D-Flow Slide Batch Tool manual

The Batch Tool is an interface that takes care of the input reading and pre-processing and the running for D-Flow Slide computations. The Batch Tool D-Flow Slide has undergone many changes in the last 5 years. In 2022, the code has been refactored and cleaned to enable easier development, improve modularity, deployment, and user-readability. In 2024 the user interface and the procedure to find characteristic points have been improved.

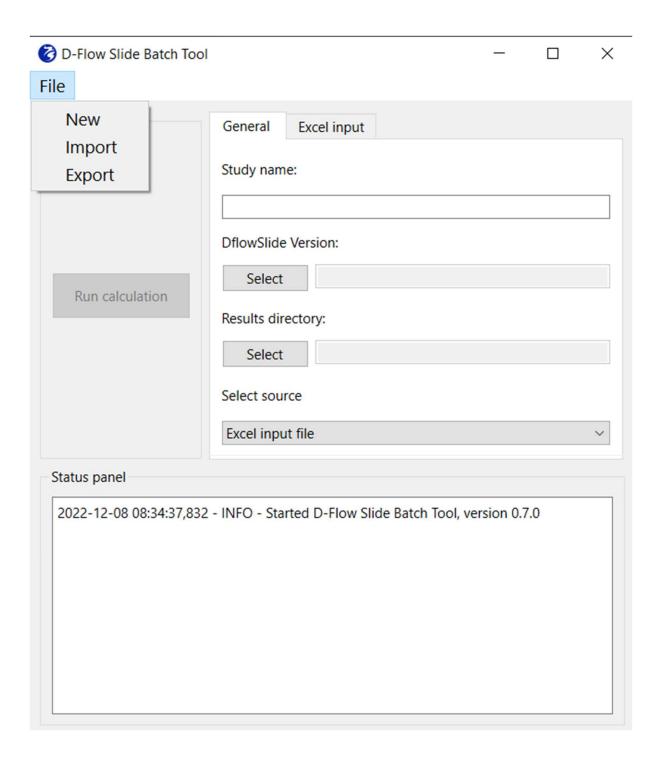
Background on D-Flow Slide is available from the website Informatiepunt Leefomgeving (IPLO.nl).

D-Flow Slide can be downloaded from this website:

https://iplo.nl/thema/water/applicaties-modellen/waterveiligheidsmodellen/flow-slide/

Getting started

The tool can work on Windows platforms, and it is an executable called D-FlowSlide_Batchtool.exe. After clicking on the executable, wait half a minute for the application to start. Once started, the application will look like the following.



Requirements

Running the D-Flow Slide Batch tool requires:

- raster ('tif') bathymetric file or files;
- raster ('tif') topographic file or files;
- cross river transects ('shp') along which we interpolate the rasters and obtain the cross profiles;

• barrier line ('shp') shapefile of a line which represents the keringlijn, to help determining what side is the profile to be tested and hence the transect/cross profile direction.

Technical Requirements

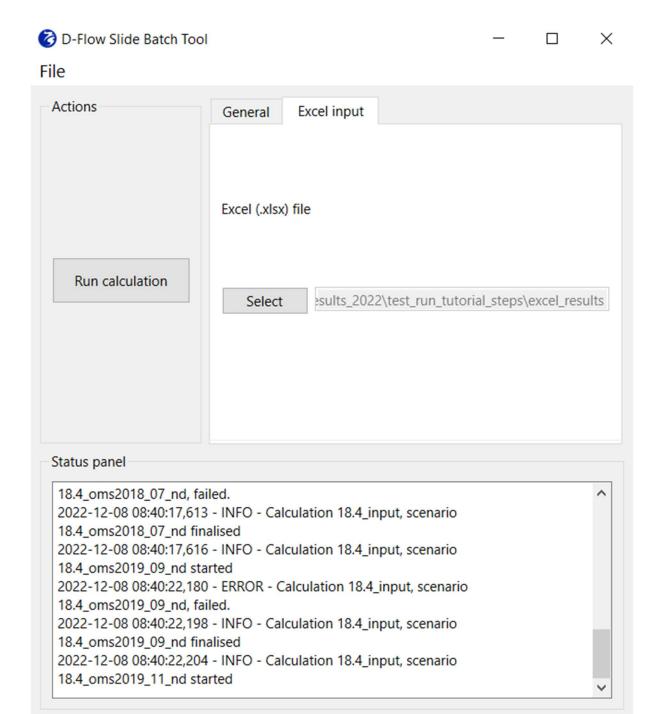
The stand-alone configuration (.exe) of the batch tool has the advantage of being built with modern development CI/CD workflows, with unit and acceptance testing, and ultimately to keep the user free from local building from code.

