# AASHTOWare BrDR 7.6.0

Feature Tutorial

Analysis Results Comparison (ARC) Tool 2.0 Tutorial

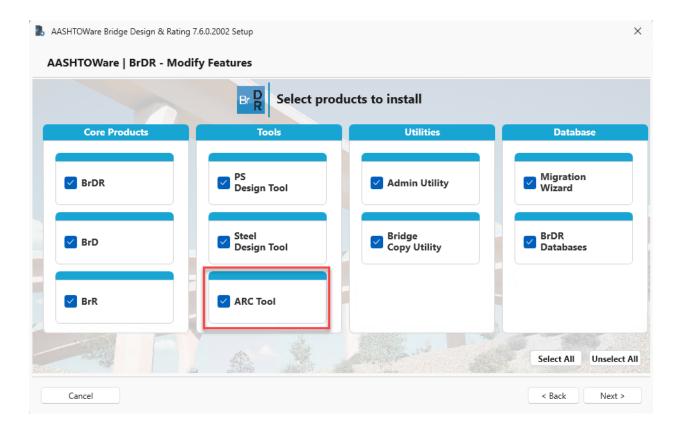
This example describes the use of the Analysis Results Comparison (ARC) 2.0 Tool feature in BrDR. *Note: The ARC Tool 2.0 will be included in BrDR for versions 7.6 and later. For versions 7.1 through 7.5, please refer to the ARC Tool 1.0 tutorial.* 

### Topics covered:

- Getting started
- Creating and appending to datasets
- Operation of the ARC Tool comparison feature

## **Getting Started**

When installing BrDR, ensure that the ARC Tool is selected as a feature (see below). Also please note, a user must login to BrDR at least once before using the ARC Tool to activate the license.



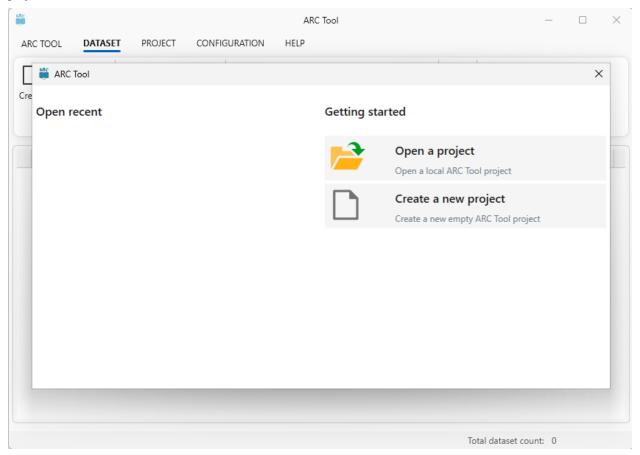
#### **Export Bridge XML Files**

The ARC Tool analyzes bridges directly from AASHTOWare BridgeXML files rather than connecting to a database like BrDR. Bridge XML files can be generated by exporting bridges from a particular version of BrDR. Please note, version conversion is available in the ARC Tool for forward compatibility but not backward compatibility. For

example, bridges exported from BrDR version 7.0 can be used to generate datasets for versions 7.1 and later, but bridges exported from BrDR version 7.6 cannot be used to generate datasets for BrDR version 7.0.

# Creating a New Project

Run the ARC Tool executable file to begin (this is 'ArcToolUi.exe' located in the folder {BrDR installation folder}\ArcTool). The window below will open with the option to either "Create a new project" or "Open a project".



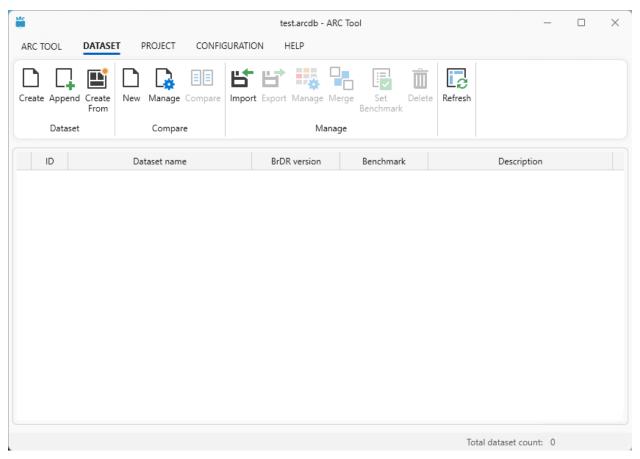
After selecting an option, the **Dataset Explorer** window will open and the grid will be populated if the selected project contained any datasets.

