

UAP DATA COLLECTION AND CONTRIBUTION GUIDELINES

**IN COLLABORATION WITH
UFODATA AND SCU**

**Version 1.0
February 22, 2025**

INTRODUCTION

The immediate goal of UFODAP has been to provide the technology solution for end users to record data about UAP in an automated manner. The long-term goal of UFODAP is to collect instrumented data on UAP from end users, to have these data stored in a central location for ease of access and review, and then to make these data available for scientific research.

Several organizations have been established within the last decade that have goals compatible with UFODAP and that can support the long-term goal outlined above. Two of these organizations are affiliated with UFODAP, and you can read about them on this page: <https://ufodap.com/about-us>.

- The UFO Detection and Tracking project (UFODATA) was founded with much the same mission as UFODAP. The founders include Mark Rodeghier, Scientific Director of the Center for UFO Studies, Philippe Ailleris, Project Controller at the European Space Agency, and Alex Wendt, Professor of Political Science at Ohio State University. You can read more about their team here (<https://www.ufodata.net/team.html>). After learning of the progress made by UFODAP in developing the technology and software to collect real-time data on UAP, UFODATA decided to merge forces and support the work of UFODAP by handling the data collection, review, and dissemination to researchers of data from UFODAP users.
- The Scientific Coalition for UAP Studies (SCU) was founded to conduct and promote rigorous scientific examination of UAP and share credible information with the public, scientists, the media, and government. It was founded by Robert Powell, who worked as an engineer and manager in the semiconductor industry, Rich Hoffman, who works in the IT and technology area for the government, and Morgan Beall, who has worked in environmental consulting for private and public organizations. All had extensive experience previously in UFO investigation before forming the SCU. SCU has members with extensive scientific experience to evaluate data collected by UFODAP users. You can read about SCU here: <https://www.explorescu.org/>.

COLLABORATION BETWEEN UFODAP USERS AND THE UFODATA/SCU TEAM

Participation of a UFODAP user and sharing of data collected with the UFODATA/SCU team is voluntary. Your data will only be added to the UFODATA Dropbox folders if you use the software options in the OTDAU utility to upload files from there, and from Mission Control, to do so.

The process from UAP detection and data recording, through upload, analysis, collaboration with you, and dissemination of the report is outlined visually in the figure below.

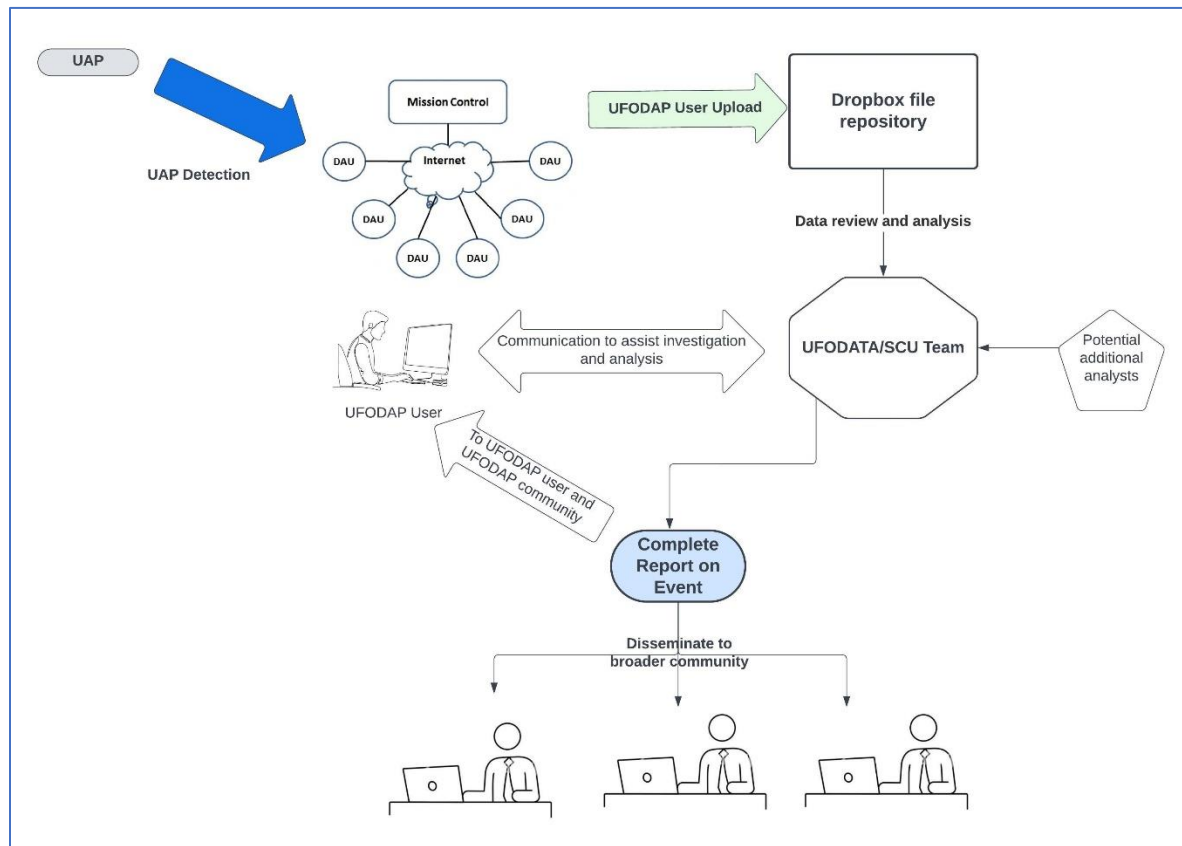
- 1) Data is recorded that you believe is potentially anomalous and worthy of review by independent analysts.
- 2) You gather the necessary files and notes and upload those to the UFODATA Dropbox site.
- 3) Ron Olch, and the UFODATA/SCU team, are notified of your upload. We access the data and begin evaluation.
- 4) Collaboration with you is crucial. You know your equipment, setup, and the local environment, and you are part of the team in the investigation. Thus, it is likely that the team will communicate with you to clarify details and ask additional questions. You can also direct questions to the team.
- 5) If the event is complex, additional analysts may be brought in.

