# icListen Log File Formats

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## 1 Introduction

Some models of **icListen** are capable of internally storing acoustic data in the time domain (waveform data), and/or in the frequency domain (power spectrum data). Also, Ocean Sonics' **Lucy** software is capable of logging both time series and spectrum data that is scanned from **icListen** devices. This document details the formats in which this data is stored.



## 2 Overview of Log Files

This section gives a brief overview of the file types used by icListen and Lucy for data storage.

For more detailed information on each file type, please refer to the *Detailed File Format Description* sections in the document.

#### 2.1 File Formats

Currently **icListen** devices can produce 3 different file formats. Time series acoustic data is stored in standard WAV files, while acoustic spectrum data is stored in a proprietary FFT file format, or a tab separated values (TSV) format in a TXT file. **Lucy** is capable of storing data as standard WAV files, or as TSV format TXT files.

Additional sensor data may also be retrieved from these file formats in some cases (See WAV, FFT and TXT file sections for more details).

### 2.2 File Storage Options

The following table outlines the file storage options for each **icListen** model and **Lucy**. For a more detailed look at what is stored by each model, refer to the *Detailed File Storage Capabilities* section.

**Table 2-1: File Storage Capabilities** 

File Format	icListen HF	icListen AF	icListen LF	Lucy
WAV	All	All	All	v2.1 and higher
FFT	None	None	All	None
TXT (spectrum)	All	All	None	All



## 2.3 File Naming

Files generated by Lucy, will have a user configurable prefix, with either a date or index added to them (as per the user configuration). Files generated by **icListen** follow specific naming conventions, which vary between models and firmware releases. See the following table for file naming conventions:

**Table 2-2: icListen File Naming Conventions** 

icListen HF	Logging Folder:	/home/icListen/Data
(R20 and newer) WAV File Name:		SBW[serial#]_[date]_[time].wav
		(ex: SBW1234_20130731_093500.wav)
	TXT File Name:	SBF[serial#]_[date]_[time].txt
		(ex: SBF1234_20130731_101202.txt)
icListen HF	Logging Folder:	/home/icListen/Data
(R19 and older)	WAV File Name:	SB_[date]T[time].wav
		(ex: SB_20130731T09-35-00.wav)
	TXT File Name:	Fft_[date]T[time].txt
		(ex: Fft_20130731T10-12-02.txt)
icListen AF	Logging Folder:	/home/icListen/Data
	WAV File Name:	SAW[serial#]_[date]_[time].wav
		(ex: SAW2501_20140112_093500.wav)
	TXT File Name:	SBF[serial#]_[date]_[time].txt
		(ex: SAF2501_20140112_101202.txt)
icListen LF	Logging Folder:	/DATA/Y[year]/[month]/DAY[day]/HOUR[hour]
		(ex: /DATA/YEAR2013/AUG/DAY07/HOUR14)
	WAV File Name:	M[minute]S[second].WAV
		(ex: M00S14.WAV)
	FFT File Name:	M[minute]S[second].FFT
		(ex: M26S00.FFT)



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## 3 Detailed File Format Descriptions

This section describes the formats of all files used by **icListen** and **Lucy** in detail.

**icListen** devices will produce time series acoustic data in standard WAV files. **icListen LF** devices will produce spectrum data in a proprietary FFT file format, and **icListen HF** and **icListen AF** devices will store spectrum data in TXT format.

**Lucy** will store time series acoustic data either in standard WAV files. Spectrum data is stored by **Lucy** in TXT format.

All files produced by **icListen** or **Lucy** may be opened for playback using Ocean Sonics' **Lucy** Software (which is also used for command/control and data collection for **icListen** devices). WAV files may also be opened in any software capable of dealing with standard WAV files. TXT files may be opened by virtually any spreadsheet or text editing program.



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#### 3.1 WAV File Structure

WAV files use the standard RIFF file structure, which groups the contents of the file into separate chunks. Each chunk contains its own header, which contains a 4-byte string indicating the ID/type of chunk, and 32bit unsigned number indicating the size of that chunk in bytes (excluding the 8 header bytes). All chunks must be word aligned (size must be a multiple of 16bits). All data fields in WAV files are in little endian format.

