Format:

Variable frequencies permitted

Any time series data can be encoded (e.g. transforms of original data)

Compression:

Decreased data storage

Increased network transfer speeds

Variable compression block size permitted

Separate sampling rates for each channel can reduce data volume

RED encoding:

Lossless

Improved compression ratio with decreased signal variance (e.g. filtering) parallelizable algorithms

Encryption:

AES 128-bit

HIPAA compliant

Sharing of human data does not require de-identification procedures

Dual-tiered encryption scheme allowing differential access to same file:

Unauthorized copies have no access to critical recording details (e.g sampling frequency) or data

Authorized copies can reveal either just recording details or subject data and recording details

Encryption is not required

Access:

Rapid random access via block indices section

Reading / writing algorithm memory allocation facilitated by block byte & sample max header fields

Block and header field alignment facilitates direct variable access after data read

Analysis:

Separate file for each channel to facilitate parallel processing

Independence of blocks support asynchronous and parallel processing Increased read/write speeds due to compression

Precalculated file and block min/max to facilitate various analyses (e.g.

display)

Redundancy / Damage mitigation:

32-bit CRC checksum for block corruption

Block independence limits extent of data loss if damage occurs

8-byte block alignment can facilitate file recovery in alignment loss

Block time duplicated in block header and block indices section

Entire block indices section can be reconstructed from data section.

Time:

Discontinuity flag

uUTC time provides globally accurate date & time of day to microsecond resolution

uUTC time is easily converted to UTC time for use with standard Unix / Posix time functions

Events:

Stored in XML format to facilitate parsing, display, and import to databases Novel event types readily accommodated by XML

Support:

Open source (Gnu software license) Freely available C, Matlab, & Java functions