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# LabVIEW DAQmx

Communicate with NI DAQ Devices in LabVIEW

Hans-Petter Halvorsen

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# Introduction

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#### DAQ in LabVIEW

- To use DAQ Hardware in LabVIEW we need to use the DAQmx driver
- We will use the following DAQ hardware to exemplify:
  - **TC-01** Thermocouple Temperature Device
  - USB-600x or similar DAQ Devices with Analog and Digital Channels
  - Note! Other DAQ devices from NI will work in the same manner since they all use the same DAQmx driver
- This Tutorial will show different ways to read data from these DAQ devices
- The features and principles shown here will be the same for other DAQ hardware from other vendors as well

### **TC-01** Thermocouple



https://www.ni.com/docs/en-US/bundle/usb-tc01-specs/page/specs.html

### USB-600x

#### Entry-Level, Plug-and-Play USB Data Acquisition

You depend on accurate measurements to make key decisions and discoveries, and NI's plug-and-play, USB multifunction I/O devices deliver quality measurements at an entry-level price.



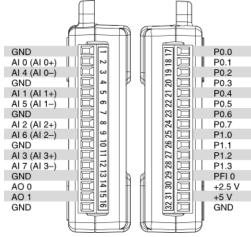
#### Compare NI's Entry-Level, Stand-Alone Data Acquisition Devices

	U	ISB-6003	3	USB-6002			USB-6001			USB-6000			
	View	Specifica	tions	View	Specifica	ations	View	View Specifications			View Specifications		
I/О Туре	AI	AO	DIO	AI	AO	DIO	AI	AO	DIO	AI	AO	DIO	
No. of Channels <sup>1</sup>	4/8	2	13	4/8	2	13	4/8	2	13	0/8	0	4	
Sample Rate (kS/s and Timed)	100	5	SW	50	5	SW	20	5	SW	10	-	SW	
Resolution	16 bits		-	16 bits		-	14 bits		-	12 bits		-	
Programming Language Support	ANSI C, Python, Visual C# .NET, Visual Basic .NET, and LabVIEW												

#### https://www.ni.com/en/shop/data-acquisition/entry-level-usb-daq.html



#### USB-6008



#### DAQ and I/O Devices



1 Analog Input (AI) Channel

The Video will focus on USB-600x and Analog Input (AI). The programming principles are the same for both devices (and other similar devices from NI) and the different Channel options. The Tutorial (PDF) will show examples using both devices



I/O Devices have typically 4 different types of channels:

- Analog In (AI)
- Analog Out (AO)
- Digital In (DI)
- Digital Out (DO)

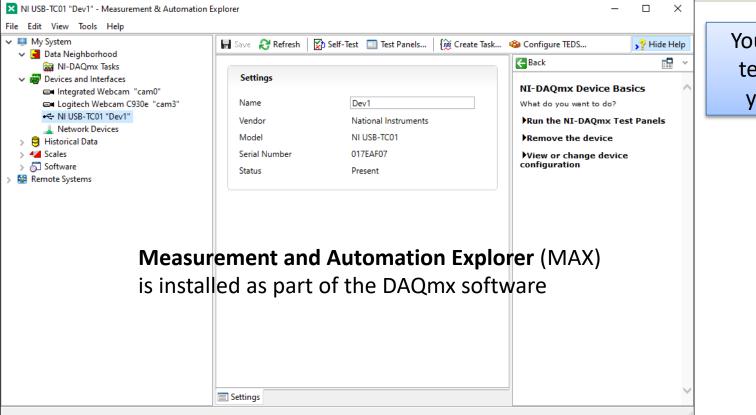
#### DAQmx

וה	Solutions v Products v	Perspectives v Support v Comm	unity	About Contact Us	HH Q È
	HOME / SUPPORT / SOFTWAR	E AND DRIVER DOWNLOADS / NI DRIVER DOWNLO/	ADS / DOWNLOAD DETAIL PAGE		
EMERSON.	NI is now part of Emerson	's new Test & Measurement business group.			LEARN MORE
	$\downarrow$	NI-DAQ <sup>TM</sup> MX NI-DAQ <sup>TM</sup> mx provides support for customers usi <u>+ Read More</u> 1 Note: Install programming environments suc	ng NI data acquisition and signal conditioning de th as NI LabVIEW or Microsoft Visual Studio® befr		To use we ne It can
	DOWNLOADS				
	Supported OS	Windows ~	View Readme	NI-DAQmx 2023 Q4 Release Date Oct/11/2023	
	Version Included Editions	2023 Q4 V		Included Versions 2023 Q4 > Supported OS > Language	
	Application Bitness	32-bit and 64-bit		> Checksum	
	Language	English, French, German, Japanese, Korean, Simplified Chinese		DOWNLOAD INSTALL OFFLINE	]

To use DAQ hardware in **LabVIEW** we need to use the **DAQmx** driver. It can be downloaded for free.

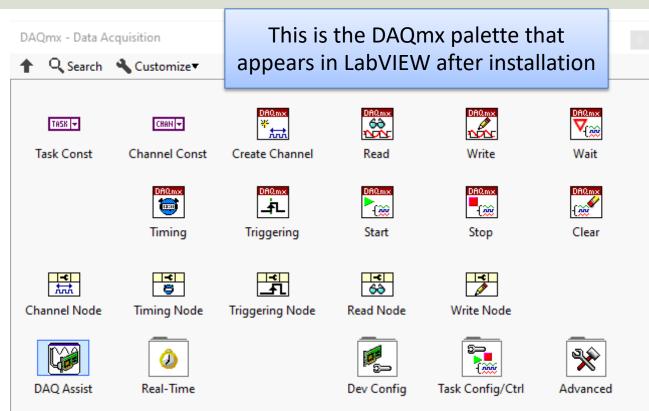
https://www.ni.com/en/support/downloads/drivers/download.ni-daq-mx.html

### MAX



You can use MAX to test and configure your DAQ device

### **DAQmx in LabVIEW**



To use DAQ hardware in LabVIEW we need to use the DAQmx driver. It can be downloaded for free.

https://www.ni.com/en-no/support/downloads/drivers/download.ni-daq-mx.html

## Different options using DAQmx

You have different options when setting up and connecting the DAQ device using DAQmx and LabVIEW:

- Use the "DAQ Assistant" in LabVIEW (Configuration through a Wizard)
- 2. Configure DAQ Settings using MAX
- 3. Use the "Low-level" DAQmx VIs in LabVIEW (Full control of all details in your code)

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# Practical LabVIEW Examples

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## LabVIEW Examples

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# USB-600x

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#### I/O Channels

I/O Devices have typically 4 types of channels:

- Analog In (AI)
- Analog Out (AO)
- Digital In (DI)
- Digital Out (DO)

