**FOXSI Data Description, version 1.1**

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**Recorded data files**

Recorded flight data is in two formats:

1. File recorded on FOXSI GSE computer: a binary file identical in format to the calibration files with the formatter interface. Each data frame is 256 words starting with the second sync word 0xF628.

Filename: data\_121102\_114631.dat.

1. File recorded by WSMR ground station: the official data record. This binary file contains our data frames with 3 additional words inserted between the second sync word (F628) and the start of our housekeeping data. The three extra words contain time and sync lock info from the ground station. This file was recorded upstream of our GSE computer and thus has fewer opportunities for sync problems.

Filename: 36.255\_TM2\_Flight\_2012-11-02.log

\*\*Note that some dropouts and sync problems are present in both files, on the order of 0.1% of the frames.\*\*

**IDL data structures**

The data volume is sufficiently small that data can be stored as IDL structures in IDL save files, as opposed to fits files.

**Level 0 data**

The FOXSI level 0 data structure captures all the unprocessed, raw data, organized with each element representing one **triggered event** in one detector. Thus not all data frames have events, and there can be more than one event (in multiple detectors) per frame. The trigger can be caused by a photon interaction or by noise; in this documentation we’ll call both of these **hits**. For convenience, the hit ASIC, strip, and ADC values are specifically called out for the two sides– these are determined by identifying which ASIC or strip had the maximum value on each side (at this stage, the calculation is done without subtracting common mode values). However all the recorded detector data, including all transmitted strip data and channel masks, are included in the structure. Together with the housekeeping structure, the level 0 data carries all of the information from the recorded data file, and the file should no longer be needed. Some data frames are flagged as bad packets (“ based on the common mode values, but no data is thrown away at this point, unless all words for that detector are zero in the frame (i.e. no trigger). Events that occurred after the rocket launched have an “inflight” flag set.

\*\*Note that the time recorded by WSMR is in UT and has microsecond precision BUT time delays of transmission from 100-300km limit this to ~ms precision unless we do additional refinement. Also, this time is the frame time recorded at the ground station, **not** the detector trigger time onboard the rocket payload, adding additional uncertainty of 1-2 ms. More precise timing could be calculated for higher level data if necessary, but precision of a few ms is expected to be sufficient for FOXSI data analysis. WSMR times recorded in the data structure will only have significant digits to the millisecond place.\*

Tags:

* Frame number
* Time (in seconds-of-day, from WSMR. See earlier note on timing.)
* Frame time
* Detector number
* Trigger time
* Hit ASIC # [n-side, p-side]
* Hit strip # [n-side, p-side]
* Hit ADC value [n-side, p-side]
* Strip numbers with recorded data (all ASICs), 4x3 array
* 3-strip value (all ASICs), 4x3 array
* Common mode values (all ASICs) 4x1 array
* Channel masks (all ASICs) 4x1 array with each mask encoded in a 64-bit long
* Detector bias voltage (“HV”) in raw form (including status bit)
* Detector temperature, if we have it, from nearest applicable frame
* In flight: this flag is set if the event occurred after launch.
* Error flag: this means something unusual was noticed about this packet. However, no data is thrown away at this point!

**Level 1 data**

The intention of level 1 data is to include higher-level information but to exclude any processing steps that are expected to change later (i.e. detector response, payload pointing, etc). ASIC and strip numbers are replaced with 2D position information in payload coordinates, using a system similar to the GSE. Frame and trigger times are replaced with a livetime value. Within each event, strip values are classified as (a) “hit” (highest value for that side of the detector), (b) “associated” (values came from the hit ASIC), and (c) “unrelated” (values from the other ASIC).

**Coarse** payload coordinates means that the design-specified geometric rotation of each detector is taken into account. A position in **fine** payload coordinates is subject to coregistration and so will be part of the next level.

Tags:

* Frame number
* Time (in seconds-of-day, from WSMR. See earlier note on timing.)
* Detector number
* Livetime
* Hit ADC values [p-side, n-side]
* Hit 2D position in detector coordinates
* Hit 2D position in **coarse** payload coordinates
* Associated ADC values, 3x3x2 array (includes hit!) (last dim is n- or p-side)
* Associated positions, 3x3x2 (includes hit! Hit should always be in center of the block, but this tag is included just in case for some reason it’s not.)
* Associated common mode values [n-side, p-side]
* Unrelated ADC values, 3x3x2 array (includes hit!) (last dim is n- or p-side)
* Unrelated positions, 3x3x2
* Unrelated common mode values [n-side, p-side]
* Channel mask in pixel map form. (one bit or integer per pixel)
* Maybe HV? Maybe temperatures?

**Level 2 data**

This should include some of the important calibration steps, including (1) replacing ADC values with energies (diagonal matrix elements only), (2) coregistering the detectors to provide better payload coordinates, (3) incorporating SPARCS pointing information to translate coordinates into heliocentric. Tags to be determined later…

Housekeeping Data

Housekeeping data is stored separately from the event data because it arrives regularly either every frame (voltages) or every fourth frame (temperatures), instead of sporadically like the detector events do. (If desired, some of this information could be incorporated into the regular data structure. Again, speak up!)

**Level 0:**

Tags:

1. Frame #
2. Time (in seconds-of-day, from WSMR. See earlier note on timing.)
3. High voltage value (verbatim from the frame including status bits)

4+) All voltages (raw values)

5+) All temperatures (raw values)

6) Sync info from WSMR

7) Detector status words? I don’t think there’s anything in these…

8) Any other words in the housekeeping header. Even if they’re useless, put them here!

**Level 1:**

The level 1 housekeeping data structure is identical to the level 0 structure except that all values are converted into volts and degrees.