

Column Number	TYPE	FORM	UNIT	Description
1	CADENCENO	32-bit signed integer		timestamp count since start of mission
2	RAWX	16-bit signed integer	pixels	The pixels' CCD column coordinate.
3	RAWY	16-bit signed integer	pixels	The pixels' CCD row coordinate.
4	COSMIC_RAY	32-bit single precision floating point	e^-/s	Correction applied to the pixel in the calibrated image.

Table 10: Target pixel FITS binary table columns.

Header Card	Data Type	Example Value
XTENSION= 'BINTABLE' / marks the beginning of a new HDU	C8	const
BITPIX = 8 / array data type	I4	const
NAXIS = 2 / number of array dimensions	I4	const
NAXIS1 = 12 / length of first array dimension	I4	const
NAXIS2 = / length of second array dimension	I4	4203
PCOUNT = 0 / group parameter count (not used)	I4	const
GCOUNT = 1 / group count (not used)	I4	const
EXTNAME = 'TARGET COSMIC RAY' / name of extension	C17	const
TFIELDS = 4 / number of table fields	I4	const
TTYPE1 = 'CADENCENO' / column title: unique cadence number	C9	const
TFORM1 = 'J' / column format: signed 32-bit integer	C1	const
TDISP1 = 'I10' / column display format	C3	const
TTYPE2 = 'RAWX' / column title: CCD column	C4	const
TFORM2 = 'I' / column format: signed 16-bit integer	C1	const
TDISP2 = 'I4' / column display format	C2	const
TTYPE3 = 'RAWY' / column title: CCD row	C4	const
TFORM3 = 'I' / column format: signed 16-bit integer	C1	const
TDISP3 = 'I4' / column display format	C2	const
TTYPE4 = 'COSMIC_RAY' / column title: cosmic ray correction	C10	const
TFORM4 = 'E' / column format: 32-bit floating point	C1	const
TDISP4 = 'E14.7' / column display format	C5	const
TUNIT4 = 'e-/s' / column units: electrons per second	C4	const

Table 11: Target cosmic ray table header

5 Light Curve Files

5.1 Purpose

Light curve files contain the output of the photometric analysis and subsequent cotrending as applied to the light curve. A single file contains the light curves for one target for one sector (two orbits). If a target was observed in more than one sector then multiple files will be created, but these may be delivered in separate deliveries.

5.2 Composition

The primary header contains information about the target that does not vary with the data acquisition time, such as its right ascension and declination. The primary HDU does not have a data table. The second HDU contains a FITS binary table where each row in the table contains the data at some cadence. The definitions of the columns for this table are summarized in table 13. The header for the second HDU contains keywords that are needed to describe binary table and properties of the target object that may vary with the time at which it was observed such as which CCD the target fell on during the observation. The final HDU contains a single image that is the aperture mask for that image. Each pixel value is the product of the bit-wise OR of the flags defined in table 15. Figure 3 shows the relationships among the HDUs in this file.

Light Curve FITS File

Primary Header

Header for Binary Table of Light Curves

Binary Table of Light Curve Data

Aperture Mask Image Header

Aperture Mask Image Data

Figure 3: Light curve FITS file composition

5.2.1 Primary Header

The first HDU only contains keywords and is primarily concerned with stellar parameters. Table 12 defines this header.

Header Card		Data Type		Example Value
SIMPLE	= T / conforms to FITS standards	L1	const	
BITPIX	= 8 / array data type	I4	const	
NAXIS	= 0 / number of array dimensions	I4	const	
EXTEND	= T / file contains extensions	L1	const	
NEXTEND	= 2 / number of standard extensions	I4	const	
EXTNAME	= 'PRIMARY' / name of extension	C7	const	
EXTVER	= 1 / extension version number (not format version)	I4	const	
ORIGIN	= 'NASA/Ames' / institution responsible for creating this file	C9	const	
DATE	= / file creation date.	C10		2013-07-12
DATE-OBS	= / TSTART as UTC calendar date	C24		2013-01-12T14:06:28.100Z
DATE-END	= / TSTOP as UTC calendar date	C24		2013-04-08T11:17:10.783Z
CREATOR	= / pipeline job and program used t	C34		540344 FluxExporter2PipelineModule
PROCV	= / SW version	C51		cf5f6d9db9889c0259ad09f r-4.0.1
FILEVER	= / file format version	R8		5.0
TIMVERSN	= 'OGIP/93-003' / OGIP memo number for file format	C11	const	
TELESCOP	= 'TESS' / telescope	C4	const	
INSTRUME	= 'TESS Photometer' / detector type	C15	const	
DATA_REL	= / version of data release notes for this file	I4		22
OBJECT	= / string version of TICID	C20		TIC 6541920
TICID	= / unique TESS target identifier (0 < values < 2^50)	I8		6541920
SECTOR	= / Observing sector	I4		16
CAMERA	= / Camera number	I2		1
CCD	= / CCD number	I2		4
RADESYS	= 'ICRS' / reference frame of celestial coordinates	C4	const	
RA_OBJ	= / [deg] right ascension	R4		297.115121
DEC_OBJ	= / [deg] declination	R4		41.909140
EQUINOX	= 2000.0 / equinox of celestial coordinate system	R8	const	