This Tutorial will focus on Analog In. The programming principles are the same for the other types

#### **USB-600x and MAX**

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🗙 NI USB-6008 "Dev2" - Measurement & A	utomation Explorer			– 🗆 X	
File Edit View Tools Help					
<ul> <li>My System</li> <li>Data Neighborhood</li> </ul>	🖬 Save 💦 Refresh 🔄 🖘 Res	t 🔀 Self-Test 🔲 Test Panels	{ <mark>∭</mark> Create Task ∃	E Device Pinouts 🕸 Configure TEDS 💦 Hide Help	
<ul> <li>Data Neighborhood</li> <li>Devices and Interfaces</li> <li>Logitech Webcam "cam0"</li> <li>Logitech Webcam C930e "can</li> <li>NI USB-TC01 "Dev1"</li> <li>NI USB-6008 "Dev2"</li> <li>Network Devices</li> <li>Historical Data</li> <li>Scales</li> <li>Software</li> <li>Remote Systems</li> </ul>	The self test completed su       Settings       Name       Vendor       Model       Serial Number       Status	Ccessfully. Dev2 National Instruments NI USB-6008 0300E2E7 Present		NI-DAQmx Device Basics What do you want to do? PRun the NI-DAQmx Test Panels PRemove the device View or change device configuration	
	External Calibration Calibration Date Recommended Next Calibration	2013-04-03 00:00 2014-04-03 00:00		Open MAX and m USB-600x is instal Here you can also the device is worl	lled properly. test to see if

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# **DAQ** Assistant

USB-600x

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## Different options using DAQmx

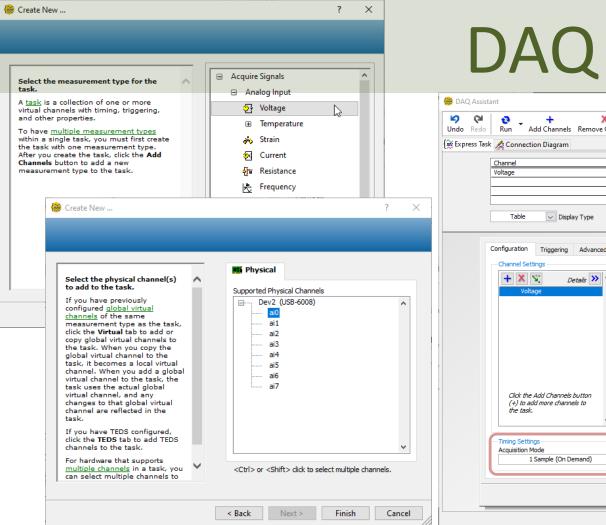
You have different options when setting up and connecting the DAQ device using DAQmx and LabVIEW:

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### **DAQ** Assistant

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AI0 [V]	DAQ Assistant data
< >	< >

Here, a 1.5V Battery is connected to Analog Input Channel 0 (AI0)



### **DAQ** Assistant

	BAQ Assistant	×
	Undo Redo Run Add Channels Remove Channels	
	🙀 Express Task 🖉 Connection Diagram	Back 🗖 🔺
? ×	Channel     Value       Voltage     0       Image: State of the state	Measuring Voltage Most measurement devices are designed for measuring, or reading, voltage. Two common <u>voltage measurements</u> are DC and AC. DC voltages are useful for measuring
^	Configuration Triggering Advanced Timing Logging Channel Settings Voltage Voltage Voltage Settings Signal Input Range Scaled Units Volts V	for measuring phenomena that change slowly with time, such as temperature, pressure, or strain. <i>AC voltages</i> , on the other hand, are waveforms that constantly increase, decrease, and reverse polarity. Most powerlines deliver AC voltage.
v annels.	Click the Add Channels button (+) to add more channels to the task.	<ul> <li>Terminal Configuration specifies the grounding mode used for the virtual channel:</li> <li>Differential- Depending on your specific hardware, the positive and negative inputs for the physical channel are either unreferenced or are</li> </ul>
Cancel		Connected to measurement system

### Note!!! – DAQ Assistant Error



#### Do you get an Error like this when trying to use the DAQ Assistant?



#### Workaround:

- Install LabVIEW 2021 SP1
- LabVIEW 2021 SP1 does not need to be activated, it is sufficient to install LabVIEW 2021 on your system and not activate it
- Installing just the LabVIEW 2021 SP1 run-time engine will not be sufficient, the LabVIEW ADE needs to be installed

In "LabVIEW 2022 Q3" to "LabVIEW 2023 Q3" there is a bug with the DAQ Assistant. **To fix that you need to install the LabVIEW 2021 SP1 core component**. See information on this web page from NI:

#### https://knowledge.ni.com/KnowledgeArticleDetails?id=kA03q0000019gTMCAY&l=en-NO

Another solution is to use, e.g., the lower level DAQ functions in LabVIEW, see upcoming examples in this Tutorial.

I have been in contact with NI, and it is expected that this error will be fixed in upcoming versions of LabVIEW

This Bug/Issue has been fixed in LabVIEW 2024 Q1 and NI-DAQmx 2024 Q1 (and newer)

### **Convert from Dynamic Data**

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Configure Convert from Dynamic Data [Convert from	m Dynamic Data]	>													
Conversion Resulting data type D array of scalars - most recent value D array of scalars - single channel D array of scalars - columns are channels D array of scalars - rows are channels Single scalar Single scalar Single waveform Scalar Data Type  Floating point numbers (double) Boolean (TRUE and FALSE) Channel	<pre>Input Signal 2- ypition y Understand Previous Previo</pre>	Time				Assista data				t from Dy	namic Data		AIO [V]		
0		Single value (double) 2 Sample Data OK Cancel Help	<		_	_	_						_		>

## While Loop

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### Number of Decimals and Units

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<b>Decimals</b> have an A	Sure to select a proper Numb sure to select a proper Numb Typically, a DAQ Device/Sens Accuracy with 10 Decimals. M e Datasheet for the selected F	sor don't ake sure

