

# Amazon Reader

Amazon Reader is a program for reading a spreadsheet file formatted to hold Amazon purchase information with each row indicating an item that was purchased and the columns representing pertinent information about the the order. It allows the user to then read in from the system clipboard web pages that are clipped from the Amazon orders site and then extracts the desired information from them, and places that data into the appropriate columns of spreadsheet image, prior to saving the image back to the spreadsheet file. It also allows reading the text data from a PDF file containing the credit card charges from Amazon for the purchases and again marks the appropriate columns with the charge information to verify which items have been completed and which are still pending, along with the credit card file id that the charge information came from. This allows a semi-automated process for keeping track of the Amazon orders and their corresponding debits and credits that are charged to the credit card to verify there are no unknown charges received.

The program can be run in 3 different fashions, but for normal use of balancing the Amazon charges the GUI interface is used. This is performed by simply running the jar file with no arguments:

```
java -jar AmazonReader-1.2.jar
```

The command should be run from the parent directory of where all the spreadsheet files for Amazon are kept. This is because it also creates a Properties file that will keep track of the directories and settings selected, so that when you start the program it will automatically use those settings so you don't have to set them up again. The details of the Properties file will be explained in a later section.

The program also contains some additional test commands that run pieces of the code for test verification. These are not accessible from the GUI, but are provided by using Command-line Options. When running from the command line, the program will only perform the actions of the Options that are supplied on the command line. An example of this would be:

```
java -jar AmazonReader-1.2.jar -s testfile.ods -l 1 true -c clip1.txt -u -save
```

Note that multiple options (each option command starts with a '-' char) can be placed in a single command line. This command, for instance, would select the spreadsheet file 'testfile.ods' and load the 1<sup>st</sup> tab into memory while performing a verification that the header information contained in the file is valid. Then it would read in and parse the information from the clipboard file 'clip1.txt' (rather than reading directly from the clipboard) and update the the spreadsheet image with any new entries it gathered from it. It would then save the updated image back to the spreadsheet file.

For more extensive testing, it is rather cumbersome to write all the option commands you want to perform on a single command line. But because the command line operation executes the command options as given and then exits, there is no way to execute sequential commands where the next command depends on the previous command, unless each command only depends on the state of the spreadsheet file and you make sure to save changes back to the file at the end of each command to make sure the next one gets those changes. This can be done, but is a slow process since it takes a several seconds for each saving and reloading of the spreadsheet file. This can be better accomplished by using the Program operation mode. In this mode, you create a script file of what you want to execute, then pass that as the only argument to the program. It will then execute all the program statements sequentially before exiting. There are also program flow statements that allow you to perform loops and conditionals, as well as variable parameters for manipulating any data captured and testing it for validation. The format for this operation is:

```
java -jar AmazonReader-1.2.jar -f myscript.scr
```