PMRA	=	/ [mas/yr] RA proper motion	R4	0.0000
PMDEC	=	/ [mas/yr] Dec proper motion	R4	0.0000
PMTOTAL	=	/ [mas/yr] total proper motion	R4	0.0000
PXTABLE	=	/ pixel table id	I4	2
TESSMAG	=	/ [mag] TESS magnitude	R4	13.709
TEFF	=	/ [K] Effective temperature	R4	5920
LOGG	=	/ [cm/s2] log10 surface gravity	R4	4.467
MH	=	/ [log10([M/H])] metallicity	R4	-0.200
RADIUS	=	/ [solar radii] stellar radius	R4	0.962
TICVER	=	/ TIC Version	I4	5
CRMITEN	=	/ spacecraft cosmic ray mitigation enabled	L1	T
CRBLKSZ	=	/ [exposures] s/c cosmic ray mitigation block size	I4	20
CRSPOC	=	/ SPOC cosmic ray cleaning enabled	L1	T
CHECKSUM	=	/ HDU checksum updated 2013-07-12T22:34:06Z	C16	9H6DFH4B9H4BCH4B
END				

Table 12: Light curve primary header.

5.2.2 Light Curve Binary Table Extension Header

For table [13](#) TYPE, FORM and UNIT refer to the FITS keywords that would describe that column. In FITS parlance "TYPE" is not the data type of the column, but rather its name. "FORM" actually describes the data type for the column which can be, for example, "D", a 64-bit double precision floating point value. Subtracting TIMECORR from TIME will give the light arrival time at the spacecraft rather than on the target's center.

Column Number	TYPE	FORM	UNIT	Description
1	TIME	64-bit float	Days	BJD - 2457000 (BTJD)
2	TIMECORR	32-bit float	Days	light arrival time correction applied
3	CADENCENO	32-bit integer		timestamp count from start of mission
4	SAP_FLUX	32-bit float	e^-/s	Simple aperture photometry light curve.
5	SAP_FLUX_ERR	32-bit float	e^-/s	1- σ uncertainty of the SAP light curve.
6	SAP_BKG	32-bit float	e^-/s	Estimated background flux contribution to the target aperture. Already subtracted from SAP_FLUX.
7	SAP_BKG_ERR	32-bit float	e^-/s	1- σ uncertainty of the SAP background light curve.
8	PDCSAP_FLUX	32-bit float	e^-/s	PDC corrected SAP light curve.
9	PDCSAP_FLUX_ERR	32-bit float	e^-/s	1- σ uncertainty of the PDC corrected SAP light curve.
10	QUALITY	32-bit integer	Bit field	Each bit is a flag defined in table 28 .
11	PSF_CENTR1	64-bit float	pixels	CCD column position of of target centroid using a PSF model.
12	PSF_CENTR1_ERR	32-bit float	pixels	1 σ uncertainty of PSF_CENTR1.
13	PSF_CENTR2	64-bit float	pixels	CCD row position of of target centroid using a PSF model.
14	PSF_CENTR2_ERR	32-bit float	pixels	1 σ uncertainty of PSF_CENTR2.
15	MOM_CENTR1	64-bit float	pixels	CCD column position of target's flux-weighted centroid.
16	MOM_CENTR1_ERR	32-bit float	pixels	1 σ uncertainty of MOM_CENTR1.
17	MOM_CENTR2	64-bit float	pixels	CCD row position of target's flux-weighted centroid.
18	MOM_CENTR2_ERR	32-bit float	pixels	1 σ uncertainty of MOM_CENTR2.
19	POS_CORR1	32-bit float	pixels	The CCD column local motion differential velocity aberration (DVA), pointing drift, and thermal effects.
20	POS_CORR2	32-bit float	pixels	The CCD row local motion differential velocity aberration (DVA), pointing drift, and thermal effects.

Table 13: Light curve binary table column summary.

