## Monitor and record the health of your shots

# Verify, Monitor, Record, Present and Defend

RTK is a statistical process by nature and needs verification. TRIUMPH-LS has six different RTK engines and extensive automatic verification to ensure your shots are 100% reliable (see the article inside).

It also has many tools to **document** the process of your shots for **presentation** when you need to **prove** and **defend**. The screen shots on following pages can automatically be recorded and attached to each point and easily **exported in HTML format**.



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Phase-1 Horizontal and Vertical plot of each of the six engines



Phase-1 expanded vertical plot of each of the six engines

### **Concepts Behind RTK Verification**

Fundamental in the determination of GNSS solutions is calculating the correct number of full wavelengths (so-called *fixing ambiguities*) in order to figure out the distances from the satellites to the receiver. In doing Real Time Kinematic (RTK) surveying, we need it fast and we need it to be correct.

Multipath, the reflections of GNSS signals from ground and nearby objects and structures create their own indirect measurements from the satellites to the GNSS receiver. It's as if your measuring tape is bent around an obstacle such as a tree instead of a free and clear line of sight between two points. No calculator is going to improve this result.

TRIUMPH-LS has sophisticated hardware to distinguish between the direct and indirect signals and remove most of the indirect signals. It also reports the amount of indirect signal that has been removed. The worst case is when the receiver doesn't see the direct signal at all; e.g., the satellite is behind a building, but it's still receiving the signal reflected off of the nearby structure. It is the task of the RTK engines to isolate such indirect signals and then exclude them from the calculations.

If too many of the signals are affected by severe multipath or indirect signals, no solution may be found. Remember, indirect signals are analogous to the bent measuring tape! When you're preforming RTK surveying, observe your environment and come to recognize that the structures around you are like mirrors for GNSS signals.

The other aspect impacting the veracity of a fixed solution is when there are weak GNSS signals. Frequently, weak signals are due to their penetration directly through tree canopy.

While **TRIUMPH-LS** can't move the obstacles that are creating multipath out of the way, its sophisticated hardware has advanced multipath reduction subsystem, its tracking software is designed to handle even the weakest signals, and its **J-Field** software provides reliable RTK solutions like no other system with its **Automatic RTK Verification System** (patent pending). J-Filed also has ample tools to demonstrate the reliability of the solution or warn against questionable results. You can readily see that without such tools other systems can provide you wrong and misleading solutions.

**J-Field** uses six RTK engines (Figure 1) running in parallel plus a support engine to monitor and aid the six engines. Each engine uses a different criteria and mathematical method tailored to resolve ambiguities in different conditions. These six parallel engines not only verify robust solutions but also maximize the possibility of providing solutions in all conditions.



Figure 1 V6+ six RTK Engines

#### **User Defined Verification Tools**

**J-Field** provides the option for you to specify the **Minimum Number of Fixed RTK Engines** in verifying solutions **N** times before a position is automatically accepted where **N** is a user defined value.

J-Field employs two metrics to evaluate the performance of its RTK system of six engines: 1) Confidence Counter, and 2) Consistency Counter. (Figure 2) Confidence Counter

Verify Settings						
Verify with V6 Reset		Verify w/o V6 Reset				
Confidence Guard	0.05 m	Confidence Level	10			
Min RTK Engines	at least 2	Consistency Level	10.0			
Alarm on Resets		Max Groups	7			
Valid	ate Result					
Esc			ОК *			

Figure 2 Verify Settings

This metric is incremented each time an engine is reset, ambiguities are recalculated, and the solution is in agreement with the previous ones (as defined by the **Confidence Guard (CG)**, default value 5 cm) is achieved. The Confidence Counter increments by 1, 1.25, 1.5, 1.75, 2.0, and 2.5 depending on the number of reset engines that fix in that epoch. **Consistency Counter** 

The Consistency Counter is incremented each time a solution is in agreement with the previous ones (as defined by the Confidence Guard) irrespective of engines being reset or not. The Consistency Counter is incremented by 0.0, 0.1, 0.25, 0.5, 1.0 and 1.5 depending on the number of fixed engines used in that epoch. Note that one fixed engine gets no credit and 6 fixed engines gets a **Consistency Credit** of 1.5.