### Data Explorer Window

This is the ARC Tool main window and can be used to access the features in the ARC Tool. Below is a quick description of the features available for the ARC Tool.

### **Dataset Tab:**

The **Dataset Tab** of the ARC Tool ribbon is shown below.



## **Dataset Group**

# Create

Allows the user to generate a new dataset.

## **Append**

Allows the user to generate new data and add it to an existing dataset.

#### **Create From**

Allows the user to generate a new dataset from an existing dataset using a different version of BrDR.

### **Compare Group**

# New

Creates a new comparison template, this template is a set of unique rules used to make custom comparisons between two datasets.

# Manage

Allows the user to create, edit, or delete comparison templates.

# Compare

Runs a Level 1 comparison on two selected datasets or one selected dataset against the benchmark dataset.

Level 1 is a comparison of controlling rating factors at the bridge level.

### **Manage Group**

# **Import**

Imports a collection of ARC Tool dataset files stored as an .arcds file.

### **Export**

Exports a collection of ARC Tool dataset files and stores them in an .arcds file.

### Manage

Allows the user to view, update, and delete the items within the selected dataset.

#### Merge

Merges two selected datasets of the same version into one new dataset.

## Set benchmark

Sets the selected the dataset as the benchmark. A benchmark is an accepted dataset that will be used to compare to future datasets.

### **Delete**

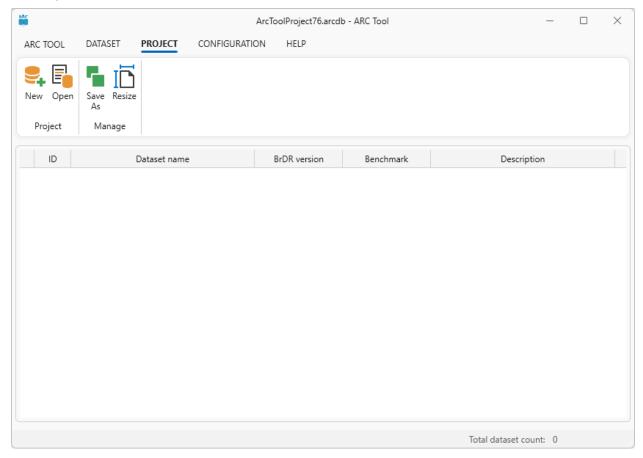
Deletes the selected dataset(s).

## Refresh

Refreshes the dataset explorer window so that any changes are reflected in the window.

# **Project Tab**

The **Project Tab** of the ARC Tool ribbon is shown below.



# **Project Group**

# New

Creates and new ARC Tool project and loads it into the Dataset Explorer window.

#### Open

Opens an existing ARC Tool project and loads it into the Dataset Explorer

# **Manage Group**

### Save As

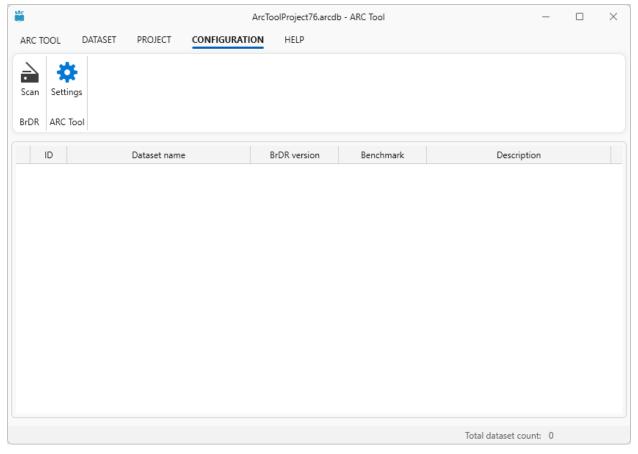
Saves the current ARC Tool Project to the selected location and optionally loads it into the Dataset Explorer.

### Resize

Compresses the size of the currently opened ARC Tool project file. If several datasets have been deleted from the project, this option can be used to clean up metadata and reduce the size of the file.

# **Configuration Tab**

The **Configuration Tab** of the ARC Tool Ribbon is shown below.



# **BrDR** Group

## Scan

Scans the user's machine for installed instances of the supported BrDR versions. If a supported BrDR version is detected, it will be registered in the ARC Tool project and the BrDR Analysis Templates will be imported into the ARC Tool.