Table [14](#) defines the FITS header for the light curve binary table HDU. The FITS keyword, PDCMETHD, describes the algorithm used to cotrend the light curve. If the algorithm is "multiScaleMap" then NUMBAND may be greater than one.

NUMBAND specifies how many bands are used for the light curve each of which can have different values for the keywords: FITTYPEn, PR_GOODn and PR_WGHTn of which there are 1 ... NUMBAND. Other algorithms may not define these keywords (FITTYPEn, PR_GOODn, PR_WGHTn) and so they may not be present at all in a light curve file.

Header Card	Data Type	Example Value
XTENSION= 'BINTABLE' / marks the beginning of a new HDU	C8	const
BITPIX = 8 / array data type	I4	const
NAXIS = 2 / number of array dimensions	I4	const
NAXIS1 = 100 / length of first array dimension	I4	const
NAXIS2 = / length of second array dimension	I4	4203
PCOUNT = 0 / group parameter count (not used)	I4	const
GCOUNT = 1 / group count (not used)	I4	const
TFIELDS = 20 / number of table fields	I4	const
TTYPE1 = 'TIME' / column title: data time stamps	C4	const
TFORM1 = 'D' / column format: 64-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT1 = 'BJD - 2457000, days' / column units: Barycenter corrected TESS Julian Date	C15	const
TDISP1 = 'D14.7' / column display format	C5	const
TTYPE2 = 'TIMECORR' / column title: barycentric correction	C8	const
TFORM2 = 'E' / column format: 32-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT2 = 'd' / column units: day	C1	const
TDISP2 = 'E14.7' / column display format	C5	const
TTYPE3 = 'CADENCENO' / column title: unique cadence number	C9	const
TFORM3 = 'J' / column format: signed 32-bit integer	C1	const
TDISP3 = 'I10' / column display format	C3	const
TTYPE4 = 'SAP_FLUX' / column title: aperture photometry flux	C8	const
TFORM4 = 'E' / column format: 32-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT4 = 'e-/s' / column units: electrons per second	C4	const
TDISP4 = 'E14.7' / column display format	C5	const
TTYPE5 = 'SAP_FLUX_ERR' / column title: aperture phot. flux error	C12	const
TFORM5 = 'E' / column format: 32-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT5 = 'e-/s' / column units: electrons per second (1-sigma)	C4	const
TDISP5 = 'E14.7' / column display format	C5	const
TTYPE6 = 'SAP_BKG' / column title: aperture phot. background flux	C7	const
TFORM6 = 'E' / column format: 32-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT6 = 'e-/s' / column units: electrons per second	C4	const
TDISP6 = 'E14.7' / column display format	C5	const
TTYPE7 = 'SAP_BKG_ERR' / column title: ap. phot. background flux error	C11	const
TFORM7 = 'E' / column format: 32-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT7 = 'e-/s' / column units: electrons per second (1-sigma)	C4	const
TDISP7 = 'E14.7' / column display format	C5	const
TTYPE8 = 'PDCSAP_FLUX' / column title: aperture phot. PDC flux	C11	const
TFORM8 = 'E' / column format: 32-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT8 = 'e-/s' / column units: electrons per second	C4	const
TDISP8 = 'E14.7' / column display format	C5	const
TTYPE9 = 'PDCSAP_FLUX_ERR' / column title: ap. phot. PDC flux error	C15	const
TFORM9 = 'E' / column format: 32-bit floating point	C1	const

