

What's new in TSG8 since June 2017

Dynamic import

This new functionality is described in a document on the ftp server ftp://ftp.csiro.au/MMTG/tsg_dynamic_import.pdf. The doc's intro:

When you create a TSG dataset, you start out by selecting all spectra that you want to go into it. You can't add any spectra to the dataset after it has been created.

Well, that's in the past for field-spectrometer datasets as things have changed. TSG has new functionality termed "dynamic import". It was motivated by requests for TSG to be more supportive of a field-spectrometer workflow.

Having prepared a starter or "template" dataset with at least one spectrum, some calculated scalars and some plots, you can now have TSG watch for new spectra and add them to the dataset as they arrive. Scalars (including TSA or CLS interpretations) are calculated for the new arrivals and plots are updated. The system is only for field-spectrometer datasets – ones that just have spectra, scalars and possibly some sample pictures. It is not offered for HyLogging datasets as they would require more complex data (not just spectra).

A lightweight version of the system is also available for all spectral datasets, including HyLogging ones. Here, new arrivals are added to the Floater Scratchpad instead of the main dataset.

Common Minerals

TSG's "common minerals" help file was in an ancient format that finally became utterly unsupported on Windows 10. I converted it to a newer format and hooked it up. I included a "mindat" link for each mineral.

Licensing issues

There was a bug in TSG's licensing implementation that could cause a crash – TSG8 wouldn't start. The cause was non-standard characters (Chinese translation in this case) in the licence-file path. Fixed.

Scatter-screen

The default setting of X and Y range rounding has changed. The defaults are now taken from dataset settings, namely the **Axis range rounding** settings in the **Gfx2** page of **File -> Settings**. The defaults apply to new scalar selections. (Loading or copying layouts can still be confusing.)

There is a new **Fit** option for scatter and grid plot types: **Moving average**. When selected, you get an accompanying field where you can type in the window size. (TSG forces this size to be odd.) You get a line-plot overlay of the moving average for the plotted points. Its appearance is much like the other fit options'.

TSG QC functionality

TSG8 QC can display a TSA-mode floater (like it did in TSG7).

The annoying "opened in read-only mode" dialog has been suppressed.

HyLogger import

The “Select directory” option wasn’t working. Fixed.

Database

Standard algorithm numbers weren’t being set for newer unmixing results, and some unmixing scalars came through a database upload-download cycle as “dumb” imports. Fixed.

It is no longer necessary to click the “[Update standard algorithm definitions NOW](#)” button in Settings when you have an inkling that your database *might* be out of date. This process is now handled automatically, as necessary, at the start of a dataset upload. “Published” is now on by default for all user / domained TSA / jCLST result sets.

Log screen

The default plot format (line, bar or text) for numeric logs can now be controlled via the [Default format](#) list in the [Gfx1](#) page of [File->Settings](#).

The blue icon

The blue TSG icon is back, but has a discrete “8” at bottom right. (The ugly red icon was just a placeholder.)

Change log

For the morbidly curious, I now keep a record of TSG updates on the ftp server: <ftp://ftp.csiro.au/MMTG/tsglog1617.docx>. (It’s a copy of the terse TSG code-submission comments.) Check here if you would like to know about bugfixes.