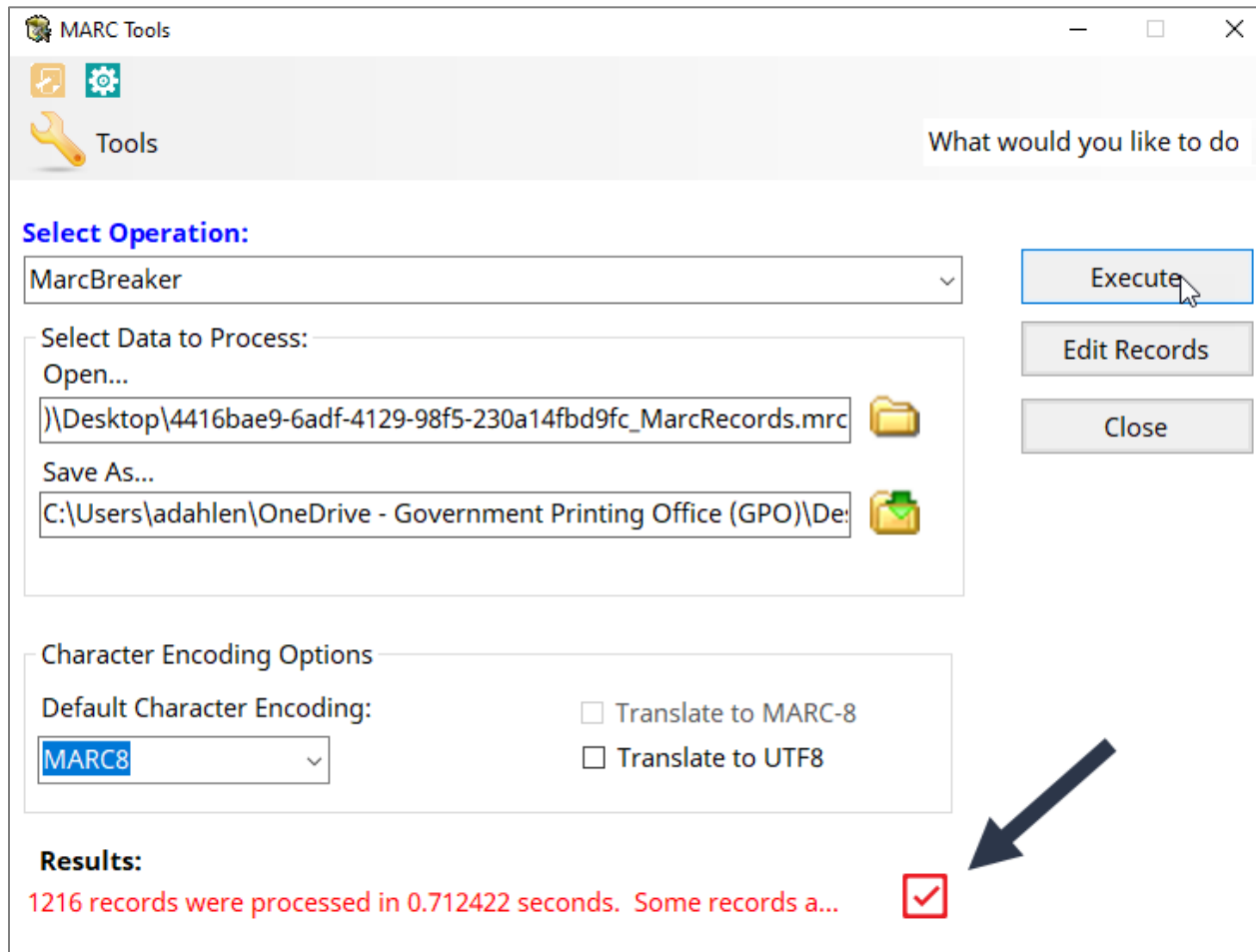


FDM Tutorial- Fixing the FDM MARC download and MarcEdit record length error

* Note, these instructions are for MarcEdit 7.6.

Background

FDM currently exports MARC records in ASCII format. If you download a FDM record set, and open the file in MarcEdit, you may notice errors reported when creating the MarcBreaker file.



If you click on the red check box, you can review the error(s) found. The error most commonly listed is "Error: Record length doesn't match reported record length."



Results

aGPOO abca35 20240924

Record Number: 3
Error: Record length doesn't match reported record length.
Record Length: 2391
Record Text:

02389cas 2200529 a
45000010010000000050017000100080041000270100016000680190015000840350016000
99035003900115037007800154040008700232042000800319043001200327074001100339
08600230035008600220037324500250039524600950042026000550051530000210057031
00011005913360026006023370028006283380027006564900036006835000160007195300
16000879580004901039588003501088588006701123650005601190650003501246650004
70128165000680132865101080139571000670150477500870157177600780165883000370
1736994001201773049000901785955001801794922002801812955001901840 000472786
20240925094851.0 970710c199u9999mduar f0 0eng c asn 98028009
a1225822230 9 aocm37275160 a(OCoLC)37275160 z(OCoLC)1225822230
bSocial Security Administration, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, Md. 21235
aAZN beng cAZN dGPO dOCLCQ dOCLCF dOCLCA dWAU dOCLCA dOCLCQ d
FUG dOCLCQ dOCLCL dGPO apcc an-us-ri a0517-E 0 aHE 3.21/2:SE
2/RI/ 0 aSSA 1.19:SE 2/RI/ 00 aSSI in Rhode Island. 1 iIssues for <January 2013->
have title: aSupplemental Security Income (SSI) in Rhode Island a[Baltimore, Md.]

