

Version

3.6



**THE
TRANSTEC GROUP**

ProVAL User's Guide



ProVAL 3.6

Profile Viewing and Analysis Software



The Transtec Group

ProVAL User's Guide

© 2001-2016 The Transtec Group
6111 Balcones Drive
Austin, Texas 78731
Phone +1 (512) 451 6233 • Fax +1 (512) 451 6234
Email info@RoadProfile.com
Web <http://www.roadprofile.com/>

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	7
PROVAL INSTALLATION	8
Hardware.....	8
Software	8
Installation	8
Installation Wizard	8
GETTING STARTED.....	10
Welcome Wizard	10
Behavior of User Interface	10
Home Screen	11
File and Project Management	12
Add Files	13
ProVAL-Compatible File Formats	13
File Import Wizard	14
Basic Operation.....	16
Report Functions.....	17
Print to PDF	19
Export to Excel	21
Save to Text	21
Utility Functions.....	22
Screenshot Tool	22
Copy-Table-to-Clipboard Tool.....	22
Options.....	23
General Settings	23
Analysis	23
Chart Color Templates	24
Chart Controls	25
Profile Selection	27
Select Channels	27
Help and Event Log System	27
Save Logs	27

User's Guide	28
Release Notes.....	28
Support.....	28
About	28
VIEWER	29
Profile Selection and Display	29
Viewing Profile Sections.....	30
Profile Rename/Delete/Export	30
Show Events	31
Use Mileposts.....	32
Units	35
Map	35
EDITOR	36
Basic.....	36
Location Information.....	36
Milepost-related Inputs.....	37
Geography.....	38
Route.....	38
Events	40
Sections	41
Information	43
Filtering.....	44
ANALYSES.....	48
Templates	49
Automated Faulting Measurements (AFM)	51
Profile Selection	51
Inputs.....	51
Outputs.....	52
Automated Profile Synchronization (APS)	56
Profile Selection	56
Inputs.....	57
Outputs.....	58
Power Spectral Density (PSD).....	63
Profile Selection	63
Inputs.....	64
Outputs.....	64
Precision and Bias (ASTM E 950)	67

Profile Selection	68
Inputs.....	68
Outputs.....	68
Profiler Certification Module (PCM)	69
Profile Selection	69
Inputs.....	70
Outputs.....	71
Profilograph Simulation	73
Profile Selection	73
Inputs.....	73
Outputs.....	75
Ride Quality.....	76
Profile Selection	76
Inputs.....	76
Outputs.....	77
Rolling Straightedge (RSE)	83
Profile Selection	83
Inputs.....	83
Outputs.....	84
Smoothness Assurance Module (SAM)	85
Profile Selection	85
Ride Quality Inputs and Analysis	86
Grinding Screen	88
Short Continuous Report.....	95
Long Continuous Report	95
Fixed Interval Report.....	96
Short Continuous Histogram Results.....	98
Long Continuous Histogram Results	98
Analysis with a Comparison Chart	99
Analysis by Excluding Leave-outs	105
Optimal WIM Site Locator (OWL)	109
Profile Selection	109
WIM Index Inputs and Analysis.....	110
Grinding Inputs	110
WIM Locator Report	110
OTHER INFORMATION.....	113
Web Sites.....	113

References..... 113

INTRODUCTION

ProVAL (Profile Viewing and Analysis) is an engineering software application that allows you to view and analyze longitudinal pavement profiles in many different ways. You can import profiles from various other formats and view them in the Viewer window. If needed, you can edit profile information and manipulate the profiles using the Profile Editor. Entire analysis projects can be saved, which preserves user information and analysis inputs. After analyses have been performed, you can print a report of the original profile and the results of any analyses.

The purpose of this document is to describe all software operations and hardware requirements for ProVAL.

PROVAL INSTALLATION

Hardware

- ▶ While ProVAL should run on any system from the past several years, we recommend at least the following for the most pleasant experience:
- ▶ 2 GHz processor,
- ▶ 2 GB RAM,
- ▶ 1440x900 display resolution (if widescreen display); 1280x960 resolution (for non-widescreen)

Software

The minimum supported operating system is Windows 7 SP 1 (32 or 64 bit). Microsoft .NET Framework 4.5.2 is required.

Installation

If the minimum version of the .NET Framework is not installed, it will be downloaded (if necessary) and installed.

Previous versions of ProVAL 3.6 will be automatically removed. If installed, ProVAL 3.5 and any older versions will remain.

After obtaining the ProVAL installation file (normally named as ProVAL 3.xx.xxxx.exe), launch the executable installation kit and follow the ProVAL Installation Wizard to complete the process. If the downloaded file is in a zipped form (*.zip), you will need to unzip the file and run the unzipped executable file (*.exe).

Installation Wizard

Step 1. Run the installation file. A dialog box displays the progress of extracting and copying the necessary installation files.

Step 2. The ProVAL End-User License Agreement screen is shown. Read the Agreement and select “I accept the terms in the License Agreement.” Click the Next button to continue the process.

If you are installing the same version, the “Modify, Repair or Remove installation” window will show up instead. Select the desired action and proceed. The following steps show only for the new installation process.

Step 3. The “Select Installation Folder” prompts for you to either use the default installation folder (recommended) or select a different folder. If all is well, click the Install button to proceed.

Step 4. The installation process may take a moment while the progress bar shows the installation status.

Step 5. When the installation is complete, the final window of the ProVAL Installation Wizard will display. Click Finish. Navigate to ProVAL 3.6 (All Programs » FHWA) and launch the application to begin. Have fun!

GETTING STARTED

Welcome Wizard

Launch ProVAL by locating **All Programs » FHWA » ProVAL 3.6**.

If no earlier versions of ProVAL are installed, the first time the software is started a welcome screen will ask you some basic questions:

- ▶ **Unit System** – Checking the “Use SI Units” would enable SI unit system, otherwise the application will be in USCS unit system.
- ▶ **Enable Recording Log** – Check this option to help with reporting bugs by saving logs of software operations.
- ▶ **Default File Type** – Select the default file type when adding profile data.
- ▶ **Default Project Path** – Select the default project path to speed up file lookup.

This gives you a convenient way to specify preferences. The Welcome Wizard only shows once after each installation. You can also modify those settings later on by using the Options dialog box.

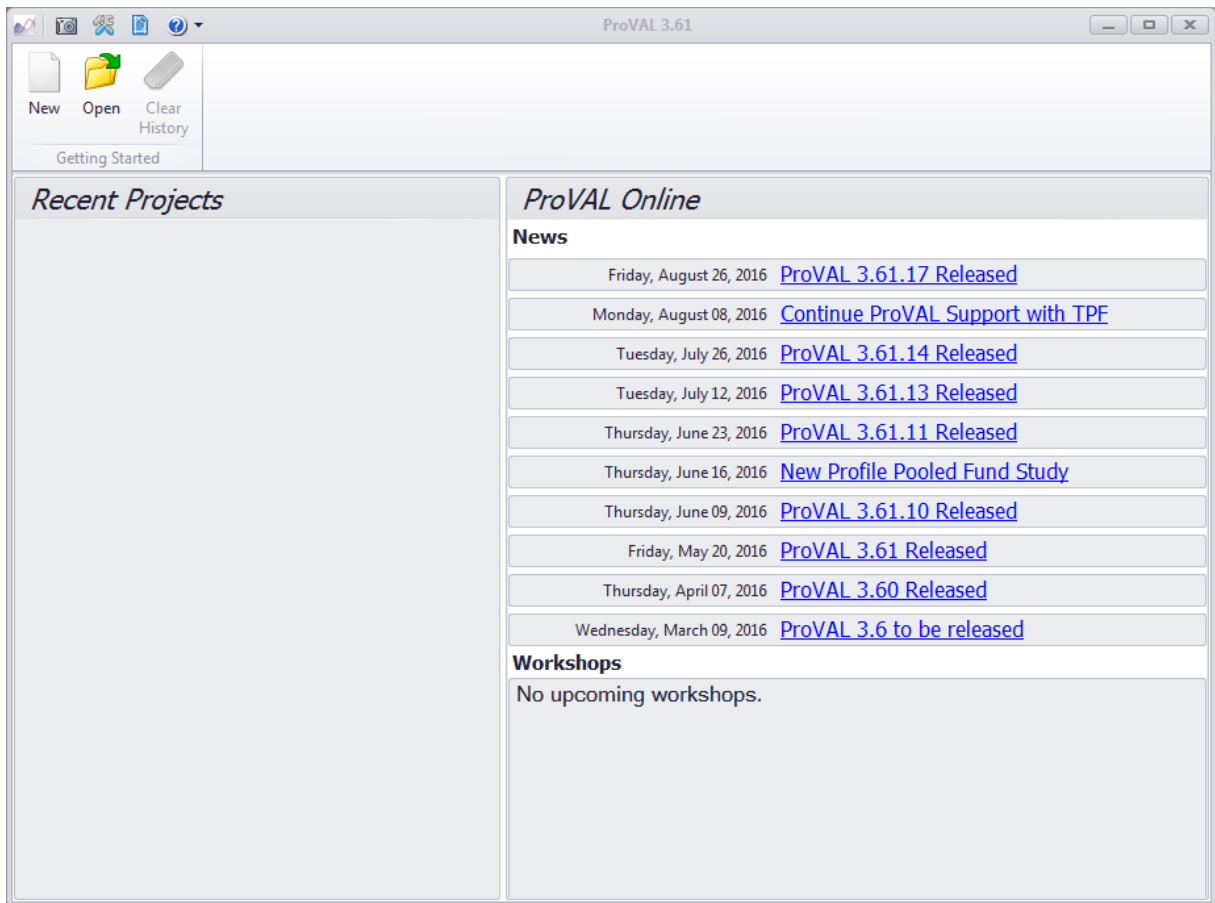
Behavior of User Interface

The following describes the behavior of the ProVAL Graphical User Interface (GUI):

- ▶ The window position is saved.
- ▶ The software complies with Section 508 accessibility requirements.
- ▶ Allows you to minimize navigation elements and analysis inputs to maximize screen real-estate.

Home Screen

This is the starting screen when no project is currently open. It consists of three main sections: the toolbar, **Recent Projects**, and **ProVAL Online** (if the Internet is accessible and the “Show Online Content on the Start Page” is selected in the program Options screen).



If the Internet is not available, the **ProVAL Online** section will be blank or on rare occasions, the “Action canceled” message will be displayed instead.

Under **Recent Projects** are listed recently analyzed and saved projects. The most recent unsaved project, if any, will be in the lower left corner.

The Getting Started menu has the following features:

- ▶ New: Create a new project.
- ▶ Open: Open a previously saved project by specifying the path and filename.
- ▶ Clear History: Clear the list of recent projects and unsaved projects.

The Tools menu includes:

- ▶ Screenshot: Store a screenshot of the entire application to the Windows clipboard.
- ▶ Options: Allows you to customize several features of the application. See the Options section for details.
- ▶ Manage Analysis Templates: Import and export analysis templates.
- ▶ Resources

- **Save Logs:** Save event logs in zip format in order to report bugs or issues.
- **User's Guide:** This opens the PDF version of the ProVAL User's manual for viewing.
- **Release Notes:** Summary of changes in the current and previous ProVAL versions.
- **Support:** Online help via the ProVAL website.
- **About:** About window to show version number and other information.

The Recent Projects screen has the following features:

- ▶ List of recent projects and most recent unsaved project, if any.

The ProVAL Online screen has the following features:

- ▶ Shows the latest news and upcoming workshops. You can elect to turn this off in the Options.

Once a project has been created or opened, the Project menu contains the following items:

- ▶ **Close Project:** Close the current project.
- ▶ **Add Files:** Add profile data to the current project.
- ▶ **Save:** Save the current project or save as a different project.
- ▶ **Report:** Create an Excel, Text, or PDF report.

File and Project Management

The file and project management in ProVAL is detailed as follows:

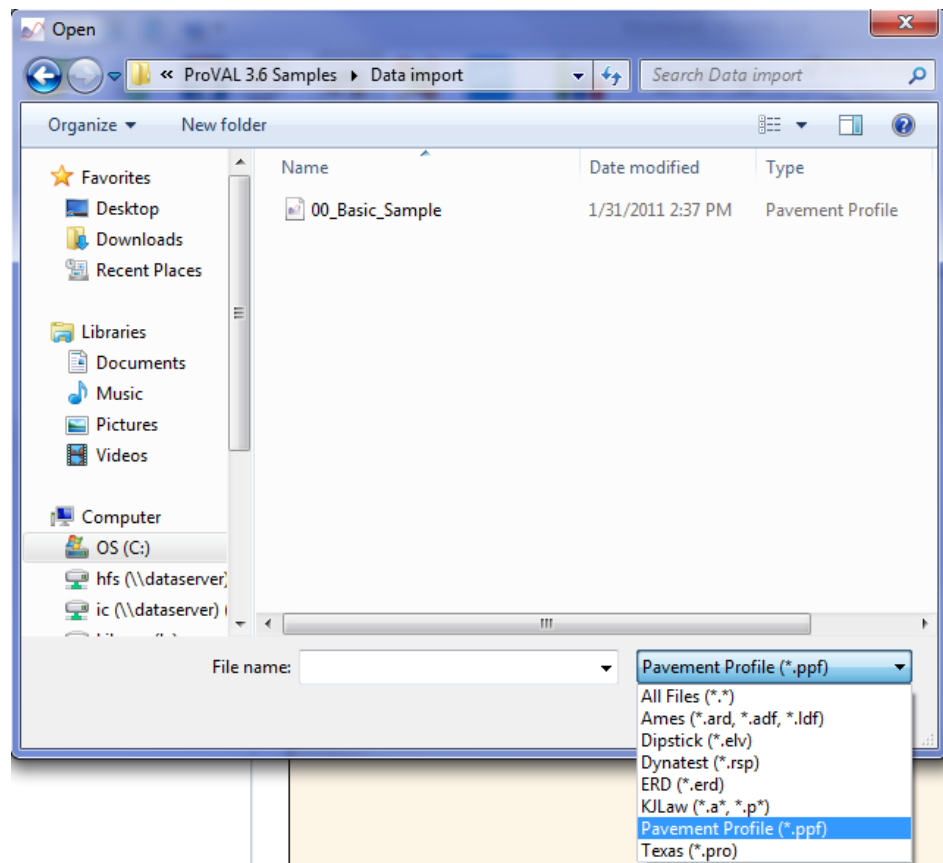
- ▶ ProVAL can open ProVAL project files and ProVAL-compatible profile data files.
- ▶ You may have multiple instances of ProVAL on the same computer. Each instance of the software can have only one project open. The same file or project cannot be opened in multiple instances.
- ▶ The project file (*.pvp) contains both project settings and profile data (stored in PPF formats - ProVAL's native data format as well as the ASTM International standard format).
- ▶ Previous versions of projects (e.g., *.pv3, *.pv2, and associated *.ppf files) can be imported.
- ▶ Individual profile data files can be extracted in PPF format from the project file in the Viewer window.
- ▶ The project files can be opened using standard Windows techniques, including dialog boxes (i.e., via Open button on the home screen or Open menu from the application menu), drag-and-drop (i.e., drag a project file from Windows explorer to the ProVAL application areas), most recently used (MRU) files (i.e., from the Application Menu/Recent Projects or simply clicking any recent project listed on the panel under the Getting Started of the ProVAL starting page), and file association (i.e., double-clicking a *.pvp, *.pv3, or *.pv2 file within the Windows explorer).
- ▶ Once a project is active, profile data files can be imported using the Add Files button on the toolbar or the drag-and-drop option (i.e., drag from Windows explorer to the ProVAL application areas, either to the list of profiles or directly to the chart).
- ▶ Profile data files can also be imported using file association (i.e., double-clicking any ProVAL-compatible data files such as *.ppf, *.erd, etc. within the Windows explorer). An "Untitled" project will be created automatically. Users can then use Save As to save it to another filename or simply discard it (the latter is useful for a quick view of data without saving any projects).

Add Files

You can use the **Add Files** button in the toolbar to select and add profile data files to the current project.



A dialog box will appear when you click the **Add Files** button. Files of the Default File Type set in the Options are displayed. To view other file types, use the dropdown menu.



ProVAL-Compatible File Formats

ProVAL recognizes the following file types. The file extension is listed in parentheses after the description:

- ▶ ProVAL 3.1+ Project and embedded data file (pvp)
- ▶ ProVAL 3.0 Project and embedded data file (pv3)
- ▶ ProVAL 2 Project (pv2) (note that the associated ppf files need to be within the same folder as the pv2 file)
- ▶ Pavement Profile File (ppf): This is based on the native file specification of ProVAL. It is a

very efficient and secure format. The latest ppf specifications can be downloaded from the ProVAL website. This format is the basis for the ASTM Profile Data standard.

- ▶ ERD (erd): ProVAL recognizes both text formats, and the two 4-byte floating-point binary formats. Information about the ERD files can be found on the UMTRI website (<http://www.umtri.umich.edu/our-results/publications/erd-file-format-storage-and-analysis-road-profiles>). The profile data and most of the header information are also imported.
- ▶ Dipstick (elv) files: They are Dipstick data in text format without any headers.
- ▶ KJLaw Text files (a*): These files usually end with file extensions such as "a01", "a02", etc. The profile data and most of the header information are also imported.
- ▶ KJLaw Binary files (p*): These files usually end with file extensions such as "p01", "p02", etc. The profile data and most of the header information are also imported.
- ▶ Dynatest RSP File (rsp): These files are generated by the field program of Dynatest Mark II or III (version 35.00 or above). The rsp event markers and GPS information can be also imported.
- ▶ TxDOT (pro): ProVAL can import the newer TxDOT "pro" format. Event markers will also be imported.
- ▶ Ames File (ard, adf, ldf): These are file formats (adf is newer than ldf) generated by the Ames profiler field programs. The GPS information and event markers can also be imported. Additional event markers for the lead-in and lead-out locations may be added.

File Import Wizard

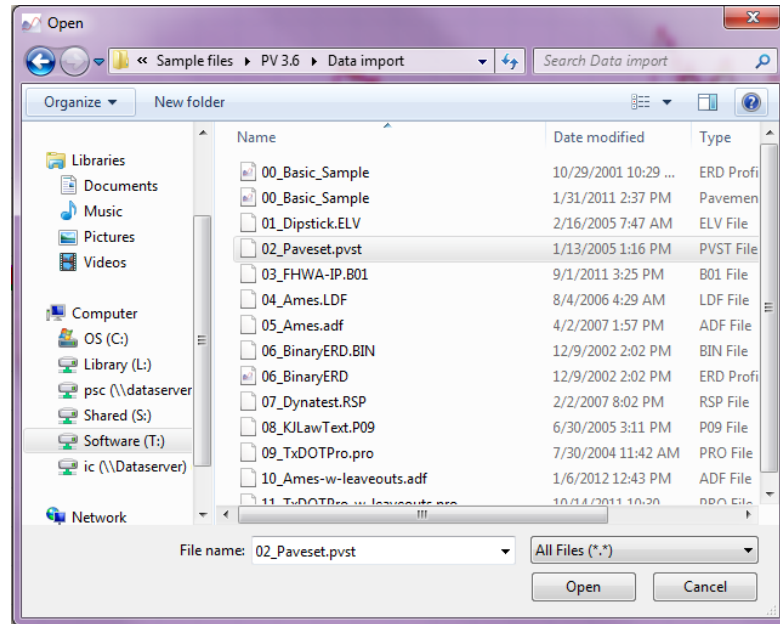
ProVAL can also import generic files in text format using a File Import Wizard. The generic text file needs to consist of profile data in column(s) and separated by a symbol. There shall not be blank lines or other non-data lines in the data block. The file headers are optional and will be skipped during file import. It is recommended to inspect the data using a text editor and find out additional information about the profile before using the File Import Wizard.

The steps to import such files are as follows:

- ▶ Use the **Add Files** button to start the Open file dialog box.



- ▶ Select "All Files" under the Files of type selection and select a generic text file.



- ▶ A File Import Wizard will pop up with a table displaying the first 100 rows of information from the file. Note that the File Import Wizard will also launch when the imported ProVAL-compatible format is corrupted.
- ▶ Fill in information including: Sample Interval, Sample Interval Unit, Elevation Unit, Decimal Symbol, and Data Starting Row. As the correct Data Starting Row is selected, several selections of data types will be displayed depending on the number of columns in the data block.
- ▶ Select the correct data type from the following options for each data column: Left, Center, Right, Unknown Location, or Not a Profile.

File Import Wizard
Inputs

File	02_Paveset.pvst	Type	Text
Sample Interval	.1	Not a profile	873.30
Sample Interval Unit	ft	Not a profile	0.00
Elevation Unit	in	Left	-47.74
Decimal Symbol	Period		
Data Starting Row	53		

51	
52	records:
53	873.30 , 0.00 , -47.74
54	873.40 , 0.00 , -47.74
55	873.51 , 0.00 , -47.74
56	873.61 , 0.00 , -47.74
57	873.72 , 0.00 , -47.74
58	873.82 , 0.00 , -47.74

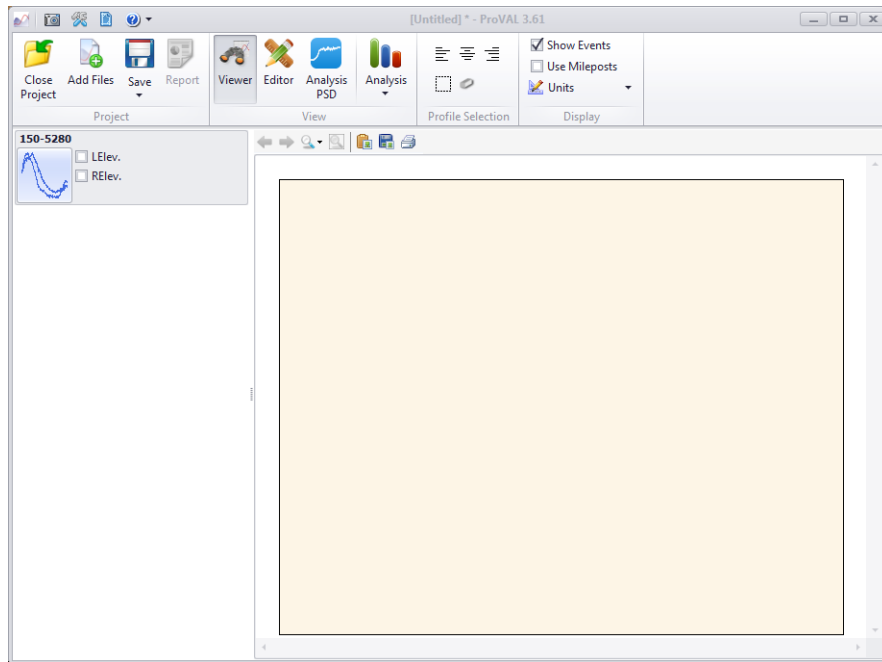
< Back Next > Cancel

- Click **Next>** and **Finish** to import and save the file into the current project.

Basic Operation

A step-by-step process for a typical viewing and analysis is as follows:

- **Step 1:** Start a new ProVAL project using the **New** button on the ProVAL home screen and it creates an “Untitled” project. You can elect to save it as another file name. Let’s leave it for now.
- **Step 2:** Use the **Add Files** button on the ProVAL toolbar to select profile data to be imported.
- **Step 3:** After adding a file, a thumbnail of its profile will be added to the list with imported profiles available for selection.



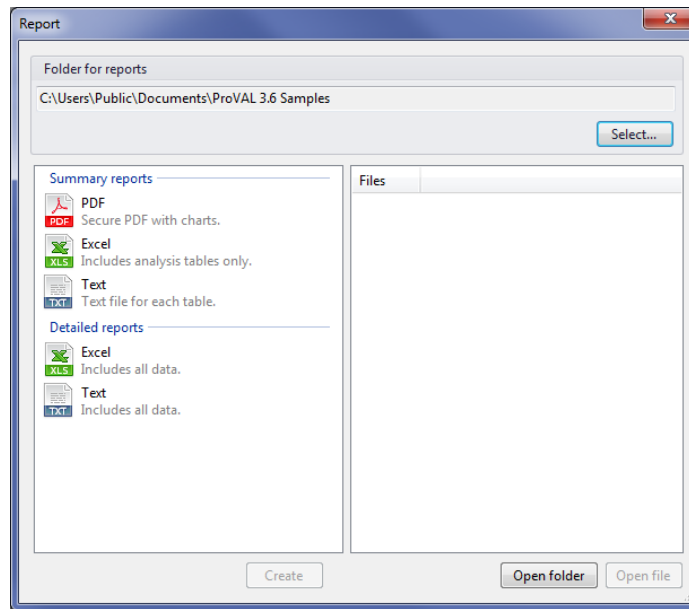
- ▶ **Step 4:** Select or de-select the desired profiles by clicking the corresponding checkboxes. Selected profile traces will be displayed on the chart. You can then proceed with viewing and analysis functions.

Report Functions

The Report button, once clicked with a mouse, lists options for report functions. Select the location and type of report. The export functions include: **Excel**, **Text**, and **PDF**.

- ▶ **Excel:** Save report data to various Excel worksheets.
- ▶ **Text:** Save report data in various text files.
- ▶ **PDF:** Generate a secured PDF report.

Click **Create** to generate the report(s). Select **Open folder** to view the report folder in Windows Explorer or choose a file and click **Open file** to view the selected report.



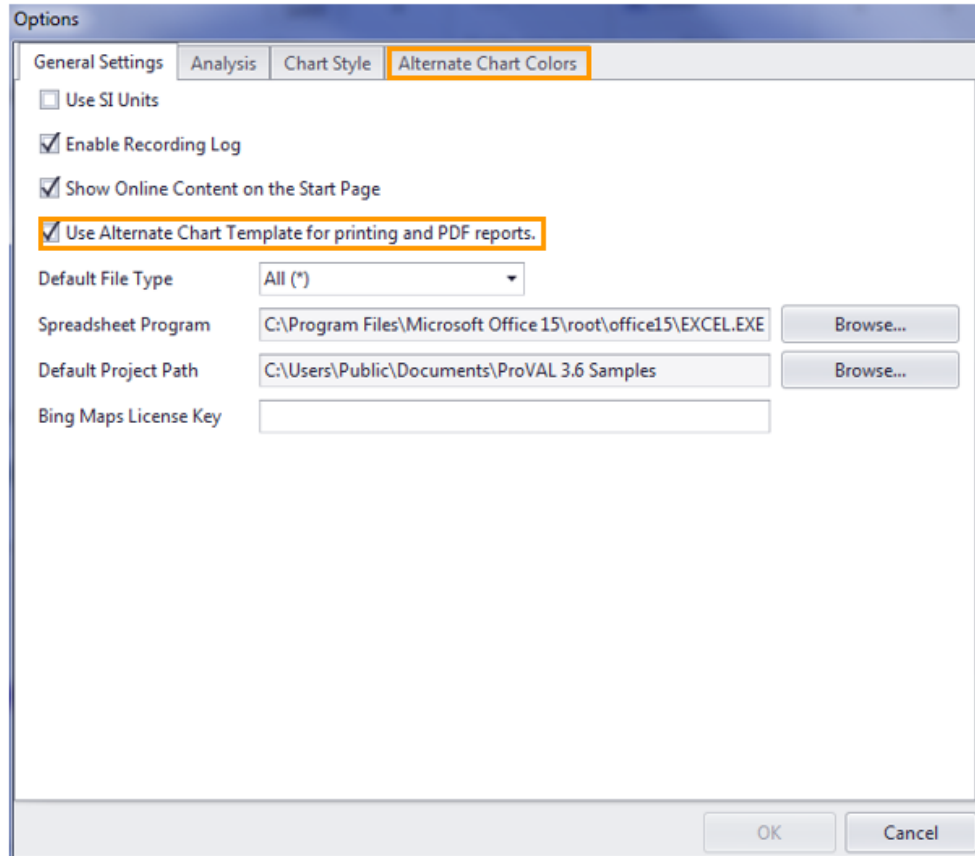
Reports contain the data from the current module – the Viewer or one of the analysis modules. To generate a report in any module besides the Viewer, first run the analysis. File names are automatically selected based on the project name and analysis type. New reports overwrite any older files with the same name at that location.

Charts in the Viewer and some analysis screens can also be exported as images to either files or the Clipboard in the PNG format. See Viewer and Analyses sections for details.

Print to PDF

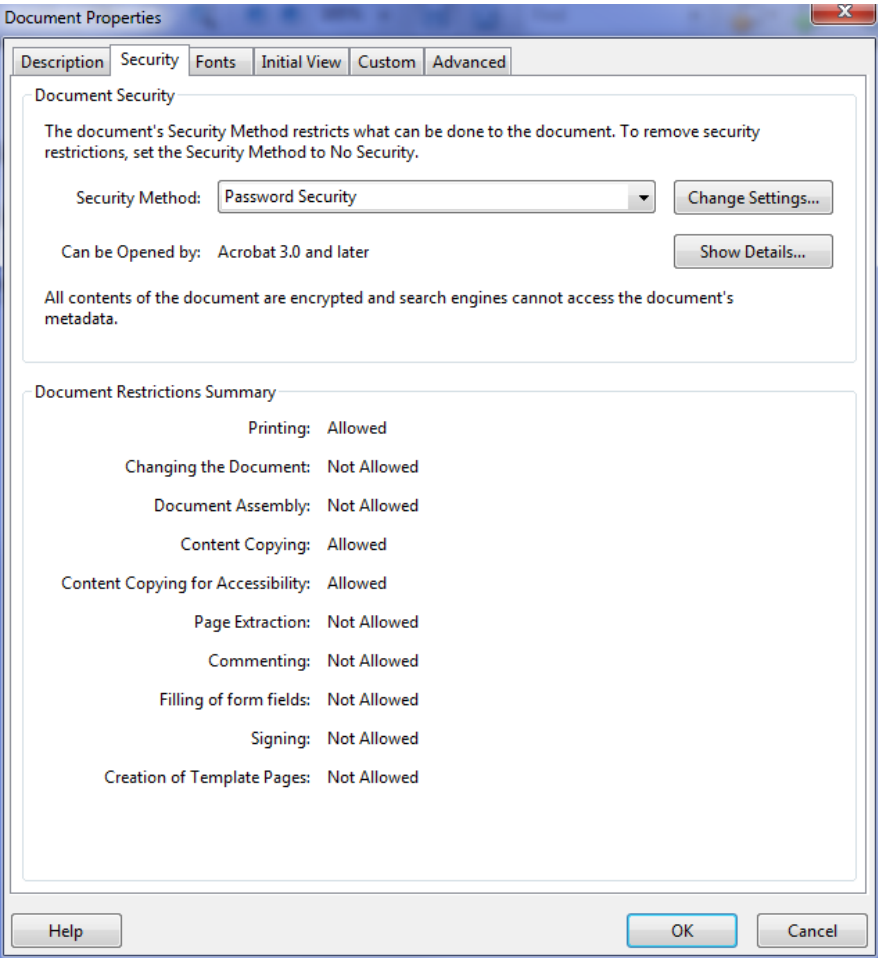
After viewing profiles or finishing an analysis, you can click the **Report** button and select **PDF** to generate a “secured” PDF report that cannot be modified.

If the option to use the alternate chart template is selected in the Options, the alternate chart colors will be printed.



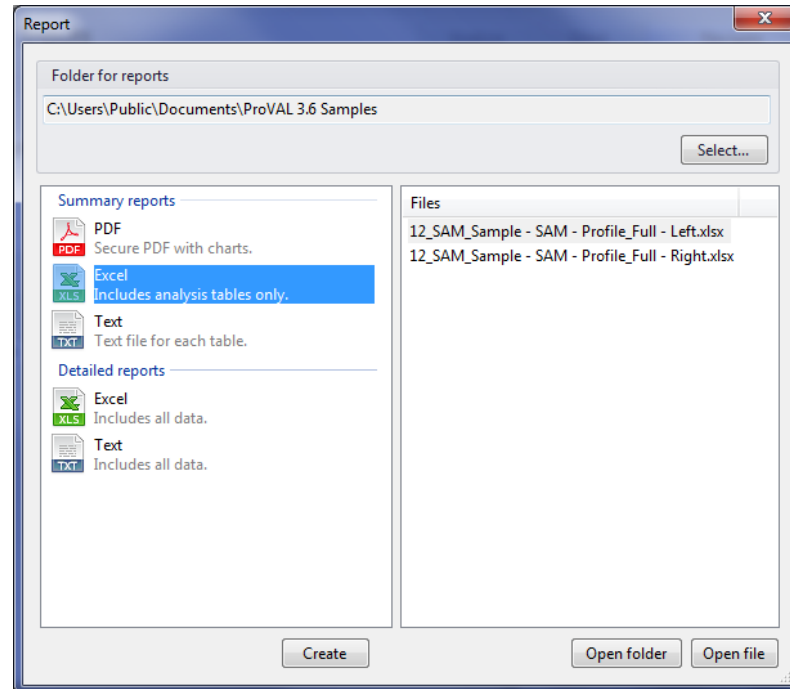
The secure PDF has the following restrictions:

- ▶ Changing the document
- ▶ Document assembly
- ▶ Page extraction
- ▶ Commenting
- ▶ Filling of form fields (NA)
- ▶ Signing
- ▶ Creation of template pages



Export to Excel

Chart and table data from all profile analyses can be exported to Excel files by clicking the **Report** button and selecting **Excel**. Detailed reports include all data. For continuous roughness reports these will include every data point. Summary reports only list defective segments. Each exported Excel file contains analysis results from a specific profile trace.



Users can launch the Excel application and open the ProVAL-exported Excel files. For each worksheet within an Excel file, data will be arranged in columns with appropriate headings and units.

Data in tables and charts will be saved to each worksheet for post processing (such as: plug in pay schedule for bonus/penalty computation). Due to limitation of rows in Excel 2003 and earlier, you should be cautious when exporting data that exceeds 65,536 rows (including the data column headers). Excel 2007 and later have a maximum of 1,048,576 rows. Report charts will not be included in the exported Excel files. However, you can use the ProVAL built-in screenshot tool button to export chart images to the Windows clipboard, then insert into other documents or spreadsheets.

Save to Text

Chart and table data from all profile analyses can be exported to text files by clicking the **Report** button and selecting **Text**. Detailed reports include all data. For continuous roughness reports these will include every data point. Summary reports only list defective segments. One or more files will be generated for the analysis results from the data sets.

The text file names correspond to each data set. The text files can then easily be viewed in any text editor or for any data submission or post processing.

Utility Functions

There are several utility functions in ProVAL for various purposes.

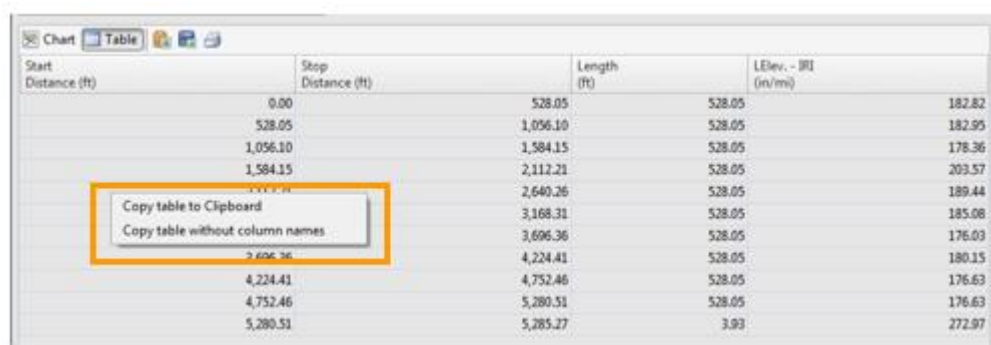
Screenshot Tool

A built-in screenshot tool is included. By clicking the Screenshot button on the toolbar, a screenshot of the entire application will be stored in the Windows clipboard. You can then open any other Windows application (such as MS Word) and paste the screenshot there.



Copy-Table-to-Clipboard Tool

By clicking any table results with the mouse while using the right mouse button, the entire table can be stored in the Windows clipboard. Selecting **Copy table to Clipboard** includes the column headers. Alternatively, choose **Copy table without column names**. You can then open any other Windows application (such as MS Word) and paste the table results there.



