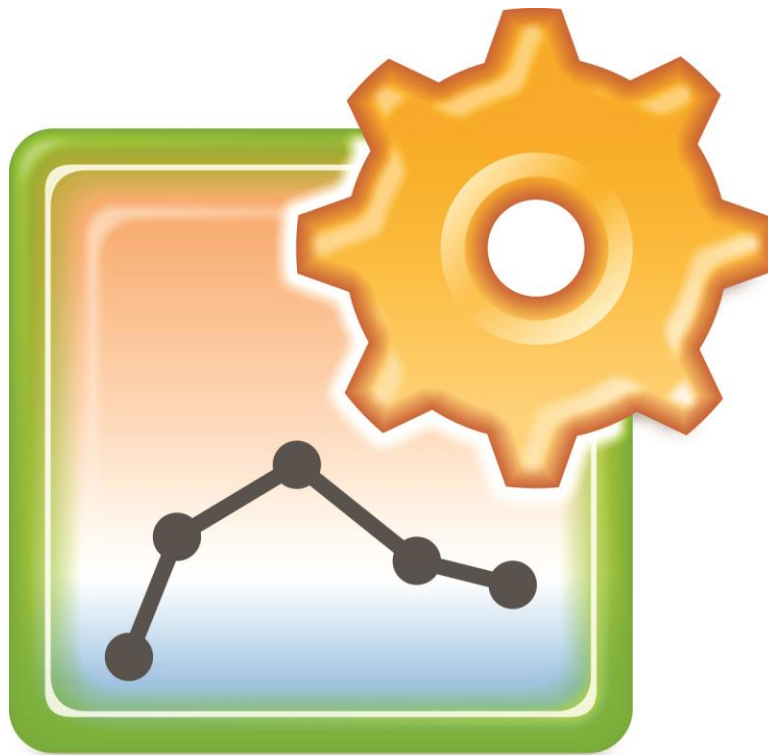




PROFILE GENERATOR



USER MANUAL

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1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

As part of the Akrometrix Studio software platform, **Profile Generator** is a graphical layout tool designed to assist in the creation of temperature profiles for use with the Akrometrix **Thermal Profiler** application. It creates files with the extension *.akx_profile, which can be easily modified using a simple text editor as they are standard XML files. This manual is intended for use with Akrometrix Studio 8.2.

This manual describes the interface and functions of the Profile Generator software. Profile Generator may reside on the measurement equipment computer and/or on a remote computer, provided the user has the requisite USB software key.

Section 2 describes the Profile Generator application and its operation. **Appendix A** describes software file formats and keyboard shortcuts.

1.1 Warnings and Precautions

1.1.1 Warnings and Notes in this Manual

Warnings and Notes are marked throughout the manual with these icons:



Figure 1.1 Warning Icon



Figure 1.2 Note Icon

Warnings are specific health hazards for the operator or potential sources of system damage. Notes highlight system limitations or automatic responses that may require corrective action by the operator for successful operation.

1.2 Technical Support

For technical support, contact Akrometrix:

Akrometrix	404-486-0880	support@akrometrix.com
2700 NE Expressway	404-486-0890 (fax)	http://www.akrometrix.com
Building B, Suite 500		
Atlanta, GA 30345		

When contacting Akrometrix, please provide the system serial number, the version numbers of the Akrometrix software being used, a description of the problem or question, and contact information for reply. If the question concerns a particular measurement or analysis, please provide electronic copies of the phase images, reference images, and final results and a description of data acquisition and/or analysis conditions. If the problem concerns changes or failure in general system operation, please describe any events or system modifications that occurred immediately before the problem arose.

2 Overview

Profile Generator is an application designed to easily and rapidly create input temperature profiles compatible with the **Thermal Profiler** data acquisition software.

The profile space is defined as Temperature (°C) vs. Step.

Recall that the Time per Step relationship is defined when the profile is executed by the **Thermal Profiler** software.

2.1 Creating Profiles

Profiles are created from a series of connecting line segments. Segments may be added logically, where the user specifies a criterion which best describes the segment endpoints, or by hand, where the user simply clicks to extend a segment to its desired end point.

2.1.1 Adding Segments Descriptively

1. If the default value of 25°C is not desirable, set the Initial Temperature.
2. Choose the appropriate criteria (Ramp, Soak, or End-At) and fill in the corresponding values.
3. Press **Add Segment**.
4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 to keep adding segments.

2.1.2 Adding Segments with the Mouse

1. If the default value of 25°C is not desirable, set the Initial Temperature.
2. Click anywhere on the profile space to draw the first segment.
3. Move the mouse cursor to the next desired segment endpoint and click.
4. Repeat step 3 to keep adding segments.



Note: Temperature addition is modal. To add temperature points with the mouse, the small button with an image of line segments underneath the “Segment Points” heading must be toggled blue. This is the default on entering the program, but if actions have been added it is necessary to click this button before adding more temperature points with the mouse.

