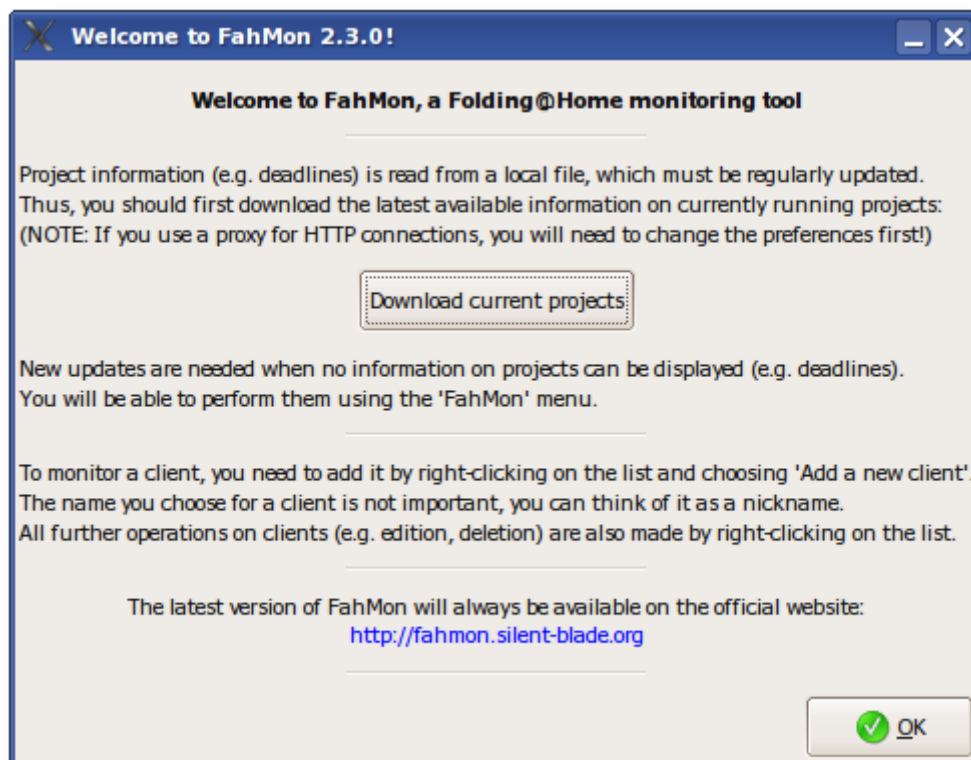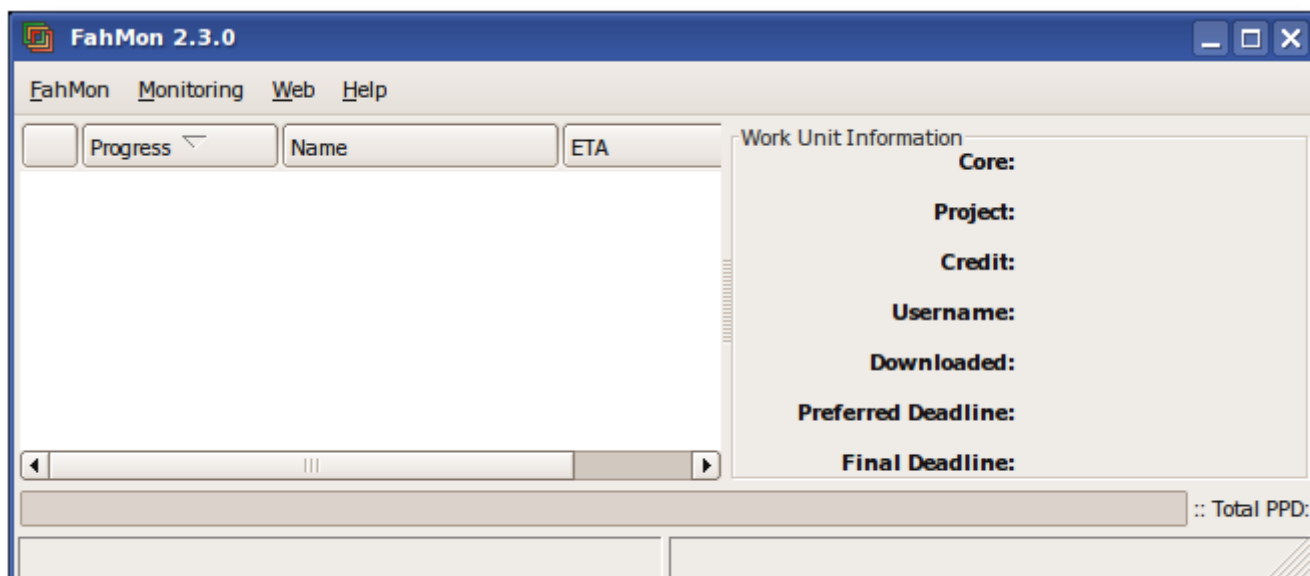# Need some help?

