Overview of Distance software

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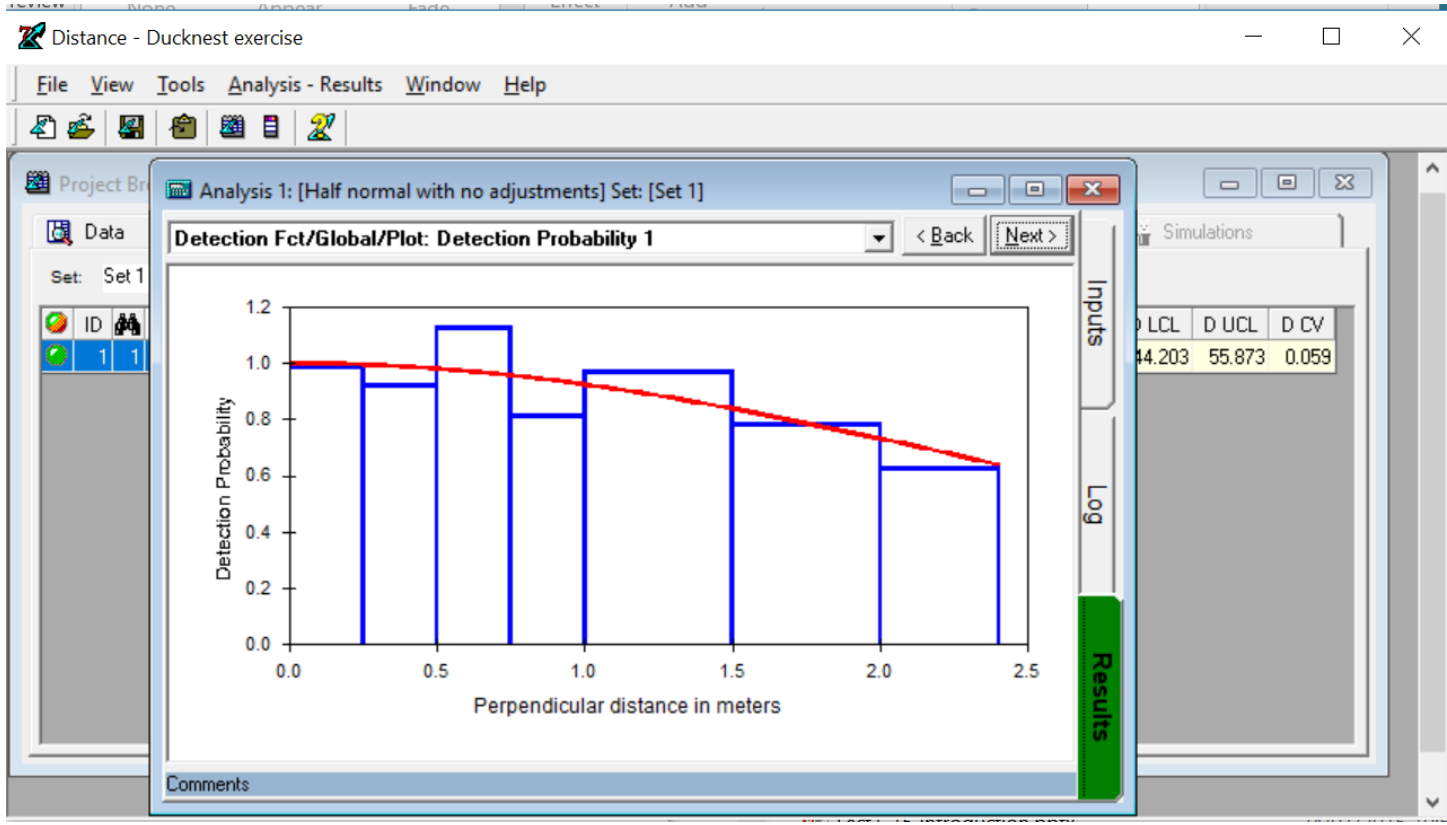
What is Distance?

Windows software for design and analysis of distance sampling surveys

Free to download from distancesampling.org

Analysis methods are also available as a set of R packages.



