

g.tec medical engineering GmbH

g.USBamp, USB Biosignal Amplifier: g.USBamp C API

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g.[®]USBamp
USB BIOSIGNAL AMPLIFIER

g.USBamp C API for Linux V1.11.00

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Before using g.USBamp

Before using the device make yourself familiar with the *gUSBampInstructionsForUse.pdf* manual and carefully read following sections

- The intended function of the equipment
- Safe operation of g.USBamp

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About this manual

This manual introduces the functionality of the libraries

- libgusbampapia.so.1.11.00 and
- libgusbampapiso.so.1.11.00.so .

The difference between these two libraries is the way in which they have linked their dependencies. The dependencies of libgusbampapia.so.1.11.00 are linked statically. The dependencies of libgusbampapiso.so.1.11.00 are linked dynamically. The functionality of these two libraries is the same. The notation

- libgusbampapix.so.1.11.00

refers to them both and “x” means “a” or “so”.

libgusbampapiso.so.1.11.00 relies to more dependencies. libgusbampapia.so.1.11.00 has a clean symbol table and does not affect the usage of other libraries within your program.

Note: On Ubuntu Linux 11.04 only libgusbampapiso.so.1.11.00 is available.

Hardware and software requirements

g.USBamp requires a PC compatible desktop, notebook workstation or embedded computer. The table below lists optimal settings:

Hardware	Properties
CPU	Pentium working at 2000 MHz
Hard disk	20-30 GB
RAM	1GB – 2 GB
USB 2.0 port (EHCI – enhanced Host controller interface)	one free USB port for each g.USBamp

The g.USBamp software package is tested on Ubuntu Linux.

Tested Operating System	Kernel
64bit/32bit Ubuntu Linux 11.04	2.6.38-11-generic
Dependencies/Libraries:	
librt.so.1 libstdc++.so.6 libm.so.6 libgcc_s.so.1 libpthread.so.0 libc.so.6 To retrieve the dependencies of the delivered shared object use “ldd”. For more information please see “man ldd”.	
Additional dependencies/libraries for libgusbampapiso.so.1.11.00:	
libusb-1.0.so.0 libcudata.so.44 libcui18n.so.44 libcuc.so.44 libboost_regex.so.1.42.0 libboost_date_time.so.1.42.0 libboost_signals.so.1.42.0 libboost_thread.so.1.42.0	

Make sure that your operating system works correctly before installing the g.USBamp library. During operation of g.USBamp other major software MUST NOT be operated.

Installation

Installation of the g.USBamp C API for Linux

1. Please insert the g.USBamp C API for Linux CD into the CD-drive of your PC.
2. Use a terminal in order to change to the directory
 - `cd gUSBampAPI_1_11_00`
and run the install script
 - `sh install.sh`

Note: Please make sure that you have the permissions to operate on the directories and to execute `ldconfig` correctly.

De-installation

1. Remove the header file from your computer
 - `rm /usr/include/gAPI.h`
2. Remove the library from your computer
 - `rm /usr/include/libgusbampapix.1.11.00`
 - `call ldconfig`
3. Remove the documentation from your computer
 - `rm -rf /usr/share/doc/gtec/gUSBampAPI_1_11_00/`

Note: Please make sure that you have the permissions to operate on the directories and to execute `ldconfig` correctly.

Files on your computer

The library and the include file

- `/usr/lib/libgusbampapix.so.1.11.00`
- `/usr/include/gAPI.h`

Filter files on your computer

- `/etc/gtec/filter_files/DSPfilter.bin`
- `/etc/gtec/filter_files/DSPNotchfilter.bin`

Further files on your computer

- `/usr/share/doc/gtec/gUSBampAPI_1_11_00/`
`gUSBamp_C_API_for_Linux_1_11_00.pdf`
- `/usr/share/doc/gtec/gUSBampAPI_1_11_00/license.pdf`

Principles of usage

Find, open and close a device

In order to find devices which are enabled for the API you can use the functions

- GT_UpdateDevices (this function updates the API internal list of available devices),
- GT_GetDeviceListSize (this function returns the number of found devices),
- GT_GetDeviceList (this function returns a list of device names) and
- GT_FreeDeviceList (this function frees the memory allocated by GT_GetDeviceList).

