

Datum Transformations in PNG – EPSG Updates

Richard Stanaway

Quickclose Pty Ltd

Overview of Geodetic datums used in PNG

AGD66 – Australian Geodetic Datum 1966

Used from 1960s (1:100,000 topographic mapping and still required by Oil and Gas Sector)

WGS 72 and NWL-10D

Used by Doppler satellites (TRANSIT) in 1970s and 1980s. Especially for airport surveys

PNG94 – Papua New Guinea Geodetic Datum 1994

Current gazetted datum from 1996

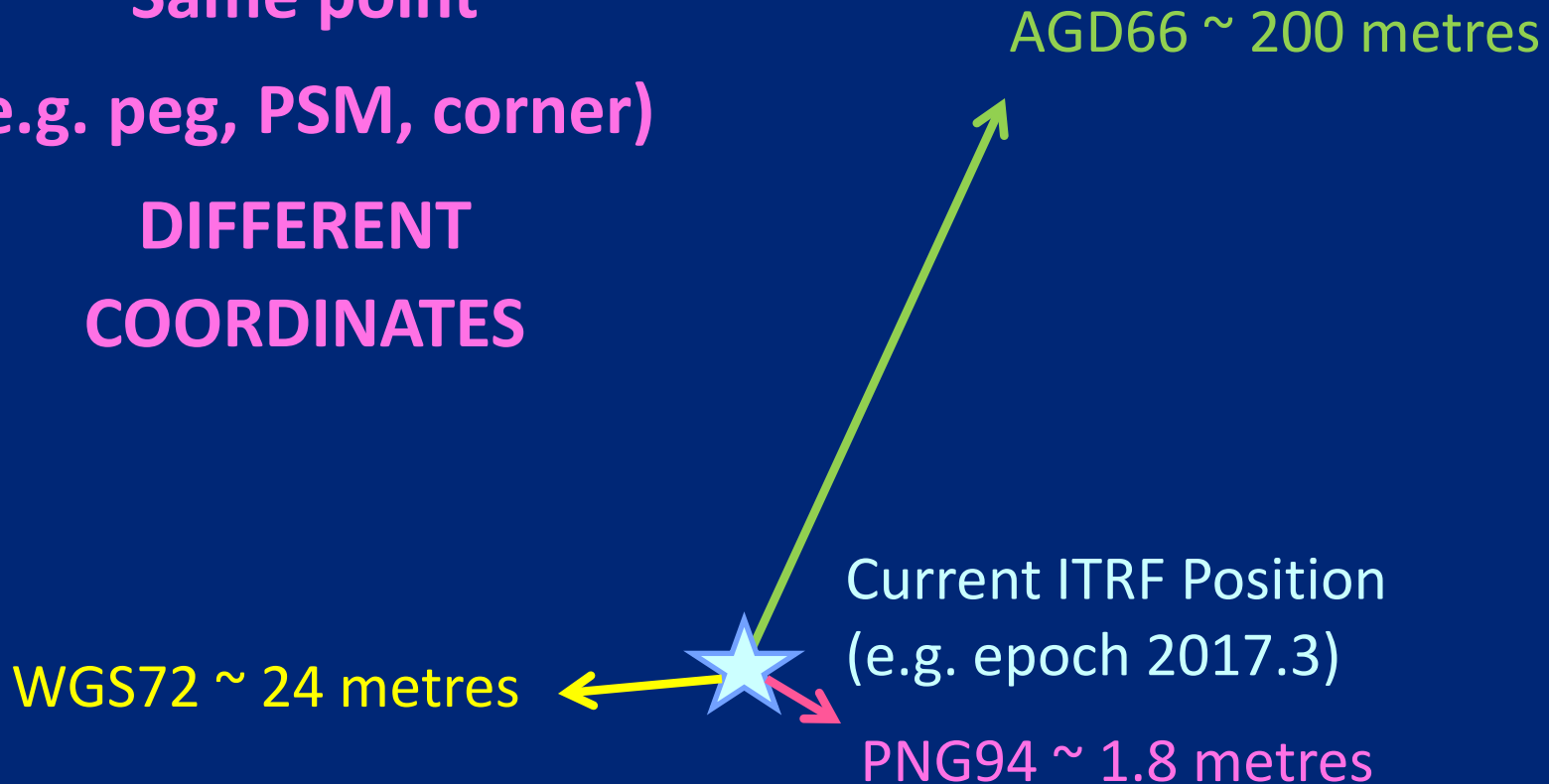
ITRF (currently ITRF2008 and ITRF2014) – Global datum

