



Swift Navigation Binary Protocol

Protocol Specification v0.33

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1 Overview

The Swift Navigation Binary Protocol (SBP) is a fast, simple, and minimal binary protocol for communicating with Swift devices. It is the native binary protocol used by the Piksi GPS receiver to transmit solutions, observations, status, and debugging messages, as well as receive messages from the host operating system, such as differential corrections and the almanac. As such, it is an important interface with your Piksi receiver and the primary integration method with other systems.

This document provides a specification of SBP framing and the payload structures of the messages currently used with Swift devices. SBP client libraries in a variety of programming languages are available at http://docs.swiftnav.com/wiki/SwiftNav_Binary_Protocol.

2 Message Structure

SBP consists of two pieces:

- an over-the-wire message framing format
- structured payload definitions

As of Version 0.33, the packet consists of a 6-byte binary header section, a variable-sized payload field, and a 16-bit CRC value. All multibyte values are ordered in **little-endian** format. SBP uses the CCITT CRC16 (XMODEM implementation) for error detection¹.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Name	Description
0	1	Preamble	Denotes the start of frame transmission. Always 0x55.
1	2	Message Type	Identifies the payload contents.
3	2	Sender	A unique identifier of the sender. On the Piksi, this is set to the 2 least significant bytes of the device serial number. A stream of SBP messages may also include sender IDs for forwarded messages.
5	1	Length	Length (bytes) of the Payload field.
6	N	Payload	Binary message contents.
$N + 6$	2	CRC	Cyclic Redundancy Check of the packet's binary data from the Message Type up to the end of Payload (does not include the Preamble).
	$N + 8$		Total Payload Length

Table 2.0.1: Swift Binary Protocol message structure. N denotes a variable-length size.

Swift devices, such as the Piksi, also support the standard NMEA-0183 protocol for single-point position solutions. Observations transmitted via SBP can also be converted into RINEX. Note that NMEA doesn't define a standardized message string for RTK solutions. To make it possible to achieve RTK accuracy with legacy host hardware or software that can only read NMEA, recent firmware versions implement a "pseudo-absolute" mode.

¹CCITT 16-bit CRC Implementation uses parameters used by XMODEM, i.e. the polynomial: $x^{16} + x^{12} + x^5 + 1$. For more details, please see the implementation at <https://github.com/swift-nav/libsbp/blob/master/c/src/edc.c#L59>. See also *A Painless Guide to CRC Error Detection Algorithms* at http://www.ross.net/crc/download/crc_v3.txt

3 Basic Formats and Payload Structure

The binary payload of an SBP message decodes into structured data based on the message type defined in the header. SBP uses several primitive numerical and collection types for defining payload contents.

Name	Size (bytes)	Description
s8	1	Signed 8-bit integer
s16	2	Signed 16-bit integer
s32	4	Signed 32-bit integer
s64	8	Signed 64-bit integer
u8	1	Unsigned 8-bit integer
u16	2	Unsigned 16-bit integer
u32	4	Unsigned 32-bit integer
u64	8	Unsigned 64-bit integer
float	4	Single-precision float (IEEE-754)
double	8	Double-precision float (IEEE-754)
array	—	Fixed or variable length array of any fill type
string	—	Fixed or variable length string (NULL padded/terminated)
bitfield	—	A primitive type, typically a u8, can encode boolean and enumerated status flags.

Table 3.0.2: SBP primitive types

Example Message

As an example, consider this framed series of bytes read from a serial port:

55 02 02 cc 04 14 70 3d d0 18 cf ef ff ff ef e8 ff ff f0 18 00 00 00 00 05 00 43 94

This byte array decodes into a MSG_BASELINE_ECEF (see pg. 7), that reports the baseline position solution of the rover receiver relative to the base station receiver in Earth Centered Earth Fixed (ECEF) coordinates. The segments of this byte array and its contents breakdown as follows:

Field Name	Type	Value	Bytestring Segment
Preamble	u8	0x55	55
Message Type	u16	MSG_BASELINE_ECEF	02 02
Sender	u16	1228	cc 04
Length	u8	20	14
Payload	—	—	70 3d d0 18 cf ef ff ff ef e8 ff ff f0 18 00 00 00 00 05 00
MSG_BASELINE_ECEF			
.tow	u32	416300400 msec	70 3d d0 18
.x	s32	−4145 mm	cf ef ff ff
.y	s32	−5905 mm	ef e8 ff ff
.z	s32	6384 mm	f0 18 00 00
.accuracy	u16	0	00 00
.nsats	u8	5	05
.flags	u8	0	00
CRC	u16	0x9443	43 94

Table 3.0.3: SBP breakdown for MSG_BASELINE_ECEF

4 Message Types

Packages define a logical collection of SBP messages. The contents and layout of messages in packages marked **stable** are unlikely to change in the future. **Draft** messages *will change with future development* and are detailed purely for *informational purposes only*. Many draft messages are implementation-defined, and some collections, such as the acquisition package, are used for internal development.