The device name is also identifier of the device.

If you have selected a device of choice you can open it. If you are finished with the device you must close it. Therefore you can use the functions

- GT_OpenDevice and
- GT_CloseDevice.

About the configuration of a device

Before you can start the data acquisition you must configure the device. You have to set all parameters/members in/of the structure

- usbamp_config.

The configuration defined within the structure can be applied to the device by using the function

- GT_SetConfiguration.

The applied configuration can also be retrieved from the API by using the function

- GT_GetConfiguration.

The configuration cannot be changed during data acquisition.

The things you can change during data acquisition are defined within the structure

- usbamp_asynchron_config.

You must configure all members of usbamp_asynchron_config.

Applying the asynchronous configuration is done in two steps:

1. You must set the asynchronous configuration with the function
GT_SetAsynchronConfiguration
and then you can apply it to the device with
2. GT_ApplyAsynchronConfiguration.

The function GT_ApplyAsynchronConfiguration can be called before and also during data acquisition.

About the callback function

Each time new data samples are ready to be processed the API invokes a callback function.

The callback function can be set with

- GT_SetDataReadyCallback.

Within your own callback function use

- GT_GetSamplesAvailable to get the number of available bytes and
- GT_GetData in order to copy the available number of bytes to a buffer specified by you.

You can set your callback function directly after GT_OpenDevice. You cannot change the callback function during data acquisition.

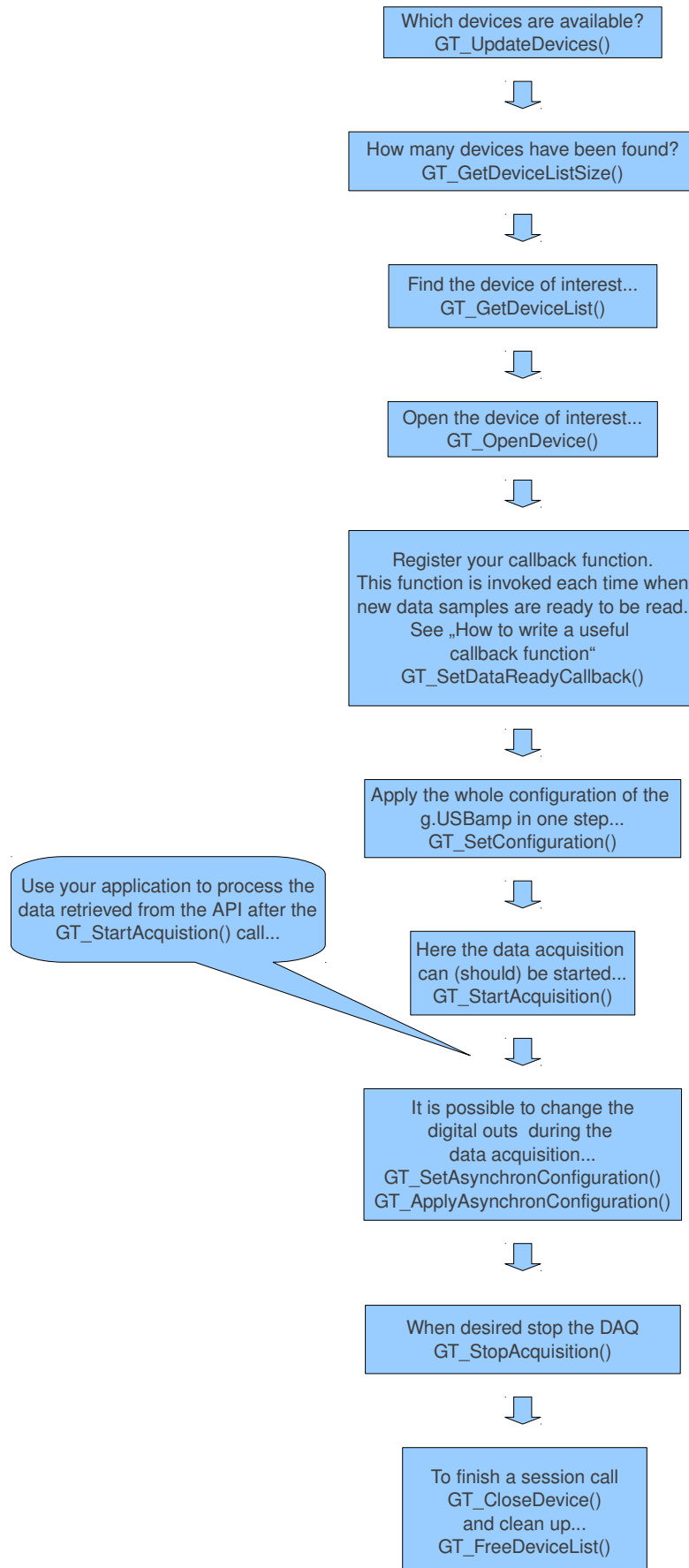
How to start and stop the data acquisition

