

MANUAL FOR PROAST WEB APPLICATION

Open the PROAST website

In the URL window of your browser, type
proastweb.rivm.nl

Page: overview

After reading and closing the introduction text and disclaimer, you will see the overview page, containing a list of the analysis you have done today, which is empty when first starting.

Click on *Create new analysis*

Page: new

On this page you can upload a dataset (or use an example dataset, after clicking on *Use example dataset*). The help function, indicated by a question mark (next to *Browse*) gives a brief description of the required format of a dataset (for more details, see PROAST MANUAL GUI).

Check “comma” or “point”, to indicate which decimal separator is used in the dataset that you want to upload (this depends on the regional settings of your computer).

Click on *browse* and browse to the dataset on your computer. Select the dataset, and then click on *upload*. You will get a message that the data have been uploaded, and you will see the data on your screen (you might need to scroll down).

Note:

When you get an error message, this is most likely caused by a format error in the dataset. Check your dataset (see PROAST MANUAL GUI for the requirements of a dataset). If you cannot find the error, copy your dataset to a temporary file, and try if it helps when you make it smaller (by deleting rows).

You can make a subset selection from the data that were uploaded, by clicking on the drop down symbol (v) next to the column header, and check or uncheck the values (or levels) you want to keep. When you want to cancel the subset selection, you can go back to the complete dataset by clicking on “Restore”.

Finally, fill in a name for this particular analysis, which will be used in the overview of performed analyses on the page called Overview.

Click on *Next: specify*

Page: specify

On the page specify, you can indicate which column in your dataset represents the dose, the response, and other things, depending on the situation. Note that the question marks may help you with some more information.

If you want to analyze a mixture study, click on the + on the right hand side of the dose window, and select the columns for the compounds you want to include. Do not forget to remove data from compounds you do not want to include in the analysis (using subset selection in the uploaded data).

If you want to analyze multiple endpoints in one single run, click on the + on the right hand side of the response window. However, you first need to choose *type of response data*. This option is not yet implemented for quantal data.

The window *Covariate column (optional)* can be left empty (first field of the scroll down window), meaning that there is no covariate specified in this particular analysis.

When you have finalized the specifications, click on run. This will bring you (back) to the overview page. The analysis you just indicated is now visible, with *State* "queued", followed by "InProgress" and "Finished".

The third icon on the right of "Finished" contains "Report analysis results". Clicking on it opens an HTML page with a summary of the results. You can copy-paste the content to Word document.

Note: sometimes the figure does not come along, in that case right click on the figure (without selecting it) and select *copy*. Then, in Word, click on *paste* (under *Home*, see upper left corner), and next on *Paste special*. In the window that appears select *Device Independent Bitmap*. Now the figure should show up.

The second icon contains some additional output (as also given in the Console window in the stand-alone version of PROAST running under R).

The first icon can be used if you want to change the specification related to the same dataset. Note that the name of the analysis will not change, so that you will loose the previous results from the overview. If you want to keep these results, change the name of the analysis.

The fourth icon can be used for adjusting the format of the plot ("advanced plotting"). When you click on the icon, you'll see a page with various fields that allow you to change various plot characteristics. After having clicked the apply button, you can find your adjusted plot in the report (third icon of the overview page).

When the analysis you started takes some time, you can in the meantime upload another dataset, do the specification and give a run order. The jobs that are running will just continue, and the results will be maintained for each analysis name that you specified.