



# **APEX 2005**

# **SKY Telemetry**

# **Format**

---

VX-STF-001  
March 1, 2005

Vexcel Corporation  
1690 38<sup>th</sup> Street  
Boulder, CO 80301, USA  
Tel. 303-583-0200

---

(this page intentionally left blank)

## Change Record

Revision	Date	Chapter	Description
6.0	March 1, 2005	All	New Release based on APEX 2002 Version.

## CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

**This document contains details of Vexcel Corporation's hardware and software that are considered confidential, and competition sensitive. For that reason, neither this manual nor any part or section thereof may be released without Vexcel Corporation's expressed written permission.**

(this page intentionally left blank)

## References

1. Annex A ERS SAR.RAW CCT and EXABYTE, ER-IS-EPO-GS-5902.1, issue 3.0 July 1, 1996.
2. Radarsat Data Products Manual, RZ-MA-50-5309, Rev 2/1, Sept. 21, 1995.
3. Radarsat Product Specification, RZ-SP-50-5313, Rev 5/1, August 28, 1995.
4. Radarsat CDPF Product Specification Technical Supplement: Detail Processing Parameters Record Description, RZ-TN-50-7097, Rev 1/0, November 10, 1995.
5. User's Guide for JERS-1 SAR Data Format, March 22, 1993
6. JERS-1 Operational Interface Specification, NASDA HE-89033, Rev 4, April 15, 1993.
7. ESRIN ERS Central Facility to National and Foreign Stations Interface Specification, ER-IS-EPO-GU-0107-1.5 Issue 1, Rev. 5, March 6, 1995
8. LZP – Vexcel Level 0 Processor – Architecture and Design, VX-LZP-001, Vexcel Corporation
9. The SPOT Scene Standard Digital Product Format, S4-ST-73-01-SI, Edition 1, Revision 2, November 17, 1997, SPOT IMAGE
10. LANDSAT 7 SYSTEM: Data Format Control Book (DFCB) Volume IV – Wideband Data, Revision K, 23007702-IV-K, Lockheed Martin Missiles & Space, December 16, 1998
11. ENVISAT Satellite to National & Foreign Ground Stations Interface Control Document, Ref: PO-ID-ESA-SY-1003, Issue: 2.2, ENVISAT Satellite System and Payload Division, May 04, 2000

## Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>13</b>
1.1	FILE SET .....	13
<b>2</b>	<b>STF DATA FORMAT .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>STF PARAMETER FILE FORMAT .....</b>	<b>17</b>
3.1	THE DIRECT CAPTURE SYSTEM (DCS) INFORMATION BLOCK.....	17
3.1.1	The <i>dcs_version</i> plain tag .....	17
3.1.2	The <i>dcs_id</i> plain tag.....	17
3.1.3	The <i>dcs_file_creation_date</i> plain tag .....	18
3.1.4	The <i>dcs_requested_start</i> plain tag.....	18
3.1.5	The <i>dcs_valid_data_offset</i> plain tag.....	18
3.1.6	The <i>dcs_satellite</i> plain tag.....	18
3.1.7	The <i>dcs_requested_stop</i> plain tag.....	19
3.1.8	The <i>dcs_start</i> plain tag.....	19
3.1.9	The <i>dcs_stop</i> plain tag.....	19
3.1.10	The <i>dcs_stop_condition</i> plain tag .....	19
3.1.11	The <i>dcs_bit_error_rate</i> plain tag.....	19
3.1.12	The <i>dcs_bytes_captured</i> plain tag.....	20
3.1.13	The <i>data_block</i> information block .....	20
3.1.13.1	The <i>block_number</i> plain tag.....	20
3.1.13.2	The <i>sync_name</i> plain tag .....	21
3.1.13.3	The <i>start_byte</i> plain tag .....	21
3.1.13.4	The <i>end_byte</i> plain tag.....	21
3.1.13.5	The <i>percent_examined</i> plain tag .....	21
3.1.13.6	The <i>percent_recognized</i> plain tag.....	21
3.1.13.7	The <i>ber</i> plain tag.....	22
3.2	THE SYNCHRONIZATION INFORMATION BLOCK.....	23
3.2.1	The <i>ss_version</i> plain tag.....	24
3.2.2	The <i>ss_date</i> plain tag.....	24
3.2.3	The <i>block_nr</i> plain tag.....	24
3.2.4	The <i>sync_type</i> plain tag.....	24
3.2.5	The <i>satellite</i> plain tag.....	24
3.2.6	The <i>instrument</i> plain tag.....	25
3.2.7	The <i>special_id</i> plain tag.....	25
3.2.8	The <i>transmission_mode</i> plain tag.....	25
3.2.9	The <i>sync_pattern</i> plain tag .....	25
3.2.10	The <i>frame_length</i> plain tag.....	25
3.2.11	The <i>CCSDS_id</i> plain tag.....	26
3.2.12	The <i>allowed_bit_errors</i> plain tag.....	26
3.2.13	The <i>flywheel_constant</i> plain tag.....	26
3.2.14	The <i>IQ_swap</i> plain tag.....	26
3.2.15	The <i>inv_I</i> plain tag.....	26
3.2.16	The <i>inv_Q</i> plain tag.....	27
3.2.17	The <i>number_bytes</i> plain tag.....	27
3.2.18	The <i>number_frames</i> plain tag.....	27
3.2.19	The <i>bit_errors</i> plain tag.....	27
3.2.20	The <i>bits_examined</i> plain tag.....	27

3.2.21	The <i>bit_error_rate</i> plain tag.....	28
3.2.22	The <i>valid_fraction</i> plain tag.....	28
3.2.23	The <i>invalid_syncs</i> plain tag.....	28
3.2.24	The <i>local_bit_error_rate</i> information block .....	28
3.3	THE PREPARATION INFORMATION BLOCK.....	29
3.3.1	The <i>processor_name</i> plain tag.....	30
3.3.2	The <i>prep_version</i> plain tag.....	30
3.3.3	The <i>prep_date</i> plain tag.....	31
3.3.4	The <i>ss_block</i> plain tag.....	31
3.3.5	The <i>block_nr</i> plain tag.....	31
3.3.6	The <i>start_byte</i> plain tag.....	31
3.3.7	The <i>number_bytes</i> plain tag.....	31
3.3.8	The <i>number_frames</i> plain tag.....	32
3.3.9	The <i>number_lines</i> plain tag.....	32
3.3.10	The <i>satellite</i> plain tag.....	32
3.3.11	The <i>instrument</i> plain tag.....	32
3.3.12	The <i>beam_sequence</i> plain tag.....	32
3.3.13	The <i>number_of_beams</i> plain tag.....	33
3.3.14	The <i>bit_errors</i> plain tag.....	33
3.3.15	The <i>bit_error_rate</i> plain tag.....	33
3.3.16	The <i>missing_lines</i> plain tag.....	34
3.3.17	The <i>missing_bytes_added</i> plain tag.....	34
3.3.18	The <i>zero_data_suppression</i> plain tag.....	34
3.3.19	The <i>ber_threshold</i> plain tag.....	34
3.3.20	The <i>first_satellite_clock</i> plain tag.....	34
3.3.21	The <i>last_satellite_clock</i> plain tag.....	35
3.3.22	The <i>clock_increment</i> plain tag.....	35
3.3.23	The <i>first_date</i> plain tag.....	35
3.3.24	The <i>last_date</i> plain tag.....	35
3.3.25	The <i>tce_utc</i> plain tag.....	36
3.3.26	The <i>tce_satellite</i> plain tag.....	36
3.3.27	The <i>tce_corr</i> plain tag.....	36
3.3.28	The <i>tce_step</i> plain tag.....	36
3.3.29	The <i>estimated_acq_start</i> plain tag.....	36
3.3.30	The <i>nominal_look_angle</i> plain tag.....	37
3.3.31	The <i>number_range_samples</i> plain tag.....	37
3.3.32	The <i>ADC_sampling_frequency</i> plain tag.....	37
3.3.33	The <i>automatic_gain_control</i> plain tag.....	37
3.3.34	The <i>state_vector</i> information block .....	38
3.3.35	The <i>ephemeris_type</i> plain tag.....	38
3.3.36	The <i>swath_velocity</i> plain tag.....	38
3.3.37	The <i>flight_path_direction</i> plain tag.....	38
3.3.38	The <i>GHA</i> information block .....	39
3.3.39	The <i>OrbitNr</i> plain tag.....	39
3.3.40	The <i>OrbitNr_Date</i> plain tag.....	39
3.3.41	The <i>clock_angle</i> plain tag.....	39
3.3.42	The <i>local_bit_error_rate</i> information block .....	39
3.3.42.1	The <i>ss_bit_error_rate</i> plain tag.....	40
3.3.43	The <i>sensor</i> information block .....	41
3.3.43.1	The <i>sensor_name</i> tag.....	41
3.3.43.2	The <i>instrument_name</i> tag.....	42
3.3.43.3	The <i>format_name</i> tag.....	42

---

3.3.43.4	The mirror_step tag.....	42
3.3.43.5	The look_angle tag.....	42
3.3.43.6	The incidence_angle tag.....	42
3.3.43.7	The Orbit Bulletin Information Block.....	43
3.3.43.7.1	The julian_days plain tag.....	43
3.3.43.7.2	The semi_major_axis plain tag.....	44
3.3.43.7.3	The eccentricity_x plain tag.....	44
3.3.43.7.4	The eccentricity_y plain tag.....	44
3.3.43.7.5	The inclination plain tag.....	44
3.3.43.7.6	The right_ascension plain tag.....	44
3.3.43.7.7	The latitude_argument plain tag.....	45
3.3.43.7.8	The mean_anomaly plain tag.....	45
3.3.43.7.9	The argument_perigree plain tag.....	45
3.3.43.7.10	The p7 to p10 plain tag.....	45
3.3.43.8	The clock_angle tag.....	46
3.3.43.9	The nr_temperatures tag.....	46
3.3.43.10	The temperature_0 .. temperature_3 tags.....	46
3.3.43.11	The nr_bands tag.....	46
3.3.43.12	The band Information Block.....	46
3.3.43.12.1	The band_name tag.....	47
3.3.43.12.2	The amp_setting tag.....	47
3.3.43.13	The nr_beams tag.....	47
3.3.43.14	The beam Information Block.....	47
3.3.43.14.1	The beam_name tag.....	48
3.3.43.14.2	The nr_of_samples tag.....	49
3.3.43.14.3	The echo_delay tag.....	49
3.3.43.14.4	The carrier_freq tag.....	49
3.3.43.14.5	The sampling_freq tag.....	49
3.3.43.14.6	The PRF tag.....	49
3.3.43.14.7	The chirp_rate tag.....	50
3.3.43.14.8	The pulse_length tag.....	50
3.3.43.14.9	The look_angle tag.....	50
3.3.43.14.10	The incidence_angle tag.....	50
3.3.43.14.11	The range_spectrum_snr tag.....	50
3.3.43.14.12	The replica_energy_ref_level tag.....	51
3.3.43.14.13	The cal1_cal2_diff_ref_level tag.....	51
3.3.43.14.14	The thermal_noise_ref_level tag.....	51
3.3.43.14.15	The gain_corcfn_factor tag.....	51
3.3.43.14.16	The gain_scale tag.....	52
3.3.43.14.17	The PolarizationBlock information block.....	52
3.3.43.14.17.1	The NrPolarizations plain tag.....	52
3.3.43.14.17.2	The Polarization information block.....	52
3.3.43.14.17.2.1	The polarization plain tag.....	53
3.3.43.14.17.2.2	The polarization_amplitude plain tag.....	53
3.3.43.14.17.2.3	The polarization_phase plain tag.....	53
3.3.43.14.17.2.4	The IQStatistics information block.....	53
3.3.43.14.17.2.4.1	The I_mean plain tag.....	54
3.3.43.14.17.2.4.2	The Q_mean plain tag.....	54
3.3.43.14.17.2.4.3	The I_std plain tag.....	54
3.3.43.14.17.2.4.4	The Q_std plain tag.....	54
3.3.43.14.17.2.4.5	The IQ_corr plain tag.....	55
3.3.43.14.18	The DopplerCentroidParameters information block.....	55
3.3.43.14.18.1	The doppler_centroid_coefficients information block.....	55
3.3.43.14.18.1.1	The reference_first_dimension tag.....	56
3.3.43.14.18.1.2	The reference_second_dimension tag.....	56
3.3.43.14.18.1.3	The number_of_coefficients_first_dimension tag.....	56
3.3.43.14.18.1.4	The number_of_coefficients_second_dimension tag.....	57



---

3.3.43.14.18.1.5	The a00 to a23 tags .....	57
3.3.43.14.18.2	The reference_range tag.....	58
3.3.43.14.18.3	The reference_date tag.....	58
3.3.43.14.18.4	The ambiguity_number tag.....	58
3.3.43.14.18.5	The MLCC_ambiguity_number_occurrence tag.....	58
3.3.43.14.18.6	The MLBF_ambiguity_number_occurrence tag.....	59
3.3.43.14.18.7	The DAR_doppler tag.....	59
3.3.43.14.18.8	The Predict_doppler tag.....	59
3.3.43.14.18.9	The DAR_confidence tag.....	59
3.3.43.14.18.10	The doppler_fit_correlation tag .....	59
3.3.43.14.18.11	The doppler_status tag.....	60
3.3.43.14.19	The DopplerRateParameters information block.....	60
3.3.43.14.19.1	The effective_velocity_coefficients information block .....	60
3.3.43.14.19.1.1	The reference_first_dimension tag .....	61
3.3.43.14.19.1.2	The reference_second_dimension tag.....	61
3.3.43.14.19.1.3	The number_of_coefficients_first_dimension tag.....	61
3.3.43.14.19.1.4	The number_of_coefficients_second_dimension tag .....	62
3.3.43.14.19.1.5	The a00 to a11 tags .....	62
3.3.43.14.19.2	The veff tag.....	63
3.3.43.14.19.3	The reference_range tag.....	63
3.3.43.14.19.4	The reference_date tag.....	63
3.3.43.14.19.5	The autofocus_scale_factor tag.....	63
3.3.43.14.19.6	The autofocus_snr tag.....	64
3.3.43.14.19.7	The autofocus_suggested_ambiguity_number tag.....	64
3.3.43.14.19.8	The autofocus_status tag.....	64
3.3.43.15	The ScanSARBlock block .....	65
3.3.43.15.1	The number_of_bursts plain tag.....	65
3.3.43.15.2	The scan_mode plain tag .....	65
3.3.43.16	The ephemeris information block .....	65
3.3.43.16.1	The sv_block information block.....	66
3.3.43.16.1.1	The NrSV tag .....	66
3.3.43.16.1.2	The state_vector information block .....	66
3.3.43.16.1.2.1	The x, y, z plain tags .....	67
3.3.43.16.1.2.2	The xv, yv, zv plain tags .....	67
3.3.43.16.1.2.3	The Date plain tag.....	67
3.3.43.16.2	The Attitude information block.....	67
3.3.43.16.2.1	The yaw plain tag.....	68
3.3.43.16.2.2	The roll plain tag.....	68
3.3.43.16.2.3	The pitch plain tag.....	68
3.3.43.16.2.4	The Date plain tag.....	69
3.3.43.16.2.5	The att information block.....	69
3.3.43.16.2.5.1	The date plain tag.....	69
3.3.43.16.2.5.2	The pitch plain tag.....	69
3.3.43.16.2.5.3	The roll plain tag.....	69
3.3.43.16.2.5.4	The yaw plain tag.....	70
3.3.43.16.2.6	The yawpoly, rollpoly, pitchpoly information blocks.....	70
3.3.43.16.2.6.1	The reference plain tag.....	70
3.3.43.16.2.6.2	The number_of_coefficients plain tag .....	70
3.3.43.16.2.6.3	The a0, a1, a2, a4 plain tags.....	71
3.3.43.16.3	The OrbitNr plain tag .....	71
3.3.43.16.4	The OrbitNr_Date plain tag.....	71
3.3.43.16.5	The GHA information block .....	71
3.3.43.16.5.1	The angle plain tag.....	72
3.3.43.16.5.2	The date plain tag.....	72
3.3.43.16.6	The Type plain tag.....	72
3.3.44	The ellipsoid_name plain tag.....	72
3.3.45	The location information block .....	72

---

3.3.45.1	The block_nr plain tag.....	74
3.3.45.2	The frame_nr plain tag.....	74
3.3.45.3	The line_nr plain tag.....	74
3.3.45.4	The start_byte plain tag.....	74
3.3.45.5	The satellite_clock plain tag.....	74
3.3.45.6	The line_date plain tag.....	75
3.3.45.7	The first_pixel_ll plain tag.....	75
3.3.45.8	The last_pixel_ll plain tag.....	75
3.3.45.9	The SWST_code plain tag.....	75
3.3.45.10	The SWST plain tag.....	76
3.3.45.11	The range_gate plain tag.....	76
3.3.45.12	The near_range plain tag.....	76
3.3.45.13	The far_range plain tag.....	76
3.3.45.14	The platform_altitude plain tag.....	76
3.3.45.15	The grs_path_row plain tag.....	77
3.3.45.16	The sun_azimuth plain tag.....	77
3.3.45.17	The sun_elev plain tag.....	77
3.3.45.18	The is_att_out_of_range plain tag.....	77
3.3.45.19	The num_unstable_mjfs plain tag.....	78
3.3.45.20	The cloud_cover plain tag.....	78
3.3.45.21	The snow cover plain tag.....	78
3.3.45.22	The Doppler_centroid plain tag.....	78
3.3.45.23	The DopplerPolynomial information block.....	78
3.3.45.23.1	The reference plain tag.....	79
3.3.45.23.2	The number_of_coefficients plain tag.....	79
3.3.45.23.3	The a0 to a3 plain tags.....	79
3.3.46	The missing_data_blocks plain tag.....	80
3.3.47	The missing_data information block.....	80
3.3.47.1	The start_frame plain tag.....	81
3.3.47.2	The start_line plain tag.....	81
3.3.47.3	The start_byte plain tag.....	81
3.3.47.4	The missing_bytes plain tag.....	81
3.3.47.5	The missing_frames plain tag.....	81
3.3.47.6	The missing_lines plain tag.....	82
3.3.47.7	The missing_data_indicator plain tag.....	82
3.4	TELEMETRY PARAMETER FILE EXAMPLE.....	83
<b>4</b>	<b>FRAMING INFORMATION FILE FORMAT.....</b>	<b>90</b>
4.1	THE NUM_SCENE_LINES PLAIN TAG.....	90
4.2	THE NUM_OVERLAP_LINES PLAIN TAG.....	90
4.3	THE SCENE INFORMATION BLOCK.....	90
4.3.1	The start_index plain tag.....	91
4.3.2	The start_line plain tag.....	91
4.3.3	The end_index plain tag.....	91
4.3.4	The end_line plain tag.....	92
4.4	SAMPLE FRAMING FILE.....	93
<b>5</b>	<b>THE STF INDEX FILE.....</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>THE STF BURST LIST FILE.....</b>	<b>96</b>
6.1	THE BAP_BLOCK INFORMATION BLOCK.....	96
6.1.1	The NrBAP plain tag.....	96
6.1.2	The BurstAuxParameters information block.....	96
6.1.2.1	The beam_sequence_id plain tag.....	97
6.1.2.2	The number_of_samples plain tag.....	97

