Projects

AAA does not use filenames to store recordings. Instead they are uniquely referenced within a database called a project by three pieces of information

1. Client name
2. Prompt
3. Date/time of recording

A recording may consist of a collection of several data streams. For example a recording may consist of speech acoustics and ultrasonic data from the Micro. But a recording can also contain Splines generated from the ultrasound data, analysis values generated from the splines, annotation labels. All of these data streams are time-tagged and managed by the AAA software.
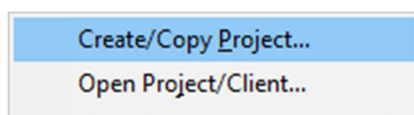
You may wish to create one project per client/participant so that each project is a manageable size or a group of clients can be stored in a project. This will allow comparisons to be performed between clients within the software but take care that the project does not become unmanageably large particularly in the time required to back It up. If your project does become larger than you would like, you can use the copy project option to transfer a subset of clients or recordings to another project.

Typical storage requirements

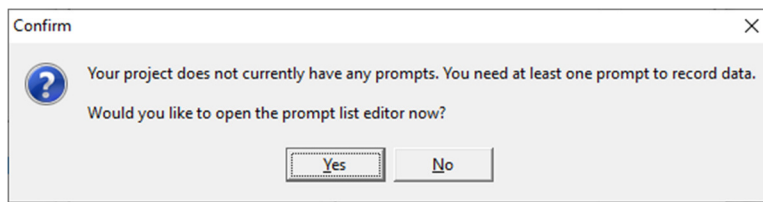|		
22kHz 16-bit stereo audio	0.09Mb/sec	317Mb/hr
44kHz 16-bit 4-channel audio	0.35Mb/sec	1.27Gb/hr
Micro ultrasonic data	5.85Mb/sec	2.1Gb/hr
Greyscale Video	9.2Mb/sec	3.32Gb/hr
24bit Colour	27.6Mb/sec	82.8GB/hr

Create a new project

To create a new project select the "File" menu and select Create/Copy project...
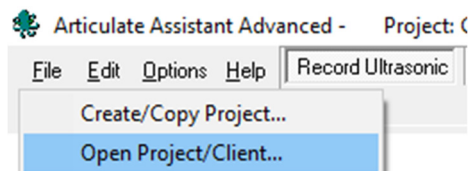
1. By default the projects root directory is the directory from which the application is run. However, you may prefer to specify a separate location for data storage, perhaps in another folder in May documents or on another disk drive, dedicated to storing data.

2. to select the Project root or type or paste the path into the Projects Root edit box.

3. To remember this location the next time you create or open a project, click the button.

4. After setting the Project root, complete the 'Project Name' using alphanumeric characters. This will also be the name of the folder in which all the project data is stored. You may specify the author and any details describing the project but this is not essential.

5. Click You will be asked if you want to copy the promptlist from the current project. It is easiest to click OK the first time you create a project. The prompts from the demo project will be copied to your new project.
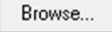

6. However, if you prefer not to add unwanted prompts to your new project and prefer to create your own promptlist, click No. Then click Yes when asked if you want to open the promptlist editor. IMPORTANT: You must have at least one prompt to be able to make a recording.
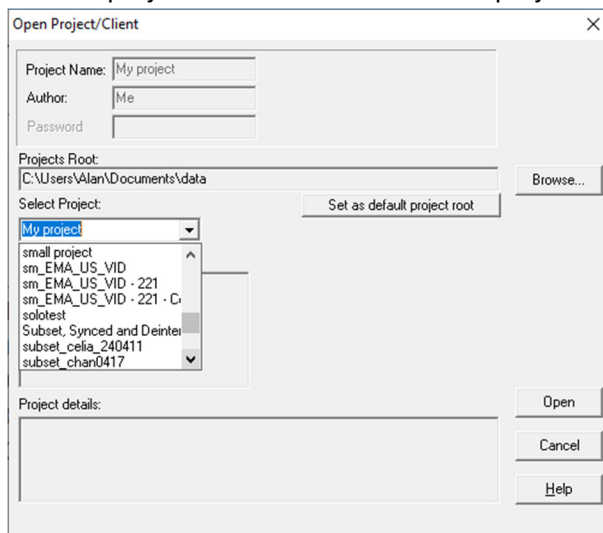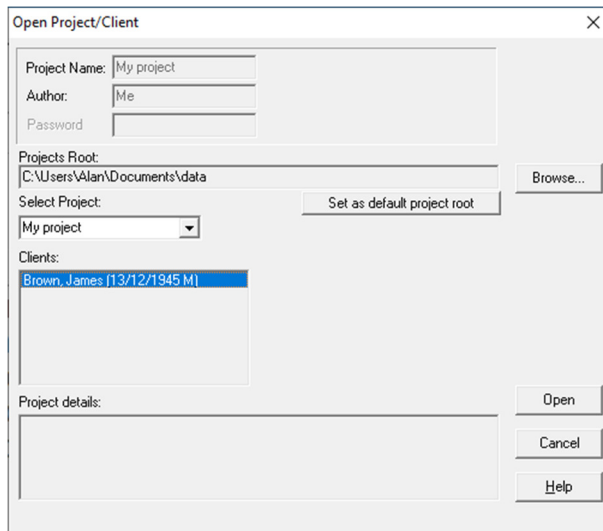
Open an existing project