### **Reading Multiple Channels**

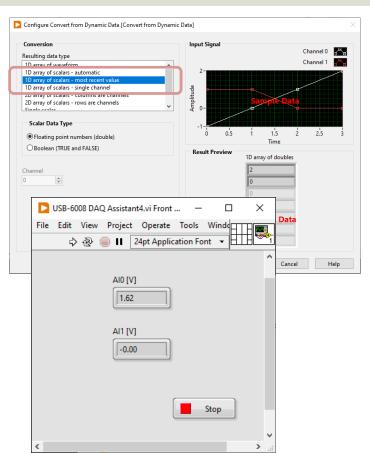
		Undo Redo Run Add Channels Remove Channels	~?
		Undo Redo Run Add Channels Remove Channels	Hide H
Select the physical channel(s) to add to the task. If you have previously configured global virtual channels of the same measurement type as the task, click the Virtual tab to add or copy global virtual channels to the task. When you copy the global virtual channel to the task, it becomes a local virtual channel. When you add a global virtual channel to the task, the task uses the actual global virtual channel, and any changes to that global virtual channe reflected in the	Supported Physical Channels	Channel     Value       Voltage_0     0       Voltage_1     0       Table     Display Type         Configuration     Triggering       Advanced Timing     Logging       Channel Settings     Voltage_1       Voltage_1     Signal Input Setup       Voltage_1     Signal Input Range       Voltage_1     Signal Input Range       Voltage_1     Voltage	Measuring Voltage           Most measurement           devices are designed for           measuring, or reading,           voltage. Two common           voltage. Two common           are DC and AC.           DC workges are useful           phenomena that change           slowly with time, such as           temperature, pressure,           or strain.           AC workges, on the other           hand, are waveforms           tecrease, and reverse           polarity. Most powerlines           deliver AC voltage.
task. If you have TEDS configured, click the <b>TEDS</b> tab to add TEDS channels to the task. For hardware that supports <u>multiple channels</u> in a task, you can select multiple channels to	<ctrl> or <shift> dick to select multiple channels.</shift></ctrl>	Click the Add Channels button (+) to add more channels to the task. Timing Settings Acquisition Mode 1 Sample (On Demand)	This is the list of virtual channels. Right-click a virtual channel to change the physical channel associated with it. If an exclamation the phane line been the channel has been

OK

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## **Reading Multiple Channels**

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# Configure DAQ Settings using MAX

USB-600x

Hans-Petter Halvorsen

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## Different options using DAQmx

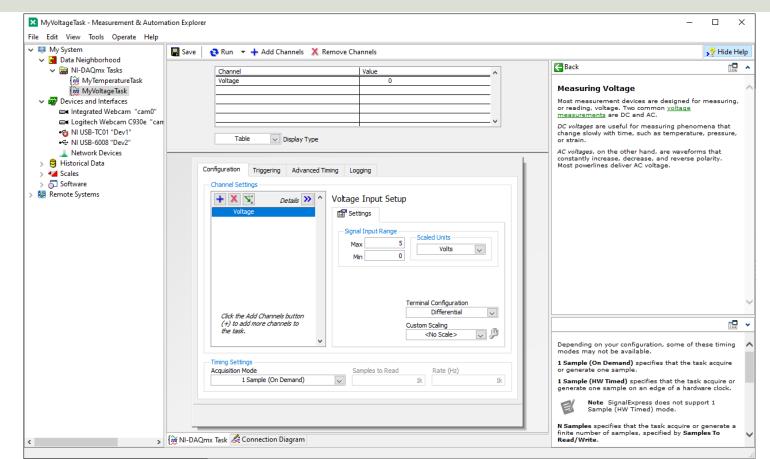
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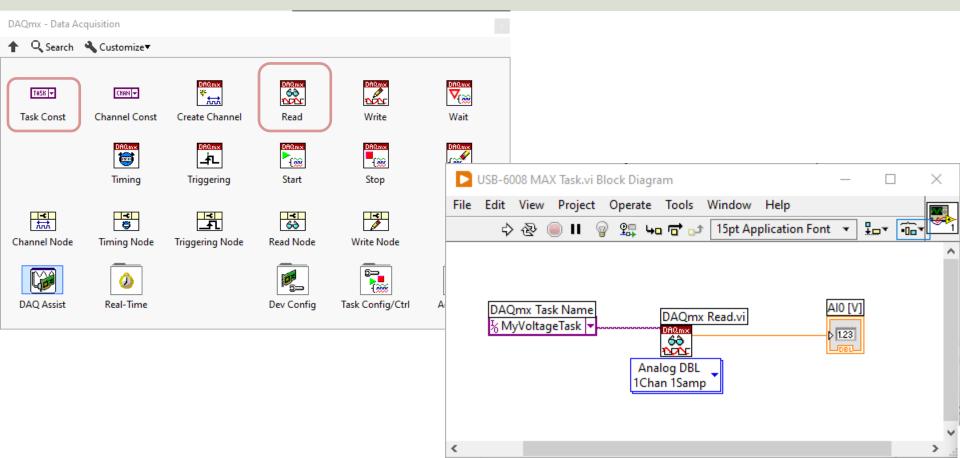
### Configure DAQ Settings using MAX

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#### **Configure DAQ Settings using MAX**



### **Configure DAQ Settings using MAX**



#### While Loop

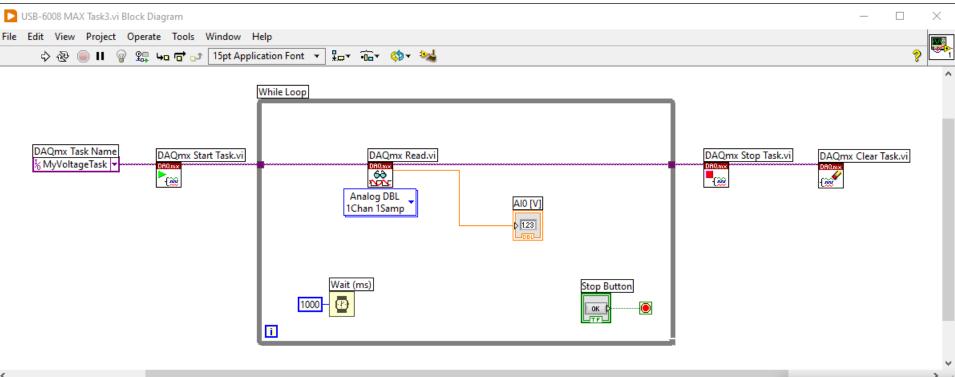
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### While Loop v2 – Start/Stop Task

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Contents Index Search Favorites	DAQmx Start Task (VI)
Control Design and Simulation Model Control Design and Simulation Model Control Design and Simulation Model Math Script RT Module	Owning Palette: DAOmx - Data Acquisition VIs and Functions         Installed With: NI-DAQmx         Transitions the task to the running state to begin the measurement or generation. Using this VI is required for some applications and is optional for others.         If you do not use this VI, a measurement task starts automatically when the DAQmx Read VI runs. The autostart input of the DAQmx Write VI determines if a generation task starts automatically when the DAQmx Write VI runs.         If you do not use the DAQmx Start Task VI and the DAQmx Stop Task VI when you use the DAQmx Read VI or the DAQmx Write VI multiple times, such as in a loop, the task starts and stops repeatedly. Starting and stopping a task repeatedly reduces the performance of the application.         Itask/channels in

Increase speed by using Start Task VI

#### While Loop v2 – Start/Stop Task



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# Using "Low-level" DAQmx VIs