First launch

When you launch FahMon for the first time, you should get a dialog like this one:
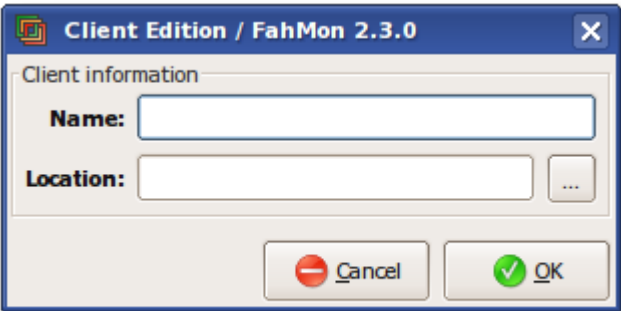

It suggests that you should download the new projects definition from the Stanford website, which will allow you to know miscellaneous information about these projects (e.g. deadlines). Beware that if you need to use a proxy for HTTP connections, you should not immediately download the new definition as it will fail. You will have to first change the proxy preferences before retrieving the file.
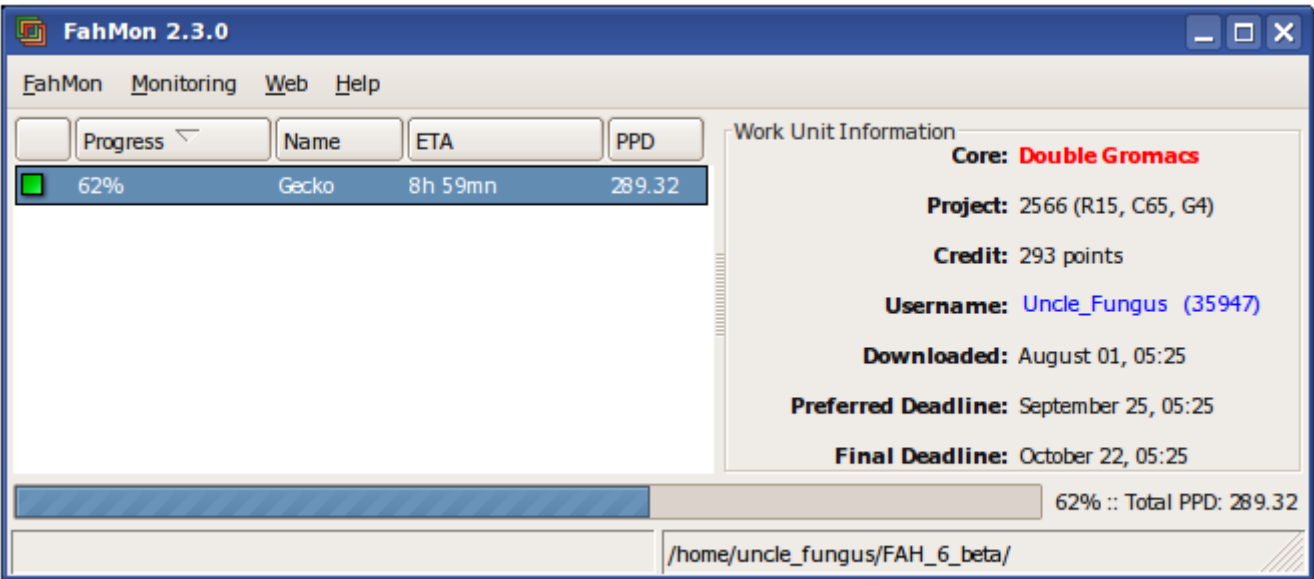
Adding some clients to monitor