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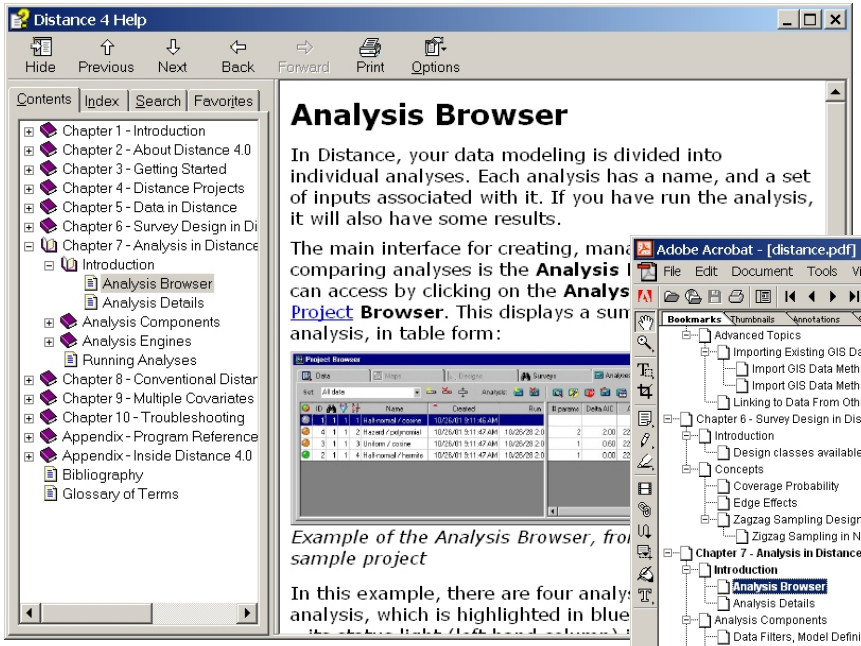
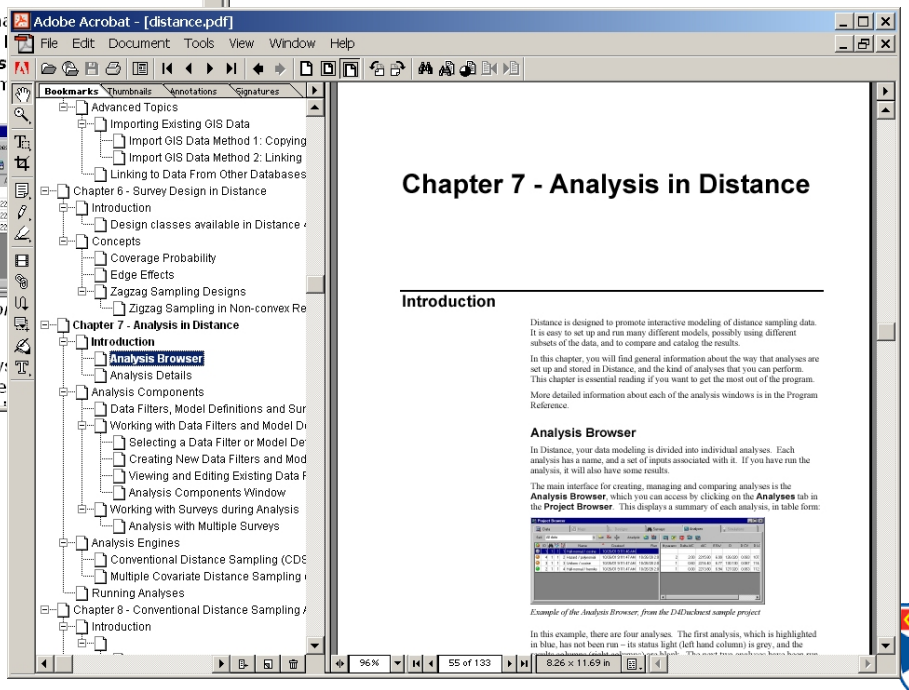
Introduction

Distance Manuals



Distance help

Users Guide – pdf



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Support

distance-sampling email list

To join, send a message to distance-sampling+subscribe@googlegroups.com with a blank subject and message

You will receive a confirmation from Google

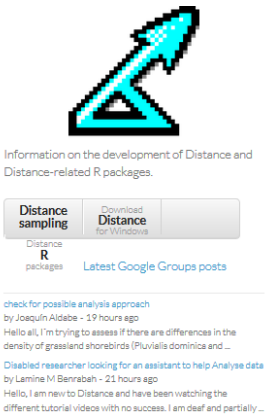
(check you spam filter)