Close

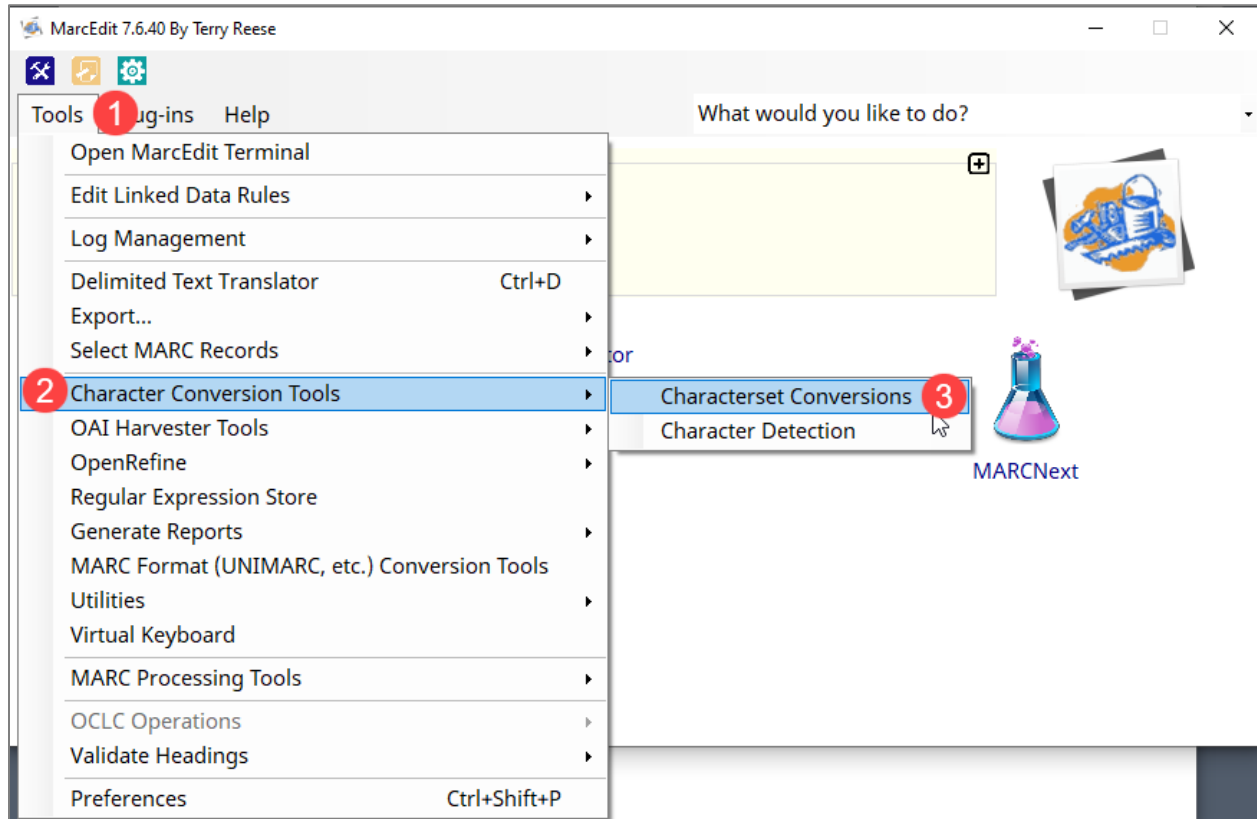


These particular errors are likely due to the MarcEdit default character set encoding. The records are correct, but the MarcEdit checker finds extra bytes that do not match the character count listed in the MARC leader or LDR field.

Process

To view the file without the errors flagged:

- Save the FDM .mrc download file.
- Separately, open up **MarcEdit**.
- Click on **Tools (1) > Character Conversion Tools (2) > Characterset Conversions (3)**



- Drag your FDM download to the Source File bar or click the file folder and locate your source file. (1)
- In the Destination File, click on the file folder icon and set the location where you want the converted file to save to, and give it a name. (2)
- Under Original Encoding, select either MARC8 or UTF8. (3)
- Under Final Encoding, select UTF8 or MARC8. (4)

Note: If your catalog needs MARC8 format, select UTF8 as your Original Encoding and MARC8 for Final Encoding. If your catalog needs UTF8 encoding, select MARC8 as your Original Encoding and UTF8 as your Final Encoding.

- Click **Process**. (5)

The screenshot shows the 'Character Conversion' dialog box with the following elements:

- Source File:** A text box containing a file path and a folder icon (1).
- Destination File:** A text box containing a file path and a folder icon (2).
- Batch Process:** An unchecked checkbox.
- Encoding Settings:** A yellow-shaded area containing two dropdown menus:
 - Original Encoding:** A dropdown menu with 'MARC8' selected (3).
 - Final Encoding:** A dropdown menu with 'UTF8' selected (4).
- Buttons:** 'Process' (5) and 'Close' buttons.

- **Close** the dialog box when it pops up.

The file will convert to our specified character set and it will save wherever you set the destination to be.

Double click on the converted file to open the file up in MarcEdit. Click **Execute** to process the file and then **Edit Records** to review the file like normal.

Source notes

Reese, Terry. "The MarcEdit Field Guide." Chapter 2 Dealing with Character encodings in MarcEdit. https://marcedit.reeset.net/learning_marcedit/9-2/dealing-with-character-encodings-in-marcedit/