Start Distance (ft)	Stop Distance (ft)	Length (ft)	LElev. - [ft]	LElev. - [mi]
0.00	528.05	528.05	528.05	182.82
528.05	1,056.10	528.05	528.05	182.95
1,056.10	1,584.15	528.05	528.05	178.36
1,584.15	2,112.21	528.05	528.05	203.57
2,112.21	2,640.26	528.05	528.05	189.44
2,640.26	3,168.31	528.05	528.05	185.08
3,168.31	3,696.36	528.05	528.05	176.03
3,696.36	4,224.41	528.05	528.05	180.15
4,224.41	4,752.46	528.05	528.05	176.63
4,752.46	5,280.51	528.05	528.05	176.63
5,280.51	5,808.57	528.05	3.93	272.97

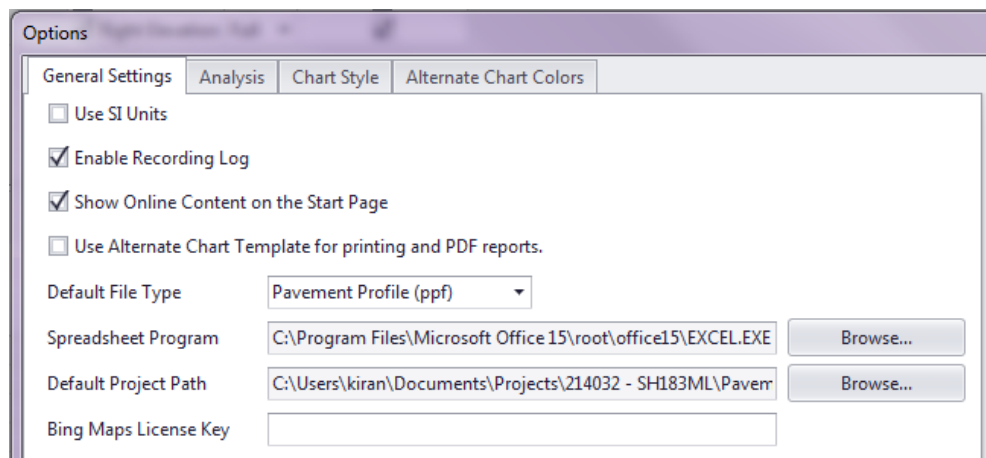
Options

User preferences are divided into four areas: General Settings, Analysis, Chart Style, and Alternate Chart Colors.

General Settings

Under General Settings, you can change the following to fit your needs:

- ▶ **Use SI Units:** If checked, SI units will be applied to the application; if not, USCS units will be used.
- ▶ **Enable Recording Log:** If checked, event logs would be recorded. Enabling this option is recommended and will enable Support to easier diagnose issues.
- ▶ **Show Online Content on the Start Page:** If checked, the ProVAL Online section will be displayed on the application home screen.
- ▶ **Use Alternate Chart Template for printing and PDF reports:** If checked, the chart format on the Alternate Chart Colors tab will be used when printing charts and creating PDFs. If unchecked, the format on the Chart Style tab will be used.
- ▶ **Default File Type:** Used to set the default file type for the Add Files dialog box.
- ▶ **Spreadsheet Program:** ProVAL will automatically search for MS Excel and put the location of it here. If Excel was not found or you prefer to use another program, you can browse for it here.
- ▶ **Default Project Path:** Very useful setting to allow you to quickly access profile data in a frequently used path.
- ▶ **Bing Maps License Key:** If you have your own license key for Bing Maps, you may enter it here.



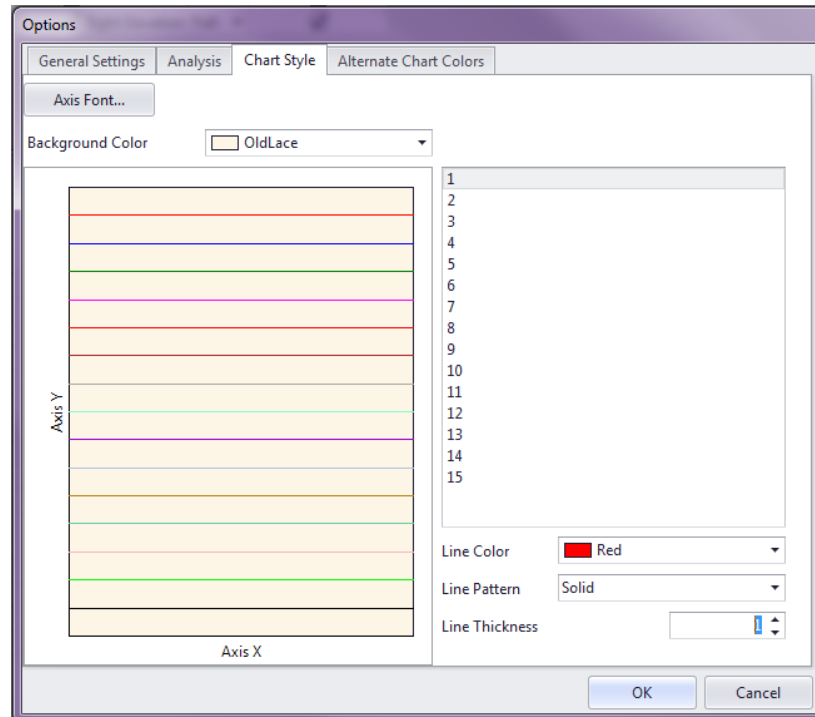
Analysis

The following can be set using this utility:

- ▶ **Selected Analyses:** Any analyses that are checked will be displayed in the Analysis menu.
- ▶ **Default Analysis:** Set the default analysis that is displayed on the toolbar for easy access.

Chart Color Templates

A default color template is provided. A color template defines the chart's background color, line styles, and axis fonts. A line style specifies the line color, pattern, and thickness. On each chart the first dataset plotted will be formatted according to line style 1, the second in line style 2, etc. The template defined on the Chart Style tab is generally used. If **Use Alternate Chart Template** is selected in the Options, the alternate chart colors are used when printing and generating PDF reports.



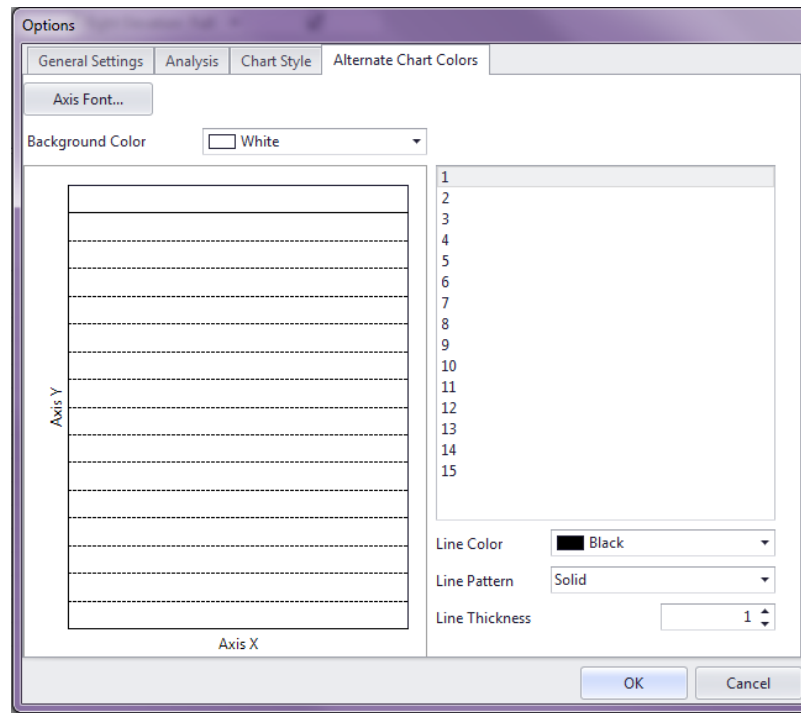


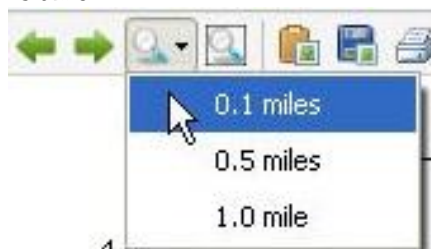
Chart Controls

A common chart is used throughout the software. This feature helps you become familiar with consistent chart layouts. Specific features include:

- **Scroll Bars:** Both horizontal and vertical. Only available when zooming into a portion of a chart.
- **Zoom History** (backward and forward arrows): Preserve the zoom history so that you can zoom back and forth, similar to back and forward buttons in a Web browser. They will be activated (in green) only when zooming to certain levels.



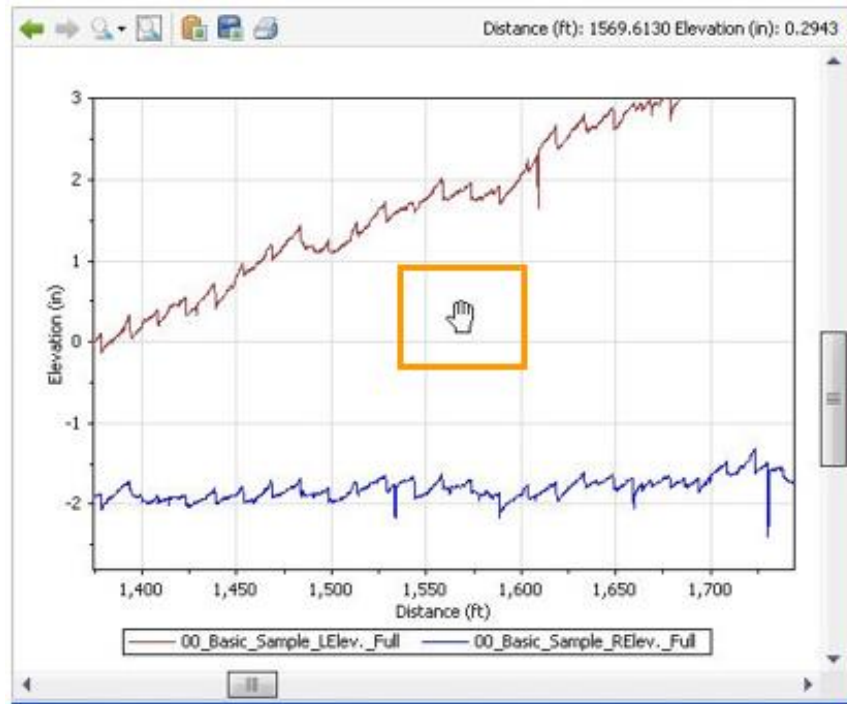
- **(Zoom) Scale** (magnifying glass symbol): When entering this mode, the chart will set a zoom level equal to a predefined scale. Predefined zoom scales are 0.1 miles, 0.5 miles, and 1 mile (or 0.1 km, 0.5 km, and 1.0 km if SI unit system is specified in the Options). Zoom scales cannot be changed at this time.



- **(Overview) “Full”** (magnifying glass symbol with a frame): Show the full length of the chart.



- **Panning:** Allows you to ‘grab’ the chart using the right mouse button (the mouse icon would change into a “hand” symbol) and move it, instead of using the scrollbars.



- **Copy Image to Clipboard:** Allows an image of the chart to be exported to the Windows Clipboard.



- **Save Image to File:** Allows an image of the chart to be exported to a file in the PNG format.



A dialog box would pop up for you to save the exported image as a PNG file.

- **Print chart:** Prints the chart using the standard or alternate chart template, depending on the Options setting.



Profile Selection

A group of functions within the Profile Selection menu bar can be used to select one or more profiles.

Select Channels

Five buttons can be used to select all left channels, all middle channels, all right channels, all channels, as well as clear all selections. This function is available in the Viewer and applicable analyses.



Help and Event Log System

Save Logs

An event log is provided to record any errors that occur. A Recording Log is provided to record all actions taken by you. This is very useful for debugging. You can opt to turn this off. To save logs for submitting issues, you can use the application menu and select **Help/Save Logs**.

A **Save As** dialog box would prompt for you to save the event log file in zip format to a selected folder. This file can then be submitted to the ProVAL support team to assist the diagnostics.

User's Guide

An electronic User's Guide (this document) in PDF format can be viewed through the Help menu of the Home screen.

Release Notes

The release notes in PDF format for this version of ProVAL can be viewed through the Help menu of the Home screen. This document includes new features, changes, and known issues.

Support

Clicking the Support menu under Help will launch the default web browser on your computer and load the ProVAL homepage.

About

Clicking the About menu under Help will display the window with information about the version of ProVAL running, the link to the ProVAL webpage, etc.

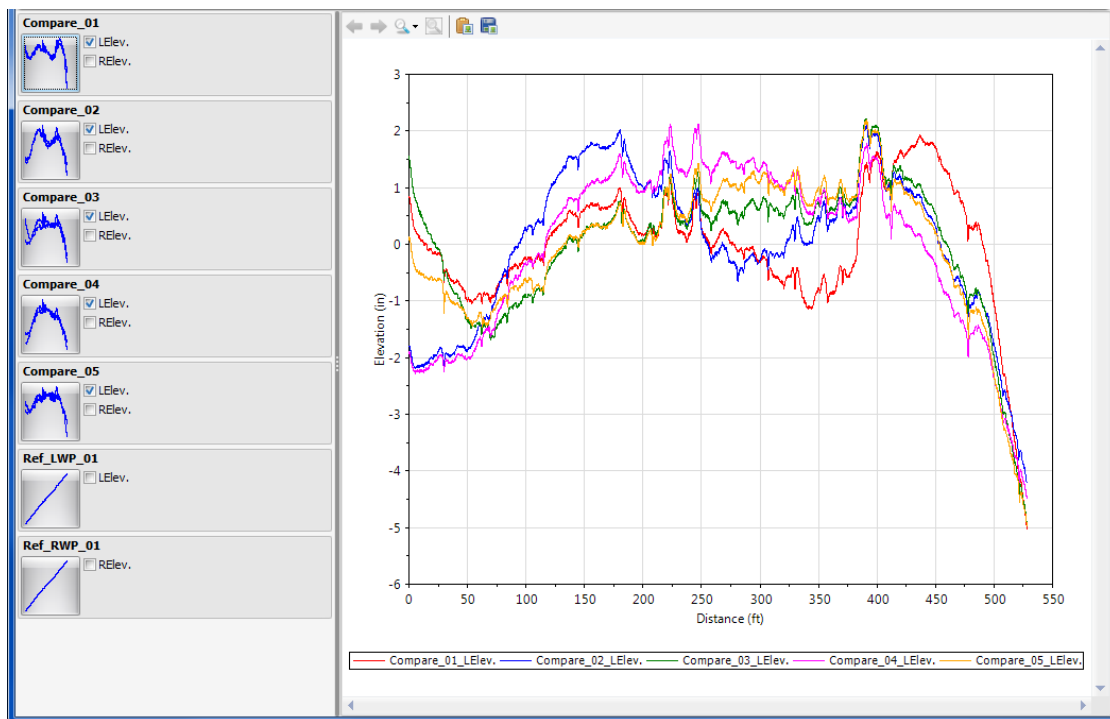
Chapter 4

VIEWER

This module is for viewing profiles. Any number of profiles may be selected. Thumbnails of profiles are displayed on the left of the Viewer screen. Selected profiles will be shown in the chart on the right.

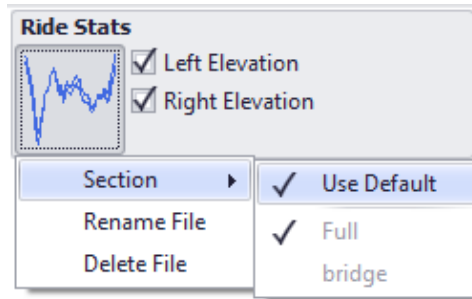
Profile Selection and Display

On the left hand panel of the Viewer screen, all imported files are displayed as thumbnails and available profiles can be selected to be displayed. Files can be added using the “Add Files” icon within the Project category on the toolbar.



Viewing Profile Sections

Clicking a thumbnail with the left mouse button brings up a menu to select which section to view. Choose from the Full profile or a section that has been created in the Editor. See “Sections and Event Markers” in this guide for more details on creating sections and selecting the default.



Profile Rename/Delete/Export

The thumbnail menu also includes actions to manipulate files: **Rename** and **Delete**. Keep in mind that all imported profile data is contained within a single project file. Deleting a file will remove it from the project but will not delete any external files.

File names can be changed by clicking the thumbnail and selecting **Rename Profile**. Profile names can be changed by clicking the existing profile names with the right mouse button or the context menu key and selecting **Rename Profile**.

Show Events

Event markers can be turned on and off using the **Show Events** button on the menu bar. They are displayed as Flags at the top frame of the chart area. Placing the cursor over an event flag displays the event name and distance.

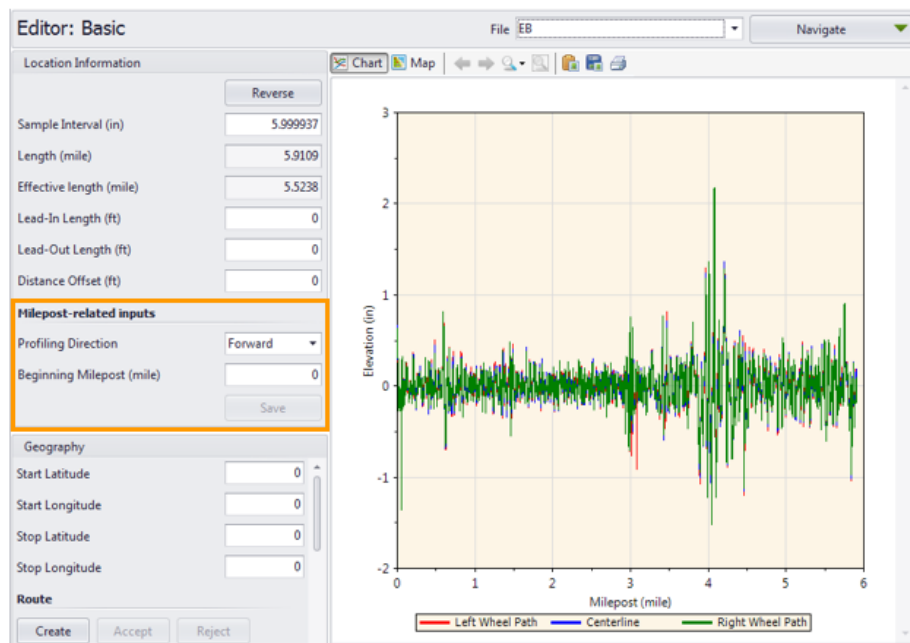


Use Mileposts

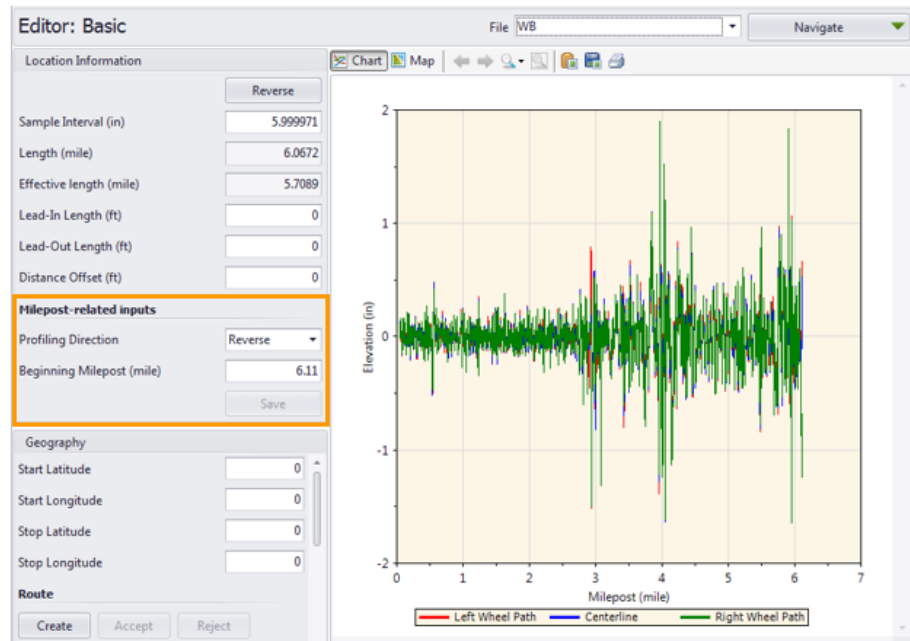
Viewing profiles in milepost fashion can be turned on using the **Use Mileposts** button on the menu bar. Both increasing milepost and decreasing milepost can be displayed properly as long as you defined the Profiling Direction and Beginning Milepost on the Editor screen.



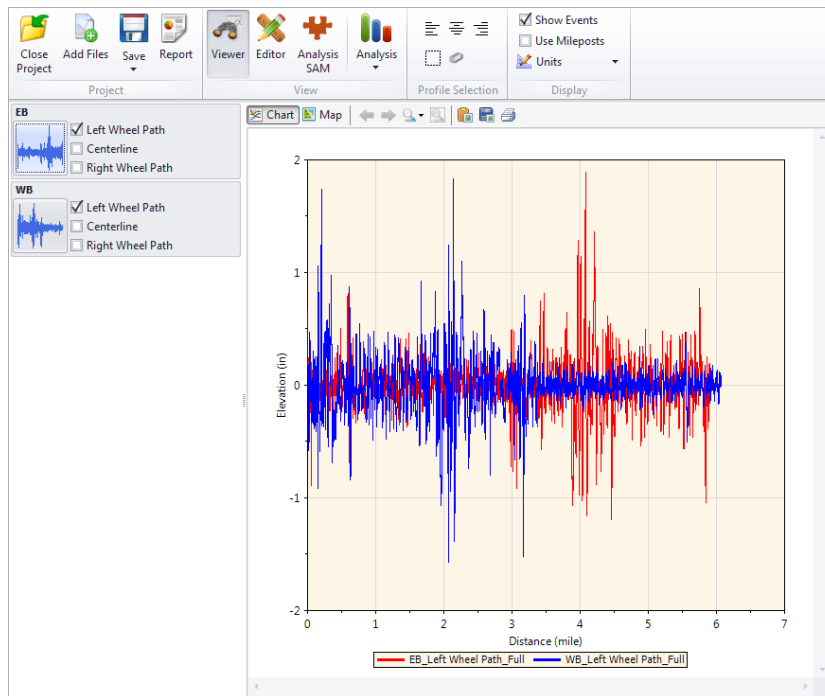
The following is an Editor screen to define an Eastbound profile in the forward direction and its beginning milepost.



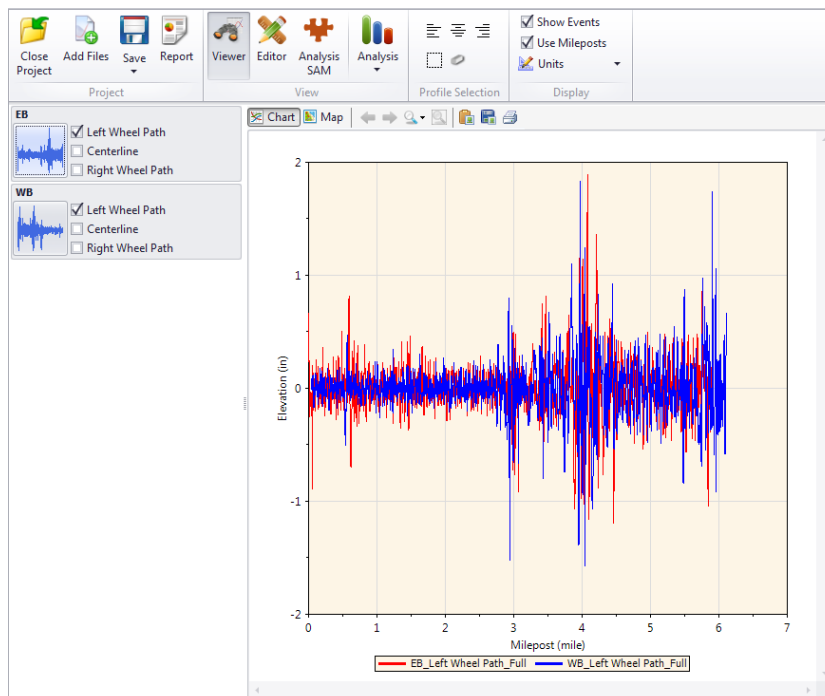
The following is an Editor screen to define a Westbound profile in reverse direction and its beginning milepost.



The following is a Viewer screen for both Eastbound and Westbound profiles with the milepost view turned off.



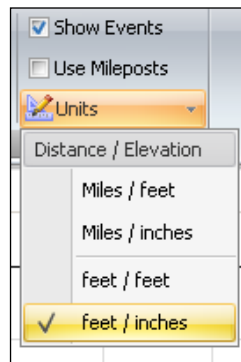
The following is a Viewer screen for both Eastbound and Westbound profiles with milepost view turned on.



Units

The unit system can be specified in the **Options** by checking or un-checking the **Use SI Units** option.

Both the distance and elevation units within the selected unit system (in **Options**) can be selected using the **Units** dropdown button on the toolbar.



Map

Current map options include Road and Aerial. When in the Map view, select the map type under the **Map** dropdown.

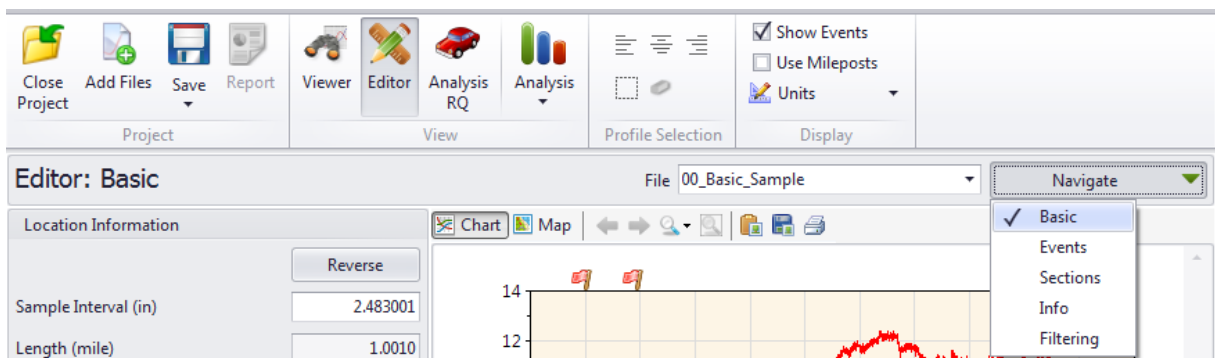
Zoom in and out using the magnifying glass buttons. Alternatively, click or tab to the map and use the mouse wheel or +/- keys.

Select the location to display using the **Locations** dropdown. If not automatically detected, the GPS coordinates of the start and stop locations must be set under Editor/Basic.

Under **Export** maps can be exported to images, KML, or KMZ files.

EDITOR

You can select the file to be edited first, then use the **Navigate** dropdown button to view the **Basic**, **Events**, **Sections**, **Info**, and **Filtering** screens.



Basic

The following profile modifications are allowed in the **Editor/Basic** screen:

Location Information

- ▶ **Reverse:** flips the profile so it is a mirror image of the original
- ▶ **Sample Interval:** distance between stored sampling points
- ▶ **Length:** distance for the entire trace
- ▶ **Effective Length:** distance for the trace, omitting leave-out sections.
- ▶ **Lead-In Length:** lead-in distance to start location
- ▶ **Lead-Out Length:** lead-out distance from the end location
- ▶ **Distance Offset:** offset to the start location (i.e., zero distance reference)

Click **Save** to save changes to the location information.

Editor: Basic

Location Information

Reverse

Sample Interval (in)2.483001

Length (mile)1.0010

Effective length (mile)0.9063

Lead-In Length (ft)300

Lead-Out Length (ft)300

Distance Offset (ft)0

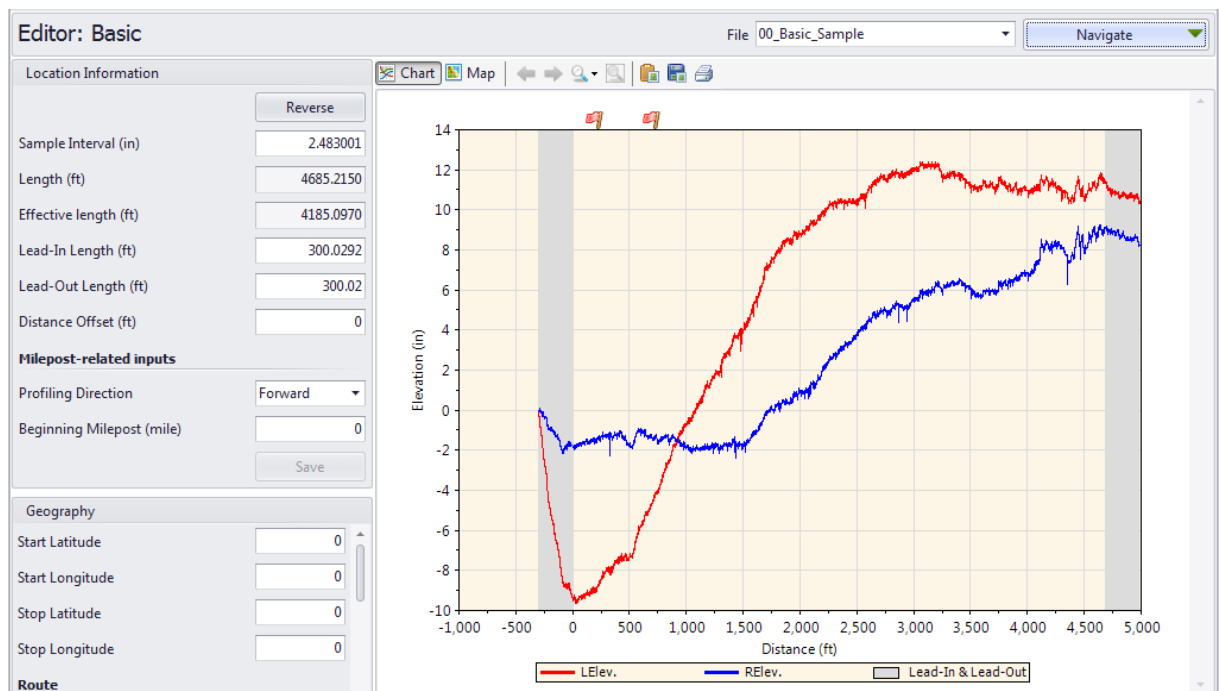
Milepost-related inputs

Profiling DirectionForward

Beginning Milepost (mile)0

Save

Shaded areas will indicate the lead-in and lead-out portions of the profile if assigned as non-zero values.

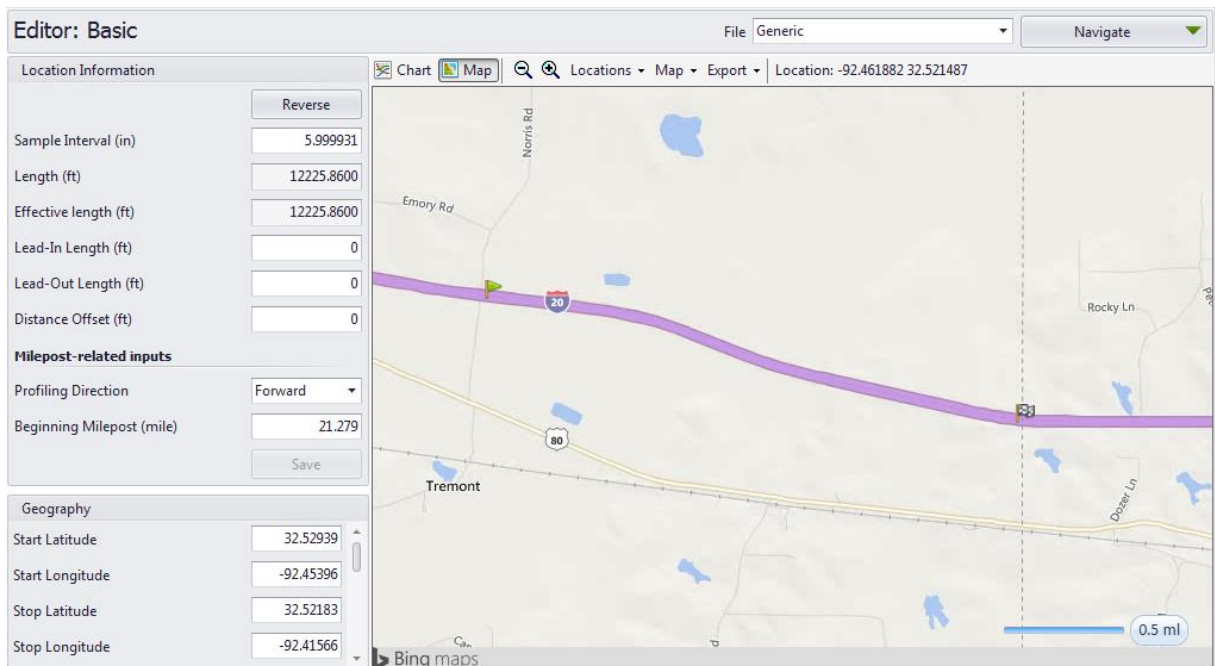


Geography

If a file includes coordinates, the software attempts to find the start and stop coordinates. Because coordinates are not always recorded for each data, it is important to verify the discovered information is correct. If a file does not include coordinates, the user must manually set the locations. ProVAL then attempts to synchronize the profile with a road route. The route and coordinates should not be considered absolute, but are a guide to supplement distance locations.

- ▶ **Start Latitude:** GPS latitude coordinate of the start location in decimal degrees
- ▶ **Start Longitude:** GPS longitude coordinate of the start location in decimal degrees
- ▶ **Stop Latitude:** GPS latitude coordinate of the stop location in decimal degrees
- ▶ **Stop Longitude:** GPS longitude coordinate of the stop location in decimal degrees

Start and stop locations are marked with flags on the map in the Editor. It is also possible to set start and stop locations by right-clicking a location on the map in the Editor. From the dropdown menu select **Set start location** or **Set stop location**.



Route

Once GPS information is entered, click **Create** to create the route. An internet connection is required to see a map and create a route. View the preview in the lower left window. Choose to **Accept** or **Reject** the route. If accepted, you may be prompted to update events that currently have coordinates.

Geography

Start Latitude

32.52939

Start Longitude

-92.45396

Stop Latitude

32.52183

Stop Longitude

-92.41566

Route

Create

Accept

Reject

Once accepted, the route is shown on the map in the Editor.

