

Project data handling – POD data

The scheme below aims to avoid problems, errors, and data losses that have occurred in real projects.

File naming.

Names should have the largest location identifier first, then successively smaller identifiers, e.g.

'U KinburnA 2020 09 12 FPOD_6278 series1 file0.FP1'

U = Ukraine

Kinburn = the main location

A designates one of potentially several sites at Kinburn. If a site is moved, within the named location, by more than 200m it should be given a new letter.

The rest of the name is given by the FPOD app and should not be modified.

With these names a file list can be sorted alphabetically and will appear sorted by location and then by date.

File cropping.

Files will often have data at each end that is not useful data - the POD may have been out of the water or the noise of the vessel that serviced it may be present in the record. So files should be cropped to just the 'good' data.

This can be done in the FPOD app and the file name will then be:

'U KinburnA 2020 09 12 FPOD_6278 series1 file0 PART 70d 22h 16m.FP1'

This file is the source of all data that will be used in subsequent analysis. However, picking the cropping point is somewhat subjective so this should only be done once and the file produced will then be the definitive data file.

File Archiving

The original FP1 file should be stored in a folder called '**Archive orig FP1**'. FP1 files with no good data should also be placed here for reference.

The cropped FP1 file should be stored in a single folder called '**Valid cropped**'

Keeping all the files in a single folder has *serious advantages* in large projects.

Definitive list of files.

One of those advantage is this:

'List file times etc' on the Filters + files page, and filtering by 'FP1' files an up to date definitive list can be obtained in seconds at any time and pasted into a spreadsheet.

	Min	Max		Min	Max
median kHz	0	255	av Bandwidth*	0	31
N clicks in train	5	9999	av Peak Position*	0	16
Mean amplitude	1	9999	exclude kHz:	255	to 255
Mean N of cycles*	0	255	WUTS risk*	0	7
Clicks/s from	1	to 2500	Click rate confidence:		0
exclude from	2500	to 2500			

* F-POD only **^^^ Clear all train filters ^^^**

Files: View metadata and classifier warnings: File exports/processes:

List from List file times etc.

Classification Warnings open F files

File storage.

The **'Valid cropped'** folder should be accessible to all stakeholders so that analyses do not acquire minor discrepancies from use of different cropping times or processing settings.

It should be on a storage system with drive failure protection such a RAID.

Here all the relevant files should be stored in a directory that has the project name.

e.g:

