

WinLogView v1.0

Users Guide

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Introduction

WinLogView is a graphical log review application that allows you to load ASCII log files created by WinLog, MegaTune, and other ASCII comma delimited log files. This guide will explain the WinLogView software and its operation.

Requirements

WinLogView is a WIN32 application, which means that it *should* run on Windows 98, ME, 2000, XP and Vista. The software will run using as little system memory as 32MB (depending on the OS requirements of course). WinLogView will also run successfully a CPU as slow as an Intel Pentium 90mhz. A 640x480 display is the minimum recommended display resolution for WinLog, while it is able to run in lower resolutions, some of the configuration dialogs may not fit on the screen.

Installing WinLogView

Installing the software is automatically done when you install WinLog, no further steps are required to install WinLogView

The WinLog installation procedure created a shortcut on your start menu under the WinLog program group. If at any point you need to uninstall the software, an uninstall program is provided under the WinLogView program group that will completely remove the software from your PC.

Starting WinLogView

Normally, you will launch WinLogView from WinLog by selecting the “File->Open Log File” option. In addition, you can manually launch WinLogView independently of WinLog by clicking on its shortcut in the start menu under the WinLog program group.

Once WinLogView starts you will be displayed with the WinLogView title screen, and be given an option to register the software. If you don't want to register at the moment, wait a couple of seconds and click the “Continue” button when it is displayed.

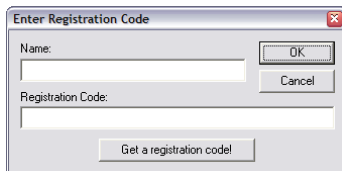


If you have already registered your copy of WinLogView the title screen will not be displayed, and you will immediately be taken to the WinLogView main window.

Registering WinLogView

If you're feeling generous and find that the WinLogView software is useful, please consider registering your software. You'll get a couple of really useful features, and will help motivate me to continue improving the software! :-) WinLogView itself is a direct result of the user support the TEWBLOG received over the years, and I hope to continue that with WinLog and WinLogView!

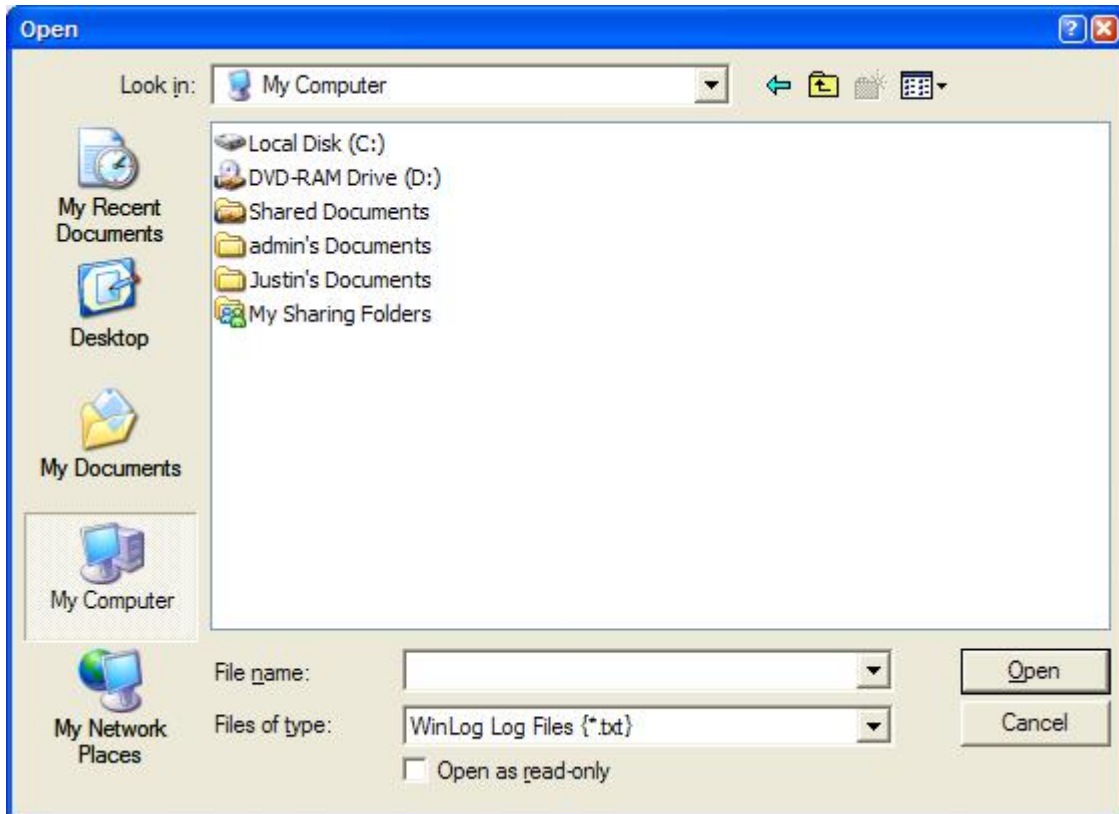
Registration is a simple procedure, when you first start WinLogView you are given the option to register for a couple of seconds, if you click the "Register" button during this time the "Enter Registration Code" screen will be displayed. If you already have a code, you can enter your name and the registration code. If not, click the button at the bottom of the dialog to learn how to get a code. If you have a registration code for WinLog, you can use that same code to register WinLogView.



Once you've entered your name, and the registration code (both should be entered exactly as provided in the registration email you will receive), click the "OK" button, and if all is well, you will be prompted that the software has been registered.

Getting Started

Depending on how you start WinLogView, you'll be presented with either a file selection box, or a graph will be displayed. If you are starting WinLogView from a shortcut, or Windows start menu, WinLogView will display the following dialog to select a log file:



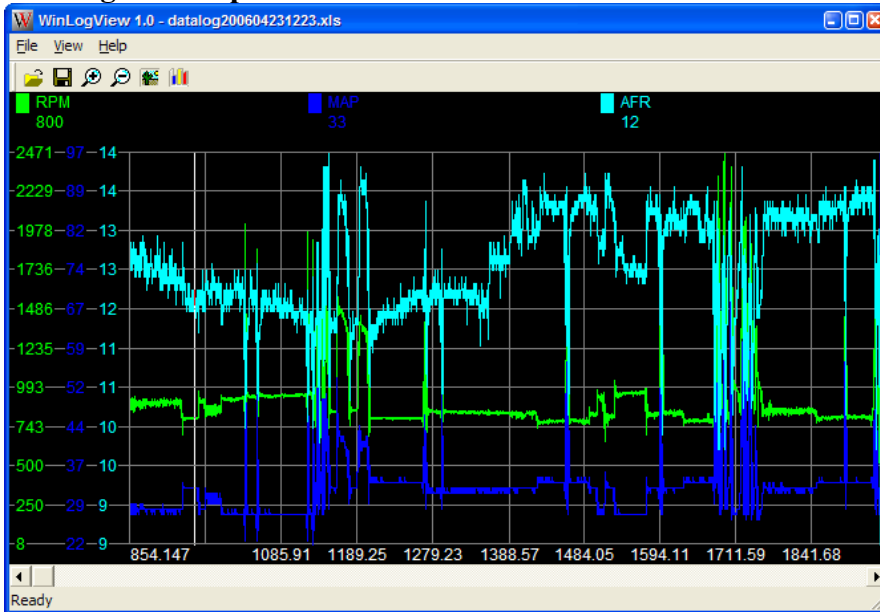
By changing the Files of type option, you can also cause the file open dialog to display MegaTune type log files (with the .xls extension, not to be confused with Microsoft Excel spreadsheet files, which WinLogView will NOT open!)