Package	Msg ID	Name	Size (bytes)	Description
Stable				
Navigation	0x0100	MSG_GPS_TIME	11	GPS Time
	0x0206	MSG_DOPS	14	Dilution of Precision
	0x0200	MSG_POS_ECEF	32	Single-point position in ECEF
	0x0201	MSG_POS_LLH	34	Geodetic Position
	0x0202	MSG_BASELINE_ECEF	20	Baseline Position in ECEF
	0x0203	MSG_BASELINE_NED	22	Baseline in NED
	0x0204	MSG_VEL_ECEF	20	Velocity in ECEF
	0x0205	MSG_VEL_NED	22	Velocity in NED
System	0xFF00	MSG_STARTUP	4	System start-up message
	0xFFFF	MSG_HEARTBEAT	4	System heartbeat message
Draft				
Acquisition	0x0015	MSG_ACQ_RESULT	13	Satellite acquisition result
Bootload	0x00B0	MSG_BOOTLOADER_HANDSHAKE	N	Bootloading handshake
	0x00DD	MSG_NAP_DEVICE_DNA	8	Read FPGA device ID over UART
File IO	0x00A8	MSG_FILEIO_READ	25	Read file from the file system
	0x00A9	MSG_FILEIO_READ_DIR	24	List files in a directory
	0x00AC	MSG_FILEIO_REMOVE	20	Delete a file from the file system
	0x00AD	MSG_FILEIO_WRITE	$N + 24$	Write to file
Flash	0x00E0	MSG_FLASH_PROGRAM	$N + 5$	Program flash addresses
	0x00E0	MSG_FLASH_DONE	1	Flash response message
	0x00E1	MSG_FLASH_READ	5	Read STM or M25 flash address
	0x00E2	MSG_FLASH_ERASE	5	Erase sector of device flash memory
	0x00E3	MSG_STM_FLASH_LOCK_SECTOR	4	Lock sector of STM flash memory
	0x00E4	MSG_STM_FLASH_UNLOCK_SECTOR	4	Unlock sector of STM flash memory
	0x00E5	MSG_STM_UNIQUE_ID	12	Read device's hardcoded unique ID
Logging	0x0010	MSG_PRINT	N	Plaintext logging messages
Observation	0x0045	MSG_OBS	$13N + 7$	GPS satellite observations
	0x0044	MSG_BASE_POS	24	Base station position
	0x0046	MSG_EPHEMERIS	175	WGS84 satellite ephemeris parameters
Piksi	0x00B2	MSG_RESET	0	Reset the device
	0x0023	MSG_INIT_BASE	0	Initialize IAR from known baseline
	0x0017	MSG_THREAD_STATE	26	State of an RTOS thread
	0x0018	MSG_UART_STATE	58	State of the UART channels
Settings	0x00A0	MSG_SETTINGS	N	R/W device configuration settings
	0x00A1	MSG_SETTINGS_SAVE	0	Save settings to flash
Tracking	0x0016	MSG_TRACKING_STATE	$6N$	Satellite tracking channel states

Table 4.0.4: SBP message types

5 Stable Message Definitions

5.1 Navigation

Geodetic navigation messages reporting GPS time, position, velocity, and baseline position solutions. For position solutions, these messages define several different position solutions: single-point (SPP), RTK, and pseudo-absolute position solutions.

The SPP is the standalone, absolute GPS position solution using only a single receiver. The RTK solution is the differential GPS solution, which can use either a fixed/integer or floating carrier phase ambiguity. The pseudo-absolute position solution uses a user-provided, well-surveyed base station position (if available) and the RTK solution in tandem.

MSG_GPS_TIME — 0x0100

This message reports the GPS time, representing the time since the GPS epoch began on midnight January 6, 1980 UTC. GPS time counts the weeks and seconds of the week. The weeks begin at the Saturday/Sunday transition. GPS week 0 began at the beginning of the GPS time scale.

Within each week number, the GPS time of the week is between between 0 and 604800 seconds ($=60*60*24*7$). Note that GPS time does not accumulate leap seconds, and as of now, has a small offset from UTC. In a message stream, this message precedes a set of other navigation messages referenced to the same time (but lacking the ns field) and indicates a more precise time of these messages.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	2	u16	weeks	wn	GPS week number
2	4	u32	ms	tow	GPS time of week rounded to the nearest millisecond
6	4	s32	ns	ns	Nanosecond residual of millisecond-rounded TOW (ranges from -500000 to 500000)
10	1	u8		flags	Status flags (reserved)
	11				Total Payload Length

Table 5.1.1: MSG_GPS_TIME 0x0100 message structure

MSG_DOPS — 0x0206

This dilution of precision (DOP) message describes the effect of navigation satellite geometry on positional measurement precision.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	u32	ms	tow	GPS Time of Week
4	2	u16		gdop	Geometric Dilution of Precision
6	2	u16		pdop	Position Dilution of Precision
8	2	u16		tdop	Time Dilution of Precision
10	2	u16		hdop	Horizontal Dilution of Precision
12	2	u16		vdop	Vertical Dilution of Precision
	14				Total Payload Length

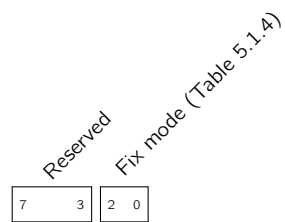
Table 5.1.2: MSG_DOPS 0x0206 message structure

MSG_POS_ECEF — 0x0200

The position solution message reports absolute Earth Centered Earth Fixed (ECEF) coordinates and the status (single point vs pseudo-absolute RTK) of the position solution. If the rover receiver knows the surveyed position of the base station and has an RTK solution, this reports a pseudo-absolute position solution using the base station position and the rover's RTK baseline vector. The full GPS time is given by the preceding MSG_GPS_TIME with the matching time-of-week (tow).