BlackCeTrends

-Archive

--Archive orig FP1

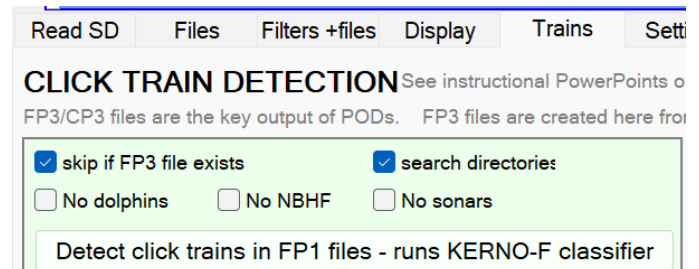
-Active

--Valid cropped

--Docs

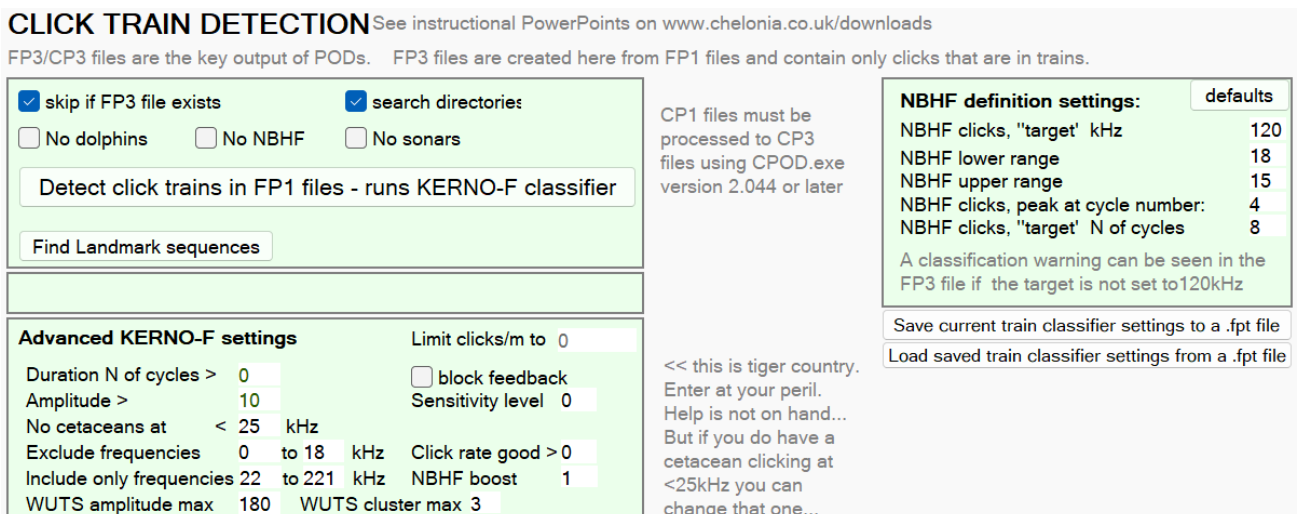
--Temporary

The reason for the Archive / Active split is that cropped FP1 files can be added directly to the 'Valid cropped' folder and then, by picking the options shown, the folder can be selected and the train detection will be automatically carried out only on those newer files that do not have an FP3 file yet.



File processing.

Mostly this will use the standard settings but it is a good idea to have, in the Docs folder, a 'File processing.docx' file with a screengrab of the settings area of the Trains page, and also a corresponding .fpt file.



Data analysis.

There are many filters that can be applied to the data in the FP3 files, so this requires similar documentation in a 'Data analysis settings' document. Here's the relevant screengrab:

The screenshot displays a complex software interface with several panels for configuring data analysis filters. On the left, a 'Parameters' panel lists dropdown menus for 'Train Q class', 'Train Species class', 'Clicks/sec', and 'Frequency'. Below this, there are checkboxes for 'ignore all filters (F4)', 'marked trains included', and 'high sp confidence only'. The 'Train filters' section includes a table with columns for 'Train filters', 'Min', and 'Max', and a 'Click rate confidence' field. The 'Click filters' panel contains a table for 'Click filters' with columns for 'Click filters', 'Min', and 'Max', and a 'Click rate confidence' field. The 'Minute filters F-POD' panel lists various filter options like 'boat sonar', 'WUTS risk', and 'continuous noise'. On the right, there are buttons for 'save .fpf' and 'load .fpf'. The bottom section includes 'Files: View metadata and classifier warnings', 'File exports/processes', 'File changes', and 'Validation' panels, each with various checkboxes and options.

Also an '.fpf' file that lists the settings should be saved.

The data could be used to determine trends in population, seasonal and diel patterns of habitat use and more detailed studies of behaviour, social communication etc.

Validation Record

When a file is visually validated the result should be stored in the spreadsheet with the definitive list of files. Validation results will depend on the species filters in use so separate validations for 'other cet' and 'NBHF' are needed.

Errors

In large projects errors can arise from:

Inconsistent site naming. this can later produce :

Renaming of files resulting in duplication. For original FP1 files sorting these by size and looking for files with the same size is very useful (and easy if they are in one folder).

File time errors - if some instrument clocks are on UTC (the default) and some have been set to local time. Local time, ideally without summertime adjustment, is what is needed in analysing data.

No designated definitive data set so resolving discrepancies can become a circular process!

Differing classifier settings or versions. The classifier warnings list for each file includes the classifier settings and can be exported from the whole definitive list (if in one folder). The filter settings when results are exported are not stored within the file.

Feedback

Please send comments, questions, advice, requests etc to nick.tregenza@chelonia.co.uk