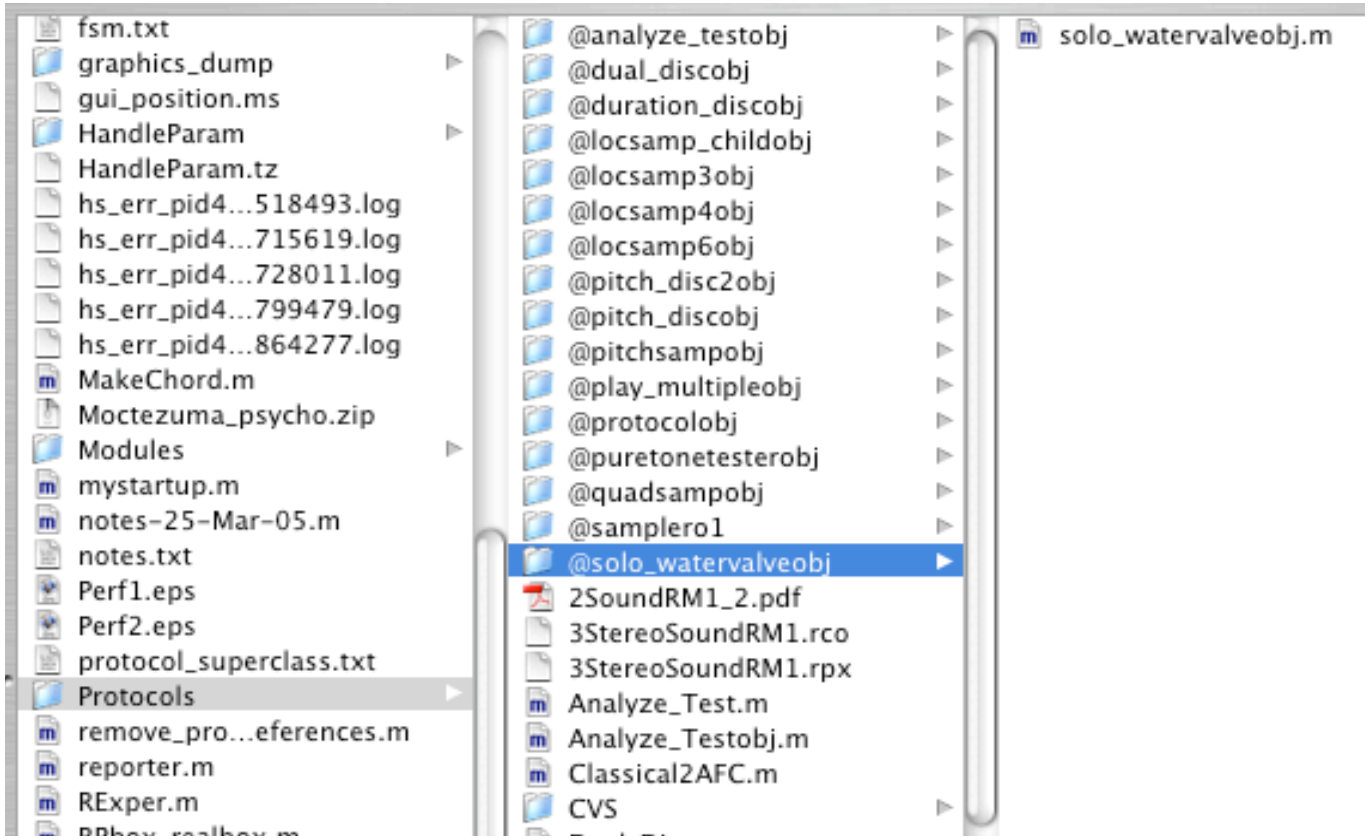
Protocol-writing with the Solo system:

The Basics:
The Water Valve Calibrator

Getting your Bearings

(or, "If only all pathways were this easy")