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	u32	ms	<code>tow</code>	GPS Time of Week
4	8	double	m	<code>x</code>	ECEF X coordinate
12	8	double	m	<code>y</code>	ECEF Y coordinate
20	8	double	m	<code>z</code>	ECEF Z coordinate
28	2	u16	mm	<code>accuracy</code>	Position accuracy estimate (not implemented). Defaults to 0.
30	1	u8		<code>n_sats</code>	Number of satellites used in solution
31	1	u8		<code>flags</code>	Status flags
32					Total Payload Length

Table 5.1.3: MSG_POS_ECEF 0x0200 message structure

Field 5.1.1: Status flags (`flags`)

Value	Description
0	Single Point Positioning (SPP)
1	Float RTK
2	Fixed RTK

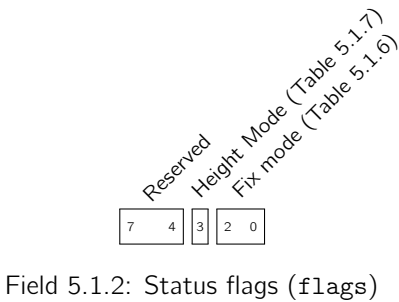
Table 5.1.4: Fix mode values (`flags[0:2]`)

MSG_POS_LLH — 0x0201

This position solution message reports the absolute geodetic coordinates and the status (single point vs pseudo-absolute RTK) of the position solution. If the rover receiver knows the surveyed position of the base station and has an RTK solution, this reports a pseudo-absolute position solution using the base station position and the rover’s RTK baseline vector. The full GPS time is given by the preceding MSG_GPS_TIME with the matching time-of-week (tow).

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	u32	ms	tow	GPS Time of Week
4	8	double	deg	lat	Latitude
12	8	double	deg	lon	Longitude
20	8	double	m	height	Height
28	2	u16	mm	h_accuracy	Horizontal position accuracy estimate (not implemented). Defaults to 0.
30	2	u16	mm	v_accuracy	Vertical position accuracy estimate (not implemented). Defaults to 0.
32	1	u8		n_sats	Number of satellites used in solution.
33	1	u8		flags	Status flags
34					Total Payload Length

Table 5.1.5: MSG_POS_LLH 0x0201 message structure



Value	Description
0	Single Point Positioning (SPP)
1	Fixed RTK
2	Float RTK

Table 5.1.6: Fix mode values (flags[0:2])

Value	Description
0	Height above Ellipsoid
1	Height above mean sea level

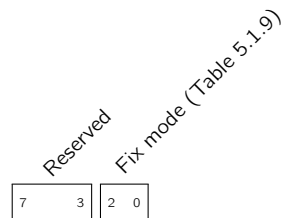
Table 5.1.7: Height Mode values (flags[3])

MSG_BASELINE_ECEF — 0x0202

This message reports the baseline solution in Earth Centered Earth Fixed (ECEF) coordinates. This baseline is the relative vector distance from the base station to the rover receiver. The full GPS time is given by the preceding MSG_GPS_TIME with the matching time-of-week (tow).

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	u32	ms	<code>tow</code>	GPS Time of Week
4	4	s32	mm	<code>x</code>	Baseline ECEF X coordinate
8	4	s32	mm	<code>y</code>	Baseline ECEF Y coordinate
12	4	s32	mm	<code>z</code>	Baseline ECEF Z coordinate
16	2	u16	mm	<code>accuracy</code>	Position accuracy estimate (not implemented). Defaults to 0.
18	1	u8		<code>n_sats</code>	Number of satellites used in solution
19	1	u8		<code>flags</code>	Status flags
20					Total Payload Length

Table 5.1.8: MSG_BASELINE_ECEF 0x0202 message structure

Field 5.1.3: Status flags (`flags`)

Value	Description
0	Float RTK
1	Fixed RTK

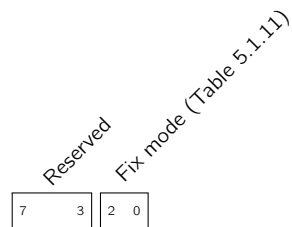
Table 5.1.9: Fix mode values (`flags[0:2]`)

MSG_BASELINE_NED — 0x0203

This message reports the baseline solution in North East Down (NED) coordinates. This baseline is the relative vector distance from the base station to the rover receiver, and NED coordinate system is defined at the local tangent plane centered at the base station position. The full GPS time is given by the preceding MSG_GPS_TIME with the matching time-of-week (tow).

