

Multi-approach Gravity Field Models from Swarm GPS data

# TN-01: Standards and Background Models

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**Astronomical Institute of the University of Bern (AIUB)**  
**Astronomical Institute Ondřejov (ASU)**  
**Institute of Geodesy Graz (IfG)**  
**Ohio State University (OSU)**

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## Version history

### Version 1, 2017-10-29

- Initial release.

### Version 1A, 2017-11-12

- Version numbering is now adhering to the DISC conventions;
- Added logos of Swarm and DISC to the cover page;
- Added section on the dissemination of data, specifically what concerns packaging, in Section 7.2;
- Added version history;
- Added document version to the header;
- Corrected naming convention of the deliverables, in Section 5.1;
- Added the naming convention of the version numbers, in Section 6.1.

### Version 1B, 2017-11-16

- Modified the format of the Kinematic Orbits, in Section 6.2;
- Minor typographical corrections in the bibliography.

### Version 1C, 2018-1-19

- Added the format description, naming convention and directory locations for the non-gravitational accelerations;
- Fixed typo at the bottom of the title page.

### Version 1D, 2018-1-22

- Added the format description, naming convention and directory locations for the GPS data weights.

### Version 1E, 2018-3-14

- Modified the guideline for Gravity Field Models and Normal Equations file name version numbering.

### Version 1F, 2018-4-24

- Corrected units of the clock correction in the orbit format from TU Delft;

### Version 1G, 2018-10-27

- Updated processing details for OSU version 02 models;

### Version 1H, 2019-04-09

- Updated processing details for IfG processing;

## 1 Introduction

The objective of this document is to address Task 1. According to the Statement of Work (SoW), this task includes the following activities (cf. Section 4.2.1.2 in that document):

1. Description of Swarm specific adaptations of the gravity field processors
2. Adapt gravity field processors to Swarm L1 products
3. Description of standards and background models
4. Implement GRACE and GRACE-FO standards in gravity field processor

This document pertains mostly to point 3, as presented in Section 4. Points 2, 3 and 4 have already been completed by all partners, as demonstrated by Jäggi et al. (2016) (for AIUB), Bezděk et al. (2016) (for ASU), Zehentner and Mayer-Gürr (2016) (for IfG) and Shang et al. (2017) (for OSU). Unlike what is specified in point 4, all partners adhere to European Gravity Service for Improved Emergency Management (EGSIEM) data standards, cf. Section 6.

Section 2 compares the processing of the Kinematic Orbits (KOs) for TU Delft, AIUB and IfG. Section 3 illustrates a few details of the Kinematic Baselines (KBs) for TU Delft and AIUB. Finally, Sections 5, 6 and 7 describes the file name conventions, data formats and directory structure of the data exchange server (respectively), used in the project activities.

## 2 Kinematic Orbits

### 2.1 Delft University of Technology

<b>Software:</b>	GPS High precision Orbit determination Software Tool (GHOST) (Helleputte 2004; Wermuth, Montenbruck and Helleputte 2010)
<b>Differencing Scheme:</b>	Undifferenced
<b>Linear combination:</b>	Ionosphere-free
<b>GPS observations:</b>	Code and carrier phase
<b>Estimator:</b>	Bayesian weighted Least-Squares (LS)
<b>Arc length:</b>	30 hours
<b>Data weighting:</b>	a-priori weights equal to 1m and 1mm for code and phase observations (resp.)
<b>Transmitter PCV:</b>	IGS08.atx model (Schmid et al., 2007)
<b>Receiver PCV:</b>	Empirical, derived from 70 days of data
<b>Data screening:</b>	minimum Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR) of 10, minimum of 6 GPS satellites, code and phase outlier editing threshold of 2 m and 3.5 cm, respectively, 1 meter or larger difference between estimated KO positions and with Reduced-Dynamic Precise Science Orbit (PSO)
<b>Earth precession model:</b>	International Astronomical Union (IAU) 1976 (Lieske et al., 1977)
<b>Earth nutation model:</b>	IAU 1980 (Seidelmann, 1982)
<b>Earth orientation model:</b>	Centre for Orbit Determination in Europe (CODE) final Earth Rotation Parameters (ERP)