6.1.2.3	The echo_delay plain tag.....	97
6.1.2.4	The prf plain tag.....	98
6.1.2.5	The first_record_number plain tag.....	98
6.1.2.6	The number_of_records plain tag.....	98
6.1.2.7	The first_record_date plain tag.....	98
6.2	SAMPLE BURST LIST FILE.....	99
<b>7</b>	<b>THE STF AUTOFOCUS CORRELATION FILE.....</b>	<b>100</b>
7.1	SAMPLE AUTOFOCUS CORRELATION FILE.....	100
<b>8</b>	<b>THE STF RANGE SPECTRUM FILE.....</b>	<b>101</b>
8.1	SAMPLE STF RANGE SPECTRUM FILE.....	101
<b>9</b>	<b>THE STF HISTOGRAM FILE.....</b>	<b>102</b>
9.1	THE RAWHISTOGRAMBLOCK INFORMATION BLOCK.....	102
9.1.1	<i>The NrHistograms plain tag.....</i>	<i>102</i>
9.1.2	<i>The RawHistogram information block.....</i>	<i>102</i>
9.1.2.1	The Polarization plain tag.....	103
9.1.2.2	The NrValues plain tag.....	103
9.1.2.3	The HistogramValues information block.....	103
9.1.2.3.1	The value plain tag.....	104
9.2	SAMPLE RAW HISTOGRAM FILE.....	104
<b>10</b>	<b>THE STF DOPPLER CENTROID FILE.....</b>	<b>105</b>
10.1	SAMPLE STF DOPPLER CENTROID FILE.....	105
<b>11</b>	<b>QUICKLOOK IMAGE FILESET.....</b>	<b>107</b>
11.1	THE QUICKLOOK IMAGE DATA FILE.....	107
11.2	THE QUICKLOOK IMAGE PARAMETER FILE.....	108
11.2.1	<i>The flight_path_direction plain tag.....</i>	<i>108</i>
11.3	THE RAWSARIMAGE INFORMATION BLOCK.....	108
11.3.1	<i>The image_desc information block.....</i>	<i>109</i>
11.3.1.1	The Facility plain tag.....	109
11.3.1.2	The Format plain tag.....	110
11.3.1.3	The Type plain tag.....	110
11.3.1.4	The BytesPerPixel plain tag.....	110
11.3.1.5	The Title plain tag.....	110
11.3.1.6	The PixelSpacing plain tag.....	110
11.3.1.7	The PixelResolution plain tag.....	111
11.3.1.8	The LineSpacing plain tag.....	111
11.3.1.9	The LineResolution plain tag.....	111
11.3.1.10	The NrPixels plain tag.....	111
11.3.1.11	The NrLines plain tag.....	111
11.3.1.12	The MinValue plain tag.....	112
11.3.1.13	The MaxValue plain tag.....	112
11.3.1.14	The MeanValue plain tag.....	112
11.3.1.15	The SigmaValue plain tag.....	112
11.3.1.16	The coord information block.....	113
11.3.1.17	The earth_model information block.....	113
11.3.1.17.1	The name plain tag.....	114
11.3.1.17.2	The ellipsoid_name plain tag.....	114
11.3.1.17.3	The major plain tag.....	114
11.3.1.17.4	The minor plain tag.....	114
11.3.1.17.5	The terrain_height plain tag.....	114

---

11.3.1.17.6	The mass plain tag.....	115
11.3.1.17.7	The delta_x plain tag.....	115
11.3.1.17.8	The delta_y plain tag.....	115
11.3.1.17.9	The delta_z plain tag.....	115
11.3.1.17.10	The g plain tag.....	115
11.3.1.17.11	The j2 plain tag.....	116
11.3.1.17.12	The j3 plain tag.....	116
11.3.1.17.13	The j4 plain tag.....	116
11.3.1.18	The first_line_first_pixel plain tag.....	116
11.3.1.19	The first_line_last_pixel plain tag.....	117
11.3.1.20	The last_line_first_pixel plain tag.....	117
11.3.1.21	The last_line_last_pixel plain tag.....	117
11.3.1.22	The center_line_center_pixel plain tag.....	117
11.3.2	The processor_name plain tag.....	118
11.3.3	The processor_version plain tag.....	118
11.3.4	The first_line plain tag.....	118
11.3.5	The first_line_tropol plain tag.....	118
11.3.6	The time_per_line plain tag.....	118
11.4	THE SCANSARPRODUCT INFORMATION BLOCK.....	119
11.4.1	The image_desc information block.....	120
11.4.2	The processor_name plain tag.....	120
11.4.3	The processor_version plain tag.....	120
11.4.4	The image_type plain tag.....	120
11.4.5	The first_line plain tag.....	120
11.4.6	The time_per_line plain tag.....	121
11.4.7	The OrbitNr plain tag.....	121
11.4.8	The OrbitNr_Date plain tag.....	121
11.4.9	The near_range plain tag.....	121
11.4.10	The center_range plain tag.....	121
11.4.11	The far_range plain tag.....	122
11.4.12	The skew_flag plain tag.....	122
11.4.13	The Kaiser_range plain tag.....	122
11.4.14	The Kaiser_azimuth plain tag.....	122
11.4.15	The range_looks plain tag.....	123
11.4.16	The azimuth_looks plain tag.....	123
11.4.17	The range_block_average_factor plain tag.....	123
11.4.18	The azimuth_block_average_factor plain tag.....	123
11.4.19	The Gr2Sr_Block information block.....	123
11.4.19.1	The NrGr2Sr plain tag.....	124
11.4.19.2	The gr2sr information block.....	124
11.4.19.2.1	The reference_date plain tag.....	124
11.4.19.2.2	The reference_range plain tag.....	125
11.4.19.2.3	The number_of_coefficients plain tag.....	125
11.4.19.2.4	The a0-a5 plain tag.....	125
11.4.20	The dwell_time plain tag.....	126
11.4.21	The integration_time plain tag.....	126
11.4.22	The range_decimation_factor plain tag.....	126
11.4.23	The raw_start_burst plain tag.....	126
11.4.24	The nr_raw_bursts plain tag.....	127
11.4.25	QuickLook Image Parameter File Example.....	128
11.5	THE QUICKLOOK STANDARD FORMAT IMAGE (TIFF, JPEG).....	134

## 1 Introduction

The Vexcel Level 0 Processor (SKY) can produce data in two output formats: Vexcel's SKY Telemetry Format (STF) and CEOS. For archiving purposes, the facility may decide to store the STF product rather than the CEOS product. This format is available after the Synchronization/Preparation step of the Level 0 Software Processor. An optional QuickLook image can be created as part of the STF data set.

### 1.1 File set

The telemetry output format of the LZP consists of a set of homogenous datatake sets. Homogenous in this sense is defined to be:

- the data is from one single satellite
- no changes in beam mode for stripmode Radarsat
- no changes in PRF
- no time gaps across which the frame and time counters do not stay in sync

Each of the output datatake sets contains the following files:

- one formatted data file
- one ASCII parameter file
- one ASCII framing information file (chop file)
- one ASCII index file
- one ASCII burst list index file (optional, for multi-beam SAR data only)
- one ASCII autofocus correlaton file (optional, for SAR data only)
- one ASCII range spectrum file (optional, for SAR data only)
- one ASCII Doppler measurement file (optional, for SAR data only)
- one ASCII histogram file (optional, for SAR data only)
- one QuickLook image data file (optional)
- one QuickLook image parameter file (optional)
- one QuickLook image (tiff or jpeg) file (optional)

The datafile is the input telemetry data file after some formatting has been applied to it. The parameter file contains valuable meta-data information about the data. The framing information file contains information for framing the input data into standard scenes. The index file provides random access to any line in the datafile. The optional burst list file, present for ScanSAR data only, stores access information for every "burst". The optional autofocus correlation file stores the autofocus plot for SAR data. The optional range spectrum file contains the range energy spectrum for SAR data. The optional Doppler

measurement file contains the measured Doppler centroid information for SAR data. The optional histogram file shows the raw I/Q histogram for SAR data. The optional QuickLook file set contains low resolution imagery of the STF dataset.

The file names for the telemetry output format all share the same basename. The basename is selected by the operator using the jobserver GUI, or by the API program driving the jobserver. The output datatake sets will be enumerated starting with 000, continuing with 001, and so forth. The file naming convention for the datasets produced is:

- `basename.000 (.001, .002, ...)` - data file
- `basename.000.par` - parameter file
- `basename.000.chop` - framing information file
- `basename.000.ind` - index file
- `basename.000.blist` - burst list file
- `basename.000.af` - autofocus correlation file
- `basename.000.rs` - range spectrum file
- `basename.000.dop` - Doppler measurement file
- `basename.000.his` - histogram file
- `basename.000.QL.gli` - QuickLook image data file (floating point)
- `basename.000.QL.gli.par` - QuickLook image parameter file
- `basename.000.QL.tif` - QuickLook TIFF file
- `basename.000.QL.jpg` - QuickLook JPEG file

In addition to these datasets, a common log file and a summary parameter file might be created by the LZP system. These two files will be called `basename.log` and `basename.par`, respectively.

## 2 STF data format

Essentially, the format of the output telemetry data is the same as it was in the input, only that a byte-alignment and error correction has been performed on the input data stream. For satellites that perform PRN encoding, this encoding has been reversed (ERS1/2 and RSAT1, for example). To be more specific, for each of the following sensors the output telemetry data file (basename.000, for example) will have the following format:

- ERS1/2:
  - first byte: byte 0 of the frame sync code
  - frame length : 256 bytes
  - frames per SAR line : 29
  - "zero formats" may still present
  
- JERS1:
  - stripped off: a variable number of random bits at the end of each frame
  - first byte: byte 0 of the interleaved frame sync codes
  - frame length : 4660 bytes (containing one interleaved I and Q frame)
  - frames per SAR line : 1
  - variable number of random bits at the end of each frame
  - always I and Q bits in positive logic (not "I,~Q", for example)
  - I as first bit
  
- RSAT1:
  - first byte: byte 0 of the sync code
  - frame length : 323 bytes
  - frames per SAR line : variable number (~30)
  
- ALOS1-PALSAR:
  - first byte: byte 0 of the PALSAR sync code
  - frame length : variable
  - frames per SAR line : 1
  
- SPOT:
  - first byte: byte 0 of the SPOT sync code
  - frame length : 9282
  - 1 or 2 lines per frame, depending on mode

- AQUA/TERRA MODIS:
  - first byte: byte 0 of the MODIS sync code
  - frame length: 1024
  - frames contain variable number of CCSDS frames
  
- ENVISAT1/ASAR:
  - first byte: byte 0 of the ENVISAT1 sync code
  - frame length: 1024
  - frames contain variable number of ASAR CCSDS frames
  
- LSAT7:
  - first byte: byte 0 of the LSAT7 sync code
  - frame length: 1040
  - frames contain variable number of LSAT7 CCSDS frames
  - CCSDS frames per STF line : variable size close to 7000 frames / line



### 3 STF parameter file format

The following is a description of the ASCII parameter file accompanying the telemetry data file. It is a CONI file (a tagged ASCII file) containing plain tags and CONI information blocks.

#### 3.1 *The Direct Capture System (DCS) Information Block*

This block is optional. It is created when the Vexcel Data Capture System (VxDCS) captures the input downlink file.

The DCS information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- dcs\_version - plain tag
- dcs\_id - plain tag
- dcs\_file\_creation\_date - plain tag
- dcs\_requested\_start - plain tag
- dcs\_valid\_data\_offset - plain tag
- dcs\_satellite - plain tag
- dcs\_requested\_stop - plain tag
- dcs\_start - plain tag
- dcs\_stop - plain tag
- dcs\_stop\_condition - plain tag
- dcs\_bit\_error\_rate - plain tag
- dcs\_bytes\_captured - plain tag
- data\_block - information block, 0, 1, or multiple instances

These plain tags and information blocks are described below.

##### 3.1.1 The dcs\_version plain tag

Name: dcs\_version  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: 5.1.0  
Description: Specifies the DCS software version number.

##### 3.1.2 The dcs\_id plain tag

Name: dcs\_id

Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: 1-  
Description: Specifies the ID of the VxDCS instance which performed the capture.

### 3.1.3 The `dcx_file_creation_date` plain tag

Name: `dcx_file_creation_date`  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 20031002211318725  
Description: Specifies the date/time the capture file was created.

### 3.1.4 The `dcx_requested_start` plain tag

Name: `dcx_requested_start`  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 20031002211318725  
Description: Specifies the requested start time of the DCS capture.

### 3.1.5 The `dcx_valid_data_offset` plain tag

Name: `dcx_valid_data_offset`  
Type: integer  
Unit: bytes  
Range: 0-  
Example: 10  
Description: Specifies the byte position in the capture file of the first valid data.

### 3.1.6 The `dcx_satellite` plain tag

Name: `dcx_satellite`  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: ERS | JERS | RSAT | SPOT1 | SPOT2 | SPOT4 | TERRA1 | AQUA |  
LSAT7|ENVISAT1|UNKNOWN  
Example: TERRA1  
Description: Gives the satellite type as identified by DCS.

### 3.1.7 The `dcx_requested_stop` plain tag

Name: `dcx_requested_stop`  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmssstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 20031002211318725  
Description: Specifies the requested stop time of the DCS capture.

### 3.1.8 The `dcx_start` plain tag

Name: `dcx_start`  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmssstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 20031002211318725  
Description: Specifies the actual start time of the DCS capture.

### 3.1.9 The `dcx_stop` plain tag

Name: `dcx_stop`  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmssstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 20031002211318725  
Description: Specifies the actual stop time of the DCS capture.

### 3.1.10 The `dcx_stop_condition` plain tag

Name: `dcx_stop_condition`  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: stop\_request, lost\_clock, no\_clock, disk\_full, usr\_abort, dcs\_error, system\_reset, system\_shutdown  
Example: stop\_request  
Description: Specifies the reason for the conclusion of DCS capture.

### 3.1.11 The `dcx_bit_error_rate` plain tag

Name: `dcx_bit_error_rate`  
Type: floating point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 1.0]  
Example: 0.0  
Description: Specifies the overall BER (bit error rate) of the data as determined by the DCS.

### **3.1.12 The dcs\_bytes\_captured plain tag**

Name: dcs\_bytes\_captured  
Type: integer  
Unit: bytes  
Range: 0-  
Example: 410040790  
Description: Specifies the size of the capture file.

### **3.1.13 The data\_block information block**

The data\_block information block contains more detailed information about the blocks of recognized data in the capture. It is optional. Multiple data\_block instances may be present if a capture contains more than one recognized data type.

Name: data\_block  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Reports details about recognized data

The data\_block information block contains the following plain tags:

- block\_number - plain tag
- sync\_name - plain tag
- start\_byte - plain tag
- end\_byte - plain tag
- percent\_examined - plain tag
- percent\_recognized - plain tag
- ber - plain tag

These plain tags are described below.

#### **3.1.13.1 The block\_number plain tag**

Name: block\_number  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 1-  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies the sequential number of the data block

### **3.1.13.2 The sync\_name plain tag**

Name: sync\_name  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: ERS | JERS | RSAT | SPOTM | TERRA1 | AQUA  
Example: SPOTM  
Description: Specifies the sync type recognized in the data block by DCS

### **3.1.13.3 The start\_byte plain tag**

Name: start\_byte  
Type: integer  
Unit: byte  
Range: 0-  
Example: 10000  
Description: Specifies the byte offset from the start of capture where the sync type was first recognized

### **3.1.13.4 The end\_byte plain tag**

Name: end\_byte  
Type: integer  
Unit: byte  
Range: 0-  
Example: 20000  
Description: Specifies the byte offset from the start of capture where the sync type was last recognized

### **3.1.13.5 The percent\_examined plain tag**

Name: percent\_examined  
Type: floating point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 100.0]  
Example: 50.0  
Description: Specifies the percentage of the data between the start and end bytes which was examined for sync

### **3.1.13.6 The percent\_recognized plain tag**

Name: percent\_recognized  
Type: floating point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 100.0]

Example: 50.0  
Description: Specifies the percentage of the data examined where the sync type was recognized

### **3.1.13.7 The ber plain tag**

Name: ber  
Type: floating point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 1.0]  
Example: 0.0  
Description: Specifies the BER for the data block

### 3.2 The Synchronization Information Block

The Frame Synchronization part of the SyncPrep program will add one `ss_block` information block to the STF parameter file for each data block found.

Name: `ss_block`  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies sync detection information

The `ss_block` information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- `ss_version` - plain tag
- `ss_date` - plain tag
- `block_nr` - plain tag
- `sync_type` - plain tag
- `satellite` - plain tag
- `instrument` - plain tag
- `special_id` - plain tag
- `transmission mode` - plain tag
- `sync_pattern` - plain tag
- `frame_length` - plain tag
- `CCSDS_id` - plain tag
- `allowed_bit_errors` - plain tag
- `flywheel_constant` - plain tag
- `IQ_swap` - plain tag
- `invI` - plain tag
- `invQ` - plain tag
- `number_bytes` - plain tag
- `number_frames` - plain tag
- `bit_errors` - plain tag
- `bits_examined` - plain tag
- `bit_error_rate` - plain tag
- `valid_fraction` - plain tag
- `invalid_syncs` - plain tag
- `local_bit_error_rate` - information block (deprecated)

These plain tags and information blocks are described below.

### 3.2.1 The `ss_version` plain tag

Name: `ss_version`  
Type: `string`  
Unit: `N/A`  
Range: `N/A`  
Example: `5.1.0`  
Description: Specifies the SyncPrep software version number

### 3.2.2 The `ss_date` plain tag

Name: `ss_date`  
Type: `date/time string`  
Unit: `YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt`  
Range: `all valid date/time strings`  
Example: `20031002211318725`  
Description: Specifies the date/time that SyncPrep was run.

### 3.2.3 The `block_nr` plain tag

Name: `block_nr`  
Type: `integer`  
Unit: `N/A`  
Range: `N/A`  
Example: `0-`  
Description: Specifies the sequential number of the `ss_block`.

### 3.2.4 The `sync_type` plain tag

Name: `sync_type`  
Type: `string`  
Unit: `N/A`  
Range: `CCSDS | ERS | JERS | LSAT7 | SPOT | SPOTM`  
Example: `SPOTM`  
Description: Specifies the sync type detected by SyncPrep.

### 3.2.5 The `satellite` plain tag

Name: `satellite`  
Type: `string`  
Unit: `N/A`  
Range: `ERS1 | ERS2 | JERS1 | RSAT1 | SPOT1 | SPOT2 | SPOT4 | TERRA1 | AQUA | LSAT7|ENVISAT1|UNKNOWN`  
Example: `AQUA`  
Description: Specifies the satellite detected by SyncPrep.



### 3.2.6 The instrument plain tag

Name: instrument  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: SAR | OPT | unknown  
Example: SAR  
Description: Specifies the satellite instrument detected by SyncPrep.

### 3.2.7 The special\_id plain tag

Name: special\_id  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: None  
Description: Gives additional information about the satellite or instrument detected.

### 3.2.8 The transmission\_mode plain tag

Name: transmission\_mode  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: REALTIME | PLAYBACK | unknown  
Example: REALTIME  
Description: Specifies whether the data is real time or from OBR (On-Board Recorder).

### 3.2.9 The sync\_pattern plain tag

Name: sync\_pattern  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: 1acffc1d  
Description: Specifies the telemetry sync pattern used to identify the sync type.

### 3.2.10 The frame\_length plain tag

Name: frame\_length  
Type: integer  
Unit: bytes  
Range: 1-  
Example: 1024  
Description: Specifies the size in bytes of each output frame.

### **3.2.11 The CCSDS\_id plain tag**

Name: CCSDS\_id  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: 14  
Description: Specifies the CCSDS identifier for CCSDS satellites.

### **3.2.12 The allowed\_bit\_errors plain tag**

Name: allowed\_bit\_errors  
Type: integer  
Unit: bits  
Range: 0-  
Example: 2  
Description: Number of bad bits allowed in an identified sync code (same value as in the config.sync file.)

### **3.2.13 The flywheel\_constant plain tag**

Name: flywheel\_constant  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 1-  
Example: 29  
Description: Flywheel factor used during sync detection (same value as in the config.sync file.)

### **3.2.14 The IQ\_swap plain tag**

Name: IQ\_swap  
Type: flag  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 0 | 1  
Example: 0  
Description: Flag indicating that the I and Q channels are swapped.

### **3.2.15 The inv\_I plain tag**

Name: inv\_I  
Type: flag  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 0 | 1  
Example: 0

Description: Flag indicating that the I channel is inverted.

### **3.2.16 The inv\_Q plain tag**

Name: inv\_Q  
Type: flag  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 0 | 1  
Example: 0  
Description: Flag indicating that the Q channel is inverted.

### **3.2.17 The number\_bytes plain tag**

Name: number\_bytes  
Type: integer  
Unit: bytes  
Range: 0-  
Example: 208335000  
Description: Size of the data in this ss\_block in bytes.

### **3.2.18 The number\_frames plain tag**

Name: number\_frames  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 1-  
Example: 645000  
Description: Number of frames in this ss\_block, or 1 if unknown.

### **3.2.19 The bit\_errors plain tag**

Name: bit\_errors  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 0-  
Example: 231  
Description: Number of bit errors observed, or 0 if unknown.

