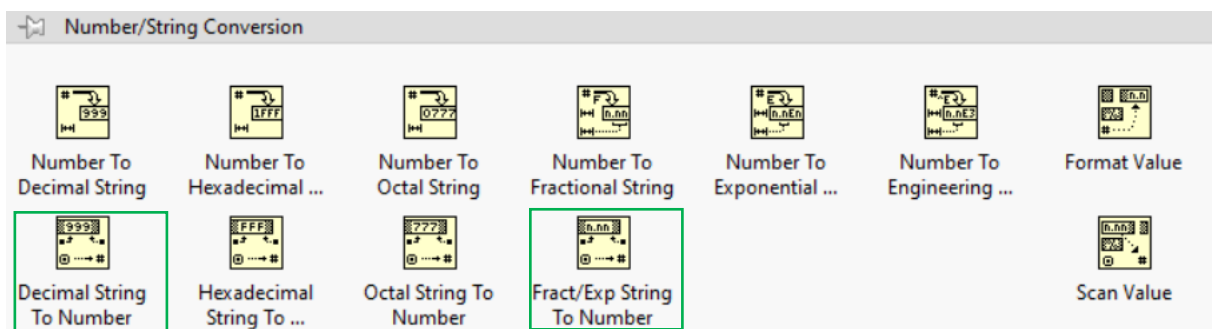


FYS3240/4240

## Lab2: **PC-based DAQ with LabVIEW**

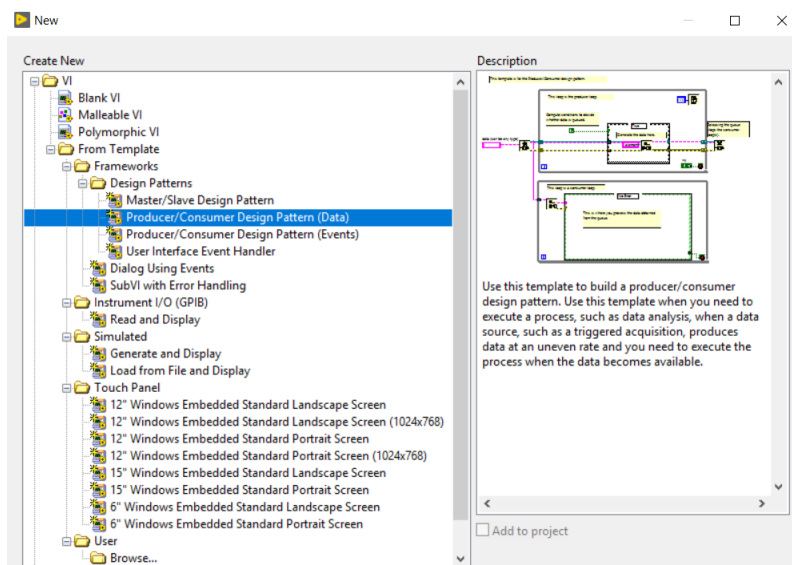
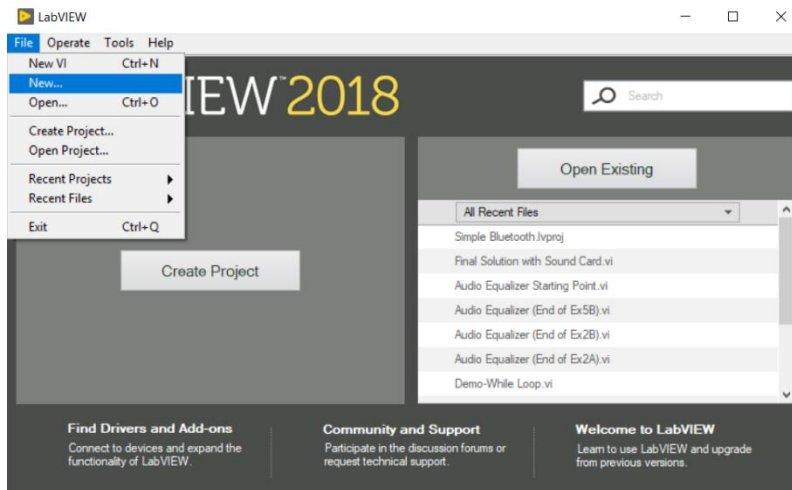
### Exercise 1 – Make a VI to convert from UTC to UTC seconds

- Make a VI that convert time given in UTC to number of UTC seconds.
  - Save the file as UTC2UTCsec.vi.
- The UTC time should be on the format hh:mm:ss.SSS, for instance 14:52:13.333
- UTC time input can be a Cluster with separate Strings value for hh, mm and ss.SSS. However, to make a more advanced program you could instead use string functions to find the hh, mm and ss.SSS string values from the complete hh:mm:ss.SSS string. *Match Pattern* can be used to find strings before and after the : separation.
- Use *Decimal String to Number* to convert hh (hours) and mm (minutes) to integers (I32) values.
- Use *Fract/Exp String to Number* to convert fractional seconds (ss.SSS) to a double (DBL) value.
- Convert the Decimal values to Double before Add (+).
- Hint:  $UTCseconds = hh*60*60 + mm*60 + ss.SSS$
- Make a nice VI icon



### Exercise 2 – DAQ program using producer – consumer template

- Open NI Max and make a simulated M-series NI PCI-6220 DAQ card.
  - Hint: See lab 1
- Close NI Max.
- Open LabVIEW
- Select File – New
- Select Producer/Consumer Design Pattern (Data)
- Click OK
- Save the file as Lab2\_ex2.vi.

