Euglena CloudLab System

Zahid Hossain (zhossain@stanford.edu), Honesty Kim (honestyk@stanford.edu)

The cloudlab is available at http://euglena.stanford.edu/. The purpose of this cloudlab is to investigate the phototactic behavior of *Euglena Gracilis* remotely over the Internet without having to come to a wetlab.

1 Quick Overview:

I. Visit [http://euglena.stanford.edu](http://euglena.stanford.edu), create a user account and login. You should see a website similar to Figure 1.

II. Run a live experimentation session by either pressing “Live Join Next Available BPU” button or “Join Live” button on top of each BPU. (DO NOT check the option “Prevent this page from creating additional dialog” on the popup dialog).

III. In the Live Mode (Figure 3) play around with the joystick and observe Euglena response.

IV. You can download your experimental data from the front page (Figure 5). You might have to wait for little bit and refresh your front page.

V. You can also upload a text file to run a pre-programmed experiment (Figure 6). Please use the template at [https://goo.gl/iwg90W](https://goo.gl/iwg90W). **Time is in milliseconds.** Export/Save this file in CSV format before uploading (Please choose “Windows Command Separated CSV” if using Microsoft Excel).

2 Details

Live Experimentation

Visit [http://euglena.stanford.edu](http://euglena.stanford.edu), create a user account and login. The first thing you will see is a dashboard with a list of available **Biotic Processing Units (BPUs)** that host cultures of Euglena in microfluidic chambers (Figure 1). We have two different types of microscope magnification that look into these chambers, 10x (“larger euglena”) and 4x (“smaller euglena”).

Lets click on the “Live Join Next Available BPU” button, which will pop up a confirmation dialog

![Figure 1: Euglena cloud lab dashboard](image1.jpg)

![Figure 2: Joining live](image2.jpg)
(see Figure 2) once a BPU is available. **Please do not check the option “Prevent this page from creating additional dialog,” or else you will not be able to join live experimentation system in the future.** Note that the popup may take up to ~5-6 seconds to appear even when the system says the wait time is 0, otherwise it will appear when a BPU is available (keep an eye on the wait time right below the button).

All wait times shown on the website are best estimates and may not be extremely accurate. After clicking “Ok” on the confirmation dialog, the website will take you to a **Live Experimentation** session like Figure 3:

![User interface for a live experimental session](image)

**Figure 3: User interface for a live experimental session. The schematics on the left shows the arrangement of the LEDs around a microfluidic device that hosts the Euglena culture**

The main display is a microscope view of the microfluidic device, which has four LEDs as shown in the schematics of Figure 3. You can use the joystick interface to shine a combination of these LEDs, which is indicated by the yellow bars (with intensity value, in percentage, written on them) along the side of the main display. The smaller display on the bottom right corner is just a peek into our real hardware in action. Perhaps you can watch the real LEDs go off in real-time as you move your joystick (BPU “eug3” is the one closest to this web-cam - so if you choose that one you should see it), but a more interesting thing to watch would be how the Euglenas react to your joystick 😊. A single live experimental session will last for 1 minute and you can run as many experiment sessions as you want.

You can also run live experiments on a specific BPU of your choice by clicking the **“Join Live”** button found above every BPU as shown in Figure 4. However, if everybody wants to use that specific BPU at the same time then there will be a long wait time!

![Click “Live mode” to access a specific BPU directly](image)

**Figure 4: Click “Live mode” to access a specific BPU directly**

**Data Download**

All experimental data can be downloaded as a compressed file (tar.gz format) from the frontpage (see Figure 5). They are sorted so that the latest one is at the very top. If you are using windows you may have to download some tool that can uncompress tar.gz (e.g, [http://www.7-zip.org/](http://www.7-zip.org/) is a free option). The data basically comes with a movie file named **“movie.mp4”** with the corresponding light and timing information in a **lightdata.json** file (JSON format). In the other handout named **“Euglena Matlab Module”** we will see how to play with this data from within Matlab.

Once the experiment is done the data will appear on the front page as discussed above. Depending on the load on our system, it may take some time before your data is ready and you may need to refresh your front page to see the new data.

Text Based Experimentation

You can also program light values using a simple CSV file (Figure 6) that can be generated in google xls - https://goo.gl/iwg90W. copy and modify this file into your own google xls and save as CSV. (You can also use MS Excel etc, but please use the “Windows Comma Separated CSV” opposed to other CSV options). The time column is in milliseconds. Each row specifies the light intensities (0-100) at the given time. This illumination will be held until the next command or the end of the experiment. There is no fixed duration for an experiment in this mode and it will only run until the last row! The items in “Red” must be present and make sure there is no extraneous spaces.

For example, in Figure 6A, all the lights will be turned off at time 0 (the first thing in the experiment) until the 30th second when the top LED will be turned on with full brightness (100) and held until the 70th second, at which point the right LED is turned on to its full brightness. However, the command at the 70th second is the last one in the program, so the experiment will end immediately and all LEDs will be turned off. So, if you want to hold this light you will need to add a dummy row with all zeros at an appropriate time as the last command. You can utilize the “tag” row (Figure 6) as an identifier which will appear in the “tag” column on the front page (Figure 5) for easy navigation.

Browse and upload this csv files to our system (see Figure 6B,C on how to upload; you can choose multiple files at once – but we suggest you only submit one at a time) by clicking on the button “Choose file” as shown in Figure 1 and then press “Submit text to the next Available BPU” button. The
system will route your experiments to BPUs with the least wait time. However, like the Live experimentation mode, if you like to run your experiments on a specific BPU, press the “Submit Text” button on top of the desired BPU (see 6C). Note, this may not be optimal in terms of wait time though.