After selecting a file, you will be returned to the WinLogView main screen, and WinLogView will attempt to display the contents of the log file. If no fields have been selected that are contained in the opened log file, WinLogView will prompt you to select fields to display.

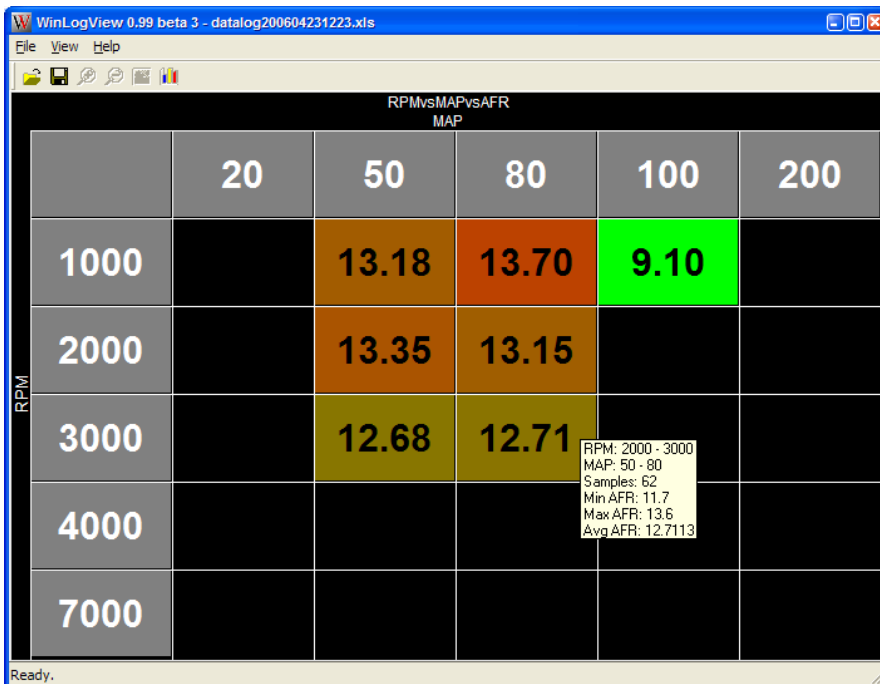
WinLogView has two different display modes, Graph mode, and Matrix mode. Graph mode is a standard two dimensional graph view that can plot many simultaneous graphs. The Matrix mode is a "Spreadsheet" type display that plots up to 3 different graph fields, two in the x and y axis, and a third in the cells of the spreadsheet.

Following are of each of the different modes:

WinLog in “Graph” mode:



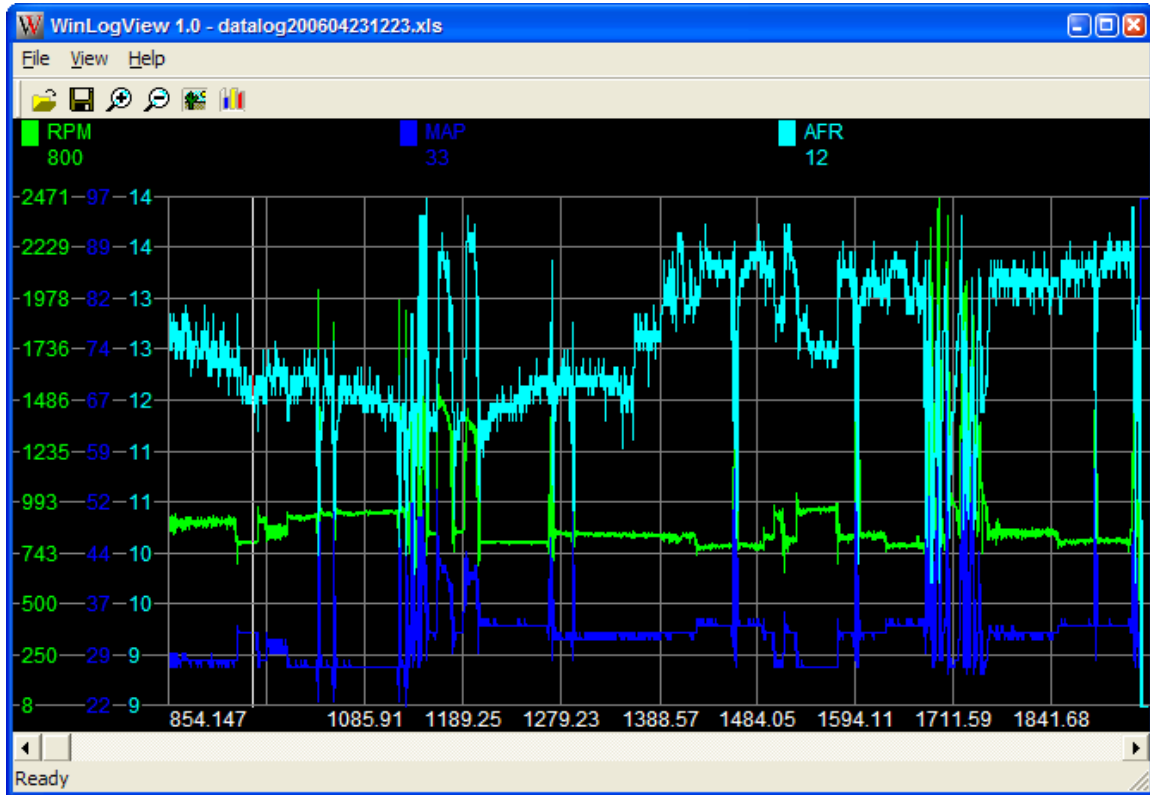
WinLog in “Matrix” mode:



Following, we'll discuss the different graph modes that WinLogView can display.

Graph Mode

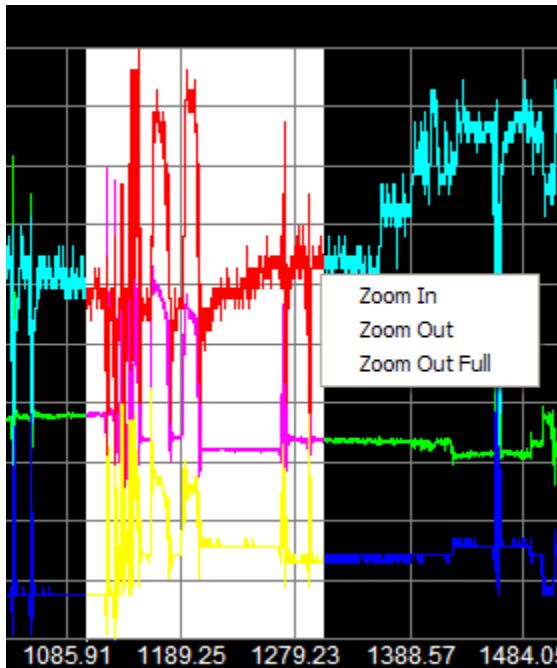
When WinLogView is in Graph mode, it displays a standard two dimensional graph plot. The plot may contain many simultaneous fields, each overlaid on the same graph.