### **3.2.20 The bits\_examined plain tag**

Name: bits\_examined  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 0-  
Example: 22113344

Description: Number of bits examined to determine the number of bit errors.

### **3.2.21 The bit\_error\_rate plain tag**

Name: bit\_error\_rate  
Type: floating point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 1.0]  
Example: 0.0  
Description: Specifies the BER for this block, or 1.0 if unknown.

### **3.2.22 The valid\_fraction plain tag**

Name: valid\_fraction  
Type: floating point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 1.0]  
Example: 0.999923  
Description: Specifies the valid fraction of the output data to the input data, or 0.0 if unknown.

### **3.2.23 The invalid\_syncs plain tag**

Name: invalid\_syncs  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 0-  
Example: 3  
Description: Specifies the number of bad syncs found.

### **3.2.24 The local\_bit\_error\_rate information block**

The local\_bit\_error\_rate information block is obsolete and should no longer be used.

### 3.3 The Preparation Information Block

The preparation part of the SyncPrep program will add one prep\_block information block to the STF parameter file.

Name: prep\_block  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies the data and satellite characteristics

The prep\_block information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- processor\_name - plain tag
- prep\_version - plain tag
- prep\_date - plain tag
- ss\_block - plain tag
- block\_nr - plain tag
- start\_byte - plain tag
- number\_bytes - plain tag
- number\_frames - plain tag
- number\_lines - plain tag
- satellite - plain tag
- instrument - plain tag
- beam\_sequence - plain tag
- number\_of\_beams - plain tag
- bit\_errors - plain tag
- bit\_error\_rate - plain tag
- missing\_lines - plain tag
- missing\_bytes\_added - plain tag
- zero\_data\_suppression - plain tag
- ber\_threshold - plain tag
- first\_satellite\_clock - plain tag
- last\_satellite\_clock - plain tag
- clock\_increment - plain tag
- first\_date - plain tag
- last\_date - plain tag
- tce.UTC - plain tag

- tce\_satellite - plain tag
- tce\_corr - plain tag
- tce\_step - plain tag
- estimated\_acq\_start - plain tag
- nominal\_look\_angle - plain tag
- number\_range\_samples - plain tag
- ADC\_sampling\_frequency - plain tag
- automatic\_gain\_control - plain tag
- state\_vector - information block
- ephemeris\_type - plain tag
- swath\_velocity - plain tag
- flight\_path\_direction - plain tag
- GHA - information block
- OrbitNr - plain tag
- OrbitNr\_Date - plain tag
- clock\_angle - plain tag
- local\_bit\_error\_rate - information block
- sensor - information block
- ellipsoid\_name - plain tag
- location - information block, multiple instances
- missing\_data\_blocks - plain tag
- missing\_data - information block, 0, 1, or multiple instances

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

### 3.3.1 The processor\_name plain tag

Name: processor\_name  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: SKY  
Description: Specifies the processor name.

### 3.3.2 The prep\_version plain tag

Name: prep\_version  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: 2.8  
Description: Specifies the version number of SyncPrep that created this data set.

### 3.3.3 The prep\_date plain tag

Name: prep\_date  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 19960610145924761  
Description: Specifies the system date/time when SyncPrep was executed.

### 3.3.4 The ss\_block plain tag

Name: ss\_block  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0,999]  
Example: 0  
Description: Specifies the ss\_block number that corresponds to this prep\_block.

### 3.3.5 The block\_nr plain tag

Name: block\_nr  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0,999]  
Example: 0  
Description: Specifies the prep\_block number of this prep\_block.

### 3.3.6 The start\_byte plain tag

Name: start\_byte  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0]  
Example: 0  
Description: Specifies the starting byte number of this prep\_block. This number is always 0 for LZP versions 2.6 and higher.

### 3.3.7 The number\_bytes plain tag

Name: number\_bytes  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 9999999999]  
Example: 3837573894  
Description: Specifies the file size of the data file that corresponds to this prep\_block.

### **3.3.8 The number\_frames plain tag**

Name: number\_frames  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0,999999999]  
Example: 457345743  
Description: Specifies the number of satellite telemetry frames that are contained in this prep\_block. The number of frames that make up one SAR line is satellite specific.

### **3.3.9 The number\_lines plain tag**

Name: number\_lines  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0,999999999]  
Example: 32874562  
Description: Specifies the number of SAR lines that are contained in this prep\_block.

### **3.3.10 The satellite plain tag**

Name: satellite  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: ERS1 | ERS2 | JERS1 | RSAT1 | SPOT1 | SPOT2 | SPOT4 | TERRA1 |  
AQUA|LSAT7|ENVISAT1  
Example: ERS1  
Description: Specifies the satellite that produced the data

### **3.3.11 The instrument plain tag**

Name: instrument  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [SAR | OPT | UNKNOWN]  
Example: SAR  
Description: Specifies the type of instrument that produced this data.

### **3.3.12 The beam\_sequence plain tag**

Name: beam\_sequence  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0,999]



Example: 7  
Description: Valid only with RSAT1 or ALOS PALSAR data. For RSAT1, this specifies the beam slot allocation number. For ALOS PALSAR, this specifies the sensor mode, beam type, and polarization and, for scansar mode, the number of beams, each beam type and polarization.  
For ERS1/2 and JERS1 this number is not relevant.

The beam\_sequence field will have the following values for Radarsat scansar:

- 08091007 SWA
- 08111007 SWA (for OBR data)
- 08090506 SWB
- 08110506 SWB (for OBR data)
- 0809 SNA
- 0811 SNA (for OBR data)
- 090506 SNB
- 110506 SNB (for OBR data)

### 3.3.13 The number\_of\_beams plain tag

Name: number\_of\_beams  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 5]  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies the number of beams used to produce this data.

### 3.3.14 The bit\_errors plain tag

Name: bit\_errors  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0,999999999]  
Example: 17  
Description: Specifies the number of bit errors found in the sync codes of the telemetry data.

### 3.3.15 The bit\_error\_rate plain tag

Name: bit\_error\_rate  
Type: floating point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 1.0]  
Example: 0.0

Description: Specifies the BER (bit error rate) of the data as calculated from the bit errors detected in the sync codes of the telemetry data.

### **3.3.16 The missing\_lines plain tag**

Name: missing\_lines  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0,999999999]  
Example: 0  
Description: Specifies the number of completely missing SAR lines in this prep\_block.

### **3.3.17 The missing\_bytes\_added plain tag**

Name: missing\_bytes\_added  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0,999999999]  
Example: 323  
Description: Specifies the number of bytes that were added to ensure complete lines in the granule data file.

### **3.3.18 The zero\_data\_suppression plain tag**

Name: zero\_data\_suppression  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: NONE | ALL  
Example: ALL  
Description: Specifies whether or not the zero-data suppression mode was activated in the creation of this granule.

### **3.3.19 The ber\_threshold plain tag**

Name: ber\_threshold  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 1.0]  
Example: 0.001  
Description: Specifies the BER threshold used to process this granule.

### **3.3.20 The first\_satellite\_clock plain tag**

Name: first\_satellite\_clock  
Type: floating point

Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 99999999999.9]  
Example: 243212422.0  
Description: Specifies the satellite clock that corresponds to the first imaging line in this prep\_block.

### **3.3.21 The last\_satellite\_clock plain tag**

Name: last\_satellite\_clock  
Type: floating point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 99999999999.9]  
Example: 243212422.0  
Description: Specifies the satellite clock that corresponds to the last imaging line in this prep\_block.

### **3.3.22 The clock\_increment plain tag**

Name: clock\_increment  
Type: floating point  
Unit: sec  
Range: [0.0, 1.0]  
Example: 1.0  
Description: Specifies the time interval for a satellite clock increment of 1.0.

### **3.3.23 The first\_date plain tag**

Name: first\_date  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 19960610145924761  
Description: Specifies the UTC date/time of the first imaging line in this prep\_block.

### **3.3.24 The last\_date plain tag**

Name: last\_date  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 19960610145924761  
Description: Specifies the UTC date/time of the last imaging line in this prep\_block.

### **3.3.25 The tce\_utc plain tag**

Name: tce\_utc  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 19960610145924761  
Description: Specifies the reference UTC date/time of the TCE (Time Correlation Element) that was used to convert the satellite clock to UTC.

### **3.3.26 The tce\_satellite plain tag**

Name: tce\_satellite  
Type: floating\_point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 999999999.9]  
Example: 452345235.0  
Description: Specifies the reference satellite clock of the TCE (Time Correlation Element) that was used to convert the satellite clock to UTC.

### **3.3.27 The tce\_corr plain tag**

Name: tce\_corr  
Type: floating point  
Unit: sec  
Range: [0.0, 999.9]  
Example: 0.0  
Description: Specifies the correction value of the TCE (Time Correlation Element) that was used to convert the satellite clock to UTC. This value is used for JERS1.

### **3.3.28 The tce\_step plain tag**

Name: tce\_step  
Type: floating point  
Unit: picosec  
Range: [0.0, 999999999.9]  
Example: 0.0  
Description: Specifies the clock step for TCE conversion in ENVISAT satellite.

### **3.3.29 The estimated\_acq\_start plain tag**

Name: estimated\_acq\_start  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings

Example: 19960610145924761  
Description: Specifies the estimated acquisition date as provided to the Level 0 Processor.

### **3.3.30 The nominal\_look\_angle plain tag**

Name: nominal\_look\_angle  
Type: floating point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [0.0, 90.0]  
Example: 23.5  
Description: Specifies the nominal look angle of the satellite. This value is provided for backwards compatibility. All new applications should use the value as provided in the sensor information block. This is SAR sensors only.

### **3.3.31 The number\_range\_samples plain tag**

Name: number\_range\_samples  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0,20000]  
Example: 6144  
Description: Specifies the number of pixels for the first SAR line. The actual value might vary along track.  
This value is provided for backwards compatibility. All new applications should use the value as provided in the sensor information block. This is SAR sensors only.

### **3.3.32 The ADC\_sampling\_frequency plain tag**

Name: ADC\_sampling\_frequency  
Type: floating\_point  
Unit: Hz  
Range: [10.0E6, 40.0E6]  
Example: 32317075.00000000  
Description: Specifies the sampling frequency of the SAR in “fast time”. This is the sampling frequency of the ADC used to convert the received radar signal.  
This value is provided for backwards compatibility. All new applications should use the value as provided in the sensor information block. This is SAR sensors only.

### **3.3.33 The automatic\_gain\_control plain tag**

Name: automatic\_gain\_control  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A

Range: ON | OFF  
Example: ON  
Description: Specifies whether or not the AGC was turned on or off. For satellites that do not have AGC the value is always OFF.

### **3.3.34 The state\_vector information block**

Name: state\_vector  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies a single state vector for this acquisition in the ECR (Earth Centered Rotating) coordinate frame. The state vector is given at the ascending node, i.e. the z position component is approximately 0, and the zv velocity component is positive. See the ephemeris information block for a detailed description of the state\_vector information block.

### **3.3.35 The ephemeris\_type plain tag**

Name: ephemeris\_type  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: UNKNOWN | NORAD | PREDICTED | RESTITUTED | PRECISION  
Example: RESTITUTED  
Description: Specifies the quality of the ephemeris data contained in this prep\_block.

### **3.3.36 The swath\_velocity plain tag**

Name: swath\_velocity  
Type: floating point  
Unit: m/sec  
Range: [5000.0, 8000.0]  
Example: 6123.45323  
Description: Specifies the swath velocity of the satellite nadir point as estimated from the state vector information.

### **3.3.37 The flight\_path\_direction plain tag**

Name: flight\_path\_direction  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: ASCENDING, DESCENDING  
Example: DESCENDING  
Description: Specifies the spacecraft flight direction.

### **3.3.38 The GHA information block**

The GHA information block is repeated inside the sensor information block. See the sensor information block chapter for a description of the GHA block.

### **3.3.39 The OrbitNr plain tag**

Name: OrbitNr  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 99999]  
Example: 2315  
Description: Specifies the orbit number at the first valid imaging line of this data.

### **3.3.40 The OrbitNr\_Date plain tag**

Name: OrbitNr\_Date  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 19960610145924761  
Description: Specifies the date and time that corresponds to the orbit number tag (OrbitNr).

### **3.3.41 The clock\_angle plain tag**

Name: clock\_angle  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: +90.0 | -90.0  
Example: 90.0  
Description: Specifies the look direction of the satellite

### **3.3.42 The local\_bit\_error\_rate information block**

The local\_bit\_error\_rate information block in the prep\_block contains information about the local bit error rate, estimated from the bit errors in the sync codes. The interval between BER measurements can be specified in the global processing parameter file.

Name: local\_bit\_error\_rate  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Reports the local bit error rate

The local\_bit\_error\_rate information block contains multiple instances of the following plain tag:

- ss\_bit\_error\_rate - plain tag

This plain tag is described below.

### **3.3.42.1 The ss\_bit\_error\_rate plain tag**

Name: ss\_bit\_error\_rate  
Type: (integer integer floating-point)  
Unit: N/A  
Range: ([0, 999999] [0, 999999999] [0.0, 1.0])  
Example: 10000 43224323 0.0023221  
Description: Specifies the local bit error rate as a triplet of numbers. The first number is the output line number, the second number is the output byte offset, the third number is the actual BER. The local BER measurement sums up all bit errors in the data block starting from the last measurement. The measurement is reported at the end of the measured block.



### 3.3.43 The sensor information block

Name: sensor  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies the satellite and sensor characteristics

The sensor information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- sensor\_name - plain tag
- instrument\_name - plain tag
- format\_name - plain tag
- mirror\_step - plain tag
- look\_angle - plain tag
- incidence\_angle - plain tag
- clock\_angle - plain tag
- nr\_temperatures - plain tag
- temperature\_0 .. \_3 - plain tag
- nr\_bands - plain tag
- band - information block, 0 or more instances
- nr\_beams - plain tag
- beam - information block, 1-5 instances
- ScanSARblock - information block, 0 or 1 instance
- ephemeris - information block, 1 instance

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

#### 3.3.43.1 The sensor\_name tag

Name: sensor\_name  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: ERS1 | ERS2 | JERS1 | RSAT1 | ALOS1 | SPOT1 | SPOT2 | SPOT4 | TERRA1 |  
AQUA | LSAT7|ENVISAT1  
Example: ERS1  
Description: Specifies the satellite that produced the data.

### 3.3.43.2 The instrument\_name tag

Name: instrument\_name  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: ERS1 | ERS2 | JERS1 | RSAT1 | ALOS1 | SPOT\_HRV1 | SPOT\_HRV2 |  
SPOT\_HRVIR1 | SPOT\_HRVIR2 | MODIS | LSAT7\_ETM+  
Example: ERS1  
Description: Specifies the instrument that produced the data.

### 3.3.43.3 The format\_name tag

Name: format\_name  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: SPOT\_PM | SPOT\_PM+X | SPOT\_XS | SPOT\_XS+P | SPOT\_XI | SPOT\_XI+M  
| LSAT7\_FMT1 | LSAT7\_FMT2 | DAY | NIGHT  
Example: SPOT\_XI  
Description: Specifies the instrument-specific format of the data.

### 3.3.43.4 The mirror\_step tag

Name: mirror\_step  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 0 - 20  
Example: 0  
Description: Specifies the position of the instrument mirror.

### 3.3.43.5 The look\_angle tag

Name: look\_angle  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [0, 90.0]  
Example: 38.63463200  
Description: Specifies the nominal look-angle of the beam.

### 3.3.43.6 The incidence\_angle tag

Name: incidence\_angle  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [0, 90.0]  
Example: 44.50000000

Description: Specifies the nominal incidence-angle of the beam, assuming flat terrain.

### **3.3.43.7 The Orbit Bulletin Information Block**

Name: orbit\_bulletin  
Type: Information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Describes spot4 orbit information. This block is only appearing for spot4 parameter file.

The orbit bulletin information block describes ephemeris and orbit information for spot4 satellite .

The orbit bulletin information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- julian\_days - plain tag
- semi\_major\_axis - plain tag
- eccentricity\_x - plain tag
- eccentricity\_y - plain tag
- inclination - plain tag
- right\_ascension - plain tag
- latitude\_argument - plain tag
- mean\_anomaly - plain tag
- argument\_perigree - plain tag
- p7 - plain tag
- p8 - plain tag
- p9 - plain tag
- p10 - plain tag

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

#### **3.3.43.7.1 The julian\_days plain tag**

Name: julian\_days  
Type: floating point  
Unit: days  
Range: 0.0-  
Example: 19093.948437  
Description: Specifies the orbit time as Julian days in the floating point

### **3.3.43.7.2**    *The semi\_major\_axis plain tag*

Name: semi\_major\_axis  
Type: floating point  
Unit: m  
Range: 0.0-  
Example: 7200597.510000  
Description: The semi major axis describes the size of the ellipse. Semi-major axis is one half the longest distance across the ellipse (or one half the distance between apogee and perigee) .

### **3.3.43.7.3**    *The eccentricity\_x plain tag*

Name: eccentricity\_x  
Type: floating point  
Unit: ratio with the original value  
Range: 0.0-  
Example: 5.26666667E-06  
Description: Specifies eccentricity in x axis. Eccentricity is shape of the ellipse. Eccentricity is computed as the linear eccentricity (the distance from the center of the ellipse to the center of the Earth) divided by the semi major axis. A zero eccentricity describes a circular orbit; an eccentricity approaching one describes a highly elliptical orbit.

### **3.3.43.7.4**    *The eccentricity\_y plain tag*

Name: eccentricity\_y  
Type: floating point  
Unit: ratio with the original value  
Range: 0.0-  
Example: 1.14696667E-03  
Description: Specifies eccentricity in y axis. Eccentricity is described in the above section.

### **3.3.43.7.5**    *The inclination plain tag*

Name: inclination  
Type: floating point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [0.0, 90.0]  
Example: 1.72317916E+00  
Description: Inclination describes the orbital plane's tilt angle with respect to the equator. Inclination also specifies the highest latitudes (North and South) over which the satellite directly overflies. A zero inclination describes an equatorial orbit; a 90 degree inclination describes a polar orbit. Inclinations greater than 90 degrees describe orbits that move against Earth rotation (called retrograde).

### **3.3.43.7.6**    *The right\_ascension plain tag*

Name: right\_ascension  
Type: floating point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [0.0, 90.0]  
Example: 3.07878905E+00  
Description: The right ascension of the ascending node is the angle measured eastward from the Vernal Equinox to the ascending node. The Vernal Equinox is the Sun's apparent ascending node (marking the beginning of the Northern hemisphere's spring).

#### **3.3.43.7.7 *The latitude\_argument plain tag***

Name: latitude\_argument  
Type: floating point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 0.0-  
Example: 1.30836978E+00  
Description: Latitude argument is the parameter to calculate argument of perigee.

#### **3.3.43.7.8 *The mean\_anomaly plain tag***

Name: mean\_anomaly  
Type: floating point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [-1.0E300, 1.0E300]  
Example: -2.57834757E-01  
Description: Mean anomaly describes what the satellite's true anomaly would be if it were in a circular orbit.

#### **3.3.43.7.9 *The argument\_perigee plain tag***

Name: latitude\_argument  
Type: floating point  
Unit: degree  
Range: [-90.0, 90.0]  
Example: 1.30836978E+00  
Description: Argument of perigee is the angle measured in the direction of satellite motion from the ascending node to perigee.

#### **3.3.43.7.10 *The p7 to p10 plain tag***

Name: p7, p8, p9, p10  
Type: floating point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [-1.0E300, 1.0E300]  
Example: 0.0  
Description: p7, p8, p9, and p10 parameters take into account the atmospheric drag force.

### 3.3.43.8 The clock\_angle tag

Name: clock\_angle  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: +90.0 | -90.0  
Example: 90.0  
Description: Specifies the look direction of the satellite.

### 3.3.43.9 The nr\_temperatures tag

Name: nr\_temperatures  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0,4]  
Example: 0  
Description: Specifies the number of temperature values extracted from the telemetry.  
For RSAT1, four temperature values may be extracted.  
For other satellites, no temperature value is extracted.

### 3.3.43.10 The temperature\_0 .. temperature\_3 tags

Name: temperature\_0 .. temperature\_3  
Type: float  
Unit: Kelvin  
Range: [0.0, 500.0]  
Example: 164.0  
Description: Specifies the extracted temperature value. Up to four occurrences for Radarsat 1.