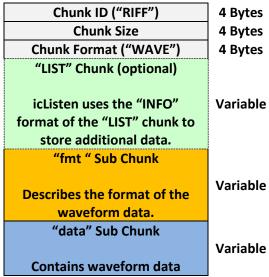


Figure 3-1: Basic WAV File Structure

Every WAV file will contain a RIFF chunk of type "WAVE". This chunk will at minimum will contain 2 subchunks (the "fmt" chunk, and "data" chunk). WAV files may contain additional chunks providing more information about the file. Files created by **icListen** devices also contain an "INFO" type "LIST" chunk, which contains an "ICMT" sub-chunk, and in some cases "IART", "IPRD", "ISFT", and "INAM" sub-chunks.



#### 3.1.1 "fmt" Sub Chunk

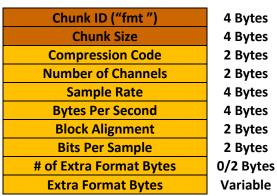


Figure 3-2: "fmt " Sub Chunk

The "fmt" sub chunk describes the format of the waveform data in the following "data" sub chunk. The following table describes of each field in this chunk.

Table 3-1: "fmt " Sub Chunk Field Descriptions

Field	Description
Compression Code	The compression type used by the waveform data. All <b>icListen</b> devices and
	Lucy use type 1 (PCM/Uncompressed)
Number of Channels	The number of channels represented in the "data" chunk.
Sample Rate	The sample rate of the waveform data in Hz
Bytes Per Second(BPS)	This is the number of bytes of data per second (# Channels x Sample Rate x
	Bytes Per Sample)
Block Alignment	This value is the number of bytes per sample multiplied by the number of
	channels
Bits Per Sample	The number of bits per data point.
# of Extra Format Bytes	This field specifies the number of Extra Format Bytes will follow. This field
	does not exist for PCM/Uncompressed WAV files, and therefore does not
	apply to icListen devices.
Extra Format Bytes	The number and meaning of these bytes varies depending on the
	compression used. These bytes do not exist for PCM/uncompressed WAV
	files, and therefore are not present in icListen generated files.

The following table shows the settings for these bytes for each **icListen** Model that can store WAV files:

Table 3-2: "fmt " Sub Chunk Fields by Model

Model	Compression	Channels	Sample Rate	BPS	Alignment	Bits Per Sample
HF	1	1	Varies	Varies	3 or 2	24 or 16
AF	1	1	Varies	Varies	3 or 2	24 or 16
LF	1	1	Varies	Varies	3	24



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#### 3.1.2 "data" Sub Chunk

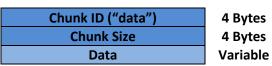


Figure 3-3: "data" Sub Chunk

The data sub chunk contains the actual waveform data in the file, in the format described by the preceding "fmt " sub chunk.

If the data is 8-bits per data point, it is considered unsigned data. Otherwise the data is considered signed.

If the data contains more than one channel, the data is interlaced (each sample contains data from each channel). See the figure below for a stereo data example.

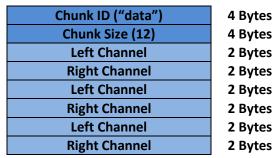


Figure 3-4: 16 bit Stereo "data" Sub Chunk example



#### **3.1.3** "INFO" Chunk

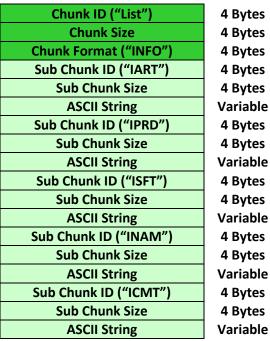


Figure 3-5: "INFO" type "LIST" Chunk

The "INFO" chunk is a standard RIFF chunk, which may be used to add additional information to a WAV file. **icListen** devices make use of the "IART", "IPRD", "ISFT", "INAM" and "ICMT" sub chunks for this purpose.

Each sub chunk contains a NULL terminated ASCII string. Not all of these sub chunks will be recorded by every **icListen** device. For more detail on which strings are stored by each **icListen** model/firmware and **Lucy**, refer to the *Detailed File Storage Capabilities* section.

The contents of the chunks are as follows:

**IART**: This field is for the "Artist" responsible for the waveform data. For **icListen** devices this will indicate the device type and serial number (ie: "icListen HF #1234").