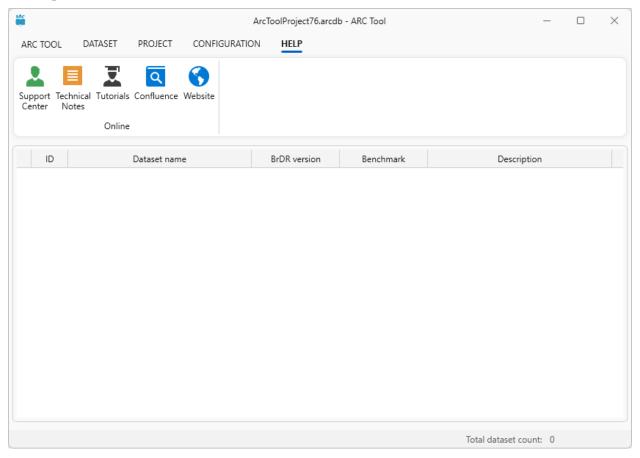
# **ARC Tool Group**

# **Settings**

Allows the user to update the login information to be used to connect to each version of BrDR and update other various ARC Tool settings.

# Help Tab

The **Help Tab** of the ARC Tool ribbon is shown below.



# **Online Group**

# **Support Center**

Opens the BrDR Support Center webpage in the browser.

# **Technical Notes**

Opens the BrDR Technical Notes webpage in the browser.

# **Tutorials**

Opens the BrDR Tutorials webpage in the browser.

## Confluence

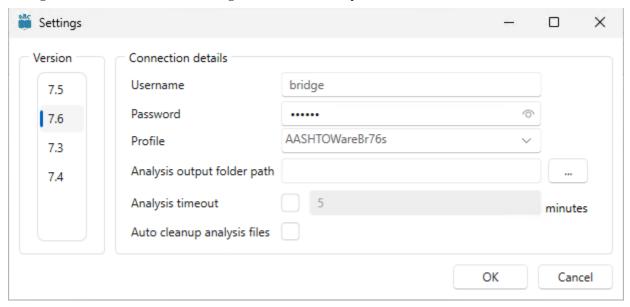
Opens the BrDR Confluence webpage in the browser.

## Website

Opens the BrDR webpage in the browser.

#### Setup BrDR Connection Details

The first step in using the ARC Tool is to update the BrDR connection details information. First click on the **Configuration** tab. Then click the **Settings** button, which will open the window below.



The **Version** list shown on the left part of the **Settings** window will populate automatically with all the versions of BrDR installed on the user's machine. Select a BrDR version from the list and update the connection details with the correct information for the database. The user can also update the location of the output files from a BrDR analysis by selecting a new folder path for the **Analysis output folder path** field. If nothing is specified, the **Analysis output folder path** will default to the BrDR settings. Checking the **Analysis timeout** checkbox allows the user to set a maximum number of minutes the ARC Tool will attempt to run an analysis on a bridge before automatically cancelling the operation. Checking the **Auto cleanup analysis files** checkbox will automatically delete any analysis files generated by a BrDR analysis.

The Username, Password, and Profile should be the same login information that is used to access BrDR on the login page. If the **Profile** dropdown is empty in the **ARC Tool Settings** window, first confirm that the profiles exist in BrDR by opening BrDR and clicking '...' on the **Login** window to open the **Manage Connections** window. New connect profiles can be created in this window and will be available in the ARC Tool once the **Settings** window is restarted.

#### Register Installed Versions of BrDR and Import Analysis Settings Templates

To register installed versions of BrDR and import Analysis Settings Templates, first navigate to the **Configuration** tab then click the **Scan** button. This will scan the machine for any installed versions of BrDR and update the ARC Tool project with the necessary information. This step should be repeated if any versions of BrDR are installed or uninstalled or if Analysis Settings Templates are created or removed.

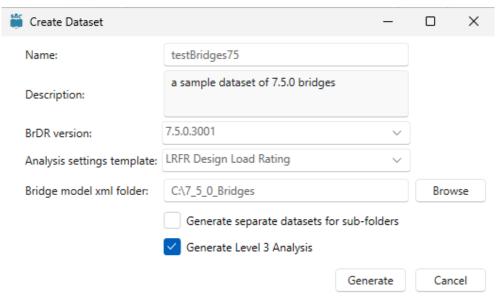
# Creating and Appending to a Dataset

The ARC Tool can be used to generate and store rating and design ratio data for different versions of BrDR in a local ARC Tool project to be used in comparison analyses. This section describes the different ways to create and update datasets.