- 6) A report will be prepared that will indicate whether there was sufficient data to rule out terrestrial and other explanations and provide information about the analysis done, limitations, directions for additional analysis, and so forth.
- 7) This report will first be sent to you, and shared with the UFODAP community, if you wish.
- 8) This report can then be disseminated to members of UFODATA and SCU, and the broader scientific community interested in UAP. The goal is to, over time, create a database of reliable, comprehensive visual and sensory data on verified UAP events that will allow us to better understand UAP.

To understand more about the benefit of instrumented UAP data and how it has been used already, you can read this presentation by UFODATA's chief scientific consultant, Dr. Massimo Teodorani:

[Hessdalen Trip MASSIMO Presentation 2024.pdf](#). Dr. Teodorani is an Italian astrophysicist with extensive experience in using data to study UAP.

COLLABORATION PROCESS



Data Upload and Access

Documented in the "FILE SHARING" section of the *UFODAP Users Guide* are instructions about how to prepare and upload your data using the OTDAU software utility, so please refer to that document when you have a possible event to share.

Your uploaded data will always be accessible to you in the Dropbox UFODATA site. We will create a link to the data you upload and send this link to you directly. This is a convenient method to store data from possible UAP detections for your own review and study. Data uploaded to the database will be given a unique ID for any one submission.

EVENT DATA

The data collected from your cameras, the software, and possibly other sensors (such as the magnetic field or RF spectrum from an MSDAU) can be uploaded to the UFODATA Dropbox site.

In addition to these files from your UFODAP station, it is important for review and analysis that you provide some supplementary information for the event analysts.

The Narrative File of an Event

Your submission of data from cameras and potentially other sensors/devices is an 'event' in terms of data analysis. Although it is unlikely that you saw something visually in real-time, we consider an event to be essentially the equivalent of a submission of a potential UAP sighting, albeit by technology, to a UFO organization.

To assist this work, we ask that you write a narrative about the data collected, your UFODAP setup, and any information that would be helpful to analysts reviewing the data. Even though the software reports on date and time and other details, we ask that your narrative also include such information for reference. The box below describes details to be included in the narrative. When in doubt, include more rather than less information.

KEY CONTENT OF NARRATIVE FILE

- Your review of the UFODAP recorded data that led to this submission. Why you believe this is a potential detection of something anomalous.
- If you have done any data checking or analysis, please tell us about that and upload any relevant files.
- Event date and time (stop and start)
- Weather conditions at time of event
- UFODAP technology and configuration, including make, model, and settings for cameras used in the event. A picture of your UFODAP station would be helpful. Direction in which cameras were pointed at beginning of event.
- If the event occurred at night, a photo or two from your UFODAP camera(s) showing the daylight view from those cameras.
- For .avi files, please provide any necessary description about the video that will help analysts evaluate the recording.
- If you have previously recorded events with your UFODAP station that were potentially anomalous, or similar to this current event, please tell us about those.

EVENT REVIEW BY UFODATA

When you upload event data to the UFODATA Dropbox, email notifications will be sent by the UFODAP software to the UFODATA/SCU team. UFODATA will handle the initial data review and communication with you regarding the event. We may also contact Ron if there are technical questions about the UFODAP hardware/software.

The contact email for UFODATA is admin@ufodata.net. If you would like to participate in this joint project but have questions, you can contact us before you record any event. You can contact us if you are uncertain whether something you've recorded should be uploaded. And if an event has occurred and you have questions about files and data to send, please contact us.

You can always contact us at any time after you upload data, or with any other questions.

We will respond to you within one week of your upload, if nothing else to acknowledge the event and tell you what we've done and plan to do.

We will follow established investigation protocols to first determine whether the detection can be explained by something manmade or natural (e.g., a flyover by a satellite). After that we will analyze the full set of data and information you've provided to characterize and summarize the event for later use.

A full assessment of an event may understandably take some time, which can't easily be predicted. We will keep you informed about progress during an event review.

DATA USE

Note: By uploading your data to the database, you agree to allow access to UFODAP (Ron Olch) and the UFODATA/SCU team and give us permission to contact you. You also give us permission to do an investigation of the event using the collective resources of UFODATA and SCU. We will not share your data with others, either in the UFODAP community of users, or the public, without your consent.

Disclaimer

This document is under active development and as such there may be errors, omissions, or areas that need clarification/further details. Please let us know about anything you find and send a note to admin@ufodata.net.