### 3.3.43.11 The nr\_bands tag

Name: nr\_bands  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 0-36  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies the number of band blocks following.

### 3.3.43.12 The band Information Block

Name: band  
Type: Information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A

Description: Describes one band involved in the data production.

The band block describes all bands used for production of the data. Optical sensors may have from 1 to many bands of data.

The beam information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- band\_name - plain tag
- amp\_setting - plain tag

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

#### **3.3.43.12.1 The band\_name tag**

Name: band\_name  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: MODIS\_B1..MODIS\_B36, LSAT7, SPOT\_SWIR, SPOT\_B1..SPOT\_B3,  
SPOT\_PAN  
Example: MODIS\_B1  
Description: Specifies the name of this band.

#### **3.3.43.12.2 The amp\_setting tag**

Name: amp\_setting  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 0-  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies the amplifier setting for this band.

#### **3.3.43.13 The nr\_beams tag**

Name: nr\_beams  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1,5]  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies the number of beam blocks following.

#### **3.3.43.14 The beam Information Block**

Name: beam  
Type: Information block  
Unit: N/A

Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Describes one beam involved in the data production.

The beam block describes all beams used for production of the data. For RSAT1/ScanSAR mode, there are up to four beams involved in the data production. For ALOS1/ScanSAR mode, there are up to five beams involved. For all strip mode cases, exactly one beam is engaged.

The beam information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- beam\_name - plain tag
- nr\_of\_samples - plain tag
- echo\_delay - plain tag
- carrier\_freq - plain tag
- sampling\_freq - plain tag
- PRF - plain tag
- chirp\_rate - plain tag
- pulse\_length - plain tag
- look\_angle - plain tag
- incidence\_angle - plain tag
- range\_spectrum\_snr - plain tag
- replica\_energy\_ref\_level - plain tag
- cal1\_cal2\_diff\_ref\_level - plain tag
- thermal\_noise\_ref\_level - plain tag
- gain\_corctn\_factor - plain tag
- gain\_scale - plain tag
- PolarizationBlock - information block, 1 instance
- DopplerCentroidParameters - information block, 1 instance
- DopplerRateParameters - information block, 1 instance

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

#### **3.3.43.14.1 The beam\_name tag**

Name: beam\_name  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: ERS1 | ERS2 | JERS1 | S1..S7 | W1..W3 | F1..F5 | EL1 | EH1..EH7  
Example: W2  
Description: Specifies the name of this beam.  
For RSAT1, this is the beam name as converted using the telemetry auxiliary



information, and the appropriate payload parameter file.  
For ERS1/2 and JERS1, the sensor\_name is used for the beam name.

#### **3.3.43.14.2 The nr\_of\_samples tag**

Name: nr\_of\_samples  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [4000,10000]  
Example: 6144  
Description: Specifies the number of range samples detected at the beginning of this dataset. This number might vary in the along track direction.

#### **3.3.43.14.3 The echo\_delay tag**

Name: echo\_delay  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: sec  
Range: [0.001, 0.01]  
Example: 0.00703825512000  
Description: Specifies the one-way time of the radar pulse from the transmission to the start of the analog-to-digital conversion. This time includes the sampling window start time (SWST) as derived from the satellite telemetry data, and the “number of pulses in the air”.

#### **3.3.43.14.4 The carrier\_freq tag**

Name: carrier\_freq  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: Hz  
Range: [1.0E9, 6.0E9]  
Example: 5300432000.00000000  
Description: Specifies the carrier frequency of the SAR.

#### **3.3.43.14.5 The sampling\_freq tag**

Name: sampling\_freq  
Type: floating\_point  
Unit: Hz  
Range: [10.0E6, 40.0E6]  
Example: 32317075.00000000  
Description: Specifies the sampling frequency of the SAR in “fast time”. This is the sampling frequency of the ADC used to convert the received radar signal.

#### **3.3.43.14.6 The PRF tag**

Name: PRF

Type: floating-point  
Unit: Hz  
Range: [1000.0, 2000.0]  
Example: 1318.52871709  
Description: Specifies the sampling frequency of the SAR in “slow time”. This is the frequency of the emitted SAR pulses. PRF stands for Pulse Repetition Frequency.

#### ***3.3.43.14.7 The chirp\_rate tag***

Name: chirp\_rate  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: Hz/sec  
Range: [-1.0E12, 1.0E12]  
Example: -721404761904.76196000  
Description: Specifies the rate of the frequency change of the SAR FM signal (chirp).

#### ***3.3.43.14.8 The pulse\_length tag***

Name: pulse\_length  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: sec  
Range: [0, 100E-6]  
Example: 0.00004200000000  
Description: Specifies the length of the SAR FM signal (chirp).

#### ***3.3.43.14.9 The look\_angle tag***

Name: look\_angle  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [0, 90.0]  
Example: 38.63463200  
Description: Specifies the nominal look-angle of the beam.

#### ***3.3.43.14.10 The incidence\_angle tag***

Name: incidence\_angle  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [0, 90.0]  
Example: 44.50000000  
Description: Specifies the nominal incidence-angle of the beam, assuming flat terrain.

#### ***3.3.43.14.11 The range\_spectrum\_snr tag***

Name: range\_spectrum\_snr

Type: floating-point  
Unit: dB  
Range: [0.0, 20.0]  
Example: 0.000000  
Description: Specifies the Signal-to-Noise ratio (SNR) determined from the range spectrum of the radar signal.  
This is not evaluated inside the Level 0 Processor, unless the Clutterlock option is activated. The value will normally be 0.0 therefore.

#### ***3.3.43.14.12 The replica\_energy\_ref\_level tag***

Name: replica\_energy\_ref\_level  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 100.0]  
Example: 65.000000  
Description: Specifies the replica energy reference level of the beam. This value has been extracted from the appropriate payload parameter file. For ERS1/2 and JERS1, this value is normally 1.0.

#### ***3.3.43.14.13 The cal1\_cal2\_diff\_ref\_level tag***

Name: cal1\_cal2\_diff\_ref\_level  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0,100.0]  
Example: 0.00000  
Description: Specifies a RSAT1 specific calibration level. This value has been extracted from the appropriate payload parameter file.

#### ***3.3.43.14.14 The thermal\_noise\_ref\_level tag***

Name: thermal\_noise\_ref\_level  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: dB  
Range: [-30.0, 0.0]  
Example: -21.370001  
Description: Specifies the thermal noise reference level. This value has been extracted from the appropriate payload parameter file.

#### ***3.3.43.14.15 The gain\_corctn\_factor tag***

Name: gain\_corctn\_factor  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 1]  
Example: 0.095148

Description: Specifies the gain correction factor used for radiometric calibration of the SAR image. This value has been extracted from the appropriate payload parameter file.

#### ***3.3.43.14.16 The gain\_scale tag***

Name: gain\_scale  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: dB  
Range: [-40.0, 40.0]  
Example: -11.800000  
Description: Specifies the overall gain factor necessary for radiometric calibration of Vexcels SAR Processor (FOCUS).

#### ***3.3.43.14.17 The PolarizationBlock information block***

Name: PolarizationBlock  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies the polarization of the SAR.

The PolarizationBlock information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- NrPolarizations - plain tag
- Polarization - information block, multiple instances

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

##### ***3.3.43.14.17.1 The NrPolarizations plain tag***

Name: NrPolarizations  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 1 | 2 | 4  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies how many different polarizations are present for this beam. For single polarization, this number is 1. For dual polarization, the number is 2. For quad polarization, the number is 4.

##### ***3.3.43.14.17.2 The Polarization information block***

Name: Polarization  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A

Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies one of the polarizations of the SAR.

The Polarization information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- polarization - plain tag
- polarization\_amplitude - plain tag
- polarization\_phase - plain tag
- IQStatistics - information block, multiple instances

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

#### 3.3.43.14.17.2.1 The polarization plain tag

Name: polarization  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: HH | HV | VH | VV  
Example: HH  
Description: Specifies the polarization type of this polarization mode.

#### 3.3.43.14.17.2.2 The polarization\_amplitude plain tag

Name: polarization\_amplitude  
Type: floating point  
Unit: linear units  
Range: [0.0, 99.9]  
Example: 1.0  
Description: The respective gain setting from the payload parameter file.

#### 3.3.43.14.17.2.3 The polarization\_phase plain tag

Name: polarization\_phase  
Type: floating point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [-360.0, 360.0]  
Example: 0.0  
Description: The respective phase setting from the payload parameter file.

#### 3.3.43.14.17.2.4 The IQStatistics information block

Name: IQStatistics  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Describes the I/Q statistics of the data with this polarization.

The IQStatistics information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- I\_mean - plain tag
- Q\_mean - plain tag
- I\_std - plain tag
- Q\_std - plain tag
- IQ\_corr - plain tag

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

*3.3.43.14.17.2.4.1 The I\_mean plain tag*

Name: I\_mean  
Type: floating point  
Unit: Volt  
Range: [-10.0, 10.0]  
Example: 0.0342  
Description: The mean value of the I channel for this polarization.

*3.3.43.14.17.2.4.2 The Q\_mean plain tag*

Name: Q\_mean  
Type: floating point  
Unit: Volt  
Range: [-10.0, 10.0]  
Example: 0.0342  
Description: The mean value of the Q channel for this polarization.

*3.3.43.14.17.2.4.3 The I\_std plain tag*

Name: I\_std  
Type: floating point  
Unit: Volt  
Range: [0.0, 10.0]  
Example: 3.004  
Description: The standard deviation of the I channel for this polarization.

*3.3.43.14.17.2.4.4 The Q\_std plain tag*

Name: Q\_std  
Type: floating point  
Unit: Volt  
Range: [0.0, 10.0]  
Example: 3.004  
Description: The standard deviation of the Q channel for this polarization.

#### 3.3.43.14.17.2.4.5 *The IQ\_corr plain tag*

Name: IQ\_corr  
Type: floating point  
Unit: none  
Range: [0.0, 1.0]  
Example: 0.023  
Description: The statistical correlation between the I and Q channel of this polarization. For exact 90 degree phase difference between the I and Q channel, this number would be 0.

#### 3.3.43.14.18 *The DopplerCentroidParameters information block*

Name: DopplerCentroidParameters  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies the Doppler centroid characteristic of the data. The information contained is only valid if clutterlock was performed successfully.

The DopplerCentroidParameters information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- doppler\_centroid\_coefficients - information block, 1 instance
- reference\_range - plain tag
- reference\_date - plain tag
- ambiguity\_number - plain tag
- MLCC\_ambiguity\_number\_occurence - plain tag
- MLBF\_ambiguity\_number\_occurence - plain tag
- DAR\_doppler - plain tag
- Predict\_doppler - plain tag
- DAR\_confidence - plain tag
- doppler\_fit\_correlation - plain tag
- doppler\_status - plain tag

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

#### 3.3.43.14.18.1 **The doppler\_centroid\_coefficients information block**

Name: doppler\_centroid\_coefficients  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A

Description: Specifies the 2-dimensional polynomial that characterizes the along track/cross track Doppler centroid characteristic of the data.

The doppler\_centroid\_coefficients information block contains the following plain tags:

- reference\_first\_dimension - plain tag
- reference\_second\_dimension - plain tag
- number\_of\_coefficients\_first\_dimension - plain tag
- number\_of\_coefficients\_second\_dimension - plain tag
- a00..a23 - plain tags

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

#### 3.3.43.14.18.1.1 The reference\_first\_dimension tag

Name: reference\_first\_dimension  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: m  
Range: [600.0E3, 1200.0E3]  
Example: 714531.770058  
Description: Specifies the reference value of the 2-dimensional Doppler centroid polynomial in cross track direction. The reference value is the slant range at the center of the swath in cross track direction.

#### 3.3.43.14.18.1.2 The reference\_second\_dimension tag

Name: reference\_second\_dimension  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: sec  
Range: [1.0E9, 3.0E9]  
Example: 1465570764.760753  
Description: Specifies the reference value of the 2-dimensional Doppler centroid polynomial in along track direction. The reference value is the Modified Julian Day (MJD, ESA variety) at the center of the swath in along track direction, in seconds, i.e. the MJD multiplied by 86400. Note that the MJD is not an integer, i.e. it also takes into account fractions of the day. The ESA MJD starts at 0:0 on 1 January 1950.

#### 3.3.43.14.18.1.3 The number\_of\_coefficients\_first\_dimension tag

Name: number\_of\_coefficients\_first\_dimension  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 4]  
Example: 4  
Description: Specifies the number of coefficients of the 2-d polynomial in the first dimension, which is the cross track direction.



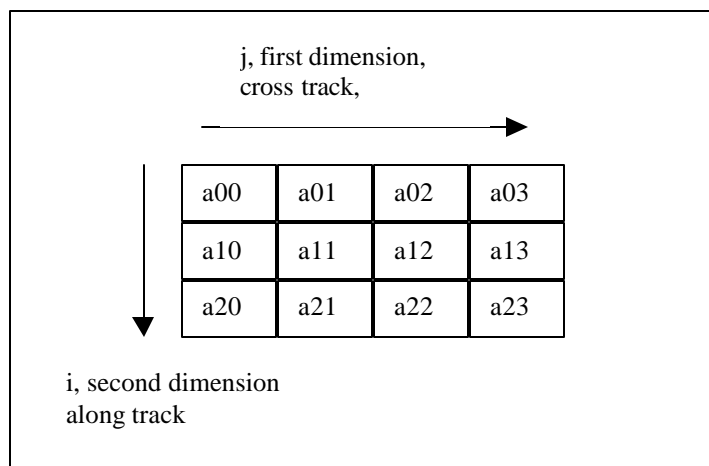
3.3.43.14.18.1.4 The number\_of\_coefficients\_second\_dimension tag

Name: number\_of\_coefficients\_second\_dimension  
 Type: integer  
 Unit: N/A  
 Range: [1, 3]  
 Example: 3  
 Description: Specifies the number of coefficients of the 2-d polynomial in the second dimension, which is the along track direction.

3.3.43.14.18.1.5 The a00 to a23 tags

Name: a00 .. a23  
 Type: floating-point  
 Unit: N/A  
 Range: [-1.0E300, 1.0E300]  
 Example: -1.97384e-19  
 Description:  $a_{ij}$  (e.g.  $a_{21}$ ), specifies the (i,j)-th coefficient of the A matrix, which is the 2-d polynomial characterizing the Doppler centroid characteristics of the data.

The 2-d polynomial can be considered a (n,m) matrix:



**Figure 3-1: A Matrix, 2-d Doppler Centroid Polynomial**

The following equation (1.0) can be used to calculate the Doppler centroid frequency  $f_d$  at any point along track (t) and cross track (R) in the data:

$$f_d = \sum_{i=0}^2 \sum_{j=0}^3 a_{ij} \cdot (t - t_0)^i \cdot (R - R_0)^j \quad (1.0)$$

where

- $f_d$ .....Doppler centroid frequency in Hz
- t.....along track variable in Modified Julian Seconds

- R.....across track variable (slant range) in meters
- $t_0$ .....the second dimension reference value
- $R_0$ .....the first dimension reference value
- $a_{ij}$ .....the (i,j)-th coefficient of the A matrix

#### **3.3.43.14.18.2 The reference\_range tag**

Name: reference\_range  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: m  
Range: [600.0E3, 1200.0E3]  
Example: 714531.770058  
Description: Specifies the reference value of the 2-dimensional polynomial in cross track direction. This information is repeated inside of the doppler\_centroid\_coefficients block.

#### **3.3.43.14.18.3 The reference\_date tag**

Name: reference\_date  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 19960610145924761  
Description: Specifies the reference value of the 2-dimensional polynomial in along track direction. This information is repeated inside of the doppler\_centroid\_coefficients block in a different representation.

#### **3.3.43.14.18.4 The ambiguity\_number tag**

Name: ambiguity\_number  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [-20.0, 20.0]  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies the Doppler ambiguity number at the center of the swath in both along track and cross track direction. Note that the ambiguity number might change along track. To determine the ambiguity number at any point along track, the 2-d polynomial should be evaluated.

#### **3.3.43.14.18.5 The MLCC\_ambiguity\_number\_occurrence tag**

Name: MLCC\_ambiguity\_number\_occurrence  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 1000]  
Example: 6  
Description: Specifies the number of occurrences where the MLCC technique calculated the ambiguity number that was assumed to be correct by the overall Doppler ambiguity resolver (AR).

**3.3.43.14.18.6 The MLBF\_ambiguity\_number\_occurence tag**

Name: MLBF\_ambiguity\_number\_occurence  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 1000]  
Example: 4  
Description: Specifies the number of occurrences where the MLBF technique calculated the ambiguity number that was assumed to be correct by the overall Doppler ambiguity resolver (AR).

**3.3.43.14.18.7 The DAR\_doppler tag**

Name: DAR\_doppler  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: Hz  
Range: [-20000.0, 20000.0]  
Example: 2230.801232  
Description: Specifies the Doppler centroid frequency at the center of the swath in along track and cross track direction.

**3.3.43.14.18.8 The Predict\_doppler tag**

Name: Predict\_doppler  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: Hz  
Range: [-20000.0, 20000.0]  
Example: 2230.801232  
Description: Doppler predicted from ephemeris and viewing geometry information.

**3.3.43.14.18.9 The DAR\_confidence tag**

Name: DAR\_confidence  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 1.0]  
Example: 0.833333  
Description: Specifies the confidence level of the Doppler Ambiguity Resolver (DAR) algorithm. The higher the value, the higher is the confidence in the correctness of the estimated Doppler ambiguity number and thus in the value of the 2-d polynomial as far as the ambiguity number is concerned.

**3.3.43.14.18.10 The doppler\_fit\_correlation tag**

Name: doppler\_fit\_correlation  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0,1.0]  
Example: 0.984627

Description: Specifies the goodness of the fit of the 2-dimensional polynomial to the measured values. Higher number means closer fit.

#### **3.3.43.14.18.11 The doppler\_status tag**

Name: doppler\_status  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: SUCCESS | FAILURE | NOT PERFORMED  
Example: SUCCESS  
Description: Specifies the status of the Clutterlock processing.  
SUCCESS means that clutterlock was performed and that a 2-d polynomial could be calculated.  
FAILURE means that clutterlock was performed, but problems with the available data or meta-data caused a failure in the calculation process.  
NOT PERFORMED means that clutterlock was not activated.

#### **3.3.43.14.19 The DopplerRateParameters information block**

Name: DopplerRateParameters  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies the Doppler rate characteristic of the data. The information contained is only valid if autofocus was performed successfully. Inside of Vexcels Level 0 Processor, autofocus is performed automatically whenever clutterlock is performed.

The DopplerRateParameters information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- effective\_velocity\_coefficients - information block
- veff - plain tag
- reference\_range - plain tag
- reference\_date - plain tag
- autofocus\_scale\_factor - plain tag
- autofocus\_snr - plain tag
- autofocus\_suggested\_ambiguity\_number - plain tag
- autofocus\_status - plain tag

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

#### **3.3.43.14.19.1 The effective\_velocity\_coefficients information block**

Name: effective\_velocity\_coefficients

Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N?A  
Description: Specifies the result of the autofocus process.

The effective\_velocity\_coefficients information block contains the following plain tags:

- reference\_first\_dimension - information block
- reference\_second\_dimension - plain tag
- number\_of\_coefficients\_first\_dimension - plain tag
- number\_of\_coefficients\_second\_dimension - plain tag
- a00 .. a11 - plain tags

These plain tags are described in the following.

#### 3.3.43.14.19.1.1 The reference\_first\_dimension tag

Name: reference\_first\_dimension  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: m  
Range: [600.0E3, 1200.0E3]  
Example: 714531.770058  
Description: Specifies the reference value of the 2-dimensional effective velocity polynomial in cross track direction. The reference value is the slant range at the center of the swath in cross track direction.

#### 3.3.43.14.19.1.2 The reference\_second\_dimension tag

Name: reference\_second\_dimension  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: sec  
Range: [1.0E9, 3.0E9]  
Example: 1465570764.760753  
Description: Specifies the reference value of the 2-dimensional effective velocity polynomial in along track direction. The reference value is the Modified Julian Day (MJD, ESA variety) at the center of the swath in along track direction, in seconds, i.e. the MJD multiplied by 86400. Note that the MJD is not an integer, i.e. it also takes into account fractions of the day. The ESA MJD starts at 0:0 on 1 January 1950.