Now you can start or stop the data acquisition with the functions

- GT_StartAcquisition and
- GT_StopAcquisition.

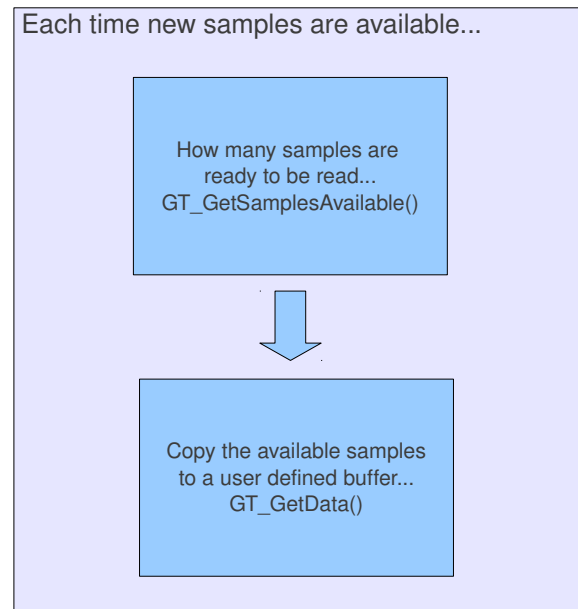
Flow diagram of a typical data acquisition

Please see the source of the demo applications shipped with the API for a more detailed view on this process.



How to write a useful callback function

The callback function can be used to retrieve the data samples from the API (without writing a thread). A separate thread is running in the background to acquire the data from the g.USBamp asynchronous to your application. The callback function blocks the internal data acquisition thread. It is important to process the callback function as fast as possible in order to avoid a loss of data samples.



g.tec g.USBamp C API overview

Functions, types and structures

Common g.tec API functions

Function name

GT_ShowDebugInformation

Signature *void GT_ShowDebugInformation(gt_bool show)*

Parameters *gt_bool show*

Return value *void*

Effects If show is *true*, debug informations are printed to the console.

Preconditions None

Postconditions

Note Could be useful to find wrong settings of the configuration.
If show is *true*, API internal methods are enabled to print informations on the console, else these methods are disabled.

Release note

Function name

GT_UpdateDevices

Signature *gt_bool GT_UpdateDevices()*

Parameters None

Return value *true* if no error occurs, else *false*.

Effects Searches for devices which are enabled for the API.

Preconditions None

Postconditions Could effect the return values of *gt_size GT_GetDeviceListSize()* and *char** GT_GetDeviceList()*.

Note

Release note

Function name

GT_GetDeviceListSize

Signature *gt_size GT_GetDeviceListSize()*

Parameters None

Return value The number of found devices.

Effects

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_UpdateDevices()* has to be called before.

Postconditions

Note

Release note

Function name

GT_GetDeviceList

Signature *char** GT_GetDeviceList()*

Parameters None

Return value An array of char strings which represent the device identifier (for example the serial number).

Effects

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_UpdateDevices()* has to be called before.

Postconditions Memory is allocated for the array of char strings.

Note The handling of the list is within the responsibility of the user, the list can be freed with *gt_bool GT_FreeDeviceList(char** device_list, gt_size list_size)*.