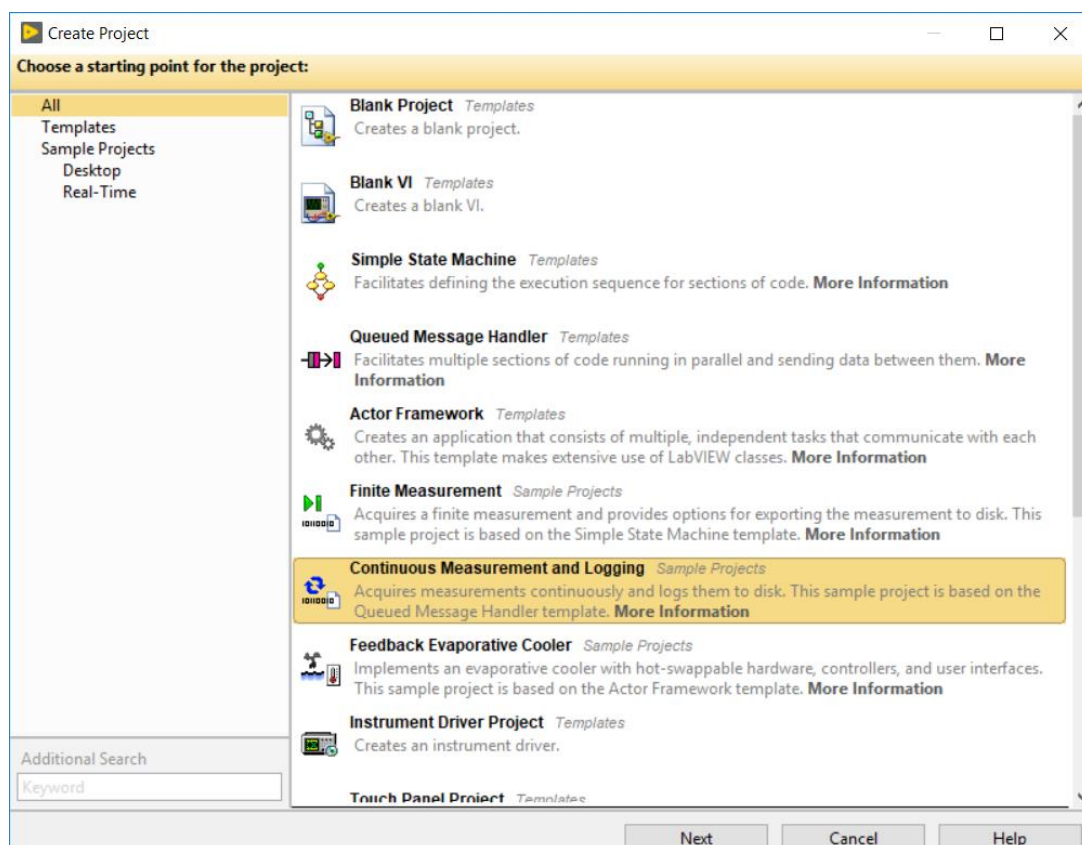


- Make a DAQ setup sub-VI outside the producer loop with the following setup:
  - Two channels (AI0 and AI1)
  - Sample rate of 10 kHz (with on board/internal clock)
  - Continuous sampling with a buffer size of 1000.
  - **Hint:** you could use the **DAQ-assistant** and then **generate code!**
    - **Configure the DAQ-assistant first, then “Generate DAQmx code”!**
- Read data from the DAQ-card inside the producer loop.
  - Remember that you need a *DAQmx Star Task.vi* outside the producer loop.
- Add data to the data queue in the producer loop, for transmission to the consumer loop.
  - Select 2D DBL as output from the DAQmx read.
  - **Remember:** the *Obtain Queue* VI must give a unique name to the queue and specify the data type used by the queue (here using a 2D DBL Array Constant).
    - See the LabVIEW lecture for an example of how to make a queue with a 2-dimensional (2D) array of floating point (DBL) numbers.
- Data taken out of the queue in the Consumer loop should be displayed in a **graph** and saved to a **TDMS file** or an ordinary **binary file**.