#### 3.3.43.14.19.1.3 The number\_of\_coefficients\_first\_dimension tag

Name: number\_of\_coefficients\_first\_dimension  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 2]

Example: 2  
 Description: Specifies the number of coefficients of the 2-d effective velocity polynomial in the first dimension, which is the cross track direction.

3.3.43.14.19.1.4 The number\_of\_coefficients\_second\_dimension tag

Name: number\_of\_coefficients\_second\_dimension  
 Type: integer  
 Unit: N/A  
 Range: [1, 2]  
 Example: 2  
 Description: Specifies the number of coefficients of the 2-d effective velocity polynomial in the second dimension, which is the along track direction.

3.3.43.14.19.1.5 The a00 to a11 tags

Name: a11 .. a11  
 Type: floating-point  
 Unit: N/A  
 Range: [-1.0E300, 1.0E300]  
 Example: -1.97384e-19  
 Description: aij (e.g. a01), specifies the (i,j)-th coefficient of the A matrix, which is the 2-d polynomial characterizing the effective velocity characteristics of the data.

The 2-d polynomial can be considered a (n,m) matrix:

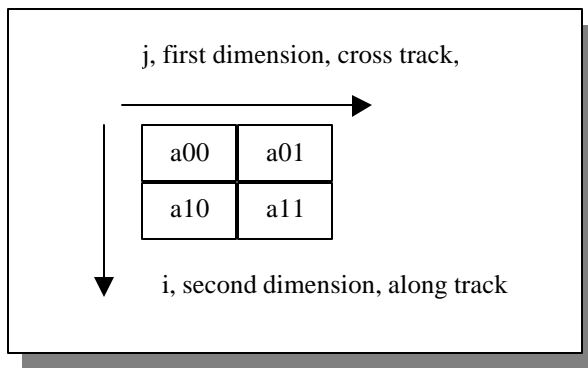


Figure 3-2: A Matrix, 2-d Effective Velocity Polynomial

The following equation (2.0) can be used to calculate the effective velocity  $v_{eff}$  at any point along track (t) and cross track (R) in the data:

$$v_{eff} = \sum_{i=0}^1 \sum_{j=0}^1 a_{ij} \cdot (t - t_0)^i \cdot (R - R_0)^j \quad (2.0)$$

where

- $v_{eff}$ .....effective velocity in m/sec
- t.....along track variable in Modified Julian Seconds

- R.....across track variable (slant range) in meters
- $t_0$ .....the second dimension reference value
- $R_0$ .....the first dimension reference value
- $a_{ij}$ .....the (i,j)-th coefficient of the A matrix

#### 3.3.43.14.19.2 The veff tag

Name: veff  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: m/sec  
Range: [6000.0, 8000.0]  
Example: 7326.589083  
Description: Specifies the Doppler rate parameter, represented as the so-called *effective velocity*.

#### 3.3.43.14.19.3 The reference\_range tag

Name: reference\_range  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: m  
Range: [600.0E3, 1200.0E3]  
Example: 717156.446356  
Description: Specifies the reference value for the autofocus 2-d polynomial in the first dimension, that is the cross track direction. The reference value is the slant range at the center of the swath. This information is repeated in the effective\_velocity\_coefficients information block.

#### 3.3.43.14.19.4 The reference\_date tag

Name: reference\_date  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmssstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 19960610145917512  
Description: Specifies the reference value for the autofocus 2-d polynomial in the second dimension, that is the along track direction. This information is also contained in the effective\_velocity\_coefficients information block in a different representation.

#### 3.3.43.14.19.5 The autofocus\_scale\_factor tag

Name: autofocus\_scale\_factor  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: none  
Range: [0.9, 1.1]  
Example: 1.000163  
Description: Specifies the result of the autofocus calculation as a scaling factor for scaling the effective velocity as calculated by the state vector information. This value is 1.0 if autofocus did not succeed.

#### **3.3.43.14.19.6 The autofocus\_snr tag**

Name: autofocus\_snr  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: none  
Range: [0.0, 1000.0]  
Example: 21.710197  
Description: Specifies the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) of the autofocus correlation algorithm. Higher values mean more radar signal energy compared to noise energy, which is generally better for the autofocus calculation. Note that this value is NOT in dB.

#### **3.3.43.14.19.7 The autofocus\_suggested\_ambiguity\_number tag**

Name: autofocus\_suggested\_ambiguity\_number  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [-20, 20]  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies the Doppler ambiguity number as suggested by the autofocus algorithm. For the Vexcel Level 0 Processor, the ambiguity number suggestion of autofocus is automatically taken into account if the autofocus SNR was above a certain threshold.

#### **3.3.43.14.19.8 The autofocus\_status tag**

Name: autofocus\_status  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [SUCCESS | NOT PERFORMED | FAILURE: <failure\_indication>]  
Example: SUCCESS  
Description: Specifies the outcome of the autofocus process.  
SUCCESS means that autofocus was performed and succeeded.  
NOT PERFORMED means autofocus was not performed.  
FAILURE: <failure\_indication> means that autofocus was performed, but failed due to problems with the data. The failure\_indication can be one of the following strings:  
Incorrect Doppler Ambiguity  
Low contrast/high snr threshold  
Incorrect doppler ambiguity / Low contrast in data



### **3.3.43.15 The ScanSARBlock block**

Name: ScanSARBlock  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies ScanSAR information, if applicable.

The ScanSARBlock information block contains the following plain tags:

- number\_of\_bursts - plain tag
- scan\_mode - plain tag

These plain tags are described below.

#### **3.3.43.15.1 The number\_of\_bursts plain tag**

Name: number\_of\_bursts  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 99999]  
Example: 2315  
Description: Specifies the number of burst sequences in the data set.

#### **3.3.43.15.2 The scan\_mode plain tag**

Name: scan\_mode  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: All valid scansar mode names  
Example: SWB  
Description: Specifies the scansar beam mode.

### **3.3.43.16 The ephemeris information block**

Name: ephemeris  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies the ephemeris used for processing the data.

The ephemeris information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- sv\_block - information block
- Attitude - information block
- OrbitNr - plain tag
- OrbitNr\_Date - plain tag
- GHA - information block
- Type - plain tag

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

#### **3.3.43.16.1 The sv\_block information block**

Name: sv\_block  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies the state vectors used for processing the data.

The sv\_block information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- NrSV - plain tag
- state\_vector - information block (multiple instances)

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

##### **3.3.43.16.1.1 The NrSV tag**

Name: NrSV  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 28]  
Example: 15  
Description: Specifies the number of following state\_vector information blocks.

##### **3.3.43.16.1.2 The state\_vector information block**

Name: state\_vector  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A

Description: Specifies one state vector in the Earth Centered Rotating (ECR) coordinate frame. This frame is also called the “Earth fixed” coordinate system. This coordinate system rotates with the Earth. The x axis points to the 0 degree meridian (Greenwich). The z axis points to the north pole. The y axis completes the right-handed coordinate system.

The state\_vector information block contains the following plain tags:

- x - plain tag
- y - plain tag
- z - plain tag
- xv - plain tag
- yv - plain tag
- zv - plain tag
- Date - plain tag

These plain tags are described in the following.

#### 3.3.43.16.1.2.1 The x, y, z plain tags

Name: x, y, or z  
Type: floating point  
Unit: m  
Range: [-10.0E6, 10.0E6]  
Example: 7000193.365648  
Description: Specifies the x, y, or z position of this state vector.

#### 3.3.43.16.1.2.2 The xv, yv, zv plain tags

Name: xv, yv, or zv  
Type: floating point  
Unit: m/sec  
Range: [-10.0E3, 10.0E3]  
Example: 7372.813980  
Description: Specifies the x, y, or z velocity of this state vector.

#### 3.3.43.16.1.2.3 The Date plain tag

Name: Date  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmssstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 19960610145924761  
Description: Specifies the date and time of this state vector.

### **3.3.43.16.2 *The Attitude information block***

Name: Attitude  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies the Attitude of the satellite.

The Attitude information block contains the following plain tags:

- yaw - plain tag
- roll - plain tag
- pitch - plain tag
- Date - plain tag
- yawpoly - information block
- rollpoly - information block
- pitchpoly - information block
- att - information block

These plain tags are described in the following.

#### **3.3.43.16.2.1 The yaw plain tag**

Name: yaw  
Type: floating point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [-1.0, 1.0]  
Example: -0.003978  
Description: Specifies one yaw angle instance of the spacecraft.

#### **3.3.43.16.2.2 The roll plain tag**

Name: roll  
Type: floating point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [-1.0, 1.0]  
Example: -0.012546  
Description: Specifies one roll angle instance of the spacecraft.

#### **3.3.43.16.2.3 The pitch plain tag**

Name: pitch  
Type: floating point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [-1.0, 1.0]  
Example: 0.019890  
Description: Specifies one pitch angle instance of the spacecraft.

#### 3.3.43.16.2.4 The Date plain tag

Name: Date  
Type: string  
Unit: UTC date/time  
Range: all valid UTC strings  
Example: 20011211123456789  
Description: Specifies the date of the above yaw/roll/pitch values.

#### 3.3.43.16.2.5 The att information block

Name: att  
Type: information blocks  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Gives a block representation for yaw, roll and pitch. This block is used alternatively with yawpoly, rollpoly, and pitchpoly representation. If one representation is used, the other is not being appearing in the STF parameter block.

The att information blocks contains the following plain tags:

- date - plain tag
- pitch - plain tag
- roll - plain tag
- yaw - plain tag

#### 3.3.43.16.2.5.1 The date plain tag

Name: Date  
Type: string  
Unit: UTC date/time  
Range: all valid UTC strings  
Example: 20011211123456789  
Description: Specifies the date of the above yaw/roll/pitch values.

#### 3.3.43.16.2.5.2 The pitch plain tag

Name: pitch  
Type: floating point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [-1.0, 1.0]  
Example: 0.019890  
Description: Specifies one pitch angle instance of the spacecraft.

#### 3.3.43.16.2.5.3 The roll plain tag

Name: roll

Type: floating point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [-1.0, 1.0]  
Example: -0.012546  
Description: Specifies one roll angle instance of the spacecraft.

#### 3.3.43.16.2.5.4 The yaw plain tag

Name: yaw  
Type: floating point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [-1.0, 1.0]  
Example: -0.003978  
Description: Specifies one yaw angle instance of the spacecraft.

#### **3.3.43.16.2.6 The yawpoly, rollpoly, pitchpoly information blocks**

Name: yawpoly, rollpoly, pitchpoly  
Type: information blocks  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Gives a polynomial representation for yaw, roll and pitch. All three information blocks have the same internal representation.

The yawpoly, rollpoly and pitchpoly information blocks contains the following plain tags:

- reference - plain tag
- number\_of\_coefficients - plain tag
- a0, a1, a2, a3 - plain tags

These plain tags are described in the following.

#### 3.3.43.16.2.6.1 The reference plain tag

Name: reference  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: sec  
Range: [1.0E9, 3.0E9]  
Example: 1465570764.760753  
Description: Specifies the reference value of the yaw/roll/pitch polynomial in along track direction. The reference value is the Modified Julian Day (MJD, ESA variety) at the center of the swath in along track direction, in seconds, i.e. the MJD multiplied by 86400. Note that the MJD is not an integer, i.e. it also takes into account fractions of the day. The ESA MJD starts at 0:0 on 1 January 1950.

#### 3.3.43.16.2.6.2 The number\_of\_coefficients plain tag

Name: number\_of\_coefficients  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 4]  
Example: 4  
Description: Specifies the number of coefficients of the yaw/roll/pitch polynomial.

#### 3.3.43.16.2.6.3 The a0, a1, a2, a4 plain tags

Name: a0, a1, a2, a3  
Type: floating-point  
Unit: deg, deg/sec, deg/sec<sup>2</sup>, deg/sec<sup>3</sup>  
Range: [-1.0, 1.0]  
Example:  
Description: Specifies the yaw/roll/pitch angle polynomial coefficients.

#### 3.3.43.16.3 *The OrbitNr plain tag*

Name: OrbitNr  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 99999]  
Example: 2315  
Description: Specifies the orbit number as extracted from the ephemeris file.

#### 3.3.43.16.4 *The OrbitNr\_Date plain tag*

Name: OrbitNr\_Date  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmssstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 19960610145924761  
Description: Specifies the date and time that corresponds with the orbit number tag (OrbitNr).

#### 3.3.43.16.5 *The GHA information block*

Name: GHA  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies the Greenwich Hour Angle as extracted from the ephemeris file, or as calculated inside of the Level 0 Processor (approximation). It is normally given at the date of the first state vector. The information is provided as a (angle, date/time) pair.

The GHA information block contains the following plain tags:

- angle - plain tag
- date - plain tag

These plain tags are described in the following

#### **3.3.43.16.5.1 The angle plain tag**

Name: angle  
Type: floating point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [0.0, 360.0]  
Example: 353.260051  
Description: Specifies the Greenwich Hour Angle at the given date/time.

#### **3.3.43.16.5.2 The date plain tag**

Name: date  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 19981201185121213  
Description: Specifies the date that corresponds with the GHA angle tag.

#### **3.3.43.16.6 The Type plain tag**

Name: Type  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: UNKNOWN | NORAD | PREDICTED | RESTITUTED | PRECISION  
Example: RESTITUTED  
Description: Specifies the quality of the ephemeris data contained in the ephemeris block.

#### **3.3.44 The ellipsoid\_name plain tag**

Name: ellipsoid\_name  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: GEM6  
Description: The name of the ellipsoid in the earth model (Datum) used to process this data.

#### **3.3.45 The location information block**

For each 25000 number of SAR lines (a configurable number) and whenever the SWST changes, SyncPrep will add an information block called "location" at the end of the prep\_block. The location will be the estimated lat/lon of the first and last pixel in this



line. The estimation is based on the state vector, nominal look angle, SWST, GHA, and Doppler centroid reported in the prep\_block. In addition, the UTC time, calculated from the satellite time code and the TCE, will be written into the location block. There will be at least 2 location blocks for each prep\_block, one for the first SAR line and one for the last.

Name: location  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies location information at certain along track positions.

The location information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- block\_nr - plain tag
- frame\_nr - plain tag
- line\_nr - plain tag
- start\_byte - plain tag
- satellite\_clock - plain tag
- line\_date - plain tag
- first\_pixel\_ll - plain tag
- last\_pixel\_ll - plain tag
- SWST\_code - plain tag
- SWST - plain tag
- range\_gate - plain tag
- near\_range - plain tag
- far\_range - plain tag
- platform\_altitude - plain tag
- grs\_path\_row - plain tag
- sun\_azimuth - plain tag
- sun\_elev - plain tag
- is\_att\_out\_of\_range - plain tag
- num\_unstable\_mjfs - plain tag
- cloud\_cover - plain tag
- snow\_cover - plain tag
- Doppler\_centroid - plain tag
- DopplerPolynomial - information block

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

### **3.3.45.1 The block\_nr plain tag**

Name: block\_nr  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 999]  
Example: 0  
Description: Specifies the number of this location block.

### **3.3.45.2 The frame\_nr plain tag**

Name: frame\_nr  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 999999999]  
Example: 206134  
Description: Specifies the satellite frame number that corresponds to this location block. This is an estimate based on the average number of frames per line. This tag is obsolete, instead the line\_nr tag should be used.

### **3.3.45.3 The line\_nr plain tag**

Name: line\_nr  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 999999999]  
Example: 2134  
Description: Specifies the line number that corresponds to this location block.

### **3.3.45.4 The start\_byte plain tag**

Name: start\_byte  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 999999999]  
Example: 66581282  
Description: Specifies the first byte of the satellite frame that corresponds to this location block.

### **3.3.45.5 The satellite\_clock plain tag**

Name: satellite\_clock  
Type: floating point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 999999999999.9]

Example: 63907766.692273  
Description: Specifies the satellite that produced the data

### **3.3.45.6 The line\_date plain tag**

Name: line\_date  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 19970928160926692  
Description: Specifies the UTC date of this location block.

### **3.3.45.7 The first\_pixel\_ll plain tag**

Name: first\_pixel\_ll  
Type: floating point (3 values)  
Unit: degrees, degrees, m  
Range: [-90.0, 90.0] , [-180.0, 180.0], [-1000.0, 10000.0]  
Example: 76.278845 -89.039152 0.000000  
Description: Specifies the geodetic latitude, longitude and altitude of the first pixel in this SAR line.

### **3.3.45.8 The last\_pixel\_ll plain tag**

Name: last\_pixel\_ll  
Type: floating point (3 values)  
Unit: degrees, degrees, m  
Range: [-90.0, 90.0] , [-180.0, 180.0], [-1000.0, 10000.0]  
Example: 75.292080 -87.110738 0.000000  
Description: Specifies the geodetic latitude, longitude and altitude of the last pixel in this SAR line.

### **3.3.45.9 The SWST\_code plain tag**

Name: SWST\_code  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 99999]  
Example: 389  
Description: Specifies the satellite specific SWST code reported in the auxiliary part of the telemetry data.

### **3.3.45.10 The SWST plain tag**

Name: SWST  
Type: floating point  
Unit: sec  
Range: [0.0, 0.001]  
Example: 0.00018287510000  
Description: Specifies the Sampling Window Start Time (SWST) for this line.

### **3.3.45.11 The range\_gate plain tag**

Name: range\_gate  
Type: floating point  
Unit: sec  
Range: [0.0, 01]  
Example: 0.00611979510000  
Description: Specifies the time between the emission of the SAR pulse and the start of the analog-to-digital conversion.

### **3.3.45.12 The near\_range plain tag**

Name: near\_range  
Type: floating point  
Unit: m  
Range: [500.0E3, 1500.0E3]  
Example: 917334.20774268  
Description: Specifies the distance between the sensor and the ground viewed by the first pixel in the line.

### **3.3.45.13 The far\_range plain tag**

Name: far\_range  
Type: floating point  
Unit: m  
Range: [500.0E3, 1500.0E3]  
Example: 986212.93518475  
Description: Specifies the distance between the sensor and the ground viewed by the first pixel in the line.

### **3.3.45.14 The platform\_altitude plain tag**

Name: platform\_altitude  
Type: floating point  
Unit: m  
Range: [600.0E3, 1000.0E3]

Example: 804185.58316156  
Description: Specifies the flying altitude of the satellite for this line.

### **3.3.45.15 The grs\_path\_row plain tag**

Name: grs\_path\_row  
Type: integer & integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 0-  
Example: 628 266  
Description: Specifies the path number and row number in the worldwide reference system(WRS). GRS stands for grid reference system which includes WRS. This tag is only for SPOT and Landsat 7 satellite.

### **3.3.45.16 The sun\_azimuth plain tag**

Name: sun\_azimuth  
Type: floating point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [-180.0, 180.0]  
Example: 155.311616  
Description: Specifies the Sun azimuth angle.

### **3.3.45.17 The sun\_elev plain tag**

Name: sun\_elev  
Type: floating point  
Unit: degrees  
Range: [-90.0, 90.0]  
Example: 55.002291  
Description: Specifies the Sun elevation angle.

### **3.3.45.18 The is\_att\_out\_of\_range plain tag**

Name: att\_out\_of\_range  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0,1]  
Example: 0  
Description: Specifies if the attitude is out of range. If 0, it is in range, if not, it is out of range.

### **3.3.45.19 The num\_unstable\_mjfs plain tag**

Name: num\_unstable\_mjfs  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 0-  
Example: 0  
Description: Specifies # of total major frames in the location block The stability is specified in each frame's header data.

### **3.3.45.20 The cloud\_cover plain tag**

Name: cloud\_cover  
Type: integer  
Unit: %  
Range: [-1, 100]  
Example: 84 100 61 100 84 100 100 100  
Description: Specifies % of cloud coverings for array of areas inside the location block. If -1, cloud covering has not been calculated.

### **3.3.45.21 The snow cover plain tag**

Name: snow\_cover  
Type: integer  
Unit: %  
Range: [-1, 100]  
Example: 84 100 61 100 84 100 100 100  
Description: Specifies % of snow coverings for array of areas inside the location block. If -1, snow covering has not been calculated.

### **3.3.45.22 The Doppler\_centroid plain tag**

Name: Doppler\_centroid  
Type: floating point  
Unit: Hz  
Range: [-20.0E3, 20.0E3]  
Example: -323.31231148  
Description: Specifies the Doppler centroid frequency at the center of this line.