At the top of the graph, you'll find the legend, which shows you the name of each of the fields, its corresponding color, and the value of the field that is currently under the cursor. As the cursor moves around the graph, the values under each of the field names will be updated to reflect the value of the field at that location in the log file.

At the right side of the graph is the scale. The scale shows you the range of graph that has the corresponding color lines. Clicking on any of the scale values will display the field configuration dialog for the specific field, allowing you to modify the display settings.

The graph can be “zoomed” in and out to specific ranges of data, making it easier to analyze.



This can be done via a variety of methods. A selection can be marked using the mouse by clicking and dragging a range of data, once the range is selected, you can right click the mouse, and select the “Zoom In” option (or select the zoom in icon on the toolbar, or the zoom in view->zoom in menu). The selected area will now take up the entire width of the graph window. In addition, you can zoom in to any point by either double-clicking the point, or pressing the numeric ‘+’ key at any point the cursor is located.

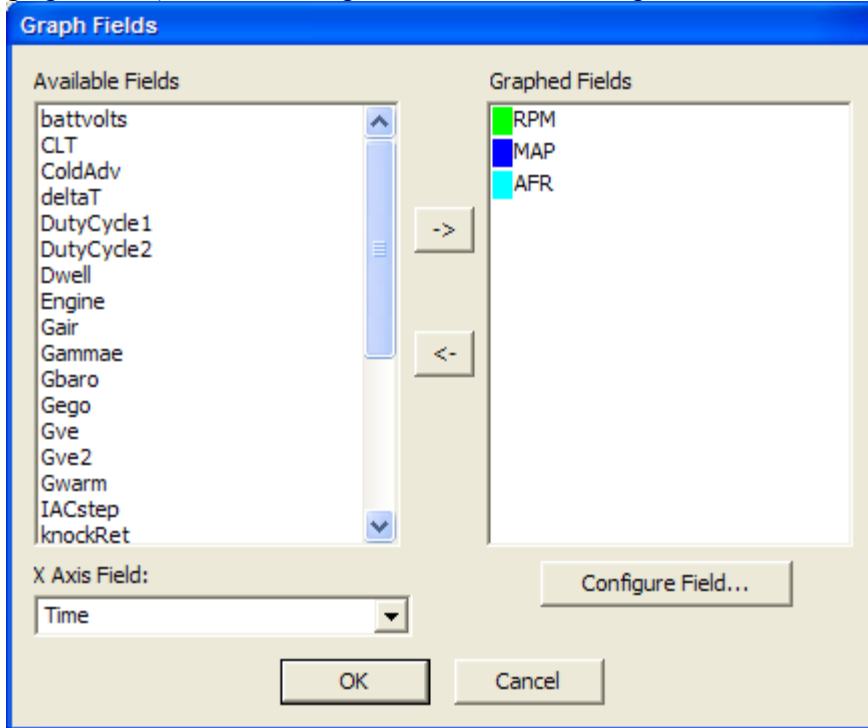
The graph is zoomed out using the same methods as zooming in, to use the keyboard to zoom out, press the numeric ‘-’ key. In addition, you can zoom out to the full range of the log file using the View->Zoom Out Full option.

When the graph has been zoomed in, it will be larger than the width of the window, because of this, you will now have the ability to “scroll” the graph to the left or right. You can use the scroll bar at the bottom of the window to do this, or simply use the cursor keys, when the cursor is at the right or left of the window, the data will be scrolled to either the right or left and show the data prior to or after the displayed data.

At the bottom of the graph display, there is an additional field, which is user configurable. Usually this field is used to show things like the sample number or time at a given position in the log file. As you zoom in/out and pan around in the log file, you’ll notice that these numbers change, reflecting the new position in the file.

Configuring the graph display

The graph display is a highly configurable display, allowing you to choose which fields from the log file are graphed, and how they are graphed. To configure the graph display, first, load a log file (File->Open Log), then select the View->Fields menu item (when in graph mode). You will be presented with the Graph Fields screen.



The graph fields screen contains the following items:

Available Fields

This is the list of fields that are available in the currently opened log file. One or more of these can be selected for graphing in the graph view. This is done by selecting the field(s), then clicking the arrow pointing to the right. Once the arrow has been clicked, the selected fields will be moved to the “Graphed Fields” box, and removed from the “Available fields” box.

Graphed Fields

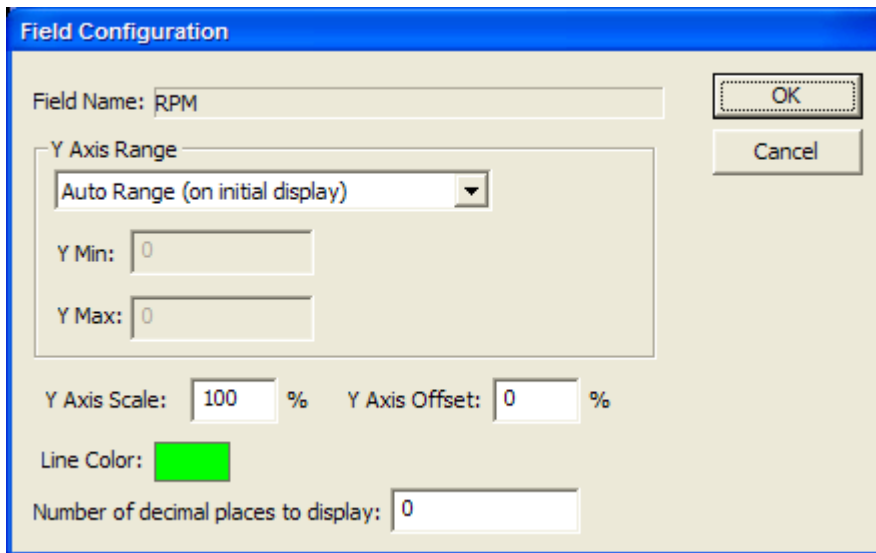
This is the list of fields that will be graphed by WinLogView. Fields not in this box will not be graphed. Once a field has been put into this box, WinLogView will automatically assign it a new color, and you will be able to configure how the field is displayed by using the Configure Field button.

X Axis Field

This is the field that will be used as the X Axis scale at the bottom of the screen. Generally, you’ll want to use something like a “sample time” or a “sample number” to configure this field (if available). By default, WinLogView will display the sample number for the X Axis scale.