Editor: Basic

File Generic

Navigate

Location Information

Reverse

Sample Interval (in)

5.999931

Length (ft)

12225.8600

Effective length (ft)

12225.8600

Lead-In Length (ft)

0

Lead-Out Length (ft)

0

Distance Offset (ft)

0

Milepost-related inputs

Profiling Direction

Forward

Beginning Milepost (mile)

21.279

Save

Geography

Start Latitude

32.52939

Start Longitude

-92.45396

Stop Latitude

32.52183

Stop Longitude

-92.41566

Route

Create

Accept

Reject

Chart

Map

Locations

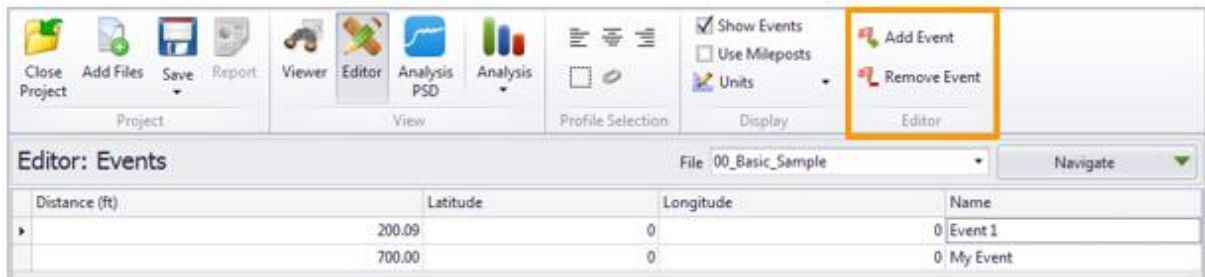
Map

Export

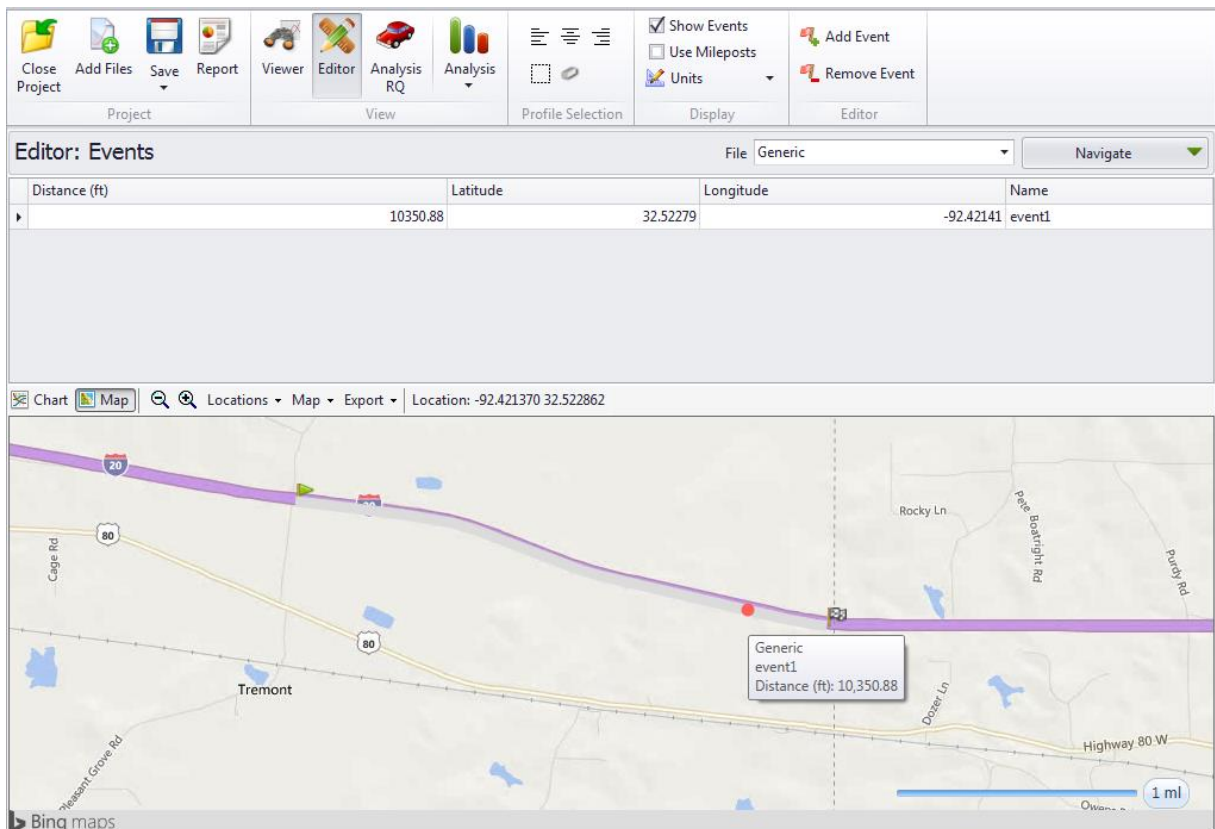
Location: -92.460079 32.501076

Events

When switching to the **Editor/Events** window, the **Editor** button group would be activated in the toolbar to add and remove Event Markers:



Add or remove events using the toolbar, by right clicking the table, or by right clicking the map in Editor: Events. Events display on the map as red dots. Hover over the location to display information. Right click the location to remove that event.

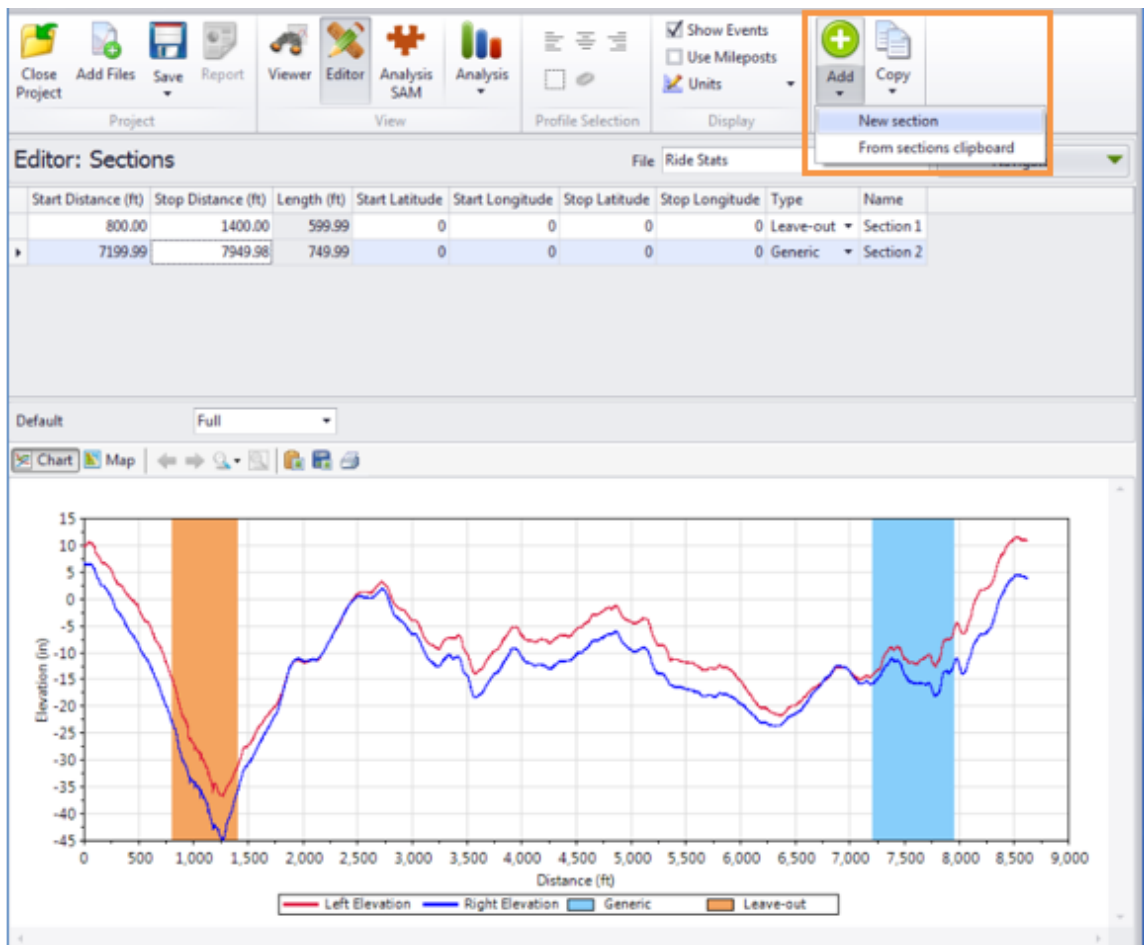


Import of Event Markers: Currently, event markers in the ProVAL (ppf), TxDOT (pro), Dynatest (rsp) and Ames (ldf, adf) profile data files can be imported.

Sections

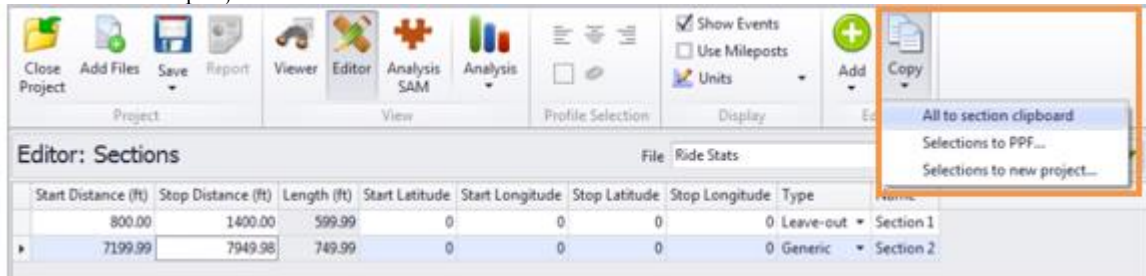
When switching to the **Editor/Sections** window, the **Editor** button group would be activated in the toolbar.

- Add a Section. A section can be added by clicking the **Add** speed button and select **New Section** or **From Section Clipboard** (if previously Copy all to section clipboard). As new sections are added, they will sort automatically by start distance. The types of sections include Generic and Leave-out. The default section for analyses is defined as the Full (or entire profile trace) section but can be changed using the Default Section dropdown.



After adding a section, enter the section name, start distance, and stop distance. Set the type to Generic or Leave-out. Optionally enter the GPS coordinates.

- Copy all Section definitions to clipboard: Click the **Copy** button and select **All to section clipboard**. The definition of sections will then be available to be reused for other profiles in the same project.



- Export data in the selected Sections. While the row of the desired section is selected, click the **Copy** button and select **Selections to PPF** or **Selections to new project**. For a PPF, browse to the target folder for the file. For a new project, select the target folder and enter the desired name.

Sections can also be managed on maps by right-clicking the table or the map. Right click a location on the map to set it as the start or stop position for the section selected in the table. If a route is defined, the full route is white on the map, generic sections are blue, and leave-out sections are orange.



Leave-out sections are automatically excluded in the Automated Fault Measurement (AFM), Ride Quality, and Smoothness Assurance Modules (SAM) analyses and reports.

Information

The following modifications are allowed in the **Editor/Information**:

The screenshot shows the 'Editor: Information' window. At the top, there is a 'File' dropdown set to '00_Basic_Sample' and a 'Navigate' button. The main area is divided into several sections:

- Properties:** A list of settings with dropdown menus: Speed Unit (kph), Temperature Unit (°C), Pavement Surface Type (Undefined), Climatic Conditions (Undefined), and Profiler Type (Undefined).
- Sensor Locations:** A section with three dropdowns: Left (LElev.), Center ((None)), and Right (RElev.).
- Comments:** A text area with a 'Save Comments' button below it.
- Tags Table:** A table with columns 'Tag', 'Name', 'Unit', and 'Value'.

Tag	Name	Unit	Value
271	Agency District Name		
272	Agency District Number		56
291	Ambient Temperature	°C	0.0
283	Begin Station		
301	Country Name		
273	County Name		
274	County Number		0
- History:** A list of recent changes with timestamps and descriptions, such as 'Friday, August 17, 2012, 1:29:15 PM - Event Location for My Event set to 1,000.03 Distance (ft)'.

- Change values or units of non-optional properties or tags. Tags are metadata or “data about data”.
- Designate sensor locations.

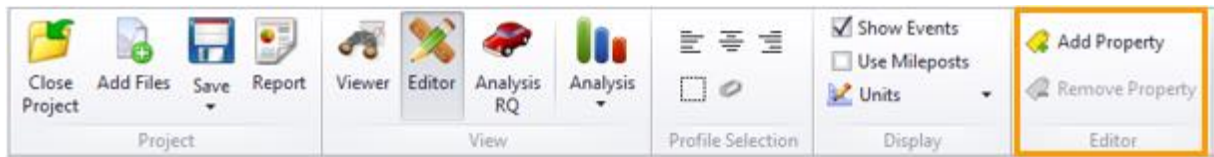


Often the imported profile data (e.g. ERD) may not identify channels (i.e., left or right channel correctly). These errors may be caused by incorrect channel labels in the original profile data. Users would need to correct that using the Editor/Info facility. Without the correct channel designation, many analyses cannot be run properly (e.g. Profiler Certification).

- Add and edit comments (users need to click the **Save Comments** button to save the changes).
- View (profile editing) History. History includes all changes made to the profile data and properties.
- Add, remove, and change values or units of user-defined properties.

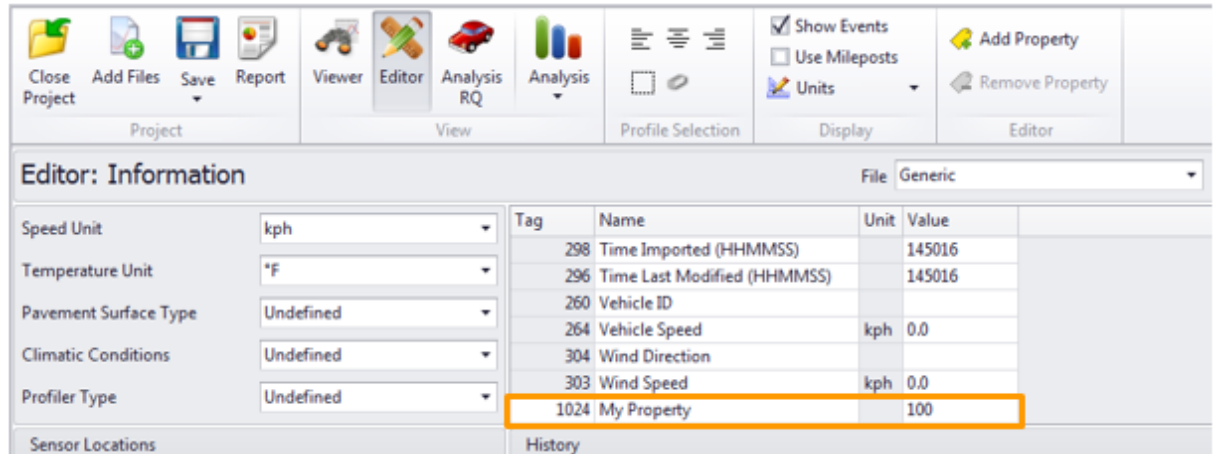
You can use the following steps to add a user-defined property in the Editor/Information screen:

- **Step 1.** Select the Add Property icon from the toolbar.

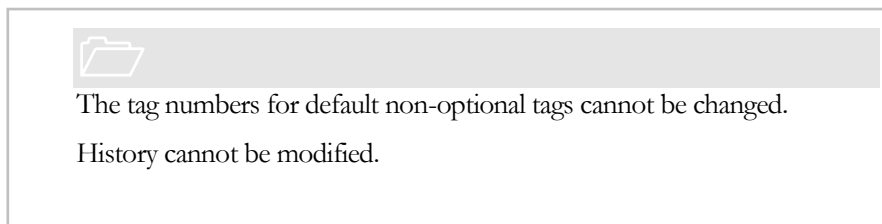


► **Step 2.** Enter the tag number (between 1024 and 2047) in a pop-up dialog box.

► **Step 3.** Enter the name and value for this tag number.



Removing a user-defined property is easy. Simply select the tag to be removed and click the Remove Property button from the toolbar:



Filtering

The following modifications are allowed in the **Editor/Filtering**:

- Apply filtering.
- Save filtered file. Default file names will be used, with the current name used as the base name.

Different wavelength filters can be specified. The following filter types are available:

- Butterworth Band-pass
- Butterworth Low-pass

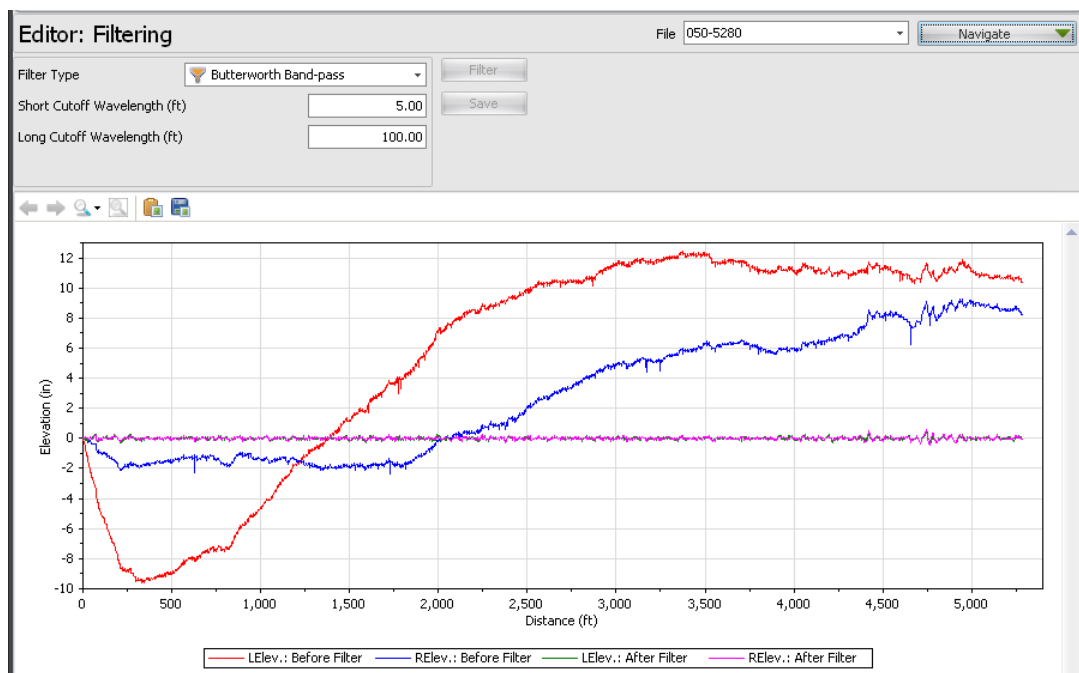
- ▶ Butterworth High-pass
- ▶ IRI
- ▶ Moving average Band-pass
- ▶ Moving average Low-pass
- ▶ Moving average High-pass

The Butterworth filter set is effectively a 6th order Butterworth filter. It is implemented by cascading a first-order and second-order Butterworth filters in the forward direction, then repeating in the backward direction. The performance of this filter was validated with numerous profile data including those from the FHWA 2004 Profiler Roundup.

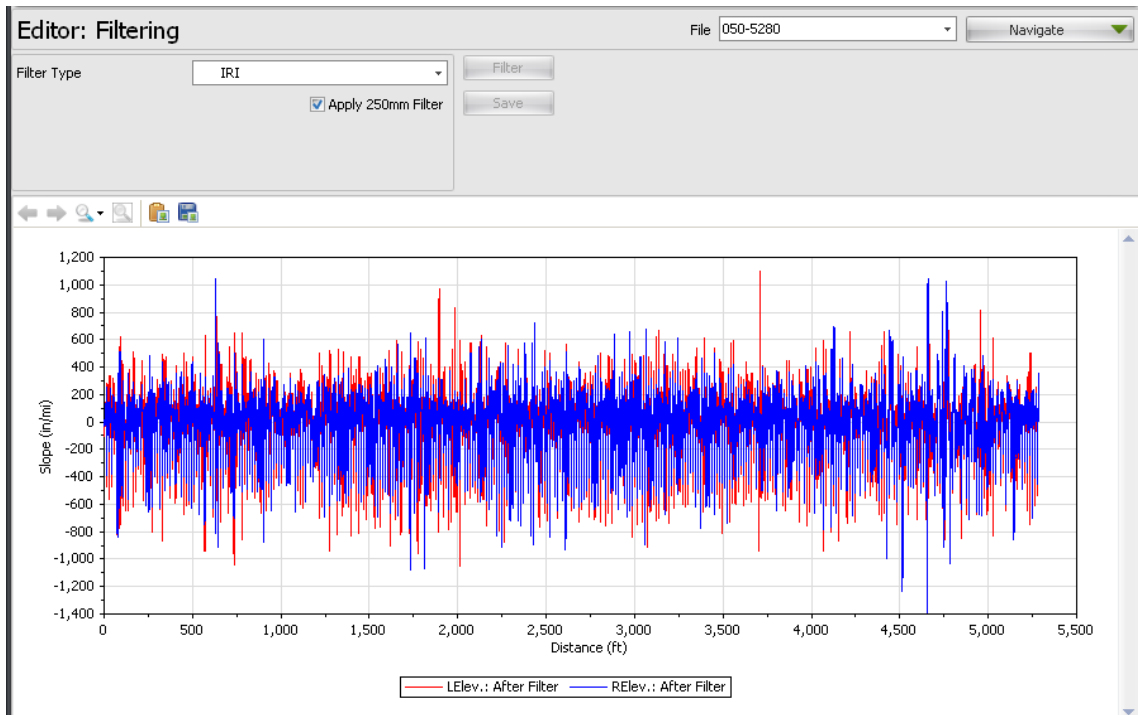
The moving average filter is based on standard two-way moving average algorithm.

The IRI filter is a quarter-car filter with the golden car parameters in the ASTM IRI standard. The output of the IRI filter, unlike others, is in profile slope.

After filtering (except IRI), both the original profile and filtered profile will be displayed on the same chart.



After IRI filtering, only filtered profile “slope” will be displayed on the chart.



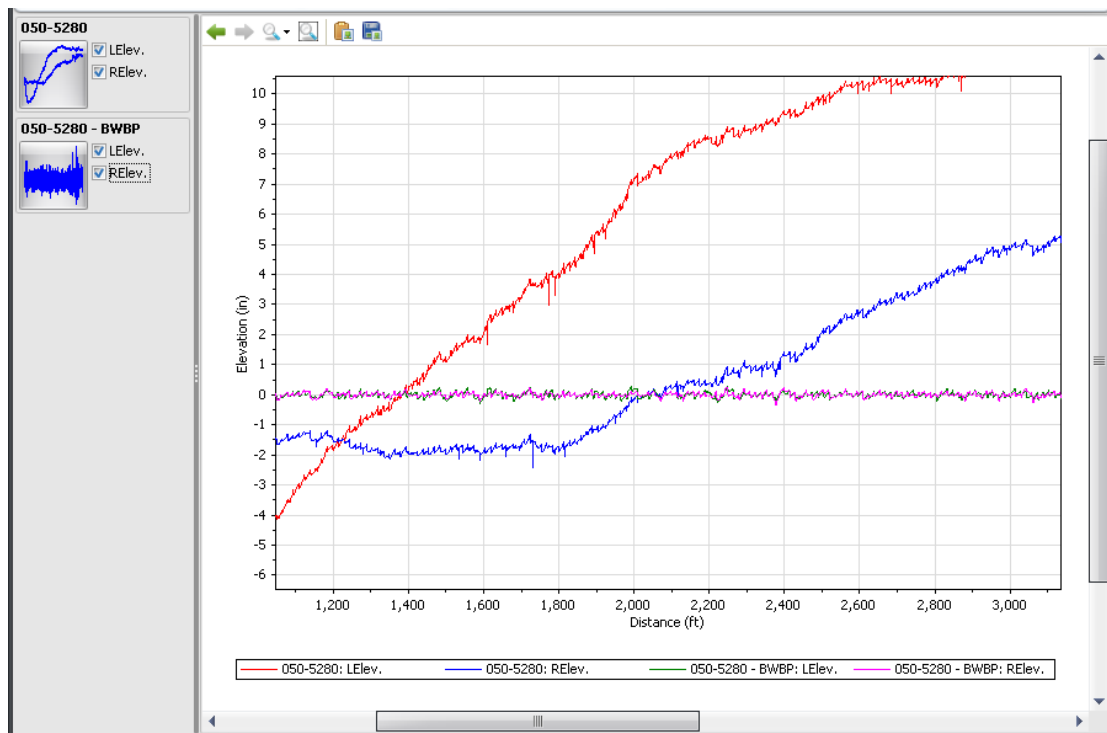
Except for IRI filtered slopes, you can save the filtered profile by clicking the Save button below the Filter button. The filtered profiles will then be stored in the project file with a default filename. The default filtered filenames are original file name - tag name. Tag names are added depending on the filter type as follows:

- ▶ Butterworth Band-pass - BWBP
- ▶ Butterworth Low-pass - BWLP
- ▶ Butterworth High-pass - BWHP
- ▶ Moving Average Band-pass - MABP
- ▶ Moving Average Low-pass - MALP
- ▶ Moving Average High-pass – MAHP



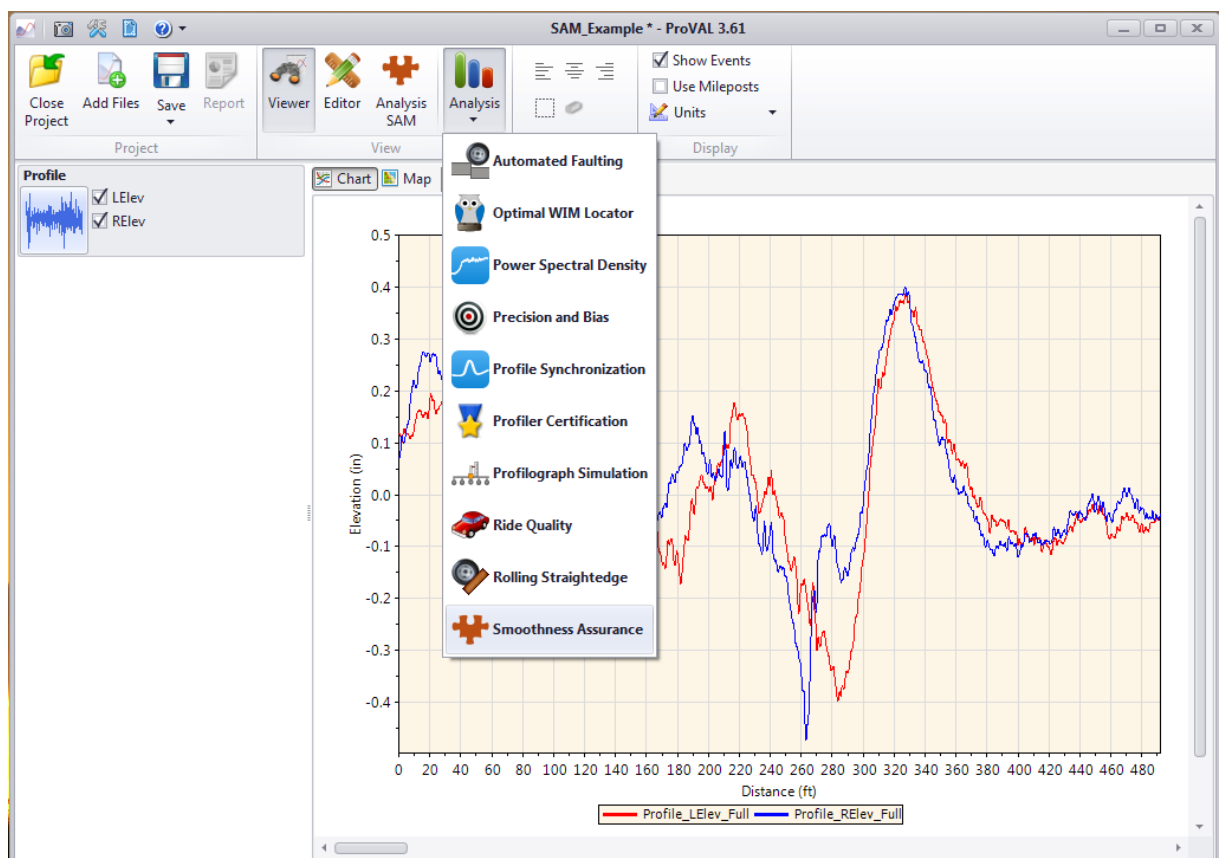
IRI-filtered slope results can not be saved since they are “slope” values instead of profile elevations.

You can then switch to the **Viewer** window for further comparisons.



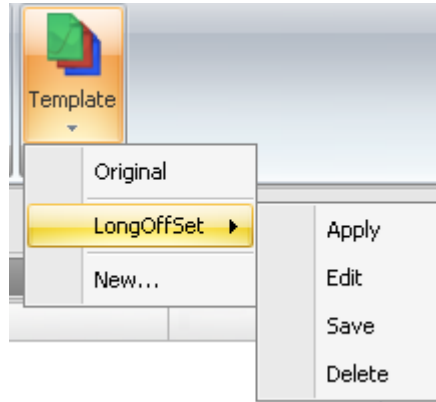
ANALYSES

An analysis can be selected by using the Analysis button on the menu bar. The icon of the currently selected analysis is displayed next to the Analysis button on the left.



Templates

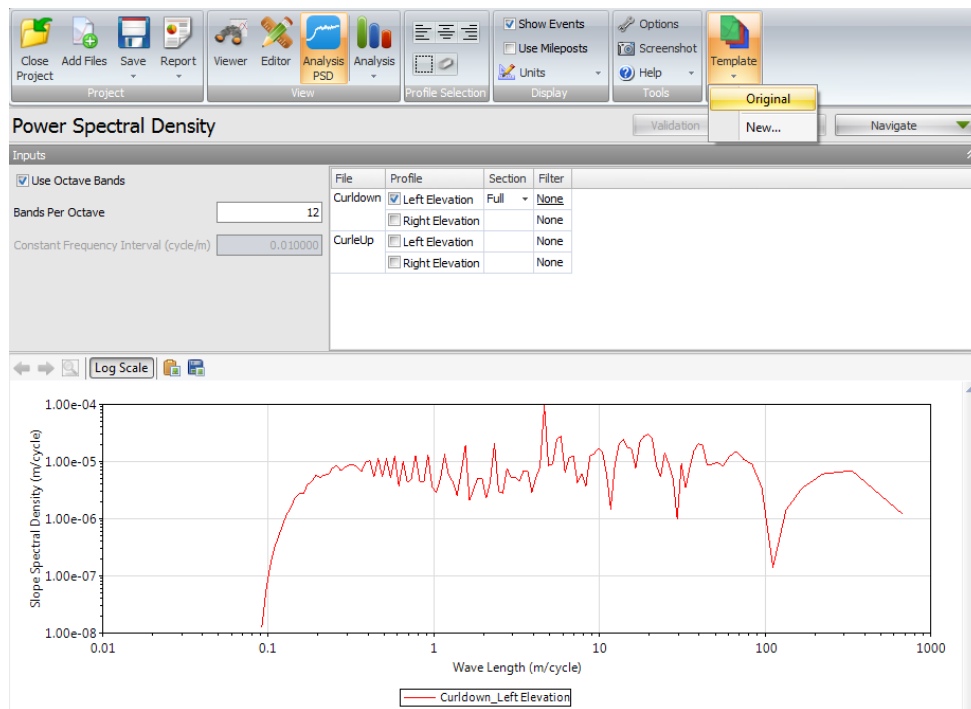
A template defines a set of input values for an analysis. A default template is provided for each analysis. You can create new templates and set which template is to be the default.



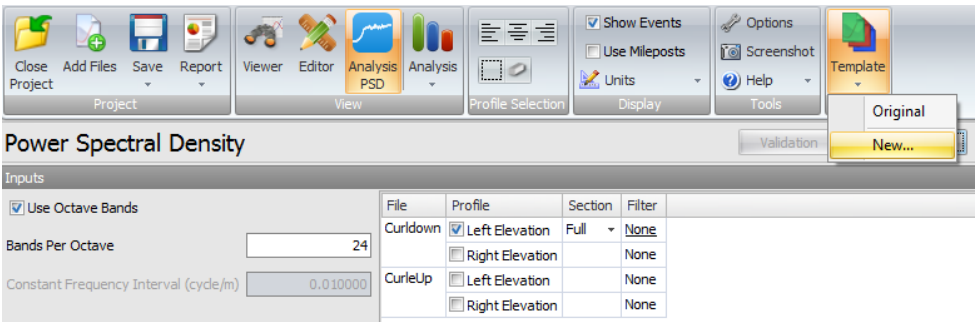
Templates can be imported, exported, renamed, and deleted using the Template dropdown button on the menu bar.

The Analysis Template function can be illustrated in an example below.

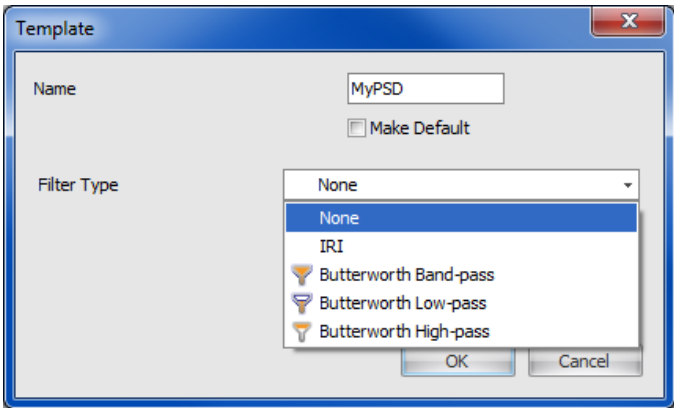
Step 1. Use the Original (program default) analysis template



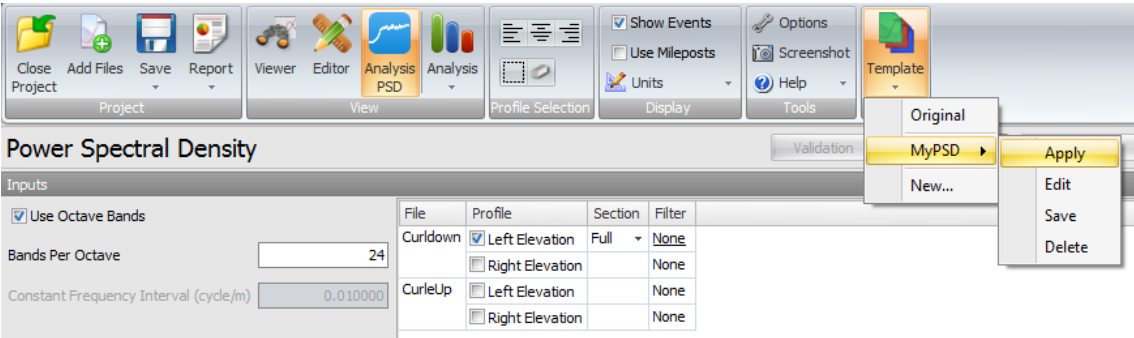
Step 2. Now, change the “bands per octave” from the default value, 12, to a new value, 24. Then, click the Template button in the toolbar and select “New” to save the current inputs to an analysis template:



Step 3. Then, supply a name for the new template as well as selecting other input settings. Because wavelength filters can often be set on a per-profile or per-file basis, the template filter must be specified here.



Step 4. You can then select either the Original (to the default settings) or use the template menu to Apply, Edit, Save, or Delete a previously created template.



Step 5. After selecting a desired template, simply click the Analyze button to run the analysis based on the current input settings.

Automated Faulting Measurements (AFM)

The Automated Faulting analysis identifies joints and reports faults in jointed concrete pavement. Faulting is calculated based on the AASHTO R36-12 “Standard Practice for Evaluating Faulting of Concrete Pavements”.

Profile Selection

At least one profile data must be selected. Each profile data must consist of profiles from the right and left wheel tracks.