After the previous dialog you will see the main dialog box, which should be currently empty and should look like this:
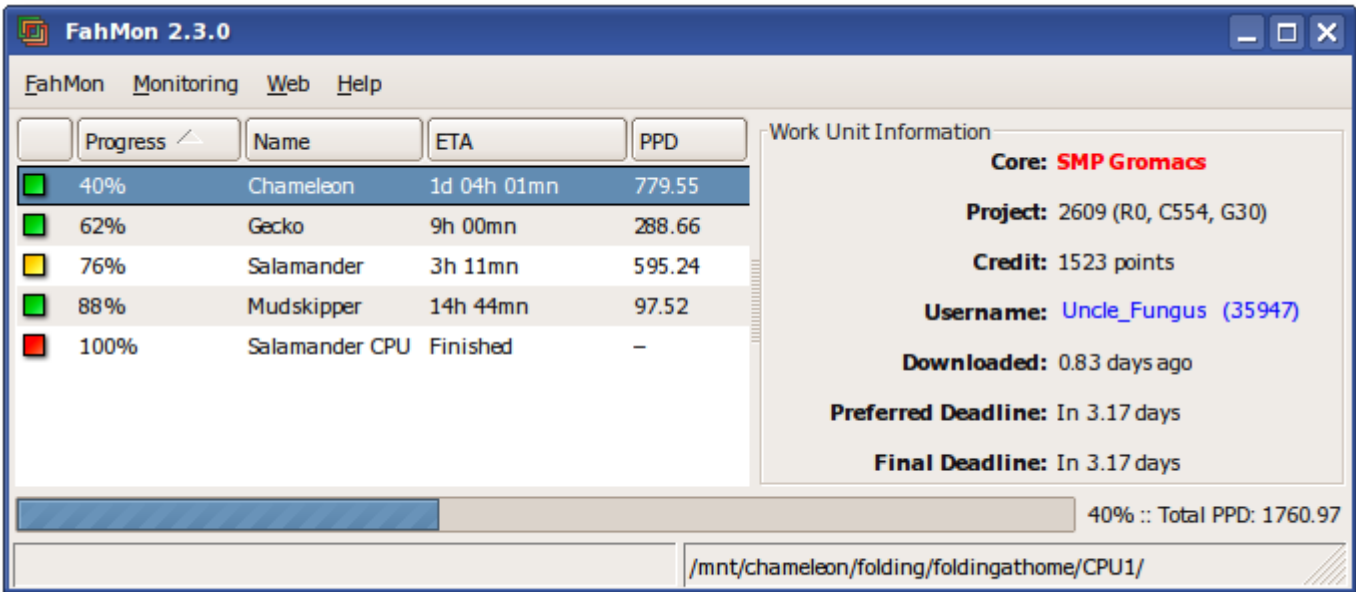
To add a new client, either drag-and-drop your folding-client folder into the client list, or right-click in the empty area of the list, and choose "Add a new client". You will get this dialog box:

There, you can tell FahMon where the new client is located, if you dragged and dropped this will be filled in for you, and which name you want to give to it. This name can be anything you want, it's just like a nickname for this client. After that, this new client will appear in the list and FahMon will display what information it knows about the project being processed (e.g. deadlines) and what it has guessed about it (e.g. estimated time of arrival):

Usage

You will notice that there is a small colored square at the left of each line in the list. There are 5 different colors:

- **Black**

  FahMon is unable to access to the directory where this client is located.

- **Red**

  The client is currently stopped.

- **Orange/Yellow**

  The client seems to be inactive or in an unknown state. The former happens most of the time when the elapsed time since the last completed frame is too high (this happens if another process is using the processor). An unknown state occurs when FahMon does not have sufficient information to decide whether the client is running or not. Check the *Messages Window* to find out what is happening.

