility measurement." See Figure 3.22.

Figure 3.22 - Entering Data in Trial Editor
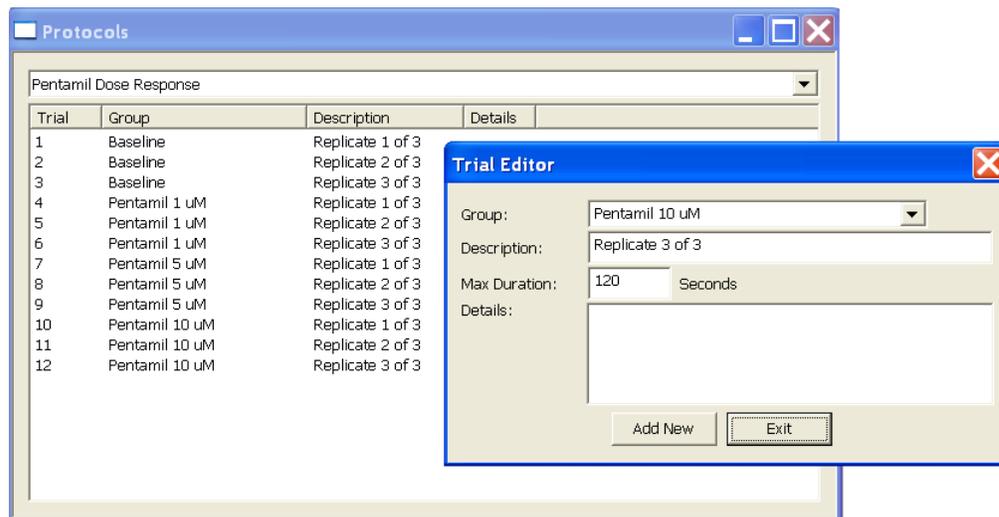
Click on the **Add New** button to add this trial to the protocol. Notice that this trial will be added to the trial list in the Protocols window and the Trial Editor window remains active with the information entered unchanged. This allows the user to add a new trial to the protocol. In this case, simply change the Description to "Replicate 2 of 3" and change the Details to "Conduct second baseline motility measurement. Wait 3 minutes, and then start third baseline motility measurement." Click on the **Add New** button to add this trial to the protocol.

Change the Description to "Replicate 3 of 3" and change the Details to "Conduct third baseline motility measurement. Apply 1 uM Pentamil. Wait 10 minutes before starting Pentamil 1 uM motility measurements." Click on the **Add New** button to add this trial to the protocol.

Now, change the Group to "Pentamil 1 uM." Change the Description to "Replicate 1 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct first Pentamil 1 uM motility measurement. Wait 3 minutes, and then start second Pentamil 1 uM motility measurement." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

Change the Description to "Replicate 2 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct second Pentamil 1 uM motility measurement. Wait 3 minutes, and then start third Pentamil 1 uM motility measurement." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

Change the Description to "Replicate 3 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct third Pentamil 1 uM motility measurement. Apply 5 uM Pentamil. Wait 10 minutes before starting Pentamil 5 uM motility measurements." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.
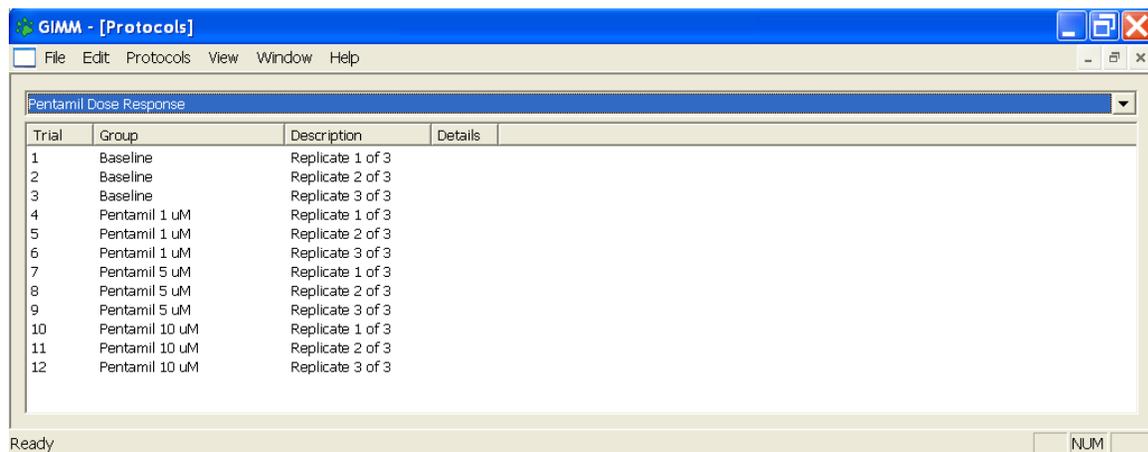
Now, change the Group to "Pentamil 5 uM." Change the Description to "Replicate 1 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct first Pentamil 5 uM motility measurement. Wait 3 minutes, and then start second Pentamil 5 uM motility measurement." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

Change the Description to "Replicate 2 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct second Pentamil 5 uM motility measurement. Wait 3 minutes, and then start third Pentamil 5 uM motility measurement." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

Change the Description to "Replicate 3 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct third Pentamil 5 uM motility measurement. Apply 10 uM Pentamil. Wait 10 minutes before starting Pentamil 10 uM motility measurements." Click Add New to add this trial to the protocol.

Now, change the Group to "Pentamil 10 uM." Change the Description to "Replicate 1 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct first Pentamil 10 uM motility measurement. Wait 3 minutes, and then start second Pentamil 10 uM motility measurement." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

Change the Description to "Replicate 2 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct second Pentamil 10 uM motility measurement.   Wait 3 minutes, and then start third Pentamil 10 uM motility measurement." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

Change the Description to "Replicate 3 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct third Pentamil 10 uM motility measurement. After this trial, experiment is complete." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

The protocol "Pentamil Dose Response" is now defined. Click **Exit** from the Trial Editor window. A Protocols window that looks similar to Figure 3.23 should appear.
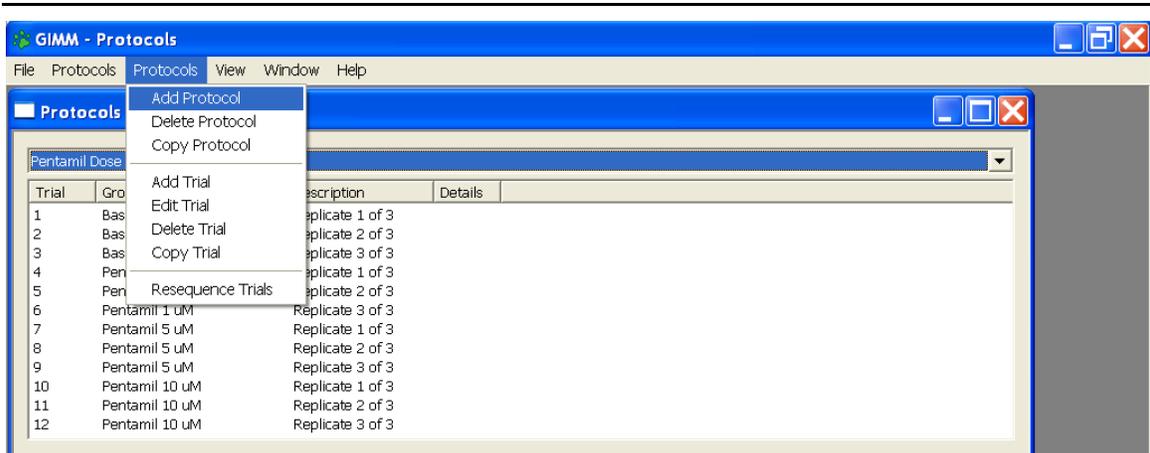
Figure 3.23 - Pentamil Dose Response Protocol

The next step is to define a protocol for the "Vehicle Control" protocol (refer to Figure 3.14). While the Protocols window is displayed, notice that there are five menu items on the GIMM menu bar: File, Edit, Protocols, View and Help. From the Protocols menu, select **Add Protocol** (Figure 3.24).