#### Create a Dataset

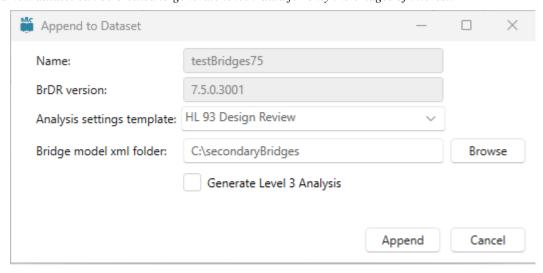
The next step in using the ARC Tool is to generate rating or design ratio data from a BrDR version. Click **Create** in the **Dataset Tab** to open the **Create Dataset** window. Type in a name and description for the dataset. The BrDR version and Analysis Settings Template dropdown menus will be automatically populated after running **Scan** as described in the previous section. Select a BrDR version and Analysis Settings Template from the dropdown menus. Click **Browse** and select the folder where the exported bridge XML files are stored. If you would like to generate a separate dataset for each subfolder of the folder selected in the previous step, check the **Generate separate datasets for sub-folders** box. To generate analysis data at the point of interest level, check the **Generate Level 3 Analysis** box. Click **Generate** to connect to the selected version of BrDR and generate the new dataset.

Note: Generate Level 3 Analysis is not selected by default because it will produce large amounts of data. An ARC Tool project has a size limit of 4gb. The tool will not function if the project exceeds this size. It is recommended that for large datasets, users run the tool without generating level 3 data. If a discrepancy is found in the level 1 or level 2 data, a new dataset can be created to generate level 3 data for only the bridges of interest.



#### Append to a Dataset

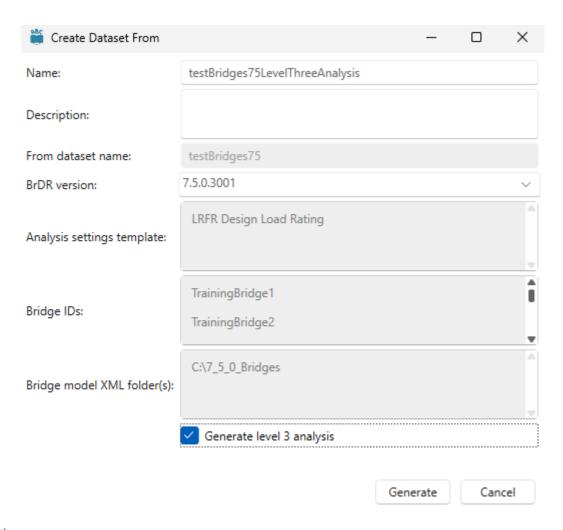
New data can also be added to an existing dataset by using the **Append** option. Select the dataset to be updated and click **Append** in the **Dataset Tab** to open the **Append to Dataset** window. The name and BrDR version will be read-only and are automatically populated with the information from the existing dataset. Select an Analysis Settings Template from the dropdown menu. Click **Browse** and select the folder where the exported bridge XML files are stored. To generate analysis data at the point of interest level, select the **Generate Level 3 Analysis** checkbox. Click **Append** to generate new data for the selected bridge models and append it to the specified dataset. *Note:* **Generate Level 3 Analysis** is not selected by default because it will produce large amounts of data. An ARC Tool project has a size limit of 4gb. The tool will not function if the project exceeds this size. It is recommended that for large datasets, users run the tool without generating level 3 data. If a discrepancy is found in the level 1 or level 2 data, a new dataset can be created to generate level 3 data for only the bridges of interest.



# Create Dataset From

A new dataset can also be created for another version of BrDR using the same input as an existing dataset. Select a dataset in the **Dataset Explorer** grid and click **Create From** in the **Dataset Tab** to open the **Create Dataset From** window. Enter the name and description of the new dataset and select the version of BrDR to use. To generate analysis data at the Point of Interest level, check the **Generate Level 3 Analysis** box. Click **Generate** to create the new dataset.

Note: Generate Level 3 Analysis is not selected by default because it will produce large amounts of data. An ARC Tool project has a size limit of 4gb. The tool will not function if the project exceeds this size. It is recommended that for large datasets, users run the tool without generating level 3 data. If a discrepancy is found in the level 1 or level 2 data, a new dataset can be created to generate level 3 data for only the bridges of interest.



