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Introduction

This is the documentation for Signal K master version.

It is also available in [pdf](#), [epub](#) and [mobi](#) format.

You can start using Signal K by

- connecting to the demo server on the Internet with a browser
- installing either Node or Java server on any computer
- get some hardware for your boat, such as a Raspberry Pi, suitable interfaces (NMEA0183, [Nmea 2000](#) or roll your own with I2C) and
- purchase a commercial Signal K gateway
 - iKommunicate by Digital Yacht
 - xx by vyacht
- installing OpenPlotter, which includes a Signal K server
- hopefully by using OpenCPN someday

Once you have a server running (or you start by using the demo server) you can install some Signal K supporting iOS App such as

- NMEARemote by Zapware
- Android App?

- Example HTML app (Node server)
- Signal K JavaScript client

Signal K Data Model Reference

This document is meant as the human-oriented reference to accompany the actual JSON Schema specification and is produced from the schema files. Any changes to the reference material below should be made to the original schema files.

design.airHeight

Total height of the vessel

Units:m

design.airHeight.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

design.beam

Beam length

Units:m

design.beam.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

design.displacement

The displacement of the vessel

Units:kg

design.displacement.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

design.draft.canoe

The draft of the vessel without protrusions such as keel, centerboard, rudder

Units:m

design.draft.maximum

The maximum draft of the vessel

Units:m

design.draft.minimum

The minimum draft of the vessel

Units:m

design.keel.angle

A number indicating at which angle the keel currently is (in case of a canting keel), negative to port.

Units:rad

design.keel.angle.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

design.keel.lift

In the case of a lifting keel, centreboard or daggerboard, the part of the keel which is extended. 0 is 'all the way up' and 1 is 'all the way down'. 0.8 would be 80% down.

Units:ratio

Example:

```
0.8
```

design.keel.lift.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

design.keel.type

The type of keel.

Enum values:

- long
- fin
- flare
- bulb
- wing
- centerboard
- kanting
- lifting
- daggerboard

design.length.hull

Length of hull

Units:m

design.length.overall

Length overall

Units:m

design.length.waterline

Length at waterline

Units:m

electrical.ac.*.meta.dateInstalled.\$ref

ISO-8601 (UTC) string representing date and time.

Units:ISO-8601 (UTC)

Example:

```
2014-04-10T08:33:53Z
```

electrical.ac..*phase*..apparentPower

Apparent power.

Units:W

electrical.ac..*phase*..current

RMS current

Units:A

electrical.ac..*phase*..frequency

AC frequency.

Units:Hz

electrical.ac..*phase*..lineLineVoltage

RMS voltage measured between phases

Units:V

electrical.ac..*phase*..lineNeutralVoltage

RMS voltage measured between phase and neutral.

Units:V

electrical.ac..*phase*..powerFactorLagging

Lead/lag status.

Enum values:

- leading
- lagging
- error
- not available

electrical.ac..*phase*..reactivePower

Reactive power

Units:W

electrical.ac..*phase*..realPower

Real power.

Units:W

electrical.batteries.*.capacity.actual

The measured capacity of battery. This may change over time and will likely deviate from the nominal capacity.

Units:J

electrical.batteries.*.capacity.dischargeLimit

Minimum capacity to be left in the battery while discharging

Units:J

electrical.batteries.*.capacity.dischargeSince Full

Cumulative discharge since battery was last full

Units:C

electrical.batteries.*.capacity.nominal

The capacity of battery as specified by the manufacturer

Units:J

electrical.batteries.*.capacity.remaining

Capacity remaining in battery

Units:J

electrical.batteries.*.capacity.stateOfCharge

State of charge, 1 = 100%

Units:ratio

electrical.batteries.*.capacity.stateOfHealth

State of Health, 1 = 100%

Units:ratio

electrical.batteries.*.capacity.timeRemaining

Time to discharge to discharge limit at current rate

Units:s

electrical.batteries.*.current

Units:A

electrical.batteries.*.current.meta.faultLower

Lower fault limit of battery current - BMS may disconnect battery

Units:A

electrical.batteries.*.current.meta.faultUpper

Upper fault limit of battery current - BMS may disconnect battery

Units:A

electrical.batteries.*.current.meta.warnLower

Lower operational current limit

Units:A

electrical.batteries.*.current.meta.warnUpper

Upper operational current limit

Units:A

electrical.batteries.*.lifetimeDischarge

Cumulative charge discharged from battery over operational lifetime of battery

Units:C

electrical.batteries.*.lifetimeRecharge

Cumulative charge recharged into battery over operational lifetime of battery

Units:C

electrical.batteries.*.meta.dateInstalled.\$ref

ISO-8601 (UTC) string representing date and time.

Units:ISO-8601 (UTC)

Example:

```
2014-04-10T08:33:53Z
```

electrical.batteries.*.temperature.faultLower

Lower fault limit of temperature - device may disable

Units:K

electrical.batteries.*.temperature.faultUpper

Upper fault limit of temperature - device may disable

Units:K

electrical.batteries.*.temperature.limitDischargeLower

Operational minimum temperature limit for battery discharge, in degrees Celsius

Units:K

electrical.batteries.*.temperature.limitDischargeUpper

Operational maximum temperature limit for battery discharge, in degrees Celsius

Units:K

electrical.batteries.*.temperature.limitRechargeLower

Operational minimum temperature limit for battery recharging, in degrees Celsius

Units:K

electrical.batteries.*.temperature.limitRechargeUpper

Operational maximum temperature limit for battery recharging, in degrees Celsius

Units:K

electrical.batteries.*.temperature.warnLower

Lower operational temperature limit

Units:K

electrical.batteries.*.temperature.warnUpper

Upper operational temperature limit

Units:K

electrical.batteries.*.voltage

Units:V

electrical.batteries.*.voltage.meta.faultLower

Lower fault limit of battery voltage - BMS may disconnect battery

Units:V

electrical.batteries.*.voltage.meta.faultUpper

Upper fault limit of battery voltage - BMS may disconnect battery

Units:V

electrical.batteries.*.voltage.meta.nominal

Designed 'voltage' of battery (12v, 24v, 32v, 36v, 42v, 48v, 144v, etc.)

Units:V

electrical.batteries.*.voltage.meta.warnLower

Lower operational voltage limit

Units:V

electrical.batteries.*.voltage.meta.warnUpper

Upper operational voltage limit

Units:V

electrical.batteries.*.voltage.ripple

Ripple voltage

Units:V

electrical.chargers.*.current

Units:A

electrical.chargers.*.current.meta.faultLower

Lower fault limit of battery current - BMS may disconnect battery

Units:A

electrical.chargers.*.current.meta.faultUpper

Upper fault limit of battery current - BMS may disconnect battery

Units:A

electrical.chargers.*.current.meta.warnLower

Lower operational current limit

Units:A

electrical.chargers.*.current.meta.warnUpper

Upper operational current limit

Units:A

electrical.chargers.*.meta.chargerMode

Enum values:

- standalone
- master
- slave
- standby

electrical.chargers.*.meta.chargingAlgorithm

Enum values:

- trickle
- two stage
- three stage
- constant current
- constant voltage
- custom profile

electrical.chargers.*.meta.dateInstalled.\$ref

ISO-8601 (UTC) string representing date and time.