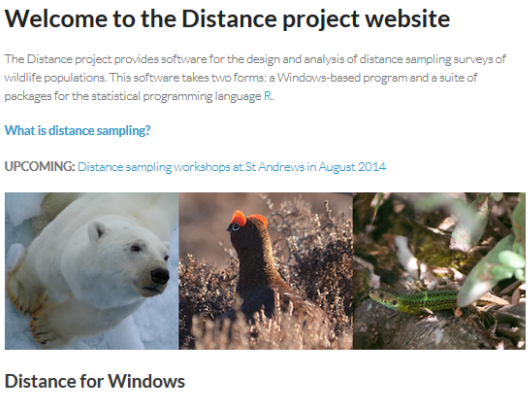
Because the list is maintained by Google,

the messages dating back to 1998, are searchable

Distance home page

distancesampling.org





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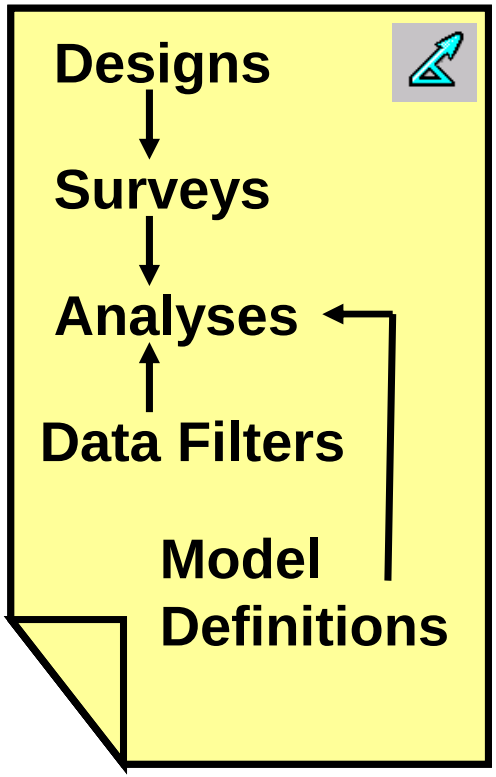
Distance Projects

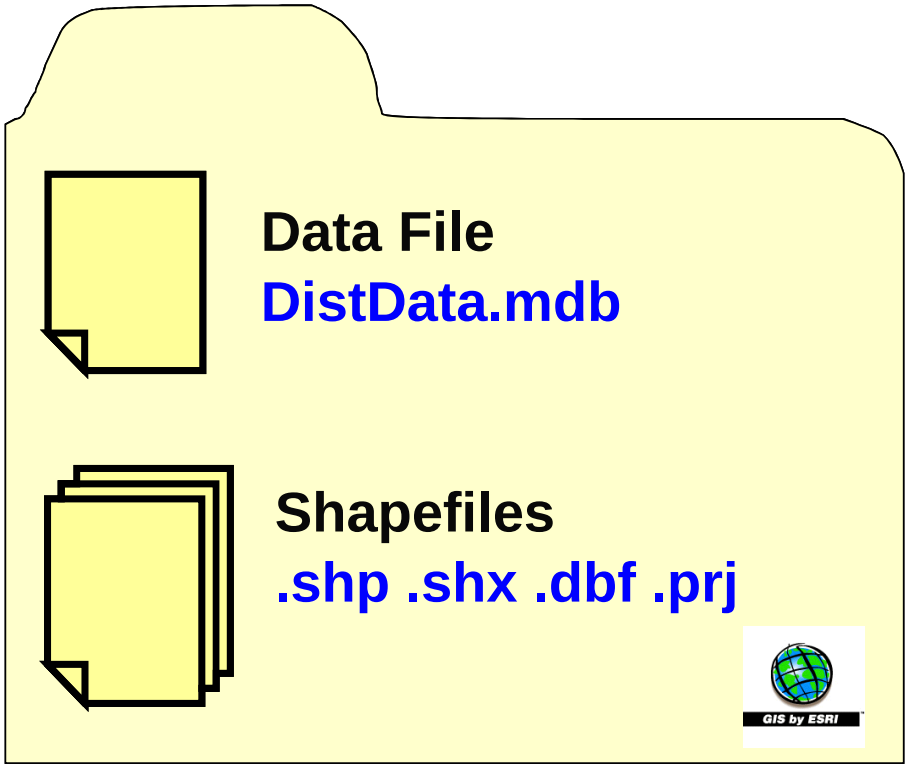
Project File

MyProject.dst



Data Folder

MyProject.dat



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Distance Projects

To create a New Project:

New Project Setup Wizard (File | New Project)

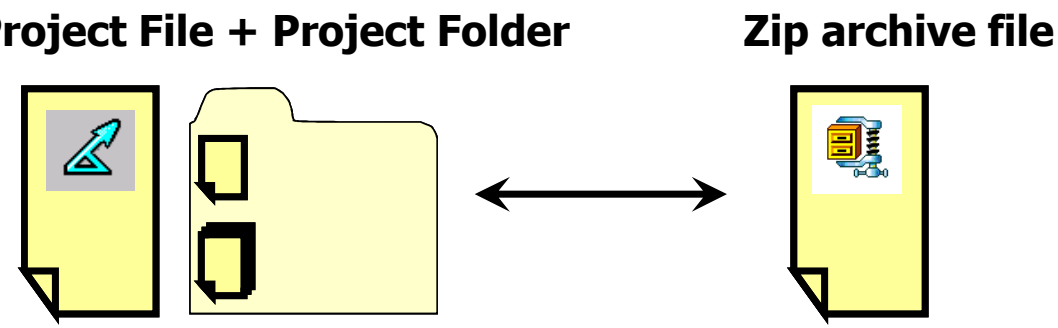
To open a Project:

File | Open Project

To check Project Settings:

Project Properties (File | Project properties)

Distance Projects



To export a project to zip archive:

File | Export Project

Save as type “zip archive files *.zip”

To unpack a project from zip archive, and open:

File | Open

Files of type “zip archive files *.zip”

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Survey data in Distance

Data Layers

Global layer

Stratum layer

Sample layer

Observation layer

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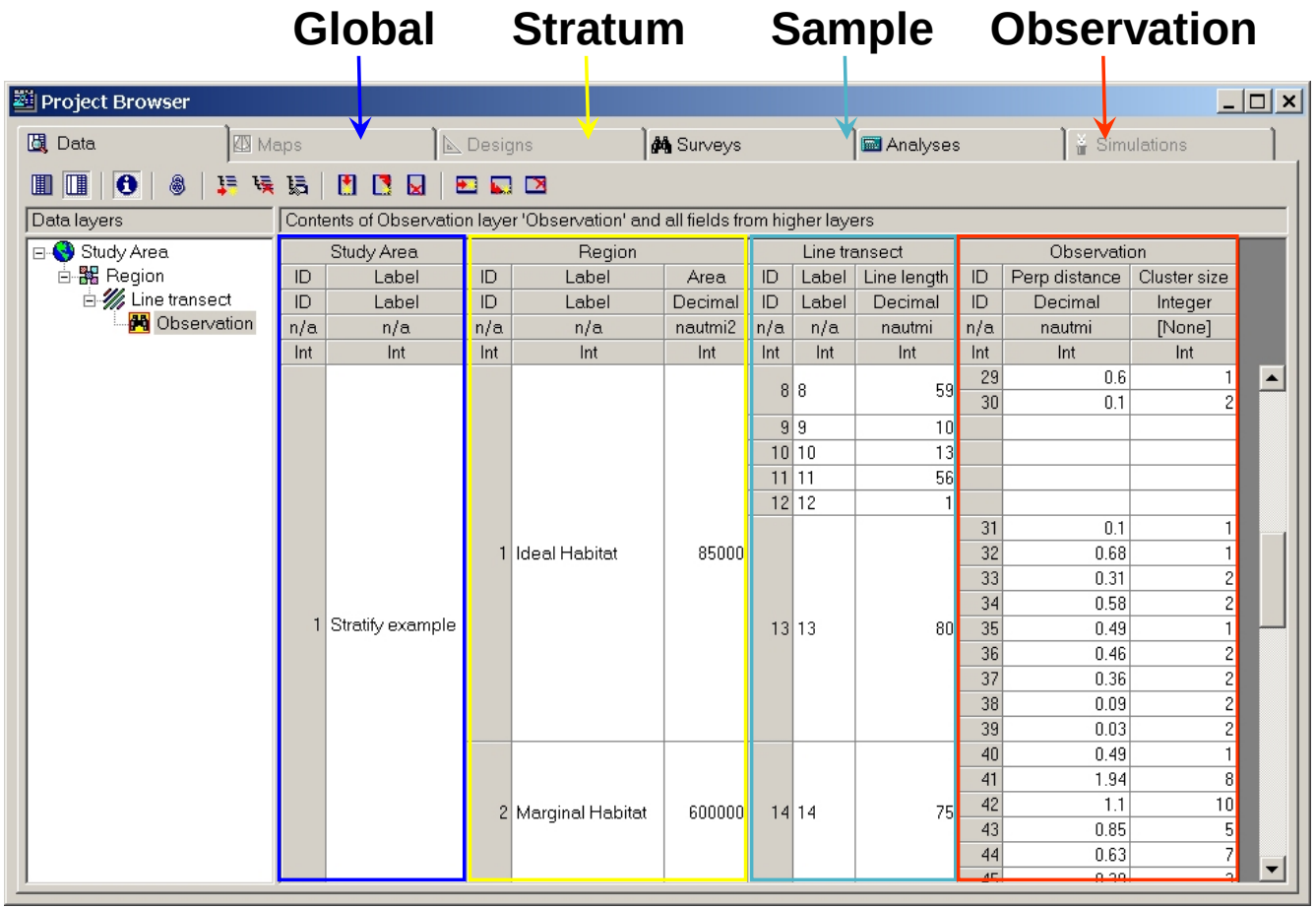
Survey data in Distance

