- **Frame type** is the API frame type identifier. It determines the type of API frame and indicates how the Data field organizes the information.
- **Data** contains the data itself. This information and its order depend on the what type of frame that the Frame type field defines.

Checksum

Checksum is the last byte of the frame and helps test data integrity. It is calculated by taking the hash sum of all the API frame bytes that came before it, except the first three bytes (start delimiter and length).

The device does not process frames sent through the serial interface with incorrect checksums, and ignores their data.

Calculate and verify checksums

To calculate the checksum of an API frame:

1. Add all bytes of the packet, except the start delimiter 0x7E and the length (the second and third bytes).
2. Keep only the lowest 8 bits from the result.
3. Subtract this quantity from 0xFF.

To verify the checksum of an API frame:

1. Add all bytes including the checksum; do not include the delimiter and length.
2. If the checksum is correct, the last two digits on the far right of the sum equal 0xFF.

Example

Consider the following sample data packet: **7E 00 0A 01 01 50 01 00 48 65 6C 6C 6F B8**+

Byte(s)	Description
7E	Start delimiter
00 0A	Length bytes
01	API identifier
01	API frame ID
50 01	Destination address low
00	Option byte
48 65 6C 6C 6F	Data packet
B8	Checksum

To calculate the check sum you add all bytes of the packet, excluding the frame delimiter **7E** and the length (the second and third bytes):

7E 00 0A 01 01 50 01 00 48 65 6C 6C 6F B8

Add these hex bytes:

01 + 01 + 50 + 01 + 00 + 48 + 65 + 6C + 6C + 6F = 247

Now take the result of 0x247 and keep only the lowest 8 bits which in this example is 0x47 (the two far right digits). Subtract 0x47 from 0xFF and you get 0xB8 (0xFF - 0x47 = 0xB8). 0xB8 is the checksum for this data packet.

If an API data packet is composed with an incorrect checksum, the XBee/XBee-PRO DigiMesh 2.4 will consider the packet invalid and will ignore the data.

To verify the check sum of an API packet add all bytes including the checksum (do not include the delimiter and length) and if correct, the last two far right digits of the sum will equal FF.

01 + 01 + 50 + 01 + 00 + 48 + 65 + 6C + 6C + 6F + B8 = 2FF

Escaped characters in API frames

If operating in API mode with escaped characters (**AP** parameter = 2), when sending or receiving a serial data frame, specific data values must be escaped (flagged) so they do not interfere with the data frame sequencing. To escape an interfering data byte, insert 0x7D and follow it with the byte to be escaped (XOR'ed with 0x20).

The following data bytes need to be escaped:

- 0x7E: start delimiter
- 0x7D: escape character
- 0x11: XON
- 0x13: XOFF

To escape a character:

1. Insert 0x7D (escape character).
2. Append it with the byte you want to escape, XOR'ed with 0x20.

In API mode with escaped characters, the length field does not include any escape characters in the frame and the firmware calculates the checksum with non-escaped data.