Units:ISO-8601 (UTC)

Example:

```
2014-04-10T08:33:53Z
```

electrical.chargers.*.mode

Enum values:

- charging bulk
- charging acceptance
- charging overcharge
- charging float

- charging equalize
- unknown
- other

electrical.chargers.*.temperature.faultLower

Lower fault limit of temperature - device may disable

Units:K

electrical.chargers.*.temperature.faultUpper

Upper fault limit of temperature - device may disable

Units:K

electrical.chargers.*.temperature.warnLower

Lower operational temperature limit

Units:K

electrical.chargers.*.temperature.warnUpper

Upper operational temperature limit

Units:K

electrical.chargers.*.voltage

Units:V

electrical.chargers.*.voltage.meta.faultLower

Lower fault limit of battery voltage - BMS may disconnect battery

Units:V

electrical.chargers.*.voltage.meta.faultUpper

Upper fault limit of battery voltage - BMS may disconnect battery

Units:V

electrical.chargers.*.voltage.meta.nominal

Designed 'voltage' of battery (12v, 24v, 32v, 36v, 42v, 48v, 144v, etc.)

Units:V

electrical.chargers.*.voltage.meta.warnLower

Lower operational voltage limit

Units:V

electrical.chargers.*.voltage.meta.warnUpper

Upper operational voltage limit

Units:V

electrical.chargers.*.voltage.ripple

Ripple voltage

Units:V

electrical.inverters.*.ac.apparentPower

Apparent power.

Units:W

electrical.inverters.*.ac.current

RMS current

Units:A

electrical.inverters.*.ac.frequency

AC frequency.

Units:Hz

electrical.inverters.*.ac.lineLineVoltage

RMS voltage measured between phases

Units:V

electrical.inverters.*.ac.lineNeutralVoltage

RMS voltage measured between phase and neutral.

Units:V

electrical.inverters.*.ac.powerFactorLagging

Lead/lag status.

Enum values:

- leading
- lagging
- error
- not available

electrical.inverters.*.ac.reactivePower

Reactive power

Units:W

electrical.inverters.*.ac.realPower

Real power.

Units:W

electrical.inverters.*.dc.current

Units:A

electrical.inverters.*.dc.current.meta.faultLower

Lower fault limit of battery current - BMS may disconnect battery

Units:A

electrical.inverters.*.dc.current.meta.faultUpper

Upper fault limit of battery current - BMS may disconnect battery

Units:A

electrical.inverters.*.dc.current.meta.warnLower

Lower operational current limit

Units:A

electrical.inverters.*.dc.current.meta.warnUpper

Upper operational current limit

Units:A

electrical.inverters.*.dc.temperature.faultLower

Lower fault limit of temperature - device may disable

Units:K

electrical.inverters.*.dc.temperature.faultUpper

Upper fault limit of temperature - device may disable

Units:K

electrical.inverters.*.dc.temperature.warnLower

Lower operational temperature limit

Units:K

electrical.inverters.*.dc.temperature.warnUpper

Upper operational temperature limit

Units:K

electrical.inverters.*.dc.voltage

Units:V

electrical.inverters.*.dc.voltage.meta.faultLower

Lower fault limit of battery voltage - BMS may disconnect battery

Units:V

electrical.inverters.*.dc.voltage.meta.faultUpper

Upper fault limit of battery voltage - BMS may disconnect battery

Units:V

electrical.inverters.*.dc.voltage.meta.nominal

Designed 'voltage' of battery (12v, 24v, 32v, 36v, 42v, 48v, 144v, etc.)

Units:V

electrical.inverters.*.dc.voltage.meta.warnLower

Lower operational voltage limit

Units:V

electrical.inverters.*.dc.voltage.meta.warnUpper

Upper operational voltage limit

Units:V

electrical.inverters.*.dc.voltage.ripple

Ripple voltage

Units:V

electrical.inverters.*.meta.dateInstalled.\$ref

ISO-8601 (UTC) string representing date and time.

Units:ISO-8601 (UTC)

Example:

```
2014-04-10T08:33:53Z
```

electrical.inverters.*.mode

Mode of inverter

Enum values:

- idle
- inverting
- disabled
- standby
- faulted
- unknown
- other

environment.current.drift

The speed component of the water current vector

Units:m/s

Example:

```
3.12
```

environment.current.setMagnetic

The direction component of the water current vector referenced to magnetic north

Units:rad

Example:

```
131.22
```

environment.current.setTrue

The direction component of the water current vector referenced to true (geographic) north

Units:rad

Example:

```
123.45
```

environment.depth.belowKeel

Depth below keel

Units:m

environment.depth.belowSurface

Depth from surface

Units:m

environment.depth.belowTransducer

Depth below Transducer

Units:m

environment.depth.surfaceToTransducer

Depth transducer is below the water surface

Units:m

environment.depth.transducerToKeel

Depth from the transducer to the bottom of the keel

Units:m

environment.heave

Vertical movement of the vessel due to waves

Units:m

environment.inside.engineRoom.temperature

Temperature

Units:K

environment.inside.freezer.temperature

Temperature

Units:K

environment.inside.heating.temperature

Temperature

Units:K

environment.inside.humidity

Current inside air relative humidity

Units:ratio

environment.inside.mainCabin.temperature

Temperature

Units:K

environment.inside.refrigerator.temperature

Temperature

Units:K

environment.inside.temperature

Current inside air temperature

Units:K

environment.mode

Mode of the vessel based on the current conditions. Can be combined with navigation.state to control vessel signals eg switch to night mode for instrumentation and lights, or make sound signals for fog.

Enum values:

- day
- night
- restricted visibility

environment.outside.apparentWindChillTemperature

Current outside apparent wind chill temperature

Units:K

environment.outside.dewPointTemperature

Current outside dew point temperature

Units:K

environment.outside.heatIndexTemperature

Current outside heat index temperature

Units:K

environment.outside.humidity

Current outside air relative humidity

Units:ratio

environment.outside.pressure

Current outside air ambient pressure

Units:Pa

environment.outside.temperature

Current outside air temperature

Units:K

environment.outside.theoreticalWindChillTemperature

Current outside theoretical wind chill temperature

Units:K

environment.tide.heightHigh

Next high tide height relative to lowest astronomical tide (LAT/Chart Datum)

Units:m

environment.tide.heightLow

The next low tide height relative to lowest astronomical tide (LAT/Chart Datum)

Units:m

environment.tide.heightNow

The current tide height relative to lowest astronomical tide (LAT/Chart Datum)

Units:m

environment.tide.timeHigh.\$ref

ISO-8601 (UTC) string representing date and time.

