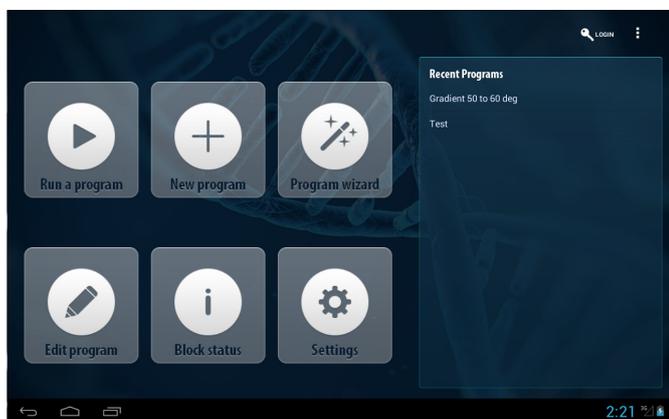# Alpha Cycler
Version 1.3

Quick start guide: Alpha Cycler AC-1 and AC-4

1. Power switch is located at the rear or side of the system, AC-1 and AC-4 respectively.
2. Wait for the instrument to initialise and display the Home Screen.
3. The Alpha Cyclers are all HD touch screens based upon an Android operating system.

Home screen

Command Icons

- Run a program
- New program
- Program wizard (creates a cycler program from biological information)
- Edit program
- Block status (detailed view of running protocols)
- Settings
- Login (password protected)
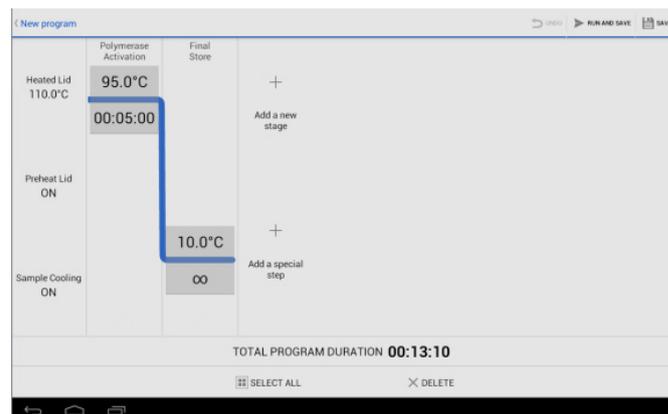- Recently used programs (quickly access and run commonly used programs)

Basic Android Commands

- **Back:** takes user back to the previous screen/page.
- **Home:** returns user to the home screen.
- **Recent:** allows users to toggle between open pages. Users can also close open pages by swiping the windows up or down, as you would normally with Android interfaces.

Composing and Running a Program

1. Touch on the '**New program**' button to bring up the following **Program** Window

NOTE: existing user defined parameters will be applied to each new program, such as polymerase activation, heated lid settings and final extensions or store step.
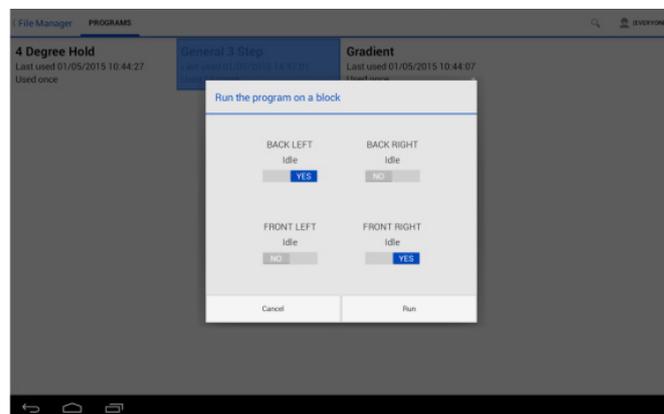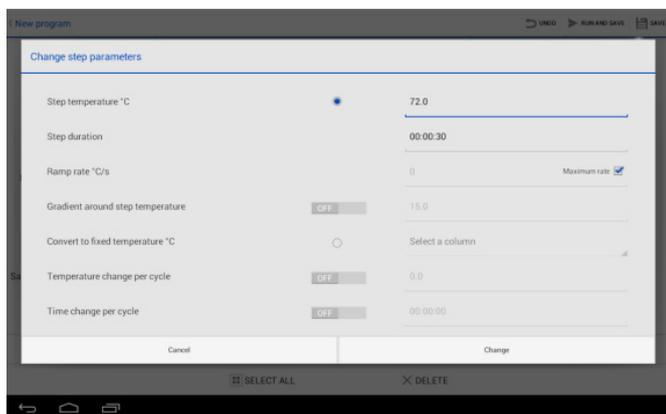
2. Add a stage, which is then populated with temperature steps, by tapping on "**Add a new stage**"
3. Inside the stage add the relevant temperature stages

4. Define the number of cycles by clicking the circle icon at the bottom of the screen and scrolling the selector wheel.

NOTE: selector wheel will open in a new window.

5. As a temperature step is added, a **Change parameters** window will open and the user will be required to enter the relevant information for that step.
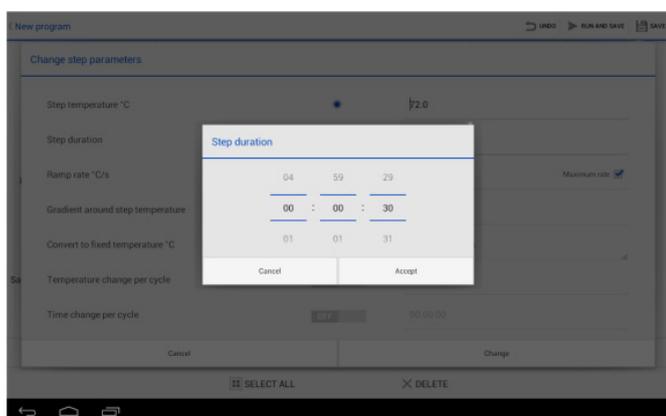
Note: Step parameter screen allows user to define parameters of that step.

6. Touching a text box brings up either a numerical or QWERTY Android keyboard, or a scroll wheel for numeric input of step time and numbers of cycles

Example of scroll wheel for time input.

7. After entering information into a text box, confirm selection.
8. When all relevant information has been entered, touch **Add step or Change** (if editing) to confirm.
9. To delete a command from the **New program** Window, highlight the step or stage you wish to delete by tapping on it (highlighted step/stage will go blue) and hit delete.
10. To edit a command, highlight it in the **New program** Window by tapping on it and make changes in the **Parameters** screen
11. Programs must be saved before they are run. Touch the **Run and Save** button to do this.

Running an existing program:

1. Select **Run a Program** on the home screen.
2. Select the program to run from the file manager.
3. AC-4 ONLY: Select the block on which to run the program.

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