Configure Field

Selecting this button while a graphed field is highlighted will allow you to edit the display settings for a specific field. Once clicked, the “Field Configuration” is displayed:



The image shows a 'Field Configuration' dialog box with a blue title bar. It contains several input fields and buttons. The 'Field Name' is 'RPM'. The 'Y Axis Range' dropdown is set to 'Auto Range (on initial display)'. The 'Y Min' and 'Y Max' fields are both set to '0'. The 'Y Axis Scale' is '100 %' and the 'Y Axis Offset' is '0 %'. The 'Line Color' is a bright green square. The 'Number of decimal places to display' is '0'. There are 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons on the right side.

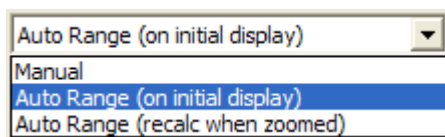
The Field configuration dialog allows you to modify the display settings for a graphed field. The following settings are available:

Field Name

Contains the name of the field that will be displayed.

Y Axis Range

The settings in this box determine how the field data will be vertically scaled and displayed. The following options are available:



The image shows a dropdown menu for the 'Y Axis Range' setting. The current selection is 'Auto Range (on initial display)'. The menu is open, showing three options: 'Manual', 'Auto Range (on initial display)', and 'Auto Range (recalc when zoomed)'. The 'Auto Range (on initial display)' option is highlighted in blue.

Manual

This option gives you the ability to specify the range of data that you would like the display. When selected, the scale of the data will be fixed to the **Y Min** and **Y Max** settings below. Zooming etc will have no effect on the scale.

Auto Range (on initial display)

This option allows you to have WinLogView calculate the range of data that is contained in the log file. When a log file is opened, WinLogView will scan the file for the range of the specified field, and fix the Y axis range to the file range. Zooming etc will have no effect on the scale.

Auto Range (recalc when zoomed)

This option forces WinLogView to rescan the field data every time you zoom in or out, and set the range of the data according to the currently visible fields.

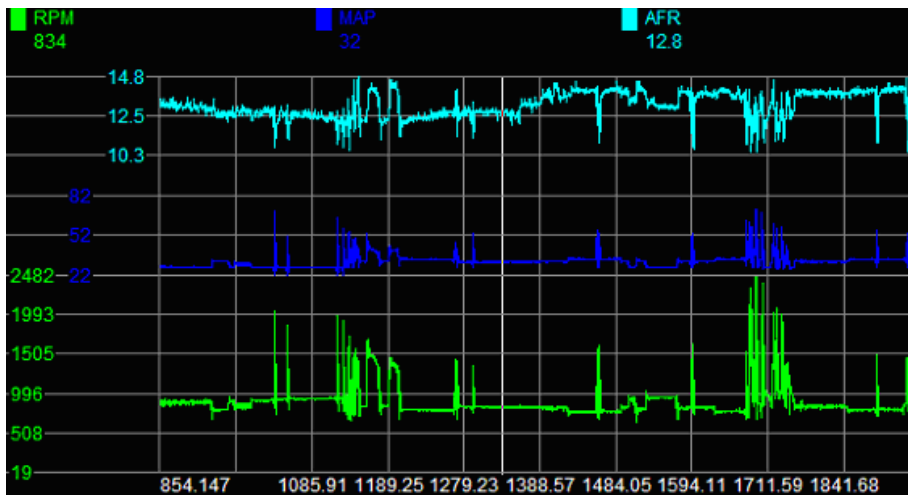
Y Axis Scale

This option lets you decide how much of the Y axis the field should take up. Specified in percent, it allows you to compress the data so that it does not take up the full height of the graph. For example, setting this value to 50% would cause the graph to only take up half of the available vertical graph space.

Y Axis Offset

This option allows you to offset the data vertically in the graph display space. This can be helpful if you have lots of graphs that attempt to plot data in the same region on the display. It is possible to “shift” the data to a clear area in the display using this setting. When combined with the Y Axis scale, it can make it much easier to read when many graphs are being plotted.

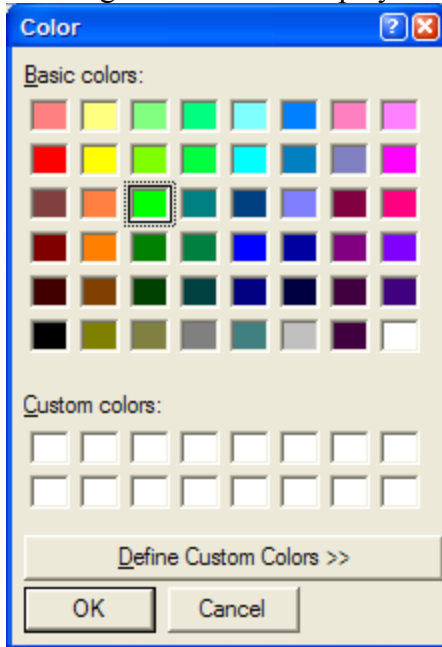
Below is an example of a graph with Y axis scales and offsets.



As you can see, the three graphs do not overwrite each other because they have been scaled and offset in the display area, making the graph easier to read.

Line Color

The Line Color option chooses the color of the lines that will be used to plot the field. By default, WinLogView attempts to choose a discrete color for each field. When the color box is clicked, the user has the ability to modify the color that will be used for the field. Clicking the color box display the color chooser dialog:



When you're done choosing a color, click the "OK" button to return to the field configuration dialog.

Number of decimal places to display

This setting defines the precision that will be displayed both in the Y axis scale for the field, and the current cursor value in the legend at the top of the screen. Setting this value to zero causes the decimal point and the trailing numbers to be truncated.

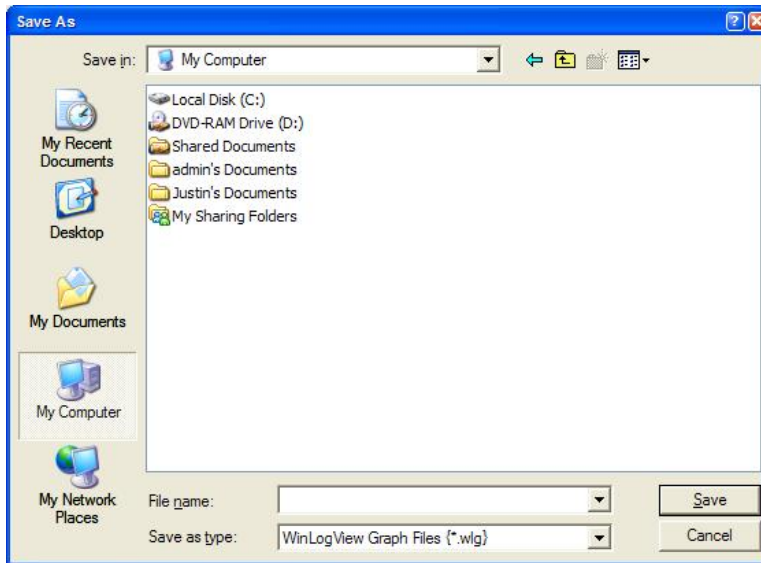
When you have finished configuring the field, select the "OK" button, and you will be returned to the Graph Fields dialog.