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	u32	ms	tow	GPS Time of Week
4	4	s32	mm	n	Baseline North coordinate
8	4	s32	mm	e	Baseline East coordinate
12	4	s32	mm	d	Baseline Down coordinate
16	2	u16	mm	h_accuracy	Horizontal position accuracy estimate (not implemented). Defaults to 0.
18	2	u16	mm	v_accuracy	Vertical position accuracy estimate (not implemented). Defaults to 0.
20	1	u8		n_sats	Number of satellites used in solution
21	1	u8		flags	Status flags
22					Total Payload Length

Table 5.1.10: MSG_BASELINE_NED 0x0203 message structure



Field 5.1.4: Status flags (flags)

Value	Description
0	Float RTK
1	Fixed RTK

Table 5.1.11: Fix mode values (flags[0:2])

MSG_VEL_ECEF — 0x0204

This message reports the velocity in Earth Centered Earth Fixed (ECEF) coordinates. The full GPS time is given by the preceding MSG_GPS_TIME with the matching time-of-week (tow).

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	u32	ms	<code>tow</code>	GPS Time of Week
4	4	s32	mm/s	<code>x</code>	Velocity ECEF X coordinate
8	4	s32	mm/s	<code>y</code>	Velocity ECEF Y coordinate
12	4	s32	mm/s	<code>z</code>	Velocity ECEF Z coordinate
16	2	u16	mm/s	<code>accuracy</code>	Velocity accuracy estimate (not implemented). Defaults to 0.
18	1	u8		<code>n_sats</code>	Number of satellites used in solution
19	1	u8		<code>flags</code>	Status flags (reserved)
					Total Payload Length
					20

Table 5.1.12: MSG_VEL_ECEF 0x0204 message structure

MSG_VEL_NED — 0x0205

This message reports the velocity in local North East Down (NED) coordinates. The full GPS time is given by the preceding MSG_GPS_TIME with the matching time-of-week (tow).

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	u32	ms	<code>tow</code>	GPS Time of Week
4	4	s32	mm/s	<code>n</code>	Velocity North coordinate
8	4	s32	mm/s	<code>e</code>	Velocity East coordinate
12	4	s32	mm/s	<code>d</code>	Velocity Down coordinate
16	2	u16	mm/s	<code>h_accuracy</code>	Horizontal velocity accuracy estimate (not implemented). Defaults to 0.
18	2	u16	mm/s	<code>v_accuracy</code>	Vertical velocity accuracy estimate (not implemented). Defaults to 0.
20	1	u8		<code>n_sats</code>	Number of satellites used in solution
21	1	u8		<code>flags</code>	Status flags (reserved)
22					Total Payload Length

Table 5.1.13: MSG_VEL_NED 0x0205 message structure

5.2 System

Standardized system messages from Swift Navigation devices.

MSG_STARTUP — 0xFF00

The system start-up message is sent once on system start-up. It notifies the host or other attached devices that the system has started and is now ready to respond to commands or configuration requests.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	u32		reserved	Reserved
	4				Total Payload Length

Table 5.2.1: MSG_STARTUP 0xFF00 message structure

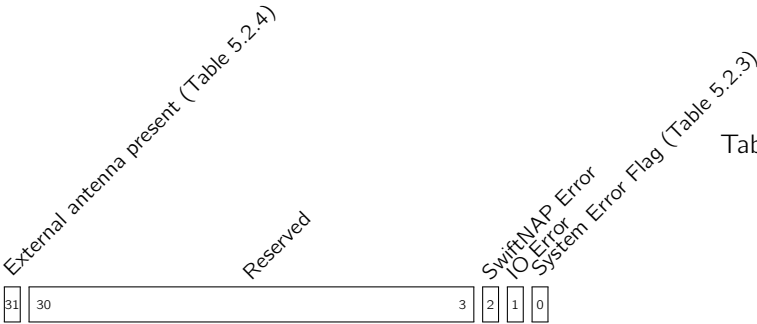
MSG_HEARTBEAT — 0xFFFF

The heartbeat message is sent periodically to inform the host or other attached devices that the system is running. It is used to monitor system malfunctions. It also contains status flags that indicate to the host the status of the system and whether it is operating correctly. Currently, the expected heartbeat interval is 1 sec.

The system error flag is used to indicate that an error has occurred in the system. To determine the source of the error, the remaining error flags should be inspected.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	u32		flags	Status flags
	4				Total Payload Length

Table 5.2.2: MSG_HEARTBEAT 0xFFFF message structure



Field 5.2.1: Status flags (flags)

Value	Description
0	System Healthy
1	An error has occurred

Table 5.2.3: System Error Flag values (flags[0])

Value	Description
0	No external antenna detected
1	External antenna is present

Table 5.2.4: External antenna present values (flags[31])

Draft Message Definitions

6.1 Acquisition

Satellite acquisition messages from the device.

MSG_ACQ_RESULT — 0x0015

This message describes the results from an attempted GPS signal acquisition search for a satellite PRN over a code phase/carrier frequency range. It contains the parameters of the point in the acquisition search space with the best signal-to-noise (SNR) ratio.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	float		snr	SNR of best point. Currently dimensionless, but will have units of dB Hz in the revision of this message.
4	4	float	chips	cp	Code phase of best point
8	4	float	hz	cf	Carrier frequency of best point
12	1	u8		prn	PRN-1 identifier of the satellite signal for which acquisition was attempted
	13				Total Payload Length

Table 6.1.1: MSG_ACQ_RESULT 0x0015 message structure

6.2 Bootload

Messages for the bootloading configuration on the device.

