

P TITLE				A17	ADCSYS
P FILENAME				A17	DSCF
P MEDIUM				A17	DISK
P ACCESSMODE				A17	SEQUENTIAL
P RECORDSIZE			BYTE	13	132
F BLANK	1	1	A1	A1	
F KEYWORD	2	1	A1	A1	
F FIELDNAME	4	17	A17	A17	
F START	22	5	I5	A5	0 BYTE
F LENGTH	28	5	I5	A5	0 BYTE
F FORMAT	34	6	A6	A6	
F EXPONENT	41	3	I3	A3	0
F UNITS	45	10	A10	A10	
F NULLFORMAT	56	6	A6	A6	
F NULLVALUE	63	17	A17	A17	
F COMMENT	81	50	A50	A17	
F TERMINATOR	132	1	A1	A1	X
E ENDFIELDS	2	1	A1	A1	E

C Catnotes are used to hold documentation supplied with the catalogue.  
C Catnotes are ignored by the ADC file handling package.  
C Catnotes will be included in the ADC HELP library. This is why  
C they are formatted in 76 character records.  
A Adcnates are used to comment on the implementation of the  
A catalogue in the database. ADC notes are ignored by the ADC software  
A package. ADC notes will be included in the ADC HELP library. This is  
A why they are formatted in 76 character records.

A  
A You are encouraged to examine the description files in CAR\_F\_DSCF\_DIR  
A and CAR\_U\_DSCF\_DIR for examples before making you own.

#### A3 PARAMETERS

A o The description file fields required for PARAMETERS are KEYWORD,  
A FIELDNAME, NULLFORMAT and NULLVALUE. COMMENTS are optional.  
A It is recommended that any catalogue contain the full set of  
A parameters to allow the data to be converted to other forms.  
A For example if NRECORDS and KEYFIELD are omitted, then you cannot  
A convert a catalogue to direct access form.

#### A4 MEDIUM

A o MEDIUM is the storage medium of the data. MEDIUM is mandatory.  
A Allowed values are TAPE or DISK.

#### A4 ACCESSMODE

A o ACCESSMODE is the mode of getting records from and putting them  
A into the file. ACCESSMODE is mandatory when MEDIUM is DISK.

#### A4 RECORDSIZE

A o RECORDSIZE is the length of the record in bytes.  
A RECORDSIZE is optional with MEDIUM=DISK and ACCESSMODE=SEQUENTIAL.

#### A4 KEYFIELD

A o KEYFIELD is the sort field of catalogue. It may be ascending or  
A descending. It is assumed to be ASCENDING unless DESCENDING is  
A at the beginning of the comment. KEYFIELD is mandatory when  
A MEDIUM=DISK and ACCESSMODE=DIRECT.  
A Secondary KEYFIELDS should be named KEYFIELD\_1 to KEYFIELD\_9.

#### A4 NRECORDS

A o NRECORDS is the number of records in the catalogue.  
A NRECORDS is mandatory when MEDIUM=DISK and ACCESSMODE=DIRECT.

#### A4 BLOCKSIZE

A o BLOCKSIZE is mandatory when MEDIUM=TAPE. BLOCKSIZE is the  
A number of bytes in a tape block. The value of the parameter is  
A only used when writing a tape file. On reading the actual  
A blocksize overrides the parameter value.

#### A4 EPOCH

A o The date of the position measurements.  
A eg: 1983.5 (IRAS). (Units :Year)

ADC System Description File. Version 0.80	X
Filename of file described.	X
Storage medium: DISK or TAPE.	X
Record access mode: SEQUENTIAL or DIRECT.	X
Record length.	X
Carriage control character.	X
Parameter, Field, Generic, End, Catnotes, Adcnates	X
Field name or attribute name.	X
Start byte of the field.	X
Length of the field in bytes.	X
Format of the field: lw, A, Dw.d, Fw.d, Ew.d or Lw	X
Scale factor for units. Value=Value*10**EXPONENT	X
Units of the field.	X
Format of null value: lw, A, Dw.d, Fw.d, Ew.d, Lw	X
Null value of the field.	X
Comment on the field or expression defining field.	X
Record terminator.	X
End of relation.	X

#### A4 EQUINOX

- A o The equinox of coordinates, eg: B1950 (IRAS), J2000, B1900
- A Format should be A5.

