Create Spider Plots

It is possible to create custom spider plots and then access them using the **Spider>User** or **Open Other Spider Plot** menu options. Spider plots are stored in XML format and can be created or edited using any XML editing program such as WordPad or NotePad++. It is important to make sure that the correct syntax is used in the XML file or the file will not run within ioGAS.

The structure of the spider plot XML file lists the value for each variable along with the units in the following format:

```
<transformation_mx_c name="Example Spider Plot">
    <Comment>Enter Comment Here</Comment>
    <Reference>Enter Reference Here</Reference>

        <element name="K"  unit="ppm">
            <m>17430</m>
            <c>0</c>
        </element>

        <element name="P"  unit="ppm">
            <m>829.54</m>
            <c>0</c>
        </element>

        <element name="Zr"  unit="ppm">
            <m>210</m>
            <c>0</c>
        </element>

</transformation_mx_c>
```

The above is a copy of the spider Example.xml file which is located in one of the following locations:

- PC 32/64-bit installation C:\Users*Username*\AppData\Roaming\ioGAS\Spider folder (change 'Username' to your login)

- Mac installation Applications\ioGAS\Contents\Resources\app\data\spider folder

* The AppData folder is a hidden folder. If the folder is not visible in Windows Explorer then go to the Organize>Folder and Search menu option and click on the View tab. Under Hidden files and folders make "Show Hidden files, folders, and drives" active. Click OK to finish.

Make a copy of the Example.xml file and save into the above directory.

1. Open the new spider plot xml file into a text editor such as WordPad, NotePad or NotePad ++. NotePad++ is very good for editing xml files as it colours different parts of the file making it easier to enter data.

2. Replace "Example Spider Plot" with a new name for the normalisation

3. Replace **Enter Comment Here** with any comments making sure to leave the <Comment> and </Comment> syntax

4. Replace **Enter Reference Here** with any reference information making sure to leave the <Reference> and </Reference> syntax

5. Replace "K" with the first element name and "ppm" with the unit eg. ppb, ppm or pct.

6. Replace 17430 with the element value making sure to leave the <m> and </m> syntax

7. Continue to add more element, units and values as required

8. To add additional elements copy the entire syntax block:

<element name="Zr" unit="ppm">

    <m>210</m>

```
      <c>0</c>
```

```
</element>
```

and paste leaving the <\transformation..... syntax lines at the top and bottom of the file intact.

Note that the element/unit combination must match one of the those present in the standard ioGASnames used for aliasing data in the Column Properties dialog.

9. Save the file when finished.

10. To view the spider plot in ioGAS re-start the program and go to the **Spider>User** menu option. You can also use the **Open Other Spider Diagram** menu option to browse to the Spider folder and open the XML file from here so you don't have to re-start ioGAS each time.

Save and Share Spider Plots

Spider plots saved to the following location can be opened up into ioGAS using the **Spider>User>Spider** menu option.

- o PC 32/64-bit installation C:\Users*Username*\AppData\Roaming\ioGAS\Spider folder (change 'Username' to your login)

- o Mac installation Applications\ioGAS\Contents\Resources\app\data\spider folder

Users may also want to store their spider plot files in a different location on their local machine or on a company server so that other users can have access to them as well. In order to be able to open and use spider plots that are stored in different locations to the default folder then the spider.location.ini file must be modified.

The Provided and User spider plots are cached so that they can be still be accessed when working offline.

The **spider.location.ini** file is a text file that is located in one of the following locations:

- PC 32/64-bit installation C:\Users*Username*\AppData\Roaming\ioGAS\userConfig folder (change 'Username' to your login)

- Mac installation Applications\ioGAS\Contents\Resources\app folder

Open this file in any text editor such as WordPad or NotePad.

```
#Spider Norm root locations
#
#NB use only / not \ in paths.
#<install> means the location of the installation.
#<appdata> on windows means the location of application data (non admins can write in here)
#
#examples (delete # to uncomment)
#
#1=<install>/data/Spider/
#2=C:/temp/data/Spider
#
#note the // on the next line, NOT the more usual \\
#3=//server/data/
#
1=<appdata>/Spider
2=C:/Projects
3=I:/ioAnalytics/ioGAS/Archive
```

Spider.location.ini file showing local and server paths added

Enter the file path to each parent spider plot folder as separate entries on a separate row as demonstrated above. Any folders added here are displayed using the **Spider>User** menu option. Spider plot XML files may be stored in folders underneath this parent folder without each folder having to be entered separately. Save the **spider.location.ini** file and then re-start ioGAS to

view the spider plots.

Note: For best results do not use "Spider" as a folder name in the spider.locatins.ini file. For example, If you have saved spider plots in a folder path such as C:/Projections/Spider just enter C:/Projects in the spider.locations.ini file. The whole folder path will show properly under the User menu.

See Also:
Help>Training Videos (web): *Spider Plots* (Maintained users only)

Graph FAQ for more information about common issues.

Display Data on Spider Plots