Tutorial

The interface main window shows the general options the user can select. The <code>Select Source</code> cascading menu lets you choose between running D-Flow Slide calculation with the processed .xls input files of D-Flow Slide, or generate those input files through a process of extraction of transects and characteristic points detection. To run with .xls insput files, choose the option <code>Excel files</code> in the <code>Select Source</code> menu. To generate the input files through extraction and characteristic points, select <code>Extract files</code>. These options will be discussed in the following two sections.

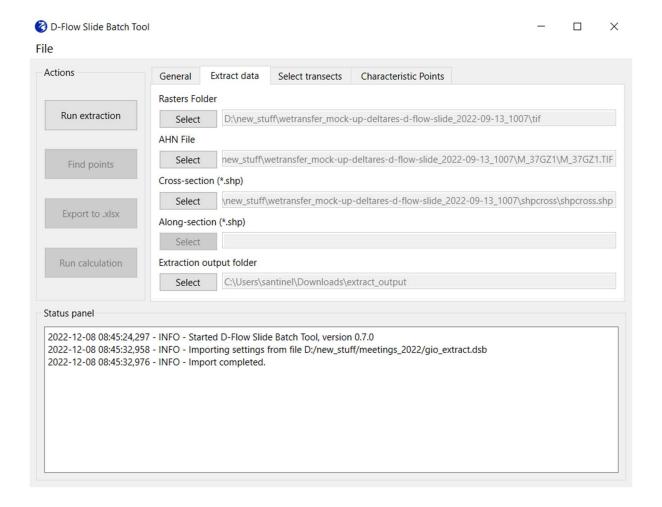
Run D-Flow Slide with input Excel files

Once you select Excel files in the Select Source option, you can proceed with filling in the other fields. With DFlowSlide Version the user selects the binary folder where the kernel of D-Flow Slide is in. The computation will make use of the libraries and executables contained in that folder. If the user has already processed .xls input files of D-Flow Slide, the user selects the output folder for the D-Flow Slide run with Results directory. Once these fields are filled in, the Run calculation button will activate and run D-Flow Slide. The user can either start another run with other input values or exit the interface by closing the tool.



Extract files, find points and run D-Flow Slide

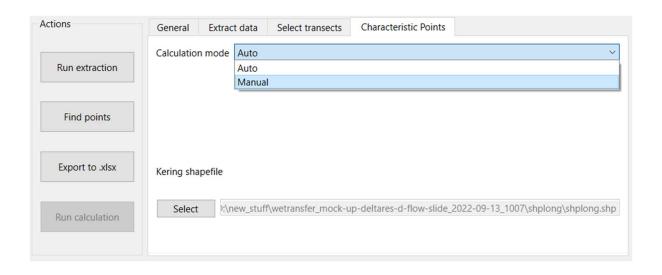
Once the Extract files option is selected in the Select Source menu, the user can fill in all fields for extraction of profiles from rasters, finding characteristic points and writing Excel input files for D-Flow Slide. This is what the extraction window looks like.