### 2.2 Astronomical Institute of the University of Bern

<b>Software:</b>	Bernese v5.3 (Dach et al., 2015; Jäggi, Hugentobler and Beutler, 2006)
<b>Differencing Scheme:</b>	Undifferenced
<b>Linear combination:</b>	Ionosphere-free
<b>GPS observations:</b>	Carrier phase
<b>Estimator:</b>	Batch LS
<b>Arc length:</b>	24 hours
<b>Data weighting:</b>	N/A
<b>Transmitter PCV:</b>	Official IGS08 ANTEX up to day 17/028, official IGS14 ANTEX from day 17/029 on
<b>Receiver PCV:</b>	Stacking of residuals from reduced-dynamic Precise Orbit Determination (POD) of approx. 120 days, 9 iterations, 1° binning
<b>Data screening:</b>	2 cm/s or larger time-differences of the geometry-free linear combination of LIB GPS carrier phase observations
<b>Earth precession model:</b>	International Earth Rotation Service (IERS) 2010 Conventions (Petit and Luzum, 2010)
<b>Earth nutation model:</b>	IERS 2010 Conventions (Petit and Luzum, 2010)
<b>Earth orientation model:</b>	CODE final ERP

## 2.3 Institute of Geodesy Graz

<b>Software:</b>	Gravity Recovery Object Oriented Programming System (GROOPS)
<b>Differencing Scheme:</b>	None
<b>Linear combination:</b>	None (the ionospheric influence is co-estimated)
<b>GPS observations:</b>	Code and carrier phase
<b>Estimator:</b>	LS
<b>Arc length:</b>	24 hours
<b>Data weighting:</b>	Elevation and azimuth-dependent, epoch-wise Variance Component Estimation (VCE)
<b>Transmitter PCV:</b>	Empirical, estimated from 5.5 years of data, including data from several Low-Earth Orbit (LEO) missions (Gravity Recovery And Climate Experiment (GRACE), Jason 2 & 3, MetOp-A & -B, Sentinel 3A, Swarm, TanDEM-X, TerraSAR-X) (Zehentner, 2016)
<b>Receiver PCV:</b>	Empirical, spherical harmonics (maximum D/O 60), derived from 38 months of data
<b>Data screening:</b>	Implicit in VCE
<b>Earth precession model:</b>	IAU 2006/2000A precession-nutation model (Petit and Luzum, 2010)
<b>Earth nutation model:</b>	IAU 2006/2000A precession-nutation model (Petit and Luzum, 2010)
<b>Earth orientation model:</b>	IERS Earth Orientation Parameter (EOP) 08 C04 (Petit and Luzum, 2010)

## 2.4 Common

<b>Carrier phase ambiguities:</b>	Float
<b>Receiver clock corrections:</b>	Co-estimated
<b>Sampling rate:</b>	10 or 1 seconds (depending on L1B GPS data)
<b>Elevation cut-off angle:</b>	0°
<b>GPS orbits and clocks:</b>	Final orbits and 5 seconds clocks of Centre for Orbit Determination in Europe (CODE) (Dach et al. 2017)
<b>Swarm attitude:</b>	L1B attitude data

## 2.5 Summary

Institute	Software	Reference
AIUB	Bernese v5.3 (Dach et al., 2015; Jäggi, Hugentobler and Beutler, 2006)	Jäggi et al. (2016)
IfG	Gravity Recovery Object Oriented Programming System (GROOPS) (in-house development)	Zehentner and Mayer-Gürr (2016)
TUD	GPS High precision Orbit determination Software Tool (GHOST) (Helleputte 2004; Wermuth, Montenbruck and Helleputte 2010)	IJssel et al. (2015)

**Table 1** – Overview of the Kinematic Orbits and the software packages used to estimate them

### 3 Kinematic Baselines

#### 3.1 Delft University of Technology

<b>Software:</b>	Multiple satellites Orbit Determination using Kalman filtering (MODK) (Barneveld 2012)
<b>Linear combination:</b>	N/A (the ionospheric influence is modelled)
<b>Estimator:</b>	Iterative Extended Kalman Filter (EKF)
<b>Carrier phase ambiguities:</b>	Integer, using the Least-squares Ambiguity De-correlation Adjustment (LAMBDA) (Teunissen 1995) method
<b>Receiver PCV:</b>	Empirical Phase Center Variations (PCVs) and Code Residual Variations (CRVs) maps are estimated a priori for each GPS frequency

#### 3.2 Astronomical Institute of the University of Bern

<b>Software:</b>	Bernese v5.3 (Dach et al., 2015; Jäggi et al., 2007)
<b>Linear combination:</b>	Ionosphere-free
<b>Estimator:</b>	LS
<b>Carrier phase ambiguities:</b>	wide-lane and narrow-lane integer bootstrapping with the Melbourne-Wübbena and the ionosphere-free linear combination, respectively
<b>Receiver PCV:</b>	Empirical

#### 3.3 Common

<b>Differencing Scheme:</b>	Double-differenced
<b>GPS observations:</b>	Code and carrier phase
<b>Carrier phase ambiguities:</b>	Integer