WGS 84 – GPS Reference System

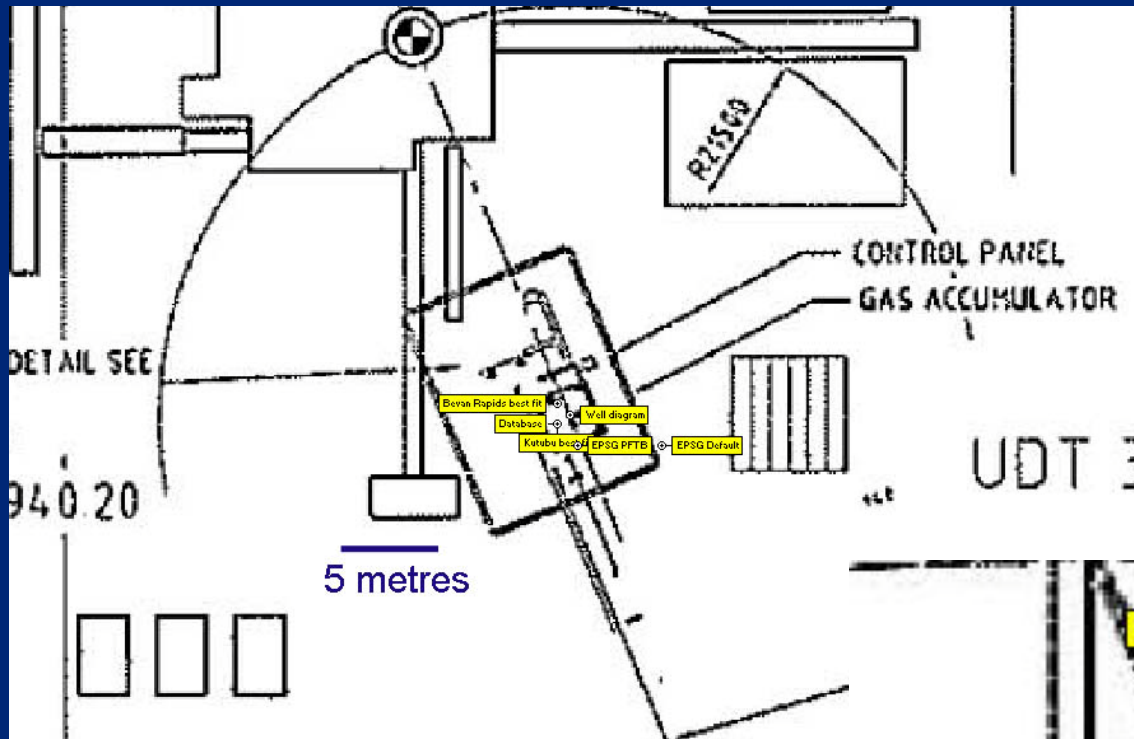
Difference between Datums

Same point
(e.g. peg, PSM, corner)