**IPRD**: This field is for the "Product" that the data was recorded for. For **icListen**, this field is used to indicate the model of instrument used (ie: "SBx-ETH R3" for **icListen HF** Ethernet hardware release 3). **ISFT**: This field is the "Software" which recorded the data. In **icListen** this will indicate the device type and firmware release (ie: "icListen AF R23", or "Lucy v3.x.0").

**INAM**: This is the name/title of the subject of the file. In **icListen**, this field is used to store the original file name, which has the date and time encoded within it (ie: "SBW1234\_20130822\_121314").

**ICMT**: This field is used for additional comments related to the recording. **icListen** uses the comment field to include several comma separated data fields. Fields used by **icListen** are shown in the following table.



Table 3-3: "ICMT" String Values used by icListen

Field	Example String
Full Scale Voltage	"3.000000 V pk"
Hydrophone Sensitivity	"-169 dBV re 1uPa"
Humidity*	"22.7% RH"
Temperature*	"22.8 deg C"
Count At Full Scale Voltage	"8388608 = Max Count"
Sequence Number of First Sample in File	"4000 = Seq #"

<sup>\*</sup>This field may be padded with spaces depending on the magnitude of the value in the field

A full comment string with all of the above fields included would read:

"3.0000000 V pk, -169 dBV re 1uPa, 22.7% RH, 22.8 deg C, 8388608 = Max Count, 4000 = Seq #"



#### 3.2 FFT File Structure

The FFT file format used by current icListen devices is similar to that of WAV files

The first 8 bytes of the FFT file contain a 4 bytes ASCII string ("FFT\_"), used to indicate the file type, and an unsigned 32bit number indicating the length of the file in bytes(excluding the first 8 bytes).

Following this, individual chunk headers are placed. Each chunk header contains a 32bit chunk ID indicating the chunk type, and a 32bit unsigned value indicating the number of bytes in that chunk (excluding the 8 header bytes).

The following table describes the different chunk types found in FFT files produced by **icListen** units:

**Table 3-4: FFT File Chunk Types** 

ID Chunk Type		Description	
0	FFT data	Frequency data, with formatting details	
1	Temperature/Humidity Data	Temperature and humidity data	

All data in the FFT file is little endian. All files produced by **icListen** units contain a Temperature/Humidity chunk followed by an FFT data chunk.

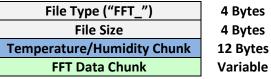


Figure 3-6: FFT File Structure Overview



#### 3.2.1 FFT Data Chunk

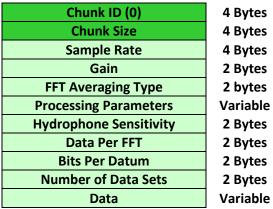


Figure 3-7: FFT Data Chunk

This chunk contains the acoustic frequency data, as well as the information required to analyze this data. This table gives a description of each field:

**Table 3-5: FFT Data Chunk Field Descriptions** 

Sample Rate	Sample rate in Hz at which raw data was collected
Gain	Applied gain in dB
FFT Averaging Type	Type of FFT averaging done. See options below
<b>Processing Parameters</b>	Parameters vary based on FFT Type
<b>Hydrophone Sensitivity</b>	Sensitivity of the hydrophone in dB relative to 1µPa
Data Per FFT	Data points per FFT data set (ie: 1024pt FFT would yield 512 data points)
Bits Per Datum	Bits per data point
Number of Data Sets	Number of FFT data sets represented in the "Data" field
Data	Data in ½ dB units(ie: 20 counts = 10 dB) relative to 1μV

The following table shows the available FFT processing types. See the following sections for more detail. For details on what processing types are available to each **icListen** model, refer to the *Detailed File Storage Capabilities* section. All processing is performed on the data prior to conversion to dB.

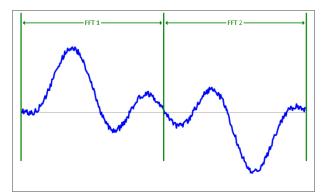
**Table 3-6: FFT Processing Types** 

Type Code	Type of Processing
0	Mean Average
1	Overlap
2	Peak Value Detect
3	Exponential Moving Average (IIR Filter)
4	Mean Average with Overlap
5	Peak Value Detect with Overlap
6	Exponential Moving Average with Overlap



#### 3.2.1.1 Overlap

Overlap processing is when there is overlap in the waveform data used to calculate FFTs. The following figures illustrate how data is shared between FFT calculations based on the percent overlap.