TUNIT9 = 'e-/s	column units: electrons per second (1-sigma)	C4	const
TDISP9 = 'E14.7	column display format	C5	const
TTYPE10 = 'QUALITY'	column title: aperture photometry quality flag	C11	const
TFORM10 = 'J	column format: signed 32-bit integer	C1	const
TDISP10 = 'B16.16	column display format	C6	const
TTYPE11 = 'PSF_CENTR1'	column title: PSF-fitted column centroid	C10	const
TFORM11 = 'D	column format: 64-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT11 = 'pixel	column units: pixel	C5	const
TDISP11 = 'F10.5	column display format	C5	const
TTYPE12 = 'PSF_CENTR1_ERR'	column title: PSF-fitted column error	C14	const
TFORM12 = 'E	column format: 32-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT12 = 'pixel	column units: pixel (1-sigma)	C5	const
TDISP12 = 'E14.7	column display format	C5	const
TTYPE13 = 'PSF_CENTR2'	column title: PSF-fitted row centroid	C10	const
TFORM13 = 'D	column format: 64-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT13 = 'pixel	column units: pixel	C5	const
TDISP13 = 'F10.5	column display format	C5	const
TTYPE14 = 'PSF_CENTR2_ERR'	column title: PSF-fitted row error	C14	const
TFORM14 = 'E	column format: 32-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT14 = 'pixel	column units: pixel (1-sigma)	C5	const
TDISP14 = 'E14.7	column display format	C5	const
TTYPE15 = 'MOM_CENTR1'	column title: moment-derived column centroid	C10	const
TFORM15 = 'D	column format: 64-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT15 = 'pixel	column units: pixel	C5	const
TDISP15 = 'F10.5	column display format	C5	const
TTYPE16 = 'MOM_CENTR1_ERR'	column title: moment-derived column error	C14	const
TFORM16 = 'E	column format: 32-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT16 = 'pixel	column units: pixel (1-sigma)	C5	const
TDISP16 = 'E14.7	column display format	C5	const
TTYPE17 = 'MOM_CENTR2'	column title: moment-derived row centroid	C10	const
TFORM17 = 'D	column format: 64-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT17 = 'pixel	column units: pixel	C5	const
TDISP17 = 'F10.5	column display format	C5	const
TTYPE18 = 'MOM_CENTR2_ERR'	column title: moment-derived row error	C14	const
TFORM18 = 'E	column format: 32-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT18 = 'pixel	column units: pixel (1-sigma)	C5	const
TDISP18 = 'E14.7	column display format	C5	const
TTYPE19 = 'POS_CORR1'	column title: column position correction	C9	const
TFORM19 = 'E	column format: 32-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT19 = 'pixels	column units: pixel	C6	const
TDISP19 = 'E14.7	column display format	C5	const
TTYPE20 = 'POS_CORR2'	column title: row position correction	C9	const
TFORM20 = 'E	column format: 32-bit floating point	C1	const
TUNIT20 = 'pixels	column units: pixel	C6	const
TDISP20 = 'E14.7	column display format	C5	const

INHERIT = T	/ inherit the primary header	L1	const
EXTNAME = 'LIGHTCURVE'	/ name of extension	C10	const
EXTVER = 1	/ extension version number (not format version)	I4	const
TELESCOP= 'TESS'	/ telescope	C8	const
INSTRUME= 'TESS Photometer'	/ detector type	C15	const
OBJECT =	/ string version of TICID	C20	TIC 6541920
TICID=	/ unique TESS target identifier ($0 < \text{values} < 2^{50}$)	I8	6541920
RADESYS = 'ICRS'	/ reference frame of celestial coordinates	C4	const
RA_OBJ =	/ [deg] right ascension	R4	297.115121
DEC_OBJ =	/ [deg] declination	R4	41.909140
EQUINOX = 2000.0	/ equinox of celestial coordinate system	R8	const
EXPOSURE=	/ [d] time on source	R4	27.06606017
TIMEREf = 'SOLARSYSTEM'	/ barycentric correction applied to times	C11	const
TASSIGN = 'SPACECRAFT'	/ where time is assigned	C10	const
TIMESYS = 'TDB'	/ time system is Barycentric Dynamical Time (TDB)	C3	const
BJDREFI = 2457000	/ integer part of BJD reference date	I4	const
BJDREFF = 0.0	/ fraction of the day in BJD reference date	R4	const
TIMEUNIT= 'd'	/ time unit for TIME, TSTART and TSTOP	C1	const
TELAPSE =	/ [d] TSTOP - TSTART	R4	85.88209984
LIVETIME=	/ [d] TELAPSE multiplied by DEADC	R4	79.06606017
TSTART =	/ observation start time in BJD	R8	1472.086752
TSTOP =	/ observation stop time in BJD	R8	1557.968852
DEADC =	/ deadtime correction	R4	0.92063492
TIMEPIXR=	/ bin time beginning=0 middle=0.5 end=1	R8	0.5
TIERELA=	/ [d] relative time error	R8	5.78E-07
INT_TIME=	/ [s] photon accumulation time per frame	R4	6.019802903270
READTIME=	/ [s] readout time per frame	R4	0.518948526144
FRAMETIM=	/ [s] frame time (INT_TIME + READTIME)	R4	6.538751429414
NUM_FRM =	/ number of frames per time stamp	I4	270
TIMEDEL =	/ [d] time resolution of data	R8	0.02043359821692
DATE-OBS=	/ TSTART as UTC calendar date	C24	2013-01-12T14:06:28.100Z
DATE-END=	/ TSTOP as UTC calendar date	C24	2013-04-08T11:17:10.783Z
BACKAPP =	/ background is subtracted	L1	T
DEADAPP =	/ deadtime applied	L1	T
VIGNAPP =	/ vignetting or collimator correction applied	L1	T
GAINA =	/ [electrons/count] CCD output A gain	R4	107.06
GAINB =	/ [electrons/count] CCD output B gain	R4	107.06
GAINC =	/ [electrons/count] CCD output C gain	R4	107.06
GAIND =	/ [electrons/count] CCD output D gain	R4	107.06
READNOIA=	/ [electrons] read noise CCD output A	R4	79.053104
READNOIB=	/ [electrons] read noise CCD output B	R4	79.053104
READNOIC=	/ [electrons] read noise CCD output C	R4	79.053104
READNOID=	/ [electrons] read noise CCD output D	R4	79.053104
TMOFST<CAMERA><CCD>	/ [seconds] readout delay for camera <CAMERA> and ccd <CCD>	R4	0.5
MEANBLCA=	/ [count] CCD output A mean black level	I4	749
MEANBLCB=	/ [count] CCD output B mean black level	I4	749
MEANBLCC=	/ [count] CCD output C mean black level	I4	749
MEANBLCD=	/ [count] CCD output D mean black level	I4	749
NREADOUT=	/ number of read per cadence	I4	270
FXDOFF=	/ compression fixed offset	I4	419400
CDPP0_5 =	/ RMS CDPP on 0.5-hr time scales	R4	71.25101
CDPP1_0 =	/ RMS CDPP on 1.0-hr time scales	R4	49.6552
CDPP2_0=	/ RMS CDPP on 2.0-hr time scales	R4	37.136634
CROWDSAP=	/ Ratio of target flux to total flux in op. ap.	R8	0.9335
FLFRCSAP=	/ Frac. of target flux w/in the op. aperture	R8	0.8824