- **Blue (optional)**

  The client has been flagged as having an asynchronous clock, this state is also triggered when the monitoring machine passes over 00:00 local time. The basic meaning of this state is that the client is still working, but you "may" need to check on it.
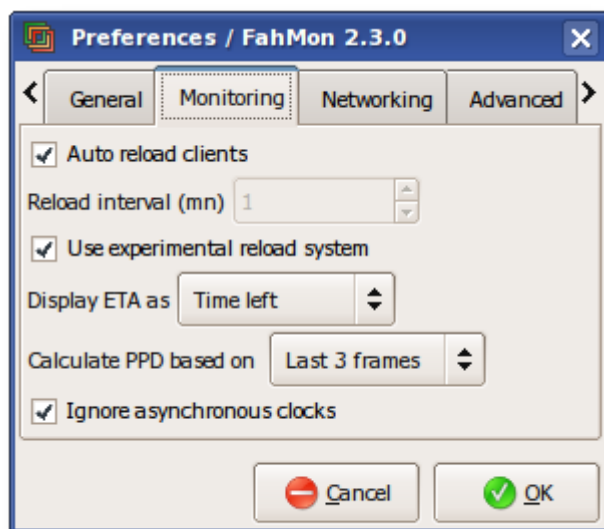
- **Green**

  Everything is Ok, FahMon should display all information about this client, as long as the project database is up to date.

On the right side, you will see which core is being used by the selected client, and which project is being processed. You will also see the preferred and the final deadline. The former is the date by which Stanford would like to get the result back. The latter is the date after which you will get no points, because it's simply too late. If you see N/A instead of a date, this just means that there is no deadline.

The ETA (Estimated Time of Arrival) is the date by which FahMon thinks that the current work unit will be finished. It is based on the time per frame for this client and this particular project, so you will sometimes see no ETA when FahMon does not know the average duration of a frame (e.g. when the work unit has just been downloaded for the first time by this client). The ETA can be calculated in various different ways, each one giving a slightly different value. Keep in mind that this is just an estimation!

Configuration

- **Enable system tray icon**

  Show an icon in the system tray which shows various bits of information

- **Collect .xyz files**

  These files are generated by the client and allow third-party tools to display proteins in 3D (see Jmol website for example). If you select this option, the .xyz files will automatically be collected in a directory named "xyz".

- **Auto update projects database when needed**

  When a new unknown project is downloaded by a monitored client, you will have to update the projects database to obtain information about this project. If you select this, FahMon will try to automatically download the new definitions when needed.

- **Always list inaccessible clients last**

  Make sure that however the clients are sorted, inaccessible (black) clients always get listed last.

- **Check for FahMon updates on startup**

  Automatically contacts http://fahmon.net to see if a newer version of FahMon is available

- **Auto reload clients**

  If you select this option, FahMon will automatically reload the monitored clients at the desired frequency.

- **Reload interval (mn)**

  Reload all clients with this time interval

- **Use experimental reload system**

  Checks the file modification times every 10 seconds and only proceeds to reload the client if the log has changed. This reduces processing load, and allows more "real-time" updates of client states. It is currently experimental as it can cause some clients to fail to update at all if they are being accessed over a network. Windows (SAMBA) shares seem to be affected by this as the modification times sometimes don't seem to update as they should. NFS shares aren't affected.

- **Display dates as ...**

  This allows you to change the format used to display the ETA and Download dates etc.

- **Calculate PPD based on**

  Allows you to choose which algorithm is used to display the PPD in the main window. The default behaviour is "All frames" which uses the average frame times collected across WUs from this project. "Last frame only" gives the instantaneous PPD, "Last 3 frames" calculates an average PPD based on a rolling 3 frame average. "Effective rate" calculates a frame time based on how long the WU has actually been running and takes into account client downtime.

- **Ignore asynchronous clocks**

  Prevents clients whose local clocks are not perfectly synced with the monitoring machines clock from turning orange/yellow. When this option is enabled, the clients turn blue and a message is noted in the log.

- **Use a proxy for HTTP connections**

  Select this option if you need to use a proxy for HTTP connections.

- **Proxy requires authentication**

  Select this option if you need to use authentication with your proxy. Beware that once saved, the password will not be directly human readable from the disk, but an attacker will easily be able to retrieve it.

- **Use the following settings for new project downloads**

  This setting allows you to alter the online data source for project information. Unticking this box will result in default values being used.

- **Use a local file for project data**

  Uses a locally stored version of psummary.html (.html extension is important) to update the project database. This is useful for times when psummary isn't up-to-date with projects being assigned, like was the case with Win-SMP WUs.

- **Web Browser (Linux Only)**

  You should specify the web-browser you wish to use for opening web-links here. This replaces the old method of exporting the browser as an environment variable used in previous versions of FahMon. A common value in this field is "firefox-bin".

