

Tips from Ted: GPS Parser Options

We have tried to make the MTI parser a straightforward and robust tool for handling GPS PTT data. While we preset the options on the parser to what we think will be the most useful settings for our customers, there may be occasions when users would prefer other settings. To help guide these decisions, the following is some useful information about your parser options.

Location of data files to be parsed. If a **directory location is entered, all files in a directory will be parsed**. This enables the user to store multiple files of source data (downloaded at different times, for example) in the same directory and parse them all at once.

By convention the latitude and longitude coordinates are output with North & East as positive and South & West as negative. Select these options if the opposite is required (South or West as positive).

If a PTT is unable to acquire a fix, this option will output this information in the GPS locations file. This information is useful in determining whether the PTT has adequate charge to take all the scheduled fixes.

When these options are selected, Argos locations and engineering data files are created. These options are **RECOMMENDED ON**; the engineering data contains information such as temperature and activity and the Argos files contain PTT operations information. Both of these types of data are useful in determining the behavior of a tracked animal and identifying a possible mortality or downed transmitter.

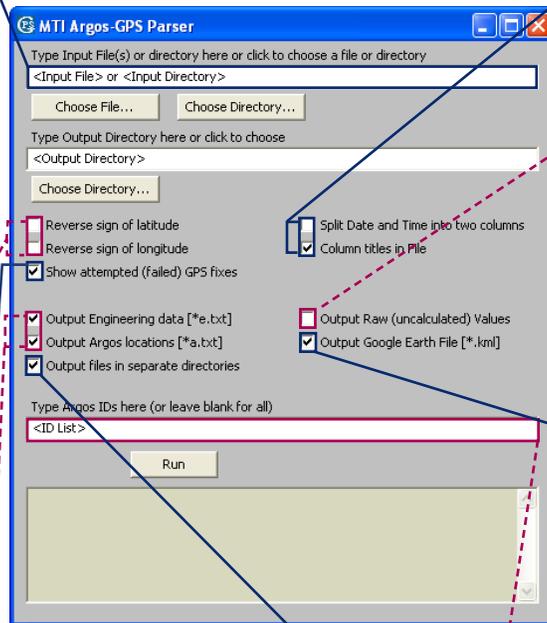
The parser creates a subdirectory for each PTT when this option is selected.

If only a subset of PTT data in the input file/directory is to be parsed, putting those IDs here will restrict the files outputted (and, to some extent, processing time). **Ranges of IDs can be used, for example 130000-140000 or 130001, 130002, 130004; these are separated by commas.**

These options alter the output files. Some secondary programs used to interpret and store data prefer specific formatting when inputting files.

Sensor values such as Temperature, Battery Voltage, and Altitude must be converted from the source data to get the actual units (Celsius, volts, meters, etc.). Select this option to get the raw unconverted values. This can be useful for certain diagnostic purposes. **Normally, this should not be selected.**

Creates a Google Earth™ readable file. Unselect this if Google Earth™ is not used. (This may save processing time.)



Christiane Howey Rising Scholar

To honor the life of Christiane Howey, her incredible dedication to our company, her passion for conservation and helping researchers worldwide, we created the Rising Scholar Award in 2013 – an annual award to foster career development in researchers starting on their professional journey.

We are pleased to announce the winner of the 2014 award: **Marla Steele**. Marla will use GSM/GPS transmitters to study habitat ecology and migration of the globally vulnerable Pallas's fish eagles in Mongolia. Congrats to Marla!

Interested in applying for the 2015 award? See our upcoming Spring 2015 Tracker News and website for the call for proposals.

Bits & Pieces

Please see our website for our new refurbishment policy.

Our production schedule for 2015 is filling up fast. If you plan to order devices, please let us know at your earliest opportunity.

Please remember to send us your 2014 publications so that we may add them to our online reference library.

Our facility will be closed from 24 December through 2 January 2015. Happy New Year!