Function name

GT_FreeDeviceList

Signature *gt_bool GT_FreeDeviceList(char** device_list, gt_size list_size)*

Parameters The pointer to the array *device_list* allocated by *char** GT_GetDeviceList()* and the length of the array given by *gt_size GT_GetDeviceListSize()* .

Return value *true* on success.

Effects

Preconditions Memory for the *device_list* must have been allocated with *char** GT_GetDeviceList()* before.

Postconditions Memory is freed and *device_list* is a pointer to *NULL*.

Note

Function name

GT_OpenDevice

Signature *gt_bool GT_OpenDevice(const char* device_name)*

Parameters The name of the device.

Return value *true* if the device can be opened.

Effects Enables the interaction with the device.

Preconditions

Postconditions

Note

Release note

Function name

GT_CloseDevice

Signature *gt_bool GT_CloseDevice(const char* device_name)*

Parameters The name of the device.

Return value *true* on success. *false* else.

Effects

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_OpenDevice(const char* device_name)* has to be called before. The data acquisition must not be active.

Postconditions

Note

Release note

Function name

GT_SetConfiguration

Signature *gt_bool GT_SetConfiguration(const char* device_name, void* configuration)*

Parameters The name of the device.
The configuration for the device.

Return value *true* when the configuration is valid and if this configuration can be applied to the device.

Effects Sets the configuration for a given device.

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_OpenDevice(const char* device_name)* has to be called before. The data acquisition must not be active.

Postconditions If successful, the given configuration is applied to the device.

Note

Release note

Function name

GT_GetConfiguration

Signature *gt_bool GT_GetConfiguration(const char* device_name, void* configuration)*

Parameters The name of the device.
The configuration structure for the device.

Return value *true* if a device's configuration was stored to *configuration*. *false* else.

Effects Retrieves the current applied configuration of the devices and stores it in *configuration*.

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_SetConfiguration(const char* device_name, void* configuration)* has to be called before.

Postconditions

Note *void* configuration* is changed by reference.

Release note

Function name

GT_SetAsynchronConfiguration

Signature *gt_bool GT_SetAsynchronConfiguration(const char* device_name, void* configuration)*

Parameters The name of the device. The configuration for the device.

Return value *true* if the configuration is valid.

Effects The given configuration can be applied to the device.

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_OpenDevice(const char* device_name)* has to be called before.

Postconditions *gt_bool GT_ApplyAsynchronConfiguration(const char* device_name)* can be called.

Note This method can also be called during data acquisition.

Release note

Function
name

GT_ApplyAsynchronConfiguration

Signature *gt_bool GT_ApplyAsynchronConfiguration(const char* device_name)*

Parameters The name of the device.

Return value *true* if the configuration was successful applied.

Effects

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_SetAsynchronConfiguration(const char* device_name, void* configuration)* has to be called before.

Postconditions

Note This method can also be called during data acquisition.

Release note

Function name

GT_GetAsynchronConfiguration

Signature *gt_bool GT_GetAsynchronConfiguration(const char* device_name, void* configuration)*

Parameters The name of the device.
The asynchron configuration structure for the device.

Return value *true* if a device's asynchron configuration was stored to configuration.

Effects Retrieves the current asynchron configuration of the device and stores it in *configuration*.

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_ApplyAsynchronConfiguration(const char* device_name)* has to be called before.

Postconditions

Note *void* configuration* is changed by reference.

Release note

Function name

GT_StartAcquisition

Signature *gt_bool GT_StartAcquisition(const char* device_name)*

Parameters The name of the device.

Return value *true* if the acquisition started successful.

Effects The device starts to stream data.

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_SetConfiguration(const char* device_name, void* configuration)* has to be called before.

Postconditions *int GT_GetSamplesAvailable(const char* device_name)* can be used to check the number of valid bytes.
int GT_GetData(const char device_name, unsigned char* buffer, gt_size num_bytes)* can be used to copy the data to a *buffer* specified by the user.

If a callback function has been registered (with *gt_bool GT_SetDataReadyCallBack(const char* device_name, void (*callback_function)(void)), void* usr_data)*, this function will be called each time when new samples are ready to be read.