#### 3.4 Summary

Institute	Software	Reference
AIUB	Bernese v5.3 (Dach et al., 2015; Jäggi et al., 2007)	Allende-Alba et al. (2017)
TUD	Multiple satellites Orbit Determination using Kalman filtering (MODK) (Barneveld 2012)	Mao et al. (2017)

**Table 2** – Overview of the Kinematic Baselines and the software packages used to estimate them



## 4 Gravity Field Models

### 4.1 Astronomical Institute of the University of Bern

<b>Software:</b>	Bernese v5.3 (Dach et al. 2015)
<b>Approach:</b>	Celestial Mechanics Approach (CMA) (Beutler et al. 2010)
<b>Reference GFM:</b>	AIUB GRACE-only static model, version 3 (AIUB-GRACE03S) (Jäggi et al. 2011)
<b>Empirical Parameters:</b>	Daily piecewise-constant, 15 minutes piecewise-constant (constrained)
<b>Drag Model:</b>	None
<b>EARP and EIRP Models:</b>	None
<b>Non-tidal Model:</b>	Atmosphere and Ocean De-aliasing Level 1B (AOD1B) product (Flechtner, Schmidt and Meyer 2006; Flechtner 2007; Flechtner 2011)
<b>Ocean Tidal Model:</b>	2011 Empirical Ocean Tide model (EOT11a) (Savcenko and Bosch 2012)
<b>Permanent Tide System:</b>	tide-free

### 4.2 Astronomical Institute Ondřejov

<b>Software:</b>	(developed in-house)
<b>Approach:</b>	Decorrelated Acceleration Approach (DAA) (Bezděk et al. 2014; Bezděk et al. 2016)
<b>Reference GFM:</b>	ITG GRACE-only static model, 2010 (ITG-GRACE2010s) (Mayerguerr et al. 2010)
<b>Empirical Parameters:</b>	Daily constant-piecewise
<b>Drag Model:</b>	(US)Naval Research Laboratory Mass Spectrometer and Incoherent Scatter Radar Atmospheric model (NRLMSISE) (Picone et al. 2002)
<b>EARP and EIRP Models:</b>	Knocke, Ries and Tapley (1988)
<b>Non-tidal Model:</b>	Atmosphere and Ocean De-aliasing Level 1B (AOD1B) product (Flechtner, Schmidt and Meyer 2006; Flechtner 2007; Flechtner 2011)
<b>Ocean Tidal Model:</b>	2004 Finite Element Solution (FES2004) global tide model (Lyard et al. 2006)
<b>Permanent Tide System:</b>	tide-free

### 4.3 Institute of Geodesy Graz

<b>Software:</b>	GROOPS
<b>Approach:</b>	Short-Arcs Approach (SAA) (Mayer-Gürr 2006)
<b>Reference GFM:</b>	GOCO release 05 satellite-only gravity field model (GOCO05S) (Mayer-Gürr 2015)
<b>Empirical Parameters:</b>	Piecewise linear for each arc (ranging from 15 to 45 minutes)
<b>Drag Model:</b>	Jacchia-Bowman 2008 (JB2008) (Bowman et al. 2008)
<b>EARP and EIRP Models:</b>	Rodriguez-Solano et al. (2012)
<b>Non-tidal Model:</b>	Atmosphere and Ocean De-aliasing Level 1B RL06 (AOD1B-RL06) product (Dobslaw et al. 2017)

**Ocean Tidal Model:** 2014 Finite Element Solution (FES2014) global tide model (Carrere et al. 2015)

**Permanent Tide System:** zero tide

## 4.4 Ohio State University

**Software:** (developed in-house)

**Approach:** Improved Energy Balance Approach (IEBA) (Shang et al. 2015)

**Reference GFM:** GRACE Intermediate Field 48 (GIF48) (Ries et al. 2011) up to Degree and Order (D/O) 200

**Empirical Parameters:** 2nd order polynomial every 3 hours, 1-Cycle Per Revolution (CPR) sinusoidal every 24 hours

**Regularization:** none

**Drag Model:** (US )Naval Research Laboratory Mass Spectrometer and Incoherent Scatter Radar Atmospheric model (NRLMSISE) (Picone et al. 2002)

**EARP and EIRP Models:** Knocke, Ries and Tapley (1988)

**Non-tidal Model:** Atmosphere and Ocean De-aliasing Level 1B (AOD1B) product (Flechtner, Schmidt and Meyer 2006; Flechtner 2007; Flechtner 2011)

**Ocean Tidal Model:** 2011 Empirical Ocean Tide model (EOT11a) (Savcenko and Bosch 2012)

**Permanent Tide System:** tide-free

## 4.5 Common

**Atmospheric Tidal Model:** Biancale and Bode (2006)

**Solid Earth Tidal Model:** IERS2010

**Pole Tidal Model:** IERS2010

**Ocean Pole Tidal Model:** IERS2010

**Third body perturbations:** Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn, following the JPL Planetary and Lunar Ephemerides (Folkner et al. 2014)