- **File Manager**

  Select the file manager you wish to use to open client folder with. The default setting for Windows is "Windows Explorer", for Linux it is "Konqueror".

- **File Manager Command**

  Alter the command used to execute your file manager.

- **Manually set timezone to UTC + ...**

  Allows you to override the timezone that is automatically detected. This provides a workaround for the bug in wxWidgets that causes DST timezones to be reported wrong, which in turn causes state detection, ETA calculation etc to be incorrect or fail. Only whole hours can be selected. This *may* be made redundant by

wxWidgets 2.8, but it remains for backwards compatibility. If you use Linux I strongly recommend using wxGTK 2.8.

- **Export web application**

  This saves the FahMon output to a javascript powered web page which mimics the FahMon interface. In order for this to function correctly, you need to copy the images from the images/ folder to the same location as the output file. This is useless if you aren't running a web-server on your machine.
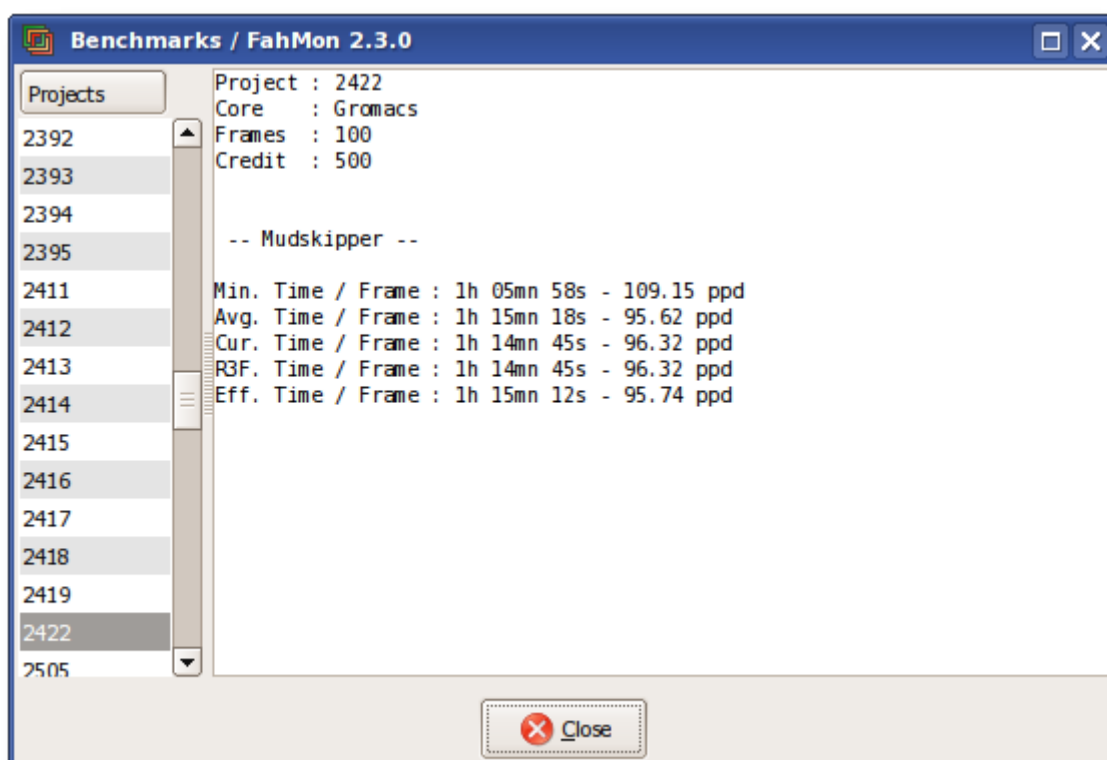
- **Export Simple web page**

  This saves the FahMon output to a simple web page which shows the information in a minimalistic fashion. This is useless if you aren't running a web-server on your machine.

- **Export Simple text**

  This saves the FahMon output to a simple text which allows you to see the information via a secure shell. The output is formatted to fit into a Linux shell, a Windows command prompt will need resizing to prevent wrapping.

Benchmarks

This dialog box allows you to see average, minimum, instantaneous, rolling 3 frame average and effective durations for a frame, as computed by FahMon. Each benchmark is specific to a {client / project} couple.