

Contest Log Analyzer

Version: 1.0.0 Date: 2025-12-06

--- Revision History ---

[1.0.0] - 2025-12-06

Added

- Added `wrtc_propagation` and `wrtc_propagation_animation` to the list

of Available Reports.

[0.94.0-Beta] - 2025-12-06

Changed

- Updated version to 0.94.0-Beta to reflect the Phase 1.5 Stabilization release.

Removed

- Removed `multipliers_by_hour` from the list of Available Reports.

[0.91.1-Beta] - 2025-10-11

Added

- Added an introduction to explain the concept of Contest Analytics.

- Added sections linking to the Installation, User, and Report

Interpretation guides.

[0.91.0-Beta] - 2025-10-10

Changed

- Updated version number to align with the current session.

- Added WRTC to the list of supported contests.

[0.88.0-Beta] - 2025-09-21

Fixed

2

- Synchronized the "Available Reports" list with the current project

baseline to add one missing report and correct two report IDs.

The Contest Log Analyzer is a powerful tool for post-contest analysis, designed to uncover the strategic insights hidden within amateur radio contest logs. While logging software is excellent for real-time operations, this tool is designed specifically for post-contest log comparison, which is essential for detailed performance analysis. By comparing logs head-to-head, this tool helps the user to visualize the story of the contest: who was on what band and when, how an advantage was gained, and which missed opportunities were the most costly. It answers the critical questions that lead to better performance: Was my strategy of running on 20 meters more effective than my competitor's S&P strategy? Which specific multipliers did they work that I missed? How did our hourly rates compare during the critical European opening? By transforming raw log data into actionable intelligence, the analyzer provides a clear path for improving your operating strategy for the next event.

Key Features

- **Data-Driven Architecture:** Uses simple JSON files to define the rules, scoring, and exchange formats for each contest, making the tool highly extensible.
 - **Run/S&P Heuristics:** A sophisticated, multi-pass heuristic analyzes QSO timing and frequency to classify each contact as "Run," "Search & Pounce," or "Unknown," providing a clear picture of operating strategy.
 - **Unique vs. Common QSO Analysis:** The analyzer precisely identifies "unique" QSOs (worked by only one of two logs) and "common" QSOs (worked by both), breaking them down by Run/S&P status to reveal strategic advantages.
 - **Cumulative Difference Plots:** Goes beyond traditional rate graphs by presenting QSO and Point rate data in "Cumulative Difference Plots," which visualize performance trends and momentum shifts much more clearly.
 - **Animated Hourly Replay:** Generates an MP4 video that visualizes the entire contest on an hour-by-hour basis, showing cumulative scores, QSO rates, and band-by-band totals for up to three logs.
 - **Annotated CSV Output:** Generates detailed, "annotated" CSV files from the processed logs, perfect for loading into Excel or other tools for custom analysis and prototyping.
 - **Contest-Specific Scoring:** A modular system calculates QSO points based on the official rules for supported contests (ARRL-DX, ARRL-SS, CQ-WPX, CQ-WW).
 - **Dynamic Reporting Engine:** A flexible, "plug-and-play" system for generating a wide variety of text, plot, and chart-based reports.
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Installation and Setup

Before using the analyzer, you must set up your environment and install the required dependencies. For complete, step-by-step instructions, please see the `Docs/InstallationGuide.md`.

Usage

The analyzer is run from the command line using `main_cli.py`. The examples below show basic usage. For a complete list of all command-line options, available reports, and usage details, please refer to the `Docs/UsersGuide.md`.

Basic Syntax

```
python main_cli.py --report <ReportID|all|chart|text|plot|animation|html> <LogFile1> [<LogFile2>]
```

Examples

- Generate all available reports for two logs:

```
python main_cli.py --report all Logs/2024/cq-ww-cw/k3lr.log Logs/2024/cq-ww-cw/kc1xx.log
```

- Generate a specific report (Score Summary) for a single log:

```
python main_cli.py --report score_report Logs/2024/cq-ww-cw/k3lr.log
```

- Generate a Missed Multipliers report for CQ WW Zones:

```
python main_cli.py --report missed_multipliers --mult-name Zones Logs/2024/cq-ww-cw/k3lr.log
```

Supported Contests

The analyzer uses the `CONTEST`: field in the Cabrillo header to apply contest-specific rules. The following contests are currently supported:

- ARRL 10 Meter
- ARRL DX (CW & SSB)
- ARRL Field Day
- ARRL Sweepstakes
- CQ 160-Meter
- CQ WPX (CW & SSB)
- CQ World Wide DX (CW & SSB)
- IARU HF World Championship
- North American QSO Party (NAQP)
- WAE (CW & SSB)
- WRTC (via IARU-HF log)

Available Reports

All generated files are saved to a structured directory under `reports/YYYY/CONTEST_NAME/`. For a detailed explanation of how to interpret each report, please see the `Docs/ReportInterpretationGuide.md`.

Animation Reports (`animations/`)

- `hourly_animation`: Hourly Rate Animation
- `wrtc_propagation_animation`: WRTC Propagation Animation

HTML Reports (`html/`)

- `html_qso_comparison`: HTML QSO Comparison Report

Chart Reports (`charts/`)

- `chart_point_contribution`: Point Contribution Breakdown
- `chart_point_contribution_single`: Point Contribution Breakdown (Single Log)
- `qso_breakdown_chart`: QSO Breakdown Chart

Plot Reports (`plots/`)

- `band_activity_heatmap`: Band Activity Heatmap
- `comparative_band_activity`: Comparative Band Activity
- `comparative_band_activity_heatmap`: Comparative Band Activity Heatmap
- `comparative_run_sp_timeline`: Comparative Activity Timeline (Run/S&P)
- `cumulative_difference_plots`: Cumulative Difference Plots
- `point_rate_plots`: Point Rate Comparison Plots
- `qso_rate_plots`: QSO Rate Comparison Plots
- `wrtc_propagation`: WRTC Propagation by Continent

Text Reports (`text/`)

- `comparative_continent_summary`: Comparative Continent QSO Summary
- `rate_sheet_comparison`: Comparative Rate Sheet
- `comparative_score_report`: Comparative Score Report
- `continent_breakdown`: Continent QSO Breakdown
- `continent_summary`: Continent QSO Summary
- `missed_multipliers`: Missed Multipliers Report
- `multiplier_summary`: Multiplier Summary
- `qso_comparison`: QSO Comparison Summary
- `rate_sheet`: Hourly Rate Sheet
- `score_report`: Score Summary

- `summary`: QSO Summary
 - `text_wae_comparative_score_report`: WAE Comparative Score Report
 - `text_wae_score_report`: WAE Score Summary
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