USB-600x

Hans-Petter Halvorsen

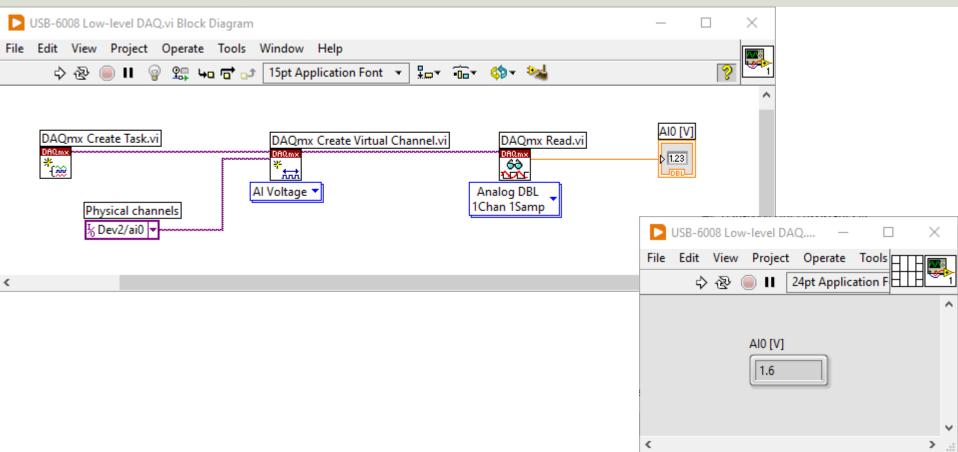


## Different options using DAQmx

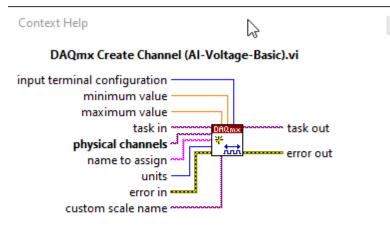
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# Using "Low-level" DAQmx VIs



# **Configure Additional Settings**



Creates channel(s) to measure voltage. If the measurement requires the use of internal excitation or you need excitation to scale the voltage, use the AI Custom Voltage with Excitation instance of this VI.

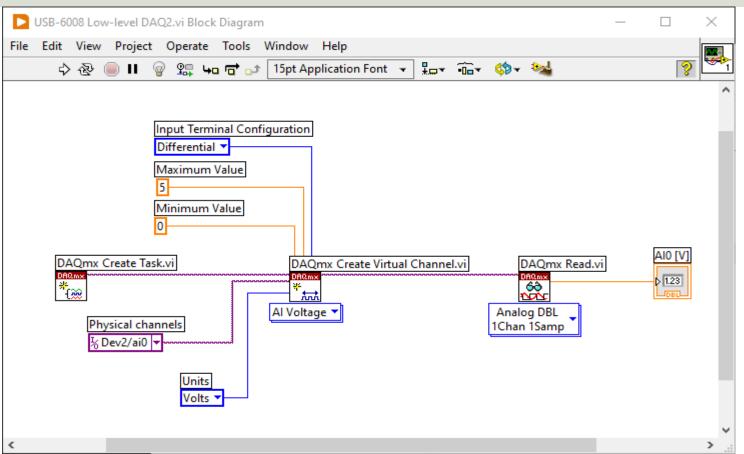
#### Detailed help

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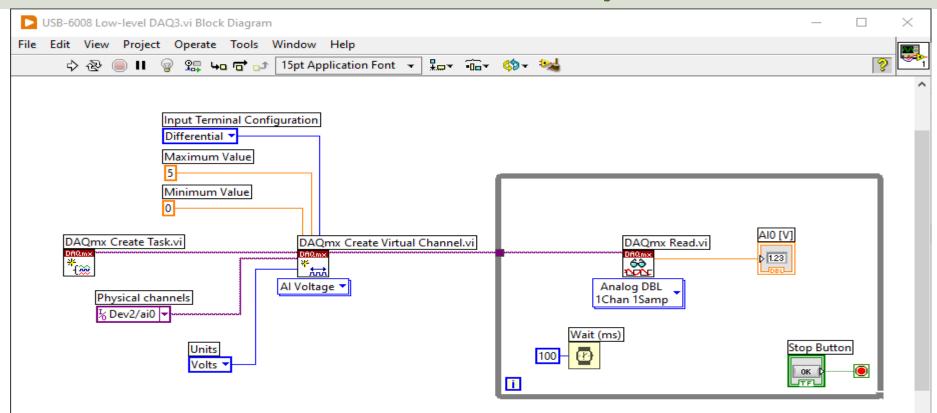


In the previous example we just used the default setting. If you need to change some of the default setting, just right-click on the select input and create a constant

# **Configure Additional Settings**

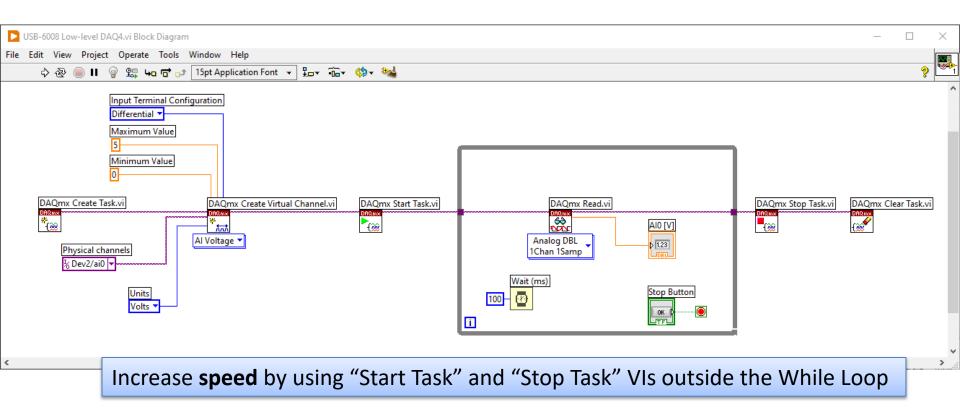


## While Loop

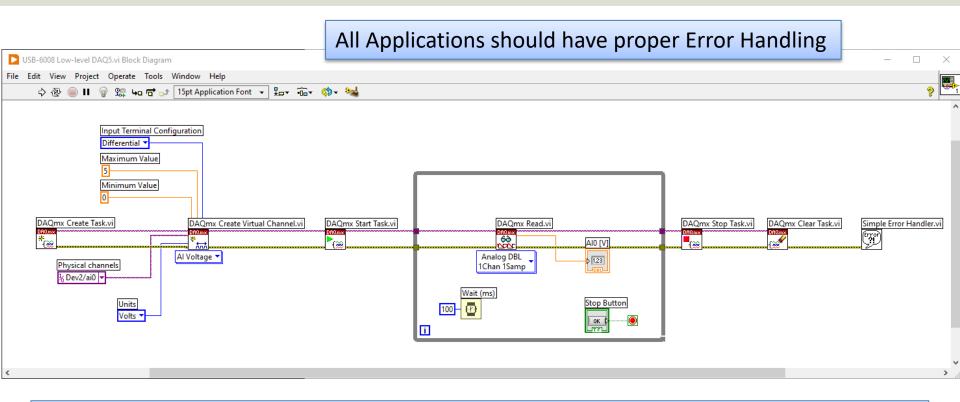


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# While Loop with Start/Stop Task