DIFFERENT
COORDINATES



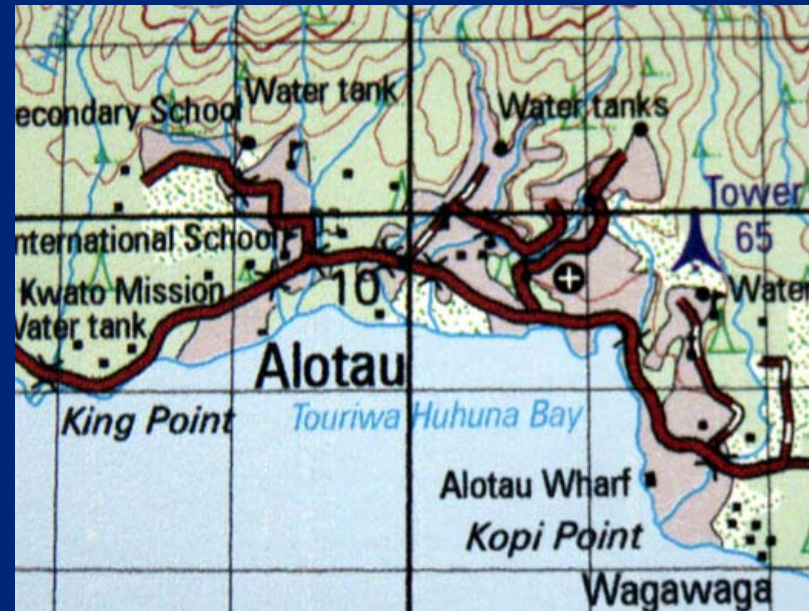
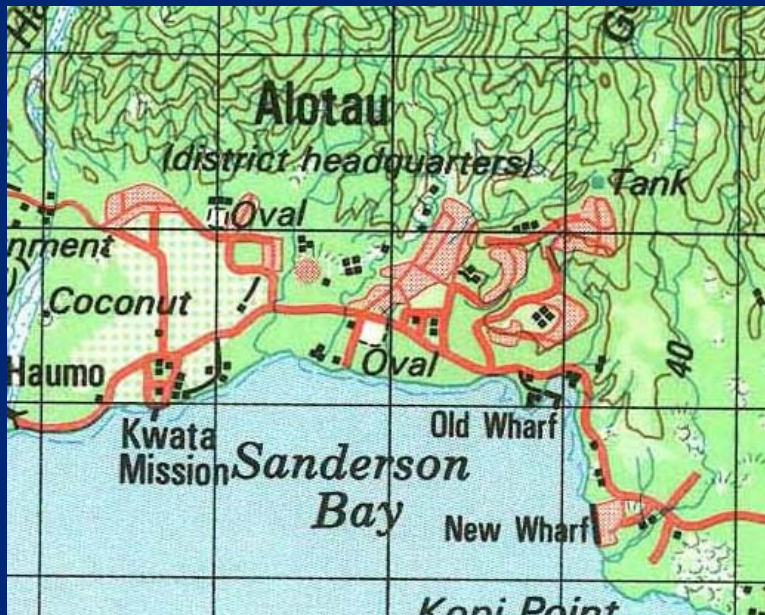
AGD66 transformation parameter differences



WSG84 PNG94 and AGD66 differences



Comparison of AGD66 and WGS 84 topo maps



Types of transformation – static datums

3 parameter – geocentric translation

7 parameter – geocentric translation, rotation and scale

10 parameter – Molodensky Badekas

Block shift (topocentric translation)

NTv2 distortion grid (grid of topocentric translations for interpolation)

Affine transformation (topocentric translation, rotation and scale)

Developing AGD66 to PNG94 transformation parameters

2010 – Robert Rosa (then OSG geodetic section lead) compiled a spreadsheet of PNG geodetic control (mostly AGD66 and WGS72) from paper based records

2010 – 2014 – Richard Stanaway collated static GPS observations made on any AGD66 control stations in the database. Data processed in ITRF2008 at epoch of observation.

ITRF2008 to PNG94 conversion using time-series analysis or site velocity estimation.

Seven parameter transformation estimated using least-squares. Iterative process to isolate outliers and different AGD66 realisations and gross errors or typos.

Mainland PNG AGD66 is homogeneous at the 1 m level.

Island AGD66 substantially variable.

Tabubil and Kiunga (North Fly) is significantly different (8 m) – separate set.