#### **Import**

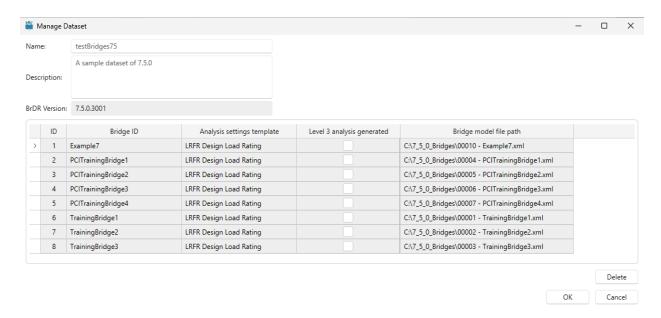
The user can import a batch of previously generated ARC Tool datasets by clicking **Import** in the **Dataset Tab** and selecting one or more .arcds files. This feature can be used to share datasets between multiple different projects.

### **Export**

Similarly, the user can also export a batch of ARC Tool datasets by selecting one or more dataset rows in the **Dataset Explorer** grid and clicking **Export** in the **Dataset Tab**. The files will be saved to the selected folder location.

### Manage Datasets

To view the bridge data within a dataset, select a row and click **Manage** in the **Manage** section of the **Dataset Tab**. This will open the **Manage Dataset** window which displays a list of all the data items within a dataset by Bridge ID, BrDR version, and Analysis setting. The name and description of a dataset can be updated using this window and bridge analysis data can be deleted from a dataset by selecting grid rows and clicking **Delete**.



#### Merge

The user can also merge two datasets into a new combined dataset. First select two dataset rows in the **Dataset Explorer** grid then click **Merge** in the **Dataset Tab** to open the Merge Datasets window. Enter a name and description for the new dataset and check the **Include** box for each bridge item from Dataset 1 and Dataset 2 to be included in the dataset. Click merge to create the new merged dataset. Please note, the ARC Tool currently only supports merging datasets created with the same version of BrDR. Also, duplicate Bridge IDs are not supported in merged datasets.

#### Set Benchmark

To set or change the existing Benchmark dataset, select a row, and click **Set Benchmark** in the **Dataset Tab**. The Benchmark will be the default comparison dataset when only one dataset is selected in the **Dataset Explorer** grid.

#### Delete

The user can delete entire datasets from the ARC Tool by selecting rows in the **Dataset Explorer** window and clicking **Delete** in the **Dataset Tab**.

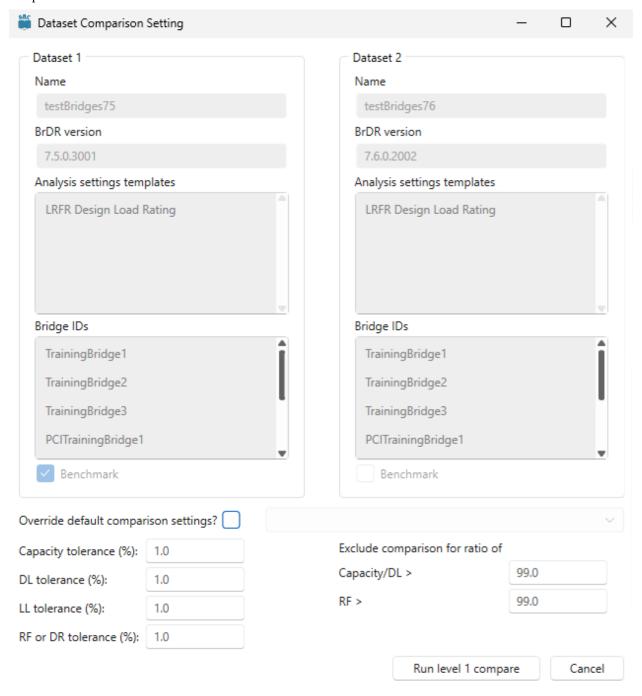
# Operation of the ARC Tool Comparison Feature

Once at least 2 rating datasets have been generated in the ARC tool, the user can run dataset comparison analyses. The following section describes how to generate comparison data in the ARC tool.

### **Compare Datasets**

To compare two datasets, select two dataset rows in the **Dataset Explorer** grid or to compare one dataset against the benchmark, select one dataset row in the **Dataset Explorer** grid. Click **Compare** in the **Dataset Tab** to open the **Dataset Comparison Setting** window. The **Dataset Comparison Setting** window will display the name, BrDR version, Analysis settings template, and Bridge IDs for the datasets to be compared. The option to **Override default comparison settings** is also provided and will be described later in this tutorial. The display tolerances and exclude

comparison ratios can also be updated in this window. Please note, only the RF or DR tolerance is used for level 1 and level 2 comparisons. The capacity, dead load, and live load percent changes are only shown for level 3 comparisons.