Figure 3.24 - Protocols Menu

Select **Create New** and type "Vehicle Control" for the Protocol Name.

Click **OK** to bring up the Trial Editor window. This protocol will closely parallel the trials in the Pentamil Dose Response protocol because the experiments that use this protocol should match the Pentamil Dose Response experiments in every way except that the Pentamil vehicle is applied instead of Pentamil. In the Group field type in "Baseline." Type "Replicate 1 of 3" for the Description. Enter "120" for the Max Duration. In the Details section, enter "Conduct first baseline motility measurement after a 30 minutes stabilization period. After completing trial, wait 3 minutes, and then start second baseline motility measurement." Click on the **Add New** button to add this trial to the protocol.

Change the Description to "Replicate 2 of 3" and change the Details to "Conduct second baseline motility measurement. Wait 3 minutes, and then start third baseline motility measurement. Click on the **Add New** button to add this trial to the protocol.

Change the Description to "Replicate 3 of 3" and change the Details to "Conduct third baseline motility measurement. Apply Pentamil vehicle. Wait 10 minutes before starting Pentamil vehicle motility measurements." Click on the **Add New** button to add this trial to the protocol.

Now, change the Group to "Pentamil Vehicle Point 1." Change the Description to "Replicate 1 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct first Pentamil Vehicle Point 1 motility measurement. Wait 3 minutes, and then start second Pentamil Vehicle Point 1 motility measurement." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

Change the Description to "Replicate 2 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct second Pentamil Vehicle Point 1 motility measurement. Wait 3 minutes, and then start third Pentamil Vehicle Point 1 motility measurement." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

Change the Description to "Replicate 3 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct third Pentamil Vehicle Point 1 motility measurement. Wait 10 minutes before starting Pentamil Vehicle Point 2 motility measurements." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

Now, change the Group to "Pentamil Vehicle Point 2." Change the Description to "Replicate 1 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct first Pentamil Vehicle Point 2 motility measurement. Wait 3 minutes, and then start second Pentamil Vehicle Point 2 motility measurement." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

Change the Description to "Replicate 2 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct second Pentamil Vehicle Point 2 motility measurement. Wait 3 minutes, and then start third Pentamil Vehicle Point 2 motility measurement." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

Change the Description to "Replicate 3 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct third Pentamil Vehicle Point 2 motility measurement. Wait 10 minutes before starting Pentamil Vehicle Point 3 motility measurements." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

Now, change the Group to "Pentamil Vehicle Point 3." Change the Description to "Replicate 1 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct first Pentamil Vehicle Point 3 motility measurement. Wait 3 minutes, and then start second Pentamil Vehicle Point 3 motility measurement." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

Change the Description to "Replicate 2 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct second Pentamil Vehicle Point 3 motility measurement. Wait 3 minutes, and then start third Pentamil Vehicle Point 3 motility measurement." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

Change the Description to "Replicate 3 of 3," and change the Details to "Conduct third Pentamil Vehicle Point 3 motility measurement. After this trial, experiment is complete." Click **Add New** to add this trial to the protocol.

The protocol "Vehicle Control" is now defined. Click **Exit** from the Trial Editor window. The Protocols window should look similar to Figure 3.25.

*Figure 3.25 - Vehicle Control Protocols*

The protocols that make up this Sample Project are now fully defined. To close the Protocols window, simply click the **X** in the upper right corner of the Protocols window. The Experiment Notebook view in GIMM should now be on the screen (Figure 3.26). The next part of the tutorial will describe how to setup an experiment using one of these protocols.

Figure 3.26 - Blank Sample Project Experiment Notebook
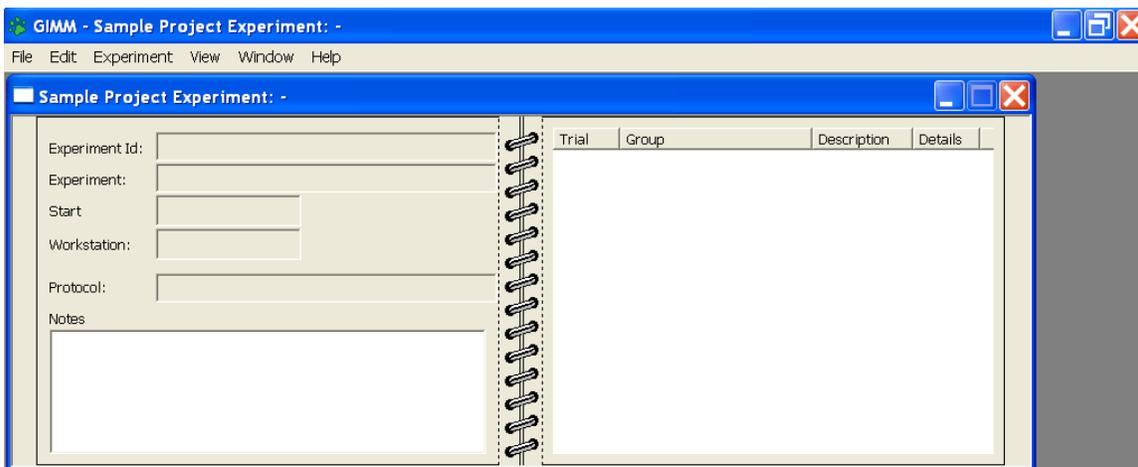
An experiment may now be set up using the protocols defined for the Sample Project. Notice that on the Experiment Notebook screen the menu bar has the following menus: File, Edit, Experiment, View, Window, Help. From the Experiment menu, select Add Experiment. The Experiment Setup window will be displayed (Figure 3.27).

Figure 3.27 - Experiment Setup Window
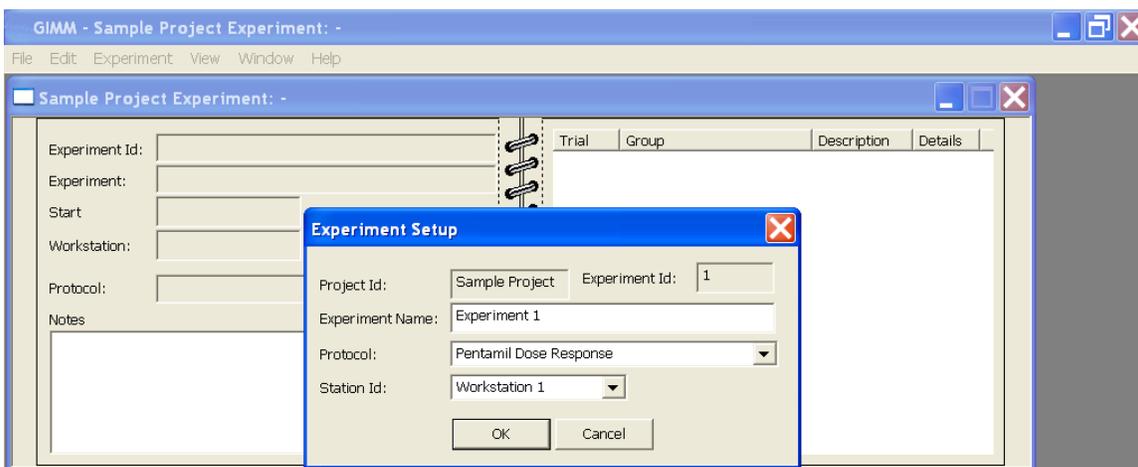
The Project ID shows the name of the project currently open. The Experiment ID is the number corresponding to the experiment being configured. The first experiment added to a project is assigned an ID of 1, and the ID's are incremented sequentially as experiments are added. The Experiment Name is where a name for the experiment is entered. Protocol is where the protocol that corresponds to the experiment being set up is chosen from a drop down list of all available protocols associated with the current project. Camera is where the camera that will monitor the experiment being configured is chosen from a drop down list of all available cameras configured for the system.