Automated Faulting: Inputs

Nominal Joint Spacing (m): 4.88
 Segment Length (m): 160.93
 Joint Window (mm): 51.00
 Joint Detection Method: Step
☐ Use Skewed Joints
☐ Include Cracks

File	Profiles	Section
<input type="checkbox"/> 01_US49_jnt18	Left + Right	
<input type="checkbox"/> 02_US61_jnt63	Left + Right	
<input type="checkbox"/> 03_US82_jnt16	Left + Right	
<input type="checkbox"/> 04_US78_jnt19	Left + Right	
<input type="checkbox"/> 05_US51_jnt31	Left + Right	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 06_I 55_jnt16	Left + Right	Full

Inputs

Input Templates are available for this analysis. Changing the selected profiles will not affect the template. However, the template will set the joint and segment inputs, which affect joint and crack detection. The inputs include:

- ▶ Joint Spacing – nominal joint spacing
- ▶ Segment Length – segment or lot length for summary reports
- ▶ Joint Window – tolerance for exact joint locations
- ▶ Joint Detection Method – method used to identify joint locations
- ▶ Use Skewed Joints – whether skewed joints present
- ▶ Include Cracks – whether to include cracks in the report

Automated Faulting: Inputs

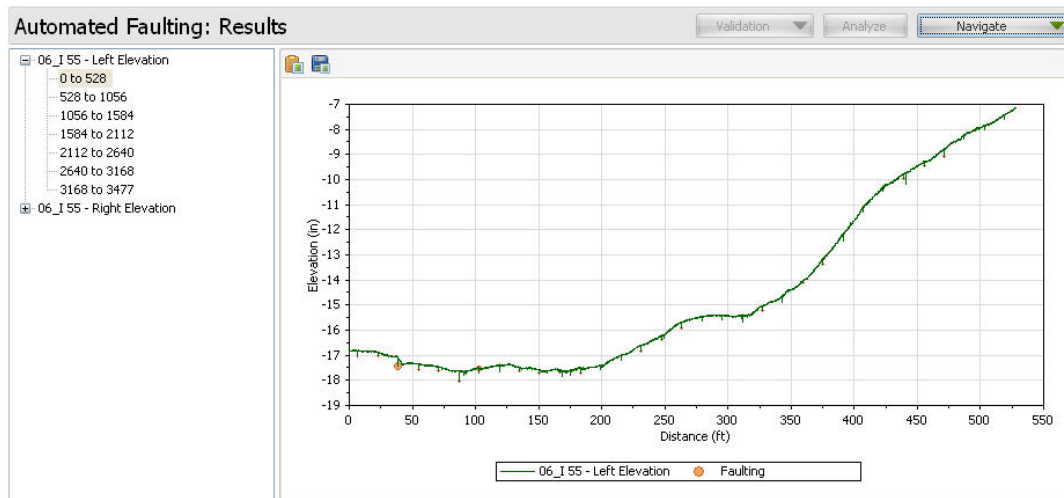
Joint Spacing (ft)	<input type="text" value="16.00"/>
Segment Length (ft)	<input type="text" value="528."/>
Joint Window (in)	<input type="text" value="2.00"/>
Joint Detection Method	<div> Step Downward Spike Step Curled-edge </div>
<input type="checkbox"/> Use Skewed Joints	
<input type="checkbox"/> Include Cracks	

Available techniques for joint identification are:

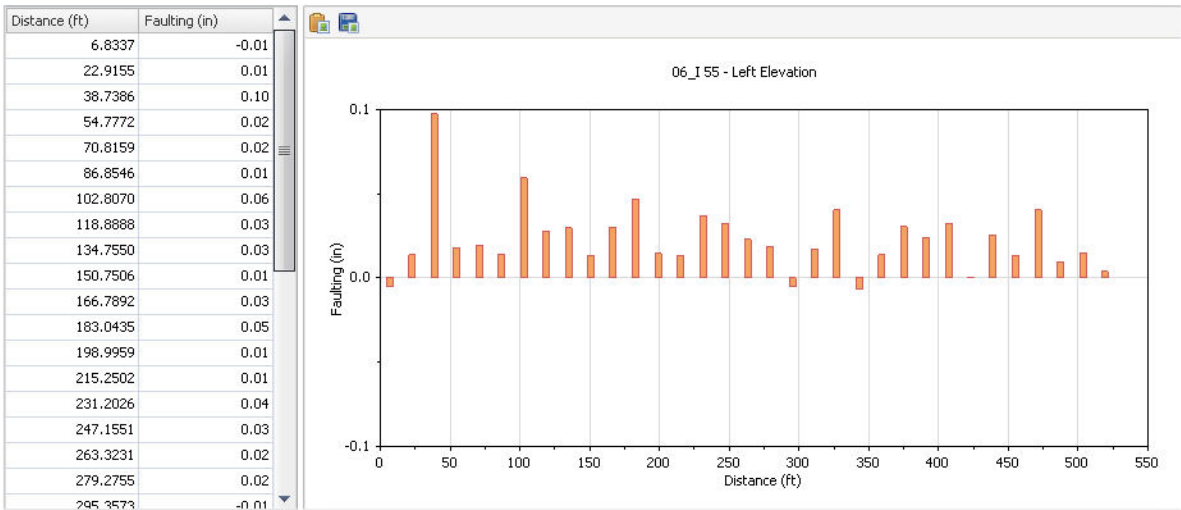
- ▶ Downward Spike
- ▶ Step
- ▶ Curled-edge

Outputs

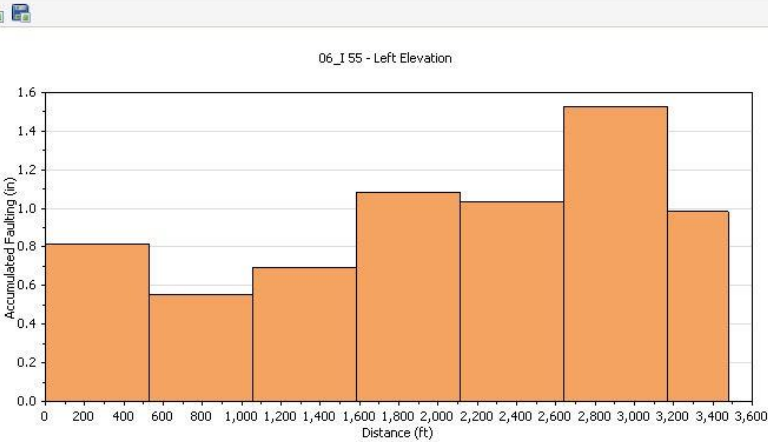
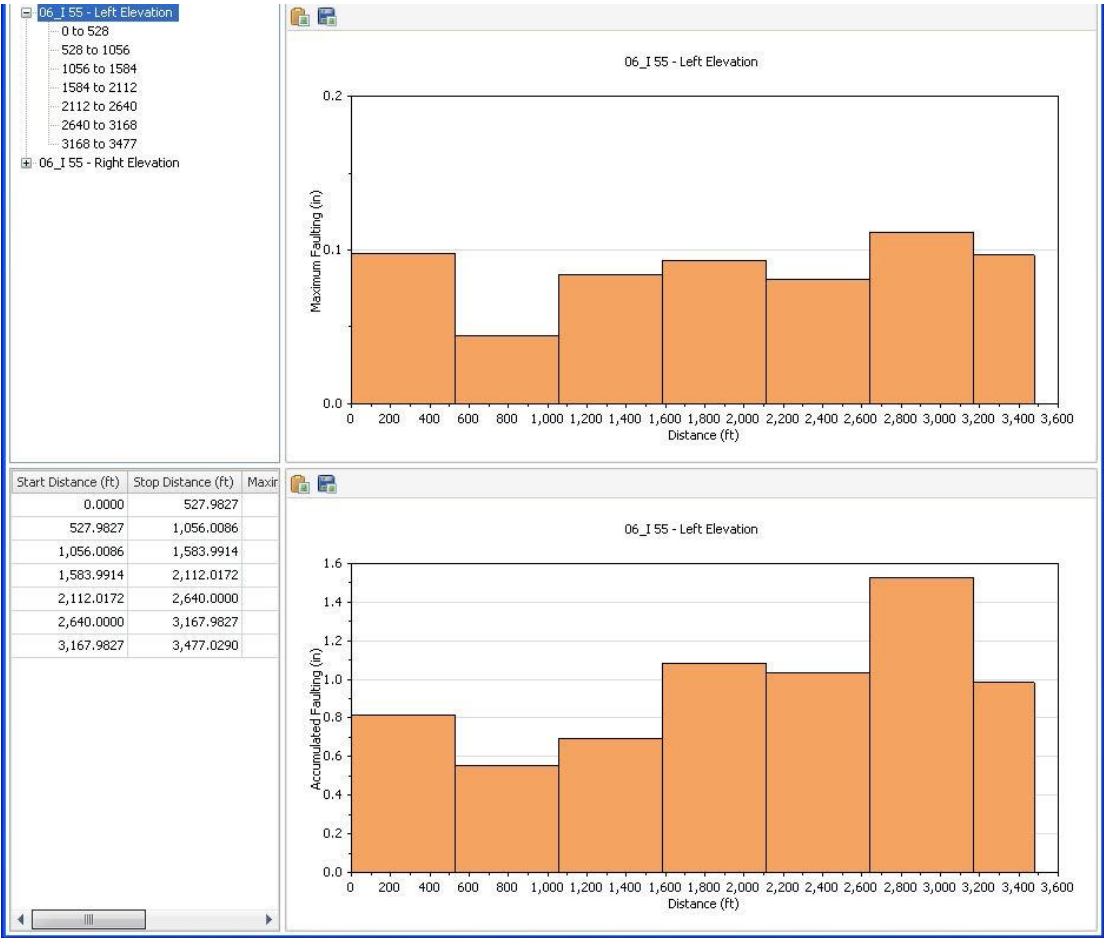
After analysis, results are displayed for each segment. On the left, choose which segment to view. The top chart plots elevation versus distance. Faults are marked with points proportional to the magnitude.



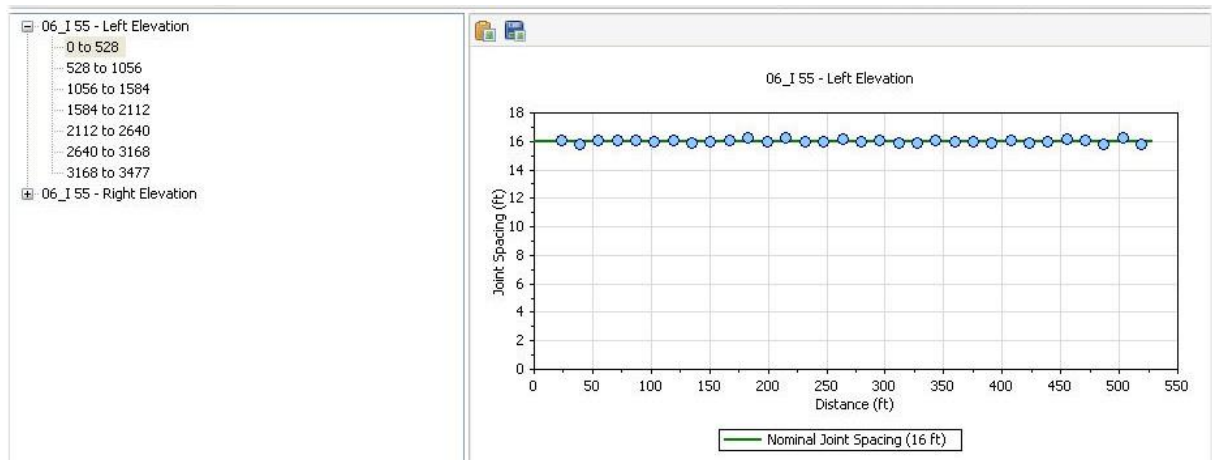
The lower chart shows the location and height of each fault.



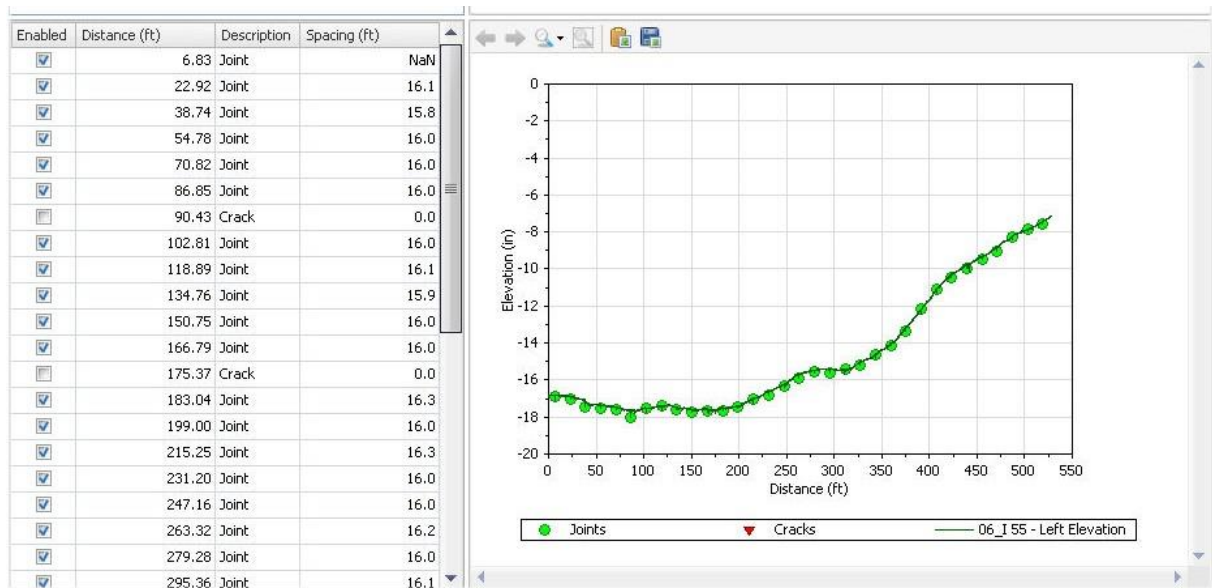
Select the top-level profile to show the maximum faulting and accumulated faulting for each segment.



Use the Navigate button to switch to the Joint Locations view. The top chart shows joint spacing in comparison to the nominal joint spacing specified in the inputs.



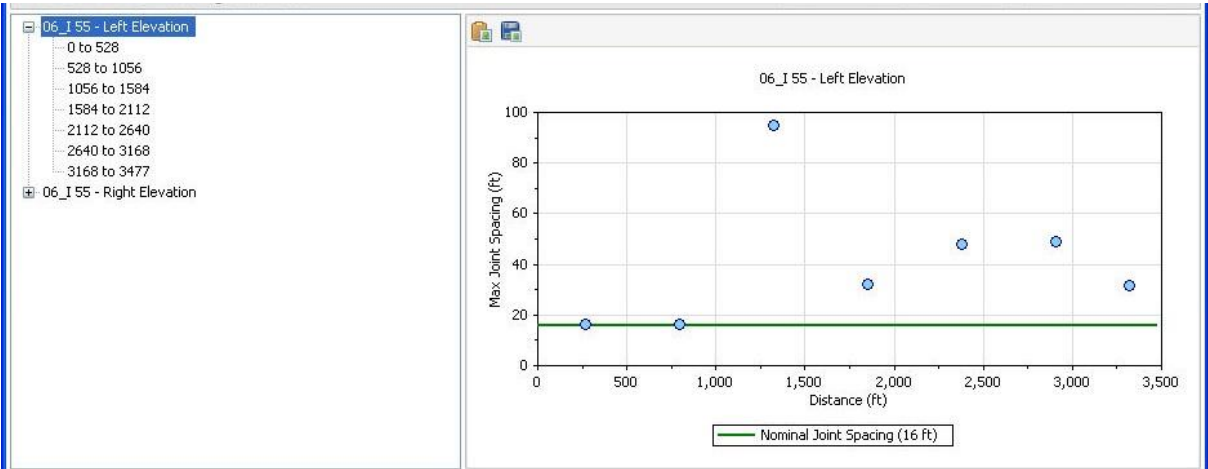
The lower chart marks joints and cracks on the elevation plot.



In the lower-left panel enable, disable, or reclassify joints and cracks.

Enabled	Distance (ft)	Description	Spacing (ft)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6.83	Joint	NaN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	22.92	Joint	16.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	38.74	Joint	15.8
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	54.78	Joint	16.0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	70.82	Joint	16.0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	86.85	Joint	16.0
<input type="checkbox"/>	90.43	Crack	0.0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	102.81	Joint	16.0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	118.89	Crack	16.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	134.76	Joint	15.9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	150.75	Joint	16.0
<input type="checkbox"/>	166.70	Joint	16.0

Select the top-level profile to show the maximum joint spacing for each segment. It is useful to identify missing joints for given segments.



Use the Add Joint button to add missing joints if necessary. Users need to click the Analyze button to refresh the fault results if any changes to the joints results occur.

ProVAL AFM will disable any joints and faults that fall within any exclusions defined in the Editor/Sections.

Automated Profile Synchronization (APS)

The Automated Profile Synchronization (APS) is a tool to synchronize profiles using the cross-correlation technique.

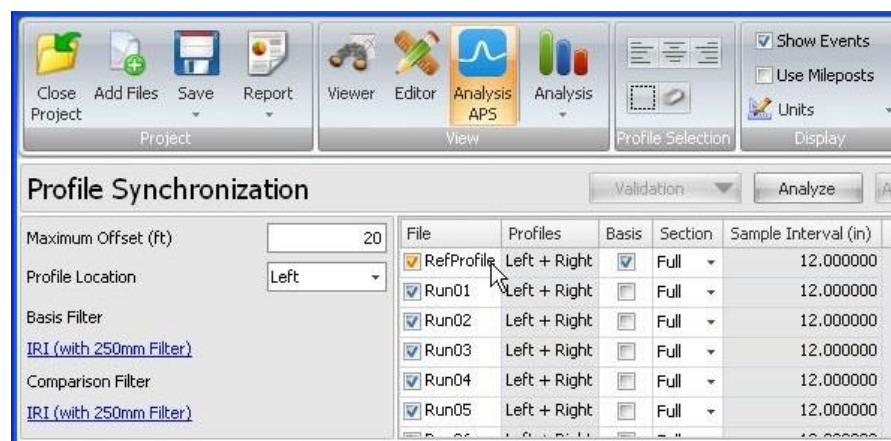
The Cross-correlation (CC) is a statistical metric to measure correlation between two random signals. A CC value of 100% (or 1.0) indicates the signal pairs are perfectly correlated; 0, no correlation; and -100% (or -1.0), perfect, but “negatively” correlated. This technique has been proven to be successful to compare pavement profiles for repeatability tests and accuracy tests.

When CC is applied to pavement profile comparison, the process would require additional, special treatments (or conditioning) of raw pavement profiles. The “conditioning” includes: same filtering history for both basis and comparison profiles, interpolate comparison profile to the recording interval of the basis profile (only when the recording intervals are different). “Conversion to slope”, as a part of the conditioning, is recommended for comparison of large wave bands to make sure the influence of the long wavelength content does not eclipse the influence of the shorter wavelength content. Once the CC rating for comparison pair is obtained based on the standard CC formula, the value is scaled to consider the ratio of variance of each conditioned profile. This last process is to compensate the CC error when two profiles have exactly the same shape but very different amplitude. The analysis is fully compliant with the AASHTO standard, R56, “Standard Practice for Certification of Inertial Profiling Systems.”

The ProVAL Profile Synchronization analysis uses two or more profiles of the same section that have been measured at approximately the same time (usually subsequent runs). The starting points of the data in the measured profiles do not always match. To correct for this, the Profile Synchronization can be used to determine the proper offset of the comparison profile(s) to match the starting point of the basis profile. Since any two measured profiles are not exact copies of each other, the software must utilize statistical techniques to determine the optimum offset.

Profile Selection

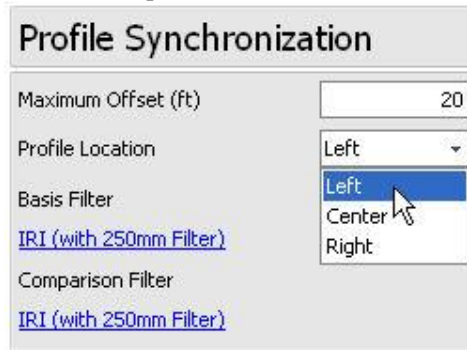
At least two profiles must be selected, each in a different file. One profile must be designated as the “basis” while the others are considered as “comparison”. For informational purposes, the sampling interval is shown for each file.



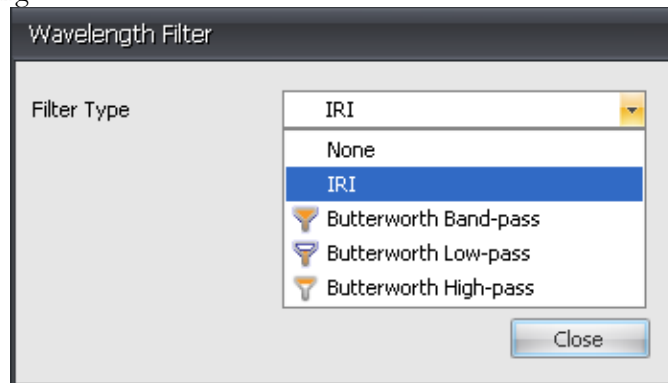
Inputs

Input Templates are available for this analysis. The template sets the wavelength filter for each profile but changing the selected profiles would not affect the template.

- ▶ Maximum offset is the range of horizontal offset within the CC sweep analysis. While the basis profile is fixed, the comparison profile would be shifted to the left or to the right side of the basis profile at any possible sample interval increments (i.e., offsets).
- ▶ Profile Location is the channel of profiles to be used for the cross-correlation analysis.



- ▶ A different wavelength filter setting can be specified for the Basis profile and the Comparison profile(s) by clicking the hyperlinks. A Wavelength Filter dialog box would pop up for user defined setting.



The following filters are available:

- ▶ None
- ▶ IRI
- ▶ Butterworth Band-pass
- ▶ Butterworth Low-pass
- ▶ Butterworth High-pass



The cross-correlation module will automatically pre-process/condition the entire profile traces, crop the profile between the lead-in and lead-out (i.e., the Full section), and perform interpolation (if sampling intervals are different between the basis and comparison profile) prior to computation of coefficient of cross correlation. This process complies with the US AASHTO R56 specification.

Users need to input lead-in/lead-out distances, left/right channels for each profile on the Editor/Basic screen, if they are not defined.

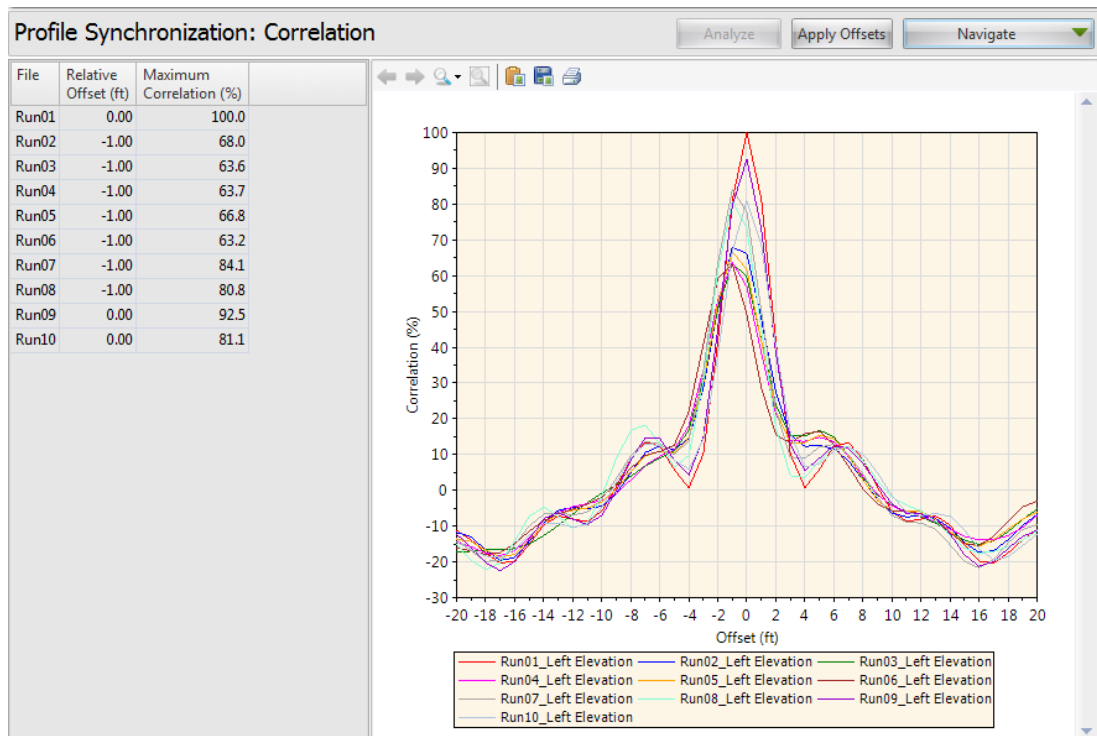
Outputs

The outputs of Profile Synchronization include a table of relative offsets and maximum correlation with the basis profile.

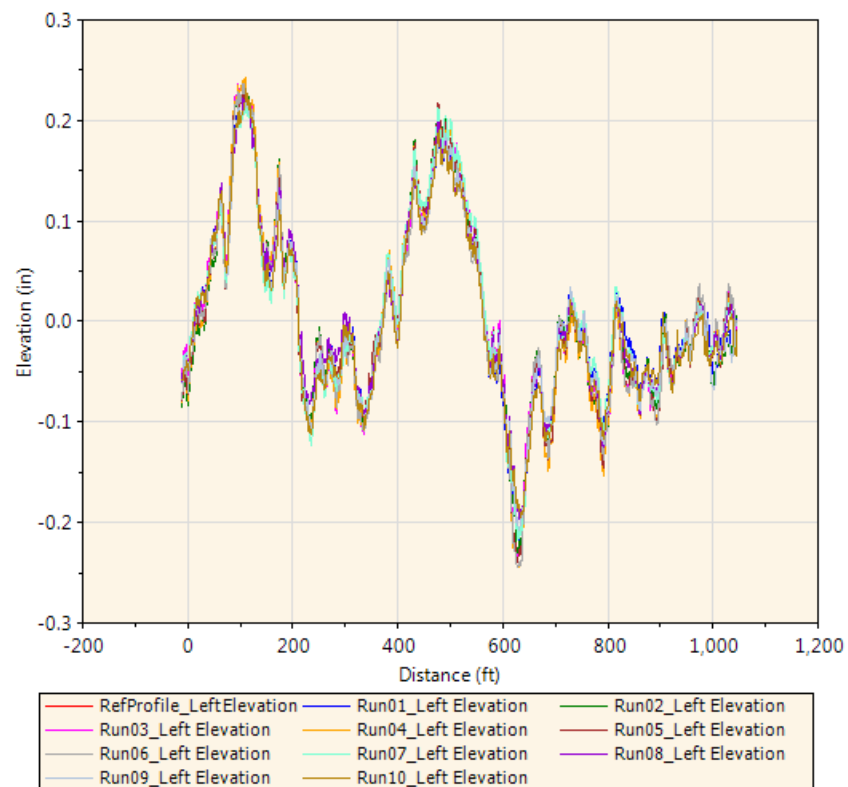
File	Relative Offset (ft)	Maximum Correlation (%)
Run01	0.00	100.0
Run02	-1.00	68.0
Run03	-1.00	63.6
Run04	-1.00	63.7
Run05	-1.00	66.8
Run06	-1.00	63.2
Run07	-1.00	84.1
Run08	-1.00	80.8
Run09	0.00	92.5
Run10	0.00	81.1

The Navigate button can be used to switch among different output charts, which include:

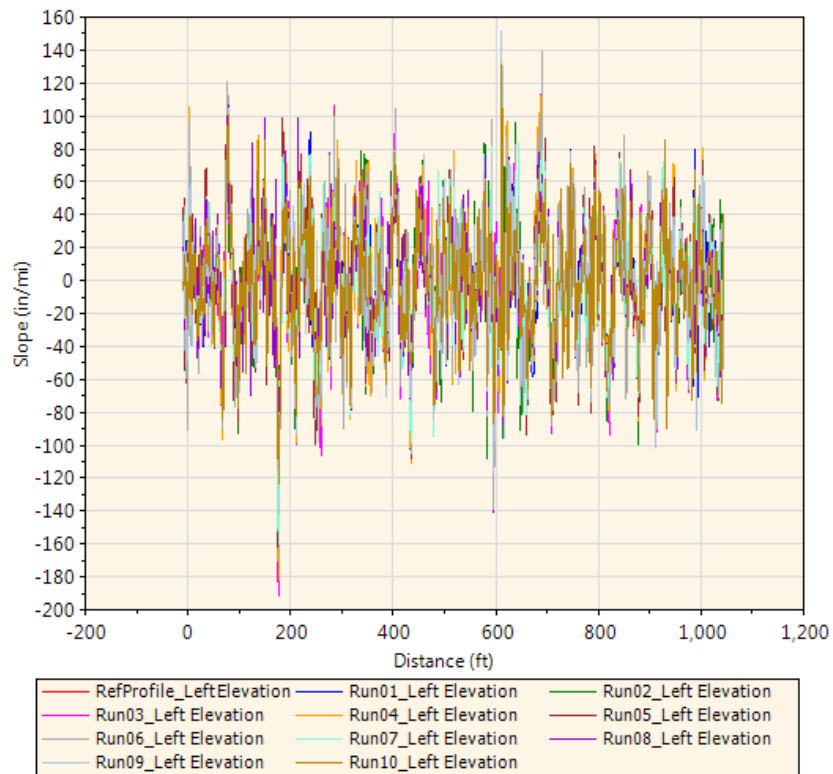
- Correlation Chart or Correlogram - Correlation coefficient values at all tested offsets.



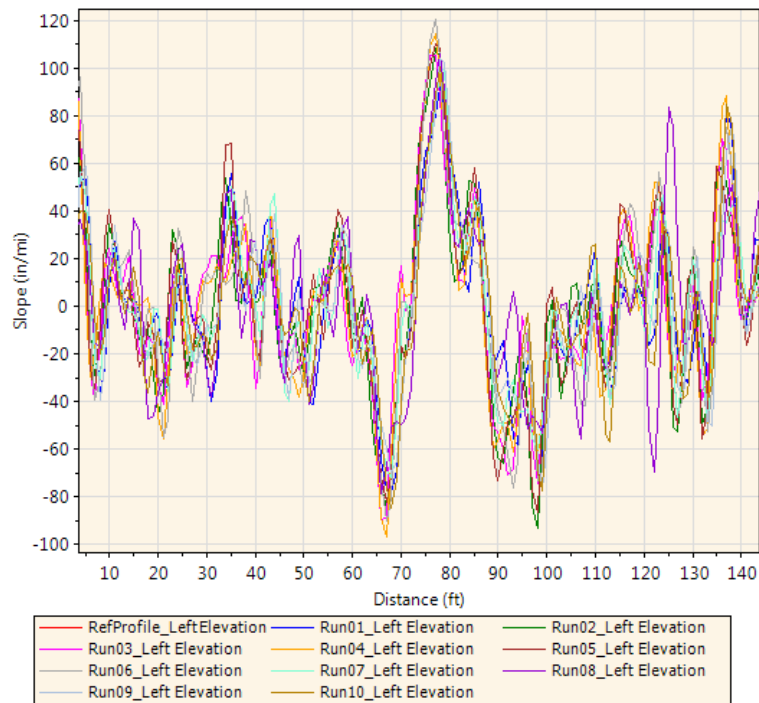
- Shifted Profiles Chart (Elevation) - Basis profile compared with the shifted comparison profile.



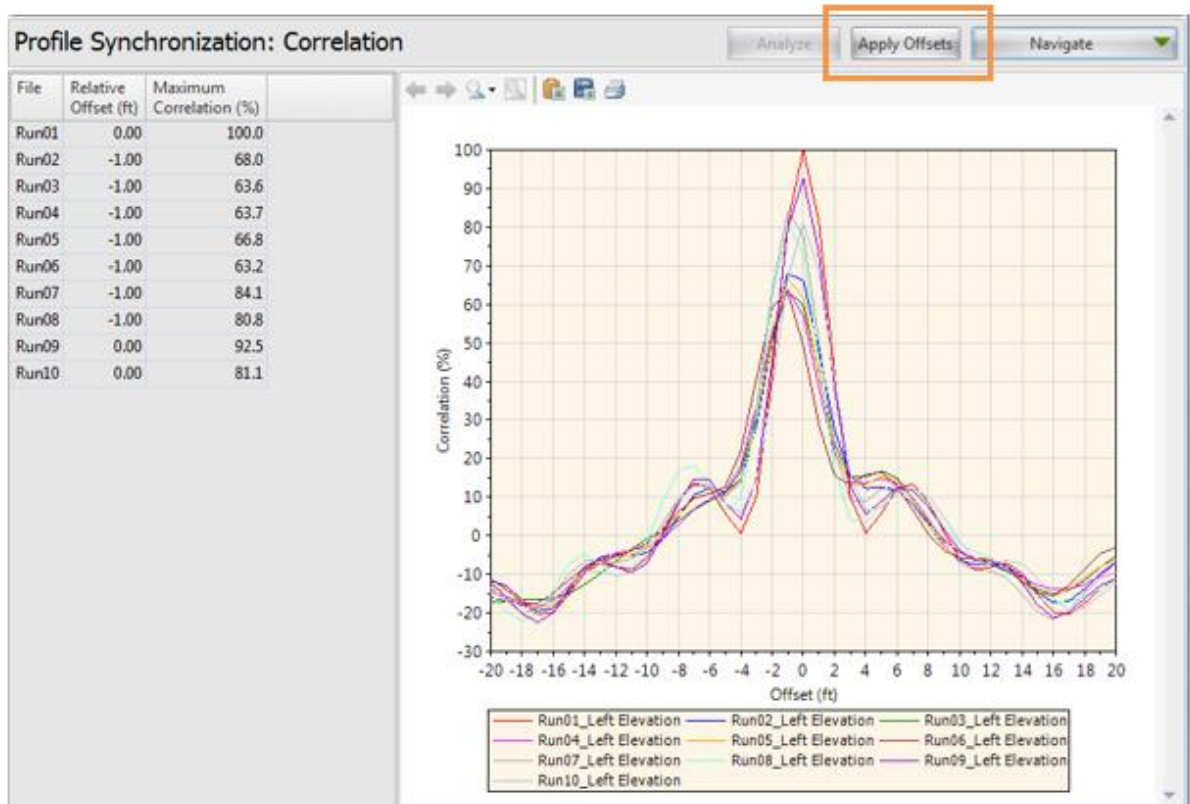
- Shifted Filtered Profiles Chart (Slope) - Basis profile slope compared with the shifted comparison profile slope, after filtering (if applicable).



A zoom-in view between 10 and 140 ft:

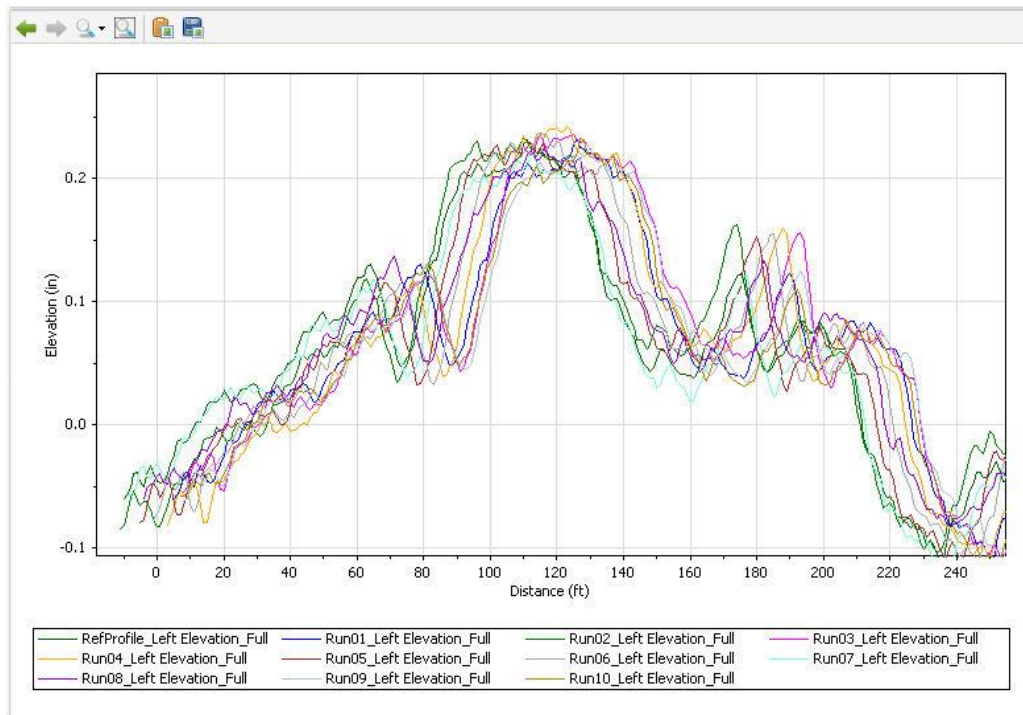


You can apply the optimal offsets to all comparison profiles by clicking the “Apply Offsets” button. You can then examine the synchronized profiles in the Viewer and the specific offsets applied to each profile in the Editor.

