



dotWET Editor

user manual

2. Application and general info

3-5. Reading/editing a weather script

6-8. Creating a weather script

9. Known restrictions and malfunctions

9. References etc

Application info:

The application is built by Microsoft Visual Basic Express 2008 and it includes only one standalone executable file.

I am not aware of any pre-installed runtimes or other files required for it to run. It can run itself in Windows OS.

If you are using antivirus programs you may be prompted to allow the program access the hard disk drives. Its absolutely safe (and necessary) otherwise it can not read/write the .wet files.

The program was not designed to ask for internet access for any purpose! The only redirection you may have is if you click on RFE or GPVWC logo which will open your default browser and visit the relative sites.

General info:

dotWet Editor is an application developed for people that want to view, edit or create RFE weather scripts (.wet files).

It can read and write all .wet scripts that are used by RFE weather plugin.

Sessions: TestDay, Practice1, Practice2, Practice3, Practice4, Qualify, Warmup, Race

Weather: Conditions, TrackWetness, OnpathWetness, OffpathWetness, AmbientTemp, TrackTemp

Reading/editing a script

In dotWet editor beta-tria reading a weather script automatically enables editing it.

Reading a script is the easiest thing to do in this application !

Step-1 → Select the folder of your Rfactor installation so that the program can detect the .wet files in the plugins/RFE/Scripts/Weather folder . The program will remember the path so that user shall not re-select when run the application in the future. (screenshot area #1)

Step-2 → The available script files will be listed in the box, choose the file you want to read and click on the Load or Create script image !
(screenshot area #1)

As a result of your option the sessions that are included in the weather script will enable and make green the relative buttons .

In addition many tools will appear like the minutes/sessions editor panel and the new feature the “Range to next minute” button.

NEW FEATURES

Simplifying the way to edit the script means that edit mode is always on, so as soon as the script is loaded the user can do the following:

* Enable/disable sessions → Select the radio button “Select sessions” → Click on a red (inactive) session to activate it or click on a green (active) session to deactivate it

TIP: When not editing sessions deselect “Select sessions” radio so the program knows you dont want to activate/deactivate sessions any more

* Add minutes → Select auto or manual split to add minutes in selected session (detailed info in “Create a script” chapter)

* Delete minutes using the buttons on the right of the minutes list box !

* Edit every single weather parameter directly by changing the value in the box and saving after the change.

* Duplicate the active session → Simple select the destination session from the drop down list → Click “Copy session to”

* Create ranged weather between minutes (NEW FEATURE)

Users can now have smooth weather per minute changes without the need to create all the minutes manually.

For example: Initial conditions monsoon (99) and ambient temperature 10 degrees. If we want the weather to be sunny (60) and ambient temp 20 degrees in 30 minutes BUT we dont want to let rfactor decide the weather in the meantime we simply :

- Create the initial conditions and minute 30 using the data above
- Select initial conditions, check the “R” button (so that temp will be included in ranging) beside ambient box
- Click on “Range to next minute” button
- Check the results by clicking the session button again !



Creating a weather script

Creating a weather script is a bit more complex than reading it of course !

Step-1 → Select “Create new file” from the list box of area
User can now see a new panel at area which will allow the manipulation of the sessions and the time sectors of each one.

Step-2 → The select sessions option is enabled, user can now choose which of the sessions below the script will include by clicking on the relative button which will turn green ! The selection can be changed after !

Step-3 → The user must now decide if he wants a script with fixed time sectors (weather will change periodically e.g. every 1/2/3 minutes) or in specific minutes in the sessions.

Automatic time split

For automatic time split the user must :

- select the “Auto split” radio button then
- select the session you want to edit and
- set the desired time sectors in the boxes nearby and press the “Add” button.

For example if we want the session to be splitted in 10 periods with duration 5 minutes for each one we put “10” in first (left) box and “5” in the second (right) one.

If we want to add the selected amount of time sectors AFTER a specific minute, then :

- we firstly select the minute,
- check the “after the selected minute” option and then

- press the “Add” button.

If not, the program will create time splits starting after initial conditions.

Manual time split

For time splits defined by the user:

- the option “Manual Split” must be selected then
- select the session you want to edit and
- simply type the number of the minute that you want to add a weather change
- clicking the “Add” button afterwards.

The time splits are saved automatically so the user can then select an other session to edit or simply go to create conditions for the current one.

Editing splits

To delete a specific time split (minute) simply select it and click on the “delete minute” image on the top right side of the list box.

To delete all time splits simply click on the “empty session” image on the bottom right side of the list box.

Step-4 → Creating weather conditions is very simple procedure.

- Select the time period you want to edit
- The default (N/A) values will show
- Change the conditions with many ways:
 1. directly input the value in the text boxes (instead of N/A)
 2. Use the droplists to select predefined conditions
 3. Use the human value % of wetness for basic conditions selection
- Save minute using the button next to the time periods list box
- Click on the session button again to preview the saves totally

Mind the following:

1. The program will deny to create script if not the “Conditions” value is determined at all time sectors.

2. The user can set all available values for initial conditions but ONLY the “Conditions” and “Ambient Temperature” in minute splits.

At any time the user can enable or disable sessions by clicking in the “Select sessions” radio button and select the desired sessions.

Ranging weather from one minute to other is also enabled in write mode.

Final step → After selecting the sessions that we want to include in our weather file and setting the conditions we want in each time sector of them, we must now save the data to a readable by RFE plugin .wet file.

Clicking the “Write to file” button the program will prompt for the name of the file. RFE weather script will need the weather file to take the track’s name but you can name it as you wish and then rename before the use in race. Input the file name and click ok to continue

If any of the program checks on the given values fails there will be an error message.

If not then can go to the scripts folder and check that the RFE .wet file is created !

Known restrictions and malfunctions

Creating a script there are only 2880 minute slots available which means that the user can NOT set conditions for minute 2881. Why 2880 ? Cause $2880/60=48$ so the time limit of each period cant be more than 2 days.

There might be some crash incidents when trying to click on the minutes list box while no time split is selected. Avoid doing that or you will need to restart.

If you get unwanted values after creating and deleting time slots many times simply click on "Create new file" again to erase all table data. Not common issue though

Avoid minutes with decimal digits when creating or editing a script

References etc:

- The weather graphics are supplied by RFE.
- The button images are created by Litho System and Anthony Piraino downloaded from http://findicons.com/pack/1193/litho_system
- Many thanks to Microsoft for letting people use tools like Visual Basic for free