An experiment named "First Experiment" will be set up to work on Camera 1, using the "Pentamil Dose Response" protocol. In the Experiment Name field, type "Experiment 1", making sure that Camera 1 is selected. Choose "Pentamil Dose Response" from the drop down Protocol list. Click **OK**. Notice that a new experiment tab is created in the Experiment Notebook (Figure 3.28). The label on the experiment tab is "Experiment 1". The label on the experiment tab will always be the name assigned to the experiment. As experiments are added to a project, a specific experiment can be selected by clicking on the tab for the experiment of interest, or by choosing Turn To from the View menu.

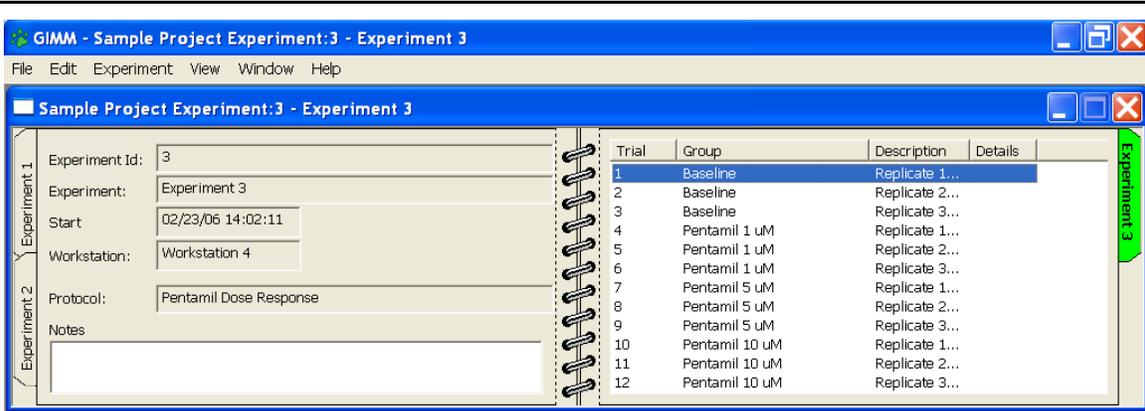*Figure 3.28 - Experiment Notebook with First Experiment Tab*
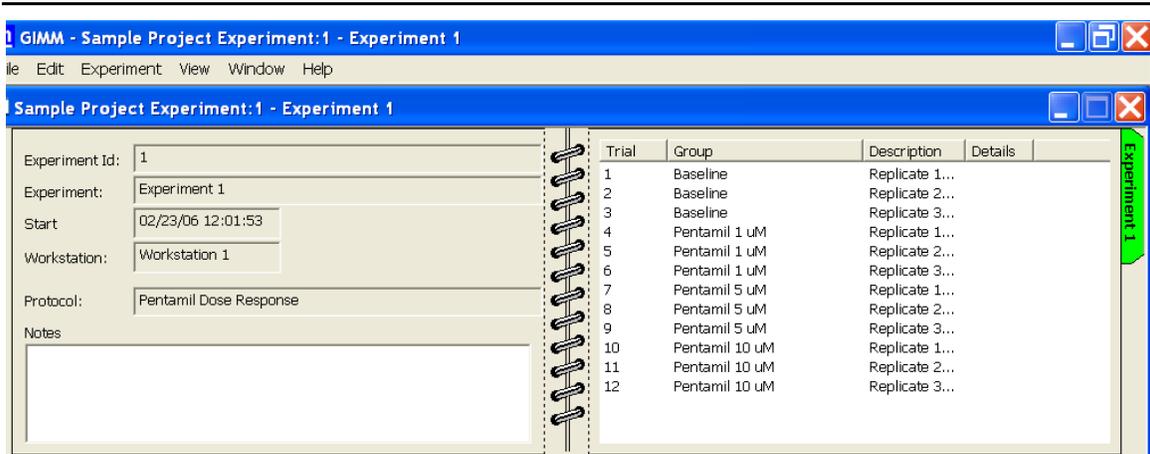
All trials to be performed as part of this experiment are listed in the experiment notebook.
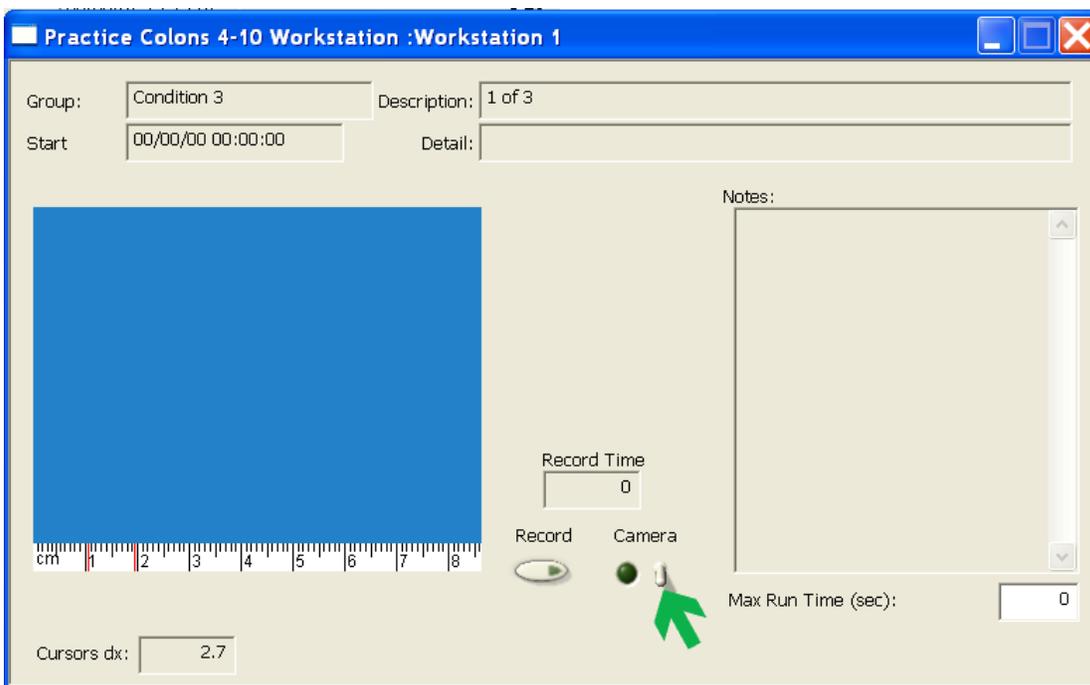
Data Collection

