

PDS_VERSION_ID = PDS3
RECORD_TYPE = FIXED_LENGTH
RECORD_BYTES = 80
OBJECT = TEXT
PUBLICATION_DATE = 1999-03-10
NOTE = "Software Interface Specification for DSN Weather data files. This is an ad hoc adaptation of DSN document TRK-2-24 by the MGS Radio Science Team. The document is formatted for display or printing with up to 78 constant width characters per line."
END_OBJECT = TEXT
END

A. PURPOSE

This document defines the formats and content of weather data provided by the Tracking System Analytic Calibration (TSAC) Group of the Deep Space Network (DSN). It is an ad hoc adaptation by the Mars Global Surveyor (MGS) Radio Science Team (RST), since no version more recent than 1986 could be located. The original document was:

Document 820-13, Rev. A
DSN SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS DETAILED INTERFACE DESIGN
TRK-2-24
DSN TRACKING SYSTEM INTERFACES
WEATHER DATA INTERFACE
Effective Date: January 15, 1986
Initial Release Date: January 15, 1986

B. GENERAL INFORMATION

Weather data provided by the DSN are used by Radio Science teams and other investigators. Delivery schedules and coverage are negotiated between TSAC and users based on accuracy and timeliness requirements. The weather data file is maintained as a permanently catalogued file on the TSAC computer system being used for mission operations. Weather data files may be downloaded to other computers via ftp.

The size of the file will be determined by user requirements and by system constraints. For MGS, separate files are delivered for each Deep Space Communications Complex (DSCC). Each file is cumulative, starting from January 1 of the current year. For a nominal 30-minute interval between data points, a typical file grows at approximately 3000 bytes per day. Approximately 30 days before the end of a year, a new file may be started for each DSCC so as to provide a bridge between years. The bridge file is typically discontinued within a month of the start of the new year.

C. DATA FORMATS

1. General Description

Weather data are provided in the form of card images in a computer file. Files delivered to the MGS Radio Science Team are in American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) format. Each card image constitutes one record (60 characters maximum) and is terminated by an ASCII line feed.

All dates and times are Universal Time, Coordinated (UTC).

2. Header Format

Each day's data are preceded by a 5-record header. The first record consists of the date (YYMMDD, columns 7-12), day of year (DDD, columns 21-23), and DSS (nn, columns 30-31). The second record is blank. The third and

fourth records consist of column titles and units of measurement describing the data in each column. The fifth record consists of hyphens and blanks to separate the headers from the data. See Figure TRK-2-24-1. Each line in this figure constitutes one record.

3. Data format

Each data record comprises a time tag and five right-justified data fields, as shown in the following list. The sign, S, may be either - or blank (+), according to the data.

- Time (HHMM), columns 2-5.
- Dew point (STT.T, degrees Celsius), columns 11-15.
- Ambient temperature (STT.T, degrees Celsius), columns 20-24.
- Pressure (PPPP.P, millibars), columns 29-34.
- Water vapor partial pressure (PPPP.P, millibars), columns 40-45.
- Relative humidity (HHH, in percent), columns 55-57.

4. Trailer Format

The last data record of each day is followed by two blank records.

5. Number of Data Records per Day

Because the data can have gaps due to system malfunction, the number of records per day may vary from one day to another. The minimum number of data records is zero; the maximum number is 1440 -- for the smallest possible data interval, which is 1 minute. The sample data in Figure TRK-2-24-1 have a large gap between 0130 and 2230.

 DATE: 791221 DOY: 355 DSS 63

TIME (HHMM)	DEW PT (C)	TEMP (C)	PRESSURE (mb)	H2O PARTIAL PRES (mb)	RELATIVE HUM(%)
0000	-2.6	-.9	1013.4	5.0	59
0030	-2.6	-1.0	1013.3	5.0	57
0100	-2.9	-1.2	1013.1	4.9	57
0130	-2.8	-.9	1013.1	4.9	56
2230	-2.3	-.5	1009.1	5.1	55
2300	-2.6	-.2	1008.4	5.0	53
2330	-2.5	-.3	1008.8	5.0	52

DATE: 791222 DOY: 356 DSS 63

TIME (HHMM)	DEW PT (C)	TEMP (C)	PRESSURE (mb)	H2O PARTIAL PRES (mb)	RELATIVE HUM(%)
0000	-2.1	-.4	1008.4	5.2	66
0030	-2.1	-.5	1008.3	5.2	66
0100	-2.5	-1.4	1008.0	5.0	67

Figure TRK-2-24-1. Example of Portion of a Weather Data File