These are in the implementation-defined range (0x0000-0x00FF), and are intended for internal use only. Note that some of these messages share the same message type ID for both the host request and the device response.

MSG_BOOTLOADER_HANDSHAKE — 0x00B0

The handshake message establishes a handshake between the device bootloader and the host. The payload string contains the bootloader version number, but returns an empty string for earlier versions.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	N	u8[N]		handshake	Version number string (not NULL terminated)
	N				Total Payload Length

Table 6.2.1: MSG_BOOTLOADER_HANDSHAKE 0x00B0 message structure

MSG_NAP_DEVICE_DNA — 0x00DD

The device message from the host reads a unique device identifier from the SwiftNAP, an FPGA. The host requests the ID by sending a MSG_NAP_DEVICE_DNA with an empty payload. The device responds with the same message with the device ID in the payload. Note that this ID is tied to the FPGA, and not related to the Piksi's serial number.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	8	u8[8]		dna	57-bit SwiftNAP FPGA Device ID. Remaining bits are padded on the right.
	8				Total Payload Length

Table 6.2.2: MSG_NAP_DEVICE_DNA 0x00DD message structure

6.3 File IO

Messages for using device's onboard flash filesystem functionality. This allows data to be stored persistently in the device's program flash with wear-levelling using a simple filesystem interface. The file system interface (CFS) defines an abstract API for reading directories and for reading and writing files.

These are in the implementation-defined range (0x0000-0x00FF), and intended for internal-use only. Note that some of these messages share the same message type ID for both the host request and the device response.

MSG_FILEIO_READ — 0x00A8

The file read message reads a certain length (up to 255 bytes) from a given offset into a file, and returns the data in a MSG_FILEIO_READ message where the message length field indicates how many bytes were successfully read. If the message is invalid, a followup MSG_PRINT message will print "Invalid fileio read message".

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	u32	bytes	<code>offset</code>	File offset
4	1	u8	bytes	<code>chunk_size</code>	Chunk size to read
5	20	string		<code>filename</code>	Name of the file to read from (NULL padded)
	25				Total Payload Length

Table 6.3.1: MSG_FILEIO_READ 0x00A8 message structure

MSG_FILEIO_READ_DIR — 0x00A9

The read directory message lists the files in a directory on the device's onboard flash file system. The offset parameter can be used to skip the first *n* elements of the file list. Returns a MSG_FILEIO_READ_DIR message containing the directory listings as a NULL delimited list. The listing is chunked over multiple SBP packets and the end of the list is identified by an entry containing just the character 0xFF. If message is invalid, a followup MSG_PRINT message will print "Invalid fileio read message".

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	u32		offset	The offset to skip the first <i>n</i> elements of the file list
4	20	string		dirname	Name of the directory to list (NULL padded)
	24				Total Payload Length

Table 6.3.2: MSG_FILEIO_READ_DIR 0x00A9 message structure

MSG_FILEIO_REMOVE — 0x00AC

The file remove message deletes a file from the file system. If message is invalid, a followup MSG_PRINT message will print "Invalid fileio remove message".

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	20	string		filename	Name of the file to delete (NULL padded)
	20				Total Payload Length

Table 6.3.3: MSG_FILEIO_REMOVE 0x00AC message structure

MSG_FILEIO_WRITE — 0x00AD

The file write message writes a certain length (up to 255 bytes) of data to a file at a given offset. Returns a copy of the original MSG_FILEIO_WRITE message to check integrity of the write. If message is invalid, a followup MSG_PRINT message will print "Invalid fileio write message".

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	20	string		<code>filename</code>	Name of the file to write to (NULL padded)
20	4	u32	bytes	<code>offset</code>	Offset into the file at which to start writing in bytes
24	N	u8[N]		<code>data</code>	Variable-length array of data to write
	$N + 24$				Total Payload Length

Table 6.3.4: MSG_FILEIO_WRITE 0x00AD message structure

6.4 Flash

Messages for reading/writing the device's onboard flash memory. Many of these messages target specific flash memory peripherals used in Swift Navigation devices: the STM32 flash and the M25Pxx FPGA configuration flash.

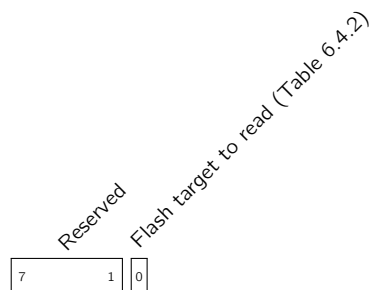
These are in the implementation-defined range (0x0000-0x00FF), and are intended for internal-use only.