To begin running an experiment, enter into the workstation window. Do this by double clicking on the first trial of the experiment.
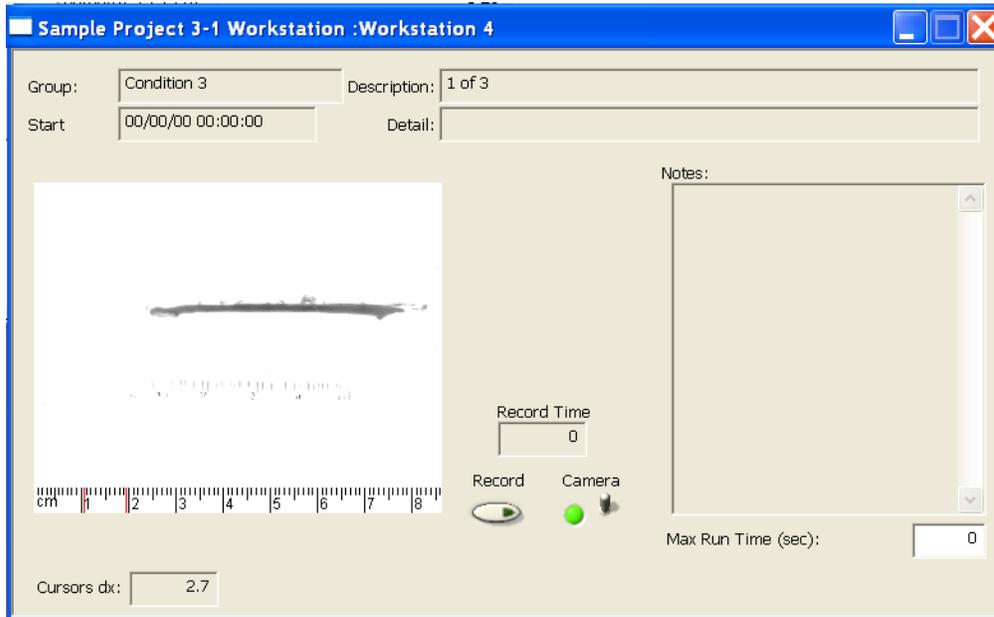
Figure 3.29 - Experiment Notebook

After opening the workstation window, activate the camera by clicking on the camera toggle switch, indicated below by the green arrow in Figure 3.30.
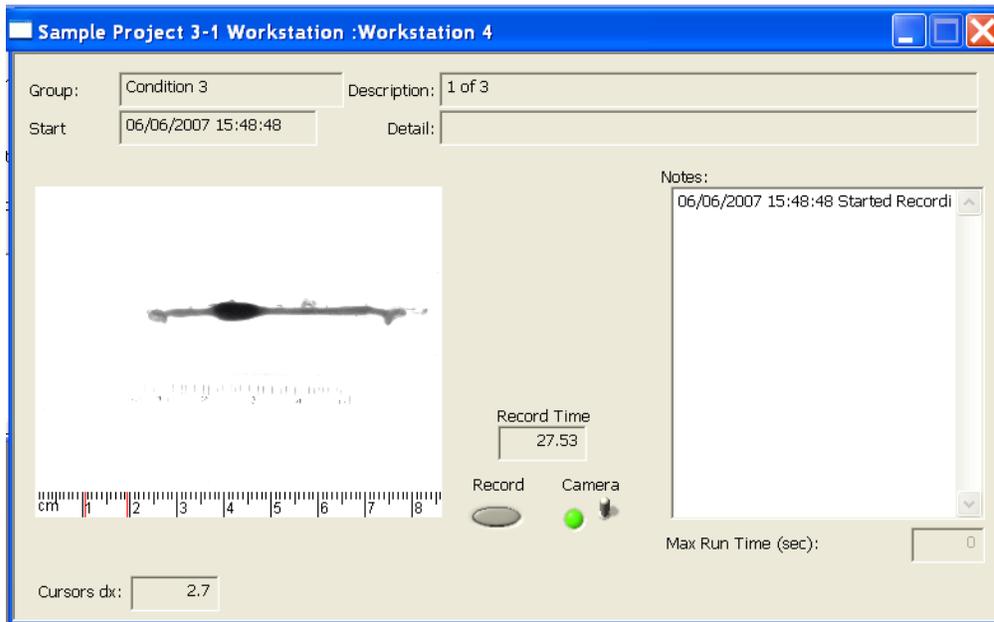
Figure 3.30 - Starting the Camera

Push the "Record" button to start recording a video clip of the trial, as shown in Figure 3.31.

Figure 3.31 - Click Record Button

The fecal pellet would now be inserted into the oral end of the colon segment. The peristaltic reflex will move the pellet in the oral to aboral direction, eventually emptying the pellet from the lumen.

Figure 3.32 - Inserted Fecal Pellet, Recording Video

Pushing the record button again will manually stop recording at this point. Note: turning the camera off by clicking the camera toggle switch before recording is complete will cause the video clip to be discarded and any video data for that trial will be lost.
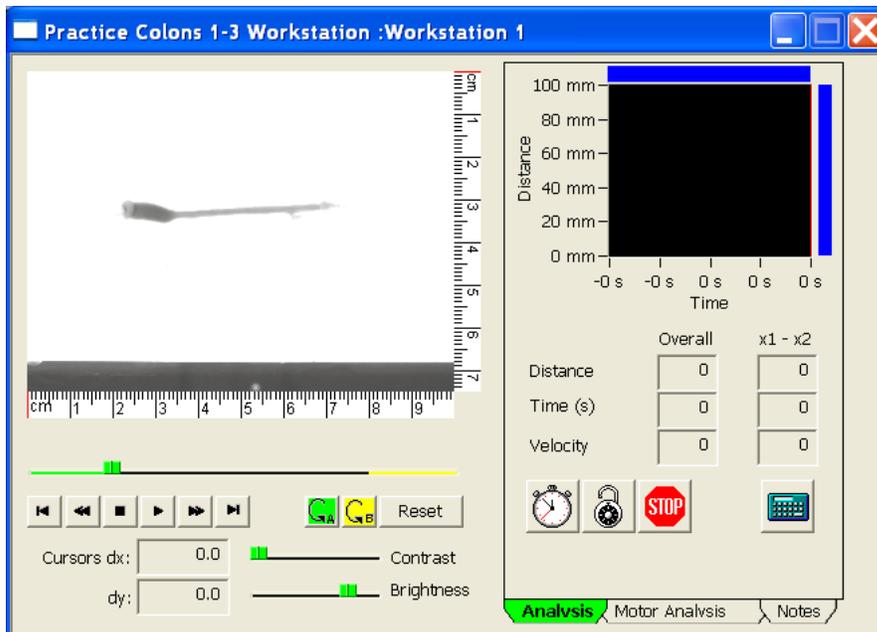
Figure 3.33 – Video Recording Stopped
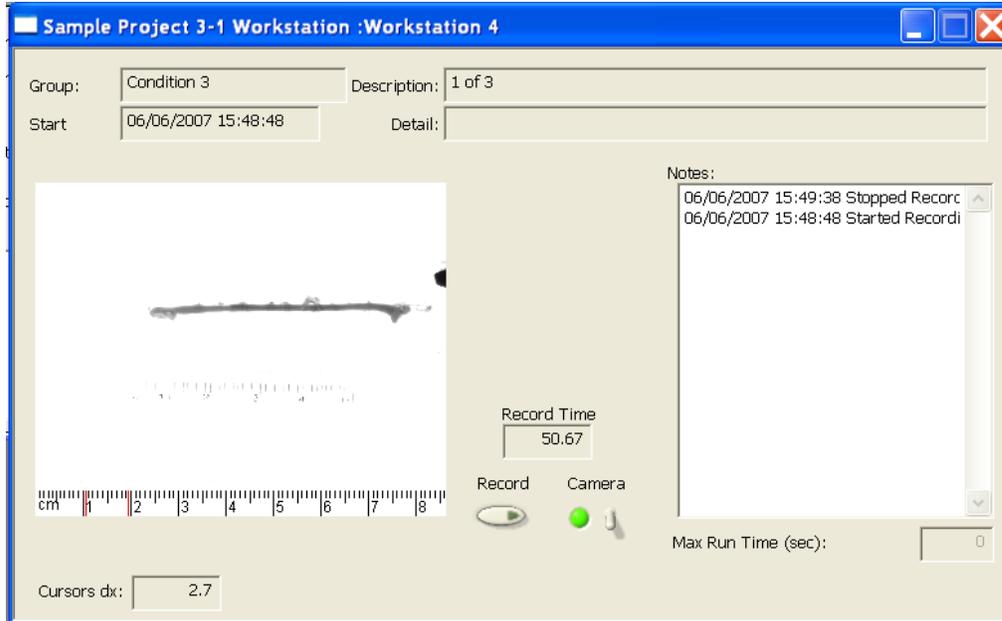
Data Analysis

To analyze the trial simply double click on the highlighted trial. The analysis window, shown in Figure 3.34, will now be displayed.

