

# POLAR High Level Data Products Format Design Specification

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# 1 Introduction

This chapter contains an introduction to the document “POLAR High Level Data Products Format Design Specification”

## 1.1 Purpose of the document

Three core pre-processing programs of POLAR SCI and HK raw data have been finished. They are `SCI_Decode`, `HK_Decode` and `Time_Calculate`. For raw data products from POAC, please see the document[\[1\]](#). `SCI_Decode` is to directly decode 0B level POLAR SCI raw data from POAC, and do time sync at the same time. `HK_Decode` is to directly decode 0B level POLAR HK raw data from POAC, and do some physical value converting work. `Time_Calculate` is to calculate the absolute GPS time of each event in SCI decoded data using the GPS and timestamp sync information in HK decoded data. These three programs are tested by lots of ground data and work well. One important thing is the format or data structure of the output data files. Everyone who uses these programs should know the format and the way of data organization. This document is mainly to clarify the data structure of decoded data produced by the three pre-processing programs.

## 1.2 Levels of data products

POLAR data products has several different levels. 1M level data is the directly decoded data produced by `SCI_Decode` or `HK_Decode`. It should keep all information in 0B level raw data, and add some auxiliary data which is helpful for data monitor and data analysis later. The level of SCI data after absolute GPS time of each event is calculated and added by `Time_Calculate` is 1P. 1M and 1P level SCI data have almost the same data structure except for absolute GPS time added. HK data does not have 1P level, because 1M level HK data already have absolute GPS time.

One raw data file from POAC could be very big, because it may contain a day of data. The time span of one orbit is about 90 minutes, so it could be convenient to split the data by orbit. The data structure of orbit splitted data should be the same as the data that is not splitted. So, data monitor and data analysis software can directly process the data after and before splitted without any change. The level of orbit splitted data is 1R.

This document will give a clear clarification of data structure of 1M and 1P level SCI decoded data, 1M level HK decoded data. SCI data of one event include one trigger packet and one or more module packets. It is important to understand the data organization of event data in the output ROOT file.

## 2 Usage of the three programs

Before introducing the data products format, this chapter gives a brief introduction to how to use the three core pre-processing programs.

### 2.1 Usage of SCI\_Decode and HK\_Decode

The way of using the two decoding programs `SCI_Decode` and `HK_Decode` are the same, we can run one of them without any command line parameters to see the help information.

Help information of `SCI_Decode` is as following:

```
> SCI_Decode
Usage:
  SCI_Decode [-l <listfile.txt>] [<POL_SCI_data_001.dat> <POL_SCI_data_002.dat> ...]
              [-o <POL_SCI_decoded_data.root>] [-g <POL_SCI_decoding_error.log>]

Options:
  -l <listfile.txt>          text file that contains raw data file list
  -o <decoded_data.root>     root file that stores decoded data
  -g <decoding_error.log>    text file that records decoding error log info
  --version                  print version and author information
```

And help information of `HK_Decode` is as following:

```
> HK_Decode
Usage:
  HK_Decode [-l <listfile.txt>] [<POL_HK_data_001.dat> <POL_HK_data_002.dat> ...]
              [-o <POL_HK_decoded_data.root>] [-g <POL_HK_decoding_error.log>]

Options:
  -l <listfile.txt>          text file that contains raw data file list
  -o <decoded_data.root>     root file that stores decoded data
  -g <decoding_error.log>    text file that records decoding error log info
  --version                  print version and author information
```

There are two ways to input raw data files.

The first way is directly to use command line parameters without options to give file names as following:

```
> SCI_Decode POL_SCI_data_20160517_154345_001.dat POL_SCI_data_20160517_154345_002.dat ...
```

`SCI_Decode` will scan the designated raw data files one by one from left to right and generate only one decoded ROOT file. The default name of the output file is `POL_SCI_decoded_data.root` for `SCI_Decode` if it is not specified by option `-o`.