MSG_FLASH_PROGRAM — 0x00E0

The flash program message programs a set of addresses of either the STM or M25 flash. The device replies with either a MSG_FLASH_DONE message containing the return code FLASH_OK (0) on success, or FLASH_INVALID_LEN (2) if the maximum write size is exceeded. Note that the sector-containing addresses must be erased before addresses can be programmed.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	1	u8		target	Target flags
1	3	u8[3]	bytes	addr_start	Starting address offset to program
4	1	u8	bytes	addr_len	Length of set of addresses to program, counting up from starting address
5	N	u8[N]		data	Data to program addresses with, with length $N=addr_len$
	$N + 5$				Total Payload Length

Table 6.4.1: MSG_FLASH_PROGRAM 0x00E0 message structure



Field 6.4.1: Target flags (target)

Value	Description
0	FLASH_STM
1	FLASH_M25

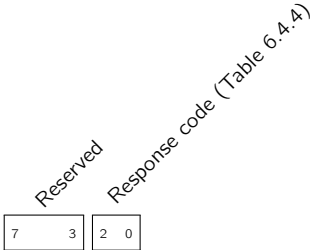
Table 6.4.2: Flash target to read values (target[0])

MSG_FLASH_DONE — 0x00E0

This message defines success or failure codes for a variety of flash memory requests from the host to the device. Flash read and write messages, such as MSG_FLASH_READ or MSG_FLASH_WRITE, may return this message on failure.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	1	u8		response	Response flags
	1				Total Payload Length

Table 6.4.3: MSG_FLASH_DONE 0x00E0 message structure



Field 6.4.2: Response flags (response)

Value	Description
0	FLASH_OK
1	FLASH_INVALID_FLASH
2	FLASH_INVALID_LEN
3	FLASH_INVALID_ADDR
4	FLASH_INVALID_RANGE
5	FLASH_INVALID_SECTOR

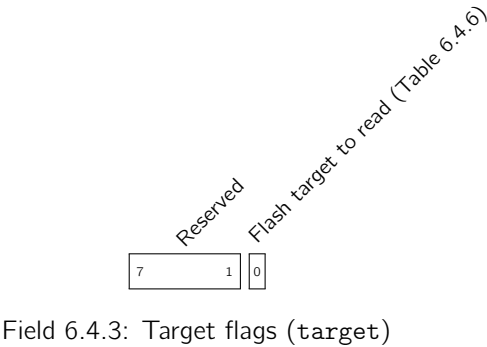
Table 6.4.4: Response code values (response[0:2])

MSG_FLASH_READ — 0x00E1

The flash read message reads a set of addresses of either the STM or M25 onboard flash. The device replies with a MSG_FLASH_READ message containing either the read data on success or a MSG_FLASH_DONE message containing the return code FLASH_INVALID_LEN (2) if the maximum read size is exceeded or FLASH_INVALID_ADDR (3) if the address is outside of the allowed range.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	1	u8		target	Target flags
1	3	u8[3]	bytes	addr_start	Starting address offset to read from
4	1	u8	bytes	addr_len	Length of set of addresses to read, counting up from starting address
5					Total Payload Length

Table 6.4.5: MSG_FLASH_READ 0x00E1 message structure



Field 6.4.3: Target flags (target)

Value	Description
0	FLASH_STM
1	FLASH_M25

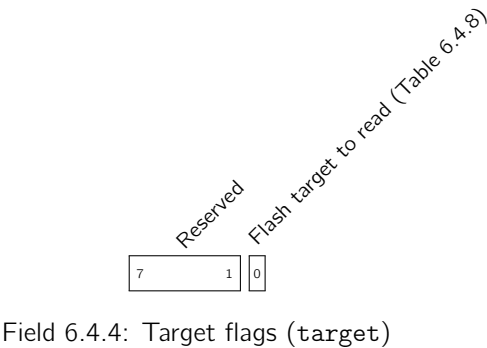
Table 6.4.6: Flash target to read values (target[0])

MSG_FLASH_ERASE — 0x00E2

The flash erase message from the host erases a sector of either the STM or M25 onboard flash memory. The device will reply with a MSG_FLASH_DONE message containing the return code - FLASH_OK (0) on success or FLASH_INVALID_FLASH (1) if the flash specified is invalid.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	1	u8		target	Target flags
1	4	u32		sector_num	Flash sector number to erase (0-11 for the STM, 0-15 for the M25)
5					Total Payload Length

Table 6.4.7: MSG_FLASH_ERASE 0x00E2 message structure



Value	Description
0	FLASH_STM
1	FLASH_M25

Table 6.4.8: Flash target to read values (target[0])

MSG_STM_FLASH_LOCK_SECTOR — 0x00E3

The flash lock message locks a sector of the STM flash memory. The device replies with a MSG_FLASH_DONE message.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	u32		sector	Flash sector number to lock
	4				Total Payload Length

Table 6.4.9: MSG_STM_FLASH_LOCK_SECTOR 0x00E3 message structure

MSG_STM_FLASH_UNLOCK_SECTOR — 0x00E4

The flash unlock message unlocks a sector of the STM flash memory. The device replies with a MSG_FLASH_DONE message.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	u32		<code>sector</code>	Flash sector number to unlock
	4				Total Payload Length

Table 6.4.10: MSG_STM_FLASH_UNLOCK_SECTOR 0x00E4 message structure

MSG_STM_UNIQUE_ID — 0x00E5

This message reads the device's hardcoded unique ID. The device returns 12-byte unique ID back to host.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	12	u8[12]		stm_id	Device unique ID
	12				Total Payload Length

Table 6.4.11: MSG_STM_UNIQUE_ID 0x00E5 message structure

6.5 Logging

Logging and debugging messages from the device. These are in the implementation-defined range (0x0000-0x00FF).