#### Level 1 Comparison

Click **Run level 1 compare** in the **Dataset Comparison Setting** window to run a level 1 comparison on the selected datasets. This will open the **Level 1 Comparison** window which displays the results of the comparison by the controlling rating factor for each bridge. If the location or limit state is different between the two datasets, the value for that column will be shown in red. If the rating/design factor percent change between the two datasets is greater than the RF or DR tolerance specified in the **Dataset Comparison Setting** window, the value for that column will be shown in red.

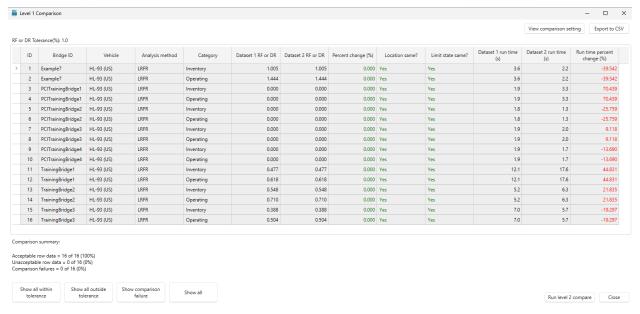
The **Level 1 Comparison** window also includes the Dataset 1 and Dataset 2 runtimes and a percent change between the two values. The runtimes are the total time in seconds it takes to run the analysis in BrDR.

To view the settings for this comparison, click **View comparison setting** in the top right corner of the window. This will open the **Dataset Comparison Setting** window in read-only mode.

To export the results to a CSV file, click **Export to CSV** and select a location to save the file.

The **Comparison Summary** shown at the bottom left of the window provides a summary of the level 1 results. If either dataset 1 or dataset 2 does not have a rating/design factor, the comparison will be counted as a failure. If the limit state or controlling location are different between dataset 1 and dataset 2 or the rating/design factor percent change is not within the specified tolerance, the comparison will be counted as unacceptable. If the limit state and location are both the same and the rating/design factor percent change is within the specified tolerance, the comparison will be counted as acceptable.

The Show all within tolerance, Show all outside tolerance, Show comparison failure, and Show all buttons at the bottom of the Level 1 Comparison window can be used to filter the data grid by rating/design factor percent change tolerance.



#### Level 2 Comparison

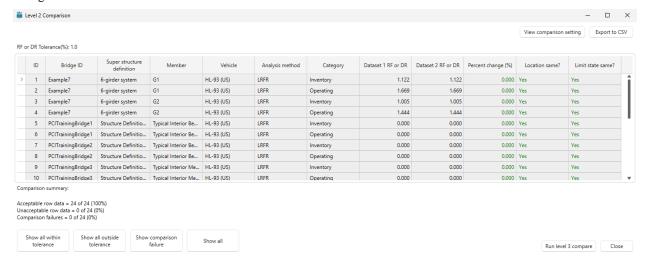
Click **Run level 2 compare** in the **Level 1 Comparison** window to run a level 2 comparison on the selected bridges. This will open the **Level 2 Comparison** window which displays the results of the comparison at the controlling location of each member in a bridge. If the controlling location or limit state is different between the two datasets, the value for that column will be shown in red. If the rating/design factor percent change between the two datasets is greater than the RF/DR tolerance specified in the **Dataset Comparison Setting** window, the value for that column will be shown in red.

To view the settings for this comparison, click the **View comparison setting** button in the top right corner of the window. This will open the **Dataset Comparison Setting** window in read-only mode.

To export the results to a CSV file, click the **Export to CSV** button and select a location to save the file.

The **Comparison Summary** located at in the bottom left of the window shows a summary of the level 2 results. If either dataset 1 or dataset 2 does not have a rating/design factor, the comparison will be counted as a failure. If the limit state or controlling location are different between dataset 1 and dataset 2 or the rating/design factor percent change is not within the specified tolerance, the comparison will be counted as unacceptable. If the limit state and location are both the same and the rating/design factor percent change is within the specified tolerance, the comparison will be counted as acceptable.

The Show all within tolerance, Show all outside tolerance, Show comparison failure, and Show all buttons at the bottom of the Level 2 Comparison window can be used to filter the data grid by rating/design factor percent change tolerance.



#### Level 3 Comparison

If the **Generate Level 3 Analysis** checkbox was selected for both dataset 1 and dataset 2, a level 3 comparison can be generated. Click **Run level 3 compare** in the **Level 2 Comparison** window to run a level 3 comparison on the selected members. This will open the **Level 3 Comparison** window which displays the results of the comparison at the point of interest level. If the capacity, dead load, live load, or rating/design factor percent change between dataset 1 and dataset 2 are greater than the respective tolerances specified in the **Dataset Comparison Setting** window, the value for that column will be shown in red.