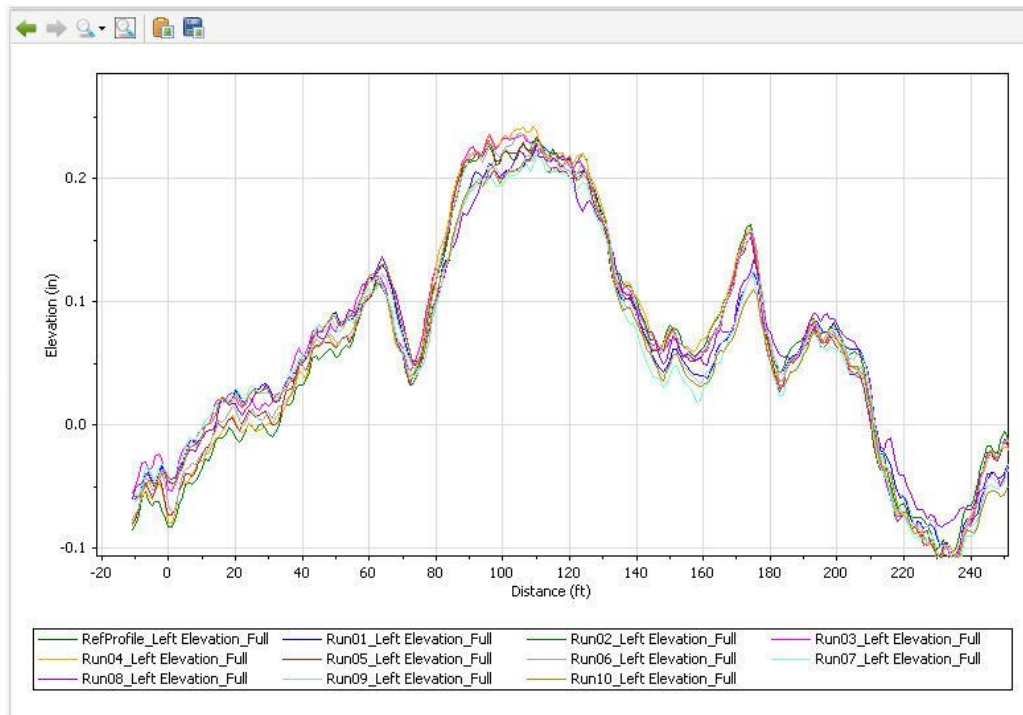


The following is an example of profiles before and after the automated profile synchronization.

Before automated profile synchronization:

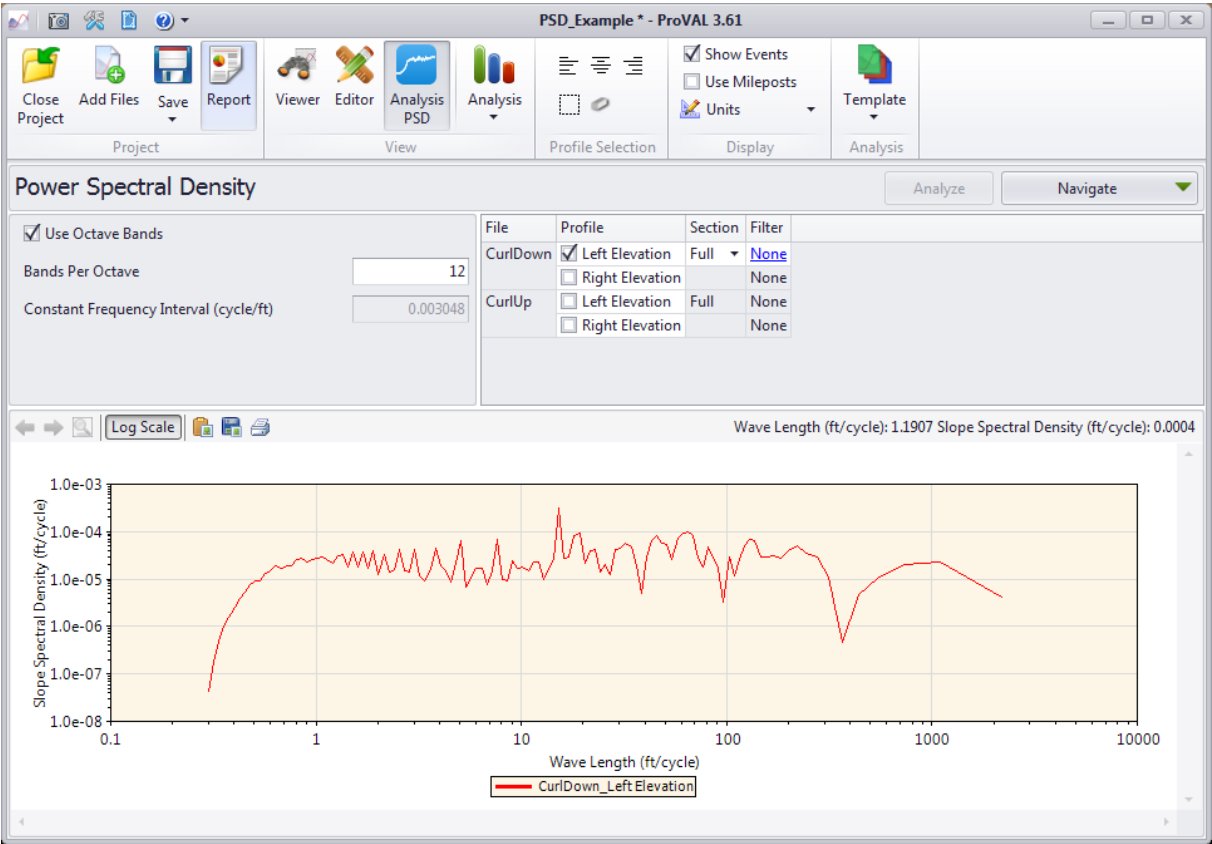


After automated profile synchronization:



Power Spectral Density (PSD)

The Power Spectral Density (PSD) function of road profiles is a statistical representation of the importance of various wave numbers (or wave lengths). Pavement profiles can be decomposed into series of sinusoids using techniques (such as Fast Fourier Transform or FFT) to show how the variance is distributed over wave numbers. The PSD implementation in ProVAL is similar to the method used by University of Michigan – Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI) researchers with a drift removal technique.



Profile Selection

Any number of profiles may be selected.

Power Spectral Density

☒ Use Octave Bands

Bands Per Octave:

Constant Frequency Interval (cycle/ft):

File	Profile	Section	Filter
CurlDown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	Full	None
	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation		None
CurlUp	<input type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	Full	None
	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation		None

A different filter can be specified for each profile by clicking the hyperlink in each input field. A dialog box would prompt for you to select a filter.

The following filters are available:

- ▶ None
- ▶ IRI
- ▶ Butterworth Band-pass
- ▶ Butterworth Low-pass
- ▶ Butterworth High-pass

Inputs

Input Templates are available for this analysis. Changing the selected profiles will not affect the template. However, the template will set the wavelength filter for each profile.

- ▶ Octave Bands - Enabling Octave Bands will enable Bands Per Octave and disable Constant Frequency Interval.
- ▶ Bands Per Octave - Number of reported data points when a frequency or wavelength is doubled or halved.
- ▶ Constant Frequency Interval - The frequency interval when the narrow band report is desired.

Power Spectral Density			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use Octave Bands			
Bands Per Octave	<input type="text" value="12"/>		
Constant Frequency Interval (cycle/ft)	<input type="text" value="0.003048"/>		

File	Profile	Section	Filter
CurlDown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	Full	None
	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation		None
CurlUp	<input type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	Full	None
	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation		None

Outputs

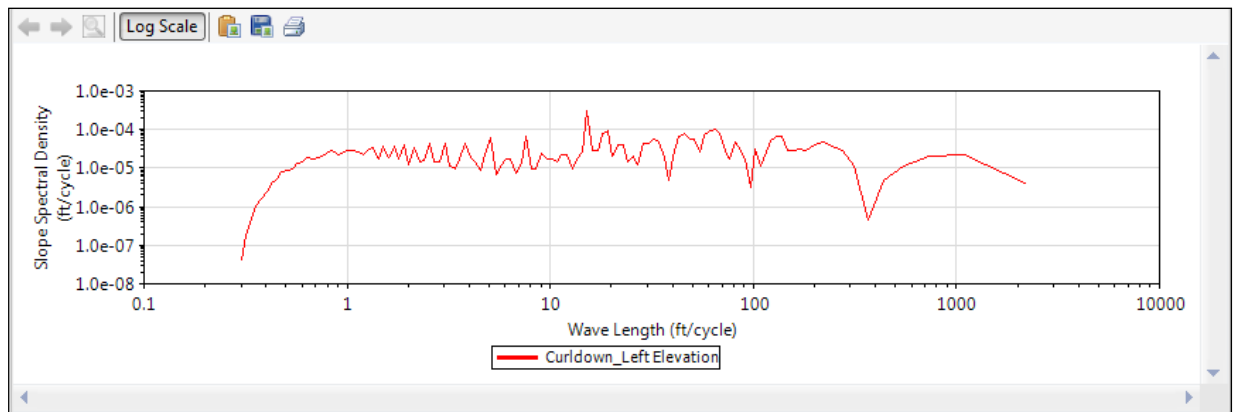
Four output charts are available via the Navigate button: Elevation PSD against Wave Length, Elevation PSD against Wave Number, Slope PSD against Wave Length, and Slope PSD against Wave Number. The Slope PSD vs. wavelength is recommended as the default view.

Power Spectral Density				Analyze	Navigate
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use Octave Bands					
Bands Per Octave	<input type="text" value="12"/>				
Constant Frequency Interval (cycle/ft)	<input type="text" value="0.003048"/>				

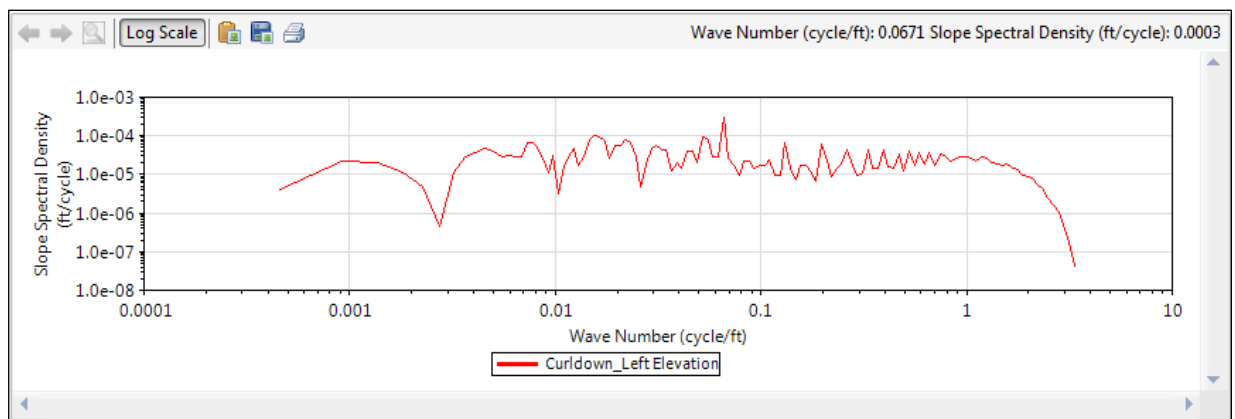
File	Profile	Section	Filter
CurlDown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	Full	None
	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation		None
CurlUp	<input type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation		None
	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation		None

Elevation PSD (Wave Length)
 Elevation PSD (Wave Number)
☒ Slope PSD (Wave Length)
 Slope PSD (Wave Number)

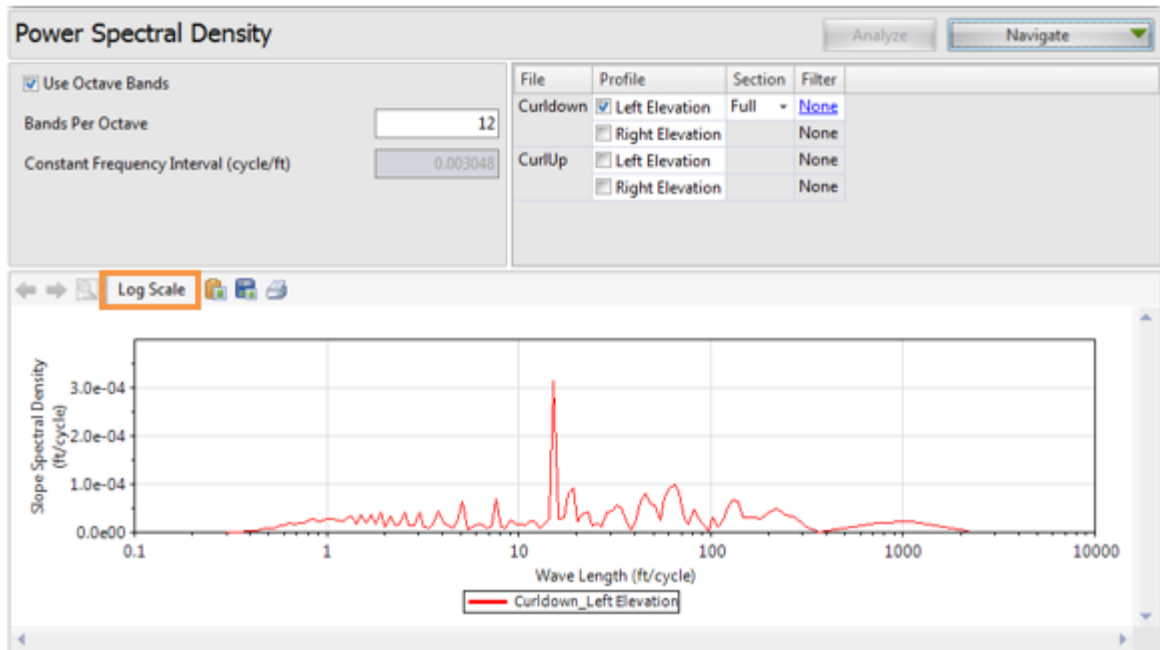
1. Slope PSD vs. Wave Length chart



2. Slope PSD vs. Wave Number chart



A Log Scale button in the chart control toolbar can be used to toggle the chart y-axis between log scale and linear scale. This is useful to make peaks easier to see.



Profile Selection

Eleven profiles **must** be selected, one reference profile and ten comparison profiles. The section length **must** be 1056 ft and the sample interval **must** be 1 ft, for a total of 1057 data points.

Precision and Bias					
File	Profile	Basis	Section	Sample Interval (in)	
RefProfile	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Full ▾	12.0	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Full		
Run01	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Full ▾	12.0	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Run02	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Full ▾	12.0	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Run03	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Full ▾	12.0	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Run04	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Full ▾	12.0	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Run05	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Full ▾	12.0	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Run06	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Full ▾	12.0	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Run07	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Full ▾	12.0	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Run08	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Full ▾	12.0	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Inputs

N/A

Outputs

The outputs of the precision and bias analysis are:

- ▶ Bias
- ▶ Precision
- ▶ Bias Classification
- ▶ Precision Classification

Profiler Certification Module (PCM)

The Profiler Certification analysis includes the ability to compare multiple runs of a profiler (i.e., repeatability test) and compare those repeats with a basis profile (i.e., accuracy test). The Profiler Certification analysis is based on the guidelines in the AASHTO R56 “Standard Practice for Certification of Inertial Profiling Systems”.

Profile Selection

Comparison profiles and one basis (in a two-channel format) or two basis (in a one-channel format) profiles may be selected. Selection of a basis profile is only required for the accuracy test. Selection is on a file basis; all profiles in a selected file will be used, if possible. Only profiles marked as Left or Right will be analyzed. Left profiles will only be compared against other Left profiles and the same for the Right profiles. All user-selected files will be assigned a run number by the program – starting at number 1 or whatever lowest, missed consecutive number for the current selection. The users, however, can edit the numbers as needed. The run numbers will disappear if a selected profile is assigned as “basis” or reference profile. For informational purposes, the profiles available in each file will be listed, as will the sample interval.

File	Profiles	Basis	Run	Sample Interval (in)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compare_01	Left + Right	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	1.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compare_02	Left + Right	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	1.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compare_03	Left + Right	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	1.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compare_04	Left + Right	<input type="checkbox"/>	4	1.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compare_05	Left + Right	<input type="checkbox"/>	5	1.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ref_LWP_01	Left	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		1.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ref_RWP_01	Right	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		1.00

Two wavelength filters can be specified, one for the basis profile(s) and one for the comparison profiles. You can click on the hyperlink for either Basis Filter or Comparison Filter to access a pop-up window and change the filter settings.

The following filters are available:

- ▶ None
- ▶ IRI
- ▶ Butterworth Band-pass
- ▶ Butterworth Low-pass
- ▶ Butterworth High-pass

Inputs

Input Templates are available for this analysis. Changing the selected profiles will not affect the template. However the template will set the wavelength filter for each profile. The inputs include:

- ▶ Maximum Offset (see Cross Correlation for detailed description)
- ▶ Minimum Repeatability or Passing Score for average coefficient of cross correlation
- ▶ Minimum Accuracy or Passing Score for average coefficient of cross correlation

Profiler Certification: Inputs	
Maximum Offset (ft)	<input type="text" value="5.00"/>
Minimum Repeatability (%)	<input type="text" value="92"/>
Minimum Accuracy (%)	<input type="text" value="90"/>
Basis Filter	
IRI (with 250mm Filter)	
Comparison Filter	
IRI (with 250mm Filter)	



If a basis profile is selected, the sample interval should be less than 2.75 in. If not, a warning would be issued along with the analysis results.

Similar to the Profile Synchronization module, the Profiler Certification Module will automatically pre-process (condition) the entire profile traces, crop the profile between the lead-in and lead-out (i.e., the Full section), and perform interpolation (if sampling intervals are different between the basis and comparison profile) prior to computation of coefficient of cross correlation.

Users need to define lead-in/lead-out distances on the Editor/Basic screen, and left/right channels for each profile on the Editor/Info screen.

Outputs

Under Navigate, choose from the Summary Results or Detailed Results.



The summary results include the following:

Repeatability - Separate results will be listed for each profile type (left and right). The distance and correlation value at the point of maximum correlation will also be shown for each combination of profiles.

Accuracy - Separate results will be listed for each channel type.

Statistics - Summary of statistics (including: comparison count, % passing, mean, minimum, maximum, standard deviation, and grade.).

Profiler Certification: Summary Results					Analyze	Navigate	
Statistics							
Statistic	Repeatability - Left		Repeatability - Right		Accuracy - Left		
Comparison Count	10		10		5		
% Passing	100.00		100.00		100.00		
Mean	95.53		98.07		96.47		
Minimum	93.97		97.08		95.17		
Maximum	97.45		98.81		97.98		
Standard Deviation	1.1		0.5		1.0		
Grade	Passed		Passed		Passed		
Accuracy			Repeatability - Left Correlations (%)				
Run	Left	Right	Run	2	3	4	5
1	97.98	98.30	1	96.54	97.45	95.18	95.13
2	96.69	98.88	2		95.11	96.88	95.91
3	96.33	96.74	3			94.47	94.69
4	95.17	97.54	4				93.97
5	96.17	96.87					
			Repeatability - Left Offsets (ft)				
Run	2	3	4	5			
1	0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.3			
2		-0.3	0.0	-0.4			
3			0.2	-0.2			
4				-0.4			
			Repeatability - Right Correlations (%)				
Run	2	3	4	5			
1	98.76	98.18	98.48	97.87			
2		97.43	98.09	97.08			
3			98.19	98.81			
4				97.81			
			Repeatability - Right Offsets (ft)				
Run	2	3	4	5			
1	0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.3			
2		-0.3	0.1	-0.4			
3			0.3	-0.2			
4				-0.5			

ProVAL User's Guide / Analyses

The detailed results contain additional information about each repeatability and accuracy comparison. Statistics include correlation, shape coefficient, roughness coefficient, offset, basis IRI, comparison IRI, and IRI difference.

Profiler Certification: Detailed Results								
Compare_02	Compare_03	96.88	0.995	97.39	0.0	293.37	295.08	0.58
Compare_02	Compare_05	95.91	0.996	96.25	-0.4	293.37	295.17	0.61
Compare_04	Compare_03	94.47	0.973	97.11	0.2	286.84	295.08	2.87
Compare_04	Compare_05	94.69	0.981	96.49	-0.2	286.84	295.17	2.90
Compare_03	Compare_05	93.97	0.991	94.79	-0.4	295.08	295.17	0.03
Repeatability - Right								
Basis	Comparison	Correlation (%)	Shape Coefficient	Roughness Coefficient	Offset (ft)	Basis IRI (in/mi)	Comparison IRI (in/mi)	IRI Difference (%)
Compare_01	Compare_02	98.76	0.994	99.32	0.1	273.77	270.23	-1.29
Compare_01	Compare_04	98.18	0.992	98.94	-0.1	273.77	277.88	1.50
Compare_01	Compare_03	98.48	0.997	98.81	0.2	273.77	276.93	1.15
Compare_01	Compare_05	97.87	0.990	98.89	-0.3	273.77	276.94	1.16
Compare_02	Compare_04	97.43	0.987	98.73	-0.3	270.23	277.88	2.83
Compare_02	Compare_03	98.09	0.991	98.98	0.1	270.23	276.93	2.48
Compare_02	Compare_05	97.08	0.984	98.63	-0.4	270.23	276.94	2.48
Compare_04	Compare_03	98.19	0.996	98.63	0.3	277.88	276.93	-0.34
Compare_04	Compare_05	98.81	0.997	99.07	-0.2	277.88	276.94	-0.34
Compare_03	Compare_05	97.81	0.993	98.50	-0.5	276.93	276.94	0.00
Accuracy - Left								
Comparison	Correlation (%)	Shape Coefficient	Roughness Coefficient	Offset (ft)	Basis IRI (in/mi)	Comparison IRI (in/mi)	IRI Difference (%)	
Compare_01	97.98	0.997	98.25	-0.7	288.07	288.45	0.13	
Compare_02	96.69	0.985	98.19	-0.6	288.07	293.37	1.84	

Profilograph Simulation

The Profilograph simulation emulates Profilograph traces (such as California Profilograph) from true profiles collected using inertial profilers or other devices that are capable doing so. Profilograph indexes are computed and scallops can be identified and viewed graphically.

Profile Selection

Any number of profiles may be selected. The section to be analyzed can be specified for each file. A basis profile must be selected. When profiles from different files are selected, the basis profile will be used to determine the locations of segments.

File	Profile	Basis	Section	Filter
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LElev	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full		Butterworth Low-pass (1.97 ft)
	<input type="checkbox"/> RElev	<input type="checkbox"/>		None

A different wavelength filter can be specified for each file by clicking the hyperlink for each input field. A pop-up dialog box would appear to allow you to select filter settings.

The following filters are available:

- ▶ Butterworth Low-pass
- ▶ Moving Average Low-pass

Inputs

Input Templates are available for this analysis. Changing the selected profiles will not affect the template. However, the template will set the wavelength filter for each file. The inputs include:

- ▶ Blanking Band
- ▶ Minimum Scallop Width
- ▶ Minimum Scallop Height
- ▶ Scallop Rounding Increment
- ▶ Segment length
- ▶ Selection for reporting Raw or Rounded Profilograph Index
- ▶ Wheel Offsets

Profilograph Simulation

Inputs

Blanking Band (in)

0.20

Minimum Scallop Width (ft)

2.000

Minimum Scallop Height (in)

0.030

Scallop Rounding Increment (in)

0.05

Segment Length (ft)

528.00

☐ Raw Profile Index

☒ Rounded Profile Index

Wheel Offsets...

Segments can be defined and the analysis will report statistics for each segment, rather than the entire section. You can specify the length of the segment, and multiple segments will be added at that interval. For example, if the segment length is 528 feet, segments would be added every 528 feet. A length of 0 means no segments would be added. Segments at the end of a profile may be less than the specified length.

Rounded Profilograph index is computed by rounding to the scallop rounding increment.

Users can click the Wheel Offsets button to pop up a dialog box to define number of wheel offsets and wheel offset values.

Wheel Offsets

Wheel Count

12

Name	Value (ft)
Offset 1	8.75
Offset 2	11.25
Offset 3	13.75
Offset 4	16.25
Offset 5	11.25
Offset 6	13.75

12-wheel Model

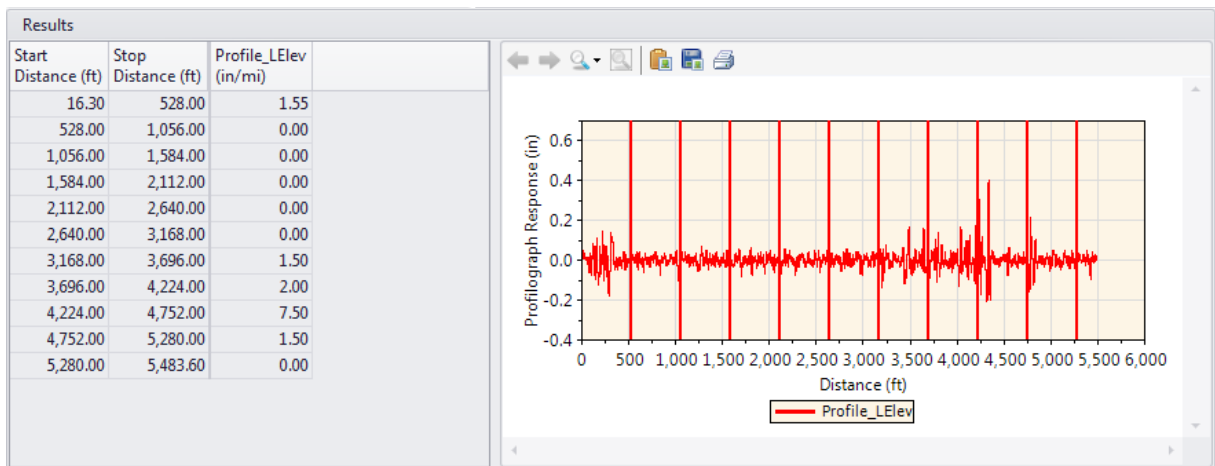
The diagram illustrates a 12-wheel model with two sets of wheels. The left set has four wheels, and the right set has four wheels. Arrows indicate the offsets for each wheel. The offsets are labeled as follows: offset1 (bottom left), offset2 (second from bottom left), offset3 (third from bottom left), offset4 (top left), offset5 (second from top left), and offset6 (top right). The offsets are measured from a central vertical line.

OK

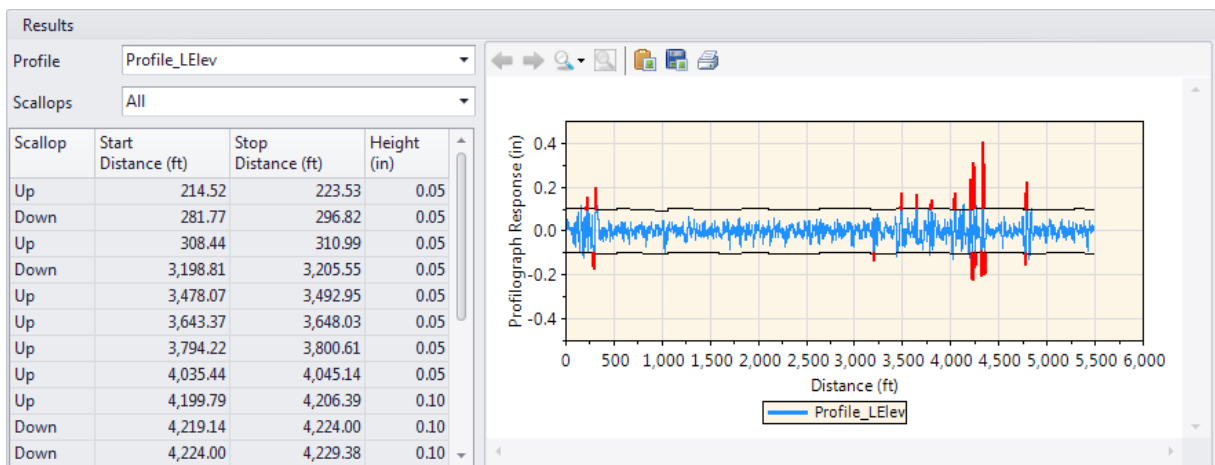
Cancel

Outputs

Simulated Profilograph traces and computed Profilograph indexes- A chart will display the Profilograph response (in, mm) for the selected profiles. The segment markers would be shown. A table will display the Raw or Rounded Profilograph index for each segment. The start and stop positions for each segment would be listed. For files that have a left and right profile selected, the Average index would also be displayed. An index value of N/A will be displayed for segments that do not fall within the section of a profile.

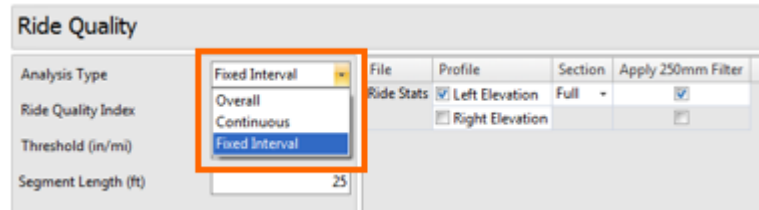


Scallops - A chart will display the Profilograph response (in, mm) for the selected profiles. Scallops will be highlighted on the chart. You can select to show Up, Down, or All scallops. A table will show a tabular version of the chart.



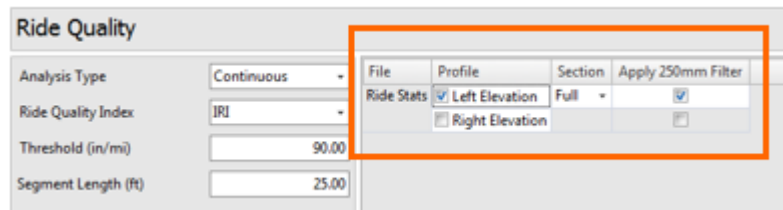
Ride Quality

The Ride Quality module includes three types of ride statistics analyses: Overall (for the entire trace), Continuous (reporting at every sample location), and Fixed Interval (reporting at a fixed interval or a lot length).



Profile Selection

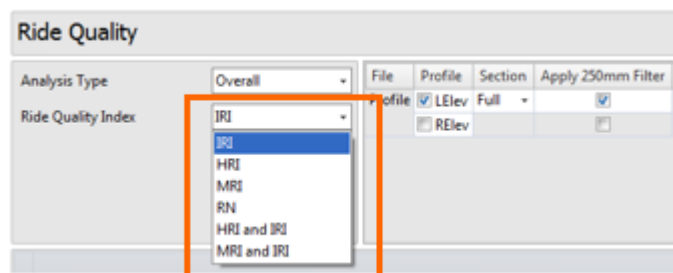
Any number of profiles may be selected. The section to be analyzed can be specified for each file. You need to determine whether the Apply 250mm Filter should be applied depending on whether the profile has been previously smoothed or filtered with a low-pass filtering. If in doubt, contact your profiler manufacturers.



Inputs

Input Templates are available for this analysis. Changing the selected profiles will not affect the template. The inputs include:

- ▶ **Analysis Type:** Selection from Overall, Fixed Interval, Continuous
- ▶ **Ride Quality Index:** Select from: IRI, HRI, MRI, and RN. Overall and Fixed Interval analyses also include options for simultaneously determining HRI and IRI as well as MRI and IRI.
- ▶ **Threshold:** Available if the Analysis Type is Fixed Interval or Continuous. Note that you need to input proper input value depending on the Baselength input due to averaging effects.
- ▶ **Segment Length:** Used for Continuous and Fixed Interval analyses. The input value should be less than the entire length of the profile. Otherwise, the Analysis button will be grayed out.



Display of profile selection is determined by the ride indexes that are selected by you. If IRI is selected, both left and right profiles are available for profile selection (i.e., check boxes would appear next to each profile.) If either HRI, MRI, or RN is selected, only entire files can be selected (i.e. check boxes appear only next to files).

If the **Overall** analysis is selected, no additional inputs are needed.

Ride Quality			
Analysis Type	Overall	File	Profile
Ride Quality Index	IRI	Ride Stats	Section
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	Full
		<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	Apply 250mm Filter
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If the **Continuous** analysis is selected, a sliding baselength can be defined to apply a moving average to produce continuous reports.

Ride Quality			
Analysis Type	Continuous	File	Profile
Ride Quality Index	IRI	Ride Stats	Section
Threshold (in/mi)	90.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	Full
Segment Length (ft)	25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	Apply 250mm Filter
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If the **Fixed Interval** analysis is selected, segments can be defined and the analysis reports statistics for each segment, rather than the entire profile. The length of the segment can be specified, and multiple segments will be added at that interval. For example, if the segment length is 528 feet, segments will be added every 528 feet. The exception is when exclusions are defined in the Editor/Sections. In this case, segments will be added until one hits the beginning location of an exclusion area. Therefore, the length of the last segment before an exclusion area may be less than the fixed length. Segments will then be added again starting at the end of an exclusion area and repeat the above process if any additional exclusion areas occur.

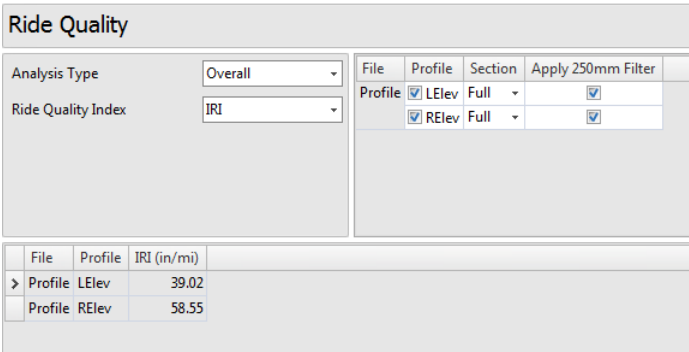
Ride Quality			
Analysis Type	Fixed Interval	File	Profile
Ride Quality Index	IRI	Ride Stats	Section
Threshold (in/mi)	85.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation	Full
Segment Length (ft)	528.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	Apply 250mm Filter
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Once inputs have been entered, click **Analyze** to display the results.

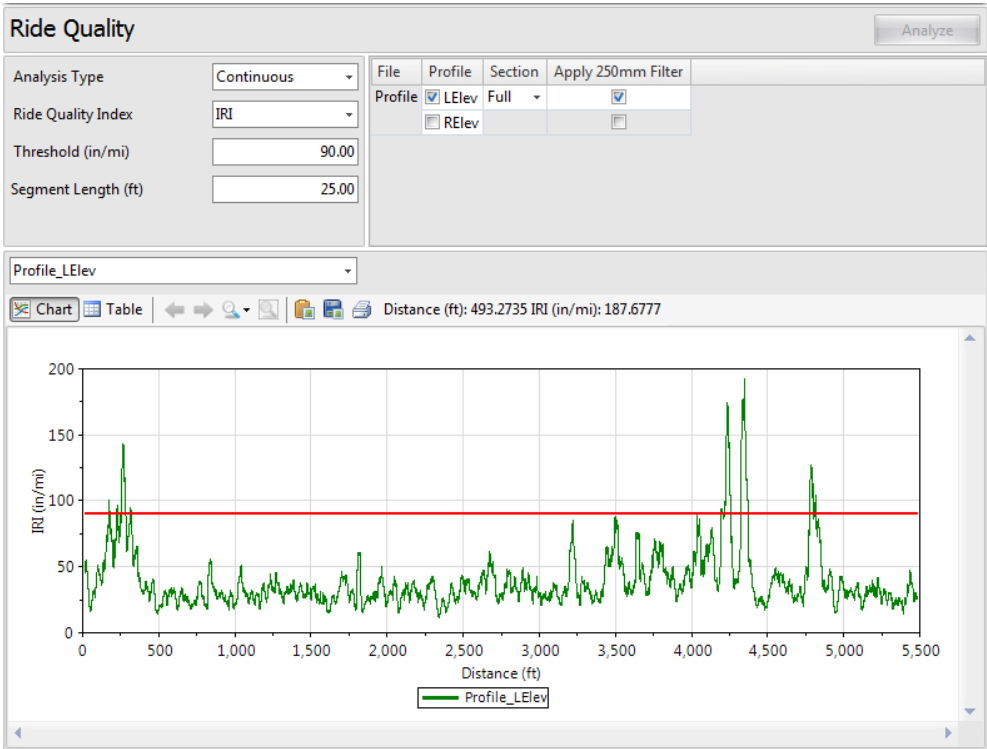
Outputs

- ▶ Overall: The Ride Quality statistic for each profile or file is displayed.
- ▶ Continuous: Table listing the locations and maximum value of the out-of-threshold or “hot spots” statistic. A chart shows continuous roughness results for the selected profiles.
- ▶ Fixed Interval: The Ride Quality statistic for each profile or file is displayed for each segment. A chart shows a graphical representation of the stats.