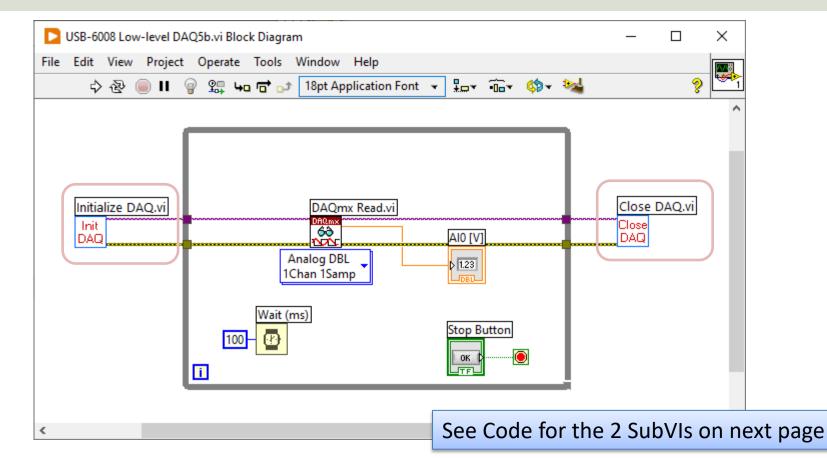


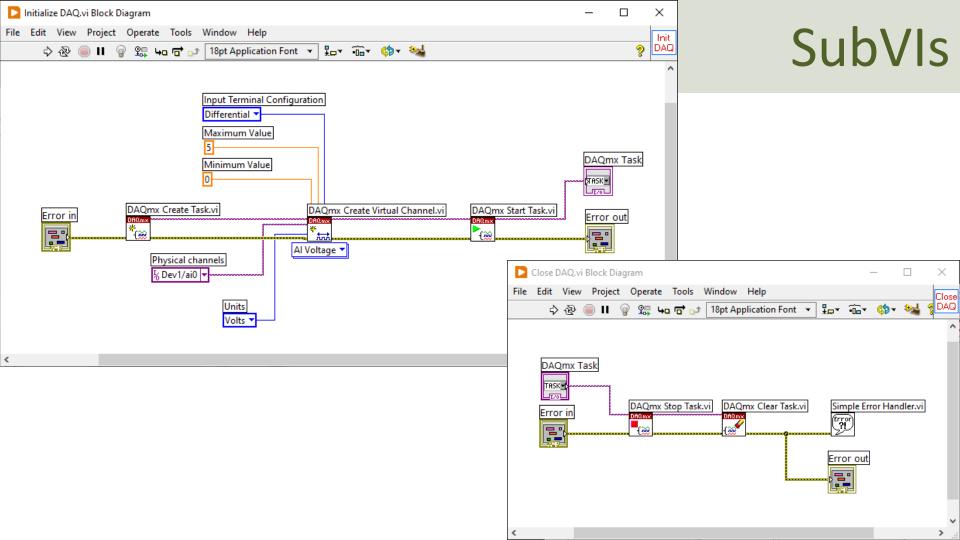
#### **Final Application with Error Handling**



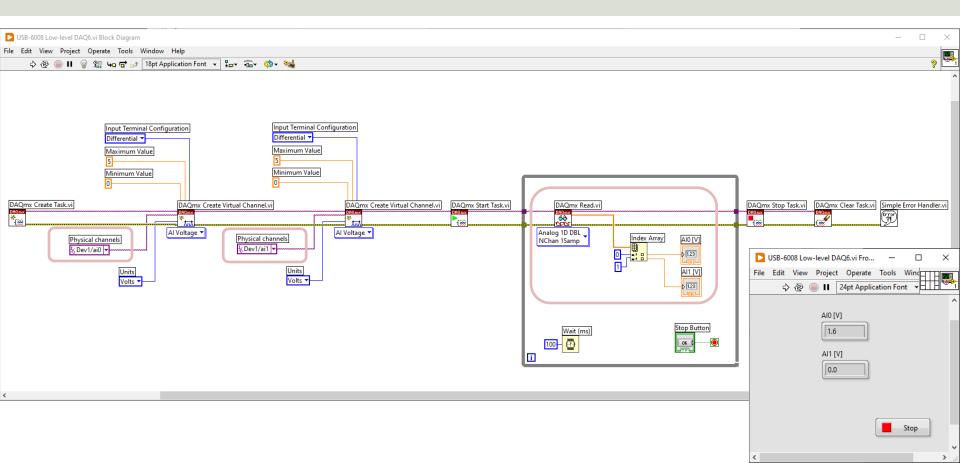
Further Improvements: Use the State Machine programming principle in your Application