2.1.3 Adding Actions Descriptively

1. Select the action type from the Actions box located below the design space.
2. Specify the criteria at which to add the instruction (At-Step or At-Temperature).
3. Press **Add Action**



Note: Whenever the 'at Step' value is changed, the corresponding profile temperature is supplied below.



Note: If a soak occurs at the selected temperature, an instruction is added to only the segment starting and ending points.

2.1.4 Adding Actions with the Mouse

1. Select the appropriate action tool from the Actions box.
2. Position the mouse pointer along the desired profile position.
3. Primary-mouse click to add the action.



Note: The action position is dictated by the mouse pointer step (x) coordinate. Regardless of the y-mouse location, the instruction is always set at the corresponding profile temperature coordinate.

2.2 Editing Profiles

The temperature points and actions of an existing profile can be edited. This can be done in two main ways: by altering the individual points from the main interface, and by editing steps in Table View.

2.2.1 Editing Temperature Points

1. Click on the gray button underneath "Segment Points." It will light up in blue, indicating that the correct modal state is active to edit temperature points.
2. Right click on any temperature point in the profile. A menu will appear.
3. From this menu there are two options.
 - a. Select "Delete point X", where X is the point number. This will remove the point.
 - b. Select "Edit Point "X". This will bring up another menu, as shown in **Figure 2.1**. From this menu the exact step and temperature value of the point can be altered. Connected line segments will change to match the new point.

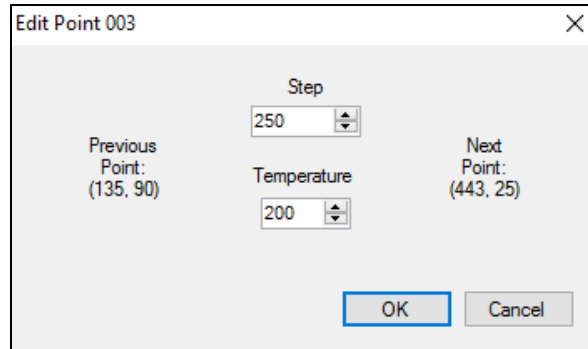


Figure 2.1 Temperature Point Edit Menu

2.2.2 Editing Actions

1. Click the action button corresponding to the action to be edited.
2. Right click on the action in question. A menu will appear with options to delete or edit the action.
3. If edit is chosen, a menu like that in **Figure 2.2** will appear, allowing the step, setpoint temperature, action type, or acquisition nominal temperature to be edited.

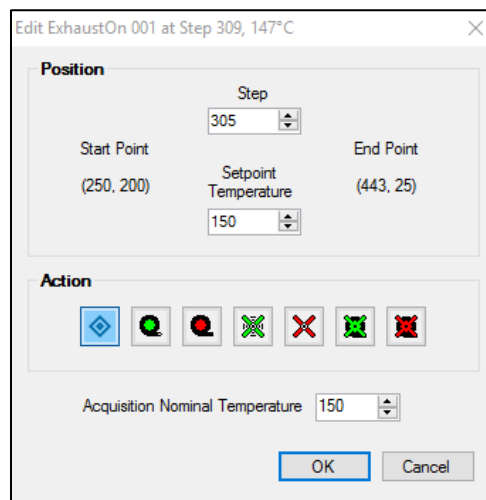


Figure 2.2 Action Edit Menu



Note: Actions occur along the temperature profile and do not alter it. Changing an action's Step value alters the temperature to correspond to that of the profile at that step, and vice versa.



Note: The last menu option, Acquisition Nominal Temperature, is only available when the Acquisition action is selected. This value does not affect the running profile, but instead indicates the desired temperature for reporting purposes. This does not

need to be the same as Setpoint, although that is the default value.

2.2.3 Editing from the Table View

Actions and temperature points can be edited from the Table View.

1. To edit an action, select an appropriate action from the drop-down menu to the right of the setpoint temperature.
2. To edit a temperature setpoint or acquisition nominal temperature, double click on the setpoint temperature for a given line and edit the setpoint and nominal temperature in the menu.
3. To edit steps, either click on a step to select it and use a shortcut key or right-click on the line and select an option from the menu.

2.2.4 Shortcuts in the Table View

Table View allows the use of several common shortcuts to edit the list of steps.

Add	Ctrl+D: Adds a single step at the end of the file.
Insert	Ins: While a single step is selected, adds another step with the same temperature set point as the step just before the selected step.
Select	Shift+Click: Selects a range of steps between the initial and new selection Ctrl+Click: Add or remove individual steps from the selection
Delete	Del: Deletes all selected steps.
Select All	Ctrl+A: Selects all steps.
Cut	Ctrl+X: Cuts selected steps.
Copy	Ctrl+C: Copies selected steps.
Paste	Ctrl+V: Pastes steps from most recent copy.

2.3 Menu Options

2.3.1 File Menu

New **Ctrl+N:** Clears any profile information in memory.