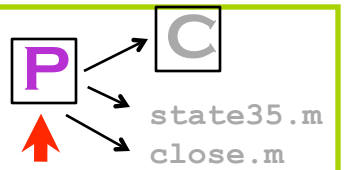


Path to protocol executable: `(root-dir)/ExperPort/Protocols/`

Protocol object: *protocolname*`obj.m`

Object files in: `(1)/@protocolname`**`obj.m`**

solo_watervalveobj.m




```
function [out] = Solo_WaterValve(varargin)

global exper

if nargin > 0
    action = lower(varargin{1});
else
    action = lower(get(gcbo,'tag'));
end

out=1;
switch action
    case 'init',
        ModuleNeeds(me, {'rpbox'});
        SetParam(me,'priority','value',GetParam('rpbox','priority')+1);
        InitParam(me, 'object', 'value', ...
                  eval([lower(mfilename) 'obj(''' mfilename ''')']));

    case 'update',
        % do nothing
    case 'close',
        if ExistParam(me, 'object'),
            my_obj = GetParam(me, 'object');
            close(my_obj);
        end;
        SetParam('rpbox','protocols',1);
        return;

    case 'state35',
        my_obj = GetParam(me, 'object');
        state35(my_obj);

   otherwise
        out = 0;
end;


function [myname] = me
    myname = lower(mfilename);
```

← Call to constructor

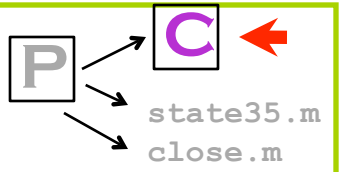
← (update files)

← close.m

← state35.m

The protocol file

Constructor




```
function [obj] = solo_watervalveobj(a)

% -------- BEGIN Magic code that all protocol objects must have ---
% Default object:
obj = struct('empty', []);
obj = class(obj, mfilename);

% If creating an empty object, return without further ado:
if nargin==1 && strcmp(a, 'empty'), return; end;

delete_sphandle('owner', mfilename); % Delete previous vars owned by this object

% Non-empty: proceed with regular init of this object
if nargin==1 && isstr(a),
    SoloParamHandle('protocol_name', 'value', lower(a));
end;

% Make default figure. Remember to make it non-saveable; on next run
% the handle to this figure might be different, and we don't want to
% overwrite it when someone does load_data and some old value of the
% fig handle was stored there...
SoloParamHandle('myfig', 'saveable', 0); myfig.value = figure;
SoloFunction('close', 'ro_args', 'myfig');
set(value(myfig), ...
    'Name', value(protocol_name), 'Tag', value(protocol_name), ...
    'closerequestfcn', ['ModuleClose(''' value(protocol_name) ''')'], ...
    'NumberTitle', 'off', 'MenuBar', 'none');

% -------- END Magic code that all protocol objects must have ---
```