To open an existing project select the "File" menu and select Open project/client...

1. If the project you are looking for is not in the current Projects Root then select [Browse...] to find the project folder or type the path into the "Projects Root" edit box.

2. Select a project from the list of available projects in the projects root.

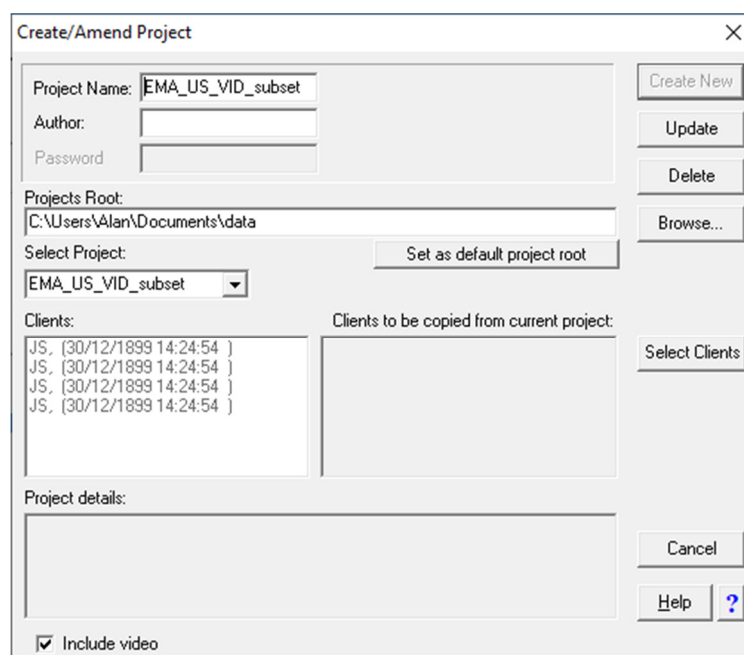3. Select a client from the selected project and click [Open].

Copy recordings from one project to another

It is possible to copy data from the currently open project to another project. The data can be appended to an existing project or a new project can be created specifically for the files to be copied. You may wish to do this to create a subset of data for a particular analysis or to allow a subset of data to be given to another researcher using AAA.
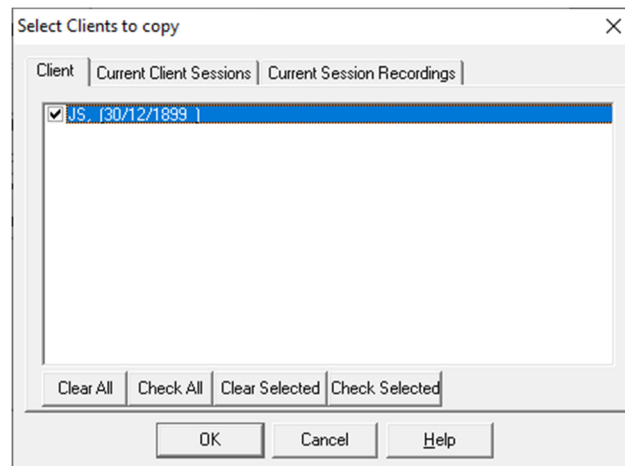
1. Use "File | Open project/client…" dialogue to open the project and the client that you wish to copy data **from.**