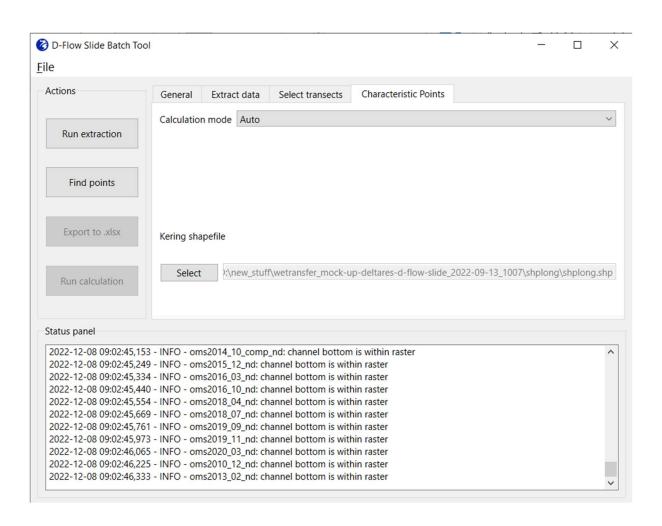


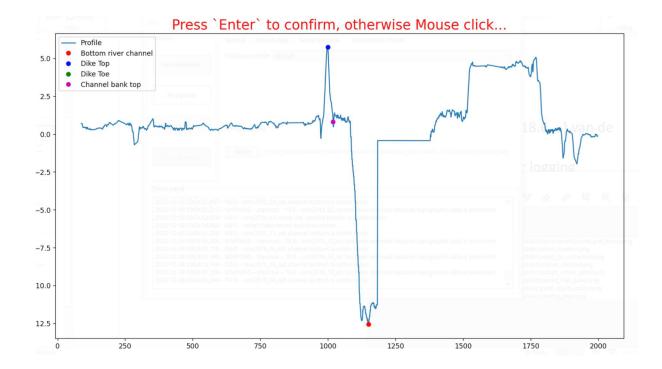
The Extract data tab shows the fields. Once they are all filled in, the Run extraction button is activated, and can be started to start the extraction. Once all the data is extracted, the Select transects tab lets the user select the proper transects from the extraction folder, which is inside the raw folder.

At this point the Characteristic Points tab can be opened. There the kering shapefile field should be inserted. If done properly, the Find Points button should be activated. If the calculation mode is selected as Auto, then finding the points will happen in an automated way. If the mode is Manual the plots per profile will be open and the user will go through each of those plots and follow the instructions given in the image. Here is an example of plot; the instructions for the user are shown in the plot title.

To get the best results for the characteristic points using the automatic determination with the Batch Tool, the surface lines and bathymetric lines should be stripped of noise as much as possible, such as erratic surface lines due to vegetation or incomplete bathymetries. For dikes without a foreland ("schaardijken") it is often hard for the Batch Tool to find the characteristic points 'insert river channel' and 'dike toe at river', because of the long slopes without clear kink points. Manual adjustment can be needed in that case.







Either way, when you read "Characteristic points computed" in the logging, you can go to the next step. The button Export to .xlsx writes the input Excels for D-Flow Slide. After that, the Run calculation button will activate and by clicking it D-Flow Slide will run.

Other options of usage

Import and export .dbt files

By clicking on File from cascading menu, three options open that interact with a settings .json file with .dbt extension. The three options let you:

- New: Swip out all changes, and start with a new clean interface;
- Export: This will create a new .dbt file to which a name can be given;
- Import: If you already have a previously exported .dbt file, you can simply import it here. Doing so will automatically fill in the fields from the interface.

Rerun the tool with different files

If you would like to keep the same settings but just need changing files, you can import a previously exported .dbt file and just import the path of those new files from the interface. This tip is valid for any setting you may want to change.

Re-run auto detection as manual

If after the auto detection the user is not satisfied, importing the .dbt file will help to restore all settings and just find points in a manual way.

Description of the tool tabs and buttons

The tool consists of an Action panel with buttons, a tabs panel for selection of input, and a Status Panel with logging showing the status of the selection and calculation. The General tab let the user decide whether the input is simply selected or it is generated. If Excel option is chosen, the tab Excel input guides the user in the selection of the input files, and the Run calculation button is activated. The Extract files option allow for the generation of the input for D-Flow Slide. By selecting it as source, new tabs and buttons are generated in the interface so the user can generate the input files for D-Flow Slide from a shapefile containing transects and a number of rasters of bathymetry and topography. When running with Extract files mode, the General tab does not change. The tabs Extract data, Select Transects, Characteristic Points and the new buttons Run extraction, Find Points, Export to .xlsx appear. Raster Folder asks for a folder with raster files, namely bathymetric surveys. AHN File asks for a single topographic file for integration of the surveys. A shapefile containing cross-shore transects is selected with Cross-section (*.shp). The shapefile can contain one or multiple shapefiles. The field Extraction output folder let the user select the location of the output of this raster extraction analysis. Now the button Run extraction is enabled. The following tab Select transects let you select the transect once the Run extraction analysis is complete. Alternatively, you can still select the folder where transects previously computed are stored. The tab Characteristic Points let the user select an along-section kering shapefile and select the calculation mode from the Calculation mode menu. Once all fields are complete, the two buttons Find points and Export to .xlsx perform finding characteristic points and writing the Excel file to use as input of D-Flow Slide, respectively. Run calculation can be run to let D-Flow Slide compute on the input files and the settings given.

NB: All the windows that pop-up have a title explaining what the user should do. This helps to direct actions throughout the process.

Further developments

Pending development actions to the tool are not available at the moment and comprise:

- Insert multiple soil layers
- Better definition of top revetment and bottom revetment
- Choosing auto / manual selection of characteristic points after each profile
- Extracting profiles from Morphan
- Rebuild as a browser application

Authors

- Giorgio Santinelli
- Carles Soriano Perez
- Maria Luisa Taccari
- Bruno Zuada Coelho
- Alexander van Duinen