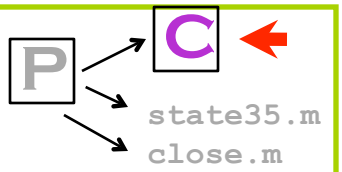
Matlab object creation code

Delete previous SoloParamHandles (SPH) associated with the object

Protocol-nonspecific variables

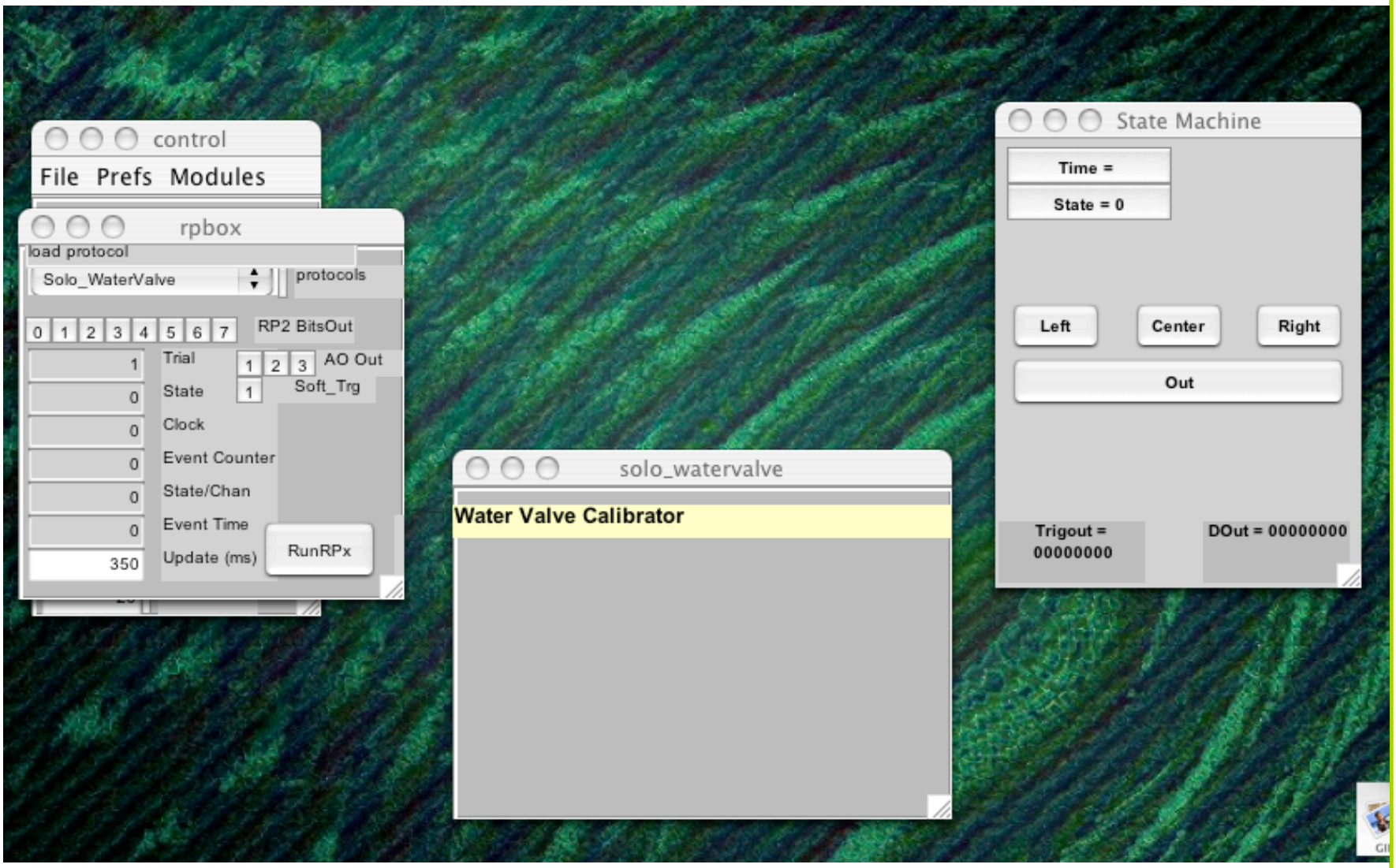
Declaring a function that uses SPHs

Constructor: Adding UI elements

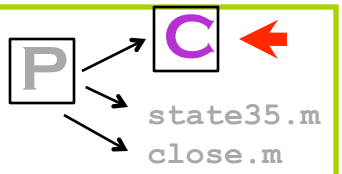



```
function [obj] = solo_watervalveobj(a)

% -------- BEGIN Magic code that all protocol objects must have ---
% Default object:
obj = struct('empty', []);
obj = class(obj, mfilename);

% If creating an empty object, return without further ado:
if nargin==1 && strcmp(a, 'empty'), return; end;

delete_sphandle('owner', mfilename); % Delete previous vars owned by this object

% Non-empty: proceed with regular init of this object
if nargin==1 && isstr(a),
    SoloParamHandle('protocol_name', 'value', lower(a));
end;

% Make default figure. Remember to make it non-saveable; on next run
% the handle to this figure might be different, and we don't want to
% overwrite it when someone does load_data and some old value of the
% fig handle was stored there...
SoloParamHandle('myfig', 'saveable', 0); myfig.value = figure;
SoloFunction('close', 'ro_args', 'myfig');
set(value(myfig), ...
    'Name', value(protocol_name), 'Tag', value(protocol_name), ...
    'closerequestfcn', ['ModuleClose(''' value(protocol_name) ''')'], ...
    'NumberTitle', 'off', 'MenuBar', 'none');

% -------- END Magic code that all protocol objects must have ---


fig_position = [485   244   300   200];
set(value(myfig), 'Position', fig_position);

x = 1; y = 1;                       % Position on GUI

HeaderParam('prot_title', 'Water Valve Calibrator', ...
    x, y, 'position', [1 fig_position(4)-30 fig_position(3) 20], ...
    'width', fig_position(3));
```