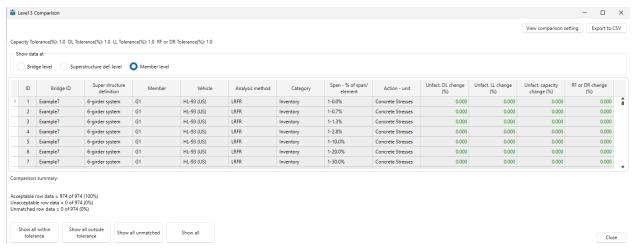
To view the settings for this comparison, click the **View comparison setting** button in the top right corner of the window. This will open the **Dataset Comparison Setting** window in read-only mode.

To export the results to a CSV file, click the **Export to CSV** button and select a location to save the file.

The **Show data at** radio buttons can be used to toggle the level 3 data to show comparisons of the controlling rating/design factor of the bridge, superstructure def. or member.

The **Comparison Summary** located at the bottom left of the window shows a summary of the level 3 results. If either dataset 1 or dataset 2 does not have a rating/design factor, the comparison will be counted as a failure. If the rating/design factor percent change is not within the specified tolerance, the comparison will be counted as unacceptable. If the rating/design factor percent change is within the specified tolerance, the comparison will be counted as acceptable.

The **Show all within tolerance**, **Show comparison failure**, and **Show all** buttons at the bottom of the Level 3 Comparison window can be used to filter the data grid by rating/design factor percent change tolerance.



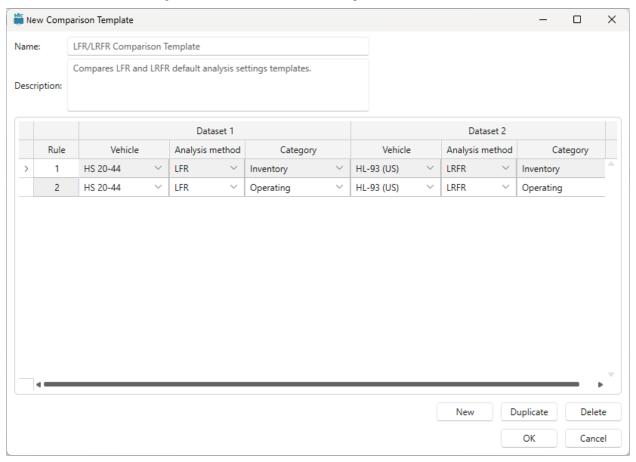
#### **Custom Dataset Comparison**

Comparison templates can be used to compare two datasets based on customized keys. For example, a user could create a custom template to compare results between an LRFR and LFR analysis for a particular structure.

### Create a New Comparison Template

To create a new Comparison Template, click **New** in the **Dataset** tab to open the **New Comparison Template** window. Enter and name and description for the template. To add a comparison rule, click **New** at the bottom of the

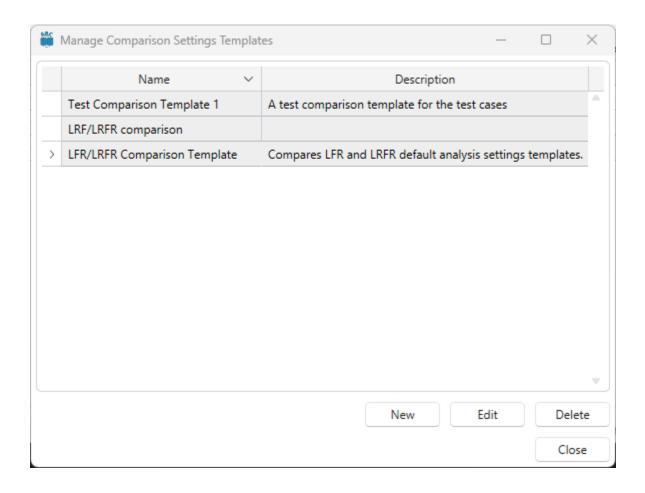
grid and select a Vehicle, Analysis method, and Category to be matched while comparing Dataset 1 and Dataset 2. The **Duplicate** button at the bottom of the grid can be used to duplicate the select grid row and the **Delete** button can be used to delete the selected grid row. Click **OK** to save the template and continue.



# Manage Comparison Templates

The **Manage Comparison Settings Templates** window can be used to create, update, and delete Comparison Templates.