Figure 3.34 - Trial Analysis

From the analysis window there are several options, such as playing back the video clip or analyzing it to determine the motility rate. To play back the video simply click the play button at the bottom left. To analyze the video drag the green block on the slider until the peristaltic reflex begins to move the pellet.

Notice there are three tabs on the right half of the analysis window, Analysis, Motor Analysis and Notes. The Analysis tab allows the user to create a graph of distance vs. time, and then uses this graph to calculate the motility rate. Motor Analysis is used for creating spatiotemporal maps of colon motility rates. The Notes section indicates what time the trial was started and stopped and can also be used for additional comments.

Analysis Tab

Begin the analysis by advancing to the desired point in the video for the analysis to begin, and click once on the green "A" button located to the left of the reset button. This is where the tracking system will begin following the pellet. Now advance to the point in the video where the analysis should end. Click the yellow B button located to the left of the reset button. This is where the tracking system will stop following the pellet. Refer to Figure 3.35.

The analysis will include data between the positions specified by point A to the position specified by point B.

Figure 3.35 - Analyzing Motility
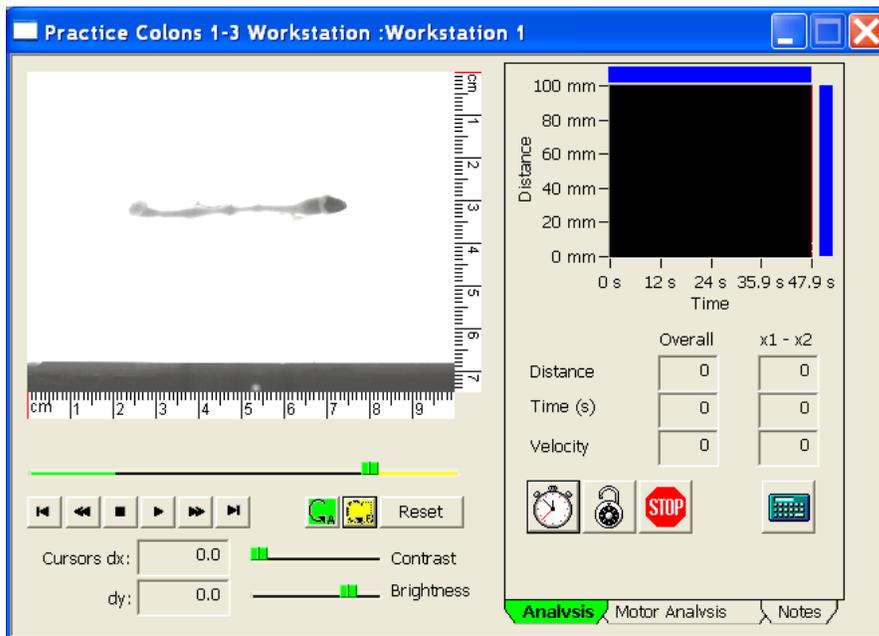
To track the pellet, click on the stopwatch located on the Analysis tab. This will bring up a crosshair that should be placed directly on the pellet, as shown in Figure 3.36. Once pointed at the pellet, left click to start the analysis. The line graph box to the right will create a graph of distance over time, as seen in Figure 3.37.

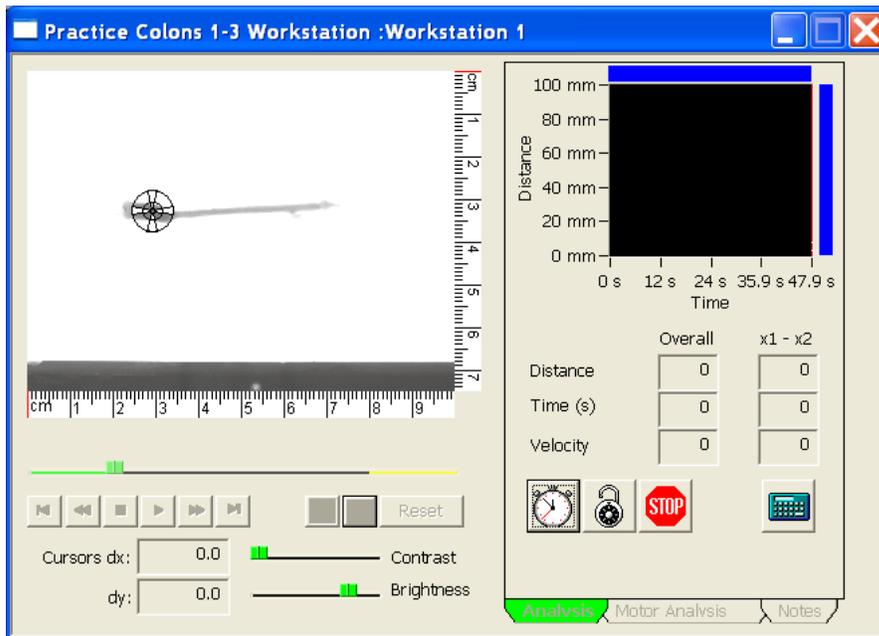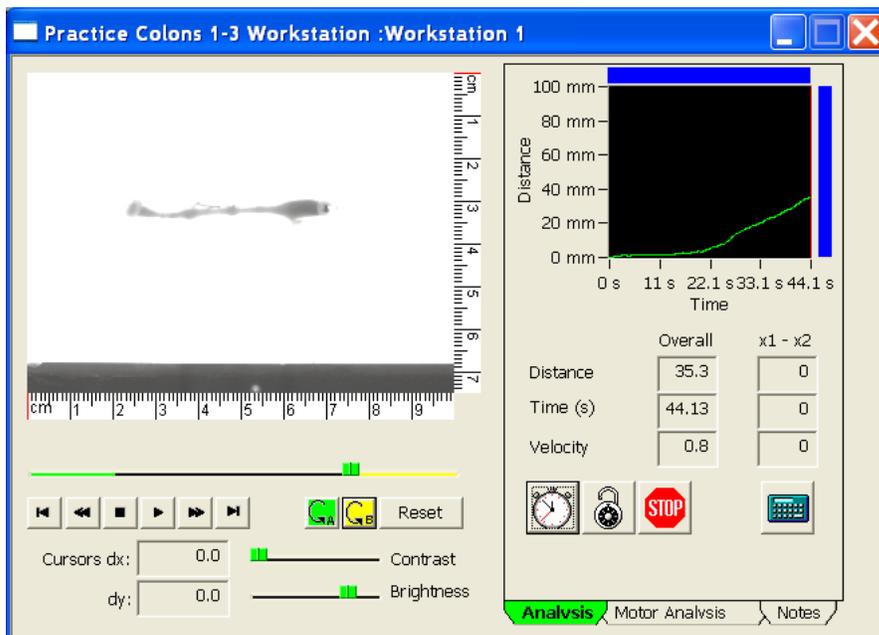*Figure 3.36 - Placing the "Crosshairs" on the Pellet*

Figure 3.37 - Motility Graph

If this graph is not satisfactory the data may be reanalyzed by clicking Reset and repeating the above procedure.