Data Layers



Study Area		Region			Line transect			Observation		
ID	Label	ID	Label	Area	ID	Label	Line length	ID	Perp distance	Cluster size
ID	Label	ID	Label	Decimal	ID	Label	Decimal	ID	Decimal	Integer
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	nautmi2	n/a	n/a	nautmi	n/a	nautmi	[None]
Int	Int	Int	Int	Int	Int	Int	Int	Int	Int	Int
					8	8	59	29	0.6	1
								30	0.1	2
					9	9	10			
					10	10	13			
					11	11	56			
					12	12	1			
		1	Ideal Habitat	85000				31	0.1	1
								32	0.68	1
								33	0.31	2
								34	0.58	2
1	Stratify example				13	13	80	35	0.49	1
								36	0.46	2
								37	0.36	2
								38	0.09	2
								39	0.03	2
		2	Marginal Habitat	600000	14	14	75	40	0.49	1
								41	1.94	8
								42	1.1	10
								43	0.85	5
								44	0.63	7

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Survey data in Distance

Data Fields

Line transect			Observation		
ID	Label	Line length	ID	Perp distance	Cluster size
ID	Label	Decimal	ID	Decimal	Integer
n/a	n/a	nautmi	n/a	nautmi	[None]
Int	Int	Int	Int	Int	Int
8	8	59	29	0.6	1
			30	0.1	2
9	9	10			
10	10	13			
11	11	56			
12	12	1			
13	13	80	31	0.1	1
			32	0.68	1
			33	0.31	2
			34	0.58	2
			35	0.49	1
			36	0.46	2
			37	0.36	2
			38	0.09	2
			39	0.03	2
14	14	75	40	0.49	1
			41	1.94	8
			42	1.1	10
			43	0.85	5
			44	0.63	7

Field name

Field type (Integer, Decimal, Text, ID, Label)

