

NORAD Two-Line Element Set Format

Data for each satellite consists of three lines in the following format:

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA

```
1 NNNNNU NNNNNAAA NNNNN.NNNNNNNN +.NNNNNNNN +NNNNN-N +NNNNN-N N NNNNN
2 NNNNN NNN.NNNN NNN.NNNN NNNNNNN NNN.NNNN NNN.NNNN NN.NNNNNNNNNNNNNNN
```

Line 0 is a twenty-four character name (to be consistent with the name length in the NORAD SATCAT).

Lines 1 and 2 are the standard Two-Line Orbital Element Set Format identical to that used by NORAD and NASA. The format description is:

Line 1	
Column	Description
01	Line Number of Element Data
03-07	Satellite Number
08	Classification (U=Unclassified)
10-11	International Designator (Last two digits of launch year)
12-14	International Designator (Launch number of the year)
15-17	International Designator (Piece of the launch)
19-20	Epoch Year (Last two digits of year)
21-32	Epoch (Day of the year and fractional portion of the day)
34-43	First Time Derivative of the Mean Motion
45-52	Second Time Derivative of Mean Motion (decimal point assumed)
54-61	BSTAR drag term (decimal point assumed)
63	Ephemeris type
65-68	Element number
69	Checksum (Modulo 10) (Letters, blanks, periods, plus signs = 0; minus signs = 1)

Line 2	
Column	Description
01	Line Number of Element Data
03-07	Satellite Number
09-16	Inclination [Degrees]
18-25	Right Ascension of the Ascending Node [Degrees]
27-33	Eccentricity (decimal point assumed)
35-42	Argument of Perigee [Degrees]
44-51	Mean Anomaly [Degrees]
53-63	Mean Motion [Revs per day]
64-68	Revolution number at epoch [Revs]
69	Checksum (Modulo 10)

All other columns are blank or fixed.

Example:

```
NOAA 14
1 23455U 94089A 97320.90946019 .00000140 00000-0 10191-3 0 2621
2 23455 99.0090 272.6745 0008546 223.1686 136.8816 14.11711747148495
```

For further information, see "[Frequently Asked Questions: Two-Line Element Set Format](#)" in the *Computers & Satellites* column of *Satellite Times*, Volume 4 Number 3.



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