NSPSDDET=	/ Number of SPSDs detected	I4	0
NSPSDCOR=	/ Number of SPSDs corrected	I4	0
PDCVAR =	/ Target variability	R4	1.0995078086853027
PDCMETHD=	/ PDC algorithm used for target	C13	multiScaleMap
NUMBAND =	/ Number of scale bands	I4	3
FITTYPE1= 'robust	'/ Fit type used for band 1	C6	const
PR_GOOD1=	/ Prior goodness for band 1	R8	0.0
PR_WGHT1=	/ Prior weight for band 1	R8	0.0
FITTYPE2= 'prior	'/ Fit type used for band 2	C5	const
PR_GOOD2=	/ Prior goodness for band 2	R4	0.9961856603622437
PR_WGHT2=	/ Prior weight for band 2	R4	87.8223876953125
FITTYPE3= 'none	'/ Fit type used for band 3	C4	const
PR_GOOD3=	/ Prior goodness for band 3	C4	-1.0
PR_WGHT3=	/ Prior weight for band 3	C4	-1.0
PDC_TOT =	/ PDC total goodness metric for target	R4	0.9671841859817505
PDC_TOTP=	/ PDC_TOT percentile compared to mod/out	R4	70.68902587890625
PDC_COR =	/ PDC correlation goodness metric for target	R4	0.9984112977981567
PDC_CORP=	/ PDC_COR percentile compared to mod/out	R4	65.72728729248047
PDC_VAR =	/ PDC variability goodness metric for target	R4	0.974346399307251
PDC_VARP=	/ PDC_VAR percentile compared to mod/out	R4	65.5057144165039
PDC_NOI =	/ PDC noise goodness metric for target	R4	0.9020557403564453
PDC_NOIP=	/ PDC_NOI percentile compared to mod/out	R4	34.96445846557617
PDC_EPT =	/ PDC earth point goodness metric for target	R4	0.9971959590911865
PDC_EPTP=	/ PDC_EPT percentile compared to mod/out	R4	76.96773529052734
CHECKSUM=	/ HDU checksum updated 2013-07-12T22:34:06Z	C16	4QGk5QDj4QDj4QDj
END			

Table 14: Light curve binary table header.

5.2.3 Aperture Mask Image

The third and final HDU is the aperture mask image. This HDU is described in section [6](#).

6 Aperture Mask Image HDU

6.1 Purpose

The aperture mask image indicates the pixels that were collected for a target and which of those pixels were used for photometry. Target pixel files and light curve files each contain one of these HDUs.

6.2 Composition

A pixel in the aperture mask image is the bit-wise OR of the bits described in table [15](#). Table [16](#) defines the FITS header for this image HDU. It is possible that a pixel is in the bounding box of the image, but was not actually collected by the spacecraft. These pixel values will NOT show as NULL in a FITS viewer. They are filled with the value 0 to indicate all bits are set to false. The value of each pixel is the bit-wise OR of the bits described in [15](#).