The data may also be analyzed using the red cursors located in the line graph box. Move the cursors to the desired positions and then click on the calculator located below the graph. This will calculate the data between the two cursors (X1-X2).
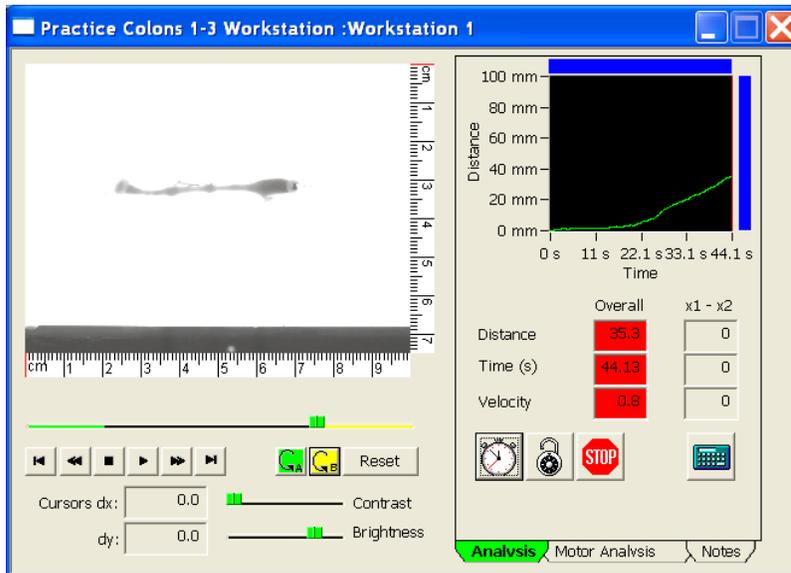
Figure 3.38 - Reanalysis of Line Graph
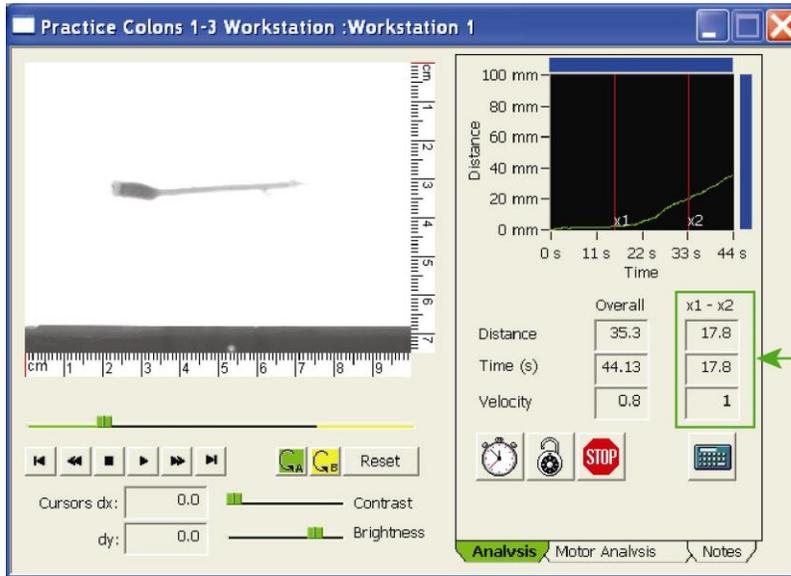
If, during the course of the analysis, the tracking system loses sight of the pellet then the distance, time, and velocity values will be highlighted in red (Figure 3.39).

Figure 3.39 - Invalid Data Displayed in Red

There are two buttons located to the right of the stopwatch. One is a combination lock and the other is a stop sign. The stop sign is used to stop the tracking analysis. The combination lock is used for locking the trial for further analysis. Only click on the lock button if the analysis is satisfactory and the trial will not need to be reanalyzed.

Motor Analysis Tab

The motor analysis function is used to generate a spatiotemporal map of the length of the colon over the time course of the video recording. This method has been used in numerous studies to examine patterns of spontaneous longitudinal and circular contractions, as well as peristaltic activity (e.g. citations 8 – 12 in Appendix A). For example, Figure 3.40 shows spatiotemporal maps of peristalsis, spontaneous propagating slow contractions (SPSCs) and longitudinal muscle (LM) contractions that were generated using the motor mapping features in GIMM.
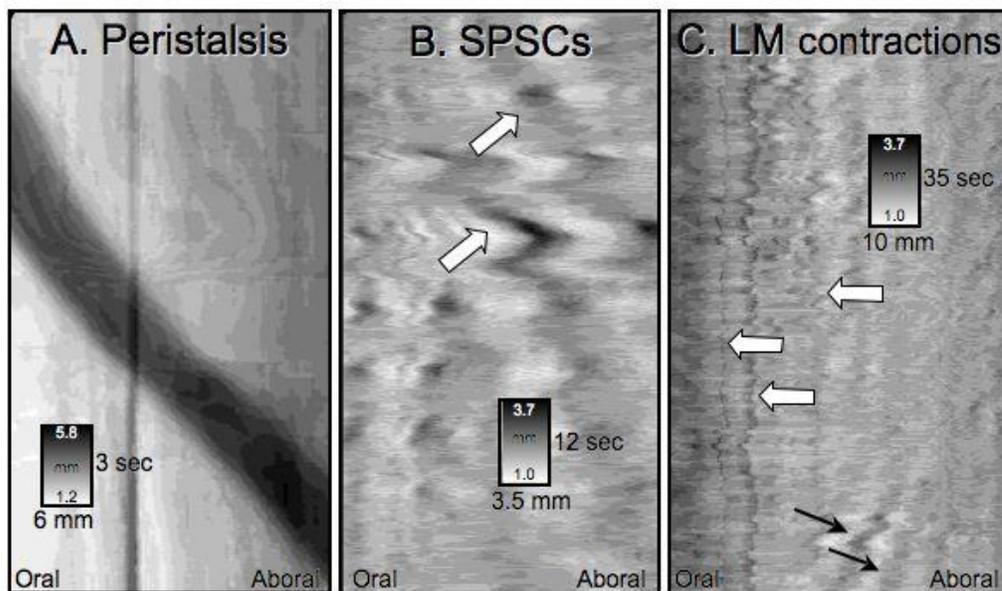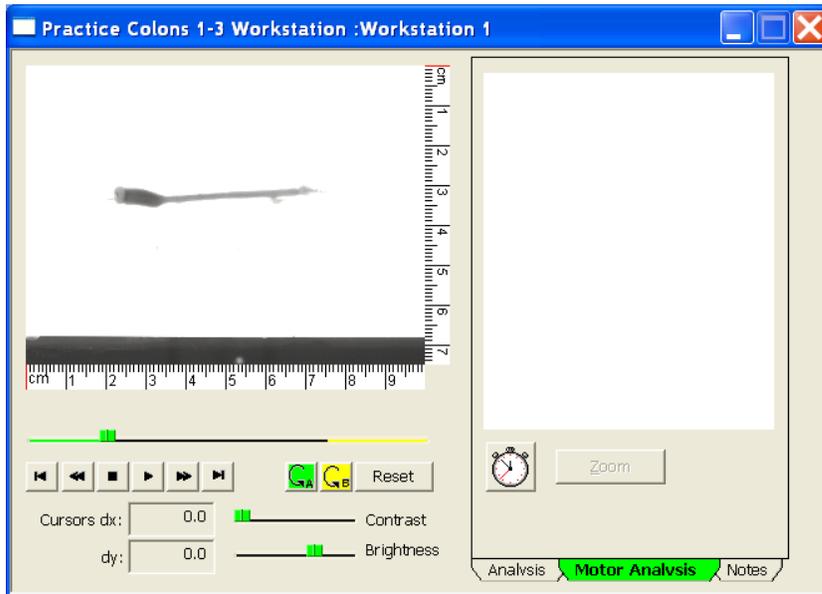
Figure 3.40 - Motor Map Example

Figure courtesy of Dr. Gary Mawe, University of Vermont

To create a motor map of a video, click the Motor Analysis tab, as shown below.

