AUTHOR = JED SINGER
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How to get data from XLTEK

Find an empty computer in the LTM room. Open up the XLTEK database. Search for the patient's name. If you're doing this immediately after running, the data you want will be in the currently-recording file, indicated by a squiggly line of a different color with a spark on it. Otherwise, find the file by date/time that has the data you want. Double-click it to open it.

This will bring you to the view/edit screen. Find the beginning of the recording session - the behavioral file on the laptop is named for the start time and has a modification date equal to the end time, which can guide you if you forget. You should see a stream of constantly-spaced triggers from the trigger test, which we don't need. Arrange things so that the vertical line on the screen is several seconds before the next trigger, where the stuff we care about starts.

There are three buttons on the toolbar that you care about. They are the buttons to begin marking a clip (shaped, I believe, like a vertical line with a rightward-pointing triangle to the right), to stop marking a clip (should be disabled until you press the clip start button, is next to it, and is an X or a square or something), and the prune clips button (immediately to the right of those, as I recall, and... I think... has some yellow on it? I forget, but I think there are mouseover tooltips).

With the vertical line indicating where you are placed in the proper place, hit the start clip button. It will ask you for a name. I usually use something like "Jed Movie 1". Then go find the end of the recording session, move the vertical line several seconds past the final triggers, and hit the end clip button. This will make the entire recording session yellow. Then hit the prune clips button. It will bring up a dialog box with all the marked clips listed, yours probably at the bottom and much bigger than all the rest. Most of them should not have checks in their checkboxes. If any do, take note of them, because you'll want to return things to how they were when you're done. Then, make sure all are un-checked except the data part of your clip (the left checkbox, as I recall - for the preliminary analysis, we don't need the video). Then hit "prune". It'll ask you for a name for the pruned study, defaulting to the name of your clip. As long as the name identifies it as ours, that's fine.

Some time will pass, with a progress bar to keep you company. When it's done, hit the prune clips button again. Find your clip, select it, delete it, and return any checkboxes you removed from any others.

Then, close the view/edit window. Make sure you hit "cancel" when it asks if you want to save changes.

Back at the database, you should now see your pruned study. Plug in the external hard drive to that computer, right-click on your pruned study, and choose "export". It'll give you some options. Really the only important one is to make sure you export it as an XLTEK file (the first choice, I believe).

Back at our lab, open up the pruned study with XLTEK. Make sure you open it as an EEG study, it will really want to open it as a sleep study. From I believe the file menu, you can export it as a text file. It will bring up a dialog box with a list of the channels you want, select only the 88 data channels (1-88) plus whatever the two channels are that carry the trigger data. Make sure that it's set to export as microvolts, it will default to millivolts (and potentially keep going back to it as you do other things - this should be the last thing you do). Set the start time and end time to the start and end of the recording session. Hit export, and save the file as something clever like movie1.txt.

That's it!