MSG_PRINT — 0x0010

This message contains a human-readable payload string from the device containing errors, warnings and informational messages at ERROR, WARNING, DEBUG, INFO logging levels.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	<i>N</i>	string		text	Human-readable string
	<i>N</i>				Total Payload Length

Table 6.5.1: MSG_PRINT 0x0010 message structure

6.6 Observation

Satellite observation messages from the device.

MSG_OBS — 0x0045

The GPS observations message reports all the raw pseudorange and carrier phase observations for the satellites being tracked by the device. Carrier phase observation here is represented as a 40-bit fixed point number with Q32.8 layout (i.e. 32-bits of whole cycles and 8-bits of fractional cycles).

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	u32	ms	<code>header.t.tow</code>	Milliseconds since start of GPS week
4	2	u16	week	<code>header.t.wn</code>	GPS week number
6	1	u8		<code>header.n_obs</code>	Total number of observations. First nibble is the size of the sequence (n), second nibble is the zero-indexed counter (ith packet of n)
$13N + 7$	4	u32	cm	<code>obs[N].P</code>	Pseudorange observation
$13N + 11$	4	s32	cycles	<code>obs[N].L.i</code>	Carrier phase whole cycles
$13N + 15$	1	u8	cycles	<code>obs[N].L.f</code>	Carrier phase fractional part
$13N + 16$	1	u8	dB Hz	<code>obs[N].cn0</code>	Carrier-to-Noise density
$13N + 17$	2	u16		<code>obs[N].lock</code>	Lock indicator. This value changes whenever a satellite signal has lost and regained lock, indicating that the carrier phase ambiguity may have changed.
$13N + 19$	1	u8		<code>obs[N].prn</code>	PRN-1 identifier of the satellite signal
$13N + 7$					Total Payload Length

Table 6.6.1: MSG_OBS 0x0045 message structure

MSG_BASE_POS — 0x0044

The base station position message is the position reported by the base station itself. It is used for pseudo-absolute RTK positioning, and is required to be a high-accuracy surveyed location of the base station. Any error here will result in an error in the pseudo-absolute position output.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	8	double	deg	lat	Latitude
8	8	double	deg	lon	Longitude
16	8	double	m	height	Height
					Total Payload Length
					24

Table 6.6.2: MSG_BASE_POS 0x0044 message structure

MSG_EPHEMERIS — 0x0046

The ephemeris message returns a set of satellite orbit parameters that is used to calculate GPS satellite position, velocity, and clock offset (WGS84). Please see the Navstar GPS Space Segment/Navigation user interfaces (ICD-GPS-200, Table 20-III) for more details.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	8	double	s	tgdc	Group delay differential between L1 and L2
8	8	double	m	crs	Amplitude of the sine harmonic correction term to the orbit radius
16	8	double	m	crc	Amplitude of the cosine harmonic correction term to the orbit radius
24	8	double	rad	cuc	Amplitude of the cosine harmonic correction term to the argument of latitude
32	8	double	rad	cus	Amplitude of the sine harmonic correction term to the argument of latitude
40	8	double	rad	cic	Amplitude of the cosine harmonic correction term to the angle of inclination
48	8	double	rad	cis	Amplitude of the sine harmonic correction term to the angle of inclination
56	8	double	rad/s	dn	Mean motion difference
64	8	double	radians	m0	Mean anomaly at reference time
72	8	double		ecc	Eccentricity of satellite orbit
80	8	double	$m^{(1/2)}$	sqrta	Square root of the semi-major axis of orbit
88	8	double	rad	omega0	Longitude of ascending node of orbit plane at weekly epoch
96	8	double	rad/s	omegadot	Rate of right ascension
104	8	double	rad	w	Argument of perigee
112	8	double	rad	inc	Inclination
120	8	double	rad/s	inc_dot	Inclination first derivative
128	8	double	s	af0	Polynomial clock correction coefficient (clock bias)
136	8	double	s/s	af1	Polynomial clock correction coefficient (clock drift)
144	8	double	s/s^2	af2	Polynomial clock correction coefficient (rate of clock drift)
152	8	double	s	toe_tow	Time of week
160	2	u16	week	toe_wn	Week number
162	8	double	s	toc_tow	Clock reference time of week
170	2	u16	week	toc_wn	Clock reference week number
172	1	u8		valid	Is valid?
173	1	u8		healthy	Satellite is healthy?
174	1	u8		prn	PRN being tracked
175					Total Payload Length

Table 6.6.3: MSG_EPHEMERIS 0x0046 message structure

6.7 Piksi

System health, configuration, and diagnostic messages specific to the Piksi L1 receiver, including a variety of legacy messages that may no longer be used.

These messages are in the implementation-defined range (0x0000-0x00FF), and largely intended for internal-use only.

