# Icon Description automatically generatedPowerPoint Differ

## Overview

The PowerPoint Differ (PPD) is a desktop application for comparing two PowerPoint (.pptx) files. Older (.ppt) files are not supported. At present, the tool only checks if the two files are the same exact file or not, including document metadata. After a comparison operation has been completed, the tool presents a pop-up dialog that reports if the two files are the same file or not.

## Technical Information:

* The PPD was written in Java 8
* The PPD uses Apache POI 5.0.0

## Quick Start

After starting up the PPD desktop application, click a **Select PPTX** to display an “Open As” type of dialog to locate and select a file for comparison. Perform this action of selecting a PowerPoint file for both File A and File B, as labeled in the main application window. With two files selected, click the “Compare” button to run the comparison operation. When the comparison is complete, a popup dialog is displayed reporting if the two files are copies of the same file or not.

## To select a PowerPoint file:

In the main application dialog, there are two buttons labeled, **Select PPTX** one button on the row for **File A**, and one on the row for **File B**. Click the **Select PPTX** button and use the **Select a PowerPoint file** dialog, an “Open As” type of dialog, to locate and select a PowerPoint (.pptx) file. When a file has been successfully selected, the file name and its parent folder will be displayed in the field under the **File A** or **File B** label. To see the full file path, hover the mouse pointer over the name of the file, and a tooltip will be displayed with the full path of the file. Repeat the action of selecting a PowerPoint file until both **File A** and File B have files selected and displayed. The **Compare** button will not become enabled until two PowerPoint files have been selected. The tool will only allow the selection of files with a “.pptx” suffix, not case sensitive. The tool will not allow selection of a file, if that file has already been selected in the other file field.

## To compare two PowerPoint files:

With PowerPoint files selected for both **File A** and **File B**, click the **Compare** button. The PPD tool performs comparison operations for the two files. At present these checks include:

* Determine if the two files are copies of the same file or not, including document metadata.
* The number of slides in each presentation file.

On completion of the comparison operations, a pop-up dialog is opened displaying a report giving details about what checks where performed and the results of those checks.

## To save a report file:

While the report dialog is displayed, click the **Save Report** button. A **Save Report File** dialog is displayed. In this dialog, navigate to a location to save the file, and specify a new name for the file if needed. Click the **Save** button to write the report to a text file to the specified location.