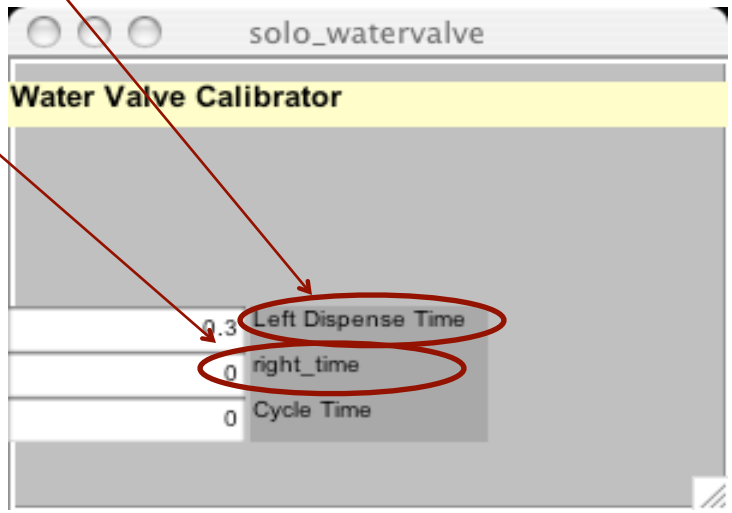
Previewing Greatness to Come …



Constructor: Adding UI elements (2)

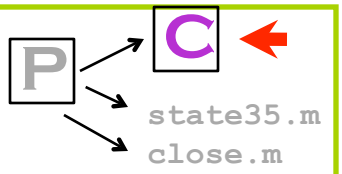



```
fig_position = [485   244   300   200];
set(value(myfig), 'Position', fig_position);

x = 1; y = 1;                          % Position on GUI

next_row(y, 1.5);
NumeditParam('cycle_time', 0, x, y, 'label', 'Cycle Time');next_row(y);
NumeditParam('right_time', 0, x, y);next_row(y);
NumeditParam('left_time', 0.3, x, y, 'label', 'Left Dispense Time', ...
    'TooltipString', 'Time (in seconds) to open the left water valve per cycle');
next_row(y);


HeaderParam('prot_title', 'Water Valve Calibrator', ...
    x, y, 'position', [1 fig_position(4)-30 fig_position(3) 20], ...
```

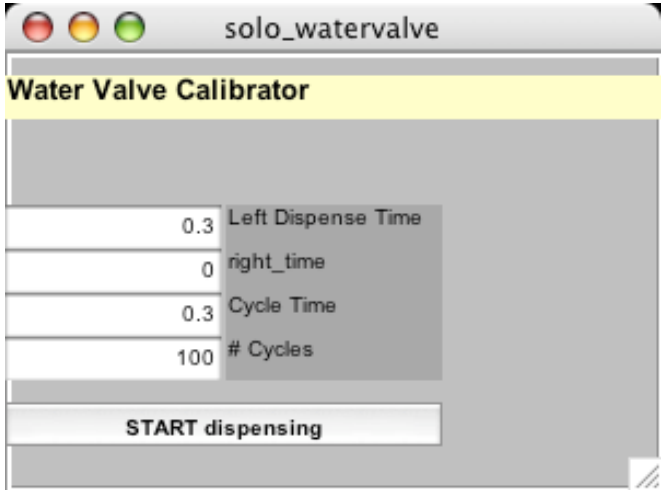


- Optional UI features (labels, tooltips)
- Positioning

Constructor: Add Dispense Control

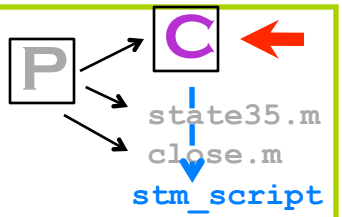



```
next_row(y);
ToggleParam('go', 0, x, y, ...
    'OnString', 'STOP dispensing', ...
    'OffString', 'START dispensing');

next_row(y, 1.5);
NumEditParam('num_cycles', 100, x, y, 'label', '# Cycles'); next_row(y);
NumeditParam('cycle_time', 0, x, y, 'label', 'Cycle Time');next_row(y);
NumeditParam('right_time', 0, x, y);next_row(y);
```