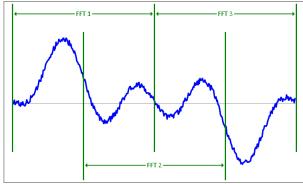


Figure 3-8: FFT's with 0% Overlap

Figure 3-9: FFT's with 50% Overlap

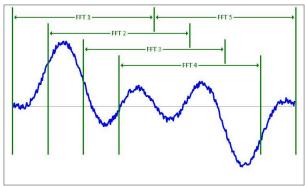


Figure 3-10: FFT's with 75% Overlap

This processing type contains two parameters, which are used to calculate the overlap as follows:

% 
$$Overlap = \left(1 - \frac{Parameter\ 1}{Parameter\ 2}\right) \times 100\%$$

Each data set in overlap FFT data represents a single FFT calculation converted to power spectrum data in dB.



#### 3.2.1.2 Mean Average

For mean averaged FFT data, the stored data is FFT data that has been averaged over 'N' FFTs. There are two unsigned 16bit type parameters for this FFT type. The first is the 'N' value used in the mean calculation, and the second indicates the overlap (in FFT data sets) of data used between this mean calculation and the previous mean calculation.

The mean value for each frequency bin is calculated as follows:

$$Y_i^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} |C_{i,j}|^2$$

Where:

N = Averaging Period  $Y_i^2 =$  Signal Power of frequency bin

 $C_{i,j}$  = FFT Coefficient

*i* = Frequency Bin Number

*j* = FFT Data Set Number

#### 3.2.1.3 Peak Value Detect

When the FFT type is peak value, the stored data contains the maximum value found for each frequency bin over 'N' FFT data sets. This type also has two 16bit unsigned parameters. The first is 'N', which represents the number of FFT data sets the peak was found over. The second parameter represents the overlap in FFT data sets used to find the peak values.

#### 3.2.1.4 Exponential Moving Average (IIR Filter)

When this processing type is used, the stored data represents the exponential moving average of all preceding FFTs performed. Two unsigned 16bit type parameters are included with this type. The first is the weighting factor (N) used in the calculation. The second value represents number of FFT's calculated between reported FFT data sets.

The exponential moving average is calculated for each frequency bin using the formula:

$$Y_{i,j}^2 = \frac{(N-1) \times Y_{i,j-1}^2 + |C_{i,j}|^2}{N}$$

Where:

N = Weighting Factor  $Y_{i,j}^2 =$  Signal Power of frequency bin  $C_{i,j} =$  FFT Coefficient i = Frequency Bin Number j = FFT Data Set Number



#### 3.2.1.5 Mean Average with Overlap

This processing type performs a mean average on FFT data calculated with an overlap. There are 4 parameters with this processing type. The first 2 parameters are the same as those used by the *Mean Average* processing type. The second 2 parameters are the same as those used by the *Overlap* processing type.

#### 3.2.1.6 Peak Value with Overlap Detect

This processing type calculates FFT data using an overlap, and then retains the maximum value detected for each frequency bin over 'N' FFT data sets. There are 4 parameters with this processing type. The first 2 parameters are the same as those used by the *Peak Value Detect* processing type. The second 2 parameters are the same as those used by the *Overlap* processing type.

#### 3.2.1.7 Exponential Moving Average with Overlap

This processing type performs an exponential moving average of FFT data calculated with an overlap. There are 4 parameters with this processing type. The first 2 parameters are the same as those used by the *Exponential Moving Average* processing type. The second 2 parameters are the same as those used by the *Overlap* processing type.



## 3.2.2 Temperature/Humidity Chunk

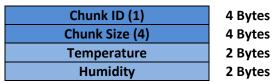


Figure 3-11: Temperature/Humidity Chunk

This chunk contains two values, the first represents the temperature, and the second represents humidity at the time of logging.

Temperature is a signed 16bit value. It is measured in tenths of degrees Celsius.

Humidity is an unsigned 16bit value. It is measured in tenths of percent of relative humidity.



#### 3.3 TXT File Structure

TXT files contain ASCII variables separated by tabs. These files may be read by virtually any text editor or spreadsheet program. When interpreted as tabular/spreadsheet data, tabs are equivalent to column divisions, and newline characters are row divisions.