Graph Files

Once a graph has been defined, you have the ability to save them for future use on other data logs, without having to re-define the graph settings every time. Following we will discuss the Graph file operations.

Saving Graph Files

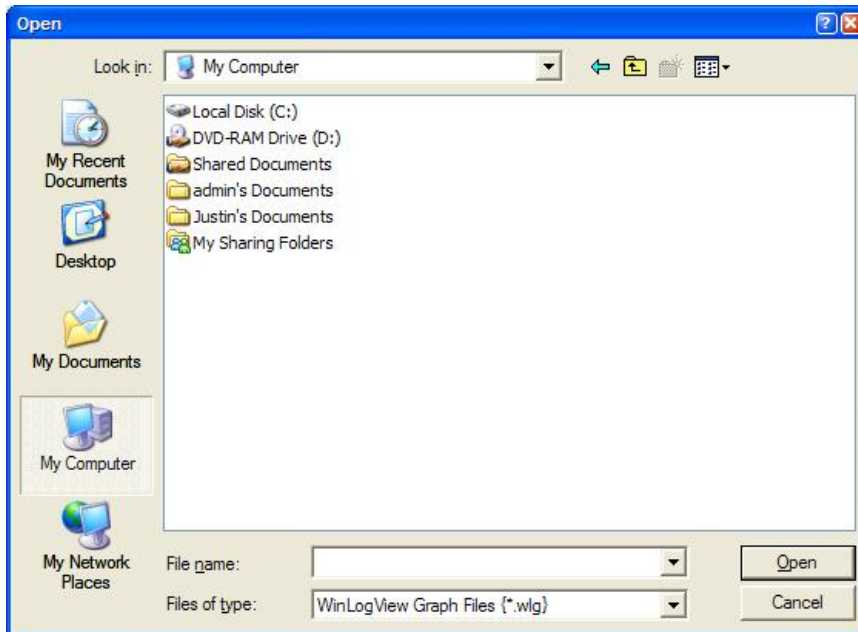
After you have finished defining your graph settings, you can choose to save them to a file. This is done by selecting the File->Save Graph option from the main screen. Once selected, the “Save As” dialog will be displayed:



After you enter a filename and Select the “Save” button, the graph configuration will be saved to the filename specified. After a file has been saved, WinLogView will automatically open the graph configuration file the next time WinLogView is opened, and apply it to log files that are displayed.

Loading Graph Files

Occasionally, you'll have different ways that you'd like to look at the data in your log files. WinLogView has the ability to display log files using the pre-defined graph settings that you have previously saved. To load a graph configuration file, select the File->Open Graph menu item from the main window. A file selection screen will be displayed:

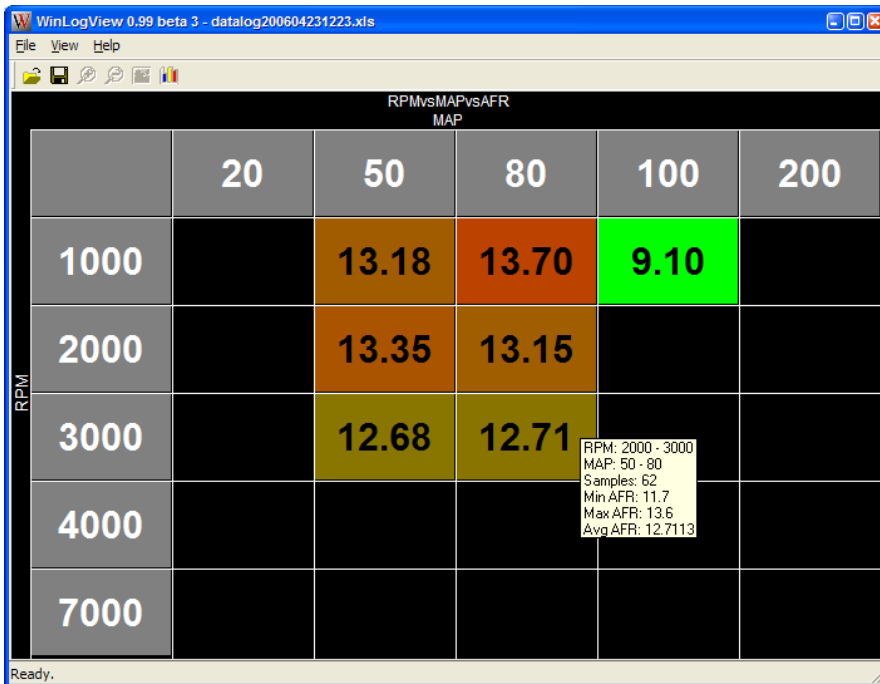


Once you have selected the graph file that you would like to use, select the “Open” button, and you will be returned to the WinLogView main screen, if a log file is currently loaded, it will be redisplayed with the new graph settings.

Occasionally, fields that were defined with the graph settings will not be available in the log file, WinLogView deals with this by not displaying fields that are not available in the log file. You'll also notice that if you go into the configuration for the graph, that there may be “grayed” out fields in the “Graphed Fields” list. These are fields that were defined in the graph configuration, but are not present in the currently loaded log file.

Matrix Mode

The matrix graph mode allows you to display data in a “spreadsheet” style gauge that plots values based on two input fields, and a resulting field based on the intersection of the two input fields. Along each of the axes (vertical and horizontal), an input field is selected, for each of the cells in the “spreadsheet”, the third input field is displayed. This type of display can be useful in things like air/fuel ratio tuning maps, where one axis can be manifold pressure, one can be RPM, and the cells can be the air/fuel ratio.



Cell Information

Hovering the mouse pointer over a cell for a short period of time will cause a small popup window to appear which contains information about that cell. In this window you will find the data ranges of the cell, the minimum and maximum sample values collected for the cell, and the number of samples collected (again for the specific cell). Moving the window to a different cell (or elsewhere) will clear the popup.

Configuring the Matrix Graph

To configure the matrix display, first, load a log file (File->Open Log), then select the View->Fields menu item (when in matrix mode). You will be presented with the Configure Matrix Graph screen.

The screenshot shows the 'Configure Matrix Graph' dialog box. The title bar reads 'Configure Matrix Graph'. The 'Title' field contains the text 'RPMvsMAPvsAFR'. Below the title bar are three tabs: 'Cells', 'Rows', and 'Columns', with 'Cells' selected. The 'Field' dropdown menu is set to 'AFR'. There are several input fields and a dropdown menu: 'Minimum number of samples for a cell to be displayed' is set to 1, 'Precision' is set to 2, 'Discard samples with values less than' is set to 0, and 'Display' is set to 'Average'. There is also a 'Discard samples with values more than' field set to 20. A 'Cell Color Range' section shows 'Start Color Cell Value' set to 10 with a green color swatch, and 'End Color Cell Value' set to 15 with a red color swatch. At the bottom of the dialog are 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons.