Units:ISO-8601 (UTC)

Example:

```
2014-04-10T08:33:53Z
```

environment.tide.timeLow.\$ref

ISO-8601 (UTC) string representing date and time.

Units:ISO-8601 (UTC)

Example:

```
2014-04-10T08:33:53Z
```

environment.water.baitWell.temperature

Temperature

Units:K

environment.water.liveWell.temperature

Temperature

Units:K

environment.water.salinity

Water salinity

Units:ratio

environment.water.temperature

Current water temperature

Units:K

environment.wind.angleApparent

Apparent wind angle, negative to port

Units:rad

environment.wind.angleTrueGround

True wind angle based on speed over ground, negative to port

Units:rad

environment.wind.angleTrueWater

True wind angle based on speed through water, negative to port

Units:rad

environment.wind.directionChangeAlarm

The angle the wind needs to shift to raise an alarm

Units:rad

environment.wind.directionMagnetic

The wind direction relative to magnetic north

Units:rad

environment.wind.directionTrue

The wind direction relative to true north

Units:rad

environment.wind.speedApparent

Apparent wind speed

Units:m/s

environment.wind.speedOverGround

Wind speed over ground (as calculated from speedApparent and vessel's speed over ground)

Units:m/s

environment.wind.speedTrue

Wind speed over water (as calculated from speedApparent and vessel's speed through water)

Units:m/s

navigation.anchor.currentRadius

Current distance to anchor

Units:m

navigation.anchor.maxRadius

Radius of anchor alarm boundary. The distance from anchor to the center of the boat

Units:m

navigation.anchor.position.altitude

Altitude

Units:m

navigation.anchor.position.latitude

Latitude

Units:deg

Example:

```
52.0987654
```

navigation.anchor.position.longitude

Longitude

Units:deg

Example:

```
4.98765245
```

navigation.attitude.pitch

Pitch, +ve is bow up

Units:rad

navigation.attitude.roll

Vessel roll, +ve is list to starboard

Units:rad

navigation.attitude.yaw

Yaw, +ve is heading change to starboard

Units:rad

navigation.courseGreatCircle.activeRoute.estimatedTimeOfArrival.\$ref

ISO-8601 (UTC) string representing date and time.

Units:ISO-8601 (UTC)

Example:

```
2014-04-10T08:33:53Z
```

navigation.courseGreatCircle.activeRoute.startTime.\$ref

ISO-8601 (UTC) string representing date and time.

Units:ISO-8601 (UTC)

Example:

```
2014-04-10T08:33:53Z
```

navigation.courseGreatCircle.bearingTrackMagnetic

The bearing of a line between previousPoint and nextPoint, relative to magnetic north.

Units:rad

navigation.courseGreatCircle.bearingTrackTrue

The bearing of a line between previousPoint and nextPoint, relative to true north.

Units:rad

navigation.courseGreatCircle.crossTrackError

The distance from the vessel's present position to the closest point on a line (track) between previousPoint and nextPoint. A negative number indicates that the vessel is currently to the left of this line (and thus must steer right to compensate), a positive number means the vessel is to the right of the line (steer left to compensate).

Units:m

navigation.courseGreatCircle.nextPoint.bearingMagnetic

The bearing of a line between the vessel's current position and nextPoint, relative to magnetic north

Units:rad

navigation.courseGreatCircle.nextPoint.bearingTrue

The bearing of a line between the vessel's current position and nextPoint, relative to true north

Units:rad

navigation.courseGreatCircle.nextPoint.distance

The distance in meters between the vessel's present position and the nextPoint

Units:m

navigation.courseGreatCircle.nextPoint.timeToGo

Time in seconds to reach nextPoint's perpendicular) with current speed & direction

Units:s

navigation.courseGreatCircle.nextPoint.velocityMadeGood

The velocity component of the vessel towards the nextPoint

Units:m/s

navigation.courseGreatCircle.previousPoint.distance

The distance in meters between previousPoint and the vessel's present position

Units:m

navigation.courseOverGroundMagnetic

Course over ground (magnetic)

Units:rad

navigation.courseOverGroundTrue

Course over ground (true)

Units:rad

navigation.courseRhumbline.activeRoute.estimatedTimeOfArrival.\$ref

ISO-8601 (UTC) string representing date and time.

Units:ISO-8601 (UTC)

Example:

```
2014-04-10T08:33:53Z
```

navigation.courseRhumbline.activeRoute.startTime.\$ref

ISO-8601 (UTC) string representing date and time.

Units:ISO-8601 (UTC)

Example:

```
2014-04-10T08:33:53Z
```

navigation.courseRhumbline.bearingTrackMagnetic

The bearing of a line between previousPoint and nextPoint, relative to magnetic north.

Units:rad

navigation.courseRhumbline.bearingTrackTrue

The bearing of a line between previousPoint and nextPoint, relative to true north.

Units:rad

navigation.courseRhumbline.crossTrackError

The distance from the vessel's present position to the closest point on a line (track) between previousPoint and nextPoint. A negative number indicates that the vessel is currently to the left of this line (and thus must steer right to compensate), a positive number means the vessel is to the right of the line (steer left to compensate).

Units:m

navigation.courseRhumbline.nextPoint.bearingMagnetic

The bearing of a line between the vessel's current position and nextPoint, relative to magnetic north

Units:rad

navigation.courseRhumbline.nextPoint.bearingTrue

The bearing of a line between the vessel's current position and nextPoint, relative to true north

Units:rad

navigation.courseRhumbline.nextPoint.distance

The distance in meters between the vessel's present position and the nextPoint

Units:m

navigation.courseRhumbline.nextPoint.timeToGo

Time in seconds to reach nextPoint's perpendicular) with current speed & direction

Units:s

navigation.courseRhumbline.nextPoint.velocityMadeGood

The velocity component of the vessel towards the nextPoint

Units:m/s

navigation.courseRhumbline.previousPoint.distance

The distance in meters between previousPoint and the vessel's present position

Units:m

navigation.datetime.gnssTimeSource

Source of GNSS Date and Time

Enum values:

- GPS
- GLONASS
- Galileo
- Beidou
- IRNSS

- Radio Signal
- Internet
- Local clock

navigation.destination.eta.\$ref

ISO-8601 (UTC) string representing date and time.