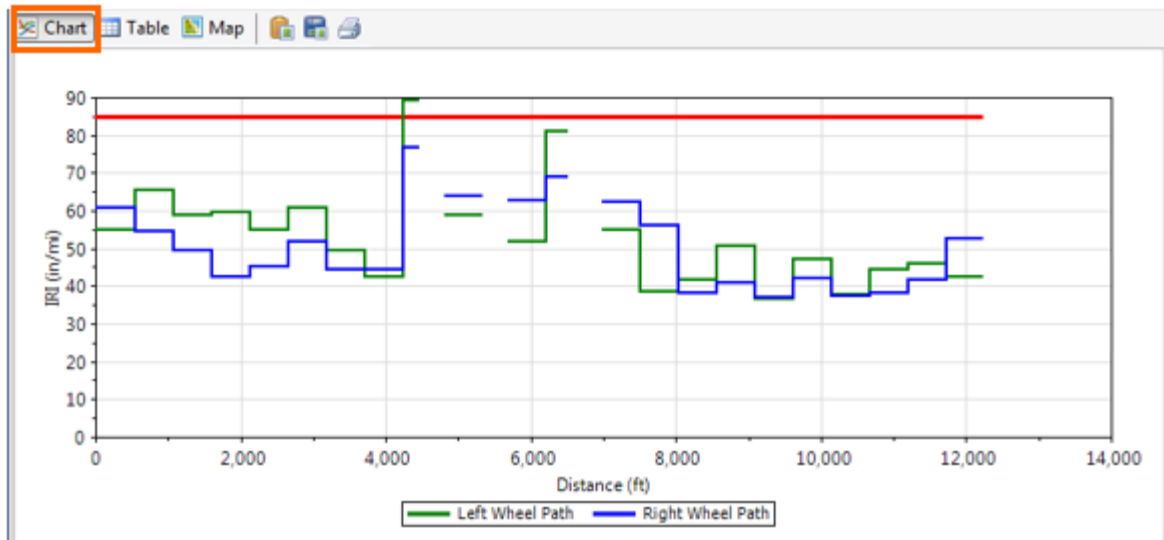
Overall analysis results.



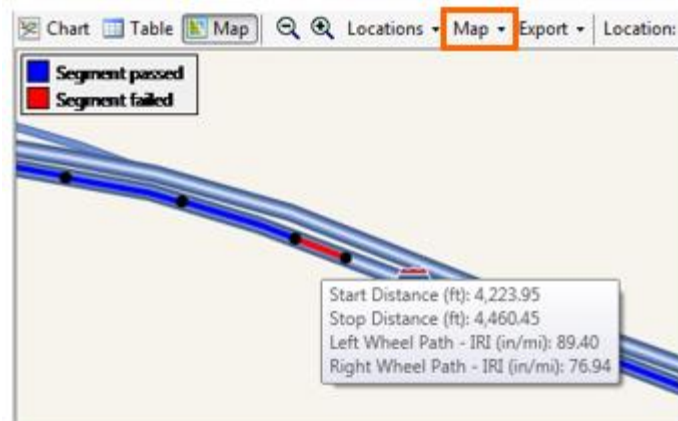
Continuous analysis results. You can select each profile or file (for two-channel indexes) to display the analysis results. Select which profile to view using the dropdown box above the output window. Toggle between the chart, table, and map data (if a route is defined). On the chart the threshold is shown as a horizontal red line. Locations above the threshold are displayed as red-coded segments on the map, indicating hot spots or failed areas. Mouse over each hot spot to show information including the start/stop distance and the ride index value.



Fixed Interval analysis results. You can select each file to display the analysis results. Toggle between the chart, table, and map data (if a route is defined). Color-coded segments on the map indicate pass (blue) or fail (red). Mouse over each segment to show information including the start/stop distance and the ride index value.



Start Distance (ft)	Stop Distance (ft)	Length (ft)	Left Wheel Path - IRI (in/mi)	Right Wheel Path - IRI (in/mi)
0.00	527.99	527.99	55.08	60.86
527.99	1,055.99	527.99	65.42	54.37
1,055.99	1,583.98	527.99	58.88	49.61
1,583.98	2,111.98	527.99	59.80	42.44
2,111.98	2,639.97	527.99	55.03	45.14
2,639.97	3,167.96	527.99	60.86	51.65
3,167.96	3,695.96	527.99	49.58	44.36
3,695.96	4,223.95	527.99	42.54	44.45
4,223.95	4,460.45	236.50	89.40	76.94
4,799.45	5,326.44	526.99	58.97	63.83
5,680.44	6,208.43	527.99	51.75	62.90
6,208.43	6,512.43	304.00	80.89	68.86



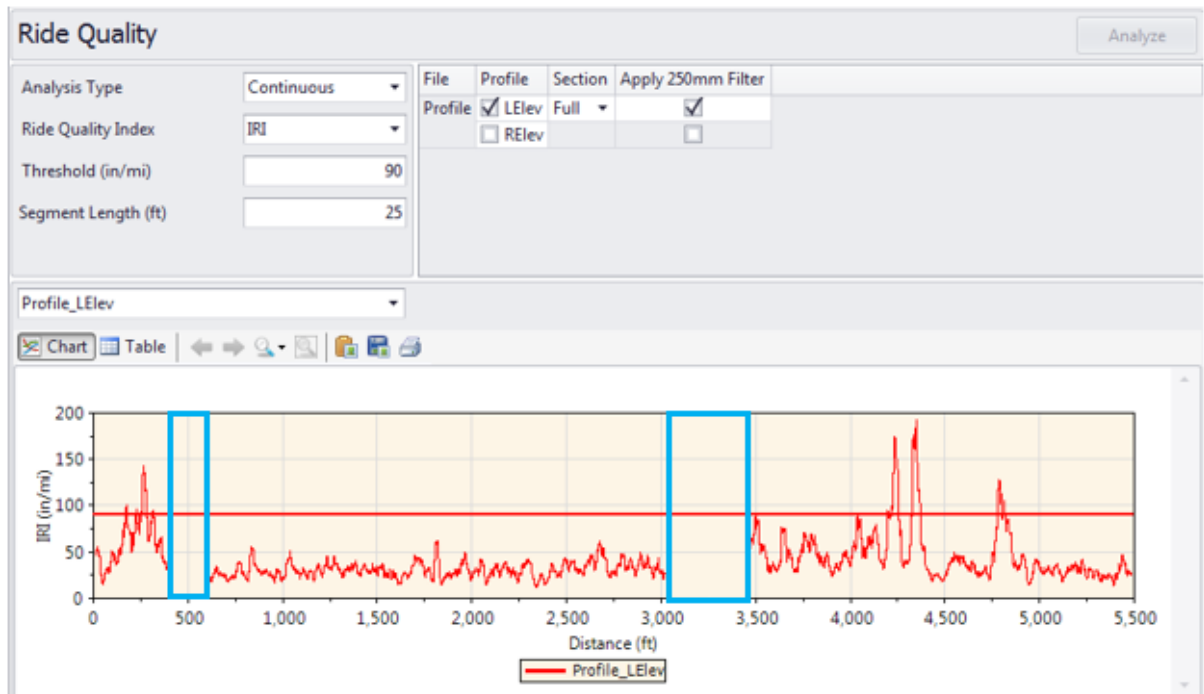
Analysis by Excluding Leave-outs

The exclusion analysis excludes the results with the leave-out sections. Leave-out sections can be defined using the Editor/Section screen. An example with two leave-out sections is shown below:

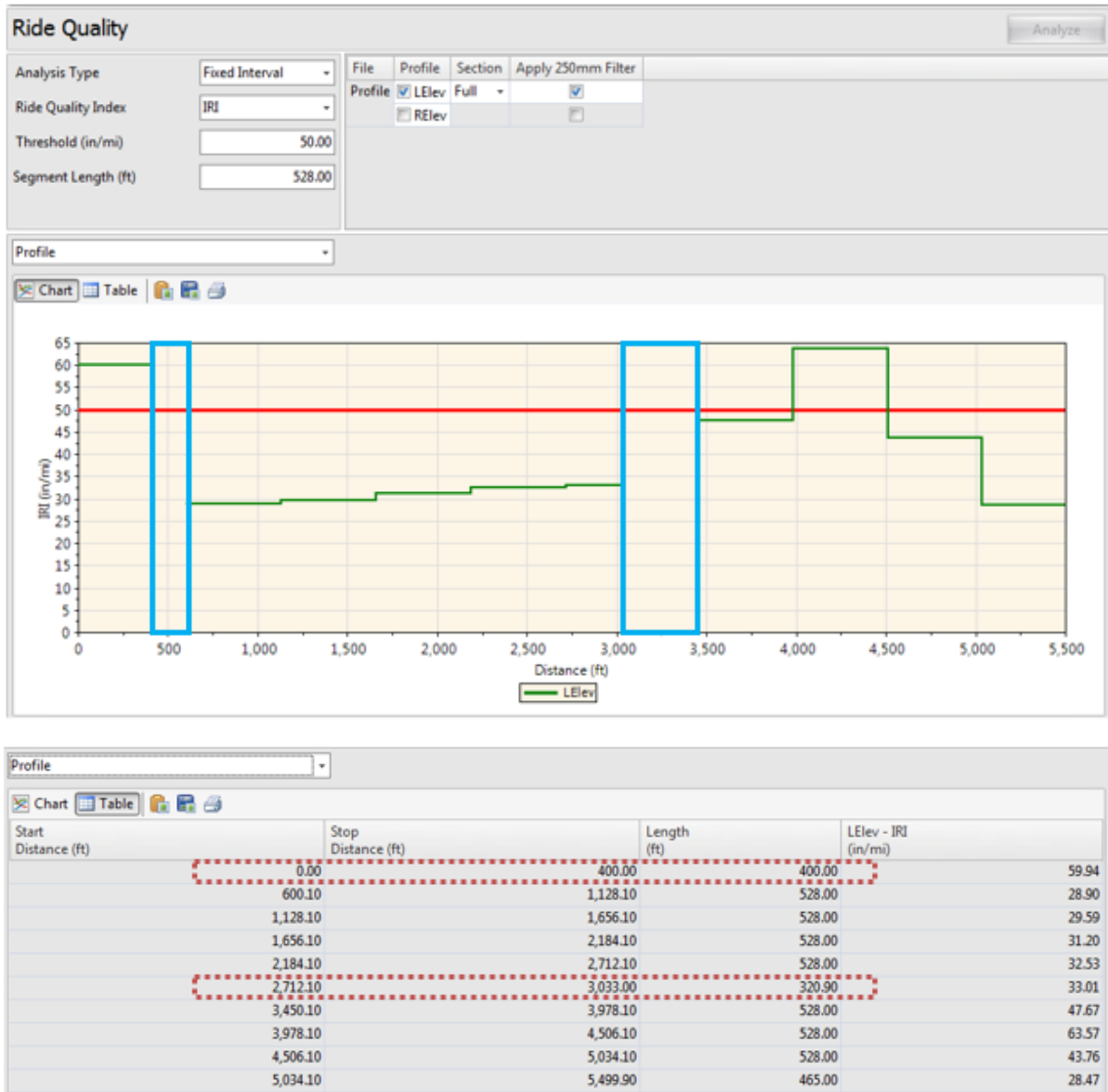


Overall analysis results are computed by including only the results within non-leave-out sections.

Continuous analysis results excluding leave-outs. You can select each profile or file (for two-channel indexes) to display the analysis results. The “hot spots” table will exclude any such hot spots falling within the leave-outs, and the continuous roughness plots within the leave-out will not be displayed. For the continuous analysis, one-half of the segment length both before and after a leave-out is also excluded.



Fixed Interval analysis results excluding leave-outs. You can select each profile or file (for two-channel indexes) to display the analysis results. The Length column in the table shows the actual length used for ride index computation by excluding the leave-out sections. The segments would advance until one reaches the start of a leave-out location and this specific segment may contain less than a full interval. After passing the end of a leave-out, the segments would re-start advancing with the fixed interval again. It would repeat the above process once encountering other leave-outs. Roughness indexes will be reported within each segment (full fixed interval or partial interval) and the actual lengths for all segments are also reported. Leave-out areas are not plotted in the bar chart.



Rolling Straightedge (RSE)

This analysis simulates the rolling straightedge (RSE) measurement from profiles collected using inertial profilers. It can determine the vertical deviation between the center of the straightedge and the profile for every increment in the profile data.

Profile Selection

Any number of profiles may be selected. The section for each profile may be selected.

The screenshot shows the 'Rolling Straightedge' software interface. The 'Profile Selection' tab is active, displaying a table with columns: File, Profile, Section, and Filter. The table contains two rows: one for 'LElev' (selected) with 'Full' section and 'Butterworth Low-pass (1.97 ft)' filter, and another for 'RElev' with 'None' filter. To the left of the table are input fields for 'Straightedge Length (ft)' (10.00) and 'Deviation Threshold (in)' (0.100). Above the table is an 'Analyze' button. The top toolbar includes buttons for Project, View, Profile Selection, Display, Tools, and Analysis.

File	Profile	Section	Filter
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LElev	Full	Butterworth Low-pass (1.97 ft)
	<input type="checkbox"/> RElev		None

A different wavelength filter can be specified for each file by clicking the hyperlink for each input field. A pop-up dialog box would appear to allow you to select filter settings.

The following filters are available:

- ▶ None
- ▶ Butterworth Low-pass
- ▶ Moving Average Low-pass

Inputs

Input Templates are available for this analysis. Changing the selected profiles will not affect the template, however the template would set the wavelength filter for each profile.

- ▶ Straightedge Length: This is the baselength of the simulated straightedge.
- ▶ Deviation Threshold: This is the threshold values to determine out of spec areas.

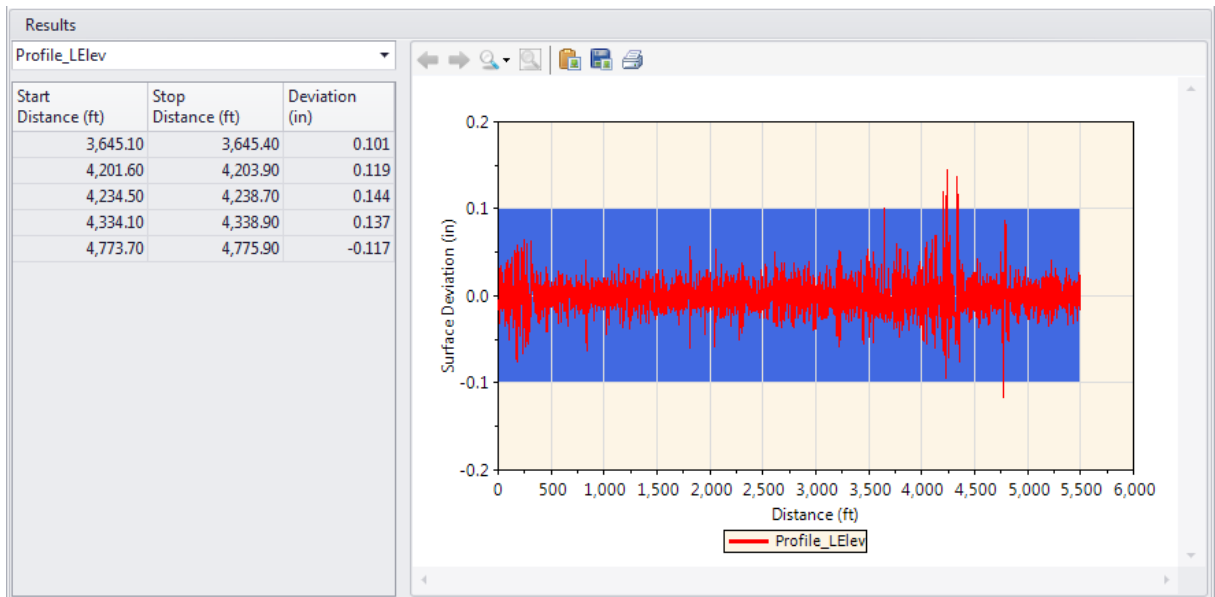
The screenshot shows the 'Rolling Straightedge' input template. It contains two input fields: 'Straightedge Length (ft)' with a value of 10.00, and 'Deviation Threshold (in)' with a value of 0.100.

Outputs

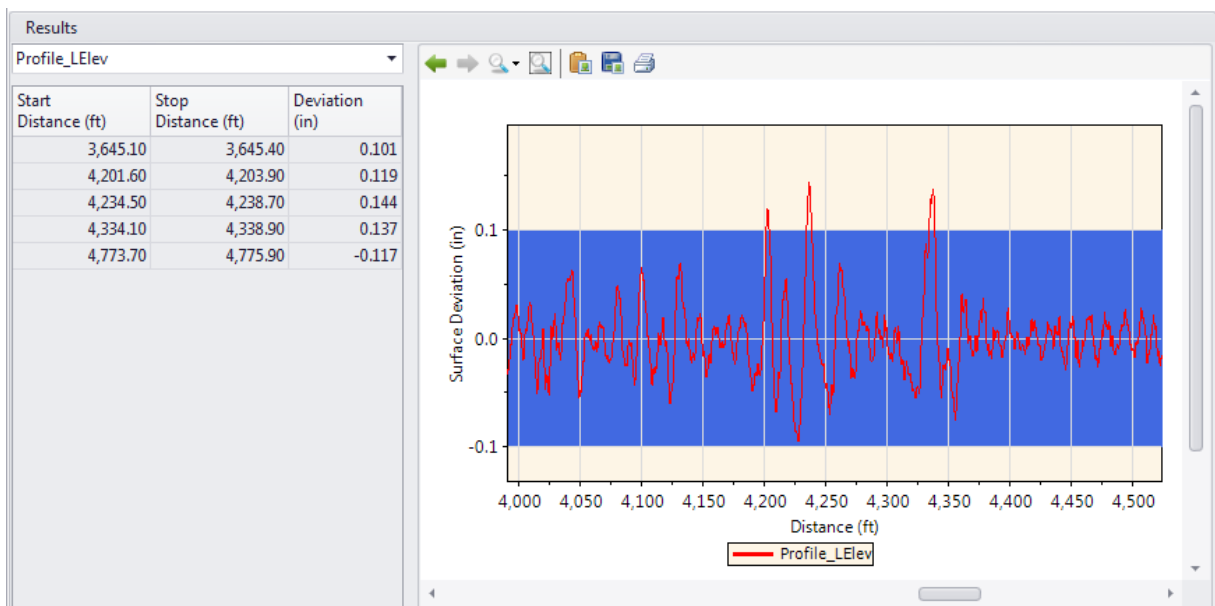
The outputs include:

- ▶ Surface Deviation Chart (the ranges within the thresholds are shaded)
- ▶ Defective Segments Table (i.e., hot-spots or out-of-spec areas and maximum surface deviations)

An example of a surface deviation chart:



A zoomed-in view of the above example:



Smoothness Assurance Module (SAM)

The Smoothness Assurance Module can be used to produce ride quality reports and optimize grinding strategies by analyzing measurements from profiles collected using inertial profilers. It can determine the out-of-spec locations and recommend must-grind locations. It also provides very flexible user-defined grinding strategies. A comprehensive report can then be generated to include ride quality reports before and after grinding.

Three types of ride quality (RQ) analyses can be performed: Short Continuous, Long Continuous, and Fixed-interval. This module is divided into four sections: Inputs, Ride Quality Analysis, Grinding, and Grinding Analysis. The comparison analysis shows a chart side-by-side with the other analyses. The comparison chart can be synchronized with the continuous charts, so that zooming and scrolling take place simultaneously in both charts.

Smoothness Assurance: Inputs

Analyze Grind Navigate

Ride Quality				File	Profiles	Section	Apply 250mm Filter
Ride Quality Index				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Profile	Left + Right	Full	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Analysis	Segment Length (ft)	Threshold (in/mi)	Histogram				
Short Continuous	25	120	Histogram				
Long Continuous	528	50	Histogram				
Fixed Interval	528	50					

Comparison

Type

Profile

Straightedge Length (ft)

10.00

Filter

[Butterworth High-pass \(100.00 ft\)](#)

Profile Selection

The number of profiles required varies depending on the Ride Quality Index selected. IRI requires a file containing at least one profile. Other indices (HRI, MRI, and RN) require selection of a file that has both the Left and Right profiles marked. The section must be specified for the file or profile. You may also select whether or not to apply a 250mm Filter to the profile.

Smoothness Assurance: Inputs

Analyze Grind Navigate

Ride Quality				File	Profiles	Section	Apply 250mm Filter
Ride Quality Index				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Profile	Left + Right	Full	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

You need to determine whether the Apply 250mm Filter should be applied depending on whether the profile has been previously smoothed or filtered using the 250mm moving average filter. If in doubt, contact your profiler manufacturers.

Input Templates are available for this analysis. Changing the selected profiles would not affect the template. The inputs include: Inputs (for ride quality analyses) and Grinding (for grinding simulation). The latter is optional, and the “after-grinding” results would be included in all result screens for comparison if performed.

Ride Quality Inputs and Analysis

The Ride Quality inputs include:

- **Ride Quality Index:** Select from: IRI, HRI, MRI, and RN. This input determines if you need to select a file and profile, or just a file. See the above Profile Selection section for details.

Smoothness Assurance: Inputs				Analyze	Grind	Navigate	
Ride Quality				File	Profiles	Section	Apply 250mm Filter
Ride Quality Index				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Profile	Left + Right	Full	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Analysis	Segment Length (ft)						
Short Continuous	25						
Long Continuous	528						
Fixed Interval	528	50					
Comparison							
Type	Profile						
Straightedge Length (ft)	10.00						
Filter	Butterworth High-pass (100.00 ft)						

- **Segment length:** Different values can be specified for the three Ride Quality analyses. Normally, a shorter segment or baselength would be used for the Short Continuous analysis (e.g., 25-ft for finding localized roughness) while a longer one would be used for the Long Continuous analysis (e.g. 528-ft for ride quality report).
- **Threshold:** Different values can be specified for the three Ride Quality analyses. A good example of combination of baselengths and threshold is as follows:

Smoothness Assurance: Inputs				Analyze	Grind	Navigate	
Ride Quality				File	Profiles	Section	Apply 250mm Filter
Ride Quality Index				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Profile	Left + Right	Full	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Analysis	Segment Length (ft)	Threshold (in/mi)	Histogram				
Short Continuous	25	120	Histogram				
Long Continuous	528	50	Histogram				
Fixed Interval	528	50					

- **Histogram:** A default histogram would be provided for the continuous analyses. A dialog box would pop up when clicking the Histogram hyperlink input.

Histogram

Lower Bound (in/mi) 0.00

Upper Bound (in/mi) 120.00

Class Interval (in/mi) 10.00

OK Cancel

The Comparison inputs include:

- **Comparison Analysis:** Select from: None, Profilograph Simulation (a California type of Profilograph is assumed), Profile, and Rolling Straightedge

Smoothness Assurance: Inputs

Ride Quality

Ride Quality Index

Analysis

Segment Length (ft)

Threshold (in/mi)

Histogram

Short Continuous

Long Continuous

Fixed Interval

25

528

528

120

50

50

[Histogram](#)

[Histogram](#)

Comparison

Type

Straightedge Length (ft)

Filter

Profile

None

Profilegraph Simulation

Profile

Rolling Straightedge

Analyze

Grind

Navigate

File

Profiles

Section

Apply 250mm Filter

☒ Profile

Left + Right

Full

☒

- ▶ **Straightedge Length:** If Rolling Straightedge is selected, straightedge baselengths need to be an input.
- ▶ **Filter:** If the comparison selection is other than None, you can click the filter hyperlink to access the Wavelength Filter dialog box.

Filter can be selected from:

- ▶ None
- ▶ Butterworth Low-pass
- ▶ Butterworth High-pass
- ▶ Butterworth Band-pass
- ▶ Moving Average Low-pass
- ▶ Moving Average High-pass
- ▶ Moving Average Band-pass

When Profilograph is selected as Comparison, California Profilograph simulation is used.

To perform ride quality analysis, simply click the **Analyze** button on the analysis menu bar. Use the **Navigate** button to view all results or proceed to **Grinding** to perform the grinding simulation.

Smoothness Assurance: Inputs

Analyze Grind **Navigate**

Ride Quality

Ride Quality Index IRI

Analysis	Segment Length (ft)	Threshold (in/mi)	Histogram
Short Continuous	25	120	Histogram
Long Continuous	528	50	Histogram
Fixed Interval	528	50	

Comparison

Type Profile

Straightedge Length (ft) 10.00

Filter [Butterworth High-pass \(100.00 ft\)](#)

File Profiles Section Apply 250mm Filter

☒ Profile Left + Right Full ☒

Left Profile

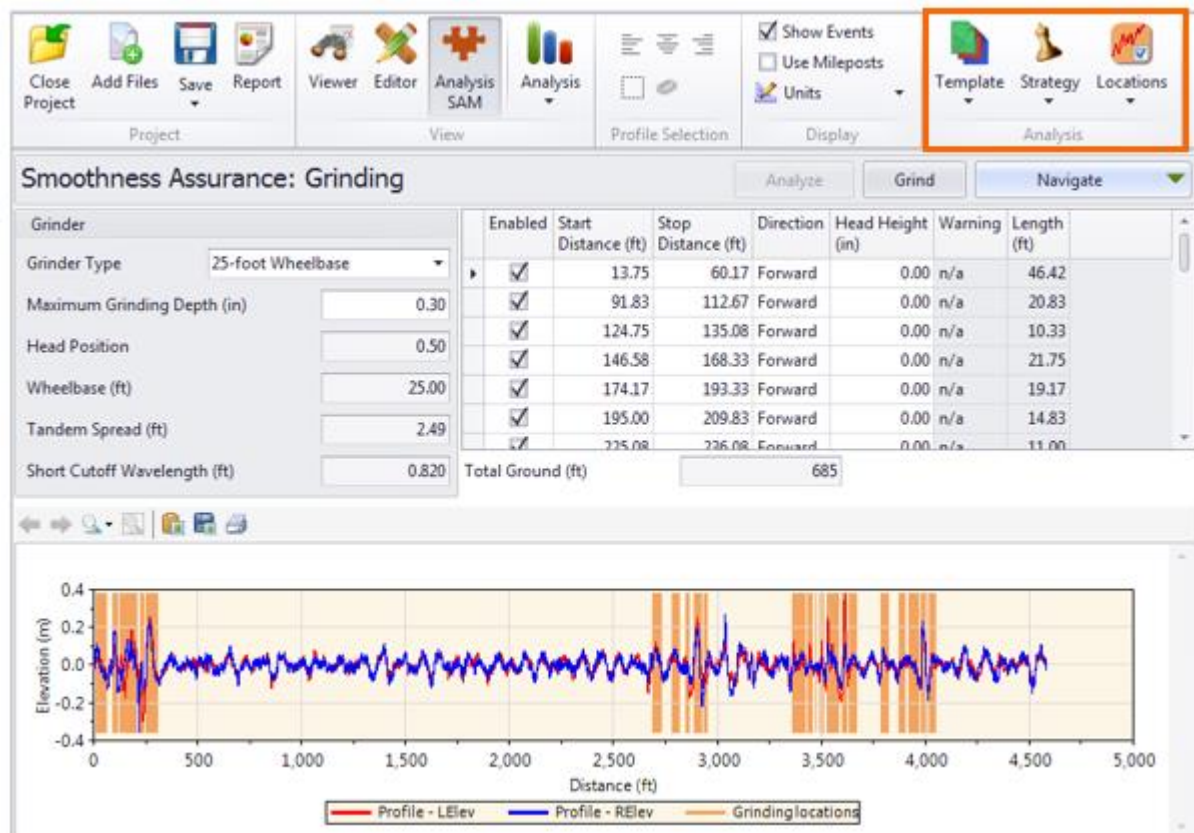
- ☒ Inputs
- Grinding
- Short Continuous
- Short Continuous Histogram
- Long Continuous
- Long Continuous Histogram
- Fixed Interval

Right Profile

- Short Continuous
- Short Continuous Histogram
- Long Continuous
- Long Continuous Histogram
- Fixed Interval

Grinding Screen

The Grinding Screen of SAM provides options for grinder selection and grinding strategy management. The toolbar also includes a group of speed buttons for grinding simulation, managing strategy, and selecting grinding locations.



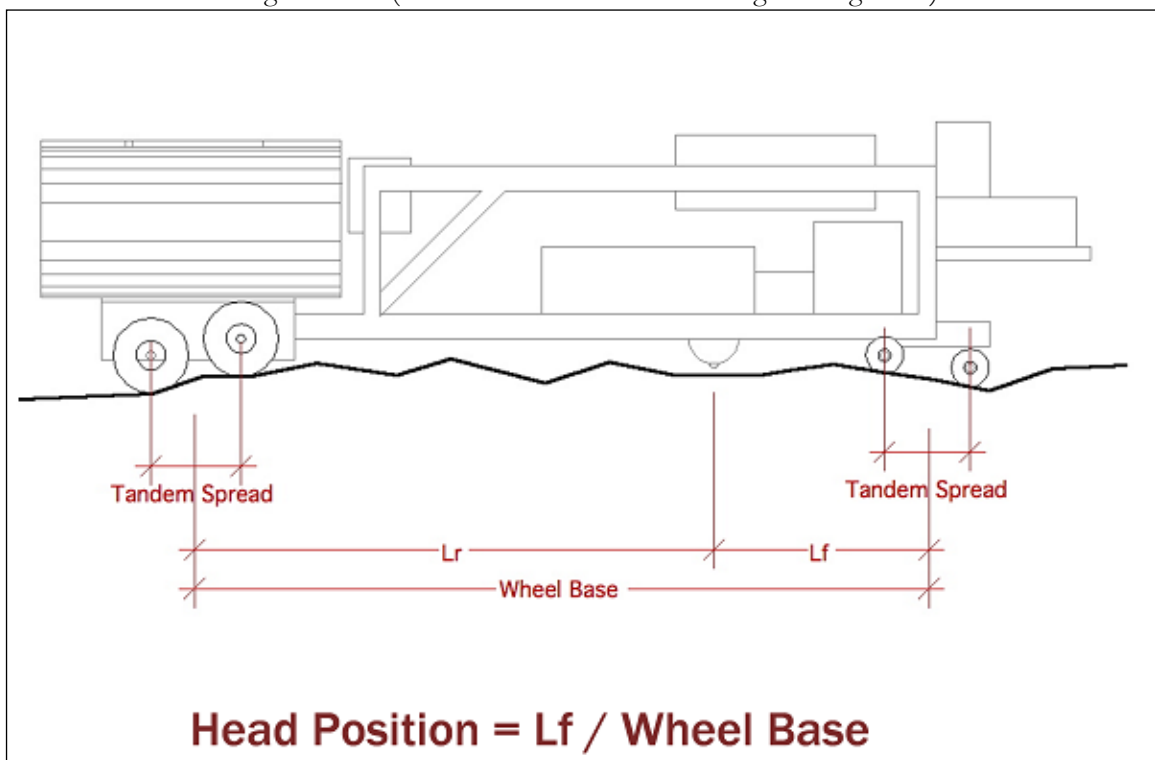
Grinder Selection and Settings

A simulated grinder can be selected from: 18-foot Wheelbase, 25-foot Wheelbase, and Custom.

Smoothness Assurance: Grinding	
Grinder	
Grinder Type	Custom
Maximum Grinding Depth (in)	Custom
Head Position	18-foot Wheelbase 25-foot Wheelbase
Wheelbase (ft)	18.00
Tandem Spread (ft)	2.49
Short Cutoff Wavelength (ft)	0.820

If you select to create a custom grinder, you are able to edit all of the grinder inputs. Otherwise, you can only edit the maximum grinding depth for warning reporting.

- ▶ Max Grinding Depth (a threshold value for warning report only)
- ▶ Head Position
- ▶ Wheelbase
- ▶ Tandem Spread
- ▶ Short Wavelength Cutoff (used to simulate the tire filtering of the grinder)

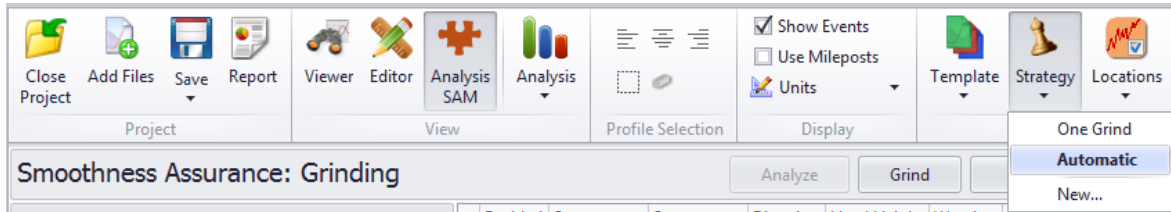


The above diagram does not include an additional support wheel to reflect grinder dimensions during grinding operation.

Grinding Strategy

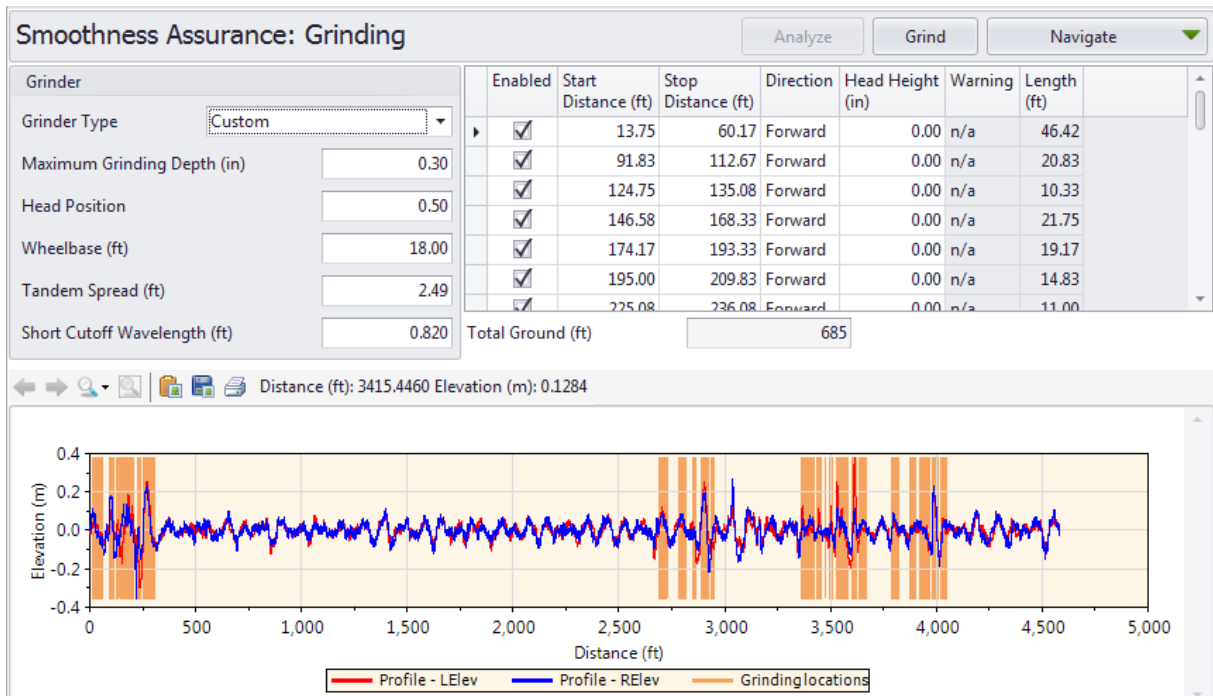
Management of the grinding locations can be performed using the **Strategy** button in the toolbar.