#### Improved Solution: Create and use SubVIs

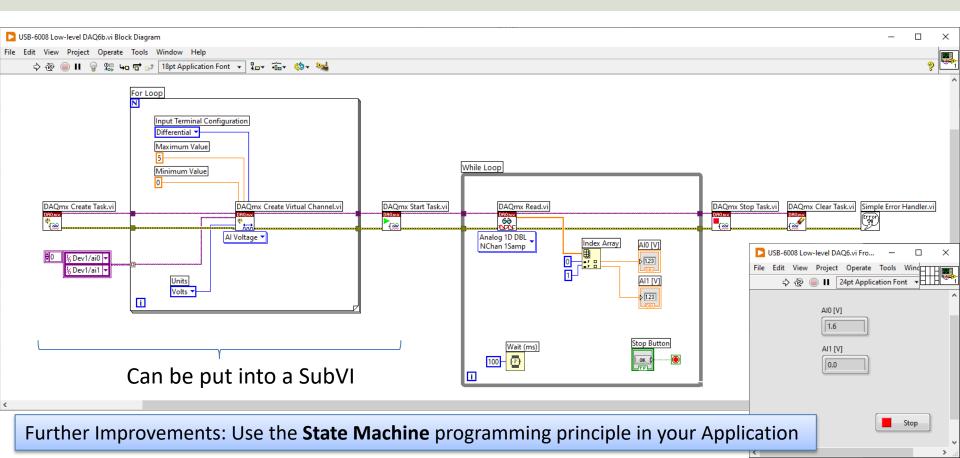




#### **Reading Multiple Channels**



#### Reading Multiple Channels – Alt B



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# TC-01 Thermocouple

#### Hans-Petter Halvorsen



### TC-01 and MAX

NI USB-TC01 "Dev1" - Measurement & Automation	Explorer		- 🗆 X	
File Edit View Tools Help				
<ul> <li>My System</li> <li>Data Neighborhood</li> <li>NI-DAQmx Tasks</li> </ul>	🖬 Save 🎅 Refresh 🛛 🔀	) Self-Test 🔲 Test Panels   {i Crea	ite Task 🕸 Configure TEDS 🦻 Hide Help	
Devices and Interfaces	Settings			
🔤 Integrated Webcam "cam0"			NI-DAQmx Device Basics	
■ Logitech Webcam C930e "cam3"	Name	Dev1	What do you want to do?	
← NI USB-TC01 "Dev1" ↓ Network Devices	Vendor	National Instruments	Run the NI-DAQmx Test Panels	
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> 🛃 Scales	Serial Number	017EAF07	View or change device	
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> 😫 Remote Systems			TC-01 is you ca	MAX and make sure the installed Properly. Here n also test to see if the ce is working properly
	Settings			/

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# **DAQ** Assistant

TC-01 Thermocouple





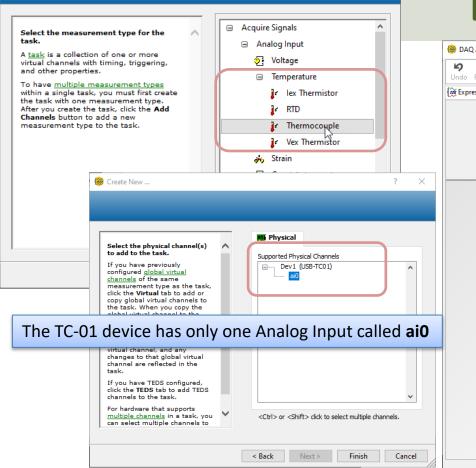
### **DAQ** Assistant

DAQmx - Data Ac	quisition					
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DAQ Assist	Real-Time		Temperature		DAQ Assistant data	
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### **DAQ** Assistant

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🕅 Express Task 🖉 Connection Diagram		Back	
Channel Temperature Table V Display Type	Value    Value	Measuring Temperatur a Thermoco A <u>thermocouple</u> when two dissin metals touch, a contact point pi small open-circ	is created nilar and the roduces a
Temperature Click the Add Channels button	Ing Logging Thermocouple Setup Signal Input Range Max 100 deg C Thermocouple Type J CJC Source CJC Value Constant  25	voltage that co to temperature Thermocouple measurements sensing of the junction tempe where the therr wire is connect to a source to the sensor and sh designed to mi any temperatu gradients betw cold-junction se thermocouple v connections.	rresponds , , require cold- rature mocouple d to the mocouple d to the mocouple al assories an indition imize en the ansor and wire motioning
(+) to add more channels to the task.	Select CJC Source = "Built	-in" Value is the perature of tion of the Source is set to Constant. The temperature va the same units Range.	the cold when <b>CJC</b> o

# Note!!! – DAQ Assistant Error



#### Do you get an Error like this when trying to use the DAQ Assistant?



#### Workaround:

- Install LabVIEW 2021 SP1
- LabVIEW 2021 SP1 does not need to be activated, it is sufficient to install LabVIEW 2021 on your system and not activate it
- Installing just the LabVIEW 2021 SP1 run-time engine will not be sufficient, the LabVIEW ADE needs to be installed

In "LabVIEW 2022 Q3" to "LabVIEW 2023 Q3" there is a bug with the DAQ Assistant. **To fix that you need to install the LabVIEW 2021 SP1 core component**. See information on this web page from NI:

#### https://knowledge.ni.com/KnowledgeArticleDetails?id=kA03q0000019gTMCAY&l=en-NO

Another solution is to use, e.g., the lower level DAQ functions in LabVIEW, see upcoming examples in this Tutorial.

I have been in contact with NI, and it is expected that this error will be fixed in upcoming versions of LabVIEW

This Bug/Issue has been fixed in LabVIEW 2024 Q1 and NI-DAQmx 2024 Q1 (and newer)

## **Convert from Dynamic Data**

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Configure Convert from Dynamic Data [Convert from ]	Dynamic Data]	×		^
Conversion Resulting data type 1D array of scalars - most recent value 1D array of scalars - single channel 2D array of scalars - columns are channels 2D array of scalars - rows are channels 2D array of sca	Input Signal	Channel 0 Channel 1 Channel 1 Channe	DAQ Assistant data	
		Single value (double) 2 Sample Data	٢	<b>*</b>
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# While Loop

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## Number of Decimals and Units

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Absolute time Relative time Make si	ure to select a proper <b>Nur</b>	Stop
have an Ac	Typically, a Temperature Securacy with 10 Decimals. e Datasheet for the select	Make sure

#### https://www.halvorsen.blog

# **Configure DAQ** Settings using MAX **TC-01** Thermocouple

Hans-Petter Halvorsen

**Table of Contents** 

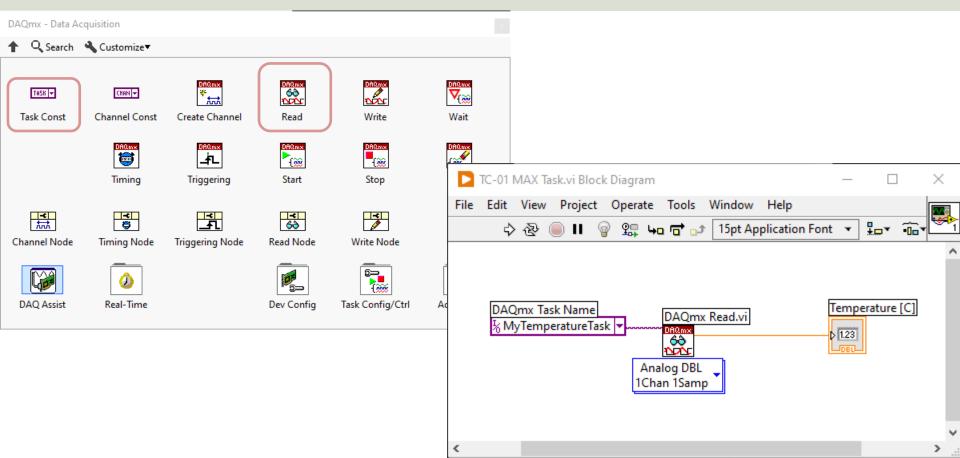
### **Configure DAQ Settings using MAX**

