WADGNSS Client User Guide

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Abstract

This document describes software that enables Wide Area Differential Global Navigation System (WADGNSS) for users on a global basis, without the user needing access to a local GNSS reference station. The software functions in a client-server architecture. Typical users will only use the client portion of the software, which will connect to a remote server. At the time of connection, the user supplies an IP address and a position \mathbf{P}_b for a virtual base station that is within 20 km of where the user will operate. The server provides artificial measurements at the location \mathbf{P}_b of the virtual reference station that include Observation Space Representation (OSR) corrections. Those measurements are distributed in RTCM format using message types ?? and ?? using the NTRIP protocol.

At present, the method works only for the GPS constellation. The theoretical approach behind the software extends to other GNSS systems. At present, the SSR data required to compute the OSR corrections is only available in real-time for GPS.

The software is released in open source format under the 2-clause BSD license. The client software is available in source code and executable formats at

https://github.com/jaffarrell/WADGNSS/tree/master/client

The server software is available in executable format at

https://github.com/jaffarrell/WADGNSS/tree/master/client

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WADGNSS software utilizes the following softwares:

BKG Ntrip (https://igs.bkg.bund.de/ntrip)

RTKLIB (https://github.com/tomojitakasu/RTKLIB).

1 Introduction

The DGNSS communicates measurements applicable to a virtual reference station in the vicinity of the user. The architecture of the system is illustrated in Figure 1. The client software is hosted on a user computer with a direct connection to the users receiver. The purpose of the client software is to establish and maintain the connection with the server. At start up, it communicates the users IP address and virtual base location P_b . After that point, the client receives the virtual base station measurements from the Ethernet connection with the server and sends them to the user receiver over the local connection (e.g. serial port or USB).



Figure 1: Client Server DGNSS Architecture.

2 Client

In the following sections we outline compilation, installation, GPS receiver setup, and execution of the WADGNSS_Client application. We assume most users will read the guide sequentially once and then use it only as a reference document.

We recommend that most users begin from the **Installation** subsection, which describes the procedure for installing a pre-compiled executable application. We also distribute the source code. Users who wish to start from the source code to compile the WADGNSS_Client application should begin in the **Compilation** subsection.

2.1 Client Software Compilation

The following procedure outlines compilation on the Ubuntu 18.04 operating system. The procedure may be compatible with other Linux distributions, but is untested as we are actively developing on Ubuntu.

- 1. Download the necessary prerequisite software to compile WADGNSS_Client source. You will need the cmake build tool and a C++ compiler such as g++. If not already installed on your local system, you can run the following commands to download the most recent releases.
 - \$ sudo apt update && sudo apt upgrade
 \$ sudo apt clean && sudo apt auto-remove
 \$ sudo apt install make cmake g++
- 2. Compile the client software on your local machine.
 - (a) Navigate to the WADGNSS_Client root directory. The root directory contains a CMakeLists.txt file.
 - (b) Execute the following to make a build directory and navigate into the newly created build directory.
 - \$ mkdir build && cd build
 - (c) Compile the WADGNSS_Client by executing the following commands. The first command will configure the cmake build system and the second will invoke make to start the compilation process.
 - \$ cmake .. && make
 - (d) If compilation is successful an executable named WADGNSS_Client will be visible in the build directory. The client software is now successfully compiled.

You can now proceed to Section 2.3.

2.2 Client Software Installation

This section describes the recommended installation procedure for the WADGNSS_Client executable. At present, we support installation on Ubuntu 18.04 (Ubuntu 18.04.5 LTS). However, we are working to provide support for other operating systems and are focusing our efforts on releasing a Windows compatible client soon.

- 1. In any directory on your machine create a new directory and navigate into the new directory with the following command.
 - \$ mkdir WADGNSS && cd WADGNSS

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Copy the WADGNSS_Client executable into the WADGNSS directory. The WADGNSS_Client executable is now successfully installed.

You can now proceed to Section 2.3.

2.3 GPS Receiver Setup

Before running the WADGNSS_Client executable, the user must initialize and configure their receiver using its specific software or other interface. At present, WADGNSS_Client software supports automated configuration for u-Blox ZED-F9P and u-Blox M8P. All other receivers need to be configured manually. Please note that WADGNSS_Client currently only supports GPS receivers capable of serial input and output communications. Serial messages broadcast from a GPS receiver are used to serve corrections.

The following example on manual configuration is for a u-blox receiver using U-center. Manual configuration of other receivers can be accomplished by configuring the same parameters using the device specific configuration software:

- Enable GPS.
- Disable all non-GPS navigation systems.
- Enable PUBX 00 message in NMEA protocol.
- Enable serial message output from the gps receiver.
- Enable RTCM version 3 serial message input.