The **Automatic Grind** would allow ProVAL to recommend locations for grinding based on the grinder settings and assumed basic grinding pattern.

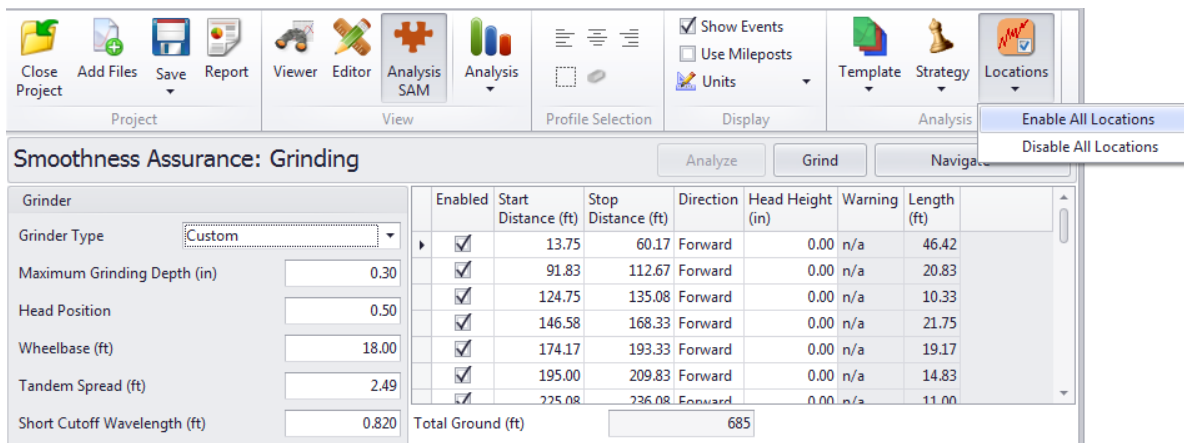


The basic grinding pattern is one pass in the forward direction with zero head height (i.e., flushing grinding head with the pavement surface) at the start. The grinding location information is tabulated and in a chart where shaded areas indicate grinding locations. The lengths for all grinding locations as well as the Total Ground length are displayed. If a route is defined, grinding locations are shaded orange on the map. Mouse over a location to show the start/stop distance.

The resulting strategy would be saved as Automatic under the Strategy selection.



You can click the **Locations** dropdown and select the **Enable All Locations** or **Disable All Locations** to quickly select and de-select all grinding locations.



Spot grinding locations can be displayed as orange-coded segments on the map. Mouse over each grinding spot to show information include the start and stop distances.

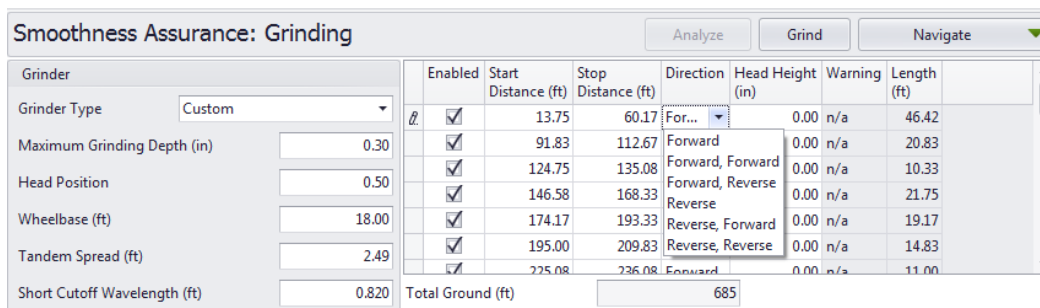


If grinding occurs at the beginning or end of a profile, there may be a sharp change in the raw profile. Because of the grinder's wheelbase, grinding cannot occur at the very beginning or end of the profile, so those segments should be ignored.

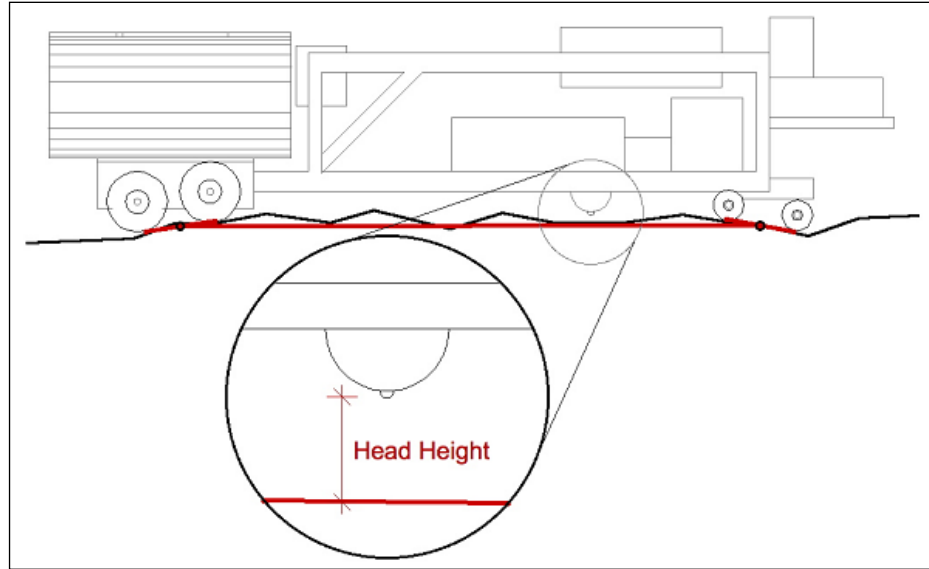
It is recommended to provide profile that extends beyond the project range, with extra lengths at the beginning and end in order to properly "sit" the grinder.

Grinding location tables include the following information that can be edited:

- ▶ Enabled (Yes/No)
- ▶ Start Distance
- ▶ Stop Distance
- ▶ Direction; Selection from:
- ▶ Forward
- ▶ Forward, Forward
- ▶ Forward, Reverse
- ▶ Reverse
- ▶ Reverse, Forward
- ▶ Reverse, Reverse

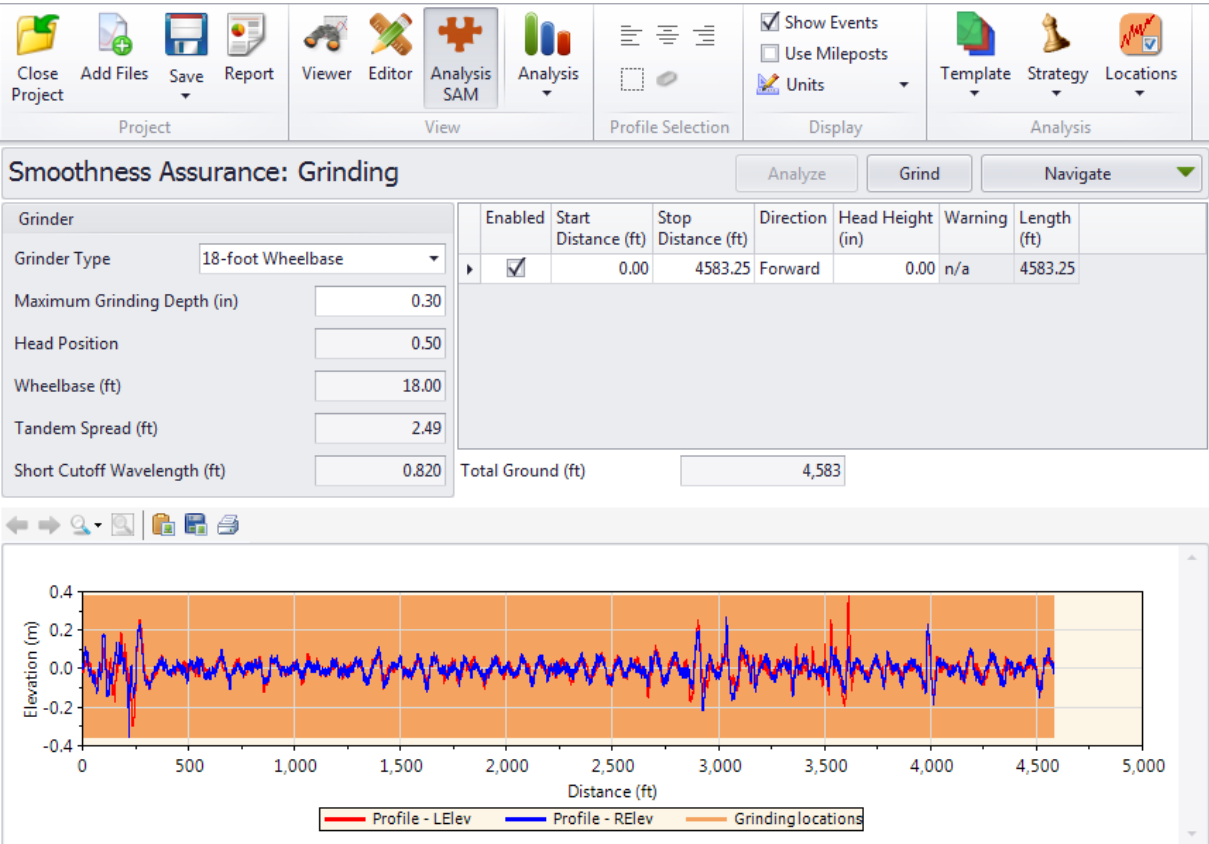


- ▶ Head Height (distance between the grinding head and the pavement surface at the starting location)
- ▶ Warning (e.g. deep grinding or when the grinding depth exceeds the user-defined maximum grinding depth)
- ▶ Length



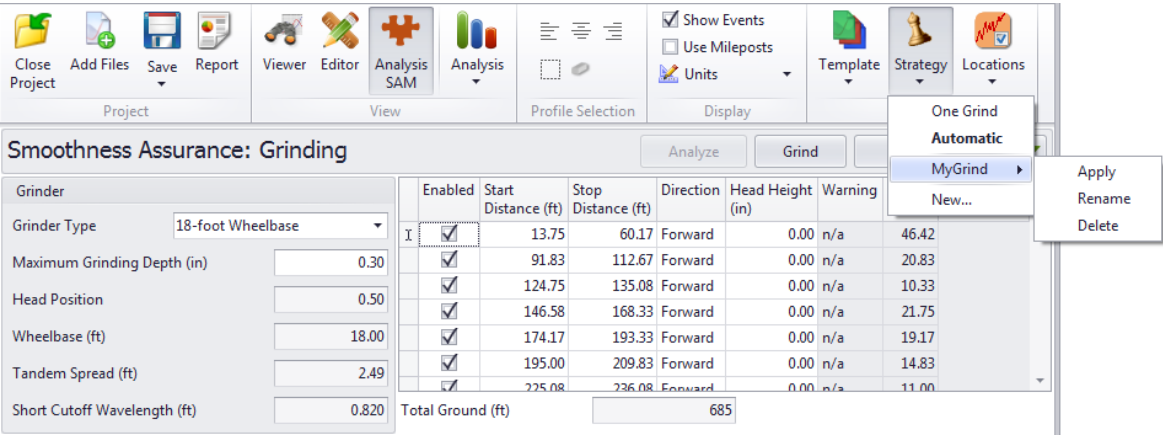
The above diagram does not include an additional support wheel to reflect grinder dimensions during grinding operation.

You can use the **Strategy** dropdown button to select **One Grind** (i.e. grind the entire length), **Automatic**, or a **New** strategy. Changes to the grinder type and grinder settings would lead to changes in the Auto Grind strategy.



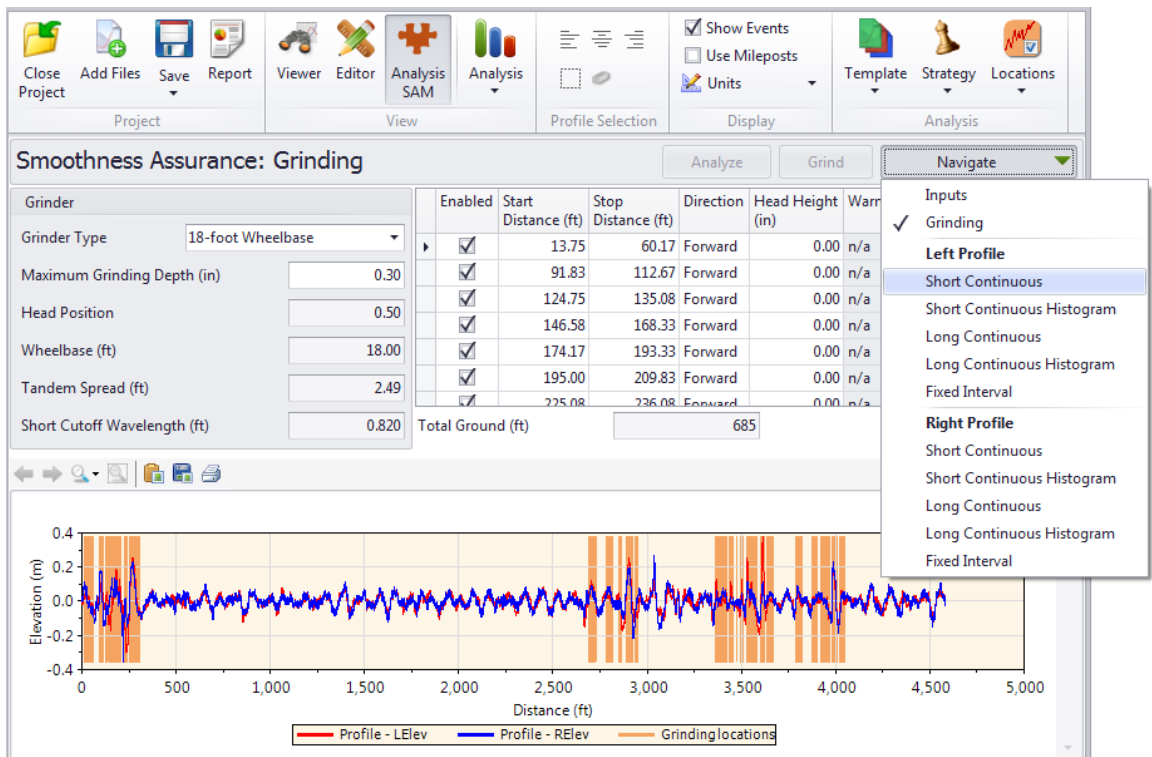
You can select **New** to start a new strategy based on current displayed grinding information. A dialog box would allow the user to name this new strategy.

New and existing strategies can be **Applied** to the current display, **Renamed**, and **Deleted**.



To perform grinding simulation, simply click the **Grind** button on the analysis menu bar. **Deep Grinding Warning** may be issued in the grinding information table if any of the grinding locations

has exceeded the user-defined **Maximum Grinding Depth**. Use the Navigate button to view all results, including **Before Grinding** and **After Grinding** results.

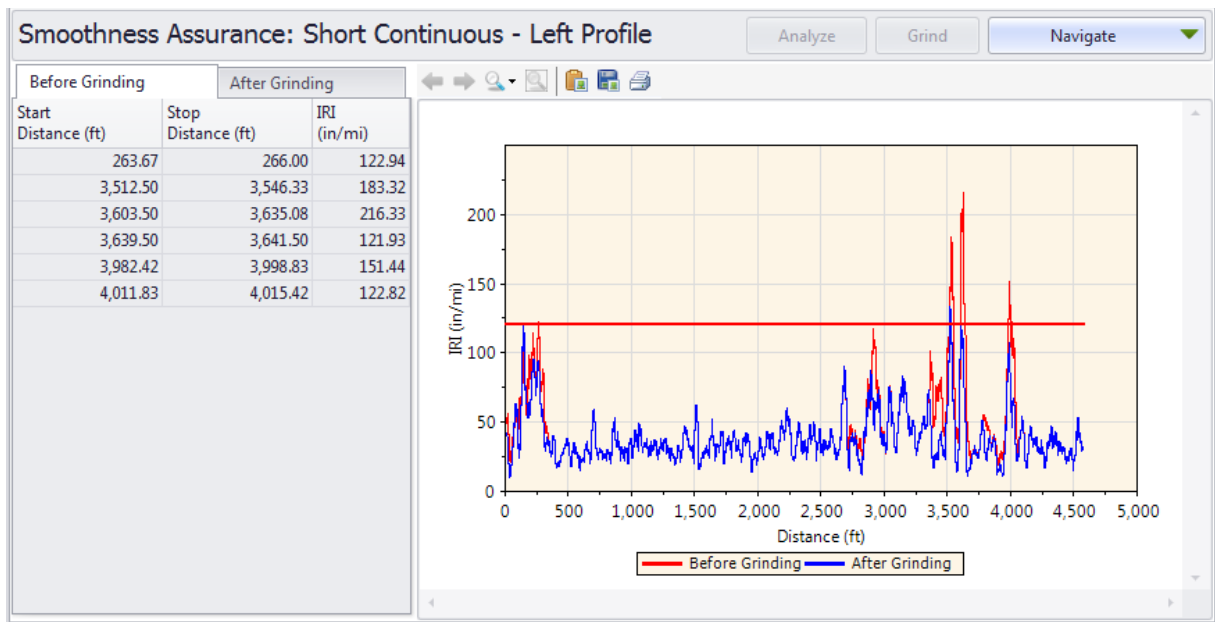


Short Continuous Report

The **Short Continuous** roughness report (normally indicates localized roughness) includes the following for before and after grinding:

- ▶ Defective segments table, with tabs for No Grinding and After Grinding
- ▶ Continuous ride index chart and comparison chart
- ▶ Map showing locations above the threshold, indicating hot spots or failed areas. Mouse over each hot spot to show information including the start/stop distance and the ride index value.

An example of a continuous report without a comparison chart:

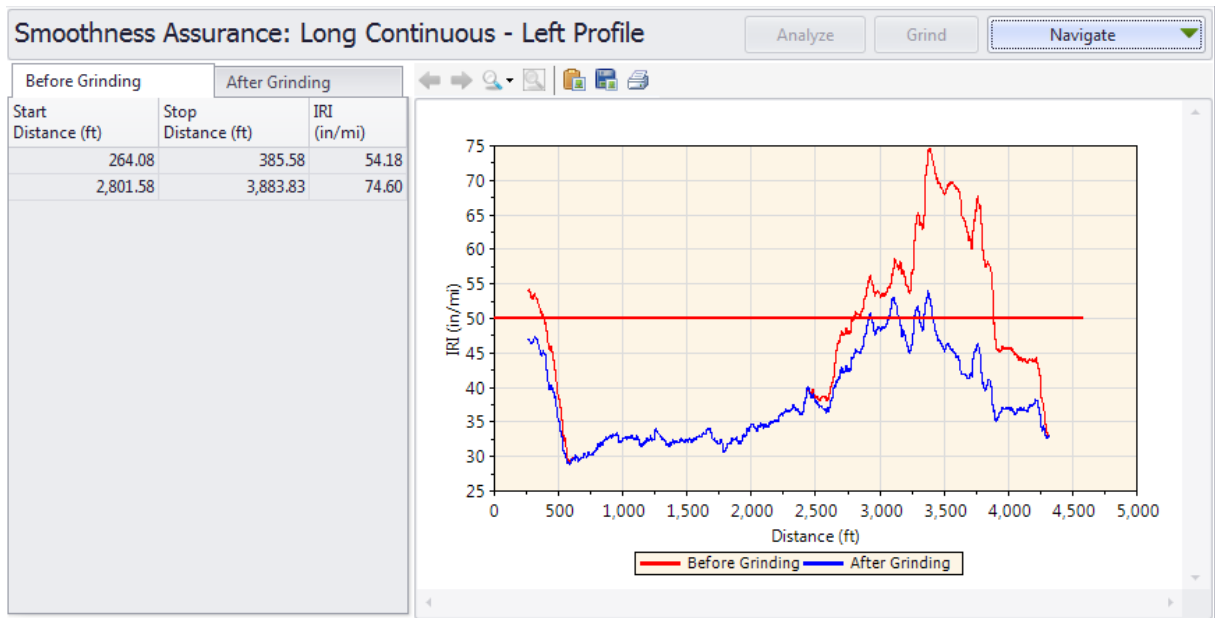


Long Continuous Report

The Long Continuous roughness report (normally indicates general ride quality) includes the following for before and after grinding:

- ▶ Defective segments table, with tabs for No Grinding and After Grinding
- ▶ Continuous ride index chart and comparison chart
- ▶ Map showing locations above the threshold, indicating hot spots or failed areas. Mouse over each hot spot to show information including the start/stop distance and the ride index value.

An example without a comparison chart:

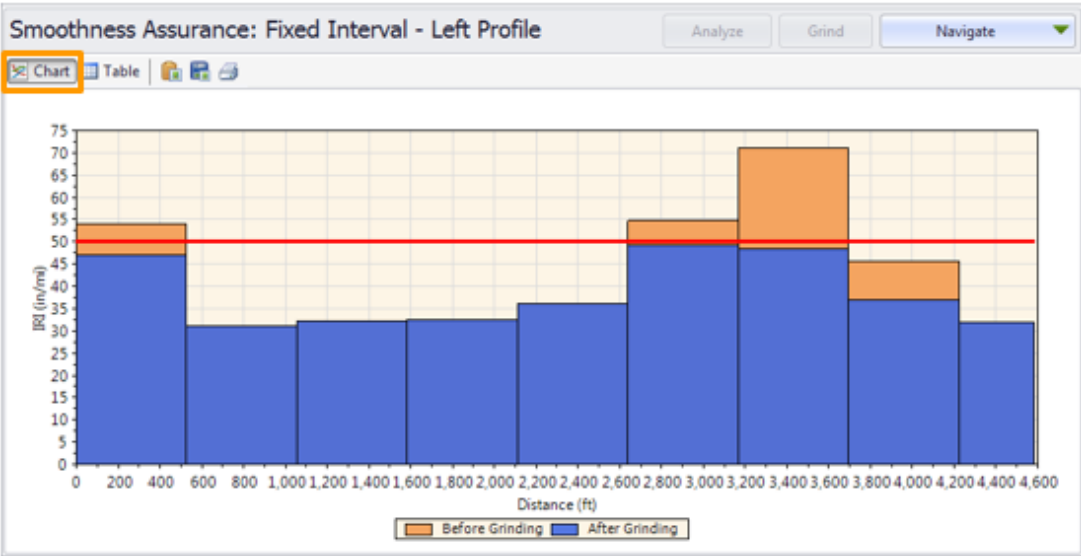


Fixed Interval Report

The Fixed Interval roughness report (normally for most agencies' lot report) includes the following for before and after grinding:

- ▶ Fixed interval ride index report table
- ▶ Fixed interval ride index chart and comparison chart
- ▶ Fixed interval ride index map

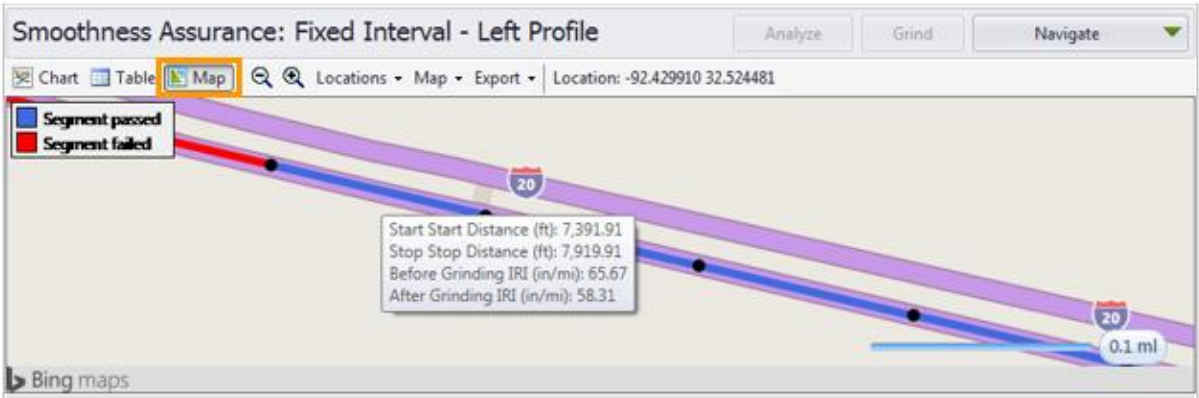
Toggle between the Chart, Table, and Map views using the buttons.



The table data includes the following for each interval: location, length, IRI, and number of defective segments within the interval (based on Short Continuous specifications).

Smoothness Assurance: Fixed Interval - Left Profile							
Start Distance (ft)	Stop Distance (ft)	Length (ft)	Before Grinding IRI (in/mi)	Before Grinding Defect Count	After Grinding IRI (in/mi)	After Grinding Defect Count	
0.00	528.00	528.00	54.00	1	46.87	1	
528.00	1,056.00	528.00	31.16	0	31.16	0	
1,056.00	1,584.00	528.00	32.25	0	32.25	0	
1,584.00	2,112.00	528.00	32.54	0	32.54	0	
2,112.00	2,640.00	528.00	36.23	0	36.23	0	
2,640.00	3,168.00	528.00	54.80	0	49.34	0	
3,168.00	3,696.00	528.00	71.04	3	48.36	2	
3,696.00	4,224.00	528.00	45.68	2	36.94	0	
4,224.00	4,583.25	358.42	31.87	0	31.87	0	

The map includes information for each interval, displayed when hovering over a section.

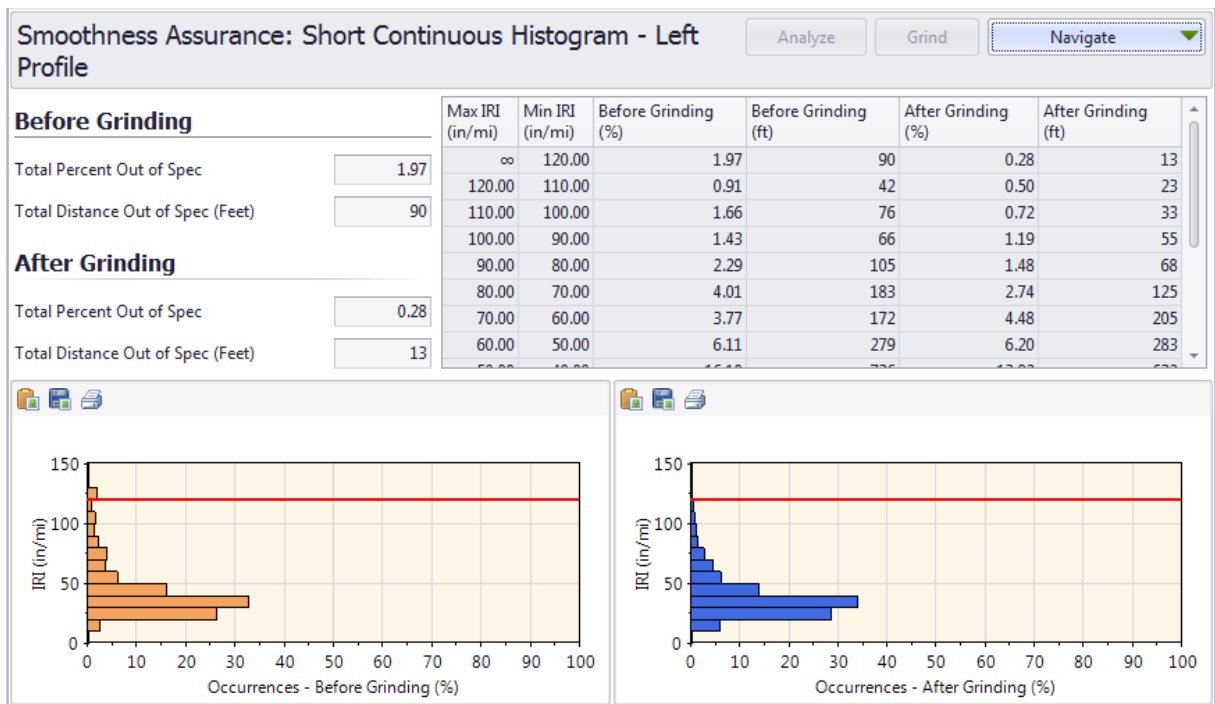


Short Continuous Histogram Results

The results for the histogram of the Short Continuous roughness reports include:

- ▶ Percent of Pavement Out of Spec
- ▶ Distance Out of Spec
- ▶ Histogram tables
- ▶ Histogram charts

A view of the short continuous histogram data for before and after grinding:

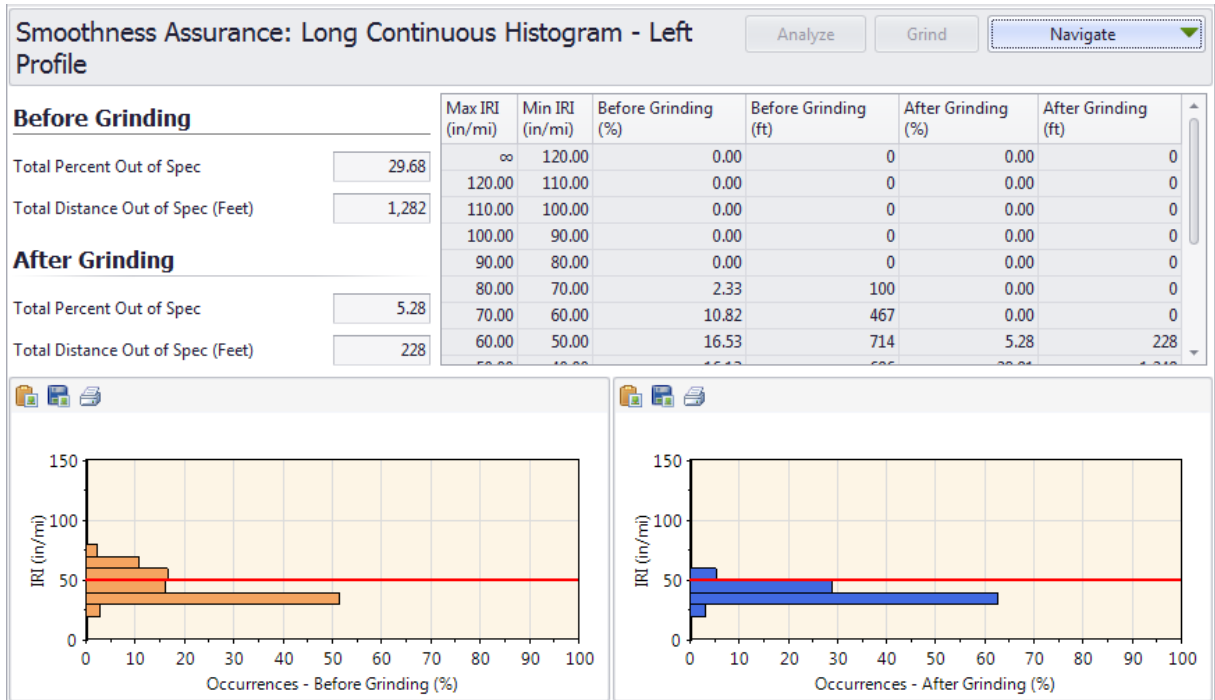


Long Continuous Histogram Results

The results for the histogram of the Long Continuous roughness reports include:

- ▶ Percent of Pavement Out of Spec
- ▶ Distance Out of Spec
- ▶ Histogram tables
- ▶ Histogram charts

A view of the histograms of long continuous reports for before and after grinding:



Analysis with a Comparison Chart

The above illustrated SAM analysis results are without any comparison charts. We show an analysis example with the comparison chart below:

Step 1. In the Inputs screen, select a desired comparison type and associated input settings. (E.g. select Profile and Moving Average High-Pass filter with a cutoff wavelength at 150 ft. This way you can view and compare the roughness plot with the filtered profile plot side-by-side.)

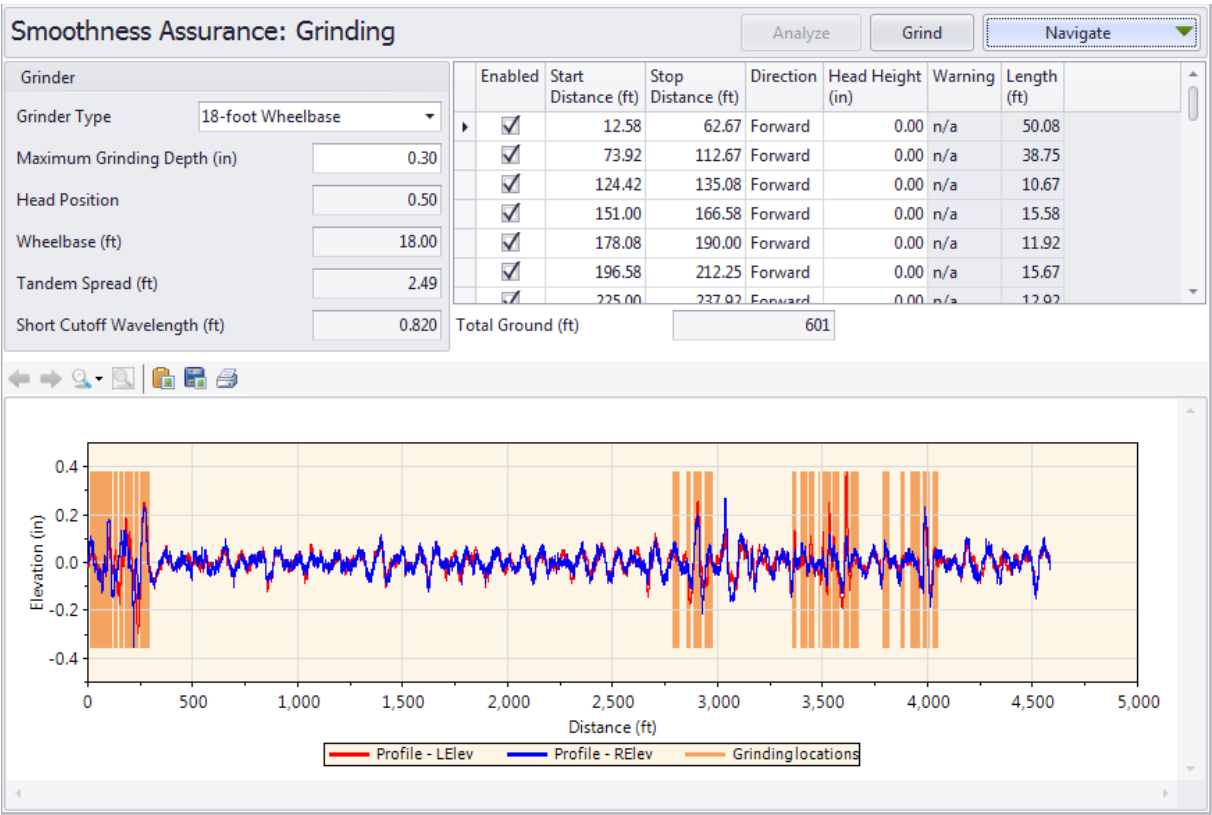
Smoothness Assurance: Inputs Analyze Grind Navigate

Ride Quality			
Ride Quality Index	IRI		
Analysis	Segment Length (ft)	Threshold (in/mi)	Histogram
Short Continuous	25	120	Histogram
Long Continuous	528	50	Histogram
Fixed Interval	528	50	

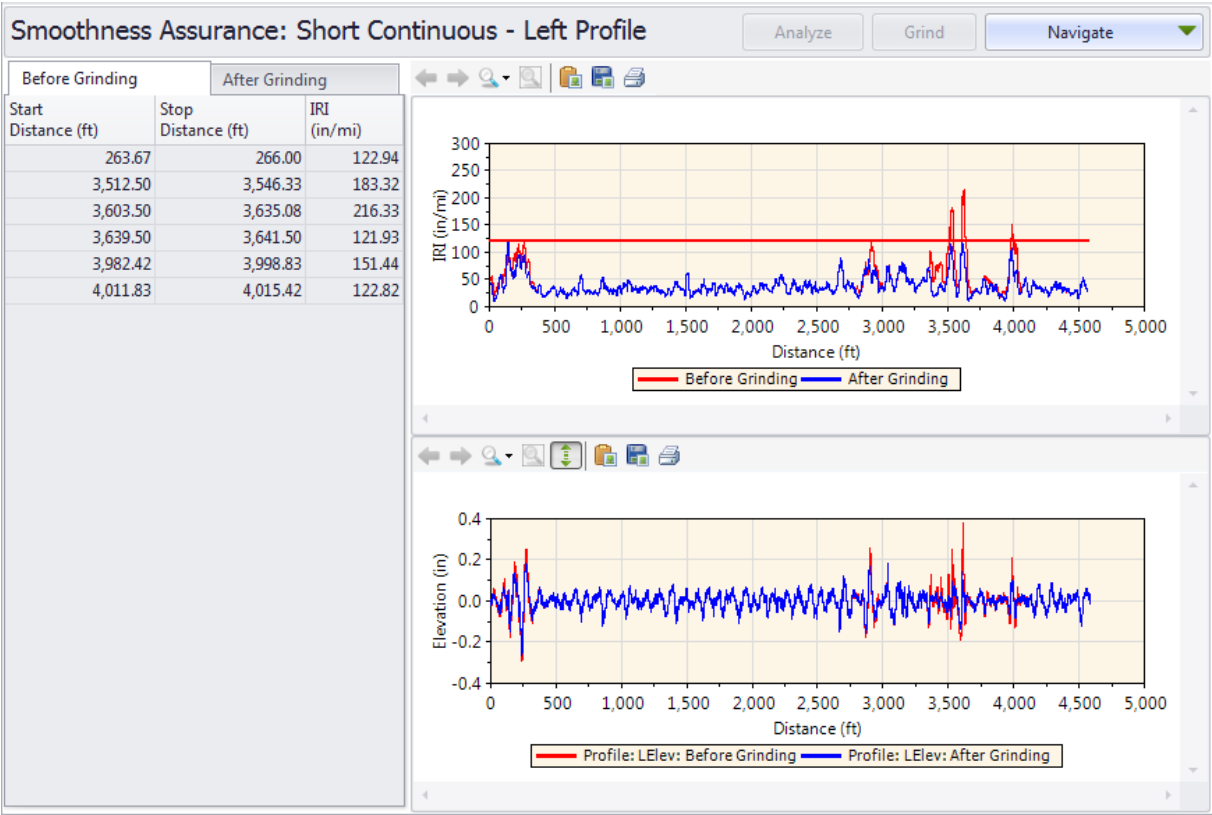
Comparison			
Type	Profile		
Straightedge Length (ft)	10.00		
Filter	Butterworth High-pass (100.00 ft)		

File	Profiles	Section	Apply 250mm Filter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Profile	Left + Right	Full	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Step 2. Click the Analyze button and Navigate to the Grinding screen. Rerun the Auto Grind by clicking the Auto Grind in the toolbar. Then, click the Grind button to perform the grinding simulation.