Note

Release note

Function name

GT_StopAcquisition

Signature *gt_bool GT_StopAcquisition(const char* device_name)*

Parameters The name of the device.

Return value *true* if the device has stopped.

Effects The device stops to stream data.

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_StartAcquisition(const char* device_name)* has to be called before.

Postconditions

Note

Release note

Function name

GT_GetSamplesAvailable

Signature *int GT_GetSamplesAvailable(const char* device_name)*

Parameters The name of the device.

Return value The number of bytes ready to be read. A negative number if an error occurred.

Effects

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_StartAcquisition(const char* device_name)* has to be called before.

Postconditions

Note

Release note

Function name

GT_GetData

Signature *int GT_GetData(const char* device_name, unsigned char* buffer, gt_size num_bytes)*

Parameters The name of the device.
A buffer.
The amount of samples which should be copied to the *buffer*.

Return value The number of copied samples. A negative number if samples have been dropped (in the API internal buffer) .

Effects

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_StartAcquisition(const char* device_name)* has to be called before.

Postconditions

Note

Release note

Function name

GT_SetDataReadyCallBack

Signature *gt_bool GT_SetDataReadyCallBack(const char* device_name, void (*callback_function)(void), void* usr_data)*

Parameters The name of the device.
A callback function: *void FunctionName(void* data)*.
User data to pass to callback function: *void* usr_data*.

Return value *true* if the callback function is registered.

Effects Each time new samples are ready to be read the callback function is called.

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_OpenDevice(const char* device_name)* has to be called before.

Postconditions

Note A callback function could be very useful in combination with *int GT_GetSamplesAvailable(const char* device_name)* and *int GT_GetData(const char* device_name, unsigned char* buffer, gt_size num_bytes)*.

Release note

Common g.tec API data types and structures

Name	filter_specification	
type	struct	
typedef	gt_filter_specification	
See also	gt_bool GT_GetBandpassFilterList(const char* device_name, gt_size sample_rate, gt_filter_specification* filter, gt_size filter_size) gt_bool GT_GetNotchFilterList(const char* device_name, gt_size sample_rate, gt_filter_specification* filter, gt_size filter_size)	
Data fields / members	Possible values	Notes
float f_upper		
float f_lower		
float sample_rate		
float order		
float type		
gt_size id		

Name	gt_size
type	Unsigned long int
typedef	gt_size
See also	

Name	gt_bool
type	Unsigned char
typedef	gt_bool
See also	GT_TRUE GT_FALSE

Name	GT_TRUE
type	#define
value	1
See also	gt_bool

Name	GT_FALSE
------	-----------------

type	#define
value	0
See also	gt_bool

Name	GT_NOS_AUTOSET
type	#define
value	-1
Note	NOS = Number Of Scans

Name	GT_BIPOLAR_DERIVATION_NONE
type	#define
value	-2

Name	GT_FILTER_AUTOSET
type	#define
value	-1
note	Applies the first filter which fits to the given sample rate.

Name	GT_FILTER_NONE
type	#define
value	-2

g.USBamp specific API functions

Function name

GT_GetBandpassFilterListSize

Signature *gt_size GT_GetBandpassFilterListSize(const char* device_name, gt_size sample_rate)*

Parameters The name of the device.
The sample rate of interest.

Return value The number of found filters to the according sample rate.

Effects

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_OpenDevice(const char* device_name)* has to be called before.

Postconditions

Note The method for the notch filters work similar.

Release note

Function name

GT_GetBandpassFilterList

Signature *gt_bool GT_GetBandpassFilterList(const char* device_name, gt_size sample_rate, gt_filter_specification* filter, gt_size filter_size)*

Parameters The name of the device.
The sample rate of interest.
The start pointer to the list of *gt_filter_specification*.

Return value true if filters are found.

Effects

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_OpenDevice(const char* device_name)* has to be called before.

Postconditions

Note Memory for the *gt_filter_specification* must be allocated by the user.
The method for the notch filters work similar.