- Hint: It is ok to open a file when the program starts (outside the consumer loop) and to close the file (and the DAQ) when you press the STOP button.
- If saved as TDMS you can look at the file using the *TDMS File Viewer.vi*
- Test your program – what kind of signal do you record?
  - Read back the saved data and make a screenshot.

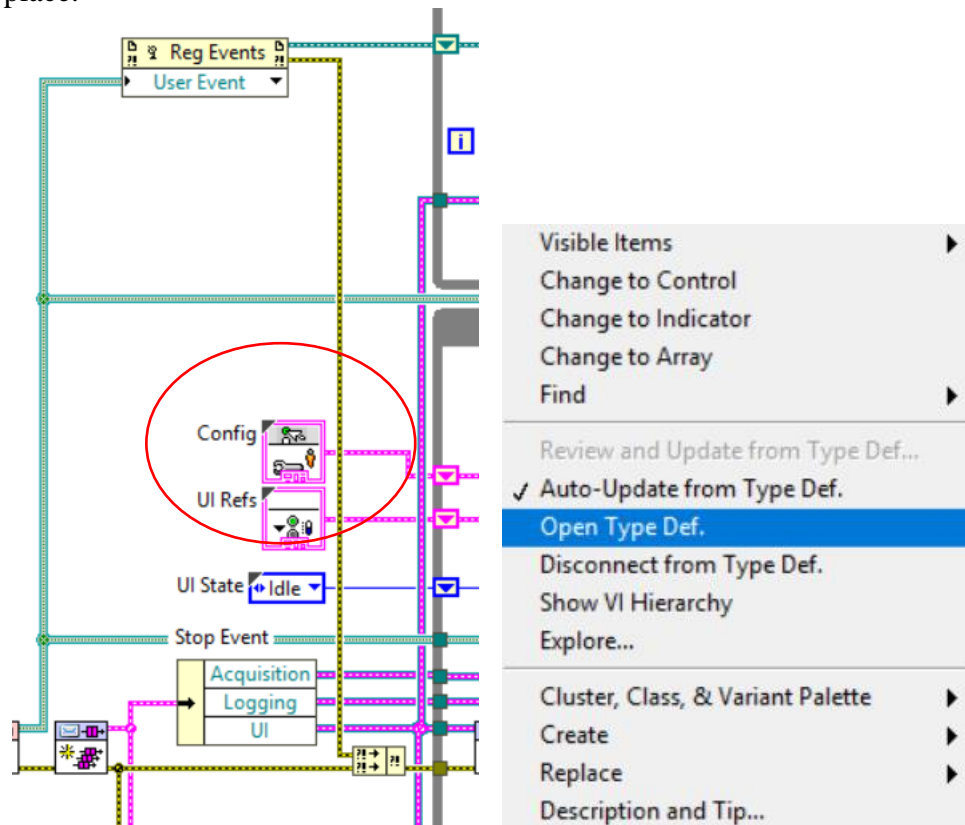
### Exercise 3: DAQ-program using a [sample project](#)

- Select the *Continuous Measurement and logging* sample project.
- Click next.
- Give the Project name Lab2\_3, select a suitable folder and click *Finish*.
- Open Main.vi.
- Run the program
  - Click *Settings*, and select a file name.
  - Click Star to start the data acquisition.
  - Confirm that you generated data in a TDMS file in the selected location when you press Stop.



- Open the block diagram and study the architecture by looking at the top diagram and into the sub-VIs. This is an advanced LabVIEW architecture based on a queued message handler! If you ever are to program a large LabVIEW DAQ-program (for a Master project etc.) this is a good start! Notice that:
  - An event-handling loop is used on the GUI. Based on user selections in the GUI a message is sent to a UI (user interface) message (handler)-loop.

- Separate sub-VIs for acquisition of data (including setup) and storage of data. Both use a state machine inside the sub-VI, and messages (states) and data are transferred using queues.
- Display (graph) of the data is in a separate while-loop. For a more advanced display this should also be in a sub-VI.
- Type definitions (Type Def.) are used, see for instant hardware/file settings (Config) and references to GUI objects (UI Refs). To see this right-click for instant Config and select *Open Type Def.* Type Def are used since they are updated everywhere in the program (also in every sub-VI!) when changed one place.



- Did you find this code difficult to understand? Do not worry, this is advanced LabVIEW programming! And you will not get questions related to the code in exercise 3 on the exam!
- **Challenge:**
  - If you look inside the acquisition loop you will see that a simulated signal is used. Are you able to add the same DAQ-setup (and use the simulated DAQ-card) as you did in Exercise 1? If so, you have made a nice scalable DAQ-program that uses many advanced features!

#### Hand-in

- **All the LabVIEW code from Exercise 1 and 2.**
- **A screen shot showing the recorded data in Exercise 2**, preferably by reading back the saved data....
- Any code you (optionally) made for Exercise 3.