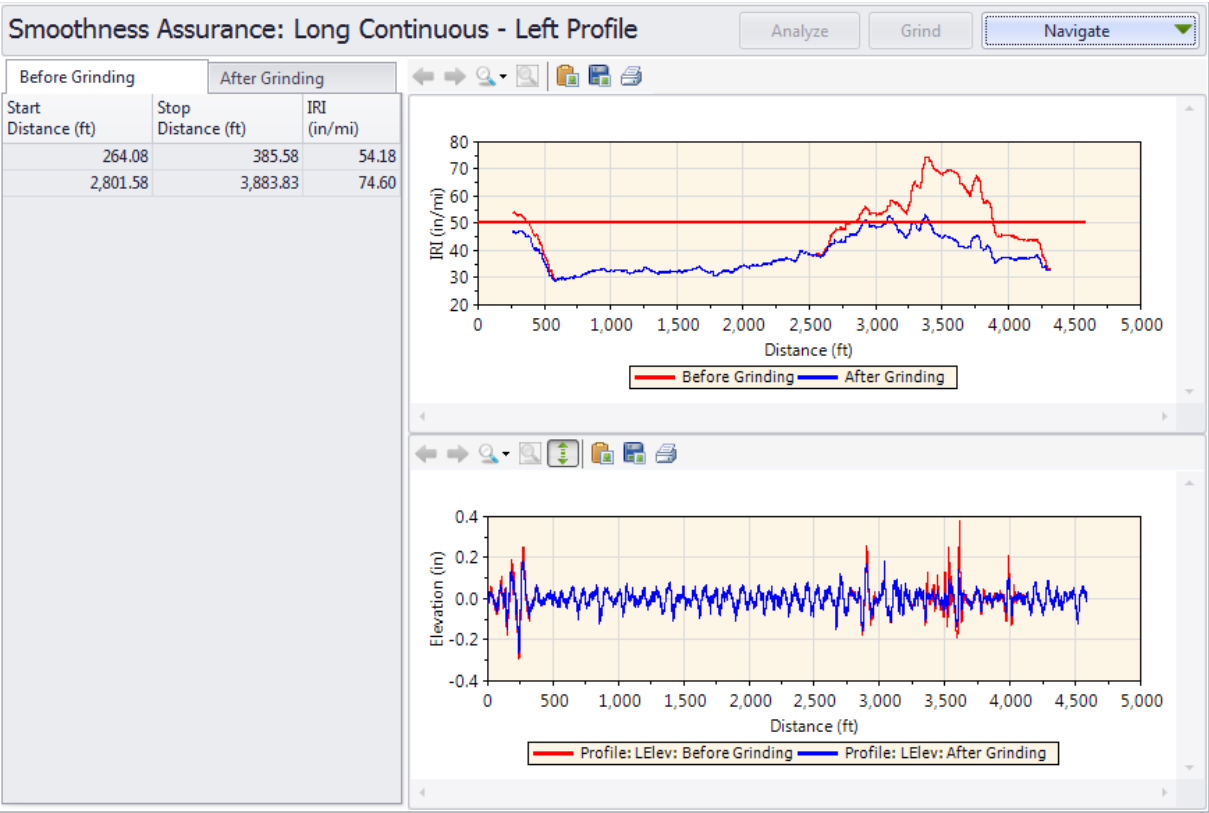
Step 3. Navigate to Short Continuous to view the short continuous roughness report vs. filtered profile plot. You may zoom in to examine detailed comparison.



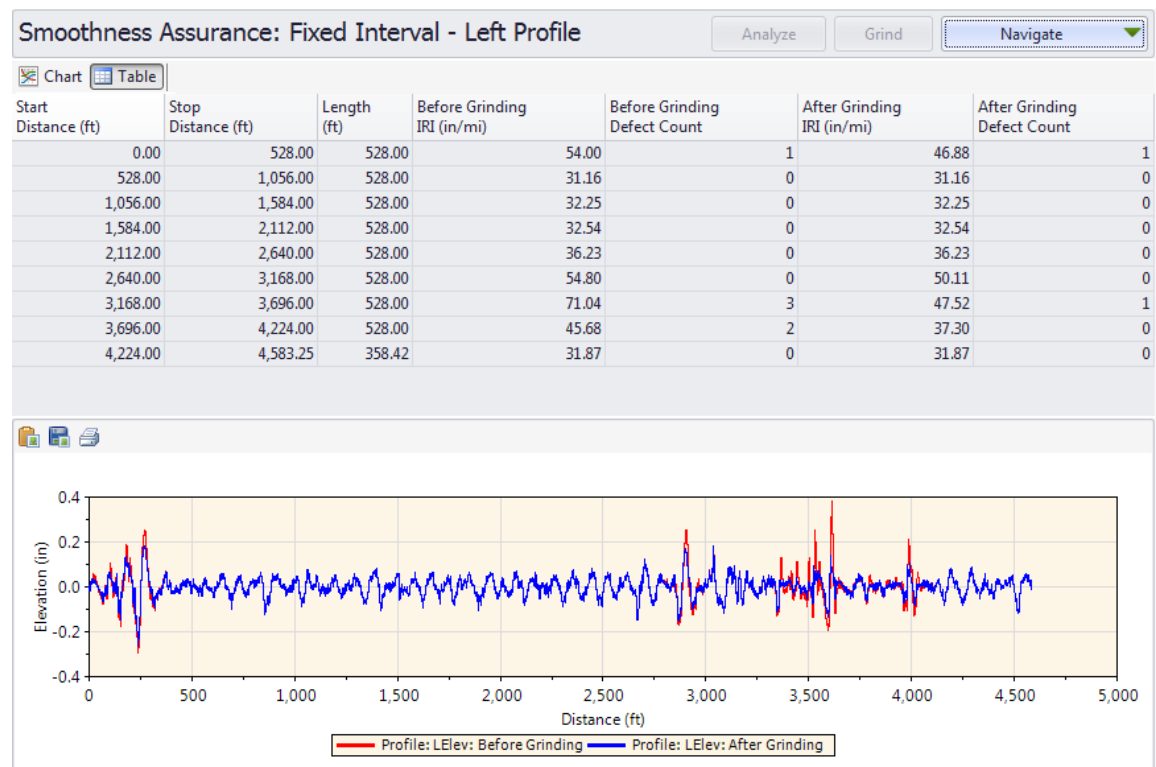
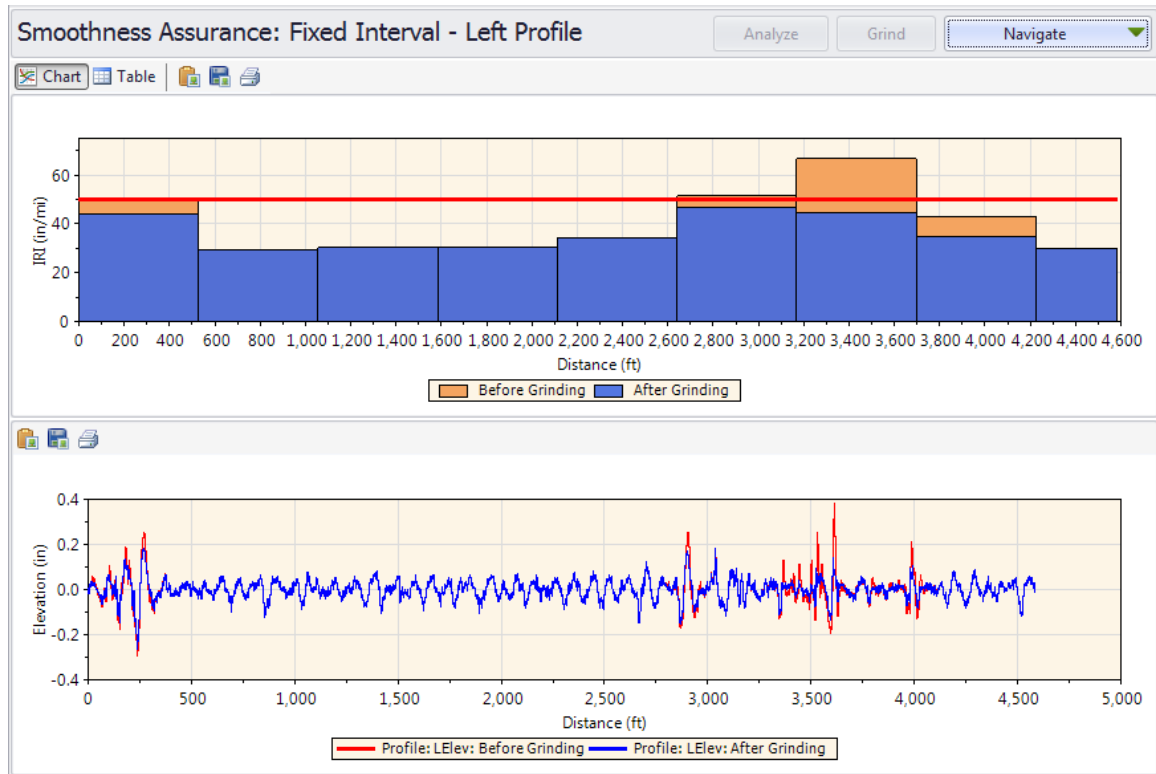
The chart control for the comparison charts includes a button with two-way arrows to turn on and off of the synchronized viewing for both charts.



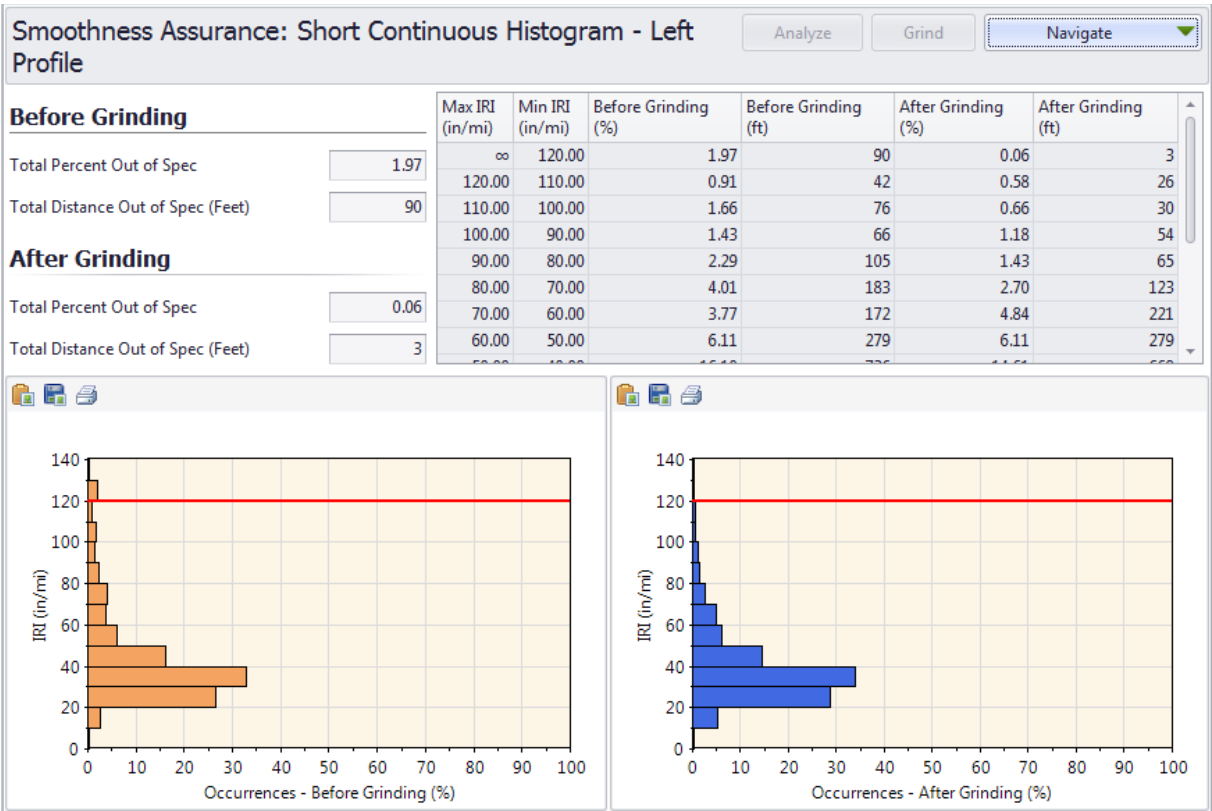
Step 4. Navigate to Long Continuous to view the long continuous roughness report vs. filtered profile plot. You may zoom in to examine detailed comparison.



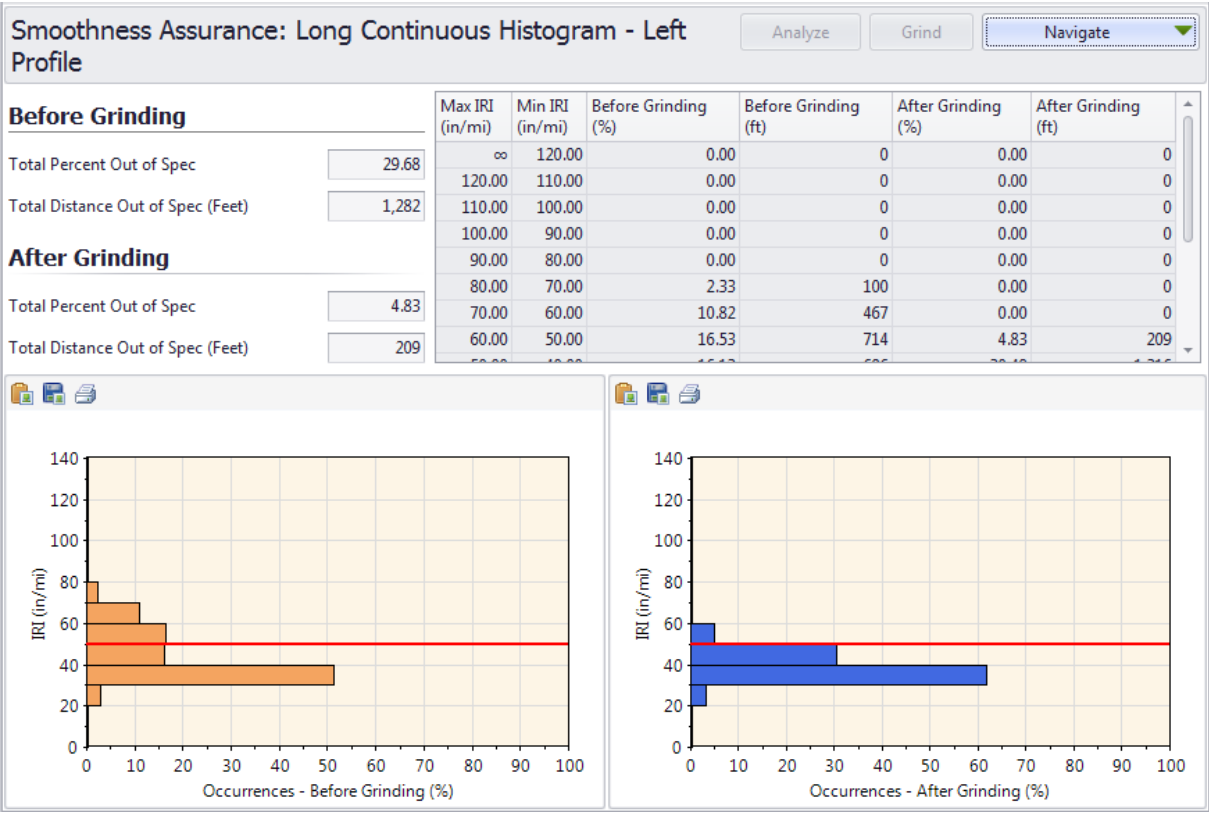
Step 5. Navigate to Fixed Interval to view the fixed interval roughness report vs. filtered profile plot. You can not zoom in for this case due to the nature of the plots. Use the buttons to toggle between the chart and the table data.



Step 6. Navigate to Short Continuous Histogram to view the histogram of the short continuous roughness report.



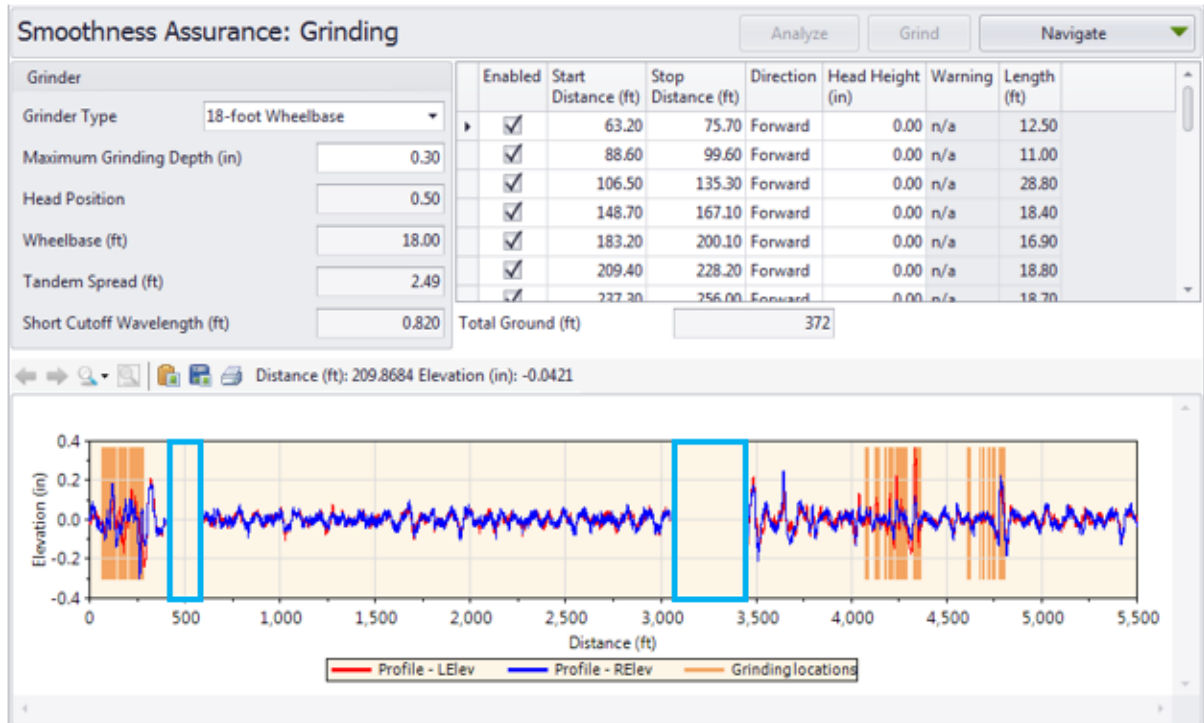
Step 7. Navigate to Long Continuous Histogram to view the histogram of the long continuous roughness report.



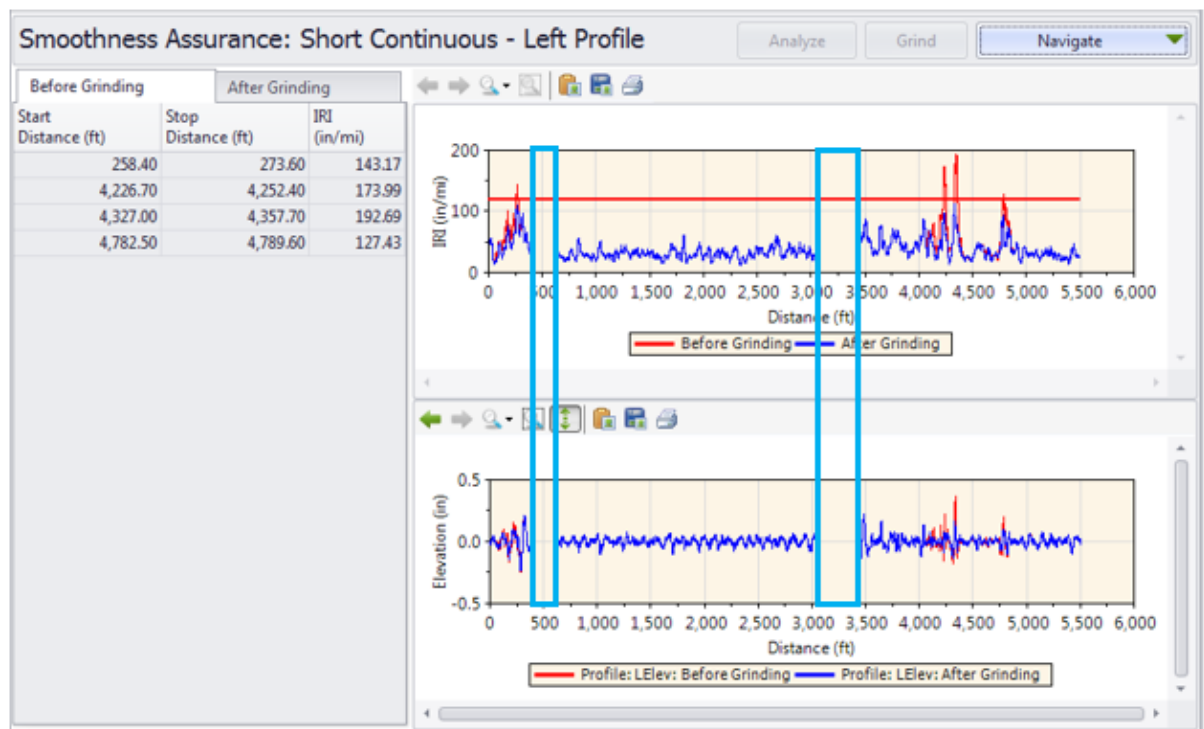
Analysis by Excluding Leave-outs

If Leave-out sections are defined, the SAM analysis will exclude results within the leave-out sections. For the continuous analysis, one-half of the segment length both before and after a leave-out is excluded. The behaviors are similar to those for the Ride Quality analysis module.

The grinding locations and profile plots within leave-outs will also be excluded.



The roughness plots and profiles within the leave-outs will be excluded in the short continuous report.



The roughness plots and profiles within the leave-outs will be excluded in the long continuous report.



The profiles within the leave-outs will be excluded in the fixed interval report. The Length column in the table shows the actual length used for ride index computation by excluding the leave-out sections. The segments would advance until one reaches the start of a leave-out location and this specific segment may contain less than a full interval. After passing the end of a leave-out, the segments would re-start advancing with the fixed interval again. It would repeat the above process once encountering other leave-outs. Roughness indexes will be reported within each segment (full fixed interval or partial interval) and the actual lengths for all segments are also reported. Leave-out areas are not plotted in the bar chart.

Smoothness Assurance: Fixed Interval - Left Profile

Analyze Grind

Chart Table

Start Distance (ft)	Stop Distance (ft)	Length (ft)	Before Grinding IRI (in/mi)	Before Grinding Defect Count
0.00	400.00	400.00	59.94	1
600.10	1,128.10	528.00	28.90	0
1,128.10	1,656.10	528.00	29.59	0
1,656.10	2,184.10	528.00	31.20	0
2,184.10	2,712.10	528.00	32.53	0
2,712.10	3,050.00	337.90	32.88	0
3,450.10	3,978.10	528.00	47.67	0
3,978.10	4,506.10	528.00	63.57	2
4,506.10	5,034.10	528.00	43.76	1
5,034.10	5,499.90	465.00	28.47	0



Optimal WIM Site Locator (OWL)

The Optimal Weigh-In-Motion Site Locator (OWL) module can be used to determine qualified locations for Weight-In-Motion (WIM) sites from profiles collected using inertial profilers per the AASHTO MP 14 “Standard Specification for Smoothness of Pavement in Weigh-in-Motion (WIM) Systems”. It also provides optional but very flexible user-defined grinding strategies. A comprehensive report can then be generated to include WIM index reports before and after grinding.



The WIM error index thresholds are adopted from the AASHTO MP14-11 Standard Specification for Smoothness of Pavement in Weigh-in-Motion (WIM) Systems:

Type I: lower threshold is 1.339 m/km, upper threshold is 2.700 m/km.

Type II lower threshold is 1.861 m/km, upper threshold is 3.752 m/km.

This module is divided into three sections: Inputs, Grinding, and Results.

Profile Selection

The OWL analysis requires one profile of a file. The section must be specified for the file or profile.

File	Profile	Section
KeyTestCaseEastLane1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation <input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	Full
KeyTestCaseEastLane2	<input type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation <input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	
KeyTestCaseWestLane1	<input type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation <input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	
KeyTestCaseWestLane2	<input type="checkbox"/> Left Elevation <input type="checkbox"/> Right Elevation	

Input Templates are available for this analysis. Changing the selected profiles would not affect the template. The Grinding simulation is optional, and the “after-grinding” results would be included in all result screens for comparison if performed.

WIM Index Inputs and Analysis

The screenshot shows a software window titled "Optimal WIM Locator: Inputs". Inside, there is a section for "Site Type" with two radio buttons: "Type I" (which is selected) and "Type II". Below this, there are two checked checkboxes: "Use Bridging Filter" and "Show Comparison". At the bottom, there is a label "Comparison Filter" followed by a blue hyperlink text "Butterworth High-pass (100.00 ft)".

The inputs include:

- ▶ **Site Type:** Select from: Type I and Type II. This input would determine what WIM index threshold values be used as per the AASHTO MP14 specification.
- ▶ **Tire Bridging Filter:** User can choose whether to apply tire-bridging filter to the profile prior to WIM index analysis. If the Tire-bridging filter option is not selected, a default moving average filter will be applied with a cutoff baselength of 250 mm.
- ▶ **Show Comparison chart:** User can choose whether to show comparison profile chart. If so, user can select a filter type and associated cutoff wavelength inputs to apply on the comparison profile.

Comparison Filter can be selected from:

- ▶ None
- ▶ Butterworth Low-pass
- ▶ Butterworth High-pass
- ▶ Butterworth Band-pass
- ▶ Moving Average Low-pass
- ▶ Moving Average High-pass
- ▶ Moving Average Band-pass

Grinding Inputs

The Grinding Inputs work in the same manner as the one in the Smoothness Assurance Module (SAM). Please refer to the ***SAM Grinding Screen*** for further details.

WIM Locator Report

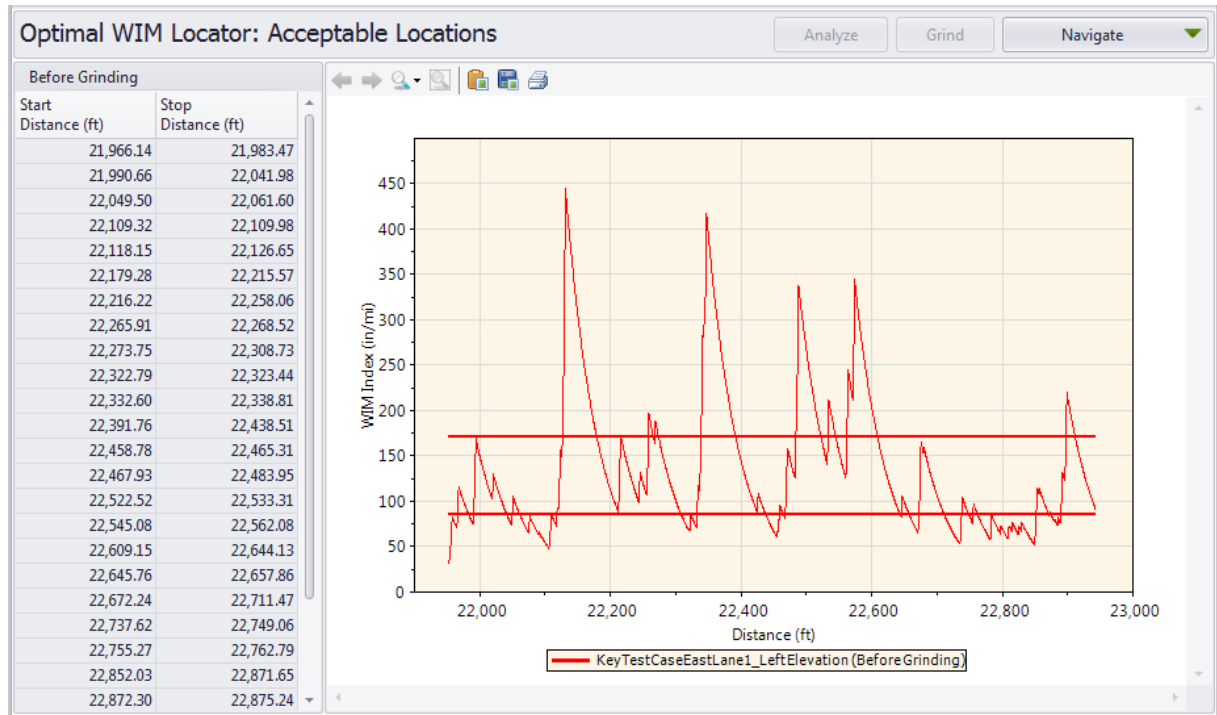
The **WIM Index** report includes the following items:

- ▶ A table for qualified WIM site locations
- ▶ A WIM index chart

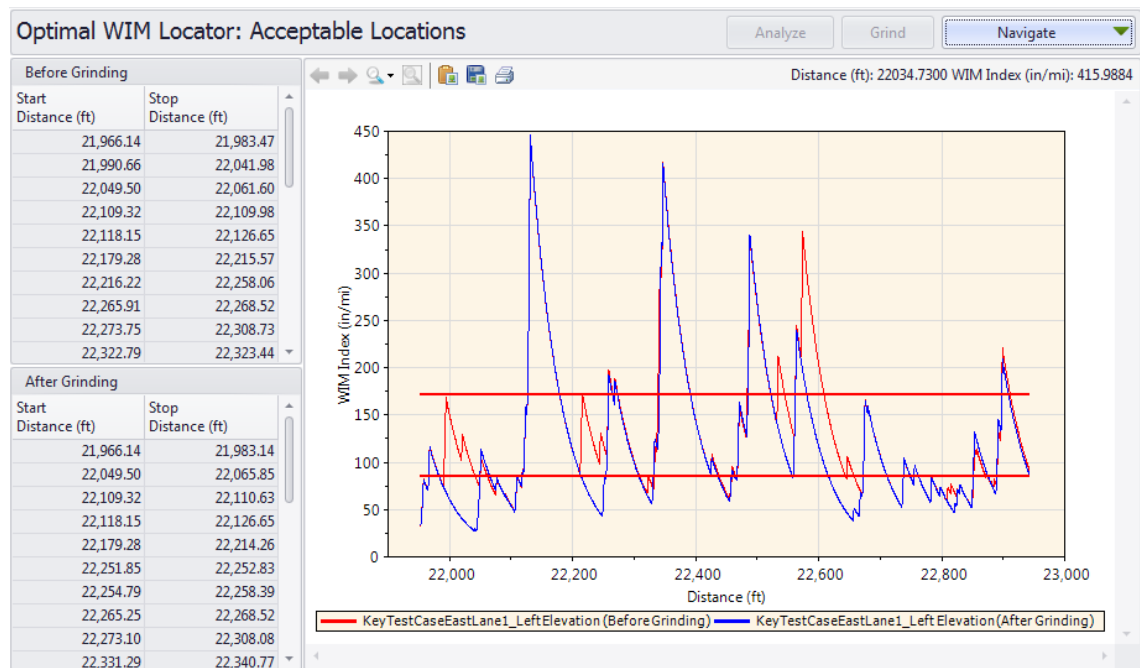
Qualified WIM sites are those where the WIM index is within the specified upper and lower thresholds. If grinding simulation is performed, the **WIM Index** report would include reports for before and after grinding.

Analysis without a Comparison Chart

An example of WIM index report without a comparison chart and grinding results:



An example of WIM index report without a comparison chart but with grinding results:



Analysis with a Comparison Chart

An example of WIM index report with a comparison chart but without grinding results:



An example of WIM index report with a comparison chart and (auto-grind) grinding results: This is a powerful combination of charts to examine grinding effects on the WIM index report. Therefore, an adequate grinding strategy can be selected to obtain a desired location for a WIM site.



OTHER INFORMATION

Web Sites

The ProVAL website is: <http://www.RoadProfile.com>.

The Smoothness Specification website is: <http://www.SmoothPavements.com>.

The Road Profile Users' Group: <http://www.rpug.org>

The University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI) Road Roughness Home Page:
<http://www.umtri.umich.edu/erd/roughness/index.html>

References

Sayers, M.W., and S.M. Karamihas, The Little Book of Profiling, The University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI), October 1997. (<http://www.umtri.umich.edu/content/LittleBook98R.pdf>)

Chang, G.K., et al., Implementation Of A Grinding Simulation Tool in The Profile Viewing And Analysis (ProVAL) Software Tool, SURF 2008, Slovenia, Oct. 2008.

George K. Chang, Steven M. Karamihas, Robert Otto Rasmussen, David Merritt, Mark Swanlund, Quantifying the Impact of Jointed Concrete Pavement Curling and Warping on Pavement Unevenness, 6th symposium on pavement surface characteristics (SURF), Slovenia, 2008.

Chang, G.K., Watkins, J., and Orthmyer, R., Practical Implementation of Automated Fault Measurement Based on Pavement Profiles, International Symposium on Pavement Performance: Trends, Advances, and Challenges, STP 1555, ASTM International, ISBN13: 978-0-8031-7541-9, 2012.

An extensive bibliography can be found at the UMTRI website:
<http://www.umtri.umich.edu/divisionPage.php?pageID=64>