Release note

Function name

GT_Calibrate

Signature *gt_bool GT_Calibrate(const char* device_name, gt_usbamp_channel_calibration* calibration)*

Parameters The name of the device.
A pointer to *gt_usbamp_channel_calibration*.

Return value true on success.

Effects Determines offset and scaling for each channel.
Memory for the *gt_usbamp_channel_calibration* must be allocated by the user.

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_OpenDevice(const char* device_name)* has to be called before.
gt_bool GT_StartAcquisition(const char device_name)* must not be called before.

Postconditions

Note

Release note

Function name

GT_SetChannelCalibration

Signature *gt_bool GT_SetChannelCalibration(const char* device_name, gt_usbamp_channel_calibration* calibration)*

Parameters The name of the device.
A pointer to the *gt_usbamp_channel_calibration*.

Return value true on success.

Effects The channel calibration field in the permanent memory of the device is set to the values specified by *gt_usbamp_channel_calibration*.
Calibration values are changed permanent.

Calculation:

$$y = (x - d) * k$$

y ... values retrieved with *GT_GetData* (calculated values) in μV

x ... acquired data

d ... offset value in μV

k ... scale factor

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_OpenDevice(const char* device_name)* has to be called before.

Postconditions

Note Memory for the *gt_usbamp_channel_calibration* must be allocated by the user.
The function call is blocking for a few seconds.
Use *gt_bool GT_Calibrate(const char* device_name, gt_usbamp_channel_calibration* calibration)* in order to retrieve the necessary values from the device. The device is already calibrated by the manufacturer. There is no need to call this function.

Release note

Function name

GT_GetChannelCalibration

Signature *gt_bool GT_GetChannelCalibration(const char* device_name, gt_usbamp_channel_calibration* calibration)*

Parameters The name of the device.
A pointer to the *gt_usbamp_channel_calibration*

Return value true on success.

Effects Memory for the *gt_usbamp_channel_calibration* must be allocated by the user.
The calibration settings of the device are stored at *gt_usbamp_channel_calibration* calibration*.

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_OpenDevice(const char* device_name)* has to be called before.

Postconditions

Note

Release note

Function name **GT_GetImpedance**

Signature *gt_bool GT_GetImpedance(const char* device_name, gt_size channel, int* impedance)*

Parameters The name of the device.
The channel of interest.
A pointer to an integer.

Return value true on success.

Effects Retrieves the Resistance according to the given channel.

Preconditions *gt_bool GT_OpenDevice(const char* device_name)* has to be called before.
gt_bool GT_StartAcquisition(const char device_name)* must not be called before.

Postconditions

Note All grounds are connected to common ground. Impedance is measured between ground and specified channel. If you want to get the impedance of the reference electrodes following channel numbers must be entered:
1 ... 16 for the channel 1 ... 16
17 REFA
18 REFB
19 REFC
20 REFD
This function is blocking for a view seconds.

Release note

g.USBamp specific data types and structures

Name	GT_USBAMP_NUM_DIGITAL_OUT
type	#define
value	4

Name	GT_USBAMP_NUM_REFERENCE
type	#define
value	4

Name	GT_USBAMP_RECOMMENDED_BUFFER_SIZE
type	#define
value	

Name	GT_USBAMP_NUM_GROUND
type	#define
value	4

Name	GT_USBAMP_NUM_ANALOG_IN
type	#define
value	4

Name	usbamp_device_mode
type	enum
typedef	gt_usbamp_device_mode
enumerations	GT_MODE_NORMAL, GT_MODE_IMPEDANCE, GT_MODE_CALIBRATE, GT_MODE_COUNTER

Name	usbamp_analog_out_shape
type	enum
typedef	gt_usbamp_analog_out_shape
enumerations	GT_ANALOGOUT_SQUARE, GT_ANALOGOUT_SAWTOOTH, GT_ANALOGOUT_SINE, GT_ANALOGOUT_NOISE

Name	usbamp_channel_calibration
type	struct
typedef	gt_usbamp_channel_calibration
See also	gt_bool GT_Calibrate(const char* device_name, gt_usbamp_channel_calibration* calibration) gt_bool GT_GetChannelCalibration(const char* device_name, gt_usbamp_channel_calibration* calibration) gt_bool GT_SetChannelCalibration(const char* device_name, gt_usbamp_channel_calibration* calibration)

Data fields / members	Possible values	Notes
float scale[GT_USBAMP_NUM_ANALOG_IN]		The scale factor.
float offset[GT_USBAMP_NUM_ANALOG_IN]		Offset in μV .

