

RFC #superdarn.0008

Title

rawacf DataMap variables definitions

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Summary

A description of the variables stored in a rawacf DataMap file.

Description

1. Introduction

The rawacf files are stored using the DataMap self-describing file format. Listed here are the variable names and definitions.

2. Scalars

The scalar components of the rawacf file format are listed below:

Variable Name	Data Type	Description
radar.revision.major	char	Major version number of the radar operating system.
radar.revision.minor	char	Minor version number of the radar operating system.
origin.code	char	Code indicating origin of the data.
origin.time	string	ASCII representation of when the data was generated.
origin.command	string	The command line or control program used to generate the data.
cp	short	Control program identifier.
stid	short	Station identifier.
time.yr	short	Year.
time.mo	short	Month.
time.dy	short	Day.
time.hr	short	Hour.
time.mt	short	Minute.
time.sc	short	Second.
time.us	short	Micro-Second.
txpow	short	Transmitted power (kW).
nave	short	Number of pulse sequences transmitted.
atten	short	Attenuation level.
lagfr	short	Lag to first range (microseconds).
smsep	short	Sample separation (microseconds).
ercod	short	Error code.
stat.agc	short	AGC status word.
stat.lopwr	short	LOPWR status word.

noise.search	float	Calculated noise from clear frequency search.
noise.mean	float	Average noise across frequency band.
channel	short	Channel number for a stereo radar (zero for all others).
bmnum	short	Beam number.
bmazm	float	Beam azimuth.
scan	short	Scan flag.
offset	short	Offset between channels for a stereo radar (zero for all others).
rxrise	short	Receiver rise time (microseconds).
intt.sc	short	Whole number of seconds of integration time.
intt.us	short	Fractional number of microseconds of integration time.
txpl	short	Transmit pulse length (microseconds).
mpinc	short	Multi-pulse increment (microseconds).
mppul	short	Number of pulses in sequence.
mplgs	short	Number of lags in sequence.
nrang	short	Number of ranges.
frang	short	Distance to first range (kilometers).
rsep	short	Range separation (kilometers).
xcf	short	XCF flag.
tfreq	short	Transmitted frequency.
mxpwr	int	Maximum power (kHz).
lvmax	int	Maximum noise level allowed.
rawacf.revision.major	int	Major version number of the rawacf format.
rawacf.revision.minor	int	Minor version number of the rawacf format.
combf	string	Comment buffer.
thr	float	Thresholding factor.

2. Arrays

The Array components of the rawacf file format are listed below:

Variable Name	Data Type	Dimensions	Description
<code>ptab[<i>mppul</i>]</code>	short	<i>mppul</i>	Pulse table.
<code>ltab[2][<i>mplgs</i>]</code>	short	2, <i>mplgs</i>	Lag table.
<code>pwr0[<i>nrng</i>]</code>	float	<i>nrng</i>	Lag zero power.
<code>slist[0-<i>nrng</i>]</code>	short	0- <i>nrng</i>	List of stored ranges.
<code>acfd[2][<i>mplgs</i>][0-<i>nrng</i>]</code>	short	2, <i>mplgs</i> ,0- <i>nrng</i>	Calculated ACFs.
<code>xcfd[2][<i>mplgs</i>][0-<i>nrng</i>]</code>	short	2, <i>mplgs</i> ,0- <i>nrng</i>	Calculated XCFs.

The extent of each dimension is determined by the radar operating parameters. For example a value of `mppul` of 7 would result in the array `ptab[7]`.

The number of ranges stored in the data file is dependent on the ratio of signal to noise and can vary between 0 and `nrng`. The array `slist` lists the range gate of each stored ACF. For example if the first element in `slist` is 44, then the first element in the acf array, `acfd[*][*][0]`, is from range 44.

The XCF array, `xcfd`, will only be present in the record if an XCF is calculated. This is indicated if the scalar `xcf` is set to 1.

References

[RFC #0006](#)

History

2007/03/26 Revision incorporating origin and beam azimuth.

2004/07/29 Initial Revision.

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