#### A4 AUTHOR

- A o The value should be the author name, followed by his initials (e.g: FAIRCLOUGH, J.H.). The comment should contain a full reference with standard abbreviations (e.g: Ap. J. Supp. 40, No. 3, 1979)

#### A4 CLASS

- A o The catalogue class keyword for the librarian, the values follow the CDS system: ASTROMETRY, PHOTOMETRY, SPECTROSCOPY, X-IDENTIFICATION, COMBINED, MISCELLANEOUS, NON\_STELLAR.

#### A4 WAVELENGTH

- A o The catalogue wavelength keyword for the librarian.
- A Examples are OPTICAL, RADIO, INFRA-RED, UBV, X-RAY etc.

#### A4 OBJECT

- A o The catalogue object keyword for the librarian.
- A This keyword describes the type object found.
- A examples are STAR, STAR/G (qualifiers may be used), GALAXY.
- A The underscore character should be used instead of spaces
- A to allow the keyword to be a HELP module name, e.g: GLOBULAR\_CLUSTER. Note that the singular is used, not plural.
- A If there is more than one type of object, use GENERAL.

#### A4 START\_RECORD

- A o The start record of the data in the catalogue. The default value of this parameter is 1. Catalogues may contain header records before the data described in the description file.
- A For example the STARLINK CSI contains header records.

#### A4 LOCAL\_INDEX

- A o Identifies the catalogue as a local index catalogue.
- A A local index catalogue contains pointers to one other catalogue. It must have at least one field called POINTER
- A to contain the numbers of the records in the indexed catalogue.
- A The null value of the LOCAL\_INDEX parameter should be the filename of the catalogue that is indexed.

#### A4 GLOBAL\_INDEX

- A o Identifies the catalogue as a global index catalogue.
- A A global index catalogue contains pointers to at least one other catalogue. It must contain at least two fields: CATALOGUE and POINTER. The former is the filename of a catalogue that is indexed and the latter is the number of a record in the catalogue.

#### A4 CRITERION

- A o Specifies a logical expression that applies to each record in the catalogue. The null format should be L1. The null value should be T or F. The comment field must contain a logical expression. (Cf: expressions)

#### A4 KEY\_CRITERION

- A o Specifies a logical expression that applies to each record in the catalogue. The null format should be L1. The null value must be T. The comment field must contain a logical expression.

#### A4 CONTINUATION

- A o This parameter is used for the continuation of the comment field of the preceding field or parameter. Long expressions can be accommodated by using up to 9 CONTINUATION parameters.

#### A3 FIELDS

- A o The description file fields required for FIELDS are KEYWORD, FIELDNAME, START, LENGTH, FORMAT, EXPONENT, UNITS, NULLFORMAT, and NULLVALUE. COMMENTS are optional.
- A o Additional FORMAT specifiers for unformatted fields are : I\*1, L\*1, I\*2, I\*4, R\*4, R\*8 and C\*n where n is an integer.
- A o In scaling: INTERNAL\_VALUE = EXTERNAL\_VALUE\*10\*\*EXPONENT UNITS .

A This facility should be used so that scaling prefixes are not used in  
A in the units specification. (eg:m,k,p,M).  
A o The ADC software implemented allows conversion of a quantity  
A from one data type to another.  
A To perform the conversion from a numeric data type to the character  
A data type (and vice-versa) the null format specifier is used.  
A If a value has a non zero EXPONENT, then to avoid the loss of  
A significant figures the null format should specify the scaled  
A value of the field.