All TXT files generated by **icListen/Lucy** contain several rows of header information at the start of the file, followed by rows of either FFT data or time series data. The types of data stored in TXT format by **Lucy** are FFT (Spectrum) data and Calibration. **icListen HF** and **icListen AF** store spectrum data in TXT format.

The contents of the header rows, and data contained within each data row will vary with the version of TXT file logged. The current version of TXT logs produced by **Lucy** and **icListen** is version 5 (as of **Lucy** version 3.6, and **icListen HF** release 20). Files recorded using the older format may still be replayed using newer versions of **Lucy**.

#### 3.3.1 Current TXT File Format (version 5)

Each row in the TXT log contains one of 5 things: empty lines, section headers, a single tag/value pair, column headings, or log data.

Empty lines are used to separate sections within the file header. They are inserted in order to make visual inspection of the file easier, but can be deleted without loss of information in the file. Section headers are always a single column, ending in a colon. Tag/value pairs will contain the tag name in the first column, and the value in the second column. Each TXT log contains only one row with column headings, which is always the first row following the header for the data section. Log data contains several columns of data, corresponding to the headings in the column headings row.

TXT logs are broken up into 4 sections:

- File Details
- Device Details
- Setup
- Data



#### 3.3.1.1 TXT Log File Details Section

This section is used to store information on the file's creation time and purpose.

This section always begins with a section header row ("File Details:"). Each following row will contain a tag/value pair. The number of rows in this section will vary depending on if the file was created by **icListen** or **Lucy**, and which optional fields were used in **Lucy**. The following tags may be written in this section:

**Table 3-7: TXT Log File Details Tags** 

Tag	Description of Value	Example
File Type	The type of data stored in this file.	Spectrum
File Version	The version of file this is. This field can assist in what data	5
	columns should be expected.	
Start Date	Date at which this file started writing (yyyy-mm-dd)	2013-08-03
Start Time	Time at which this file started writing (hh:mm:ss)	15:16:17
Time Zone	Time zone that all times in the file are recorded in	UTC +4
Author	The creator of this file (icListen HF/AF #X or Lucy vX.X.X)	icListen HF #1234
Computer	The name of the computer the file was recorded on.	Alan-desktop
User	The name of the user on the computer the file was recorded on.	Alan
Client	The client that the recording was done for. (optional)	Company A
Job	The job ID that the recording was done for. (optional)	August 3 Test
Personnel	Personnel performing the operations. (optional)	John Smith
Starting Sample	This is the sample sequence number of the first sample used in	30720000
	for FFT calculations.	

#### 3.3.1.2 TXT Log Device Details Section

This section is used to hold information related to the **icListen** device used to gather data.

This section always begins with a section header row ("Device Details:"). Each following row will contain a tag/value pair. The following tags may be written in this section:

**Table 3-8: TXT Log Device Details Tags** 

Tag	Description of Value	Example
Device	This is the name of the device used	icListen HF
S/N	This is the serial number of the device used	
FW Release	lease This is the release package that this icListen firmware was part of. This	
	field may not be available in files generated by Lucy.	
Firmware	This is the version of the firmware on the icListen that generated the data.	v1.8.00
HW Release	This is the hardware release of the icListen that generated the data.	3



## 3.3.1.3 TXT Log Setup Section

This section is used to hold the data collection settings that were used when recording.

This section always begins with a section header row ("Setup:"). Each following row will contain a tag/value pair. The following tags may be written in this section:

Table 3-9: TXT Log Setup Tags

Tag	Description of Value	Example
dB Ref re 1V	This is the offset in dB that must be added to the data to move	-120
	its reference to dB re 1 Volt.	
dB Ref re 1uPa	This is the offset in dB that must be added to the data to move	49
	its reference to dB re 1 micro Pascal.	
Sample Rate [S/s]	This is the sample rate that the data was collected at in samples	32000
	per second	
FFT Size	This is the number of data points used for each N-point FFT	1024
	calculation.	
Bin Width [Hz]	This is the frequency spanned by each bin of data in Hz.	31.25
Window Function	This is the window function used on the data prior to the FFT	Hann
	calculation.	
Overlap [%]	The percent overlap of data used for FFT calculations.	50
Power Calculation	This is the method used to calculate spectrum power data.	Mean
	Averaging options are Mean, Peak, and Moving Average. All	
	averaging is performed on the linear power values.	
Accumulations	This is the number of FFT results that are averaged together to	32
	form the final spectral results.	
Weighting	This field is only recorded when averaging is set to "Moving	11
	Average". This is the weighting given to new samples in the IIR	
	average.	