### **3.3.45.23 The DopplerPolynomial information block**

Name: DopplerPolynomial  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A

Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies the cross track Doppler centroid profile for this line in a polynomial representation.

The DopplerPolynomial information block contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- reference - plain tag
- number\_of\_coefficients - plain tag
- a0 .. a3 - plain tag

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

#### **3.3.45.23.1 The reference plain tag**

Name: reference  
Type: floating point  
Unit: m  
Range: [600.0E3, 1500.0E3]  
Example: 951773.571464  
Description: Specifies the reference value for the cross track Doppler centroid polynomial. The reference value is the slant range to the center of the swath.

#### **3.3.45.23.2 The number\_of\_coefficients plain tag**

Name: number\_of\_coefficients  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 4]  
Example: 4  
Description: Specifies the number of coefficients of the cross track Doppler polynomial.

#### **3.3.45.23.3 The a0 to a3 plain tags**

Name: a0 to a3  
Type: floating point  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [-1.0E300, 1.0E300]  
Example: -2.14634e-14  
Description: Specifies the one coefficient of the cross track Doppler centroid polynomial.

The following equation (3.0) can be used to calculate the Doppler centroid frequency  $f_d$  for a given slant range R for this line:

$$f_d = \sum_{j=0}^3 a_j \cdot (R - R_0)^j \quad (3.0)$$

where

- $f_d$ .....Doppler centroid frequency in Hz
- $R$ .....across track variable (slant range) in meters
- $R_0$ .....the reference value
- $a_j$ .....the j-th coefficient of the A polynomial

### 3.3.46 The missing\_data\_blocks plain tag

Name: missing\_data\_blocks  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0,999]  
Example: 3  
Description: Specifies the number of missing\_data information blocks following.

### 3.3.47 The missing\_data information block

SyncPrep reports occasions of missing data in so-called missing\_data information blocks. The number of missing data blocks will be indicated by the tag missing\_data\_blocks. All missing\_data blocks will only contain completely missing lines.

Name: missing\_data  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies one missing data block in the data granule.

The missing\_data information block contains the following plain tags:

- start\_frame - plain tag
- start\_line - plain tag
- start\_byte - plain tag
- missing\_bytes - plain tag
- missing\_frames - plain tag
- missing\_lines - plain tag
- missing\_data\_indicator - plain tag

These plain tags are described in the following.



### **3.3.47.1 The start\_frame plain tag**

Name: start\_frame  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 999999999]  
Example: 23443  
Description: Specifies the frame number of the first missing frame of this missing\_data block. Note that this frame number is an estimate based on the approximate number of frames per line.

### **3.3.47.2 The start\_line plain tag**

Name: start\_line  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 999999999]  
Example: 324  
Description: Specifies the line number of the first missing line of this missing\_data block. Logical line numbers start at 0.

### **3.3.47.3 The start\_byte plain tag**

Name: start\_byte  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 999999999999]  
Example: 23443765  
Description: Specifies the byte number of the first missing byte of this missing\_data block.

### **3.3.47.4 The missing\_bytes plain tag**

Name: missing\_bytes  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 999999999]  
Example: 6340  
Description: Specifies the number of missing bytes in this missing\_data block. Note that this is an estimate based on the estimated number of bytes per line.

### **3.3.47.5 The missing\_frames plain tag**

Name: missing\_frames  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A

Range: [1, 999999999]  
Example: 29  
Description: Specifies the number of missing frames in this `missing_data` block. Note that this is an estimate based on the estimated number of frames per line.

### **3.3.47.6 The `missing_lines` plain tag**

Name: `missing_lines`  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 999999999]  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies the number of missing lines in this `missing_data` block.

### **3.3.47.7 The `missing_data_indicator` plain tag**

Name: `missing_data_indicator`  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: EXCEEDED\_BER\_THRESHOLD | OTHER  
Example: 23443  
Description: Indicates the reason for a `missing_data` block. The tag takes on the value EXCEEDED\_BER\_THRESHOLD if the actual BER exceeds the BER threshold. For all other cases, the tag will be set to OTHER.

### 3.4 Telemetry Parameter File Example

The following is an example of a telemetry parameter file:

```
dcx_version: 5.1.0
dcx_id: 1
dcx_file_creation_date: 20011228211032933
dcx_requested_start: 20011228211105879
dcx_start: 20011228211106108
dcx_stop: 20011228211129973
dcx_bytes_captured: 222298112
dcx_stop_condition: lost_clock
dcx_satellite: RSAT
dcx_bit_error_rate: 0.0000000
dcx_requested_stop: 20011228211401066

data_block {
    block_number: 1
    sync_name: RSAT1
    start_byte: 0
    end_byte: 222298112
    percent_examined: 45.0
    percent_recognized: 100.0
    ber: 0.0E-00
}

datatake {
    satellite: RSAT1
    instrument: SAR
    tce.UTC: 0
    tce_satellite: 0
    tce_corr: 0.0
    estimated_acq_start: 20011201195151000
    estimated_acq_time: 20.0
    OrbitNr: 0
    clock_angle: 90.0
    ellipsoid_name: INTERNATIONAL
    GHA {
        angle: 0.0
        date: 0.0
    }
}

ss_block {
    ss_version: 4.0.0
    ss_date: 20011121215228014
    block_nr: 0
    sync_type: CCSDS
    satellite: RSAT1
    instrument: SAR
    special_id: None
}
```

```
transmission_mode: RECORDED
sync_pattern: lacffcld
frame_length: 323
number_bytes: 944012720
number_frames: 2922640
bit_errors: 5
bits_examined: 3237312
bit_error_rate: 0.000002
valid_fraction: 1.000000
invalid_syncs: 0
allowed_bit_errors: 1
flywheel_constant: 29
CCSDS_id: 201
IQswap: 0
invI: 0
invQ: 0

local_bit_error_rate {
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00116865 0000000037747395 0.000000E+00
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00220745 0000000071300635 0.000000E+00
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00324625 0000000104853875 0.000000E+00
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00428505 0000000138407115 0.000000E+00
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00532385 0000000171960355 0.000000E+00
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00636265 0000000205513595 0.000000E+00
}
}

prep_block {
  processor_name: SKY
  prep_version: 4.0.0
  prep_date: 20011121220043165
  ss_block: 0
  block_nr: 0
  start_byte: 0
  number_bytes: 911773121
  number_frames: 2822827
  number_lines: 107241
  satellite: RSAT1
  instrument: SAR
  beam_sequence: 07
  number_of_beams: 1
  bit_errors: 5
  bit_error_rate: 0.000002
  missing_lines: 0
  missing_bytes_added: 323
  zero_data_suppression: ALL
  ber_threshold: 0.010000
  first_satellite_clock: 65083534.652248
  last_satellite_clock: 65083620.465320
  clock_increment: 1.000000
  first_date: 19971012064534652
  last_date: 19971012064700465
```

```
tce.UTC: 19950920000000000
tce_satellite: 0.000000
tce_corr: 0.000000
estimated_acq_start: 19971012000000000
nominal_look_angle: 40.679953
number_range_samples: 7644
ADC_sampling_frequency: 12926830.000000
automatic_gain_control: ON

state_vector {
  x: -7106380.859291
  y: -975485.912005
  z: 0.246062
  xv: -213.689682
  yv: 1621.001745
  zv: 7372.664511
  Date: 19971012052938097
}
ephemeris_type: RESTITUTED
swath_velocity: 6659.141865

GHA {
  angle: 122.275720
  date: 19971012064534652
}
OrbitNr: 10114
OrbitNr_Date: 19971012064534652
clock_angle: -90.000000

local_bit_error_rate {
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00010000 0000000085020706 3.605769E-07
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00020000 0000000170041735 0.000000E+00
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00030000 0000000255062764 0.000000E+00
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00040000 0000000340083793 0.000000E+00
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00050000 0000000425104822 2.403846E-07
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00060000 0000000510125528 2.884615E-06
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00070000 0000000595146557 1.682692E-06
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00080000 0000000680167586 3.004808E-06
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00090000 0000000765188615 2.163462E-06
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00100000 0000000850209644 3.846154E-06
  ss_bit_error_rate: 00107241 0000000911773121 2.157851E-06
}

sensor {
  sensor_name: RSAT1
  clock_angle: -90.00000000
  nr_temperatures: 0
  nr_beams: 1

  beam {
    beam_name: S7
    nr_of_samples: 7644
  }
}
```

```
echo_delay: 0.00731360335937
carrier_freq: 5300432000.00000000
sampling_freq: 12926830.00000000
PRF: 1249.69354215
chirp_rate: -279309523809.52380000
pulse_length: 0.00004200000000
look_angle: 40.43882400
incidence_angle: 47.00000000
range_spectrum_snr: 0.000000
replica_energy_ref_level: 65.000000
call_cal2_diff_ref_level: 0.000000
thermal_noise_ref_level: -24.510000
gain_corctn_factor: 0.095148
gain_scale: -16.300000

PolarizationBlock {
  NrPolarizations: 1

  Polarization {
    polarization: HH
    polarization_amplitude: 1.00000000
    polarization_phase: 0.00000000
    stc_pattern_id: -1

    IQStatistics {
      I_mean: -0.009760
      Q_mean: 0.034655
      I_std: 2.567837
      Q_std: 2.551473
      IQ_corr: 0.022267
    }
  }
}

DopplerCentroidParameters {
  doppler_centroid_coefficients {
    reference_first_dimension: 1137446.460001
    reference_second_dimension: 1507790777.559167
    number_of_coefficients_first_dimension: 4
    number_of_coefficients_second_dimension: 3
    a00: 701.027
    a01: -0.00286592
    a02: -8.8722e-09
    a03: -7.15027e-15
    a10: 13.6937
    a11: 1.18007e-05
    a12: -8.43124e-11
    a13: 1.25966e-17
    a20: 0.00140193
    a21: 7.33743e-08
    a22: 6.17657e-13
  }
}
```

```
        a23: 9.58173e-19
    }
    reference_range: 1137446.460001
    reference_date: 19971012064617559
    ambiguity_number: 1
    MLCC_ambiguity_number_occurrence: 4
    MLBF_ambiguity_number_occurrence: 4
    DAR_doppler: 701.026867
    Predict_doppler: 833.881187
    DAR_confidence: 1.000000
    doppler_fit_correlation: 0.951469
    doppler_status: SUCCESS
}

DopplerRateParameters {

    effective_velocity_coefficients {
        reference_first_dimension: 1140600.502740
        reference_second_dimension: 1507790777.558767
        number_of_coefficients_first_dimension: 2
        number_of_coefficients_second_dimension: 2
        a00: 6995.04
        a01: -0.000193202
        a10: 0.00869305
        a11: 7.76135e-09
    }
    veff: 6995.044073
    reference_range: 1140600.502740
    reference_date: 19971012064617558
    autofocus_scale_factor: 1.000000
    autofocus_snr: 19.476862
    autofocus_suggested_ambiguity_number: 1
    autofocus_status: SUCCESS
}

ephemeris {

    sv_block {
        NrSV: 1

        state_vector {
            x: 5583387.232527
            y: -4503061.807812
            z: -1028.790000
            xv: -1032.409304
            yv: -1267.845403
            zv: 7372.697380
            Date: 19971012203627035
        }
    }
}
```

```
Attitude {
  yaw: 0.001530
  roll: -0.000918
  pitch: 0.000918
  Date: 19971012064617358703

  yawpoly {
    reference: 1507790777.358718
    number_of_coefficients: 4
    a0: 0.00152999
    a1: 0
    a2: 0
    a3: 0
  }

  rollpoly {
    reference: 1507790777.358718
    number_of_coefficients: 4
    a0: -0.000918021
    a1: 0
    a2: 0
    a3: 0
  }

  pitchpoly {
    reference: 1507790777.358718
    number_of_coefficients: 4
    a0: 0.00091799
    a1: 0
    a2: 0
    a3: 0
  }
}
OrbitNr: 10123
OrbitNr_Date: 19971012203627176

GHA {
  angle: 330.566854
  date: 19971012203627035
}
Type: RESTITUTED
}
ellipsoid_name: INTERNATIONAL

location {
  block_nr: 0
  frame_nr: 0
  line_nr: 0
  start_byte: 0
  satellite_clock: 65083534.652248
  line_date: 19971012064534652
```



```
first_pixel_ll: -87.188235 -132.259706 0.000000
last_pixel_ll: -88.044356 -148.401784 0.000000
platform_altitude:      820992.72847882
SWST_code: 245
SWST: 0.00011603772928
range_gate: 0.0000000000000000
near_range:      1096281.56397124
far_range:      1184919.44150780
Doppler_centroid:      105.80218457

DopplerPolynomial {
  reference: 1140600.502740
  number_of_coefficients: 4
  a0: 105.802
  a1: -0.00326332
  a2: -4.17359e-09
  a3: -5.92675e-15
}
}
missing_data_blocks: 0
}
```

## 4 Framing Information File Format

The framing information file, also called chop-file, is a by-product of the Preparation step and used for later CEOS conversion. Essentially, the CEOS conversion will produce output scenes that are determined by the information contained in this chop file. The chop file is an ASCII file in the CONI format.

The chop file contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- num\_scene\_lines - plain tag
- num\_overlap\_lines - plain tag
- scene - information blocks

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

### 4.1 *The num\_scene\_lines plain tag*

Name: num\_scene\_lines  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 999999]  
Example: 27000  
Description: Specifies the number of lines for each scene in the scene blocks.

### 4.2 *The num\_overlap\_lines plain tag*

Name: num\_overlap\_lines  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 999999]  
Example: 4096  
Description: Specifies the number of overlap lines between two scenes in the scene blocks.

### 4.3 *The scene information block*

The chop file will contain one “scene” information block for each image frame (scene) contained in the telemetry data.

Name: scene  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A

Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies framing information for one scene.

The scene information block contains the following plain tags:

- start\_index - plain tag
- start\_line - plain tag
- end\_index - plain tag
- end\_line - plain tag
- number\_lines - plain tag

These plain tags are described in the following.

#### **4.3.1 The start\_index plain tag**

Name: start\_index  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 9999999]  
Example: 20323  
Description: Specifies the first frame for this scene. This tag is obsolete and should not be used any more.

#### **4.3.2 The start\_line plain tag**

Name: start\_line  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 9999999]  
Example: 20323  
Description: Specifies the first line for this scene.

#### **4.3.3 The end\_index plain tag**

Name: end\_index  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 9999999]  
Example: 47323  
Description: Specifies the last frame for this scene. This tag is obsolete and should not be used any more.

#### **4.3.4 The end\_line plain tag**

Name: end\_line  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 9999999]  
Example: 47323  
Description: Specifies the last line for this scene.

## **4.4 Sample Framing File**

The following is an example of a JERS1 framing information file. For JERS1, frames and lines are identical.

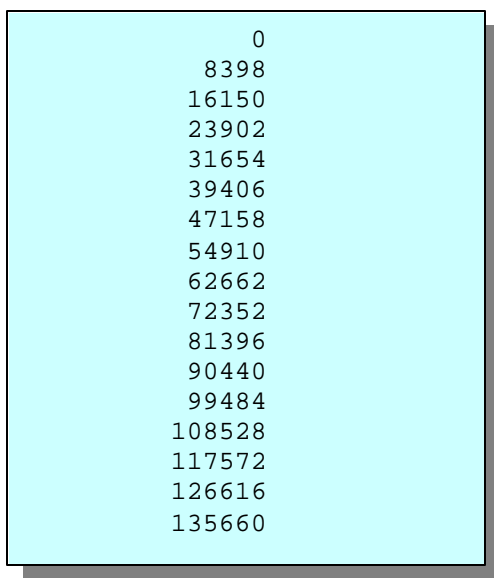
```
num_scene_lines: 20480
num_overlap_lines: 4096
scene {
  start_index: 13644
  start_line: 13644
  end_index: 34123
  end_line: 34123
  number_lines: 20480
}
scene {
  start_index: 30029
  start_line: 30029
  end_index: 50508
  end_line: 50508
  number_lines: 20480
}
```

## 5 The STF Index File

For RSAT1, a SAR line exhibits a variable length in bytes due to the variable number of transmission frames per SAR line and the presence of replica data every eighth line. As a general and efficient solution to allow random access to any SAR line inside the STF data set, a new metadata file was created that contains an offset value (sixteen bytes in length) for each echo line of SAR data.

The index file has the extension .ind, for example <path>/<basename>.000.ind

The index file is an ASCII file, containing 15 valid characters plus one new line character for every SAR line, resulting in 16 bytes total per index entry. Every index entry represents the byte offset to the first byte of the respective line inside the STF data file. A SAR line that is missing will be represented by the value -1. The following is a short example of an RSAT1 index file:



```
0
8398
16150
23902
31654
39406
47158
54910
62662
72352
81396
90440
99484
108528
117572
126616
135660
```

This means that SAR line number 0 (the first SAR line) starts at byte 0 in the STF data set, and SAR line number 1 (the second SAR line) starts at byte offset 8398. The first line therefore consists of 26 frames with 323 bytes each.

The Zero-formats of an ERS1 or ERS2 STF data set will not be represented in the index file.

For ENVISAT1/ASAR, the index file format also shows the line type as well as file offsets of each STF lines.

From the right column, ' N ' stands for 'noisy line', ' C ' stands for calibration line, ' P ' stands for 'periodic calibration line' and finally ' I ' is for 'imaging line'.

0	N
6818	N
13636	N
20454	N
27272	N
34090	N
40908	N
47726	N
54544	C
55584	C
56624	C
57664	C
58704	C
59744	C
60784	C
61824	C

## 6 The STF Burst List File

The optional STF burst list file is a by-product of the Preparation step. It is only available for ScanSAR data. It can be used for fast access to every burst of ScanSAR data

The burst list file contains the following information block:

- BAP\_Block - information block

This information block is described in the following.

### 6.1 The BAP\_Block information block

Name: BAP\_Block  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Describes the burst structure of ScanSAR data.

The BAP\_Block information block contains the following plain tag and information block:

- NrBAP - plain tag
- BurstAuxParameters - information block

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

#### 6.1.1 The NrBAP plain tag

Name: NrBAP  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 99999]  
Example: 1000  
Description: Specifies how many BurstAuxParameters blocks are following.

#### 6.1.2 The BurstAuxParameters information block

Name: BurstAuxParameters  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A



Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Describes the burst auxiliary parameters of one burst.

The BurstAuxParameters information block contains the following plain tag and information block:

- beam\_sequence\_id - plain tag
- number\_of\_samples - plain tag
- echo\_delay - plain tag
- prf - plain tag
- first\_record\_number - plain tag
- number\_of\_records - plain tag
- first\_record\_date - plain tag

These plain tags are described in the following.

### 6.1.2.1 The beam\_sequence\_id plain tag

Name: beam\_sequence\_id  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 5]  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies the position inside the beam sequence for this burst, starting with 0. For example, a burst containing W2 data in the [W2, S5, S6] ScanSAR mode will have beam\_sequence\_id number 0.

### 6.1.2.2 The number\_of\_samples plain tag

Name: number\_of\_samples  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1000, 20000]  
Example: 8520  
Description: Specifies the number of range samples for this burst.

### 6.1.2.3 The echo\_delay plain tag

Name: echo\_delay  
Type: floating point  
Unit: sec  
Range: [0.003, 0.01]  
Example: 0.0062344

Description: Specifies the time between sending a pulse of SAR data to it's reception for this burst.

#### **6.1.2.4 The prf plain tag**

Name: prf  
Type: floating point  
Unit: Hz  
Range: [1000.0, 5000.0]  
Example: 1331.21233  
Description: Specifies the Pulse Repetition Frequency for this burst.

#### **6.1.2.5 The first\_record\_number plain tag**

Name: first\_record\_number  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 999999999]  
Example: 105  
Description: Specifies the STF line number of the first SAR line of this burst.

#### **6.1.2.6 The number\_of\_records plain tag**

Name: number\_of\_records  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 999]  
Example: 85  
Description: Specifies the number of useable STF lines contained in this burst.

#### **6.1.2.7 The first\_record\_date plain tag**

Name: first\_record\_date  
Type: string  
Unit: UTC date/time  
Range: all valid UTC strings  
Example: 20011205123456789  
Description: Specifies the UTC date/time of the first SAR line of this burst.