**$C_{2,0}$  coefficient:** estimated alongside other coefficients

## 4.6 Summary

Inst.	Approach	Reference
AIUB	Celestial Mechanics Approach (CMA) (Beutler et al. 2010)	Jäggi et al. (2016)
ASU	Decorrelated Acceleration Approach (DAA) (Bezděk et al. 2014; Bezděk et al. 2016)	Bezděk et al. (2016)
IfG	Short-Arcs Approach (SAA) (Mayer-Gürr 2006)	Zehentner and Mayer-Gürr (2016)
OSU	Improved Energy Balance Approach (IEBA) (Shang et al. 2015)	Guo et al. (2015)

**Table 3** – Overview of the gravity field estimation approaches

## 5 File name conventions

### 5.1 Documentation

The file names of the documents shall be compliant with ESA requirements for Configuration and Document Management<sup>1</sup>. As such, the following naming syntax applies:

SW\_TN\_<p>\_GS\_<n>\_<dl>\_<t>.pdf

The file name particles are identified as:

<p>: issuing institute (i.e. the affiliation of the corresponding Work Package (WP) manager)

DUT: Delft University of Technology<sup>2</sup>

AIUB: Astronomical Institute of the University of Bern

ASU: Astronomical Institute Ondřejov

IFG: Institute of Geodesy Graz

OSU: Ohio State University

<n>: ever increasing four digit, zero padded number designating a unique number of this document type for this institute<sup>3</sup>

<dl>: deliverable name, i.e. either TN-01, TN-02, TN-03 or TN-04

<t>: document title

Note that there is no version number in the file names.

Examples:

- SW\_TN\_DUT\_GS\_0001\_TN-01\_Standards\_and\_Background\_models.pdf, as a result of WP100;
- SW\_TN\_ASU\_GS\_0001\_TN-02\_Pre-processing\_baselines\_and\_accelerometer\_data.pdf, as a result of WP200;
- SW\_TN\_DUT\_GS\_0002\_TN-03\_Swarm\_models\_validation.pdf, as a result of WP300;
- SW\_TN\_IFG\_GS\_0001\_TN-04\_Swarm\_models\_description.pdf, as a result of WP400.

### 5.2 Data

The names of data files **shared internally within the project** start with the string GSWARM and are composed of a series of *particles* (identified below between the < and > characters) connected by the underscore character (\_):

GSWARM\_<dt>\_<s>\_<p>\_<v>\_<dv>[\_<sd>] .<e>

The file name particles are identified as:

<dt>: data type

KO: Kinematic Orbit

<sup>1</sup>[https://smart-svn.spacecenter.dk/svn/smart/SwarmESL-All/Management/Plans/SW-PL-DTU-GS-007\\_ESL\\_CDMP.pdf](https://smart-svn.spacecenter.dk/svn/smart/SwarmESL-All/Management/Plans/SW-PL-DTU-GS-007_ESL_CDMP.pdf)

<sup>2</sup>This particle is not in agreement with the remaining naming conventions because this is the acronym attributed to TU Delft within DISC.

<sup>3</sup>The <n> particle is used to distinguish different documents of the same type and institute, since the <dl> and <t> particles are formally optional. As a result of the obvious impracticability of (the non-optional part of) this naming convention, the code<dl> and <t> particles are highly encouraged and widely used.

KB: Kinematic Baseline  
GF: Gravity Field Model  
NE: Normal Equation  
AC: Modelled non-gravitational accelerations  
WO: GPS data weights

<s>: satellite(s)

SA, SB, SC: single satellite  
SAB, SBC, SAC: two satellites (SBA, SCB and SCA are not contemplated)  
SABC: all satellites (other orders of the A, B and C characters are not contemplated)

<p>: processor

TUD: Delft University of Technology  
AIUB: Astronomical Institute of the University of Bern  
ASU: Astronomical Institute Ondřejov  
IFG: Institute of Geodesy Graz  
OSU: Ohio State University  
COMBINED: combined solutions from AIUB, ASU, IfG and OSU (relevant only for Gravity Field Models (GFMs) and Normal Equations (NEs))

<v>: data validity

KO, KB: yyyy-mm-dd\_doy  
GF, NE: yyyy-mm  
yyyy: four digit year  
mm: two digit calendar month (zero padded)  
dd: two digit calendar day (zero padded)  
doy: two digit Day of Year (DoY) (zero padded)