	Create New	? ×
✓	Ave Refresh Self-Test Test Panels Configure TEDS SP Hide Help Setting: X Create New ? X Enter N Name	ame: nperatureTask
> Seles S	Model         Serial I         Status         A task is a collection of one or more vitual channels with timing, triggering, and other properties.         To have multiple measurement types within a single task, you must first create the task with one measurement type. After you create the task, click the Add Channels button to add a new measurement type to the task.	
E Set	ttings < Back Next > Finish Cancel < Back Next >	Finish Cancel

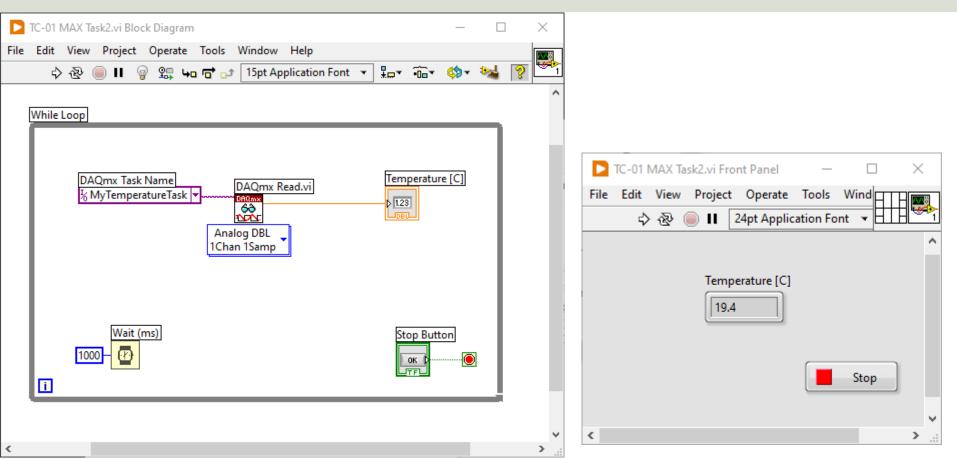
### Configure DAQ Settings using MAX

MyTemperatureTask - Measurement & Au File Edit View Tools Operate Help	tomation Explorer -	- 🗆 X
<ul> <li>Jata Neighborhood</li> <li>MI-DAQmx Tasks</li> <li>MyTemperatureTask</li> <li>Devices and Interfaces</li> <li>Integrated Webcam "cam0"</li> <li>Logitech Webcam C930e "can</li> </ul>	Channel Value    Channel 18,655326	Measuring A Temperatu with a Thermocou
	Table Display Type	A thermocouple is created when two dissimilar metals touch, and the contact
	Configuration Triggering Advanced Timing Logging  Channel Settings  Thermocouple Setup  Signal Input Range  Max 100  deg C  Thermocouple Type	point produces a small open- circuit voltage that corresponds to temperature. Thermocouple measurement require sensing of the <u>cold-</u> <u>junction</u> temperature where the thermocouple wire is
	Click the Add Channels button (+) to add more channels to the task. CJC Source CJC Value Constant C 25	Scaled Units is the units used.
< >	1 Sample (On Demand)     Image: Sol (Cold State (Vic))       100     1k       100     1k       100     1k       100     1k	

### **Configure DAQ Settings using MAX**



### While Loop

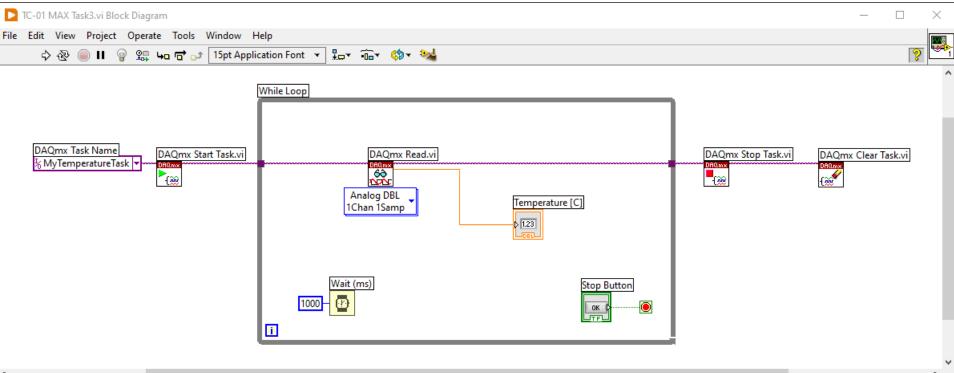


### While Loop v2 – Start/Stop Task

😰 LabVIEW Help 2022.0.0f118 6/28/2022	10:39:07 PM – 🗆 🗙
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Contents Index Search Favorites	DAQmx Start Task (VI)
<ul> <li>LabVIEW Documentation</li> <li>Getting Started with LabVIEW</li> <li>Finding Example VIs</li> <li>Fundamentals</li> <li>VI and Function Reference</li> <li>Property and Method Reference</li> <li>Taking Measurements</li> <li>Controlling Instruments</li> <li>Control Design and Simulation Mo</li> <li>DSC Module</li> <li>MathScript RT Module</li> </ul>	Owning Palette: DAQmx - Data Acquisition VIs and Functions         Installed With: NI-DAQmx         Transitions the task to the running state to begin the measurement or generation. Using this VI is required for some applications and is optional for others.         If you do not use this VI, a measurement task starts automatically when the DAQmx Read VI runs. The autostart input of the DAQmx Write VI determines if a generation task starts automatically when the DAQmx Write VI runs.         If you do not use the DAQmx Start Task VI and the DAQmx Stop Task VI when you use the DAQmx Read VI or the DAQmx Write VI multiple times, such as in a loop, the task starts and stops repeatedly. Starting and stopping a task repeatedly reduces the performance of the application.         Itask/channels in

Increase **speed** by using "Start Task" and "Stop Task" VIs outside the While Loop

### While Loop v2 – Start/Stop Task



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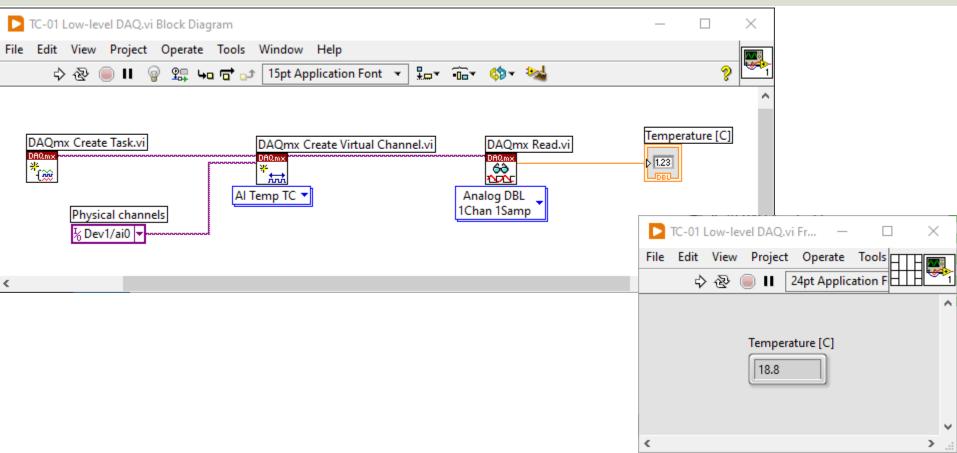
# Using "Low-level" DAQmx VIs

