## DAB Lab Day 6 / Working with Clips and Automation

We will be working with Digital Performer (DP) for this lab. The main objectives for this lab are to:

- Use Clips with Stretch turned on to automatically adjust tempo for multiple audio files.
  - Use Clips for individual tracks as well as scenes to record a live performance.
  - Practice recording and editing automation and recording Snapshots of the Mixing Board

## Lab 13 - Clip Art

Copy the Lab 13 DP Clip Art Project to your folder on the File Storage drive. Double-click the Lab 13 DP Clip Art document in your folder to launch Digital Performer and open the project. The tempo method should be set to Tempo Slider in the popup menu in the Control Panel. You can set the tempo by clicking on the number where you see the red circle in the picture below, and typing in any value from 20.00-400.00. The extremes will sound pretty silly, so let me suggest 80.00-140.00 for this project. You can change this at any time.

001	Internal Clock	
	Conductor Track	
J J = 105.00	✓ Tempo slider	
	Tap Pad	
Drum	Remote control Set Remote source	

MVE	LOCK	TAKE	STC	REC	INPUT	PLAY	OUTPUT	COL	TRACK NAME
+		1		▶					<ul> <li>Conductor</li> </ul>
+		1	~			•	Main		Master Fader
*		1				•	Main		≈ Drums
-		1	•			•	Main		≈ Heavy Drums
*		1	•			•	Main		~ Mono Percussion
*		1	•			•	Main		≈ Bass
*		1	•			•	Main		≈ Synth
*		1	•	1		•	Main		≈ Guitar
*		1	•			•	Main		$\approx$ FX
	_		-	_		-		_	

Each audio track should have Stretch turned on in the column of the Tracks window, pictured above. To create a No Master group click and drag across all of the track names except the Master and Conductor tracks in the Tracks Window. Then select Project Menu/Track Group/New Track Group... and give it the name No Master. You will see the group in the Track Groups window, and it will be ON when created. Click its checkbox to toggle on/off. Open the Clips window to see Scenes with multiple clips in place, as well as sockets with individual clips.

In the lower left corner there is a popup menu where you can choose the number of beats or measures for the Queue to refresh. For this lab I suggest starting with 2 measures, but you are free to try different lengths and even change it while playing back or recording a performance.

Press Play and practice dropping Scenes or individual Clips into the Queue. You can adjust the volume faders below each column to get a balance that doesn't clip the Master Fader.

There are Pattern Gate plug-ins on the Bass and Synth tracks in the Mixer. You can double-click them to change settings or turn them on or off their Bypass buttons.

**Option-click** the Record button, the icon will change to the broken circular shape in the picture here. You are going to record a performance of Scenes and Clips. You can pre-load things into the Queue before you hit Record if you like.



Click the Record button and record a performance of Scenes and Clips at least a minute long then press Stop. You can press play to hear your performance. If you'd like to try to do something else you can either Undo the

recording from the Edit menu, or you can select a new Take. With the No Master group ON, all the tracks will change to new Takes together. You can record as many takes as you like, and you can edit Clips in the Sequence window.

Once you've created a performance your happy with, option-click the Record button to toggle it out of Clips record mode. You should turn the No Master group OFF before you create a mix. Go to the Mixing Board window.

Press Play and adjust Volume and Pan levels for all tracks to create a balanced mix. You can also turn On or Bypass the Pattern Gate plug-ins on the Bass and Synth tracks.



Time Range:	All time	•
Tracks:	Tracks shown in Mixing Board	•
Data Types:	All enabled data types	•
Command key	bypasses dialog	

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Rewind to the beginning and using the camera icon take an Automation Snapshot.

Practice recording automation using the Touch or Latch modes to create changes in your mix. You can also draw and edit automation in the Sequence window. You can view automation lanes below tracks or superimposed over the audio clips. Create a final Bounce of your Project and check its level (between -0.1dB & -3.0dB).

## Save and Close the Lab 13 DP Clip Art Project then Quit Digital Performer.

Copy the lab project to your thumb drive. Make sure you copy the **Parent** folder, not just the Digital Performer project files. Shut Down the computer from the Apple menu in the top left corner.

The new Sketch feature added at the end of 2023 to Pro Tools can work with Clips in a grid, with some similarities to this project. Sketch is also a free program for iPads running iPadOS 16 or higher, and files created can be imported into Pro Tools.