

# adif-edit.py

## Description:

This script will modify ADIF (Amateur Data Interchange Format) files used for exchanging data between most amateur radio (ham radio) logging programs.

## Use Case

I use a portable logging app on my phone and iPad to log contacts for POTA, SOTA, CHASING, CONTESTing. I also use contesting apps for various contests. Once the mission is complete, I export from the logging app to ADIF file format. In preparation for importing to my main logging program, “Amateur Contact Log” (ACLOG) developed by N4JFP. I use the ADIF file editor to quickly add a field with the activity name as the value. The field name is a user customizable field in ACLOG, called “OTHER” (Yes, at the time, I had no imagination).

The program can be used to add or edit ANY field in the ADIF file.

## USAGE:

Assumes you initiate the python script using a python script engine on your computer.  
eg: “python adif-edit”

```
adif-edit <input_file> [<output_file | -f>] <value> [<field_name> | -f]
```

Defaults (hard coded in the script at the top of the entry point):  
<input\_file> required  
<output\_file uses> default\_output\_file\_name in program  
<value> uses default\_field\_value (currently SOTA)  
<field\_name> uses default\_field\_name (currently OTHER)

**If the python script is run without any arguments, it will prompt the user for each argument.**

Because the application is mainly used to add a field to my files prior to import to populate the “OTHER” field, it gives a warning if the user doesn’t enter an expected value, allowing the user to override and continue or enter a new value.

Prior to running, the user is presented with what the program will do, allowing the user to approve or quit the application unless a forced override (-f) is received as any of the parameters after the input file.

- **input\_file**

The adif formatted file you want to process

(*If argument is blank, all arguments should be left blank causing the app to prompt the user for the input\_file and other required arguments.*)

- **output\_file**

File where you want the processed data to be placed

(*If the argument is blank all following arguments should be left blank, causing the app to prompt the user for the output file name and the rest of the arguments.*)

**“-f” will force override mode, forcing default values for this and all subsequent parameters (defined above), skipping the confirmation step.**

- **value**

The value that you want to be put in the field

(*If the argument left blank, all following arguments should be left blank, causing the app to prompt the user for the value and field\_name*)

*If -f is used, it forces defaults for this and the field\_name (defined above).*

**NOTE:** If you want the field created with no value, execute the script with only the input file name, and supply a blank when prompted for the activity.

- **field\_name or “-f”**

The name of the field that should be either edited (changed to the new value) or it's added if it's not there. If the user enters “-f” as the final argument, it will force the app to use the default field (defined above).

*(If the argument is not passed, the user will be prompted for the value).*

## Examples

```
adif-edit foo.adi bar.adi sota other
```

- Takes the file foo.adi and either edits or adds a field called “OTHER” and populates that with the value “SOTA” and places it in a new file called bar.adi

```
adif-edit foo.adi bar.adi sota -f
```

- Takes the file foo.adi and either edits or adds a field called “OTHER” and populates that with “SOTA” placing the data in a new file called bar.adi.

The “-f” in place of the field name forces the app to use the default field.

```
adif-edit foo.adi
```

- Uses foo.adi as the input file and prompts the user for the rest of the required arguments

```
adif-edit foo.adi -f
```

- Uses foo.adi as the input file and uses the defaults (defined above) for all subsequent parameters and skips the confirmation at the end.

## Author:

Created by Chris Claborne, initially using [claude.ai](#) and then modified to fit my needs as well as fix a bug in the original AI developed code.

Go to [HamNinja.com/logging](#) to see how I generally manage logs.