An example for u-blox receivers using U-center software is shown below.

Step 1: Enable GPS and set GPS only.

Go to $View \rightarrow Messages \ View \rightarrow UBX \rightarrow GNSS$. Select enable GPS and disable others. Then click "Send"

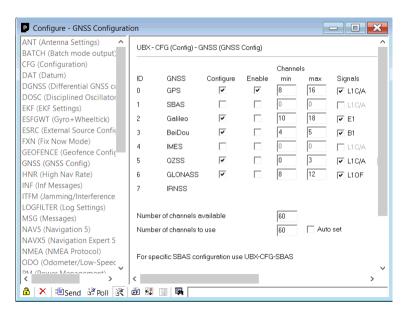


Figure 2: Step 1

Step 2: Enable PUBX 00 via NMEA protocol.

Go to $View \rightarrow Messages \ View \rightarrow NMEA \rightarrow PUBX$. Right click "00" then select "Enable Message".

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Figure 3: Step 2

Step 3: Enable a receiver USB port for RTCM version 3 input. Go to $View \rightarrow Messages \ View \rightarrow UBX \rightarrow CFG \rightarrow CFG \rightarrow PRT$. Select the options based on Fig. 4. Then click "Send".

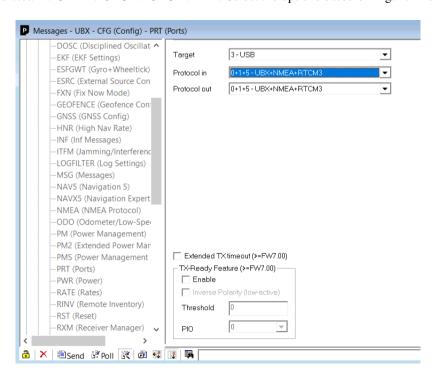


Figure 4: Step 3

We recommend saving the configuration to the gps receiver. If configurations are saved the receiver should remain configured the next time it starts following power off. In U-center, configurations can be saved to the gps receiver by navigating to the *CFG* menu item on the *Configuration View*. Then, select *Save current configuration*. Finally, press the *Send* button. The configurations will save to the receiver. Unfortunately, steps for saving configurations in other gps receiver configuration software will differ.

2.4 WADGNSS_Client Execution

The WADGNSS_Client executable expects four command line arguments: com port, configuration option, server IP and server port. An example usage template is shown below.

\$./WADGNSS_Client [com port] [configuration] [server IP] [server port]

The following sections discuss these command line parameters and how to find the correct values for your system.

2.4.1 [com port] Paramater

The [com port] option designates on which of the computers USB communication ports the WADGNSS_Client software receive messages from the GPS receiver. Determining port number to which the GPS receiver is broadcasting is operating system specific. It may take a couple attempts to discover the correct filepath.

In Ubuntu, serial data from the GPS receiver is available at a filepath matching the pattern \dev\ttyACMX where X is a number in the range [0-9]. For example, data from our receiver might be available at \dev\ttyACMO so we provide the filepath \dev\ttyACMO in place of the [com port] argument.

In Windows, the com port can be determined by opening Device Manager and expanding Ports (COM & LPT) option. For example, suppose your GPS receiver is visible as device COM6. Then, the filepath COM6 is provided in place of the [com port] argument.

2.4.2 [configuration] Paramater

The [configuration] parameter indicates the desired configuration of the supported GPS receiver. If supported, the WADGNSS_Client will initialize the connected GPS receiver to the corresponding configuration. We currently support these automated configuration options:

- 0: Receiver configured by its software,
- 1: u-blox M8P module
- 2: u-blox ZED-F9P module

2.4.3 [server IP] and [server port] Parameters

The [server IP] and [server port] parameters indicate the network location of the WADGNSS_Server to which the WADGNSS_Client will connect. We recommed connecting to the official WADGNSS server hosted at IP address write IP address hereon port write port here. Substitute these values for [server IP] and [server port] parameters when executing the WADGNSS_Client, respectively.

2.4.4 Example Execution

Bringing all this together, an example execution command for the WADGNSS_Client where USB data is available at \dev\ttyACMO, the connected GNSS receiver is u-blox M8P, and the client will connect to a WADGNSS_Server at IP 63.45.125.1 on port 8772 is as follows:

\$ WADGNSS_Client \dev\ttyACMO 1 63.45.125.1 8772

Congratulations you have successfully launched the WADGNSS_Client. To stop the WADGNSS_Client press "ctrl + c" keys, simultaneously.