Look at *HandleParam/*.m* for available features
e.g. *HandleParam/EditParam.m*

The constructor initialises the state matrix



Declaring …

```
SoloFunction('make_and_upload_state_matrix', ...
    'ro_args', {'right_time', 'left_time', 'cycle_time', 'num_cycles'}, ...
    'rw_args', 'go');

make_and_upload_state_matrix(obj, 'init', x, y);

HeaderParam('prot_title', 'Water Valve Calibrator', ...
    x, y, 'position', [1 fig_position(4)-30 fig_position(3) 20], ...
    'width', fig_position(3));
```

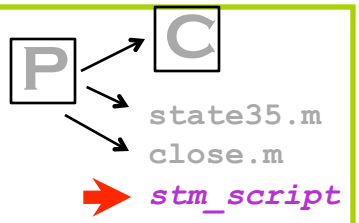
… and calling SoloFunctions

The constructor initialises all peripheral sections of a protocol. *e.g.*

Deciding trial sides (*SidesSection.m*)

Constructing sounds (*ChordSection.m*)

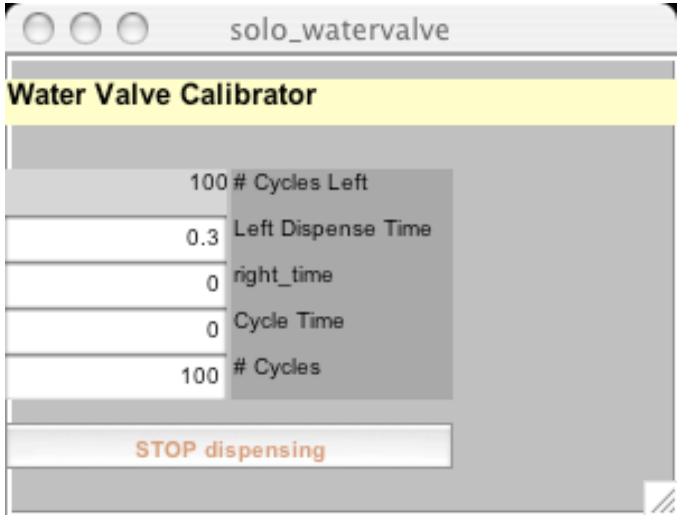
Programming the state matrix: Skeleton for specialised files

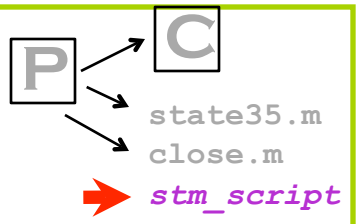



```
function [] = make_and_upload_state_matrix(obj, action, x, y)

GetSoloFunctionArgs;

switch action
    case 'init'
    % initialises GUI elements owned by this function
    DispParam('cycles_left', value(num_cycles), x, y, ...
        'label', '# Cycles Left'); next_row(y);


    case 'next_matrix'
    % used in all subsequent calls (note: no initialisation
    % of GUI elements occurs here)

    otherwise
        error('Invalid action!');
end;

% real state matrix definition goes here
```

How a SoloFunction gets registered SPHs **during each call**

Adding UI elements to the main figure (controlled by this script)





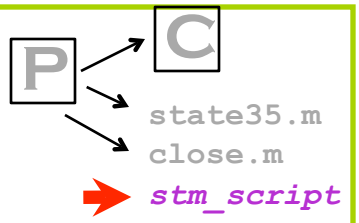

```
% real state matrix definition goes here

if value(go) == 0 | value(cycles_left) == 0,
    stm = zeros(512,10);
    stm(1,:) = [0 0      0 0     0 0     35   0.01     0 0 ];
    stm(36,:) = [35 35 35 35 35 35 35 100 0 0];

    % store for posterity
    if ~exist('state_matrix', 'var'),SoloParamHandle('state_matrix');end;
    state_matrix.value = stm;
    rpbox('send_matrix', stm);
    return;
end;

rest = value(cycle_time) - max(value(left_time), value(right_time));
left = value(left_time); right = value(right_time);
shorter = min(left, right);
extra = max(left, right) - shorter;

global left1water;  lvid = left1water;
global right1water; rvid = right1water;
BOTH_PORTS = bitor(lvid, rvid);

if left == shorter
    longer_port = rvid;
else
    longer_port = lvid;
end;

stm = [ ...
    0 0 0 0 0 0  1  shorter BOTH_PORTS 0 ];

if left ~= right
    stm = [stm; ...
        0 0 0 0 0 0  2  extra   longer_port 0 ];
end;

stm = [stm; ...
    0 0 0 0 0 0 35  rest  0  0];

cycles_left.value = value(cycles_left) - 1;
```