2. Use the 'File | Create/Copy Project…' dialogue to select the project you want to copy the data **to**.   This can be a new project you create or an existing project you wish to add clients and recordings to. If it is an existing project then the [Create New] button will be disabled and the [Update] button will be enabled.
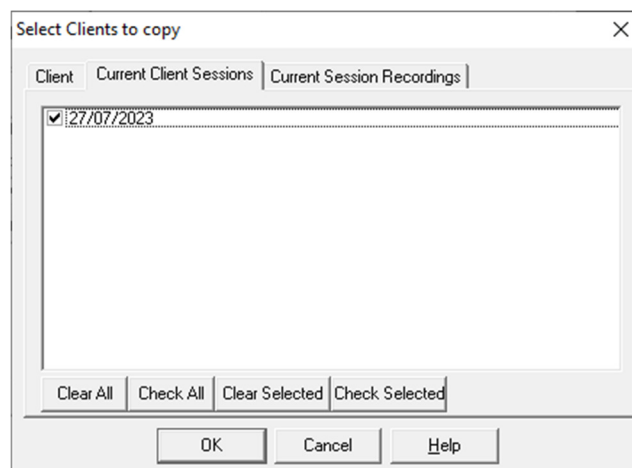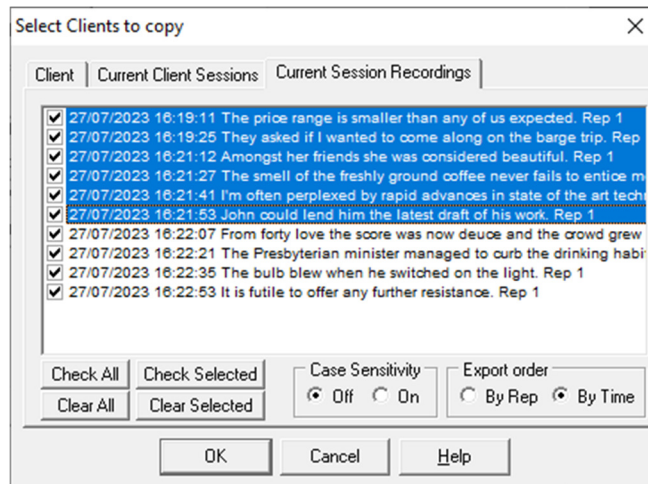
3. Click the ![Select Clients] button to open the 'Clients to Copy' dialogue.

4. From the 'Client' tab window in the dialogue select the client or clients you wish to copy to the new project.

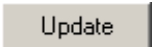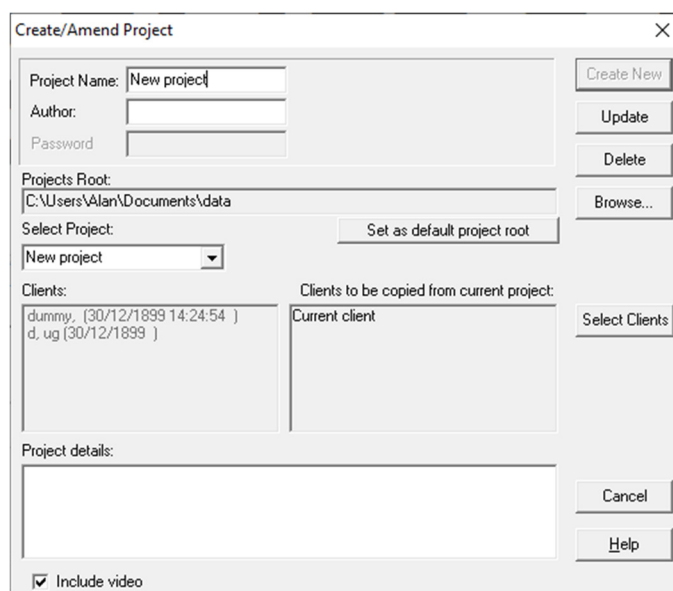5. From the 'Current client sessions' tab window in the dialogue select the session or sessions you wish to copy to the new project. You can only access sessions from the currently loaded client.

6. From the 'Current Session Recordings' select individual recordings from the current client. You can click and drag or <cntrl> click to multiselect recordings and then check or uncheck the selected recordings.

7. If you have separate prompts that deliberately differ because the target word has a upper case character in one prompt and lower case in the other then switch case sensitivity on.

8. 'By rep' lists the recordings according to the order of the prompts. 'By time' lists them according to the time they were recorded.

9. After selecting the data to be copied, click OK to close the 'Clients to Copy' dialogue. The name(s) of the clients to be copied in full or in part will be entered in the clients to be copied listbox in the 'Create/Amend Project' dialogue.

10. Finally, to add this data to the new or existing project click or as appropriate.

Backing up projects

It is strongly recommended to back up your projects to an external drive, network drive or cloud repository. You must back up ENTIRE project folders. DO NOT BACKUP PART OF A PROJECT FOLDER.

The Data.aa0 file in the project folder contains the database and small pieces of data less than 4 bytes. Larger data chunks of data such as audio, ultrasound, video recordings are stored as Chunk???.aa0 files. Close AAA before running a backup.