TC-01 Thermocouple



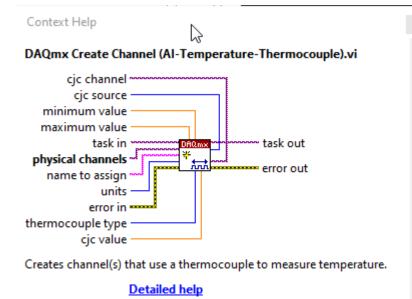
Hans-Petter Halvorsen

# Using "Low-level" DAQmx VIs



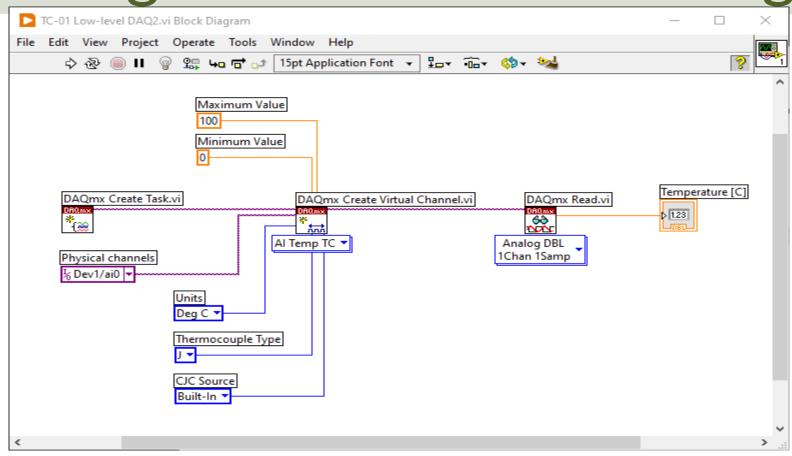
# **Configure Additional Settings**

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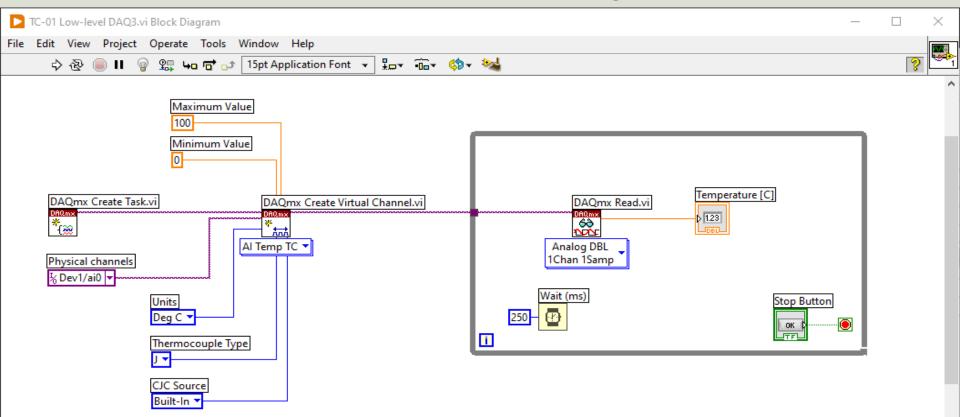


In the previous example we just used the default setting. If you need to change some of the default setting, just right-click on the select input and create a constant

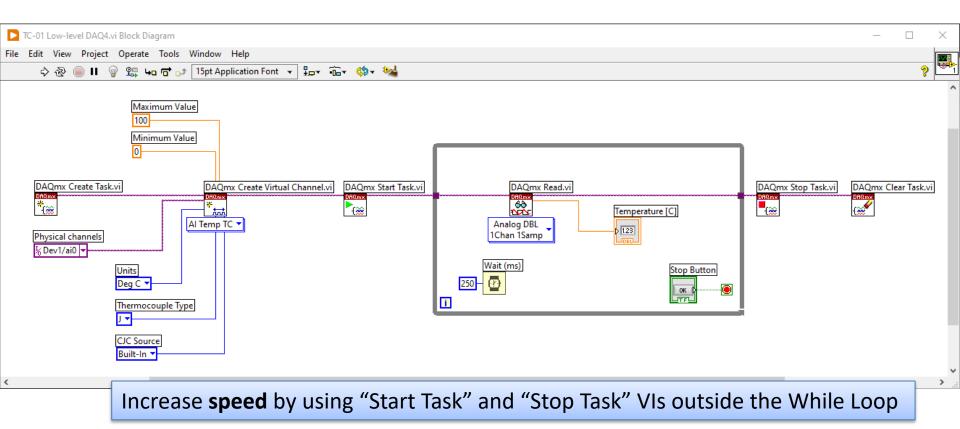
## **Configure Additional Settings**



## While Loop

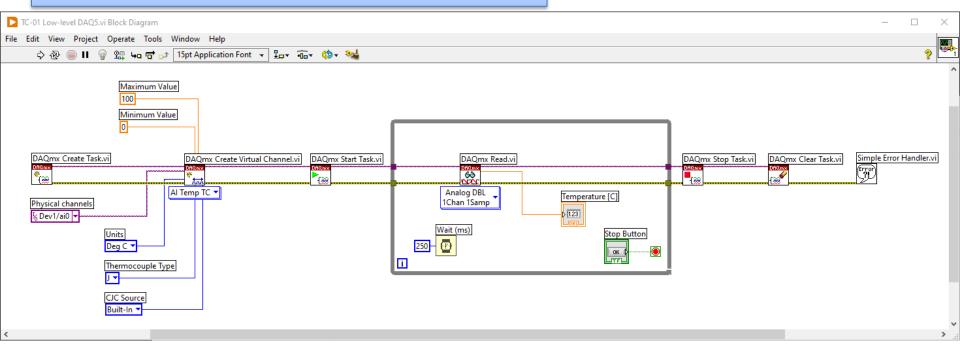


# While Loop with Start/Stop Task



#### **Final Application with Error Handling**

#### All Applications should have proper Error Handling



Further Improvements: Use the **State Machine** programming principle in your Application

# Hans-Petter Halvorsen

University of South-Eastern Norway

www.usn.no

E-mail: <u>hans.p.halvorsen@usn.no</u>

Web: <u>https://www.halvorsen.blog</u>