Using read-only args

Using flags set in `mystartup.m`

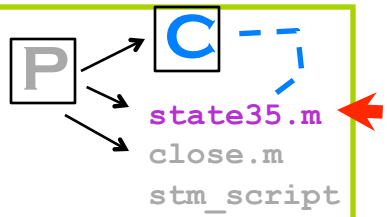
Setting a value: *myvar.value = 22/7;*
Getting a value: *value(myvar)*

Talking to the RPBox: *send_matrix*




```
% real state matrix definition goes here

if value(go) == 0 | value(cycles_left) == 0,
    stm = zeros(512,10);
    stm(1,:) = [0 0      0 0     0 0     35   0.01     0 0 ];
    stm(36,:) = [35 35 35 35 35 35 35 100 0 0];

    % store for posterity
    if ~exist('state_matrix', 'var'),SoloParamHandle('state_matrix');end;
    state_matrix.value = stm;
    rpbox('send_matrix', stm);
    return;
end;


...


...


...

% Wrap-up ... and add a pretty bow! -------------------------

% PAD with zeros up to a 512 size (fixed size of stm matrix):
stm = [stm ; zeros(512-size(stm,1),10)];
stm(36,:) = [ 35 35 35 35 35 35 35 100 0 0 ];

% store for posterity
if ~exist('state_matrix', 'var'),
    SoloParamHandle('state_matrix');
end;
state_matrix.value = stm;

rpbox('send_matrix', stm);

return;
```

state35.m: Executed at the end of trials



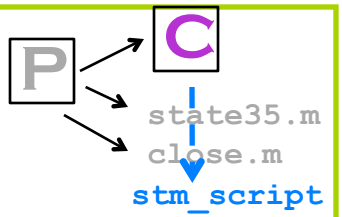

```
function state35(obj)

GetSoloFunctionArgs;

for i=1:length(trial_finished_actions),
    eval(trial_finished_actions{i});
end;

return;
```

trial_finished_actions is an SPH!

Constructor

```
% ------------------------------------------------------------
% List of functions to call, in sequence, when a trial is finished:
% If adding a function to this list,
%    (a) Declare its args with a SoloFunction() call
%    (b) Add your function as a method of the current object
%    (c) As the first action of your method, call GetSoloFunctionArgs;
%
SoloParamHandle('trial_finished_actions', 'value', { ...
  'make_and_upload_state_matrix(obj, ''next_matrix'');'  ; ...
  'push_history(class(obj));'                            ; ... % no args
});

SoloFunction('state35', 'ro_args', 'trial_finished_actions');
SoloFunction('close', 'ro_args', 'myfig');
```

Not just a pretty face: Callbacks




```
next_row(y);
ToggleParam('go', 0, x, y, ...
    'OnString', 'STOP dispensing', ...
    'OffString', 'START dispensing');
set_callback(go, {'make_and_upload_state_matrix', 'next_matrix'});

next_row(y, 1.5);
NumEditParam('num_cycles', 100, x, y, 'label', '# Cycles'); next_row(y);
set_callback(num_cycles, {'make_and_upload_state_matrix', 'set_cycles'});

set_callback({left_time, right_time, cycle_time}, ...
    {'make_and_upload_state_matrix', 'check_cycle_time'});
```

```
switch action
    case 'init'
        % initialises GUI elements owned by this function
        DispParam('cycles_left', value(num_cycles), x, y, ...
            'label', '# Cycles Left'); next_row(y);

        make_and_upload_state_matrix(obj,'check_cycle_time');
    case 'next_matrix'
        % used in all subsequent calls (note: no initialisation
        % of GUI elements occurs here)

        if value(cycles_left) == 0
            go.value = 0;
        end;

    case 'set_cycles'
        cycles_left.value = value(num_cycles);
        return;

    case 'check_cycle_time'
        if value(cycle_time) < max(value(left_time), value(right_time))
            cycle_time.value = max(value(left_time), value(right_time));
        end;

        return;

    otherwise
        error('Invalid action!');
end;
```

Not **`return`**ing => extra state matrix generations!

Your rats will

never

be biased

towards one drink port again!