

Hi Dr Lendaris,

The CheckPoint-Save-Multiple-Networks bug still remains in Professional II/PLUS, and it hurt your class work mid-November last year. Here is an email between us at that time. I hope this will reduce problems that could occur again this year. (The other items are not bugs, but intended changes that went in over time.)

Best regards, Bob.

I hope all is going well. Investigating the CheckPoint-Save-Multiple-Networks problem has uncovered a work-around that is easier than the SaveAs/Close/Open used in the past.

If your students use a double-quoted name like this: "mynet00" then all works well. That is to say that just prior to training they should do a SaveAs command, and TYPE over any existing entry like untitled.nnd to be "mynet00". Dropping the .nnd portion and using double quotes is the trick. So rather than save to mynet00.nnd, save to "mynet00", quotes included. This is needed only when using {0, 00, or 000} at the end of a filename, along with Run/CheckPoints, to automatically save numerous models. In typical ProII/PLUS work such final zeros are not used, and double-quoting things is unnecessary.

On the subject of the older 'File/Change Directory' menu item, that was removed to substantially improve usage. The feature we refer to 'round here as "path retention". ProII/PLUS was enhanced to use standard Windows dialogs and browse buttons to locate things like *.nnd, *.nna or *.txt files. The best part is that once you navigate to a directory (using File/Open, File/SaveAs, or the InstaNet Browse buttons) then that directory is remembered from one session to the next. In the past you had to keep going back to a hard disk drive or directory using File/CurrentDirectory. Now you just go there once using the drop-down locator in File/Open, and ProII/PLUS saves that to into our *.ini file. The next time you run ProII/PLUS and click File/Open, the earlier drive and path is the default location. We expect that path retention makes the product easier to use than the earlier method.

There is an alternative to using Run/CheckPoints to auto-save models, to review the network's progress over time. The product can save progress by making a graph (a chart), and numerically write (append) all graph activity to a log file. Here's how...

You can create graphical instruments to monitor almost any type of activity in the Professional II/PLUS, looking at individual PEs, Layers, Connections, or groups of each. Our graphs can monitor and log the desired information to disk.

To log information, edit the instrument by double-clicking on it. In the lower-left of the Instrument Edit dialog select the Logging Active box and okay the dialog. Now when you perform a Learn, Recall, SaveBest or Test operation, the graphic data displayed in the instrument will also be written to a text file named "instrum.nnp" by default. Subsequent Learn, Recall, SaveBest or Test operations will, by default, append to this file. See the Reference Guide page RF-172 (PDF page 186 of 297) for more details.

Hope all is going well in your course, and Happy Thanksgiving!
PS: I heard from student Jeff Weintraub that your class is a tremendous help to him in understand n.nets. He said he's been around them for 15 years, and your class is great.

Best regards,

Bob Everly

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