The second way is to use a text file which contains all the file names line by line. And use option `-l` to input the raw data files. Just as following:

```
> cat listfile.txt
path/to/POL_SCI_data_20160517_154345_001.dat
path/to/POL_SCI_data_20160517_154345_002.dat
path/to/POL_SCI_data_20160517_154345_003.dat
...
> SCI_Decode -l listfile.txt
```

Options `-o` and `-g` are optional. We can use option `-o` to specify the name of output decoded file. If option `-g` is used, `SCI_Decode` and `HK_Decode` will record some log information into a text file, including the raw data of bad packets.

After a run of `SCI_Decode` or `HK_Decode` finished, some counter information will be printed out, including count of total frames and packets, count of CRC error, count and percentage of packets lost, percentage of time aligned event packets, etc.. Such counter information can give some indications of quality of the raw data.

Screen output of `SCI_Decode` is as following:

```
POL_SCI_data_20160517_154345_001.dat
POL_SCI_data_20160517_154345_002.dat
POL_SCI_data_20160517_154345_003.dat
=====
total frame count:      783485      total packet count:      17786003
frame invalid count:    0            - trigger packet count:  8090369
frame invalid percent:  0.00%        - event packet count:    9695515
frame crc error count:  0            packet invalid count:    65
frame crc error percent: 0.00%       packet invalid percent:  0.00%
frame interruption count: 0          packet crc error count:  633
frame start error count: 0           packet crc error percent: 0.00%
total timestamp 0 count: 0           packet too short count:  291
=====
ct  mod >  ped_trig  ped_event  ped_lost  percent  |  noped_trig  noped_event  noped_lost  percent
1  405 >   766       766        0  0.00%  |  261973      261973        0  0.00%
2  639 >   766       766        0  0.00%  |  340300      340300        0  0.00%
3  415 >   765       765        0  0.00%  |  359015      359014        1  0.00%
4  522 >   758       758        0  0.00%  |  361436      361436        0  0.00%
5  424 >   763       763        0  0.00%  |  322721      322721        0  0.00%
6  640 >   763       763        0  0.00%  |  317664      317663        1  0.00%
7  408 >   760       760        0  0.00%  |  406439      406439        0  0.00%
8  638 >   757       757        0  0.00%  |  448543      448543        0  0.00%
9  441 >   758       758        0  0.00%  |  471523      471523        0  0.00%
10 631 >   758       758        0  0.00%  |  418859      418859        0  0.00%
11 411 >   769       769        0  0.00%  |  305021      305021        0  0.00%
12 505 >   757       756        1  0.13%  |  426402      426403       -1 -0.00%
13 503 >   759       759        0  0.00%  |  495925      495925        0  0.00%
14 509 >   742       742        0  0.00%  |  519941      519941        0  0.00%
15 410 >   762       762        0  0.00%  |  420677      420677        0  0.00%
16 507 >   769       769        0  0.00%  |  321857      321857        0  0.00%
17 402 >   758       758        0  0.00%  |  392200      392200        0  0.00%
18 602 >   754       754        0  0.00%  |  506862      506861        1  0.00%
19 414 >   765       765        0  0.00%  |  482388      482388        0  0.00%
20 524 >   747       746        1  0.13%  |  437999      437999        0  0.00%
21 423 >   766       766        0  0.00%  |  246196      246194        2  0.00%
22 601 >   761       761        0  0.00%  |  365308      365308        0  0.00%
23 406 >   770       767        3  0.39%  |  326266      325397       869  0.27%
24 520 >   771       771        0  0.00%  |  402897      402897        0  0.00%
25 413 >   768       768        0  0.00%  |  317960      317960        0  0.00%
=====
trigg expected sum: 9695404      noped_trigger:  8089584      ped_trigger:    785
event received sum: 9694526      noped_event_sum: 9675499      sec_ped_trigger: 636
total lost percent: 0.01%        mean event rate: 12719 cnts/sec  np_evts per sec: 15213 pkts/sec
transmission rate: 19.96 Mbps     aligned sum:    9675497      aligned percent: 100.00%
=====
```

Screen output of `HK_Decode` is as following:

```
POL_HK_data_20160517_154345_001.dat
=====
total frame count:      12564      total obox packet count:  6282
frame valid count:     12564      obox valid count:       6281
frame invalid count:    0         obox invalid count:      1
frame crc passed:       12564     obox crc passed:        6281
frame crc error count:  0         obox crc error count:    0
frame interruption count: 0
=====
```

## 2.2 Usage of Time\_Calculate

`Time_Calculate` is used to calculate and add the absolute GPS time of each event in decoded SCI data. It can work only when the GPS time in HK data is valid. We can also run this program without any command line parameters to see the help information.