## 6.2 Sample Burst List File

The following is a sample of a burst list file, showing the start and end of the file.

```
BAP_Block {
  NrBAP: 1358

  BurstAuxParameters {
    beam_sequence_id: 0
    number_of_samples: 8520
    echo_delay: 0.00606410909047
    prf:          1331.56468892
    first_record_number: 105
    number_of_records: 84
    first_record_date: 19960414131228986
  }
...
  BurstAuxParameters {
    beam_sequence_id: 1
    number_of_samples: 7446
    echo_delay: 0.00635606001734
    prf:          1291.64968026
    first_record_number: 129010
    number_of_records: 1
    first_record_date: 19960414131406750
  }
}
```

## 7 The STF Autofocus Correlation File

For single beam SAR data, the SyncPrep STF processor can optionally perform a Doppler rate analysis, often called “autofocus”. As a by-product, the Autofocus Correlation File can be produced and then is part of the STF data set.

The autofocus correlation file is organized in columns. The first column is an azimuth pixel index, the second column contains the corresponding correlation value. The third and fourth columns contain the seldom used range correlation plot.

### 7.1 Sample Autofocus Correlation File

The following is a sample of an autofocus correlation file, showing the beginning and end of the file, and a graphical representation of the correlation plot.

-640	0.00000	-128	0.07163
-639	0.00000	-127	0.07201
-638	0.00000	-126	0.07613
...			
253	0.00673	765	0.00000
254	0.00731	766	0.00000
255	0.00546	767	0.00000

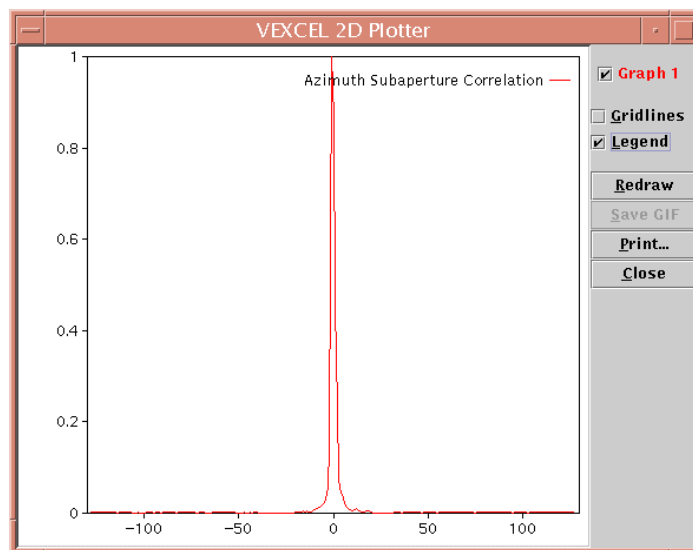


Figure 7-1 Autofocus Correlation Plot

## 8 The STF Range Spectrum File

The SyncPrep STF Processor can optionally perform an estimate of the Range Energy spectrum for SAR data. In this case, the STF dataset will also continue a range spectrum file.

The optional range spectrum file is organized in columns. The first column contains the range frequency in Hz, the second column contains the range spectrum value in linear units, the third column is range spectrum value in dB, and the fourth column is an indicator whether the notch filter was applied (0 when the notch filter is used).

### 8.1 Sample STF Range Spectrum File

The following is a sample of a range spectrum file, showing the beginning and end of the file, and a graphical representation of the range spectrum plot.

```
-8.00000e+00    0.00550  -22.59658  1
-7.99219e+00    0.00560  -22.51887  1
-7.98438e+00    0.00542  -22.66019  1
-7.97656e+00    0.00590  -22.28784  1
...
 7.97656e+00    0.00574  -22.41045  1
 7.98438e+00    0.00549  -22.60689  1
 7.99219e+00    0.00534  -22.72173  1
```

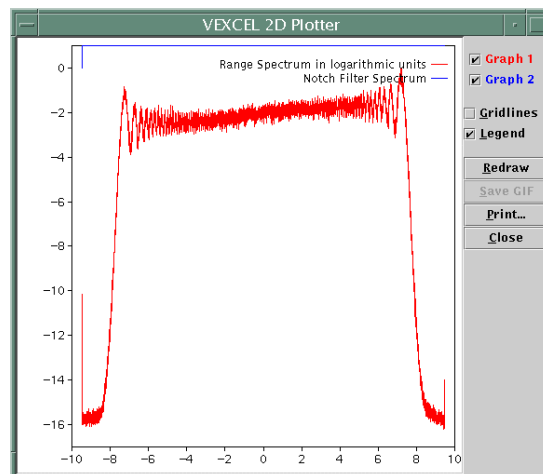


Figure 8-1 Range Spectrum Plot

## 9 The STF Histogram File

The STF histogram file is a by-product of the Preparation step and can be used for data Quality Assurance purposes. It is only available for SAR data.

The histogram file contains the following information block:

- RawHistogramBlock - information block

This information block is described in the following.

### 9.1 The RawHistogramBlock information block

Name: RawHistogramBlock  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Describes the raw I/Q histogram of SAR data.

The RawHistogramBlock information block contains the following plain tag and information block:

- NrHistograms - plain tag
- RawHistogram - information block

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

#### 9.1.1 The NrHistograms plain tag

Name: NrHistograms  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 4]  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies how many RawHistogram blocks are following.

#### 9.1.2 The RawHistogram information block

Name: RawHistogram  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A

Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Describes one raw I/Q histogram of SAR data.

The RawHistogram information block contains the following plain tags and information block:

- Polarization - plain tag
- NrValues - plain tag
- HistogramValues - information block

These plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

### **9.1.2.1 The Polarization plain tag**

Name: Polarization  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: HH | HV | VH | VV  
Example: HH  
Description: Specifies the polarization of data for this histogram.

### **9.1.2.2 The NrValues plain tag**

Name: NrValues  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 1024]  
Example: 1024  
Description: Specifies how many histogram values are following.

### **9.1.2.3 The HistogramValues information block**

Name: HistogramValues  
Type: information block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Contains the actual raw I/Q histogram values for SAR data.

The HistogramValues information block contains the following plain tags:

- value - plain tag

This plain tag is described in the following.

### **9.1.2.3.1 The value plain tag**

Name: value  
Type: integer integer integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 64] [0, 64] [0, 9999999999]  
Example: 2 4 2763543  
Description: Specifies how many occurrences of the specified (I,Q) pair were found in the observed data.

## **9.2 Sample Raw Histogram File**

The following is a sample raw histogram file, showing the start and end of the file.

```
RawHistogramBlock {
  NrHistograms: 1

  RawHistogram {
    Polarization: HH
    NrValues: 1024

    HistogramValues {
      value: 0 0      0
      value: 0 1      0
      value: 0 2      0
      value: 0 3      0
      ...
      value: 31 29     0
      value: 31 30     0
      value: 31 31     0
    }
  }
}
```



## 10 The STF Doppler Centroid File

For SAR data, the STF data set may optionally contain a Doppler Centroid file. The SyncPrep STF processor can optionally perform Doppler Centroid estimation of the input data. This is done at different along track locations of the data, normally approximately six times in along track direction. The benefit of performing Doppler estimation at the STF processing step is increased robustness for problem data (low SNR, low contrast) and higher processing efficiency, since the later SAR processing image formation step does not have to perform this again.

The contents of the Doppler Centroid file are different for single beam and ScanSAR data. In either case, the contents of the file are ordered in columns.

For single beam SAR data, the Doppler centroid file content is grouped into columns of three. The first three columns are slant range, the Doppler centroid value resulting from the evaluation of the polynomial fit, and the Doppler centroid as estimated from the data. These three columns describe one along track observation as a function of range. The next group of three columns describes the next along track observation. Since the SyncPrep program normally performs six estimates, the file will typically have 18 columns.

For ScanSAR data, the first column represents slant range, and the remaining columns are the Doppler centroid value as evaluated from the resulting Doppler polynomial. For six ScanSAR observations, there will be 7 columns in this file.

### 10.1 Sample STF Doppler Centroid File

The following is a sample of a Doppler Centroid file for a single beam data case, showing the start and end of the file. Only the first three columns are shown here for space reasons.

```
977660.687500 -2445.897698 -1990.796341 ...
978555.375000 -2448.482962 -2254.952927 ...
...
1033131.625000 -2584.893343 -2550.429794 ...
1034026.375000 -2586.748251 -2579.269028 ...
```

The following is a graphical representation of a Doppler Centroid plot for a single beam data case.

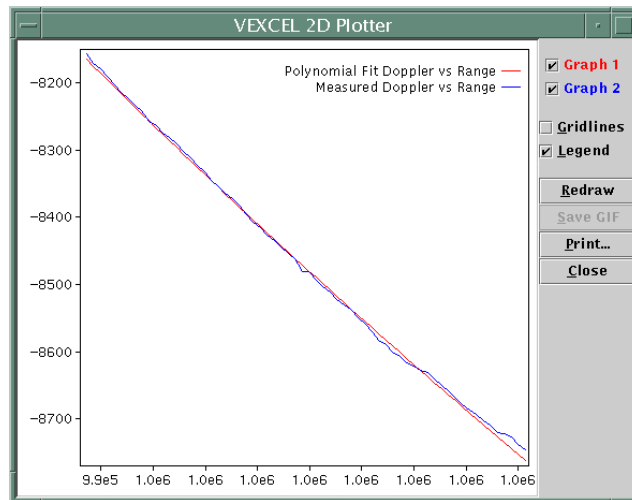


Figure 10-1

The following is a graphical representation of a Doppler Centroid plot for a ScanSAR data case.

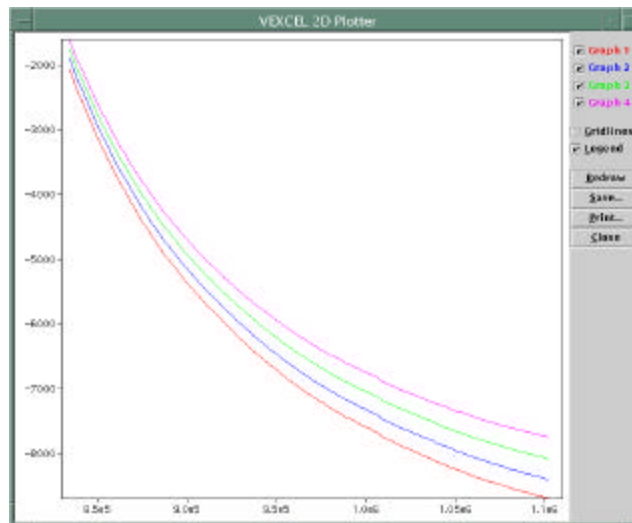


Figure 10-2

## 11 QuickLook Image File Set

An STF dataset can optionally contain a quick-look image of the whole granule, produced by the QuickLook processor.

Each quick-look image set consists of the following files:

- `basename.000.QL.gli` - QuickLook image data file
- `basename.000.QL.gli.par` - QuickLook image parameter file
- `basename.000.QL.tif` - QuickLook (tif) file (if TIFF selected)
- `basename.000.QL.jpeg` - QuickLook (jpeg) file (if JPEG selected)

### 11.1 *The QuickLook image data file*

The QuickLook image data file is a flat, rectangular floating-point file (32 bit per pixel) containing image intensity values. The image pixels are by default written as sigma nought values (configurable). The image extent (number of pixels, number of lines) and all other image characteristics are contained in the ASCII image parameter file.

## **11.2 The QuickLook image parameter file**

The ASCII QuickLook image parameter file completely describes the floating-point QuickLook image data file.

The QuickLook image parameter file contains the following plain tags and information blocks:

- sensor - information block
- flight\_path\_direction - plain tag
- RawSARImage - information block
- ScanSARProduct - information block

See chapter 3.3.43 for a description of the sensor information block. The other plain tags and information blocks are described in the following.

### **11.2.1 The flight\_path\_direction plain tag**

Name: flight\_path\_direction  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: ASCENDING | DESCENDING  
Example: ASCENDING  
Description: Specifies whether the acquisition was in the ascending or descending phase of the satellite orbit.

## **11.3 The RawSARImage information block**

Name: RawSARImage  
Type: Information Block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies the input STF data set from the view of the QuickLook processor.

The RawSARImage information block contains the following plain tags:

- image\_desc - information block
- processor\_name - plain tag
- processor\_version - plain tag
- first\_line - plain tag
- first\_line\_txpol - plain tag

- time\_per\_line - plain tag

This information block and these plain tags are described in the following.

### 11.3.1 The image\_desc information block

Name: image\_desc  
Type: Information Block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies basic image characteristics of the input STF data set from the view of the QuickLook processor.

The image\_desc information block contains the following plain tags:

- Facility - plain tag
- Format - plain tag
- Type - plain tag
- BytesPerPixel - plain tag
- Title - plain tag
- PixelSpacing - plain tag
- PixelResolution - plain tag
- LineSpacing - plain tag
- LineResolution - plain tag
- NrPixels - plain tag
- NrLines - plain tag
- MinValue - plain tag
- MaxValue - plain tag
- MeanValue - plain tag
- SigmaValue - plain tag
- coord - information block

These information blocks and plain tags are described in the following.

#### 11.3.1.1 The Facility plain tag

Name: Facility  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: ASF

Description: Specifies the facility name that processed the QuickLook image.

### **11.3.1.2 The Format plain tag**

Name: Format  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: STF\_Telemetry  
Example: STF\_Telemetry  
Description: Specifies the type of input data. Always STF\_Telemetry for STF input data.

### **11.3.1.3 The Type plain tag**

Name: Type  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: RAW  
Example: RAW  
Description: Specifies the type of input data. Always RAW for STF input data.

### **11.3.1.4 The BytesPerPixel plain tag**

Name: BytesPerPixel  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 4]  
Example: 2  
Description: Not applicable for STF data. Default set to 2.

### **11.3.1.5 The Title plain tag**

Name: Title  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: ERS2 orbit: 23862  
Description: Informal title of the input STF data set.

### **11.3.1.6 The PixelSpacing plain tag**

Name: PixelSpacing  
Type: float  
Unit: meters  
Range: [1.0, 100.0]

Example: 7.9  
Description: Natural pixel spacing of input data (for SAR: slant range pixel spacing).

### **11.3.1.7 The PixelResolution plain tag**

Name: PixelResolution  
Type: float  
Unit: meters  
Range: [1.0, 100.0]  
Example: 9.6  
Description: Natural pixel resolution of input data (for SAR: slant range pixel resolution).

### **11.3.1.8 The LineSpacing plain tag**

Name: LineSpacing  
Type: float  
Unit: meters  
Range: [1.0, 100.0]  
Example: 4.0  
Description: Natural line spacing of input data (for SAR: azimuth line spacing).

### **11.3.1.9 The LineResolution plain tag**

Name: LineResolution  
Type: float  
Unit: meters  
Range: [1.0, 100.0]  
Example: 5.6  
Description: Natural line resolution of input data (for SAR: azimuth line resolution).

### **11.3.1.10 The NrPixels plain tag**

Name: NrPixels  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [4000, 20000]  
Example: 5615  
Description: Number of pixels contained in input data. This is taken from the input STF parameter file.

### **11.3.1.11 The NrLines plain tag**

Name: NrLines  
Type: integer

Unit: N/A  
Range: [4000, 9999999]  
Example: 495085  
Description: Number of lines contained in input data. This is taken from the input STF parameter file.

### **11.3.1.12 The MinValue plain tag**

Name: MinValue  
Type: float  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 100.0]  
Example: 0.0  
Description: Minimum input data value.

### **11.3.1.13 The MaxValue plain tag**

Name: MaxValue  
Type: float  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 100.0]  
Example: 15.0  
Description: Maximum possible input data value. This is normally the maximum input value after the I/Q integer value has been converted to a float value (voltage).

### **11.3.1.14 The MeanValue plain tag**

Name: MeanValue  
Type: float  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 100.0]  
Example: 0.0  
Description: The output image sample mean value. Not supported for input data.

### **11.3.1.15 The SigmaValue plain tag**

Name: SigmaValue  
Type: float  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 100.0]  
Example: 0.0  
Description: The output image standard deviation. Not supported for input data.



### 11.3.1.16 The coord information block

Name: coord  
Type: Information Block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies corner and center coordinates of the input STF data set.

The coord information block contains the following plain tags:

- earth\_model - information block
- first\_line\_first\_pixel - plain tag
- first\_line\_last\_pixel - plain tag
- last\_line\_first\_pixel - plain tag
- last\_line\_last\_pixel - plain tag
- center\_line\_center\_pixel - plain tag

These information blocks and plain tags are described in the following.

### 11.3.1.17 The earth\_model information block

Name: earth\_model  
Type: Information Block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies the characteristics of the Earth model (i.e. Datum) contained in the input STF data set.

The earth\_model information block contains the following plain tags:

- name - information block
- ellipsoid\_name - plain tag
- major - plain tag
- minor - plain tag
- terrain\_height - plain tag
- mass - plain tag
- delta\_x - plain tag
- delta\_y - plain tag
- delta\_z - plain tag
- g - plain tag

- j2 - plain tag
- j3 - plain tag
- j4 - plain tag

These information blocks and plain tags are described in the following.

#### ***11.3.1.17.1 The name plain tag***

Name: name  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: WGS84  
Description: The name of the earth model (Datum).

#### ***11.3.1.17.2 The ellipsoid\_name plain tag***

Name: ellipsoid\_name  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: GEM6  
Description: The name of the ellipsoid that is used in this earth model (Datum).

#### ***11.3.1.17.3 The major plain tag***

Name: major  
Type: float  
Unit: meters  
Range: [6300000.0, 6500000.0]  
Example: 6378144.0  
Description: The major axis of the ellipsoid used in this earth model.

#### ***11.3.1.17.4 The minor plain tag***

Name: minor  
Type: float  
Unit: meters  
Range: [6300000.0, 6500000.0]  
Example: 6356759.0  
Description: The minor axis of the ellipsoid used in this earth model.

#### ***11.3.1.17.5 The terrain\_height plain tag***

Name: terrain\_height  
Type: float  
Unit: meters

Range: [-2000.0, 10000.0]  
Example: 0.0  
Description: The terrain height specified in the earth model.

#### ***11.3.1.17.6 The mass plain tag***

Name: mass  
Type: float  
Unit: kilograms  
Range: [5.0E24, 6.0E24]  
Example: 5.974e+24  
Description: The mass of the earth as specified in the earth model.

#### ***11.3.1.17.7 The delta\_x plain tag***

Name: delta\_x  
Type: float  
Unit: meters  
Range: [ -10000.0, 10000]  
Example: 0.0  
Description: The x offset between the center of the earth and the origin of the ellipsoid used in this earth model.

#### ***11.3.1.17.8 The delta\_y plain tag***

Name: delta\_y  
Type: float  
Unit: meters  
Range: [ -10000.0, 10000]  
Example: 0.0  
Description: The y offset between the center of the earth and the origin of the ellipsoid used in this earth model.

#### ***11.3.1.17.9 The delta\_z plain tag***

Name: delta\_z  
Type: float  
Unit: meters  
Range: [ -10000.0, 10000]  
Example: 0.0  
Description: The z offset between the center of the earth and the origin of the ellipsoid used in this earth model.

#### ***11.3.1.17.10 The g plain tag***

Name: g  
Type: float

Unit: ???  
Range: [6.0E-11, 7.0E-11]  
Example: 6.6622e-11  
Description: The g factor used in this earth model.

#### ***11.3.1.17.11 The j2 plain tag***

Name: j2  
Type: float  
Unit: ???  
Range: [ 0.0, 1.0]  
Example: 0.00108262  
Description: The j2 factor used in this earth model.

#### ***11.3.1.17.12 The j3 plain tag***

Name: j3  
Type: float  
Unit: ???  
Range: [0.0, 1.0]  
Example: 2.53881e-06  
Description: The j3 factor used in this earth model.

#### ***11.3.1.17.13 The j4 plain tag***

Name: j4  
Type: float  
Unit: ???  
Range: [-1.0, 0.0]  
Example: -1.65597e-06  
Description: The j4 factor used in this earth model.

#### **11.3.1.18 The first\_line\_first\_pixel plain tag**

Name: first\_line\_first\_pixel  
Type: float, float, float  
Unit: degrees, degrees, meters  
Range: [-90.0, 90.0], [-180.0, 180.0], [-10000.0, 10000.0],  
Example: 35.196008 124.468864 0.000000  
Description: A triplet describing the geodetic coordinates of the first pixel in the first line of the STF dataset. The first value is the geodetic latitude, the second value is the geodetic longitude, the third value is the terrain height. Note that these coordinates are based on the input (raw data) characteristics.