<dv>: data version

- two digits (zero padded)
- GFMs and NEs increment the version number whenever there is a change in their processing, including new versions of KOs and/or KBs (the meaning of each version should be documented in the header and/or *readme* file)
- GF\_COMBINED need to specify the solutions and respective versions in the header and/or *readme* file; the version number is incremented only because of processing or data combinations changes

<sd>: source data

KO, KB, COMBINED: empty  
GF, NE: a valid <p>

<e>: file extension

KO, KB: sp3  
GF: gfc  
NE: snx  
AC: nrtdm  
OW: wgt

Examples:

- GSWARM\_KO\_SA\_AIUB\_2016-02-25\_056\_03.sp3
- GSWARM\_KB\_SAB\_TUD\_2016-03-25\_084\_01.sp3

- GSWARM\_GF\_SABC\_OSU\_2016-02\_01\_TUD.gfc
- GSWARM\_NE\_SABC\_IFG\_2016-02\_01\_IFG.snx
- GSWARM\_GF\_SABC\_COMBINED\_2016-02\_01.gfc

## 6 Formats

### 6.1 Documentation

The deliverable documents are distributed in Portable Data Format (PDF) (with extension pdf) or MicroSoft Word format (with extension docx). Templates for  $\LaTeX$  and Word are available in the dissemination server (see Section 7), under the directory `management/Templates/`.

A version tracking number shall be maintained authors, under the following syntax:

`<i>[<r>] [ d<dr>]`

`<i>`: ever increasing integer number (not zero-padded);

`<r>`: capital letter, initially blank and progressing alphabetically;

`<dr>`: capital letter reserved for draft versions of the document, initially blank and progressing alphabetically (omitted for non-drafts).

Examples:

- 1 dA: issue 1, draft A;
- 1 dB: issue 1, draft B;
- 1: issue 1, final version;
- 1A: issue 1, revision A, final version;
- 20 dD: issue 2, revision O, draft D.

### 6.2 Data

#### Data compression

All data files shall be compressed **individually** using the *zip* or *gzip* compression formats (usually with file extensions *zip* and *gz*, respectively). It is the responsibility of every partner to compress/uncompress the data before/after uploading/downloading it to/from the dissemination server. The file name extension resulting data compression is omitted elsewhere in this document.

#### Kinematic Orbits

The KO are preferably distributed in the *SP3k* format, described below, which is a modification of the Extended Standard Product 3 Orbit Format (SP3c)<sup>4</sup> format. The variance-covariance information is identified by the EPx record name.

The main innovation in the *SP3k* is the increased precision to the sub-millimetre level, by adding one additional significant digit after the comma in the kinematic positions and variances (expressed in the form of Standard Deviation (STD)). The co-variances, represented by the correlation factors, remains unchanged. This means that:

**1st header line:** format identifier #c of the SP3c format is replaced by #k;

<sup>4</sup><ftp://igs.org/pub/data/format/sp3c.txt>

### P record:

**Columns 1 to 4:** unchanged;

**Columns 5 to 46:** there are 7 digits after the comma (instead of 6), at the expense of a digit before the comma, as described by the format F14.7 (instead of F14.6); these fields describe the kinematic positions;

**Columns 47 to 60:** unchanged;

**Columns 62 to 80:** unchanged and optional;

**Example:**

	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	6
5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0
PL49	-519.6320223	-1895.3792238	-6545.3236807					-0.000884			

### EP record:

**Columns 1 to 2:** unchanged;

**Columns 3:** contains the character x to distinguish from the EP record of the SP3c format;

**Columns 5 to 24:** these (mandatory) fields describe the STD of the positions according to the F6.1 format;

**Column 25:** unused;

**Columns 26 to 86:** unchanged relative to columns 20 to 80 in the SP3c format; these (mandatory) fields contain the cross-correlations in the form of correlation coefficients;

**Example:**

	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	8
5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5
EPx	55.1	55.1	55.1	222	1234567	-1234567	5999999	-30	21	-1230000						

Although the *SP3k* format allows for multiple satellites in one data file, the team shall exchange KO data files relevant to individual Swarm satellites (as it has been traditionally done with other formats, see below).

Since numerous KO orbit files are already available at the dissemination server, the existing alternative formats shall also to be supported by all (relevant) partners, in addition to the *SP3k* format. The original file names have been replaced by the convention described in Section 5.2. The alternative formats of the KOs, **shared internally within the project**, are specific to each institute:

### TU Delft:

**File name extension:** sigma

**File header:** none

**Data records:**

**Column 1-6:** GPS epoch: year, month, day, hour, minute, second (fractional)

**Column 7-9:** position x, y and z-component [m]

**Column 10:** clock correction (or 't'-component, already applied to columns 1 to 6) [ms]

**Column 11-20:** xx, yy, zz, tt (clock-correction variance), xy, xz ,xt, yz, yt and zt-element of 4x4 epoch-wise covariance matrix [m<sup>2</sup>]<sup>5</sup>

### AIUB:

<sup>5</sup>The (variance) covariance terms involving the clock correction (represented by 't') are also in units of m<sup>2</sup>; the conversion to units of time can be done by dividing by the (square of the) speed of light.