Units:ISO-8601 (UTC)

Example:

```
2014-04-10T08:33:53Z
```

navigation.gnss.antennaAltitude

Altitude of antenna

Units:m

navigation.gnss.differentialAge

Age of DGPS data

Units:s

navigation.gnss.integrity

Integrity of the satellite fix

Enum values:

- no Integrity checking
- Safe
- Caution
- Unsafe

navigation.gnss.methodQuality

Quality of the satellite fix

Enum values:

- no GPS
- GNSS Fix
- DGNSS fix
- Precise GNSS
- RTK fixed integer
- RTK float
- Estimated (DR) mode
- Manual input
- Simulator mode
- Error

navigation.headingMagnetic

Current magnetic heading of the vessel

Units:rad

navigation.headingTrue

The current true heading of the vessel

Units:rad

navigation.lights

Current state of the vessels navigation lights

Enum values:

- off
- fault

- anchored
- sailing
- motoring
- towing < 200m
- towing > 200m
- pushing
- fishing
- fishing-hampered
- trawling
- trawling-shooting
- trawling-hauling
- pilotage
- not-under-way
- aground
- restricted manouverability
- restricted manouverability towing < 200m
- restricted manouverability towing > 200m
- restricted manouverability underwater operations
- constrained by draft
- mine clearance

navigation.log

Log value

Units:m

navigation.logTrip

Trip log value

Units:m

navigation.magneticVariation

The magnetic variation (declination) at the current position

Units:rad

navigation.magneticVariationAgeOfService

Seconds since the 1st Jan 1970 that the variation calculation was made

Units:s

navigation.position.altitude

Altitude

Units:m

navigation.position.latitude

Latitude

Units:deg

Example:

```
52.0987654
```

navigation.position.longitude

Longitude

Units:deg

Example:

```
4.98765245
```

navigation.racing.distanceLayline

The current distance to the layline

Units:m

navigation.racing.distanceStartline

The current distance to the start line

Units:m

navigation.racing.timePortDown

Time to arrive at the start line on port, turning downwind

Units:s

navigation.racing.timePortUp

Time to arrive at the start line on port, turning upwind

Units:s

navigation.racing.timeStbdDown

Time to arrive at the start line on starboard, turning downwind

Units:s

navigation.racing.timeStbdUp

Time to arrive at the start line on starboard, turning upwind

Units:s

navigation.racing.timeToStart

Time left before start

Units:s

navigation.rateOfTurn

Rate of turn (+ve is change to starboard)

Units:rad/s

navigation.speedOverGround

Vessel speed over ground

Units:m/s

navigation.speedThroughWater

Vessel speed through the water

Units:m/s

navigation.state

Current navigational state of the vessel

Enum values:

- not under command
- anchored
- sailing
- motoring
- towing < 200m
- towing > 200m
- pushing
- fishing
- fishing-hampered
- trawling
- trawling-shooting

- trawling-hauling
- pilotage
- not-under-way
- aground
- restricted manouverability
- restricted manouverability towing < 200m
- restricted manouverability towing > 200m
- restricted manouverability underwater operations
- constrained by draft
- mine clearance
- not defined (example)

notifications.*.\$ref

ISO-8601 (UTC) string representing date and time.

Units:ISO-8601 (UTC)

Example:

```
2014-04-10T08:33:53Z
```

performance.beatAngle

The true wind beat angle for the best velocity made good based on current current polar diagram and trueWindSpeed.

Units:rad

performance.beatAngle.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

performance.beatAngleTargetSpeed

The target speed for the beat angle.

Units:m/s

performance.beatAngleTargetSpeed.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

performance.beatAngleVelocityMadeGood

The velocity made good for the beat angle.

Units:m/s

performance.beatAngleVelocityMadeGood.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

performance.gybeAngle

The true wind gybe angle for the best velocity made good downwind based on current polar diagram and trueWindSpeed.

Units:rad

performance.gybeAngle.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

performance.gybeAngleTargetSpeed

The target speed for the gybe angle.

Units:m/s

performance.gybeAngleTargetSpeed.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

performance.gybeAngleVelocityMadeGood

The velocity made good for the gybe angle

Units:m/s

performance.gybeAngleVelocityMadeGood.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

performance.leeway

Current leeway

Units:rad

performance.leeway.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

performance.polarSpeed

The current polar speed based on current polar diagram, trueWindSpeed and truewindAngle.

Units:m/s

performance.polarSpeed.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

performance.polarSpeedRatio

The ratio of current speed through water to the polar speed.

Units:ratio

performance.polarSpeedRatio.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

performance.tackMagnetic

Magnetic heading on opposite tack.

Units:rad

performance.tackMagnetic.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

performance.tackTrue

True heading on opposite tack.

Units:rad

performance.tackTrue.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

performance.targetAngle

The true wind gybe or beat angle for the best velocity made good downwind or upwind based on current polar diagram and trueWindSpeed.

Units:rad

performance.targetAngle.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

performance.targetSpeed

The target speed for the beat angle or gybe angle, which ever is applicable.

Units:m/s

performance.targetSpeed.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

performance.velocityMadeGood

The current velocity made good derived from the speed through water and appearant wind angle. A positive value is heading to upwind, negative to downwind.

Units:m/s

performance.velocityMadeGood.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

performance.velocityMadeGoodToWaypoint

The current velocity made good to the next waypoint derived from the speedOverGround, courseOverGround.

Units:m/s

**performance.velocityMadeGoodToWaypoint.
meta.properties**

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.alternatorVoltage

Alternator voltage

Units:V

**propulsion.*.alternatorVoltage.meta.properti
es**

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.boostPressure

Engine boost (turbo, supercharger) pressure

Units:Pa

propulsion.*.boostPressure.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.coolantPressure

Coolant pressure

Units:Pa

propulsion.*.coolantPressure.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.coolantTemperature

Coolant temperature

Units:K

propulsion.*.coolantTemperature.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.drive.propeller.pitch

Current pitch of propeller, the distance the propeller would advance during one revolution of the propeller without slip

Units:m

propulsion.*.drive.propeller.pitch.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.drive.propeller.slip

Propeller slip, the ratio between propeller pitch and distance travelled. eg 1-(actual distance travelled/propeller pitch). $0 \leq \text{ratio} \leq 1$, 0 is 0% slip, 1 is 100% slip

Units:ratio

propulsion.*.drive.propeller.slip.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.drive.thrustAngle

Current thrust angle for steerable drives, +ve is thrust to Starboard

Units:rad

propulsion.*.drive.thrustAngle.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.drive.trimState

Trim/tilt state, $0 \leq \text{ratio} \leq 1$, 1 is 100% up

Units:ratio

propulsion.*.drive.trimState.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.drive.type

Enum values:

- saildrive
- shaft
- outboard
- jet
- pod

- other

propulsion.*.engineLoad

Engine load ratio, $0 \leq \text{ratio} \leq 1$, 1 is 100%

Units:ratio

propulsion.*.engineLoad.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.engineTorque

Engine torque ratio, $0 \leq \text{ratio} \leq 1$, 1 is 100%

Units:ratio

propulsion.*.engineTorque.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.exhaustTemperature