Using these Confidence and Consistency verification tools, J-Field has two options to achieve reliable RTK solutions: 1) Verify With Automatic RTK Engines Resets and 2) Verify Without Automatic RTK Engines Resets.

#### Verify with Automatic RTK Engines Resets

This method has two steps: 1) Confidence Building and 2) Smoothing and verifying.

#### Step One

In Step One, fixed engines are reset and solutions are collected into groups. Each group contains all the epochs located within a specified radius (the CG value) from its center and new groups are created as necessary so that all epochs fall into at least one group. Each group has its own Epoch Counter, Confidence Level and Elapsed Time. A point may fall into more than one group. The current best group is shown within [] and others within (). Step One continues until a group reaches the Confidence Level. (Figure 3)



Figure 3 End of Step one

#### Step Two

In Step Two, engines are not reset and solutions which are inside the CG of the selected group are added to that group for the remaining number of epochs that user has requested (Epoch Number, EN). Solutions that are outside the CG of the selected group, will be ignored but counted and on each such epoch, the RTK engines will reset. If the number of ignored points reaches 30% of EN, the whole process will restart. J-Field has 6 parallel RTK engines. You can specify the minimum number of engines required to be fixed to provide an epoch solution in Step Two. If the number of groups exceeds the Max Group the process restarts at Step One. This is to reduce the possibility of creating too many groups and rare false solutions in difficult environments. (Figure 4)

In both steps the Consistency Counter is also incremented as mentioned earlier.

You can manually reset all RTK engines via the V6-RTK engines screen (Figure 1), or assign this reset function to any one of the U1 to U4 hardware



Figure 4 End of Step 2

buttons in front of the TRIUMPH-LS for easy access. Verify without Automatic RTK Engines Resets:

In this method we don't force the RTK engines to reset but rely mostly on the Consistency Counter. There will be only one group as selected by the first epoch. Solutions that are not within the Guard band of the current average will be thrown out. If more than 30% of solutions are thrown out, the process will restart.

The horizontal and vertical graphs presented in both approaches also help the surveyor to evaluate the final solution. The linear drift of the vertical solution and its drift RMS are also shown above the vertical graph. A high linear drift (more than few centimeters) reveals severe multipath or, in rare cases, a wrong ambiguity fix. Pay close attention to the vertical drift and the horizontal and vertical scatter plots of epochs. Consider the scatter plots as doctors examine X-rays to determine anomalies.

The desired **Confidence Level** and **Consistency Level** are user selectable. Default values are 10. These parameters along with the desired number of epochs must be reached before a solution is provided.

In either case there is also a **Validate** option which, when selected, will reset all engines at the end of the collection and continues with 10 more epochs to validate if the solution is within the desired boundary of the Confidence Guard. (Figure 2) Minimum number of engines for the Validation Phase is user selectable.



Figure 5 How to Start

How to 3	Stop?	
🐌 Stop Button	0	
🖓 When Tilted	0	
⊙ After	300 epochs 🔘	
Auto Accept [3D]	5 cm	
Auto Re-Start	ALWAYS	
Esc		ОК

Figure 6 How to Stop

In either case, if Auto-Accept is activated, the position will be automatically accepted if the RMS of the final solution is less than what user has selected in the Auto-Accept screen. (Figure 6)

You can also use **Auto-Restart** if you want to monitor structures or test the RTK system unattended. (Figure 6)

#### **Screen Shots of Action Screen**

Action Screen shows detailed information about each point collected. Screen shots can automatically be attached to each point and saved at the end of each collection (Figure 7). In **Verify with Automatic RTK Engines Resets** screen shots at the end of both Step One and Step Two are saved (Figures 3



Figure 7 What to record screen

and 4). In Action screen there are 8 white boxes that selected items can be viewed on them.

#### **Review Screen**

View cluster of all points. Select the desired point to see its point cluster (Figure 8). Click the icons to see additional details about that point (Figure 9) including the distance and direction to the current point (Figure 10).