### **11.3.1.19 The first\_line\_last\_pixel plain tag**

Name: first\_line\_last\_pixel  
Type: float, float, float  
Unit: degrees, degrees, meters  
Range: [-90.0, 90.0], [-180.0, 180.0], [-10000.0, 10000.0],  
Example: 35.196008 124.468864 0.000000  
Description: A triplet describing the geodetic coordinates of the last pixel in the first line of the STF dataset. The first value is the geodetic latitude, the second value is the geodetic longitude, the third value is the terrain height. Note that these coordinates are based on the input (raw data) characteristics.

### **11.3.1.20 The last\_line\_first\_pixel plain tag**

Name: last\_line\_first\_pixel  
Type: float, float, float  
Unit: degrees, degrees, meters  
Range: [-90.0, 90.0], [-180.0, 180.0], [-10000.0, 10000.0],  
Example: 35.196008 124.468864 0.000000  
Description: A triplet describing the geodetic coordinates of the first pixel in the last line of the STF dataset. The first value is the geodetic latitude, the second value is the geodetic longitude, the third value is the terrain height. Note that these coordinates are based on the input (raw data) characteristics.

### **11.3.1.21 The last\_line\_last\_pixel plain tag**

Name: last\_line\_last\_pixel  
Type: float, float, float  
Unit: degrees, degrees, meters  
Range: [-90.0, 90.0], [-180.0, 180.0], [-10000.0, 10000.0],  
Example: 35.196008 124.468864 0.000000  
Description: A triplet describing the geodetic coordinates of the last pixel in the last line of the STF dataset. The first value is the geodetic latitude, the second value is the geodetic longitude, the third value is the terrain height. Note that these coordinates are based on the input (raw data) characteristics.

### **11.3.1.22 The center\_line\_center\_pixel plain tag**

Name: center\_line\_center\_pixel  
Type: float, float, float  
Unit: degrees, degrees, meters  
Range: [-90.0, 90.0], [-180.0, 180.0], [-10000.0, 10000.0],  
Example: 35.196008 124.468864 0.000000  
Description: A triplet describing the geodetic coordinates of the center pixel in the center line of the STF dataset. The first value is the geodetic latitude, the second value is the

geodetic longitude, the third value is the terrain height. Note that these coordinates are based on the input (raw data) characteristics.

### 11.3.2 The processor\_name plain tag

Name: processor\_name  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: SKY  
Description: The name of the processor that created the raw input data set.

### 11.3.3 The processor\_version plain tag

Name: processor\_version  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: 2.15  
Description: The version of the processor that created the raw input data set.

### 11.3.4 The first\_line plain tag

Name: first\_line  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 19960610145924761  
Description: Specifies the UTC date/time of the first imaging line in the input raw data set.

### 11.3.5 The first\_line\_txpol plain tag

Name: first\_line\_txpol  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: H | V  
Example: H  
Description: Specifies the transmit polarization of the first SAR line.

### 11.3.6 The time\_per\_line plain tag

Name: time\_per\_line  
Type: float  
Unit: seconds  
Range: [0.0, 1.0]

Example: 0.001232  
Description: Specifies the time distance between input raw lines.

### **11.4 The ScanSARProduct information block**

Name: ScanSARProduct  
Type: Information Block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies the image characteristics of the floating-point QuickLook image.

The ScanSARProduct information block contains the following plain tags:

- image\_desc - information block
- processor\_name - plain tag
- processor\_version - plain tag
- image\_type - plain tag
- first\_line - plain tag
- time\_per\_line - plain tag
- OrbitNr - plain tag
- OrbitNr\_Date - plain tag
- near\_range - plain tag
- center\_range - plain tag
- far\_range - plain tag
- skew\_flag - plain tag
- Kaiser\_range - plain tag
- Kaiser\_azimuth - plain tag
- range\_looks - plain tag
- azimuth\_looks - plain tag
- range\_block\_average\_factor - plain tag
- azimuth\_block\_average\_factor - plain tag
- Gr2Sr\_Block - information block
- dwell\_time - plain tag
- integration\_time - plain tag
- range\_decimation\_factor - plain tag
- raw\_start\_burst - plain tag
- nr\_raw\_bursts - plain tag

These information blocks and plain tags are described in the following.

#### **11.4.1 The image\_desc information block**

Name: image\_desc  
Type: Information Block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies basic image characteristics of the floating-point QuickLook image. See chapter 11.3.1 for a detailed description of an image\_desc block.

#### **11.4.2 The processor\_name plain tag**

Name: processor\_name  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: SKY  
Description: The name of the QuickLook processor that created the quick-look image.

#### **11.4.3 The processor\_version plain tag**

Name: processor\_version  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: 2.15  
Description: The version of the QuickLook processor that created the quick-look image.

#### **11.4.4 The image\_type plain tag**

Name: image\_type  
Type: string  
Unit: N/A  
Range: SigmaNought | BetaNought  
Example: SigmaNought  
Description: Specifies the radiometric units of the quick-look image.

#### **11.4.5 The first\_line plain tag**

Name: first\_line  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 19960610145924761



Description: Specifies the UTC date/time of the first image line of the floating-point quick-look image.

#### **11.4.6 The time\_per\_line plain tag**

Name: time\_per\_line  
Type: float  
Unit: seconds  
Range: [0.0, 1.0]  
Example: 0.001232  
Description: Specifies the time distance between floating-point quick-look image lines.

#### **11.4.7 The OrbitNr plain tag**

Name: OrbitNr  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 99999]  
Example: 2315  
Description: Specifies the orbit number at the center of the ScanSAR image.

#### **11.4.8 The OrbitNr\_Date plain tag**

Name: OrbitNr\_Date  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings  
Example: 19960610145924761  
Description: Specifies the date and time that corresponds to the scene center.

#### **11.4.9 The near\_range plain tag**

Name: near\_range  
Type: float  
Unit: meters  
Range: [500000.0, 1500000.0]  
Example: 829924.375000  
Description: Specifies the distance between the sensor and the near edge of the quick-look image.

#### **11.4.10 The center\_range plain tag**

Name: center\_range  
Type: float  
Unit: meters

Range: [500000.0, 1500000.0]  
Example: 849336.218750  
Description: Specifies the distance between the sensor and the center line of the quick-look image.

#### **11.4.11 The far\_range plain tag**

Name: far\_range  
Type: float  
Unit: meters  
Range: [500000.0, 1500000.0]  
Example: 868748.062500  
Description: Specifies the distance between the sensor and the far edge of the quick-look image.

#### **11.4.12 The skew\_flag plain tag**

Name: skew\_flag  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: 0 | 1  
Example: 0  
Description: Specifies if the quick-look image is skewed (1) or de-skewed to Zero-Doppler (0).

#### **11.4.13 The Kaiser\_range plain tag**

Name: Kaiser\_range  
Type: float  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 10.0]  
Example: 2.4  
Description: Specifies the Kaiser parameter used during range compression.

#### **11.4.14 The Kaiser\_azimuth plain tag**

Name: Kaiser\_azimuth  
Type: float  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0.0, 10.0]  
Example: 2.4  
Description: Specifies the Kaiser parameter used during azimuth compression

#### **11.4.15 The range\_looks plain tag**

Name: range\_looks  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 10]  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies the number of looks applied during range multi-looking.

#### **11.4.16 The azimuth\_looks plain tag**

Name: azimuth\_looks  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 10]  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies the number of looks applied during azimuth multi-looking.

#### **11.4.17 The range\_block\_average\_factor plain tag**

Name: range\_block\_average\_factor  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 20]  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies the block averaging factor applied in range direction while creating the floating-point quick-look image. Note: this is not the block averaging factor applied while creating the standard format image (TIFF).

#### **11.4.18 The azimuth\_block\_average\_factor plain tag**

Name: azimuth\_block\_average\_factor  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 20]  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies the block averaging factor applied in azimuth direction while creating the floating-point quick-look image. Note: this is not the block averaging factor applied while creating the standard format image (TIFF).

#### **11.4.19 The Gr2Sr\_Block information block**

Name: Gr2Sr\_Block  
Type: Information Block  
Unit: N/A

Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies a set of ground-range to slant-range conversion polynomials.

The Gr2Sr\_Block information block contains the following plain tags:

- NrGr2Sr - plain tag
- gr2sr - information blocks, multiple instances

These information blocks and plain tags are described in the following.

#### **11.4.19.1 The NrGr2Sr plain tag**

Name: NrGr2Sr  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 40]  
Example: 1  
Description: Specifies the number of gr2sr information blocks following.

#### **11.4.19.2 The gr2sr information block**

Name: gr2sr  
Type: Information Block  
Unit: N/A  
Range: N/A  
Example: N/A  
Description: Specifies one ground-range to slant-range conversion polynomial.

The gr2sr information block contains the following plain tags:

- reference\_date - plain tag
- reference\_range - plain tag
- number\_of\_coefficients - plain tag
- a0..a3 - plain tags

These plain tags are described in the following.

##### ***11.4.19.2.1 The reference\_date plain tag***

Name: reference\_date  
Type: date/time string  
Unit: YYYYMMDDhhmmsstt  
Range: all valid date/time strings

Example: 19960610145924761  
Description: Specifies the reference UTC date/time of this polynomial.

#### **11.4.19.2.2 The reference\_range plain tag**

Name: reference\_range  
Type: float  
Unit: meters  
Range: [0.0, 1500000.0]  
Example: 0.0  
Description: Specifies the reference range of this polynomial.

#### **11.4.19.2.3 The number\_of\_coefficients plain tag**

Name: number\_of\_coefficients  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [1, 6]  
Example: 4  
Description: Specifies the number of coefficients of this polynomial.

#### **11.4.19.2.4 The a0-a5 plain tag**

Name: a0, a1, a2, a3, a4, a5  
Type: float  
Unit: meters  
Range: [-1.0, 1500000.0]  
Example: 829924.467835  
Description: Specifies the coefficients of this polynomial.

The following equation (3.0) can be used to calculate the slant range  $r_s$  at any point cross track (R) at the specified reference date:

$$r_s = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j \cdot (R - R_0)^j \quad (4.0)$$

where

- $r_s$  .....slant range in meters
- R.....across track variable (ground range) in meters
- $R_0$ .....the range reference value
- $a_j$ .....the j-th coefficient of the ground-to-slant range polynomial

To calculate the ground range R from the pixel number:

$$R = i * R_g \quad (4.1)$$

where

- R.....across track variable (ground range) in meters

- $i$ .....pixel number (0 for nearest pixel to sensor)
- $R_g$ .....the ground range pixel spacing in meters

The ground range pixel spacing can be obtained from the image\_desc information block.

#### **11.4.20 The dwell\_time plain tag**

Name: dwell\_time  
Type: float  
Unit: seconds  
Range: [0.0, 1.0]  
Example: 0.031163281521  
Description: Specifies the dwell time of the burst sequence. The dwell time is the time extent of one burst cycle. A burst cycle is one sequence of all different beams involved in a ScanSAR mode.

#### **11.4.21 The integration\_time plain tag**

Name: integration\_time  
Type: float  
Unit: seconds  
Range: [0.0, 1.0]  
Example: 0.653025625576  
Description: Specifies the time extent of a processed burst.

#### **11.4.22 The range\_decimation\_factor plain tag**

Name: range\_decimation\_factor  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 32]  
Example: 8  
Description: Specifies the decimation factor applied to reduce the number of range samples after range compression has been applied.

#### **11.4.23 The raw\_start\_burst plain tag**

Name: raw\_start\_burst  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 99999]  
Example: 0  
Description: Specifies the first raw burst number that was used to create this quick-look image.

#### **11.4.24 The nr\_raw\_bursts plain tag**

Name: nr\_raw\_bursts  
Type: integer  
Unit: N/A  
Range: [0, 99999]  
Example: 1799  
Description: Specifies the number of raw bursts used to create this quick-look image.

## 11.4.25 QuickLook Image Parameter File Example

```
sensor {
  sensor_name: JERS1
  clock_angle: 90.00000000
  nr_temperatures: 0
  nr_beams: 1
  beam {
    beam_name: JERS1
    nr_of_samples: 6144
    echo_delay: 0.00471774000658
    carrier_freq: 1274086000.00000000
    sampling_freq: 17076000.00000000
    PRF: 1555.20000000
    chirp_rate: -427570000000.00006000
    pulse_length: 0.00003500000000
    look_angle: 35.21000000
    incidence_angle: 38.97000000
    range_spectrum_snr: 0.000000
    replica_energy_ref_level: 1.000000
    call_cal2_diff_ref_level: 0.000000
    thermal_noise_ref_level: -24.000000
    gain_corctn_factor: 1.000000
    gain_scale: -13.400000
    PolarizationBlock {
      NrPolarizations: 1
      Polarization {
        polarization: HH
        polarization_amplitude: 1.00000000
        polarization_phase: 0.00000000
        stc_pattern_id: -1
        IQStatistics {
          I_mean: -0.141744
          Q_mean: -0.445589
          I_std: 1.558211
          Q_std: 1.547448
          IQ_corr: 0.087245
        }
      }
    }
  }
  DopplerCentroidParameters {
    doppler_centroid_coefficients {
      reference_first_dimension: 731513.333966
      reference_second_dimension: 1499201244.480709
      number_of_coefficients_first_dimension: 2
      number_of_coefficients_second_dimension: 3
      a00: 713.492
      a01: -0.000295374
      a10: 2.25695
      a11: 5.14378e-06
    }
  }
}
```



```
        a20: -0.000488737
        a21: 3.31817e-09
    }
    reference_range: 731513.333966
    reference_date: 19970704204724480
    ambiguity_number: 0
    MLCC_ambiguity_number_occurence: 0
    MLBF_ambiguity_number_occurence: 0
    DAR_doppler: 713.491652
    Predict_doppler: 912.338184
    DAR_confidence: 0.000000
    doppler_fit_correlation: 1.000000
    doppler_status: SUCCESS
}
DopplerRateParameters {
    effective_velocity_coefficients {
        reference_first_dimension: 734138.010264
        reference_second_dimension: 1499201244.480387
        number_of_coefficients_first_dimension: 2
        number_of_coefficients_second_dimension: 2
        a00: 7283.54
        a01: -0.000169806
        a10: 0.0287741
        a11: 4.85411e-08
    }
    veff: 7283.538656
    reference_range: 734138.010264
    reference_date: 19970704204724480
    autofocus_scale_factor: 1.000670
    autofocus_snr: 25.066750
    autofocus_suggested_ambiguity_number: 0
    autofocus_status: SUCCESS
}
}
ephemeris {
    sv_block {
        NrSV: 1
        state_vector {
            x: 4631167.068366
            y: 2265960.647816
            z: 4653204.900000
            xv: -3721.171358
            yv: -3771.711763
            zv: 5523.830000
            Date: 19970704202859998
        }
    }
}
Attitude {
    yaw: 0.000000
    roll: 0.000000
    pitch: 0.000000
    Date: 19970704204724319689
```

```
        yawpoly {
            reference: 1499201244.319704
            number_of_coefficients: 4
            a0: 0
            a1: 0
            a2: 0
            a3: 0
        }
        rollpoly {
            reference: 1499201244.319704
            number_of_coefficients: 4
            a0: 0
            a1: 0
            a2: 0
            a3: 0
        }
        pitchpoly {
            reference: 1499201244.319704
            number_of_coefficients: 4
            a0: 0
            a1: 0
            a2: 0
            a3: 0
        }
    }
    OrbitNr: 29517
    OrbitNr_Date: 19970704204314592
    GHA {
        angle: 233.704512
        date: 19970704204314592
    }
    Type: RESTITUTED
}
flight_path_direction: DESCENDING
RawSARImage {
    image_desc {
        Facility: Vexcel
        Format: STF_Telemetry
        Type: RAW
        BytesPerPixel: 2
        Title: JERS1 orbit: 29517
        PixelSpacing: 8.778182
        PixelResolution: 10.016487
        LineSpacing: 4.505601
        LineResolution: 6.371882
        NrPixels: 6144
        NrLines: 777250
        MinValue:      0.000000000
        MaxValue:      3.000000000
        MeanValue:     0.000000000
        SigmaValue:    0.000000000
    }
}
```

```
    coord {
      earth_model {
        name: TOKYO
        ellipsoid_name: Bessel_1841
        major: 6377397.155000
        minor: 6356078.963000
        terrain_height: 0.000000
        mass: 5.974e+24
        delta_x:    -147.5400000000
        delta_y:     507.2600000000
        delta_z:     680.4700000000
        g: 6.6622e-11
        j2: 0.00108262
        j3: 2.53881e-06
        j4: -1.65597e-06
      }
      first_line_first_pixel: 82.708760 -114.794908 -0.036111
      first_line_last_pixel: 83.136721 -119.929043 -0.035224
      last_line_first_pixel: 53.011219 -148.052982 -0.051974
      last_line_last_pixel: 53.142569 -149.289291 -0.051318
      center_line_center_pixel: 68.360064 -142.384251 -0.042994
    }
  }
  processor_name: SKY
  processor_version: 2.21
  first_line: 19970704204314592981
  first_line_txpol: H
  time_per_line: 0.000643004115
}
ScanSARProduct {
  image_desc {
    Facility: VEXCEL
    Format: Vexcel Plain
    Type: GLI
    BytesPerPixel: 4
    Title: JERS1 orbit: 29517
    PixelSpacing: 75.000000
    PixelResolution: 147.519813
    LineSpacing: 75.000000
    LineResolution: 90.286233
    NrPixels: 1029
    NrLines: 46946
    MinValue:    0.000000027
    MaxValue:    295.588012695
    MeanValue:   0.487601314
    SigmaValue:  0.071618736
    coord {
      earth_model {
        name: TOKYO
        ellipsoid_name: Bessel_1841
        major: 6377397.155000
        minor: 6356078.963000
```

```
        terrain_height: 0.000000
        mass: 5.974e+24
        delta_x:    -147.5400000000
        delta_y:    507.2600000000
        delta_z:    680.4700000000
        g: 6.6622e-11
        j2: 0.00108262
        j3: 2.53881e-06
        j4: -1.65597e-06
    }
    first_line_first_pixel: 82.736864 -114.629405 -0.036098
    first_line_last_pixel: 83.127784 -119.254406 -0.035296
    last_line_first_pixel: 52.882368 -148.093037 -0.052042
    last_line_last_pixel: 53.001546 -149.206775 -0.051451
    center_line_center_pixel: 68.304788 -142.311402 -0.043061
}
}
processor_name: QuickLook
processor_version: 2.21
image_type: BetaNought
polarization: HH
first_line: 19970704204314028590
time_per_line: 0.010702638894
OrbitNr: 29517
OrbitNr_Date: 19970704204725251
near_range: 707171.437500
center_range: 731407.562500
far_range: 755643.687500
skew_flag: 0
Kaiser_range: 2.400000
Kaiser_azimuth: 2.400000
range_looks: 1
azimuth_looks: 4
range_block_average_factor: 1
azimuth_block_average_factor: 1
Gr2Sr_Block {
    NrGr2Sr: 1
    gr2sr {
        reference_date: 19970704204314075
        reference_range: 0.000000
        number_of_coefficients: 4
        a0: 707171.342905
        a1: 5.908754e-01
        a2: 5.221931e-07
        a3: -4.109836e-13
    }
}
}
dwell_time: 0.391060547402
integration_time: 1.564242189606
range_decimation_factor: 8
raw_start_burst: 0
nr_raw_bursts: 1275
```

}

### **11.5 The QuickLook standard format image (TIFF, JPEG)**

The QuickLook standard format image is created from the floating-point quick-look image. The floating-point image can be down-averaged further to reduce the size of the image. An exponential factor can be applied in the conversion from floating-point pixels (32 bit) to integer pixels (8 bit). The image is written in a standard format. Right now, the TIFF and JPEG formats are supported.

Note that the quick-look image parameter file describes the image characteristic of the floating-point image file. The standard format file will inherit most of the image characteristics. Obviously, the number of lines and pixels will change if the image was further down-averaged, in addition to image mean, max and standard deviation values. The corner coordinates will still be valid also for the standard format image.