Open **Ctrl+O:** Opens previously saved XML profile templates.

Save... **Ctrl+S:** Saves segment-based profiles in an application-specific XML file format.

Import...: Imports profiles based on the legacy *_in.txt format. The resulting profiles will have every row from the *_in.txt profile as a step in the **Profile Generator** application. Measurement and blower/exhaust instructions will also be imported and placed in their appropriate locations on the profile.

Exit: Closes the program.

2.3.2 Edit Menu

Undo: A queue of the last 8 actions performed.

Hot Tracking: Toggles whether or not the design space coordinates are displayed alongside the mouse cursor.

Reset Acq Nominal Temperatures: Resets the nominal temperatures of all acquisitions to their setpoint temperatures.

2.3.3 View Menu

Table Ctrl+T: Clicking on the Table view will open a separate window showing the current profile in a table view. If the profile was created using ramps and soaks, viewing it in this manner will convert the file into discretized Temperature-Action pairs. Once this window is closed, the Segment Endpoints will be turned off since the profile will now consist of many more endpoints than before.

Segment Endpoints F3: Toggles the display of segment endpoints on the graph. This is useful for when endpoints are tightly spaced, such as after importing a legacy *_in.txt profile.

Action Filter Allows the user to filter out specific action types. When this is activated for an action type, existing actions of the type in question – Acquisition, Blower, Exhaust, or Blower & Exhaust – disappear, and the user cannot add more or edit actions of that type. The existing actions are still present but are just hidden for ease of interaction with other action types in close proximity.

2.3.4 Help Menu

In the help menu the user can access a .pdf of the User Manual as well as find version information for the current software.

Appendix A- Miscellaneous Information

A.1 File Formats

Akrometrix **Profile Generator** imports legacy *_in.txt profiles and saves profiles as *.akx_profile documents. These documents are standard XML documents which can still be read and edited manually should the need arise. A description of the file format and its construction follows.

Concepts

The *.akx_profile format is an XML document containing the following concepts:

Step	A non-negative integer
Temperature	A thermal condition described in °C
Point	A Step-Temperature pair
Type (i.e. Supported Action)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acquisition• BlowerOn• BlowerOff• ExhaustOn• ExhaustOff
Action	A Step-Action Type pair
Zone	A collection of Points and Actions
Profile	A collection of Zones

Construction

The XML content is constructed as follows:

1. The first line must read:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
```

2. The second line must read:

```
<AkrometrixProfile Version="5" SourceFilename="C:\1.akx_profile">
```

The SourceFilename attribute is not required, but will be referenced when the profile is loaded into the new *.akx_recipe file format for showing the input profile name.

3. Point and Action Steps

Inside the <AkrometrixProfile> node, a collection of Point and Action nodes exist:

- c. A point node describes its Step and Temperature as XML attributes:

```
<Point Step="100" Temperature="125" />
```

- d. An action node describes its Step and Type as XML attributes:

```
<Action Step="12" Type="Measurement" />
```

Rules

- Neither Point nor Action nodes need to be listed in numeric step order.
- At minimum two valid Points must be defined.
- One Point must be defined with Step=0.
- Each Point must have a unique Step value.
- Action nodes are optional.
- Multiple Actions can be assigned with the same Step value provided the Actions are not conflicting (i.e. BlowerOn / BlowerOff)
- Points or Actions with negative or fractional Step values are ignored.
- Duplicate Actions are ignored.
- Actions described outside the overall range of valid Point Step values are ignored.

Good Examples

Example 1

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<AkrometrixProfile Version="5">
  <Point Step="0" Temperature="25" />
  <Point Step="50" Temperature="50" />
</AkrometrixProfile>
```

Example 2

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<AkrometrixProfile Version="5">
  <Point Step="0" Temperature="25" />
  <Point Step="100" Temperature="125" />
  <Point Step="200" Temperature="225" />
  <Action Step="12" Type="Acquisition" />
  <Action Step="90" Type="Acquisition" />
</AkrometrixProfile>
```

Bad Examples

Example 1 (missing XML declaration)

```
<AkrometrixProfile Version="5">
  <Point Step="0" Temperature="25" />
  <Point Step="100" Temperature="125" />
</AkrometrixProfile>
```

Example 2 (no zero Step Point defined)

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<AkrometrixProfile Version="5">
  <Point Step="100" Temperature="125" />
  <Point Step="200" Temperature="225" />
</AkrometrixProfile>
```

Example 3 (only one point defined)

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<AkrometrixProfile Version="5">
  <Point Step="0" Temperature="25" />
  <Action Step="12" Type="Acquisition" />
  <Action Step="90" Type="Acquisition" />
</AkrometrixProfile>
```

A.2 Keyboard Shortcuts

Ctrl+N	Begin a new profile
Ctrl+O	Open an existing profile
Ctrl+S	Save the current profile
Ctrl+T	View profile in a table format
F3	Show/Hide Segment Endpoints