#### 3.3.1.4 TXT Log Data Section

This section contains the actual logged data values.

This section always begins with a section header row ("Data:"), followed by a row of column headings. All following rows contain the data described by the column heading row. The following table shows the column headings used, and example data for each:

**Table 3-10: TXT Log Data Column Headings** 

Column Heading	Description of Value	Example
Time	This is the time that this row of data started being calculated at in	
	the form hh:mm:ss.	
Comment	This field contains an ASCII string containing comments about the	Start of test
	data. This field may be left empty	
Temperature [C]	This is the internal temperature of the instrument in degrees	10.5
	Celsius.	
Humidity [%]	This is the internal relative humidity of the instrument in percent.	26.3
Sequence	This is the sequence number of the spectrum data.	240
Data Points	The number of bins of frequency data to follow	410
Bin Frequency	This is the frequency at the center of the data bin in Hz. There is	62.5
	one Bin Frequency heading for each spectral data point returned.	

Example column heading and row of data (only the first 4 of 410 data points shown):

Time	Comment	Temperat	ure [	[C]	Humidity	[%]	Sequence	Data Po	oints	0	31.25	62.5	125
12 • 16 • 04	I Toot	10 5	26 3		240	410	5.0	5.4	55	5.8			



#### 3.3.2 Old TXT File Format (v1 – v4)

For file formats 1 through 4, there were 9 rows of header information before the logged data rows. Versions 1-2 also contain an empty line following the column headers. Files using these older formats are no longer produced by the most recent releases of **Lucy** or **icListen**, but can still be replayed using **Lucy**. The following table shows the information contained in each row.

Table 3-11: Old TXT Log File Header Rows

Row	Description
1	Software/firmware responsible for creating the file.
2	File version and type.
3	File name.
4	Computer/user information.
5	Date/Time of file creation.
6	Client, Job ID, and Personnel.
7	Device type, serial number, and firmware version for the icListen used to gather the data.
8	Setup information related to the data collection process (sample rate, data reference,
	hydrophone sensitivity, and FFT playback rate)
9	Column headers for the logged data.
10	Empty row (version 1 and 2 files only)

Here is an example header for an FFT log:

#### FFT file header section:

The following table shows example fields contained in a row of data after the header:

Table 3-12: Example TXT data row contents

	Time	Comment	Guest	Temperature	Humidity	Gain	Sequence	Data	
Example	hh:mm:ss	"Test"	5.50	22.0	27.3	12dB	1002	98	89

The units of data for TXT logs created by Lucy are whole dB relative to the reference level specified in the header. Data in icListen HF log files (prior to release 20), is in half dB counts (a value of 20 is equal to 10dB relative to the reference provided in the header).



## 4 Detailed File Storage Capabilities

Some comments in the WAV header, and certain types of FFT data, may not be stored by all **icListen** units or **Lucy** Versions. The following table outlines in detail, what is stored in each field, by each **icListen** model and by **Lucy**.

**Table 4-1: Detailed File Storage Capabilities** 

File Type	Field	icLis	Lucy		
		HF	AF	LF	
WAV	ICMT: Peak Voltage	All	All	All	v2.1 and up
	ICMT: Phone Sensitivity	All	All	All	v2.1 and up
	ICMT: Humidity	All	All	All	v3.0 and up
	ICMT: Temperature	All	All	All	v3.0 and up
	ICMT: Count At Full Scale Voltage	All	All	None	v3.0 and up
	ICMT: Sequence # of First Sample	R20 and up	All	None	None
	IART	R20 and up	All	None	None
	IPRD	R20 and up	All	None	None
	ISFT	R20 and up	All	None	None
	INAM	R20 and up	All	None	None
FFT	Mean Average			All	
	Window Overlap			All	
	Peak Value Detect			All	
	Exponential Moving Average	N/A	N/A	All	N/A
	Overlap + Mean Average			All	
	Overlap + Peak Value Detect			All	
	Overlap + Exponential Moving Average			All	
TXT	v5	R20 and up	All		v3.6 and up
	v4	R19 and down	None	N/A	None
	v2	None	None		v3.5 and down