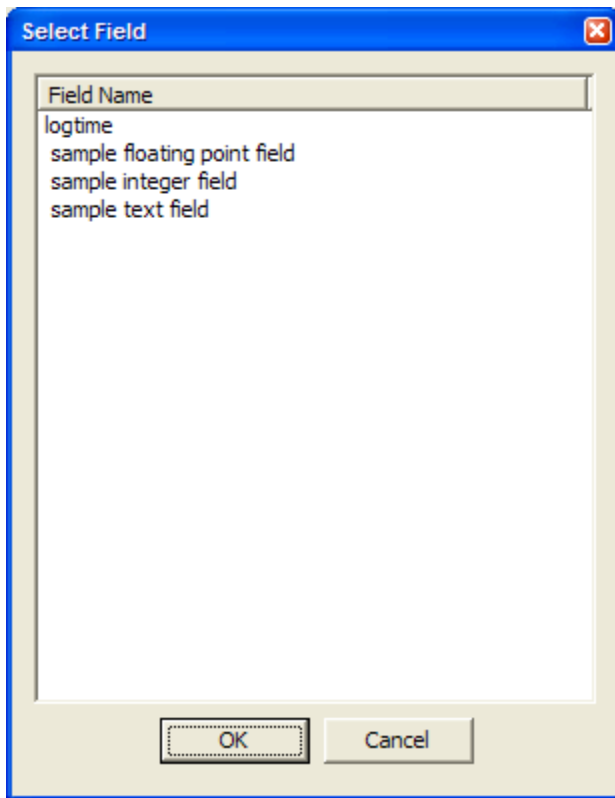
At the top of the dialog is the “Title” field. This is an optional title that will be displayed at the top of the matrix display, and if omitted, will not be displayed.

Below the title, are 3 tab style configuration pages, each corresponds to one of the three fields that will be used to populate the matrix.

Cell Settings:

The “Cells” tab defines the field that will be used to populate the cells on the matrix gauge.

The “Field” setting defines the field that will be displayed in the cells of the “spreadsheet”. It is configured by clicking the “...” button at the right side of the field setting. When the “...” button is clicked, the “Select Field” screen will be displayed.



The select field screen displays the list of fields that are available in the currently open log file. Select the field that you would like to use for the cells, and click the “OK” button. Once clicked, you will be returned to the “Configure Matrix Graph” screen.

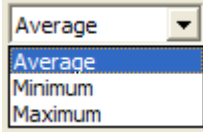
The “Minimum number of samples for a cell to be displayed” field allows you to choose the number of samples that must be present in the log file before displaying a value. This helps keep the clutter out of the display when there are insufficient samples to generate a valid display.

The “Discard samples with values less than” field allows you to specify a minimum sample field value. When the selected field is less than this value, it will not be added to the graph (this can help keep erroneous or irrelevant data out of the matrix graph).

The “Discard samples with values more than” field allows you to specify a maximum sample field value. When the source field is more than this value, it will not be added to the graph (this can help keep erroneous or irrelevant data out of the matrix gauge). Note that this field defaults to zero, and if not set might result in data not being displayed!!!

The “Precision” field allows you to select the number of digits following the decimal point in the cell display values. Setting this value to zero will omit the display of the decimal point and the trailing precision.

The “Display” setting allows you to choose the matrix gauge display mode, the following three settings are available:



Average – The samples from the log file will be averaged and displayed in the cells

Minimum – The minimum value from the log file will be displayed in the cells

Maximum – The maximum value from the log file will be displayed in the cells.

The Cell Color Range fields control the background color that will be used to display cells. The color will be interpolated between the minimum and maximum defined cell values using the specified colors for the span. The following fields are available:

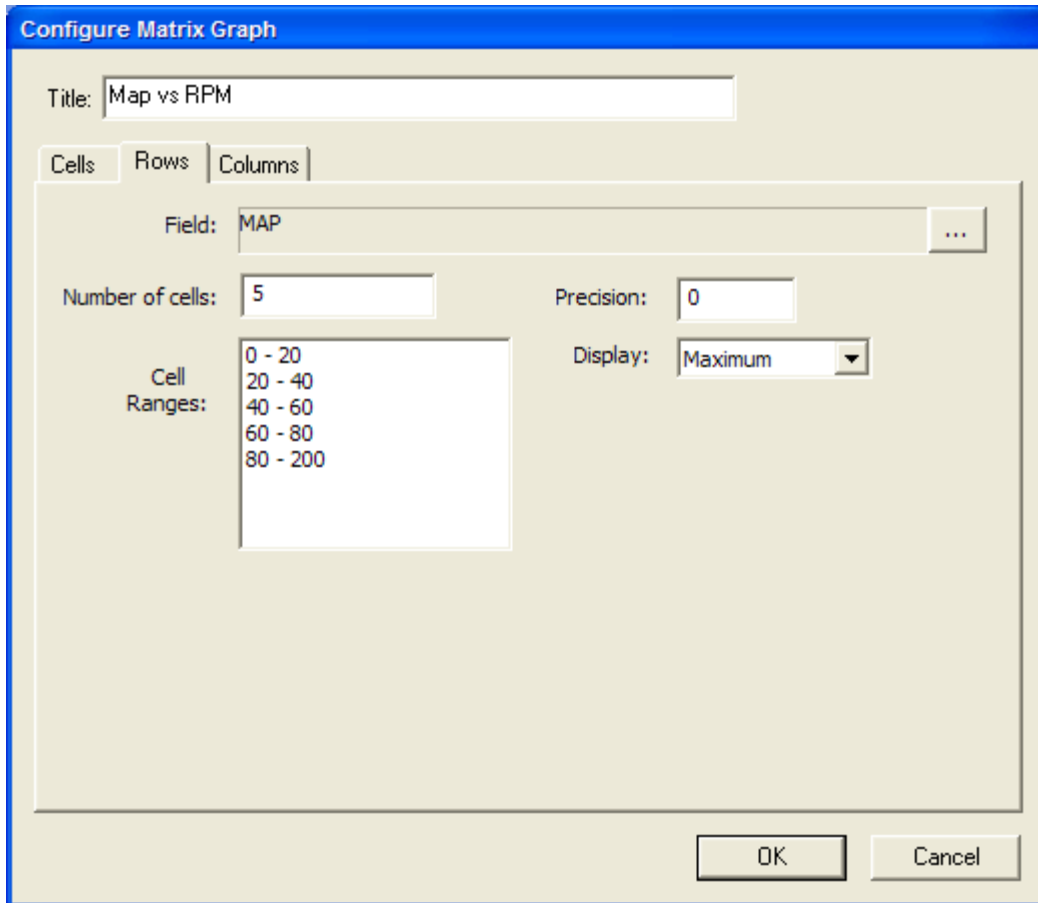
Start Color Cell Value – The value of the starting sweep color. Cell values less than the specified value will all be displayed using the starting sweep color.

End Color Cell Value – The value of the ending sweep color. Cell values greater than the specified value will all be displayed using the ending sweep color.

The starting and ending colors can be changed by clicking on the color boxes, and selecting a color. If the start and end colors are the same, the selected color will always be used as the background color for the cell.