Help information of `Time_Calculate` is as following:

```
Usage:
Time_Calculate <POL_SCI_decoded_data.root> -k <POL_HK_decoded_data.root>
               [-o <POL_SCI_decoded_data_time.root>] [-g <POL_SCI_time_error.log>]

Options:
-k <hk_decoded_data.root>      root file that stores hk decoded data
-o <sci_decoded_data.root>     root file that stores sci decoded data after absolute time is added
-g <time_error.log>           text file that records time calculating error log info

--version                     print version and author information
```

It is very straightforward. Just use option `-k` to designate the file name of decoded HK data. Options `-o` and `-g` are also optional. Option `-o` is used to specify the file name of the output ROOT file that stores the SCI data after absolute GPS time is added. If option `-o` is not used, the default file name is `POL_SCI_decoded_data_time.root`. When option `-g` is used, this program will record some error log information into a text file.

Screen output of `Time_Calculate` is as following:

```
Copying physical modules data ...
[ ##### DONE ]
Calculating time and copying physical trigger data ...
[ ##### DONE ]
Copying pedestal modules data ...
[ ##### DONE ]
Calculating time and copying pedestal trigger data ...
[ ##### DONE ]
=====
phy_error_count: 0 / 8089584      ped_error_count: 0 / 785
=====
```

Absolute GPS time is only added into trigger packets, and all of other data is just copied.

### 3 Data Structure of ROOT files

This chapter gives a detail explanation of the TTree structure of 1M/1P level SCI data and 1M level HK data. The way of data organization of SCI event data is also clarified in this chapter. It is helpful to know the structure of raw data of SCI and HK first. See chapter 3 (page 13–17) of document[2] to know the frame structure of SCI and HK raw data, and packet structure of HK data. See section 3.4.2 (page 59–64) of document[3] to know the structure of raw HK packet from OBOX. See section 3.4.3 and 3.4.4 (page 65–68, 78–83) of document[3] to know the structure of raw science data packet and trigger data packet. In the ROOT files of decoded data, some data are directly decoded data, and others are auxiliary data that are added or calculated when decoding.

#### 3.1 1M/1P level SCI data

SCI data of 1M level is generated by `SCI.Decode`. There are 4 TTree objects, which store decoded data, and some TNamed objects, which store meta information. Descriptions of them are shown in Table 1

Table 1: Contents of ROOT file of 1M/1P SCI data

Type	Name	Descriptions
TTree	t_modules	physical modules packets
TTree	t_trigger	physical trigger packets
TTree	t_ped_modules	pedestal modules packets
TTree	t_ped_trigger	pedestal trigger packets
TNamed	m_dattype	string of description of the data type
TNamed	m_version	version of the program that generate this file
TNamed	m_gentime	string of time when this file is generated
TNamed	m_rawfile	list of file names of the raw data
TNamed	m_dcdinfo	some information calculated when decoding

The two TTree objects t\_modules and t\_trigger are used to store physical event data. t\_modules is for module packets from 25 FEEs, and t\_trigger is for trigger packets from CT. These two TTree objects are associated by a specific way to match trigger packet and its corresponding module packets of the same physical event. The way of data organization of physical event data will be introduced later. The other two TTree objects t\_ped\_modules and t\_ped\_trigger are used to store pedestal event data. Actually, they have exactly the same structure of t\_modules and t\_trigger. The reason of storing physical events and pedestal events separately is that it is hard to make the

order between physical packets and pedestal packets sequentially as time because of the different methods of doing time sync for physical events and pedestal events. After these two kinds of events are stored separately, it is easy to make the order of both trigger and module packets right as time. And it is not hard to iterate all packets (including pedestal and physical, excluding bad) of one module as the order of time by using a global index number. The method will be introduced later. Here will introduce the data structure of TTree t\_modules and TTree t\_trigger. Firstly, contents of TTree t\_modules are shown in Table 2