Figure 3.41 - Motor Analysis Tab

Set the start and stop points for analysis in the same manner described in the Analysis Tab section of this manual. Next click on the stopwatch icon to bring up the crosshair. Using the crosshair, click on the colon segment to begin the motor map.
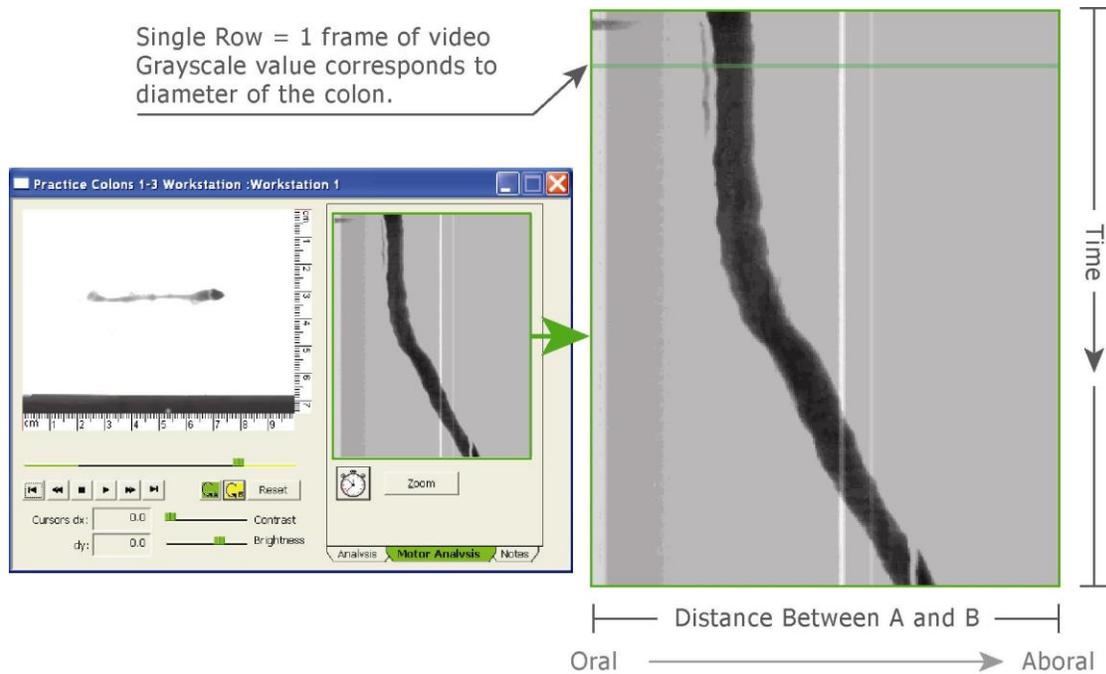
After the video segment is analyzed, the motor map will be displayed, as shown in Figure 3.42.
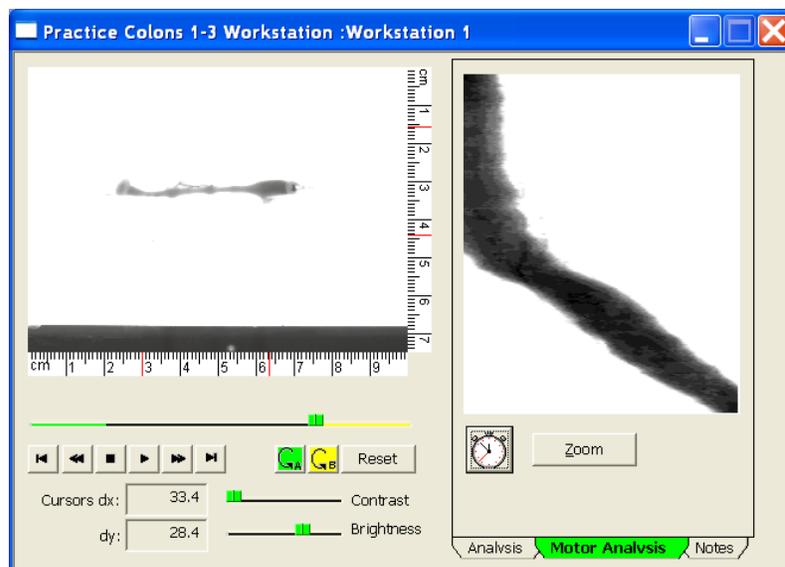
Figure 3.42 – Motor Map Displayed
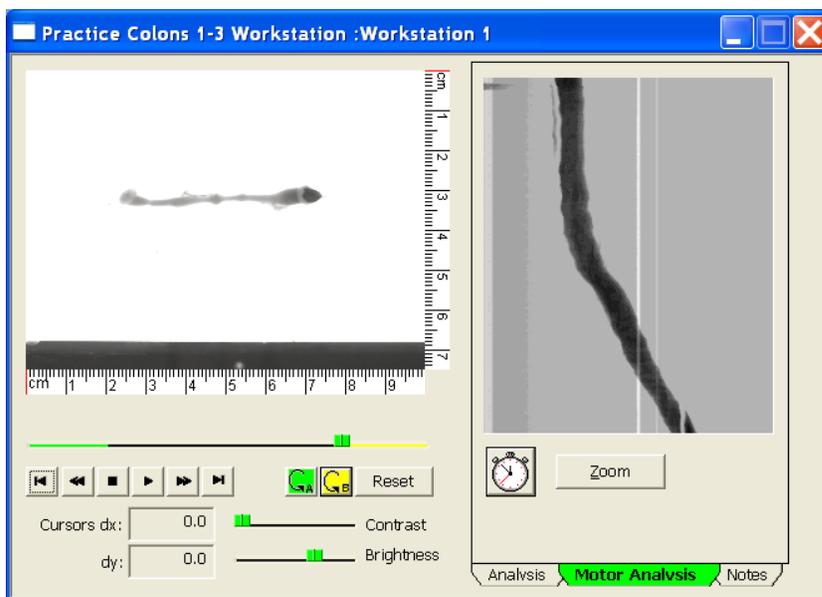
The motor map represents a plot of the colon's diameter at each point along the length of the colon over time (Figure 3.43).

Figure 3.43 - Motor Map Description

The red cursors located on the X and Y-axis rulers can be used to generate a motor map of only the data inside the cursors. Place the cursors in the desired locations, click on the stopwatch icon, and then using the crosshairs, click on the colon segment. The motor map will represent only the data inside the cursors.

Figure 3.44 – Motor Map Generated Using the Cursors

Click on Zoom to display a larger view of the motor map, as shown in Figure 3.45. This will also display the appropriate time, distance and diameter scales.

Figure 3.45 – Zoom Display

Reporting/Printing

After the steps mentioned earlier in this chapter are completed for all trials a summary report may be generated. To do this click on the File menu while in the project screen. The trials should now all be highlighted yellow, which means they have been analyzed. Under the File menu there is an Export Data option and a Print Report option.