**File name extension:** KIN

**File header:**

**Line 1:** description of orbit including release number and orbit generation date and time

**Line 2:** dummy line

**Line 3:** information about geodetic datum and date & time of first epoch (GPS time)

**Line 4:** a posteriori STD of L1/L2 GPS carrier phase obs. [m]

**Line 5:** description of columns

**Line 6:** dummy line

**Data records:** After the header each line represents one epoch. The columns contain the following quantities:

**Column 1:** internal AIUB satellite name (Swarm-A: SWMA, Swarm-B: SWMB, Swarm-C: SWMC)

**Column 2:** modified SVN number (Swarm-A: L47, Swarm-B: L48, Swarm-C: L49)

**Column 3:** GPS week

**Column 4:** GPS second within the given GPS week [s]

**Column 5-7:** position x, y, and z-componentz [m]

**Column 8:** quality flag (possible values are K, X, S and G, see below)

**Column 9-14:** xx, yy, zz, xy, xz, yz-elements of 3x3 epoch-wise cofactor matrix

**Meaning of quality flags:**

K: KO position could be properly determined

X: KO position could not be determined (less than 4 satellites)

S: KO position could be determined, but less than 5 satellites were available

G: KO position has been flagged during internal AIUB orbit screening

**IfG:**

**File name extension:** txt

**File header:**

**Line 1:** short description of the orbit product

**Line 2:** geodetic datum

**Data records:** The epochs are in the GPS time system.

**Column 1:** Modified Julian Date (MJD) in the GPS time system

**Column 2-4:** position x, y, and z-componentz [m]

**Column 5-10:** xx, yy, zz, xy, xz, yz-elements of 3x3 epoch-wise covariance matrix

## Kinematic Baselines

The KB data are distributed in the *SP3k* format, with the following modification:

**EB record:** a new record containing the variance-covariance information of the KBs, following the same format as the EPx record (which describes variance-covariance information for the positions);

**P records:** describe the orbits of the **two** satellites (with 7 significant digits, under the *SP3k* format) from which it is possible to reconstruct the estimated KBs.

## Gravity Field Model

The GFMs data are distributed in the International Centre for Global Earth Models (ICGEM) format<sup>6</sup>.

## Normal Equation

The NEs data are distributed in the Solution-Independent Exchange (SINEX) format<sup>7</sup>.

## Modelled non-gravitational accelerations

The modelled non-gravitational accelerations are distributed **internally within the project** in the *nrtdm* format (since this format is readily available in TU Delft's Near Real-Time Density Model (NRTDM) software). It is a column-wise, plain text, self-explanatory format. The header is optional but useful, since it describes what each column contains. Maintaining the *yyyy-mm-dd* and *hh:mm:ss.sss* date and time formats is important, since otherwise it would make parsing the header mandatory. Additional columns may be appended, with their description appended after line 6 of the header.

**File name extension:** *nrtdm*

**File header:** (optional but highly encouraged)

**Lines 1-6:** Description of the contents of columns 1 to 6 (see below)

**Line 7:** Fortran format string

**Line 8:** Column headers

**Line 9:** Column-wise units of the data (columns 4 to 6)

**Data records:** After the header each line represents one epoch. The columns contain the following quantities:

**Column 1:** calendar date in the *yyyy-mm-dd* format

**Column 2:** time in the *hh:mm:ss.sss* format

**Column 3:** time system, i.e. GPS, UTC, UT1 or TAI

**Column 4-6:** x, y and z coordinates of the non-gravitational acceleration in the Satellite Body Reference Frame

An example of this format is:

```
# Column 1:      Date (yyyy-mm-dd)
# Column 2:      Time (hh:mm:ss.sss)
# Column 3:      Time system
# Column 4:  E13.6 Linear acceleration in S/C X-direction (m/s/s)
# Column 5:  E13.6 Linear acceleration in S/C Y-direction (m/s/s)
# Column 6:  E13.6 Linear acceleration in S/C Z-direction (m/s/s)
# Format string: (a27,1x,E13.6,1X,E13.6,1X,E13.6)
# Date/time      Column 4      Column 5      Column 6
#                m/s/s        m/s/s        m/s/s
2005-01-01 00:00:00.000 GPS  0.424512E-07  0.479988E-08  0.103282E-07
2005-01-01 00:00:10.000 GPS  0.425367E-07  0.483965E-08  0.104057E-07
2005-01-01 00:00:20.000 GPS  0.428182E-07  0.513651E-08  0.104278E-07
2005-01-01 00:00:30.000 GPS  0.433768E-07  0.467810E-08  0.101609E-07
```