Exhaust temperature

Units:K

propulsion.*.exhaustTemperature.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.fuel.averageRate

Average fuel rate of consumption

Units:m3/s

propulsion.*.fuel.averageRate.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.fuel.economyRate

Economy fuel rate of consumption

Units:m3/s

propulsion.*.fuel.economyRate.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.fuel.pressure

Fuel pressure

Units:Pa

propulsion.*.fuel.pressure.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.fuel.rate

Fuel rate of consumption

Units:m3/s

propulsion.*.fuel.rate.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.fuel.type

Fuel type

Enum values:

- diesel
- petrol
- electric
- coal/wood
- other

propulsion.*.fuel.used

Used fuel since last reset. Resetting is at user discretion

Units:m3

propulsion.*.fuel.used.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.oilPressure

Oil pressure

Units:Pa

propulsion.*.oilPressure.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.oilTemperature

Oil temperature

Units:K

propulsion.*.oilTemperature.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.revolutions

Engine revolutions (x60 for RPM)

Units:Hz

propulsion.*.revolutions.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.runTime

Total running time for engine (Engine Hours in seconds)

Units:s

propulsion.*.runTime.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.state.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.state.value

Enum values:

- stopped
- started
- unusable

propulsion.*.temperature

Engine temperature

Units:K

propulsion.*.temperature.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.transmission.gear

Enum values:

- Forward
- Neutral
- Reverse
- Fault

propulsion.*.transmission.gearRatio

Gear ratio, engine rotations per propeller shaft rotation

Units:ratio

propulsion.*.transmission.gearRatio.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.transmission.oilPressure

Oil pressure

Units:Pa

propulsion.*.transmission.oilPressure.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

propulsion.*.transmission.oilTemperature

Oil temperature

Units:K

propulsion.*.transmission.oilTemperature.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

resources.charts.*.chartFormat

The format of the chart

Enum values:

- gif
- geotiff
- kap
- png
- jpg

- kml
- wkt
- topojson
- geojson
- gpx
- tms
- S-57
- S-63
- svg
- other

resources.notes.*.position.altitude

Altitude

Units:m

resources.notes.*.position.latitude

Latitude

Units:deg

Example:

```
52.0987654
```

resources.notes.*.position.longitude

Longitude

Units:deg

Example:

```
4.98765245
```

resources.notes.*.position.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

resources.regions.*.feature.geometry.oneOf.0.type

Enum values:

- Polygon

resources.regions.*.feature.geometry.oneOf.1.type

Enum values:

- MultiPolygon

resources.regions.*.feature.type

Enum values:

- Feature

resources.routes.*.distance

Total distance from start to end

Units:m

resources.routes.*.feature.geometry.type

Enum values:

- LineString

resources.routes.*.feature.type

Enum values:

- Feature

resources.waypoints.*.feature.geometry.type

Enum values:

- Point

resources.waypoints.*.feature.type

Enum values:

- Feature

resources.waypoints.*.position.altitude

Altitude

Units:m

resources.waypoints.*.position.latitude

Latitude

Units:deg

Example:

```
52.0987654
```

resources.waypoints.*.position.longitude

Longitude

Units:deg

Example:

```
4.98765245
```

resources.waypoints.*.position.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

sails.area.active

The total area of the sails currently in use on the vessel

Units:m2

sails.area.active.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

sails.area.total

The total area of all sails on the vessel

Units:m2

sails.area.total.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

sails.inventory.*.area

The total area of this sail in square meters

Units:m2

sails.inventory.*.maximumWind

The maximum wind speed this sail can be used with

Units:m/s

sails.inventory.*.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

sails.inventory.*.minimumWind

The minimum wind speed this sail can be used with

Units:m/s

sensors.fromBow.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

sensors.fromCenter.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

sources...anyOf.0.n2k.pgns.*.\$ref

ISO-8601 (UTC) string representing date and time.

Units:ISO-8601 (UTC)

Example:

```
2014-04-10T08:33:53Z
```

sources...anyOf.0.sentences.*.\$ref

ISO-8601 (UTC) string representing date and time.

Units:ISO-8601 (UTC)

Example:

```
2014-04-10T08:33:53Z
```

steering.autopilot.backlash

Slack in the rudder drive mechanism

Units:rad

steering.autopilot.backlash.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

steering.autopilot.deadZone

Dead zone to ignore for rudder corrections

Units:rad

steering.autopilot.deadZone.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

steering.autopilot.gain.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

steering.autopilot.headingSource

Current source of heading information

Enum values:

- compass
- wind
- gps

steering.autopilot.maxDriveCurrent

Maximum current to use to drive servo

Units:A

steering.autopilot.maxDriveCurrent.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

steering.autopilot.maxDriveRate

Maximum rudder rotation speed

Units:rad/s

steering.autopilot.maxDriveRate.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

steering.autopilot.mode

Operational mode

Enum values:

- powersave
- normal
- accurate

steering.autopilot.portLock

Position of servo on port lock

Units:rad

steering.autopilot.portLock.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

steering.autopilot.starboardLock

Position of servo on starboard lock

Units:rad

steering.autopilot.starboardLock.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

steering.autopilot.state

Autopilot state

Enum values:

- on
- off
- alarm

steering.autopilot.targetHeadingMagnetic

Target heading for autopilot, relative to magnetic North

Units:rad

steering.autopilot.targetHeadingMagnetic.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

steering.autopilot.targetHeadingNorth

Target heading for autopilot, relative to true North

Units:rad

steering.autopilot.targetHeadingNorth.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

steering.rudderAngle

Current rudder angle, +ve is rudder to Starboard

Units:rad

steering.rudderAngle.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

steering.rudderAngleTarget

The angle the rudder should move to, +ve is rudder to Starboard

Units:rad

steering.rudderAngleTarget.meta.properties

Units:[object Object]

tanks.blackWater.*.capacity

Total capacity

Units:m3

tanks.blackWater.*.currentLevel

Level of fluid in tank 0-100%

Units:ratio

tanks.blackWater.*.currentVolume

Volume of fluid in tank

Units:m3

tanks.blackWater.*.type

The type of tank

Enum values:

- petrol
- fresh water
- greywater
- holding
- lpg
- diesel
- rum

tanks.freshWater.*.capacity

Total capacity

Units:m3

tanks.freshWater.*.currentLevel

Level of fluid in tank 0-100%

Units:ratio

tanks.freshWater.*.currentVolume

Volume of fluid in tank

Units:m3

tanks.freshWater.*.type

The type of tank

Enum values:

- petrol
- fresh water
- greywater
- holding
- lpg

- diesel
- rum

tanks.fuel.*.capacity

Total capacity

Units:m3

tanks.fuel.*.currentLevel

Level of fluid in tank 0-100%

Units:ratio

tanks.fuel.*.currentVolume

Volume of fluid in tank

Units:m3

tanks.fuel.*.type

The type of tank

Enum values:

- petrol
- fresh water
- greywater
- holding
- lpg
- diesel
- rum

tanks.fuelWater.*.capacity

Total capacity

Units:m3

tanks.fuelWater.*.currentLevel

Level of fluid in tank 0-100%

Units:ratio

tanks.fuelWater.*.currentVolume

Volume of fluid in tank

Units:m3

tanks.fuelWater.*.type

The type of tank

Enum values:

- petrol
- fresh water
- greywater
- holding
- lpg
- diesel
- rum

tanks.liveWell.*.capacity

Total capacity

Units:m3

tanks.liveWell.*.currentLevel

Level of fluid in tank 0-100%

Units:ratio

tanks.liveWell.*.currentVolume

Volume of fluid in tank

Units:m3

tanks.liveWell.*.type

The type of tank

Enum values:

- petrol
- fresh water
- greywater
- holding
- lpg
- diesel
- rum

tanks.lubrication.*.capacity

Total capacity

Units:m3

tanks.lubrication.*.currentLevel

Level of fluid in tank 0-100%

Units:ratio

tanks.lubrication.*.currentVolume

Volume of fluid in tank

Units:m3

tanks.lubrication.*.type

The type of tank

Enum values:

- petrol
- fresh water
- greywater
- holding
- lpg
- diesel
- rum

tanks.wasteWater.*.capacity

Total capacity

Units:m3

tanks.wasteWater.*.currentLevel

Level of fluid in tank 0-100%

Units:ratio

tanks.wasteWater.*.currentVolume

Volume of fluid in tank

Units:m3

tanks.wasteWater.*.type

The type of tank

Enum values:

- petrol
- fresh water
- greywater
- holding
- lpg
- diesel
- rum

There are two use cases for multiple data:

- Multiple versions of a common device - eg two engines
- Multiple devices providing duplicate data - multiple values for the same signalk key from different sensors, eg COG from both compass and gps

Multiple versions of a common device

Consider the data point `temperature`. There are many versions of temperature: air, water, engineRoom, fridge, freezer, main cabin, etc. Some are well-known, and in common usage, some will be very vessel specific.

So we need a structure that provides a flexible way to hold lots of sub-items. The simple solution is an array of `temperature` objects however

<https://github.com/SignalK/specification/wiki/Arrays-are-Evil>.

So instead we simply put the individual temperature objects in as children of `temperature`

```
{
  "temperature": {
    "air": {
      "value": 26.7,
      "source": "vessels.self.sources.n2k.n2k1-12-0"
    },
    "water": {
      "value": 18.2,
      "source": "vessels.self.sources.n2k.n2k1-12-1"
    }
  }
}
```

And in `vessels.self.sources`

```
{
  "n2k":{
    "n2k1-12-0": {
      "timestamp": "2014-08-15-16: 00: 00.081",
      "source": {
        "label": "Outside Ambient Masthead",
        "bus": "/dev/ttyUSB1"
      },
      "value":"dump the raw n2k data here"
    },
    "n2k1-12-1": {
      "timestamp": "2014-08-15-16: 00: 00.081",
      "value": 18.2,
      "source": {
        "label": "Water Temperature",
        "bus": "/dev/ttyUSB1"
      }
    },
    "n2k2-201-0": {
      "timestamp": "2014-08-15-16: 00: 00.081",
      "value": 66.7,
      "source": {
        "label": "Engine Room",
        "bus": "/dev/ttyUSB2"
      }
    }
  }
}
```

This scheme allows for both well-known keys `temperature.air` and vessel specific `temperature.aftFreezer` . It is also valid in the following form, but makes it more difficult to refer to the source if it maps to multiple signalk keys (eg NMEA 0183 RMC sentence <https://github.com/SignalK/specification/wiki/Samples---NMEA-0183-RMC>):

```
{
  "temperature": {
    "air": {
      "value": 26.7,
      "source": "n2k1-12-0",
      "n2k1-12-0": {
        "timestamp": "2014-08-15-16: 00: 00.081",
        "value": 26.7,
        "source": {
          "label": "Outside Ambient Masthead",
          "bus": "/dev/ttyUSB1"
        }
      }
    }
  },
  "water": {
    "value": 18.2,
    "source": "n2k1-12-1",
    "n2k1-12-1": {
      "timestamp": "2014-08-15-16: 00: 00.081",
      "value": 18.2,
      "source": {
        "label": "Water Temperature",
        "bus": "/dev/ttyUSB1"
      }
    }
  }
}
```

It maintains the primary requirement that a given data value have a fixed and unique uri, but gives flexibility in the structure and complexities of data. It also fulfils the requirement for discovery of data keys, vessel specific sources, and provides the ability to navigate the structure in a consistent progamatical way.

Multiple devices providing duplicate data

It is quite possible for a key value to come from more than one device. eg position (lat/lon) could come from several gps enabled devices, and multiple depth sounders are not uncommon. We need a consistent way to handle this.

All the incoming values may well be valid in their own context, and it is feasible that all of them may be wanted, for instance, displaying depth under each hull on a catamaran.

Hence discarding or averaging is not a solution, and since signalk is unable to derive the best way to handle multiple values it must always fall to a default action, with human over-ride when needed.

The solution presented below has flaws. See <https://github.com/SignalK/specification/issues/48> for discussion.

In signal K we can leverage the above method and simply store all the devices in the tree under the main item, and have the main items `source` reference the options. Lets consider this for `courseOverGroundTrue`

If its the first value for the key, it becomes the default value and looks like this:

```
{
  "vessels": {
    "self": {
      "navigation": {
        "courseOverGroundTrue": {
          "value": 102.29,
          "source": "vessels.self.sources.n2k.actisense-115-129026"
        }
      },
      "sources": {
        "n2k": {
          "actisense-115-129026": {
            "value": 102.29,
            "bus": "/dev/actisense",
            "timestamp": "2014-08-15-16: 00: 01.083",
            "src": "115",
            "pgn": "129026"
          }
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

It has come from device `vessels.self.sources.n2k.actisense-115-129026` , where further details can be found.

If another value with different source arrives, we add the source with a unique name, so both values are in there - if its our preferred source (from persistent config) we auto-switch to it, otherwise we just record it. It look like this:

```

{
  "vessels": {
    "self": {
      "navigation": {
        "courseOverGroundTrue": {
          "timestamp": "2014-08-15-16: 00: 01.083",
          "value": 102.29,
          "source": "vessels.self.sources.n2k.actisense-115-129026"
        }
      },
      "sources": {
        "n2k": {
          "actisense-115-129026": {
            "value": 102.29,
            "bus": "/dev/actisense",
            "timestamp": "2014-08-15-16: 00: 01.083",
            "src": "115",
            "pgn": "129026"
          },
          "actisense-201-130577": {
            "value": 102.29,
            "bus": "/dev/actisense",
            "timestamp": "2014-08-15-16: 00: 00.085",
            "src": "201",
            "pgn": "130577"
          }
        }
      }
    }
  }
}

```

Rules

Now simple rules can apply to obtain the default, or any specific value:

- The implementation must ensure that the `key.value` holds an appropriate value. This will be easy if there is only one, and will probably be user configured if more.
- If the `source` value is `string` then it is a reference key to the source object, and can be a relative or absolute signalk key.
- The `source` (as a reference string) also provides a mechanism to handle deprecated keys.
- If the `source` value is a `json object` then it holds meta data on the source of the value.
- Alternate sources must be discovered manually, or by implementation specific meta-data.

To see all the entries, use the REST api or subscribe to the parent object. A given device may choose to subscribe to a specific entry in the object, allowing multiple displays of the key, or users of the various values. The 'list' verb used in a query message can provide available keys.

Unique names

The identifier for each device should be unique within the server, and possibly be constructed as follows:

```
n2k: producerid-sourceid-pgn (producer id from server configuration, others from n2k data) - NOTE: will change, currently under discussion.  
nmea0183: producerid-talkerid-sentence (like n2k)  
signalk: any valid string matching regex [a-zA-Z0-9-]. eg alphabet, hyphens, and 0 to 9
```

(The nmea0183 talker id is not in the schema as I write this, it will be added shortly)

The Use Cases

Let's assume we have engine1.rpm as a key/value in Signal K. We want to display it on our dashboard, and monitor alarms for temp, oil, rpm etc.

We can drop a generic dial gauge on our dash and display rpm, but it can't know maxRpm, or alarms unless its an engine-specific gauge, and knows where to look in the Signal K schema. So we will end up with a profusion of role specific gauges to maintain. We also have non standard key names for max, min, high, low, etc. which pollute the schema.

Currently the Signal K server has a set of specific alarm keys. These grow over time and are becoming awkward. The server can only monitor these specific keys at present as there is no mechanism for arbitrary alarm definition.

Metadata for a Data Value

Each data key should have an optional `.meta` object. This holds data in a standard way which enables the max/min/alarm and display to be automatically derived.

```
{
  "displayName": "Tachometer, Engine 1",
  "shortName": "RPM",
  "warnMethod": "visual",
  "warnMessage": "any text",
  "alarmMethod": "sound",
  "alarmMessage": "any text",
  "zones": [
    {"lower":0.0,"upper":500,"state":"alarm", "message":"Stopped or very slow Rpm"},
    {"lower":500,"upper":3000,"state":"normal", "message":""},
    {"lower":3000,"upper":3500,"state":"warn", "message":"Approaching maximum rpm"},
    {"lower":3500,"upper":9999,"state":"alarm", "message":"Exceeding maximum rpm"}
  ]
}
```

Since the settings object is always the same, the tachometer can now limit its range, and display green, yellow, and red sectors. The generic gauge can now perform this role, with correct labels etc.

The alarms problem is also improved, as the server can run a background process to monitor any key that has a `.meta` object, and raise a generic alarm event. By recursing the tree the alarm monitoring can find the source (engine1), giving the alarm context. See [[Alarm Handling]]

The alarms functionality then becomes generic, and grows with the spec. This is may be the case for other functionality also.

Default Configuration

Other than a few standard keys it is unlikely that the `.meta` can have global defaults, as it is very vessel specific (e.g. a sail boat will have speeds from 0-15kts, a ski boat will have 0-50kts). So the values will have to be configured by the user on the individual vessel as required.

It is probably possible to have profiles that set a range of default `.meta`, e.g. sail vessel, or motor vessel, and if two vessels have the same engine, then the engine profiles will also tend to be the same.

Alarm Management

An alarm watch is set by setting the `meta.zones` array appropriately. A background process on the server checks for alarm conditions on any attribute with a `meta.zones` array. If the keys value is within a zone the server sets an alarm key similar to

```
vessels.self.notifications.[original_key_suffix] , eg an alarm set on
```

```
vessels.self.navigation.courseOverGroundTrue will become
```

```
vessels.self.notifications.navigation.courseOverGroundTrue .
```

The object found at this key should contain the following:

```
{
  "message": "any text",
  "state": "[normal|alert|warn|alarm|emergency]"
}
```

Other Benefits

The common profiles should be exportable and importable. This would allow manufacturers or other users to create profiles for specific products or use cases, which could then be imported to a vessel.

This may also have possibilities for race control or charter management. For instance a limit on lat/lon would raise an 'Out of Bounds' email on a charter vessel.

A lot of the current max/min/alarm values could be removed to simplify and standardise the spec.

Security Model

The security model for Signal K is based on the UNIX file permissions model. This was first developed in the late 1970's and is still perfectly suited to the internet today, so its got to be a pretty sound model!.

So we adapted it for Signal K. See <http://www.tutorialspoint.com/unix/unix-file-permission.htm>

Each key in Signal K has an optional `_attr` value.

```
"vessels": {
  "self": {
    //the usual signal k keys, navigation, environment, etc

    "_attr": {                                // filesystem specific data, eg security, possibly more later
      "_mode": 640,                          // unix style permissions, often written in `owner:group:other` form, `-rw-r-----`
      "_owner" : "self",                      // owner, surprisingly. The user who created the item, sometimes a virtual user like 'self'
      "_group" : "self"                      // group
    }
  }
}
```

By default the `vessels.self` key has the above `_attr`. This effectively means that only the current vessels 'owner' can read and write from this key or any of its sub-keys. It also allows users in group `self` to read the data. This provides a way to give additional programs or users read-only access. In the above case an external user connecting from outside the vessel and requesting vessel data would receive `{}`, eg nothing.

Note: keys beginning with `_` are always stripped from signal k messages

Since the above is a default, Signal K devices that lack the resources to implement security should always be installed behind a suitable gateway that can provide security. Again, the simplest security is the default read-write only within the local vessel (typically the current network). This makes a basic implementation as simple as possible.

The permissions apply recursively to all sub-keys, unless specifically overwritten. You can only provide a **narrowing** change in permissions, eg less than the parent directory. In the above case if the permissions for `vessels.self.navigation.position` were set to

`"_mode" : 644` , it would have no effect as access is blocked at the `vessels.self` key. The `vessels.self` `_attr` must now also be `"_mode" : 644` , and all its other subkeys explicitly set to `"_mode" : 640`

Hence setting complex permissions are likely beyond the typical user. For this reason we believe there should be a choice of default permission 'templates' for the signal K tree. Users would select their preference from a config screen. A paranoid user may prefer the above setup, another may chose to allow basic data similar to AIS (position, cog, speed, etc), and others may expose much more.

Templates also allow sharing of data for specific uses or needs, like a social group, or a marina.

Exposing everything (`"_mode" : 666`) would be dangerous - it would potentially allow external users to gain control of the vessels systems, however it is useful for demos and software development. All signal K implementations should always consider the potential danger of such permissions, and protect users if possible.

The implementation of proper security is the responsibility of the Signal K software implementation provider.

By manipulating the `_attr` values for the signalk keys, and creating suitable users and groups a sophisticated and well proven security model for vessel data can be created.

Ports and Urls

This page outlines the APIs and the conventions we use for ports, URLs, and miscellaneous details.

Short Names

- `self` refers to the current vessel. Normally used in `vessels.self...`.

Ports

The Signal K HTTP and WebSocket services SHOULD be found on the usual HTTP/S ports (80 or 443). The services SHOULD be found on the same port, but may be configured for independent ports and MAY be configured for ports other than HTTP/S.

A Signal K server MAY offer Signal K over TCP or UDP, these services SHOULD be on port 55555[1].

If an alternate port is needed it SHOULD be an arbitrary high port in the range 49152–65535[2].

URL Prefix

The Signal K applications start from the `/signalk` root. This provides some protection against name collisions with other applications on the same server. Therefore the Signal K entry point will always be found by loading `http(s)://«host»:«port»/signalk`.

Versioning

The version(s) of the Signal K API that a server supports SHALL be available as a JSON object available at `/signalk`:

```
{
  "endpoints": {
    "v1": {
      "version": "1.1.2",
      "signalk-http": "http://192.168.1.2/signalk/v1/api/",
      "signalk-ws": "ws://192.168.1.2:34567/signalk/v1/stream"
    },
    "v3": {
      "version": "3.0",
      "signalk-http": "signalk/v3/api/",
      "signalk-ws": "ws://192.168.1.2/signalk/v3/stream",
      "signalk-tcp": "tcp://192.168.1.2:34568"
    }
  }
}
```

This response is defined by the `discovery.json` schema. In this example, the server supports two versions of the specification: `1.1.2` and `3.0`. For each version, the server indicates which transport protocols it supports and the URL that can be used to access that protocol's endpoint; in the example, the `1.1.2` REST endpoint is located at `http://192.168.1.2/signalk/v1/api/`. Clients should use one of these published endpoints based on the protocol version they wish to use.

The server must only return valid URLs and should use IANA standard protocol names such as `http`. However, a server may support unofficial protocols and may return additional protocol names; for example, the response above indicates the server supports a `signalk-tcp` stream over TCP at on port `34568`.

A server may return relative URIs that the client must resolve against the base of the original request.

Streaming WebSocket API: `/signalk/v1/stream`

Initiates a WebSocket connection that will start streaming the server's updates as Signal K delta messages. You can specify the contents of the stream by using a specific URL:

- `ws://hostname/signalk/v1/stream?subscribe=self`
- `ws://hostname/signalk/v1/stream?subscribe=all`
- `ws://hostname/signalk/v1/stream?subscribe=none`

With no query parameter the default is `self` , which will stream the data related to the `self` object. `all` will stream all the updates the server sees and `none` will stream only the heartbeat, until the client issues subscribe messages in the WebSocket stream.

If a server does not support some streaming options listed in here it must respond with http status code `501 Not Implemented` .

See [Subscription Protocol](#) for more details.

Connection Hello

Upon connection a 'hello' message is sent as follows:

```
{
  "version": "1.1.2",
  "timestamp": "2015-04-13T01:13:50.524Z",
  "self": "123456789"
}
```


REST/HTTP API: /signalk/v1/api/

Note the trailing slash in the path.

The base URL MUST provide a Signal K document that is valid according to the full Signal K [schema specification](#). The contents SHOULD be all the current values of the data items the server knows.

If the path following the base is a valid Signal K path `GET` MUST retrieve the Signal K branch named by the path; e.g.

`/signalk/v1/api/vessels/123456789/navigation/speedThroughWater` returns

```
{
  "value": 2.55,
  "source": {
    "type": "NMEA0183",
    "src": "VHW",
    "label": "signalk-parser-nmea0183"
  },
  "timestamp": "2015-08-31T05:45:36.000Z"
}
```

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In Signal K every datapoint should have a predictable and unique uri (address). What we want to maintain is to know that `vessels.self.data.temp` is always at that uri, and what the json form is. So if its an array thats workable. If its a json object with many instance keys, each which has a arbitrary name and the same internal structure that works too.

In fact the two forms represent the same data but have different uris and thats the crux. Essentially the first is `data.item[collection]`, where `data.item[1]` is instance 1, eg the second (0 based) item in the array.

This is no different from `data.item` as the json object, and `data.item.1` as the instance, with the name '1'.

From a code perspective its similar too, the object just has an array of keys. But with objects `data.temp.instanceName.value` is reliable and always the same.

Does that apply for `data.temp[1].value`? eg how do you reliably get `data.temp.air.value` with arrays?

In signalk or java or js, if I have two values in the array, and add one, then remove the first, suddenly the subscriptions are all wrong. The `temp[1]` did point to the second (0 based) object in the array, but after removing the first its now `temp[0]`. Subscriptions to `temp[1]` are now broken.

For an object `temp[air]` always gets the `temp.air`. Adding or removing other keys does not affect 'air'.

The array problem can be overcome by programming - but basically thats just fixing a problem that can be easily avoided by not using arrays.

This is a quick start for any-one that would like to contribute. Its roughly from technically unskilled to skilled, top to bottom. Dont be afraid to ask for help. Each task will probably start with a new thread for more details on the Google groups (<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/signalk>). Be patient, civil, and persistent :-)

Completely unskilled at boat electronics:

- Join <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/signalk> - as the user base grows, so does awareness.
- Tell others, spread the word
- Fly a Signal K flag from your boat
- If you have special skills (eg motors, batteries, navigation, etc) help us extend the Signal K protocol by identifying what we need to cover.
- Ask manufacturers about Signal K support
- Ask questions about what you dont understand, and collate the answers for us to put on the website.

Can do own installs, handyman, but not IT skilled.

- Try an install of Raspberry Pi and WIFI, document exactly how you did it, so others can follow.

Website or documentation skills

- Help us maintain the website, and improve the documents

Good computer skills, but not programming

- Download and try the java server (<https://github.com/SignalK/signalk-server-java>) and node server (<https://github.com/SignalK/signalk-server-node>) and the various apps and clients. Help test and identify issues, help improve documents so others can follow easier.
- Help with User manuals!

Systems engineer

- Help other users, help with scripts, develop and maintain install processes, managing our web sites, etc.
- Examples:
 - Create Debian packages of the Signal K software for easy installation to Raspbian

Software developer

- Download and test/fix our stuff, add improvements, join the team and help code, develop support in your own software.

Microprocessors

- Improve our Arduino stuff, add your own, incorporate Signal K into your products.