Units

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Survey data in Distance

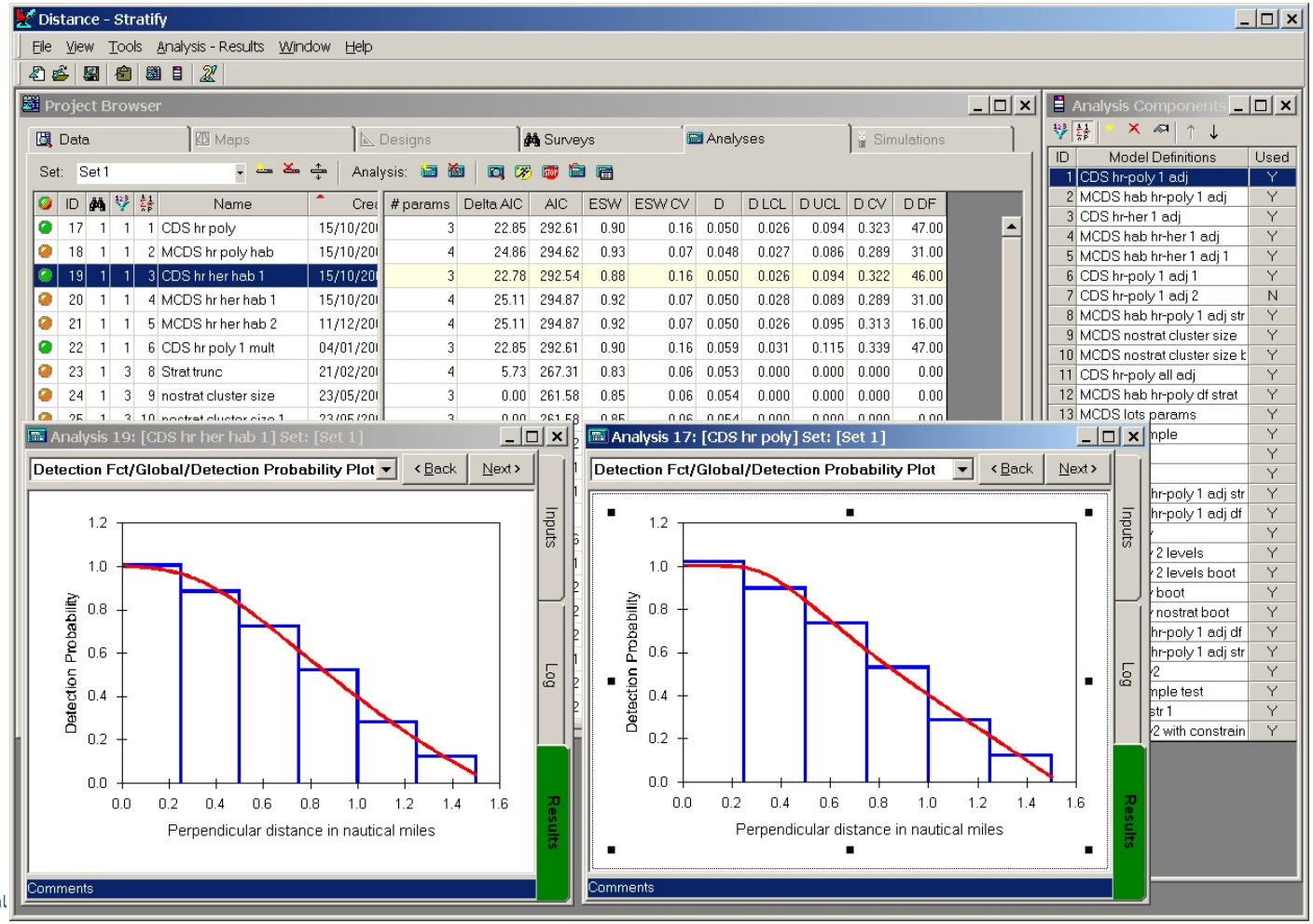
Getting data into Distance:

Data Entry Wizard

Data Explorer

Data Import Wizard

Analysis in Distance



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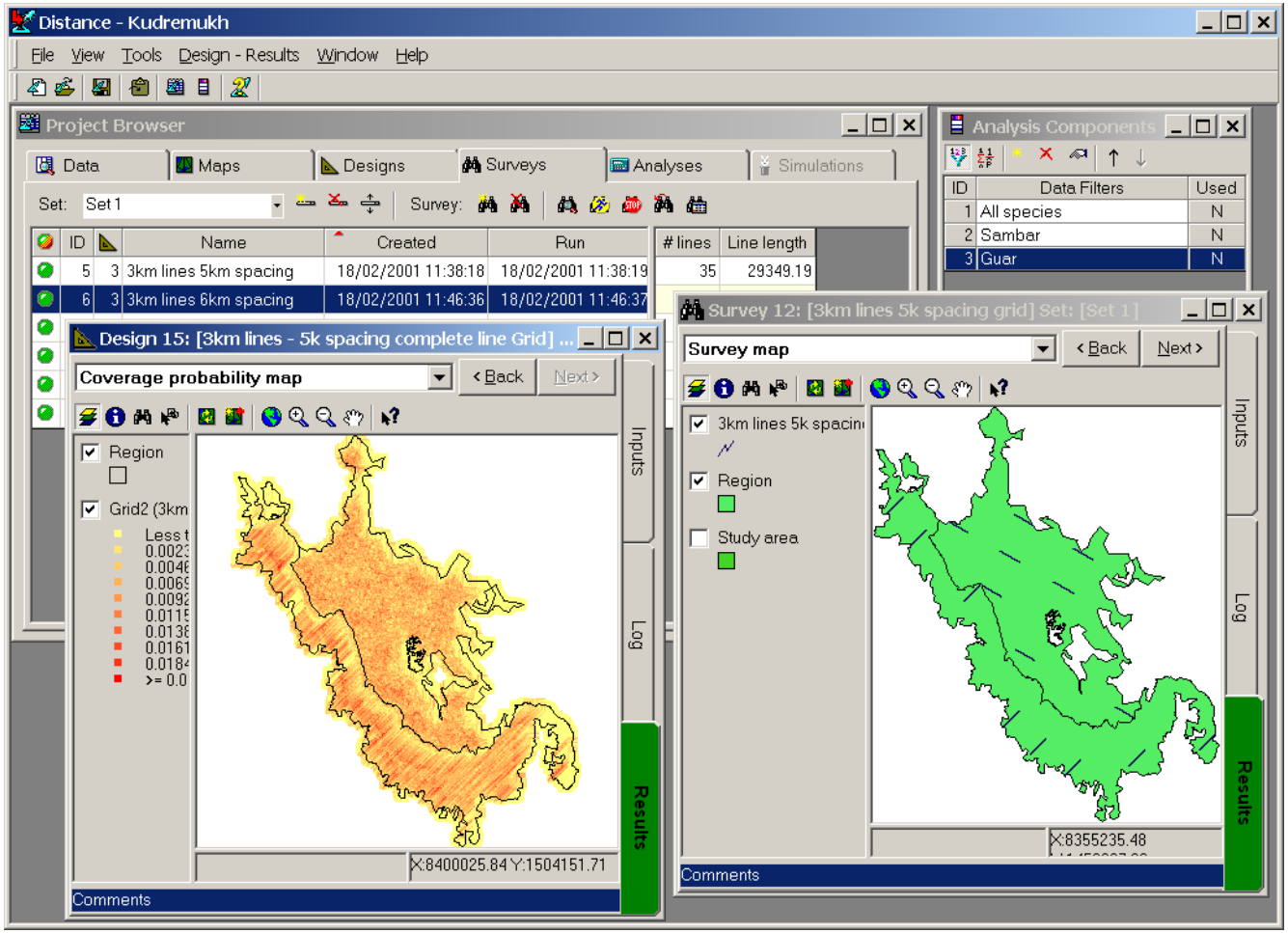
Survey Design in Distance



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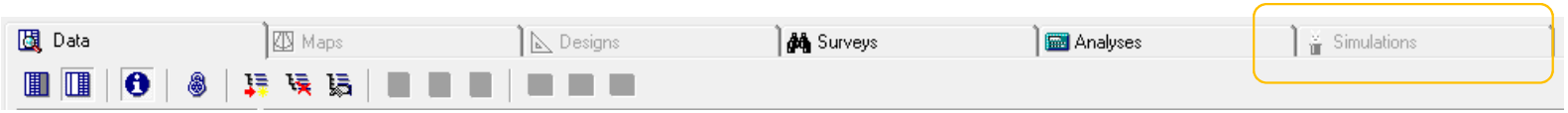
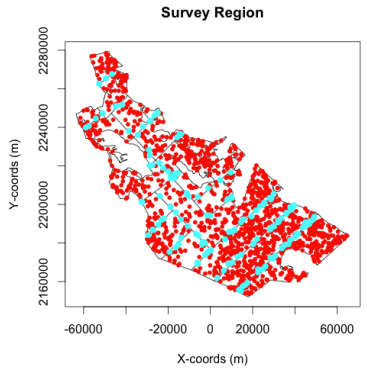
Distance Sampling simulation





The simulation engine permits assessment of estimator or survey design performance by generating populations, sampling from them and estimating density or abundance using the sampled data

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