<sup>6</sup><http://icgem.gfz-potsdam.de/ICGEM-Format-2011.pdf>

<sup>7</sup>[www.iers.org/IERS/EN/Organization/AnalysisCoordinator/SinexFormat/sinex.html](http://www.iers.org/IERS/EN/Organization/AnalysisCoordinator/SinexFormat/sinex.html)



```
2005-01-01 00:00:40.000 GPS 0.440563E-07 0.492133E-08 0.993525E-08
2005-01-01 00:00:50.000 GPS 0.446449E-07 0.543075E-08 0.971838E-08
2005-01-01 00:01:00.000 GPS 0.451432E-07 0.539917E-08 0.929534E-08
```

## GPS data weights

The GPS data weights aim to provide an optimum weighting scheme for the GPS code and phase measurements, by indicating the a-priori STD for specific GPS satellites at specific epochs. The data is formatted in column-wise, plain ASCII, **and is shared internally within the project.**

**File name extension:** wgt

**File header:**

**Line 1:** Description of the data and date and time it was exported

**Line 2:** Header separator, consisting of several - characters

**Line 3:** Column description

**Line 4:** Place-holder for the digits in the columns, using the \* character

**Data records:** After the header each line represents one epoch. The columns contain the following quantities:

**Column 1:** initial epoch, in MJD

**Column 2:** final epoch, optionally empty indicating one single epoch is affected

**Column 3:** GPS satellite number

**Column 4:** a priori STD to assign to the corresponding data

An example of this format is:

Observation-specific weights

18-Jan-2018 15:51

```
-----
Start MJD          End MJD          SAT  SIGMA
*****.*****    *****.*****  **   ***.***
57023.001122700000  04             21.000
57023.001134300001  04             21.000
57023.001145800001  04             21.000
57023.001157400002  04             21.000
57023.001169000003  04             21.000
57023.001180599997  04             21.000
```

## 7 Dissemination Server

The server is located at `aristarchos.lr.tudelft.nl` and can only be accessed using secure shell client (and related utilities). The access to this server requires dedicated credentials, usually issued in the name of the institute team leaders (TU Delft team members have individual access). Additional user credentials can be issued if needed. All users (except TU Delft team members) share the same \$HOME directory, `/home/gswarm`.

### 7.1 Directory structure

The directory structure of the distribution server is:

```

/home/gswarm/
├── management/
│   ├── Data formats/
│   ├── Templates/
│   ├── Website/
│   └── WP[1-5]00/
├── data/
│   ├── <p>/
│   │   ├── acceleration/
│   │   ├── baseline/
│   │   ├── gravity/
│   │   ├── normaleq/
│   │   ├── orbit/
│   │   └── wgt/
│   │       └── <yyyy>/
│   └── dissemination/

```

The contents of the directories above is:

- Data formats: documentation on the data formats mentioned in Section 6
- Proposal: the files used in producing the answer of the team to the Swarm DISC ITT 1.1
- Templates:  $\LaTeX$  and Microsoft Word templates for reports
- Website: github repository with the contents of <https://jgte.github.io/gswarm/>
- WP[1-5]00: reserved for the activities of the corresponding WP
- <p>: data distributed by each processor: aiub, asu, ifg, osu or tudelft
- acceleration: Modelled non-gravitational acceleration data
- baseline: KB data
- gravity: GFM coefficients
- normaleq: NE data
- orbit: KO data distributed in yearly directories, with names <yyyy> (four digit year)
- dissemination: data to be disseminated to ESA

### 7.2 Data dissemination

The dissemination directory contains the GFMs that are uploaded to the ESA and ICGEM dissemination servers. These data are packaged according to the Swarm Level 2 (L2) Product

Format<sup>8</sup> and following all required naming conventions.