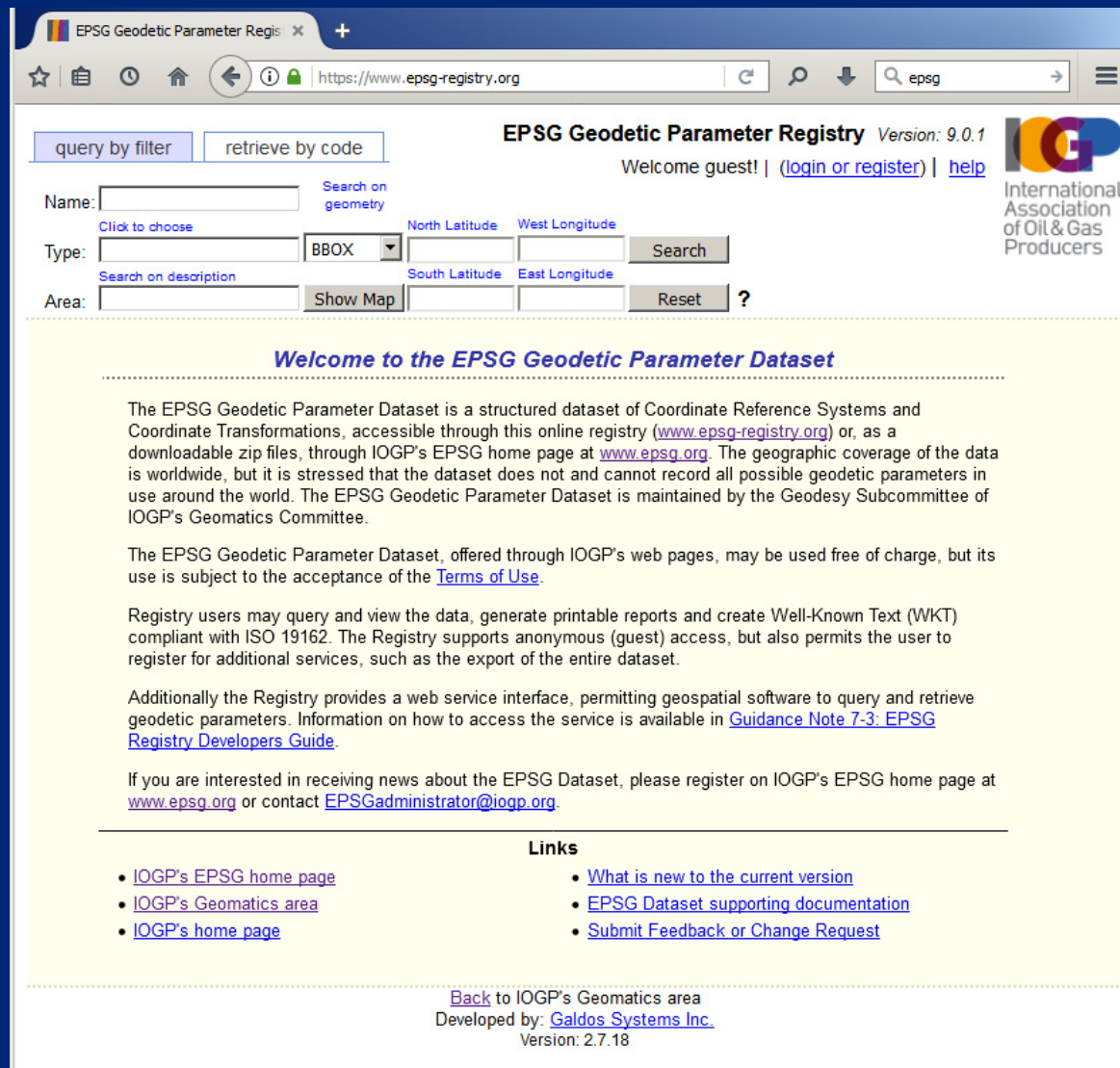
Also, PNG Oilfield PFTB have 1 m offset introduced in early 1990s. Mainland and PFTB parameters aligned to AA 070 Bevan Rapids.

Submission to EPSG/IOGP

3 and 7 parameter transformations submitted to EPSG in October 2014 for review. Registry entry finalised in 2015.

GIS software updates (e.g. ESRI and QGIS) with transformations during 2015 and 2016.

EPSG Registry



EPSG Registry – PNG transformation search

EPSG Geodetic Parameter Registry

query by filter retrieve by code

Name: Search on geometry

Type: BBOX Search

Area: Show Map Reset ?

EPSG Geodetic Parameter Registry Version: 9.0.1
Welcome guest! | [login or register](#) | [help](#)

International Association of Oil & Gas Producers

Search Results (1 - 9 of 9 possible results)
[Report all results](#) ? | [WKT for all results](#) ? | Entities per page:

<<first <prev | page of 1 | next> last>>

Report	Name	Code	Type	Status	Area Description	Remarks / Description	
<input type="checkbox"/>	AGD66 to PNG94 (1)	EPSG:5662	CoordinateTransformation	Valid (R)	Papua New Guinea - Papuan fold and thrust belt.	Derived at 25 stations in 2007. Replaced by AGD66 to PNG94 (4) (code 6939).	view
<input type="checkbox"/>	AGD66 to PNG94 (2)	EPSG:6937	CoordinateTransformation	Valid	Papua New Guinea - mainland onshore.	Derived in 2014 at 38 stations around the PNG mainland. Aligned to the Bevan Rapids Geodetic Origin AA 070 as required by the Papua New Guinea Oil and Gas Act 1998.	view
<input type="checkbox"/>	AGD66 to PNG94 (3)	EPSG:6938	CoordinateTransformation	Valid	Papua New Guinea - mainland onshore.	Derived in 2014 at 38 stations around the PNG mainland. See AGD66 to PNG94 (2) for a more accurate 7-parameter transformation. May be taken as an approximate transformation AGD66 to WGS 84 - see tfm c...	view
<input type="checkbox"/>	AGD66 to PNG94 (4)	EPSG:6939	CoordinateTransformation	Valid	Papua New Guinea - Papuan fold and thrust belt.	Derived in 2014 at 23 stations around the Kutubu oilfields. Aligned to the Bevan Rapids Geodetic Origin AA 070 as required by the Papua New Guinea Oil and Gas Act 1998. Replaces AGD66 to PNG94 (1) (tf...	view
<input type="checkbox"/>	AGD66 to PNG94 (5)	EPSG:6940	CoordinateTransformation	Valid	Papua New Guinea - Papuan fold and thrust belt.	Derived in 2014 at 23 stations around the Kutubu oilfields. See AGD66 to PNG94 (4) for a more accurate 7-parameter transformation. May be taken as an approximate transformation AGD66 to WGS 84 - see t...	view
<input type="checkbox"/>	AGD66 to PNG94 (6)	EPSG:6941	CoordinateTransformation	Valid	Papua New Guinea - North Fly area (between 5°04'S and 6°36'S and west of 141°32'E).	Derived in 2014 at 7 stations in Ningerum and Tabubil (North Fly District).	view
<input type="checkbox"/>	AGD66 to PNG94 (7)	EPSG:6942	CoordinateTransformation	Valid	Papua New Guinea - North Fly area (between 5°04'S and 6°36'S and west of 141°32'E).	Derived in 2014 at 7 stations in Ningerum and Tabubil (North Fly District). See AGD66 to PNG94 (6) for a more accurate 7-parameter transformation. May be taken as an approximate transformation AGD66 t...	view
<input type="checkbox"/>	PNG94 to PNG08 height (1)	EPSG:7655	CoordinateTransformation	Valid	Papua New Guinea - between 0°N and 12°S and 140°E and 158°E - onshore and offshore.		view
<input type="checkbox"/>	PNG94 to WGS 84 (1)	EPSG:5553	CoordinateTransformation	Valid	Papua New Guinea - onshore and offshore. Includes Bismark archipelago, Louisiade archipelago, Admiralty Islands, d'Entrecasteaux Islands, northern Solomon Islands, Trobriand Islands, New Britain, New I...	Exact in 1994 but due to significant and variable tectonic activity in PNG, in 2011 PNG94 and WGS 84 differ generally by 2m but in areas of significant tectonic activity differences can exceed 9m.	view

AGD66 to PNG94 and WGS84 parameters in PNG

AGD66 to PNG94 transformation parameters

Area of Use	EPSG Code	Accuracy (m)	Tx (m)	Ty (m)	Tz (m)	Rx (sec)	Ry (sec)	Rz (sec)	Sc (ppm)
Medium accuracy - 7 parameter Position Vector convention									
PNG Mainland	6937	1.0	-0.41	-2.37	2.00	3.592	3.698	3.989	8.843
PFTB	6939	1.0	-131.876	-54.554	453.346	-5.2155	-8.2042	0.0900	5.02
North Fly	6941	0.5	45.928	-177.212	336.867	-4.6039	-3.0921	0.5729	36.796
Medium accuracy - 7 parameter Coordinate Frame rotation convention									
PNG Mainland	6937	1.0	-0.41	-2.37	2.00	-3.592	-3.698	-3.989	8.843
PFTB	6939	1.0	-131.876	-54.554	453.346	5.2155	8.2042	-0.0900	5.02
North Fly	6941	0.5	45.928	-177.212	336.867	4.6039	3.0921	-0.5729	36.796
Lower accuracy - 3 parameter									
PNG Mainland	6938	4.0	-129	-58	152				
PFTB	6940	2.0	-131.3	-55.3	151.8				
North Fly	6942	2.5	-137.4	-58.9	150.4				

AGD66 to WGS84 transformation parameters (3 parameter) in PNG

Area of Use	EPSG Code	Accuracy (m)	Tx (m)	Ty (m)	Tz (m)
PNG Mainland	6943	5.0	-129	-58	152
PFTB	6944	4.0	-131.3	-55.3	151.8
North Fly	6945	4.0	-137.4	-58.9	150.4

GIS and Survey Software parameters

Most GIS software vendors import EPSG registry updates into software updates.

Ensure software is up-to-date

ESRI MapInfo QGIS

Transformation Pitfalls

Use the right transformation parameters for the area
(recall 8 m differences earlier)

Parameters are not perfect so there will be differences with
existing control coordinates

Be consistent with the use of parameters. Avoid changing
parameters mid-project

Extreme care using WGS84 as a hub datum for transformations.

If manually configuring transformation parameters take care
with Position Vector (PV) and Coordinate Frame (CF) convention
for rotations. Strongly recommend validating configuration with
test data.

**Tinani and
thank you**