MSG_RESET — 0x00B2

This message from the host resets the Piksi back into the bootloader.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
	0				Total Payload Length

Table 6.7.1: MSG_RESET 0x00B2 message structure

MSG_INIT_BASE — 0x0023

This message initializes the integer ambiguity resolution (IAR) process on the Piksi to use an assumed baseline position between the base station and rover receivers. Warns via MSG_PRINT if there aren't a shared minimum number (4) of satellite observations between the two.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
	0				Total Payload Length

Table 6.7.2: MSG_INIT_BASE 0x0023 message structure

MSG_THREAD_STATE — 0x0017

The thread usage message from the device reports real-time operating system (RTOS) thread usage statistics for the named thread. The reported percentage values require to be normalized.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	20	string		name	Thread name (NULL terminated)
20	2	u16		cpu	Percentage cpu use for this thread. Values range from 0 - 1000 and needs to be renormalized to 100
22	4	u32	bytes	stack_free	Free stack space for this thread
	26				Total Payload Length

Table 6.7.3: MSG_THREAD_STATE 0x0017 message structure

MSG_UART_STATE — 0x0018

The UART message reports data latency and throughput of the UART channels providing SBP I/O. On the default Piksi configuration, UARTs A and B are used for telemetry radios, but can also be host access ports for embedded hosts, or other interfaces in future. The reported percentage values require to be normalized.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	4	float	kB/s	uart_a.tx_throughput	UART transmit throughput
4	4	float	kB/s	uart_a.rx_throughput	UART receive throughput
8	2	u16		uart_a.crc_error_count	UART CRC error count
10	2	u16		uart_a.io_error_count	UART IO error count
12	1	u8		uart_a.tx_buffer_level	UART transmit buffer percentage utilization (ranges from 0 - 255)
13	1	u8		uart_a.rx_buffer_level	UART receive buffer percentage utilization (ranges from 0 to 255)
14	4	float	kB/s	uart_b.tx_throughput	UART transmit throughput
18	4	float	kB/s	uart_b.rx_throughput	UART receive throughput
22	2	u16		uart_b.crc_error_count	UART CRC error count
24	2	u16		uart_b.io_error_count	UART IO error count
26	1	u8		uart_b.tx_buffer_level	UART transmit buffer percentage utilization (ranges from 0 - 255)
27	1	u8		uart_b.rx_buffer_level	UART receive buffer percentage utilization (ranges from 0 to 255)
28	4	float	kB/s	uart_ftdi.tx_throughput	UART transmit throughput
32	4	float	kB/s	uart_ftdi.rx_throughput	UART receive throughput
36	2	u16		uart_ftdi.crc_error_count	UART CRC error count
38	2	u16		uart_ftdi.io_error_count	UART IO error count
40	1	u8		uart_ftdi.tx_buffer_level	UART transmit buffer percentage utilization (ranges from 0 - 255)
41	1	u8		uart_ftdi.rx_buffer_level	UART receive buffer percentage utilization (ranges from 0 to 255)
42	4	s32	ms	latency.avg	Average latency
46	4	s32	ms	latency.lmin	Minimum latency
50	4	s32	ms	latency.lmax	Maximum latency
54	4	s32	ms	latency.current	Smoothed estimate of the current latency
58					Total Payload Length

Table 6.7.4: MSG_UART_STATE 0x0018 message structure

6.8 Settings

Messages for reading and writing the device's device settings.

These are in the implementation-defined range (0x0000-0x00FF). Note that some of these messages share the same message type ID for both the host request and the device response. See the accompanying document for descriptions of settings configurations and examples: https://github.com/swift-nav/piksi_firmware/blob/master/docs/settings.pdf

MSG_SETTINGS — 0x00A0

The setting message reads and writes the device's configuration.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
0	<i>N</i>	string		<code>setting</code>	A NULL-terminated and delimited string with contents [SECTION_SETTING, SETTING, VALUE] on writes or a series of such strings on reads.
	<i>N</i>				Total Payload Length

Table 6.8.1: MSG_SETTINGS 0x00A0 message structure

MSG_SETTINGS_SAVE — 0x00A1

The save settings message persists the device's current settings configuration to its onboard flash memory file system.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
	0				Total Payload Length

Table 6.8.2: MSG_SETTINGS_SAVE 0x00A1 message structure

6.9 Tracking

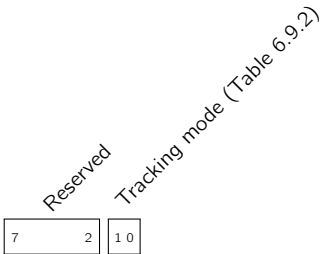
Satellite code and carrier-phase tracking messages from the device.

MSG_TRACKING_STATE — 0x0016

The tracking message returns a variable-length array of tracking channel states. It reports status and snr power measurements for all tracked satellites.

Offset (bytes)	Size (bytes)	Format	Units	Name	Description
$6N + 0$	1	u8		<code>states[N].state</code>	Status of tracking channel
$6N + 1$	1	u8		<code>states[N].prn</code>	PRN-1 being tracked
$6N + 2$	4	float	dB Hz	<code>states[N].cn0</code>	Carrier-to-noise density
$6N$					Total Payload Length

Table 6.9.1: MSG_TRACKING_STATE 0x0016 message structure



Field 6.9.1: Status of tracking channel (`state`)

Value	Description
0	Disabled
1	Running

Table 6.9.2: Tracking mode values (`state[0:1]`)