Row/Column Settings:

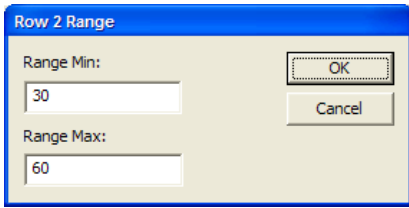
The row/column setting tabs define the x and y axis data fields. The settings for rows and columns are identical, so both will be discussed here.



The “Field” setting works as in the cell configuration tab, simply select the “...” button to select the field for the row/column.

The “number of cells” field defines the number of rows/columns in each axis. Adding additional rows/cols to the graph is accomplished by making this number larger or smaller.

The “Cell Ranges” field defines the range of each row/column in the graph. The ranges do not need to be contiguous (i.e., there may be gaps in the ranges for areas that you are not interested in). Overlapping cell ranges will only display values in the first cell range that is defined. To modify a cells range, simply double click on the one of the ranges in the list, and specify the minimum and maximum values for that cell. Double clicking an item presents the Row/Col range dialog:



The “Range Min” field defines the minimum value for the specified row/col. (the current row/col is displayed in the title bar of the dialog)

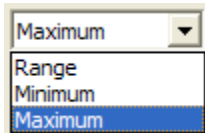
The “Range Max” field defines the maximum value for the specified row/col (the current row/col is displayed in the title bar of the dialog)

Pressing the “OK” button will return you to the configure matrix graph dialog.

If you need to delete one or more rows/columns, simply change the “Number of Cells” field, and the number of fields will be updated accordingly.

The “Precision” field allows you to select the number of digits following the decimal point in the row/column display values. Setting this value to zero will omit the display of the decimal point and the trailing precision.

The “Display” setting allows you to choose the matrix gauge display mode, the following three settings are available:



Range – The range (both min and max values) of row/column values will be displayed in the header.

Minimum – The minimum value for the cell will be displayed in the header

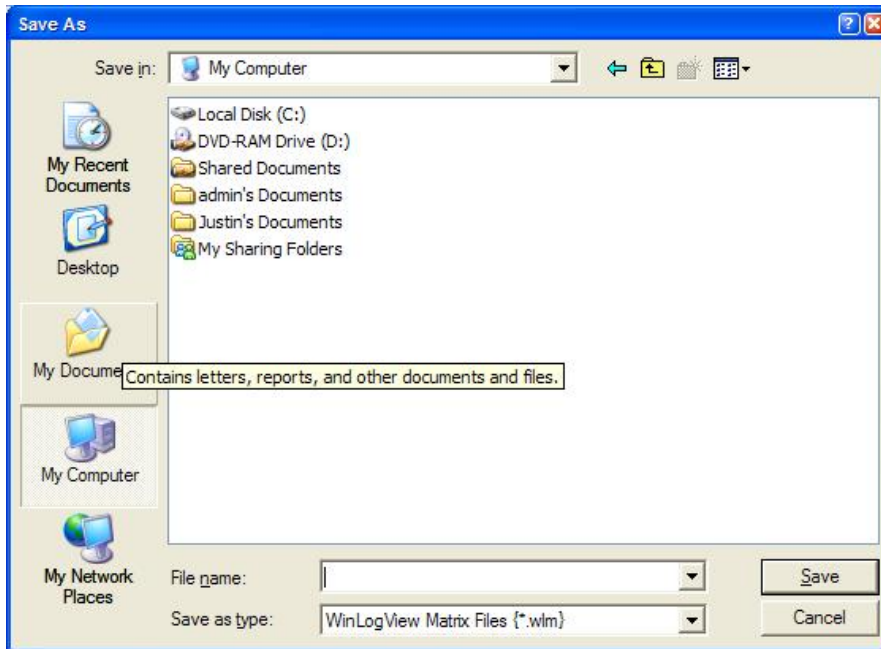
Maximum – The maximum value for the cell will be displayed in the header.

Matrix Files

Once a matrix has been defined, you have the ability to save them for future use on other data logs, without having to re-define the matrix settings every time. Following we will discuss the Matrix file operations.

Saving Matrix Files

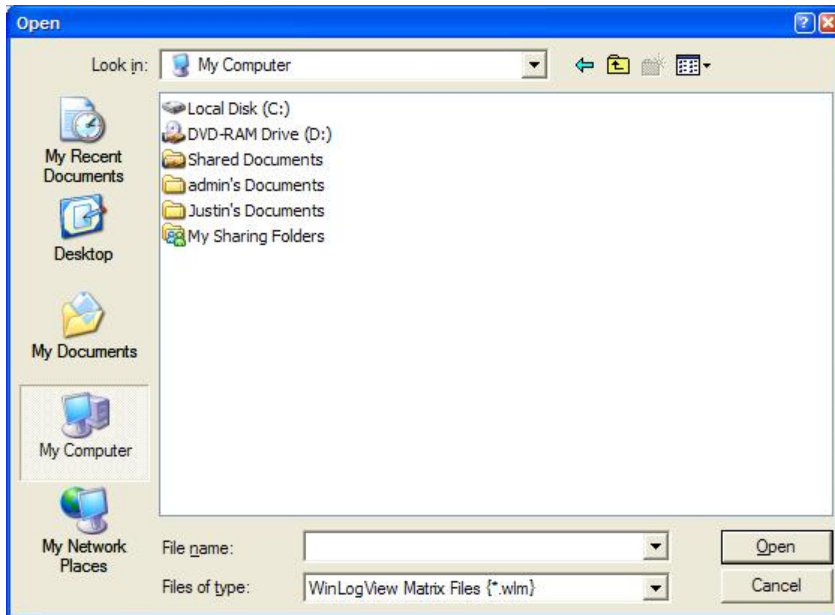
After you have finished defining your matrix settings, you can choose to save them to a file. This is done by selecting the File->Save Matrix option from the main screen. Once selected, the “Save As” dialog will be displayed:



After you enter a filename and Select the “Save” button, the matrix configuration will be saved to the filename specified. After a file has been saved, WinLogView will automatically load the matrix configuration file the next time WinLogView is opened, and apply it to log files that are displayed.

Loading Matrix Files

Occasionally, you'll have different ways that you'd like to look at the data in your log files. WinLogView has the ability to display log files using the matrix settings that you have previously saved. To load a matrix configuration file, selected the File->Open Matrix menu item from the main window. A file selection screen will be displayed:



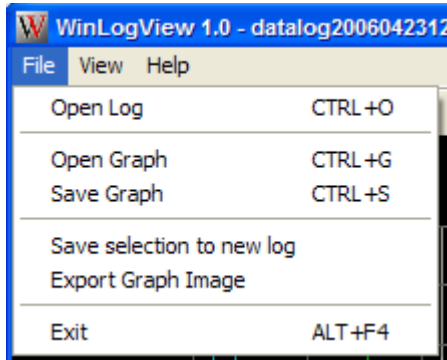
Once you have selected the matrix configuration file that you would like to use, select the “Open” button, and you will be returned to the WinLogView main screen, if a log file is currently loaded, it will be redisplayed with the new matrix settings.

Occasionally, fields that were defined with the matrix settings will not be available in the log file. WinLogView will warn you if the current matrix configuration will not work correctly with the loaded log file, and will give you a chance to go and change the matrix configuration.