## Acronyms

<b>AA</b>	Acceleration Approach, Rummel (1979)
<b>AIUB</b>	Astronomical Institute of the University of Bern, Switzerland, <a href="http://www.aiub.unibe.ch">www.aiub.unibe.ch</a>
<b>ASCII</b>	American Standard Code for Information Interchange
<b>ASU</b>	Astronomical Institute (Astronomický ústav), AVCR, Ondřejov, <a href="http://www.asu.cas.cz/en">www.asu.cas.cz/en</a>
<b>AVCR</b>	Czech Academy of Sciences (Akademie věd České Republiky), Czech Republic, <a href="http://www.avcr.cz/en/">www.avcr.cz/en/</a>
<b>CODE</b>	Centre for Orbit Determination in Europe, Dach et al. (2017)
<b>CPR</b>	Cycle Per Revolution
<b>CRV</b>	Code Residual Variation
<b>D/O</b>	Degree and Order
<b>DISC</b>	Data, Innovation and Science Cluster
<b>DoY</b>	Day of Year
<b>EARP</b>	Earth Albedo Radiation Pressure
<b>EGSIEM</b>	European Gravity Service for Improved Emergency Management, EU Horizon 2020, <a href="http://www.egsiem.eu">www.egsiem.eu</a>
<b>EIRP</b>	Earth Infrared Radiation Pressure
<b>EKF</b>	Extended Kalman Filter
<b>EBA</b>	Energy Balance Approach, O'Keefe (1957) and Jekeli (1999)
<b>EOT</b>	Empirical Ocean Tide model
<b>EOP</b>	Earth Orientation Parameter
<b>ERP</b>	Earth Rotation Parameters
<b>ESA</b>	European Space Agency, <a href="http://www.esa.int">www.esa.int</a>
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FES</b>	Finite Element Solution global tide model
<b>GFM</b>	Gravity Field Model
<b>GOCO</b>	Gravity Observation COmbination
<b>GPS</b>	Global Positioning System
<b>GRACE</b>	Gravity Recovery And Climate Experiment, Tapley, Reigber and Melbourne (1996) and Tapley (2004)
<b>GRACE-FO</b>	GRACE Follow On, Sheard et al. (2012), Larkin (2012) and Flechtner et al. (2014)
<b>GROOPS</b>	Gravity Recovery Object Oriented Programming System
<b>IAU</b>	International Astronomical Union

<sup>8</sup><https://earth.esa.int/web/guest/missions/esa-eo-missions/swarm/data-handbook/level-2-product-format>

<b>ICGEM</b>	International Centre for Global Earth Models, <a href="http://icgem.gfz-potsdam.de">icgem.gfz-potsdam.de</a>
<b>IERS</b>	International Earth Rotation Service
<b>IERS2010</b>	IERS Conventions 2010, Petit and Luzum (2010)
<b>ifG</b>	Institute of Geodesy, TUG, Graz, <a href="http://www.ifg.tugraz.at">www.ifg.tugraz.at</a>
<b>ITG</b>	Institut für Geodäsie und Geoinformation, Germany, <a href="http://www.igg.uni-bonn.de">www.igg.uni-bonn.de</a>
<b>ITT</b>	Invitation To Tenders
<b>JPL</b>	Jet Propulsion Laboratory, USA, <a href="http://www.jpl.nasa.gov">www.jpl.nasa.gov</a>
<b>JPL-PLE</b>	JPL Planetary and Lunar Ephemerides, Folkner et al. (2014)
<b>KB</b>	Kinematic Baseline
<b>KO</b>	Kinematic Orbit
<b>L1B</b>	Level 1B data
<b>L2</b>	Level 2 data
<b>LEO</b>	Low-Earth Orbit
<b>LS</b>	Least-Squares
<b>MJD</b>	Modified Julian Date
<b>N/A</b>	Not Applicable
<b>NE</b>	Normal Equation
<b>NRTDM</b>	Near Real-Time Density Model
<b>OSU</b>	Ohio State University, <a href="http://www.osu.edu">www.osu.edu</a>
<b>PCV</b>	Phase Center Variation
<b>PDF</b>	Portable Data Format, <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portable_Document_Format">en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portable_Document_Format</a>
<b>POD</b>	Precise Orbit Determination
<b>PSO</b>	Precise or Post-processed Science Orbit
<b>RL06</b>	Release 6
<b>SINEX</b>	Solution-Independent Exchange Format, <a href="http://www.iers.org/IERS/EN/Organization/AnalysisCoordinator/SinexFormat/sinex.htm">www.iers.org/IERS/EN/Organization/AnalysisCoordinator/SinexFormat/sinex.htm</a>
<b>SoW</b>	Statement of Work, Doc. Ref. SW-SW-DTU-GS-111_ITT1-1
<b>SP3c</b>	Extended Standard Product 3 Orbit Format, <a href="ftp://igs.org/pub/data/format/sp3c.txt">ftp://igs.org/pub/data/format/sp3c.txt</a>
<b>SNR</b>	Signal-to-Noise Ratio
<b>STD</b>	STandard Deviation
<b>TU Delft</b>	Delft University of Technology, Netherlands, <a href="http://www.tudelft.nl">www.tudelft.nl</a>
<b>TUG</b>	Graz University of Technology, Austria, <a href="http://www.tugraz.at">www.tugraz.at</a>
<b>USA</b>	United States of America
<b>VCE</b>	Variance Component Estimation
<b>WP</b>	Work Package

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