Table 2: Contents of TTree t\_modules and t\_ped\_modules

Type	Name	Descriptions
Long64_t	trigg_num	Sequential number of the trigger packet of an event.
Long64_t	event_num	Sequential number of the event packet of a module.
Long64_t	event_num_g	Order number at the sequence of appearing in the raw data file.
Int_t	is_bad	if the packet is invalid or has CRC error.
Int_t	pre_is_bad	if the previous packet is invalid or has CRC error.
Int_t	compress	compress mode
Int_t	ct_num	CT number
UInt_t	time_stamp	raw data of TIMESTAMP field of the packet
UInt_t	time_period	overflow counter of time_stamp
UInt_t	time_align	23 LSB of time_stamp
Double_t	time_second	time in seconds from start
Double_t	time_wait	time_second difference since previous event
Int_t	raw_rate	raw data of RATE field of the packet
UInt_t	raw_dead	raw data of DEADTIME field of the packet
Float_t	dead_ratio	$\text{delta}(\text{raw\_dead}) / \text{delta}(\text{time\_stamp})$
UShort_t	status	raw data of the 16 bits STATUS field of the packet

Next



Table 2 (Continue)

Type	Name	Descriptions
Event_Status_T	status_bit	each bit in status
Bool_t	trigger_bit[64]	raw data of the TRIGGERBIT
Float_t	energy_adc[64]	ADC of energy of the 64 channels
Float_t	common_noise	raw data of COMMON NOISE field for compress mode 3
Int_t	multiplicity	sum of trigger_bit[64] of this packet

Type Event\_Status\_T is a C struct. It is used to extract and store each bit of status. Definition of it is shown in Table 3

Table 3: Definition of struct Event\_Status\_T

Type	Name	Bit	Descriptions
Bool_t	trigger_fe_busy	15	Flag indicating Frontend Unit is busys.
Bool_t	fifo_full	14	Flag indicating FIFO memory for events is full.
Bool_t	fifo_empty	13	Flag indicating FIFO memory for events is empty.
Bool_t	trigger_enable	12	Flag indicating trigger is enabled.
Bool_t	trigger_waiting	11	Flag indicating FE is waiting for trigger acceptance.
Bool_t	trigger_hold_b	10	Flag indicating HOLD B signal on FE is asserted.
Bool_t	timestamp_enable	9	Flag indicating timestamp is enabled.
Bool_t	reduction_mode_b1	8	bit 1 of Field indicating the reduction mode of the Frontend Unit.
Bool_t	reduction_mode_b0	7	bit 0 of Field indicating the reduction mode of the Frontend Unit.
Bool_t	subsystem_busy	6	Flag indicating one of three subsystems is busy.
Bool_t	dynode_2	5	Flag indicating DYNODE 2 triggered.
Bool_t	dynode_1	4	Flag indicating DYNODE 1 triggered.

Next

Table 2 (Continue)

Type	Name	Bit	Descriptions
Bool_t	dy12_too_high	3	Flag indicating DY12 TOO HIGH triggered.
Bool_t	t_out_too_many	2	Flag indicating T OUT TOO MANY triggered.
Bool_t	t_out_2	1	Flag indicating T OUT 2 triggered.
Bool_t	t_out_1	0	Flag indicating T OUT 1 triggered.

## References

- [1] POLAR\_space\_data\_from\_GESSA/POAC data products.pdf
- [2] POLAR\_data\_link/Introduction\_of\_POLAR\_data\_link.pdf
- [3] TN\_318/POLAR\_OBOX\_Software\_Design\_Specification.pdf