WinLogView Menus

WinLogView has two main menus, the File and View menus.

File Menu



The “File” menu allows you to access the “File” functionality of WinLogView. It has the following items:

Open Log

Open a log file for viewing in the current view mode (either Graph or Matrix). The file will be opened using the current graph or Matrix Configuration.

Open Graph/Open Matrix

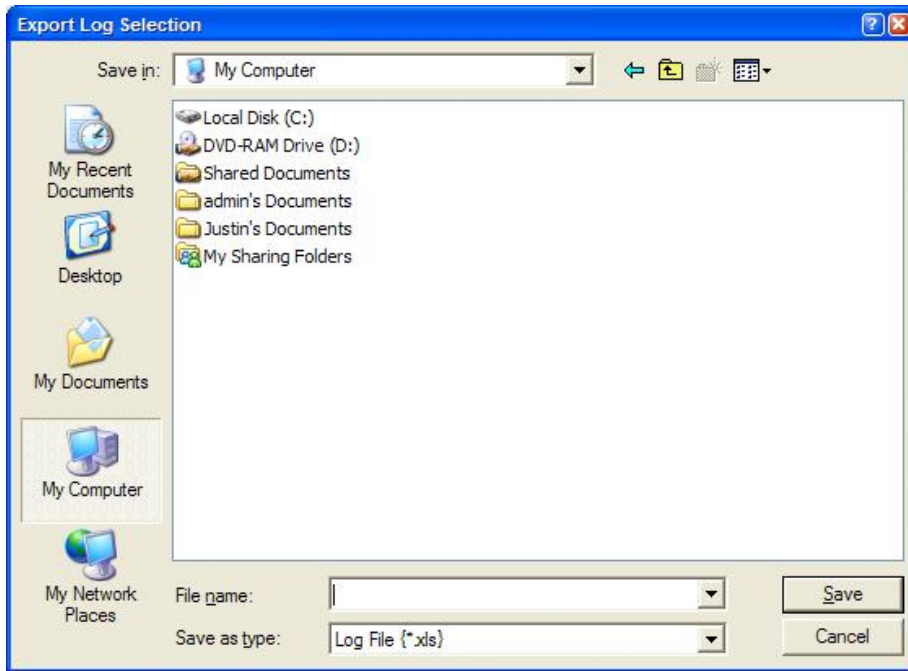
Open a graph or matrix configuration file and apply it to the currently loaded log file.

Save Graph/Save Matrix

Save the current graph or matrix configuration to a file. WinLogView will default to this configuration file the next time it is loaded.

Save Selection to new log

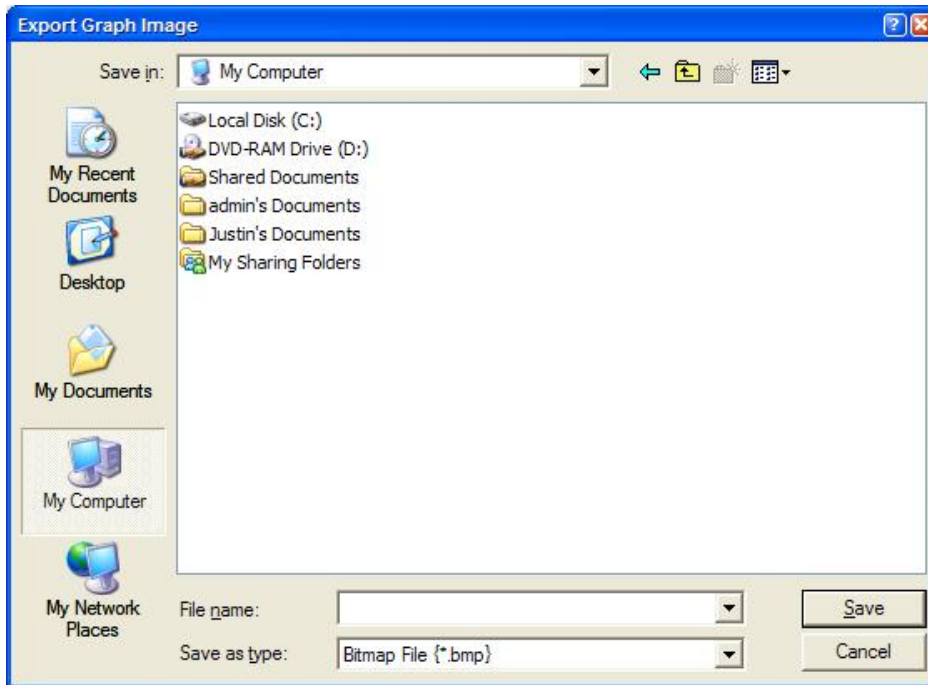
Selecting this option will save the currently highlighted area of a graph to a new log file. This is useful if you have an extremely large log file that you'd like to extract data from. First, select the area of the graph that you are interested in (by clicking and dragging with the mouse), then select this menu item. You will be presented with a file selection dialog:



After entering a filename, and selecting the “Save” button, your data will be saved to the new log file. Note that this option is available only when you are in Graph mode.

Export Graph Image

Selecting this option will export the currently displayed graph to an image file. (Windows .bmp format). This allows you to easily share graph images with those that might not have WinLogView. After selecting the menu item, the Export Graph Image dialog will be displayed:

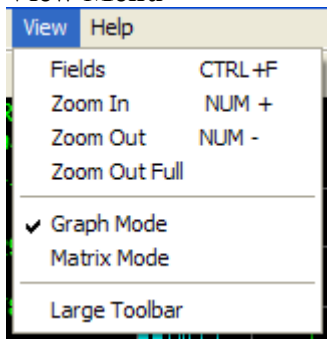


After entering the File name, and clicking the “Save” button, the graph image will be saved to the specified filename. Note that this option is available only when you are in Graph mode.

Exit

Closes WinLogView

View Menu



The View menu gives you access to different display modes and configuration options available in WinLogView

Fields

The fields option displays either the Graph Fields or Configure Matrix Graph dialogs, depending on your current display mode.

Zoom In

Available only in Graph mode, causes the graph to zoom into either the currently selected area, or to zoom in at the current cursor position.

Zoom Out

Available only in Graph mode, causes the graph to zoom out at the current cursor position.

Zoom Out Full

Available only in Graph mode, causes the graph to zoom out to the full extent of the log file, displaying the complete log file on the graph.

Graph Mode

Sets the display mode to Graph Mode.

Matrix Mode

Sets the display mode to Matrix Mode

Large Toolbar

Enables and disables the large toolbar display. The large toolbar display is used to facilitate easier data review when using touch screen style displays.

Small Toolbar

In order from left to right the following toolbar icons are defined:

- Open a log file
- Save graph or matrix configuration file
- Zoom In
- Zoom Out
- Configure Fields
-

Large Toolbar



In order from left to right the following large toolbar icons are defined:

- Open a log file
- Open a graph/matrix configuration file
- Zoom In
- Zoom Out
- Zoom Out Full
- Set graph mode
- Set matrix mode
- Exit WinLogView