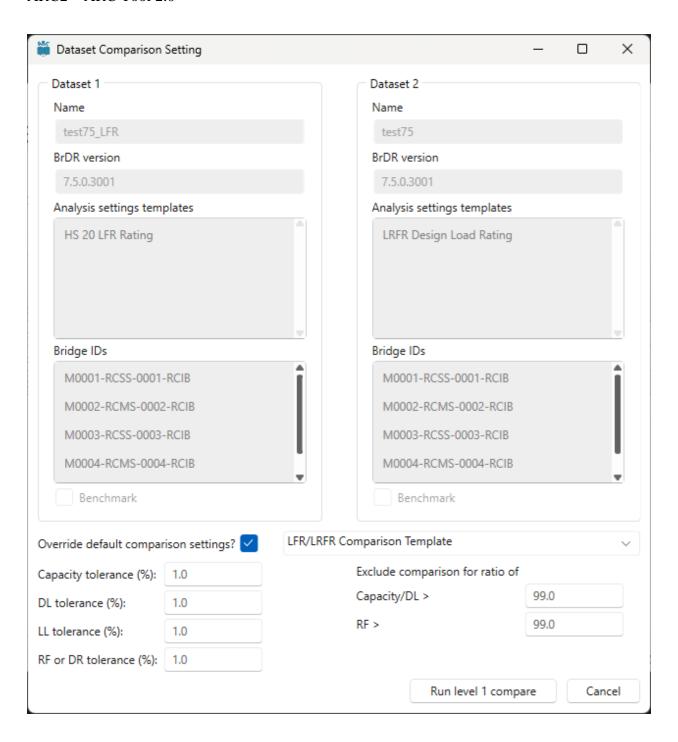
Click **Manage** in the **Comparison** section of the **Dataset** tab to view a list of all Comparison Templates. The **New** button it this window can also be used to create a new Comparison Template. To update an existing template, select the row in the grid and click **Edit** to open the **Edit Comparison Template** window. To delete an existing template, select the row in the grid and click **Delete**.



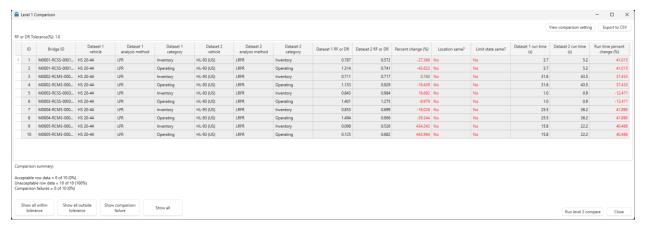
# Compare Datasets – Custom Template

To use the custom Comparison Template in a dataset Comparison, select the two datasets of interest and click **Compare** in the **Dataset tab**. The order that items are selected in the Dataset Explorer grid is used to determine which dataset will be classified as Dataset 1 and Dataset 2 so be sure to select the item that aligns with the Dataset 1 criteria first.

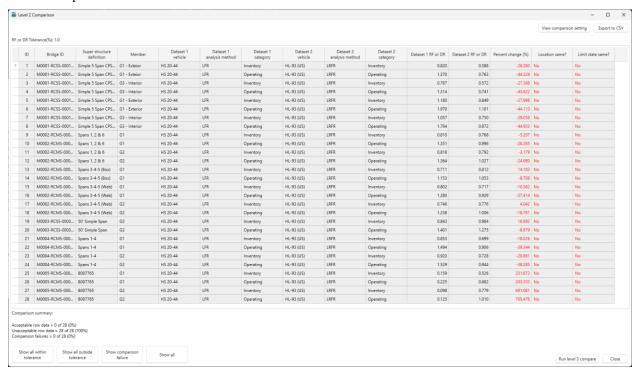
In the **Dataset Comparison Setting** window, check the **Override default comparison settings** box and select the Comparison Template created in the previous section from the dropdown menu.



Click **Run level 1 compare** to open the **Level 1 Comparison** window. The data displayed in the window will show a comparison of the two datasets using the custom Comparison Template. Separate columns will now be displayed for Dataset 1 vehicle, analysis method, and category, and Dataset 2 vehicle, analysis method, and category since these values can now be different between the two dataset.



Click **Run level 2 compare** to open the **Level 2 Comparison** window. The custom Comparison Template will be used to compare the Level 2 datasets.



Click **Run level 3 compare** to open the **Level 3 Comparison** window. Similarly, the Comparison Template will be used to compare the Level 3 datasets.