Figure 3.46 - Print Report Menu
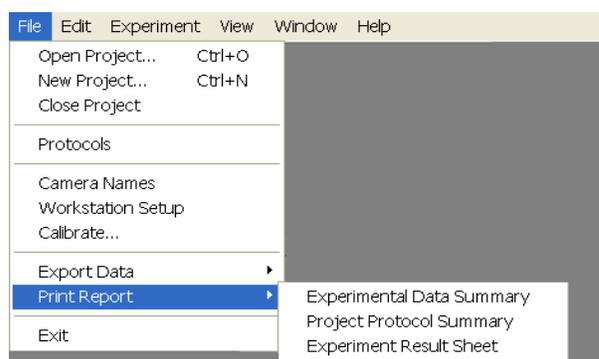
The Export Data option allows the user to select which format to use when exporting data. Experimental Data Summary results in a PDF file that summarizes the data from that experiment. Included in the summary report are the distances, times, and calculated velocities for each trial of the experiment. It also gives the average velocities for each group (ex. Baseline, DMSO 0.1%).

Figure 3.48 shows a sample PDF summary report. ASCII will organize the data in two columns, one column contains the distance data and another column contains the time data. This file may be opened into Excel. Meta File will save a Windows Meta File of the graph display shown on the Analysis tab.

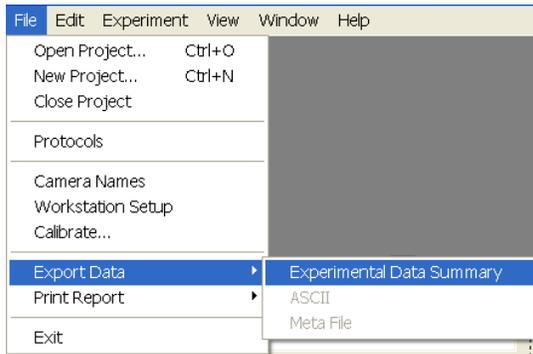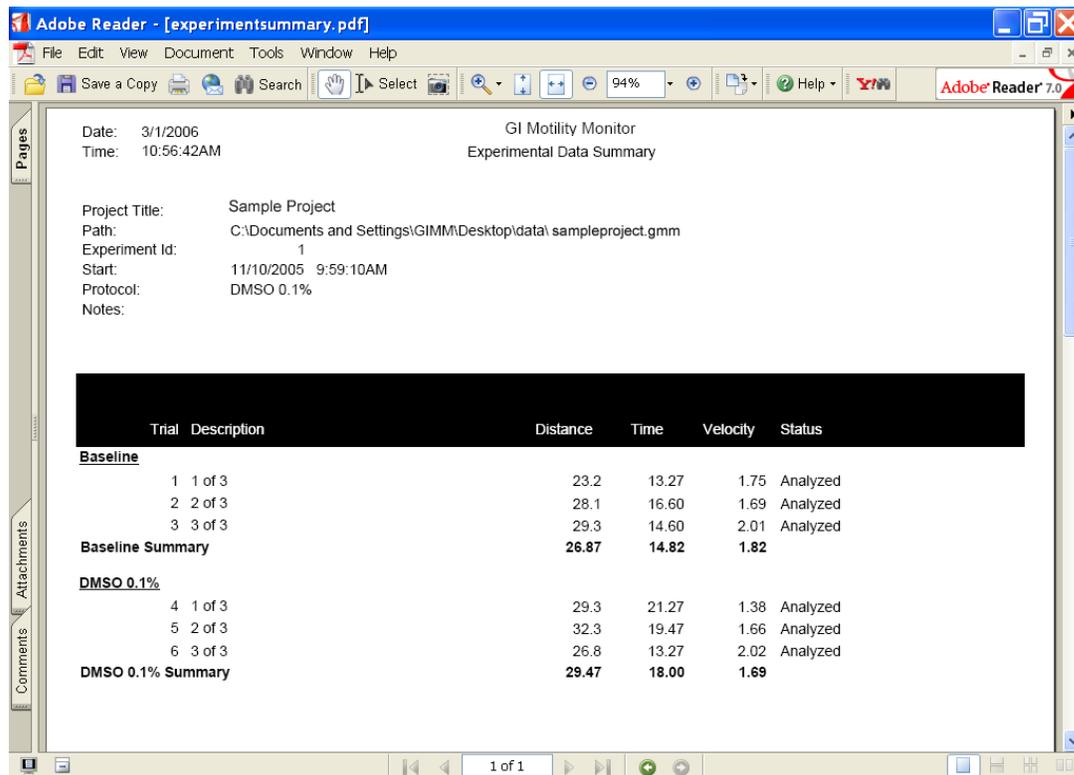*Figure 3.47 - Export Data Menu*

Figure 3.48 - PDF Summary Report

Three types of reports may be printed. To do this, open the File menu in the project whose data are to be printed. Now select Print Report then select Experimental Data Summary, Project Protocol Summary, or Experimental Report Sheet.

APPENDIX A | CITATIONS

These are a few citations that make use of the in vitro guinea pig distal colon model for measuring the peristaltic reflex. Users desiring more background in this area may wish to consult these publications for methodologies and research approaches that may be found useful.

1. Costa, M. and J. B. Furness (1976). "The peristaltic reflex: an analysis of the nerve pathways and their pharmacology." <u>Naunyn Schmiedebergs Arch Pharmacol</u> 294(1): 47-60.

2. Foxx-Orenstein, A. E. and J. R. Grider (1996). "Regulation of colonic propulsion by enteric excitatory and inhibitory neurotransmitters." <u>Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver Physiol</u> 271(3): G433-437.

3. Jin, J.-G., A. E. Foxx-Orenstein, et al. (1999). "Propulsion in Guinea Pig Colon Induced by 5-Hydroxytryptamine (HT) via 5-HT4 and 5-HT3 Receptors." <u>J Pharmacol Exp Ther</u> 288(1): 93-97.

4. Kadowaki, M., P. R. Wade, et al. (1996). "Participation of 5-HT3, 5-HT4, and nicotinic receptors in the peristaltic reflex of guinea pig distal colon." <u>Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver Physiol</u> 271(5): G849-857.

5. Linden, D. R., J.-X. Chen, et al. (2003). "Serotonin availability is increased in mucosa of guinea pigs with TNBS-induced colitis." <u>Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver Physiol</u> 285(1): G207-216.

6. Linden, D. R., K. A. Sharkey, et al. (2004). "Cyclooxygenase-2 contributes to dysmotility and enhanced excitability of myenteric AH neurones in the inflamed guinea pig distal colon." <u>J Physiol (Lond)</u> 557(1): 191-205.

7. Wade, P., J. Chen, et al. (1996). "Localization and function of a 5-HT transporter in crypt epithelia of the gastrointestinal tract." <u>J. Neurosci.</u> 16(7): 2352-2364.

8. Benard, T., Bouchoucha, M., Dupres, M., Cugnenc, P.H. In vitro analysis of rat intestinal wall movements at rest and during propagated contraction: a new method. *Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver Physiol* **273**: G776-G784, 1997.

9. Berthoud, H.R., Hennig, G., Campbell, M., Volaufova, J., Costa, M. Video-based spatio-temporal maps for analysis of gastric motility in vitro: effects of vagal stimulation in guinea-pigs. *Neurogastroenterol Mot* **14**: 677-688, 2002.

10. D'Antona, G., Hennig, G.W., Costa, M., Humphreys, C.M., Brookes, J.H. Analysis of motor patterns in the isolated guinea-pig large intestine by spatio-temporal maps. *Neurogastroenterol Mot* **13**: 483-492, 2001.

11. Hennig, G.W., Costa, M., Chen, B.N., Brookes, S.J.H. Quantitative analysis of peristalsis in the guinea-pig small intestine using spatio-temporal maps. *J Physiol* **517**: 575-590, 1999.

12. Seerden, T.C., Lammers, W.J.E.P., De Winter, B.Y., De Man, J.G., Pelckmans, P.A. Spatiotemporal electrical and motility mapping of distension-induced propagating oscillations in the murine small intestine. *Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver Physiol* **289**: G1043-G1051, 2005.

APPENDIX B | CONTACT INFORMATION

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