The effects of multipath, ionosphere, orbit, and other sources of problems somewhat exponentially increase as the baseline length increases. In a VRS/RTN scheme your **actual** baseline length is the actual distance to the nearest base station. The **virtual** base station that is mathematically created is not the actual length. We strongly recommend using your own base station near your job site in a



Figure 8 Review screen shows cluster of 386 points

Edit	BBB247	Fixed ant	
	Name Date Code Description	BBB247 2015-05-01 14:31:07 DefCode Fixed ant	
-	Page CS	Page1 WGS84(ITRF2008)	Ļ
	Latitude Longitude Altitude Epoch Coords	55°47′55.28601″N 037°31′15.52092″E 364.2285m 2005.0000 SRV: yes DSN: no BS: yes	
	Antenna Epochs	0.0s m Epochs: 300 Sats: 6+4	Media
	0.001m	16°48′39″	

Figure 9 Detailed information on selected point (scroll to see all information)



Figure 10 Distance and direction from the current point to the selected point

#### Verified-Base RTK (VB-RTK) scheme.

In addition to providing you with the most reliable RTK solutions (especially true in remote areas where cell coverage is hit or miss), using your own base receiver allows you to easily tie your solutions to well-established IGS/NGS spatial reference systems through Javad's exclusive Data Processing Online Service (DPOS) and J-Field's user-friendly Base/Rover Setup. Note that post-processed results returned to the Triumph-LS using DPOS are dependent on the availability of orbital data from NGS and may require several hours. For further reading about DPOS, its integration into J-Field and the streamlined approach developed by Javad for setting up the base and rover, please check out Shawn Billings' excellent article on VB-RTK on our website. Point your browser to: http://www.javad. com/jgnss/javad/news/pr20150219.html

Alternatively, if you don't have access to IGS-type stations to use DPOS, you can select an open area near your job site and use TRIUMPH-LS to obtain its position via RTN networks for about 5 minutes. You may repeat a couple of times for assurance. Then transfer this position to the TRIUMPH-1 or TRIUMPH-2 to use as the base station near your job site. The Base-Rover setup screen in the TRIUMPH-LS makes this job very easy.

#### Instantaneous Multipath charts

TRIUMPH-LS removes most of the multipath instantly on every epoch. Click on the Satellite icon to see the Signal Strength of satellites and then click the "+" key to see the multipath charts.

Figure 11 shows the amount of code phase multipath that TRIUMPH-LS has removed; relative to a fixed level. That is why negative numbers are in this figure. Units are in centimeter. Noting the signs in this figure, the amount of multipath in some satellites is in excess of 5.6 meters.

Figure 12 shows the amount of carrier phase multipath that TRIUMPH-LS has removed relative to a fixed level. Units are in millimeter. Noting the signs in this figure, the amount of multipath in some satellites is in excess of 4 centimeters.



Figure 11 Code Phase multipath removed (cm)



Figure 12 Carrier Phase multipath remove (mm)

#### **Multipath Showcase**

Graphs in the following examples show multipath effects in a 13.8 km baseline where about 1/3 of the rover sky was blocked by a tall building. This box shows horizontal (top) and vertical (bottom) offsets from the actual coordinates of the point (earlier surveyed for test).









Javad Ashjaee, Ph.D.



Phase-1 & 2 Horizontal and Vertical plot of each of the six engines



Phase-1 & 2 expanded vertical plot of each of the six engines

### Example of exported HTML document. One page per point.

Name	Code and Description		on	Lat			Long	Alt
Krk8				55°47′54.51603″N			037°31′15.09013″E	380.8381 m
Page		Page0	Code	DefCode			Тад	
WGS84 (ITRF2008) 55°47'54.52"N 037°31'15			31'15.09"E 380.	5.09"E 380.84 m				
Base		55°54'02.82'N 037°23'44.99"E 259.52 m						
Time		2015-10-13 16:12:34		Time UTC		2015-10-13 13:12:34		
Antenna		JAVTRIUMPH_LSA NONE		Ant.Height		1.500 m / Vert		
Epochs		60 Sats			11+6		Duration	22.800 s
Solution		FIX	Confidence		39.000		Consistency	41.000
HRMS		0.007 m	VRMS		0.007 m		3dRMS	0.010 m
HDOP		0.743	PDOP		1.289		GDOP	1.461
95% Confidence Ellipse σ <sub>1</sub> :0.014 m, σ <sub>2</sub> :0.010 m, θ:24°26'5.845021", σh:0.013 m								