Name	usbamp_config	
type	struct	
typedef	gt_usbamp_config	
See also	gt_bool GT_SetConfiguration(const char* device_name, void* configuration) gt_bool GT_GetConfiguration(const char* device_name, void* configuration) gt_usbamp_analog_out_config	
Data fields / members	Possible values	Notes
unsigned short int sample_rate	32, 64, 128, 256, 512, 600, 1200, 2400, 4800, 9600, 19200, 38400	
int number_of_scans	GT_NOS_AUTOSSET	It is strongly recommended to use the GT_NOS_AUTOSSET define.
gt_bool enable_trigger_line	GT_TRUE GT_FALSE	Enables the trigger line. Disables the trigger line.
gt_bool slave_mode	GT_TRUE GT_FALSE	Enables slave mode. Disables slave mode. 2 amplifiers are supported.
gt_bool enable_sc	GT_TRUE GT_FALSE	Enables the short cut. Disables the short cut.
gt_bool common_ground[GT_USBAMP_NUM_GROUND]	GT_TRUE GT_FALSE	Set common ground on group. Unset common ground on group.
gt_bool common_reference[GT_USBAMP_NUM_REFERENCE]	GT_TRUE GT_FALSE	Set common reference on group. Unset common reference on group.
gt_usbamp_device_mode mode	GT_MODE_NORMAL GT_MODE_IMPEDANCE GT_MODE_CALIBRATE	Mode for measurement Untested yet. In this mode the internal signal generator can be observed on all channels. Sample rate

	GT_MODE_COUNTER	must be <= 512. The wave shape of the signal is specified with the member ao_config. The counter can be observed on channel 16
gt_bool scan_dio	GT_TRUE GT_FALSE	The digital in appears as channel 17
float version		
int bandpass[GT_USBAMP_NUM_ANALOG_IN]	The id of the bandpass	The selected filter must match the sample rate.
int notch[GT_USBAMP_NUM_ANALOG_IN]	The id of the notch	The selected filter must match the sample rate.
int bipolar[GT_USBAMP_NUM_ANALOG_IN]	The channels for the bipolar derivation	Range from [1 ... 16]
unsigned char analog_in_channel[GT_USBAMP_NUM_ANALOG_IN]	The channels for the data acquisition	Range from [1 ... 16] Specifies the channel to be observed.
gt_size num_analog_in	The number of selected analog channels	Specifies how many channels to be observed.
gt_usbamp_analog_out_config* ao_config	gt_usbamp_analog_out_config*	Is used to define the properties of the analog out signal. See also member mode.

Name	usbamp_analog_out_config	
type	struct	
typedef	gt_usbamp_analog_out_config	
See also	gt_usbamp_analog_out_config	
Data fields / members	Possible values	Notes
gt_usbamp_analog_out_shape shape	GT_ANALOGOUT_SQUARE GT_ANALOGOUT_SAWTOOTH GT_ANALOGOUT_SINE GT_ANALOGOUT_NOISE	
short int offset	[-200 ... 200]	Offset in mV
short int frequency	[1 ... 100]	Frequency in Hz
short int amplitude	[-250 ... 250]	Amplitude in mV

Name	usbamp_asynchron_config
------	--------------------------------

type	struct	
typedef	gt_usbamp_asynchron_config	
See also	gt_bool GT_SetAsynchronConfiguration(const char* device_name, void* configuration) gt_bool GT_ApplyAsynchronConfiguration(const char* device_name) gt_bool GT_GetAsynchronConfiguration(const char* device_name, void* configuration)	
Data fields / members	Possible values	Notes
gt_bool digital_out[GT_USBAMP_NUM_DIGITAL_OUT]	GT_TRUE GT_FALSE	Enables the digital out. Disables the digital out.



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