#### A4 PRECISION

A o On the VAX 11/780 the range of values permitted is:  
A R\*8 : 0.29E-38 to 1.7E38 ; 16 significant digits.  
A R\*4 : 0.29E-38 to 1.7E38 ; 7 significant digits.  
A I\*4 : -2,147,483,648 to 2,177,483,647.  
A I\*2 : -32768 to 32767.  
A I\*1 : -128 to 127.

#### A4 POSITION\_FIELDS

A o Particular care should be used when describing positions.  
A o FIELDNAMES for position coordinates.  
A The names to be used for position are :  
A "RA", "DEC", "ELONG", "ELAT", "GLONG" and "GLAT"  
A If the parameters EQUINOX and EPOCH are absent then B1950 and  
A and 1950.0 are assumed.  
A o UNITS for position coordinates.  
A The units to be used for position are :  
A "TIME", "ANGLE" and "RADIAN"  
A TIME includes all varieties of hours, minutes and seconds.  
A ANGLE includes all varieties of sign, degrees, arc minutes and  
A arc seconds.  
A o FORMAT of position coordinates.  
A When the units are TIME or ANGLE and the field contains more  
A than one number (e.g: HOURS, MINUTES and SECONDS) then  
A the format specifier should be of type A. If it contains a  
A single number then the format specifier can be of any type.  
A o COMMENT for position coordinates.  
A The first characters of the comment should contain a description  
A of the position value when a string is required to describe it  
A units of time or angle. The string must be terminated with a  
A "!" character to separate it from the remaining comment and to  
A mark the end of the string for ADC. ADC automatically converts  
A the following types of time and angle:  
A "HOUR", "HH MM SS.S", "HHMMSS.S", "HH MM SSS", "HHMMSSS",  
A "HH MM SS", "HHMMSS", "HHMM.MM", "DEGREE", "SDD MM SS.S",  
A "SDD MM SS", "SDDMMSS", "SDD MM.M" and "SDDMM.M".  
A New formats can easily be  
A included by extra clauses in the ADC routines which process  
A positions.  
A Users are recommended to examine some description files to  
A familiarise themselves with the conventions on position.

#### A3 GENERICS

A o The description file fields required for GENERICS are KEYWORD,  
A o FIELDNAME, START, LENGTH, FORMAT, EXPONENT, UNITS, NULLFORMAT, NULL-  
A VALUE. COMMENTS are optional.  
A o GENERICS are arrays. The FIELDNAME field in the description file  
A must specify the dimensions of the array. FIELDNAMES can be given  
A according to the rules of FORTRAN 77: ARRAY([lb:]ub,[[lb:]ub]...)  
A with up to seven dimensions permitted.  
A Tables, spectra and images can be stored as generic fields.  
A Examples are FLUX(4), LRS(200), MAP(100,100), W(50:100).  
A o The START of a generic field is the first byte of the array. The  
A LENGTH, FORMAT, EXPONENT, UNITS, NULLFORMAT, NULLVALUE describe  
A the length, format, exponent, units, nullformat, nullvalue of each

A element of the array.

### A3 ENDFIELDS

A o The END record gives the position and value of the last record of a relation. This may be used if the number of records in the catalogue is not known. It can be the EOF (End of file) or EOT (End of tape) marker.

### A3 EXPRESSIONS

A o The comment field in a description file may contain a FORTRAN type expression which defines the field in terms of fields in an antecedent catalogue. The comment field can look like:

A This is a simple comment  
A New Galactic latitude!GLONG\_EG50(RA,DEC)

A The "!" character is used to split comments and expressions.  
A See under "CAR EXPRESSIONS" for more information on expressions.

### A3 NOTES

A o When putting in extensive notes on a catalogue (more than 20 lines) then it is recommended that the notes be broken up into HELP modules by using the editor to put in numbers 2, 3, 4... in column 3.

### A3 Examples

A o Examples of description files can be typing/printing the files with logical names DSCF\*